CSE-571 Robotics

SLAM: Simultaneous Localization and Mapping

Many slides courtesy of Ryan Eustice, Cyrill Stachniss, John Leonard

The SLAM Problem

A robot is exploring an unknown, static environment.

Given:

- The robot's controls
- Observations of nearby features

Estimate:

- Map of features
- Path of the robot





1











2























SLAM Using Landmarks

- 1. Move
- 2. Sense
- 3. Associate measurements with known features
- 4. Update state estimates for robot and previously mapped features
- 5. Find new features from unassociated measurements
- 6. Initialize new features

7. Repeat



MIT Indoor Track



Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)

- Building a map and locating the robot in the map at the same time
- Chicken-and-egg problem



Courtesy: Cyrill St



















EKF SLAM: Filter Cycle

- 1. State prediction
- 2. Measurement prediction
- 3. Measurement
- 4. Data association
- 5. Update









Courtesy: Cyrill S



EKF SLAM: Concrete Example

Setup

- Robot moves in the 2D plane
- Velocity-based motion model
- Robot observes point landmarks
- Range-bearing sensor
- □ Known data association
- Known number of landmarks

















EKF SLAM: Correction StepR \Box Known data association \Box $\Box c_t^i = j : i$ -th measurement at time t observes the
landmark with index j \Box

- Initialize landmark if unobserved
- Compute the expected observation
- \square Compute the Jacobian of h
- Proceed with computing the Kalman gain















EKF SLAM Complexity

- Cubic complexity depends only on the measurement dimensionality
- $\hfill\square$ Cost per step: dominated by the number of landmarks: $O(n^2)$
- \square Memory consumption: $O(n^2)$
- The EKF becomes computationally intractable for large maps!

Courtesy: Cyrill St

























- Loop-closing means recognizing an already mapped area
- Data association under
 - high ambiguity
- possible environment symmetries
- Uncertainties collapse after a loop-closure (whether the closure was correct or not)





Example: Victoria Park Dataset

















EKF SLAM Summary

- □ Quadratic in the number of landmarks: $O(n^2)$
- □ Convergence results for the linear case.
- □ Can diverge if nonlinearities are large!
- Have been applied successfully in large-scale environments.
- Approximations reduce the computational complexity.

Literature

EKF SLAM

- □ Thrun et al.: "Probabilistic Robotics", Chapter 10
- Smith, Self, & Cheeseman: "Estimating Uncertain Spatial Relationships in Robotics"
- Dissanayake et al.: "A Solution to the Simultaneous Localization and Map Building (SLAM) Problem"
- Durrant-Whyte & Bailey: "SLAM Part 1" and "SLAM Part 2" tutorials

Courtesy: Cyrill St

Graph-SLAM

- Full SLAM technique
- Generates probabilistic links
- Computes map only occasionally
- Based on Information Filter form



Information Form

- Represent posterior in canonical form
 - $\Omega = \Sigma^{-1}$ Information matrix
 - $\xi = \Sigma^{-1} \mu$ Information vector
- One-to-one transform between canonical and moment representation $\Sigma = \Omega^{-1}$
 - $\mu = \Omega^{-1} \xi$

































Graph-SLAM Summary

- Adresses full SLAM problem
- Constructs link graph between poses and poses/landmarks
- Graph is sparse: number of edges linear in number of nodes
- Inference performed by building information matrix and vector (linearized form)
- Map recovered by reduction to robot poses, followed by conversion to moment representation, followed by estimation of landmark positions
- ML estimate by minimization of J_{GraphSLAM}
- Data association by iterative greedy search