RAZER: Robust Accelerated Zero-Shot 3D Open-Vocabulary Panoptic Reconstruction with Spatio-Temporal Aggregation

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Abstract—Mapping and understanding complex 3D environments is fundamental to how autonomous systems perceive and interact with the physical world, requiring both precise geometric reconstruction and rich semantic comprehension. While existing 3D semantic mapping systems excel at reconstructing and identifying predefined object instances, they lack the flexibility to efficiently build semantic maps with open-vocabulary during online operation. Although recent vision-language models have enabled open-vocabulary object recognition in 2D images, they haven't yet bridged the gap to 3D spatial understanding. The critical challenge lies in developing a training-free unified system that can simultaneously construct accurate 3D maps while maintaining semantic consistency and supporting natural language interactions in real time. In this paper, we develop a zero-shot framework that seamlessly integrates GPU-accelerated geometric reconstruction with open-vocabulary vision-language models through online instance-level semantic embedding fusion, guided by hierarchical object association with spatial indexing. Our training-free system achieves superior performance through incremental processing and unified geometric-semantic updates, while robustly handling 2D segmentation inconsistencies. The proposed general-purpose 3D scene understanding framework can be used for various tasks including zero-shot 3D instance retrieval, segmentation, and object detection to reason about previously unseen objects and interpret natural language queries.

Index Terms—Semantic Scene Understanding, RGB-D Perception, Recognition, SLAM

I. INTRODUCTION

THE ability to create semantically meaningful 3D maps of dynamic environments is crucial for applications ranging from robotic navigation and manipulation to augmented reality and scene understanding. While significant advances have been made in geometric 3D reconstruction and 2D semantic understanding separately, combining these capabilities into a real-time system that can handle arbitrary objects and support natural language interactions remains a fundamental challenge in computer vision and robotics. This integration is essential for enabling intelligent systems to not only perceive the geometric structure of their environment but also understand and reason about the objects and their relationships within it.

Traditional 3D mapping systems have primarily focused on geometric accuracy, employing techniques like simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM) and dense reconstruction to create precise spatial representations. However, these approaches typically lack semantic understanding, limiting their utility in applications requiring object-level reasoning. 3D semantic-instance mapping addresses this limitation by simultaneously detecting and segmenting objects with their semantic and instance labels to generate a comprehensive 3D semantic map of the surrounding environment. Existing

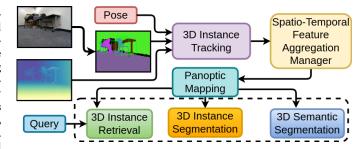


Fig. 1. Pipeline overview of our proposed 3D scene understanding framework. Our system processes posed RGB-D inputs through open-vocabulary segmentation for robust 3D instance tracking. Spatio-temporal feature aggregation fuses and prunes tracks while updating a panoptic map that enables online text-based 3D instance retrieval and segmentation tasks.

approaches for 3D scene understanding broadly fall into two categories: 3D-to-3D and 2D-to-3D methods. The 3D-to-3D approach operates directly on dense 3D point clouds or volumetric representations, typically acquired through depth sensors or multi-view reconstruction, to perform object or concept level segmentation of the scene in 3D space. While these approaches benefit from having complete 3D geometric information available, they often struggle with computational efficiency and real-time performance due to the dense nature of point cloud processing as well as a scarcity of largescale training data. In contrast, 2D-to-3D methods analyze a set of 2D images and project their predictions onto the 3D map, performing reconstruction and semantic mapping synchronously. These approaches can leverage state-of-theart 2D semantic-instance segmentation algorithms, partially addressing the limitations of 3D-to-3D methods. Recent works have attempted to bridge this gap by integrating semantic information into 3D reconstructions. However, these approaches face several critical challenges: they often require extensive training data, operate offline, or struggle with maintaining consistency when processing streaming data. Additionally, they frequently fail to handle the inherent inconsistencies in 2D segmentation outputs, leading to fragmented or incorrect 3D semantic maps. Furthermore, these approaches typically operate with predefined categories, limiting their applicability in open-world scenarios where systems must recognize and reason about previously unseen objects.

While recent breakthroughs in vision-language models have enabled remarkable open-vocabulary recognition capabilities in 2D images, these models lack the ability to reason about 3D structure and spatial relationships, creating a crucial gap in current advances. The fundamental challenges in creating a unified 3D semantic mapping system span multiple critical aspects of computer vision and robotics. A primary challenge

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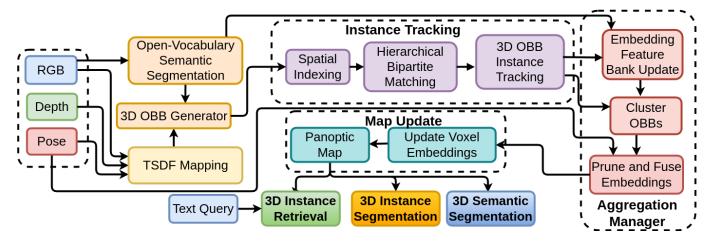


Fig. 2. System-level architecture of our RAZER framework. It processes RGB, depth, and pose inputs through three modules: (1) Instance Tracking to enable efficient feature updates, (2) Aggregation Manager to aggregate and fuse/prune instances and their corresponding coarse features, and (3) Map Update to update features at voxel level and their corresponding labels, thus generating a panoptic map that enables 3D scene understanding.

lies in maintaining temporal consistency of object instances across frames without access to complete mapping history, as real-world applications often require processing streaming data with limited memory resources. This is compounded by the need to handle inconsistent labels and masks from 2D segmentation models in real-time, where prediction errors and uncertainties must be robustly managed. Additionally, enabling natural language interactions with the 3D environment without requiring task-specific training presents significant difficulties in bridging the gap between language understanding and spatial reasoning. These challenges are further complicated by the requirement to integrate geometric and semantic information in a computationally efficient manner suitable for real-time applications, where processing constraints demand careful optimization of both memory and computational resources.

