Indoor “GPS”
(with ±2cm precision)

Placement Manual

v2018_10_03
Version changes

2018_10_03_v0.05: Added slide 12: Steps beyond default settings
2018_06_25_v0.04: Added slide set 11: Area of 100x100m with tracking using submaps
2018_06_25_v0.04: Added slide set 10: Long distance tracking – 30x30m area
2018_06_19_v0.03: Added case 09: Multi-modem 1.5D – tracking vehicles underground
2018_06_07_v0.02: Added case 08(a,b): Business center
2018_05_30_v0.01: Initial release
The manual gives practical advices and examples of how to mount the Marvelmind Indoor “GPS” system to achieve the best performance in different applications and configurations.
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01:  Starter Set – settings and recommendation
01a:  Simple 2D Tracking
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08:  Business center area (2D + 3D navigation)
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Conventions:
01: Starter Set – simple 3D installation

**Notes:**
- Designed for fast overall evaluation of the Precise (±2cm) Indoor “GPS”
- Supports 3D (X,Y,Z) + 1 redundancy, for example:
  - One forklift and warehouse
  - One-wheeled robot
  - One drone
  - One person
  - Tracking of one VR helmet

**Configuration:**
- **Starter Set – HW v4.9:**
  - 4 x stationary beacon
  - 1 x mobile beacon
  - 1 x modem

**Stationary beacon**
- Shall be placed on walls or ceiling – to minimize shadows in ultrasonic coverage
- Enable only required sensors – to improve sensitivity and external noise immunity. Each sensor has ~90deg beam

**Modem**
- Must be always powered, when tracking is needed
- May be placed up to tens to hundreds meters away from beacons depending on the resulting RSSI

**Room**
- Start with a midsize map of 6x4 to 6-10m or so
- Maximum size of the map for Starter Set is up to 1000m²

**Mobile beacon**
- Placed on a forklift/robot, person

**Side view**

**Top view**

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**Marvelmind robotics**
01a: Simple 2D Tracking – for example, RC car indoor

Stationary beacon
- Shall be placed on walls or ceiling – to minimize shadows in ultrasonic coverage
- Enable only required sensors – to improve sensitivity and external noise immunity. Each sensor has ~90deg beam

Modem
- Must be always powered, when tracking is needed
- May be placed up to tens to hundreds meters away from beacons depending on the resulting RSSI

Room
- Start with a midsize map of 6x4 to 6-10m or so
- Maximum size of the map for Starter Set is up to 1000m²

Configuration:
- **Starter Set – HW v4.9:***
  - 2 x stationary beacon
  - 1 x mobile beacon
  - 1 x modem

Notes:
- Designed for 2D tracking (X,Y)
  - One RC car in room
  - One-wheeled robot
  - One person
- Not suitable for drones – 3D (X,Y,Z) tracking is required
02: Starter Set + IMU – settings and recommendation

Stationary beacon
- Shall be placed on walls or ceiling – to minimize shadows in ultrasonic coverage
- Enable only required sensors – to improve sensitivity and external noise immunity. Each sensor has ~90deg beam

Modem
- Must be always powered, when tracking is needed
- May be placed up to tens to hundreds meters away from beacons depending on the resulting RSSI

Configuration:
- **Starter Set – HW v4.9 + IMU:**
  - 4 x stationary beacon
  - 1 x mobile beacon + IMU
  - 1 x modem
- Embedded IMU: 3D accelerometer + 3D gyroscope + 3D magnetometer (compass)

Notes:
- Supports 3D (X,Y,Z) + 1 redundancy
- Designed for fast evaluation of the Precise (±2cm) Indoor “GPS” with IMU:
  - Drones
  - VR helmets
  - Systems requiring either fast update rate or working challenging environment, when ultrasonic-based navigation must be verified with IMU based navigation
  - IMU+ultrasonic sensor fusion => can support up to 100Hz update rate
  - Useful for additional filtering of location jumps in challenging environment
  - When IMU is needed overall

