

# A Distributed Deterministic Approximation Algorithm for Data Association

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# What is data association?



CPSLAB (cpslab.snu.ac.kr)

## Problem domain

- Multiple events, multiple observations
- Source of each measurement is uncertain
  - Observations are correlated
  - A direct estimation of states is not possible

A data association problem is to figure out which observations were generated by which events

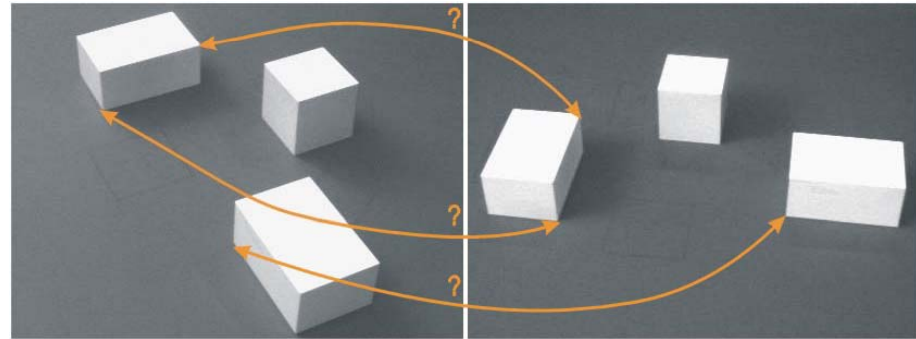
A fundamental problem in wireless sensor networks

# Examples from Other Areas

## Computer Vision

### Correspondence Problem

- Structure from motion
- 3D Reconstruction
- Image registration
- Calibration



## Robotics

### Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)

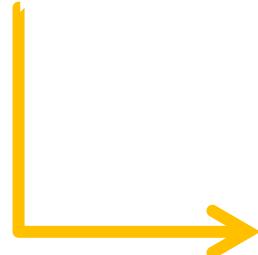
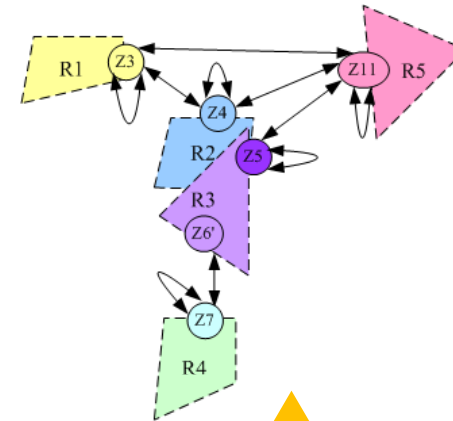