In this paper, we present a novel zero-shot framework that addresses these challenges by seamlessly integrating geometric reconstruction with open-vocabulary vision-language models. Our key insight is that by maintaining a unified semantic embedding space and employing efficient spatial indexing strategies, we can achieve robust real-time performance while handling the uncertainties inherent in 2D segmentation outputs. This approach enables natural language interaction with the 3D environment while maintaining both geometric and semantic consistency. Our framework addresses these challenges through several key innovations that enable real-time, zeroshot 3D semantic mapping. The core of our approach lies in maintaining temporal consistency without requiring global optimization, achieved through an instance-level semantic embedding fusion combined with efficient spatial indexing and association strategies for fast 3D tracking. Our key technical contributions can be summarized as follows:

- A modular zero-shot 3D semantic mapping framework leveraging pretrained vision-language models to perform various open-vocabulary 3D scene understanding tasks without training or fine-tuning.
- An online, instance-level geometric and semantic fusion algorithm for RGB-D streams enabling real-time mapping without global optimization.

- A robust object association strategy combining R-tree spatial indexing with minimum-cost bipartite matching for fast 3D tracking to effectively handle inconsistent masks and labels from 2D segmentation.
- A unified geometric-semantic update mechanism ensuring temporal consistency via instance-level tracking and supporting natural language interactions with the 3D environment.

We demonstrate the effectiveness of our approach through extensive experiments on multiple open-vocabulary 3D benchmarks, showing superior performance in tasks such as instance retrieval, semantic segmentation, and instance segmentation. We demonstrate that our framework successfully bridges the gap between geometric reconstruction and semantic understanding, enabling robust 3D scene understanding with natural language interaction capabilities in unconstrained environments. The ability to handle arbitrary objects without requiring task-specific training, combined with real-time processing of streaming data while maintaining both geometric and semantic consistency, makes our framework particularly suitable for real-world applications with dynamically changing scenes. The rest of the paper is organized as follows: Section II covers related work, Section III presents the problem and Section IV describes our framework, Section V shows experimental results, and Section VI concludes the paper.

II. RELATED WORK

Traditional 3D scene understanding methods remain constrained by closed-set categories pre-defined during training [1]–[5], limiting their adaptability to new object classes. Recent research leverages vision-language models (VLMs) to attain *open-vocabulary* recognition in 3D, expanding beyond fixed labels. For instance, OpenScene projects 3D points into CLIP space, enabling text-driven queries with zero-shot capability [6], while Open3DIS and OpenMask3D aggregate multi-view 2D instance masks into coherent 3D segments and associate them with language embeddings [7], [8]. These approaches achieve instance-level segmentation of novel classes

but often rely on offline or batch processing, making them less suitable for real-time use. Open-vocabulary *3D instance retrieval* has also been explored, notably by methods that fuse 2D text-aligned proposals with incremental 3D mapping [9], yet many do not offer online performance for robotics.

Incremental mapping integrates 2D semantic cues (e.g., segmentation masks) into an evolving 3D representation as a robot explores [10], [11]. Early systems like SemanticFusion [12] demonstrated real-time 3D semantic mapping by fusing perframe labels, while Voxblox++ [10] and PanopticFusion [11] extended this to instance-level and panoptic segmentation. Although effective for known classes, these pipelines cannot accommodate unseen categories. Recent work has introduced post-hoc optimization or multi-view consistency [13], [14] to mitigate frame-level label noise, but still within a closedset taxonomy. Our approach builds on the strengths of realtime fusion but adopts an open-vocabulary 2D model for segmentation, enabling online handling of novel objects without retraining. VLMs such as CLIP [15] and BLIP [16] have accelerated progress in zero-shot classification and retrieval for 2D images. Their extension to 3D data includes methods like PointCLIP [17] and ULIP [18], which unify point cloud and text embeddings. These methods can recognize categories not present in any 3D training set, but often operate offline and are computationally heavy. Meanwhile, approaches like ConceptGraphs [19] use multi-view images and 2D VLM predictions to label 3D points or clusters, yielding openvocabulary scene representations. However, they typically rely on batch (offline) processing or expensive clustering, limiting real-time deployment. The recent INS-CONV [20] combines the advantages of 2D-3D and 3D-3D procedures. While it builds the 3D model of the environment incrementally from RGB-D frames, it performs segmentation directly in the 3D space. This, however, comes at the cost of requiring 3D ground truth annotations for training.

Recent works have significantly improved the performance of open-vocabulary 3D segmentation using point clouds from LiDAR or depth data from RGB-D cameras [21]–[29]. In addition, there have also been approaches fusing embeddings from open world VLMs like CLIP with neural radiance fields, Gaussian splats or implicit neural network based representations [30]–[33] for generating a consistent segmentation of the scene. The semantic information aids in both understanding the scene as well as improving the accuracy of the map and odometry for semantic SLAM [12], [34]-[42]. End-to-end 3D methods that predict 3D semantic information directly from sensor modalities like camera and depth, or from intermediate representations like reconstructed point clouds or voxel-based representations, can capture complex 3D relationships. Recent efforts combine SLAM-based mapping with language models to produce richer 3D scene graphs for tasks like grounded query and high-level planning [9], [19], [43], [44]. By coupling object-level mappings with language-based descriptions or relational knowledge, these systems enable queries such as "retrieve the red chair in the corner" and facilitate complex reasoning. However, computational overhead and reliance on offline graph construction remain common hurdles. Semantic mapping techniques, vital for scene graph generation, extend beyond 2D segmentation to encompass complex 3D structures. Reconstruction of 3D structures with object recognition and grouping remains a fundamental challenge in computer vision, especially in the context of 3D scene understanding. These methods help a large language model understand the scene through reasoning [45], [46] for building grounded 3D large language models [47]–[53].

The open vocabulary allows for greater flexibility in real-world applications and can help an LLM to understand the scene with multiple objects, which multi-modal LLMs hallucinate or fail to perceive [54]. However, these methods do not scale well in larger scenes, making them computationally intensive and memory-consuming, rendering them impractical for real-time segmentation in robotic applications. In parallel, large language models (LLMs) like GPT [55] have shown potential for reasoning over text-based representations of a scene [56], but bridging real-time 3D reconstruction with LLM-driven semantics remains under-explored.

Our work aims to unify these threads by performing online, incremental 3D semantic instance mapping *without* closed-set constraints, using a pretrained vision-language model for open-vocabulary segmentation. In contrast to methods that require domain-specific 3D supervision or post-hoc processing, we achieve zero-shot instance detection and tracking on the fly. By maintaining object-level embeddings in a continuously updated 3D map, we further enable tasks such as real-time retrieval of novel objects, making it practical for robotic semantic mapping for navigation.

