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# Shielded Reinforcement Learning for Hybrid Systems

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Christian Schilling



joint work with Asger Horn Brorholt, Peter Gjøl Jensen,  
Kim Guldstrand Larsen, and Florian Lorber

July 20, 2023



AALBORG UNIVERSITET

Motivation  
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Approach  
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Experiments  
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Conclusion  
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# Overview

Motivation

Approach

Experiments

Conclusion

**Motivation**  
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**Approach**  
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**Experiments**  
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**Conclusion**  
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# Overview

Motivation

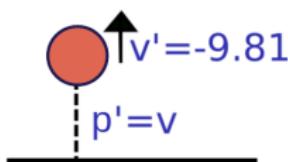
Approach

Experiments

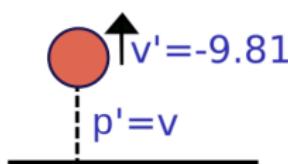
Conclusion

# Control of physical systems

- Physical systems have complex dynamics
  - Continuous evolution
  - Discrete events
  - Stochastic uncertainty

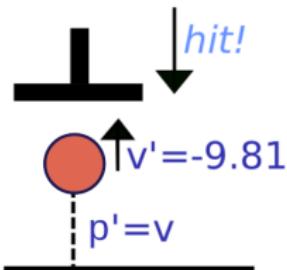


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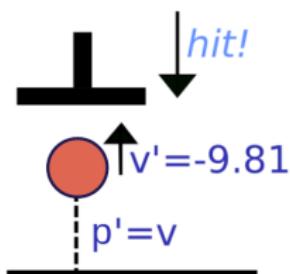


# Control of physical systems

- Physical systems have complex dynamics
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  - Discrete events
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- We want to control these systems subject to some optimality criterion, e.g., minimize number of hits

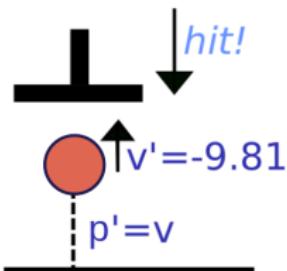


# Control of physical systems

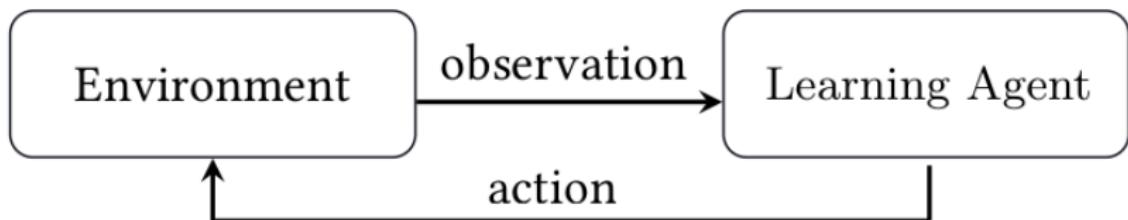


# Control of physical systems

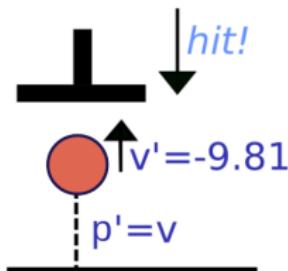
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e.g., minimize number of hits
- **We can reinforcement-learn a controller,**  
e.g., with **Uppaal Stratego**



# Reinforcement learning



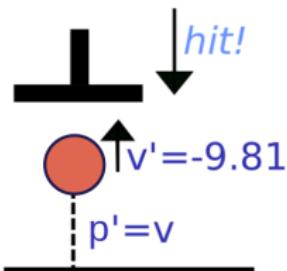
# Control of physical systems



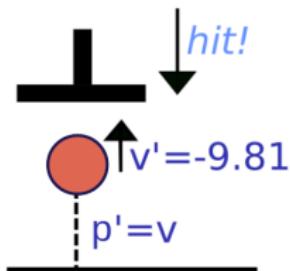
Trained for 12,000 episodes

# Control of physical systems

- Physical systems have complex dynamics
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  - Stochastic uncertainty
- We want to control these systems subject to some optimality criterion,  
e.g., minimize number of hits
- We can reinforcement-learn a controller,  
e.g., with Uppaal Stratego
- **We also have safety constraints,**  
e.g.,  $p = 0 \implies |v| > 1$



