

# Intelligent Physical Attacks against Mobile Robotic Networks

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Problem Formulation
- 3 Attack Design and Analysis
- 4 Performance Evaluation
- 5 Conclusions

# Introduction

- **What is mobile robotic network (MRN)**

A networked system of multiple mobile robots, where the robots **interact** and **cooperate** with each other to achieve well defined tasks

- **Why adopt MRN**

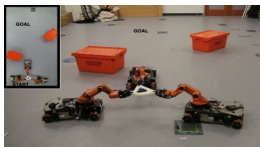
- Higher flexibility and robustness than single robot
- Parallel operation in spatio-temporal tasks
- Coordinated ability of acquiring and processing information



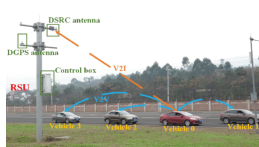
Source: [1] G.-Z.Yang, et al., Science Robotics, 2018.

# Applications

- MRN is widely deployed in military and industrial applications



(c) Manipulation<sup>[2]</sup>



(d) Platoon<sup>[3]</sup>



(e) Pursuit-evasion<sup>[4]</sup>



(f) Combat<sup>[5]</sup>



(g) Military surveillance<sup>[6]</sup>



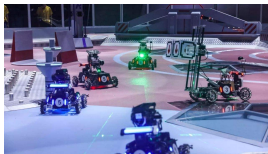
(h) UAV swarm<sup>[7]</sup>

Local **sense** + Information **interaction** + Action **decision**  $\Rightarrow$  **Cooperation**

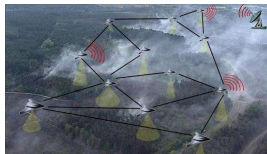
Source: [2] J.A. Mora et al., Int. J. Rob. Res., 2017. [3] Y. Li et al., IEEE Trans. Intell. Transp. Syst., 2019. [4] R. Vidal et al., IEEE Trans. Rob. and Autom., 2002. [5] FIRA Cup, 1997. [6] [www.joao-valente.com/doku.php?id=wiki:research](http://www.joao-valente.com/doku.php?id=wiki:research). [7] Article: [www.prophecynewswatch.com/article.cfm?recent\\_news.id=3782](http://www.prophecynewswatch.com/article.cfm?recent_news.id=3782)

# Vulnerabilities in Interaction

- Interaction is critical for MRNs, however there are situations where
  - sensor reading is interfered
  - communication is monitored or even hijacked
  - certain robot is corrupted as an adversary



(i) disturb sensors<sup>[8]</sup>



(j) communication leak<sup>[9]</sup>



(k) mislead the swarm<sup>[10]</sup>

- Interaction can be **maliciously utilized**, causing severe threats
- Urgent and vital to tackle the **security vulnerabilities** of MRNs

Source: [8] ICRA DJI RobotMaster Competition. [9] [www.sohu.com/a/241170554\\_358040](http://www.sohu.com/a/241170554_358040) [10] [www.sohu.com/a/240072583\\_465915](http://www.sohu.com/a/240072583_465915)

- The research about security of MRNs mainly focus on two aspects

Table 1 Related work

	characteristics	representative works
Cyber aspects	mainly focus on defense design of common cyber attacks	DoS, replay attacks false data injection (see [11]-[14] for review)
Physical aspects	against specific transducer straightforward to implement	alter gyroscopic sensor <sup>[15]</sup> disturb GPS readings <sup>[16]</sup> heat up memory cell <sup>[17]</sup>

[11] F. Pasqualetti et al., IEEE TAC, 2013. [12] Y. Mo et al., IEEE TAC, 2015. [13] H. Sandberg et al., IEEE Control Syst. Mag., 2015. [14] H.S. Sanchez et al., Annual Reviews in Control, 2019. [15] Y. Son et al., USENIX Security Symposium, 2015. [16] N.O. Tippenhauer et al., ACM CCS, 2011. [17] S. Skorobogatov, IEEE International Workshop on Hardware-Oriented Security and Trust, 2009.

