

3D Mapping Aided GNSS Using Gauss-Newton Algorithm: An example on GNSS shadow matching

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Session B4b: Applications of GNSS Measurements from Smartphones,
ION GNSS+ 2021, 20-24 Sep 2021, Virtual

Urban GNSS Positioning

Line-of-sight (LOS) signal:

$$\rho^i = D^i + c(\delta t_r - \delta t^i) + T^i + I^i + \varepsilon^i$$

$$\phi^i = D^i + c(\delta t_r - \delta t^i) + T^i + I^i + \varepsilon^i + \lambda^i N^i$$

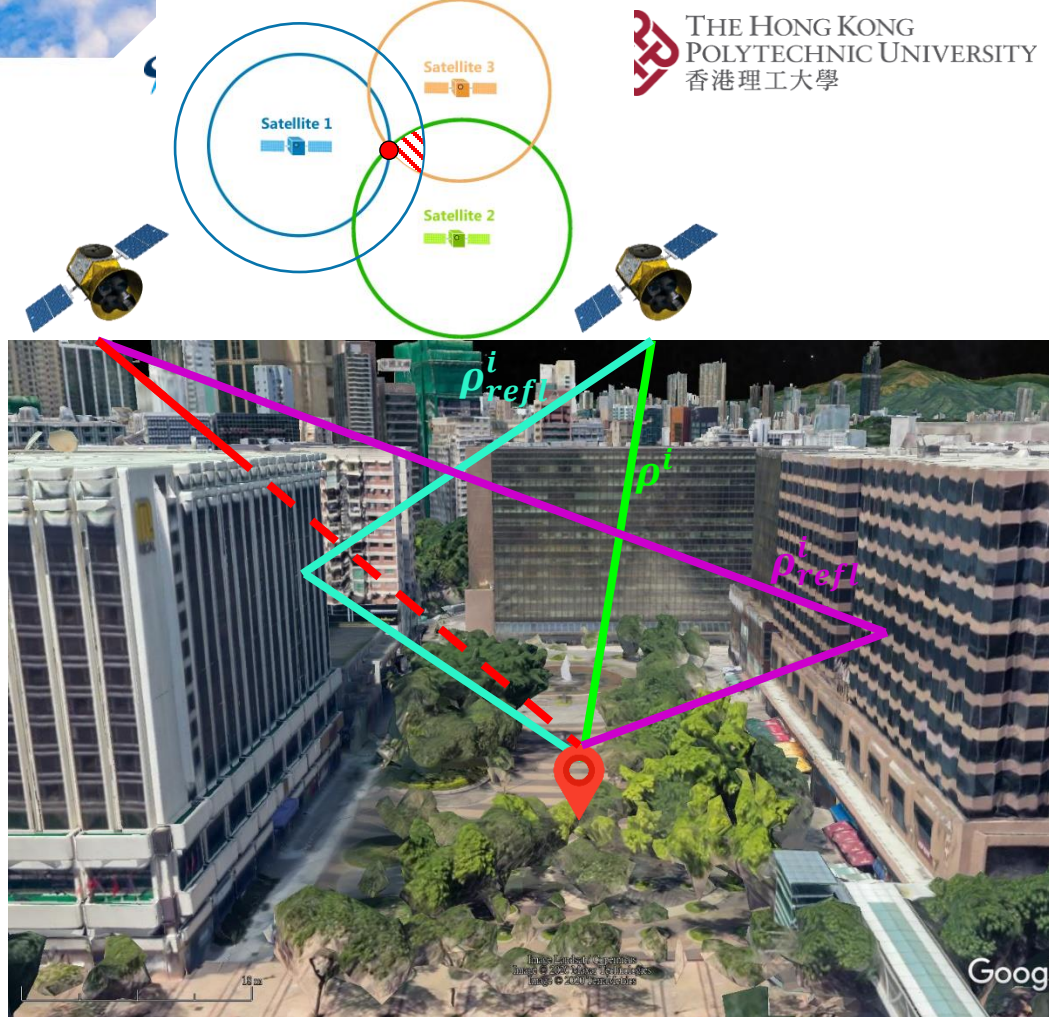
Reflected signal:

$$\rho_{refl}^i = D^i + c(\delta t_r - \delta t^i) + T^i + I^i + \varepsilon_{refl}^i + \varepsilon^i$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{refl}^i \\ = D^i + c(\delta t_r - \delta t^i) + T^i + I^i + \lambda^i N^i + \varepsilon_{refl}^i + \varepsilon^i \end{aligned}$$

NLOS reception: **LOS signal** is blocked
only receiving **reflected signal**

Multipath: receiving both **LOS signal** and
reflected signal



Popular 3D Mapping Aided (3DMA) GNSS

Shadow matching
(Satellite Visibility)

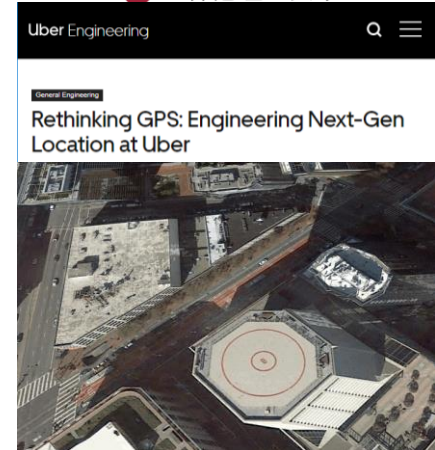
GNSS Ray-tracing
(Range and C/N_0)



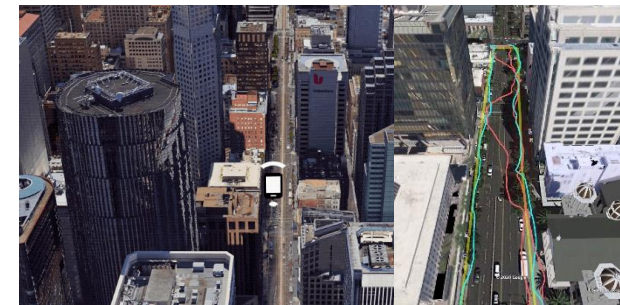
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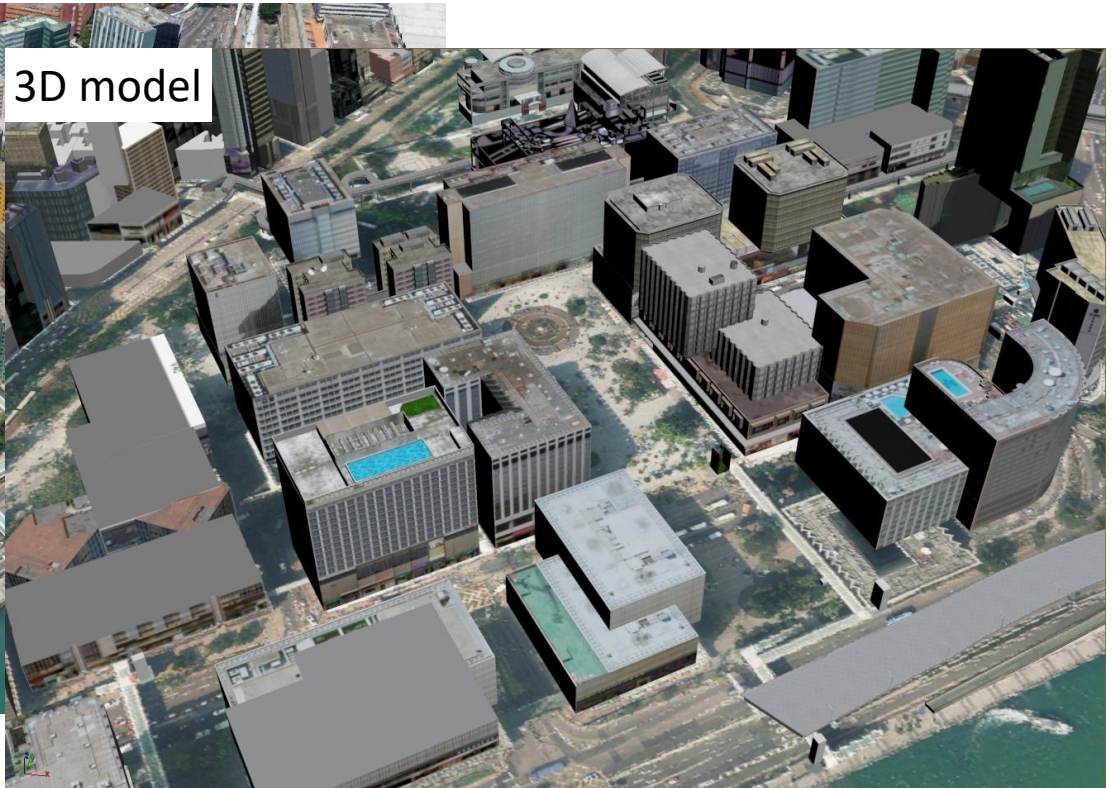
[Uber: Rethinking GPS: Engineering Next-Gen Location at Uber](#)



[Google: Improving urban GPS accuracy for your app](#)

Powerful Resources: 3D Building Model!

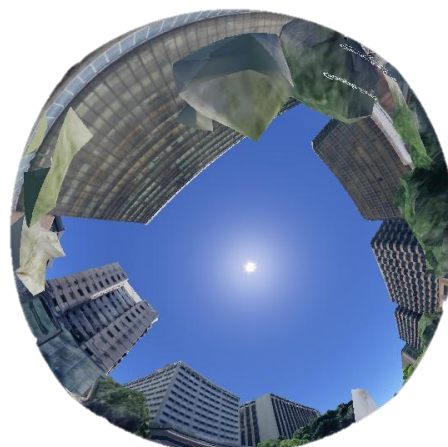
Environment



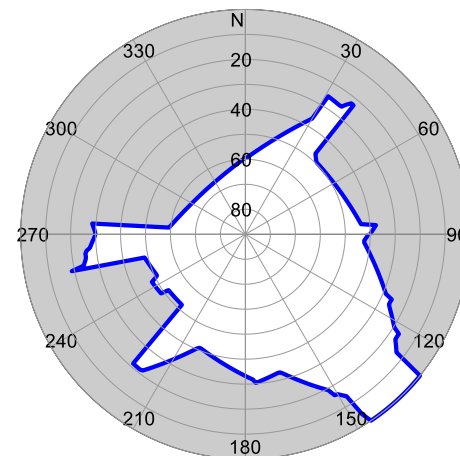
Powerful Resources: 3D Building Model!



