



# Article A Performance Review of Collision-Free Path Planning Algorithms

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**Abstract:** Path planning for mobile agents is one of the areas that has drawn the attention of researchers', as evidenced in the large number of papers related to the collision-free path planning (CFPP) algorithm. The purpose of this paper is to review the findings of those CFPP papers and the methodologies used to generate possible solutions for CFPP for mobile agents. This survey shows that the previous CFPP papers can be divided based on four characteristics. The performance of each method primarily used to solve CFPP in previous research is evaluated and compared. Several methods are implemented and tested in same computing environment to compare the performance of generating solution in specified spatial environment with different obstacles or size. The strengths and weakness of each methodology for CFPP are shown through this survey. Ideally, this paper will provide reference for new future research.

**Keywords:** collision-free; path planning; robot motion planning; mover's problem; heuristic based algorithms

# 1. Introduction

The usage of mobile agents (MAs) including unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), autonomous robots and automated guided vehicles (AGVs), in areas, such as container terminals, delivery to customers or manufacturing processes only continues to increase [1]. The design problem of Collision-free path planning (CFPP) is to determine a collision-free path of MAs within the target space of a specific environment [2]. Research also refers to this design problem as motion planning or piano mover's problem [3]. The researchers have studied CFPP problem while using several kinematic constraints, including point robots or using robots with specific degree of freedom (DOF) [4–6]. Autonomous robots are also required to decide their motion using the logic. Researches have conducted extensive research in response to the increasing importance of MAs.

In this paper, we have arranged the survey papers of the CFPP based problem according to the paper's original research purpose. Schwartz & Sharir [7] focused on classical geometry, topology, algebraic geometry, algebra, and combinatorics. Additionally, they briefly discuss the characteristic and complexity of geometric algorithms that are relevant to the CFPP problem. Hwang & Ahuja [8] researched the different methodologies, obstacles, and algorithms, and discussed the characteristics of the problem known as the gross motion plan. Sariff & Buniyamin [9] reviewed the algorithms for solving CFPP problem in different environments. The study further briefly presented the advantages and disadvantages of the algorithms. Masehian and Sedighizadeh [10] conducted a 35 years period chronological survey regarding the classic and meta-heuristic algorithms for the CFPP problem. Goerzen et al. [11] found that UAVs have significant differing issues than that of other robots, because it operates in a three-dimensional (3D) environment. Roberge et al. [12] reviewed the performance of algorithms, parallel genetic algorithm, and particle swarm optimization pertaining to the non-deterministic CFPP

problem. In addition, the researchers examined the dynamic properties of a UAV's path in a complex three-dimensional environment. A survey of heuristic based algorithm for solving CFPP was recently presented [13]. The research summarized chronological changes and sorted studies by algorithms, which were nature-inspired methods, fuzzy logic, neural networks, and the potential field method. The frequency of the problem attributes is also reviewed in the paper. Schwarting et al. [14] reviewed and provided emerging trends in autonomous problems. The paper summarized problems, such as integration of automation and safety guarantees when applied to robots.

Researchers in different fields have conducted similar studies; hence, there are problems with regards to the definitions and terms. For example, some of the papers use the name of problems as mover's problem [15], motion planning problem [16] or path planning problem [2]. Numerous methodologies are provided in the research while using different key words [5,13,17,18]. However, a comparison of methodologies is rarely studied. Previous research has focused on the different characteristics of the CFPP problem, such as sampling-based algorithm [19], or has used a very small number of searching algorithms [12]. On the other hand, researches have not focused on the differences in terminology and meanings. In the writers' opinion, this lack of uniformity and conformity in terminology makes it difficult to select and decide on an appropriate algorithm. Therefore, the objectives of this study are as follows. First, the purpose of this research is to unify the name and attributes. Secondly, to provide a method to classify algorithms for solving the problem. Third, the performance of the algorithms for solving CFPP is measured within a fundamental environment. These contributions will enable researchers, who study the CFPP problem to grasp the key point in a problem. Finally, researchers will be better able to choose searching algorithms, through the comparison of the different algorithms.

The rest of this paper is divided for four sections. The CFPP problem is defined in Section 2 and four different categories of CFPP problem are proposed. In Section 3, a plan of experiment for searching algorithms performance review is briefly introduced. Flowcharts of the algorithms are shown and environments for testing are suggested. Additionally, a method for tuning parameters, which are components of metaheuristic algorithms, is concisely shown. The results of the experiments are organized and analyzed in Section 4. In the final section, a conclusion and a summary are presented.

## 2. CFPP

The goal of collision-free path planning (CFPP) problem is helping MAs or robots to find a safe path from the starting point to ending (goal) point [2]. The path from a result of the CFPP problem is considered to be an effective bypass for MAs. The effectiveness is discussed from this perspective, which is the shortest distance for MAs. Additionally, this can be researched with multi-objective model, such as reducing resource consumption with shorter distances or finding a good solution in shorter time. Four different attributes are required to define the problem type; environment type (Env.T.; Section 2.1), environmental representation (Env.R.; Section 2.2), searching algorithm (S.Alg.; Section 2.3), and experimental type (Exp.T.; Section 2.4). Additionally, related works that emphasize and improve at least one point of any one of these characteristics are necessary to define the problem type. Details of the categories are shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Characteristics of the collision-free path planning (CFPP).

In order to deliver information efficiently, this paper uses shorthand notation. The notation is organized in Table 1.

Word	Notation	Word	Notation
Environment type	Env.T.	Network	N.
Environment representation	Env.R.	Coordinate system	Co.S.
Searching algorithm	S.Alg.	Boundary representation	B.R.
Experimental Type	Exp.T.	Cell tree	C.T.
Obstacle type	O.T.	Polygonal approximation	Po.A.
Point type	P.T.	Evolutionary programming	E.P.
Workspace representation	W.R.	K nearest neighbor	K near.
Obstacle representation	Ob.R.	Simulation	S.
Experiment	Exp.	Probabilistic roadmap	PRM
Workspace representation algorithm	W.R.Alg.	Rapidly-exploring Random Tree	RRT
Certain	С.	Voronoi Diagram	V.D.
Uncertain	Uc.	Visibility Graph	Vgraph
Static S.		Normal distribution transform	NDT
Dynamic	D.	Circle approximation	Ci.A

Table 1. Shorthand notation for the tables.

