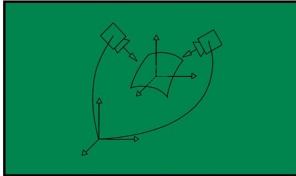


## Integration, Coordination and Control of Multi-Sensor Robot Systems

Hugh F. Durrant-Whyte



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**Overview** Recent years have seen an increasing interest in the development of multi-sensory robot systems. The reason for this interest stems from a realization that there are fundamental limitations on the reconstruction of environment descriptions using only a single source of sensor information. If robot systems are ever to achieve a degree of intelligence and autonomy, they must be capable of using many different sources of sensory information in an active and dynamic manner. The observations made by the different sensors of a multi-sensor system are always uncertain, usually partial, occasionally spurious or incorrect and often geographically or geometrically incomparable with other sensor views. The sensors of these systems are characterized by the diversity of information that they can provide and by the complexity of their operation. It is the goal of a multi sensor system to combine information from all these different sources into a robust and consistent description of the environment.

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