Reproducibility review of: Understanding the Imperfection of 3D point Cloud and Semantic Segmentation algorithms for 3D Models of Indoor Environment

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2022-06-10



This report is part of the reproducibility review at the AGILE conference. For more information see https://reproducible-agile.github.io/. This document is published on OSF at https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/Z7P8K. To cite the report use

Decoupes, R. (2022, May 25). Reproducibility review of: Understanding the Imperfection of 3D point Cloud and Semantic Segmentation algorithms for 3D Models of Indoor Environment. https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/Z7P8K

Reviewed paper

Cai, G., and Pan Y.: Understanding the Imperfection of 3D point Cloud and Semantic Segmentation algorithms for 3D Models of Indoor Environment, AGILE GIScience Ser., 3, 2, https://doi.org/10.5194/agile-giss-3-2-2022

Summary

The code and data provided by the authors allow to **partially reproduce** the computational work presented in the Section 4.4, *Interactive Exploration of Data Imperfection for Model Tuning*, of the paper. The model training (PointNet++) and the input data for Section 4.4 are not reproducible by the provided code but the authors added a note, in the GitHub repository of their project, explaining how the data was generated. Three figures in Section 4.4 are fully reproducible (5, 6, and 7), 2 partially (4 and 8) and 4 are not (3, 9, 10, and 11).

Reproducibility reviewer notes

Download data and code

The code is accessible through GitHub:

```
git clone https://github.com/gxc26/PointClouds.git cd PointClouds
```

As the datafile is a large file, authors provide a link to download it. The link could be retrieve from the github repository. Authors should ensure that this link is permanent, otherwise the reproducibility will no longer be assured. At the time of writing it is https://pennstateoffice365-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/pensonal/gxc26_psu_edu/ESTstxY2j_1CiTOiTl8ajt8BAVQmlsNT4AhpDZOvORGkxA?e=miJZJL.

Prepare the reproducibility environment

The GitHub repository includes an environment file: PtClouds.yaml. I tried to create a conda environment using this file but it failed.

```
conda env create -f PtClouds.yaml --name agile-repro-24
Collecting package metadata (repodata.json): done Solving environment: failed
ResolvePackageNotFound:
- sqlite=3.33.0=hffcf06c_0
- python=3.6.10=hfe9666f_1
- pywavelets==1.1.1=py36haf1e3a3_2
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- ncurses==6.3=hca72f7f 2
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scikit-learn==0.24.2=y936hb2f4e1b_0
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        - libedit==3.1.20210910=hca/2f/f_0
- flona==1.8.4=py36h9a122fd_0
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- lz4c==1.9.3=h23ab42g_1
- libboost==1.73.0=hd4c2dd_11
- mscmack-nuthous=1.0.2my36hf7h0h5t_1
      - I24-c==1,9.3=b23ab428_1
- libboost==1.73.0=hd4c2dcd_11
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- freexl==1.0.6=h9ed2024_0
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```

```
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```

After some exchanges with the authors, the authors sent another environment file by email.

```
conda env create -f Ptclouds1.yml --name agile-repro-24 Collecting package metadata (repodata.json): done Solving environment: done
Downloading and Extracting Packages
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importlib_metadata-4
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       46 KB
           giflib-5.2.1 | 78 KB giflib-5.2.1 | 78 KB send2trash-1.8.0 | 19 KB Preparing transaction: done
           Verifying transaction: done
Executing transaction: |
 Installed package of scikit-learn can be accelerated using scikit-learn-intelex. More details are available here: https://intel.github.io/scikit-learn-intelex
  $ conda install scikit-learn-intelex
  $ python -m sklearnex my_application.py
.
# To activate this environment. use
 $ conda activate agile-repro-24
F To deactivate an active environment, use
 $ conda deactivate
```

