

Lab 3– Depth Camera

MIT Beaver Works Racecar Curriculum

<https://matthewcalligaro.github.io/RacecarWebsite/>



Lab Objectives

Main objective: Use the Intel RealSense camera to do depth sensing.

Learning objectives

- Use RVIZ to explore different depth visualizations
- Use the depth information from the RealSense to add a safety stop feature
- Use the additional depth information to complete the cone slaloming challenge



Depth Sensing

What is depth sensing?

A color depth camera has pixels which have four numerical values associated with them. The first three are the RGB values, and the final corresponds to the distance/depth measurement

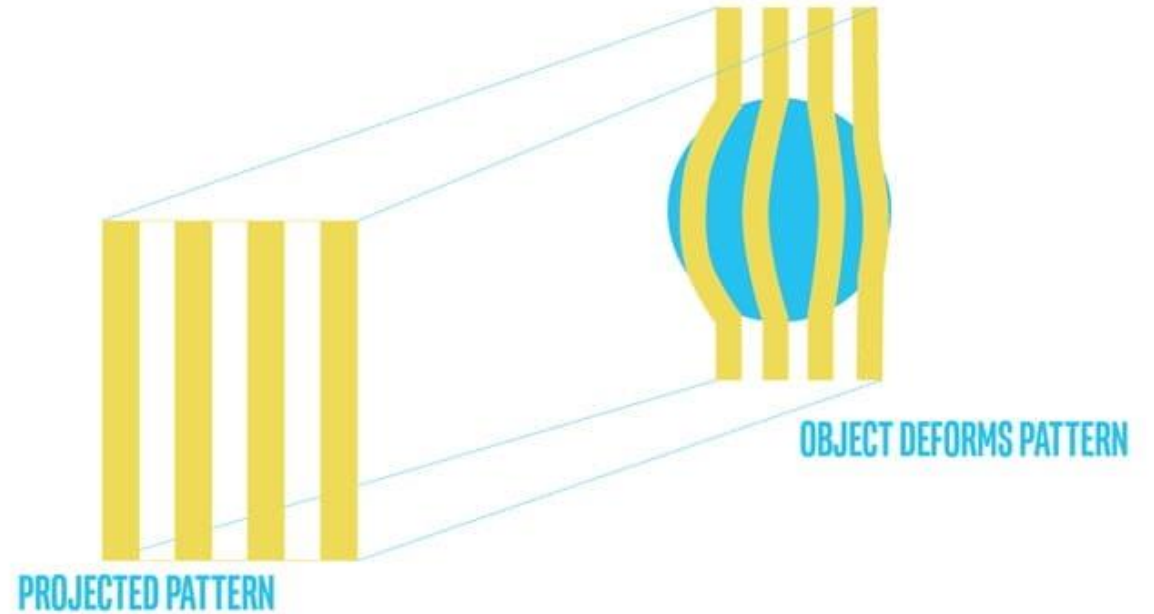
Depth Sensing Technologies:

