



Autonomous guidance for a UAS along a staircase using visual servoing

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JE SUIS
CHARLIE

3

HYPER CACHER

SOIR/3 L'INTERVENTION DU RAID PORTE DE VINCENNES



Context

- ▶ Indoor reconnaissance
- ▶ Obstacle avoidance





Motivation Constraints Overview

Objectives



- ▶ Staircase detection
- ▶ Autonomous guidance





Parrot AR.Drone 2.0

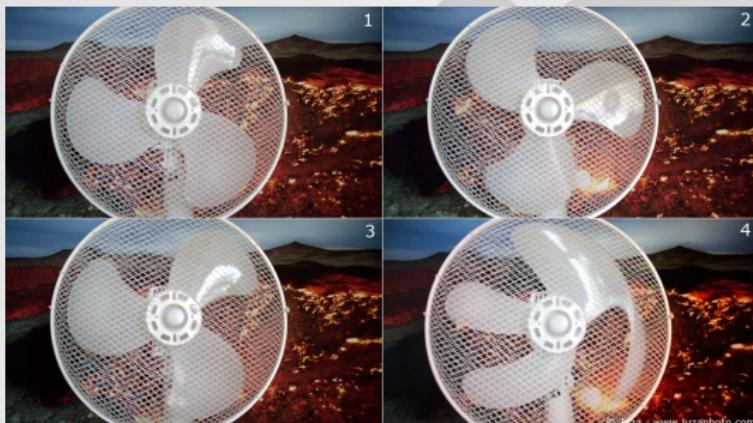
- ▶ Cheap and directly available
- ▶ Sensors low quality
- ▶ Off-board processing





Parrot AR.Drone 2.0

- ▶ Cheap and directly available
- ▶ Sensors low quality
- ▶ Off-board processing





Motivation Constraints Overview

ROS



- ▶ Robot Operating System
- ▶ C++ and Python
- ▶ Large community



```
robostart http://pegasus:11019/nod Help
Press Ctrl-C to interrupt
Done checking log file disk usage. Usage is <1GB.

started rosstart server http://pegasus:41219/
ros_comm version 1.11.13

SUMMARY
=====
PARAMETERS
  * /rostdistro: indigo
  * /rosversion: 1.11.13

NODES

auto-starting new master
process[master]: started with pid [20536]
ROS_MASTER_URI=http://pegasus:13111

setting /run_id to 32987992-0e7f-11e5-8b4b-0026b9edcce3
process[rosout-1]: started with pid [20549]
started core service [/rosout]
```



Motivation Constraints Overview



Positioning

Understand Environment

Control



Software package Extended Kalman Filter



Positioning

- TUM AR.Drone
- EKF

Understand Environment

Control



Software package Extended Kalman Filter

TUM AR.Drone



tum_ardrone GUI

Send Commands

Load File:

Messages

```
PTAM initialization started (took first KF)
PTAM initialized (took second KF)
locking scale Fixpoint to 0.015 0.006 0.011
```

Node Communication Status

Drone Navdata: 200 Hz
 Drone Control: 5 Hz
 Pose Estimates: 30 Hz
 Joy Input: 0 Hz
 Pings (RTT): 10 (500B), 17 (20kB)
 Motors: 0,000000, 0,000000, 0,000000

Autopilot Status:

Idle (Queue: 0)
 Current: NULL
 Next: NULL
 Target: (0.00, 0.00, 0.00), 0.0
 Error: (0.00, 0.00, 0.00), 0.0 (|.| 0.00)
 Cont: r 0.00, p 0.00, g 0.00, y 0.00

Stateestimation Status:

PTAM: Lost
 Map: -
 Scale: 1.200 (1 in, 0 out), acc: 0.53
 ScaleFixpoint: FIX
 Drone Status: Landed (34 Battery)

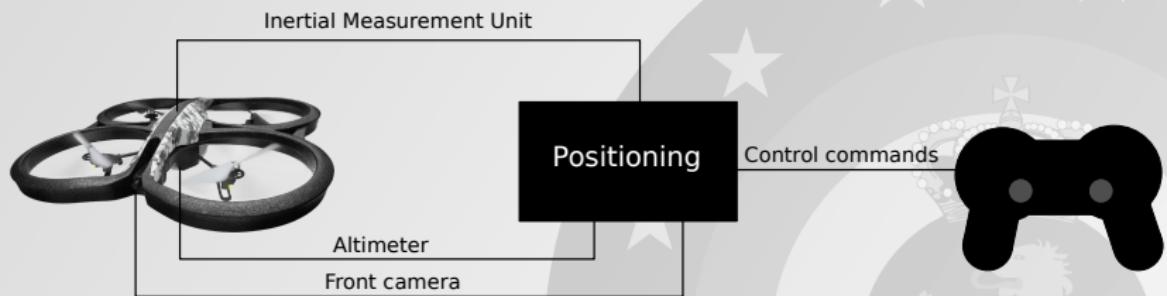
Control Source:

Keyboard Joystick
 Autopilot None
 Use Onboard Hovering
 Ping Drone (every 1s)



Software package Extended Kalman Filter

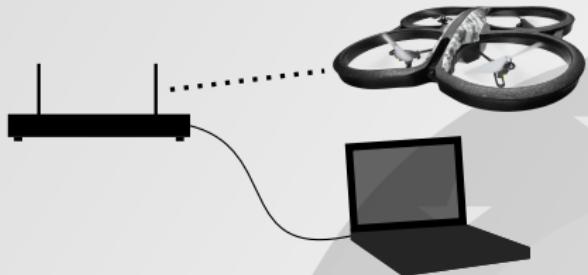
Structure





Software package Extended Kalman Filter

Delay determination

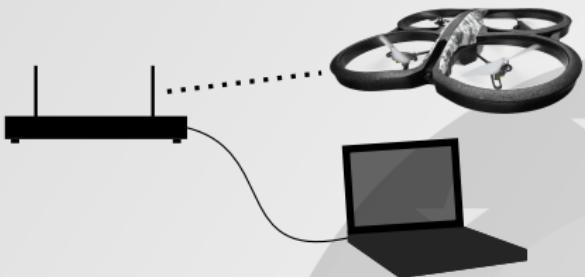




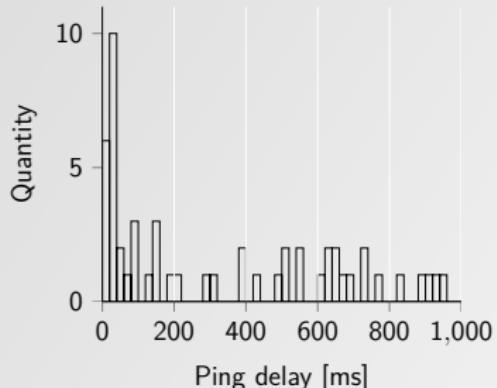
Software package Extended Kalman Filter



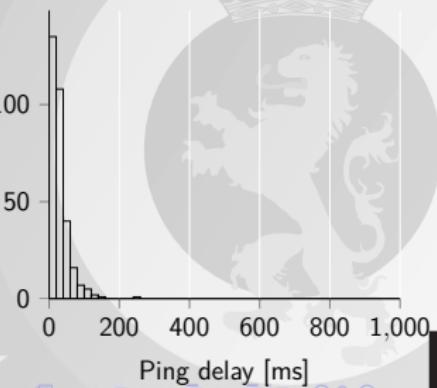
Delay determination



Static ping delay without AP (20 kB)



Static ping delay with AP (20 kB)





Software package Extended Kalman Filter

Modifications



- ▶ Changed hardcoded IP address
- ▶ Added ROS position broadcaster





SLAM

2D

3D

Fusion

Decision



Positioning

- TUM AR.Drone
- EKF

Understand Environment

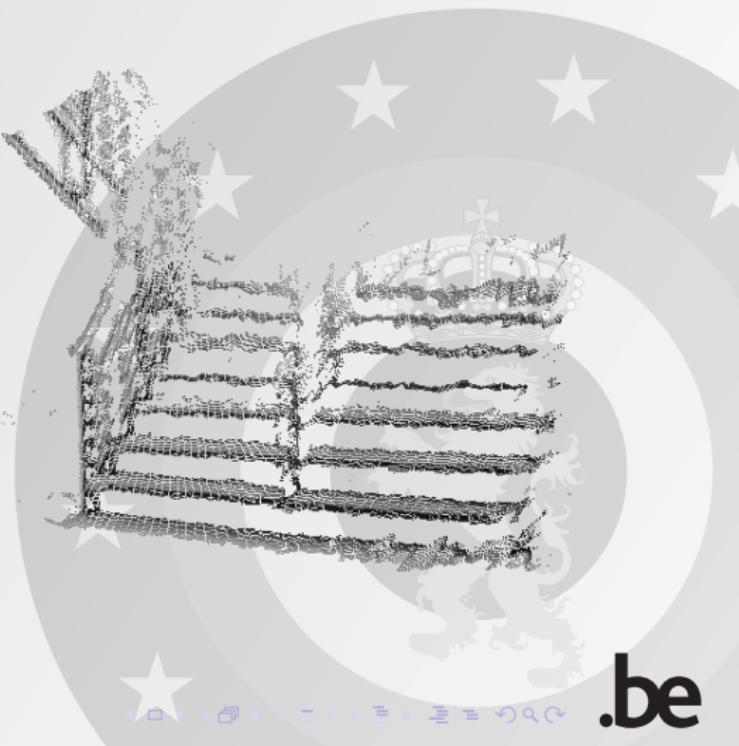
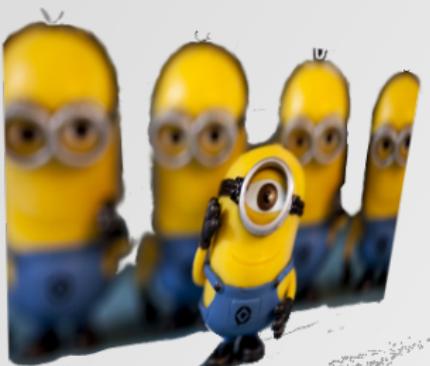
- SLAM
- Detection

