

# Model-based Real-Time Estimation of Building Occupancy During Emergency Egress

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PED 2008 Presentation

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# Real-time Situational Awareness for Building Safety

*Issues: Complexity, real-time information synthesis, uncertainty*



Sensors Data

- Video
- Motion
- Smoke
- Access

Estimate

Information

Action

Control



- Fire and fire/smoke control
- Evacuation control

*Drivers*



Find & rescue people, find & suppress fire

First Responders need

**Simple, actionable, real time insight**

“Static” pre-plan information

Occupant and threat information

## Challenges/Barriers

Information volume (100's of heterogeneous sensors, 1000's of agents)  
Dynamically evolving situation (threat& response time scale overlap)  
Uncertainty (inaccurate, missing sensor data)

## Needs

Reduced-order models for real time applications  
Scalable and robust decision support algorithms  
Approaches for sensor network configuration optimization

# State-of-the-Art in Evacuation Dynamics Modeling

Egress Mode - L Building 2nd Floor

Time: 1 seconds

## Agent-Based Simulations

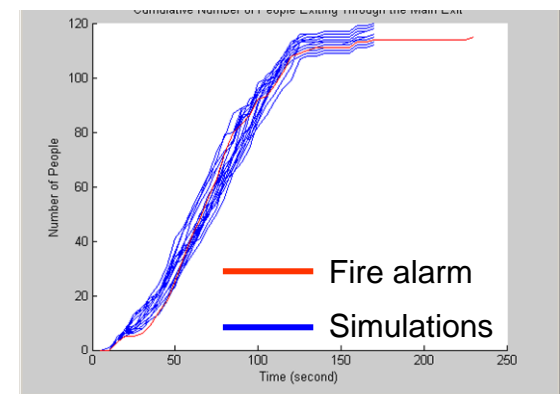
- Trajectories of individuals on fine grid simulated using parameters associated with speed and behavior
- Unsuitable for real-time applications or optimization in large-scale buildings (***need estimates in secs for response***)



UTRC ABM validation with fire drill experimental data\*



- 100+ occupants undertaking unannounced fire drill in 2-storey building
- 3 available exits

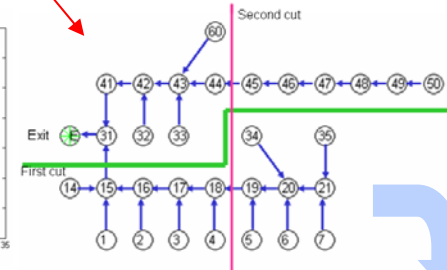
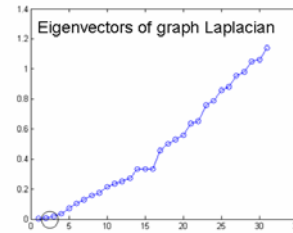
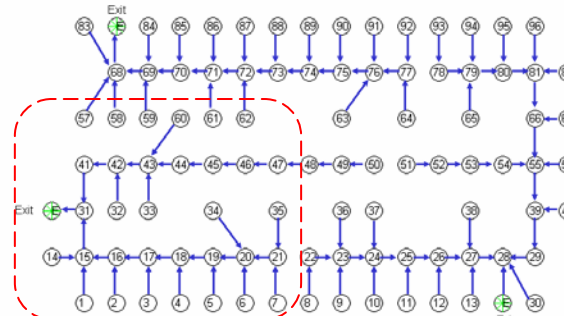
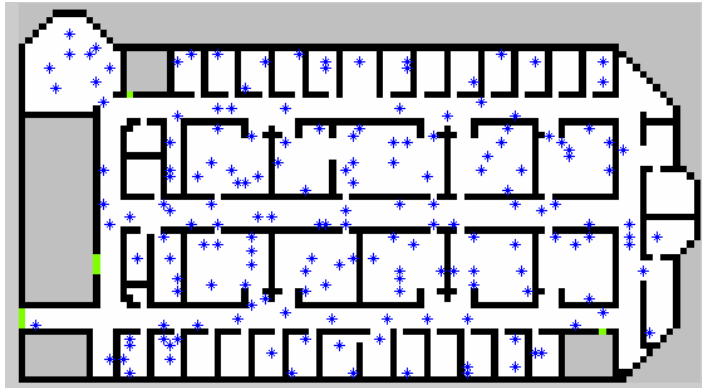


\*Lin et al. "Agent-based Simulation and Reduced-Order Modeling of Evacuation: An Office Building Case Study" PED2008 paper



# Reduced-order Models of Evacuation Dynamics

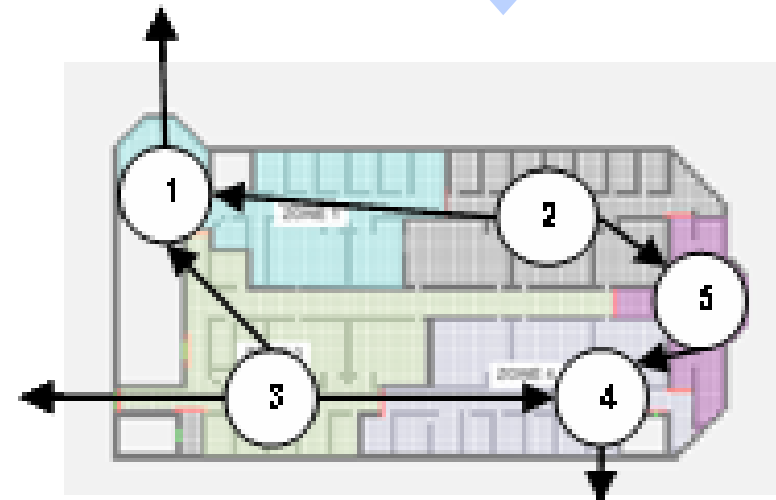
## “Coarse” Modeling\*



*Graph decomposition\**



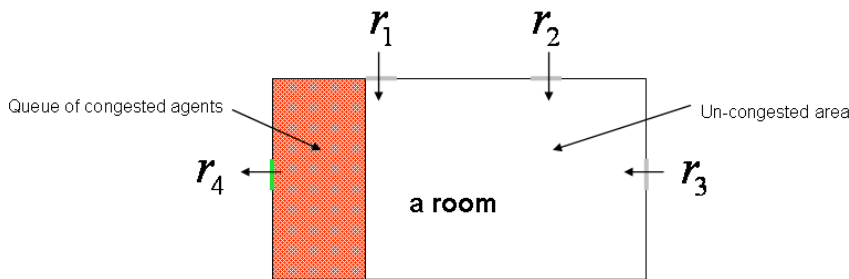
- Traffic dynamics represented on a graph
- Spatial resolution reduced
- Model accuracy deteriorates