## ► Motivation

- **Powerful abilities and knowledge** are typically assumed for attacker
  - master system structure<sup>[18]</sup>
  - control data and measurements are corrupted<sup>[19]</sup>
  - communication link is altered<sup>[20]</sup>

Passive design form, analysis simplicity but **unrealistic for attacker**

- control-communication is protected with strong encryption<sup>[21]</sup>
- system structure is unknown beforehand and can dynamically change<sup>[22]</sup>
- Physical attacks mainly focus on specific sensor, **not generalized**

## ► What we investigate

- **generalized** and **intelligent** attacks with **weak knowledge** of MRNs
  - ▷ Entrap a robot
  - ▷ Sneak into the MRN
    - what other knowledge to learn? how to learn?
    - how to design attack strategies? how to optimize the performance?

[18] F. Pasqualetti et al., IEEE TAC, 2012. [19] R. Su et al. Automatica, 2015. [20] Z. Feng et al. Int. J. Robust Nonlinear Control, 2016. [21] M.S. Darup et al., IEEE Control Syst. Lett., 2018. [22] M. Khalili et al., Automatica, 2018.

## ► Main contributions of this work

- We reveal the **learnability** of the interaction rules in MRN
  - **weak prior knowledge**, without system dynamics or internal access
  - **partial observation** and bounded moving abilities
- We design **intelligent physical attacks** against MRNs
  - **obstacle-disguising** attack: fool a victim into preset trap
  - **sneak** attack: replace a target robot in the MRN
- We analyze and **optimize** the attack performance
  - the feasibility criterion is provided
  - the bound of attack cost is proved

► **Goal:** The MRN  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  runs to goal  $z_g$  with pre-defined shape

- **directed** network structure

▷ interaction weight  $a_{ij} > 0$  indicates  $j$  sends information to  $i$

▷ in-neighbor  $\mathcal{N}_i^{in} = \{j \in \mathcal{V} : a_{ij} > 0\}$     out-neighbor  $\mathcal{N}_i^{out} = \{j \in \mathcal{V} : a_{ji} > 0\}$

- consensus-based **formation control**

$$\dot{z}_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_i^{in}} a_{ij}(z_j - z_i - h_{ij}), \quad \dot{z}(t) = -Lz(t) + Lh$$

▷  $z_i$ : state of robot  $i \in \mathcal{V}$     ▷  $\{h_{ij}\}$ : shape configuration    ▷  $L$ : Laplacian matrix of  $\mathcal{G}$

- **obstacle-avoidance** mechanism  $g$

$$\dot{z}_i = g(z_{ob} - z_i, z_{i*} - z_i, v_{ob}, v_i).$$

▷  $z_{i*}$ : the desired state of  $i$     ▷  $z_{ob}$  and  $v_{ob}$ : the state and velocity of the obstacle

# Attacker Modeling

- **Goal:** Observe  $\mathcal{G}$  and learn the interaction rules, then launch attacks

- Discrete dynamics

$$z^{k+1} = (I - \varepsilon_T L) z^k + \varepsilon_T u^k = W z^k + \varepsilon_T u^k$$

▷  $\varepsilon_T$  - the sampling period    ▷ formation input  $u = Lh + [0 \cdots 0 \ c]^T$

**Note:**  $W$  equivalently represents the internal interaction structure as  $L$   
MRN division  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_F \cup \mathcal{V}_{F'}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_F^{k+1} \\ z_{F'}^{k+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} W_{FF} & W_{FF'} \\ W_{F'F} & W_{F'F'} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_F^k \\ z_{F'}^k \end{bmatrix} + \varepsilon_T \begin{bmatrix} u_F^k \\ u_{F'}^k \end{bmatrix}$$

