

Title

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Notation

\*INTERNAL - FOR KEEPING TRACK

#### NOTATION DESCRIPTION

$n_{steps}$	no. time steps in simulation
$n_{scans}$	no. directions in rev.
$\hat{x}$	denotes prediction
$\tilde{x}$	denotes measurement
$\mu_x$	mean of $x$
$x'$	gives $x$ in homogeneous coords

## 1.2 Literature Review

### 1.2.1 infinite-dimensional observers

#### **linear:**

- observer theory for linear infinite-dimensional systems widely studied
- techniques used typically extensions of luenberger observers used for finite-dimensional systems.
- simplified approach: use spatial discretisation such as finite different/finite element to reduce infinite-dimensional to finite-dimensional observer. [1, 2]
- better to design infinite-dimensional observer and only discretise for numerical implementation. [3, 4, 5] **TODO:** *describe these design methods.*

#### **nonlinear:**

- no universal approach for observer design for infinite-dimensional nonlinear systems
- some methods for special case - infinite dimensional bilinear systems. [6, 7]
- for finite-dimensional nonlinear systems, common design methods are: linearisation (ie EKF), lyapunov method, sliding mode, high gain

### 1.2.2 symmetry preserving observers

#### 1.2.2.1 early work

#### 1.2.2.2 bonnabel et al

#### 1.2.2.3 trumpf, mahony et al

#### 1.2.2.4 juan's work - in detail

## 1.3 Theoretical Background

### 1.3.1 Rigid Body Kinematics

A rigid body is a model of a solid object whose deformation is assumed to be negligible. The distance between every pair of points on the body remains constant. Because such a body does not deform, knowledge of the orientation and position of a reference frame fixed to rigid body constitutes knowledge of the position of all points. The position of the rigid body is thus defined as the position of a single point in the body, most commonly its centre of mass. The orientation can be defined using a set of coordinate axes fixed to the body. The theory of Lie groups will be used to describe the kinematics of rigid bodies on this report.

#### 1.3.1.1 Lie Groups

A Lie group  $\mathbf{G}$  is a group whose elements form a differentiable manifold and group operation and inverse operation are differentiable. As a group,  $\mathbf{G}$  is a set of elements and a group operation. This group operation is a binary operation that combines two elements and is denoted by multiplication:  $AB$  for  $A, B \in \mathbf{G}$ . Because it is a group,  $\mathbf{G}$  satisfies the 4 group axioms:

- **Closure:** The group operation  $\mathbf{G} \times \mathbf{G} \mapsto \mathbf{G}$  is a function that maps elements of  $\mathbf{G}$  onto itself;  $\forall A, B \in \mathbf{G}, AB \in \mathbf{G}$ .
- **Associativity:** Elements of  $\mathbf{G}$  are associative under the group operation;  $\forall A, B, C \in \mathbf{G}, (AB)C = A(BC)$ .
- **Identity:** There exists an identity element  $I \in \mathbf{G}$  such that  $\forall A \in \mathbf{G}, IA = AI = A$ .
- **Inverse:** For all  $A \in \mathbf{G}$  there exists an inverse element  $A^{-1} \in \mathbf{G}$  such that  $AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = I$ .

Because the Lie group  $\mathbf{G}$  is a differentiable manifold, it is locally Euclidean. This means that the neighbourhood around every element of  $\mathbf{G}$  can be approximated with a tangent plane. This property allows calculus to be performed on elements of  $\mathbf{G}$ .

#### Matrix Lie groups

A matrix Lie group  $\mathbf{G} \subset \mathbf{GL}(n)$  is made up of group elements which are  $n \times n$  matrices. This work will focus on matrix Lie groups because the form of the exponential map and Lie bracket functions given below only apply to such Lie groups. Generalised concepts for these functions exist, but a more

detailed and relevant description can be provided by focusing on matrix Lie groups.

### Lie algebra

The tangent space at the identity element of a Lie group is called the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ . It is called the Lie *algebra* because it has a binary operation, known as the Lie bracket  $[X, Y]$ . For matrix Lie groups the Lie bracket is

$$[A, B] \triangleq AB - BA \quad (1.1)$$

### The exponential map and logarithm map

The canonical mapping from the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  to the Lie group  $\mathbf{G}$  is called the exponential map:

$$\exp : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbf{G} \quad (1.2)$$

Similarly, the logarithm map maps elements from its domain  $\mathbf{D} \subset \mathbf{G}$  to  $\mathfrak{g}$

$$\log : \mathbf{D} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g} \quad (1.3)$$

such that for a group element  $A$ ,

$$\exp(\log(A)) = A \quad (1.4)$$

For matrix Lie groups, the exponential map and logarithm map correspond to the matrix exponential and matrix logarithm respectively.

### Infinitesimal generators

The *hat* operator  $(\cdot)^\wedge$  can be used to map an  $n$ -vector to an  $m \times m$  matrix representation, when  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . (\*NOTE - haven't actually used hat since it is used to denote prediction. wedge is a better counterpart to vee anyway. is this okay???)

$$\begin{aligned} (\cdot)^\wedge : \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m \times m} \\ x &\mapsto x^\wedge = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i G_i \end{aligned} \quad (1.5)$$

where the set of elements  $G_i$  form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ .

Conversely, the *vee* operator  $(\cdot)^\vee$  maps matrices in  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  to vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $(x^\wedge)^\vee = x$

$$\begin{aligned} (\cdot)^\vee : \mathbb{R}^{m \times m} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \\ x^\wedge &\mapsto x \end{aligned} \quad (1.6)$$

For an  $n$ -dimensional matrix Lie group, the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  is a vector space isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The hat operator maps vectors  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  to elements of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

For a matrix Lie group  $\mathbf{G}$  whose elements are  $m \times m$  matrices, the elements of  $\mathfrak{g}$  will also be  $m \times m$  matrices.

$$\begin{aligned} (\cdot)^\wedge : \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathfrak{g} \\ x \mapsto x^\wedge &= \sum_{i=1}^n x_i G_i \end{aligned} \tag{1.7}$$

The basis elements  $G_i$  are  $m \times m$  matrices known as the infinitesimal generators of  $\mathbf{G}$ .

### Lie bracket and group operation

For Lie groups endowed with the commutative property ( $\forall A, B \in \mathbf{G}, AB = BA$ ), vector addition in the Lie algebra maps to a group operation in the Lie group. For  $C = A + B$  where  $A, B, C \in \mathfrak{g}$ ,

$$e^C = e^{A+B} = e^A e^B \tag{1.8}$$

For non-commutative Lie groups, this relationship between the Lie algebra and Lie group operations do not hold. Instead, for  $C = \log e^A e^B$ ,  $C$  is calculated with the Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff formula:

$$C = A + B + \frac{1}{2}[A, B] + \frac{1}{12}[A - B, [A, B]] + \frac{1}{24}[B, [A, [A, B]]] + \dots \tag{1.9}$$

### Actions

When a group action for a Lie group  $\mathbf{G}$  acting on a manifold  $M$  is a differentiable map, this is known as a Lie group action. For example, 3D rotations act on 3D points so the Lie group  $\mathbf{SO}(3)$  acts on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . A left action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $M$  is defined as a differentiable map

$$\Phi : \mathbf{G} \times M \mapsto M \tag{1.10}$$

where

- the identity element  $I$  acts as the identity on  $M$

$$\Phi(I, m) = m \quad \forall m \in M \tag{1.11}$$

- Group actions compose according to

$$\Phi(m, \Phi(n, o)) = \Phi(mn, o) \quad \forall m, n, o \in M \tag{1.12}$$

#### 1.3.1.2 $\mathbf{SO}(3)$

A rotation represents the motion of a point about the origin of a Euclidean space. In  $\mathbb{R}^3$  this is a proper isometry: a transformation that preserves

distances between any pair of points and has a determinant of +1. The set of all rotations about the origin of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is known as the *special orthogonal group*  $\mathbf{SO}(3)$ . Group elements of  $\mathbf{SO}(3)$  can be represented using a special subset of  $3 \times 3$  invertible matrices and in this case, forms a matrix Lie group. Several rotation representations are described in REF, but the theory presented below only applies to matrix Lie groups which rely on the rotation matrix representation for group elements.

A rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix that performs a rotation operation when it acts on an element of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The properties of  $\mathbf{R}$  are described in more detail below.

### Lie algebra

The Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$  is a vector space whose elements correspond to an angular velocity. These elements can be represented with  $3 \times 3$  skew-symmetric matrices  $\boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge$ , where  $\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is a 3-vector representing an angular velocity. For  $\boldsymbol{\omega} = [\omega_1 \ \omega_2 \ \omega_3]^T$ , the skew symmetric representation is given by taking the hat representation of  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.13)$$

Elements of  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$  are mapped to  $\mathbf{SO}(3)$  according to the exponential map:

$$\begin{aligned} \exp : \mathfrak{so}(3) &\rightarrow \mathbf{SO}(3) \\ \boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge &\mapsto \exp(\boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge) \end{aligned} \quad (1.14)$$

where the matrix  $\exp(\boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge) \in \mathbf{SO}(3)$  is a rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$ .

Conversely, the logarithm map maps  $3 \times 3$  rotation matrices of  $\mathbf{SO}(3)$  to elements of  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \log : \mathbf{SO}(3) &\rightarrow \mathfrak{so}(3) \\ \exp(\boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge) &\mapsto \boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge \end{aligned} \quad (1.15)$$

This means that for a rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$ ,  $\log(\mathbf{R}) \in \mathfrak{so}(3)$  and represents an angular velocity.

### Actions

By the group action, elements of  $\mathbf{SO}(3)$  rotate points  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  about the origin.

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : \mathbf{SO}(3) \times \mathbb{R}^3 &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \\ (\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{p}) &\mapsto \mathbf{R}\mathbf{p} \end{aligned} \quad (1.16)$$

### Rotation representations

There are many conventions by which elements of  $\mathbf{SO}(3)$  can be represented. The representations that will be used in this report are described below.

#### Rotation matrices

A 3D rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  is an orthogonal  $3 \times 3$  matrix with a determinant of +1. Since  $\mathbf{R}$  is orthogonal, its columns and rows are respectively sets of orthogonal unit vectors and

$$\mathbf{R}^{-1} = \mathbf{R}^T \quad (1.17)$$

The group operation using rotation matrices is simply a matrix multiplication which concatenates the two rotations. The product of two rotation matrices  $\mathbf{R}_3 = \mathbf{R}_2\mathbf{R}_1$  is a rotation matrix corresponding to left multiplication by  $\mathbf{R}_1$  followed by  $\mathbf{R}_2$ .

The left action of a rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  on a point  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is a left matrix multiplication that rotates  $\mathbf{p}$  about the origin.

#### Scaled-axis representation

An orientation in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  can also be represented by a 3-vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  whose direction  $\mathbf{r}$  represents the axis of rotation and magnitude  $\theta$  represents the angle of rotation.

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = \theta\mathbf{r} \quad (1.18)$$

Though scaled-axis vectors are not typically used to perform rotations, Rodrigues' rotation formula efficiently converts scaled-axis vectors to rotation matrices:

$$\mathbf{R}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \mathbf{I} + [\mathbf{r}]_{\times} \sin \theta + ([\mathbf{r}]_{\times})^2 (1 - \cos \theta) \quad (1.19)$$

Elements of  $\mathfrak{so}(3)$  are typically represented with the hat representation  $\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\wedge}$  of a scaled-axis vector  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ , where the magnitude  $|\boldsymbol{\omega}|$  corresponds to the angular velocity about the axis  $\boldsymbol{\omega}/|\boldsymbol{\omega}|$ .

