



Probabilistic Robotics: Localization & SLAM

METR 4202: **Robotics** & Automation

Dr Surya Singh -- Lecture # 11

October 12, 2016

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[<http://metr4202.com>]

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Schedule of Events

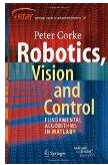
Week	Date	Lecture (W: 12:05-1:50, 50-N202)
1	27-Jul	Introduction
2	3-Aug	Representing Position & Orientation & State (Frames, Transformation Matrices & Affine Transformations)
3	10-Aug	Robot Kinematics Review (& <i>Ekka Day</i>)
4	17-Aug	Robot Inverse Kinematics & Kinetics
5	24-Aug	Robot Dynamics (Jacobians)
6	31-Aug	Robot Sensing: Perception & Linear Observers
7	7-Sep	Robot Sensing: Single View Geometry & Lines
8	14-Sep	Robot Sensing: Feature Detection
9	21-Sep	Robot Sensing: Multiple View Geometry
	28-Sep	<i>Study break</i>
10	5-Oct	Motion Planning
11	12-Oct	Probabilistic Robotics: Localization & SLAM
12	19-Oct	Probabilistic Robotics: Planning & Control
13	26-Oct	State-Space Automation (Shaping the Dynamic Response/LQR) + Course Review



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Follow Along Reading:



[Robotics, Vision & Control](#)
by [Peter Corke](#)

Also online: [SpringerLink](#)

[UQ Library eBook:](#)
[364220144X](#)

Today

→ **SLAM** ←

- SLAM
 - pp. 123-4
(§6.4-6.5)

- Planning & Control
 - pp. ??

Next Time



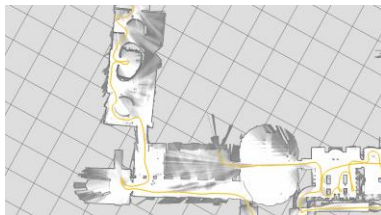
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Cool Robotics Share (It's Back!)

[Cartographer](#)

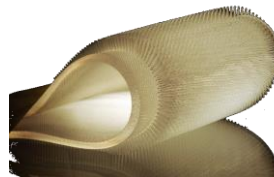
- Google Open Source SLAM



<https://opensource.googleblog.com/2016/10/introducing-cartographer.html>

Compliant Materials/Robotics

- Vision in ME Research



<http://news.mit.edu/2016/beaver-inspired-wetsuits-surfers-1005>

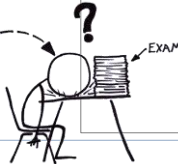


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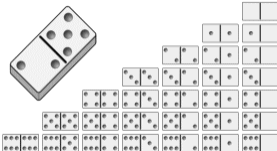
[illegible]

- Position, orientation and location in space
- Robot analysis (forward/inverse kinematics, recursive Newton-Euler formulations, etc.)
- Sensing geometry (including camera calibration)
- Multiple-view geometry
- Motion planning and control

[illegible]

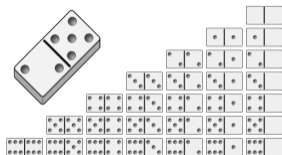
Lab 3!: Sort | Play Domino

- Option 1: Sort Dominos
- Option 2: Play Dominos



Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/04/Dominos.jpg>

- Option 1: Sort Dominos
- Option 2: Play Dominos



Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/04/Dominoes.jpg>

Lab 3: Extension! [“Lab-ey McLabFace”]

- **Robot Grading:**
November 3rd – 7th

- **Report:**
November 17

- **Open-House/Demo Day:**
November 21

Lab 3 Due Date Extension Survey:

Friday 4th November

1.8%

3 Days / Weekend (Monday, October 31)

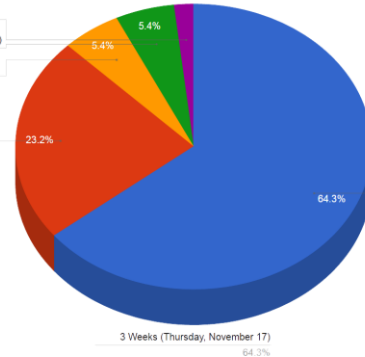
5.4%

No (Thursday, October 27)

5.4%

1 Week (Thursday, November 3)

23.2%



SFM: Structure from Motion (& Cool Robotics Share (this week))



Structure [from] Motion

- Given a set of feature tracks,
estimate the 3D structure and 3D (camera) motion.
- Assumption: orthographic projection
- Tracks: (u_{fp}, v_{fp}) , f: frame, p: point
- Subtract out **mean** 2D position...

\mathbf{i}_f : rotation, \mathbf{s}_p : position

$$u_{fp} = i_f^T s_p, v_{fp} = j_f^T s_p$$

From Szeliski, [Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications](#)



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Structure from motion

- How many points do we need to match?
- 2 frames:
 - (R, t) : 5 dof + 3n point locations $\leq \hat{u}_{ij} = f(K, R_j, t_j, x_i)$
 - 4n point measurements $\Rightarrow \hat{v}_{ij} = g(K, R_j, t_j, x_i)$
 - $n \geq 5$
- k frames:
 - $6(k-1) - 1 + 3n \leq 2kn$
- always want to use many more

From Szeliski, [Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications](#)



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Measurement equations

- Measurement equations

$$u_{fp} = \mathbf{i}_f^T \mathbf{s}_p \quad \mathbf{i}_f: \text{rotation}, \mathbf{s}_p: \text{position}$$
$$v_{fp} = \mathbf{j}_f^T \mathbf{s}_p$$

- Stack them up...

