

# Lecture 8

## Receding Horizon Temporal Logic Planning & Finite-State Abstraction

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Contents of the lecture:

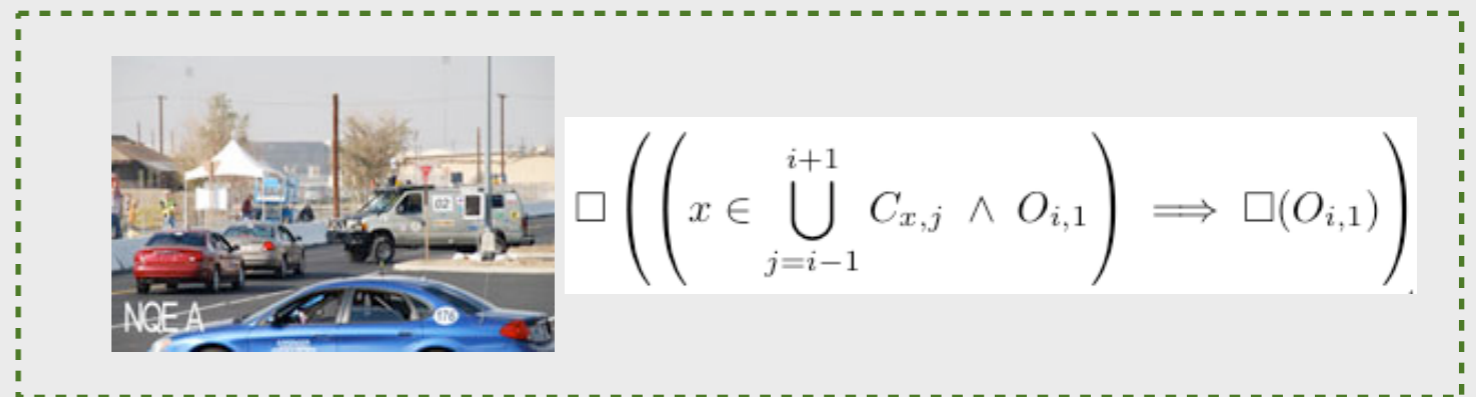
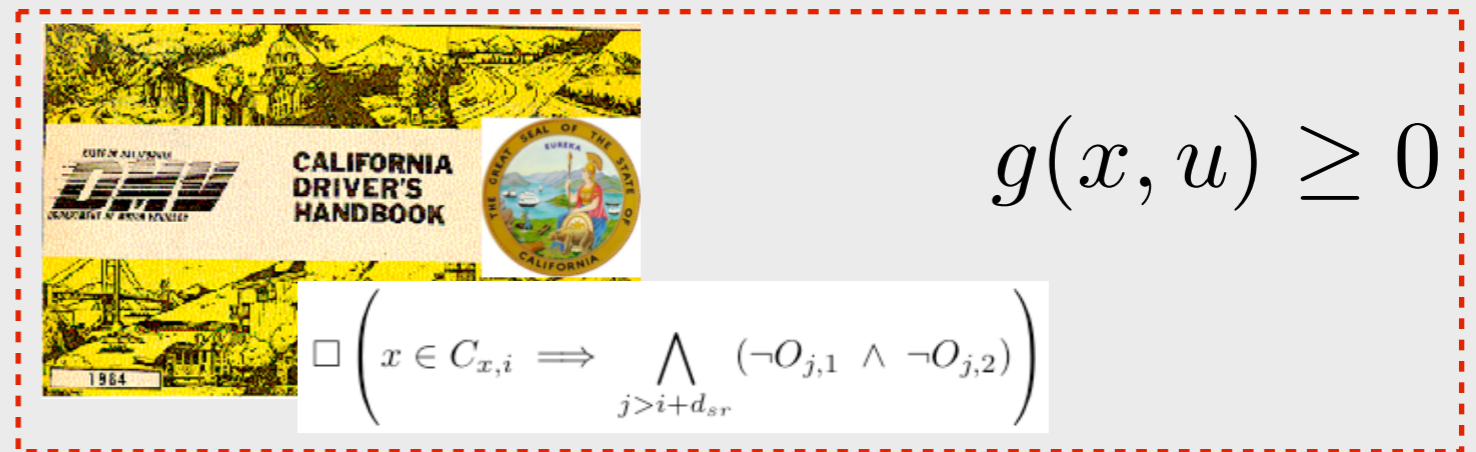
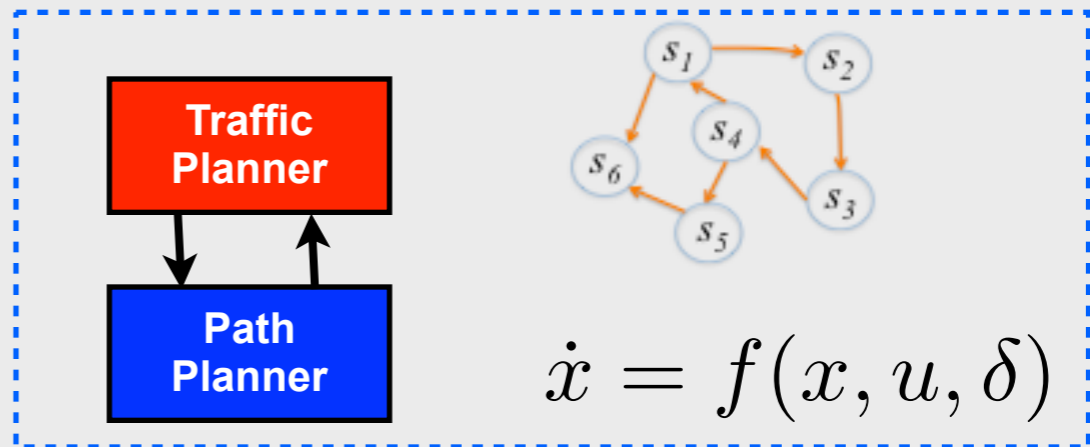
- Intro: Incorporating continuous dynamics & sources of computational complexity
- Recall: Receding horizon control
- Receding horizon temporal logic planning (RHTLP)
  - Basic idea & main result
  - Discussion of the key details of implementation
  - Autonomous driving examples
- Finite-state abstraction & hierarchical control architecture

# Problem: Design control protocols, that...

Handle mixture of discrete and continuous dynamics

Account for both high-level specs and low-level constraints

Reactively respond to changes in environment,



... with "correctness certificates."

$$\left[ (\varphi_{init} \wedge \varphi_{env}) \rightarrow (\varphi_{safety} \wedge \varphi_{goal}) \right]$$

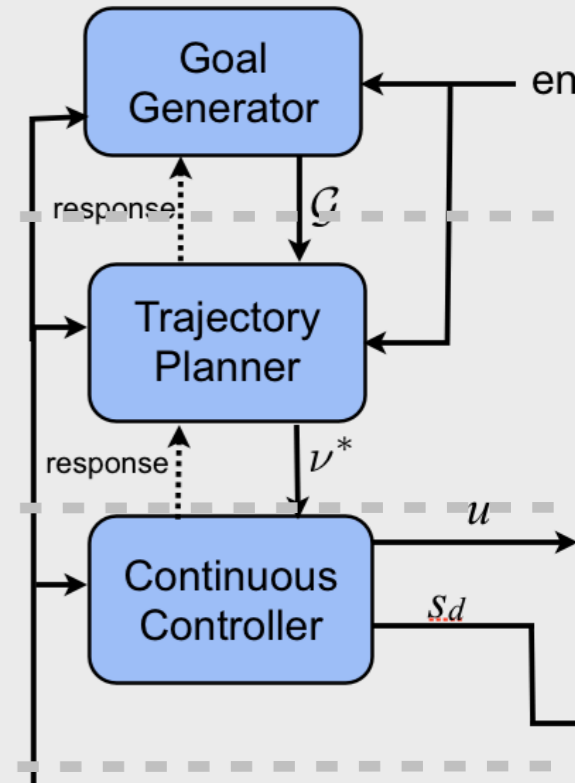
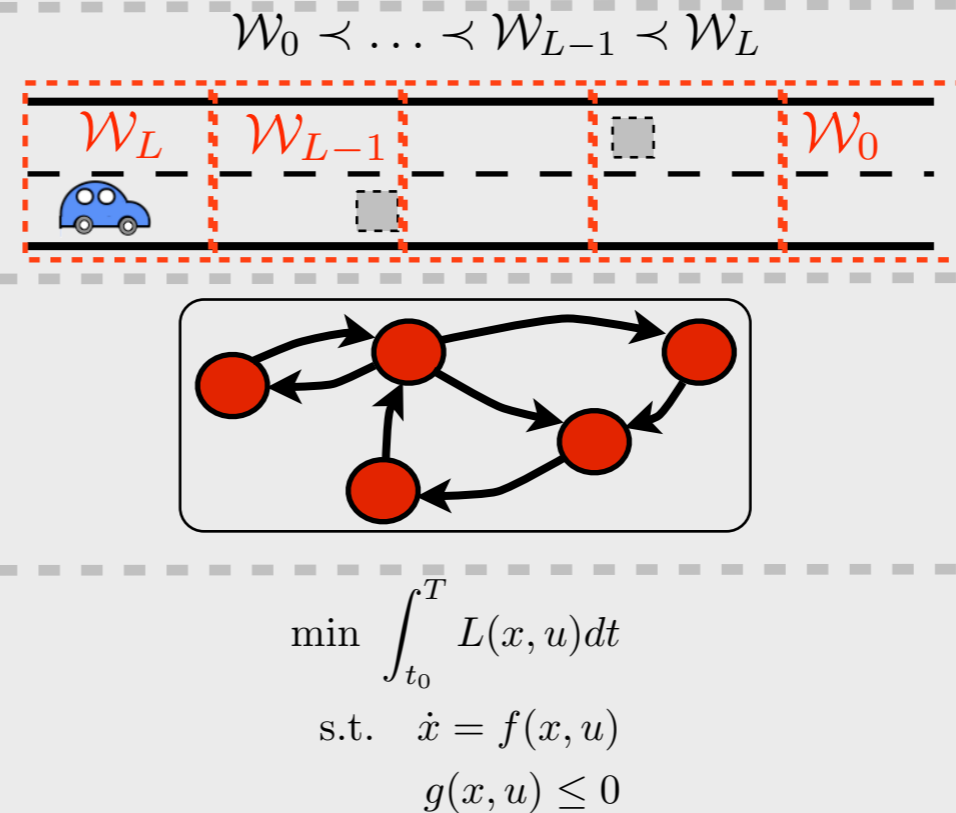
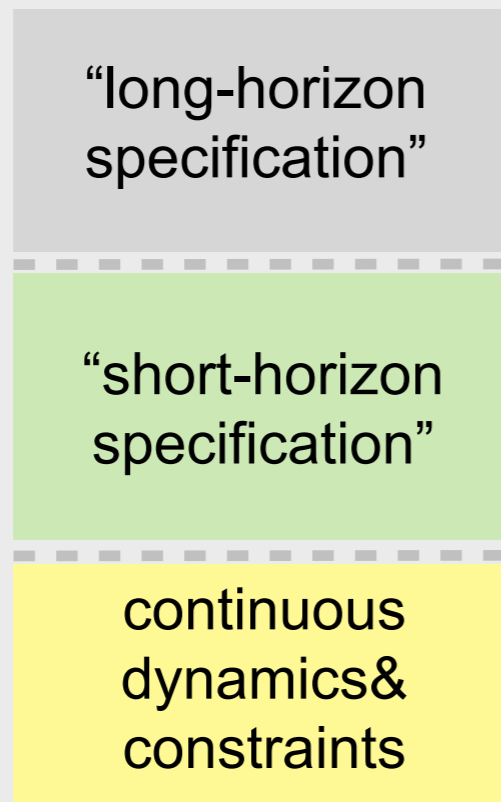
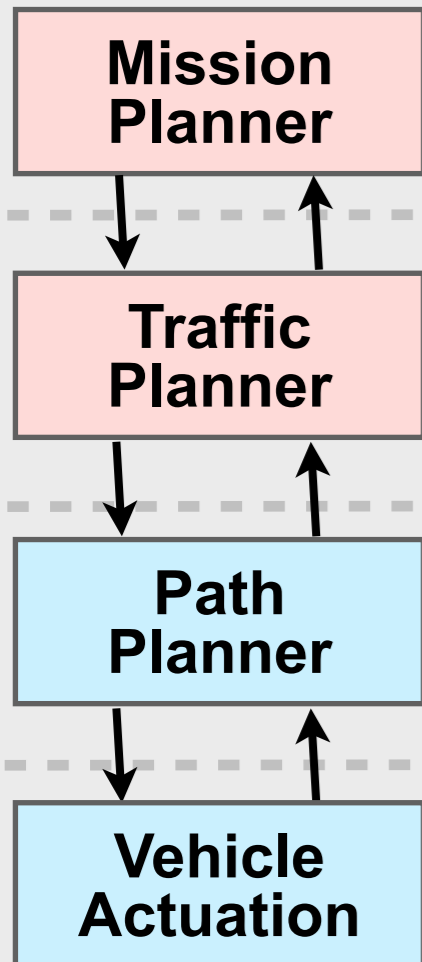
# Preview

