

# Statistical Model Checking for SWARMS

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# Problem Statement

Military is interested in autonomy

- Cooperating unmanned systems
- Uncertain environments
- Adapt to change autonomously

Problem: Need systematic techniques for estimating the probability of mission success.

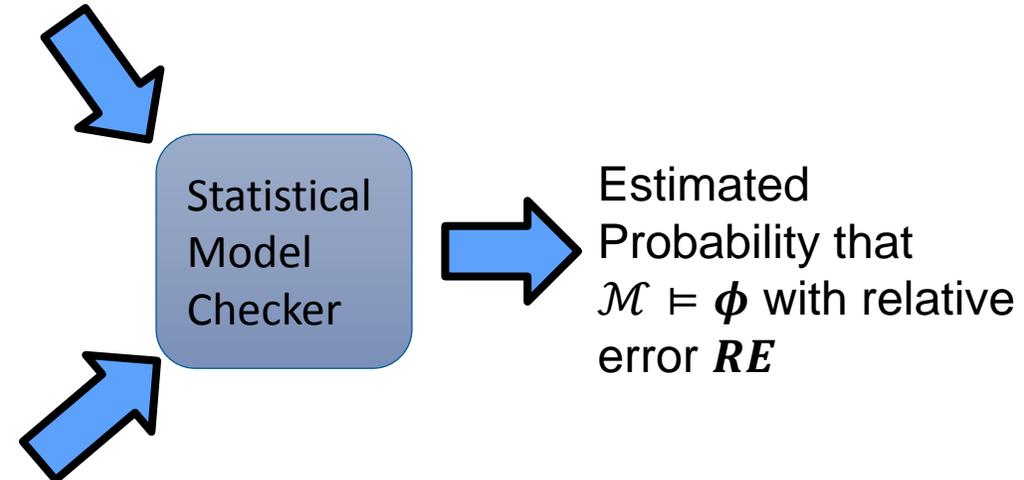
- Systems are large and complex
- Too large for formal models
- Stochastic/uncertain environment

But.... Is a simple estimate of mission success probability good enough?

- Why did you get 0.85 probability of success?
- What factors influence that result?
- What can you do to improve that result?

## Statistical Model Checking

System  $\mathcal{M}$  with random inputs  
(e.g., collection of cooperating  
UAS performing a mission)



Predicate  $\phi$  to be tested (e.g., "mission success")

Estimated Probability that  $\mathcal{M} \models \phi$  with relative error  $RE$

$$\text{Relative Error} = \frac{\text{Std. Dev.}}{\text{Mean}}$$

# Motivating Example

## Pursuer/Evader Example

- Random initial positions  $(x_p, y_p)$  and  $(x_e, y_e)$  near center.
- Evader attempts to reach safe zone in corner.
- Faster moving pursuer attempts to catch evader.

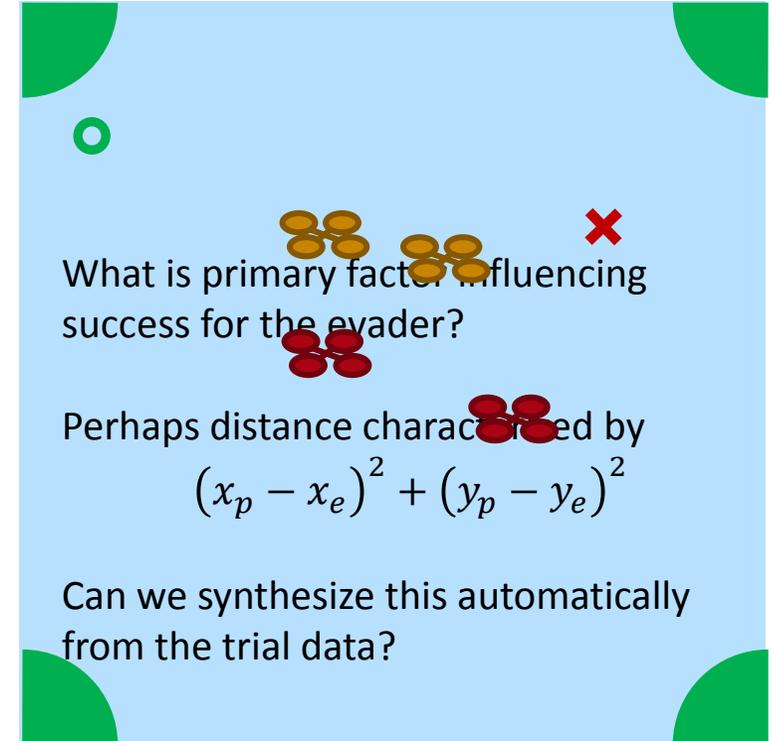
## Statistical Model Checking (SMC)

- Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the model for the pursuer/evader scenario and  $\Phi$  be the property “the evader reaches safe zone”.
- SMC attempts to answer the question, “What is the probability that  $\mathcal{M} \models \Phi$ ?”

