

# Multi-Robot Collaborative Dense Scene Reconstruction

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Matthias Nießner<sup>8</sup> Baoquan Chen<sup>3</sup>

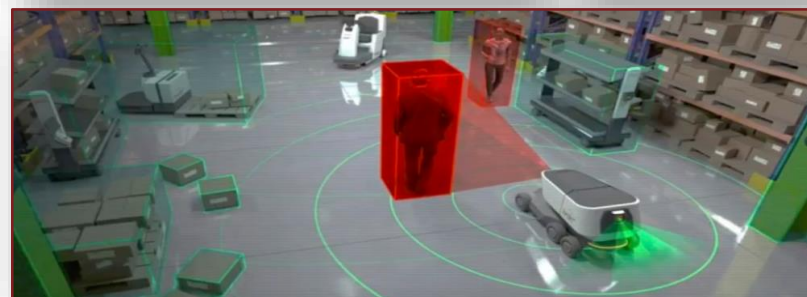
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<sup>4</sup>AICFVE Beijing Film Academy   <sup>5</sup>Google Inc.   <sup>6</sup>University of Victoria

<sup>7</sup>University of Waterloo   <sup>8</sup>Technical University of Munich

# Background

## Scanning the World



3D content creation

robotics

# Background

## Real-Time 3D Reconstruction

Hardware



Kinect

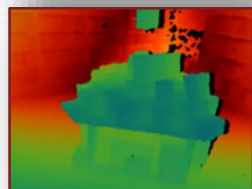


Xtion

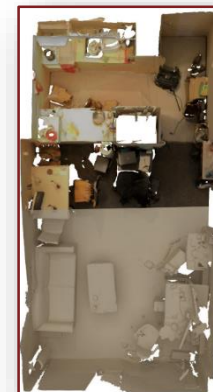
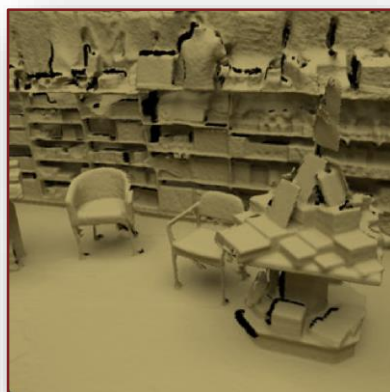


RealSense

Software



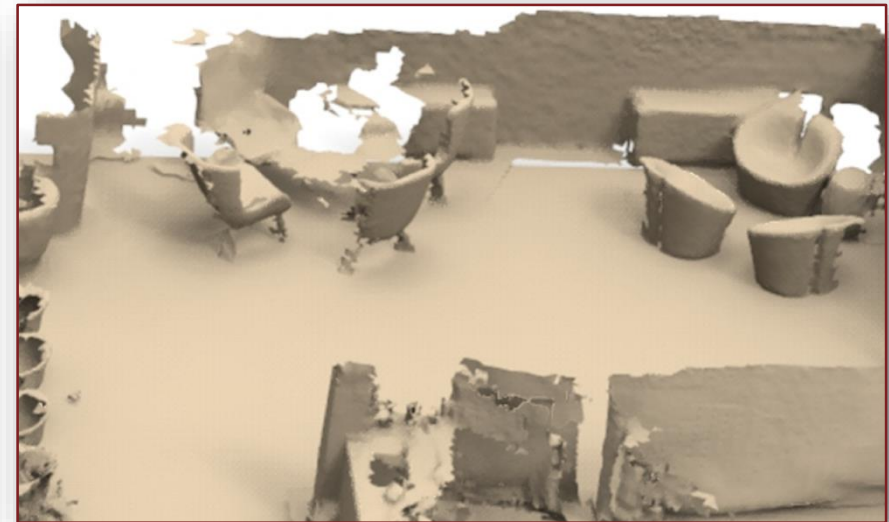
VoxelHashing [Nießner et al.]



BundleFusion [Dai et al.]

# Problems

## Hardly User-Friendly



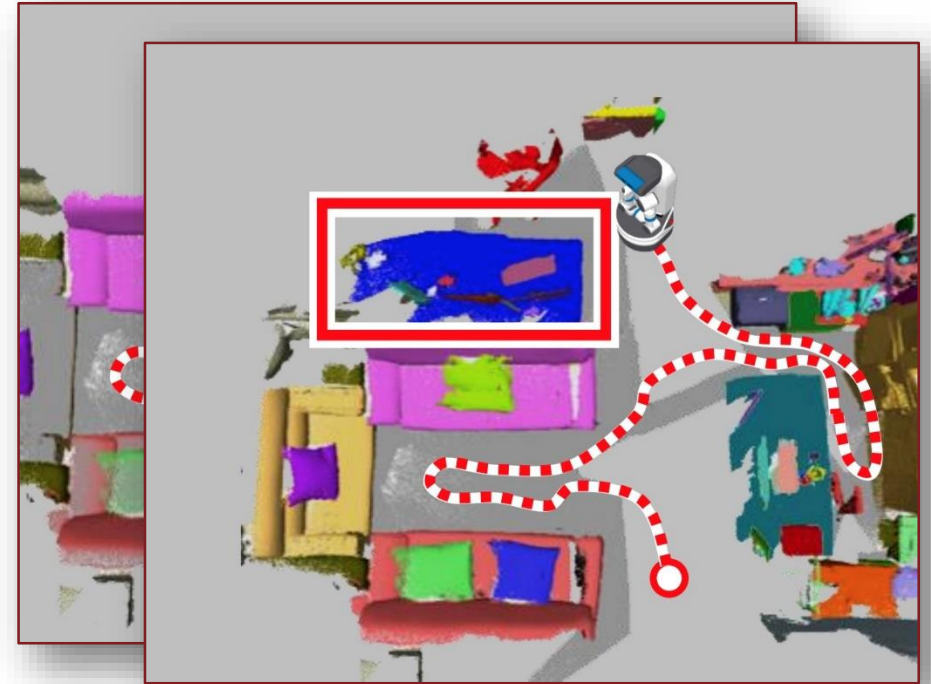
Reconstructions suffer from incomplete regions scanned by a rookie user.

