Visualisation of laser scanner point cloud as 3d panorama

Thesis Subtitle

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A thesis presented for the degree of Bachelor in Media Engineering



Elektrotechnik Feinwerkmechanik Informationstechnik Georg-Simon-Ohm Technische Hochschule Nürnberg Germany
Date

Declaration

I hereby declare that I have created this work completely on my own and used no other sources or tools than the ones listed, and that I have marked any citations accordingly.

Hiermit versichere ich, dass ich die vorliegende Arbeit selbständig verfasst und keine anderen als die angegebenen Quellen und Hilfsmittel benutzt sowie Zitate kenntlich gemacht habe.

 $\overline{Nuremberg, MONTH YEAR} \\ YOUR \ NAME$

Abstract

In this work the interested reader will learn about my research on the 3D-model reconstruction of the historic Pellerhaus in Nuremberg, Germany, as it looked before its destruction during World War II. The title of this paper is "Visualization of laser scanner point clouds as 3D panoramas".

In the first chapter I will describe the background research that provided me with the necessary fundamentals to start the project. The second chapter presents the development process of the software tools applied to achieve the goal of reconstructing historic 3D models from various data such as images and laser scans. To accomplish this, I decided to improve the open source software Blender. Details on the production of a three-dimensional mesh from laser scans via LIDAR devices can be found in Chapter Three. Chapter Four concludes the work and also presents future work. It contains the results, failures and successes of my research. Furthermore it discusses different possible ways to build upon the fundamental insights gained from this report. Due to our modern open culture with several open software, hardware and movie projects - mainly inspired by the Blender Foundation - I also want to make my research available to the public. During the time I am writing my thesis I will therefore be publishing my progress online at http://bachelor.kalisz.co.

Acknowledgements

This research could not have been performed without the assistance, patience, and support of many individuals.

On behalf of the historical expertise required for this research, I would like to thank the Geschichtsarchiv Langwasser, including Mrs Edith Schroth and Mr Alfred Schroth for their constant support in providing old photographs, material and making contact to various institutions like archives, museums and companies. They initiated the contact with the Altstadtfreunde Nürnberg e.V. as well. Therefore I would like to thank the Altstadtfreunde Nürnberg e.V. for a huge amount of historic pictures and professional guidance regarding the history of the Pellerhaus. I am happy to get the opportunity to be supported by chairman Mr. Karl-Heinz Enderle during my research.

Secondly, I have to thank my thesis advisor, Mr. Prof. Dr. Stefan Röttger for mentoring me during my undergraduate studies. Not only did he prove his confidence in me by encouraging me to teach computer graphics to other students by letting me show how much fun it can be creating graphics with the open source 3D graphics suite Blender and offered me several jobs in 3d animation. His insight lead to the initial proposal to examine the possibility of reconstructing the Pellerhaus facade. In addition I would like to extend my gratitude to Mr. Prof. Dr. (USA) Ralph Lano for supervision during my studies. His teaching style and enthusiasm made a strong impression on me and I have always carried positive memories of the classes I attended. Although, the classes I took have not been mandatory and seldom they made a lot of fun (e.g. XBox programming with Unity), he was always very helpful and friendly. I would like to thank you very much for your support and understanding over these past four years.

Finally I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to my family without whose love, support and understanding I could never have completed this bachelor's degree.

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Introduction

1.1 Justification

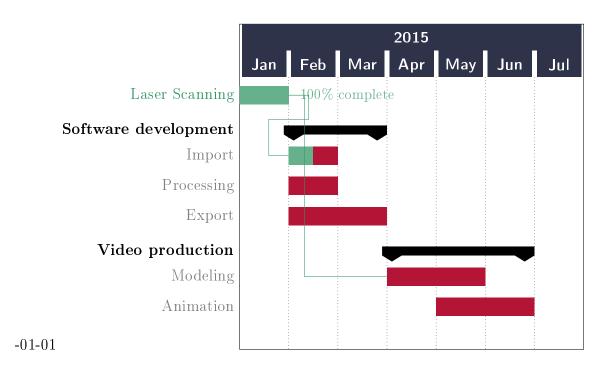
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1.2 Initial project specification

Problem of Blender not capable to handle import point clouds and display them colored [see Ble14, p10].

1.3 project schedule

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1.4 State-of-the-art methods for 3D reconstruction

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1.4.1 Light Detection And Ranging (LiDAR)

This works by...

LiDAR-Devices:

flat mirror elliptical mount

LiDAR-Lite, custom arduino build

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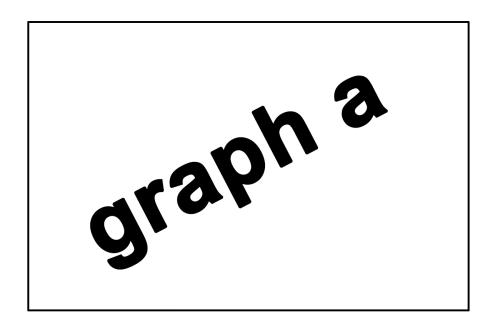


Figure 1.1: LiDAR Scanner Point Cloud

1.4.2 Photogrammetry

This works by...