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{R} \mathbf{S}$$

$$\mathbf{R} = (\mathbf{i}_1, \dots, \mathbf{i}_F, \mathbf{j}_1, \dots, \mathbf{j}_F)^T$$

$$\mathbf{S} = (\mathbf{s}_1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_P)$$

From Szeliski, [Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications](#)



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Factorization

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{R}_{2F \times 3} \mathbf{S}_{3 \times P}$$

SVD

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{V} \quad \mathbf{\Lambda} \text{ must be rank 3}$$

$$\mathbf{W}' = (\mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2})(\mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2} \mathbf{V}) = \mathbf{U}' \mathbf{V}'$$

Make \mathbf{R} orthogonal

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{U}', \quad \mathbf{S} = \mathbf{Q}^{-1} \mathbf{V}'$$

$$\mathbf{i}_f^T \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{i}_f = 1 \dots$$

From Szeliski, [Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications](#)



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Results

- Look at paper figures...

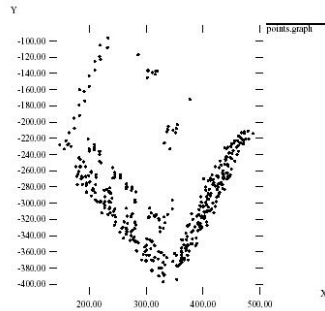


Figure 4.5: A view of the computed shape from approximately above the building (compare with figure 4.6).

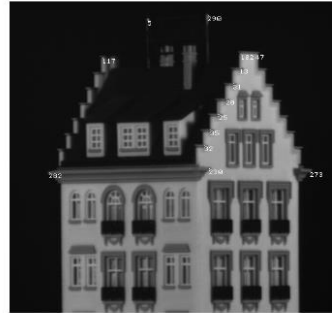


Figure 4.7: For a quantitative evaluation, distances between the features shown in the picture were measured on the actual model, and compared with the computed results. The comparison is shown in figure 4.8.

From Szeliski, [Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications](#)



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Bundle Adjustment

- What makes this non-linear minimization hard?
 - many more parameters: potentially slow
 - poorer conditioning (high correlation)
 - potentially lots of outliers
 - gauge (coordinate) freedom

$$\hat{u}_{ij} = f(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}_j, \mathbf{t}_j, \mathbf{x}_i)$$

$$\hat{v}_{ij} = g(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{R}_j, \mathbf{t}_j, \mathbf{x}_i)$$

From Szeliski, [Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications](#)



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More Cool Robotics Share!



SLAM!
(Better than SMAL! ☺)

What is SLAM?

- SLAM asks the following question:

Is it possible for an autonomous vehicle to start at an unknown location in an unknown environment and then to incrementally build a map of this environment while simultaneously using this map to compute vehicle location?

- SLAM has many indoor, outdoor, in-air and underwater applications for both manned and autonomous vehicles.
- Examples
 - Explore and return to starting point (Newman)
 - Learn trained paths to different goal locations
 - Traverse a region with complete coverage (eg, mine fields, lawns, reef monitoring)
 - ...

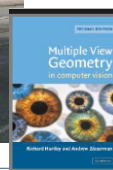
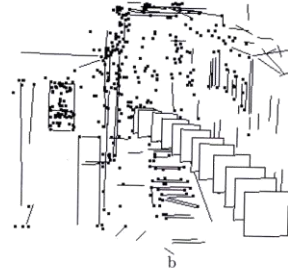


Components of SLAM

- Localisation
 - Determine pose given a priori map
- Mapping
 - Generate map when pose is accurately known from auxiliary source.
- SLAM
 - Define some arbitrary coordinate origin
 - Generate a map from on-board sensors
 - Compute pose from this map
 - Errors in map and in pose estimate are dependent.



SLAM: 30+ Year History!



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Source: Leonard (MIT) Hartley and Zisserman, Cambridge University Press, p. 437.
October 14, 2016-22

Jenkin Building Basement, Circa 1989



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Source: Leonard (MIT).
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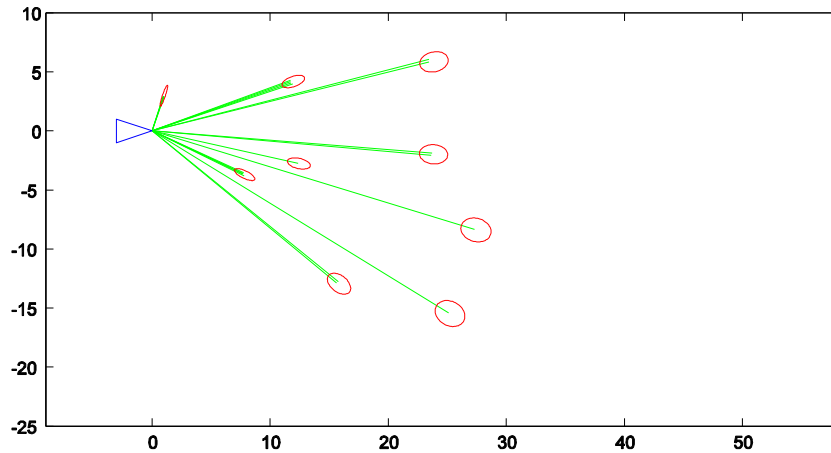
Basic SLAM Operation



