Module 4F12: Computer Vision and Robotics

Examples Paper 3

Straightforward questions are marked †
Tripos standard (but not necessarily Tripos length) questions are marked *

1. † The stereo correspondence problem

What matching constraints can be used to find point correspondences in stereoscopic vision? What is meant by an epipole and the epipolar constraint?

2. ∗ Epipolar geometry

(a) A stereoscopic pair of cameras is arranged symmetrically with the two optical axes coplanar and making an angle of 45°. Sketch the families of epipolar lines in the left and right images. Assume both cameras have the same focal length \( f \). (Hint: before sketching epipolar lines in the left image, find the projection, onto the left image plane, of the right camera’s optical centre.)

(b) Now solve part (a) algebraically. That is, given a point \((x', y')\) in the right image, find the equation of the line in the left image on which any corresponding point \((x, y)\) must lie (and vice-versa).

3. † Stereo and orthographic projection (Tripos: E7 1993)

A friend reading architecture considers the stereo reconstruction problem and suggests that the 3D position of a point can be determined by using the left image to obtain the X and Y world coordinates and the right image to find the depth (Z coordinate). Comment on this suggestion.

4. ∗ Uncalibrated stereo and the fundamental matrix

If \( w \) and \( w' \) are corresponding pixels in left and right images, show that they are related by

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
  u' \\
v' \\
1
\end{bmatrix}
F
\begin{bmatrix}
u \\
v \\
1
\end{bmatrix} = 0
\]

where \( F \) is the fundamental matrix. Show how \( F \) is related to the isometry\(^1\) between the two camera coordinate systems and the intrinsic camera parameters.

Explain how the fundamental matrix can be used to solve for the epipoles in the two views, and why the maximum rank of \( F \) is 2. How many point correspondences are required to estimate \( F \)?

\(^1\)An “isometry” is a rigid body transformation.
5. **Affine fundamental matrix**

Derive expressions for the left \((u, v)\) and right \((u', v')\) pixel positions of a point in space viewed through *weak* perspective cameras. By eliminating the world coordinates, show that the pixel coordinates are related by

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
  u' & v' & 1
\end{bmatrix}
F_A
\begin{bmatrix}
  u \\
  v \\
  1
\end{bmatrix} = 0
\]

where \(F_A\) is the affine fundamental matrix which has maximum rank 2 and can be expressed in the form

\[
F_A = \begin{bmatrix}
  0 & 0 & a \\
  0 & 0 & b \\
  c & d & 1
\end{bmatrix}
\]

Show that epipolar lines under weak perspective are parallel. (Hint: the algebra is simplified if you assume, without loss of generality, that the left camera is aligned with the world coordinate system.)

**Suitable past Tripos questions:** 2001-2012 Q4

Roberto Cipolla

November 2012