Cyber-physical attacks on coupled phase oscillators

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MT, J. Phys. Complex. 4 045005 (2023).

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Electric power grids



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Collective states

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Collective states \rightarrow Physical perturbation and cyber attacks

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Single phase oscillator: $\dot{\theta} = \omega$



Coupled phase oscillators:
$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i - \sum_j a_{ij} f(\theta_i - \theta_j)$$

Synchronization: phase-locked $\dot{\theta}_i(t) = \dot{\theta}_j(t)$, $\forall i, j$.

$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i - \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j)$$
, for $i = 1, ..., N$. (1)

 ω_i : natural frequencies.

aij: adjacency matrix.

J. A. Acebrón, L. L. Bonilla, Conrad J. Pérez Vicente, F. Ritort, and R. Spigler, Rev. Mod. Phys. **77**, 137 (2005) Dörfler and Bullo, Automatica **50** (6), 1539-1564, (2014)

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$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i - \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j), \text{ for } i = 1, ..., N.$$
(1)

 ω_i : natural frequencies. a_{ij} : adjacency matrix. **Stable fixed point(s)**

$$0 = \omega_i - \sum_{j=1}^{N} a_{ij} \sin(\theta_i^{(0)} - \theta_j^{(0)}), \text{ for } i = 1, ..., N.$$
 (2)

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Synchronization on networks

Stable fixed point(s)

$$0 = \omega_i - \sum_{j=1}^{N} a_{ij} \sin(\theta_i^{(0)} - \theta_j^{(0)}), \text{ for } i = 1, ..., N.$$
(4)



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$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i - \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j)$$
, for $i = 1, ..., N$. (5)

 ω_i : natural frequencies. a_{ii} : adjacency matrix.

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$$\dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i - \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} \sin(\theta_i - \theta_j)$$
, for $i = 1, ..., N$. (5)

 ω_i : natural frequencies. a_{ij} : adjacency matrix. **Physical perturbation** $\omega_k \to \tilde{\omega_k}$ or $a_{kl} \to \tilde{a_{kl}}$.

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 $\begin{array}{l} \omega_i: \text{ natural frequencies.} \\ a_{ij}: \text{ adjacency matrix.} \\ \textbf{Physical perturbation } \omega_k \to \tilde{\omega_k} \text{ or } a_{kl} \to \tilde{a_{kl}} . \end{array}$

Cyber attack $\theta_k \rightarrow f(t)$.

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$$\dot{\theta}_{i} = \omega_{i} - \sum_{j} a_{ij} \sin(\theta_{i} - \theta_{j}), i \neq k, i \notin \mathcal{N}(k),$$

$$\dot{\theta}_{i} = \omega_{i} - \sum_{j \neq k} a_{ij} \sin(\theta_{i} - \theta_{j}) - a_{ik} \sin[\theta_{i} - f(t)], i \in \mathcal{N}(k),$$

$$(7)$$

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$$(7)$$

Byzantine type of attack.

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Byzantine generals problem



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Robustness of synchronous networks



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Robustness of synchronous networks



- Size of the basin of attraction
- Near equilibrium dynamics
- Transitions between fixed points

Synchronization error in the near equilibrium dynamics.

Near equilibrium dynamics

$$0 = \omega_i - \sum_{j=1}^{N} a_{ij} \sin(\theta_i^{(0)} - \theta_j^{(0)}), \text{ for } i = 1, ..., N.$$
(8)

Near equilibrium dynamics

$$0 = \omega_i - \sum_{j=1}^{N} a_{ij} \sin(\theta_i^{(0)} - \theta_j^{(0)}), \text{ for } i = 1, ..., N.$$
(8)

$$\delta \dot{\theta}_i = -\sum_{j=1}^{N} \mathbb{L}_{ij} \,\delta \theta_j + \eta_i(t) \,, \text{for } i = 1, ..., N \,. \tag{9}$$

 $\eta_i(t)$: input signal. More complicated for cyber attacks!

$$\delta \dot{\theta}_{i} = \begin{cases} -\sum_{j} \tilde{\mathbb{L}}_{ij} \, \delta \theta_{j} & \text{for } i \neq k \,, i \notin \mathcal{N}(k) \,, \\ -\sum_{j \neq k} \tilde{\mathbb{L}}_{ij} \, \delta \theta_{j} - a_{ik} \tilde{f}(t) \\ & \text{for } i \neq k \,, i \in \mathcal{N}(k) \\ \dot{f}(t) & \text{for } i = k \,, \end{cases}$$
(10)



