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智慧行動裝置上之擴增實境定位技術 AR-based Positioning on Mobile Devices

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摘要

擴增實境可藉用從興趣點資料庫所獲得的位置和方向資訊來豐富位置感知服 務。個人導覽系統可利用擴增實境技術來建立。然而要將擴增實境物件放置到正 確的位置,需要高精確的定位技術,其精確度的需求遠超於現今市面上的定位技 術,如全球定位系統(GPS)、室內射頻系統(RF)。因此在此篇論文中,我們提出 了一個以擴增實境為基礎的定位技術,讓使用者可以利用此技術來定位出他們的 位置。首先,藉由一個粗略的定位系統,擴增實境物件可以粗略的顯示在擴增實 境裝置的螢幕上。接著,透過使用者的拖放擴增實境物件,擴增實境物件可以和 實際景物進行配對。因此,便可得知擴境實境物件的實際和影像座標,並且在已 知相機焦距的情況下,拍攝相片的位置便可求得。相機的位置可被視為使用者的 位置。我們提出的定位技術,非常適合的用來發展高精確的個人導覽系統。

關鍵字:定位, 擴增實境。

AR-based Positioning for Mobile Devices

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Abstract

Augmented Reality (AR) can be used to enrich LBS application by utilizing position and orientation information from a location database of POIs. The AR technique is suitable to develop intuitional Pedestrian Navigation Systems (PNSs). Higher positioning accuracy is needed for displaying AR objects at proper places. However, current commercial positioning solutions, such like outdoor GPS and indoor RF systems, cannot provide required positioning accuracy. In this paper, we propose an AR-based positioning technique for AR users to locate their current locations. First, by utilizing a coarse positioning system, AR objects can be roughly displayed on the touch screen of an AR device. Then, AR objects can be matched with their images on the display via drag-and-drop operations by users. Thus, both the coordinates of the AR objects in the image and in the real world can be known. Based on the coordinates and the known camera focal length, the location at which the photograph was taken can be obtained. The location of the camera can be treated as the location of the user. The proposed positioning technique is very helpful in developing high-precision PNSs.

Keywords: Positioning, augmented reality.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Augmented Reality (AR) adds on graphics, text objects or sound called AR objects, to enrich digital images and provide interactivity among users. We propose two AR-based positioning algorithms, View Angles algorithm and Similar Triangles algorithm, to locate current position of users. However, it will need the rough location and heading information of user to render AR objects properly on mobile devices.

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Nowadays, most smartphones and tablet devices are equipped with a digital camera to take photographs, a GPS receiver for positioning, a m-sensor to detect orientation, a LCD touch screen to interact with users, and a WiFi/3G/4G interface to access Internet. All the mentioned built-in devices of mobile device meet the requirements of being an AR platform for AR applications. Due to the explosive growth of smartphones and tablet devices, AR will become an important *Human Computer Interface* (HCI). For rendering AR objects at right places, we need a positioning system to provide location information. The most popular positioning technologies for smartphones include GPS/GNSS, Cell Tower Triangulation, WiFi-RSS-based positioning, *etc.* However, the positioning accuracy of those technologies are not precise enough for some AR applications. This problem becomes worse if pointof-interest (POI) are close to the users. The inaccuracy of positioning systems is a major barrier for AR applications. In this work, we propose an AR-based positioning technique that utilize a coarse positioning system and a location database of POIs to estimate the precise location of users. By the means, the rough location and orientation of the user who possesses the AR device is known.

The proposed idea is described as follows. First, by utilizing a coarse positioning system, AR objects of POIs are displayed close to the images of the POIs on the touch screen. By dragging the AR objects and dropping them at the corresponding images on the touch screen, the AR objects are matched to the image of the POIs. The coordinates of the POIs in the real world can be known by querying the location database of POIs. In addition, the places where the AR objects are dropped give us the coordinates of the POIs in the image. From the coordinates of POIs and focal length of the camera lens, the position of user can be calculated by our proposed algorithm. Average positioning error of View Angle algorithm is from 88.9cm to 245.9cm. It is caused by the local minima issue of initial guess. Experiments show the Similar Triangle algorithm have average positioning error of 74.34cm. Similar Triangle algorithm do not have the problems of local minima and have a better positioning result compared with View Angle algorithm. The accuracy of our proposed algorithms are better than the accuracy of most positioning technologies on mobile devices [1][2].

In Chapter 3, we first introduce some preliminary background knowledge on photoimaging including the principle of photo-imaging, the concept of effective focal length, the calculation of view angles and geometry between user and objects. In Chapter 4, two *ARbased Positioning* (AR-P) problems are defined, and View Angle algorithm and Similar Triangle algorithm are proposed to solve the AR-P problems. In Chapter 5, experiment results are given to verify the proposed positioning algorithm. Conclusions are given in Chapter 6.

Chapter 2

Related Work

GPS [3] is the most popular outdoor positioning system. A GPS receiver determines its position by computing relative pseudoranges from multiple GPS satellites. The pseudoranges are calculated with multiplying the speed of light by the GPS signal transmission delay time measured between the GPS receiver and each satellites. By using satellites ephemeris data and at least four pseudoranges, it can triangulate current position of a GPS receiver. GPS provide Satellite clock, Ephemeris and Almanac to GPS receiver. GPS receivers use these information to synchronize time and calculate its moving speed, altitude, latitude and longitude. The advantages of GPS are wide coverage and popular End User navigation devices. However, the Ionospheric effects, Ephemeris errors, Satellite clock errors, Multipath distortion, Tropospheric effects and receiver error will effect the position accuracy of GPS. GPS also have application limitation in indoor environment or under bad weather. Some augmentation systems assist to improve accuracy of GPS, such like Assisted GPS (A-GPS)

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[4], Differential GPS (DGPS) [5] and Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS)[6].