▷  $F$  - observable part    ▷  $F'$  - unobservable part

- Under partial observation over  $\mathcal{V}_F \subseteq \mathcal{V}$

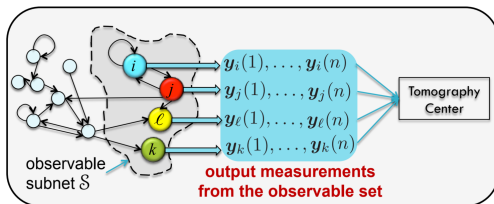
$$\tilde{z}_F^{k+1} = W_{FF} \tilde{z}_F^k + \varepsilon_T \hat{u}_F^k + \xi_F^k + W_{FF'} \tilde{z}_{F'}^k \Rightarrow \text{influenced by unobservable part}$$

▷  $\tilde{\cdot}$  indicates observations    ▷  $\xi^k$  is i.i.d zero-mean Gaussian observation noise

- Bounded moving ability  $\|u_a(k)\|_2 \leq \mu$

# Key Ideas

- **Inspirations:** formation control is fundamentally adopted to keep a pre-defined geometric shape in applications of MRN
  - In shape forming and maintaining, **internal interaction structure** determines the convergence speed and stability
  - In obstacle/collision avoidance, **external interaction mechanism** steers robots to adapt the environment obstacles



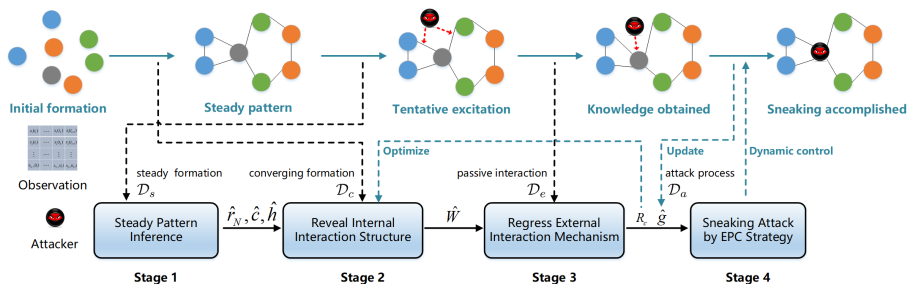
Source: A. Santos, et al., IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 2019.

- **Insight:** the **state evolution** of MRN reveals the interaction rules  
excite the robot and observe the reaction

# Attack Formulation

## ► Overview

Characterize the whole process as **four stages**  $\Rightarrow$  record dataset



## ► Process description

- shape forming (**observe**)  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}_c$
- formation maintenance (**observe**)  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}_s$
- tentatively trial (**excite**)  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}_e$
- entrap/sneak (**attack**)  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}_a$

**Infer** knowledge from datasets  
**Design** attacks using knowledge

# Steady Pattern Identification

## ► Steady Pattern Identifiability

- **Theorem:**[state separability] Suppose  $\mathcal{G}$  has a spanning tree, under  $u = Lh + [0 \cdots 0 \ c]^T$ , we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|z(t) - ct \cdot \mathbf{1} - s\|_2 = 0,$$

►  $c$  - leadership velocity    ►  $s$  - offset vector and  $(s - s^{[i]} \mathbf{1})$  is equivalent to  $Lh$

### Note

- the convergence is guaranteed by the spanning tree structure
  - the state can be divided into: common speed and specified shape
  - providing the feasibility to infer the steady pattern
- How to obtain the steady pattern parameters?

## ► Calculation procedures

- Define 2nd-order state difference accumulation

$$\Delta S_i^{k_0:k_0+l} = \sum_{k=k_0+1}^{k_0+l-1} \|\Delta z_i^{k+1} - \Delta z_i^k\|_2 \Leftarrow \text{time window } [k_0, k_0 + l]$$

- Step 1: find the  $\epsilon$ -convergence time of the steady pattern

$$k^* = \inf \left\{ k_0 : \left( \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}_F} \Delta \tilde{S}_i^{k_0:k_0+l} \right) \leq \epsilon \right\}$$

- Step 2: compute the steady velocity

$$\hat{c}(k^*, l) = \arg \min_c \sum_{k=k^*}^{k^*+l} \|\tilde{z}_F^k - (c\varepsilon_T k + b_0)\mathbf{1}\|_2^2 \triangleright \mathbf{1} - \text{all-one vector}$$