# 2.1. Environment Type

Environment types in CFPP problem are divided specifically, as follows: obstacle type (O.T.) and point type (P.T.). Each type has specific characteristics and detail descriptions of the characteristics are proposed as follows.

Firstly, the obstacle type is classified as static or dynamic [6,20]. Figure 2a describes static obstacle type and Figure 2b is an example of dynamic obstacle type. The static obstacle environment, which is also called the stationary obstacle environment, is a basic form of the CFPP problem. In this case, the obstacles do not change their shape or position. The CFPP problem in a static environment is the most basic model of the CFPP. This is one of the reasons why many papers use a static environment assumption [13]. The dynamic obstacle environment, which is also called the moving obstacle, can change the obstacle's shape time dependently. This case considers the velocity and acceleration of MAs.



**Figure 2.** Illustrations of the obstacle having different obstacle type: (**a**) Static obstacle; and, (**b**) Dynamic obstacle.

Second, point type is classified as certain or uncertain [21]. As there is inherent uncertainty in the MA's sensing, point type should be assumed as certain or uncertain. Certain point type is assumed when the MAs position and goal point is an exact location. The assumption is often used in testing novel approaches while using simulation, because uncertain problem makes it difficult to solve the problem. Uncertain point type is set when the MA's point and goal point is not known exactly. MAs use several sensors to recognize space. The sensors may include some errors, which MAs must recognize in an uncertain space. The type makes the problem more challenging than with a certain point type. This is one of the reasons why it is difficult to solve a CFPP problem with real MAs. The problem is solved while using the stochastic technique, such as the Monte-Carlo method [22–24].

## 2.2. Environmental Representation

Environmental representations in a CFPP problem have two different types: workspace representation (W.R.) and obstacle representation (Ob.R.). Diverse studies about these have been previously researched. The details of these studies are characterized below.

First, workspace representation has two representations: the coordinate system model and the network model. The coordinate system model uses Algebra for describing the environment and the MAs' motion. This problem is called the Findspace problem, which is one aspect of spatial planning [25]. The Findspace problem has three different workspaces; the polygonal workspace; the polyhedral workspace; and, the semi-Algebraic workspace [21]. In addition, convexity and non-convexity are also important aspects of the Findspace problem. Simply, the greater the number of edges and vertices in a workspace representation, the greater the complexity of the problem. Therefore, a polyhedral workspace would be more difficult to solve for than a polygonal workspace [6]. Network model, which is also known as the Roadmap approach, uses links and nodes for describing the environment. In this model, researchers have modelled the routes of the MA's as links and nodes using algorithms, such as the Voronoi diagram, the Visibility Graph, the Rapidly-exploring random tree, and the Probabilistic roadmap. Additionally, the algorithms are mainly differentiated from each other mainly by style generated. These include: the sampling-based algorithm and the geometric modeling algorithm [17]. LaValle et al. [26] conducted extensive researched of the sampling-based algorithm while using the Monte Carlo sampling method.

Their conclusions suggest that the basic grid network algorithm provides better performance in certain cases than does a sampling-based algorithm. Thrun et al. [23] proposed a model wherein the Monte Carlo localization is combined with the sampling-based algorithm. Janson et al. [24] posit that the Monte Carlo Motion Planning (MCMP) is effective in solving the CFPP problem. Englot and Hover [27] suggested the sampling-based algorithm under ACO framework to solve multi-goal CFPP problems. This technique allows for a solution that can take into account multi-objects, such as computational complexity and optimality. Ichter et al. [28] studied the sampling-based algorithm in a learning-based framework where non-uniform sampling strategies are used for the CFPP problem in "huge" spaces.

The sampling-based algorithm includes two common algorithms: the Probabilistic roadmap and the Rapidly-exploring random tree. Kavraki et al. [29] solve the CFPP problem for articulated robots while using two phases: the Probabilistic roadmap and the heuristic for searching within the roadmap. The proposed method can be applied to any holonomic robot. The theoretical performance of the Probabilistic roadmap was rarely studied before Kavraki et al. [19]. The paper studies the failure probability of connecting two points. Also, the relationship among the number of nodes, failure probability, and length of paths are studied. The Probabilistic roadmap and the Rapidly-exploring random tree are also studied in practical way with various robots [30,31]. Several simulated and real experiments using specific robots are performed. Complex and large environments, such as dynamic obstacles or urban areas, are considered in the experiments. Kim et al. [32] propose the Tangent Bundle Rapidly exploring random tree (TB-RRT) in order to improve the efficiency of the algorithm in a large space. Also, related works under complex environment are studied in succession [33,34]. A centralized case, such as spot-welding station with two to six robot manipulators in automobile manufacturing field, is researched and an application is made for the case [35,36]. These papers purport that centralized planning is more efficient than decentralized planning. Additionally, the sampling-based algorithms are applied to a geometrically complex problem and a multi-robot problem [37,38]. Wilmarth et al. [39] argue that the basic Probabilistic roadmap is an ineffective method for solving the CFPP problem in a narrow space. Thus, a novel algorithm, named MAPRM, is suggested for solving specific narrow space. Saha et al. [40] concluded the small-step retraction method can be applied to the CFPP problem. Meanwhile, the CFPP problem can be expanded to the tour problem, as can the traveling-salesman problem or task-planning problem [41,42]. The algorithms are mainly divided into two divisions: path finding and tour (sequence) finding in order to solve the problem,

Meanwhile, several papers have evaluated the performance of the sampling-based algorithm. The sampling configuration and probability measure are affected by the performance of the Probabilistic roadmap [43]. Further, Karaman and Frazzoli [44] studied the performance of the Probabilistic roadmaps and Rapidly-exploring random trees sampling-based algorithms. Recently, Marble and Bekris [45] discuss and introduce a method providing robust solution qualities. More details about related to sampling-based algorithm research are organized in Table 2.

Whatever path that is generated in a network model, should be smoothed before applying to MAs [17]. Smoothing affects the performance of the algorithm [46], and it has been studied by some papers [47,48].

Secondly, Hwang and Ahuja [8] propose six basic obstacle representations that are chosen in consideration of workspace representation and an approximation of the obstacles. These six obstacle representations are: original objects, gird, cell tree, polygonal approximation, constructive solid geometry, and boundary representation. The representation styles are shown in Figure 3. These obstacle representations are chosen by workspace representation and approximation of the obstacles.