# Running Example: Traffic Modeling by Distributed Camera Networks

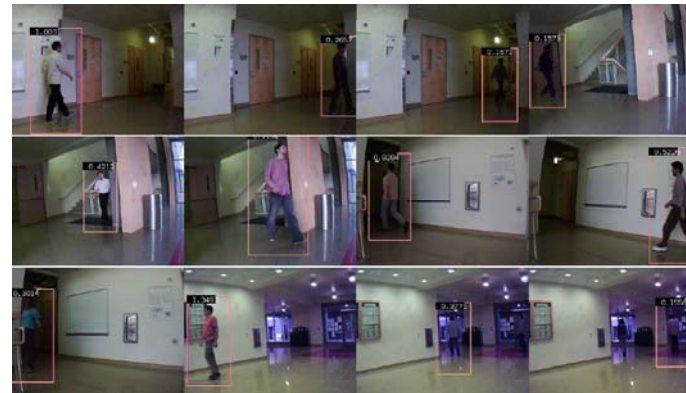


CITRIC  
wireless camera mote

## Traffic model



Detect humans

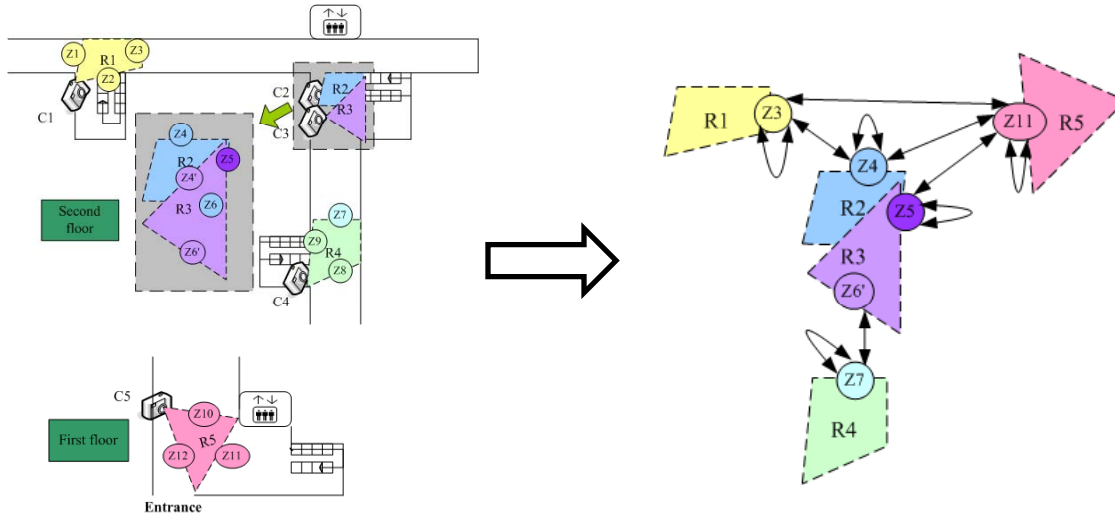


### Traffic modeling

- Study the pattern of moving subjects
- Predict the next location of a moving subject
- Estimate the expected travel times
- Determine the relationship between nonoverlapping cameras

### Applications:

- Abnormality detection, security
- Surveillance
- Location-based services
- Energy conservation, smart buildings, etc.



**Experiment detail:**

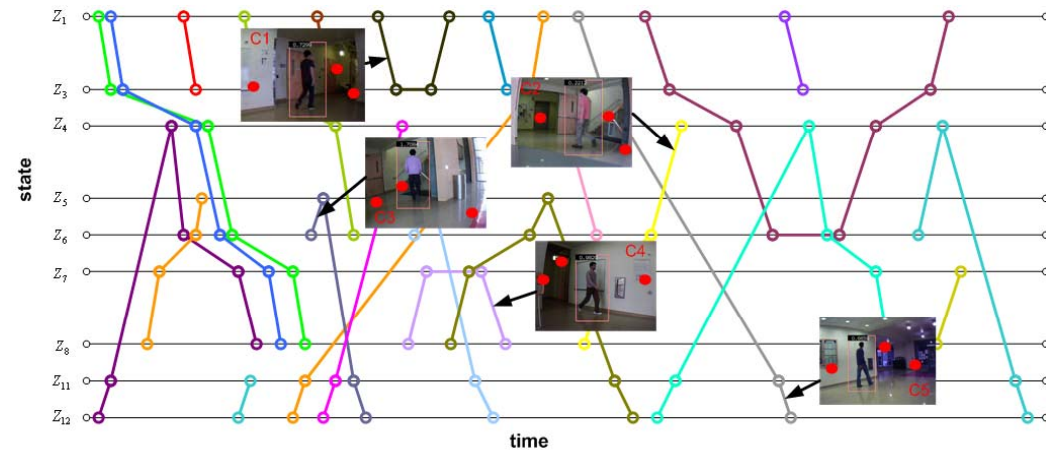
- 5 wireless camera nodes
- 20+ subjects move freely
- different viewpoints
- 1400+ images for training
- 1100+ images for testing

**Human detection**

- Histogram of oriented gradient (HOG) based detector

**Measurements**

- Normalized RGB histograms of the upper torso



Zaihong Shuai, Songhwei Oh, and Ming-Hsuan Yang, "Traffic Modeling and Prediction Using Camera Sensor Networks," in Proc. of the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Distributed Smart Cameras (ICDSC), Atlanta, GA, Sep. 2010.

# Outline

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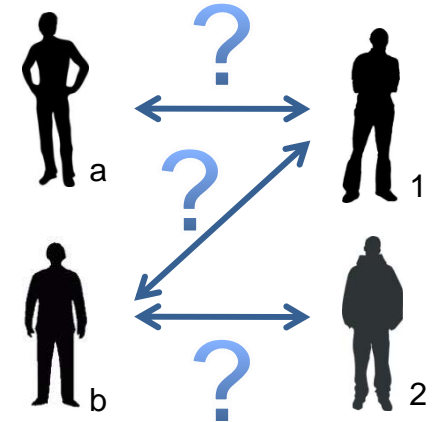
CPSLAB ([cpslab.snu.ac.kr](http://cpslab.snu.ac.kr))

- Data association problem and algorithms
- Correlation decay
- Deterministic approximation algorithm for data association
- Distributed data association algorithm for sensor networks
- Simulation results
- Conclusions and future work

