

OPTIMUM accuracy trials and volume simulation

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- Introduction to NPL
- What is OPTIMUM
 - Concept
 - Current development status
- Initial testing at AMRC Cymru
 - Setup
 - Results
- OPTIMUM volume simulation
- Next steps

About NPL

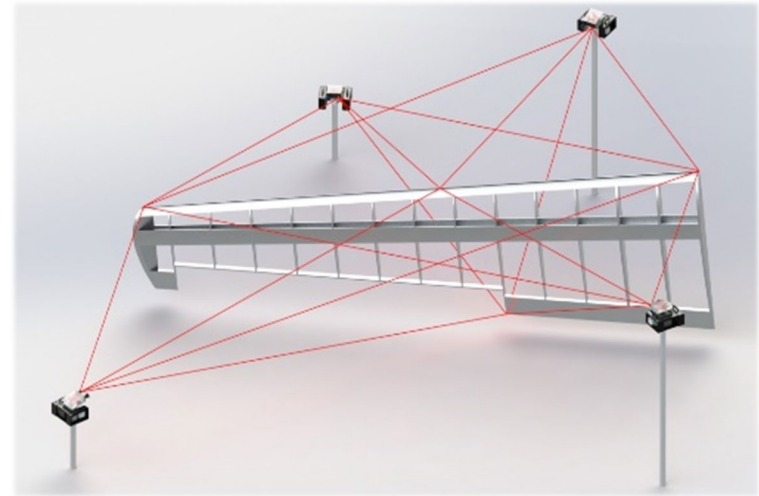
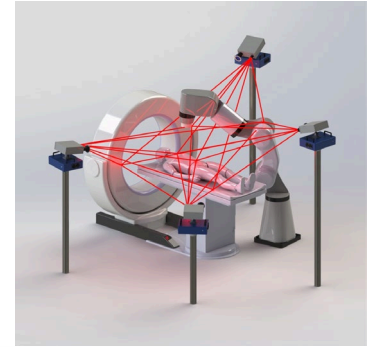
- UK's National Metrology Institute founded in 1900
- A public corporation owned by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT)
- Based in Teddington (London) with locations in Strathclyde, Surrey, Cambridge, Huddersfield and Solihull
- Strategic partners DSIT, the University of Surrey and The University of Strathclyde
- 1000 scientists and engineers with a breadth and depth of metrology expertise.



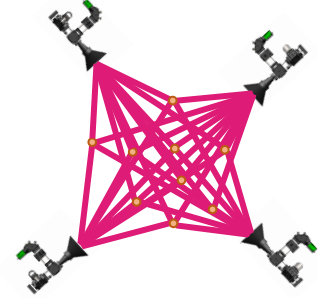
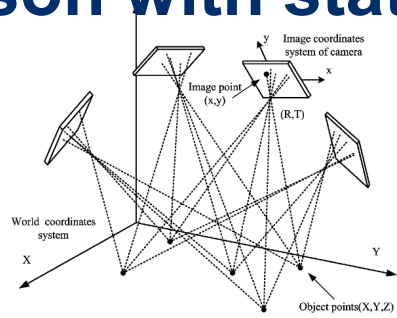
OPTIMUM – high accuracy coordinate metrology using frequency scanning interferometry (FSI) and multilateration

Analogy - The Global Positioning System (GPS)

1. Is **accurate**
2. Measures **multiple points** simultaneously
3. **Self-calibrating** - built-in compensation for systematic errors
4. Has built-in **traceability** to SI
5. Gives on-line **uncertainty estimation**



Comparison with state-of-the-art



	Photogrammetry	GPS	OPTIMUM
Basic principle	Triangulation - angles	Multilateration, absolute distance, time-of-flight	Multilateration, absolute distance, FSI
Volume	<1 m ³ to > 10 ⁶ m ³	10 ²¹ m ³	<1 m ³ or > 500 m ³
Precision	1:10 ⁵ to 1:10 ⁴	0.3:10 ⁶ (~4 m)	~1:10 ⁶ (potentially)
Uncertainty	>1:10 ⁴	~1:10 ⁶	~1-5:10 ⁶ (potentially with good geometry)
Traceability	Scale bar	On-board atomic clock	Gas absorption cell built-in
Self-calibration	Camera pose, optical distortion	Receiver clock, real-time	Sensor pose, optical distortion, scale factor, real-time

Current development status

- Sensor hardware operational
 - Some crucial range-noise reduction hardware not yet commissioned
- Bare-bones software functionality in place for testing purposes
- User software in development
 - Already interfaces with SpatialAnalyser
- On-going collaboration with AMRC Cymru on development and testing





Initial accuracy tests at AMRC Cymru



Objective:

To compare accuracy of OPTIMUM in its current configuration with a Laser tracker

Setup:

- Five OPTIMUM sensors placed arbitrarily
- Hexagon AT960-mr
- Hexagon super cat's eye retroreflector
- 1 m Brunson scale bar
- 28 Fixed nests placed arbitrarily in the cell



OPTIMUM setup at AMRC Cymru



Data processing pipeline

1. Acquire **50 ranges** (d_{ijk}) from each sensor (S_i) to each visible target (T_j).

2. Compute mean (d_mean_{ij}) and standard deviation (σ_{ij}) after **removing outliers**.

3. Use σ_{ij} to **weight** a fit of d_mean_{ij} to the multilateration model:

$|S_i - T_j| = d_mean_{ij} + e_i$
to solve for Sensor and Target coordinates S_i & T_j and uncertainties $u(T_j)$.

4. Remove **correlated uncertainty contributions** from $u(T_j)$ leaving just the relevant un-correlated uncertainties $u^*(T_j)$.

5. Use $u^*(T_j)$ to **weight** a fit of T_j to reference target coordinates, R_j measured using the laser tracker.
 $T_j \rightarrow T_j^*$

6. Compute $E_j = R_j - T_j^*$ and $U(T_j) = U(T_j^*) = 2 u^*(T_j)$ and plot.

d_mean_{ij} is the mean of the range measurements between the i^{th} sensor and j^{th} target.

$S_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i)$ is the coordinates of the i^{th} sensor.

$T_j = (x_j, y_j, z_j)$ is the coordinates of the j^{th} target.

e_i is a range offset associated with the i^{th} sensor.

$u(T_j)$ is the estimated uncertainty associated with T_j .

$u^*(T_j)$ is the un-correlated uncertainty associated with T_j .

