

Real-time Feature Tracker Library Reference Manual

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Chapter 1

Real-time Feature Tracker Library Hierarchical Index

1.1 Real-time Feature Tracker Library Class Hierarchy

This inheritance list is sorted roughly, but not completely, alphabetically:

_feature	7
_feature_list	9
_FeatureServerContext	10
_FeatureTrackerContext	11
_OCVTrackingContext	12
_PXCContext	14
_rgb	16
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FeatureClient	19
FeatureServer	21
FeatureTrackerKLT	24
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Pixmap< T >	30
Pixmap< rgb_t >	30
PixmapRgb	37
Pixmap< uint8_t >	30
PixmapGray	36
PXCCaptureLoop	38
SDLWindow	41

Chapter 2

Real-time Feature Tracker Library Class Index

2.1 Real-time Feature Tracker Library Class List

Here are the classes, structs, unions and interfaces with brief descriptions:

_feature (A feature point)	7
_feature_list (List of features in a single image)	9
_FeatureServerContext (Parameters for UDP feature server. Use with class FeatureServer)	10
_FeatureTrackerContext (Parameters for feature tracking)	11
_OCVTrackingContext (Parameters specific to OpenCV tracker (for use with FeatureTrackerOCV class))	12
_PXContext (Parameters for the PXC200AF framegrabber. Use with class PXCCaptureLoop)	14
_rgb (RGB pixel data type, 8 bits per channel (24 bpp). Use with class Pixmap)	16
CountFPS (A frames-per-second counter)	17
FeatureClient (A UDP network client for FeatureServer)	19
FeatureServer (A UDP network server for feature tracker)	21
FeatureTrackerKLT (Automatic image feature detection and tracking using the Lucas-Kanade tracking algorithm implemented in the KLT library)	24
FeatureTrackerOCV (Automatic image feature detection and tracking using the OpenCV library implementation of the Lucas-Kanade tracking algorithm)	27
Pixmap< T > (The template class for pixmap (ppm, pgm) images)	30
PixmapGray (Class for 1 byte-per-pixel greyscale (pgm) images)	36
PixmapRgb (Class for 3 bytes-per-pixel RGB (ppm) images)	37
PXCCaptureLoop (A QNX specific interface to capture images using the Imagenation PXC200AF frame grabber)	38
SDLWindow (A window for image display)	41

Chapter 3

Real-time Feature Tracker Library File Index

3.1 Real-time Feature Tracker Library File List

Here is a list of all files with brief descriptions:

FeatureClientServer.hpp	45
FeatureTrackerKLT.hpp	46
FeatureTrackerOCV.hpp	47
Pixmap.hpp	48
PXCCaptureLoop.hpp	50
TrackerUtils.hpp	51

Chapter 4

Real-time Feature Tracker Library Class Documentation

4.1 `_feature` Struct Reference

A feature point.

```
#include <TrackerUtils.hpp>
```

Public Attributes

- float `x`
x coordinate of feature in the image.
- float `y`
y coordinate of feature in the image.
- int `val`
FeatureTracker classes set this to 0 if feature is tracked, else -1.

4.1.1 Detailed Description

A feature point.

4.1.2 Member Data Documentation

4.1.2.1 float `_feature::x`

x coordinate of feature in the image.

4.1.2.2 float `_feature::y`

y coordinate of feature in the image.

4.1.2.3 `int __feature::val`

FeatureTracker classes set this to 0 if feature is tracked, else -1.

The documentation for this struct was generated from the following file:

- [TrackerUtils.hpp](#)

4.2 `_feature_list` Struct Reference

List of features in a single image.

```
#include <TrackerUtils.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [`_feature_list`](#) ()

Public Attributes

- `int frame_number`
Image frame number corresponding to the list.
- `int num_features`
Maximum number of features the list can hold.
- `feature_t * features`
Array of features.

4.2.1 Detailed Description

List of features in a single image.

4.2.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.2.2.1 `_feature_list::_feature_list` () [inline]

4.2.3 Member Data Documentation

4.2.3.1 `int _feature_list::frame_number`

Image frame number corresponding to the list.

4.2.3.2 `int _feature_list::num_features`

Maximum number of features the list can hold.

4.2.3.3 `feature_t* _feature_list::features`

Array of features.

The documentation for this struct was generated from the following file:

- [TrackerUtils.hpp](#)

4.3 `__FeatureServerContext` Struct Reference

Parameters for UDP feature server. Use with class [FeatureServer](#).

```
#include <FeatureClientServer.hpp>
```

Public Attributes

- int [port](#)
- int [thread_priority](#)
- int [num_features](#)

4.3.1 Detailed Description

Parameters for UDP feature server. Use with class [FeatureServer](#).

4.3.2 Member Data Documentation

4.3.2.1 `int __FeatureServerContext::port`

Server port number.

4.3.2.2 `int __FeatureServerContext::thread_priority`

Priority of the server thread.

4.3.2.3 `int __FeatureServerContext::num_features`

Max. number of features to serve.

The documentation for this struct was generated from the following file:

- [FeatureClientServer.hpp](#)

4.4 `__FeatureTrackerContext` Struct Reference

Parameters for feature tracking.

```
#include <TrackerUtils.hpp>
```

Public Attributes

- int `num_features`
- int `num_frames`
- int `auto_select_features`
- int `display_tracked_features`

4.4.1 Detailed Description

Parameters for feature tracking.

4.4.2 Member Data Documentation

4.4.2.1 int `__FeatureTrackerContext::num_features`

Max. number of features to track.

4.4.2.2 int `__FeatureTrackerContext::num_frames`

Number of frames to track features over.

4.4.2.3 int `__FeatureTrackerContext::auto_select_features`

1: if you want the tracker to select features automoatically, else 0.

4.4.2.4 int `__FeatureTrackerContext::display_tracked_features`

1: if you want to display tracked features, else 0.

The documentation for this struct was generated from the following file:

- [TrackerUtils.hpp](#)

4.5 `_OCVTrackingContext` Struct Reference

Parameters specific to OpenCV tracker (for use with `FeatureTrackerOCV` class).