# Motivation

## Auto-Scan



Xu et al. SIGGRAPH Asia 2015



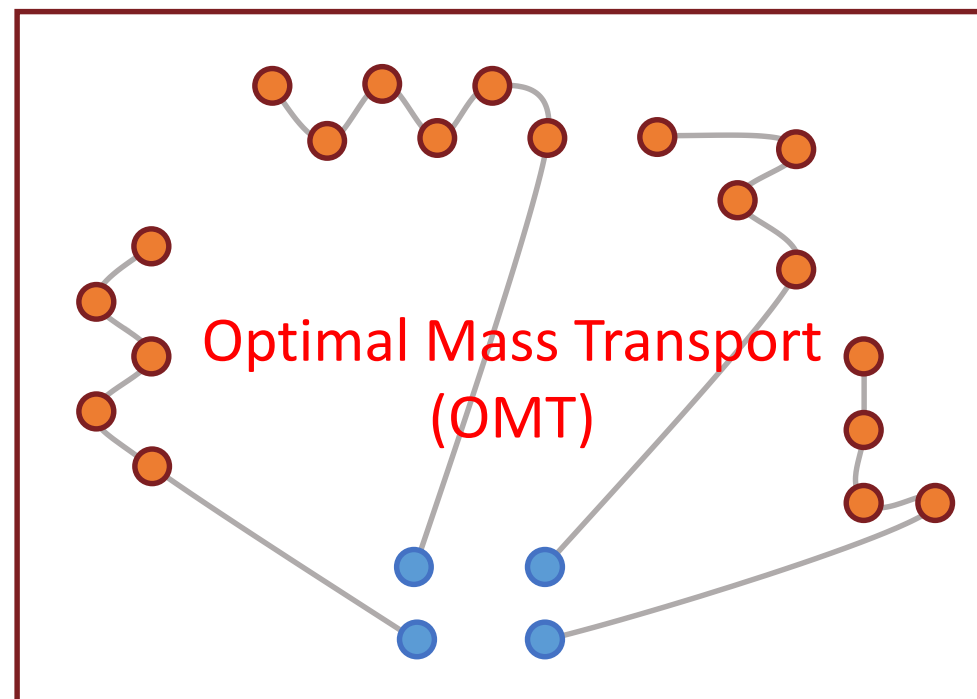
Liu et al. SIGGRAPH 2018

# Motivation

## Multi-Robot Collaborative Auto-Scan



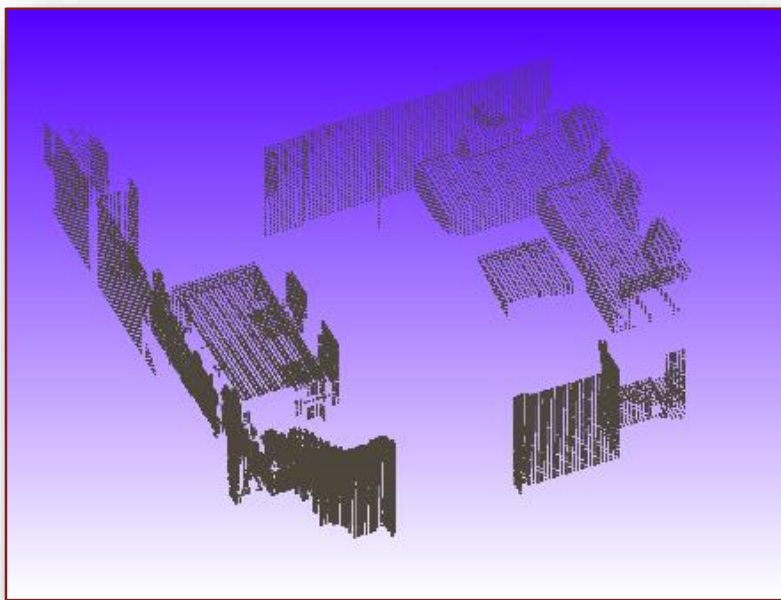
Progressive Reconstruction



● scanning resources

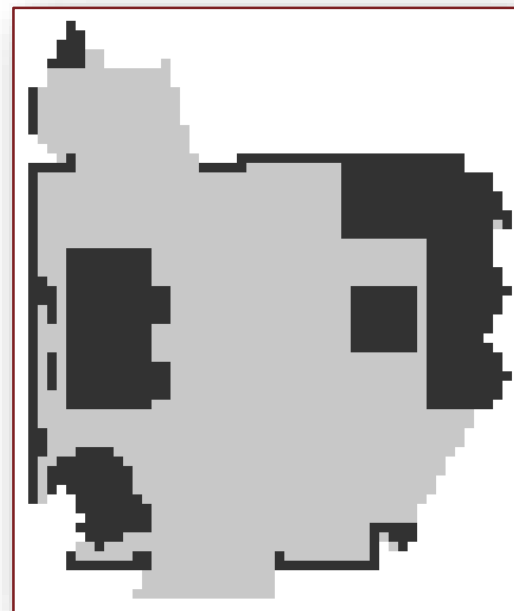
● scanning targets

## Problem Statement



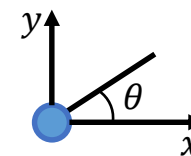
Reconstructed Region

Project to  
Floor Plane

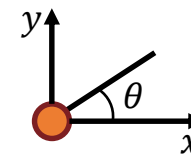


2D Occupancy Map

Robot Poses  $\mathcal{R}_1, \dots, \mathcal{R}_R$ .  
 $\mathcal{R}_i = (x_i, y_i, \theta_i) \in SE(2)$

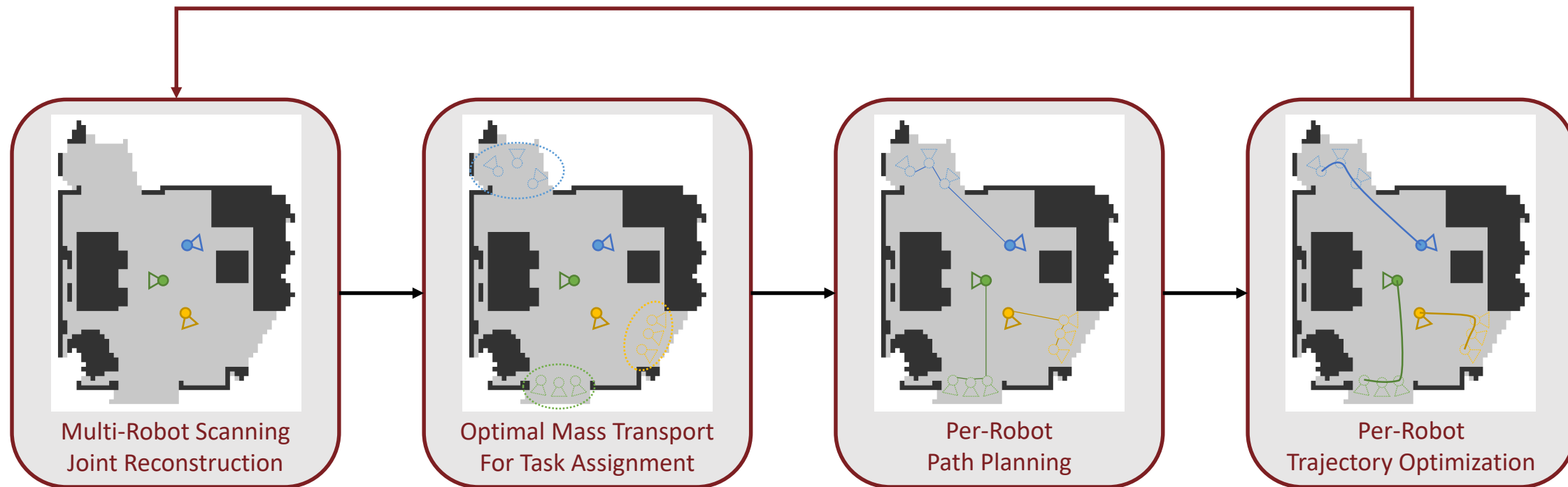


Scanning tasks  $\mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_T$ .  
 $\mathcal{T}_j = (x_j, y_j, \theta_j) \in SE(2)$



# Method

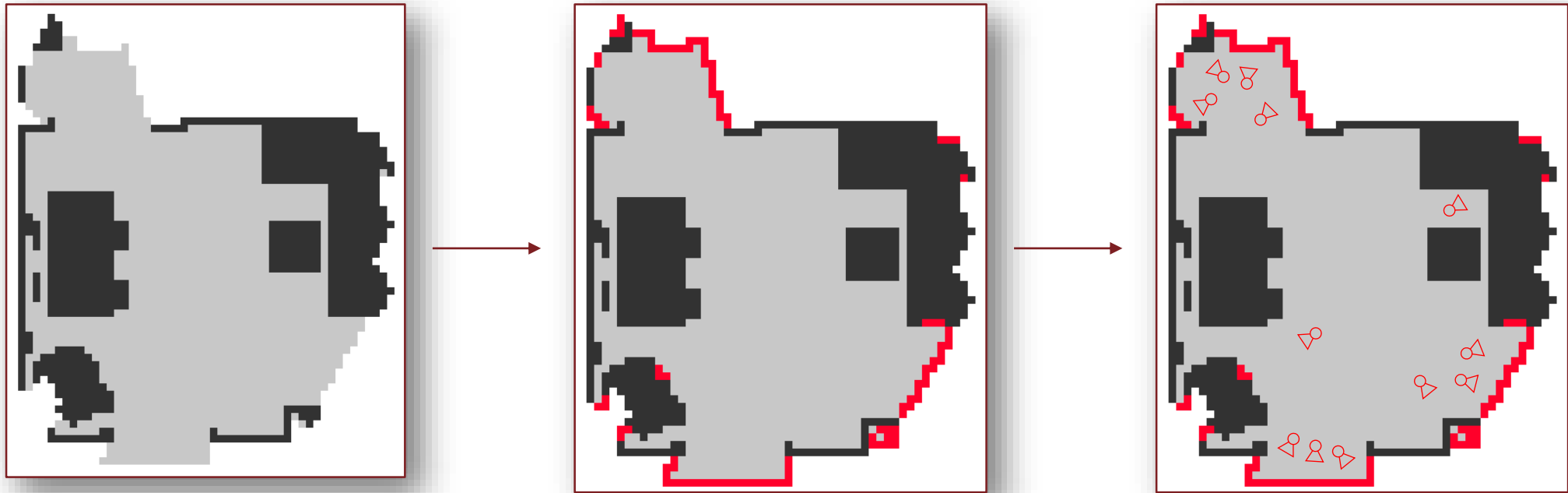
## Pipeline: Scanning $\Rightarrow$ Planning



