

Autonomous Systems

Lajos Lóczi, János Szalai-Gindl, László Zsolt Varga,
Bandó Kovács, Levente Hajder

TKP Workshop 2022
Faculty of Informatics, Eötvös Loránd University



NATIONAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT
AND INNOVATION OFFICE
HUNGARY

PROGRAM
FINANCED FROM
THE NRDI FUND

Introduction

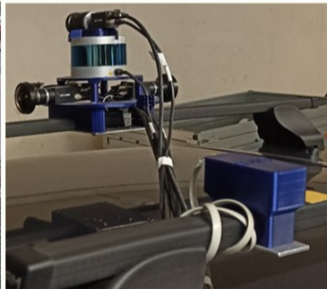
- ▶ The topics in autonomous systems are intensively researched.
- ▶ Autonomous systems are in focus of our university due to
 - ▶ Hungarian and European Union-financed projects,
 - ▶ industrial collaboration,
 - ▶ Computer Science for Autonomous System MSc major.
- ▶ The area is important for both theoretical and practical reasons.
- ▶ Popular topics for students.

Group Members

- ▶ László Zsolt Varga
 - ▶ Autonomous agents and multi-agent systems.
- ▶ János Szalay-Gindl
 - ▶ LiDAR point cloud processing.
- ▶ Lajos Lóczy
 - ▶ Mathematical aspects: numerical methods for systems of differential equations; analytical and numerical optimization.
- ▶ Bandó Kovács
 - ▶ Hardware and software development; sensor integration.
- ▶ Levente Hajder
 - ▶ 3D Computer Vision.
- ▶ Last but not least: **many talented students.**

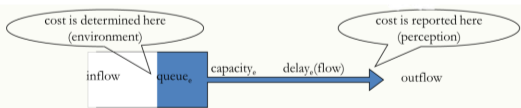
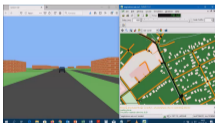
Sensor-Kit

- ▶ Skoda Fabia
 - ▶ without CAN-bus. :-(
- ▶ Modern Sensors
 - ▶ LiDAR
 - ▶ RGB Digital Cameras
 - ▶ GPS
 - ▶ IMU



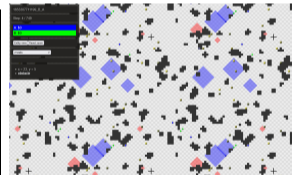
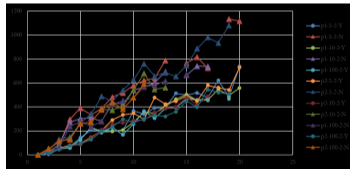
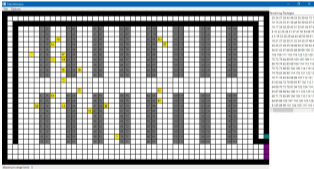
Trustworthy Algorithmic Routing of Autonomous Vehicles

- ▶ Development of the intention-aware online routing game model for trustworthy routing
- ▶ Development of the routing model evaluator software to evaluate the routing model in a simulation environment
- ▶ Multi-agent paradigm in software engineering and trustworthiness: comparison of the online routing model and other routing models



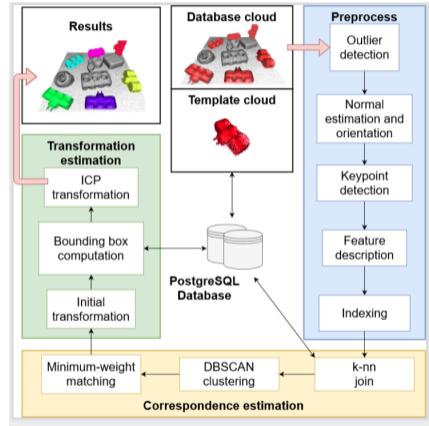
Multi-agent Optimizations to Increase Trustworthiness

- ▶ Agents in a grid world, simulation software for a warehouse
- ▶ Enhancement of multi-agent algorithms to improve warehouse operation
- ▶ Development of agent architecture for a grid world multi-agent system



Pattern Matching in Large-scale Point Clouds

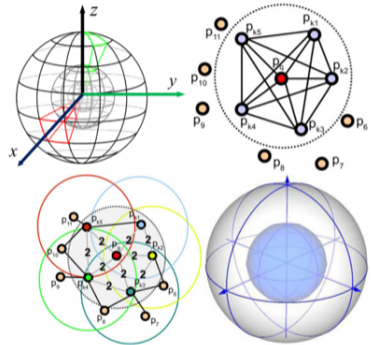
- ▶ Modern LiDAR sensors \Rightarrow large-scale 3D point clouds, challenges in data-storage and analysis.
- ▶ Point cloud registration, point-cloud based matching.
- ▶ Refinement of previous results.



