# Principles of Robot Autonomy I

#### Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)





## Today's lecture

• Aim

- Learn about the general SLAM problem
- Learn about EKF SLAM
- Introduce particle filter SLAM
- Readings
  - S. Thrun, W. Burgard, and D. Fox. Probabilistic robotics. MIT press, 2005.
     Sections 8.1 8.3, 10.1 10.4
  - S. Thrun, W. Burgard, and D. Fox. Probabilistic robotics. MIT press, 2005. Sections 13.1-13.3, 13.5

#### Simultaneous Localization and Mapping

The SLAM problem: given measurements  $z_{1:t}$  and controls  $u_{1:t}$ , find the path (or pose) of the robot and acquire a map of the environment



#### Forms of SLAM

 Online SLAM problem: estimate the posterior over the momentary pose along with the map

$$p(x_t, m \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t})$$
 or  $p(x_t, m, c_t \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t})$ 

• Full SLAM problem: estimate posterior over the entire path along with the map

$$p(x_{1:t}, m \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t})$$
 or  $p(x_{1:t}, m, c_t \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t})$ 

#### Graphical models of SLAM

#### Online SLAM



Full SLAM



## The challenge of SLAM

• Robot path and map are both unknown

![](_page_5_Picture_2.jpeg)

• Path error is correlated with map error

#### EKF SLAM

- Historically the earliest SLAM algorithm
- Key idea: apply EKF to online SLAM using maximum likelihood data association
- Assumptions:
  - 1. Gaussian assumption for motion and perception noise, and Gaussian approximation for belief (essential)
  - 2. Feature-based maps (essential)
- Two versions of the problem
  - 1. Correspondence variables are known
  - 2. Correspondence variables are not known (usual case)

#### EKF SLAM with known correspondences

- Similar to EKF localization algorithm with known correspondences
- Key difference: in addition to estimate the robot pose  $x_t$ , the EKF SLAM algorithm also estimates the coordinates of all landmarks
- Define combined state vector

$$y_t := \binom{x_t}{m} = (x, y, \theta, m_{1,x}, m_{1,y}, m_{2,x}, m_{2,y} \dots m_{N,x}, m_{N,y})^T$$

• Goal: calculate the online posterior

$$p(y_t \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t})$$

3 + 2N vector

#### Motion and sensing model

- (Following discussion is for illustration purposes; setup can be generalized to other motion and sensing models)
- Assume motion model with state  $x_t = (x, y, \theta)$

$$y_t = g(u_t, y_{t-1}) + \epsilon_t, \qquad \epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, R_t), \qquad G_t := J_g(u_t, \mu_{t-1})$$

where we assume that the landmarks are *static*, that is

- 1.  $g(u_t, y_{t-1})$  is a 3+2N vector, whose last 2N components are the same as those in  $y_{t-1}$
- *2.*  $R_t$  has zero entries, except for the top left 3 x 3 block

#### Motion and sensing model

• Assume range and bearing measurement model

$$z_t^i = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{(m_{j,x} - x)^2 + (m_{j,y} - y)^2} \\ \operatorname{atan2}(m_{j,y} - y, m_{j,x} - x) - \theta \end{pmatrix}}_{:=h(y_t, j)} + \delta_t, \qquad \delta_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, Q_t), \quad Q_t = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_r^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_\phi^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

• Usual linear approximation for sensing model (with  $j = c_t^i$ )

$$h(y_t, j) \approx h(\overline{\mu}_t, j) + H_t^i(y_t - \overline{\mu}_t), \quad \text{where } H_t^i := \frac{\partial h(\overline{\mu}_t, j)}{\partial y_t}$$

