

Probabilistic Robotics

Mobile Robot Localization

Wolfram Burgard
Cyrill Stachniss

Probabilistic Robotics

Key idea: Explicit representation of uncertainty

(using the calculus of probability theory)

- Perception = state estimation
- Action = utility optimization

2

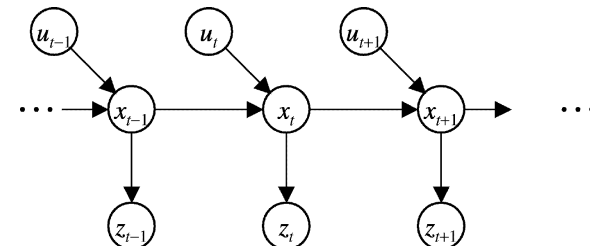
Bayes Filters: Framework

- **Given:**
 - Stream of observations z and action data u :
 $d_t = \{u_1, z_1 \ominus, u_t, z_t\}$
 - Sensor model $P(z|x)$.
 - Action model $P(x|u, x')$.
 - Prior probability of the system state $P(x)$.
- **Wanted:**
 - Estimate of the state X of a dynamical system.
 - The posterior of the state is also called **Belief**:

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

3

Markov Assumption



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

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

Underlying Assumptions

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

4

Bayes Filters

z = observation
u = action
x = state

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

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

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

Total prob. $= \eta P(z_t | x_t) \int P(x_t | u_1, z_1, \dots, u_t, x_{t-1}) P(x_{t-1} | u_1, z_1, \dots, u_t) dx_{t-1}$

Markov $= \eta P(z_t | x_t) \int P(x_t | u_t, x_{t-1}) P(x_{t-1} | u_1, z_1, \dots, u_t) dx_{t-1}$

Markov $= \eta P(z_t | x_t) \int P(x_t | u_t, x_{t-1}) P(x_{t-1} | u_1, z_1, \dots, z_{t-1}) dx_{t-1}$

$$= \eta P(z_t | x_t) \int P(x_t | u_t, x_{t-1}) Bel(x_{t-1}) dx_{t-1}$$

5

$$Bel(x_t) = \eta P(z_t | x_t) \int P(x_t | u_t, x_{t-1}) Bel(x_{t-1}) dx_{t-1}$$

1. Algorithm **Bayes_filter**($Bel(x), d$):
2. $\eta = 0$
3. If d is a **perceptual** data item z then
4. For all x do
5. $Bel'(x) = P(z | x) Bel(x)$
6. $\eta = \eta + Bel'(x)$
7. For all x do
8. $Bel'(x) = \eta^{-1} Bel'(x)$
9. Else if d is an **action** data item u then
10. For all x do
11. $Bel'(x) = \int P(x | u, x') Bel(x') dx'$
12. Return $Bel'(x)$

6

Bayes Filters are Frequently used Robotics

$$Bel(x_t) = \eta P(z_t | x_t) \int P(x_t | u_t, x_{t-1}) Bel(x_{t-1}) dx_{t-1}$$

- Kalman filters
- Particle filters
- Hidden Markov models
- Dynamic Bayesian networks
- Partially Observable Markov Decision Processes (POMDPs)

7

Example: Robot Localization using a Bayes Filter

- Action: motion information of the robot
- Perception: compare the robots sensor observations to the model of the world
- Particle filters are a way to **efficiently** represent **non-Gaussian distribution**
- Basic principle
 - Set of state hypotheses ("particles")
 - Kind of "survival-of-the-fittest"

8

Mathematical Description

- Set of weighted samples

$$S = \left\{ \left\langle s^{[i]}, w^{[i]} \right\rangle \mid i = 1, \dots, N \right\}$$

State hypothesis

Importance weight

- The samples represent the posterior

$$p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \cdot \delta_{s^{[i]}}(x)$$

9

Particle Filter Algorithm

- Action step: sample the next generation for particles using a probabilistic motion model (proposal distribution)

$$Bel^-(x) \leftarrow \int p(x|u, x') Bel(x') dx'$$

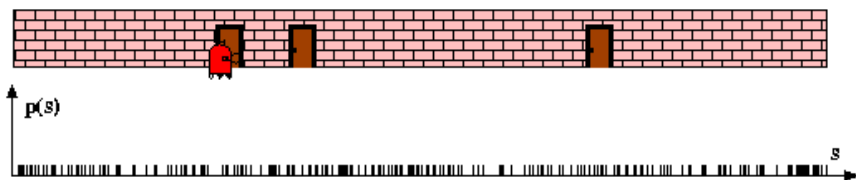
- Perception step: compute the importance weights to incorporate the observation:

$$Bel(x) \leftarrow \alpha p(z|x) Bel^-(x) = \alpha p(z|x) Bel^-(x)$$

- Resampling: Draw particle with a probability proportional to their importance weight
"Replace unlikely samples by more likely ones"

10

Particle Filters

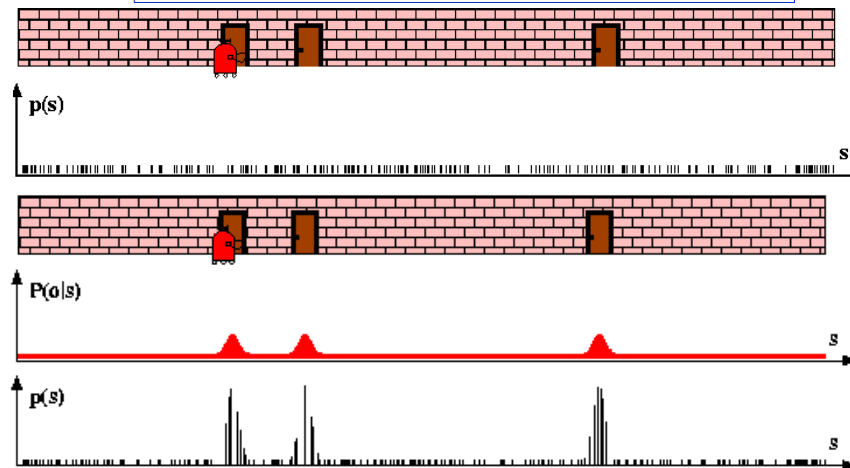


11

Sensor Information: Importance Sampling

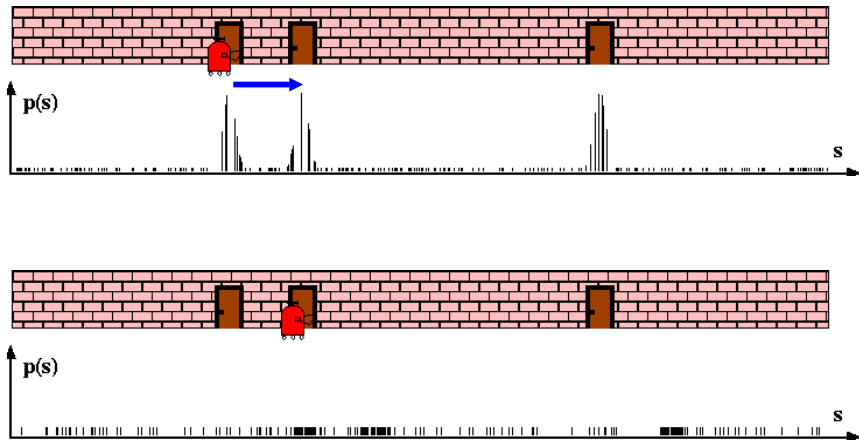
$$Bel(x) \leftarrow \alpha p(z|x) Bel^-(x)$$