There are several indoor positioning methods to locate the position of users, such like RF-based, ultrasound, infrared and RFID. The most popular one is RF-based due to the wide coverage of WLAN infrastructure. In RF-based indoor positioning, the RSS of timeof-arrival (TOA), angle-of-arrival (AOA) and radio propagation model are used to estimate the current location of users. RADAR is proposed in [7]. It is a radio-frequency RF-based system for locating and tracking users inside buildings. RADAR operates by recording and processing signal strength information at multiple base stations positioned to provide overlapping coverage in the area of interest. The RADAR method is used in RF-based positioning. The paper [8] proposes an approach using existing beacons to measure the RSSI from other beacons as a reference, which is called inter-beacon measurement, for the calibration of radio maps on the fly. The the statistical distribution of indoor RSS is not easy to characterize. In [9], it proposed the use of nonparametric statistical procedures for diagnosis of the fingerprinting model, which take into account the complex nature of the fingerprinting output. The framework of [10] can provide a valuable solution for patternmatching localization which shows how to effectively build a radio map and quickly estimate the user's location with acceptable distance errors. However, RF-based positioning has signal drift issue, its accuracy is not enough to display indoor AR objects at proper location.

Augmented reality [11] is proposed in 1992. The authors describe the design and prototyping steps they have taken toward the implementation of a heads-up, see-through, headmounted display (HUDset). Combined with head position sensing and a real world registration system, this technology allows a computer-produced diagram to be superimposed and stabilized on a specific position on a real-world object. In [12, 13, 14], by the help of laser pointers, image-based distance measurement techniques were proposed. Two laser pointers attached to a camera are used to emit laser beams that are parallel to the optical axis of the camera. By measuring the distance between the spots in the image of the two laser beams, the distance from the camera to the target object can be calculated if the distance between the two laser pointers and the focal lens of the camera are known. In [15], a nighttime vehicle distance measuring method based on a CCD image was proposed. By detecting the taillights of a target vehicle in the front based on image analysis, the distance to the front vehicle can be estimated from the distance between the taillights in the image. The proposed method works only during nighttime and more efforts are needed to distinguish the brands and types of target vehicles. In [16], a camera mounted on a moving platform whose motion and rotation velocities are available is used to estimate the distance. In [17], the distance between an object and the camera lens is estimated by a parallax getting from multi-cameras. Additional cameras are needed to obtain the parallax. In [18], the photogrammetric six degrees of freedom (6DOF) pose estimation method was adopted to improve the positioning accuracy. In [19], the positioning procedure was performed in two phases: image-processing and pose estimation. In the image-processing phase, images taken in real time were matched with a 3D map to get the coordinates of objects. In pose estimation, camera position and orientation were determined by giving a set of correspondences between known 3D reference points and their 2D positions in images. Marker tracking is a general vision-based method considering positioning issues in AR technology [20] [21]. They use each AR tag's location as roughly user current location to recalculate the route. Visual markers usually impair the scenery and then some research focuses on tracking with invisible visual markers [22]. These systems provide some predefined visual or audio interactive action of each AR tags. It is a nice way to present dynamic route plan. However, it can not provide the high-precision location of user and correct route if user do not follow the predefined moving trajectory and marker pre-installment is also an overhead in such systems. Natural feature tracking is also a generally method in AR positioning [23] [24]. Navigation systems are developed by comparing the scene captured by a camera with predefined databases. However, in such systems, heavy computing loads of analyzing camera view is a major drawback. In our systems, these problems mentioned in marker based and vision-analyzed based method do not exist. We need not pre-install markers before and instead of the heavy computing load caused by comparing camera scene with database, interactivity by dragging-and-dropping POIs by user can solve these problems.

In the future work, we want to extend our system combined with feedback information routing (FIR) in [25] and other positioning technique such as GPS or WiFi positioning to implement an real-time and high accuracy indoor evacuation system in [26].

Chapter 3

The View Angle and Geometry between Camera and Objects

The view angle and geometry between camera and objects are the key information in the proposal algorithm. In this chapter, we are going to introduce how to calculate the view angle and the geometry between camera and objects in an image. In Section 3.1, we introduce the basic principles of photo-imaging, including the thin lens equation and the concept of *Effective Focal Length* (EFL). In Section 3.2, we give the formula to calculate the view angle between objects in an image. The geometry between user and objects is illustrated in Section 3.3.

3.1 The Principle of Photo-Imaging

Figure 3.1 illustrates an example of photo-imaging. *L* is a positive lens whose focal length is *f*. *C* locating at the center of the lens *L* is the optical center of *L*. *F* is a focus of *L*. The distance between *C* and *F*, denoted as *f*, is the focal length of *L*. The line perpendicular to the lens and passing *C* and *F*, denoted as *A*, is the optical axis of *L*. *O* to the left of *L* is an object, and *I* to the right of *L* is the image of *O* with lens *L*. The distance between *O* and *L* is called the object distance and denoted as d_o ; and the distance between *C* and *I* is called the image distance and denoted as d_i . The angle α is called the view angle of object

O.

Figure 3.1: The relation of object distance, image distance and focal length.

The thin lens equation, Eq. (3.1),

$$
\frac{1}{d_o} + \frac{1}{d_i} = \frac{1}{f}.\tag{3.1}
$$

gives the relation between f , d_o and d_i . If we take a photo, d_o is the distance from the object to the camera lens and d_i is the distance from the camera lens to the film. From Eq. (3.1) , we have

$$
d_i = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{f}{d_o}} f \approx f. \tag{3.2}
$$

Especially, if $d_o \gg f$, d_i can be approximated by f . Actually, this is the most case in photographing, and we use $f = d_i$ implicitly in the following discussion.