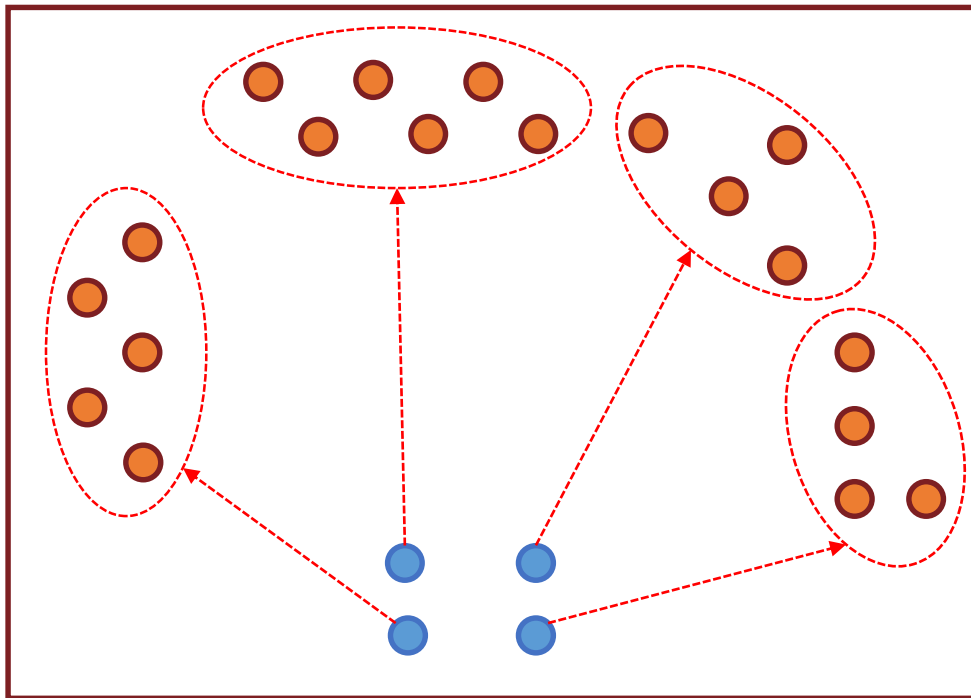


# Method

## Scanning Task Extraction



## Collaboration Objective Formulation



● sources    ● targets

Spatial distribution of robots as sources  $\mu_{source}$

Spatial distribution of tasks as targets  $\mu_{target}$

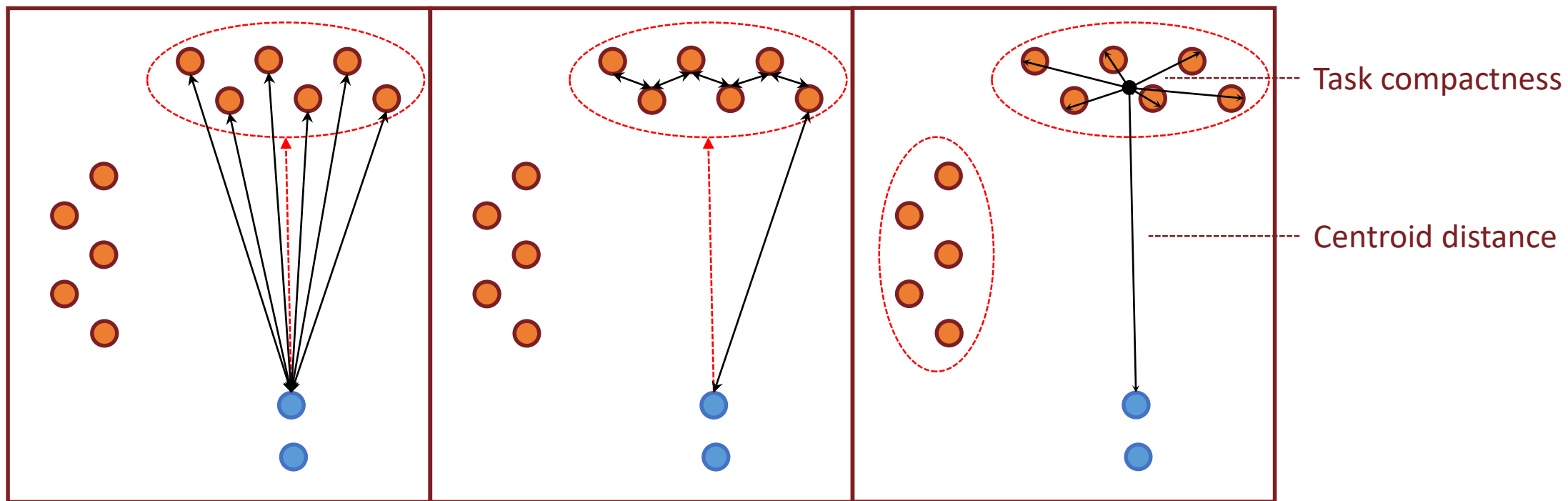
Finding a mapping  $T$  that minimize the objective:

$$\arg \min_T \int_{x \in SE(2)} \gamma(x, T(x)) d\mu_{source}$$

$$T: \mu_{source} \rightarrow \mu_{target}$$

# Method

## Cost Function Approximation



Distance from robot to task

Traveling Salesman Problem  
(TSP)

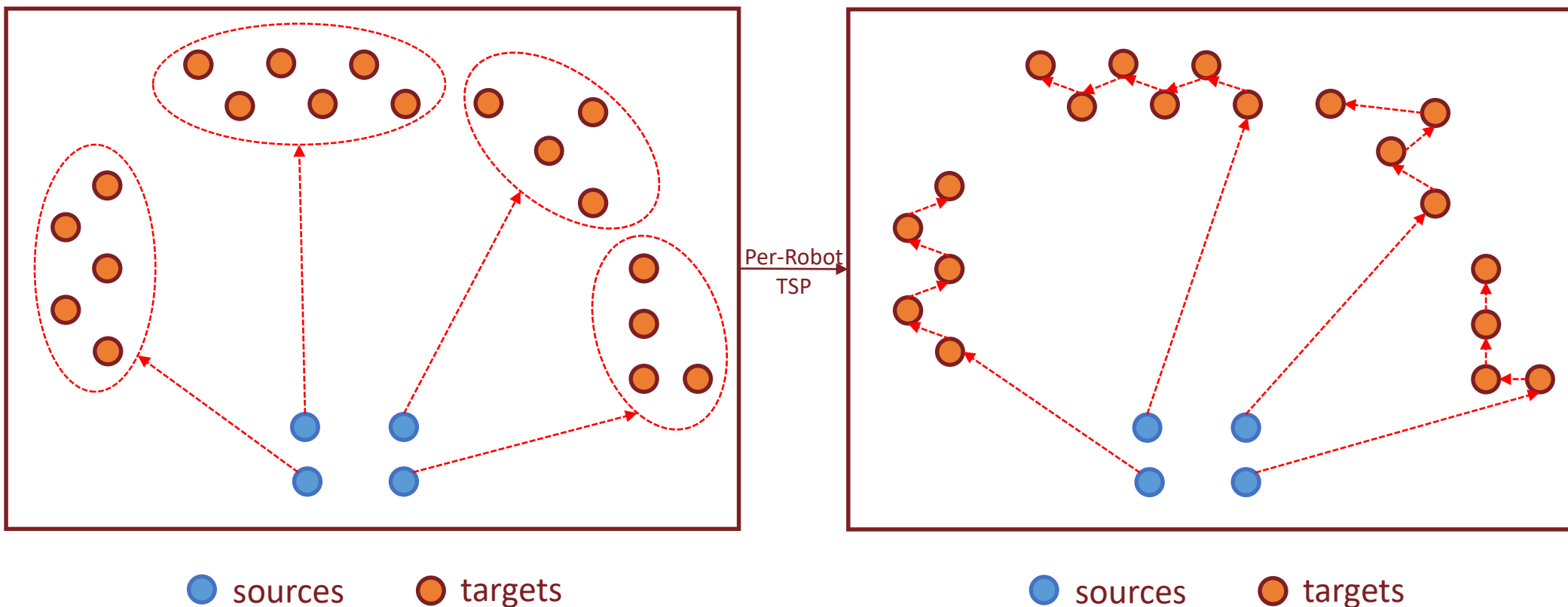
Approximation

## Optimal Mass Transport(OMT) Formulation

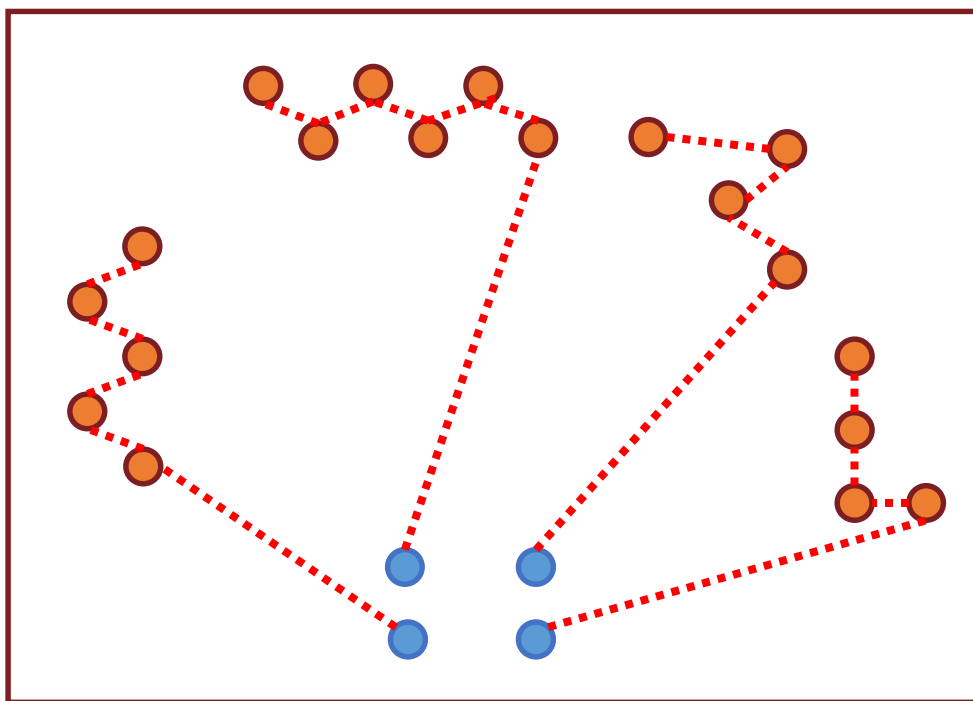
$$\min_T \underbrace{\sum_{r=1}^R \sum_{\mathcal{J}_k \in \Omega_r} \gamma(\mathcal{J}_k, \omega_r)}_{\text{compactness}} + \underbrace{\sum_{r=1}^R \gamma(\mathcal{R}_r, \omega_r)}_{\text{distance}} + \underbrace{\sum_{r=1}^R (|\Omega_r - C_r|)^2}_{\text{capacity}}$$

