

# Run-time Reasoning from Uncertain Observations with Subjective Logic in Multi-Agent Self- Adaptive Cyber-Physical Systems

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# About me



Born in North Macedonia

[2011-2014] **B.Sc. in Computer Science**

*Faculty of Computer and Information Science, University of Ljubljana*

[2014-2016] **M.Sc. in Informatics**

*Department of Informatics, Technical University of Munich*

[2017 – end of 2022 (expected)] **Research Assistant and a Ph.D. candidate**

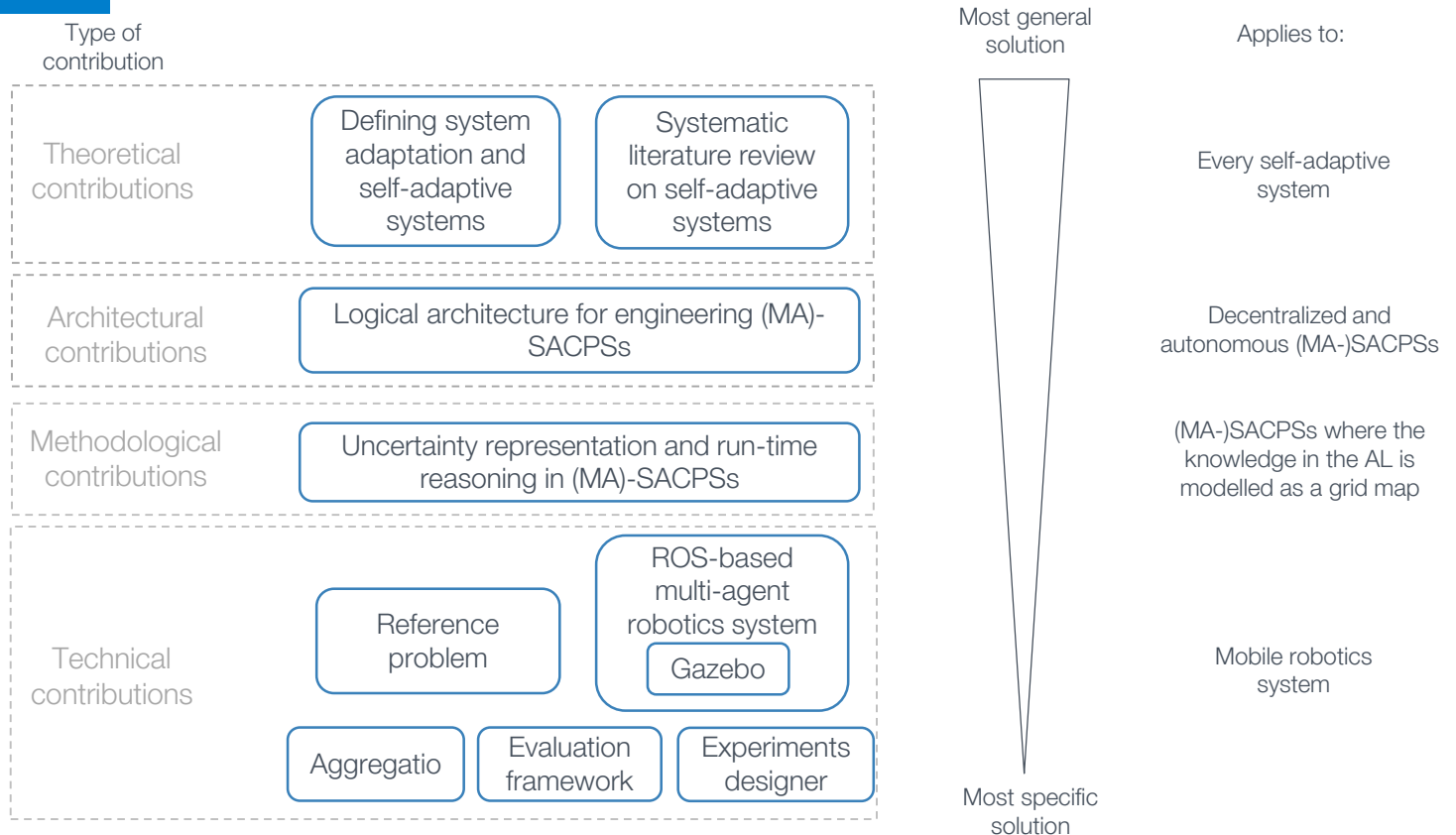
*Department of Informatics, Technical University of Munich, Chair of Software and Systems Engineering*

- Worked on BMBF project: Collaborative Embedded Systems [funded full time for 3 years]
- Research on the foundations of self-adaptive systems and engineering self-adaptive CPSs
- Lecturer and TA in multiple courses in the bachelor and master degree
- Organized and led a master practical course (a lab) in SS19, supervising 14 students
- Supervised 17 theses
- Wrote more than 20 peer-reviewed papers [10 first author, 10 co-authored]

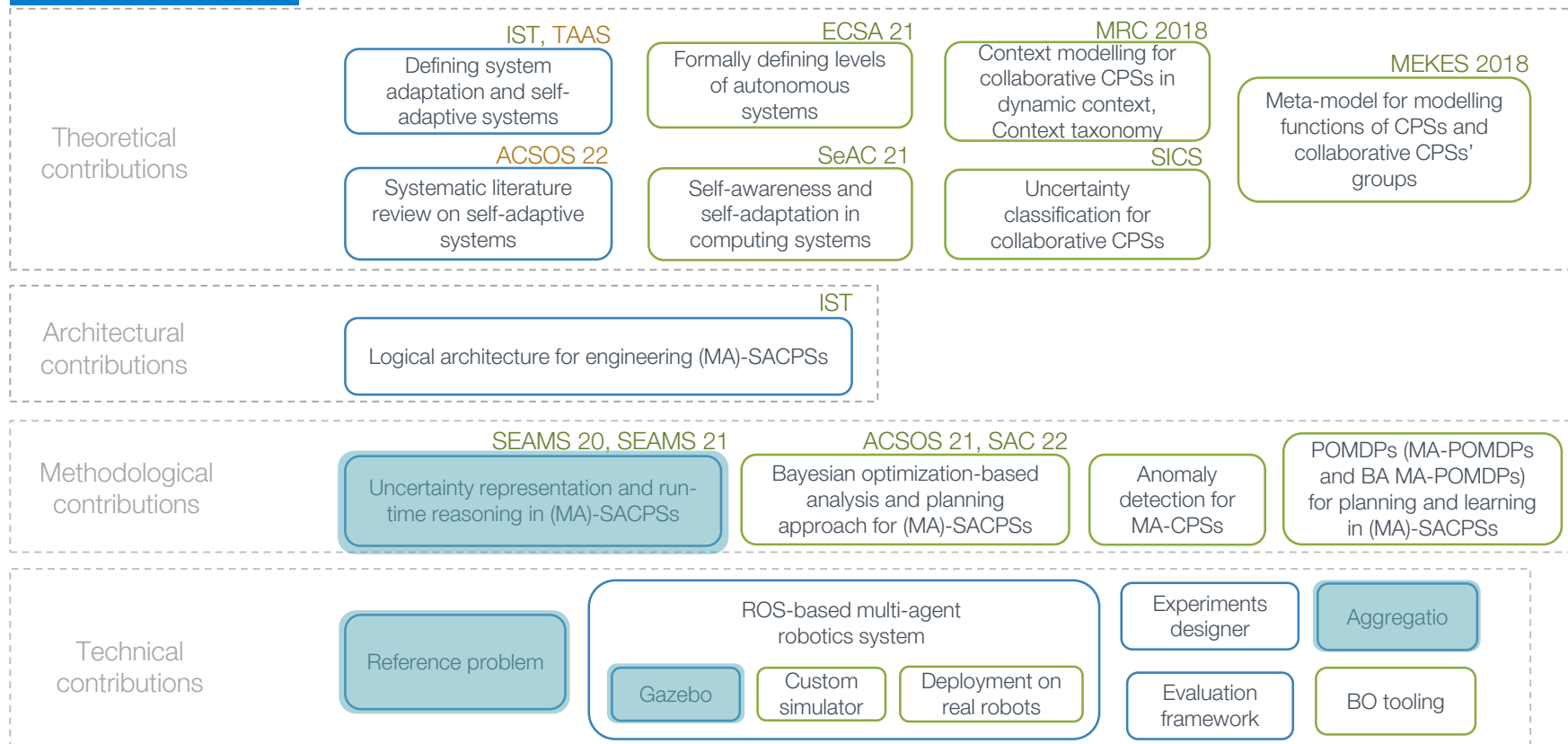
[2017 – present] IN.TUM Gender Equality Officer

[2019 – present] General Team Lead at Women in CS @ TUM (Informatik Forum Frauen IFF)

# On engineering self-adaptive cyber-physical systems



# Additional contributions



## Problem

MA-SACPSs are exposed to a variety of run-time uncertainties resulting in inaccurate and partial observations, which potentially lead to conflicting observations made by different CPSs.



