# Airspace Management System Framework for Planning and Logistics

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### **Airspace Scenarios**

#### **\*** Physical Space - Airspace

#### – sequence of intersections:

- multi-input multi-output, flexible locations and geometry; multi-lane and bidirectional
- air-corridors:
- bidirectional and multi-lane; flexible locations and geometry; different UAV speeds; hovering or holding patterns are possible

#### **\*** Traffic Management System (cloud based)

- possibly distributed (sectorwise) or centralized
- decide network aspects allow how many vehicles, which new airways to open, etc.
- assist individual UAS relay perceived information, waypoint paths, etc.



#### **\* Ground Resources**

- mobile or static landing stations
- service stations recharging etc.



#### ★ Vehicles (Unmanned Air Systems UAS)

- Heterogenous, multi-speed
- Provide its own parameters (e.g. start and destination points, fuel, make, travel parameters (desired ETA etc) to aggregator
- report path conditions to the aggregator
- provide control parameters to track path/time dictated by aggregator

### abstract out planning/logistics problems

\* architectural details are evolving: focus on broader, more adaptable solutions

### • develop cloud/web-based analytical and design tools for

- ★ Traffic Management Systems (TMS)
- ★ Individual Unmanned Aerial Systems (UASs)



#### planning and logistic problems

- ★ resource allocation, scheduling, routing etc. with heterogeneous vehicles
  - e.g., routing and scheduling of UAS (determine sequence of waypoints and schedule them for each UAS)
  - e.g., resource allocation and scheduling: coverage by service stations, recharging schedules; service-vehicles schedules, etc.
  - e.g., traffic-density design to avoid congestion, determining relative ratios of different types, speeds etc
  - e.g., efficiency and robustness design of the UAS's speed profile for energy efficiency, time, and robustness to uncertainties, minimizing (ideally eliminating) holding patterns; trade-off optimality vs robustness
  - e.g., respect constraints: communication constraints, capacity constraints, dynamic constraints, topographical constraints

#### • **sensitivity analysis:** with respect to network parameters

- e.g., with traffic volume, traffic density, UAS-type configuration, # of facilities, facility-types, communication error and delays etc.
- **\*** guide **prioritization of resource allocation**
- \* quantifying risk assessment and resilience network's vulnerability to external disturbances or changes in operating conditions

#### • offline ML training:

- ★ learning from offline digital twin airspace simulation systems identify meta-parameters etc.
- \* useful for contingency management, resilience and reliability studies, advisory/suggesting for network and UAS parameters, realtime optimization and scalable studies.



# Example: Routing+Scheduling of Vehicles

\* which vehicle should cross which intersection when – minimize commute time





- determine optimal routes sequence of intersections
- determine time spent between two successive intersections
- Respect constraints congestion (node capacity), speed, and obstacle avoidance constraints.

#### ★ decision variables

 $\eta_{j|i}^{n}(k) \in \{0, 1\}$ : is = 1 if  $n^{th}$  vehicle decides to go from intersection *i* at the  $k^{th}$  stage to intersection *j* at the  $(k + 1)^{th}$  stage  $t_{j}^{n}(k)$ : time required to reach  $j^{th}$  intersection at the  $k^{th}$  stage



# Other Planning/Logistic Examples:



- ★ UAS, charging UGVs, and destination targets.
- ★ each drone: pre-defined charging capacity and an initial charge
- ★ UAS can choose to go to the destination directly or via a subset of charging facilities to ensure battery capacity

#### • Routing+Scheduling:

- \* objective: determine routes and inter-node times to minimize the total weighted travel time over all UAS
- ★ constraints: No UAS runs out of charge, congestion constraint

#### Scheduling on predefined routes:

- \* objective: each drone has a mission (predefined sequence of nodes to go to). schedule drones to minimize the total weighted travel time
- \* constraints: processing time constraint, precedence order constraint, and congestion constraint

#### Routing+Resource Allocation:

- \* Objective: determine locations of charging stations to minimize total weighted time (distance) over all UAS
  Constraints: No UAS runs out of charge, obstacles are
- avoided
- Various other combinations



# Abstraction: Parameterized Sequential Decision Making (Para-SDM) Problems





### A General Framework



# Combinatorial Optimization Problems

Clustering, Data Classification, Network Aggregation, Routing, Scheduling, Traveling Salesman Problems, Resource Allocation, ...

