# ISOVIST FINGERPRINTING AS NEW WAY OF INDOOR LOCALISATION

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# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Key concepts definition
- Brief Introduction & Problem definition
- Relevance and motivation
- Methodology
- > Implementation
- ➢ Results
- > Conclusions
- Applications and Future prospect
- > Reflection

### **KEY CONCEPTS DEFINITION**









https://toolbox.decodingspaces.net/tutorial-2d-and-3d-isovists-for-visibility-analysis/

# **INTRODUCTION & PROBLEM DEFINITION**

#### Ancient times

- Relative position based on stars (Sailors)
- Relative position based on what visible around

#### Today

- GNSS provides exact position with coordinates
- Outdoors: Mostly accurate
- Indoors: No signal and bad reception

#### Positioning VS Localisation

- Exact position with coordinates
- Approximate and Contextual information



http://www.weems-plath.com/About/History-of-Navigation.html



https://leica-geosystep/s.com/nl-nl/products/gnss-systems

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#### INDOOR LOCALISATION TERRA INCOGNITA TO BE DISCOVERED

#### There is not one 'silver bullet'

► "We now use the term 'silver bullet' to refer to an action which cuts through complexity and provides an immediate solution to a problem. The allusion is to a miraculous fix, otherwise portrayed as 'waving a magic wand'."

#### There is a need for indoor localisation.

Not only 'point positioning' but meaningful 'place localisation': "Where am I?"

Also meaningful indoor '3D mapping':
"I am here".

## WHY INDOOR LOCALISATION?

People spend most of their time indoors

Easy to lose orientation (complex buildings, absence of significant landmarks)

Bad GNSS reception

**Emergency situations** 

Efficient management



#### WHY ISOVIST?

No need of locally deployed infrastructure

Lower Cost than other methods (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth)

Basis for navigation **WITH** better Visibility

LiDAR on smartphones makes it more accurate & approachable



# **ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS**

- This research topic it is just an initial investigation to form a proof of concept for Isovist Fingerprinting
- Does not end to a fully integrated and functional application
- Cannot and will not become the "Silver Bullet"
- No automatic integration between all the steps
- It is mainly manually implemented now with some small automation and prospect to fully automation in future
- It tests and concludes important information regarding all related factors of the topic



#### METHODOLOGY



- Point Clouds
  - iPhone 12 Pro with LiDAR sensor for the user part
  - > PIX4Dcatch app used with iPhone
- Assumption
  - Point Cloud must be gathered from entrance of the room mainly







#### Point Cloud to 2D drawing

Manual Implementation
 Import to Cloud Compare
 Dowsampling (3.88 cm distance between points)
 Statistical Outliers Removal
 Slicing in height with most objects (60-120 cm)
 Export in .dxf and drawing the







#### Point Cloud to 2D drawing

Algorithmic Implementation
 Reading and loading the point cloud in .ply format
 Voxel downsampling of the point cloud
 Statistical outlier removal
 Conversion of point cloud into 3D array





- > 2D Drawings (AutoCAD)
  - Acquire of BK floorplans (Synthesis Project 2021" Building rhythms: Reopening the workspace with indoor localization"
  - > Modification of BK floorplans and creation of one united curve
  - > Specific Layer allocation to simplify the data
  - > Addition of furniture and other unique characteristics





## SPACE SYNTAX MEASURES

- Isovist Analysis in DeCodingSpaces Toolbox for Grasshopper of Rhino7
- > Assumptions:
  - User's point chosen manually in the entrance of the rooms in the 2D info  $\triangleright$ extracted by the point clouds
  - Direction, Range and other factors are also chosen manually  $\triangleright$



## **ISOVIST PARAMETERS**

- Area : Expresses the area of all space visible from a vantage point in space
- Perimeter : Expresses the length of the edge of all space visible from a location
- Drift : Expresses the distance from a subject point to the center of gravity of its isovist
- Compactness : Expresses the shape property (relative to a circle) of all space visible from a location.



## SPACE SYNTAX MEASURES

- Import the modified 2D drawings (Building's floorplans & Point Clouds)
- Grasshopper algorithm/script for Isovist analysis
  - Calculation of Isovist Polygons and 17 Parameters
  - Visualising the Isovist Polygon
  - Normalising the data of Isovist Parameters
  - > Distance Algorithm between the user's Isovist Parameters and the Database ones
  - Localisation visualisation
  - Storing and exporting the Calculations in .csv



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## **ISOVIST MATCHING**

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- **1.** Creation of a grid to the whole area & calculation of thousands isovists for the area ( One Isovist per grid cell)
- 2. Calculation of 10 sets of Isovist on each entrance of rooms of interest



- **1.** Calculation of one isovist each time from a moving vantage point in space
- **2.** Calculation of one Isovist on the entrance of rooms by acquired Point Clouds

Analysing and Normalising the set of 17 Isovist parameters



Matching the single Isovist with the database by using Distance algorithm



#### **ISOVIST MATCHING**



Single Isovist from Point-Cloud



Set of 10 Isovists of an Entrance



#### **TEST RESULTS**

Isovist Parameters Analysis



#### TEST RESULTS

#### **Distance** Algorithms Testing



Euclidean Distance Algorithm



Manhattan Distance Algorithm



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Best ----> Worst



#### Localisation Tests



#### Empty room



#### With Furniture Room





Best ----> Worst

## CONCLUSIONS

- Data Acquisition with smartphone supporting LiDAR were great accuracy for the topic's purpose
- Rhino's capabilities gave big space for testing
- Area, Perimeter and Drift Angle Highest importance
- Variance and Skewness is the least
- Euclidean Distance better choice
- Depending the environment results are not good
- Can support Indoor Localisation



# APPLICATIONS AND FUTURE PROSPECT

- Promising method for the future especially in Combination with other methods
- Basis for navigation by using better visibility options
- Locating expensive machines (Hospitals, Factories)
- Use them for continuous update of the database

## REFLECTION

- Topic can extend fields of Geomatics and Indoor Localisation
- High impact in society
- Lots of work and research still needs to be done
- Not the best time management
- Learned a lot during the process
- Covid-19 Pandemic Limitation
- Keep Going!





# Thank you for your attention !!!