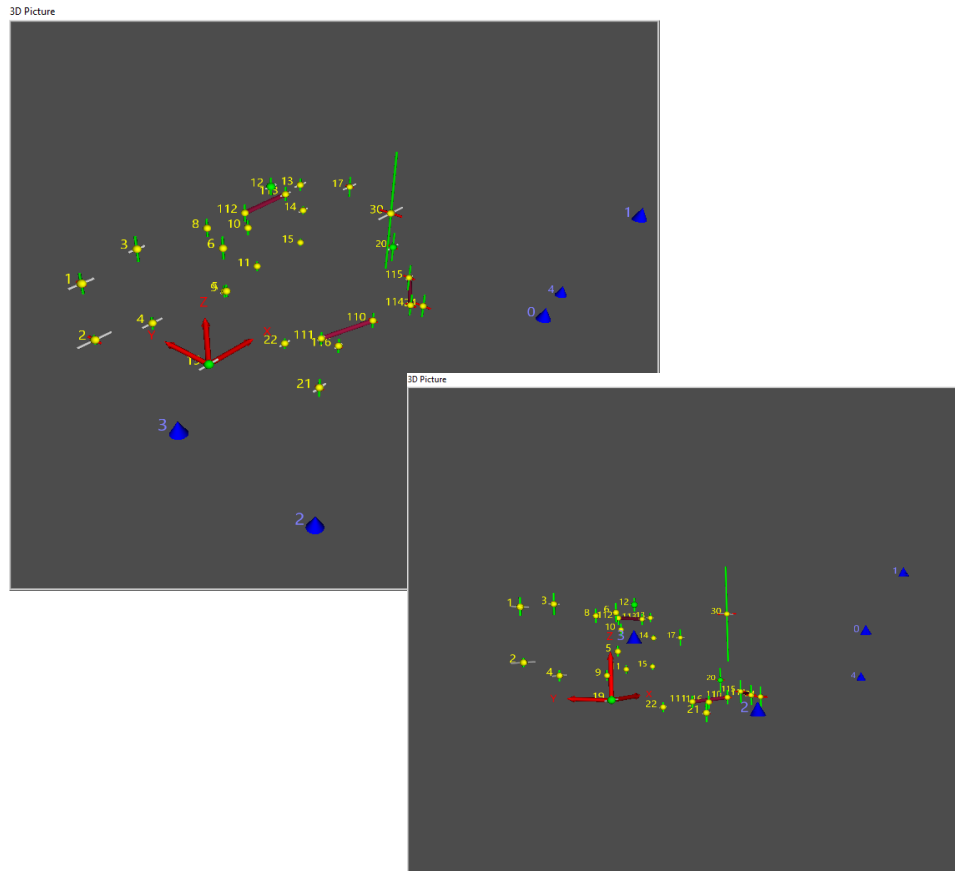
$U(T_j)$ is the expanded ($k = 2$) un-correlated uncertainty associated with $T_j(T_j^*)$.

R_j are the reference coordinates of the j^{th} target from the laser tracker.

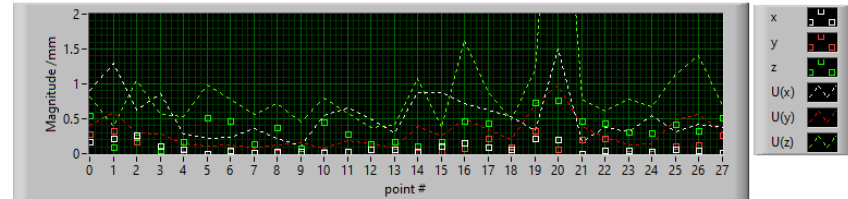
T_j^* are the coordinates of the j^{th} target after best fit to R_j .

E_j are the "errors" in the measured coordinates of the j^{th} target.

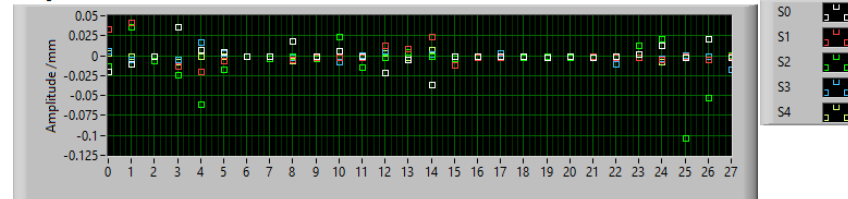
Test results



Target coordinate errors (OPTIMUM - Laser Tracker) and expanded uncertainties (2 σ) /mm



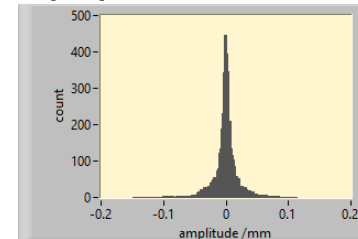
Range residuals /mm



Scale bar length /mm OPTIMUM Scale bar length /mm

OPTIMUM	- AT960-mr /mm	AT960-mr
999.9249	-0.047	999.8775
999.9195	0.018	999.9374
999.9507	-0.019	999.9319

Range Histogram

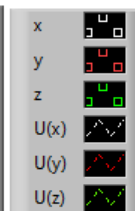
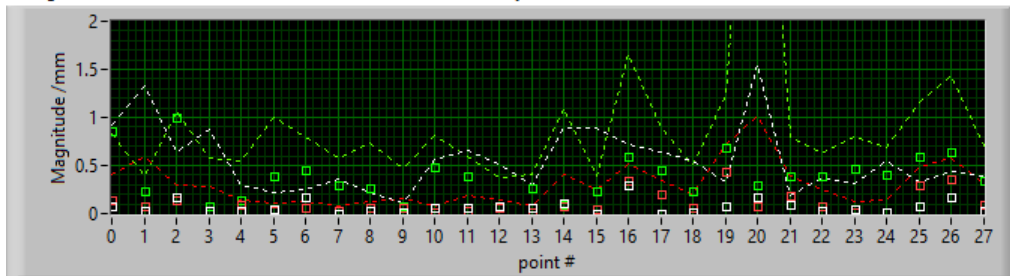


USMN uncertainties 20 - 40 μm ($k = 2$)

standard deviation /mm 0.02

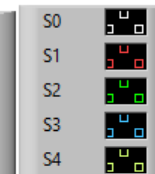
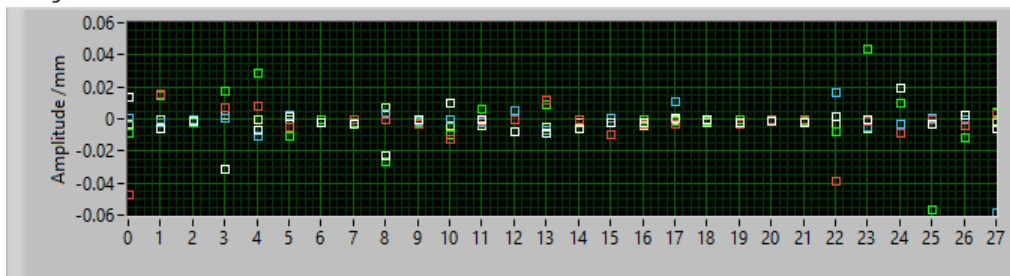
Simulation with range uncertainty of $20\mu\text{m}$

Target coordinate errors (OPTIMUM - Laser Tracker) and expanded uncertainties (2σ) /mm