#### PARA-SDM

Network Design and Planning problems, Supply Chain problems, MDPs, RL, ...





# **Baseline Para-SDM: Facility Location with Path Optimization**



• "find simultaneously optimal paths and facility locations"



 application example areas: supply-chain networks, sensor networks, last-mile delivery

- decision variables
  - \* **Path**  $\gamma$ : sequence of facilities from nodes to destination  $n_i \rightarrow f_{r_1} \rightarrow f_{r_2} \rightarrow \cdots f_{r_q} \rightarrow \delta$
  - **\*** Parameters  $\mathcal{Y}$ : facility locations  $\mathcal{Y} \coloneqq \{y_j\}$

#### **\*** combinatorial configurations

- exponential # of paths  $\gamma$ ;
- $\{\eta(\gamma|i)\}$  is combinatorial
- continuum of facility locations y

#### **\*** computationally complex

- non-convex, NP-hard
- sequential algorithms : sub-optimal

#### **\* combinatorial viewpoint** for para-SDMs



# Facility Location with Path Optimization: Baseline Para-SDM



$$J^{\mu}(s) = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} d_t(x_t, x_{t+1})$$
  
subject to  
$$x_{t+1} = \mu(a_t | x_t), \ x_0 = s$$
  
+ other constraints on states and actions

#### **\* MDPs: Shortest Path Problems**

\* Para-SDMs: Shortest Path + Facility Location Problems



# Solve Shortest Path + Facility Location Problem: Baseline Para-SDM



A. Srivastava, and S. M. Salapaka. "Simultaneous Facility Location and Path Optimization in Static and Dynamic Networks." *IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems* 7.4 (2020): 1700-1711.

### • Scenario:

- \* charging stations
  - processing time for UAS
- $\star n^{th} \bigcup \mathsf{AS} V^n = (\ell_0^n, \ell_d^n, c_0^n, T^n(0), S^n, F. C. R^n)$ 
  - $-\ell_0^n, \ell_d^n$ : entry and exit location
  - $c_0^n$ : initial charge
  - $-T^{n}(0)$ : entry time
  - F.C.R<sup>n</sup>: full-charge range
- Objective: find simultaneously
- 1. Shortest time paths (routes) for all UAS
- 2. time each UAS spends in each corridor (in between successive intersections or facilities)
- Constraints:
  - **\* UAS are never without charge**
  - $\star$  avoid congestion at charging stations
  - **\* UAS within maximum speed**





# Problem Statement: Routing + Scheduling in FLPO form



#### **Decision Variables**

- $t_j^n$  Time taken to reach node j,  $1 \le j \le M$
- $\eta_{j|i}^{n}(k) \in \{0, 1\} i$  to j transition in stage k

Total cost for a drone :  $D^n = T^n(K) + C^n(K)$ 

• Time taken : 
$$T^n(K) = \prod_{k=0}^K \eta_{j|i}^n(k) \sum_{k=0}^K (t_{j(k+1)}^n - t_{i(k)}^n)$$

• Penalty incurred : 
$$C^n(K) = \prod_{k=0}^K \eta_{j|i}^n(k) \sum_{k=0}^K c_k^n(i,j)$$

•  $c_k^n(i,j)$  – penalty due to constraints

Solution Approach Using the MEP Framework

$$D = \min_{t_j^n, \eta_{j|i}^n(k)} \sum_n p_n \prod_{k=0}^K \eta_{j|i}^n(k) \sum_{k=0}^K (t_{j(k+1)}^n - t_{i(k)}^n) + c_k^n$$

