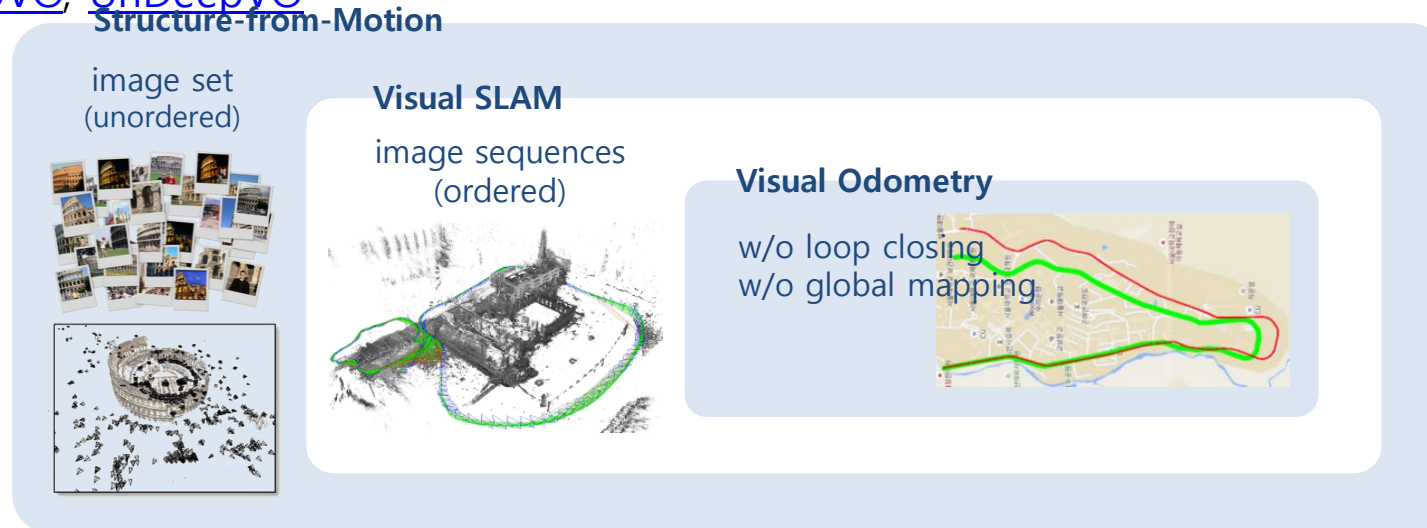


An Invitation to 3D Vision: Visual SLAM and Odometry

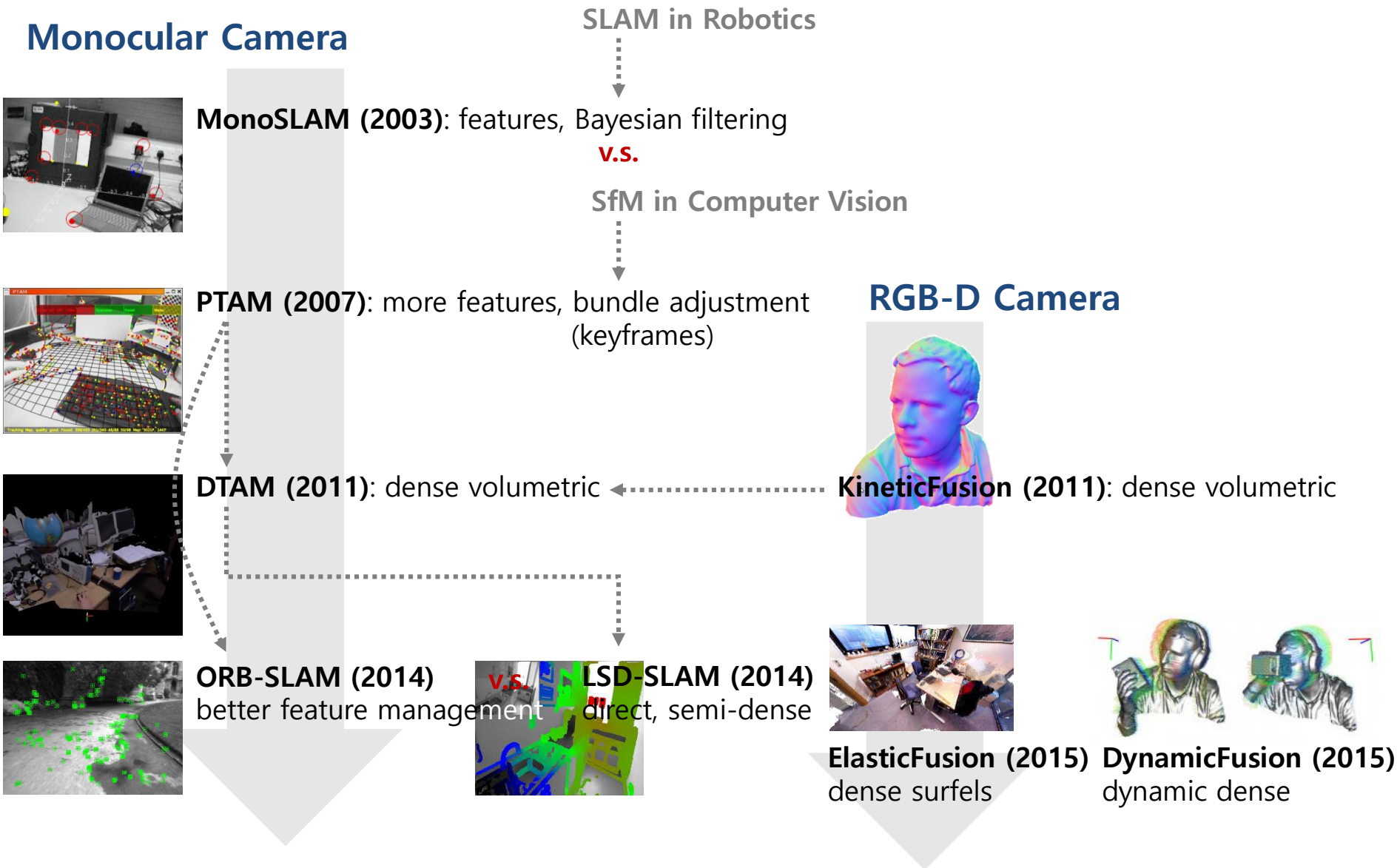
Sunglok Choi, Assistant Professor, Ph.D.
Computer Science and Engineering Department, SEOULTECH
sunglok@seoultech.ac.kr | <https://mint-lab.github.io/>

Applications

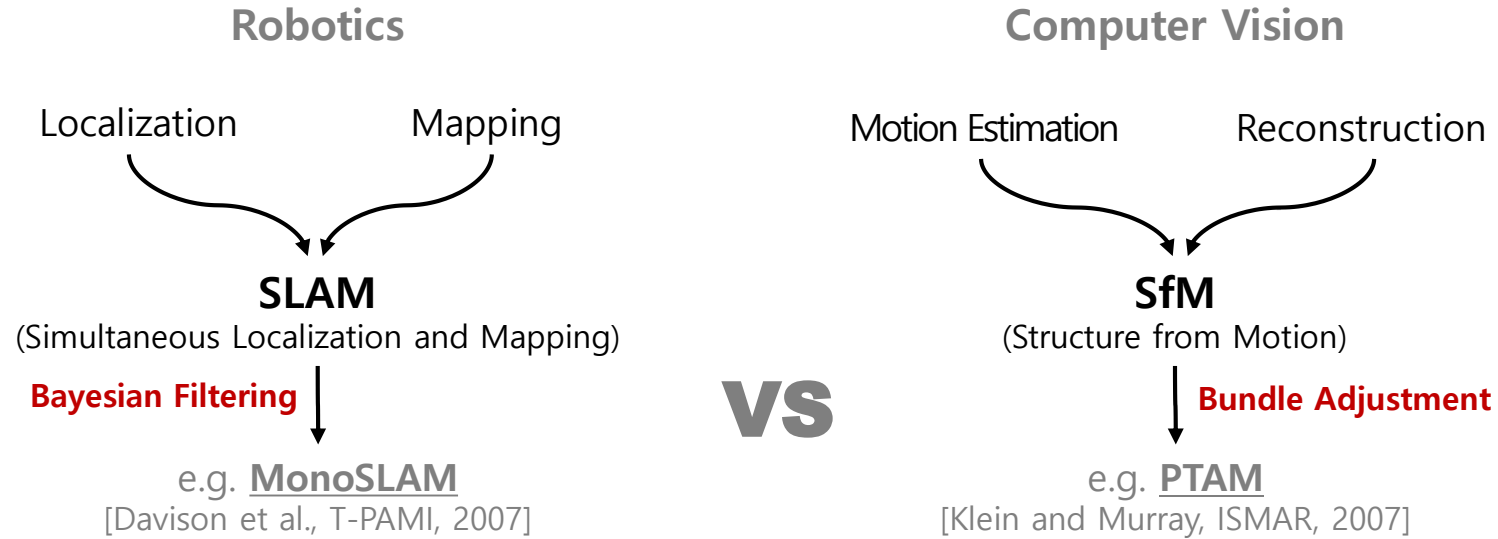
- **Structure-from-Motion (SfM)** → 3D Reconstruction, Photo Browsing
 - [Bundler](#), [COLMAP](#), [MVE](#), [Theia](#), [openMVG](#), [OpenSfM](#), [Toy SfM](#) / [VisualSfM](#) (GUI, binary only)
- **Visual SLAM** → Augmented Reality, Navigation (Mapping and Localization)
 - [PTAM](#) (Parallel Tracking and Mapping), [DTAM](#) (Dense Tracking and Mapping), [ORB-SLAM2](#), [LSD-SLAM](#)
 - cf. Visual loop closure (a.k.a. visual place recognition): [DBow2](#), [FBoW](#), [PoseNet](#), [NetVLAD](#)
- **Visual Odometry** → Navigation (Localization)
 - [LIBVISQ2](#) (C++ Library for Visual Odometry 2), [SVO](#) (Semi-direct Monocular Visual Odometry), [DVO](#) (Direct Sparse Odometry), [DeepVO](#), [UnDeepVO](#)



Visual Odometry and SLAM: History



Paradigm #1: Bayesian Filtering v.s. Bundle Adjustment



"Real-time Monocular SLAM: Why Filter?"

[Strasdat et al., ICRA, 2010]



1. Global optimization
2. # of features (100 vs 4000)

Paradigm #2: Feature-based Method v.s. Direct Method

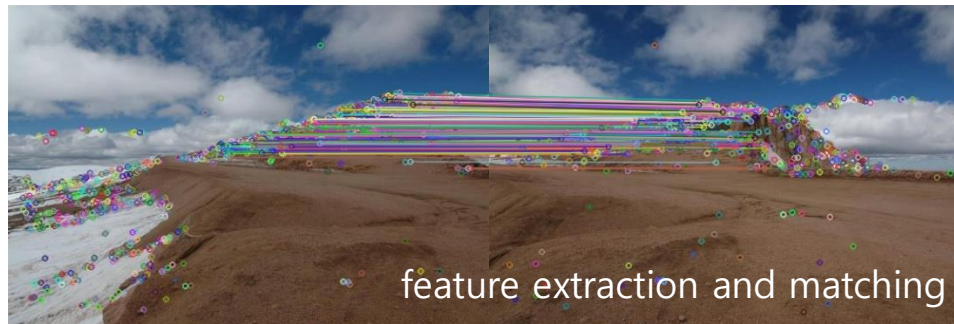
- e.g. Image stitching



Feature-based Method

VS

Direct Method

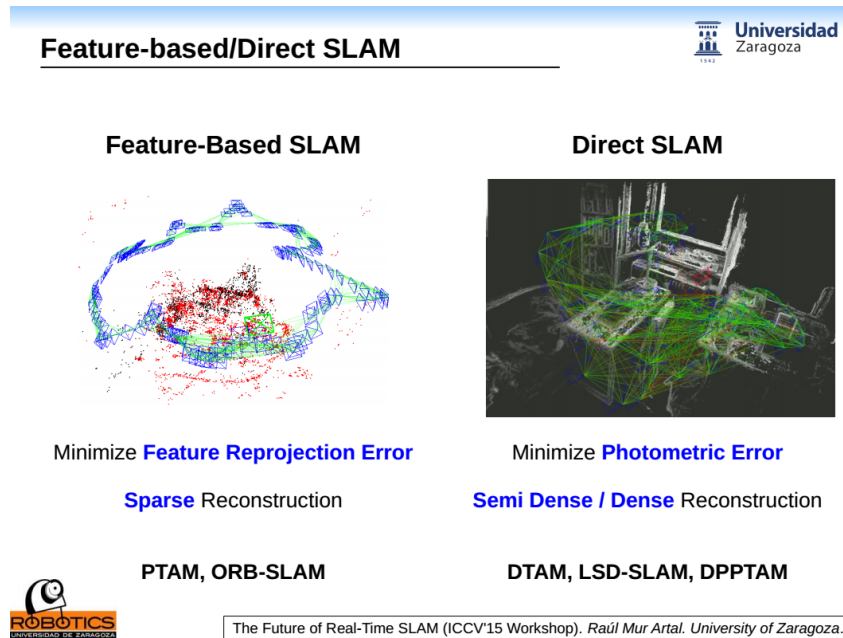


$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{H}} \sum_i \left\| \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}'_i \right\|^2$$



$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{H}} \sum_{u,v} \left\| I\left(\begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}\right) - I'(\mathbf{H} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}) \right\|^2$$

Paradigm #2: Feature-based Method v.s. Direct Method



Why should we still use features?

