



# Lecture: Localisation 2

## Particle Filtering 101

MOBILE ROBOT CONTROL 2023

Koen de Vos

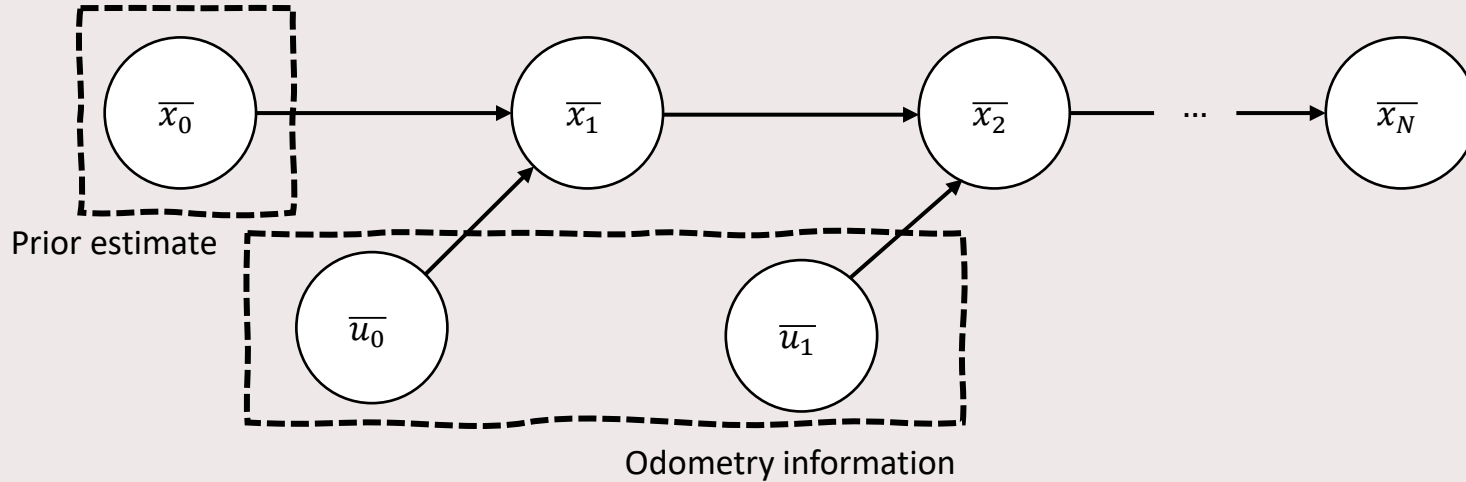


# Recursive State Estimation

## Recap

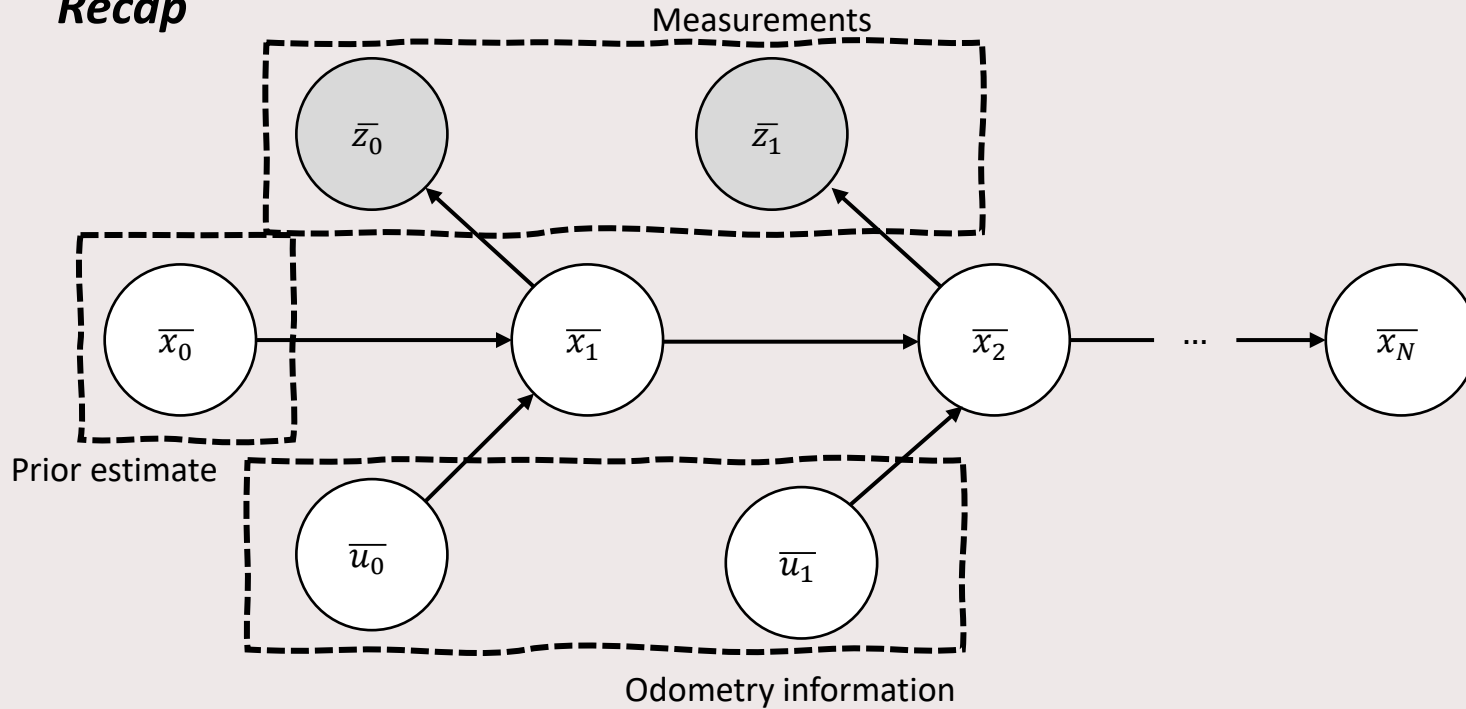
# Recursive State-Estimation

## *Recap*



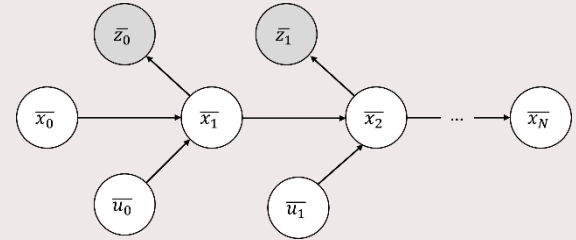
# Recursive State-Estimation

## Recap



# Recursive State Estimation

## Recap



*Our belief of the current state:*

$$bel(x_t) := p(x_t | z_{1:t-1}, u_{1:t-1})$$

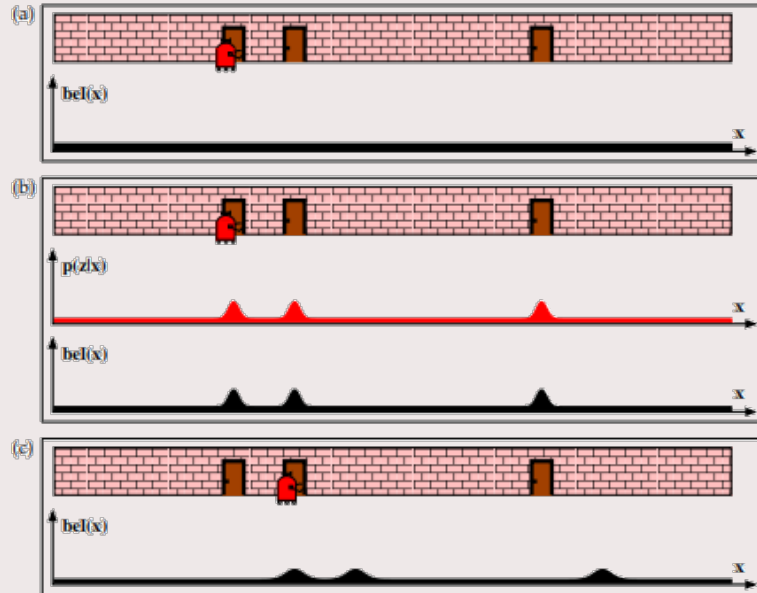
