

VENKATA RAMANA MAKKAPATI

✉ mvramana@gatech.edu

🌐 <https://vrmakapati.github.io>

EDUCATION

- **Ph.D., Aerospace Engineering** *(Expected) 2021*
Georgia Institute of Technology
Advisor: Prof. Panagiotis Tsiotras
Focus: Differential games, Optimal control under uncertainties, Cognitive hierarchy theory
- **M.S., Computational Science and Engineering** *(Expected) 2021*
Georgia Institute of Technology
Focus: Machine Learning
- **M.Tech., Aerospace Engineering** *2016*
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Advisor: Prof. Mangal Kothari
Focus: Flight dynamics and control
- **B.Tech., Aerospace Engineering** *2014*
Indian Institute of Technology Madras
Minor: Industrial Engineering

EXPERIENCE

- **Graduate Research Assistant** *Aug 2016 – present*
Mentor: Prof. Panagiotis Tsiotras
Georgia Institute of Technology
 - Sensitivity-based analysis to mitigate for control design of hypersonic vehicles
 - Safe, resilient and efficient operation of autonomous aerial and ground vehicles
 - Optimal strategies for uncertain differential games with applications
- **Research Intern** *May 2019 – Aug 2019*
Mentor: Dr. Matheen Siddiqui
Foresight AI Inc, San Jose, CA
 - POMDPs and RL based motion planning and driving decisions algorithms & software
- **Summer Intern** *May 2013 – July 2013*
Vehicle Integration Department
Mahindra & Mahindra, Chennai, India
 - Approximation methods for the modal analysis of an exhaust system

- **Summer Intern** *May 2012 – July 2012*
Flight Mechanics and Control Division
CSIR - National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore, India
 - Evaluation of free-to-roll test technique to study unsteady motions of an aircraft

CERTIFICATIONS

- **Private Pilot (Airplane Single Engine Land)** *Nov 2020*
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- **Leading Flight Cadet** *2011*
4-TN Air Squadron, National Cadet Corps (NCC)
 - B Certificate in the NCC examination

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- J1. Safe Optimal Control under Uncertainties
V. R. Makkapati, H. Sarabu, V. Comandur, P. Tsiotras, and S. Hutchinson
IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L), 2020
- J2. Optimal Evading Strategies and Task Allocation in Multi-Player Pursuit-Evasion Problems
V. R. Makkapati and P. Tsiotras
Dynamic Games and Applications (DGAA), 2019
- J3. Nested Saturation based Guidance Law for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
 J. Patrikar, **V. R. Makkapati**, A. Pattanaik, H. Parwana, and M. Kothari
ASME Journal of Dynamic Systems, Measurement, and Control, 2019
- J4. Optimal Evading Strategies for Two-Pursuer/One-Evader Problems
V. R. Makkapati, W. Sun, and P. Tsiotras
Journal of Guidance, Control, and Dynamics (JGCD), 2018
- J5. A Comprehensive Differential Game Theoretic Solution to a Game of Two Cars
 R. Bera, **V. R. Makkapati**, and M. Kothari
Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications (JOTA), 2017
- J6. Pursuit-Evasion Games of High Speed Evader
M. V. Ramana and M. Kothari
Journal of Intelligent & Robotics Systems (JINT), 2017
- J7. Pursuit Strategy to Capture High-Speed Evaders Using Multiple Pursuers
M. V. Ramana and M. Kothari
Journal of Guidance, Control, and Dynamics (JGCD), 2016

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- C1. Desensitized Trajectory Optimization for Hypersonic Vehicles
V. R. Makkapati, J. Ridderhof, P. Tsiotras, J. Hart, and B. van Bloemen Waanders
IEEE Aerospace Conference, 2021
- C2. Covariance Steering for Discrete-Time Linear-Quadratic Stochastic Dynamic Games
V. R. Makkapati, T. Rajpurohit, K. Okamoto, and P. Tsiotras
IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), 2020
- C3. Desensitized Trajectory Optimization for Hypersonic Vehicles
V. R. Makkapati, D. Maity, M. Dor, and P. Tsiotras
American Control Conference (ACC), 2020
- C4. Sequential Auto-Landing of Multiple UAVs using Control Constrained Path Following
J. Patrikar, **V. R. Makkapati**, and M. Kothari
AIAA Guidance, Navigation, and Control Conference (GNC), SciTech, 2019
- C5. Trajectory Desensitization in Optimal Control Problems
V. R. Makkapati, M. Dor, and P. Tsiotras
IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), 2018
- C6. Pursuit-Evasion Problem Involving Two Pursuers and One Evader
V. R. Makkapati, W. Sun, and P. Tsiotras
AIAA Guidance, Navigation, and Control Conference (GNC), SciTech, 2018
- C7. Desensitized Trajectory Optimization for Hypersonic Vehicles
M. V. Ramana, S. A. Varma, and M. Kothari
Advances in Control and Optimization of Dynamical Systems (ACODS), 2016
- C8. A Cooperative Pursuit Strategy for a High Speed Evader
M. V. Ramana and M. Kothari
AIAA Guidance, Navigation, and Control Conference (GNC), SciTech, 2016
- C9. A Cooperative Pursuit-Evasion Game of a High Speed Evader
M. V. Ramana and M. Kothari
IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), 2015

WORKSHOP PAPERS

- W1. Apollonius Allocation Algorithm for Heterogeneous Pursuers to Capture Multiple Evaders
V. R. Makkapati and P. Tsiotras
Workshop on Heterogeneous Multi-Robot Task Allocation and Planning, Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS), 2020

INVITED TALKS

- **Desensitization for Safe Planning under Parametric Uncertainties**
IRIM-Robograds Virtual Student Seminar on Robot Planning

Oct 2020

- **Optimal Strategies and Task Allocation in Multi-Pursuer Single-Evader Problems** *July 2018*
International Symposium on Dynamic Games and Applications

TEACHING

- **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Georgia Institute of Technology
 - *AE 6511: Optimal Guidance & Control* *Spring 2019*
 - *AE 6530: Multi-Variable Linear Systems and Control* *Fall 2018*
- **Teaching Assistant**, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
 - *AE647A: Flight Dynamics* *Fall 2015*
 - *AE648A: Flight Stability & Control* *Spring 2016*

AWARDS

LONG DISTANCE RUNNING

- **Bronze Medal** *Apr 2014*
Dean's Trophy Road Race, IIT Madras
- **Team Record – Longest Distance (87 km) on a Treadmill** *Mar 2014*
Treadathon, Chennai

SERVICE

INSTITUTE SERVICE

- **Graduate Representative** *Jan 2020 - present*
School of Aerospace Engineering Student Advisory Council (SAESAC), Georgia Tech
- **Senator** (Aerospace Engineering) *Jan 2020 – Aug 2020*
Graduate Student Government Association (Grad SGA), Georgia Tech

EVENT ORGANIZATION

- **Lectures Series on Learning and Control** *Nov 2020 – Jan 2021*
Virtual event

REVIEWER

- Automatica
- IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control
- IEEE Transactions on Robotics
- IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters
- Dynamic Games and Applications

- Journal of Aerospace Information Systems
- Journal of Air Transportation
- IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation
- IEEE Conference on Decision and Control
- American Control Conference
- AIAA SciTech Forum
- Advances in Control and Optimization of Dynamical Systems

OTHER

- **Consultant**
Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to Government of India

June 2019 – present