Select a location

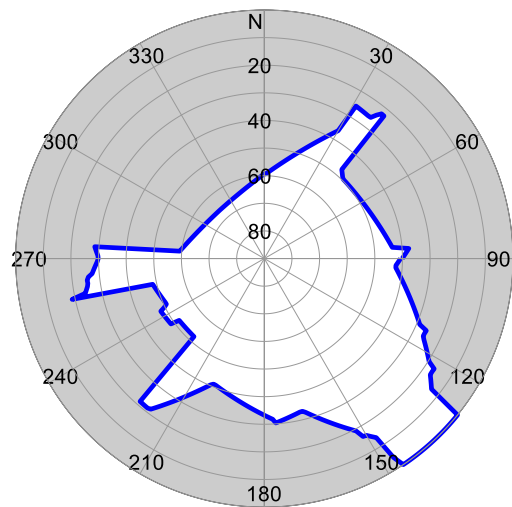


Extract
surrounding 3D
model



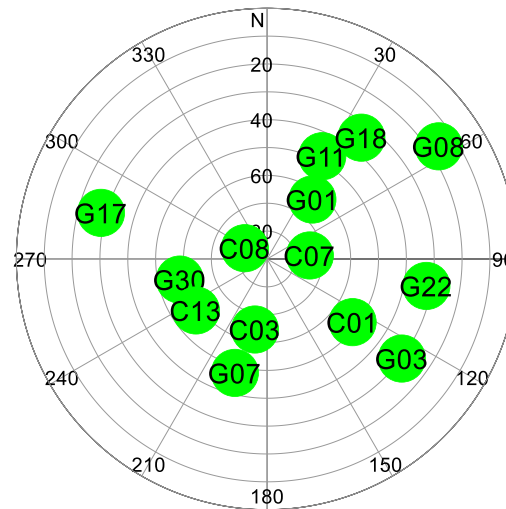
Identify blockage
(Skymask)

Skymask – skyplot with building boundaries



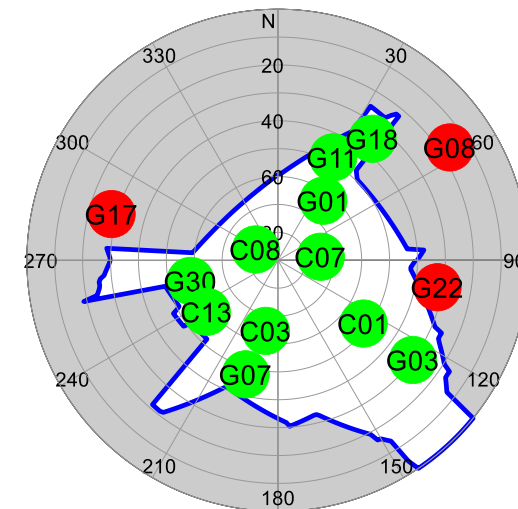
Skymask
by 3D building model

+



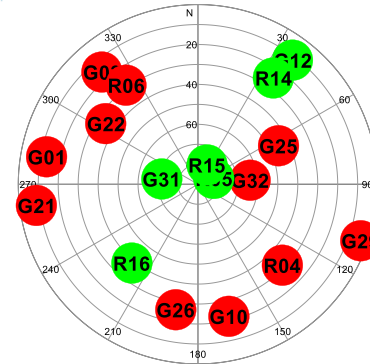
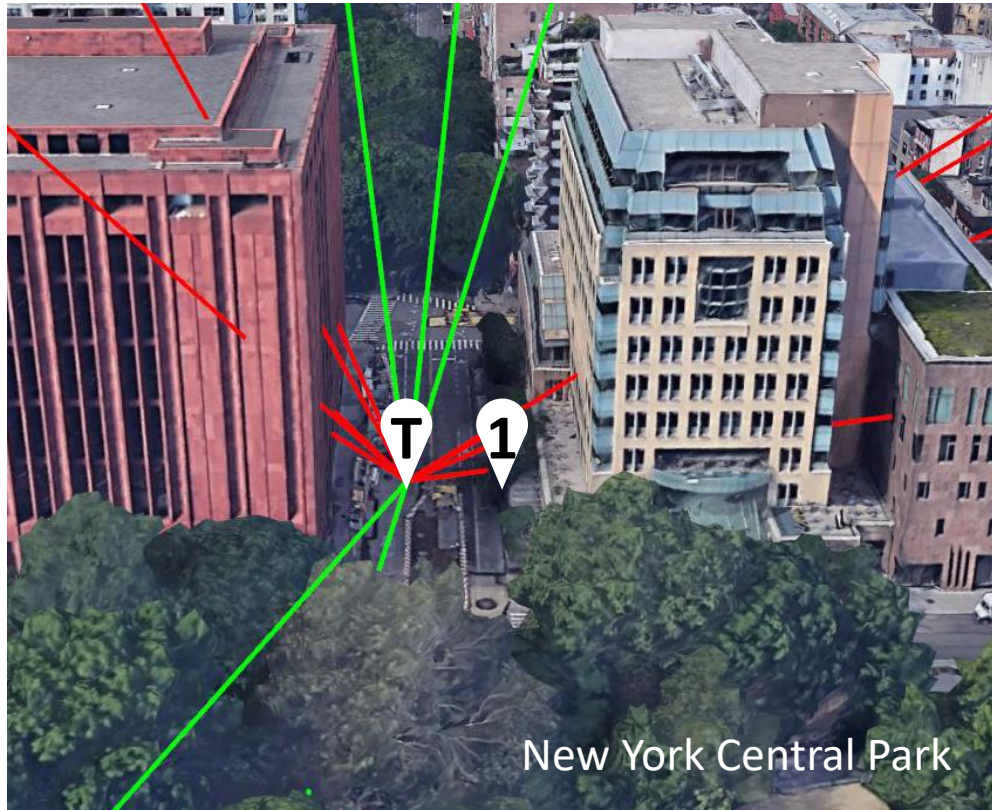
Skyplot
at receiver

=



Visibility prediction

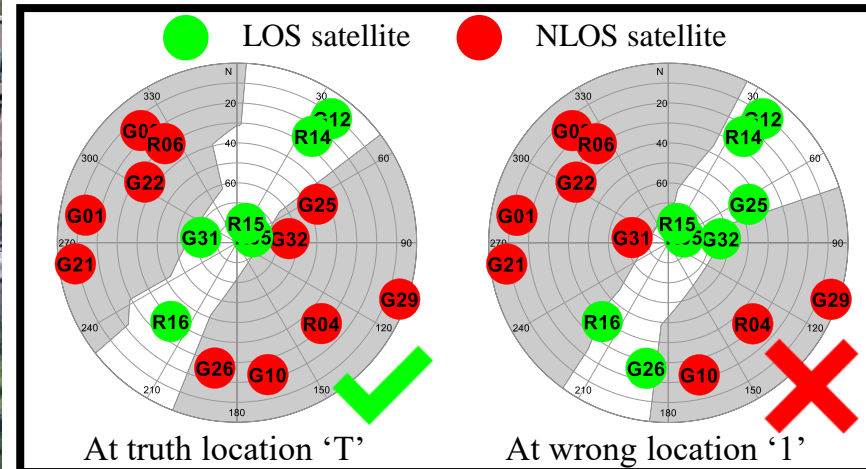
Shadow Matching



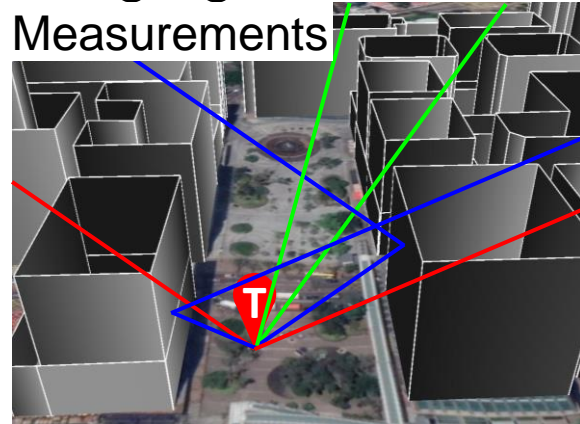
- Received satellite
- Not received satellite

