



# **COMPUTER VISION**

## **Fitting, Alignment, and Instance Recognition**

**Le Thanh Ha, Ph.D**

Assoc. Prof. at University of Engineering and Technology,  
Vietnam National University

[ltha@vnu.edu.vn](mailto:ltha@vnu.edu.vn); [lthavnu@gmail.com](mailto:lthavnu@gmail.com); 0983 692 592

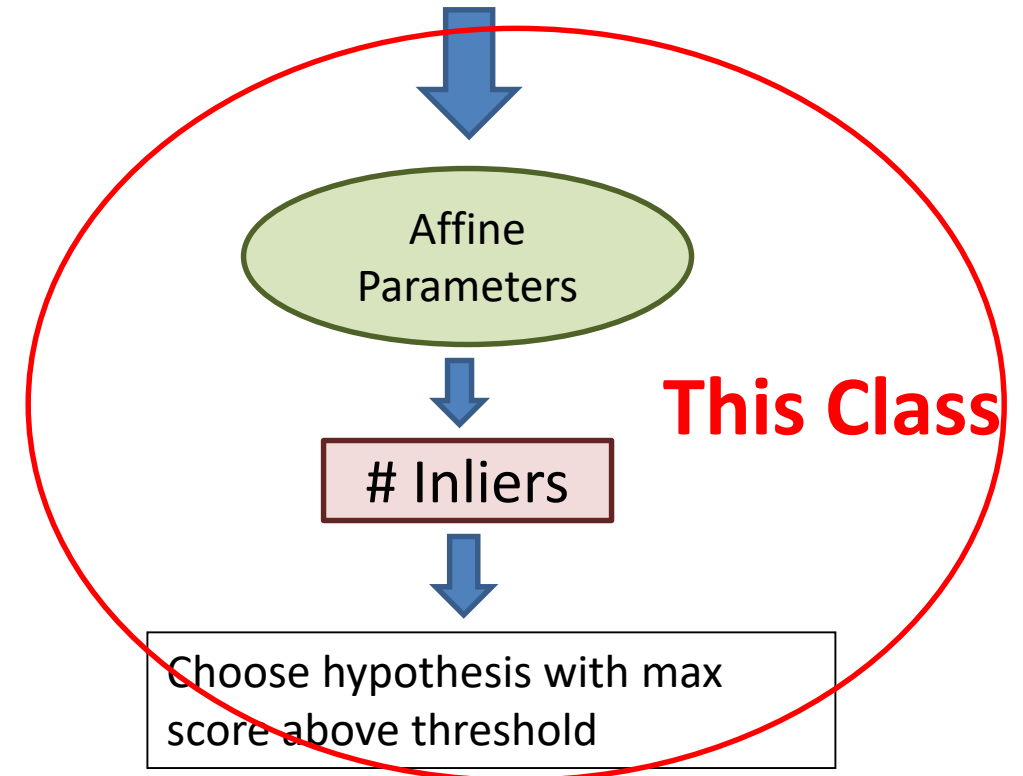
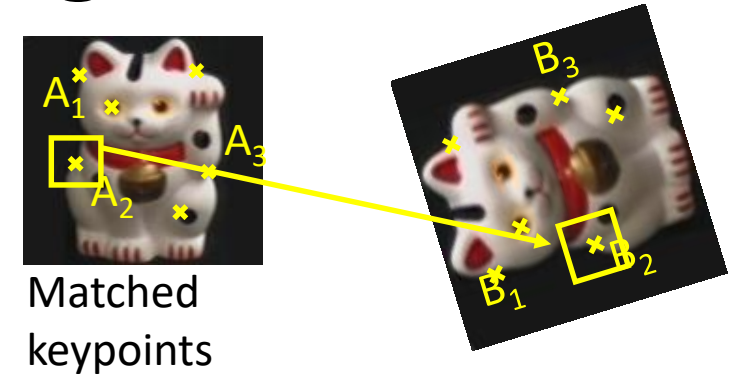
Machine learning applications in  
Computer vision



# OBJECT INSTANCE RECOGNITION

# Object Instance Recognition

1. Match keypoints to object model
2. Solve for affine transformation parameters
3. Score by inliers and choose solutions with score above threshold



# Overview of Keypoint Matching

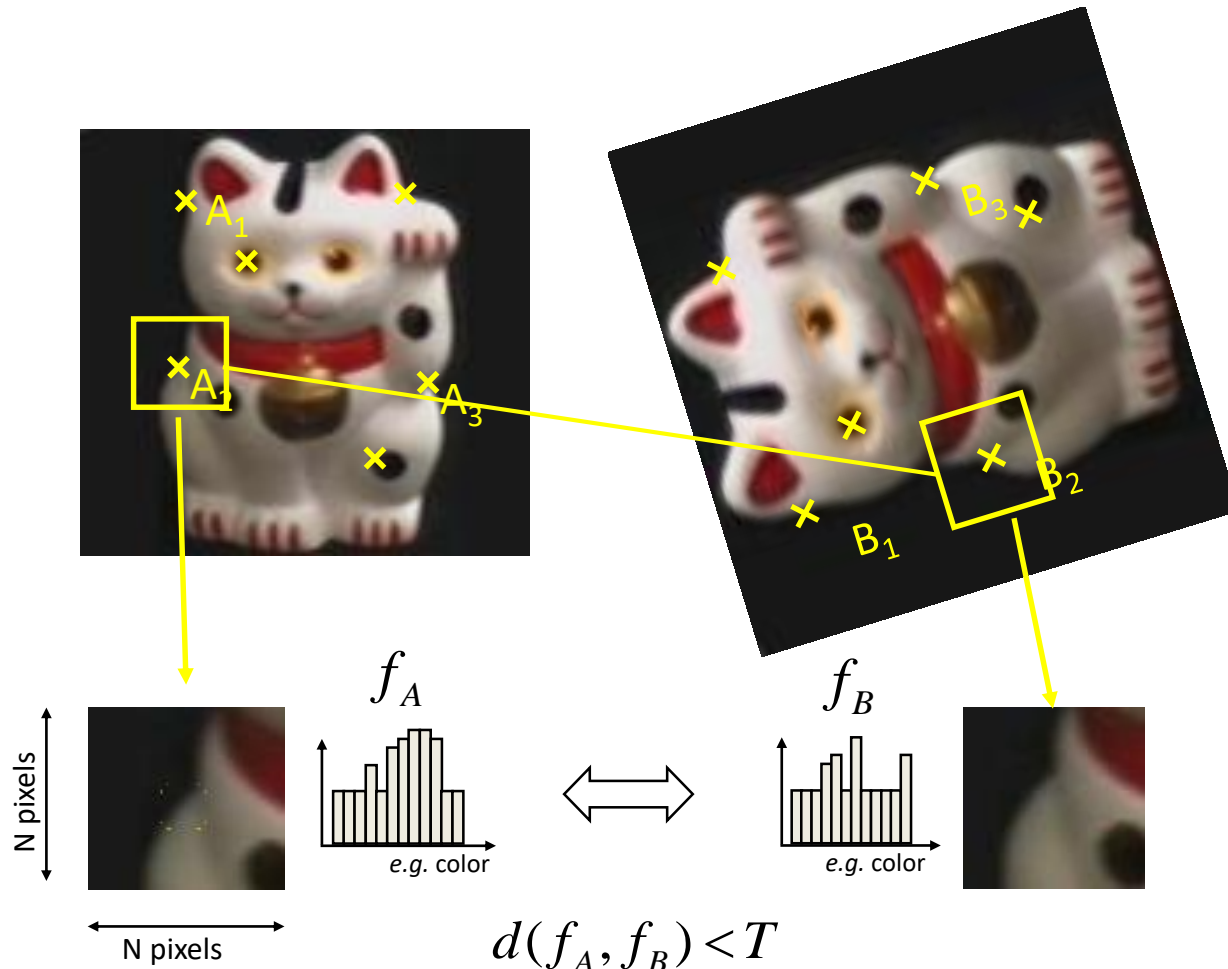
1. Find a set of distinctive key-points

2. Define a region around each keypoint

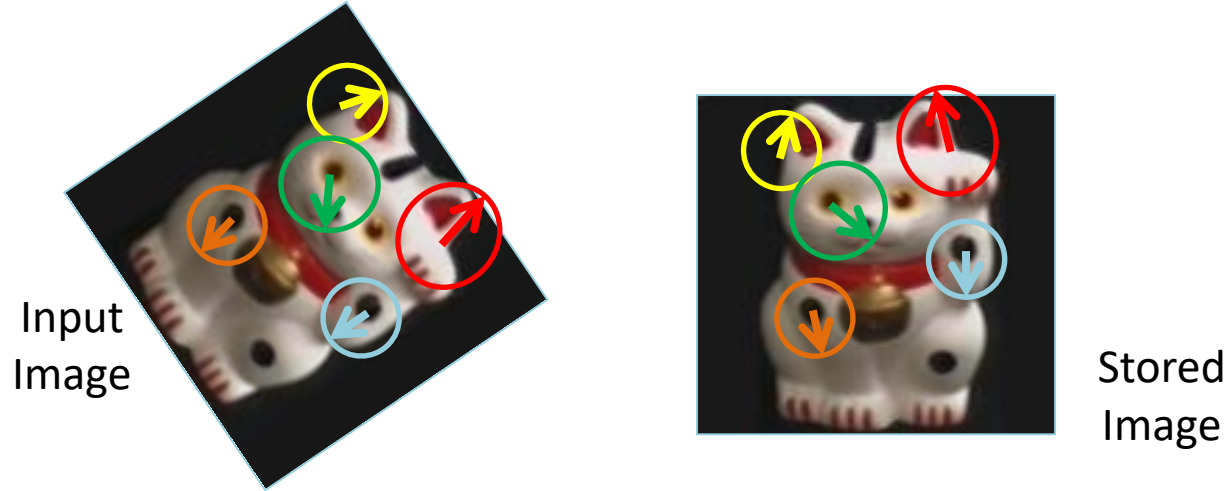
3. Extract and normalize the region content