# Control of physical systems



2 % of executions unsafe

Motivation  
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Approach  
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Experiments  
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Conclusion  
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# Overview

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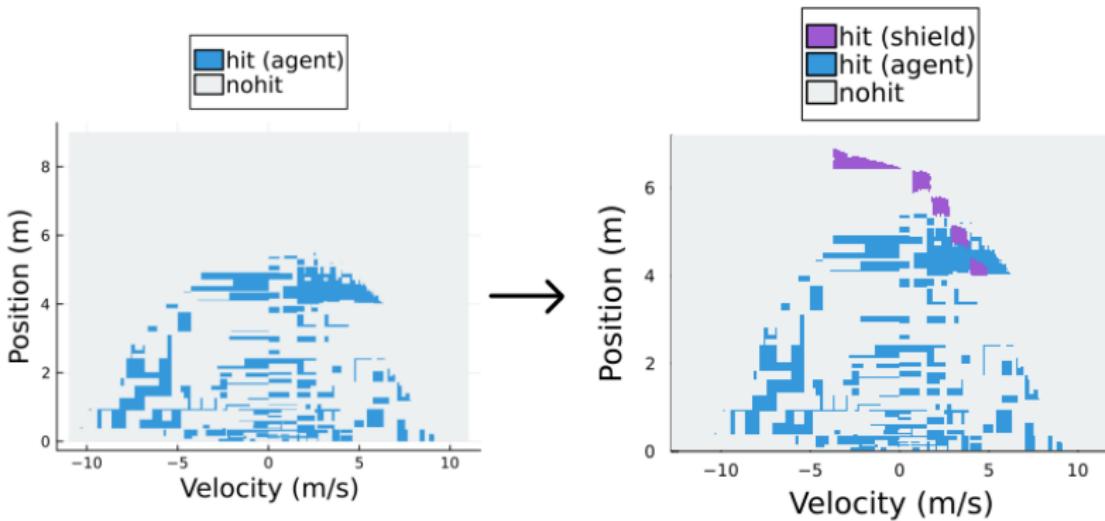
Motivation  
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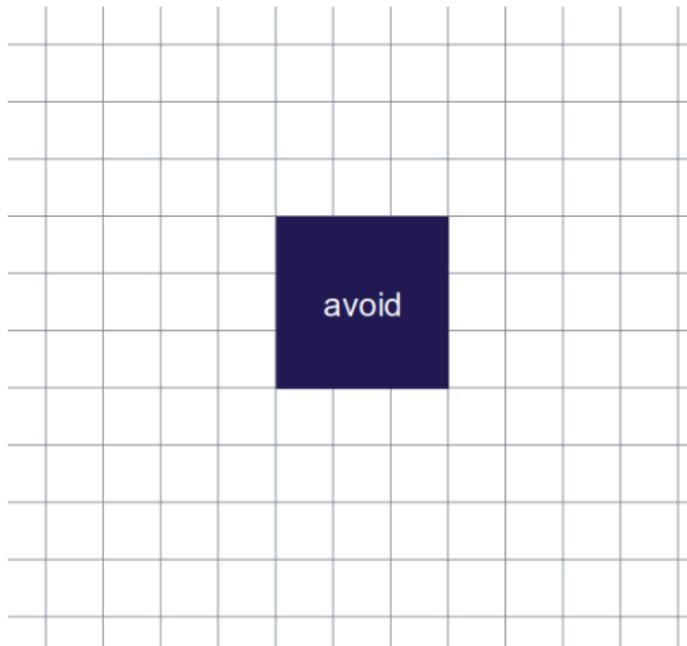
Experiments  
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# Shielding

