



Autonomous Indoor Positioning and Navigation with Foot-mounted IMUs

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TU
Graz

Introduction



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Motivation and Goal of this Session

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Graz

- Indoor positioning and navigation systems for pedestrians are getting ready to be used in practice
- Scientific publications are getting more and more specialized
- Potential, non-academic users miss state of the art summaries of the different technologies and their reliability for different applications
- Discussion with other specialists without time pressure to improve the own developments and learn from other experiences

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Graz University of Technology







Graz University of Technology
Founded 1811

Faculty of Civil Engineering Sciences

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TU Graz – Civil Engineering Sciences



Graz University of Technology:

- Founded 1811
- 7 faculties
- 12500 students
- 1400 scientific staff

Institute for Building Informatics belongs to the Faculty of Civil Engineering Sciences

- 16 institutes
- 5 laboratories

1 bachelor and 4 master studies:

- Structural Engineering
- Geotechnics and Hydraulics
- Environment and Transportation
- Construction Management

1550 students (190 beginners)



Institute for Building Informatics



Founded in 2004 with 2 collaborators

Today:

- 1 professor
- 5 scientific assistants
- 5 scientific project collaborators
- 1 secretary
- 12 tutors

from Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Slovenia
and China



Research Activities



The research topics are based on experiences during my professional life.

The main research is in the field of

- building information modelling
- facility management
- location based services
- disaster and security management in urban areas.

An indoor positioning and navigation system was needed to combine these topics and to add real-time processes.

Motivation and Goal of our Research



- Combine the knowledge in different fields to find new solutions for practical problems many people and organizations are waiting for
- Teamwork with scientists of different disciplines
- In our case:
 - Civil engineers and architects for environmental and building modeling
 - Geodesists for GIS and mapping
 - IT engineers for a complex software system
 - Electronic engineers for sensors and radio transmission

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Actual Developments in Indoor Navigation



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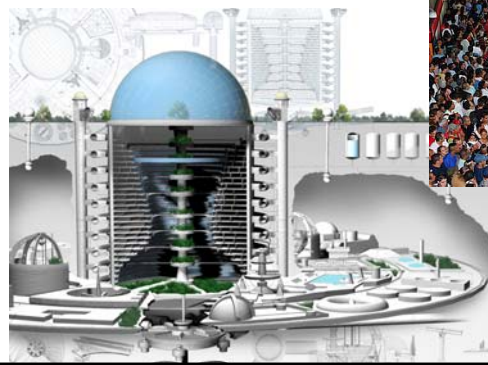
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Urban development



- 50% of the world's population lives in cities
- Higher density ► large roofed areas
- Underground cities and transport systems



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Orientation and Security Problems



Buildings and Underground Structures

- Difficult orientation, especially for handicapped people
- Difficult overview and access in case of fire, flood, terror, etc.
- Difficult to protect against threats of all kind



Desaster Management



- Real-time information about the affected areas and situation of deployed rescue teams is needed
- Secure communication enables efficiency
- Data must be available at the front and in the back
- C³I-Military systems not suited for civil applications
 - Too complicated
 - Too expensive
 - No indoor tracking



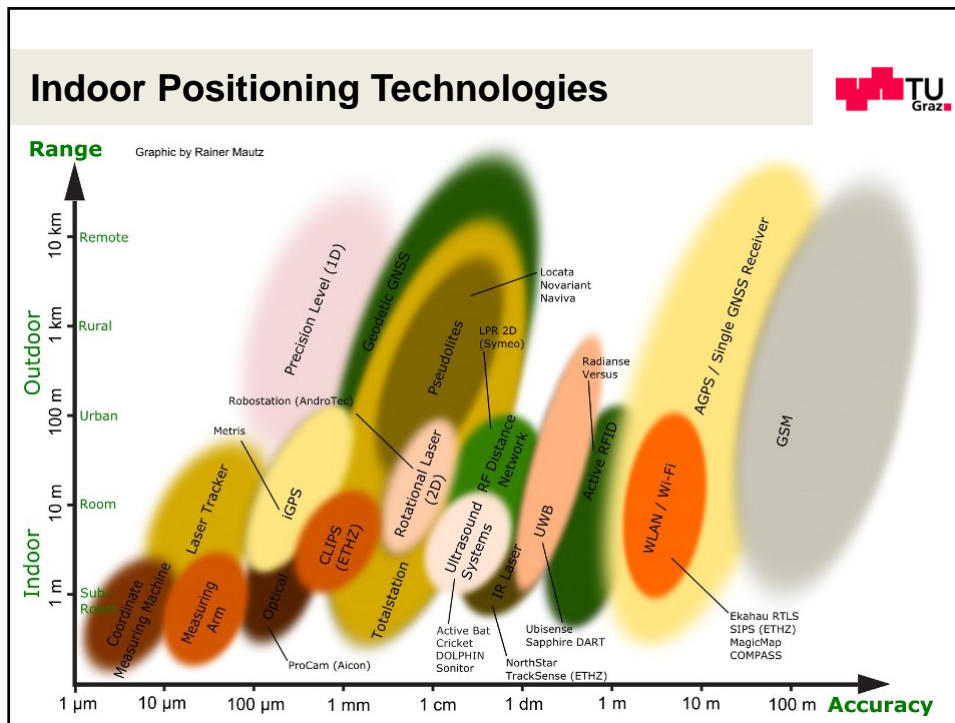
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Indoor Positioning Technologies




- Based on preinstalled infrastructure
 - HS-GNSS (GPS)
 - Wireless LAN (fingerprint)
 - Ultra Wide Band
 - RFID
 - Cameras
- Dead reckoning systems
 - Repeated distance measurement
 - Inertial systems
- Assistance for visually impaired people
 - Blind men stick and floor guidance system
 - Blind men dog






Indoor Positioning Technologies

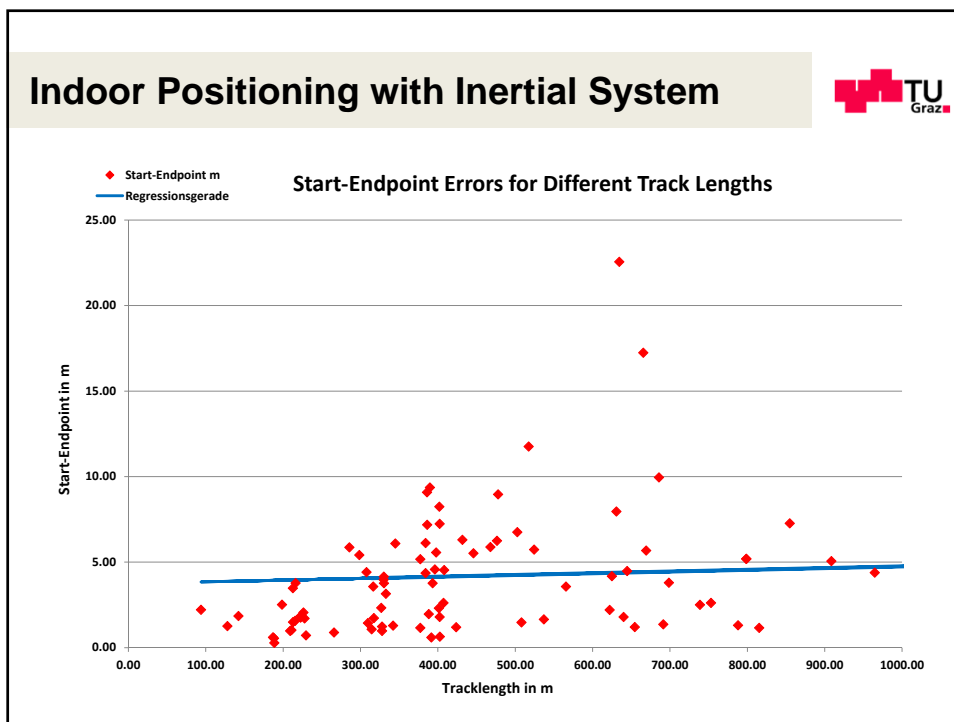
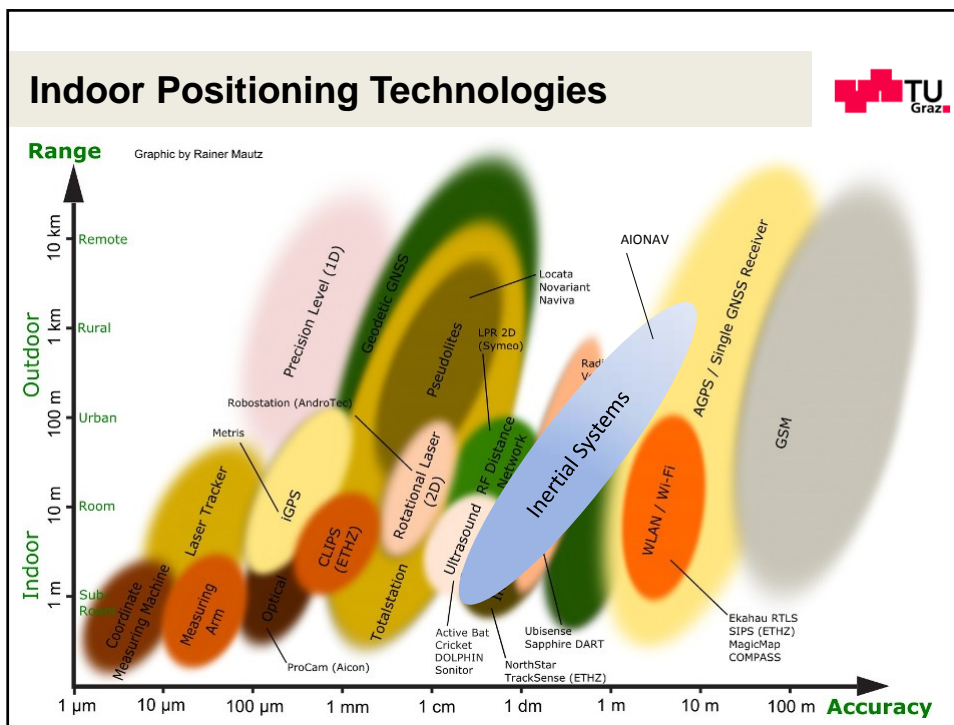


Requirements for pedestrian navigation and disaster management:

- Must work in all environments (indoor and outdoor)
- Low price
- **Autonomous (no additional infrastructure)**
- Accuracy < 3 – 5 m
- Simple to use and immediately available
- High reliability and security
- Small dimension
- Minimum weight


Best solution with Dead reckoning (inertial) system

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Autonomous Indoor + Outdoor Navigation



Positioning Equipment

Hardware inertial measurement unit (foot or body mounted)
 additional sensors (GPS, barometer, RFID)
 lightweight wearable computer / smart phone

Software motion pattern analysis
 intelligent sensor fusion and mapping
 intuitive user interaction

Command Station (optional)

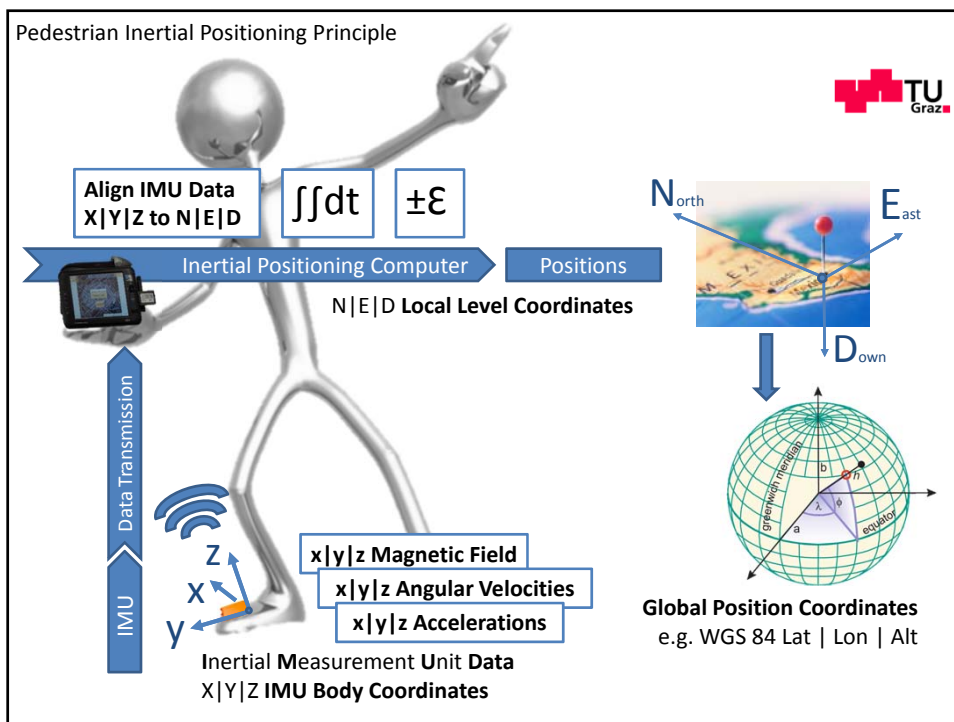
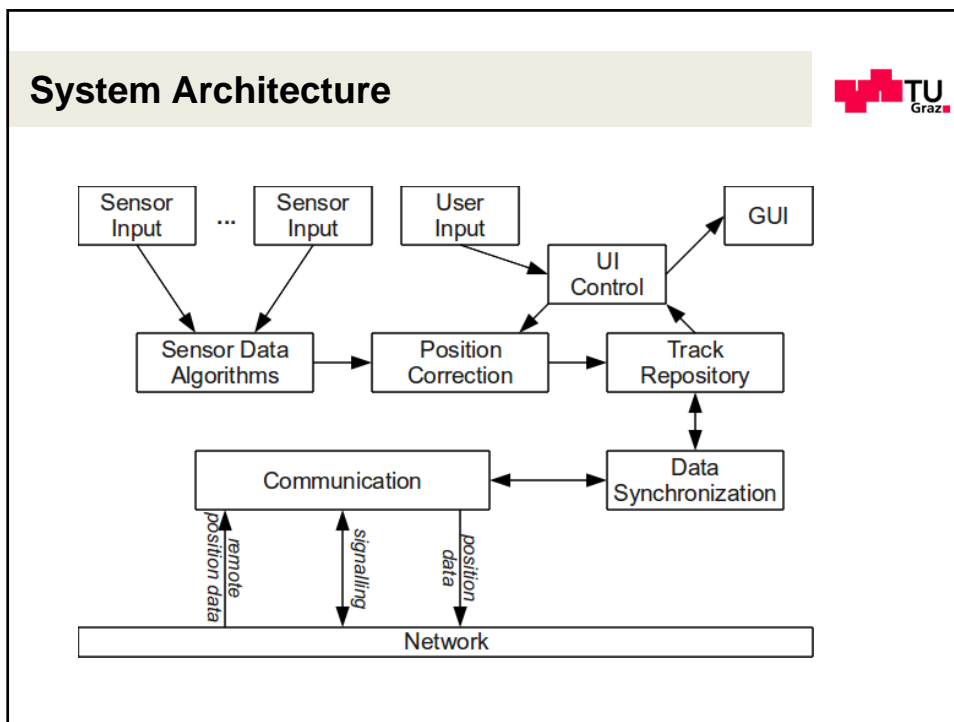
Hardware computer / notebook
Network WLAN, UMTS or radio
Software operation command and control system
 database
 location based service (LBS) tools

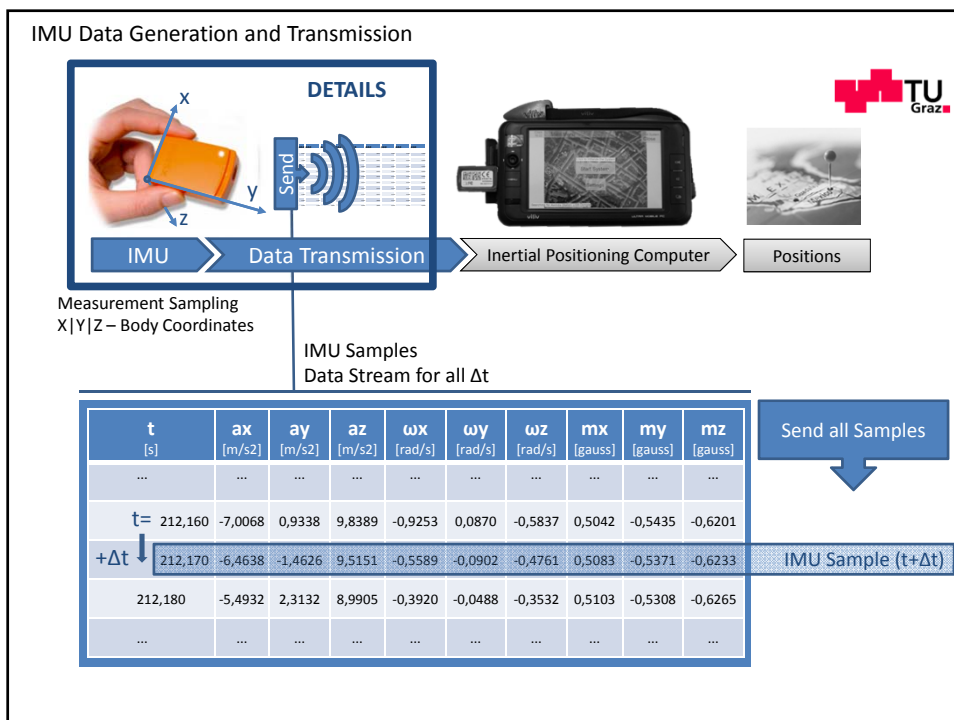
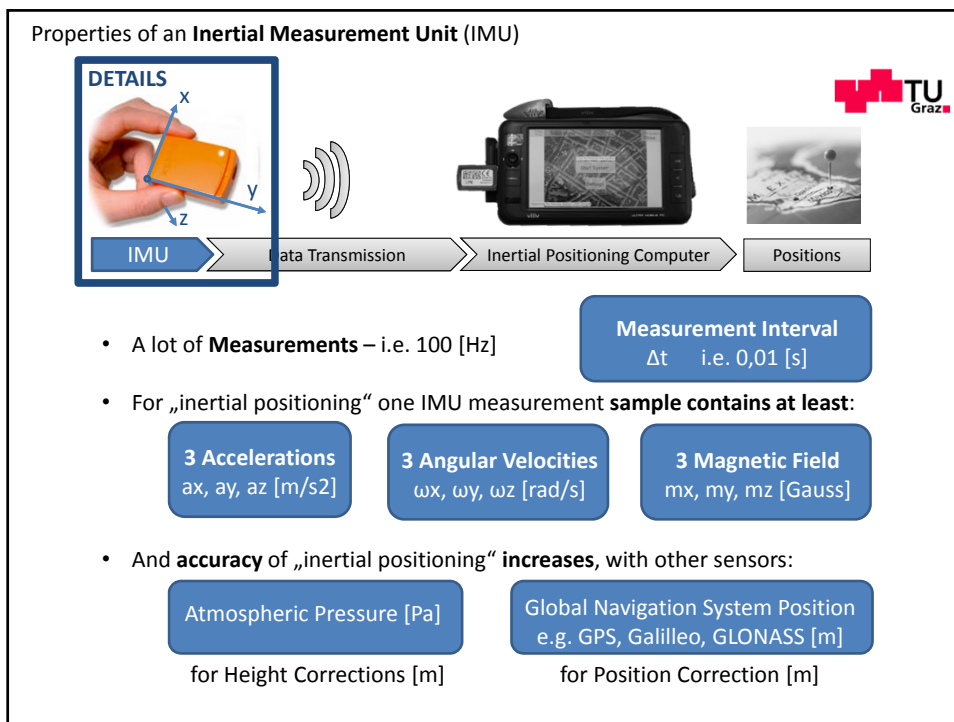