4. Compute a local descriptor from normalized region

5. Match local descriptors



# Finding the objects (overview)



1. Match interest points from input image to database image
2. Matched points vote for rough position/orientation/scale of object
3. Find position/orientation/scales that have at least three votes
4. Compute affine registration and matches using iterative least squares with outlier check
5. Report object if there are at least  $T$  matched points

# Matching Keypoints

- Want to match keypoints between:
  1. Query image
  2. Stored image containing the object
- Given descriptor  $x_0$ , find two nearest neighbors  $x_1, x_2$  with distances  $d_1, d_2$
- $x_1$  matches  $x_0$  if  $d_1/d_2 < 0.8$ 
  - This gets rid of 90% false matches, 5% of true matches in Lowe's study



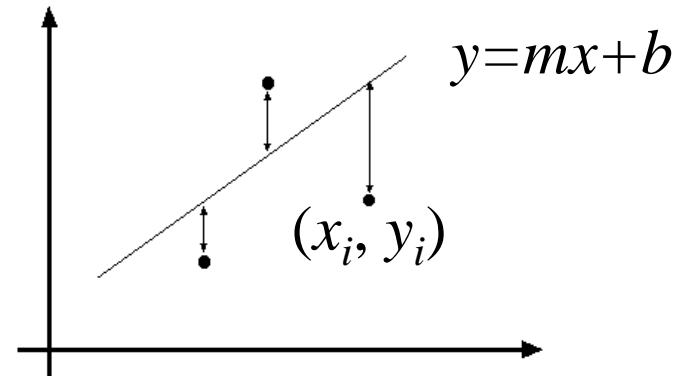
- Least Square fit
- Hough transform
- RANSAC

# **FITTING**

# Least squares line fitting

- Data:  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$
- Line equation:  $y_i = mx_i + b$
- Find  $(m, b)$  to minimize

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - mx_i - b)^2$$



$$E = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \begin{bmatrix} x_i & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ b \end{bmatrix} - y_i \right)^2 = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ b \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 = \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$$

$$= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p})^T \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p})^T (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p})$$

$$\frac{dE}{dp} = 2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} - 2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} = 0$$

$$\text{Matlab: } \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{A} \setminus \mathbf{y};$$

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \Rightarrow \mathbf{p} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$$



# Least squares (global) optimization

## Good

- Clearly specified objective
- Optimization is easy

## Bad

- May not be what you want to optimize
- Sensitive to outliers
  - Bad matches, extra points
- Doesn't allow you to get multiple good fits
  - Detecting multiple objects, lines, etc.

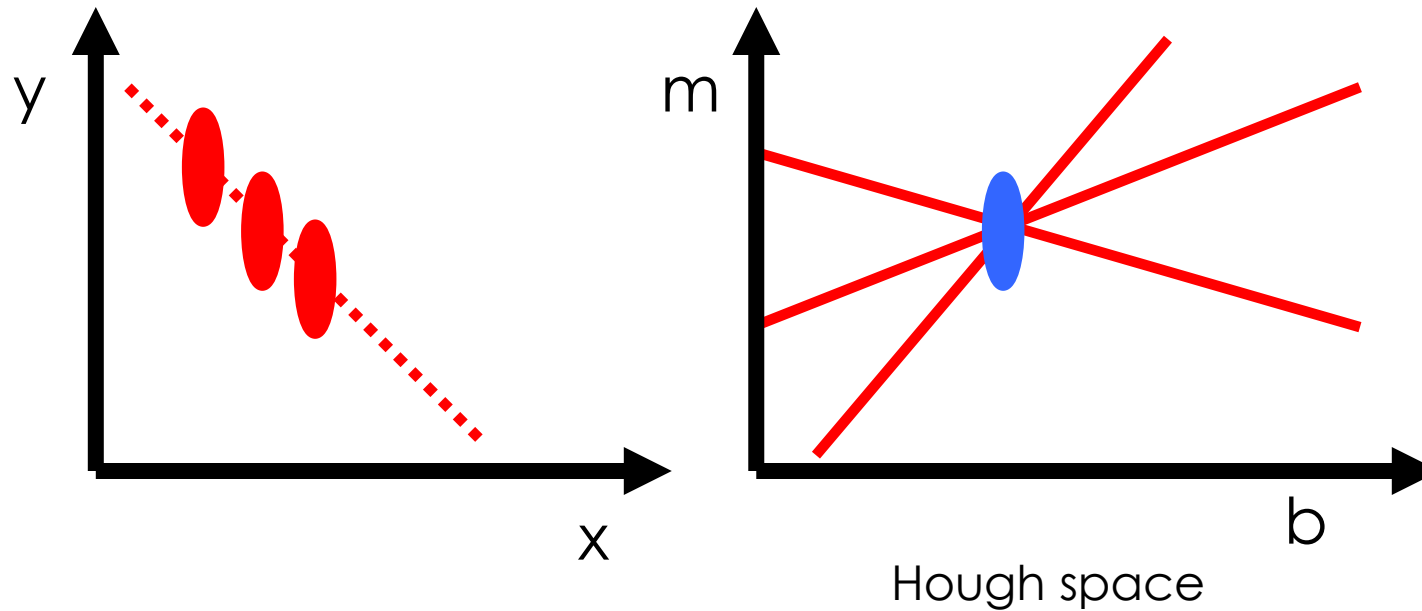
# Hough Transform: Outline

1. Create a grid of parameter values
2. Each point votes for a set of parameters, incrementing those values in grid
3. Find maximum or local maxima in grid

# Hough transform

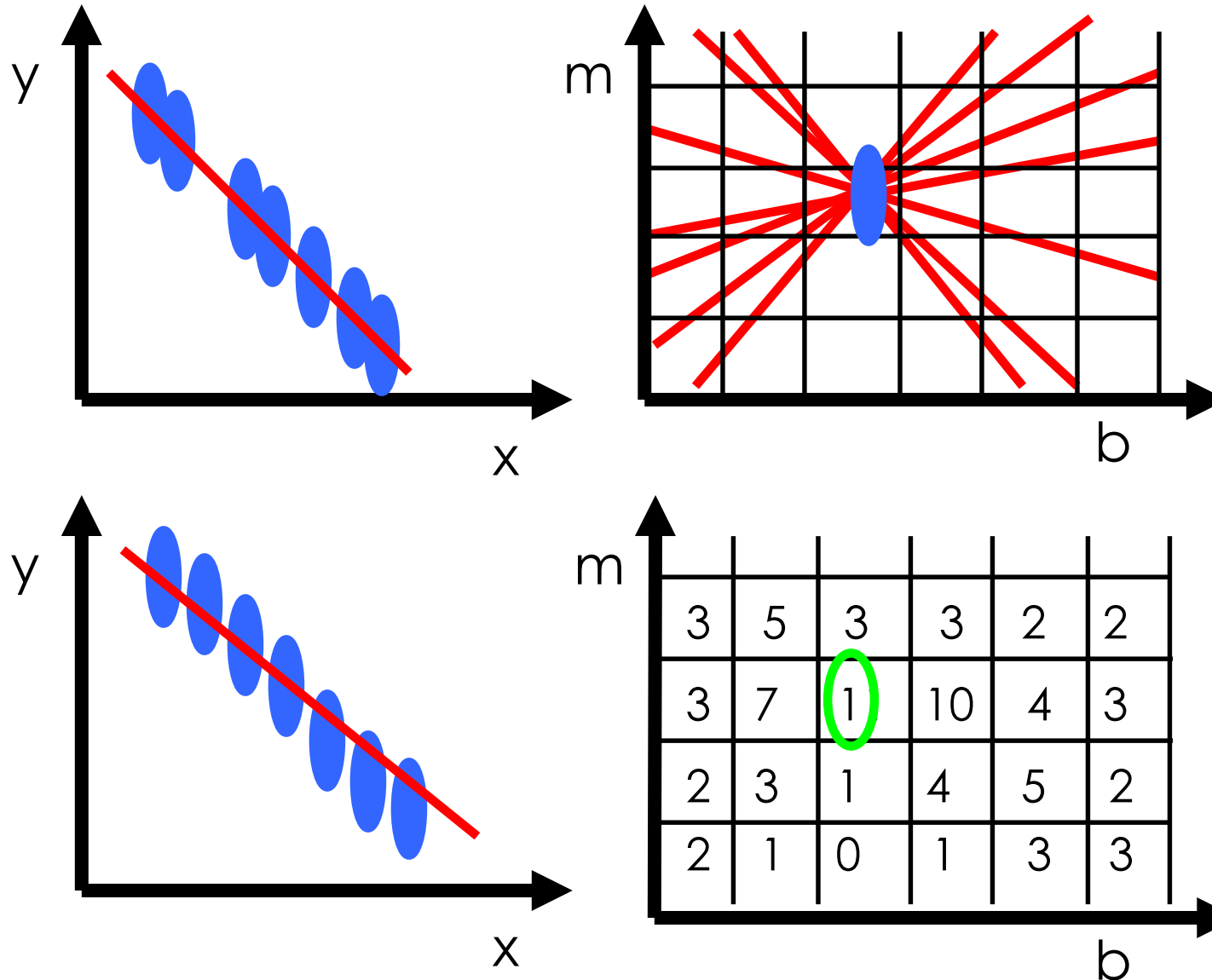
P.V.C. Hough, *Machine Analysis of Bubble Chamber Pictures*, Proc. Int. Conf. High Energy Accelerators and Instrumentation, 1959

