

GENERATING MULTI-LEVEL OF DETAILS FOR THREE-DIMENSIONAL
BUILDING MODEL USING TERRESTRIAL LASER SCANNING DATA

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*UNTUK TUHAN, BANGSA, DAN ALMAMATER,
dedikasi terbesar untuk restu orang tua,
dan dukungan sahabat-sahabat setia.*

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ABSTRACT

Terrestrial Laser Scanner (TLS) has been used by various applications to measure three-dimensional (3D) objects. Developments in 3D modelling open the possibility to visualize the environment more fascinating. 3D city model, as a city representation, is an essential tool for many applications. City Geographic Markup Language (CityGML) has defined a standard for 3D building models in 3D city model at five different levels of detail (LOD) for enabling the flexibility in visualization. In this research, the advantages of TLS for generating point cloud of building details and the modelling process of point cloud were explored. Point cloud from TLS was used to generate a building model in multi-LOD. The methodology in this research generated LOD3, LOD2, and LOD1 from the same point cloud data. Results from this research were models in LOD3, LOD2, and LOD1 in surface models and also in Extensive Markup Language (XML) files. In the data validation, the Root Means Square Error (RMSE) for the LOD3 was 0.037 meter. Based on the CityGML requirement, minimum accuracy for LOD3 is 0.5 meter. The results show that TLS can be used to generate the multi-LODs.

ABSTRAK

Laser Pengimbas Bumi (TLS) telah digunakan dalam pelbagai aplikasi untuk mengukur objek tiga-dimensi (3D). Perkembangan dalam pembuatan model 3D membuka kesempatan untuk menggambarkan persekitaran dalam 3D dengan lebih menarik. Model 3D bandar, sebagai gambaran bandar, adalah alat penting untuk banyak aplikasi. Bahasa Penanda Geografi Bandar (CityGML) telah mentakrifkan satu piawaian bagi model bangunan 3D di lima tahapan terperinci (LOD) untuk membolehkan kepelbagaian dalam visualisasi. Dalam kajian ini, kelebihan TLS untuk menghasilkan titik awan daripada butiran bangunan dan proses pemodelan titik awan telah diterokai. Titik awan daripada TLS telah digunakan untuk menjana model bangunan dalam pelbagai LOD. Kaedah dalam kajian ini menjana LOD3, LOD2, dan LOD1 daripada titik-titik awan yang sama. Hasil dari kajian ini adalah model dalam LOD3, LOD2, dan LOD1 dalam model permukaan dan juga dalam fail Bahasa Penanda Boleh Perluas (XML). Dalam pengesahan data, Ralat Purata Akar Kuasa Dua (RMSE) untuk LOD3 adalah 0.037 meter. Berdasarkan kepada ketentuan CityGML, ketepatan minimum bagi LOD3 adalah 0.5 meter. Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahawa TLS boleh digunakan bagi menjana pelbagai LOD.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	TITLE	PAGE
	STUDENT'S DECLARATION	ii
	DEDICATION	iii
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	IV
	ABSTRACT	V
	ABSTRAK	VI
	TABLE OF CONTENTS	VII
	LIST OF TABLES	XI
	LIST OF FIGURES	XII
	LIS OF ABBREVIATIONS	XV
	LIST OF APPENDICES	XVII
1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Background Of Study	1
	1.2Problem Statement	4
	1.3Objectives Of Study	6
	1.4Research Questions	6

