

**ECE 4160/5160**  
**MAE 4910/5910**



Prof. Kirstin Hagelskjær Petersen  
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# Fast Robots

## Kalman Filter (recap)

Student View

- Spring 2023
- Home
- Announcements**
- Syllabus
- Modules
- Grades
- Zoom
- People
- Assignments
- Ed Discussion
- Rubrics
- Collaborations
- BigBlueButton

 Edit
 



### March 14th: Snow Day! ⚡

Mar 13 at 6:47pm

Kirstin Hagelskjaer Petersen

All Sections

#### Today's class and lab are cancelled per university regulations!

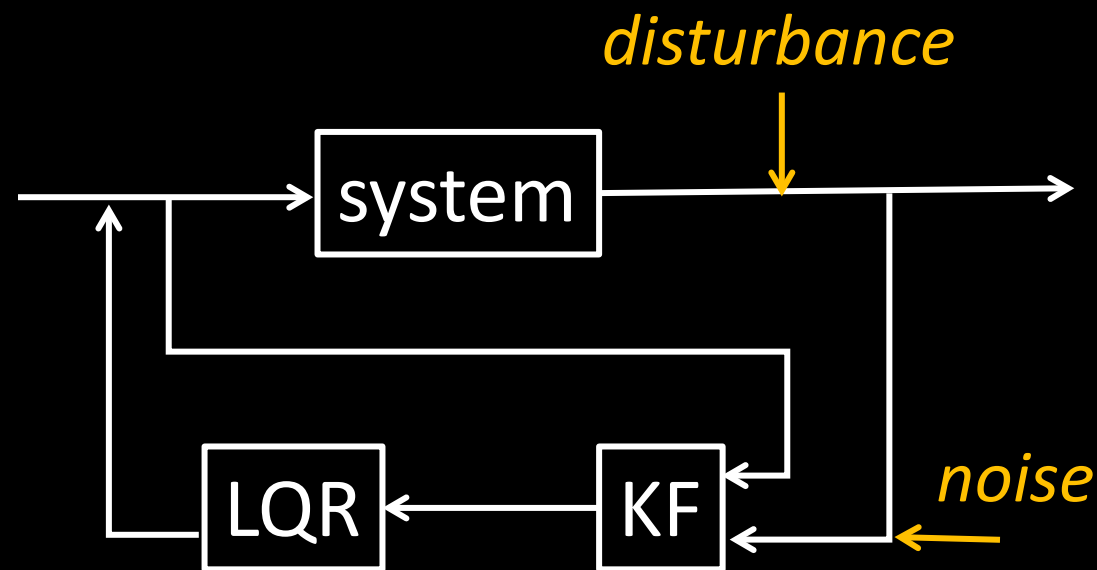
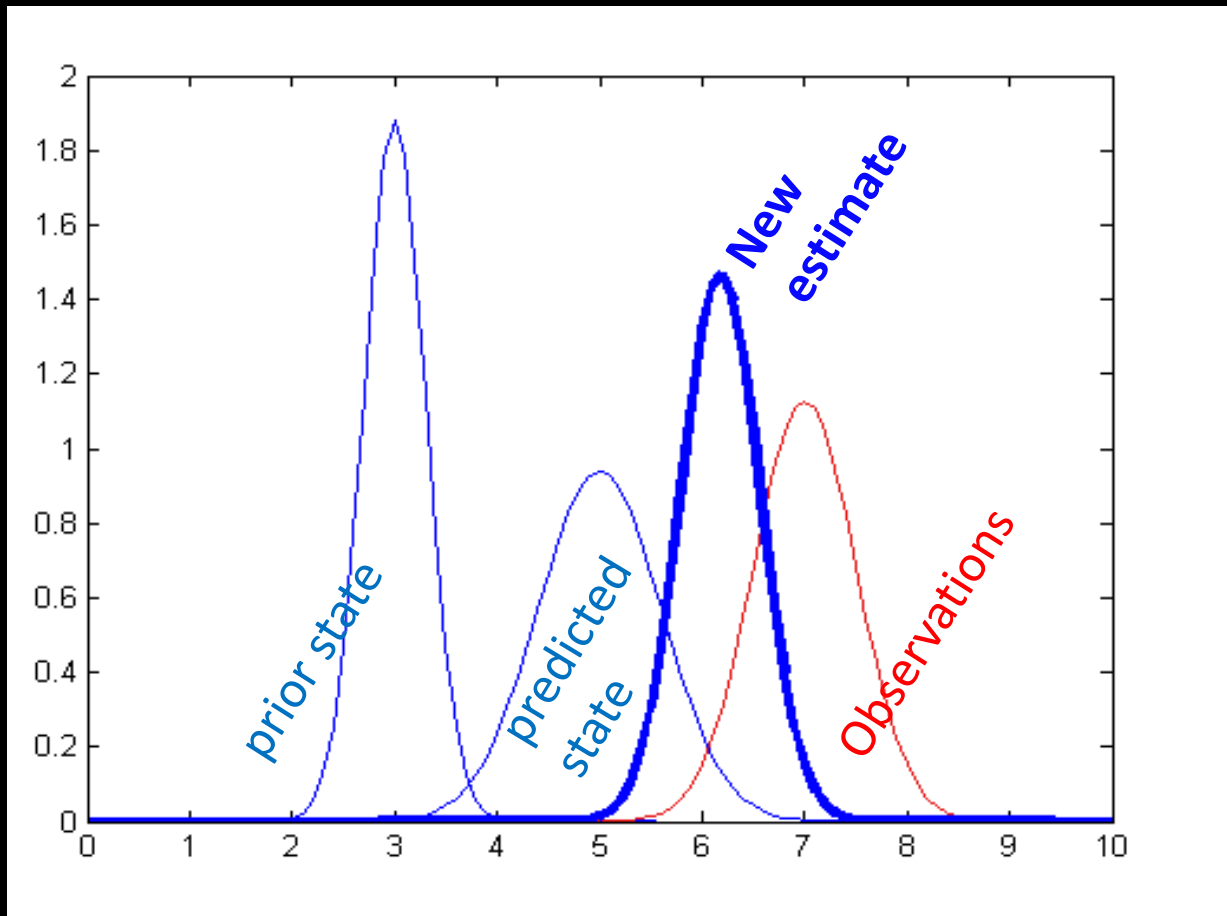
I have discussed with the TAs, and here's the new plan -- in part to make up for the snow day, and in part to help students who are struggling to keep up with the deadlines:

- Lab 6 deadlines have been postponed a full week (dates in Canvas are up-to-date). If you have already requested slip days, these will be cancelled.
- Lab 7 deadlines have also been postponed a full week (dates in Canvas are up-to-date), and we've decided to give you full points for completing task 1-3 as well as the new task 4.a in which you simply do extrapolation on the TOF data to get a better estimate of the distance to the wall. If you have time, consider doing task 4.b (implementing the Kalman Filter on your robot instead) for up to 4 bonus points!
- Lab 8 deadlines remain the same.

Hopefully, this news will make your snow day more enjoyable!



# Kalman Filter



# Kalman Filter

Kalman Filter (  $\mu(t-1)$ ,  $\Sigma(t-1)$ ,  $u(t)$ ,  $z(t)$  )

1.  $\mu_p(t) = A \mu(t-1) + B u(t)$
  2.  $\Sigma_p(t) = A \Sigma(t-1) A^T + \Sigma_u$
  3.  $K_{KF} = \Sigma_p(t) C^T ( C \Sigma_p(t) C^T + \Sigma_z )^{-1}$
  4.  $\mu(t) = \mu_p(t) + K_{KF} ( z(t) - C \mu_p(t) )$
  5.  $\Sigma(t) = ( I - K_{KF} C ) \Sigma_p(t)$
  6. Return  $\mu(t)$  and  $\Sigma(t)$
- prediction
- update

Example process and measurement noise covariance matrices

$$\Sigma_u = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma_z = \sigma_3^2$$

## Example Lab 7

- Define A, B, C matrices
  - Using system ID on a step response

## Example Lab 7

$$F = ma = m\ddot{x}$$

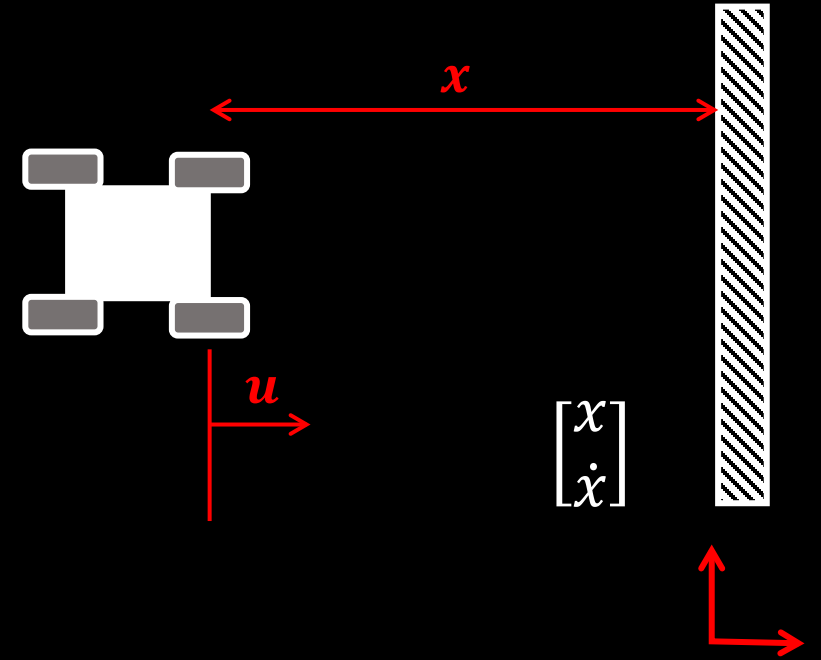
$$F = u - d\dot{x}$$

$$u - d\dot{x} = m\ddot{x}$$

$$\ddot{x} = \frac{u}{m} - \frac{d}{m}\dot{x}$$

### What is $d$ and $m$ ?

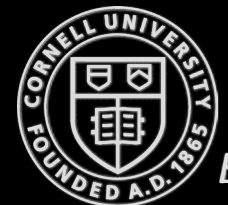
- At steady state (cst speed), we can find  $d$ 
  - $d = \frac{u}{\dot{x}} \approx 0.0005$  (Assume  $u=1$  for now)
- We can use the rise time to find  $m$ 
  - $m = \frac{-dt_{0.9}}{\ln(0.1)} \approx 4.1258 \cdot 10^{-4}$



State space equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \ddot{x} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -\frac{d}{m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{m} \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$C = [-1 \quad 0]$$



## Example Lab 7

- Define A, B, C matrices
  - Using system ID on a step response
- Sanity check
  - Run virtual Kalman Filter on data from Lab 6 PID
    - What is your initial state, and how confident in it are you?
    - How much trust do you put in your model versus your sensor values?
    - Experiment
      - E.g. put less trust in the model
      - E.g. put less trust in the sensors
      - Start with a bad initial estimate
        - Recall, our dynamic model is a bad estimate for the static robot

# Linear Systems Control – “review of review”

- Linear system:

$$\dot{x} = Ax$$

- Solution:

$$x(t) = e^{At}x(0)$$

- Eigenvectors:

$$T = [\xi_1 \quad \xi_2 \quad \dots \quad \xi_n]$$

- Eigenvalues:

$$\gg [T, D] = \text{eig}(A)$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2 & & \\ & & \dots & \\ 0 & & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

- Linear transform:

$$AT = TD$$

- Solution:

$$e^{At} = Te^{Dt}T^{-1}$$

- Mapping from x to z to x:

$$x(t) = Te^{Dt}T^{-1}x(0)$$

- Stability in continuous time:

$$\lambda = a + ib, \text{ stable iff } a < 0$$

- Discrete time:

$$x(k+1) = \tilde{A}x(k), \tilde{A} = e^{A\Delta t}$$

- Stability in discrete time:  $\tilde{\lambda}^n = R^n e^{in\theta}$ , stable iff  $R < 1$

- Linearizing non-linear systems

- Fixed points
- Jacobian

- Controllability

- $\dot{x} = (A - BK)x$
- $\gg \text{rank}(\text{ctrb}(A, B))$

- Reachability

- Controllability Gramian

- Pole placement

- $\gg \text{K=place}(A, B, p)$

- Optimal control (LQR)

- $\gg \text{K=lqr}(A, B, Q, R)$

- Observability

- $\gg \text{rank}(\text{obsv}(A, C))$

- Optimal observer (KF)

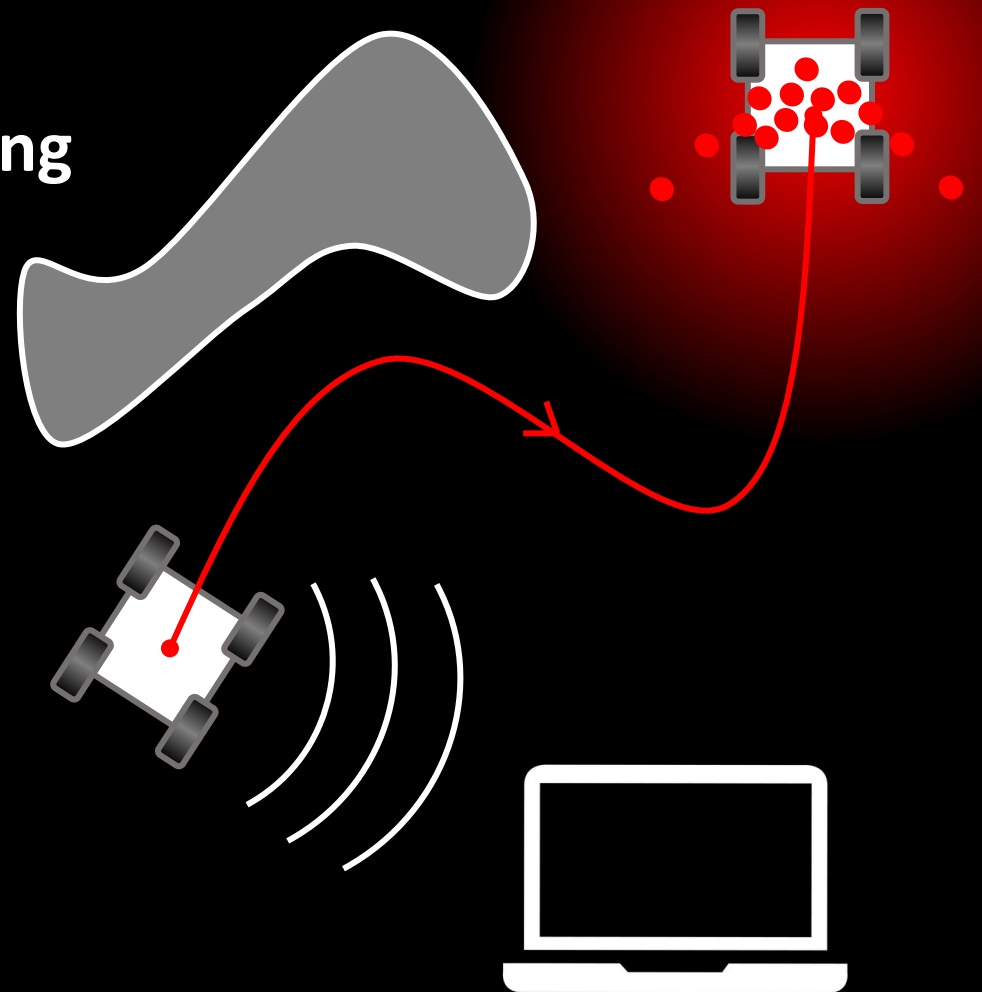
- Sensor/model noise



# What we covered so far...

- Configuration space and transformations
- Data types
- Sensors
  - Distance Sensors
  - Odometry and IMU
  - Characterization
- Actuators/Motors
- Wiring/EMI
- Control
  - State space models
  - PID/LQR control
  - Observers
  - Deterministic -> Probabilistic Robots
    - Bayes theorem

## Next up.... Navigation and Planning



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# Fast Robots

## Navigation and Planning

Slides adapted from Vivek Thangavelu

# Navigation

- **Problem:** Find the path in the workspace from an initial location to a goal location, while avoiding collisions
- How do you get to your goal?
  - Can you see your goal?
  - Do you have a map?
  - Are obstacles unknown or dynamic?
  - Does it matter how fast you get there?
  - Does it matter how smooth the path is?
  - How much compute power do you have?
  - How precise and accurate is your motion control?
  - What sensors do you have available?
  - etc.



KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
CALL ME  
ENGINEER

# Navigation

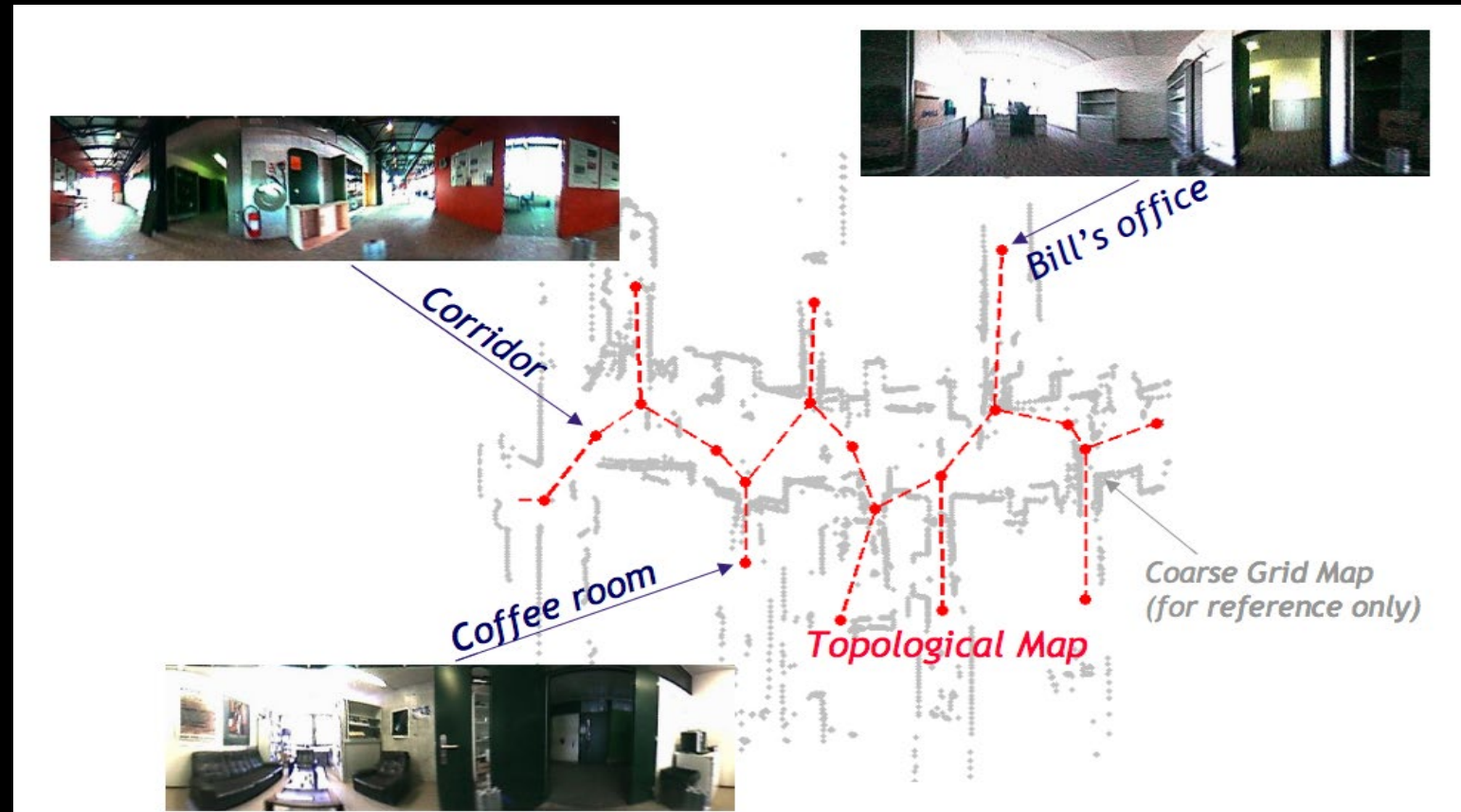
- **Problem:** Find the path in the workspace from an initial location to a goal location, while avoiding collisions
- **Assumption:** A good map for navigation exists

- **Global navigation**

- Given a map and a goal location, find and execute a trajectory that brings the robot to the goal
- (Long term plan)

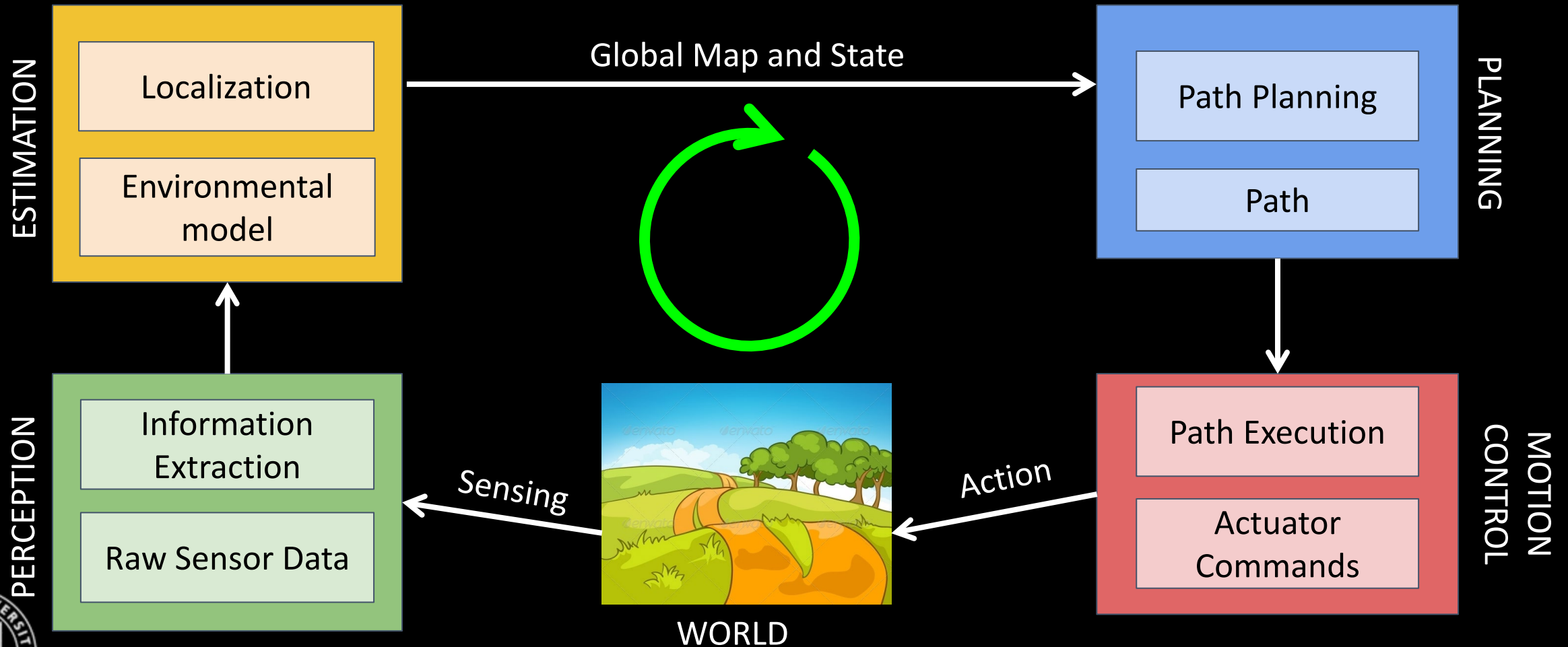
- **Local navigation**

- Given real-time sensor readings, modulate the robot trajectory to avoid collisions
- (Short term plan)



# Navigation

- Navigation breaks down to: Localization, Map Building, Path Planning





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# Local Planners

# Local Path Planning / Obstacle Avoidance

- Use goal position, recent sensor readings, and relative position of robot to goal
  - Can be based on a local map
  - Often implemented as a separate task
  - Runs at a much faster rate than the global planning
- 3 examples:
  - BUG Algorithms
  - Vector Field Histogram (VFH)
  - Dynamic Window Approach (DWA)

Wagner, ITS 2015

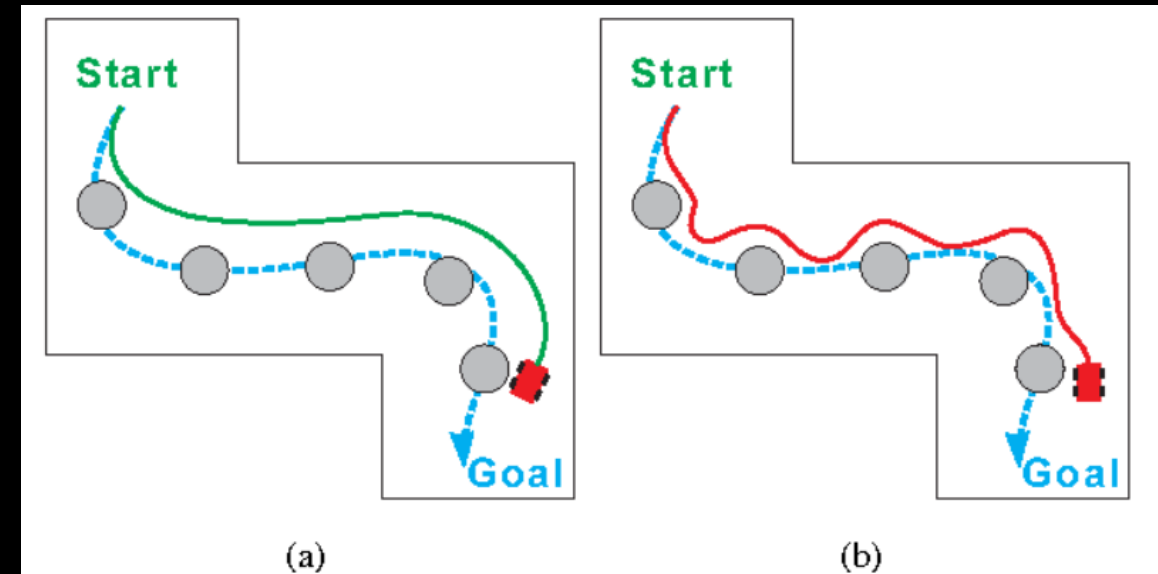
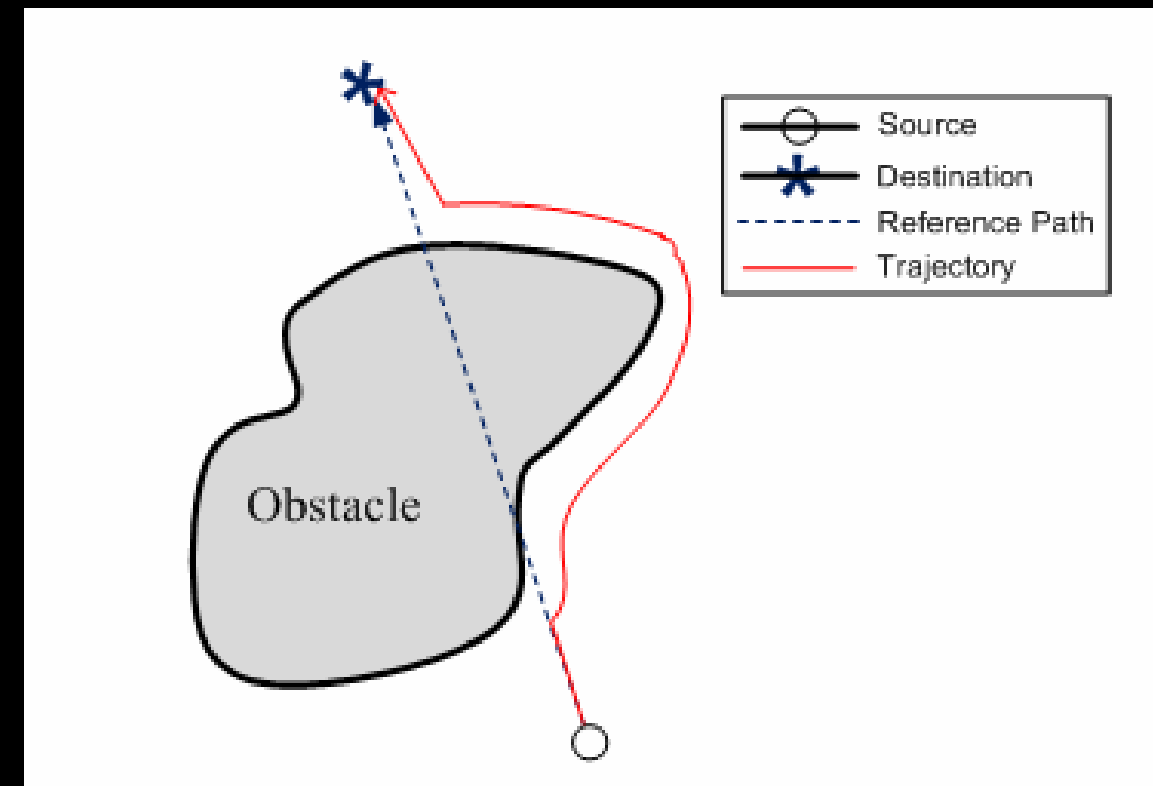


Fig. 1. Dashed blue spline is global path: a) Green spline is ideal local path; b) Red spline is actual local path



# Bug Algorithms

- Uses local knowledge, and the direction and distance to the goal
- Basic idea
  - Follow the contour of obstacles until you see the goal
  - State 1: Seek goal
  - State 2: follow wall
- Different variants: Bug0, Bug1, Bug2
- Advantages
  - Super simple
  - No global map
  - Completeness
- Disadvantages
  - Suboptimal



