

# Licentiate seminar

## *Probabilistic modeling for positioning applications using inertial sensors*



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Sweden







Outdoor positioning ...  
to find your way to Linköping.





Outdoor positioning ...  
to find your way to Linköping.





Outdoor positioning ...  
to find your way to Linköping.

Indoor positioning ...  
to find your way to this  
presentation.





Outdoor positioning ...  
to find your way to Linköping.

Indoor positioning ...  
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presentation.



**Positioning: position yourself or an object with respect to the  
earth / a building / another object / person**



**Show movie**



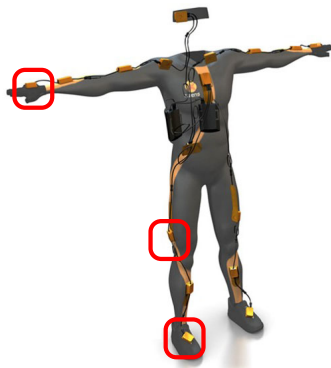
Courtesy of Xsens Technologies



Show movie



Courtesy of Xsens Technologies



17 sensors placed on the body





## 1. Background

- Positioning applications
- Inertial sensors
- Probabilistic modeling

## 2. Contributions

- Magnetometer calibration using inertial sensors
- An optimization-based approach to human body inertial motion capture
- Sensor fusion of inertial sensors and ultra-wideband
- Pose estimation using inertial sensors and magnetometers in a known magnetic field

## 3. Conclusions and future work



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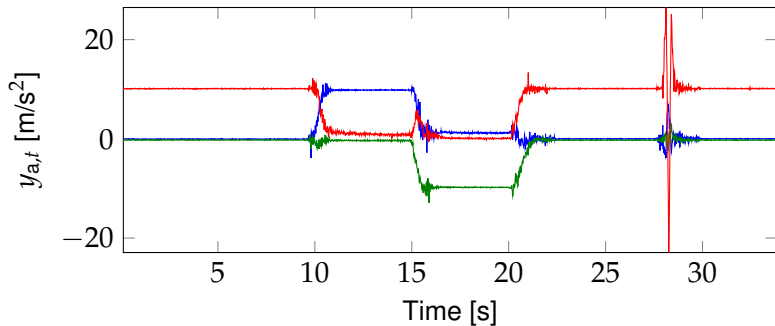


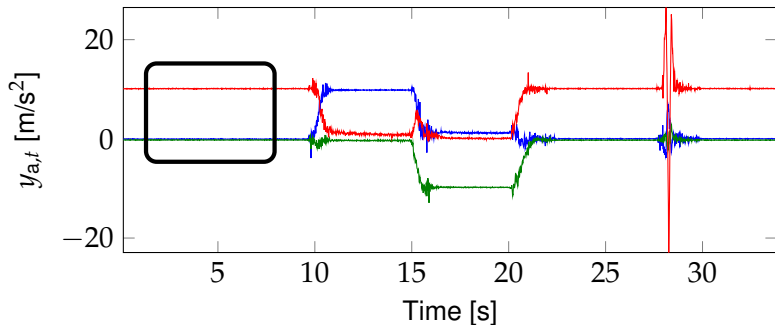
- Accelerometers
  - Gyroscopes
- } Inertial sensors



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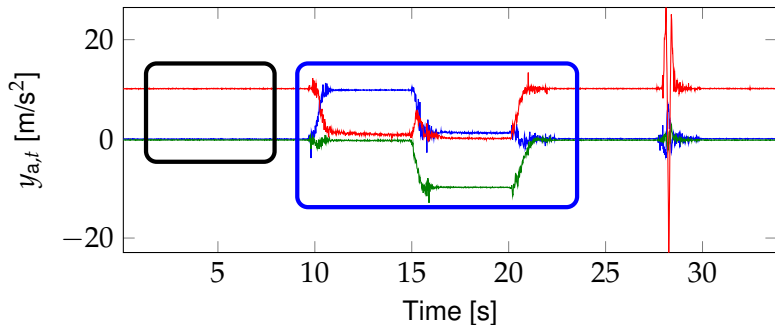