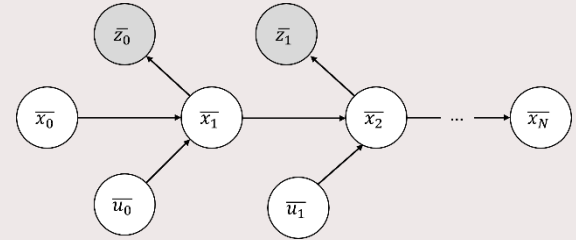
*Measurement update:*

$$bel(x_t) = p(z_t | x_t) \overline{bel}(x_t)$$

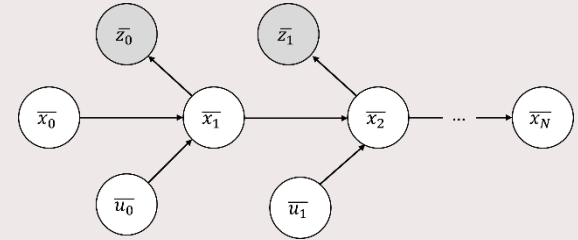
*Control (dead-reckoning) update:*

$$\overline{bel}(x_t) = \int p(x_t | u_t, x_{t-1}) bel(x_{t-1}) dx_{t-1}$$

# Recursive State Estimation Recap



# Recursive State Estimation Recap



However:

- The Bayes filter is generally intractable

We need to approximate



## Goal of this Lecture

How do we represent our World?