Control



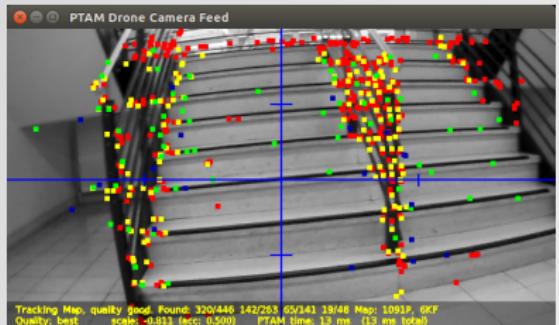
SLAM 2D 3D Fusion Decision

Monocular SLAM

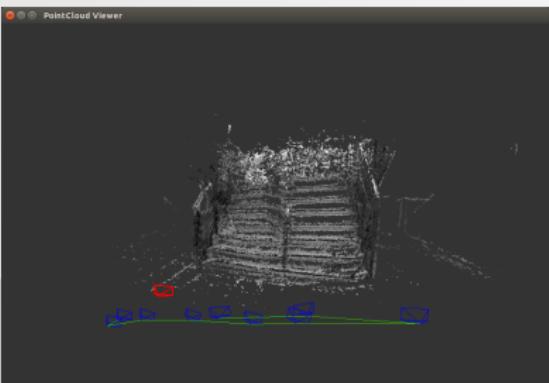




Methods

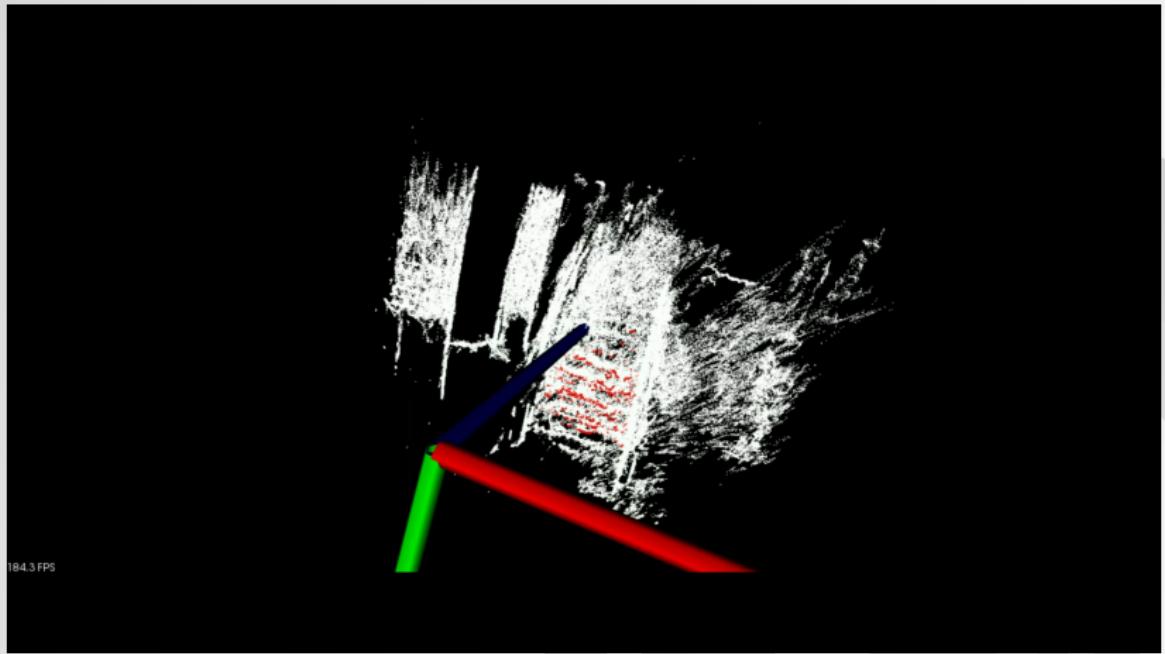


- Tracking Map, quality good. Found: 320/446 142/263 60/141 19/46 Map: 1091P, 6KF
Quality: best scale: < -0.811 (act: 0.590) PTAM time: 13 ms (13 ms total)
- ▶ Feature-based methods
 - ▶ Very robust for large camera movements
 - ▶ PTAM, ORB-SLAM, ...



Direct methods

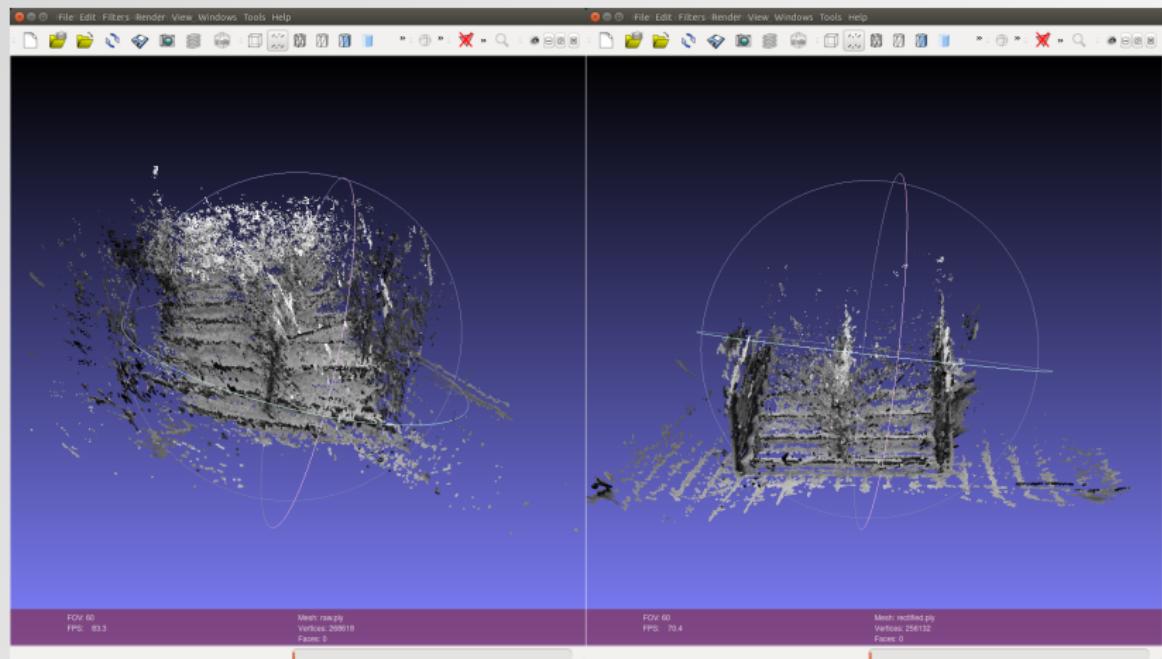
- ▶ Better to create a dense depth image
- ▶ DTAM, LSD-SLAM, ...