III. PROBLEM FORMULATION

We present an open-vocabulary 3D scene understanding system that processes RGB-D streams with known camera poses to build semantically rich 3D maps. Unlike traditional systems constrained to a fixed taxonomy of object categories, our approach enables unrestricted object recognition and tracking through continuous semantic embedding spaces. At each timestep t, our system processes an RGB image $I_t^{rgb} \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W \times 3}$, a depth image $I_t^{depth} \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W}$, and a camera pose $P_t \in SE(3)$, where H and W denote the image height and width respectively.

Unlike traditional closed-set methods that rely on a predefined label space, our zero-shot approach harnesses a *pretrained* vision-language segmentation model capable of recognizing a wide range of object categories. Specifically, rather than fine-tuning or distilling from this model, we directly leverage its zero-shot capability to produce semantic embeddings for any concept of interest. A key innovation lies in maintaining a unified representation that encodes both geometric and semantic properties in a continuous embedding space. Rather than performing discrete classification into predefined categories, we leverage vision-language models to embed objects in a high-dimensional semantic space $\mathcal{S} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, where semantically similar concepts are naturally clustered together, enabling new categories to be recognized at runtime without retraining. Our system therefore supports:

• Volumetric reconstruction of the scene using a Truncated Signed Distance Function (TSDF) $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}$ with truncation distance τ .

- Object detection and 6-DoF tracking with oriented bounding boxes (OBBs) $\mathcal{B} = \{b_i\}_{i=1}^N$, where $b_i = (c, R, s) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \times SO(3) \times \mathbb{R}^3$ denotes the center, orientation, and scale respectively.
- Semantic embeddings $\mathcal{E} = \{e_i\}_{i=1}^N$, where $e_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ accumulates open-vocabulary features for object i using a *pretrained* vision-language model.
- Probabilistic object pruning through confidence scores $\alpha_i \in [0,1]$, updated based on temporal consistency and semantic stability.
- Online fusion of new observations to incrementally refine both geometry and semantics, ensuring robust instance identity across multiple viewpoints.

As our system operates in a zero-shot manner, at each timestep, the system extracts semantic features from the incoming RGB-D frame using a frozen, pretrained 2D model, and fuses them with previously observed data in 3D space. This approach allows the model to generalize to novel object categories so long as they are recognizable by the pretrained 2D backbone.

A fundamental challenge in this work is maintaining robust object tracking and coherent semantic labeling under such unconstrained open-vocabulary settings. When the system first detects an object, the initial embedding e_i^0 may reflect incomplete or occluded views. As more viewpoints become available, the system refines e_i^t through a temporal fusion function $e_i^t = f\left(e_i^{t-1}, z_i^t\right)$, where z_i^t denotes newly extracted semantic features at time t. This process ensures that object instance identity is preserved via geometric consistency and occlusion-aware updates, even when only partial observations are available in any single frame.

IV. APPROACH

A. Volumetric Scene Reconstruction

We discretize the environment into a volumetric grid and maintain a TSDF volume $V: \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^6$. For each voxel at position $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^3$, the stored tuple includes:

$$V(\mathbf{p}) = \{d, w, \mathbf{c}, l, h\}, \tag{1}$$

where $d \in [-\tau, \tau]$ is the truncated signed distance to the nearest surface, $w \in [0, 1]$ is the accumulated confidence of d, $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is an RGB color, $l \in \mathbb{N}$ is an instance label index, and h is a histogram tracking how frequently each instance label has been observed in that voxel.

At each incoming frame (I_t^{rgb}, I_t^{depth}) , we fuse new depth measurements into the TSDF volume via standard weighted averaging:

$$d_{\text{new}} = \omega_{\text{old}} d_{\text{old}} + \omega_{\text{new}} d_{\text{obs}},$$

where $d_{\rm obs}$ is the signed distance derived from the depth map, and $\omega_{\rm old}, \omega_{\rm new}$ are confidence weights. The voxel color c and instance histogram h are also updated if the voxel lies within the truncated distance bound of a newly observed surface. This ensures that regions recognized as belonging to a particular object accumulate a consistent label history.

Through this process, our system continuously refines a dense 3D representation that captures both geometry and instance labels. Unlike conventional methods that only update

a fixed label, our open-vocabulary setting allows for dynamic incorporation of semantic cues from the pretrained model, even if new object classes appear over time.

B. 3D Object Detection

Our detection and tracking system integrates both geometric and semantic cues by first processing each RGB frame with an open-vocabulary vision-language segmentation model \mathcal{F} . This model generates instance masks M_t for any objects it can visually separate, without being restricted to a finite set of categories:

$$M_t = \mathcal{F}(I_t^{rgb}). \tag{2}$$

Since this is a zero-shot approach, we do not perform any additional training or distillation; instead, we rely on the model's ability to segment objects of interest based on its pre-trained knowledge from vision-language data. In cluttered scenes, the model can produce a large number of masks, potentially including false positives. Hence, a confidence-based threshold or heuristic filters can be applied to remove implausible masks.

a) 3D Point Extraction: For each mask m_i in M_t , we extract the corresponding 3D points from the depth map I_t^{depth} . Specifically, for every pixel (x,y) that lies within mask m_i , we back-project it into 3D space:

$$\mathbf{P}_i = \{ \pi^{-1}(x, y, I_t^{depth}(x, y)) \mid (x, y) \in m_i \},$$
 (3)

where π^{-1} is the camera intrinsics-based inverse projection function. Accurate calibration is assumed for correct 3D point placement.

