

# Equivariant Deep Learning of Mixed-Integer Optimal Control Solutions for Vehicle Decision Making and Motion Planning

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Group Reatreat  
SYSCOP  
June 10, 2024

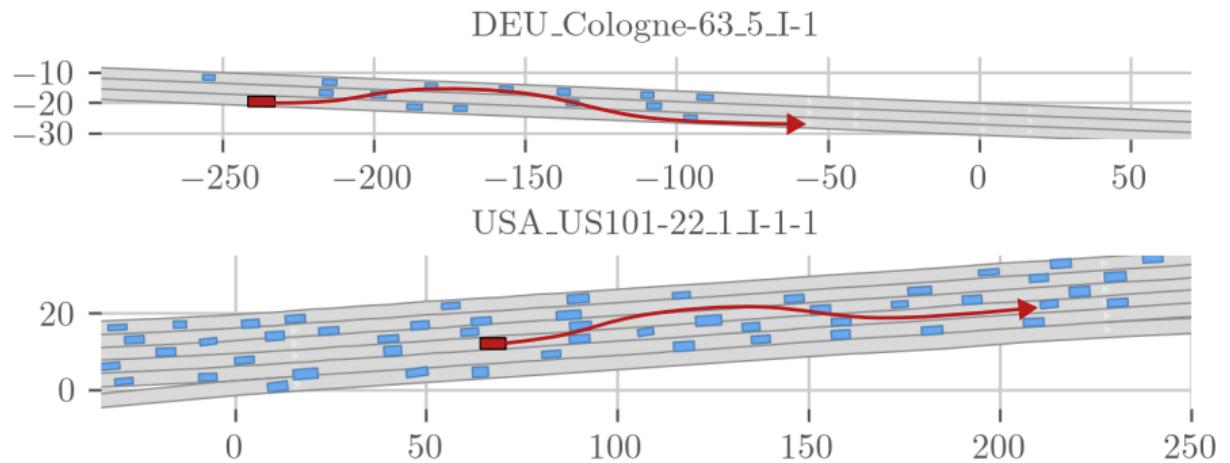


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# Introduction

Task: Motion Planning on Highways



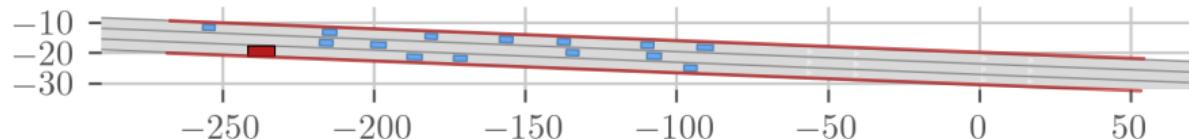
# Introduction

## Specifics about Motion Planning on Highways

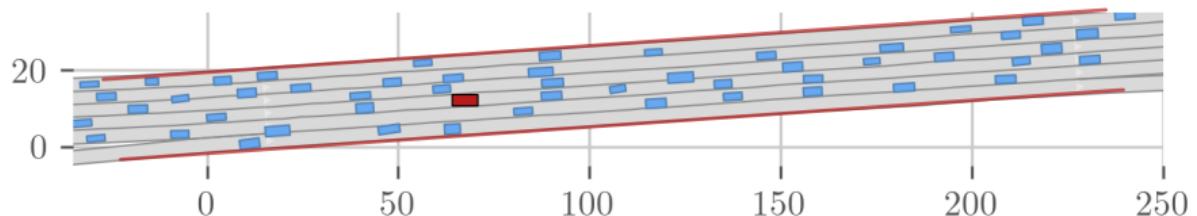


mostly straight

DEU\_Cologne-63\_5\_I-1



USA\_US101-22\_1\_I-1-1



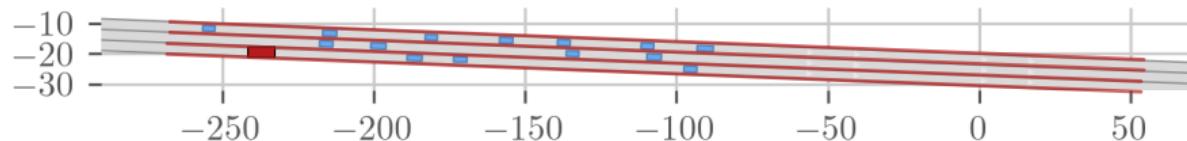
# Introduction

## Specifics about Motion Planning on Highways

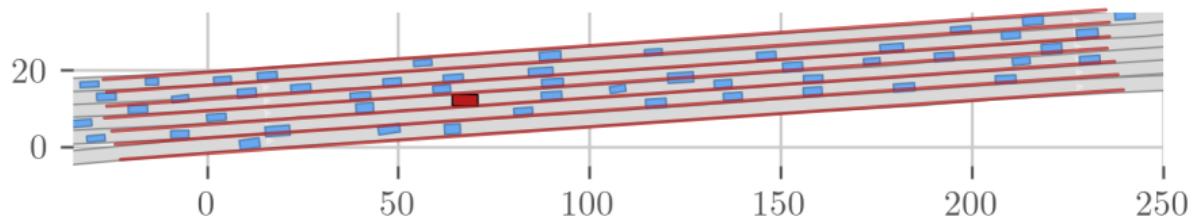


parallel lanes

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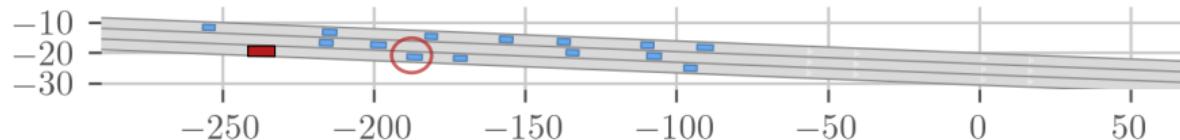
# Introduction