Room
- Start with a midsize map of 6x4 to 6-10m or so
- Maximum size of the map for Starter Set is up to 1000m²
03: Paired beacons – location + direction

**Side view**

- Stationary beacon
  - Shall be placed on walls or ceiling – to minimize shadows in ultrasonic coverage
  - Enable only required sensors – to improve sensitivity and external noise immunity. Each sensor has ~90deg beam

- Modem
  - Must be always powered, when tracking is needed
  - May be placed up to tens to hundreds meters away from beacons depending on the resulting RSSI

- Room
  - Start with a midsize map of 6x4 to 6-10m or so
  - Maximum size of the map for Starter Set is up to 1000m²

**Top view**

- Direction of Travel

**Configuration:**

- **Starter Set – HW v4.9 + IMU + Beacon – HW v4.9 + IMU – plastic housing:**
  - 4 x stationary beacon
  - 2 x mobile beacon + IMU
  - 1 x modem

- **Notes:**
  - Has all functionality of Starter Set + IMU + direction
  - Designed for the cases, when not only location, like in a regular GPS, but also a direction is required
  - Uses paired mobile beacons install on the robot/drone and doesn’t rely on compass that may give indoor with much metal around wrong results
  - The larger base between the mobile beacons, the more precise direction can be achieved. Reasonable directional precision with the base >20cm. Strongly recommended – 0.5m or more
  - **Demo video** on setting up the feature
04: Stable “Z” for drone – settings and recommendations

Wall Stationary beacons:
- Needed for providing better Z positioning

Submap 1
Vertical submap for taking off and landing. Particular focus on obtaining good Z

Submap 2
Used for flying on a height – not next to the ground. Next to the ground, X,Y will be perfect, but Z – not. This is due to basic geometry of trilateration

Stable “Z” for drone
- Settings and recommendations

Configuration:
- **Starter Set – HW v4.9 + IMU + Beacon – HW v4.9 – plastic housing:**
  - 6 x stationary beacon
  - 1 x mobile beacon + IMU
  (Or 2 mobile beacons with IMU to support Paired Beacon feature – you’ll get location + direction)
  - 1 x modem

Notes:
- Designed for flying autonomous drones indoor and good Z tracking on all heights
- Supports 3D (X,Y,Z) + N redundancy
- Detailed video help: [Help: Z-coordinates for copters](#)
05: Tracking sidewalks, tunnels, metros, mines in 2D

Notes:
- Outdoor cases: Park, parking lot, railway
- Indoor cases: Subway, tunnel, long warehouse
- 2D tracking (linear placement)

* Radio limited up to a few tens to a few hundreds of meters in open space — strongly depends on interference, antenna alignments, etc.
- Can be further extended in Multi-modem systems

Configuration:
- **Starter Set** = HW v4.9 + IMU + N x Beacon
  - N x stationary beacon
  - N x mobile beacon + IMU
  - 1 x modem

**Stationary beacon**
- Shall be placed high on lamp poles – to minimize shadows in ultrasonic
- Enable only required sensors – to improve sensitivity and external noise immunity

**Modem**
- Must be always powered, when tracking is needed
- May be placed up to tens to hundreds meters away from beacons

**Slightly overlapping submaps**

**Sidewalk area**

Small delivery vehicle example

Light pole

Modem

Tunnel (Underground, mine, etc.)

Train/Trolley

Mobile beacon

Stationary beacon

Submap

Underground railway transport example

RX1
RX2
RX3
RX4

≤500m*
≤500m*
≤30m

Slightly overlapping submaps

Analysis of sidewalk area

Analysis of subway area

Analysis of tunnel area

Analysis of train/trolley area
06: Submaps in 2D

Configuration:
- **Starter Set – HW v4.9 + Beacon – HW v4.9**
- Placed centrally optimal radio coverage
- **HW v4.9 + Beacon – HW v4.9** + plastic housing:
  - 10 x stationary beacon
  - 1 x mobile beacon
  - 1 x modem

Notes:
- Designed for multi-room buildings
- This particular configuration supports 2D tracking. Can be made in 3D too, if instead of 2D submaps, 3D submaps are built Check **Simple 3D Tracking**
- Check **Operating Manual**
- Check **Submaps Help Video**
- Check **Simple 2D Tracking** to build correct 2D maps
Option 1: Optimal conservative, 2D

Enable RX1 (right-facing) and RX4 (front-facing). And disable RX2/RX3/RX5. They are facing down, left, up where the robot cannot be. Disabling of unnecessary sensors increases sensitivity/range and decreases the amount of noise/echo the beacon will pickup.