What do we mean by “measurements”?

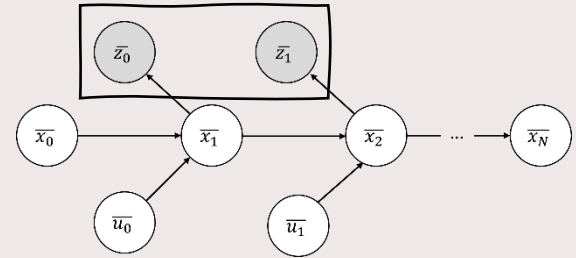
How do we solve the Localization Problem using a Particle Filtering approach?





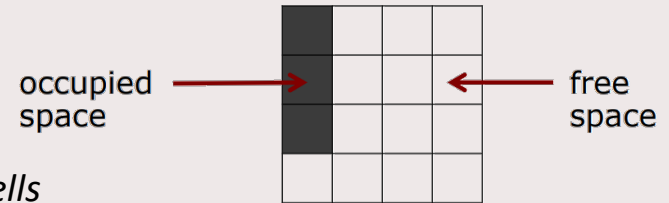
## Our World Representation

# Map Representation



## Occupancy Grid Maps

- Grid Map -> The world is discretized in a large amount of cells
- Occupancy -> Each cell is either occupied or free
- Often assumed to be static
- *Note that large environments may require a large amount of cells*
- *No representation for higher level features, e.g. doors*



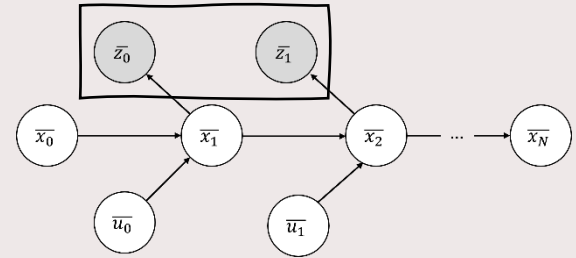
<http://ais.informatik.uni-freiburg.de/teaching/ws22/mapping/>



## The Measurement Model

# Recursive State Estimation

## Measurements



So far we've seen:

*Measurement update:*

$$bel(x_t) = p(z_t|x_t)\overline{bel}(x_t)$$

But what is  $z_t$  and how do we express  $p(z_t|x_t)$ ?

# Recursive State Estimation

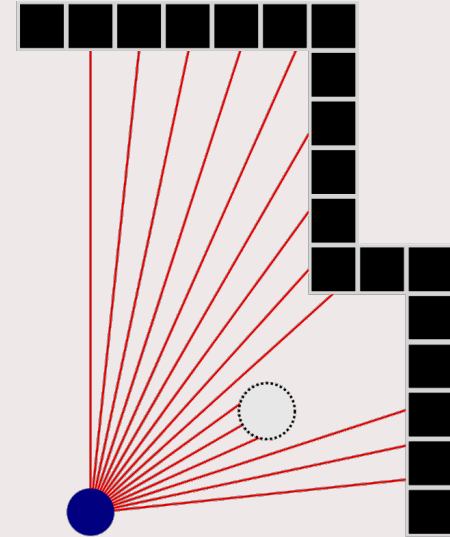
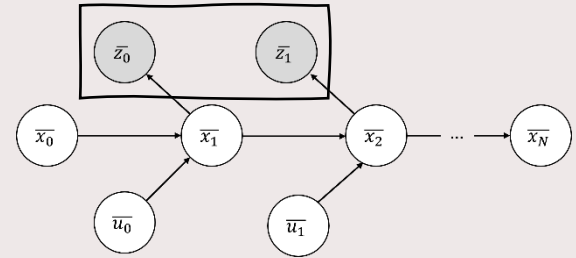
## Beam-based model

For now, let's define a measurement as a vector of ranges:

- $$z_k = \begin{bmatrix} (r_0, \theta_0) \\ (r_1, \theta_1) \\ \vdots \\ (r_2, \theta_2) \end{bmatrix},$$

- Given a map, a robot pose, and *appropriate algorithms* we can generate a prediction of this measurement

- $$z_k^* = \begin{bmatrix} (r_0^*, \theta_0) \\ (r_1^*, \theta_1) \\ \vdots \\ (r_2^*, \theta_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