## Specifics about Motion Planning on Highways

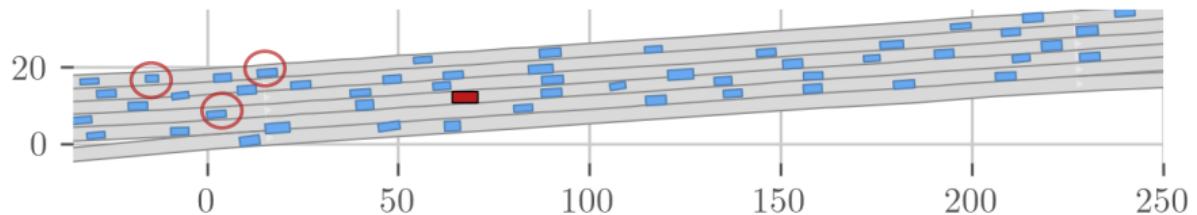


multiple similar obstacles

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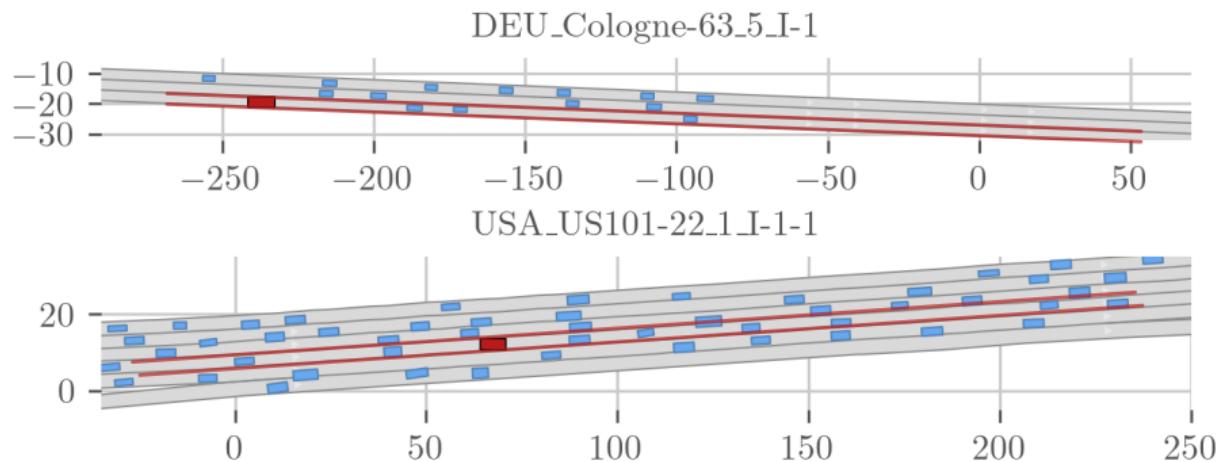


# Introduction

## Specifics about Motion Planning on Highways



rules: lane keeping

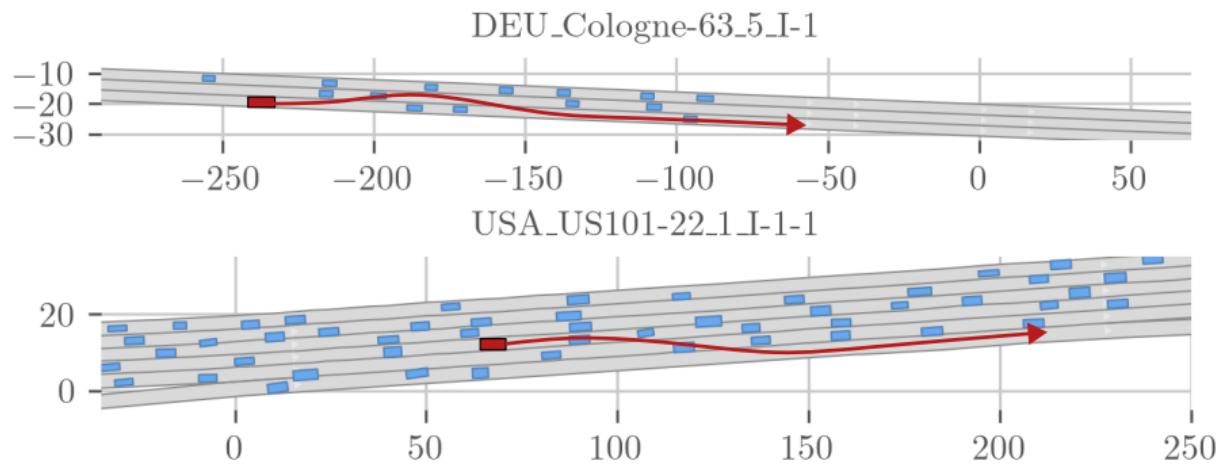


# Introduction

## Specifics about Motion Planning on Highways



rules: keep right, speed limit

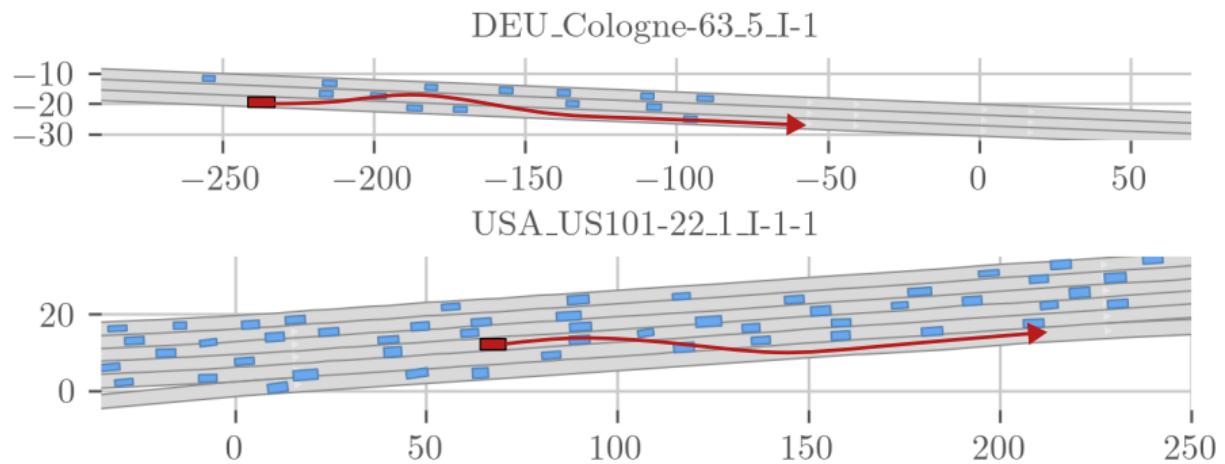


# Introduction

## Objective of Motion Planning on Highways



objective: set speed, set lane



# Introduction

Basic Idea: Formulate Problem as MIQP<sup>1</sup>



$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\substack{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times N}, \\ U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u \times N-1}, \\ \beta \in \{0,1\}^{N_b}}} J(X, U, \beta) \\ & \text{s.t.} \\ & x_0 = \hat{x} \\ & x_{i+1} = Ax_i + Bu_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N-1, \\ & H(X, U) \geq 0, \\ & H_{\text{bin}}(X, \beta) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Rien Quirynen, Sleiman Safaoui, and Stefano Di Cairano. “Real-time Mixed-Integer Quadratic Programming for Vehicle Decision Making and Motion Planning”. In: *ArXiv* (2023). arXiv: 2308.10069 [math.OC].

# Introduction

Basic Idea: Formulate Problem as MIQP



- ▶ Slow online computation time
- ▶ MIQP solvers are not usual for embedded hardware
- ▶ MIQP solvers are expensive

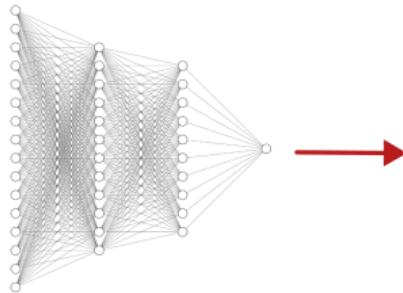
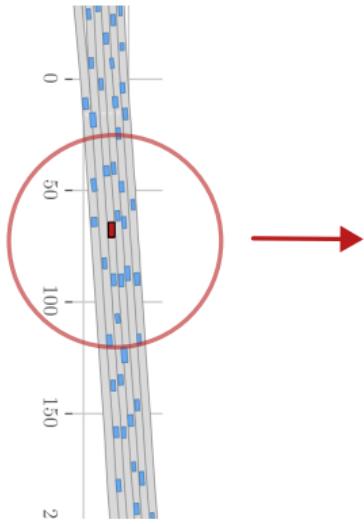
$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\substack{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times N}, \\ U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u \times N-1}, \\ \beta \in \{0,1\}^{N_b}}} J(X, U, \beta) \\ & \text{s.t.} \\ & x_0 = \hat{x} \\ & x_{i+1} = Ax_i + Bu_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N-1, \\ & H(X, U) \geq 0, \\ & H_{\text{bin}}(X, \beta) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Introduction

