

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN**  
**Cockrell School of Engineering**  
**Resume**

**FULL NAME:** David Fridovich-Keil      **TITLE:** Assistant Professor

**DEPARTMENT:** Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics

**EDUCATION**

Princeton University	Electrical Engineering	B.S.E.	2015
University of California, Berkeley	Electrical Engineering & Computer Sciences	Ph.D.	2020

**CURRENT AND PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at Austin      August 2021 - present  
 Department of Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics  
 Director of the Control and Learning for Autonomous Robotics (CLeAR) Lab

Post-Doctoral Researcher, Stanford University      September 2020 - June 2021

Post-Doctoral Researcher, University of California, Berkeley      June 2020 - August 2020

Graduate Research Assistant, University of California, Berkeley      August 2017 - May 2020

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Software Engineer, Nuro Inc.      Summer 2018  
 Motion planning and prediction algorithm development for autonomous vehicles.

Software Engineer, Applied Science & Technology Research Institute      Summer 2014  
 Image processing for consumer electronics.

Embedded Systems Engineer, Sentinel Photonics      Summer 2013  
 Signal processing for lightweight, high-precision gas sensing.

**MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL AND HONORARY SOCIETIES**

Member, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

**PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY AND MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEES,  
 EDITORIAL BOARDS, AND CONFERENCES ORGANIZED/CHAired**

**Conference Activities: Organizer**

Workshop on Strategic, Multi-Agent Interaction, Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL), 2022

Workshop on Robust Autonomy: Tools for Safety in Real-World Uncertain Environments, Robotics: Science & Systems (RSS), 2019-2021

**Conference Activities: Editor**

Associate Editor, IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), 2022

**Conference Activities: Program Committee**

Distributed Autonomous Robotic Systems (DARS), 2022  
IFAC Workshop on Cyber-Physical Human Systems, 2022  
Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI), 2022  
Learning for Dynamics and Control (L4DC), 2022

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Current Review Activities**

IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control  
IEEE Transactions on Robotics  
IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Vehicles  
Optimization Methods and Software  
Robotics: Science & Systems  
IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters  
IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation  
IEEE Conference on Decision and Control  
IEEE Conference on Control Technology and Applications  
Learning for Dynamics and Control  
American Control Conference  
Advances in Neural Information Systems  
International Conference on Learning Representations

## **UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Department Committees**

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, 2021-present

### **Texas Robotics**

Robotics Minor Curriculum Committee, 2022-present  
Robotics Building Space Committee, 2022-present  
Core Robotics Faculty Committee, 2021-present

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Demetri Angelakos Memorial Achievement Award, 2020  
Robotics: Science & Systems Pioneer, 2019  
Top Reviewer at NeurIPS, 2019  
Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, 2018  
Charles Ira Young Memorial Prize, 2015  
G. David Forney Jr. Prize, 2015  
James Hayes-Edger Palmer Prize, 2015  
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, 2015