# Data Association Problem

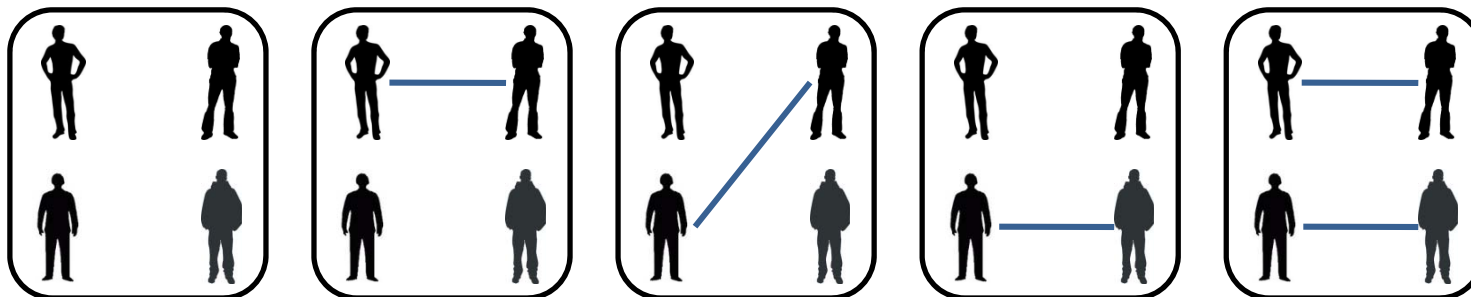
## A toy problem

- Suppose that we saw two people leaving the scene from cameras
- After some time later, two people are detected by another set of cameras
- Are they the same people that we saw before or new people?