Example: SLAM in Victoria Park



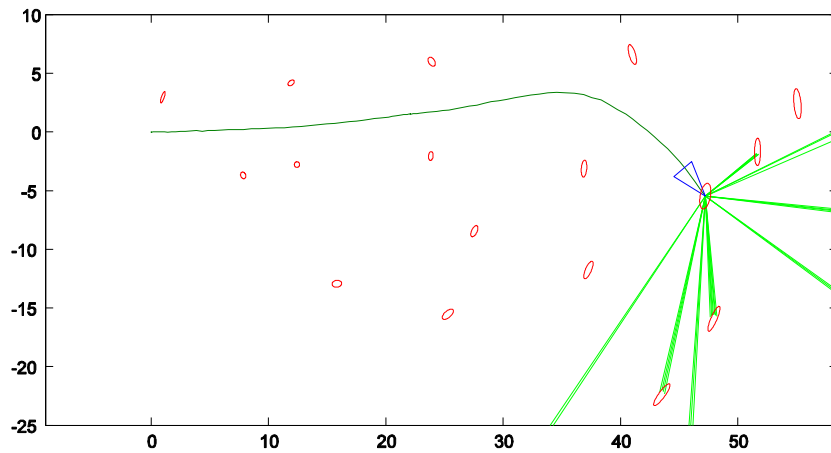
Basic SLAM Operation



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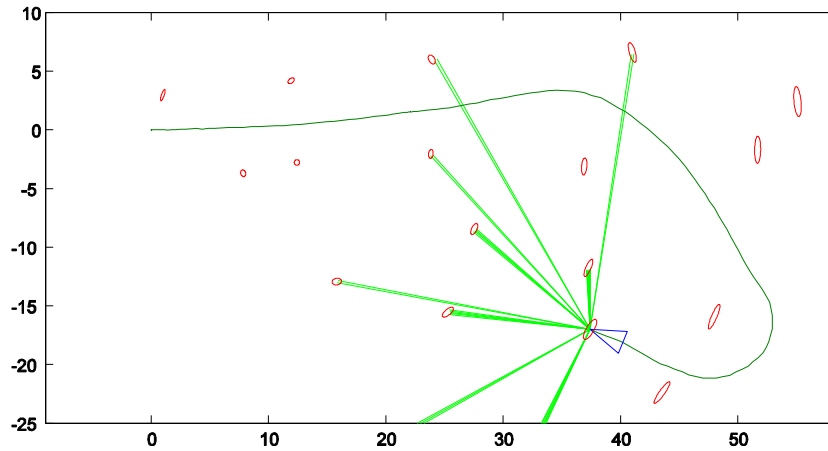
Basic SLAM Operation



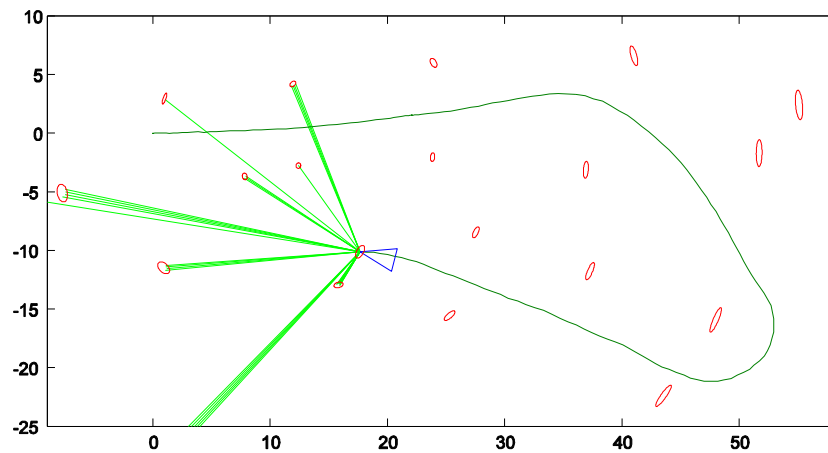
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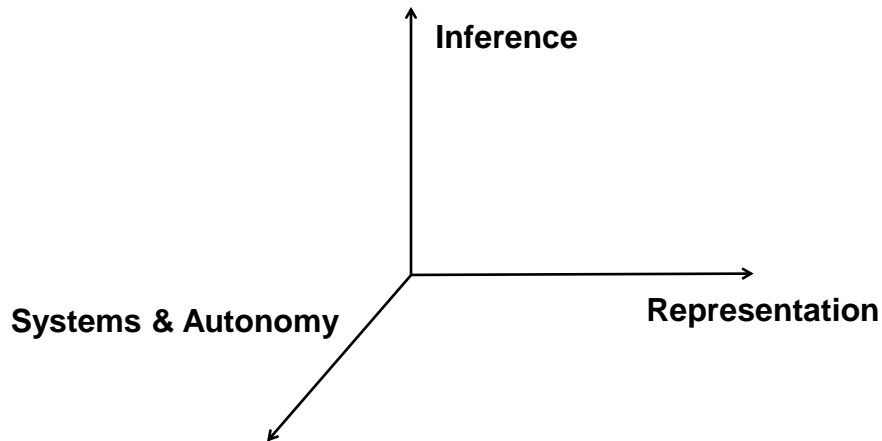
Basic SLAM Operation



Basic SLAM Operation



Why is SLAM Difficult?



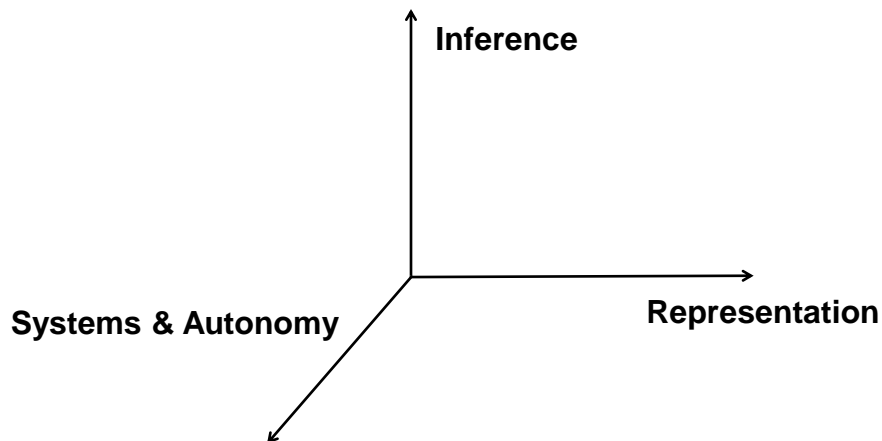
Source: Leonard (MIT)



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Why is SLAM Difficult?



