

## SCHOOL OF COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCES

ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

# Computer Vision Laboratory Unseen Spacecraft Pose Estimation

Baseline solution by implementing a machine learning framework with target models included

Bachelor's Thesis in Computer Science

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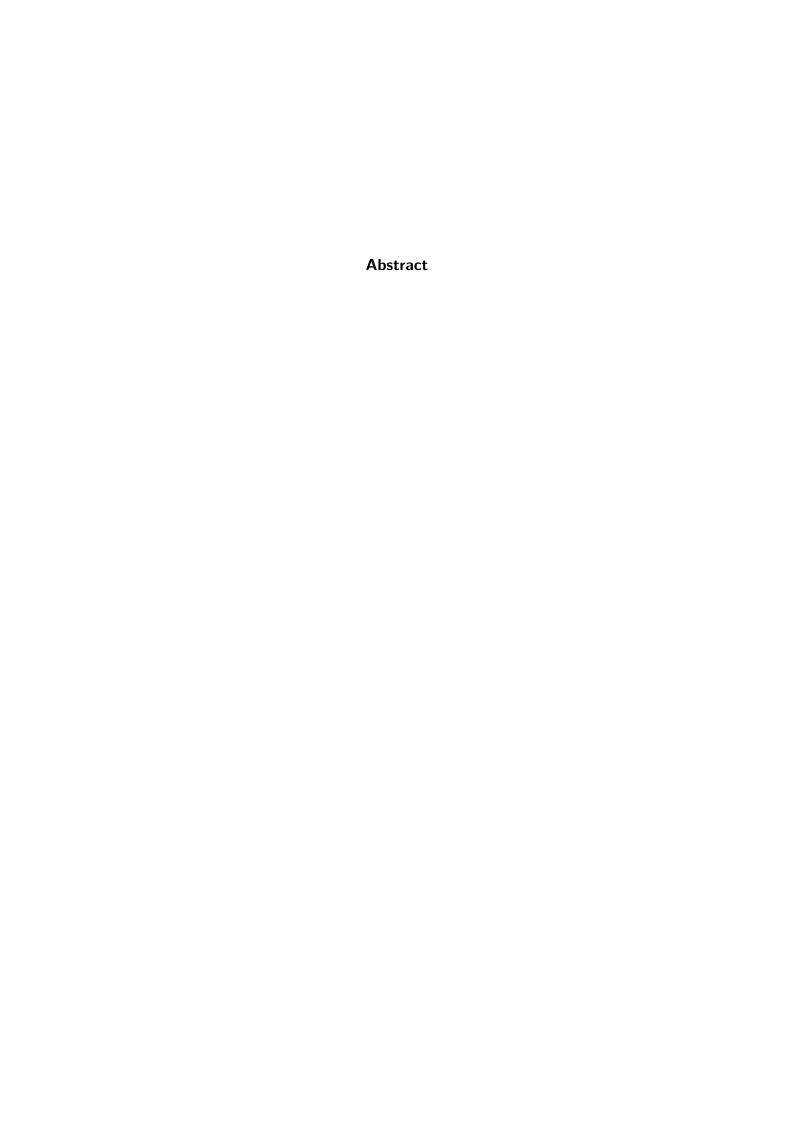
Advisors: Dr. Andrew Price, PhD. Chen Zhao

Semester: Fall 2023

I hereby confirm that I am the sole author of the that I have compiled it in my own words. Parts and content by the advisors.	
Lausanne, Switzerland, 05.01.24	Jérémy Chaverot

#### Acknowledgments

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### 1. Introduction

Test ref to Listing A.1. Test ref to Listing A.3 Test ref to Gen6D [1]

