

JOANNEUM
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“Pole position with satellite navigation: Leading with precise time and exact location”, January 29, Vienna / Austria

Virtual Vehicle Digital twins and PNT

Michael Schönhuber

Telecommunications, Navigation and Signal Processing



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Introduction and Motivation

- In automotive applications often digital twins are used for simulations
- Typically the accuracy of digital twins is crucial for their use and applications
- Geometric digital twins often are established via laserscanners or cameras
- The accuracy of the trajectory of the measurement system is crucial
 - typically GNSS/IMU-based trajectory measurements are used
 - alternatively SLAM-based trajectories may be considered
- Comparisons of GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-based trajectories allow a more detailed insight into achievable accuracies

Digital Twins in Automotive Applications with Importance of precise PNT

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- Simulations and tests in vehicle design and prototyping
 - Common performance assessment (e.g. ADAS, etc.)
 - Energy efficiency and sustainability analysis
 - Customization and configuration Management

- Predictive maintenance and diagnostics
 - Personalized customer service

- Autonomous vehicle validation

6 *Recording a Set of Digital Twins for Test and Analysis Purposes*

- Recording of test data
 - Laserscanner (airborne – ALS, mobile – MLS, backpack - BLS)
 - JOANNEUM RESEARCH (JR) holds and uses the following systems:



VIAMETRIS MS 96



RIEGL VZ400i



RIEGL VMX-2HA



RIEGL RiCopter VUX-SYS

Collecting Point Cloud Data with the Viametris Backpack System

- The Viametris Backpack System can easily be transported and employed even on a scooter
- It records full pointcloud data plus GNSS/IMU data
- Viametris provides a software package including a SLAM algorithm for analysing the pointcloud data
- Thus a comparative set of two different trajectories (GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-based) may be generated, based on a commercial product representing maybe quite a few personyears



Recording a Digital Twin of an Automotive Proving Ground

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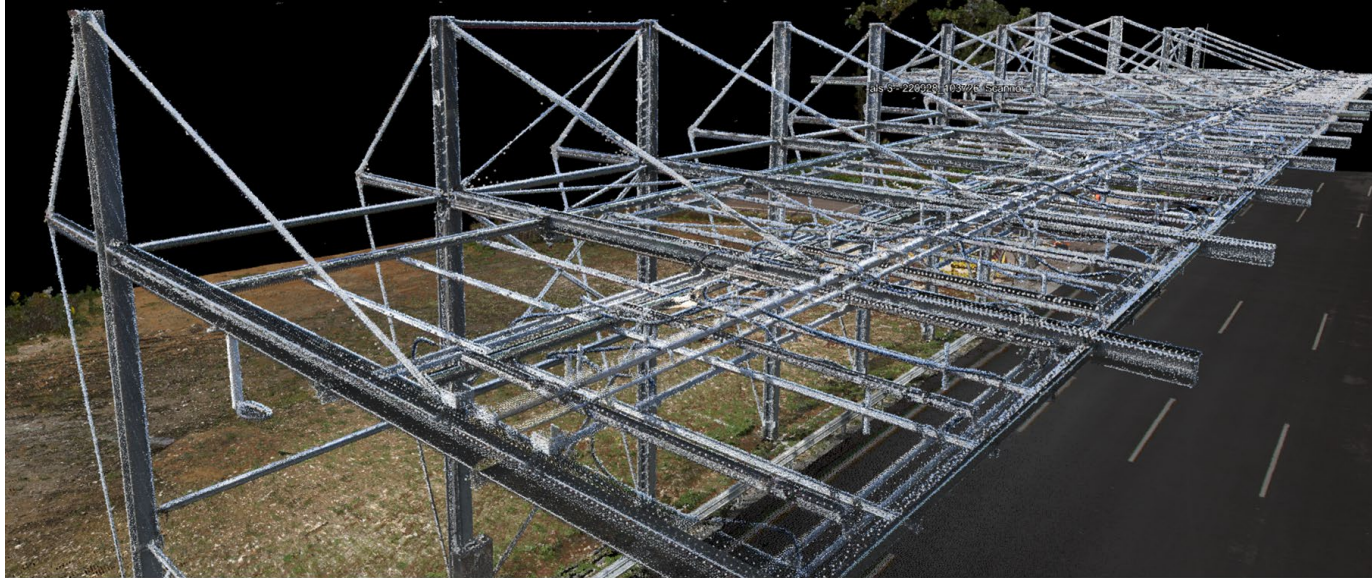
as of <https://www.digitrans.expert/teststrecke/>



