

مدينة زويىل للملوم والتكنولوجيا

Space and Communications Engineering - Autonomous Vehicles Design and Control - Fall 2016

Markov Localization and Environment Mapping

Lecture 7 – Thursday November 17, 2016

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Objectives

When you have finished this lecture you should be able to:

- Understand **Markov localization**.
- Understand **Occupancy grid framework** and how to use it in sonar-based **environment mapping**.

Outline

- Markov Localization
- World Modeling
- Metric Mapping
- Occupancy Grid Framework
- Occupancy Grid-based Mapping
- Case Study
- Summary

Outline

- **Markov Localization**
- World Modeling
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◊ **Global localization:** a robot is placed somewhere in the environment and has to localize itself from scratch using artificial/natural landmarks (like doors).

◊ In the probabilistic paradigm, the **robot's momentary estimate** (also called **belief**) is represented by a **probability density function** over the space of all locations.

Convolution (similar to cross-correlation) is a mathematical operation that takes two functions and measures their overlap. It measures the amount of overlap as you slide one function over another. For example, if two functions have zero overlap, the value of their convolution will be equal to zero. If they overlap completely, their convolution will be equal to one.

More and animation: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convolution>

• **Example**

$$
p(X_i) = 0.2 \quad \forall i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
$$

Robot's initial belief about its location in the world

• **Example**

The robot is equipped with an uncertain **sensor** so it can sense itself in a red/green cell. Assume that robot senses itself in a **red cell**.

Assume that the following rule represents the **probability** that the robot is in a red or a green cell, based on the robot's measurement of "red": red cells * 0.6

green cells * 0.2

• **Example**

What we have now is called an **unnormalized probability distribution**.

• **Example**

X_1	X_2	X_3	X_4	X_5	cells
$p(X_i)$	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
$p(X_i Z)$	0.04	0.12	0.12	0.04	0.04

Normalized probability distribution:

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{5} p(X_i | Z) = 0.04 + 0.12 + 0.12 + 0.04 + 0.04 = 0.36
$$

Outline

- Markov Localization
- **World Modeling**
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- Occupancy Grid Framework
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The construction of **models of the environmen**t is crucial to the development of several applications of mobile robot systems.

It is through these environment models that the robot can **adapt its decisions to the current state of the world**.

• **Mapping in Robot Architecture:** Garbage Collection Robot

• **Mapping in Robot Architecture:**

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- Generally, the **map isn't static** while mapping: \diamond people walking by,
	- ◊ moving objects.
- Often the world changes over time: ◊ doors open or close, ◊ objects are moved around,
	- ◊ plants grow…
- Typical resulting problems:
	- ◊ Bad alignments (localization),
	- ◊ spurious objects (mapping)

- Mapping provides an answer for the question "**What does the world look like?**"
- Mapping is the problem of **generating maps from sensor measurements**. The information provided by the sensors has to be interpreted in a way that is sufficiently a structured knowledge of the space that surrounds the robot is obtained by the robot.

- Structuring this external information is accomplished through the construction of a **model or a map** of the environment.
- This model is used to **make decisions** and to fuse the new information that the robot receives from its sensors, either from the same sensor in several time instants or from several sensors of the same or different type.

Metric maps capture

the geometric properties of the environment.

Topological maps describe the connectivity of different places by means of nodesand-arcs graphs

Metric Topological maps posses geometry relation between path

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- ◊ **Characteristics** • **Metric (grid based) Map**
	- cell-based structure
	- store information of obstacle and spatial relationship

◊ **Pros**

- easy to construct.
- useful in map matching.
- can dissimilar identical places or objects.
- enable estimation of robot's and obstacle's pose.
- **sensitive to noise.**

◊ **Cons**

- **Pequire huge storage.**
- large computation time.
- path planning may not be efficient, but the path chose may be shorter than that of Topological Map.

- ◊ **Characteristics** • **Topological Map**
	- **graph-based structure**
	- no geometry relation between path.

◊ **Pros**

- **P** require less storage
- less computation time
- faster path planning using Dijkstra Algorithm for example (next lecture), but path may not the shortest.

◊ **Cons**

- harder to construct
- not valid for map matching
- perceptual aliasing in recognizing identical place.
- cannot estimate the position of robot and obstacle.

- ◊ **Characteristics** • **Metric Topological Map**
	- **graph-based structure**
	- **possesses geometry relation between path.**

◊ **Pros**

- require less storage
- less computation time
- path planning algorithms more optimal compare to Topological Map.

◊ **Cons**

- harder to construct
- not valid for map matching
- perceptual aliasing in recognizing identical place.
- cannot estimate the position of robot and obstacle.

