



Machine perception Fitting parametric models

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Previously at MP...

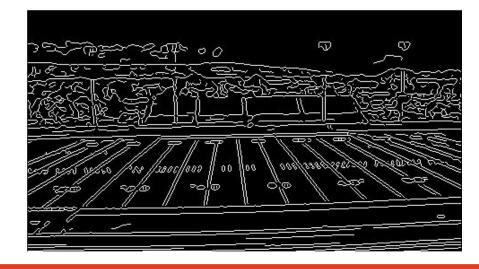
Edge detection (Canny)

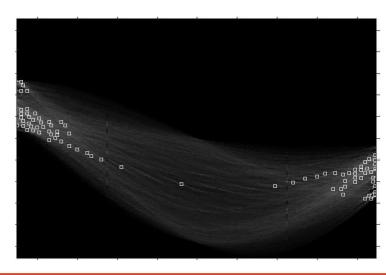






- Fitting parametric models of shapes by voting (Hough transform)
 - Lines
 - Circles
 - General shapes



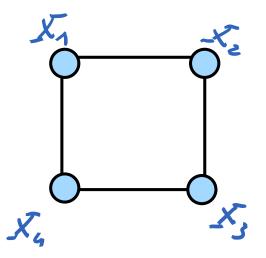


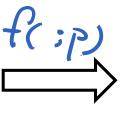
Parametric models: Forward application

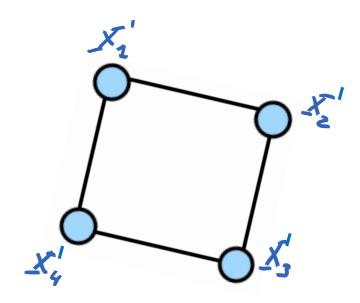
- Transformation parameterized by (many) parameters $\mathbf{x}_i' = f(\mathbf{x}_i; \mathbf{p})$
- Example: transform x_i into x_i' by a function f(x; p)

$$X_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ y_i \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$X_{i}^{2} = \begin{bmatrix} X_{i} \\ Y_{i} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2}$$
 $P = \begin{bmatrix} P_{1} & P_{2} & P_{3} & P_{4} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{M}$

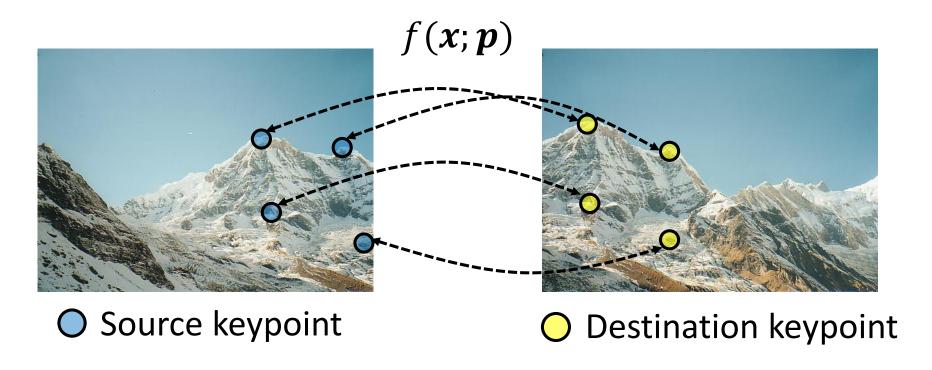






Parametric models: Use cases

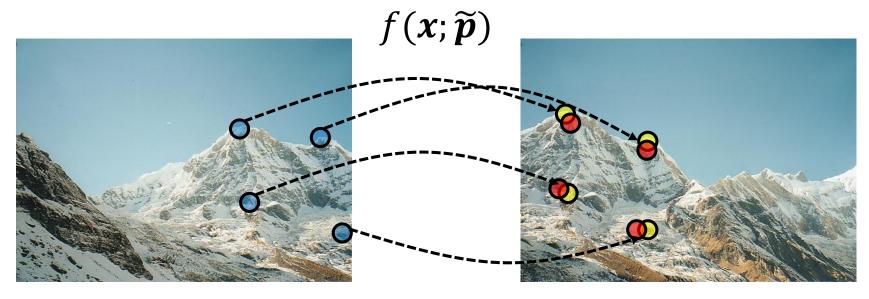
• Inverse problem: ``Given a set of correspondences, what are the parameters of the transformation?"



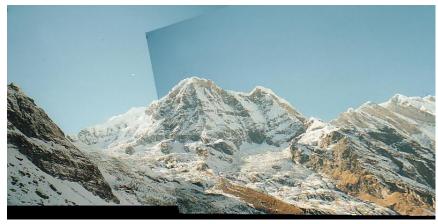
• Assuming the transformation can be well approximated by f(x; p), what are the best parameter values for p?