Given a set of points, find the curve or line that explains the data points best



$$y = m x + b$$

# Hough transform

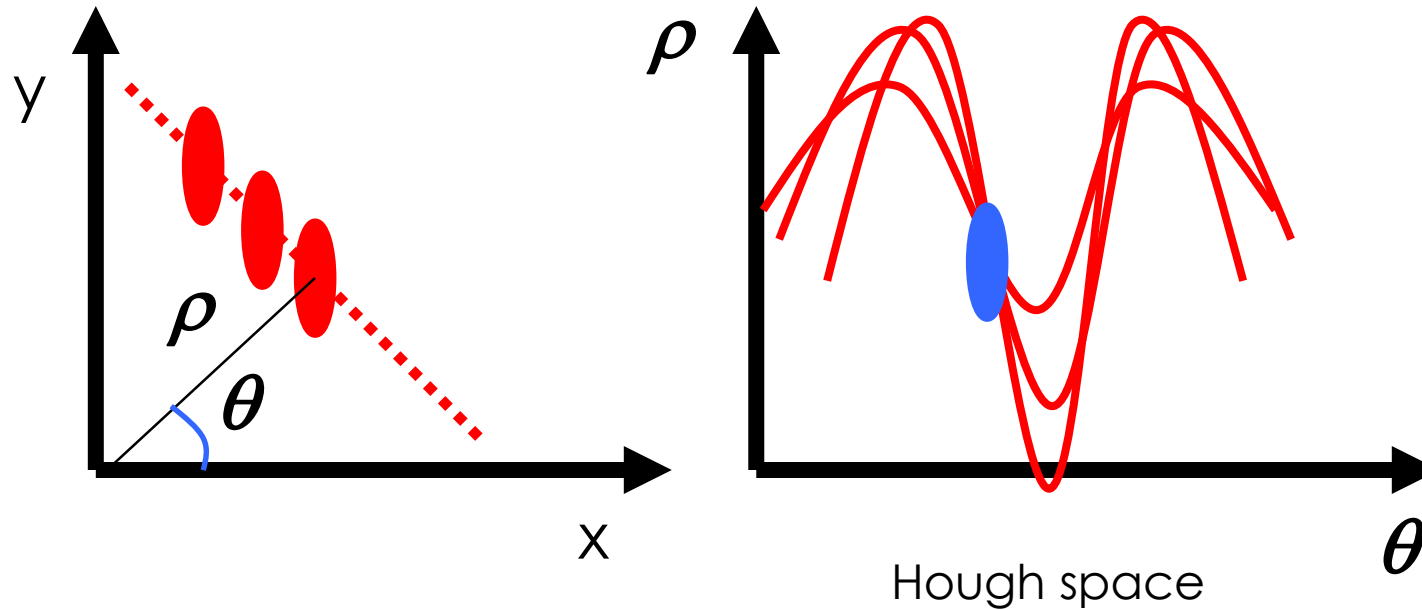


# Hough transform

P.V.C. Hough, *Machine Analysis of Bubble Chamber Pictures*, Proc. Int. Conf. High Energy Accelerators and Instrumentation, 1959

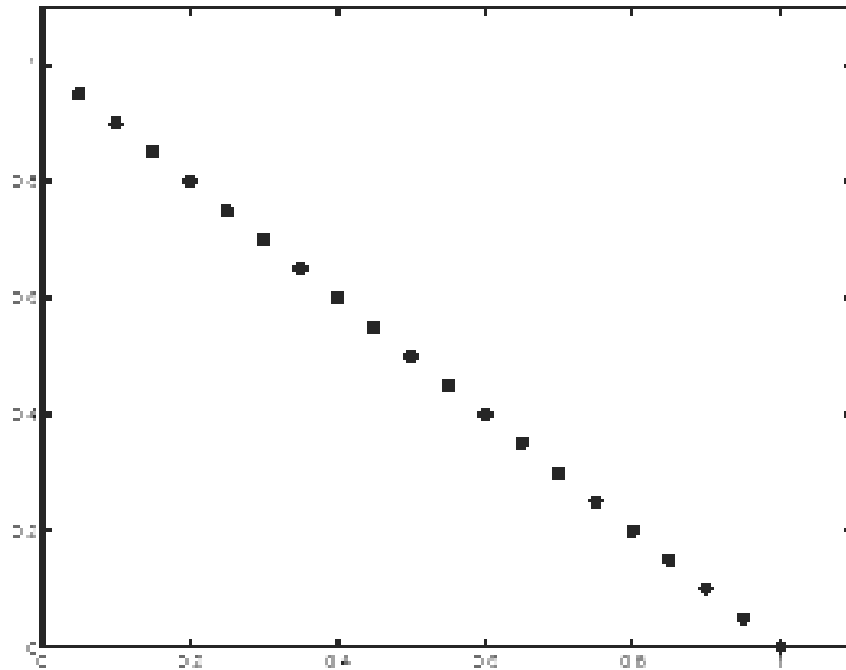
Issue : parameter space  $[m,b]$  is unbounded...

