



**KIDELTA**  
**LEARNING**

Scalable AI for Automated Driving

Final Event | March 10, 2023

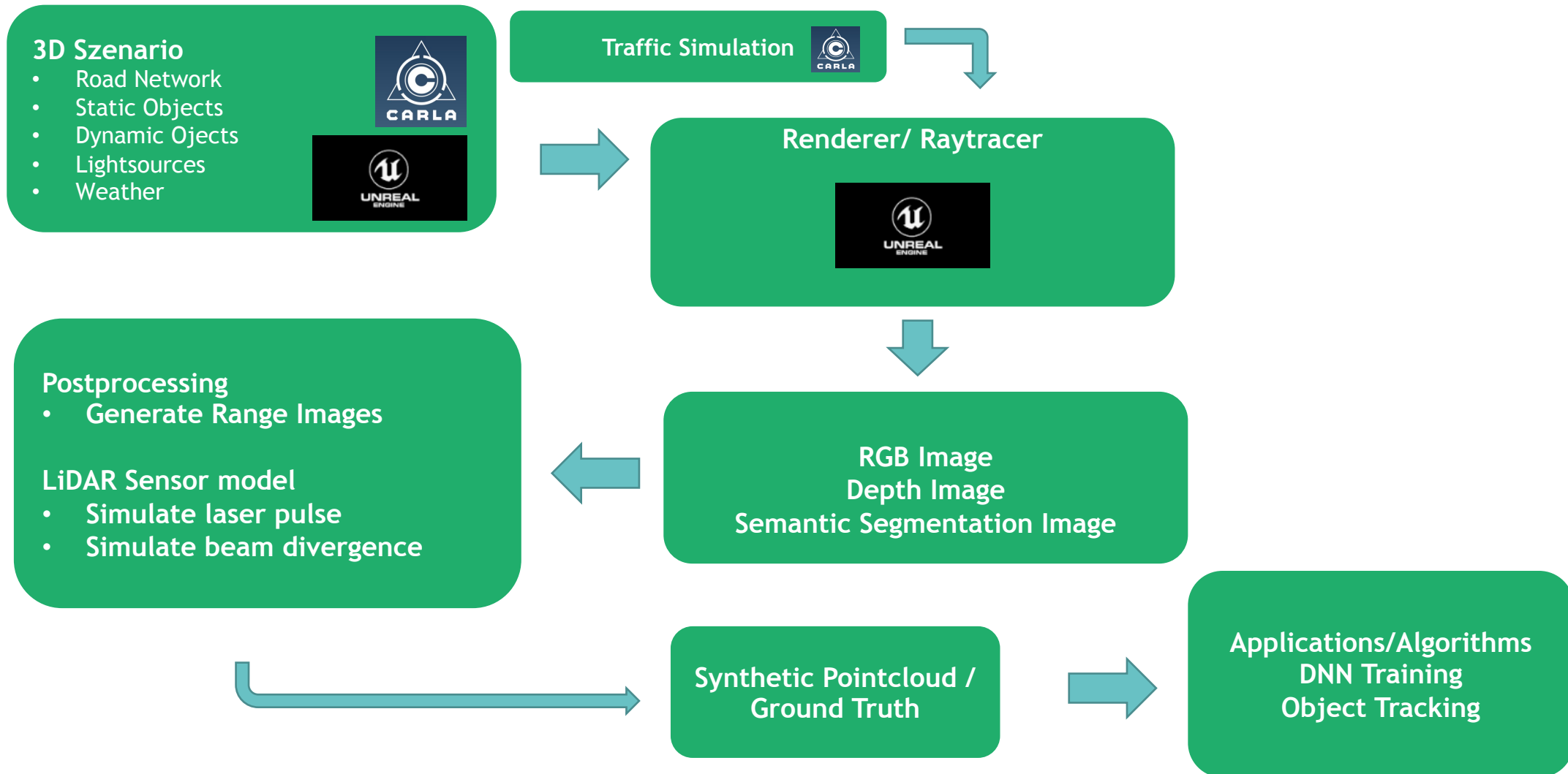
# Simulation of a pulsed LiDAR

Anja Kleinke





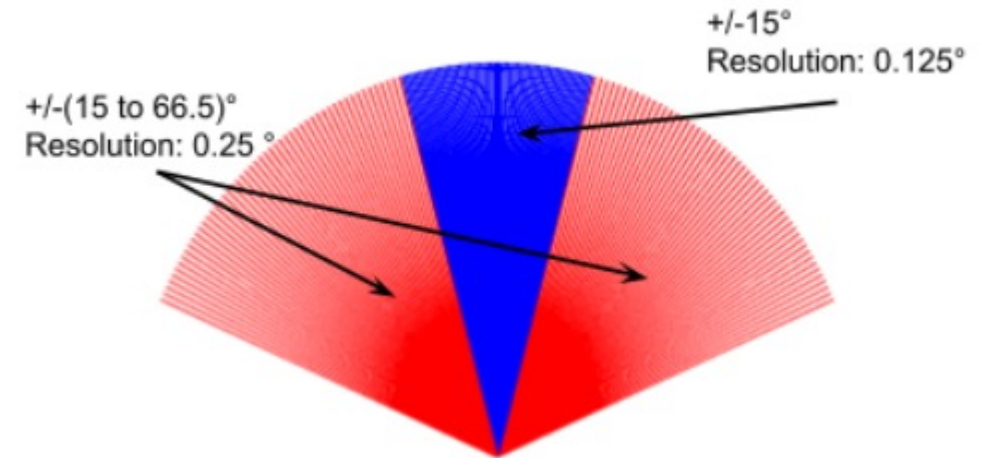
# Generation of synthetic data with Carla



# The Valeo Mobility Kit LiDAR



- ▶ Rotating mirror
- ▶ Horizontal FoV  $133^\circ$
- ▶ Vertically 16 APDs arranged in 4 groups