		En	v.T.	En	ıv.R	S Ala	1	Exp.T.	- WRAlg
Ref.	Author & Year	P.T.	О.Т	W.R.	Ob.R	- 5.Alg.	Exp.	Robot	W.K.Alg.
[29]	Kavraki et al., 1996	C.	S.	N.	Grid	Heuristic	S.	Articulated robots	PRM
[19]	Kavraki et al., 1998	C.	-	-	B.R.	-	S.	6 DOF	PRM
[49]	Hsu et al., 1997	C.	S.	N.	-	Heuristic	S.	6 DOF	PRM
[39]	Wilmarth et al., 1999	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	-	S.	-	MAPRM
[31]	Kuffner & LaValle, 2000	C.	S.	N.	-	Heuristic	S.	7 DOF	RRT
[23]	Thrun et al., 2001	Uc.	S.	N.	В.R., С.Т.	MCL algorithm	S.	RWI B18 robot	Sampling based
[35]	Sánchez & Latombe, 2002	C.	D.	N.	Po.A.	Heuristic	S.	Multi robot	PRM
[36]	Sanchez & Latombe, 2002	Uc.	D.	N.	Po.A.	Heuristic	S.	-	PRM
[37]	Sánchez & Latombe, 2003	C.	D.	N.	-	Heuristic	S.	6 robots	PRM
[26]	LaValle et al., 2004	-	-	N.	-	-	S.	-	Sampling based review
[40]	Saha et al., 2005	C.	S.	N.	-	F*	S.	-	PRM
[43]	Hsu et al., 2006	Uc.	S.	N.	-	Heuristic	S.	-	PRM
[41]	Saha et al., 2006	-	S.	N.	-	Heuristic	S.	-	PRM
[50]	Alterovitz et al., 2007	Uc.	S.	N.	B.R.	Heuristic	S.	-	Sampling based
[30]	Hsu et al., 2002	Uc.	D.	N.	B.R.	Heuristic	Real	-	PRM
[34]	Kuwata et al., 2009	Uc.	D.	N., Co.S.	Grid	Heuristic	S.	Vehicle	RRT
[27]	Englot & Hover, 2011	C.	S.	N.	-	ACO	S.	-	Sampling based
[44]	Karaman & Frazzoli, 2011	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	Heuristic	S.	-	Sampling based
[33]	Malone et al., 2014	-	D.	N.	Grid	Dijkstra	S.	-	PRM
[24]	Janson et al., 2018	Uc.	S.	N.	B.R.	MCMP	S.	-	Sampling based
[51]	Contreras-Cruz et al., 2015	Uc.	S.	N.	-	EP, Dijkstra	Real	Xidoo-Bot	PRM
[42]	Dantam et al., 2016	-	S.	N.	-	Heuristic	Real	-	RRT
[38]	Solovey et al., 2016	-	S.	N.	-	K Near., M*	S.	High DOF Multi robot	RRT
[32]	Kim et al., 2016	-	S.	N.	-	K Near.	S.	-	RRT
[45]	Marble & Bekris, 2017	C.	S.	N.	-	K Near.	S.	-	PRM
[28]	Ichter et al., 2018	-	D.	N.	-	Heuristic	S.	Multi robots	Sampling based

**Table 2.** Classification of the papers while using the sampling-based algorithm.



**Figure 3.** Six different workspace representations [8]: (a) Original object; (b) Grid; (c) Cell tree; (d) Constructive solid geometry; (e) Polygonal approximation; and, (f) Boundary representation.

#### 2.3. Searching Algorithms

Searching algorithms or query process in probabilistic roadmaps are chosen by workspace representation. Some searching algorithms are applied to specific representations. For example, A\* and Dijkstra algorithms are only applicable under network conditions. For instance, to solve problem with network, A\*, Dijkstra algorithm or heuristic-based algorithms are often used. On the other hand, optimal approaches are used for problem under a coordinate system. There is extensive research that provides searching algorithms for several conditions in reasonable time. The algorithms can be classified as classic algorithms or heuristic-based algorithms [10,13,18].

## 2.3.1. Classical Algorithm

Dijkstra Algorithm is a common used algorithm for solving the network problem [52]. This algorithm offers an optimal path in a network, when all of the network link distances are positive. The A\* algorithm is also frequently used in order to solve the shortest path problem on network [53]. Some methodologies, which are a combination of a Voronoi diagram and the Dijkstra algorithm, are provided by several researches [54,55]. Additionally, the Dijkstra algorithm was studied as query process of probabilistic roadmaps [33,56]. An application was suggested for solving the CFPP problem while using the Dijkstra algorithm [57]. A\* algorithm is broadly used to solve the CFPP problem under network conditions. Several research papers related to a visibility graph were applied to A\* algorithm to solve CFPP problem [2,20,58]. On the other hand, some papers provide methods applied under a sampling-based environment [59,60]. Many papers suggested novel algorithms, which were developed using Dijkstra's algorithm or A\* algorithm [61–63]. Papers about A\* and Dijkstra algorithms are shown in Table 3.

<b>P</b> (		En	v.T.	Er	ıv.R	C A1-		Exp.T.	
Kef.	Author & Year	P.T.	O.T.	W.R.	Ob.R	5.Alg.	Exp	Robot	w.K.Alg.
[54]	Bhattacharya & Gavrilova, 2007	-	D.	N.	B.R.	Dijkstra	S.	-	V.D.
[55]	Ho & Liu, 2009	-	S.	N.	B.R.	Dijkstra	S.	Car-like robot	V.D.
[56]	Janson et al., 2018	-	-	N.	B.R.	Dijkstra	S.	-	PRM
[57]	Wang et al., 2011	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	Dijkstra	S.	-	Grid
[20]	Alexopoulos & Griffin, 1992	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	A*	S.	A mobile robot	Vgraph
[64]	Fu & Liu, 1990	C.	S.	N.	Po.A.	A*	S.	-	Vgraph
[58]	Herman, 1986	C.	S.	N.	C.T.	A*	S.	-	Ċ.T.
[2]	Lozano-Pérez & Wesley, 1979	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	A*	S.	-	Vgraph
[60]	Berg et al., 2006	Uc.	D.	N.	B.R.	D*	S.	-	Roadmap
[59]	Bohlin & Kavraki, 2000	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	A*	S.	6 DOF robot	PRM
[62]	Deng et al., 2012	Uc.	D.	N.	-	Dijkstra	S.	-	-
[63]	Duchoň et al., 2014	-	-	N.	Grid	A*	S.	-	SLAM based grid
[61]	Noto & Sato, 2002	-	-	N.	-	Dijkstra	S.	-	Grid

**Table 3.** Classification of the papers using the exact algorithm.

#### 2.3.2. Heuristic Based Algorithm

There are many heuristic-based methods for the CFPP problem. Wavefront algorithm is one of the heuristics that adopts the idea of a potential field and it was applied with various characteristics. For instance, the Wavefront algorithm is used for solving a problem with three-dimensional normal distributions transformations [65]. Several kinds of the metaheuristic are applied to the CFPP problem that have a network or coordinate system.