Received satellite

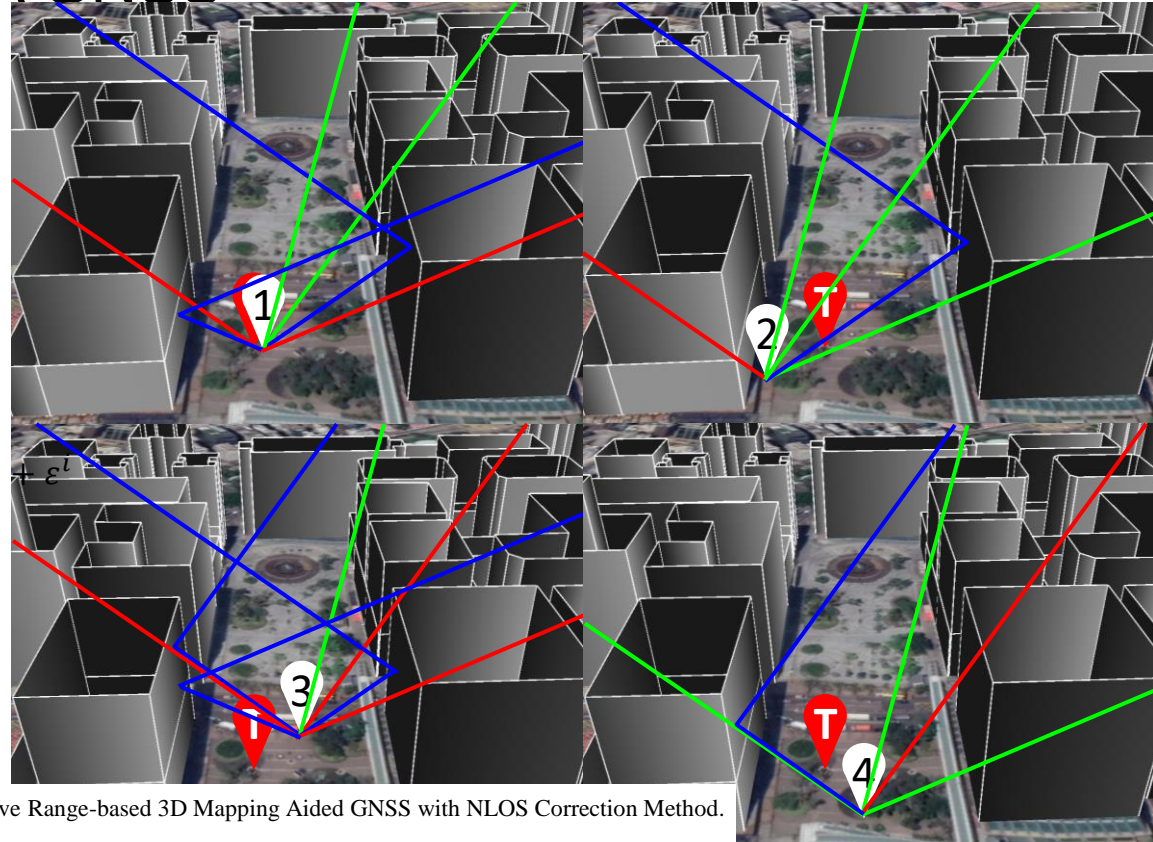
Satellite visibility prediction



Ranging-Based 3DMA GNSS



Simulated Pseudorange



$$\rho_{j,refl}^i = D_j^i + c(\delta t_r - \delta t^i) + T^i + I^i + \epsilon_{j,refl}^i + \epsilon^i$$

Candidate	Similarity
1	Very high
2	High
3	Low
4	Low

[2] Ng, H.-F., Zhang, G., & Hsu, L.-T. (2020). A Computation Effective Range-based 3D Mapping Aided GNSS with NLOS Correction Method. *Journal of Navigation*, 1-21.

[3] Hsu, L.-T., Hu, Y., & Kamijo, S. (2016). 3D building model-based pedestrian positioning method using GPS/GLONASS/QZSS and its reliability calculation. *GPS Solutions*. 20(3). 413-428.

Shadow Matching v.s. Ranging Based 3DMA

Criteria	Shadow Matching [1]	Skymask 3DMA [2] & Ray-Tracing 3DMA [3,4]	Likelihood-Based Ranging GNSS [5]
Input parameters	Satellite position Positioning candidate position and its skymask	Satellite position Positioning candidate position and its enhanced skymask	Pseudorange difference
Similarity basis	Satellite visibility	Pseudorange	Pseudorange
Correction based	/	Geometry	Statistical
Available correction			Reflection delay and some noise
Uncertainty	Satellite position uncertainty Satellite near buildings		Thickness of selected master satellite

These can be combined and integrating with L5-band measurements!! [6]

[1] Groves, P. (2011). Shadow Matching: A New GNSS Positioning Technique for Urban Canyons. *Journal of Navigation*, 64(3), 417-430. doi:10.1017/S0373463311000087

[2] Ng, H.-F., Zhang, G., & Hsu, L.-T. (2020). A Computation Effective Range-based 3D Mapping Aided GNSS with NLOS Correction Method. *Journal of Navigation*, 1-21.

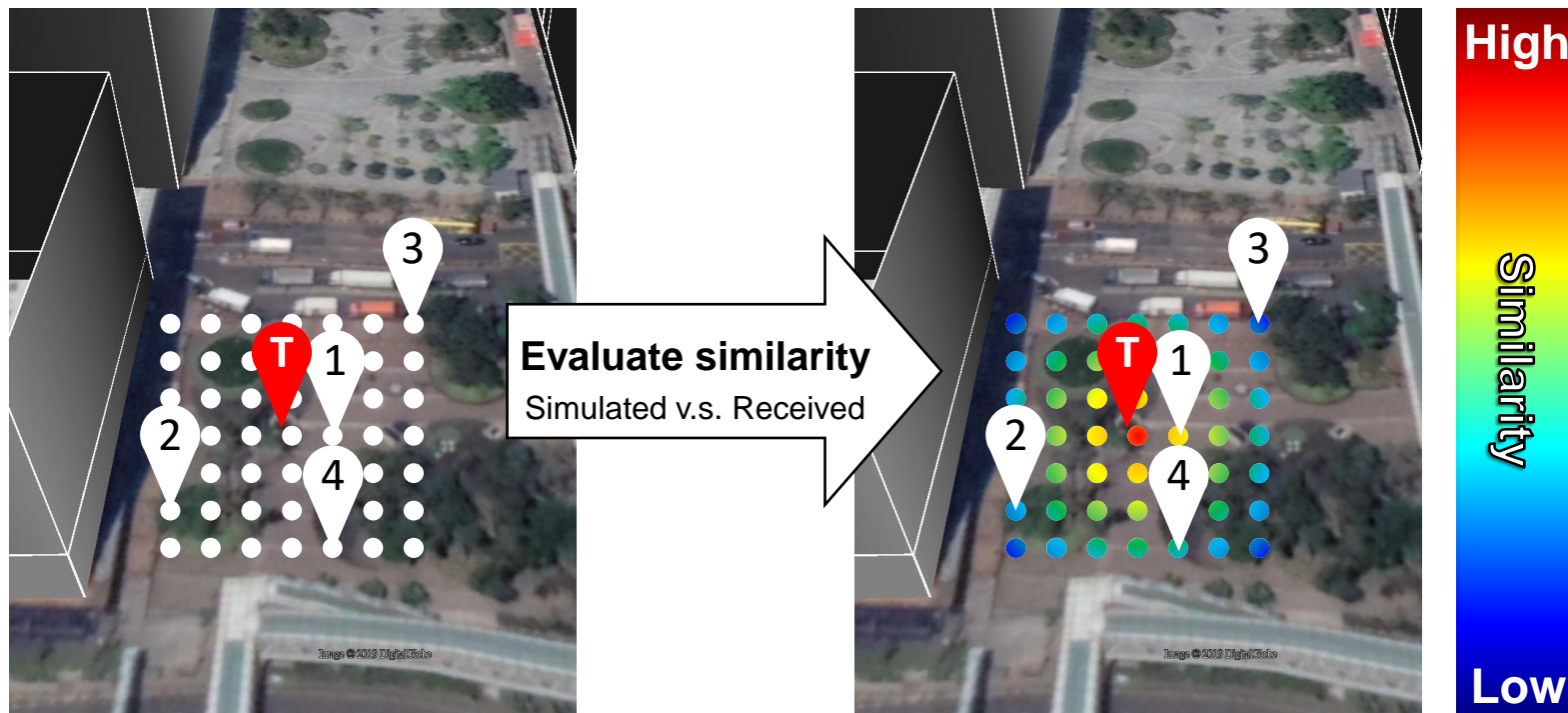
[3] Hsu, L.-T., Hu, Y., & Kamijo, S. (2016). 3D building model-based pedestrian positioning method using GPS/GLONASS/QZSS and its reliability calculation. *GPS Solutions*, 20(3), 413-428.

[4] Miura, S., Hsu, L.-T., & Chen, F. (2015). GPS Error Correction With Pseudorange Evaluation Using Three-Dimensional Maps. *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, 16(6), 3104-3115.

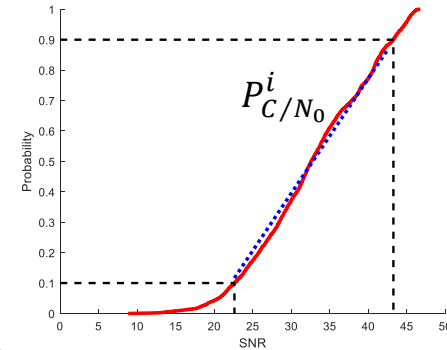
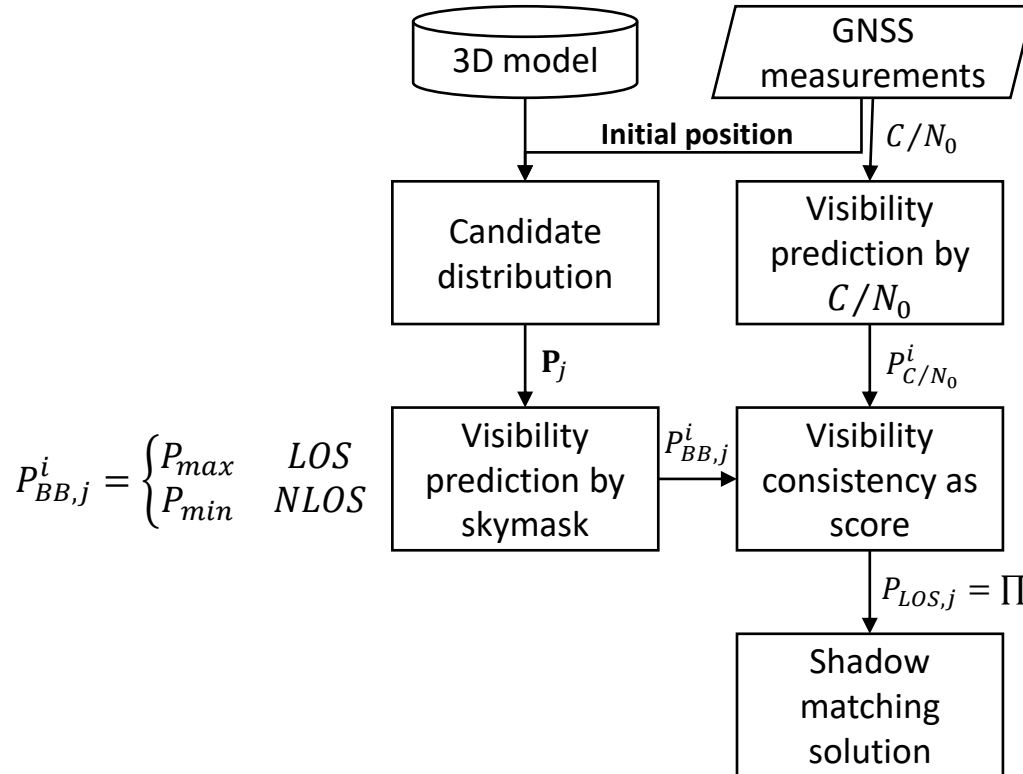
[5] Groves, P. D., Zhong, Q., Faragher, R., & Esteves, P. (2020). Combining Inertially-aided Extended Coherent Integration (Supercorrelation) with 3D-Mapping-Aided GNSS. *ION GNSS+ 2020*.