Taking a photograph, the image is recorded on a film gauge or converted by a CCD or CMOS device into electronic signal and saved as a file. Traditionally, the most popular film gauges are the 35mm still photography films that also known as 135 films. The size of 135 films is $35mm \times 24mm$. The "angle of view" or "field of view" of a photograph are the diagonal angular extent of the scenes. To prevent possible ambiguity, we prefer the term field of view in what follows. If *D* is the diagonal of the film, the field of view can be obtained by

$$
2\arctan\frac{D}{2d_i} \approx 2\arctan\frac{D}{2f}.\tag{3.3}
$$

Compared to the traditional film, the size of the CCD or CMOS device in a digital camera, usually not known by users, varies from one model to another and is smaller than traditional films. So, it is not so convenient to calculate the field of view. To get ride of the problem, the concept of EFL is introduced to have a standard description. Let D_{135} denote the diagonal length of 135 films, *D* denote the real diagonal length of the film, CCD or CMOS, and *f* denote the real focal length of the camera lens. The EFL of the lens is given by

$$
f_{EFL} = D_{135} \times \frac{f}{D}.
$$
\n(3.4)

By this means, even without the information of the real size of the film, we can calculate

the field of view by

$$
2\arctan\frac{D_{135}}{2f_{EFL}}.\tag{3.5}
$$

3.2 View Angles between Objects

The view angle between two objects is the angular extend between them. In this section, we derive a formula to calculate the view angle between objects in an image. Figure 3.2 illustrates the coordinate layout of an image. The size of the image is $W \times H$, and the

Figure 3.2: The coordinate layout of an image.

diagonal of the image is $\sqrt{W^2 + H^2}$. Assume there is a coordinate system whose origin is located at the upper-left corner of the image. The upper-right corner, denoted as **A**, is with coordinate $(W, 0)$, the lower-left corner, denoted as **B**, is with coordinate $(0, H)$, and the center of the image, denoted as *I*, is with coordinate $(W/2, H/2)$. Let f_{EFL} be the EFL as taking this image. If there are two objects located at P_1 and P_2 , we would like to develop a formula to calculate the view angle between them. First of all, the image is scaled to the same size of a 135 film, let the coordinates of P_1 and P_2 be $(x_1, y_1, 0)$ and $(x_2, y_2, 0)$,

respectively, in the scaled one in which $\sqrt{W^2 + H^2} = D_{135}$. In addition, the lens center, denoted as **C**, is with coordinate $(W/2, H/2, f_{EFL})$. Figure 3.3 illustrate the view angle α between P_1 and P_2 . According to the law of cosines, we have

where

Then, α can be obtained from Eq. (3.7)

$$
\alpha = \arccos\left(\frac{\|\mathbf{P}_1 - \mathbf{C}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{P}_2 - \mathbf{C}\|^2 - \|\mathbf{P}_1 - \mathbf{P}_2\|^2}{2 \times \|\mathbf{P}_1 - \mathbf{C}\| \times \|\mathbf{P}_2 - \mathbf{C}\|}\right).
$$
 (3.7)

3.3 Geometry between Camera and Objects

Geometry defines the relation of camera and objects with coordinate systems between them. In this section, we introduce the coordinate systems that exist in camera and objects and the projection relation between them. Coordinate systems include Earth frame and AR frame as illustrated in Fig. 3.4.

Earth frame is used in tracking objects moving on the ground. $B^E = {\bf{b}}_1^E, {\bf{b}}_2^E, {\bf{b}}_3^E$ is a base of the Earth frame in which

$$
\begin{cases}\n\mathbf{b}_1^E & \text{is the unit vector pointing to the north} \\
\mathbf{b}_2^E & \text{is the unit vector pointing to the east} \\
\mathbf{b}_3^E & \text{is the unit vector pointing to the ground perpendicularly}\n\end{cases}
$$

The locations of POI stored in database and the camera we want to find are defined in Earth frame. AR frame is related to the smartphone display. We assume the device is held horizontally, the screen is facing the user, and the button is at the right. Axis x, y and z defined in the AR frame as illustrated in Fig. 3.4, where $B^{AR} = {\mathbf{b}_1^{AR}, \mathbf{b}_2^{AR}, \mathbf{b}_3^{AR}}$ is a base

of the AR frame in which

 $\sqrt{ }$ $\begin{matrix} \end{matrix}$ $\begin{array}{c} \end{array}$ \mathbf{b}_1^{AR} is the along the x-axis of the screen (right) \mathbf{b}_2^{AR} is the along the y-axis of the screen (down) \mathbf{b}_3^{AR} is the along the direction of the lens (front)

C, the center of the lens, is the origin of the AR frame. *f* is the virtual focal length (if the screen is considered as a film). If an object is far from the lens, the distance from the lens to the image is roughly equal to *f*. If we place the screen in front of the lens at the distance of *f*, then a projection relation exists between objects and images. Let

We have

.

We have $[\mathbf{a}]_{AR} = \mathbf{T}_{E \to AR}([\mathbf{a}]_E - [\mathbf{C}]_E)$ where $\mathbf{T}_{E \to AR}$ is the rotation matrices from E-frame to AR-frame. Since $\overline{Ca'} \parallel \overline{Ca}$, similar relation is inferred in Eq. 3.8.

$$
[\mathbf{a}]_{AR,x} : [\mathbf{a}']_{AR,x} = [\mathbf{a}]_{AR,y} : [\mathbf{a}']_{AR,y} = [\mathbf{a}]_{AR,z} : [\mathbf{a}']_{AR,z}.
$$
 (3.8)

Chapter 4

AR-based Positioning

In this chapter, two AR-P problem are defined according to the view angle and geometry between user and objects and two AR-P algorithm, View Angle and Similar Triangle algorithm, are used to solve these problems alternately. In Fig. 4.1 taken by built-in camera in handheld device, there are several POIs whose coordinates are known, and the view angles and geometry between user and POIs can be obtained by drag-and-drop related AR objects on the screen of handheld device.The positioning problem raised here is to find the

Figure 4.1: User Interface of AR-Positioning

position of the camera where the photo was taken. Let $POI = {P_1, P_2, \cdots, P_n}$ denote the set of POIs with coordinates $\mathbf{P}_i(x_i, y_i, z_i)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $poi = {\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n}$ denote the set of POIs in the image with coordinates $\mathbf{p}_i(x_i, y_i, z_i)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and *Angle* = $\{A_{ij} | A_{ij} \text{ is the view angle between } P_i \text{ and } P_j\}$ denote the set of view angles between POIs. We would like to find the location **C** where the image was taken.

4.1 View Angle Algorithm

The AR-P view angle problem is defined in Problem 1.

