

The best transformation that will transform points from frame P to frame Q will be the one corresponding to which minimizes the following error:

$$\|Q - (RP + t)\|_2^2$$

Finding value of t in terms of R at minima of following gives error

$$F(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \|RP_i + t - Q_i\|^2$$

$$\frac{\partial F(t)}{\partial t} = 2 \sum (RP_i + t - Q_i) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow t = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Q_i - \frac{R}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n P_i$$

$$\Rightarrow t = \bar{Q} - R\bar{P}$$

Hence optimal $R = \arg \min_{R \in SO(3)} \|R(P_i - \bar{P}) - (Q_i - \bar{Q})\|^2$

$$\text{Let } X = (P_i - \bar{P}), Y = (Q_i - \bar{Q})$$

$$Z = RX$$

By using properties of trace of a matrix.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \|Z_i - Y_i\|^2 = \text{Tr}((Z - Y)^T (Z - Y))$$

$$\text{Tr}((z-y)^T(z-y)) = \text{Tr}(Z^T Z) + \text{Tr}(Y^T Y) - 2\text{Tr}(Y^T Z)$$

Since R is orthogonal & $Z = RX$,
 $\text{Tr}(Z^T Z)$ is independent of R
 as $|Z|^2 = |X|^2$

Also $\text{Tr}(Y^T Y)$ is independent of R .

Hence optimal $R = \underset{R \in \text{SO}(3)}{\text{argmax}} \text{Tr}(Y^T R X)$

$$\text{Tr}(Y^T R X) = \text{Tr}(X Y^T R)$$

Using SVD on $X Y^T = U D V^T$

$$\text{Tr}(X Y^T R) = \text{Tr}(U D V^T R)$$

$$= \text{Tr}(D V^T R U)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^3 d_i (v_i^T R u_i)$$

where $D = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_3 \end{bmatrix}$

$$U = [u_1 \ u_2 \ u_3] \quad \& \quad V = [v_1 \ v_2 \ v_3]$$

Let $M = V^T R V$.

$$\Rightarrow \text{Tr}(Y^T X) = \sum_{i=1}^3 d_i M_{ii} \leq \sum_{i=1}^3 d_i$$

Because, $U, V \in \mathbb{R}$ are orthogonal
Hence M is orthogonal Hence

$$\|M\| = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |M_{ii}| \leq 1$$

To maximize the trace, we need
all M_{ii} to be maximized.

i.e. $M = I_3$

$$\Rightarrow V^T R V = I$$

$$\Rightarrow R = V V^T$$

Now, ~~if~~ to ensure $R \in \text{SO}(3)$, $\det(R)$
needs to be 1.

If the above formula gives us
 $\det(R) = -1$, then we need to
find M corresponding to next
largest value which would be

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ because } d_1 \geq d_2 \geq d_3$$

Hence, optimal $R = V C U^T$

where $C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \det(V U^T) \end{bmatrix}$