Feature Descriptors

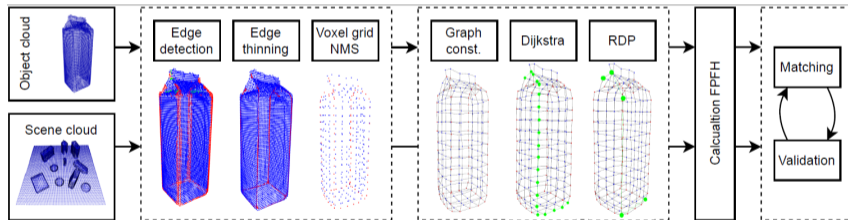
- ▶ Collection of Closest Points.
- ▶ Reduction of feature descriptors:
 - ▶ Application of Principal Component Analysis;
 - ▶ Novel binarization method.

→ Image source: Guo, Y., Bennamoun, M., Sohel, F., Lu, M., Wan, J., Kwok, N. M. (2016). A comprehensive performance evaluation of 3D local feature descriptors. International Journal of Computer Vision, 116(1), 66-89. 69. old.: Figure 1



Detection of Correspondences

- ▶ DBSCAN-based classification is obsolete.
 - ▶ Time demand is very high
- ▶ Novel method: chain-based approach



Database Building

- ▶ Synchronized LiDAR-Camera database
- ▶ Web-interface

ELTE lidar car dataset Home Data collection Data processing Data sample Downloads About English (en) ok

From*
500

To*
999

Sensors
cam0
cam1
cam2

Sample data

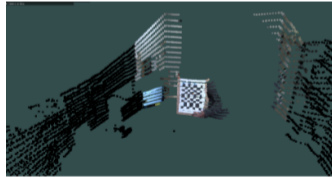
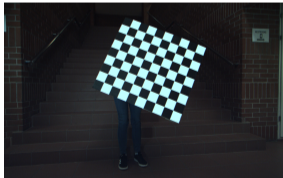
Lidar pointcloud Images

Front-left Forward-facing Front-right

Back-left Back-right

LiDAR-Camera Calibration

- ▶ Very challenging task to calibrate different sensors.
- ▶ Calibration:
 - ▶ extrinsic parameters (location, orientation).
- ▶ We have developed two approaches:
 1. chessboard-based, semi-automatic;
 2. spherical object-based, fully automatic.



Numerical Methods for Differential Equations

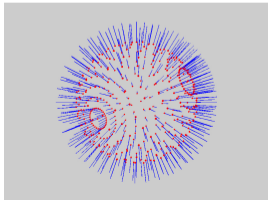
- ▶ Extrapolation methods
 - ▶ Linear multi-step methods combined with Richardson extrapolation
 - ▶ active / local
 - ▶ passive / global
 - ▶ Experiments
 - ▶ Consistency stability, convergence and absolute stability
 - ▶ Important due to both theoretical and practical reasons
- Joint work with Ágnes Havasi, Imre Fekete Imre and Lajos Lóczi

Rapid Optimal Normal Estimation

- ▶ Mathematical formula for the problem:

$$\arg_{\mathbf{n}} \min \sum_{i=1}^4 \left\| a_i - \frac{\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{n}}{\mathbf{w}_5^T \mathbf{n}} \right\|^2, \quad (1)$$

- ▶ where $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_4 \end{bmatrix}$ is the affine transformation;
- ▶ \mathbf{w}_i depends on camera parameters and spatial location;
- ▶ \mathbf{n} : normal to be estimated.
- ▶ We proved that the optimal normal estimation can be obtained via a linear formula.
 - ▶ It is very rapid.



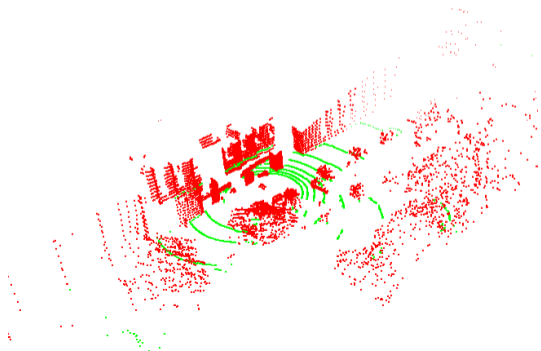
Collaboration outside the group

- ▶ Gábor Baranyi - András Lőrincz (NIPG) : Conversion between real and weak perspective projection.
 - ▶ Distortion is lower for weak-perspective camera model.
 - ▶ For machine learning, images with low distortions are usually applied.



Industrial Collaboration: Robert Bosch GmbH

- ▶ Common Topics
 - ▶ Similar Sensor-Kits
 - ▶ 3D Vision
 - ▶ Sensor Fusion
- ▶ ELTE-Bosch Competition for Parking Car Detection
- ▶ Projects for MSc students
 - ▶ Tamás Tófalvi (sensor fusion)
 - ▶ Botond Nás (IMU filtering - IMU - camera fusion)



Publications

	Accepted	Submitted
Journal papers	7	4
Conferences	14	1
TDK papers	8	
Total	29	5

Summary

- ▶ Research group deals with three important research areas:
 - ▶ Autonomous agents and multi-agent systems;
 - ▶ 3D vision for autonomous vehicles; real-time sensing of the environment;
 - ▶ Numerical methods for differential equations.
- ▶ Theoretical results; many applications.
- ▶ We have many accepted publications in top conferences/journals.
- ▶ Research results are utilized in education.
- ▶ Industrial collaboration with Bosch.

Thank you for your attention.