\*Lin et al. “Agent-based Simulation and Reduced-Order Modeling of Evacuation: An Office Building Case Study” PED2008 paper

# Reduced-order Models of Evacuation Dynamics

## Kinetic Model<sup>+</sup>



$$x_{1q}(t+1) = x_{1q}(t) + \alpha_1 x_1(t) - r_4(t)$$

( $\alpha$  selected based on room size & agent walking speed – not tuned or empirical)

$$x_1(t+1) = (1 - \alpha_1) \cdot x_1(t) + r_1(t) + r_2(t) + r_3(t)$$

$$r_4(t) = f(x(t))$$

$f$  models congestion and is a function mainly of  $x_q$

$x_{1q}$  = # of agents in queue

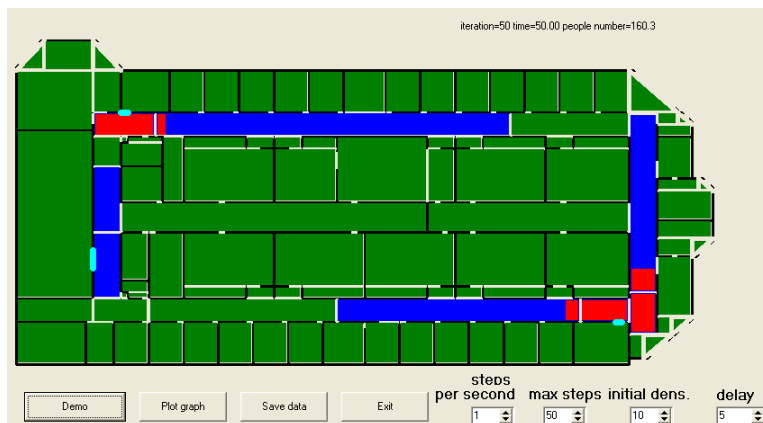
$x_1$  = # of agents in un-congested area

$r_i$  = # of agents moving through a door

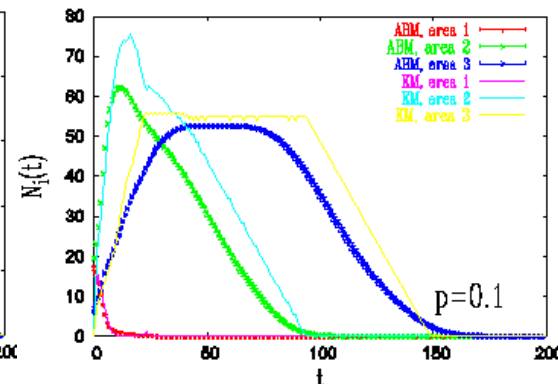
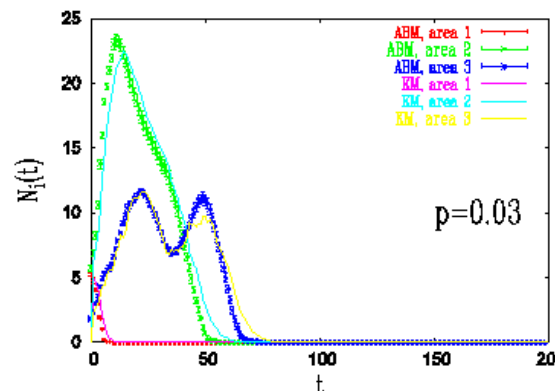
$$\frac{dx_{\text{int}}}{dt} = J_{\text{ag}} - J_{\text{vac}}$$

Interface movement is balance of agents & vacancy flux

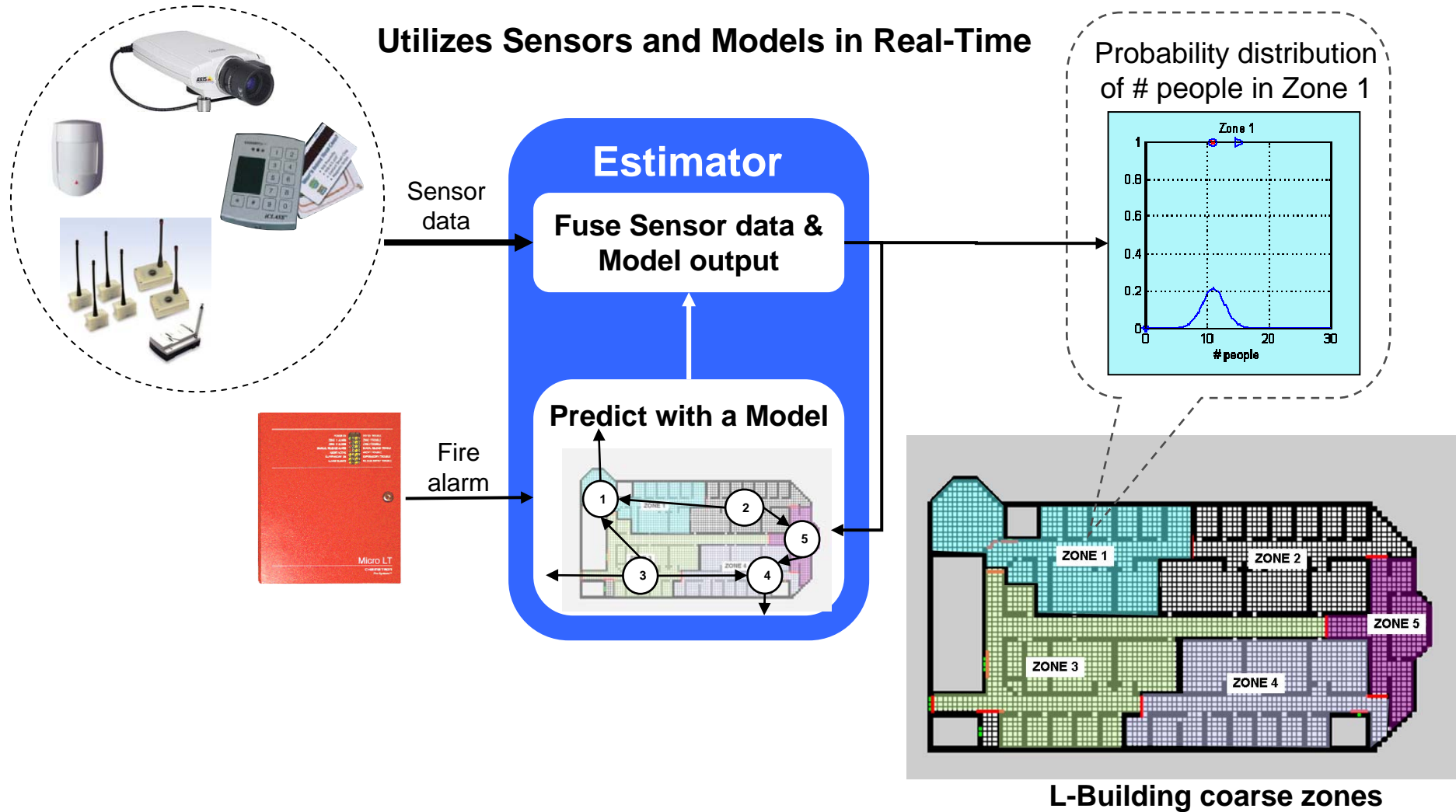
- Models vacancies in congested regions and agents in “rarified” regions
- Enables real-time estimation (3 orders of magnitude faster than ABM)
- Loss of accuracy minimal