# Bug 0

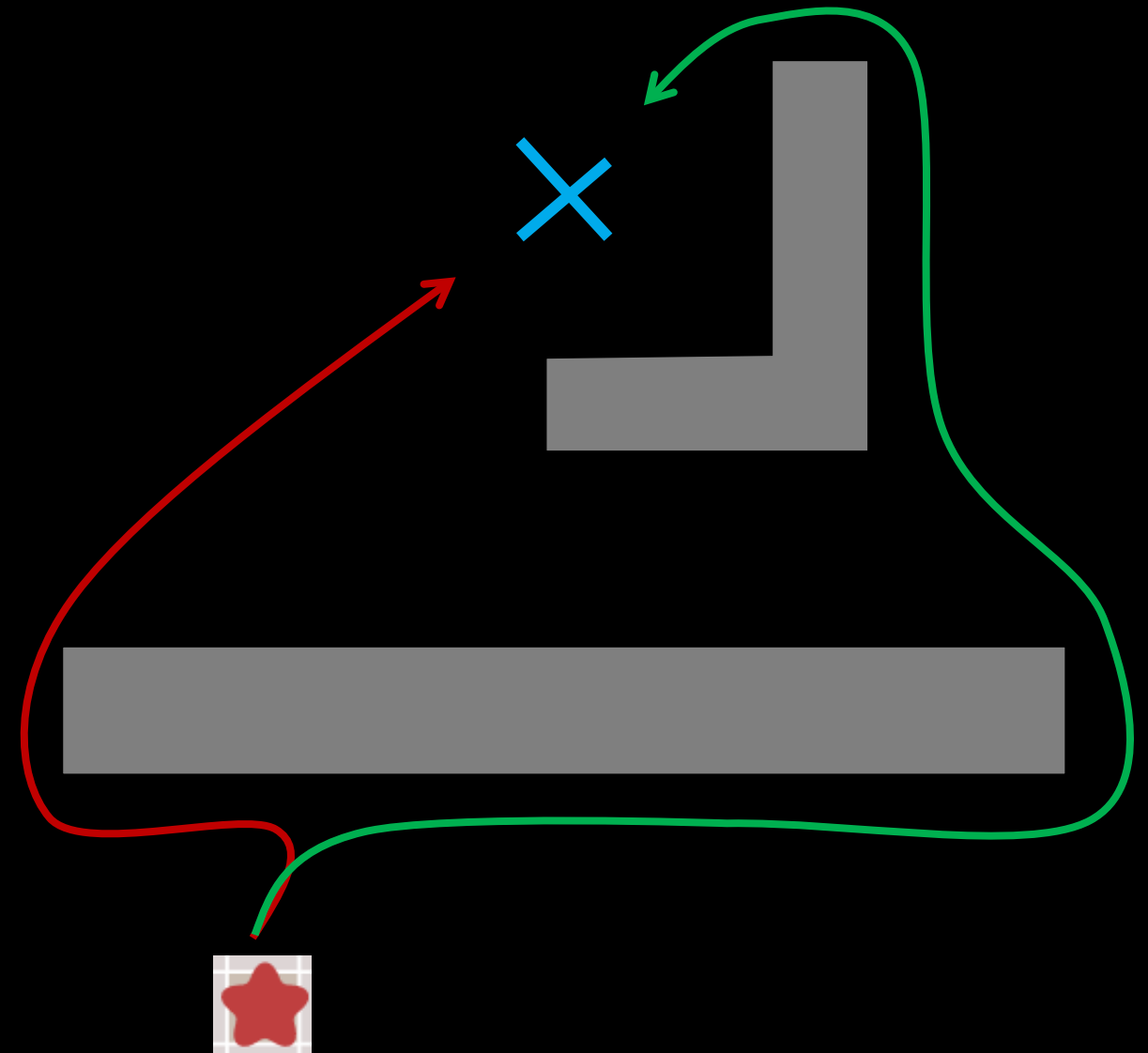
## Sensor Assumptions

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls

## Algorithm

1. Go towards goal
2. Follow obstacles until you can go towards goal again
3. Loop

Howie Choset 16-735



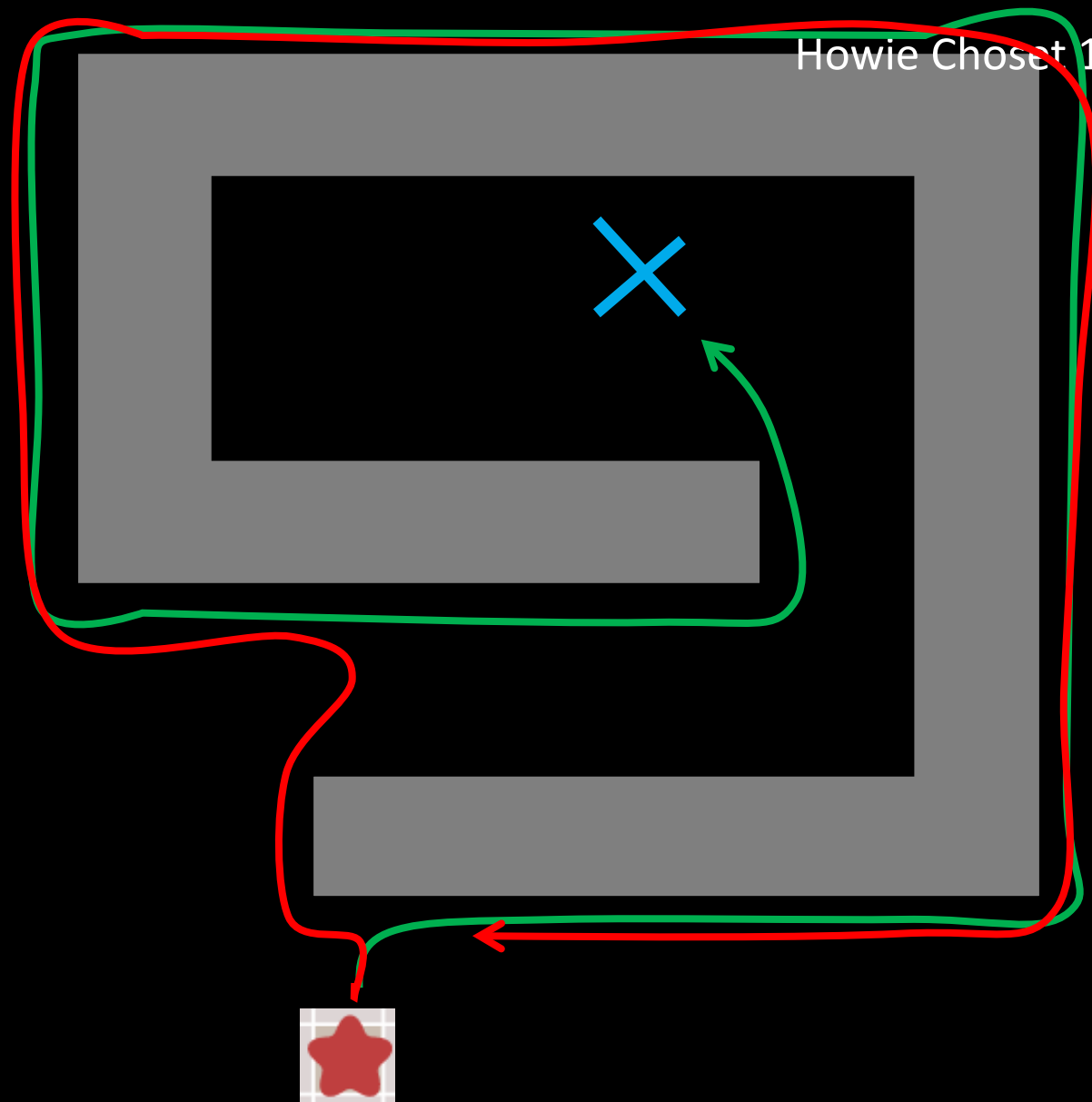
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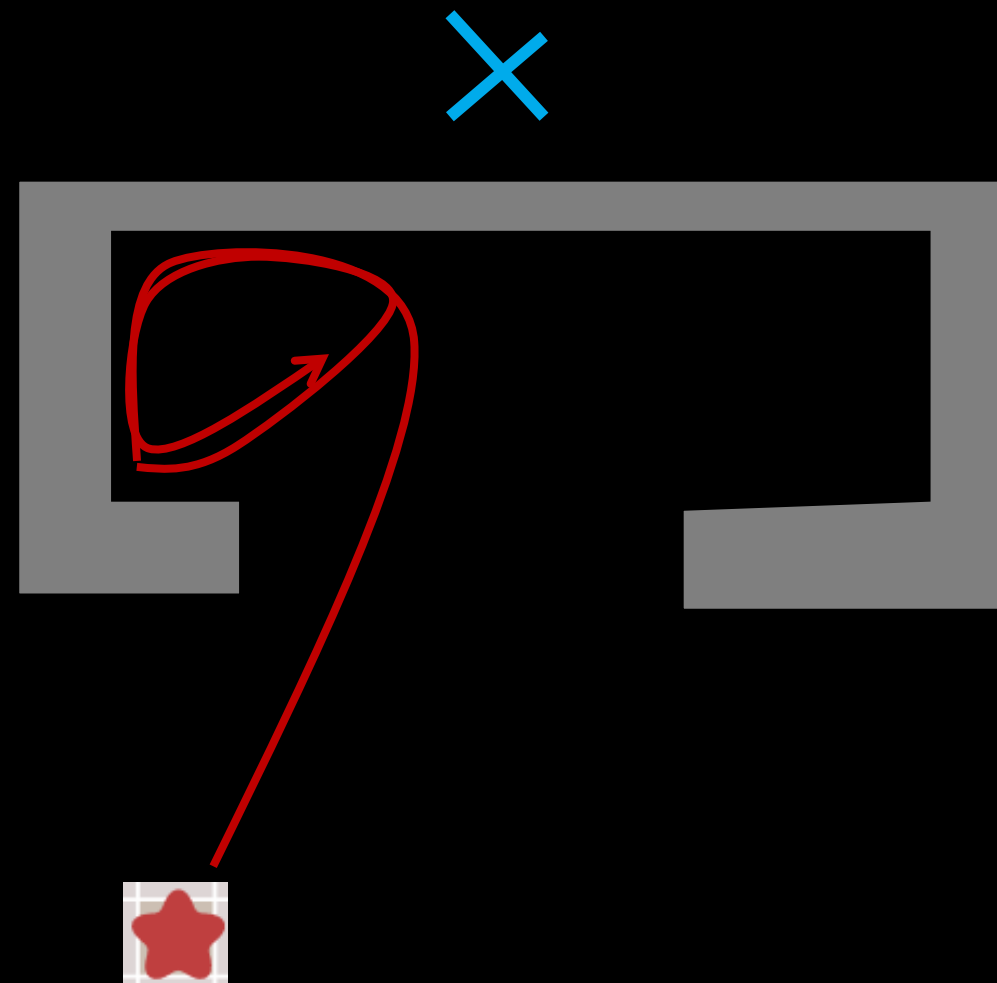
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## Algorithm

1. Go towards goal
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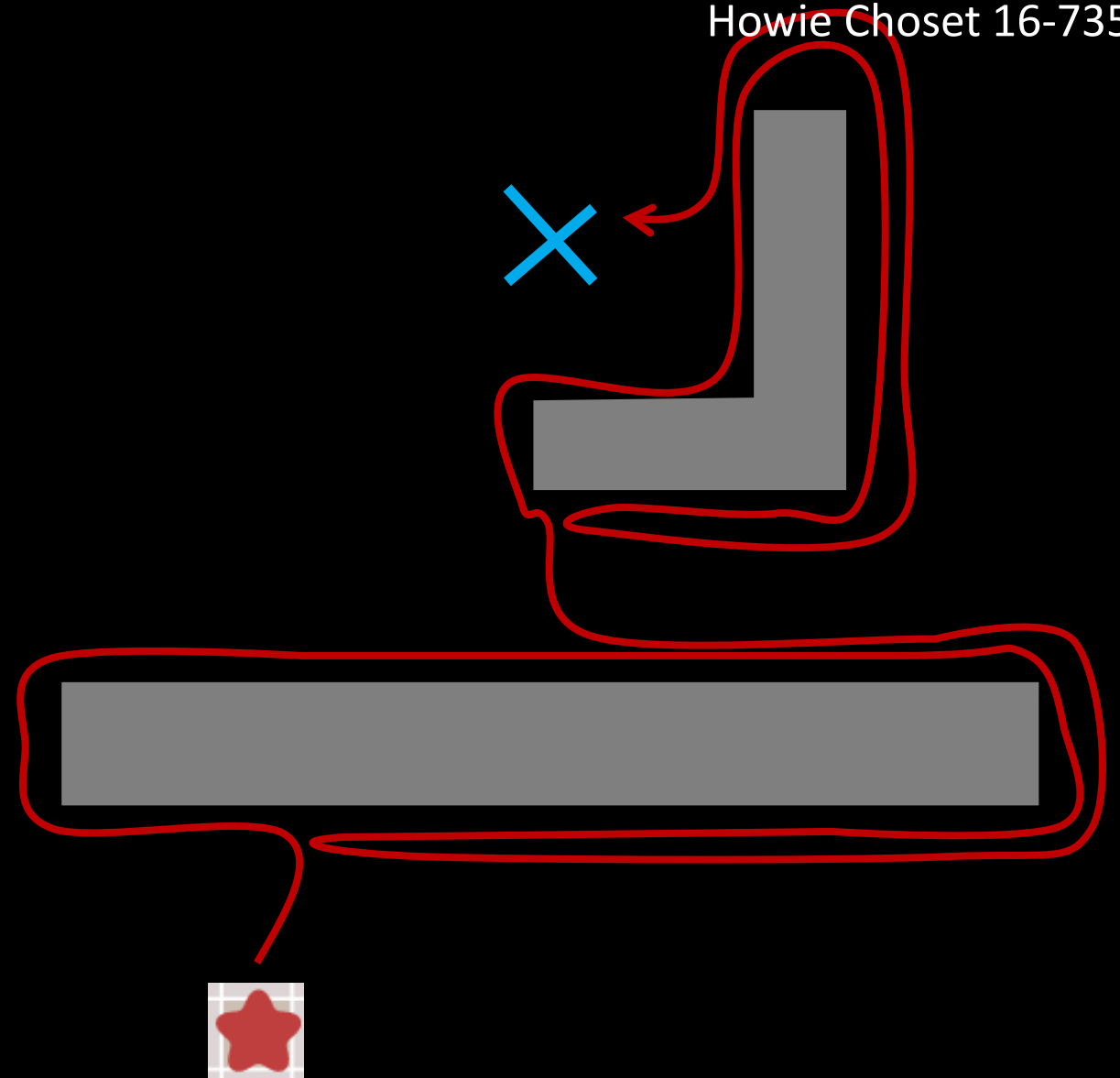
# Bug 1

## Sensor Assumptions

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry

## Algorithm

1. Go towards goal
2. Follow obstacles *and remember how close you got to the goal*
3. Return to the closest point, and loop



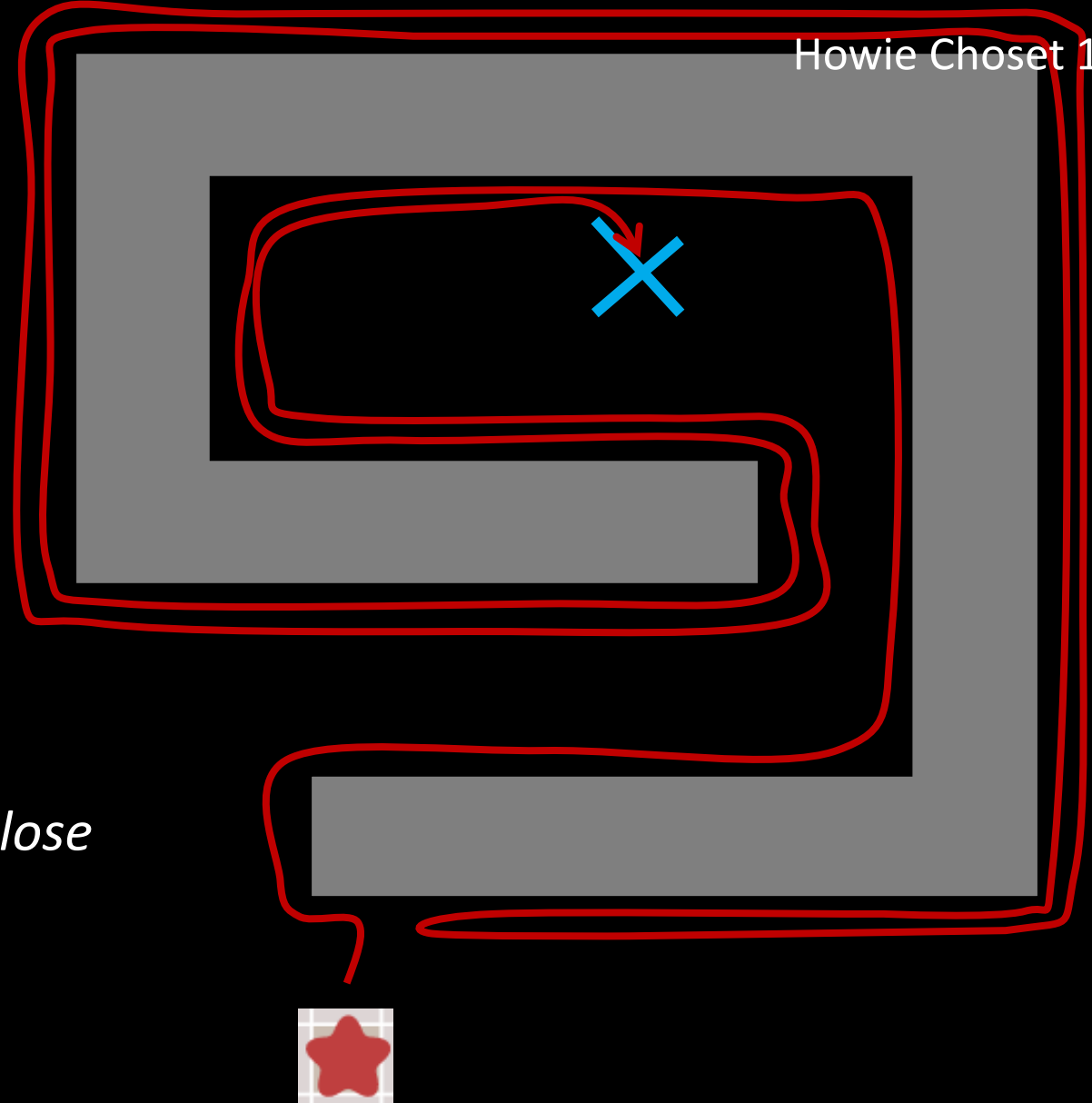
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- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry

## Algorithm

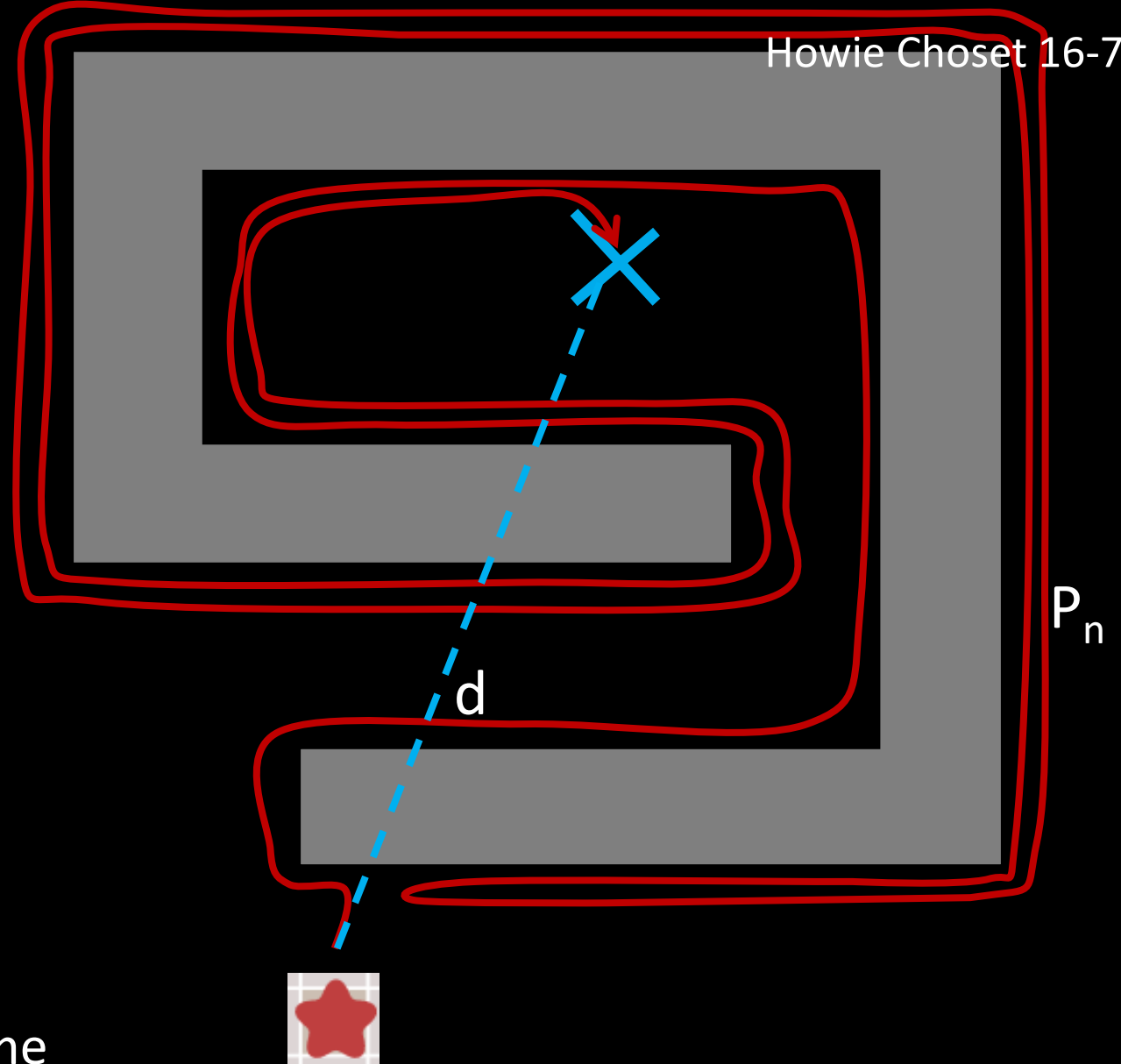
1. Go towards goal
2. Follow obstacles *and remember how close you got to the goal*
3. Return to the closest point, and loop



# Bug 1 - formally

## Sensor Assumptions

- Direction to the goal
  - Detect walls
  - Odometry
- 
- Lower bound traversal?
    - $d$
  - Upper bound traversal?
    - $d + 1.5 \cdot \text{Sum}(P_n)$
  - Pros?
    - If a path exist, it returns in finite time
    - It knows if none exist!



