

Depth Imaging with Time-of-Flight Cameras and the Kinect

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3D Computer Vision II Winter Term 2011 – 24.01.2012



Lecture Outline

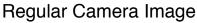
- 1. Introduction and Motivation
- 2. Principles of ToF Imaging
- 3. Computer Vision with ToF Cameras
- 4. Case Studies
- 5. Other Range Imaging Techniques
- 6. Human Body Tracking with the Kinect

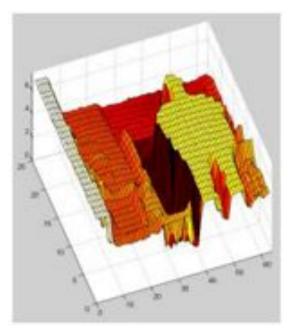


Time-of-Flight (ToF) Imaging refers to the process of measuring the depth of a scene by quantifying the changes that an emitted light signal encounters when it bounces back from objects in a scene.



Images from [2]

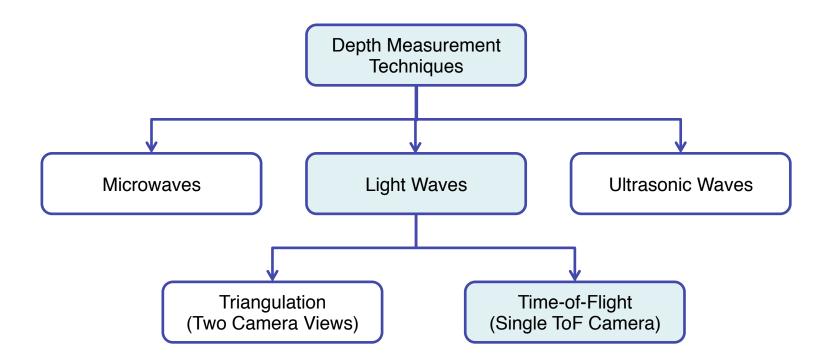




ToF Camera Depth Image

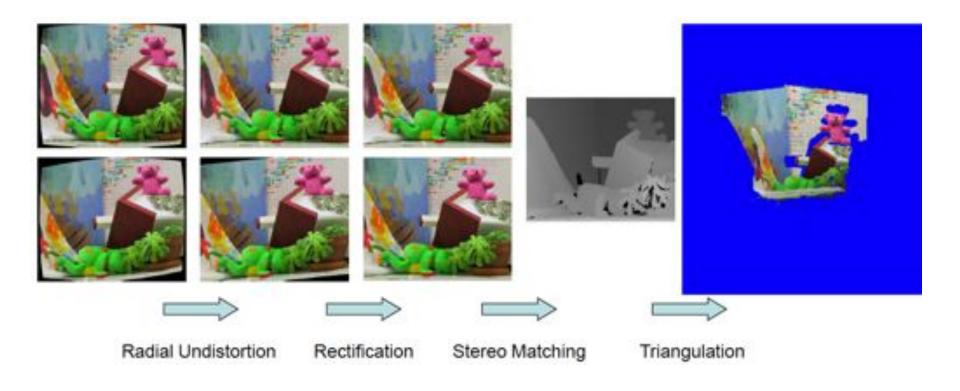


Classification of Depth Measurement Techniques



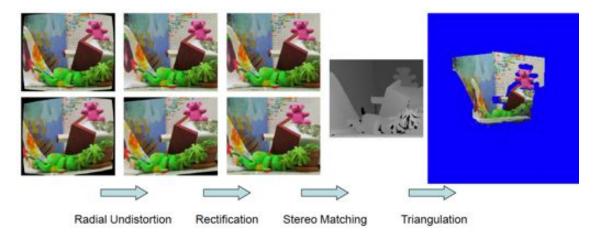


Reminder: Depth Measurement Using Multiple Camera Views





Depth Measurement Using Multiple Camera Views

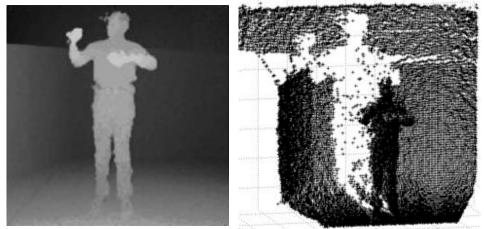


Disadvantages:

- At least two calibrated cameras required
- Multiple computationally expensive steps
- Dependence on scene illumination
- Dependence on surface texturing



Depth Measurement Using a ToF Camera



Advantages:

- Only one (specific) camera required
- No manual depth computation required
- Acquisition of 3D scene geometry in real-time
- Reduced dependence on scene illumination
- Almost no dependence on surface texturing





3D Reconstruction

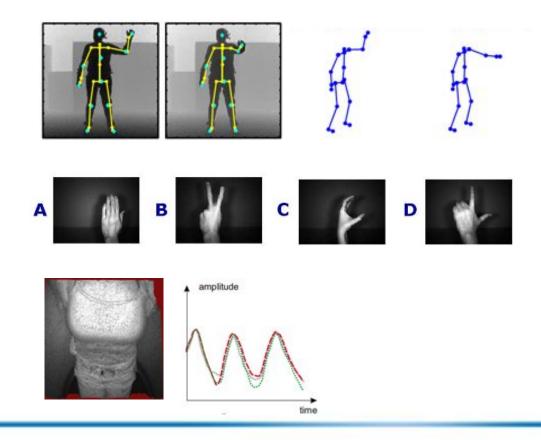
ToF Amplitude Image

ToF Depth Image



Applications for ToF Imaging

- Computer Vision
 - People and object tracking
 - 3D Scene reconstruction
- Interaction
 - Gesture-based user interfaces
 - Gaming/character animation
- Medical
 - Respiratory gating
 - Ambulatory motion analysis





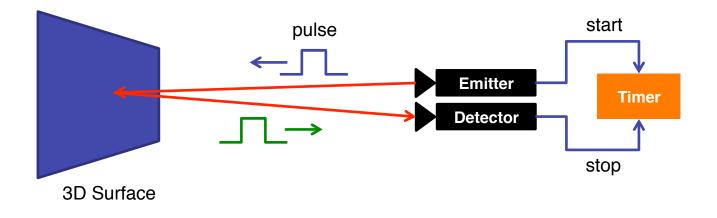
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Pulsed Modulation