Replace binary associations with a probability associations

$$[0,1\} \ni \eta_{j|i}^n \to p_{j|i}^n(k) \in [0,1], \forall k$$

• Minimize free energy iteratively for  $\beta > 0$ ,  $\beta = \epsilon \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$ 

$$F = \min_{\substack{t_j^n, p_{j|i}^n(k)}} D - \frac{1}{\beta} H,$$
  
where  $H = \prod_{k=0}^K p_{j|i}^n(k) \sum_{k=0}^K \log p_{j|i}^n(k)$ 

#### Annealing

- Minimize for every  $\beta$  starting from 0 to  $\infty$
- $\beta = 0 \Rightarrow$  convex free energy  $\Rightarrow$  (Global minima = uniform distribution)
- $\beta \to \infty \Rightarrow [p(\gamma|\gamma_0) \to \eta(\gamma|\gamma_0)] \Rightarrow (hard associations = solution)$



### Simulations: scheduling + routing + congestion avoidance

#### PTF : processing time frame (charging time at each station) PTF = 2.0

#### PLAY THE VIDEO!



#### Simulations: scheduling + routing + congestion avoidance





#### • Scenario:

- charging stations (fixed locations)
  - processing time for UAS
- \*  $n^{th}$  UAS  $V^n = (\ell_0^n, \ell_d^n, c_0^n, T^n(0), S^n, PTF^n, F. C. R^n)$ 
  - $\ell_0^n$ ,  $\ell_d^n$ : entry and exit location
  - $c_0^n$ : initial charge
  - $T^n(0)$ : entry time
  - S<sup>n</sup>: maximum speed
  - F.C.R<sup>n</sup>: full-charge range
- Objective: find simultaneously locations of charging stations and shortest paths (routes) of UAS
- Constraints: UAS are never without charge, avoid obstacles, threshold on number of UAS at a charging station at a given time.





### Problem Statement: Routing + Facility (Charging Stations) Locations

#### **Decision Variables:**

 $\eta_i^n(k) \in \{0,1\}^{L \times N \times K}:$ 

1 if the  $n^{th}$  vehicle goes to the node j at the  $k^{th}$  step, otherwise 0.  $y_j \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times r}$ :

The r dimensional coordinates of the nodes.

#### **Parameters:**

 $p_n \in \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ : relative importance of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  vehicle.

 $\bar{S}^n$ : maximum speed of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  vehicle.

 $l^n(k)$ : location (node id) of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  vehicle at step k.

 $D^n(k)$ : Total distance traversed by the  $n^{\text{th}}$  vehicle at step k.

 $c_0^n$ : initial battery charge of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  vehicle.

 $c^n(k)$ : battery charge of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  vehicle at step k.

 $R^{n}(c)$ : range of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  vehicle with a battery charge c.

 $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  : distance function between two spatial nodes.

 $\Gamma(\cdot, \cdot)$ : obstacle-aware penalty function between two nodes.

 $V^{n}: (l_{0}^{n}, l_{d}^{n}, c_{0}^{n})$ 

$$\begin{split} \min_{\eta,y} \sum_{n} p_{n} D^{n}(K) \\ \text{s.t} \quad l^{n}(0) &= l_{0}^{n} \quad \forall n \\ l^{n}(k) &= l_{d}^{n} \quad \forall n, k \geq K \\ D^{n}(0) &= 0 \quad \forall n \\ l^{n}(k+1) &= \sum_{j=1}^{L} \eta_{j}^{n}(k) l_{j} \quad \forall n, k \quad l_{j} \in \{1, \dots, L\} \\ D^{n}(k+1) &= D^{n}(k) + d^{*}(l^{n}(k+1), l^{n}(k)) \quad \forall n, k \\ R^{n}(c^{n}(k)) &\geq d^{*}(l^{n}(k+1), l^{n}(k))) \quad \forall n, k \\ R^{n}(c^{n}(k)) &\geq d^{*}(l^{n}(k+1), l^{n}(k))) \quad \forall n, k \\ \text{where:} \quad d^{*}(\cdot, \cdot) &= d(\cdot, \cdot) + \Gamma(\cdot, \cdot) \\ d(i, j) &= \sqrt{(y_{i} - y_{j})^{\intercal}(y_{i} - y_{j})} \end{split}$$