1.5	Scope of Study	7
1.6	Significance of Study	7
1.7	Thesis Design	8
2.0	LITERATURE REVIEW	10
2.1	Introduction to 3D City Model and CityGML	10
2.2	Representing Building Model in Multi-LOD	13
2.2.1	Concept of Multi-LOD	14
2.2.2	Previous Works to Create Multi-LOD	18
2.3	Principle of Laser Scanning	23
2.3.1	Basic Theory of Terrestrial Laser Scanner	24
2.3.2	Coordinate System of Point Cloud	30
2.4	Data Capture for Building Model Using TLS	35
2.5	3D Modelling from Point Cloud	39
2.5.1	Representation of 3D Model	40
2.5.1.1	Surface Model	41
2.5.1.2	Solid Model	43
2.5.2	Methods to Generate 3D Model from Point Cloud	46
2.5.2.1	Pre-Processing	46
2.5.2.2	Facade Reconstruction	51
2.6	Visualization of Multi-LOD Using CityGML	55
2.7	Summary	56
3.0	METHODOLOGY	59
3.1	Data Capture	61
3.2	Point Cloud Processing	62

3.2.1	Registration	63
3.2.2	Meshing and Filtering Processing	64
3.2.3	3D Modelling	67
3.2.4	Generating CityGML Files	68
3.3	Data Analysis	69
3.4	Summary	69
4.0	STUDY CASE	71
4.1	Object Study	71
4.2	Scanning Process	73
4.3	Point Cloud Processing Using <i>Cyclone</i>	76
4.4	3D Modelling	80
4.4.1	Generating LOD3	81
4.4.2	Generating LOD2	84
4.4.3	Generating LOD1	85
4.5	Visualization Of GML File	87
4.6	Summary	88
5.0	RESULT AND ANALYSIS	89
5.1	Point Cloud	89
5.2	3D Model Of Building	92
5.3	Representation In Citygml Format	93
5.4	Data Comparison	94
5.5	Summary	99

6.0	CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	100
	6.1Conclusion	100
	6.2Recommendation	106
	REFERENCES	107
	APPENDIX (A-E)	118-140

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
1.1	Thesis Design and Content	9
2.1	Definition of LOD	15
2.2	Semantic themes of the class <i>_AbstractBuilding</i>	18
2.3	TLS Specification from different manufactures	28
2.4	Level of details and its raw data set from previous works	56
2.5	TLS Application from previous works	57
3.1	Preset of TLS resolution	62
5.1	Building dimension from the provided floor plan	94
5.2	Building measurement using Distometer	96
5.3	Comparison between Distometer and TLS	97
5.4	Comparison between the data source with the models	98

LIST OF FIGURES

TABLE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
1.1	3D City Modelling	2
1.2	Level of Details for 3D Building Model	3
1.3	(a) Example of TLS and (b) point cloud resulted from TLS	4
2.1	Example of 3D City Model in Berlin	11
2.2	LODs defined by CityGML	15
2.3	Example of XML schema for LOD1	16
2.4	Example of XML schema for LOD2	16
2.5	Example of XML schema for LOD3	17
2.6	3Dmodel of building in LOD119	
2.7	The Principle of Close-Range Photogrammetry	20
2.8	Point cloud building from ALS in intensity colour	21
2.9	The result of model from Remondino <i>et al.</i> (2009)	22
2.10	Several Types of TLS	23
2.11	Diagram of Optical Distance Measurement	25
2.12	Distance Measurement in TLS	26
2.13	Comparison of techniques used in TLS	28
2.14	Local Coordinate System in TLS	30
2.15	Scanning from different scan station using different local coordinate system	31
2.16	Transformation in registration process	32
2.17	Tie point configuration in the overlap area	33
2.18	Examples of target in many shapes	34
2.19	An example of mounted mobile TLS on a vehicle	36