#### 1.1. Problem Formulation

#### 1.1.1. The settings

#### 1.1.2. The goal

#### 1.2. The work environment: Scitas Izar

Test to refer to the video from 3B1B: [2].

```
#!/bin/bash
#$BATCH --chdir /scratch/izar/jchavero
#$BATCH --partition=gpu
#$BATCH --qos=gpu_free
#$BATCH --qres=gpu:2
#$BATCH --nodes=1
#$BATCH --nodes=1
#$BATCH --ntasks-per-node=1
#$BATCH --mem 16G

cho STARTING AT 'date'

cho "Loading modules"
module load gcc openmpi py-torch py-torchvision cuda

cho "Launching the virtual environment"
source "/opt/izar1/venv-gcc/bin/activate

cho "Navigating to the directory and executing the task"
cd "Gen6D
python eval.py --cfg configs/gen6d_pretrain.yaml --object_name spacecraft/hubble

echo FINISHED AT 'date'
```

Listing 1.1: Bash script execute.sh to run a machine learning model on Scitas Izar EPFL. While the overall structure remains consistent, this script is specific to Gen6D's architecture, further discussed later.

Then to run the script we use the following command:

```
$ sbatch execute.sh
```

Listing 1.2: Linux command to run the bash script.

## 2. Gen6D: Formal Description

- 2.1. Overview of the Network
- 2.2. Detection
- 2.3. Viewpoint Selection
- 2.4. Pose Refinement

### 3. Implementation of the model

#### 3.1. Data Loader

abstract base classes (ABC) each and every abstract method

#### 3.2. From Quaternions to Rotation Matrices

In Gen6D, the model represents the ground truth and estimated poses using the format  $P=(R,\,t)$ . Here, R denotes the rotation matrix and t is the translation vector. The thing is, in the SpaceCraft dataset, the poses have the format  $P=(\underline{q},\,t)$ , where  $\underline{q}$  is a *quaternion*. We use quaternions for three-dimensional rotation calculations because they offer several benefits over rotation matrices. Notably, quaternions are more compact, requiring only four elements to be stored compared to nine for a matrix. Additionally, they are more efficient when composing rotations thanks to their algebraic properties.

Despite the benefits of quaternions mentioned earlier, other datasets frequently represent poses using a combination of rotation matrices and translation vectors. Therefore, to align with Gen6D's pose format, this section will focus on converting quaternions into rotation matrices.

Quaternions were first introduced by the Irish mathematician W. R. Hamilton in 1843 as an extension of the complex numbers. We give the definition of a *quaternion*: it is the sum of a scalar  $q_0$  and a vector  $\mathbf{q} = (q_1, q_2, q_3)$ , that is,

$$\underline{\mathbf{q}} \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} q_0 + \mathbf{q} = q_0 + q_1 \mathbf{i} + q_2 \mathbf{j} + q_3 \mathbf{k}.$$

In the above, i, j and k denote the three unit vectors of the canonical basis for the set of all ordered triples of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The set of quaternions is denoted by the 4-space  $\mathbb{H}$ .

The quaternion addition is component-wise. Regarding the multiplication of two quaternions, it is essential to first outline the foundational rule established by Hamilton:

$$i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1.$$

We derive the following multiplication table:

×	1	i	j	k
1	1	i	j	k
i	i	-1	k	-j
j	j	-k	-1	i
k	k	j	-i	-1

Let  $(p,q) \in \mathbb{H}^2$ , we are now able to present the multiplication of p and q:

$$\underline{pq} = \underbrace{p_0q_0 - p \cdot q}_{\text{scalar part}} + \underbrace{p_0q + q_0p + p \times q}_{\text{vector part}}.$$

In the preceding, we recall that the function  $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R} : (p,q) \mapsto p \cdot q \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} p^\intercal q$  is the *dot product*, and the function

$$\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3 : (\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \mapsto \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q} \stackrel{\mathsf{def.}}{=} \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \mathbf{p}_1 & \mathbf{p}_2 & \mathbf{p}_3 \\ \mathbf{q}_1 & \mathbf{q}_2 & \mathbf{q}_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

is the cross product.

Several additional definitions are essential before we can begin the conversion of quaternions to rotation matrices.

