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Information technology — Computer graphics, image processing and environmental data representation — Benchmarking of vision-based spatial registration and tracking methods for mixed and augmented reality (MAR)

Technologies de l'information — Infographie, traitement d'images et représentation des données environnementales — Étalonnage des méthodes d'enregistrement géométriques et de suivi basées sur la vision pour le MAR

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#### **Foreword**

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 24, *Computer graphics, image processing and environmental data representation*.

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#### Introduction

In the development of mixed and augmented reality (MAR) applications, one of the most important technologies involves spatial registration and spatial tracking methods, especially vision-based methods. The research and development on registration and tracking based on computer vision technologies is flourishing and many new algorithms have been proposed every year.

Therefore, this document aims at fostering objective evaluation and comparison of diverse registration and tracking methods, in order to facilitate fairer competition among small and major companies/institutes involved in MAR technologies, applications and services.

Moreover, this document can be the baseline to standardize spatial registration and tracking methods which not only utilize a video camera but combine a video camera with other sensors such as another video camera, a depth camera, inertial sensors and infrastructure-based positioning technologies, and which utilize technologies such as IoT (Internet of Things) and GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System).

The target audience of this document includes stakeholders of benchmarking activities. The following are examples of how this document can be used directly or indirectly:

- by a benchmarking service provider, a benchmark provider or a benchmarking competition organizer
  who wishes to align their benchmarking activities including self-benchmarking and open/closed
  competitions to be consistent with this document;
- by a technology developer/supplier who wishes to estimate and evaluate the performance of a vision-based spatial registration and tracking (vSRT) method for MAR appropriately with a benchmarking service provider, a benchmark provider or a benchmarking competition organizer who aligns their benchmarking activities to be consistent with this document; or
- by a technology user who wishes to obtain benchmarking results based on a benchmarking activity, which is consistent with this document, or to compare the existing vSRT methods for MAR in terms of their performance.

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# Information technology — Computer graphics, image processing and environmental data representation — Benchmarking of vision-based spatial registration and tracking methods for mixed and augmented reality (MAR)

#### 1 Scope

This document identifies the reference framework for the benchmarking of vision-based spatial registration and tracking (vSRT) methods for mixed and augmented reality (MAR).

The framework provides typical benchmarking processes, benchmark indicators and trial set elements that are necessary to successfully identify, define, design, select and apply benchmarking of vSRT methods for MAR. It also provides definitions for terms on benchmarking of vSRT methods for MAR.

In addition, this document provides a conformance checklist as a tool to clarify how each benchmarking activity conforms to this document in a compact form by declaring which benchmarking processes and benchmark indicators are included and what types of trial sets are used in each benchmarking activity.

### 2 Normative references Teh Standards

There are no normative references in this document.

#### 3 Terms, definitions, acronyms and abbreviated terms

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <a href="https://www.iso.org/obp">https://www.iso.org/obp</a>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <a href="http://www.electropedia.org/">http://www.electropedia.org/</a>

#### 3.1 Terms and definitions

#### 3.1.1

#### benchmark

reference point against which comparisons can be made

Note 1 to entry: In the context of this document, the performance of vSRT methods for MAR is the object of comparison.

Note 2 to entry: See ISO/IEC 29155-1.

#### 3.1.2

#### benchmark indicator

indicator that qualitatively shows a particular aspect of a benchmark (3.1.1) with appropriate metrics

#### 3.1.3

#### benchmarking

activity of comparing objects of interest to each other or against benchmarks (3.1.1) to evaluate relevant characteristics

Note 1 to entry: In the context of this document, the object of interest is the performance of vSRT methods for MAR, and the characteristics are particular aspects of the performance such as reliability, temporal characteristic, etc.

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Note 2 to entry: See ISO/IEC 29155-1.

#### 3.1.4

#### benchmarking instrument

tool, method or guide used to support every activity within the benchmarking (3.1.3) framework

#### 3.1.5

#### benchmarking method

particular procedure for conducting benchmarking (3.1.3) and obtaining benchmarking results (3.1.7)

#### 3.1.6

#### benchmarking repository

repository which is designated for retaining information necessary for *benchmarking* (3.1.3) such as *datasets* (3.1.9) for benchmarking and *benchmarking results* (3.1.7)

Note 1 to entry: Some benchmarking repositories might contain all information, and some might contain a subset.

Note 2 to entry: See ISO/IEC 29155-1.

#### 3.1.7

#### benchmarking results

benchmarks (3.1.1) as primary results, and intermediate results and reports on benchmarking (3.1.3) including findings, issues and lessons learned as secondary results

Note 1 to entry: In the context of this document, a typical intermediate result is the output of vSRT methods such as the estimated position of a camera the accuracy of which is evaluated with a benchmark indicator.