Speed-up computation time



learn binary assignments through simulation by supervised learning  
→ only solve QP → much faster than solving MIQP



$$\min_{\substack{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times N} \\ U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u \times N-1}}} J(X, U; \beta)$$

s.t.

$$x_0 = \hat{x}$$

$$x_{i+1} = Ax_i + Bu_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N-1,$$

$$H(X, U) \geq 0,$$

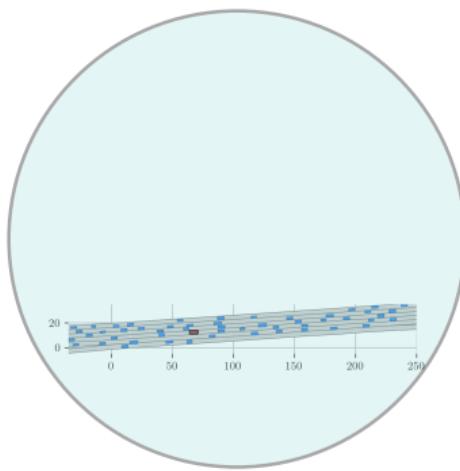
$$H_{\text{bin}}(X; \beta) \geq 0$$

# Introduction

## Related Fields



motion planning on highways in autonomous driving stack



AD  
Motion  
Planning

# Introduction

## Related Fields



## mixed integer optimization problem formulation

Mixed-  
Integer  
Optimization

$$\min_{\substack{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times N}, \\ U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u \times N-1}, \\ \beta \in \{0,1\}^{N_b}}} J(X, U, \beta)$$

s.t.

$$x_0 = \hat{x}$$

$$x_{i+1} = Ax_i + Bu_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N-1,$$

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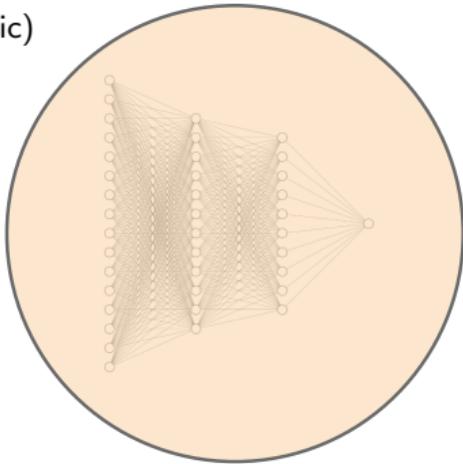
# Introduction

## Related Fields



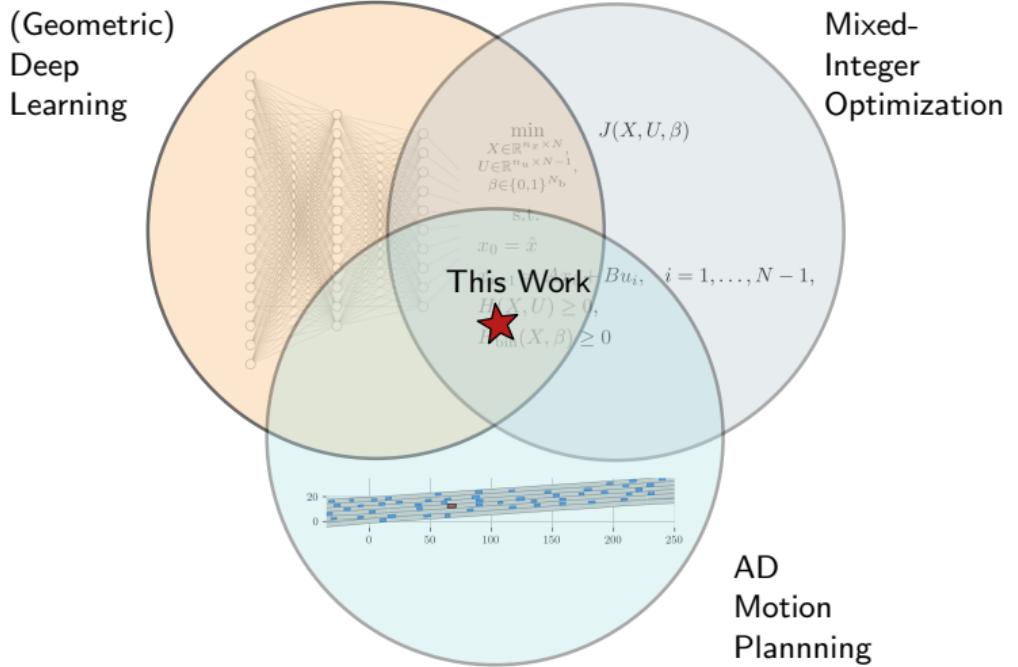
structure-exploiting neural network architecture

(Geometric)  
Deep  
Learning



# Introduction

## Related Fields



# Outline



1. Mixed-Integer Problem Formulation
2. Learning Binary Variables
3. Geometric Deep Learning
4. Additional Concepts
5. Simulation Results

# 1. Mixed-Integer Problem Formulation

## Related Fields



### Mixed- Integer Optimization

$$\min_{\substack{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times N}, \\ U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u \times N-1}, \\ \beta \in \{0,1\}^{N_b}}} J(X, U, \beta)$$

s.t.

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$$H(X, U) \geq 0,$$

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# 1. Mixed-Integer Problem Formulation



Two categories of binary variables:

- ▶ Expression of **nonconvex** configuration space as a disjunction of **convex** sets
- ▶ Choice of lane

# 1. Mixed-Integer Problem Formulation



Two categories of binary variables:

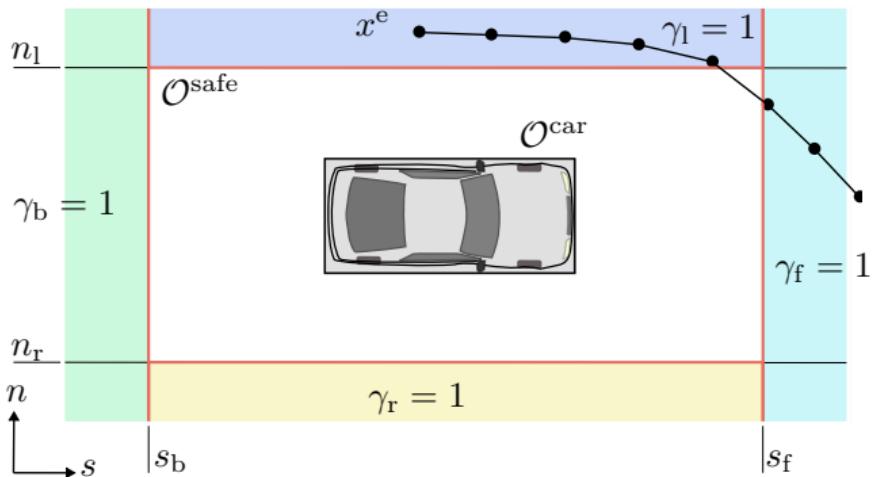
- ▶ Expression of **nonconvex** configuration space as a disjunction of **convex** sets (**Why?**)
- ▶ Choice of lane