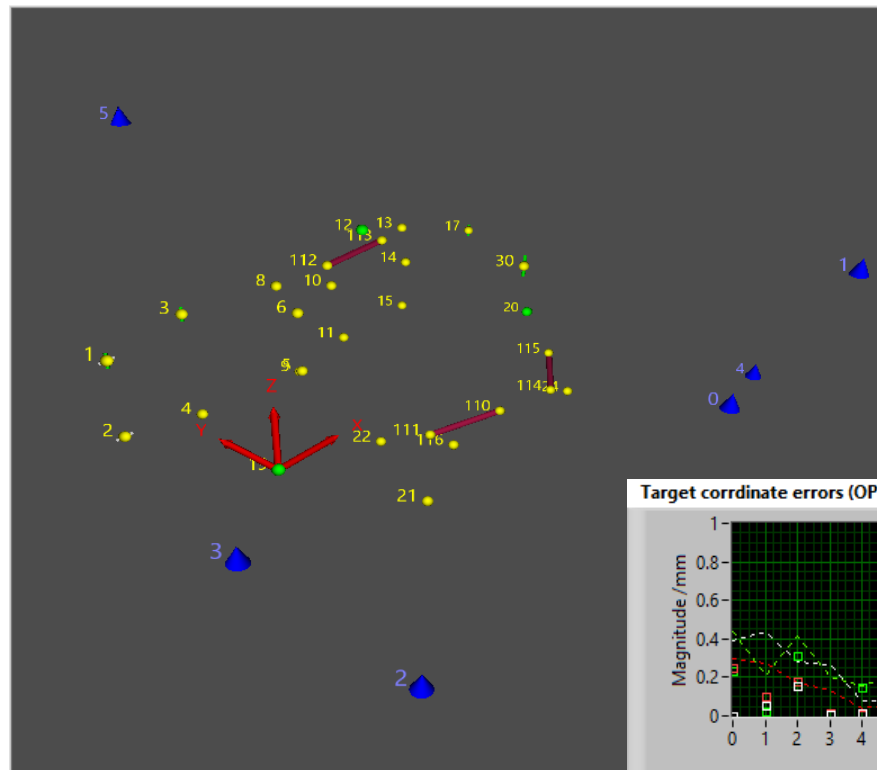
Scale bar length /mm	OPTIMUM	Scale bar length /mm	
		- AT960-mr/mm	AT960-mr
	999.7884	0.089	999.8775
	999.9054	0.032	999.9374
	999.8871	0.045	999.9319

Range residuals /mm



Simulated additional Sensor

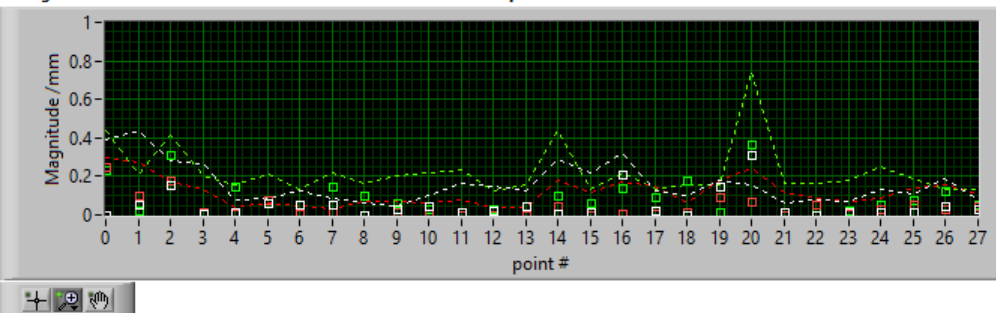
3D Picture



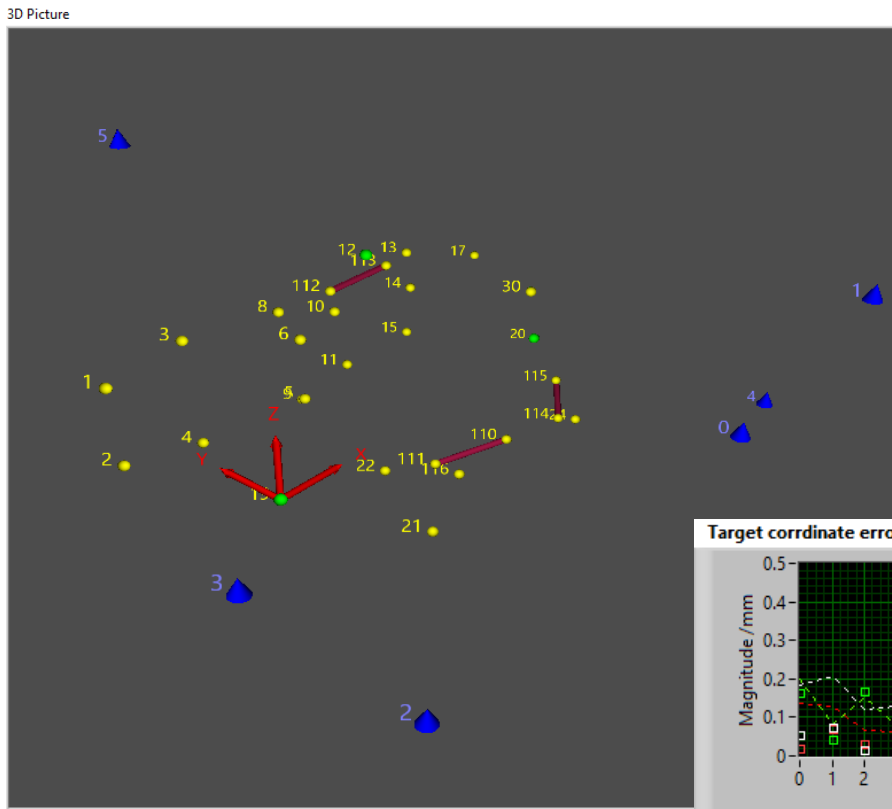
- Additional sensor
- Uncertainty reduced by ~3-5x
- Optimisation of geometry could improve further

Scale bar length /mm OPTIMUM	OPTIMUM - AT960-mr /mm	Scale bar length /mm AT960-mr
999.9084	-0.031	999.8775
999.9099	0.027	999.9374
999.9215	0.01	999.9319

Target coordinate errors (OPTIMUM - Laser Tracker) and expanded uncertainties (2σ) /mm



