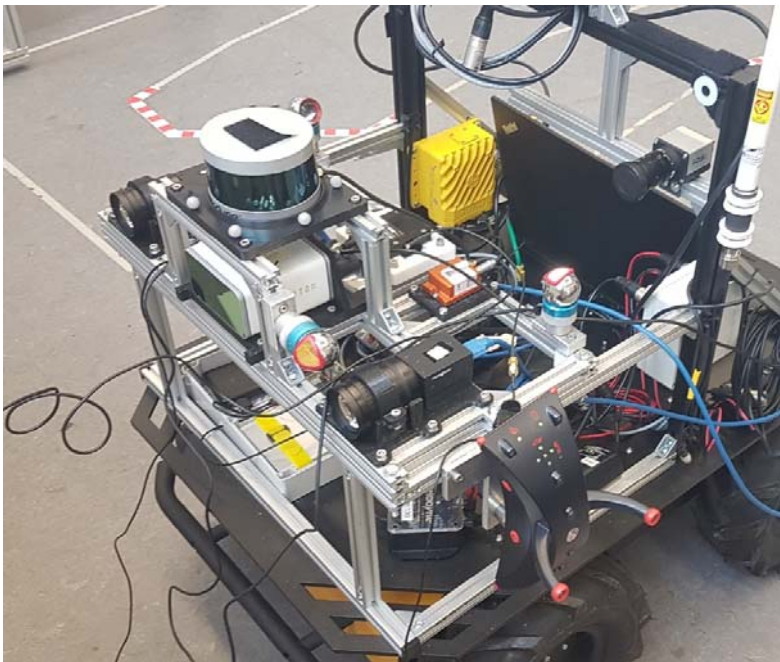




# Uncertainty Evaluation for a Kinematic LiDAR-based Multi-Sensor System



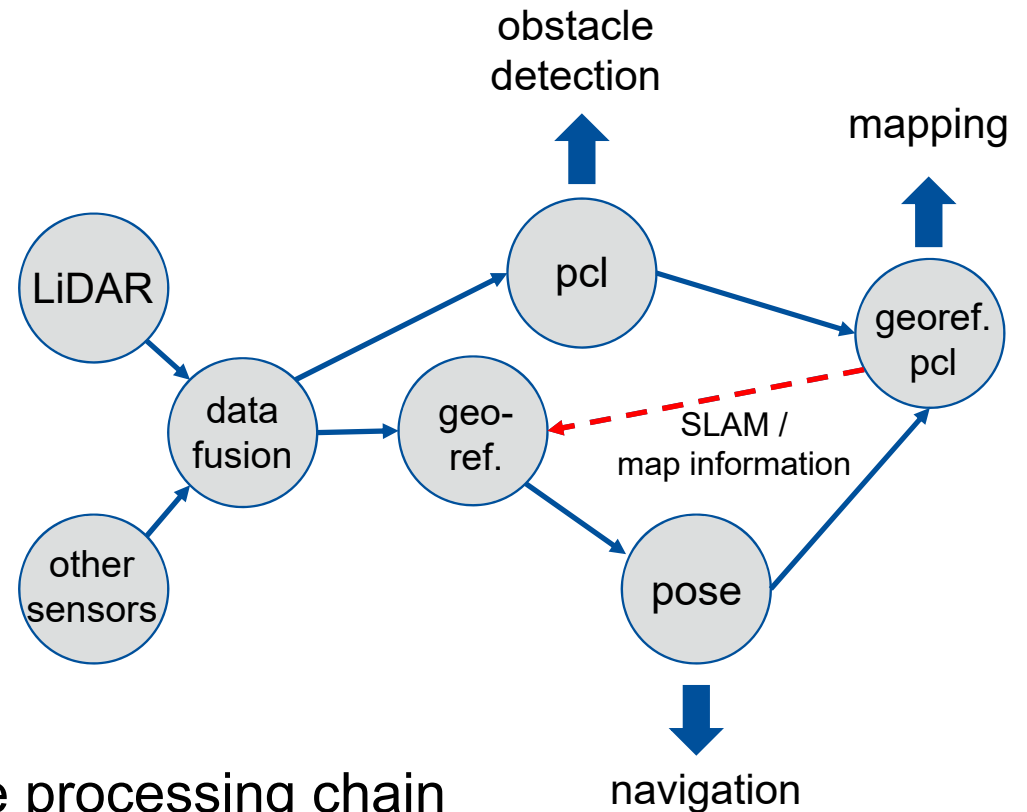
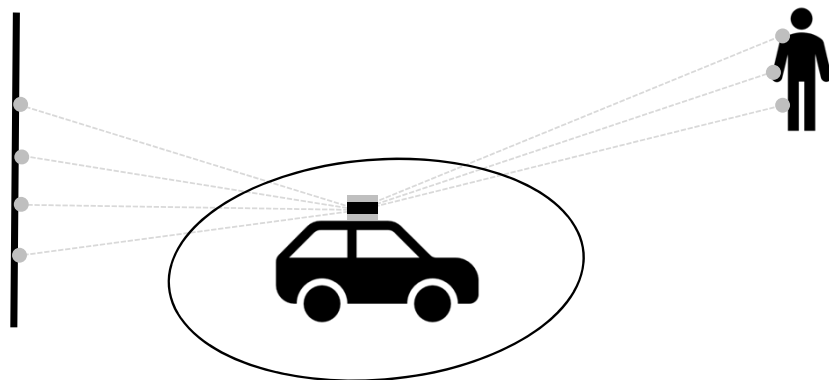
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**FIG Working Week 2023**  
Scientific Workshop on Uncertainty and  
Quality of Multi-Sensor Systems

2023-05-28

# Motivation

LiDAR-based MSSs:



Issues related to uncertainty modeling:

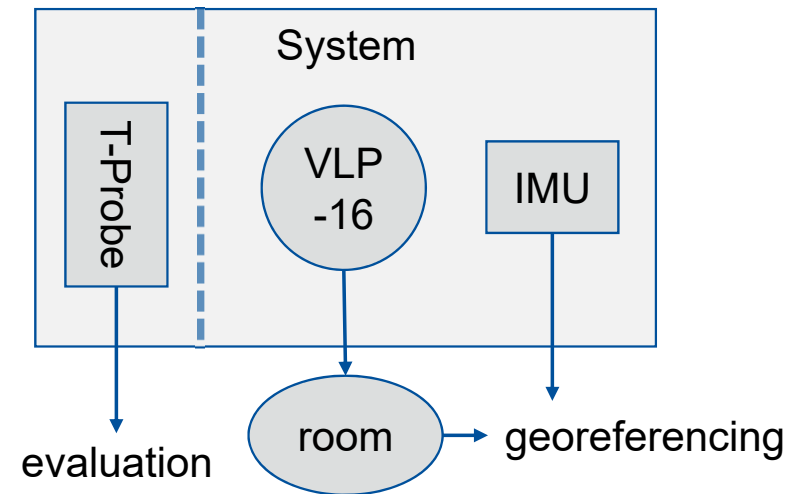
- 1) Multitude of influences along complete processing chain
- 2) Feedback loop by using LiDAR observations for localization

## Agenda

- Motivation
- Methodology
- Dataset
  - Simulation
  - Real Data
- Results

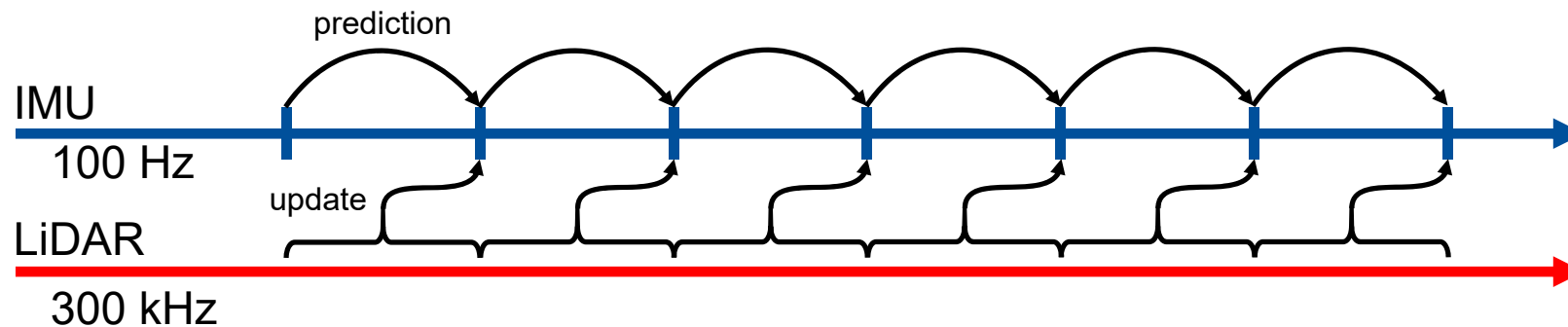
## LiDAR-based Multi-Sensor System

- Minimal multi-sensor system (2 sensors)
  - LiDAR: VLP-16
  - IMU: Microstrain 3DM-GQ4-45
  - Leica T-Probe (for evaluation)
  
