

A DEVELOPMENT IN SEMI AUTOMATISATION OF UAV TERRESTRIAL DIRECT GEOREFERENCE

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Abstract. Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) can be used together with a Robotic Total Station in Terrestrial Direct Georeference system. More sophisticate terrestrial survey equipment can identify UAV position automatically, this ability eliminate the problem of moving target focusing and be able to acquire target coordinate continuously and make UAV system become reliable as an alternative solution to map some cluster of parcels in rural or village area which has less and difficult transportation facility and as the solution to provide spatial data for land administration purpose too. In spite of UAV technology characterize with low altitude flight, adaptive with the environment, climate condition problem overcoming like cloud cover, there is some question in geometric accuracy of aerial photo map produced from UAV system. UAV geometric accuracy problem caused by several factor likes; platform flight instability, flying height variation as wind influences causing various photo scale. To solve the problem, modification of existing method carried out by introducing accurate control points into aerial photo image. The modification offered in this research is the combination between UAV and Robotic Total Station. Robotic total station follows every UAV movement and acquired its position in the same time, these coordinate information applying as the coordinate of photo central. Aerial photo will have an accurate central photo both horizontal (x,y) and vertical (z). The error effect reduced significantly using these measured coordinate photo from a robotic total station on the ground and yield accurate map.

Keywords: UAV, Robotic, Terrestrial

1. Research Background

Mapping engineering developments, particularly cadastral mapping, has provided some options to satisfy the need of high resolution land parcel data with various acquisition cost. Interpreters tend to obtain as maximal information as possible from the image they have; however, it is limited by resolutions and costs should be spent to acquire the image.

Cunningham, K. (2011) found that the quality of the cadastral survey are directly related to population density and variety for each village, so often found in some of the villages with no cadastral maps that meet the standards of cadastral maps. The existence accurate map for cadastral purposes for each village with diverse characteristics of population and topography is a challenge to seek a appropriate method.

Current technology developments tend to overcome accuracy, precision, and cost issues, for example, how to acquire high resolution images at low costs and may be used to extract desirable information within map accuracy standard for certain scale. It is seen in evolution of remote sensing methods particularly in photogrammetry using *Unmanned Aerial Vehicle* (UAV) to observe and control land ownership status accurately and complete.

Many studies were designed to provide high resolutions and accuracy image map, among of it through integrating cameras with GPS navigation for geometric correction. However, the resulted map is not yet meets accuracy standard of 1: 1.000 map scale. To improve the methods, an unmanned aerial vehicle tracking system using a Robotic Total Station was developed to produce maps for cadastre

purpose at better geometric accuracy as firstly we introduce as Terrestrial Direct Georeferencing System in earlier published paper (Hendriatiningsih, 2014).

2. Methodology

Generally, large format, medium and small format photogrammetry methods are constrained by problems of aircraft availability, security officer permits to take pictures, cloud covering that require planes to fly at low altitude, high cost in aerial photo capturing lead to photogrammetry are not effective solution for small area. UAV mapping method try to overcome problems that arise in fashion photogrammetry methods using manned aerial vehicle and allow to fly below 150 meters.

A robotic ETS Topcon type PS 105, a measuring device, can perform prism tracking mounted on the bottom of UAV. This device is able to make continuously measuring of horizontal and vertical angles, and slant distance of UAV as long in the range of ETS. This eliminates the handicap in focusing at targets of UAV using ETS reflectorless as in previous research. In the range of long link about 600 meter, it is allowing to perform continuously observation of a position at radius of ± 500 meter.

Architecturally, land parcel aerial photo using UAV is a photogrammetric method in which photography use a digital camera carried by aerial vehicle, in spite of the vehicle used is a small unmanned aerial vehicle under remote control.

Method used in this research is through measuring many targets either in the field or laboratory in which their positions were determined by GPS or ETS. Those targets are used as either control points or check points in the photogrammetric process. In general, the research methodology is depicted in flow chart of figure 1.