## Gap

Although knowledge representation, aggregation and reasoning are essential for building MA-SACPSs [8], there is a scarcity of approaches for modeling K that allow capturing uncertain and conflicting observations from multiple, decentralized CPSs.



## Solution

We present a Subjective Logic-based methodological approach for knowledge aggregation and reasoning in MA-SACPSs that is domain-independent and can deal with reasoning on uncertain, partial, and conflicting observations.



## Contributions

(i) SL-based approach for knowledge aggregation and reasoning in MA-SACPSs

(ii) Open-source implementation of a in-house ROS-based multi-robot system

(iii) Evaluation through extensive controlled experiments

Disclaimer: the talk is based on [1] and [2], published at SEAMS2020 and SEAMS 2021, respectively.

[1] **Ana Petrovska**, Sergio Quijano, Ilias Gerostathopoulos, Alexander Pretschner: *Knowledge Aggregation with Subjective Logic in Multi-Agent Self-Adaptive Cyber-Physical Systems*. 2020 IEEE/ACM 15th International Symposium on Software Engineering for Adaptive and Self-Managing Systems (SEAMS), 2020.

[2] **Ana Petrovska**, Malte Neuss, Ilias Gerostathopoulos, Alexander Pretschner: *Run-time Reasoning from Uncertain Observations with Subjective Logic in Multi-Agent Self-Adaptive Cyber-Physical Systems*. 16th Symposium on Software Engineering for Adaptive and Self-Managing Systems, SEAMS, 2021.

# Use case

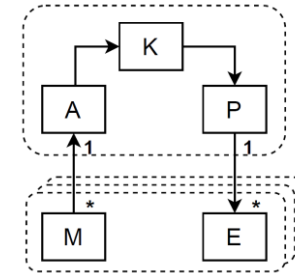
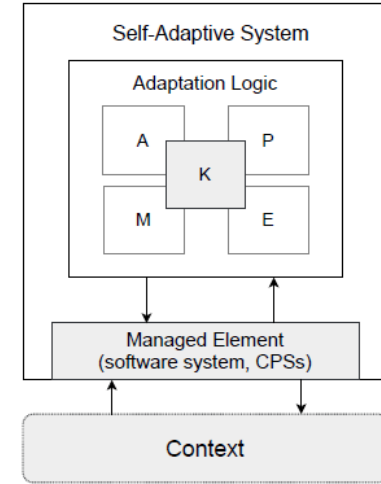
# Class of use cases

In this work, we focus on MA-SACPSs in which MAPE-K loops are structured according to the Master-Slave pattern [3]:

- decentralized monitoring (M) and execution (E) of the adaptation actions, and
- controlled by a single, centralized instance of planning (P), analysis (A) and knowledge (K).

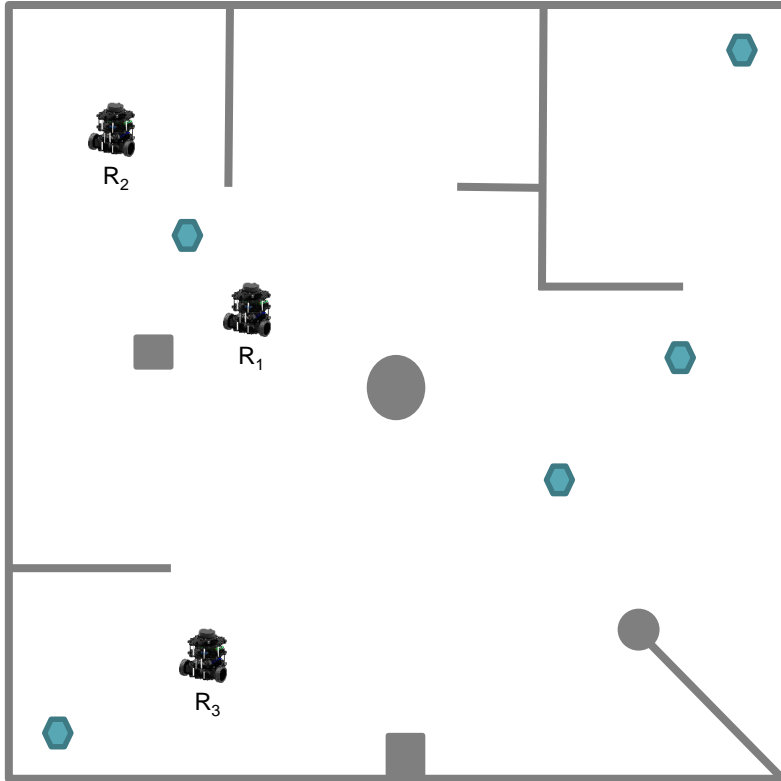
The *analysis* phase reasons on the uncertain, partial and potentially conflicting observations from the *decentralized monitors*.

- once the observations are aggregated, they become *knowledge*.



Modified Master-Slave pattern [3]

# Running example



*Mission goal:* Discover and attain tasks.

*Adaptation goals:* Improve the quality of the cleaning process, e.g., attain the tasks in the shortest possible time.



# Running example



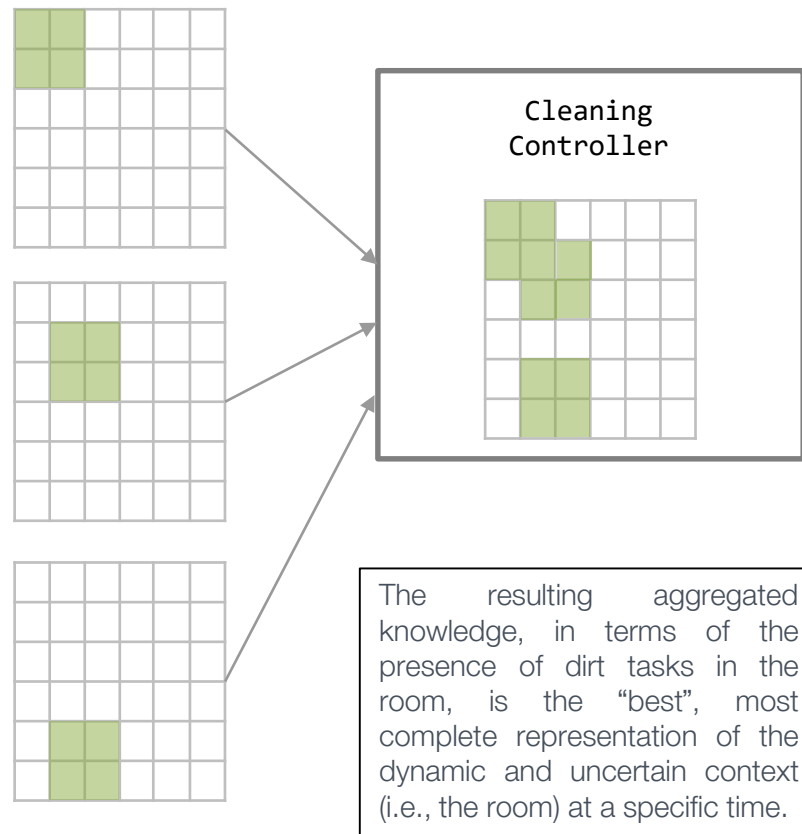
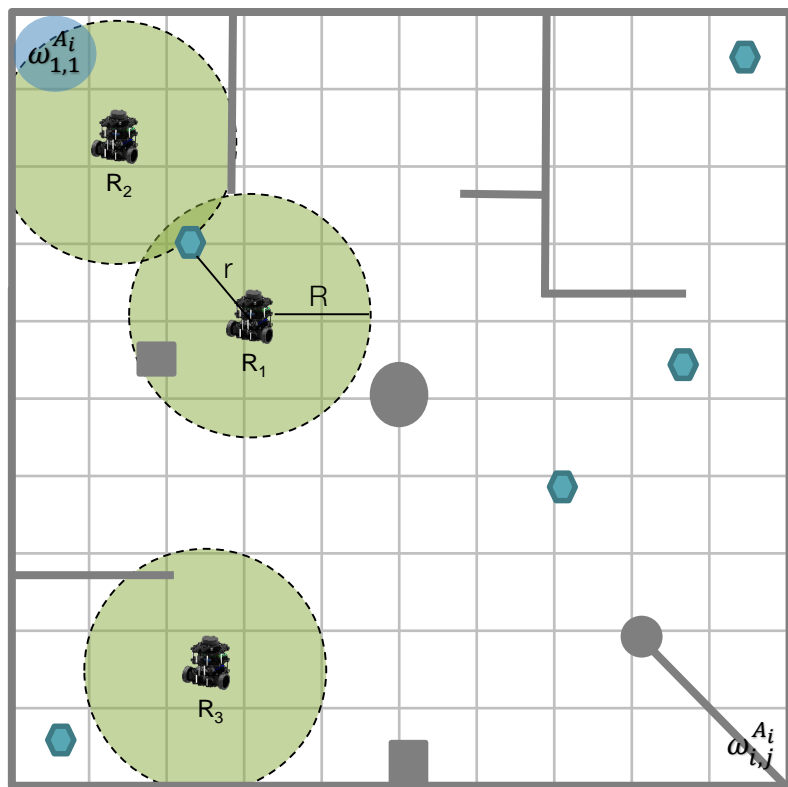
*External uncertainties:* manifested via the continuous appearance of tasks in the room—with unknown location patterns and frequencies.