$$w \leftarrow \frac{\alpha p(z|x) Bel^-(x)}{Bel^-(x)} = \alpha p(z|x)$$



Robot Motion

$$Bel^-(x) \leftarrow \int p(x|u, x') Bel(x') dx'$$

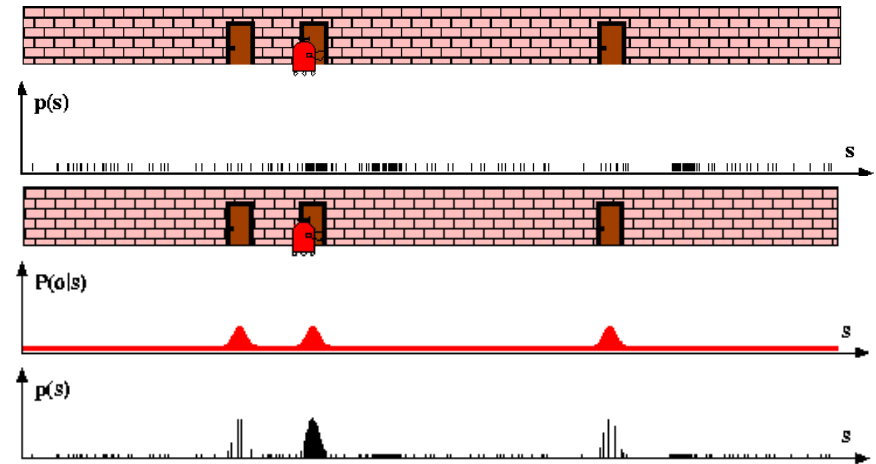


13

Sensor Information: Importance Sampling

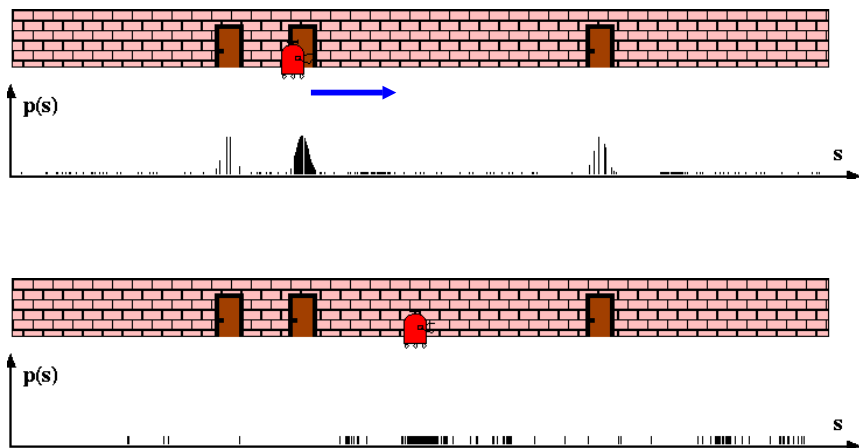
$$Bel(x) \leftarrow \alpha p(z|x) Bel^-(x)$$

$$w \leftarrow \frac{\alpha p(z|x) Bel^-(x)}{Bel^-(x)} = \alpha p(z|x)$$



Robot Motion

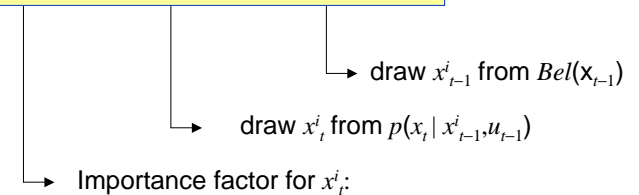
$$Bel^-(x) \leftarrow \int p(x|u, x') Bel(x') dx'$$



15

Particle Filter Algorithm

$$Bel(x_t) = \eta p(z_t|x_t) \int p(x_t|x_{t-1}, u_{t-1}) Bel(x_{t-1}) dx_{t-1}$$



$$w_t^i = \frac{\text{target distribution}}{\text{proposal distribution}}$$

$$= \frac{\eta p(z_t|x_t) p(x_t|x_{t-1}^i, u_{t-1}) Bel(x_{t-1})}{p(x_t|x_{t-1}^i, u_{t-1}) Bel(x_{t-1})}$$

$$\propto p(z_t|x_t)$$

16

Particle Filter Algorithm

1. Algorithm **particle_filter**(S_{t-1}, u_{t-1}, z_t):
2. $S_t = \emptyset, \eta = 0$
3. **For** $i = 1 \ominus n$ *Generate new samples*
4. Sample index $j(i)$ from the discrete distribution given by w_{t-1}
5. Sample x_t^i from $p(x_t | x_{t-1}, u_{t-1})$ using $x_{t-1}^{j(i)}$ and u_{t-1}
6. $w_t^i = p(z_t | x_t^i)$ *Compute importance weight*
7. $\eta = \eta + w_t^i$ *Update normalization factor*
8. $S_t = S_t \cup \{ \langle x_t^i, w_t^i \rangle \}$ *Insert*
9. **For** $i = 1 \ominus n$
10. $w_t^i = w_t^i / \eta$ *Normalize weights*

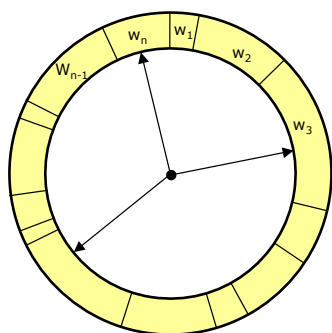
17

Resampling

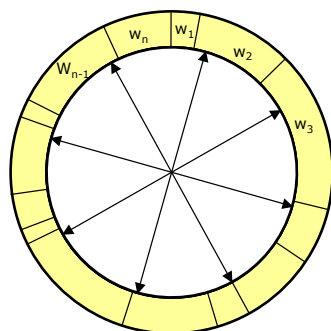
- **Given:** Set S of weighted samples.
- **Wanted :** Random sample, where the probability of drawing x_j is given by w_j .
- Typically done n times with replacement to generate new sample set S' .