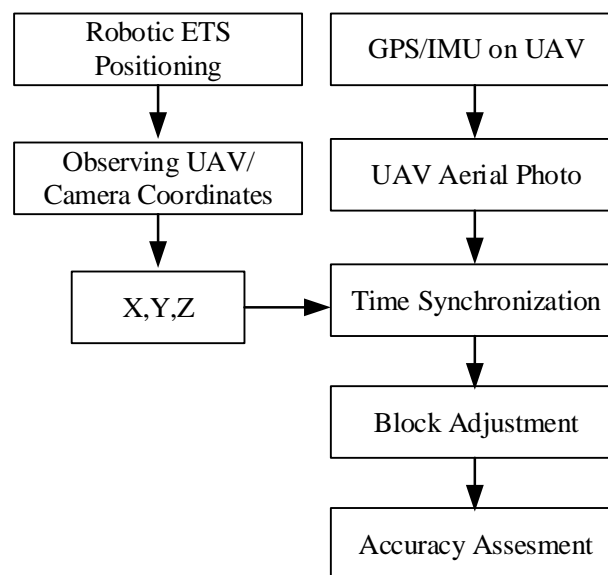


Figure 1. Research method

2.1 Data Acquisition

Prior to data acquisition, robotic ETS (Electronic Total Station) calibrated from systematical error. This is done to clarify the angle data are free of collimation and index errors effect. Both vertical and horizontal angles are measured on two targets and the magnitude of errors is calculated. The results show the magnitude of collimation errors are still qualifying for the measurement. According to collimation errors, the tool can be used for angle measurement.

The first activity is carried out in the observatory location of football court, ITB campus, Jatiningor. The activity is starting by installing 1 unit of GPS Receiver as Base Station in front of the main building

of ITB campus, Jatinangor. Furthermore, 36 white circle-shaped premarks with 40 cm diameter in dark background within 6 x 6 grid formation are installed, and distance between premarks is 15 meters. Media used to install the premarks are prism and measuring tape.

Furthermore, the position (circle center) of Premark is determined using 1 unit GPS Receiver as Rover Station and the method used is RTK (Real Time Kinematic) Positioning. At the moment, the accuracy of position on the device is about ± 5 mm. The data collection process on the coordinates of premarks is depicted in Figure 2.

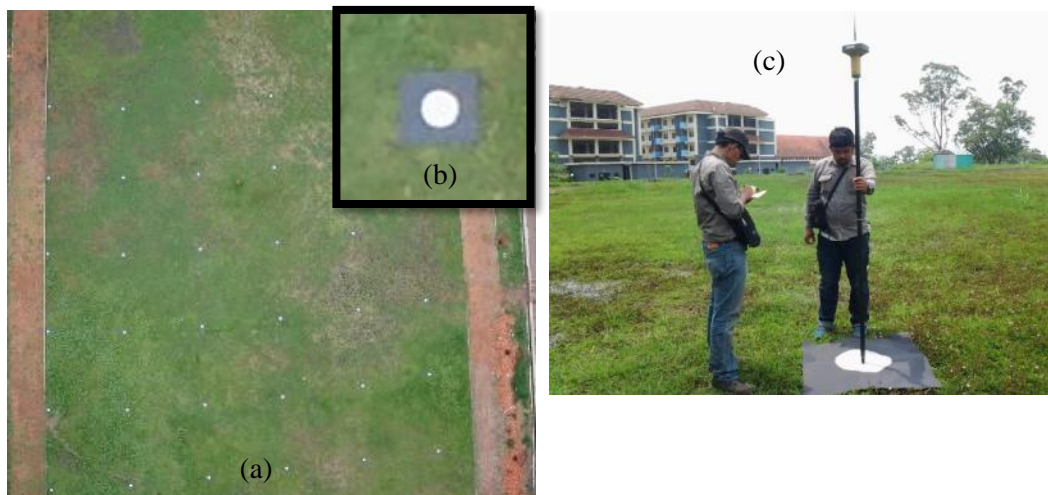


Figure 2. Formation of grid premark (a), Premark zoom (b), RTK GPS for the position of premark (c)

At the same time, the UAV team prepares Hexacopter and Robotic Topcon ETS. The preparation involve setting the focus of fixed 20 mm lens Sony Nex 5N prosumer camera to be attached onto Hexacopter. The lens focus is set for 100 meters distance in order to obtain good quality photograph (sharp or not blur).