## Comparison to ABM in uncongested & dense regions



# Concept for Real-Time Occupancy Estimation

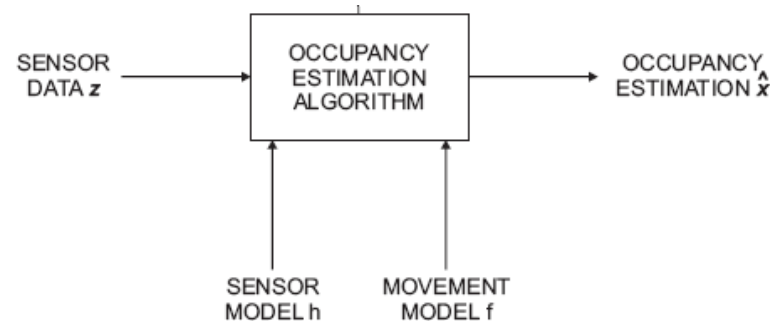


# Occupancy Estimator Using Extended Kalman Filter (EKF)

- People-movement model: state variable model

$$x(k+1) = f(k, x(k)) + v(k)$$

- $k$  = time index
- $x(k)$  = vector of people occupancy in each site / zone
- $v(k)$  = process noise
- $f$  = a general non-linear function, traffic model in state space form



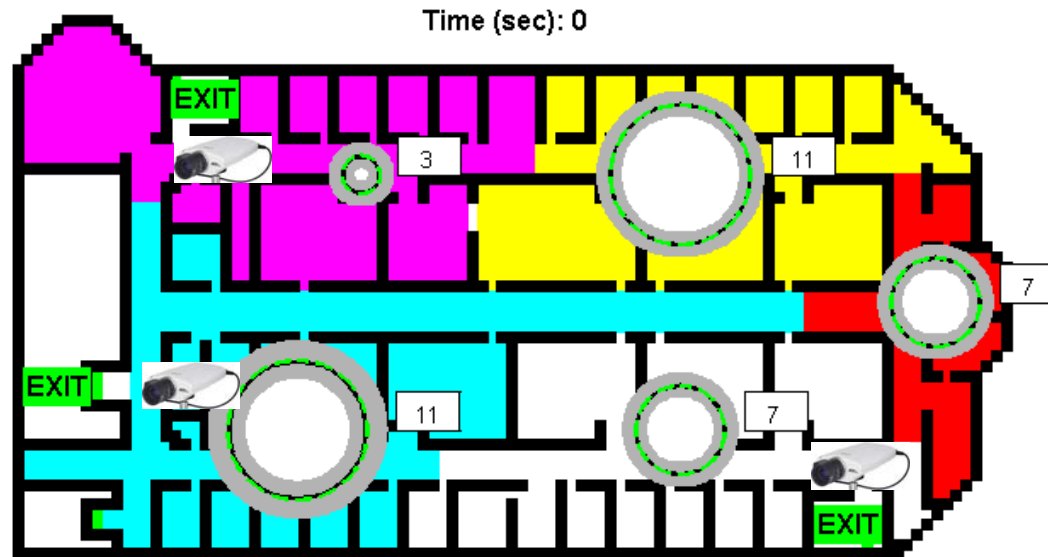
- Linearize state model at each time step around current state estimate, and use standard Kalman filter, which is optimal for linear systems
- EKF provides estimate of mean value and the state covariance
- Initialization of EKF at time of alarm: use sensor-only estimate



# Real-Time Occupancy Estimation Demonstration

*Proof-of-concept of real-time estimation demonstrated during fire drill*

Egress Mode - L Building 2nd Floor



Mean Error in no. of people per zone

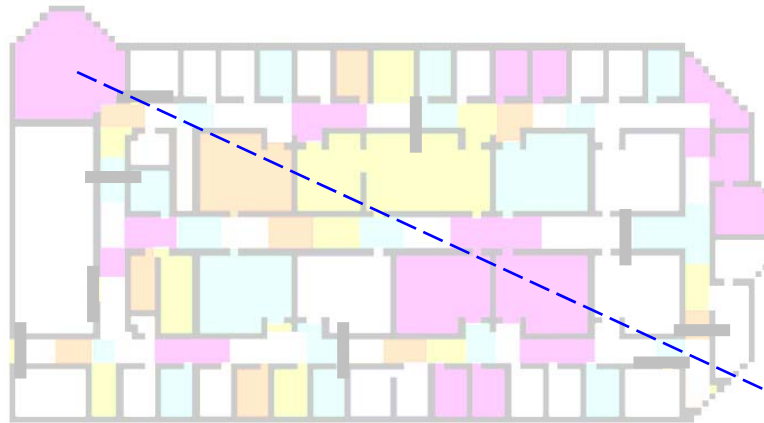
Estimator	9 Cameras	3 Cameras
Sensor only	1.5	5.3
Model+Sensor (EKF)	1.0	1.4

- Occupancy estimator tracks measured data well
- Occupancy estimates from combining models & sensor data superior to & robust when compared to using sensors only
- Computational complexity scales with  $N_{\text{sensors}}^3$ , not with  $N_{\text{people}}$ ,  $N_{\text{rooms}}$ , Building size