- Principle of position tracking?
  - Prediction by IMU (strapdown)
  - Localization using known planes in the environment (Vogel, 2020)

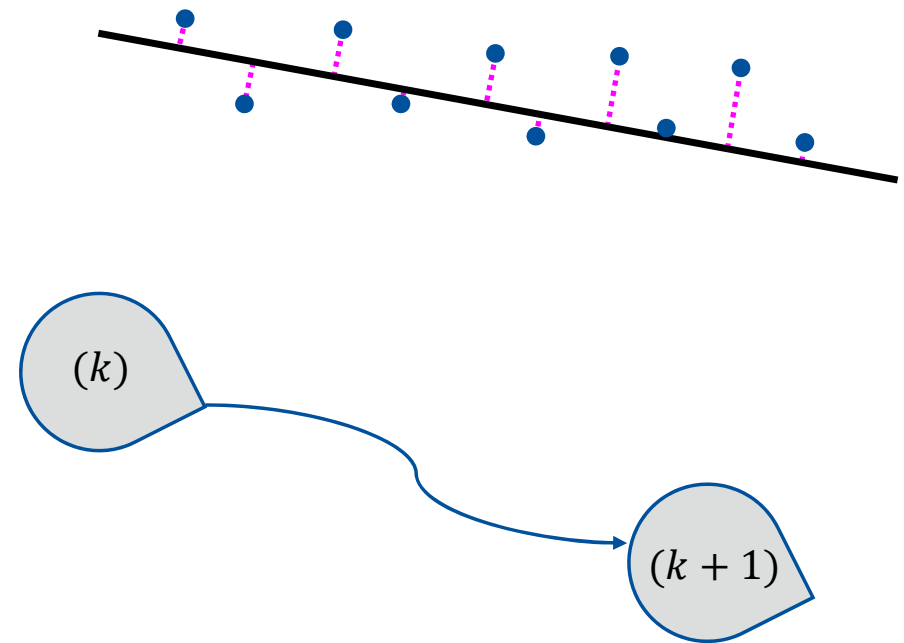
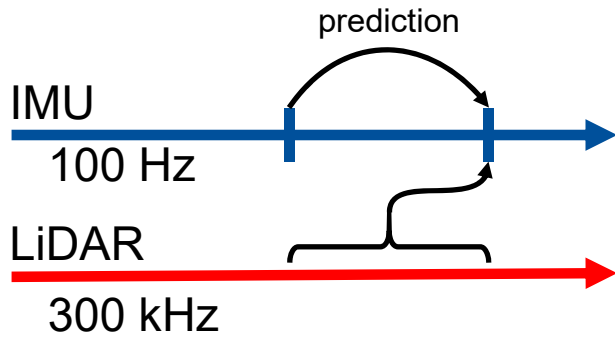


## Error State Kalman Filter with implicit Measurement Equations

- States:
  - Pose: translations, orientations (quaternion), velocities
  - Biases for IMU: accelerometer, gyroscope
- Usage of quaternions: implementation as Error State KF

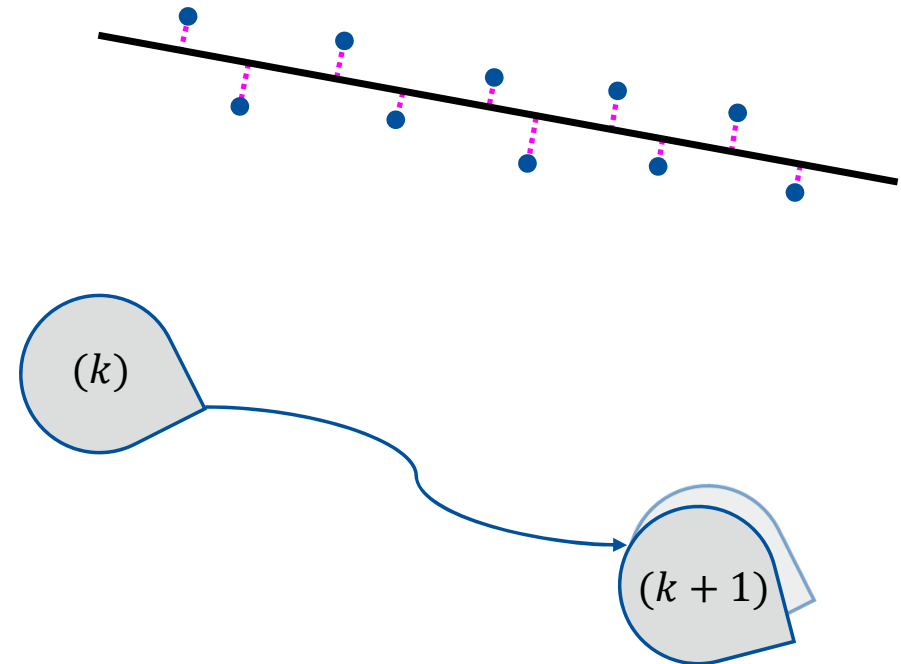


# Principle of Position Tracking



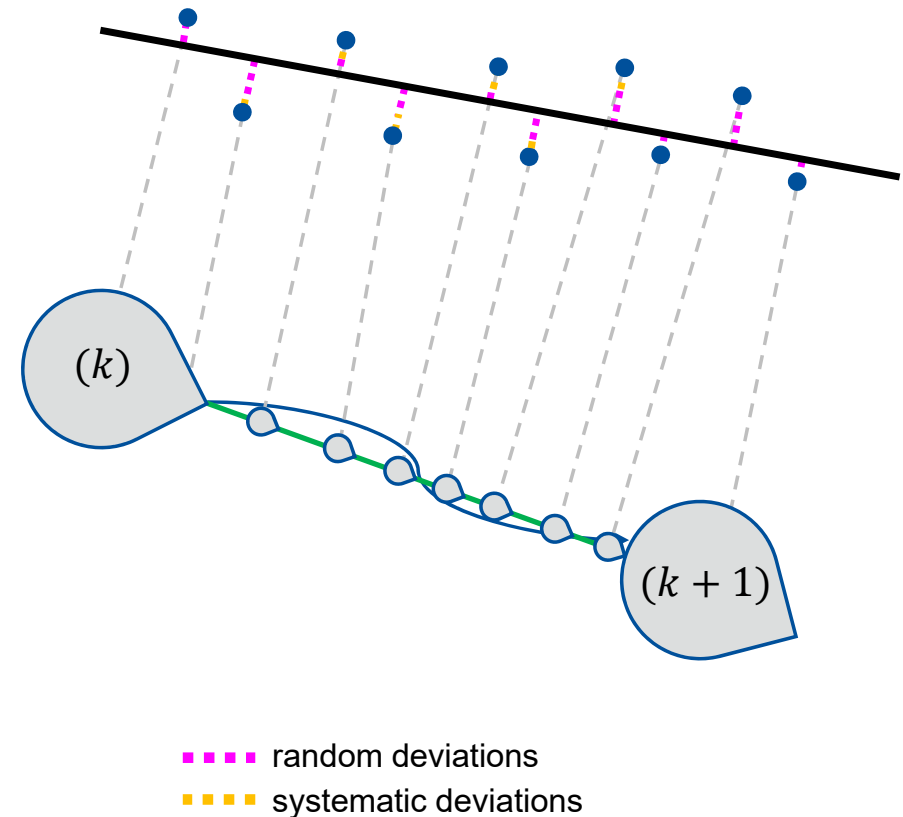
## Principle of Position Tracking

- Prediction by integrating IMU measurements between  $(k)$  and  $(k + 1)$
- Update:
  - Transformation of LiDAR points using predicted pose
  - Distance minimization to known planes in environment