# Simulations – Routing + Facility Locations







# Simulations: (changing F.C.R.)





AVIATE

CENTER

#### • Scenario:

\* charging stations (fixed locations) \*  $n^{th}$ UAS  $V^n = (T^n(0), S^n, L^n)$  $- L^n = \{\ell_0^n \prec \ell_1^n \prec \cdots \prec \ell_K^n = \ell_d^n\}$ 

- Objective: schedule drones to minimize the total weighted travel time, to reach their destination
- Constraints:
  - $\star$  precedence order
  - **\*** congestion constraint
  - **\*** processing time constraint
  - **\* drone speed limits**





### Problem Statement: Scheduling on pre-defined routes

**Decision Variables:**   $\delta\theta^n(k) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}$ : The time interval for the transition of the  $n^{th}$  vehicle at the  $k^{th}$  step. **Parameters:**   $p_n \in [0 \quad 1]$ : relative importance of the  $n^{th}$  vehicle.  $\bar{S}^n$ : maximum speed of the  $n^{th}$  vehicle.  $l^n(k)$ : location (node id) of the  $n^{th}$  vehicle at step k.  $L^n = [l^n(k)] \quad \forall k \leq K$ : given route for each vehicle.  $T_0^n$ : clock time of deployment for the  $n^{th}$  vehicle.  $T^n(k)$ : clock time of the  $n^{th}$  vehicle at step k.  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$ : distance function between two spatial nodes.  $\Gamma(\cdot, \cdot)$ : obstacle-aware penalty function between two nodes.  $f^n(\cdot)$ : processing time function of the  $n^{th}$  vehicle on a given node.

 $V^n: (L^n, T^n_0, \bar{S}^n)$ 

$$\begin{split} \min_{\eta,\delta t} \sum_{n} p_{n} T^{n}(K) \\ \text{s.t} \quad T^{n}(k+1) &= T^{n}(k) + \delta t^{n}(k) \quad \forall n, k \\ |T^{n}(k) - T^{m}(k)| &> T^{*} \quad \text{if:} \quad l^{n}(k) = l^{m}(k) = l^{*} \quad \forall n, m, k \\ \text{where} \quad T^{*} &= \begin{cases} f^{n}(l^{*}) & \text{if} \quad T^{n}(k) \leq T^{m}(k), \\ f^{m}(l^{*}) & \text{else} \end{cases} \\ \hline \delta t^{n}(k) &\geq \frac{1}{S^{n}} (d(l^{n}(k+1), l^{n}(k)) + \Gamma(l^{n}(k+1), l^{n}(k))) \quad \forall n, k \end{cases} \end{split}$$

1- congestion constraint 2- max-speed constraint



# Problem Statement: Scheduling on Pre-defined routes in FLPO form



#### **Decision Variables**

- $t_j^n$  Time taken to reach node j,  $1 \le j \le M$
- $\eta_{j|i}^{n}(k) \in \{0, 1\} i$  to *j* transition in stage *k* (Given)

Total cost for a drone :  $D^n = T^n(K) + C^n(K)$ 

• Time taken : 
$$T^n(K) = \prod_{k=0}^K \eta_{j|i}^n(k) \sum_{k=0}^K (t_{j(k+1)}^n - t_{i(k)}^n)$$