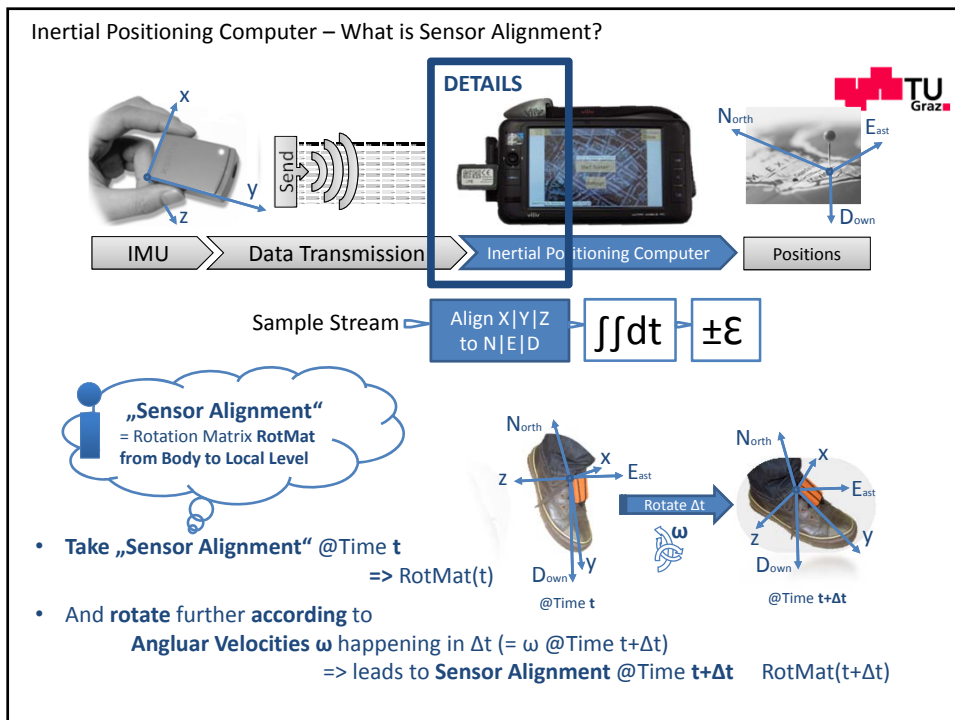
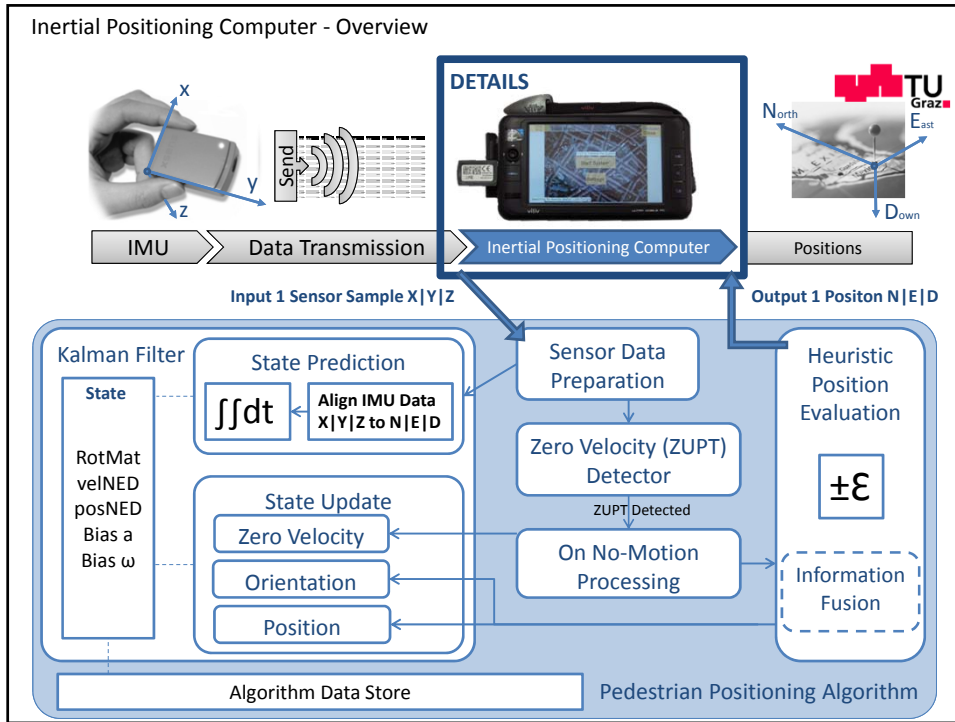
AIONAV Minimum Equipment

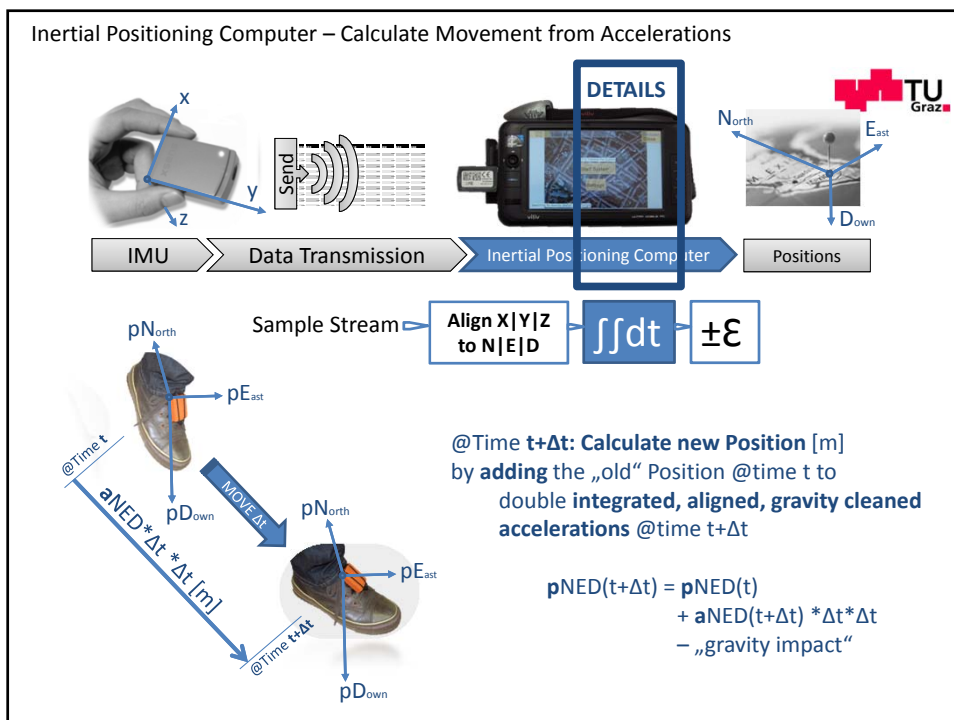
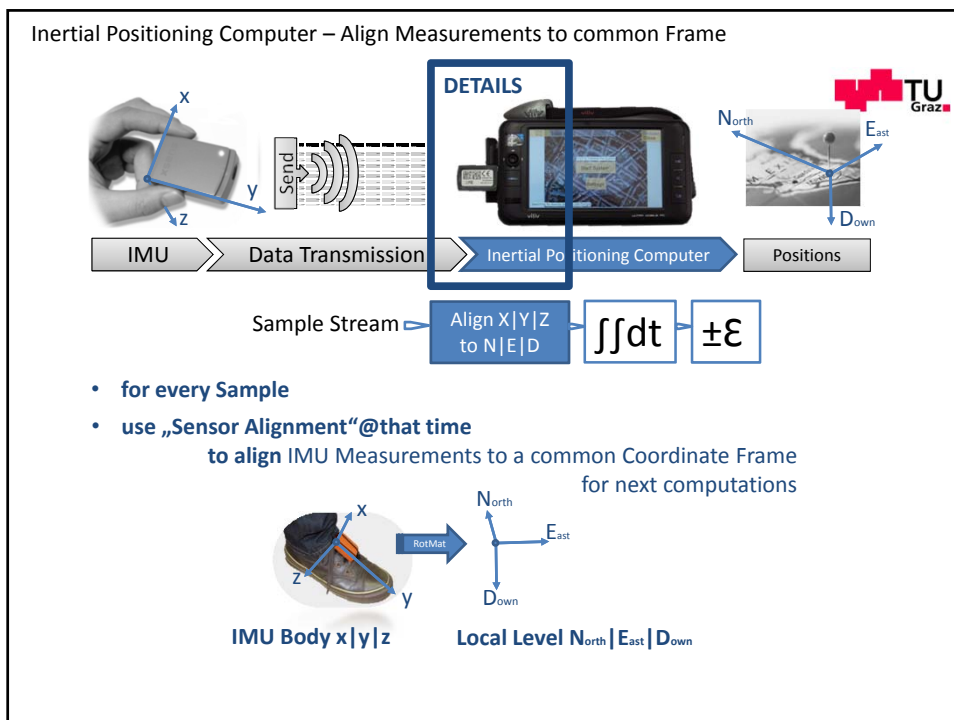


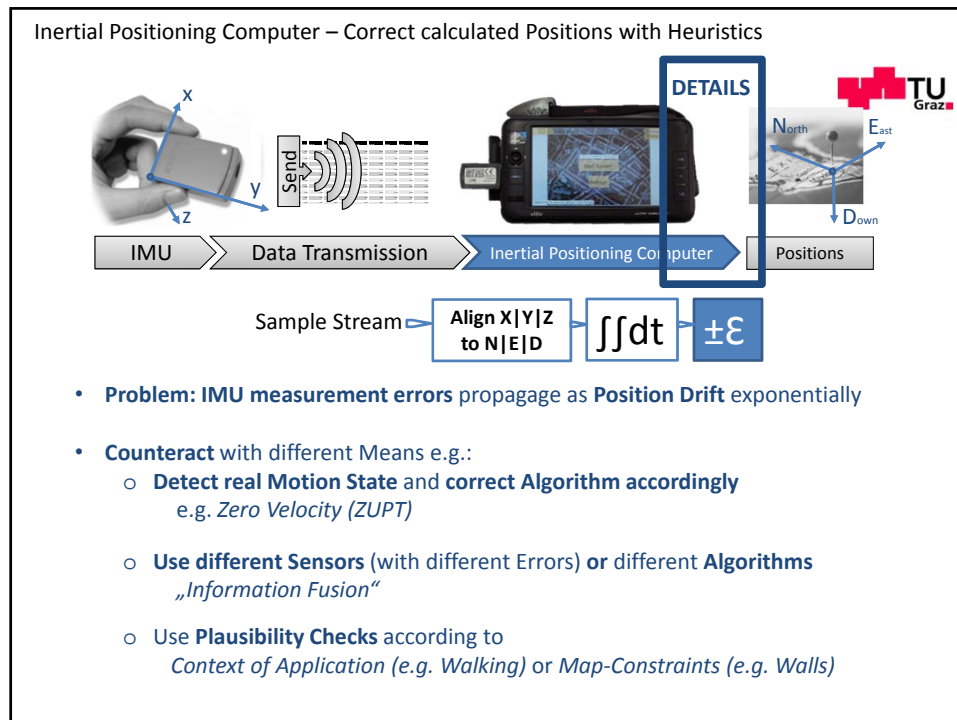
Sensor is integrated into the shoe shaft











Inertial Measurement Units

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Inertial System Challenges



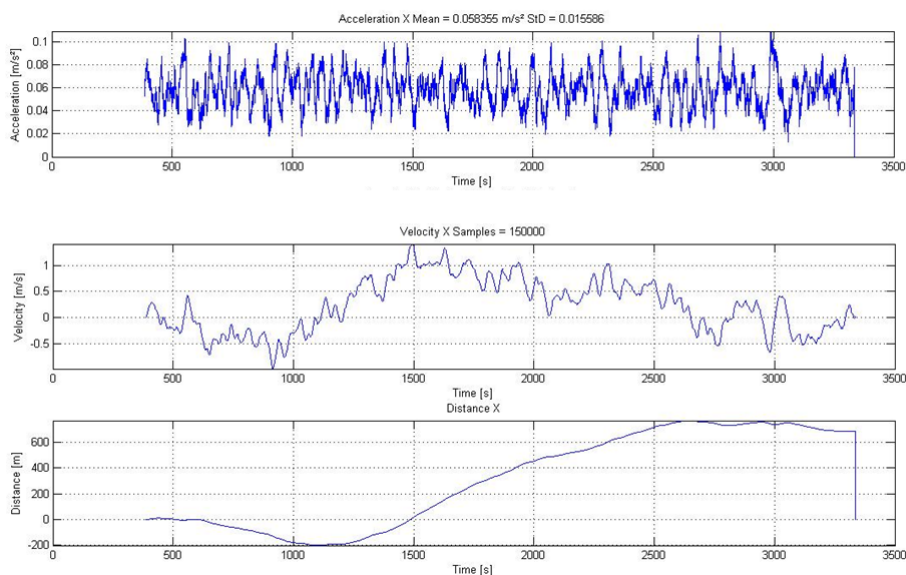
- Start from a **known position** into the **right direction**
- Positioning by double integration of the global accelerations
- Many problems have to be solved:
 - Noise
 - Drift
 - Temperature
 - Calibration
 - Accuracy
- Longer stops
- Moving stairs or floors
- Transmission interrupts of wireless sensors