Robustness

- Reliable two-view monocular initialization
- Good invariance to viewpoint and illumination
- Less affected by auto-gain and auto-exposure
- Less affected by dynamic elements

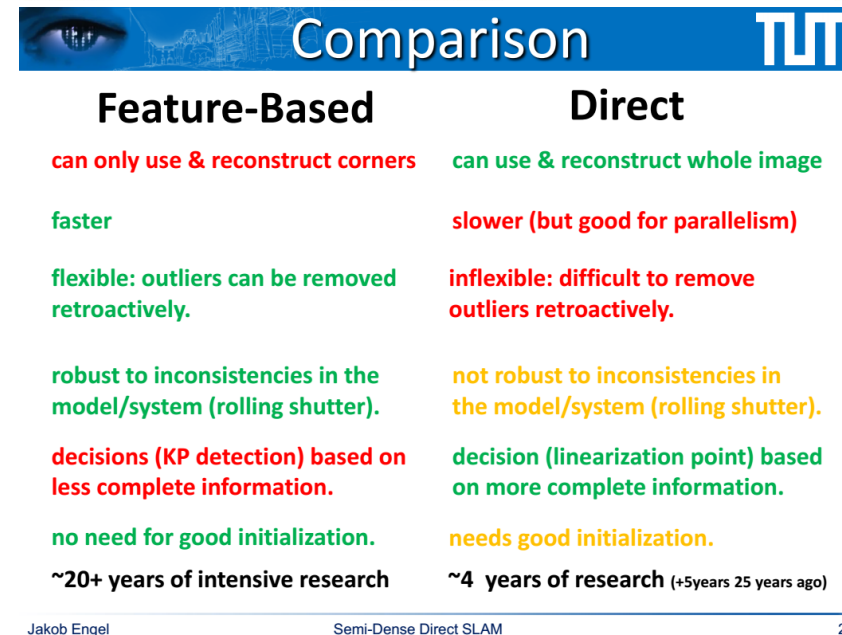
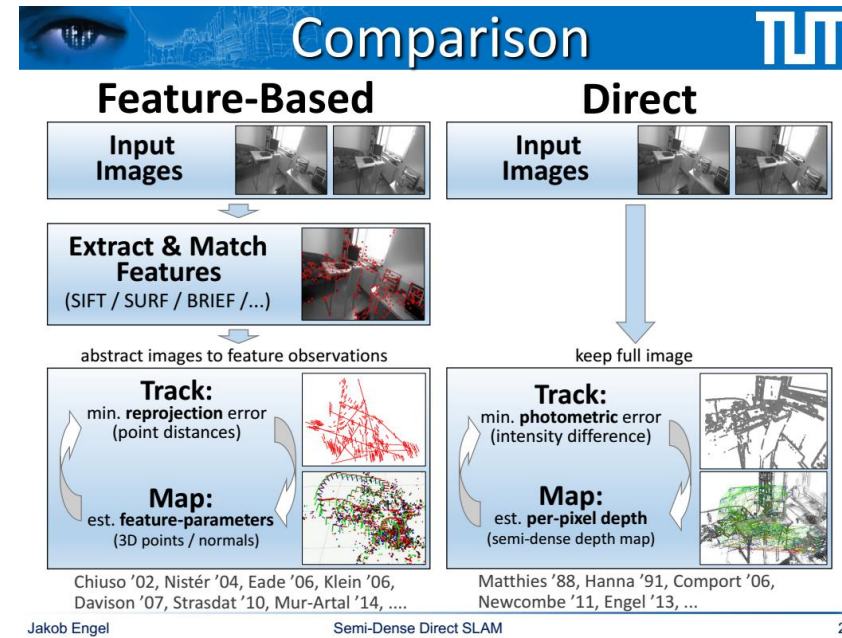
Accuracy

- Bundle adjustment (joint map-trajectory optimization)

Place Recogniton (loop detection, relocalization)

- Bags of Words

But sparse reconstructions ...



Why Visual Odometry?



Visual odometry

VS



Wheel odometry

- + direct motion measure
- + six degree-of-freedom
- + easy to install
- heavy computation
- visual disturbance (e.g. moving objects)

- indirect motion measure (e.g. slippage)
- two degree-of-freedom
- necessary to be on rotor/shaft
- + simple calculation

Why Visual Odometry?



Visual odometry

VS



Wheel odometry



- indirect motion measure (e.g. slippage)
- two degree-of-freedom
- necessary to be on rotor/shaft
- + simple calculation

no wheels / rough terrains, in-the-sky, under-the-water

Why Visual Odometry?



Visual odometry

VS



Wheel odometry



- indirect motion measure (e.g. slippage)
- two degree-of-freedom
- necessary to be on rotor/shaft
- + simple calculation

no wheels / rough terrains, in-the-sky, under-the-water



Visual Odometry

VS



Visual SLAM

no assumption on trajectories
→ navigation / large space (outdoor)

closed-loop is preferred for convergence
→ mapping / small space (indoor, campus)

Why Visual Odometry?



Visual odometry

VS



Wheel odometry



- indirect motion measure (e.g. slippage)
- two degree-of-freedom
- necessary to be on rotor/shaft
- + simple calculation

no wheels / rough terrains, in-the-sky, under-the-water



Visual Odometry

VS



Visual SLAM

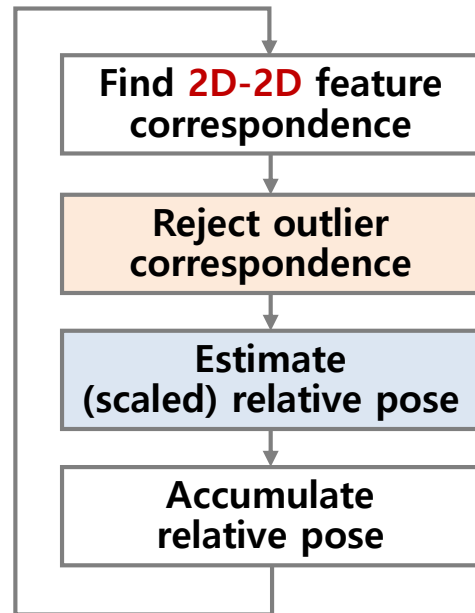


closed-loop is preferred for convergence
→ mapping / small space (indoor, campus)

real navigation situations

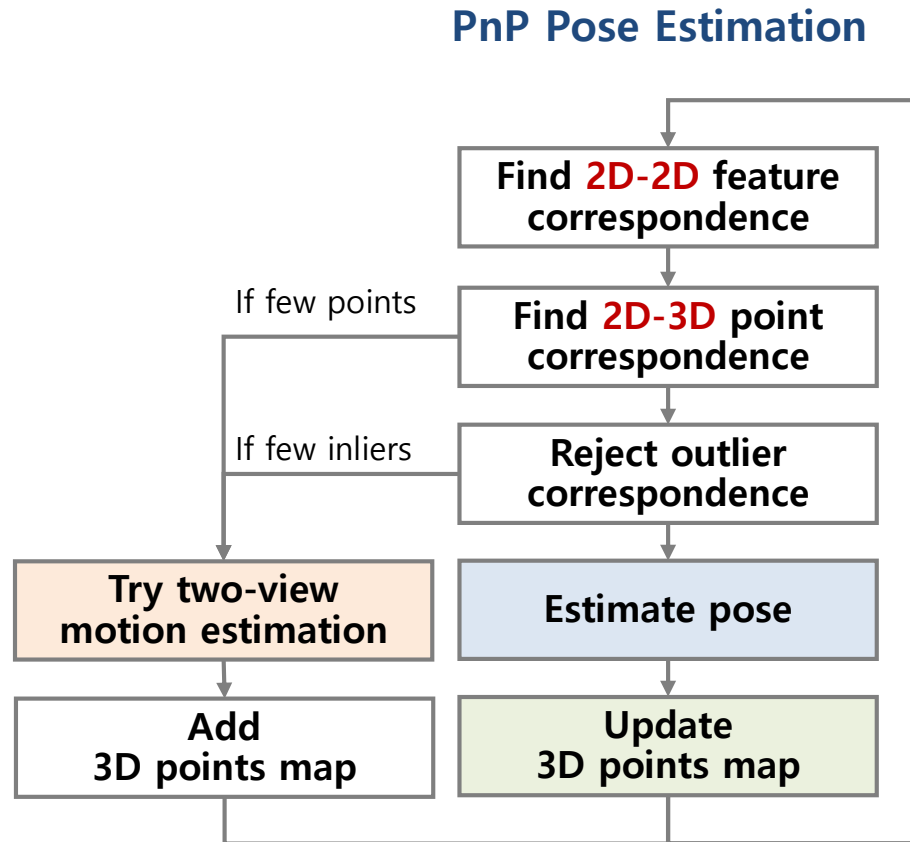
Feature-based Monocular Visual Odometry

Two-view Motion Estimation



- Feature: **Good-Feature-to-Track** [Shi94_CVPR] with bucketing to distribute features
- Correspondence: **Lucas-Kanade optical flow** [Lucas81_IJCAI]
- Adaptive MSAC [Choi09_IROS]
- **Iterative 5-point algorithm** [Choi15_IJCAS]
- Error measure: Sampson distance
- Normalized 8-point algorithm
- Scale-from-ground with **asymmetric kernels** [Choi13_URAI]

Feature-based Monocular Visual Odometry



- Feature: **Good-Feature-to-Track** [Shi94_CVPR] with bucketing to distribute features
- Correspondence: **Lucas-Kanade optical flow** [Lucas81_IJCAI]
- Adaptive MSAC
- **Iterative PnP algorithm** (3-point algorithm)
- Error measure: Projection error
- Iterative PnP algorithm
- Scale-from-ground with **asymmetric kernels** [Choi13_URAI]
- **Bundle adjustment** over last K keyframes
Reprojection error with Cauchy loss function

Feature-based Monocular Visual Odometry



Summary

Slides and example codes are available:

https://github.com/sunglok/3dv_tutorial

- **What is 3D Vision?**
- **Single-view Geometry**
 - **Camera Projection Model**
 - Pinhole Camera Model
 - Geometric Distortion Models
 - **General 2D-3D Geometry**
 - Camera Calibration
 - Absolute Camera Pose Estimation (PnP Problem)
- **Two-view Geometry**
 - **Planar 2D-2D Geometry (Projective Geometry)**
 - Planar Homography
 - **General 2D-2D Geometry (Epipolar Geometry)**
 - Fundamental/Essential Matrix
 - Relative Camera Pose Estimation
 - Triangulation (Point Localization)
- **Multi-view Geometry**
 - Bundle Adjustment (Non-linear Optimization)
 - Applications: Structure-from-motion, Visual SLAM, and Visual Odometry
- **Correspondence Problem**
 - Feature Correspondence: Feature Matching and Tracking
 - Robust Parameter Estimation: (Hough Transform), RANSAC, M-estimator

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} \quad (\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{R} | \mathbf{t}]) \\ \mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{K}\hat{\mathbf{x}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \mathbf{x}' &= \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}' &= \hat{\mathbf{H}}\hat{\mathbf{x}} \quad (\hat{\mathbf{H}} = \mathbf{R} + \frac{1}{d}\mathbf{t}\mathbf{n}^\top)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \mathbf{x}'^\top \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} &= 0 \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}'^\top \mathbf{E} \hat{\mathbf{x}} &= 0 \quad (\mathbf{E} = [\mathbf{t}]_\times \mathbf{R})\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \operatorname{argmin} \sum_i^n \sum_j^m \left\| \mathbf{x}_i^j - \mathbf{P}_j \mathbf{X}_i \right\|_\Sigma^2$$

Applications in Deep Learning Era

- There are still many researches and applications.
 - 3D reconstruction
 - Real-time visual odometry/SLAM
 - Augmented reality (mixed reality), virtual reality



model-based problem solving
(e.g. calculating camera pose; minimizing a cost function)



unknown models and procedures
(e.g. recognizing objects, finding correspondence)

- 3D understanding of **results** from deep learning
 - e.g. Bounding boxes from object recognition → metric position and size
- Designing **cost functions** for deep learning
 - e.g. Left-right consistency in [MonoDepth](#) [CVPR 2017]
 - e.g. [Eigendecomposition-free training](#) of deep learning [ECCV 2018]
- Building **datasets** for deep learning
 - e.g. [LIFT](#) [ECCV 2016]