After this successful installation, the authors update their GitHub repository with the functional environment specification.

```
conda env create -f Ptclouds.yml --name agile-repro-24
  Collecting package metadata (repodata.json): done
 Solving environment: done
| Downloading and Extracting Packages | libstdcxx-ng-11.2.0 | 4.7 MB | __opennp_mutex-5.1 | 21 KB | libxcb-1.15 | 505 KB | libgomp-11.2.0 | 473 KB | __openss|-1.1.10 | 2.5 MB | __libycomp-11.2.0 | 53 MB | __libycomp-11.2.0 | __libycomp-11.2.0
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ld_impl_linux-64-2.3 | 654 KB
                                                                                                                                  Preparing transaction: done
Verifying transaction: done
Executing transaction: |
              Installed package of scikit-learn can be accelerated using scikit-learn-intelex. More details are available here: https://intel.github.io/scikit-learn-intelex
              For example:
                              $ conda install scikit-learn-intelex
$ python -m sklearnex my_application.py
   "
# To activate this environment. use
      To deactivate an active environment, use
                $ conda deactivate
```

Then I activate the environment and starte Jupyter notebook.

```
conda activate agile-repro-24
jupyter notebook
```

Run the jupyter notebook

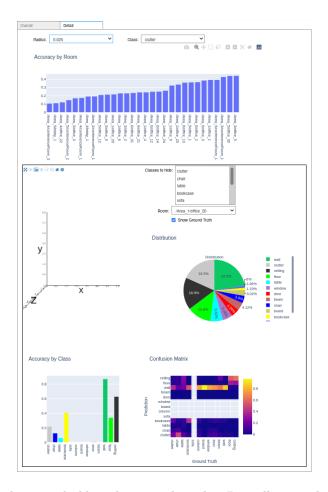
All cells were executed successfully. The notebook generates 2 tabs of visualizations.

I notice differences between the figures from the paper and the figures generated by the code:

- Figure 3 ("Stanford Large-Scale 3D Indoor Spaces Dataset (S3DIS)") is not generated by the code
- Figure 4 ("Point-level accuracy and error rates on semantic labeling"):
 - some class are empty (Sofa, Column, Board, Windows, beam).



Figure 1: visual-exploration-dashboard-pt2.ipynb: Tab
1. Reproduction of Figures 5, 6 and 7 $\,$



Figure~2:~visual-exploration-dashboard-pt 2. ipynb:~Tab 2.~Partially~reproduction~of~Figure~4.

- proportion of classes are different (all) It's maybe because there is a filter (from test_split.txt) on rooms. The file test_split.txt has 54 value whereas the paper used 272 rooms.
- Figure 5, 6, 7 are reproducible
- Figure 8 (Interactive Dashboard for Exploratory Semantic Segmentation): Ground truth is missing (component D)
- Figure 9, 10, 11 are not reproducible because they come from human annotation.

Comments to the authors

- Can not create conda environment using the env file (PtClouds.yaml) provided by the authors. I suggest to export without information about the build numbers (which are OS dependent). The authors update their GitHub repository with a correct env file. The installation works fine now.
- We suggest to upload the data file (pickle file) into Zenodo. The link to the datafile have to be permanent otherwise the reproducibility may no longer be assured.
- The training of PointNet++ (Deep learning model) is not reproducible by the provided code. However, after a discussion with the authors, they added a note to their GitHub repository explaining how the pickle file was generated:

Run the PointNet++ semantic segmentation algorithm exactly as was done in the original paper Qi et al. (2017)
(see https://github.com/charlesq34/pointnet2/blob/master/README.md) on the 272 rooms in S3DIS data.

Do this 13 times to collect performance data on different radius values

r = [0.025, 0.05, 0.075, 0.1, 0.125, 0.15, 0.175, 0.2, 0.225, 0.25, 0.3, 0.35, 0.4].

The result would be 13 point level semantic labels for each 3D point that correspond to the 13 different radius setting.

These 13 values, together with the 3D coordinates and semantic ground truthfor each point are stored in the PICKLE file.

The PICKLE file also stores the room number of each 3D points.

- As the authors use PointNet++, they should use the citation mentioned in https://github.com/charlesq34/pointnet2
 The authors added it.
- The GitHub repository is missing a license.