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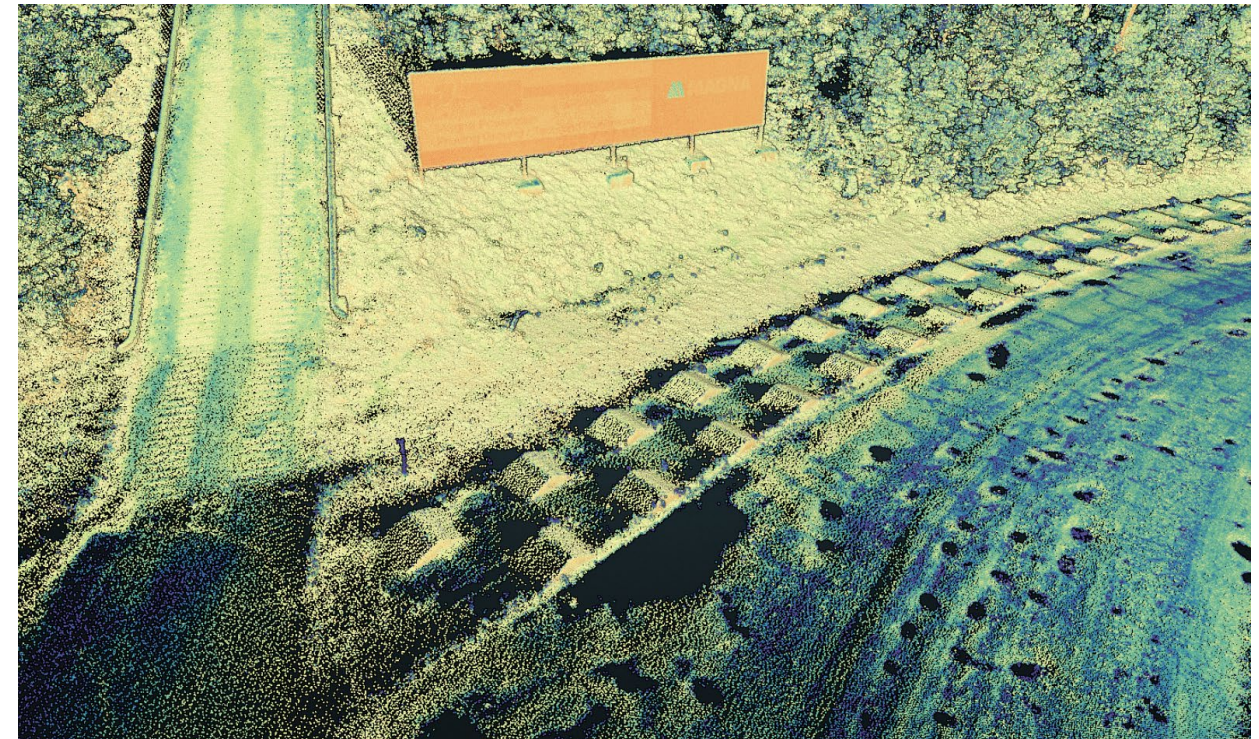
Some Elements as represented in the Digital Twin of the Proving Ground