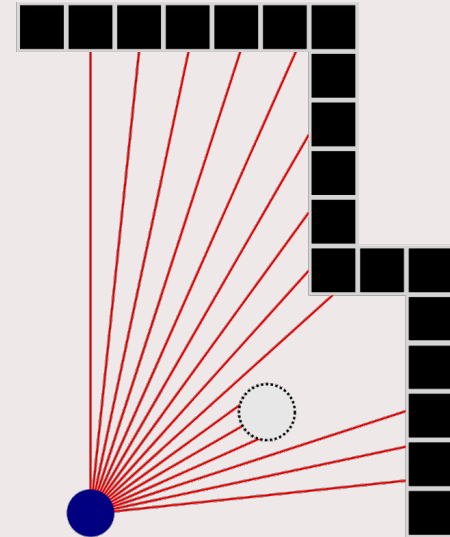
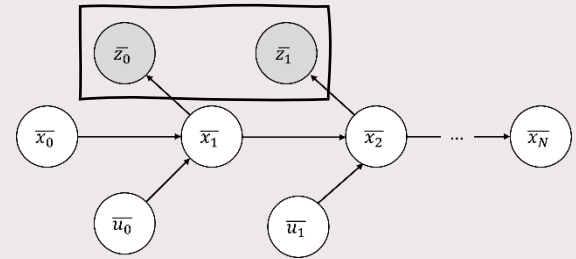


# Recursive State Estimation Beam-based model

## Appropriate algorithms?

A family of algorithms called Ray casters.

Don't worry about them for now,  
we have provided you with one for the assignment.



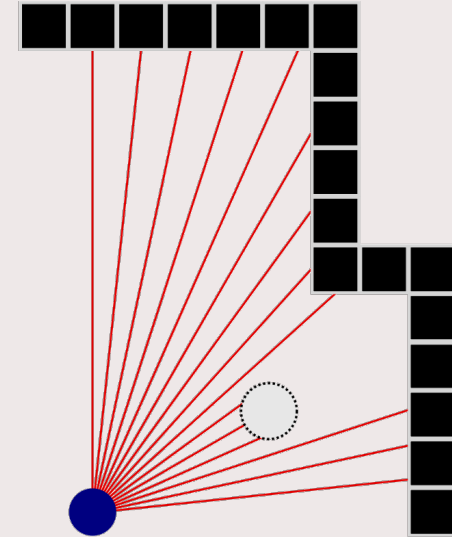
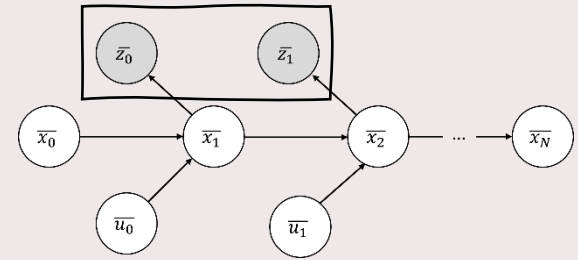
# Recursive State Estimation

## Beam-based model

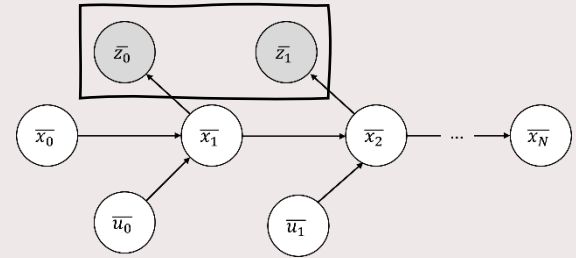
Observe that we now have a measurement and a measurement prediction in the ideal (modeled) case.

### Core Idea:

The mismatch between the two tell us something about whether the robot pose is correct.

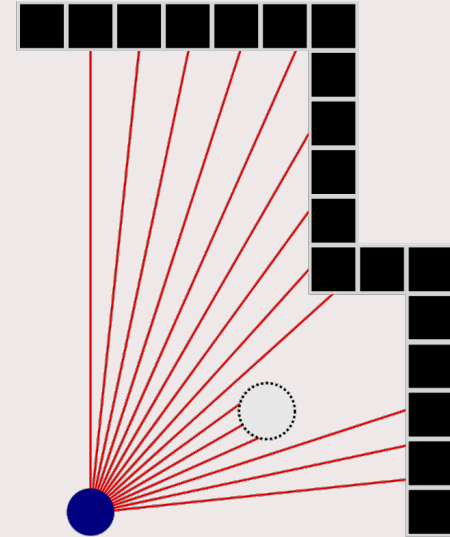


# Recursive State Estimation Beam-based model



How to quantify this mismatch as a probability  $p(z_t|x_t)$ ?