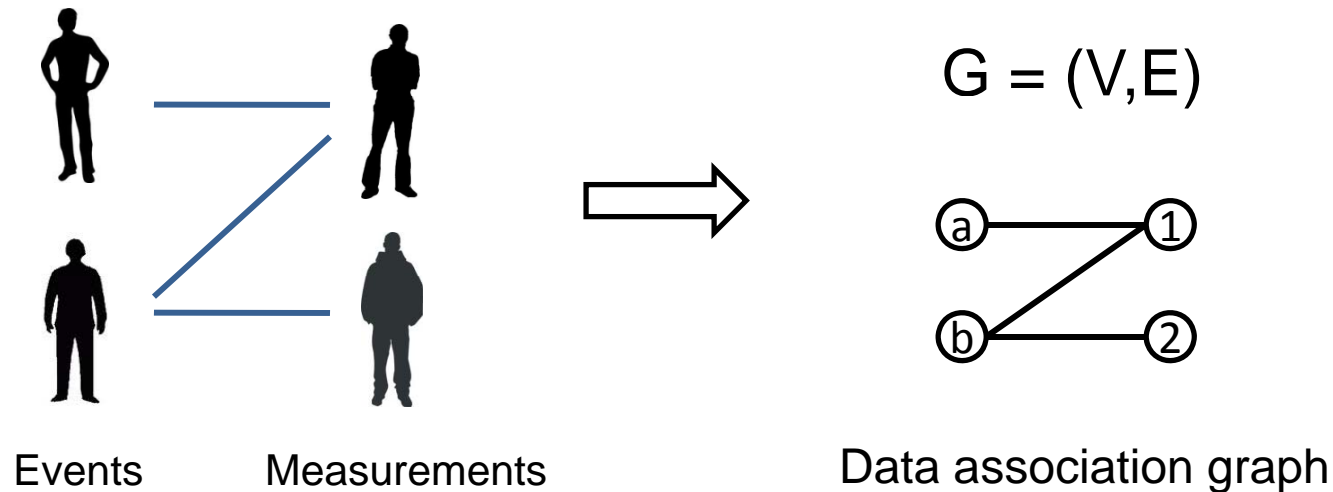


## Feasible scenarios

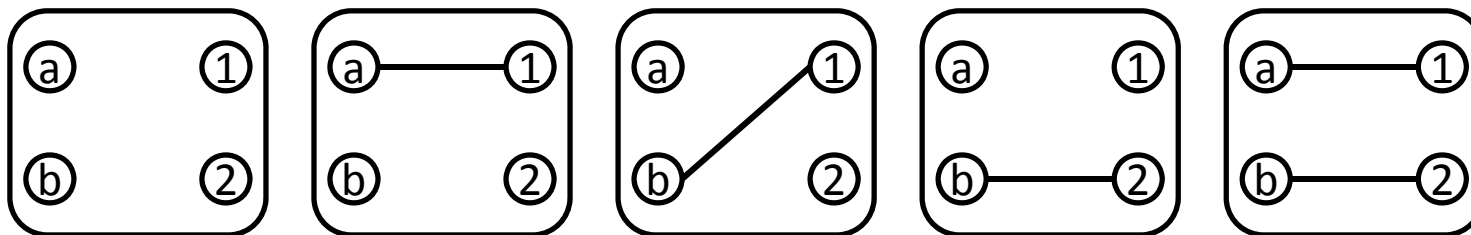
Mutual exclusiveness property



# Data Association: Problem Formulation



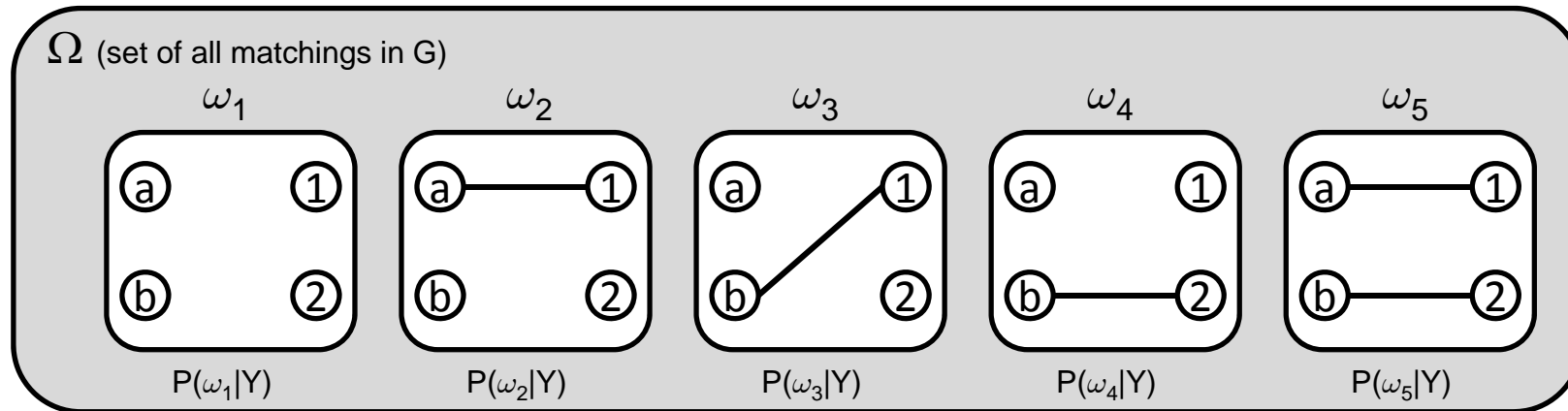
Feasible association events



A feasible association event is a **matching** in  $G$

# Association Probability

Solution space,  $\Omega$



Association probability:

$$\beta_{jk} = \sum_{\omega: (j,k) \in \omega} P(\omega|Y)$$

probability that j-th measurement is associated with k-th event.

$$\beta_{1a} = P(\omega_2|Y) + P(\omega_5|Y)$$

$$\beta_{2b} = P(\omega_4|Y) + P(\omega_5|Y)$$

$$\beta_{1b} = P(\omega_3|Y)$$

$$\beta_{0a} = P(\omega_1|Y) + P(\omega_3|Y) + P(\omega_4|Y), \dots$$

State estimation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(x_k|Y) &= \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} P(x_k|\omega, Y)P(\omega|Y) \\
 &= \sum_{j=0}^N \beta_{jk} P(x_k|\omega_{jk}, Y)
 \end{aligned}$$

But the exact computation of association probabilities is **#P-complete** [17].

# Related Work in Data Association Algorithms

MAP (maximum a posteriori):

- Find  $\omega^* = \operatorname{argmax} P(\omega|Y)$
- Multiple hypothesis tracker (**MHT**) [Reid, 1979; Kurien, 1990]

Bayesian, MMSE (minimum mean square error):

- Given a function  $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , estimate  $\mathbb{E}(X|Y)$
- Joint probabilistic data association (**JPDA**) [Bar-Shalom, Fortmann, 1988]

Complexity of either approach is **NP-hard**

- [Collins & Uhlmann, 92; Poore, 95], JPDA is #P-complete

Fourier transform based approximation [Huang, Guestrin, Guibas, 2009]

Markov chain Monte Carlo data association (**MCMCDA**)

- Fully polynomial **randomized approximation** scheme (FPRAS)
- [Oh, Russell, Sastry, 2009]

This paper: First **deterministic approximation** algorithm

- Fully polynomial time approximation scheme (FPTAS)

# Correlation Decay

Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ . Let  $\Omega = \Omega(G)$  be the set of all matchings of  $G$ .

Probability  
distribution on  $\Omega$ :

$$P_G(\omega) = \frac{\lambda^{|\omega|}}{Z(G)}, \quad \text{where} \quad Z(G) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \lambda^{|\omega|}$$

↑  
partition function

Computation of the partition function  $Z(G)$  is #P-complete

Bayati et al. [32] presented a **deterministic** fully polynomial time approximation scheme (FPTAS) for computing  $Z(G)$

**Main result [32]:**  $Z(G)$  can be approximated from recursive computation of

$$\Phi_{\hat{G}}(v, t+1) = \frac{1}{1 + \lambda \sum_{u \in N(v, \hat{G})} \Phi_{\hat{G} \setminus \{v\}}(u, t)}$$

An algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  is a *fully polynomial time approximation scheme (FPTAS)* if, for any  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$\exp(-\epsilon) \leq \frac{\mathcal{A}(G)}{Z(G)} \leq \exp(\epsilon),$$

in time which is polynomial in  $n$ , the number of vertices in  $G$ , and  $1/\epsilon$ .

[32] M. Bayati, D. Gamarnik, D. Katz, C. Nair, and P. Tetali, “**Simple deterministic approximation algorithms for counting matchings,**” in Proc. of the ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing, San Diego, CA, June 2007.