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Metric Mapping

- Occupancy grid maps, which were introduced in the 1980s by **Moravec and Elfes***, are a popular, probabilistic metric mapping approach to represent the environment.
- They are an **approximative technique** in which we calculate for each cell of a discrete grid the posterior probability that the corresponding area in the environment is occupied by an obstacle.

*H.P. Moravec, A.E. Elfes: High Resolution Maps from Wide Angle Sonar, Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. Robot. Autom. (ICRA), 1985.

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Metric Mapping

• **Advantage of occupancy grid maps:**

◊ Do not rely on any predefined features.

◊ Additionally, they offer a constant-time access to grid cells and provide the ability to **represent unknown (unobserved) areas**, which can be important, for example, in exploration tasks.

• **Disadvantage of occupancy grid maps:**

- ◊ Potential discretization errors and
- ◊ High memory requirements.

Outline

- Markov Localization
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- Metric Mapping

• **Occupancy Grid Framework**

- Occupancy Grid-based Mapping
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• **Occupancy Grid Representation:**

◊ The occupancy grid representation employs a multidimensional (typically 2D or 3D) tesselation of space into cell, where each cell stores a probabilistic estimate of its state.

- ◊ R: a robot equipped with sensors,
- ◊ C: a cell in the occupancy grid.

- **Occupancy Grid Representation:**
	- ◊ The state variable **s(C)** associated with a cell C of the occupancy grid is defined as a discrete random variable with two states, occupied (OCC) and empty (EMP).

• **Estimating the Occupancy Grid:**

◊ Since a robot can only obtain information about its environment indirectly, through its sensors, the recovery of a spatial world model from sensor data is best modeled as estimation theory problem.

Occupancy Grid-based Mapping

• **Estimating the Occupancy Grid: Basic Idea**

B21r in the corridor

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Occupancy Grid-based Mapping

• **Estimating the Occupancy Grid: Incremental Mapping**

A map is built from a sequence of previous ultrasound scans.

- ◊ Afterwards the robot perceived a series of 18 ultrasound scans, each consisting of 24 measurements.
- ◊ The occupancy probabilities for these 18 scans are depicted in rows 2–7.

 \Diamond The occupancy probability grid is obtained by integrating the individual observations into the map [converges to corridor structure].

Occupancy Grid-based Mapping

• **Estimating the Occupancy Grid: Incremental Mapping**

Occupancy grid map obtained from ultrasound data

B21r in the corridor

• **Estimating the Occupancy Grid:**

• **Sensor Model:**

◊ Sonar sensors are used in this method.

• **Sensor Model:**

◊ Sonar sensors

◊ unable to determine the exact position of objects

• **Sensor Model:**

- ◊ Sensors can detect in range $27 \text{ cm} - 10.5 \text{ m}$
- \diamond Accuracy \pm 3 cm.
- ◊ 24 transducers, configured in a ring, spaced 15° apart.
- ◊ To avoid interference sensors must be fired sequentially $(\sim\!\!200\text{ms}/\text{firing}).$

• **Sensor Model:**

- \Diamond To interpret the range data obtained from a given sensing device, **stochastic sensor model** is used. This model is defined by a probability density function (pdf).
- ◊ This pdf is of the form **p(z|r)** and relates reading/observation of measurement **z** with the true parameter range value **r**.

• **Bayesian Estimation Process:**

- ◊ **Bayesian estimation** procedure is used to determine the **occupancy grid cell state probabilities**.
- ◊ To allow incremental composition of sensory information, **sequential updating formulation of Bayes' theorem** is used.

- **Bayesian Estimation Process:**
	- \diamond Given a current estimate of the state of the cell $\,\rm C_i$

 $p[s(C_i)=OCC]{\{z\}}_t]$

based on observation $\{\mathrm{z}\}_{\mathrm{t}}{=}\{\mathrm{z}_{1}{,}...{,}\mathrm{z}_{\mathrm{t}}\}$

 \diamond For a new observation $\left\{z\right\}_{t+1}$, the improved estimate is give by

$$
p[s(C_i) = OCC | \{z\}_{t+1}] = \frac{p[z_{t+1} | s(C_i) = OCC].p[s(C_i) = OCC | \{z\}_{t}]}{\sum_{s(C_i)} p[z_{t+1} | s(C_i)].p[s(C_i) | \{z\}_{t}]}
$$

$$
new cell state estimate = \frac{likelihood. previous cell state estimate}{evidence}
$$

 \boldsymbol{C} .