Stationary data  $\Rightarrow$  Earth gravity



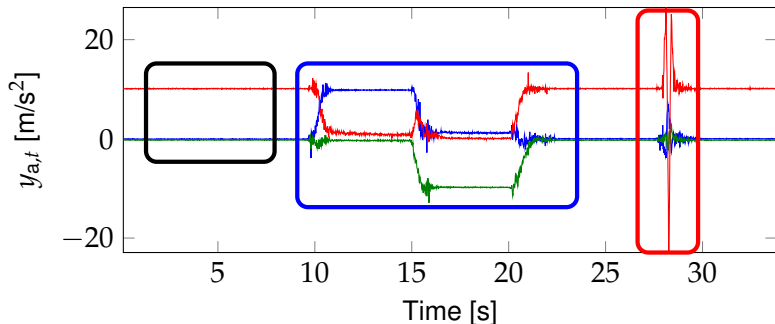


Stationary data  $\Rightarrow$  Earth gravity

Rotating sensor  $\Rightarrow$  Earth gravity







Stationary data  $\Rightarrow$  Earth gravity

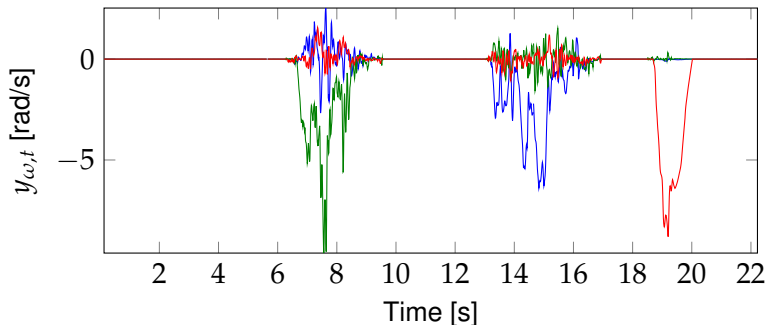
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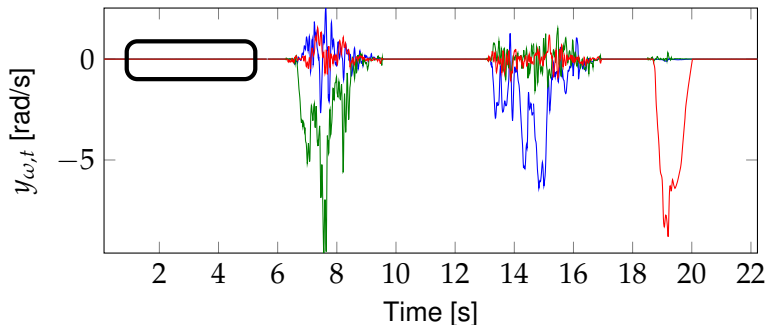
Quickly moving sensor  $\Rightarrow$  Earth gravity + sensor's acceleration