## Principle of Position Tracking

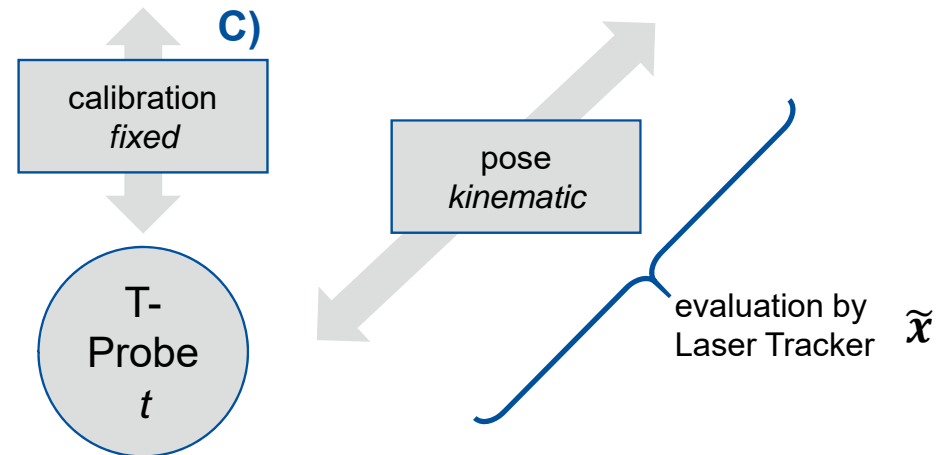
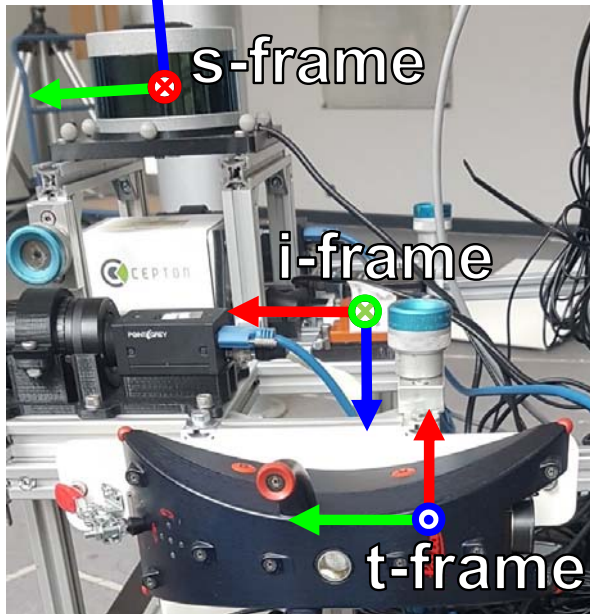
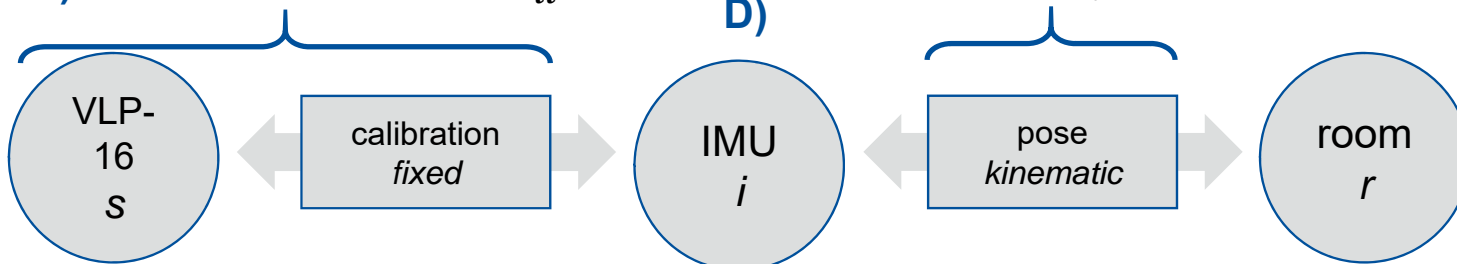
- Usage of **linear interpolation** to account for rolling shutter
- Timestamps of points for interpolation
  - Translation: simple
  - Orientation: spherical linear interpolation

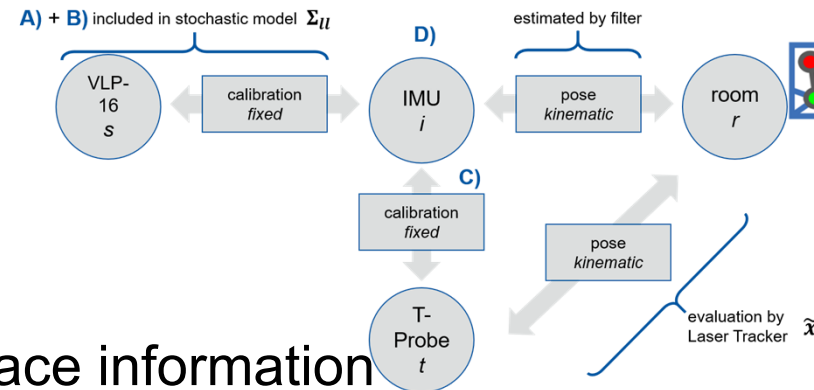




# Processing Chain

A) + B) included in stochastic model  $\Sigma_{ll}$



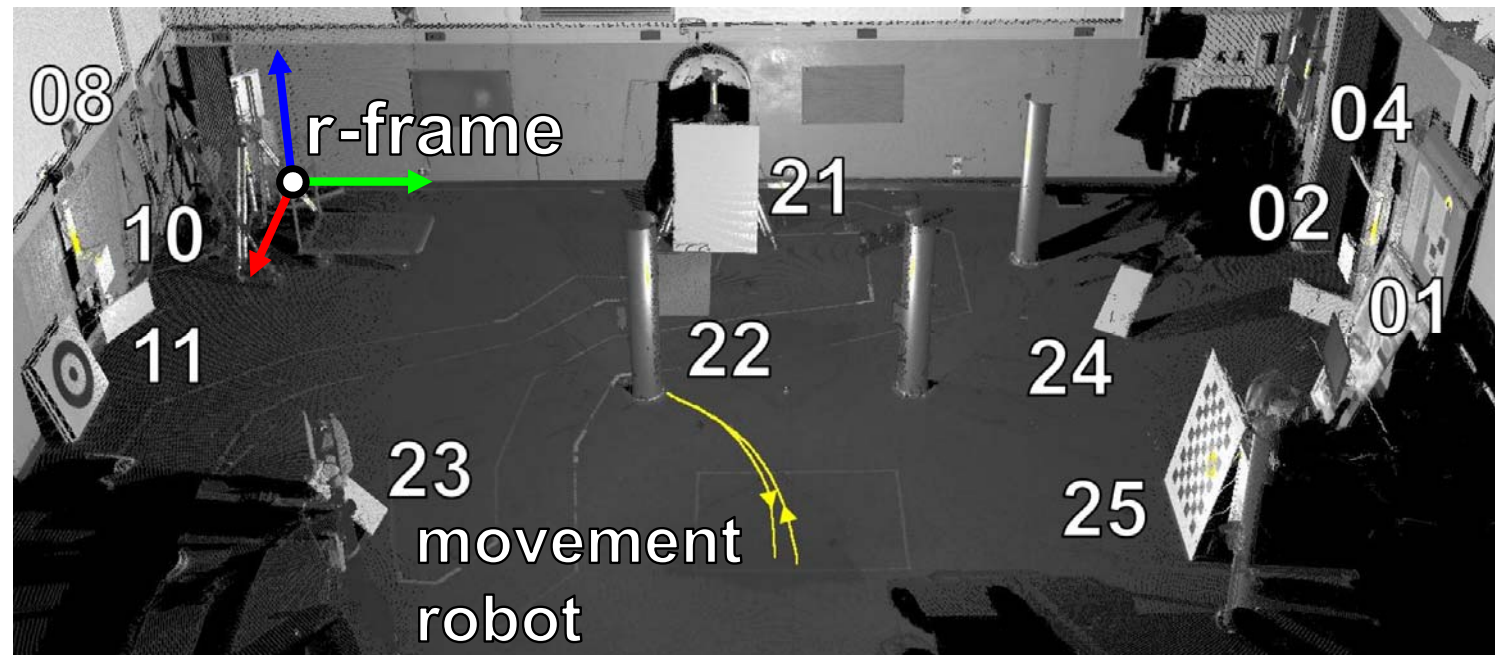
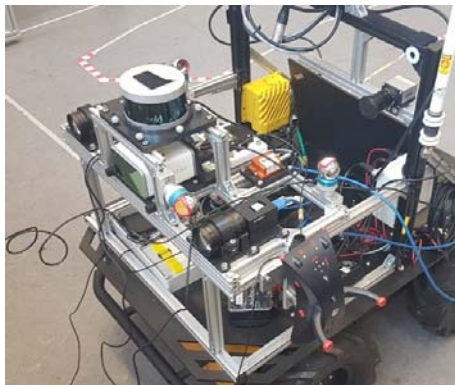


