

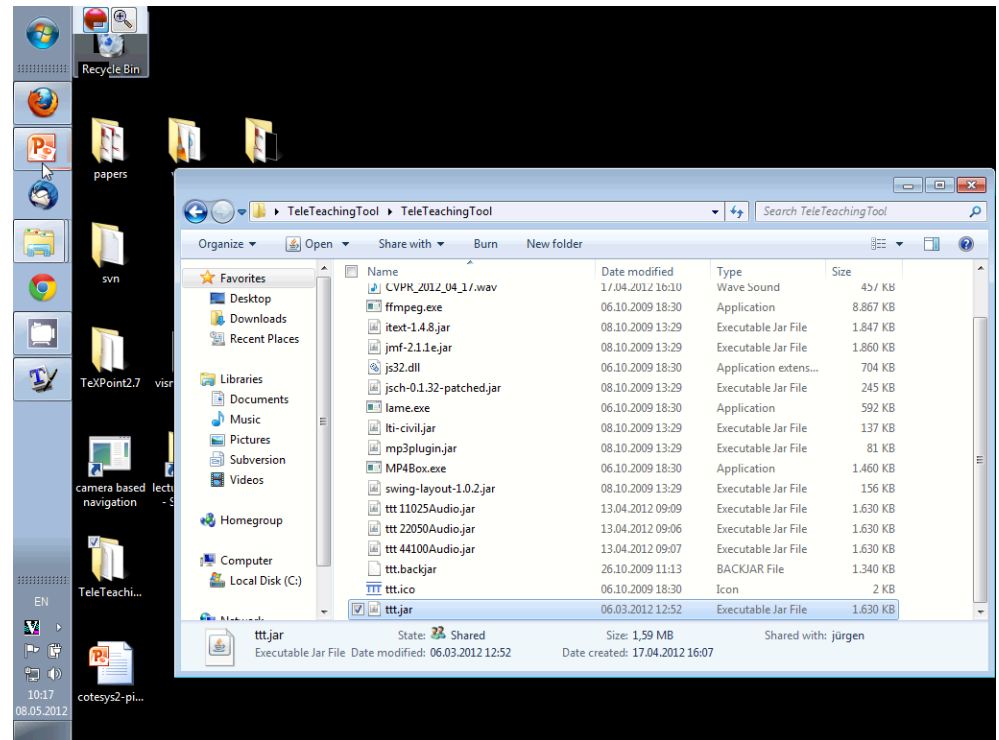
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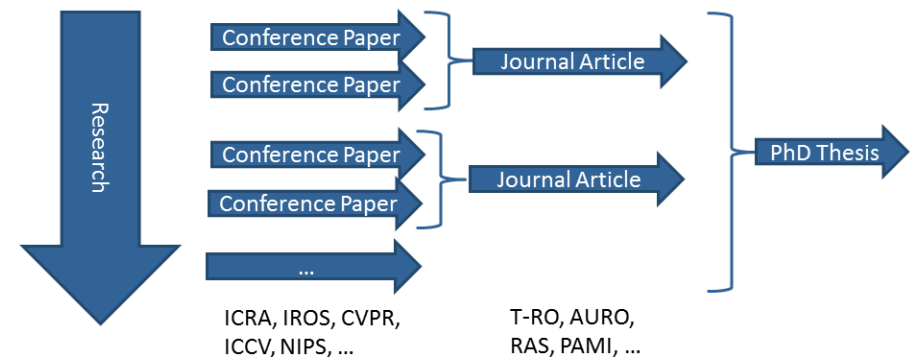
Visual Navigation for Flying Robots

Probabilistic Models and State Estimation

Dr. Jürgen Sturm

Organization

- Next week: Three scientific guest talks
- Recent research results from our group (2011/12)





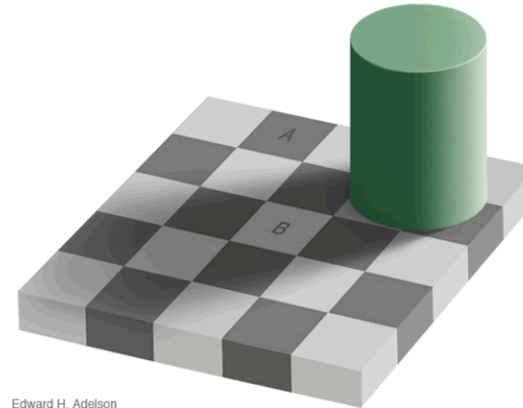
Guest Talks

- An Evaluation of the RGB-D SLAM System (F. Endres, J. Hess, N. Engelhard, J. Sturm, D. Cremers, W. Burgard), In Proc. of the IEEE Int. Conf. on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), 2012.
- Real-Time Visual Odometry from Dense RGB-D Images (F. Steinbruecker, J. Sturm, D. Cremers), In Workshop on Live Dense Reconstruction with Moving Cameras at the Intl. Conf. on Computer Vision (ICCV), 2011.
- Camera-Based Navigation of a Low-Cost Quadrocopter (J. Engel, J. Sturm, D. Cremers), Submitted to International Conference on Robotics and Systems (IROS), under review.