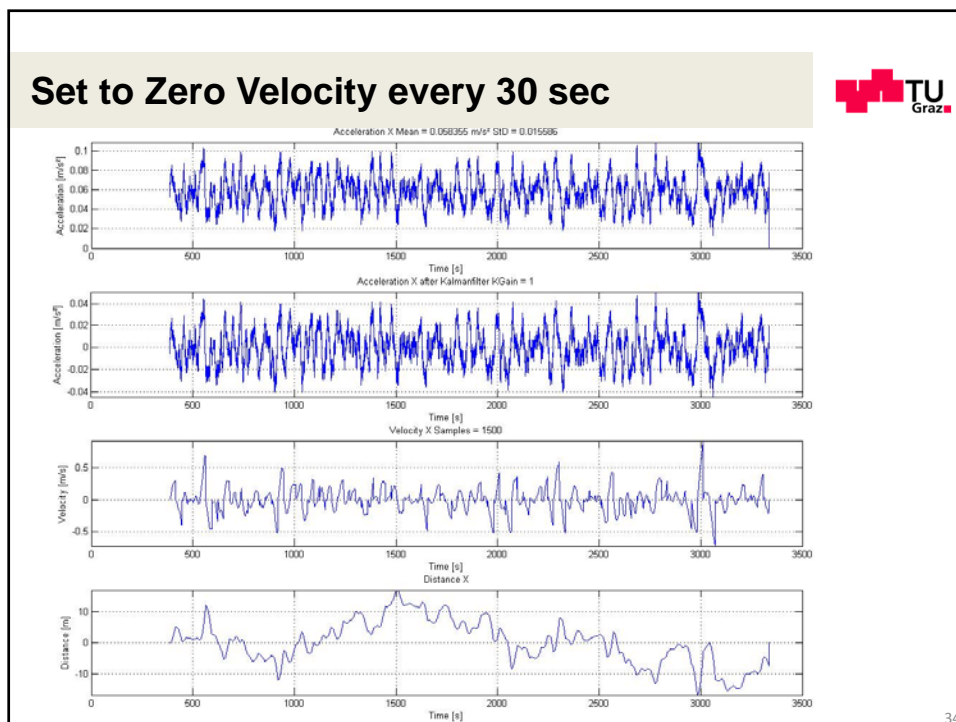
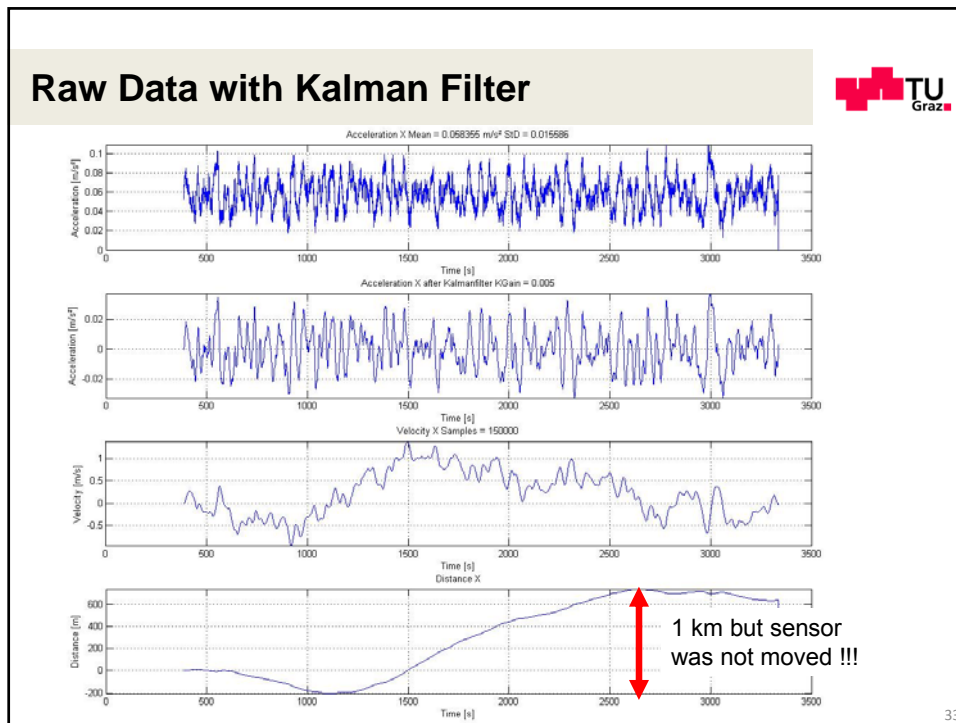
} stable bias point

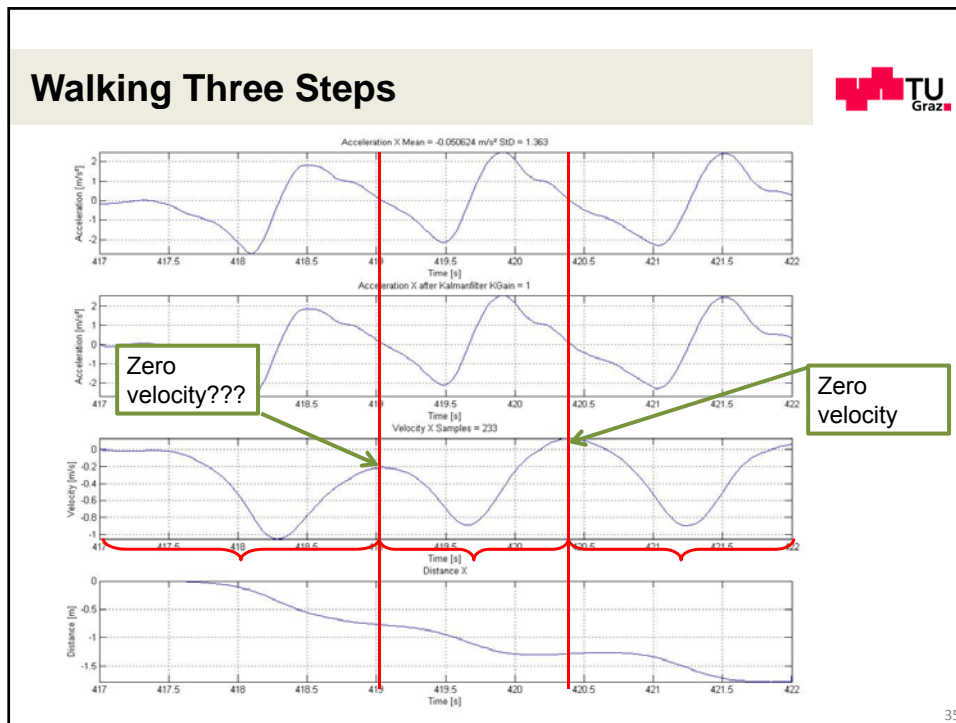


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Raw Data with Double Integration







Different Sensors Used

- Microstrain 3DM-GX1 
- Xsens
 - MTx 
 - MTi
 - MTi-G
 - MTw
- MEMSense wireless 
- LP Research Bluetooth 
- YEI 3-Space Sensor Bluetooth 
- Honeywell DRM4000 
- Smartphone sensors 

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IMU Main Characteristics



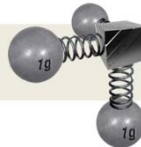
Output

- Accelerations (x,y,z), angular velocities (x,y,z), magnetic field (x,y,z) (except DRM4000)
- Quaternions or rotation matrix
- Time stamp
- Barometer data
- Coordinates and yaw angle per step (DRM4000)

Measurement range

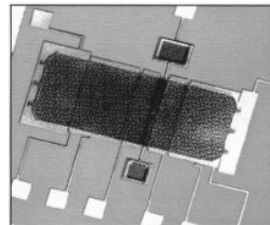
- $\pm 5 - 50g$ for accelerations
- $30 - 200$ Hz
- $300 - 2000$ °/sec gyros

MEMS Accelerometers



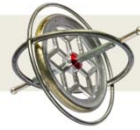
2 types of micromechanical accelerometers:

- pendulous/displacement mass type that use closed-loop capacitive sensing and electrostatic forcing
- resonator type.



Picture Draper Laboratory

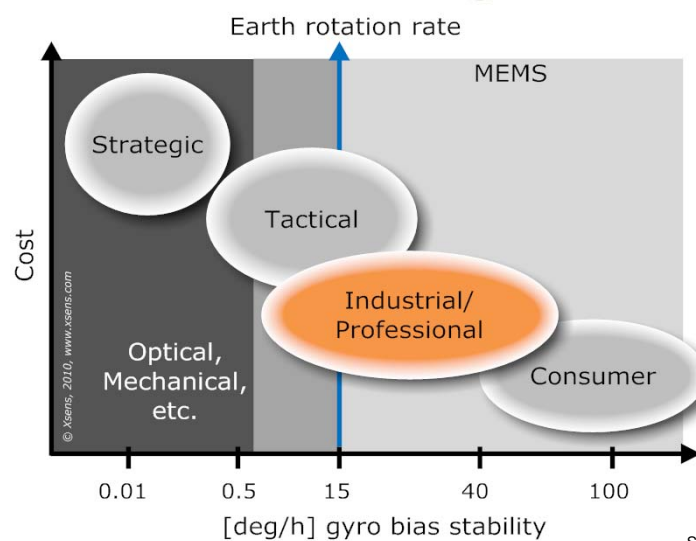
MEMS Gyroscopes



- An IMU consists of three independent vibratory MEMS rate gyroscopes, which detect rotation about the X, Y, and Z axes.
- When the gyros are rotated about any of the sense axes, the Coriolis Effect causes a vibration that is detected by a capacitive pickoff.
- The resulting signal is amplified, demodulated, and filtered to produce a voltage that is proportional to the angular rate.

Source InvenSense

MEMS Gyroscopes



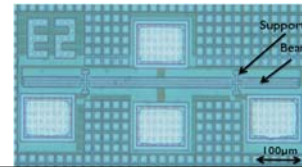
Source: Xsens

MEMS Magnetometers



- Three-axis magnetic compasses contain magnetic sensors in all three orthogonal vectors of an electronic compass assembly to capture the horizontal and vertical components of the earth's magnetic field.
- To electronically gimbal the compass, the three magnetic sensors are often complemented by a tilt-sensing element to measure the gravitational direction.
- The tilt sensor provides two-axis measurement of compass assembly tilt and then computed into a tilt-compensated heading.

Source Honeywell



Main Differences in Sensor Qualities



Precision

- Linearity
- Bias stability
- Noise
- Alignment error
- Temperature range
- Calibration
- Weight and size
- Battery life time (wireless)

Price

- 300 - 2000 US\$

Data transmission

- Sample rate (30 – 200 Hz)
- Cable or wireless (Bluetooth, Bluetooth LE, ZigBee)

Typical Data Sheet



Xsens MTw	Angular velocity	Acceleration	Magnetic field	Pressure
Dimensions	3 axes	3 axes	3 axes	-
Full Scale (FS)	± 1200 deg/s	± 160 m/s ²	± 1.5 Gauss	300 -1100 hPa (-500 ... 9000 m above sea level)
Linearity	0.1 % of FS	0.2 % of FS	0.2 % of FS	0.05 % of FS
Bias stability ¹	20 deg/hr	-	-	100 Pa/year
Noise	0.05 deg/s/√Hz	0.003 m/s ² /√Hz	0.15 mGauss/√Hz	0.85 Pa/√Hz
Alignment Error	0.1 deg	0.1 deg	0.1 deg	-
Bandwidth ²	100 Hz (max.)	100 Hz (max.)	20 Hz (max.)	-
¹ As measured from the Allan variance diagram.				
² Half of the chosen sampling rate.				

Minimum Requirements for Human Motion Tracking





1440 deg/s

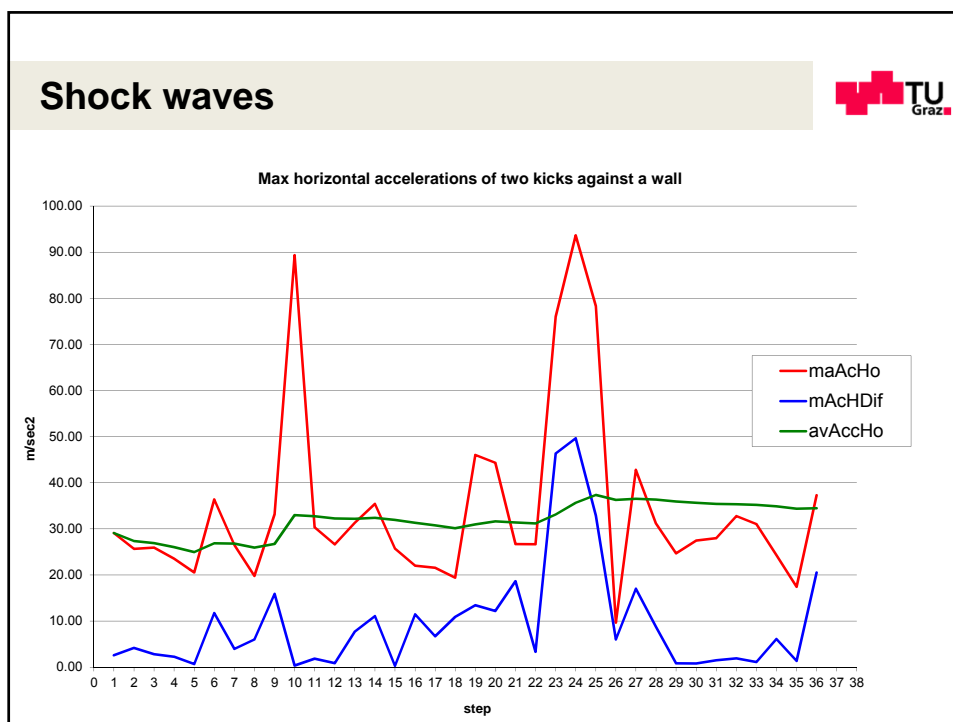


75 m/sec² (foot)



> 120 m/sec² (kick)





Minimum Requirements for Pedestrian Motion Tracking

	Angular velocity	Acceleration	Magnetic field	Pressure
Dimensions	3 axes	3 axes	3 axes	-
Full Scale	± 1200 deg/s	± 160 m/s ²	± 1.5 Gauss	300 -1100 hPa (-500 ... 9000 m above sea level)
Linearity	0.1 % of FS	0.2 % of FS	0.2 % of FS	0.05 % of FS
Bias stability	20 deg/hr	-	-	100 Pa/year
Noise	0.05 deg/s/√Hz	0.003 m/s ² /√Hz	0.15 mGauss/√Hz	0.85 Pa/√Hz
Alignment Error	0.1 deg	0.1 deg	0.1 deg	-
Bandwidth	100 Hz	100 Hz	20 Hz	-

Foot Mounted IMU - SWOT Analysis*

* For 3D Soldier Positioning System

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Foot Mounted IMU

Type of movement	Differences in ZUPT during e.g. walking, running, duck-walking, sneaking, crawling, ...
Shoe type, weight being carried, surface	Affects foot-impact and sensed accelerations and thus possibilities for reliable ZUPT
Placement on foot	Affects max sensed accelerations and angular rates, and also ZUPT
Movement trajectory	Some trajectories reduces effects of heading error on position error (e.g. closed-loops etc.)
Gyro noise and bias errors	Random, causes main error typically associated with foot mounted INS (i.e. heading error)

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Source: FOI

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Foot Mounted IMU



Accelerometer dynamic range	Dynamic ranges well over 10 g should be expected
Gyro dynamic range	Angular velocities well over 700 deg/sec should be expected
Initialization of bias errors	Some systems assume possibility to have short moments of stand-still in beginning of measurement
Initialization of orientation, velocity and position	Not solved completely (automatic initialization) for GPS-denied environments

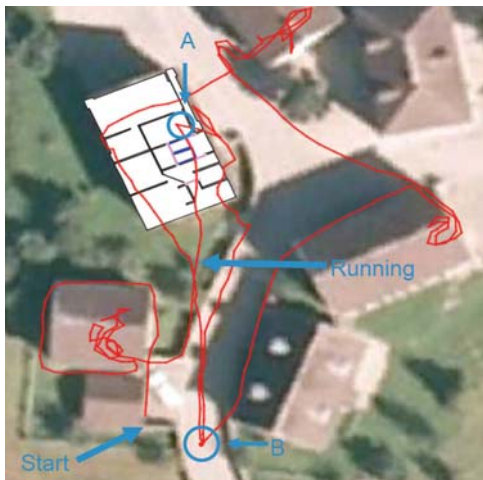
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Source: FOI

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Minimum Requirements not Fulfilled



Example (using MTi-G IMU)

St. Luzisteig – realistic search

- 1st part - large heading errors during running due to *low dynamic range* in acc and gyros
- 2nd part – small accumulation errors (low-dynamic movement)

A – person outside entrance

B – person at starting point

Magnetometer



Strong magnetic disturbances in local environment	Metal objects, electrical wires, constructions, and other objects may strongly disturb earth magnetic field
Trajectory	Heading errors reduced by e.g. passing strong magnetic disturbances back-forth (i.e. walking corridor in both directions)
Soldier equipment	May cause large local magnetic disturbances, not possible to calibrate

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Source: FOI

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Barometer



Wind and weather influence	Barometer senses weather changes, use of reference barometer at known height in similar conditions reduces these problems
Noise	Gun fire and exploding munitions could affect barometric pressure locally during shorter time intervals
Dynamic range (w/o brake-down)	Could very high pressure changes destroy sensor?
Opening doors or windows	Buildings may have somewhat different pressure e.g. in staircases or in basements
Fires	Heat from fires may cause turbulence in the air, and increasing temperatures causes higher air pressures