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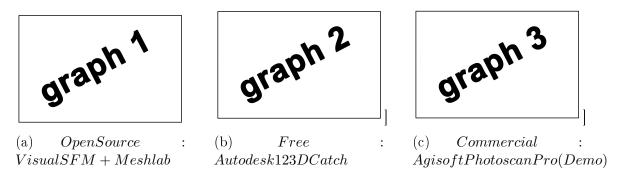


Figure 1.2: Multiview Reconstruction from historic stereo pairs

Comparison of various software, commercial and non-commercial with results Interdum et malesuada fames ac ante ipsum primis in faucibus. Cras quis pharetra libero. Pellentesque consectetur, quam vel ultrices finibus, sem enim consectetur mi, in dictum tellus leo eu ante. Maecenas consequat egestas erat, in vestibulum velit pulvinar ac. Suspendisse ullamcorper augue sapien, ac suscipit nulla dictum

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1.4.3 Google Maps (R)

This works by...
rough 3D building shapes

1.4.4 Open Street Map (R)

This works by... Indoor version

1.4.5 Bavarian State Office for Survey and Geoinformation

1.4.6 Autonomous mapping with UAV's and SLAM

1.4.7 Manual methods

If all other methods fail, there is still the chance to get a reconstruction done roughly by taking measurements of real objects with measuring tapes or eyeballing. Loading views from the front, side and top view into a 3D software can already yield decent results.

1.5 Defining the scope of my work

Background Research

2.1 The Pellerhaus history

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2.2 3D Panorama

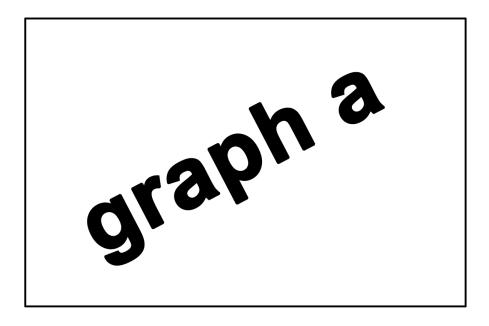


Figure 2.1: 3D Panorama Sphere

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2.3 Types of projections

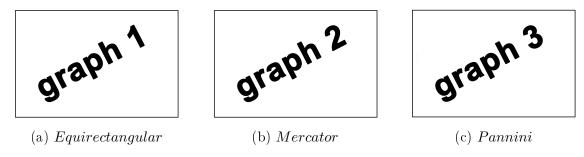


Figure 2.2: Three example projections

Converting from point cloud to Blender 3D

3.1 Concept

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3.1.1 Use case diagram

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3.1.2 UML class diagram

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A	В	С
1	3	4
1	3	4

Table 3.1: very basic table caption

3.2 Generating data and testing algorithms

3.2.1 BlenSor

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3.2.2 Test-Addon for Blender

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3.3 Prototype

3.3.1 Point Cloud Importer

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Point Cloud data formats

- 3.3.2 Projecting 3D points onto a 2D plane
- 3.3.3 Saving textures
- 3.3.4 Performance Optimization

3.3.5 Meshing

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Day	Max Temp	Min temp	Day	Max Temp	Min Temp
Mon	20	13	Mon	17	11
Tue	22	14	Tue	16	10
Wed	23	12	Wed	14	8
Thu	25	13	Thu	12	5
Fri	18	7	Fri	15	7
Sat	15	13	Sat	16	12
Sun	20	13	Sun	15	9
(a) First Week			(b) Second Week		

Table 3.2: Max and min temp recorded during the first two weeks in January

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3.3.6 Mesh Exporter

Production

4.1 Modeling the current Pellerhaus

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4.1.1 Using the converter

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4.1.2 Using UAV references with photogrammetry

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4.2 Modeling the original Pellerhaus

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4.2.1 Using historic images as guide

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4.2.2 Using historic stereoscopic images with photogrammetry

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4.3 Modeling the destructed Pellerhaus

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urna finibus scelerisque sit amet vel erat. Nullam nec maximus erat. Duis ante mi, posuere ut lobortis nec, posuere eu ligula[e.g. Sch14, page300].

4.4 Animating between the states

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4.5 Lighting and Rendering

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4.6 Animating between the states

Conclusion and Future Work

5.1 Conclusion

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5.2 Future Work

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Appendix A

Appendix Title

A.1 Software used

A.1.1 \LaTeX

This paper was written in LATEX. On windows, TeXstudio in conjunction with MikTeX (both portable versions) have been used for visual creation of the document. I decided to switch from the free version Adobe InDesign CS 2.0 to LATEXin favor of it being cross-platform and hoping to make it easier to publish the thesis online in the future. Since I have never worked with LATEX before, various tutorials [Sha13; Vel15] on the internet have been a great help.

A.1.2 Blender 3D

To cleanup the generated mesh, retopologize it and create the 3D animations of the Pellerhaus, Blender was used.

A.2 Programming libraries and frameworks

A.2.1 Qt 5.4

Qt is an open source framework ...

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