- Measure distance to a 3D object by measuring the absolute time a light pulse needs to travel from a source into the 3D scene and back, after reflection
- Speed of light is constant and known, $c = 3.10^8 \text{m/s}$





Pulsed Modulation



Advantages:

- Direct measurement of time-of-flight
- High-energy light pulses limit influence of background illumunation
- Illumination and observation directions are collinear

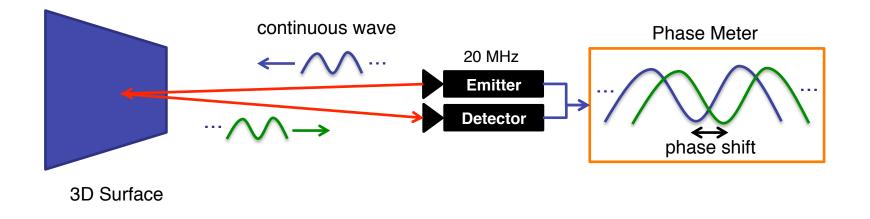
Disadvantages:

- High-accuracy time measurement required
- Measurement of light pulse return is inexact, due to light scattering
- Difficulty to generate short light pulses with fast rise and fall times
- Usable light sources (e.g. lasers) suffer low repetition rates for pulses



Continuous Wave Modulation

- Continuous light waves instead of short light pulses
- Modulation in terms of frequency of sinusoidal waves
- Detected wave after reflection has shifted phase
- Phase shift proportional to distance from reflecting surface





Continuous Wave Modulation

- Retrieve phase shift by demodulation of received signal
- Demodulation by cross-correlation of received signal with emitted signal
- Emitted sinusoidal signal:

$$g(t) = \cos(\omega t)$$

• Received signal after reflection from 3D surface:

$$s(t) = b + a\cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

h : constant bias

 ω : modulation frequency

- *a* : amplitude
- ϕ : phase shift

• Cross-correlation of both signals:

$$c(\tau) = s * g = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} s(t) \cdot g(t+\tau) dt \qquad \tau : \text{offset}$$



Continuous Wave Modulation

Cross-correlation function simplifies to

$$c(\tau) = \frac{a}{2}\cos(\omega\tau + \phi) + b$$

- b: constant bias a: amplitude ϕ : **phase shift** τ : internal offset
- Sample $c(\tau)$ at four sequential instants with different phase offset τ :

$$A_i = c(i \cdot \pi/2), \quad i = 0, \dots, 3$$

• Directly obtain sought parameters:

$$\phi = \arctan 2(A_3 - A_1, A_0 - A_2)$$
$$a = 1/2\sqrt{(A_3 - A_1)^2 + (A_0 - A_2)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow d = \frac{c}{4\pi\omega}\phi$$



Continuous Wave Modulation

- Advantages:
- · Variety of light sources available as no short/strong pulses required
- Applicable to different modulation techniques (other than frequency)
- Simultaneous range and amplitude images

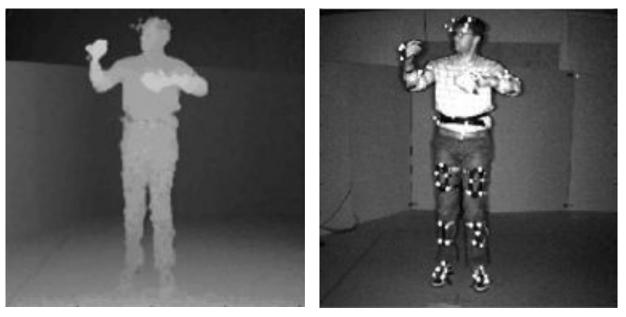
Disadvantages:

- In practice, integration over time required to reduce noise
- Frame rates limited by integration time
- Motion blur caused by long integration time



Continuous Wave Modulation

• Simultaneous availability of (co-registered) range and amplitude images



Depth Image

Amplitude Image



Example Device: PMDVision CamCube



- Near-infrared light (700-1400 nm)
- Continous wave modulation
- Sinusoidal signal
- Resolution: 204x204 pixels
- Standard lens, standard calibration
- Frame rate: 20 fps
- Multiple camera operation by using different modulation frequencies

Image from [3]

(\$) TUT

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Measurement Errors and Noise

Systematic distance error

- Perfect sinusoidal signals hard to achieve in practice
- Depth reconstructed from
 imperfect signals is erroneous
- Solution 1: camera-specific calibration to know distance error
- Solution 2: alternative demodulation techniques not assuming perfect sinusoidal signals

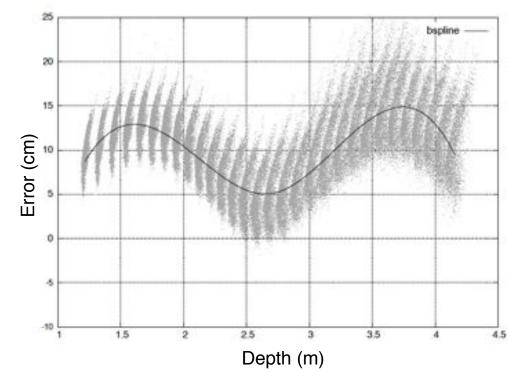


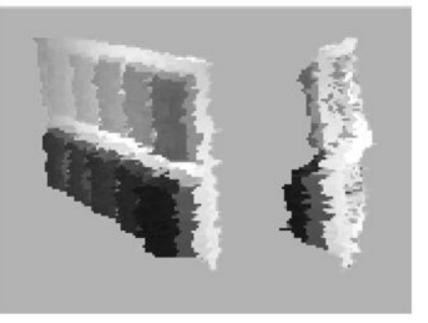
Image from [1]



Measurement Errors and Noise

Intensity-related distance error

- Computed distance depending on amount of incident light
- Inconsistencies at surfaces with low infrared-light reflectivity
- Correction by means of corresponding amplitude image