To understand the ability of Robotic ETS tracking, the instrument is put in a test for prism target tracking, prism installed/integrated with camera on hexacopter. For this test, the hexacopter is controlled manually by UAV operator. When hexacopter still on the ground, the Robotic ETS is directed to the prism target of hexacopter for recognition process and locked on the target. After ETS recognize the target, the UAV operator lift and flying up hexacopter and make various maneuvers in different directions, various heights and speeds. At this beginning step of experimentation, the UAV did not fly high, as the main goal is to observe prism object recognition movement. As a result, ETS can follow prism movement automatically and overcoming moving target focusing problem.



Figure 3. Preparation of HexaCopter (a) and Robotic ETS (b)

In the initial stage of flight, the 360° prism is placed vertically under the UAV in accordance with the prism design for terrestrial mapping. In the mapping, the prism is mounted on pole vertically. The

problems with the installation of vertical prism is ETS wave propagation to the prism hindered of by the prism retaining body made of plastic when the vehicle was flying quite high, causing ETS can not receive reflected wave. To overcome signal blocking by prism body a modification in prism orientation carried out. Prism is installed on the camera in such a way that position of the prism, as measured by ETS, is the midpoint of the resulting aerial photographs.



Figure 4. Setting of ETS prism on camera

2.2 Data Acquisition Problem

The unarrival transmitted wave from ETS onto prism problem is not only causing the difficulty in prism/UAV position hard to be determined, and furthermore, ETS can not keep up with the prism track, leading ETS to rotate on horizontal and vertical directions to search for the position of prism. To address these issues, prism position was modified, the prism mounted on UAV in horizontal position in order to make signal transmitted by ETS can reach prism and receive reflected signal from prism, it is expected performe at all heights of UAV on the ground.

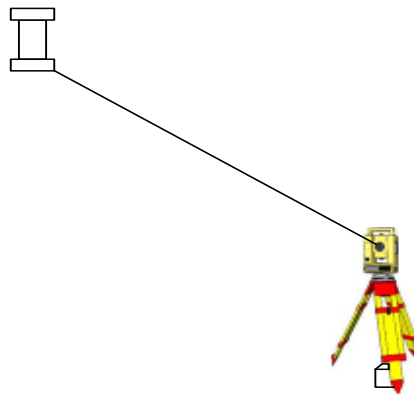


Figure 5. The hindrance of ETS signals by 360° prism body

At horizontal position prism, the ETS can continuously keep up with the track of UAV and prism's coordinates can be determined at the same time. The problems with UAV are it is rotating on its axis due to wind, leading the position of plastic prism part to block the propagation of signals to ETS. Under such condition, the measurement is stopped, but the required coordinate data for this study have been obtained, this situation as new issue in modifying a new shape of prism.

Other problems persist in determination of distance and bearing of each photograph is synchronization between image acquisition/camera exposure time on vehicle with the distance and direction angle data collection by total station, so that in next step research specific design and planning related to the photography by setting timer and photographic interval on the camera and the signalization application in the form of blitz ray emission being reinforced as a cue for surveyors on the ground to take the distance data and the direction angle of camera position on the vehicle are necessary. Similarly, the better design for the distribution of control points must be used to reduce the

effects of the instability of UAV. However, in this research to produce such design is a difficult task and, therefore, ETS was set to perform continuous measurements at 2 seconds interval.

3. Result and Analysis

Initial activity in the studio is the synchronization of aerial photo collection period by a camera with ETS position determination. Times for initial activities of camera and ETS are at 23:47:22 and 12:23:57, respectively. The difference is 11:23:25. Times for last activities of camera is 0:50:13 and ETS 1:26:47, respectively. Aerial photo capturing time synchronization with the positioning of camera coordinates by ETS was performed by time comparison between them and analyzed to obtain synchronized data pair on two sources simultaneously. Since the image recording by camera is taking place continuously for one position, there are several images in a certain time, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Synchronization of times on camera and time for observing of the point by ETS

Label	Size	Aliq	Qu:	Date & time	Make	Model	Focal length
DSC06244.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:15:53	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06259.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:16:33	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06265.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:16:51	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06274.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:17:33	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06288.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:18:08	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06299.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:18:35	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06310.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:41:58	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06325.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:42:30	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06336.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:42:57	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06348.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:43:32	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06364.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:44:06	SONY	NEX-5N	20
DSC06382.JPG	4912x3264			2016:01:07 00:44:44	SONY	NEX-5N	20

