Photogrammetry & Robotics Lab

Direct Solutions for Computing Fundamental and Essential Matrix

Cyrill Stachniss

The slides have been created by Cyrill Stachniss.

Topics of Today

Compute the

- Fundamental matrix given corresponding points
- Essential matrix given corresponding points
- Rotation matrix and basis given an essential matrix

Motivation



Computing the Fundamental Matrix Given Corresponding Points

 $\mathsf{F}/\mathsf{E}~R,\mathbf{b}_{ ext{Image courtesy: Collins 2}}$

Fundamental Matrix

The fundamental matrix F is

 $\mathsf{F} = (\mathsf{K}')^{-\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{R}' \mathsf{S}_b \mathsf{R}''^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathsf{K}'')^{-1}$

- It encodes the relative orientation for two uncalibrated cameras
- Coplanarity constraint through F

$$\mathbf{x'}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{F}\mathbf{x}'' = 0$$

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Problem Formulation

• **Given:** *N* corresponding points

 $(x', y')_n, (x'', y'')_n$ with n = 1, ..., N

• Wanted: fundamental matrix F

Fundamental Matrix

The fundamental matrix F can directly be computed if we know the

- K', K" calibration matrices
- R', R" viewing direction of the cameras
- S_b
 baseline
- or the projection matrices P', P"

How to compute F given ONLY corresponding points in images?

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Fundamental Matrix From Corresponding Points

 For each point, we have the coplanarity constraint

 $\mathbf{x'}_{n}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{F}\mathbf{x}_{n}^{\prime\prime}=0 \qquad n=1,...,N$

Fundamental Matrix From Corresponding Points

 For each point, we have the coplanarity constraint

$$\mathbf{x'}_{n}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{F}\mathbf{x}_{n}^{\prime\prime}=0 \qquad n=1,...,N$$

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} x'_{n}, y'_{n}, 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} & F_{13} \\ F_{21} & F_{22} & F_{23} \\ F_{31} & F_{32} & F_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x''_{n} \\ y''_{n} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$
unknowns!

What is the Issue here?

- In standard least squares problems, we have a vector of unknowns
- Here, the matrix elements of F are the unknowns

Question: How to turn the unknown matrix elements into a vector of unknowns?

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Linear Dependency

• Linear function in the unknowns F_{ij}

$$\begin{bmatrix} x'_n \\ y'_n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} & F_{13} \\ F_{21} & F_{22} & F_{23} \\ F_{31} & F_{32} & F_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x''_n \\ y''_n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$x_n''F_{11}x_n' + x_n''F_{21}y_n' + \ldots = 0$$

Linear Dependency

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Linear Dependency



Linear Dependency

• Linear function in the unknowns
$$F_{ij}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x'_{n}, y'_{n}, 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} & F_{13} \\ F_{21} & F_{22} & F_{23} \\ F_{31} & F_{32} & F_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x''_{n} \\ y''_{n} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} x''_{n}x'_{n}, x''_{n}y'_{n}, x''_{n}, y''_{n}x'_{n}, y''_{n}y'_{n}, y''_{n}, x'_{n}, y''_{n}, 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} F_{11}, F_{21}, F_{31}, F_{12}, F_{22}, F_{32}, F_{13}, F_{23}, F_{33} \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}} = 0$$
$$n = 1, \dots, N$$

Using the Kronecker Product



Linear System From All Points

 We directly obtain a linear system if we consider all N points

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{a}_{n}^{\mathsf{T}}}_{(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{\prime\prime}\otimes\mathbf{x}_{n}^{\prime})^{\mathsf{T}}}\underbrace{\mathbf{f}}_{\mathrm{Vec}\mathsf{F}} = 0 \qquad n = 1, ..., N$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{1}^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \cdots \\ \mathbf{a}_{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \cdots \\ \mathbf{a}_{N}^{\mathsf{T}} \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A} \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$$

How Many Points Are Needed?