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Outdoor Rain Plant

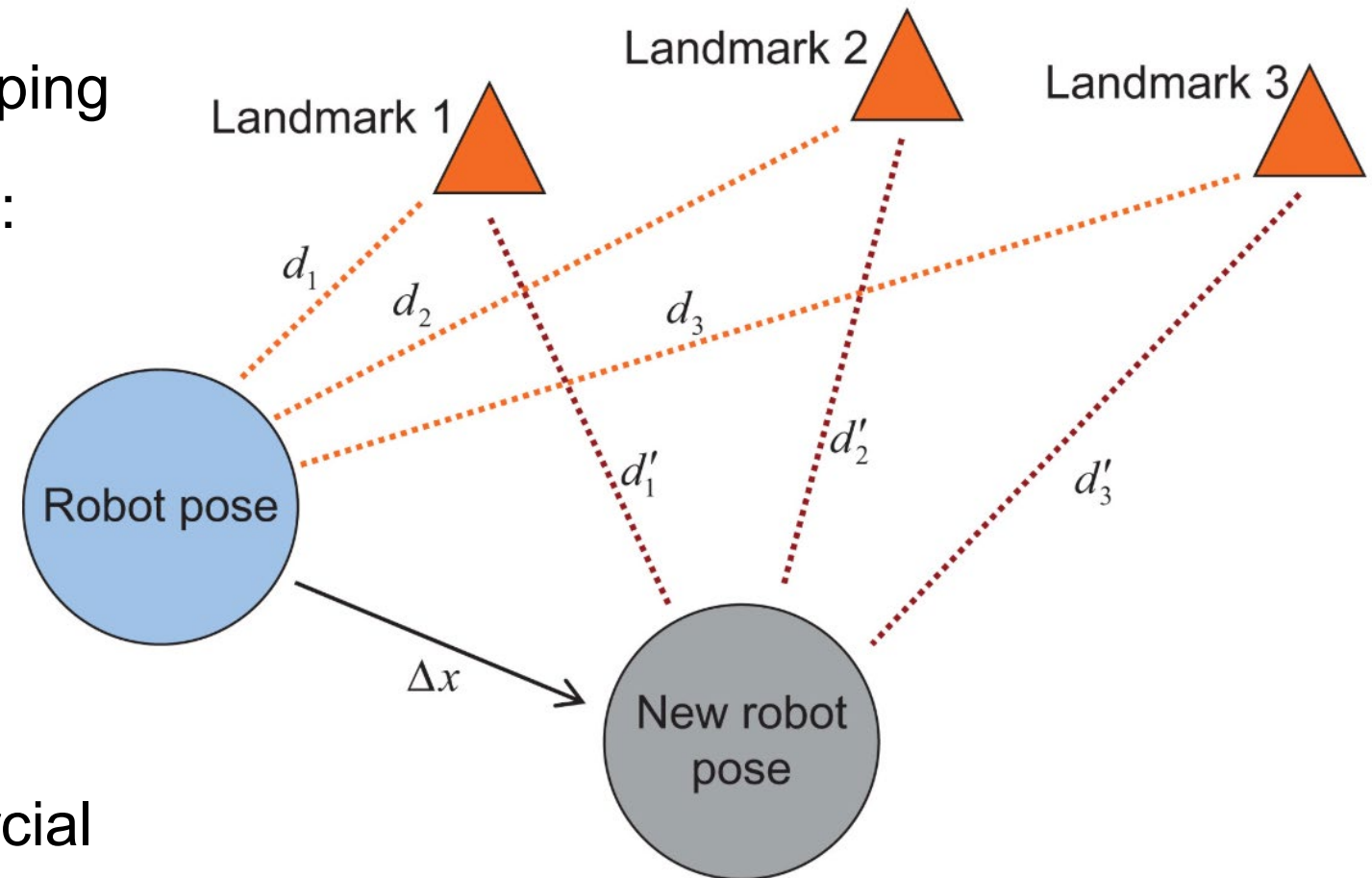
Washboard track



For analysing relevant test results the importance of precise PNT is crucial

GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-based Trajectories may be used