# 1. Mixed-Integer Problem Formulation

Nonconvex free configuration space



- ▶ Over-approximating obstacle  $\mathcal{O}^{\text{car}}$  by  $\mathcal{O}^{\text{safe}}$

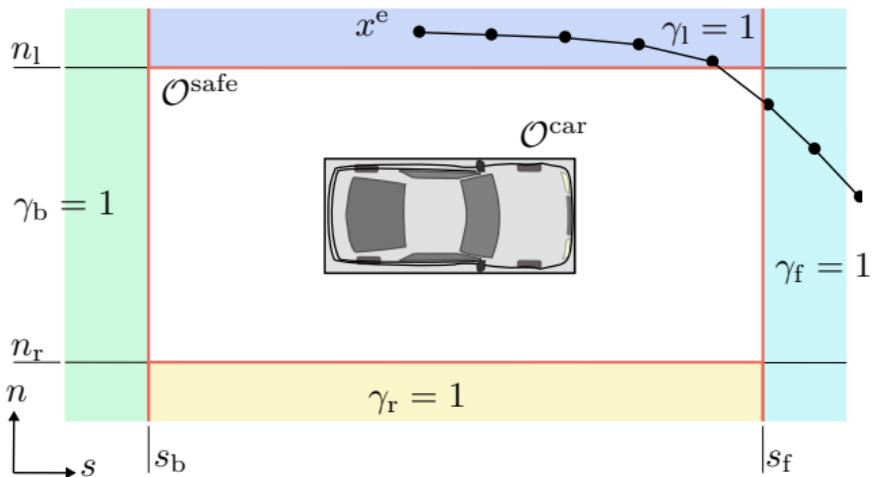


# 1. Mixed-Integer Problem Formulation

Nonconvex free configuration space



- ▶ Over-approximating obstacle  $\mathcal{O}^{\text{car}}$  by  $\mathcal{O}^{\text{safe}}$
- ▶ Split configuration space  $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \mathcal{O}^{\text{safe}}$  into 4 convex sets (left, right, front, back)

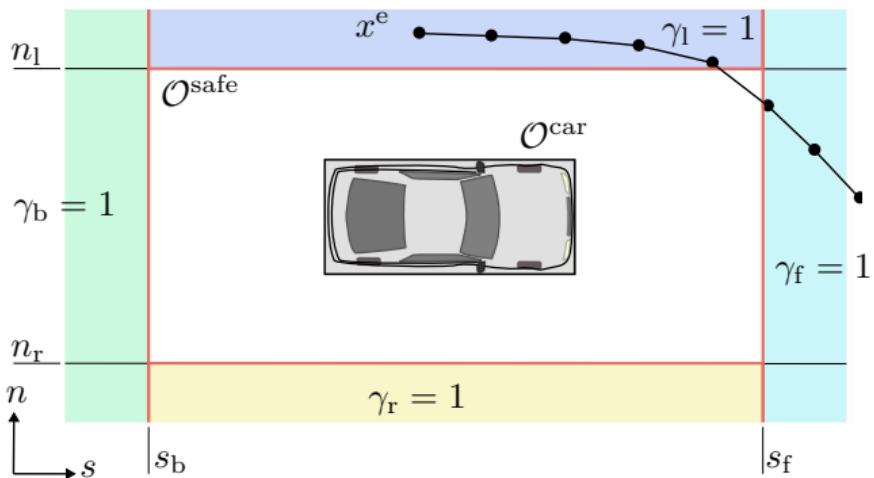


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- ▶ Assign binary indicator variables  $\gamma_l, \gamma_r, \gamma_f, \gamma_b \in \{0, 1\}$

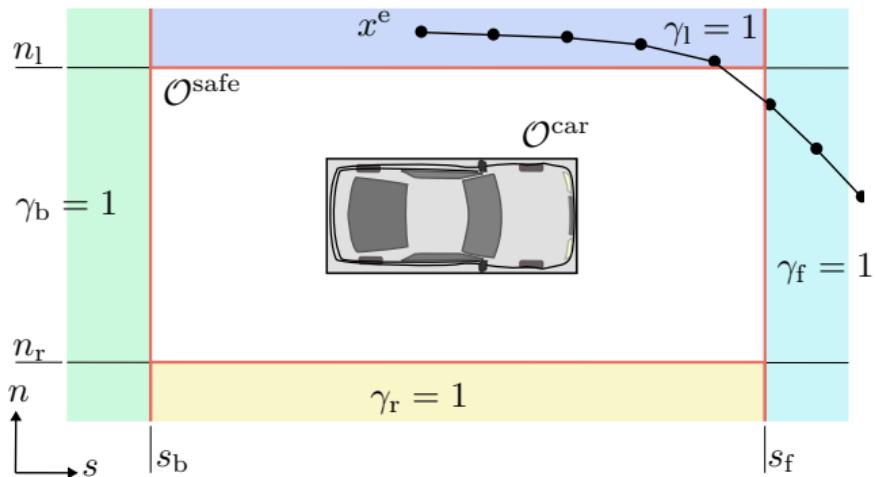


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Nonconvex free configuration space



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- ▶ Assign binary indicator variables  $\gamma_l, \gamma_r, \gamma_f, \gamma_b \in \{0, 1\}$
- ▶ 4 binary variables per obstacle per time step:  $4N_{\text{obs}}N$  binary variables



# 1. Mixed-Integer Problem Formulation

## Choice of a lane



- ▶ Adding reference state as decision variable  $\tilde{n}$ , with  $\tilde{X}_n = [\tilde{n}_0, \dots, \tilde{n}_N]^\top$
- ▶ Adding binary lane change control variables  $\lambda^{\text{up}}, \lambda^{\text{down}}$
- ▶ Reference dynamics:

$$\tilde{n}_{i+1} = \tilde{n}_i + d_{\text{lane}} \lambda_i^{\text{up}} - d_{\text{lane}} \lambda_i^{\text{down}}$$

- ▶ Tracking cost for lateral state  $n$ :

$$\sum_{i=0}^N w_n (\tilde{n}_i - n_i)^2$$

- ▶ adding  $2N$  lane change binary variables to a total

$$N_{\text{bin}} = 2N + 4NN_{\text{obs}}$$

# 1. Mixed-Integer Problem Formulation



$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\substack{X \in \mathbb{R}^{n_x \times N}, U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_u \times N-1}, \\ \tilde{X}_n \in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ \Gamma \in \{0,1\}^{4N N_{\text{obs}}}, \\ \Lambda \in \{0,1\}^{2N}}} J(X, U, \tilde{X}_n) \\ \text{s.t.} \\ & x_0 = \hat{x}, \quad \tilde{n}_0 = \hat{n}_0, \\ & x_{i+1} = Ax_i + Bu_i, \quad i = 0, \dots, N-1, \\ & \tilde{n}_{i+1} = \tilde{n}_i + d_{\text{lane}} \lambda_i^{\text{up}} - d_{\text{lane}} \lambda_i^{\text{down}}, \quad i = 0, \dots, N-1, \\ & H(X, U) \geq 0, \\ & H_{\text{obs}}(x_i, (\gamma_d)_{i,j}) \geq 0 \quad i = 0, \dots, N-1, \\ & \quad j = 1, \dots, N_{\text{obs}} \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Learning Binary Variables