[6] Ng, H.F., Zhang, G., L., Y. & Hsu, L. (2021). Urban Positioning: 3D Mapping Aided GNSS using Dual-Frequency Pseudorange Measurements from Smartphones. *Journal of Institute of Navigation*. (Accepted).

Positioning Hypothesis Candidate-Based Evaluation



Candidate-Based Shadow Matching



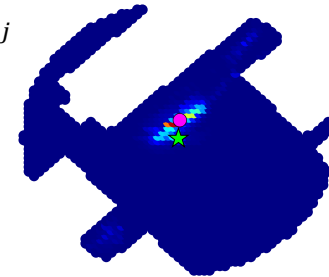
$$P_{C/N_0}^i = a_0 + a_1(C/N_0) + a_2(C/N_0)^2$$

$$P_{BB,j}^i = \begin{cases} P_{max} & LOS \\ P_{min} & NLOS \end{cases}$$

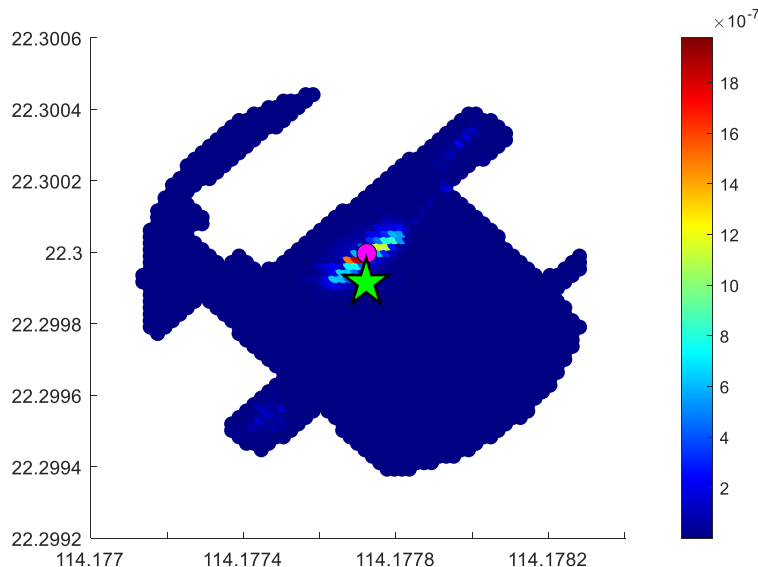
$$P_{LOS,j}^i = P_{BB,j}^i \times P_{C/N_0}^i + (1 - P_{BB,j}^i)(1 - P_{C/N_0}^i)$$

$$= 1 + 2P_{BB,j}^i P_{C/N_0}^i - P_{BB,j}^i - P_{C/N_0}^i$$

$$P_{LOS,j} = \prod P_{LOS,1...j}^i$$



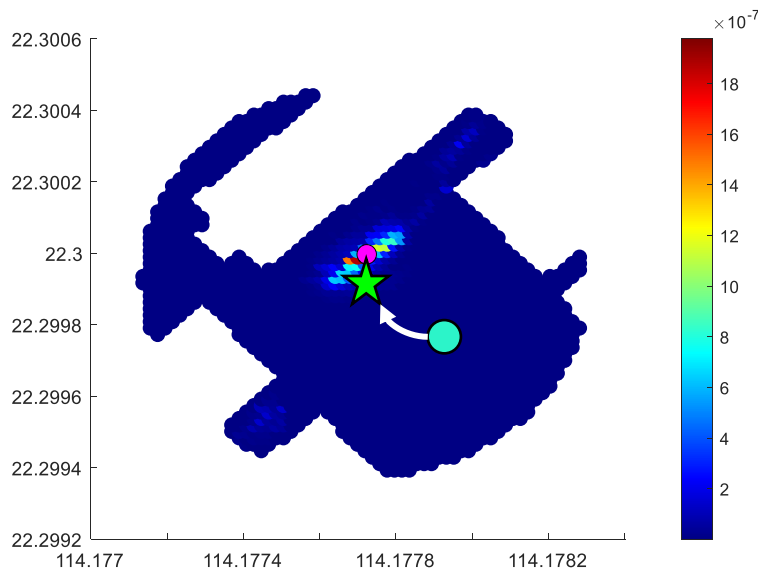
Candidate-Based Shadow Matching



Limitations...

1. Unwanted computation load created
(blue area)
2. Candidates need to cover real location
to achieve best performance

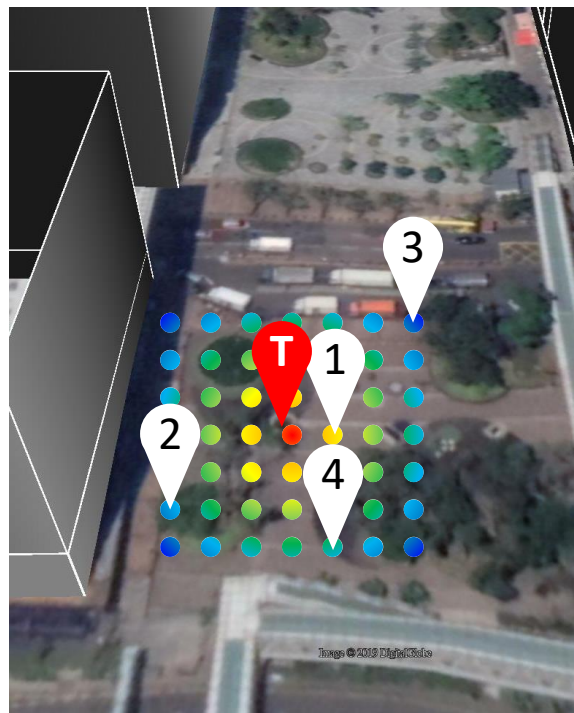
Candidate-Based Shadow Matching



What if...

we can identify solution directly by
considering the problem as **optimization
problem?**

Mathematical Expression



High

Similarity

Low

Objective:

Find a position that best match
measurements and prediction

$$\mathbf{x} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{x}} \left\| \begin{array}{c} \text{received} \\ \text{measurements} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{estimated} \\ \text{measurements}_{\mathbf{x}} \end{array} \right\|$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{x}} \| \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{\mathbf{x}} \| = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{x}} \| \mathbf{y} - F(\mathbf{x}) \|$$

A Step Back to Shadow Matching

Objective function, visibility consistency: $P_{LOS,j}^i = P_{BB,j}^i \times P_{C/N_0}^i + (1 - P_{BB,j}^i)(1 - P_{C/N_0}^i)$

Visibility prediction by skymask: $P_{BB,j}^i = \begin{cases} P_{max} & LOS \\ P_{min} & NLOS \end{cases}$

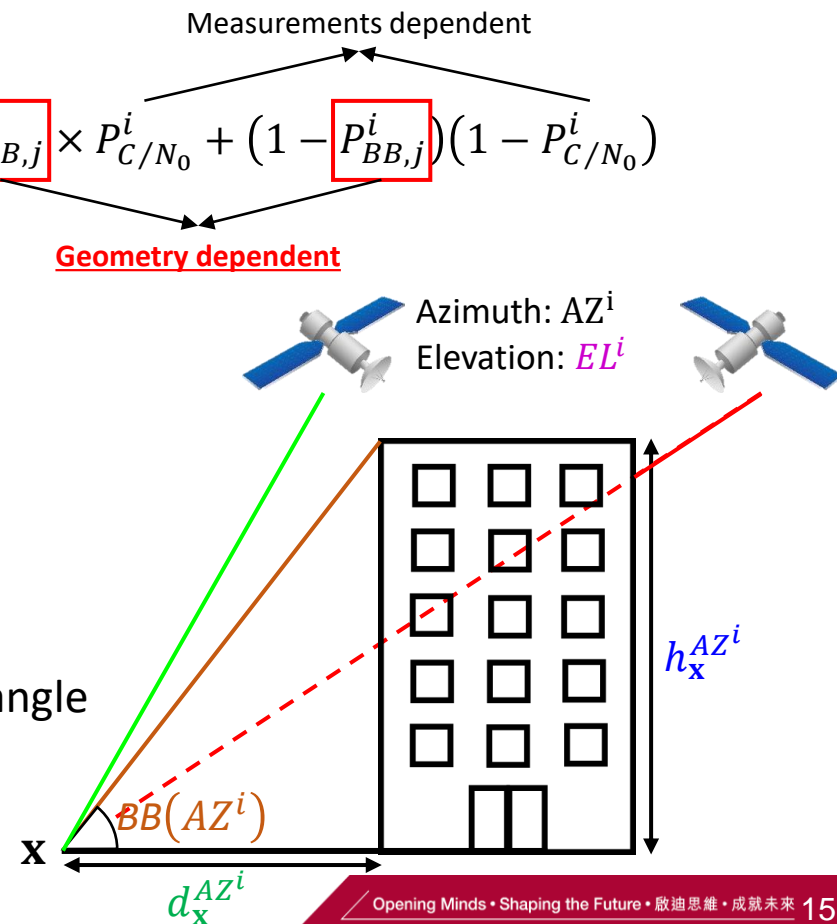
$P_{BB}^i(\mathbf{x}) \propto [EL^i - BB(AZ^i)]$

