# Marine Vessel Tracking using a Monocular Camera 

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Abstract: In this paper, a new technique for camera calibration using only GPS data is presented. A new way of tracking objects that move on a plane in a video is achieved by using the location and size of the bounding box to estimate the distance, achieving an average prediction error of 5.55 m per 100 m distance from the camera. This solution can be run in real-time at the edge, achieving efficient inference in a low-powered IoT environment, while being also able to track multiple different vessels.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Ship avoidance systems are typically based on radio signals. In this paper, a new technique for camera calibration using only GPS data is presented. To get a better position estimate from an object detector, the property that ships move on a plane is utilized. Also, a new way of tracking objects that move on a plane in a video is achieved by using the location and size of the bounding box to estimate the distance.

This approach has many possible use cases in edge computing. This includes tracking airplanes in airports, ships in harbours, cars in parking lots or humans in shopping malls. It also demonstrates how to efficiently track one specific object from other similar instances of that object. This can play an important role in traffic systems. For example, it is possible to keep track of free spaces in a parking lot. This information could be utilized in various IoT applications helping citizens to find a free parking space. Another use case is smarter traffic lights, which could use a camera to react to oncoming traffic quicker. For this, all that is needed for camera calibration and training or evaluating the object detector is 33 minutes of videos and ground truth GPS positions or something comparable. The methods utilized in this paper are fast enough to be deployed on inexpensive edge computing devices that can be mass-produced.

[^0]
## 2 RELATED WORK

A rich background of GPS camera calibration papers are available(e.g. (Liu et al., 2010)), but to date, none of these works use just GPS data to determine lens distortion of a single camera. The novelty of this paper is that it introduces an algorithm that relies on data from a single camera without any a-priori information about the camera parameters. Research has also been done for monocular position tracking with a calibrated camera. (Ali and Hussein, 2016) used a carmounted front-facing calibrated camera and Hough Transformations (Duda and Hart, 1972) to extract the distance to other cars. They achieve an average lateral error of $9.71 \%$. The error is measured as difference between prediction and ground truth in meters per 100 meters distance from the camera. (Dhall, 2018) presents a combination between YoloV2 and a keypoint detector to achieve an average error of $6.25 \%$. (Hu et al., 2019) uses Faster R-CNN for object detection and an additional network for 3D Box estimation, reaching an average position error of $7.4 \%$. Monocular position estimation is closely related to depth estimation. Recent methods achieved between $7.1 \%$ and $21.5 \%$ accuracy (Bhoi, 2019).

Some solutions have been proposed for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). (Sanyal et al., 2020) suggests an approach to detect and estimate the location of an object in an environment where the UAV operates with a single monocular camera using its GPS position. Given the home position, the GPS location of the UAV, and the image taken from the camera, the authors have developed a method to estimate the depth of an object in the image after detecting it
using Yolo. (Leira et al., 2017) Developed a solution for UAVs with computational power and an onboard camera to detect, recognize, and track multiple objects in a maritime environment. The system was able to automatically detect and track the position and the velocity of a boat with an accuracy of 5-15 meters, being at a height of 400 meters. Furthermore, the tracking could be done even when a boat was outside the FOV (field of view) for extended periods of time.

In summary, several applications have been implemented for detection and tracking of objects present in a view of the camera, but not much work has been done on developing solutions that could run at the edge, leveraging low-powered IoT commercial off-the-shelf devices, which this work presents.

## 3 METHODS

The data consists of videos, a time series of GPS positions of the vessel and the GPS position of the camera. First the relation between the world position of the vessel and the on-screen position is determined. Then, an object detector is trained to track the vessel on the image. Post-processing is applied to increase stability and precision.