## Input Attribution (IA)

- Asks the question “Why do I get a particular SMC result?”
- Analog to counter-example in model checking.
- Expressed in terms of the inputs as model approximation.

## Pursuer/Evader Example

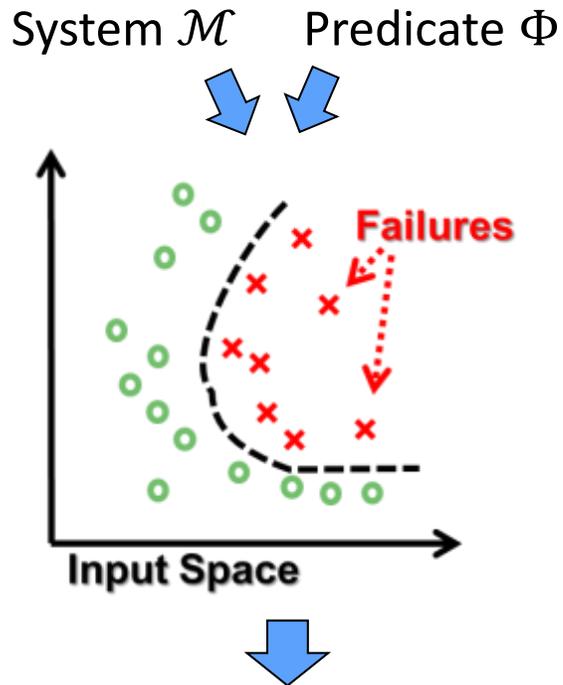


  
Pursuer  
 $(x_p, y_p)$

  
Evader  
 $(x_e, y_e)$

  
Safe  
Zone

# Input Attribution – The “Why” of SMC



Input Attribution

Expression	p-Value
$0.62(a - 1.01d)^2$	0.0013
$4.3b$	0.0042
$1.3(2.3 - c)^2$	0.0172

Problem – Standard SMC provides an estimate on probability that a predicate is satisfied, but does not address why a particular result was obtained.

Goal – Provide investigator with informative non-redundant representation of how system inputs relate to the property being tested:

1. Describes relationship that actually exists in data
2. Is presented in a way that is quantitative and understandable
3. Gives investigator new insights
4. Is resilient to randomness in the system

Approach – Apply machine learning and feature extraction techniques.

- Use *Logistic Regression* to identify “predictors” that affect the probability that a predicate is satisfied.
- Calculate p-values for predictors to indicate significance.
- Look for sets of predictors that can be factored into larger expressions.

# Evaluating LR Results (Linear Case)

Logistic Regression Model:

$$L(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_N x_N)}}$$

$L(x)$  represents predicted probability that input  $x$  will satisfy the predicate.

Positive/negative values represent increase/decrease of predicate probability.

- Measure of statistical significance
- Probability that  $\beta = 0$
- $>0.05 \rightarrow$  not statistically significant

Constant Term  $\rightarrow$

Predictors  
(input variables)

Name	$\hat{\beta}$	$se(\hat{\beta})$	p-Value
—	-4.28	0.874	$< 10^{-4}$
$x_1$	0.154	0.0138	$< 10^{-4}$
$x_2$	-1.91	0.3551	$< 10^{-4}$
$x_3$	0.0635	0.0277	0.0219
$x_4$	5.05	2.77	0.0685

Error in estimation of  $\beta$ .

This predictor is not statistically significant since its p-value is greater than 0.05.

# Polynomial Input Attribution

## Non-Linear Predictors

- By including non-linear predictors, it may be possible to find a statistically significant solution when linear only terms fail.
- In our work to date, we have focused on quadratic terms (e.g.,  $x^2$ ,  $y^2$ ,  $xy$ )
- Higher order or non-polynomial terms could be useful for some systems.

## Factoring

- Factored polynomials are easier for humans to understand.
- Since coefficients are approximated, perfect factorings may not be possible.
- Look for approximate factorings which do not adversely affect original coefficients.

Find variable pairs with squares and cross terms

Name	$\hat{\beta}$	$se(\hat{\beta})$	p-Value
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
$x^2$	1.01	0.0148	$< 10^{-4}$
$xy$	-2.04	0.0362	$< 10^{-4}$
$y^2$	1.02	0.0193	0.0219
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

$$1.01(x - 1.01y)^2$$

$$1.01x^2 - 2.04xy + 1.03y^2$$

Complete square to create candidate factoring

Re-expand and accept approximation if error is within set factor of std. error.

