

# Supplementary Material for GapFlyt: Active Vision Based Minimalist Structure-less Gap Detection For Quadrotor Flight

Nitin J. Sanket\*, Chahat Deep Singh\*, Kanishka Ganguly, Cornelia Fermüller, Yiannis Aloimonos

## S.I. ROBUSTNESS OF TS<sup>2</sup>P AGAINST DIFFERENT TEXTURES

Optical flow algorithms are generally biased to specific textures, and there is a high correlation between highly textured surfaces and good optical flow computation. To demonstrate the robustness of our approach (TS<sup>2</sup>P) we test the algorithm against ten additional setups. The various scenarios are tabulated in Table I. Each scenario is a combination of different textures from the following set: Bumpy, Leaves, Door, Newspaper, Wall, Low-Texture and Cloth. We now describe each of textures used.

*Bumpy* texture provides an uneven texture over the original newspaper scenario. These “bumps” are made of crumpled paper. The depth (protrusion) of the bumps are large and are about 25% of the distance to gap from the quadrotor’s initial position. This scenario mimics the uneven texture on rock walls around a cave opening, for example.

*Leaves* texture mimics foliage. In this setup Magnolia and Panicle Hydrangea leaves are glued onto foam-board. The two leaves used are of very different sizes and shapes. The leaves texture are also uneven with depth variation as large as 10% of the distance to the quadrotor’s initial position. We use both sides of the leaves. The front-side of the leaves are of a glossy texture with very high reflectance while the back-side are of matte texture with very low reflectance. Also, the leaves look similar to each other. This texture provides similar repeating patterns and large changes in reflectance.

*Door* texture is a wall with a door. Both these are white with very low texture.

*Newspaper* texture is the setup similar to the one used in the main paper. Newspaper is glued onto foam-board. This presents an artificial high-texture scenario.

*Wall* texture is foam-core with a small amount of logos. We consider this as a medium-texture scenario.

Table SI  
COMPARISON OF OUR APPROACH WITH DIFFERENT SETUPS\*

Scenario	Foreground	Background
1	Bumpy	Leaves
2	Bumpy	Door
3	Bumpy	Newspaper
4	Bumpy	Cloth
5	Leaves	Wall
6	Leaves	Newspaper
7	Cloth	Wall
8	Low-Texture	Leaves
9	Low-Texture	Leaves
10	Low-Texture	Leaves

\*Refer to Fig. 1 for a visual aid.  
Rows in Fig. 1 correspond to rows in this table.

*Low-Texture* is white foam-core with a few scribbles near the window which are required for tracking. This is artificially crafted to mimic a minimal-textured plain wall with windows.

*Cloth* texture is created by the usage of wrinkled bed sheets. This scenario mimics hanging curtains, hanging paintings and hanging flags.

A combination of the aforementioned textures creates scenarios which test the bias of the TS<sup>2</sup>P algorithm. In all the above cases,  ${}^0Z_{\mathcal{F}} \sim 2.8\text{m}$  and  ${}^0Z_{\mathcal{B}} \sim 5.6\text{m}$  and  $N = 3$  frames are used for stacking/averaging in all the cases.

Our approach works in most of the scenarios as presented in Fig. 1 since it uses deep learning based optical flow to estimate the position of the gap in the image plane. Even in the low-textured scenarios, the window detection output  $\mathcal{O}$  still has at least 75% overlap with the ground truth as mentioned in our paper. TS<sup>2</sup>P works even with no textures on one of the foreground or background. Though tracking the  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  without any textures is not possible.