```
#include <FeatureTrackerOCV.hpp>
```

Public Attributes

- int `min_dist`
- double `quality`
- int `block_size`
- int `max_iter`
- double `epsilon`
- int `window_size`
- float `max_error`

4.5.1 Detailed Description

Parameters specific to OpenCV tracker (for use with `FeatureTrackerOCV` class).

Good default values for parameters are given in parenthesis.

4.5.2 Member Data Documentation

4.5.2.1 `int _OCVTrackingContext::min_dist`

Minimum distance between detected corners (10).

4.5.2.2 `double _OCVTrackingContext::quality`

Multiplier for the maxmin eigenvalue; specifies minimal accepted quality of image corners. (0.01).

4.5.2.3 `int _OCVTrackingContext::block_size`

Size of the averaging block, passed to underlying `cvCornerMinEigenVal()` (3).

4.5.2.4 `int _OCVTrackingContext::max_iter`

Maximum number of iterations (20).

4.5.2.5 `double _OCVTrackingContext::epsilon`

Desired tracking accuracy (0.03).

4.5.2.6 `int _OCVTrackingContext::window_size`

Size of search window (10).

4.5.2.7 `float _OCVTrackingContext::max_error`

Difference between patches around the original and moved points. Should be a large value for scenes with substantial motion (200 for static camera).

The documentation for this struct was generated from the following file:

- [FeatureTrackerOCV.hpp](#)

4.6 `_PXContext` Struct Reference

Parameters for the PXC200AF framegrabber. Use with class [PXCCaptureLoop](#).

```
#include <PXCCaptureLoop.hpp>
```

Public Attributes

- int [board_number](#)
-1 to request any available
- int [video_channel](#)
Video channel number, see `pxc.h`.
- int [pixel_format](#)
see `frame.h` for image data types. Use `PBITS_Y8` or `PBITS_RGB24`
- int [video_format](#)
see `pxc.h` for video detect types. Use `NTSC_FORMAT`
- int [trigger_channel](#)
-1 for no external triggering; else triggers on rising edge.
- int [thread_priority](#)
Priority of image capturing thread.

4.6.1 Detailed Description

Parameters for the PXC200AF framegrabber. Use with class [PXCCaptureLoop](#).

4.6.2 Member Data Documentation

4.6.2.1 int [_PXContext::board_number](#)

-1 to request any available

4.6.2.2 int [_PXContext::video_channel](#)

Video channel number, see `pxc.h`.

4.6.2.3 int [_PXContext::pixel_format](#)

see `frame.h` for image data types. Use `PBITS_Y8` or `PBITS_RGB24`

4.6.2.4 int [_PXContext::video_format](#)

see `pxc.h` for video detect types. Use `NTSC_FORMAT`

4.6.2.5 `int` `_PXContext::trigger_channel`

-1 for no external triggering; else triggers on rising edge.

4.6.2.6 `int` `_PXContext::thread_priority`

Priority of image capturing thread.

The documentation for this struct was generated from the following file:

- [PXCCaptureLoop.hpp](#)

4.7 `_rgb` Struct Reference

RGB pixel data type, 8 bits per channel (24 bpp). Use with class [Pixmap](#).

```
#include <Pixmap.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- `_rgb` (uint8_t R=0, uint8_t G=0, uint8_t B=0)

Public Attributes

- uint8_t `r`
red component
- uint8_t `g`
green component
- uint8_t `b`
blue component

4.7.1 Detailed Description

RGB pixel data type, 8 bits per channel (24 bpp). Use with class [Pixmap](#).

For grayscale, the pixel data type is `uint8_t`.

4.7.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.7.2.1 `_rgb::_rgb (uint8_t R = 0, uint8_t G = 0, uint8_t B = 0)` [inline]

4.7.3 Member Data Documentation

4.7.3.1 `uint8_t _rgb::r`

red component

4.7.3.2 `uint8_t _rgb::g`

green component

4.7.3.3 `uint8_t _rgb::b`

blue component

The documentation for this struct was generated from the following file:

- [Pixmap.hpp](#)

4.8 CountFPS Class Reference

A frames-per-second counter.

```
#include <TrackerUtils.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [CountFPS](#) ()
- [~CountFPS](#) ()
- [init](#) (int *nFrames*)
- [compute](#) ()
- [report](#) ()

4.8.1 Detailed Description

A frames-per-second counter.

This code was obtained from SDL webpage and encapsulated in a class. See:
http://www.libsdl.org/cgi/docwiki.cgi/SDL_20Average_20FPS_20Measurement

4.8.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.8.2.1 CountFPS::CountFPS ()

Default constructor.

4.8.2.2 CountFPS::~~CountFPS ()

Default destructor.

4.8.3 Member Function Documentation

4.8.3.1 int CountFPS::init (int *nFrames*)

Initialize counter. Call this method first before calling other methods.

Parameters:

nFrames The number of frames to average over in calculating the frame rate.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error.

4.8.3.2 void CountFPS::compute ()

Call this function every time a new frame is captured.

4.8.3.3 float CountFPS::report () [inline]

Report the current FPS calculation.

Returns:

Last computed average frame rate.

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [TrackerUtils.hpp](#)

4.9 FeatureClient Class Reference

A UDP network client for [FeatureServer](#).

```
#include <FeatureClientServer.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [FeatureClient](#) ()
- [~FeatureClient](#) ()
- int [initialize](#) (const char *serverIp, int port, int msTimeOut, int nFeatures)
- int [receiveFeatureList](#) ([feature_list_t](#) &features)

4.9.1 Detailed Description

A UDP network client for [FeatureServer](#).

Example Program: See examples for [FeatureServer](#) class.

4.9.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.9.2.1 FeatureClient::FeatureClient ()

Default constructor. Does nothing.

4.9.2.2 FeatureClient::~~FeatureClient ()

Default destructor. Does nothing.

4.9.3 Member Function Documentation

4.9.3.1 int FeatureClient::initialize (const char * *serverIp*, int *port*, int *msTimeOut*, int *nFeatures*)

Connect to remote feature server.

