

**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/CHAIR**

**Conference Activities: Organizer**

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

**Conference Activities: Editor**

Associate Editor, IFAC Workshop on Cyber-Physical Human Systems, 2022

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

**Conference Activities: Program Committee**

Distributed Autonomous Robotic Systems (DARS), 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 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 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
- J2 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](#)
- J3 F. Laine, D. Fridovich-Keil, C.-Y. Chiu, and C. Tomlin, “The computation of approximate generalized feedback Nash equilibria,” *SIAM Journal on Optimization* (under review), 2022 [pdf](#)
- J4 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](#)
- J5 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](#)
- J6 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 R. S. Thakkar, A. S. Samyal, D. Fridovich-Keil, Z. Xu, and U. Topcu, “Hierarchical control for multi-agent autonomous racing,” in *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems* (under review), 2022 [pdf](#)
- C2 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* (under review), 2022 [pdf](#)
- C3 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* (under review), 2022 [pdf](#)
- C4 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](#)
- C5 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](#)
- C6 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](#)
- C7 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](#)
- C8 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](#)
- C9 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](#)
- C10 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](#)

- C11 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](#)
- C12 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](#)
- C13 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](#)
- C14 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](#)
- C15 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](#)
- C16 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](#)
- C17 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](#)
- C18 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](#)
- C19 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](#)
- C20 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](#)
- C21 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](#)
- C22 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 April 2022, “Learning in Noncooperative Games: Efficient Algorithms and Open Challenges,” Amazon Robotics
- O2 November 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics External Advisory Committee, UT Austin
- O3 November 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Aerospace Engineering Department Seminar, CU Boulder
- O4 October 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Control, Autonomy, and Robotics Seminar, UT Austin
- O5 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](#)

- O6 July 2021, “A Brief Tour of Dynamic Games for Multi-Agent Modeling,” Semiautonomous Seminar, UC Berkeley.
- O7 July 2021, Robotics Research Debate, Robotics: Science & Systems Pioneers Workshop.
- O8 April 2021, “Parallelizable Methods for Multimodal Stochastic Optimal Control,” NASA ULI Joint Meeting, Stanford.
- O9 2019, “A Scalable Framework for Real-Time Multi-Robot, Multi-Human Collision Avoidance,” Connected and Automated Vehicles, University of Michigan.
- O10 2019, “Iterative Linear Quadratic Approximations for Nonlinear Differential Games,” Robotic Manipulation and Interaction, UC Berkeley.
- O11 2019, “Iterative Linear Quadratic Approximations for Nonlinear Multi-Player General-Sum Differential Games,” Berkeley Artificial Intelligence Lab, UC Berkeley.
- O12 2019, “Toward Robust Autonomy in Multi-Agent Safety-Critical Systems,” DARPA Assured Autonomy Program, Northrop Grumman.
- O13 2019, “Toward Robust Autonomy in Uncertain Safety-Critical Systems,” Nuro.
- O14 2019, “Toward Robust Autonomy in Uncertain Safety-Critical Systems,” Postmates X.
- O15 2018, “Probabilistically Safe Robot Planning with Confidence-Based Human Predictions,” NorCal Control Workshop, UC Santa Cruz.
- O16 2018, “Probabilistically Safe Robot Planning with Confidence-Based Human Predictions,” Berkeley Artificial Intelligence Lab, UC Berkeley.
- O17 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

## OTHER STUDENT RESEARCH COMMITTEES (Current)

Ph.D. Defense Committees - 3  
M.S. Committees - 2

## OTHER RESEARCH SUPERVISION

### Ph.D. Qualifying Committees

Alexander Nettekoven  
Steven Carr  
Yusuf Savas

### M.S. Report Committees

Yujing Zhou  
Rishabh Thakkar  
Martin Braquet  
Junette Hsin

**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.