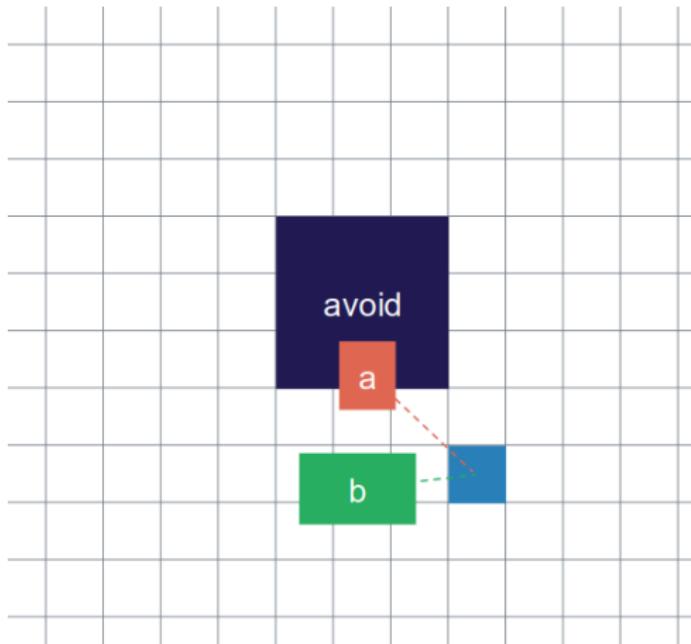


# State-space partitioning and two-player game



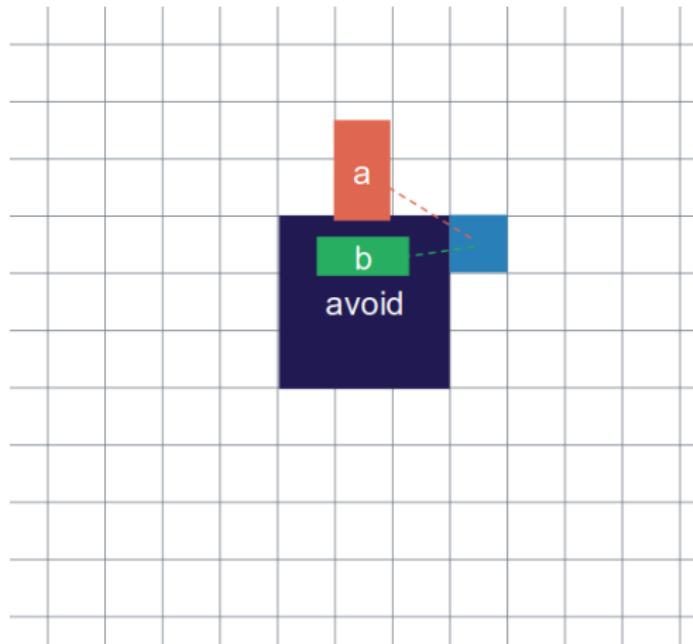
- For each block, compute the successor states under each action

# State-space partitioning and two-player game



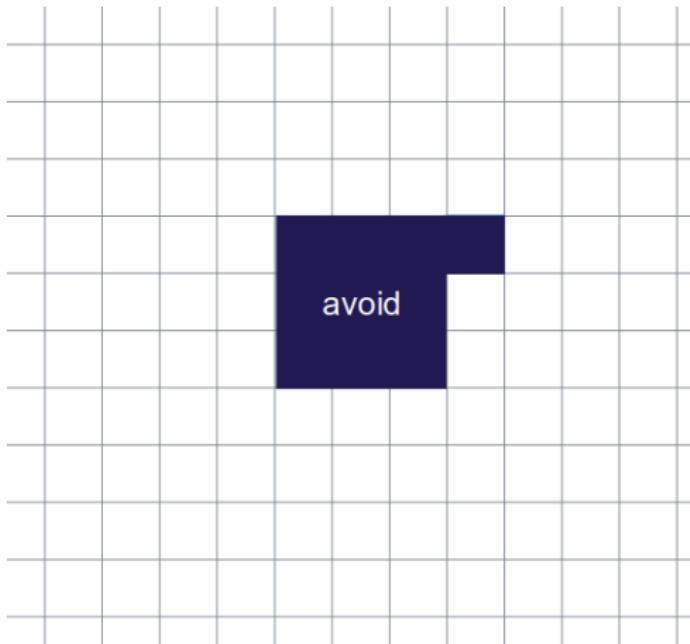
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- Eliminate actions that reach the avoid set