• Since h depends only on  $x_t$  and  $m_j$ ,  $H_t^i$  can be factored as

$$H_t^i = h_t^i F_{x,j}$$

#### Motion and sensing model

• First term, a 2 x 5 matrix, is the Jacobian of  $h(y_t, j)$  at  $\overline{\mu}_t$  w.r.t.  $x_t$  and  $m_j$ :

$$h_t^i = \frac{\partial h(\overline{\mu}_t, j)}{\partial (x_t, m_j)} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\overline{\mu}_{t,x} - \overline{\mu}_{j,x}}{\sqrt{q_{t,j}}} & \frac{\overline{\mu}_{t,y} - \overline{\mu}_{j,y}}{\sqrt{q_{t,j}}} & 0 & \frac{\overline{\mu}_{j,x} - \overline{\mu}_{t,x}}{\sqrt{q_{t,j}}} & \frac{\overline{\mu}_{j,y} - \overline{\mu}_{t,y}}{\sqrt{q_{t,j}}} \\ \frac{\overline{\mu}_{j,y} - \overline{\mu}_{t,y}}{q_{t,j}} & \frac{\overline{\mu}_{t,x} - \overline{\mu}_{j,x}}{q_{t,j}} & -1 & \frac{\overline{\mu}_{t,y} - \overline{\mu}_{j,y}}{q_{t,j}} & \frac{\overline{\mu}_{j,x} - \overline{\mu}_{t,x}}{q_{t,j}} \end{pmatrix}$$

where 
$$q_{t,j}:=(\overline{\mu}_{j,x}-\overline{\mu}_{t,x})^2+(\overline{\mu}_{j,y}-\overline{\mu}_{t,y})^2$$

• Second term, a 5 x (3+2N) matrix, maps  $h_t^i$  into  $H_t^i$ :

$$F_{x,j} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \cdots 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \cdots 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \cdots 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \cdots 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \cdots 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \cdots 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \cdots 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \cdots 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \cdots 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \cdots 0 \\ 2j-2 & & 2N-2j \end{pmatrix}$$

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#### Initialization

• Initial belief expressed as

$$\mu_0 = (0, 0, 0 \dots 0)^T$$

![](_page_11_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Initialization

• When a landmark is observed for the first time, the landmark estimate  $(\bar{\mu}_{j,x}, \bar{\mu}_{j,y})^T$  is initialized with the expected position, that is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \overline{\mu}_{j,x} \\ \overline{\mu}_{j,y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\mu}_{t,x} \\ \overline{\mu}_{t,y} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} r_t^i \cos(\phi_t^i + \overline{\mu}_{t,\theta}) \\ r_t^i \sin(\phi_t^i + \overline{\mu}_{t,\theta}) \end{pmatrix}$$

• Bearing only SLAM would require multiple sightings

## EKF SLAM algorithm

- Similar to EKF localization; main differences:
  - Augmented state vector
  - Augmented dynamics (with trivial dynamics for the landmarks)
  - Initialization of unseen landmarks
  - Augmented measurement Jacobian

**Data:**  $(\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}), u_t, z_t, c_t$ **Result:**  $(\mu_t, \Sigma_t)$  $\overline{\mu}_t = g(u_t, \mu_{t-1});$  $\overline{\Sigma}_t = G_t \Sigma_{t-1} G_t^T + R_t;$ foreach  $z_t^i = (r_t^i, \phi_t^i)^T$  do  $j = c_t^i;$ if landmark j never seen before then  $\begin{pmatrix} \overline{\mu}_{j,x} \\ \overline{\mu}_{i,y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\mu}_{t,x} \\ \overline{\mu}_{t,y} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} r_t^i \cos(\phi_t^i + \overline{\mu}_{t,\theta}) \\ r_t^i \sin(\phi_t^i + \overline{\mu}_{t,\theta}) \end{pmatrix};$ end  $\hat{z}_t^i = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{(\overline{\mu}_{j,x} - \overline{\mu}_{t,x})^2 + (\overline{\mu}_{j,y} - \overline{\mu}_{t,y})^2} \\ \operatorname{atan2}(\overline{\mu}_{j,y} - \overline{\mu}_{t,y}, \overline{\mu}_{j,x} - \overline{\mu}_{t,y}) - \overline{\mu}_{t,\theta} \end{pmatrix};$  $H_t^i = h_t^i F_{x,j};$  $S_t^i = H_t^i \,\overline{\Sigma}_t \, [H_t^i]^T + Q_t;$  $K_t^i = \overline{\Sigma}_t \, [H_t^i]^T \, [S_t^i]^{-1};$  $\overline{\mu}_t = \overline{\mu}_t + K_t^i (z_t^i - \hat{z}_t^i);$  $\overline{\Sigma}_t = (I - K^i_t H^i_t) \,\overline{\Sigma}_t;$ end  $\mu_t = \overline{\mu}_t$  and  $\Sigma_t = \Sigma_t$ ; Return  $(\mu_t, \Sigma_t)$ 