Perception

- Perception and models are strongly linked

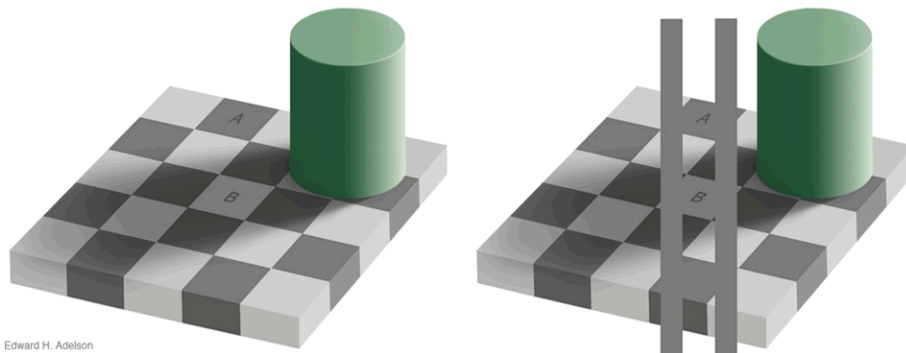


Edward H. Adelson

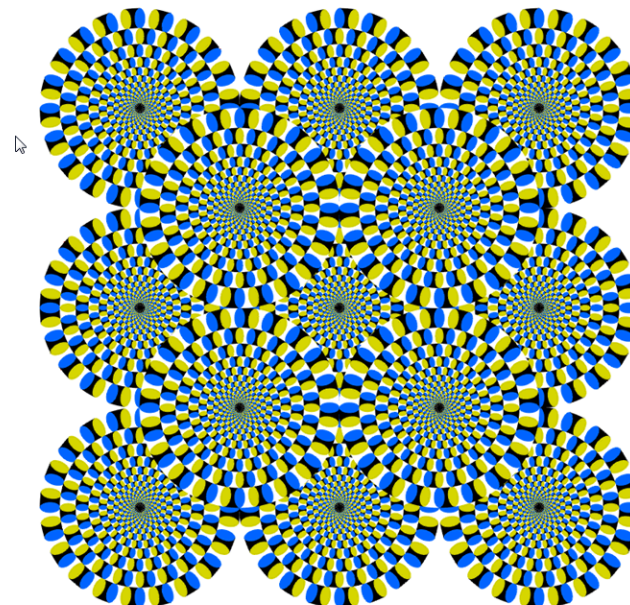


Perception

- Perception and models are strongly linked
- Example: Human Perception



Edward H. Adelson



more on <http://michaelbach.de/ot/index.html>



State Estimation

- Cannot observe world state directly
- Need to estimate the world state
- Robot maintains belief about world state
- Update belief according to observations and actions using models
- Sensor observations + sensor model
- Executed actions + action/motion model

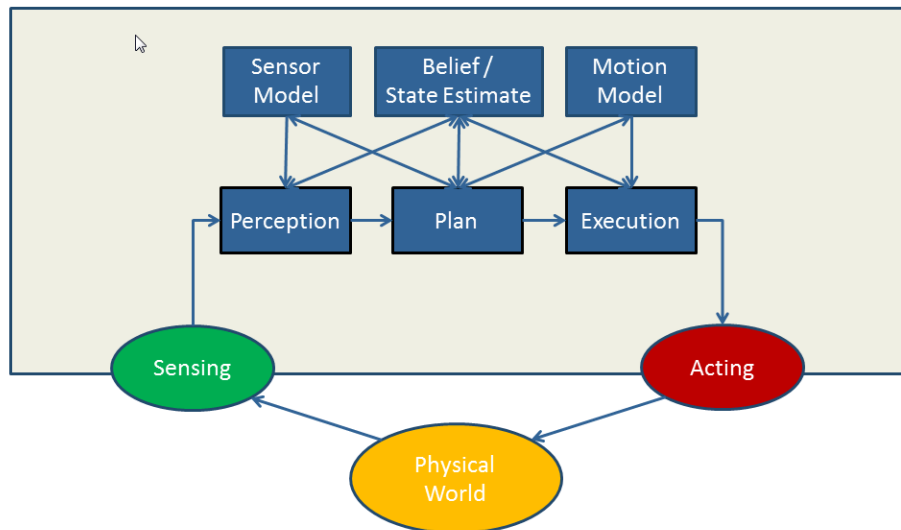


State Estimation

What parts of the world state are (most) relevant for a flying robot?



Models and State Estimation



(Deterministic) Sensor Model

- Robot perceives the environment through its sensors

$$z = h(x)$$

↑ sensor reading ↑ world state
 observation function

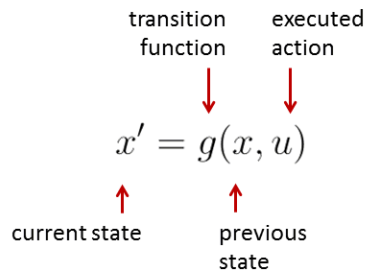
- Goal: Infer the state of the world from sensor readings

$$x = h^{-1}(z)$$



(Deterministic) Motion Model

- Robot executes an action u (e.g., move forward at 1m/s)
- Update belief state according to motion model



Probabilistic Robotics

- Sensor observations are noisy, partial, potentially missing (why?)
- All models are partially wrong and incomplete (why?)
- Usually we have prior knowledge (why?)



Probabilistic Robotics

- Sensor observations are noisy, partial, potentially missing (why?)
- All models are partially wrong and incomplete (why?)
- Usually we have prior knowledge (why?)



Probabilistic Robotics

- Probabilistic sensor and motion models
- Integrate information from multiple sensors (multi-modal)

$$p(z \mid x) \quad p(x' \mid x, u)$$

$$p(x \mid z_{\text{vision}}, z_{\text{ultrasound}}, z_{\text{IMU}})$$

- Integrate information over time (filtering)

$$p(x \mid z_1, z_2, \dots, z_t)$$

$$p(x \mid u_1, z_1, \dots, u_t, z_t)$$



Agenda for Today

- Motivation ✓
- Bayesian Probability Theory
- Bayes Filter
- Normal Distribution
- Kalman Filter



The Axioms of Probability Theory

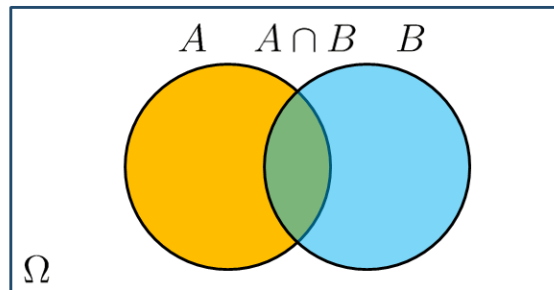
Notation: $P(A)$ refers to the probability that proposition A holds