## Alice's navigation stack

## Different views

## Multi-scale models

## Hierarchical control architecture



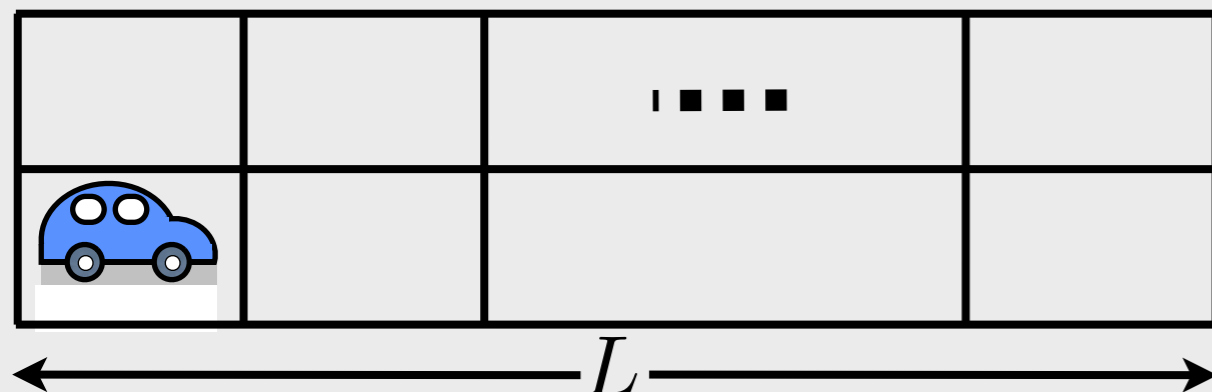
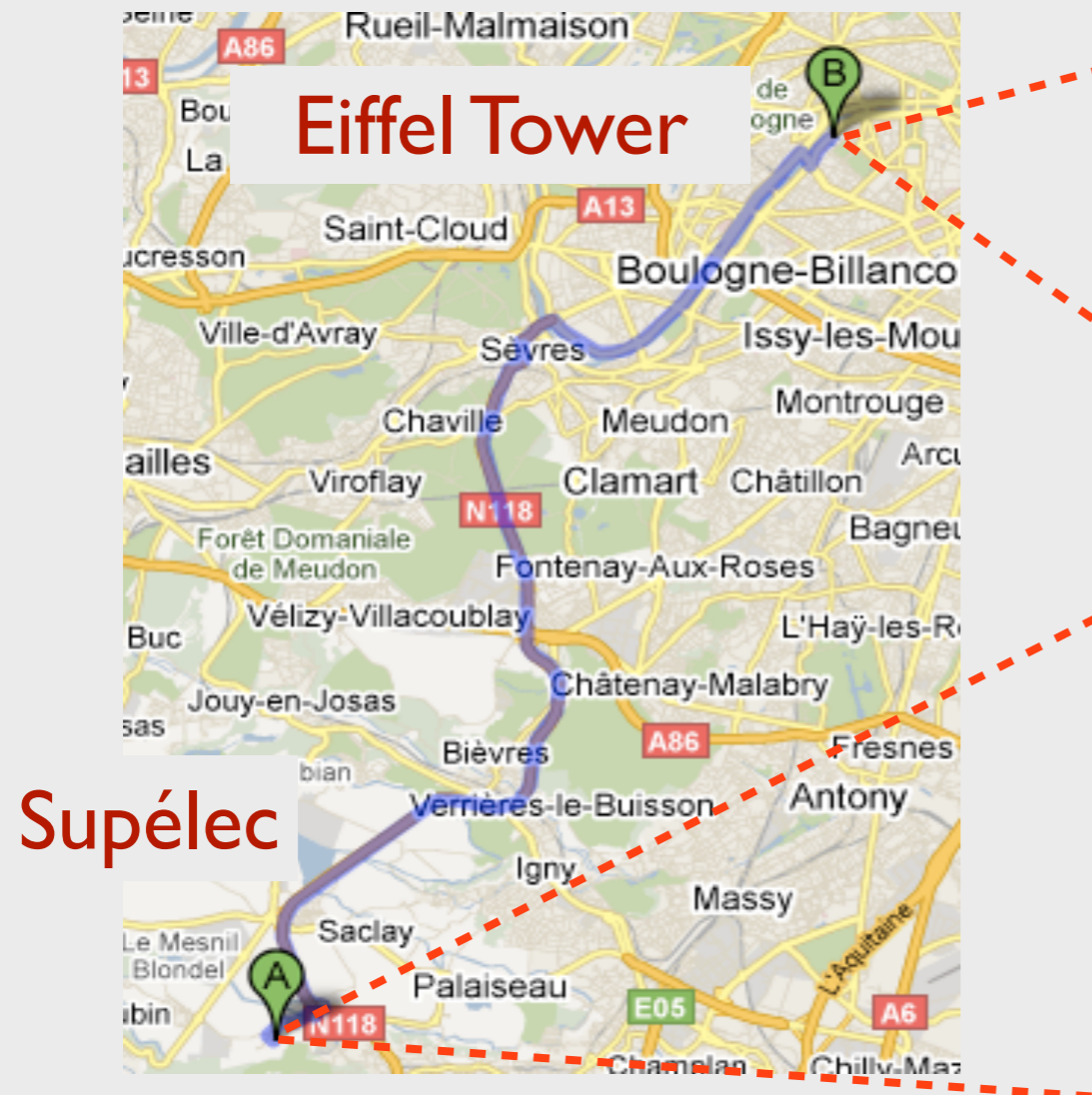
**TuLiP**: Temporal logic planning toolbox  
(Open source at <http://tulip-control.sf.net>)

[Coming up in the next lecture]

This lecture focuses on two of the  
remaining issues:

- Incorporating continuous dynamics
- Computational complexity

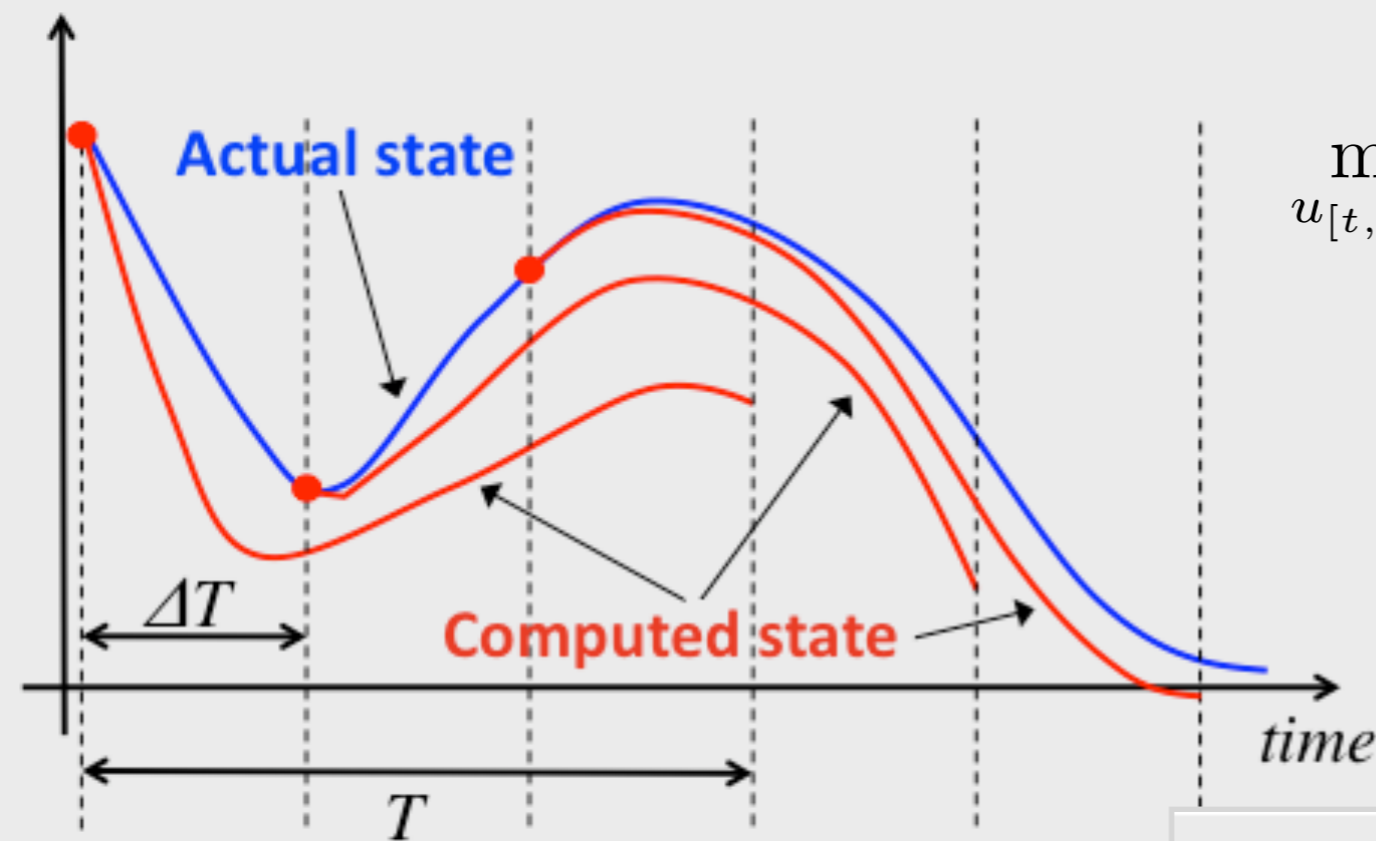
# Computational Complexity



- Each of these cells may be occupied by an obstacle.
- The vehicle can be in any of these cells.

$(2L)(2^{2L})$  possible states!

# Receding Horizon Control

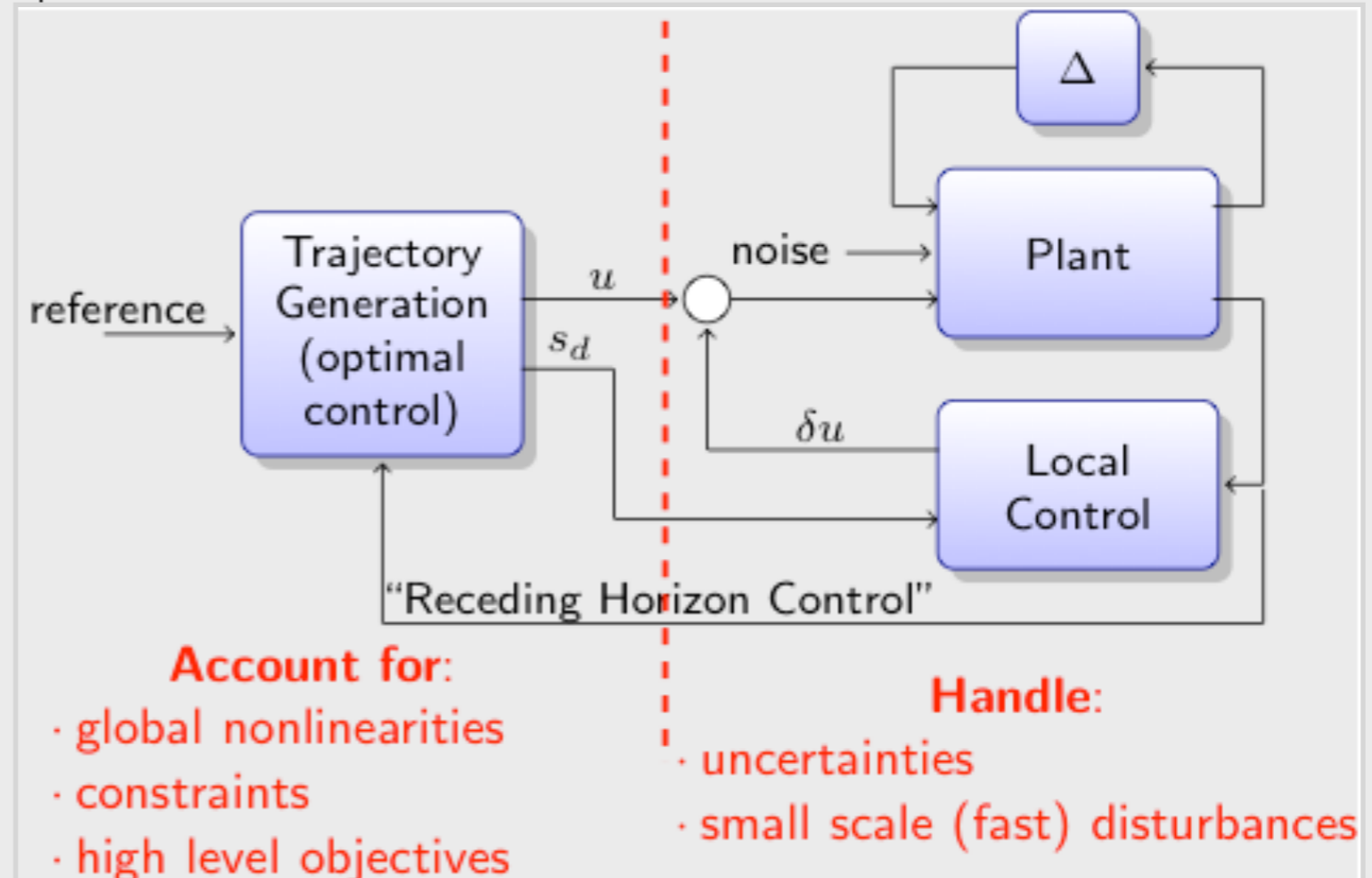


$$\min_{u[t, t+T]} \int_t^{t+T} C(x(\tau), u(\tau)) d\tau + V(x(t+T))$$

subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x, u), \quad x(t) \text{ given} \\ x(t+T) &= x_f, \quad g(x, u) \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Reduces the computational cost by solving smaller problems.
- Real-time (re)computation improves robustness.



