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Coverage Control and Experimental Setup



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Outline

- Distributed Control of Multi-agent System
- Coverage Control
 - Problem
 - Voronoi partitions
 - Continuous-time Lloyd Algorithm
 - Continuous-time Gradient Flow
- Experimental Setup
- Future Works

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Distributed Control of Multi-agent System

Centralized Control

- one main computer control all agents

- easy algorithms
- large communication cost
- in big system, calculation by one computer is hard
- system doesn't work when the main computer goes wrong

Distributed Control

- each agent communicate only with its neighbors
- each agent move autonomously
- small amount of calculation for each agent
- system works even if some agents go wrong

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Coverage Control

Distributed Control

- Consensus Problem
- Flocking Problem
 - Leader Following
- Formation Problem
- Coverage Problem




Fig. Flock of Snow Geese

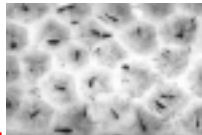


Fig. Territories of Tiapia mossambica

Coverage Problem

: an optimal sensor placement problem
(= locational optimization problem)

J.Cortes, S. Martinez, T. Karatas and F. Bullo
"Coverage control for mobile sensing networks,"
IEEE Transactions on Robotics and Automation, 2004

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Problem

Q :convex region

goal: plan robots(sensors)' motion in order to maximize the detection probability

$P = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$:location of n sensors

$W = \{W_1, \dots, W_n\}$:dominance region
 i th sensor is responsible for measurements over its "dominance region": W_i

$\phi(q)$:density function
probability that some event take place

$f(\|q - p_i\|)$:how poor p_i sense q
(non-decreasing differentiable function)

$\|q - p_i\| = \text{big} \rightarrow f = \text{big} \rightarrow \text{poor sensing}$

$H(P, W) = \sum_{j=1}^n \int_{W_j} f(\|q - p_j\|) \phi(q) dq$:objective function

minimize the objective function with respect to P and W

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Voronoi Partitions(1)

$H(P, W) = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{W_i} f(\|q - p_i\|) \phi(q) dq$

fixed consider the optimal partition W

$V(P) = \{V_1, \dots, V_n\}$:Voronoi partition

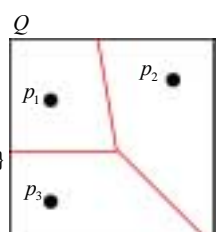
$V_i = \{q \in Q \mid \|q - p_i\| \leq \|q - p_j\|, \forall j \neq i\}$

→ minimize $f(\|q - p_i\|)$
(proof is on next page)

$\frac{\partial H_V}{\partial p_i}(P) = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}(P, V(P)) = \int_{V_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} f(\|q - p_i\|) \phi(q) dq$

depends only on its own position and that of Voronoi neighbors

→ Distributed



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Voronoi Partitions(2)

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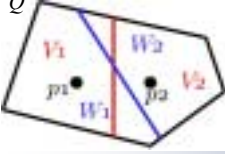
proof :
 $H(P, V) \leq H(P, W)$: means that Voronoi partition is optimal partition

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \int_{V_i} f(\|q-p_i\|) \phi(q) dq \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{W_i} f(\|q-p_i\|) \phi(q) dq$$

$$\int_{V_1} f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi dq + \int_{V_2} f(\|q-p_2\|) \phi dq \leq \int_{W_1} f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi dq + \int_{W_2} f(\|q-p_2\|) \phi dq$$

($XW(q)=1$ if $q \in W$, $XW(q)=0$ if not)

$$\int_Q \{f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi X_{V_1} + f(\|q-p_2\|) \phi X_{V_2}\} dq \leq \int_Q \{f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi X_{W_1} + f(\|q-p_2\|) \phi X_{W_2}\} dq$$

$$f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi X_{V_1} + f(\|q-p_2\|) \phi X_{V_2} \leq f(\|q-p_2\|) \phi X_{W_1} + f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi X_{W_2}$$


Let $q \in V_1$, if $q \in W_1$
 $f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi X_{V_1} = f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi X_{W_1}$
 if $q \in W_2$
 $f(\|q-p_1\|) \phi X_{V_1} < f(\|q-p_2\|) \phi X_{W_2}$
 Likewise if $q \in V_2$

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Centroidal Voronoi Partitions

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Mass, Centroid and Polar Moment are defined as
 $M_V = \int_V \rho(q) dq$, $C_V = \frac{1}{M_V} \int_V q \rho(q) dq$, $J_{V,p} = \int_V \|q-p\|^2 \rho(q) dq$

by parallel axis theorem

$$H_V(P) = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{V_i} f(\|q-p_i\|) \phi(q) dq$$

$$J_{V,p} = J_{V,C_V} + M_V \|p-C_V\|^2$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{V_i} \|q-p_i\|^2 \rho(q) dq$$

suppose that
 $f(\|q-p_i\|) = \|q-p_i\|^2$
 $\phi(q) = \rho(q)$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n J_{V_i, C_{V_i}} + \sum_{i=1}^n M_{V_i} \|p_i - C_{V_i}\|^2$$

$$\frac{\partial H_V}{\partial p_i}(P) = 2M_{V_i} (p_i - C_{V_i})$$

(*) $H(P, V) \stackrel{def}{=} H_V(P)$

critical partitions and points for H : **centroidal Voronoi partitions**

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Continuous-time Lloyd Algorithm(1)