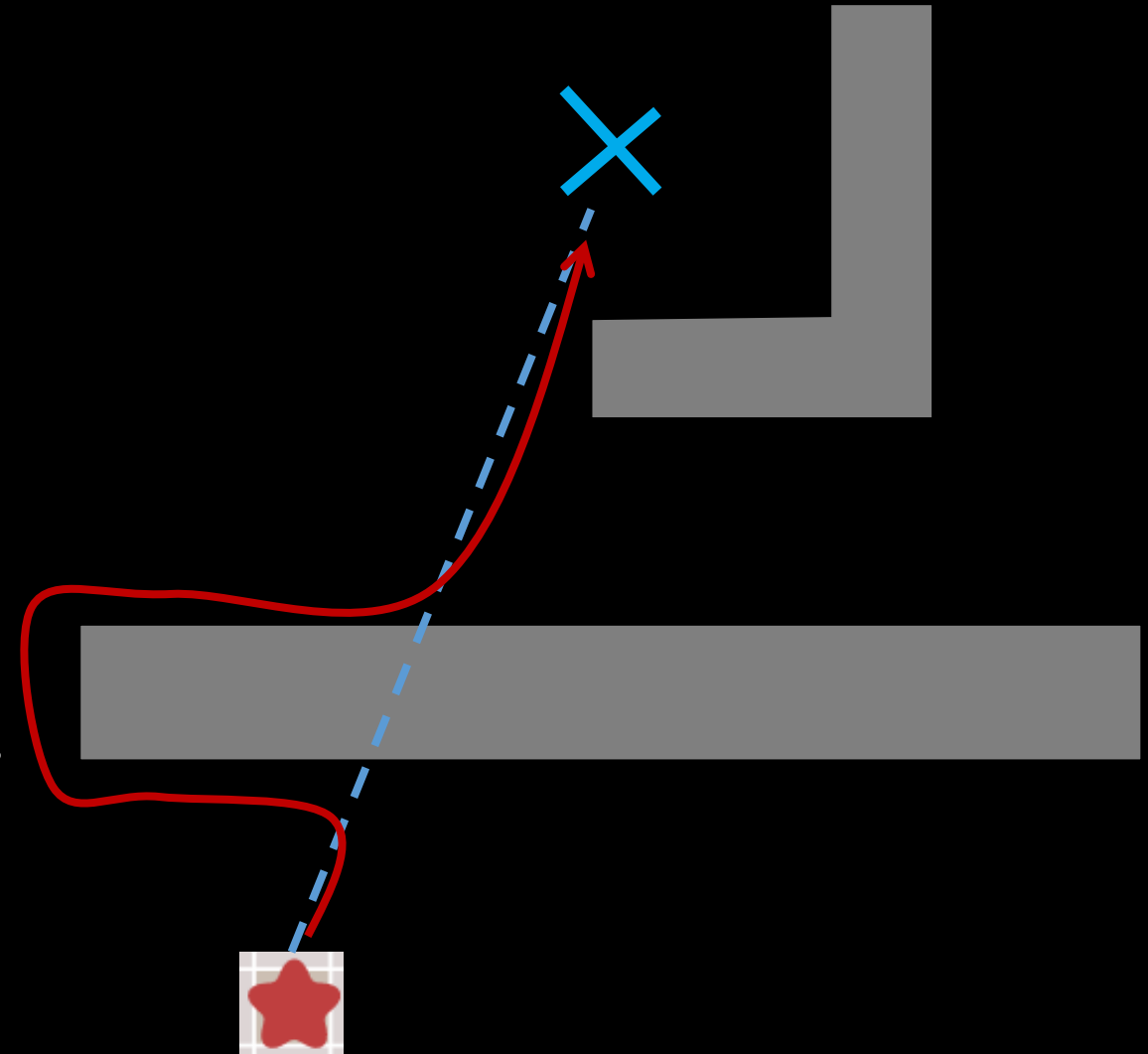
## Bug 2

### Sensor Assumptions

- Direction to the goal
- Detect walls
- Odometry
- Original vector to the goal

### Algorithm

1. Go towards goal on the vector
2. Follow obstacles *until you are back on the vector (and closer to the obstacle)*
3. Loop





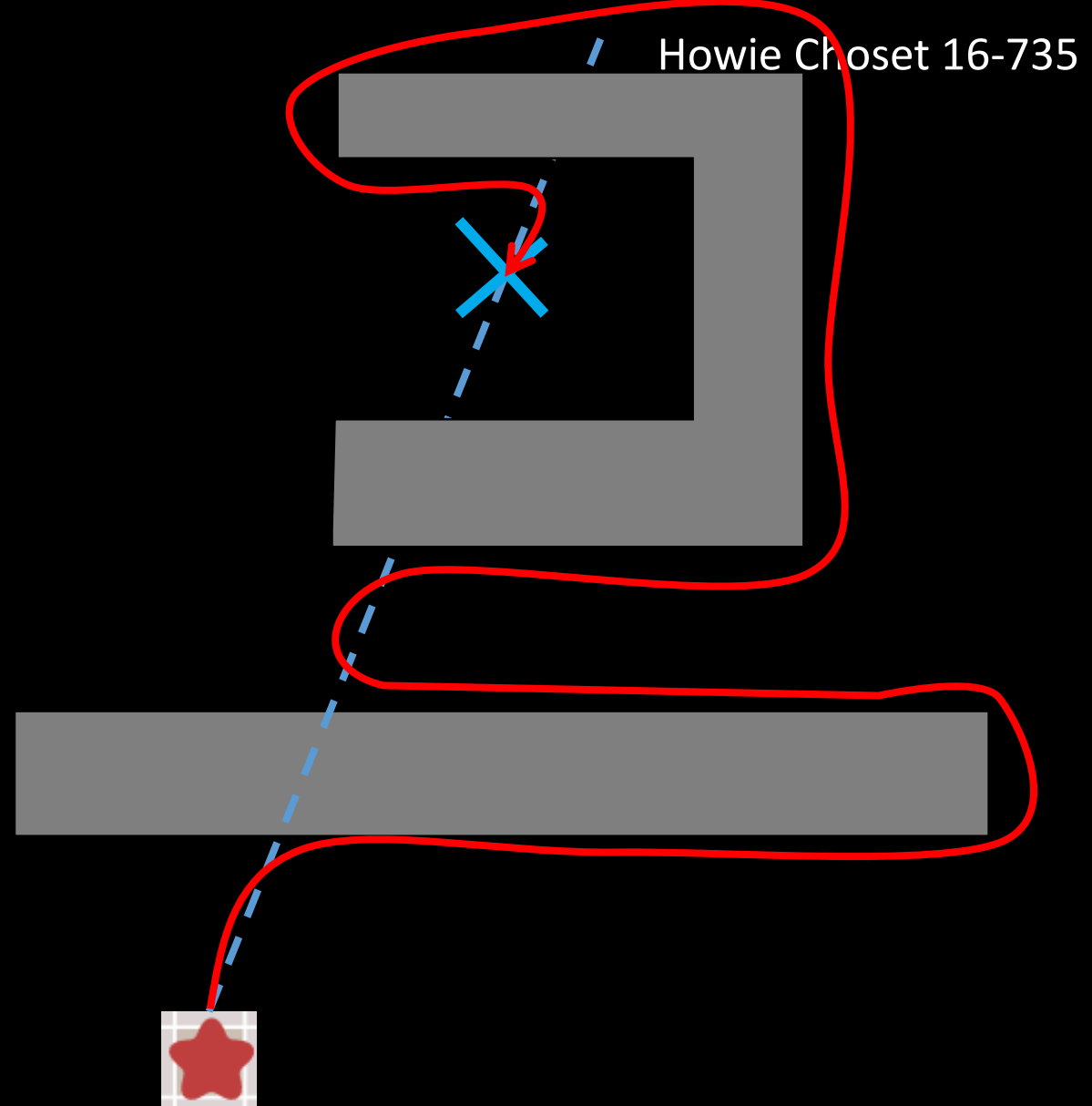
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## Sensor Assumptions

- Direction to the goal
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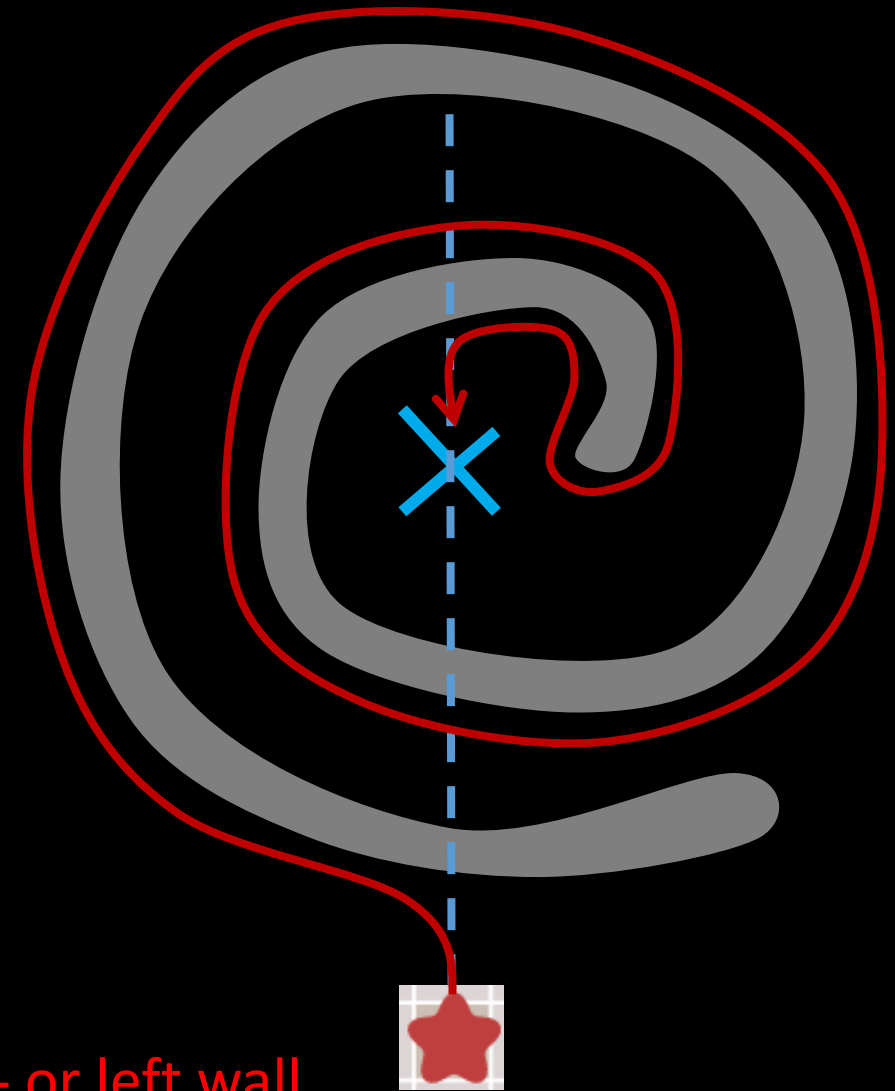
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## Sensor Assumptions

- Direction to the goal
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- Odometry
- Original vector to the goal

## Algorithm

1. Go towards goal on the vector
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3. Loop



What is faster, right- or left wall following?

# Battle of the Bugs (1 vs 2)

Bug 1  
Layout 1

Bug 2  
Layout 1

# Battle of the Bugs (1 vs 2)

Exhaustive Search

Greedy Search

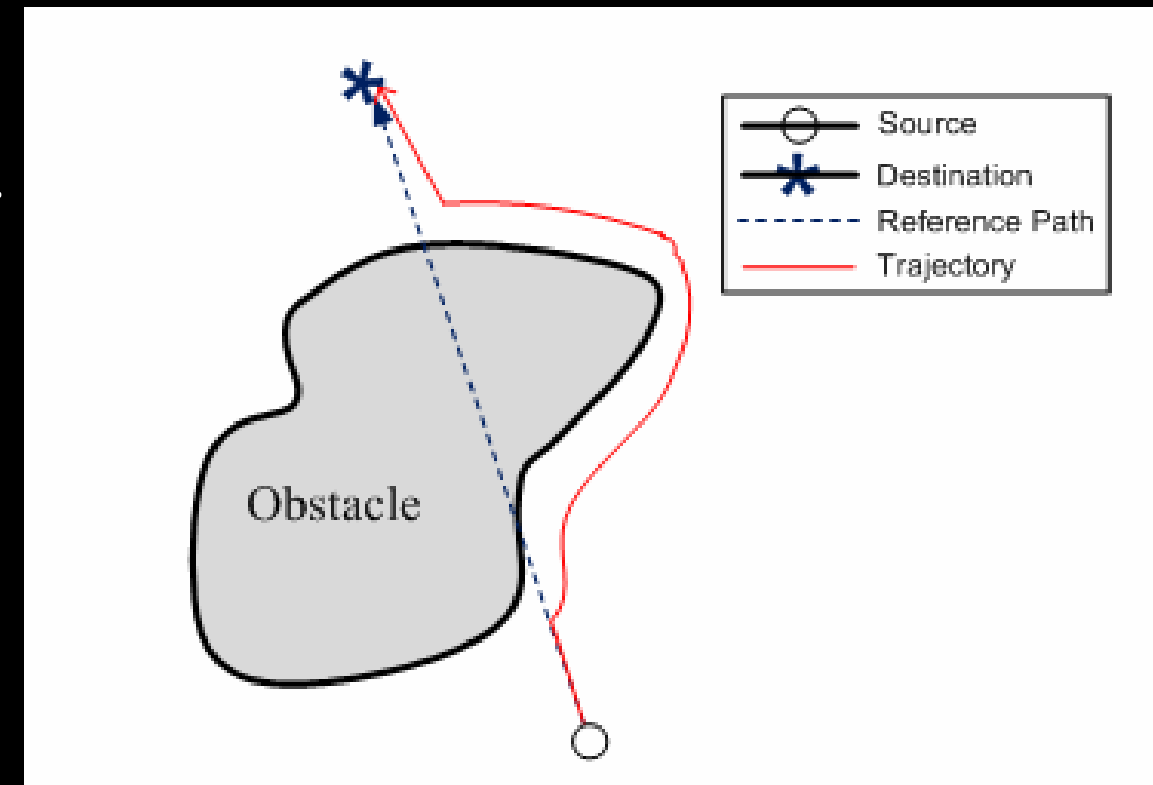
Bug 1  
Layout 2

Bug 2  
Layout 2

# Bug Algorithms

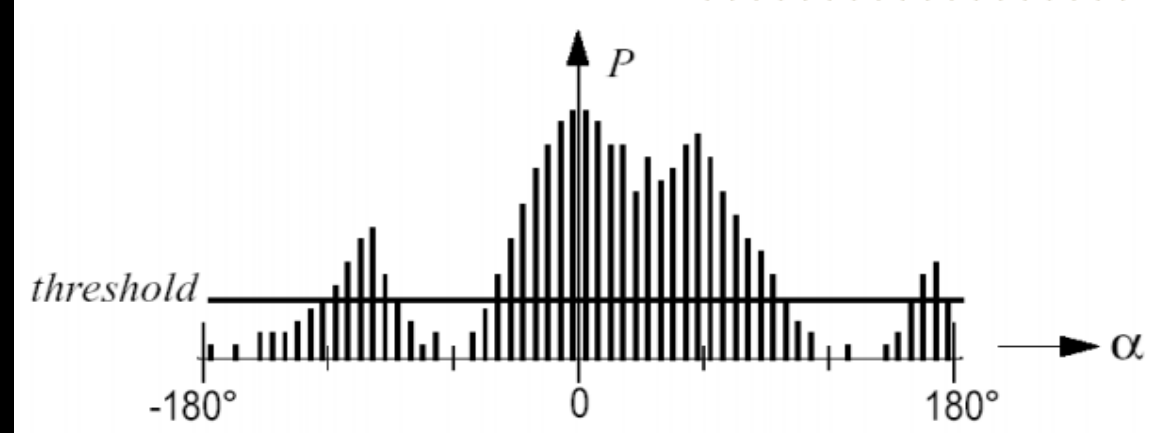
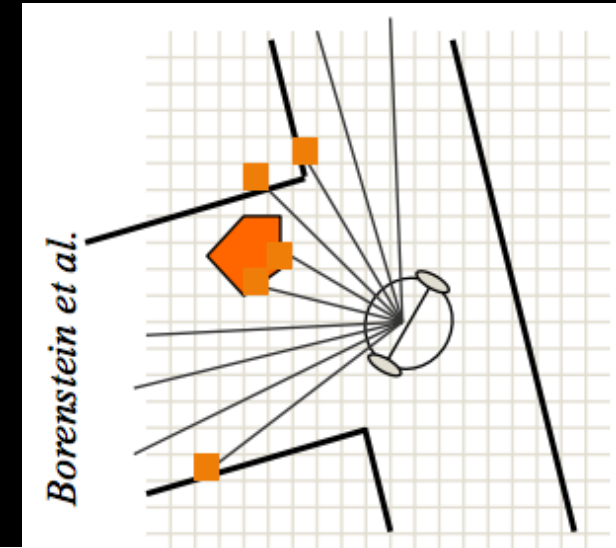
- Uses local knowledge, and the direction and distance to the goal
- Basic idea
  - Follow the contour of obstacles until you see the goal
  - State 1: Seek goal
  - State 2: follow wall
- Different variants: Bug0, Bug1, Bug2

- The robot motion behavior is reactive
- Issues if the instantaneous sensor readings do not provide enough information or are noisy



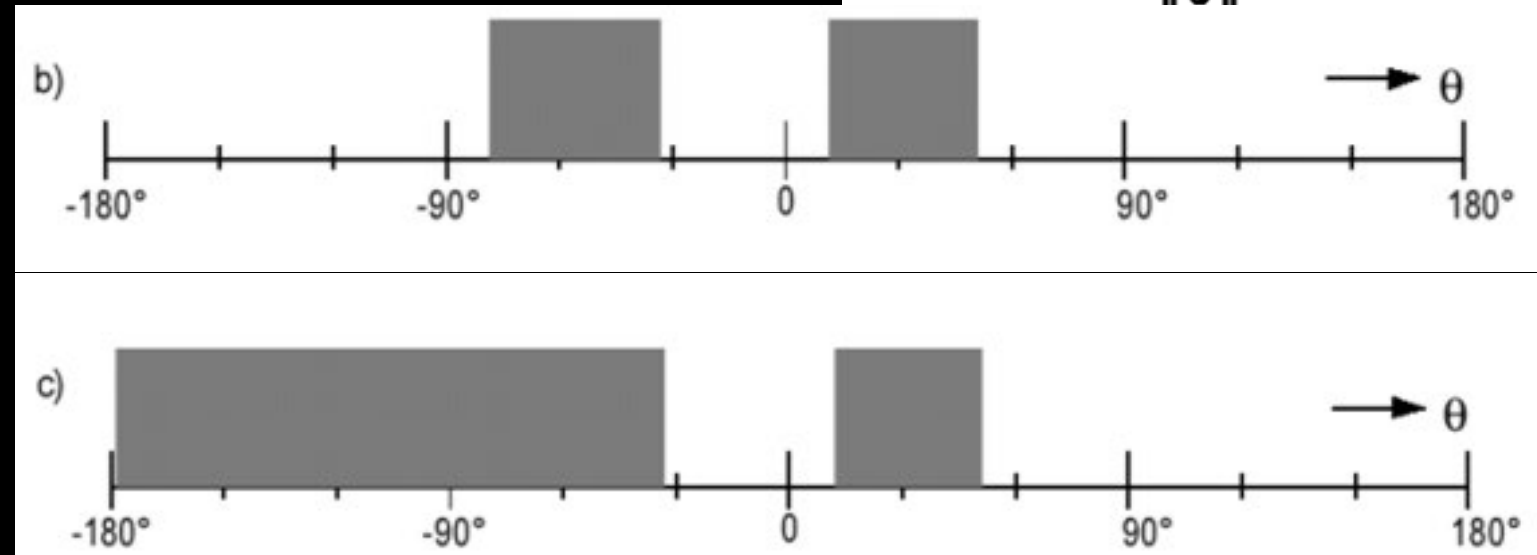
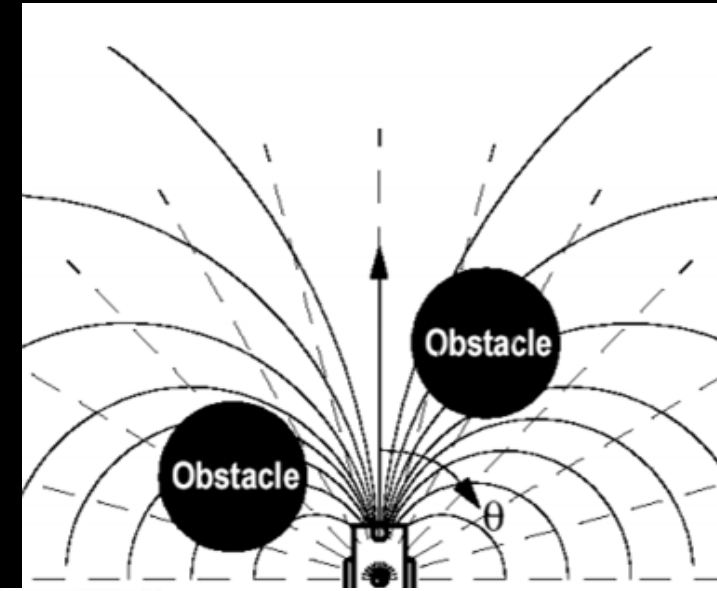
# Vector Field Histograms

