

Here we introduce how to calibrate cameras using several commonly used models and convert to svo format.

Pinhole projection + Radial-tangential

This is the distortion model used in opencv and ROS, also known as `plumb_bob`. We can calibrate it using the tool provided by ROS:

```
sudo apt-get install ros-indigo-camera-calibration
roslaunch camera_calibration cameracalibrator.py <specify topics/calibration target>
```

Make sure to adapt size for the checkerboard actually used. What you get is in the format:

```
camera matrix
fx 0 cx
0 fy cy
0 0 1

distortion
d0 d1 d2 d3 0

.....
```

For use with svo, copy the values to the following template (values with \$ prefix have to be filled in):

```
cameras:
- camera:
  distortion:
    parameters:
      cols: 1
      rows: 4
      data: [$d0, $d1, $d2, $d3]
    type: radial-tangential
  image_height: $image_height
  image_width: $image_width
  intrinsics:
    cols: 1
    rows: 4
    data: [$fx, $fy, $cx, $cy]
  label: cam0
  line-delay-nanoseconds: 0
  type: pinhole
T_B_C:
  cols: 4
  rows: 4
  data: [ 1., 0., 0., 0.,
          0., 1., 0., 0.,
          0., 0., 1., 0.,
```

```
0., 0., 0., 1.]
serial_no: 0
calib_date: 0
description: '$camera_name'
label: $camera_name
```

`T_B_C` is the pose of the camera frame in the IMU frame. This is used when SVO is set to use the IMU.

Pinhole projection + Equidistant

This is a generic distortion model that can model very different field of views ([paper](#)), therefore we can use it for pinhole as well as fisheye cameras. OpenCV (from 3.0) also [supports this model](#). To calibrate a camera using a equidistant camera model, we can use [Kalibr](#). For details of Kalibr calibration, please refer to [this official manual](#).

Afterwards, you can use the script `kalibr_to_svo.py` under `svo_ros/scripts` to convert the output to svo format:

```
./kalibr_to_svo --kalibr <output_of_kalibr>
```

Omnidirectional

This is a special model that combines projection and distortion together. It works for fisheye as well as catadioptric cameras. To use this camera model, you need to calibrate the camera using [this Matlab Toolbox](#). Please refer to the page of the toolbox for details.

Afterwards, you can use the script `omni_matlab_to_rpg.py` under `svo_ros/scripts` to convert the output to svo format.