Evolutionary algorithms, such as the Genetic algorithm (GA), are usually studied under network environments [66–69] that are related to CFPP. Additionally, several algorithms are developed for under coordinate system conditions [70–73]. Some novel algorithms that are based on GA are provided from related works [74–78]. GA is one of the most applicable algorithms to solve the CFPP problem with multi-robot [79]. Table 4 briefly shows those papers which use Wavefront or GA.

Ref	Author & Year	En	v.T.	Er	ıv.R	S.Alg.		Exp.T.	W.R.Alg.
Kei.	Author & Icar	P.T.	O.T.	W.R.	Ob.R.	8	Exp.	Robot	
[65]	Stoyanov et al., 2010	C.	-	N.	-	Wavefront	S.	-	NDT
[66]	AL-Taharwa et al., 2008	C.	S.	N.	Grid	GA	S.	-	Grid
[67]	Cai & Peng, 2002	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	GA	S.	Two robots	Obstacle edge
[68]	Yang & Yoo, 2018	-	D.	N.	Grid	GA, ACO	S.	UAV	Grid Layer
[69]	Hu & Yang, 2004	C.	D.	N.	Grid	GA	S.	-	Grid
[73]	MahmoudZadeh et al., 2018	Uc.	D.	Co.S.	B.R.	EA	S.	AUV	-
[71]	Elshamli et al., 2004	-	D.	N.	B.R.	GA	S.	-	-
[70]	Jiang et al., 2018	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	GA	S.	-	Mechanical arm
[72]	Zhao et al., 1994	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	GA	S.	Mobile Manipulator	-
[78]	Tu & Yang, 2004	C.	D.	N.	Grid	GA	S.	-	Grid
[75]	Lamini et al., 2018	C.	S.	N.	Grid	GA	S.	-	Grid
[74]	Lee et al., 2018	C.	S.	N.	Grid	GA	S.	-	Grid
[77]	Sedighi et al., 2004	C.	S.	N.	Grid	GA	S.	-	Grid
[76]	Tuncer & Yildirim, 2012	C.	D.	N.	Grid	GA	S.	-	Grid
[79]	Nazarahari et al., 2019	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	GA, Wavefront	S.	Multi-robot	Potential field

**Table 4.** Classification of the paper using the heuristic-based algorithm (Wavefront and Genetic algorithm (GA)).

Simulated Annealing (SA) is typically combined with the potential field method [80–84]. The other searching algorithms, such as general heuristic algorithm, population-based metaheuristic algorithm and fuzzy logic, and environmental representations, are also researched with SA [85–90]. SA based algorithms have also been applied in CFPP problems to solve vehicle congestion in smart cities. [91]. Papers that are based on SA, which are cited above, are organized in Table 5.

Ref	Author & Vear	En	v.T.	Er	ıv.R	S.Alg.	]	Exp.T.	W.R.Alg.
Kei.	Author & Icar	P.T.	O.T.	W.R.	Ob.R.	- on ng	Exp.	Robot	
[80]	Janabi-Sharifi & Vinke, 1993	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	SA	S.	Disk robot	Potential field
[82]	Park et al., 2001	-	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	SA	Both	Mobile robot	Potential field
[84]	Park & Lee, 2002	-	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	SA	Both	Mobile robot	Potential field
[81]	Zhu et al., 2006	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	SA	S.	-	Potential field
[90]	Carriker et al., 1990	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	SA	S.	Mobile Manipulator	-
[89]	Kroumov & Yu, 2009	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	SA, NN	S.	-	Potential field
[86]	Martínez-Alfaro & Gómez-García, 1998	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	SA, Fuzzy	S.	-	-
[85]	Miao & Tian, 2008	C.	D.	N.	B.R.	SA	S.	-	Obstacle edge
[88]	Miao & Tian, 2013	C.	D.	N.	B.R.	SA	S.	-	Obstacle edge
[87]	Tavares et al., 2011	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	SA	S.	-	-
[91]	Amer et al., 2019	C.	D.	N.	-	SA	S.	Vehicles	Road

 Table 5. Classification of the paper using the heuristic-based algorithm (Simulated Annealing (SA)).

Particle swarm optimization (PSO) was originally defined in a continuous environment, so much CFPP research is studied under a coordinate system [46,92–100]. Chen and Li [99] use a distinguishable method for obstacle representation, which is circle approximation (Ci.A.). They assume the obstacles as being a circle. On the other hand, some research provide methods, which are PSO-based algorithms in a network condition [101–104]. Some research has focused on solving the multi-robots CFPP problem while using PSO [105,106]. In Table 6, additional information from previous research related to PSO is shown.

Ref.	Author & Year	Eı	nv.T.	En	v.R		Exp.T.	W.R.Alg.
		P.T.	0.T.	W.R.	Ob.R.	Exp.	Robot	0
[99]	Chen & Li, 2006	C.	S.	Co.S.	Ci.A.	S.	Car-like robot	-
[93]	Foo et al., 2007	-	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	UAV	-
[95]	Fu et al., 2011	-	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	UAV	-
[96]	Gong et al., 2011	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	-	-
[97]	Saska et al., 2006	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	Robotic soccer	-
[92]	Song et al., 2019	C.	S.	Co.S.	Grid	S.	-	Grid
[46]	Tharwat et al., 2019	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	-	-
[94]	Zhang et al., 2013	Uc.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	-	-
[98]	Zhang et al., 2013	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	UAV	-
[104]	Kang et al., 2008	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	S.	-	Obstacle edge
[100]	Masehian & Sedighizadeh, 2010	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	-	-
[102]	Phung et al., 2017	C.	S.	N.	-	S.	UAV	Vision-based inspection
[103]	Shiltagh & Jalal, 2013	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	-	Grid
[101]	Wang et al., 2015	C.	D.	N.	Grid	S.	-	Grid
[105]	Alejo et al., 2013	-	-	Co.S.	-	S.	Multi-UAV	-
[106]	Thabit & Mohades, 2019	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	Multi-UAV	Grid

Table 6. Classification of the paper using the heuristic-based algorithm (PSO).