# Deterministic Approximation Algorithm for Data Association

## Probability model for a data association problem

Prior:  $P(\omega) \propto (\lambda_f V)^{N-|\omega|} p_d^{|\omega|} (1-p_d)^{K-|\omega|}$

Posterior: 
$$P(\omega|Y) = \frac{1}{Z_1} P(\omega) P(Y|\omega)$$

$$= \frac{1}{Z_2} \lambda_f^{N-|\omega|} p_d^{|\omega|} (1-p_d)^{K-|\omega|} \prod_{(u,v) \in \omega} L_{uv}$$

$$= \frac{1}{Z(G)} (\lambda_f^{-1} p_d (1-p_d)^{-1})^{|\omega|} \prod_{(u,v) \in \omega} L_{uv}$$

Recall:

$$\beta_{jk} = \sum_{\omega: (j,k) \in \omega} P(\omega|Y)$$

$$P(x_k|Y) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} P(x_k|\omega, Y) P(\omega|Y)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^N \beta_{jk} P(x_k|\omega_{jk}, Y)$$

### Posterior distribution of data association

$$P(\omega|Y) = \frac{1}{Z(G)} \alpha^{|\omega|} \prod_{(u,v) \in \omega} L_{uv}$$

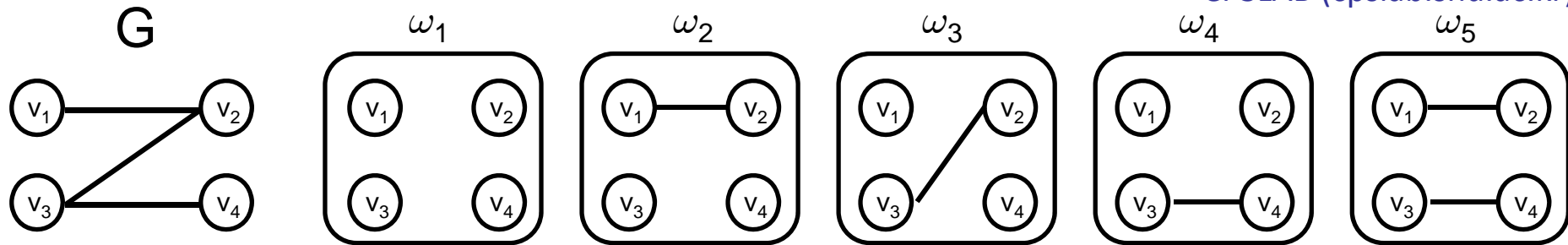
$$Z(G) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \alpha^{|\omega|} \prod_{(u,v) \in \omega} L_{uv}$$

cf. partition function:  $Z(G) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \lambda^{|\omega|}$

**Theorem 1:**

$$\beta_{uv} = \frac{Z(G \setminus \{u, v\})}{Z(G)} \alpha L_{uv}.$$

# Computation of $Z(G)$



$$\begin{aligned}
 Z(G) &= Z(G_1) = \tilde{P}(\omega_1|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_2|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_3|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_4|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_5|Y) \\
 Z(G \setminus \{v_1\}) &= Z(G_2) = \tilde{P}(\omega_1|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_3|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_4|Y) \\
 Z(G \setminus \{v_1, v_2\}) &= Z(G_3) = \tilde{P}(\omega_1|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_4|Y) \\
 Z(G \setminus \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}) &= Z(G_4) = \tilde{P}(\omega_1|Y) \\
 Z(G \setminus \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}) &= Z(G_5) = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

↑ unnormalized posterior

$$P_{G_1}(v_1 \notin \omega) = \frac{\tilde{P}(\omega_1|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_3|Y) + \tilde{P}(\omega_4|Y)}{Z(G)} = \frac{Z(G \setminus \{v_1\})}{Z(G)} = \frac{Z(G_2)}{Z(G_1)}$$

$$P_{G_2}(v_2 \notin \omega) = \frac{Z(G_3)}{Z(G_2)}$$

$$P_{G_3}(v_3 \notin \omega) = \frac{Z(G_4)}{Z(G_3)}$$

$$P_{G_4}(v_4 \notin \omega) = \frac{Z(G_5)}{Z(G_4)}$$

**Lemma 1:**

$$Z(G) = \frac{1}{\prod_{1 \leq k \leq |V|} P_{G_k}(v_k \notin \omega)}$$

Summary up to now:

- States can be estimated from association probabilities,  $\beta_{uv}$
- Association probabilities  $\beta_{uv}$  can be computed from  $Z(G)$  and  $Z(G \setminus \{u, v\})$
- $Z(G_k)$  can be computed from  $P_{G_k}(u \notin \omega)$