1. $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$
2. $P(\Omega) = 1$ $P(\emptyset) = 0$
3. $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$



A Closer Look at Axiom 3

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$



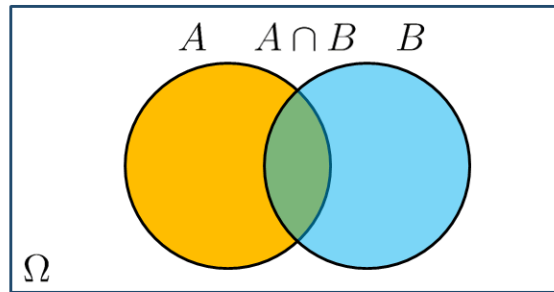
Discrete Random Variables

- X denotes a **random variable**
- X can take on a countable number of values in $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$
- $P(X = x_i)$ is the **probability** that the random variable X takes on value x_i
- $P(\cdot)$ is called the **probability mass function**
- **Example:** $P(\text{Room}) = \langle 0.7, 0.2, 0.08, 0.02 \rangle$
 $\text{Room} \in \{\text{office, corridor, lab, kitchen}\}$



A Closer Look at Axiom 3

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$



Proper Distributions Sum To One

- Discrete case
$$\sum_x P(x) = 1$$

- Continuous case
$$\int p(x) dx = 1$$

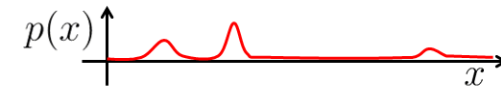
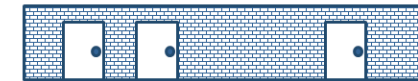


Continuous Random Variables

- X takes on continuous values
- $p(X = x)$ or $p(x)$ is called the **probability density function (PDF)**

$$P(x \in [a, b]) = \int_a^b p(x) dx$$

- Example



Joint and Conditional Probabilities

- $P(X = x \text{ and } Y = y) = P(x, y)$
- If X and Y are **independent** then
$$P(x, y) = P(x)P(y)$$
- $P(x | y)$ is the probability of **x given y**
$$P(x | y)P(y) = P(x, y)$$
- If X and Y are independent then
$$P(x | y) = P(x)$$



Conditional Independence

- Definition of conditional independence

$$P(x, y | z) = P(x | z)P(y | z)$$

- Equivalent to $P(x | z) = P(x | y, z)$
 $P(y | z) = P(y | x, z)$

- Note: this does not necessarily mean that

$$P(x, y) = P(x)P(y)$$



Marginalization

- Discrete case

$$P(x) = \sum_y P(x, y)$$

- Continuous case

$$p(x) = \int p(x, y)dy$$



Example: Marginalization

| | x_1 | x_2 | x_3 | x_4 | $P_Y(Y) \downarrow$ |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Y_1 | $\frac{1}{8}$ | $\frac{1}{16}$ | $\frac{1}{32}$ | $\frac{1}{32}$ | $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Y_2 | $\frac{1}{16}$ | $\frac{1}{8}$ | $\frac{1}{32}$ | $\frac{1}{32}$ | $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Y_3 | $\frac{1}{16}$ | $\frac{1}{16}$ | $\frac{1}{16}$ | $\frac{1}{16}$ | $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Y_4 | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| $P_X(X) \rightarrow$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | $\frac{1}{8}$ | $\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 |



Law of Total Probability

- Discrete case

$$P(x) = \sum_y P(x, y) = \sum_y P(x | y)P(y)$$

- Continuous case

$$p(x) = \int p(x, y)dy = \int p(x | y)p(y)dy$$



Expected Value of a Random Variable

- Discrete case $E[X] = \sum_i x_i P(x_i)$
- Continuous case $E[X] = \int x P(X = x) dx$
- The expected value is the weighted average of all values a random variable can take on.
- Expectation is a linear operator

$$E[aX + b] = aE[X] + b$$



The State Estimation Problem

We want to estimate the world state x

- From sensor measurements z
- and controls (or odometry readings) u

We need to model the relationship between these random variables, i.e.,

$$p(x | z) \quad p(x' | x, u)$$



Covariance of a Random Variable

- Measures the squared expected deviation from the mean

$$\text{Cov}[X] = E[X - E[X]]^2 = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$



Causal vs. Diagnostic Reasoning

- $P(x | z)$ is diagnostic
- $P(z | x)$ is causal
- Often causal knowledge is easier to obtain
- Bayes rule allows us to use causal knowledge:

$$P(x | z) = \frac{\overset{\text{observation likelihood}}{\downarrow} P(z | x) \overset{\text{prior on world state}}{\downarrow} P(x)}{\underset{\text{prior on sensor observations}}{\uparrow} P(z)}$$



Bayes Formula

$$P(x|z) = P(x|z)P(z) = P(z|x)P(x)$$

⇒

$$P(x|z) = \frac{P(z|x)P(x)}{P(z)} = \frac{\text{likelihood} \cdot \text{prior}}{\text{evidence}}$$



Bayes Formula

$$P(x|z) = P(x|z)P(z) = P(z|x)P(x)$$

⇒

$$P(x|z) = \frac{P(z|x)P(x)}{P(z)} = \frac{\text{likelihood} \cdot \text{prior}}{\text{evidence}}$$



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- Often causal knowledge is easier to obtain
- Bayes rule allows us to use causal knowledge:

$$P(x|z) = \frac{P(x|z)P(z)}{P(z)}$$

observation likelihood prior on world state
 ↓ ↓
 ↑
 prior on sensor observations



Normalization

- Direct computation of $P(z)$ can be difficult
- Idea: Compute improper distribution, normalize afterwards
- Step 1: $L(x|z) = P(z|x)P(x)$
- Step 2: $P(z) = \sum_x P(z|x)P(x) = \sum_x L(x|z)$
(Law of total probability)
- Step 3: $P(x|z) = L(x|z)/P(z)$