Depth images of planar object with patches of different reflectivity

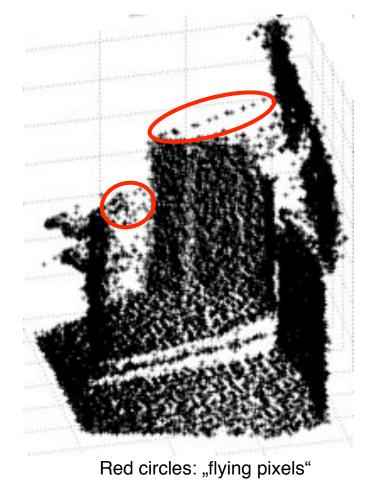
Image from [1]



Measurement Errors and Noise

Depth inhomogeneity

- Current ToF cameras have low pixel resolution
- Individual pixels get different depth measurements
- Inhomogeneous
- "Flying pixels", especially at object bondaries
- Correction: discard pixels along rays parallel to viewing direction





Measurement Errors and Noise

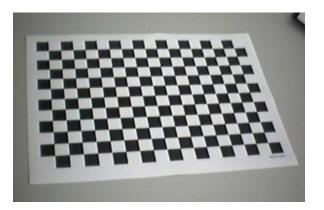
Light interference effects

- Signal received on detector can be mixed with signals that were reflected in the scene multiple times (instead of direct reflection)
- Emitted light waves can be attenuated and scattered in the scene
- Interference by other sources of near-infrared light (e.g. sunlight, infrared marker-based tracking systems, other ToF cameras)



Geometric Calibration of ToF Cameras

- Standard optics used in commercial ToF cameras
- Use ToF amplitude image for calibration
- Standard calibration procedure for camera intrinsics
 - $f_x = fm_x$: focal length in terms of pixel dimensions (x)
 - $f_y = fm_y$: focal length in terms of pixel dimensions (y)
 - c_x: principal point (x)
 - c_y: principal point (y)
 - Lens distortion parameters
- Typical approach:
 - checkerboard calibration pattern
 - World-to-image point correspondences
 - Linear estimation of intrinsic/extrinsic parameters
 - Non-linear optimization





Extraction of Metric 3D Geometry from ToF Data

- ToF data: depth *d* in meters for every pixel location $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)^{\top}$
- Desired data: 3D coordinates $\mathbf{X} = (X, Y, Z)^{\top}$ for every pixel
- Write image coordinates in homogeneous notation (x,y,1)
- Apply inverse of intrinsic parameters matrix K to points

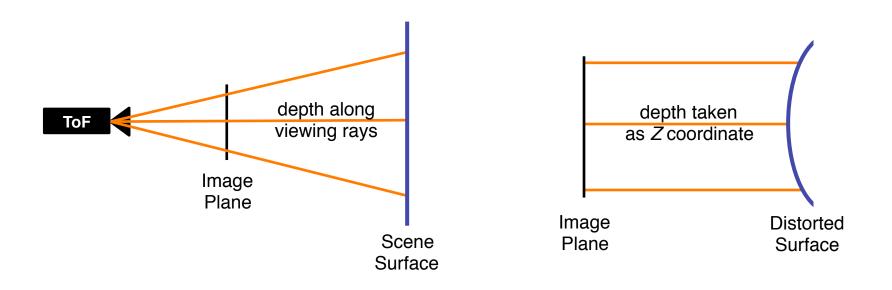
$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{R}|\mathbf{t}]\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_x & 0 & c_x & 0 \\ 0 & f_y & c_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ W \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_x X + c_x Z \\ f_y Y + c_y Z \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad X = \frac{(x - c_x)Z}{f_x}$$
$$Y = \frac{(y - c_y)Z}{f_y}$$
Inverse relation for X and Y



Extraction of Metric 3D Geometry from ToF Data

- Simply taking measured depth *d* as *Z* coordinate is not sufficient
- Depth is measured along rays from camera center through image plane



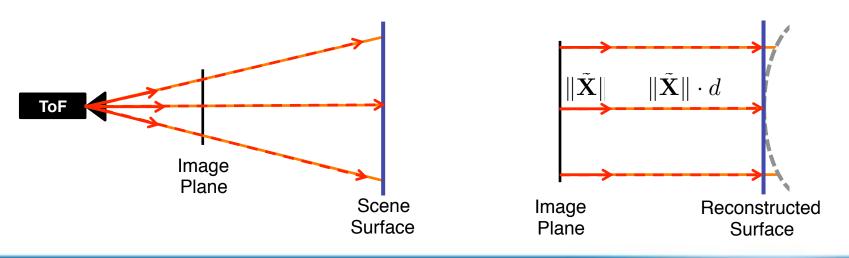


Extraction of Metric 3D Geometry from ToF Data

• Ray from camera center into 3D scene:

$$\begin{pmatrix} (x-c_x)Z/f_x \\ (y-c_y)Z/f_y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}^\top \to \begin{pmatrix} (x-c_x)/f_x \\ (y-c_y)/f_y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}^\top =: \tilde{\mathbf{X}}$$

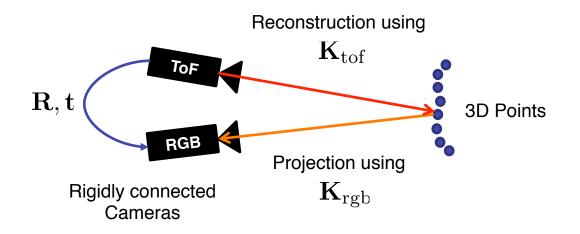
• Normalize to unit length (keep only direction), multiply with depth: $\mathbf{X} = \|\tilde{\mathbf{X}}\| \cdot d$





Combining ToF with Other Cameras

- Additional, complementary information (e.g. color)
- Higher-resolution information (e.g. for superresolution)
- Example: combination with a high-resolution RGB camera
- Approach: Stereo calibration techniques, giving ${f R},t$ and ${f K}_{
 m tof},{f K}_{
 m rgb}$



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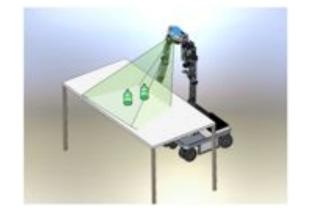
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Semantic Scene Analysis [4]