# Receding Horizon Control

- If not implemented properly, global properties, e.g., stability, are not guaranteed.
- Increasing  $T$  helps for stability at the expense of increased computational cost.

$$\min_{u[t, t+T]} \underbrace{\int_t^{t+T} C(x(\tau), u(\tau)) d\tau}_{\text{finite-horizon optimization}} + \underbrace{V(x(t+T))}_{\text{terminal cost}}$$

subject to:

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u), \quad x(t) \text{ given}$$

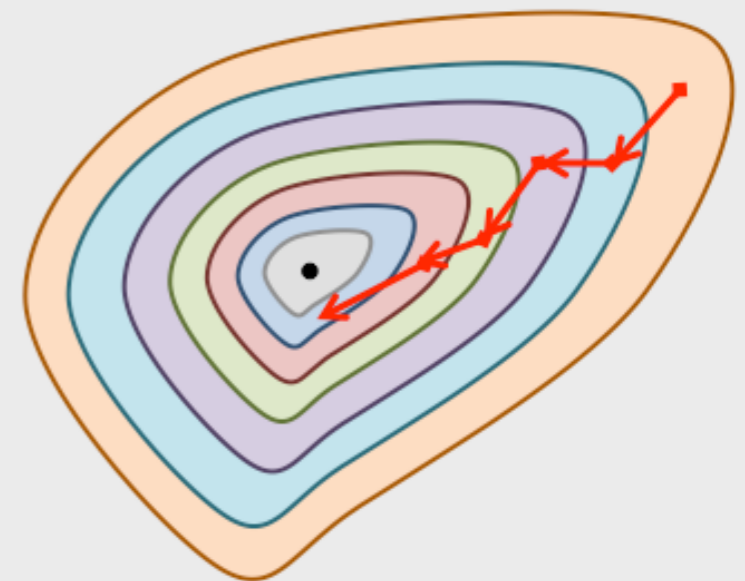
$$x(t+T) = x_f, \quad g(x, u) \leq 0$$

- If the terminal cost is chosen as a control Lyapunov function, i.e.,  $V$  is (locally) positive definite and satisfy (for some  $r > 0$ )

$$\min_u (\dot{V} + C)(x, u) < 0, \quad \forall x \in \{x : V(x) \leq r^2\}$$

then stability is guaranteed.

- Alternative (related) approach, imposed contractiveness constraints in short-horizon problems.



# Receding Horizon for LTL Synthesis

[TAC'11(submitted),  
HSCC'10]

**Global (long-horizon) specification:**

$$(\varphi_{\text{init}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{env}}) \rightarrow (\varphi_{\text{safety}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{goal}})$$

**Basic idea:**

- Partition the state space into a partially ordered set  $(\{\mathcal{W}_j\}, \preceq_{\varphi_g})$
- Goal-induced partial order

**Short-horizon specification:** For each  $i$ ,

$$(\underbrace{(\nu \in \mathcal{W}_i)}_{\text{Plan from the current cell on}} \wedge \underbrace{\Phi \wedge \varphi_{\text{env}}}_{\text{Receding horizon invariant: rules out "corner" cases}} \rightarrow (\underbrace{\square \Phi \wedge \varphi_{\text{safety}} \wedge \diamond(\nu \in \mathcal{F}_i(\mathcal{W}_i))}_{\text{Get closer to goal rather than reaching. } \mathcal{F}: \text{"horizon" length}}))$$

Plan from  
the current  
cell on

Receding horizon invariant:  
rules out "corner" cases

Get closer to goal  
rather than reaching.  
 $\mathcal{F}$ : "horizon" length"

**Theorem:** Receding horizon implementation of the short-horizon strategies ensures the correctness of the global specification.

**Trade-offs:**

computational  
cost

vs.

horizon  
length

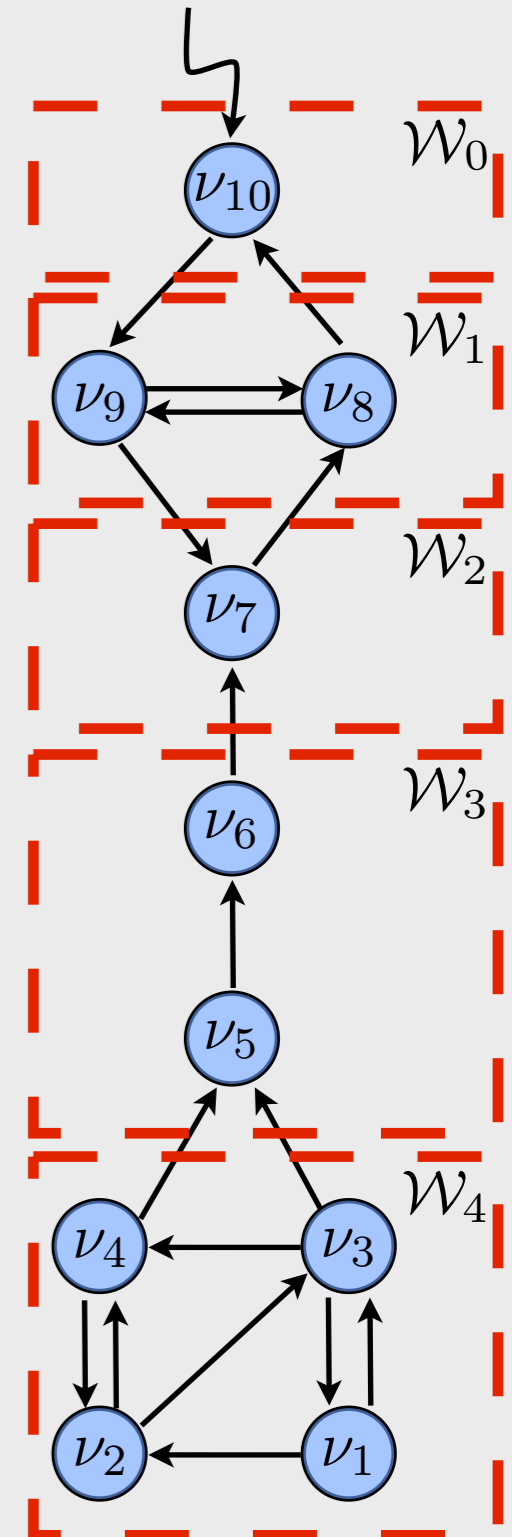
vs.

strength of  
invariant

vs.

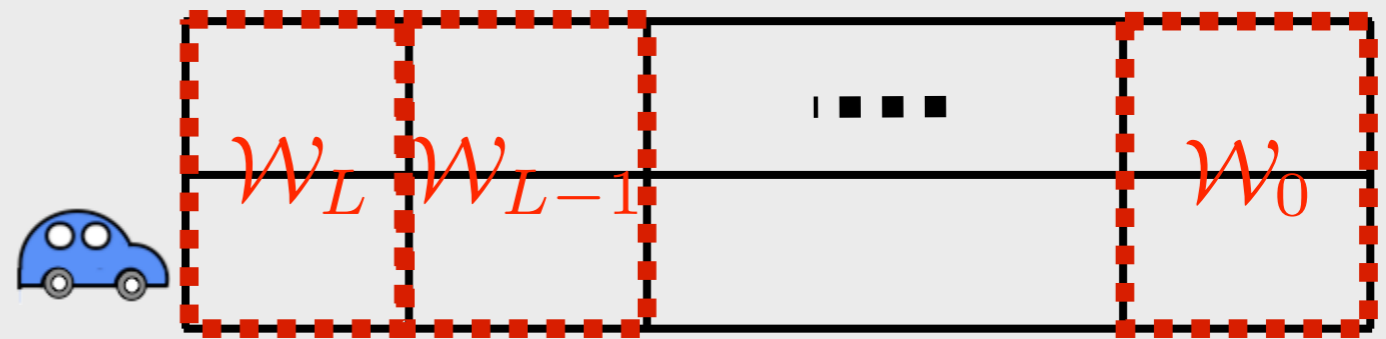
conservatism

state satisfying  $\varphi_{\text{goal}}$



# How to come up with a partial order, $\mathcal{F}$ and $\Phi$ ?

- In general, problem-dependent and requires user guidance.
- Partial automation is possible (discussed later).
- Partial order: “measure of closeness” to the goal, i.e, to the states satisfying.
- The map  $\mathcal{F}$  determines the “horizon length.



$$\mathcal{W}_0 \prec \dots \prec \mathcal{W}_{L-1} \prec \mathcal{W}_L$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{W}_j) = \mathcal{W}_{j-2}, \quad j \geq 2$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{W}_j) = \mathcal{W}_0, \quad j < 2$$

- The invariant  $\Phi$  (in this example) rules out the states that render the short horizon problems unrealizable.
- In the example above, it is the conjunction of the following propositional formulas on the initial states for each subproblem:
  - no collision in the initial state
  - vehicle cannot be in the left lane unless there is an obstacle in the right lane in the initial state
  - vehicle is able to progress from the initial state

# Navigation of point-mass omnidirectional vehicle

nondimensionalized dynamics:

$$\ddot{x} + \dot{x} = q_x(t)$$

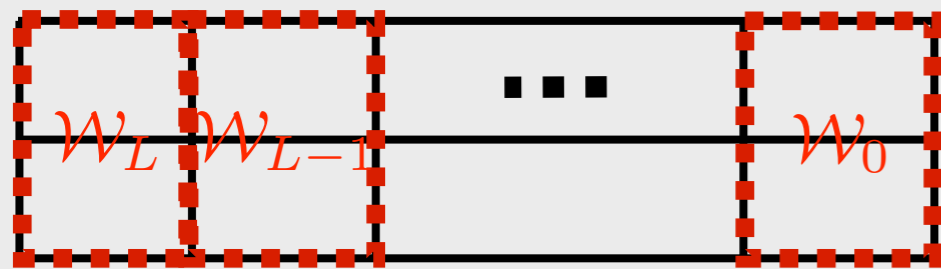
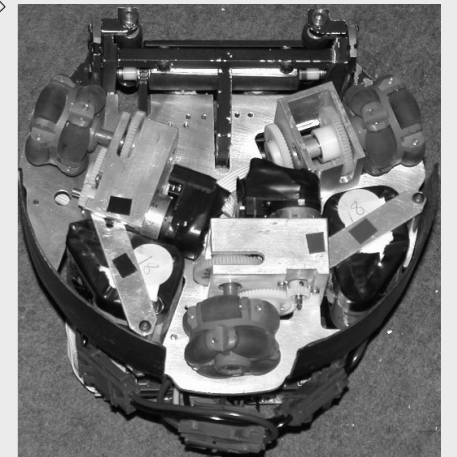
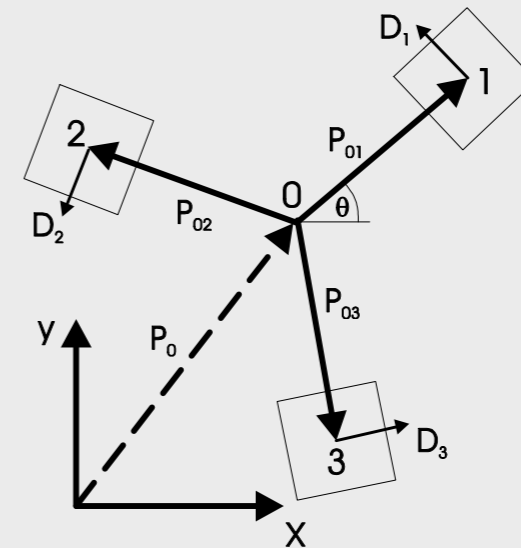
$$\ddot{y} + \dot{y} = q_y(t)$$