Use a polar representation for the parameter space

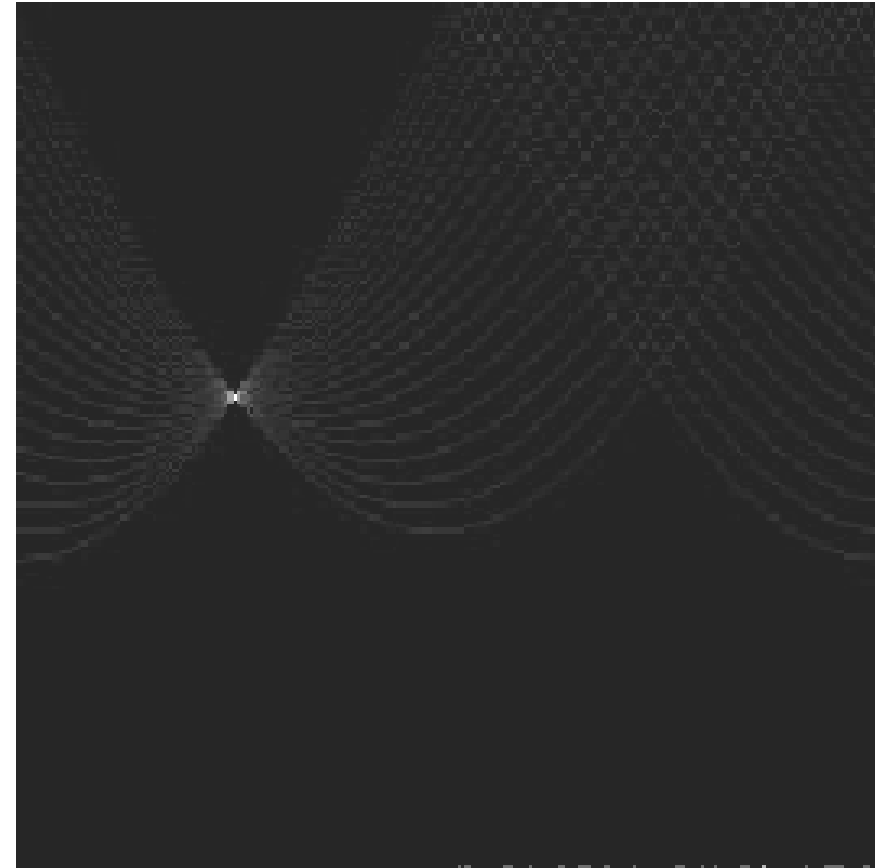


$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = \rho$$

# Hough transform - experiments

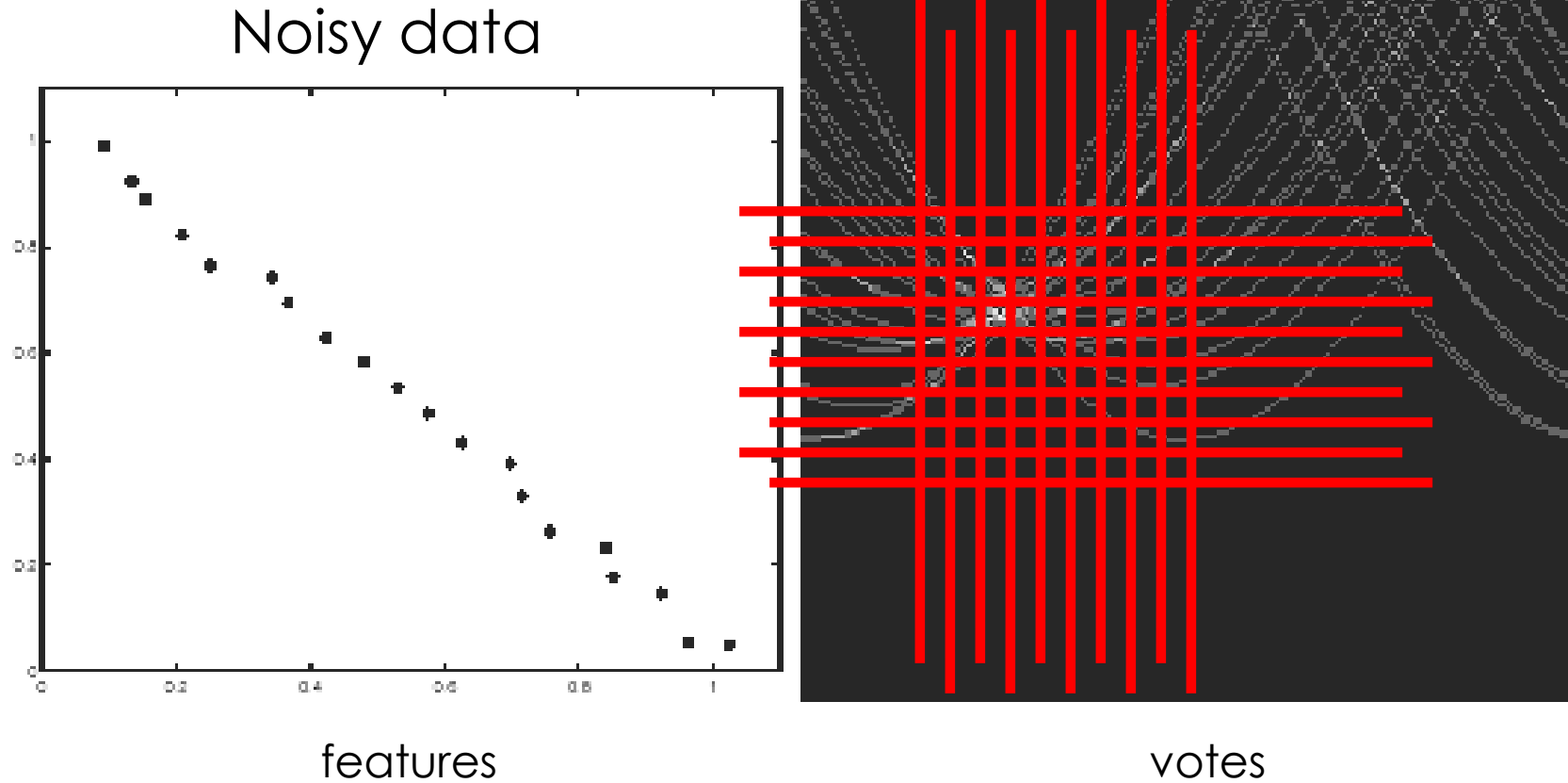


features



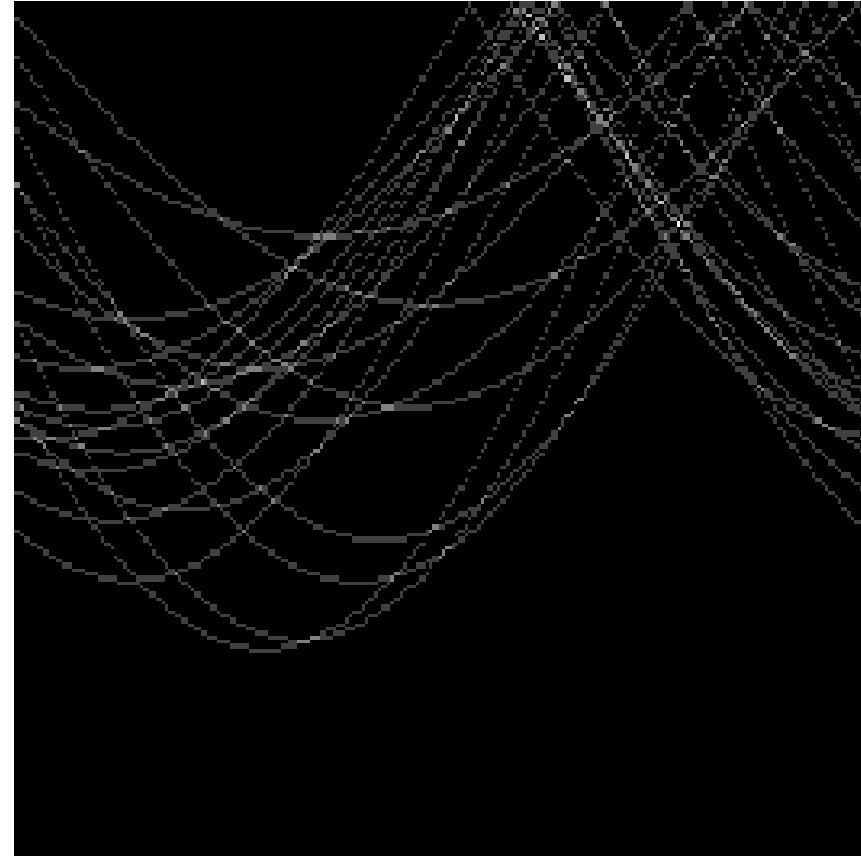
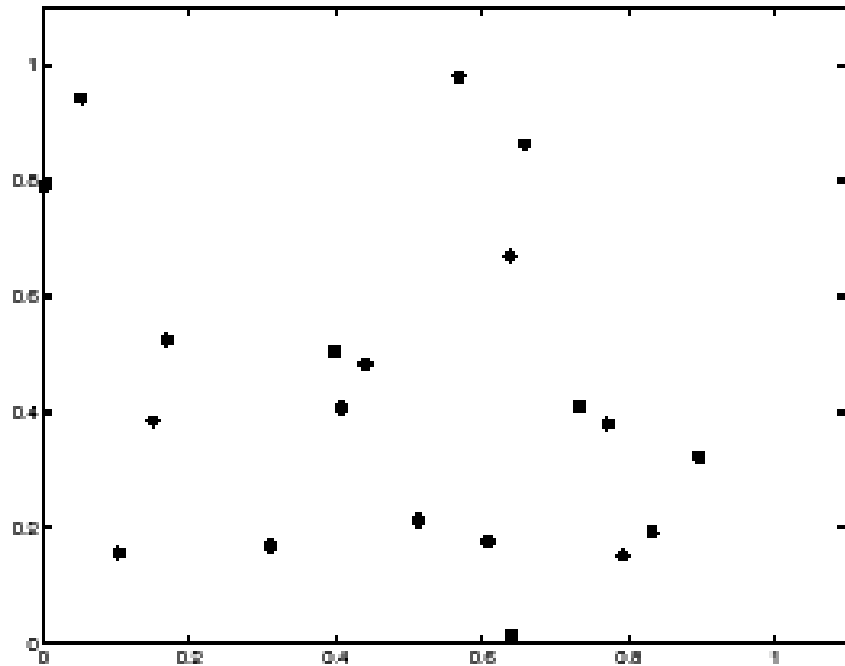
votes