18

Resampling



- Roulette wheel
- Binary search, $n \log n$



- Stochastic universal sampling
- Systematic resampling
- Linear time complexity
- Easy to implement, low variance

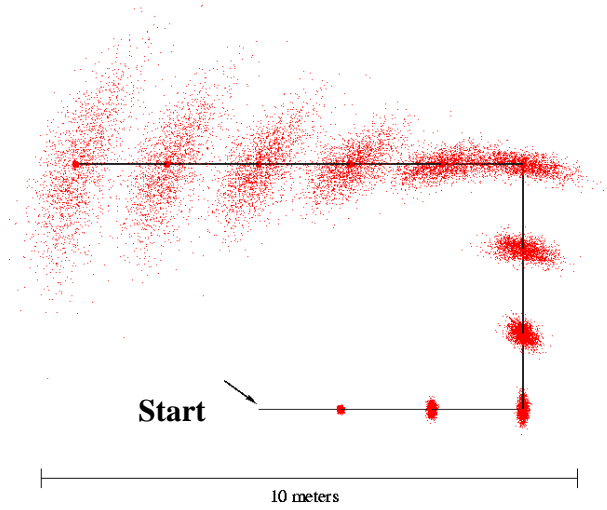
19

Resampling Algorithm

1. Algorithm **systematic_resampling**(S, n):
2. $S' = \emptyset, c_1 = w^1$
3. **For** $i = 2 \ominus n$ *Generate cdf*
4. $c_i = c_{i-1} + w^i$
5. $u_1 \sim U]0, n^{-1}]$, $i = 1$ *Initialize threshold*
6. **For** $j = 1 \ominus n$ *Draw samples ...*
7. **While** ($u_j > c_i$) *Skip until next threshold reached*
8. $i = i + 1$
9. $S' = S' \cup \{ \langle x^i, n^{-1} \rangle \}$ *Insert*
10. $u_{j+1} = u_j + n^{-1}$ *Increment threshold*
11. **Return** S'

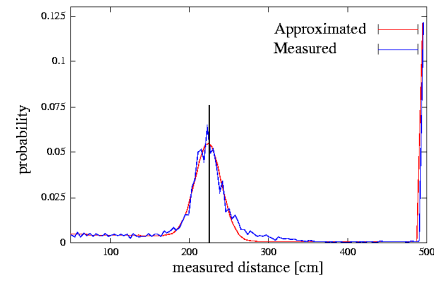
Also called **stochastic universal sampling**