- Extract geometric representations from 3D point cloud data for object recognition
- Application: scene understanding for mobile robot
- RANSAC for fitting geometric models (e.g. plane, cylinders) to point data
- Points belonging to a detected model (e.g. table) are subsequently removed
- Final step: classification of remaining point clouds to object types



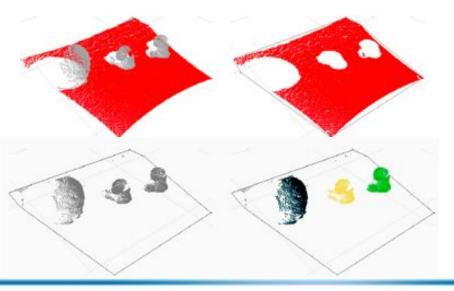


Image from [4]

Mixed/Augmented Reality [5]

- Real-time 3D scene augmentation with virtual objects
- Substitution for traditional chromakeying (blue or green background) used in TV studios
- Combined ToF-RGB camera system
- Segmentation of moving objects
- Occlusions and shadows between real and virtual objects
- Tracking of camera location by co-registration of 3D depth data











Acquisition of 3D Scene Geometry [6]

- Combined ToF and RGB cameras
- Real-time acquisition of 3D scene geometry
- Each new frame is aligned to already previously aligned frames such that:
 - 3D geometry is matched
 - color information is matched
- Point cloud matching algorithm similar to Iterative Closest Points (ICP)
- Color information compensates for low depth image resolution
- Depth image compensates for hardly textured image regions

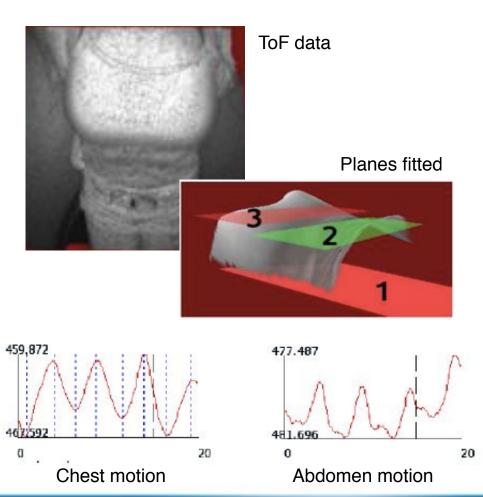






Medical Respiratory Motion Detection [8]

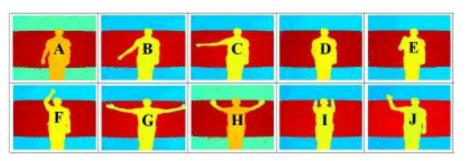
- Patient motion during examinations such as PET, CT causes artifacts
- Several breathing cycles during image acquisition
- Reduce artfacts when breathing motion pattern is known
- Measure breathing motion using ToF camera above patient
- Plane fitting to 3D data in specific regions of interest
- Continuous breathing signal

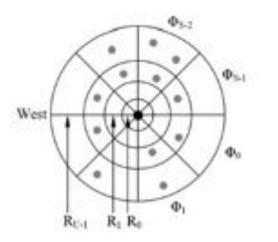


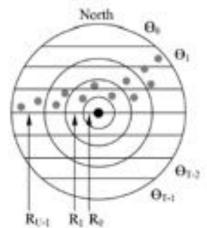


Gesture Recognition [9]

- Recognition of upper-body gestures
- Invariance to view-point changes (limited invariance)
- Representation of human point cloud using 3D shape context descriptors
- Rotational invariance by means of spherical harmonics functions





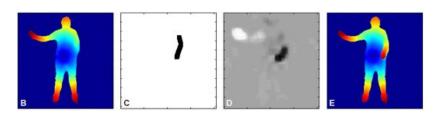




Markerless Human Motion Tracking [12]

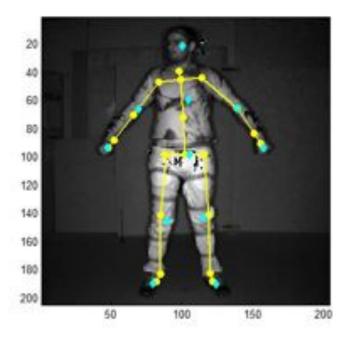
- Person segmentation by background subtraction
- Graph-based representation of 3D points
- Geodesic distance measurements (almost) invariant to pose changes
- Detection of anatomical landmarks as points with maximal geodesic distance from body center of mass
- Self-occlusion handling by means of motion information between frames
- Fitting skeleton to landmarks using inverse kinematics

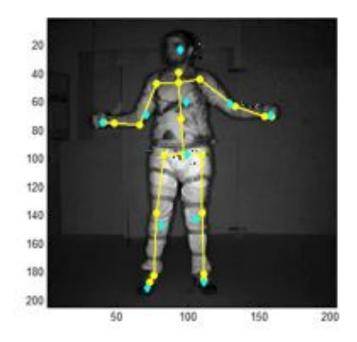






Markerless Human Motion Tracking [12]



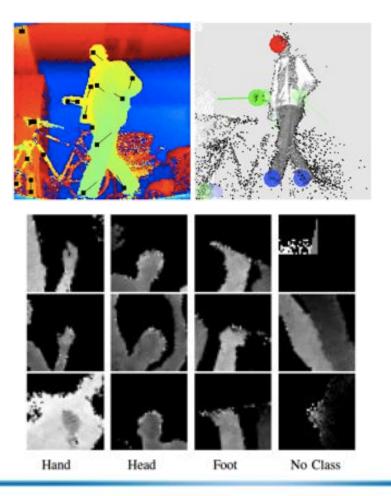




Case Studies

Markerless Human Motion Tracking [10,11]

- Background segmentation
- Extraction of many interest points at local geodesic extrema with respect to the body centroid
- Classification as anatomical landmarks (e.g. head, hands, feet) using classifier trained on depth image patches