Parameters:

serverIp The IP address of the remote server.

port The server port.

msTimeOut Connection timeout (in milliseconds).

nFeatures Number of feature points expected in the server message.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.9.3.2 int FeatureClient::receiveFeatureList ([feature_list_t](#) & *features*)

Parameters:

features feature list structure with updated features.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [FeatureClientServer.hpp](#)

4.10 FeatureServer Class Reference

A UDP network server for feature tracker.

```
#include <FeatureClientServer.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [FeatureServer](#) ()
- [~FeatureServer](#) ()
- int [initialize](#) ([FeatureServerContext_t](#) &cxt)
- int [updateFeatures](#) ([feature_list_t](#) &features, int srcFrameNumber)

Protected Member Functions

- virtual const char * [receiveAndReply](#) (const char *inMsgBuf, int inMsgLen, int *outMsgLen)
- virtual void [enterThread](#) (void *arg)
- virtual int [executeInThread](#) (void *arg)
- virtual void [exitThread](#) (void *arg)

4.10.1 Detailed Description

A UDP network server for feature tracker.

An object of this class starts a separate thread and replies to clients ([FeatureClient](#) object) with the latest feature point list.

Example Program:

```
//=====
// FeatureServer.t.cpp - Examples program for FeatureServer class
// UAV follower experiment
// Vilas Chitrakaran, May 2006
//=====

#include "FeatureClientServer.hpp"

int main()
{
    FeatureServer server;
    FeatureServerContext_t context;
    feature_list_t features;

    // set server parameters
    context.port = 8000;
    context.thread_priority = 10;
    context.num_features = 10;

    if( allocateFeatureList(features, context.num_features) < 0)
        return -1;

    // initialize and start server thread
    if( server.initialize(context) != 0)
        return -1;

    int frame = 0;
    while(1){
        // do processing here....
    }
}
```

```

    // update server buffer
    features.features[0].x += 1;
    if( server.updateFeatures(features, frame++) != 0)
        break;
    sleep(1);
}

freeFeatureList(features);

return 0;
}

//=====
// FeatureClient.t.cpp - Examples program for FeatureClient class
// UAV follower experiment
// Vilas Chitrakaran, May 2006
//=====

#include "FeatureClientServer.hpp"

//=====
// main: Connects to a feature server and delivers updates from server.
//=====
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    FeatureClient client;
    feature_list_t features;
    int nFeatures = 10;

    // initialize a client and connect to server
    if(client.initialize("127.0.0.1", 8000, 50, nFeatures) != 0)
        return -1;

    // create feature list
    if( allocateFeatureList(features, nFeatures) < 0 )
        return -1;

    // server read loop
    int msgNum = 0;
    while(1) {
        if(msgNum > 1000) break;
        ++msgNum;

        // Ask for update from server
        if( client.receiveFeatureList(features) == -1)
            break;

        if( features.frame_number < 0 ) // server hasn't started updating frames yet
            continue;

        // print received frame number
        fprintf(stdout, "latest frame received: %d.\n", features.frame_number);
    }

    freeFeatureList(features);

    return 0;
}

```

4.10.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.10.2.1 FeatureServer::FeatureServer ()

Default constructor. Does a few initializations.

4.10.2.2 FeatureServer::~~FeatureServer ()

Default destructor. Frees resources

4.10.3 Member Function Documentation

4.10.3.1 int FeatureServer::initialize ([FeatureServerContext_t](#) & *cxt*)

Initializes and starts the server thread. This must be the first method called before using any other method in this class.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.10.3.2 int FeatureServer::updateFeatures ([feature_list_t](#) & *features*, int *srcFrameNumber*)

Update the features buffer in the server.

Parameters:

features The feature list.

srcFrameNumber the image/video frame number corresponding to this feature list. The internal buffer is not updated unless this number is different from an internally maintained counter. This avoid unnecessary copy operations.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.10.3.3 virtual const char* FeatureServer::receiveAndReply (const char * *inMsgBuf*, int *inMsgLen*, int * *outMsgLen*) [protected, virtual]

Reimplemented from UDPServer class.

4.10.3.4 virtual void FeatureServer::enterThread (void * *arg*) [protected, virtual]

Reimplemented from Thread class.

4.10.3.5 virtual int FeatureServer::executeInThread (void * *arg*) [protected, virtual]

Reimplemented from Thread class.

4.10.3.6 virtual void FeatureServer::exitThread (void * *arg*) [protected, virtual]

Reimplemented from Thread class.

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [FeatureClientServer.hpp](#)

4.11 FeatureTrackerKLT Class Reference

Automatic image feature detection and tracking using the Lucas-Kanade tracking algorithm implemented in the KLT library.

```
#include <FeatureTrackerKLT.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [FeatureTrackerKLT](#) ()
- [~FeatureTrackerKLT](#) ()
- [int initialize](#) ([FeatureTrackerContext_t](#) &ftc, [KLT_TrackingContext](#) kltc)
- [int processImage](#) (unsigned char *img, int w, int h, [feature_list_t](#) &list)
- [int writeFeatureTable](#) (const char *fileName)

4.11.1 Detailed Description

Automatic image feature detection and tracking using the Lucas-Kanade tracking algorithm implemented in the KLT library.

This class uses the implementation of the KLT algorithm developed and maintained by Stan Birchfield. See: <http://www.ces.clemson.edu/~stb/klt> . Image display and event handling routines use the SDL library . See: <http://www.libsdl.org>.