# Hough transform - experiments



Need to adjust grid size or smooth

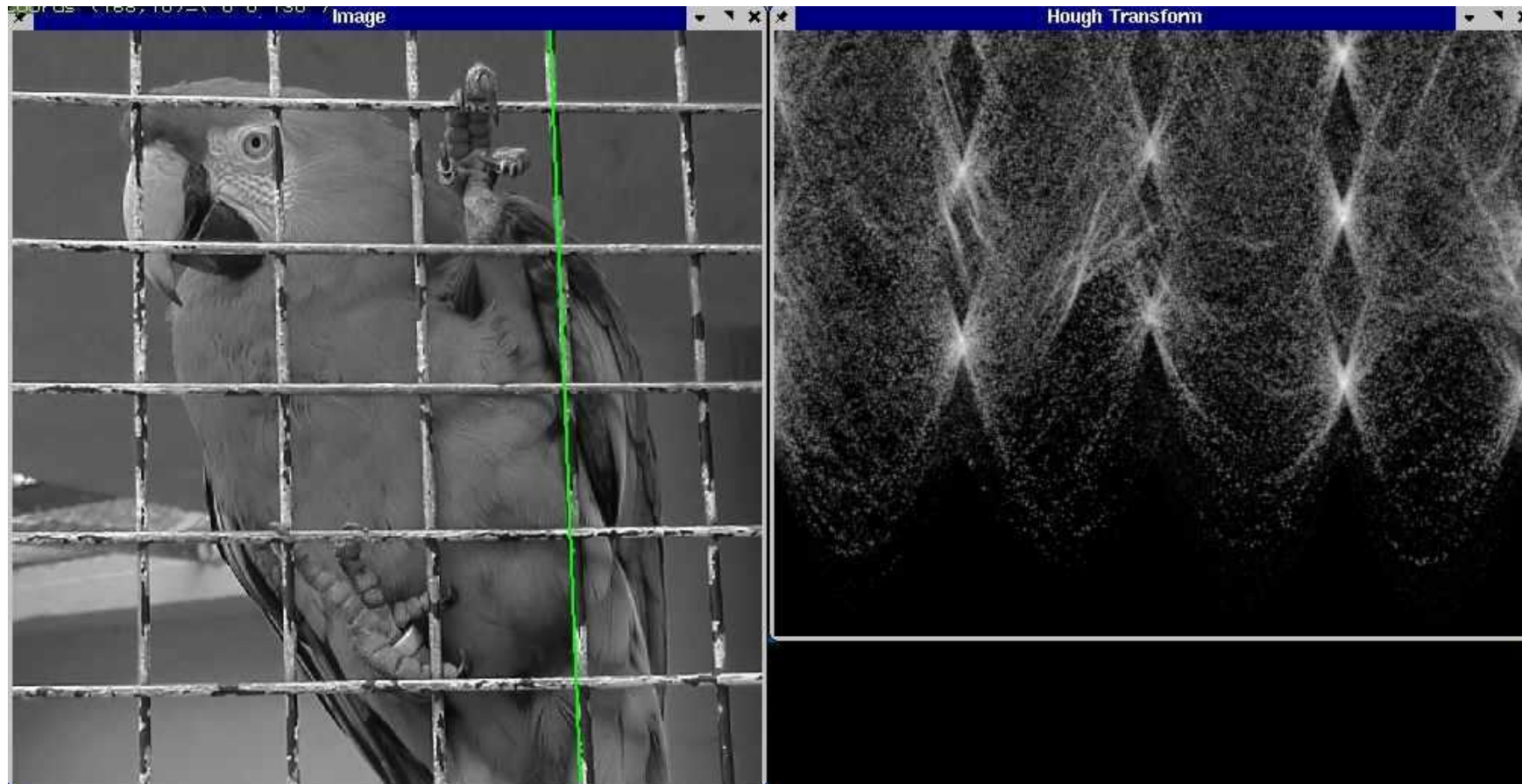
# Hough transform - experiments



Issue: spurious peaks due to uniform noise



# Hough transform example



# Finding lines using Hough transform

- Using  $m, b$  parameterization
- Using  $r, \theta$  parameterization
  - Using oriented gradients
- Practical considerations
  - Bin size
  - Smoothing
  - Finding multiple lines
  - Finding line segments

# Hough transform conclusions

## Good

- Robust to outliers: each point votes separately
- Fairly efficient (much faster than trying all sets of parameters)
- Provides multiple good fits

## Bad

- Some sensitivity to noise
- Bin size trades off between noise tolerance, precision, and speed/memory
  - Can be hard to find sweet spot
- Not suitable for more than a few parameters
  - grid size grows exponentially

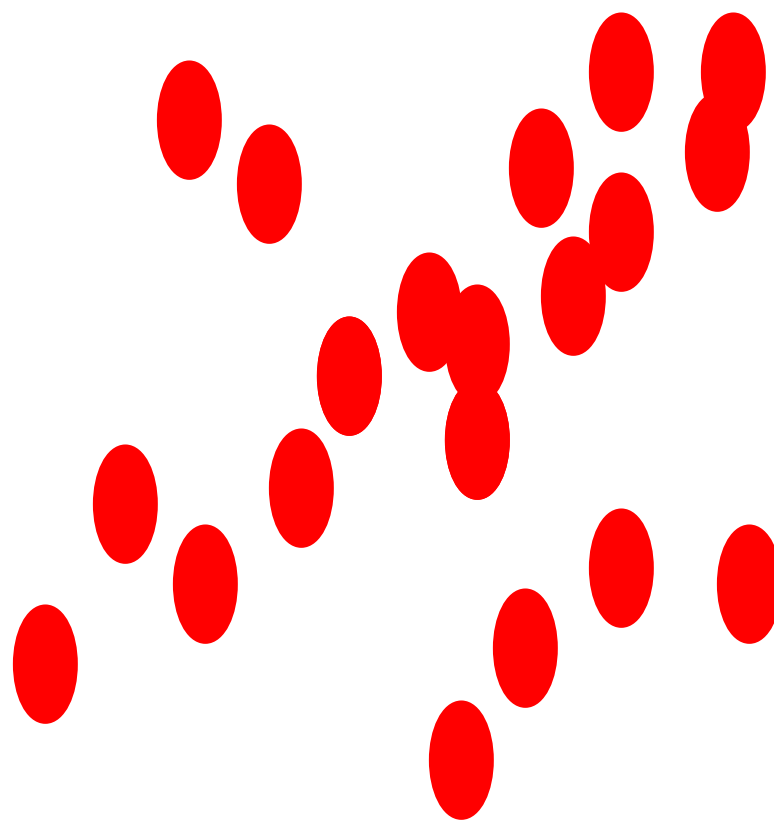
## Common applications

- Line fitting (also circles, ellipses, etc.)
- Object instance recognition (parameters are affine transform)
- Object category recognition (parameters are position/scale)

# RANSAC

(**RAN**dom **SA**mples **C**onsensus) :

Fischler & Bolles in '81.



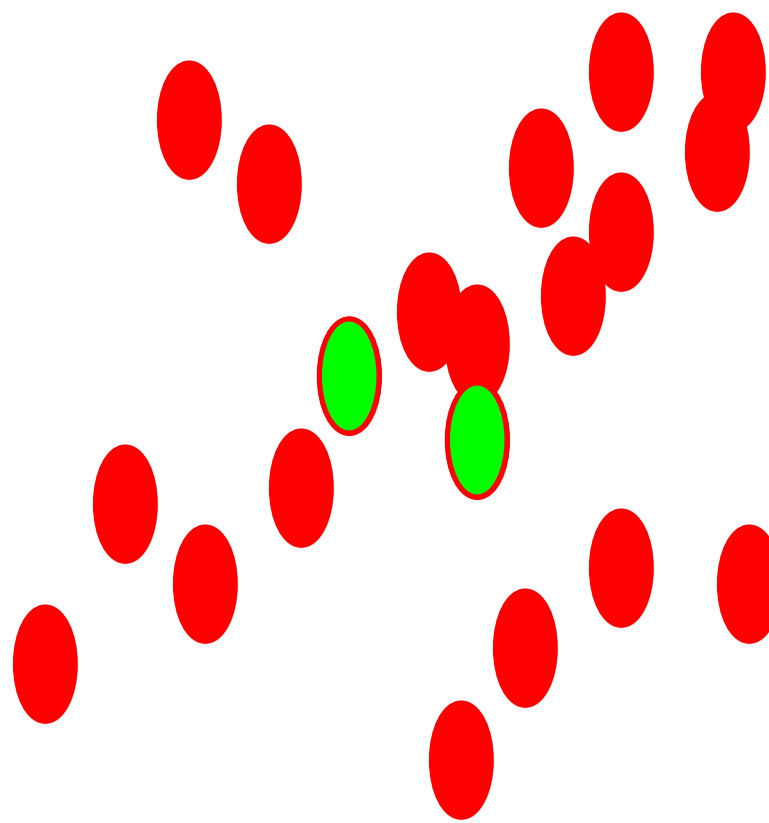
## Algorithm:

1. **Sample** (randomly) the number of points required to fit the model
2. **Solve** for model parameters using samples
3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

**Repeat** 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence

# RANSAC

Line fitting example



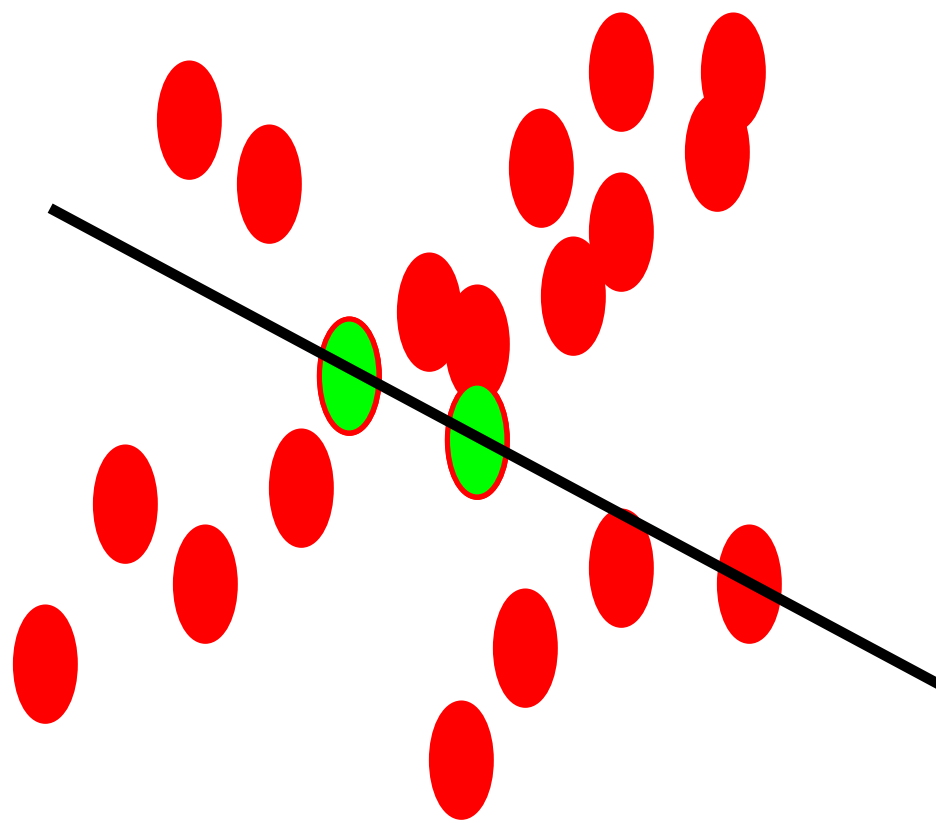
Algorithm:

1. **Sample** (randomly) the number of points required to fit the model ( $\#=2$ )
2. **Solve** for model parameters using samples
3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