• Penalty incurred : 
$$C^n(K) = \prod_{k=0}^K \eta_{j|i}^n(k) \sum_{k=0}^K c_k^n(i,j)$$

•  $c_k^n(i, j)$  – penalty due to inequality constraints

Solution Approach Using the MEP Framework

$$D = \min_{t_j^n} \sum_n p_n \prod_{k=0}^K \eta_{j|i}^n(k) \sum_{k=0}^K (t_{j(k+1)}^n - t_{i(k)}^n) + c_k^n$$

Replace binary associations with a probability associations

$$\{0,1\} \ni \eta_{j|i}^n \to p_{j|i}^n(k) \in [0,1], \forall k$$

• Minimize free energy iteratively for  $\beta > 0$ ,  $\beta = \epsilon \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$ 

$$F = \min_{\{p_{j|i}^{n}(k), t_{j}^{n}\}} D - \frac{1}{\beta} H,$$
  
where  $H = \prod_{k=0}^{K} p_{j|i}^{n}(k) \sum_{k=0}^{K} \log p_{j|i}^{n}(k)$ 

#### Annealing

- Minimize for every  $\beta$  starting from 0 to  $\infty$
- $\beta = 0 \Rightarrow$  convex free energy  $\Rightarrow$  (Global minima = uniform distribution)
- $\beta \to \infty \Rightarrow [p(\gamma|\gamma_0) \to \eta(\gamma|\gamma_0)] \Rightarrow (hard associations = solution)$



#### Problem Statement: Scheduling on pre-defined routs









# Parameterized Sequence-Decision Making Problems Expanding the Framework



# Infinite Horizon and Learning in PARA-SDMs



Infinite Horizon para-SDMs

SDM  $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, \zeta, \eta, c, p, \alpha \rangle$  with cost-free termination state  $\delta$ 

$$J^{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{\boldsymbol{\zeta}\boldsymbol{\eta}}(s) = \mathbb{E}_{p_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}}\left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \alpha^{t} c\big(x_{t}(\boldsymbol{\zeta}), u_{t}(\boldsymbol{\eta}), x_{t+1}(\boldsymbol{\zeta})\big) \, | x_{0} = s\right] = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}(\omega|s) \ \bar{c}(s, \omega)$$

$$- p_{\mu}: \omega \to [0,1] \text{ and } \omega = (a_0, x_1, a_1, x_2, ...) - p_{\mu}(\omega|s) = \mu(a_0|s)p(x_1|a_0, s)\mu(a_1|x_1)p(x_2|x_1, a_1) \cdots$$

- state, action parameters:  $\zeta = \{\zeta_s\}, \eta = \{\eta_a\}$
- cost and dynamics: c(s, a, s'), p(s'|s, a)

- Generalizations
  - ★ Parameterized states and actions
  - \* Para-SDMs: Shortest Path + Facility Location Problems
  - **\*** Stochastic Dynamics:
    - transition **probability**: p(s'|s, a)
    - stochastic **policy:**  $\mu(a|s)$
    - a realized path  $\omega = (a_0, x_1, a_1, x_2, \cdots)$
  - **\*** Infinite horizon
  - **\* Para-RL:** cost c(s, a, s') and dynamics p(s'|s, a) not explicitly known



### Infinite Horizon and Learning in para-SDMs

agrangian  
$$V_{\beta}^{\mu}(s) = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \alpha^{t} c(x_{t}, u_{t}, x_{t+1}) + \frac{1}{\beta} \log \mu(u_{t}|x_{t})\right]$$

Assume  $\mu_t = \mu$  and non-zero probability to reach terminal state  $p_{\mu}(\omega|x_0) = \prod_{t=0}^{\infty} \mu(u_t|x_t) p(x_{t+1}|x_t, u_t)$ 