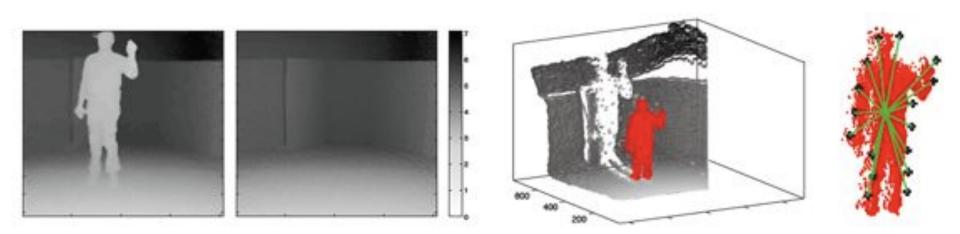




Case Studies

Human Body Tracking and Activity Recognition [13]

- ToF-based feature descriptor for human poses
- Sampling of extremal points of 3D surface corresponding to person
- · Features: distances of extremal points to centroid of point cloud
- Descriptor varies smoothly with motion





Case Studies

Manifold Learning for ToF-based Human Body Tracking and Activity Recognition

BMVC 2010

Loren Arthur Schwarz, Diana Mateus, Victor Castaneda, Nassir Navab

Chair for Computer Aided Medical Procedures and Augmented Reality Technische Universität München, Germany

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Lecture Outline

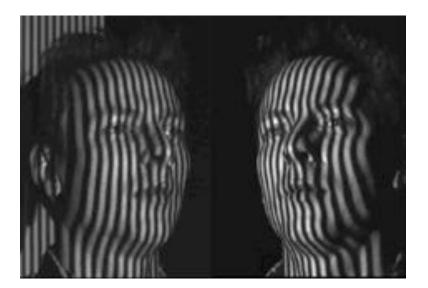
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Other Range Imaging Techniques

Structured Light Imaging

- Project a known light pattern into the 3D scene, viewed by camera(s)
- Distortion of light pattern allows computing the 3D structure



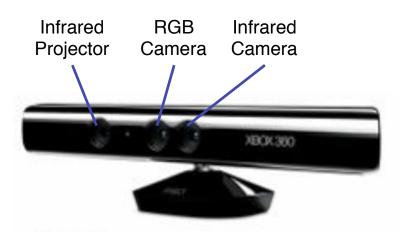
Picture from Wikipedia

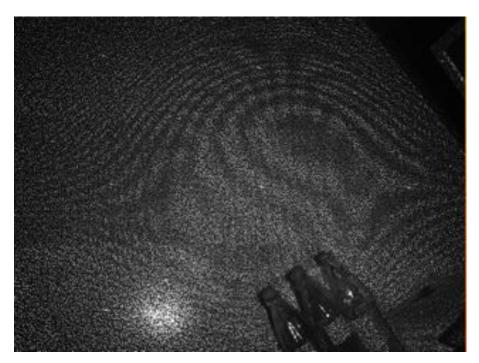


Other Range Imaging Techniques

Structured Light Imaging

- Example: Microsoft Kinect
 - Depth resolution: 640x480 px
 - RGB resolution: 640x480 px





Projected Structured Light Pattern

Picture from [15]



Other Range Imaging Techniques

Structured Light Imaging

• Example: Microsoft Kinect



RGB Image

Depth Image

3D Reconstruction

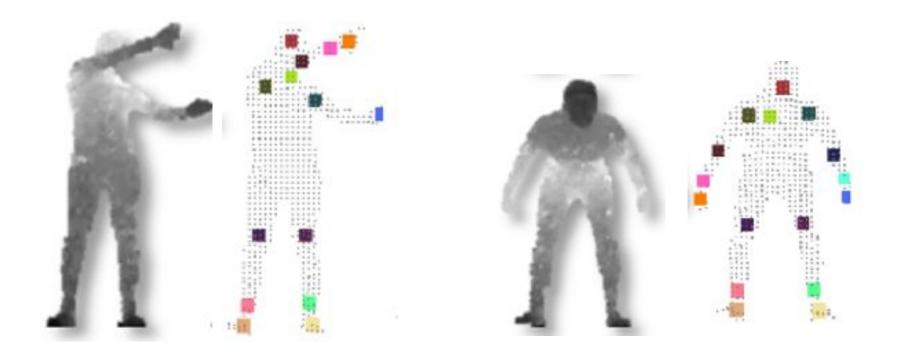
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Kinect Body Tracking

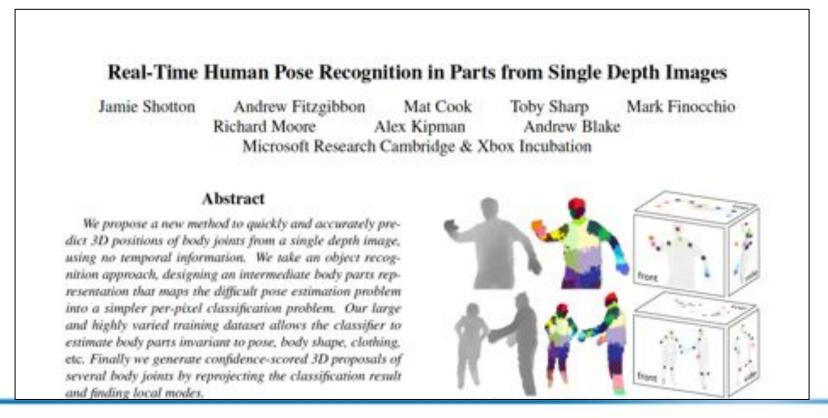
- **Given:** Metric 3D point cloud data (background-subtracted)
- Wanted: Location of body joints in 3D





Kinect Body Tracking

Original algorithm by Jamie Shotton et al. presented this year at International Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) 2011:

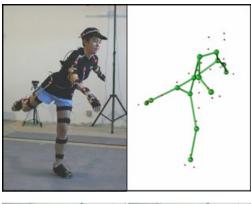


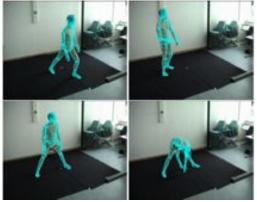


Previous Solutions

How to determine human body pose using visual systems, e.g. cameras?