184.3 FPS



Influence rectification

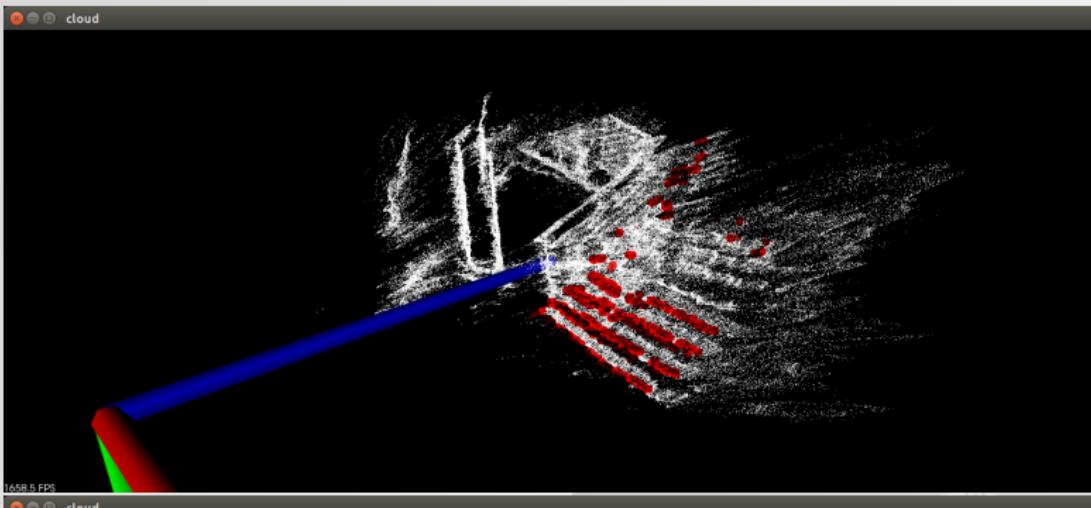


FOV: 60
FPS: 83.3

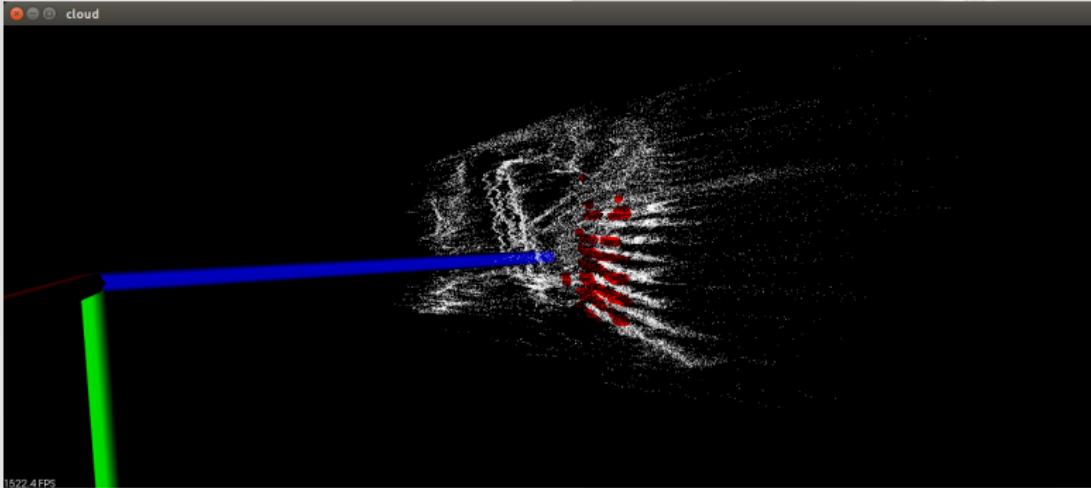
Mesh: raw.ply
Vertices: 268618
Faces: 0

FOV: 60
FPS: 70.4

Mesh: rectified.ply
Vertices: 256132
Faces: 0



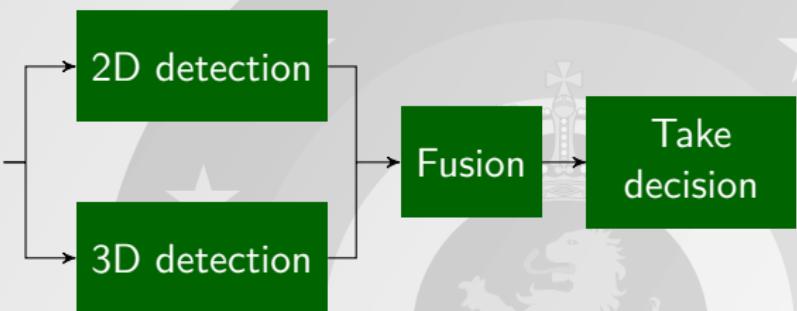
1658.5 FPS



1522.4 FPS



Overview detection





2D detection

- line detection
- object detection
- line clipping

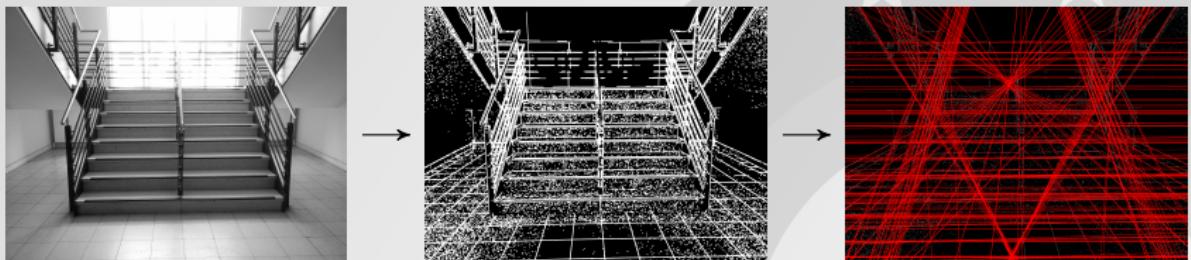
3D detection

Fusion

Take decision



Line detection: classic approach



- parameter tuning
- hough transform computational intensive

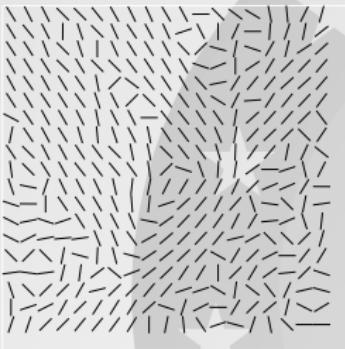


Line Segment Detector

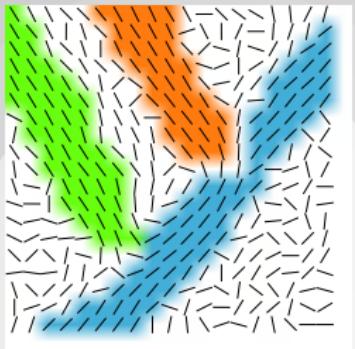
- ▶ Gradient based
- ▶ Unitary level lines
- ▶ Level-line angle



Image



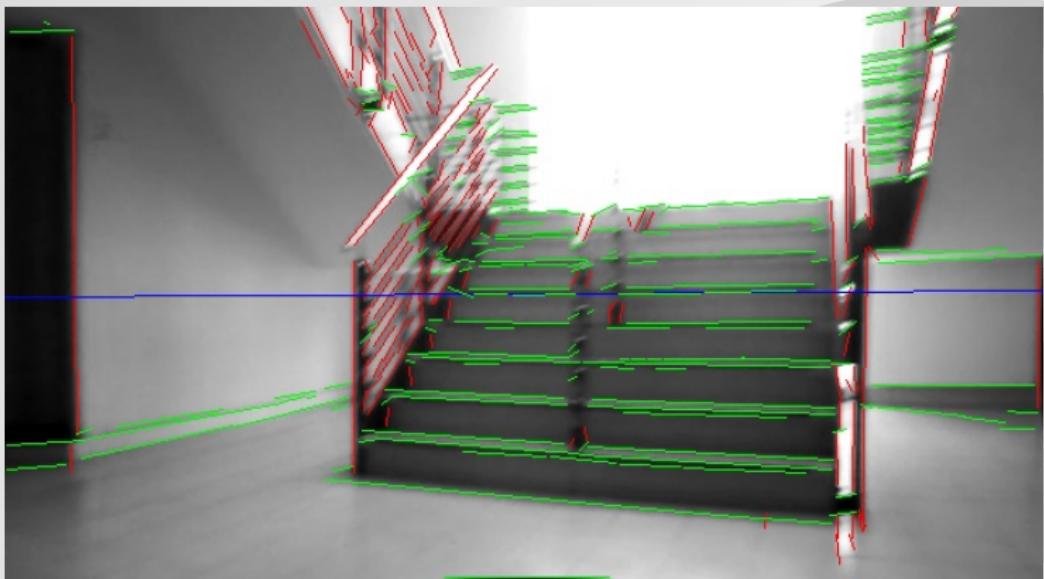
Level-line field



Line support
regions

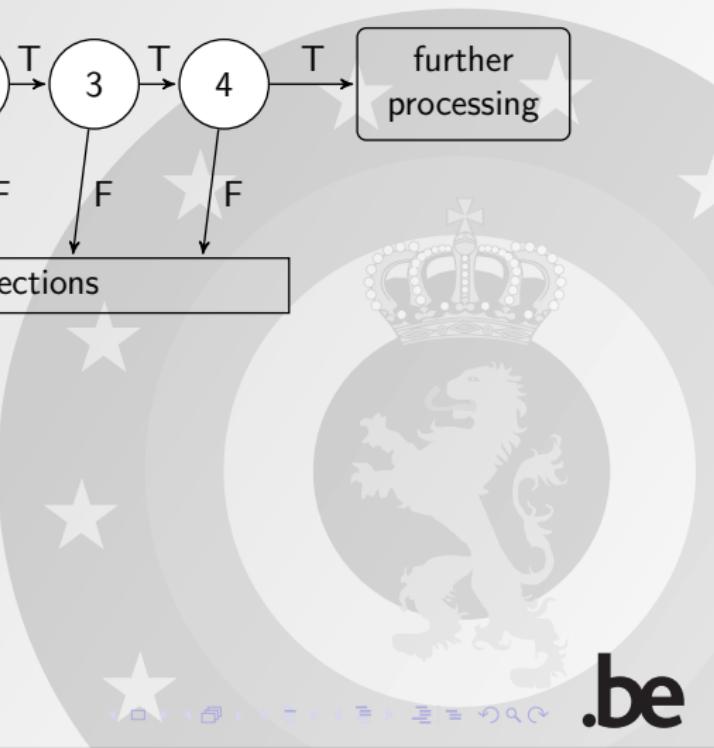
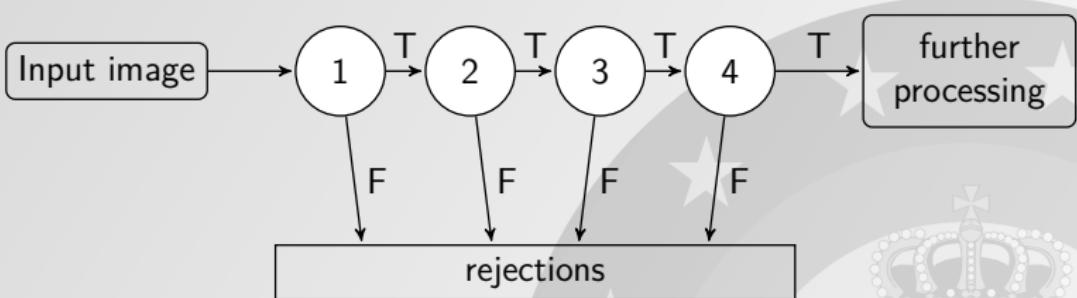


