# ADAPTIVE THRESHOLDING IN CHAOS ENGINEERING: USING FUZZY LOGIC TO DYNAMICALLY SET ALERT LEVELS IN GAME THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

by

Nithin Manmohan, B.E (CSE), M.Tech (CNE)

# DISSERTATION

Presented to the Swiss School of Business and Management Geneva

In Partial Fulfillment

Of the Requirements

For the Degree

DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SWISS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT GENEVA JANUARY, 2024

# ADAPTIVE THRESHOLDING IN CHAOS ENGINEERING: USING FUZZY LOGIC TO DYNAMICALLY SET ALERT LEVELS IN GAME THEORETICAL

FRAMEWORKS

by

Nithin Manmohan

APPROVED BY		1.	1 .	Λ
dr. Jaka Vadnjal		Mo	lyce	1
Chair's Name, Degree	>, Chair			
dr. Saša Petar				
<member's deg<="" name,="" td=""><td>ree&gt;, Co</td><td>mpaite</td><td>e Membe</td><td>500</td></member's>	ree>, Co	mpaite	e Membe	500
dr. Bhawna Nigam		1/5	nau	JYW
<member's degr<="" name,="" td=""><td>ree&gt;, Co</td><td>mmitte</td><td>e Member</td><td>r</td></member's>	ree>, Co	mmitte	e Member	r

SBM Representative	

low low

#### Dedication

This dissertation is dedicated to those who have been my pillars of strength, sources of inspiration, and guiding lights throughout this journey and my life.

To my family, whose unwavering support and unconditional love have been my constant comfort and motivation. Your belief in me, even in moments of doubt, has been the foundation upon which I built my dreams and aspirations. This accomplishment is as much yours as it is mine.

To my friends, for the laughter, encouragement, and respite you have offered me during this challenging journey. Your camaraderie and unwavering support have been invaluable. You have been my sounding board, my cheerleaders, and my confidants, making this journey more joyful and less arduous.

To my mentors, who have generously shared their wisdom, expertise, and time. Your guidance has shaped not only this dissertation but also my professional ethos and aspirations. I am deeply grateful for your mentorship, which has been pivotal in my growth and development as a scholar and a professional.

This dissertation is a testament to all of you who have touched my life in profound ways. It is a symbol of my gratitude and a reflection of the positive influence you have had on my journey. Thank you for being a part of my story.

# Acknowledgements

I extend my deepest gratitude to all those who have contributed to my journey through the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) program at SSBM, offered in collaboration with Upgrad in India. This journey has been one of immense learning, growth, and personal development, and it would not have been possible without the support and guidance of several key individuals.

Foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to my mentor, Dr. Bhawna. Her expertise, guidance, and unwavering support have been instrumental in the completion of this dissertation. Dr. Bhawna's insightful feedback, combined with her encouragement and academic rigor, have profoundly shaped my research and intellectual growth. Her dedication to my project, and her willingness to share her vast knowledge and experience, have been invaluable. I am deeply appreciative of her mentorship and the significant role she has played in my DBA journey.

I would also like to thank SSBM and Upgrad for facilitating this exceptional DBA program in India. The opportunity to engage with such a high-caliber curriculum and to be part of a vibrant academic community has been a truly enriching experience. The support and resources provided by both institutions have been pivotal in my academic pursuits and have greatly contributed to my professional development.

Additionally, my sincere appreciation goes to the faculty and staff at SSBM and Upgrad. Their dedication to creating a conducive learning environment and their commitment to academic excellence have not only facilitated a rewarding educational experience but also fostered a space for intellectual curiosity and discovery.

To my fellow DBA candidates and colleagues, I extend my gratitude for the collaborative spirit, insightful discussions, and mutual support that we shared throughout this program. Learning alongside such a diverse and talented group of individuals has been one of the highlights of my academic journey.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge my family, friends, and all who have supported me emotionally and intellectually throughout this process. Your belief in me and your unwavering support have been the bedrock of my perseverance and success.

This DBA journey has been a transformative experience, and I am profoundly grateful to everyone who has been a part of it. Thank you for your invaluable contributions to my academic and personal growth.

#### ABSTRACT

# ADAPTIVE THRESHOLDING IN CHAOS ENGINEERING: USING FUZZY LOGIC TO DYNAMICALLY SET ALERT LEVELS IN GAME THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