### 3.1 Converting World/ Screen

Let $(\varphi, \lambda)$ be the latitude and longitude in arc measure, respectively, of the ship, and similarly $\left(\varphi_{0}, \lambda_{0}\right)$ be the position of the camera. The camera is at the origin at the world coordinate system, while the ship is at $\left(x_{w}, y_{w}\right)$. The distance in meters can be obtained with an equi-rectangular projection (Snyder, 1987):

$$
\begin{align*}
& x_{w}=r\left(\lambda-\lambda_{0}\right) \cos \varphi_{0},  \tag{1}\\
& y_{w}=r\left(\varphi-\varphi_{0}\right), \tag{2}
\end{align*}
$$

with $r=6371 \mathrm{~km}$ being the earth radius (Moritz, 2000). The ship is always at sea level, so $z_{w}=0$ can be omitted. The following homo-graphic equation has to be solved:

$$
z_{p}\left(\begin{array}{c}
x_{p}  \tag{3}\\
y_{p} \\
1
\end{array}\right)=H\left(\begin{array}{c}
x_{w} \\
y_{w} \\
1
\end{array}\right) .
$$

$\left(x_{p}, y_{p}\right)$ are the projected coordinates. $z_{p}$ is the distance from the camera to the vessel. $H$ is a matrix that projects the world coordinates to the screen. The camera has significant lens distortion. This means that the final coordinate $(x, y)$ of the ship on screen and the
projected coordinates $\left(x_{p}, y_{p}\right)$ have the relationship:

$$
\begin{align*}
& x_{p}=x_{s}+\left(x_{s}-x_{c}\right)\left(1+K_{1} r^{2}\right),  \tag{4}\\
& y_{p}=y_{s}+\left(y_{s}-y_{c}\right)\left(1+K_{1} r^{2}\right), \tag{5}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\left(x_{c}, y_{c}\right)$ is the center of the image and $r^{2}$ the distance from the center of the image.

$$
\begin{equation*}
r^{2}=\left(x_{s}-x_{c}\right)^{2}+\left(y_{s}-y_{c}\right)^{2} . \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

$K_{1}$ and $H$ are parameters that have to be learned. We created a dataset containing 11 hand-labeled pairs of screen positions ( $x_{s, l a b,}, y_{s, l a b}$ ) and GPS positions $(\lambda, \varphi)$. The GPS data was reconstructed from the video and frame index using a linear interpolation of the timestamps provided and a linear interpolation of the GPS data for that timeframe. The least squares solution for equation 3 for $H$ can be easily computed. $K_{1}$ introduces a non-linearity, hence it was brute-forced. The result is shown in figure 5b. Different values for $K_{1}$ were used for calculating ( $x_{p, l a b}, y_{p, l a b}$ ) from $\left(x_{s, l a b}, y_{s, l a b}\right)$ and solving equation 3 for $H$, and measuring the MSE between the estimated screen position $\left(x_{p}, y_{p}\right)$ and the hand-labeled screen position for all labeled points $i$.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\text { Loss }=\sum_{i}\left(x_{p, i}-x_{p, l a b, i}\right)^{2}+\left(y_{p, i}-y_{p, l a b, i}\right)^{2} . \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 3.2 Object Detection

The recent advancements of Deep Learning-based object detection models were state-of-art in achieving improvements in terms of both inference time and reliability of the predictions (Jiao et al., 2019). Dealing with the hardware constraints present in edge devices brings additional attention to the need of smaller models performing fast inference, while keeping the accuracy of predictions as high as possible. We found two architectures and implementations, YoloV5 (Jocher et al., 2020) and EfficientDet (Tan et al., 2020) playing a key role in object detection model scenarios, offering different configurations in terms of model sizes. We tested both models on a standard NVIDIA Jetson Nano Developer Kit, a small, commercial off-the-shelf device for AI embedded applications, equipped with 4GB of LPDDR4 RAM, 128core Maxwell GPU and a Quad-core ARM A57 CPU.