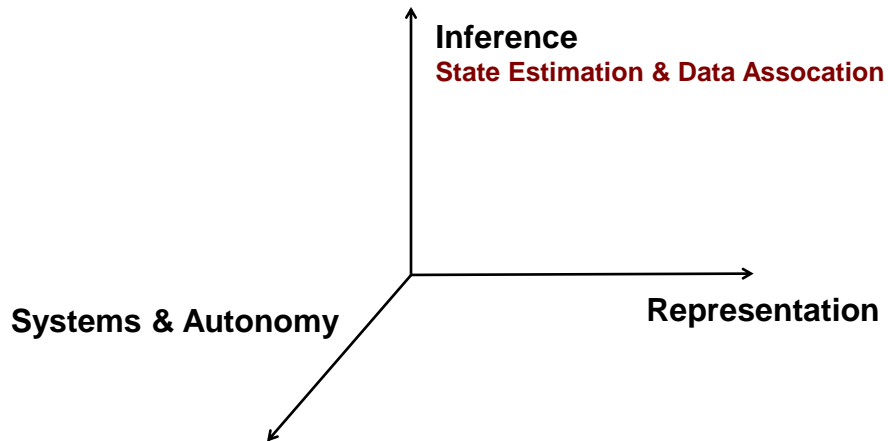
Source: Leonard (MIT)



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Why is SLAM Difficult?



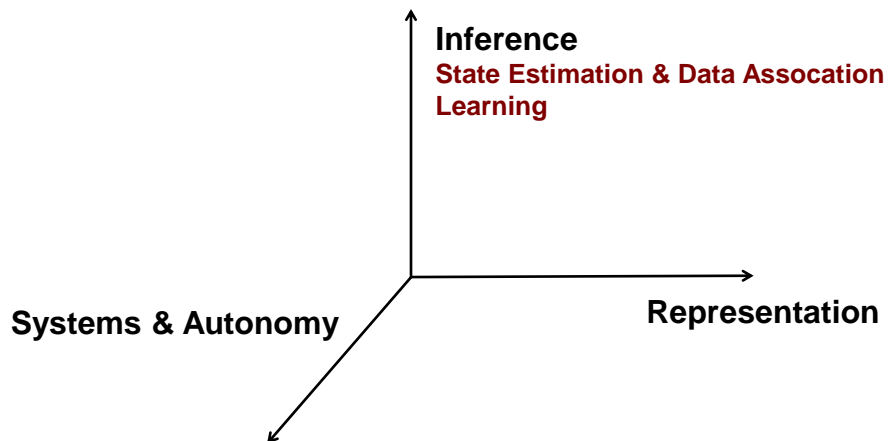
Source: Leonard (MIT)



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Why is SLAM Difficult?



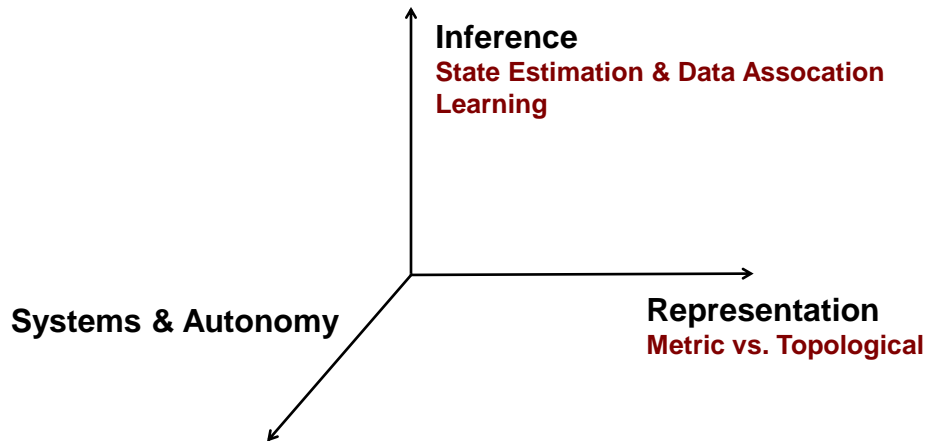
Source: Leonard (MIT)



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Why is SLAM Difficult?



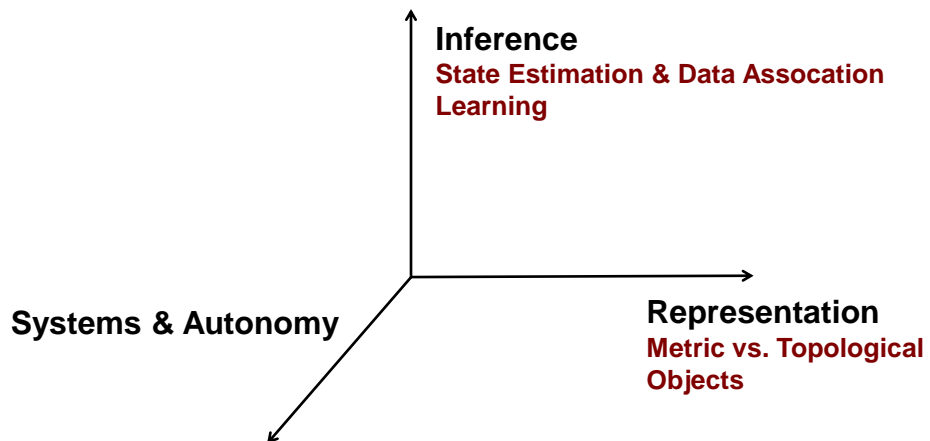
Source: Leonard (MIT)



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Why is SLAM Difficult?