## PUBLICATIONS

## Refereed Journal Publications in Rank as Assistant Professor and Earlier

- J1 R. S. Thakkar, A. S. Samyal, D. Fridovich-Keil, Z. Xu, and U. Topcu, “Hierarchical control for head-to-head autonomous racing,” *Journal of Field Robotics (under review)*, 2023 [pdf](#)
- J2 Y. Yue, J. Salfity, D. Fridovich-Keil, and U. Topcu, “Inverse matrix games with unique quantal response equilibrium,” *Control Systems Letters (under review)*, 2022 [pdf](#)
- J3 S. Chen, Y. E. Bayiz, D. Fridovich-Keil, Y. Yu, and U. Topcu, “Relationship design for socially desirable behavior in static games,” *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control (under review)*, 2022 [pdf](#)
- J4 L. Peters, V. Rubies-Royo, C. J. Tomlin, L. Ferranti, J. Alonso-Mora, C. Stachniss, and D. Fridovich-Keil, “Learning players’ objectives in continuous dynamic games from partial state observations,” *International Journal of Robotics Research (under review)*, 2023
- J5 R. S. Thakkar, A. S. Samyal, D. Fridovich-Keil, Z. Xu, and U. Topcu, “Hierarchical control for cooperative teams in competitive autonomous racing,” *IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology (under review)*, 2022 [pdf](#)
- J6 F. Laine, D. Fridovich-Keil, C.-Y. Chiu, and C. Tomlin, “The computation of approximate generalized feedback Nash equilibria,” *SIAM Journal on Optimization (accepted)*, 2022 [pdf](#)
- J7 E. Rolf\*, D. Fridovich-Keil\*, M. Simchowitz, B. Recht, and C. J. Tomlin, “A successive-elimination approach to adaptive robotic sensing,” *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*, 2020 [pdf](#)
- J8 D. Fridovich-Keil\*, A. Bajcsy\*, J. F. Fisac, S. L. Herbert, S. Wang, A. D. Dragan, and C. J. Tomlin, “Confidence-aware motion prediction for real-time collision avoidance,” *International Journal of Robotics Research*, 2019 [pdf](#)
- J9 R. Dobbe, O. Sondermeijer, D. Fridovich-Keil, D. Arnold, D. Callaway, and C. J. Tomlin, “Towards distributed energy services: Decentralizing optimal power flow with machine learning,” *IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid*, 2019 [pdf](#)

## Refereed Conference Proceedings

- C1 A. Patil, Y. Z. Zhou, D. Fridovich-Keil, and T. Tanaka, “Risk-minimizing two-player zero-sum stochastic differential game via path integral control,” in *American Control Conference (under review)*, 2023
- C2 P. Washington, D. Fridovich-Keil, and M. Schwager, “GrAVITree: Graph-based approximate value function in a tree,” in *American Control Conference (under review)*, 2023
- C3 Y. Yu, S. Chen, D. Fridovich-Keil, and U. Topcu, “Cost design in atomic routing games,” in *American Control Conference (under review)*, 2023
- C4 S. Agarwal, D. Fridovich-Keil, and S. P. Chinchali, “Robust forecasting for robotic control: A game-theoretic approach,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (under review)*, 2022 [pdf](#)
- C5 M. O. Karabag, D. Fridovich-Keil, and U. Topcu, “Alternating direction method of multipliers for decomposable saddle-point problems,” in *2022 58th Annual Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computing*, IEEE, 2022 [pdf](#)
- C6 J. Sun, S. Kousik, D. Fridovich-Keil, and M. Schwager, “Self-supervised traffic advisors: Distributed, multi-view traffic prediction for smart cities,” in *IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 2022 [pdf](#)
- C7 C.-Y. Chiu and D. Fridovich-Keil, “GTP-SLAM: Game-theoretic priors for simultaneous localization and mapping in multi-agent scenarios,” in *IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, 2022 [pdf](#)
- C8 L. Peters, D. Fridovich-Keil, L. Ferranti, C. Stachniss, J. Alonso-Mora, and F. Laine, “Learning mixed strategies in trajectory games,” in *Robotics: Science and Systems*, 2022 [pdf](#)
- C9 D. R. Anthony, D. P. Nguyen, D. Fridovich-Keil, and J. F. Fisac, “Back to the future: Efficient, time-consistent solutions in reach-avoid games,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2022 [pdf](#)

