

## Assignment 4: Graph-theoretical Approach on Mobile Robots

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(You can choose which problems to solve. The problems that are attempted while the weight of previous attempted problems has reached 100% **will not be considered**.)

1. (**Weight: 30%**) The problem of modeling the coordination of mobile robots as multiagent systems has become a widely-explored research area recently. Pick **two** of the papers below and summarize each paper in about 400 words.

- A. V. Savkin and H. Teimoori. Decentralized navigation of groups of wheeled mobile robots with limited communication. *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*, vol. 26, no. 6, pp. 1099-1104, 2010.
- S. Kim, M. Santos, L. Guerrero-Bonilla, A. Yezzi and M. Egerstedt. Coverage control of mobile robots with different maximum speeds for time-sensitive applications. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, vol. 7, no. 2, pp. 3001-3007, 2022.
- S. L. Smith, M. E. Broucke and B. A. Francis. Curve Shortening and the Rendezvous Problem for Mobile Autonomous Robots. *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, vol. 52, no. 6, pp. 1154-1159, 2007.
- K. Saulnier, D. Saldaña, A. Prorok, G. J. Pappas and V. Kumar. Resilient Flocking for Mobile Robot Teams. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters*, vol. 2, no. 2, pp. 1039-1046, 2017.

2. (**20%**) Consider an edge tension

$$\mathcal{V}_{ij}(\|x_i - x_j\|) = 2 - e^{(\|x_i - x_j\|)}.$$

What is the node-level dynamics associated with negative gradient flow, i.e.,  $-\partial \mathcal{V}_{ij}(\Delta, x)/\partial x$ ? Also, assuming the graph is undirected and connected at all times, do the agents achieve consensus?

3. (**25%**) Consider  $n$  agents consisting of  $m$  leaders and  $n - m$  followers all with scalar dynamics placed at  $(0, 0)$  at  $t = 0$ . Assume that there is a goal in  $x_g$  that is known only to the leaders. Let the dynamics of *each* leader with state  $x_{il}$  be

$$\dot{x}_{il}(t) = \sum_{j \in N_{il}} (x_j(t) - x_{il}(t)) + c(x_g - x_{il}(t))$$

for some positive weight  $c > 0$ . Moreover, assume that the followers are executing

$$\dot{x}_{if}(t) = \sum_{j \in N_{if}} (x_j(t) - x_{if}(t))$$

What are the values of  $n$ ,  $m$ ,  $x_g$ , and  $\Delta$  in order for the agents to stay connected from origin initial value to  $x_g$ ?

4. (**15%**) Discuss what is the maximum edges in a planar Gabriel graph.
5. (**25%**) Discuss what may happen with the control laws and edge-tension for the case of robots with different range, i.e.,  $\Delta_i \neq \Delta_j$ ,  $i \neq j$ .
6. (**15%**) Give example of a paper that addresses a system of mobile robots (or multi-agent systems in general) with inaccurate readings of range sensors. Write a summary of the paper in about 400 words.