- VFH creates a local map of the environment around the robot populated by “relatively” recent sensor readings
- Build a local 2D grid map  $\rightarrow$  reduce to 1-DoF histogram
- Planning
  - Find all openings large enough for robot to pass
  - Choose the one with the lowest cost,  $G$
  - $G = a * \text{goal\_direction} + b * \text{orientation} + c * \text{prev\_direction}$



# Vector Field Histograms

- VFH creates a local map of the environment around the robot populated by “relatively” recent sensor readings
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  - Choose the one with the lowest cost,  $G$
  - $G = a * \text{goal\_direction} + b * \text{orientation} + c * \text{prev\_direction}$
  - VFH+: Incorporate kinematics
- Limitations
  - Does not avoid local minima
  - Not guaranteed to reach goal

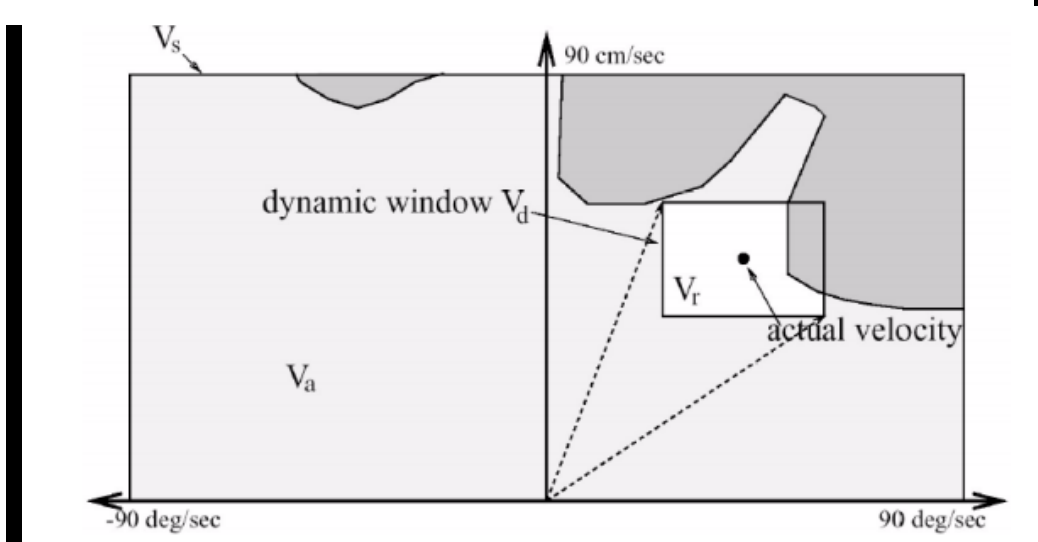
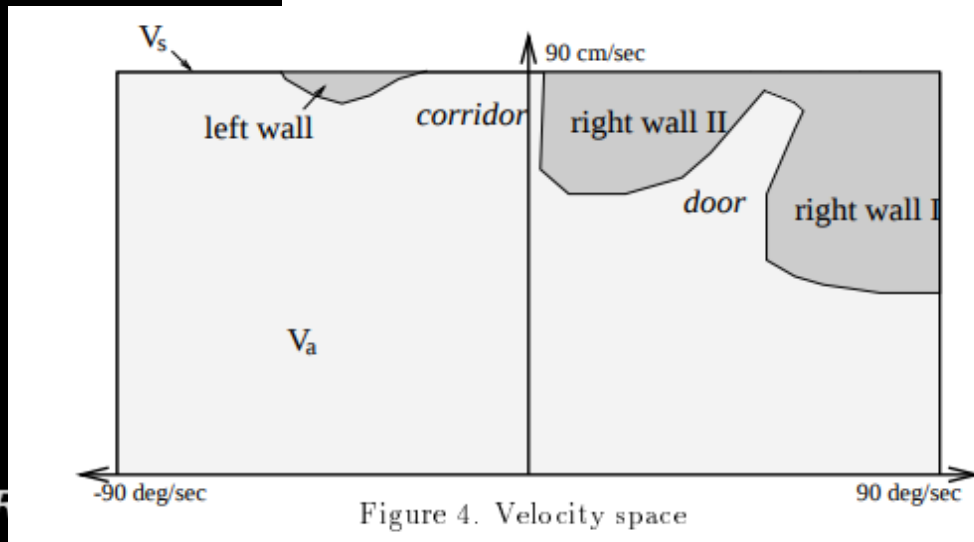


# Dynamic Window Approach

- Search in the velocity space (robot moves in circular arcs)
  - Takes into account robot acceleration capabilities and update rate
- A dynamic window,  $V_d$ , is the set of all tuples  $(v_d, \omega_d)$  that can be reached
- Admissible velocities,  $V_a$ , include those where the robot can stop before collision
- The search space is then  $V_r = V_s \cap V_a \cap V_d$

• Cost function:

$$G(v, \omega) = \sigma(\alpha \cdot \text{heading}(v, \omega) + \beta \cdot \text{dist}(v, \omega) + \gamma \cdot \text{velocity}(v, \omega))$$





# Local Planning Algorithms, Summary

- Bug Algorithms
  - Inefficient, but can be exhaustive
- Vector Field Histograms
  - Takes into account probabilistic sensor measurements
- Vector Field Histograms +
  - Takes into account probabilistic sensor measurements and robot kinematics
- Dynamic Window Approach
  - Takes into account robot dynamics

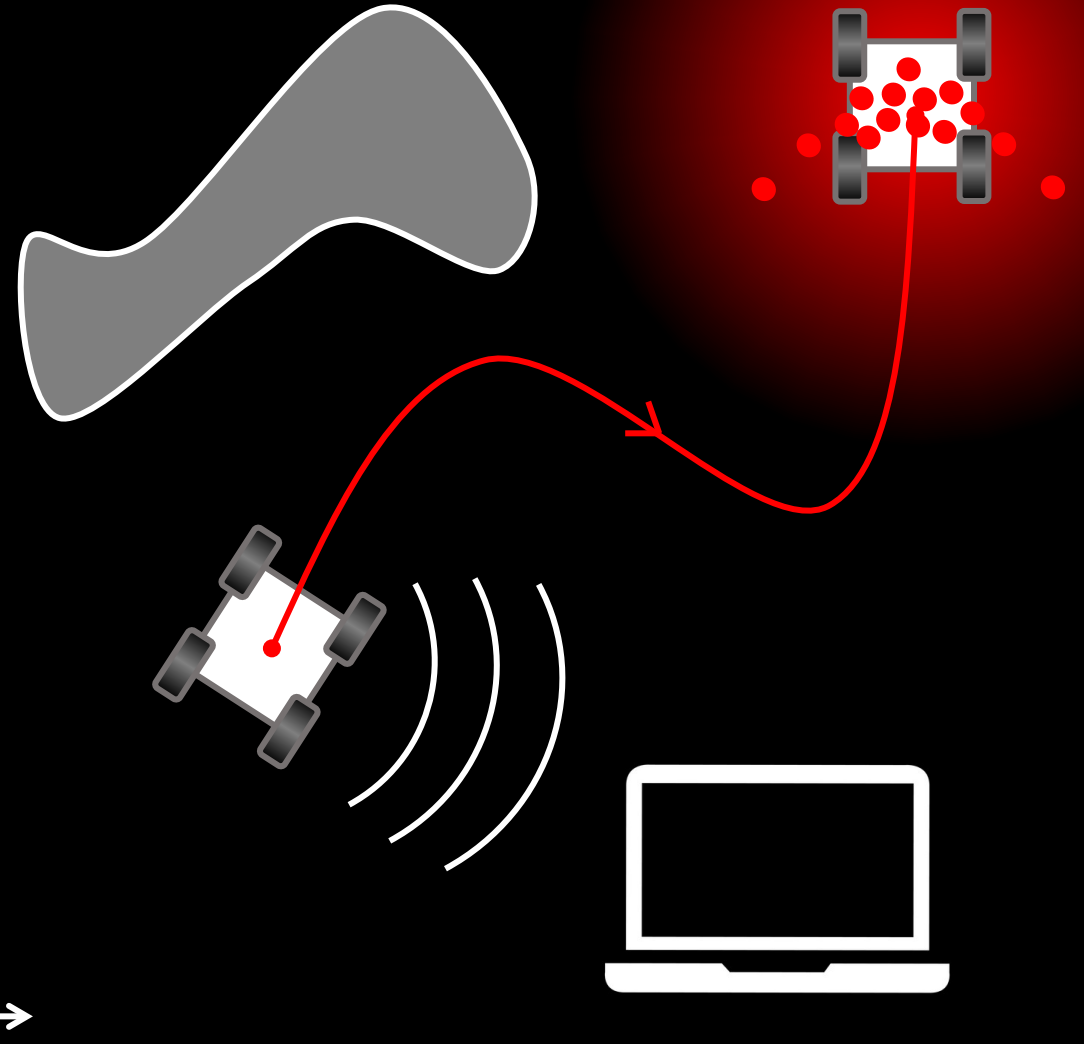
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# Global Localization

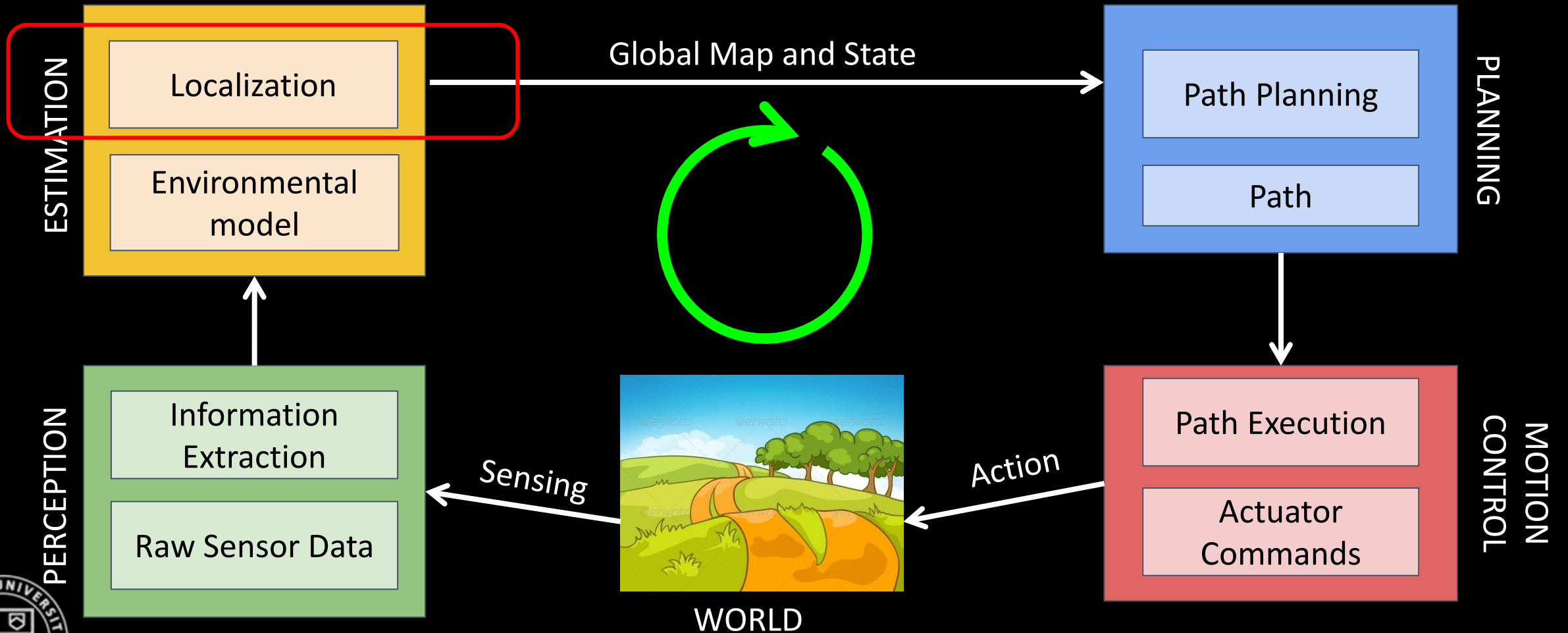
# Outline of the next module on Navigation

- Local planners
- Global localization and planning
  - Map representations
    - Continuous
    - Discrete
    - Topological
  - Maps as graphs
  - Graph Search Algorithms
    - Breadth First Search
    - Depth First Search
    - Dijkstras
    - A\*



# Navigation

- Navigation breaks down to: Localization, Map Building, Path Planning



# Localization Problem

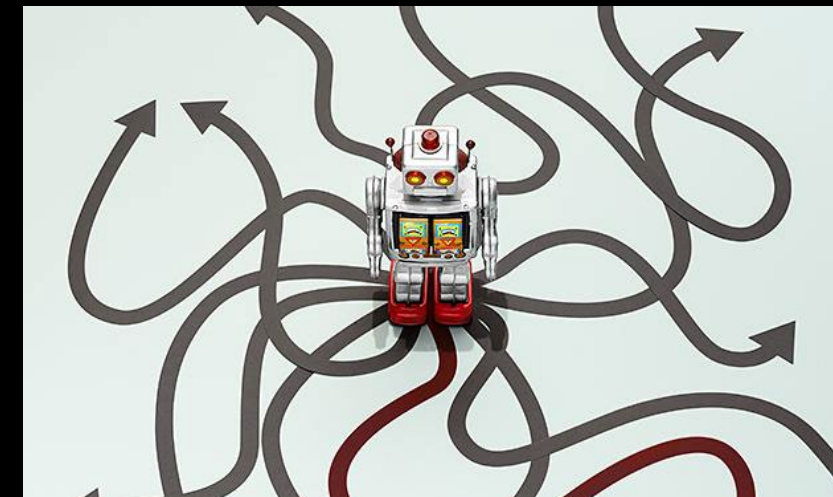
## Position Tracking

- Initial **robot pose is known**
- Either deterministically (odometry) or through Bayesian statistic (motion and sensor models)
- It is a “**local**” problem, as the uncertainty is local (often small) and confined to a region near the robot’s true pose

## Global Localization

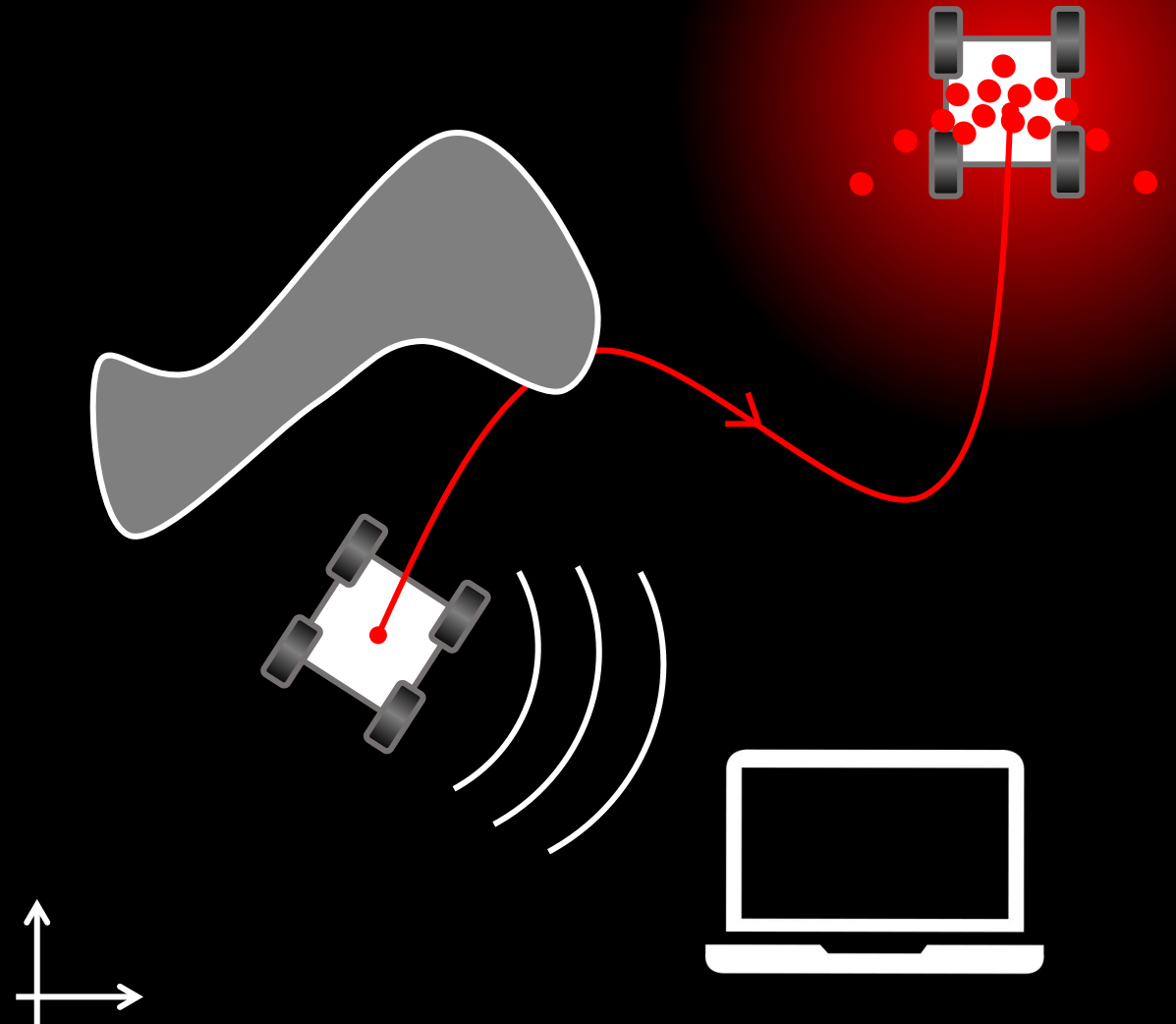
- Initial **robot pose is unknown**
- Need to estimate position from scratch
- A more difficult “**global**” problem, where you cannot assume boundedness in pose error