- ▶ Complex vertical scanpattern due to tilted mirror
- ▶ Wavelength 905nm



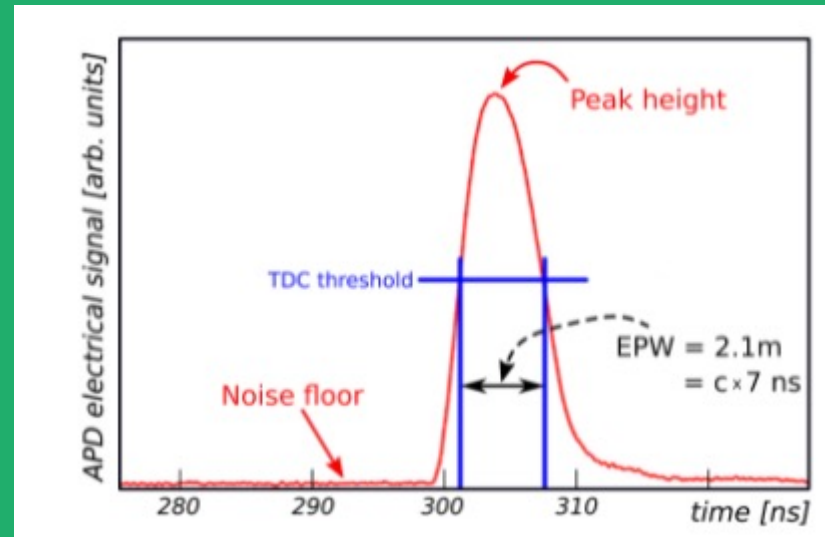
Region of Interest between  $-15^\circ$  and  $15^\circ$



# The Valeo Mobility Kit LiDAR - Output

- Output
  - Range
  - Echo pulse width
  - Polar angle
  - Azimuthal angle

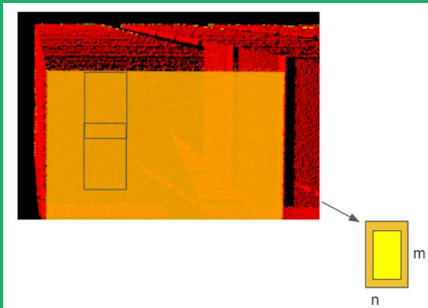
- Calculation of echo pulse width /  
Walk error compensation