- The vector ${\, {f f}}$ has 9 dimensions

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ a_n^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ a_N^{\mathsf{T}} \end{bmatrix} \implies A\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$$

Solving the Linear System

Singular value decomposition solves

 $A\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$

- and thus provides a solution for $\mathbf{f} = [F_{11}, F_{21}, F_{31}, F_{12}, F_{22}, F_{32}, F_{13}, F_{23}, F_{33}]^{\mathsf{T}}$
- SVD: f is the right-singular vector corresponding to a singular value of A that is zero

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How Many Points Are Needed?

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ a_n^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ a_N^{\mathsf{T}} \end{bmatrix} \implies A\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$$

- Matrix A has at most rank 8
- We need 8 corresponding points

More Than 8 Points...

- In reality: noisy measurements
- With more than 8 points, the matrix A will become regular (but should not!)
- Use the singular vector \hat{f} of A that corresponds to the **smallest** singular value is the solution $\hat{f} \to \hat{F}$

Singular Vector

- Use the singular vector \hat{f} of A that corresponds to the **smallest** singular value is the solution $\hat{f} \to \hat{F}$





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8-Point Algorithm 1st Try



8-Point Algorithm 1st Try



Enforcing Rank 2

- We want to enforce a matrix F with rank(F) = 2
- F should approximate our computed matrix F as close a possible

What to do?

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8-Point Algorithm

```
1 function F = F_from_point_pairs(xs, xss)
2 % xs, xss: Nx3 homologous point coordinates, N > 7
             3x3 fundamental matrix
3 % F:
4
5 % coefficient matrix
6 for n = 1 : size(xs, 1)
      A(n, :) = kron(xss(n, :), xs(n, :));
7
s end
9
10 % singular value decomposition
11 [U, D, V] = svd(A);
12
13 % approximate F, possibly regular
14 Fa = reshape(V(:, 9), 3, 3);
15
```

Enforcing Rank 2

- We want to enforce a matrix F with rank(F) = 2
- F should approximate our computed matrix F as close a possible
- Use a second SVD (this time of F̂)

 $F = UD^{a}V^{\mathsf{T}} = U\text{diag}(D_{11}, D_{22}, 0)V^{\mathsf{T}}$ with $\text{svd}(\hat{\mathsf{F}}) = UDV^{\mathsf{T}}$ and $D_{11} \ge D_{22} \ge D_{33}$

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8-Point Algorithm

```
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11 [U, D, V] = svd(A);
12
13 % approximate F, possibly regular
14 Fa = reshape(V(:, 9), 3, 3);
15
16 % svd decomposition of F
17 [Ua, Da, Va] = svd(Fa);
18
19 % algebraically best F, singular
20 F = Ua * diag([Da(1, 1), Da(2, 2), 0]) * Va';
```

Well-Conditioned Problem

Example image 12MPixel camera



Conditioning/Normalization

- Define T : $Tx = \hat{x}$ so that coordinates are zero-centered and in [-1,1]
- Determine fundamental matrix F from the transformed coordinates

$$\mathbf{x'}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{F}\mathbf{x''} = (\mathsf{T}^{-1}\hat{\mathbf{x}}')^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{F}(\mathsf{T}^{-1}\hat{\mathbf{x}}'')$$
$$= \hat{\mathbf{x}'}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{T}^{-\top}\mathsf{F}\mathsf{T}^{-1}\hat{\mathbf{x}}''$$
$$= \hat{\mathbf{x}'}^{\mathsf{T}}\hat{\mathsf{F}}\hat{\mathbf{x}}''$$

Obtain essential matrix F through

$$\hat{F} = T^{-\top}FT^{-2}$$
$$F = T^{\top}\hat{F}T$$

Conditioning/Normalization to Obtain a Well-Conditioned **Problem**

- Normalization of the point coordinates substantially improves the stability
- Transform the points so that the center of mass of all points is at (0,0)
- Scale the image so that the x and y coordinated are within [-1,1]

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Singularity – Points on a Plane

- If all corresponding points lie on a plane, then rank(A) < 8
- Numerically instable if points are close to a plane



Images from the "Fundamental Matrix Song" Video by D. Wedge



Essential Matrix from 8+ Corresponding Points

 For each point, we have the coplanarity constraint

 ${}^{k}\mathbf{x'}_{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{E} {}^{k}\mathbf{x}_{n}^{\prime \prime} = 0 \qquad n = 1, ..., N$

 Note: Same equation as for the fundamental matrix but for the points in the camera c.s. Remember: ^kx' = (K')⁻¹x'

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As for the Fundamental Matrix...