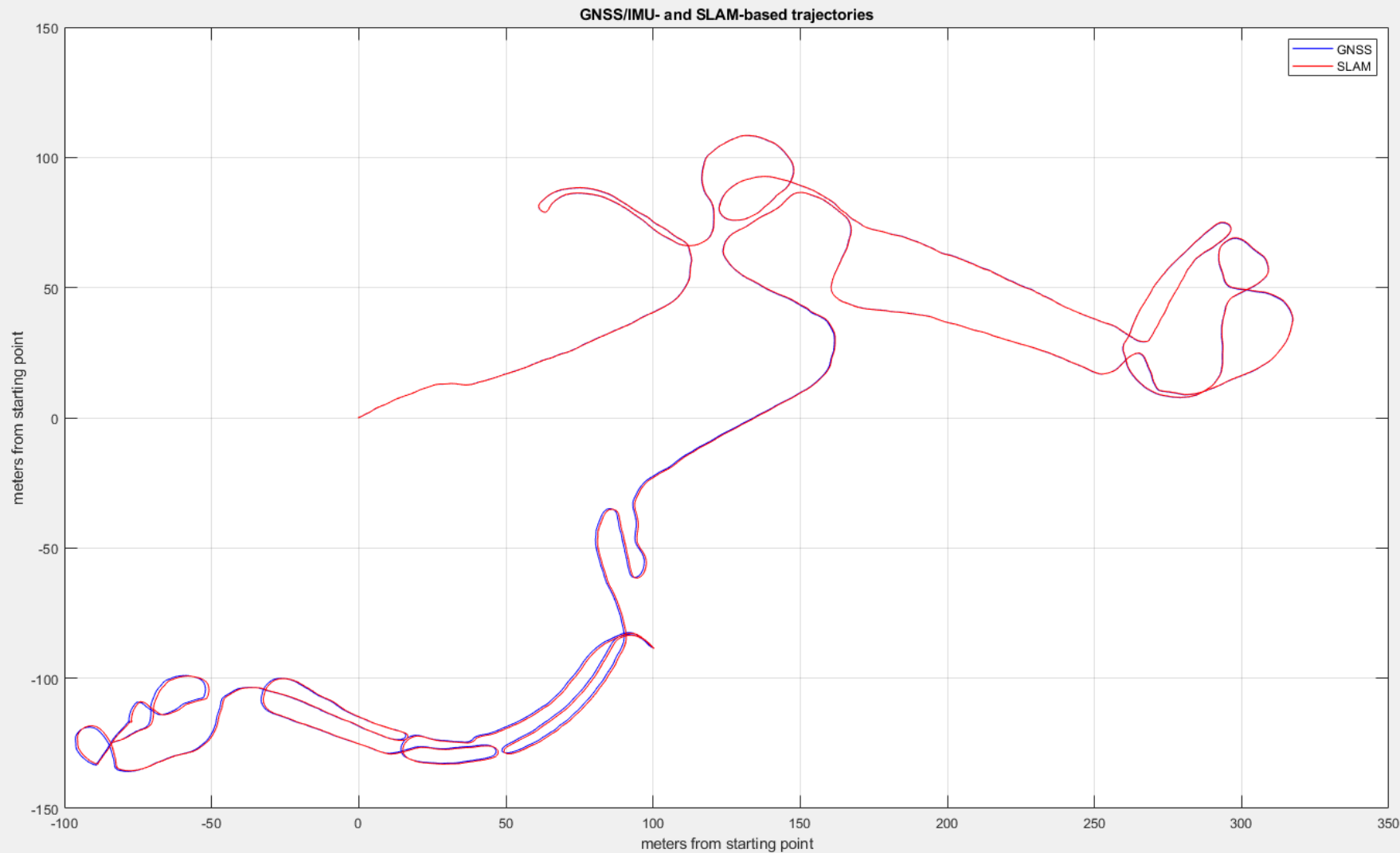
- SLAM = Simultaneous localization and mapping
- Several algorithms available, categories are:
 - filter based SLAM
 - graph based SLAM
 - deep learning based SLAM
- Several free software packages available for download in the internet
- In JR currently use of the Viametris commercial SLAM tool