Generate training data and class labels



- ▶ Randomize problem features  $p_i$ 
  - ▶ ego state
  - ▶ obstacle states
  - ▶ vehicle dimensions
  - ▶ road geometry
- ▶ Solve MIQPs to obtain binary assignments  $\beta_i^* = (\Gamma_i^*, \Lambda_i^*)$
- ▶ If  $\beta_i^*$  not in data set  $\mathcal{D}$ : generate class label  $l_i$  and add  $(p_i, l_i, \beta_i^*)$  to  $\mathcal{D}$
- ▶ If  $\beta_i^*$  in data set  $\mathcal{D}$ : use already existing label  $l_j$ , with  $\beta_i^* = \beta_j^*$  and add  $(p_i, l_j, \beta_j^*)$  to  $\mathcal{D}$

## 2. Learning Binary Variables

Training a classifier



Use data set  $\mathcal{D}$  to train a classifier that predicts  $\beta^*$

- ▶ Labels learned by classification as opposed to regression
- ▶ Number of assignments in theory  $2^{4NN_{\text{obs}}+2N}$
- ▶ If assignment was never seen in data, no label exists
- ▶ Shown to perform better than regression<sup>2</sup>

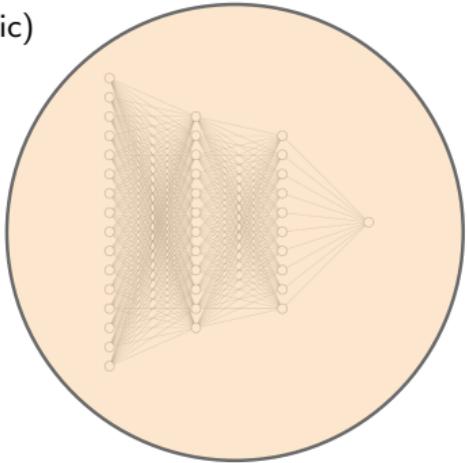
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<sup>2</sup>Dimitris Bertsimas and Bartolomeo Stellato. "The voice of optimization". en. In: *Machine Learning* 110.2 (Feb. 2021), pp. 249–277. ISSN: 1573-0565. DOI: [10.1007/s10994-020-05893-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10994-020-05893-5).

### 3. Geometric Deep Learning



(Geometric)  
Deep  
Learning





# 3. Geometric Deep Learning

## Geometric Deep Learning Grids, Groups, Graphs, Geodesics, and Gauges

Michael M. Bronstein<sup>1</sup>, Joan Bruna<sup>2</sup>, Taco Cohen<sup>3</sup>, Petar Veličković<sup>4</sup>

May 4, 2021

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### 3. Geometric Deep Learning



*Fundamentally, geometric deep learning involves encoding a geometric understanding of data as an inductive bias in deep learning models to give them a helping hand.*

### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

#### Equivariance and Invariance



##### Definition

Let  $f(x) : \mathbb{X}^M \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$  be a function on a set of variables  $x = \{x_1, \dots, x_M\} \in \mathbb{X}^M$  and let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the permutation group on  $\{1, \dots, M\}$ . The function  $f$  is **permutation invariant**, if  $f(g \cdot x) = f(x)$  for all  $g \in \mathcal{G}, x \in \mathbb{X}^M$ .

##### Definition

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### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

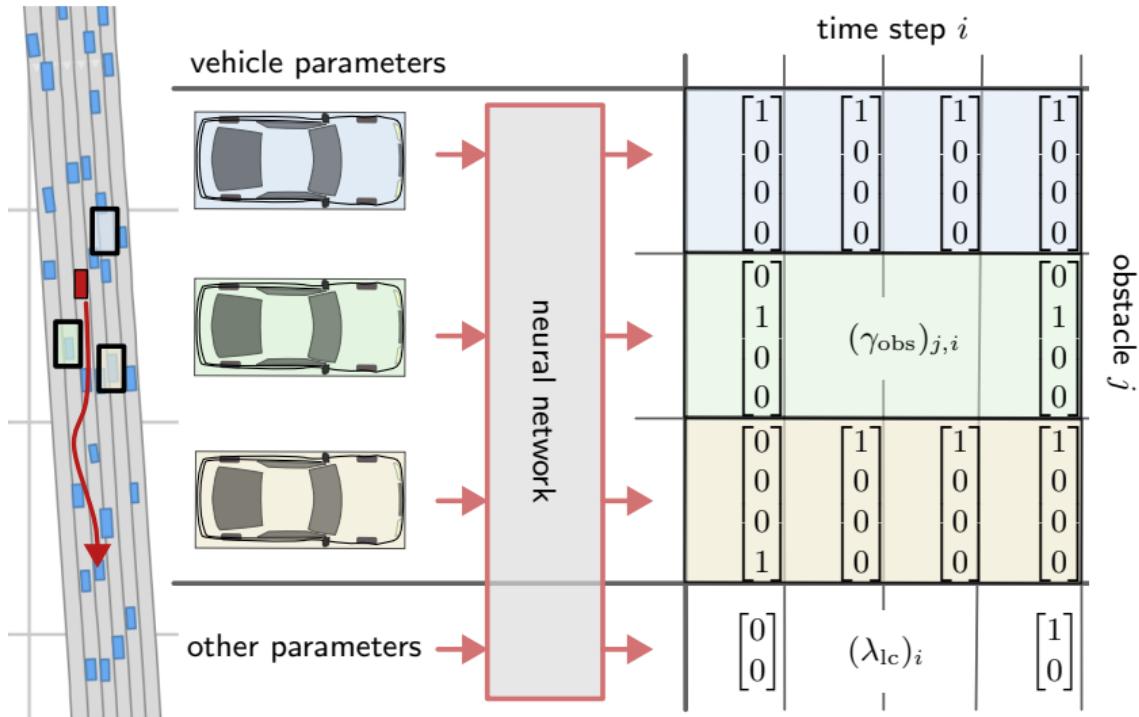
#### Equivariance and Invariance



Why is invariance and equivariance interesting for our task?

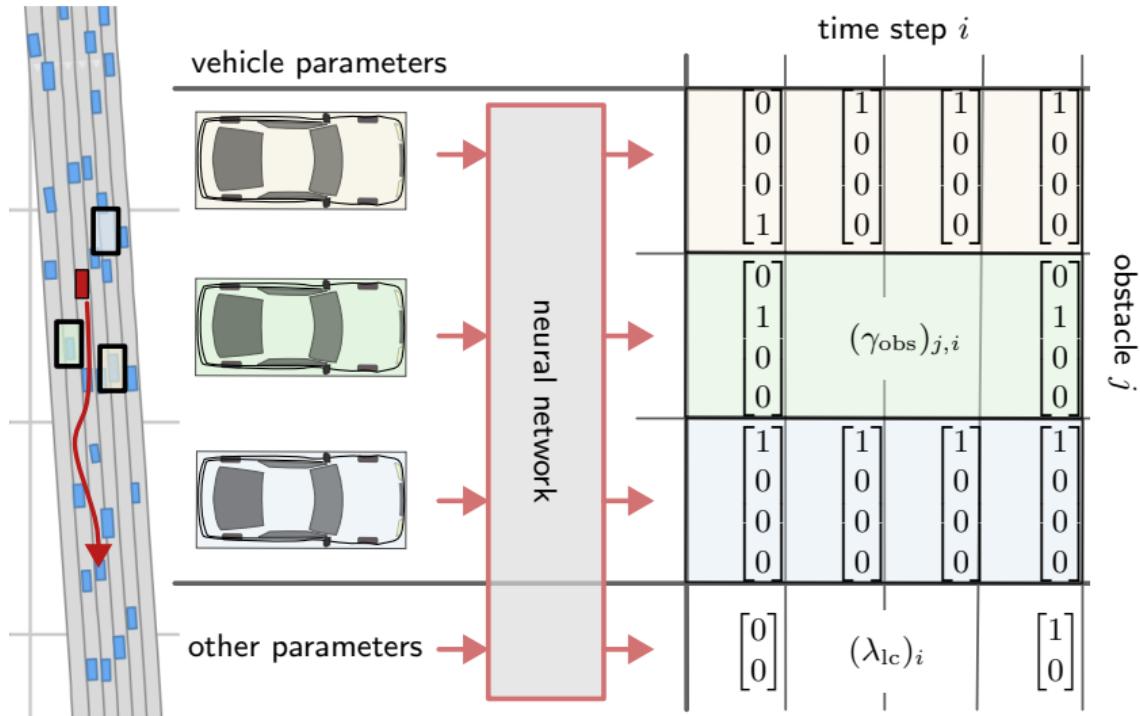
### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