Example Program:

```
//=====
// FeatureTrackerKLT.t.cpp - Example program for FeatureTrackerKLT class
// Vilas Chitrakaran, May 2006
//=====

#include "FeatureTrackerKLT.hpp"
#include "Pixmap.hpp"
#include <unistd.h>

int main()
{
    KLT_TrackingContext kltContext;
    FeatureTrackerContext_t tracContext;
    PixmapGray img[2];
    feature_list_t features;

    kltContext = KLTCreateTrackingContext();
    kltContext->lighting_insensitive = true;
    kltContext->writeInternalImages = false;
    kltContext->affineConsistencyCheck = -1;
    kltContext->window_width = 9;
    kltContext->window_height = 9;
    kltContext->max_iterations = 100;
    kltContext->mindist = 10;
    kltContext->smoothBeforeSelecting = true;

    tracContext.num_features = 4;
    tracContext.num_frames = 2;
    tracContext.auto_select_features = false;
    tracContext.display_tracked_features = true;

    // create feature list
    if( allocateFeatureList(features, tracContext.num_features) < 0 )
        return -1;
```

```

FeatureTrackerKLT tracker;

img[0].loadPixmap("images/box0.pgm");
img[1].loadPixmap("images/box1.pgm");

// initialize system
if( tracker.initialize(tracContext, kltContext) != 0 ) {
    fprintf(stderr, "ERROR initializing tracker.\n");
    return -1;
}

// track features between frames
for(int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {
    if( tracker.processImage(img[i].getPointer(0), img[i].getWidth(),
                             img[i].getHeight(), features) < 0 ) {
        fprintf(stderr, "ERROR processing image.\n");
        return -1;
    }

    // print features
    fprintf(stdout, "== frame %2d ==\n", i);
    for(int j = 0; j < tracContext.num_features; ++j) {
        fprintf(stdout, "%2d (%3.1f, %3.1f)\n", features.features[j].val,
                features.features[j].x, features.features[j].y);
    }
}

// SDL events won't be caught outside processImage(), unless
// you do this...
SDL_Event event;
while( SDL_PollEvent(&event) ) {
    if(event.type == SDL_QUIT) {
        fprintf(stdout, "\nI was asked to quit!\n");
        return -2;
    }
}

// Write results to text.
if( tracker.writeFeatureTable("trackedFeatures") != 0 ) {
    fprintf(stderr, "ERROR writing feature tables.\n");
    return -1;
}

freeFeatureList(features);
KLTFreeTrackingContext(kltContext);

return 0;
}

```

4.11.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.11.2.1 FeatureTrackerKLT::FeatureTrackerKLT ()

Default constructor.

4.11.2.2 FeatureTrackerKLT::~~FeatureTrackerKLT ()

Destructor frees any allocated resources

4.11.3 Member Function Documentation

4.11.3.1 `int FeatureTrackerKLT::initialize (FeatureTrackerContext_t & ftc, KLT_TrackingContext kltc)`

Initialize the tracker. Call this method before calling any other methods of this class.

Parameters:

ftc settings specific to this class.

kltc KLT algorithm specific settings.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.11.3.2 `int FeatureTrackerKLT::processImage (unsigned char * img, int w, int h, feature_list_t & list)`

Track features in the image buffer. Upon calling this method the first time, features are selected either automatically (if 'auto_select_features' was turned on during initialization) or by the user. If 'display_tracked_features' was turned on during initialization, the image display window will be updated with the current image in the buffer and the location of tracked features are marked.

NOTE: Calling this function initiates SDL event handling, including for SIGINT (CTRL+C). Hence, to catch events outside of this method, use SDL functions such as `SDL_PollEvent()`.

Parameters:

img Pointer to image buffer. NOTE: image must be 8 bit grayscale.

w,h Image dimensions in pixels.

list List of tracked features. This list contains updated (x,y) locations of features and an integer value indicating whether the feature was tracked successfully (0) or not (-1).

Returns:

current frame number on success (first frame = 1), -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr), -2 on user initiated quit.

4.11.3.3 `int FeatureTrackerKLT::writeFeatureTable (const char * fileBaseName)`

Write the history of all tracked features into a feature table in ascii (.txt) and binary format (.ft). (See KLT library documentation for details on reading from feature table). The number of records in this feature table will be less than or equal to the 'num_frames' parameter in the `FeatureTrackerContext_t` passed to `initialize()`.

Parameters:

fileBaseName Base name of the file.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [FeatureTrackerKLT.hpp](#)

4.12 FeatureTrackerOCV Class Reference

Automatic image feature detection and tracking using the OpenCV library implementation of the Lucas-Kanade tracking algorithm.

```
#include <FeatureTrackerOCV.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [FeatureTrackerOCV \(\)](#)
- [~FeatureTrackerOCV \(\)](#)
- [int initialize \(FeatureTrackerContext_t &ftc, OCVTrackingContext_t &ocvt\)](#)
- [int processImage \(unsigned char *img, int w, int h, feature_list_t &list\)](#)

4.12.1 Detailed Description

Automatic image feature detection and tracking using the OpenCV library implementation of the Lucas-Kanade tracking algorithm.

OpenCV must be installed in order to use this class. See: <http://www.intel.com/technology/computing/opencv/index.htm>.

Image display and event handling routines use the SDL library. See: <http://www.libsdl.org>.

Example Program:

```
//=====
// FeatureTrackerKLT.t.cpp - Example program for FeatureTrackerOCV class
// Vilas Chitrakaran, May 2006
//=====

#include "FeatureTrackerOCV.hpp"
#include "Pixmap.hpp"
#include <unistd.h>

int main()
{
    OCVTrackingContext_t ocvContext;
    FeatureTrackerContext_t tracContext;
    PixmapGray img[2];
    feature_list_t features;

    ocvContext.min_dist = 20;
    ocvContext.quality = 0.001;
    ocvContext.block_size = 5;
    ocvContext.max_iter = 100;
    ocvContext.epsilon = 0.01;
    ocvContext.window_size = 3;
    ocvContext.max_error = 300;

    tracContext.num_features = 4;
    tracContext.num_frames = 2;
    tracContext.auto_select_features = false;
    tracContext.display_tracked_features = true;

    // create feature list
    if( allocateFeatureList(features, tracContext.num_features) < 0 )
        return -1;

    FeatureTrackerOCV tracker;
```

```

img[0].loadPixmap("images/box0.pgm");
img[1].loadPixmap("images/box1.pgm");

// initialize system
if( tracker.initialize(tracContext, ocvContext) != 0 ) {
    fprintf(stderr, "ERROR initializing tracker.\n");
    return -1;
}