- Step 3: derive the formation shape configuration

$$\hat{h} = \hat{s} - \hat{s}_j \mathbf{1}, \text{ where } \hat{s} = \sum_{k=k^*+1}^{k^*+l} (\tilde{z}_F^k - \hat{c}\varepsilon_T k \cdot \mathbf{1})/l$$

- steady pattern determined  $\Rightarrow$  converging process also determined

# Internal Interaction Structure Approximation

## ► Structure inference under partial observation

- Recalling observations over  $\mathcal{V}_F \subseteq \mathcal{V}$

$$\tilde{z}_F^{k+1} = W_{FF} \tilde{z}_F^k + \varepsilon_T \hat{u}_F^k + \xi_F^k + \textcolor{red}{W}_{FF'} \tilde{z}_{F'}^k \Rightarrow \text{influenced by unobservable part}$$

- **Information shortage**

- inevitably incur large error to infer  $W_{FF}$  directly

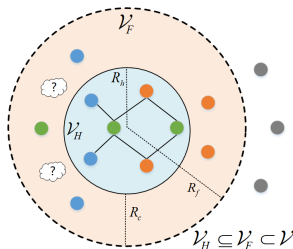
- Transform inference objective

- **narrow down** inference set  $\mathcal{V}_H \subseteq \mathcal{V}_F$
- range determination

$$R_f > R_c, \quad R_h = R_f - R_c.$$

▷  $R_c$  - interaction range of the robots

▷  $R_f$  - radius of  $\mathcal{V}_F$     ▷  $R_h$  - radius of  $\mathcal{V}_H$



# Internal Interaction Structure Approximation

## ► Approximation modeling

- **Theorem:**[structure approximation] Using linear state space model, observations in  $\mathcal{D}_c$  satisfy

$$y_H^{k+1} = W_{HF} y_F^k,$$

$$\triangleright \begin{cases} y_H^k = \hat{z}_H^k - \hat{h}_H - \varepsilon_T \hat{c} \mathbb{I}_H \\ y_F^k = [(\hat{z}_H^k - \hat{h}_H)^\top, (\hat{z}_{H'}^k)^\top]^\top \end{cases} \quad \triangleright \quad \mathbb{I}_F^{[i]} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i \in \mathcal{V}_F \text{ is the leadership} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- linear model provides simplicity for the **structure representation**
- **How to approximate  $W_{HF}$ ?**

**Corollary:** If  $|\mathcal{V}_F| + 1 \leq l \leq k^*$ , the least square estimation of  $W_{HF}$  is

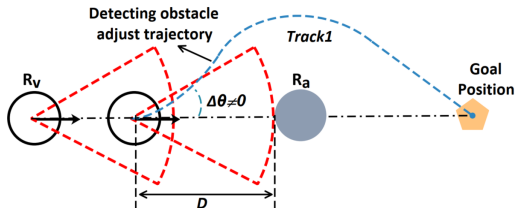
$$\phi(\mathcal{D}_c) : \hat{W}_{HF} = \left( (Y_F Y_F^\top)^{-1} Y_F Y_H^\top \right)^\top,$$

$$\triangleright Y_H = [y_H^2, y_H^3, \dots, y_H^l] \quad \triangleright Y_F = [y_F^1, y_F^2, \dots, y_F^{l-1}]$$

**Note:** **converging time  $k^*$**  and **data amount** before  $k^*$  determines the feasibility and accuracy

# External Interaction Mechanism Regression

- **Key idea:**  $r_i$  will deviate its ideal trajectory once an obstacle detected