## Calibrations

- A)** System calibration using object-space information  
usage of LiDAR observations → notable uncertainties (~mm)
- B)** System calibration using LT measurements of IMU housing  
usage of only LT measurements → small uncertainties (~0.1 mm)
- C)** System calibration between CCRs and T-Probe  
usage of only LT measurements → small uncertainties (~0.1 mm)
- D)** Computation of Allan variance for IMU noise parameters  
short 1-position test (~25s)

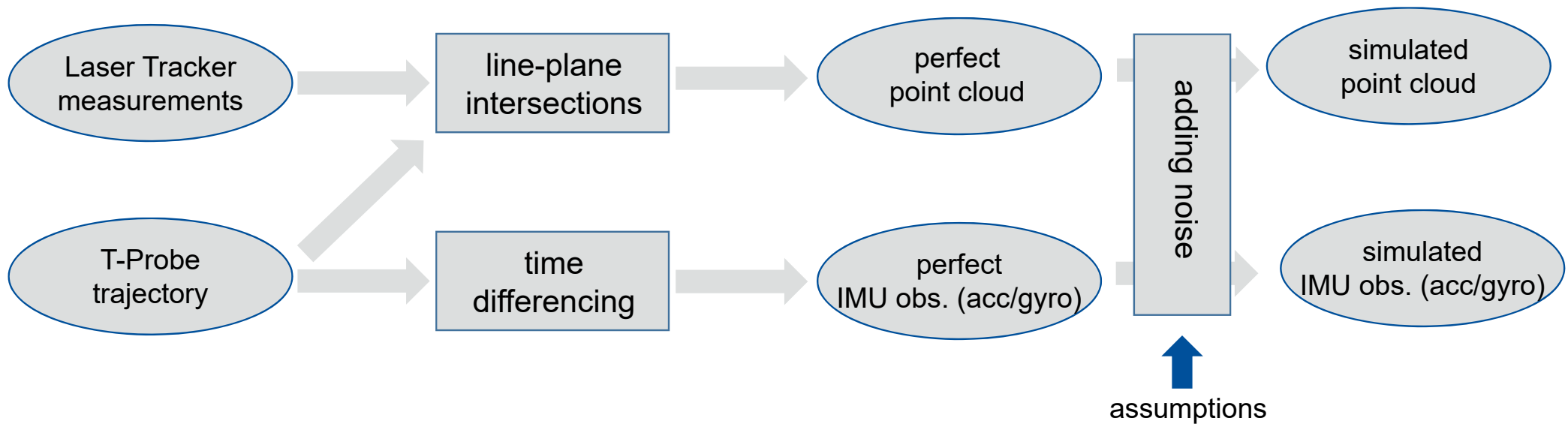
## Overview: Setup of the Experiment

- Laboratory as controlled environment with 11 reference panels
- Reference panels used for calibration
- Assumptions for LiDAR measurement uncertainty

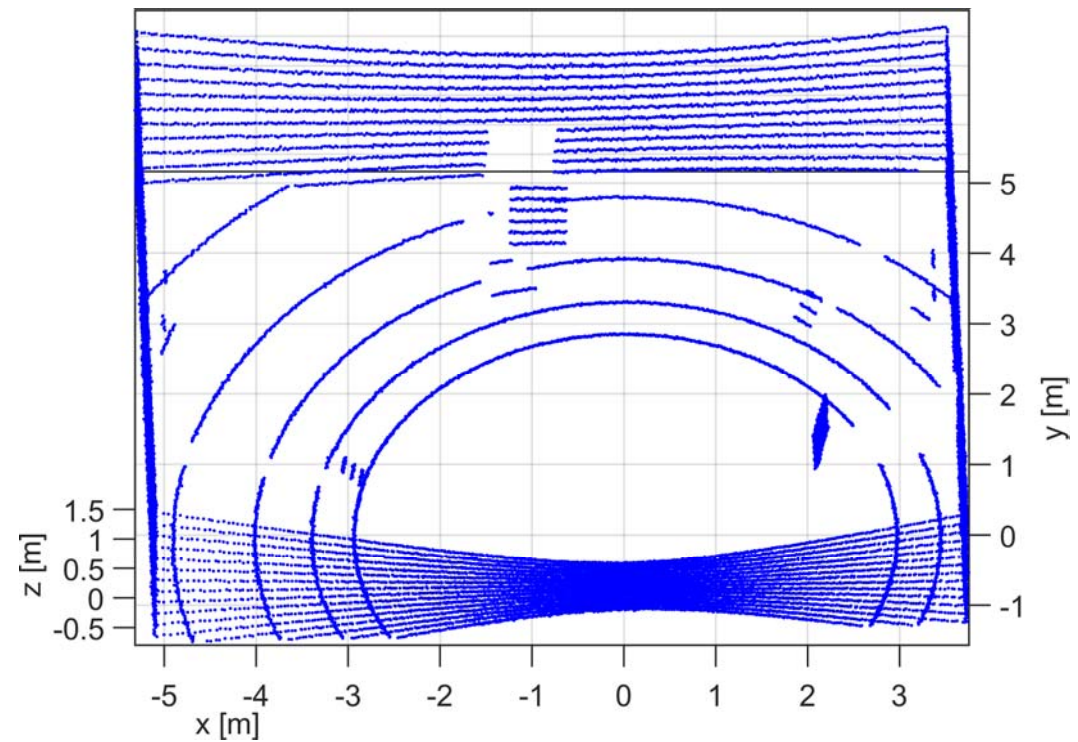
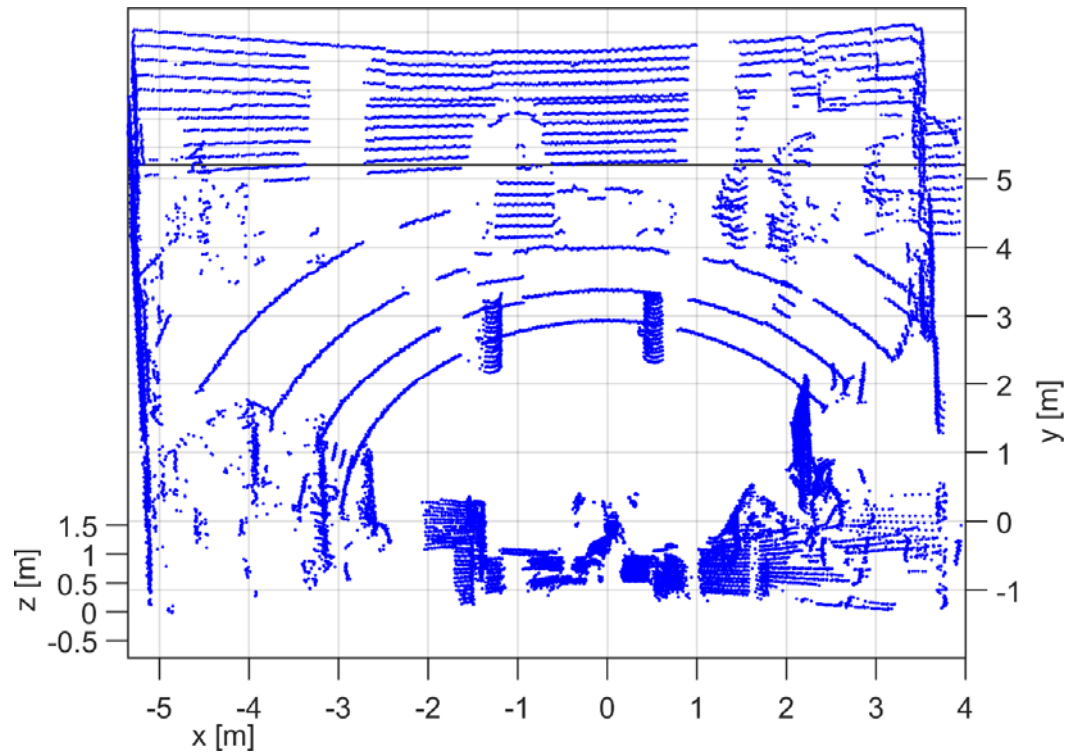