Nithin Manmohan 2024

Dissertation Chair: <Chair's Name>
Co-Chair: <If applicable, Co-Chair's Name>

This research, titled "Adaptive Thresholding in Chaos Engineering: Using Fuzzy Logic to Dynamically Set Alert Levels in Game Theoretical Frameworks," explores a pioneering approach to enhancing system resilience and adaptability in chaotic environments. The study integrates the principles of chaos engineering, fuzzy logic, and game theory to develop a comprehensive framework for dynamic threshold setting in complex systems. Through the application of fuzzy logic, the model dynamically adjusts alert thresholds in response to real-time system states, effectively handling the inherent uncertainties and non-linearities of these environments. Game theory is employed to provide a strategic framework, anticipating and responding to potential adversarial actions, thereby reinforcing the system's adaptive capabilities. The methodology includes theoretical modeling, simulation, and case study analysis, offering a robust validation of the

proposed approach. The findings indicate that this integrated approach significantly improves system responsiveness and stability, highlighting its potential for broad application in various sectors where system reliability is crucial. This research contributes to the advancement of chaos engineering, presenting a novel solution to the challenges of maintaining system stability in unpredictable and rapidly evolving technological landscapes.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Tables		X
List of Figure	š	xi
CHAPTER I:	INTRODUCTION	1
	1.1 Introduction	. 1
	1.2 Research Problem	. 3
	1.3 Purpose of Research	
	1.4 Significance of the Study	
	1.5 Research Purpose and Questions	
CHAPTER II:	REVIEW OF LITERATURE	. 8
	2.1 Chaos Engineering	. 8
	2.2 Evolution and Principles of Chaos Engineering	13
	2.3 Fuzzy Logic	
	2.4 Role of Fuzzy Logic in Handling System Complexities and	
	Uncertainties	17
	2.5 Theoretical Framework	19
	2.6 Integration of Chaos Engineering, Fuzzy Logic, and Game	
	Theory in Current Research	20
	2.7 Application of Game Theory in Cybersecurity	
	2.8 Summary	
CHAPTER II	: METHODOLOGY	25
	3.1 Overview of Research Problem	25
	3.2 Research Questions and Objectives	
	3.3 Research Design	
	3.4 Conclusion	
CHAPTER IV	: RESULTS	76
	4.1 Synthetic Data Sets Description	76
	4.2 Test Case 1: Load Balancer Fault Injection	
	4.3 Test Case 2: CPU Spike Fault Injection	93
	4.4 Test Case 3: Security Group Fault Injection	
	4.5 Test Case 4: Memory Fault Injection	01
	4.6 Test Case 5: Network Issue Fault Injection	
CHAPTER V	DISCUSSION1	10
	5.1 Discussion of Results	10

	5.2 Discussion of Test Case 1	112
	5.3 Discussion of Test Case 2	114
	5.4 Discussion of Test Case 3	115
	5.5 Discussion of Test Case 4	116
	5.6 Discussion of Test Case 5	118
СНАРТЕ	R VI: SUMMARY, IMPLICATIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS	120
	6.1 Summary	120
	6.2 Implications	121
	6.3 Recommendations for Future Research	122
	6.4 Conclusion	124
REFEREN	NCES	126

					 10.00
			1.00	P-5.1	
B-41	IST	 			 

LIST OF TABLES
'able 1. Organization of synthetic data for test cases

# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Working Steps in Chaos Engineering	9
Figure 2. What and How in Simple Chaos Approach	11
Figure 3. Framework for Adaptive Thresholding in Chaos Engineering	32
Figure 4. Components Integration and Framework Workflow	39
Figure 5. Sequence Diagram for GTM CES	42
Figure 6. Activity Diagram of Framework	68
Figure 7. Performance During Normal Operations	77
Figure 8. CPU Usage Over Time in Normal Operation	78
Figure 9. Memory Usage Over Time During Normal Operations	79
Figure 10. System Load Over Time During Normal Operations	80
Figure 11. Response Time of an Application on Cloud in Normal Operations	81
Figure 12. Error Rate of an Application on Cloud During Normal	81
Figure 13. Performance Over Time During Faulty Conditions	83
Figure 14. CPU Usage Over Time During Faulty Conditions	83
Figure 15. Memory Usage Over Time During Faulty Conditions	84
Figure 16. System Load Over Time During Faulty Conditions	85
Figure 17. Response Over Time During Faulty Conditions	86
Figure 18. Error Rate During Faulty Conditions	86
Figure 19. Ideal Load Balancer Usage	88
Figure 20. Ideal Throughput of the Load Balancer Over Time	88
Figure 21. Ideal Response Time of the Load Balancer Over Time	89
Figure 22. Throughput of the Load Balancer over Time	90
Figure 23. Load balancer Throughput over Time	91
Figure 24. Load Balancer Response Time over Time	91
Figure 25. Average Throughput of the Load Balancer Before and After Fault Injection	92
Figure 26. Average Response Time of the Load Balancer Before and After Fault Injection	93
Figure 27. Ideal CPU Usage over Time	94
Figure 28. Ideal CPU Throughput over time	94