$EL^i - BB(AZ^i) = EL^i - \tan^{-1} \frac{h_x^{AZ^i}}{d_x^{AZ^i}} = \begin{cases} LOS & > 0 \\ NLOS & \leq 0 \end{cases}$

$P_{BB}^i(\mathbf{x}) \propto \tanh \left(EL^i - BB(AZ^i) \right) \times \tau + \frac{1}{2}$
Scaling factor

Move position \mathbf{x} to change the building elevation angle

	$EL^i - BB(AZ^i)$	$BB(AZ^i)$	$d_x^{AZ^i}$
LOS → NLOS	negative	↑	↓
NLOS → LOS	positive	↓	↑



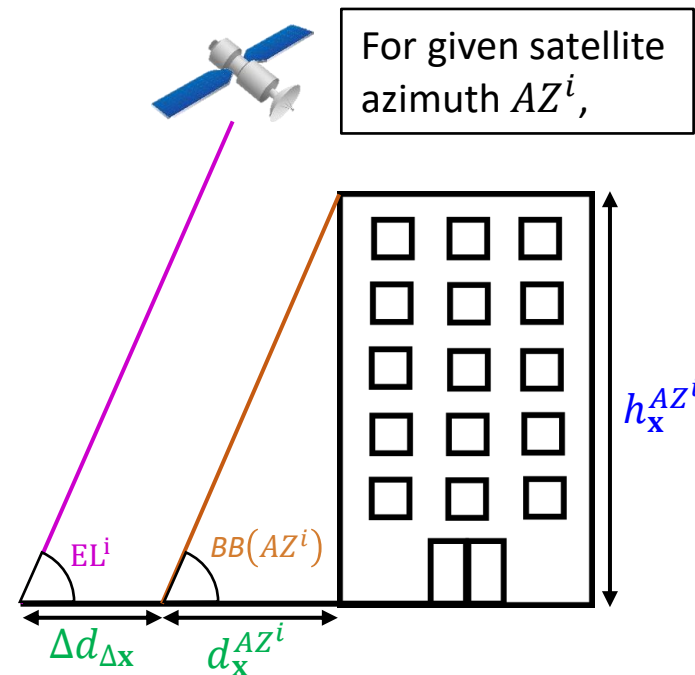
Modelling 3D Model Prediction with State \mathbf{x}

State (position) $\mathbf{x} = (East, North)$

$$P_{BB}^i(\mathbf{x}) \propto \tanh\left(\mathbf{EL}^i - BB(AZ^i)\right)$$

$$P_{BB}^i(\mathbf{x}) \propto \tanh\left(\mathbf{EL}^i - \tan^{-1} \frac{h_x^{AZ^i}}{|d_x^{AZ^i} + \Delta d_{\Delta x}|}\right)$$

$$P_{BB}^i(\mathbf{x}) = \tanh\left[\alpha \left(\mathbf{EL}^i - \tan^{-1} \frac{h_x^{AZ^i}}{|d_x^{AZ^i} + \Delta d_{\Delta x}|}\right)\right] \times \tau + \frac{1}{2}$$



Modelling 3D Model Prediction with State \mathbf{x}

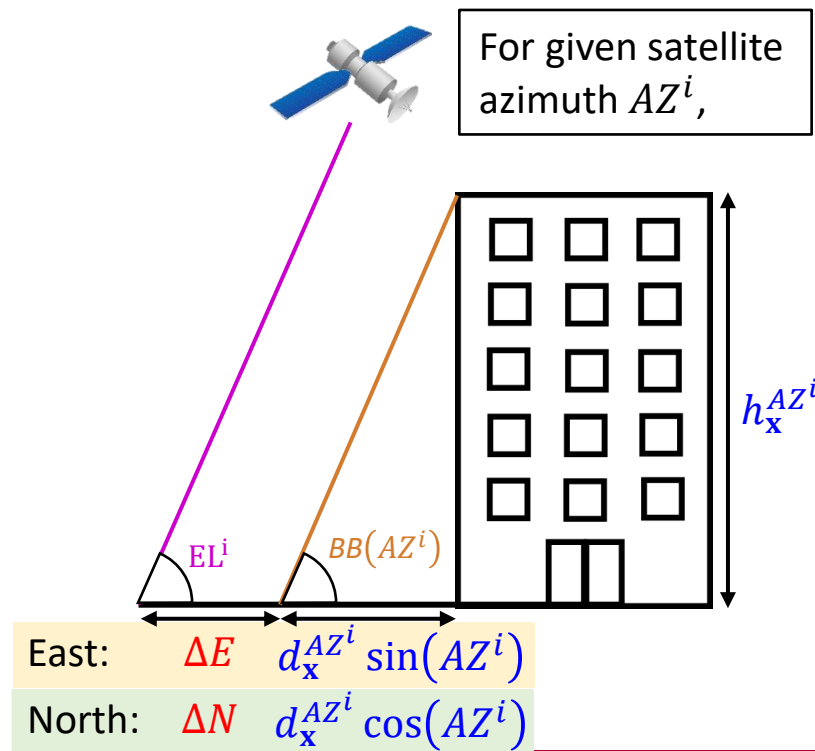
$$P_{BB}^i(\mathbf{x}) = \tanh \left[\alpha \left(\text{EL}^i - \tan^{-1} \frac{h_x^{AZ^i}}{|d_x^{AZ^i} + \Delta d_{\Delta x}|} \right) \right] \times \tau + \frac{1}{2}$$

Disassemble $|d_x^{AZ^i} + \Delta d_{\Delta x}|$ into **2D-case**,

$$|d_x^{AZ,i} + \Delta d_{\Delta x}| = \sqrt{E_{total}^2 + N_{total}^2}$$

$$\Delta E_{total} = -d_x^{AZ^i} \sin(AZ^i) + \Delta E$$

$$\Delta N_{total} = -d_x^{AZ^i} \cos(AZ^i) + \Delta N$$

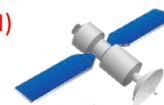


Modelling 3D Model Prediction with State \mathbf{x}

Blue: Retrieving from database based on the state (E, N) and satellite azimuth AZ^i and elevation EL^i angle

Red: Function / variable related to state (E, N)

$$P_{BB}^i(\mathbf{x}) = \tanh \left[\alpha \left(EL^i - \tan^{-1} \frac{h_x^{AZ^i}}{\sqrt{(\Delta E - d_x^{AZ,i} \sin(AZ^i))^2 + (\Delta N - d_x^{AZ,i} \cos(AZ^i))^2}} \right) \right] \times \tau + \frac{1}{2}$$



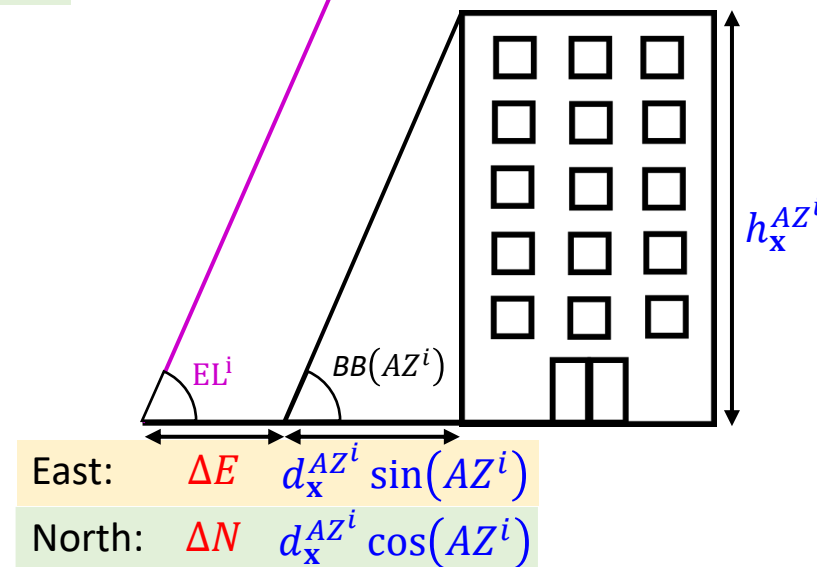
For given satellite azimuth AZ^i ,

Disassemble $|d_x^{AZ^i} + \Delta d_{\Delta x}|$ into **2D-case**,

$$|d_x^{AZ,i} + \Delta d_{\Delta x}| = \sqrt{E_{total}^2 + N_{total}^2}$$

$$\Delta E_{total} = -d_x^{AZ^i} \sin(AZ^i) + \Delta E$$

$$\Delta N_{total} = -d_x^{AZ^i} \cos(AZ^i) + \Delta N$$



Summarize on Objective Function & Nonlinear Least Squares

Optimization problem $\mathbf{x} = \underset{\mathbf{x}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \| \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) \|$

State (position) $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2]^T = [\Delta E, \Delta N]^T$

Blue: Retrieving from database based on the state (E, N) and satellite azimuth AZ^i and elevation EL^i angle
Red: Function / variable related to state (E, N)