- $r_i$  - robot  $i$
- $r_a$  - attack robot
- $r_v$  - victim robot

- **Definition:** A node is **directly controllable** if one can control it to reach any given state  $z_c^*$  in finite steps by direct external excitations.
- **Theorem:** If  $g$  is known, and  $(z_{i*} - z_i)$ ,  $(z_a - z_i)$  and  $v_i$  are measurable, then  $r_i$  is directly controllable by  $r_a$ .
  - $g$  determines the avoidance behavior  $\Rightarrow$  **causal relationship**
  - given a input configuration, the output is unique  
 $\Rightarrow$  **regression feasibility**
- How to approximate  $g$ ?  $\Leftarrow$  **from effects to reveal the causes**

# External Interaction Mechanism Regression

## ► Regression procedures

- Obtain input configuration
  - Based on  $\hat{W}_{HF}$ , the desired position of  $r_i$  is

$$\hat{z}_{i*}^{k+1} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}_F} \hat{a}_{ij} (\tilde{z}_j^k - \tilde{z}_i^k - h_F^{[j]} + h_F^{[i]}),$$

$$\triangleright \hat{a}_{ij} = \hat{w}_{ij} / \varepsilon_T \quad (i \neq j)$$

- $z_i$  and  $v_i$  are measurable under **fast-rate sampling**
- Tentatively excite the target robot and record its reaction

$$Q_{in}^k = [\tilde{z}_v^k - \tilde{z}_a^k, \tilde{z}_{v*}^k - \tilde{z}_v^k, \Delta \tilde{z}_v^k / \varepsilon_T, \Delta \tilde{z}_a^k / \varepsilon_T], \quad Q_{out}^k = \Delta \tilde{z}_v^{k+1}$$

**Note:**  $R_c$  and obstacle detection range  $\mathcal{A}_d$  is also **inferred by trial**<sup>[23]</sup>

- Construct  $\mathcal{D}_e = \{\cup\{Q_{in}^k, Q_{out}^k\}\}$  and regress  $g$

$$\hat{g} = \arg \min_{g: Q_{in} \mapsto Q_{out}} \sum_{k=1}^{L'} \|Q_{out}^k - g(Q_{in}^k)\|_2$$

- many mature **learning methods** are available, e.g., SVR.

[23] Y. Li, et al., IEEE ACC, 2019.

# Attack 1: Entrap a Robot

► **Shortest-path strategy:** the path length from the position where  $r_v$  is initially attacked to preset trap is shortest  $\Rightarrow$  **optimize direct attack cost**

$$\mathbf{P}_1: \min_{H, \mathbf{u}_{a,0:H}} C_s(\mathbf{u}_{a,0:H}) = \sum_{k=0}^H \|\hat{z}_v(k+1) - z_v(k)\|_2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \left. \begin{array}{ll} \|u_a(k)\|_2 \leq \mu, & \Leftarrow \text{bounded velocity} \\ \|z_v(H) - z_t\|_2 \leq \delta, & \Leftarrow \text{driven into trap} \\ \eta \leq \|z_a(k) - z_v(k)\|_2, & \Leftarrow \text{not too close} \\ p_a(k) \in \mathcal{A}_d(z_v(k)). & \Leftarrow \text{continuous excitation} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{hard to solve analytically} \\ \text{using heuristic methods} \end{array}$$

● **Theorem:**[path length] By the shortest-path strategy, we have

$$(\pi/2 + \xi - \cos \xi)r_{\min} + d_{te}(\cos \xi - 1) \leq C_s - C_s^* \leq (\frac{7}{6}\pi - 1 - \sqrt{3})r_{\max},$$

$$\triangleright r_{\min}/r_{\max} - \min/\max \text{ reaction radius} \quad \triangleright d_{te} = \|z_t - z_v(0)\|_2 \quad \triangleright \xi = \arcsin(\frac{r_{\min}}{d_{te} - r_{\min}})$$

- sub-optimal but efficient
- upper bound indicates worst case, **hard to meet**

# Attack 1: Entrap a Robot

► **Hands-off strategy:** fool  $r_v$  into the trap with the maximum hands-off state ratio (sparsity) during the attack  $\Rightarrow$  **optimize attack stealth**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}_2 : \quad & \min_{H, \mathbf{u}_{a,0:H}} C_h(\mathbf{u}_{a,0:H}) = \|\mathbf{u}_{a,0:H}\|_0 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|u_a(t)\|_2 \leq \mu, \\ & \|z_v(H) - z_t\|_2 \leq \delta, \\ & \eta_1 \leq \|z_a(t) - z_v(t)\|_2 \leq \eta_2, \quad \leftarrow \text{relax excitation constraint} \end{aligned}$$