## Closed Loop Simulation

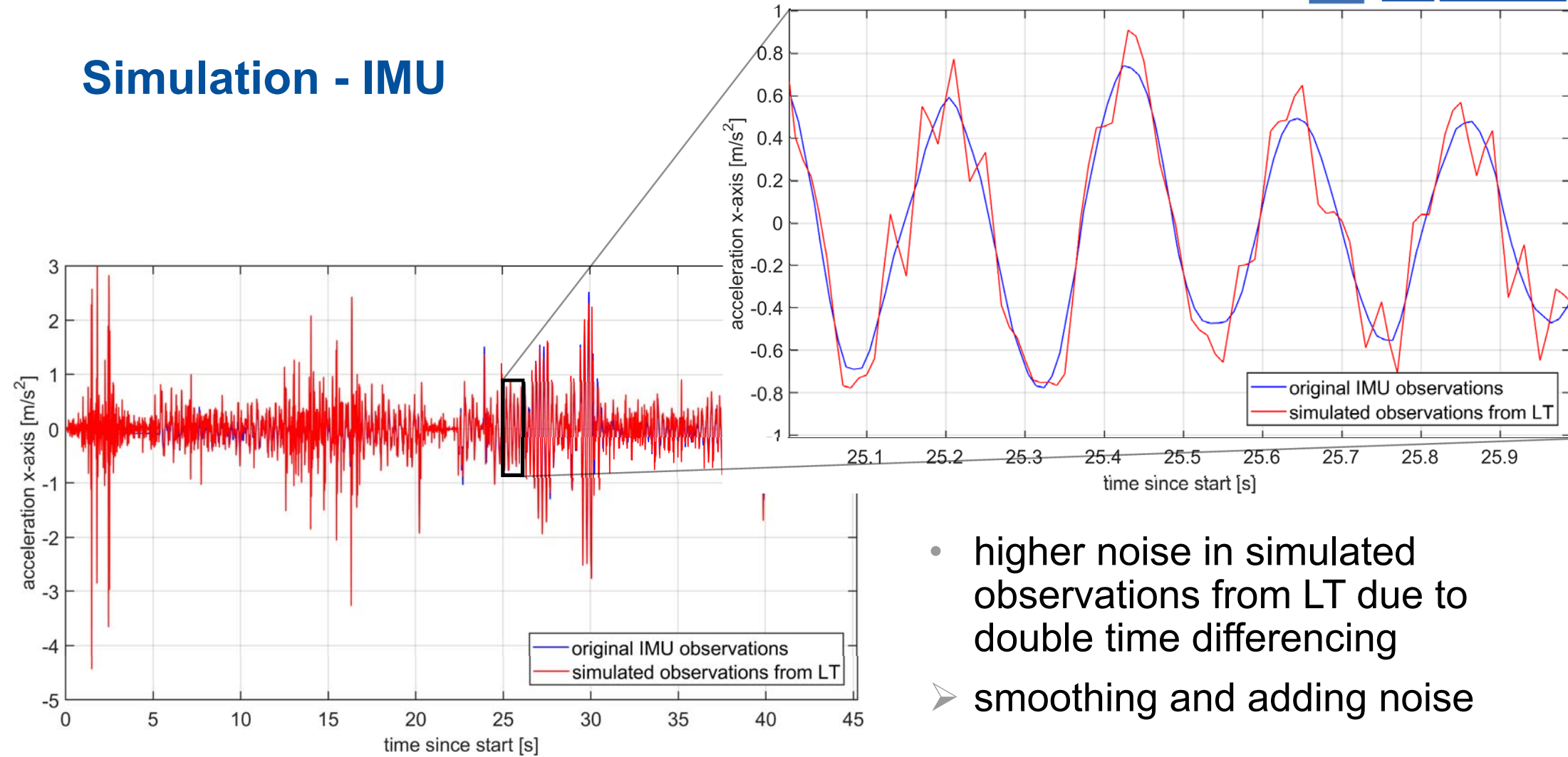
- 2 Reasons:
  - Check implementation of filter
  - Check if assumptions lead to expected results



# Simulation - LiDAR



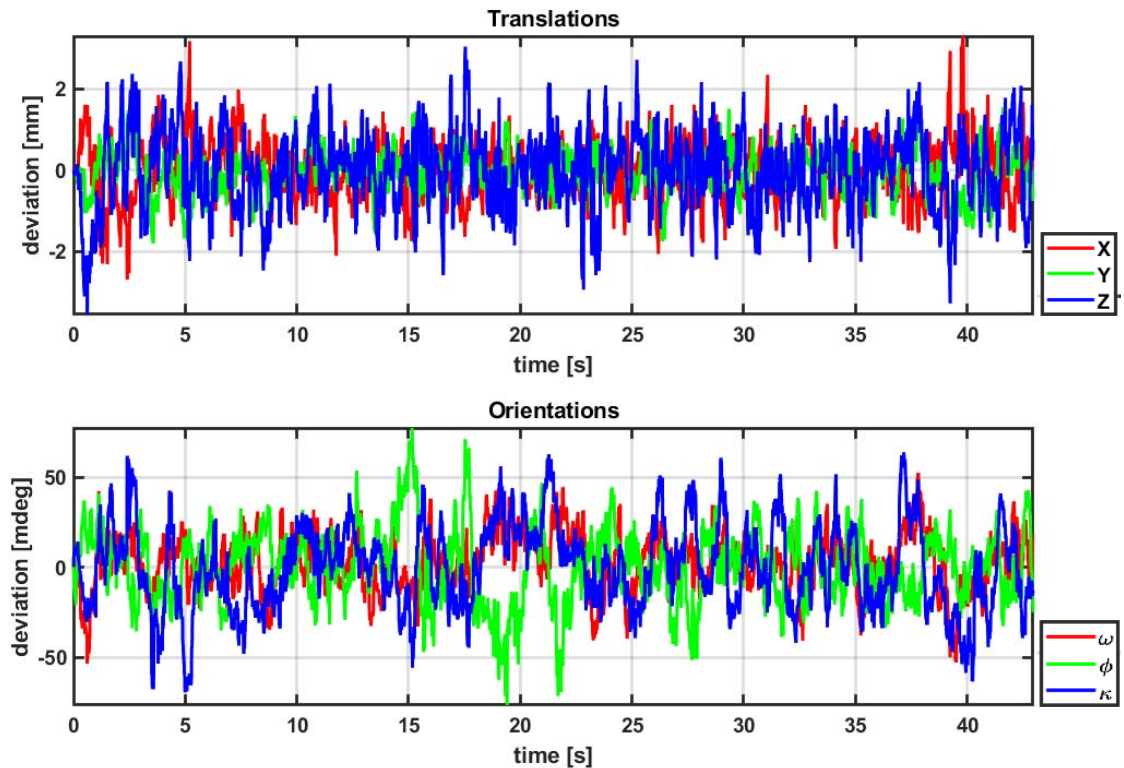
# Simulation - IMU



- higher noise in simulated observations from LT due to double time differencing
- smoothing and adding noise