- Accelerometers
  - Gyroscopes
- } Inertial sensors

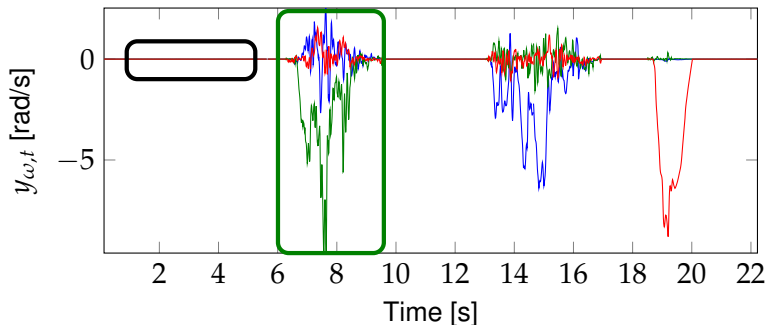






Stationary data  $\Rightarrow$  Zero angular velocity

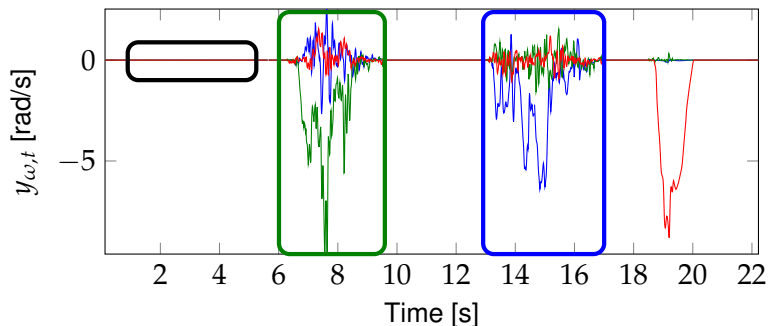




Stationary data  $\Rightarrow$  Zero angular velocity

Rotating the sensor around the  $y$ -axis



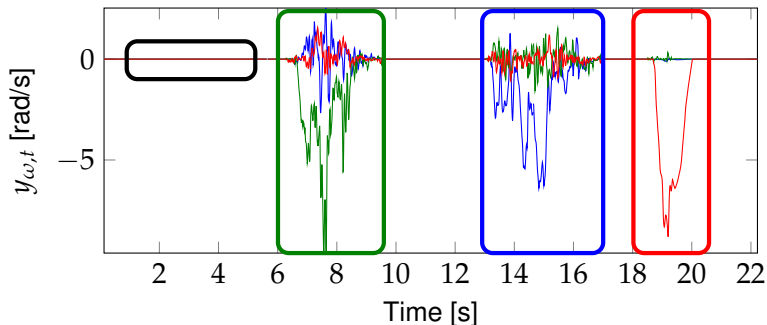


Stationary data  $\Rightarrow$  Zero angular velocity

Rotating the sensor around the  $y$ -axis

Rotating the sensor around the  $x$ -axis





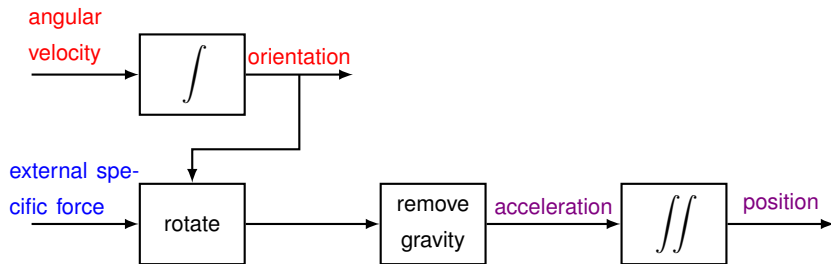
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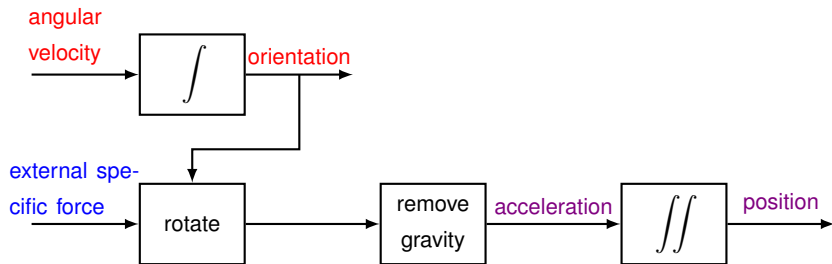
Rotating the sensor around the  $x$ -axis

Rotating the sensor around the  $z$ -axis









**Accelerometers** and **gyroscopes** (inertial sensors) can be used for position and orientation (pose) estimation but suffer from integration drift  $\Rightarrow$  Use additional sensors

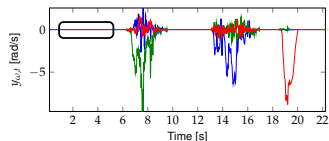


Use inertial sensors in combination with other sensors to determine position and orientation.



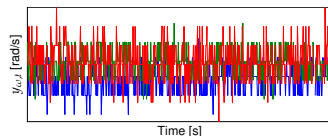
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- All sensors have measurement noise



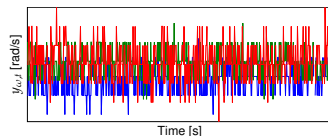
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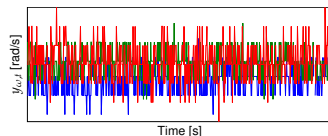
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- All sensors have measurement noise
- All models are approximations



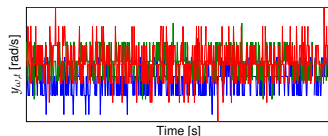
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- All models are approximations
- The models might have unknown parameters (the sensors need to be calibrated)



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- The models might have unknown parameters (the sensors need to be calibrated)



⇒ **Use probabilistic modeling to combine information from the different sensors and the different models both for position/orientation estimation and for sensor calibration**



$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1} &= f_t(x_t, \theta, u_t, v_t) \\ y_t &= h_t(x_t, \theta, e_t)\end{aligned}$$