Motion Model Reminder

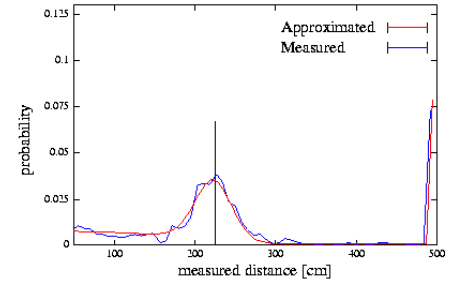


21

Proximity Sensor Model Reminder

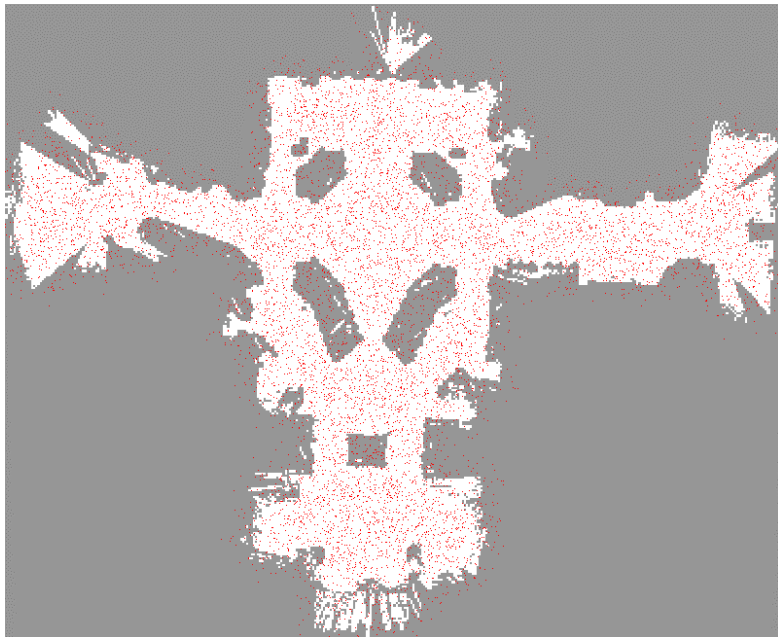


Laser sensor

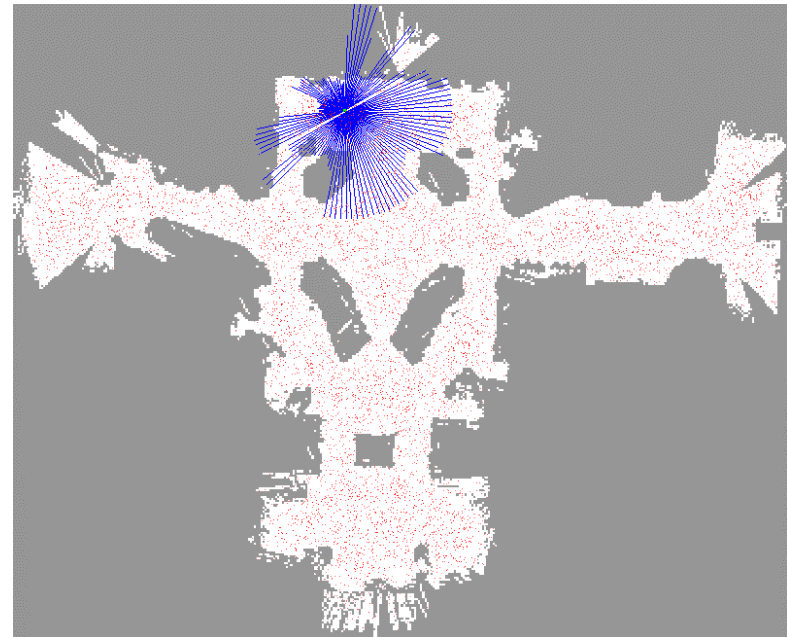


Sonar sensor

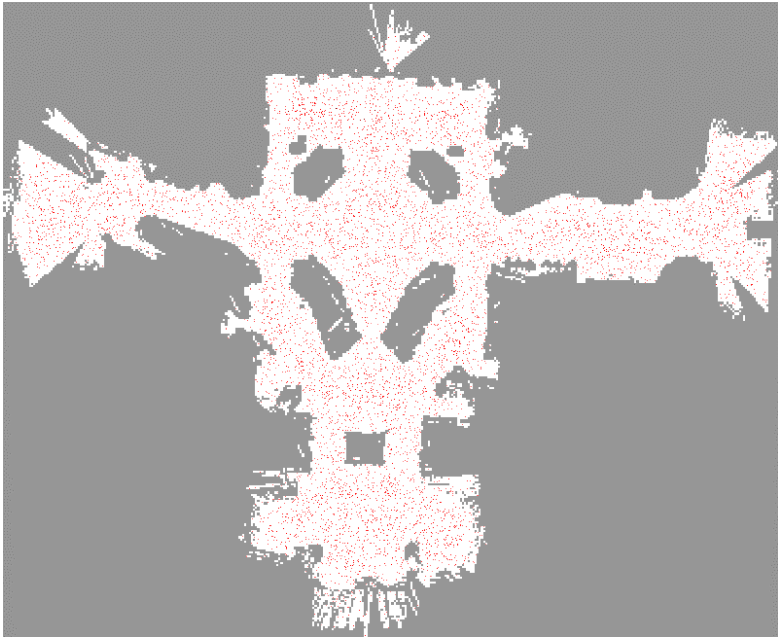
22



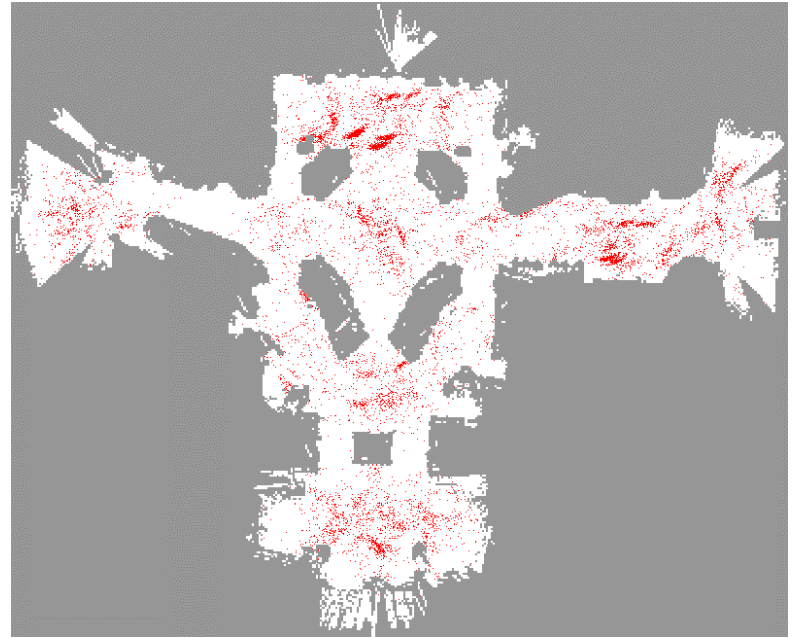
23



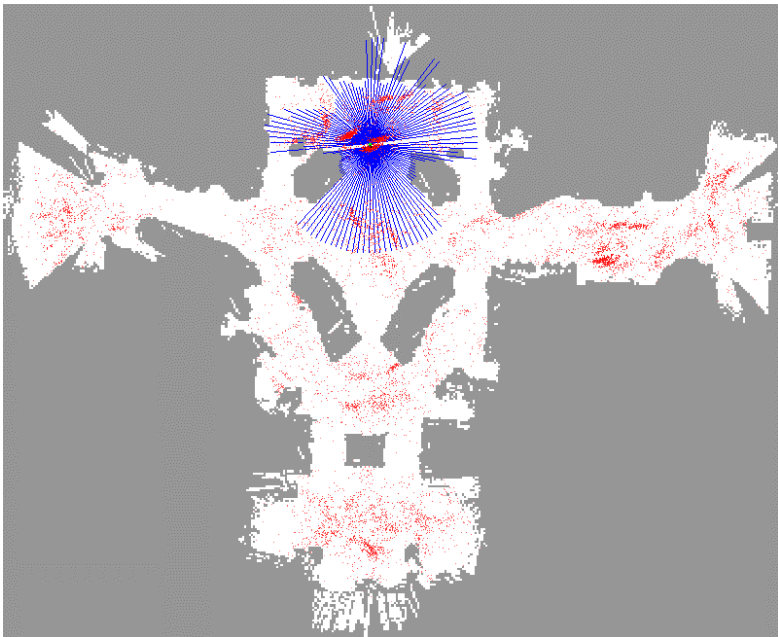
24



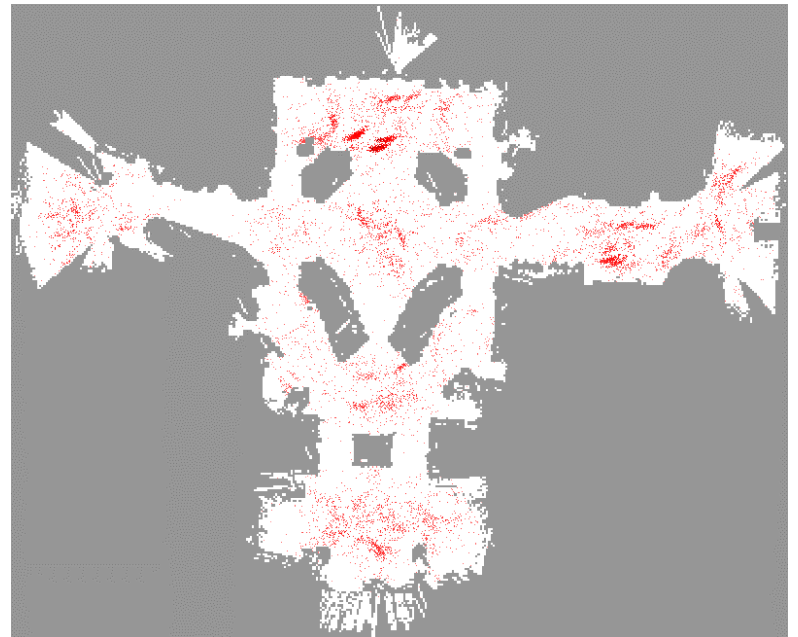
25



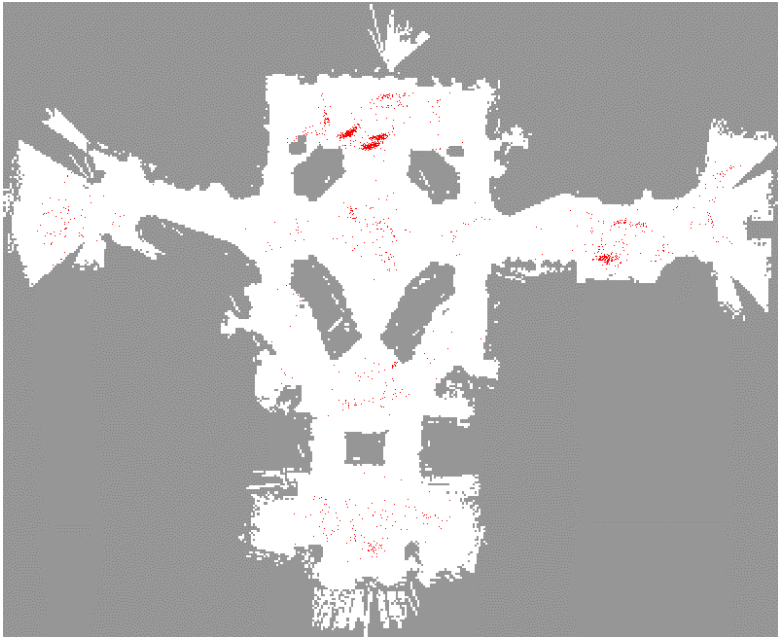
26