Let  $\underline{q}=q_0+q$  be a quaternion. The *complex conjugate* of  $\underline{q}$ , denoted by  $\underline{q}^{\star}$ , is given by the map

$$\mathbb{H} \to \mathbb{H}: \mathbf{q} \mapsto \mathbf{q}^\star \stackrel{\mathsf{def.}}{=} q_0 - \mathbf{q}.$$

The *norm* of a quaternion  $\mathbf{q}$ , denoted  $|\mathbf{q}|$ , is the distance obtained from the map

$$\mathbb{H} \to \mathbb{R} : \underline{q} \mapsto |\underline{q}| \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sqrt{\underline{q}^{\star}\underline{q}}.$$

Note that a quaternion whose norm is 1 is referred to as a *unit quaternion*. The *reciprocal* of a quaternion is defined as the map

$$\mathbb{H} \to \mathbb{H} : \underline{\mathbf{q}} \mapsto \underline{\mathbf{q}}^{-1} \stackrel{\mathsf{def.}}{=} \frac{\underline{\mathbf{q}}^{\star}}{|\mathbf{q}|^{2}}.$$

We observe that if  $\underline{\mathbf{q}}$  is a unit quaternion, we simply have  $\underline{\mathbf{q}}^{-1} = \underline{\mathbf{q}}^{\star}$ . Furthermore, the subsequent proposition is accepted: if  $\underline{\mathbf{q}}$  is a unit quaternion, there exists a unique  $\theta \in [0,2\pi]$  such that

$$\underline{\mathbf{q}} = q_0 + \mathbf{q} = \cos\frac{\theta}{2} + \mathbf{u}\,\sin\frac{\theta}{2}\,,$$

where the unit vector  $\mathbf{u}$  is defined as  $\mathbf{u} \stackrel{\mathsf{def.}}{=} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{|\mathbf{q}|}$  .

**Quaternion Rotation Operator** Let  $\underline{q} \in \mathbb{H}$  be a unit quaternion, and let  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  be a vector. The effect of the operator

$$L_{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{v}) \stackrel{\mathsf{def.}}{=} \mathbf{q} \mathbf{v} \mathbf{q}^{\star}$$

on  ${\bf v}$  is equivalent to a rotation of the vector through an angle  $\theta$  about the axis of rotation  ${\bf u}$  .

At last, we can proceed with our conversion task: our aim is to find a matrix  ${\bf R}$  such that

$$\begin{cases} L_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{v}) \stackrel{\mathsf{def.}}{=} \mathbf{R}\mathbf{v} \\ L_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{v}) = L_{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{v}), \end{cases}$$

and we wish to obtain an expression for R from  $\underline{q}$ , utilizing principles of linear algebra and vector calculus.

# 4. Experimental Results and Analysis

#### 4.1. Reference and Query Images

#### 4.2. Evaluation Metrics

To appreciate the quality of the estimations, the most widely used pose error functions are the Average Distance of Model Points (ADD) and the Average Closest Point Distance (ADD-S) metrics, both introduced by Hinterstoisser et al. [3]. For an object model  $\mathcal{M}$ , we compute the average distance to the corresponding model point. Therefore the error of an estimated pose  $\hat{\mathbf{P}}=(\hat{\mathbf{R}},\hat{\mathbf{T}})$  w.r.t. the ground truth pose  $\bar{\mathbf{P}}=(\bar{\mathbf{R}},\bar{\mathbf{T}})$  is calculated as follows:

$${}^{1}e_{\text{ADD}}(\hat{\mathbf{P}}, \bar{\mathbf{P}}, \mathcal{M}) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \underset{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}}{\text{avg}} \left\| \bar{\mathbf{P}} \mathbf{x}^{*} - \hat{\mathbf{P}} \mathbf{x}^{*} \right\|_{2}$$
(4.1)

$$= \underset{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{M}}{\text{avg}} \left\| (\bar{\mathbf{R}}\mathbf{x} + \bar{\mathbf{T}}) - (\hat{\mathbf{R}}\mathbf{x} + \hat{\mathbf{T}}) \right\|_{2}$$
(4.2)