Horizontal lines



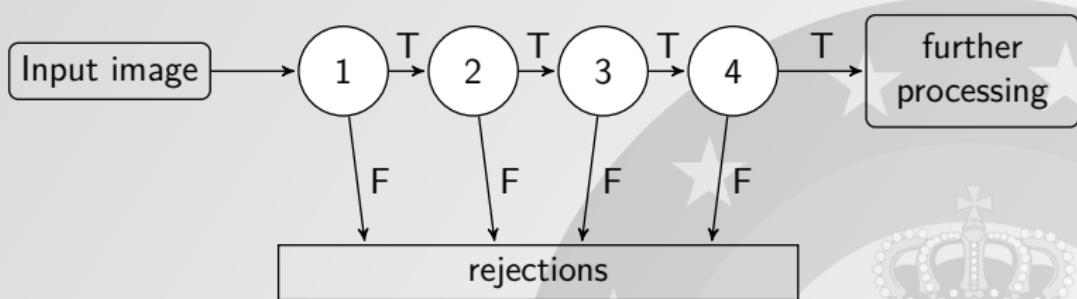


Object detection

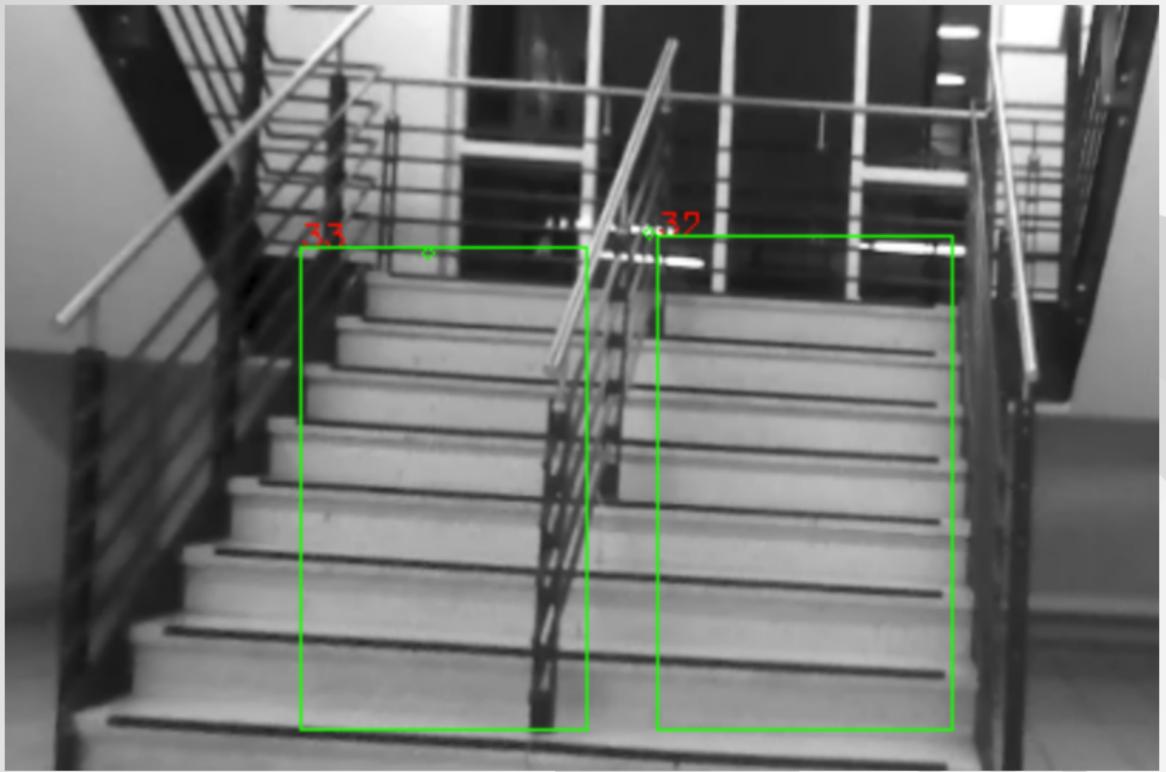




Object detection



- ▶ intensive training
- ▶ Known and tested algorithm

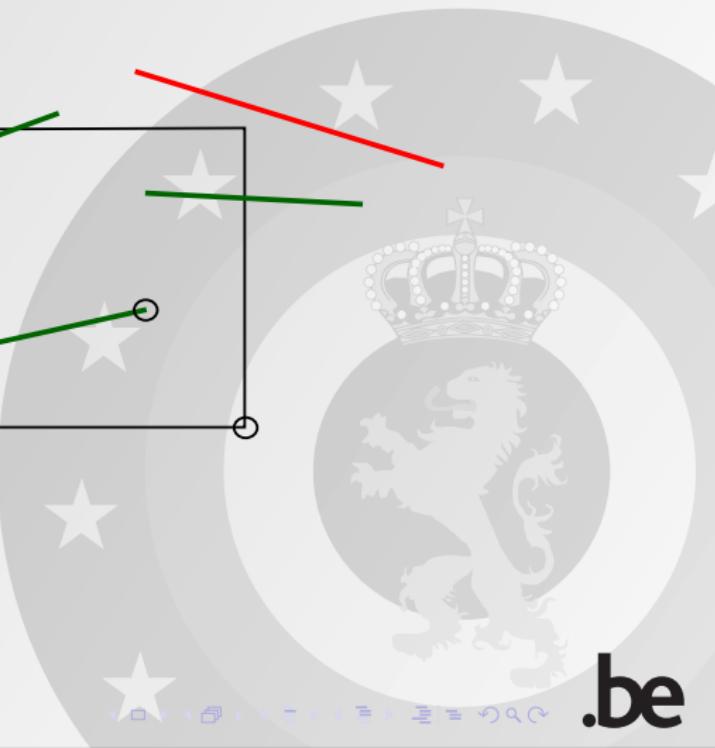
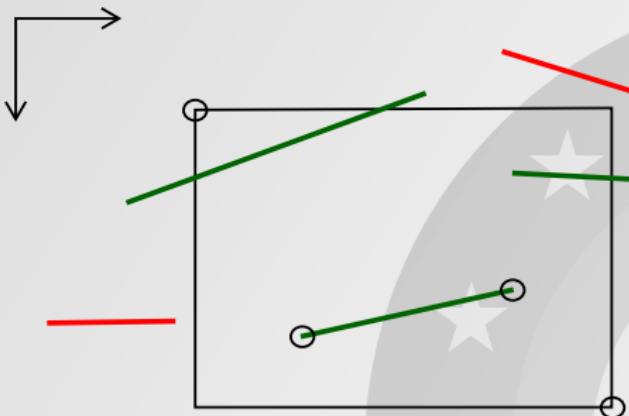


3.3

3.2



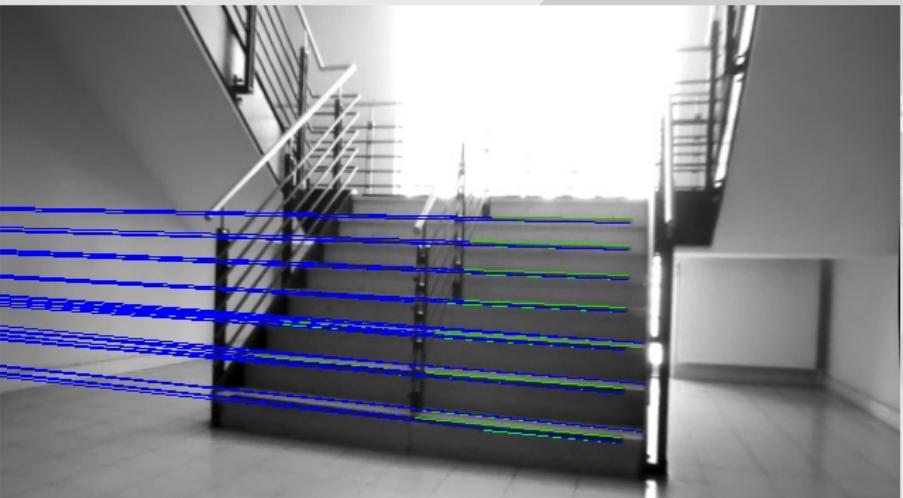
Line Clipping: Cohen Sutherland





Robust fitting

- ▶ Quasi-parallel ($< 0.02 \text{ rad}$) lines: mean slope
- ▶ Non-parallel lines: vanishing point