# Sensor Model

Beam expansion achieved through upsampling  
Multiple channels per APD



Input:

- Range
- Intensity

for each channel

## Blooming

Horizontal blooming profile

$$B_h(j) = A_h e^{-\frac{\left(\frac{j-c_h}{h_h}\right)^2}{2\sigma_h^2}}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n,$$

where  $c_h$  center,  $h_h$  halfwidth,  $A_h$  amplitude and  $\sigma_h$  standard deviation.  
Vertical blooming profile

$$B_v(i) = A_v e^{-\frac{\left(\frac{i-c_v}{h_v}\right)^2}{2\sigma_v^2}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m,$$

where  $c_v$  center,  $h_v$  halfwidth,  $A_v$  amplitude and  $\sigma_v$  standard deviation.  
The blooming profile is then modelled as

$$B(i, j) = B_v(i)B_h(j), \quad j = 1, \dots, n, i = 1, \dots, m.$$

## Sensitivity

Horizontal sensitivity profile:

$$S_h(j) = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{j-c_h}{h_h}\right)^{s_h}}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n,$$

where  $c_h$  center,  $h_h$  halfwidth and  $s_h$  sharpness.

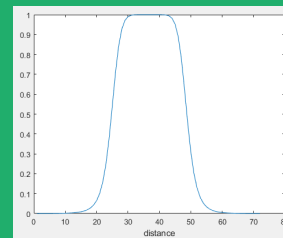
Vertical sensitivity profile:

$$S_v(i) = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{i-c_v}{h_v}\right)^{s_v}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m,$$

where  $c_v$  center,  $h_v$  halfwidth and  $s_v$  sharpness.

The sensitivity profile of the APD is then modelled as

$$S(i, j) = S_h(j)S_v(i), \quad i = 1, \dots, m, j = 1, \dots, n.$$

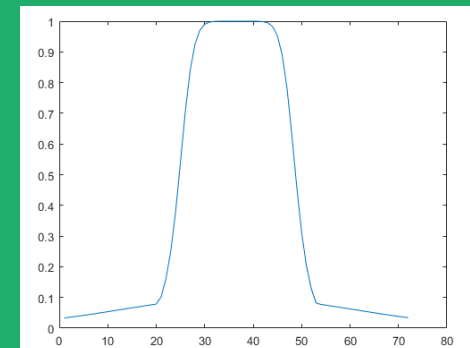


Vertical sensitivity profile



Sensitivity profile as heatmap

Multiplication yields  
full profile

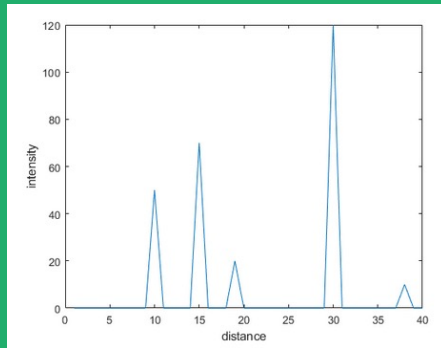


Resulting intensity at  
channel is calculated  
as the product of the  
sensitivity profiles  
and the intensities