# Method

## Per-Robot Path Planning



## Per-Robot Trajectory Optimization



● sources    ● targets

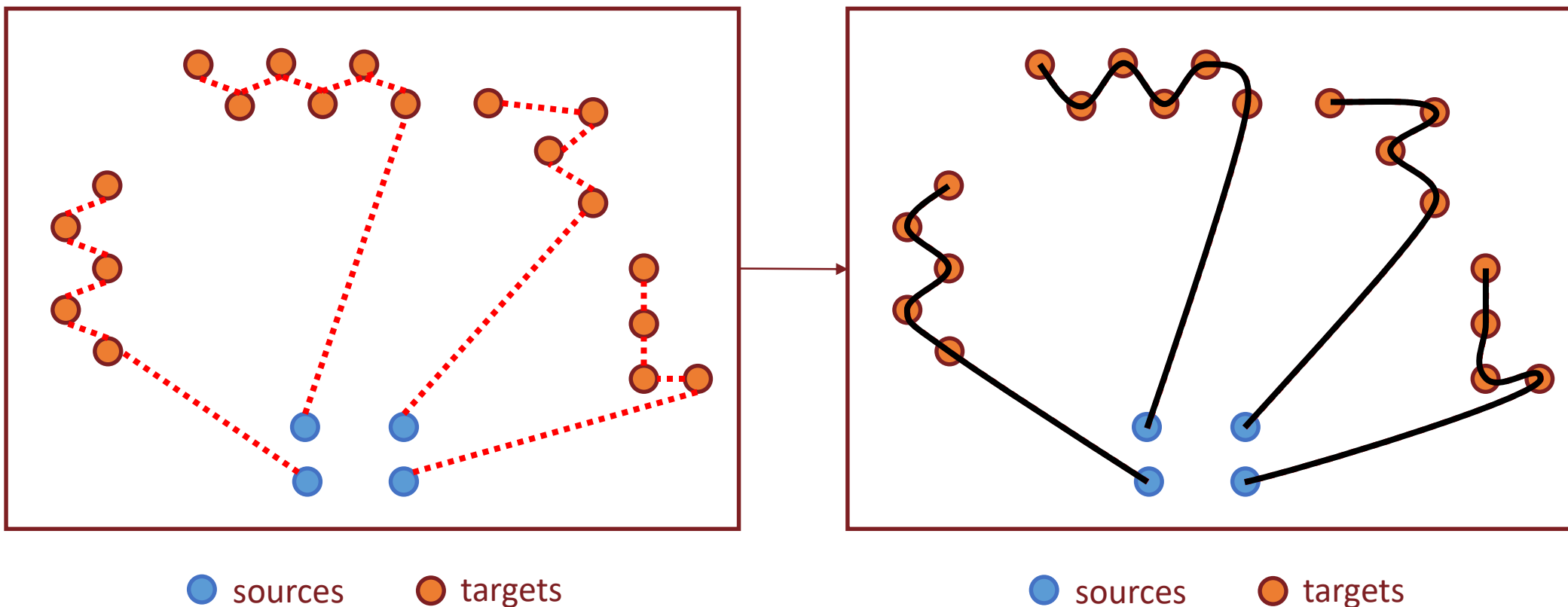
For each path, sample a sequence of points  
 $P_r = \{P_1, \dots, P_N\}$

Optimize point positions by minimizing the energy function

$$\arg \min_{P_r} \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \frac{2}{\eta(p_i) + \eta(p_{i+1})} \|p_i - p_{i+1}\|^2}_{\text{smooth}} + \lambda \underbrace{\sum_{t \in T_r} \|p_t - p_t^0\|^2}_{\text{penalty}}$$