As presented in table 1, YoloV5s was found to be the best solution for resource constrained devices like the NVIDIA Jetson Nano, in terms of trade-off between mAP (mean Average Precision) and FPS (Frames per Second) processed, when using 320x320px images. Once camera calibration and $H$ and $K_{1}$ are known, they can be used to predict the Bounding Box $\left(c_{x}, c_{y}, s_{x}, s_{y}\right)$ of the vessel. Let $\left(c_{x}, c_{y}\right)$ be the location of the ship. The dimensions of the

Table 1: Comparison of different YoloV5 and EfficientDet configurations, with mean Average Precision evaluated on a NVIDIA JetsonNano on COCO (Lin et al., 2015) 2017 validation dataset and FPS performance reported on a 720 p video. Models are sorted by type (Yolo, EfficientDet), size of the model, and image resolution adopted.

| Model | Image resolution | mAP (mean Average Precision) | Processed FPS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| YoloV5x | 416 x 416 px | 0.451 | 1.25 |
| YoloV55 | 416 x 416 px | 0.328 | 2.48 |
| YoloV5m | 416 x 416 px | 0.402 | 3.11 |
| YoloV5s | 416 x 416 px | 0.333 | 8.70 |
| YoloV5s | 320 x 320 px | 0.299 | 10.75 |
| EfficientDet(D0) | 256 x 256 px | 0.336 | 7 |
| EfficientDet(D1) | 256 x 256 px | 0.394 | 5 |

bounding box $\left(s_{x}, s_{y}\right)$ are set on half image resolution to:

$$
\begin{gather*}
s_{x}=\left(1500 / z_{p}+25\right),  \tag{8}\\
s_{y}=\left(850 / z_{p}+25\right) . \tag{9}
\end{gather*}
$$

$z_{p}$ is the distance from the vessel to the camera in project space, as obtained by equation 3 . The scale factors were empirically chosen to include the vessel and have a minimum size of 25 . An example is shown in figure 1 . To not process unnecessary data, the image is scaled down by 2 and cropped to the upper $(640,192)$ pixels. Besides the hyper-parameters shown in table 2, the default hyper-parameters of YoloV5s were used.

Table 2: Training hyper-parameters that differ from the default values.


### 3.3 Post Processing

Outputs of the networks tend to be noisy. They might detect no ship, a slightly off position, multiple bounding boxes for the same ship, or multiple ships.

First, the trajectories for every ship have to be obtained. Each trajectory uses a Kalman filter (Kalman, 1960) to predict the location in the next frame. All detected ships in the next frame are accounted to the closest trajectory if they are within 80 pixels of the radius. Each trajectory is updated with the closest point that was accounted to it. A trajectory is finished if it is not updated for more than 10 frames. In case no trajectory is found for a detection, it is considered new. Out of those trajectories, the correct one has to be found. The trajectory score is defined as:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\text { score }=c_{0.8 l} \log l . \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

$c$ is the sorted confidence values that YoloV5s issued to the trajectory positions with $l$ being the trajectory
length for all data points $i$ of the trajectory.

$$
\begin{equation*}
l=\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \sqrt{\left(x_{w, i}-x_{w, i+1}\right)^{2}+\left(y_{w, i}-y_{w, i+1}\right)^{2}} \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

$c_{0.8 l}$ represents the 80th percentile of $c$. It was assumed that the trajectory with the highest score was the vessel we were looking for. When the trajectory got cut in the middle, other trajectories were found that would be pre- or appended to the current trajectory by looking at the timestamps.
$x_{p, Y o l o}$ and $y_{p, \text { Yolo }}$ can be obtained directly from the object detector and camera calibration. The bounding box size is used as an additional indicator for distance $z_{p}$ and vertical position $y_{p} . z_{p, s_{x}}$ and $z_{p, s_{y}}$ can be obtained from equation 8 .

$$
\begin{equation*}
y_{p}=\frac{ \pm \frac{1}{z_{p}}-H_{2,0}^{-1} x_{p}-H_{2,0}^{-1}}{H_{2,1}^{-1}} \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