**Repeat** 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence

# RANSAC

Line fitting example



Algorithm:

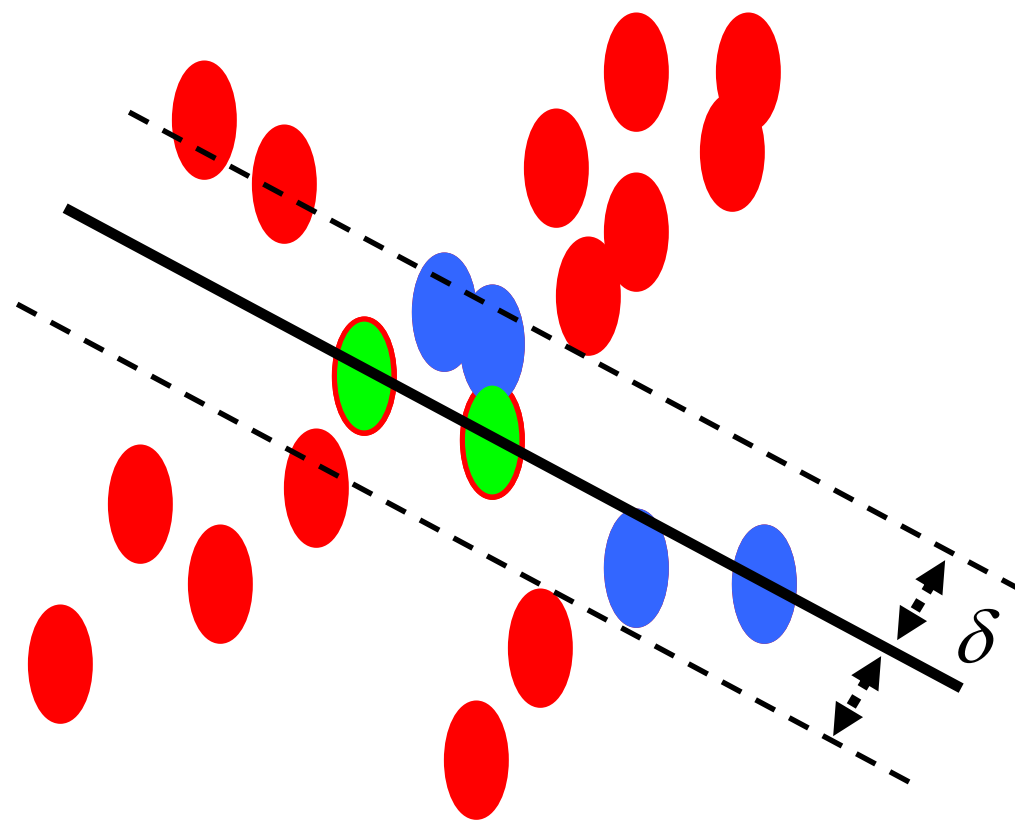
1. **Sample** (randomly) the number of points required to fit the model ( $\# = 2$ )
2. **Solve** for model parameters using samples
3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

**Repeat** 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence

# RANSAC

Line fitting example

$$N_I = 6$$

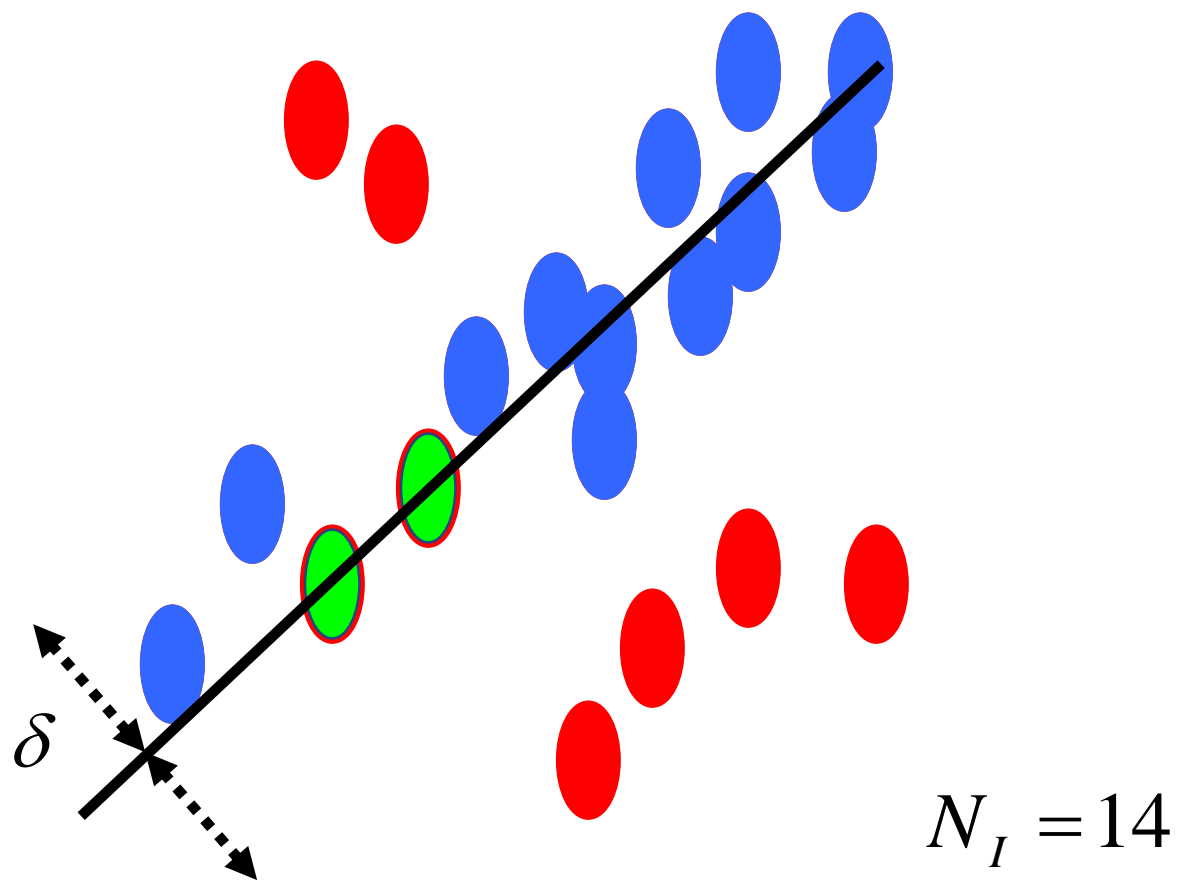


Algorithm:

1. **Sample** (randomly) the number of points required to fit the model ( $\#=2$ )
2. **Solve** for model parameters using samples
3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

**Repeat** 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence

# RANSAC



Algorithm:

1. **Sample** (randomly) the number of points required to fit the model ( $\#=2$ )
2. **Solve** for model parameters using samples
3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

**Repeat** 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence



# RANSAC conclusions

## Good

- Robust to outliers
- Applicable for larger number of objective function parameters than Hough transform
- Optimization parameters are easier to choose than Hough transform

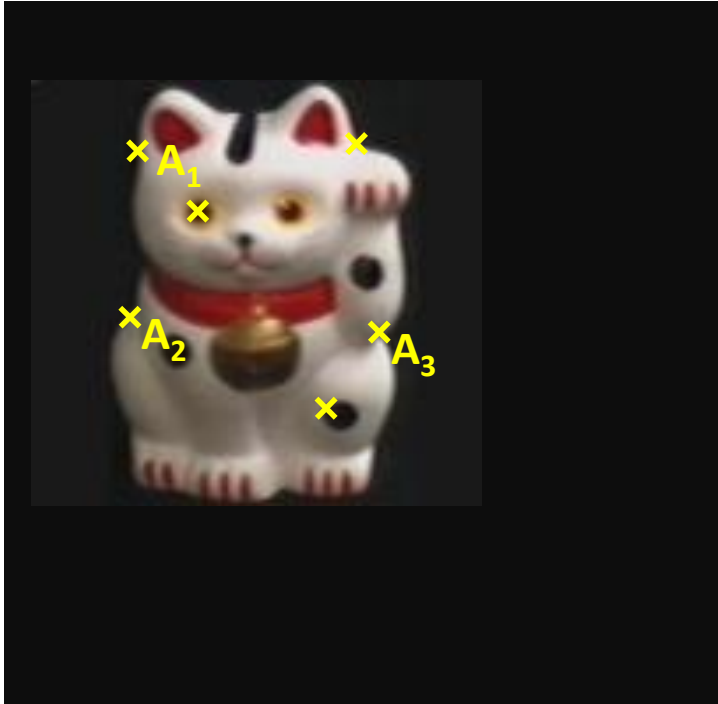
## Bad

- Computational time grows quickly with fraction of outliers and number of parameters
- Not good for getting multiple fits

## Common applications

- Computing a homography (e.g., image stitching)
- Estimating fundamental matrix (relating two views)