$$\ddot{\theta} + \frac{2mL^2}{J}\dot{\theta} = q_\theta$$

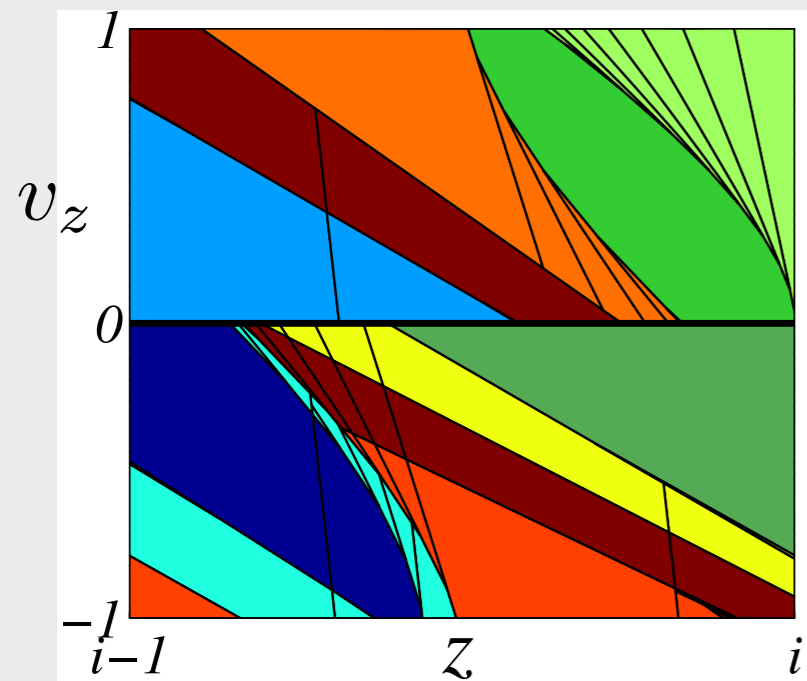
conservative bounds on control authority to decouple the dynamics:

$$|q_x(t)|, |q_y(t)| \leq \sqrt{0.5}$$

$$|q_\theta(t)| \leq 1$$

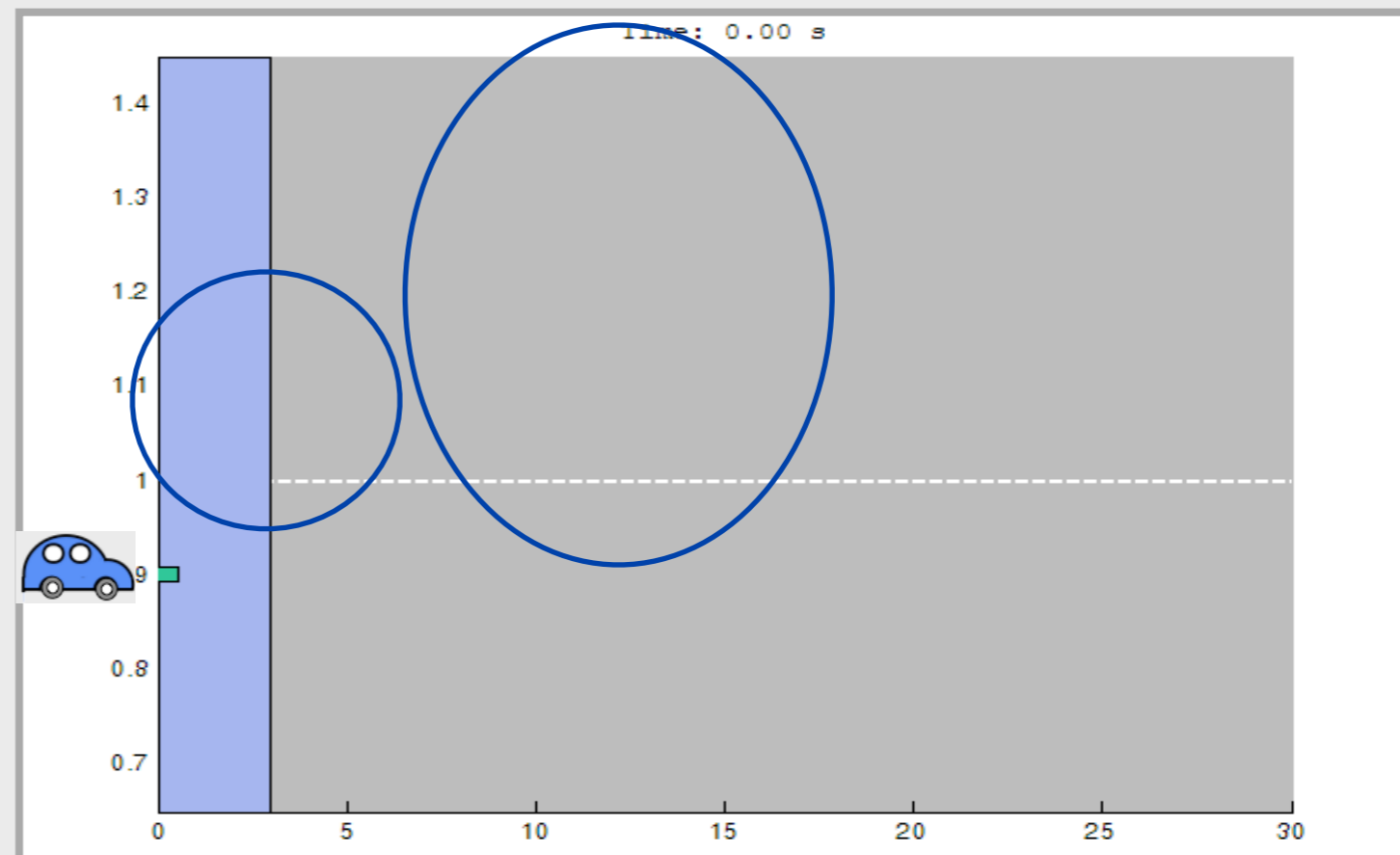


Partition (in two consecutive cells):



Reasons for the non-intuitive trajectories:

- Synthesis: feasibility rather than “optimality.”
- Specifications are not rich enough.



# Example: Navigation In Urban-Like Environment

Dynamics:  $\dot{x}(t) = u_x(t) + d_x(t)$ ,  $\dot{y}(t) = u_y(t) + d_y(t)$

Actuation limits:  $u_x(t), u_y(t) \in [-1, 1]$ ,  $\forall t \geq 0$

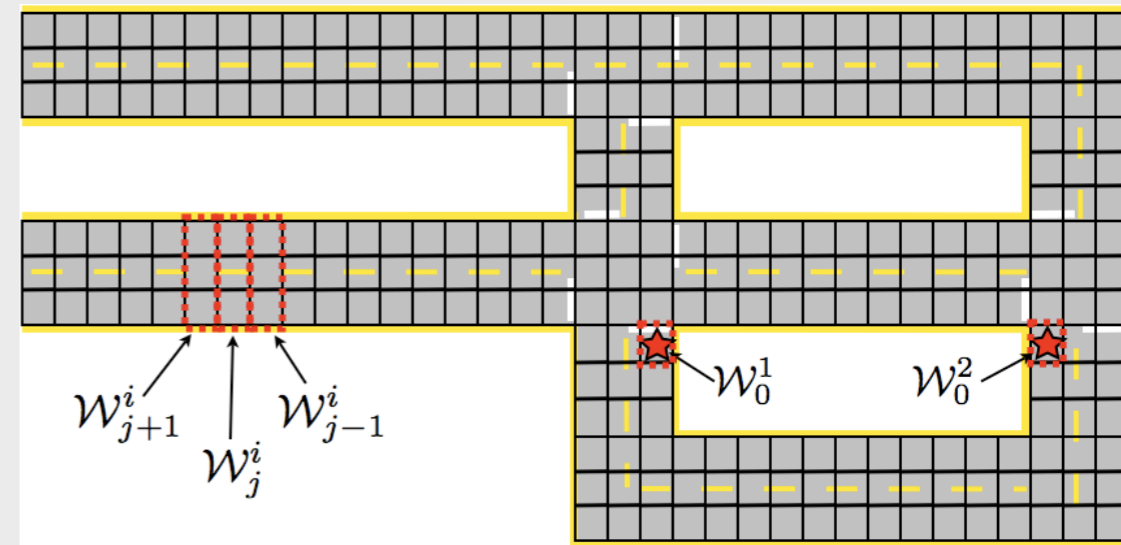
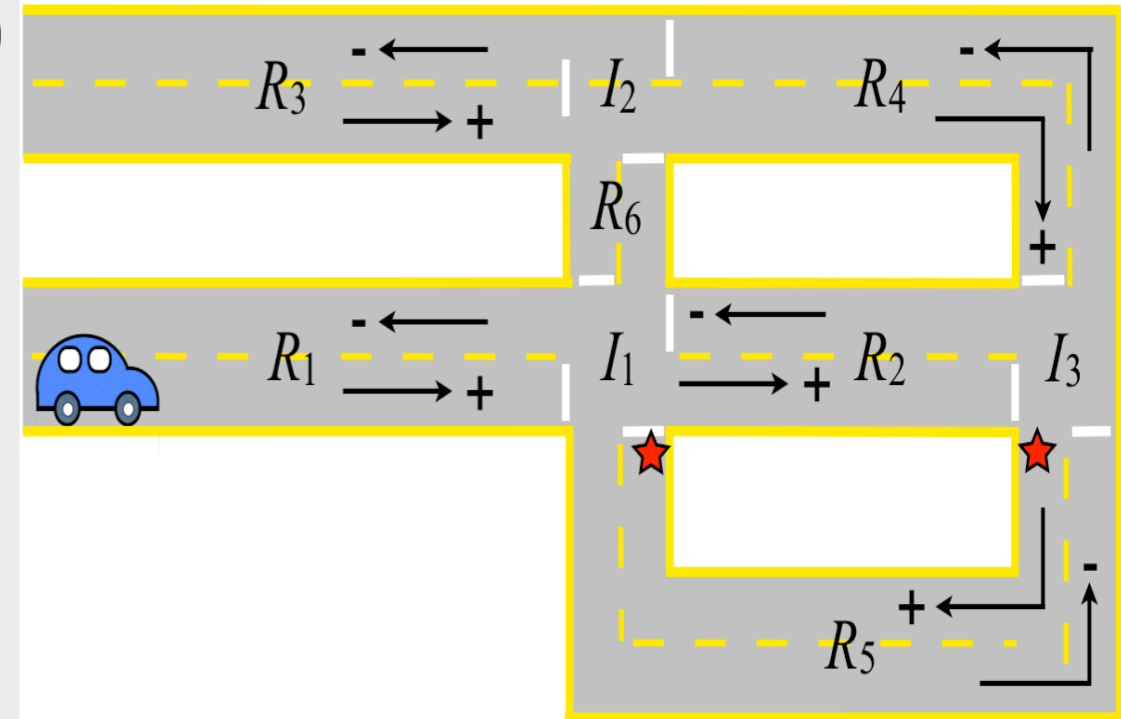
Disturbances:  $d_x(t), d_y(t) \in [-.1, .1]$ ,  $\forall t \geq 0$

## Traffic rules:

- No collision
- Stay in right lane unless blocked by obstacle
- Proceed through intersection only when clear

## Environment assumptions:

- Obstacle may not block a road
- Obstacle is detected before it gets too close
- Limited sensing range (2 cells ahead)
- Obstacle does not disappear when the vehicle is in its vicinity
- Obstacles don't span more than certain # of consecutive cells in the middle of the road
- Each intersection is clear infinitely often
- Cells marked by star and adjacent cells are not occupied by obstacle infinitely often



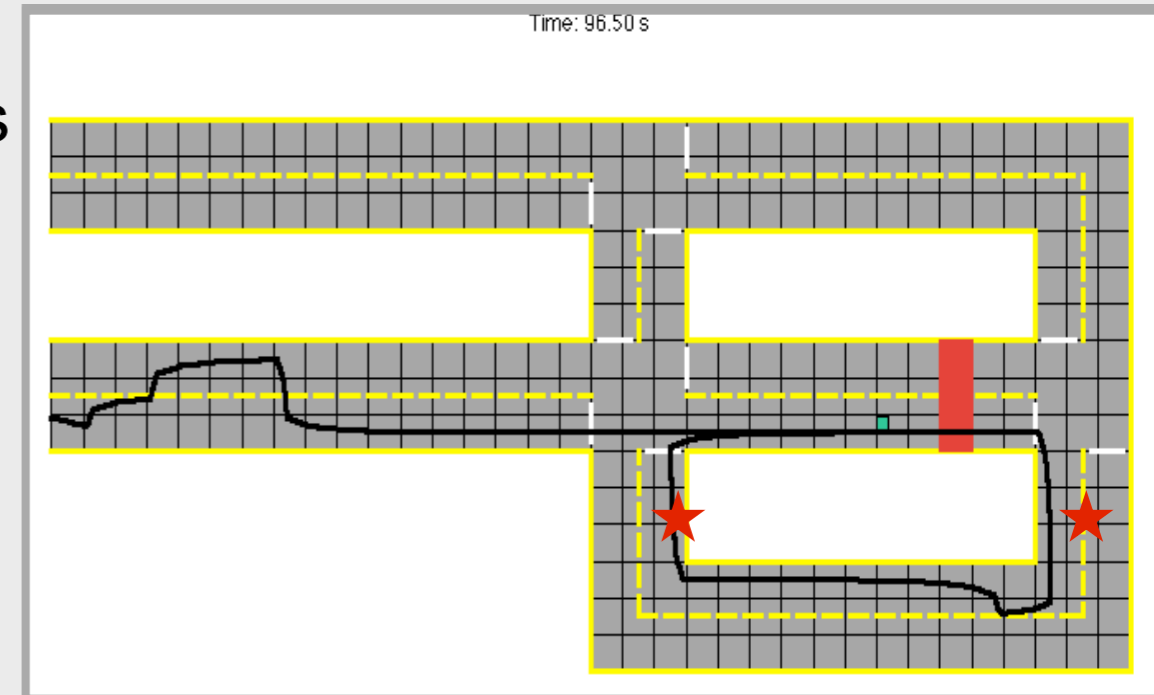
Goals: Visit the cells with \*'s infinitely often.