Submap/service zones overlapping for smooth handover between submaps.

Option 2: Stretching, 2D

Place stationary beacons with USB at the bottom. Enable only required sensors per beacon. Here, for example, enable RX1 (right-facing), RX4 (front-facing), RX3 (left-facing). And disable RX2/RX5. They face up and down where the robot cannot be. Disabling of unnecessary sensors increases sensitivity/range and decreases the amount of noise/echo the beacon will pickup.

Option 3: Optimal conservative, 3D

Option 4: Conservative, 2D

How to build submaps and service zones: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXvIDZkxkUU

07: Wheeled robot in 46x5m area (2D navigation)
Customer expectations:
- Cover all blue zones with Marvelmind Indoor GPS Tracking System in order to track people
- Show how to place beacons correctly
- Show submaps
- Show sensor settings
- Zones 1 and 4 have to be covered with 3D tracking
- Zones 2 and 3 have to be covered with 2D tracking

*All the distances are given in meters*
Enable RX1 (right-facing) and RX4 (front-facing). And disable RX2/RX3/RX5. They are facing down, left, up where the robot cannot be. Disabling of unnecessary sensors increases sensitivity/range and decreases the amount of noise/echo the beacon will pickup.

Place stationary beacons with USB at the bottom. Enable only required sensors per beacon. Here, for example, enable RX1 (right-facing), RX4 (front-facing), RX3 (left-facing). And disable RX2/RX5. They face up and down where the robot cannot be. Disabling of unnecessary sensors increases sensitivity/range and decreases the amount of noise/echo the beacon will pickup.

How to build submaps and service zones:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXvlDZkxkJU

Configuration:
- 14 x Beacon – HW v4.9
- 1 x Modem – HW v4.9

We recommend to turn on all the sensors in case of different heights and close distances. 3D tracking is required in order to track height changes, while walking through stairs.

*All the distances are given in meters.
09: Multi-modem 1.5D – tracking vehicles underground

Configuration:
- **Starter Set – HW v4.9 + Beacon – HW v4.9 + Modem – HW v4.9:**
  - N x stationary beacon
  - N x mobile beacon
  - 3 x modem

Notes:
- Indoor cases: Subway, tunnel, mines
- 1.5D tracking (linear placement)

Each beacon is in IP67 housing

~220V => +5V converter (IP67 housing)
10: Tracking in 30x30m area

The next several slides give instructions of setting up and mounting the system to cover a 30x30m open space area.

It has different configurations:

1. **2D (x, y)**
2. **3D (x, y, z)**

Choose one, which suits your requirements.
10: Tracking in 30x30m area - zones

Potential, too long distance
The map is able to be built automatically, but as the distance is more than 30m, it may be complicated or even not possible. In this case use some other ways to measure it (laser distance meter, tape, etc.)

Tracking zone with 3+1 redundancy
Mobile beacon must be seen at least by 3 stationary beacons. Tracking zone with 3+1 redundancy means the zone, where the mobile beacon is seen by 4 stationary beacons. And if one of them is blocked, you would still have stable 3D (x, y, z) tracking

Tracking zone without redundancy
The zone where mobile beacon is seen by 3 stationary beacons. If one of the beacon is blocked – tracking will be jumping

Notes:
- Supports 3D (X,Y,Z) + 1 redundancy
- Supports 2D (X, Y)

Configuration:
- Starter Set – HW v4.9 :
  - 4 x stationary beacon
  - 1 x mobile beacon
  - 1 x modem