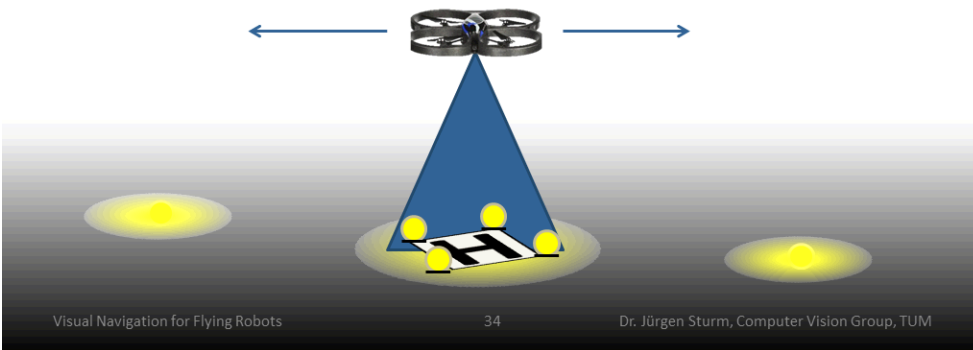
Normalization

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- Idea: Compute improper distribution, normalize afterwards
- Step 1: $L(x | z) = P(z | x)P(x)$
- Step 2: $P(z) = \sum_x P(z | x)P(x) = \sum_x L(x | z)$
(Law of total probability)
- Step 3: $P(x | z) = L(x | z)/P(z)$



Example: Sensor Measurement

- Quadcopter seeks the landing zone
- Landing zone is marked with many bright lamps
- Quadcopter has a brightness sensor



Bayes Rule with Background Knowledge

$$P(x | y, z) = \frac{P(y | x, z)P(x | z)}{P(y | z)}$$



Example: Sensor Measurement

- Binary sensor $Z \in \{\text{bright}, \neg\text{dark}\}$
- Binary world state $X \in \{\text{home}, \neg\text{home}\}$
- Sensor model $P(Z = \text{bright} | X = \text{home}) = 0.6$
 $P(Z = \text{bright} | X = \neg\text{home}) = 0.3$
- Prior on world state $P(X = \text{home}) = 0.5$
- Assume: Robot observes light, i.e., $Z = \text{bright}$
- What is the probability $P(X = \text{home} | Z = \text{bright})$ that the robot is above the landing zone?



Example: Sensor Measurement

- Sensor model $P(Z = \text{bright} \mid X = \text{home}) = 0.6$
 $P(Z = \text{bright} \mid X = \neg\text{home}) = 0.3$
- Prior on world state $P(X = \text{home}) = 0.5$
- Probability after observation (using Bayes)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P(X = \text{home} \mid Z = \text{bright}) \\
 &= \frac{P(\text{bright} \mid \text{home})P(\text{home})}{P(\text{bright} \mid \text{home})P(\text{home}) + P(\text{bright} \mid \neg\text{home})P(\neg\text{home})} \\
 &= \frac{0.6 \cdot 0.5}{0.6 \cdot 0.5 + 0.3 \cdot 0.5} = \frac{0.3}{0.3 + 0.15} = 0.67
 \end{aligned}$$



Recursive Bayesian Updates

$$P(x \mid z_1, \dots, z_n) = \frac{P(z_n \mid x, z_1, \dots, z_{n-1})P(x \mid z_1, \dots, z_{n-1})}{P(z_n \mid z_1, \dots, z_{n-1})}$$



Combining Evidence

- Suppose our robot obtains another observation z_2 (either from the same or a different sensor)
- How can we integrate this new information?
- More generally, how can we estimate $p(x \mid z_1, z_2, \dots)$?



Example: Second Measurement

- Sensor model $P(Z_2 = \text{marker} \mid X = \text{home}) = 0.8$
 $P(Z_2 = \text{marker} \mid X = \neg\text{home}) = 0.1$
- Previous estimate $P(X = \text{home} \mid Z_1 = \text{bright}) = 0.67$
- Assume robot does not observe marker
- What is the probability of being home?

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P(X = \text{home} \mid Z_1 = \text{bright}, Z_2 = \neg\text{marker}) \\
 &= \frac{P(\neg\text{marker} \mid \text{home})P(\text{home} \mid \text{bright})}{P(\neg\text{marker} \mid \text{home})P(\text{home} \mid \text{bright}) + P(\neg\text{marker} \mid \neg\text{home})P(\neg\text{home} \mid \text{bright})} \\
 &= \frac{0.2 \cdot 0.67}{0.2 \cdot 0.67 + 0.9 \cdot 0.33} = 0.31
 \end{aligned}$$



Actions (Motions)

- Often the world is dynamic since
 - actions carried out by the robot...
 - actions carried out by other agents...
 - or just time passing by...
 ...change the world
- How can we incorporate actions?



Action Models

- To incorporate the outcome of an action u into the current state estimate (“belief”), we use the conditional pdf

$$p(x' | u, x)$$

- This term specifies the probability that executing the action u in state x will lead to state x'



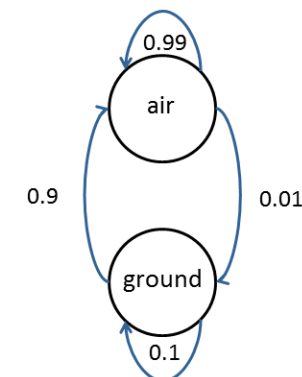
Typical Actions

- Quadcopter accelerates by changing the speed of its motors
- Position also changes when quadcopter does “nothing” (and drifts..)
- Actions are never carried out with absolute certainty
- In contrast to measurements, actions generally increase the uncertainty of the state estimate



Example: Take-Off

- Action: $u \in \{\text{takeoff}\}$
- World state: $x \in \{\text{ground}, \text{air}\}$