2.20	Static TLS mounted on high tripod	37
2.21	TLS Application for building measurement	38
2.22	Facade of a building captured using TLS	38
2.23	Result of integrated point clouds	39
2.24	Elements in Polygonal Modelling	41
2.25	Example of 3D model using subdivision of surface model	43
2.26	Example of 3D object represented in solid model	44
2.27	Example of 3D solid model using CSG	45
2.28	Building and environment represented in voxel	45
2.29	Example of simplification on point cloud	47
2.30	Point cloud simplification using RLS algorithm	48
2.31	Example of algorithm of RLS	48
2.32	Distribution of normal value of roof structure	49
2.33	Re-sampling using RIMLS	50
2.34	Edge detection to detect boundary of building roof	52
2.35	Planar region for segmenting roof structure	53
2.36	Segmentation of building facade using colour information	54
2.37	Result of LOD1	55
2.38	Conclusion from literature review	58
3.1	Diagram Flow for Research Methodology	59
3.2	Flowchart for Data Processing	60
3.3	Workflow of re-sampling for edge extraction	65
3.4	Wall and roof simplification for generating LOD2	66
3.5	Workflow for removing roof structure	67
3.6	TLS as a single measurement tool for CityGML	70
4.1	Masjid Lama Mulong, Kelantan	72
4.2	Location of Masjid Mulong	72
4.3	<i>Leica C10</i>	73
4.4	<i>Leica Disto D210</i>	74
4.5	HDS target for Leica	75
4.6	Sketch of Scanned Area Masjid Lama Mulong, Kelantan	75
4.7	Scanner and target positions	77
4.8	Registered point cloud	78
4.9	Colorized point cloud	78

4.10	Point cloud of building details	79
4.11	Comparison between the highly reduction, medium reduction, and original point cloud	80
4.12	(left) Original meshed point cloud and (right) medium-reduced point cloud	81
4.13	After filtered using RIMLS	81
4.14	Result of building edges after filtering process	82
4.15	Example of manual digitations in <i>SketchUp</i>	82
4.16	Result of LOD3 in <i>SketchUp</i>	83
4.17	Result of filtering for LOD2 in <i>Meshlab</i>	84
4.18	Result of LOD2 in <i>SketchUp</i>	85
4.19	Colouring result from the filtering process	86
4.20	Result of LOD1 in <i>SketchUp</i>	86
4.21	Visualization of XML files in LandXplorer	87
4.22	Comparison of the appearance of Masjid Mulong	88
5.1	Area surrounding the scanned building	90
5.2	Tangential concept in laser beam	90
5.3	Point cloud of the scanned building	92
5.4	Building model in LOD1, LOD2, and LOD3	93
5.5	3D Model Visualization in LandXplorer	94
5.6	Illustration of information from building floor plan	95
5.7	Data comparison between Distometer, TLS	97
5.8	Data comparison between point cloud and models	98
6.1	Workflow to plan building scanning	101
6.2	Workflow to generate LOD3	103
6.3	Workflow to derive LOD2 and LOD1 from LOD3	104

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

2D	Two-Dimensional
3D	Three-Dimensional
ADE	Application Domain Extensions
ALS	Airborne Laser Scanner
AMCW	Amplitude-Modulated Continues Wave
APSS	Algebraic Point Set Surfaces
BRep	Boundary Representation
BSP	Binary Space Partitioning
BW	Black/White
CAD	Computer-Aided Design
CityGML	City Geographic Mark-Up Language
COLLADA	Collaborative Design Activity
CSG	Constructive Solid Geometry
DSM	Digital Surface Model
DTM	Digital Terrain Model
FMCW	Frequency-Modulated Continues Wave
GPS	Global Positioning System
HDS	High Definition System
IFC	Industrial Foundation Class
IMLS	Implicit Moving Least Squares
IMU	Inertial Measurement Unit
KML	Keyhole Markup Language
LASER	Light Amplification by The Stimulated Emission of Radiation
LiDAR	Light Detection And Ranging

LOD	Levels Of Details
MLS	Moving Least Squares
OGC	Open Geospatial Consortium
RIMLS	Robust Implicit Moving Least Squares
RLS	Randomized Linear Scan
SPSS	Simple Point Set Surface
TLS	Terrestrial Laser Scanner
TOF	Time-Of-Flight
UAV	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
X3D	Web 3D Consortium
XML	Extensive Markup Language

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX	TITLE	PAGE
A	UML Design for CityGML	118
B	Point clouds from each scan station	119
C	Report from Registration Process	122
D	XML Code from LOD3	124
E	XML Code from LOD2	131
F	XML Code from LOD1	137

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Nowadays, representing features on the earth could be more fascinating since the two dimensional (2D) map has been replaced by the development of three-dimensional (3D) map. Within the last 10 years, a term ‘3D city model’, has become more popular (Meng & Forberg, 2007). As illustrated in Figure 1.1, the 3D city model is a digital representation of a city or an urban area. It is an important tool for managing the urban area since the increasing growth in urbanization.