Radius of beacon 2

Radius of beacon 5

Beacon 2

Beacon 3

Beacon 4

Beacon 5

See the instructions on the next slides
10.1: Step 1: Building the distances map (2, 3)

Finding distance between beacon 2 and beacon 3
- Face beacons to each other (facing RX4 sensor)
- Turn on RX4 sensor only
- Set the number of periods =100
- Set limitations of distances =45m
- Freeze the distance. How to do it see on the next slide…
10.1a: How to freeze distance for pair

1. Wait when the distance tab became white → Right mouse button click on the distance tab.

2. Click Freeze distance for pair.

3. Now it’s frozen.
**10.2: Step 2: Building the distances map (3, 4)**

**Finding distance between beacon 3 and beacon 4**

- Face beacons to each other (facing RX4 sensor)
- Turn on RX4 sensor only
- Set the number of periods to 100
- Don’t forget to rise up all the limitations of distances (about 45m)
- Freeze the distance. How to do it see on this slide…

![Distance Table](image)
**10.3: Step 3: Building the distances map (4, 5)**

Finding distance between beacon 4 and beacon 5
- Face beacons to each other (facing RX4 sensor)
- Turn on RX4 sensor only
- Set the number of periods to 100
- Don’t forget to rise up all the limitations of distances (about 45m)
- Freeze the distance. How to do it see on this slide…
10.4: Step 4: Building the distances map (2, 5)

Finding distance between beacon 2 and beacon 5
- Face beacons to each other (facing RX4 sensor)
- Turn on RX4 sensor only
- Set the number of periods to 100
- Don’t forget to rise up all the limitations of distances (about 45m)
- Freeze the distance. How to do it see on this slide...

<table>
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<th>NODE</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>30.129</td>
<td></td>
<td>30.125</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>30.124</td>
<td></td>
<td>30.127</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>30.125</td>
<td></td>
<td>30.127</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10.5: Step 5: Building the distances map (2, 4)

Finding distance between beacon 2 and beacon 4
- Face beacons to each other (facing RX4 sensor)
- Turn on RX4 sensor only
- Set the number of periods to 100
- Don’t forget to rise up all the limitations of distances (about 45m)
- Freeze the distance. How to do it see on this slide...

The map is still able to be built automatically, but as the distance is more than 30m, it may be complicated. In this case use some other ways to measure it (laser distance meter, tape, etc.). Then input it manually.
10.6: Step 6: Building the distances map (3, 5)

Finding distance between beacon 3 and beacon 5
- Face beacons to each other (facing RX4 sensor)
- Turn on RX4 sensor only
- Set the number of periods to 100
- Don’t forget to rise up all the limitations of distances (about 45m)
- Freeze the distance. How to do it see on this slide...

The map is still able to be built automatically, but as the distance is more than 30m, it may be complicated. In this case use some other ways to measure it (laser distance meter, tape, etc.). Then input it manually.
10.6a: Manual distance input

1. Right mouse button click on the distance tab

2. Click Enter distance for pair

3. Enter the distance

Enter distance

Enter distance (meters)

21.300

[OK] [Cancel]
### 10.7: Step 7(a): The final configuration (3D tracking)

**Final configuration for 3D**
- Face beacons to the center
- Turn on RX4 sensor only – you will have the highest sensitivity and the highest noise resistance from other directions
- Freeze the map

Now, we finished installation and setting up.

That gave us an opportunity to track in a large area in 3D mode (x, y, z) with 3+1 redundancy in some zone.

Tracking zone is not really limited by 30m, but within 30m it is more confident, stable and reliable.
10.8: Step 7(b): The final configuration (2D tracking)

Final configuration for 2D

- Face beacons to the center (facing RX4 sensor)
- Turn on RX4 sensor only (another option is turn on RX1, RX3, RX4. Depends on the situation)
- Build two submaps. Building submaps video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXvlDZkxkUU&t=313s
- Track robot, person, autonomous car and anything else

Now, we finished installation and setting up.

That gave us an opportunity to track in a large area in 2D mode (x, y).

Possible tracking zone in 2D is bigger than 3D – see the blue zones, but it has no Z axis measurement and redundancy.