Problem 1 AR-based Positioning Problem-View Angle **Input** $POI = {\bf{P}_1, P_2, \cdots, P_n}$: a location set. *Angle* = $\{A_{ij} | \forall 1 \le i < j \le n\}$: a view angle set. **Output**

Find \mathbf{C} (x, y, z) such that $\forall 1 \leq i < j \leq n$,

 $A_{ij} = \angle P_i \text{CP}_j.$

According to the law of cosines, we can have the following equation system

$$
\forall A_{ij} \in Angle,
$$
\n
$$
\|\mathbf{P}_i - \mathbf{P}_j\|^2 = \|\mathbf{P}_i - \mathbf{C}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{P}_j - \mathbf{C}\|^2
$$
\n
$$
- 2\|\mathbf{P}_i - \mathbf{C}\| \|\mathbf{P}_j - \mathbf{C}\| \cos A_{ij}.
$$
\n(4.1)

It is not easy to give a close form of **C** for the equation system. Moreover, if the input data are with measurement errors, it is possible that no exact solutions may exist. We propose a gradient method to solve the problem.

4.1.1 The Proposed Gradient Algorithm

Let $F(x, y, z)$ be an evaluation function. Ideally, $F(x, y, z)$ decreases as (x, y, z) approaching to **C**, and especially, $F(\mathbf{C}) = 0$. Given an initial point $\mathbf{C}_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$, the gradient algorithms recursively find a sequence of points C_1, C_2, \cdots to approximate **C** such that $F(C_i)$ decreases and \mathbf{C}_i goes to \mathbf{C} . Let $\nabla F(x, y, z) = \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial F}{\partial z}\right)$ denote the gradient of $F(x, y, z)$. Traditionally, for all $i \geq 0$, $\mathbf{C}_{i+1} = \mathbf{C}_i - \Delta S_i \cdot \nabla F(\mathbf{C}_i)$ where $\Delta S_i > 0$ is a scalar to tune how fast \mathbf{C}_i approaches \mathbf{C} . The gradient algorithm is given in Algorithm 2.

Algorithm 2 A Gradient Algorithm

Given F , \mathbf{C}_0 , δ and ε

$$
i:=0
$$

repeat

Decide $\triangle S_i$

$$
\mathbf{C}_{i+1} := \mathbf{C}_i - \triangle S_i \cdot \nabla F(\mathbf{C}_i)
$$

 $i := i + 1$

until $||\mathbf{C}_i - \mathbf{C}_{i-1}|| < \delta$ or $|F(\mathbf{C}_i) - F(\mathbf{C}_{i-1})| < \varepsilon$

There are many possible alternatives of the evaluation function for using in the gradient algorithm. The one used in our implementation is given in Eq.4.2. A major drawback of the

$$
F\left(\mathbf{C} = (x, y, z)\right) = \sum_{A_{ij} \in Angle} \left(\|\mathbf{P}_i - \mathbf{P}_j\| - \left(\frac{\|\mathbf{P}_i - \mathbf{C}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{P}_j - \mathbf{C}\|^2}{-2\|\mathbf{P}_i - \mathbf{C}\| \|\mathbf{P}_j - \mathbf{C}\| \cos A_{ij}} \right)^{1/2} \right)^2 \tag{4.2}
$$

gradient method is the local minima problem. The evaluation function $F(x, y, z)$ is not so perfect that there may exist local minima. The recursive algorithm may converge to a local minima instead of the real answer.

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4.2 Similar Triangle Algorithm

The AR-P geometry problem is defined in Problem 3.

Problem 3 AR-based Positioning Problem-Geometry

Input

 $POI = {\bf{P}_1, P_2, \cdots, P_n}$: a location set.

 $poi = {\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \cdots, \mathbf{p}_n}$: a image set of *POI*.

Output

Find $\mathbf{C}(x, y, z)$ such that $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$,

 $\mathbf{P}_i\mathbf{C}_x:\mathbf{p}_i\mathbf{C}_x=\mathbf{P}_i\mathbf{C}_y:\mathbf{p}_i\mathbf{C}_y=\mathbf{P}_i\mathbf{C}_z:\mathbf{p}_i\mathbf{C}_z$

In this problem, we are going to find [**C**]*^E* based on **a** and **a** *′* . The idea of Similar Triangle algorithm as following, in Eq 3.8, we can obtain two equalities from the relation as

$$
\frac{a_x'}{[a]_{AR,x}} = \frac{f}{[a]_{AR,z}}\tag{4.3}
$$

$$
\frac{a'_y}{[a]_{AR,y}} = \frac{f}{[a]_{AR,z}}\tag{4.4}
$$

So, one POI can provide two equations. Depending on the availability of $\mathbf{T}_{E\to AR}$, we may have three cases.

1.1 $\mathbf{T}_{E\rightarrow AR}$ can be obtained from the readings of the g-sensor and m-sensor. Let **g** and **m** denote the readings of the g-sensor and m-sensor respectively.

$$
\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 1 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{T}_{S \to E} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\mathbf{m}}{|\mathbf{m}|} & \frac{\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{g}}{|\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{g}|} & -\frac{\mathbf{g}}{|\mathbf{g}|} \end{bmatrix}
$$
(4.5)

1.2 Assume **m** points to the north but with inclination.

$$
\begin{bmatrix}\n1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1\n\end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{T}_{S \to E} \begin{bmatrix}\n\frac{\mathbf{g} \times (\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{g})}{|\mathbf{g} \times (\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{g})|} & \frac{\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{g}}{|\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{g}|} & -\frac{\mathbf{g}}{|\mathbf{g}|}\n\end{bmatrix}
$$
\n(4.6)

Note that the sensor frame is not the same as the AR frame, currently we have

$$
\mathbf{T}_{S \to AR} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}
$$
 (4.7)

In the both cases (1.1 and 1.2), since $\mathbf{T}_{AR\to E}$ is known, the only unknown variable in the system is

$$
\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_x \\ \mathbf{C}_y \\ \mathbf{C}_z \end{bmatrix}_E
$$
 (4.8)

So, two POIs are enough to solve the linear system.