SLAM

2D

3D

Fusion

Decision



2D detection

- line detection
- object detection
- line clipping

3D detection

- depth image

Fusion

Take decision



3D depth image

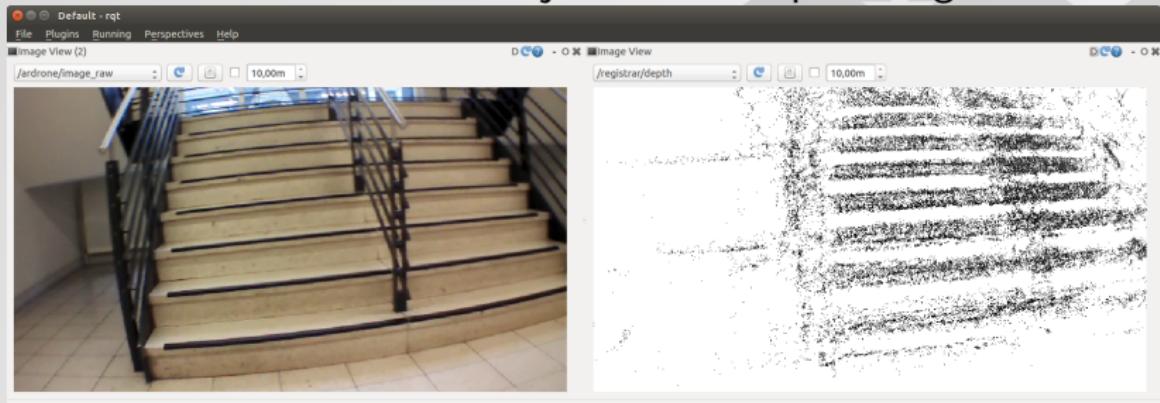
LSD-SLAM → Projection → Depth image





3D depth image

LSD-SLAM → Projection → Depth image





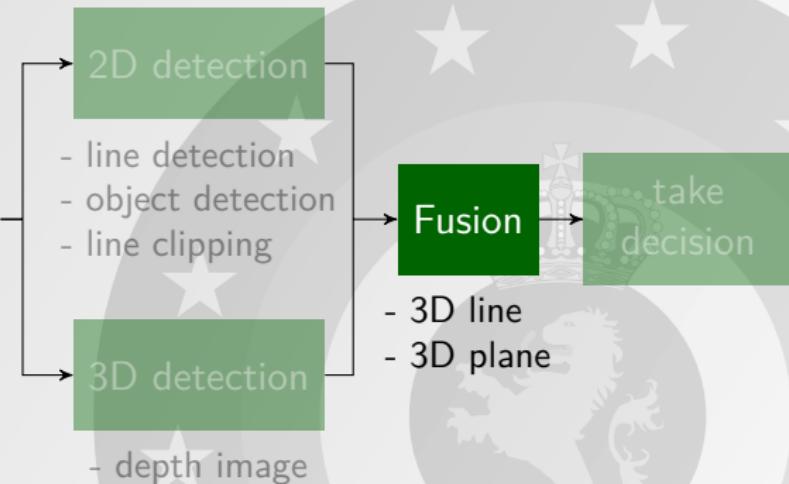
SLAM

2D

3D

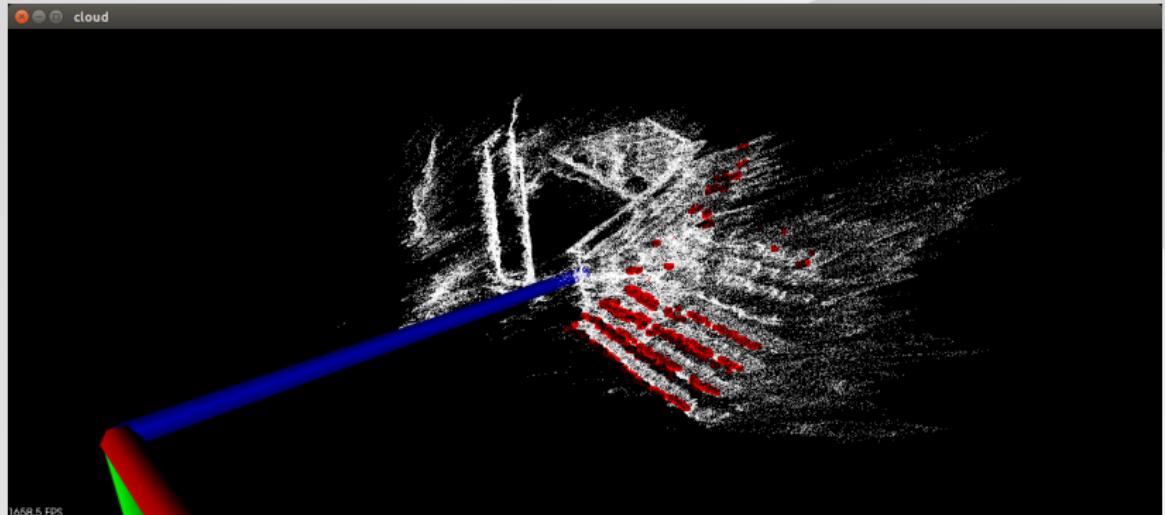
Fusion

Decision





Line and plane detection





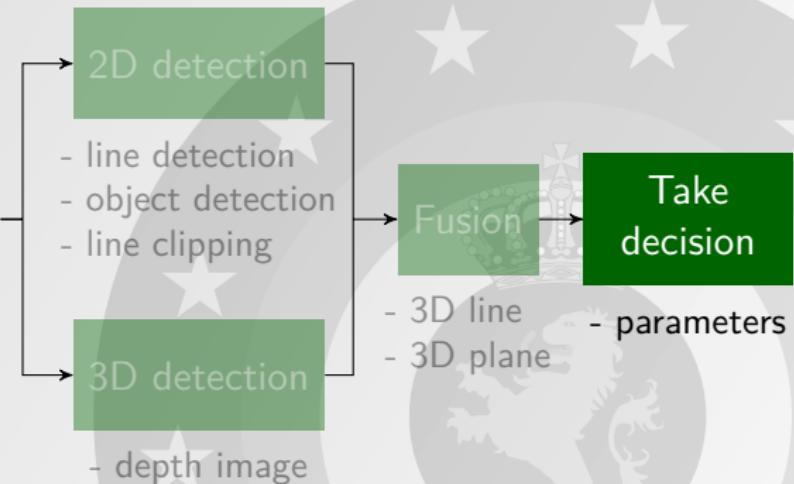
SLAM

2D

3D

Fusion

Decision





Decision parameters

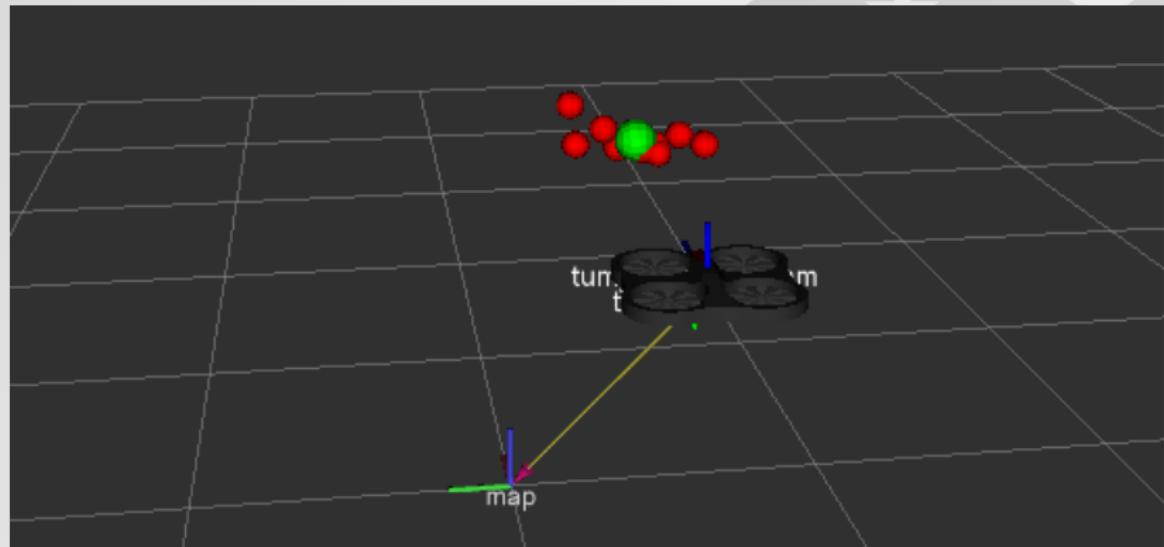
- ▶ Minimum # of lines
- ▶ Plane orientation
- ▶ Size of detected plane





Temporal consistency

Bottom up hierarchical clustering → Agglomerative clustering

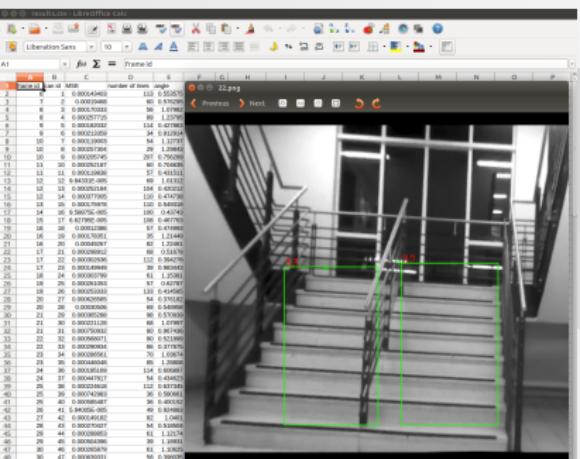




Evaluation

Algorithms were experimentally evaluated with

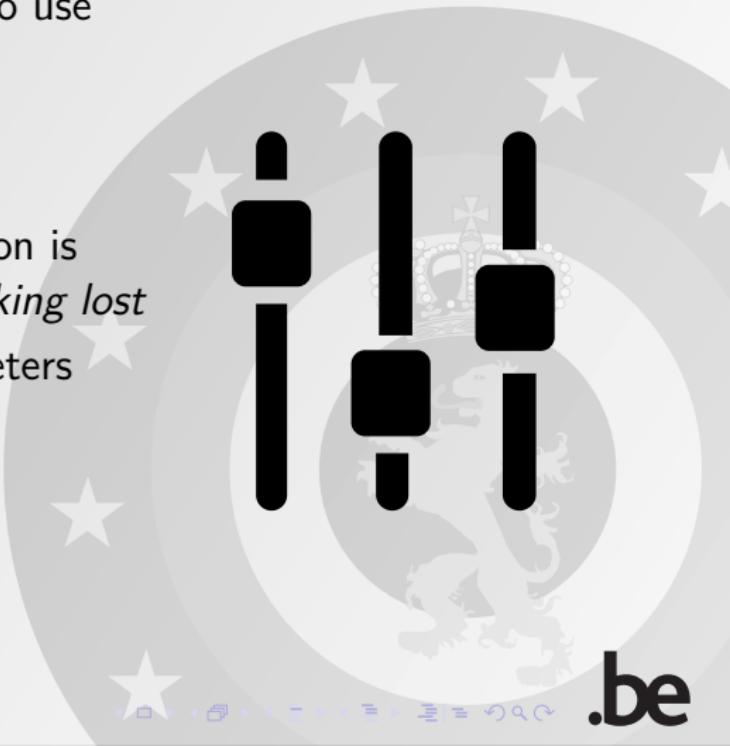
- ▶ ROS-bag of a staircase recording
- ▶ Multiple intermediary output parameters → CSV files
- ▶ Trial and error