*Internal uncertainties:* different sensor uncertainties that cannot be anticipated during the design of the system including sensor imprecision and failure, and partiality in the observations.

Results in different robots holding different opinions regarding the space they observe:

- Introduces inefficiency in the overall system performance
- Requires appropriate conflict resolution and aggregation process

# Running example

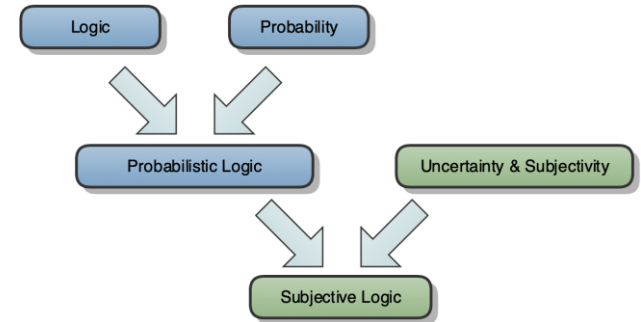


# Background on Subjective Logic

# Subjective Logic (SL)

Subjective Logic (SL) [4, 5]

- is a framework for artificial reasoning, based on probabilistic logic and Dempster-Shafer theory [6, 7] of evidence
- capability to deal with the degree of (un)certainty of propositions, inherently allowing:
  - 1) uncertainties representation as part of the fundamental building block of SL, called Subjective Opinions
  - 2) reasoning about the uncertainties through a process of Belief Fusion in which multiple Subjective Opinions are aggregated based on the selected fusion operator.



# Subjective Opinions

## Domains

- Domains can be binary or  $n$ -ary
- A binary domain is denoted by  $\mathbb{X} = \{x, \bar{x}\}$ , where  $\bar{x}$  is the complement of  $x$ 
  - $\mathbb{X} = \{occupied, unoccupied\}$ .

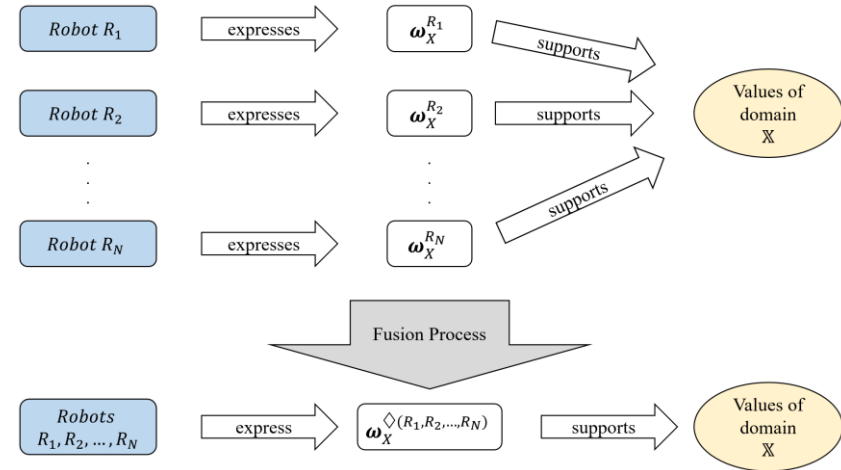
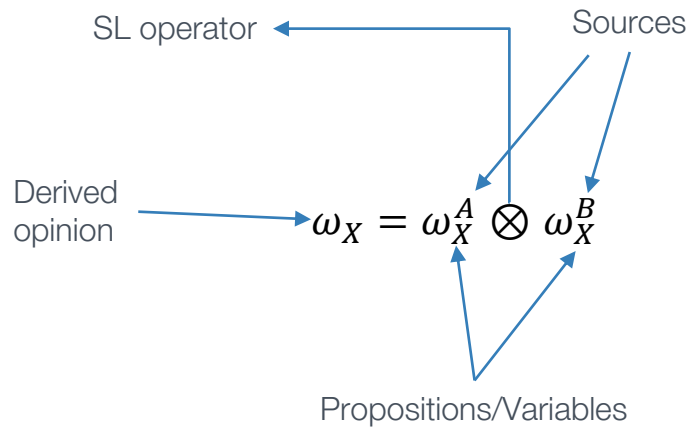
## Binomial Opinion Representation [4]

- A binomial subjective opinion is a function  $\omega_X^A = (b_X, d_X, u_X, a_X)$ , where:
  - $b_X$ : belief mass in support of  $x$  being TRUE ( $X = x$ )
  - $d_X$ : disbelief mass in support of  $x$  being FALSE ( $X = \bar{x}$ )
  - $u_X$ : uncertainty mass, i.e. lack of confidence
  - $a_X$ : base rate, i.e. prior probability of  $x$  without any evidence
- $b_X + d_X + u_X = 1$
- Projected probability:  $P(x) = b_x + a_x u_x$ .

# Belief Fusion

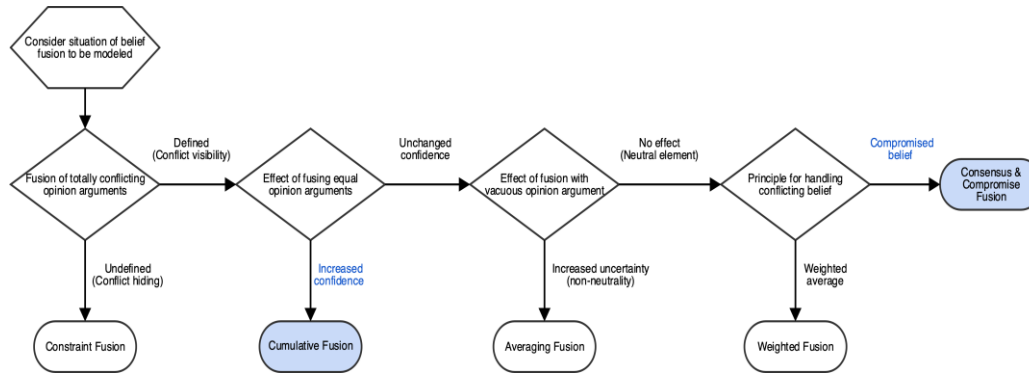
Multiple opinions regarding the same proposition (i.e. context variable) are merged or aggregated into a single, collective opinion

Advantage: we can model and analyze situations involving an arbitrary number of sources.



# Selection of Belief Fusion operators

Belief fusion can be realized using different operators, each of them emphasizing different aspects when fusing multiple opinions.



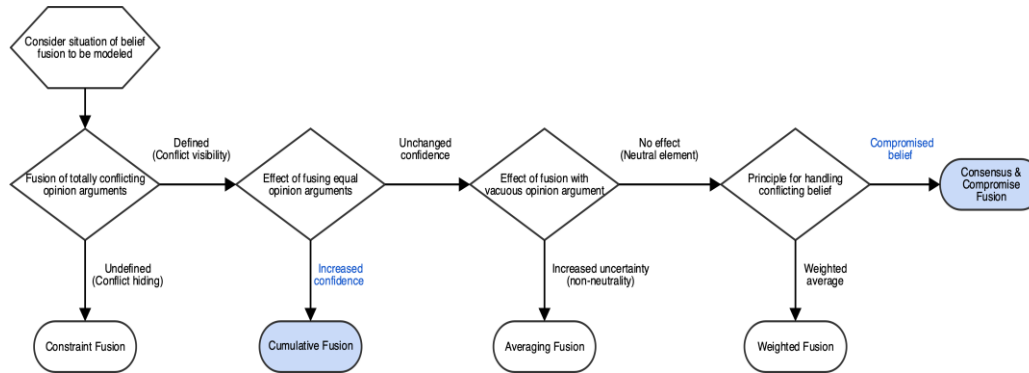
Updated from [5], pp 214

In our running example:

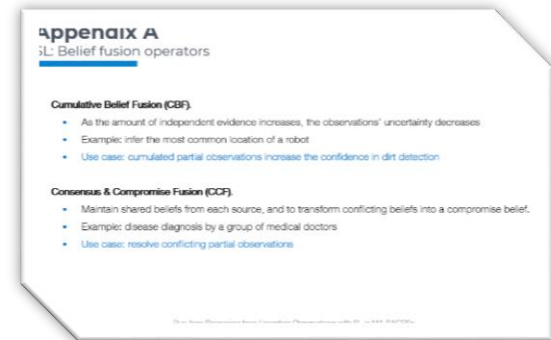
1. the observations are made independently by multiple agents; thus, their opinions can be treated as independent pieces of evidence → **Cumulative Belief Fusion (CBF)**
2. compromises between said opinions are desired, such that the aggregated opinion is as accurate as possible.  
→ **Consensus & Compromise Fusion (CCF)**

# Selection of Belief Fusion operators

Belief fusion can be realized using different operators, each of them emphasizing different aspects when fusing multiple opinions.