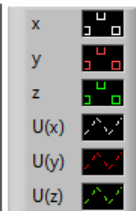
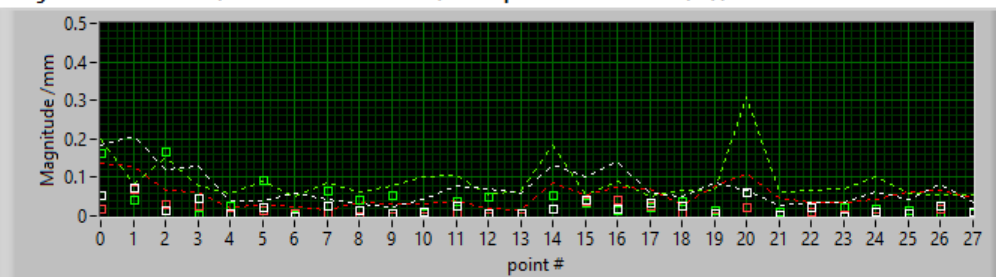
Simulated with reduced range noise



- Reduce range uncertainty to 10 μm , in-line with expected improvements with additional hardware
- Uncertainties reduce to $< 100 \mu\text{m}$

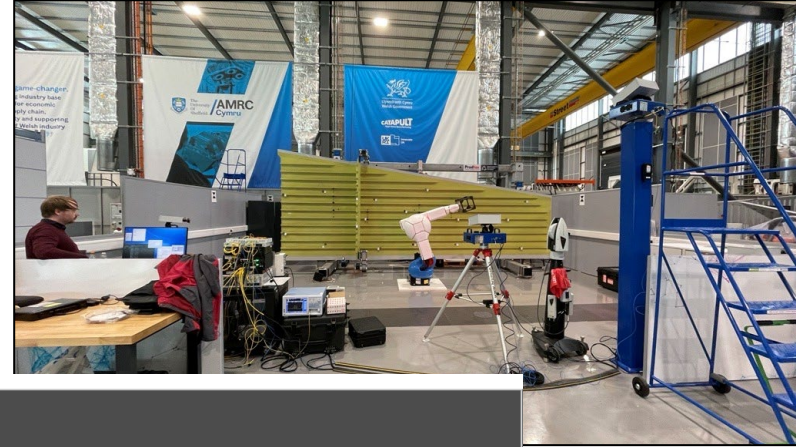
Scale bar length /mm OPTIMUM	OPTIMUM - AT960-mr /mm	Scale bar length /mm AT960-mr
999.8987	-0.021	999.8775
999.9479	-0.011	999.9374
999.9224	0.0094	999.9319

Target coordinate errors (OPTIMUM - Laser Tracker) and expanded uncertainties (2σ) /mm

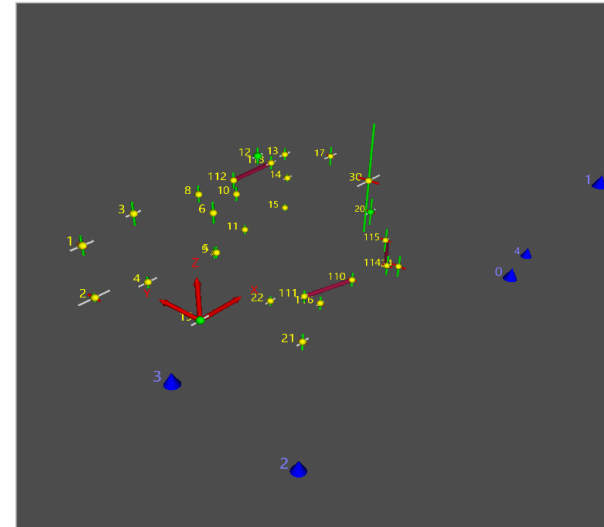


Conclusions from initial test results

- Range residuals show a **standard deviation of 20 μm** .
 - **Range noise suppression hardware** should improve this in the near future
- **Simulated measurement results for 5 sensor setup consistent with observations**
 - suggesting **the model is a good** representation of reality
 - **No obvious un-modelled systematic** behaviour (within current noise limits)
- Uncertainty achieved depends on the **number of sensors** deployed and the **geometry** of the setup.
 - More sensors better
 - More targets better
 - Better to have **sensors all round the measurement volume**
- Achieving **<100 μm ($k = 2$) volumetric uncertainty** believed to be **achievable soon**.
- The system **tells us what the uncertainty is** with confidence
 - See target ID 30 in 3D plot



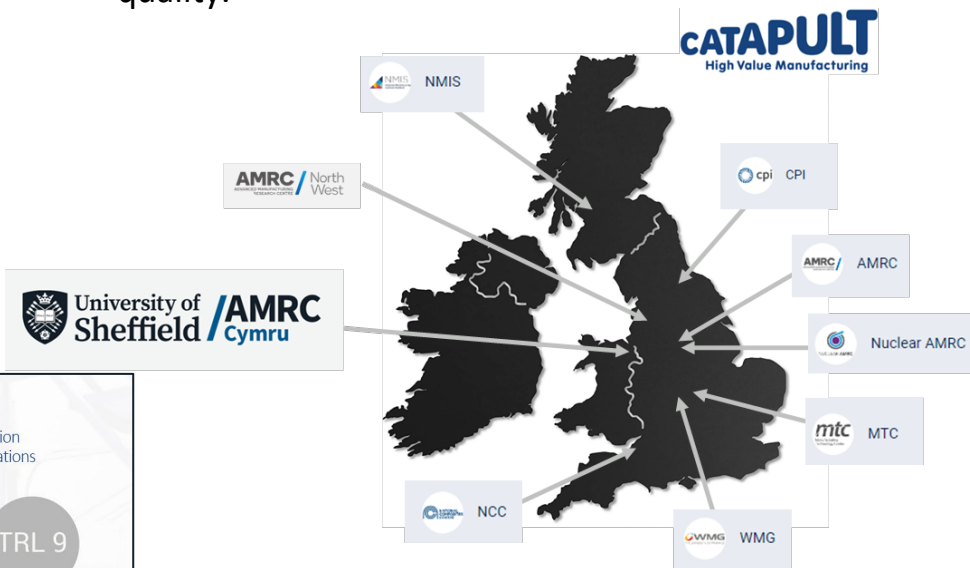
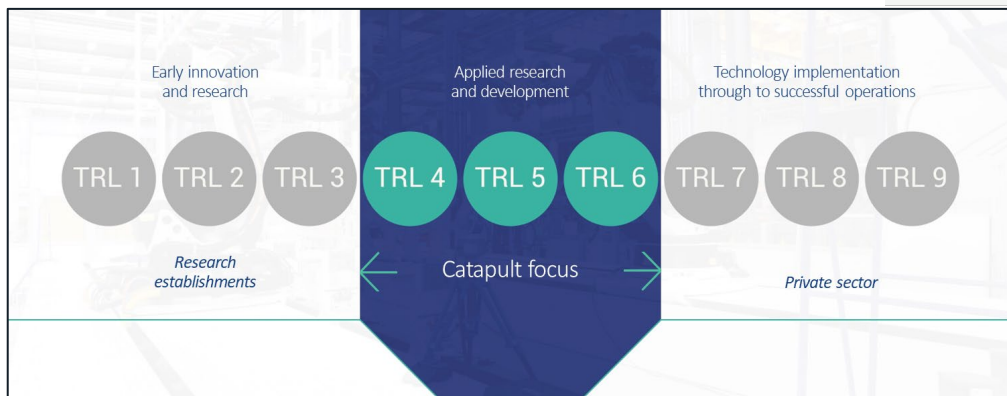
3D Picture



AMRC Cymru



Introduced to support the region's manufacturing community access advanced technologies to drive improvements in productivity, performance and quality.