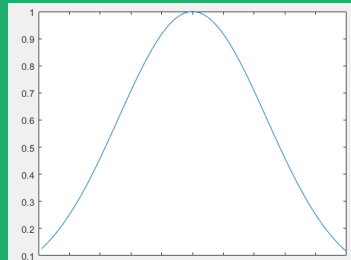
# Sensor Model

- mxn distance/intensity pairs per cell resp. APD



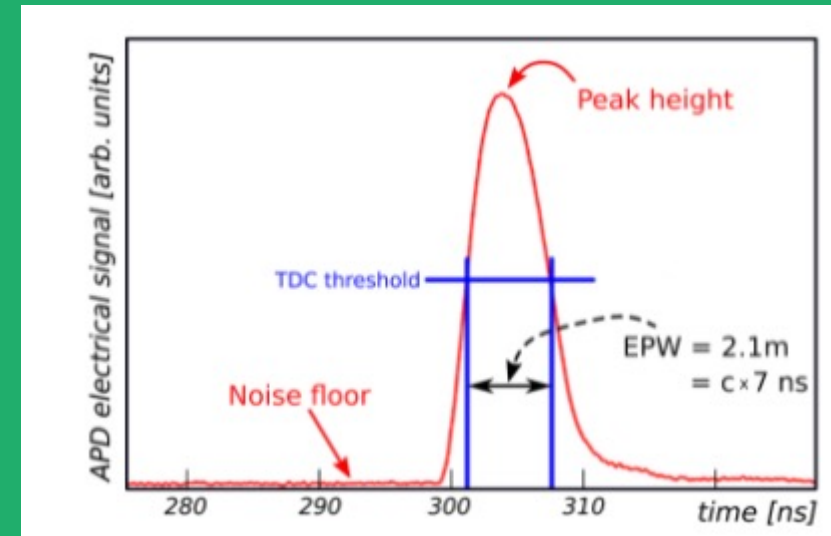
- The shape of the laser pulse is modelled as a superGaussian function of the type

$$f(x) = Ae^{-\left(\frac{(x-x_0)^2}{2\sigma_x^2}\right)^P}$$