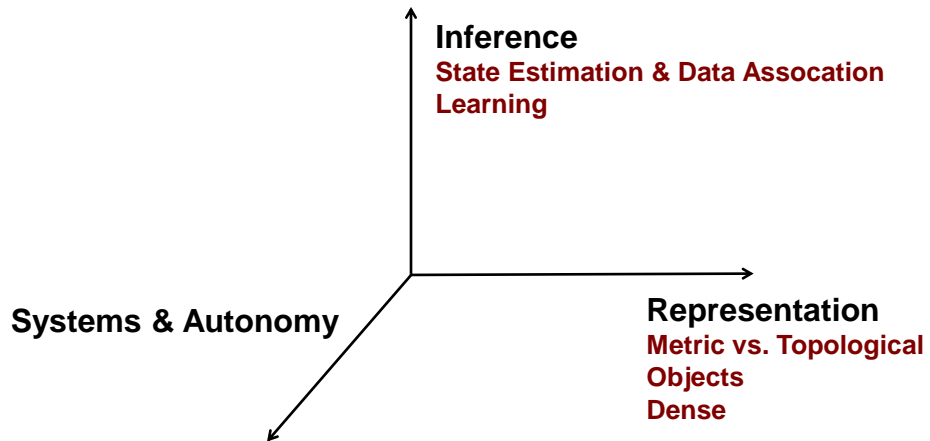
Source: Leonard (MIT)



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Why is SLAM Difficult?



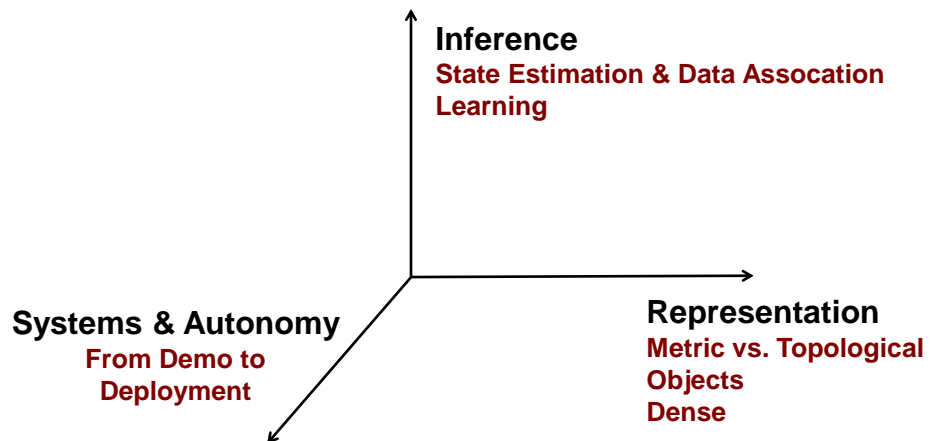
Source: Leonard (MIT)



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Why is SLAM Difficult?



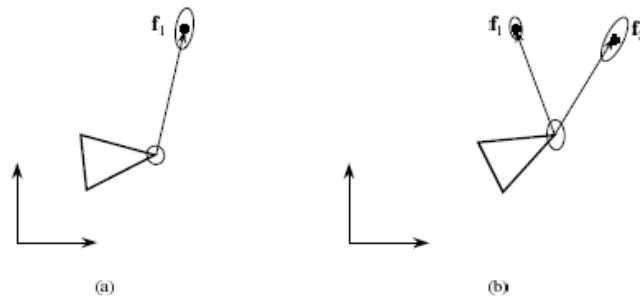
Source: Leonard (MIT)



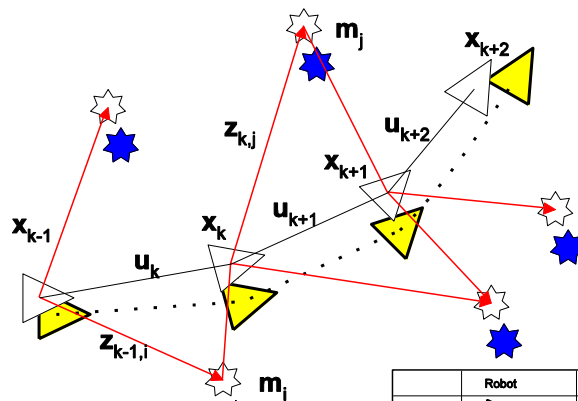
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Dependent Errors



Correlated Estimates



	Robot	Landmark
Estimated		
True		

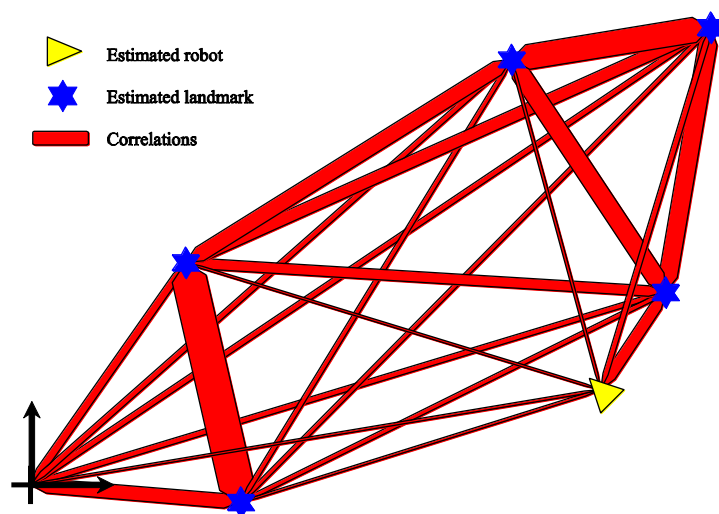


SLAM Convergence

- An observation acts like a displacement to a spring system
 - Effect is greatest in a close neighbourhood
 - Effect on other landmarks diminishes with distance
 - Propagation depends on local stiffness (correlation) properties
- With each new observation the springs become increasingly (and monotonically) stiffer.
- In the limit, a rigid map of landmarks is obtained.
 - A perfect *relative* map of the environment
- The location accuracy of the robot is bounded by
 - The current quality of the map
 - The relative sensor measurement