<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1729881420919185>

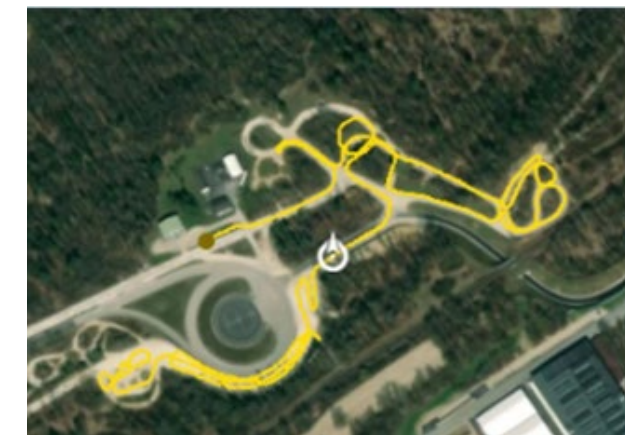
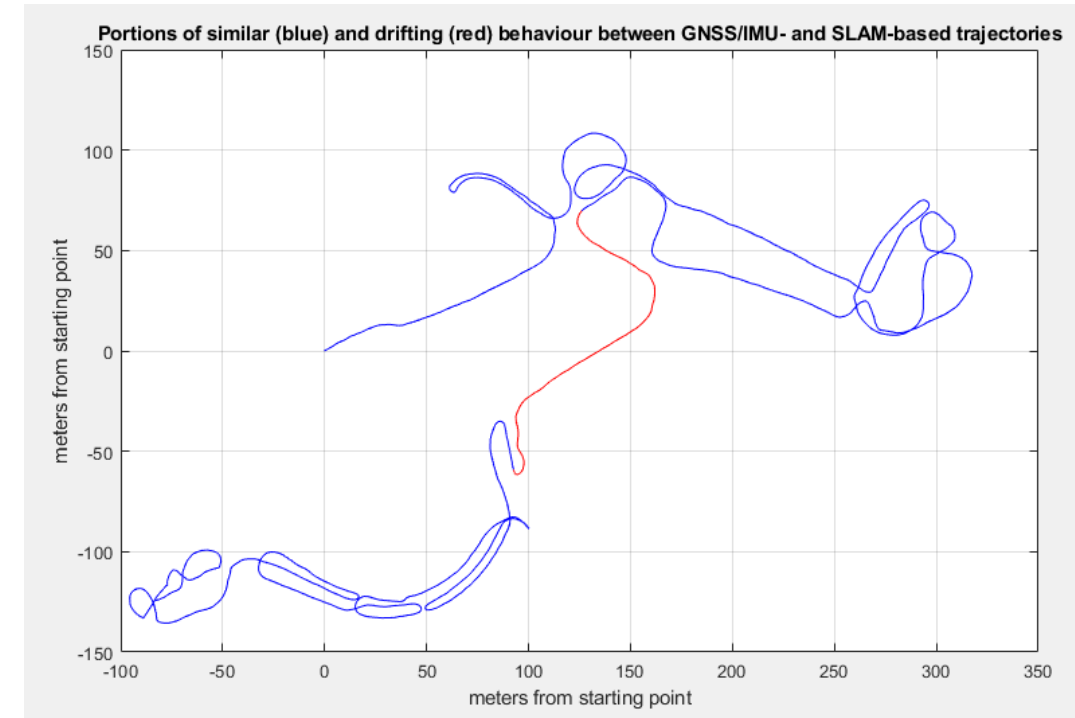