Structured light, Time of Flight, Stereo triangulation



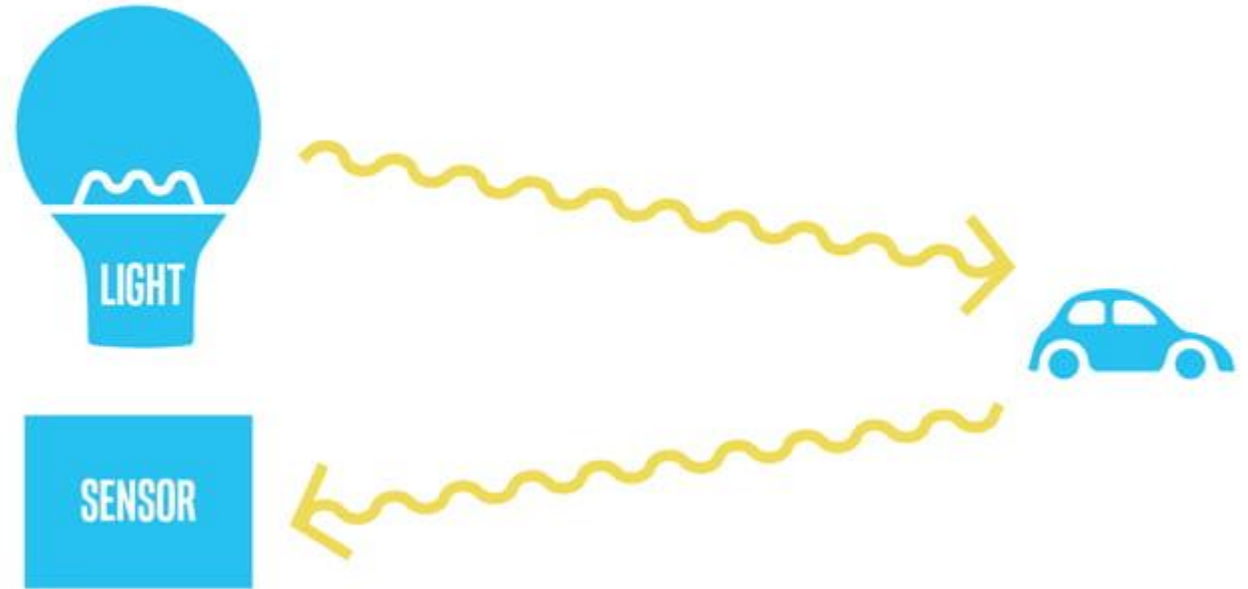
Structured Light

- Illuminate scene with specific light pattern, only requires one image
- Ex: Original Kinect



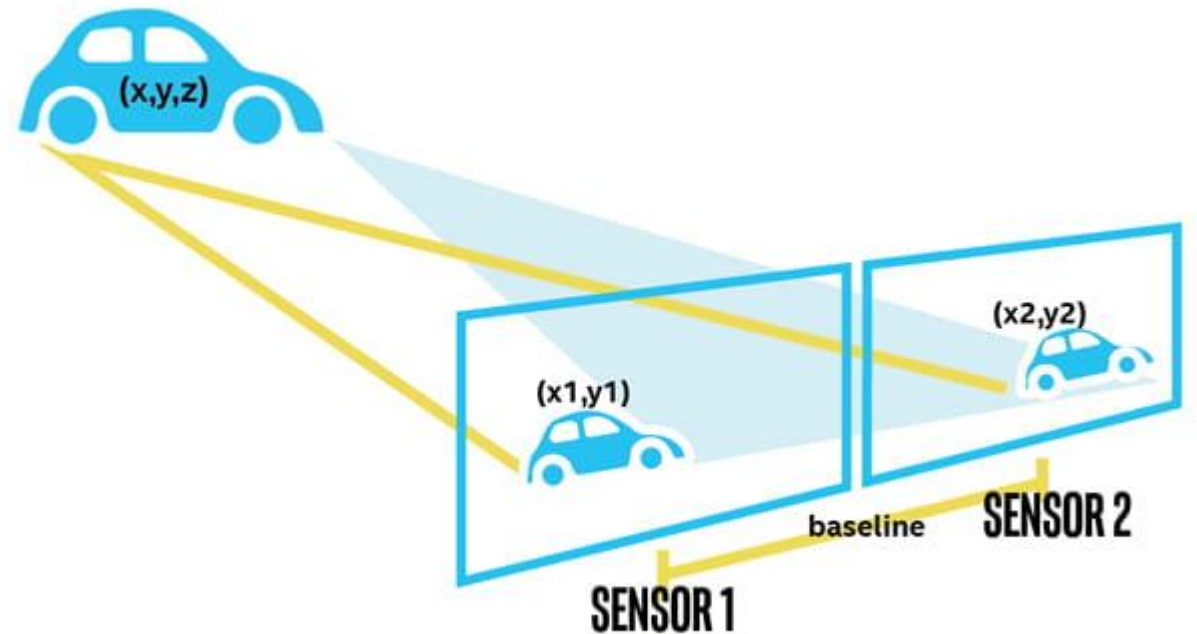
Time of Flight

- Radar technology that emits a light pulse instead of RF
- Ex: Kinect for Xbox One



Stereo Vision

- Find corresponding points on a stereo camera system
- Ex: Intel RealSense



Intel RealSense – Active Stereo

- Active stereo camera actively employs an **IR projector** to simplify the image matching issue
- Helps with dark scenes, or scenes without texture



RVIZ

RViz* interface showing a 3D visualization of a hand model and a checkerboard pattern, along with various toolbars and panels.