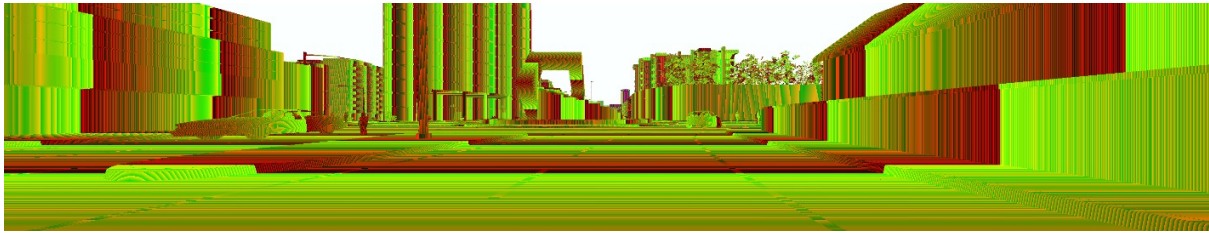


- Optical signal is convolution of distance/intensity-graph with pulse

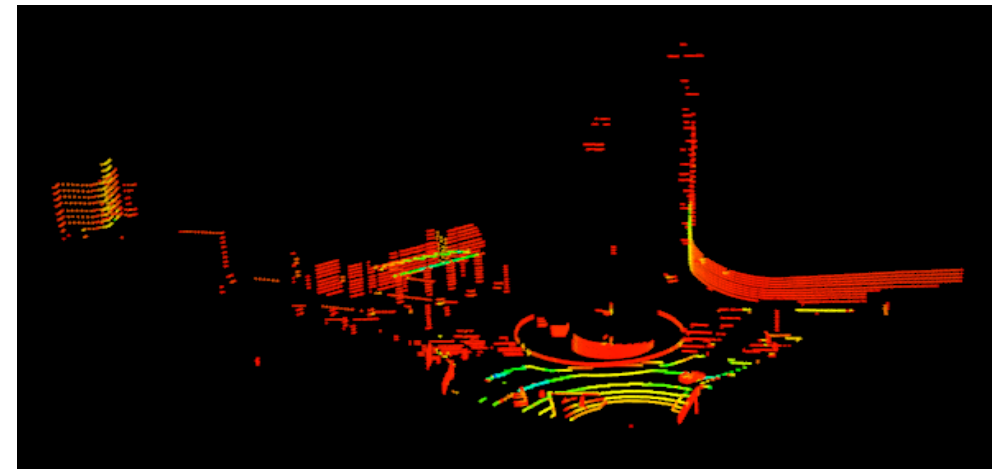
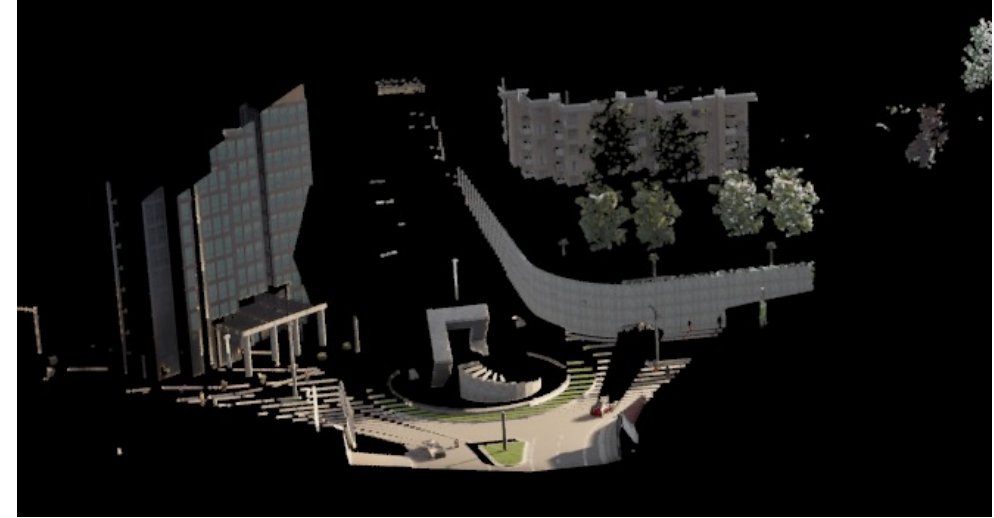
- Signal is thresholded to detect echoes
- Distance and echo pulse width are calculated as they are with the real sensor