#### Equivariance and Invariance



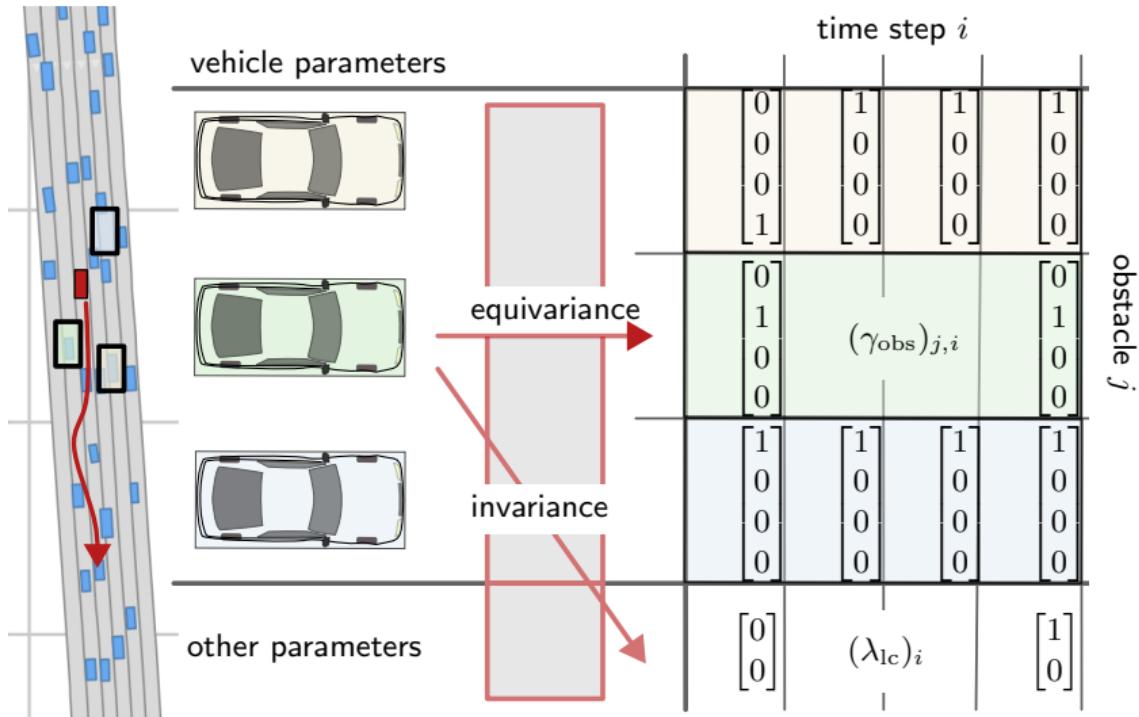
### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

#### Equivariance and Invariance



### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

#### Equivariance and Invariance



### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

#### Equivariance and Invariance



Number  $N_p$  of permutations of  $n$  elements is  $N_p = n!$

For 10 obstacles this would be  $N_p = 3628800$  different scenarios, while they all correspond to only one scenario

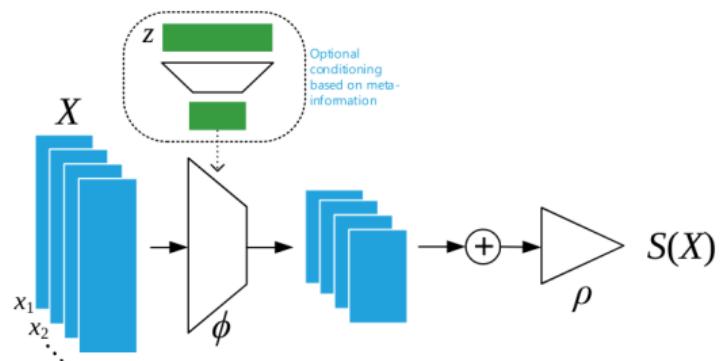
### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

Permutation Invariant Layers<sup>3</sup>



Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^D$  be features of a set element,  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M}$  a permutation matrix and the matrix  $X = (x_1, \dots, x_m)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times D}$  stacks the features as rows. A function  $f(\cdot)$  is permutation invariant, iff  $f(X) = f(PX)$ . One permutation invariant function is

$$f(X) = \rho\left(\sum_{m=1}^M \phi(x_m)\right)$$



<sup>3</sup>Manzil Zaheer et al. "Deep Sets". In: *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*. Vol. 30. Curran Associates, Inc., 2017.

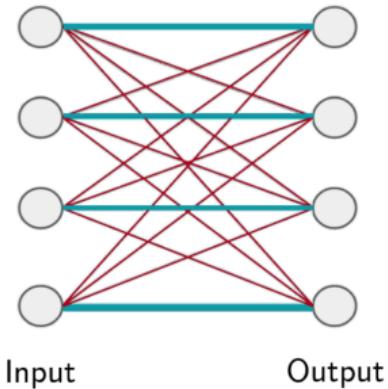
### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

#### Permutation Equivariant Layers<sup>4</sup>



The function  $f_\Theta(X) = \sigma(\Theta X)$ , with  $D = 1$ ,  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M}$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^M$  and  $f_\Theta : \mathbb{R}^M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$  is permutation equivariant iff all the off-diagonal elements of  $\Theta$  are tied together and all the diagonal elements are equal as well. That is,

$$\Theta = \lambda I + \gamma(11^\top), \quad \lambda, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}, \quad 1^\top = [1, \dots, 1]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^M, \quad I \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M} \text{ is identity}$$



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<sup>4</sup>Zaheer et al., “Deep Sets”.

### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

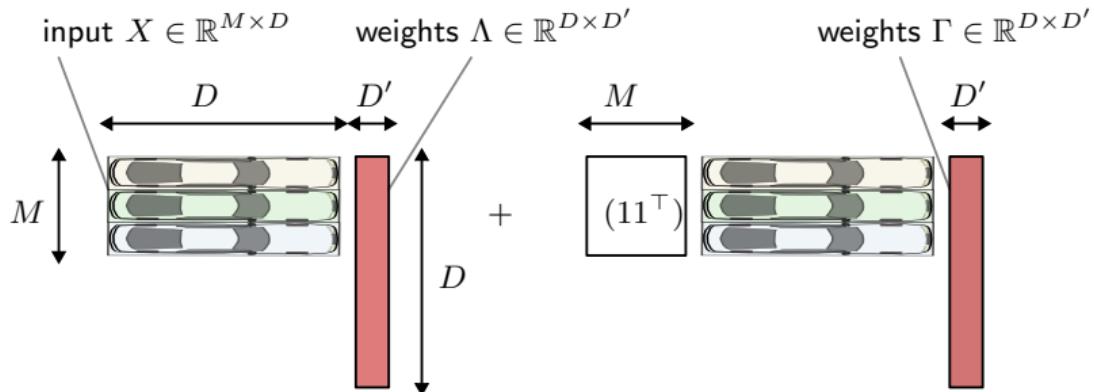
#### Permutation Equivariant Layers<sup>5</sup>



This result can be easily extended to higher dimensions, i.e.,  $D$  input and  $D'$  output channels.

Then,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times D}$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times D'}$ ,  $\lambda, \gamma$  become matrices  $\Lambda, \Gamma \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times D'}$ .

$$\text{Layer function: } f(X) = \sigma(X\Lambda - (11^\top)X\Gamma)$$



<sup>5</sup>Zaheer et al., "Deep Sets".

### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

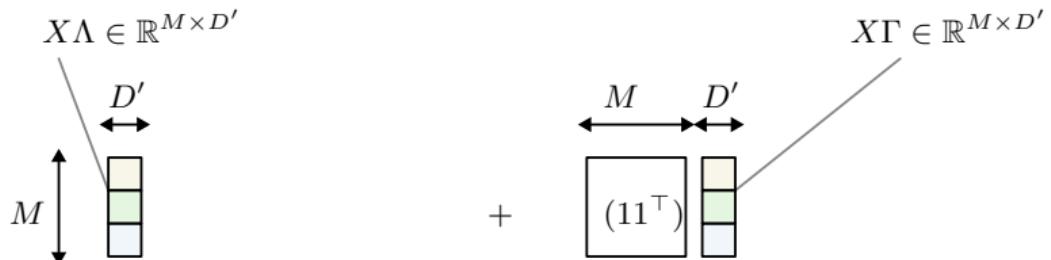
#### Permutation Equivariant Layers<sup>6</sup>



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### 3. Geometric Deep Learning

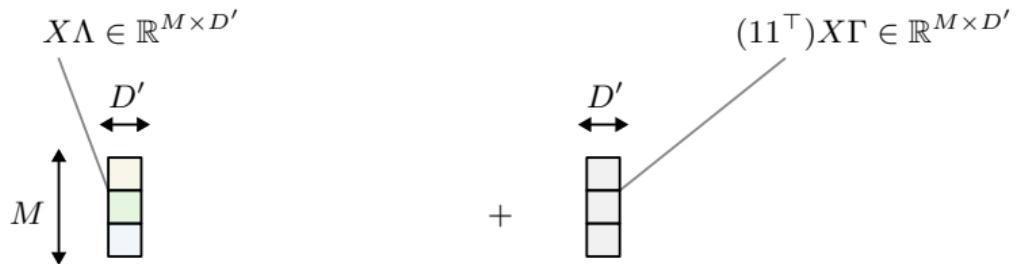
#### Permutation Equivariant Layers<sup>7</sup>



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$$\text{Layer function: } f(X) = \sigma(X\Lambda - (11^\top)X\Gamma)$$



<sup>7</sup>Zaheer et al., "Deep Sets".

## 4. Additional Concepts

### Recurrence



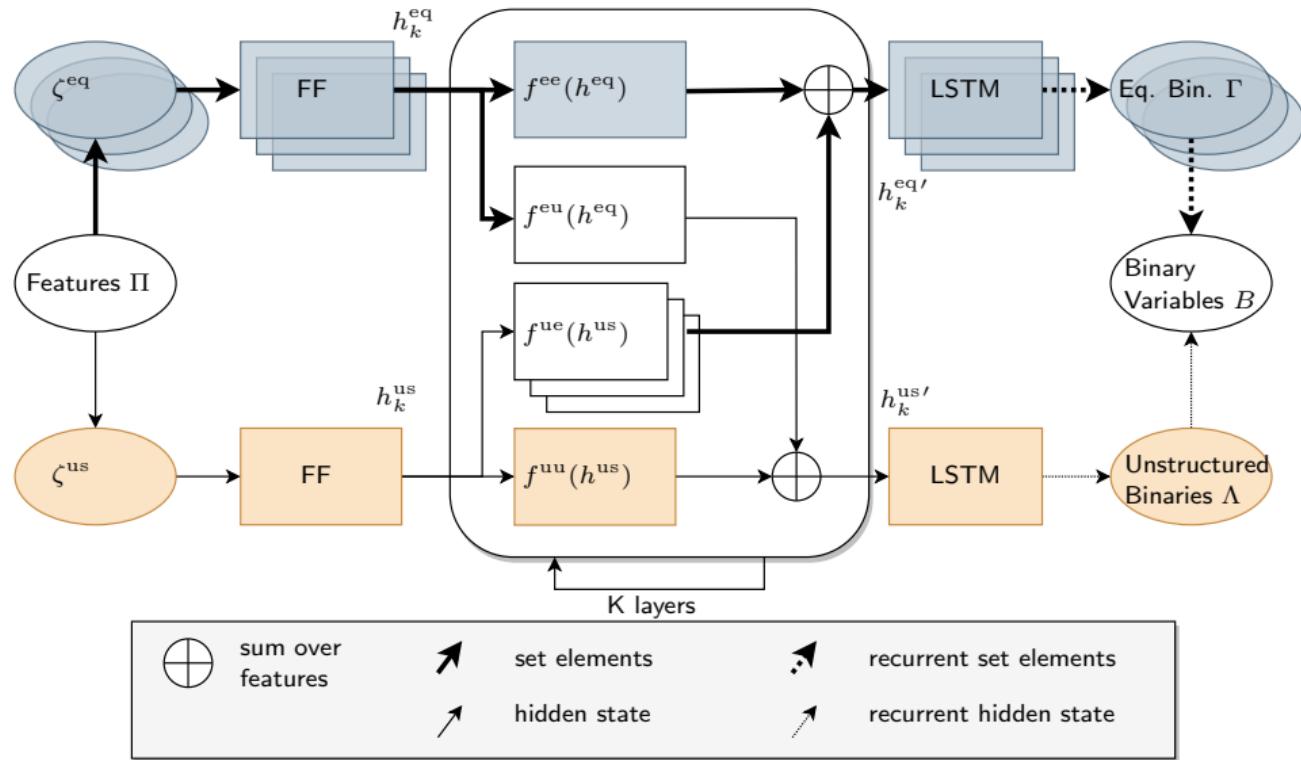
- ▶ The prediction is a time series of binary assignments → using a recurrent *decoder* to generate a time series<sup>8</sup>
- ▶ Allows for variable length predictions in addition to the variable number of obstacles

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<sup>8</sup>Abhishek Cauligi et al. "PRISM: Recurrent Neural Networks and Presolve Methods for Fast Mixed-integer Optimal Control". In: *Proceedings of The 4th Annual Learning for Dynamics and Control Conference*. Vol. 168. Proceedings of Machine Learning Research. PMLR, 2022, pp. 34–46.

