# Motion planning: <br> Configuration Space 

CMSC425.01 Fall 2019

## Administrivia

- Exam review
- Hw1 graded, Hw2 soon


## Navigation problems

- Navigating from place to place
- Dense crowd navigation
- Coordinated team movement
- Pursuit

- Moving complex/articulated shape
- Piano movers problem(rigid)
- Skeleton (articulated)



## Navmesh

1. Mark navigable space

- Use agent height/width/slope

2. Triangulate navigable area

- Tile with triangles

3. Connect with graph

- Connect in and out points

4. Search with algorithm

- Dijkstra's or A*



## Review: smoothing bounding

- Step 2: Simplify boundaries
- Simplify polygon "map"
- Recursive refinement of straight line

(a)

(b)

Fig. 3: The Ramer-Douglas-Peucker Algorithm.

## Review of triangulation: how do efficiently?

- Step 3: Triangulate "map"
- Cover with set of triangles
- Bridge holes
- Cut ears (!)

(a)

(b)

(c)


## Beyond Navmesh

Navmesh: moving circle

1. Mark navigable space

- Use agent height/width/slope

2. Triangulate navigable area

- Tile with triangles

3. Connect with graph

- Connect in and out points

4. Search with algorithm

- Dijkstra's or A*


## Generalizing: jointed polygon

1. Define a navigable space

- Jointed characters
- Configuration space!

2. Find optimal paths in the space
3. Create a road network
4. Search the network

## Defining robot configuration $R$

- Multiple degrees of freedom
-3DOF - translate/rotate $\mathcal{R}(x, y, \theta) \quad$ (region covered by robot)
- 4DOF - translate/rotate/bend $\mathcal{R}(x, y, \theta, \phi)$
- 6DOF - rigid object in 3D
- Human - 244



## Defining workspace $S$

- Boundary of space + obstacles
- In same DOF space as robot
- Defines free and forbidden ranges of values of $R$
- $C_{f r e e}(R, S)$
- $C_{\text {forbidden }}(R, S)$



## Motion planning in configuration space

- Path from $s, t \in C_{f r e e}(R, S)$
- if we have $\mathcal{R}(s) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}(t)$
- with all configurations in free space
- One path can be better than another based on length, maximum bend, etc

(a)
(b)


## Building configuration space

Robot and obstacle
Workspace


## Step 1: Establish buffer distance

Workspace



## Building configuration space

Step 2: Move shape around obstacle

Workspace


Step 3: Create extended obstacle (green) by midpoint

Workspace


## Building configuration space

## Step 4: Reduce robot to point

Workspace


- Robot becomes point
- Obstacle become C-obstacle
- Path finding reduces to finding a path for a single point around extended obstacles


## In higher dimensions

## Step 6: Rotate and repeat (0-180 degrees)

Workspace


## Creates solid in 3D space



## Creating in higher dimensional space

- Expensive!
- 5DOF or 7DOF arm?
- Robot base with arm? 10DOF

- Sample space, fit surface, approximate

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)
(e)


## Formalizing: Minkowski sums

- Motivation
- $\mathcal{R}(p)$ is region of $\mathcal{R}$ translated to $p$
- $P$ is an obstacle region
- $C(p)=\{p: \mathcal{R}(p) \cap P \neq \emptyset\}$

(a)


## Definitions

- Minkowski sum
- $P \oplus Q=\{p+q: p \in P, q \in Q\}$
- Negated region
- $-P=\{-p: p \in P\}$

- Sum with point
- $P \oplus p=P \oplus\{p\}$


## Claim: $C(P)=P \oplus(-\mathcal{R})$

- "Proof":

If robot $R$ intersects obstacle $P$ when at location $q(R(q)$ in $P)$
Then we have for $r$ in $R$ that $p=q+r$

Then we can deduce $q=p-r$ The points $q$ are those that compose C(P)

(a)

(b)

## Algorithm: Computing Minkowski sum

- Input: two polygons
- Output: polygon of M-sum
- Algorithm:
- Take each edge in CCW direction
- Sort by angle
- Combine





## Finding paths in polygonal configuration space

- Version 1: Navmesh
- Others?


# Finding paths in polygonal configuration space 

- Version 1: Navmesh
- Others?
- Version 2: Game designer draws ...


## Finding paths in polygonal configuration space

- Version 1: Navmesh
- Others?
- Version 3: Grid

(a)

(b)

(c)


## Finding paths in polygonal configuration space

- Version 1: Navmesh
- Others?
- Version 4: Multiresolution grid

(a)

(b)

(c)


## Finding paths in polygonal configuration space

- Version 1: Navmesh
- Others?
- Version 5: Visibility graph

(a)

(b)


## Finding paths in polygonal configuration space

- Version 1: Navmesh
- Others?
- Version 6: Medial axis (c)

(a)

(b)

(c)