#### Rotation quaternions

Quaternions are an extension of complex numbers. The set of unit quaternions can be used to represent  $\mathbf{SO}(3)$ , and will be referred to as rotation quaternions. A rotation quaternion  $\mathbf{q}$  is a 4-tuple of real numbers that encode the same information as axis angle.  $\mathbf{q}$  is often described in terms of its first element  $w$  - the scalar part, and the remaining elements  $x, y$  and  $z$  - the vector part. Given an axis of rotation  $\mathbf{r}$  and an angle of rotation  $\theta$ :

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w \\ \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta/2) \\ \sin(\theta/2)\mathbf{r} \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.20)$$

In general, the quaternion inverse is given by

$$\mathbf{q}^{-1} = \frac{1}{w^2 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2} \begin{bmatrix} w \\ -x \\ -y \\ -z \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.21)$$

For unit magnitude rotation quaternions the inverse represents a rotation by  $-\theta$  and is given by

$$\mathbf{q}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta/2) \\ -\sin(\theta/2)\mathbf{r} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w \\ -x \\ -y \\ -z \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.22)$$

The group operation is performed with quaternion multiplication which is defined:

$$\mathbf{q}_1 \mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_2 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 w_2 - \mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 \\ w_1 \mathbf{v}_2 + w_2 \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_1 \times \mathbf{v}_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.23)$$

As with rotation matrices, quaternion multiplication is associative but not commutative.

The group action rotates a point  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  to  $\mathbf{p}'$  by embedding it as the vector part of a quaternion and using a conjugation operation with  $\mathbf{q}$ : formula for rotating vector:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{p}' \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{q} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{p} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{q}^{-1} \quad (1.24)$$

### 1.3.1.3 SE(3)

The special Euclidean group **SE**(3) represents rigid transformation in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . This is a matrix Lie group whose elements are the set of all rigid transformations in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and can be represented with  $4 \times 4$  matrices of the form

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{p} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.25)$$

where  $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbf{SO}(3)$  and  $\mathbf{p} = [p_x \ p_y \ p_z]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

**SE**(3) is a semidirect product of **SO**(3) and  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . As its group elements contain a rotation matrix and translation vector, **SE**(3) has 6 degrees of freedom and is a 6-dimensional manifold.

#### Lie algebra

The Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{se}(3)$  is a vector space whose elements are  $4 \times 4$  matrices of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge & \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.26)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\omega} = [\omega_x \ \omega_y \ \omega_z]^\top \in \mathbf{so}(3)$ , representing an angular velocity in scaled axis representation, and  $\mathbf{v} = [v_x \ v_y \ v_z]^\top \in T_{\mathbf{p}}\mathbb{R}^3$ , representing a linear velocity vector.

Elements of  $\mathfrak{se}(3)$  are mapped to  $\mathbf{SE}(3)$  according to the exponential map:

$$\begin{aligned} \exp : \mathfrak{se}(3) &\rightarrow \mathbf{SE}(3) \\ \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge & \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 0 \end{bmatrix} &\mapsto \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{p} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (1.27)$$

i.e.  $\forall \mathbf{T} \in \mathfrak{se}(3), \exp(\mathbf{T}) \in \mathbf{SE}(3)$

Conversely, the logarithm map maps elements of  $\mathbf{SE}(3)$  to elements of  $\mathfrak{se}(3)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \log : \mathbf{SE}(3) &\rightarrow \mathfrak{se}(3) \\ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{p} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} &\mapsto \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\omega}^\wedge & \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (1.28)$$

i.e.  $\forall \mathbf{S} \in \mathbf{SE}(3), \log(\mathbf{S}) \in \mathfrak{se}(3)$

### Actions

$\mathbf{SE}(3)$  group elements acts to perform a rigid transformation on points in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . This corresponds to a rotation about the origin and a translation. To apply a transformation using the  $4 \times 4$  matrix elements of  $\mathbf{SE}(3)$  to a point  $\mathbf{p} = (x, y, z)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , the point must be represented with homogeneous coordinates: (is  $p'$  okay for homogeneous points?  $^\wedge$  is already used for skew-symmetric matrix)

$$\mathbf{p}' = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.29)$$

The left group action of  $\mathbf{SE}(3)$  is now simply a left matrix multiplication of  $\mathbf{p}$ :

$$\mathbf{p}'_1 = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{p}'_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{p} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}_0 + \mathbf{p} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.30)$$

#### 1.3.1.4 Reference Frames

A reference frame is a system of coordinates that is used to uniquely identify points on a manifold. This report will deal with reference frames on  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , that are used both to define the position of a point and the pose of a rigid body in 3D space. Such a reference frame is represented by an element of  $\mathbf{SE}(3)$ .

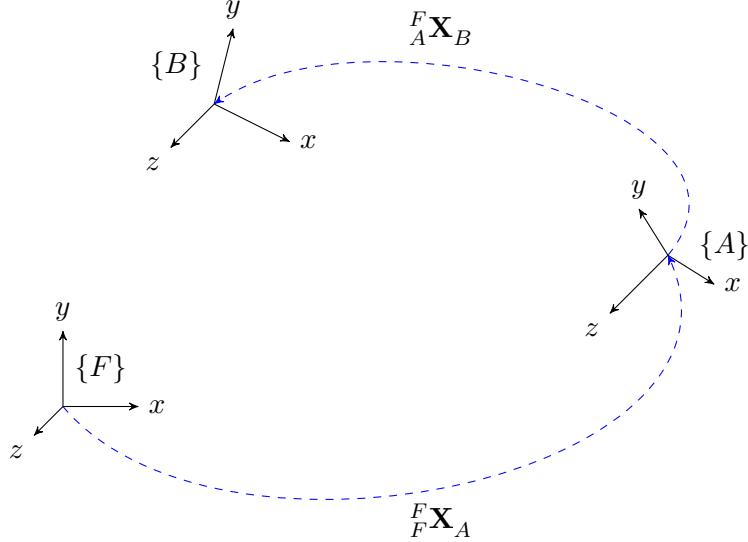


Figure 1.1: what frame should transformations be defined in?

The notion of an inertial reference frame is introduced here. This will be defined as a reference frame that is stationary for the purpose of the problem being described. The convention used will be to denote the inertial reference frame as  $\{F\}$ .

Consider the three reference frames shown in Figure 1.1, denoted  $\{F\}$  (the inertial frame),  $\{A\}$  and  $\{B\}$ . The notation  ${}^F_A \mathbf{X}_B$  defines the transformation in  $\mathbf{X}$  of the reference frame  $\{B\}$  with respect to the frame  $\{A\}$ , defined in the frame  $\{F\}$ .

For example,  ${}^F_A \mathbf{R}_B$  defines the rotation of  $\{B\}$  with respect to  $\{A\}$ , defined in the inertial frame  $\{F\}$ .

#### Pose:

The pose of a rigid body in a given reference frame is defined by its relative position and orientation with respect to the given reference frame and is represented by an element of  $\mathbf{SE}(3)$ . If a rigid body has orientation aligned with a reference frame  $\{C\}$  and position at the origin of  $\{C\}$ , then the pose of the rigid body with respect to  $\{B\}$  and defined in  $\{A\}$  is:

$${}^F_A \mathbf{S}_B = \begin{bmatrix} {}^F_A \mathbf{R}_B & {}^F_A \mathbf{p}_B \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.31)$$

#### Point:

A point  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  in the frame  $\{F\}$  is denoted  ${}^F \mathbf{p}$  and is expressed as a 3-vector

of the weights used to compose it from the basis vectors of  $\{F\}$ .

$${}^F \mathbf{p} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^F x \\ {}^F y \\ {}^F z \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.32)$$

#### **Homogeneous coordinates:**

To be acted on by an element of  $\mathbf{SE}(3)$ , a point must be expressed in homogeneous coordinates:

$${}^F \mathbf{p}' = \begin{bmatrix} {}^F \mathbf{p} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.33)$$

#### **Defining a point in terms of another reference frame:**

Consider a point in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  defined as the position of the frame  $\{A\}$  with respect to the frame  $\{F\}$ , defined in terms of the frame  $\{A\}$ . To redefine the point in terms of  $\{F\}$ , the left action of  ${}_F \mathbf{S}_A \in \mathbf{SE}(3)$  is used:

$${}^F \mathbf{p}' = {}_F \mathbf{S}_A {}^A \mathbf{p}' \quad (1.34)$$

#### **Concatenating poses:**

Poses are concatenated by multiplying relative poses.

$${}^F \mathbf{X}_B = {}^F \mathbf{X}_A {}^A \mathbf{X}_B \quad (1.35)$$

#### **Defining a pose in terms of another reference frame:**

To define a pose transformation matrix in terms of a different reference frame, a matrix conjugation is used:

$${}^A \mathbf{X}_C = ({}^A \mathbf{X}_F) {}^F \mathbf{X}_C ({}^A \mathbf{X}_F)^{-1} \quad (1.36)$$

#### **Inverse:**

Taking the inverse of a pose transformation matrix has the effect of reversing the transformation, but does not alter the frame that the transformation is defined in terms of.

$$({}^A \mathbf{X}_B)^{-1} = {}^B \mathbf{X}_A \quad (1.37)$$

##### **1.3.1.5 Rigid Body State Representation**

The state of a rigid body moving through 3D space can be represented by its linear and angular position, velocity and acceleration. Higher derivatives could be taken but will be ignored for simplicity. The inertial frame is denoted  $\{F\}$  and a frame  $\{A\}$  is fixed to the pose of the moving body.

The pose of the body with respect to the inertial frame at time  $t$ , defined in the inertial frame is represented by the screw matrix  ${}^F_S A(t) \in \mathbf{SE}(3)$ ,

$${}^F_S A(t) = \begin{bmatrix} {}^F_R A(t) & {}^F p_A(t) \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.38)$$

where  ${}^F_R A(t) \in \mathbf{SO}(3)$  is a rotation matrix, and the position  ${}^F p_A(t) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

The linear and angular velocity of the body at time  $t$  with respect to the inertial frame, defined in the body-fixed frame, is represented by the twist matrix  ${}^A_F T_A(t) \in \mathfrak{se}(3)$ ,

$${}^A_F T_A(t) = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A_F \omega_A^\wedge(t) & {}^A_F v_A(t) \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.39)$$

where  ${}^A_F \omega_A(t) \in \mathfrak{so}(3)$  is an angular velocity in the scaled-axis representation, and the linear velocity is  ${}^A_F v_A(t) \in T\mathbb{R}^3$ .

The linear and angular acceleration of the body at time  $t$  with respect to the inertial frame, defined in the body-fixed frame, is represented by the wrench matrix  ${}^A_F W_A(t) \in T\mathfrak{se}(3)$ ,

$${}^A_F W_A(t) = \begin{bmatrix} {}^A_F \alpha_A^\wedge(t) & {}^A_F a_A(t) \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1.40)$$

where  ${}^A_F \alpha_A(t) \in T\mathfrak{so}(3)$  is an angular acceleration in the scaled-axis representation, and the linear acceleration is  ${}^A_F a_A(t) \in T^2\mathbb{R}^3$ .

\*From now on, will not show frames in notation. This is how S,T,W will be defined unless explicitly stated otherwise.

### 1.3.1.6 Rigid Body Kinematics

The dynamics of the screw, twist and wrench matrices as they are defined in 1.3.1.5 is governed by the following ODEs,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{S}(t) = \mathbf{S}(t) \mathbf{T}(t) \quad (1.41)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{T}(t) = \mathbf{W}(t) \quad (1.42)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{W}(t) = \mathbf{f}(t) \quad (1.43)$$

where the function  $\mathbf{f}(t)$  is known.

### 1.3.1.7 Scanning Laser Rangefinder Dynamic Model

A scanning laser rangefinder fixed to a moving rigid body. State is same as moving rigid body defined above ( $S, T, W$ )

+

Unit vector defined in the body fixed frame -  ${}^A\mathbf{d}(t) \in T\mathbb{R}^3$ .