**Lemma 2:**

$$P_G(u \notin \omega) = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha \sum_{v \in N(u)} P_{G \setminus \{u\}}(v \notin \omega) L_{uv}}$$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z(G) &= \overbrace{\sum_{\omega: u \notin \omega} \alpha^{|\omega|} \prod_{(u', v') \in \omega} L_{u'v'}}^{\text{matchings without } u} + \overbrace{\sum_{v \in N(u)} \sum_{\omega: (u, v) \in \omega} \alpha^{|\omega|} \prod_{(u', v') \in \omega} L_{u'v'}}^{\text{matchings with } u} \\
 &= Z(G \setminus \{u\}) + \sum_{v \in N(u)} Z(G \setminus \{u, v\}) \alpha L_{uv} \\
 \frac{Z(G)}{Z(G \setminus \{u\})} &= 1 + \sum_{v \in N(u)} \frac{Z(G \setminus \{u, v\})}{Z(G \setminus \{u\})} \alpha L_{uv}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Approximating $P_G(u \notin \omega)$

We approximate  $P_G(u \notin \omega)$  by

$$\Phi_{\hat{G}}(u, t+1) = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha \sum_{v \in N(u)} \Phi_{\hat{G} \setminus \{u\}}(v, t) L_{uv}}$$

with  $t < n$ , where  $\hat{G}$  is a subgraph of  $G$  and  $u \in V(\hat{G})$ .

**Theorem 2:** For every vertex  $v \in V$  and every even  $t > 0$ ,

$$\left| \log P_G(v \notin \omega) - \log \Phi_G(v, t) \right| \leq \left( 1 - \frac{1}{1 + \frac{L_{\max}}{L_{\min}} \sqrt{1 + \alpha \Delta L_{\max}}} \right)^{t/2} \log(1 + \alpha \Delta L_{\max}).$$

**Theorem 3:** With  $t = O(\log n \cdot 1/\epsilon)$ , for any  $(u, v) \in E$ ,

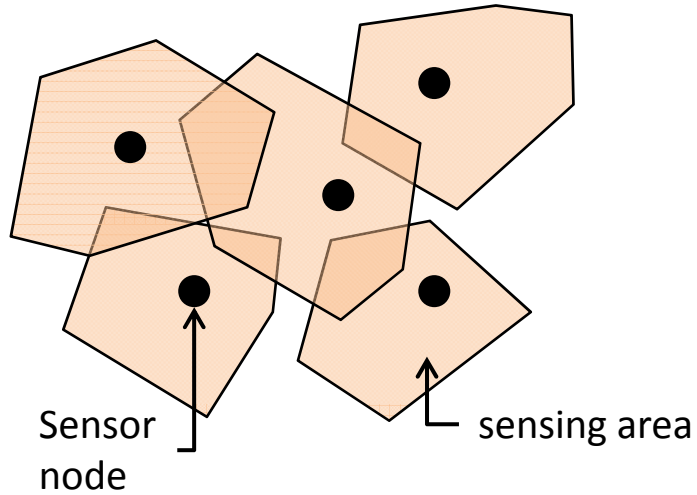
$$\exp(-\epsilon) \leq \frac{\hat{\beta}_{uv}}{\beta_{uv}} \leq \exp(\epsilon),$$

**Theorem 4:** There is an FPTAS for computing association probabilities.

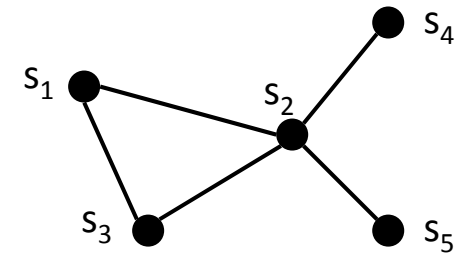
\* See the paper for an exact description of the algorithm.