When the model  $\mathcal{M}$  has symmetries that leads to no indistinguishable views, the error is computed as the average distance to the closest model point:

$$e_{\text{ADD-S}}(\hat{\mathbf{P}}, \bar{\mathbf{P}}, \mathcal{M}) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \underset{\mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathcal{M}}{\text{avg}} \min_{\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathcal{M}} \left\| \bar{\mathbf{P}} \mathbf{x}_1^{\star} - \hat{\mathbf{P}} \mathbf{x}_2^{\star} \right\|_2$$
 (4.3)

$$= \underset{\mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathcal{M}}{\operatorname{avg}} \min_{\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathcal{M}} \left\| (\bar{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{x}_1 + \bar{\mathbf{T}}) - (\hat{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{x}_2 + \hat{\mathbf{T}}) \right\|_2 \tag{4.4}$$

It's important to point out that  $e_{\rm ADD-S}$  is more lenient compared to  $e_{\rm ADD}$ , and should only be applied in cases where there is a definite presence of symmetry in the object and the estimated pose is already notably precise. Otherwise, using  $e_{\rm ADD-S}$  becomes irrelevant since the estimation is advantaged.

#### 4.3. Vizualisation and Quantitative Evaluation

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ In this context, the vector  $\mathbf{x}^{\star}$  represents a vector that has been extended by appending a 1, specifically for the purpose of matrix multiplication.

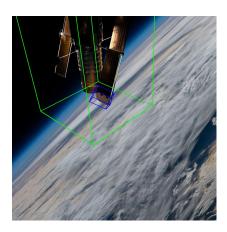


Figure 4.1: Hubble Space Telescope with earth rendered background,  $1024{\times}1024 \text{ first query image}$ 



Figure 4.2: Hubble Space Telescope with earth rendered background, 1024×1024 second query image

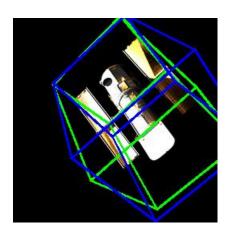


Figure 4.3: Hubble Space Telescope, no background, 256x256 query image,  $e_{\rm ADD}=2.925$ ,  $e_{\rm ADD-S}=1.183$ 

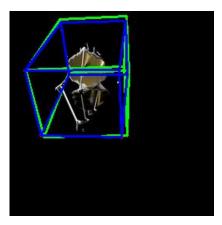


Figure 4.4: James Webb Space Telescope, no background, 256x256 query image,  $e_{\mathrm{ADD-S}} = 0.808$ 

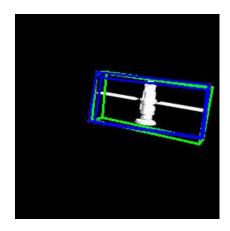


Figure 4.5: Cosmos Link, no background, 256x256 query image,  $e_{\rm ADD-S} = 0.383$ 

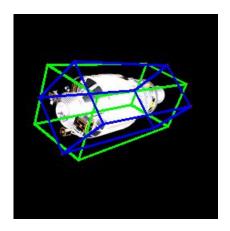


Figure 4.6: Rocket Body, no background, 256x256 query image,  $e_{\mathrm{ADD}} = 1.713$ ,  $e_{\mathrm{ADD-S}} = 0.252$ 

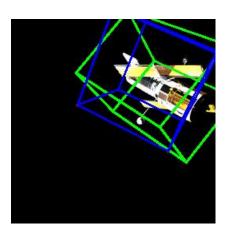


Figure 4.7: Hubble Space Telescope, no background, 256x256 query image,  $e_{\rm ADD}=6.514$ ,  $e_{\rm ADD-S}=1.571$ 

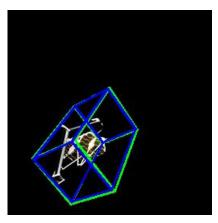


Figure 4.8: James Webb Space Telescope, no background, 256x256 query image,  $e_{\mathrm{ADD-S}} = 1.261$ 