Hard to be solved analytically  $\Rightarrow$  **using heuristic based methods**

- **Theorem:**[active period] By the hands-off strategy, we have

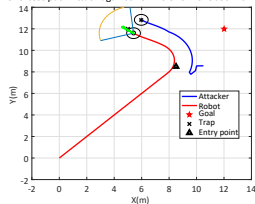
$$C_h(\mathbf{u}_{a,0:H})/H \leq 0.5.$$

- **largely reduce** the activity of  $r_a$  during the process
- **feasibly counter** some threshold-based anomaly detection techniques

# Attack 1: Entrap a Robot

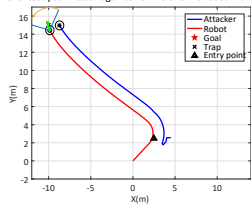
## ► Examples

Shortest-path Attack against non-holonomic robot with DWA



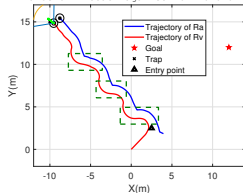
(l) Case 1 of S-attack

Shortest-path Attack against non-holonomic robot with DWA



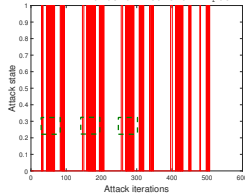
(m) Case 2 of S-attack

Hands-off Attack against non-holonomic robot



(n) Case of H-attack

Hands-off control input



(o) Input under H-attack

## Attack 2: Sneak into MRN

- ▶ **Sneak attack:**  $r_a$  sneaks into the MRN  $\mathcal{V}$  by replacing  $r_v \in \mathcal{V}$ .
  - The state update of  $i \in \mathcal{V}$  is influenced by its in-neighbors  $\mathcal{N}_i^{in}$ 
    - whose impact is larger ?
  - **Definition:** A node is **indirectly controllable** if one can control another node to chainedly make it reach any  $z_c^*$  in finite steps.
  - **Lemma:** Given desired state  $z_c^*$  and initial state  $z_i^0$ ,  $r_i$  is indirectly controllable by  $r_j$  iff

$$\begin{cases} u_e u_c > 0, & \text{if } (z_c^* - z_i^0) u_c > 0, \\ |p_{1j} u_e| > |p_{1N} u_c|, & \text{if } (z_c^* - z_i^0) u_c < 0, \end{cases}$$

▷  $p_1 = [p_{11}, \dots, p_{1N}]^T$  is the left eigenvector for  $\lambda_1$  of  $L$ .

- Sufficient and necessary condition, requiring **network structure**  $L$
- **Unavailable under partial observation**

# Attack 2: Sneak into MRN

## ► Attack feasibility

- **Theorem :** Given  $z_c^*$  and  $z^0$ ,  $r_i$  is indirectly controllable by  $r_j$  when

$$\begin{cases} u_e u_c > 0, & \text{if } (z_c^* - z_i^0) u_c > 0, \\ |a_{ij} u_e| > |\bar{a}_{ij} u_c|, & \text{if } (z_c^* - z_i^0) u_c < 0. \end{cases}$$

▷  $\bar{a}_{ij} = \sum_{j' \in \{\mathcal{N}_i^{in} \setminus j\}} a_{ij'}$  ▷  $u_e$  - excitation input of  $r_j$  ▷  $u_c$  - leadership input

### Note:

- sufficient condition, **without relying on global network structure**
- available under partial observation
- provide attack feasibility
- **How to design the attack strategy?**

**Key idea:** find the most valuable target robot  $r_v$ , steer it out of the interaction range of its neighbors and take over its control over  $\mathcal{V}$ .