Integrating the Outcome of Actions

- Discrete case

$$P(x' | u) = \sum P(x | u, x)P(x)$$

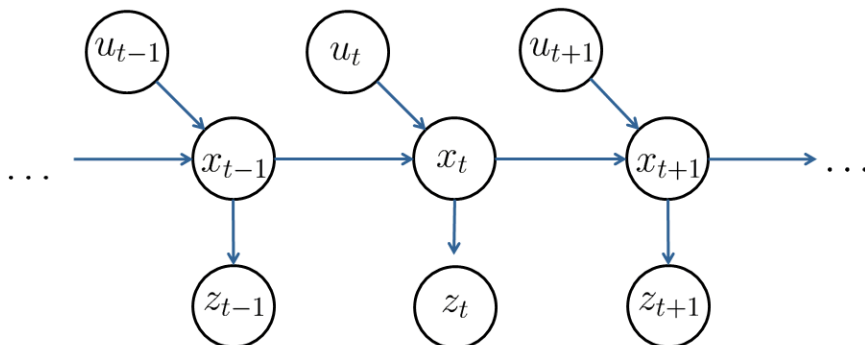
- Continuous case

$$p(x' | u) = \int p(x | u, x)p(x)dx$$



Markov Chain

- A Markov chain is a stochastic process where, given the present state, the past and the future states are independent



Example: Take-Off

- Prior belief on robot state: $P(x = \text{ground}) = 1.0$ (robot is located on the ground)
- Robot executes “take-off” action
- What is the robot’s belief after one time step?

$$\begin{aligned} P(x' = \text{ground}) &= \sum_x P(x' = \text{ground} | u, x)P(x) \\ &= P(x' = \text{ground} | u, x = \text{ground})P(x = \text{ground}) \\ &\quad + P(x' = \text{ground} | u, x = \text{air})P(x = \text{air}) \\ &= 0.9 \cdot 1.0 + 0.99 \cdot 0.0 = 0.9 \end{aligned}$$

- Question: What is the probability at $t=2$?



Markov Assumption

- Observations depend only on current state

$$P(z_t | x_{0:t}, z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t}) = P(z_t | x_t)$$

- Current state depends only on previous state and current action

$$P(x_t | x_{0:t-1}, z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}) = P(x_t | x_{t-1}, u_t)$$

- Underlying assumptions

- Static world
- Independent noise
- Perfect model, no approximation errors



Bayes Filter

- Given:
 - Stream of observations z and actions u :

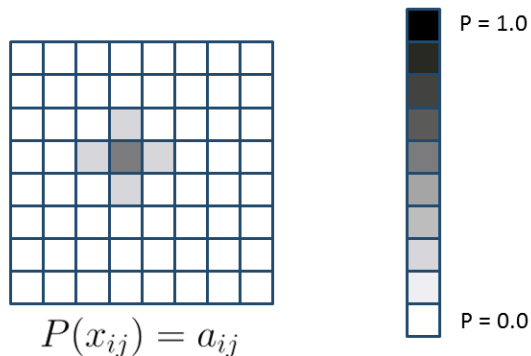
$$\mathbf{d}_t = (u_1, z_1, \dots, u_t, z_t)^\top$$
 - Sensor model $P(z | x)$
 - Action model $P(x' | x, u)$
 - Prior probability of the system state $P(x)$
- Wanted:
 - Estimate of the state x of the dynamic system
 - Posterior of the state is also called **belief**

$$Bel(x_t) = P(x_t | u_1, z_1, \dots, u_t, z_t)$$



Example: Localization

- Discrete state $x \in \{1, 2, \dots, w\} \times \{1, 2, \dots, h\}$
- Belief distribution can be represented as a grid
- This is also called a **histogram filter**



Bayes Filter

For each time step, do

1. Apply motion model

$$\overline{Bel}(x_t) = \sum_{x_{t-1}} P(x_t | x_{t-1}, u_t) Bel(x_{t-1})$$

2. Apply sensor model

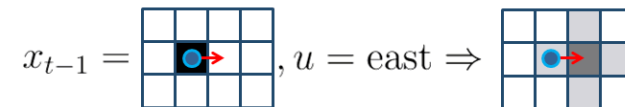
$$Bel(x_t) = \eta P(z_t | x_t) \overline{Bel}(x_t)$$

Note: Bayes filters also work on continuous state spaces (replace sum by integral)



Example: Localization

- Action $u \in \{\text{north, east, south, west}\}$
- Robot can move one cell in each time step
- Actions are not perfectly executed
- Example: move east

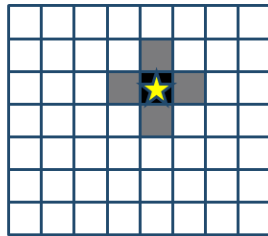


60% success rate, 10% to stay/move too far/
move one up/move one down



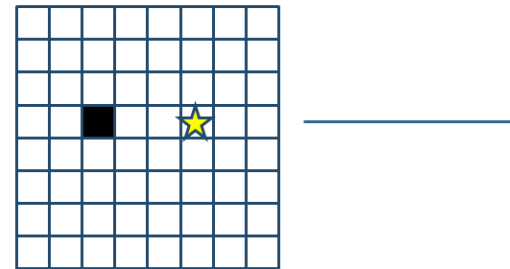
Example: Localization

- Observation $z \in \{\text{marker}, \neg\text{marker}\}$
- One (special) location has a marker
- Marker is sometimes also detected in neighboring cells



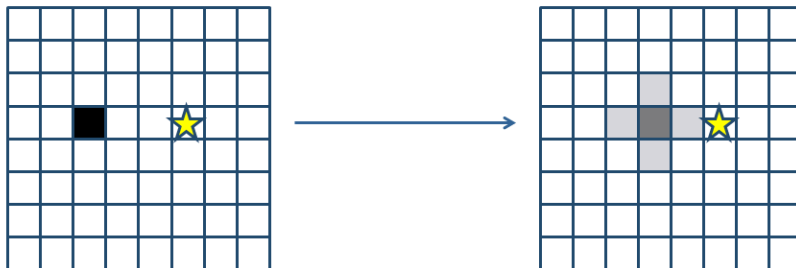
Example: Localization

- $t=0$
- Prior distribution (initial belief)
- Assume we know the initial location (if not, we could initialize with a uniform prior)