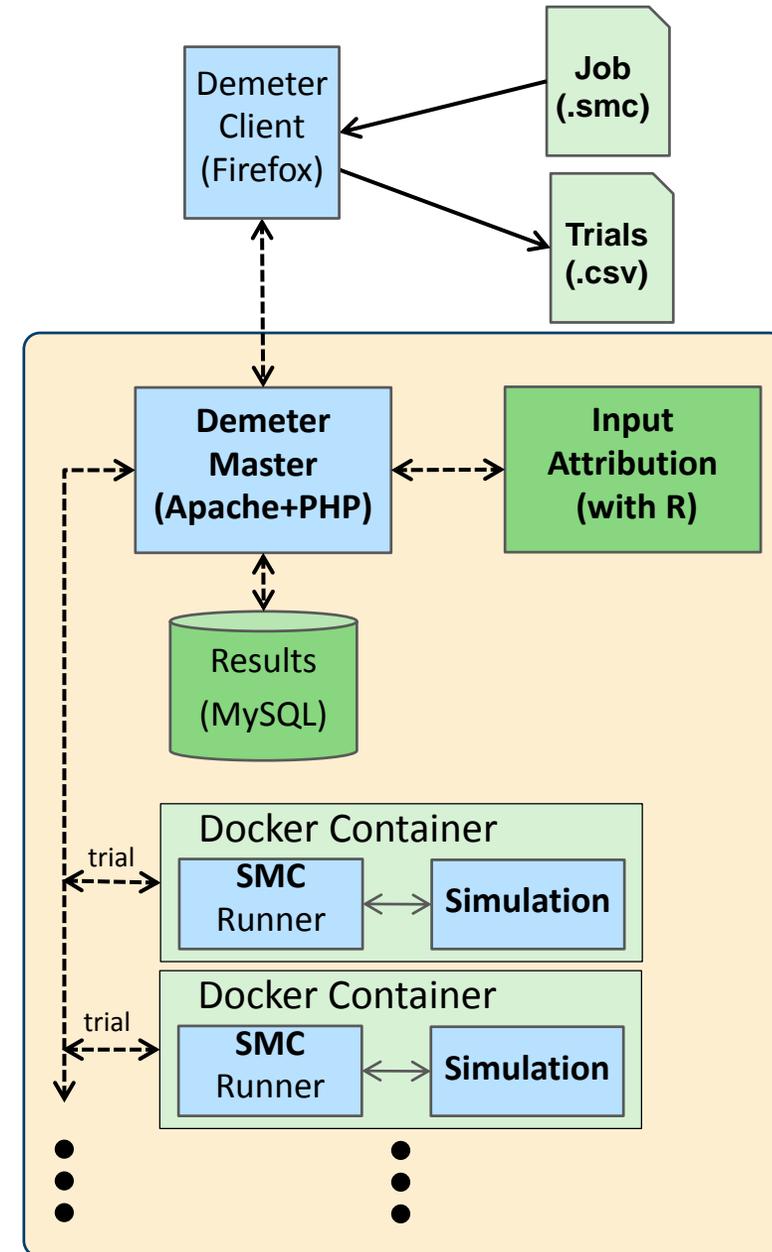
# Implementation – Demeter

## Demeter Goals

- Parallel infrastructure for SMC of systems with probabilistic behaviors.
- Primary target is autonomous systems.
- Integrated Input Attribution

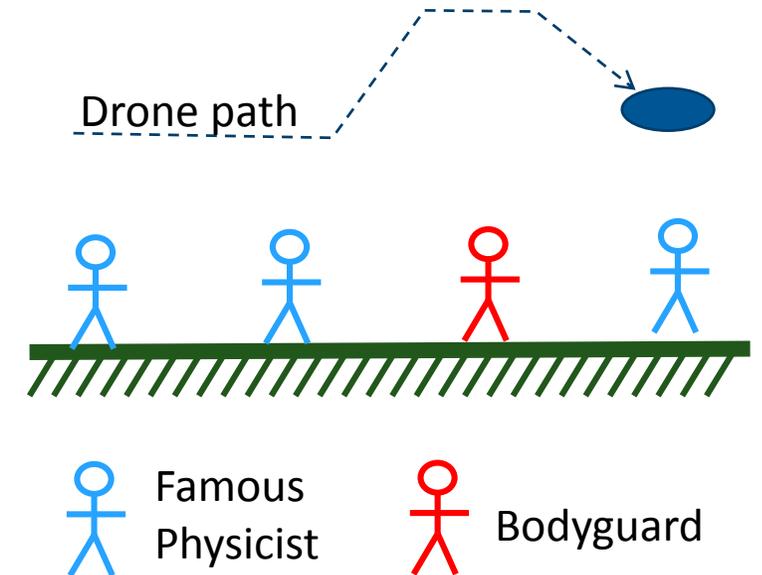
## Demeter Components

- Client runs in web browser (e.g., Firefox)
- Master runs in Apache server with PHP
- Data stored in MySQL database
- Input Attribution uses R statistical system
- Individual simulations conducted in Docker containers. Managed by “Runner”.