Displays Panel:


- Global Options
 - Fixed Frame: camera_link
 - Background Color: 48; 48; 48
 - Frame Rate: 30
 - Default Light: ☒
- Global Status: Ok
 - Fixed Frame: OK
- Grid: ☒
- PointCloud2: ☒
- Image: ☒

PointCloud2 Panel:

Displays a point cloud from a sensor_msgs::PointCloud2 message as points in the world, drawn as points, billboards, or cubes. [More Information](#)

Buttons: Add, Duplicate, Remove, Rename

Image Panel:



Views Panel:

Type: Orbit (rviz) Zero

| Current View | Orbit (rviz) |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Near Clip ... | 0.01 |
| Invert Z Axis | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Target Fra... | <Fixed Frame> |
| Distance | 1.29877 |
| Focal Shap... | 0.05 |
| Focal Shap... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Yaw | 3.25041 |
| Pitch | 0.255399 |
| Focal Point | -0.024667; -0.08... |

Buttons: Save, Remove, Rename

Time Panel:

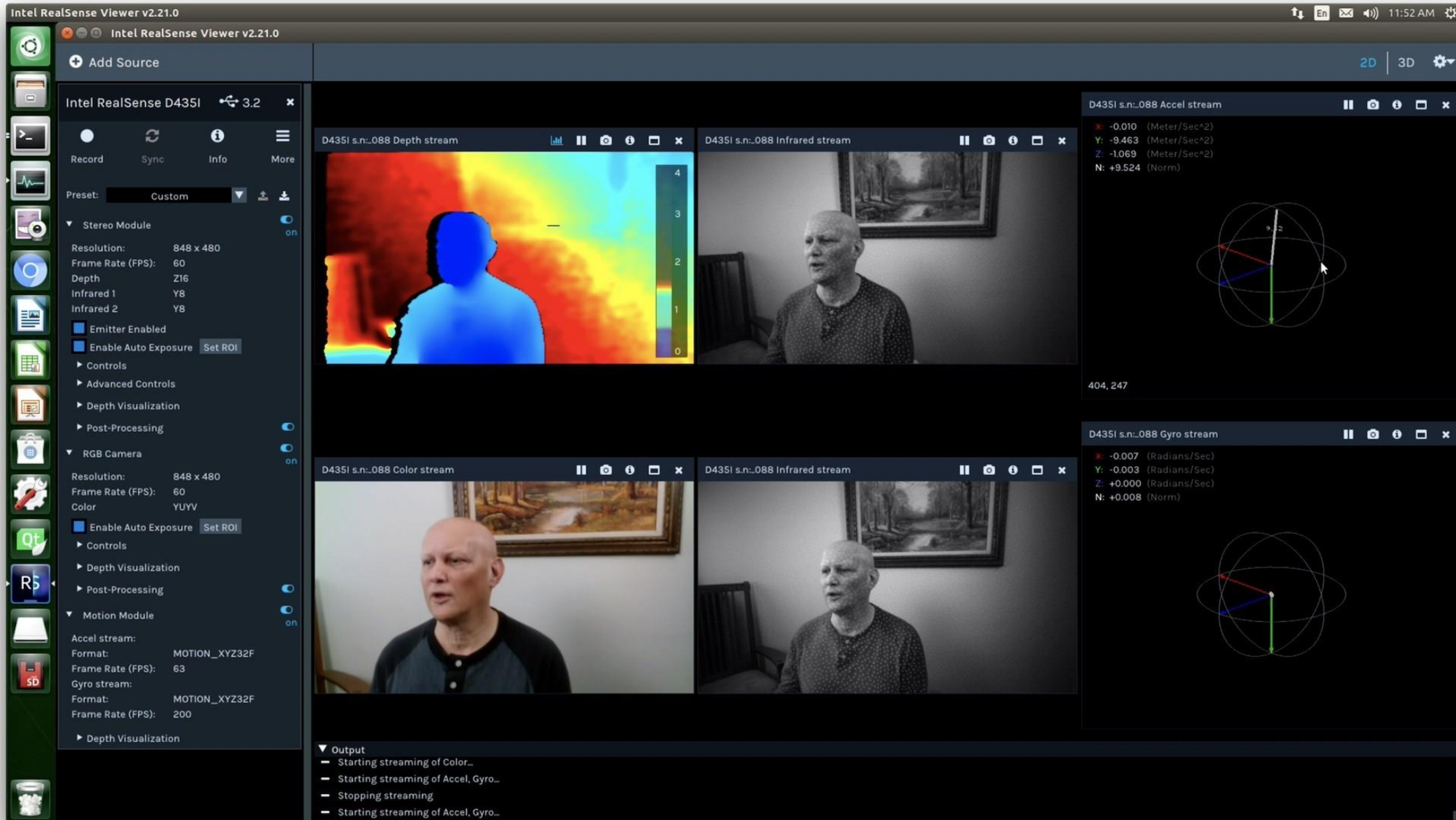
ROS Time: 1516893177.58 ROS Elapsed: 224.56 Wall Time: 1516893177.61 Wall Elapsed: 224.54

Buttons: Reset

Bottom Bar:

Experimental 31 fps

RealSense-Viewer



Good luck and have fun!

Let us know if you need any help during the lab