+

Range  $r(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{0+}$ , defining range from  ${}^F\mathbf{p}_A(t)$  to nearest object in environment in direction  ${}^F\mathbf{d}(t) = {}^F\mathbf{R}_A(t) {}^A\mathbf{d}(t)$

Scan direction in sensor frame is vector rotating at constant speed about  $z$ -axis, with unit size inside sensor's field-of-view and zero size outside it. Measurements returned at regular, discrete times - when  $t$  is an integer multiple of  $\delta\tau$ :

$${}^A\mathbf{d}(t) = \begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(-\theta + 2\pi t') \\ -\sin(-\theta + 2\pi t') \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} & \text{if } t' \leq \theta/pi, t' = k\delta\tau \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \mathbf{0} & \text{if } t' > \theta/pi, t' \neq k\delta\tau \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases} \quad (1.44)$$

where

$$t' = \mod(t, 1/d\theta) d\theta \quad (1.45)$$

\* $\theta_0$  is start of FOV,  $t' = X$  at end of FOV

### 1.3.2 Symmetry Preserving Observers

#### 1.3.2.1 definitions?

#### 1.3.2.2 construction, ie moving frame method etc

### 1.3.3 Infinite Dimensional Observers

#### 1.3.4 Discretisation Methods?

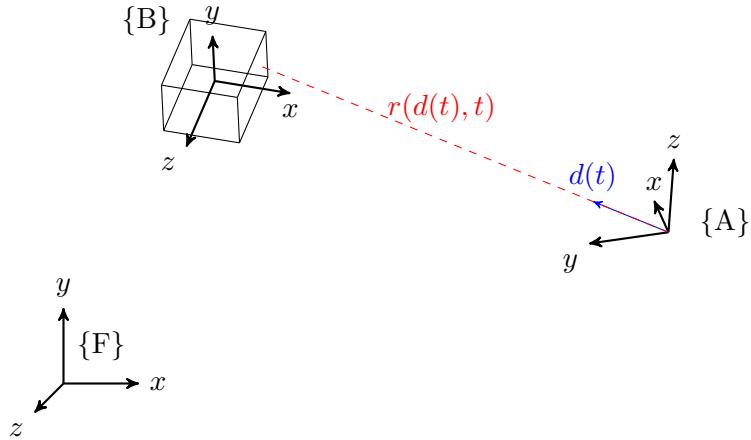


Figure 1.2: caption

## 1.4 Problem Statement

context etc here...

### estimation problem - cube pose & size:

A situation in which an infinite dimensional observer would be useful is in the estimation of the pose of an object of size moving in an environment of unknown state. For example, consider an autonomous robot deployed in an agricultural survey, which must determine the position and size of a certain crop.

The problem to be investigated is shown in Figure 1.2. A 2D scanning range sensor moves through an environment consisting of a target object of known shape, in this case a rigid cube, and an unknown background which may consist of one or more rigid bodies. The state of the sensor is known, but the states of the cube and background environment are unknown. The goal is to use the state of the sensor and the range measurements it provides to estimate the state of the cube.

The frames used to describe the motion of the rigid bodies in this problem are:

- $\{F\}$  - the inertial (fixed) frame. For the purposes of this problem, the inertial frame is a frame whose motion is negligible. For the practical experiment this frame will be fixed to the ground.
- $\{A\}$  - the frame fixed to the sensor. The origin of this frame is the centre of rotation of the sensor's scan direction. The axes of  $\{A\}$  are fixed to the sensor according to figure **TODO: FIGURE**. The transformation from  $\{F\}$  to  $\{A\}$  at time  $t$  is defined by the screw

matrix of the sensor  $\mathbf{S}_s(t)$ .

- $\{B\}$  - the frame fixed to the cube. The origin of  $\{B\}$  coincides with the centre of the cube and is aligned so that each axis intersects with the centre of a face of the cube. The transformation from  $\{F\}$  to  $\{B\}$  at time  $t$  is defined by the screw matrix of the cube  $\mathbf{S}_c(t)$ .

The sensor provides measurements of the range  $r$  to the nearest object from the sensor (either the cube or the background) in the direction  $\mathbf{d}(t)$ . The state of the sensor  $\mathbf{X}_s(t)$  is defined as:

$$\mathbf{X}_s(t) = \{{}^F\mathbf{S}_A(t), {}^A\mathbf{T}_A(t), {}^A\mathbf{W}_A(t), {}^A\mathbf{d}(t)\} \quad (1.46)$$

The screw matrix represents the transformation from  $\{A\}$  to  $\{F\}$ , defined in  $\{F\}$ . The twist and wrench matrices, as well as the scan direction  $\mathbf{d}(t)$  are defined in terms of  $\{A\}$ . For simplicity, this will be denoted

$$\mathbf{X}_s(t) = \{\mathbf{S}_s(t), \mathbf{T}_s(t), \mathbf{W}_s(t), {}^A\mathbf{d}(t)\} \quad (1.47)$$

The direction of measurement  ${}^A\mathbf{d}(t)$  varies as a rotation about the z-axis of  $\{A\}$ . This 2D scanning motion depends on the model of the sensor used and is described in more detail in ADD REFERENCE. For simplification, the motion of the sensor itself with respect to  $\{F\}$  will be limited to rotation about the  $y$ -axis of  $\{F\}$ .

#### **TODo: DIAGRAM SHOWING RESTRICTED MOTION**

The state of cube  $\mathbf{X}_c(t)$  is defined as

$$\mathbf{X}_c(t) = \{{}^F\mathbf{S}_B(t), {}^F\mathbf{T}_B(t), {}^F\mathbf{W}_B(t), s\} \quad (1.48)$$

For simplicity, this will be denoted

$$\mathbf{X}_c(t) = \{\mathbf{S}_c(t), \mathbf{T}_c(t), \mathbf{W}_c(t), s\} \quad (1.49)$$

The range measurements do not indicate whether the object detected is the cube or a background object. Though the pose of the cube and environment remain unknown, for simplification, it is assumed that either:

- the cube is within a distance  $r_{max}$  from the sensor and background objects are at least a distance  $r_{max}$  away
- these target and background objects do not touch or overlap and their surfaces are continuous functions on  $\mathbb{R}^3$

For simulated data, only the first assumption is necessary. For experimental data sets the environment is more complex so the second assumption is required to identify range measurements corresponding to the cube.

The aim is to design an observer which estimates the state of the cube from the pose of the sensor, as well as  $\mathbf{n}$  and  $r$ . ie observer function  $f$  such that:

$$\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c(k+1) = f(\mathbf{X}_s(t), \hat{\mathbf{X}}_c(k), r(t), \hat{r}(t)) \quad (1.50)$$

\*convergence - how to quantify performance?

**deliverables:**

# Chapter 2

## Simulation

### 2.1 Implementation

A simulation toolbox was implemented in Matlab to model scanning laser range-finder measurements and test observer schemes. The main components of the simulation are:

- rigid body trajectory computation;
- solid object modelling;
- range measurement simulation;
- noise modelling;
- observer implementation.

A high level description of the simulation is provided in Algorithm 1. First, a settings file is loaded. The most important settings determined here are the trajectories of the sensor and environment objects, the scanning behaviour of the sensor and the observer update function. Next, the sensor class instance is initialised with `initialisesensor`. This requires computation of the pose and scanning directions of the sensor over time. Similarly, initialisation of the environment through `initialiseenvironment` requires computation of the pose of each rigid body comprising it. The surfaces of the bodies are then represented with a set of points and corresponding triangles. The position of each point with respect to the inertial frame  $\{F\}$  is computed at each time step. The settings file provides the initial conditions with which the observer is initialised in `initialiseobserver`. Beginning on line 6, the state of the sensor and environment are used to compute the ground truth range measurements  $\mathbf{r}$  at each time step. The incidence angle of the between the scan direction and object, as well as the index of the triangle hit are also

---

**Algorithm 1:** Scanning range-finder and state observer simulation

---

**Data:**

- $n_{steps}$  - no. steps in simulation
- $\mathbf{X}_s$  - pose and scan direction
- $\mathbf{X}_e$  - points for cube and background, triangles
- $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c$  - estimate of pose and size of cube
- $c$  - true/false, current range measurement is of cube
- $\mathbf{r}$  - ground truth range
- $\tilde{\mathbf{r}}$  - measured range - ground truth + noise
- $\hat{\mathbf{r}}$  - predicted range from state estimate
- $\alpha$  - angle of incidence for each measurement
- $\mathbf{m}$  - index of triangle measured
- $\theta$  - scan angle in sensor frame
- $\Theta$  - set of scan angles that return range measurement

```

1 begin
2   settings ← loadsettings
3    $\mathbf{X}_s \leftarrow \text{initialisesensor}(settings)$ 
4    $\mathbf{X}_e \leftarrow \text{initialiseenvironment}(settings)$ 
5   initialiseobserver
6   for  $ii \leftarrow 1$  to  $n_{steps}$  do
7     if  $\theta[ii] \in \Theta$  then
8       | [ $\mathbf{r}[ii]$ ,  $\alpha[ii]$ ,  $\mathbf{m}[ii]$ ] ← computerange( $\mathbf{X}_s[ii]$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_e[ii]$ )
9     end
10  end
11   $\tilde{\mathbf{r}} = \text{addnoise}(\mathbf{r}, \alpha, \mathbf{m}, settings)$ 
12  for  $ii \leftarrow 1$  to  $n_{steps}$  do
13    |  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c[ii + 1] \leftarrow \text{estimatestate}(\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c[ii])$ 
14    if  $\theta[ii] \in \Theta$  then
15      | |  $\hat{\mathbf{r}}[ii] \leftarrow \text{computerange}(\mathbf{X}_s[ii], \hat{\mathbf{X}}_c[ii])$ 
16      | |  $c \leftarrow \text{identifyobject}(c, \tilde{\mathbf{r}})$ 
17      | | if  $c$  then
18        | | |  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c[ii + 1] \leftarrow \text{updatestate}(\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c[ii + 1], \mathbf{X}_s[ii], \hat{\mathbf{r}}, \tilde{\mathbf{r}})$ 
19      | | end
20    end
21  end
22 end

```

---

stored as they will be required for sensor noise modelling. This is performed with a parallel `for` loop to speed up computation. Line 7 ensures ranges are only computed when the current scan direction is within the sensor's field of view. In line 11, noise is simulated and added to the ground truth ranges to produce the measured ranges  $\tilde{r}$ . The `for` loop beginning on line 12 begins the observer simulation. At each time step, `estimatestate` estimates the state of the cube  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c$  from the previous state with the kinematics model in 1.3.1.6. From the sensor state  $\mathbf{X}_s$  and the estimated state of the cube  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c$ , `computerange` is used to determine the predicted range measurement  $\hat{r}$ . The variable  $c$  indicates whether the current range measurement corresponds to the cube or the background. On line 16 the measured ranges and previous value of  $c$  are used to determine whether the current measurement corresponds to the cube. If it does, the cube state estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c$  is updated using the previous state estimate, current sensor state, and the predicted and measured ranges.

### 2.1.1 Rigid Body Motion

To simulate range measurements the pose of the sensor and the objects comprising the environment must be computed at each time step. The computations required to do so can be reduced by taking into account the kinds of motion that must be simulated.

The observer actually computes the *relative* position between the sensor and cube and simply uses knowledge of the sensor pose to determine the pose of the cube in the inertial frame. There is no need to simulate complex sensor motions because the motion of the cube can be adjusted to achieve the same result. The only requirement of the sensor motion is that a large field of view is acquired so that the entire target object can be viewed. The scanning behaviour of the sensor is to rotate back and forth about the  $z$ -axis of the body fixed frame  $\{A\}$ . To provide a rectangular field of view, the motion of the sensor is therefore limited to constant velocity rotation about  $y$ -axis of inertial frame  $\{F\}$ .

The environment is modelled with two rigid bodies: a cube to be observed as the target object, and a stationary rectangular prism enclosing the sensor and cube acting as the background. The various cube motions that will be simulated to test the observer's performance can be classed in terms of the wrench matrix of the cube as either

1.  $\mathbf{W}_c = \mathbf{0}$
2.  $\mathbf{W}_c \neq \mathbf{0}$

For case 1. the wrench and screw are constant so only the initial value is

required. It is more efficient to represent the pose of a rigid body with just position and orientation in this case. The pose can be quickly computed by interpolating between an initial and final pose. For case 2. the screw, twist and wrench must be integrated numerically.