# Target/Threat Experiment Scenario

- Drone flies pre-programmed path over area.
- Along path are “targets” to be photographed.
  - Close to ground → Better chance of good photo.
- Path also includes “threats” to be avoided.
  - Close to ground → More likely to be destroyed.
- Adaptive algorithm with imperfect sensors, sense threats ahead and controls altitude.



## Inputs

- Number of targets/threats
- Target detector range (down)
- Target/Threat detector range/accuracy (forward)
- Threat range

## Predicate

- Drone **photographs at least 50% of targets** while **avoiding being destroyed by threats**.

# Target/Threat Experiment

## Key Observations

- False positives on threats reduce the probability of detecting targets.
  - Reacting to threats that are not there results in drone flying at higher altitude when not necessary and missing some targets.
- Increasing number of targets reduces probability of survival.
  - Drone takes more risks by flying lower to photograph targets.
- False negatives on threat and target detection do not have statistically significant effect on mission, detection or survival probabilities.
  - Verified with additional simulations varying false negative rate. Could indicate problem with adaptation algorithm controlling drone.

## Simulation Results

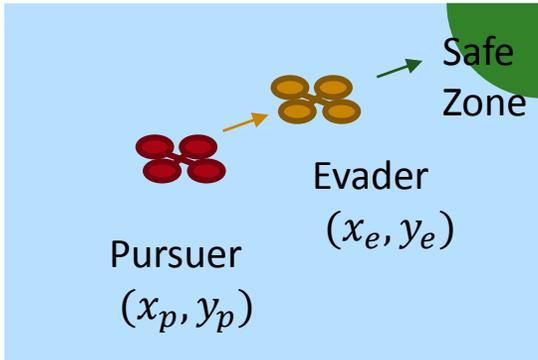
#Trials:	22,560
P[SAT-mission]:	0.308
P[SAT-survive]:	0.618
P[SAT-detect]:	0.361
Relative Error:	0.05
Batch Size:	120
Run Time:	10 hours, 6 min

## Input Attribution (AUC=0.926)

Name	$\hat{\beta}$ mission	$\hat{\beta}$ detect	$\hat{\beta}$ survive
Target Detector Range	1.33	1.46	
Threat Range	-1.57	-1.189	-2.37
Threat Lookahead	0.233	0.194	0.377
Number of Threats	-0.0892	-0.0943	-0.0792
Number of Targets			-0.0296
Target False Positives			-17.81
Threat False Positives	-3.26	-10.04	32.74

# Motivating Example - Revisited

## Pursuer/Evader Example



**Initial hypothesis** – Distance between pursuer and evader was deciding factor for survival of evader.

**Results** – Factoring the IA predictors gives us:

$$0.0602(x_e - 1.03x_p)^2 + 0.0561(y_e - 1.09y_p)^2$$

With error less than  $4se(\beta)$  on each coefficient.

Resulting IA expression very close to square of Euclidean distance. Constant factor represents relation between distance and log odds of survival.

### Simulation Results

#Trials:	36,960
# SAT:	7,900
P[SAT]:	0.214
Relative Error:	0.01
Batch Size:	120
Run Time:	5 hours, 20 min

### Input Attribution (AUC=0.77)

Name	$\hat{\beta}$	$se(\hat{\beta})$	p-value
$x_e x_p$	-0.124	0.0027	$< 10^{-4}$
$y_e y_p$	-0.122	0.0027	$< 10^{-4}$
$x_e^2$	0.06	0.0031	$< 10^{-4}$
$y_e^2$	0.056	0.0031	$< 10^{-4}$
$x_p^2$	0.056	0.0031	$< 10^{-4}$
$y_p^2$	0.056	0.0031	$< 10^{-4}$

# Summary



## Input Attribution Addresses the “Why” of SMC

- Shows which variables are most important
- Concise human understandable expressions
- Implementation in DEMETER
  - Based on Logistic Regression
  - Extended to Non-Linear Attribution

## Future Work

- Explore other machine learning techniques
- Partitioned/conditional Input Attributions
- Higher order polynomial and non-polynomial predictors