Parametric models: Use cases

Best parameter values: those that minimize the projection error

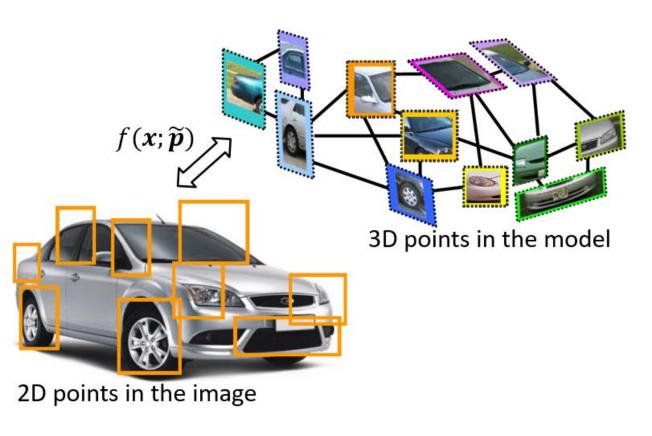


Stitched images: Coordinates of all pixels in the left-hand image transformed by $f(x; \tilde{p})$



Parametric models: Use cases

Example of a 3D pose estimation





TLD3.0 - 3D Tracking of Rigid Objects (ICCV 2017 demo) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3cg8spZCrY

Least squares: Line fitting

Problem formulation

- Data: $\{(x_1, y_1), ..., (x_N, y_N)\}$
- Line equation:

$$y = f(x; \mathbf{p}) = xp_1 + p_2$$

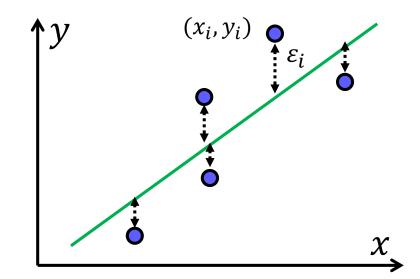
• Parameters:

$$\boldsymbol{p} = [p_1, p_2]^T$$

• Projection error at *i*-th correspondence:

$$\varepsilon_i = f(x_i; \boldsymbol{p}) - y_i$$

- The cost function (goodness of fit): $E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \varepsilon_i^2$
- Best parameters: $\tilde{\mathbf{p}} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{p}} E(\mathbf{p})$



Least squares: Line fitting

Strategy:

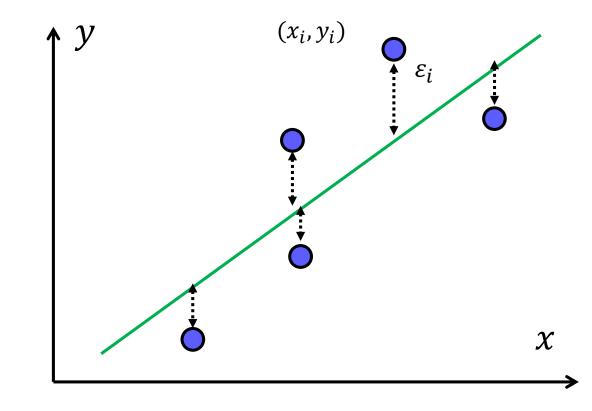
- 1. Rewrite the cost function E(p) into a vector-matrix form
- 2. Take derivative w.r.t. p, set to zero, solve for p.

$$f(x; \boldsymbol{p}) = xp_1 + p_2$$

$$\boldsymbol{p} = [p_1, p_2]^T$$

$$\varepsilon_i = f(x_i; \boldsymbol{p}) - y_i$$

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \varepsilon_i^2$$



Least squares: Line fitting

Strategy:

- Rewrite the cost function E(p) into a vector-matrix form
- Take derivative w.r.t. p, set to zero, solve for p.

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(y_i - [x_i, 1] \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{bmatrix} \right)^2 = \left\| - \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_N \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} x_1, 1 \\ \vdots \\ x_N, 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 = \left\| -\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} \right\|^2$$

Normal equation:

$$\frac{dE(\mathbf{p})}{d\mathbf{p}} = 2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p} - 2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} \equiv \mathbf{0}$$

Solution:

$$\mathbf{p} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}^{\dagger} \mathbf{b}$$

Pseudoinverse:

$$\mathbf{A}^{\dagger} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T$$
 $\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{SVD}} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{V}^T$
 $\mathbf{A}^{\dagger} = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{S}^{-1} \mathbf{U}^T$

A cookbook for normal equations:

1. Define the set of corresponding points

$$\{\boldsymbol{x}_i\}_{i=1:N}$$
 , $\{\boldsymbol{x}_i'\}_{i=1:N}$

2. Define the linear transformation

$$f(x; p): x \to x'$$

3. Define the per-point error and stack all errors into a single vector ε :

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \varepsilon_i^2$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i = f(\boldsymbol{x}_i; \boldsymbol{p}) - \boldsymbol{x}_i'$$

$$\varepsilon = \left[\varepsilon_1^T, ..., \varepsilon_i^T, ..., \varepsilon_N^T\right]^T$$

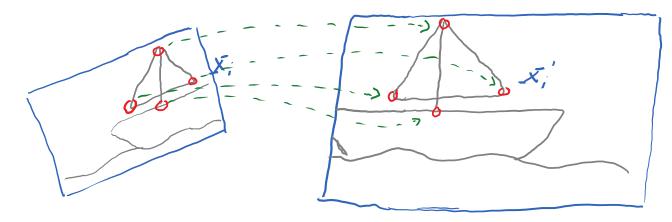
- 4. Rewrite the error into a form $m{arepsilon} = Am{p} m{b}$
- 5. Solve by pseudoinverse: $p = A^{\dagger} \mathbf{b}$

Matlab: $p = A \setminus b$

Note: point errors
$$\varepsilon_i$$
 are of same dimensionality as the points x' .