Measurements $P_{C/N_0}^i = a_0 + a_1(C/N_0) + a_2(C/N_0)^2$

Estimations $P_{BB}^i(\mathbf{x}) = \tanh \left[\alpha \left(EL^i - \tan^{-1} \frac{h_x^{AZ,i}}{\sqrt{(\Delta E - d_x^{AZ,i} \sin(AZ^i))^2 + (\Delta N - d_x^{AZ,i} \cos(AZ^i))^2}} \right) \right] \times \tau + \frac{1}{2}$

Visibility consistency $P_{LOS}^i = P_{BB}^i \times P_{C/N_0}^i + (1 - P_{BB}^i)(1 - P_{C/N_0}^i)$

Objective function $f^i(\mathbf{x}) = -\log(P_{LOS}^i)$

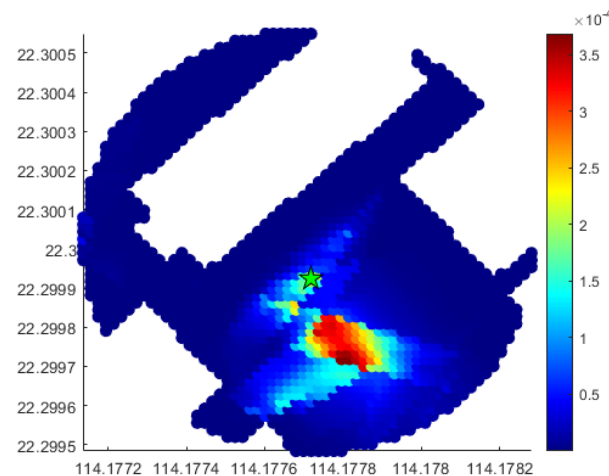
Error function $e(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F}$

Objective function $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = [f^1(\mathbf{x}) \dots f^i(\mathbf{x})]^T$

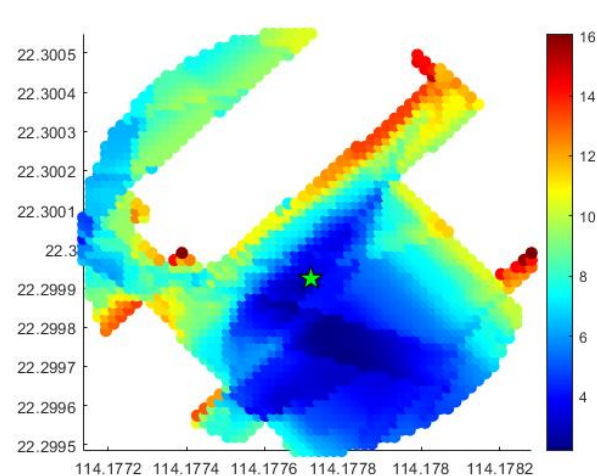
Jacobian matrix $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) = \nabla \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f^1}{\partial E} & \frac{\partial f^1}{\partial N} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f^i}{\partial E} & \frac{\partial f^i}{\partial N} \end{bmatrix}$

Gauss-Newton method $\mathbf{x}^n = \mathbf{x}^{n-1} - \left[\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}^{n-1})^T \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}^{n-1}) \right]^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}^{n-1}) \cdot \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}^{n-1})$

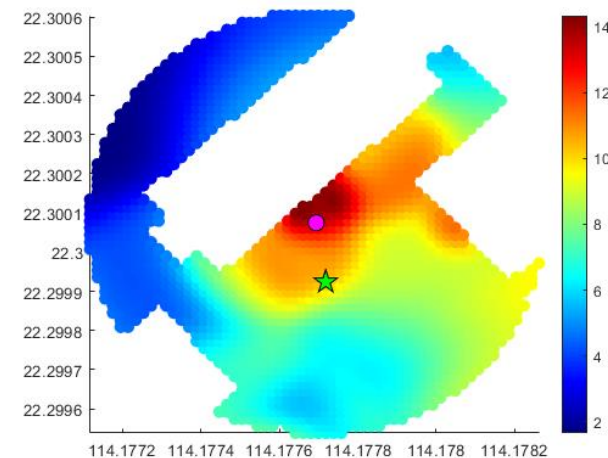
Change of estimated measurements



Candidate-based $P_{LOS,j}$

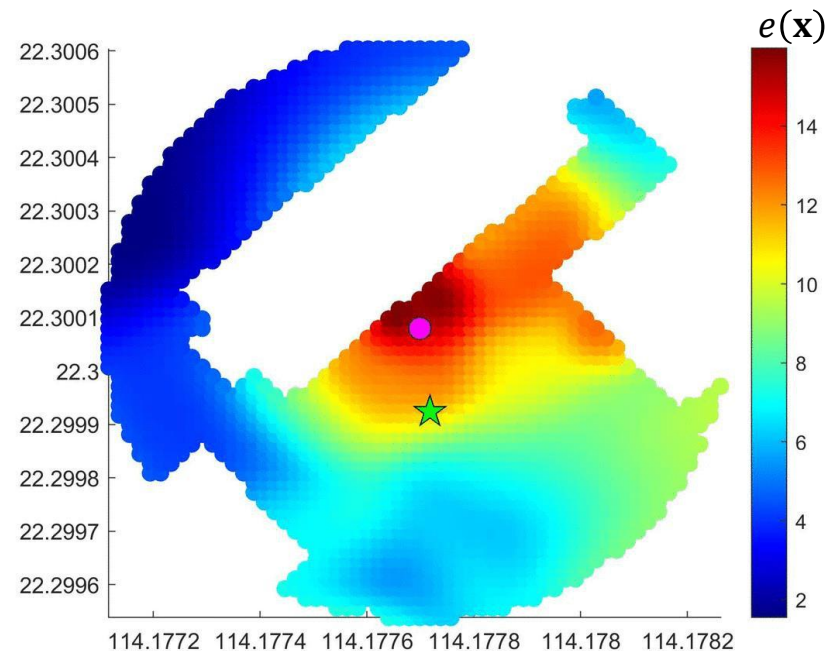
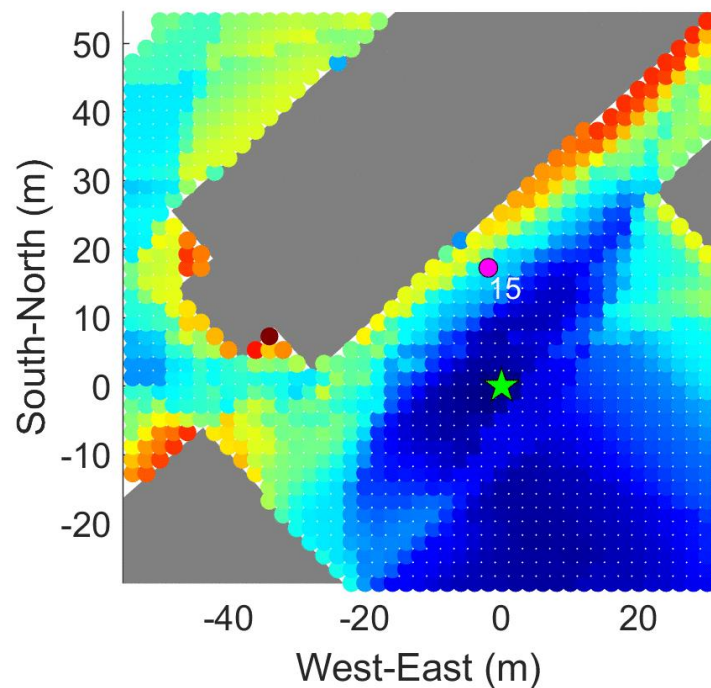


Proposed modelling $e(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})\|^2$
 $h_{\mathbf{x}}^{AZ,i}$ & $d_{\mathbf{x}}^{AZ,i}$ based on each location, \mathbf{x}



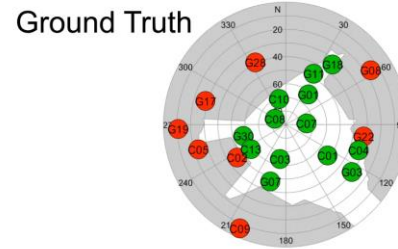
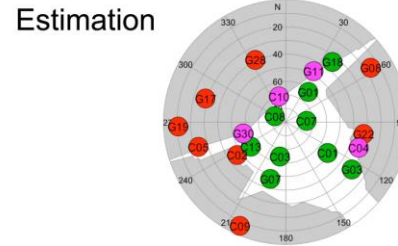
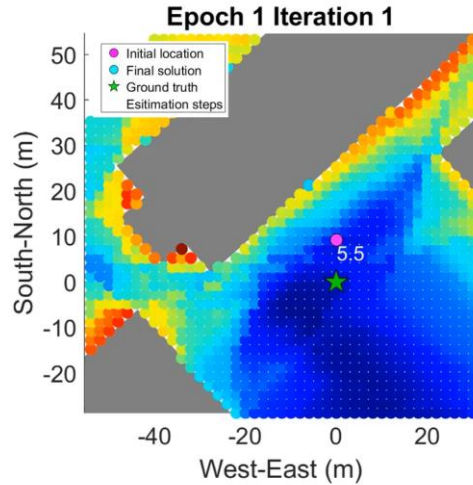
Proposed modelling $e(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})\|^2$
 $h_{\mathbf{x}}^{AZ,i}$ & $d_{\mathbf{x}}^{AZ,i}$ based on initial location, \mathbf{x}^0

Is location dependent variables important?