Tracking zone is not really limited by 30m, but within 30m it is more confident, stable and reliable.

Larger coverage
As we can see, the tracking area of 2D configuration is bigger, but it doesn’t provide Z (height) and redundancy. Choose the configuration, which suits your case.
11: Area of 100x100m with tracking using submaps

The next slides explain settings for tracking in a large open-spaced warehouses by using Marvelmind indoor “GPS” with submap feature. It also contains some mounting hints and setting instructions. We give some examples, their pros and cons and budgetary pricing. Since the system is rather flexible, various options are presented.
11.1: Large 2D (100x100m) tracking – multiple submaps

Here is an example of tracking in open-spaced warehouse. Stationary beacons mounted on the ceiling upside down. Mobile beacon is mounted on a forklift facing up. The system provides precise (±2cm) real-time position of the mobile beacon (forklift) in real time (1-6Hz), stores its path and all location in a .CSV for post processing and analyzing. It also allows real-time alarms and two-ways communication (up to 1-2kbps) from the system to forklift and back.

Notes:
- Cases: big open-spaced warehouses
- 2D (x, y) tracking
- Multiple submaps
11.2: Detailed system view

All track-needed territory is covered with stationary beacons. The beacons are placed on the ceiling with a grid that allows the distance of less than 30m from 2 or more stationary beacons on the ceiling to a mobile beacon on the forklift at any point, where the tracking is required. Service zones are overlapping for smooth handover. This is 2D map example, so submaps contain only two beacons and a special indicator which shows the working zone.
11.3: Detailed beacon mounting view

Beacons are placed on the ceiling upside down. Working sensor is RX4. When other sensors (RX1, RX2, RX3, RX5) are disabled, the beacon has the highest sensitivity in RX4 direction and noise resistance from other directions. The height in the example is 10m.

Beacons can work from the embedded LiPol battery, but it is recommended to provide an external power source (regular USB) or a converter ~110/220=>5V USB.
**11.4: 2D optimal configuration**

**Notes:**
Configuration “2D optimal” is balanced in price-performance ratio. Since the configuration is for 2D, it gives only X and Y coordinates. The configuration is designed for tracking, for example, forklifts in open-spaced warehouses without tall shelves.

**Pros:**
- Solid tracking
- Very precise (±2cm)
- Designed for forklifts

**Cons:**
- More beacons (price) than in stretched configurations

**Budgetary pricing:**
100x100m “2D optimal”:
- 30 x $69 Beacon – HW v4.9 = 30 x $69 = $2 070
- 1 x mobile beacon = 1 x $69 = $69
- 1 x Modem – HW v4.9 = 1 x $69 = $69

**Total:**
$2 208 per 100x100m with precise (±2cm) and solid (X,Y) tracking
11.5: 2D stretched

Notes:
Configuration “2D stretched” is actually the same as “2D optimal”, but works with a longer distances between beacon. That gives an advantage in price, but tracking can be interrupted with external noise or by just too weak ultrasonic signal. It is also in 2D, so it gives only X and Y coordinates.

Pros:
- Lower total cost than the 2D Optimal configuration

Cons:
- Potentially, less solid tracking than the 2D Optimal configuration

Budgetary pricing:
100x100m “2D stretched”:
- 20 x $69 Beacon – HW v4.9 = 20 x $69 = $1 380
- 1 x mobile beacon = 1 x $69 = $69
- 1 x Modem – HW v4.9 = 1 x $69 = $69

Total:
Only $1 518 per 100x100m of precise (±2cm) (X,Y) tracking
11.6: 2D super-stretched

Notes:
Configuration “2D super-stretched” has the best price as the distances are the largest, but it is mostly designed for future HW/SW version. It is 2D, so it gives only X and Y coordinates.