# Navigation In Urban-Like Environment

[TAC'11(submit),  
HSCC'10]

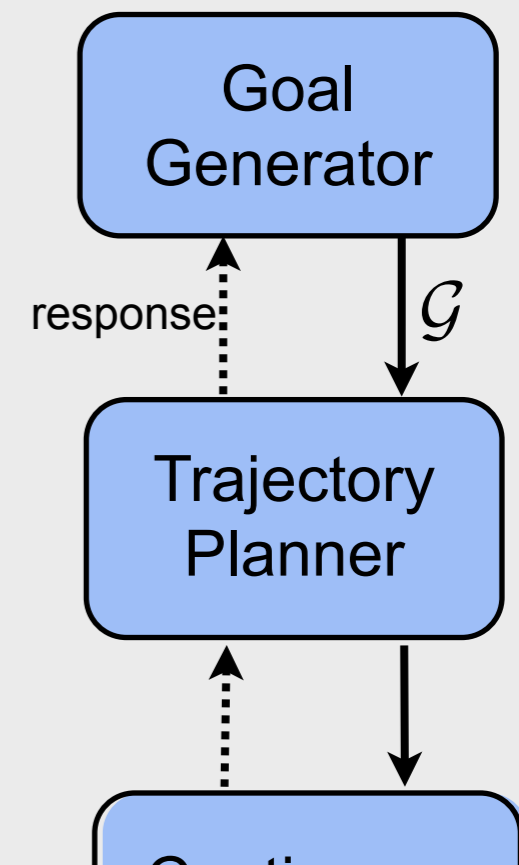
## Setup:

- Dynamics: Fully actuated with actuation limits and bounded disturbances
- Specifications:
  - Traffic rules
  - Assumptions on obstacles, sensing range, intersections,...
- Goals: Visit the two stars infinitely often



## Results:

- Without receding horizon:  $1e87$  states (hence, not solvable)
- Receding horizon:
  - Partial order: From the top layer of the control hierarchy
  - Horizon length = 2 ( $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{W}_j^i) = \mathcal{W}_{j-2}^i$ .)
  - Invariant: Not surrounded by obstacles. If started in left lane, obstacle in right lane.
  - $1e4$  states in the automaton.
  - ~1.5 sec for each short-horizon problem
  - Milliseconds for partial order generation



# What is $\Phi$ ?

- A propositional formula (that we call receding horizon invariant).
- Used to exclude the initial states that render synthesis infeasible, e.g., states from which collision is unavoidable

Short-horizon specification:

$$((\nu \in \mathcal{W}_i) \wedge \Phi \wedge \varphi_{\text{env}}) \rightarrow (\Box \Phi \wedge \varphi_{\text{safety}} \wedge \Diamond(\nu \in \mathcal{F}_i(\mathcal{W}_i)))$$

Given partial order and  $\mathcal{F}$ , computation of the invariant can be automated:

- Check realizability
- If realizable, done.
- If not, collect violating initiation conditions. Negate them and put in  $\Phi$ .
- Repeat until all subproblems or all possible states are excluded (in the latter case, either the global problem is infeasible or RHTLP with given partial order and  $\mathcal{F}$  is inconclusive.)

# Generalization to multiple “goals”

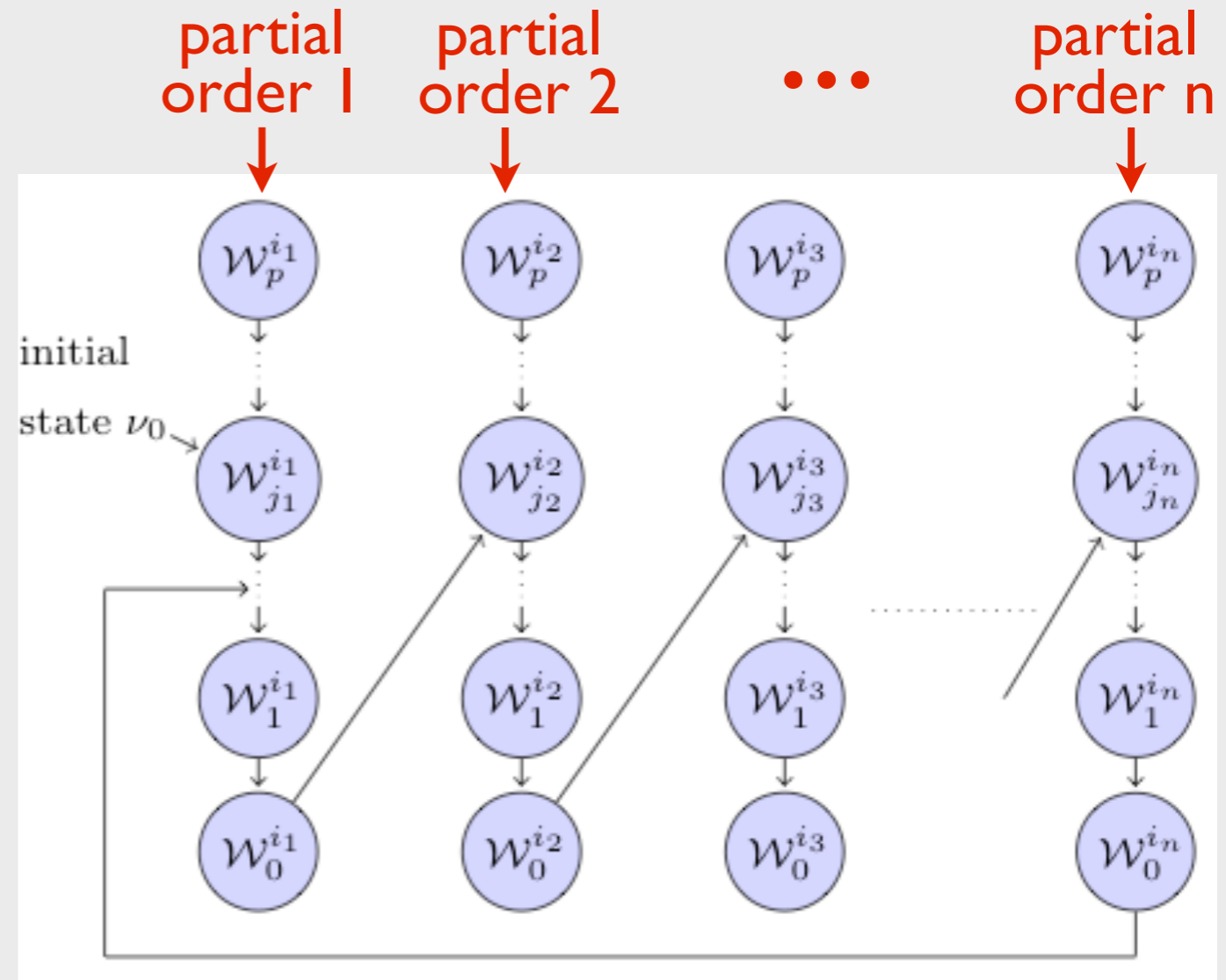
General form of LTL specifications considered in reactive control protocol synthesis:

$$\left( \psi_{init} \wedge \Box \psi_e \wedge \left( \bigwedge_{i \in I_f} \Box \Diamond \psi_{f,i} \right) \right) \rightarrow \left( \left( \bigwedge_{i \in I_s} \Box \psi_{s,i} \right) \wedge \overbrace{\left( \bigwedge_{i \in I_g} \Box \Diamond \psi_{g,i} \right)}^{\text{multiple “goals”}} \right)$$

Each partial order covers the discrete (system) state space. For each  $\nu \in \mathcal{W}_0^{i,j}$ , one can find a cell in the “proceeding” partial order that  $\nu$  belongs to.

Strategy: While in  $\mathcal{W}_j^i$  implement (in a receding horizon fashion) the controller that realizes

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( (\nu \in \mathcal{W}_j^i) \wedge \Phi \wedge \Box \psi_e^e \wedge \bigwedge_{k \in I_f} \Box \Diamond \psi_{f,k}^e \right) \\ & \implies \left( \bigwedge_{k \in I_s} \Box \psi_{s,k} \wedge \Box \Diamond (\nu \in \mathcal{F}^i(\mathcal{W}_j^i)) \wedge \Box \Phi \right) \end{aligned}$$



# Computational complexity & completeness

For Generalized Reactivity [1] formulas, the computation time of synthesis is  $O(mn|\Sigma|^3)$ , where  $|\Sigma|$  is the number of discrete states.

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^m \square \diamond p_i^e \rightarrow \bigwedge_{j=1}^n \square \diamond q_j^s$$

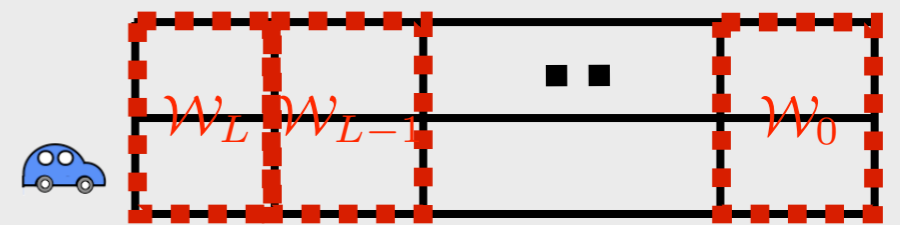
Receding horizon implementation...

- reduces the computational complexity by restricting the state space considered in each subproblem; and
- is not complete, i.e., the global problem may be solvable but the choice of  $\{\mathcal{W}_j\}$ , the partial order, the maps  $\mathcal{F}_i$ , and  $\Phi$  may not lead to a solution.

Choose  $\mathcal{F}_i$  to give “longer horizon”:

- Subproblems in RHTLP are more likely to be realizable.
- Computational cost is higher.

E.g., for urban-like driving example is infeasible with horizon length of one.