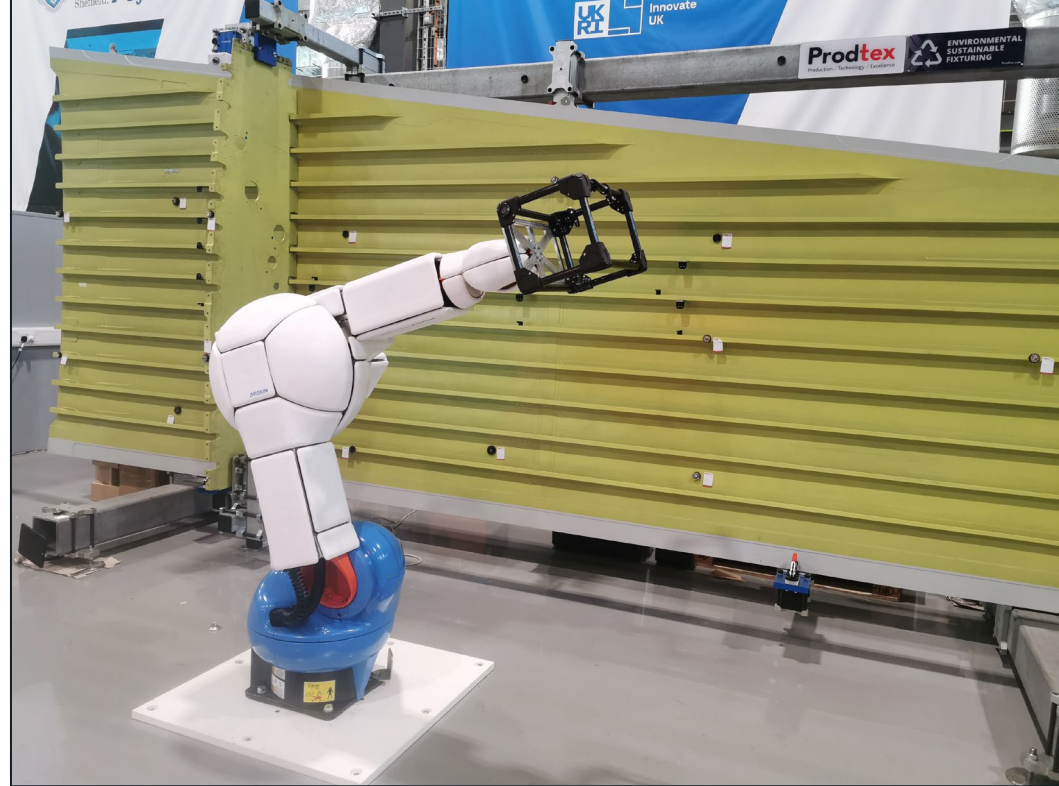
Key themes:

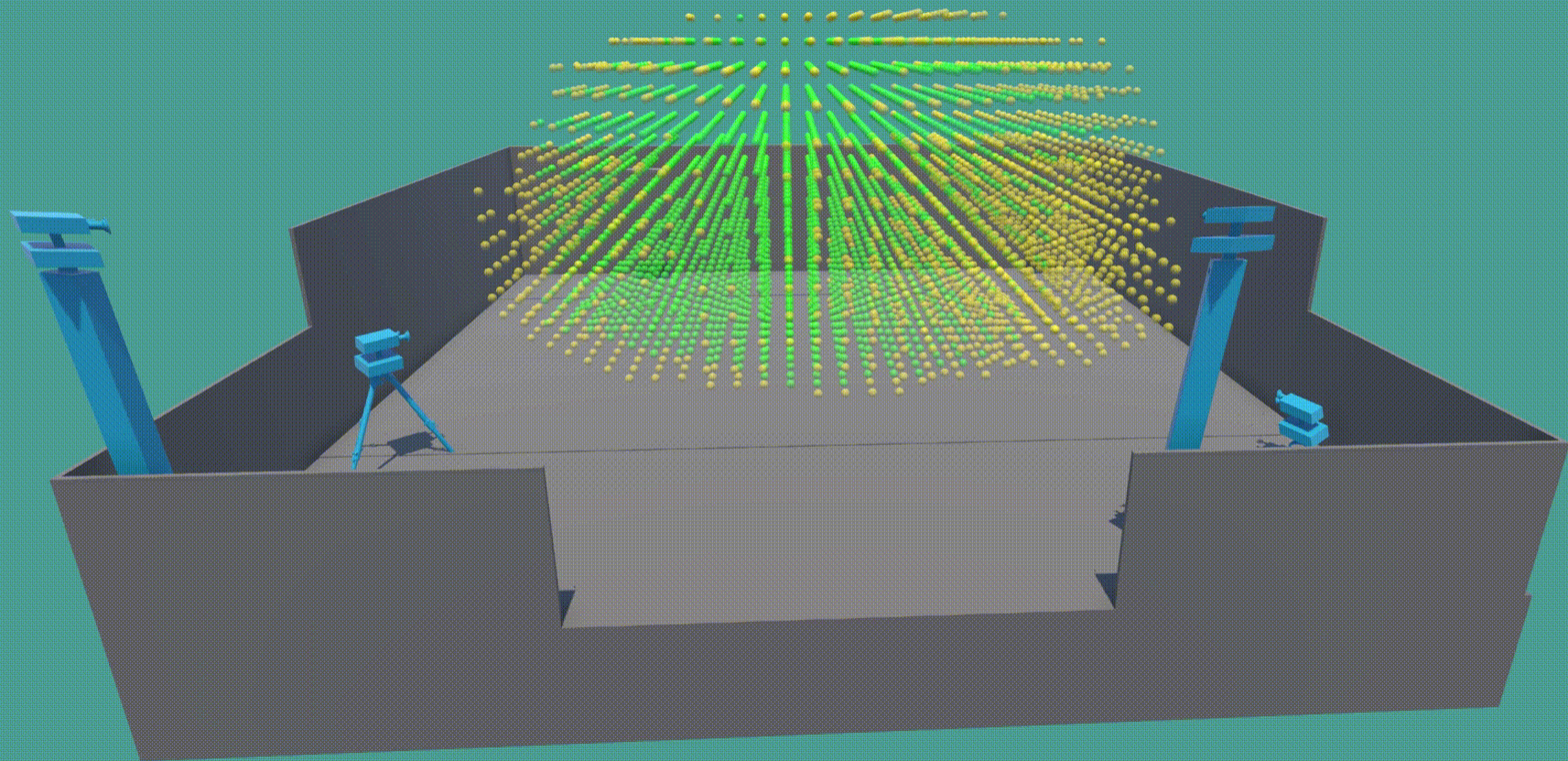
- Design
- Automation
- Manufacturing Intelligence