### 2.1.1.1 Interpolation

For the case of zero wrench, the pose of the body can be represented with a position vector and orientation quaternion. A trajectory of  $k$  poses at times  $\mathbf{t} = [t_1 \ t_2 \ t_3 \ \dots \ t_k]$ , is computed by interpolating from  $\{\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{q}_i\}$  to  $\{\mathbf{p}_f, \mathbf{q}_f\}$ .

The position vectors  $\mathbf{P} = [\mathbf{p}_1 \ \mathbf{p}_2 \ \mathbf{p}_3 \ \dots \ \mathbf{p}_k]$  are computed with:

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{p}_{1[1 \times k]} + (\mathbf{p}_k - \mathbf{p}_1) \frac{\mathbf{t} - \mathbf{t}_{1[1 \times k]}}{t_k - t_1} \quad (2.1)$$

Spherical linear interpolation is used to compute the orientation  $\mathbf{Q} = [\mathbf{q}_1 \ \mathbf{q}_2 \ \mathbf{q}_3 \ \dots \ \mathbf{q}_k]$  at each time:

$$\mathbf{Q} = \frac{\mathbf{q}_1 \sin((\mathbf{1}_{[1 \times k]} - \mathbf{t})\theta) + \mathbf{q}_k \sin(\mathbf{t}\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}(\mathbf{q}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}_k) \quad (2.3)$$

This interpolation method is used to compute the trajectory of the sensor. To acquire multiple views of the entire cube, the sensor must pan back and forth several times. This is achieved by first reversing the trajectory and concatenating with the original to produce the looped trajectories  $\mathbf{P}_{loop}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}_{loop}$ :

$$\mathbf{P}_{loop} = [\mathbf{p}_1 \ \mathbf{p}_2 \ \mathbf{p}_3 \ \dots \ \mathbf{p}_k \ \mathbf{p}_k \ \mathbf{p}_{k-1} \ \mathbf{p}_{k-2} \ \dots \ \mathbf{p}_1] \quad (2.4)$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_{loop} = [\mathbf{q}_1 \ \mathbf{q}_2 \ \mathbf{q}_3 \ \dots \ \mathbf{q}_k \ \mathbf{q}_k \ \mathbf{q}_{k-1} \ \mathbf{q}_{k-2} \ \dots \ \mathbf{q}_1] \quad (2.5)$$

This looped trajectory is repeated  $k$  times acquire multiple views:

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}_{loop[1 \times k]} \quad (2.6)$$

$$\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{Q}_{loop[1 \times k]} \quad (2.7)$$

### 2.1.1.2 Numerical Integration

The time evolution of the screw, twist and wrench is computed iteratively from initial conditions by numerically integrating the ODEs in section 1.3.1.6. For a rigid body with an associated reference frame  $\{X\}$ , moving with constant acceleration:

$$\mathbf{S}_X(t + \delta t) = \mathbf{S}_X(t) \exp(\delta t \mathbf{T}_X(t)) \quad (2.8)$$

$$\mathbf{T}_X(t + \delta t) = \mathbf{T}_X(t) + \delta t \mathbf{W}_X(t) \quad (2.9)$$

$$\mathbf{W}_X(t + \delta t) = \mathbf{W}_X(t) \quad (2.10)$$

Though a higher order integration method, such as Runge-Kutta could be used to compute a trajectory that more accurately represents a constant acceleration, this is not strictly necessary. The observer performance is unlikely to be affected by how constant the acceleration is. Furthermore, it is likely that the experimentally collected data will have even larger variations in acceleration.

To simplify the code, the position vector and orientation quaternion are computed from the screw matrix. This allows the same functions to be used in either the interpolation or numerical integration cases. Multiplying the points that make up the rigid objects can also be done more compactly with quaternions.

## 2.1.2 Sensor modelling

### 2.1.2.1 Motion

The state of the sensor  $\mathbf{X}_s(t)$  consists of terms corresponding to its motion and scanning operation. Since the motion of the sensor is restricted to zero acceleration, the state of sensor can be computed with the interpolation method and represented with position, orientation and scanning direction.

$$\mathbf{X}_s(t) = \{\mathbf{p}_s(t), \mathbf{q}_s(t), {}^A\mathbf{d}(t)\} \quad (2.11)$$

Since it has a stationary position, the position of the sensor over time is fixed at the origin of the inertial frame  $\{F\}$ .

$$\mathbf{p}_1 = \mathbf{p}_2 = \mathbf{p}_3 = \dots = \mathbf{p}_k = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.12)$$

The sensor rotates between  $-\phi$  and  $\phi$  about the  $y$ -axis of inertial frame  $\{F\}$ . Thus, its orientation is computed by interpolating between  $\mathbf{q}_1$  and  $\mathbf{q}_k$  with equation 2.2.

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(-\phi/2) \\ \sin(-\phi/2) \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi/2) \\ 0 \\ -\sin(\phi/2) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.13)$$

$$\mathbf{q}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi/2) \\ \sin(\phi/2) \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi/2) \\ 0 \\ \sin(\phi/2) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.14)$$

### 2.1.2.2 Scanning

The scanning behaviour of the sensor is modelled with the vector  ${}^A\mathbf{d}(t)$ . To simulate a 2D scanning sensor the following parameters are used:

- field of view  $\Theta$ : The vector  ${}^A\mathbf{d}(t)$  rotates anti-clockwise about the  $z$  axis of the sensor frame  $\{A\}$ . Measurements are only taken when the scan angle about is between  $-\theta$  and  $\theta$  about the  $-z$ -axis of the sensor frame  $\{A\}$ . In practice, the field of view is implemented as the start angle  $-\theta$ , direction of rotation and angular range  $2\theta$ .
- number of scans  $n_{scans}$ : This represents the number of scan angles in a single revolution. Since measurements are limited by the field of view of the sensor, the actual number of measurements per second is  $n_{ranges} = \frac{2\theta}{2\pi} n_{scans}$ . The angular resolution is  $d\theta = \frac{2\pi}{n_{scans}}$ .
- revolutions per second  $\Omega$ : This is measured in Hz and gives the length of each time step  $d\tau = \frac{1}{n_{scans}\Omega}$
- $n_{loops}$ : The number of back and forth repeats of the sensor trajectory.

From these parameters the scanning direction  ${}^A\mathbf{d}(t)$  is created. At each time  $t$ ,  ${}^A\mathbf{d}(t)$  is either a unit vector indicating the direction of measurement in the sensor frame, or has  $\mathbf{0}$  magnitude, corresponding to when  ${}^A\mathbf{d}(t)$  is outside the field of view and the sensor is not returning a measurement.

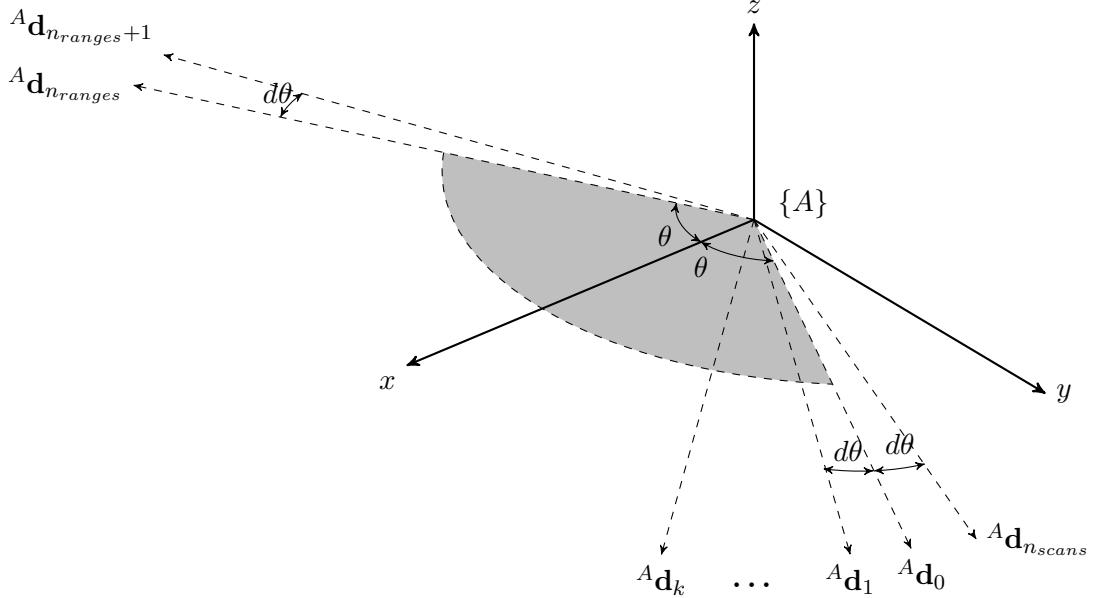


Figure 2.1: Scanning parameters

$${}^A\mathbf{d}(t) = \begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(-\theta + 2\pi t') \\ -\sin(-\theta + 2\pi t') \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} & \text{if } t' \leq \theta/pi, t' = k\delta\tau \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \mathbf{0} & \text{if } t' > \theta/pi, t' \neq k\delta\tau \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases} \quad (2.15)$$

where

$$t' = \mod(t, 1/d\theta) d\theta \quad (2.16)$$

Figure 2.1 shows the frame  $\{A\}$  fixed to the sensor and the scan direction  ${}^A\mathbf{d}(t)$ . At time  $t' = 0$ , the first scan direction  ${}^A\mathbf{d}_0$  has an angular displacement of  $-\theta$  about the  $z$ -axis from the forward facing  $x$ -direction. After each time step  $d\tau$ , the scan direction rotates by  $d\theta$  about the  $z$ -axis. There are  $n_{ranges}$  scan directions within the field of view of the sensor. The entire revolution is divided into  $n_{scans}$  scan directions.

To simulate range measurements, the scan direction is required in the inertial frame  $\{F\}$ . This is computed by multiplying with the screw matrix of the sensor.

$$\begin{aligned} {}^F\mathbf{d}'(t) &= \mathbf{S}_s(t) {}^A\mathbf{d}'(t) \\ &= {}^F\mathbf{S}_A(t) {}^A\mathbf{d}'(t) \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

### 2.1.3 Environment Modelling

#### 2.1.3.1 Motion

The pose of each object represents the pose of its centre of mass. As described in section 2.1.1 the pose is computed with interpolation for the case of zero wrench, and numerical integration in the case of non-zero wrench.

#### 2.1.3.2 Rigid Objects

The environment is represented with two rectangular prisms; the cube and a larger rectangular prism enclosing both the sensor and cube, to represent the background. These objects are modelled as an ordered set of 8 points in the inertial reference frame and an ordered set of 12 triangles formed by these points. Each triangle is represented by a set of 3 integers, indicating the index of the three points that make up its vertices.

The cube points in body frame  $\{B\}$  are represented with the matrix  ${}^B\mathbf{P}$ .

$${}^B\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{2}s \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.18)$$

To represent these points in the inertial frame  $\{F\}$ ,  ${}^F\mathbf{P}$  is computed by rotating each point with the orientation quaternion of frame  $\{B\}$  using equation 1.24 before adding the vector representing the translation of  $\{B\}$  from  $\{F\}$ .

The triangles are represented with the matrix  $\mathbf{T}$ . Each triangle is represented by a row. The elements of these rows are the three vertices of the triangle and the index corresponds a point in  ${}^F\mathbf{P}$ .

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \\ 4 & 3 & 7 \\ 4 & 8 & 7 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 8 & 6 & 7 \\ 2 & 6 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 6 & 8 \\ 2 & 4 & 8 \\ 1 & 5 & 7 \\ 1 & 3 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.19)$$

The points and triangles are shown in Figure 2.2.