- Marker-based optical motion capture
 - Infrared cameras track locations of reflective markers
 - Very high precision and frame rates
 - Cumbersome, limited freedom of movement
 - Expensive professional systems
- Marker-less human pose estimation (no learning)
 - Multiple cameras observing a scene
 - Optimization to fit a human body model into each view
 - No markers, but still constrained environment
 - Sensitive to illumination and occlusions
 - Computationally very expensive



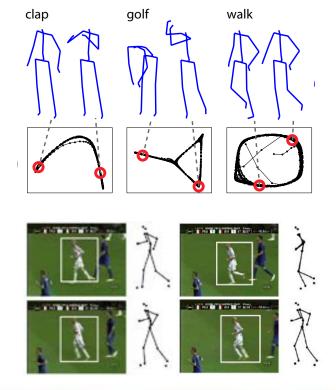




Previous Solutions

How to determine human body pose using visual systems, e.g. cameras?

- Learning-based human pose estimation
 - Training data for creating models of typical human movements for individual activities (e.g. walking)
 - Machine learning methods
 - Simpler observations, e.g. single camera view
 - Generalization problems
 - Actions that have not been learned?
 - Movement styles that differ from training style?
 - Clothing that looks different from training setting?
 - Persons that look different from training person?
 - Training computationally expensive, tracking easier
 - Mainly research applications



Method Overview

Training:

- 1. Marker-based motion capture
- 2. Generation of synthetic training depth data
- 3. Training random forest classifier



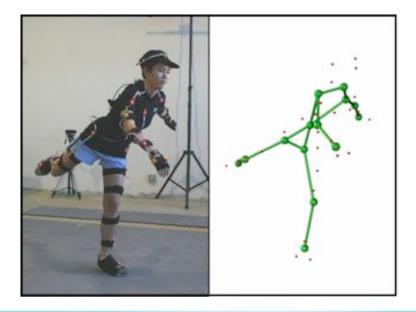
Testing:

- 1. Predicting body part for every depth pixel
- 2. Extracting joint locations from distribution of predicted body parts



1. Marker-based Motion Capture

- Record motion capture data (joint angles over time)
- Capture as many activities as possible:
- driving, dancing, kicking, running, navigating menus, etc.
- Discard poses that are very similar
- Final database size: 100.000 frames



2. Generation of synthetic training depth data

- Use motion capture data to animate synthetic human body models
- Systematic variation of size, weight, body proportions, etc.
- Automatic labeling of 31 body parts according to predefined scheme
- Rendering to obtain synthetic depth images
- Systematic variation of camera perspective

Question: Would such an automatic generation of synthetic training data also work for an approach using regular RGB cameras?





3. Training random forest classifier

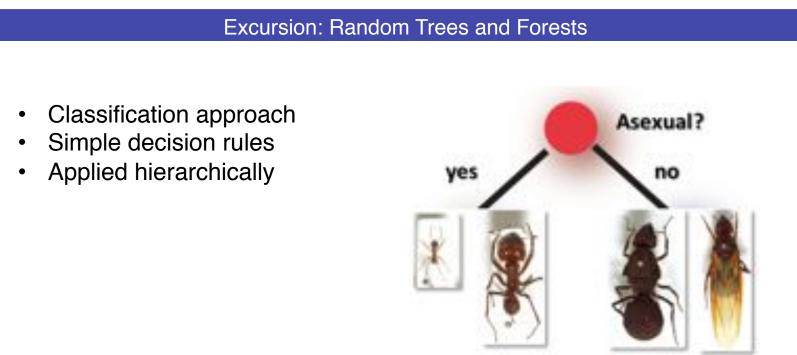
Excursion: Random Trees and Forests

- Classification approach
- Simple decision rules
- Applied hierarchically

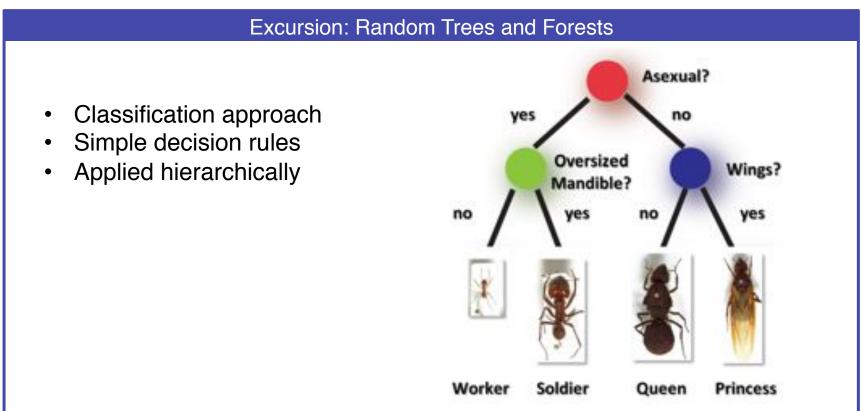


taken from wikipedia











3. Training random forest classifier

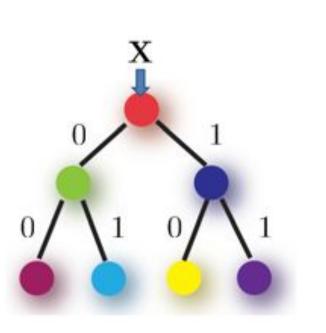
Excursion: Random Trees and Forests

GOAL: Partition the feature space

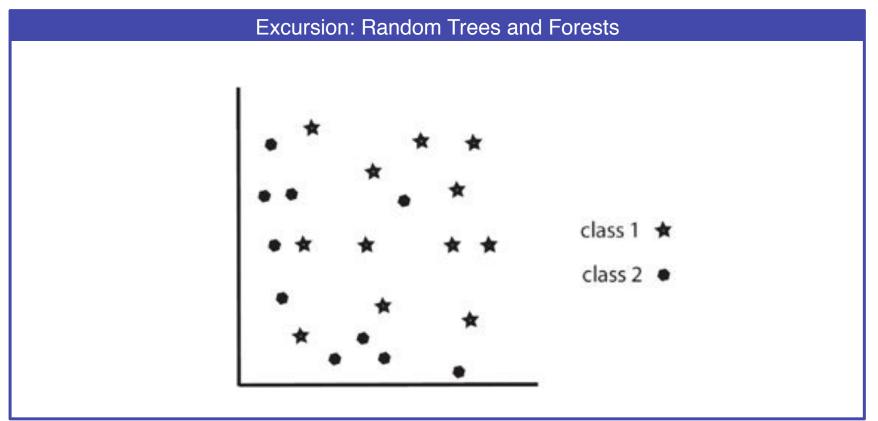
- · Using simple rules
- In a hierarchical fashion