#### 3.1.8

#### competition organizer

person or organization that hosts an *on-site* (3.1.14) or *off-site* (3.1.13) benchmarking competition

#### 3.1.9

#### dataset

collection of data that contains target images and the *ground truth* (3.1.11) regarding the target images for *benchmarking* (3.1.3) ISO/IEC 18520:2019
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#### 3.1.10

#### extrinsic camera parameters

parameters that define the position and orientation of a camera reference frame with respect to a known world reference frame such as the translation vector and the rotation matrix

#### 3.1.11

#### ground truth

collection of measurements that is much more accurate as a whole than measurements by technologies which are the targets of *benchmarking* (3.1.3)

#### 3.1.12

#### intrinsic camera parameters

parameters that define the relationship between the pixel coordinates of an image point and the corresponding coordinates in the camera reference frame

Note 1 to entry: Intrinsic camera parameters contain the focal length, the scale factors, the skew, the principal point, the lens distortion, etc.

#### 3.1.13

#### off-site benchmarking

benchmarking (3.1.3) that is conducted with target images in datasets which were prepared beforehand

#### 3.1.14

#### on-site benchmarking

benchmarking (3.1.3) that is conducted by executing vSRT programs while capturing target images on the spot

#### 3.1.15

#### physical object

object, which exists in the real world, used as a target of *spatial registration* (3.1.16), *spatial tracking* (3.1.17) and/or augmentation

Note 1 to entry: Especially for off-site benchmarking with physical objects, the physical object instances shall be easily available or deliverable objects such as paper crafts and toy bricks, or they shall be made accessible by providing information on how to find them for capturing the images. The physical object instances in off-site benchmarking are utilized to gather and acquire information necessary for vSRT methods such as visual features and 3D models of the objects.

#### 3.1.16

#### spatial registration

establishment of the spatial relationship or mapping between two models, typically between virtual objects and target *physical objects* (3.1.15)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 18039:2019, 3.1.20]

#### 3.1.17

#### spatial tracking

update of the spatial relationship or mapping between two models, typically between virtual objects and target *physical objects* (3.1.15) over time

#### 3.1.18

#### trial set

combination of a dataset and a collection of *physical object* (3.1.15) instances for *off-site* (3.1.13) and *on-site* (3.1.14) benchmarking of vSRT methods for MAR

#### 3.1.19

#### vision-based spatial registration and tracking

spatial registration (3.1.16) and spatial tracking (3.1.17) based on image processing and computer vision technologies

Note 1 to entry: The term "spatial registration and tracking" is also called "geometric registration and tracking" in  $\underbrace{Annex\ A}$  and in some of the bibliography references.

#### 3.2 Acronyms and abbreviated terms

3DEVO
3D error of a virtual object

MAR
Mixed and augmented reality[1]

PEVO
Projection error of a virtual object

SLAM
Simultaneous localization and mapping[1]

vSRT
Vision-based spatial registration and tracking

#### 4 Overview of the framework

This clause outlines the reference framework of benchmarking of vSRT methods for MAR, the details of which are described in <u>Clauses 5</u>, <u>6</u>, and <u>7</u>. As shown in <u>Figure 1</u>, the reference framework is composed of the following three core components.

 Benchmarking processes, which include how to produce benchmarking outcomes such as benchmarking results, benchmark surveys and benchmarking instruments with benchmark indicators and trial sets and how to share benchmarking outcomes.

- Benchmark indicators, which quantify the performance of vSRT methods in MAR by taking into account not only characteristics of vSRT methods in MAR such as reliability and temporal characteristics, but also fair comparisons.
- Trial set elements, which are composed of datasets and physical object instances to provide each benchmarking attempt with the same conditions.

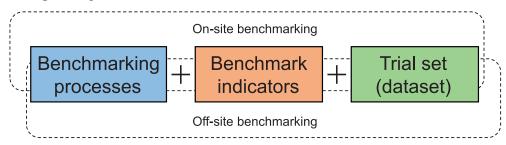


Figure 1 — Core components of on- and off-site benchmarking framework

The above three components are identified and defined in accordance with grass-roots activities for standardizing benchmarking schemes and for conducting on-site or off-site comparison of vSRT methods and MAR systems which are often held as contests and are introduced in Annex A.

On-site benchmarking methods are used to conduct benchmarking on the spot while capturing images of physical objects with working MAR systems. Compared with off-site benchmarking methods mentioned afterwards, it is inevitable that human factors affect on-site benchmarking results due to time and cost limitations, and constraints in preparation and operation. Therefore, it is highly recommended to simplify the implementation of benchmarking frameworks for on-site benchmarking.

By contrast, off-site benchmarking methods are used to conduct benchmarking with target images in datasets prepared beforehand. Compared with on-site benchmarking methods, the stakeholders have more time for preparing and conducting benchmarking. However, additional effort on the implementation of benchmarking frameworks is needed for alleviating issues related to fine tuning and cheating.