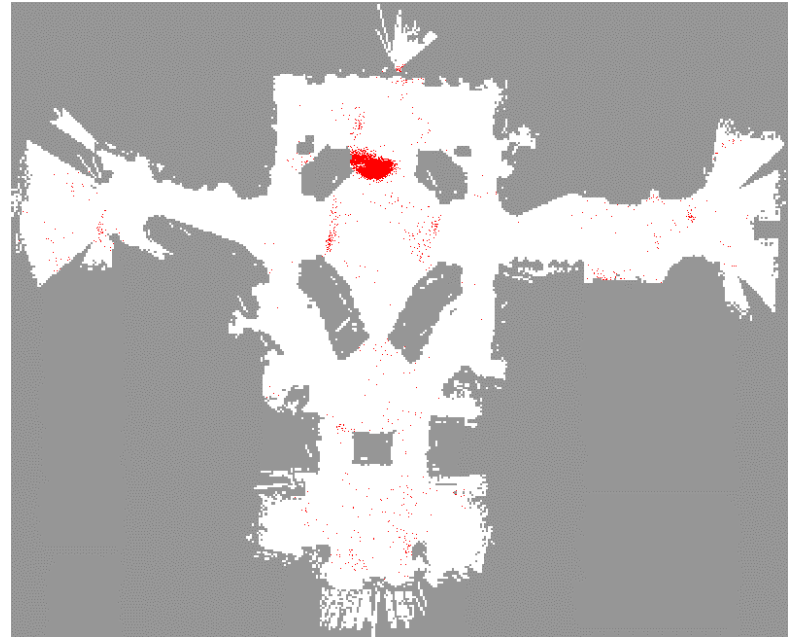
27



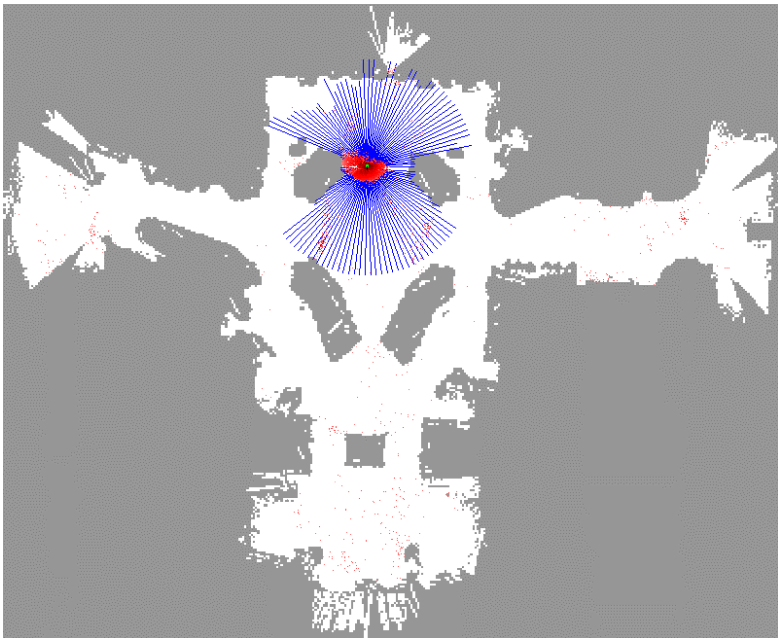
28



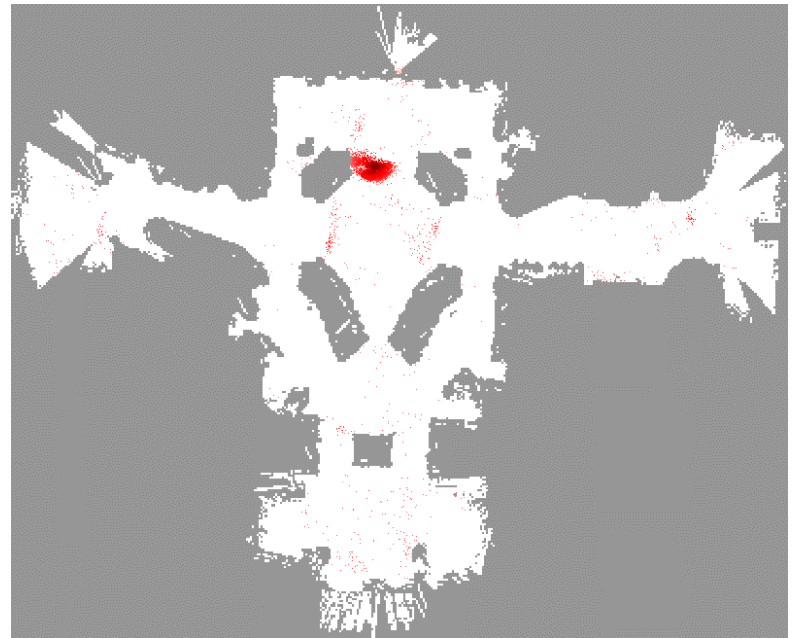
29



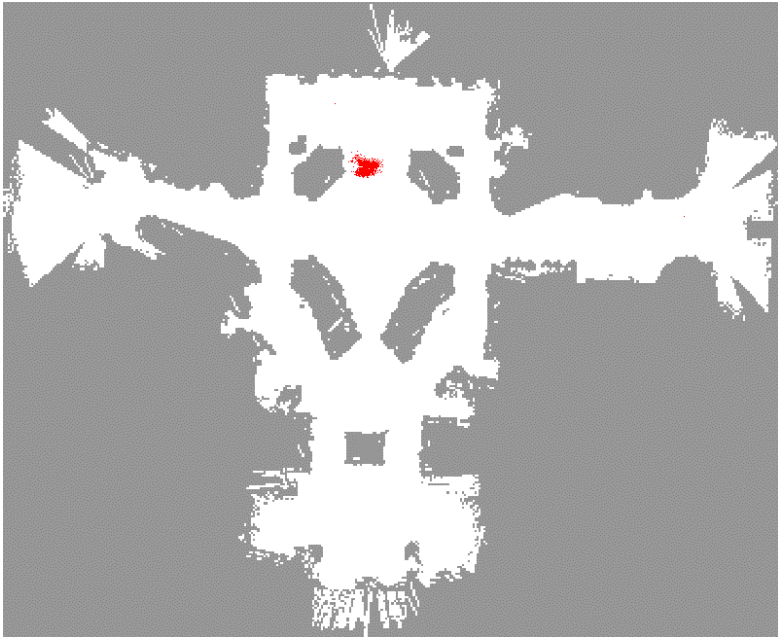
30



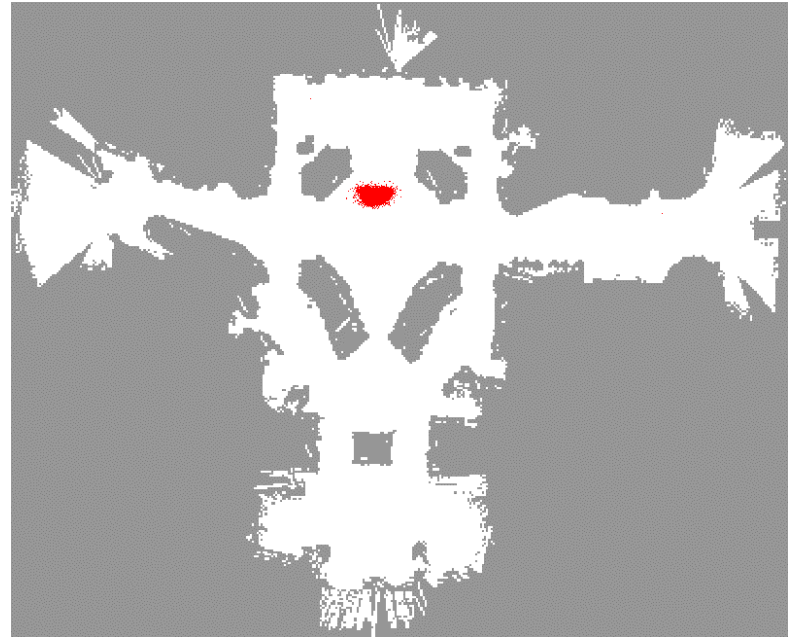
31



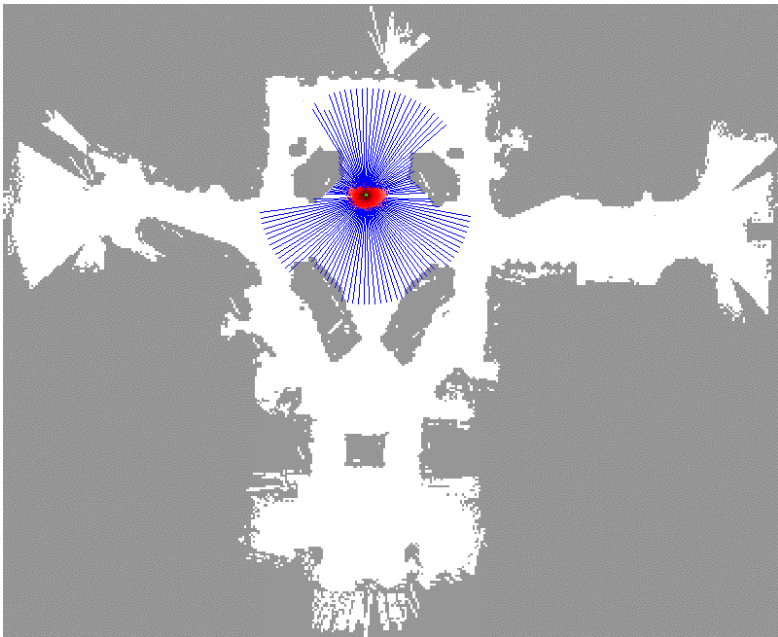
32



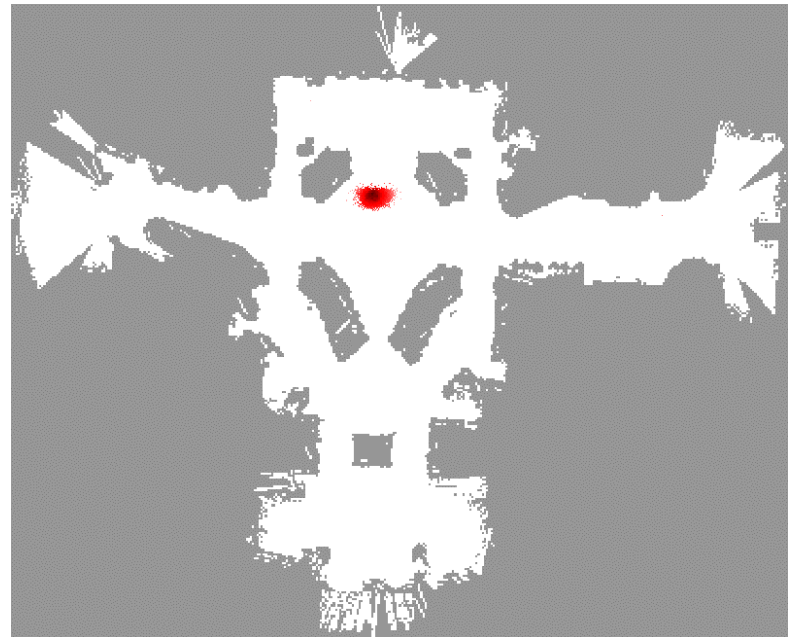
33



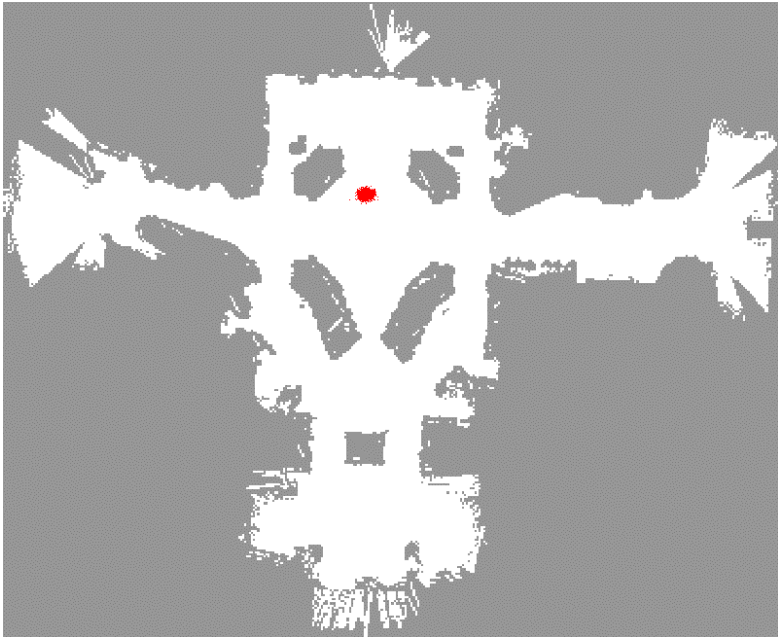
34



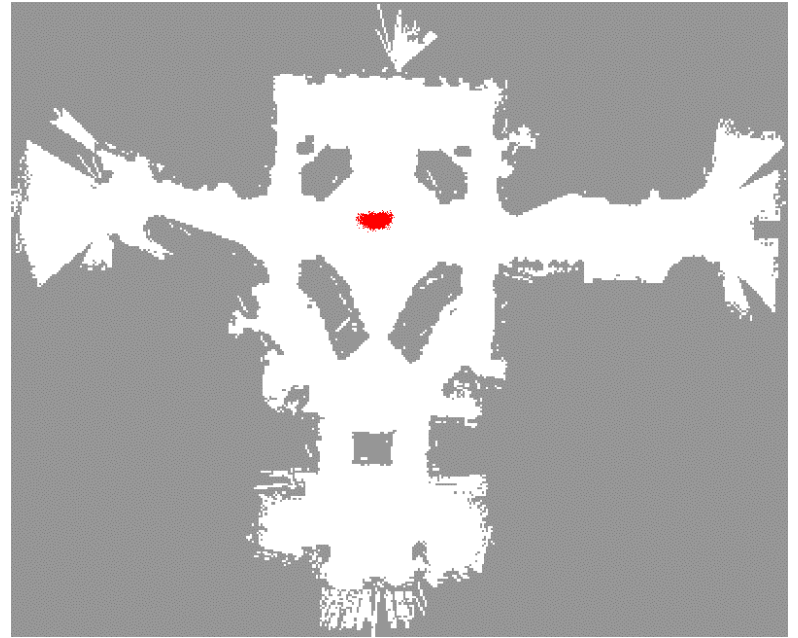
35



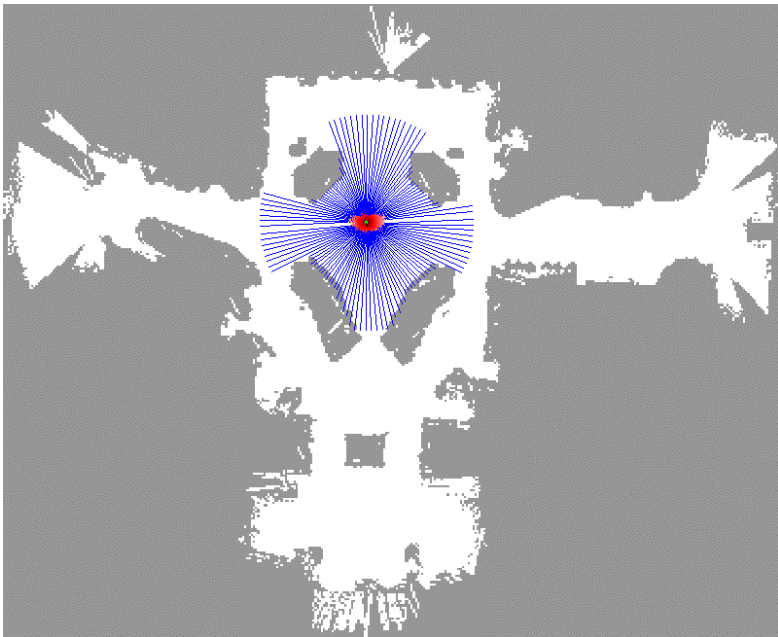
36