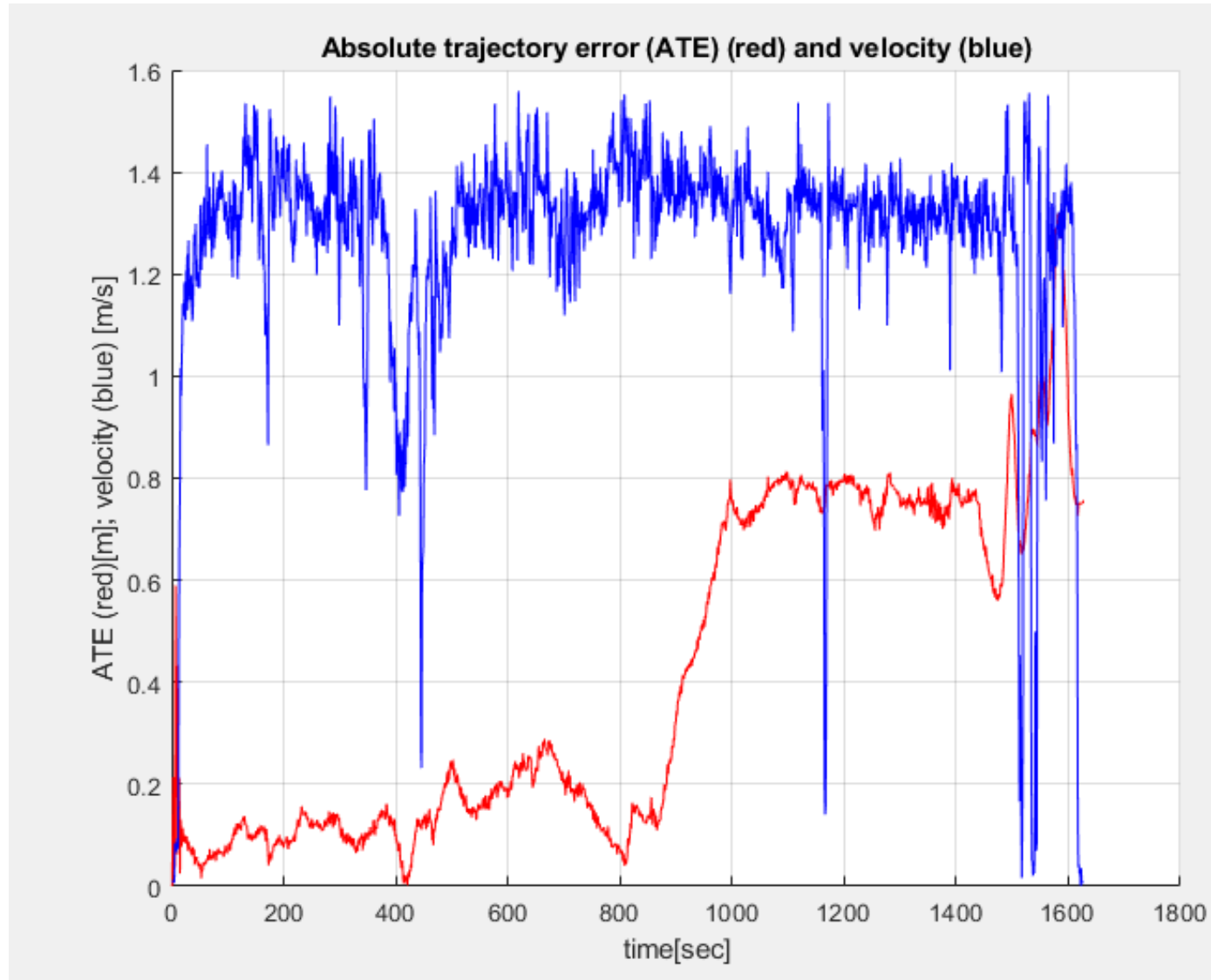
Comparison of GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-based trajectories on an Individual Case