Ant colony optimization (ACO) is usually studied under varying network environments, such as grid network and Voronoi diagram [107–119]. Few papers, likewise, researched GA with ACO and coordinate system [120]. A paper, which solves the CFPP problem with automated underwater vehicles (AUV), is studied [121]. This paper suggests an ACO based algorithm to solve large-scale CFPP problems. Table 7 organizes details regarding papers based on ACO.

Rof	Author & Vear	E	nv.T.	En	v.R		Exp.T.	W.R.Alg.
Kei.	Autor & Icar	P.T.	0.T.	W.R.	Ob.R.	Exp.	Robot	
[112]	Akka & Khaber, 2018	C.	S.	N.	Gird	S.	-	Grid
[115]	Brand et al., 2010	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	-	Grid
[114]	Chia et al., 2010	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	-	Grid
[109]	Garcia et al., 2009	C.	D.	N.	Grid	S.	-	Grid
[108]	Jiao et al., 2018	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	Wheelchairs	Grid
[107]	Xing et al., 2011	C.	D.	N.	Grid	S.	-	Grid
[118]	Xiong et al., 2019	C.	S.	N.	Grid	Both	AMV	V.D.
[117]	Cong & Ponnambalam, 2009	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	-	Grid
[110]	Yen & Cheng, 2018	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	(Multi-task)	Grid
[111]	Hsiao et al., 2004	-	-	N.	-	S.	-	Random Generated
[113]	Yu et al., 2019	C.	S.	N.	B.R.	S.	AUV (Multi-task)	Cube, Dense
[116]	Zhang et al., 2010	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	UAV	Point
[120]	Fan et al., 2003	C.	S.	Co.S.	B.R.	S.	-	-
[119]	Wang et al., 2019	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	Ground robot	Cube
[121]	Ma et al., 2019	C.	S.	N.	Grid	S.	AUV	Cube

Table 7. Classification of the paper using the heuristic-based algorithm (ant colony optimization (ACO)).

## 2.4. Experimental Type

In experimental type, two characteristics, which are the robot type and experimental method, should be decided. Many previous works researched under different types of the robot, such as car-like robots, UAV, humanoid, and several degree of freedom (DOF) robots. Each robot has its own moving limitation. This constraint is a cause of different kinematic constraints [21]. Kinematic constraints should be considered under experimental method. When making experiments with real robot, computation, and resources for solving the problem is restricted. On the other hand, the simulation method might have some assumptions, which are different from real robot. The assumptions make a problem simplified to solve and this simple problem contributes to test novel methodologies.

## 3. Experiments Plan

In this paper, a simulation experiment for performances is considered under simple environments and a single point robot, which is able to move without kinematic constraints. The experiment is contributed to measure the performance of basic searching algorithms, as follows; Dijkstra algorithm, A\* algorithm, Wavefront algorithm, Genetic algorithm, Simulated annealing, Ant colony optimization, and particle swarm optimization. Environment type is assumed as certain point type and static obstacle. The experiment uses grid network in order to make environment simple, and obstacles are represented as grid.

The object of the algorithm is to find a shortest path. Therefore, the objective function of the comparison experiment is formulated, as follows [74].

$$minf(P_s, P_g) = d(P_s, P_1) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} d(P_i, P_{i+1}) + d(P_n, P_g)$$
(1)

The function is representing a path length from  $P_s$  to  $P_g$  on network and the meaning of d(a, b) is network distance from node a to node b.

### 3.1. Algorithms

The Dijkstra algorithm, A\* algorithm and Wavefront algorithm have been the most commonly applied algorithms applied to solve the CFPP problem. However, other metaheuristic algorithms have been applied, each a modified version based on flow and heuristics. The paper reviewed each simple form of each algorithm. The flows for each metaheuristic algorithm are shown in Figures 4–7.



Figure 4. The flowchart of GA.

In Figure 4, flow of GA is divided into two parts: initialization and generation. The initialization part is initializing the GA's population set, which is then improved in Generation part. The generation part has three methods: crossover, mutation, and random generation. Each new population set is generated through these methods and the next generations are updated based on the population set. The generation number is counted when the best solution is not updated and resets to zero when the best solution is updated. Executing a generation count completes the algorithm.



Figure 5. The flowchart of SA.

The flow of SA is shown in Figure 5. The algorithm has two different stop criteria; temperature and loop count. When a new solution in next loop fails the Boltzmann factor check, a pre-determined reduction rate reduces the temperature. When a new solution in next loop passes the Boltzmann factor check, the loop number is increased when the best solution is not updated. Again, as in Figure 4, the number is reset to zero when updating the optimal solution.



Figure 6. The flowchart of ACO.

ACO flow has two steps, initialization and improvement step, as shown in Figure 6. Ant colony is initialized in the initialization using the same method used with other algorithms. In the improvement step, a solution will be generated in one of two ways. The first way is a pheromone concept and the other is a reusing method in Initialization step. Each link has its own probability and ants find a path following the probability in order to make pheromone concept. The link probability is added by the following equation.

$$linkProbability(count + 1) = linkProbability(count) + \frac{1}{bestOFV}evapoRate^{linkStep}$$
(2)

the improvement step has a step count trigger for escaping the loop. The number is increased by one, when the flow pass a loop and it is set as zero, when the best solution is updated.



Figure 7. The flowchart of PSO.

In Figure 7, flow of PSO is introduced as two parts: initialization and improvement step. The algorithm has a similar structure to that of ACO. However, instead of concept of pheromone, PSO uses a concept of inertia rate for mimicking the movement of swarm. Previous solutions are destroyed by the inertia rates and new solutions are rebuilt using the best solution and an overlapped method for making a new solution. A number for stopping criteria is counted by passing the loop and the number is set as zero, when the best global solution is updated.

A method for making a new initial solution influences the performance of the algorithms. Thus, in Figures 4–7, the algorithms use the same method, called 'makeSol' in order to limit its effects on the algorithms. The flow of the method which includes a concept of potential field attempting to connect to the goal point is shown in Figure 8.

# 3.2. Envionments

In order to test the performance under several different environments, this research uses typical environments. In this paper, three different environment sizes are used for the experiments. Figure 9 shows six environments which have 10 × 10 cells. These environments are formed archetypal patterns, such as 'n' shape, rectangles and slots. Environments, which have 'n' shape obstacle, are presented in Figure 9a,b,d. Figure 9c is a simple environment with squared obstacle and Figure 9e has slot obstacles which are known as difficult problem. The obstacle in Figure 9f is a part of environment in the paper by Karaman [44].



