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# Timing, Orientation & Positioning Service

(TOPS)

TNO Portfolio manager PNT Danny J. Maat M.Sc. September 29/30, Split-Croatia SET-275 Symposium 'Cooperativ

mage of wrong target area

-02/

SET-275 Symposium 'Cooperative Navigation in GNSS Degraded and Denied Environments'

SAR orientation not correct: SAR image in wrong orientation

Real position

Real SAR observation

Dynamics not correctly estimated SAR image blur

\*also true for other observation systems

## **BACKGROUND OF ME IN A NUTSHELL**

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1989 – 1994: Graduated cum laude master electrical engineer



- 1994 1996: Scantech B.V. / TU Delft
  - Fuzzy logic in bar code decoding
  - Patent NL9500597A
- > 1997 now: **TNO**



- Portfolio manager PNT since 2010
- Program manager
- Project leader
- Technical project leader
- Quotation manager
- Software system architect



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- Research fields
  - > PNT
  - Intelligent Autonomous Systems
  - Bird Radar (spin out ROBIN Radar Systems)
  - Semantic networks
  - > Expert Systems
  - Nuclear, Biologic, Chemical & Damage Control

Point of Contact

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## PROBLEM



Reliable PNT undeniable for C2- and communication systems
 PNT has foundational role in military domain (MilGPS)

## > Assured PNT cannot be delivered by Sat-NAV

- > US DoD does not guarantee availability GPS
- MilGPS vulnerable for jamming
- Source of the second second



Norway, Finland suspect Russia of



## > Challenges

- > No single sensor system provides assured-PNT
- > No single set operational conditions
- Different sensor options for every vehicle type



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## **POINTS OF ATTENTIONS**



- Solution has three parts:
  - Sensors
  - Sensor processing
  - The fusion
- Products delivered by industry
  - Often knowledge about one sensor technology
  - Black box
  - Standardization
  - Vendor lock-in
- Why is sensor fusion difficult?
  - Sensor have many types of error sources
  - Sensor models and platform models not perfect
  - Integration of multiple algorithms necessary



Secure Communications PNT synchronizes high-speed data networks

**Precision Standoff Engagement** PNT enables dynamic SA and targeting

Picture from NATO navigation Warfare (NAVWAR) Playbook, d.d. 22-02-2021

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PNT + ISR enables hi-confidence SA and C2

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# **TOPS INTRODUCTION**

## Integrated, robust & validated PNT-solution needed

- Minimize vulnerability (avoid single sensor dependency)
- Complement strengths & create redundancies
- > Higher accuracy PNT estimates (over time)
- > Insight in PNT uncertainty

## What can TNO do?

- > Determining which sensor to buy
- Innovative sensor processing methods
- > Sensor fusion engine (online & offline)
- Testing and validating

## Why TNO?

- Independent & not-for-profit research organization
- > In depth knowledge different technologies
- Defence laboratory







SENSOR CATEGORIES

GNSS

Radio (Earth)

navigation

Inertial

navigation

Database matching

**Range finder** 

Odometry/

velocimetry

Signal of

Opportunity

Clock

nterface inpu

nsol

S

0

Standar





part of

**Sensor Fusion Engine** 

Software Suite



Higher accuracy
 Mitigation of vulnerability
 Self-diagnoses

## **TOPS OVERVIEW**

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#### GUI **Graphical User Interface** Online use case Pre Processing State Estimation Online use case **Post Processing Real-Time Sensor** Real-Time Data **Output Data** State Offline use case Estimator Offline use case Sensor and Track Offline Sensor Offline Output Smoother Data Data Simulator **Config Flles Experiment Data Fusion Engine SENSED** Sensor Suite Optimization Toolset

#### > TOPS Software suite

- Modular C++ sensor fusion framework
- > Single SW base to deploy and maintain
- > Focus on quality & performance

#### Fusion engine

- > Highly configurable
- Real-time (operational)
- Off line analyzing
- > Pre processing (e.g. integrity)
- GUI
  - Research
  - Operational
  - > Maintenance

#### Sensor Suite Optimization Toolset

- Simulation ENhanced SEnsor Design
- > Which sensor to buy? Not trivial!

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## **TOPS FUSION ENGINE**

				<b>TNO</b> innovation for life	
Configurable based on needs	ROS1 Interface	Point Mass model	Generic Six DOF State	IMU	UKF Bare
	ROS2 Interface	Bicycle Model	Bicycle State	Magneto- meter	UKF
<ul> <li>Selectable predefined components</li> <li>Filter interface</li> </ul>	GENIUS Interface	Two Track Model	Two Track State	Barometer	
<ul><li>&gt; Plant model</li><li>&gt; State</li></ul>	CSV Interface			Steering Wheel	
<ul><li>Sensor model</li><li>Kalman filter</li></ul>				Wheel speed	
				GPS	
> TOPS toolbox keeps growing				DVL	
				And more	
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## **TOPS GUI**



- Research tool
  - Configuration & tuning
  - > Sensor analysis
  - > Run state estimator
  - Results analysis
  - > Online/offline use case

> Maintenance tool

## > Operational tool



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# **TOPS - SENSED**



> Problem and functional gap: reasoning from requirement to sensors difficult

- > Simulation ENhanced SEnsor Designer
  - Sensor (suite) designer/optimizer with TOPS
  - Monte-Carlo-style verification



- > Why SENSED?
  - Design & sensor optimizer
  - > Optimize parameters for cost and requirements
  - Evaluate user-defined parameters
  - Sensitivity analysis



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# **RESULTS LAND BASED USE CASE 1/2**

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- Subsidy project in cooperation with automotive TNO – Helmond
  - > Autonomous driving on bus depot
  - Indoor/outdoor driving
  - > Development high fidelity vehicle model
  - Research into GPS replacements
    - > UWB
    - Lidar SLAM
    - Laser scan matching
- > Differences military vs civil test case
  - > GPS-denied environment
  - Off-road
  - > Operations at night time











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## **RESULTS LAND BASED USE CASE 2/2**

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# > TOPS sensor fusion suite > Vehicle model > IMU > Steer angle > Wheel speeds > 15 minute data set

Maximum error: 20 meter

Very good!!



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# **CONCLUSION AND FUTURE DEV.**

> TOPS proofs a successful framework, toolkit and service!

• Operational service (white box) for Defence & Safety partners

> TOPS continue to improve and functionality added

- Sensor fusion: platform model enhancements
- > User-friendly GUI for operational (& maintenance) usage
- Indicator for sensor input and fusion output quality

Research & provision for new disruptive technologies

- Quantum sensors can boost gravity gradiometry
- Effect of new technology (TOPS SENSED)
- Cooperation and standardization
  - > NATO RTG (SET-309)
  - Standardization sensor input and PNT-info output

innovation for life ROS1 Point Mass **Generic Six** IMU **UKF** Bare **DOF State** Interface model ROS2 Bicycle Magneto-UKF Model meter **Two Track Two Track** Steering Model Wheel CSV Wheel speed Barometer GPS DVL Vendor developed **PNT Middleware** Fusion Fusion sensors Fusion Fusion Driver Fusion Sensor ard \_\_\_\_\_ tand Sensor Driver Integrity Integrity õ Integrity API Sensor Driver ge Integrity Integrity Messa Driver Database Database Database Driver Database Database Government Driver Driver plug-ins Vendor Driver Driver developed plug-ins

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