The on-site or off-site competition is one of the most concrete cases of on-site or off-site benchmarking methods, respectively. A.6, A.7 and A.8 introduce several case examples of on- and off-site competitions.

Typical processes of on- and off-site benchmarking are extracted from the grass-roots activities as in Annex A, and they are schematically described in Clause 5 by referring to the ISO/IEC 29155 series, especially ISO/IEC 29155-1. The conceptual relationship among the ISO/IEC 29155 series, ISO/IEC 18039 and this document is graphically indicated in Annex C. Each benchmark indicator and trial set element is also extracted from outcomes and discussions in the grass-roots activities as in Annex A. Clause 6 describes three major types of benchmark indicators which correspond to reliability, temporality and variety indicators, and Clause 7 describes reference elements in a trial set which contains dataset elements and physical object instances.

#### 5 Benchmarking processes

#### 5.1 Overview

This clause outlines benchmarking processes and related components necessary to produce and share benchmarking outcomes. Figure 2 illustrates the basic benchmarking process flow.

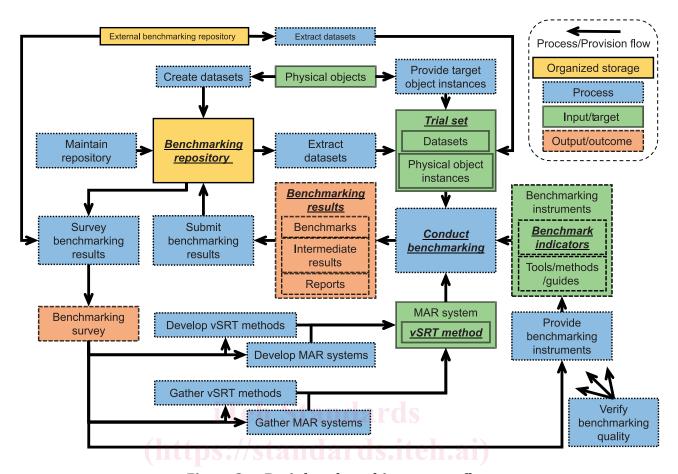


Figure 2 — Basic benchmarking process flow

#### 5.2 Process and process flow

Although the details of the process flow in <u>Figure 2</u> can differ in each specific benchmarking, it generally consists of process, target, input, output/outcome and organized storage, described in detail as follows:

- Process, which consists of one or more micro processes:
  - to develop or gather vSRT methods and MAR systems,
  - to prepare or conduct benchmarking,
  - to provide or maintain benchmarking instruments and repositories,
  - to share benchmarking results,
  - to manage or verify benchmarking quality.
- Target, which is a vSRT method or MAR system used as a benchmarking target.
- Input, which includes:
  - trial sets,
  - physical objects,
  - benchmarking instruments such as benchmark indicators, tools, methods and guides.

NOTE Trial sets and benchmarking instruments are also regarded as important outcomes of benchmarking activities.

#### ISO/IEC 18520:2019(E)

- Output/outcome, which includes:
  - benchmarking results such as benchmarks, intermediate results and reports,
  - benchmarking surveys.
- Organized storage, which is a benchmarking repository or other external repository.

#### 5.3 Stakeholders

Various stakeholders are involved in processes on benchmarking of vSRT methods for MAR. Figure 3 illustrates a typical example of the correspondence between stakeholders and their roles in benchmarking processes. Based on roles, stakeholders can be logically classified into the following groups[2]:

- Benchmark provider, who creates and gathers datasets, maintains benchmarking repositories and provides benchmark surveys;
- Benchmarking service provider, who develops and provides benchmarking instruments, prepares
  trial sets, conducts benchmarking at the request of technology users and submits benchmarking
  results to a benchmarking repository;
- Quality verifier, who verifies benchmarking quality;
- Technology developer, who develops vSRT methods or MAR systems;
- Technology supplier, who supplies vSRT methods or MAR systems that technology developers have developed;
- Technology user, who chooses and utilizes vSRT methods or MAR systems based on the outcomes
  of benchmarking.

Targets of benchmarking are vSRT methods or MAR systems developed by technology developers or gathered by technology suppliers. To conduct benchmarking, benchmarking service providers shall prepare benchmarking instruments and trial sets. Datasets in the trial sets are extracted from a benchmarking repository. For on-site benchmarking, physical objects including rooms and spaces shall also be prepared. Benchmarking of vSRT methods or MAR systems is conducted with those inputs, and the results of benchmarking are submitted in a benchmarking repository by benchmarking service providers.

To choose appropriate vSRT methods or MAR systems, technology users refer to benchmark surveys or benchmarking results. The quality of the benchmark surveys or benchmarking results shall be ensured by verifying the quality of processes, inputs, outputs and organized storages in benchmarking activities. This is the main role of quality verifiers.