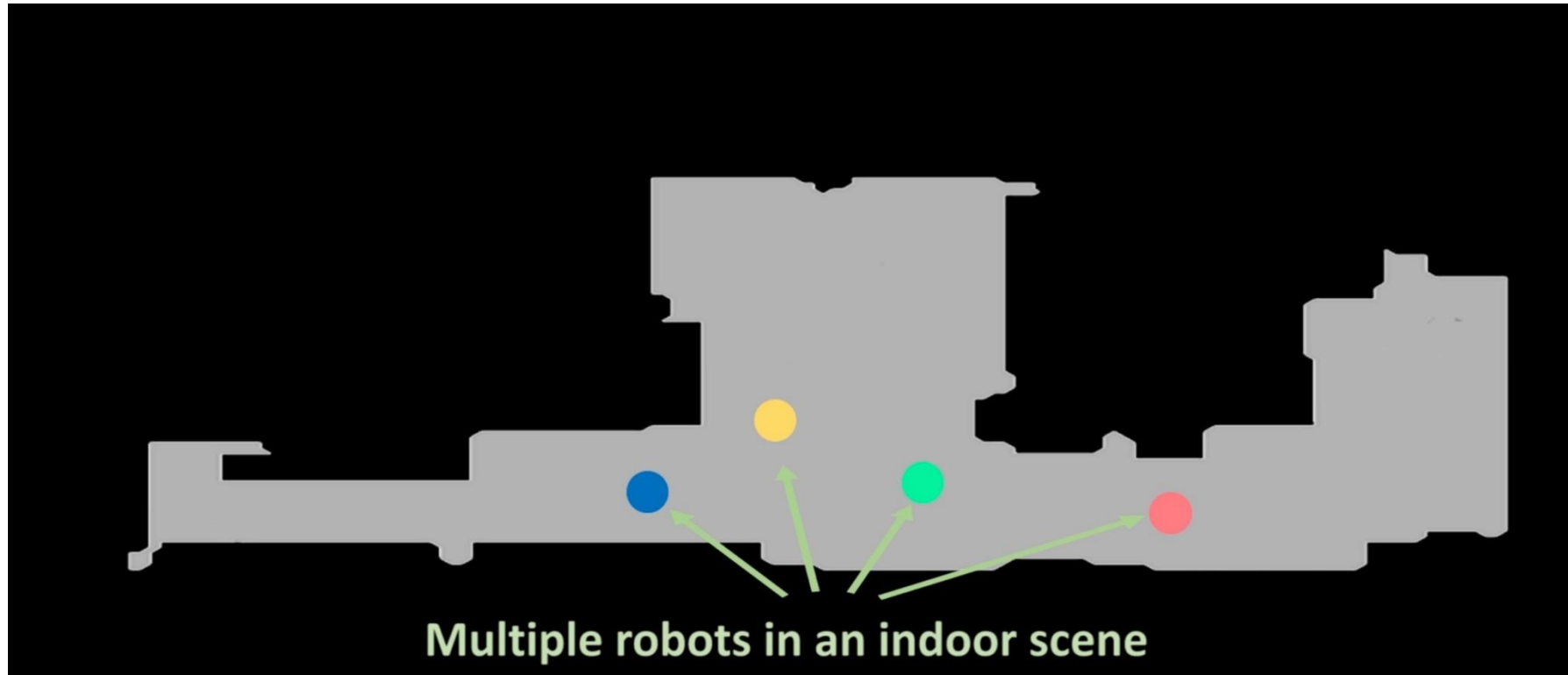
# Method

## Per-Robot Trajectory Optimization



# Method

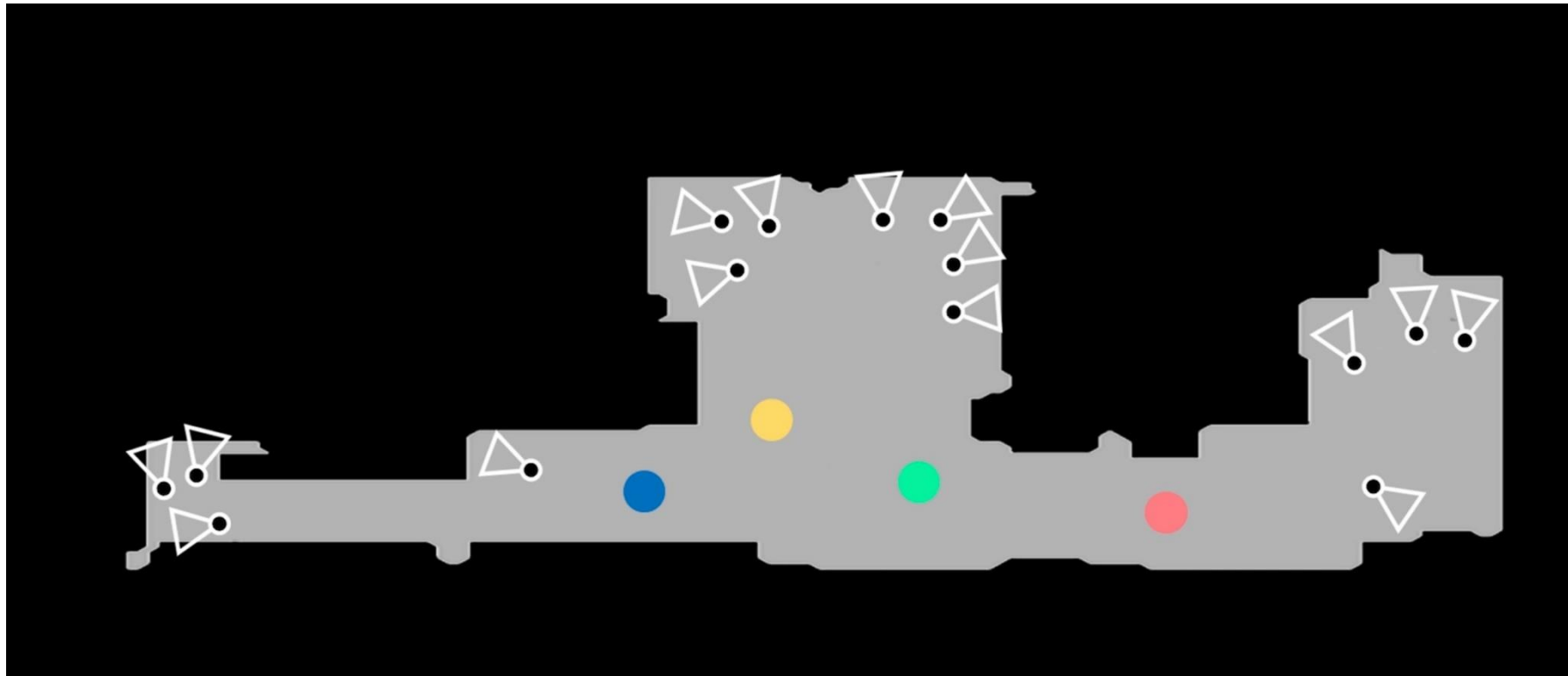
## Progressively Scanning





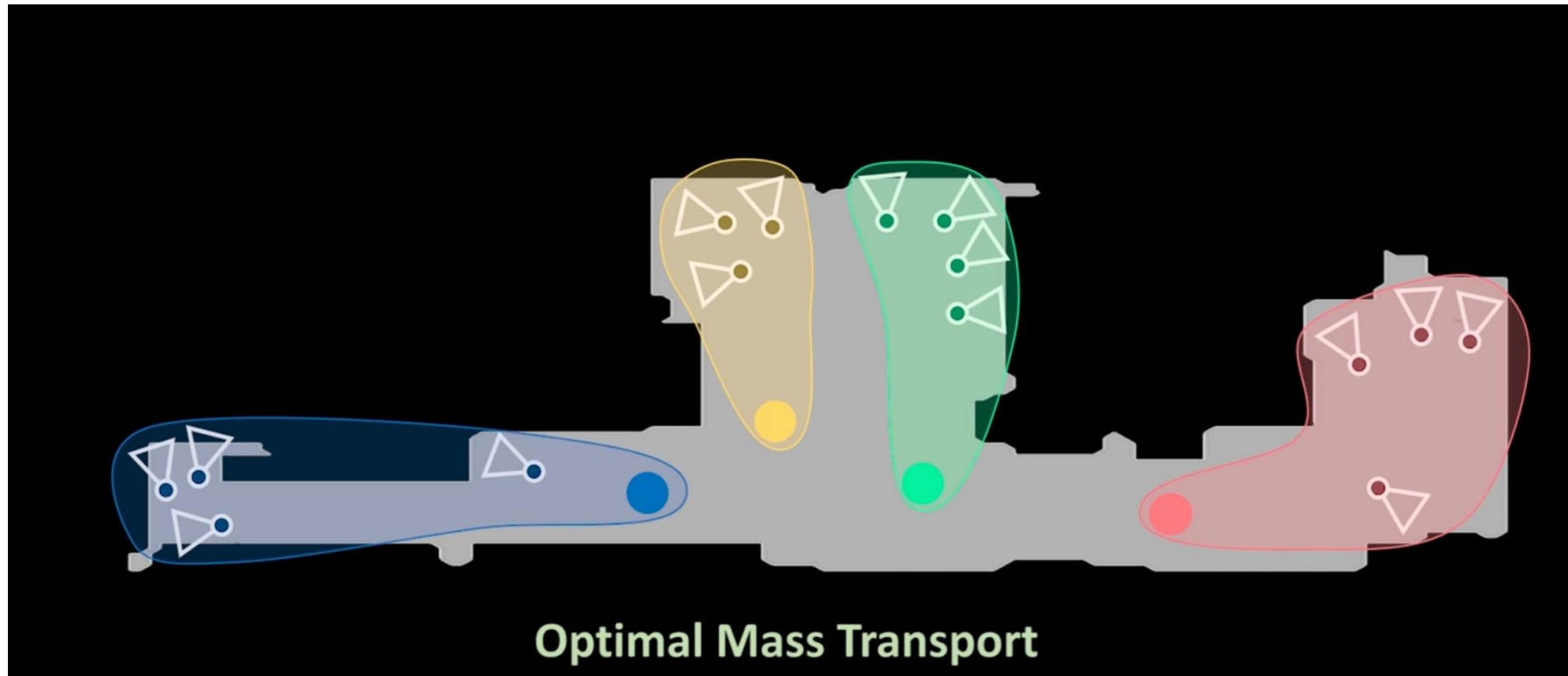
# Method

## Progressively Scanning



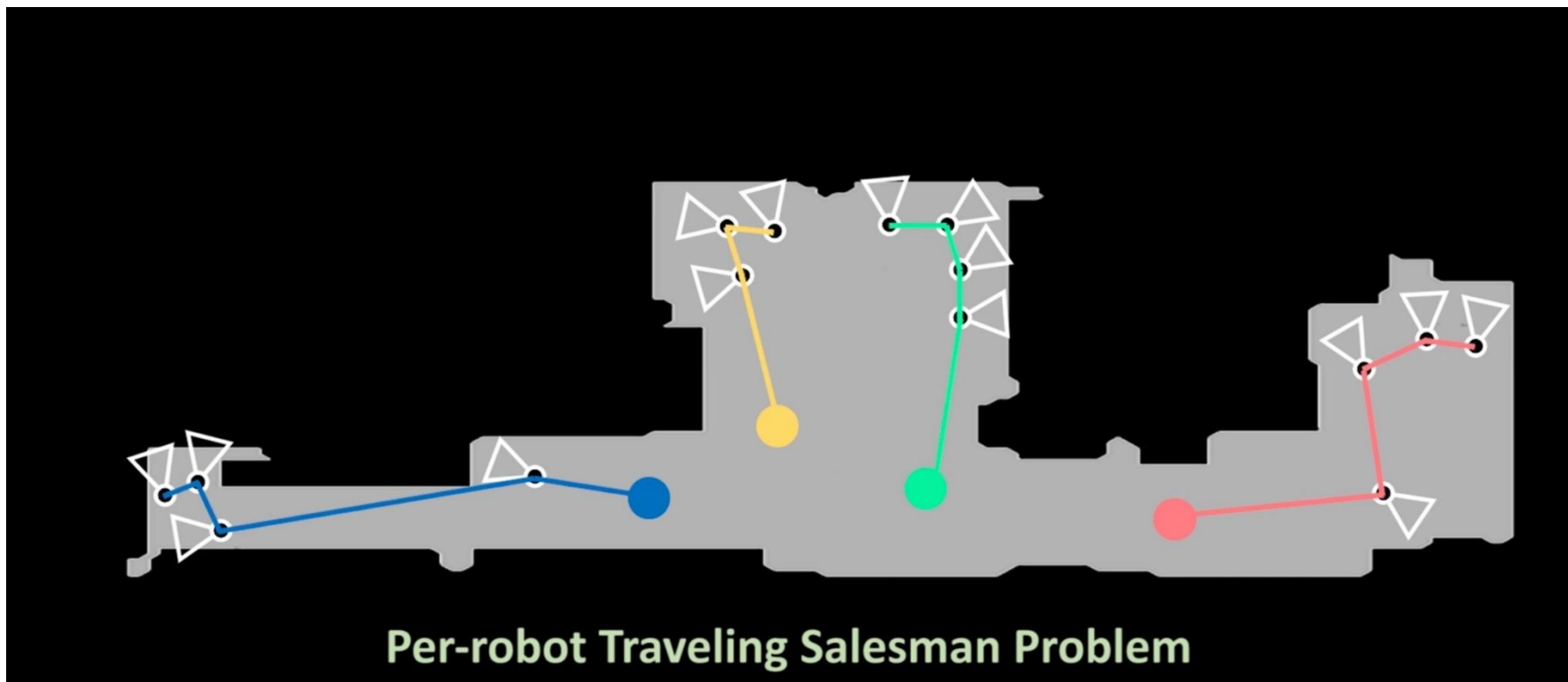
# Method

## Progressively Scanning



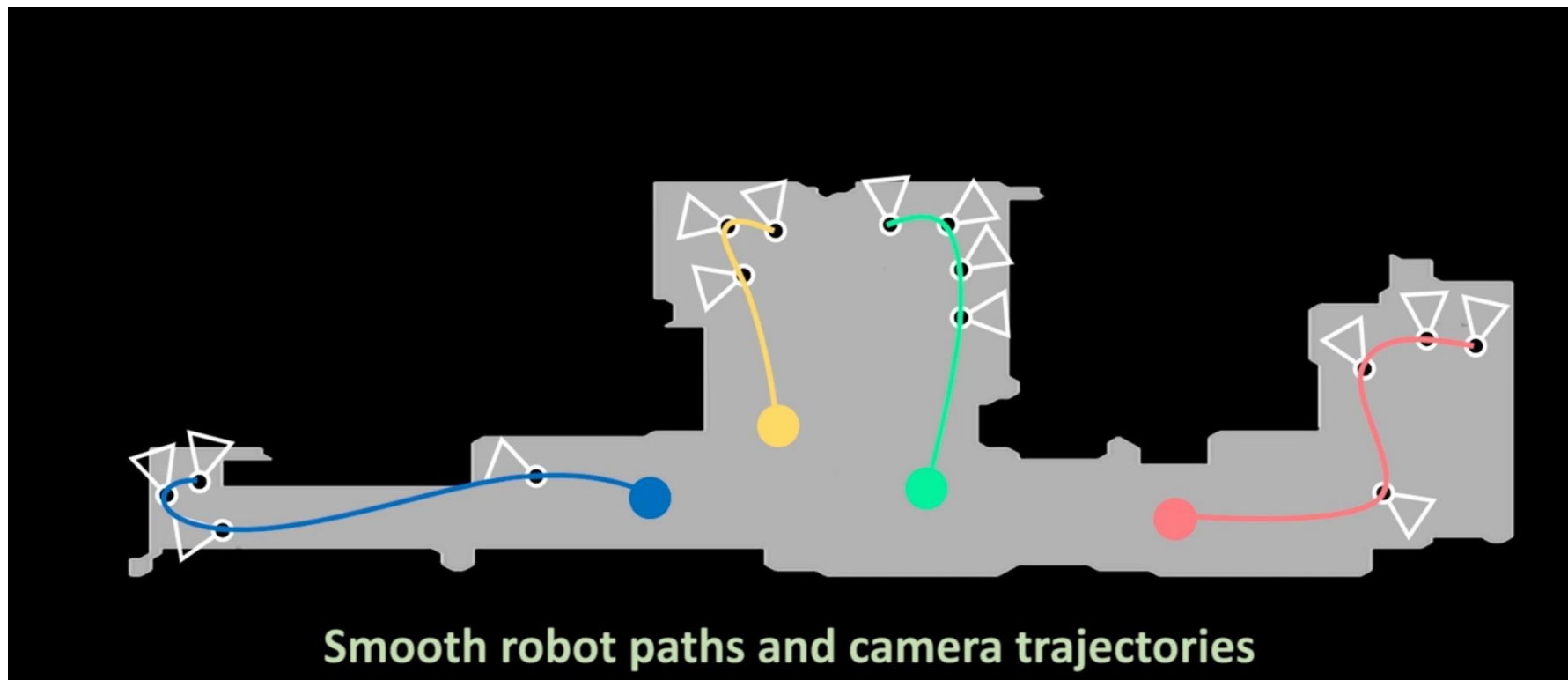
# Method

## Progressively Scanning



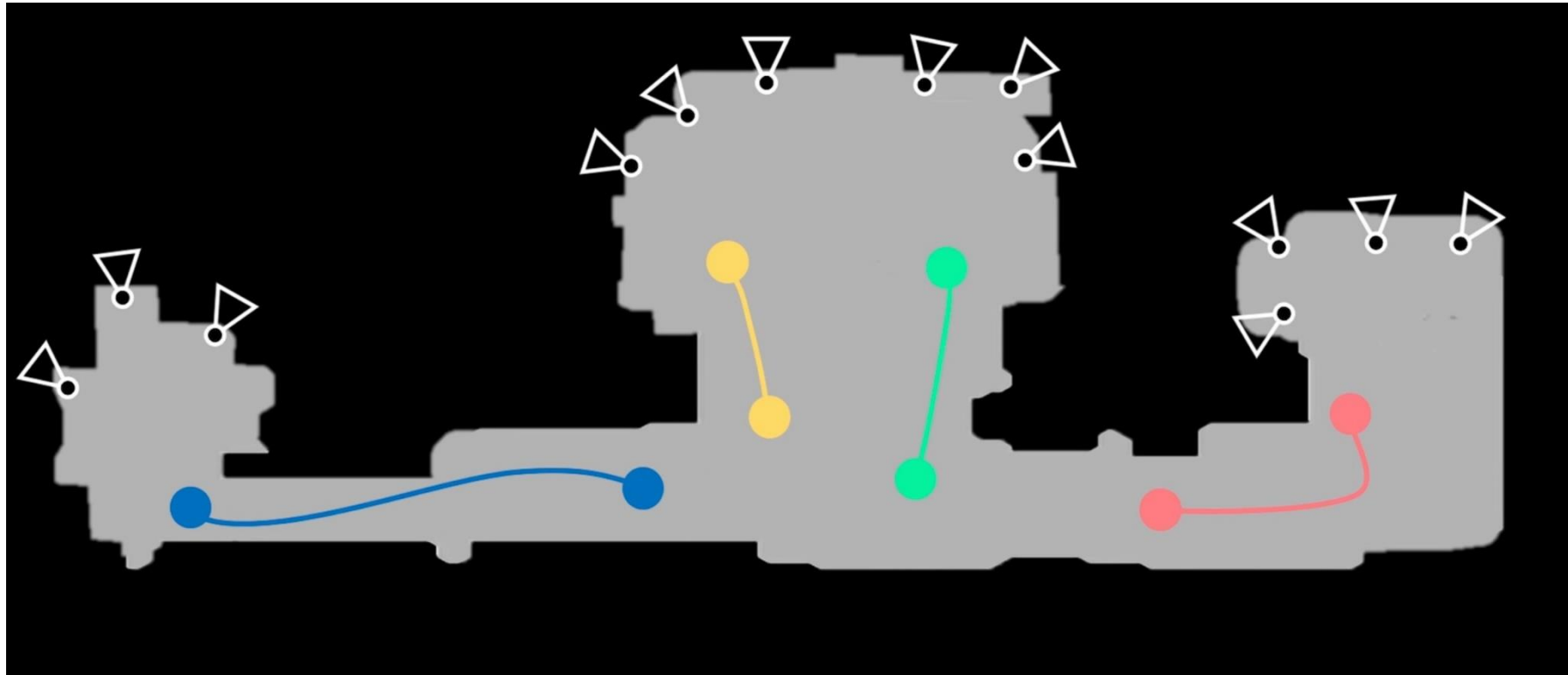