Figure 8. The flowchart of 'makeSol' logic.





Two environments with  $20 \times 20$  cells are presented on Figure 10. These environments also are reconfigured from the environment which is introduced in the paper by Karaman. An environment shown in Figure 10a is reproduced from the origin figure and Figure 10b is reconstituted based on the environment.



Figure 10. The experimental configuration of the 20 × 20 cells: (a) 20\_40; (b) 20\_10.

Three environments with  $40 \times 40$  girds are presented in in Figure 11. in order to measure the different performance by network size. The environments have same shape as the environments in Figure 9a,c,f, with the only difference being that the figures are divided into smaller grids.



Figure 11. The experimental configuration of the  $40 \times 40$  cells: (a)  $40_1$ ; (b)  $40_1$ ; and, (c)  $40_1$ ].

#### 3.3. Metaheuristic Parameter

Metaheuristic algorithms are affected by their parameters. This is a reason why parameters must be carefully defined. The parameters used in this paper are determined by each searching algorithm and they are shown in Table 8. This research controlled two styles of parameters: population (ant and particle) number and stop criteria. The population number is set as 10 and stop criteria is set as 100.

Many experimental design techniques are used, including full factorial experimental design, in order to tune the algorithm parameters. In this paper, one of the packages in R, named 'irace', is used to set the algorithm parameters [122]. The software package makes automatic sampling configurations and measures the configurations while using Friedman's test or t-test. Additionally, it is designed to redefine the distribution of the sampling and the package iterates this flow. The tuning procedure is performed for environment sets with a budget of 2000 experiments and the initial parameter ranges are defined, as follows: *Mutation Rate*  $\in$  [0.01, 0.99]; *Crossover Rate*  $\in$ [0.01, 0.99]; *Random Rate*  $\in$  [0.01, 0.20]; *Temperature*  $\in$  [1000, 10000]; *Reduction Rate*  $\in$  [0.50, 0.95]; *Stopping Temperature*  $\in$  [0.01, 1.00]; *Pheromone Rate*  $\in$  [0.01, 0.50]; *Evaporate Rate*  $\in$  [0.50, 0.99]; *Inertia Max Rate*  $\in$  [0.50, 0.99]; *Inertia Min Rate*  $\in$  [0.01, 0.50]. Each configuration is measured total summation of all environments objective function value. Table 9 shows the result of the tuned parameter.

Searching Algorithm	Parameter	Characteristic
	Population Number	Integer
	Stop Criteria	Integer
GA	Mutate Rate	Double (0~1)
	Crossover Rate	Double (0~1)
	Random Rate	Double (0~1)
	Stop Criteria	Integer
C A	Temperature	Double
SA	Reduce Rate	Double (0~1)
	Stop Temperature	Double
	Ant Number	Integer
100	Stop Criteria	Integer
ACO	Pheromone Rate	Double (0~1)
	Evaporate Rate	Double (0~1)
	Particle Number	Integer
PSO	Stop Criteria	Integer
	Inertia Max Rate	Double (0~1)
	Inertia Min Rate	Double (0~1)
		, ,

Table 8. Tuning range of the parameters.

#### Table 9. Tuned value of the parameters.

Searching Algorithm	Parameter	Value
	Mutate Rate	0.97
GA	Crossover Rate	0.59
	Random Rate	0.15
	Temperature	2625.31
SA	Reduction Rate	0.61
	Stopping Temperature	0.52
1.22	Pheromone Rate	0.44
ACO	Evaporate Rate	0.96
DCO	Inertia Max Rate	0.94
150	Inertia Min Rate	0.36

### 4. Computational Results

Using the tuned parameter by 'irace', this paper provides performance of the algorithms through repeatability. The experiment is run 1000 times under the same computational environment, with the following specifications: Intel Core i9-7900X central processing unit (CPU) (3.30GHz) processor; 32 GB of memory; and, Windows 10. The algorithm is developed using Java jdk11.0.1. The used environments for the experiment are three sizes are and they are shown in Figures 9–11. The results of the experiment are organized in following tables. In the table, 'processing time' means that the shortest consumed time of best OFV. The result is rounded off to three decimal places. Additionally, the notated number '0.0' on time means that measured time is less than 1 millisecond.

Tables 10 and 11 show the results of experiment under 10 × 10 grid environments. The performances of metaheuristic algorithm are distinguished clearly, depending on obstacle type, the number of obstacles, and algorithms. SA takes a shorter time to solve the problem than population-based algorithms, which are GA, ACO, and PSO, but the solution quality of SA has larger fluctuations. In Table 10, some cases of reported time variances of GA and ACO are larger than others. This shows that the proposed GA and ACO have more unsettled performance than others in some cases. The algorithms have a weakness for a problem with a huge local optimum, termed the 10\_4ch problem. Additionally, the larger number of obstacles, which are 10\_7n and 10\_11s problems, decreases the algorithm performance.

Problem Name	Searching Algorithm	Best OFV	Mean OFV	Processing Time (ms)	Average Processing Time (ms)	OFV Variance	Time Variance
	GA	14.817	14.820	0.0	14.661	0.001	28.056
10 1-	SA	14.817	15.745	0.0	0.420	1.726	6.370
10_10	ACO	14.817	14.817	0.0	7.567	0	61.731
	PSO	14.817	14.817	0.0	10.043	0	60.053
	GA	27.136	29.893	281	355.175	1.807	14129.98
10. Jah	SA	27.648	29.889	0.0	8.135	1.819	62.096
10_4ch	ACO	28.307	31.933	328	315.228	1.752	4752.647
	PSO	27.648	29.889	47	45.607	0.566	37.096
	GA	16.243	17.337	47	53.248	0.048	139.240
10 4-	SA	16.243	17.663	0.0	0.860	0.103	12.733
10_411	ACO	16.243	17.355	31	17.06	0.034	25.762
	PSO	16.243	17.169	15	15.726	0.095	18.089
	GA	14.065	14.305	62	90.302	0.025	833.630
10. 7n	SA	14.065	14.566	0.0	2.990	0.100	38.428
10_711	ACO	14.055	14.351	47	41.365	0.040	202.931
	PSO	14.065	14.278	15	21.607	0.015	61.548
	GA	14.485	16.810	125	180.398	0.426	3084.414
10 11	SA	14.485	17.652	15	7.544	0.871	62.567
10_115	ACO	14.485	17.044	93	78.178	0.298	650.778
	PSO	14.485	17.119	47	52.074	0.296	63.746
	GA	14.777	14.844	0.0	17.058	0.020	79.302
10.1m	SA	14.777	15.505	0.0	0.265	0.176	4.069
10_111	ACO	14.777	14.777	0.0	14.406	0.000	31.709
	PSO	14.777	14.777	0.0	7.556	0	62.998