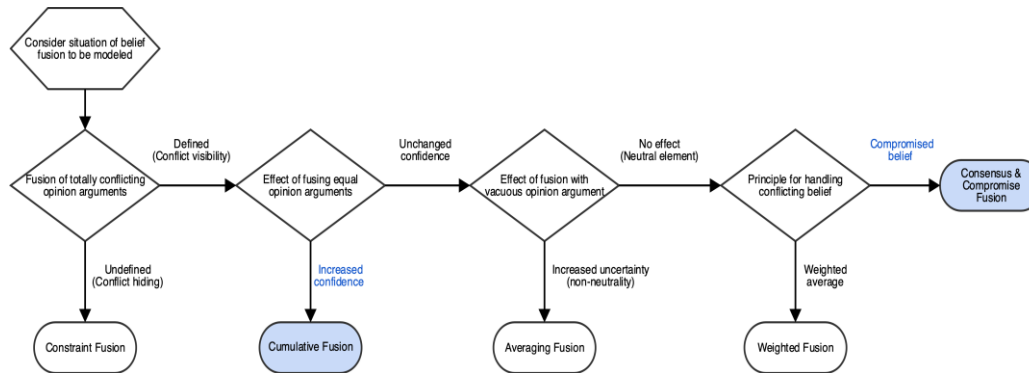
Updated from [5], pp 214





# Selection of Belief Fusion operators

Belief fusion can be realized using different operators, each of them emphasizing different aspects when fusing multiple opinions.



Updated from [5], pp 214

**Appendix B**  
SL Aggregating two concurring and disagreeing opinions

| Parameters | Opinions     |              | Aggregation Method |      |      |      |      |
|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|
|            | $\omega_1^c$ | $\omega_2^c$ | BCF                | CBF  | ABF  | WBF  | CCF  |
| $b_c$      | 0.85         | 0.52         | 0.91               | 0.84 | 0.69 | 0.81 | 0.80 |
| $d_c$      | 0.10         | 0.18         | 0.07               | 0.11 | 0.14 | 0.11 | 0.11 |
| $u_c$      | 0.05         | 0.30         | 0.02               | 0.05 | 0.17 | 0.08 | 0.09 |
| $m_c$      | 0.50         | 0.50         | 0.50               | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| $P(x)$     | 0.88         | 0.28         | 0.92               | 0.86 | 0.77 | 0.85 | 0.84 |

Aggregating two concurring opinions

| Parameters | Opinions     |              | BCF  | Aggregation Method |      |      | CCF  |
|------------|--------------|--------------|------|--------------------|------|------|------|
|            | $\omega_1^d$ | $\omega_2^d$ |      | CBF                | ABF  | WBF  |      |
| $b_d$      | 0.85         | 0.20         | 0.73 | 0.72               | 0.53 | 0.71 | 0.35 |
| $d_d$      | 0.10         | 0.64         | 0.25 | 0.24               | 0.37 | 0.22 | 0.14 |
| $u_d$      | 0.05         | 0.16         | 0.02 | 0.04               | 0.10 | 0.07 | 0.51 |
| $m_d$      | 0.50         | 0.50         | 0.50 | 0.50               | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| $P(x)$     | 0.88         | 0.28         | 0.74 | 0.74               | 0.58 | 0.75 | 0.61 |

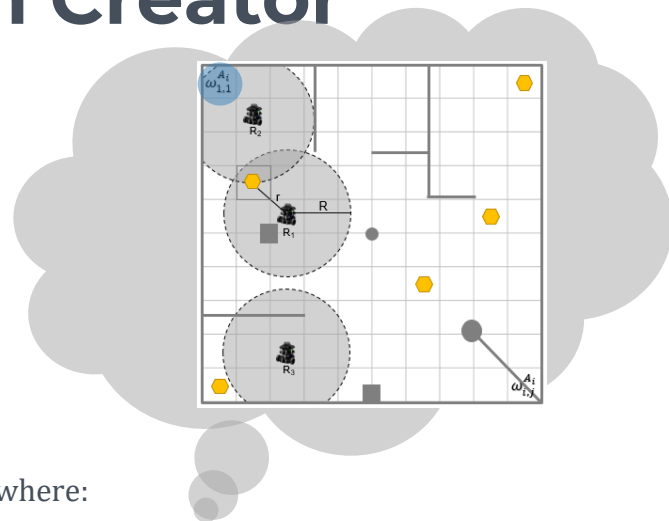
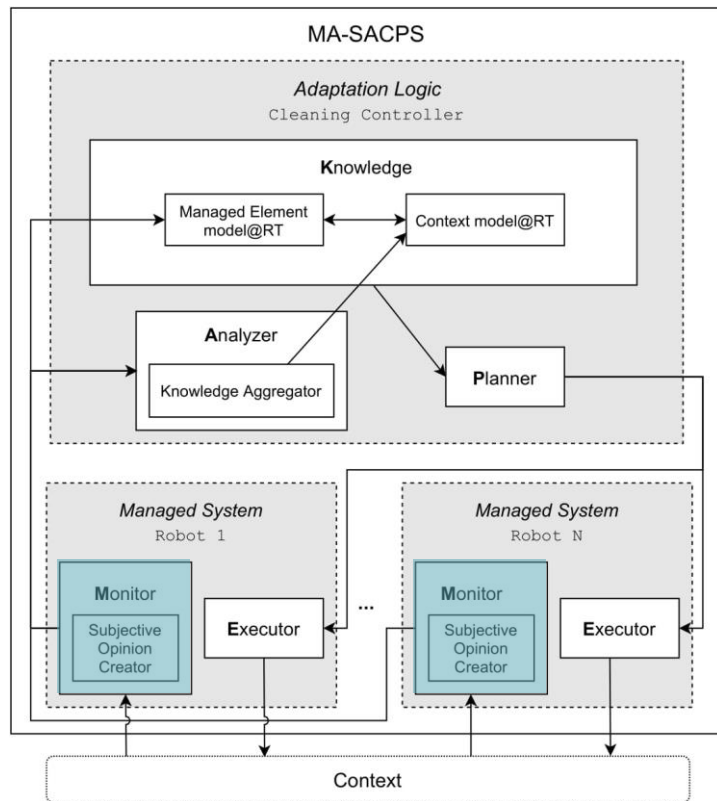
Aggregating two disagreeing opinions

In our running example:

1. the observations are made independently by multiple agents; thus, their opinions can be treated as independent pieces of evidence → **Cumulative Belief Fusion (CBF)**
2. compromises between said opinions are desired to increase the accuracy of the aggregated opinion. → **Consensus & Compromise Fusion (CCF)**