Least squares: A simple image alignment

Task: Align two images based on correspondences



• Assume a similarity transform (scale, rotation, translation)

$$\mathbf{x}' = f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p})$$

• The similarity transform is parameterized by (See Szeliski, Section 2.1.2):

$$X' = \begin{bmatrix} x_i' \\ q_i' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} P_1 X_i - P_2 q_i + P_3 \\ P_2 X_i + P_1 q_i + P_4 \end{bmatrix}, P = \begin{bmatrix} P_2 & P_3 & P_4 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

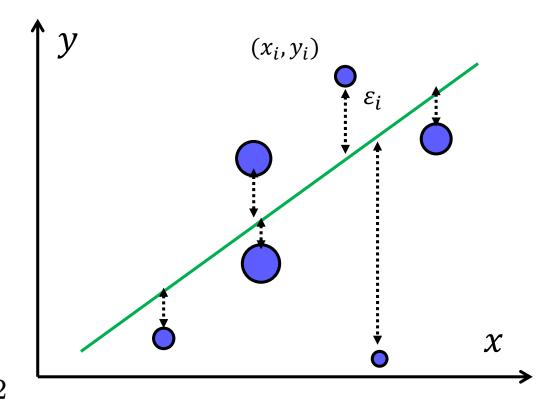
Weighted least squares: Line fitting

Problem formulation

- Data: $\{(x_1, y_1), ..., (x_N, y_N)\}$
- All points are not equally accurately measured!
- Weight at each point: w_i
- Projection error at *i*-th correspondence:

$$\varepsilon_i = f(x_i; \boldsymbol{p}) - y_i$$

• A weighted cost: $E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i \varepsilon_i^2$



• Best parameters: $\tilde{\mathbf{p}} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{p}} E(\mathbf{p})$

Weighted least squares: Line fitting

Strategy:

- Rewrite the cost function E(p) into a vector-matrix form
- Take derivative w.r.t. p, set to zero, solve for p.

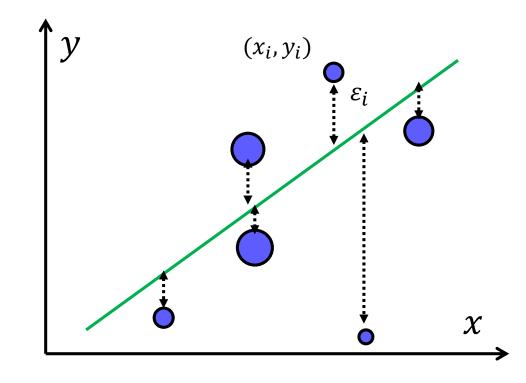
$$f(x; \mathbf{p}) = xp_1 + p_2$$

$$\mathbf{p} = [p_1, p_2]^T$$

$$\varepsilon_i = f(x_i; \mathbf{p}) - y_i$$

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i \varepsilon_i^2$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{p}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{p}} E(\mathbf{p})$$



Weighted least squares: Line fitting

Strategy:

- Rewrite the cost function E(p) into a vector-matrix form
- Take derivative w.r.t. p, set to zero, solve for p.

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i \left(y_i - [x_i, 1] \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{bmatrix} \right)^2$$

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = [\varepsilon_1, ..., \varepsilon_N] \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & w_N \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \vdots \\ \varepsilon_N \end{bmatrix} = \varepsilon^T \mathbf{W} \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{dE(\mathbf{p})}{d\mathbf{p}} = 2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p} - 2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{b} \equiv \mathbf{0}$$
 — Normal equation

$$\mathbf{p} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{b}$$

A cookbook for weighted least squares:

1. Define a weighted set of corresponding points

$$\{x_i\}_{i=1:N}$$
 , $\{x_i'\}_{i=1:N}$, $\{w_i\}_{i=1:N}$

- 2. Define the linear transformation $f(x; p): x \rightarrow x'$
- 3. Rewrite the error into a form $m{arepsilon} = Am{p} m{b}$
- 4. Create a weight matrix W as $W = diag([\mathbf{w}_1^T, ..., \mathbf{w}_N^T])$ with $\mathbf{w}_i^T = w_i[1, ..., 1]_{1 \times d}$
- 5. Solve by : $\mathbf{p} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{b}$

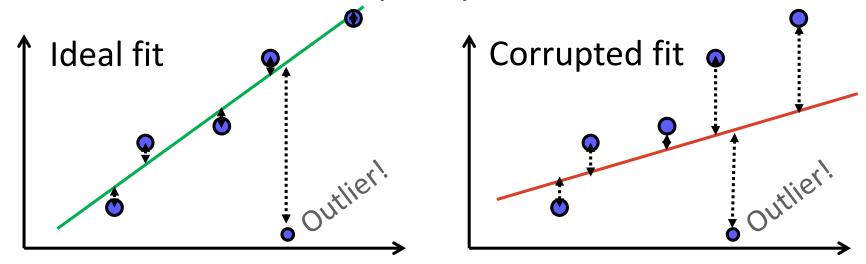
Note: $\mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^1$

Note: think about why are \mathbf{w}_i^T vectors of same dimensionality as the points \mathbf{x}' .