kidnapped robot problem



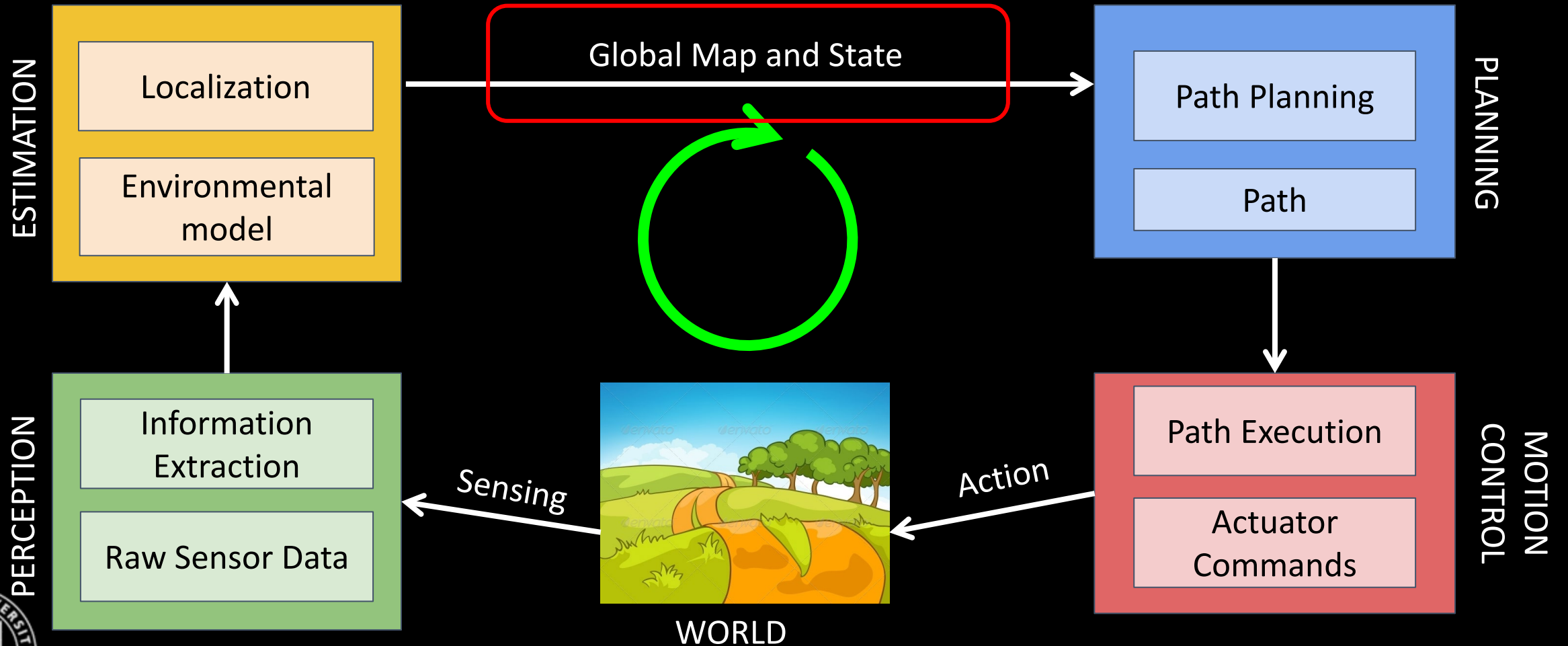
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# Map Representations

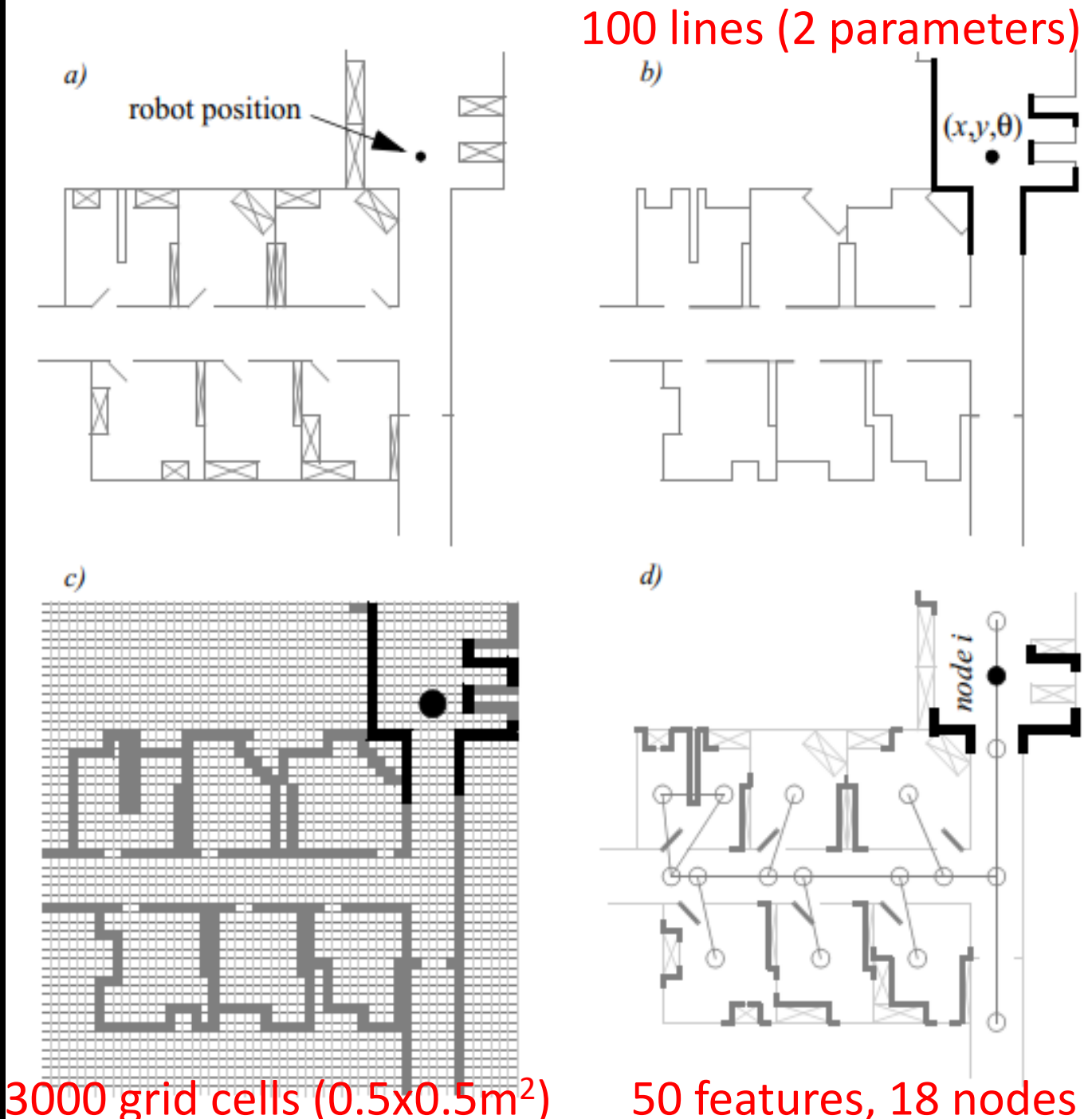


# Map Representation

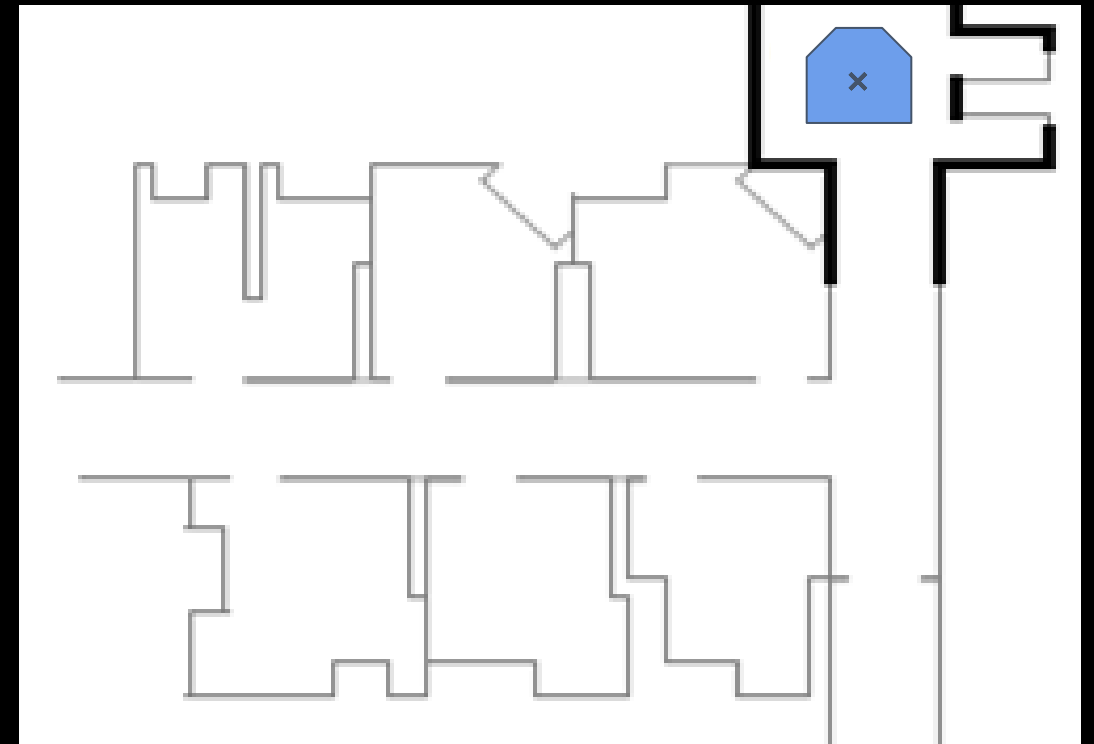
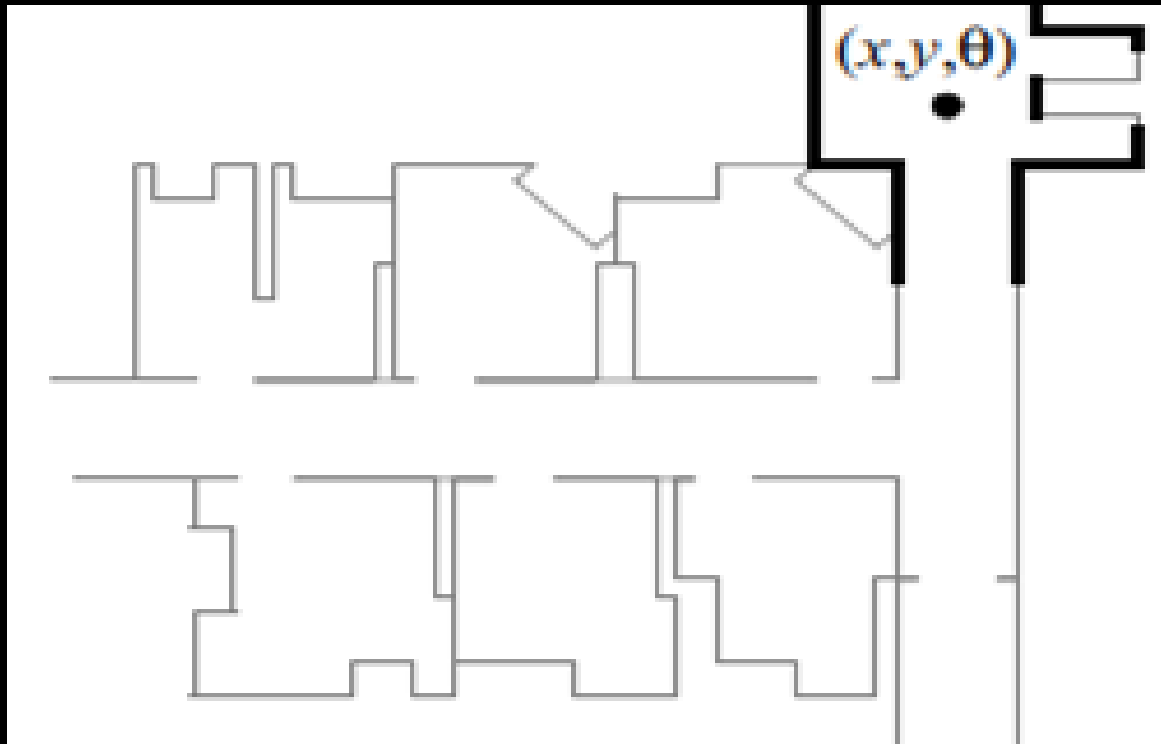
- (a) Building plan
- (b) line-based map
- (c) occupancy grid-based map
- (d) topological map

**Important properties**

- Memory allocation
- Computation
- Robot pose



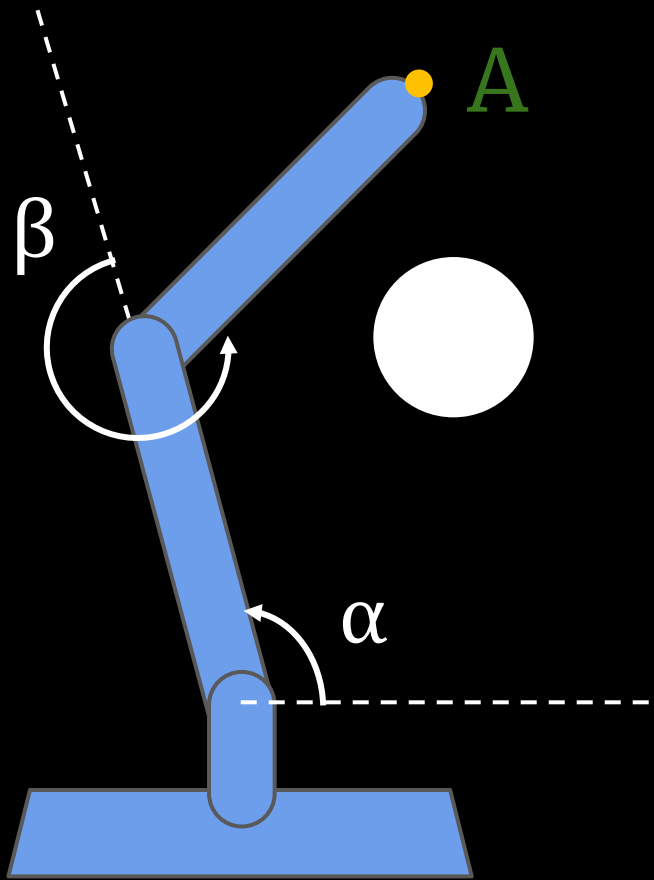
# What if the robot is not a point?



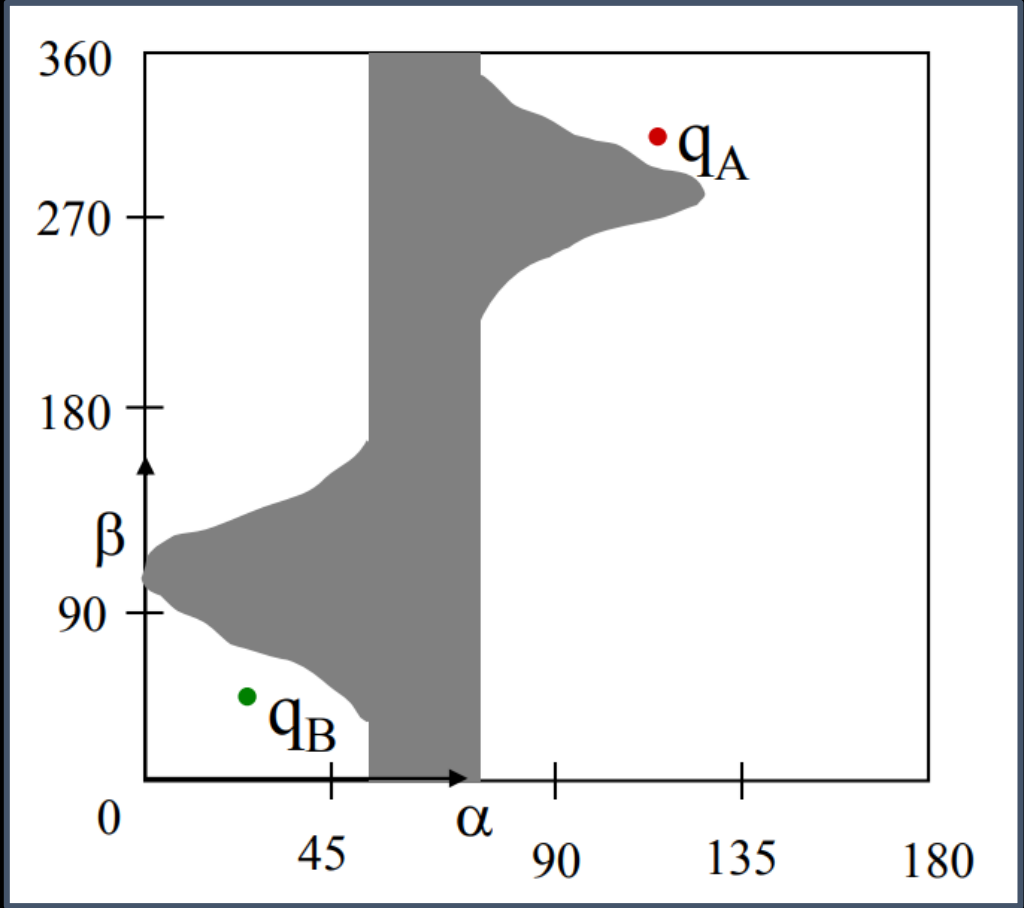
# Configuration Space

- Each coordinate in the configuration space represents a robot degree of freedom
  - Global motion planning normally takes place in the configuration space