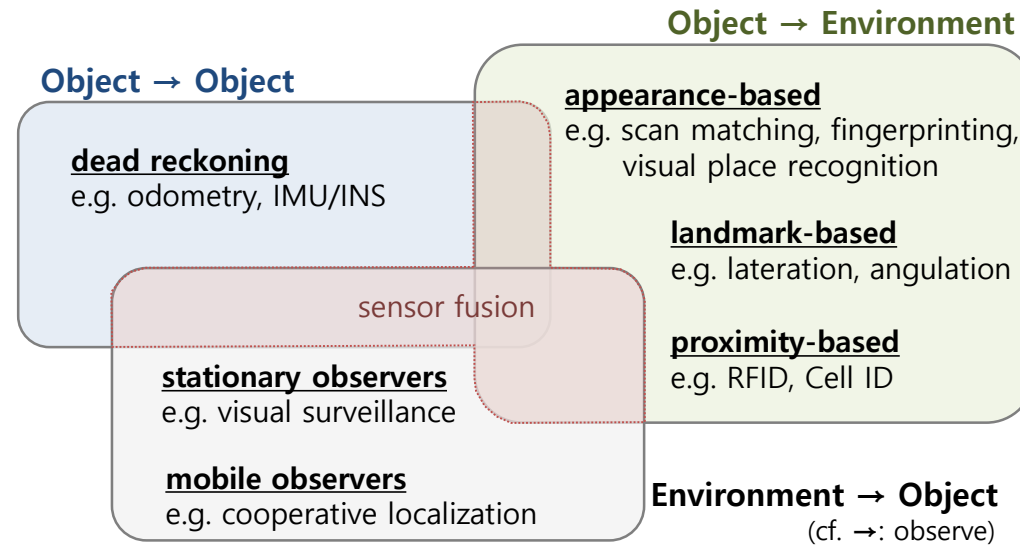
Appendix: Further Information

- **Beyond Point Features**
 - Other features: [OPVO](#), [Kimera](#)
 - Direct methods (w/o features): Already mentioned (including deep learning)
- ~~Real-time / Large-scale SfM~~
- **(Spatially / Temporally) Non-static SfM**
 - Deformable (or moving) objects: [Non-rigid SfM](#)
- **Depth, Object, and Semantic Recognition**
- **Sensor Fusion and New Sensors**
 - + Depth (ORB-SLAM2, LSD-SLAM, DVO have their variants with depth.)
 - RGB-D: [ElasticFusion](#), [RGB-D SLAM](#), [BaMVO](#), [RTAB-Map](#)
 - Stereo cameras: [S-PTAM](#), [ProSLAM](#)
 - LiDAR: [LIMO](#) / cf. [Cartographer](#)
 - + IMU: [OKVIS](#), [ROVIO](#), [VINS-Mono](#)
 - Visual-inertia Calibration: [Kalib](#)
 - + GPS
 - Omni-directional cameras: [Multi-FoV datasets](#)
 - Light-field cameras
 - Event camera: [ETAM](#)*
- **Minimal Solvers / Self-calibration**
 - [OpenGV](#), [Minimal Problems in Computer Vision](#)
- **Public Datasets and Evaluations**
 - Datasets: [Awesome Robotics Datasets](#)
 - Evaluations: [KITTI Odometry/SLAM Evaluation 2012](#), [GSLAM](#), [evo](#)

SLAM: Simultaneous **Localization** and Mapping

~ positioning, tracking

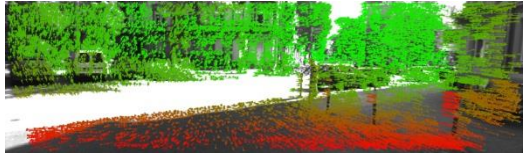
- Localization: Finding position (and also orientation; pose) of something
 - e.g. robot/vehicle/pedestrian/... localization, GPS (Global Positioning System), ..., sound localization
- Localization w.r.t. its data sources [Choi14_ICRA]



Localization: Data Sources

- 1) LIBVISO2: <http://www.cvlibs.net/software/libviso/>
- 2) openFABMAP: <https://github.com/arenglover/openfabmap>
- 3) OpenCellID: <http://www.opencellid.org/>
- 4) UTIAS MRCLAM: <http://asrl.utias.utoronto.ca/datasets/mrclam/>

1) LIBVISO2: C++ Library for Visual Odometry



Object → Object

- **dead reckoning**
e.g. odometry, IMU/INS

sensor fusion

- **stationary observers**
e.g. visual surveillance

- **mobile observers**
e.g. cooperative localization



4) UTIAS MRCLAM Dataset: UTIAS Multi-Robot Cooperative Localization and Mapping Dataset

Object → Environment

- **appearance-based**
e.g. scan matching, fingerprinting, visual place recognition

- **landmark-based**
e.g. lateration, angulation

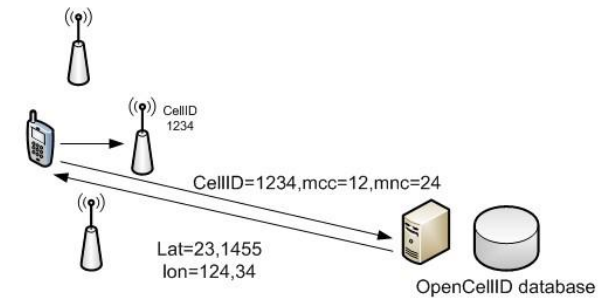
- **proximity-based**
e.g. RFID, Cell ID

Environment → Object (cf. →: observe)

2) FAB-MAP: Fast Appearance based Mapping

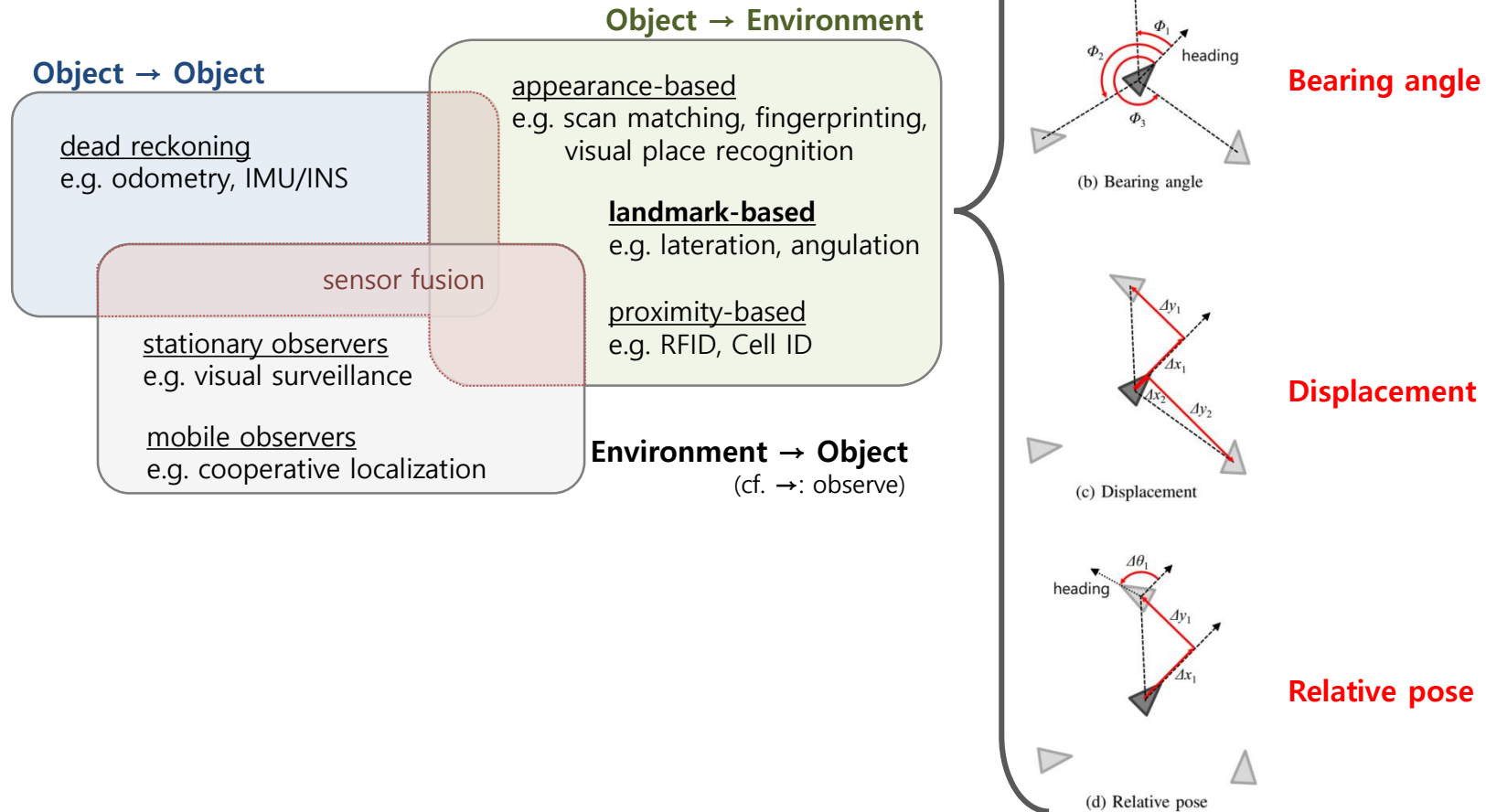


3) OpenCellID: Open-source DB of Cell IDs



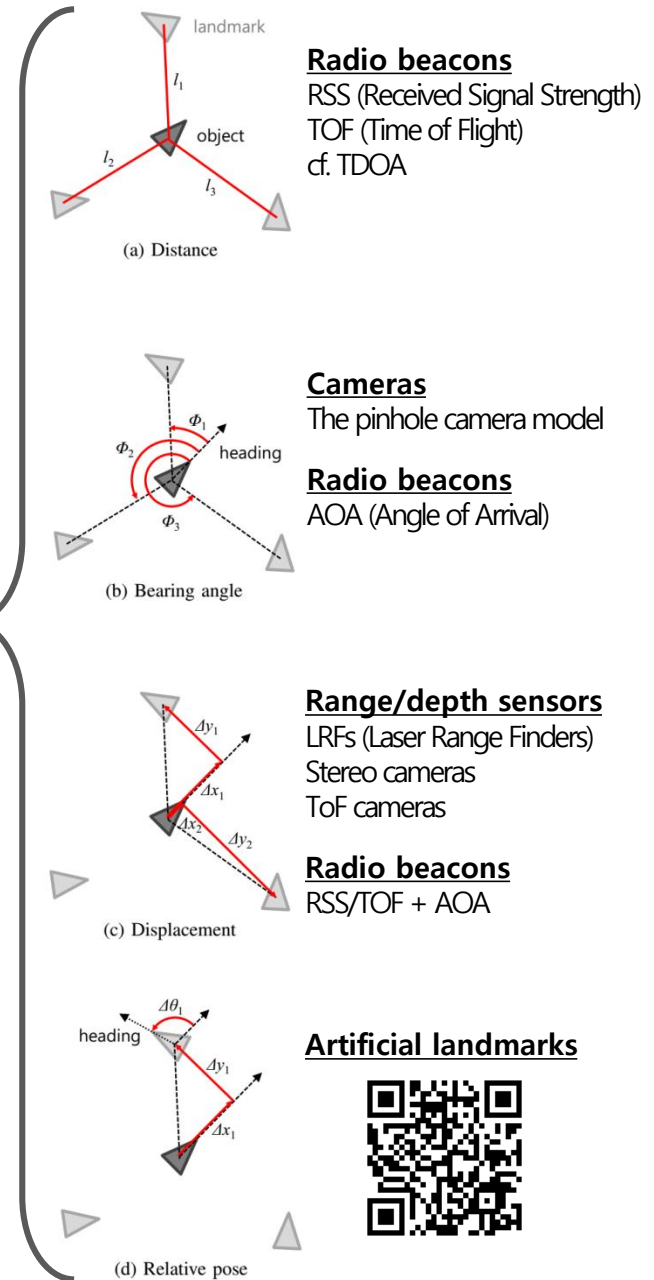
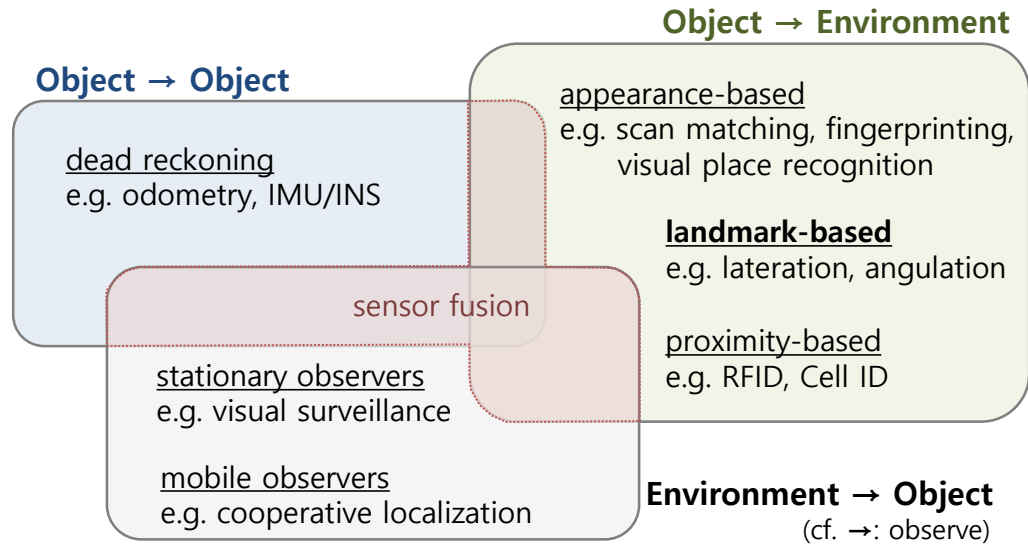
Landmark-based Localization: Data Sources

~ feature, tag, (radio) beacon, satellite, ...



Landmark-based Localization: Data Sources

~ feature, tag, (radio) beacon, satellite, ...

