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Efficient point cloud segmentation techniques to support BIM or GIS

Michael J. Olsen Associate Professor **Oregon State University**

Contributions by

Hamid Mahmoudabadhi and Ezra Che, Oregon State Un







Image data: Ezra Che



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About me

- Associate Professor of Geomatics
 School of Civil and Construction Engineering
 Oregon State University
- Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Surveying Engineering, ASCE
- Co-Chair, IAG Subcommission 4.2 Geospatial Mapping and Engineering
- Technical Implementation Director NSF NHERI Rapid Center
 - PhD. University of California, San Diego (Research: lidar to model seacliff erosion
 - MS and BS, University of Utah, liquefaction hazard mapping
 - Primary Research Interests: Geomatics, lidar, 3D modeling, GIS, GNSS, scientific visualization, computational programming, coastal geomorphology, earthquakes, landslides, and other geo-hazards.





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Outline

- Data acquisition
- Error Sources
- Data processing
- Segmentation Approaches
 - Manual
 - Semi-Automatic
 - Automatic
- Modeling Considerations
- Research Highlights
- Additional Resources











Image by Ron Singh, Oregon DOT





Calcs

Docs

Archive and backup data

Modified from NCHRP Report #748

Fails QC

Mod

Clas







Image from Olsen & Gillins, 2015



Key Points

- Survey accuracy (especially local) directly affects model accuracy
- High quality acquisition of field data is critical for reliable results and efficient extraction/modeling
- Understand and determine Level of Accuracy \Detail Requirements before planning survey
- Maintain balance of complete coverage versus "modelling" the object later from partial data
- You will never capture 100%. 80% is easy to do, but it is hard to fill in small shadows. Ultimately, you will need to interpolate. Avoid shadows on important objects or complex objects.





Overall factors influencing accuracy

- Ability to determine range
- Ability to determine angles (H&V)
- Spot size on target (i.e. distance from target)
- Geometric arrangement (angle of incidence)
- Material type and reflectivity
- Platform stability

- Geo-referencing methodology (e.g. IMU, GPS, etc.)
- DTM or CAD modeling technique
- Data transfer errors (e.g. digit truncation!!)
- Parallax between photograph and lidar data use intensity

FARO



Is the model or the point cloud more accurate?





Neo Chapter 8, Terrestrial laser scanning, FARO Surveying Engineering Manual, ASCE.

University



Figure from Olsen, M.J. (Accepted). Chapter 8, Terrestrial laser scanning, Surveying Engineering Manual, ASCE.







- Data quality degrades with obliqueness to the surface
 - Position
 - Intensity
 - Resolution

Figure from Olsen, M.J. (Accepted). Chapter 8, Terrestrial laser scanning, Surveying Engineering Manual, ASCE.





Cleaning/Filtering/Classifying

- Polygons
- Range, intensity, XYZ filters
- Plane filters (above, below)
- Full waveform
- Ground filtering
- Minimum Separation
- Random
- Select and "Delete"
- Some software masks data rather than deletes







Segmentation Approaches

- Manual
 - Tedious & Frustrating
- Semi-Automatic
 - Isolate an object of interest
 - Fit object to cluster of points
- Automatic
 - Often require a lot of fine tuning of parameters (e.g. tiling)
 - Be prepared for manual cleanup







Mathematically defined, Geometric Primitives

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points

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- lines and line segments
- planes
- orcles and empset
 transle and other polycops not to fit
- spline curves
- spheres
- cubes or boxes
- toroids
- cylinders
- pyramids

teapot









Logan Allendar Torger Torgerson







Pipe Modeling in Leica Cyclone: Autodetect, Pipe Run

Caution: Scale dependent. Need to seed a typical pipe diameter for best results.