Modifications

- ▶ Programmed interface to use produced 3D data
- ▶ Removed OpenCV 2 dependencies
- ▶ Automatic re-initialization is implemented after *Tracking lost*
- ▶ Changed default parameters LSD-SLAM





PID controller Graphical User Interface



Positioning

- TUM AR.Drone
- EKF

Understand Environment

- SLAM
- Detection

Control

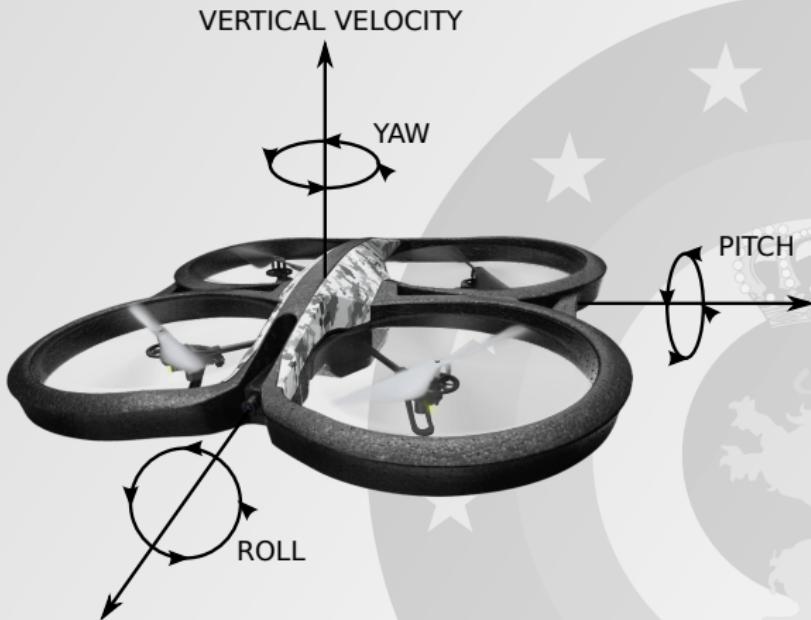
- PID controller
- Staircase AI



PID controller Graphical User Interface



4 Degrees of freedom





PID controller Graphical User Interface

GUI windows



Screenshot of the AR Drone GUI Controller interface showing various control and monitoring windows:

- AI Controller**: A grid of buttons for AI operations like Initialize, Stop, Re-IRL LSD-SLAM, Emergency, and Launch AR-Drone driver.
- Staircase Guidance**: Buttons for Go, Update Cluster, Reset Cluster, and Target Locked.
- Detection**: Displays a log message: "ClusterNode initialized: Listening to detection output".
- Log**: Displays a log message: "AI initialized and ready to roll" and "Controller started".
- Keyboard Controller**: Shows key mappings for movement: e: pitch, t: roll, i: height, l: yaw, b: takeoff, y: land, u: emergency.
- Gamepad Controller**: Displays a Logitech gamepad with arrows indicating button mappings for EMERGENCY, TAKEOFF, LAND, PITCH, HEIGHT, ROLL, and YAW.
- Setting Viewer**: A panel showing ARDRONE DRIVER settings: ip: 192.168.2.165, name: ardrone, frame_id: True, navdata_demo: False, looprate = 30Hz, max_rate = 50Hz, max_angle = 10deg, attitude_max = 10000mm.

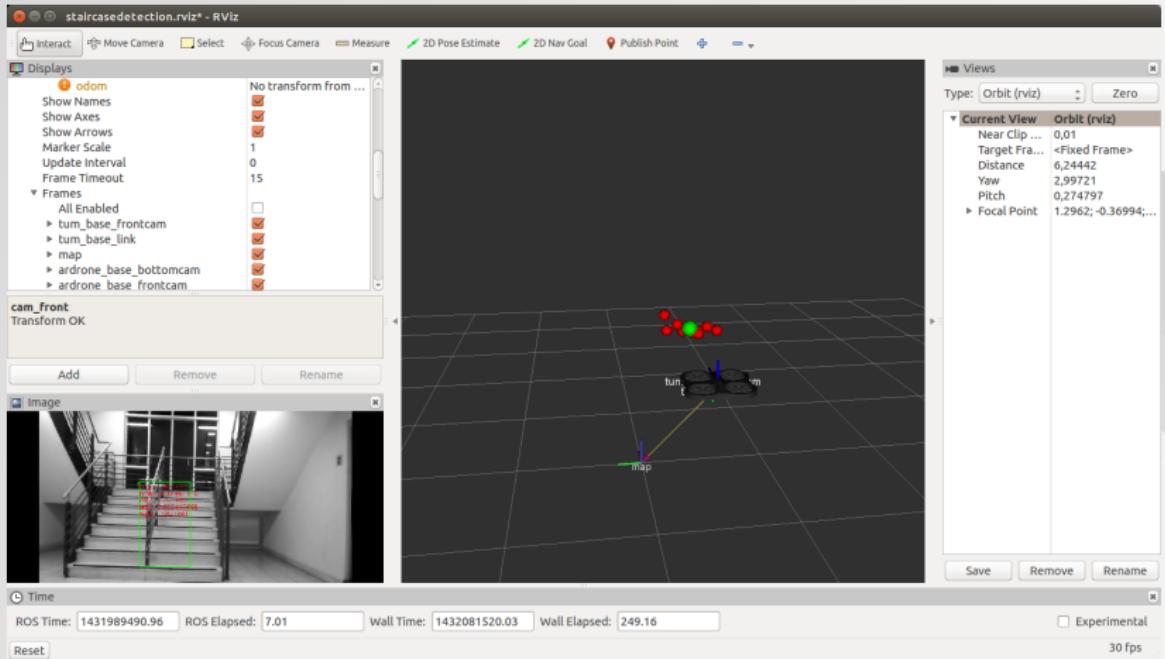


PID controller Graphical User Interface



Staircase AI

AI Controller				Status
Settings	Initialize	Stop	Launch AR.Drone driver	
Reset EKF	Reset PTAM	Re-init LSD-SLAM	Launch TUM ARDRONE	OFF
Takeoff	Land	Emergency	Launch detection node	OFF
tum_ardrone command. e.g. "c goto 0 0 0"		Send Command	Launch RVIZ	OFF
Staircase Guidance				OFF
Go	Update Cluster	Reset Cluster	Launch LSD-SLAM Viewer	
			Launch RQT Image Viewer	OFF
			Target Locked	NO
Detection				Log
ClusterNode initialized: listening to detection output				AI initialized and ready to roll Controller started





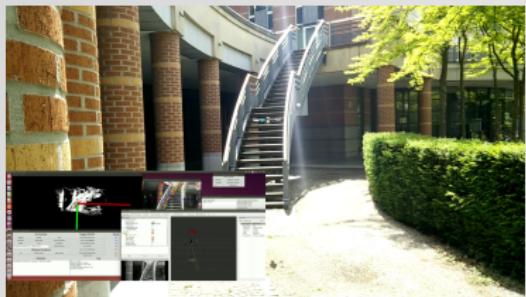
PID controller Graphical User Interface

Modifications



- ▶ Reset service LSD-SLAM is added
- ▶ New keyboard controls
- ▶ Parameter tuning:
aggressiveness





Autonomous staircase detection and guidance

This screenshot illustrates the 'Autonomous staircase detection and guidance' system. The interface is divided into several panels:

- Left Panel:** Shows a terminal window with log messages related to the AI controller starting and processing commands.
- Middle Left Panel:** Displays a 'Send Commands' window with sections for 'Body Communication Status', 'Motors Status', 'Motors Control', and 'Motors Status' again.
- Middle Right Panel:** Features the 'Toggle ON/OFF' control panel with buttons for AI Controller, Status, and Log. It also includes a 'Staircase Guidance' section with a 3D grid visualization and a camera feed showing a staircase.
- Bottom Panel:** Shows a camera feed from a robot's perspective, overlaid with a 3D grid and a red dot indicating the detected staircase.