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Source: FOI

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IMU Behaviour in Practice

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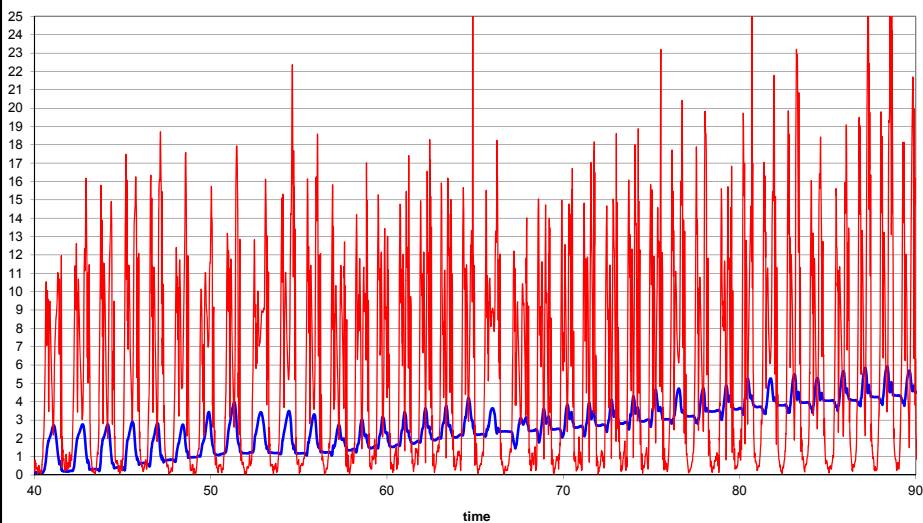
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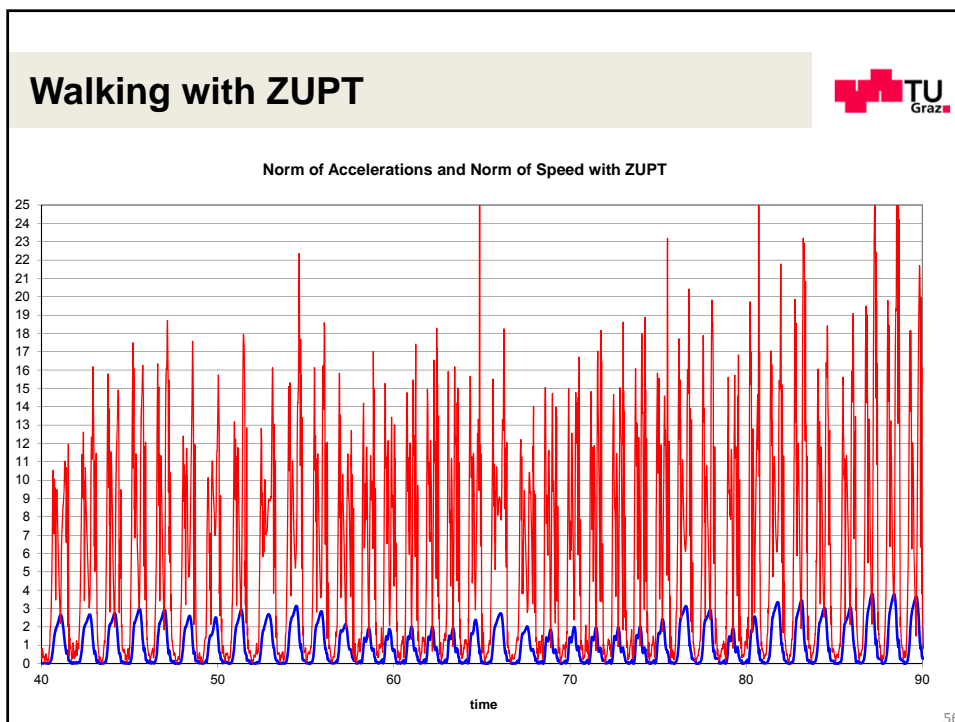
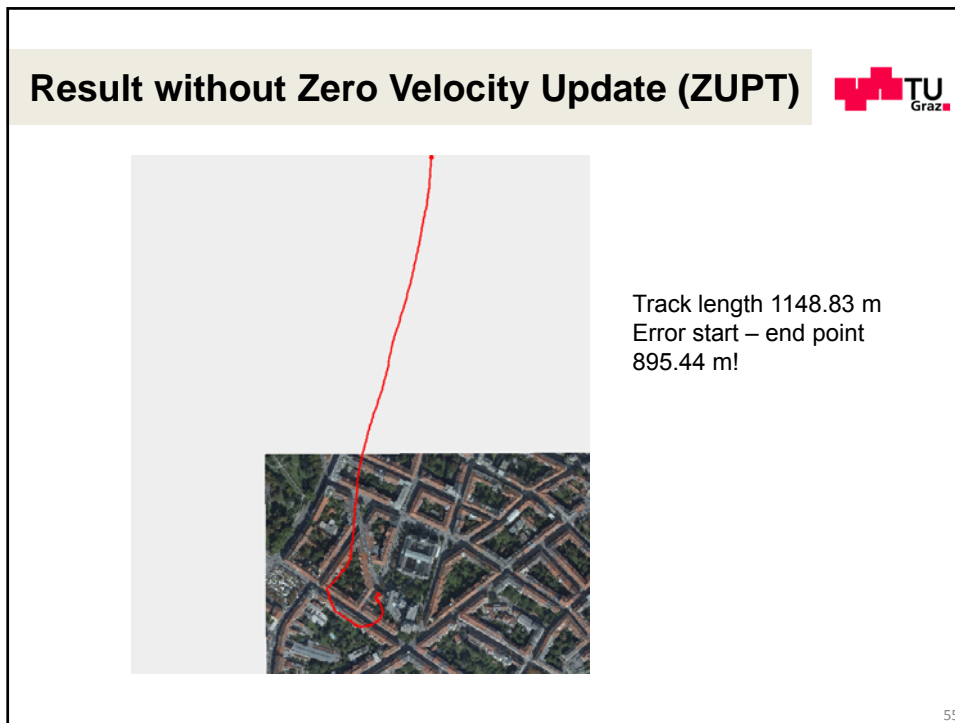
Walking without Zero Velocity Updates



Norm of Accelerations and Norm of Speed without ZUPT



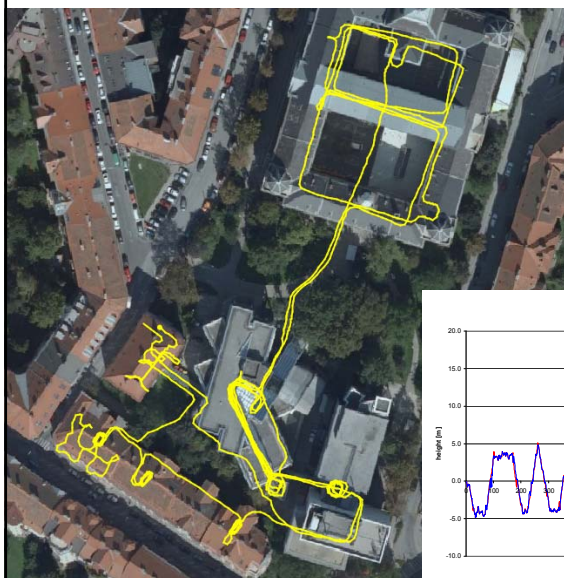
54



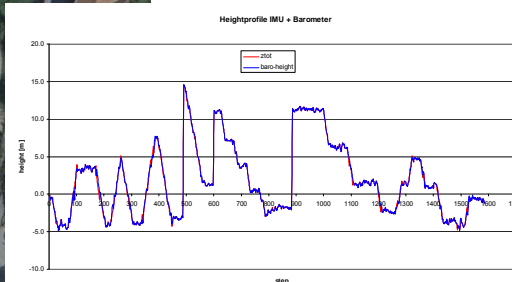


Jing™

Result with ZUPT



10 buildings
 3 elevators
 37 floors
 Track length 2078.44 m
 Track time 41.14 min
 Error start – end point 5.42 m
 Max error on track < 7m
 Accuracy end point = 0.26 %

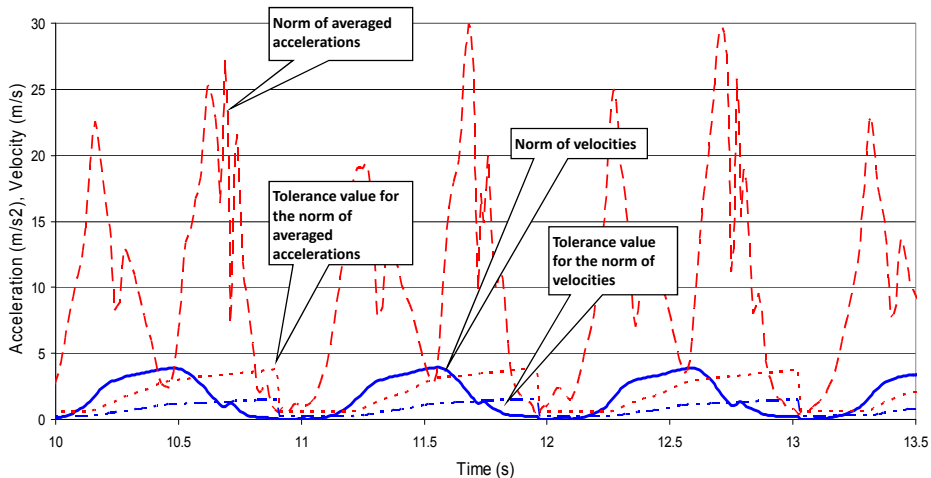


Zero Velocity Updates

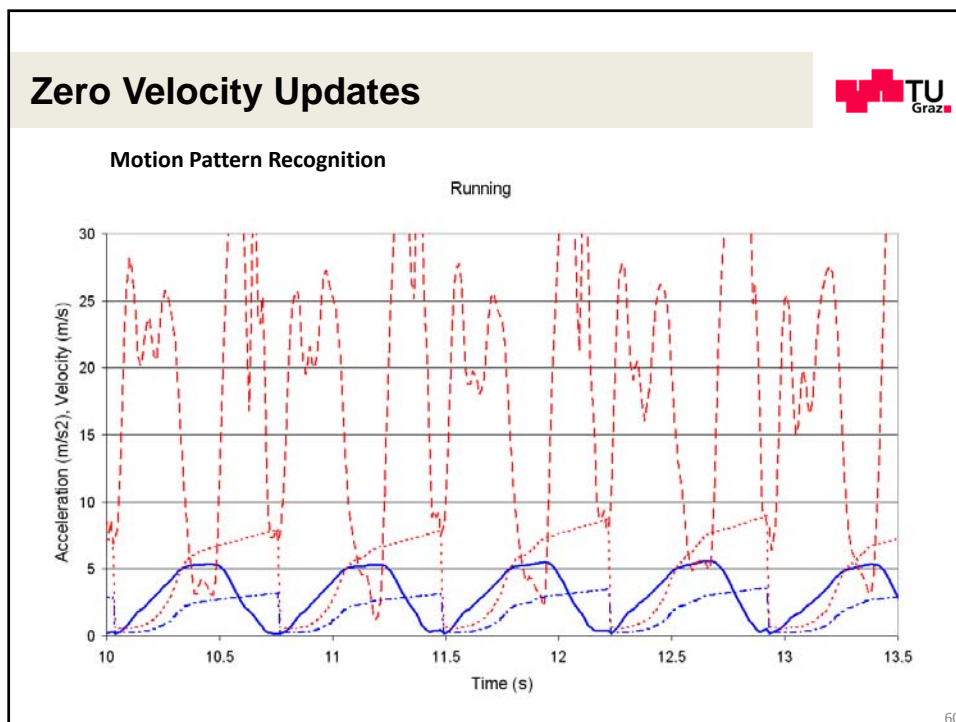
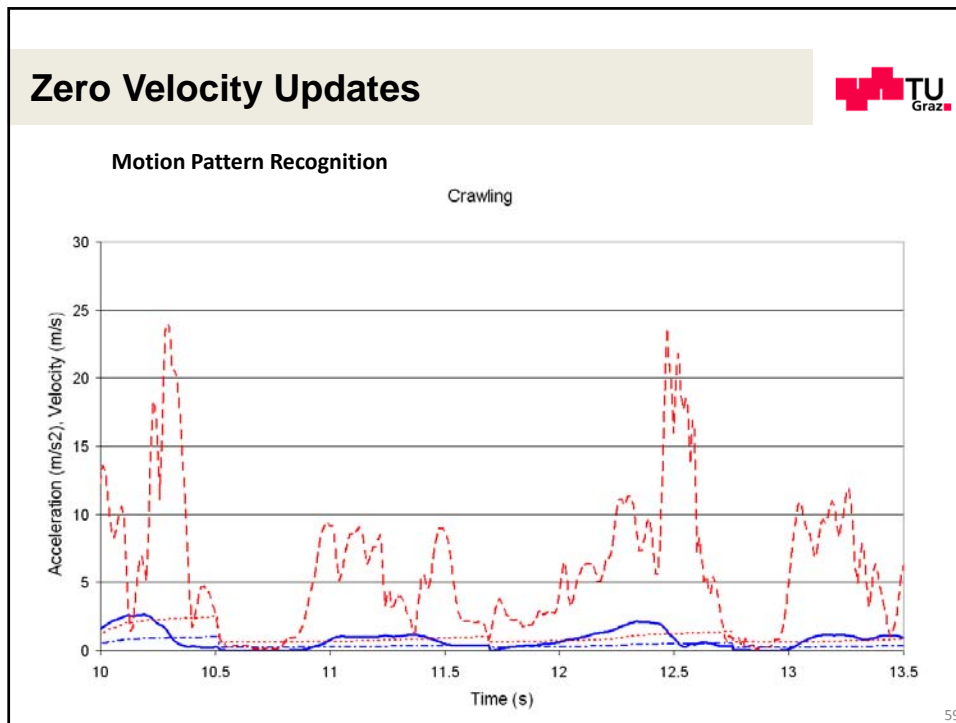


Motion Pattern Recognition


Walking



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Zero Velocity Updates



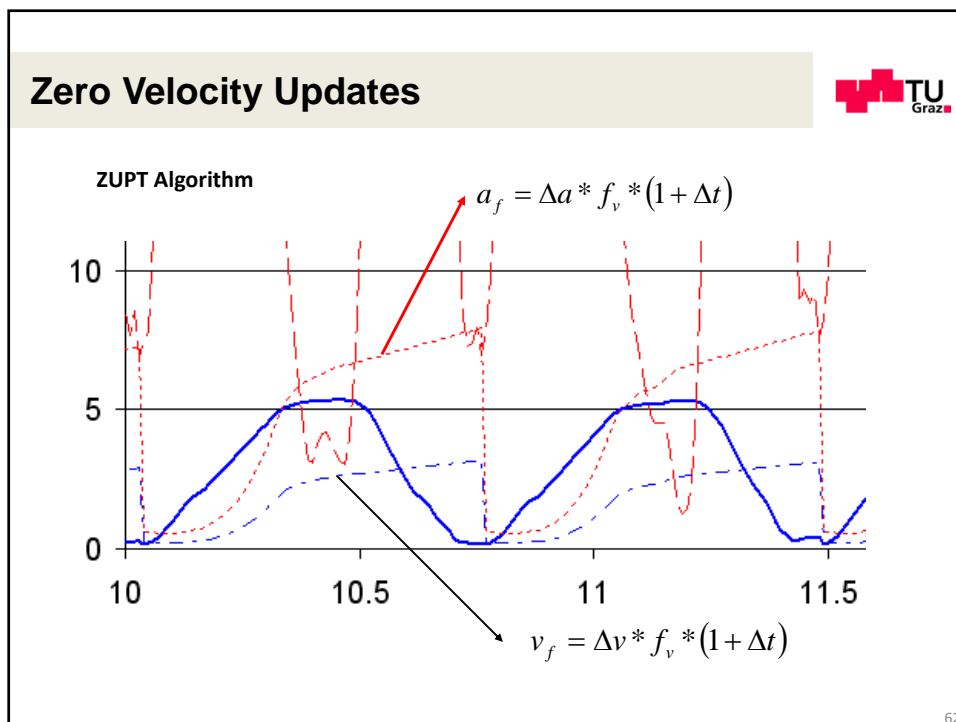
ZUPT Algorithm

$$\underbrace{(a_{s(t)} = a_{s(\min)} \wedge v_{s(t)} < v_f \wedge |v_{s(t)} - v_{s(\min)}| < \Delta v * f_v \wedge a_{s(t-1)} > a_{s(t)})}_{\text{red line and dots}}$$

$$\underbrace{\vee (v_{s(t)} = v_{s(\min)} \wedge a_{s(t)} < a_f)}_{\text{blue line and dots}} \quad \text{(patent pending)}$$

$v_f = \Delta v * f_v * (1 + \Delta t)$ v_f and a_f tolerance values for the maximum norm of velocity / average acceleration in the zero velocity region
 $a_f = \Delta a * f_v * (1 + \Delta t)$ Δv and Δa thresholds for the absolute minimum velocity / average acceleration in the zero velocity region
 $f_v = A * v_{\max}^3 + B * v_{\max} + C$ v_{\max} Maximum velocity since the last zero velocity update.

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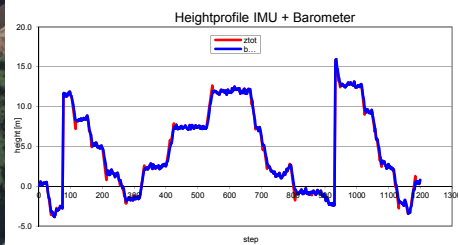
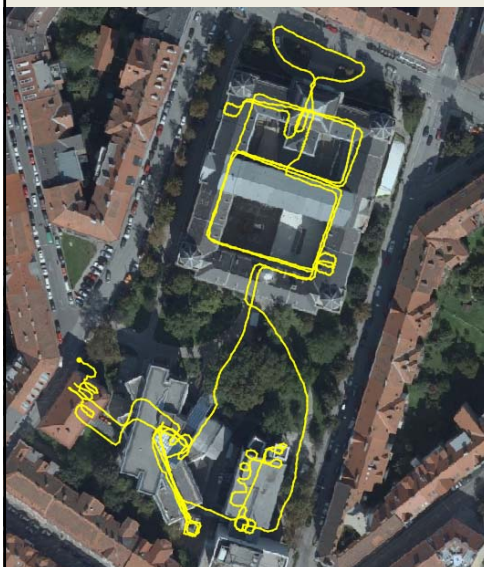
IMU with ZUPT – all problems solved?