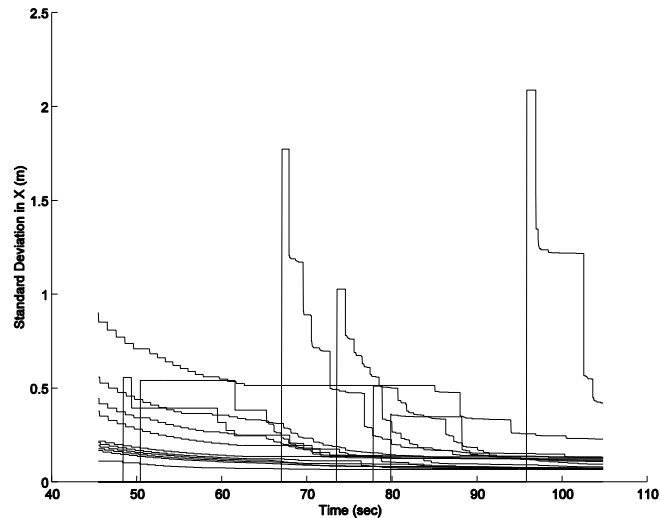


Spring Analogy



Monotonic Convergence

- With each new observation, the determinant decreases over the map and for any submatrix in the map.

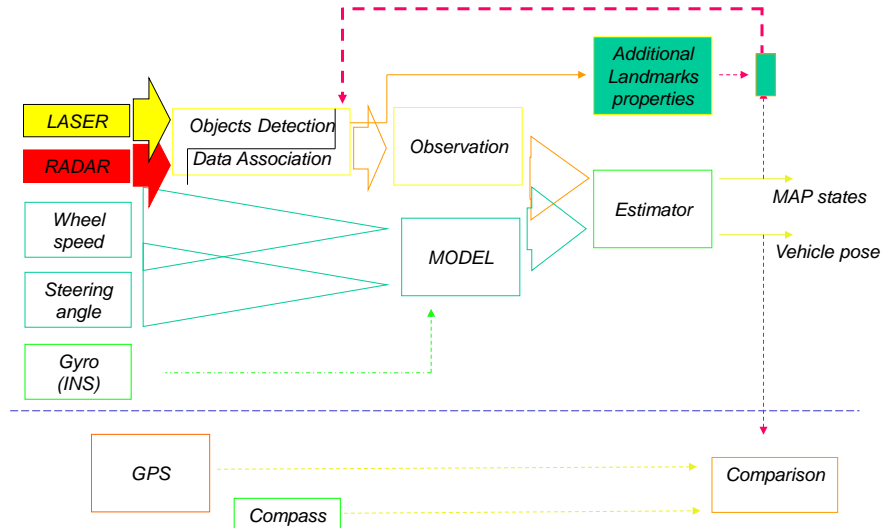


Models

- Models are central to creating a representation of the world.
- Must have a mapping between sensed data (eg, laser, cameras, odometry) and the states of interest (eg, vehicle pose, stationary landmarks)
- Two essential model types:
 - Vehicle motion
 - Sensing of external objects



An Example System



States, Controls, Observations

Joint state with
momentary pose

$$\mathbf{x}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{v_k} \\ \mathbf{m}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{m}_N \end{bmatrix}$$

Joint state with
pose history

$$\mathbf{x}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_{v_k} \\ \mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{v_0} \\ \mathbf{m}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{m}_N \end{bmatrix}$$

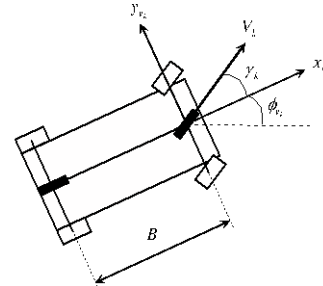
Control inputs: $\mathbf{U}_{0:k} = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\} = \{\mathbf{U}_{0:k-1}, \mathbf{u}_k\}$

Observations: $\mathbf{Z}_{0:k} = \{\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \dots, \mathbf{z}_k\} = \{\mathbf{Z}_{0:k-1}, \mathbf{z}_k\}$



Vehicle Motion Model

- Ackerman steered vehicles:
Bicycle model



- Discrete time model:



$$\mathbf{x}_{v_k} = \mathbf{f}_v(\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \mathbf{u}_k) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{v_{k-1}} + V_k \Delta T \cos(\phi_{v_{k-1}} + \gamma_k) \\ y_{v_{k-1}} + V_k \Delta T \sin(\phi_{v_{k-1}} + \gamma_k) \\ \phi_{v_{k-1}} + \frac{V_k \Delta T}{B} \sin(\gamma_k) \end{bmatrix}$$



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SLAM Motion Model

$$\mathbf{x}_{v_k} = \mathbf{f}_v(\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \mathbf{u}_k) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{v_{k-1}} + V_k \Delta T \cos(\phi_{v_{k-1}} + \gamma_k) \\ y_{v_{k-1}} + V_k \Delta T \sin(\phi_{v_{k-1}} + \gamma_k) \\ \phi_{v_{k-1}} + \frac{V_k \Delta T}{B} \sin(\gamma_k) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Joint state: Landmarks are assumed stationary

$$\mathbf{x}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_v(\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \mathbf{u}_k) \\ \mathbf{m}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{m}_N \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{x}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_v(\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \mathbf{u}_k) \\ \mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{v_0} \\ \mathbf{m}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{m}_N \end{bmatrix}$$