## Ex 1: Planar arm



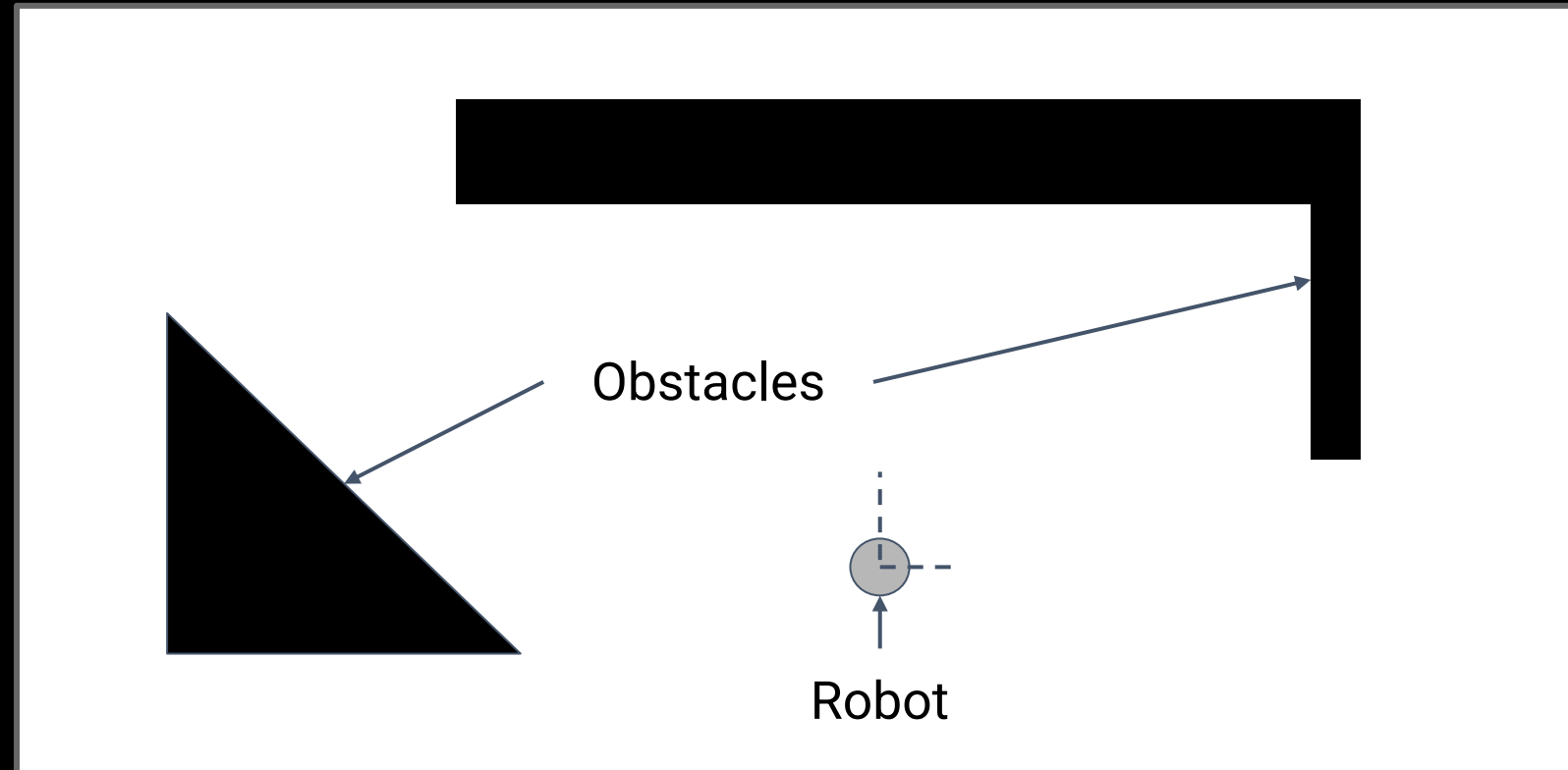
$B$



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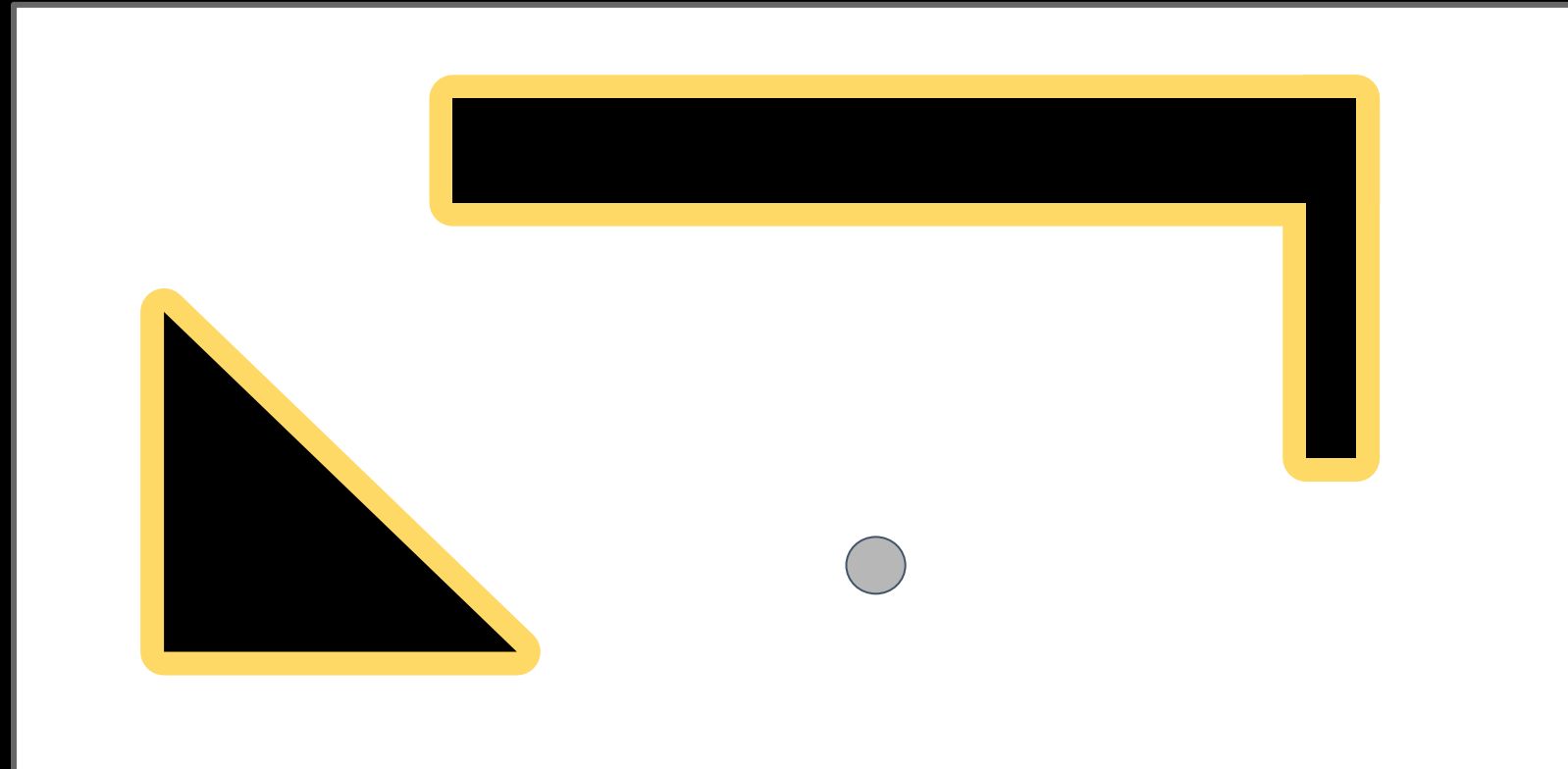
## Ex 2: Circular robot in 2D world



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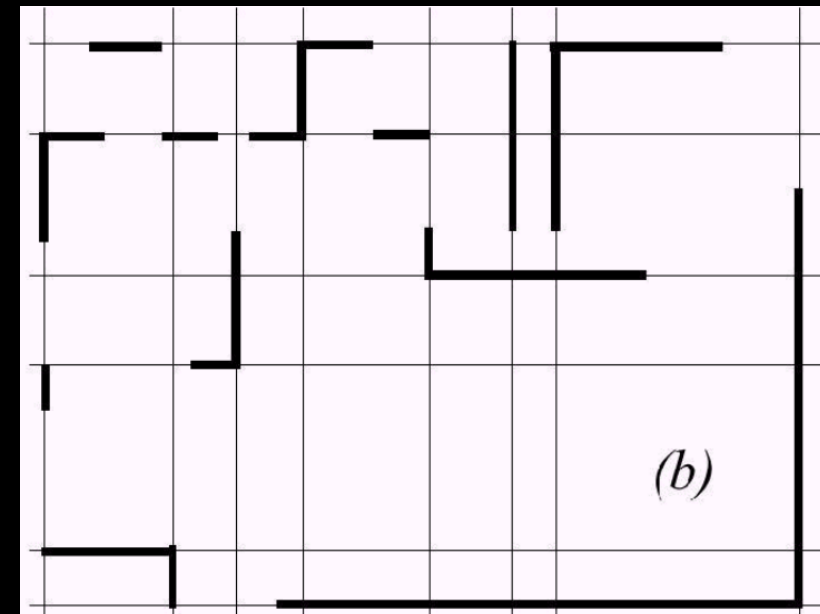
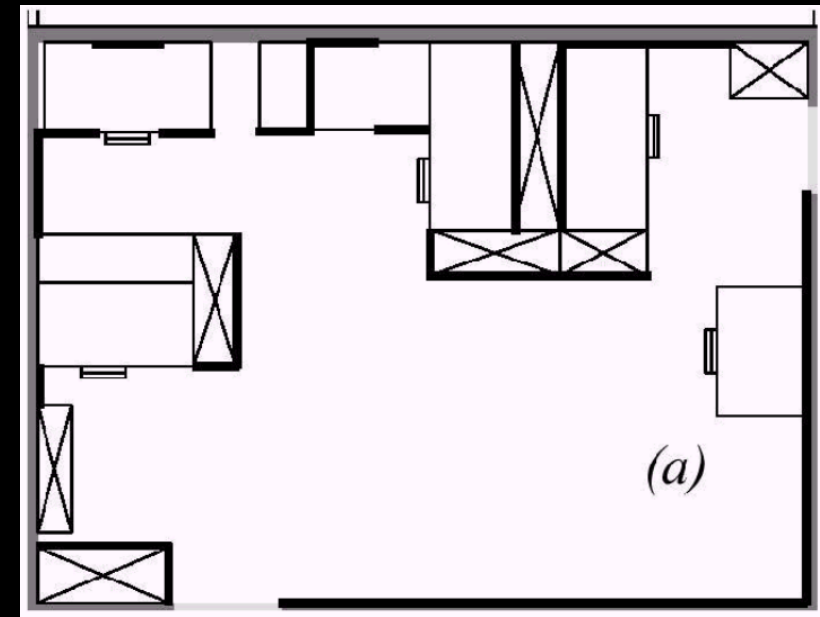
# Map Representation Considerations

## Summary

- The precision of the map must appropriately match the precision with which the robot needs to achieve its goals
- The precision of the map and the type of features represented must match the precision and data types returned by the robot's sensors
- The complexity of the map representation has direct impact on the computational complexity of reasoning about mapping, localization, and navigation

# Continuous Representations

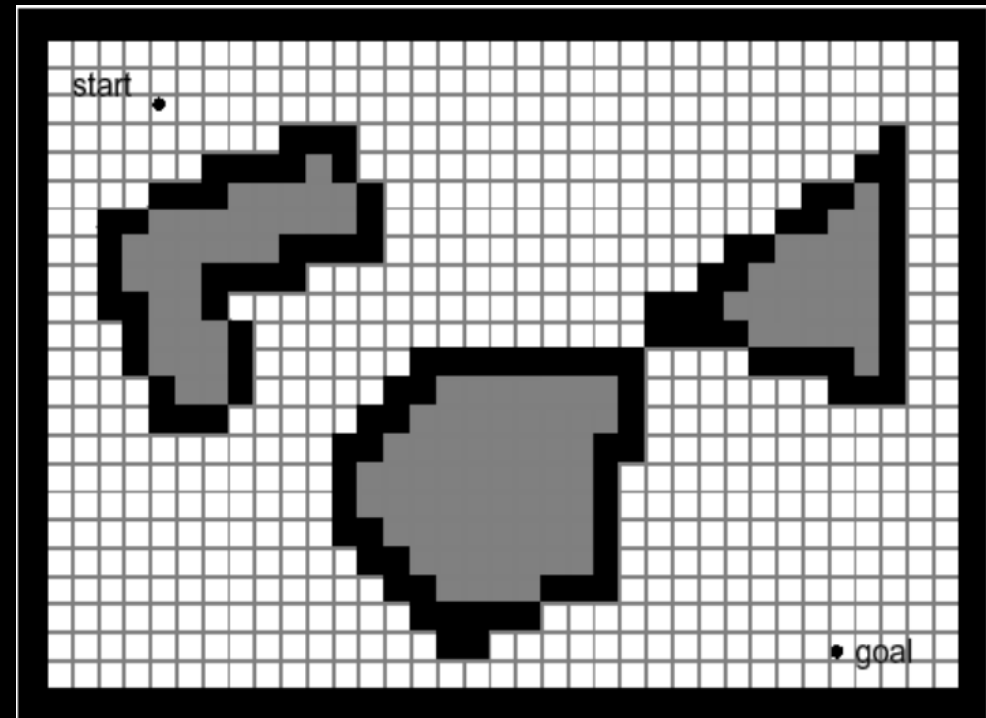
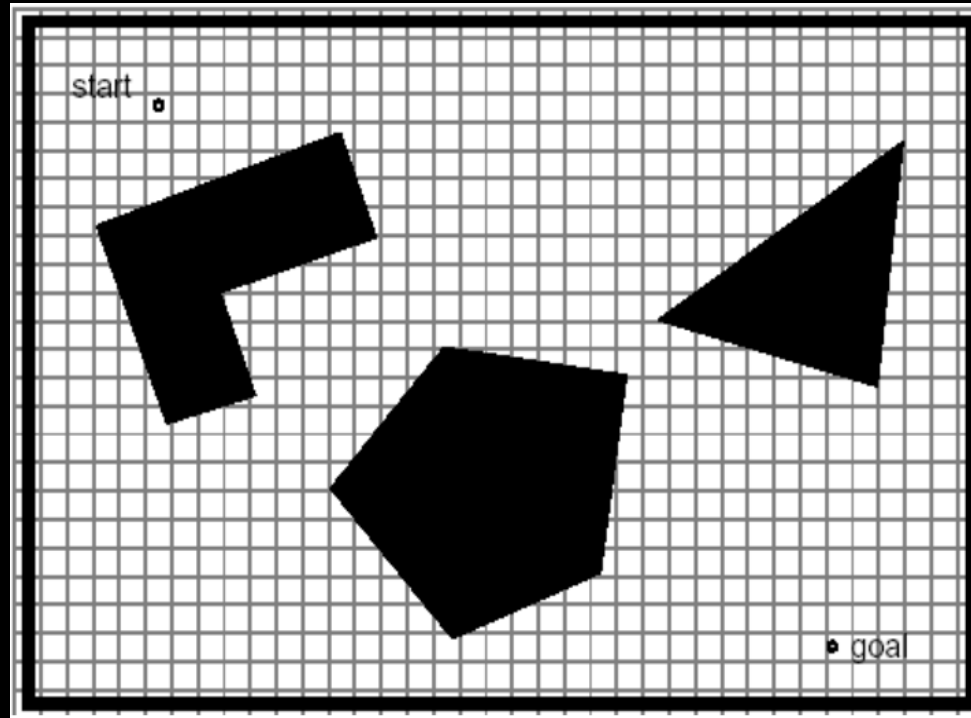
- Exact decomposition of the environment
- Used mainly in 2D representations
- Closed-world assumption
- Storage proportional to object density
- Example: Continuous line representations
  - Using range finders, we can extract lines/line segments in the environment



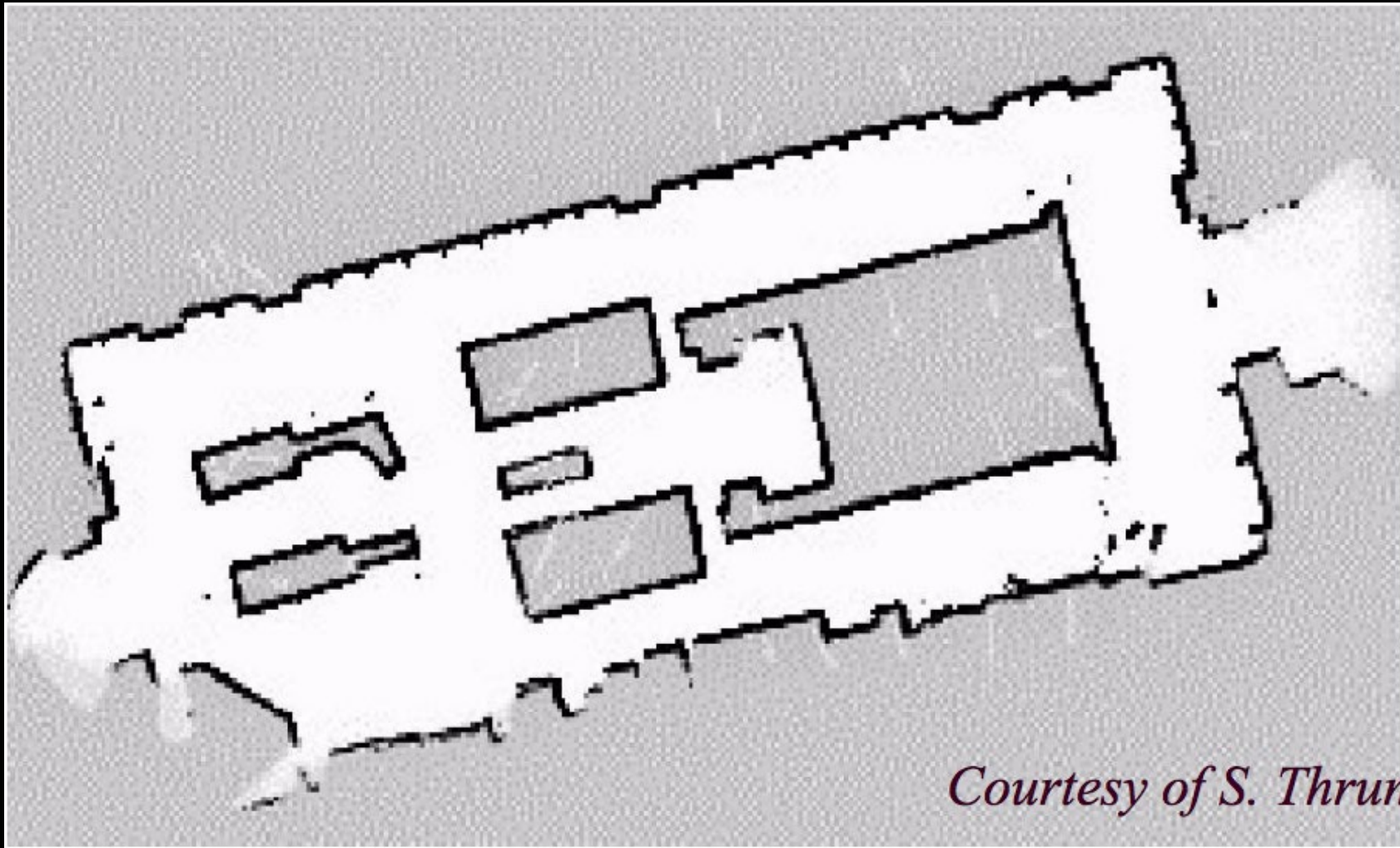


# Fixed Decomposition

- Tessellate the world at a fixed resolution
- Approximate features given the resolution
- Most commonly used: Occupancy grid