Problems



Stumbling blocks

- ▶ Precision position estimation → EKF on-board
- ▶ Manual initialization PTAM → new SLAM algorithm
- ▶ Unstability Tum AR.Drone → More sensors, on-board
- ▶ Low quality 3D data → better camera / different sensor

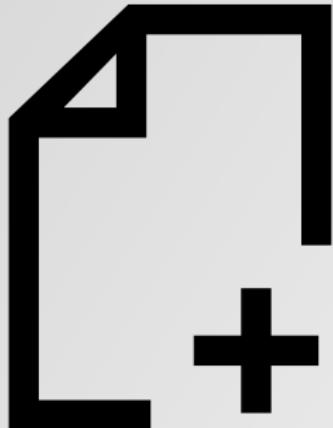




Problems



What this thesis implemented



- ▶ Unique fusion of different existing algorithms
- ▶ Practical use of different SLAM algorithms
- ▶ Easy to use GUI for testing and debugging
- ▶ Near real-time operational software
- ▶ Extensively documented reproducible approach



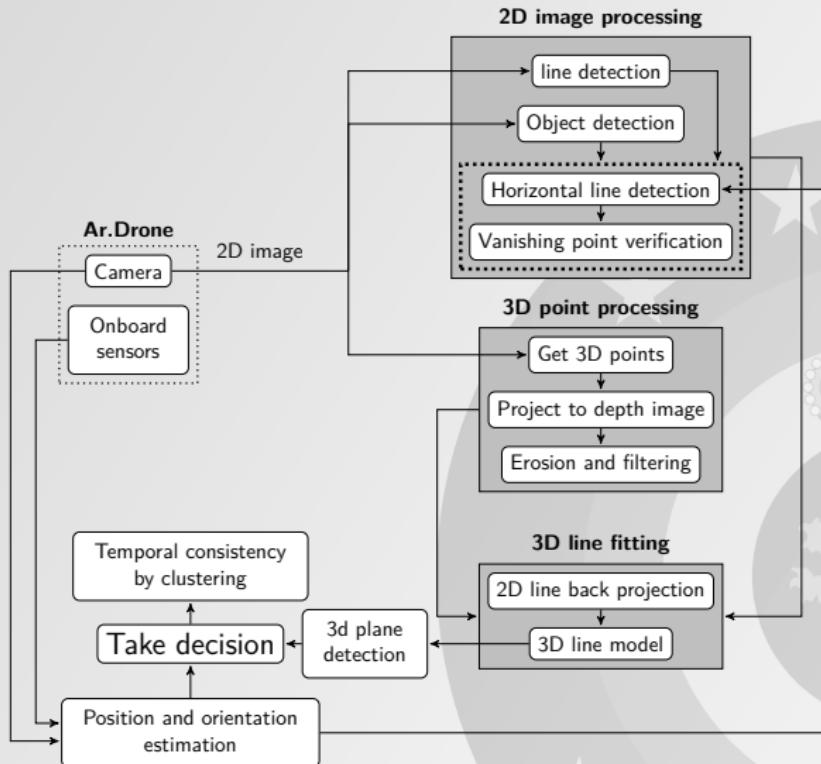
Problems

Questions?





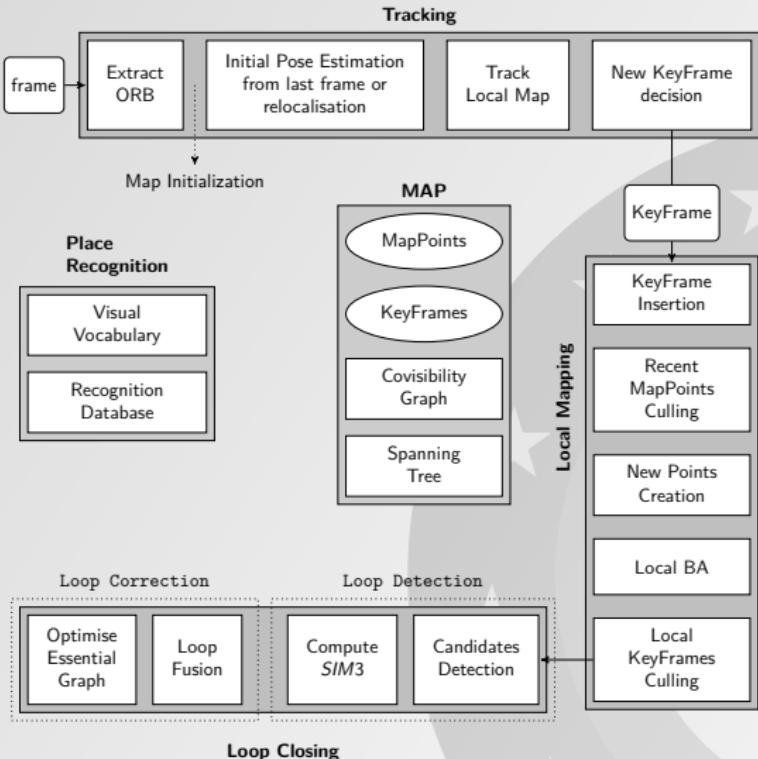
Schematic overview



◀ Return



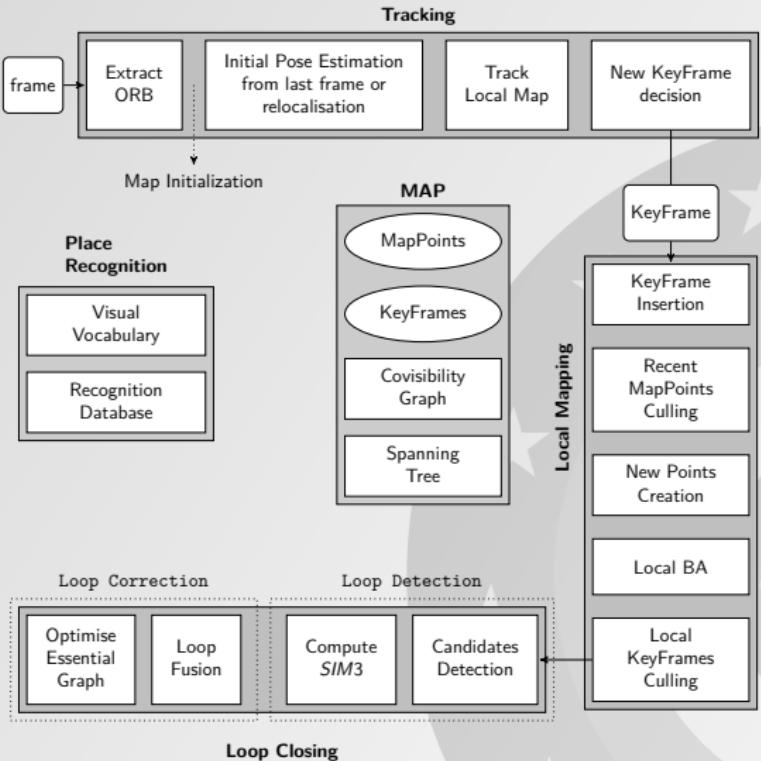
ORB-SLAM



◀ Return



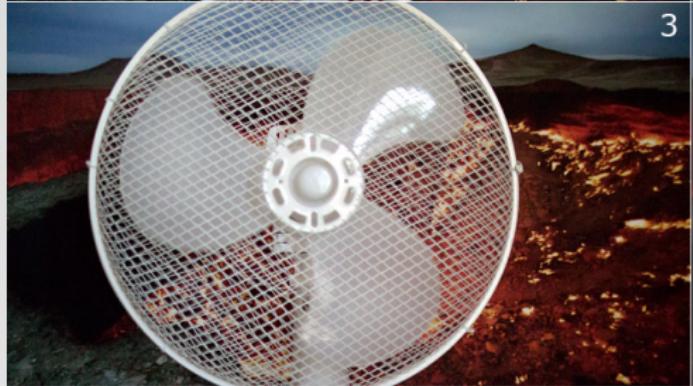
ORB-SLAM



◀ Return



1



3



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Juza. "Electronic VS mechanical shutter". In: (June 12, 2014). URL: http://www.juzaphoto.com/article.php?l=en&t=mechanical_and_electronic_shutter (visited on 05/21/2015)

◀ Return

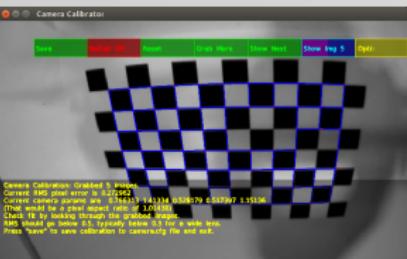
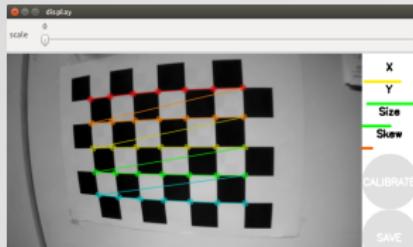




More



Camera calibration



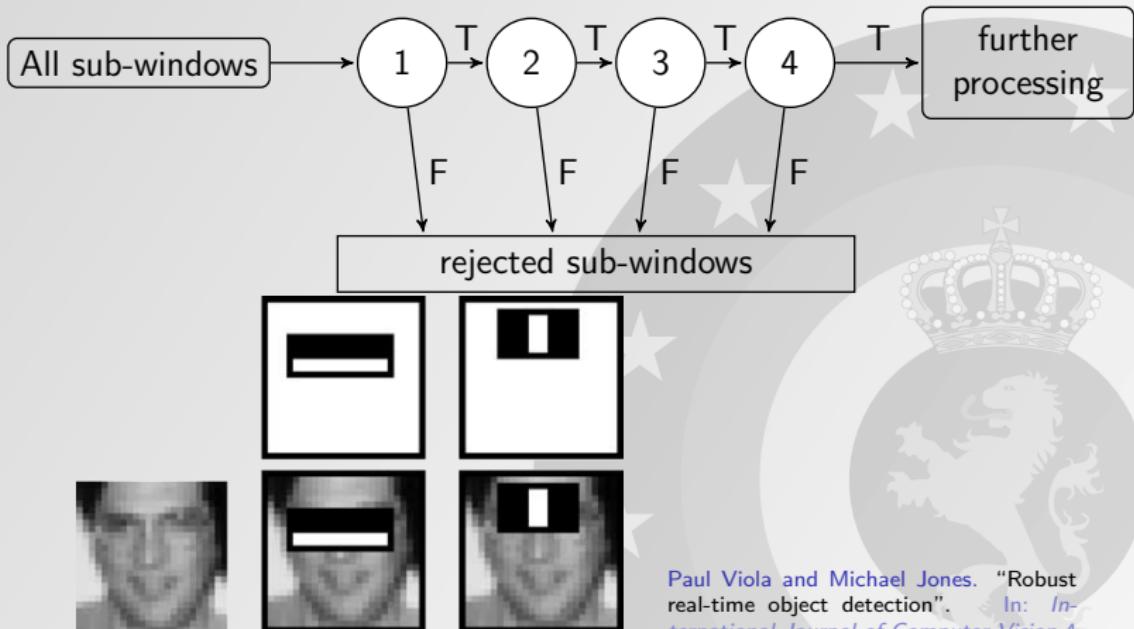
◀ Return



More



Object detection



Paul Viola and Michael Jones. "Robust real-time object detection". In: *International Journal of Computer Vision* 4 (2001), pp. 34–47