2. If **T***AR→^E* is unknown, we also need to find the rotation matrix, too. (This may be the case in which **m** and **g** are both unknown or only **m** is unknown.) Although **T***AR→^E* is a 3×3 matrix, it can be characterized by 3 variables. So, totally 6 unknowns are in this system. We need at least 3 POIs to find $\mathbf{T}_{AR\to E}$ and **C**. Note that the system is not linear.

Least square fitting can be used, if the equations are linear. Else these equations can be solve by numerical method such as gradient algorithm.

4.3 Implementation Issues

At least two practical issues must be solved to make the proposed AR-P algorithm feasible. First, how can we obtain the location information of the POIs in the real world? Second, how can we learn the view angle or geometry between user and POIs? To answer these two questions, we first need to give our application scenario. In the scenario, there is a POI database. Based on a coarse position information, users can query the database to find out nearby POIs and their locations.

The AR device can roughly know the current position and even orientation. The user takes a picture, and then based on the coarse position information, some AR objects of nearby POIs are displayed on the screen. If the user recognizes some POIs, he drags the AR objects and drops them at the places of the corresponding images of the POIs.

The location information of the AR objects in the real world can be known by querying the POI database. So, the first question is answered. At the same time, according to the places where the AR objects are dropped, the coordinates of the POIs in the image are also known. Therefore, if the focal length is known, the view angles or geometry between user and POIs can be obtained by applying Eq. (3.7) or Eq. (3.8). So, the second question is also solved. However, the problems here are that we do not know the focal length. These two issues can be solved by applying the gradient algorithm or the geometry algorithm to find an effective focal length. Note that instead of the traditional EFL, the effective focal length here is proportional to the size of the LCD touch screen.

In the process, we take a picture which contains several reference POIs from a place whose coordinate in the real world is known. Applying the drag-and-drop technique, we can learn the coordinates of the POIs in the real world and also in the image. The view angles and geometry between user and POIs can be obtained from the coordinates of the POIs in the real world and coordinate of the place where the picture is taken. The inputs of the View Angle algorithm are the coordinates of the POIs in the image and the view angles between the POIs. The inputs of the Similar Triangle algorithm are the coordinates of the POIs in the image and real world. These output will be the coordinate of the center of the lens. The effective focal length is the distance between the center of the touch screen and the center of the lens.

Chapter 5

Experiment

5.1 Effective Focal Length (EFL) Experiment

A reasonable and reliable EFL is a key role of proposed positioning algorithm as discussed in previous chapter. Since the size of CCD is unknown, we need to estimate or calculate the EFL by ourselves. Two EFL experiments at different places are designed to View Angle and Similar Triangle algorithm alternately in the following. In both EFL experiments, the camera, i.e., the AR device, is an HTC Desire smartphone that is equipped with a 480 *×*800 pixels LCD touch screen and a camera. The camera is with a variable-focal-length lens. However, in the experiments, the focal length is fixed. Positioning effect of focal lengths is analyzed in 5.2.

5.1.1 EFL Experiment of View Angle Algorithm

In our experiments, 5 points *A*, *B*, *C*, *D* and *E* are marked on a flat wall as illustrated in Figure 5.1. A coordinate system in which *A* is the origin, \overrightarrow{AB} is the x-axis, \overrightarrow{AD} is the y-axis, and the z-axis points outward, is setup. Note that the coordinate system does not follow the right hand rule. The coordinates of A, B, C, D and E in the coordinate system are $(0, 0, 0)$, (200*,* 0*,* 0), (200*,* 200*,* 0), (0*,* 200*,* 0) and (100*,* 100*,* 0), respectively. We take 3 pictures, named Pic1, Pic2, and Pic3, from 3 different places, including (100*,* 100*,* 320), (100*,* 100*,* 480) and (*−*100*,* 100*,* 320), respectively, and all are with centers at *E*. The distances from the camera to *E* are 320*cm*, 480*cm* and 377*.*3*cm*, respectively. The focal length is recorded by AR

Figure 5.1: The coordinates and arrangement of *A*, *B*, *C*, *D* and *E*.

devices in the picture file. In the following discussion, we use *A*, *B*, *C*, *D* and *E* to denote the markers and also their coordinates in the real world, and \overline{A} , \overline{B} , \overline{C} , \overline{D} and \overline{E} to denote the image of the markers and also their coordinates in the image.

First, we verify the proposed algorithm by calculating the EFL of the AR device. To calculate the EFL, we adopt Algorithm 2 by inputting the coordinates of *A*, *B*, *C*, *D* and *E* (in the image coordinate) and view angles between *A*, *B*, *C*, *D* and *E* calculated from the real world coordinates to estimate the coordinate of the lens center in the image coordinate. Then, the EFL can be given by calculating the distance between the lens center and the picture center. Table 5.1 gives the view angles between objects that are calculated from the real world coordinate. Table 5.2 gives the coordinates of \overline{A} , \overline{B} , \overline{C} , \overline{D} and \overline{E} in the image

	$\angle AOB$	$\angle AOC$	$\triangle AOD$	$\angle AOE$			
Pic1	33.21	47.69	33.22	23.84			
Pic2	23.06	32.83	23.06	16.42			
Pic ₃	25.21	38.95	33.22	22.01			

Table 5.1: The view angles between objects (in degrees).

coordinate. Table 5.3 gives the estimated EFL in *cm*. We can see that the EFL calculated from Pic1 is larger than the EFL calculated from Pic2. This is due to the focal length here actually is the image distance. Pic1 has a smaller object distance, and thus has a larger image length. In average, the focal length is 7*.*69*cm*.

5.1.2 EFL Experiment of Similar Triangle Algorithm

13 points A, B, ..., M are marked in the poster with a 10×10 (*cm*²) grids coordinate system as illustrated in Fig. 5.2. We take 15 pictures by varying the distance between camera and

Table 5.2: The coordinates (in *cm*) of \overline{A} , \overline{B} , \overline{C} , \overline{D} and \overline{E} in the images.

