

ENGINEERING

5

TEMS

RCH CENTER

RT-207: Game-theoretic Risk Assessment for Distributed Systems (GRADS)

Dr. Paul T. Grogan, Ambrosio Valencia-Romero, Matthew Sabatini



Research Task / Overview

Two types of risk in collaborative projects:

- **Systemic**: cost, schedule, and technical uncertainty
- **Collaborative**: conflict and coordination failures

Need improved methods to assess collaborative risk

- Identify and avoid poor strategic dynamics early
- Improve strategic decision-making to balance:
 - Efficiency (feasibility) • Effectiveness (desirability)

Goals & Objectives

How to formulate and assess collaborative risk in distributed systems?

- Trade upside potential with penalty for failure
- Evaluate metric based on Selten's Weighted Average Log Measure of risk dominance How can a collaborative risk metric be operationalized to evaluate a joint program?

• Stability (viability)

- Develop scenario narrative based on NPOESS
- Assess collaborative risk using historical data

Methodology

Foundation: Stag Hunt Game

- Two pure Nash equilibria
 - Hare/Hare: risk-dominant equilibrium (minimize risk)
 - Stag/Stag: payoff-dominant equilibrium (maximize reward)





Application Case

Study how the collaborative risk dominance metric can be applied to a realistic systems design problem

- Independent designs based on historical programs
- U.S. Dept. of Defense: Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP)
- U.S. Dept. of Commerce/NOAA: Polar-orbiting **Operational Environmental Satellite (POES)**
- Joint program: National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS)







Future Research

- Model alternative architectures/designs
- Simulate key performance attributes: measurements, revisit period, data latency, cost

- Two approaches to reduce collaborative risk: •
 - Increase upside potential (denominator)
 - 2. Decrease downside risk (numerator)

- Model multi-actor value preferences
- Fill game-theoretic matrix and assess collaborative risk dominance for baseline case

Contacts/References

Paul T. Grogan, pgrogan@stevens.edu, 201-216-5378 Collective Design Laboratory, <u>code-lab.org</u> Stevens Institute of Technology

SERC Doctoral Students Forum and Sponsor Research Review, November 7 & 8, 2018