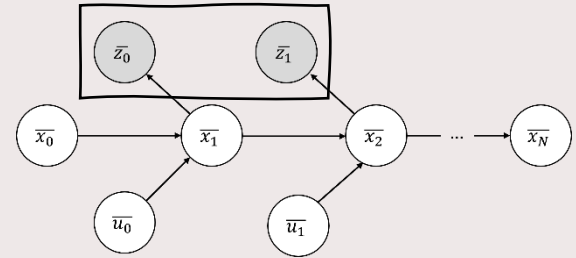
- For a single ray, we identify four sources of “disturbances”
  - Local Measurement noise
  - Unexpected Obstacles
  - Failures (Glass, Black obstacles)
  - Random measurements
- We assign each source a distribution and probability of occurring





# Recursive State Estimation

## Beam-based model

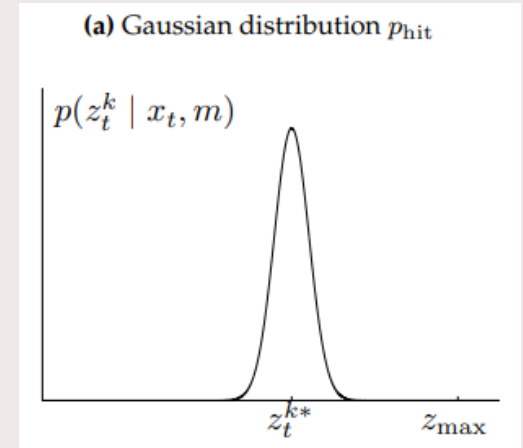


Local Measurement Noise

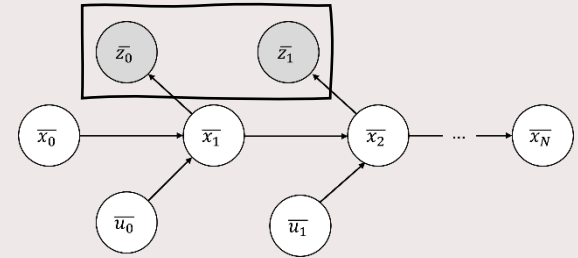
$$p_{short}(z_t^k | x_t, m) = \begin{cases} \eta \mathcal{N}(z_t^k; z_t^{k*}, \sigma_{hit}^2) & \text{if } 0 \leq z_t^k \leq z_{max} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{N}(z_t^k; z_t^{k*}, \sigma_{hit}^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{hit}^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(z_t^k - z_t^{k*})^2}{\sigma_{hit}^2}}$$

$$\eta = \left( \int_0^{z_{max}} \mathcal{N}(z_t^k; z_t^{k*}, \sigma_{hit}^2) dz_t^k \right)^{-1}$$



# Recursive State Estimation Beam-based model

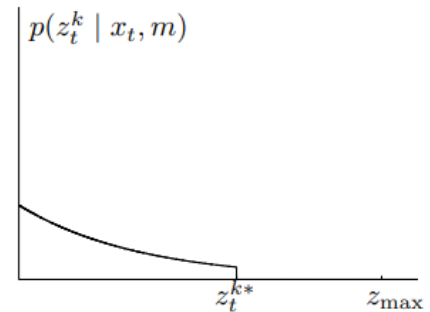


Unexpected Obstacles

$$p_{short}(z_t^k | x_t, m) = \begin{cases} \eta \lambda_{short} e^{-\lambda_{short} z_t^k} & \text{if } 0 \leq z_t^k \leq z_t^{k*} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\eta = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\lambda_{short} z_t^{k*}}}$$

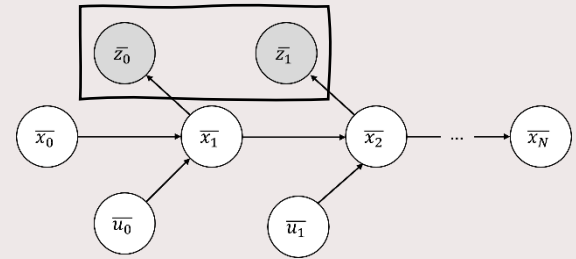
(b) Exponential distribution  $p_{short}$



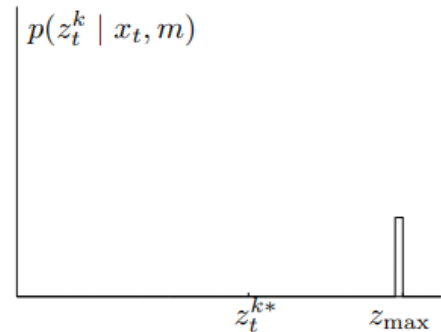
# Recursive State Estimation Beam-based model

Failures (Glass, Black obstacles)

$$p_{max}(z_t^k | x_t, m) = \begin{cases} 1 & z_k^t = z_{max} \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