	\overline{B}	$\overline{\Gamma}$	Γ	F
Pic1	$(1.661, 0.562, 0)$ $(6.471, 0.547, 0)$ $(6.634, 5.420, 0)$ $(1.712, 5.431, 0)$ $(4.180, 2.938, 0)$			
Pic2	$(2.495, 1.525, 0)$ $(5.636, 1.520, 0)$ $(5.693, 4.706, 0)$ $(2.482, 4.694, 0)$ $(4.117, 3.075, 0)$			
Pic ₃	$(2.107, 0.591, 0)$ $(5.626, 1.090, 0)$ $(5.773, 4.674, 0)$ $(2.278, 5.315, 0)$			(4.229, 2.887, 0)

Table 5.3: The EFL (in *cm*) calculated based on different reference point sets.

Figure 5.2: Test lines of experiment

poster from 3*m* to 17*m* with unit interval in one meter and all are with centers at *G*. EFL is calculated by the relation of similar triangles as illustrated in Fig. 5.3. d_i represents the physical length of each test line in *cm*. The index of test lines is *i*. *d ′ ⁱ* means pixel length of each test line on each picture which we have taken. The distance between camera and poster is called camera distance in *cm*, denoted as *Dc*. The effective focal length is *f*. Using the relation of similar triangles, we get equation $f: D_c = (d'_i \times r) : d_i$, where *r* is the pixel-to-cm ration. By transposition, Eq. 5.1 is gotten. 8-by-4.8 cm is the physical size of HTC desire screen, and the picture size is 1024-by-768. The scales of screen and picture are different. Considering the problem of distortion of picture, we use the scale of picture as the major scale size. A virtual screen is made by resizing the 8-by-4.8 cm to 8-by-6 cm. Each picture we take are resized from 1024-by-768 to 800-by-600 pixels. The pixel-to-cm ratio *r* of each picture can be calculated by $8/800 = 0.01$ cm/pixel. The D_c , d_i and d'_i are known, and then we can get EFL *f* for each test line on each picture. Fig. 5.4 gives the experiment results, where $AK, KM, \ldots, TREND$ is the test line of experiment illustrated in Fig. 5.2.

Figure 5.3: Similar triangles relation among camera and POIs

• Overall variant of EFL *f*

a. Camera distance D_c **vs. EFL** f According to Fig. 5.4, trend line *TREND* of EFL *f* is descending as D_c is increasing. It converges to real focal length on the increase of D_c as Eq. 3.1.

b. Physical length of test lines vs. EFL *f* Longer test lines will have less EFL variance, and short test lines will have more EFL variance. Due to the Eq 5.1, each variance

Figure 5.4: The effective focal length with different camera distance *D^c*

of EFL Δf is affected by $\frac{1}{d_i}$ for each finger touch error $\Delta d'_i$, considering D_c is fixed. The 1 $\frac{1}{d_i}$ of longer test lines is smaller than the ones of short test lines. Fig. 5.5 illustrates the experiment result. Test lines \overline{EI} and \overline{BL} are longer test lines in Fig. 5.2; test lines \overline{FH} and \overline{DJ} are shorter ones. \overline{FH} and \overline{DJ} have more variance than the result of \overline{EI} and \overline{BL} .

Figure 5.5: Long line and short Line

c. Overall variant of EFL *f* It shows average, standard deviation and trend line of EFL *f* in Fig. 5.6. According to average line *AV G*, the EFL *f* is in inverse proportion to the camera distance *D^c* and converges on around 7.6 cm. The standard deviation is in direct

proportion to D_c because the pixel length d'_i is in inverse proportion to D_c . It causes the possibility of measurement error to be increased. If the measurement error ε_{d_i} of each test line is the same, and then longer physical test lines have smaller error of EFL *f* than the one that shorter test lines have.

Figure 5.6: Average testing focal length and trend line and trend line

The EFL *f* converges as the increase of camera distance *Dc*. The standard deviation of EFL f will increase when D_c is larger than $9m$. According to Fig. 5.6, the most suitable D_c is between 5*m* and 9*m*. We shall select POIs within this range and select POI set with longer physical distance between any 2 POIs.

5.2 AR-P Experimental Results

In our experiments, the positioning effect factors of proposed positioning algorithms, View Angle and Similar Triangle algorithm, are analyzed according to combinations of AR objects, user's location and the effective focal length that is the result of section 5.1. The proposed positioning algorithms are tested at 7 locations with 7 POIs. 7 test locations and 7 POIs are distributed on the second floor of a building as illustrated in Fig. 5.7, where blue points 1*,* 2 *. . .* and 7 are the test locations and red points 1*,* 2 *. . .* and 7 are the POIs known in databases. Test locations are distributed according to distances. There is one meter between each test location. POIs are marked on flat walls according to distance, height and plane as illustrated in Fig. 5.8, where numbers, located on the walls, represented the POIs and black blocks are used to match the AR objects. A coordinate system in which test location 4 is the origin, the east of Earth's magnetic field is the x-axis, North Magnetic Pole is the y-axis **MATTERS** and z-axis points to sky, is setup.

Figure 5.7: Experiment locations in map

Figure 5.8: AR-P experiment environment

Fig. 5.9 illustrates the system interface. Red cubes are AR objects used to match the POIs. The number in AR objects represents its POI number. The first button on the upper left side is refresh button used to return the type of taking picture; positioning button located the second button is used to perform AR-P algorithm to position.

Since the positioning effects of focal lengths calculated by different focal length experiments are still unknown, we need to compare or verify them with different focal lengths. Proposed positioning algorithms are performed according to ranges of focal length from 7*.*5*cm* to 8*.*5*cm*, and unit interval is 0*.*1*cm*. 7*.*76*cm* of average focal length has the smallest positioning error in the positioning result of View Angle algorithm as illustrated in Fig. 5.9, where line 1*,* 2*, ...,* 7 represent test position 1*,* 2*, ...,* 7, and the average focal length of previous focal length experiment of View Angle algorithm is 7*.*69*cm*. There are closed positioning errors between focal length 7*.*76*cm* and 7*.*69*cm* in Fig. 5.9, so we use 7*.*69*cm* as the focal length in View Angle algorithm. Fig. 5.10 gives the positioning result of Similar Triangle algorithm, where line 1*,* 2*, ...,* 7 represent test position 1*,* 2*, ...,* 7. Compared with focal length converged in range from 7*.*5*cm* to 7*.*65*cm* of previous focal length experiment of Similar Triangle algorithm, focal length 8*.*08*cm* has the smallest positioning error. Since there are a gap of positioning error between focal length calculated by previous focal length experiment of Similar Triangle algorithm and focal length 8*.*08*cm*, we use focal length 8*.*08*cm* as the focal length in Similar Triangle algorithm.