// track features between frames
for(int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {
    if( tracker.processImage(img[i].getPointer(0), img[i].getWidth(),
                             img[i].getHeight(), features) < 0 ) {
        fprintf(stderr, "ERROR processing image.\n");
        return -1;
    }

    // print features
    fprintf(stdout, "== frame %2d ==\n", i);
    for(int j = 0; j < tracContext.num_features; ++j) {
        fprintf(stdout, "%2d (%3.1f, %3.1f)\n", features.features[j].val,
                features.features[j].x, features.features[j].y);
    }
}

// SDL events won't be caught outside processImage(), unless
// you do this...
SDL_Event event;
while( SDL_PollEvent(&event) ) {
    if(event.type == SDL_QUIT) {
        fprintf(stdout, "\nI was asked to quit!\n");
        return -2;
    }
}

freeFeatureList(features);

return 0;
}

```

4.12.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.12.2.1 FeatureTrackerOCV::FeatureTrackerOCV ()

Default constructor.

4.12.2.2 FeatureTrackerOCV::~~FeatureTrackerOCV ()

Destructor frees any allocated resources.

4.12.3 Member Function Documentation

4.12.3.1 int FeatureTrackerOCV::initialize ([FeatureTrackerContext_t](#) & *ftc*, [OCVTrackingContext_t](#) & *ocvt*)

Initialize the tracker. Call this method before calling any other methods of this class.

Parameters:

ftc settings specific to this class.

ocvt tracker algorithm specific settings.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.12.3.2 int FeatureTrackerOCV::processImage (unsigned char * *img*, int *w*, int *h*, feature_list_t & *list*)

Track features in the image buffer. Upon calling this method the first time, features are selected either automatically (if 'auto_select_features' was turned on during initialization) or by the user. If 'display_tracked_features' was turned on during initialization, the image display window will be updated with the current image in the buffer and the location of tracked features are marked.

NOTE: Calling this function initiates SDL event handling, including for SIGINT (CTRL+C). Hence, to catch events outside of this method, use SDL functions such as SDL_PollEvent().

Parameters:

img Pointer to image buffer. NOTE: image must be 8 bit grayscale.

w,h Image dimensions in pixels.

list List of tracked features. This list contains updated (x,y) locations of features and an integer value indicating whether the feature was tracked successfully (0) or not (-1).

Returns:

current frame number on success (first frame = 1), -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr), -2 on user initiated quit.

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [FeatureTrackerOCV.hpp](#)

4.13 Pixmap< T > Class Template Reference

The template class for pixmap (ppm, pgm) images.

```
#include <Pixmap.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [Pixmap](#) ()
- [Pixmap](#) (int w, int h)
- [Pixmap](#) (uint8_t *buffer, int w, int h)
- virtual [~Pixmap](#) ()
- int [create](#) (int w, int h)
- int [attach](#) (uint8_t *buffer, int w, int h)
- int [getWidth](#) () const
- int [getHeight](#) () const
- int [getBytesPerPixel](#) () const
- bool [isIndexValid](#) (int i)
- bool [isIndexValid](#) (int c, int r)
- T * [getPointer](#) (int i)
- T * [getPointer](#) (int c, int r)
- T & [operator\(\)](#) (int i)
- T & [operator\(\)](#) (int c, int r)
- [Pixmap< T > & operator=](#) (const [Pixmap< T >](#) &p)
- int [loadPixmap](#) (const char *fileName)
- int [savePixmap](#) (char *fileName)

Protected Attributes

- bool [d_usingExternalBuffer](#)
- T * [d_imgData](#)
- int [d_w](#)
- int [d_h](#)

4.13.1 Detailed Description

```
template<class T> class Pixmap< T >
```

The template class for pixmap (ppm, pgm) images.

The class provides methods to read and write images only as pixmaps (PPM). However, methods to directly access the image buffer is provided, hence the user can develop her own additional functions to support other image formats. The image buffer created by this class stores images either as 8 bit grayscale (T = uint8_t), or 24 bit RGB (T = rgb_t) in packed pixel format (ie, all the data for a pixel lie next to each other in memory).

Example Program:

```
//=====
// Pixmap.t.cpp : Example program for Pixmap class.
// Author       : Vilas Kumar Chitrakaran
//=====
```

```

#include "Pixmap.hpp"

//=====
// This example demonstrates how to read an image, modify it and
// write it back as a file.
//=====
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    PixmapRgb img;

    // open an image
    if( img.loadPixmap("images/ash_P6.ppm") != 0 ) {
        fprintf(stderr, "OOPS\n");
        return -1;
    }

    // print image dimensions.
    fprintf(stdout, "Opened image of size: %d x %d\n",
            img.getWidth(), img.getHeight() );

    // modify a pixel
    img(3,4) = rgb_t(255,0,0);

    // save to file
    if( img.savePixmap("new_image.ppm") != 0 ) {
        fprintf(stderr, "OOPS\n");
        return -1;
    }

    return 0;
}

```

4.13.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.13.2.1 `template<class T> Pixmap< T >::Pixmap ()`

Default constructor. Does nothing

4.13.2.2 `template<class T> Pixmap< T >::Pixmap (int w, int h)`

Constructor that allocates memory buffer.

Parameters:

w image width (pixels)

h image height (pixels)

4.13.2.3 `template<class T> Pixmap< T >::Pixmap (uint8_t * buffer, int w, int h)`

Constructor that hooks to an externally allocated memory buffer instead of allocating memory of it's own. It is user's responsibility to ensure that buffer size is adequate for an image of size *w* x *h* of specified type.

Parameters:

buffer Pointer to image data

w image width (pixels)

h image height (pixels)

4.13.2.4 `template<class T> virtual Pixmap< T >::~~Pixmap ()` [virtual]

The destructor. Frees any allocated memory.

4.13.3 Member Function Documentation

4.13.3.1 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::create (int w, int h)`

Allocates a new data buffer for image data, or resizes a previously allocated buffer. The buffer values are not initialized, and may be anything arbitrary.

Parameters:

w width (pixels).

h height (pixels).

Returns:

0 on success, -1 if failed.