To practice: solve the "sailboat" example

Robust least squares

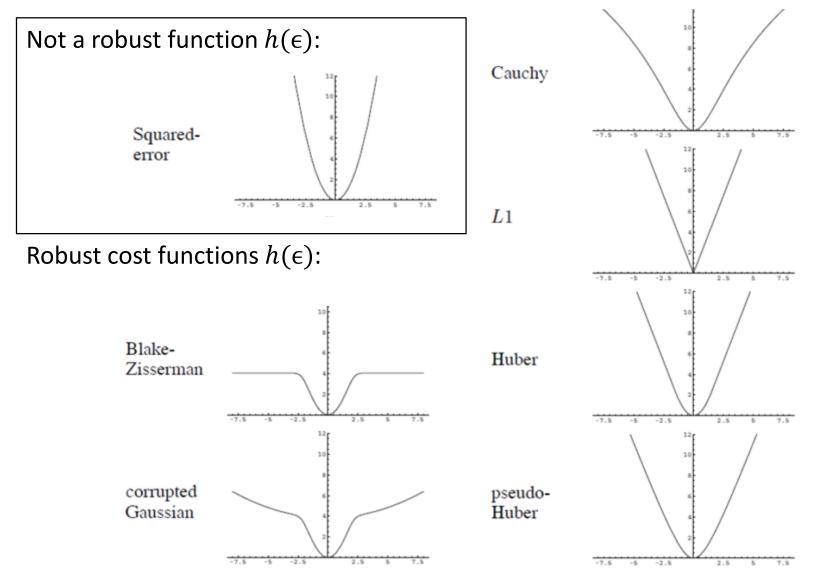
Quadratic cost function behaves poorly with outliers:



- To see where the problem lies, we will have to rewrite our cost function into a general form.
- The cost can be generally written as: $E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} h(\varepsilon_i)$
- For ordinary least squares we had: $h(\varepsilon_i) = ||\varepsilon_i||^2$

Robust least squares

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} h(\varepsilon_i)$$



R. Hartley, Robust Optimization Techniques in Computer Vision, <u>Session 3</u>, ECCV2014 tutorials

Robust least squares

• For a cost function with robust error function $h(\varepsilon_i)$

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} h(\varepsilon_i)$$

• It is possible to find an equivalent weighted L_2 cost

$$E_W(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^N w(\varepsilon_i) ||\varepsilon_i||^2$$
 with $w = \frac{h'(\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon}$ and $h'(\varepsilon) = \frac{\partial h(\varepsilon)}{\partial \varepsilon}$.

- Problems:
 - 1. Weights depend on the errors incurred by the optimal parameters of our model.
 - 2. But the parameters are unknown and so are the weights.
- Solution: Can apply an iterative approach that will converge as long as $h\left(\sqrt{|\epsilon|}\right)$ is concave¹.

¹Aftab, K. and Hartley, R., Convergence of Iteratively Re-weighted Least Squares to Robust M-estimators, WACV 2015 R. Hartley, Robust Optimization Techniques in Computer Vision, <u>Session 3</u>, ECCV2014 tutorials

Iterative reweighted least squares

- 1. Set all the weights to $w_i^{t-1} = 1$.
- 2. Solve for p^t by the weighted least squares problem.
- 3. Using the estimated parameters p^t re-calculate per-point projection errors ε_i^t .
- 4. Using the projection errors re-calculate new weights w_i^t from: $w=\frac{h'(\varepsilon)}{2}$ $h'(\varepsilon)=\frac{\partial h(\varepsilon)}{\partial \varepsilon}$
- 5. Go back to step 2 and continue until the change in parameters is negligibly small (convergence).

Note: $(\cdot)^t$ indicates a step of iteration in the iterative reweighted least squares.

For an instructive discussion on parameters of the Huber cost function from data, please see:

J. Fox, Robust Regression--Appendix to An R and S-PLUS Companion to Applied Regression, 2002, "1.1 Objective Functions".

Constrained least squares

- Often we will seek parameters p that satisfy constraints.
- Reconsider line-fitting example, but this time we'll minimize perpendicular distances!

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||\varepsilon_i||^2$$

• Re-parameterize:

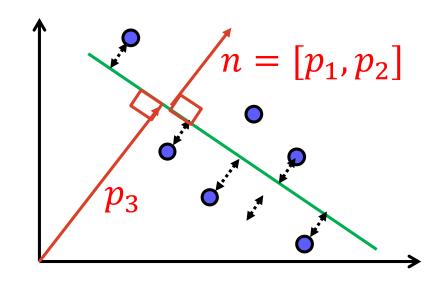
$$\boldsymbol{p} = [p_1, p_2, p_3]^T$$

Distance of a point to line:

$$||\boldsymbol{\varepsilon_i}||^2 = (x_i p_1 + y_i p_2 - p_3)^2$$

Let's minimize:

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||\varepsilon_i||^2$$



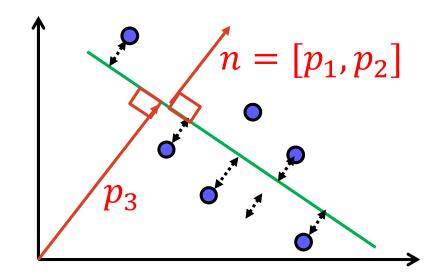
Constrained least squares

- The solution: $\frac{dE(\mathbf{p})}{d\mathbf{p}} = 2\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} \equiv \mathbf{0}$
- Trivial solution: p = 0
- A nontrivial solution is obtained by constraint $||\boldsymbol{p}||^2=1$

$$\mathbf{p} = [p_1, p_2, p_3]^T$$

$$||\mathbf{\varepsilon}_i||^2 = (x_i p_1 + y_i p_2 - p_3)^2$$

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||\varepsilon_i||^2$$



Constrained least squares

- The solution: $\frac{dE(\mathbf{p})}{d\mathbf{p}} = 2\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} \equiv \mathbf{0}$
- Trivial solution: p = 0
- A nontrivial solution is obtained by constraint $||\boldsymbol{p}||^2=1$
- Taking the derivative of a Langrangian and setting to 0:

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p} = \lambda \mathbf{p}$$
 — Homogenous equation!

