

Abstract

Navigation for Vehicles

Computer system (100), computer-implemented method and computer program product are provided for enabling parallel processing of determining collision-free paths for a vehicle to navigate from a start location to a target location. The system receives representations of the start location (SL), the target location (TL) and one or more polygonal representations of one or more potential collision objects and initializes a representation of the vehicle with the start location (SL) as current location (CL), and with a list of targets (LOT) comprising the received target location (TL) as most recent target location. Then it iteratively constructs a graph of collision-free path segments by determining whether a collision object is located on a direct connection between the current location and the most recent target location in the list of targets, and repeating for each vehicle representation: if the direct connection is collision-free, saving the path segment as an edge of the graph, and selecting, for the next iteration, the most recent target location as new current location (CL) and removing the most recent target location from the list of targets; else, identifying reachable nodes wherein the nodes are based on local extrema on one or more polygonal representations intersecting with the direct connection, where local extrema are determined relative to the deviation angle to the left or to the right from the direct connection between the current location and the most recent target location, and, for the next iteration, generating from the representation a further representation of the vehicle for each identified node, the further representation having the same current location as the vehicle representation and having a list of targets comprising all elements of the vehicle representation's list of targets as well as the identified node as new most recent target location. The iteration continues until, for every vehicle representation, the lists of targets associated with the existing vehicle representations are empty. Finally, collision-free paths based on collision-free path segments are constructed and provided to a path selector.

[Figure 1]