Unknown state  $x$  at time  $t$  and  $t + 1$

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Measurements  $y$  at time  $t$

Inputs  $u$  at time  $t$



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Nonlinear dynamic and measurement equations



The *maximum a posteriori* estimate of the state  $x_{1:N} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  is defined as

$$\hat{x}_{1:N}^{\text{MAP}} = \arg \max_{x_{1:N}} p(x_{1:N} | y_{1:N})$$



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### Example: orientation estimation

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Use inertial sensors in combination with other sensors to estimate position and orientation

- The information of all models and sensors needs to be combined (sensor fusion)

⇒ Determine *MAP* estimate of the state  $x_{1:N}$

- The sensors need to be calibrated

⇒ Determine *ML* estimate of the parameter vector  $\theta$





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- Positioning applications
- Inertial sensors
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## 2. Contributions

- Magnetometer calibration using inertial sensors
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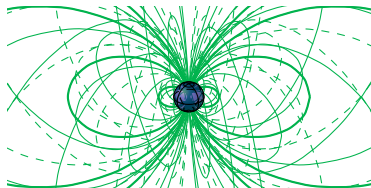
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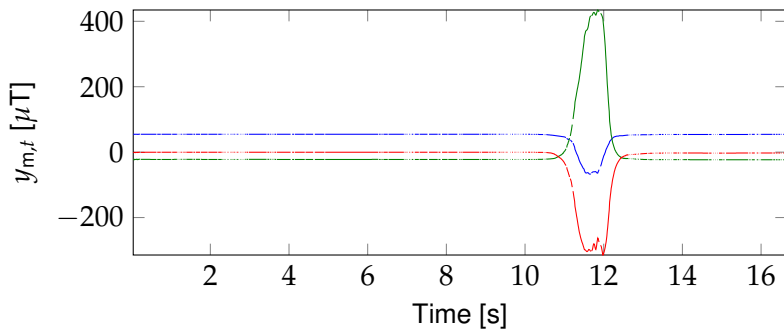


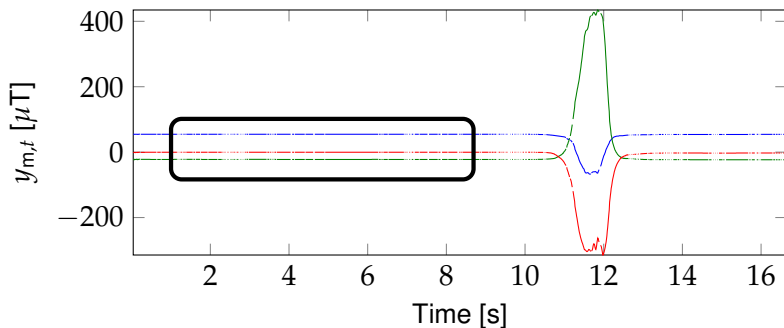
Magnetometers measure the local  
(earth) magnetic field



They can be used in combination  
with inertial sensors to determine  
the sensor's orientation

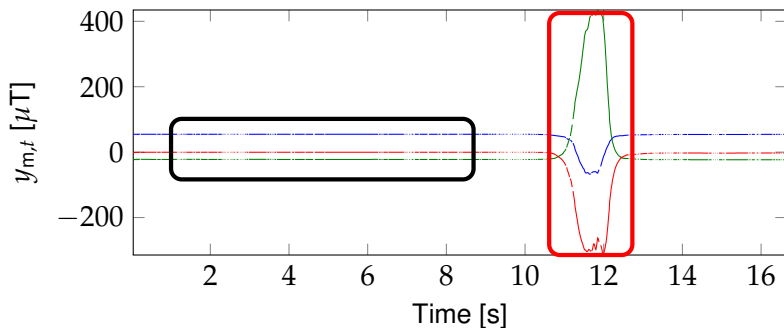






Stationary magnetometer data  $\Rightarrow$  Local (earth) magnetic field





Stationary magnetometer data  $\Rightarrow$  Local (earth) magnetic field

Magnetic disturbance close to sensor  $\Rightarrow$  Local (earth) magnetic field  
+ magnetic disturbance



Magnetometers can be used in combination with inertial sensors to estimate the sensor's orientation ...