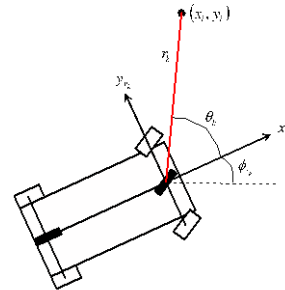
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Observation Model

- Range-bearing measurement

$$\mathbf{z}_{i_k} = \mathbf{h}_i(\mathbf{x}_k) = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{(x_i - x_{v_k})^2 + (y_i - y_{v_k})^2} \\ \arctan \frac{y_i - y_{v_k}}{x_i - x_{v_k}} - \phi_{v_k} \end{bmatrix}$$



Applying Bayes to SLAM: Available Information

- States \mathbf{X}_k (Hidden or inferred values)
 - Vehicle poses
 - Map; typically composed of discrete parts called landmarks or features
- Controls $\mathbf{U}_{0:k}$
 - Velocity
 - Steering angle
- Observations $\mathbf{Z}_{0:k}$
 - Range-bearing measurements



Augmentation: Adding new poses and landmarks

- Add new pose

$$\mathbf{x}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_v(\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \mathbf{u}_k) \\ \mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{v_0} \\ \mathbf{m}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{m}_N \end{bmatrix}$$

- Conditional probability is a Markov Model

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) &= \int p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}, \mathbf{u}_k) p(\mathbf{u}_k) d\mathbf{u}_k \\ &= \int \delta(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} - \mathbf{f}_v(\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \mathbf{u}_k)) p(\mathbf{u}_k) d\mathbf{u}_k \\ &= p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} | \mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}) \end{aligned}$$



Augmentation

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) &= \int p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} | \mathbf{x}_{k-1}, \mathbf{u}_k) p(\mathbf{u}_k) d\mathbf{u}_k \\ &= \int \delta(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} - \mathbf{f}_v(\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \mathbf{u}_k)) p(\mathbf{u}_k) d\mathbf{u}_k \\ &= p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} | \mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}) \end{aligned}$$

- Product rule to create joint PDF $p(\mathbf{x}_k)$

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k}, \mathbf{x}_{k-1}) = p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k} | \mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}) p(\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{v_0}, \mathbf{m}_1, \dots, \mathbf{m}_N)$$

- Same method applies to adding new landmark states



Marginalisation:

Removing past poses and obsolete landmarks

- Augmenting with new pose and marginalising the old pose gives the classical SLAM prediction step

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k}, \mathbf{m}_1, \dots, \mathbf{m}_N) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_{v_k}, \mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}, \mathbf{m}_1, \dots, \mathbf{m}_N) d\mathbf{x}_{v_{k-1}}$$



Fusion: Incorporating observation information

- Conditional PDF according to observation model

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{z}_{i_k} | \mathbf{x}_k) &= \int p(\mathbf{z}_{i_k} | \mathbf{x}_{v_k}, \mathbf{m}_i, \mathbf{r}_k) p(\mathbf{r}_k) d\mathbf{r}_k \\ &= \int \delta(\mathbf{z}_{i_k} - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}_{v_k}, \mathbf{m}_i, \mathbf{r}_k)) p(\mathbf{r}_k) d\mathbf{r}_k \end{aligned}$$

- Bayes update:
proportional to product of likelihood and prior

$$p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{Z}_{0:k}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{z}_{i_k} = \mathbf{z}_0 | \mathbf{x}_k) p(\mathbf{x}_k | \mathbf{Z}_{0:k-1})}{p(\mathbf{z}_{i_k} = \mathbf{z}_0)}$$



Implementing Probabilistic SLAM

- The problem is that Bayesian operations are intractable in general.
 - General equations are good for analytical derivations, not good for implementation
- We need approximations
 - Linearised Gaussian systems (EKF, UKF, EIF, SAM)
 - Monte Carlo sampling methods (Rao-Blackwellised particle filters)



EKF SLAM

- The complicated Bayesian equations for augmentation, marginalisation, and fusion have simple and efficient closed form solutions for linear Gaussian systems
- For non-linear systems, just linearise
 - EKF, EIF: Jacobians
 - UKF: use deterministic samples



Kalman Implementation

- So can we just plug the process and observation models into the standard EKF equations and turn the crank?
- Several additional issues:
 - Structure of the SLAM problem permits more efficient implementation than naïve EKF.
 - Data association.
 - Feature initialisation.



Structure of SLAM

- Key property of stochastic SLAM
 - Largely a *parameter* estimation problem
- Since the map is stationary
 - No process model, no process noise
- For Gaussian SLAM
 - Uncertainty in each landmark reduces monotonically after landmark initialisation
 - Map converges
- Examine computational consequences of this structure in next session.



Data Association

- Before the Update Stage we need to determine if the feature we are observing is:
 - An old feature
 - A new feature
- If there is a match with only one known feature, the Update stage is run with this feature information.

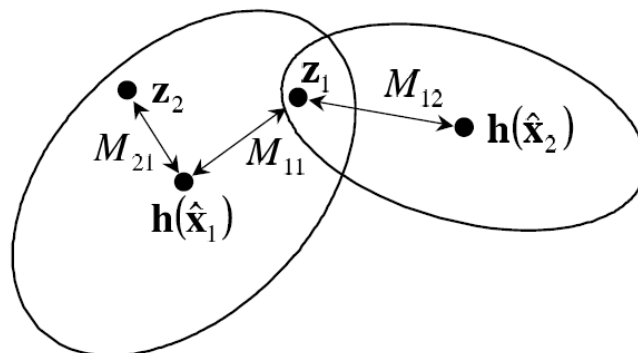
$$\mu(k) = z(k) - h(\hat{x}(k/k-1))$$

$$S(k) = \nabla h_x(k) P(k/k-1) \nabla h_x^T(k) + R$$

$$\alpha = \mu^T(k) S^{-1}(k) \mu(k) < \chi_{0.95}^2$$



Validation Gating



New Features

- If there is no match then a potential new feature has been detected
- We do not want to incorporate a spurious observation as a new feature
 - It will not be observed again and will consume computational time and memory
 - It will add clutter, increasing risk of future mis-associations
 - The features are assumed to be static. We don't want to accept dynamic objects as features: cars, people etc.