- b) 3D Clustering for Object Separation.: Although a single instance mask in 2D often corresponds to a single object, occlusions and overlapping masks can lead to mismatches between 2D and 3D object boundaries. To address this, we apply DBSCAN clustering in 3D on the points \mathbf{P}_i to distinguish distinct object clusters based on spatial density. DBSCAN parameters (e.g., ε , the neighborhood radius, and the minimum point count) must be tuned to balance merging and splitting errors.
- c) Oriented Bounding Box (OBB) Fitting.: For each resulting 3D cluster, we compute an oriented bounding box (OBB) using Principal Component Analysis (PCA). Given \mathbf{P}_i for a cluster, we first compute the centroid \mathbf{c} :

$$\mathbf{c} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \mathbf{P}_j,\tag{4}$$

and the covariance matrix:

$$\mathbf{C} = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N} (\mathbf{P}_j - \mathbf{c}) (\mathbf{P}_j - \mathbf{c})^T.$$
 (5)

Eigen-decomposition $C = RAR^T$ yields the principal axes $R = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3]$. We ensure a right-handed coordinate system by reorienting \mathbf{v}_3 if necessary via $\mathbf{v}_3 \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_1 \times \mathbf{v}_2$. We compute the OBB extents by projecting the points onto each principal axis \mathbf{v}_i :

$$e_i = \max_j (\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{P}_j) - \min_j (\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{P}_j).$$
 (6)

Each object detection can thus be represented by the tuple $(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{s})$, describing the center, principal axes, and box dimensions respectively.

C. R-Tree Based Hierarchical Association for Tracking

Having obtained new OBB detections, we must associate them with tracked objects from previous frames. This must be efficient, as real-time systems can track dozens of objects simultaneously.

a) R-Tree Organization.: We store bounding boxes of tracked objects in an R-tree, which enables spatial queries in expected $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ time. Each tracked object's oriented bounding box $b_i = (c_i, R_i, s_i)$ is converted to an axis-aligned bounding box (AABB):

$$\mathbf{b}_{\min}, \mathbf{b}_{\max} = AABB_Enclose(c_i, R_i, s_i),$$
 (7)

and this $(\mathbf{b}_{min}, \mathbf{b}_{max})$ is stored in a leaf node of the R-tree. Internal nodes recursively store the minimal AABBs enclosing their children, creating a spatial hierarchy to prune searches for overlapping or nearby objects.

- b) Association via R-Tree Query.: For a new detection $b_j^{(\text{new})}$, we generate its AABB and query the R-tree to retrieve only those tracked objects whose AABBs intersect or lie within a small distance. This reduces the candidate set from the entire pool of tracked objects to a manageable subset.
- c) Candidate Matching and Hungarian Algorithm.: Within this candidate subset, we resolve final matches using a bipartite matching approach:

$$M_{ij} = w_v V_{ij} + w_s S_{ij}, \quad \min_{\mathbf{X}} \sum_{i,j} M_{ij} X_{ij}$$
 (8)

where

- $V_{ij} = 1 \text{IoU}(\text{OBB}_i, \text{OBB}_j^{(\text{new})})$ is the geometric dissimilarity based on 3D IoU (intersection over union).
- $S_{ij} = \|\mathbf{e}_i \mathbf{e}_j^{(\text{new})}\|_2$ represents a semantic distance measure. If the system has an embedding vector for each object, S_{ij} could combine both shape and openvocabulary features. See Section IV-E for more details.
- $X_{ij} \in \{0,1\}$ are the elements of assignment matrix **X** that impose a one-to-one matching constraint.

We solve for the assignment matrix \mathbf{X} to match candidate detections with tracked object OBBs using the Hungarian (Kuhn-Munkres) algorithm [57] in $\mathcal{O}(m^3)$ time, where m is the number of candidates. Due to the R-tree query, m is usually small, making real-time matching computationally feasible. Unmatched new detections spawn new tracks, while previously tracked objects that remain unmatched for k consecutive frames are pruned unless their semantic confidence is high (to handle long occlusions). This pruning applies only within the current camera frustum; global object persistence is maintained through the semantic map, which accounts for long-term occlusions, viewpoint changes, and spatial displacement as the robot navigates across rooms.

D. Incremental OBB Updates

For each matched object, we refine its OBB incrementally by assimilating newly observed 3D points. This is particularly important when objects are only partially visible or change orientation over time.

a) Incremental Covariance Calculation.: Let an object o_i at frame t-1 have a scatter matrix \mathbf{S}_{t-1} , centroid \mathbf{c}_{t-1} , and N_{t-1} points accumulated thus far. A new detection in frame t contributes N_{new} points \mathbf{P}_{new} , with centroid \mathbf{c}_{new} and scatter matrix \mathbf{S}_{new} . We update:

$$N_t = N_{t-1} + N_{\text{new}},\tag{9}$$

$$\mathbf{c}_t = \frac{N_{t-1} \, \mathbf{c}_{t-1} + N_{\text{new}} \, \mathbf{c}_{\text{new}}}{N_t},\tag{10}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_{t} = \mathbf{S}_{t-1} + \mathbf{S}_{\text{new}} + \frac{N_{t-1} N_{\text{new}}}{N_{t}} (\mathbf{c}_{t-1} - \mathbf{c}_{\text{new}}) (\mathbf{c}_{t-1} - \mathbf{c}_{\text{new}})^{T}.$$
(11)

The new covariance matrix is $C_t = S_t / (N_t - 1)$. By performing eigendecomposition on C_t , we derive updated principal axes and extents, which can expand or contract the bounding box based on the newly visible parts of the object.

b) R-Tree Synchronization.: Finally, once OBB_i is updated to $(\mathbf{c}_t, \mathbf{R}_t, \mathbf{e}_t)$, we convert it back to an AABB via

AABB_Enclose(
$$\mathbf{c}_t, \mathbf{R}_t, \mathbf{e}_t$$
)

and update o_i 's entry in the R-tree accordingly. This ensures that future queries accurately reflect the object's most current spatial extent. Since no additional supervision or distillation is used, this approach handles unseen object types in a zero-shot manner and remains flexible across changing scene conditions.

E. Open-Vocabulary Semantic Embedding Management

At the core of our system is the management of open-vocabulary semantic embeddings for tracked objects. Each object o_i maintains a semantic state consisting of an embedding bank $\mathcal{E}_i = \{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3\}$ containing up to three concept embeddings, along with corresponding confidence scores $\mathcal{C}_i = \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}$ where $c_j \in [0, 1]$. This multi-embedding approach enables maintaining uncertain hypotheses about an object's identity, crucial for handling ambiguous cases and novel objects.

When an object is first detected at time t, we initialize its semantic representation by extracting vision-language features $\mathbf{f}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W \times d}$ from the backbone network. Given the instance mask m_t , we compute the initial embedding through maskguided feature aggregation:

$$\mathbf{e}_t = \frac{1}{|m_t|} \sum_{(x,y) \in m_t} \mathbf{f}_t(x,y) \tag{12}$$

where $|m_t|$ denotes the number of valid pixels in the mask. This normalized pooling operation produces a fixed-dimensional embedding $\mathbf{e}_t \in \mathbb{R}^d$ that captures the object's semantic properties while being invariant to mask size.