- **Bayesian Estimation Process:**
	- \diamond In this recursive formulation, the previous estimate of the cell state**, p[s(Cⁱ)=OCC|{z}^t]**, serves as the prior and is obtained directly from the occupancy grid.

- **Bayesian Estimation Process:**
	- ◊ Obtaining **p[z|s(Cⁱ)]** distribution from the sensor model **p(z|r)** is done using **Komogoroff's theorem**.
	- ◊ For **Ideal range sensor**: p[s(x)=OCC|z]
	- ◊ This figure shows the occupancy profile derived for the case of a one-dimensional ideal range sensor, characterized by:

$$
p(z | r) = \delta(z - r)
$$

where δ is Dirac delta function

- **Bayesian Estimation Process:**
	- ◊ Given a **range reading z**, the corresponding cell has occupancy **probability 1**.
	- ◊ The **preceding cells** are **empty** and have occupancy **probability 0**.
	- ◊ The **succeeding cells** have not been observed and are therefore **unknown**, so the occupancy probability is **0.5**.

- **Bayesian Estimation Process:**
	- ◊ For **One-dimensional Gaussian range sensor**:

- **Bayesian Estimation Process:**
	- ◊ For **One-dimensional Gaussian range sensor**:

$$
p(z \mid r) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp^{\left(\frac{-(z-r)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}
$$

- ◊ Sensor positioned at x=0.0 and z=2.0. The grid was initialized to $p[s(x)=OCC]=0.5$.
- ◊ Here the occupancy grid **converges** towards the behavior of the ideal sensor.

- **Bayesian Estimation Process:**
	- ◊ For **Two-dimensional Gaussian range sensor**:

$$
p(z | r, \theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_r\sigma_\theta} \exp^{\left(\frac{-1}{2}\left(\frac{(z-r)^2}{\sigma_r^2} + \frac{\theta^2}{\sigma_\theta^2}\right)\right)}
$$

◊ Sonar sensor is modeled with Gaussian uncertainty in both range and angle.

Occupancy probability introduced by a single ultrasound measurement of (a) $z = 2.0$ m and (b) $z = 2.5m$

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• **Decision Making:**

- ◊ For certain application, it may be necessary to assign a specific states to the cells of the occupancy grid.
- \diamond An optimal estimate of the state of a cell is given by the **Maximum A Posteriori (MAP)** decision rule:
- If $p[s(C) = OCC] > p[s(C) = EMP]$ Cell is occupied
- If $p[s(C) = OCC] < p[s(C) = EMP]$ Cell is empty
- If $p[s(C) = OCC] = p[s(C) = EMP]$ Cell is unknown

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- **Data Acquisition:** The vehicle explores and maps its environment, acquiring information about the world.
- **Sensor View:** The data acquired from a single sensor reading is called a sensor view.

• **Local Sensor Map Building:** Various sensor views taken from a single robot position can be composed into a local sensor map.

• **Robot View:** Multiple sensor maps can be maintained separately for different sensors. To obtain an integrated description of the robot's surroundings, sensor fusion of the separate local sensor maps is performed to yield a robot view, which encapsulates the total sensor information recovered from a single sensing position.

• **Robot View:**

• **Global View:** As the vehicle travels through its terrain of operation, robot views taken from multiple data-gathering locations are composed into a global map of the environment. This requires the registration of the robot views to a common frame of reference.

• **Global View:**

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• **Global View:**

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• 2-D sonar map produced by occupancy grid framework. Circles represent positions of the sonar ring where sensor readings were taken.

• White squares are areas where objects have been sensed, with a grey level proportional to the probability of occupancy. Thick while lines are the boundaries in a pre-recorded map, and thin white lines are the edges of the sonar beams.

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• A mobile robot equipped with 4 idealized sonar sensor is navigating in unknown environment as shown below.

- Show how the robot can build a map for this environment using 3 ultrasound scans in three different positions.
- **Assumptions:** static environment and robot position is known

• **Initialization**

◊ Divide the space into 9 evenly size cells as shown below.