Acceptance of New Features

• APPROACH 1

- Get the feature in a list of potential features
- Incorporate the feature once it has been observed for a number of times
- Advantages:
 - Simple to implement
 - Appropriate for High Frequency external sensor
- Disadvantages:
 - Loss of information
 - Potentially a problem with sensor with small field of view: a feature may only be seen very few times



Acceptance of New Features

• APPROACH 2

- The state vector is extended with past vehicle positions and the estimation of the cross-correlation between current and previous vehicle states is maintained. With this approach improved data association is possible by combining data from various points
 - J. J. Leonard and R. J. Rikoski. *Incorporation of delayed decision making into stochastic mapping*
 - Stephan Williams, PhD Thesis, 2001, University of Sydney
- Advantages:
 - No Loss of Information
 - Well suited to low frequency external sensors (ratio between vehicle velocity and feature rate information)
 - Absolutely necessary for some sensor modalities (eg, range-only, bearing-only)
- Disadvantages:
 - Cost of augmenting state with past poses
 - The implementation is more complicated



Incorporation of New Features

- We have the vehicle states and previous map

$$P_0 = \begin{bmatrix} P_{v,v}^0 & P_{v,m}^0 \\ P_{m,v}^0 & P_{m,m}^0 \end{bmatrix}$$



We observed a new feature and the covariance and cross-covariance terms need to be evaluated

$$P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} P_{v,v}^0 & P_{v,m}^0 & ? \\ P_{m,v}^0 & P_{m,m}^0 & ? \\ ? & ? & ? \end{bmatrix}$$



Incorporation of New Features

- Approach 1

$$P_0 = \begin{bmatrix} P_{vv}^0 & P_{vm}^0 & 0 \\ P_{mv}^0 & P_{mm}^0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{With } A \text{ very large}$$

$$\begin{aligned} W(k) &= P(k/k-1) \nabla h_x^T(k) S^{-1}(k) \\ S(k) &= \nabla h_x(k) P(k/k-1) \nabla h_x^T(k) + R \\ P(k/k) &= P(k/k-1) - W(k) S(k) W^T(k) \end{aligned}$$

- Easy to understand and implement
- Very large values of A may introduce numerical problems



$$P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} P_{vv}^1 & P_{vm}^1 & P_{vn}^1 \\ P_{mv}^1 & P_{mm}^1 & P_{mn}^1 \\ P_{nv}^1 & P_{nm}^1 & P_{nn}^1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Analytical Approach

$$P_0 = \begin{bmatrix} P_{v,v}^0 & P_{v,m}^0 \\ P_{m,v}^0 & P_{m,m}^0 \end{bmatrix}$$

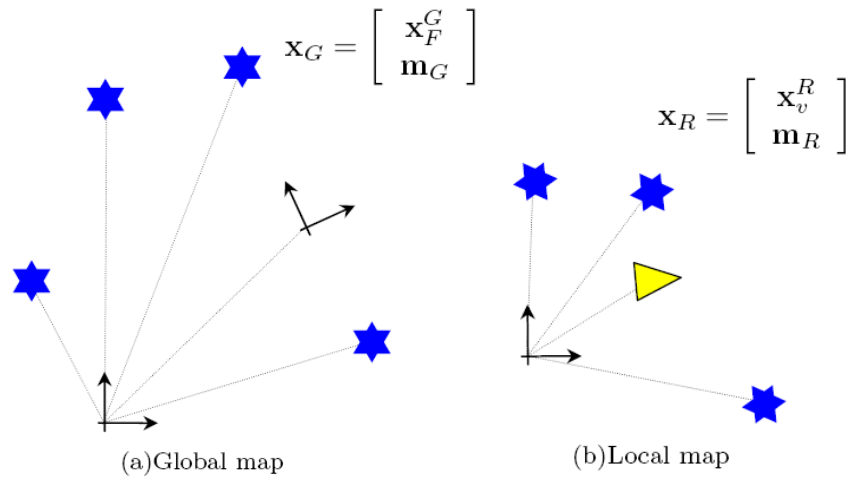
- We can also evaluate the analytical expressions of the new terms



$$P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} P_{v,v}^0 & P_{v,m}^0 & ? \\ P_{m,v}^0 & P_{m,m}^0 & ? \\ ? & ? & ? \end{bmatrix}$$



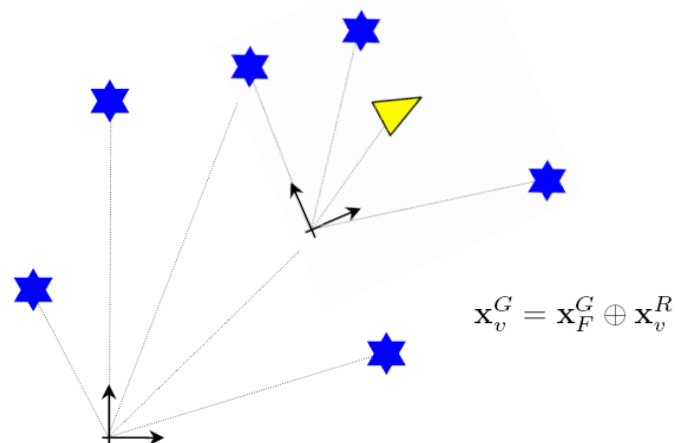
Constrained Local Submap Filter



METR 4202: Robotics

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October 12, 2016-73

CLSF Global Estimate