# Methodological approach

# Monitor, Subjective Opinion Creator



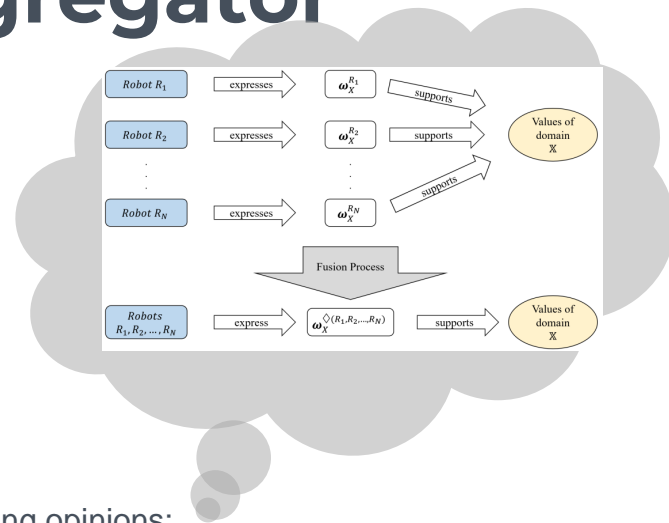
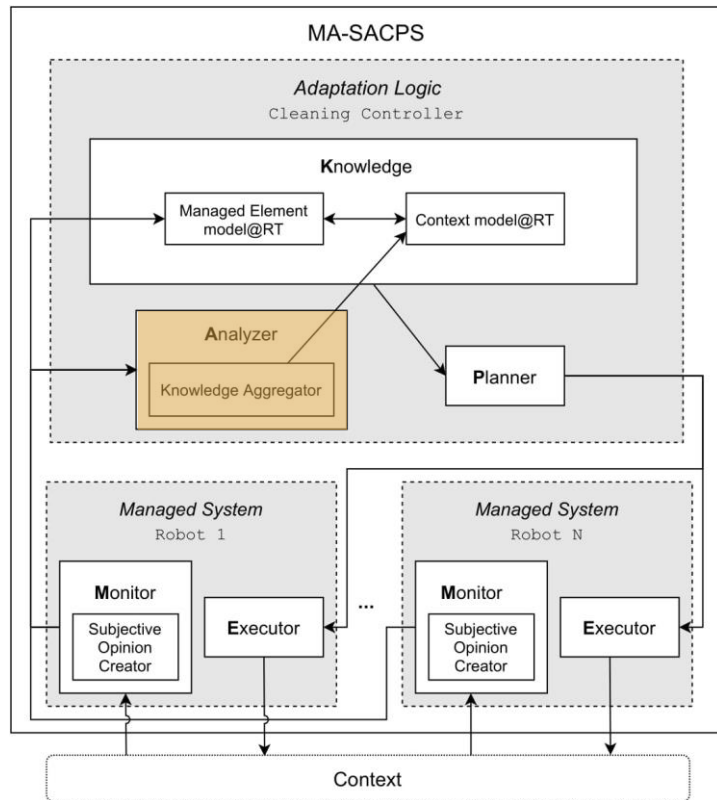
$w_x^{Ai} = (b_x, d_x, u_x, a_x)$  where:

$$b_x = \begin{cases} 1 - u_x, & \text{for } X = \text{occupied} \\ 0.0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad d_x = \begin{cases} 1 - u_x, & \text{for } X = \text{unoccupied} \\ 0.0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$u_x = \min(0.99, \frac{r}{R}) \quad a_x = 1/2$$

$r$  = distance between the agent and the cell  
 $R$  = agent's sensor range

# Analyzer, Knowledge Aggregator



Updated by aggregating opinions:

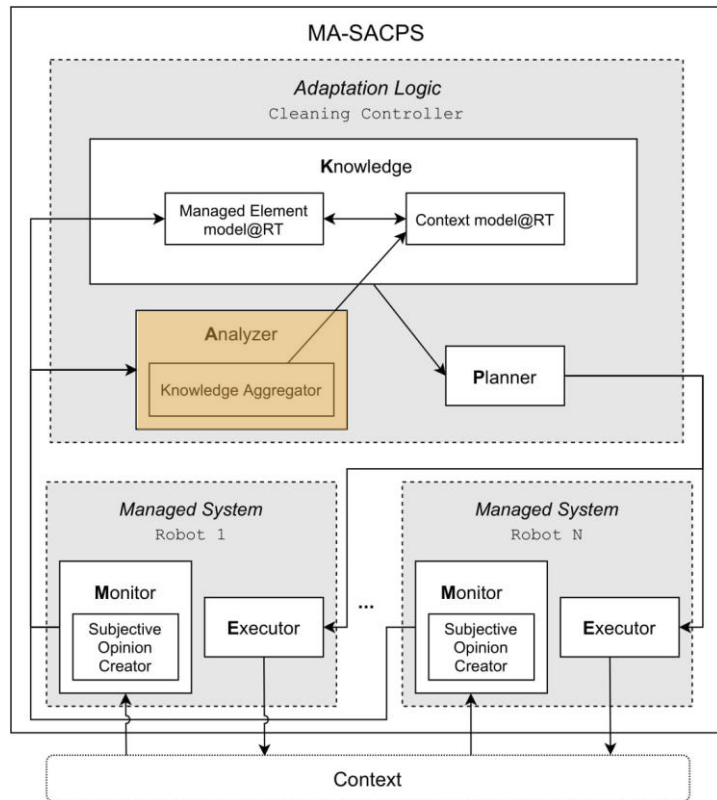
$$\omega_x^{agg} = F(\omega_x^g, \omega_x^{A_i}),$$

where SL is the fusion operator.

If  $P(\omega_x^{agg}) \geq \text{Threshold}$ :

Task is propagated as a goal.

# Analyzer, Knowledge Aggregator



CBF Scheme:

$$\omega_x^{agg} = CCF(\omega_x^g, \omega_x^{Ai})$$

CCF Scheme:

$$\omega_x^{agg} = CCF(\omega_x^g, \omega_x^{Ai})$$

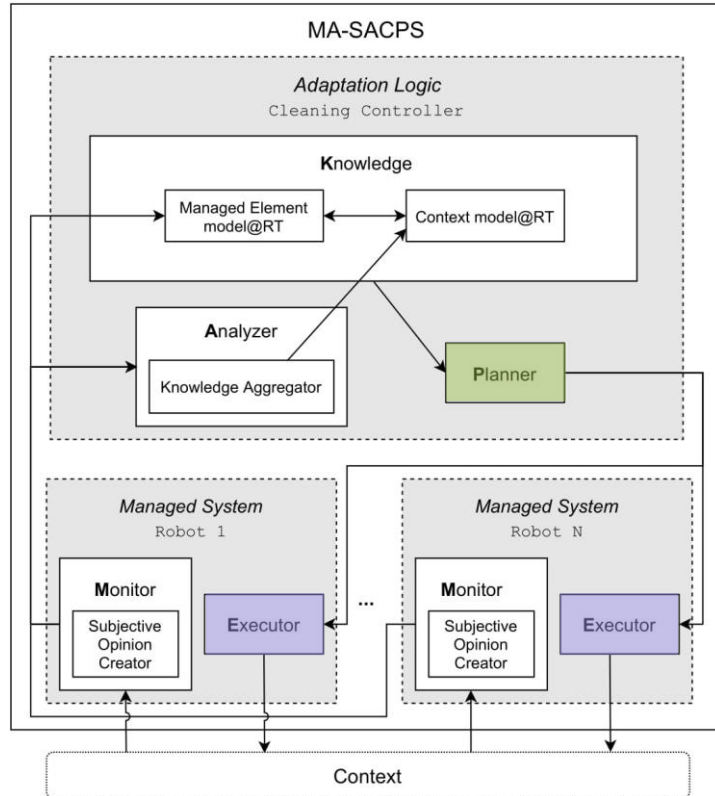
Comb. Scheme:

$$\omega_x^{agg} = \begin{cases} CCF(\omega_x^g, \omega_x^{Ai}), & \text{if } u(\omega_x^g) < k \cap OT(\omega_x^g) \neq OT(\omega_x^{Ai}) \\ CBF(\omega_x^g, \omega_x^{Ai}), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $u(\omega_x^g)$  is the uncertainty of the context variable,  $k$  is the constant and  $OT(\omega_x^{Ai})$  is the opinion type of the new opinion, defined as:

$$OT(\omega_x^{Ai}) = \begin{cases} occupied, & b(\omega_x^{Ai}) \geq d(\omega_x^{Ai}) \\ unoccupied, & b(\omega_x^{Ai}) < d(\omega_x^{Ai}) \end{cases}$$

# Planner and Executor



The *Planner* is a centralized component responsible for selection of the adaptation actions or plans, which are later executed by the *Executor* components housed in every agent.

The *Planner* relies on the aggregated knowledge to determine the actions for all the agents, in order for the MA-SACPS to adapt and accomplish the adaptation goals in the most efficient way.

# Implementation

# Implementation

ROS-based communication, simulated in Gazebo [6, 7]

- TurtleBot3 Burgers<sup>1</sup>
- high-fidelity simulations
- AMCL for localization and navigation
- Lidar sensor, with limited sensor range

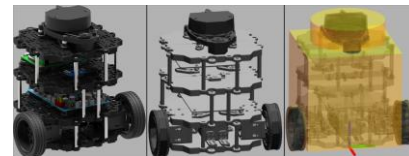
Simulate many robots, and different room maps can be used

Realistic sensing through more sophisticated sensing model, which includes:

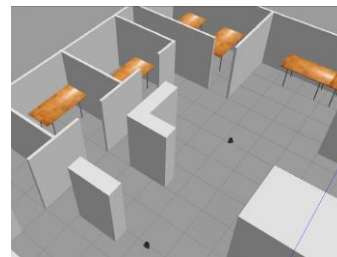
- 1) sensor failure
- 2) sensor inconsistency and noise

Implementation is open-source<sup>2</sup>

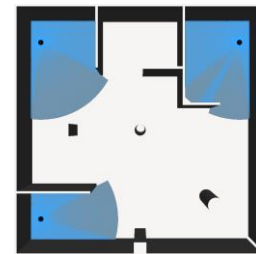
- For the subjective logic we used an open-source Java library<sup>3</sup>



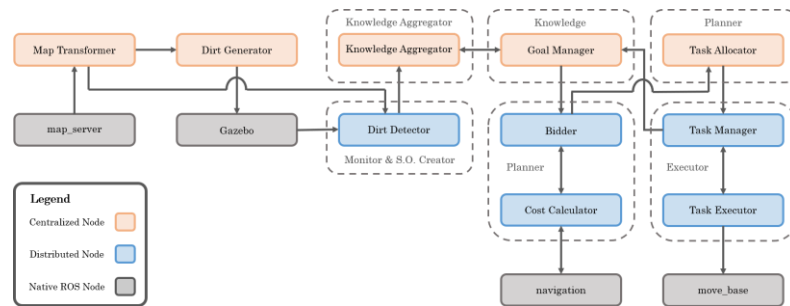
TurtleBot3 Burger



Robots in MI library



Map of the room



ROS implementation architecture

1 <https://www.turtlebot.com/>

2 <https://github.com/tum-i4/Aggregatio>

3 <https://github.com/vs-uulm/subjective-logic-java>



# Evaluation

# Research Questions

**RQ1.** How do the different SL aggregation schemes influence the KA in MA-SACPSs?

We investigate the feasibility of different SL aggregation schemes for KA.