# State-space partitioning and two-player game



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- If no action is safe,

# State-space partitioning and two-player game



- For each block, compute the successor states under each action
- Eliminate actions that reach the avoid set
- If no action is safe, add the block to the avoid set

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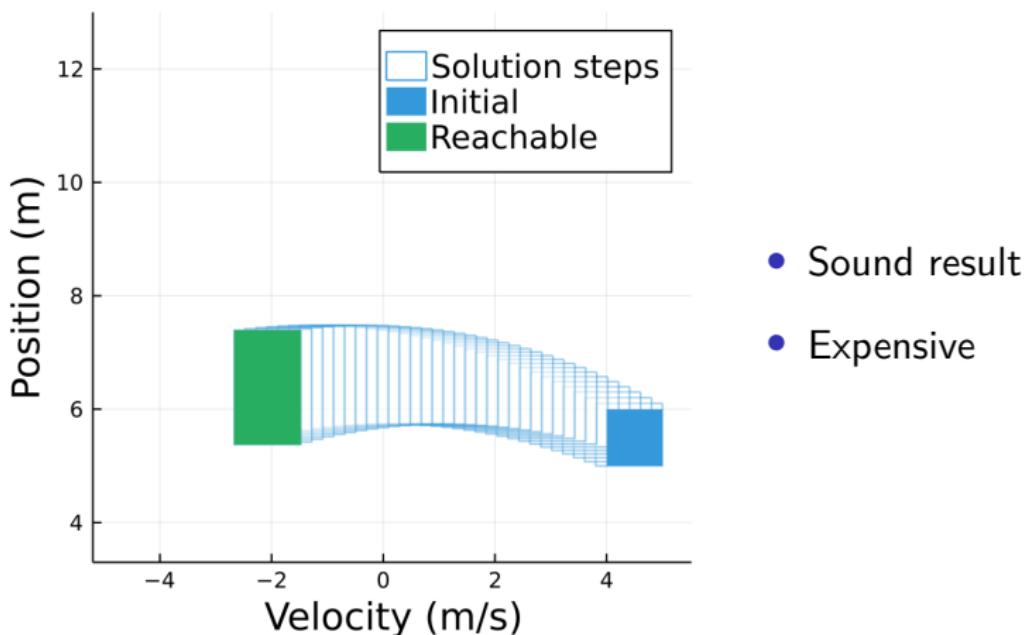
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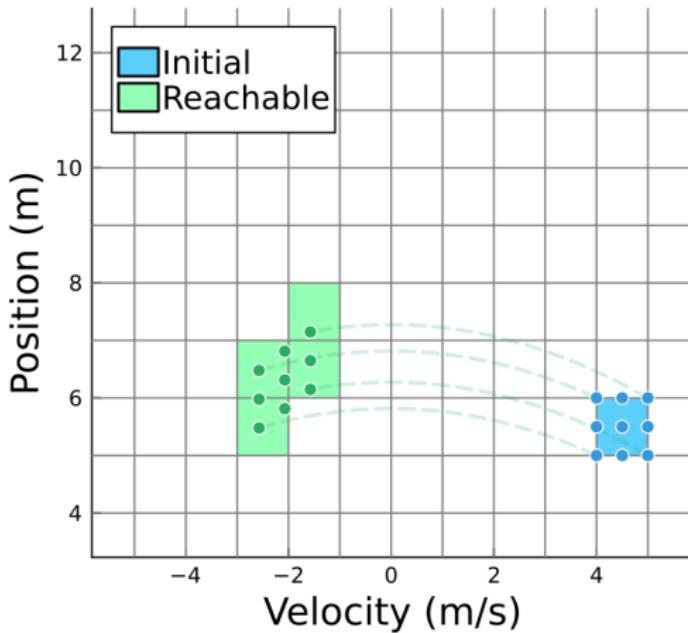
# How to compute reachable blocks for complex systems?