# Attack 2: Sneak into MRN

## ► ECR strategy: Evaluate-Cut-Restore

- Evaluate phase: larger out-degree  $\Rightarrow$  broader impact on others  
smaller in-degree  $\Rightarrow$  less affected by others

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{r_i} \quad & (|\mathcal{N}_i^{out}| + \|W_{HF}^{[:,i]}\|_1 - |\mathcal{N}_i^{in}| - \|W_{HF}^{[i,:]} \|_1) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & i \in \mathcal{V}_H, |\mathcal{N}_i^{out}| \geq 1, |\mathcal{N}_i^{in}| \leq \alpha_1, \end{aligned}$$

- Cut phase: **break the connections** between  $r_v$  and its in-neighbors

$$\max_{u_a^k} \alpha_2 \|\hat{z}_v^{k+1}(u_a^k) - \hat{z}_{v*}^{k+1}\|_2 + \alpha_3 \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}_v^{in}} \|\hat{z}_j^{k+1} - \hat{z}_v^{k+1} - \tilde{h}_{jv}\|_2$$

If  $r_v$  is not easily to approach, attack  $r_j \in \mathcal{N}_v^{in}$  first (**indirect controllability**)

- Restore phase: make  $r_a$  **recognized by the out-neighbors** of  $r_v$ , then restore the formation shape

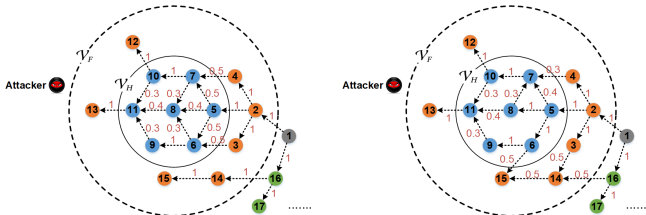
$$u_a^k = \arg \max_{u_a} \left\{ \|\hat{z}_v^{k+1}(u_a) - \hat{z}_{v*}^{k+1}\|_2 : z_a^{k+1} \in \mathcal{Z}_v^f \right\}.$$

$$\triangleright \mathcal{Z}_v^f = \{z : \|z(t) - z_{j*}(t)\|_2 < \|z_j(t) - z_{j*}(t)\|_2, \forall j \in \mathcal{N}_v^{out}\}$$

# Performance Evaluation

## ► Simulation setting

- MRN of 17 robots, two kinds of interaction structure

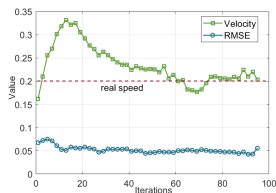


- $u_c = 0.2m/s$ ,  $R_c = 7m$ ,  $R_o = 2m$  and  $R_s = 0.5m$
- Dynamic model
  - linear  $\dot{z}(t) = -Lz(t) + Lh + u_0$   $\triangleright u_0^N = u_c$
  - nonlinear  $\dot{z}(t) = -Lz(t) + Lh + u_s(t)$   $\triangleright \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u_s^N(t) = u_c$
- Metric of evaluation: structure ( $\varepsilon_1$ ) and magnitude ( $\varepsilon_2$ ) error

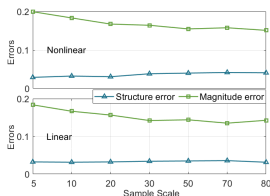
$$\varepsilon_1 = \frac{\|\text{sign}(\hat{W}_{HF}) - \text{sign}(W_{HF})\|_0}{|\mathcal{H}||\mathcal{F}|}, \quad \varepsilon_2 = \frac{\|\hat{W}_{HF} - W_{HF}\|_F}{\|W_{HF}\|_F}$$

# Performance Evaluation

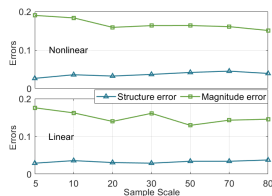
## ► Stage 1: identify the steady pattern