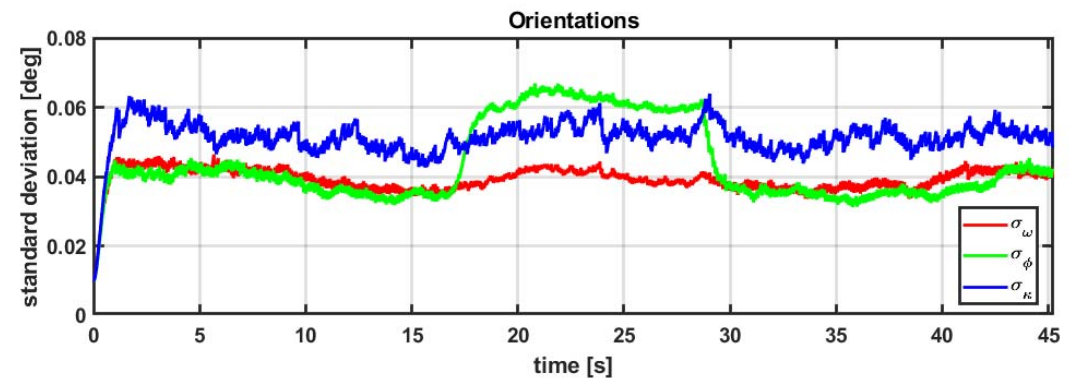
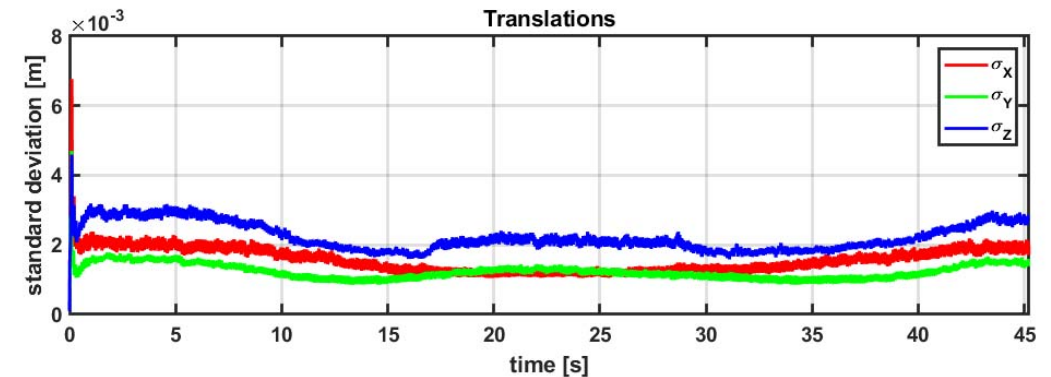
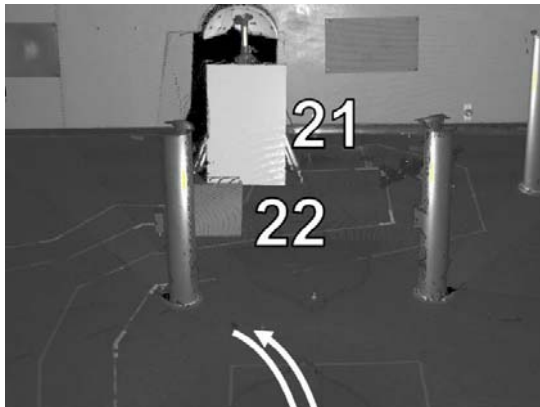
## Simulation Results – Accuracy

- Deviation from true trajectory  
 $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}$
- RMSE:
  - Translations: 0.76 mm
  - Orientations: 19.94 mdeg



## Simulation Results – Estimated Standard Deviations

- Estimated standard deviations for elements of the MSS pose  $\hat{\sigma}$
- Notable change with visibility of panels



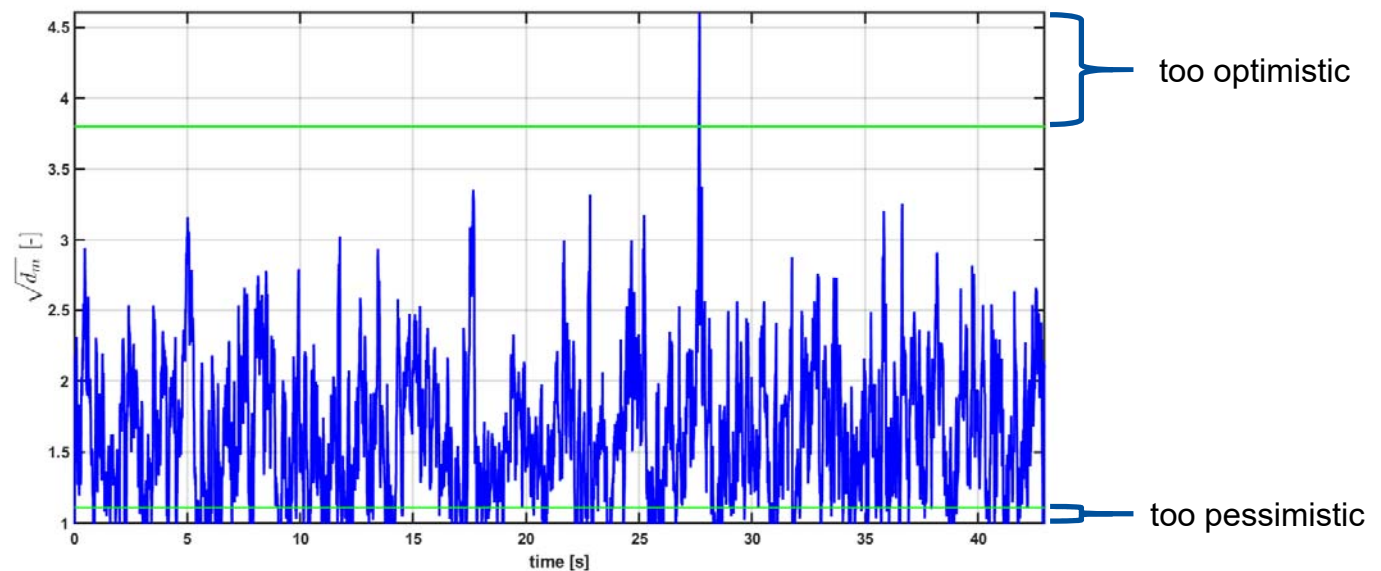


## Simulation Results – Consistency Test

- Hypothesis test for pose deviations using Mahalanobis distance:

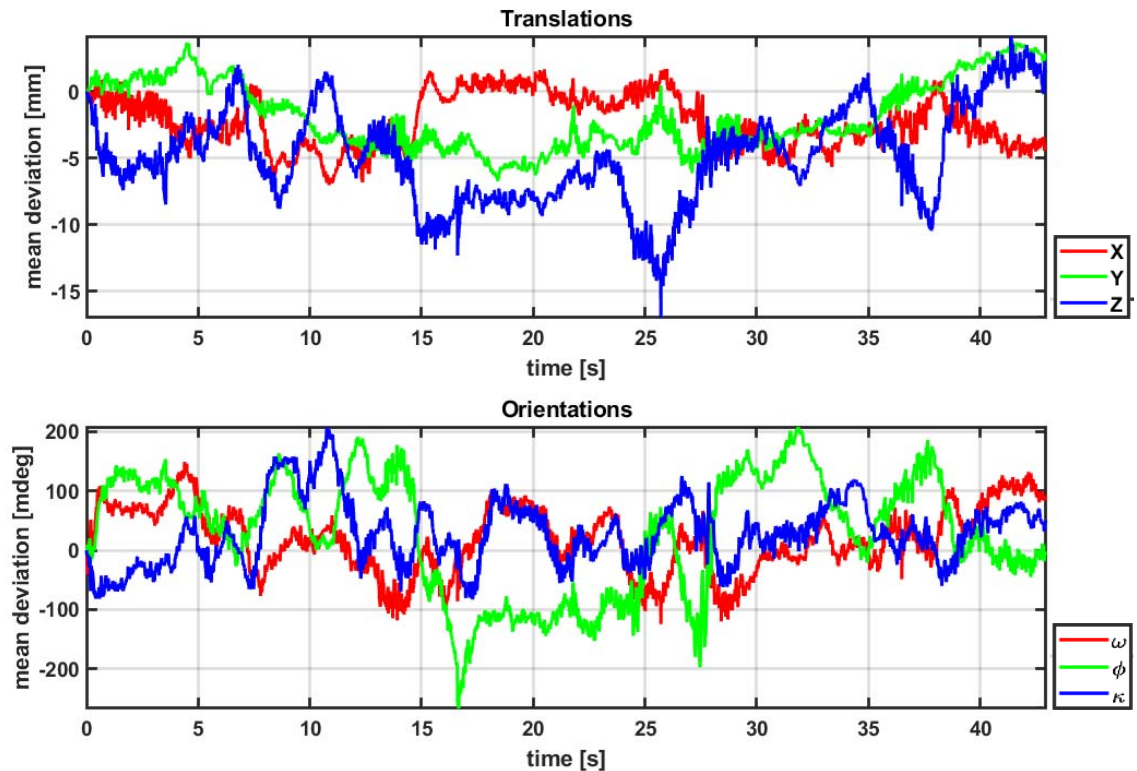
$$d_M = (\tilde{\mathbf{x}} - \hat{\mathbf{x}})^T \Sigma_{\hat{\mathbf{x}}\hat{\mathbf{x}}}^{-1} (\tilde{\mathbf{x}} - \hat{\mathbf{x}})$$