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12 Differences between GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-based trajectories

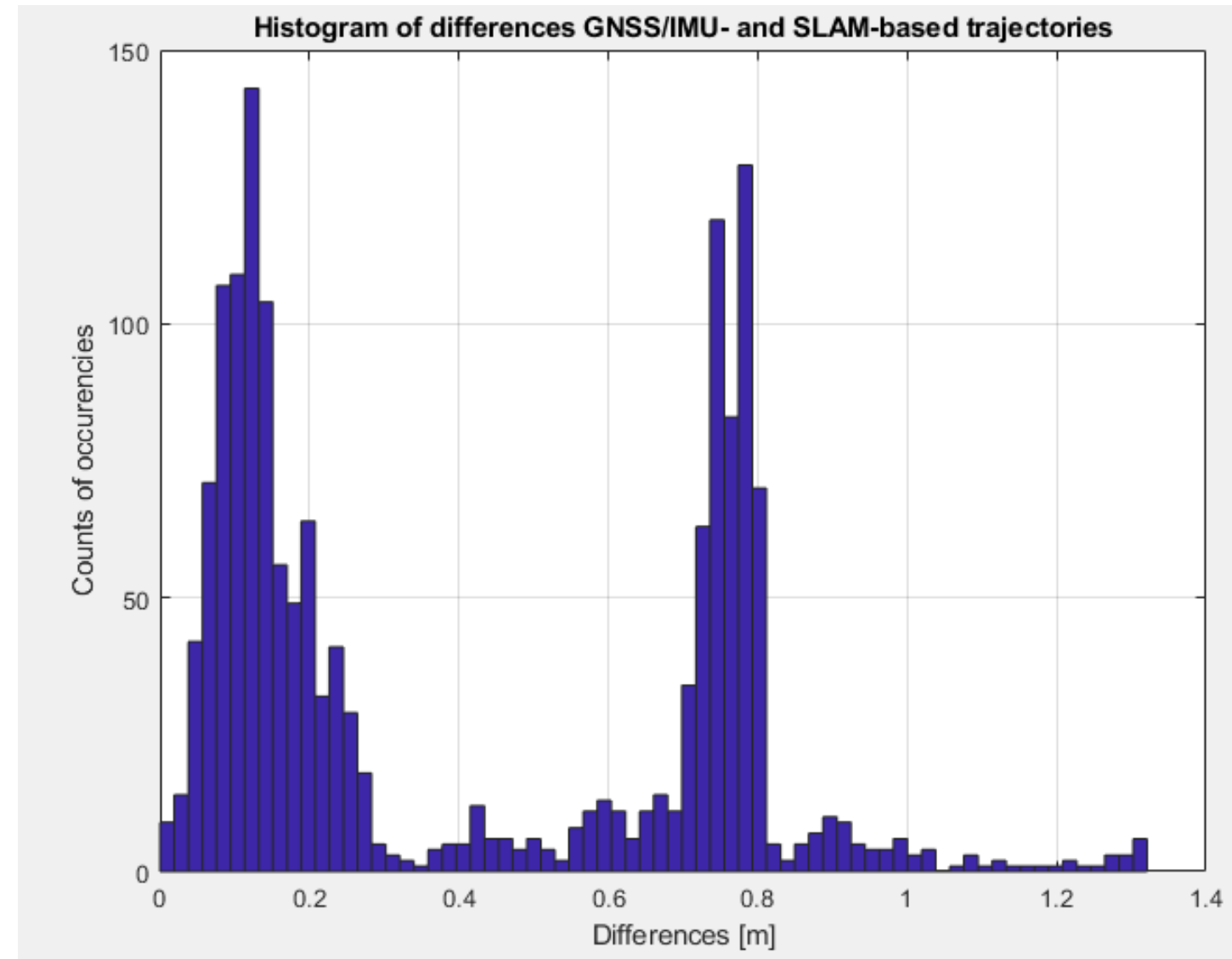


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Histogram of differences between GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-based trajectories

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- Four distinct portions visible:
 - Accumulations approx. around 0.1m and 0.76 m
 - Only few occurrences 0.3 – 0.7 m and above 0.85 m
- Previous graph of differences over time shows drifting behaviour from approx. 0.1 to 0.7 m
- Differences jittering around 0.76 m for some 7 minutes with a deviation of approx. ± 6.5 cm only
- Reason for drift over approx. 3 minutes and 0.75 m still unknown, no correlation with velocity, acceleration or curve radius, neither obvious environmental conditions.
- Further analyses ongoing, aiming also for alternative SLAM algorithms / implementations



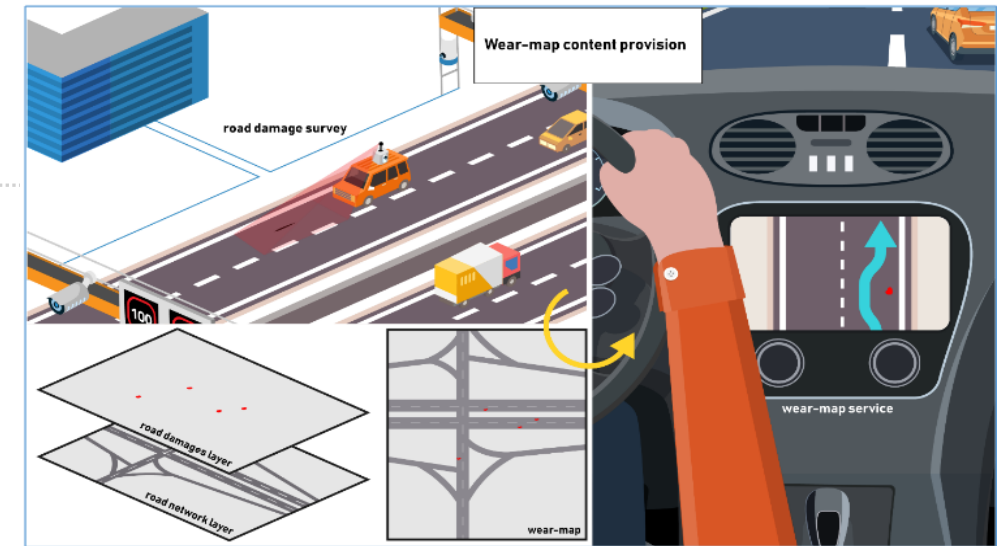
Differences between GNSS/IMU- und SLAM-based trajectories