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## Example

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### EKF SLAM with unknown correspondences

- Key idea: use an incremental maximum likelihood estimator to determine correspondences
- Similar to EKF localization with unknown correspondences, but now we also need to create hypotheses for new landmarks
- Caveat: maximum likelihood data association often makes the algorithm brittle, as it is not possible to revise past data associations

# EKF SLAM with unknown correspondences

- In the measurement update loop, we first create the hypothesis of a new landmark
- A new landmark is created if the Mahalanobis distance to all existing landmarks exceeds the value α

```
Data: (\mu_{t-1}, \Sigma_{t-1}), u_t, z_t, N_{t-1}
Result: (\mu_t, \Sigma_t)
N_t = N_{t-1};
                                                                                                             Hypothesis
\overline{\mu}_t = g(u_t, \mu_{t-1});
                                                                                                             for new
\overline{\Sigma}_t = G_t \Sigma_{t-1} G_t^T + R_t;
                                                                                                             landmark
foreach z_t^i = (r_t^i, \phi_t^i)^T do
          \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\mu}_{N_t+1,x} \\ \overline{\mu}_{N_t+1,y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\mu}_{t,x} \\ \overline{\mu}_{t,y} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} r_t^i \cos(\phi_t^i + \overline{\mu}_{t,\theta}) \\ r_t^i \sin(\phi_t^i + \overline{\mu}_{t,\theta}) \end{pmatrix};
        for k = 1 to N_t + 1 do
                \hat{z}_t^k = \left( \frac{\sqrt{(\overline{\mu}_{j,x} - \overline{\mu}_{t,x})^2 + (\overline{\mu}_{j,y} - \overline{\mu}_{t,y})^2}}{\operatorname{atan2}(\overline{\mu}_{j,y} - \overline{\mu}_{t,y}, \overline{\mu}_{j,x} - \overline{\mu}_{t,x}) - \overline{\mu}_{t,\theta}} \right);
                H_t^k = h_t^k F_{x,k};
                S_t^k = H_t^k \,\overline{\Sigma}_t \, [H_t^k]^T + Q_t;
              \pi_{k} = (z_{t}^{i} - \hat{z}_{t}^{k})^{T} [S_{t}^{k}]^{-1} (z_{t}^{i} - \hat{z}_{t}^{k}); Mahalanobis
        end
                                                                                                       distance
        \pi_{N_t+1} = \alpha;
        j(i) = \operatorname{argmin}_k \pi_k; Hypothesis test
        N_t = \max\{N_t, j(i)\};
       K_t^i = \overline{\Sigma}_t \, [H_t^{j(i)}]^T \, [S_t^{j(i)}]^{-1};
       \overline{\mu}_t = \overline{\mu}_t + K_t^i (z_t^i - \hat{z}_t^{j(i)});
       \overline{\Sigma}_t = (I - K_t^i H_t^{j(i)}) \,\overline{\Sigma}_t;
end
\mu_t = \overline{\mu}_t and \Sigma_t = \overline{\Sigma}_t;
Return (\mu_t, \Sigma_t)
                                                                                                                 17
```