Global synthesis problem

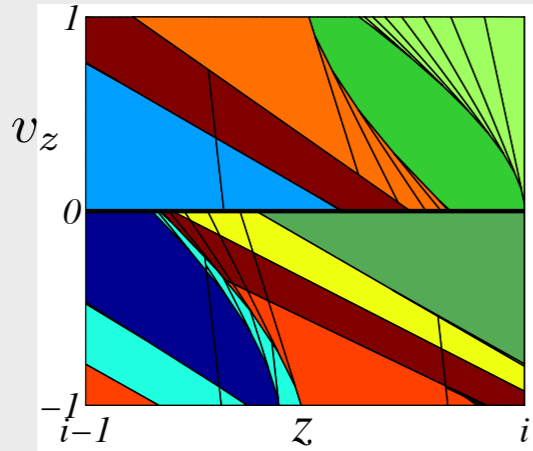
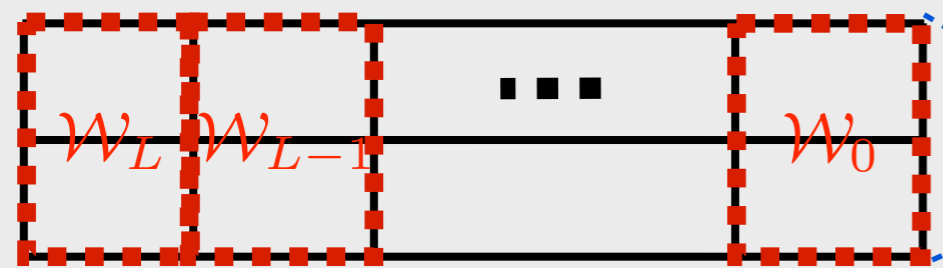
$$(\varphi_{init} \wedge \varphi_{env}) \rightarrow (\varphi_{safety} \wedge \varphi_{goal})$$

Subproblems in RHTLP

$$((v \in \mathcal{W}_i) \wedge \Phi \wedge \varphi_{end}) \rightarrow (\varphi_{safety} \wedge \diamond(v \in \mathcal{F}_i(\mathcal{W}_i) \wedge \square \Phi))$$

# Hierarchical control structure

models of varying fidelity

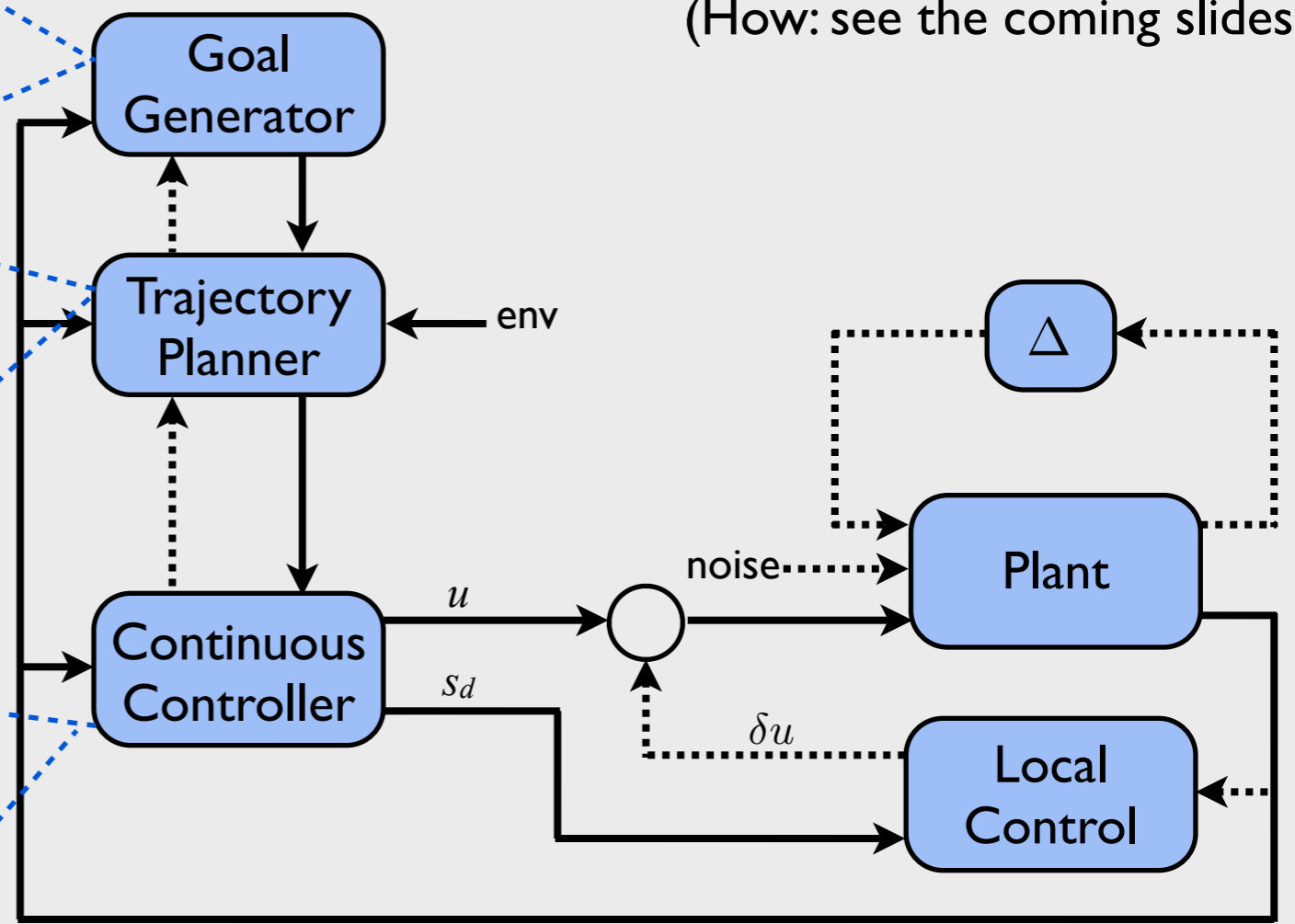


$$\ddot{x} + \dot{x} = q_x(t)$$
$$\ddot{y} + \dot{y} = q_y(t)$$
$$\ddot{\theta} + \frac{2mL^2}{J}\dot{\theta} = q_\theta$$

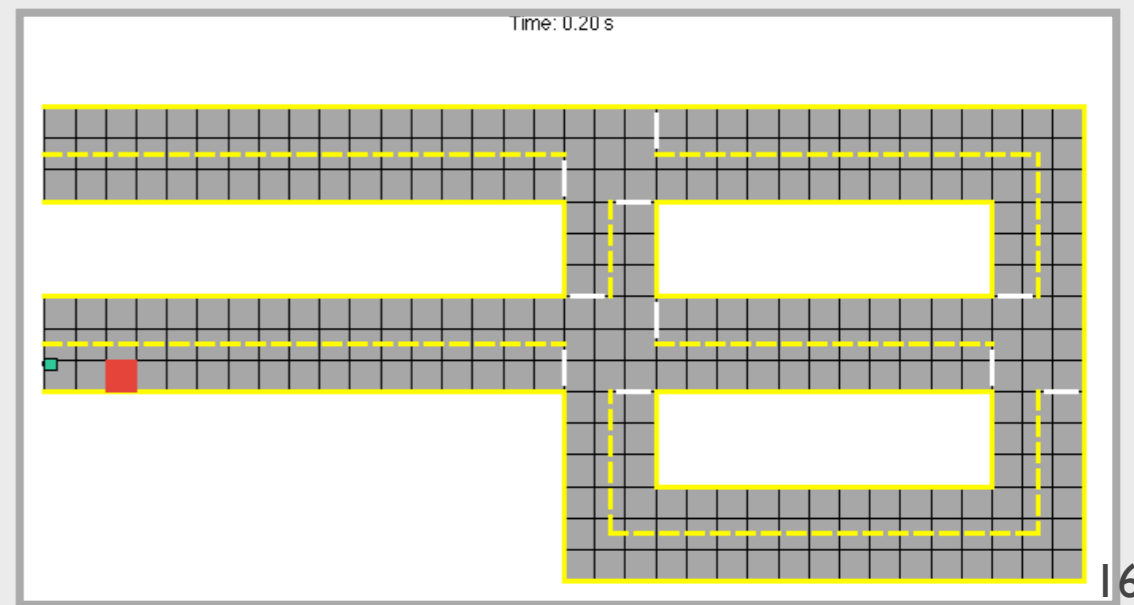
$$|q_x(t)|, |q_y(t)| \leq \sqrt{0.5}$$
$$|q_\theta(t)| \leq 1$$

Abstraction procedure and bisimulations relate models of different fidelity level.

(How: see the coming slides.)

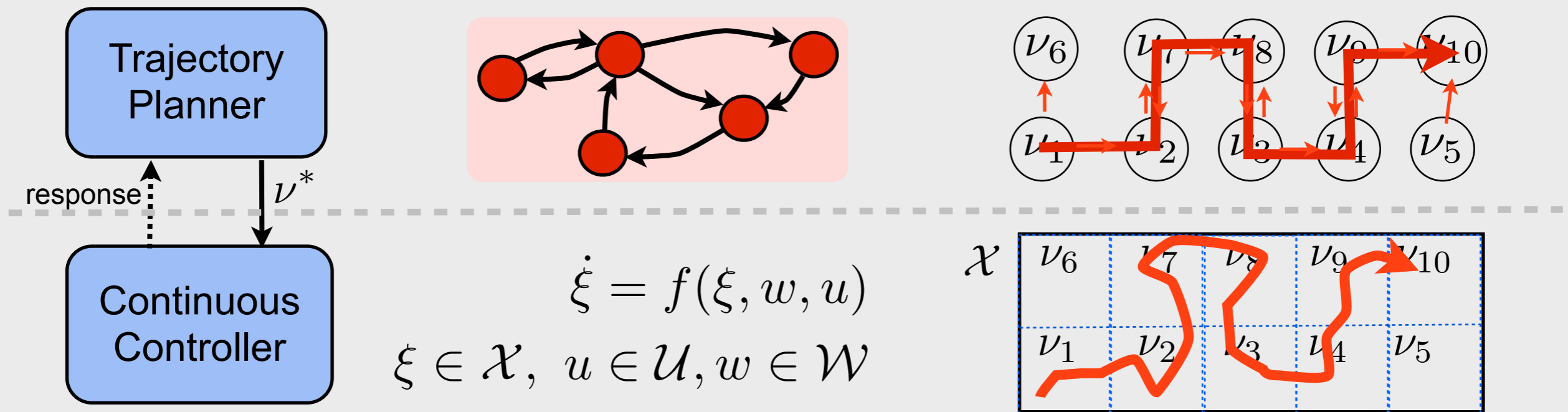


Response mechanism is introduced to compensate for mismatch between the system and its model and between the actual behavior of the environment and its assumptions.



# Incorporating continuous dynamics: main idea

**Main idea:**



**Theorem:** For any discrete run satisfying the specification, there exists an admissible control signal leading to a continuous trajectory satisfying the specification.

**Proof:** Constructive  $\rightarrow$  Finite-state model + Continuous control signals.

**Abstraction refinement** for reducing potential conservatism.

# Finite state abstraction

## Given:

- A system with controlled variables  $s \in S$  in domain  $dom(S)$  and environment variables  $e \in E$  in domain  $dom(E)$ .
- Define  $v = (s, e)$ ,  $V = S \cup E$  and  $dom(V) = dom(S) \times dom(E)$ .
- Controlled variables evolve with (for  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ):

$$s[t + 1] = As[t] + B_u u[t] + B_d d[t] \quad \longleftarrow \text{state evolution}$$

$$u[t] \in U \quad \longleftarrow \text{admissible control inputs}$$

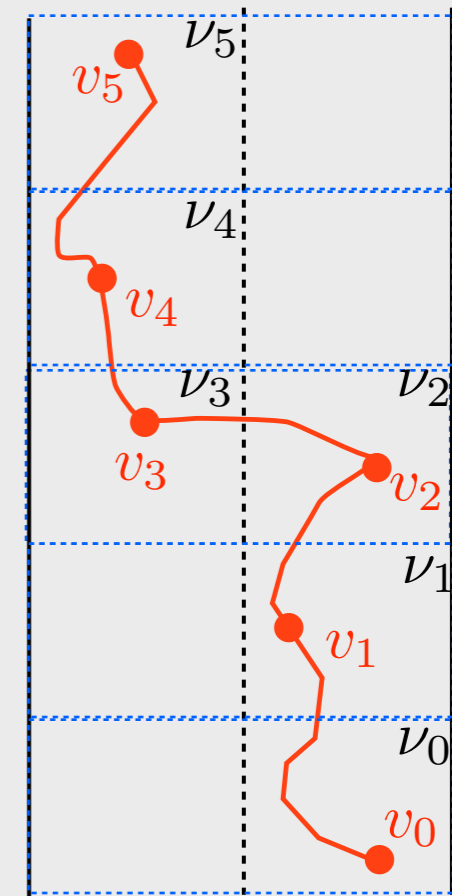
$$d[t] \in D \quad \longleftarrow \text{exogenous disturbances}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} s[0] \in dom(S) \\ s[t + 1] \in dom(S) \end{array} \right\} \longleftarrow \text{set that states take values in}$$

- System specification  $\varphi$

**Find:** A finite transition system with discrete states  $\nu$  such that for any sequence  $\nu_0 \nu_1 \dots$  satisfying  $\varphi$ , (very roughly speaking) there exists a sequence of admissible control signals leading to an infinite sequence  $v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots$  that satisfies  $\varphi$ .

(stated more precisely later...)