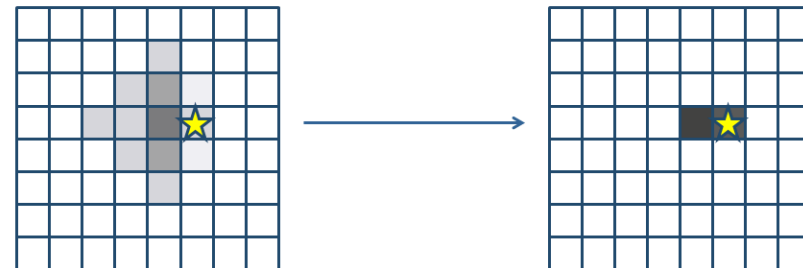
Example: Localization

- $t=1$, $u=\text{east}$, $z=\text{no-marker}$
- Bayes filter step 1: Apply motion model



Example: Localization

- $t=2$, $u=\text{east}$, $z=\text{marker}$
- Bayes filter step 1: Apply observation model





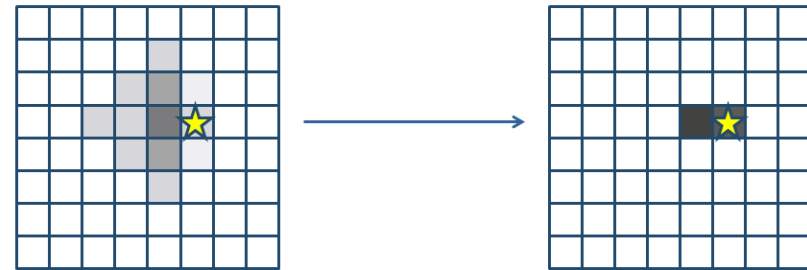
Bayes Filter - Summary

- Markov assumption allows efficient recursive Bayesian updates of the belief distribution
- Useful tool for estimating the state of a dynamic system
- Bayes filter is the basis of many other filters
 - **Kalman filter**
 - Particle filter
 - Hidden Markov models
 - Dynamic Bayesian networks
 - Partially observable Markov decision processes (POMDPs)



Example: Localization

- $t=2$, u =east, z =marker
- Bayes filter step 1: Apply observation model



Kalman Filter

- Bayes filter with continuous states
- State represented with a normal distribution
- Developed in the late 1950's
- Kalman filter is very efficient (only requires a few matrix operations per time step)
- Applications range from economics, weather forecasting, satellite navigation to robotics and many more
- Most relevant Bayes filter variant in practice
→ exercise sheet 2

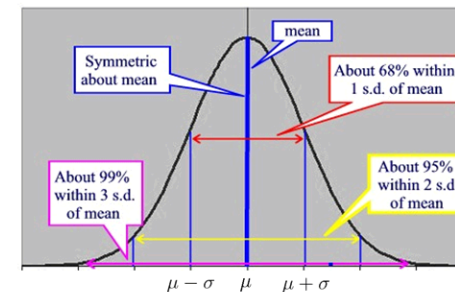


Normal Distribution

- Univariate normal distribution

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$$

$$p(X = x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(x - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2}\right)$$





Normal Distribution

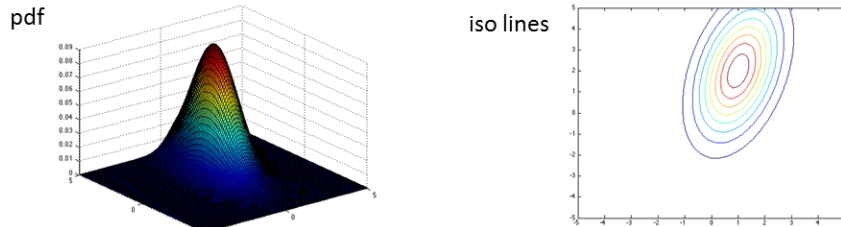
- Multivariate normal distribution

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \mu, \Sigma)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)\right)$$

- Example: 2-dimensional normal distribution

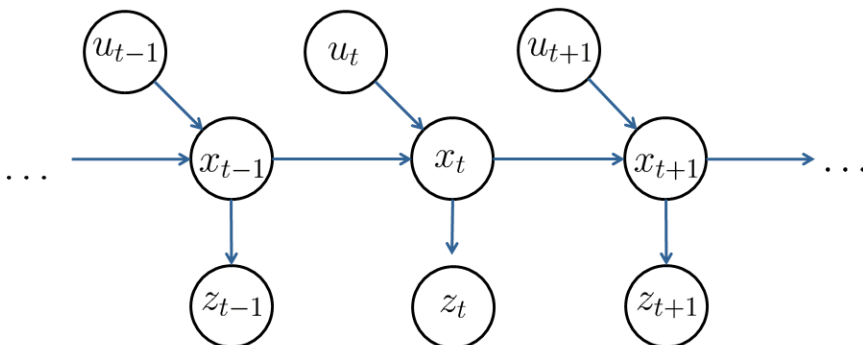


Visual Navigation for Flying Robots



Linear Process Model

- Consider a time-discrete stochastic process (Markov chain)



Visual Navigation for Flying Robots



Properties of Normal Distributions

- Linear transformation \rightarrow remains Gaussian

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma), Y \sim AX + B$$

$$\Rightarrow Y \sim \mathcal{N}(A\mu + B, A\Sigma A^\top)$$

- Intersection of two Gaussians \rightarrow remains Gaussian

$$X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \Sigma_1), X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \Sigma_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow p(X_1, X_2) = \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{\Sigma_2}{\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2}\mu_1 + \frac{\Sigma_1}{\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2}\mu_2, \frac{1}{\Sigma_1^{-1} + \Sigma_2^{-1}}\right)$$

