GraphSLAM

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Graph-based Formulation

- Use a graph to represent the problem
- Every node in the graph corresponds to a pose of the robot during mapping
- Every edge between two nodes corresponds to the spatial constraints between them

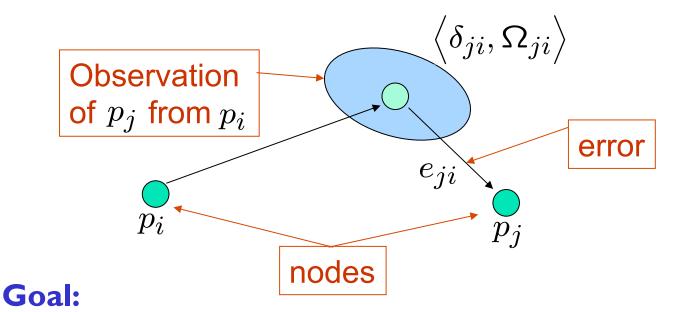
Goal:

Find a configuration of the nodes that minimize the error introduced by the constraints

$$J_{\text{GraphSLAM}} = x_0^{\top} \Omega_0 x_0 + \sum_t (x_t - f(u_t, x_{t-1}))^{\top} R_t^{-1} (x_t - f(u_t, x_{t-1}))$$
$$+ \sum_t \sum_i (z_t^i - h(x_t, m, c_t^i))^{\top} Q_t^{-1} (z_t^i - h(x_t, m, c_t^i))$$

Problem Formulation

The problem can be described by a graph



Find the assignment of poses to the nodes of the graph which minimizes the negative log likelihood of the observations:

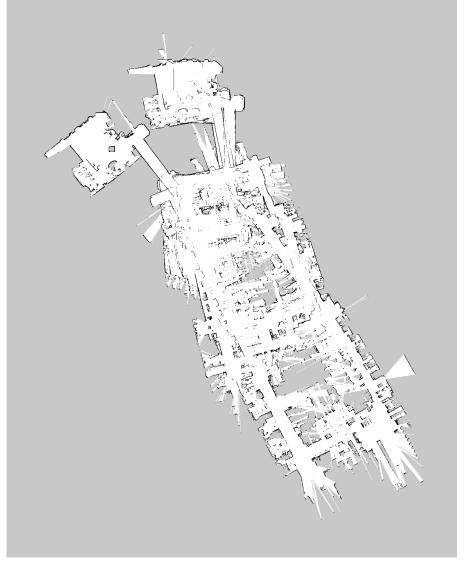
$$\mathbf{p}^* = \operatorname{argmin} \sum_{ji} e_{ji}^T \Omega'_{ji} e_{ji}^T$$

Approaches

- 2D approaches:
 - Lu and Milios, '97
 - Montemerlo et al., '03
 - Howard et al., '03
 - Dellaert et al., '03
 - Frese and Duckett, '05
 - Olson et al., '06
 - Grisetti et al., '07
 - Tipaldi et al.,' 07

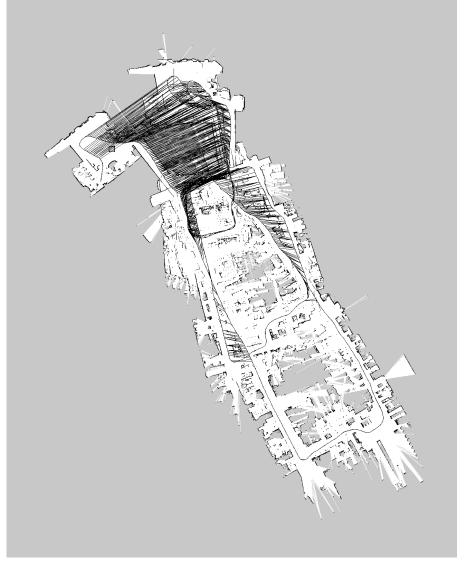
- 3D approaches:
 - Nuechter et al., '05
 - Dellaert et al., '05
 - Triebel et al., '06
 - Grisetti et al., '08/'09

- Problem described as a graph
 - Every node corresponds to a robot position and to a laser measurement
 - An edge between two nodes represents a datadependent spatial constraint between the nodes



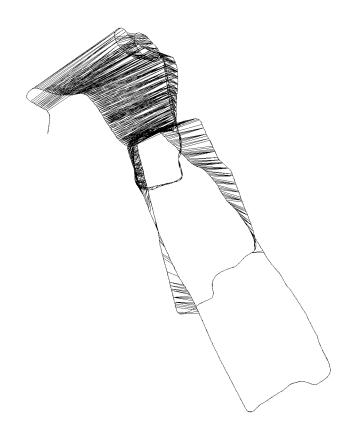
[KUKA Hall 22, courtesy P. Pfaff & G. Grisetti]

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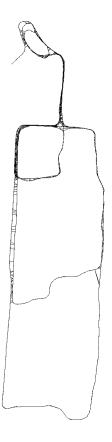


[KUKA Hall 22, courtesy P. Pfaff & G. Grisetti]