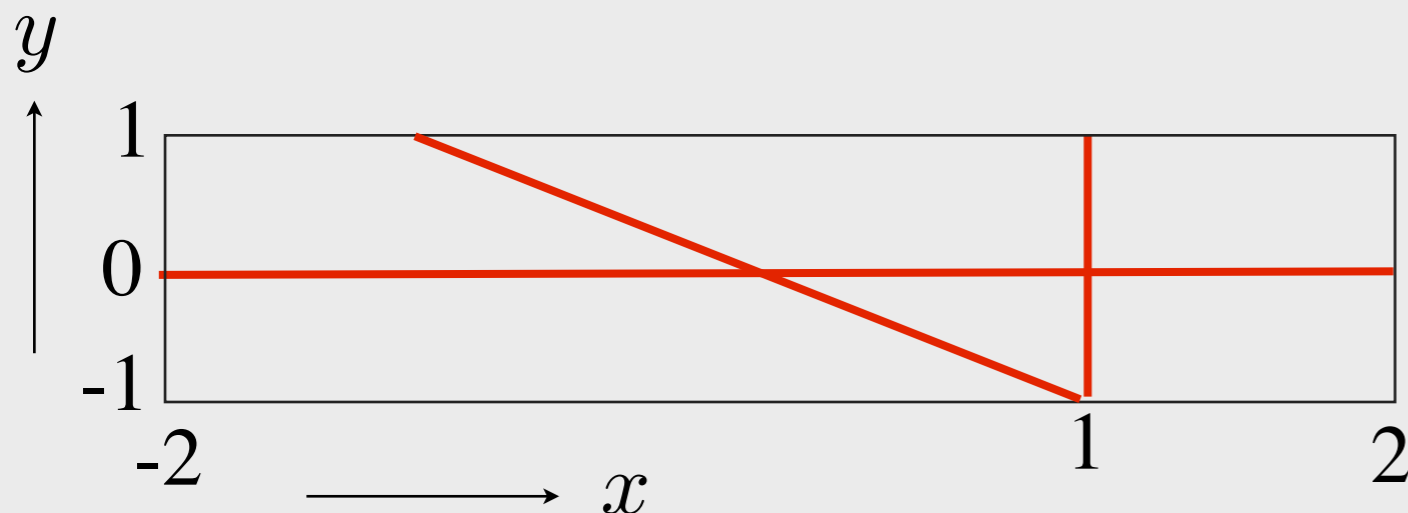


# Proposition preserving partition

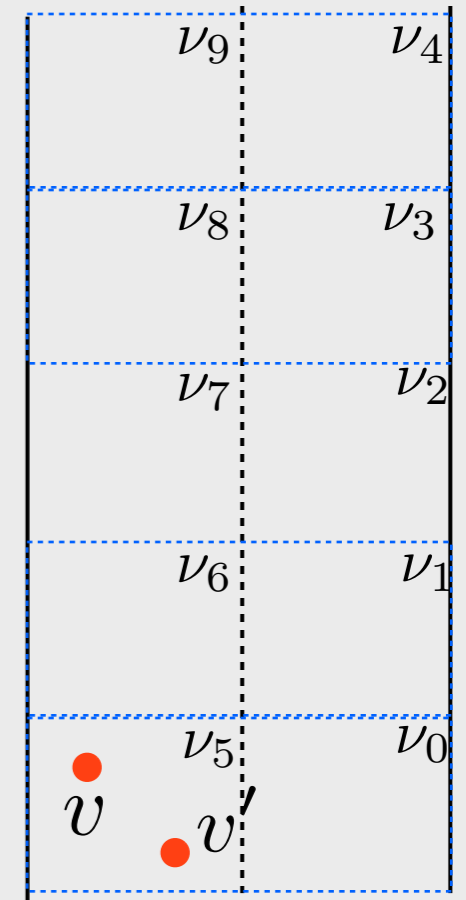
Given  $\text{dom}(V)$  and atomic propositions in  $\Pi$ .

A partition of  $\text{dom}(V)$  is said to be proposition preserving if, for any atomic proposition  $\pi \in \Pi$  and any states  $v$  and  $v'$  that belong to the same cell of the partition,  $v$  satisfies  $\pi$  if and only if  $v'$  satisfies  $\pi$ .

Example:  $\Pi = \{x \leq 1, y \geq 0, x + y \geq 0, \dots\}$



A discrete state  $\nu$  is said to satisfy  $\pi$  if and only if there exists a continuous state  $v$ , in the cell labeled, that satisfies  $\pi$ .



$$\nu_5 \models_d \pi \Leftrightarrow \exists v \in \nu_5 \text{ s.t. } v \models \pi$$

+

proposition preserving:

$$v \models \pi \Leftrightarrow v' \models \pi$$

$\Downarrow$

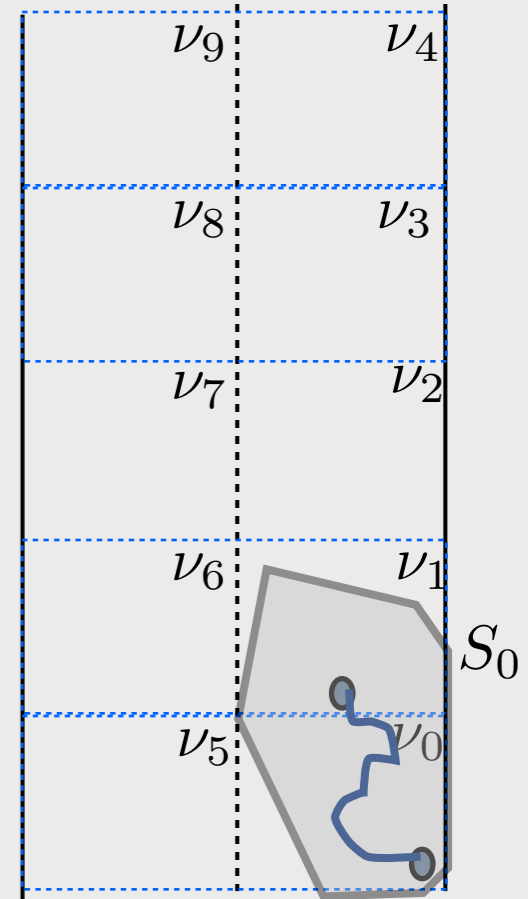
$$\nu_5 \models_d \pi \Leftrightarrow \forall v \in \nu_5 \text{ s.t. } v \models \pi$$

# Finite-time reachability

A discrete state  $\nu_j$  is finite-time reachable from a discrete state  $\nu_i$ , only if starting from any  $s[0] \in T_s^{-1}(\nu_i)$ , there exists

- a finite horizon length  $N \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$
- for any allowable disturbance, there exists  $u[0], u[1], \dots, u[N-1] \in U$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} s[N] &\in T_s^{-1}(\nu_j) \\ s[t] &\in T_s^{-1}(\nu_i) \cup T_s^{-1}(\nu_j), \quad \forall t \in \{0, \dots, N\} \end{aligned}$$



Verifying the reachability relation:

- Compute the set  $S_0$  of  $s[0]$  from which  $T_s(\nu_j)$  can be reached under the system dynamics in a pre-specified time  $N$ .
- Check whether  $T_s^{-1}(\nu_i) \subseteq S_0$ .

$$\text{system dynamics} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s[t+1] = As[t] + B_u u[t] + B_d d[t] \\ u[t] \in U \\ d[t] \in D \\ s[0] \in \text{dom}(S) \\ s[t+1] \in \text{dom}(S) \end{array} \right.$$

# Computing $S_0$

Given  $N$  and polyhedral sets

$$T_s^{-1}(\nu_i) = \{s \in \mathbb{R}^n : L_1 s \leq M_1\}$$

$$U = \{u \in \mathbb{R}^m : L_2 u \leq M_2\}$$

$$T_s^{-1}(\nu_j) = \{s \in \mathbb{R}^n : L_3 s \leq M_3\}.$$

$S_0$  is computed as the set of  $s_0$  such that there exist  $u[0], \dots, u[N-1]$  satisfying  $L_2 u[t] \leq M_2$ , for  $t \in \{0, \dots, N-1\}$ , leading to

$$L_1 s[t] \leq M_1 \text{ for } t = 0, \dots, N-1$$

$$L_3 s[N] \leq M_3,$$

where

$$s[t] = A^t s_0 + \sum_{k=0}^{t-1} (A^k B_u u[t-1-k] + A^k B_d d[t-1-k]),$$

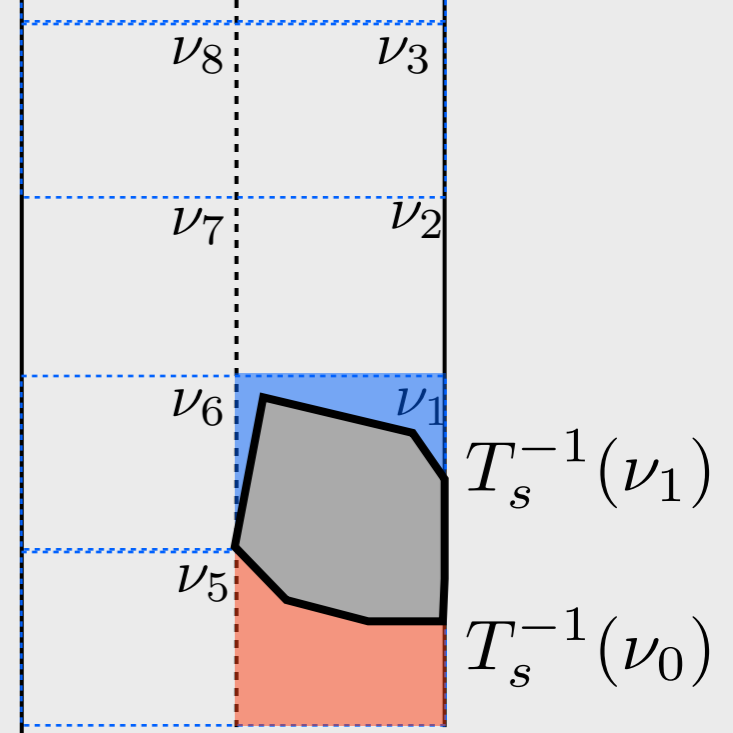
for all  $d[0], \dots, d[N-1] \in D$  ( $D$  polyhedral).

**Put together:**  $S_0$  is computed as a polytope projection:

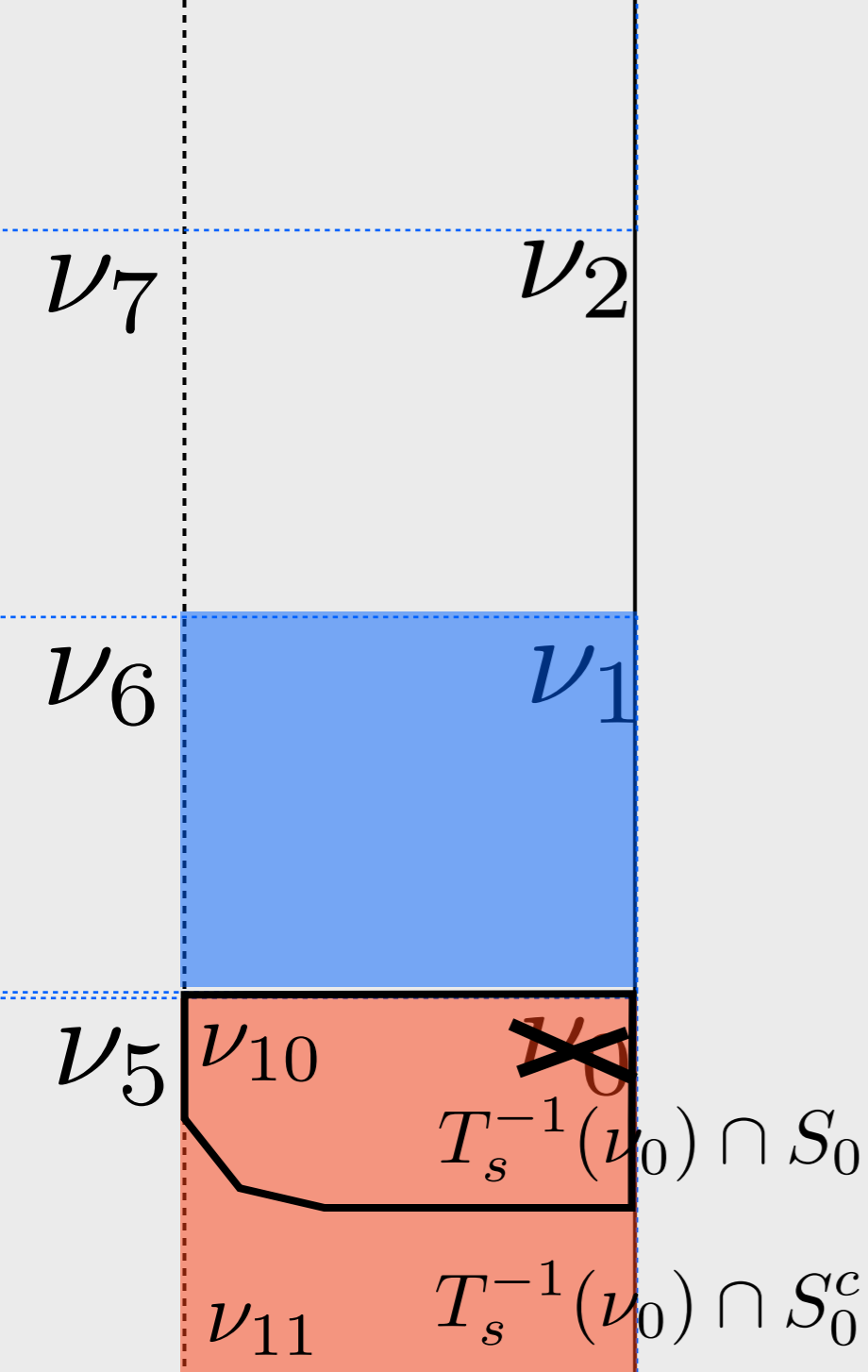
$$S_0 = \left\{ s_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n : \exists \hat{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{mN} \text{ s.t. } L \begin{bmatrix} s_0 \\ \hat{u} \end{bmatrix} \leq M - G\hat{d}, \forall \hat{d} \in \bar{D}^N \right\}$$