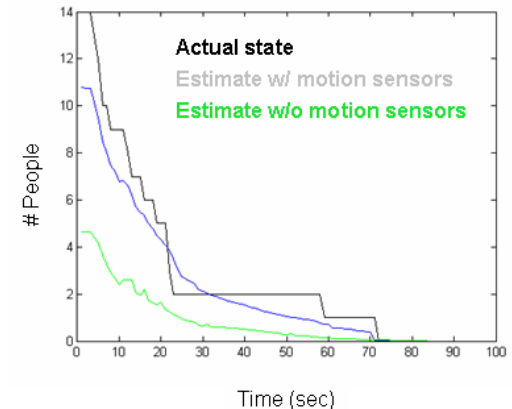


# Simulation of Room-Level Occupancy Estimation

Layout of Building  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor



Estimator	Mean Error avg per <b>room</b> over all time and sim runs	Mean Error avg per <b>zone</b> over all time and sim runs
Sensor only (3 cameras)	0.35	4.9
EKF w/ KM, 3 cameras	0.14	1.1
EKF w/ KM, 3 cameras, motion sensors in each office/conference room	0.08	0.9



# Concluding Remarks



**Chubb**

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- Reduced-order models of evacuation in combination with data can provide substantially higher accuracy and robust estimates of occupancy for real-time use
- Computational complexity scales with  $N_{\text{sensors}}^3$ , not with  $N_{\text{people}}$ ,  $N_{\text{rooms}}$ , Building size
- Even use of relatively inexpensive and inaccurate sensors (e.g. motion sensors) when used with traffic models can be effective (40% estimation error reduction)
  - Challenge is to enable information exchange among disparate systems cost effectively: fire/safety, security and lighting
- Other advances made leading to estimation performance improvement:
  - Utilizing constraints (such as door/exit width) in estimate variance computation
  - Use of people flow as state variable (eliminate bias error)
  - Projection of EKF estimate onto the feasible space ( $0 \leq \text{occupancy} \leq \text{room size}$ , and  $\text{people flow} \leq \text{max flow}$ ), enforcing constraints such as positivity of state variable and conservation of number of people in building
- Need approach for occupancy estimate at time of fire alarm (initial conditions)
  - Estimator that uses a *model of traffic during normal building operations*

# Back up

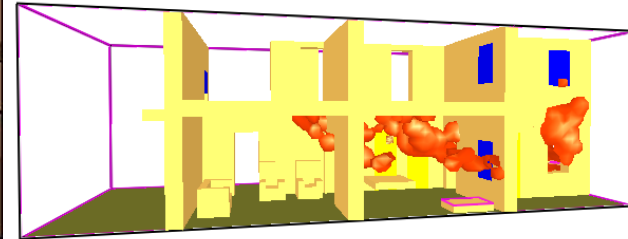
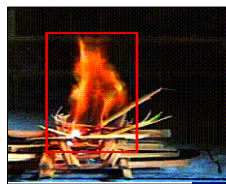
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# Simulation Results Using Motion Sensors

Estimator	Mean Error avg per <b>room</b> over all time and sim runs	Mean Error avg per <b>zone</b> over all time and sim runs
Sensor only (3 cameras, no motion sensors)	0.29	2.8
EKF w/KM, 3 cameras, no motion sensors	0.18	1.9
EKF w/KM, 3 cameras, and a motion sensor in every office and conference room	0.10	1.0

# Building Emergency Response Problem

## Enablers: Analytical methods



Data processing and fusion

Dynamic models of traffic and fire/smoke propagation

Sensors: Data:



- Video
- Motion
- Smoke
- Access

People

Threat

Drivers



Simplify

Information

First Responders need

- Simple, actionable information about occupant, threat situation & building



Action

Control

- HVAC & fire/smoke control
- Evacuation control

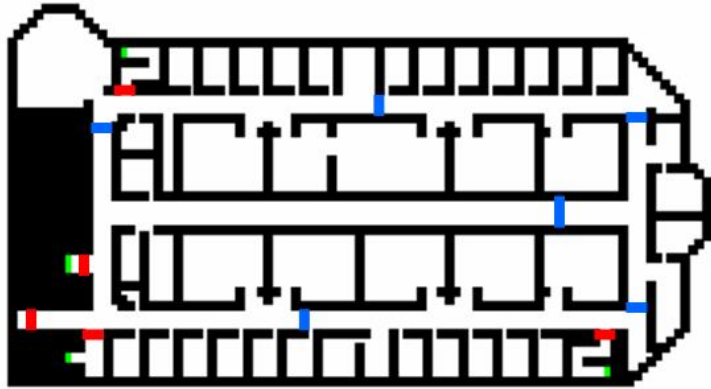


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Technologies

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# People Estimation Problem Definition

- Sensors: video cameras with Lenel intelligent video for directional people counting