**RQ2.** Can SL-based KA in MA-SACPSs correct faulty measurements?

We evaluate the effectiveness of the best aggregation scheme of our approach.

**RQ3.** How does the value of the threshold impact the SL-based KA in MA-SACPSs?

We investigate the sensitivity of our approach in respect to the threshold, i.e., the expected probability  $P(x)$ .

# Experimental setup

| Parameter                                 |                 | Topic of Investigation |                    |                    |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|   |                 | RQ1                    | RQ2                | RQ3                |
| Experiment                                |                 | 1                      | 2                  | 3                  |
| Part of the adaptation logic              | KA              | CBF, CCF, Comb.        | [No, Comb., Comb.] | Comb.              |
|   | Threshold       | 0.8                    | 0.8                | 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 |
| Part of the managed elements (the robots) | No. of Robots   | 2                      | [1, 2, 5]          | 2                  |
|   | FP Prob. $R_1$  | 0                      | 0.1, 0.2, ... 0.9  | [0.2, 0.5, 0.8]    |
|   | $R_2$           | 0                      | 0.1                | [0.2, 0.5, 0.8]    |
| Part of the context                       | Rate of TP (s)  | 15, 60                 | 60                 | 60                 |
|   | Location (seed) | 71, 72, ... 75         | 71, 72, ... 75     | 71, 72 ... 75      |

# Exp. 1: Feasibility of different SL aggregation schemes

Initial idea: evaluation using either Cumulative Belief Fusion (CBF) or Consensus & Compromise Fusion (CCF) operator; however:

- CCF is suitable when opinions are conflicting → hard to achieve extreme belief or disbelief when the opinions are agreeing
  - **Discovered issues:** hard to pass the required threshold  $P(x)$
- CBF is ideal when opinions agree
  - **Discovered issues:** task completion rate using CBF slowly deteriorates and eventually stops for longer aggregations

Twofold evaluation:

- Analytically
- Empirically using the implemented robotics use case

# Appendix B

## SL: Aggregating two concurring and disagreeing opinions

| Parameters | Opinions     |              | Aggregation Method |      |      |      |      |
|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|
|            | $\omega_x^1$ | $\omega_x^2$ | BCF                | CBF  | ABF  | WBF  | CCF  |
| $b_x$      | 0.85         | 0.52         | 0.91               | 0.84 | 0.69 | 0.81 | 0.80 |
| $d_x$      | 0.10         | 0.18         | 0.07               | 0.11 | 0.14 | 0.11 | 0.11 |
| $u_x$      | 0.05         | 0.30         | 0.02               | 0.05 | 0.17 | 0.08 | 0.09 |
| $a_x$      | 0.50         | 0.50         | 0.50               | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| $P(x)$     | 0.88         | 0.28         | 0.92               | 0.86 | 0.77 | 0.85 | 0.84 |

Aggregating two concurring opinions

| Parameters | Opinions     |              | Aggregation Method |      |      |      |      |
|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|
|            | $\omega_x^1$ | $\omega_x^2$ | BCF                | CBF  | ABF  | WBF  | CCF  |
| $b_x$      | 0.85         | 0.20         | 0.73               | 0.72 | 0.53 | 0.71 | 0.35 |
| $d_x$      | 0.10         | 0.64         | 0.25               | 0.24 | 0.37 | 0.22 | 0.14 |
| $u_x$      | 0.05         | 0.16         | 0.02               | 0.04 | 0.10 | 0.07 | 0.51 |
| $a_x$      | 0.50         | 0.50         | 0.50               | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| $P(x)$     | 0.88         | 0.28         | 0.74               | 0.74 | 0.58 | 0.75 | 0.61 |

Aggregating two disagreeing opinions

# Exp. 1: Feasibility of different SL aggregation schemes

Analytical Discussion:

1. Let  $\omega_X^{agg} = \omega_X^{vac}$
2. Aggregate  $\omega_X^{occ}$  with  $\omega_X^{agg}$  30 times

$$\omega_X^{agg} = CBF(\omega_X^{occ}, \omega_X^{agg})$$

3. Aggregate  $\omega_X^{unoc}$  with  $\omega_X^{agg}$  30 times

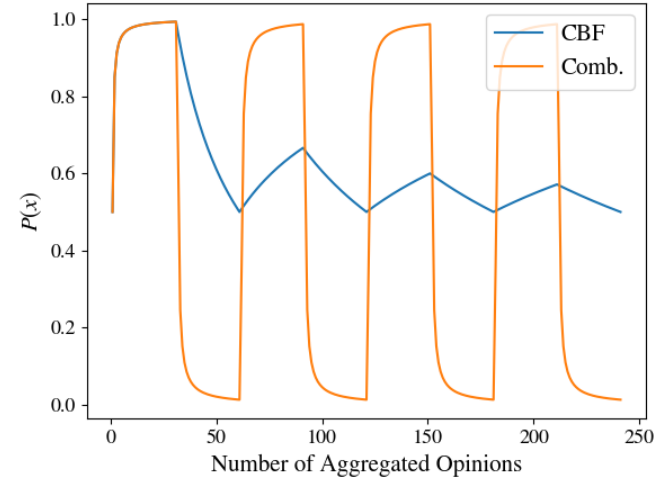
$$\omega_X^{agg} = CBF(\omega_X^{unoc}, \omega_X^{agg})$$

4. Repeat steps 2 & 3 four times

$$\omega_X^{vac} = (b_X = 0, d_X = 0, u_X = 1, a_X = 0.5)$$

$$\omega_X^{occ} = (b_X = 0.7, d_X = 0, u_X = 0.3, a_X = 0.5)$$

$$\omega_X^{unoc} = (b_X = 0, d_X = 0.7, u_X = 0.3, a_X = 0.5)$$



# Exp. 1: Feasibility of different SL aggregation schemes

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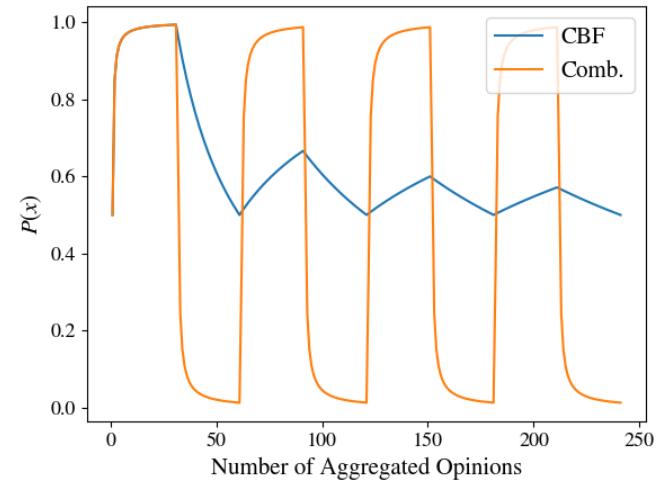
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$$\omega_X^{unoc} = (b_X = 0, d_X = 0.7, u_X = 0.3, a_X = 0.5)$$



# Exp. 1: Feasibility of different SL aggregation schemes

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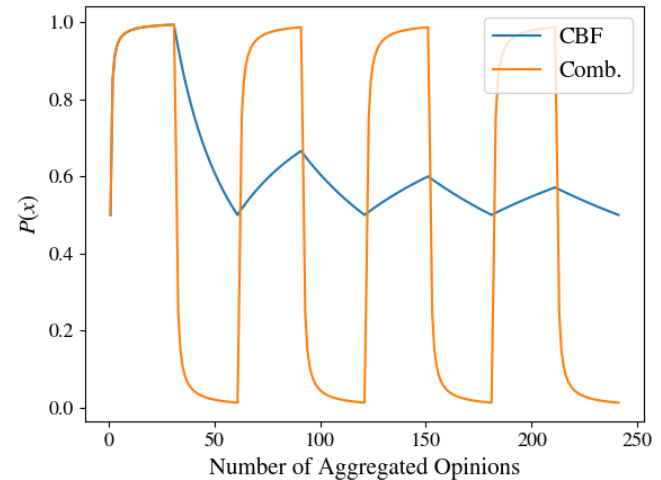
$$\omega_X^{agg} = CBF(\omega_X^{unoc}, \omega_X^{agg})$$

