mmSight: Towards Robust Millimeter-Wave Imaging on Handheld Devices

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Ubiquity of 5G Mobile Devices

Global 5G Adoption to Hit One Billion in 2022



Forecast of 5G smartphone subscriptions, by region



The State of 5G

Estimated worldwide 5G adoption as a share of total mobile connections (excl. loT)



Source: Statista

What is 5G and Millimeter-Wave (mmWave)?



Capability of millimeter-wave signals to penetrate the clothes/wall enables the imaging beyond the vision

Millimeter-Wave Imaging Applications



Behind wall detection



Construction site surveying





Packaging and inventory



Airport contra-band scanner

Millimeter-Wave Imaging Applications



Can we bring these functionalities to commodity 5G smartphones?



Construction site surveying



Packaging and inventory



Airport contra-band scanner

Our Proposal: mmSight



User scans the device in front of region of interest



Human perceptible image allows for object classification

Challenges of Millimeter-Wave Imaging Specularity and weak Hand-held motion reflectivity

Time Domain Back Projection (TDBP)

- TDBP is widely used imaging technique in the field of Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and medical imaging
- It constructs the image by summing the contribution from individual scattered signals received at different locations and times



Millimeter-Wave Image Generation Process



TDBP supports non-linear motion, but quality of mmWave image generation is dependent on number of scans

Challenges of Millimeter-Wave Imaging Hand-held motion reflectivity

Challenge: Effect of Hand-held Motion

- $\,\circ\,$ Hand-held motion causes drift in X and Y direction
- $\,\circ\,$ Low-resolution vision tracking devices estimate pose inaccurately
- Error in pose estimation causes signals to combine destructively, and generated images are defocused and noisy





Scissors

Without pose correction

Challenges of Millimeter-Wave Imaging Specularity and weak reflectivity

Challenge: Specularity and Weak Reflectivity

- Pose-corrected mmWave images still lack various details necessary for human and machine perception
- Specularity of mmWave causes most reflections to reflect away from the receiver, resulting in missing regions on the mmWave images
- Moreover, weak reflectivity of objects absorbs signal energy and reflected signals are highly attenuated, close to the noise level



Scissors





Summary of Challenges

• Pose error due to hand-held motion and low-resolution vision-based tracking



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Without pose correction

• Specularity of mmWave and weak reflectivity of object



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With pose correction

System Overview



Millimeter-Wave Based Velocity Estimation



Millimeter-Wave Based Velocity Estimation





Frame Index

Millimeter-Wave Based Velocity Estimation



Excluding strong reflectors provides better correlation for velocity estimation

Pose Correction



Window Based Pose Correction



Before Alignment

After Alignment

Before and After Pose Correction

Scissors

Before pose correction

After pose correction

Challenges of Millimeter-Wave Imaging Specularity and weak reflectivity

Deep Learning Based Shape Improvement

- Generative models can generate high quality images from low resolution random noise
- So, the idea is to use mmWave image as a low-resolution input and improve shape from learning

Improvement by deep learning

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With pose correction

Post Training

Object is human perceptible

Conditional Generative Adversarial Network Architecture

 We pass pose-corrected 3D mmWave voxels to Generator Network
Generator network produces 2D shape with multiple convolution layers with skip connections

 Discriminator takes 3D mmWave voxels and either generated 2D shape or 2D ground-truth shape to calculate loss

Experimental Setup

○ 77-81 GHz mmWave radar with 3 Tx, 4 Rx antennas, 4 GHz bandwidth

- T265 vision-based self-tracking device for poses
- $\,\circ\,$ 2D axis motion controller to move mmWave device in x and y direction

Summary of Datasets

• **Real Data**: Collect mmWave sample and pose via 2D motion controller

- 90 real data samples
- Data processed using pose-correction and TDBP

• Synthetic Data: Passing 3D object layout to ray-tracing simulator

- Actual hardware parameters, 8500 samples
- Helps machine learning models to learn features
- Different orientation of objects are included

 Classification Categories: CD, scissor, box cutter, metal pen, screw-driver, hammer, metal mug, miscellaneous

Device poses after velocity-based correction is more accurate than raw poses from optical camera

Velocity Estimation After Excluding Reflectors

Ground Truth Optical Image

Ground Truth Optical Image

mmWave Image Using Raw Poses

mmWave Image After Pose Correction

Pose correction produces focused mmWave images, but are still human imperceptible

Ground Truth Optical Image

Ground Truth Optical Image

MmWave Image Using Raw Poses

Ground Truth Optical Image

MmWave Image Using Raw Poses

mmSight

cGAN further improves the shape of the pose-corrected mmWave images

SSIM Improvement by cGAN

SSIM Improvement by cGAN

SSIM Improvement by cGAN

cGAN improves SSIM from 0.08 to 0.9 for 1000 generates shapes

Classification Confusion Matrix

Predicted/Actual	Knife	Toy Gun	Scissor	CD	Pen	Hammer	Clip	Screwdriver	Other
Knife	98.5	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toy Gun	0	100	0	0	0	1.5	0	0	0
Scissor	0	0	98.5	0	0	0	1.5	0	1.5
CD	0	0	0	98.5	0	0	0	0	1.5
Pen	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0
Hammer	0	0	0	0	0	98.5	0	0	0
Clip	1.5	0	0	1.5	0	0	98.5	0	1.5
Screwdriver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95.5

cGAN based shape improvement achieves high classification accuracy for object tagging

Conclusion

- o mmSight utilizes device antennas to estimate velocity and local pose-correction
- Window-based pose correction method improves mmWave image compared to raw poses
- Conditional Generative Adversarial Networks further improves pose corrected mmWave images and make shape human perceptible

Thank you!

Check out our group website for more results

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