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## Making EKF SLAM robust

- A key issue is represented by the fact that fake landmarks might be created; furthermore, EKF can diverge if nonlinearities are large
- Several techniques exist to mitigate such issues
  - 1. Outlier rejection schemes, for example via provisional landmark lists
  - 2. Strategies to enhance the distinctiveness of landmarks
    - Spatial arrangement
    - Signatures
    - Enforcing geometric constraints
- Dilemma of EKF SLAM: accurate localization typically requires dense maps, but EKF requires sparse maps due to quadratic update complexity

#### Particle filter SLAM

- Key idea: use particles to approximate the belief, and particle filter to simultaneously estimate the robot path and the map
- Goal is to solve full-scale SLAM, i.e., estimate

 $p(x_{1:t}, m, c_t | z_{1:t}, u_{1:t})$ 

- Challenge: naïve implementation of particle filter to SLAM is intractable, due to the excessively large number of particles required
- Key insight: knowledge of the robot's true path renders features conditionally independent -> mapping problem can be *factored* into separate problems, one for each feature in the map

• The key mathematical insight behind particle filter SLAM is the factorization of the posterior

$$p(y_{1:t} \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) = p(x_{1:t} \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(m_n \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t})$$

$$f$$
SLAM posterior
Path posterior
(particles)
Feature posterior
(EKF)

. .

Intuition

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

- Proof follows from Bayes' rule and induction
- Step #1:

$$p(y_{1:t} | z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) = p(x_{1:t} | z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) p(m | x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t})$$
$$= p(x_{1:t} | z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) p(m | x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t})$$

• Step 2.a: assume  $c_t \neq n$ 

$$p(m_n \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) = p(m_n \mid x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})$$

• Step 2.b: assume  $c_t = n$ 

$$p(m_{c_t} | x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) = \frac{p(z_t | m_{c_t}, x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t}) p(m_{c_t} | x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t})}{p(z_t | x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t})}$$
$$= \frac{p(z_t | m_{c_t}, x_t, c_t) p(m_{c_t} | x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})}{p(z_t | x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t})}$$

• Step 3 (induction): assume at time t - 1 (induction hypothesis)

$$p(m \mid x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(m_n \mid x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})$$

#### • Then at time *t*

$$p(m \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) = \frac{p(z_t \mid m, x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t}) p(m \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t})}{p(z_t \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t})}$$

$$= \frac{p(z_t \mid m, x_t, c_t) p(m \mid x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})}{p(z_t \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t})}$$

$$= \frac{p(z_t \mid m, x_t, c_t)}{p(z_t \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t})} \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(m_n \mid x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})$$

$$= \frac{p(z_t \mid m, x_t, c_t)}{p(z_t \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t})} \underbrace{p(m_{c_t} \mid x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})}_{\text{Steb 2.b}} \prod_{n \neq c_t} \underbrace{p(m_n \mid x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})}_{\text{Steb 2.a}}$$

$$= p(m_{c_t} \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(m_n \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(m \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t})$$

#### Fast SLAM with known correspondences

- Key idea: exploit factorization result to decompose problem into subproblems
  - Path posterior is estimated using particle filter
  - Map features are estimated via EKF conditioned on the robot path (one EKF for each feature)
- Accordingly, particles in Fast SLAM are represented as

$$Y_t^{[k]} = \left\langle x_t^{[k]}, \mu_{1,t}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{1,t}^{[k]}, \dots, \mu_{N,t}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{N,t}^{[k]} \right\rangle$$

#### Fast SLAM with known correspondences

- Each particle possesses its own set of EKFs!
- In total there are *NM* EKFs
- Filtering involves generating a new particle set  $Y_t$  from  $Y_{t-1}$  by incorporating a new control  $u_t$  and a new measurement  $z_t$  with associated correspondence variable  $c_t$
- Update entails three steps
  - 1. Extend path posterior
  - 2. Update observed feature estimate
  - 3. Resample

#### Step 1: Extending path posterior

• For each particle  $Y_t^{[k]}$ , sample pose  $x_t$  according to motion posterior

$$x_t^k \sim p(x_t \,|\, x_{t-1}^k, u_t)$$

• Sample  $x_t^{[k]}$  is then concatenated with previous poses  $x_{1:t-1}^{[k]}$ 