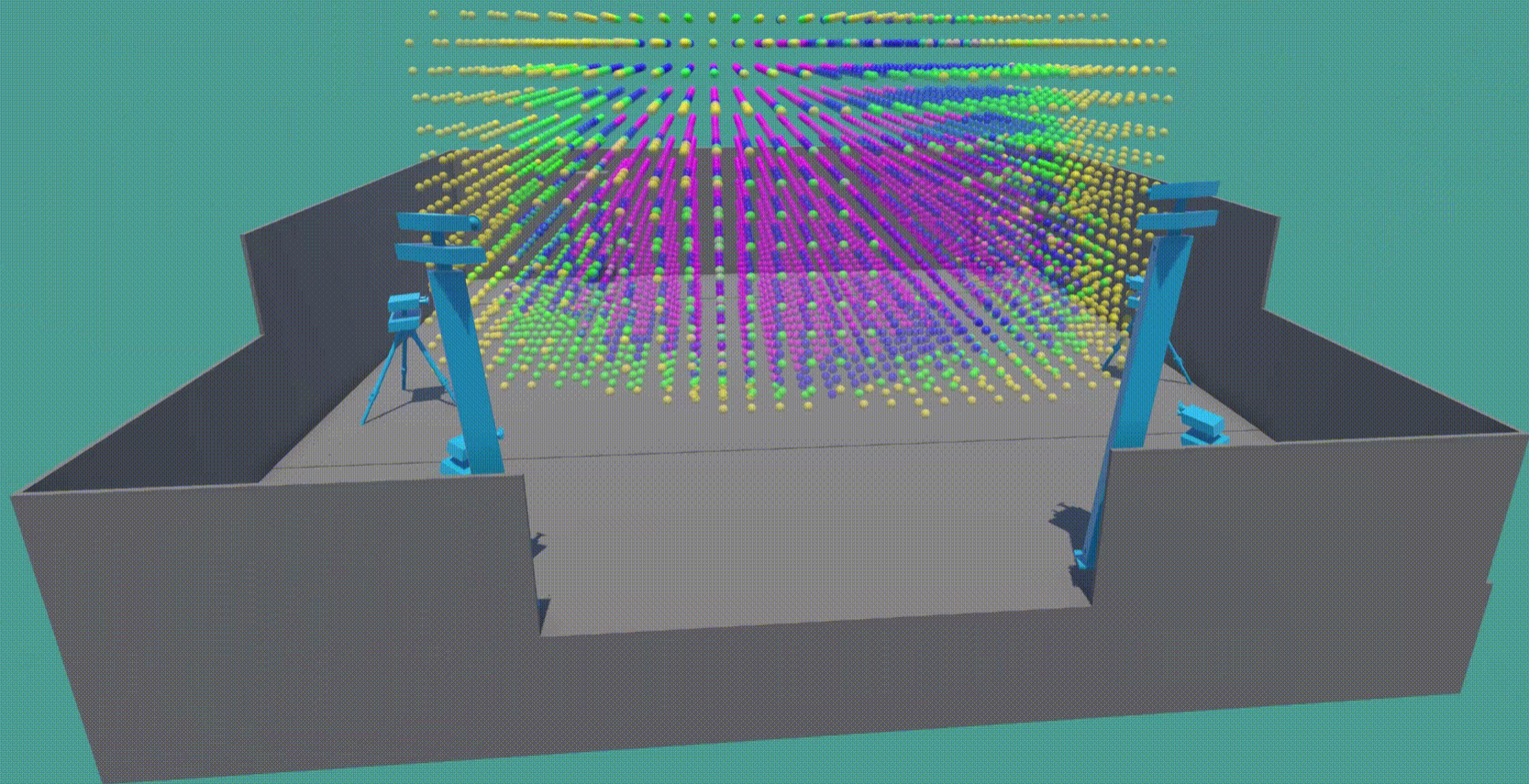


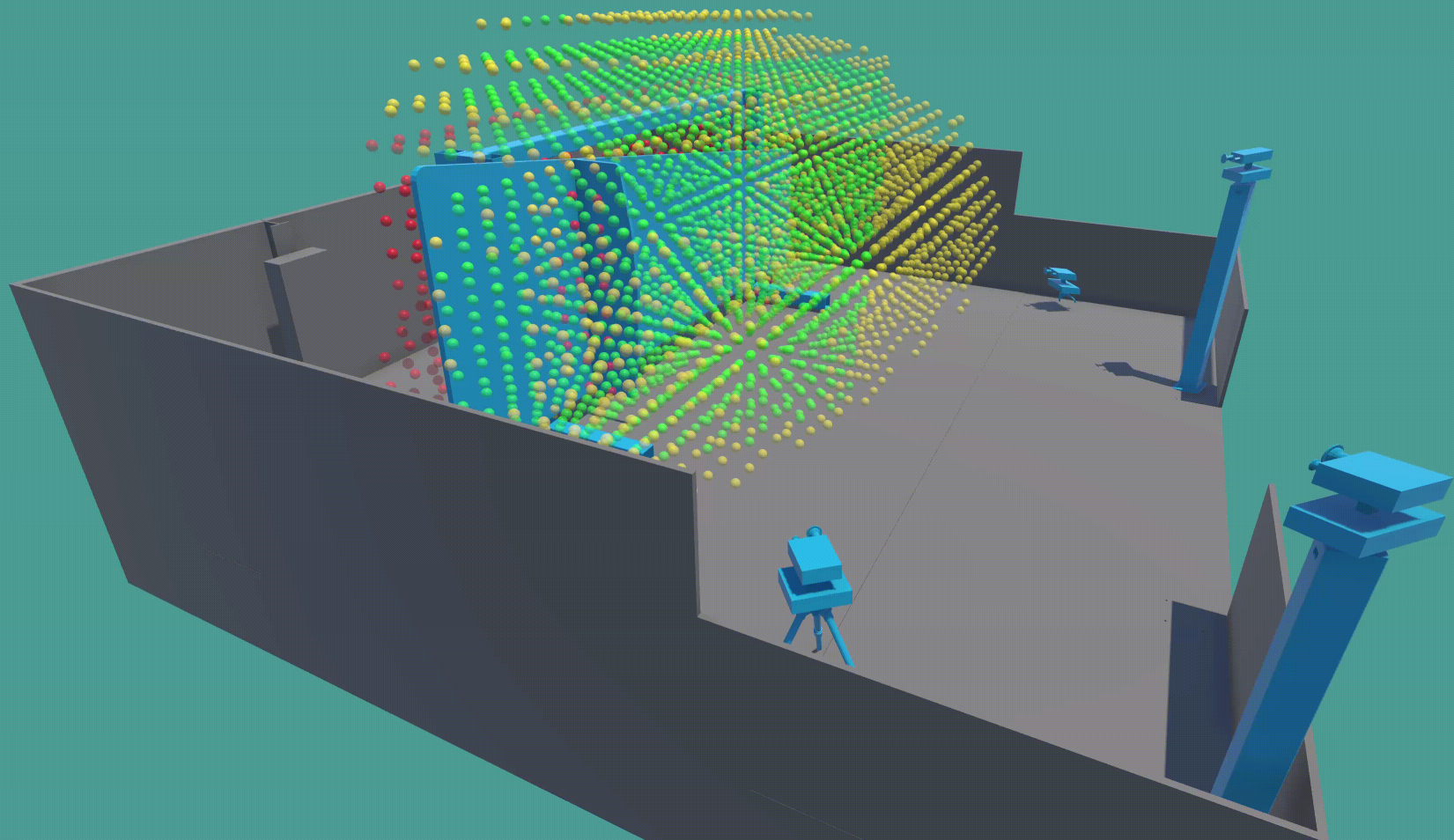
Application:

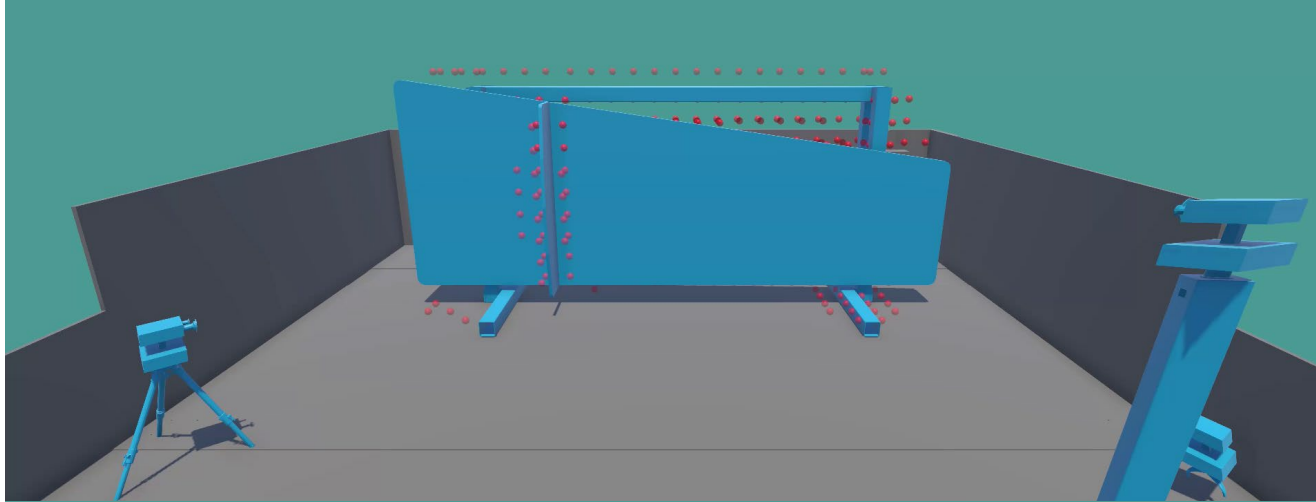
- Automation
 - Serial arm / gantry robots
 - Large machine tools
- Jigs / fixture
 - Certification
 - Monitoring
 - Re-configuration
- Process monitoring
 - Continuous monitoring of process
 - Alignment of large assemblies
 - Dynamic metrology assisted machining, assembly and automation.