Axis 206 video camera



Axis 211 video camera

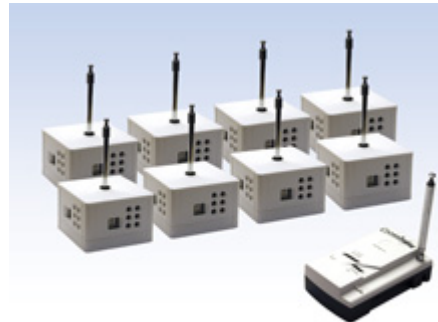


Source: <http://www.axis.com>

Red Lines

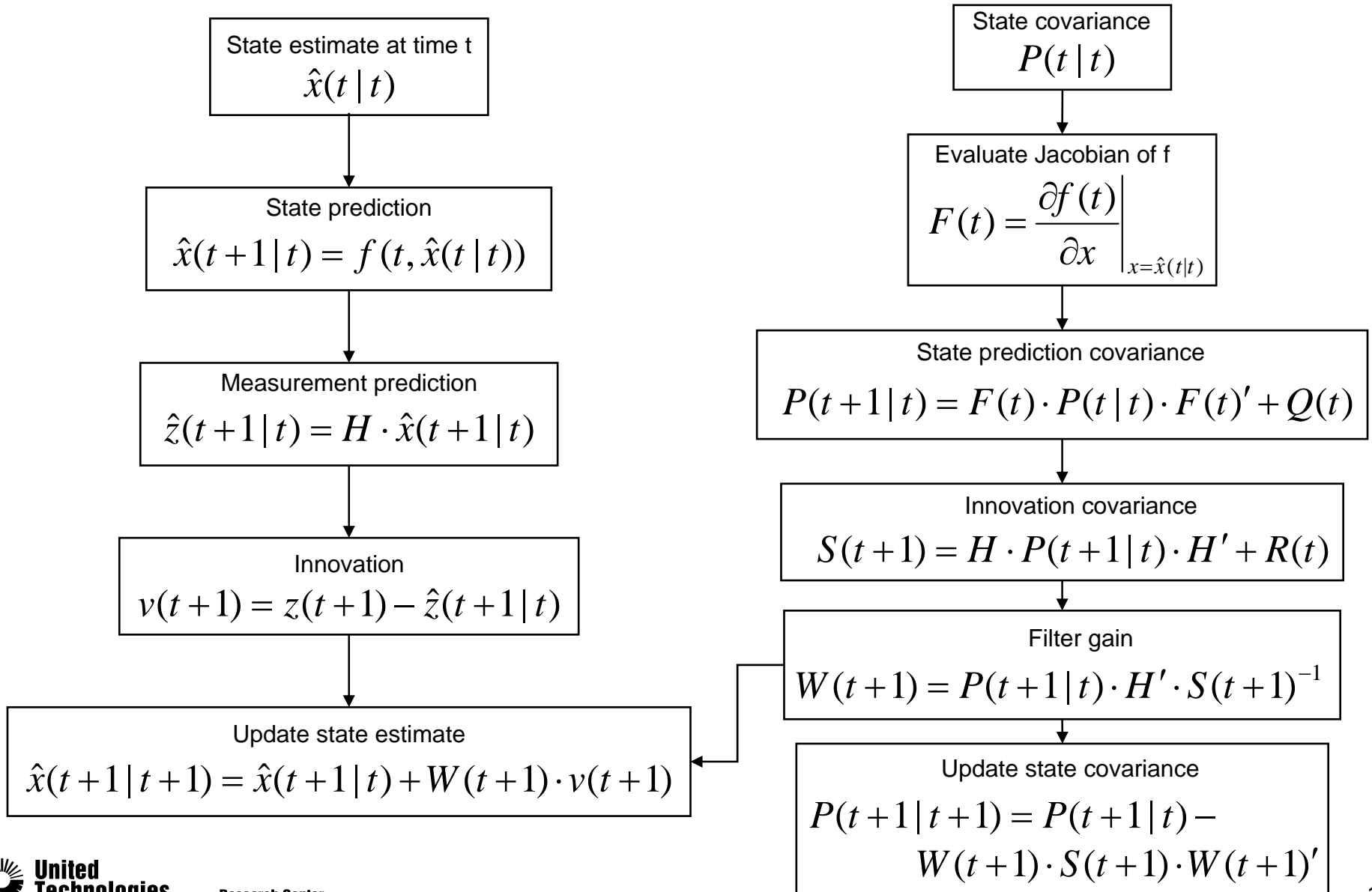
Blue Lines

- Sensors: PIR motion sensors on motes, located in each office and conference room



(motes installed at UTRC are a different model than shown)

# Extended Kalman Filtering Algorithm





# UTC Lenel Intelligent Video (IV) Products

## People Counting Algorithm

The screenshot shows the 'People Counting: UTRC Camera 2 241Q' window. It features a video feed of a hallway with a yellow 'Virtual line' and a red arrow indicating the counting direction. A table titled 'Output' shows the following data:

Output	Value	Min	Max
People Entered	2		
People Exited	0		

Below the video feed, there is an 'Event Thumbnail View' showing two clips of events with timestamps: 3/28/2006 8:39:32 AM and 3/28/2006 8:39:33 AM. The interface also includes a 'Channel Configuration...' dialog box with a 'Crossing Direction' dropdown set to 'Direction A'.

## Facility Utilization Application

The screenshot shows the 'Facility Utilization' window. It has tabs for 'Current Status' and 'History'. The 'Current Status' tab is active, showing the following information:

- Application Status: Active
- People Counts:
  - Entry Counter: 22
  - Exit Counter: 2
  - Occupancy Counter: 20
- Reference time: 9/22/2005 8:00:00 AM
- Last Occupancy Reset: 9/22/2005 9:19:06 AM
- Counter Refresh: ☒ Refresh every 10 seconds

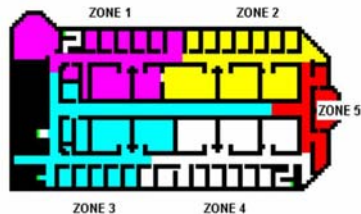
The interface includes buttons for 'Reset Now...', 'Refresh Now', 'Help', and 'Close'.

Counts people, using IV on look-down cameras at various "gates," and adds / subtracts people as they pass through gates. Useful when order of magnitude of in/out flow is comparable to the occupancy.

# Summary of Real-time Occupancy Estimation Schemes

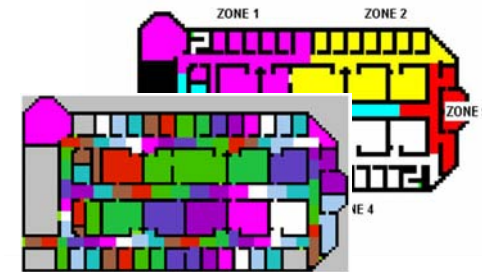
## “Coarse” Model-based Estimation

Coarse zones only

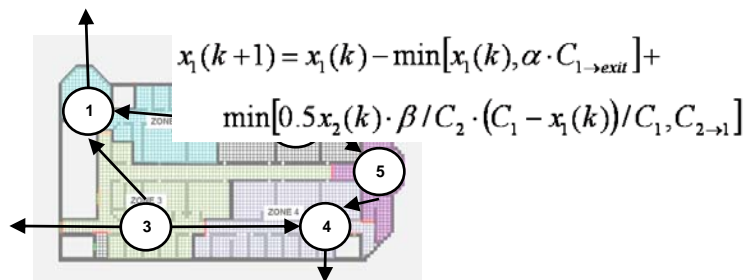


## Kinetic Model-based Estimation

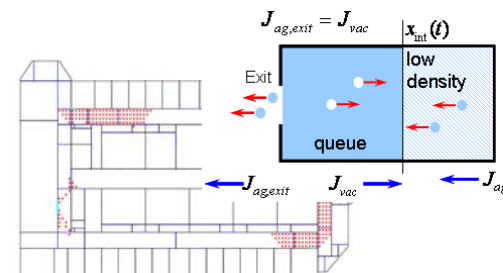
Hierarchical: room, zone, floor, building