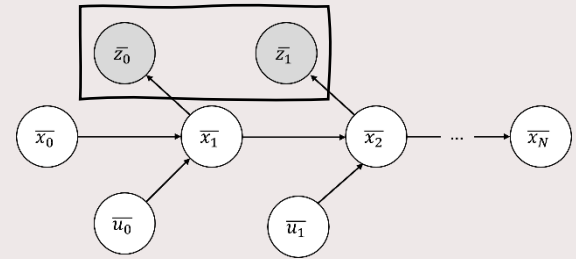


(c) Uniform distribution  $p_{max}$



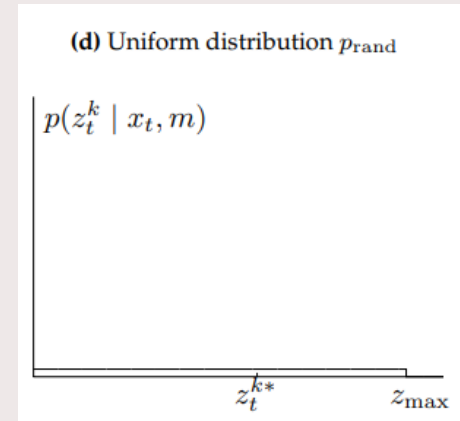
# Recursive State Estimation

## Beam-based model



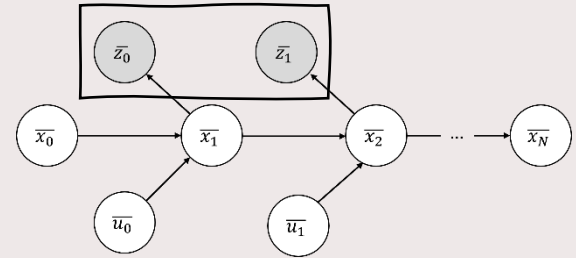
Random measurements

$$p_{rand}(z_t^k | x_t, m) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{z_{max}} & \text{if } 0 \leq z_k^t < z_{max} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



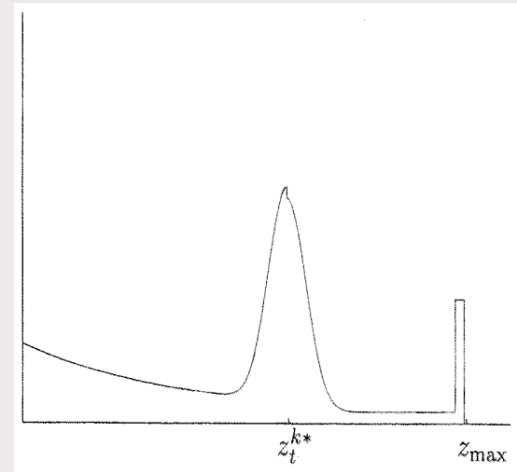
# Recursive State Estimation

## Beam-based model



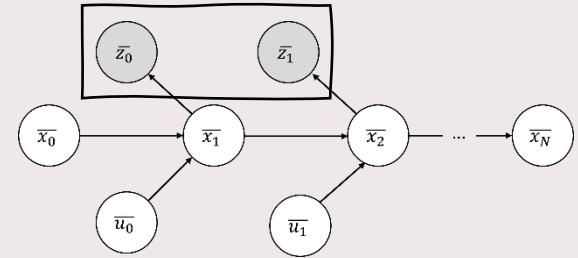
Taking the weighted average of these distributions yields:

$$p(z_t^k | x_t, m) = z_{hit} p_{hit}(z_t^k | x_t, m) + z_{short} p_{short}(z_t^k | x_t, m) + z_{max} p_{max}(z_t^k | x_t, m) + z_{rand} p_{rand}(z_t^k | x_t, m)$$



# Recursive State Estimation

## Beam-based model



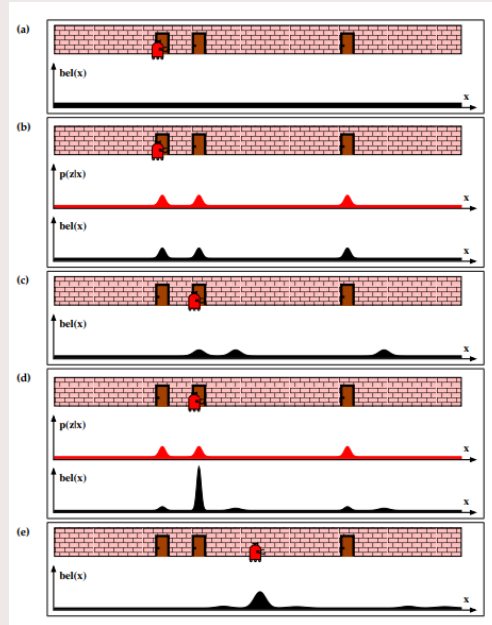
Probability of entire measurement vector by assuming **independence** of rays.

```
1:   Algorithm beam_range_finder_model( $z_t, x_t, m$ ):
2:      $q = 1$ 
3:     for  $k = 1$  to  $K$  do
4:       compute  $z_t^{k*}$  for the measurement  $z_t^k$  using ray casting
5:        $p = z_{\text{hit}} \cdot p_{\text{hit}}(z_t^k | x_t, m) + z_{\text{short}} \cdot p_{\text{short}}(z_t^k | x_t, m)$ 
6:          $+ z_{\text{max}} \cdot p_{\text{max}}(z_t^k | x_t, m) + z_{\text{rand}} \cdot p_{\text{rand}}(z_t^k | x_t, m)$ 
7:        $q = q \cdot p$ 
8:     return  $q$ 
```