# Method

## Progressively Scanning



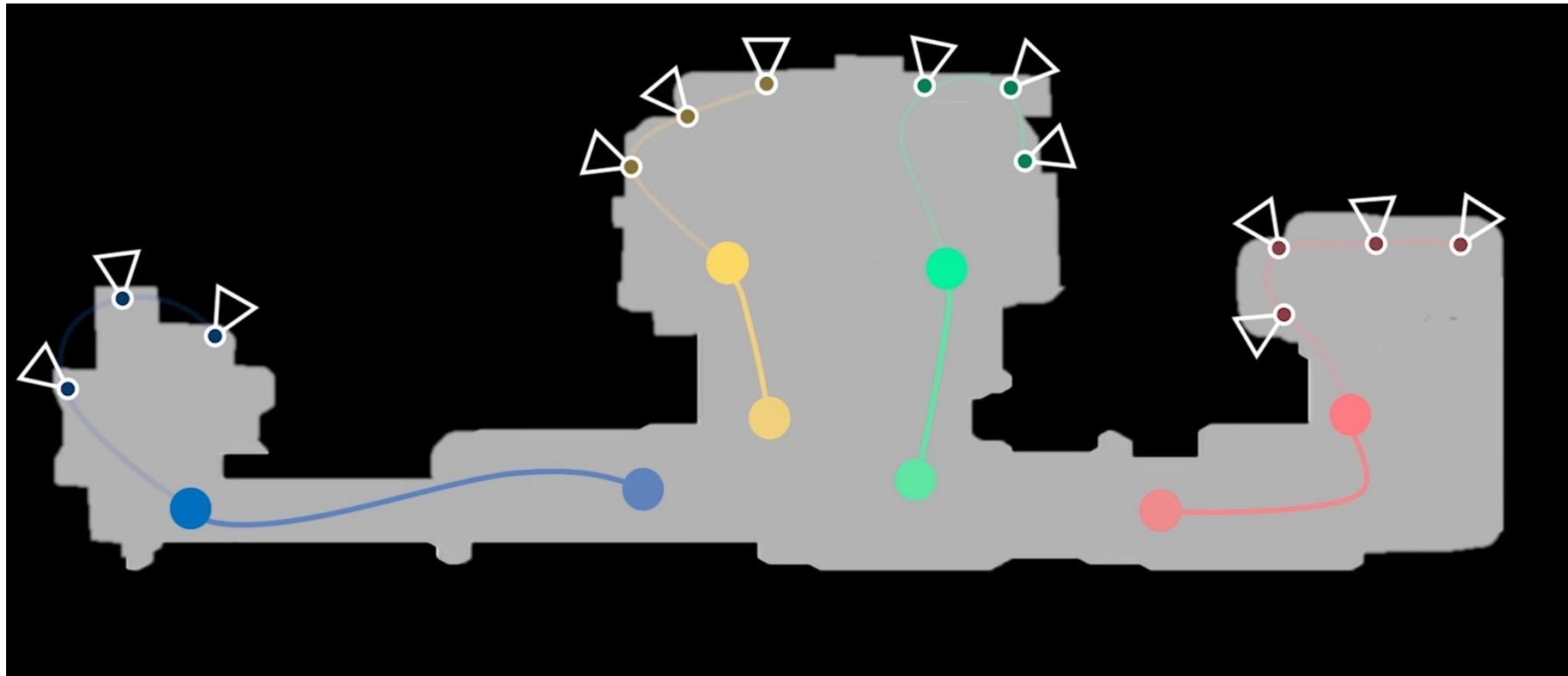
# Method

## Progressively Scanning



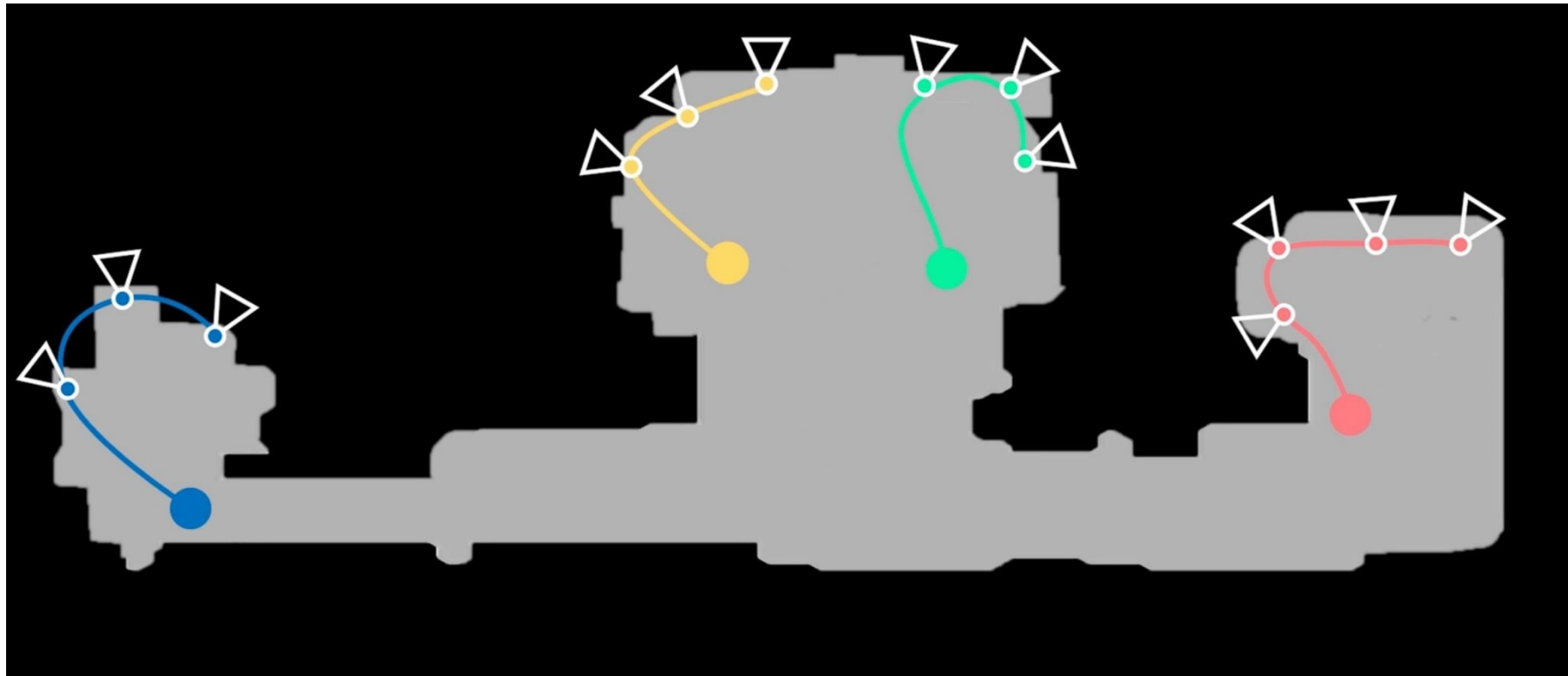
# Method

## Progressively Scanning



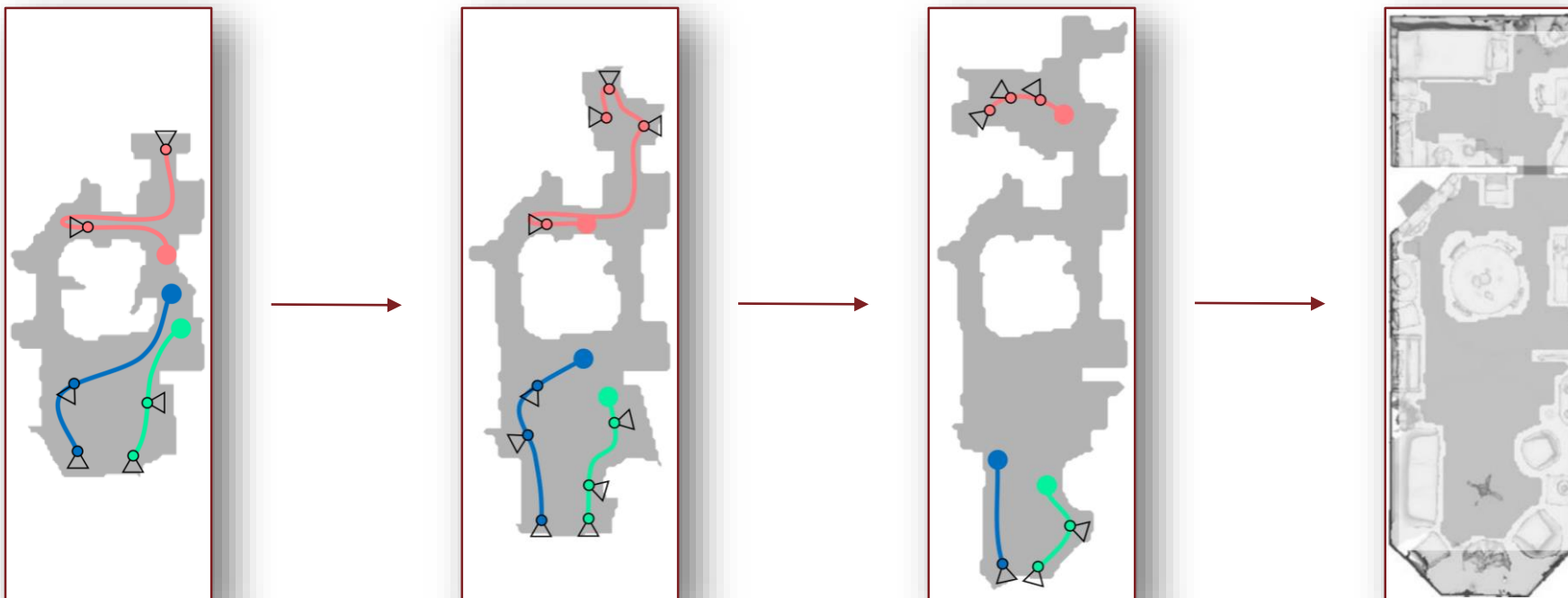
# Method

## Progressively Scanning



# Method

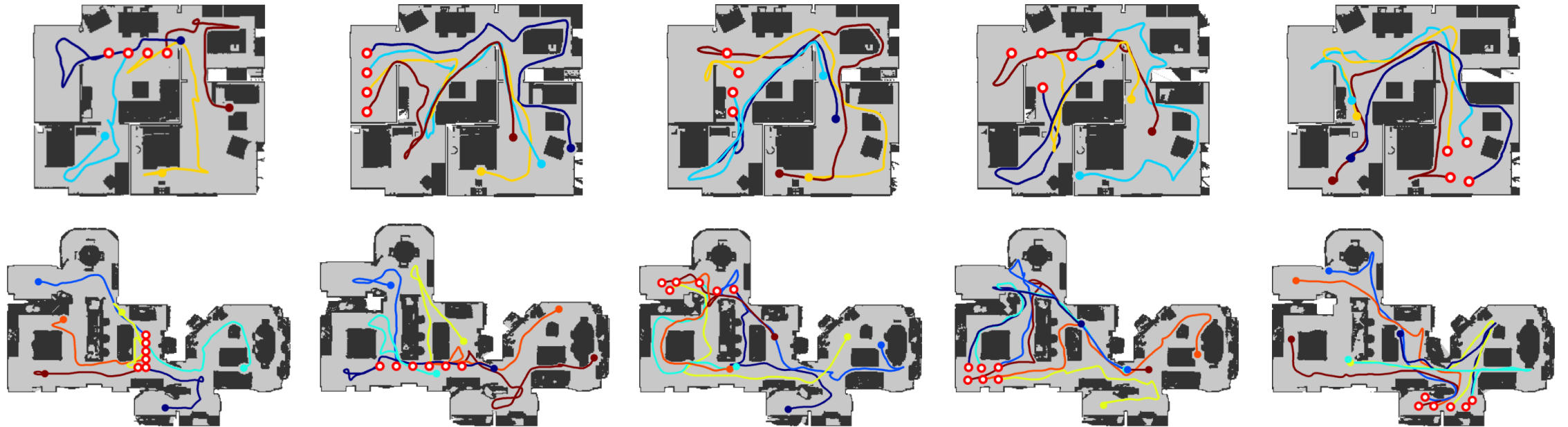