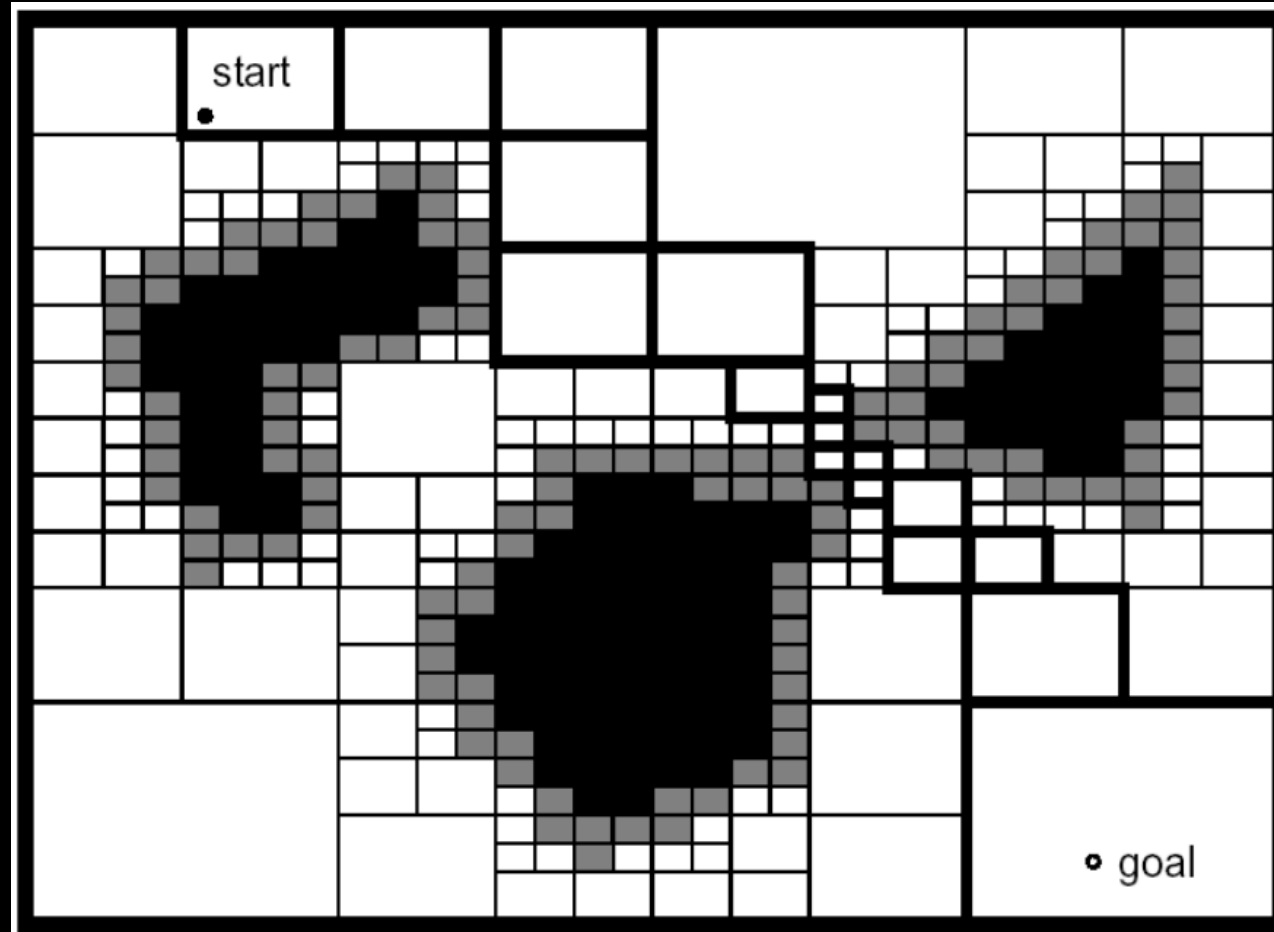
# Fixed Decomposition



*Courtesy of S. Thrun*

# Adaptive Cell Decomposition

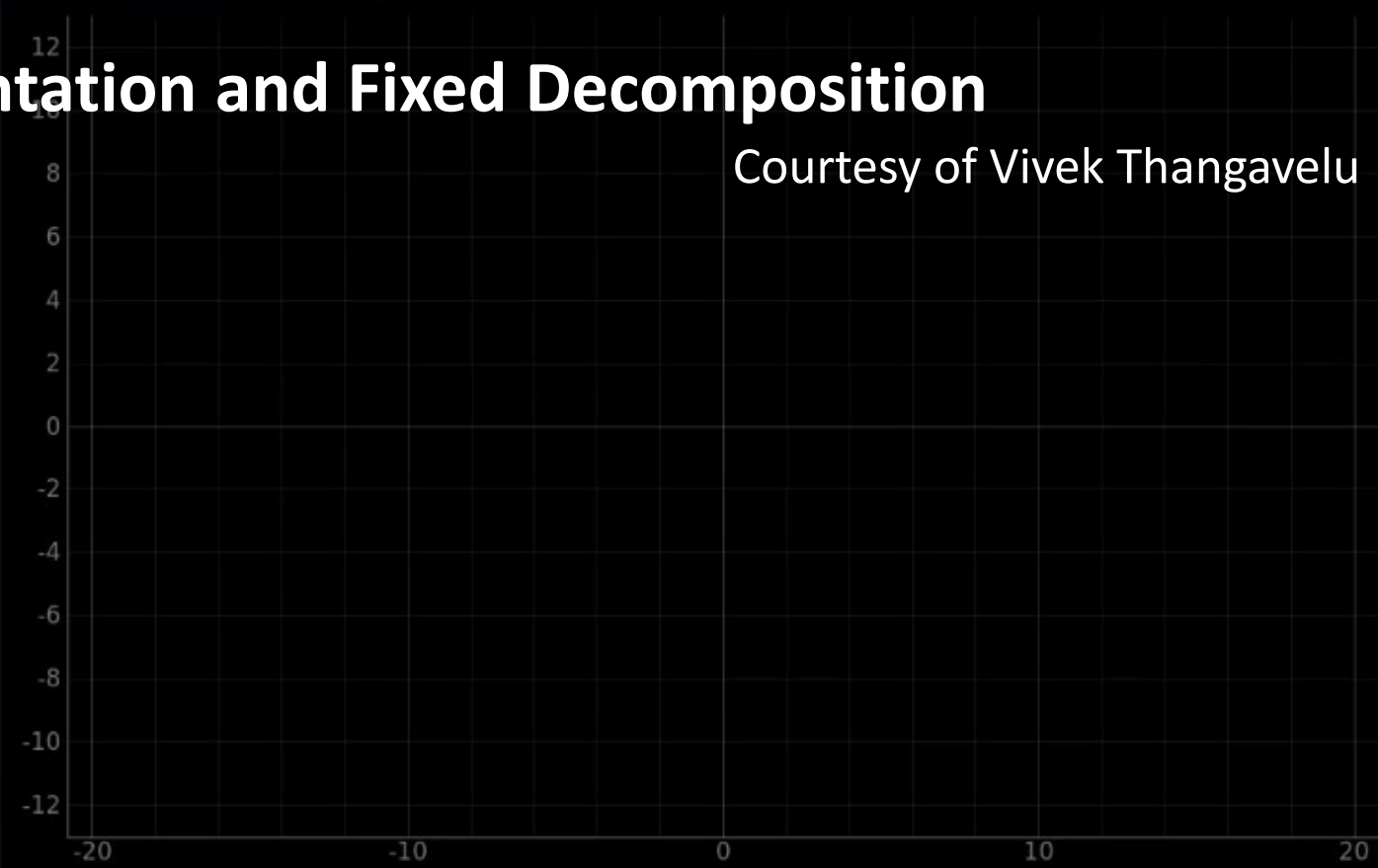
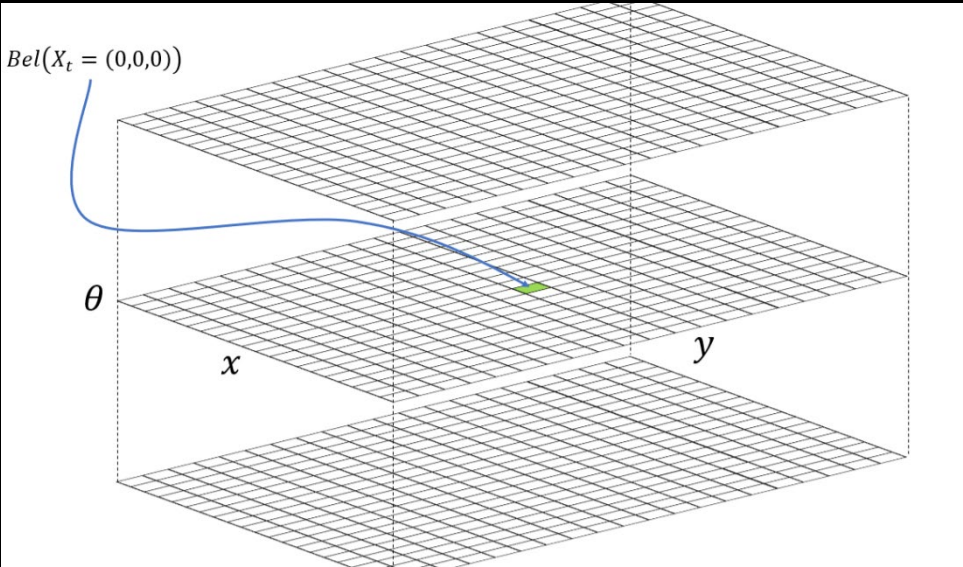
- Adapt cell size to features



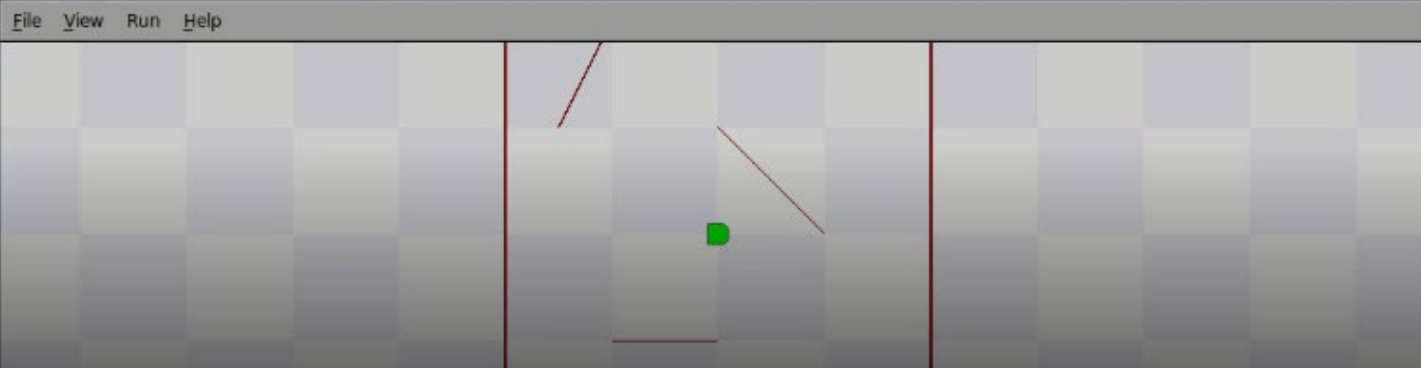
# Lab 9-12: Combo of Linear Representation and Fixed Decomposition

Courtesy of Vivek Thangavelu

- Map is represented by lines
- Robot pose is represented by a fixed decomposition of (x,y,theta)

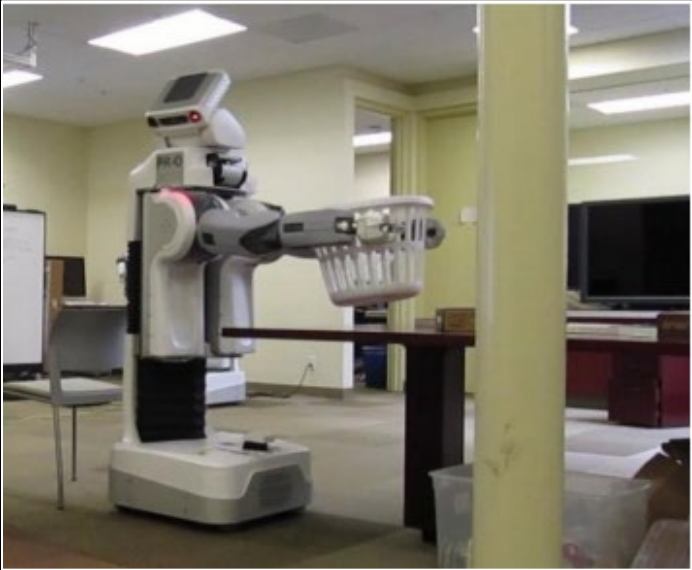


Plotted Points = 0    Reset (r)    Odom    Ground Truth    Belief    Map    Dist.    Quit (q)





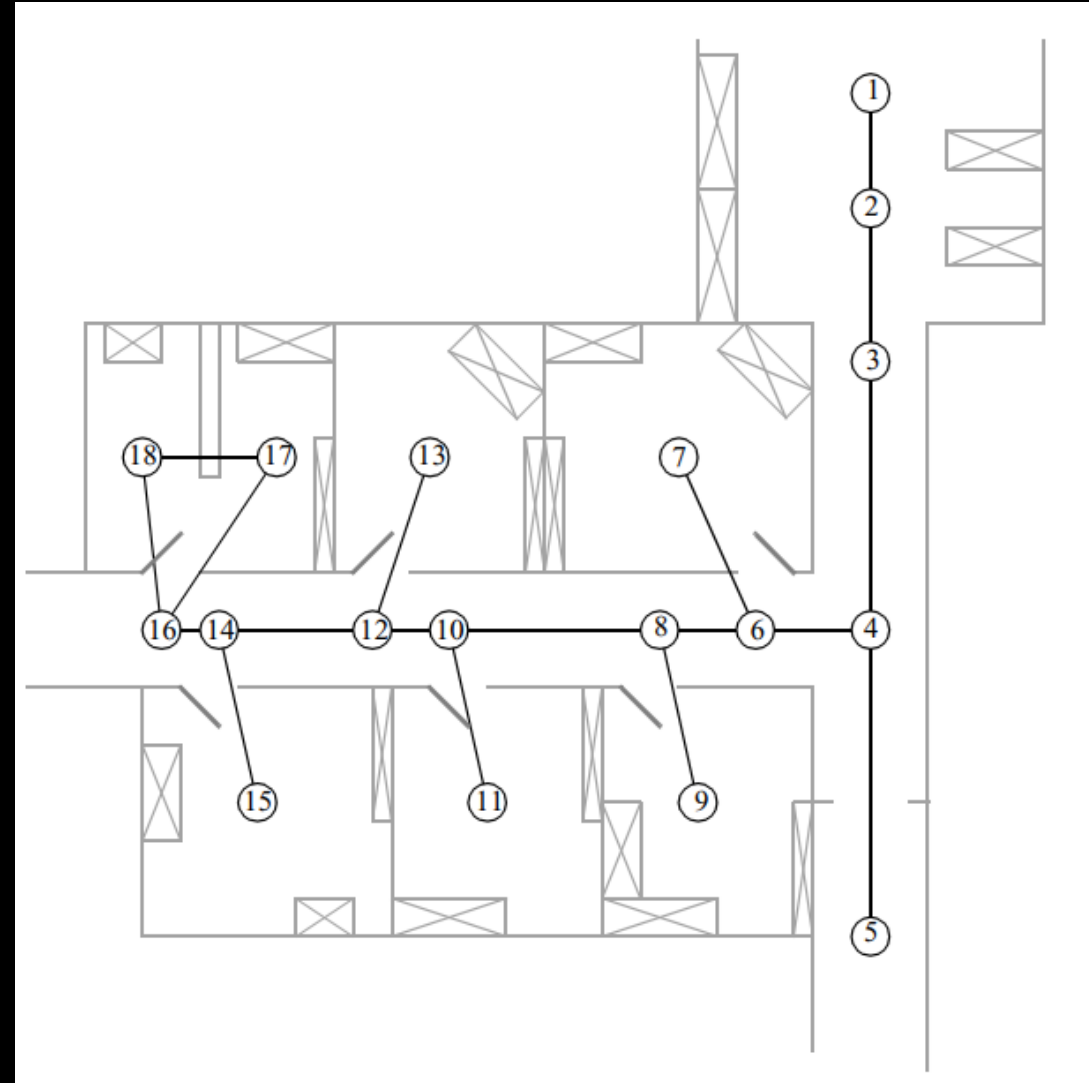
# Robots in 3D Environment



- How many coordinates are needed now?
  - 6 DOF
- Representation requirements
  - Compact in memory
  - Efficient access and queries
  - Enables sensor fusion
- Solution
  - Topological Representation

# Topological Decomposition

- A topological representation is a graph that specifies nodes and edges
  - Nodes denote areas in the environment
  - Edges describe environment connectivity
- Robots can...
  - ...detect their current position in terms of the nodes of the topological graph
  - ...travel between nodes using robot motion



# Outline of the next module on Navigation

- Local planners
- Global localization and planning
  - Map representations
    - Continuous
    - Discrete
    - Topological
  - Maps as graphs
  - Graph Search Algorithms
    - Breadth First Search
    - Depth First Search
    - Dijkstras
    - A\*