# The Particle Filter Algorithm

# From Bayes Filter to Particle Filter

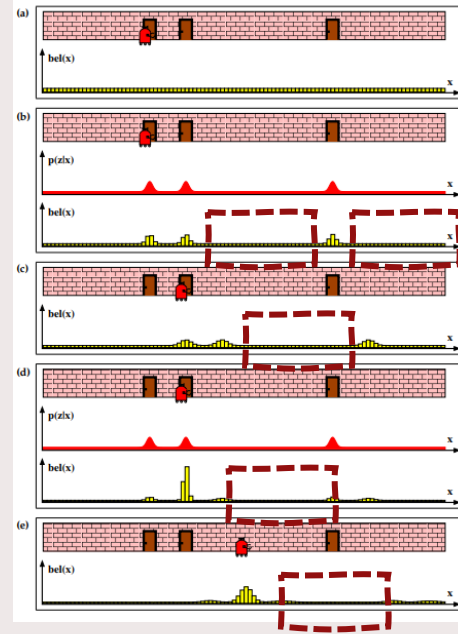
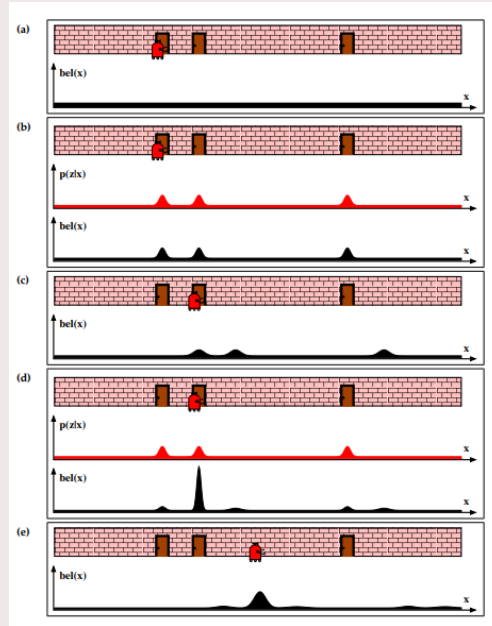


Intractable,  
since we do  
not have  
explicit  
formulas for  
the  
distribution

What if we discretize  
("grid") the state space?



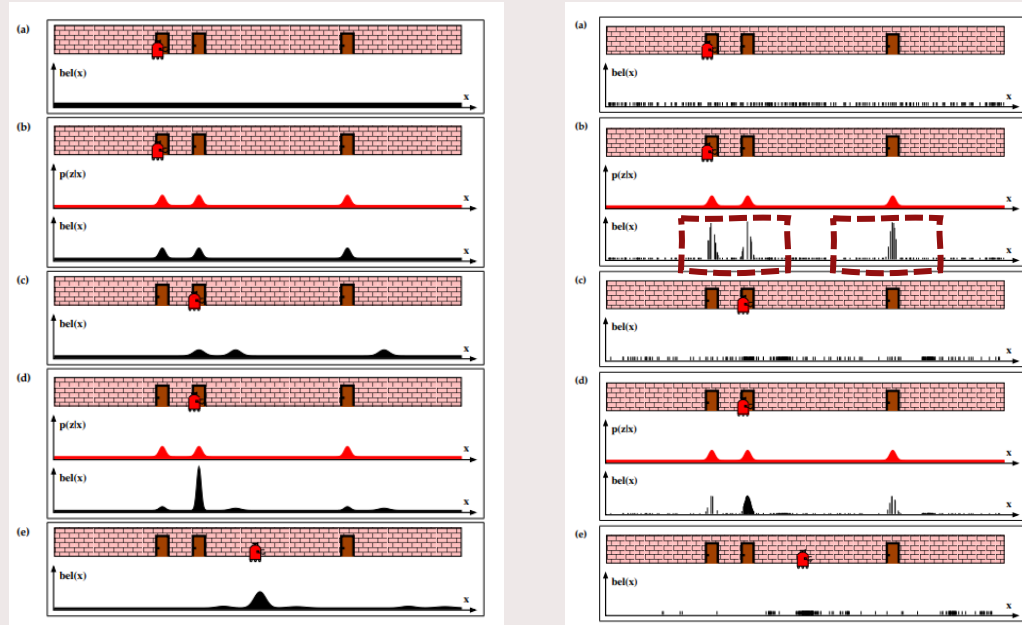
# From Bayes Filter to Particle Filter



Do we need to keep track of and compute these Areas?