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- The GNSS/IMU-based trajectory may deviate from reality
 - The GNSS signals are shadowed, blocked or received via multipath propagation
 - The IMU may drift, especially in situations of slow or homogeneous motions
 - GNSS interference or spoofing
 - The SLAM-based trajectory may deviate from reality
 - Poor association of obstacles in different scans (reflecting surfaces, etc.)
 - Moving obstacles (strong wind in forests, etc.)
 - Poor input data by laserscanner or camera
 - Bad mapping of GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-coordinates certainly also causes differences
- => The combination of GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-based trajectory results in reliable PNT data with high accuracy**

UC1 - Wear-map content provision

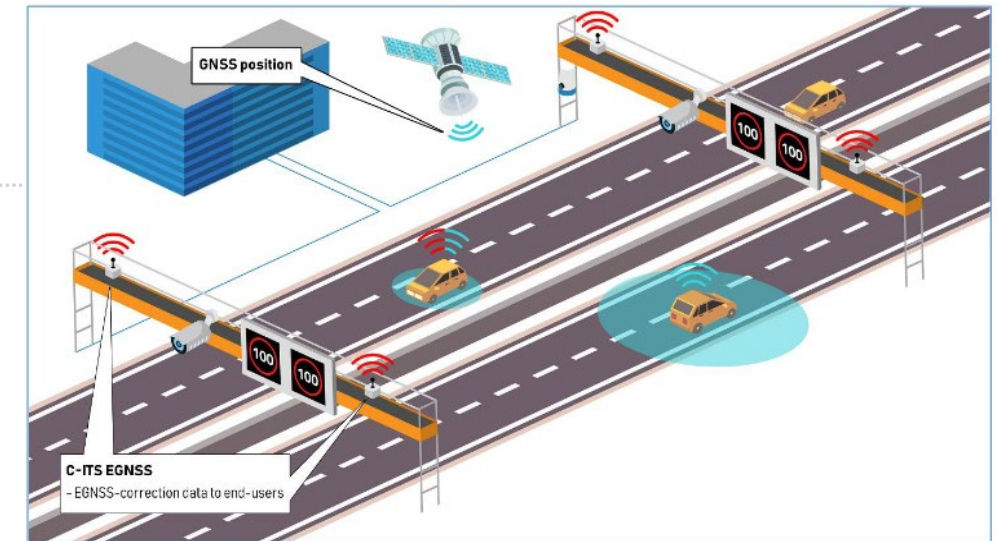
- Road wear layer for digital twin system of road operators
- Cost-efficient sensor system for road operator vehicles.
 - EGNSS + IMU + Camera
- Automated AI-based processing workflow to automatically detect, classify and georeference road wear
- Make road surface issues visible in the digital twin
- Provide road wear information to drivers via standardized messages and RSUs (C-ITS communication)



Sample Application: Digital Twins in ESERCOM-D

UC2 - GNSS corrections provision

- cm-level localization for automated vehicles
 - Galileo HAS and OSNMA
 - Provision of HAS and/or RTK corrections
 - On motorways via RSUs (C-ITS)
 - In rural areas via AMQP broker used for cellular communication between infrastructure and vehicle
 - Real-time reception of correction data within the vehicle for cm-level accuracy
- Road damage avoidance manoeuvres (lane change and in-lane) having
 - the geo-referenced road damage information and
 - the cm-level localization information



⇒ **Safe Roads**

Summary and Conclusions

- Digital Twins are of great benefit in automotive applications.
- Their (geometric) accuracy is crucial, especially of the scanning systems' trajectories.
- A set of test digital twin data was recorded and analyzed
- An agreement of GNSS/IMU- and SLAM-based trajectories of approx. ± 6.5 cm was found, but also significant drifts
- A sample application is ongoing in the project ESERCOM-D, optimizing the sustainability of roads
- The combined information from GNSS/IMU and SLAM-results already allows very precise trajectories. Further analyses are ongoing.

Thank you for your Attention!

JOANNEUM RESEARCH
Forschungsgesellschaft mbH

DIGITAL
Institut for Digital Technologies

Steyrergasse 17
8010 Graz
Austria

Tel. +43 316 876-5000
digital@joanneum.at

www.joanneum.at/digital



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together*



www.joanneum.at/digital

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