Simplified Model of People Movement



Kinetic Model of People Movement



Sensors for Directional People-Counting



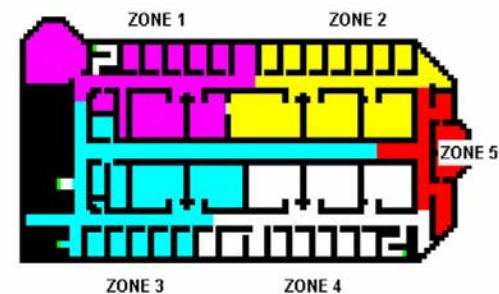
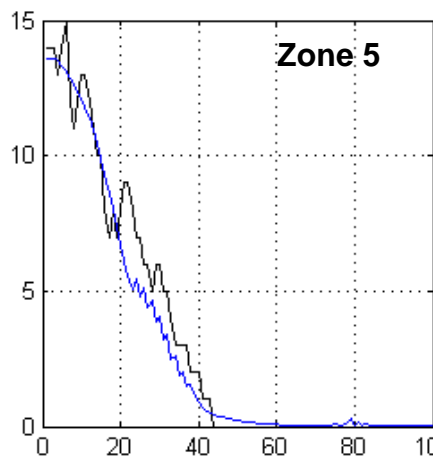
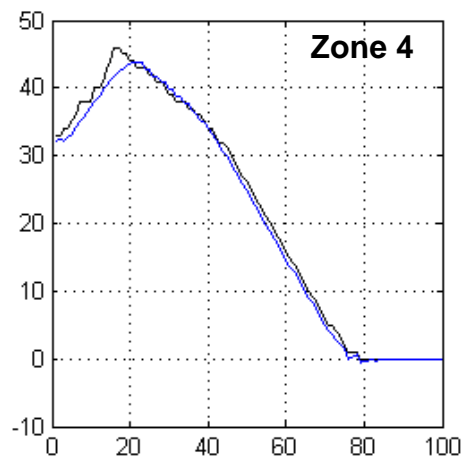
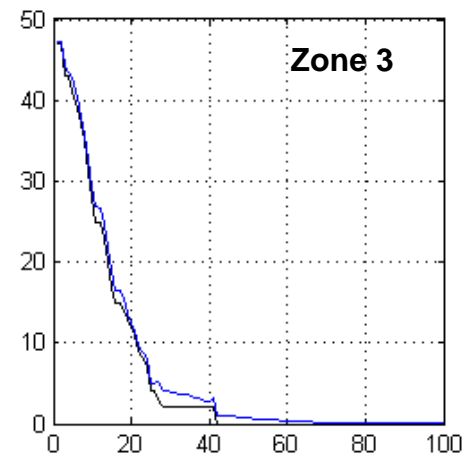
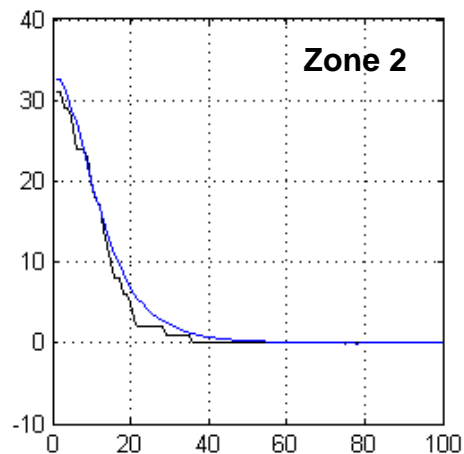
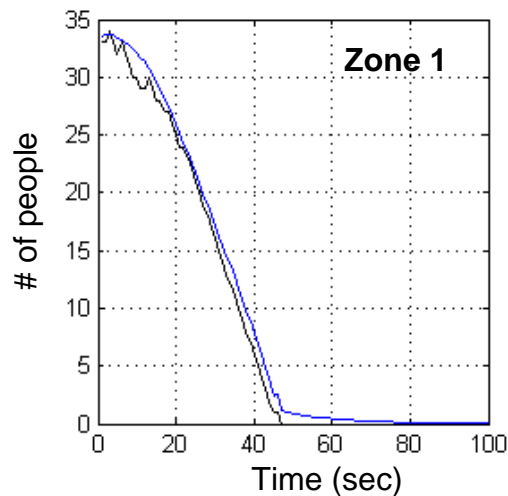
Sensors for Occupancy Level