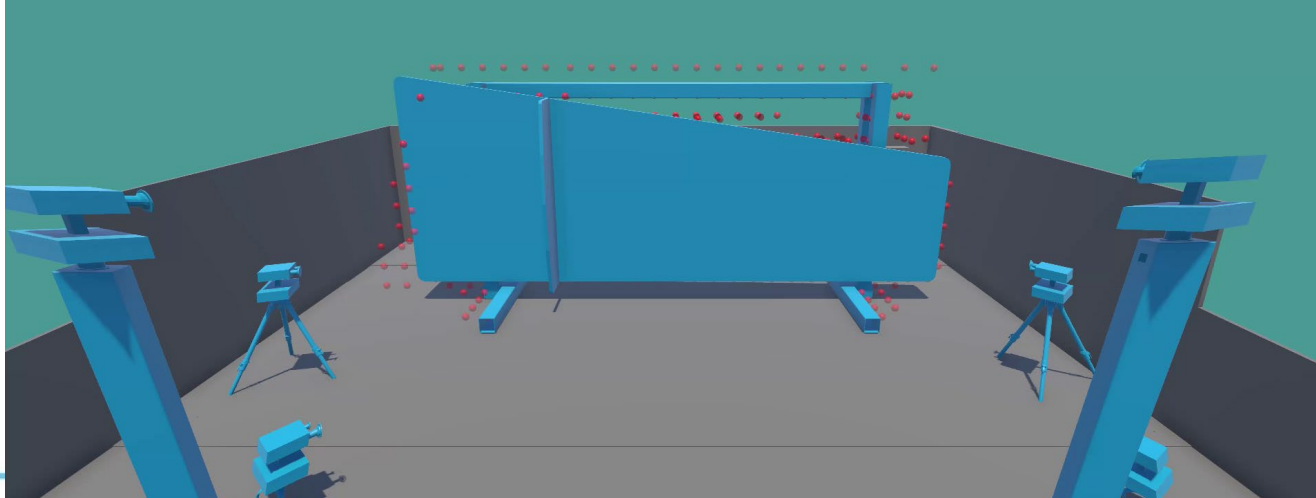




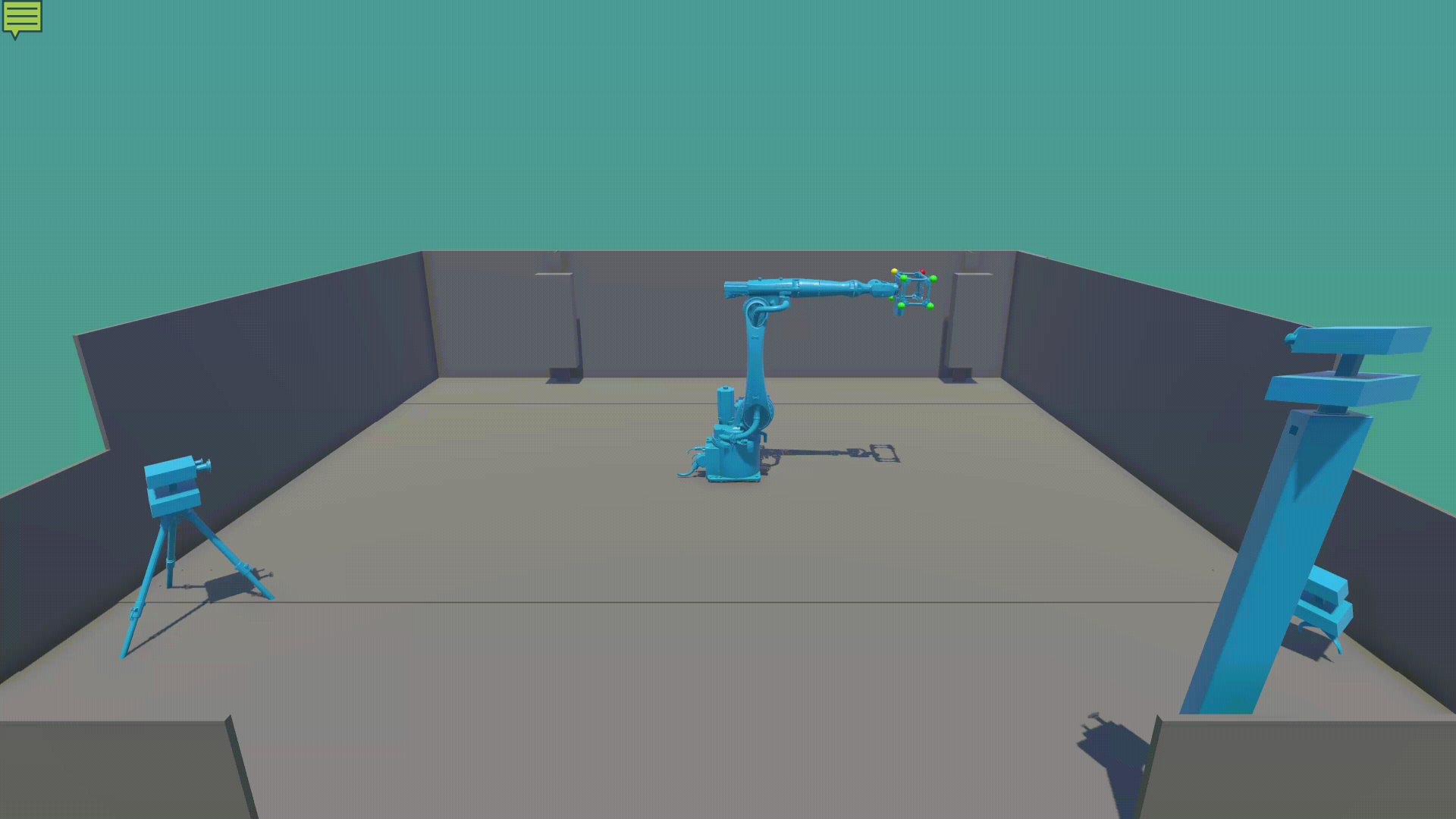


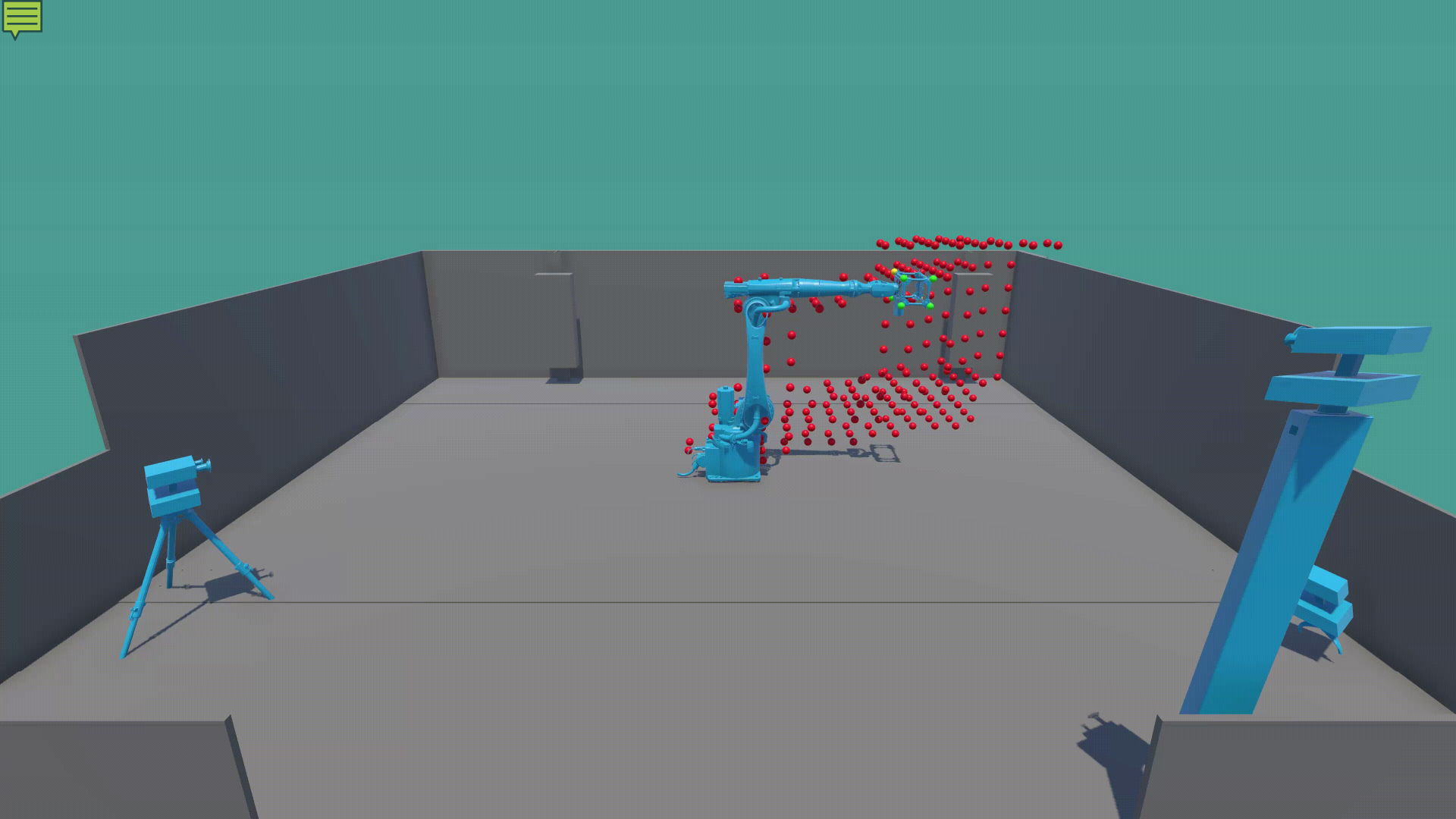
4 sensor network

Line of sight issues



6 sensor network





Next Steps:

- NPL and AMRC Cymru working closely to develop and test the OPTIMUM system
- 'Optimise' sensor positions for future experiments and applications
- Develop simulation capability to include uncertainty estimation
- Test 6 DoF accuracy for automation / robotic applications.

Thank you.

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**TOMORROW.
DONE BETTER.**