- Tested against  $\chi^2$ -distribution (in green) (Bar-Shalom et al., 2004)
- Square root of  $d_M$  and  $\chi^2$ -interval shown for better interpretability



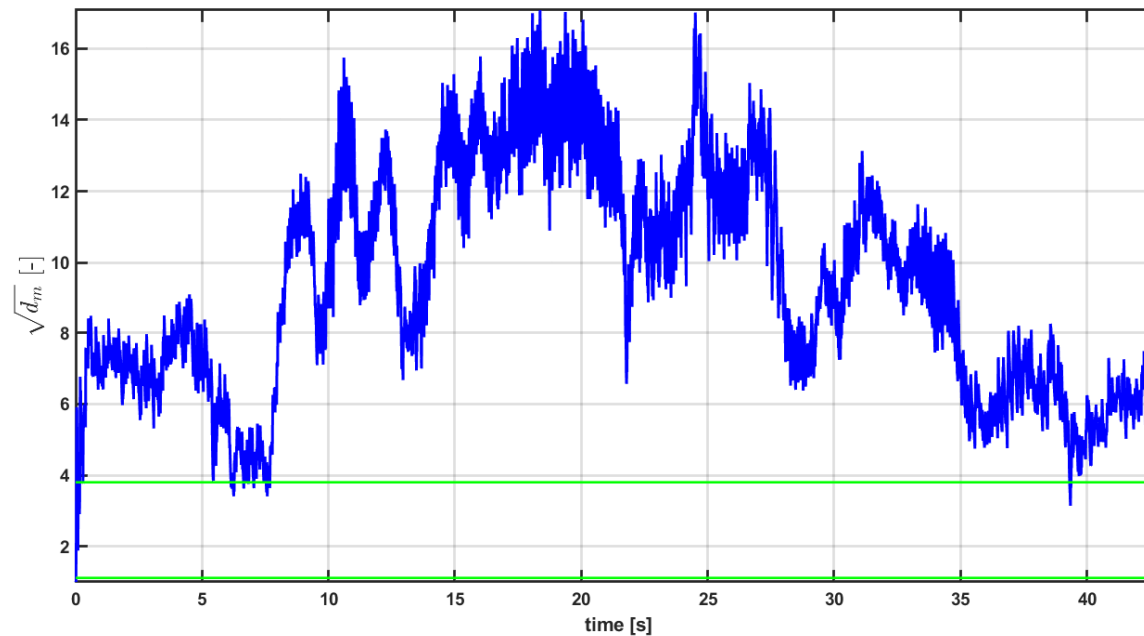
## Results – Accuracy of Referencing

- Deviation from T-Probe trajectory  $\tilde{x} - \hat{x}$
- RMSE:
  - Translations: 4.30 mm
  - Orientations: 77.29 mdeg

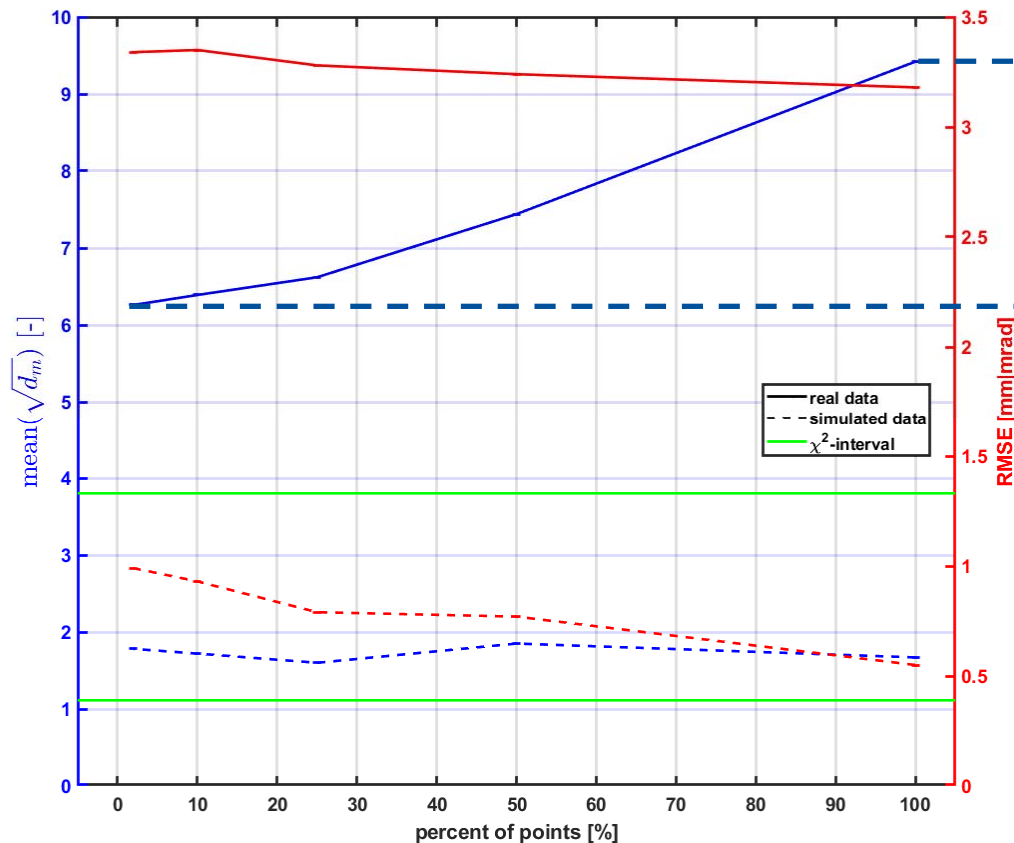


## Results – Consistency Test

- Deviations too high for estimated standard deviations
- Inconsistency due to incorrect assumptions



## Influence of subsampling of processed points



- standard deviations decrease with  $\sqrt{n}$ -law
- assumptions of LiDAR and IMU incorrect/incomplete

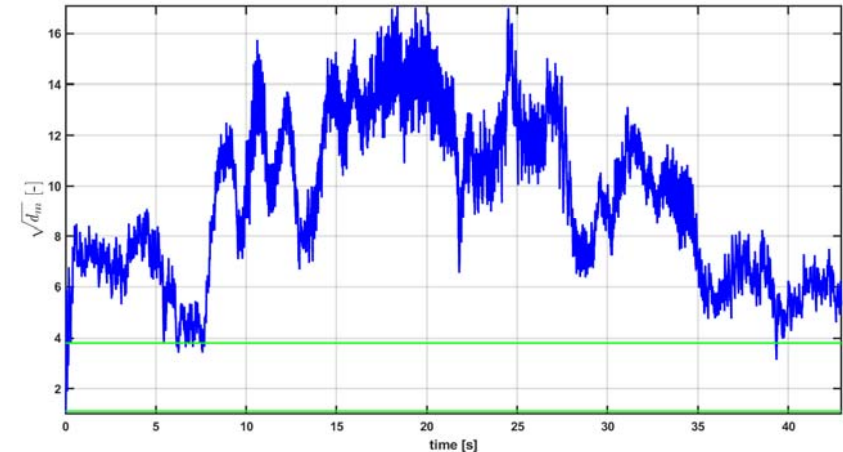
- single run → differences from subsampling
- low increase of deviation with fewer points processed