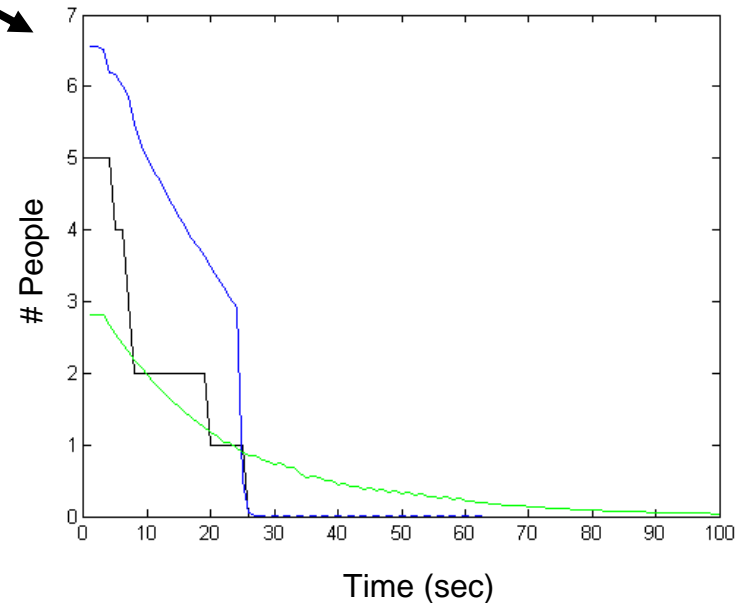
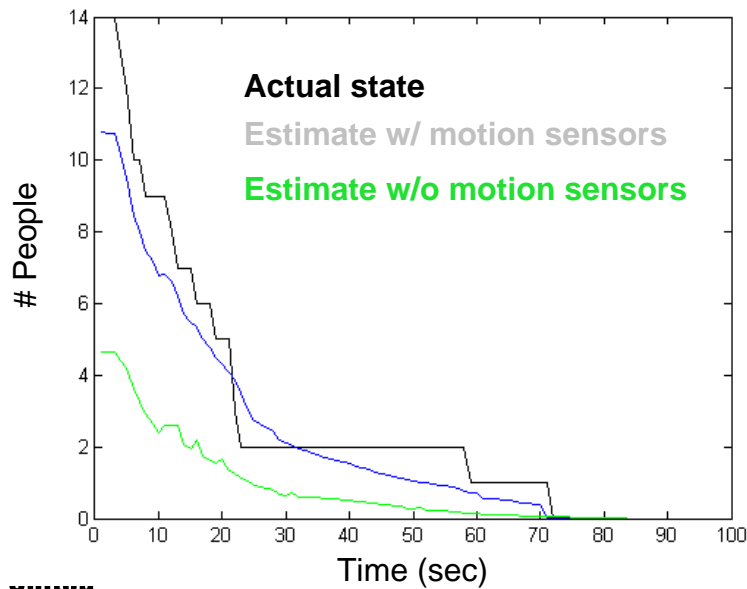
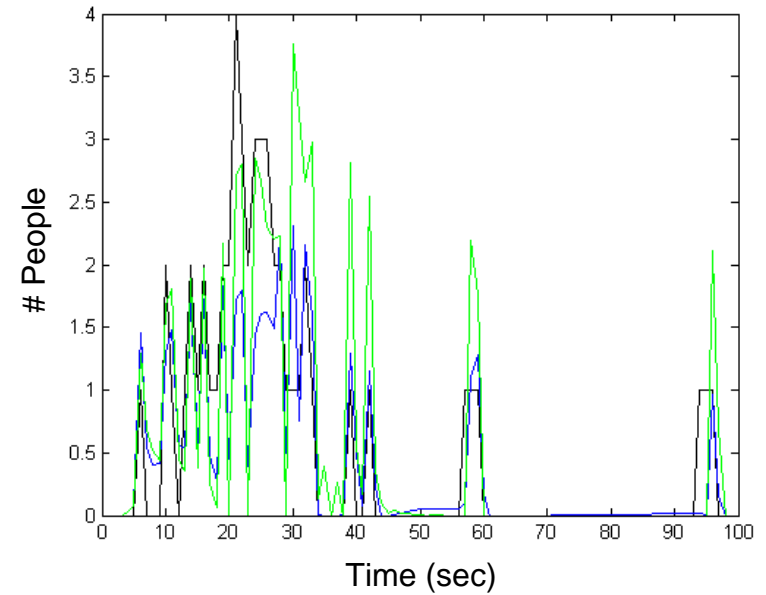
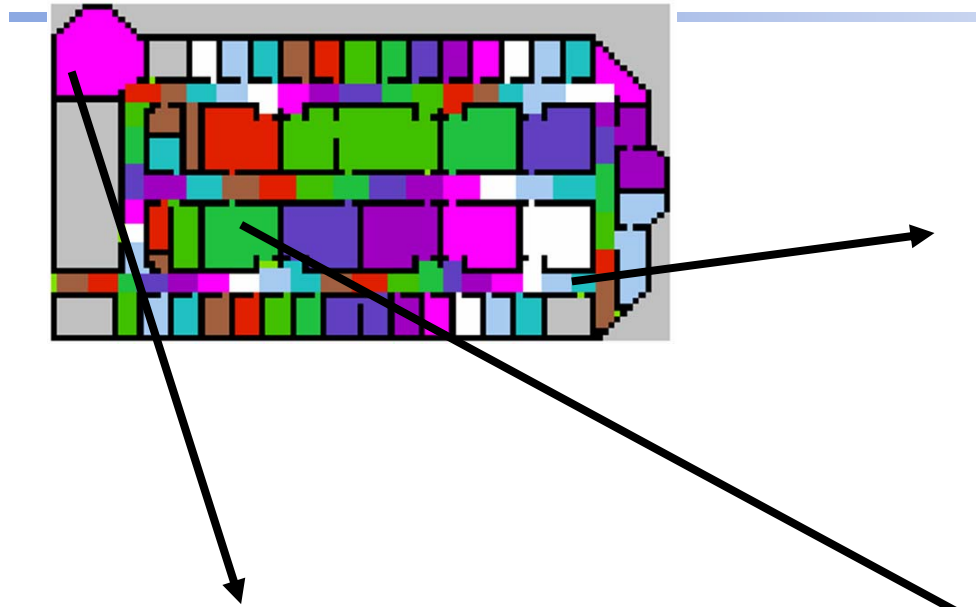
# Example Simulation Run (3 cameras)

**Black = actual**  
**Blue = estimate**

## Zone-level estimates



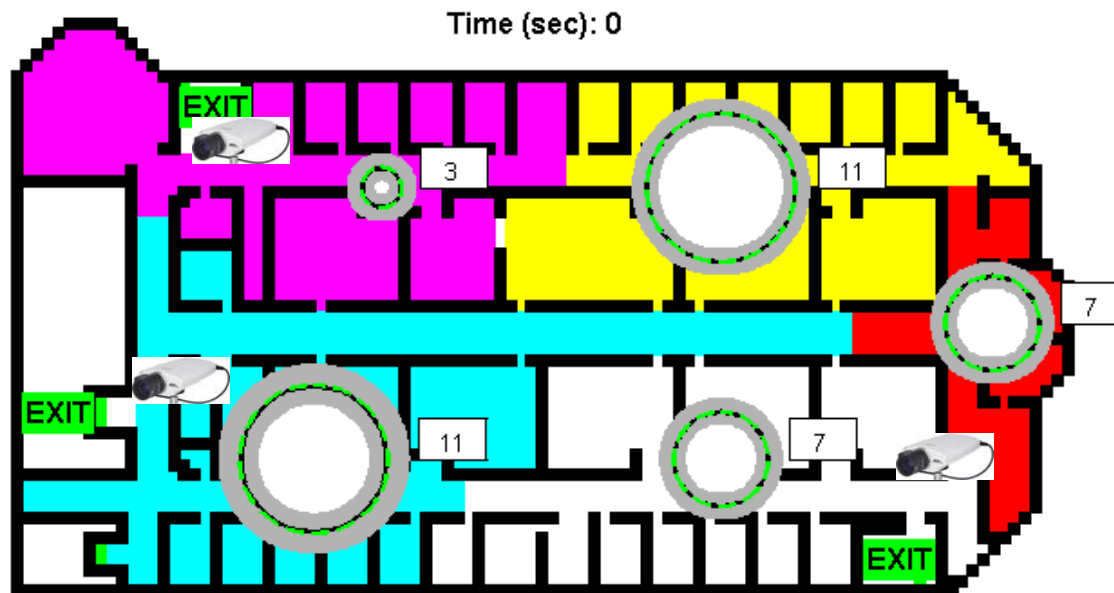
# Example Simulation Run



# Real-Time Occupancy Estimation Demonstration

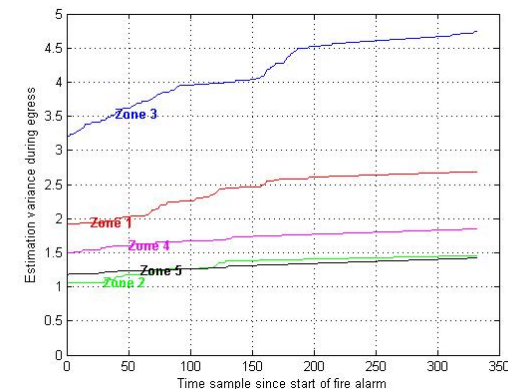
*Proof-of-concept of real-time estimation demonstrated during fire drill*