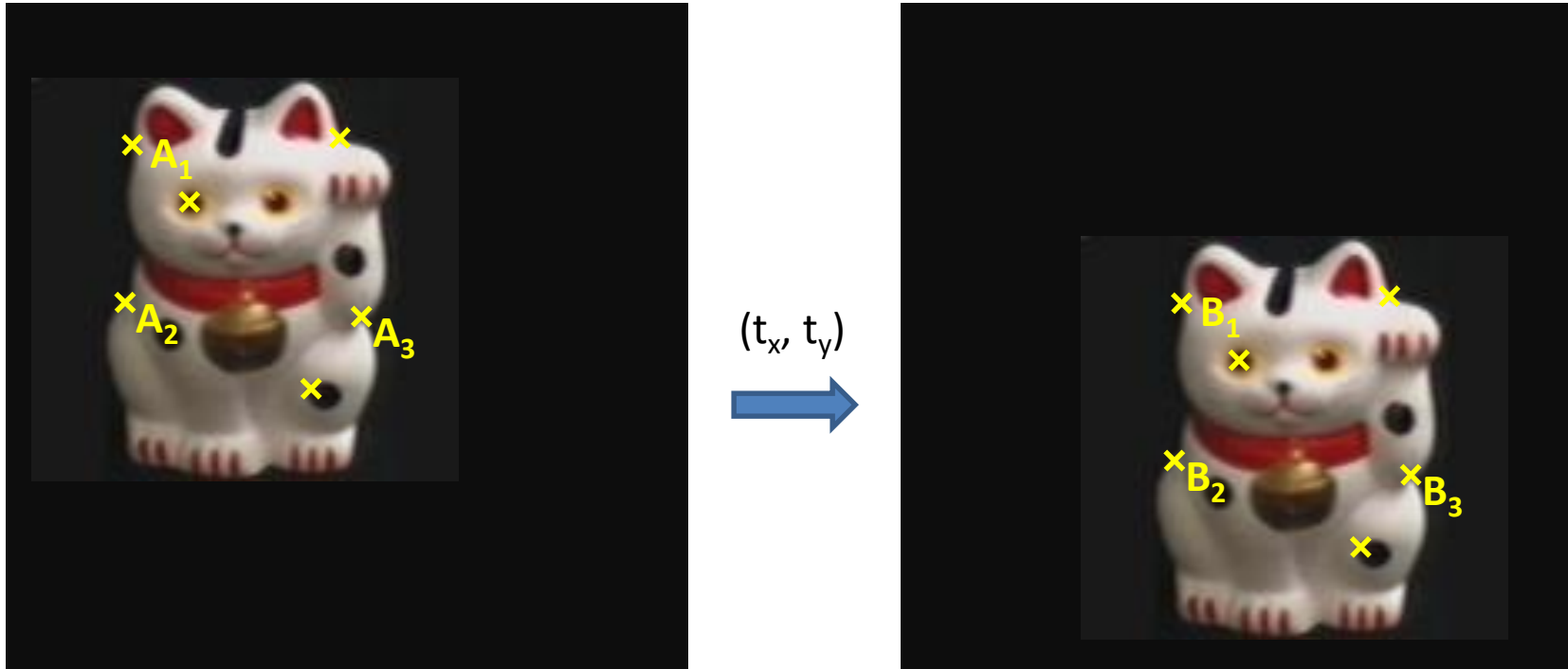
# Example: solving for translation



Given matched points in {A} and {B}, estimate the translation of the object

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_i^B \\ y_i^B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_i^A \\ y_i^A \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_x \\ t_y \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example: solving for translation



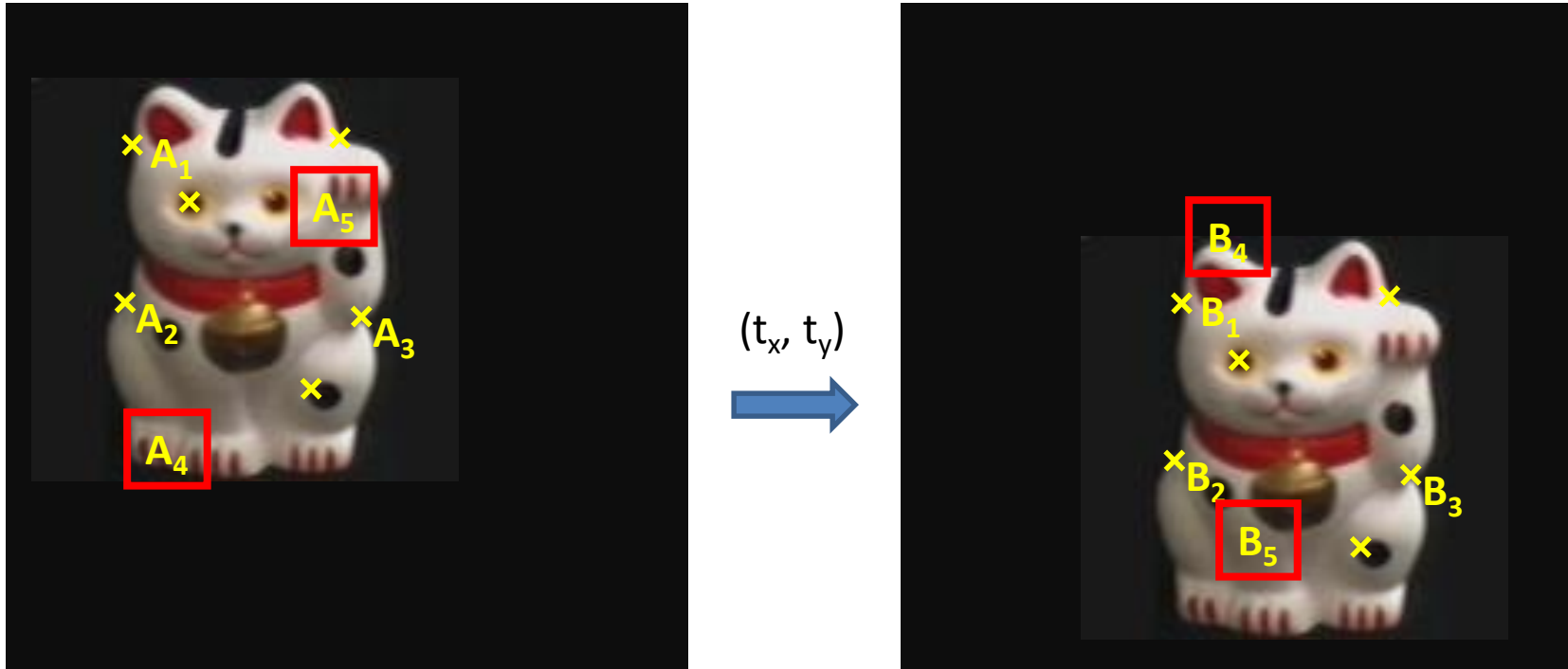
## Least squares solution

1. Write down objective function
2. Derived solution
  - a) Compute derivative
  - b) Compute solution
3. Computational solution
  - a) Write in form  $Ax=b$
  - b) Solve using pseudo-inverse or eigenvalue decomposition

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_i^B \\ y_i^B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_i^A \\ y_i^A \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_x \\ t_y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t_x \\ t_y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^B - x_1^A \\ y_1^B - y_1^A \\ \vdots \\ x_n^B - x_n^A \\ y_n^B - y_n^A \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example: solving for translation



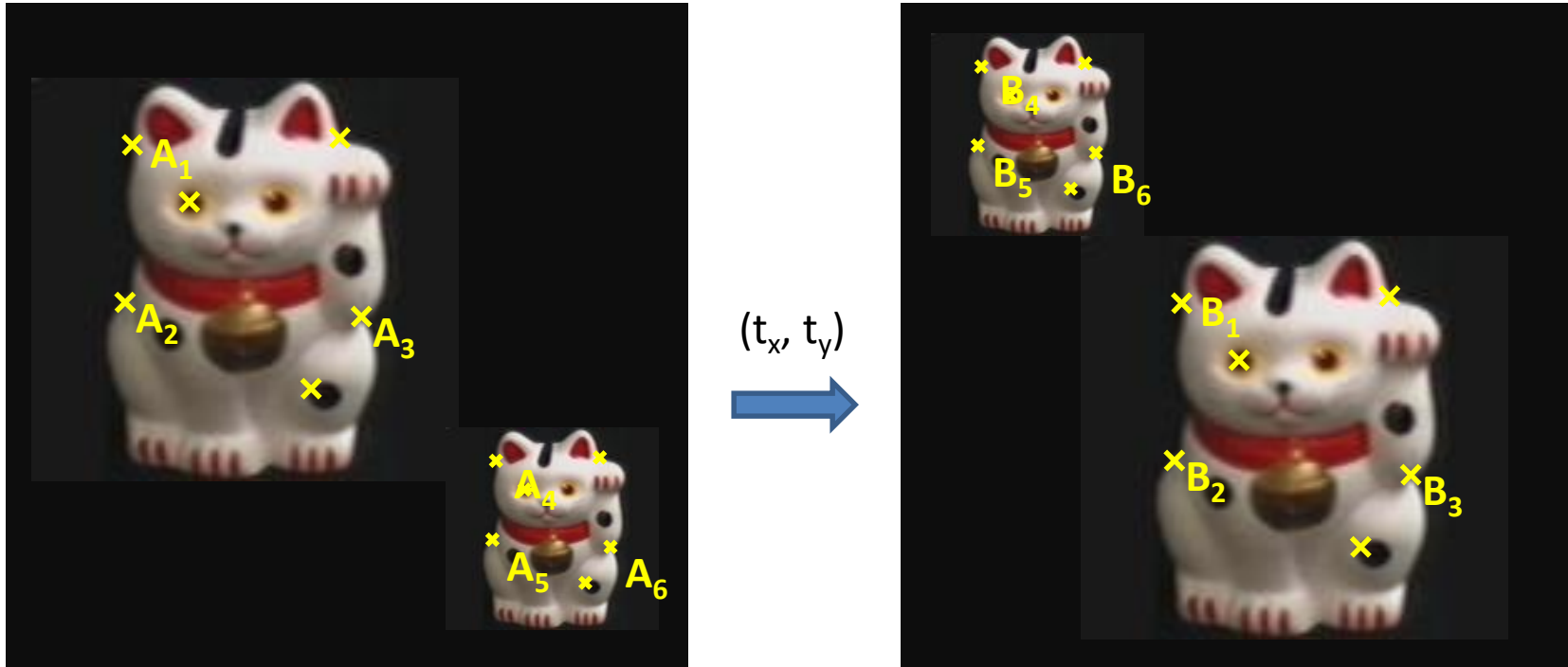
**Problem: outliers**

## RANSAC solution

1. Sample a set of matching points (1 pair)
2. Solve for transformation parameters
3. Score parameters with number of inliers
4. Repeat steps 1-3 N times