# Computation via reachability method (here: JuliaReach)



# Computation via simulation-based method

Samples: 9

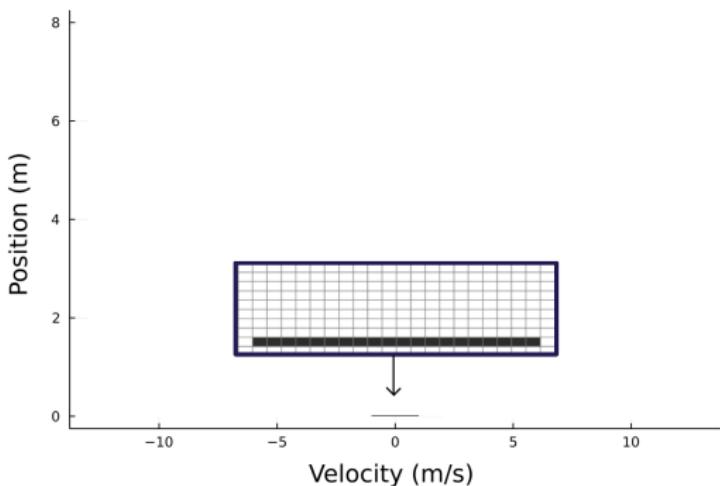


- Cheap
- May miss behavior
- Accuracy improves with more samples

# Computation via simulation-based method

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## Synthesis algorithm in action



- 16 samples per block
- Grid size 0.02
- Synthesis: 134 sec

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Motivation  
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# Scalability

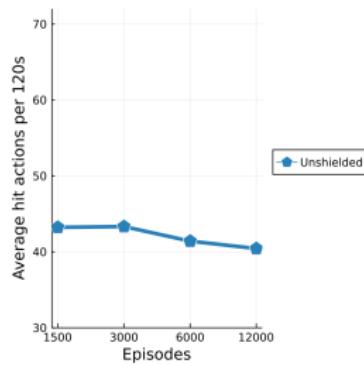
Grid size	Samples	Time
0.02	4	2m 14s
0.02	8	4m 02s
0.02	16	11m 03s
0.01	4	19m 00s
0.01	8	27m 21s
0.01	16	56m 32s

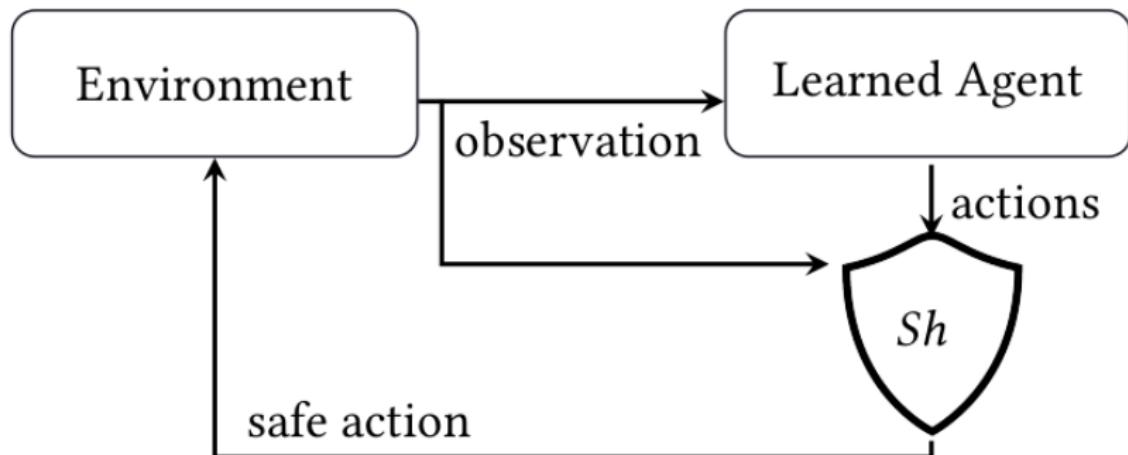
Grid size	Time
0.01	41h 05m

- Statistically safe ( $\geq 99.99\%$  with confidence 99%)