![](_page_27_Figure_4.jpeg)

## Step 2: updating observed feature estimate

- This step entails updating the posterior over the feature estimates
- If  $c_t \neq n$

$$\left\langle \mu_{n,t}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{n,t}^{[k]} \right\rangle = \left\langle \mu_{n,t-1}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{n,t-1}^{[k]} \right\rangle$$

• If  $c_t = n$ 

$$p(m_{c_t} \mid x_{1:t}, z_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) = \eta \, p(z_t \mid m_{c_t}, x_t, c_t) \, p(m_{c_t} \mid x_{1:t-1}, z_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$\sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_{n,t-1}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{n,t-1}^{[k]})$$

#### Step 2: updating observed feature estimate

• To ensure that the new estimate is Gaussian as well, measurement model is linearized as usual

$$h(m_{c_t}, x_t^{[k]}) \approx h(\mu_{c_t, t-1}^{[k]}, x_t^{[k]}) + \underbrace{h'(\mu_{c_t, t-1}^{[k]}, x_t^{[k]})}_{:=H_t^{[k]}}(m_{c_t} - \mu_{c_t, t-1}^{[k]})$$

• Mean and covariance are then obtained as per standard EKF

$$K_t^{[k]} = \Sigma_{c_t,t-1}^{[k]} [H_t^{[k]}]^T (H_t^{[k]} \Sigma_{c_t,t-1}^{[k]} [H_t^{[k]}]^T + Q_t)^{-1}$$
$$\mu_{c_t,t}^{[k]} = \mu_{c_t,t-1}^{[k]} + K_t^{[k]} (z_t - \hat{z}_t^{[k]})$$
$$\Sigma_{c_t,t}^{[k]} = (I - K_t^{[k]} H_t^{[k]}) \Sigma_{c_t,t-1}^{[k]}$$

- Step 1 generates pose  $x_t$  only in accordance with the most recent control  $u_t$ , paying no attention to the measurement  $z_t$
- Goal: resample particles to correct for this mismatch

![](_page_30_Figure_3.jpeg)

- How do we find the weights?
- Path particles at this stage are distributed according to

$$p(x_{1:t}^{[k]} | z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t-1}) = p(x_t | x_{t-1}^k, u_t) p(x_{1:t-1}^{[k]} | z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t-1}, c_{1:t-1})$$

$$f$$
Sampling distribution
Distribution of path particles in  $Y_{t-1}^{[k]}$ 

• The target distribution takes into account  $z_t$ , along with  $c_t$ 

$$p(x_{1:t}^{[k]} | z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t})$$

• Importance factor is then given by

$$\begin{split} w_t^{[k]} &= \frac{p(x_{1:t}^{[k]} \mid z_{1:t}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t})}{p(x_{1:t}^{[k]} \mid z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t-1})} \\ &= \frac{\eta \, p(z_t \mid x_{1:t}^{[k]}, z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t}) p(x_{1:t}^{[k]} \mid , z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t})}{p(x_{1:t}^{[k]} \mid z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t-1})} \\ &= \frac{\eta \, p(z_t \mid x_t^{[k]}, c_t) p(x_{1:t}^{[k]} \mid , z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t-1})}{p(x_{1:t}^{[k]} \mid z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t}, c_{1:t-1})} \\ &= \eta \, p(z_t \mid x_t^{[k]}, c_t) \end{split}$$

• To derive an (approximate) close-form expression for  $w_t^{[k]}$ , one can then apply the total probability law along with a linearization of the measurement model to obtain

$$w_t^{[k]} = \eta \det(2\pi Q_t^{[k]})^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(z_t - \hat{z}_t^{[k]})[Q_t^{[k]}]^{-1}(z_t - \hat{z}_t^{[k]})\right\}$$

$$Q_t^{[k]} = [H_t^{[k]}]^T \Sigma_{n,t-1}^{[k]} H_t^{[k]} + Q_t$$

## Fast Slam algorithm

 Key fact: only the most recent pose is used in the process of generating a new particle at time t!