\*Equal Contribution

All authors are associated with University of Maryland Institute for Advanced Computer Studies, College Park. Emails: {nitin, chahat, kganguly, fer, yiannis}@umiacs.umd.edu

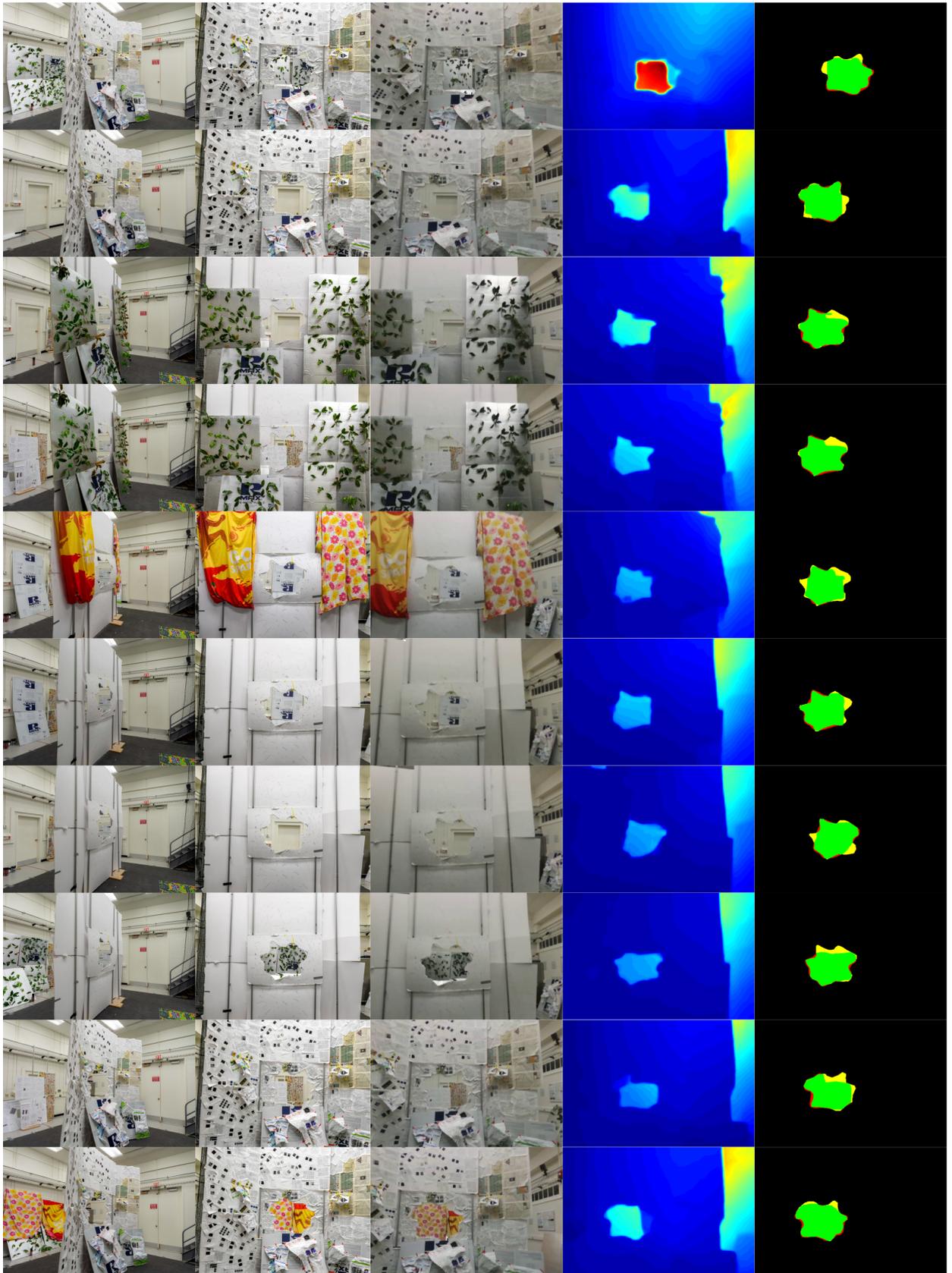


Figure S1. Left to right columnwise: Side view of the setup, Front view of the setup, sample image frame used,  $\Xi$  output, Detection output. (green:  $\mathcal{G} \cap \mathcal{O}$ , yellow: false negative  $\mathcal{G} \cap \mathcal{O}'$ , red: false positive  $\mathcal{G}' \cap \mathcal{O}$ ). Rowwise: Cases are in the order of Table I.