**Table 10.** Experimental results of the metaheuristic algorithms within  $10 \times 10$  case.

**Table 11.** Experimental results of the other algorithms within  $10 \times 10$  case.

Problem Name	Searching Algorithm	Best OFV	Mean OFV	Processing Time (ms)	Average Processing Time (ms)	OFV Variance	Time Variance
	Dijkstra	14.817	14.817	0.0	1.038	0	15.036
10_1o	A*	14.817	14.817	0.0	0.831	0	12.363
	Wavefront	17.414	17.414	0.0	0.189	0	2.946
	Dijkstra	27.136	27.136	0.0	0.779	0	11.554
10_4ch	A*	27.136	27.136	0.0	0.771	0	12.039
	Wavefront	219.782	219.782	15	15.932	0	4.964
	Dijkstra	16.243	16.243	0.0	0.815	0	12.133
10_4n	A*	16.243	16.243	0.0	0.621	0	9.275
	Wavefront	20.485	20.485	0.0	1.883	0	26.053
	Dijkstra	14.055	14.055	0.0	0.744	0	11.001
10_7n	A*	14.055	14.055	0.0	0.625	0	9.394
	Wavefront	17.314	17.314	0.0	0.031	0	0.481
	Dijkstra	14.485	14.485	0.0	1.123	0	16.288
10_11s	A*	14.485	14.485	0.0	0.763	0	11.322
	Wavefront	14.485	14.485	0.0	0.015	0	0.225
	Dijkstra	14.777	14.777	0.0	1.448	0	20.492
10_1n	A*	14.777	14.777	0.0	1.198	0	17.296
	Wavefront	72.083	72.083	0.0	0.300	0	4.655

The algorithms in Table 11 are heuristic algorithms, so each algorithm provides a unique solution. The algorithms are usually dominantly faster than metaheuristic algorithms when solving this size of problem. Wavefront algorithm is easily trapped in local optimum, such as 10\_4ch, 10\_4n, 10\_7n, and 10\_1n problem. However, the processing time of Wavefront algorithm is lower than other algorithms, except for the 10\_4ch case. In this case, the algorithm cannot find a reasonable solution, because of local

optimum. The algorithms find a unique and the best solution for each problem, as Dijkstra algorithm and A star algorithm function as exact algorithms with the condition of these experiments.

Figures 12 and 13 show the best represented solutions while using the algorithm. Figure 12a shows the notation of the paths. Among the notations, 'others' means that all of the algorithms, except algorithms, which are shown individually in the figure. Some of them find the shortest path and the weakness of wavefront algorithm is easily found. In case of Figure 12d, f,h and Figure 13d, the solutions of wavefront algorithm are trapped by obstacles, which has 'n' shapes or small slots.



**Figure 12.** The best path of each algorithms with 'n' shape obstacles (**a**) 10\_7n (GA, SA, PSO); (**b**) 10\_7n (Wavefront); (**c**) 10\_7n (Others); (**d**) 10\_4n (Wavefront); (**e**) 10\_4n (Others); (**f**) 10\_1n (Wavefront); and, (**g**) 10\_1n (Others).



**Figure 13.** The best path with the rest environment (**a**) 10\_4ch (Wavefront); (**b**) 10\_4ch (ACO); (**c**) 10\_4ch (SA, PSO); (**d**) 10\_4ch (Others); (**e**) 10\_1o (Wavefront); (**f**) 10\_1o (Others); and, (**g**) 10\_11s (all algorithms).

The results with  $20 \times 20$  cell environments are organized in Tables 12 and 13. Average processing time of Dijkstra algorithm and A star algorithm is recognizably increased in comparison with the results of  $10 \times 10$  grid environments. The value, which is OFV variance of 20\_40 with SA, is noticeably larger than other OFV variance. On the other hand, the other, the processing time, is only marginally

different. For example, wavefront algorithm has a similar level with the outcome from the smaller problem. Metaheuristic algorithms are still slower than other algorithms in this environment size and their average processing time have similar characteristics with the results of  $10 \times 10$  grid environments.

Problem Name	Searching Algorithm	Best OFV	Mean OFV	Processing Time (ms)	Average Processing Time (ms)	OFV Variance	Time Variance
	GA	29.509	29.642	31	69.416	0.039	958.536
$20.1_{2}$	SA	29.509	29.867	0.0	0.464	0.040	6.976
20_10	ACO	29.509	29.509	140	186.123	0	238.633
	PSO	29.509	29.509	0.0	8.251	0	65.400
	GA	17.470	17.749	94	190.572	0.087	6469.725
20.45	SA	17.470	18.497	0.0	2.137	3.040	28.829
20_40	ACO	17.470	17.557	156	234.829	0.041	3034.65
	PSO	17.470	17.495	15	36.399	0.013	62.066

**Table 12.** Experimental results of the metaheuristic algorithms within  $20 \times 20$  case.

Table 13. Experimental results of the other algorithms within  $20 \times 20$  case.

Problem Name	Searching Algorithm	Best OFV	Mean OFV	Processing Time (ms)	Average Processing Time (ms)	OFV Variance	Time Variance
20_10	Dijkstra	29.509	29.509	31	45.066	0	43.279
	A*	29.509	29.509	15	33.730	0	38.918
	Wavefront	30.971	30.971	0.0	0.328	0	5.025
20_40	Dijkstra	17.470	17.470	15	23.931	0	61.980
	A*	17.470	17.470	0.0	8.360	0	62.405
	Wavefront	17.828	17.828	0.0	0.315	0	4.871

Tables 14 and 15 show the experiment results under  $40 \times 40$  cell. On this size of network, the searching speed of metaheuristic algorithms under some environments is faster than the speed of the Dijkstra algorithm and A star algorithm. For instance, PSO is a faster method for problems named 40\_10, 40\_1n in comparison with the Dijkstra and A star algorithm. The best OFV of these experiments is the same as the outcome of the exact algorithm, which means that the OFV is the global optimum. The Wavefront algorithm is the fastest algorithm among these seven algorithms, but it is not able to escape from the local optimum, such as the 40\_1n case. Meanwhile, in the case of 40\_11s, the average processing time of GA and ACO significantly shows the weakness of the algorithms. The number of obstacles make their processing times increase when compared to 40\_10 and 40\_1n. Time variance is also unstable in the case with GA and ACO.