- The solution is the eigenvector of (A^TA) corresponding to the smallest eigenvalue.
- Actually, it can be shown that this is also the eigenvector corresponding to the smallest eigenvalue of A. (see notes on "Avoid computing A^TA ")

Recognizing the hammer for your nail!

• Problems that can be written as systems of equations (*normal equations*):

```
Ap=b (if you have weights on equations, then WAp=Wb) can be solved by ordinary LS or IRWLS Matlab: p=A \setminus b;
```

Problems that result in a homogenous system:

$$Ap = 0$$

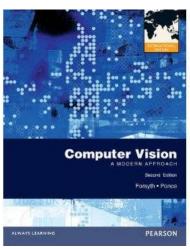
can be solved by putting the constraint $||p||^2 = 1$, the solution is the eigenvector corresponding to the smallest eigenvalue.

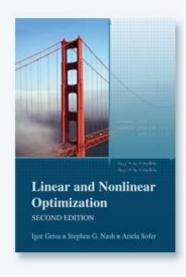
```
Matlab: [U,S,V] = svd(A); p = V(:,end);
```

Generally for nonlinear cost functions

 Often nonlinear error functions are used, which cannot be minimized analytically in a closed form.

- Popular approaches:
 - Gradient descend
 - Newton's method
 - Gauss-Newton method
 - Levenberg-Marquardt
 - Alternate direction method of multipliers (ADMM) [!wery powerful & simple]
- More about these:
- Fua and Lepetit: Computer Vision Fundamentals: Robust Non-Linear Least-Squares and their Applications
- Griva et al., Linear and Nonlinear Optimization (See appendix on Matrix Algebra)
- <u>The Matrix Coockbook</u> (List of common vector/matrix solutions)
- Forsyth, Ponce, "Computer Vision A modern approach", (Appendix in 2nd ed.)





Need to deal even better with outliers

• Large disagreements in only a few points (outliers) cause failure of the least-squares-based methods.

 The detection, localization and recognition in CV have to operate in significantly noisy data.

In some cases >½ data is expected to be outliers.

 Standard methods for robust estimation can rarely deal with such a large proportion of outliers.

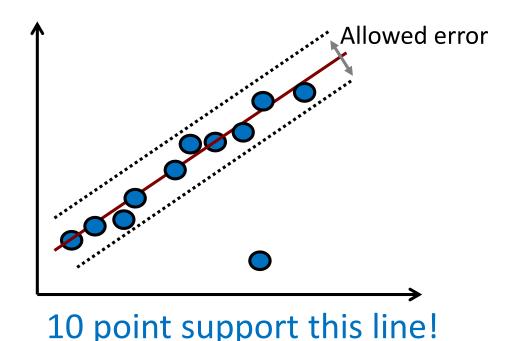
RANSAC

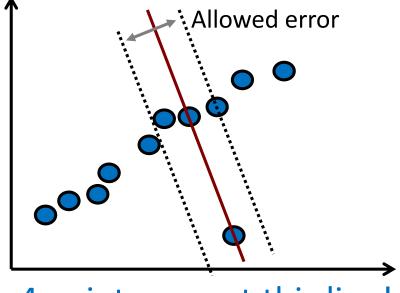
The RANSAC algorithm (random sample consesus).

- Very popular due to its generality and simplicity.
- Can deal with large portions of outliers.
- Published in 1981 (Fischler in Bolles)
- One of the most cited papers in Computer Vision
- Many improvements proposed since!

M. A. Fischler, R. C. Bolles. <u>Random Sample Consensus</u>: A <u>Paradigm for Model Fitting with Applications to Image Analysis and Automated Cartography</u>. Comm. of the ACM, Vol 24, pp. 381-395, 1981.

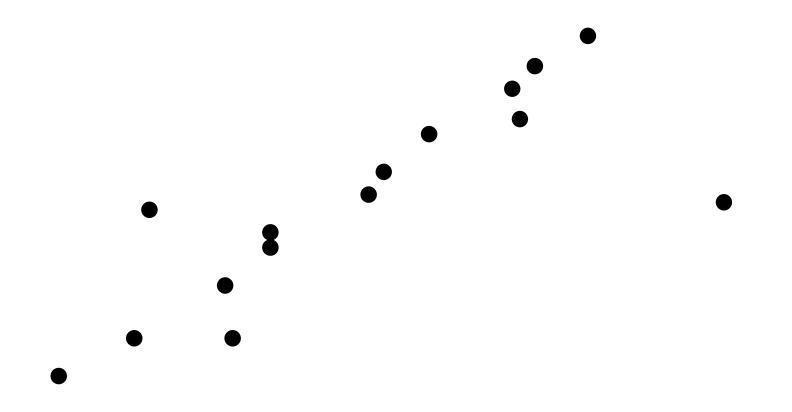
• A good estimate of our model should have a strong support in data: "recognize a good model when you see it"