Proposed modelling $e(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x})\|^2$
 $h_{\mathbf{x}}^{AZ,i}$ & $d_{\mathbf{x}}^{AZ,i}$ based on initial location, \mathbf{x}^0

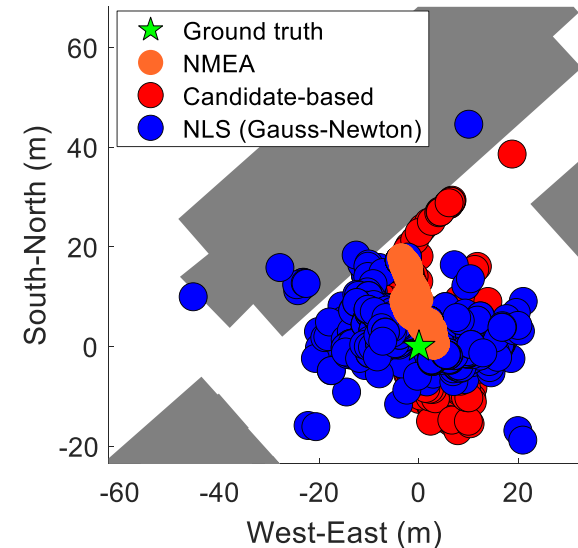
Experiment Results (1)



GPS(L1)+BDS(B1)
Candidate distribution
Radius: 40m
Separation: 2m
Initial location: NMEA

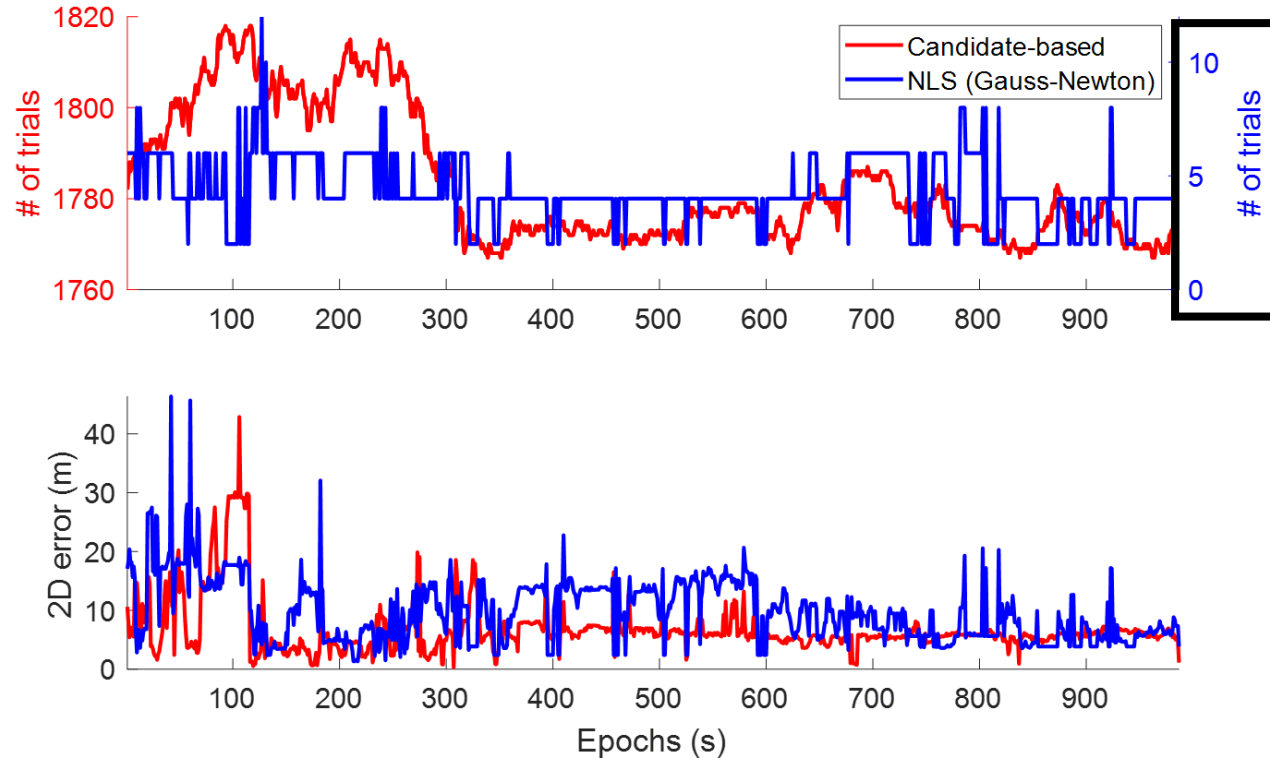


(Mi 8)

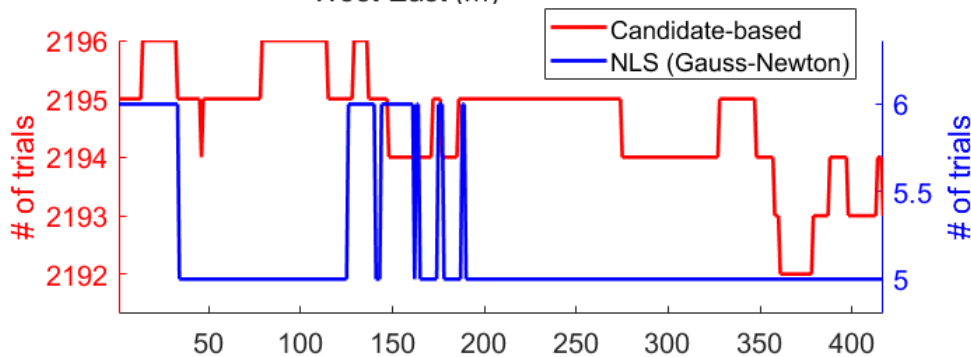
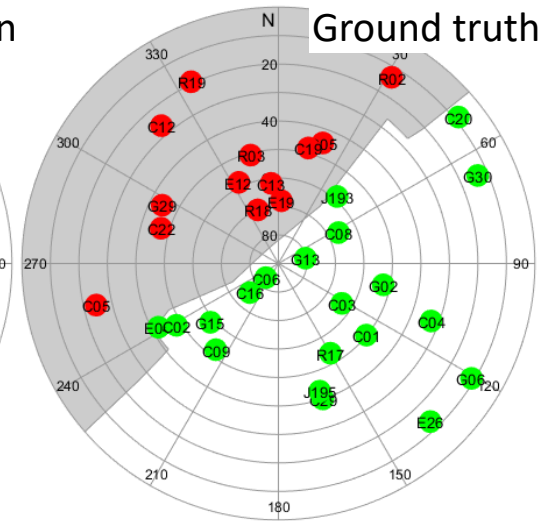
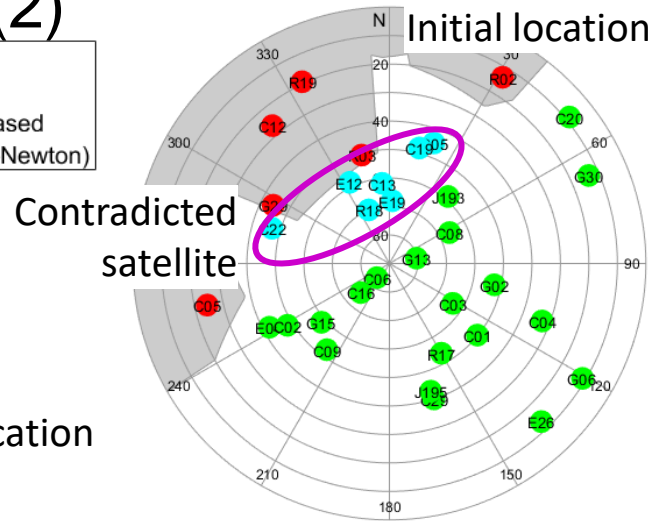
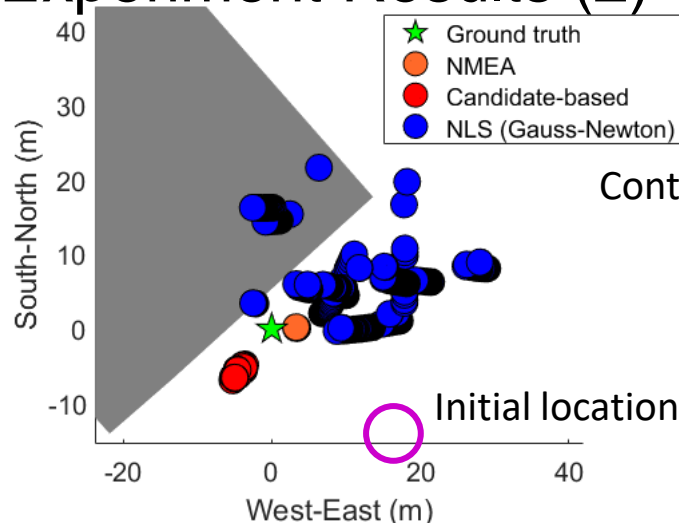


<u>Unit: meter</u>	NEMA	Candidate-based	Gauss-Newton Algorithm
RMS	7.57	8.26	11.11
Mean	6.26	6.78	9.74
STD	4.25	4.73	5.33
MAX	18.22	42.90	46.39
MIN	2.90	0.31	1.32

Experiment Results (1)