The different predictors are shown in figure 2. The final estimate of the y position is the weighted average:

$$
\begin{equation*}
y_{p}=0.5 y_{\text {Yolo }}+0.25 y_{p, s_{x}}+0.25 y_{p, s_{y}} \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

The parameters were empirically chosen since the position based predictor is less noisy than the bounding box size based predictors, as shown in figure 2. Finally, a Kalman filter is used to smooth the composed trajectory and estimate missing values. Points that have a vertical difference of more than 5 pixels to the smoothed trajectory are considered outliers and masked out. Then the algorithm runs again, 5 times in total. A masked out point may become unmasked if the smoothed trajectory moved closer to it. The effect is shown in figure 3. Then, the GPS coordinate of the vessel can be obtained by reversing the equations in section 3.1. In case the point is above the horizon ( $z_{p}$ has wrong sign), or very far, it is excluded. Missing data points may be obtained using a cubic interpolation of the data. The output is clipped to $[-2000,2000]$ for safety.

All Kalman filters use the following statetransition $F_{k}$, observation $R_{k}$, transition co-variance
$Q_{k}$ and observation co-variance $R_{k}$, with $\Delta$ being the time in seconds between frames:

$$
\begin{align*}
F_{k} & =\left(\begin{array}{llll}
1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right),  \tag{14}\\
H_{k} & =\left(\begin{array}{llll}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0
\end{array}\right),  \tag{15}\\
Q_{k} & =\operatorname{diag}\left(0,1 \Delta^{2}, 0,1 \Delta^{2}\right),  \tag{16}\\
R_{k} & =\operatorname{diag}\left(10^{2}, 10^{2}\right) . \tag{17}
\end{align*}
$$

## 4 RESULTS

All methods were validated on the dataset of the "AI tracks at sea" Challenge (Tall, 2020). This dataset contained 11 videos, each 3 minutes in time, and ground truth GPS positions for the ship.

### 4.1 Camera Parameters

The learner for inferring the camera parameters discovered the following K1 and H values:

$$
\begin{align*}
K_{1} & =-4.053 \cdot 10^{-7}  \tag{19}\\
H & \approx\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
4.41 \cdot 10^{2} & 3.79 \cdot 10^{2} & -1.00 \cdot 10^{3} \\
-2.17 \cdot 10^{2} & -5.65 \cdot 10^{1} & -5.48 \cdot 10^{2} \\
-5.12 \cdot 10^{-1} & -1.44 \cdot 10^{-1} & 1 \cdot 10^{0}
\end{array}\right)
\end{align*}
$$

The results are visualized in figure 4 . The orange line in figure 4 a is characterized by the vanishing points of the plane:

$$
\begin{equation*}
x_{p, h o r} H_{3,1}^{-1}+y_{p, h o r} H_{3,2}^{-1}=-H_{3,3}^{-1} . \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

It matches the actual horizon within 5 pixels. The difference between our hand-labeled points and the project points is shown in figure b . The loss is visible as the mean squared error between the orange and blue points, indicated by the green lines. The camera orientation can also be obtained. With $x_{p, h o r}=x_{c}$ being in the middle of the image and $y_{p, h o r}$ fulfilling equation 20 , the horizon point can be deprojected using:

$$
\left(\begin{array}{c}
x_{w, h o r}  \tag{21}\\
y_{w, h o r} \\
0
\end{array}\right)=H^{-1}\left(\begin{array}{c}
x_{p, h o r} \\
y_{p, h o r} \\
1
\end{array}\right) .
$$

The heading of the camera is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha=\arctan \frac{x_{w, h o r}}{y_{w, h o r}}=76.5^{\circ} \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

This allows for the adjustment of the orientation of the camera by multiplying $\left(x_{w}, y_{w}\right)$ with a 2 D rotation matrix.

### 4.2 Object Detection

14 videos that contained recorded camera imagery of sea vessel traffic along with the recorded GPS track of the vessel of interest were used for this work. The network was trained on 6 Videos ( $7,8,9,10,11$ and 12) and 5 videos $(13,14,15,16$, and 17$)$ were used for validation. Videos 18, 19 and 20 did not have GPS data, so they could only be used for testing. For final results, the network was trained for one additional epoch on the training and validation dataset. The results shown in this paper are without training on the validation set.