As we accumulate observations, the embedding bank is updated according to semantic similarity and confidence scores.

For a new observation embedding e_{new} with confidence c_{new} , we first compute similarities to existing embeddings:

$$s_j = \cos(\mathbf{e}_{new}, \mathbf{e}_j), \quad j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\tag{13}$$

If $\max_j s_j > \sigma_{sim}$ for similarity threshold σ_{sim} , we update the most similar existing embedding:

$$\mathbf{e}_{j} = \frac{c_{j}\mathbf{e}_{j} + c_{new}\mathbf{e}_{new}}{c_{j} + c_{new}}, \quad c_{j} = c_{j} + c_{new}$$
(14)

Otherwise, if $|\mathcal{E}_i| < 3$, we add \mathbf{e}_{new} as a new hypothesis. This mechanism allows maintaining multiple semantic interpretations while consolidating consistent observations.

F. Semantic Map Management

The system maintains semantic consistency at both the voxel and object level. Each voxel v maintains a histogram h_v over observed instance labels and a maximum likelihood label l_v . For computational efficiency, we update these statistics only for voxels within object OBBs.

For tracked objects, we employ a support-based pruning mechanism. Given an object o_i with bounding box volume $|B_i|$, we compute its voxel support ratio:

$$r_i = \frac{|\{v \in V | l_v = i\}|}{|B_i|} \tag{15}$$

Objects with consistently low support $(r_i < \tau_{supp})$ for k consecutive frames) are candidates for pruning. However, for objects with high semantic confidence $(\max_j c_j > \tau_{conf})$, we maintain tracking even with temporarily low support to handle partial occlusions.

G. System Integration

The complete system operates as a tightly coupled pipeline that maintains both geometric and semantic consistency. Each incoming RGB-D frame (I_t^{rgb}, I_t^{depth}) first updates the volumetric reconstruction V using weighted averaging of signed distances to maintain an accurate geometric foundation. The vision-language model $\mathcal F$ then processes I_t^{rgb} to produce instance masks M_t , which are lifted to 3D using the corresponding depth information from I_t^{depth} . The resulting 3D point clouds undergo DBSCAN clustering and PCA-based OBB computation as described earlier.

Object tracking leverages the R-tree spatial index for efficient candidate selection, with final associations determined through Hungarian matching of the cost matrix M. For successfully matched objects, the system performs a series of synchronized updates. The geometric state is refined through incremental covariance computation, maintaining accurate OBB estimates without storing historical point clouds. Simultaneously, the semantic state is updated by integrating new observations into the embedding bank \mathcal{E}_i based on observation quality and similarity metrics. The system also updates voxel label histograms within the refined OBB boundaries to maintain spatial semantic consistency.

The map maintenance phase evaluates object persistence using the support ratio r_i and semantic confidence scores

 \mathcal{C}_i . This integrated approach enables robust open-vocabulary mapping by leveraging complementary strengths: geometric consistency guides object tracking and segmentation, while semantic embeddings resolve ambiguities and maintain object identity through significant viewpoint changes. The multihypothesis embedding bank is particularly crucial for handling uncertainty during partial observations while allowing refinement as more evidence becomes available. The tight coupling between geometric and semantic components enables the system to handle challenging scenarios such as object occlusions, novel object categories, and viewpoint variations while maintaining consistent semantic map.

The unified representation of geometry and open-vocabulary semantics enables a range of higher-level applications including online 3D instance segmentation, 3D instance retrieval, and 3D visual grounding without requiring additional 3D-domain training.

H. Online 3D Instance Segmentation

While our approach already maintains *instance-level* object bounding boxes and per-voxel label histograms, it can directly provide a *3D instance segmentation* of the scene as follows:

- Each tracked object o_i has an identifier ID_i and a bounding box $b_i = (c_i, R_i, s_i)$. During the volumetric fusion step, all voxels within b_i are labeled with ID_i in their histograms h_v .
- Whenever multiple objects overlap in 3D, we maintain upto 3 hypothesis, allowing multiple semantic interpretations by fusing them over time as explained in Section IV-E which are subsequently pruned based on voxel support ratio explained in Section IV-F.
- Hence, at any point in time, each voxel in the TSDF volume carries the instance label $l \in \mathbb{N}$ (from ID_i). By aggregating all voxels labeled with the same ID_i, we obtain a complete 3D instance mask for object o_i .

As this process is performed incrementally for each new RGB-D frame, it yields an *online* 3D instance segmentation: after receiving t frames, the system can query the TSDF volume to retrieve the current segmentation. This is particularly helpful for applications like robotic manipulation, where a robot needs to know the volumetric extent of each object in real time. Notably, if a novel category appears (e.g., an object not in any fixed taxonomy), the pretrained model $\mathcal F$ can still segment it in 2D, and our pipeline will produce a corresponding 3D instance in the map.

I. 3D Instance Retrieval

The open-vocabulary embeddings maintained for each object enable flexible 3D instance retrieval through both text and visual queries. Each tracked object o_i stores multiple semantic embeddings $\mathbf{e}_{i,j}$ generated by a pretrained vision-language model \mathcal{F} (Section IV-E). For text-based retrieval, the query text and its associated prompt are processed through \mathcal{F} 's language encoder to produce a query embedding equery $\in \mathbb{R}^d$. The similarity between the query and each tracked object o_i is computed as the maximum cosine similarity across the

object's embeddings. Objects can then be either ranked by similarity score or filtered using a threshold $\sigma_{\rm sim}$, with objects exceeding this threshold considered matches. Matched objects can be visualized in 3D using their bounding boxes or instance segmentation masks, facilitating physical interaction by users or robotic systems. The zero-shot nature of these embeddings enables retrieval using arbitrary natural language descriptions without requiring additional training.

V. EXPERIMENTS

We demonstrate the modularity and effectiveness of our proposed framework by evaluating it across multiple benchmarks, including 3D instance segmentation, instance retrieval, and semantic segmentation. We use five well-established indoor datasets for these tasks: SceneNN [58], ScanNet [59], ScanNetv2 [60], ScanNet200 [61], and Replica [62]. Next, we describe each dataset, outline evaluation metrics, and present comprehensive results comparing the performance of our method against recent approaches.