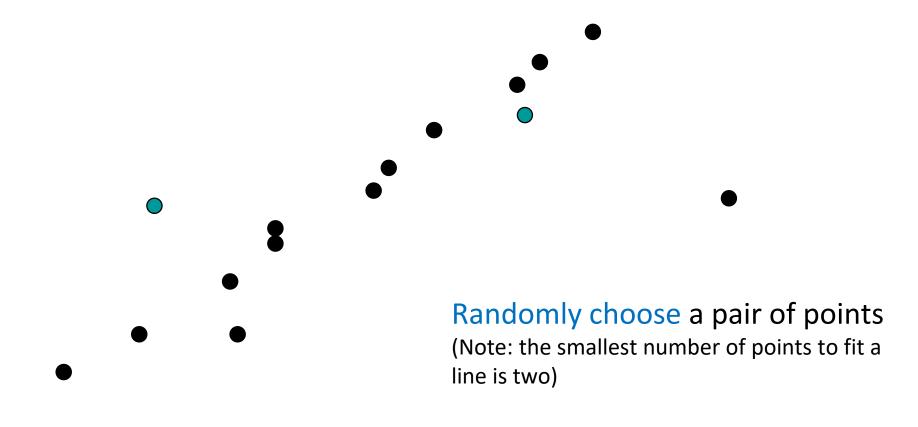


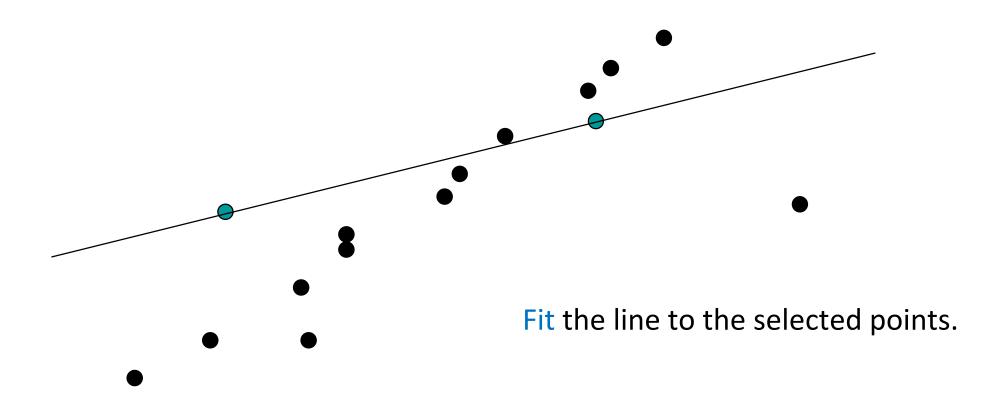


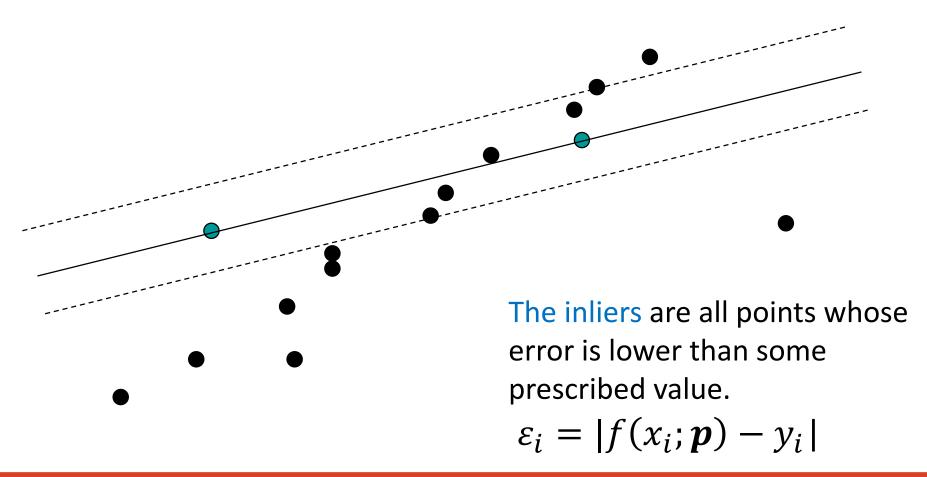
4 point support this line!

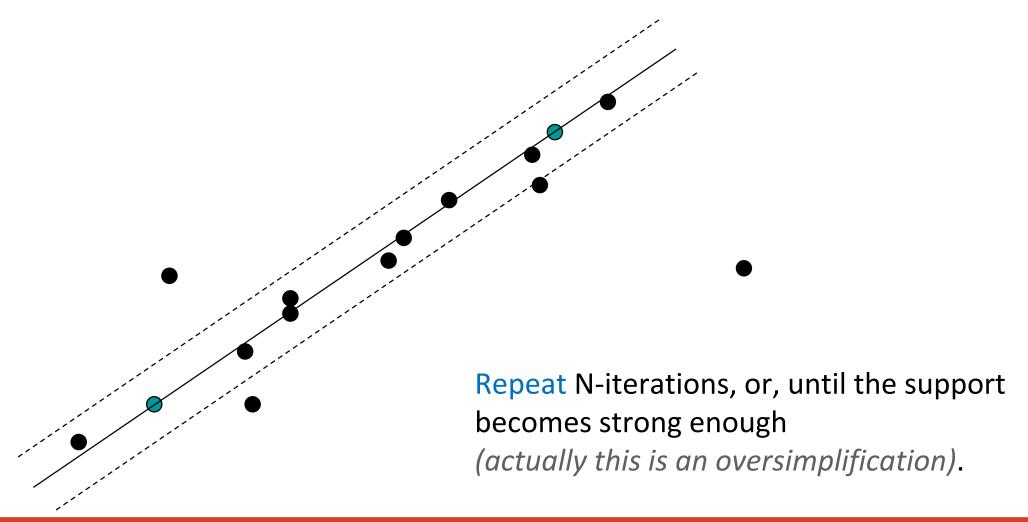
- How to find a model with a strong support?
- By randomly sampling potential models.