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## Main contribution

Magnetometer calibration algorithm developed to correct for

1. magnetometer sensor errors,
2. presence of magnetic disturbances rigidly attached to the sensor,
3. misalignment between magnetometer and inertial sensor axes, by solving a maximum likelihood problem.



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- by solving a maximum likelihood problem.

After magnetometer calibration, accurate orientation estimates can be obtained.



## Magnetometer calibration algorithm

1. Rigidly mount the magnetometer and the inertial sensors on the platform to be used.
2. Rotate the assembly in all possible rotations to collect inertial and magnetometer measurements
  - ⇒ **Uncalibrated magnetometer measurements**
  - ⇒ **Wrong orientation estimates**
3. Estimate the calibration parameters
  1. Obtain an initial estimate of the parameters.
  2. Obtain a maximum likelihood estimate of the parameters.
4. Apply the estimated calibration parameters to the magnetometer measurements.
  - ⇒ **Calibrated magnetometer measurements**
  - ⇒ **Correct orientation estimates**



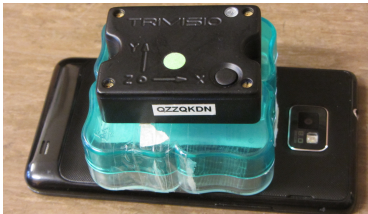
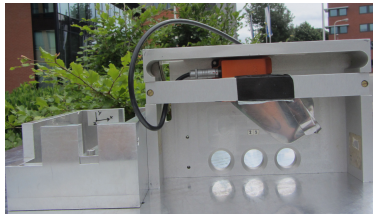
## State-space model with unknown parameters

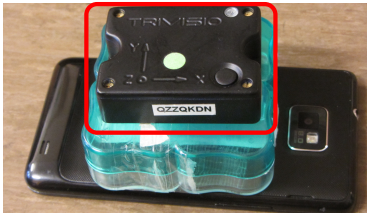
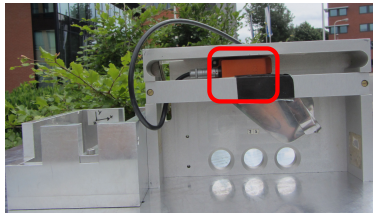
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where

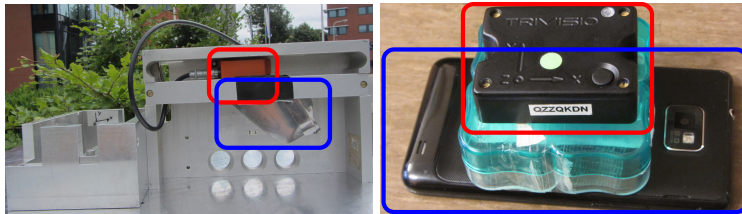
$$\begin{aligned}
 y_{\omega,t} &= \omega_t + b_{\omega} + e_{\omega,t} \\
 e_{\omega,t} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_{\omega}) \\
 e_{a,t} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_a) \\
 e_{m,t} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_m)
 \end{aligned}$$





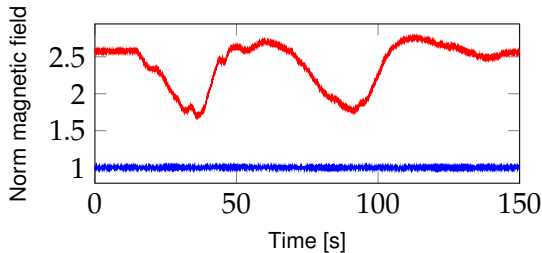
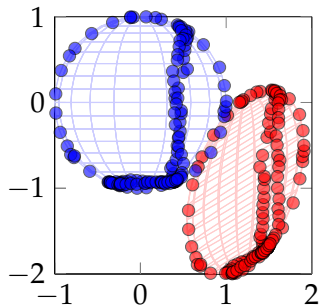


Inertial measurement unit (inertial sensors + magnetometer)



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Magnetic disturbance

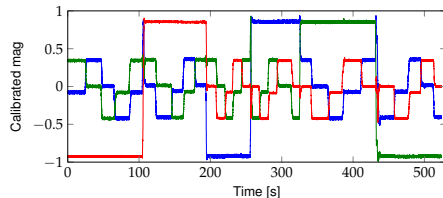
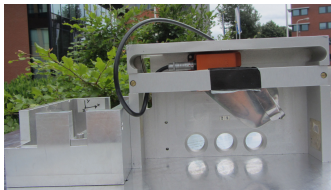


$$y_{m,t} = DR_t^{bn} m^n + o + e_{m,t}$$

$$\hat{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.74 & -0.13 & 0.01 \\ -0.12 & 0.68 & 0.01 \\ -0.03 & 0.43 & 1.00 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{o} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.36 \\ 1.22 \\ -0.94 \end{pmatrix}$$