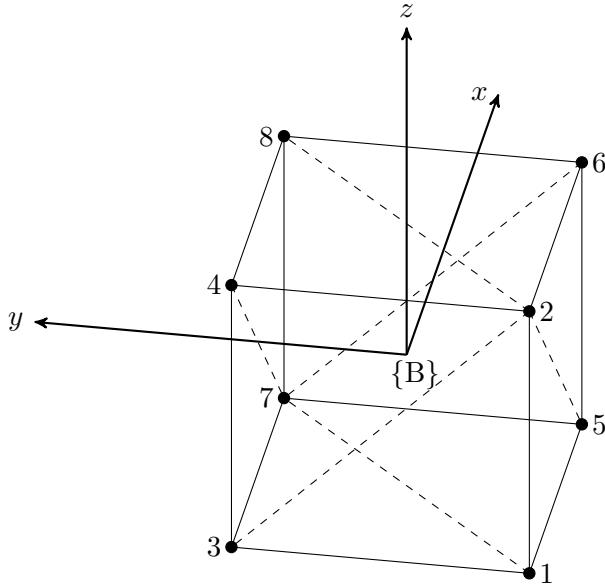


Figure 2.2: Cube modelled with ordered set of points and corresponding triangles

### 2.1.4 Measurement Modelling

#### 2.1.4.1 Range Computation

Given the screw matrix (in the inertial frame) and scan direction (in the body fixed frame) of the sensor, the position and scan direction in the inertial frame are determined. The distance to the nearest environment object from this point, along the scan direction is determined with the Möller-Trumbore ray-triangle intersection algorithm, shown in Algorithm 2.

Figure 2.3 shows a simplified scenario involving the intersection of a ray with a single triangle. In practice, the algorithm is vectorised to compute the intersections with a *set* of triangles.

The output variables are first initialised to the case that there is no intersection with the scanning direction.  $x$  is set to `false` and the range, angle and triangle index outputs are set to return `NaN`.

On line 8, the set of points  $\mathbf{P}$  are indexed using the columns of the triangle matrix  $\mathbf{T}$  to extract the three vertices corresponding to each triangle. The vectors representing the edges sharing vertex  $\mathbf{V}_1$  are computed. From triangles and points, extract vertices of each triangle. The vector  $\mathbf{A}$  computed on line 14 represents the translation from the ray origin  $\mathbf{o}$  to  $\mathbf{V}_1$ .

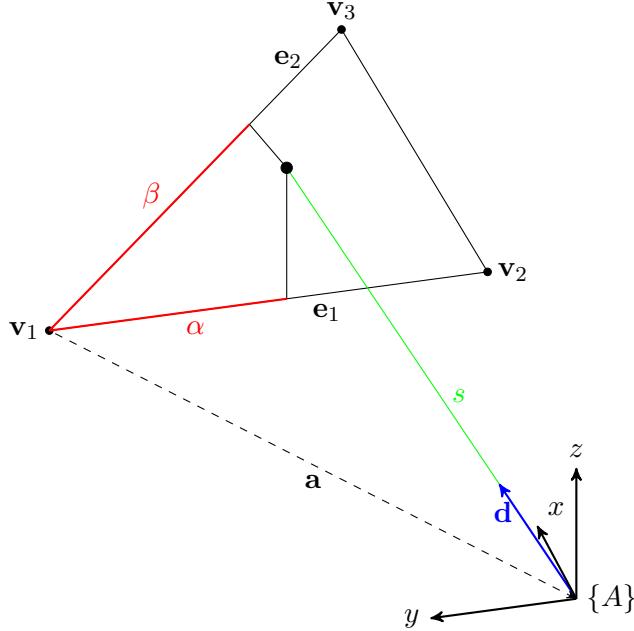


Figure 2.3: Ray-triangle intersection

The vector **B** is computed on line 16 by taking the cross product of the scan direction **d** and each edge **E<sub>2</sub>**. The determinant **δ** of the matrix

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \mathbf{d} \\ \mathbf{e}_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.20)$$

is computed on line 16. This is first used to determine if the scan direction **d** lies in the plane of the triangle by checking if the determinant is close to zero. If so, no intersection can occur. The zero determinant values are then set to NaN to avoid a division by zero later.

Beginning on line 21, determinant **δ** is used to compute the barycentric coordinates **α** and **β**, and the distance **s** from the origin to the triangle plane along the scan direction **d**.

The barycentric coordinates are used to determine if the intersection between the scan direction **d** and the plane of the triangle lies within the triangle itself.

The vector **x** on line 27 now indicates which triangles intersected with the scan direction. **x** is used to mask the ranges to the triangles **s**, to give **r**; the range to each intersecting triangle.

The minimum range **r** and triangle index **m** are determined before computing the angle of incidence **θ** between **d** and the closest triangle.

**Algorithm 2:** Möller-Trumbore ray-triangle intersection

---

```

input : o - ray origin
        d - ray direction vector
        P - cube in inertial frame
        T - triangle matrix
output: x - True/False - measurement corresponds to object
        r - distance to object in m
         $\theta$  - incidence angle in rad
        m - index of triangle hit

1 begin
2   /* initialise outputs */  

3   x  $\leftarrow$  0  

4   r  $\leftarrow$  NaN  

5    $\theta$   $\leftarrow$  NaN  

6   m  $\leftarrow$  NaN  

7   /* triangle vertexes and edges */  

8   V1  $\leftarrow$  P[T[:, 1]]  

9   V2  $\leftarrow$  P[T[:, 2]]  

10  V3  $\leftarrow$  P[T[:, 3]]  

11  E1  $\leftarrow$  V2 - V1  

12  E2  $\leftarrow$  V3 - V1  

13  m = size(V1, 1)  

14  A  $\leftarrow$  o[m × 1] - V1  

15  /* determinant */  

16  B  $\leftarrow$  d[m × 1] × E2  

17   $\delta$   $\leftarrow$  E1 · B  

18  y  $\leftarrow$   $|\delta| \leq 0$   

19  δ[y]  $\leftarrow$  NaN  

20  /* barycentric coordinates */  

21   $\alpha$   $\leftarrow$  (A · B) /  $\delta$   

22  Q  $\leftarrow$  A × E1 *(along dim 2)  

23   $\beta$   $\leftarrow$  (d[n × 1] · Q) /  $\delta$  *(along dim 2)  

24  s  $\leftarrow$  (E2 · Q) /  $\delta$   

25  /* intersection vector */  

26  z  $\leftarrow$  y and ( $\alpha \geq 0$ ) and ( $\beta \geq 0$ ) and ( $\alpha + \beta \leq 1$ )  

27  x  $\leftarrow$  z and (s  $\geq 0$ )  

28  if any(x) then  

29    x  $\leftarrow$  1  

30    x[not x]  $\leftarrow$  NaN  

31    r = s  $\circ$  x  

32    r = min(r)  

33    m = find(r = r, 1)  

34    e1  $\leftarrow$  E1[t, :]  

35    e2  $\leftarrow$  E2[t, :]  

36    n = e1 × e2  

37     $\theta$  = atan2(|d × n|, d · n)  

38     $\theta$  = min( $\theta, \pi - \theta$ )  

39  end  

40 end

```

---

### 2.1.4.2 Object Surface

random walk

### 2.1.4.3 Sensor Noise

Noise model depends on sensor used.

$$\hat{r}(t) = f_s(r(t), \theta(t), \phi(k)) \quad (2.21)$$

where  $\theta(t)$  is incidence angle of measurement,  $\phi$  is surface properties of object  $k$  that was measured,  $f$  is some function for noise model of particular sensor.

For Hokuyo UBG-04LX-F01 used, noise model was measured experimentally:

$$f_{UBG}(r, \theta, \phi) = \quad (2.22)$$

## 2.1.5 Observer Implementation

### 2.1.5.1 Estimate: internal model

The state of the cube at each time step is estimated using the numerical integration method described in section 2.1.1.2.

### 2.1.5.2 Identifying object/background

The binary variable  $c$  indicates whether the current range measurement corresponds to cube ( $c = \text{true}$ ) or the background ( $c = \text{false}$ ). It is assumed that initially the sensor will be observing the background, so  $c_0 = \text{false}$ .

The scheme used to identify range measurements corresponding to the cube is shown in Algorithm 3. There are two assumptions that may be used.

The *difference assumption* relies on the assumption that the cube and background objects are continuous. Differences in consecutive range measurements larger than  $\Delta_{max}$  indicate a discontinuity, implying that a new object is being measured. When this occurs, the value of  $c$  changes.

The *range assumption* is used when the maximum distance to the cube and minimum distance to the background are restricted. Range measurements within  $r_{max}$  correspond to the cube while larger ranges correspond to the background.

---

**Algorithm 3:** Target/background object separation

---

**input :**  $differenceAssumption$  - true/false  
 $rangeAssumption$  - true/false  
 $\Delta_{max}$  - max diff between measurements of  
same object  
 $r_{max}$  - max range for cube  
 $c$  - true/false - current measurement is of  
cube  
 $\mathbf{r}_{i+1}$  - distance to object at  $t = i + 1$   
 $\mathbf{r}_i$  - distance to object at  $t = i$

**output:**  $c$  - true/false

```

1 begin
2   if differenceAssumption then
3     if  $|\mathbf{r}_{i+1} - \mathbf{r}_i| > \Delta_{max}$  then
4        $c = \text{mod}(c + 1, 2)$ 
5     end
6   end
7   if rangeAssumption then
8     if  $\mathbf{r}_{i+1} > r_{max}$  then
9        $c = 0$ 
10    end
11  end
12 end

```

---

### 2.1.5.3 Update

The cube state estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c$  is updated using the previous cube state estimate, current sensor state, range measurements and predicted range measurements.

$$\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c(k+1) = f(\mathbf{X}_s(t), \hat{\mathbf{X}}_c(k), r(t), \hat{r}(t)) \quad (2.23)$$

The pose of  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c$  is corrected by adjusting  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}_c$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{T}}_c$  or  $\hat{\mathbf{W}}_c$ , or some combination of the three. The orientation is adjusted by rotating about an axis  $\mathbf{r}_{update}$ . The position is adjusted by translating in the direction of  $\mathbf{p}_{update}$ .  $\mathbf{r}_{update}$  and  $\mathbf{p}_{update}$  are scaled differently, depending on whether they are applied to  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}_c$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{T}}_c$  or  $\hat{\mathbf{W}}_c$ . The size update  $s_{update}$  is independent of the pose update scheme used.

EXAMPLE - will put tables like this in the results

	S	T	W
$\mathbf{r}_{update}$	50000	-	-
$\mathbf{p}_{update}$	0.01	-	-
$s_{update}$	0.005	-	-

#### Input ranges:

A set of four range measurements forming a quadrilateral are used in the state update. The four ranges are chosen with an ordered sequence of indexes  $a$ . At a time  $ii$ , the set of time steps used is

$$a = \{ii, (ii-1), (ii-n_{scans}), (ii-1-n_{scans})\} \quad (2.24)$$

At a time step  $ii$ , it is possible that the measured or predicted ranges do not exist for some time steps in  $a$ , as the range may have corresponded to the background rather than the cube. Thus, the measured indexes  $\tilde{a}$  and predicted indexes  $\hat{a}$  will be subsets of  $a$ , but not necessarily congruent to  $a$ .

#### Orientation update:

The method used to correct the orientation of the cube state estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c$  is shown in Figure 2.4.

In order to estimate the orientation of the cube, at least 3 ranges are required from both the prediction and measurement:  $|\hat{a}| \geq 3$  and  $|\tilde{a}| \geq 3$ . If all four indexes are present, the ranges from the last time step  $(ii-1-n_{scans})$  is ignored.