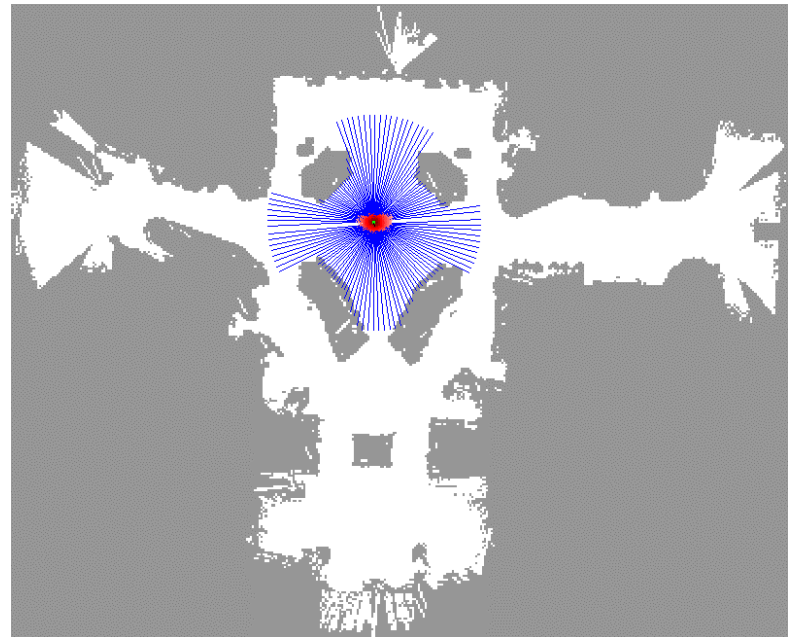
37



38

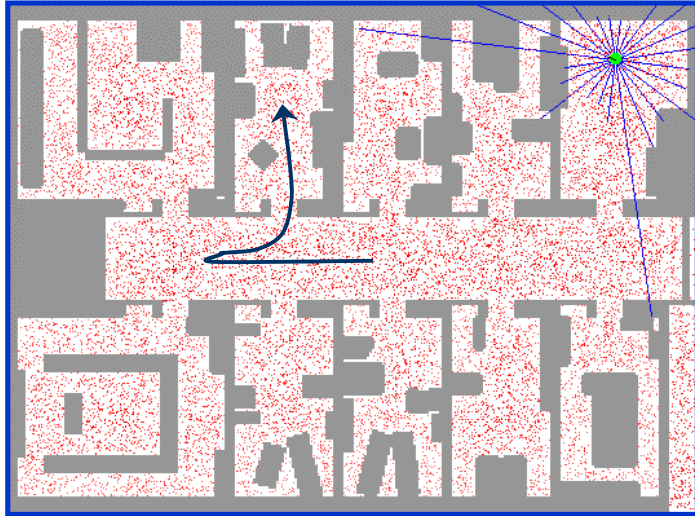


39



40

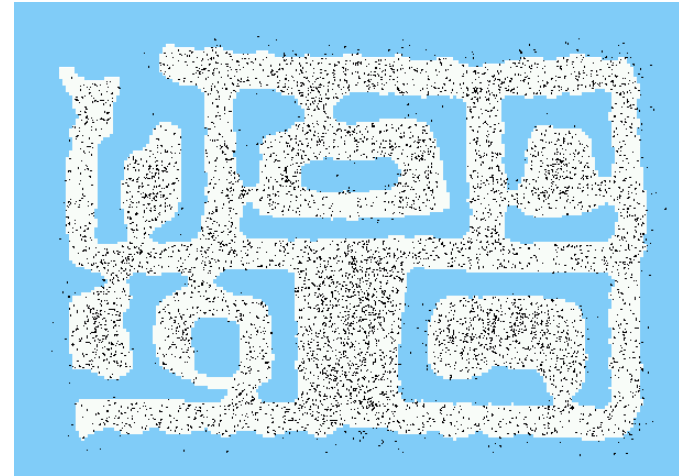
Sample-based Localization (Sonar)



[VIDEO]

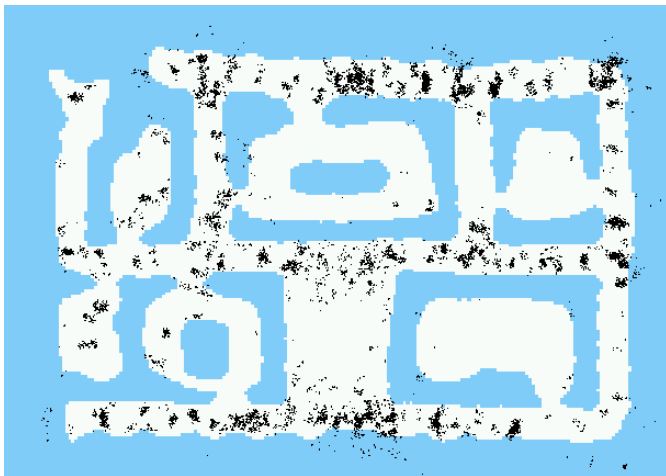
41

Initial Distribution



42

After Incorporating Ten Ultrasound Scans



43

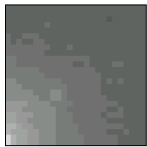
After Incorporating 65 Ultrasound Scans



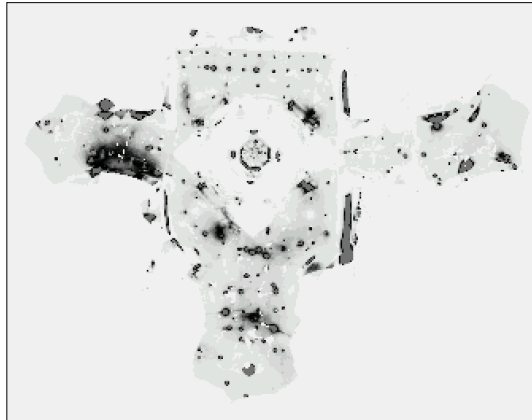
44

Next to a Light