4.13.3.2 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::attach (uint8_t * buffer, int w, int h)`

Hook to an externally provided buffer for image data (such as framebuffer of a frame grabber). It is user's responsibility to ensure that buffer size is adequate for an image of size *w* x *h* of specified type.

Parameters:

buffer Pointer to image data

w width (pixels).

h height (pixels).

Returns:

0 on success, -1 if failed.

4.13.3.3 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::getWidth () const` [inline]

Returns:

width of image in pixels.

4.13.3.4 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::getHeight () const` [inline]

Returns:

height of image in pixels.

4.13.3.5 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::getBytesPerPixel () const [inline]`

Returns:

Bytes per pixel.

4.13.3.6 `template<class T> bool Pixmap< T >::isIndexValid (int i) [inline]`

Parameters:

i 1D index into data buffer (starts at 0).

Returns:

true if index within image boundaries, else false.

4.13.3.7 `template<class T> bool Pixmap< T >::isIndexValid (int c, int r) [inline]`

Parameters:

c, r column, row index into data buffer (starts at (0,0)).

Returns:

true if index within image boundaries, else false.

4.13.3.8 `template<class T> T* Pixmap< T >::getPointer (int i) [inline]`

Parameters:

i 1D index into data buffer (starts at 0).

Returns:

Pointer to pixel data at specified index, NULL if index is out of range.

4.13.3.9 `template<class T> T* Pixmap< T >::getPointer (int c, int r) [inline]`

Parameters:

c, r column, row index into data buffer (starts at (0,0)).

Returns:

Pointer to pixel data at specified index, NULL if index is out of range.

4.13.3.10 `template<class T> T& Pixmap< T >::operator() (int i) [inline]`

Access image data at a specified location. For example:

```
myImage(2)=255;
```

or

```
cout << myImage(2) << endl;
```

Parameters:

i 1D index into data buffer (starts at 0).

Returns:

Pointer to pixel data at specified index

4.13.3.11 `template<class T> T& Pixmap< T >::operator() (int c, int r) [inline]`

Access image data at a specified location. For example:

```
myImage(2,2)=255;
```

or

```
cout << myImage(2,2) << endl;
```

Parameters:

c,r column, row index into data buffer (starts at (0,0)).

Returns:

Pointer to pixel data at specified index

4.13.3.12 `template<class T> Pixmap<T>& Pixmap< T >::operator= (const Pixmap< T > & p)`

Assignment between two images of same type and dimensions.

Parameters:

p The Pixmap object.

4.13.3.13 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::loadPixmap (const char * fileName)`

Load a pixmap image (pgm, ppm).

Parameters:

fileName The name of the image file

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error.

4.13.3.14 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::savePixmap (char * fileName)`

Save the image as a pixmap (ppm)

Parameters:

fileName The name of the image file

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error.

4.13.4 Member Data Documentation

4.13.4.1 `template<class T> bool Pixmap< T >::d_usingExternalBuffer` [protected]

4.13.4.2 `template<class T> T* Pixmap< T >::d_imgData` [protected]

4.13.4.3 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::d_w` [protected]

4.13.4.4 `template<class T> int Pixmap< T >::d_h` [protected]

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [Pixmap.hpp](#)

4.14 PixmapGray Class Reference

Class for 1 byte-per-pixel greyscale (pgm) images.

```
#include <Pixmap.hpp>
```

Inheritance diagram for PixmapGray::

4.14.1 Detailed Description

Class for 1 byte-per-pixel greyscale (pgm) images.

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [Pixmap.hpp](#)

4.15 QPixmapRgb Class Reference

Class for 3 bytes-per-pixel RGB (ppm) images.

```
#include <Pixmap.hpp>
```

Inheritance diagram for QPixmapRgb::

4.15.1 Detailed Description

Class for 3 bytes-per-pixel RGB (ppm) images.

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [Pixmap.hpp](#)

4.16 PXCCaptureLoop Class Reference

A QNX specific interface to capture images using the Imagenation PXC200AF frame grabber.

```
#include <PXCCaptureLoop.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [PXCCaptureLoop](#) ()
- virtual [~PXCCaptureLoop](#) ()
- int [initialize](#) ([PXContext_t](#) &cxt)
- int [startCaptureLoop](#) ()
- int [getImageProperties](#) (int &w, int &h, int &bpp)

Protected Member Functions

- virtual int [processImage](#) (const unsigned char *fbr, int w, int h, int bpp)
- virtual void [enterThread](#) (void *arg)
- virtual int [executeInThread](#) (void *arg)
- virtual void [exitThread](#) (void *arg)

Protected Attributes

- int [d_imgWidth](#)
- int [d_imgHeight](#)
- int [d_bpp](#)

4.16.1 Detailed Description

A QNX specific interface to capture images using the Imagenation PXC200AF frame grabber.

An object of this class interfaces with a PXC200 AF framegrabber through its device driver. The object initiates a separate thread for image capturing and transfers image data to a user specified memory buffer through a user implemented function. This class is specifically written to work with the QNX 6.2.1 device driver for PXC200AF. More information on PXC series framegrabbers are available here: <http://www.imagenation.com/pxcfamily.html>.

Example Program:

```
//=====
// PXCCaptureLoop.t.cpp - Examples program for PXCCaptureLoop class
// UAV follower experiment
// Vilas Chitrakaran, May 2006
//=====