A. Mapping-based 3D Instance Segmentation

3D instance segmentation is a key task for scene understanding, requiring systems to identify individual object instances in 3D space. This task differs from semantic segmentation by distinguishing between multiple objects of the same class, which is particularly challenging in complex indoor environments. We aim to demonstrate the superior performance of our framework in the context of 3D instance segmentation compared to existing volumetric mapping techniques, including TSDF-based methods, graph-based super-point strategies, and geometric-semantic fusion approaches. As illustrated in our evaluation, our approach outperforms these conventional methods significantly in terms of accuracy and efficiency.

SceneNN is an RGB-D dataset comprising over 100 reconstructed indoor scenes captured as RGB-D videos. Each scene is provided as a textured triangle mesh with pervertex semantic and instance annotations. The dataset includes detailed object instance labels, camera trajectories, bounding boxes, and raw RGB-D frames, making it particularly useful for evaluating 3D instance segmentation, semantic segmentation, and instance retrieval tasks. We conduct experiments and compare the proposed method with multiple state-of-theart frameworks [10], [20], [63]-[67] on the SceneNN [58] dataset following the same setting proposed in [67]. We use mean average precision (mAP) metric to compare accuracy, computed by thresholding the intersection over union (IoU) at thresholds 0.5. As per standard practice, we run methods using GT camera poses. Additionally, we run all approaches on poses estimated by ORB-SLAM3 [68] to demonstrate their effectiveness in real-world settings. For SLAM-based experiments, we limit our evaluations to [10], [20], [64], [67], similar to the evaluation in [67].

As demonstrated in Table I, our method achieves superior performance on the SceneNN dataset. With ground truth trajectories, our approach achieves 79.15% mAP@50, outperforming the previous state-of-the-art VolumePanoptic (78.66%) framework. The performance gain is consistent

across individual sequences, with our method achieving perfect scores on sequences 11 and 255. Using ORB-SLAM3 estimated trajectories, our method maintains robust performance (62.3% mAP@50), significantly surpassing VolumePanoptic (58.82%) and other methods. This improvement demonstrates our framework's effectiveness in real-world scenarios with imperfect pose estimation.

B. 3D Open Vocabulary Instance Segmentation

We evaluate the performance of our framework on the 3D instance segmentation task using the ScanNet200 dataset, employing intersection over union (IoU) and average precision (AP) metrics. IoU measures the overlap between predicted and ground-truth instances. AP summarizes performance across multiple IoU thresholds (at 25\% and 50\%), integrating precision and recall into a single metric. These metrics provide insights into the model's ability to accurately segment individual object instances in complex 3D scenes. Finally, we also report the average time required to compute the scene's representations, measuring clock wall time on a GPU RTX-4090, and for our method, we report in seconds the average time spent to process a scene. The ScanNet200 dataset encompasses 200 diverse semantic classes, categorized based on their frequency into head (66 most frequent classes), common (68 moderately frequent classes), and tail (66 least frequent classes), covering a wide range of indoor object categories and facilitating a thorough evaluation of segmentation performance across realistic scenarios.

As demonstrated in Table II, our proposed method, RAZER, achieves state-of-the-art results with 24.7% mAP, 31.7% mAP50, and 36.2% mAP25, surpassing existing methods on the majority of metrics. Specifically, RAZER shows strong performance in head and common categories (27.8% and 24.3% respectively), while remaining competitive in tail categories (21.6%). Additionally, our method is the most computationally efficient, processing each scene in only 24.32 seconds, which is over an order of magnitude faster than previous approaches such as OpenMask3D (553.87 seconds) and SAM3D (482.60 seconds).

C. 3D Open Vocabulary Segmentation

We demonstrate the efficacy of our framework for 3D open-vocabulary segmentation task by demonstrating its performance on ScanNet and Replica datasets. For semantic segmentation tasks, we use mean intersection over union (mIoU) and pixel-wise accuracy. mIoU calculates the average overlap between predicted and ground-truth segmentation across all classes, effectively balancing performance evaluation for both frequent and rare classes. Pixel-wise accuracy measures the overall fraction of correctly predicted pixels, providing a straightforward but less class-sensitive performance measure. These metrics collectively capture the detailed performance characteristics of semantic segmentation models. The quantitative performance is evaluated by labeling the vertices of ground-truth meshes, and computing 3D mean intersection over union (mIoU) and accuracy (mAcc) vs ground-truth

TABLE I RESULTS FOR 3D INSTANCE SEGMENTATION (MAP@50) ON SCENENN DATASET WITH GROUND TRUTH (TOP) AND ORB-SLAM3 (BOTTOM) POSES.

Method / Seq.	11	16	30	61	78	86	96	206	223	255	Avg.
Ground truth traject	Ground truth trajectory										
Voxblox++	75	48.2	62.4	66.7	55.8	20	34.6	79.6	43.8	75	56.11
Han et al.	65.8	50	66.6	43.3	100	56.9	22.8	92.1	46.7	33	57.72
Wang et al.	62.2	43	60.7	36.3	49.3	45.8	32.7	46.6	56.4	47.9	47.9
Li et al.	78.6	25	58.6	46.6	69.8	47.2	26.7	78.0	48.5	75	55.4
Mascaro et al.	100	75	72.5	50	50	50	51.3	74.1	45.8	100	66.87
INS-CONV	100	62	83.4	69.8	93.7	60	57.6	56.7	78.6	100	76.18
VolumePanoptic	100	73.3	91.7	62.4	87.5	61.7	66.7	83.3	60	100	78.66
Ours	100	74.1	91.8	63.4	88.4	62.3	66.8	83.5	61.2	100	79.15
With ORB-SLAM3 T	Fraject o	ry									
Voxblox++ [10]	61.5	38.9	50	58.4	44.3	16.4	27.6	48.7	40.7	33.6	42.01
Han et al. [64]	53.4	43.2	50	37.6	75.6	48.2	13.4	57.8	44.1	24.7	44.8
INS-CONV [20]	75	46.7	56.4	57.1	83.7	22.4	48.1	28.1	50	28.1	53.27
VolumePanoptic [67]	75	56.7	72.3	62.4	68.9	55.6	33.2	40.8	65.2	63.3	58.82
Ours	75.3	57.6	73.2	63.4	69.2	59.2	41.7	58.8	61.2	63.4	62.3

TABLE II
3D INSTANCE SEGMENTATION RESULTS ON THE SCANNET200
VALIDATION SET ON HEAD, COMMON, AND TAIL CLASSES.