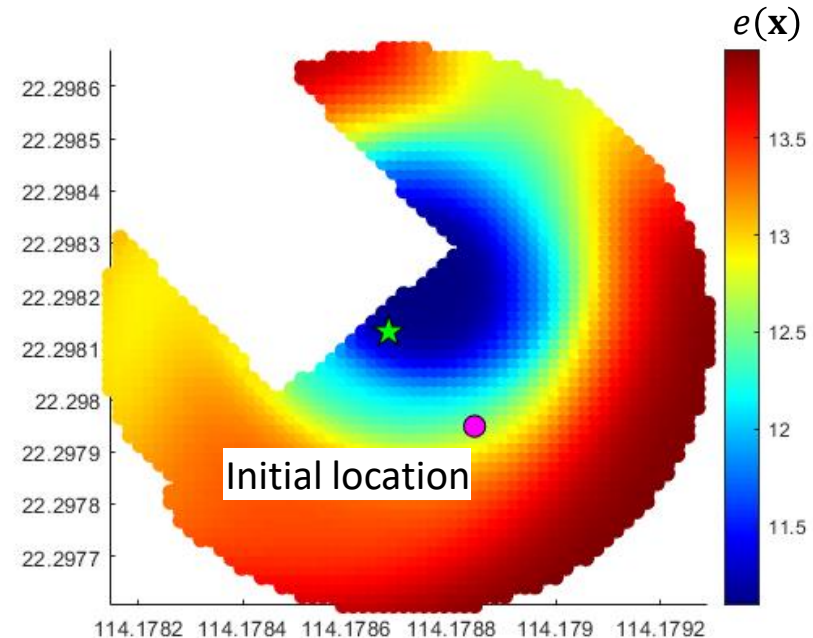
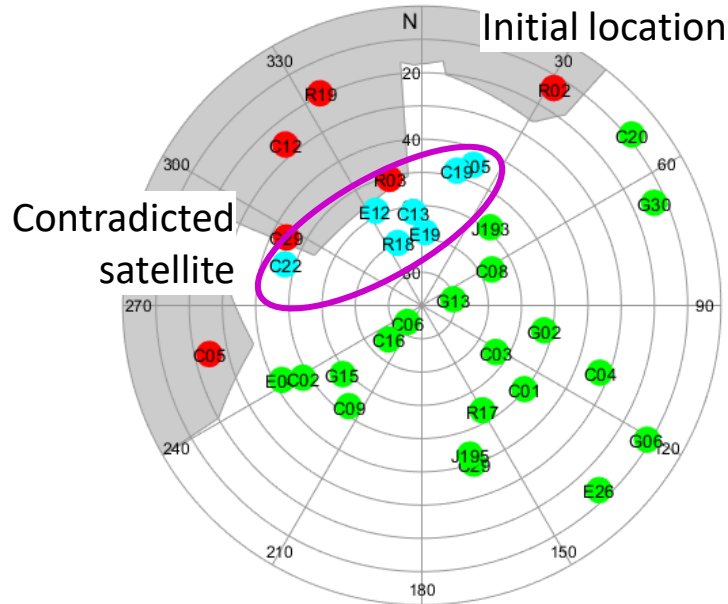


Experiment Results (2)

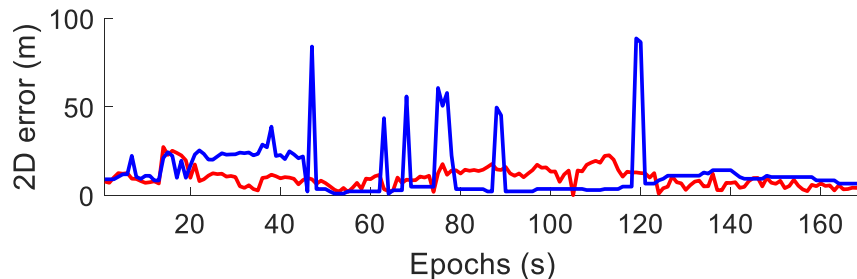
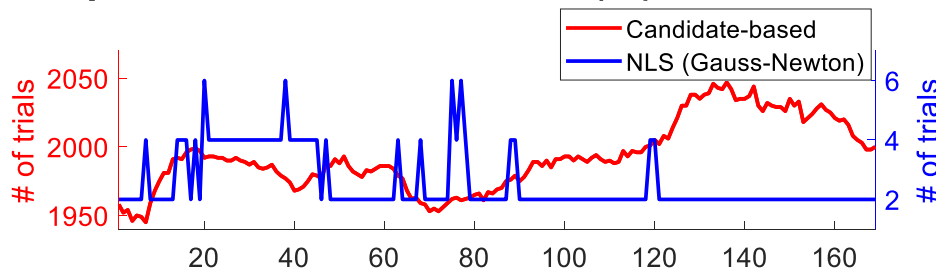


Unit: meter	NEMA	Candidate-based	Gauss-Newton Algorithm
RMS	3.34	7.87	16.77
Mean	3.34	7.83	15.42
STD	0.07	0.80	6.59
MAX	3.46	8.68	30.12
MIN	3.26	5.96	4.05

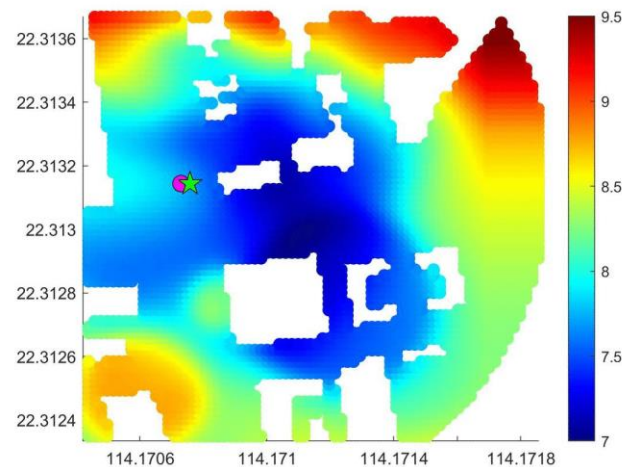
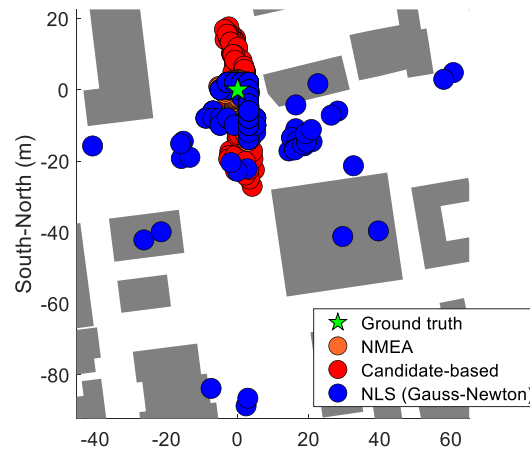
Relationship between satellite and building geometry



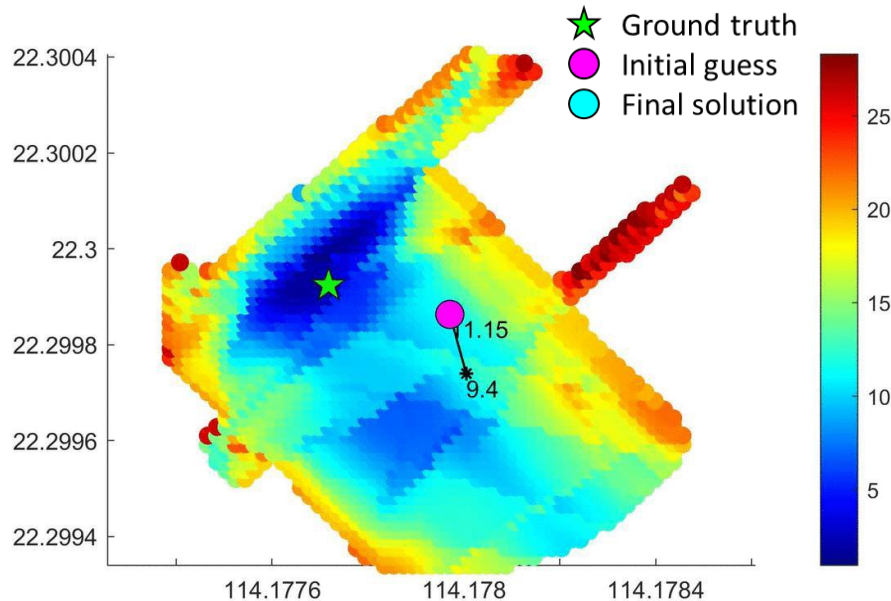
Experiment Results (3)



<u>Unit: meter</u>	NEMA	Candidate-based	Gauss-Newton Algorithm
RMS	7.34	11.19	19.89
Mean	6.42	9.91	13.07
STD	3.57	5.21	15.04
MAX	14.73	27.40	88.75
MIN	1.19	0.15	0.94



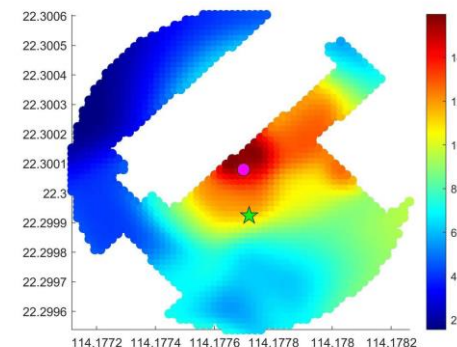
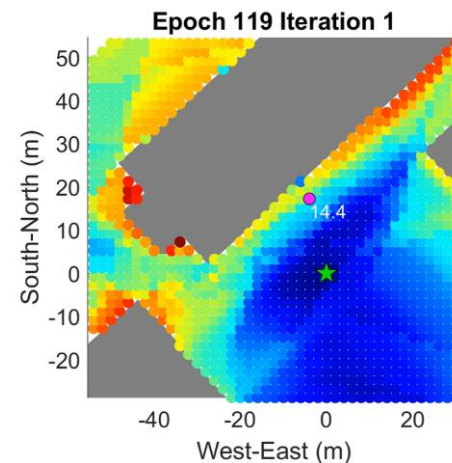
Limitation: Local Minimum Issue (same for particle-based Shadow matching)



When initial point is far and local minima occurred, solution may not be converged.

Conclusions

- Modelling the objective function of shadow matching with position state \mathbf{x}
- Optimizing the shadow matching with Gauss-Newton method
- Reduce the number of trials (computational load)
- Actual smartphone data obtains positioning error within 20m
- Location dependent variables ($h_x^{AZ,i}$ & $d_x^{AZ,i}$) is important for proposed modelling
- Satellite distribution will affect the performance



Future Work

Solution wise:

- Improving the modelling, especially environment dependent variables
- Modelling other 3DMA GNSS, such as ray-tracing and skymask 3DMA

Implementation wise:

- Integrating with different open-source library.
E.g. Ceres Solver, GTSAM, GraphGNSSLib

Epoch wise:

- Correlating the snapshot-based solution with time to become FGO.
E.g. integrating Doppler measurements

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Thank you for your attention



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