(c) velocity estimation



(d) approximation errors of structure 1



(e) approximation errors of structure 2

Figure 2 Results evaluation of Stage 1

- the velocity estimation remains stable when  $\mathcal{V}$  reaches steady state
- accuracy of convergence time  $k^*$  mainly affects  $\varepsilon_2$
- as the sample scale grow,  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$  become stable

# Performance Evaluation

► **Stage 2:** infer the internal interaction structure

**Note** feedback means using estimation of  $R_c$  as a constraint to infer  $W_{HF}$

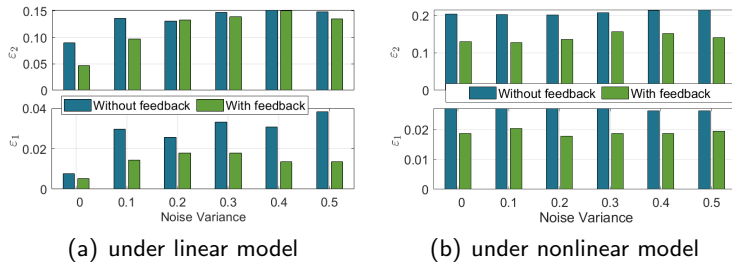


Figure 3 The approximation result comparison of  $\hat{W}_{HF}$

- $\epsilon_1$  is small and generally stable under different noise
- the errors decrease significantly if feedback is adopted
- linear approximation works well in two situations in terms of  $\epsilon_1$

# Performance Evaluation

## ► Stage 3: infer the external interaction mechanism

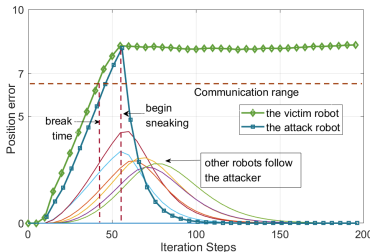
Table 2 Statistic results of obstacle-avoidance mechanism regression

Index	25 samples			50 samples		
	MDA	RMSE	MAE	MDA	RMSE	MAE
Training	0.880	0.253	0.154	0.913	0.217	0.113
Testing	0.933	0.601	0.404	0.933	0.581	0.300
Index	100 samples			200 samples		
	MDA	RMSE	MAE	MDA	RMSE	MAE
Training	0.910	0.333	0.146	0.923	0.426	0.206
Testing	0.956	0.541	0.291	0.967	0.496	0.264

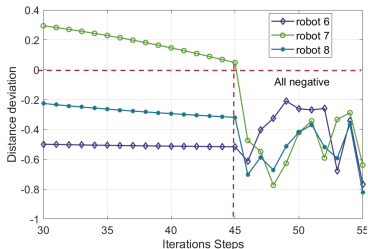
- $MDA = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \text{sign}(y_i - y'_i)$ ,  $RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - y'_i)^2}$ ,  $MAE = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{|y_i - y'_i|}{m}$
- more samples brings more accurate results but not significant improvement

# Performance Evaluation

## ► Stage 4: ECR attack strategy



(a) The position errors between the real and the desired positions, and  $r_a$  takes the  $z_5^*$  as its desired position.



(b) The distance deviations ( $\|z_a - \tilde{z}_j\|_2 - \|\tilde{z}_i - \tilde{z}_j\|_2$ ), here  $i = 5, j = 6, 7, 8$ .

Figure 4 ECR strategy.

- $r_v$  is gradually pulled out of the interaction range of its in-neighbors
  - break point: connection between  $\mathcal{N}_v^{in}$  and  $r_v$  break
  - sneak point:  $r_a$  is recognized by  $\mathcal{N}_v^{out}$
- the indirect controllability is verified

- Conclusions

- reveal the learnability of the interaction rules in MRNs
- design entrap-robot and sneak-into-MRN attack strategies
- prove the conditions to launch the attacks
- obtain performance bounds of the proposed attacks

- Open problems

- explore advanced attacks with lower cost and higher rewards
- design efficient detection methods to identify the potential threats
- secure the interaction by leaking confusing states

**Thank You !**  
**Q&A**