Visual Navigation for Flying Robots



Linear Process Model

- Consider a time-discrete stochastic process
- Represent the estimated state (belief) by a Gaussian $x_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_t, \Sigma_t)$

Visual Navigation for Flying Robots



Linear Observations

- Further, assume we make observations that depend linearly on the state

$$z_t = Cx_t$$



Variables and Dimensions

- State $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- Controls $u \in \mathbb{R}^l$
- Observations $z \in \mathbb{R}^k$
- Process equation

$$x_t = \underbrace{A}_{n \times n} x_{t-1} + \underbrace{B}_{n \times l} u_t + \epsilon$$

- Measurement equation

$$z_t = \underbrace{C}_{n \times k} x_t + \delta_t$$



Kalman Filter

Estimates the state x_t of a discrete-time controlled process that is governed by the linear stochastic difference equation

$$x_t = Ax_{t-1} + Bu_t + \epsilon$$

and (linear) measurements of the state

$$z_t = Cx_t + \delta_t$$

with $\delta_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, R)$ and $\epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, Q)$



Kalman Filter

- Initial belief is Gaussian

$$\text{Bel}(x_0) = \mathcal{N}(x_0; \mu_0, \Sigma_0)$$

- Next state is also Gaussian (linear transformation)

$$x_t \sim \mathcal{N}(Ax_{t-1} + Bu_t, Q)$$

- Observations are also Gaussian

$$z_t \sim \mathcal{N}(Cx_t, R)$$



From Bayes Filter to Kalman Filter

For each time step, do

1. Apply motion model

$$\overline{\text{Bel}}(x_t) = \int \underbrace{p(x_t | x_{t-1}, u_t)}_{\mathcal{N}(x_t; Ax_t + Bu_t, Q)} \underbrace{\text{Bel}(x_{t-1})}_{\mathcal{N}(x_{t-1}; \mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1})} dx_{t-1}$$



From Bayes Filter to Kalman Filter

For each time step, do

2. Apply sensor model

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bel}(x_t) &= \eta \underbrace{p(z_t | x_t)}_{\mathcal{N}(z_t; Cx_t, R)} \underbrace{\overline{\text{Bel}}(x_t)}_{\mathcal{N}(x_t; \bar{\mu}_t, \bar{\Sigma}_t)} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(x_t; \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - C\bar{\mu}), (I - K_tC)\bar{\Sigma}) \\ &= \mathcal{N}(x_t; \mu_t, \Sigma_t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{with } K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t C^\top (C\bar{\Sigma}_t C^\top + R)^{-1}$$



Kalman Filter

For each time step, do

1. Apply motion model

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mu}_t &= A\mu_{t-1} + Bu_t \\ \bar{\Sigma}_t &= A\Sigma A^\top + Q \end{aligned}$$

2. Apply sensor model

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_t &= \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - C\bar{\mu}_t) \\ \Sigma_t &= (I - K_tC)\bar{\Sigma}_t \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{with } K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t C^\top (C\bar{\Sigma}_t C^\top + R)^{-1}$$

For the interested readers:
See Probabilistic Robotics for
full derivation (Chapter 3)



Kalman Filter

- **Highly efficient:** Polynomial in the measurement dimensionality k and state dimensionality n :

$$O(k^{2.376} + n^2)$$

- **Optimal for linear Gaussian systems!**
- Most robotics systems are **nonlinear!**



Nonlinear Dynamical Systems

- Most realistic robotic problems involve nonlinear functions
- Motion function

$$x_t = g(u_t, x_{t-1})$$

- Observation function

$$z_t = h(x_t)$$



Extended Kalman Filter

For each time step, do

- Apply motion model

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mu}_t &= g(\mu_{t-1}, u_t) \\ \bar{\Sigma}_t &= G_t \Sigma G_t^\top + Q \quad \text{with} \quad G_t = \frac{\partial g(\mu_{t-1}, u_t)}{\partial x_{t-1}} \end{aligned}$$

- Apply sensor model

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_t &= \bar{\mu}_t + K_t(z_t - h(\bar{\mu}_t)) \\ \Sigma_t &= (I - K_t H_t) \bar{\Sigma}_t \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{with } K_t = \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^\top (H_t \bar{\Sigma}_t H_t^\top + R)^{-1} \text{ and } H_t = \frac{\partial h(\bar{\mu}_t)}{\partial x_t}$$



Taylor Expansion

- Solution: Linearize both functions
- Motion function

$$\begin{aligned} g(x_{t-1}, u_t) &\approx g(\mu_{t-1}, u_t) + \frac{\partial g(\mu_{t-1}, u_t)}{\partial x_{t-1}} (x_{t-1} - \mu_{t-1}) \\ &= g(\mu_{t-1}, u_t) + G_t (x_{t-1} - \mu_{t-1}) \end{aligned}$$

- Observation function

$$\begin{aligned} h(x_t) &\approx h(\bar{\mu}_t) + \frac{\partial h(\bar{\mu}_t)}{\partial x_t} (x_t - \mu_t) \\ &= h(\bar{\mu}_t) + H_t (x_t - \mu_t) \end{aligned}$$



Example

- 2D case
- State $\mathbf{x} = (x \ y \ \psi)^\top$
- Odometry $\mathbf{u} = (\dot{x} \ \dot{y} \ \dot{\psi})^\top$
- Observations of visual marker $\mathbf{z} = (x \ y \ \psi)^\top$ (relative to robot pose)