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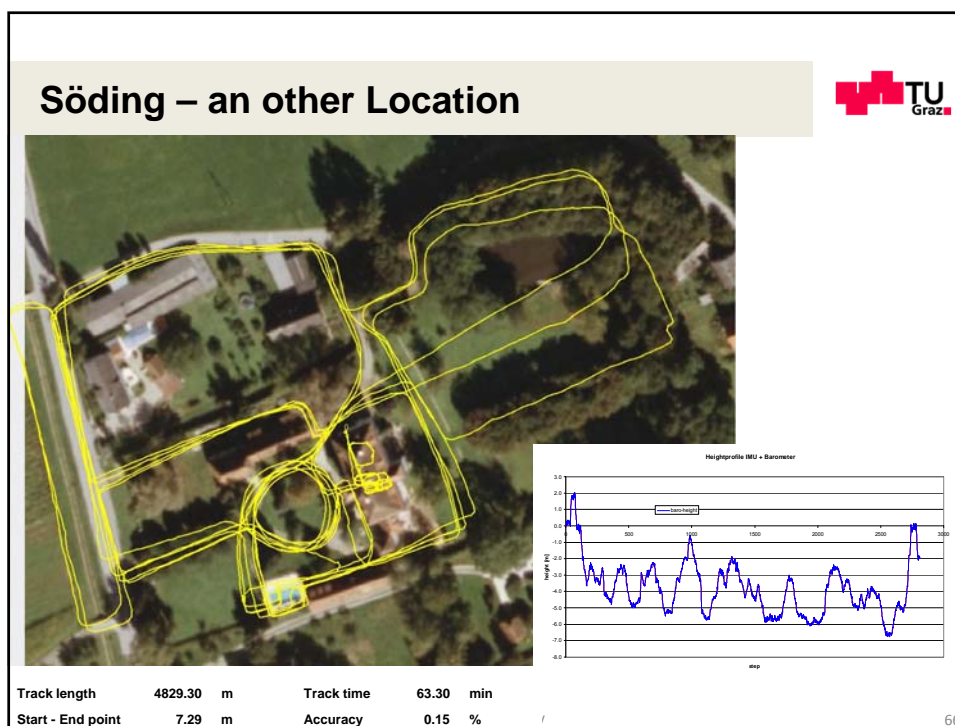
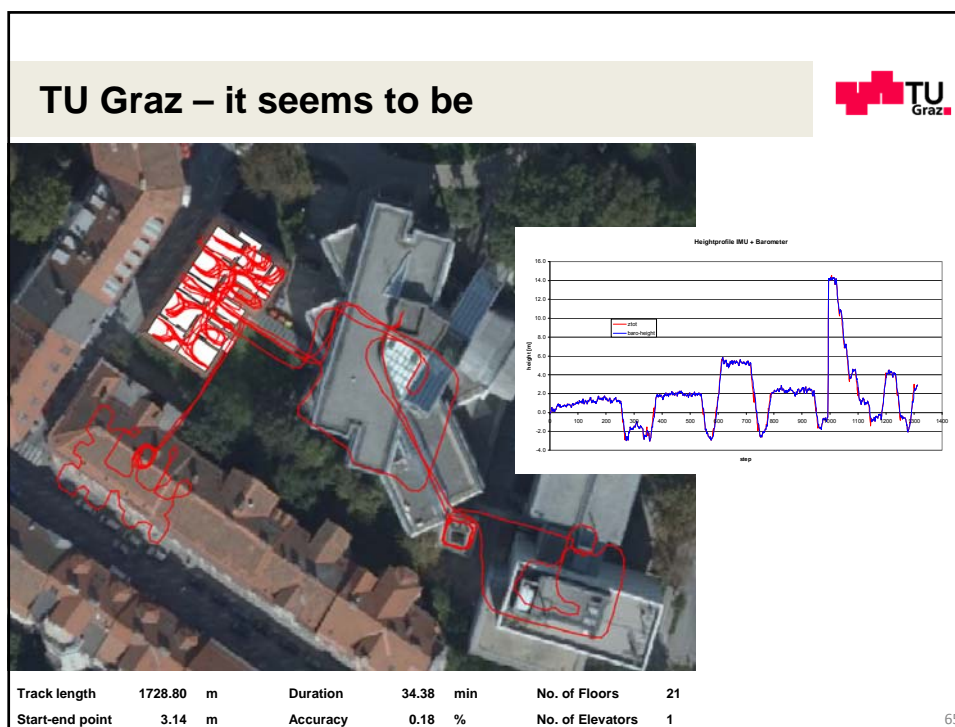
TU Graz – it seems to be



Track length	1763.53 m	Track time	28.19 min
Start-end point	8.88	Accuracy	0.50%

Sydney

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Let's go Shopping - Shoppyland, Berne



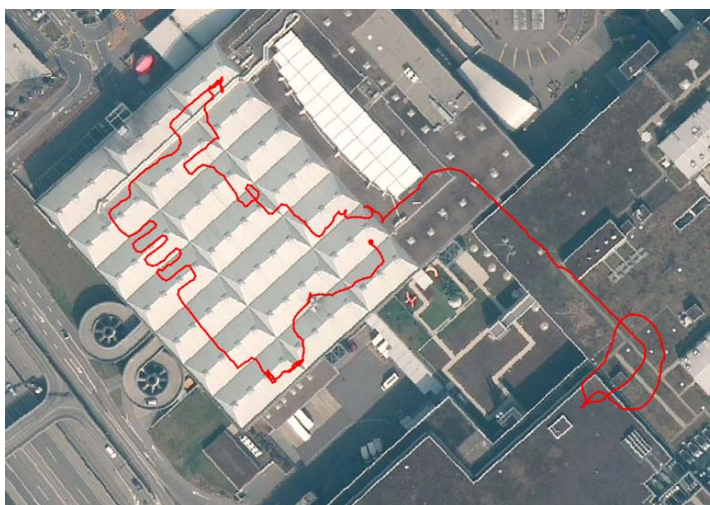
Environment with magnetic field disturbances: track is completely distorted

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Shoppyland, Berne



Track $\pm 5m$ accuracy as it should be (with automatic magnetic field suppression)

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Industry Park with Metal Skin Buildings



Same problem: track is completely distorted, start direction 50 deg wrong

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Industry Park



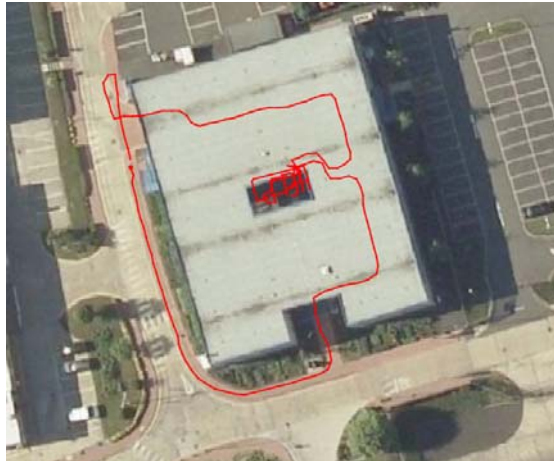
Track ± 5 m accuracy (with slight automatic magnetic field suppression)

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Industry Park

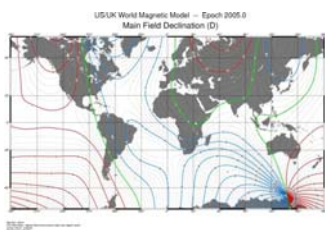


Track ± 2 m accuracy (with total magnetic field suppression)

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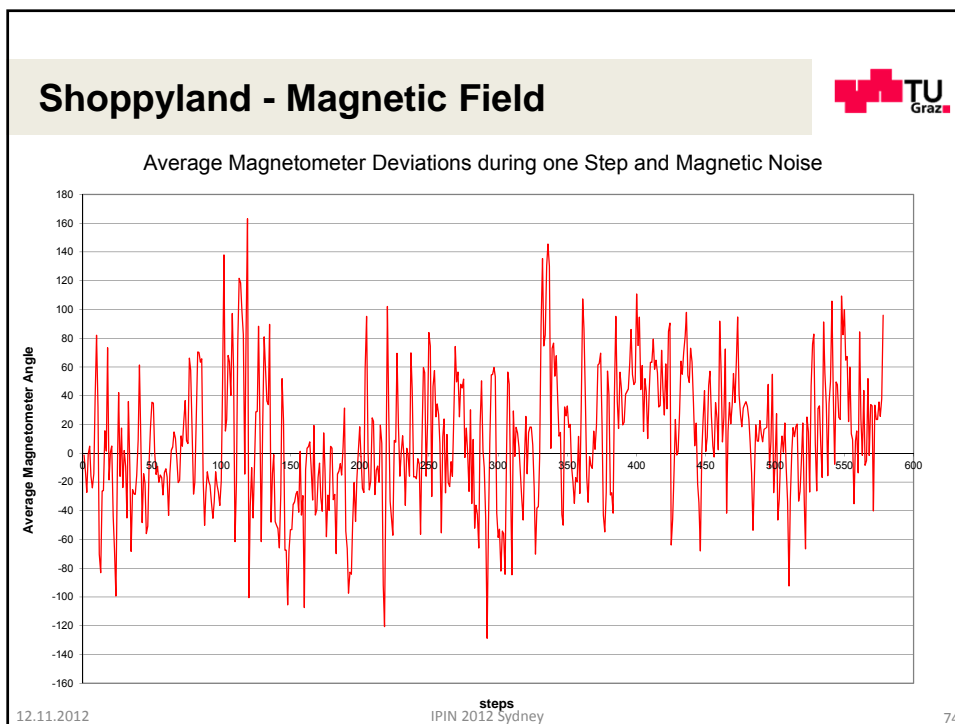
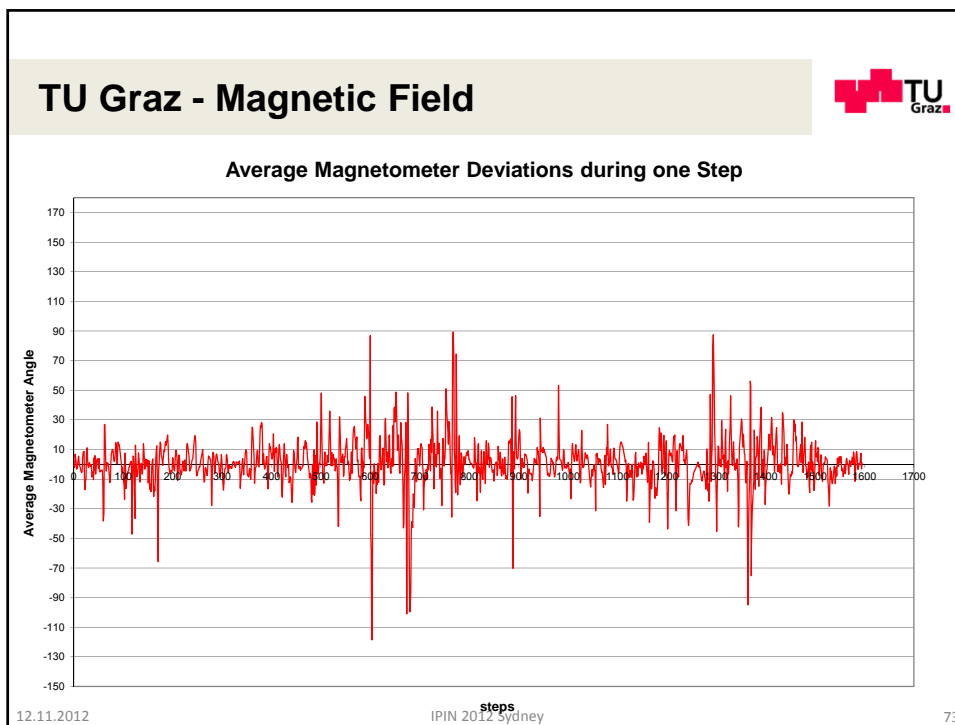


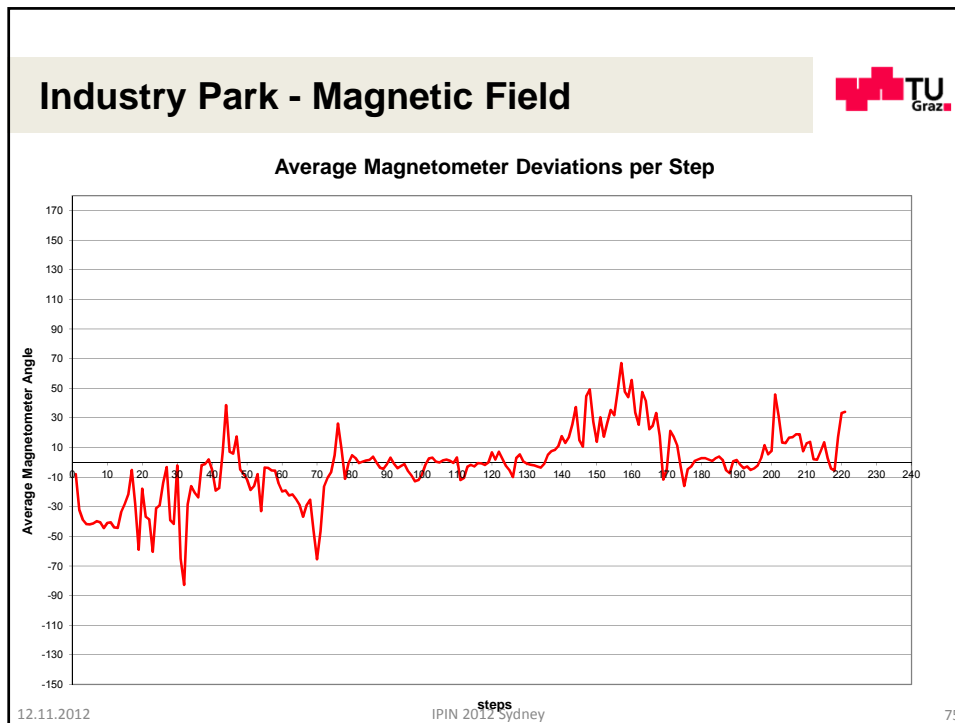
Magnetic Field Disturbancies

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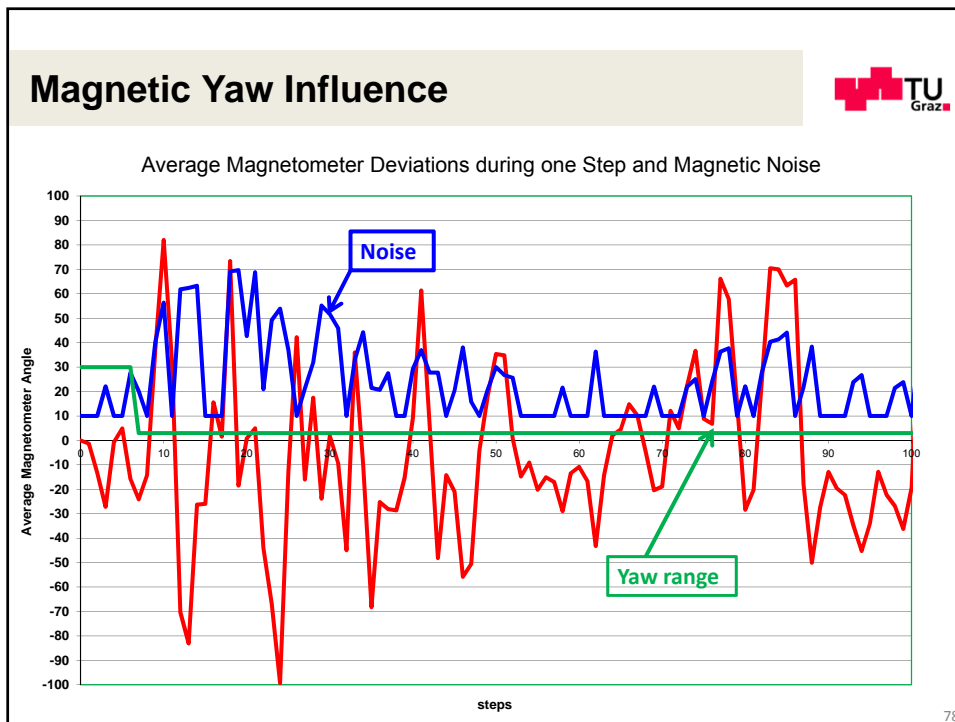
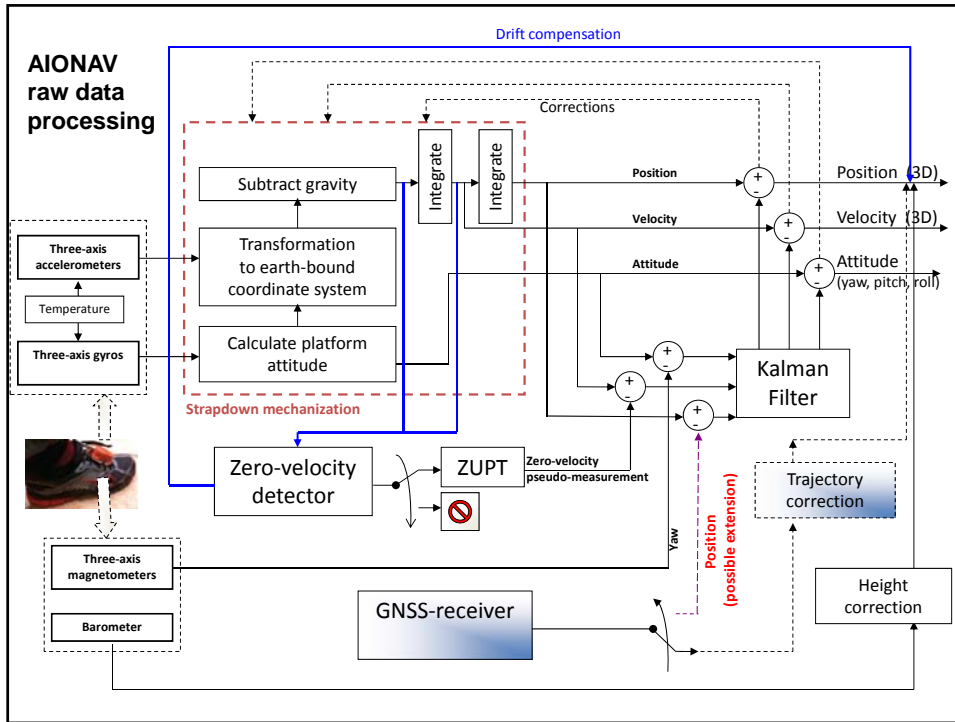
AIONAV Raw Data Processing