Egress Mode - L Building 2nd Floor

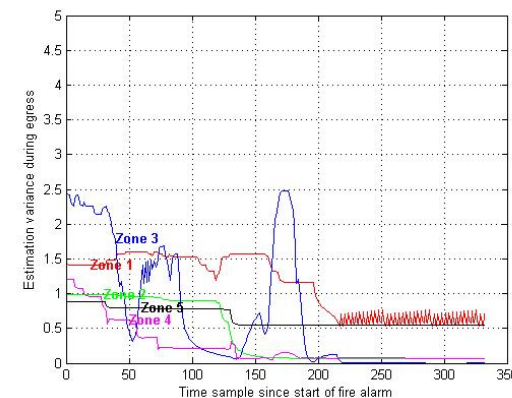


- Occupancy estimator tracks measured data well
- Occupancy estimates from combining models and sensor data superior to and robust when compared to using sensors only
- Computational complexity scales with  $(\# \text{ of sensors})^3$ , not with  $\# \text{ rooms}$ , square feet,  $\# \text{ people}$

Sensor-only estimate variance



Model-based estimate variance

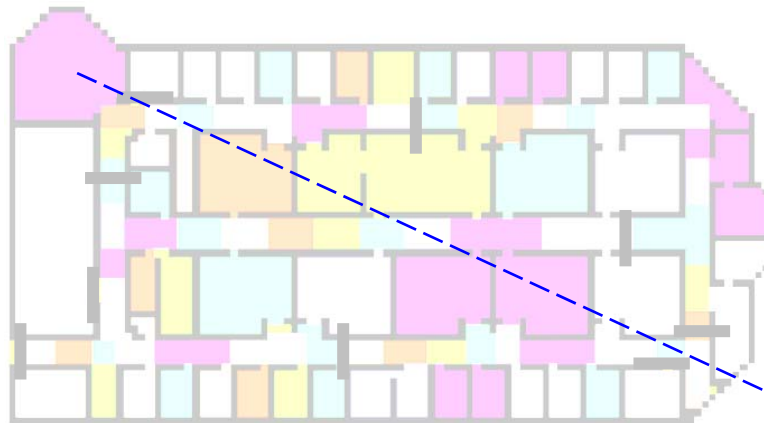


Mean Error in no. of people per zone

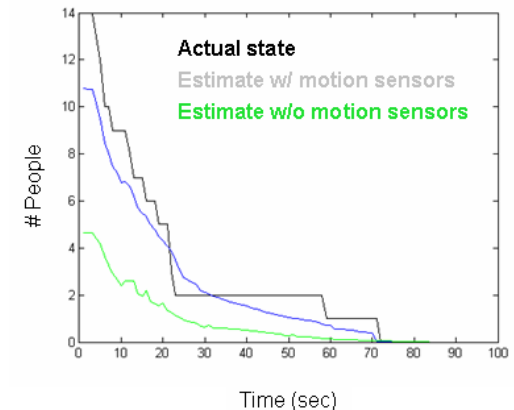
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Sensor only	1.5	5.3
Model+Sensor (EKF)	1.0	1.4

# Simulation of Room-Level Occupancy Estimation

Layout of Building  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor



Estimator	# Cameras	Mean Error, # of people (avg per zone over all time and 500 sim runs)
Sensor only	9	1.5
EKF w/ "coarse" model	9	1.0
EKF w/ KM	9	0.8
Sensor only	3	5.3
EKF w/ "coarse" model	3	1.4
EKF w/ KM	3	0.9



# Role of Constraints in Estimation

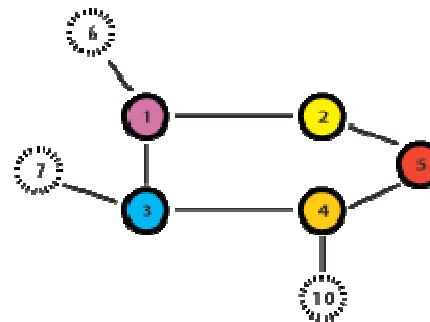
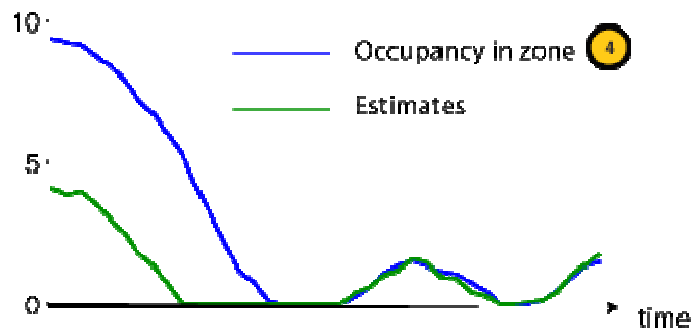
*Any linear model of occupancy is not observable based on flow measurements*

- Missing information can be recovered by including 1. Prior knowledge of occupancy preferences, and 2. Hard constraints on occupancy
- Kalman filter can be posed as a quadratic program. The introduction of constraints and preferences leads to an effective algorithm:

$$\arg \min \left\{ \underset{\text{Subject to Network constraints}}{\mathcal{P}_0(\phi_0)} + \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \left( \underset{\text{Initial condition}}{\mathcal{P}_y(\phi_t, y_t)} + \underset{\text{Sensor confidence}}{\mathcal{P}_x(\phi_{t+1}, \phi_t)} - \underset{\text{Dynamics}}{\mathcal{U}_x(\phi_t)} \right) \right\}$$

Utility

- During egress: “preference for movement to exit”
- Preferences for walking speed, proximity, path
- Clustering, Lane formation
- Continuity: Avoid drastic direction change
- *Behavior dependence on age, mobility, aggressiveness...*



*Initial occupancy error of 200% corrected using projection (non-negativity constraints)*