**Table 14.** Experimental results of the metaheuristic algorithms within  $40 \times 40$  case.

Problem Name	Searching Algorithm	Best OFV	Mean OFV	Processing Time (ms)	Average Processing Time (ms)	OFV Variance	Time Variance
40_10	GA	62.512	62.622	125	156.54	0.037	2315.346
	SA	62.512	66.927	0.0	0.374	21.240	5.700
	ACO	62.512	62.512	515	546.614	0	108.868
	PSO	62.512	62.512	0.0	9.711	0	57.515
40_1n	GA	62.201	62.420	93	188.511	0.067	5195.051
	SA	62.201	63.481	0.0	0.327	1.619	4.995
	ACO	62.201	62.208	750	864.01	0.003	5275.087
	PSO	62.201	62.201	0.0	13.239	0.000	34.564
40_11s	GA	61.160	65.949	3359	2819.886	7.753	966961.7
	SA	60.677	68.213	63	23.476	15.223	116.924
	ACO	61.172	67.476	1250	1562.399	6.878	251384.9
	PSO	61.159	65.818	94	114.755	5.893	193.761

Searching Algorithm	Best OFV	Mean OFV	Processing Time (ms)	Average Processing Time (ms)	OFV Variance	Time Variance
Dijkstra	62.512	62.512	328	352.055	0	68.236
A*	62.512	62.512	124	133.200	0	62.801
Wavefront	73.899	73.899	0.0	1.486	0	21.079
Dijkstra	62.201	62.201	609	625.265	0	47.522
A*	62.201	62.201	390	407.943	0	39.447
Wavefront	2727.895	2727.895	15	23.186	0	91.761
Dijkstra	58.835	58.835	234	247.047	0	181.048
A*	58.835	58.835	78	89.608	0	80.601
Wavefront	64.527	64.527	0.0	1.276	0	18.266
	Searching Algorithm Dijkstra A* Wavefront Dijkstra A* Wavefront Dijkstra A* Wavefront	Searching AlgorithmBest OFVDijkstra A*62.512A*62.512Wavefront73.899Dijkstra A*62.201A*62.201Dijkstra Dijkstra2727.895Dijkstra A*58.835A*58.835Wavefront64.527	Searching AlgorithmBest OFVMean OFVDijkstra62.51262.512A*62.51262.512Wavefront73.89973.899Dijkstra62.20162.201A*62.20162.201Wavefront2727.8952727.895Dijkstra58.83558.835A*58.83558.835Wavefront64.52764.527	Searching AlgorithmBest OFVMean OFVProcessing Time (ms)Dijkstra62.51262.512328A*62.51262.512124Wavefront73.89973.8990.0Dijkstra62.20162.201609A*62.20162.201390Wavefront2727.8952727.89515Dijkstra58.83558.835234A*58.83558.83578Wavefront64.52764.5270.0	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $

**Table 15.** Experimental results of the other algorithms within  $40 \times 40$  case.

Average processing time of these two algorithms is dramatically increased. In order to recognize the time changes clearly, Figure 14 is presented. The graph is the result of following equation.

$$f(x) = \frac{40 \text{ probs Average processing time}}{10 \text{ probs Average processing time}},$$
(3)

As shown in the graph, Dijkstra and A star algorithms are remarkably more sensitive for network size than other algorithms, implying that network size is the weakness of the algorithms.



Figure 14. The process time increasing rate between 40 probs and 10 probs.

#### 5. Conclusions

The problem of collision-free path planning has been studied in various areas resulting in many different criteria for studying the problem. These differences have given rise to several different terms with similar meanings, which, in turn, may actually hinder research for developing new methodologies for the problem of collision-free path planning. Meanwhile, many papers use varied searching algorithms, but their performances are not measured across the board under the exact same experimental conditions. The searching algorithm of research papers was selected from related works, because the algorithm is "typically used" and "good enough". For this reason, some papers provide performance reviews under the same categories, such as sampling-based algorithms. However, the papers do not show the differences between the exact algorithms and heuristic based algorithms at the same time. The algorithms each have their own advantages and disadvantages. Integrated research is required in order to measure the pros and cons. Thus, this paper has two main contributions,

which are categorization considering criteria and searching algorithms performance review under grid environments.

Firstly, this research has organized the problem while considering these criteria as four categories: environment type; environmental representation; searching algorithm; and experimental type. Each category has specific classes of characteristics and the difference in the characteristics make contribution of the other researches about CFPP problem. Through these categories, this research contributes to understand CFPP problem structure and recently studied topics.

Second, a performance review for seven different searching algorithms for a network environment are proposed in this study. Each algorithm has its own significant characteristics. The performance can be altered according to network size, feature of obstacles or number of obstacles. The experiments show that searching speed of Dijkstra and A star algorithm rapidly increases, depending on network size more so than metaheuristic algorithms. Performance of the metaheuristic algorithm fluctuates based on the number or shape of the obstacles. Therefore, this paper evaluated the performance of these searching algorithms.

Recently, CFPP problem is studied under dynamic, stochastic or multi tasks condition recently. However, the performance result of this paper focused on stationary obstacles, network model, and single task condition. Many other conditions, such as kinematic constraint, different environmental representation, or environment type, should be researched for measuring their effect. Also, metaheuristic algorithms are defined as simplified form, thus they may have a performance gap between the suggested algorithms and the studied algorithm recently.

We plan to redeem the limitation of this paper, as follows. Our further research will be studying performance of recent algorithms under various conditions using a car-like robot. Through this plan, various combined conditions of kinematic constraint, environmental representation, and environmental type can be expected to consider. Also, an actual robot has limited specifications, such as the limitation of sensing vague objects in real-time and computational limitations. With this further research, these limitations can be considered while using a car-like robot.

On the other hand, the extension of the algorithm can be adopted and applied to real-time environment specially in vision enabled mobile machines. The information captured by such vision would provide much more accurate information for a mobile agent to aid in avoiding collisions. Thus, future research could include the direction of path planning in a real time environment with a vision enabled system.

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