Camera Calibration

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Camera calibration

- Issues:
  - what are intrinsic parameters of the camera?
  - what is the camera matrix? (intrinsic+extrinsic)
- General strategy:
  - view calibration object; identify image points in image
  - obtain camera matrix by minimizing error
  - obtain intrinsic parameters from camera matrix

Optimization problem: Notation

The optimization problem is relatively straightforward to formulate. Notation is the main issue. We have N reference points $\mathbf{s}_i = [s_{x,i}, s_{y,i}, s_{z,i}]$ with known position in some reference coordinate system in 3D. The measured location in the image for the i'th such point is $\hat{\mathbf{t}}_i = \left[\hat{t}_{x,i}, \hat{t}_{y,i}\right]$. There may be measurement errors, so the $\hat{\mathbf{t}}_i = \mathbf{t}_i + \xi_i$, where ξ_i is an error vector and $\mathbf{t}$ is the unknown true position. We will assume the magnitude of error does not depend on direction in the image plane (it is *isotropic*), so it is natural to minimize the squared magnitude of the error

$$\sum_i \xi_i^T \xi_i.$$

The main issue here is writing out expressions for ξ_i in the appropriate coordinates. Write $\mathcal{T}_i$ for the intrinsic matrix whose u, v'th component will be i_{uv}; $\mathcal{T}_e$ for the extrinsic transformation, whose u, v'th component will be e_{uv}. Recalling that $\mathcal{T}_i$ is lower triangular, and engaging in some manipulation, we obtain

$$\sum_i \xi_i^T \xi_i = \sum_i (t_{x,i} - p_{x,i})^2 + (t_{y,i} - p_{y,i})^2$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} p_{x,i} &= \frac{i_{11} g_{x,i} + i_{12} g_{y,i} + i_{13} g_{i,3}}{g_{i,3}} \\ p_{y,i} &= \frac{i_{22} g_{x,i} + i_{23} g_{i,3}}{g_{i,3}} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} g_{x,i} &= e_{11} s_{x,i} + e_{12} s_{y,i} + e_{13} s_{z,i} + e_{14} \\ g_{y,i} &= e_{21} s_{x,i} + e_{22} s_{y,i} + e_{23} s_{z,i} + e_{24} \\ g_{z,i} &= e_{31} s_{x,i} + e_{32} s_{y,i} + e_{33} s_{z,i} + e_{34} \end{aligned}$$

(which you should check as an exercise). This is a constrained optimization problen because $\mathcal{T}_e$ is a Euclidean transformation. The constraints here are

$$1 - \sum_v e_{j,1v}^2 = 0 \text{ and } 1 - \sum_v e_{j,2v}^2 = 0 \text{ and } 1 - \sum_v e_{j,3v}^2 = 0$$
$$\sum_v e_{j,1v} e_{j,2v} = 0 \text{ and } \sum_v e_{j,1v} e_{j,3v} = 0 \text{ and } 1 - \sum_v e_{j,2v} e_{j,3v} = 0 \quad .$$

Optimizing

- Chuck in constrained optimizer and run
  - doesn’t work well - need a start point

A Start Point

Write $\mathbf{C}_j^T$ for the j'th row of the camera matrix, and $\mathbf{S}_i = [s_{x,i}, s_{y,i}, s_{z,i}, 1]^T$ for homogeneous coordinates representing the i'th point in 3D. Then, assuming no errors in measurement, we have

$$\hat{t}_{x,i} = \frac{\mathbf{C}_1^T \mathbf{S}_i}{\mathbf{C}_3^T \mathbf{S}_i} \text{ and } \hat{t}_{y,i} = \frac{\mathbf{C}_2^T \mathbf{S}_i}{\mathbf{C}_3^T \mathbf{S}_i},$$

which we can rewrite as

$$\mathbf{C}_3^T \mathbf{S}_i \hat{t}_{x,i} - \mathbf{C}_1^T \mathbf{S}_i = 0 \text{ and } \mathbf{C}_3^T \mathbf{S}_i \hat{t}_{y,i} - \mathbf{C}_2^T \mathbf{S}_i = 0.$$

2 Homogeneous equations per point - so with enough, can solve for C

Start point - II

Remember this: *Given a 3×4 camera matrix $\mathcal{P}$, the homogeneous coordinates of the focal point of that camera are given by $\mathbf{X}$, where $\mathcal{P}\mathbf{X} = [0,0,0]^T$*

Remember this: *Assume camera matrix $\mathcal{P}$ has null space $\lambda\mathbf{u} = \lambda\left[\mathbf{f}^T, 1\right]^T$. Then we must have $\mathcal{T}_e\mathbf{u} = [0,0,0,1]^T$, so we must have*

$$\mathcal{T}_e = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{R} & -\mathcal{R}\mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{0}^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This means that, if we know $\mathcal{R}$, we can recover the translation from the focal point. We must now recover the intrinsic transformation and $\mathcal{R}$ from what we know.

$$\lambda\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{T}_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{R} & -\mathcal{R}\mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{0}^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{T}_i\mathcal{R} & -\mathcal{T}_i\mathcal{R}\mathbf{f} \end{bmatrix}$$

We do not know λ, but we do know $\mathcal{P}$. Now write $\mathcal{P}_l$ for the left 3×3 block of $\mathcal{P}$, and recall that $\mathcal{T}_i$ is upper triangular and $\mathcal{R}$ orthonormal. The first question is the sign of λ. We expect $\mathsf{Det}\,(\mathcal{R}) = 1$, and $\mathsf{Det}\,(\mathcal{T}_i) > 0$, so $\mathsf{Det}\,(\mathcal{P}_l)$ should be positive. This yields the sign of λ – choose a sign $s \in \{-1, 1\}$ so that $\mathsf{Det}\,(s\mathcal{P}_l)$ is positive.

We can now factor $s\mathcal{P}_l$ into an upper triangular matrix $\mathcal{T}$ and an orthonormal matrix $\mathcal{Q}$. This is an RQ factorization (Section 25.2). Recall we could not distinguish between scaling caused by the focal length and scaling caused by pixel scale, so that

$$\mathcal{T}_i = \begin{bmatrix} as & k & c_x \\ 0 & s & c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

In turn, we have $\lambda = s(1/t_{33})$, $c_y = (t_{23}/t_{33})$, $s = (t_{22}/t_{33})$, $c_x = (t_{13}/t_{33})$, $k = (t_{12}/t_{33})$, and $a = (t_{11}/t_{22})$.