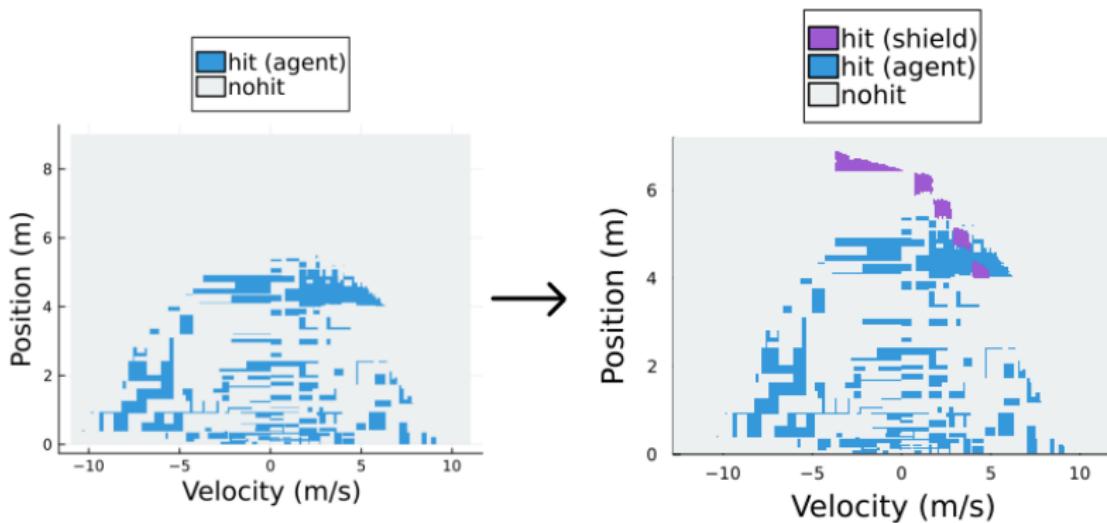
# Unshielded agent



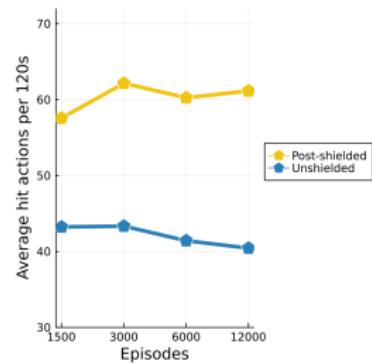
## Post-shielded agent



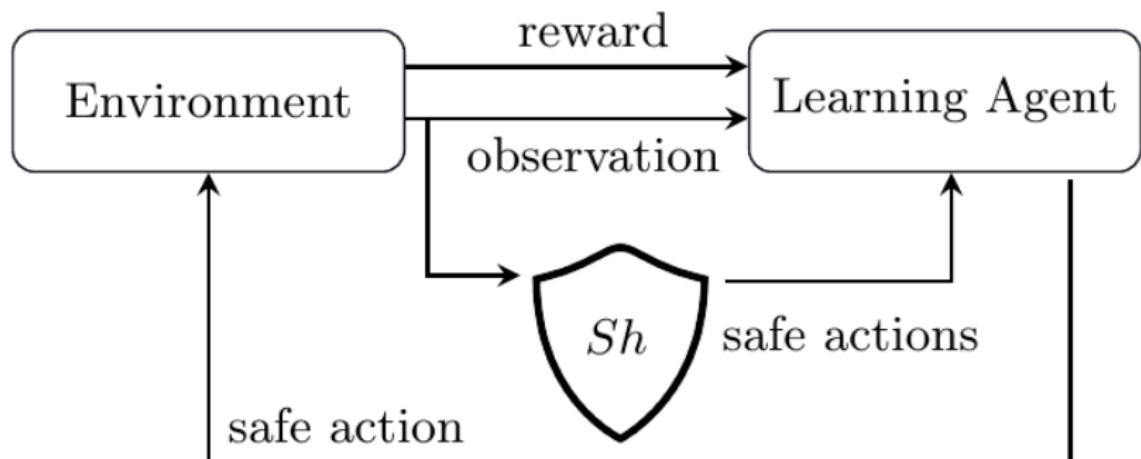
## Post-shielded agent



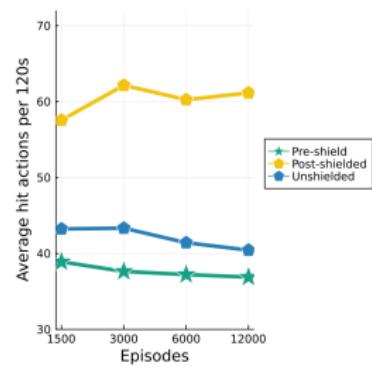
# Post-shielded agent



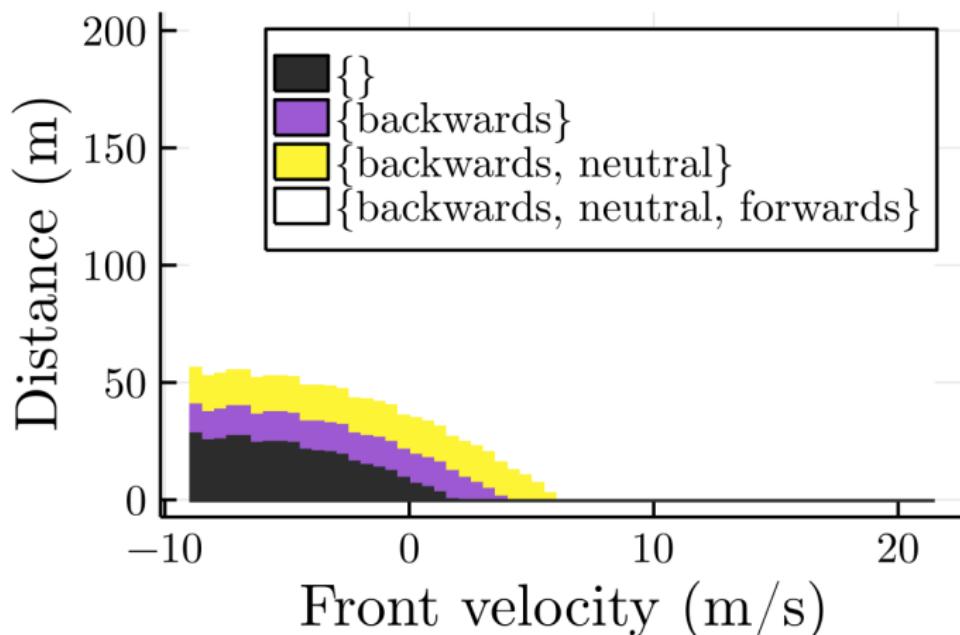