# From Image to Pointcloud



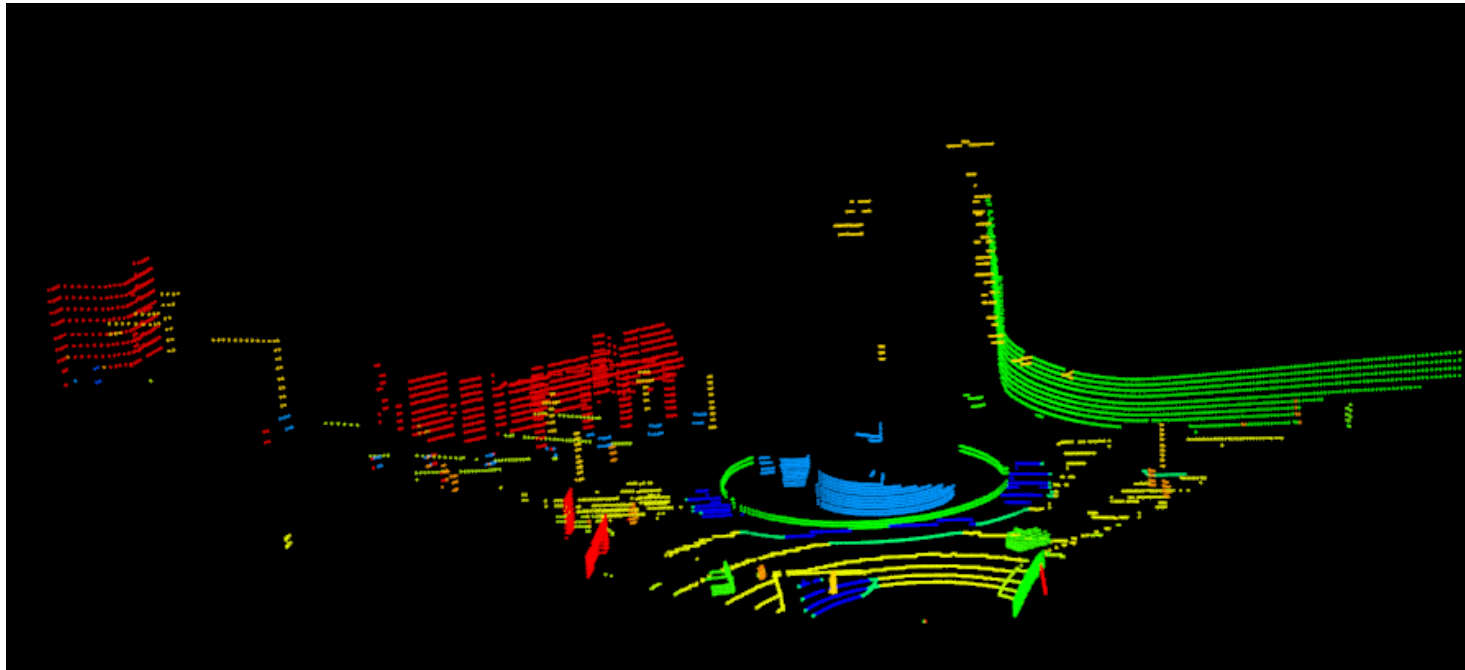
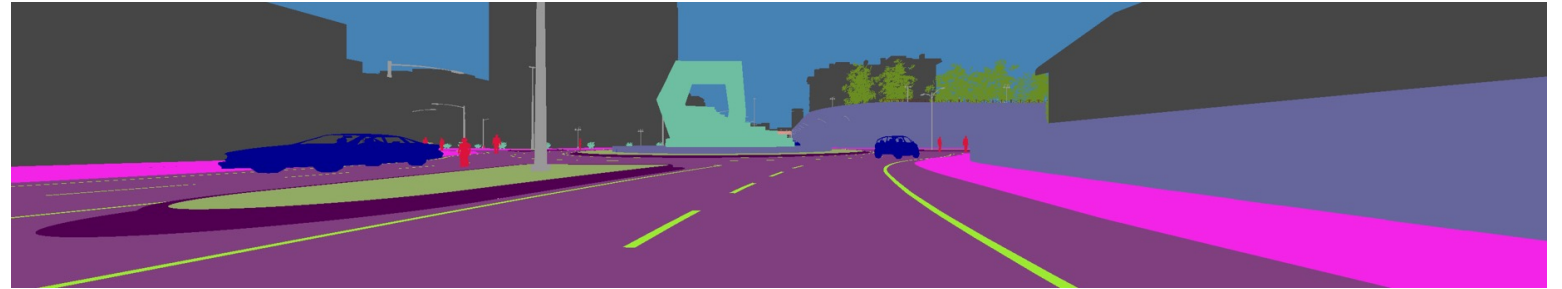
- From rgb and depth image calculate range image respectively pointcloud
- Use red channel as intensity
- Feed into sensor model