Various role-sharing schemes can be used in practice. Any person or organization can fulfil one or more roles. For example, benchmark providers can also have a role as benchmarking service providers. By contrast, one role can be fulfilled by several persons or organizations. For example, the competition organizer together with the contestants often fulfil the role of benchmarking service provider in conducting benchmarking. Many academic researchers do not maintain benchmarking repositories for a long term, but they often publish benchmarking surveys by conducting benchmarking for comparing several vSRT methods. In this case, they partially fulfil the benchmarking service provider's role and benchmark provider's role. In other cases, technology developers and suppliers often fulfil the partial roles of a benchmarking service provider in self-benchmarking or of a contestant of an on-site or off-site benchmarking competition.

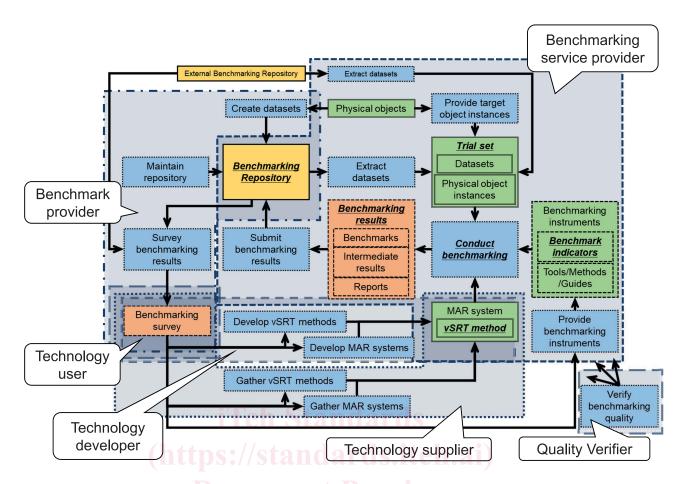


Figure 3 — Example of the correspondence between stakeholders and their roles in benchmarking processes

#### 6 Benchmark indicators

#### **Overview** 6.1

This clause outlines three major types of benchmark indicators (reliability, temporality and variety), which should be utilized for fair comparison of vSRT methods in MAR. Table 1 shows representative benchmark indicators for both on- and off-site benchmarking.

Table 1 — Benchmark indicators for off-site and on-site benchmarking

	Off-site	On-site
	— 3DEVO	— 3DEVO
	— PEVO	— PEVO
Reliability	<ul> <li>Re-projection error of image features</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Re-projection error of image features</li> </ul>
	Position and posture errors of a camera	<ul> <li>Position and posture errors of a camera</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Completeness of a trial</li> </ul>
	— Throughput	— Throughput
Temporality	— Latency	— Latency
		Time for trial completion
	<ul> <li>Number of datasets</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Number of trials</li></ul>
Variety	<ul> <li>Variety on properties of datasets</li> </ul>	— Variety on properties of trials

#### 6.2 Reliability indicators

This subclause presents reliability indicators. The following four indicators are for both off-site and on-site benchmarking.

- 3D error of a virtual object (3DEVO), which is the difference between the estimated position of a virtual object and the ground truth. 3DEVO is one of the most direct and intuitive indicators for vSRT methods for MAR, as one of the principal functions of MAR systems is to align virtual objects in 3D space based on the results obtained by the target vSRT method.
- Projection error of a virtual object (PEVO), which is also one of the most direct and intuitive indicators for vSRT methods for MAR, as one of the most important functions of MAR systems is to render virtual objects based on the results obtained by the target vSRT method[3]. Assuming the simplest case in which a virtual point is projected as a virtual object to an estimated image plane, the distance between the projected and correct points is calculated as a PEVO value. The PEVO value can be measured in degrees or in pixels. Angular distance measure can provide a uniform measure in a screen space, whereas pixel number varies depending on positions in a screen space.
- Re-projection error of an image feature, which is the distance between a detected image feature in an image plane and the re-projection to the image plane with the 3D coordinates of the image feature that are recovered based on the target vSRT method. Assuming the simplest case in which the image feature is a feature point, the re-projection error can be the distance between the detected feature point and the re-projected point, and can be measured in degrees or in pixels as with PEVO.
- Position and posture errors of a camera, which is the difference between the estimated position and posture of a camera and the ground truth.

In addition to the aforementioned four reliability indicators, completeness of a trial should be employed especially for on-site benchmarking. This is because, in many on-site competitions, many MAR systems cannot help but stop performing spatial registration and tracking in the middle of the trial. Completeness of a trial involves evaluating the extent of a trial completion. It is regarded as the robustness of the target vSRT method.

#### 6.3 Temporality indicators

This subclause presents temporality indicators which are necessary to discuss real-time issues in MAR.