More

Cohen Sutherland



further explication line clipping

[◀ Return](#)





Hough transform



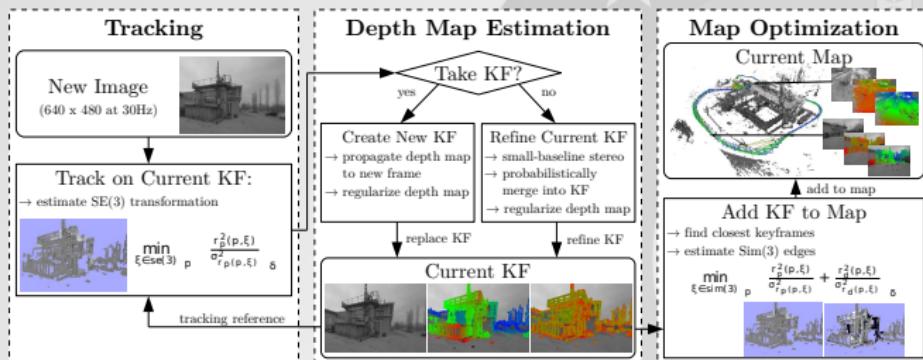
content... [◀ Return](#)





LSD-SLAM

- ▶ Auto-initialization
- ▶ CPU-based
- ▶ Creates semi-dense depth-images



◀ Return



Parameter tuning LSD-SLAM

Three interesting parameters:

- ▶ **minUseGrad**

Default: 5 - Set to 15

- ▶ **cameraPixelNoise**

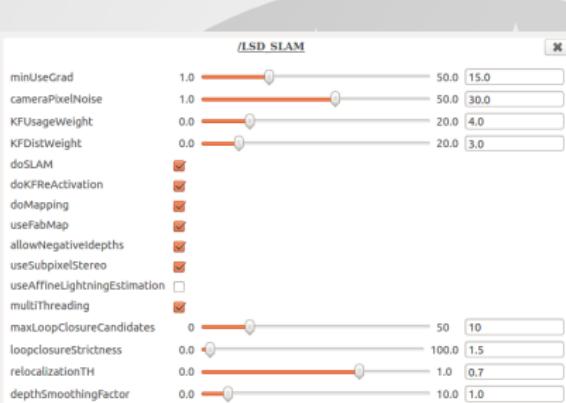
Default: 4 - Set to 30

- ▶ **depthSmoothingFactor**

Default: 1 - Unchanged

Especially the
cameraPixelNoise is an
important parameter.

◀ Return





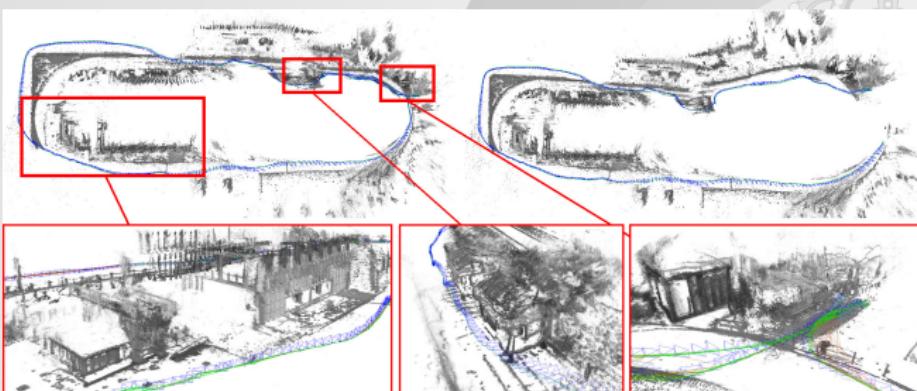
More



Scale estimation LSD-SLAM

Integrated image alignment technique that is scale-drift aware:

- ▶ Uses inherent correlation between:
 - ▶ Scene depth
 - ▶ Tracking accuracy





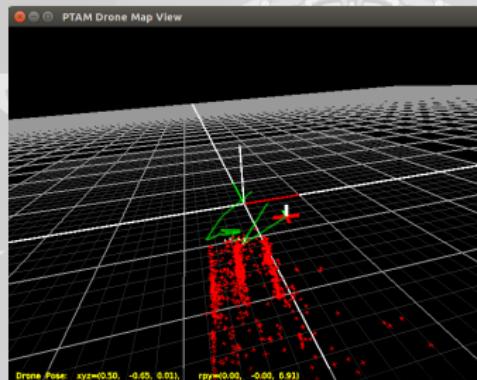
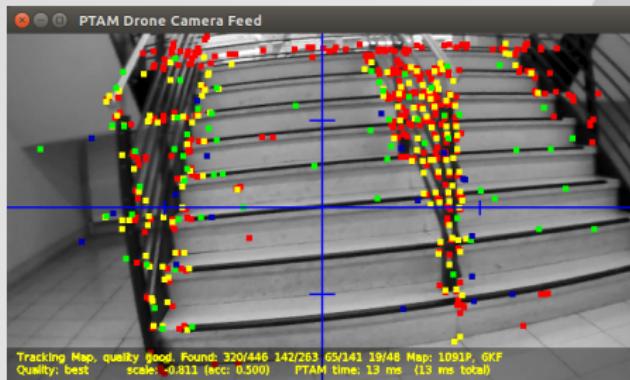
More



Regia Aula pro Deo et Scientia

PTAM

- ▶ One of the first feature-based SLAM algorithms
- ▶ Tracking + Mapping in two threads
- ▶ Manual initialization process
- ▶ Fully integrated in TUM AR.Drone

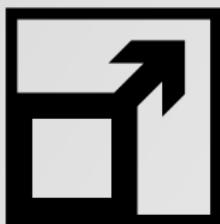


◀ Return



Scale estimation PTAM

The TUM AR.Drone package estimates the scale using a maximum likelihood estimator based on:



- ▶ $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ - the d -dimensional distance according to PTAM
- ▶ $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ - the absolute distance/velocity provided by the metric sensors.

The linear approximation of the scale λ is derived from

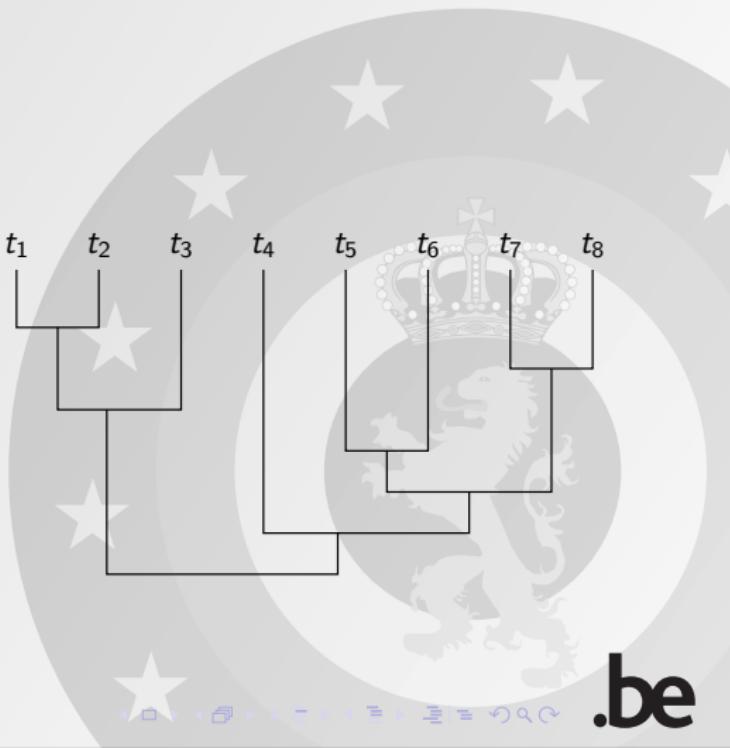
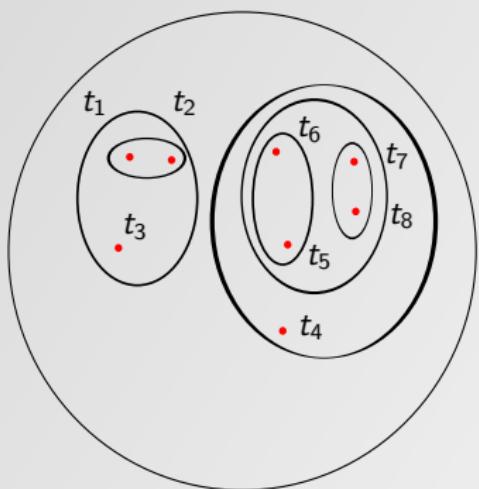
$$x_i \approx \lambda y_i$$



More



Hierarchical clustering



◀ Return