## Pre-shielded agent



# Pre-shielded agent

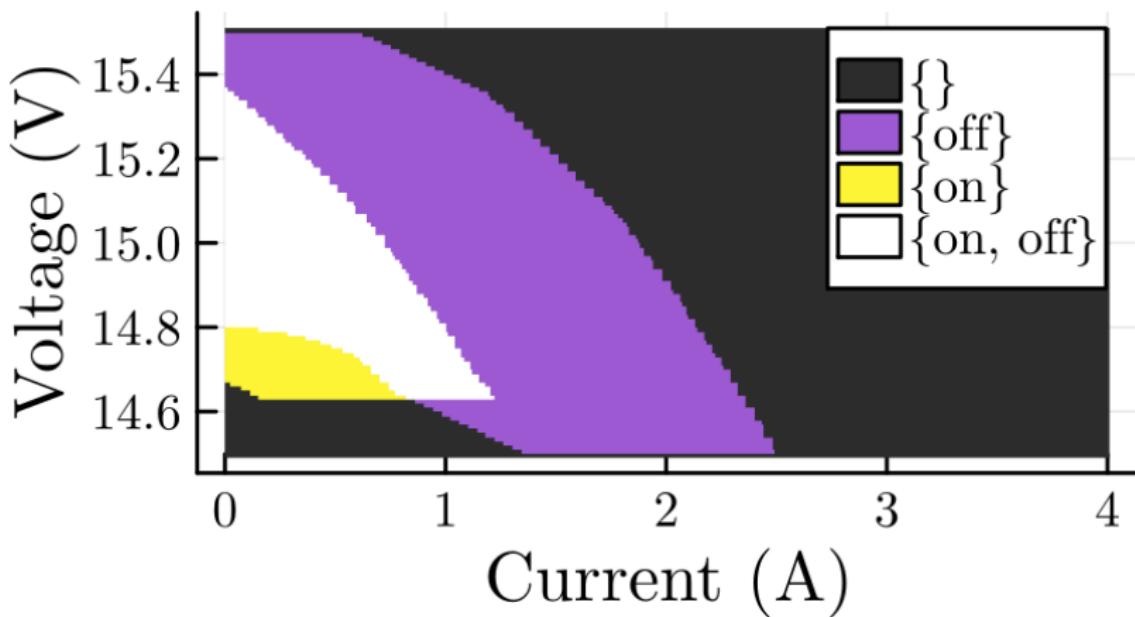


## Cruise control (car behind another car)



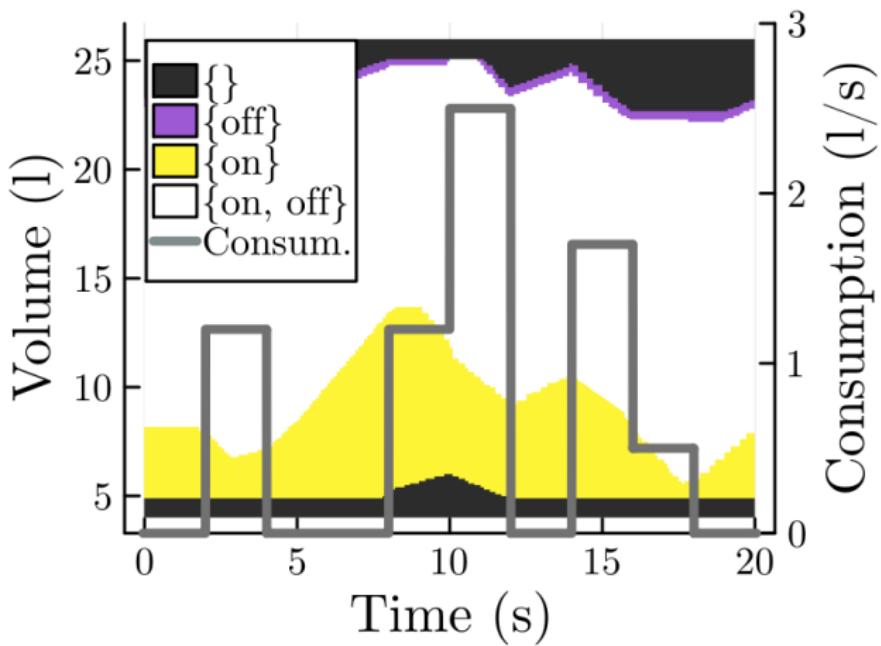
Synthesis time: 36 min

## DC-to-DC boost converter



Synthesis time: 1 h 19 min

## Oil pump (here: strategy when pump is *on*)



Synthesis time: 5 h 23 min

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# Conclusion

- Shield synthesis for complex (continuous + discrete + stochastic) systems
- Key idea: replace undecidable step (reachability) by simulation
- No soundness guarantee, but statistically safe

## Future work

- Multiple steps for more permissive shield
- Dynamic partitioning
- Combine with symbolic approach