Method	mAP	mAP50	mAP25	Head	Common	Tail	Time/scene (s)
SAM3D	6.1	14.2	21.3	7.0	6.2	4.6	482.60
OVIR-3D	13.0	24.9	32.3	14.4	12.7	11.7	466.80
Open3DIS	23.7	29.4	32.8	27.8	21.2	21.8	360.12
OpenScene (2D Fusion)	11.7	15.2	17.8	13.4	11.6	9.9	46.45
OpenScene (Ensemble)	5.3	6.7	8.1	11.0	3.2	1.1	46.78
OpenMask3D	15.4	19.9	23.1	17.1	14.1	14.9	553.87
RAZER	24.7	31.7	36.2	27.8	24.3	21.6	24.32

Method	CLIP Backbone	CLIP Backbone Replica			ScanNet			
		mIoU	f-mIoU	f-mAcc	mIoU	f-mIoU	f-mAcc	
ConceptFusion	OVSeg	0.10	0.21	0.16	0.08	0.11	0.15	
	ViT-H-14	0.10	0.18	0.17	0.11	0.12	0.21	
ConceptGraph	OVSeg	0.13	0.27	0.21	0.15	0.18	0.23	
	ViT-H-14	0.18	0.23	0.30	0.16	0.20	0.28	
HOV-SG	OVSeg	0.144	0.255	0.212	0.214	0.258	0.420	
	ViT-H-14	0.231	0.386	0.304	0.222	0.303	0.431	
Ours	OVSeg	0.320	0.553	0.414	0.393	0.508	0.601	

TABLE IV Performance on ScanNetv2 3D instance retrieval task in terms of Top-1 accuracy (%) of instance classification.

Method	Avg.	Bed	Cab	Chair	Sofa	Tabl	Door	Wind	Bksf	Pic	Cntr	Desk	Curt	Fridg	Bath	Showr	Toil	Sink
PointCLIP	6.3	0	0	0	0	0.7	0	0	91.8	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0
PointCLIP V2	11.0	0	0	23.8	0	0	0	7.8	0	90.7	0	0	0	0	64.4	0	0	0
CLIP2Point	24.9	20.8	0	85.1	43.3	26.5	69.9	0	20.9	1.7	31.7	27	0	1.6	46.5	0	22.4	25.6
PointCLIP w/ TP.	26.1	0	55.7	72.8	5.1	1.7	0	77.2	0	0	51.7	0	40.3	85.3	4.9	0	0	34.9
CLIP2Point w/ TP.	35.2	11.8	45.1	27.6	10.5	61.5	2.7	1.9	0.3	33.6	29.9	4.7	11.5	72.2	92.4	86.1	3	34
$CLIP^2$	38.5	32.6	67.2	69.3	42.3	18.3	19.1	4	62.6	1.4	12.7	52.8	40.1	9.1	59.7	4	17.1	45.5
Uni3D	45.8	58.5	3.7	78.8	83.7	54.9	31.3	39.4	70.1	35.1	1.9	27.3	94.2	13.8	38.7	10.7	88.1	47.6
OpenIns3D	60.8	85.2	27.4	87.6	77.3	46.9	54.8	64.2	71.4	9.9	80.8	82.7	71.6	61.4	38.7	0	87.9	85.7
Ours	61.2	85.3	36.9	86.3	74.2	76.5	72.3	74.6	73.2	35.6	81.2	83.4	74.8	71.4	58.2	87.2	92.3	86.8

labels. We also report the metrics weighted by the frequency of the labels in the ground-truth (f-mIoU and f-mAcc).

ScanNet presents particular challenges for semantic segmentation due to its diverse indoor environments, varying lighting conditions, and complex spatial arrangements. The dataset's rich variety of object categories with different sizes, shapes, and textures makes it an ideal testbed for evaluating the generalization capabilities of open-vocabulary approaches. Furthermore, the presence of partial occlusions and varying object densities across scenes tests a model's ability to resolve contextual relationships. Table III demonstrates our method's exceptional performance on ScanNet, achieving 0.393 mIoU, 0.508 f-mIoU, and 0.601 f-mAcc with the OVSeg backbone. These results represent substantial improvements over previous approaches - our method nearly doubles the mIoU score of HOV-SG with ViT-H-14 (0.222 mIoU). This performance

gap illustrates the effectiveness of our framework's semantic feature propagation mechanism, which better preserves finegrained details and handles class boundaries more precisely.

Replica is a dataset of highly realistic indoor scenes designed primarily for simulation and embodied perception tasks. It includes 18 densely reconstructed environments provided as high-resolution textured meshes with semantic and instance annotations. Replica facilitates realistic simulation and evaluation of semantic segmentation and instance segmentation algorithms, serving as a critical dataset for evaluating models aimed at real-world applicability through simulation-to-real transfer. We evaluate performance using mean intersection over union (mIoU) and mean Accuracy (mAcc), which are standard metrics for open-vocabulary 3D semantic segmentation. We report f-mIoU and f-mAcc metrics that exclude background classes, similar to prior work. As shown in Table III,

our method achieves 0.320 mIoU, 0.553 f-mIoU, and 0.414 f-mAcc with the OVSeg backbone, substantially outperforming previous state-of-the-art methods. Compared to HOV-SG with ViT-H-14 (0.231 mIoU, 0.386 f-mIoU, 0.304 f-mAcc), our approach demonstrates improvements across all metrics.

D. Instance Retrieval

ScanNet [59] is an RGB-D video dataset consisting of approximately 1,500 room scans reconstructed into textured meshes with detailed semantic and instance-level annotations. ScanNetv2 [60], an updated version with refined annotations, comprises 1,513 scenes commonly split into training, validation, and test sets. ScanNet200 [61] extends the dataset by providing annotations for 200 detailed semantic classes, significantly increasing annotation granularity. These datasets support benchmarking for 3D semantic segmentation, instance segmentation, and instance retrieval tasks due to their detailed labeling in a variety of indoor environments.