Various fields such as urban planning and management, facility location, disaster management, car-navigation systems, use 3D city model as an essential tool to facilitate further analysis related to urban or environmental issues. It integrates large numbers of spatial objects in different classes and different data models and structures.



Figure 1.13D City Modelling (Doellner *et al.*, 2006)

In a 3D city model, building is the main object. In order to fulfil the requirement for efficient visualization of 3D city model, the new Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) created City Geographic Mark-Up Language (CityGML) defining 3D city model in five Levels of Details (LOD). It categorizes 3D model from LOD0 to LOD4 for efficiency in visualization (OGC, 2012).

Higher levels of detail represent more detailed and accurate 3D model. LOD0 is used to represent Digital Surface Model (DSM) (Fan & Meng, 2011). Building structure is formed from LOD1 to LOD4, as can be seen in Figure 1.2.

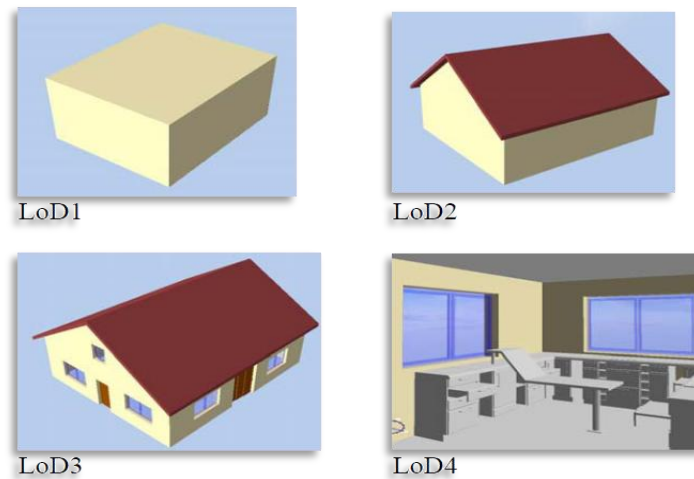


Figure 1.2Level of Details for 3D Building Model (Fan & Meng, 2011)

As shown in Figure 1.2, each LOD has different style to visualize the same building. LOD1 is the most simplest and LOD4 is the most complex. The interior details are visualized in LOD4. This standard can help 3D model provider in communicating with the user about the type of LOD required by user. Thus, visualization of 3D building model can be categorized according to the complexity of the model.

To generate 3D model of building, especially for different LODs (multi-LOD), become an interest topic in surveying. In recent years, great progress has been made in terms of accuracy and speed in order to obtain and render 3D models of buildings (Martinez *et al.*, 2012). Techniques for generating 3D model vary from instruments used to capture 3D data up to methods to process the data into 3D model. Meanwhile, previous works (Radosevic, 2010; Koch & Kaehler, 2009; and Remondino *et al.*, 2009) integrated several sensors e.g. laser scanner and photogrammetry to obtain a 3D model in different LOD.

On the other hand, studies on Terrestrial Laser Scanner (TLS) application as a 3D measurement tools are increasingly investigated. TLS has been established as a measurement method for fast, area-wide 3D-surveying (Zogg, 2008). It has a

promising technique and potential to be accepted as an additional surveying technology (Schulz, 2007). Using TLS, a large area can be scanned, resulting point cloud, as shown in Figure 1.3.