Measurement z :



$P(z/x)$:



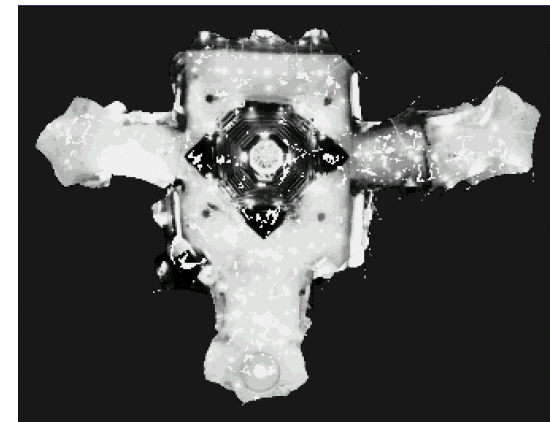
49

Elsewhere

Measurement z :

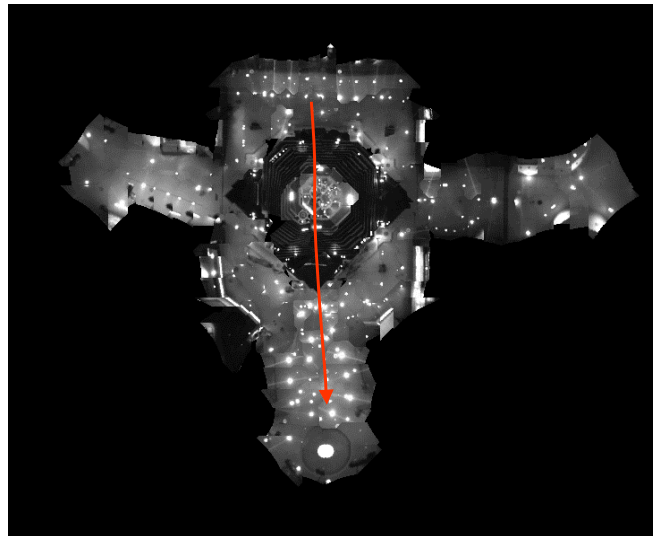


$P(z/x)$:



50

Global Localization Using Vision



[VIDEO]

51

Summary – Particle Filters

- Particle filters are an implementation of recursive Bayesian filtering
- They represent the posterior by a set of weighted samples
- They can model non-Gaussian distributions
- Proposal distribution to draw new samples
- Weight to account for the differences between the proposal and the target
- Monte Carlo filter, Survival of the fittest, Condensation, Bootstrap filter

52

Summary – PF Localization

- In the context of localization, the particles are propagated according to the motion model
- They are then weighted according to the likelihood of the observations
- In a re-sampling step, new particles are drawn with a probability proportional to the likelihood of the observation