We evaluate our framework's 3D instance retrieval performance on ScanNetv2. Following the setting similar to [69], the 'other furniture' class in ScanNetv2 is excluded and evaluated in terms of the Top-1 accuracy of instance classification. The instance classification is directly performed on the feature embeddings corresponding to the oriented bounding boxes generated from our framework. Table IV demonstrates our method's state-of-the-art performance in 3D instance retrieval, achieving 61.2% average Top-1 accuracy across all classes. Our approach outperforms OpenIns3D (60.8%) and significantly surpasses other methods like Uni3D (45.8%) and CLIP² (38.5%). Notably, our method excels in several challenging categories, achieving the highest accuracy for beds (85.3%), tables (76.5%), doors (72.3%), windows (74.6%), bookshelves (73.2%), counters (81.2%), desks (83.4%), curtains (74.8%), bathtubs (58.2%), showers (87.2%), toilets (92.3%), and sinks (86.8%). This consistent performance across diverse object categories demonstrates the robustness of our feature representation. The framework's integrated 3D oriented bounding box (OBB) detection and tracking mechanism plays a crucial role in this superior performance, enabling more precise object localization and maintaining temporal consistency of instance identities throughout the scene reconstruction process.

E. Runtime Analysis

We conduct a detailed runtime analysis of our framework to evaluate its computational efficiency compared to the prior state-of-the-art semantic mapping framework on SceneNN, VolumePanoptic [67]. Table V-E presents a component-wise breakdown of processing times for both approaches.

For VolumePanoptic [67], the computational pipeline consists of multiple stages: 2D instance segmentation (216.0ms) which handles the initial detection and segmentation of objects in RGB images, super-point segmentation (70.3ms) for grouping 3D points into coherent surface patches, graph update (127.2ms) to maintain the hierarchical scene representation, semantic regularization (324.0ms, performed once per map) for refining semantic labels across super-points, and instance

refinement (9.4ms, performed once per map) to resolve instance ambiguities. In contrast, our method (RAZER) achieves significantly faster processing across all components. For 2D instance segmentation, we reduce computation time to 82.3ms through our optimized architecture. Our 3D OBB detection component operates at just 1.7ms per frame, while our efficient 3D OBB tracking requires only 18.4ms. The embedding update module runs at a remarkable 0.8ms, demonstrating the lightweight nature of our feature propagation mechanism.

Our approach replaces the computation-heavy super-point segmentation with a more efficient oriented bounding box detection algorithm operating at just 1.7ms per frame. This results in a 41x speedup for this component by directly estimating geometric primitives from point clouds rather than performing dense point-wise grouping. The 3D OBB tracking component (18.4ms) represents a fundamental departure from VolumePanoptic's graph-based approach. Where VolumePanoptic requires maintaining and updating a complex graph structure (127.2ms) with nodes representing superpoints and edges encoding spatial-semantic relationships, our OBB tracking employs a more direct geometric approach. By representing objects as oriented bounding boxes, we perform efficient spatial association and motion estimation without the overhead of graph operations. This simplification not only reduces computation time by approximately 85\%, but also improves robustness by eliminating the cascading errors that can occur in graph-based representations when initial segmentations are noisy. Our approach further benefits from the inherent geometric constraints of rigid objects, allowing for more consistent tracking over time without relying on potentially unstable point-wise feature correspondences.

Our embedding update module runs at a remarkable 0.8ms, demonstrating the lightweight nature of our feature propagation mechanism. Rather than propagating features through a complex graph network requiring multiple message-passing iterations, we directly update our compact OBB-based representation with new observations, maintaining semantic consistency through efficient feature averaging and outlier rejection.

Overall, our framework achieves an average total runtime of 103.2ms per frame, representing a 4× speedup compared to VolumePanoptic's 413.5ms (plus an additional 333.4ms for one-time map processing). This substantial efficiency improvement makes our approach more suitable for real-time applications while maintaining superior performance as demonstrated in Table I, making it particularly valuable for 3D scene understanding tasks in robotics applications. The combination of improved accuracy and significantly reduced computational requirements enables deployment on platforms with limited resources, opening possibilities for autonomous navigation, manipulation, and human-robot interaction in complex environments that require detailed semantic understanding.

Table VI further highlights our method's efficiency on the Replica dataset. Our approach completes scene processing in just 3 minutes and 48 seconds, substantially outperforming competing methods such as OVO-mapping (8m 17s), Open-NeRF (19m 3s), and especially HOV-SG (11h 12m). This dramatic reduction in processing time demonstrates the exceptional computational efficiency of our framework, making

TABLE V
RUNTIME (IN MS) ON THE 10 SEQUENCES OF THE
SCENENN DATASET.

	Volume Panoptic		RAZER
SceneNN Dataset	(ms)		
2D Inst. seg.	216.0	2D Inst. Seg.	82.3
Super-point seg.	70.3	3D OBB Det.	1.7
Graph update	127.2	3D	
Semantic reg.	324.0 (once per map)	OBB	18.4
Instance ref.	9.4 (once per map)	Tracking	
Emb. update	-	Emb. Update	0.8
Average Total	413.5 (per frame) + 333.4		103.2

TABLE VI AVERAGE RUNTIME ON THE REPLICA SCENES DATASET.

Method	Time/scene
HOV-SG	11h 12m
OpenNeRF	19m 3s
OVO-mapping	8m 17s
Ours	3m 48s

it practical for large-scale deployment in real-world scenarios. These computational performance improvements come from the modularity of our framework that enables it to update and compute scene and object feature embeddings swiftly for 3D open-Vocabulary semantic segmentation.

VI. CONCLUSION

We present a novel zero-shot framework for real-time 3D semantic mapping that bridges geometric reconstruction and semantic understanding through a unified embedding space. By combining efficient spatial indexing with instance-level semantic fusion, we demonstrate superior performance in handling streaming data without requiring global optimization. The framework processes inconsistent 2D segmentation outputs while maintaining both geometric and semantic coherence in real-time, representing a significant advancement in openvocabulary 3D scene understanding. Experimental results validate our approach's effectiveness across multiple benchmarks while maintaining real-time performance suitable for robotics applications. This work opens new avenues for research in embodied AI systems that integrate geometric, semantic, and linguistic understanding, enabling more sophisticated humanrobot interactions in unconstrained environments.

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