# Semantic Segmentation



Also get semantic segmentation from Carla and feed it into the sensor model



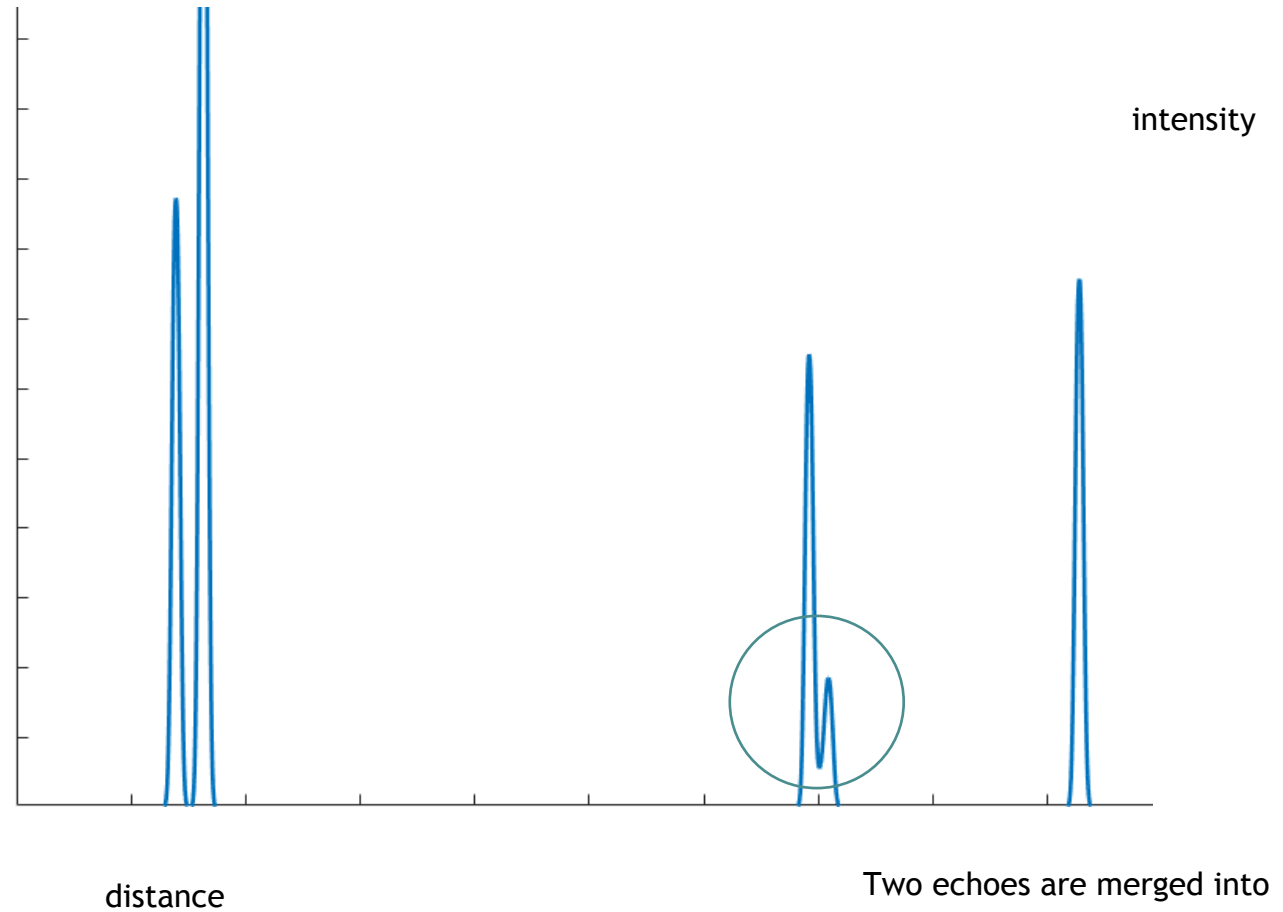
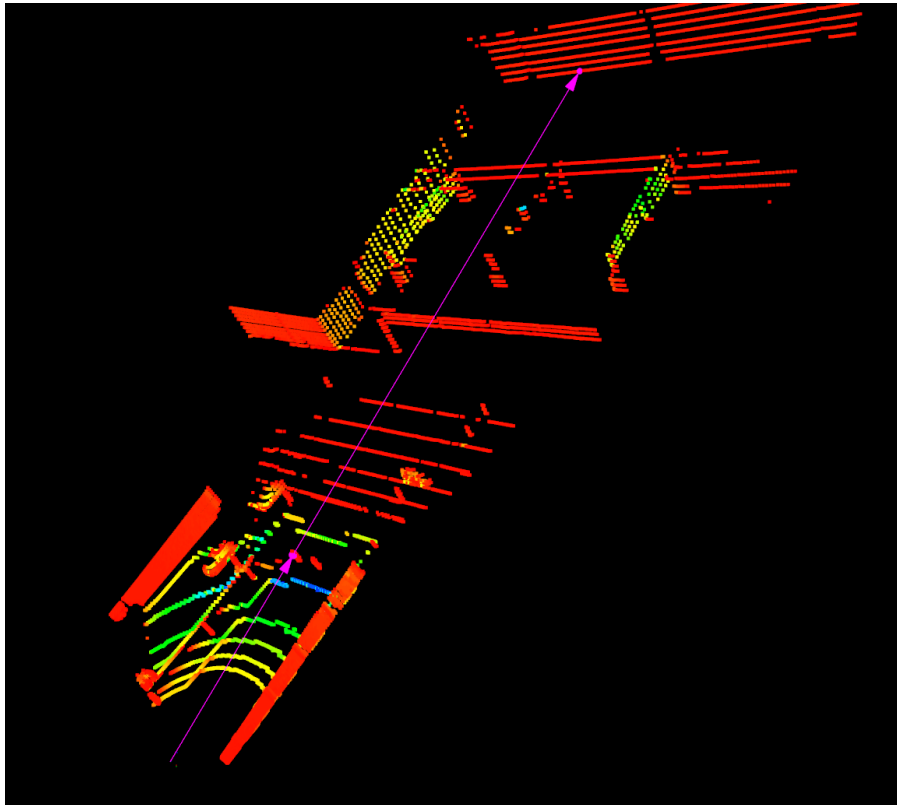
Data | Simulation of a pulsed LiDAR