Figure 29. Ideal CPU response time over time	95
Figure 30. CPU usage post fault injection	95
Figure 31. CPU throughput post fault injection	96
Figure 32. CPU response time post fault injection	96
Figure 33. Average CPU Thoughput before and after fault injection	97
Figure 34. CPU average response time before and after fault injection	97
Figure 35. System response time ideal scenario	98
Figure 36. System throughput ideal scenario	99
Figure 37. System response time post fault injection	99
Figure 38. System throughput post fault injection	100
Figure 39. Average system response time before and after fault injection	100
Figure 40. Average System throughput before and after fault injection	101
Figure 41. Ideal memory usage over time in percentage	102
Figure 42. Ideal memory throughput over time	102
Figure 43. Ideal memory response time	103
Figure 44. Memory usage over time post fault injection	103
Figure 45. Memory throughput post fault injection	104
Figure 46. Memory response time post fault injection	105
Figure 47. Average memory throughput before and after fault injection	105
Figure 48. Ideal Network Response Time	106
Figure 49. Idea Network Throughout over Time	107
Figure 50. Network response time post fault injection	107
Figure 51. Network throughput post fault injection	108
Figure 52. Average Network throughput before and after fault injection	109
Figure 53. Average Network response time before and after fault injection	109

#### CHAPTER I:

# INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Introduction

The research area of "Adaptive Thresholding in Chaos Engineering: Using Fuzzy Logic to Dynamically Set Alert Levels in Game Theoretical Frameworks" lies at the intersection of chaos engineering, fuzzy logic, and game theory, focusing on improving system resilience and adaptability. Chaos engineering, a practice that tests systems' ability to withstand turbulent conditions, has become increasingly relevant as organizations depend more on complex, interlinked technological systems (Brown et al. 2011). Fuzzy logic contributes by providing a means to handle the uncertainty and imprecision inherent in real-world systems Zadeh (1965), enabling more nuanced and flexible responses to changing conditions.

The motivation for this research stems from the need for more dynamic and intelligent systems in the face of evolving cyber threats and complex operational environments. Traditional static thresholding methods are inadequate for contemporary, fast-paced technological landscapes. By leveraging game theory, which offers strategic insights into adversarial behaviours Osborne and Rubinstein (1994), in their research aims to predict and counteract potential system threats more effectively.

This research holds significant importance for industry practice and knowledge advancement. It addresses a critical need for adaptive security measures in sectors where system reliability and security are crucial, such as finance, healthcare, and critical infrastructure. By advancing the understanding of dynamic threshold setting in chaotic environments, this research contributes to the development of more resilient, intelligent, and secure systems, essential for the smooth operation of modern societies and economies.

In the rapidly evolving landscape of system engineering and cyber security, the resilience and reliability of systems have become paramount. Traditional static methods for setting alert thresholds in systems have proven insufficient in handling the dynamic and often chaotic nature of modern technological environments. This research draws upon the principles of chaos engineering, an approach that systematically tests systems for weaknesses in the face of turbulent conditions (Brown et al. 2011).

Fuzzy logic, a form of multi-valued logic derived from fuzzy set theory, provides a method to handle uncertainty and imprecision (Zadeh, 1965). It offers a robust framework for dynamically adjusting system thresholds based on real-time data, thereby enabling more responsive and adaptive system behaviors (Ross, 2004).

Furthermore, game theory, a mathematical framework for analyzing strategic interactions among rational decision-makers, offers valuable insights into the behaviors of adversarial elements within system environments (Osborne & Rubinstein, 1994). David (2015), work on the application of game theory in cyber security and information assurance underscores its relevance in anticipating and strategically responding to threats in complex systems.

Combining these methodologies, this research aims to develop an innovative framework for adaptive thresholding in chaotic environments. By integrating the predictive strengths of game theory with the flexibility of fuzzy logic, this study seeks to contribute significantly to the field of chaos engineering, advancing the understanding and application of dynamic alert systems in cyber-physical environments.

# 1.2 Research Problem

The core problem addressed in "Adaptive Thresholding in Chaos Engineering: Using Fuzzy Logic to Dynamically Set Alert Levels in Game Theoretical Frameworks" centers around the inadequacy of current threshold-setting mechanisms in complex, dynamic systems. Traditional methods, which often rely on static thresholds, fail to adequately respond to the rapidly changing and unpredictable environments typical of modern technological systems (Brown et al. 2011). This static approach leads to either oversensitivity, causing frequent false alarms, or a lack of sensitivity, resulting in missed critical alerts.

The integration of fuzzy logic, which excels in handling uncertainty and imprecision in data Zadeh (1965), offers a solution to this problem by allowing thresholds to be set and adjusted in a more nuanced manner. However, the challenge lies in effectively integrating fuzzy logic into existing system architectures in a manner that is both efficient and effective.

Additionally, the strategic aspect of threshold management in adversarial environments, such as cybersecurity, is often overlooked. Game theory provides a structured way to understand and anticipate adversarial actions Osborne and Rubinstein (1994), but its application in real-time adaptive thresholding remains underexplored.

Therefore, this research aims to address these gaps by developing a framework that dynamically adjusts alert thresholds using fuzzy logic, within a game-theoretical context, to enhance the resilience and responsiveness of systems in chaotic environments. This approach is not only crucial for advancing theoretical knowledge in the field but also holds significant practical implications for industries reliant on complex, adaptive systems.