- C10 J. Li, D. Fridovich-Keil, S. Sojoudi, and C. Tomlin, “Augmented lagrangian method for instantaneously constrained reinforcement learning problems,” in *IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, 2021 [pdf](#)
- C11 L. Peters, D. Fridovich-Keil, V. Rubies-Royo, C. Tomlin, and C. Stachniss, “Inferring objectives in continuous dynamic games from noise-corrupted partial state observations,” in *Robotics: Science and Systems*, 2021 [pdf](#)
- C12 D. Fridovich-Keil and C. J. Tomlin, “Approximate solutions to a class of reachability games,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2021 [pdf](#)
- C13 C.-Y. Chiu\*, D. Fridovich-Keil\*, and C. J. Tomlin, “Encoding defensive driving as a dynamic nash game,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2021 [pdf](#)
- C14 F. Laine, D. Fridovich-Keil, C.-Y. Chiu, and C. J. Tomlin, “Multi-hypothesis interactions in game-theoretic motion planning,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2021 [pdf](#)
- C15 T. Westenbroek, E. Mazumdar, D. Fridovich-Keil, V. Prabhu, C. J. Tomlin, and S. S. Sastry, “Adaptive control for linearizable systems using on-policy reinforcement learning,” in *IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC)*, 2020 [pdf](#)
- C16 D. Fridovich-Keil\*, V. Rubies-Royo\*, and C. J. Tomlin, “An iterative quadratic method for general-sum differential games with feedback linearizable dynamics,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2020 [pdf](#)
- C17 D. Fridovich-Keil, E. Ratner, L. Peters, A. D. Dragan, and C. J. Tomlin, “Efficient iterative linear-quadratic approximations for nonlinear multi-player general-sum differential games,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2020 [pdf](#)
- C18 L. Peters, D. Fridovich-Keil, C. J. Tomlin, and Z. Sunberg, “Inference-based strategy alignment for general-sum differential games,” in *International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS)*, 2020 [pdf](#)
- C19 T. Westenbroek\*, D. Fridovich-Keil\*, E. Mazumdar\*, S. Arora, V. Prabhu, S. S. Sastry, and C. J. Tomlin, “Feedback linearization for unknown systems via reinforcement learning,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2020 [pdf](#)
- C20 V. Rubies-Royo, D. Fridovich-Keil, S. L. Herbert, and C. J. Tomlin, “A classification-based approach for approximate reachability,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2019 [pdf](#)
- C21 S. L. Herbert\*, A. Bajcsy\*, D. Fridovich-Keil, J. F. Fisac, S. Deglurkar, A. D. Dragan, and C. J. Tomlin, “A scalable framework for real-time multi-robot, multi-human collision avoidance,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2019 [pdf](#)
- C22 D. Fridovich-Keil\*, J. F. Fisac\*, and C. J. Tomlin, “Safely probabilistically complete real-time planning and exploration in unknown environments,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2019 [pdf](#)
- C23 J. F. Fisac\*, A. Bajcsy\*, S. L. Herbert, D. Fridovich-Keil, S. Wang, C. J. Tomlin, and A. D. Dragan, “Probabilistically safe robot planning with confidence-based human predictions,” in *Robotics: Science and Systems*, 2018 [pdf](#)
- C24 D. Fridovich-Keil\*, S. L. Herbert\*, J. F. Fisac, S. Deglurkar, and C. J. Tomlin, “Planning, fast and slow: A framework for adaptive real-time safe trajectory planning,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2018 [pdf](#)
- C25 R. Dobbe\*, D. Fridovich-Keil\*, and C. J. Tomlin, “Fully decentralized policies for multi-agent systems: An information theoretic approach,” in *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, pp. 2941–2950, 2017 [pdf](#)
- C26 D. Fridovich-Keil, N. Hanford, M. P. Chapman, C. J. Tomlin, M. K. Farrens, and D. Ghosal, “A model predictive control approach to flow pacing for TCP,” in *Allerton Conference on Communication, Control, and Computation*, pp. 988–994, 2017 [pdf](#)

- C27 D. Fridovich-Keil, E. Nelson, and A. Zakhor, “AtomMap: A probabilistic amorphous 3D map representation for robotics and surface reconstruction,” in *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, pp. 3110–3117, 2017 [pdf](#)

## ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- O1 September 2022, “Mixing Continuous Strategies: A Case Study in Trajectory Games,” Allerton, UIUC
- O2 May 2022, “Learning Mixed Strategies in Lifted Trajectory Games,” Autonomy Talks, ETH Zürich [video](#)
- O3 May 2022, “What is Feedback, Really?” EE290 Guest Lecture, UC Berkeley
- O4 April 2022, “Learning to Compete: Efficient Solutions for Noncooperative Games,” Texas Robotics Symposium, UT Austin
- O5 April 2022, “Learning in Noncooperative Games: Efficient Algorithms and Open Challenges,” Amazon Robotics
- O6 November 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics External Advisory Committee, UT Austin
- O7 November 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Aerospace Engineering Department Seminar, CU Boulder
- O8 October 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Control, Autonomy, and Robotics Seminar, UT Austin
- O9 July 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Workshop on Perception and Control for Autonomous Navigation in Crowded, Dynamic Environments, Robotics: Science & Systems [video](#)
- O10 July 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Semiautonomous Seminar, UC Berkeley.
- O11 July 2021, Robotics Research Debate, Robotics: Science & Systems Pioneers Workshop.
- O12 April 2021, “Parallelizable Methods for Multimodal Stochastic Optimal Control,” NASA ULI Joint Meeting, Stanford.
- O13 2019, “A Scalable Framework for Real-Time Multi-Robot, Multi-Human Collision Avoidance,” Connected and Automated Vehicles, University of Michigan.
- O14 2019, “Iterative Linear Quadratic Approximations for Nonlinear Differential Games,” Robotic Manipulation and Interaction, UC Berkeley.
- O15 2019, “Iterative Linear Quadratic Approximations for Nonlinear Multi-Player General-Sum Differential Games,” Berkeley Artificial Intelligence Lab, UC Berkeley.
- O16 2019, “Toward Robust Autonomy in Multi-Agent Safety-Critical Systems,” DARPA Assured Autonomy Program, Northrop Grumman.
- O17 2019, “Toward Robust Autonomy in Uncertain Safety-Critical Systems,” Nuro.
- O18 2019, “Toward Robust Autonomy in Uncertain Safety-Critical Systems,” Postmates X.
- O19 2018, “Probabilistically Safe Robot Planning with Confidence-Based Human Predictions,” NorCal Control Workshop, UC Santa Cruz.
- O20 2018, “Probabilistically Safe Robot Planning with Confidence-Based Human Predictions,” Berkeley Artificial Intelligence Lab, UC Berkeley.
- O21 2017, “Planning, Fast and Slow with FaSTrack,” Berkeley Artificial Intelligence Lab, UC Berkeley.

## Software

- W1 D. Fridovich-Keil, “ILQGames: Iterative linear-quadratic games,” 2019
- W2 D. Fridovich-Keil, “FaSTrack: Fast and safe tracking,” 2018

**RESEARCH TOPICS**

Posing interactive motion planning problems as multi-player, noncooperative dynamic games and designing efficient algorithms to solve them. Additionally, building a rapprochement between machine learning methods and classical techniques for robust, adaptive, and geometric control.

**PH.D. SUPERVISION IN PROGRESS**

1. Hamzah Khan
2. Jonathan Salfity
3. Fernando Palafox

**M.S. SUPERVISION IN PROGRESS**

1. Junette Hsin

**OTHER STUDENT RESEARCH COMMITTEES (Current)**

Ph.D. Defense Committees - 2

M.S. Committees - 2

**OTHER RESEARCH SUPERVISION****Ph.D. Qualifying Committees**

Alexander Nettekoven

Steven Carr

**M.S. Report Committees**

Rishabh Thakkar

Martin Braquet

**Undergraduate Honors Projects**

Chiadika Obinwa

**David Fridovich-Keil, Assistant Professor**

The University of Texas at Austin

Department of Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics

Dr. David Fridovich-Keil is the Director of the Control and Learning for Autonomous Robotics (CLeAR) Laboratory, and a core member of the UT Robotics faculty. He received his B.S.E. in Electrical Engineering from Princeton University and his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering & Computer Sciences from the University of California, Berkeley. His research spans optimal control, dynamic game theory, learning for control and robot safety, and his Ph.D. dissertation proposed some of the first efficient techniques for solving noncooperative, game-theoretic motion planning problems.