Two situations occurred depending on the training length. If YoloV5s was trained for 50 epochs, it was able to distinguish the vessel from other ships like sailboats and jetskis on the training data, but it performed poorly on validation due to overfitting, which started after epoch 20 . After 20 training epochs, YoloV5s not only detected the ship well, but also other ships like sailboats and jetskis. Filtering the correct ship out of all the generated trajectories turned out to be a major source of error.

### 4.3 Post Processing

YoloV5s infers a position that is 2 pixels (on half resolution) above the actual on-screen position needed. Therefore, this was added as a fixed offset to the positions that the network inferred. This could be attributed to the fact that the pre-trained YoloV5s used a different center point on objects. The Kalman filters are able to remember the velocity of each vessel. When two vessels cross each other, they can keep track of both trajectories, as shown in figure 6. In video 18 the model is able to interpolate the out-ofscreen position of the vessel with the information of how the vessel left and reentered the frame.

The result of the final pipeline is shown in figure 7 and figure 8 . The error for 4 out of 5 videos is less than 20 m . The error is also proportional to the distance. At a distance of 150 meters, if the ship at $\left(x_{w}, y_{w}\right)$ moves roughly 10 m away from the camera $((150,50)$ to $(160,53))$, this equates to a vertical change of roughly 0.276 pixels on the half resolution the network is working on. This approach is working with a sub-pixel accuracy.

### 4.4 Performance

On the NVIDIA Jetson Nano used for testing, 5.31 FPS was reached for the whole pipeline. YoloV5s took $72 \%$ of that time, while the other $28 \%$ can be mostly attributed to video decoding. Considering that

1 FPS is enough for the algorithm to produce a stable output, this algorithm is easily capable of running in real-time on low-powered embedded devices.

### 4.5 Validation

The main objective is to validate performance calculating the inference error of the model, which represents the distance in meters from the ground truth position against the distance in meters from the video source. A correlation between these two factors would be valuable for different reasons, starting from the most obvious understanding of how the model is performing to having the possibility of adding a prediction of the error to the pipeline. The possibility of making such a prediction is a great improvement of the whole pipeline, both from a technical as well as user-end perspective. Practically, along the predicted position of the target vessel, the output will be enriched with the approximation of error.

This section explains how to perform the distance estimation of the vessel from the camera. The distance of the predicted point from the ground truth will also be presented, ending with a brief explanation of possible error prediction methods. As mentioned in the Object Detection section, the validation has been performed on five different videos (videos 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17), for a total amount of 713 data points.

### 4.5.1 Distance Estimation

In order to calculate the distance from the camera and the actual error from the predicted point, the Haversine formula ( $\mathrm{M}, 2010$ ) is used. The formula calculates the shortest distance between two points on a sphere using their latitude and longitude, and is expressed as follows:

$$
\begin{equation*}
d=2 r \arcsin \sqrt{\sin ^{2} \frac{\phi_{2}-\phi_{1}}{2}+\cos \phi_{1} \cos \phi_{2} \sin ^{2} \frac{\lambda_{2}-\lambda_{1}}{2}} \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

$r$ is the radius of the earth in meters, $\phi_{1}, \phi_{2}$ is the latitude of the two points, and $\lambda 1, \lambda 2$ is the longitude.

### 4.5.2 Considerations about the Validation Set

The distance from the camera of the target vessel is approximately between 86 and 200 meters for $75 \%$ of the data points, with peaks of 2500 meters. One of the videos, however, represent a particular issue for the validation process, as its frames show the vessel from the back and at a close distance, a point of view which is unique in this dataset. A possible solution could consist of shrinking the testing set by including
the video in the training process. Although this work aims at getting the best performance possible in terms of inference and generalization with a limited amount of data points, we found that the model is not able to generalize to that level in this constrained scenario.