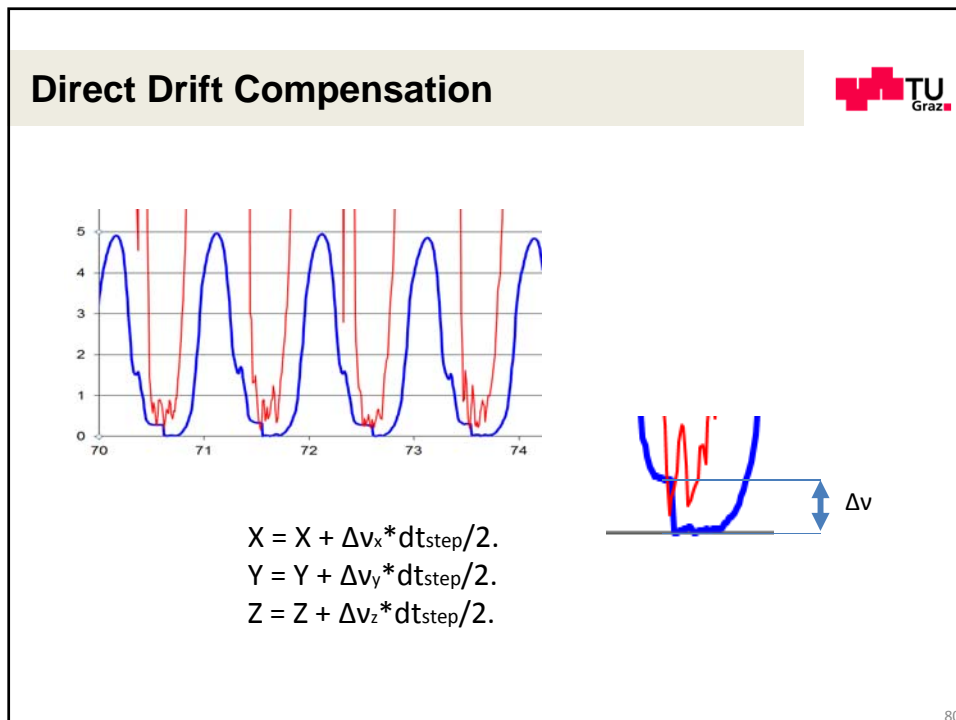
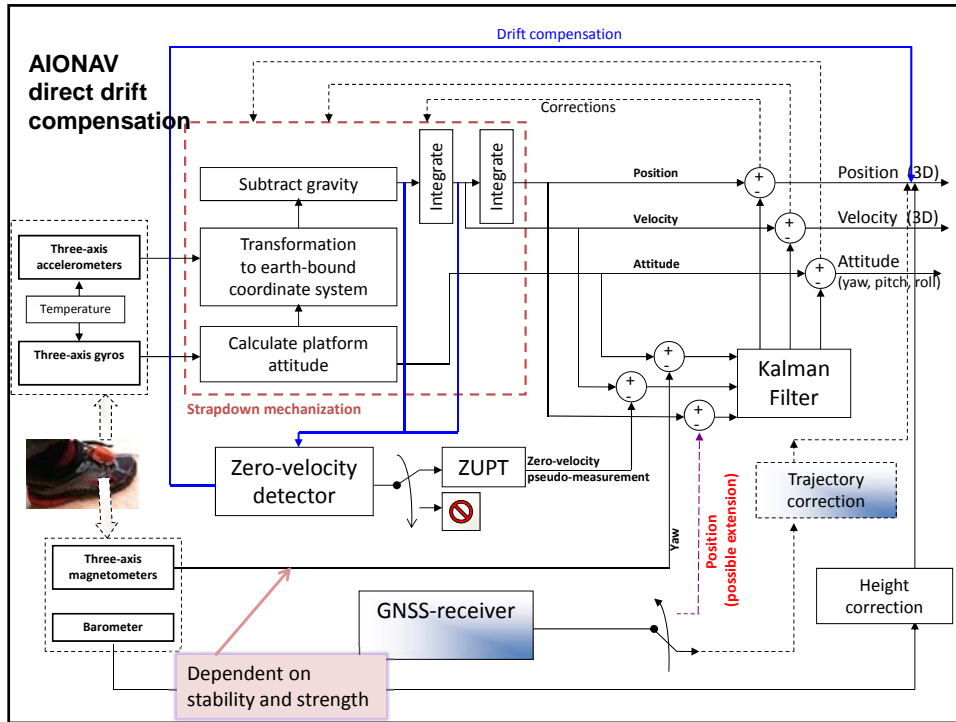
- State of the art IMUs, such as from Xsens, contain a significant portion of on-board processing for signal conditioning and filtering
- Magnetometer data are used to determine the initial alignment and to enhance the gyro stability
- Different parameter settings of the firmware can be chosen
- No possibility to influence the filter parameters directly

➔

- An additional extended Kalman filter for the raw data has been established in AIONAV

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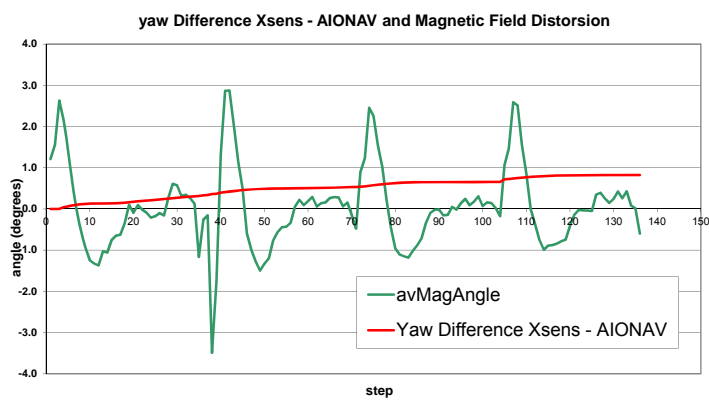




Xsens and AIONAV Position Merge



- If $(\text{Yaw}_{\text{Xsens}} - \text{Yaw}_{\text{Aionav}}) < \text{angle threshold (e.g. } < 0.5 \text{ deg)}$
 - Xsens alignment is used in AIONAV Kalman filter
 - $(X, Y) = ((X, Y)_{\text{Xsens}} + (X, Y)_{\text{AIONAV}}) / 2$.

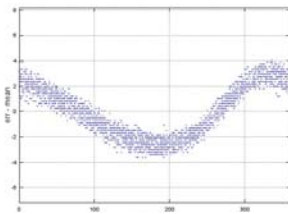


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System Initialisation



- Calibration and Gyro Warm-up
- Initial Alignment



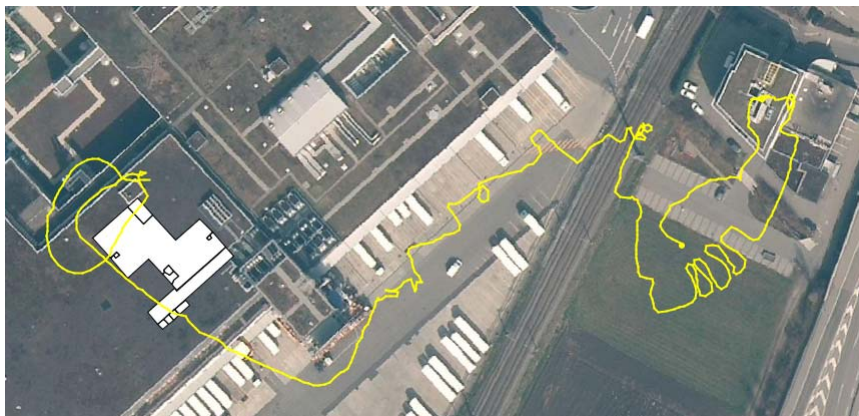
Calibration Errors

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Shoppyland – Start without SW-Calibration



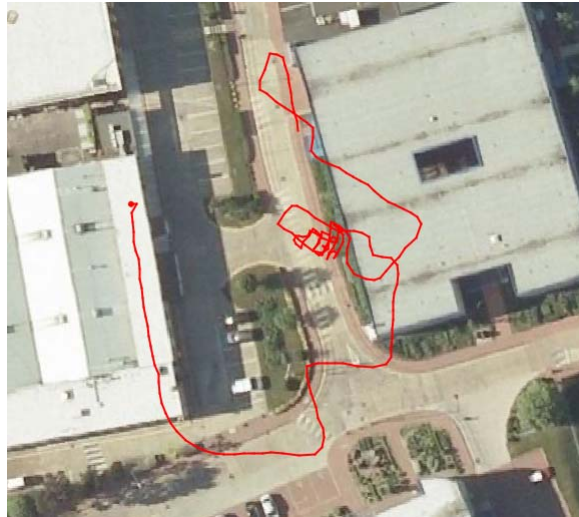
Completely wrong track

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Industry Park – Start without SW-Calibration



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Calibration and Gyro Warm-up




- State of the art IMUs are factory calibrated
- but depend on local conditions, like
 - Strong magnetic fields
 - Temperature
 - Vibrations or shocks
 - Age or slight damage of the sensor
 - etc.
- Factory calibration in general not satisfactory
- Gyro “warm-up” for stabilization of minimum 1 min is necessary
- Recalibration at least at the start is necessary
- Permanent recalibration of gyros and barometer is possible



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Start Procedure

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Start Procedure – Initial Alignment

1. Connection between sensor and mobile computer
2. Warm-up of the gyros
 - Select start position
 - 1 point plus direction
 - 2 points
 - Known direction (street, border of a room, etc.)
3. Calibration of the sensor (2 – 5 sec)
4. Start walking

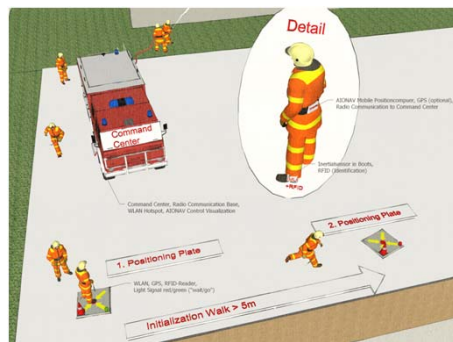



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Start Procedure



1. Connection between sensor and mobile computer
2. Warm-up of the gyros and calibration of the sensor before deployment
3. Start walking and pass at least 2 fix points



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Position Corrections and Updates

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What Users Want – STTC Request



6A-3. Position, Location and Tracking for Live Training

*STTC is interested in technologies that improve live training of simulated tactical engagements, particularly in urban terrain, where GPS signals may become degraded or obscured due to multi-path phenomena. **The technology applied to solve these challenges must be able to determine the position/location accuracy to less than 60 cm (95%) and have a battery life of up to 72 hours without changing or charging batteries.***

The need for infrastructure to support the technology must be minimal, or ideally, none at all.

United States Army Simulation and Training Technology Center

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First Conclusions Concerning Accuracy



- Accuracy depends mainly on
 - Sensor quality and mathematical modeling (extended Kalman filter)
 - Duration of deployment
 - Environmental disturbances
- For deployments >~ 30 min and a constant accuracy of 3 -5 m it needs (today 2012):
 - Sensors with better accuracy, or
 - Additional filters (e.g. Partical Filter)
 - Periodic repositioning

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Different Repositioning Methods



- User interaction to verify automatic repositioning or to define new start point and alignment
- Realignment of tracks from the command and control station
- Sensor fusion with other positioning technologies (GPS, Barometer, RFID, WiFi, etc.)
- Automatic re-positioning relative to known tracks, boundaries or objects (context sensitive navigation)
- Video context analysis

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Repositioning with GPS and Barometer



Test site: Walenstadt, Switzerland

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Repositioning with GPS and Barometer






Official test track
(~16 min, length 756 m)

AIONAV IMU only
(MTx Xsens)

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Repositioning with GPS and Barometer



GPS track

GPS + IMU fusion

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Comparison with Body Mounted System



AIONAV and
IMESS
track 1 (1418)

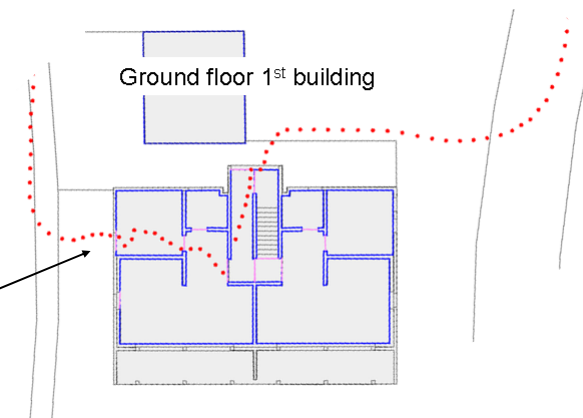
No building
interaction !

IMU + GPS +
barometer
fusion

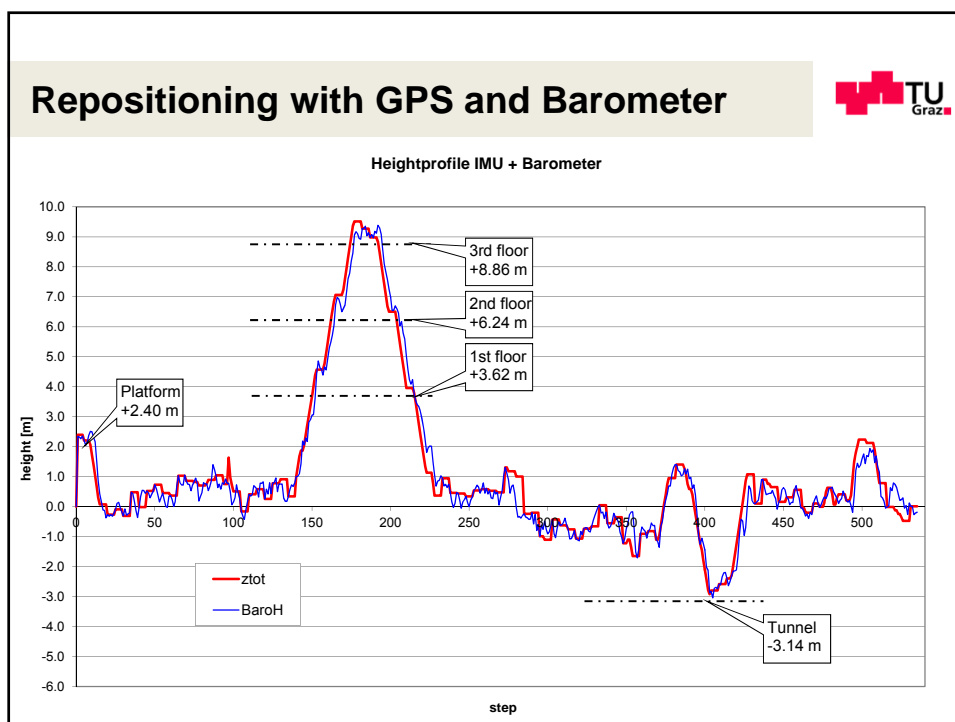
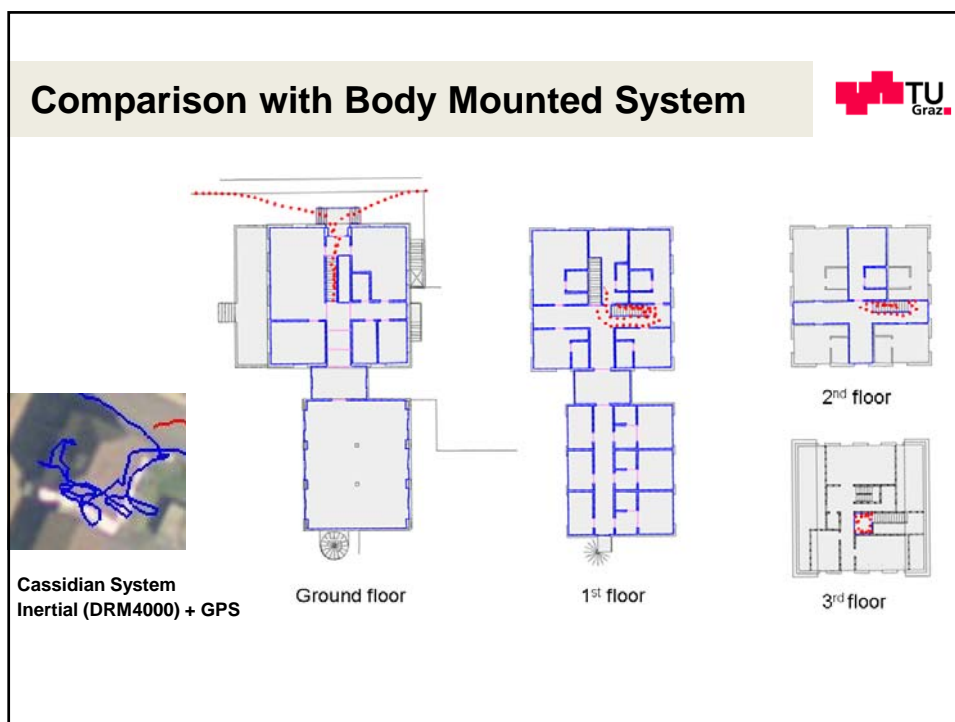
Red and blue =
IMESS