Image: Logan Allendar and Torger Torgerson









Image: Michael Dennis





Image: Michael Dennis



Object	Object type												Error with respect to AISC	
			d	bf	plans	d	bf	d	bf	model	d	bf	d	bf
6580	Column	1st floor, by monitor	29.3	22.8	W10X22	25.9	14.6	13.1%	56.1%	W12X53	30.7	25.4	-4.7%	-10.2%
65A0	Column	1st floor, NE corner of elevator	29.8	23.9	W10x45	25.7	20.4	16.2%	17.3%	W12X53	30.7	25.4	-3.0%	-5.9%
65AC	Beam	1st floor, by rear entrance	34.8	12.5	W14x22	34.8	12.7	0.0%	-1.6%	W14x22	34.8	12.7	0.0%	-1.6%
65C6	Beam	1st floor, by main doors	34.1	19.9	W10x22	25.9	14.6	31.6%	36.3%	W14X43	34.8	20.3	-2.0%	-2.1%
65D4	Beam	1st floor, cross beam above stairs	21.6	16.8	W10x22	25.9	14.6	-16.6%	15.0%	W8X28	20.5	16.6	5.5%	1.1%
66DC	Beam	1st floor, by hanging sculpture	44.1	15.5	W14x22	34.8	12.7	26.7%	22.0%	W18X35	45.0	15.2	-1.9%	1.7%
6776	Column	1 st floor, at elevator and stairs	19.4	14.6	W8X24	20.1	16.5	-3.7%	-11.6%	W8X24	20.1	16.5	-3.7%	-11.6%
6B28	Column	1st & 2nd floor, SE corner elevator	21.3	19.5	W8X24	20.1	16.5	5.7%	18.1%	W8X40	21.0	20.5	1.6%	-4.9%
6879	Beam	2nd floor, north wall	58.7	21.6	W24X76	60.7	22.8	-3.3%	-5.4%	W24X76	60.7	22.8	-3.3%	-5.4%
	Beam	2nd floor, base atrium balcony	37.8	13.3	W10X22	25.9	14.6	45.9%	-8.9%	W16X26	39.9	14.6	-5.2%	-8.9%
	Beam	2nd floor, east side atrium	52.3	16.0	W21X50	52.8	16.6	-1.0%	-3.5%	W21X50	52.8	16.6	-1.0%	-3.5%
	Column	1st & 2nd floor, north wall	32.9	35.6	W14X132	37.3	37.3	-11.9%	-4.7%	W14X90	35.6	37.3	-7.5%	-4.7%
							Minimum	-16.6%	-11.6%		N	linimum	-7.5%	-11.6%
						I	Mean	45.9% 8.6%	56.1% 10.8%		M	aximum Mean	5.5% -2.1%	1./% -4.2%
						Std	deviation	±18.7%	±20.7%		Std d	eviation	±3.4%	±4.0%



Table by Michael Dennis (OSU, NGS-NOAA)



Automated Approaches

Туре	Type Advantages Limitations		Example Algorithms	Reference		
	Generic - Function with any point cloud, most widely available. Works well in urban environments where well defined features are prominent		RANSAC (Random Sampling and Consensus)	Fischler and Bolles (1981), Schnabel et al. (2007).		
			Hough Transform	Hough (1962), Ballard and Brown (1982), Vosselman (1999), Maas and Vosselman (1999), Rabbani (2006)		
		Computationally costly, require finely-tuned parameters, limited to small datasets, sensitive to variable point density and data gaps common in TLS data.	Region Growing (based on proximity, slope, curvature, and surface normal) from a seed location	Ballard and Brown (1982), Rabbani et al. (2007), Pu et al. (2006), Moussa and El-Sheimy (2010)		
			Detecting Surface Discontinuities	Wang and Shan (2009)		
Gaamatria			K-Means Clustering	Chehata et al. (2008)		
Geometric			Voxelation	Douillard et al. (2011)		
			Curvature	Son and Kim (2015)		
			Multi-scale morphological analysis	Bradu and Lague (2012), Rodriguez-Caballero et al. (2016)		
			Fuzzy Parameters in relative height differentials	Biosca and Lerma (2008)		
			Tensor voting of normal vector clusters	Lin and You (2006)		
			Support Vector Machine classification of the DTM	Serna and Marcotegui (2014)		
	Enables application of Computer Vision and Image Processing algorithms, some objects are readably segmentable by color		Spectral filtering	Lichti (2005)		
		Color information not always	Graph theory segmentation and union (also considers normals)	Strom et al. (2010)		
		available in point cloud, Obtaining high quality images with scans can sometimes be time consuming, Color not sufficient alone to distinguish multiple objects - some features can have more than one color, others can share the same color.	Mean shift smoothing algorithm to cluster sections of images followed by PCA for classification.	Sok and Adams (2010)		
Color			Superpixel clustering (SLIC) followed by normal vector evaluation through SVM. A k-nearest neighbor algorithm is utilized for refinement.	Mahmoudabadi et al. (2013)		
	Inherent property of laser scan data,	Intensity values are affected by a	Conditional Random Field to classify buildings, low vegetation, tree, natural ground, and asphalt.	Niemeyer et al. (2012)		
Intensity	between surfaces that may not be distinguished by geometry alone. Computationally efficient.	variety of factors. Requires radiometric calibration for optimal results.	Full waveform analysis the of the intensity amplitude, the cross- section per illuminated area, and the backscatter coefficient followed by a SVM classifier.	Mallet et al. (2011)		
	Efficient and enables exploitation of computer vision and image processing algorithms.		Scan line segmentation followed by surface growing process between adjacent scan lines	Jiang and Bunke (1994), Hoover et al. (1996), Sithole and Vosselman (2003), Sithole (2005)		
			Calculations of gradients from the range image followed by region growing image segmentation	Gorte (2007)		
		Requires a structure point cloud	Smoothed surface normal and range panorama analysis	Zeibak and Filin (2009)		
Data Structure			Mean-shift algorithm to segment Intensity, Range, Surface normals, and True Color Channel panoramas.	Barnea and Filin (2013)		
			Extraction of trees using range, intensity, LUV, and HSV color panoramas	Barnea and Filin (2012)		
			Use of computer vision algorithms to segment based on HDR color, normalized intensity, range, and normal components represented as 2D panoramas.	Mahmoudabadi et al. (2016)		