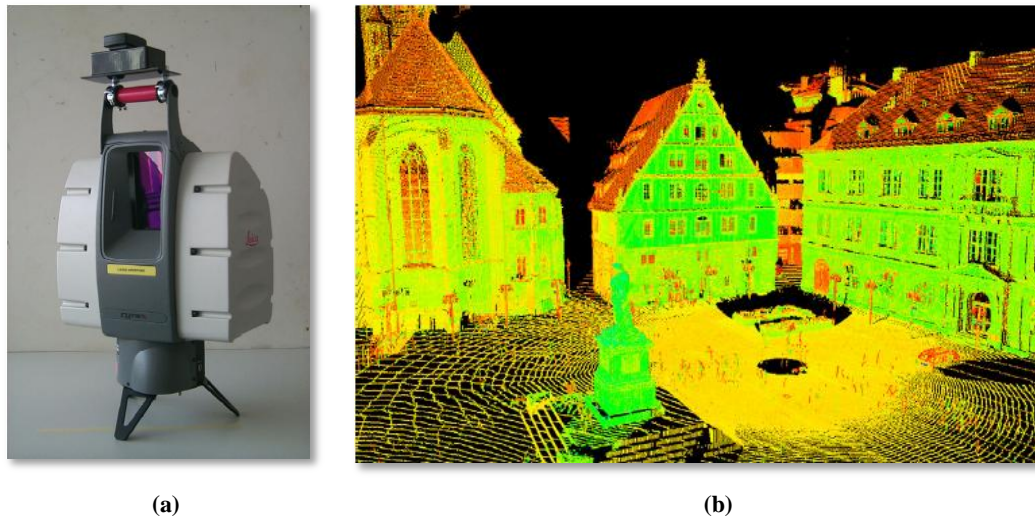


Figure 1.3(a) Example of TLS and (b) point cloud resulted from TLS (Boehler & Marbs, 2003)

Unlike photogrammetry, TLS is an active sensor that can generate point clouds in 3D coordinate system directly. It is manufactured with laser emitter and receiver to capture 3D object and represent it with thousands point clouds containing 3D information of scanned area without scaling. However, in the process of 3D city modeling, this tool is usually used as an additional tool to capture the building detail in LOD3 or LOD4 (Boulaassalet *et al.*, 2011).

1.2 Problem Statement

3D city model, especially LOD1, LOD2, and LOD3, is necessary tools in the process to represent a city (Delavar & Majdabadi, 2001; Doellner *et al.*, 2006; and

Falkowski *et al.*,2009). During the process of generating multi-LOD for 3D model of buildings, there were several issues such as in the data acquisition and in the modelling process of multi-LOD. In the data acquisition, previous works usually integrate several sensors to generate multi-LOD which cost more time and money. On the other hand, processing for integrating data from several sensors is more difficult than using single sensor.

TLS is still in investigation to be functioned as a single measurement tool for capturing detailed object, especially building details such as roof of buildings (Radosevic, 2010). Its application and data processing has also developed into specific issues such as automatic data filtering and point cloud processing.

Though TLS produces point clouds directly after scanning the object, to obtain a 3D model, it is still required to be processed. Point cloud contains very rich of geometric details and a large number of polygonal elements, producing problems for further procedures (Manferdini & Remondino, 2010). Point cloud processing usually takes a longer time compare to its data capturing (Remondino, 2011). Also, users are required to switch between several software products during the data processing (Mumtaz, 2008). According to Zogg (2008), state-of-the-art for 3D point cloud processing is still far behind compared to the data acquisition.

Another problem related to this topic is the process in generating CityGML models. Although CityGML defines the multi-LOD and specifically addresses the object's semantics and the representation of thematic properties, it does not indicate any method in the process of generating multi-LOD. Custom program to generate the multi-LOD is still required to generate lower LODs from a higher LOD. A complete method to cover the construction of multi-LOD from the data acquisition up to the visualization is necessary.