stacking of  $u$  and  $d$

set of vertices of  $D^N = D \times \dots \times D$



# Refining the partition

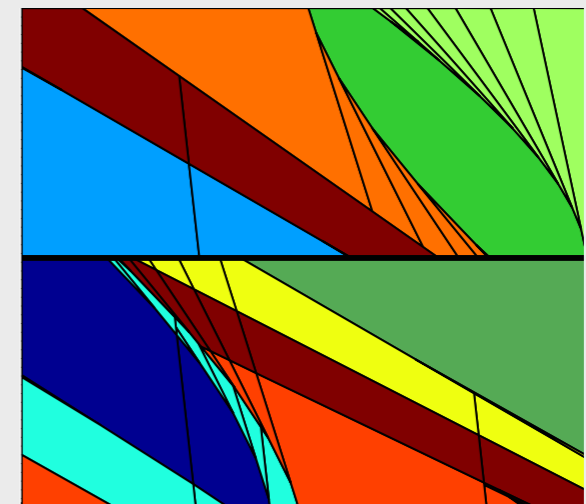


While checking the reachability from  $T_s^{-1}(\nu_i)$  to  $T_s^{-1}(\nu_j)$ , if  $T_s^{-1}(\nu_i) \not\subseteq S_0$ , then

- Split  $T_s^{-1}(\nu_i) \cap S_0$  and  $T_s^{-1}(\nu_i) \cap S_0^c$
- Remove  $\nu_i$  from the set of discrete states
- Add two new discrete states corresponding to  $T_s^{-1}(\nu_i) \cap S_0$  and  $T_s^{-1}(\nu_i) \cap S_0^c$
- Repeat until no cell can be sub-partitioned s.t. the volumes of the two resulting new cells both greater than  $Vol_{min}$ .
- Smaller  $Vol_{min}$  leads to more cells in the partition and more allowable transitions.
- If the initial partition is proposition preserving, so is the resulting.

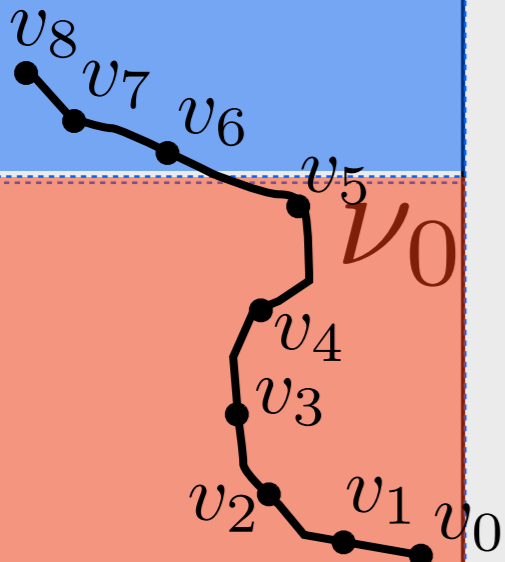
Define the finite transition system  $\mathbb{D}$ , an abstraction of  $\mathbb{S}$  as:

- $\mathcal{V} := \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{E}$ , set of discrete states (both controller and environment)
- $\nu_i = (\varsigma_i, \epsilon_i) \rightarrow \nu_j = (\varsigma_j, \epsilon_j)$  only if  $\varsigma_j$  is reachable from  $\varsigma_i$ .



$\nu_7$ 

# Correctness of the hierarchical implementation

 $\nu_6$  $\nu_1$  $\nu_5$  $\nu_0$ 

## Using

- Proposition preserving property of the partition
- $\mathbb{D}$  only includes the transitions that are implemented by the control signal  $u$  within some finite time (by construction through the reachability formulation)
- Stutter invariance of the specification  $\varphi$ , ...

Two words  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  over  $2^{AP}$  are stutter equivalent, if there exists an infinite sequence  $A_0 A_1 A_2 \dots$  of sets of atomic propositions and natural numbers  $n_0, n_1, n_2, \dots$  and  $m_0, m_1, m_2, \dots$  such that  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are of the form

$$\sigma_1 = A_0^{n_0} A_1^{n_1} A_2^{n_2} \dots \quad \sigma_2 = A_0^{m_0} A_1^{m_1} A_2^{m_2} \dots$$

An LT property  $P$  is stutter-invariant if for any word  $\sigma \in P$  all stutter-equivalent words are also contained in  $P$ .

**Example:**  $v_0 v_1 \dots v_8 \dots$  and  $\nu_0 \nu_1 \dots$  are stutter-equivalent.

## ...we can prove:

Let  $\sigma_d = \nu_0 \nu_1 \dots$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{D}$  with  $\nu_k \rightarrow \nu_{k+1}$ ,  $\nu_k = (\varsigma_k, \epsilon_k)$ ,  $\varsigma_k \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $\epsilon_k \in \mathcal{E}$ . If  $\sigma_d \models_d \varphi$ , then by applying a sequence of control signals from the Reachability Problem with initial set  $T_s^{-1}(\varsigma_k)$  and final set  $T_s^{-1}(\varsigma_{k+1})$ , the sequence of continuous states  $\sigma = v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots$  satisfies  $\varphi$ .

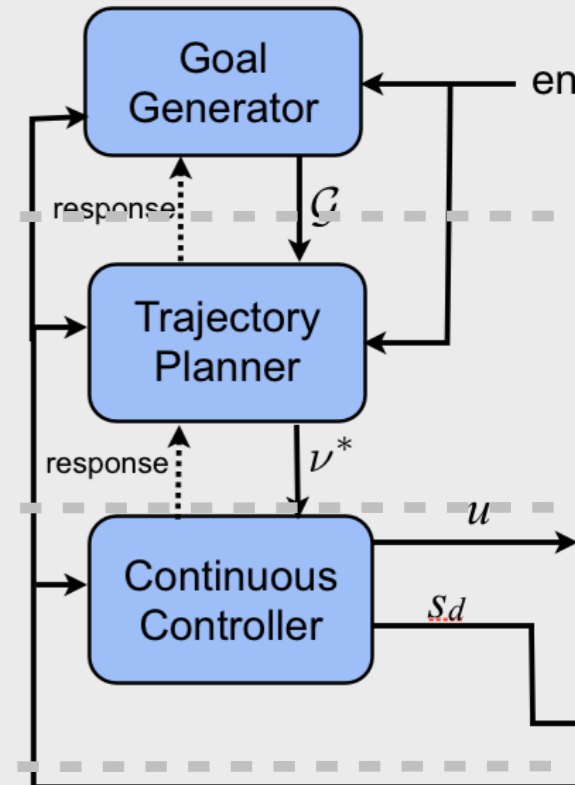
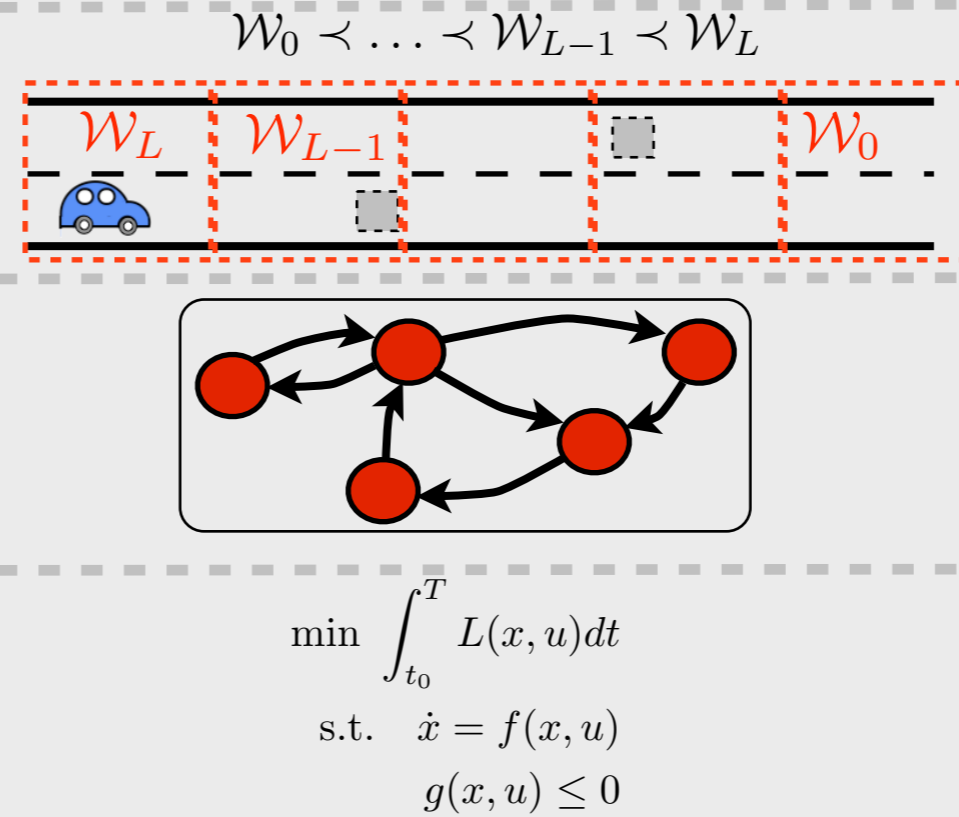
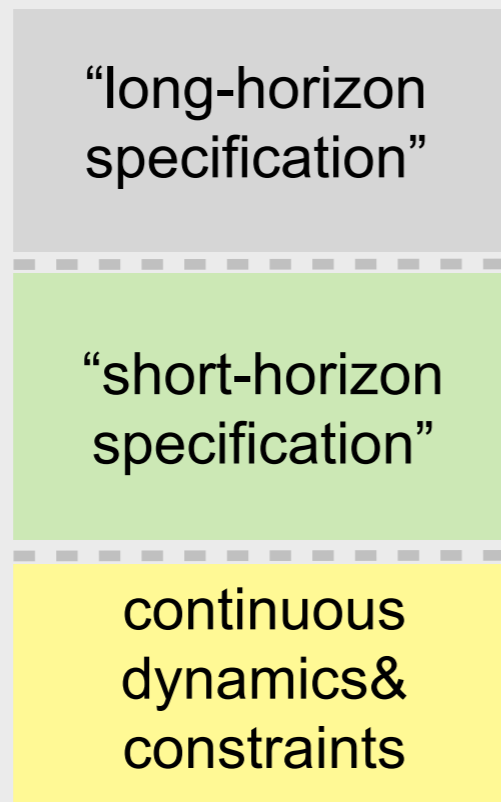
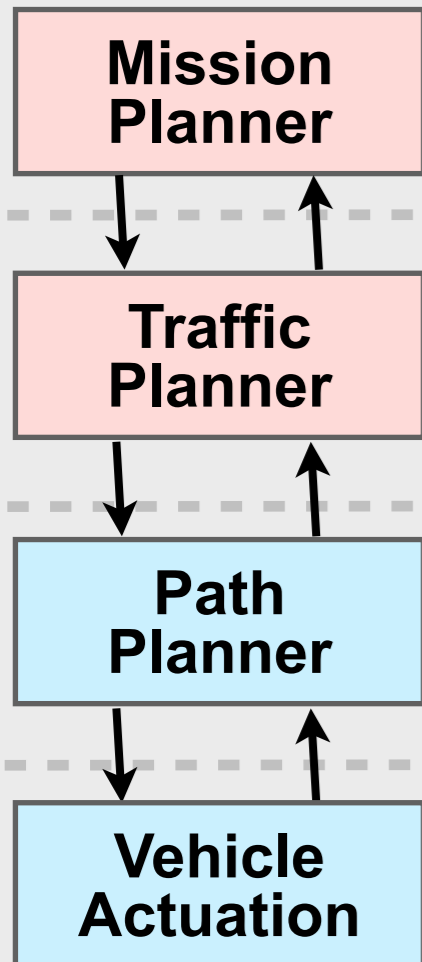
# Summary

## Alice's navigation stack

## Different views

## Multi-scale models

## Hierarchical control architecture



**TuLiP**: Temporal logic planning toolbox  
 (Open source at <http://tulip-control.sf.net>)

[Coming up in the next lecture]