◊ Assign o.5 (unknown) as a prior belief or occupancy probability for the state of all the cells:

 $p[s(C_i) = OCC | \{z\}_0] = 0.5$

• **First Position: Sensor Views**

- \Diamond Front Sensor View: $z_{F1} = \{2 \text{ units}\} \Rightarrow$ sensor can see cell $C_2 \& C_3$
- \Diamond Right Sensor View: $z_{R_1} = \{2 \text{ units}\} \Rightarrow$ sensor can see cell $C_4 \& C_7$
- \Diamond Left Sensor View: $z_{L1} = \{o \text{ units}\}\$
- \Diamond Back Sensor View: z_{B1} ={0 units}

- **First Position: Front Sensor Local Map**
	- \diamond Front Sensor View: $z_{F_1} = \{2 \text{ units}\}\$
	- \Diamond First Cell C_i=1

 $\sum p[z_{F1} | s(C_1)].p[s(C_1)|\{z_{F}\}_0]$ $p[z_{F1} | s(C_1) = OCC].p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0]$ $p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] =$ (C_1) 1 *^s C*

 $p[z_{F1} | s(C_1) = OCC].p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0] + p[z_{F1} | s(C_1) = EMP].p[s(C_1) = EMP | \{z_F\}_0]$ $p[z_{F1} | s(C_1) = OCC]$. $p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0]$ $p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] =$

$$
p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] = \frac{1 \times 0.5}{1 \times 0.5 + 0 \times 0.5} = 1
$$

- **First Position: Front Sensor Local Map**
	- \diamond Front Sensor View: $z_{F_1} = \{2 \text{ units}\}\$
	- \diamond Second Cell C_i=2

 $\sum p[z_{F1} | s(C_2)] . p[s(C_2) | \{z_F\}_0]$ $p[z_{F1} | s(C_2) = OCC].p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0]$ $p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] =$ (C_2) 2 *^s C*

 $p[z_{F1} | s(C_2) = OCC].p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0] + p[z_{F1} | s(C_2) = EMP].p[s(C_2) = EMP | \{z_F\}_0]$ $p[z_{F1} | s(C_2) = OCC].p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0]$ $p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] =$

$$
p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] = \frac{0 \times 0.5}{0 \times 0.5 + 1 \times 0.5} = 0
$$

- **First Position: Front Sensor Local Map**
	- \diamond Front Sensor View: $z_{F1} = \{2 \text{ units}\}\$
	- \diamond Third Cell C_i=3

$$
p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] =
$$

\n
$$
\frac{p[z_{F1} | s(C_3) = OCC], p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0]}{\sum_{s(C_3)} p[z_{F1} | s(C_3)], p[s(C_3) | \{z_F\}_0]}
$$

Front Sensor Local Map

$$
p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] =
$$

\n
$$
p[z_{F1} | s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0]
$$

\n
$$
p[z_{F1} | s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0] + p[z_{F1} | s(C_3) = EMP | \{z_F\}_0]
$$

\n
$$
p[z_{F1} | s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_F\}_0] + p[z_{F1} | s(C_3) = EMP | \{z_F\}_0]
$$

$$
p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_F\}_1] = \frac{0 \times 0.5}{0 \times 0.5 + 1 \times 0.5} = 0
$$

- **First Position: Right Sensor Local Map**
	- \diamond Right Sensor View: $z_{R_1} = \{2 \text{ units}\}\$
	- \Diamond First Cell C_i=1

 $\sum p[z_{R1} | s(C_1)].p[s(C_1)|\{z_R\}_0]$ $p[z_{R1} | s(C_1) = OCC].p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_R\}_0]$ $p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] =$ (C_1) *^s C*

1:1 4:0.5 7:0.5

 $p[z_{R1} | s(C_1) = OCC].p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_R\}_0] + p[z_{R1} | s(C_1) = EMP].p[s(C_1) = EMP | \{z_R\}_0]$ $p[z_{R1} | s(C_1) = OCC].p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_R\}_0]$ $p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] =$

$$
p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] = \frac{1 \times 0.5}{1 \times 0.5 + 0 \times 0.5} = 1
$$

- **First Position: Right Sensor Local Map**
	- \diamond Right Sensor View: $z_{R_1} = \{2 \text{ units}\}\$
	- \diamond Second Cell C_i=2

 $\sum p[z_{R1} | s(C_2)] . p[s(C_2) | \{z_R\}_0]$ $p[z_{R1} | s(C_2) = OCC].p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_R\}_0]$ $p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] =$ (C_2) 2 *^s C*

1:1 4:0 7:0.5

 $p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] =$

 $p[z_{R_1} | s(C_2) = OCC]$. $p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_R\}_0]$

 $p[z_{R1} | s(C_2) = OCC].p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_R\}_0] + p[z_{R1} | s(C_2) = EMP].p[s(C_2) = EMP | \{z_R\}_0]$

$$
p[s(C_2) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] = \frac{0 \times 0.5}{0 \times 0.5 + 1 \times 0.5} = 0
$$