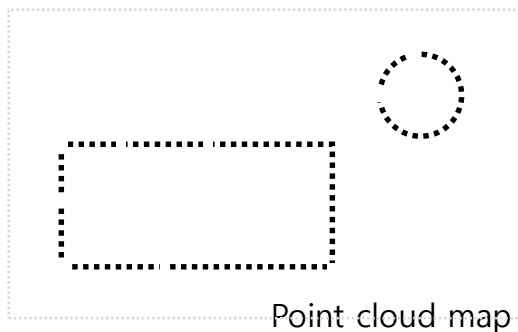
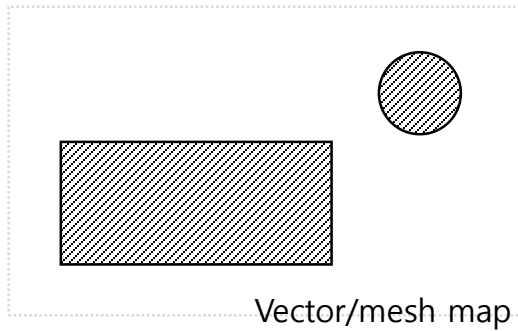
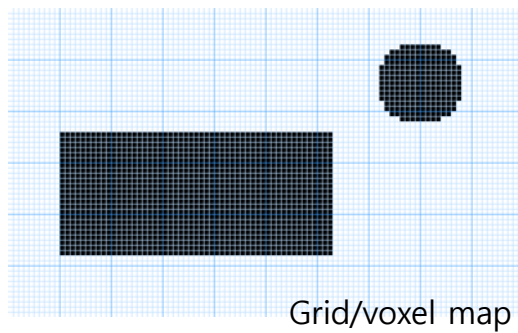


SLAM: Simultaneous Localization and Mapping

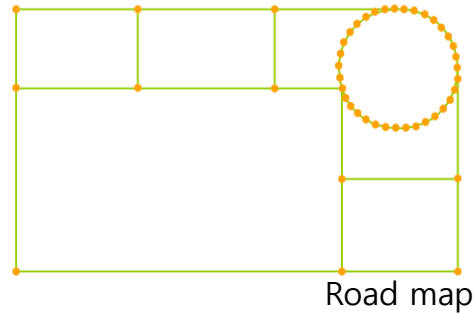
~ map building

- (Robotic) mapping: Constructing a map of the environment
- Map representations w.r.t. their contents

Metric maps

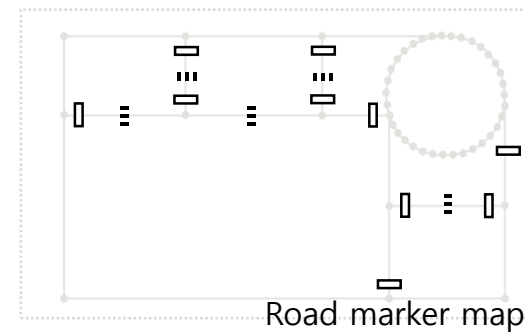
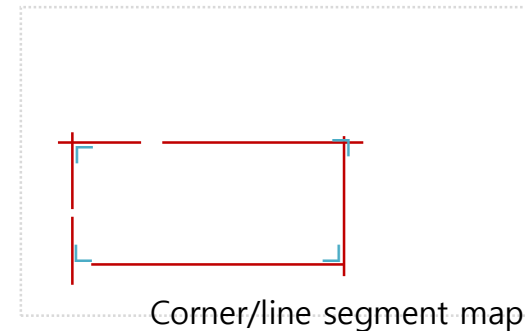
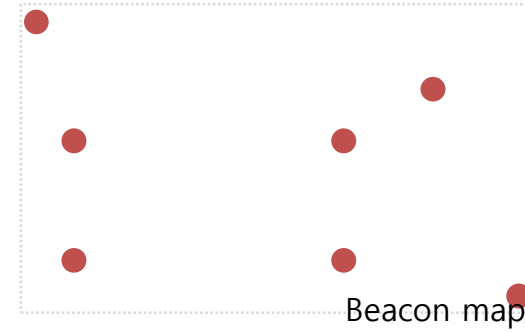


Topological maps



For path planning

Landmark maps



Overview

- **SLAM:** Joint estimation of robot poses (or path) and a map (used in localization)
 - A chicken-and-egg problem
 - One of the most popular topics in robot navigation (mobile robot)
- **Why SLAM?**
 - Autonomous navigation needs information about robot pose.
 - In indoor, GPS is not available.
 - In outdoor, GPS is not perfect and complete.
 - e.g. inaccurate (due to multi-path) and unavailable (due to urban canyons, tunnels, ...)
 - Dead-reckoning with IMUs or encoders suffers from drift error.
 - Map-based localization (e.g. using landmark maps or HD maps)
 - If a robot starts to navigate on an unknown environment.
 - If the environment was changed. (e.g. new or removed landmarks)

Overview

▪ Why many variants?

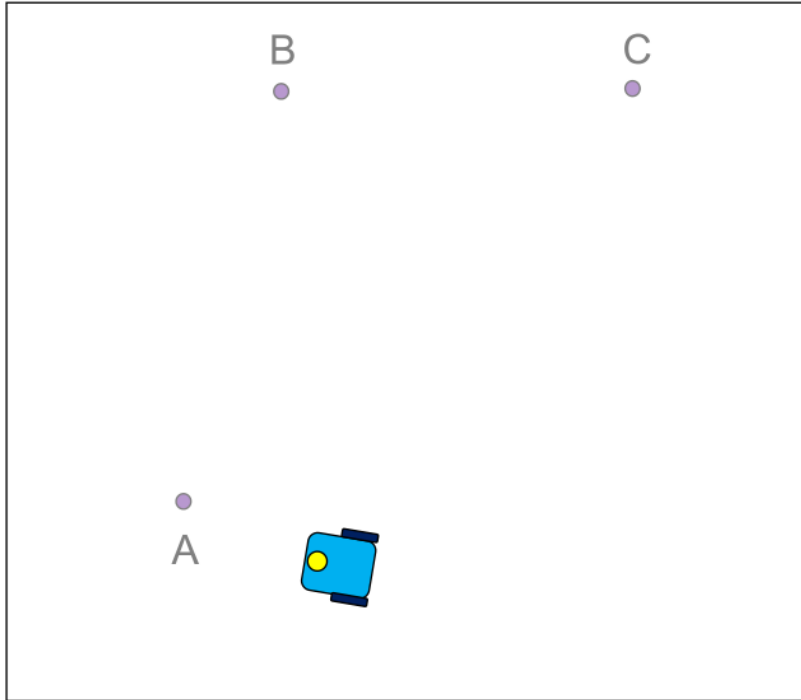
- **Sensor modalities:** Camera, LiDAR, GPS, ... / encoders, IMU, ...
 - Data utilization: Feature-based (indirect) vs.. direct / sparse vs.. dense
- **Map representations:** Feature maps vs.. metric maps, keyframe maps, topological maps (~ pose graphs), ...
 - Dimension of robot pose and features (space): 2D vs.. 3D
- **Working scenarios:** Indoor, on-road, underwater, flying (~ handheld, wearable), ...

▪ Applications

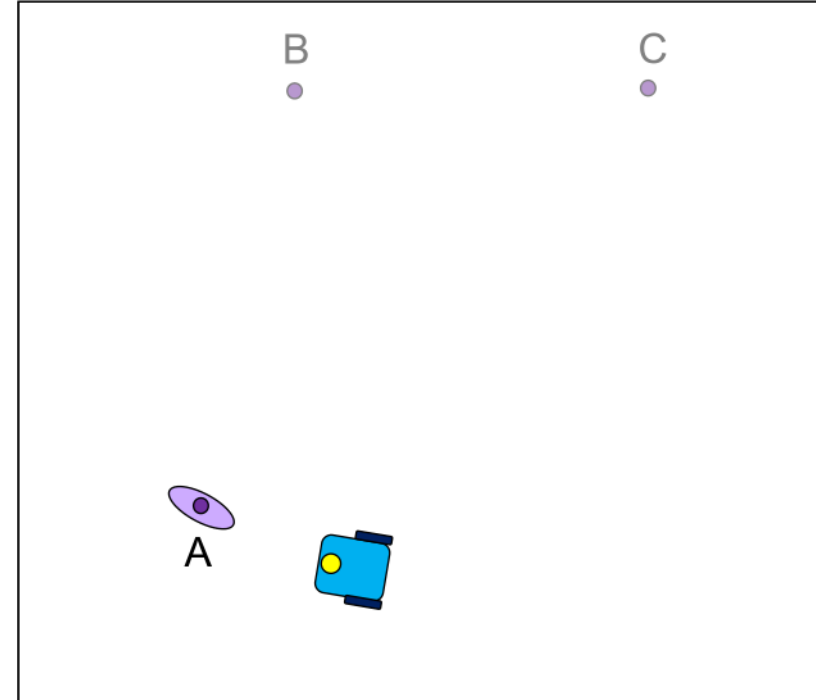
- Robot/vehicle navigation
- Augmented/virtual reality
- 3D capture and reconstruction
- ...

- Books and papers (ordered by their difficulties)
 - [SLAM Tutorial @ ICRA 2016](#) and [@ RSS 2015](#)
 - [A Tutorial on Graph-based SLAM](#) [ITSM, 2010]
 - SLAM Course by Cyrill Stachniss [2013-14]: [Slides](#), [YouTube](#)
 - ~~[SLAM Summer School 2006](#)~~ and ~~SLAM [Part I](#) and [II](#)~~ [RAM, 2006] (Outdated)
 - [Probabilistic Robotics](#) [The MIT Press, 2005] (Outdated, but still the best bible)
 - [Past, Present, and Future of SLAM](#) [T-RO, 2016]
 - [The Future of Real-time SLAM @ ICCV 2015](#) (mostly focused on visual SLAM)
- Codes
 - Github: <https://github.com/topics/slam>
 - Visual SLAM: [ORB-SLAM2](#) (mono, stereo, RGB-D), [DSO](#), [VINS-Mono](#) (mono+IMU), [RTAB-Map](#) (RGB-D), ...
 - LiDAR SLAM: [GMapping](#), [Cartographer](#), ...
 - Optimizer (backend): [g2o](#), [GTSAM](#), [Ceres Solver](#), ...
 - ~~[OpenSLAM](#)~~ (outdated), [MRPT](#)
 - Base libraries: [OpenCV](#), [PCL](#) (Point Cloud Library), [Open3D](#)
 - [My open tutorial on 3D vision for beginners](#) (contains basics for visual odometry and SLAM)
- Communities
 - [SLAM KR](#) (Korean Facebook group)