# Data Association in Sensor Networks

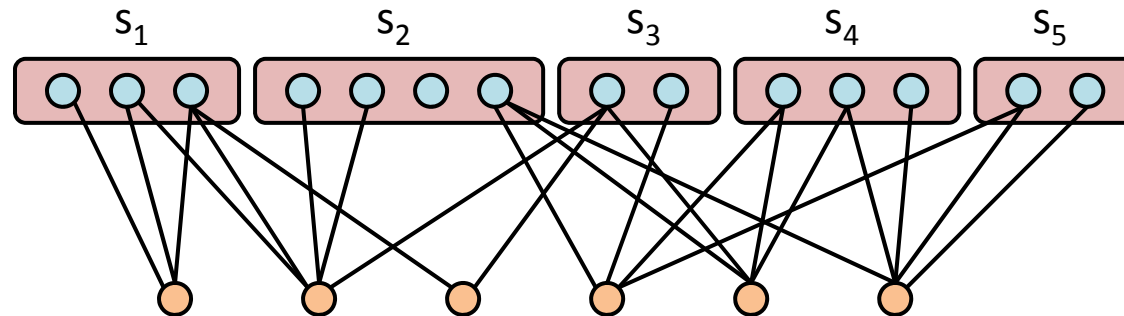
Sensor network



Sensing graph



Measurements

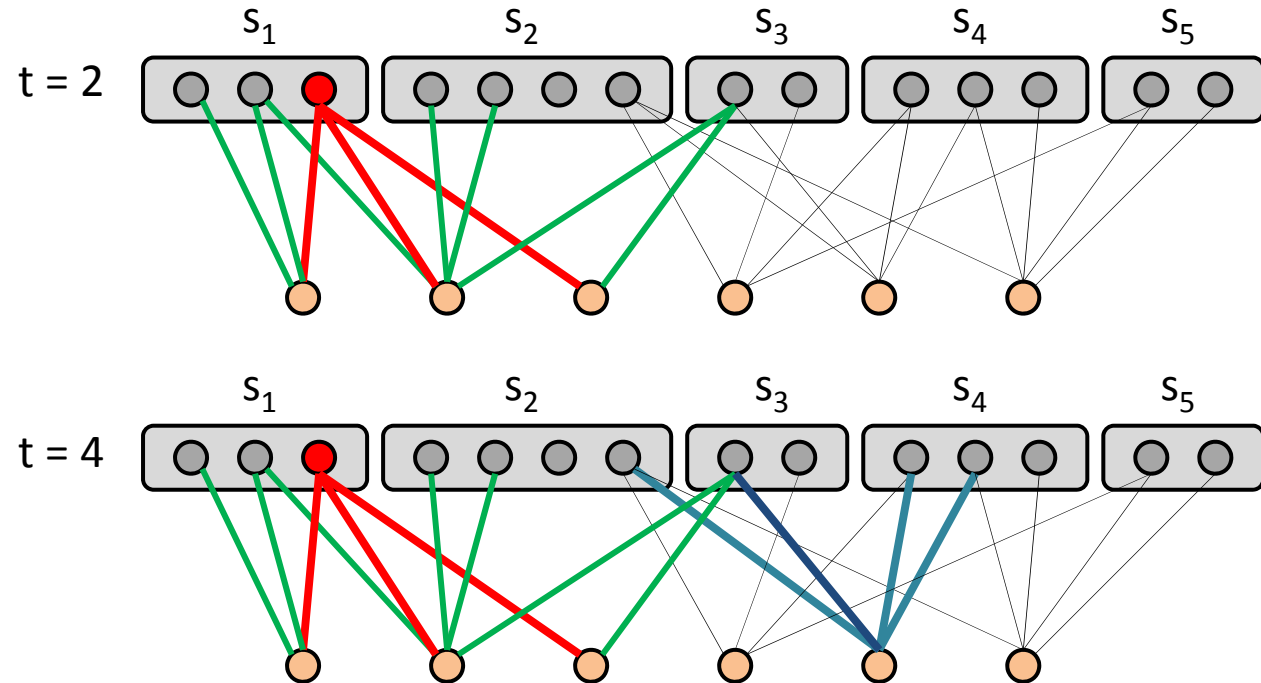
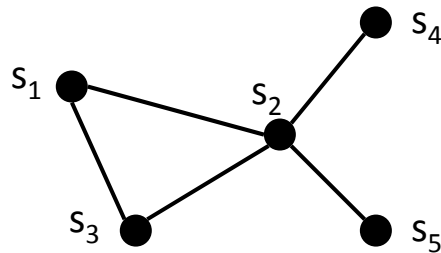


Events

Data association graph

# Distributed Data Association Algorithm for Sensor Networks

Sensing graph



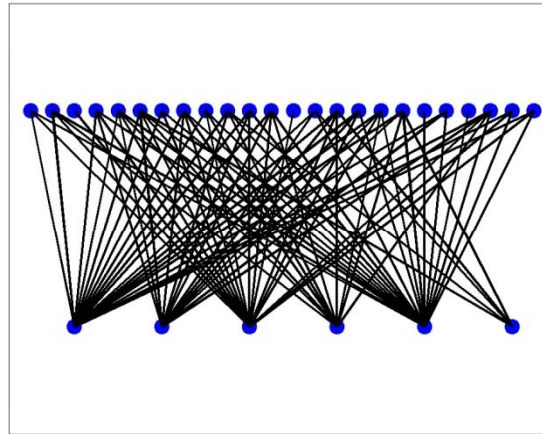
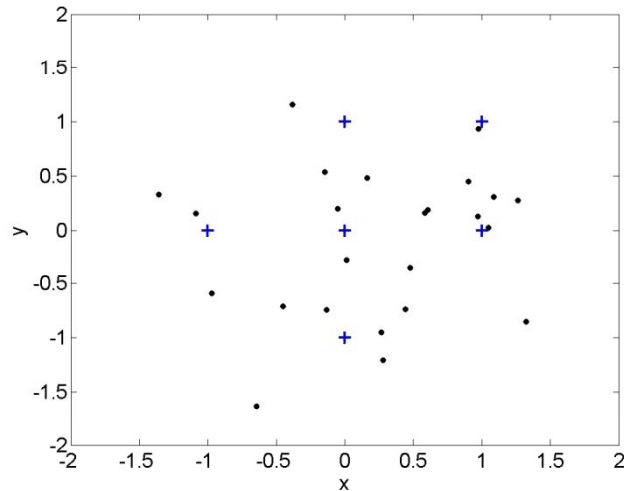
For the approximate computation level of  $t$ , we only need measurements from  $t/2$ -hop neighbors in the sensing graph.