## Conclusion

- Evaluating the estimated pose uncertainties of a filter
  - Uncertainty modeling by variance propagation
- Remaining gap between accuracy and estimated uncertainty, due to:
  - Remaining systematic deviations in the point cloud
  - Unknown correlations of the points in the point cloud
  - (Probably) insufficient IMU calibration
  - Offset in the time synchronization (slow movement → minor influence)
  - Remaining deviations of the Laser Tracker measurements

## Summary

- Presented an Error State Kalman Filter with implicit measurement equations
- Evaluation of algorithm on simulated data
  - RMSE: 0.76 mm / 19.94 mdeg
- Application to real data set
  - RMSE: 4.30 mm / 77.29 mdeg
- Remaining inconsistency caused by incomplete knowledge (about LiDAR observations)



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## Appendix

- States and Prediction
- Update Step
- Values Stochastic Model

## States and Prediction

$$\mathbf{x} = \left[ \mathbf{t}_b^{1T} \quad \mathbf{v}_b^{1T} \quad \mathbf{q}_b^{1T} \quad \mathbf{a}_b^T \quad \boldsymbol{\omega}_b^T \right]^T$$

$$\delta \mathbf{x} = \left[ \delta \mathbf{t}_b^{1T} \quad \delta \mathbf{v}_b^{1T} \quad \delta \boldsymbol{\theta}_b^{1T} \quad \delta \mathbf{a}_b^T \quad \delta \boldsymbol{\omega}_b^T \right]^T$$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega}_o = \boldsymbol{\omega} + \boldsymbol{\omega}_b + \boldsymbol{\omega}_n,$$

$$\mathbf{a}_o = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{a}_b + \mathbf{a}_n + (\mathbf{R}_b^1)^T \mathbf{g}_1$$

$$\delta \dot{\mathbf{t}} = \delta \mathbf{v},$$

$$\delta \dot{\mathbf{v}} = -\mathbf{R}_b^1 [\hat{\mathbf{a}}]_{\times} \delta \boldsymbol{\theta}_b^1 - \mathbf{R}_b^1 \delta \mathbf{a}_b + \mathbf{g}_1 - \mathbf{R}_b^1 \mathbf{a}_n,$$

$$\delta \dot{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = -\mathbf{R}_b^1 \delta \boldsymbol{\omega}_b - \mathbf{R}_b^1 \boldsymbol{\omega}_n,$$

$$\delta \dot{\mathbf{a}}_b = \mathbf{a}_w,$$

$$\delta \dot{\boldsymbol{\omega}}_b = \boldsymbol{\omega}_w,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F}_x &= \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial \delta \mathbf{x}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}, u_m} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{I} \Delta t & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} & -[\mathbf{R}_b^1 \hat{\mathbf{a}}]_{\times} \Delta t & -\mathbf{R}_b^1 \Delta t & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} & -\mathbf{R}_b^1 \Delta t \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_i = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{\tilde{\mathbf{a}}_n}^2 \Delta t^2 \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \sigma_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\omega}}_n}^2 \Delta t^2 \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \sigma_{a_w}^2 \Delta t \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \sigma_{\boldsymbol{\omega}_w}^2 \Delta t \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}$$



## Update Step

$$\mathbf{h}^{(k,m)} = \mathbf{h} \left( \mathbf{x}_+^{(k,m)}, \ell^{(k,m)} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}^{(k,m)} &= \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}}{\partial \delta \mathbf{x}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_+^{(k,m)}, \ell^{(k,m)}} \\ &= \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_+^{(k,m)}, \ell^{(k,m)}} \cdot \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \delta \mathbf{x}} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_+^{(k,m)}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{B}^{(k,m)} = \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}}{\partial \ell} \right|_{\mathbf{x}_+^{(k,m)}, \ell^{(k,m)}}$$

$$\mathbf{O}^{(k,m)} = \mathbf{A}^{(k,m)} \mathbf{Q}_{xx,-}^{(k)} \left( \mathbf{A}^{(k,m)} \right)^T$$

$$\mathbf{S}^{(k,m)} = \mathbf{B}^{(k,m)} \mathbf{Q}_{\ell\ell}^{(k)} \left( \mathbf{B}^{(k,m)} \right)^T$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_{rr}^{(k,m)} = \mathbf{O}^{(k,m)} + \mathbf{S}^{(k,m)}$$

$$\mathbf{K}^{(k,m)} = \mathbf{Q}_{xx,-}^{(k)} \left( \mathbf{A}^{(k,m)} \right)^T \left( \mathbf{Q}_{rr}^{(k,m)} \right)^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{r}^{(k,m)} = \mathbf{B}^{(k,m)} \left( \ell^{(k,m)} - \ell^{(k)} \right) + \mathbf{A}^{(k,m)} \delta \mathbf{x}^{(k,m-1)}$$

$$\mathbf{w}^{(k,m)} = \mathbf{h}^{(k,m)} + \mathbf{r}^{(k,m)}$$

$$\delta \mathbf{x}^{(k,m)} = -\mathbf{K}^{(k,m)} \mathbf{w}^{(k,m)}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_+^{(k,m+1)} = \mathbf{x}_-^{(k)} \boxplus \delta \mathbf{x}^{(k,m)} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{t}_{b-}^1 + \delta \mathbf{t}_b^1 \\ \mathbf{v}_{b-}^1 + \delta \mathbf{v}_b^1 \\ \mathbf{q} \{ \delta \boldsymbol{\theta} \} \otimes \mathbf{q}_{b-}^1 \\ \mathbf{b}_{a-} + \delta \mathbf{b}_a \\ \mathbf{b}_{\omega-} + \delta \mathbf{b}_{\omega} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\tau_i = \frac{\mathbf{t}_i - \mathbf{t}^{(k-1)}}{\Delta \mathbf{t}}$$

$$\mathbf{t}_{b\tau_i}^1 = (1 - \tau_i) \hat{\mathbf{t}}_b^{1, (k-1)} + \tau_i \mathbf{t}_b^{1, (k,m)},$$

$$\Delta \theta = \arccos \left( \left( \hat{\mathbf{q}}_b^{1, (k-1)} \right)^T \cdot \mathbf{q}_b^{1, (k,m)} \right),$$

$$\mathbf{q}_{b\tau_i}^1 = \hat{\mathbf{q}}_b^{1, (k-1)} \frac{\sin((1 - \tau_i)\Delta\theta)}{\sin(\Delta\theta)} + \mathbf{q}_b^{1, (k,m)} \frac{\sin(\tau_i\Delta\theta)}{\sin(\Delta\theta)}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_{1,i} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{bmatrix}_i = \mathbf{t}_{b\tau_i}^1 + \mathbf{R} \{ \mathbf{q}_{b\tau_i}^1 \} \begin{bmatrix} x_b \\ y_b \\ z_b \end{bmatrix}_i,$$

$$h_i = h(\mathbf{x}, \ell_i, \mathbf{a}_{1,j}) = [n_{x,1} \ n_{y,1} \ n_{z,1} \ d_1]_j \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{1,i} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Values Stochastic Model

LiDAR		
distance measurement $\sigma_d$	8.5	mm
horizontal angle $\sigma_\alpha$	48.7	mdeg
vertical angle $\sigma_e$	29.8	mdeg
IMU for (x,y,z)-axes		
acc. noise density $\sigma_{\tilde{a}_n}$	$(6.16, 4.61, 3.62) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$\text{m}\sqrt{\text{Hz}}/\text{s}^2$
acc. bias instability $\sigma_{a_w}$	$(22.26, 20.35, 36.36) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$\text{m}/\text{s}^2$
gyro. noise density $\sigma_{\tilde{\omega}_n}$	$(0.26, 0.34, 0.24) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$\text{rad}\sqrt{\text{Hz}}/\text{s}$
gyro. bias instability $\sigma_{\omega_w}$	$(1.23, 1.14, 1.19) \cdot 10^{-3}$	$\text{rad}/\text{s}$