



# Pose tracking of magnetic objects

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# Magnetometer measurement models

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Assume that the magnetometer (almost) only measures the local (earth) magnetic field.



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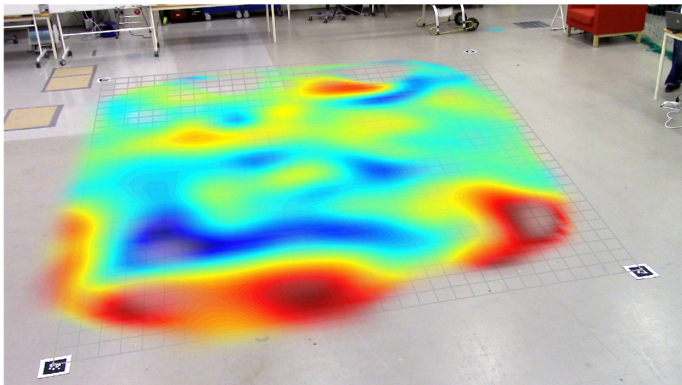
Assume that the magnetometer (almost) only measures the local (earth) magnetic field.

2. **My use:** Magnetometer(s) to provide **position and orientation** information.

- ▶ **Magnetic mapping:** Build a map of the (indoor) magnetic field.

# Magnetic mapping

Build a map of the indoor magnetic field. This map can be used for localization.



We have used Bayesian models (Gaussian processes) to model such fields with good results



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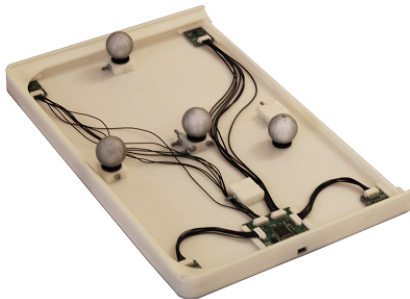
- ▶ **Magnetic mapping:** Build a map of the (indoor) magnetic field.
- ▶ **Magnetic tracking:** Measure the position and orientation of a known magnetic source.



# Sensor setup

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We use a sensor network with four three-axis magnetometers to determine the position and orientation of a magnet.



# Magnetic tracking

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## Advantages

- ▶ Cheap sensors





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- ▶ Cheap sensors
- ▶ Small sensors
- ▶ Low energy consumption
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# Magnetic tracking

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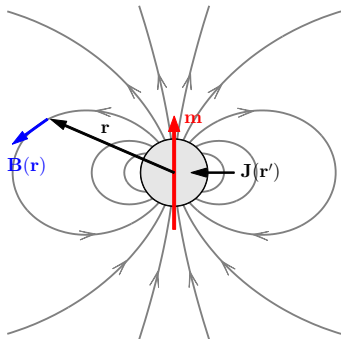
## Advantages

- ▶ Cheap sensors
- ▶ Small sensors
- ▶ Low energy consumption
- ▶ No weather dependency
- ▶ Passive unit, requires no batteries



# Mathematical model - dipole field

The magnetic field can be described with a dipole field.



$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi\|\mathbf{r}\|^5} \underbrace{\left( 3\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}^T - \|\mathbf{r}\|^2 I_3 \right)}_{=C(\mathbf{r})} \mathbf{m}$$

$$\mathbf{m} \triangleq \frac{1}{2} \int \mathbf{r}' \times \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}') d^3 r'$$

# Sensor model - single dipole

The measurements can be described with a state-space model

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_{k+1} &= F_k \mathbf{x}_k + G_k \mathbf{w}_k, & \mathbf{w}_k &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, Q), \\ \mathbf{y}_{k,j} &= \mathbf{h}_j(\mathbf{x}_k) + \mathbf{e}_k, & \mathbf{e}_k &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, R)\end{aligned}$$

Point target sensor model (one dipole)

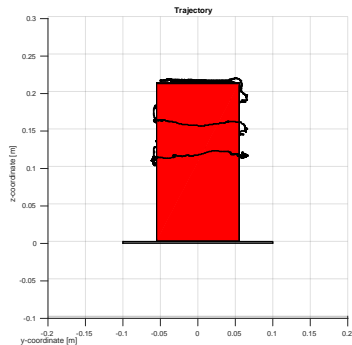
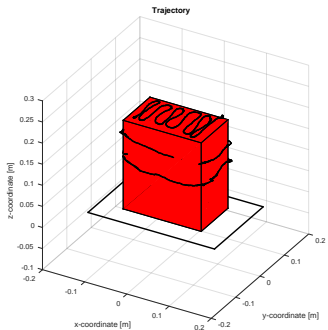
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{h}_j(\mathbf{x}_k) &= C(\mathbf{r}_k - \boldsymbol{\theta}_j) \mathbf{m}_k, & \mathbf{x}_k &= [\mathbf{r}_k^\top \quad \mathbf{v}_k^\top \quad \mathbf{m}_k^\top \quad \boldsymbol{\omega}_k^\top]^\top \\ C(\mathbf{r}) &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi \|\mathbf{r}\|^5} (3\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}^\top - \|\mathbf{r}\|^2 I_3),\end{aligned}$$

Measurement from a sensor network of magnetometers positioned at  $\{\boldsymbol{\theta}_j\}_{j=1}^J$ .