4. Repeat steps 2 & 3 four times

$$\omega_X^{vac} = (b_X = 0, d_X = 0, u_X = 1, a_X = 0.5)$$

$$\omega_X^{occ} = (b_X = 0.7, d_X = 0, u_X = 0.3, a_X = 0.5)$$

$$\omega_X^{unoc} = (b_X = 0, d_X = 0.7, u_X = 0.3, a_X = 0.5)$$





# Exp. 1: Feasibility of different SL aggregation schemes

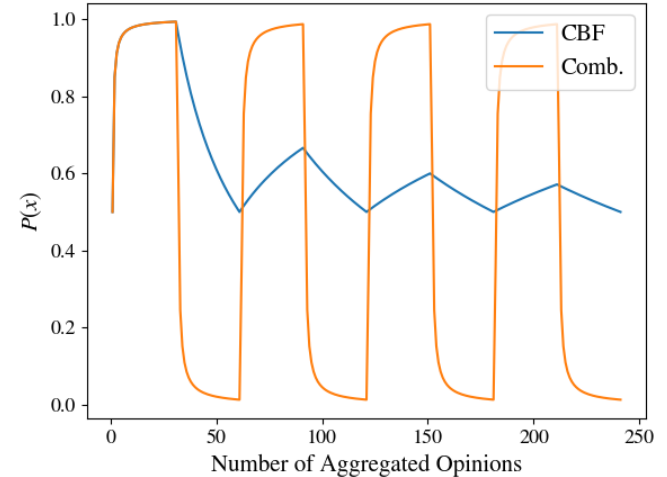
*Analytical Discussion:*

1. Let  $\omega_X^{agg} = \omega_X^{vac}$
2. Aggregate  $\omega_X^{occ}$  with  $\omega_X^{agg}$  30 times  
$$\omega_X^{agg} = CBF(\omega_X^{occ}, \omega_X^{agg})$$
3. Aggregate  $\omega_X^{unoc}$  with  $\omega_X^{agg}$  30 times  
$$\omega_X^{agg} = CBF(\omega_X^{unoc}, \omega_X^{agg})$$
4. Repeat steps 2 & 3 four times

$$\omega_X^{vac} = (b_X = 0, d_X = 0, u_X = 1, a_X = 0.5)$$

$$\omega_X^{occ} = (b_X = 0.7, d_X = 0, u_X = 0.3, a_X = 0.5)$$

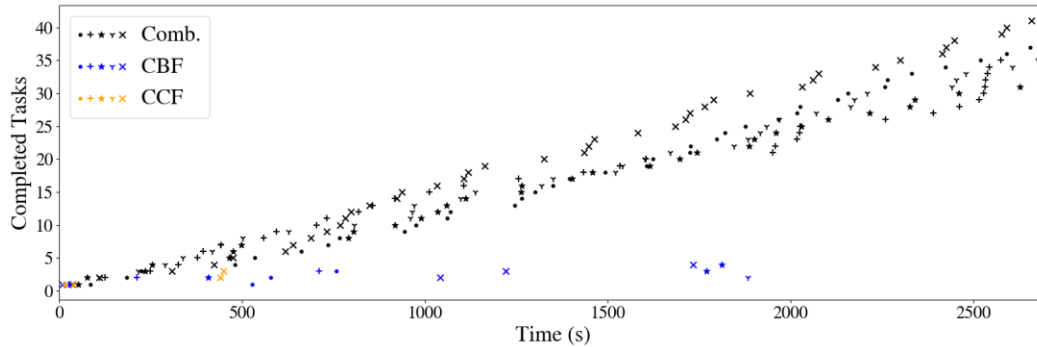
$$\omega_X^{unoc} = (b_X = 0, d_X = 0.7, u_X = 0.3, a_X = 0.5)$$



# Exp. 1: Feasibility of different SL aggregation schemes

RQ1. How do the different SL aggregation schemes influence the KA in MA-SACPSs?

Findings: Long-term KA is not feasible by using the original SL operators in isolation, and this limitation is addressed by our newly proposed aggregation scheme.

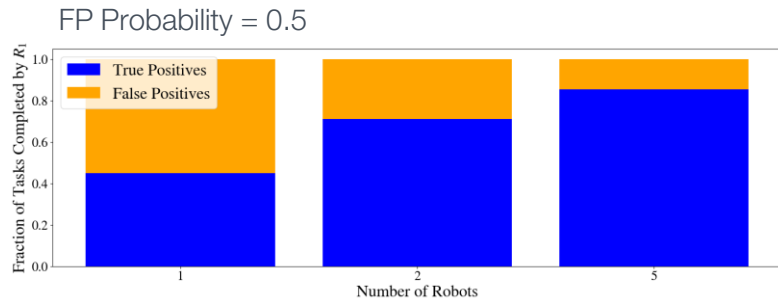


Number of tasks completed using CBF, CCF and Comb. Schemes.

| Parameter       | Topic of Investigation |                    |                    |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                 | RQ1                    | RQ2                | RQ3                |
| Experiment      | 1                      | 2                  | 3                  |
| KA              | CBF, CCF, Comb.        | [No, Comb., Comb.] | Comb.              |
| Threshold       | 0.8                    | 0.8                | 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 |
| No. of Robots   | 2                      | [1, 2, 5]          | 2                  |
| FP Prob. $R_1$  | 0                      | 0.1, 0.2, ... 0.9  | [0.2, 0.5, 0.8]    |
| $R_2$           | 0                      | 0.1                | [0.2, 0.5, 0.8]    |
| Rate of TP (s)  | 15, 60                 | 60                 | 60                 |
| Location (seed) | 71, 72, ... 75         | 71, 72, ... 75     | 71, 72 ... 75      |

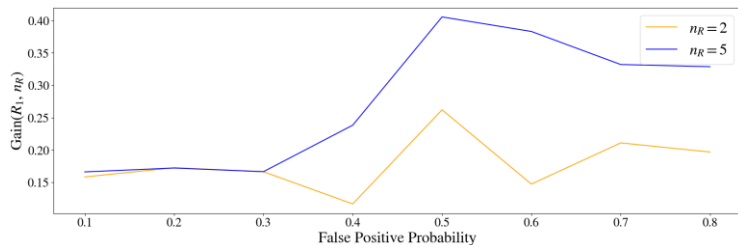
## Exp. 2: Effectiveness of the KA

RQ2. Can SL-based KA in MA-SACPSs correct faulty measurements?



Findings: SL-based KA enables the correction of faulty measurements made by a robot.

$$\text{Gain}(R_i, n_R) = \frac{n_{TP}(R_i)}{n_{FP}(R_i) + n_{TP}(R_i)} \Big|_{n_R} - \frac{n_{TP}(R_i)}{n_{FP}(R_i) + n_{TP}(R_i)} \Big|_{1R}$$



| Parameter       | Topic of Investigation |                    |                    |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                 | RQ1                    | RQ2                | RQ3                |
| Experiment      | 1                      | 2                  | 3                  |
| KA              | CBF, CCF, Comb.        | [No, Comb., Comb.] | Comb.              |
| Threshold       | 0.8                    | 0.8                | 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 |
| No. of Robots   | 2                      | [1, 2, 5]          | 2                  |
| FP Prob. $R_1$  | 0                      | 0.1, 0.2, ... 0.9  | [0.2, 0.5, 0.8]    |
| $R_2$           | 0                      | 0.1                | [0.2, 0.5, 0.8]    |
| Rate of TP (s)  | 15, 60                 | 60                 | 60                 |
| Location (seed) | 71, 72, ... 75         | 71, 72, ... 75     | 71, 72 ... 75      |

# Exp. 3: Sensitivity analysis of the impact of the threshold value

**RQ3.** How does the value of the threshold impact the SL-based KA in MA-SACPSs?

Findings: The value of the threshold has an impact to SL-based KA. There is a clear trade-off between the accuracy of KA and the number of completed tasks.