What if we only compute probabilities of regions in which we are likely to be?

# From Bayes Filter to Particle Filter



Distribution is sampled randomly. Opportunity to place samples where they are "useful".

# Particle Filter (Monte Carlo Localization) How?

```
1:  Algorithm Particle_filter( $\mathcal{X}_{t-1}, u_t, z_t$ ):  
2:     $\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t = \mathcal{X}_t = \emptyset$   
3:    for  $m = 1$  to  $M$  do  
4:      sample  $x_t^{[m]} \sim p(x_t | u_t, x_{t-1}^{[m]})$   
5:       $w_t^{[m]} = p(z_t | x_t^{[m]})$   
6:       $\bar{\mathcal{X}}_t = \bar{\mathcal{X}}_t + \langle x_t^{[m]}, w_t^{[m]} \rangle$   
7:    endfor  
8:    for  $m = 1$  to  $M$  do  
9:      draw  $i$  with probability  $\propto w_t^{[i]}$   
10:     add  $x_t^{[i]}$  to  $\mathcal{X}_t$   
11:    endfor  
12:    return  $\mathcal{X}_t$ 
```

# Particle Filter (Monte Carlo Localization) How?

```
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12:     return  $\mathcal{X}_t$ 
```

What we have discussed  
so far

# Particle Filter (Monte Carlo Localization) How?

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12:    return  $\mathcal{X}_t$ 
```

Update the m-th particle using the control model

# Particle Filter (Monte Carlo Localization) How?

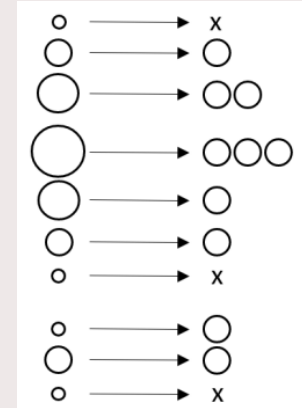
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10:     add  $x_t^{[i]}$  to  $\mathcal{X}_t$   
11:    endfor  
12:    return  $\mathcal{X}_t$ 
```

Set the weight of the updated particle using the measurement model

# Particle Filter (Monte Carlo Localization)

## How?

```
1: Algorithm Particle_filter( $\mathcal{X}_{t-1}, u_t, z_t$ ):
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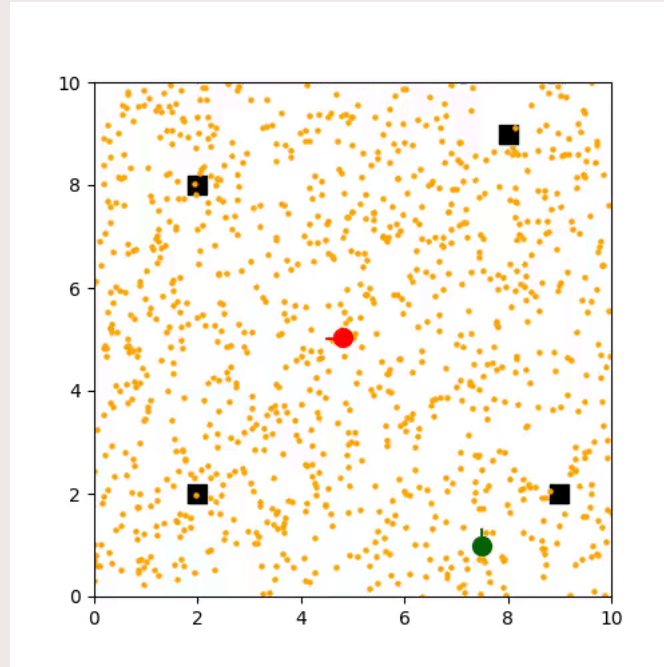


Elfring, J.; Torta, E.; van de Molengraft, R. Particle Filters: A Hands-On Tutorial. *Sensors* **2021**, *21*, 438. <https://doi.org/10.3390/s21020438>

**Resampling:** Makes sure that particles stay focused in high likelihood areas

**You will see two methods in the Assignment**

Now it's your turn



Recommended to use Probabilistic Robotics as a reference