For both the measurement and prediction, the points of intersection  ${}^F\mathbf{P}(a)$  between the scanning directions  ${}^F\mathbf{D}(a)$  and the cube are computed using the range measurements  $\mathbf{r}(a)$ .

$${}^F\mathbf{P}(a) = {}^F\mathbf{D}(a)\mathbf{r}(a) \quad (2.25)$$

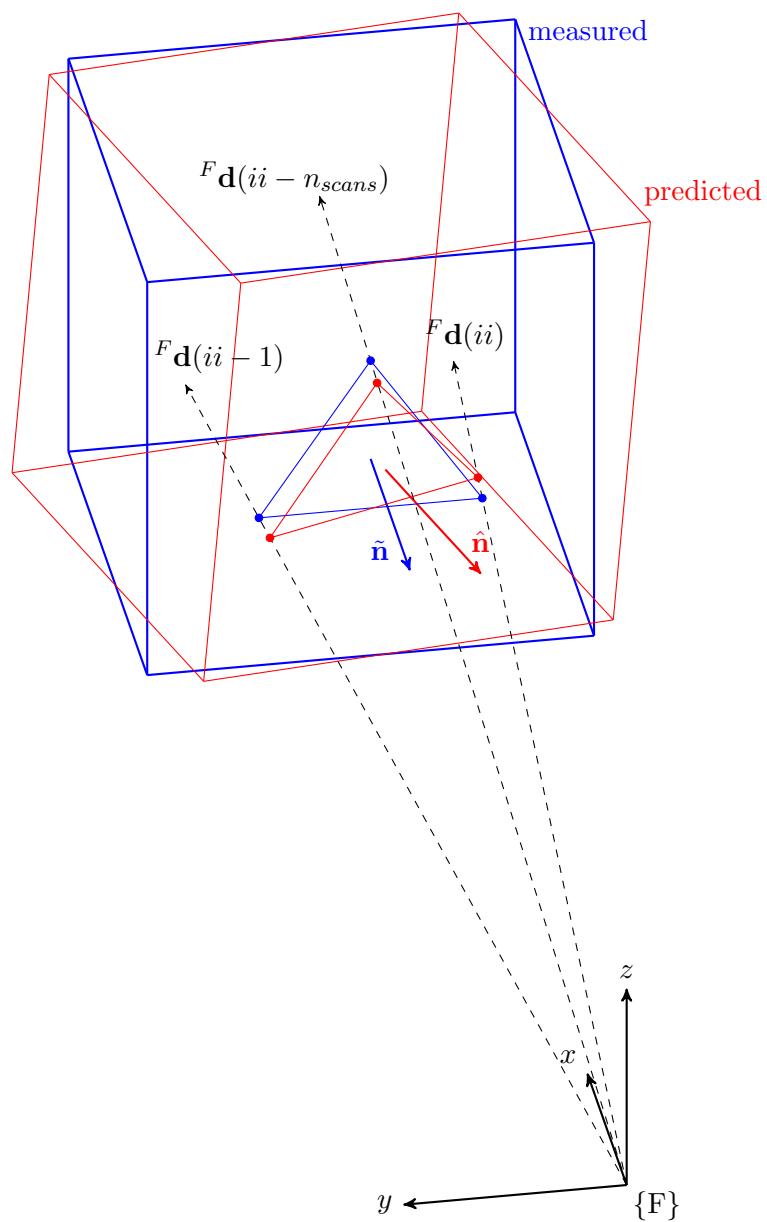


Figure 2.4: Orientation update

The normal to the plane formed by the three points is then computed.

$$\mathbf{n} = [{}^F\mathbf{P}(a_2) - {}^F\mathbf{P}(a_1)] \times [{}^F\mathbf{P}(a_3) - {}^F\mathbf{P}(a_1)] \quad (2.26)$$

The axis  $\mathbf{r}_{update}$  that the estimated cube orientation  $\hat{\mathbf{R}}_c$  will be rotated by is computed by taking the cross product of the predicted and measured normals:

$$\mathbf{r}_{update} = \hat{\mathbf{n}} \times \tilde{\mathbf{n}} \quad (2.27)$$

To update the screw matrix  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}_c$ ,  $\mathbf{r}_{update}$  is converted to a rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}_{update}$  with Rodrigues' rotation formula (equation 1.19). The correction is then applied as:

$$\hat{\mathbf{R}}_c(k+1) = R_{scale}\mathbf{R}_{update}\hat{\mathbf{R}}_c(k) \quad (2.28)$$

To update via the screw or wrench,  $\mathbf{r}_{update}^\wedge$  is scaled and then added to the angular velocity or angular acceleration respectively.

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}_c^\wedge(k+1) = \hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}}_c^\wedge(k) + \omega_{scale}\mathbf{r}_{update}^\wedge \quad (2.29)$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}_c^\wedge(k+1) = \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}_c^\wedge(k) + \alpha_{scale}\mathbf{r}_{update}^\wedge \quad (2.30)$$

The scale factor depends angle depends on whether  $\mathbf{r}_{update}$  is applied via  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}_c$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{T}}_c$  or  $\hat{\mathbf{W}}_c$ .

#### Position update:

The method used to correct the position of  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}_c$  is shown in Figure 2.5.

In order to estimate the position of the cube, at least 1 range measurement is required from both the prediction and measurement:  $|\hat{a}| \geq 1$   $|\tilde{a}| \geq 1$ . Additionally, scan directions at time steps  $ii$ ,  $ii-1$  and  $ii-1-n_{scans}$  are required. The scan direction  ${}^F\mathbf{d}(t)$  must be within the sensor's field of view at these time steps.

The points of intersection are calculated using equation 2.25. The average of these points is taken to computed to give the mean estimated position  $\hat{\mu}_{\mathbf{p}}$  and the mean measured position  $\tilde{\mu}_{\mathbf{p}}$ .

The  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  components of the update vector may very significantly in size due to the scanning behaviour of the sensor. It is necessary to scale the position update vector according to these components. The mean of all predicted and measured ranges  $\mu_r$  is computed. Four points  $\mathbf{p}_0$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_2$  and  $\mathbf{p}_3$  are computed to be used in scaling:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}_0 &= \mathbf{p}_s(t) = {}^F\mathbf{p}_A(t) \\ \mathbf{p}_1 &= \mu_r {}^F\mathbf{d}(ii) \\ \mathbf{p}_2 &= \mu_r {}^F\mathbf{d}(ii-1) \\ \mathbf{p}_3 &= \mu_r {}^F\mathbf{d}(ii-1-n_{scans}) \end{aligned} \quad (2.31)$$

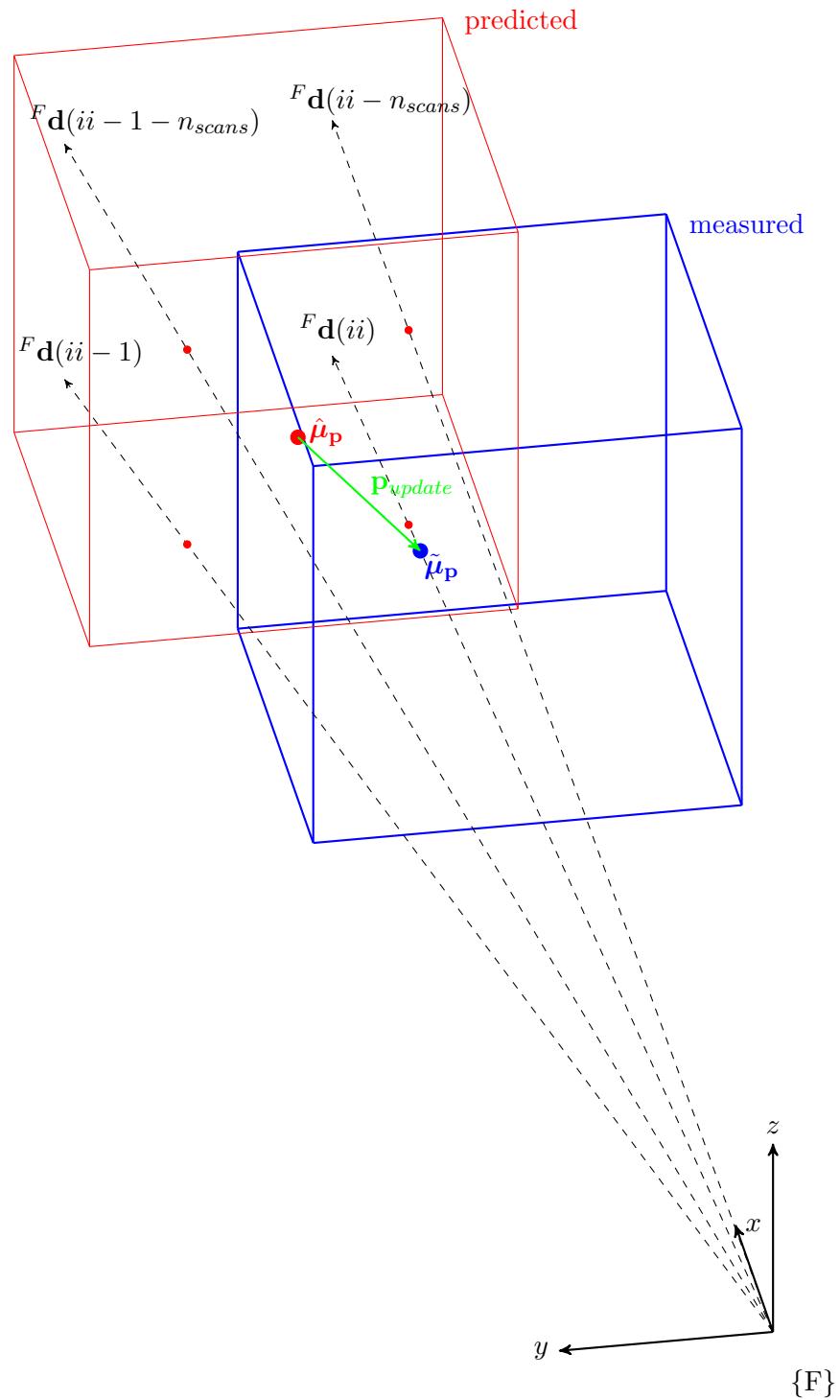


Figure 2.5: Position update

The update vector is computed by scaling the mean intersection points with these four points:

$$\mathbf{p}_{update} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0|} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{|\mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{p}_1|} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{|\mathbf{p}_3 - \mathbf{p}_2|} \end{bmatrix} (\tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{\mathbf{p}} - \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{\mathbf{p}}) \quad (2.32)$$

The screw, twist and wrench are corrected using  $\mathbf{p}_{update}$ . The scaling factor used depends on whether the update is performed via the screw, twist or wrench.

$$\hat{\mathbf{p}}_c(k+1) = \hat{\mathbf{p}}_c(k) + p_{scale} \mathbf{p}_{update} \quad (2.33)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}_c(k+1) = \hat{\mathbf{v}}_c(k) + v_{scale} \mathbf{p}_{update} \quad (2.34)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{a}}_c(k+1) = \hat{\mathbf{a}}_c(k) + a_{scale} \mathbf{p}_{update} \quad (2.35)$$

### Size update:

In order to correct the size of the cube, at least 1 range measurement is required from both the prediction and measurement:  $|\hat{a}| \geq 1$   $|\tilde{a}| \geq 1$ . The size update scheme also differs based on the sets predicted and measured ranges.

For the case where a different pattern of ranges is observed ( $\hat{a} \neq \tilde{a}$ ), the update method is shown in Figure 2.6.

The dot product from the vector  $\mathbf{p}_{update}$  computed for the position update and the current scan direction is taken:

$$s_{update} = \mathbf{p}_{update} \cdot {}^F \mathbf{d}(ii) \quad (2.36)$$

For the case where the same pattern of ranges is observed ( $\hat{a} = \tilde{a}$ ), the update method is shown in Figure 2.7.