Point No.	Northing	Easting	Time	Date	Cam Time
UAV111	9233606.774	805877.686	12:52:27	2016-01-07	00:15:53
UAV112	9233606.800	805877.634	12:52:28	2016-01-07	00:15:53
UAV149	9233588.776	805876.636	12:53:07	2016-01-07	00:15:53
UAV166	9233571.136	805877.221	12:53:25	2016-01-07	00:15:53
UAV167	9233571.202	805877.091	12:53:26	2016-01-07	00:15:53

Aerial photo position based on measurement is set as follows.

Station	Image	X	Y	Z
	Image001	877.88075	607.30441	107.90663
2	Image002	876.51870	587.51418	106.66331
3	Image003	877.58293	571.70709	107.72192

Following are 3 examples of adjustment result of image position.

Results for Station Image001					
Station	Initial	Total	Final	Initial	Final
Variable	Value	Adjustment	Value	Standard Error	Standard Error
X	875.4031	2.4777	877.8808	1.0000E+003	2.1004E-001
Y	606.7857	0.5187	607.3044	1.0000E+003	2.3636E-001
Z	103.1511	4.7556	107.9066	1.0000E+003	5.1834E-001

Results for Station Image002					
Station	Initial	Total	Final	Initial	Final
Variable	Value	Adjustment	Value	Standard Error	Standard Error
X	873.2962	3.2225	876.5187	1.0000E+003	2.1835E-001
Y	586.9338	0.5803	587.5142	1.0000E+003	1.9182E-001
Z	102.1267	4.5366	106.6633	1.0000E+003	5.1738E-001

Station Variable	Initial Value	Total Adjustment	Final Value	Initial Standard Error	Final Standard Error
X	871.8716	5.7113	877.5829	1.0000E+003	2.7092E-001
Y	565.3400	6.3671	571.7071	1.0000E+003	2.3686E-001
Z	103.4041	4.3179	107.7219	1.0000E+003	5.1103E-001
AZ	136.7323	0.8480	137.5803	1.0000E+003	2.6328E+000
EL	-83.6703	3.7942	-79.8761	1.0000E+003	1.3546E+000
ROLL	41.4095	-0.9171	40.4924	1.0000E+003	2.6512E+000

There are 12 aerial photo images involved in adjustment processes and producing residual value of each image as follow:

Citra	RMS Residu Citra (mm)			Citra	RMS Residu Citra (mm)		
	x	y	xy		x	y	xy
Image001	0.50	0.71	0.61	Image0013	1.03	1.22	1.13
Image002	1.05	0.88	0.97	Image0014	0.86	0.84	0.85
Image003	0.95	0.89	0.92	Image0015	0.41	0.52	0.47
Image004	0.71	0.50	0.62	Image0016	0.88	0.61	0.76
Image005	1.61	1.33	1.48	Image0017	0.68	0.61	0.65
Image006	0.41	0.53	0.47	Image0018	0.95	0.81	0.88

At total residue (RMS):

x	y	xy	σ_0	Degree of Freedom
0.89	0.82	0.86	1.921	672

And the overall standard errors are:

Summary of Limiting Standard Error Estimation

	x	y	z
RMS	0.0022	0.0023	0.0091
RMS Minimum	0.0013	0.0013	0.0081
At	17	15	15
RMS Maximum	0.0033	0.0035	0.0114
At	1	6	2

Summary of Standard Error Estimation

	x	y	z
RMS	0.0051	0.0051	0.0107
RMS Minimum	0.0036	0.0036	0.0095
At	16	22	27
RMS Maximum	0.0069	0.0070	0.0136
At	31	31	1

4. Conclusion

Robotic Total Station application with capability of *automatic tracking* can facilitate observers to get the position of a camera mounted on UAV continuously. This eliminates one handicap found in previous studies about how to focusing cross hair on the target. The results of the study show that Terrestrial Direct Georeference mapping method produce image photo with high accuracy, better than precision given by RTK method and standard errors are better than specified minimum standard errors.

References

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