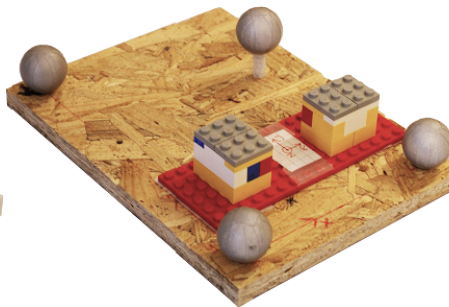
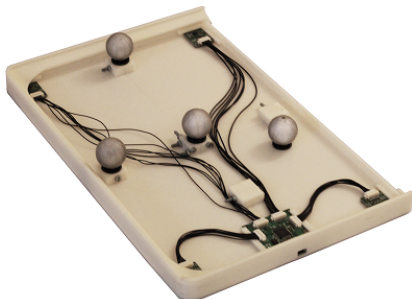
Degrees of freedom

- ▶ 3D position
- ▶ 2D orientation

# Experiment 1

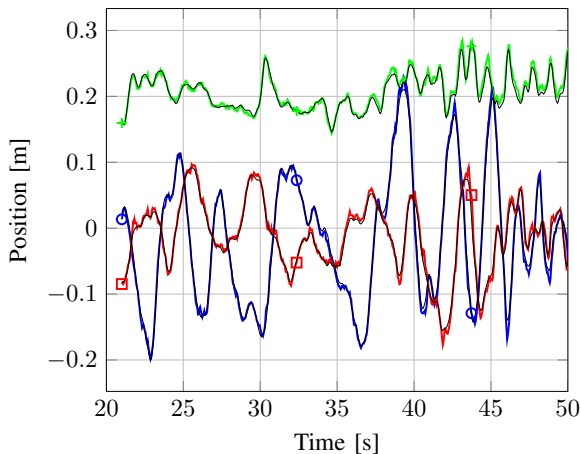


# Experiment 2 - setup



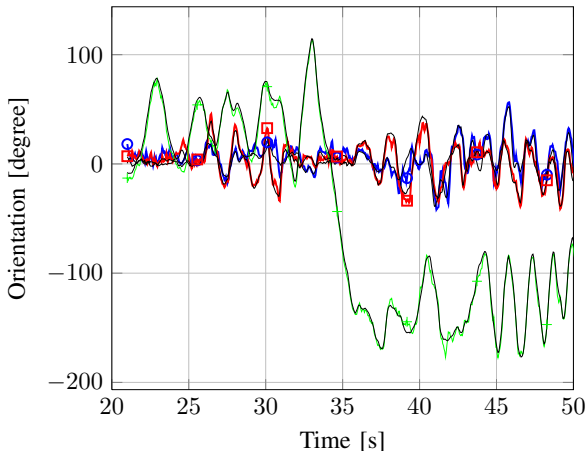


## Experiment 2 - results - position



Black: Ground truth position. Color: Estimated position

# Experiment - results - orientation



Black: Ground truth orientation. Color: Estimated orientation

# Application 1: 3D painting book

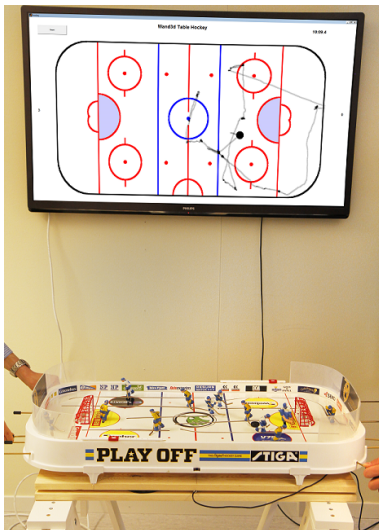
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## Application 2: Digital water colors



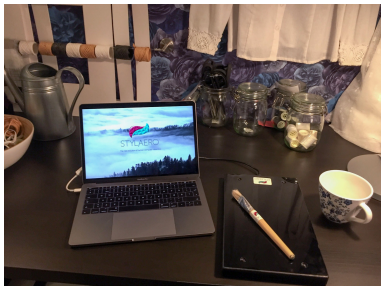
# Application 3: Digital table hockey



# Application 4: Digital pathology



- ▶ In February 2017 a company was started around this technology
- ▶ In total seven people are involved in the company on part-time.
- ▶ Collaborations with both gaming companies and industrial partners.





**Thank you!**