#include "PXCCaptureLoop.hpp"

int main()
{
    PXContext_t settings;
    PXCCaptureLoop camera;

    settings.board_number = -1;
```

```

settings.video_channel = 0;
settings.pixel_format = PBITS_Y8;
settings.video_format = NTSC_FORMAT;
settings.trigger_channel = -1;
settings.thread_priority = 10;

if( camera.initialize(settings) != 0 )
    return -1;

if( camera.startCaptureLoop() != 0 )
    return -1;

fprintf(stdout, "thread started\n");
sleep(10);

return 0;
}

```

4.16.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.16.2.1 PXCCaptureLoop::PXCCaptureLoop ()

Default constructor.

4.16.2.2 virtual PXCCaptureLoop::~~PXCCaptureLoop () [virtual]

Destructor. Frees any allocated resources, shuts down the framegrabber.

4.16.3 Member Function Documentation

4.16.3.1 int PXCCaptureLoop::initialize ([PXCCContext_t](#) & *cxt*)

Initializes the frame grabber.

Parameters:

cxt settings specific to framegrabber.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.16.3.2 int PXCCaptureLoop::startCaptureLoop ()

start image capture loop. Method [processImage\(\)](#) is called everytime a new image is acquired.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.16.3.3 int PXCCaptureLoop::getImageProperties (int & *w*, int & *h*, int & *bpp*)

Get properties of the images being captured by the camera

Parameters:

w,h Width and height of the image.

bpp Image bytes per pixel (1 = 8 bit grayscale, 3 = 24 bit RGB).

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.16.3.4 `virtual int PXCCaptureLoop::processImage (const unsigned char * fbr, int w, int h, int bpp)` [protected, virtual]

Reimplement this function in a derived class. This method is automatically called upon every successful acquisition of an image. It is upto the implementation to ensure that processing delays do not cause dropped frames. A suggested implementation would do nothing more than memcpy() the framebuffer to a user specified buffer and return immediately. A separate thread/process can then process the contents of the copied buffer.

Parameters:

fbr Pointer to frame buffer containing current image update.

w,h Width and height of the image.

bpp Image bytes per pixel (1 = 8 bit grayscale, 3 = 24 bit RGB).

Returns:

Implementation must return 0 on success, non-zero on error.

4.16.3.5 `virtual void PXCCaptureLoop::enterThread (void * arg)` [protected, virtual]

Reimplemented from Thread class

4.16.3.6 `virtual int PXCCaptureLoop::executeInThread (void * arg)` [protected, virtual]

Reimplemented from Thread class

4.16.3.7 `virtual void PXCCaptureLoop::exitThread (void * arg)` [protected, virtual]

Reimplemented from Thread class

4.16.4 Member Data Documentation

4.16.4.1 `int PXCCaptureLoop::d_imgWidth` [protected]

4.16.4.2 `int PXCCaptureLoop::d_imgHeight` [protected]

4.16.4.3 `int PXCCaptureLoop::d_bpp` [protected]

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [PXCCaptureLoop.hpp](#)

4.17 SDLWindow Class Reference

A window for image display.

```
#include <TrackerUtils.hpp>
```

Public Member Functions

- [SDLWindow](#) ()
- [~SDLWindow](#) ()
- [init](#) (int w, int h, const char *title)
- [updateScreenBuffer](#) (char *buf, int w, int h, int bpp, const char *msg=NULL)
- [refresh](#) ()
- [SDL_Surface *](#) [getScreenPointer](#) ()

4.17.1 Detailed Description

A window for image display.

The [SDLWindow](#) class uses the SDL library to display images. Use SDL event handling routines to catch events such as mouse clicks.

Example Program:

```
//=====
// SDLWindow.t.cpp : Example program for SDLWindow and Pixmap class.
// Author          : Vilas Kumar Chitrakaran
//=====

#include "TrackerUtils.hpp"
#include "SDL/SDL_events.h"
#include "Pixmap.hpp"
#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

static int quit = 0;
int filterSDLQuitEvent(const SDL_Event *event);
// filter out SDL_QUIT and handle it here.

//=====
// This example demonstrates how to display an image, and process user mouse
// clicks.
//=====
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    SDLWindow window; // image window
    PixmapRgb image;  // image
    char *pointer;
    int w, h, bpp;

    // open an image
    if( image.loadPixmap("images/ash_P6.ppm") != 0 )
        return -1;

    pointer = (char *)image.getPointer(0);
    w = image.getWidth();
    h = image.getHeight();
    bpp = image.getBytesPerPixel();

    // Display the image on screen
```

```

if( window.updateScreenBuffer(pointer, w, h, bpp, NULL) != 0)
    return -1;
window.refresh();

// handle mouse events (standard SDL event handling)
SDL_Event event;
SDL_SetEventFilter(filterSDLQuitEvent); // handle SDL_QUIT
while( SDL_WaitEvent(&event) && !quit ) {
    switch(event.type) {
        int x, y;
        case SDL_MOUSEBUTTONDOWN:
            x = event.button.x;
            y = event.button.y;
            cout << image(x,y) << endl;
            image(x,y) = rgb_t(0xFF, 0, 0);
            break;

        default:
            break;
    }
    if( window.updateScreenBuffer(pointer, w, h, bpp, NULL) != 0)
        return -1;
    window.refresh();
}
return 0;
}

//=====
// filterSDLQuitEvent
//=====
int filterSDLQuitEvent(const SDL_Event *event)
{
    if( event->type == SDL_QUIT) {
        cout << "Quitting." << endl;
        quit = 1;
    }
    return(1);
}

```

4.17.2 Constructor & Destructor Documentation

4.17.2.1 SDLWindow::SDLWindow ()

The default constructor. Does some initializations.

4.17.2.2 SDLWindow::~~SDLWindow ()

The destructor cleans up.

4.17.3 Member Function Documentation

4.17.3.1 int SDLWindow::init (int *w*, int *h*, const char * *title*)

Initialize an SDL screen buffer. Window doesn't show up until [refresh\(\)](#) is called.

Parameters:

w,h Window width and height.

title A title for the window. Should be set to NULL if not desired.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.17.3.2 int SDLWindow::updateScreenBuffer (char * *buf*, int *w*, int *h*, int *bpp*, const char * *msg* = NULL)

Update the screen buffer with data from user provided image buffer. Window doesn't show up on until [refresh\(\)](#) is called.

Parameters:

buf A pointer to the image buffer, provided by the user.

w,h Image width and height. Provided here to reinitialize SDL screen if they are different from parameters used for [init\(\)](#).

bpp The bytes per pixel.

msg An optional message upto 80 characters long. Useful to print helpful information on the screen.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to stderr).

4.17.3.3 void SDLWindow::refresh ()

Display the video on screen.

4.17.3.4 SDL_Surface* SDLWindow::getScreenPointer () [inline]

The documentation for this class was generated from the following file:

- [TrackerUtils.hpp](#)

Chapter 5

Real-time Feature Tracker Library File Documentation

5.1 FeatureClientServer.hpp File Reference