1.3 Objectives of Study

The aim of the study is to develop a method for generating multi-LOD of building. The objectives for the research are:

1. To investigate efficient method of capturing 3D data of building using TLS
2. To enhance method in generating building details in 3D model from point cloud
3. To investigate process of generating LOD1, LOD2, LOD3 from the same data source.

1.4 Research Questions

In order to fulfil the objectives of study, this research will be carried out to answer the following questions:

- a. How to scan building efficiently using TLS?
- b. How to optimize the quality of the point cloud for LOD application?
- c. How to generate 3D model in LOD3 from point cloud?
- d. How to generate multi-LOD from the same data source?
- e. How to generate CityGML data from surface model?

1.5 Scope of Study

In this research, the main object is a building. Data capture was conducted using Terrestrial Laser Scanner (TLS) as a measurement tool. Point clouds generated by TLS were used to generate 3D digital detailed model of building, from LOD1 to LOD3.

Focus in this research is to create a 3D model of building in LOD3, LOD2, and LOD1 using TLS, as a single measurement tool. The process to generate the multi-LOD follows the LODs standard defined by CityGML.

Final results are a building model in multi-LOD, from LOD1 up to LOD3 in surface model and also in CityGML format. All the models were managed to be ready for visualization in CityGML. In this research, visualization for the multi-LOD is only for showing a frame of the static mode of visualization, not for the dynamic map visualization.

1.6 Significance of Study

As the 3D model plays an important role in many sectors, the demand of 3D city model is increasing. Requirement for representing the 3D model in different scale and detail is necessary for 3D city model users. Thus, this research addresses the variety of needs of 3D model for different applications.

Study about TLS for data acquisition, point cloud processing, modelling, generalization, and visualization were conducted in this research. Visualization on different LOD that usually made by integrating sensors was replaced by using point

cloud from TLS. Thus, this research gives comprehensive discussion on generating and visualizing 3D model using TLS for 3D city modelling.

1.7 Thesis Design

The thesis is divided into six chapters elaborating on concept, process and result in generating multi-LOD. In the literature review section, previous works and related study are also included. Content of those six chapters are described in Table 1.1.

Chapter 1 explains a brief introduction of this study. This chapter contains the basic concept of the research including background, problem statements, scope of study, and also the significant of this research.

Related studies in this topic are explained in Chapter 2. This chapter discusses the brief theories and experiments from previous works about generating multi-LOD of building in CityGML, the use of TLS, and also 3D modeling.

In Chapter 3 and Chapter 4, methodology and implementation are explained. Chapter 3 explains the methodology that is used in this research using flowchart and a brief description. In Chapter 4, the implementation of methodology is explained in detail for each process.

Results and analysis of this research is explained in Chapter 5. Results from the implementations are reported with the aid of figures and tables. Final outputs from the methodology are also analyzed in this chapter. Lastly, Chapter 6 discuss about the answer for the entire research questions with conclusion and recommendation.

Table 1.1 :Thesis Design and Content

Introduction	Background, Problems, Objectives, Research Questions, Scope, Significance, Thesis Design			
Literature review	Intro CityGML			
	LODs in Building Model	Concept		
		Previous Works		
	Principle of TLS	Basic Theory		
		Coordinate System		
	Data Capture For Building Model			
	3Dmodelling	Concept of Representation	Surface	
			Solid	
		Previous Works	Pre-Processing	
	Façade Reconstruction			
Summary				
Methodology	Data Capture			
	Processing	Registration		
		Meshing, Filtering		
		3DModeling		
		Generating Citygml Files		
	Analysis			
Summary				
Implementation	Object Study			
	Scanning			
	Point Cloud Processing			
	3DModeling	LOD3		
		LOD2		
		LOD1		
	Visualization			
	Summary			
Result & Analysis	Point Cloud Processing			
	3DModel			
	CityGML File			
	Measurement Comparison			
	Summary			
Conclusion & Recommendation	Conclusion			
	Recommendation			

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