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goal : algorithm to compute the location of sensors that minimize H

kinematics of robots(sensors)
 $\dot{p}_i = u_i$

$$H_V(P) = \sum_{i=1}^n J_{V_i, C_{V_i}} + \sum_{i=1}^n M_{V_i} \|p_i - C_{V_i}\|^2$$

$$\frac{\partial H_V}{\partial p_i}(P) = 2M_{V_i} (p_i - C_{V_i}) \rightarrow u_i = -k_{prop} (p_i - C_{V_i}) \quad (A)$$

gradient descent flows



Proposition : For the closed-loop system induced by equation (A), the sensors location converges asymptotically to the set of critical points of H_V , i.e., the set of centroidal Voronoi configurations on Q .

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Continuous-time Lloyd Algorithm(2)

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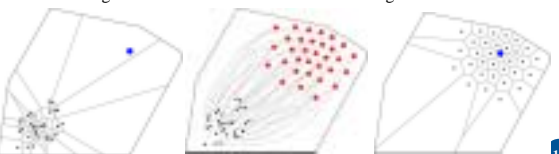
proof :
 take H_V as candidate of Lyapunov function

$$\frac{dH_V}{dt}(P(t)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial H_V}{\partial p_i} \dot{p}_i$$

$$= -2k_{prop} \sum_{i=1}^n M_{V_i} \|p_i - C_{V_i}\|^2 \leq 0$$

by LaSalle's principle

converge to the set of centroidal Voronoi configurations




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Continuous-time Gradient Flow

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$$\frac{\partial H_V}{\partial p_i}(P) = \int_{V_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_i} f(\|q-p_i\|) \phi(q) dq \quad \text{distributed}$$

gradient flows are still implementable for arbitrary f

$$\dot{p}_i = u_i, \quad u_i = -\frac{\partial H_V}{\partial p_i}$$


converge to a critical point of H_V
 (but not centroidal Voronoi configuration)

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Formation Control with Objective Function


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$$H(P, W) = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{W_i} f(\|q-p_i\|) \phi(q) dq$$

design density function

minimize $H(P, W)$

formation control

$$\phi_{\text{ellipse}}(q) \stackrel{def}{=} \exp(-k(a(x-x_c)^2 + b(y-y_c)^2 - r^2)^2)$$


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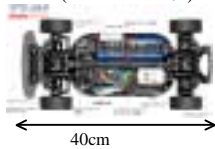
Experimental Setup(1)

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for

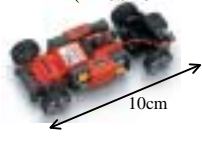
- Flocking, Leader Following
- Coverage Problem

3 car radicons (TAMIYA TT-01)



40cm

3 mini car radicons (KYOSHO mini z)



10cm

- too big for the experimental room
- weak against noises

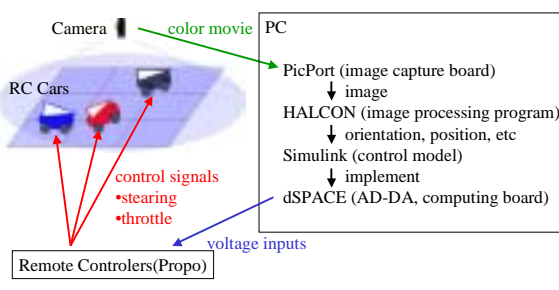
- small
- slippy → carpet
- small capacity of battery → regulator

*www.tamiya.com
*www.kyosho.com

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Experimental Setup(2)

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Camera → color movie → PC

PC

- PicPort (image capture board)
- ↓ image
- HALCON (image processing program)
- ↓ orientation, position, etc
- Simulink (control model)
- ↓ implement
- dSPACE (AD-DA, computing board)

RC Cars

control signals

- steering
- throttle

Remote Controllers(Propo)

voltage inputs

Fig. experimental environment

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Experimental Setup(3)

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before

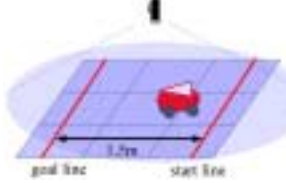
monochrome movie
hard-coded velocity control

now

color movie (Camera)
velocity PID control (Simulink)
dynamic characteristic test(RC Cars)

dynamic characteristic test

Precise Experiment



goal line

start line

1.5m

$$v(\text{m/s}) = \frac{1.5(\text{m})}{\text{runningtime}(\text{s})}$$

check the velocity for every voltage input from PC to Propo

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Leader Following Experiment(1)

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Leader Following Experiment(2)

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Future Works

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- Experiment
 - dynamic characteristic test
 - modify the program for leader following experiment (miniz, pid, color, etc)
 - make(modify) some programs with multi-vehicle for lab-introduction tour
 - coverage control experiment
- write paper about leader following for Movic
- Read more papers about coverage control

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