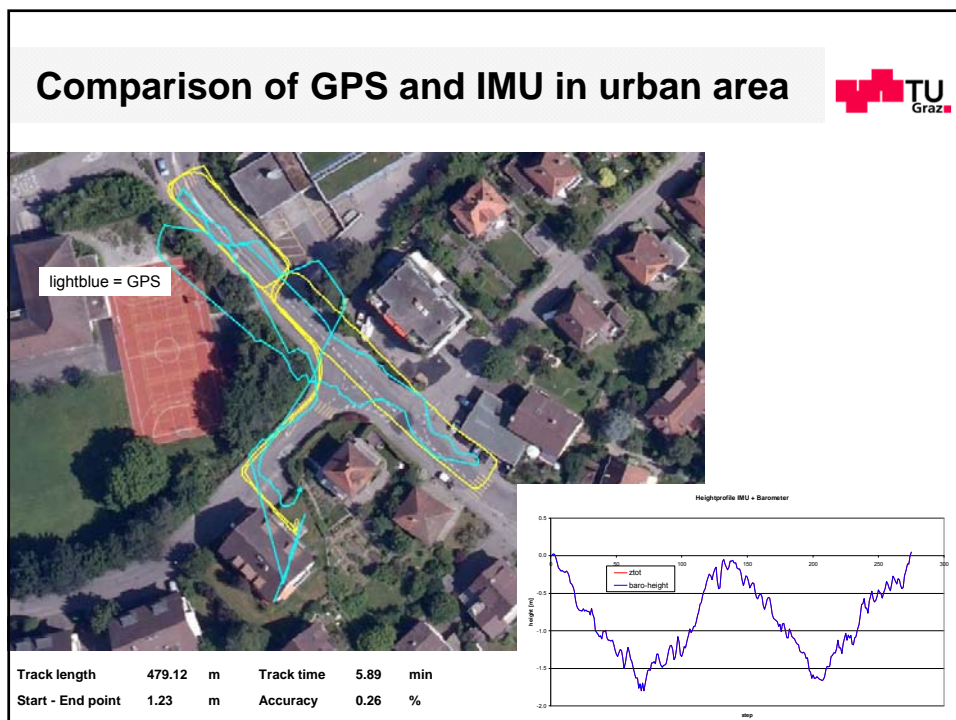
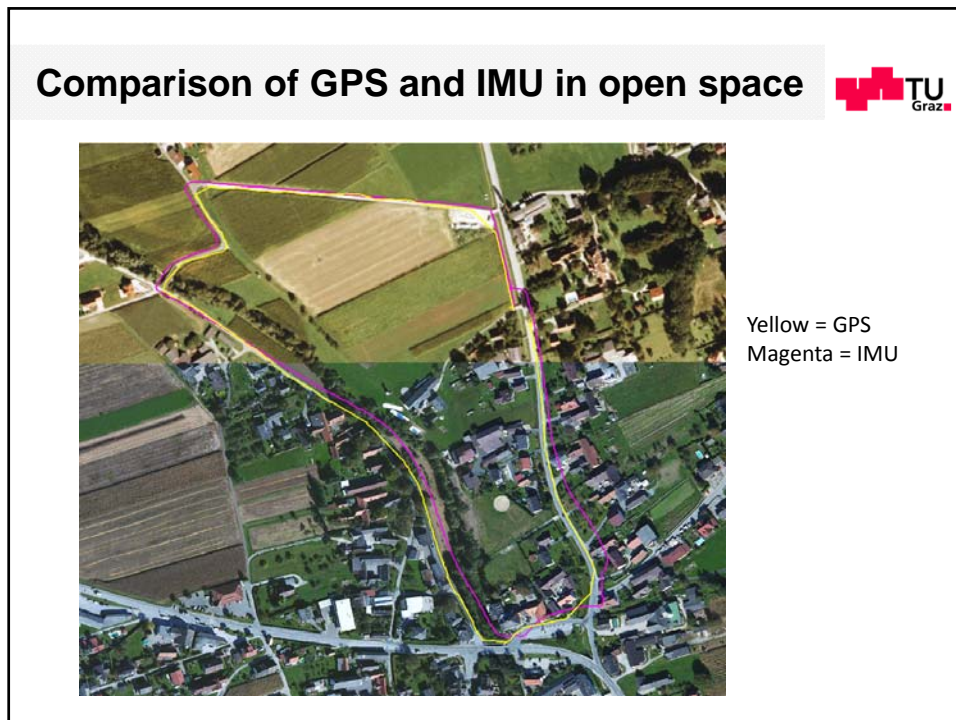
Yellow
= AIONAV

Comparison with Body Mounted System



Cassidian System
Inertial (DRM4000) + GPS



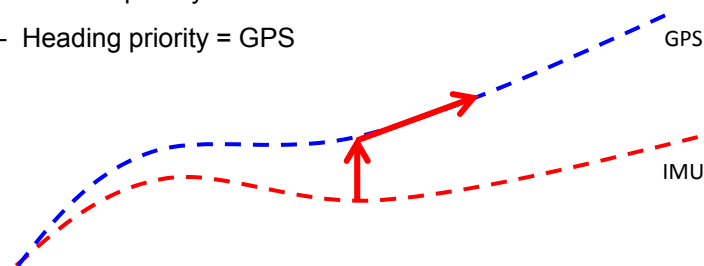


Repositioning with GPS



Methods used

- IMU - GPS fusion with Kalman filter on step level
- Track analysis and comparison
 - Affinity of curvatures for several steps
 - Position priority = IMU
 - Heading priority = GPS



Repositioning by Building Model Interaction



Context-sensitive Sensor - BIM interaction

- Graphical data are available for all major buildings (evacuation planning) in standard formats
- Important information in case of disasters have been defined and are integrated in the building model data



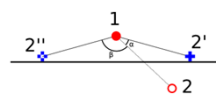
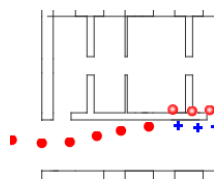
Position Control



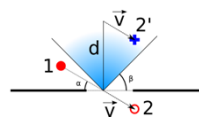
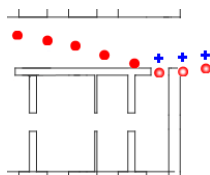
- Catching functions
 - Doors and other transitions
 - Stairs
- Reflecting functions
 - Walls, doors
- Correction functions
 - Automatic re-positioning or heading correction relative to known points or directions (walls, given tracks, etc.)
- Reloading functions
 - Floor plans
 - Neighbor floors

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Sensor – BIM Interaction




Correction when hitting a wall

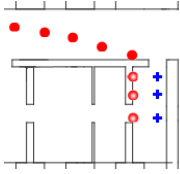


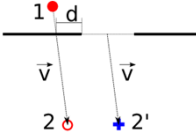
Correction when entering unwillingly a door

106

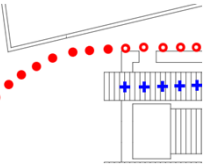
Sensor – BIM Interaction

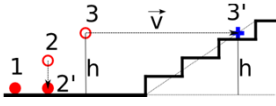






Correction
when a door is
missed




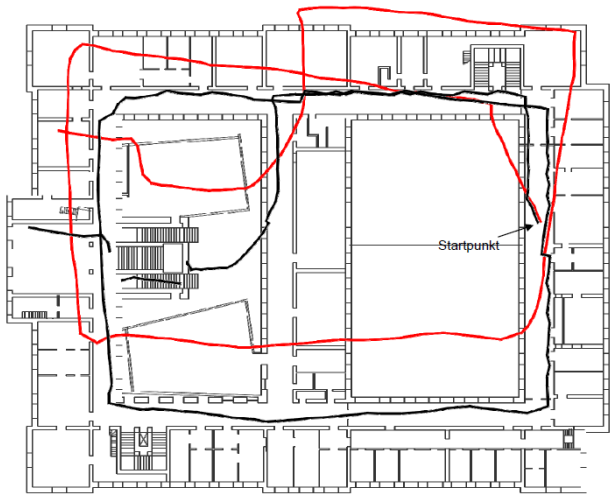


Correction when
a staircase is
missed

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Sensor – BIM Interaction



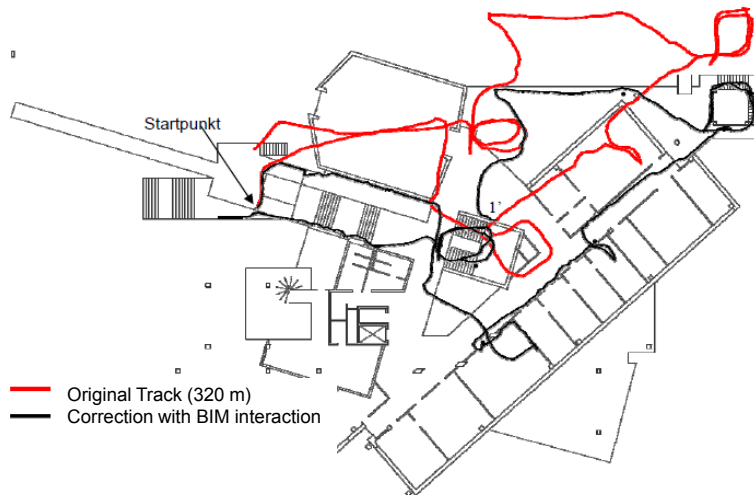


— Original Track (320 m)

— Correction with BIM interaction

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Sensor – BIM Interaction



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Video Content Analysis



- Video context analysis is an elegant method to improve the accuracy of dead recognition technologies
- AIONAV®-4VIP (for visually impaired people) is a project on which we work together with the University of Lucerne in Switzerland.
- It is based on real-time image recognition and sensor fusion with an IMU.

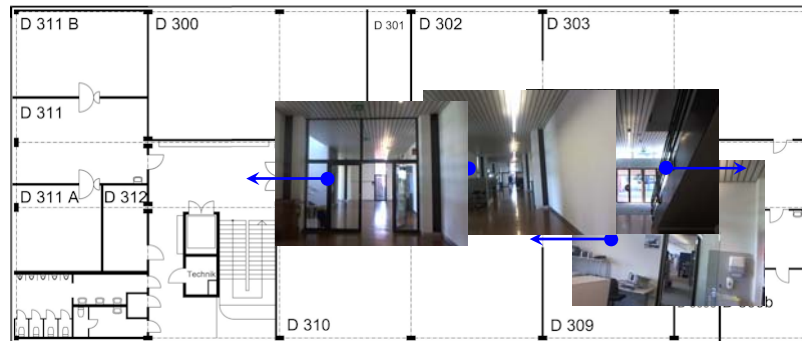


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Video Content Analysis



Step 1: Recording of Reference Images



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Conceptual Approach



Step 2: Comparison of live image sequence with database



Current Image



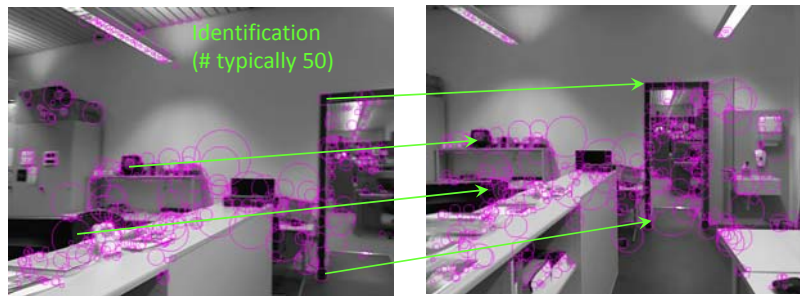
Reference Image

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Conceptual Approach



Pixel level: Identification of corresponding features



Current Image

Reference Image

113

Conceptual Approach



Warp reference image to new coordinate system



Current Image

Reference Image

114

Conceptual Approach



Produce overlay for “visual” match



Current Image

Overlay both

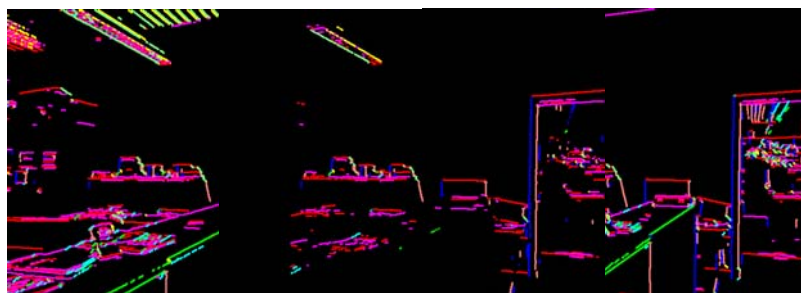
Reference Image

115

Conceptual Approach



Produce edge orientation based correlation
to rule out false positives



$$r = 0.37$$

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Required Computing Time



VGA Resolution				
#database images checked	4.5	14.6	28.8	43.0
Processing time (ms)	531	1141	1872	2630

QVGA Resolution				
#database images checked	4.0	14.1	25.0	35.9
Processing time (ms)	262	692	925	1325

The AIONAV Development Framework

- Management of Maps
- Integration of Floor Plans
- Using Building Models
- Management of Location Based Services

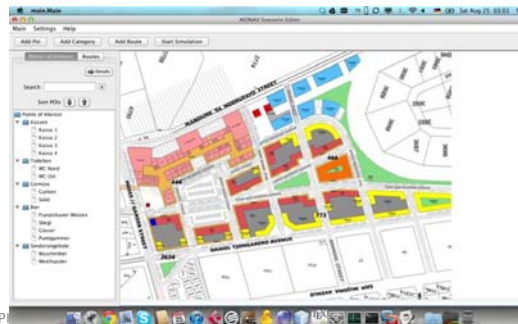
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Reference Systems

- Indoor maps are getting available for shopping centers and public buildings
- Initiative of Samsung, Nokia, Sharp, to define standards
- Policy for usage not yet clearly defined (on/off line)
- Own tools necessary for
 - Offline maps
 - Geo-referencing floor plans
 - Add LBS items (POI, etc.)
 - Reference to database
 - Create own GUIs



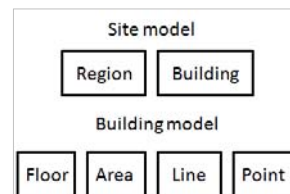
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IP

Reference Systems



1. Satellite images (Google Earth, Google Maps, Earth Wind)
2. Maps
 - Google Maps (with indoor maps)
 - Open Street Map
 - Nokia Maps (indoor maps)
3. Combined with own floor plans
 - CAD (2D)
 - Building model data (3D)
 - CAFM (facility management)
 - With / without semantic

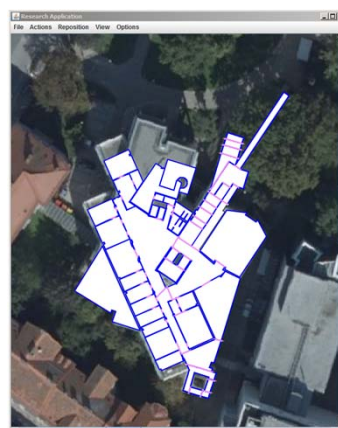
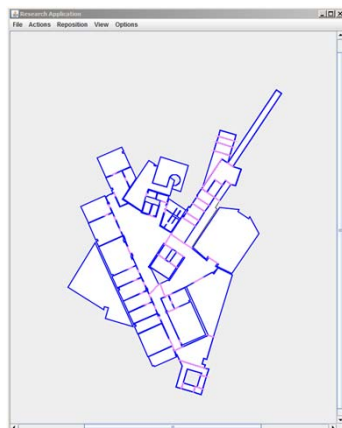


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Floor Plan Integration

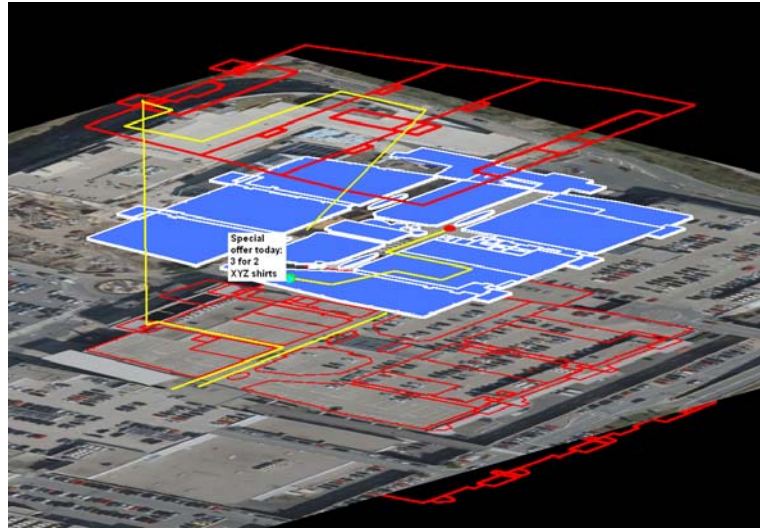


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Reference Systems – 3D Building Model



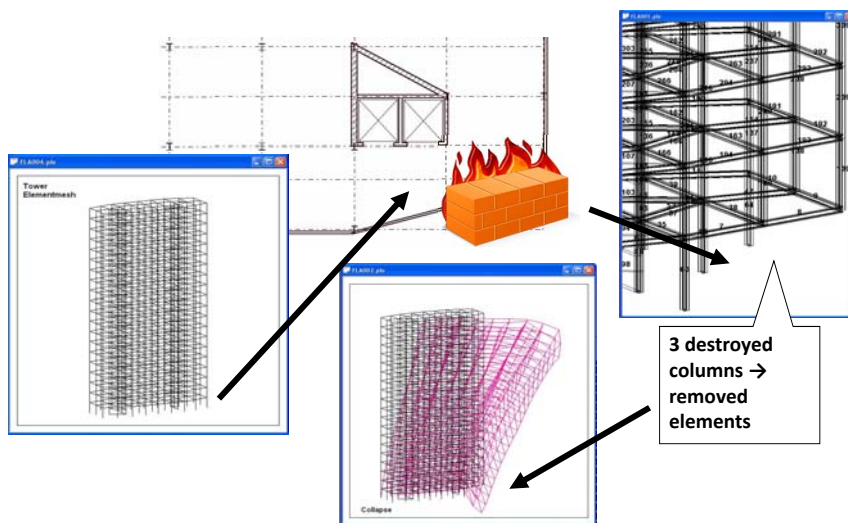
Building models are defined by IAI standards (International Alliance for Interoperability)