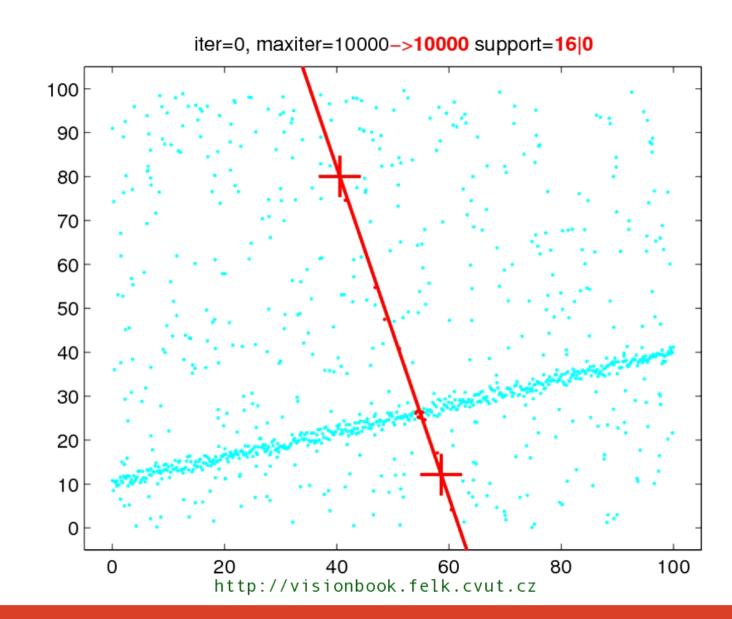






RANSAC: line fitting

Another example

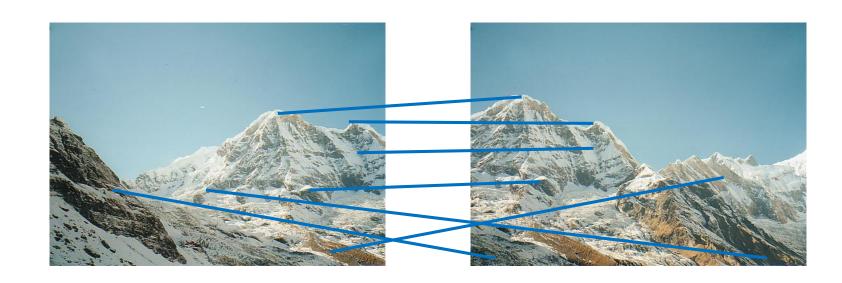


A general setting

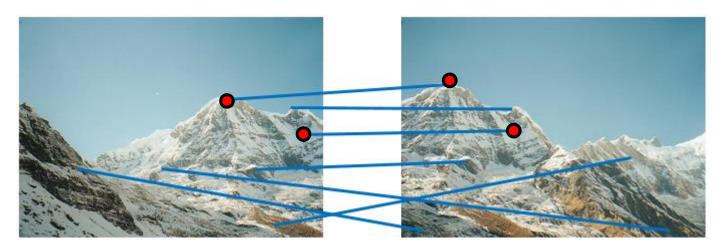
1. Define the set of "potentially" corresponding points:

$$\{x_i\}_{i=1:N}$$
 , $\{x_i'\}_{i=1:N}$

2. Define the transformation model: $f(x; p): x \to x'$



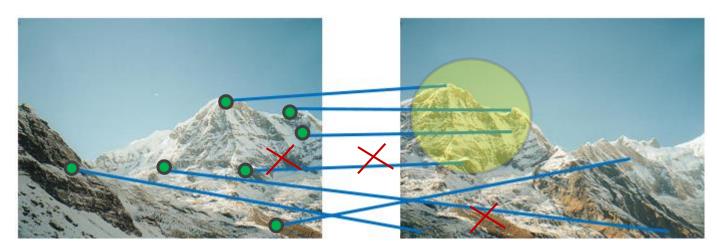
A simple RANSAC loop



$$\{x_i\}_{i=1:N}$$
, $\{x_i'\}_{i=1:N}$
 $f(x; p): x \to x'$

- 1. Randomly select the smallest group of correspondences, from which we can estimate the parameters of our model.
- 2. Fit the parametric model to the selected correspondences: $\widetilde{\mathcal{P}}$

A simple RANSAC loop

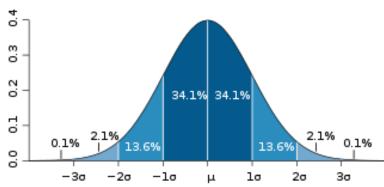


$$\{x_i\}_{i=1:N}$$
, $\{x_i'\}_{i=1:N}$
 $f(x; p): x \to x'$

- 1. Randomly select the smallest group of correspondences, from which we can estimate the parameters of our model.
- 2. Fit the parametric model to the selected correspondences: $\widetilde{\mathcal{P}}$
- 3. Count how many of all correspondences are in agreement with the fitted model number of inliers.
- Remember the model parameters that maximize the number of inliers.

The choice of parameters

- How many correspondences ''s'' are required?
 - Typically the smallest number that allows estimating the model parameters, i.e., as many as the model parameters.
- Threshold distance t for proclaiming the inliers
 - Choose t, such, that the probability that an inlier falls below the threshold is equal to p_w . For example (p_w =0.95)
 - Assuming a Gaussian noise on the measurements. The noise standard dev. σ : $t=2\sigma$
- Number of sampling iterations N
 - Chose N such, that the probability
 p of drawing a sample with all inliers at least once is high enough.