## Progressively Scanning





# Results

## Final Paths with Different Initializations



# Evaluation

## Benchmarks and Evaluation Metrics

Collect and format virtual scene models from SUNCG and Matterport3D



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### Evaluation Metrics

- Completeness
- Accuracy
- Total energy consumption
- Load balance



# Evaluation

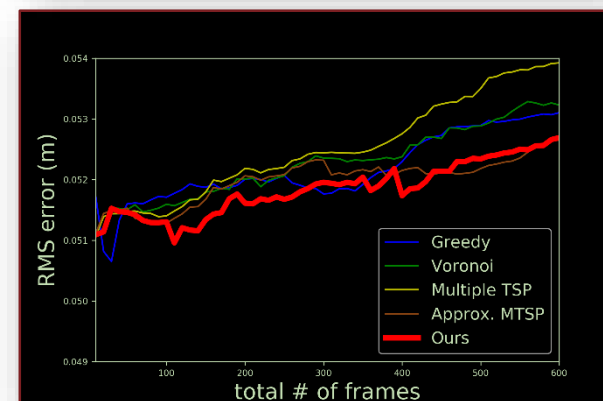
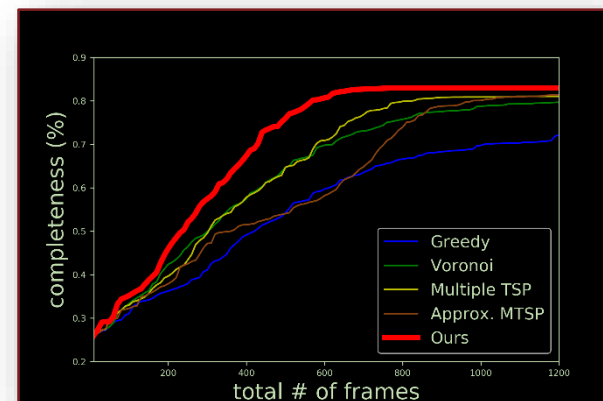
## Quality Comparisons