SLAM with a Gaussian Filter

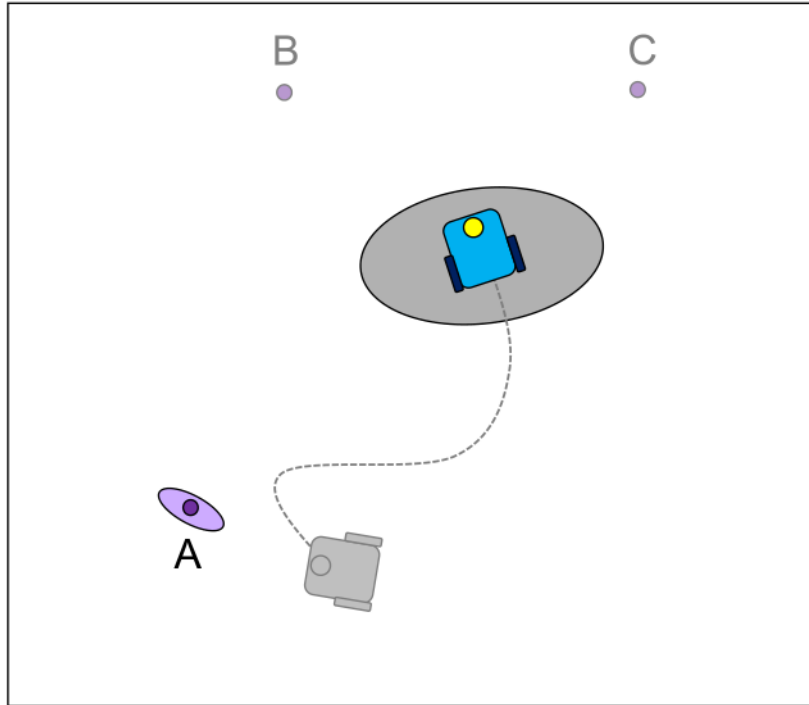


Start: robot has zero uncertainty

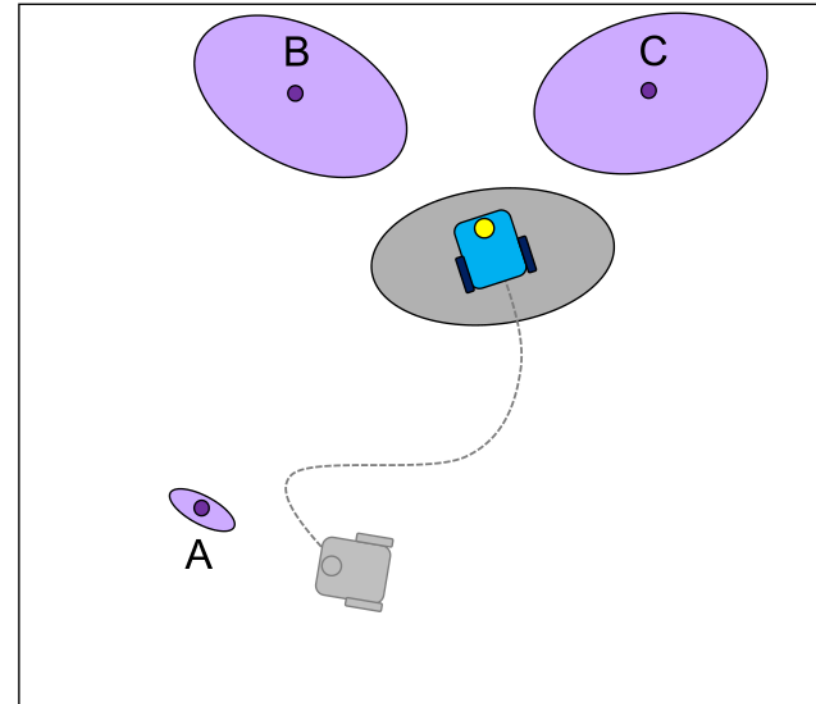


First measurement of feature A

SLAM with a Gaussian Filter



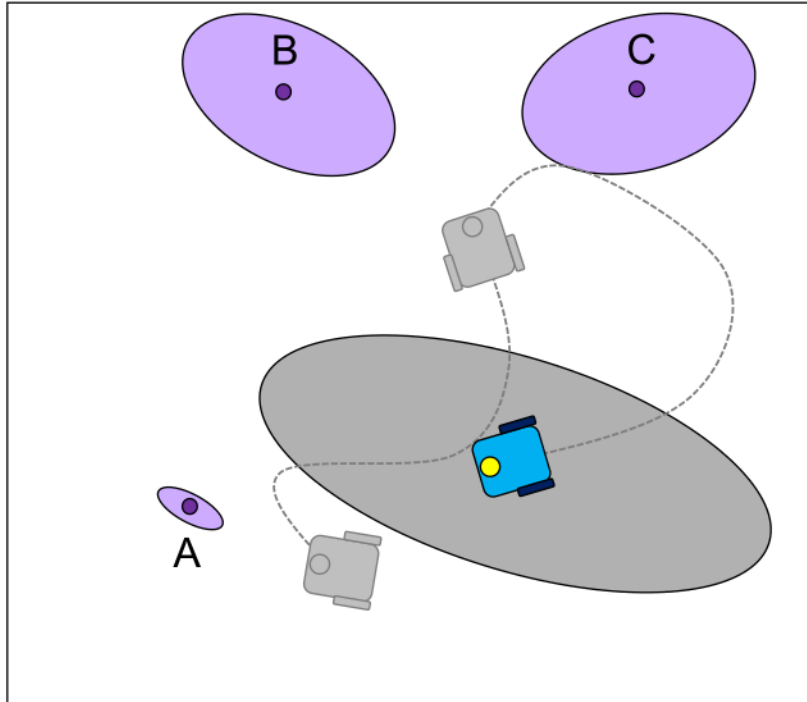
Robot moves forwards: uncertainty grows



Robot makes first measurements of B & C

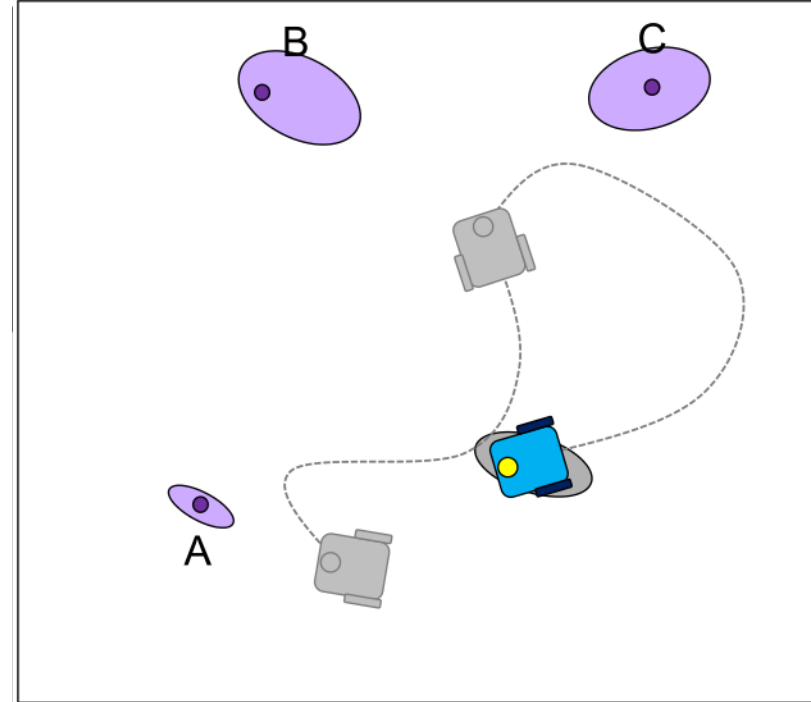
SLAM with a Gaussian Filter

Predict how the robot has moved



Robot moves again: uncertainty grows more

Correct the robot pose and map

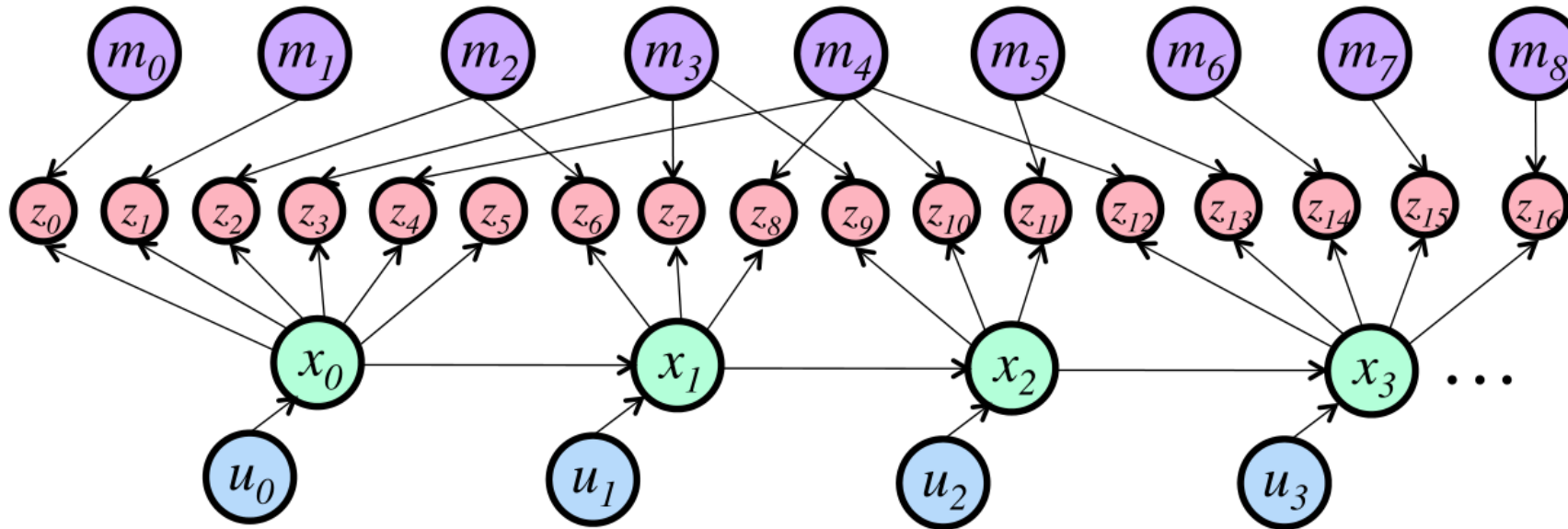
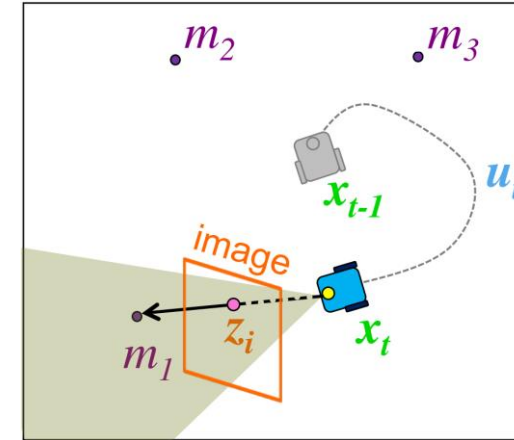


Robot re-measures A: “**loop closure**”
uncertainty shrinks

SLAM in Graphical Representation

Notation

- x_t : Robot pose at time t / $\{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_t\}$: Robot path
- m_i : i -th feature / $\{m_0, m_1, \dots, m_N\}$: Map
- u_t : Robot motion between $t - 1$ and t (a.k.a. control input)
- z_i : Observation of i -th feature

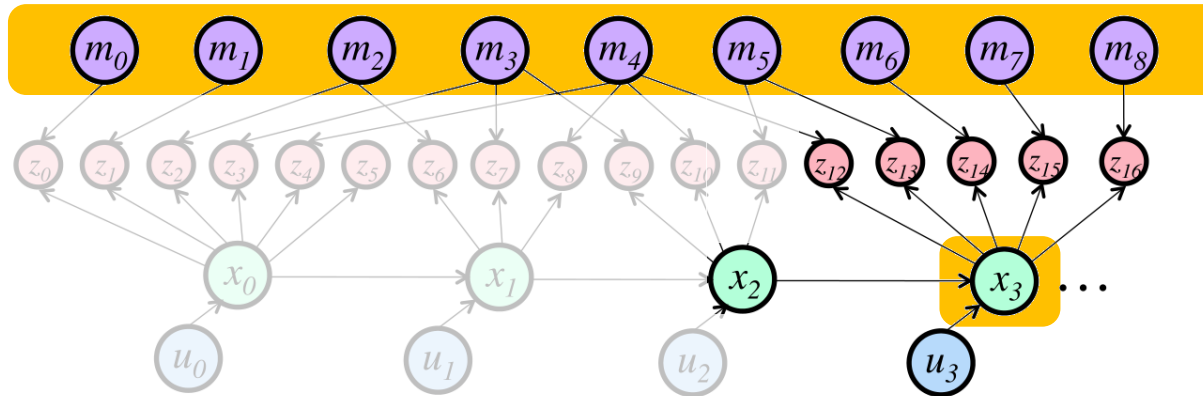


Problem Formulation

- **Online SLAM** estimates most recent pose and map

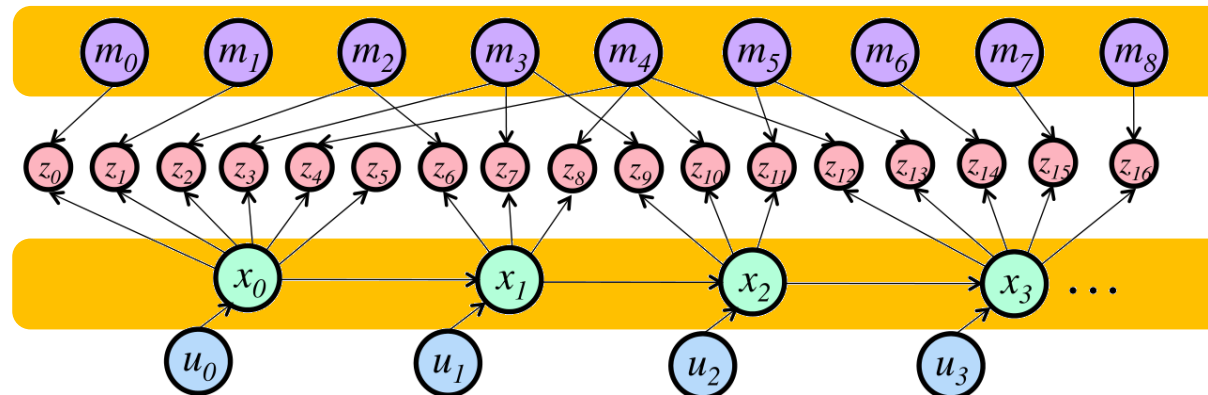
~ Maximize the posterior $P(\mathbf{x}_t, m_{0:N} | \mathbf{z}_{0:k}, \mathbf{u}_{1:t})$ or more simply $P(\mathbf{x}_t, m_{n:N} | \mathbf{z}_{n:k}, \mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t-1})$

Markov assumption



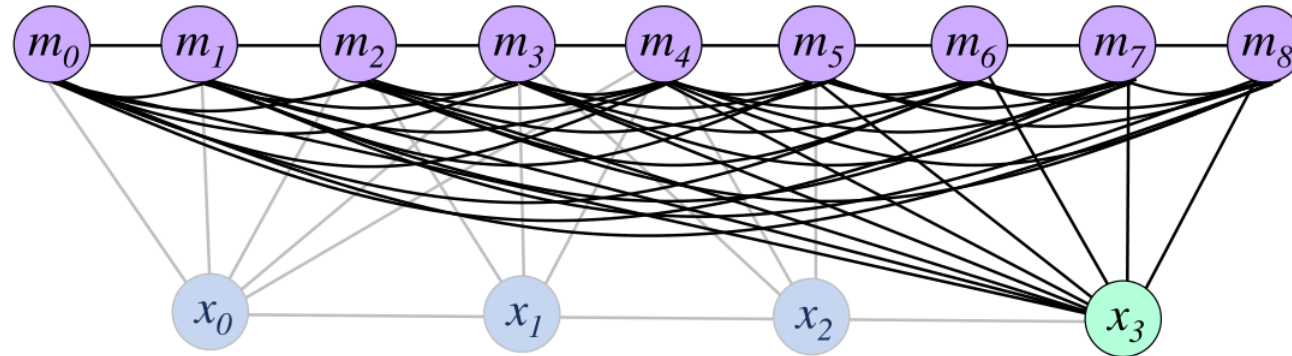
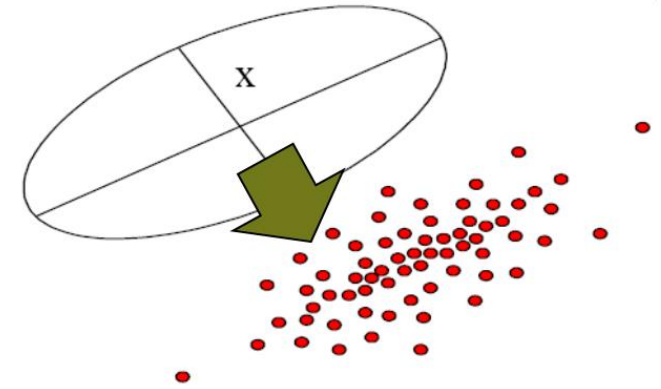
- **Full SLAM** estimates entire path and map

~ Maximize the posterior $P(\mathbf{x}_{0:t}, m_{0:N} | \mathbf{z}_{0:k}, \mathbf{u}_{1:t})$