Essential Matrix from 8+ Corresponding Points

 For each point, we have the coplanarity constraint

$${}^{k}\mathbf{x'}_{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{E} {}^{k}\mathbf{x}_{n}^{\prime\prime} = 0 \qquad n = 1, ..., N$$

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^{k}x'_{n}, {}^{k}y'_{n}, c' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_{11} & E_{12} & E_{13} \\ E_{21} & E_{22} & E_{23} \\ E_{31} & E_{32} & E_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^{k}x''_{n} \\ {}^{k}y''_{n} \\ c'' \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

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Constraints

 For the fundamental matrix, we enforced the rank(F) = 2 constraint

 $\mathbf{F} = UDV^{\mathsf{T}} = U \begin{bmatrix} D_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & D_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} V^{\mathsf{T}}$

 For the essential matrix, both nonzero singular values are identical

| E = <i>U</i> | $\begin{bmatrix} d\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ d \\ 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | $V^{T} = U \left[$ | $\begin{array}{c} 1\\ 0\\ 0\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ | V^{T} | | |
|--------------|---|--|---|---------------------|---|--|---|---------|--|--|
| homogenous | | | | | | | | | | |

More details: Förstner, Skript Photogrammetrie II, Sect 1.2.3 40

8-Point Algorithm for the Essential Matrix

| s) | <pre>function E = E_from_point_pairs(xs, ></pre> |
|----------------------------|---|
| nates, $N > 7$ | % xs, xss: Nx3 homologous point coord |
| | <pre>% E: 3x3 essential matrix</pre> |
| | |
| | % coefficient matrix |
| head and a second sector a | for $n = 1$: size(xs, 1) |
|); Duild matrix A | A(n, :) = kron(xss(n, :), xs(n, : |
| | end |
| | |
| solve Ae=0 | % singular value decomposition |
| | [U, D, V] = svd(A); |
| | |
| build matrix Ea | % approximate E, possibly regular |
| | Ea = reshape(V(:, 9), 3, 3); |
| | |
| compute SVD of Fa | % svd decomposition of E |
| compare SVD of La | [Ua, Da, Va] = svd(Ea); |
| | |
| ulid matrix E from Ea | % algebraically best E, singular, sam |
| y imposing constraints | E = Ua * diag([1, 1, 0]) * Va'; |
| · · · · | ¢ |

Conditioning/Normalization

- Define T : $Tx = \hat{x}$ so that coordinates are zero-centered and in [-1,1]
- Determine essential matrix Ê from the transformed coordinates

$${}^{k}\mathbf{x'}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{E}^{k}\mathbf{x''} = (\mathsf{T}^{-1} {}^{k}\mathbf{\hat{x}'})^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{E}(\mathsf{T}^{-1} {}^{k}\mathbf{\hat{x}''})$$
$$= {}^{k}\mathbf{\hat{x}'}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{T}^{-\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{E}\mathsf{T}^{-1} {}^{k}\mathbf{\hat{x}''}$$
$$= {}^{k}\mathbf{\hat{x}'}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{\hat{E}}^{k}\mathbf{\hat{x}''}$$

• Obtain essential matrix E through

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$$\hat{\mathbf{E}} = \mathbf{T}^{-\top} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{T}^{-1}$$
$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{T}^{\top} \hat{\mathbf{E}} \mathbf{T}$$

Conditioning/Normalization to Obtain a Well-Conditioned **Problem (As Done Before)**

- As for the 8-Point algorithm for the fundamental matrix, normalization of the point coordinates is essential
- Transform the points so that the center of mass of all points is at (0,0)
- Scale the image so that the x and y coordinated are within [-1,1]

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Properties of the Essential Mat.