Example

- Motion Function and its derivative

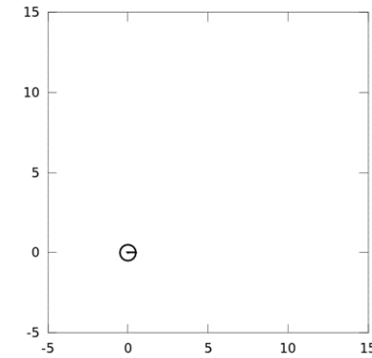
$$g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = \begin{pmatrix} x + (\cos(\psi)\dot{x} - \sin(\psi)\dot{y})\Delta t \\ y + (\sin(\psi)\dot{x} + \cos(\psi)\dot{y})\Delta t \\ \psi + \dot{\psi}\Delta t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$G = \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u})}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & (-\sin(\psi)\dot{x} - \cos(\psi)\dot{y})\Delta t \\ 0 & 1 & (\cos(\psi)\dot{x} + \sin(\psi)\dot{y})\Delta t \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



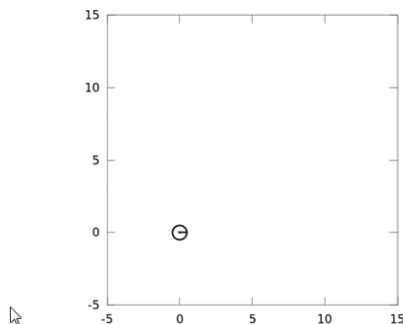
Example

- Dead reckoning (no observations)
- Large process noise in x+y



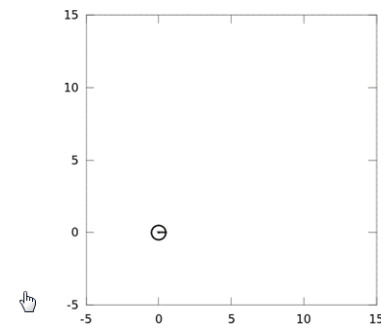
Example

- Now with observations (limited visibility)
- Assume robot knows correct starting pose



Example

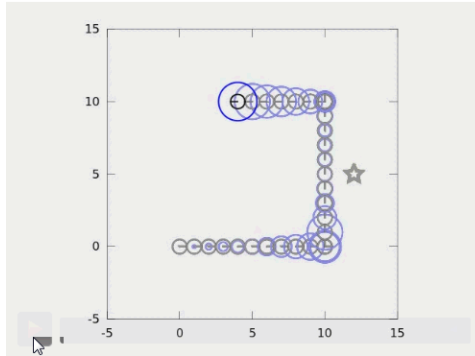
- Now with observations (limited visibility)
- Assume robot knows correct starting pose





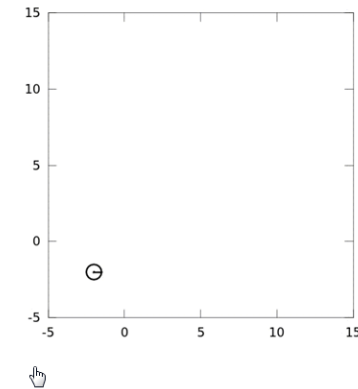
Example

- Now with observations (limited visibility)
- Assume robot knows correct starting pose



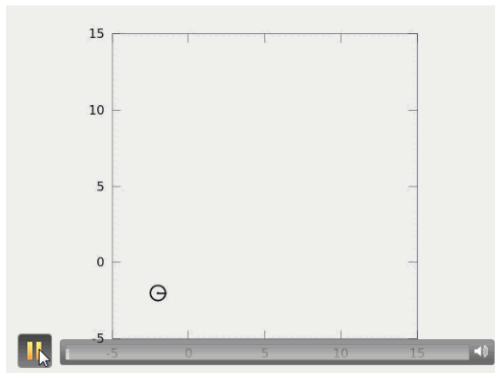
Example

- What if the initial pose (x+y) is wrong?



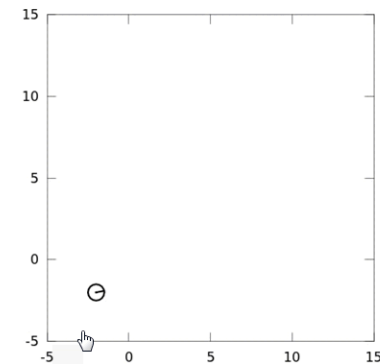
Example

- What if the initial pose (x+y) is wrong?



Example

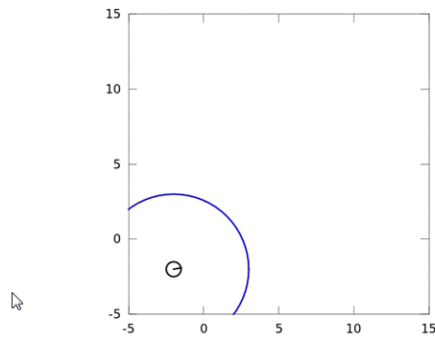
- What if the initial pose (x+y+yaw) is wrong?





Example

- If we are aware of a bad initial guess, we set the initial sigma to a large value (large uncertainty)



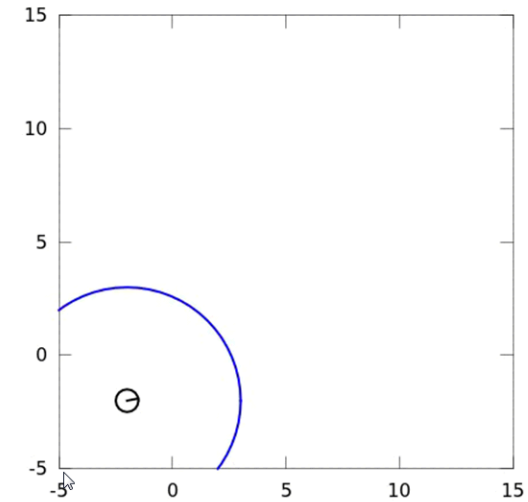
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Example



Visual Navigation for Flying Robots

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Summary

- Observations and actions are inherently noisy
- Knowledge about state is inherently uncertain
- Probability theory
- Probabilistic sensor and motion models
- Bayes Filter, Histogram Filter, Kalman Filter, Examples



Visual Navigation for Flying Robots

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