### 4.5.3 Validation Results

As shown in Figures 8 and 9, the error performed by the model is below 20 meters for $80 \%$ of the validation data points, the only outlying points are the ones belonging to Video 17, reaching important errors at high distances. Some of these points represent the model detecting another vessel, which was misleading these predictions. However, it can be noted that the model is able to predict positions around 500 and 1000 meters with a small amount of error. Predictions in the testing dataset have the highest density well below 20 meters, even reaching a precision below a single meter at the highest distances [Figures 8, 9]. It is now possible to use all the extrapolated information to perform error prediction at the end of the pipeline. The first stage of the work predicts the position of the vessel performing on the validation set. After that, the Haversine distance between both the predicted distance and ground truth, as well as the ground truth and camera position, are computed. These two parameters are used to feed the error prediction models and are respectively called prediction error and distance from camera. The experimental results presented include the usage of classic Machine Learning methods, Linear Regression and Support Vector Machine, applied to regression problems, that is, SVR, as well as a Deep Learning approach.

The first concern is, once again, the dataset. A plausible solution is to split the previous validation set according to Videos, excluding video 17. By including video 17 , the predicted distance from the model would only be uncontrolled noise to our dataset, without adding any value to the scope. The training set is now composed of 429 data points belonging to Videos 14,15 and 16 , while the testing set has 143 points from Video 13. SVR adopts an approach similar to Support Vector Machines as Large Margin Classifiers (Cortes and Vapnik, 1995), with the usage of kernel tricks (Aizerman et al., 1964) to create Nonlinear classifiers. The quality of the hyperplane is determined by the points falling inside the decision boundary. The results presented by Table 4 show that a simple network, with only two hidden layers and trained for 5 epochs, is able to reach a Root Mean Squared Error between 4 and 5 meters, using a batch size of 32 data points. The Neural Network performance is also shown by Figure 9. The SVR, using the Radial Basis Function kernel to approximate the nonlinear be-

Table 3: Comparison of tracking accuracy with others. The average error is measured in meters per 100 meters distance. Different cameras, angle of views, target objects, and image resolution make a direct comparison hard to value.

| Paper | Method | Target Object | Image resolution | Avg. error |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (Ali and Hussein, 2016) | Hough Transform | Cars | $480 \times 360$ | $9.71 \%$ |
| (Hu et al., 2019) | Faster R-CNN and 3D box prediction | Cars | $1392 \times 512$ | $7.40 \%$ |
| (Dhall, 2018) | YoloV2 and keypoint prediction | Cone | Not stated | $6.25 \%$ |
| Ours | YoloV5s | Vessel | $640 \times 360$ | $5.55 \%$ |

Table 4: The Root Mean Squared Error - RMSE - in meters from the actual predicted point.

| Method | RMSE |
| :---: | :---: |
| DNN | 4.95 |
| Linear Regression | 6.88 |
| SVR(Linear) | 6.96 |
| SVR(Polynomial) | 8.35 |
| SVR(RBF) | 6.04 |

haviour, was initially prone to overfitting, achieving worse results then the Linear kernel on the testing set. To overcome this undesirable situation, the allowed margin error was increased in the training set. This allowed to generalize better than the Linear Regression and SVR models. The final linear regression learned is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tilde{e}=0.0555 d . \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

This means that the accuracy of the pipeline is 5.55 m per 100 m distance. More data points and further experimentation would, of course, strengthen the inference capabilities of these models. Error prediction can play a significant role in the pipeline depending on the use case where this methodology could be applied. In fact, external decision-making systems could opt for a certain action, or verification, depending on the detected distance of the object.

## 5 DISCUSSION AND FUTURE WORK

The results in table 3 show that our model reaches state-of-the-art precision when compared with other methodologies. However, comparisons are imprecise, because of many factors like the angle of view, resolution, camera position or target object that could influence the result. Our approach efficiently exploits GPS data with a fast and reliable inference for closer distances, bringing great advantage in terms of possible useful insights, like a subsequent precise distance estimation.