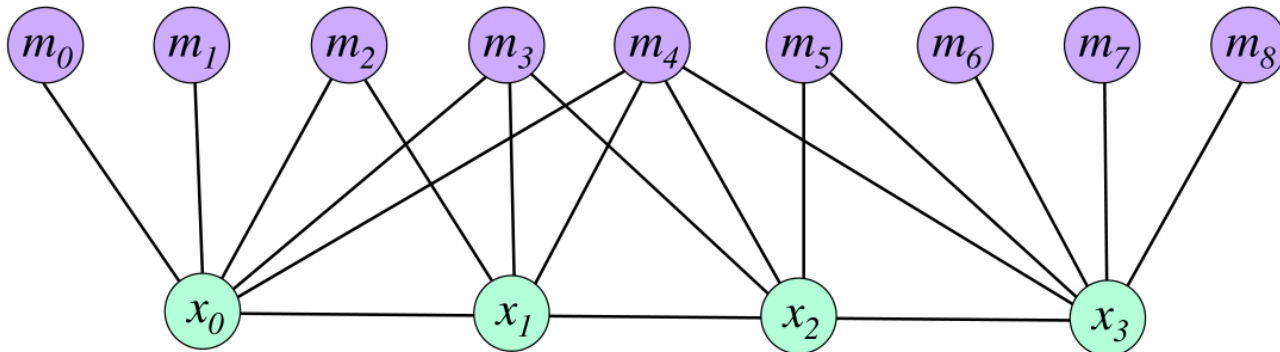
Bayesian Filtering

- Approaches
 - Follow **prediction** (with motion) and **correction** (with observation) steps
 - Use probabilistic representation
 - Kalman filter: Gaussian / Particle filter: a set of samples
 - Usually based on Markov assumption
- Pros
 - + **Run online** (but it does not mean real-time)
- Cons
 - **Does not scale to high-dimensional problems**
 - Kalman filter: Unimodal / Particle filter: Need many particles for good convergence



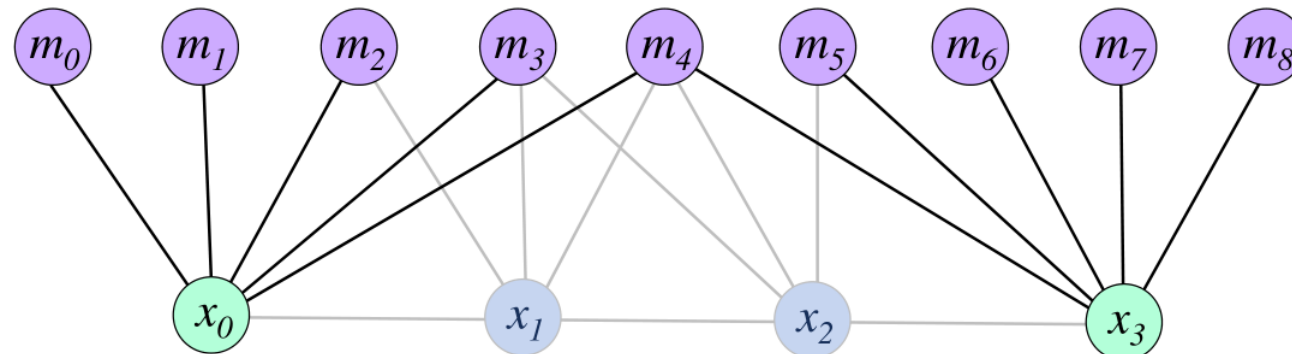
Graph Optimization

- Approaches
 - Minimize the nonlinear least-squares cost function (\sim reprojection error)
 - Use a batch maximum likelihood (ML) approach
 - Assume Gaussian noise distribution
- Pros
 - + **Information can move backward**
 - + Best possible results given from the data and models
- Cons
 - **Computational burden**
 - Difficult to provide the online result for control



Graph Optimization

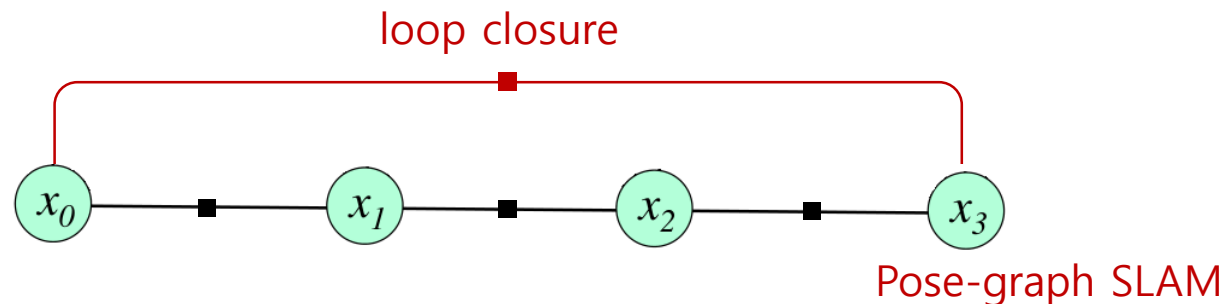
- Approaches
 - Minimize the nonlinear least-squares cost function (\sim reprojection error)
 - Use a batch maximum likelihood (ML) approach
 - Assume Gaussian noise distribution
- Pros
 - + **Information can move backward**
 - + Best possible results given from the data and models
- Cons
 - **Computational burden** → Sparsify the graph or apply sliding window or parallelize the burden
 - Difficult to provide the online result for control



Keyframe-based SLAM

Graph Optimization

- Approaches
 - Minimize the nonlinear least-squares cost function (\sim reprojection error)
 - Use a batch maximum likelihood (ML) approach
 - Assume Gaussian noise distribution
- Pros
 - + **Information can move backward**
 - + Best possible results given from the data and models
- Cons
 - **Computational burden** → Sparsify the graph or apply sliding window or parallelize the burden
 - Difficult to provide the online result for control



MonoSLAM (2003)

- The first successful visual SLAM with pure vision, drift-free, and real-time ability

- **References**

- Code repositories

- [SceneLib v1](#), [Andrew Davison](#) (LGPL)
 - [SceneLib v2](#), Hanme Kim (MIT license)
 - [MonoSLAM Implementation in ROS](#), rrg-polito (MPL)

- Papers

- [Andrew Davison](#), *Real-Time Simultaneous Localisation and Mapping with a Single Camera*, ICCV, 2003 [DOI](#) [PDF](#)
 - [Andrew Davison](#) et al., *MonoSLAM: Real-Time Single Camera SLAM*, T-PAMI, 2007 [DOI](#) [PDF](#)

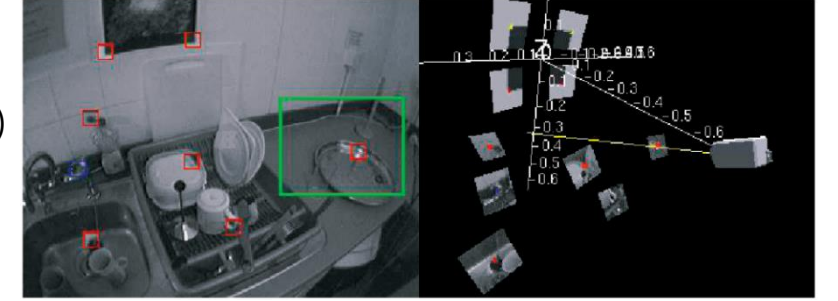
EKF-SLAM

- State variable (robot state, feature map): $\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{x}_v, \mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots]^\top$
 - Robot state (position, quaternion, linear velocity, angular velocity): $\mathbf{x}_v = [\mathbf{r}^W, \mathbf{q}^{WR}, \mathbf{v}^W, w^R]^\top$
 - Feature map (position, direction): $\mathbf{y}_i = [\mathbf{r}_i^W, \mathbf{h}_i^W]$

- \mathbf{h}_i^W : A unit vector describing the feature direction (\sim normal vector)

- Motion model: **Constant velocity motion model**

$$\mathbf{f}_v = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_{new}^W \\ \mathbf{q}_{new}^{WR} \\ \mathbf{v}_{new}^W \\ w_{new}^R \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}^W + (\mathbf{v}^W + \mathbf{V}^W)\Delta t \\ \mathbf{q}^{WR} \times \mathbf{q}((w^R + \Omega^R)\Delta t) \\ \mathbf{v}^W + \mathbf{V}^W \\ w^R + \Omega^R \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } Q_v = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_v}{\partial \mathbf{n}} P_n \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_v^\top}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \text{ where noise } \mathbf{n} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}^W \\ \Omega^R \end{bmatrix} \text{ and its variance } P_n$$



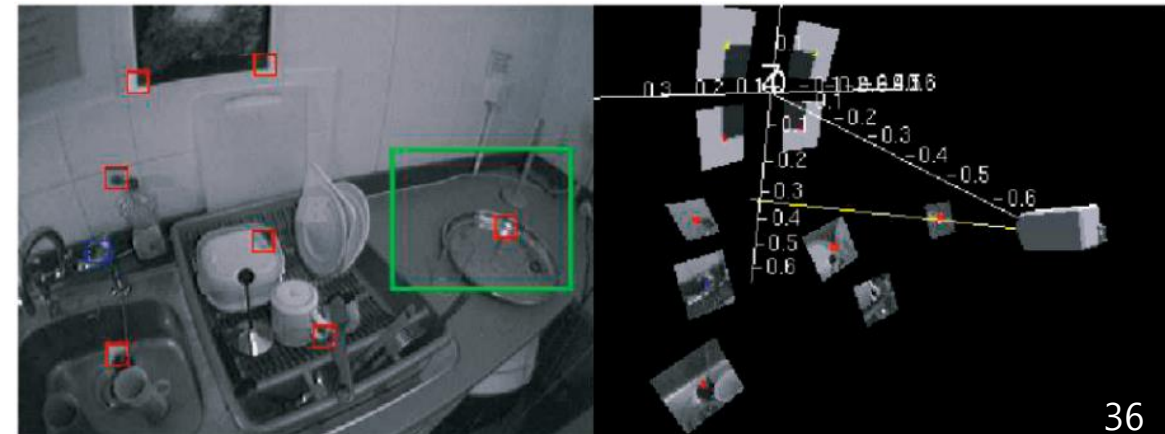
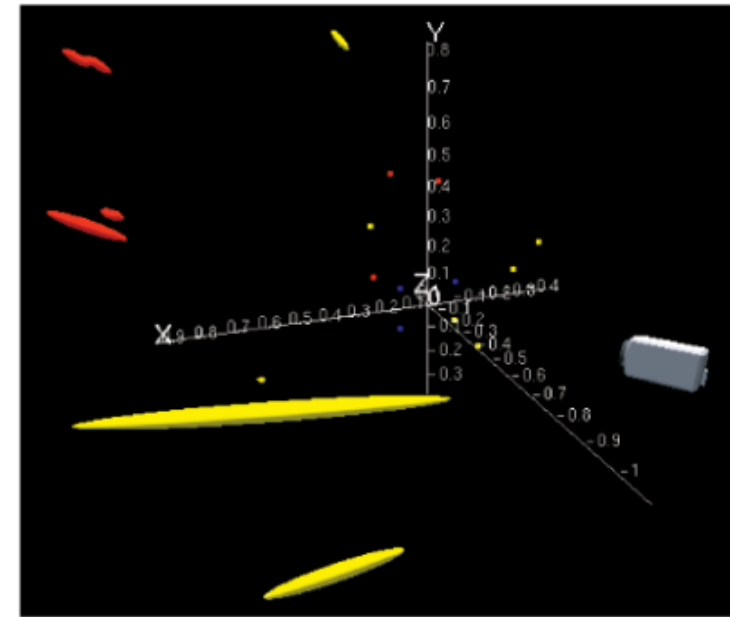
- Observation model: **Pinhole camera model** with **radial distortion**

$$\begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_0 + f_u \frac{h_{Lx}^R}{h_{Lz}^R} \\ v_0 + f_v \frac{h_{Ly}^R}{h_{Lz}^R} \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } \mathbf{u}_{di} = \begin{bmatrix} u_d \\ v_d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_0 + \frac{u-u_0}{\sqrt{1+2K_1r^2}} \\ v_0 + \frac{v-v_0}{\sqrt{1+2K_1r^2}} \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } \mathbf{h}_L^R = \mathbf{R}^{RW}(\mathbf{r}_i^W - \mathbf{r}^W) \text{ and } r^2 = (u - u_0)^2 + (v - v_0)^2$$

$$S_i = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{di}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_v} P_{xx} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{di}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{x}_v} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{di}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_v} P_{xri} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{di}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{di}}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} P_{rix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{di}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{x}_v} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{di}}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} P_{riri} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_{di}^\top}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} + R$$

Feature and Map

- Feature detection
 - Feature point: [Good-feature-to-track](#)
 - Feature descriptor: 11x11-pixel patch
 - MonoSLAM does *not* update the saved templates for features over time.
 - [Bucketing](#) (for feature addition): 80x60-pixel box (~ 4x4 boxes)
- Feature matching
 - Feature prediction (by camera projection)
 - Feature uncertainty: 2-by-2 covariance matrix S_i (in pixel domain)
 - *Active* elliptical search: Window size 3σ
 - MonoSLAM removes a feature from the map when feature is failed with less than 50%.
- Feature orientation estimation
- Map initialization
 - Starting from the known object (typically 4 features)



Experiments

- Configuration
 - Camera: 320x240 with 30 Hz
 - $f_u = f_v = 195$ pixels, $(u_0, v_0) = (162, 125)$, and $K_1 = 6 \times 10^{-6}$
 - Nearly 100 degrees FOV
 - Map size: 100 features
 - Processing time: Approx. 52.6 Hz
 - Observation size: 10-12 features per a frame

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Image loading and administration | 2 ms |
| Image correlation searches | 3 ms |
| Kalman Filter update | 5 ms |
| Feature initialization search | 4 ms |
| Graphical rendering | 5 ms |
| Total | 19 ms |