- **First Position: Right Sensor Local Map**
	- \Diamond Right Sensor View: $z_{R_1} = \{2 \text{ units}\}\$
	- \diamond Third Cell C_i=3

$$
p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] =
$$
\n
$$
\frac{p[z_{R1} | s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1]}{\sum_{s(C_3)} p[z_{R1} | s(C_3)] \cdot p[s(C_3) | \{z_R\}_0]}
$$
\nRight
\n**Example 1.1**
\n**Right**
\n**General**

$$
p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] =
$$
\n
$$
p[z_{R1} | s(C_3) = OCC], p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_R\}_0]
$$
\n
$$
p[z_{R1} | s(C_3) = OCC], p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_R\}_0] + p[z_{R1} | s(C_3) = EMP], p[s(C_3) = EMP | \{z_R\}_0]
$$

$$
p[s(C_3) = OCC | \{z_R\}_1] = \frac{0 \times 0.5}{0 \times 0.5 + 1 \times 0.5} = 0
$$

1:1

4:0

Map

- **First Position: Left Sensor Local Map**
	- \Diamond Left Sensor View: $z_{L1} = \{o \text{ units}\}\$
	- \Diamond First Cell C_i=1

$$
p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_L\}_1] =
$$

\n
$$
\frac{p[z_{L1} | s(C_1) = OCC], p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_L\}_0]}{\sum_{s(C_1)} p[z_{L1} | s(C_1)], p[s(C_1) | \{z_L\}_0]}
$$

Left Sensor Local Map

$$
p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_L\}_1] =
$$

\n
$$
p[z_{L1} | s(C_1) = OCC].p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_L\}_0]
$$

\n
$$
p[z_{L1} | s(C_1) = OCC].p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_L\}_0] + p[z_{L1} | s(C_1) = EMP].p[s(C_1) = EMP | \{z_L\}_0]
$$

$$
p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_L\}_1] = \frac{1 \times 0.5}{1 \times 0.5 + 0 \times 0.5} = 1
$$

- **First Position: Back Sensor Local Map**
	- \Diamond Left Sensor View: $z_{B1} = \{o \text{ units}\}\$
	- \Diamond First Cell C_i=1

$$
p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_B\}_1] =
$$

\n
$$
\frac{p[z_{B1} | s(C_1) = OCC], p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_B\}_0]}{\sum_{s(C_1)} p[z_{B1} | s(C_1)], p[s(C_1) | \{z_B\}_0]}
$$

Back Sensor Local Map

$$
p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_B\}_1] =
$$

\n
$$
p[z_{B1} | s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_B\}_0]
$$

\n
$$
p[z_{B1} | s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_B\}_0] + p[z_{B1} | s(C_1) = EMP | \{z_B\}_0]
$$

\n
$$
p[z_{B1} | s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_B\}_0] + p[z_{B1} | s(C_1) = EMP | \{z_B\}_0]
$$

$$
p[s(C_1) = OCC | \{z_B\}_0] = \frac{1 \times 0.5}{1 \times 0.5 + 0 \times 0.5} = 1
$$

• **First Position: Sensor Local Map**

Case Study

• **First Position: Robot View**

- \Diamond The robot view is obtained by integrating the individual observations (sensor local map) into the map.
- \diamond For the same cell overlap (cell C₁), apply **MAP**.
	- If $p[s(C)=OCC] > p[s(C)=EMP]$ Cell is occupied.
	- If $p[s(C)=OCC]$ Cell is empty
	- If $p[s(C)=OCC] = p[s(C)=EMP]$ Cell is unknown

Case Study

• **Second and Third Positions:**

◊ Repeat the procedure to obtain other two robot views…

Case Study

• **Global Map:**

- \diamond The global map is obtained by integrating the three robot view into the map using MAP.
	- If $p[s(C) = OCC] > p[s(C) = EMP]$ Cell is occupied
	- If $p[s(C) = OCC] < p[s(C) = EMP]$ Cell is empty

If $p[s(C) = OCC] = p[s(C) = EMP]$ Cell is unknown

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Summary

- To widen the range of application and deployment of robots, both in research and in industrial contexts, we need to develop more powerful and flexible robotic systems exhibiting higher degrees of autonomy and able to sense, plan, and operate in unstructured environments.
- For that, the robot must be able to interact coherently with its world, both by being able to recover robust and useful spatial descriptions (mapping) of its surroundings using sensory information and by efficiently utilizing these descriptions in appropriate short-term and long-term planning and decisionmaking activities.
- Mapping is the estimation problem of generating maps from sensor measurements.
- The occupancy grid framework provides a robust and a unified approach to a variety of problems in spatial robot perception and navigation.
- The disadvantage of this framework are its potential discretization errors and high memory requirements.

References

This lecture is based on materials from the following sources:

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