Semi-Automated\Automated cloud segmentation challenges

Usually complex, computationally costly

-

- Require finely-tuned parameters & sensitive to parameters
- Laborious when applied to broader and larger datasets
- Fit the points to mathematical models not all objects have regular geometric shape
- Many techniques developed for small datasets (few million points)
- Quality Control is still often a manual process







http://www.cloudcompare.org/doc/wiki/index.php?title=File:Cc_qRansacSD_result.jpg





CAD/BIM considerations

- Simple geometric shapes (minimal storage, easy interaction)
- Real world is not simple (deflections)
- Constraints (e.g., horizontal, vertical, or meet at 90 degrees).
- Data interoperability hurdles
- Data coverage can enable very accurate modeling (e.g., plane defined by 1E6 points versus few points by traditional methods)
- Software enables point cloud viewing\modeling in CAD\BIM





Generic modeling considerations

- To fit or not to fit
- Increased data = increased computation time
- Engineering software may not be able to handle it
- Increased smoothing removes noise, but removes features
- Too much smoothing removes wanted features
- Orders of magnitude increase in manual processing time for better and better (higher resolution\reduced artifacts) models
- Suggest iterative approach. Start with a "crude model", clean it, do calculations\evaluation, then keep cleaning, repeat calculations and see how much things change.





Multi-Scale Dimensionality Classification

Canupo

•Brodu, N. and Lague, D., <u>3D Terrestrial LiDAR data classification of complex natural scenes</u> using a multi-scale dimensionality criterion : applications in geomorphology, *ISPRS journal of Photogrammmetry and Remote Sensing*, 68, p. 121-134, 2012.

Raw 3D Point Cloud



http://www.cloudcompare.org/doc/wiki/index.php?title=CANUPO_(plugin) https://geosciences.univ-rennes1.fr/spip.php?article1284&lang=fr









Mahmoudabadi, H., **Olsen, M.J**., & Todorovic, S., (2016). "Efficient point cloud segmentation utilizing computer vision algorithms." *Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*, 119C, 135-150, doi: 10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2016.05.015







Objectives:

Apply image processing and computer vision to segment dense, large, 3D point clouds

Implement HDR photography to improve digital images and consequently segmentation results.

Derive an empirical correction formula to improve segmentation performance.







PIMP my scans:





A) L PIMP



B) Lc PIMP





Data improvement 1 - Laser intensity correction (B)



Review of Techniques: Kashani, A., **Olsen, M.J.,** Parrish, C.E., & <u>Wilson, N. (</u>2015). "A review of lidar radiometric processing: from ad hoc intensity correction to rigorous radiometric calibration," *Sensors*, 15(11), 28099-28128; doi: <u>10.3390/s151128099</u>







Data improvement 2 – HDR vs automatic mode







E) Segmented Nh PIMP



G) Segmented β PIMP



H) Segmented ρ PIMP

geospatial software

F) Segmented Nv PIMP









Merging

K = number of input PIMPs N = number of segments W = Weight vector (in this research all 1) D = sparse matrix of (δ_{ij})

 $\gamma =$ merging threshold

$$V_{ik} = [\mu_{ik} \quad \sigma_{ik}] \qquad k = 1, \cdots, K$$

$$\delta_{i,j} = \sum_{k=1}^{K} W_k \Box \| V_{i_k} - V_{j_k} \|$$

$$\max(||D||) = \frac{N(N-1)}{2}$$







Basic PIMPs+RGB



RGB colored



Neo

FARO











Che, E., & **Olsen, M.J.**, (2017). "Fast Ground Filtering for TLS data via ScanLine Density Analysis," *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*, 129, 226-240, <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2017.05.006</u>.