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Link to other Models – Static Model




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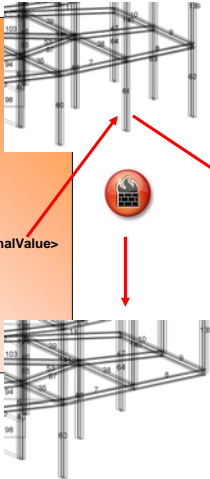
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Link of the Static Sub-model with the BIM



```

<IfcRelDefinesByProperties id="i2">
  <HasProperties>
    <IfcBeam>
      <GlobalId>295H6hv1z5T</GlobalId>
      <Name>Element4931</Name>
    </IfcBeam>
    <IfcPropertySet>
      <HasProperties>
        <IfcPropertySingleValue>
          <Name>ReferenceToFE</Name>
          <NominalValue>BEAM61</NominalValue>
        </IfcPropertySingleValue>
      </HasProperties>
    </IfcPropertySet>
  </HasProperties>
</IfcRelDefinesByProperties>
        
```



```

.
.
BEAM 1996 JOINTS 952 951 0.0
BEAM 1997 JOINTS 953 952 0.0
BEAM 1998 JOINTS 954 953 0.0
BEAM 1999 JOINTS 955 954 0.0
BEAM 2000 JOINTS 956 955 0.0
*
, COLLAPSED BEAMS
INACTIVE BEAM 61
INACTIVE BEAM 62
INACTIVE BEAM 63
*
, SUPPORT CONDITIONS
N N N N N JOINTS 33 TO 64 72 73 81 82
*
, ELEMENTMESH DRAWINGS
DRAWING SCALE 100. VIEWPOINT -1. -2. .5 ELEMENTS
.
.
        
```

BIM - XML (graphic + object sub-model)

Input file for structural analysis (static sub-model)

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Location Based Service Management Tool





Database with

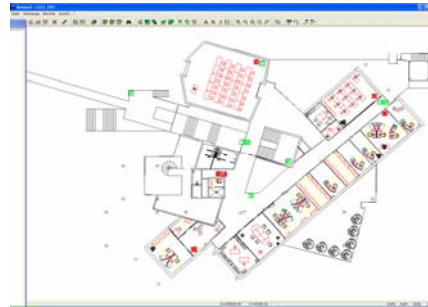
- Maps
- Pre-defined tracks
- Routing
- Points of interest (POI)



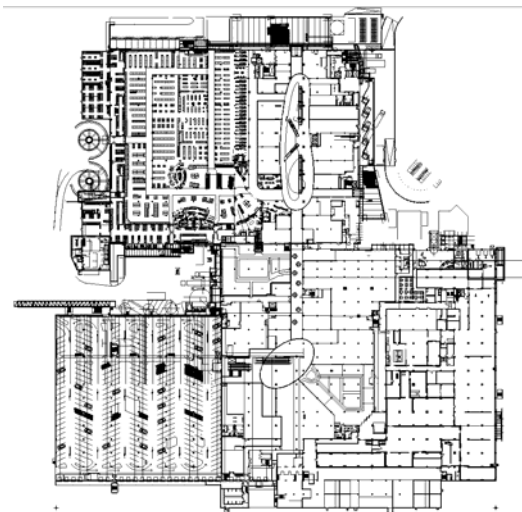
Interface to CAFM System

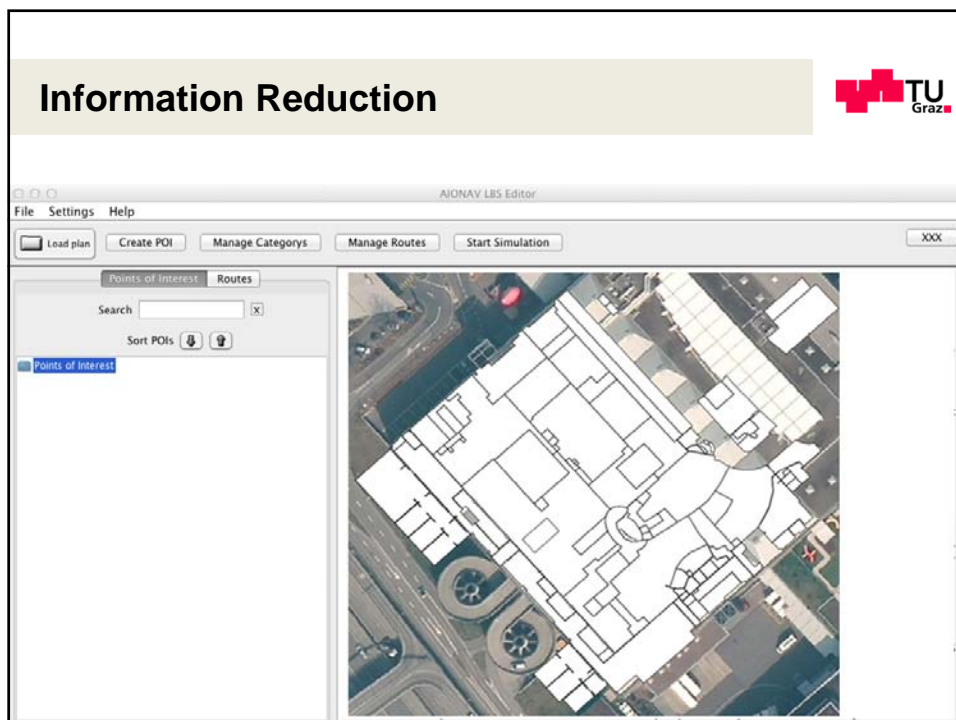
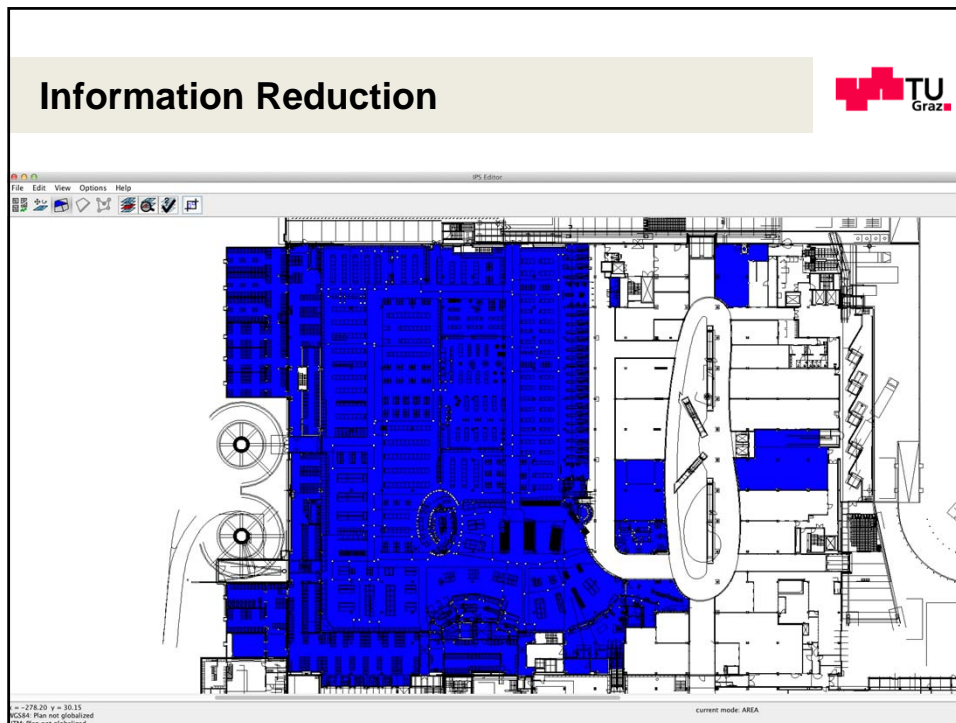


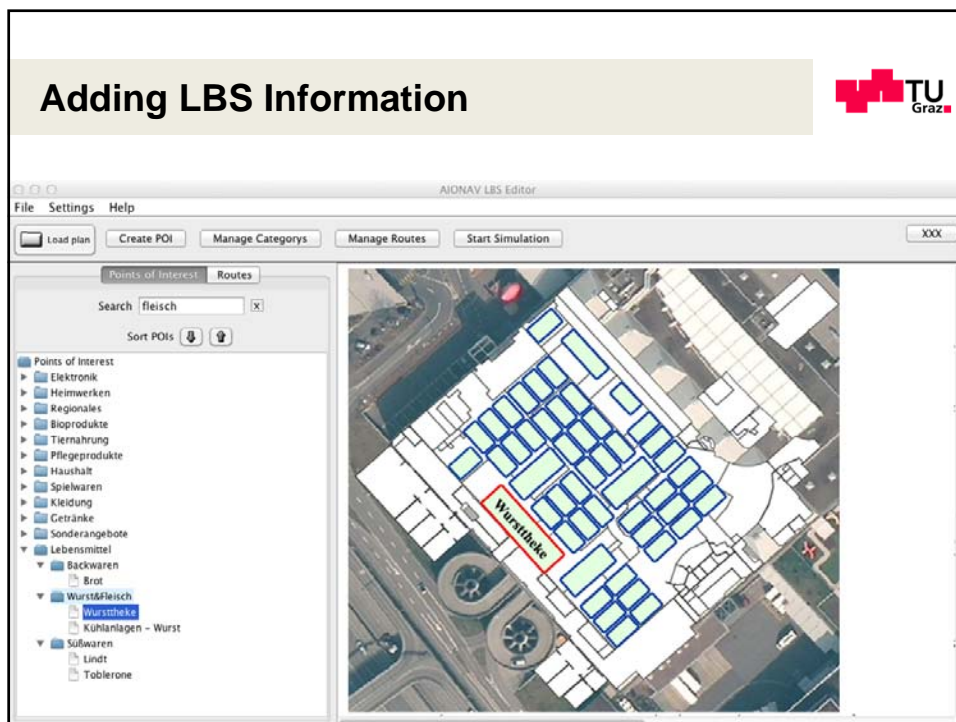
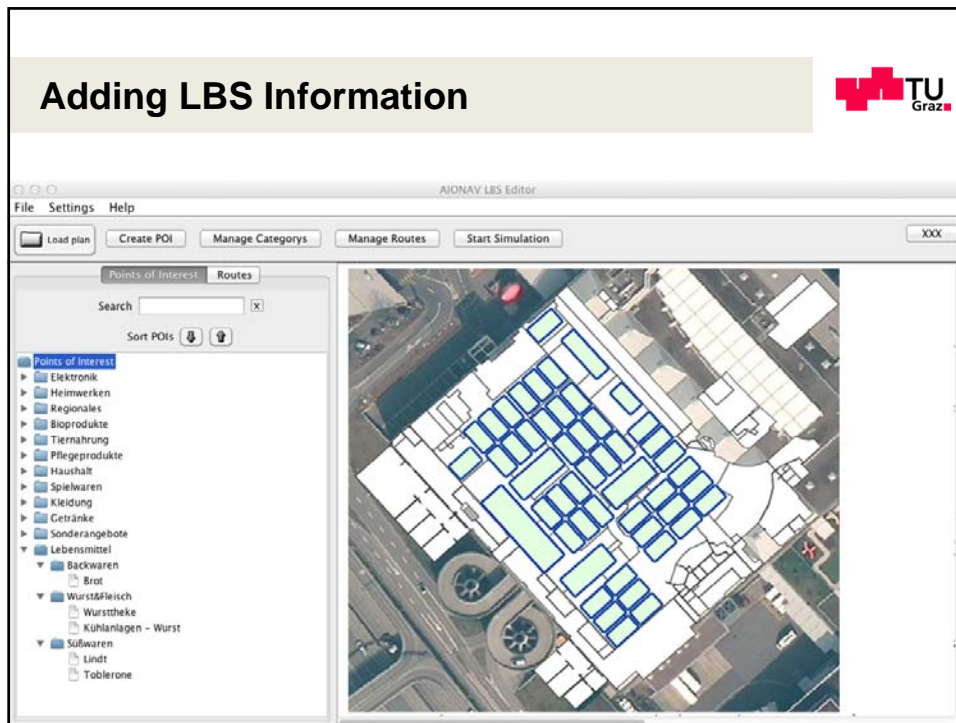
- **Computer Aided Facility Management (CAFM) system provides**
 - Floor plans with semantic (rooms)
 - Surrounding areas
 - Parking lots
- **CAFM database provides**
 - Real estate data
 - Data of floors and rooms
 - Technical equipment
 - Escape routes
 - Location of dangerous goods
 - Documents (technical manuals, schemas, contracts, etc.)

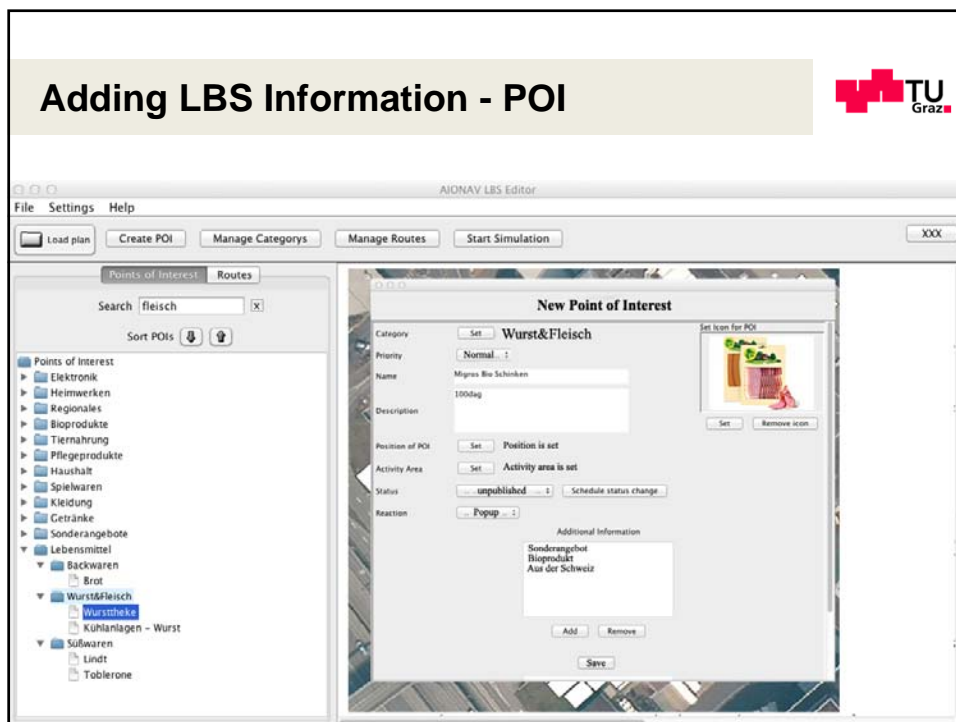
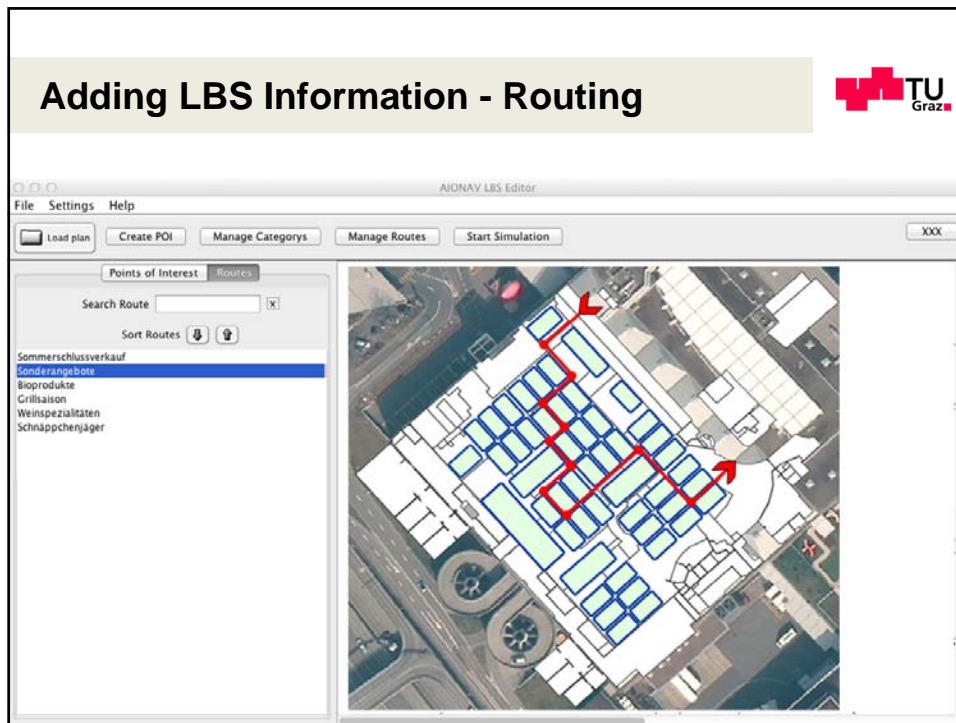


Information Reduction









LBS Services



- **Positioning and navigation**
 - Where do I find a product?
 - Where is the sanitary zone?
 - Where is my car?
- **Notice on events**
- **Special offers**
- **Emergency calls**
- **Technical staff support**
- **Tourist guidance (individually)**
- **Etc.**



Thank you for your attention!



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Jing