### Completeness

$$\varphi_{\mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}} = \frac{100}{\sum A(g)} \sum_{g \in \mathcal{G}} A(g) \min_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \|s - g\|_2^0$$

### Accuracy (RMS error)

$$\varphi_{\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}} = \frac{1}{\sum A(s)} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} A(s) \min_{g \in \mathcal{G}} \|s - g\|_2$$

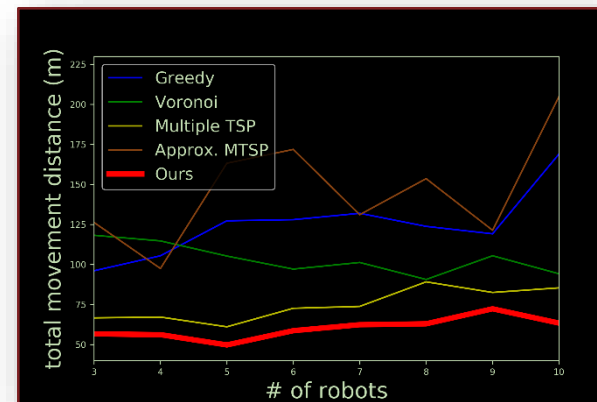


# Evaluation

## Efficiency Comparisons

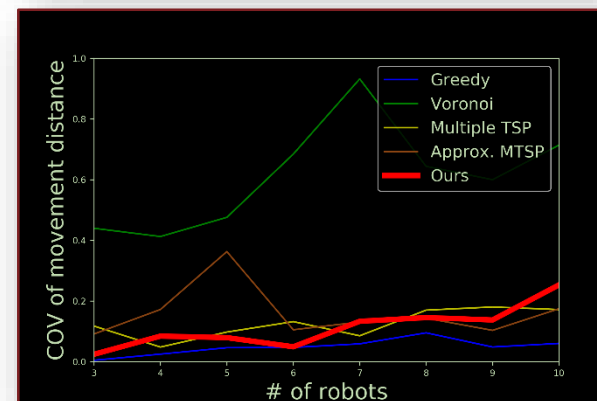
Total Energy Consumption

Total Movement Distance



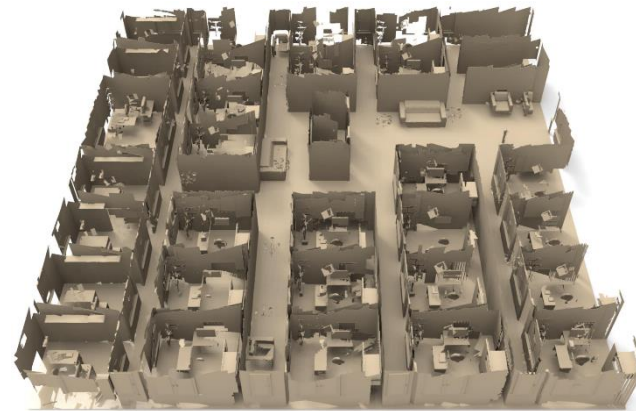
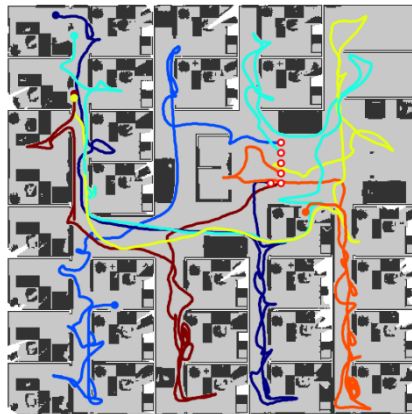
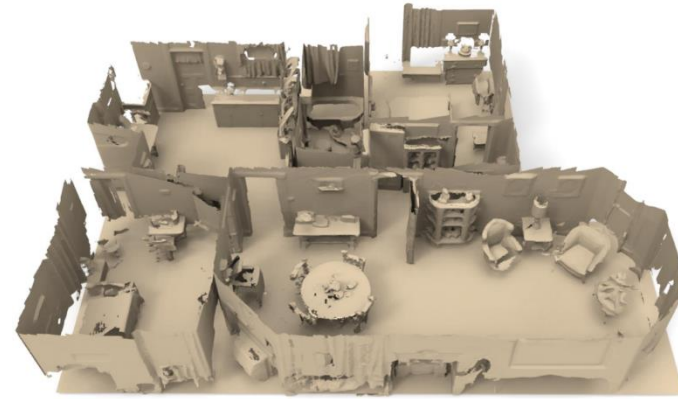
Load Balance

Coefficient of Variation



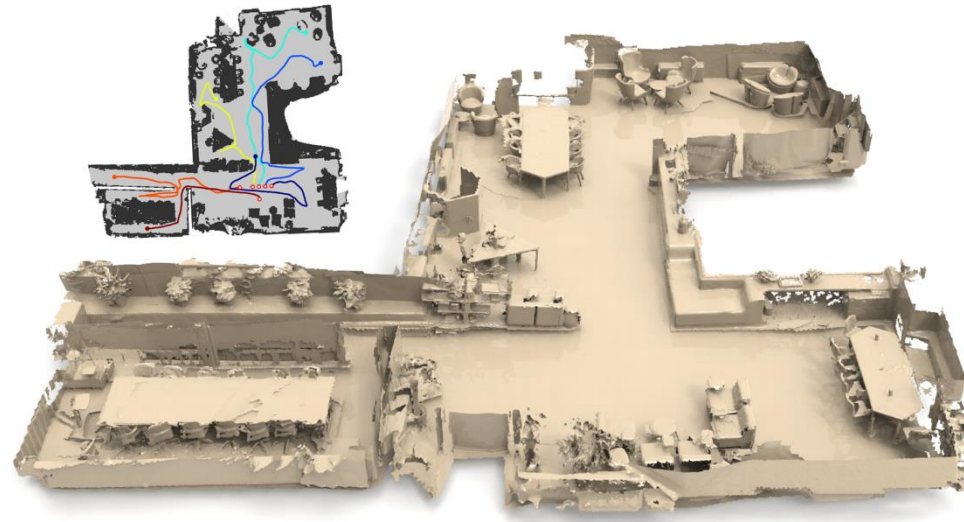
# Results

## Trajectories and Reconstruction



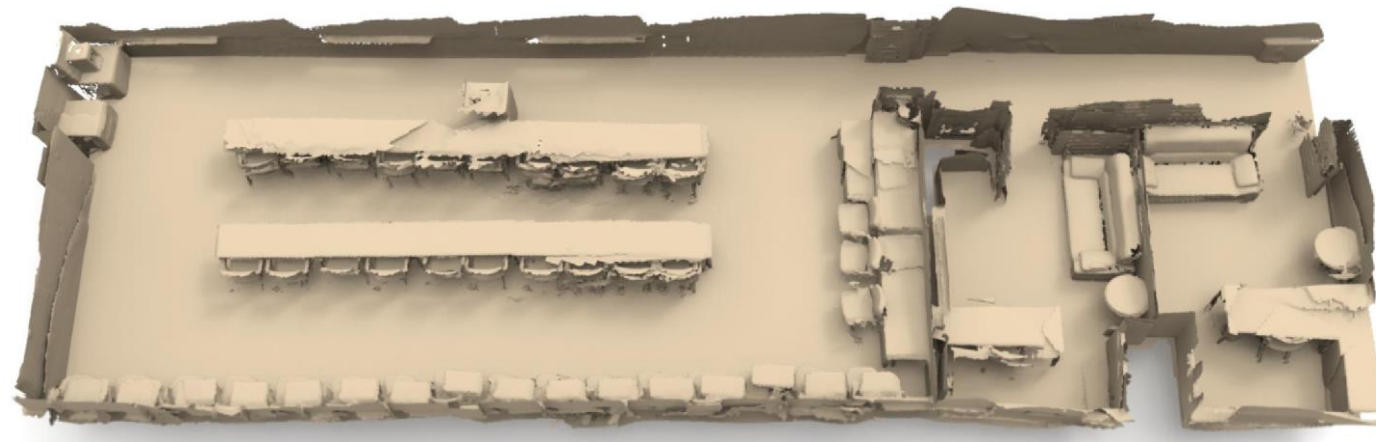
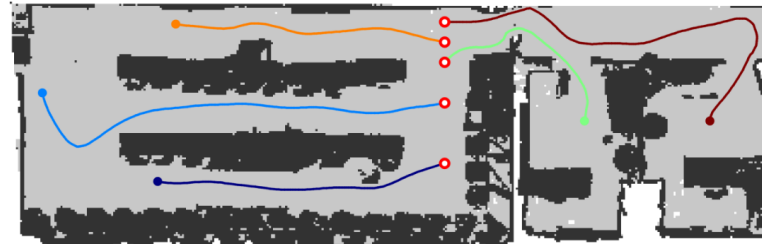
# Results

## Real-World Experiment



# Results

## Real-World Experiment



# Conclusion

## Contributions

- **Formulation**

Optimal Mass Transport formulation tailored for multi-robot scanning of unknown indoor environments.

- **Optimization**

Efficient solution to multi-robot scan planning based on a divide-and-conquer scheme that interleaves task assignment and path optimization.

- **Code and Benchmark Will Be Released!**





# Conclusion

## Future Works

- Task View Smoothness
- Discrete Approximate OMT Cost





山东大学  
SHANDONG UNIVERSITY

**Thank you!**