# 4. Additional Concepts

## Final Recurrent Equivariant Deep Set Architecture



## 4. Additional Concepts



- ▶ **Slacked QP:** After predicting the binary variables, the remaining QP is solved with [slacks](#) on the fixed binary variables
- ▶ **NN Ensemble:** Several differently trained neural networks and slacked QPs are solved in parallel → [lowest-cost solution is chosen](#)
- ▶ **Feasibility Projection:** To enhance safety, an additional NLP is solved with nonlinear obstacle constraints to project possibly unsafe trajectories
- ▶ **Lowest-level MPC:** Lowest-level MPC tracks the planned trajectory

# 5. Results

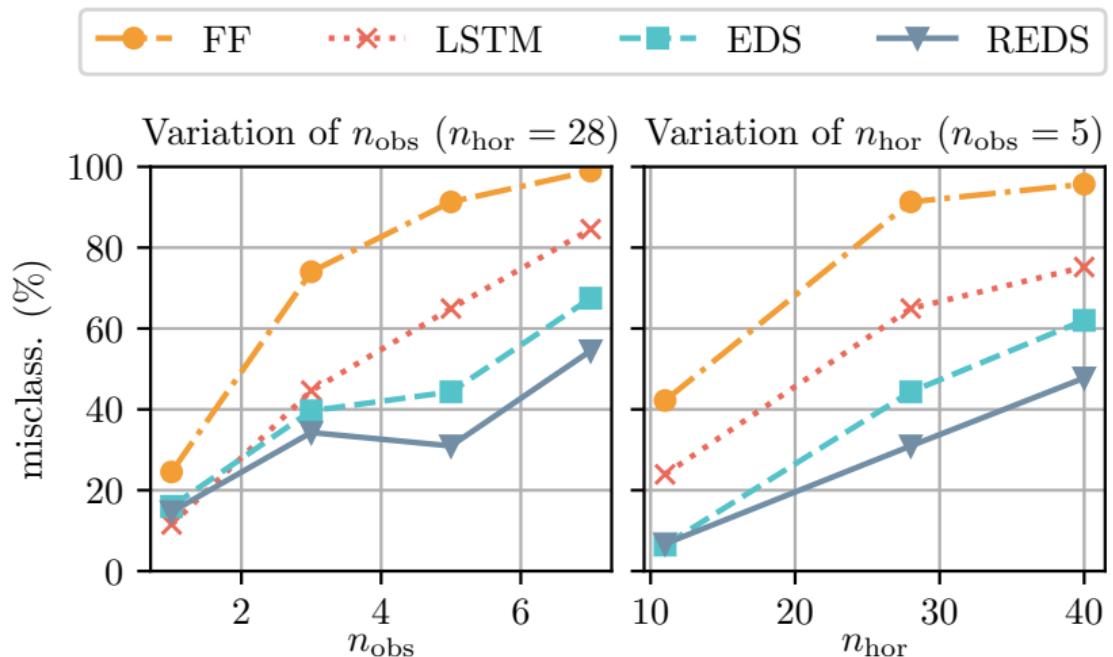
## Comparison of neural network architectures



- ▶ Comparing the share of wrong predictions ([misclassification](#)) of all binary variables on test data set
- ▶ Architectures
  - ▶ Feed Forward (FF)
  - ▶ Long Short Term Memory (LSTM)
  - ▶ Equivariant and Invariant Deep Sets (EDS)
  - ▶ Equivariant, Invariant Layers and LSTM decoder (REDS)

# 5. Results

## Comparison of neural network architectures



## 5. Results

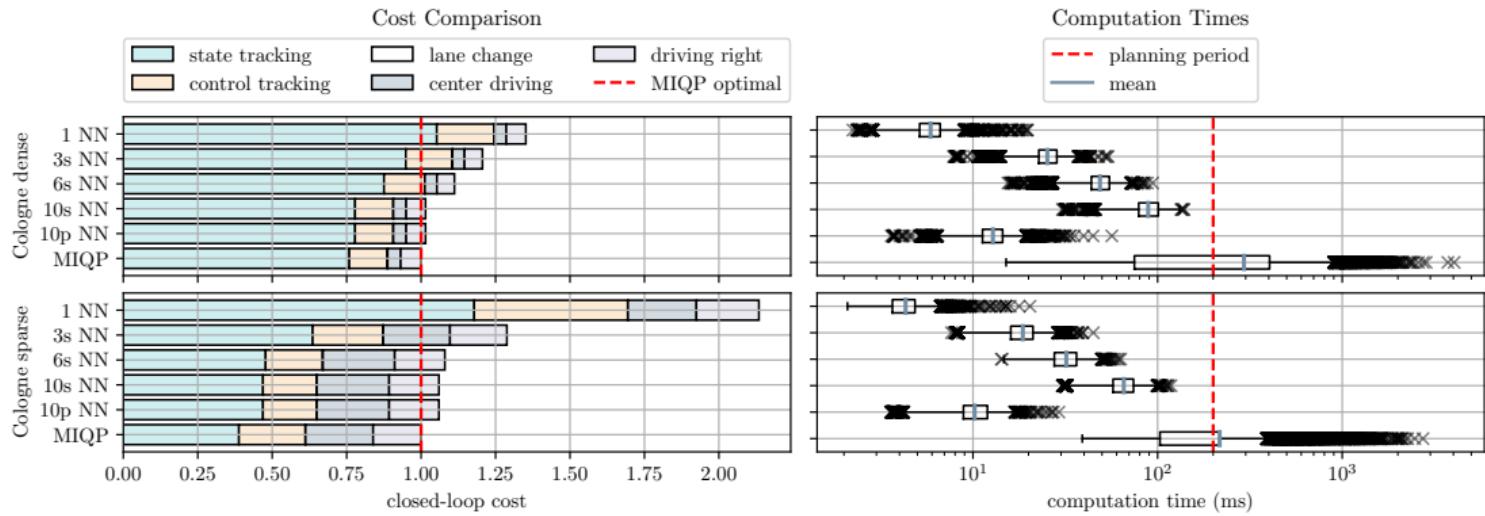
Comparison in closed-loop simulations



- ▶ Comparing expert MIQP with proposed stack:
  - ▶ ensemble of (1 to 10) REDS networks for predictions of binaries
  - ▶ slacked QP
  - ▶ feasibility projector
- ▶ Both variants followed by a lowest-level NMPC tracking controller
- ▶ On randomized CommonRoad Cologne highway scenarios with SUMO backend

# 5. Results

## Comparison in closed-loop simulations





## Interesting further work

- ▶ Diving deeper into geometric deep learning
  - ▶ Using geometric deep learning for other control systems tasks (e.g., exploiting invariances to other groups, such as Euclidean group)
  - ▶ Finding more generic layers for any MIQP (graph neural networks, transformers)
- ▶ More applications
  - ▶ Applying structure to large SUMO simulations for coordinating traffic
  - ▶ Multi-agent coordination of e.g., drones
- ▶ Improving the algorithm
  - ▶ Conditioned predictions along time axis to generate multiple prediction candidates
  - ▶ “Sandwiching” equivariant and recurrent layers

*Thanks to the Coauthors!*



*Thank you for your attention!*