**Theorem:** The Lagrangian  $V^{\mu}_{\beta}(s)$  for the optimization problem (1) satisfies the following recursive Bellman equation

$$V_{\beta}^{\mu}(s) = \sum_{a,s'} \mu(a|s) p(s'|s,a) \left( c(s',a,s') + \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \log \mu(a|s) + \alpha V_{\beta}^{\mu}(s') \right) + \lambda_{\beta}$$

$$\text{Control policy} \quad \mu_{\beta}^{*}(a|s) = \frac{\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)\Lambda_{\beta}^{*}(s,a)\right\}}{\sum_{a'}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right)\Lambda_{\beta}^{*}(s,a')\right\}} \qquad \qquad V_{\beta}^{*}(s) = -\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\log\left(\sum_{a\in\mathcal{A}}\exp\left\{-\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\Lambda_{\beta}^{*}(s,a)\right\}\right)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Lambda_{\beta}(s,a)} = \sum_{s' \in \mathcal{S}} p_{ss'}^{a} \left[ \bar{c}_{ss'}^{a} - \frac{\alpha^{2}}{\beta} \log \left( \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{\beta}{\alpha} \boldsymbol{\Lambda_{\beta}(s',a)} \right\} \right) \right]$$
**Parameters**  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}^{*}, \boldsymbol{\eta}^{*}$ 
**Solution Solution Parameters**  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}^{*}, \boldsymbol{\eta}^{*}$ 
**Solution Solution Solution**

Srivastava, Amber, and Srinivasa M. Salapaka. "Parameterized MDPs and Reinforcement Learning Problems— A Maximum Entropy Principle-Based Framework." IEEE Transactions on Cybernetics (2021).



### Infinite Horizon and Learning in para-SDMs (para-RL)





#### • Sensitivity:

**★** Free-energy  $V_{\beta}(s)$ : smooth approximation of non-smooth J(s)

$$-V_{\beta}(s,\theta) = -\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \log \left( \sum_{a} \exp(-\frac{\beta}{\alpha} \Lambda_{\beta}(s,a,\theta)) \right)$$

 $-\theta$ : parameter; Sensitivity analysis  $\frac{\partial V_{\beta}}{\partial \theta}$ 

#### • Robustness:

★ e.g., uncertainty in coordinates of UAS given v(x|i); replace the distance by modified distance

$$d'(x_i, y_j) = \sum_x \nu(x|i) d(x, y_j)$$

- ★ number of UAS required for adequate coverage
  - exploit phase transition property

# Sensitivity plots with respect to different parameters





#### Sensitivity to UGV factor



Sensitivity to initial battery charges



Sensitivity to average speed limit

Sensitivity to penalty function drift



# Incorporating Capacity and Exclusion-Inclusion Constraints

- Constraints in Network Design
- Partially Connected Network
- Capacity constraints on Facilities
- Link capacity constraints





Partially connected 6 network FLPO  $f_1f_2$ ,  $f_4f_1$ ,  $f_2f_3$ ,  $f_4f_5$ ,  $f_5f_3$  4

Restricted action space  $\mathcal{A}_s$ 

cted  
O  
f<sub>5</sub>, f<sub>5</sub>f<sub>3</sub> 4  
tion  

$$\mu(a|s) = \frac{w_{as} \exp\left\{-\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\Lambda_{\beta}(s,a)\right\}}{\sum_{a'} w_{a's} \exp\left\{-\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\Lambda_{\beta}(s,a')\right\}}$$

 $\delta \triangle$ 

Facility capacity constraints  $f_1: f_2: f_3: f_4: f_5$ Capacity of a

state  $s \in S$ .



# Scalability

- Function Approximator (ANN)  $\widehat{\Lambda}_{\beta}(s, a; \mathbf{w}) \approx \Lambda_{\beta}^{*}(s, a)$
- Address para-SDM in large state and action spaces.
- Feature: para-SDM algorithm is parallelizable



Urbana city data : 2200 user nodes Allocated : 10 small cells



# Conclusion











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# Thank You