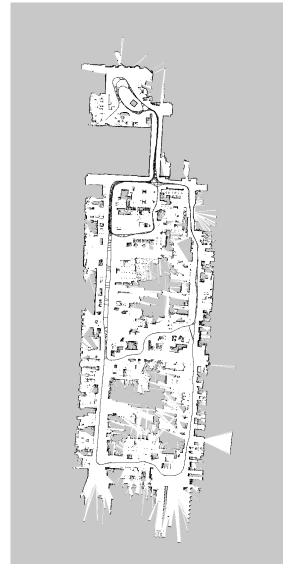
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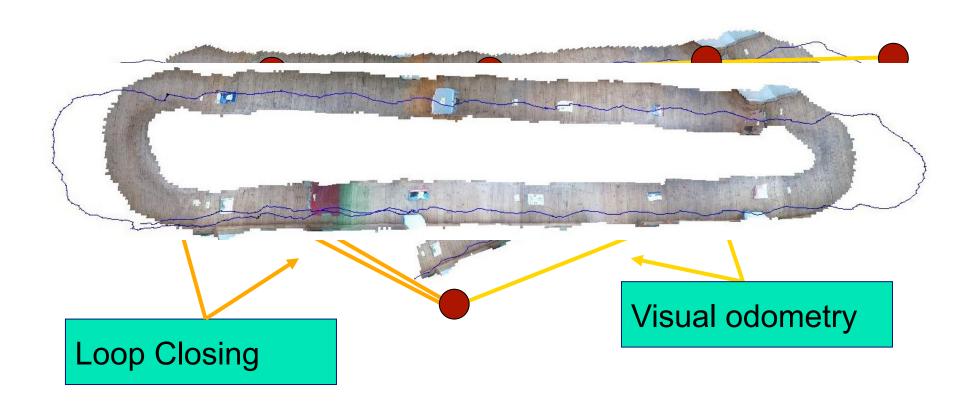


- Once we have the graph, we determine the most likely map by "moving" the nodes
- ... like this.
- Then we render a map based on the known poses

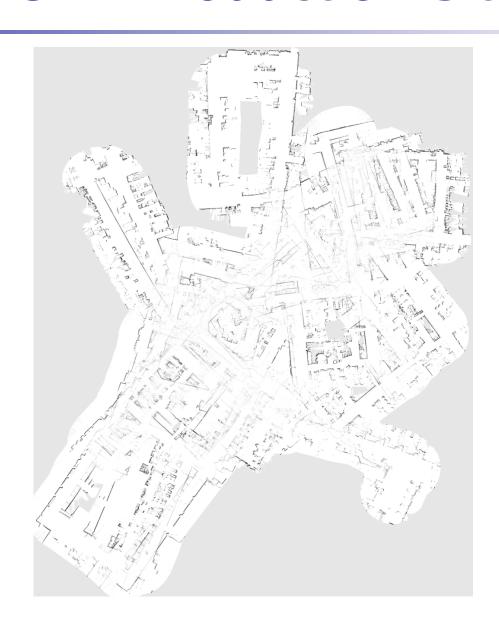


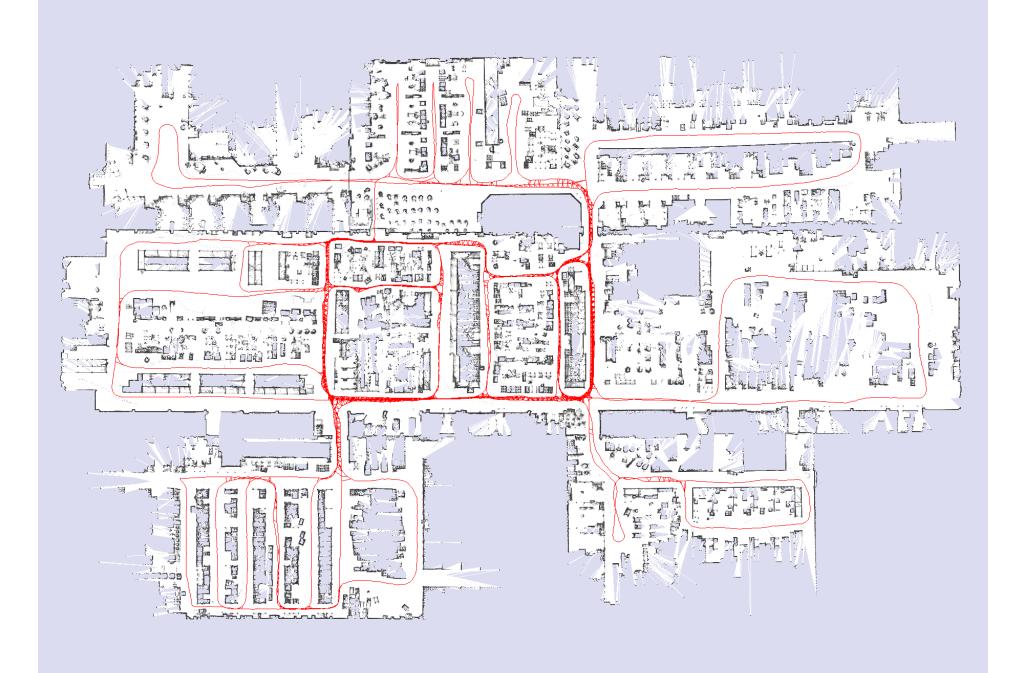
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Graph-based Visual SLAM

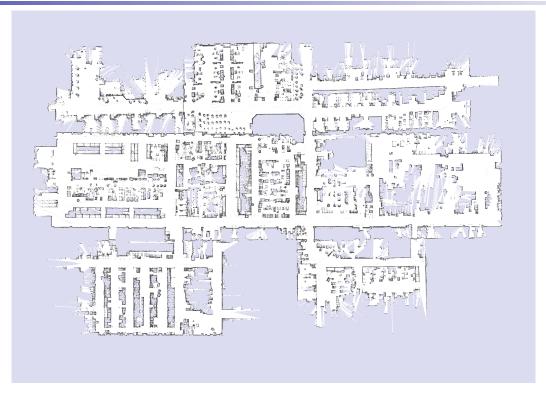


The KUKA Production Site





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scans
total acquisition time
traveled distance
total rotations
size
processing time

59668 4,699.71 seconds 2,587.71 meters 262.07 radians 180 x 110 meters < 30 minutes