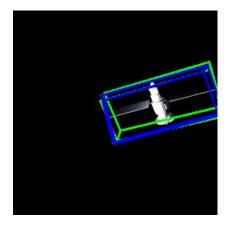


Figure 4.9: Cosmos Link, no background, 256x256 query image,  $e_{\rm ADD-S}=0.377$ 

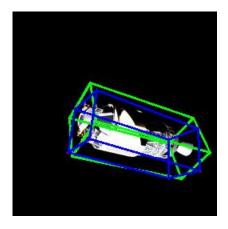


Figure 4.10: Rocket Body, no background, 256x256 query image,  $e_{\rm ADD}=1.982$ ,  $e_{\rm ADD-S}=0.501$ 

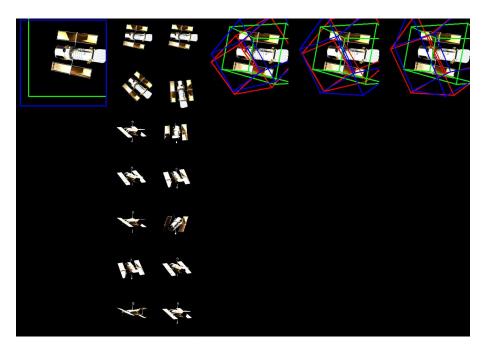


Figure 4.11: Hubble Space Telescope, no background, intermediary result,  $e_{\rm ADD-S}=9.577$ ,  $e_{\rm ADD-S}=5.196$ 

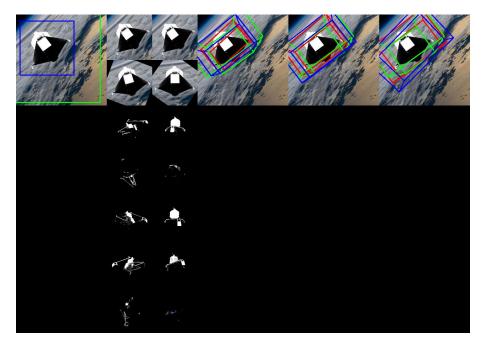


Figure 4.12: James Webb Space Telescope, with earth rendered background, intermediary result,  $e_{\rm ADD}=10.934$ ,  $e_{\rm ADD-S}=4.317$ 

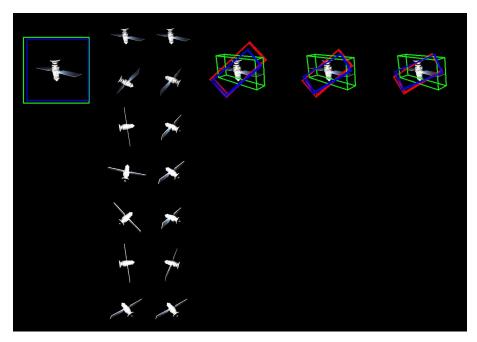


Figure 4.13: Cosmos Link, no background, intermediary result,  $e_{\rm ADD}=11.094$ ,  $e_{\rm ADD\text{-}S}=6.127$ 

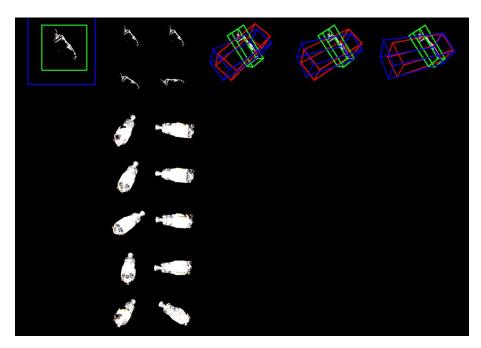


Figure 4.14: Rocket Body, no background, intermediary result,  $e_{\rm ADD} = 29.335, \, e_{\rm ADD\text{-}S} = 17.743$ 