PTAM (2007)

- The first successful keyframe-based BA approach with real-time ability

- **References**

- Code repositories

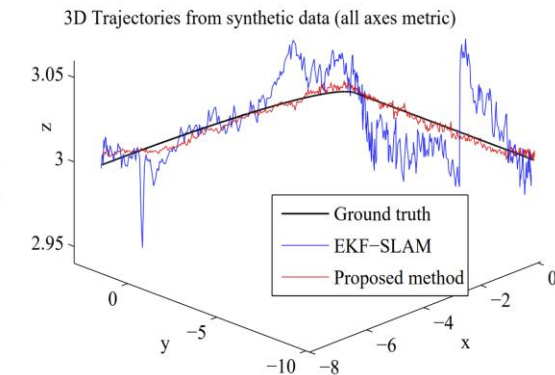
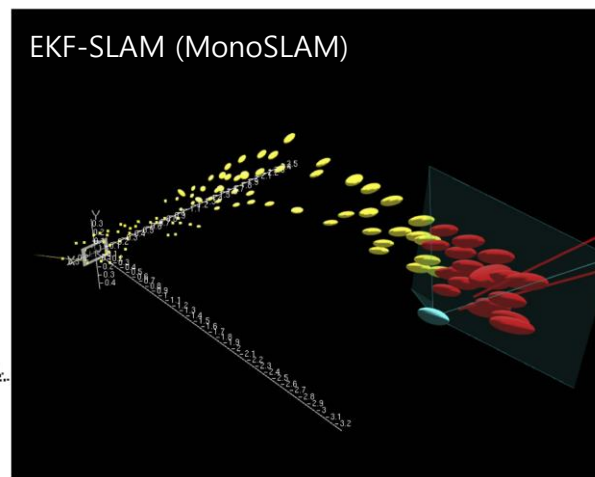
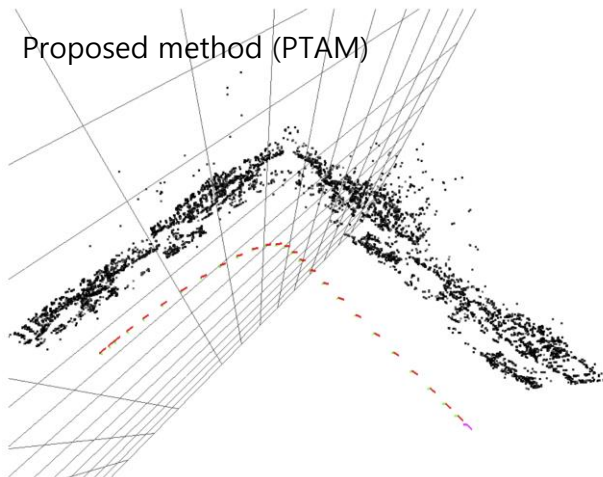
- [PTAM-GPL](#), Oxford-PTAM (GPL v3)
 - [The modified version of PTAM for ROS](#), ETHZ-ASL

- Papers

- Georg Klein and David Murray, *Parallel Tracking and Mapping for Small AR Workspaces*, ISMAR, 2007 [DOI](#) [PDF](#) [Slides](#)

PTAM (2007)

- **PTAM (Parallel Tracking and Mapping)**
 - Feature: FAST-10 corner (8x8-pixel patch, SSD matching)
 - Tracking
 - Coarse-to-fine tracking
 - Computing time: 20 ms with 4000 features
 - Mapping
 - Keyframe-based bundle adjustment with 5-point algorithm + RANSAC
 - Computing time: 1.7 sec with 50-99 keyframes



ORB-SLAM Series (2015, 2017, 2021)

- The best successor of PTAM with support of large-scale spaces and long-term operation

- References

- Code repositories

- [ORB-SLAM](#) (monocular), [Raul Mur-Artal](#) (GPL v3)
 - [ORB-SLAM2](#) (monocular, stereo, and RGB-D), [Raul Mur-Artal](#) (GPL v3)
 - ROS wrappers: [appliedAI-Initiative](#), [ethz-asl](#)
 - [ORB-SLAM3](#) (visual, visual-inertial, and multi-map), UZ-SLAMLab (GPL v3)
 - [Project webpage](#), [Raul Mur-Artal](#)

- Papers

- [Raul Mur-Artal](#), J. M. M. Montiel, and Juan D. Tardos, *ORB-SLAM: A Versatile and Accurate Monocular SLAM System*, T-RO, 2015 [DOI](#) [arXiv](#)
 - [Raul Mur-Artal](#) and Juan D. Tardos, *ORB-SLAM2: an Open-Source SLAM System for Monocular, Stereo and RGB-D Cameras*, T-RO, 2017 [DOI](#) [arXiv](#)
 - Carlos Campos et al., *ORB-SLAM3: An Accurate Open-Source Library for Visual, Visual-Inertial, and Multimap SLAM*, T-RO, 2021 [DOI](#) [arXiv](#)

ORB-SLAM (2015)

▪ Overview

- Feature: **ORB (Oriented FAST and Rotated BRIEF)** for all tasks
 - Note) SIFT/SURF (~300 ms), A-KAZE (~100 ms), ORB (~33 ms), BRIEF/LDB (rotation variant)
- **Three threads**: Tracking, local mapping, and **loop closing**

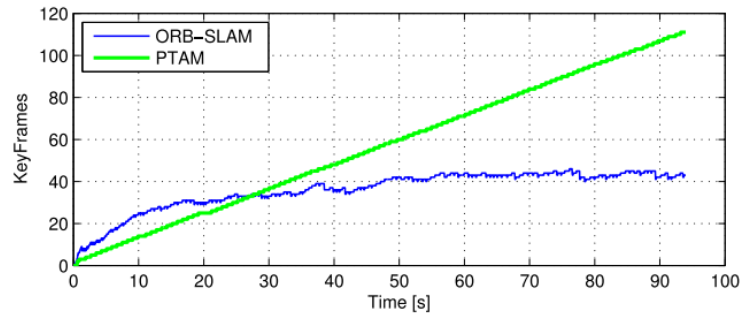
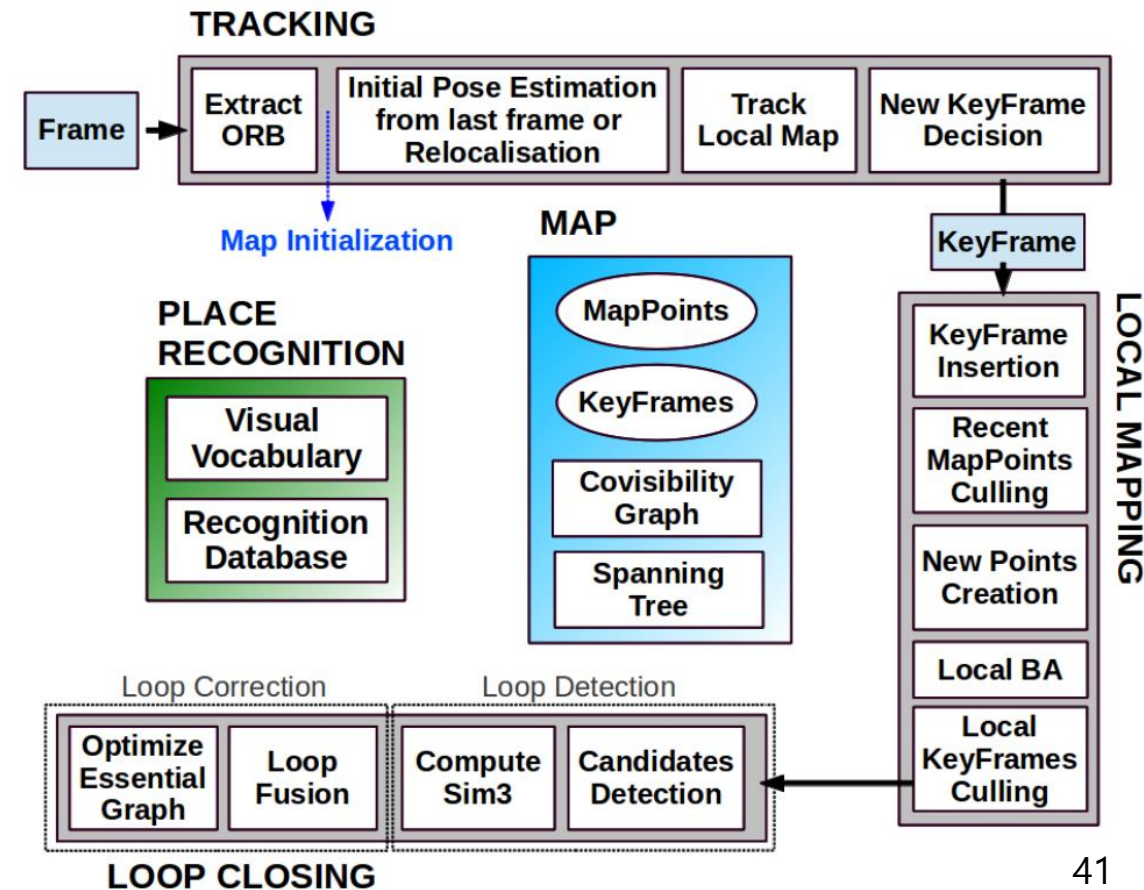


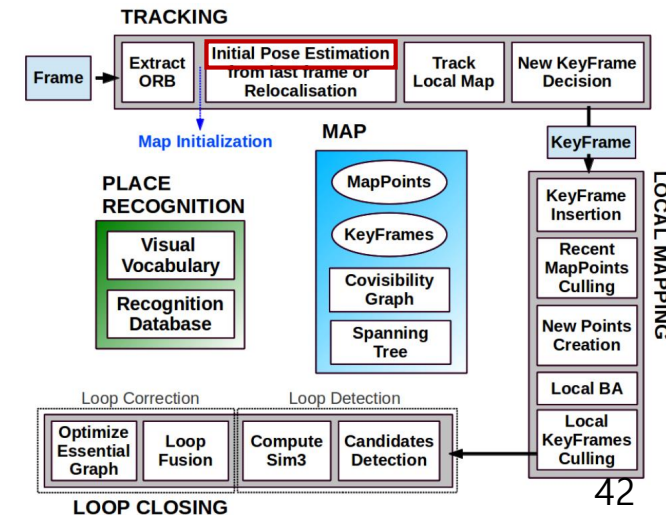
Fig. 9. Lifelong experiment in a static environment where the camera is always looking at the same place from different viewpoints. PTAM is always inserting keyframes, while ORB-SLAM is able to prune redundant keyframes and maintains a bounded-size map.



ORB-SLAM (2015)

▪ Map initialization

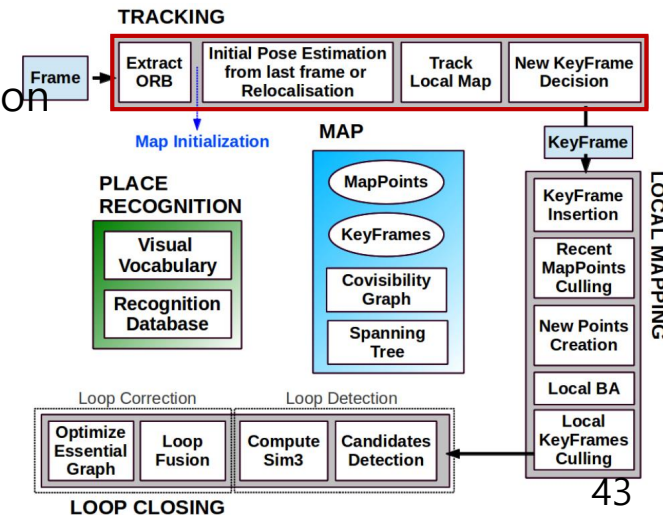
- Two models: 1) homography for planar scenes and 2) fundamental matrix for general scenes
- Model parameter estimation: [RANSAC](#) (MSAC)
 - Symmetric transfer errors S
 - Threshold: Chi-square test at 95% ($H = 5.99$, $F = 3.84$ @ $\sigma = 1$ pixel)
- Model selection: $\frac{S_H}{S_H + S_F} > 0.45 \rightarrow$ (nearly) planar and low parallax \rightarrow homography
 - Map initialization is delayed until enough parallax and low reprojection error.
- Map refinement: *Full* [BA](#)



ORB-SLAM (2015)

▪ Tracking

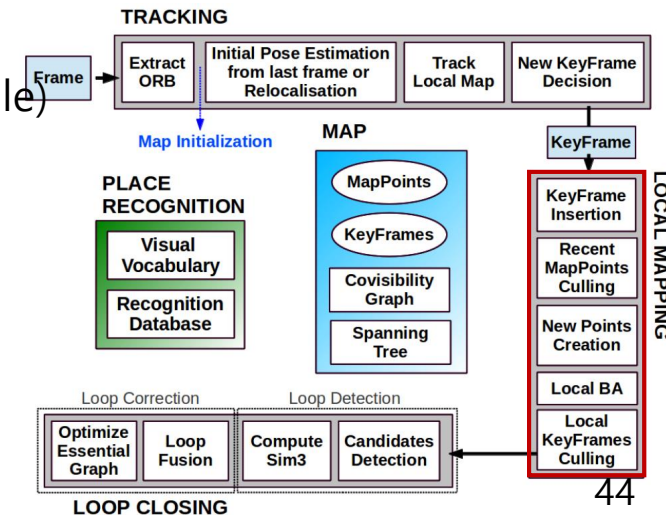
- ORB extraction: [FAST](#) corners (scale levels: 8, scale factor: 1.2) with [ORB](#) descriptors
 - 2000 corners for 1241x376 resolution, 1000 corners 512x384 to 752x480 resolutions
 - [Bucketing](#) for uniform feature distribution (max 5 features/cell)
- Initial pose estimation
 - Tracking: Constant velocity motion model → *motion-only* [BA](#) using the previous frame
 - Global relocalization (if lost): [RANSAC](#) and [EPnP](#) algorithm for each keyframe
- Pose refinement: *Motion-only* [BA](#) using a local visible map
- New keyframe selection if
 - Passing more than 20 frames from last global relocalization
 - Local mapping is idle or passing more than 20 frames from last keyframe insertion
 - Tracking at least 50 points
- Tracking less than 90% points than the reference keyframe.