- Homogenous
- Singular: $|\mathsf{E}| = 0$ (determinant is zero)
- Two identical non-zero singular values

$$\mathsf{E} = U \left[\begin{array}{rrr} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] V^{\mathsf{T}}$$

• As a result of the skew-sym. matrix:

$$2\mathsf{E}\mathsf{E}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{E} - \mathrm{tr}\,(\mathsf{E}\mathsf{E}^{\mathsf{T}})\mathsf{E} = \underset{3\times 3}{\mathbf{0}}$$

| 5-Point Algorithm 45 | 5-Point Algorithm Proposed by Nistér in 2003/2004 Standard solution today to obtaining the direct solution Solving a polynomial of degree 10 10 possible solutions Often used together RANSAC RANSAC proposes correspondences Evaluate all 5-point solutions based on the other corresponding points | 46 |
|--|---|----|
| <section-header><list-item><list-item><list-item><list-item><list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></section-header> | Computing the Orientation Parameters Given the Essential Matrix | 48 |



• In short: $E \rightarrow S_B, R$



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Multiple Solutions from Math...



Multiple Solutions from Math...

 $^{k}\mathbf{x}^{\prime\prime}$

 $O^{\prime\prime}$

The Solution We Want...

 $^{k}\mathbf{x}^{\prime}$







• So that
$$ZW = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



Four Possibilities to Define Z, W

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = ZW = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= -Z^{\mathsf{T}}W = -\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= -ZW^{\mathsf{T}} = -\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$$
$$= Z^{\mathsf{T}}W^{\mathsf{T}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$$

Yields Four Solutions



Solution by Hartley & Zisserman

- Compute the SVD of $E: UDV^{T} = svd(E)$
- Normalize U, V by U = U|U|, V = V|V|
- Compute the four solutions $S_{\widehat{B}}^{1} = UZU^{T} S_{\widehat{B}}^{2} = UZ^{T}U^{T} R_{1}^{T} = UWV^{T} R_{2}^{T} = UW^{T}V^{T}$
- Test for which solutions all points are in front of both cameras
- Return the physically plausible configuration

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Summary (2)

- Direct solutions
- Extracting S_B, R from E
- Not statistically optimal
- Often used in combination with RANSAC for identifying in/outliers
- Direct solutions & RANSAC serves as initial guess for iterative solutions
- Subsequent refinement using least squares only based on inlier points

Summary (1)

- Algorithms to compute the relative orientation from image data
- Allow us to estimate the camera motion (except of the scale)
- Direct solutions
 - F from N>7 points ("8-Point Algorithm")
 - E from N>7 points ("8-Point Algorithm")
 - E from N=5 points ("Nister's 5-Point Algorithm")

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Literature

- Förstner, Wrobel: Photogrammetric Computer Vision, Ch. 12.3.1-12.3.3
- Hartley: In Defence of the 8-point Algorithm
- Stewenius, Engels, Nistér: Recent Developments on Direct Relative Orientation, ISPRS 2006

Slide Information

- The slides have been created by Cyrill Stachniss as part of the photogrammetry and robotics courses.
- I tried to acknowledge all people from whom I used images or videos. In case I made a mistake or missed someone, please let me know.
- The photogrammetry material heavily relies on the very well written lecture notes by Wolfgang Förstner and the Photogrammetric Computer Vision book by Förstner & Wrobel.
- Parts of the robotics material stems from the great Probabilistic Robotics book by Thrun, Burgard and Fox.
- If you are a university lecturer, feel free to use the course material. If you adapt the course material, please make sure that you keep the acknowledgements to others and please acknowledge me as well. To satisfy my own curiosity, please send me email notice if you use my slides.

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