```
#include "putils/UDPClientServer.hpp"
#include "putils/RWLock.hpp"
#include "putils/Thread.hpp"
#include "TrackerUtils.hpp"
```

Classes

- struct [_FeatureServerContext](#)
Parameters for UDP feature server. Use with class [FeatureServer](#).
- class [FeatureServer](#)
A UDP network server for feature tracker.
- class [FeatureClient](#)
A UDP network client for [FeatureServer](#).

Typedefs

- typedef [_FeatureServerContext](#) [FeatureServerContext_t](#)

5.1.1 Typedef Documentation

5.1.1.1 typedef struct [_FeatureServerContext](#) [FeatureServerContext_t](#)

5.2 FeatureTrackerKLT.hpp File Reference

```
#include "klt/klt.h"  
#include <stdio.h>  
#include <malloc.h>  
#include "TrackerUtils.hpp"
```

Classes

- class [FeatureTrackerKLT](#)
Automatic image feature detection and tracking using the Lucas-Kanade tracking algorithm implemented in the KLT library.

5.3 FeatureTrackerOCV.hpp File Reference

```
#include "opencv/cv.h"
#include <stdio.h>
#include <malloc.h>
#include "TrackerUtils.hpp"
```

Classes

- struct [_OCVTrackingContext](#)
Parameters specific to OpenCV tracker (for use with [FeatureTrackerOCV](#) class).
- class [FeatureTrackerOCV](#)
Automatic image feature detection and tracking using the OpenCV library implementation of the Lucas-Kanade tracking algorithm.

Typedefs

- typedef [_OCVTrackingContext](#) [OCVTrackingContext_t](#)

5.3.1 Typedef Documentation

5.3.1.1 typedef struct [_OCVTrackingContext](#) [OCVTrackingContext_t](#)

5.4 Pixmap.hpp File Reference

```
#include <math.h>
#include <malloc.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <iostream>
#include <typeinfo>
#include <inttypes.h>
```

Classes

- struct [_rgb](#)

RGB pixel data type, 8 bits per channel (24 bpp). Use with class [Pixmap](#).

- class [Pixmap< T >](#)

The template class for pixmap (ppm, pgm) images.

- class [PixmapGray](#)

Class for 1 byte-per-pixel greyscale (pgm) images.

- class [PixmapRgb](#)

Class for 3 bytes-per-pixel RGB (ppm) images.

Typedefs

- typedef [_rgb](#) [rgb_t](#)

Functions

- bool [operator==](#) (const [rgb_t](#) &c1, const [rgb_t](#) &c2)
- bool [operator!=](#) (const [rgb_t](#) &c1, const [rgb_t](#) &c2)
- std::ostream & [operator<<](#) (std::ostream &out, const [rgb_t](#) &rgb)
- std::istream & [operator>>](#) (std::istream &in, [rgb_t](#) &rgb)

5.4.1 Typedef Documentation

5.4.1.1 typedef struct `_rgb rgb_t`

5.4.2 Function Documentation

5.4.2.1 `bool operator==(const rgb_t & c1, const rgb_t & c2)`

5.4.2.2 `bool operator!=(const rgb_t & c1, const rgb_t & c2)`

5.4.2.3 `std::ostream& operator<< (std::ostream & out, const rgb_t & rgb)`

5.4.2.4 `std::istream& operator>> (std::istream & in, rgb_t & rgb)`

5.5 PXCCaptureLoop.hpp File Reference

```
#include "pxc200/pxc.h"
#include "pxc200/frame.h"
#include "putils/Thread.hpp"
#include <stdio.h>
```

Classes

- struct [_PXCContext](#)
Parameters for the PXC200AF framegrabber. Use with class [PXCCaptureLoop](#).
- class [PXCCaptureLoop](#)
A QNX specific interface to capture images using the Imagenation PXC200AF frame grabber.

Typedefs

- typedef [_PXCContext](#) [PXCContext_t](#)

5.5.1 Typedef Documentation

5.5.1.1 typedef struct [_PXCContext](#) [PXCContext_t](#)

5.6 TrackerUtils.hpp File Reference

```
#include "SDL/SDL.h"
#include "SDL/SDL_gfxPrimitives.h"
#include "klt/klt.h"
```

Classes

- struct [_FeatureTrackerContext](#)
Parameters for feature tracking.
- struct [_feature](#)
A feature point.
- struct [_feature_list](#)
List of features in a single image.
- class [CountFPS](#)
A frames-per-second counter.
- class [SDLWindow](#)
A window for image display.

Typedefs

- typedef [_FeatureTrackerContext](#) [FeatureTrackerContext_t](#)
- typedef [_feature](#) [feature_t](#)
- typedef [_feature_list](#) [feature_list_t](#)

Functions

- int [allocateFeatureList](#) ([feature_list_t](#) &f, int num_features)
- void [freeFeatureList](#) ([feature_list_t](#) &f)
- int [copyFeaturesToKLTFeatureList](#) ([feature_list_t](#) &f, [KLT_FeatureList](#) kl)

5.6.1 Typedef Documentation

5.6.1.1 typedef struct [_FeatureTrackerContext](#) [FeatureTrackerContext_t](#)

5.6.1.2 typedef struct [_feature](#) [feature_t](#)

5.6.1.3 typedef struct [_feature_list](#) [feature_list_t](#)

5.6.2 Function Documentation

5.6.2.1 int [allocateFeatureList](#) ([feature_list_t](#) & f, int num_features)

Allocate memory for storing features.

Returns:

Size (bytes) of the entire buffer on success, -1 on error;

5.6.2.2 void freeFeatureList ([feature_list_t](#) & *f*)

Free the memory allocated for storing features using `allocateFeatureStruct()`.

5.6.2.3 int copyFeaturesToKLTFeatureList ([feature_list_t](#) & *f*, KLT_FeatureList *kl*)

Copy a feature list into feature list structure used in the KLT library.

Returns:

0 on success, -1 on error (error message redirected to `stderr`).

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