<b>z up</b>	<b>z down</b>	<b>x up</b>	<b>x down</b>	<b>y down</b>
0.11	0.69	0.22	0.86	0.18
0.22	2.48	0.07	1.57	0.29
0.46	1.53	0.97	0.61	0.20
0.30	1.92	0.29	1.78	0.50



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## Show movie



Courtesy of Xsens Technologies



We solve the motion capture problem by solving a *maximum a posteriori* (MAP) problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{z=\{x_{1:N}, \theta\}} & \underbrace{-\log p(x_1 | y_1) - \log p(\theta)}_{\text{initialization}} \\
 & \underbrace{-\sum_{t=2}^N \log p(x_t | x_{t-1}, \theta)}_{\text{dynamic model}} - \underbrace{\sum_{t=1}^N \log p(y_t | x_t, \theta)}_{\text{biomechanical/sensor model}} \\
 \text{s.t. } & c_{\text{bio}}(z) = 0
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$x_{1:N}$ : the sensors' positions, velocities and orientations, the body segments' positions and orientations.

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$\theta$ : constant model parameters such as sensor biases

$c_{\text{bio}}(z)$ : constraints based on the biomechanical model





The body segments are connected at the joints

The position and orientation of the sensors on the body is approximately constant

Some joints are restricted in their rotational freedom





The body segments are connected at the joints

⇒ **constraint**

The position and orientation of the sensors on the body is approximately constant

⇒ **objective**

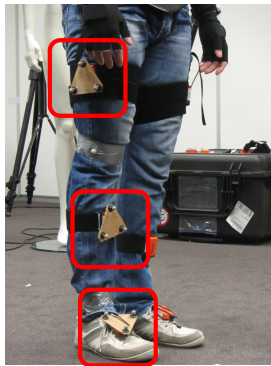
Some joints are restricted in their rotational freedom

⇒ **objective**



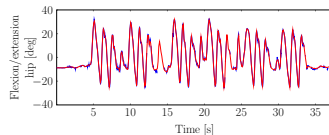
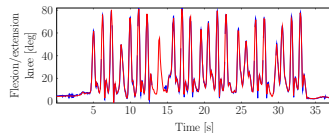
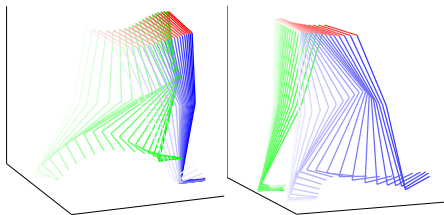






Markers for an optical reference system

**Show movie**



## 1. Background

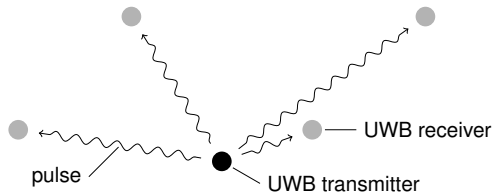
- Positioning applications
- Inertial sensors
- Probabilistic modeling

## 2. Contributions

- Magnetometer calibration using inertial sensors
- An optimization-based approach to human body inertial motion capture
- **Sensor fusion of inertial sensors and ultra-wideband**
- Pose estimation using inertial sensors and magnetometers in a known magnetic field

## 3. Conclusions and future work





Courtesy of Xsens Technologies

Use time of arrival measurements to determine the sensor position



- Calibrate the ultra-wideband (UWB) system
  - ⇒ Parameter estimation: Determine receiver positions and clock offsets
- Determine the sensor position and orientation using inertial and ultra-wideband measurements
  - ⇒ State estimation



$$y_{u,mlk} = \tau_{lk} + \|r_m^n - t_{lk}^n\|_2 + \Delta\tau_m + e_{u,mlk}$$



$$y_{u,mlk} = \tau_{lk} + \|r_m^n - t_{lk}^n\|_2 + \Delta\tau_m + e_{u,mlk}$$

$y_{u,mlk}$ : TOA measurements





$t_{lk}^n$ : Transmitter position

$\tau_{lk}$ : Time of transmission of the pulse

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$r_m^n$ : Receiver position

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$y_{u,mlk}$ : TOA measurements