Tree:

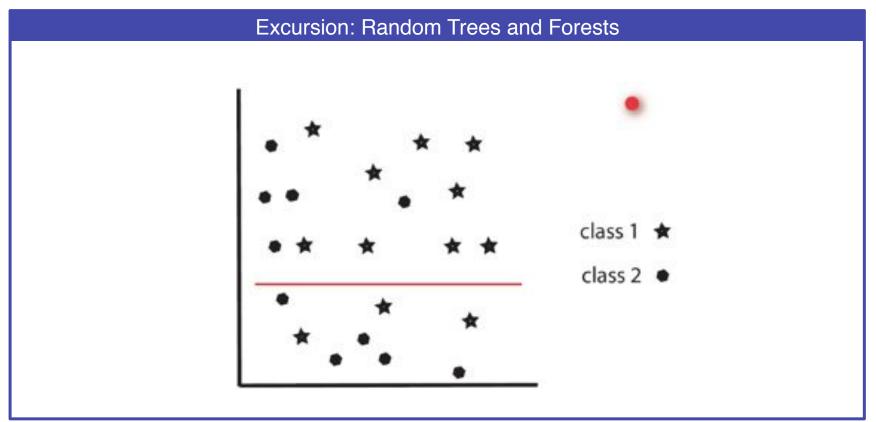
- Ensemble of nodes
- Each node consists of a decision function and a threshold



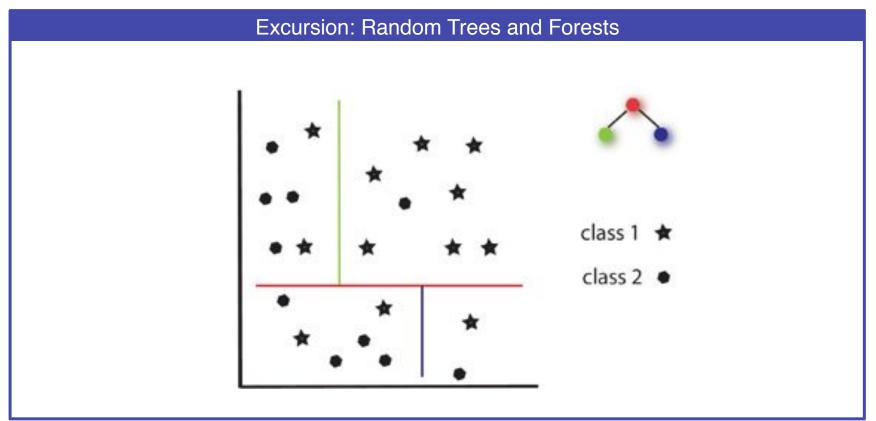




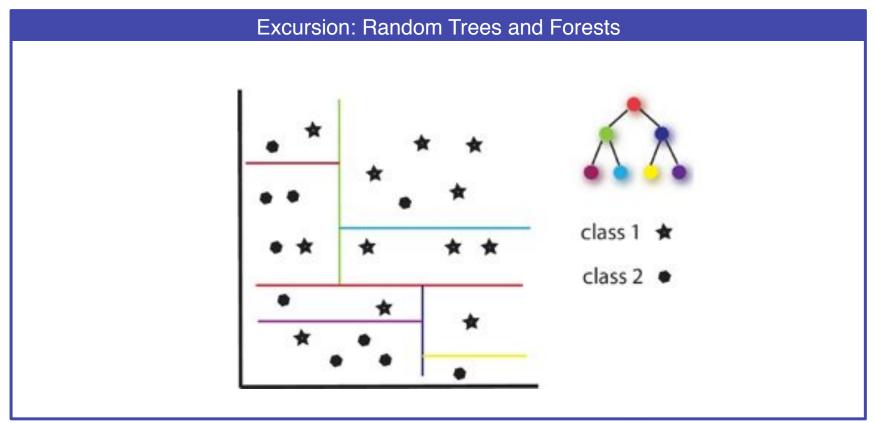














3. Training random forest classifier

Excursion: Random Trees and Forests

Training a Random Tree

- Input: observations and labels
- Iteratively generate random split candidates
- Keep split candidates that best separate feature space

Generating Split Candidates

- Randomly chose a dimension of feature space
- Randomly choose a threshold along that dimension
- Or other approaches...

Prediction using a Random Tree

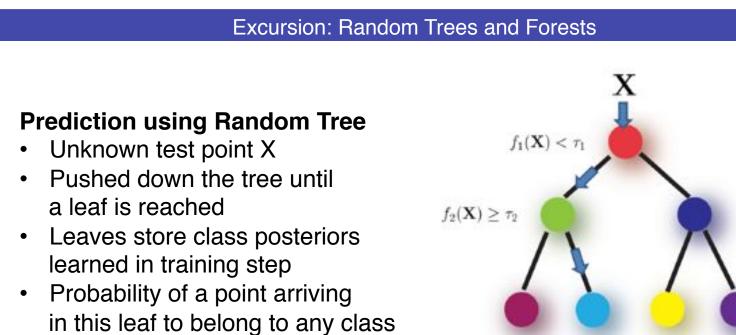
Drop a feature vector down the tree until it reaches a leaf