We can figure different applications in both small and large scenarios. For example, tracking a car in a parking lot, where the camera is close and the accuracy proved to be high. A larger use-case might be keeping track of traffic in a container ship port or
airport, where the camera is further away but the objects are larger, and in this way this approach maintains the same relative accuracy. This method could also be easily extended for cases with $z_{w} \neq 0$, as long as there is a clear mapping from $\left(x_{w}, y_{w}\right) \rightarrow z_{w}$ and $\left(x_{p}, y_{p}\right) \rightarrow z_{p}$.

As stated, the average error is 5.55 m per 100 m distance and the network is able to track the ship within a sub-pixel resolution, which is crucial for distance reliability. The accuracy could be further improved by using a steeper camera angle and more training data, as well as the performance in terms of FPS improved adopting TensorRT network definition APIs and 8-bit inference(Migacz, 2017). A particular challenge for the network is to learn to distinguish the vessel from other ships like jet-skis or sailboats. This leads to the problem that multiple ships may be detected. A style detector, as presented in (Wojke et al., 2017), could be used to differentiate between different ships. When the object is moving quickly or the data point resolution is poor, the algorithm struggles with inferring the trajectories. For ships, a data point every second is recommended.

In edge cases, for example when the ship leaves the frame, the whole pipeline is very sensitive to the hyper-parameters chosen, for example, how long a trajectory lasts without new positions. In more standard situations, when the ship is in a reasonable distance and well visible, the algorithm is stable and precise. Since our approach requires a single frame every second, it can easily be run on resource constrained devices at the edge achieving a low inference time, while being able to track a specific vessel as well as multiple different ones, depending on the needs and training data available.

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Figure 1: Example of bounding box size. It is empirically chosen to fit the boat.


Figure 2: The $y_{p}$ by the two bounding-box-size-based estimators as in equation 12 and the bounding-box-center-based predictor.

(a) Effect of the Kalman filter for smoothing the trajectory in screen coordinates.


(b) Effect of the Kalman filter for smoothing the trajectory in world coordinates.

Figure 3: The Kalman filters are a crucial step in obtaining a smooth trajectory, particularly for lateral movement.

(a) Visualization of the learned camera parameters. The grid shows 10 meter squares, with $100>x_{w}>10$ and $100>y_{w}>0$. Note the effect of the lens distortion, and how the orange line matches the horizon. The blue vanishing point is exactly east.

(b) The difference between our hand labeled points and the projected GPS coordinates.

Figure 4: Evaluation of the Camera Parameters.

(a) An example of a GPS track mapped into the video. Note that the camera is facing eastwards and not perfectly horizontal. The green lines indicate the rectangle $x_{s} \in[0,1280], y_{s} \in[440,720]$.

(b) Brute force evaluation of the lens distortion parameter $K_{1}$

Figure 5: Evaluation of the Camera Parameters.


Figure 6: Green is the smoothed trajectory of the vessel. White/Grey is the trajectory of a ship in general (white when it got detected in this frame, grey if it has not been detected in the current frame and position is guessed). Red are detected points in the image. They may be obscured by the white points. When the vessel is behind the sailboat, the grey and green point estimate the position.


Figure 7: Validation of the complete pipeline using Video 15. Showing the Ground Truth track of the vessel (orange line) against the predicted one (blue line).


Figure 8: Distribution of the error in meters, output of our pipeline. $80 \%$ of the predictions have an error below 20 meters.



Figure 9: Visualization of the error prediction performance on the error prediction validation set. The linear regression show the average error is 5.55 m per 100 m distance from camera. The distance of the target vessel from the camera, against the error in meters produced by the predictions is plotted, with the training data points in blue and validation in orange. The learned regression from the Linear Regression modelling (light-blue) and the Deep Neural Network (red) is showed.


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