# Optimal Decision Making for Multi-agent Path Planning Problem



Author

Arsalan Akhter

Regn Number

### 2011-NUST-MS PhD-MTS-07

Supervisor

Dr. Kanwar Faraz Ahmed

DEPARTMENT OF MECHATRONICS ENGINEERING COLLEGE OF ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL ENGINEERING NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY ISLAMABAD JULY, 2014

## Optimal Decision Making for Multi-agent Path Planning Problem

Author

Arsalan Akhter

Regn Number

### 2011-NUST-MS PhD-MTS-07

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of MS Mechatronics Engineering

Thesis Supervisor: Dr Kanwar Faraz

Thesis Supervisor's Signature:\_\_\_\_\_

# DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING COLLEGE OF ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL ENGINEERING NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY, ISLAMABAD July, 2014

#### Declaration

I certify that this research work titled "*Optimal Decision Making for Multi-agent Path Planning Problem*" is my own work. The work has not been presented elsewhere for assessment. The material that has been used from other sources it has been properly acknowledged / referred.

Signature of Student ArsalanAkhter 2011-NUST-MS PhD-MTS-07

## Language Correctness Certificate

This thesis has been read by an English expert and is free of typing, syntax, semantic, grammatical and spelling mistakes. Thesis is also according to the format given by the university.

Signature of Student ArsalanAkhter Registration Number 2011-NUST-MS PhD-MTS-07

Signature of Supervisor

#### **Copyright Statement**

- Copyright in text of this thesis rests with the student author. Copies (by any process) either in full, or of extracts, may be made onlyin accordance with instructions given by the author and lodged in the Library of NUST College of E&ME. Details may be obtained by the Librarian. This page must form part of any such copies made. Further copies (by any process) may not be made without the permission (in writing) of the author.
- The ownership of any intellectual property rights which may be described in this thesis is vested in NUST College of E&ME, subject to any prior agreement to the contrary, and may not be made available for use by third parties without the written permission of the College of E&ME, which will prescribe the terms and conditions of any such agreement.
- Further information on the conditions under which disclosures and exploitation may take place is available from the Library of NUST College of E&ME, Rawalpindi.

#### Acknowledgements

I am thankful to my Creator Allah Subhana-Watala to have guided me throughout this work at every step and for every new thought which You setup in my mind to improve it. Indeed I could have done nothing without Your priceless help and guidance. Whosoever helped me throughout the course of my thesis, whether my parents or any other individual was Your will, so indeed none be worthy of praise but You.

I am profusely thankful to my beloved parents who raised me when I was not capable of walking and continued to support me throughout in every department of my life.

I would also like to express special thanks to my supervisor Dr.KanwarFaraz for his help throughout my thesis and also for Motion Planning for Mobile Robots course which he has taught me. I can safely say that I haven't learned any other engineering subject in such depth than the ones which he has taught.

I would also like to pay special thanks to Dr. Shoab Ahmed Khan for his tremendous support and cooperation. Each time I got stuck in something, he came up with the solution. Without his help I wouldn't have been able to complete my thesis. I appreciate his patience and guidance throughout the whole thesis.

I would also like to thank Dr. Khurram Kamal and DrArslanShaukat for being on my thesis guidance and evaluation committee.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all the individuals who have rendered valuable assistance to my study.

Dedicated to my exceptional parents and adored siblings whose tremendous support and cooperation led me to this wonderful accomplishment

#### Abstract

Intelligent mobile robotic agents demand optimal motion planners with minimum query time. Most contemporary algorithms lack one of these two required aspects. We propose a cellular automata (CA) based efficient path planning scheme that generates optimal paths in minimum time. A Cellular automata is evolved over the entire environment and subsequently used for shortest path determination. This approach generates a parent-child relationship for each cell in order to minimize the search time. Analysis and simulation results have proven it to be a robust and a complete path planning scheme is robust and time efficient both in static and dynamic environments.

In the second part of the thesis, we discuss an estimation problem of players in a Robocup Small Size League based environment. RoboCup Small Size League provides with an interesting platform for research on Multi-agent Intelligent Systems in an adversarial environment, where the problems range from motion planning of robots to optimum decision making. An important aspect in robot soccer is to define the strategies that a team should follow in order to successfully execute a game of soccer. One approach to do this is to use the existing games to infer the behaviors shown by the robots of a certain team. Specifically, the behaviors shown by a certain robot during a game can be inferred and analyzed and may be even learnt to execute the game play during a game. We used a regression based approach to create models for certain robots based on the locations of the players in the field, using the data from the games of Robocup 2013.

Key Words: Motion Planning, Robotics, Cellular Automata, Linear Regression, Data, Robocup