Cheap



3. Training random forest classifier



Class posteriors

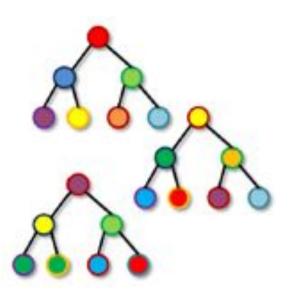


3. Training random forest classifier

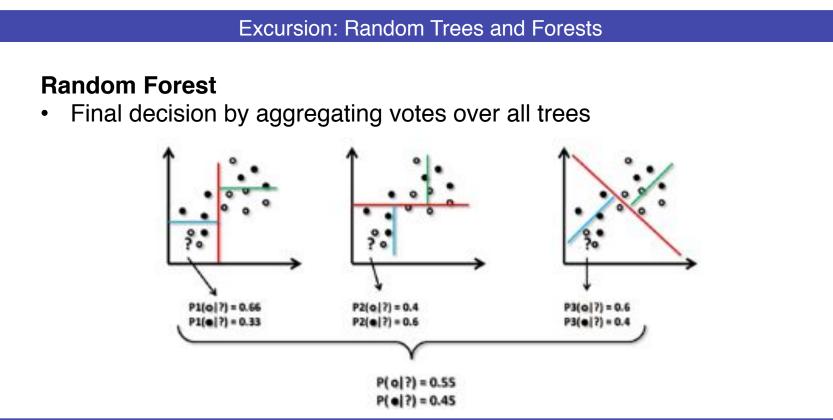
Excursion: Random Trees and Forests

Random Forest

- Ensemble of random trees
- Each random tree is a weak classifier, their ensemble is superior
- Each tree partitions feature space in a different way
- Final decision by aggregating votes over all trees

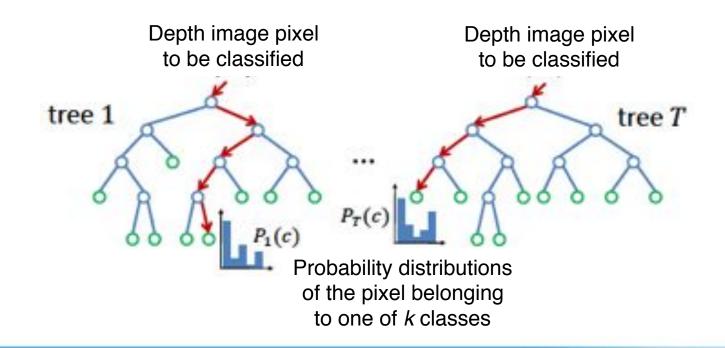






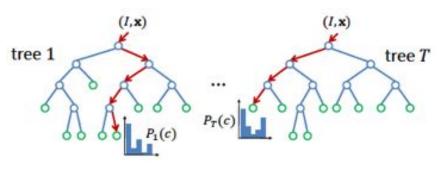


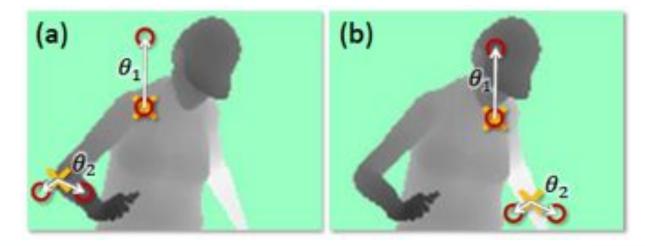
- · What is classified: individual depth image pixels
- What are the classes: *k*=31 body part labels





- Features to be examined in each node:
- Depth difference between two pixels at static offsets from the pixel
- Each tree node has fixed offsets
- Offsets learned during training phase

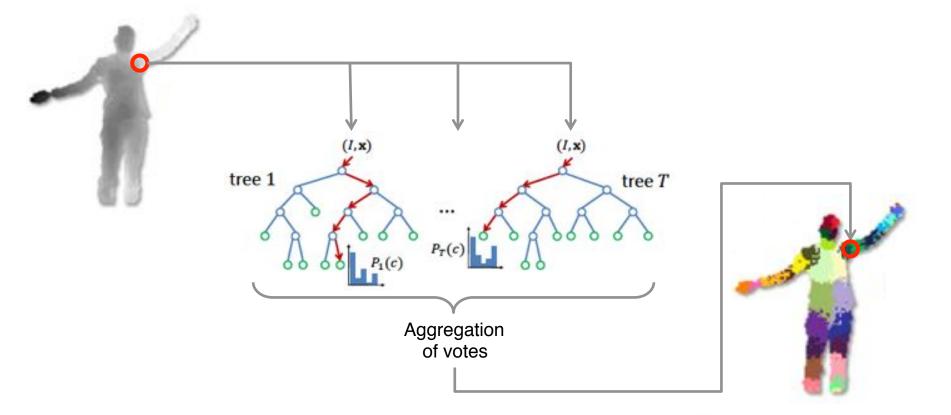




- X Pixel to be classified
- Pixels whose depth is compared

Testing

1. Predicting body part for every depth pixel



AIN

Testing

2. Extracting joint locations from distribution of predicted body parts

- Simplest solution: joint location is average of all 3D points assigned a corresponding body part
- Better solution: Mode finding in body part distribution using Mean Shift algorithm
- Smaller influence of outliers



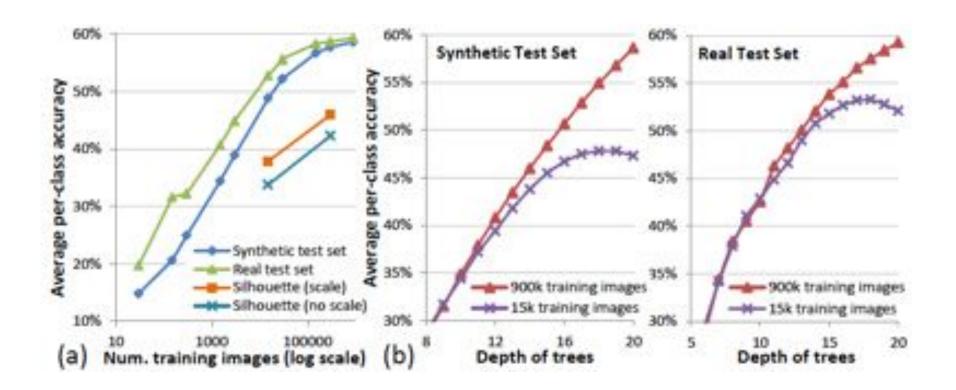


Summary

- Pose estimation formulated as a classification problem
- Every depth pixel is independently classified to a body part
- No temporal smoothing over subsequent frames
- Synthetic training dataset for coping with variability of human bodies
- Random forest classifier with 3 trees, each of depth 20
- Training time: 1 day on 1000 core cluster
- Runtime: 200 fps on Xbox



Evaluation





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