The size update is taken as the difference in the means of the measured and predicted ranges:

$$s_{update} = \tilde{\mu}_r - \hat{\mu}_r \quad (2.37)$$

In both cases, the cube size estimate is updated by scaling  $s_{update}$  and adding this to the previous estimate:

$$s(k+1) = s(k) + s_{scale} s_{update} \quad (2.38)$$

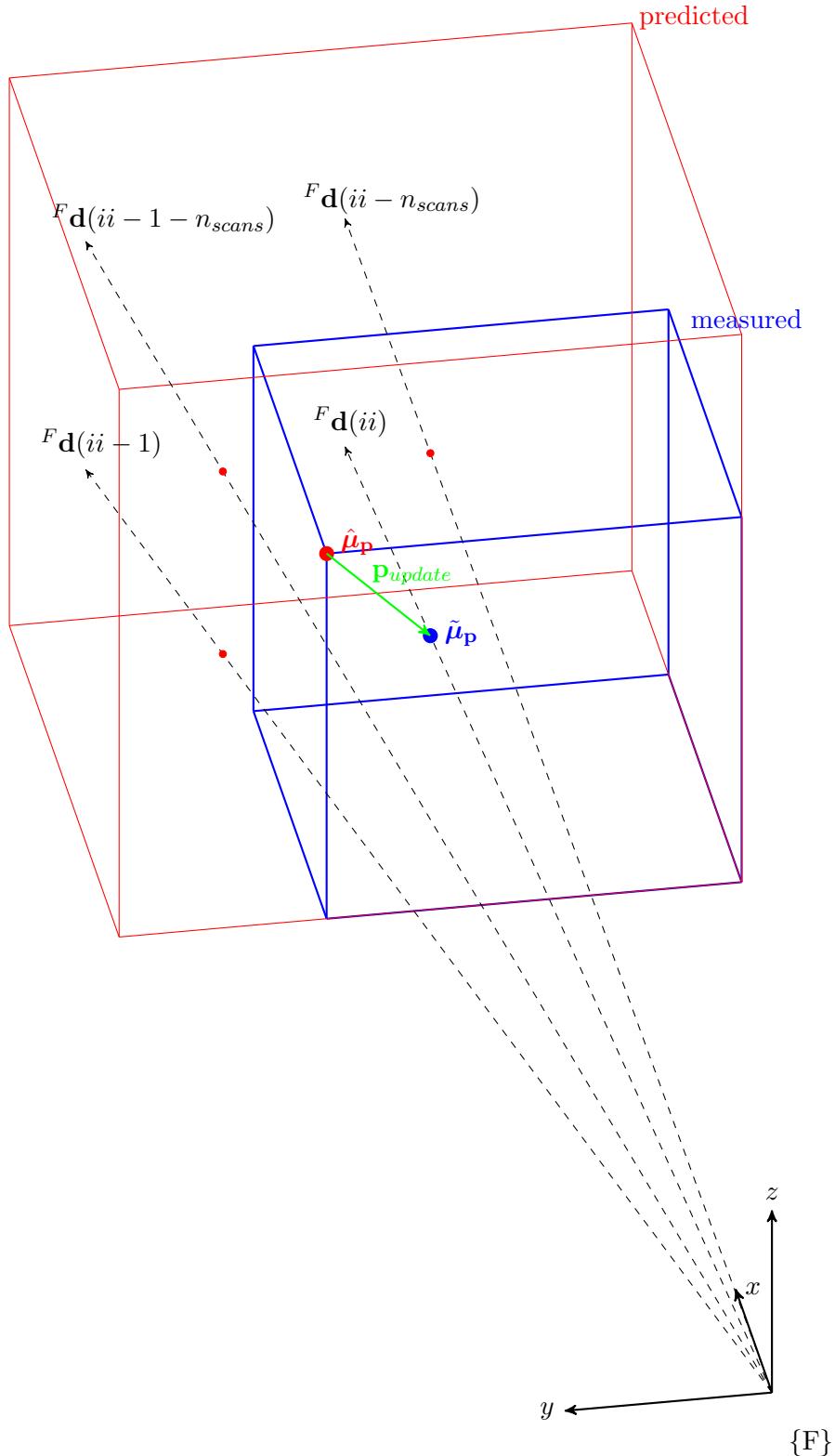


Figure 2.6: Size update - case 1

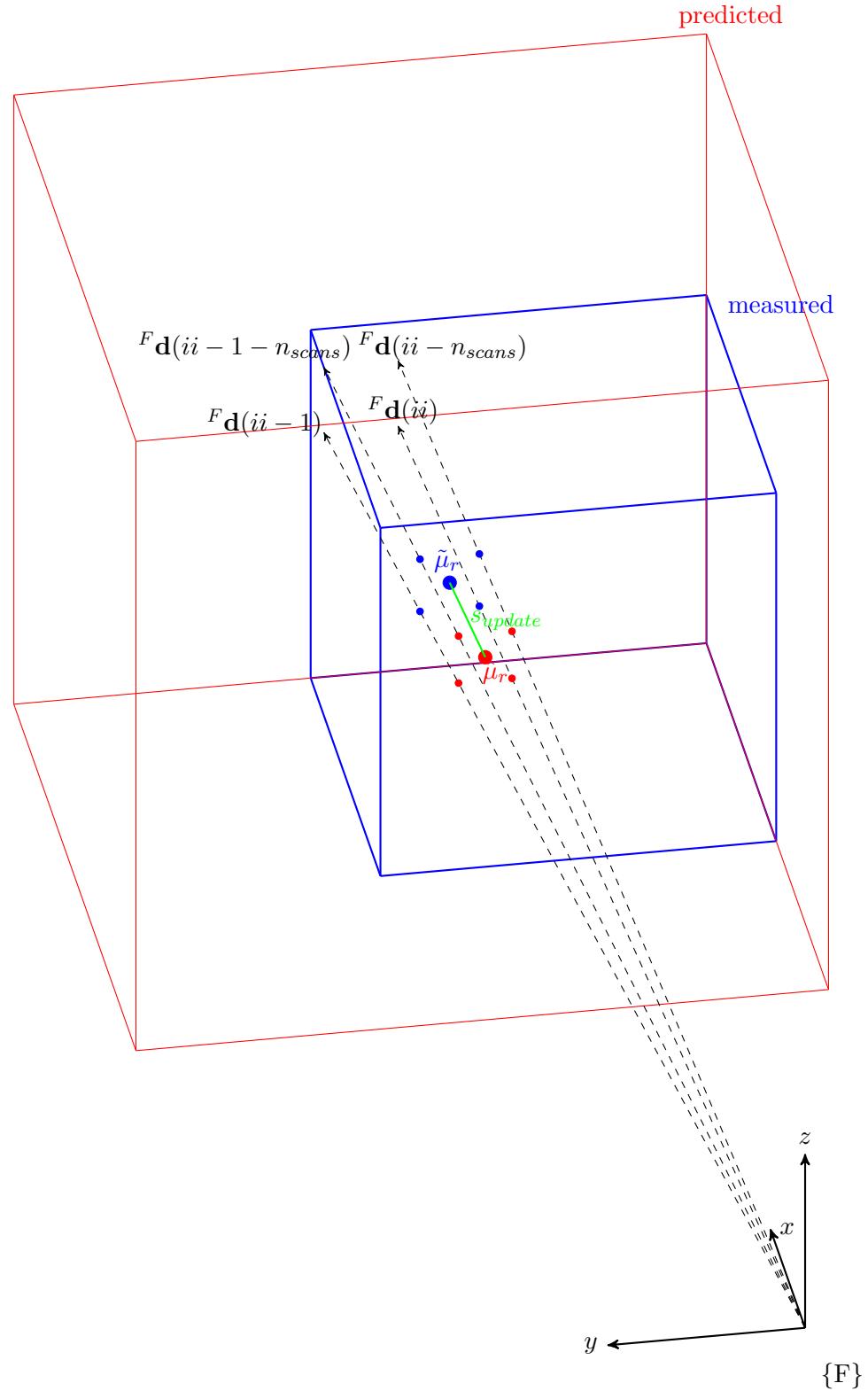


Figure 2.7: Size update - case 2

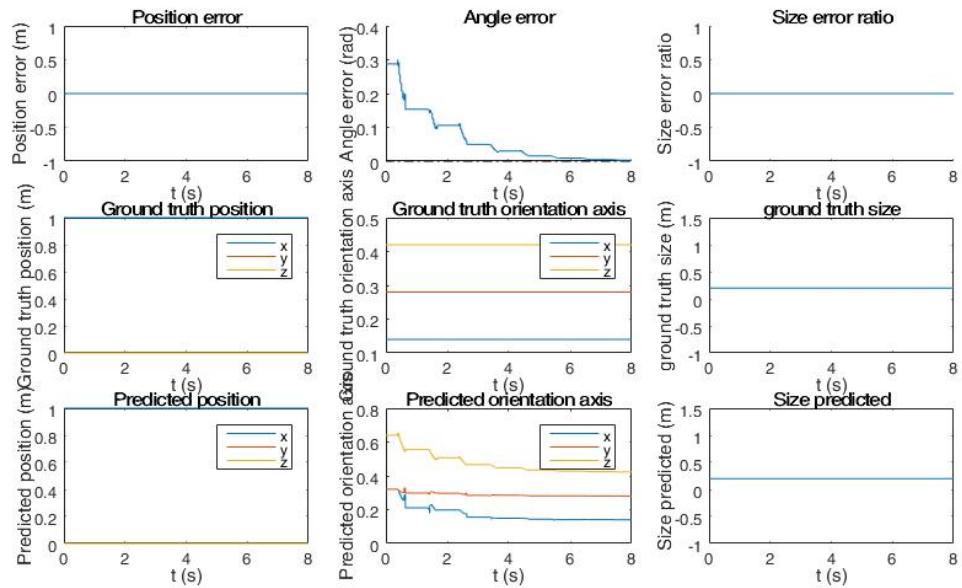


Figure 2.8: Orientation correction

## 2.2 Results

plots for different initial conditions & kinds of motion

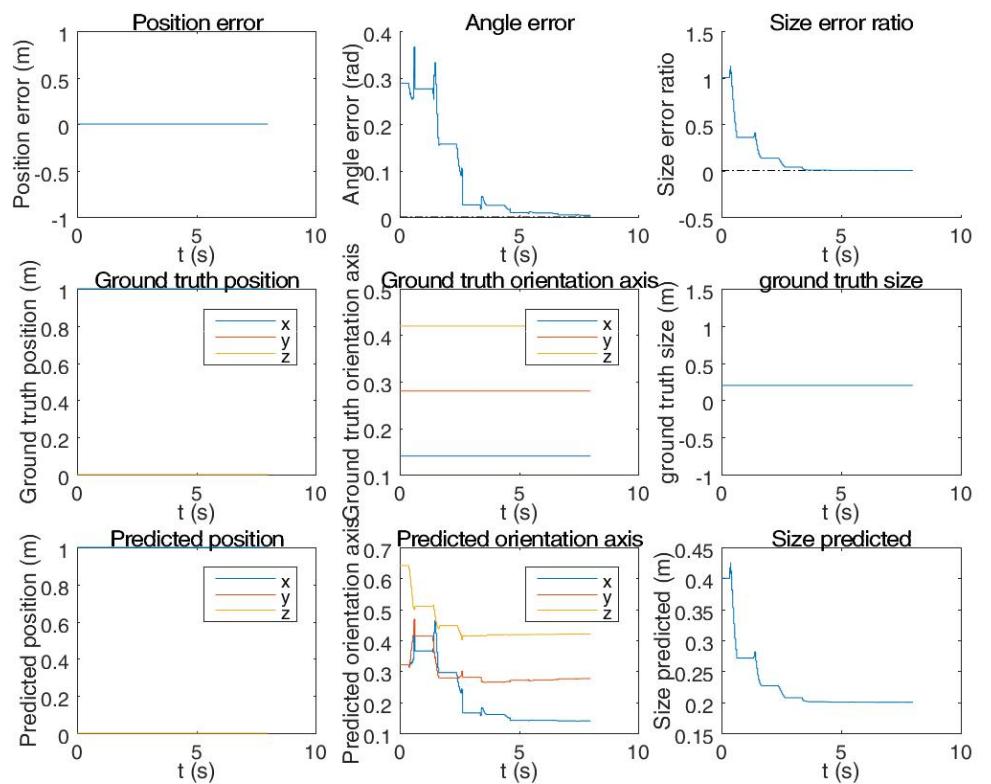


Figure 2.9: Orientation &amp; size correction

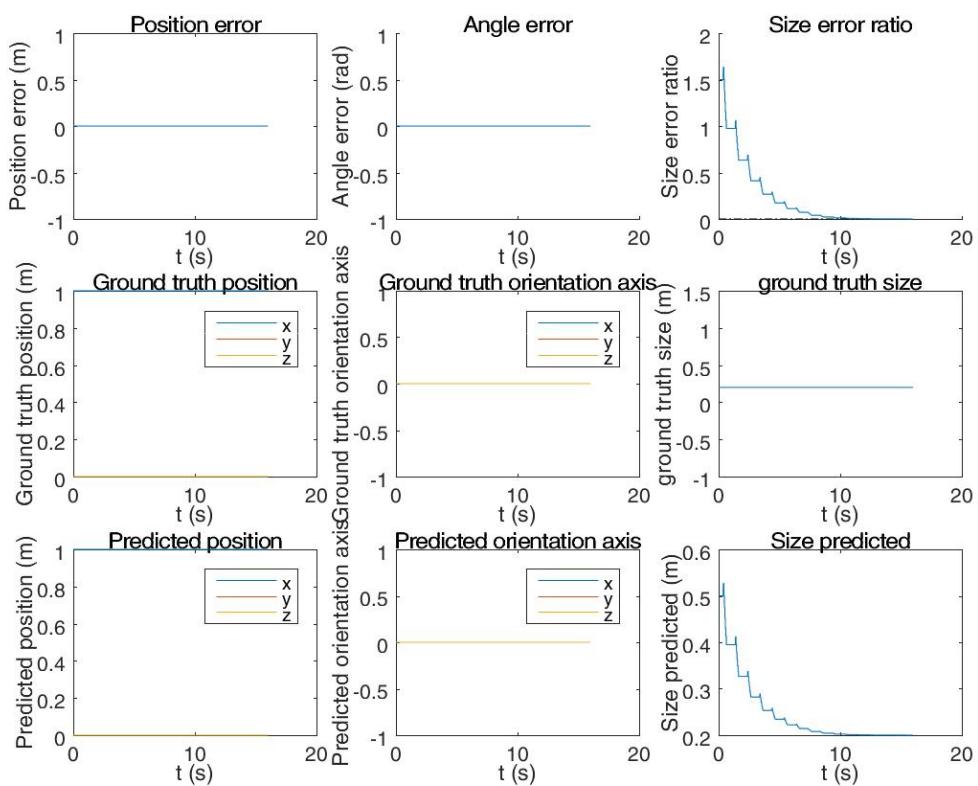


Figure 2.10: Size correction

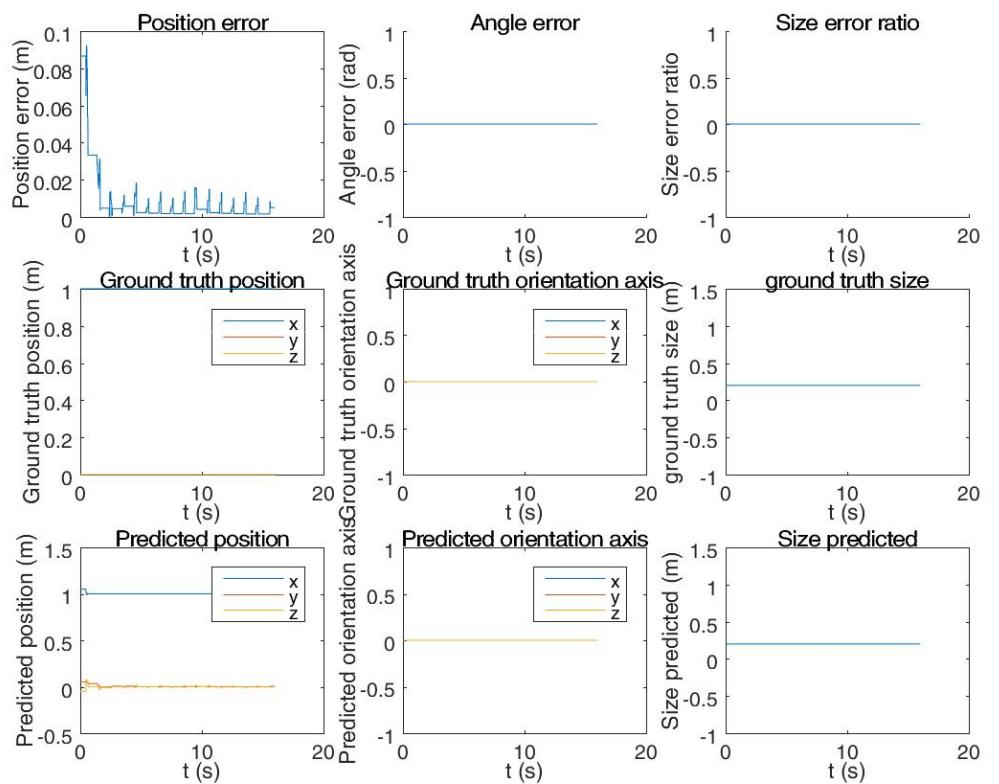


Figure 2.11: Position correction

## Chapter 3

# Experiment

Sensor:

Hokuyo UBG 04-LX - 2D scanning laser rangefinder. Measures range

Robot arm:

Kinova Jaco - can program to move with and record pose

Target object:

0.1 × 0.1 m MDF cube, spray painted matte white

1. Collected measurements to model sensor noise for simulation
2. Collected measurements of moving cube + measured ground truth cube state - for testing observer with real world conditions

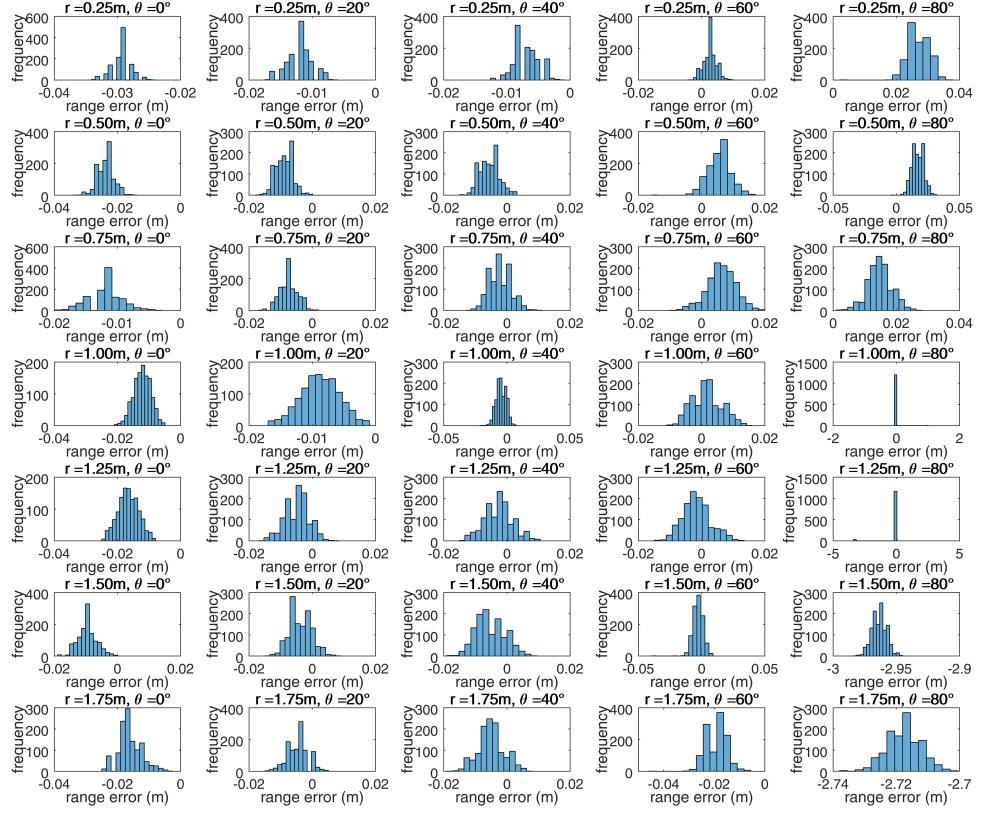


Figure 3.1:  $r_{error}(r, \theta)$  approximately normally distributed

### 3.1 Sensor Noise Characterisation

#### 3.1.1 Setup

physical setup  
measurement configurations

#### 3.1.2 Results

data

Histograms (Figure 3.1) - range error approximately normally distributed:

