

Outline

- Background
- Controller design and analysis
- Experiments
- Conclusion







•Collective emergence of natural groups: low level individual intelligence and inter-agent connections create highly-coordinated collective behavior



Top journal reports













•Top journals have used more and more pages to report the relevant results

•The publication proportion is surging to about 20% in *IEEE TAC* and *Automatica*



Couzin's Three-Sphere Model (The New York Times, Nov.10, 2007)







migration

· 推制科学与工程条

Physical, Chemical and Bio-molecule Torus







Vertically vibrated granular rods, Physical Review E, 67: 031303



Bio-molecule actin filament, Nature, 467:73-77



Figure 2 Langmuir-Blodgett assembly: (left to right) dots⁹, rods¹⁰ and wires¹

Nature 425,243



Outline

- Background
- Controller design and analysis
- Experiments
- Conclusion









Problem description

- Individuals are indistinguishable.
- No reference beacon exists
- What can each agent perceive?
 - Neighbors' moving angels
 - Relative positions
- No attraction





Model

• Agents

$$\dot{x}_i = v_i \cos \theta_i, \dot{y}_i = v_i \sin \theta_i, \dot{\theta}_i = \omega_i, i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

• Neighbors

$$N_{i} := \left\{ j \| p_{ij} \| < \rho \right\}, p_{i} = [x_{i}, y_{i}]^{T}$$

• Control

$$\left[v_{i},\omega_{i}\right]^{T}=\sum_{j\in N_{i}(p)}\kappa\left(p_{ij},\theta_{i},\theta_{j}\right)$$



Torus motion

• A trajectory p(t) of multi-agent group is called a torus if there exist T > 0, r > 0, and $q_0 = [\xi_0, \zeta_0]^T$ such that

$$p_{i}(t+T) = p_{i}(t), p_{i}(t) - q_{0} = r \angle \phi_{i}(t)$$
$$\dot{\phi}_{i}(t) \ge 0, \forall t \ge 0, \forall i \in \mathbb{N}$$



Objective

• Find a control algorithm for each individual agent such that the trajectory p(t) of the closed-loop system converges to a torus motion $\breve{p}(t)$, i.e.,

$$\lim_{t\to\infty}\left(p\left(t\right)-\breve{p}\left(t\right)\right)=0$$





• Forward velocity controller (form circular behavior)

$$v_{i} = r\omega_{i} - \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}, j \neq i} \alpha \left(\| p_{ij} \| \right) \left[\cos \theta_{i}, \sin \theta_{i} \right] \begin{bmatrix} x_{ij} - rs_{ij} \\ y_{ij} + rc_{ij} \end{bmatrix}, r = \sqrt[V_{0}]{\omega_{0}}$$

$$\omega_i = \omega_0, i \in N$$
$$c_{ij} = \cos \theta_i - \cos \theta_j, s_{ij} = \sin \theta_i - \sin \theta_j$$





• Coordinate transformation (edge ->center)

$$\Phi: (p_i, \theta_i) \mapsto (q_i, \theta_i) = \begin{cases} \xi_i = x_i - r \sin \theta_i \\ \zeta_i = y_i + r \cos \theta_i \end{cases}$$
$$q_i = [\xi_i, \zeta_i]^T, i \in N$$





Closed-loop system

$$\dot{q} = -K(\theta) f(q,\theta), \dot{\theta} = \omega_0 e$$

$$\overline{q}(t) = \frac{1}{T} \int_{t}^{t+T} q(\tau) d\tau$$

$$\overline{q}(t) - q(t) = O(1/\omega_0), \quad \dot{\overline{q}} = -f(\overline{q},\theta) + O(1/\omega_0)$$

• Average system

$$\dot{q} = -f(q,\theta), \dot{\theta} = \omega_0 e$$





• Convergence of torus motion center

Suppose there exists an infinite time sequence $t_1 < t_2 < t_3 < \cdots$ such that, for any $[t_i, t_{i+1}), i = 1, 2, \cdots$, the trajectory p(t) is uniformly jointly connected. Then, there exists a collective circular motion $\breve{p}(t)$ such that p(t) asymptotically converges to $\breve{p}(t)$, i.e,

$$\lim_{t\to\infty}\left(p(t)-\breve{p}(t)\right)=0$$





Main results (IEEE TAC 56(2) 2011 and Automaticaregular 47(9) 2011)

• Rotational controller (control phase distribution)

$$\begin{split} \omega_{i} &= \omega_{0} + \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}, j \neq i} \beta \left(\left\| p_{ij} \right\| \right) \operatorname{sgn}^{+} \left(\sin \theta_{ij} \right), \quad i \in \mathbb{N} \\ \beta \left(s \right) &= \begin{cases} 0, s \geq \sigma \\ > 0, s < \sigma \end{cases} \\ \sigma &:= 2r \sin \left(\varphi / 2 \right) > 0 \quad \text{where } 0 < \varphi \leq 2\pi / n \text{ is the minimal} \end{split}$$

arc angle between each two agents





Phase distribution

1) If
$$p_i(t) \neq p_j(t)$$
, $\forall (i, j) \in E$ holds for $t = 0$, then so does it for all $t \ge 0$.

2) The limit $\tilde{p}_{ij} = \lim_{t\to\infty} \|p_{ij}(t)\|$ exists and $\tilde{p}_{ij} \ge \sigma$ for all $(i, j) \in E$. In particlual $\varphi = 2\pi / n$, then $p_i(\infty)$, $i \in \mathbb{N}$ are equally loated over the circle.



Outline

- Background
- Controller design and analysis
- Experiments
- Conclusion











Experiments (IEEE TCST, to appear 2012)



Multi-robot system







Information exchange

- the robot *i*'s own moving direction with respect Σ to its reference frame Σi
- the direction of the robot *j* observed by the robot *i* using sonar sensors with respect to its reference frame Σi .
- the distance between the robots *j* and *i* measured by the robot *i* using sonar sensors.
- Moving angle difference measured by the robot
 j and transmitted to the robot *i* through UDP
 connection







• Real movie









R

• Practical issue 1: bi-wheeled dynamics







• Practical issue 2: obstacle avoidance





• Practical issue 3: UDP communication loss



• Moving trajectories









• Consensus procedures of the centers and moving angles



Outline

- Background
- Controller design and analysis
- Experiments
- Conclusion







- Collective circular behavior or torus is prevalent in both living and non-living natural groups
- Decentralized control algorithm is designed with leader-free and nobeacon environment
- Collision avoidance, phase distribution, communication loss are considered
- Fulfilled by DX II multi-robot systems



Thank you!





Future applications





•先锋DX-II型多机器人系统;





•Amigobot 多机器人系统