Naturally decomposes the problem into a set of local problems.

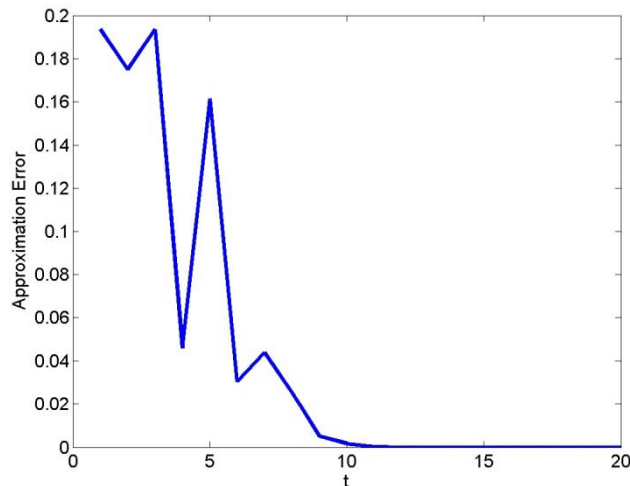
Distributed data association algorithm for sensor networks.

\* See the paper for an exact description of the algorithm.

# Simulation Results

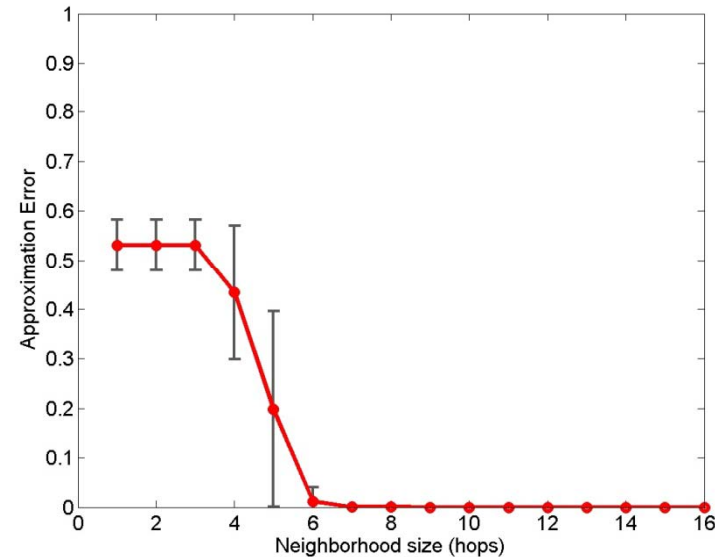
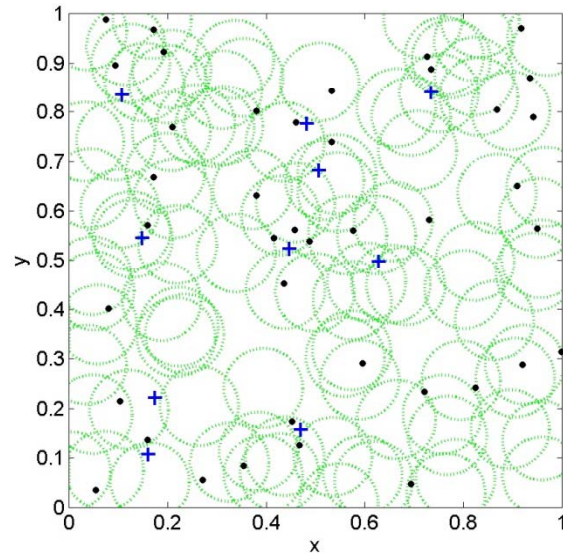


- 6 events
- 24 measurements
- 8,517,625 possible association events
- Exact computation of association probabilities take over 11 hours



- After  $t = 9$ , the approximation error is less than 0.005 and its running time is about 26% of the exact algorithm.
- If the desired error bound is at most 0.05, then  $t = 6$  is good enough and the corresponding running time is 0.7% of the exact algorithm.

# Sensor Networks



10 random scenarios of:

- 100 sensor nodes
- 10 events
- 40 measurements

- Approximation error is close to zero after 6 hops.
- A good approximation is possible using only local information from 6-hop neighbors.

An analysis of correlation decay for a complex problem can reveal how an efficient distributed approximation algorithm can be constructed for the problem.

# Conclusions and Future Work

First deterministic approximation algorithm for data association

- Based on the idea of correlation decay
- Scalable: naturally decomposes a problem into a set of local problems

The technique can be applied to other problems to derive distributed approximation algorithms for NP-hard problems

Future work

- Computation between levels
- Multiple detections of the same event by different sensors
- Experiments using distributed wireless camera networks
- Parallel processing on GPUs



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Thank you

<http://cpslab.snu.ac.kr>

Seoul National University