Figure 5.9: View Angle algorithm result: positioning error affected by focal length

Fig. 5.11 gives the positioning result of proposed algorithm according to different dis-

Figure 5.10: Similar Triangle algorithm result: positioning error affected by focal length tances, where "VAGIG" represents "View Angle Good Initial Guess" that means the View Angle algorithm with initial point $(0,0,0)$, "VABIG" represents "View Angle Bad Initial Guess" that means the View Angle algorithm with initial point (*−*500*, −*500*, −*500) and "ST" is the Similar Triangle algorithm. Fig. 5.12 illustrates the positioning result of proposed algorithm according to the POI combination numbers. The problems of local minima exist in View Angle algorithm. Average positioning error of View Angle algorithm is 88*.*9*cm* when selecting the better initial point, but 245*.*95*cm* in poor initial points. Similar Triangle algorithm has the 74*.*34*cm* of average positioning error.

Experiment Analysis

In this section, position effect factors that may affect the accuracy of the proposed positioning algorithm are analyzed. These factors include the initial point, combinations of AR objects, user's locations and focal lengths. To reach the highly accuracy positioning result, we show how to select these factors. Finally, the positioning results of View Angle and Similar Triangle

Figure 5.11: Average positioning results with different test locations

Figure 5.12: Positioning result affected by combinations number

algorithm are compared.

View Angle algorithm

Local minima: The existence of local minima of the evaluation function is an inevitable problem. This problem could be alleviated when the POI number we picked is more. To verify this problem, we find all local minima in evaluation function by set that *−*1400 *<*= $x, y, z \leq 1400$ and unit interval is 10. Fig. 5.13 and Fig. 5.14 illustrate the result, where

blue points represent the local minima, read points means POIs and the real locations is green point. From the result, poor initial point converged to local minima easily when POI numbers we picked is few and difficultly when POI numbers we picked is more. However, there still has change to converge to local minima even more POIs are selected. The selection of the initial point significantly affects the answer given by the View Angle algorithm.

Figure 5.14: Local minima with 7 points

Combinations of AR objects: Positioning result are affected by the combinations of AR objects due that the relation between user and AR objects provides the information of user's location. The more combinations of AR objects we pick, the more accuracy of user's location we get as illustrated in Fig. 5.15. Even the problem of local minima could be alleviated.

Figure 5.15: View Angle algorithm: Positioning error affected by combination numbers 896

Combinations of AR objects are also an important factor. The near AR objects provide the closed information of user's location. The experiment results of the POI combinations of same plane illustrates in Fig. 5.16, where column 34 represents the combinations of *P OI{*3*,* 4*}* and other columns follow this rule. POI 3, 4 and 5 are in the same plane as illustrated in Fig. 5.8. POI combinations *{*3*,* 4*}*, *{*3*,* 5*}* and *{*4*,* 5*}* are nearly the same in positioning relations and POI combinations *{*3*,* 4*,* 5*}* are the sum of those of POI combinations, therefore POI combinations *{*3*,* 4*,* 5*}* have closed positioning result with POI combinations *{*3*,* 4*}*, *{*3*,* 5*}* and *{*4*,* 5*}*. Average positioning errors of those combinations are above 150*cm*. POI combinations *{*1*,* 5*,* 6*}* and *{*2*,* 3*,* 7*}* have 50*cm* of the average positioning error due to the POI selections of diversity. The more diversity the POI combinations have, the more information of user's location they provide and there would have the better position results.

Figure 5.16: Positioning error affected by POI combinations of same plane

Distance between user and POI combinations would affected the position result due that the evaluation functions of View Angle algorithm are the relation of view angle between POIs and user. Tiny touch error when drag-and-drop AR objects may cause the error of view angle calculation and then the positioning error. Fig. 5.17 gives the experiment result of distant POI combinations. POI 1 and 2 are at the near plane; POI 3, 4 and 5 are at the far plane as illustrated in Fig. 5.8. Experiment results show the POI combinations *{*1*,* 2*,* 7*}* have better positioning result than the result of POI combinations *{*3*,* 4*,* 7*}*, *{*3*,* 5*,* 7*}* and *{*4*,* 5*,* 7*}*. The positioning effect factor of distant POI combinations can be explained in a simple formula as illustrated in Fig. 5.4 and 5.1 For each $\Delta d_i'$, the positioning error Δd_i is determined by $\frac{D_c}{f}$. Under the fixed focal length, the positioning error would be worse when *D^c* goes up. The position effect factor of user's location has the same meaning. As illustrated in Fig. 5.11, when user is far from the POIs, the positioning errors goes up.

Figure 5.17: Positioning error affected by combinations of distant POI

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Similar Triangle algorithm

Combinations of AR objects: Positioning results are affected by the combinations of AR objects as previous analysis in View Angle algorithm section. Fig. 5.18 is the average positioning result compared with combination numbers. Total positioning errors have significantly decreased from 112*cm* with 2 POIs to 48*cm* with 7 POIs.

Figure 5.18: Positioning result affected by POI combinations

Distances are also the positioning effect factor as View Angle algorithm Fig. 5.19 lists the positioning result of distant POI combinations. The POI combinations *{*1*,* 2*}* and *{*6*,* 7*}* at the near plane have better positioning result than POI combinations *{*3*,* 4*}*, *{*3*,* 5*}*, *{*4*,* 5*}* and *{*3*,* 4*,* 5*}* at far plane.

Figure 5.19: Positioning error affected by combinations of distant POI

POI combinations that POIs are closed or nearly in the same line would affect the positioning result due that the similar relation is used in Similar algorithm. POI 1 and 3 and POI 5 and 6 are the examples as illustrated in Fig. 5.20. POI combinations that have POI 1 and 3 or POI 5 and 6 would have poor positioning result compared to other combinations.