FIG WORKING

Semantic3d.net

Large-Scale Point Cloud Classification Benchmark

🕈 home 🛛 data 🗸 🗮 results 🗸 🛪 submit 🗸 🔮 FAQ 💄 people

🞝 login 🛛 🖍 sign up

Welcome to the Large-Scale Point Cloud Classification Benchmark!



3D point cloud classification is an important task with applications in robotics, augmented reality and urban planning. Recent advances in Machine Learning and Computer Vision have proven that complex real-world tasks require large training data sets for classifier training. At the same time, until now there were no data sets for 3D point cloud classification which would be sufficiently rich in both object representations and number of labelled points. For example, the well-known Oakland data set contains less than 2 million labelled points. Another popular data set, the NYU benchmark, provides only indoor scenes. Finally, both Sydney Urban Objects data set and the IQmulus & TerraMobilita Contest use a 3D Velodyne LIDAR mounted on a car which provides much lower point density than a static scanner. The same counts for the Vaihingen3D airborne benchmark.

This benchmark closes the gap and provides the largest known labelled 3D point cloud data set of natural scenes with over 3 billion points in total. It also covers a range of diverse urban scenes: churches, streets, railroad tracks, squares, villages, soccer fields, castles to name just a few. The point clouds we provide are scanned statically with state-of-the-art equipment and contain very fine details. Our goal is to help datademanding methods like deep neural nets to unleash their full power and to learn richer 3D representations than it was ever possible before.

What do we provide?

We have created a framework for the fair evaluation of semantic classification in 3D space. In this framework we provide:

- A large set of point clouds with over one billion of labelled points.
- · Ground truth, hand-labelled by professional assessors.
- A common evaluation tool providing the established intersection-union measure along with the full confusion matrix.

Change Log

• 11.01.2016: The Point Cloud Classification website is online.





Images: Semantic3d.net



Classification Accuracy Confusion Matrix

RREDICTE	D Ground	Vehicle	Vegetation	Building
Ground	90%	1%	9%	0%
Vehicle	3%	87%	8%	2%
Vegetation	7%	12%	75%	3%
Building	0%	0%	6%	95%





Point Cloud Library (pointclouds.org)





Images from http://pointclouds.org

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FIG WORKING WEEK 2017

USIBD Level of Accuracy (LOA) Specification Guide





Document C120[™] [Guide] Version 2.0 - 2016

Guide for USIBD Document C220^m: Level of Accuracy (LOA) Specification for Building Documentation





NATIONAL COOPERATIVE HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM

http://learnmobilelidar.com



Getting Started

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references for Mobile

LIDAR.

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GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF MOBILE LIDAR IN TRANSPORTATION

Welcome to the online resource for the NCHRP 15-44 Guidelines for the use of Mobile LIDAR in Transportation Applications. Mobile LIDAR is one of several new 3D technologies that offer the promise of transforming the way in which transportation agencies plan, design, construct and maintain their highway networks. This website is designed to facilitate the interactive learning of the guidelines document and serve as a central hub for discussion and transmission of knowledge amongst the Mobile LIDAR community.

Mobile LIDAR Forum

IDAR

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discussion of mobile

E-Learning Modules

Learn about mobile

LIDAR technology

and how to manage

		FARO	Neo geospatial software
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Recommended Reading

AIRBORNE AND TERRESTRIAL LASER SCANNING

Edited by George Vosselman and Hans-Gerd Maas



From Irregularly Distributed 3D Points to Object Classes





D Springer



<u>Che, E.,</u>* and **Olsen, M.J.,** (2017). "Fast Edge Detection and Segmentation of Terrestrial Laser Scans through Normal Variation Analysis," *ISPRS Geospatial Week, Laser Scanning '17, Wuhan, China*