| FP Prob. | Threshold | $\overline{TPF}$ | $\overline{FPF}$ | $\overline{N}$ | $N_{max} - N_{min}$ |
|----------|-----------|------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 0.2      | 0.2       | 0.769            | 0.231            | 53.6           | 7                   |
|          | 0.4       | 0.773            | 0.226            | 49.4           | 6                   |
|          | 0.6       | 0.794            | 0.206            | 45.6           | 5                   |
|          | 0.8       | 0.803            | 0.197            | 40.6           | 11                  |
| 0.5      | 0.2       | 0.455            | 0.545            | 79.6           | 31                  |
|          | 0.4       | 0.485            | 0.515            | 41.8           | 64                  |
|          | 0.6       | 0.532            | 0.468            | 50.0           | 41                  |
|          | 0.8       | 0.578            | 0.422            | 25.6           | 57                  |
| 0.8      | 0.2       | 0.205            | 0.795            | 93.6           | 68                  |
|          | 0.4       | 0.200            | 0.800            | 43.5           | 36                  |
|          | 0.6       | 0.219            | 0.781            | 47.4           | 86                  |
|          | 0.8       | 0.243            | 0.757            | 29.6           | 67                  |

$$TPF = \frac{n_{TP}}{N}$$

$$FPF = \frac{n_{FP}}{N}$$

$$N = n_{TP} + n_{FP}$$

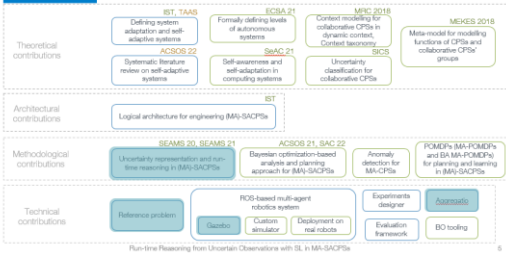
$$N_{max} = \max(N_{seed1}, \dots, N_{seed5})$$

| Parameter       | Topic of Investigation |                    |                    |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                 | RQ1                    | RQ2                | RQ3                |
| Experiment      | 1                      | 2                  | 3                  |
| KA              | CBF, CCF, Comb.        | [No, Comb., Comb.] | Comb.              |
| Threshold       | 0.8                    | 0.8                | 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 |
| No. of Robots   | 2                      | [1, 2, 5]          | 2                  |
| FP Prob. $R_1$  | 0                      | 0.1, 0.2, ... 0.9  | [0.2, 0.5, 0.8]    |
| $R_2$           | 0                      | 0.1                | [0.2, 0.5, 0.8]    |
| Rate of TP (s)  | 15, 60                 | 60                 | 60                 |
| Location (seed) | 71, 72, ... 75         | 71, 72, ... 75     | 71, 72 ... 75      |

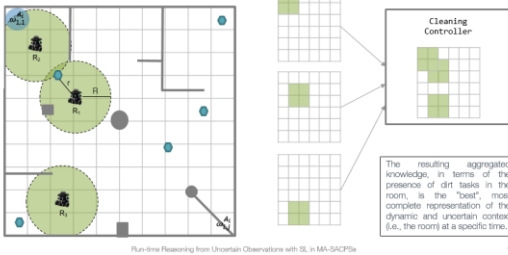
# Conclusions

# Wrap up

## Additional contributions



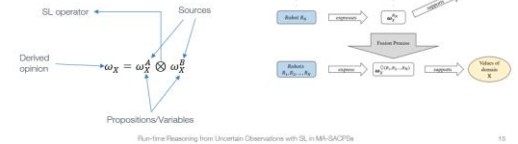
## Running example



## Belief Fusion

Multiple opinions regarding the same proposition (i.e. context variable) are merged or aggregated into a single, collective opinion

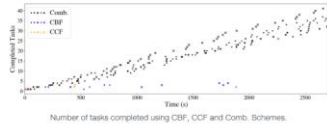
Advantage: we can model and analyze situations involving an arbitrary number of sources.



## Exp. 1: Feasibility of different SL aggregation schemes

RQ1: How do the different SL aggregation schemes influence the KA in MA-SACPs?

Findings: Long-term KA is not feasible by using the original SL operators in isolation, and this limitation is addressed by our newly proposed aggregation scheme.



Run-time Reasoning from Uncertain Observations with SL in MA-SACPs

## Implementation

ROS-based communication, simulated in Gazebo [6, 7]

- TurtleBot3 Burgers<sup>1</sup>
- high-fidelity simulations
- AMCL for localization and navigation

Simulate many robots, and different room maps can be used

Realistic sensing through more sophisticated sensing model, which includes:

- limited sensor range
- sensor failure
- sensor inconsistency and noise

Implementation is open-source<sup>2</sup>

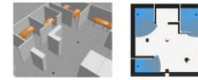
- For the subjective logic we used an open-source Java library<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.turtlebot.com/>  
<sup>2</sup> <https://github.com/ma-sacps/ma-sacps>  
<sup>3</sup> <https://github.com/ma-sacps/ma-sacps>

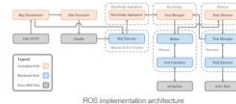
Run-time Reasoning from Uncertain Observations with SL in MA-SACPs



TurtleBot3 Burgers

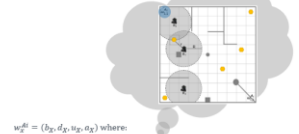
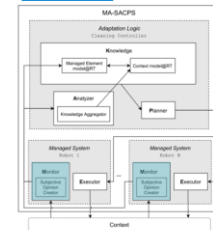


Robots in ML library



ROS implementation architecture

## Monitor, Subjective Opinion Creator



$$w_i^{d_i} = (b_i, d_i, u_i, a_i) \text{ where:}$$

$$b_X = \begin{cases} 1 - u_X & \text{for } X = \text{occupied} \\ 0.0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad d_X = \begin{cases} 1 - u_X & \text{for } X = \text{unoccupied} \\ 0.0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$u_X = \min(0.99, \frac{r}{a_X}) \quad a_X = 1/2$$

$r$  = distance between the agent and the cell  
 $R$  = agent's sensor range

Run-time Reasoning from Uncertain Observations with SL in MA-SACPs

# Key takeaways

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- Construct the subjective opinions for the concrete use case
  - What is exactly expressed by the SO?
  - Binary or n-ary domain (the theory and the implementation of the n-ary domains might be more challenging), including how the knowledge is modelled
  - Are all the opinions from the same state space?
  - The concrete system at hand
  - Depending if the problem is approached from a safety or a security aspect
- SL works! However, ...
  - It is important to choose the right SL operator(s) for the concrete use case
  - Keep in mind the limitations of the original SL operators
  - Be ready that there might be the need for proposing a new, merger operator for your needs
- Available libraries for SL; however, ...
  - Written in Java
- Everything SL logic related is good for publishing

# Thank you!

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<https://github.com/anapetrovska/Huawei-SL/>

Slides





# References

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# Appendix A

## SL: Belief fusion operators

### ➤ Cumulative Belief Fusion (CBF).

- As the amount of independent evidence increases, the observations' uncertainty decreases
- Example: infer the most common location of a robot
- Use case: cumulated partial observations increase the confidence in dirt detection

### ➤ Consensus & Compromise Fusion (CCF).

- Maintain shared beliefs from each source, and to transform conflicting beliefs into a compromise belief.
- Example: disease diagnosis by a group of medical doctors
- Use case: resolve conflicting partial observations

# Appendix B

## SL: Aggregating two concurring and disagreeing opinions

| Parameters | Opinions     |              | Aggregation Method |      |      |      |      |
|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|
|            | $\omega_x^1$ | $\omega_x^2$ | BCF                | CBF  | ABF  | WBF  | CCF  |
| $b_x$      | 0.85         | 0.52         | 0.91               | 0.84 | 0.69 | 0.81 | 0.80 |
| $d_x$      | 0.10         | 0.18         | 0.07               | 0.11 | 0.14 | 0.11 | 0.11 |
| $u_x$      | 0.05         | 0.30         | 0.02               | 0.05 | 0.17 | 0.08 | 0.09 |
| $a_x$      | 0.50         | 0.50         | 0.50               | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| $P(x)$     | 0.88         | 0.28         | 0.92               | 0.86 | 0.77 | 0.85 | 0.84 |

Aggregating two concurring opinions

| Parameters | Opinions     |              | Aggregation Method |      |      |      |      |
|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|
|            | $\omega_x^1$ | $\omega_x^2$ | BCF                | CBF  | ABF  | WBF  | CCF  |
| $b_x$      | 0.85         | 0.20         | 0.73               | 0.72 | 0.53 | 0.71 | 0.35 |
| $d_x$      | 0.10         | 0.64         | 0.25               | 0.24 | 0.37 | 0.22 | 0.14 |
| $u_x$      | 0.05         | 0.16         | 0.02               | 0.04 | 0.10 | 0.07 | 0.51 |
| $a_x$      | 0.50         | 0.50         | 0.50               | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| $P(x)$     | 0.88         | 0.28         | 0.74               | 0.74 | 0.58 | 0.75 | 0.61 |

Aggregating two disagreeing opinions