Figure 5.20: Poor positioning results due to closed combinations

Focal length: Positioning results of Similar Triangle algorithm are affected by the focal length as illustrated in the Fig. 5.10. Tiny difference of focal length would have an impact significantly in positioning result as the distance between user and POIs goes up. The scope of Similar Triangle algorithm is given in Fig. 3.4. According to the Similar Triangle algorithm, Fig. 5.21 lists 4 relation formulas between user and 2 POIs and the solution of user's location is given in Fig. 5.22. Focal length locates at denominator in solution of x and y, and locates at numerator in solution of z. When the focal length goes up, x and y would be decreased until converge into a fixed value and z would be increased into infinity. On the inverse condition, when the focal length goes down, x and y would be increased into infinity and z would be decreased until converge into a fixed value. The effects of x, y and z is illustrated in Fig. 5.23 and Fig. 5.24 gives the experiment formula. The experiment result shows z would be increased significantly and x y decreased slightly. The focal length would affect the z value of user's location significantly.

$$
\frac{a_x}{[a]_{c,x}} = \frac{f}{[a]_{c,z}}
$$

$$
\frac{a'_y}{[a]_{c,y}} = \frac{f}{[a]_{c,z}}
$$

$$
\frac{b'_x}{[b]_{c,x}} = \frac{f}{[b]_{c,z}}
$$

$$
\frac{b'_y}{[b]_{c,y}} = \frac{f}{[b]_{c,z}}
$$

Figure 5.21: Position function with 2 points, A and B.

Comparison of two proposed positioning algorithm: Fig. 5.11 and Fig. 5.12 compared the View Angle algorithm with Similar Triangle algorithm. View Angle algorithm is affected by the problems of local minima but Similar Triangle algorithm has no such problems. When the combination numbers go up, positioning errors of both proposed positioning algorithms have significantly decreased. When combination numbers of proposed algorithms increase and proposed algorithms have a better initial point, the positioning result of View Angle algorithm are better than the positioning result of Similar Triangle algorithm. Generally, Similar Triangle algorithm has a steady and good positioning result than the positioning result of View Angle algorithm.

From the experiment result, The focal length of View Angle algorithm is 7*.*69*cm* and 8*.*083*cm* is average focal length of Similar Triangle algorithm that have lowest average positioning error. Users should avoid selecting the combinations that POIs are closed or in the same line or plane and user should be near to POIs. Compared to the View Angle algorithm, Similar Triangle algorithm do not have problem of local minima and have a better positioning result.

$$
X = \frac{([a]_{c,z} - [b]_{c,z}) ((a'_x - b'_x) (2a'_x b'_x + a'_y b'_y) + a''_y b'_x - b''_y a'_x)}{2(f + \Delta f) ((a'_x - b'_x)^2 + (a'_y - b'_y)^2)}
$$

+
$$
\frac{(a'_y - b'_y) ((a'_y - b'_y) ([a]_{c,x} + [b]_{c,x}) - (a'_x + b'_x) ([a]_{c,y} - [b]_{c,y}))}{2 ((a'_x - b'_x)^2 + (a'_y - b'_y)^2)}
$$

+
$$
\frac{(a'_x - b'_x) (a'_x [b]_{c,x} - b'_x [a]_{c,x})}{(a'_x - b'_x)^2 + (a'_y - b'_y)^2}
$$

$$
Y = \frac{([a]_{c,z} - [b]_{c,z}) ((a'_y - b'_y) (2a'_y b'_y + a'_x b'_x) + a''_x b'_y - b''_x a'_y)}{2(f + \Delta f) ((a'_x - b'_x)^2 + (a'_y - b'_y)^2)}
$$

+
$$
\frac{(a'_x - b'_x) ((a'_x - b'_x) ([a]_{c,y} + [b]_{c,y}) - (a'_y + b'_y) ([a]_{c,x} - [b]_{c,x}))}{2 ((a'_x - b'_x)^2 + (a'_y - b'_y)^2)}
$$

+
$$
\frac{(a'_y - b'_y) (a'_y [b]_{c,y} - b'_y [a]_{c,y})}{(a'_x - b'_x)^2 + (a'_y - b'_y)^2}
$$

$$
Z = \frac{- (f + \Delta f) \left((a_x' - b_x') \left([a]_{c,x} - [b]_{c,x} \right) + (a_y' - b_y') \left([a]_{c,y} - [b]_{c,y} \right) \right)}{(a_x' - b_x')^2 + (a_y' - b_y')^2} + \frac{(a_x' - b_x') \left(a_x' [a]_{c,z} - b_x' [b]_{c,z} \right) + (a_y' + b_y') \left(a_y' [a]_{c,z} - b_y' [b]_{c,z} \right)}{(a_x' - b_x')^2 + (a_y' - b_y')^2}
$$

Figure 5.22: Solutions of equations.

Figure 5.23: The x, y, z result of test Location 1 in AR frame

$$
\begin{cases}\nX = \frac{240.50558}{f} + 17.222198 \\
Y = \frac{77.857063}{f} - 165.863 \\
Z = f * (-50.886617) + 722.35833\n\end{cases}
$$

Chapter 6

Conclusions

Most current commercial positioning solutions could not meet the requirement of highprecision positioning for LBS application with AR. In this paper, two AR-based positioning methods, View Angle and Similar Triangle algorithm, are proposed. The average positioning error of View Angle algorithm is from 88*.*9*cm* to 245*.*9*cm* caused by the local minima issue of gradient method. The Similar Triangle algorithm does not have local minima problems and have a better average positioning error of 74*.*34*cm*. In the future work, matching POIs by hand can be replaced with automation such as vision-based or laser detection. Then, the AR-P system will be more fast, easy and accurate without human interaction. The problems of local minima of View Angle algorithm should be solved by the closed form solution or a new method to converge the solution to the global minima. Our system can be combined with feedback information routing and other positioning technique such as GPS or WiFi positioning to implement an real-time and high accuracy evacuation system.

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