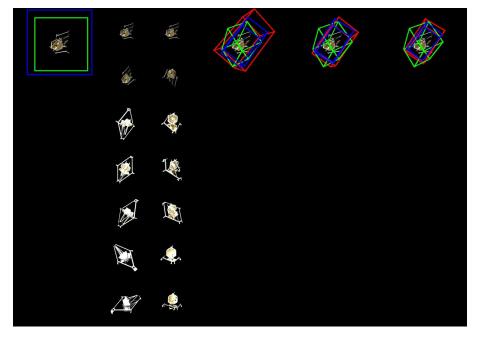


Figure 4.15: James Webb Space Telescope, with no background, intermediary result,  $e_{\rm ADD}=21.983,\,e_{\rm ADD\text{-}S}=12.358$ 

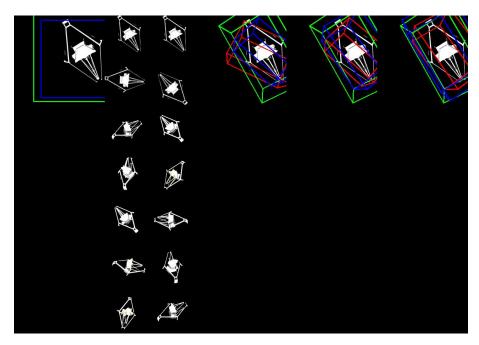


Figure 4.16: James Webb Space Telescope, with no background, intermediary result,  $e_{\rm ADD}=1.060,\,e_{\rm ADD\text{-}S}=0.556$ 

## 5. Ways of improvements

#### 5.1. Specialized spacecraft training set

#### 5.2. Improved object detection algorithms

Rely more on the 3D model (for now only the size) and the segmented images, would optimize for symmetric and irregular shaped spacecrafts

#### 5.3. Robustness to occlusion

## 6. Conclusion

Limitations Acknowledgments My personal contribution

## **Abbreviations**

ADD Average Distance of Model Points

ADD-S Average Closest Point Distance

### A. Python Scripts

```
Author:
                Jeremy Chaverot
   Date:
                November 29, 2023
   Description: Create the files val.txt, train.txt and test.txt according to a test
       percentage
   import os
   import sys
   import random
   if __name__ == "__main__":
12
13
     # Check if the correct number of arguments is provided
      if len(sys.argv) != 3:
          print("Usage: python format.py <object_name> <test_percentage>")
       object = sys.argv[1]
19
       test_percentage = float(sys.argv[2])
       if (test_percentage < 0 or 1 < test_percentage):</pre>
          print("Wrong value for the variable <test_percentage>. Should be between 0 and 1
           sys.exit(1)
       # Get a list of all files in the folder
27
       all_files = os.listdir(f'data/SpaceCraft/{object}/images')
28
       \mbox{\tt\#} Filter the list to include only image files and exclude MacOS temporary files
      image_files = [file for file in all_files if file.lower().endswith(('.jpg')) and not
        file.startswith('._')]
32
      # Get the number of images in the folder
33
       num_images = len(image_files)
       \ensuremath{\text{\#}} Iterate through each image and apply the transformation
36
       with open(f'data/SpaceCraft/{object}/train.txt', 'w') as train, open(f'data/SpaceCraft
        /{object}/test.txt', 'w') as test:
           for image_file in image_files:
               rand = random.random()
               image_path = 'SpaceCraft/hubble/images/' + image_file
               if (rand < test_percentage):
    test.write(image_path + '\n')</pre>
40
41
               else: train.write(image_path + '\n')
42
       print(f"Done splitting {num_images} images in train.txt and test.txt")
```