Pros:
- The lowest total cost among the three configurations

Cons:
- Will be available with future SW upgrade (or even with new HW of beacons)
- May require more manual and fine settings than other configurations

Budgetary pricing:
100x100m “2D super-stretched”:
- 12 x $69 Beacon – HW v4.9 - 12 x $69 = $828
- 1 x mobile beacon - 1 x $69 = $69
- 1 x Modem – HW v4.9 - 1 x $69 = $69

Total:
Only $966 per 100x100m of precise (±2cm) (X,Y) tracking
**11.7: 3D optimal**

**Notes:**
Configuration “3D optimal” is balanced in price-performance ratio. The configuration is 3D, so it gives (X,Y,Z) positioning. It has 3+1 redundancy. That means that, if 1 of 4 beacons in submap is blocked, 3D tracking is still exists. The configuration is suitable for tracking, for example, not only forklifts, but also drones in open-spaced warehouses without tall shelves.

**Pros:**
- Solid tracking
- Suitable for drones – gives 3D (x, y, z)

**Cons:**
- More beacons/price than in stretched configurations

**Budgetary pricing:**
100x100m “3D optimal”:
- 36 x $69 Beacon – HW v4.9 - 36 x $69 = $2 484
- 1 x mobile beacon – 1 x $69 = $69
- 1 x Modem – HW v4.9 - 1 x $69 = $69

Total: $2 622 per 100x100m precise (±2cm) and solid (X,Y,Z) tracking
**11.8: 3D stretched**

**Notes:**
Configuration “3D stretched” is actually the same as “3D optimal”, but works with a longer distances. That gives an advantage in price, but tracking can be interrupt with noise. The configuration is 3D, so it gives (X,Y,Z) positioning. It has 3+1 redundancy. That means that, if 1 of 4 beacons in submap is blocked, 3D tracking is still exists. The configuration is suitable for tracking, for example, not only forklifts, but also drones in open-spaced warehouses without tall shelves.

**Pros:**
- Lower costs than in 3D optimal configuration

**Cons:**
- More complex settings and less solid performance than in the 3D optimal configuration

**Budgetary pricing:**
100x100m “2D stretched”:
- 25 x $69 Beacon – HW v4.9 - 25 x $69 = $1 725
- 1 x mobile beacon - 1 x $69 = $69
- 1 x Modem – HW v4.9 - 1 x $69 = $69

Total: Only $1 863 per 100x100m precise (±2cm) and good (X,Y,Z) tracking
11.9: 3D super-stretched

Notes:
Configuration “3D super-stretched” has the best price as the distances are the largest, but it is mostly designed for future HW/SW version. It is 3D, so it gives us only X and Y coordinates. It has 3+1 redundancy. That means that, if 1 of 4 beacons in submap is blocked, tracking is still exists.

Pros:
- The lowest total cost among the three configurations

Cons:
- Will be available with future SW upgrade (or even with new HW of beacons)
- May require more manual and fine settings than other configurations

Price:
100x100m “2D super-stretched“:
- 16 x $69 Beacon – HW v4.9 - 16 x $69 = $1,104
- 1 x mobile beacon = 1 x $69 = $69
- 1 x Modem – HW v4.9 - 1 x $69 = $69

Total:
Only $1,242 per 100x100m precise (±2cm) and (X,Y,Z) tracking
11.10: Summary – 100x100m area

We presented different configurations of tracking mobile assets (vehicles, forklifts, drones) in 100x100m warehouse with ±2cm precision. We also gave some recommendations of mounting and setting up the system:

- 2D optimal
- 2D stretched
- 2D super-stretched (future release)
- 3D optimal
- 3D stretched
- 3D super-stretched (future release)

Prices for the same area: $966 - $2,622
After default settings, you have an opportunity to go to advanced settings and installations. Check the info below.

- **Higher update rate**
  - Radio profile: 38kbps → 500 kbps
  - Limitation of distance

- **Multiple beacons**
  - Radio profile: 38kbps → 500 kbps
  - Limitation of distance

- **Copter**
  - Ultrasound settings

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**Default settings**

**Advanced settings manual**

**Placement manual**
Additional help

- https://marvelmind.com/
- Marvelmind YouTube channel
- FAQ
- For additional support, send your questions to info@marvelmind.com