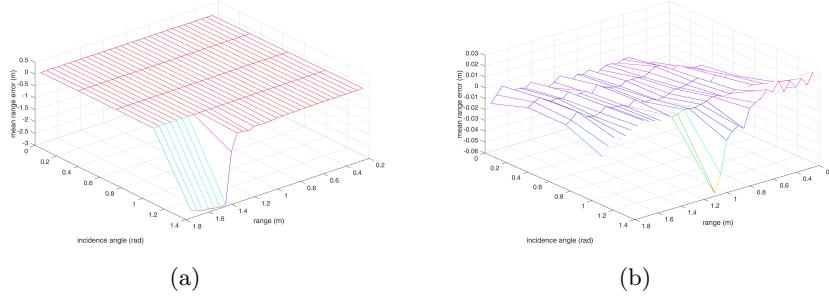


Figure 3.2: mean range error vs  $(r, \theta)$ . (a) large error at high angles and range, (b) overall shape

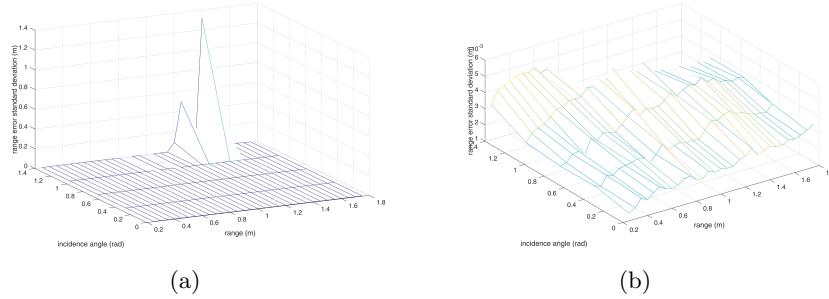


Figure 3.3: range error  $\sigma$  vs  $(r, \theta)$ . (a) outliers/large std dev at high angles and range, (b) overall shape

Mean range error - Figure 3.2

Std dev range error - Figure 3.3

Fitted 4th degree (in  $x$  and  $y$ ) polynomials to data points - Figure 3.4

$$r_{error} = r + \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma) \quad (3.1)$$

noise model

$$\mu = a_{00} + a_{10}r + a_{01}\theta + a_{20}r^2 + a_{11}r\theta + a_{02}\theta^2 + a_{30}r^3 + a_{21}r^2\theta + a_{12}r\theta^2 + a_{03}\theta^3 + a_{40}r^4 + a_{31}r^3\theta + 22r^2\theta^2 + a_{13}r\theta^3 + a_{04}r^5 \quad (3.2)$$

$$\sigma = \text{[value]} \quad (3.3)$$

\*random walk surface noise model here too?

surface properties (or sensor processing) error on mean range across surface, looks sinusoidal, peaks = 5mm deep & 50mm wide approximately - seems to be independent of range and angle  
random walk model

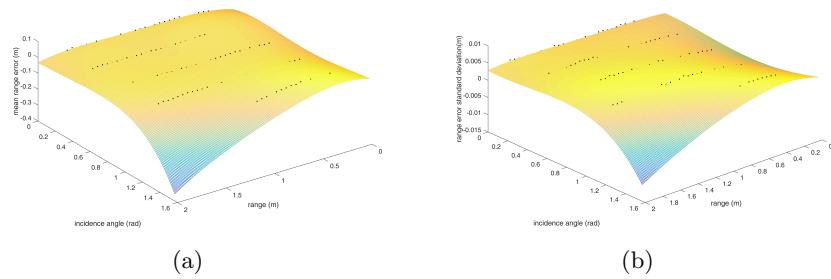


Figure 3.4: polynomials fitted to range error mean & standard deviation data points to model noise

## 3.2 Testing Data Collection

### 3.2.1 Setup

physical setup  
configurations/motions  
arm forward kinematics → cube pose  
estimate sensor angle with horizontal with wall calibration data

### 3.2.2 Results

observer performance



## **Chapter 4**

## **Conclusion**



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