Listing A.1: Python script format.py to randomly generate the training set and the test set based on a specified probability. Should be run from Gen6D's root folder.

```
1 """
2 Author: Jeremy Chaverot
3 Date: November 20, 2023
4 Description: Transform every images of a folder into jpg format.
5 """
6
7 import os
```

```
8 import sys
   from PIL import Image
10
11
12
   def transform_image(image_path):
       img = Image.open(image_path)
13
       new_image_path = image_path.split('.')[0] + '.jpg'
14
15
       img.save(new_image_path)
16
   if __name__ == "__main__":
19
     # Check if the correct number of arguments is provided
20
      if len(sys.argv) != 2:
21
           print("Usage: python to_jpg.py </path/to/your/images>")
           sys.exit(1)
      folder_path = sys.argv[1]
       # Get a list of all files in the folder
       all_files = os.listdir(folder_path)
29
30
       \mbox{\tt\#} Filter the list to include only image files and exclude MacOS temporary files
31
       image_files = [file for file in all_files if file.lower().endswith(('.png', '.jpg', '.
        jpeg', '.gif', '.bmp')) and not file.startswith('._')]
33
       \mbox{\tt\#} Get the number of images in the folder
34
       num_images = len(image_files)
35
       \ensuremath{\text{\#}} Iterate through each image and apply the transformation
37
       for image_file in image_files:
38
           image_path = os.path.join(folder_path, image_file)
39
           transform_image(image_path)
40
           os.remove(image_path)
41
       print(f"Number of images transformed into .jpg: {num_images}")
42
```

Listing A.2: Python script to\_jpg.py to transform every images of a specified folder into jpg format.

```
....
  Author:
                Jeremy Chaverot
  Date:
                November 20, 2023
  Description: Transform a txt file with quaternions and the translation vector into multiple
         npy files containing the rotation matrix augmented with the translation vector.
  import numpy as np
  import sys
  import os
10
11
12
  def quaternion_to_matrix(Q, translation):
13
           Covert a quaternion and translation into a full three-dimensional augmented
14
        rotation matrix.
           :param Q: A 4 element array representing the quaternion (qw, qx, qy, qz).
           :param translation: A 3 element array representing the translation (x, y, z).
19
           :return: A 3x4 element matrix representing the full 3D rotation matrix with
                    translation. This rotation matrix converts a point in the local
23
                    reference frame to a point in the global reference frame.
      \mbox{\tt\#} Extract the values from \mbox{\tt Q}
27
      qw = Q[0]
      qx = Q[1]
```

```
qy = Q[2]
29
        qz = Q[3]
30
31
32
        # Extract the values from the translation vector
33
        x = translation[0]
        y = translation[1]
34
        z = translation[2]
35
36
        # First row of the rotation matrix
37
        r00 = 2 * (qw * qw + qx * qx) - 1

r01 = 2 * (qx * qy - qw * qz)
40
        r02 = 2 * (qx * qz + qw * qy)
41
        # Second row of the rotation matrix
        r10 = 2 * (qx * qy + qw * qz)
r11 = 2 * (qw * qw + qy * qy) - 1
r12 = 2 * (qy * qz - qw * qx)
45
47
        # Third row of the rotation matrix
        r20 = 2 * (qx * qz - qw * qy)

r21 = 2 * (qy * qz + qw * qx)
48
49
50
        r22 = 2 * (qw * qw + qz * qz) - 1
51
        # 3x3 rotation matrix
53
        rot_matrix_augm = np.array([[r00, r01, r02, x],
                                             [r10, r11, r12, y],
55
                                             [r20, r21, r22, z]])
56
57
        return rot_matrix_augm
58
59
   if __name__ == "__main__":
60
61
62
        \ensuremath{\text{\#}} Check if the correct number of arguments is provided
63
        if len(sys.argv) != 3:
             print("Usage: python quaternion_to_matrix.py </path/to/your/text/file> </path/to/</pre>
64
         the/pose/folder>")
65
             sys.exit(1)
66
67
        file_path = sys.argv[1]
        pose_folder_path = sys.argv[2]
file_content = None
68
69
70
71
             with open(file_path, 'r') as file:
    file_content = file.read()
72
73
        except FileNotFoundError:
74
             print(f"The file {file_path} was not found.")
75
             sys.exit(1)
76
77
        except Exception as e:
             print(f"An error occurred: {e}")
78
             sys.exit(1)
79
80
        poses = file_content.split('\n')[:-1]
81
82
        # Iterate through each pose and apply the transformation
83
84
        for pose in poses:
             image_id, obj_id, qw, qx, qy, qz, x, y, z = pose.split(',')
Q = np.array([qw, qx, qy, qz], dtype=np.float32)
translation = np.array([x, y, z], dtype=np.float32)
85
87
             matrix = quaternion_to_matrix(Q, translation)
np.save(pose_folder_path + '/pose' + str(int(image_id)), matrix)
88
89
        print(f"Number of transformation processed: {len(poses)}")
```