Data:  $Y_{t-1}, u_t, z_t, c_t$ **Result:**  $Y_t$ for k = 1 to M do  $x_t^k \sim p(x_t \mid x_{t-1}^k, u_t);$  $j = c_t;$ if feature *j* never seen before then initialize feature else  $\hat{z} = h(\mu_{j,t-1}^{[k]}, x_t^{[k]});$ calculate Jacobian H; $\begin{aligned} Q &= H \Sigma_{j,t-1}^{[k]} H_t^T + Q_t; \\ K &= \Sigma_{j,t-1}^{[k]} H^T Q^{-1}; \\ \mu_{j,t}^{[k]} &= \mu_{j,t-1}^{[k]} + K(z_t - \hat{z}); \\ \Sigma_{j,t}^{[k]} &= (I - KH) \Sigma_{j,t-1}^{[k]}; \\ w^{[k]} &= \det(2\pi Q)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(z_t - \hat{z})Q_t^{-1}(z_t - \hat{z})\right\}; \end{aligned}$ end for all other features  $n \neq j$  do  $\left\langle \mu_{n,t}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{n,t}^{[k]} \right\rangle = \left\langle \mu_{n,t-1}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{n,t-1}^{[k]} \right\rangle;$ end  $Y_t = \emptyset;$ end for i = 1 to M do Draw k with probability  $\propto w^{[k]}$ ; Add  $\left\langle x_t^{[k]}, \mu_{1,t}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{1,t}^{[k]}, \dots, \mu_{N,t}^{[k]}, \Sigma_{N,t}^{[k]} \right\rangle$  to  $Y_t$ ; end Return  $Y_t$ 35

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#### Fast SLAM with unknown correspondences

- Key advantage of particle filters: each particle can rely on its own, local data association decisions!
- Key idea: per-particle data association generalizes the per-filter data association to individual particles
- Each particle maintains *a local set* of data association variables,  $\hat{c}_t^{[k]}$
- Data association is solved, as usual, via maximum likelihood estimation

$$\hat{c}_t^{[k]} = \underset{c_t}{\arg\max} p(z_t \mid c_t, \hat{c}_{1:t-1}^{[k]}, x_{1:t}^{[k]}, z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t})$$

Computed, as usual, via total probability law + linearization

# Summary: Gaussian filtering (EKF, UKF)

#### • Key ideas:

- Represent a belief with a Gaussian distribution
- Assume all uncertainty sources are Gaussian
- Pros:
  - Runs online
  - Well understood
  - Works well when uncertainty is low
- Cons:
  - Unimodal estimate
  - States must be well approximated by a Gaussian
  - Works poorly when uncertainty is high

## Summary: particle filter approaches

- Key ideas:
  - Approximate belief with particles
  - Use particle filters to perform inference
- Pros:
  - Can handle "any" noise distribution
  - Relatively easy to implement
  - Naturally represents multimodal beliefs
  - Robust to data association errors
- Cons:
  - Does not scale well to large dimensional problems
  - Might require many particles for good convergence
  - Might have issues with loop closure

#### Final considerations

- A recent overview of SLAM (with strong focus on graph SLAM): C. Cadena, L. Carlone, H. Carrillo, Y. Latif, D. Scaramuzza, J. Neira, I. Reid, and J. J. Leonard. "Past, present, and future of simultaneous localization and mapping: Toward the robust-perception age." IEEE Transactions on Robotics 32, no. 6 (2016): 1309-1332.
- Trends: from the classical age, to the algorithmic-analysis age, to the robust perception age
- Popular software packages
  - <a href="https://www.openslam.org/">https://www.openslam.org/</a>: comprehensive list of open-source SLAM software
  - <u>https://github.com/pamela-project/slambench</u>: popular benchmark framework
  - Commercial SDKs: ARCore/ARKit from Google/Apple, Oculus Insight

#### Next time

![](_page_39_Picture_1.jpeg)