The choice of parameters: N

- Setting the number of sampling iterations *N*:
 - Assume we know the proportion e of outliers (probability of selecting an outlier at random).
 - Choose N such, that the probability of drawing a sample set with all inliers at least once in N draws is p, (e.g., p=0.99).
 - Derive the probability of drawing a bad sample in N trials, $1 p = p_{bad}^{N}$, and expose N
 - Probability of choosing a single inlier: 1 e
 - Probability of an all-inlier sample:
 - \rightarrow s-times sample an inlier: $(1-e)^s$
 - Probability, of a bad sample:
 - \rightarrow at least one of s not an inlier: $[1-(1-e)^s]$
 - Probability of always drawing a bad sample in N trials: $(1-(1-e)^s)^N$

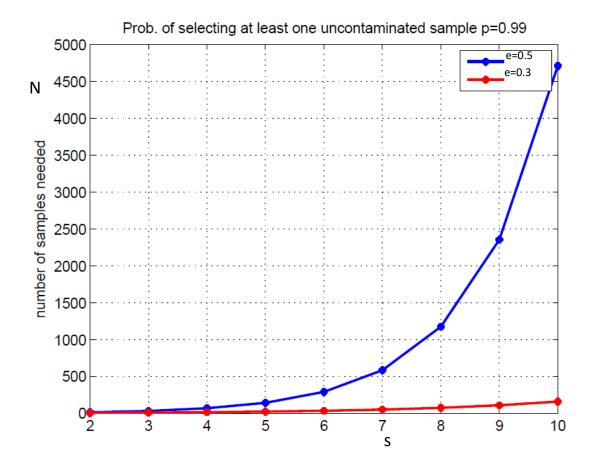
$$1 - p = (1 - (1 - e)^s)^N \quad \square \qquad N = \frac{\log(1 - p)}{\log(1 - (1 - e)^s)}$$

The choice of parameters: N

Number of iterations N required to sample an inlying model with s parameters at least once with probability p if the proportion of outliers is e:

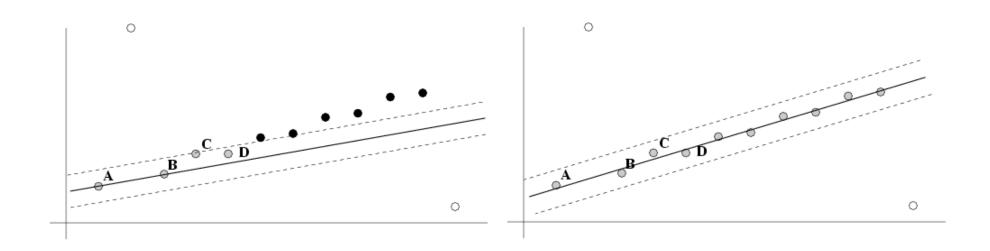
	portion of outliers: e						
S	5%	10%	20%	25%	30%	40%	50%
2	2	3	5	6	7	11	17
3	3	4	7	9	11	19	35
4	3	5	9	13	17	34	72
5	4	6	12	17	26	57	146
6	4	7	16	24	37	97	293
7	4	8	20	33	54	163	588
8	5	9	26	44	78	272	1177

Tabulated values of N for p = 0.99



After RANSAC: Refit by LS

- RANSAC splits the data into inliers and outliers, and calculates the model parameters using a minimal number of correspondences.
- Improve the model parameters by applying least squares to the inliers.



Beyond the simple RANSAC

- A great deal of research was invested by many researchers into improving RANSAC
- Particularly in finding the right solution faster
- Or improving resiliency to outliers

- Please see online resources:
 - MLESAC (uses maximum likelihood on hypothesis verification)
 - PROSAC (better chooses the order of samples)
 - Or an entire presentation dedicated to recent developments on RANSAC:
 - J. Matas RANSAC in 2011 30 years after, CVPR, 2011

RANSAC: Summary

Pros

- Very simple and general
- Applicable to many real-life problems
- Often used in practice

Cons

- Requires setting some parameters.
- Potentially many iterations required to find the optimum.
- Fails at very small number of inliers.
- In some cases more accurate procedures, that do not require brute-force sampling, can be found.

Fitting: Challenges

- If we know the inliers how to estimate the parameters?
 - Least squares
- What if our data includes outliers?
 - Robust least squares, RANSAC
- What if we have multiple instances of our model (e.g., multiple lines)?
 - Apply voting: sequential RANSAC, Hough transform
- What if we have multiple models (e.g., unknown degree of a polynomial)?
 - Apply model selection (e.g., MDL, BIC, AIC)
- Complicated nonparametric models
 - Generalized Hough (GHT)
 - Iterative Closest Point, (ICP) == <u>iterative local least squares</u>

Further reading

 Another simple and interesting way to iteratively fit a complicated model to data:

<u>Iterative Closest Point</u> method Matlab implementation: ICP

 A very nice and accessible tutorial on nonlinear optimization in computer vision: http://cvlabwww.epfl.ch/~fua/courses/lsq/Intro.htm

References

- R. Szeliski, Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications, 2010
- <u>David A. Forsyth</u>, <u>Jean Ponce</u>, Computer Vision: A Modern Approach (2nd Edition), (second edition!)
 - See appendix on Normal equations and Homogeneous systems
- Igor Griva, Stephen G. Nash, Ariela Sofer, Linear and Nonlinear Optimization
 - See appendix on Matrix Algebra
- The Matrix Cookbook
 - List of common vector/matrix solutions