ORB-SLAM (2015)

▪ Local mapping

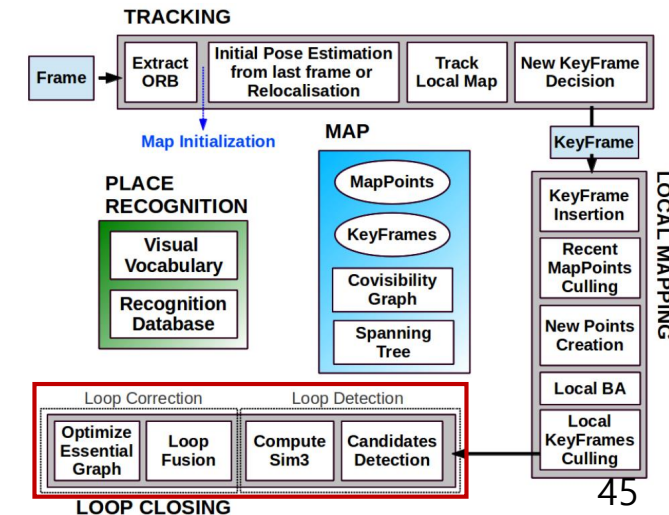
- Keyframe insertion: Updating covisibility graph, spanning tree, and bag-of-words
- Recent map point [culling](#) if not
 - Tracking and visible more than 25%
 - Observable at least 3 keyframes
- New map point addition: [Triangulation](#) if
 - Positive depth
 - Satisfying parallax, reprojection error, and scale consistency condition
- *Local BA* (for the current keyframe and its connecting keyframes)
- Local keyframe culling if
 - 90% of map points are visible in at least 3 other keyframes (in same or finer scale)



ORB-SLAM (2015)

▪ Loop closing (of the last keyframe)

- Loop candidate detection: [DBow2](#)
 - The candidates should be consistent (~ at least 3 consecutively connected in the covisibility graph).
- Similarity transformation computation: [RANSAC](#) with 3D points → optimization over inliers
 - Why [similarity](#)? (Why 7 DOF?) 3 for translation, 3 for rotation, and 1 for scale (due to scale drift)
- Loop fusion: Fusing duplicated map points and adding new edges in the covisibility graph
- Essential graph optimization: Pose graph optimization over similarity transformation, Sim(3)



ORB-SLAM2 (2017)

- An ORB-SLAM extension for stereo and RGB-D cameras
- Two types of keypoints for different

- Camera configurations: Monocular, **stereo**, and **RGB-D** cameras

- **Monocular keypoints**: $\mathbf{x}_m = (u_L, v_L)$

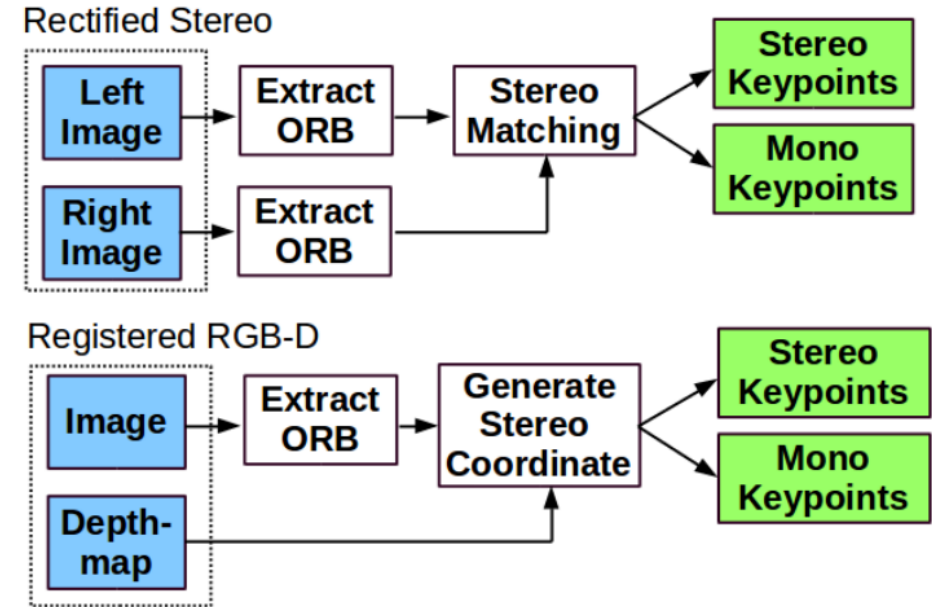
- Projection function: $\pi_m(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{bmatrix} f_x \frac{X}{Z} + c_x \\ f_y \frac{Y}{Z} + c_y \end{bmatrix}$ where $\mathbf{X} = (X, Y, Z)$

- **Stereo keypoints**: $\mathbf{x}_s = (u_L, v_L, u_R)$

- Projection function: $\pi_s(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{bmatrix} f_x \frac{X}{Z} + c_x \\ f_y \frac{Y}{Z} + c_y \\ f_x \frac{X-b}{Z} + c_x \end{bmatrix}$

- Far stereo keypoints are considered as monocular keypoints whose criteria is 40 times of baseline, b .

- After loop closing, ORB-SLAM2 performs **pose graph optimization over rigid-body transform** instead of similarity transform (due to no drift error).



ORB-SLAM3 (2021)

- An ORB-SLAM2 extension for 1) fisheye cameras and 2) inertia sensors with 3) multi-session support

| | SLAM or VO | Pixels used | Data association | Estimation | Relocali- zation | Loop closing | Multi Maps | Mono | Stereo | Mono IMU | Stereo IMU | Fisheye | Accuracy | Robustness | Open source |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|------|--------|----------|------------|---------|-----------|------------|-------------------|
| Mono-SLAM [13], [14] | SLAM | Shi Tomasi | Correlation | EKF | - | - | - | ✓ | - | - | - | - | Fair | Fair | [15] ¹ |
| PTAM [16]–[18] | SLAM | FAST | Pyramid SSD | BA | Thumbnail | - | - | ✓ | - | - | - | - | Very Good | Fair | [19] |
| LSD-SLAM [20], [21] | SLAM | Edgelets | Direct | PG | - | FABMAP PG | - | ✓ | ✓ | - | - | - | Good | Fair | [22] |
| SVO [23], [24] | VO | FAST+ Hi.grad. | Direct | Local BA | - | - | - | ✓ | ✓ | - | - | ✓ | Very Good | Very Good | [25] ² |
| ORB-SLAM2 [2], [3] | SLAM | ORB | Descriptor | Local BA | DBoW2 | DBoW2 PG+BA | - | ✓ | ✓ | - | - | - | Exc. | Very Good | [26] |
| DSO [27]–[29] | VO | High grad. | Direct | Local BA | - | - | - | ✓ | ✓ | - | - | ✓ | Fair | Very Good | [30] |
| DSM [31] | SLAM | High grad. | Direct | Local BA | - | - | - | ✓ | - | - | - | - | Very Good | Very Good | [32] |
| MSCKF [33]–[36] | VO | Shi Tomasi | Cross correlation | EKF | - | - | - | ✓ | - | ✓ | ✓ | - | Fair | Very Good | [37] ³ |
| OKVIS [38], [39] | VO | BRISK | Descriptor | Local BA | - | - | - | - | - | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Good | Very Good | [40] |
| ROVIO [41], [42] | VO | Shi Tomasi | Direct | EKF | - | - | - | - | - | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Good | Very Good | [43] |
| ORB-SLAM-VI [4] | SLAM | ORB | Descriptor | Local BA | DBoW2 | DBoW2 PG+BA | - | ✓ | - | ✓ | - | - | Very Good | Very Good | - |
| VINS-Fusion [7], [44] | VO | Shi Tomasi | KLT | Local BA | DBoW2 | DBoW2 PG | ✓ | - | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Good | Exc. | [45] |
| VI-DSO [46] | VO | High grad. | Direct | Local BA | - | - | - | - | - | ✓ | - | - | Very Good | Exc. | - |
| BASALT [47] | VO | FAST | KLT (LSSD) | Local BA | - | ORB BA | - | - | - | - | ✓ | ✓ | Very Good | Exc. | [48] |
| Kimera [8] | VO | Shi Tomasi | KLT | Local BA | - | DBoW2 PG | - | - | - | - | ✓ | - | Good | Exc. | [49] |
| ORB-SLAM3 (ours) | SLAM | ORB | Descriptor | Local BA | DBoW2 | DBoW2 PG+BA | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Exc. | Exc. | [5] |

¹ Last source code provided by a different author. Original software is available at [50].

² Source code available only for the first version, SVO 2.0 is not open source.

³ MSCKF is patented [51], only a re-implementation by a different author is available as open source.

ORB-SLAM3 (2021)

▪ Camera models

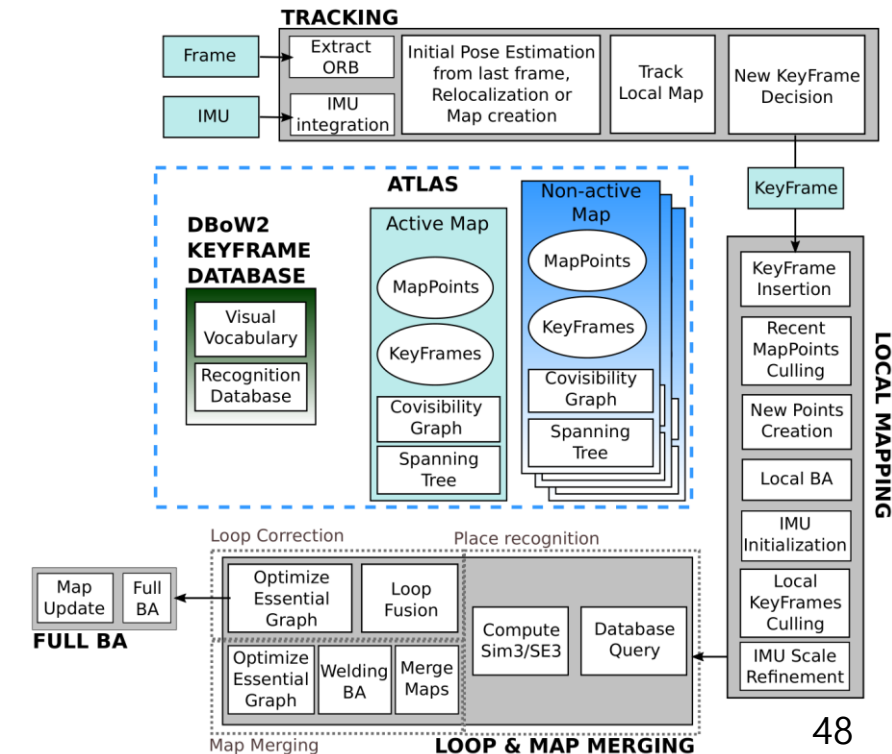
- A pinhole camera model and [Kannala-Brandt fisheye model](#)
- Relocalization: EPnP \rightarrow MLPnP (using projective rays as input)
- Non-rectified stereo

▪ Visual-Inertia optimization

- State vector: $S_i = \{\mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{b}_i^g, \mathbf{b}_i^a\}$ (orientation, position, velocity, gyroscope bias, and accelerometer bias)
- Reprojection error: $\mathbf{r}_{ij} = \mathbf{x}_{ij} - \pi(\mathbf{T}_{CB} \mathbf{T}_i^{-1} \oplus \mathbf{X}_j)$ where $\mathbf{T}_i = [\mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{p}_i] \in \text{SE}(3)$
- Inertia residual (Δ : preintegrated term)
 - Orientation residual: $\mathbf{r}_{\Delta \mathbf{R}_{i,i+1}} = \text{Log}(\Delta \mathbf{R}_{i,i+1}^T \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{R}_{i+1})$
 - Position residual: $\mathbf{r}_{\Delta \mathbf{p}_{i,i+1}} = \mathbf{R}_i^T (\mathbf{p}_{i+1} - \mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{v}_i \Delta t - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{g} \Delta t^2) - \Delta \mathbf{p}_{i,i+1}$
 - Velocity residual: $\mathbf{r}_{\Delta \mathbf{v}_{i,i+1}} = \mathbf{R}_i^T (\mathbf{v}_{i+1} - \mathbf{v}_i - \mathbf{g} \Delta t) - \Delta \mathbf{v}_{i,i+1}$

▪ Multi-session operation

- ...



Experiments

▪ ORB-SLAM

- [TUM RGB-D dataset](#)
 - ORB-SLAM was more accurate than PTAM and LSD-SLAM.
- [KITTI odometry dataset](#)
 - ORB-SLAM was failed in KITTI 01 (highway sequence).

▪ ORB-SLAM2

- [KITTI odometry dataset](#)
 - ORB-SLAM2 (stereo) was more accurate than stereo LSD-SLAM.
 - ORB-SLAM2 (stereo) overcame KITTI 01 (highway sequence).
- [TUM RGB-D dataset](#)
 - ORB-SLAM (RGB-D) was more accurate than ElasticFusion, Kintinuous, DVO-SLAM, and RGB-D SLAM.

▪ ORB-SLAM3

- ...