Listing A.3: Python script quaternion\_to\_matrix.py to transform a txt file with quaternions and the translation vector into multiple npy files containing the rotation matrix augmented with the translation vector.

```
1 """
```

```
Author:
                Jeremy Chaverot
  Date:
                December 10, 2023
  Description: Invert the masks from a given folder.
  import cv2
  import os
  import sys
  def inverse_masks_in_folder(folder_path):
    # Iterate through the list of files at the specified path
13
      for filename in os.listdir(folder_path):
         \mbox{\tt\#} Filter to include only png image files and exclude MacOS temporary files
           if filename.endswith(".png") and not filename.startswith('._'):
               mask_path = os.path.join(folder_path, filename)
                   # Read the mask image
19
                   mask = cv2.imread(mask_path, cv2.IMREAD_GRAYSCALE)
                    if mask is None:
22
                       print(f"Failed to read image: {mask_path}")
23
                        continue
24
                   # Invert the mask
26
                   inverted_mask = cv2.bitwise_not(mask)
27
28
                   # Save the inverted mask with a temporary name
29
                   temp_path = os.path.join(folder_path, "temp_" + filename)
30
                   cv2.imwrite(temp_path, inverted_mask)
31
32
                   # Delete the original mask
33
                   os.remove(mask_path)
34
35
                   \ensuremath{\text{\#}} Rename the inverted mask to the original filename
36
                   os.rename(temp_path, mask_path)
37
                   print(f"Inverted and replaced mask for: {mask_path}")
38
               except Exception as e:
39
                   print(f"Error processing {mask_path}: {e}")
40
41
  if __name__ == "__main__":
42
43
44
    # Check if the correct number of arguments is provided
       if len(sys.argv) != 2:
45
           print("Usage: python invert_mask.py <folder_path>")
46
           sys.exit(1)
47
48
       folder_path = sys.argv[1]
49
       inverse_masks_in_folder(folder_path)
```

Listing A.4: Python script invert\_mask.py to invert the masks from a specified folder.

We aim to have a black object set against a white background.

```
1
2 Author: Jeremy Chaverot
2 Date: January 01, 2024
4 Description: Resize the images from a given folder.
5 """

import os
import sys
from PIL import Image

def resize_images(folder_path, resize_factor):
# Iterate through the list of files at the specified path
for filename in os.listdir(folder_path):
# Filter to include only png image files and exclude MacOS temporary files
if filename.endswith(".png") and not filename.startswith('._'):
img_path = os.path.join(folder_path, filename)
```

```
with Image.open(img_path) as img:
                   # Calculate new size
19
20
                   new_size = tuple([int(dim / resize_factor) for dim in img.size])
21
                   # Resize the image
22
                  resized_img = img.resize(new_size, Image.ANTIALIAS)
                   # Save the resized image with a different name temporarily
23
24
25
                   temp_path = os.path.join(folder_path, "temp_" + filename)
                  resized_img.save(temp_path)
              # Delete the original image
              os.remove(img_path)
29
              # Rename the resized image to the original filename
31
              os.rename(temp_path, img_path)
33
  if __name__ == "__main__":
    # Check if the correct number of arguments is provided
37
      if len(sys.argv) != 3:
          print("Usage: resize.py <folder_path> <resize_factor>")
          sys.exit(1)
40
      folder_path = sys.argv[1]
42
      factor = int(sys.argv[2])
43
      resize_images(folder_path, factor)
```

Listing A.5: Python script resize.py designed to alter an image's size with respect to a specified resize factor.

## **B.** Scitas Izar Setup Tutorial

## **Bibliography**

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