# Evaluation - Multiple Echoes and ghost points

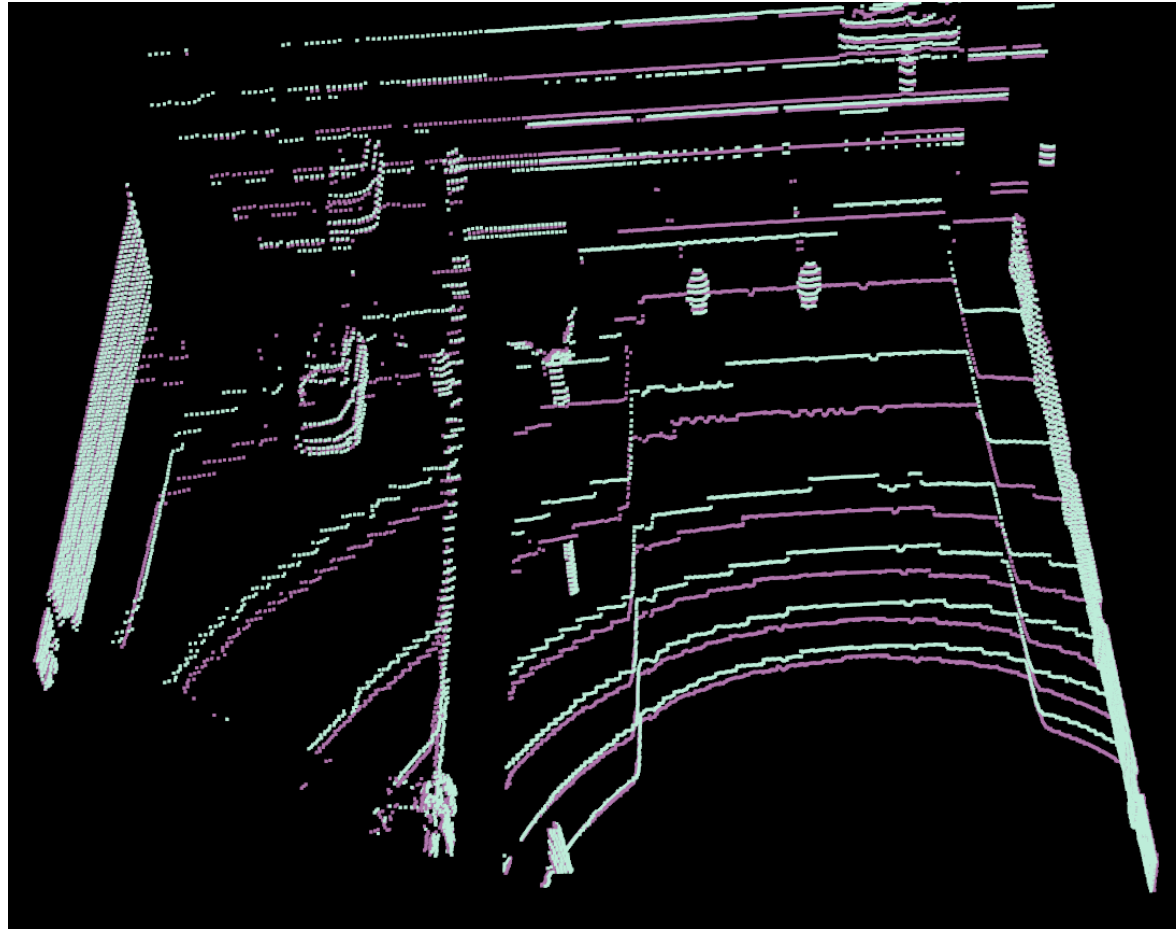
- Multiple echoes detectable
- Ghost points are simulated





# Evaluation - Mirror Tilt

- Tilted Mirror



Pointcloud for two mirrorsides plotted in parallel



# Dataset

- 7 Carla towns
- 200 frames per town
- Random spawnposition of ego vehicle
- Randomly spawned vehicles and pedestrians





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