$t_{lk}^n$ : Transmitter position

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$$y_{u,mlk} = \tau_{lk} + \|r_m^n - t_{lk}^n\|_2 + \Delta\tau_m + e_{u,mlk}$$

$r_m^n$ : Receiver position

$\Delta\tau_m$ : Receiver clock offset

$y_{u,mlk}$ : TOA measurements

$e_{u,mlk}$ : measurement noise



$t_{lk}^n$ : Transmitter position

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$r_m^n$ : Receiver position

$\Delta\tau_m$ : Receiver clock offset

$y_{u,mlk}$ : TOA measurements

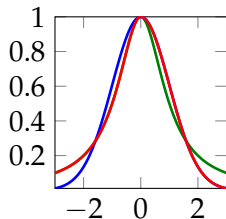
$e_{u,mlk}$ : measurement noise

Ultra-wideband measurements suffer from non-line-of-sight and multipath

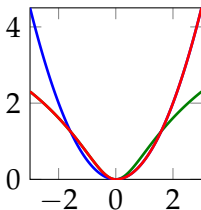


$$e_{u,mlk} \sim \begin{cases} \text{Cauchy}(0, \gamma) & e_{u,mlk} \leq 0 \\ \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2) & e_{u,mlk} > 0 \end{cases}$$

Probability density function

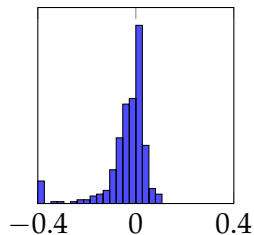
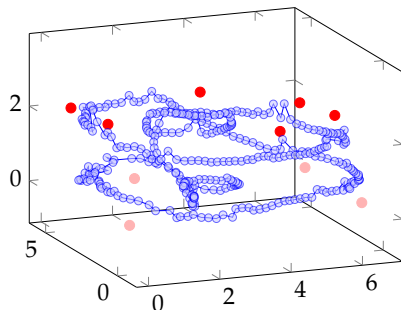


Cost function



Gaussian distribution  
 Cauchy distribution  
 The asymmetric distribution





Calibration results:

- receiver positions
- (transmitter positions)

Residuals from one  
of the receivers



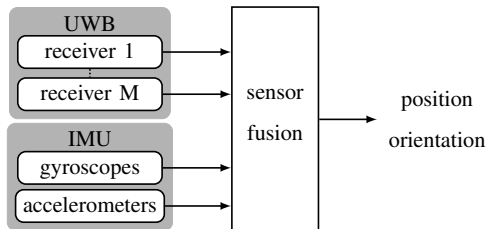
Estimate the pose of the sensor on the subject's head using inertial and UWB measurements



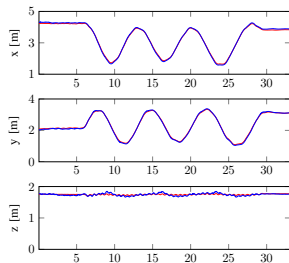


Use tightly-coupled EKF algorithm with outlier rejection

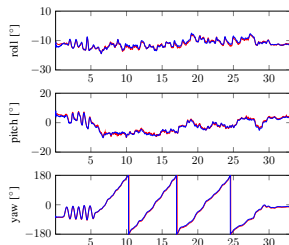
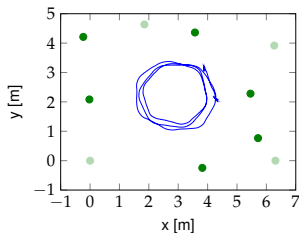
Estimate the pose of the sensor on the subject's head using inertial and UWB measurements







Blue: Our estimates  
Red: Reference  
Green: Receiver positions



## 1. Background

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## 3. Conclusions and future work



*Recap from before:*

Inertial sensors can be used for position and orientation estimation but suffer from integration drift.

⇒ Use inertial sensors in combination with magnetometers for orientation estimation.

⇒ Use inertial sensors in combination with ultra-wideband for position and orientation (pose) estimation.



*Recap from before:*

Inertial sensors can be used for position and orientation estimation but suffer from integration drift.