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$$\delta \dot{\theta} = -(\tilde{\mathbb{L}} + \mathbf{K}) \, \delta \theta + \tilde{\mathbf{f}}(t) \,, \tag{11}$$

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$$(ilde{\mathbb{L}}+{\sf K})\,,$$
 with eigenvalues $0<\lambda_1\leq\lambda_2\leq...\leq\lambda_{{\sf N}_{\!\!=\!1}}$,

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$$\delta \dot{\theta}_{i} = \begin{cases} -\sum_{j} \tilde{\mathbb{L}}_{ij} \, \delta \theta_{j} & \text{for } i \neq k \,, i \notin \mathcal{N}(k) \,, \\ -\sum_{j \neq k} \tilde{\mathbb{L}}_{ij} \, \delta \theta_{j} - a_{ik} \tilde{f}(t) \\ & \text{for } i \neq k \,, i \in \mathcal{N}(k) \\ \dot{f}(t) & \text{for } i = k \,, \end{cases}$$
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Quantify the impact

Synchronization error

$$\mathcal{P}(t) = \sum_{i < j} \tilde{a}_{ij} [\delta \theta_i(t) - \delta \theta_j(t)]^2 \,. \tag{12}$$

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Cyber attack

$$\mathcal{P}(t) = \sum_{i,j} \delta\theta_i(t) \tilde{\mathbb{L}}_{ij} \,\delta\theta_j(t)$$
(13)
=
$$\sum_{\alpha} \tilde{\lambda}_{\alpha} \, \tilde{c}_{\alpha}^2(t) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(k)} \delta\theta_j^2(t) \,,$$

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Quantify the impact

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$$\mathcal{P}(t) = \sum_{i < j} \tilde{a}_{ij} [\delta \theta_i(t) - \delta \theta_j(t)]^2 \,. \tag{12}$$

Cyber attack

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$$= \sum_{\alpha} \tilde{\lambda}_{\alpha} \, \tilde{c}_{\alpha}^2(t) + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(k)} \delta\theta_j^2(t) \,,$$
(13)

Solution

$$\tilde{c}_{\alpha}(t) = e^{-\tilde{\lambda}_{\alpha} t} \int_{0}^{t} e^{\tilde{\lambda}_{\alpha} t'} \sum_{j} f_{j}(t') \tilde{u}_{\alpha,k} \, \mathrm{d}t' \,. \tag{14}$$

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Uncorrelated white noise

$$\langle \eta_i(t)\eta_j(t')\rangle = \sigma\,\delta_{ij}\,\delta(t-t')$$
(15)

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$$\langle \mathcal{P} \rangle = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(k)} \tilde{a}_{jk}^2 + \sigma^2 \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \sum_{i,j,l \in \mathcal{N}(k)} \tilde{a}_{ik} \tilde{a}_{jk} \frac{u_{\alpha,i} u_{\beta,j} u_{\alpha,l} u_{\beta,l}}{\lambda_{\alpha} + \lambda_{\beta}} \,. \tag{16}$$

Uncorrelated white noise

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$$T_{1} = \frac{\tau_{0}}{2} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(k)} \tilde{a}_{jk}^{2}, \qquad (17)$$

$$T_{2} = -\tau_{0} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \sum_{i,j,l \in \mathcal{N}(k)} \tilde{a}_{ik} \tilde{a}_{jk} \tilde{a}_{lk} \frac{u_{\alpha,i} u_{\beta,j} u_{\alpha,l} u_{\beta,l}}{\lambda_{\alpha} + \lambda_{\beta}}. \qquad (18)$$

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$$T_{1} = \frac{\tau_{0}}{2} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(k)} \tilde{a}_{jk}^{2}, \qquad (21)$$

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Periodic signal

$$f(t) = \gamma \, \cos(\omega \, t) \,, \tag{23}$$



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So far

 \bullet Cyber attacks \rightarrow different from physical perturbations.

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So far

- $\bullet~\mbox{Cyber}$ attacks $\rightarrow~\mbox{different}$ from physical perturbations.
- Effects of heterogeneity



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