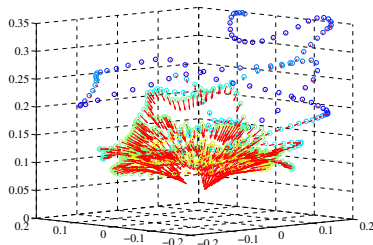
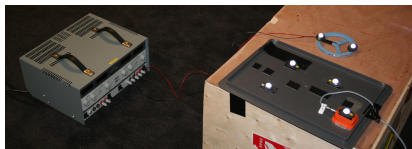
⇒ Use inertial sensors in combination with magnetometers for orientation estimation.

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## Alternative approach

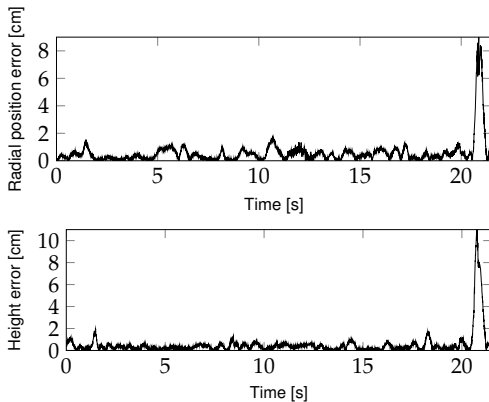
Use magnetometer data as a source of position information by using a map of the magnetic field.



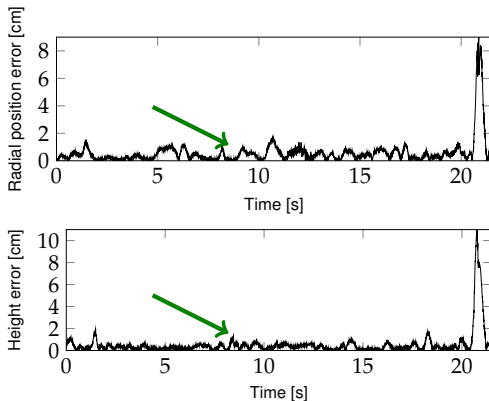


- + A magnetic coil generates an analytically known magnetic field that we can use to navigate in.
- The sensor position is not completely observable.

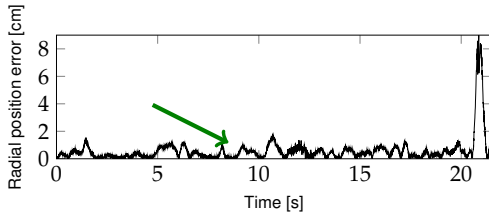




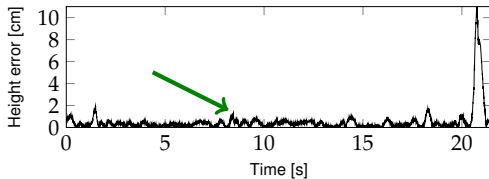
Small position error close to the coil



Small position error close to the coil



Larger position error further away from the coil





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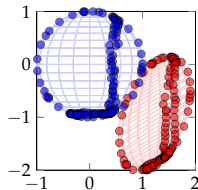
## 3. Conclusions and future work



## *Sensor calibration:*

- Developed a magnetometer calibration algorithm which calibrates a magnetometer in combination with inertial sensors to obtain better orientation estimates.

**Future work:** Apply the algorithm to data from a smartphone.



## *Sensor calibration and sensor fusion:*

- Developed an ultra-wideband calibration algorithm.
- Developed a sensor fusion algorithm to combine inertial and UWB measurements.

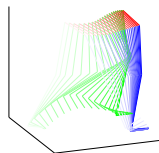
**Future work:** Solve the sensor fusion problem as an optimization problem in which we take the asymmetric UWB noise distribution into account.



## *Sensor fusion:*

- Developed an optimization-based approach to inertial human body motion capture.

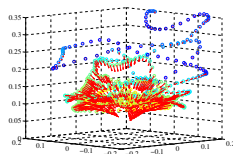
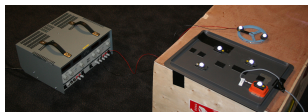
**Future work:** Extend the approach to more segments and for instance simultaneously estimate calibration parameters.



## *Sensor fusion:*

- Developed an algorithm for pose estimation using the magnetic field as a source of position information.

**Future work:** Extend the approach to also estimate the magnetic field map, i.e. extend to a *simultaneous localization and mapping* (SLAM) approach



# Thank you for your attention

## Questions?