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_i^B \\ y_i^B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_i^A \\ y_i^A \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_x \\ t_y \end{bmatrix}$$

# Example: solving for translation



**Problem: outliers, multiple objects, and/or many-to-one matches**

## Hough transform solution

1. Initialize a grid of parameter values
2. Each matched pair casts a vote for consistent values
3. Find the parameters with the most votes
4. Solve using least squares with inliers

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_i^B \\ y_i^B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_i^A \\ y_i^A \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_x \\ t_y \end{bmatrix}$$

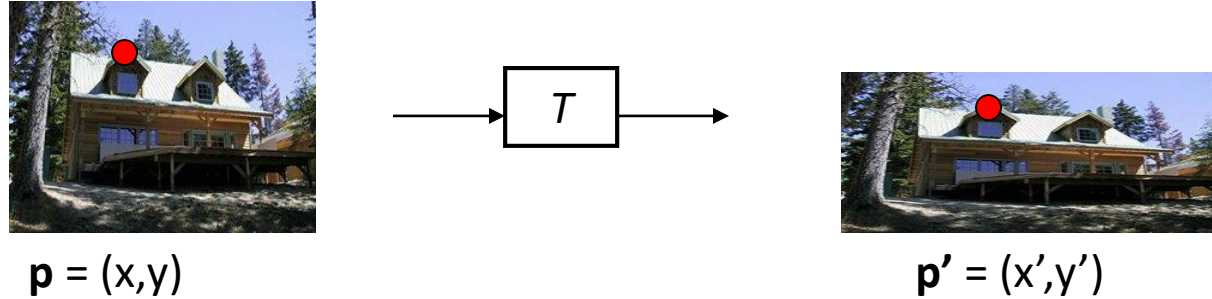


# ALIGNMENT

# Alignment

- Alignment: find parameters of model that maps one set of points to another
- Typically want to solve for a global transformation that accounts for \*most\* true correspondences
- Difficulties
  - Noise (typically 1-3 pixels)
  - Outliers (often 50%)
  - Many-to-one matches or multiple objects

# Parametric (global) warping



Transformation  $T$  is a coordinate-changing machine:

$$p' = T(p)$$

What does it mean that  $T$  is global?

- Is the same for any point  $p$
- can be described by just a few numbers (parameters)

For linear transformations, we can represent  $T$  as a matrix

$$p' = \mathbf{T}p \quad \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{T} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$



# Common transformations



original

**Transformed**



translation



rotation



aspect



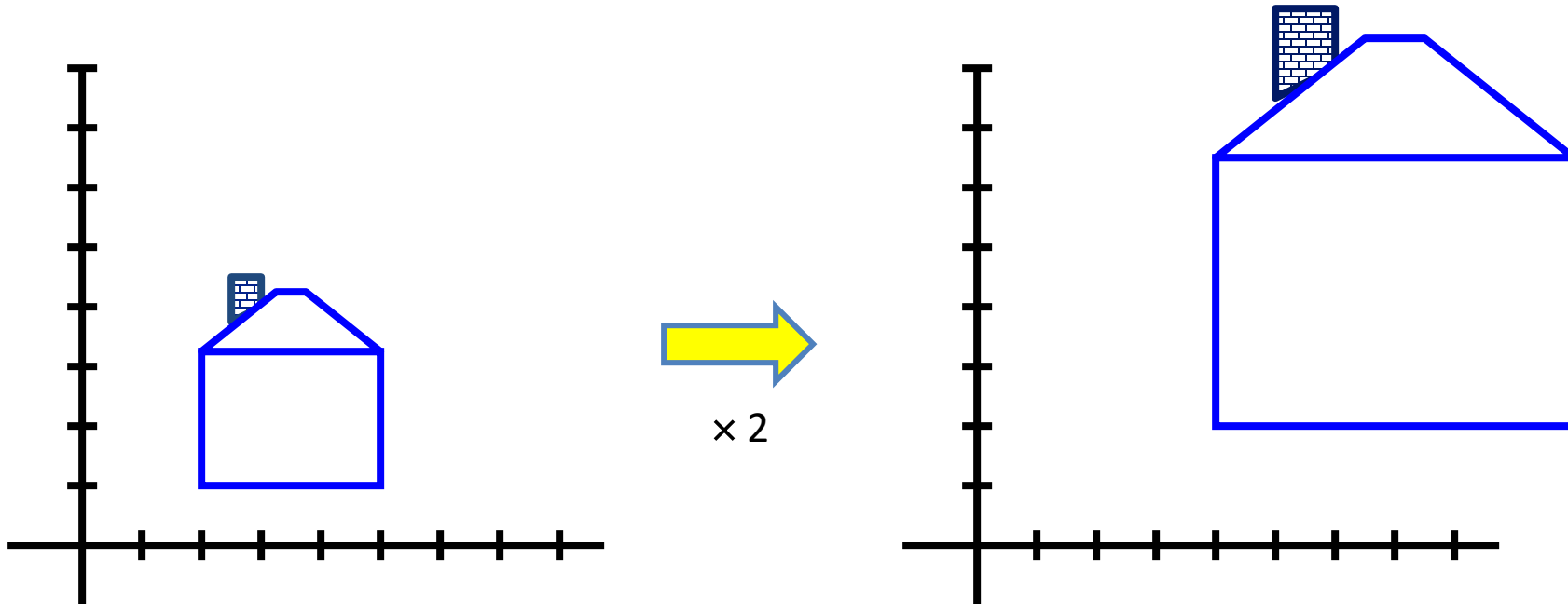
affine



perspective

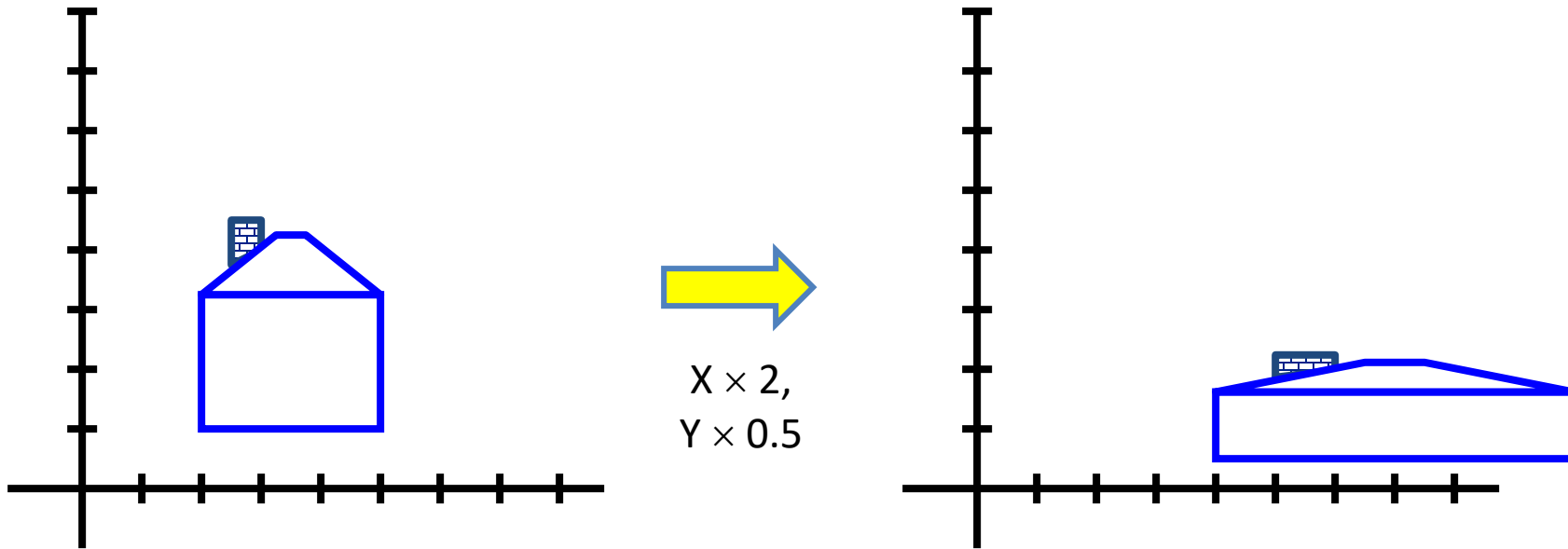
# Scaling

- *Scaling* a coordinate means multiplying each of its components by a scalar
- *Uniform scaling* means this scalar is the same for all components:



# Scaling

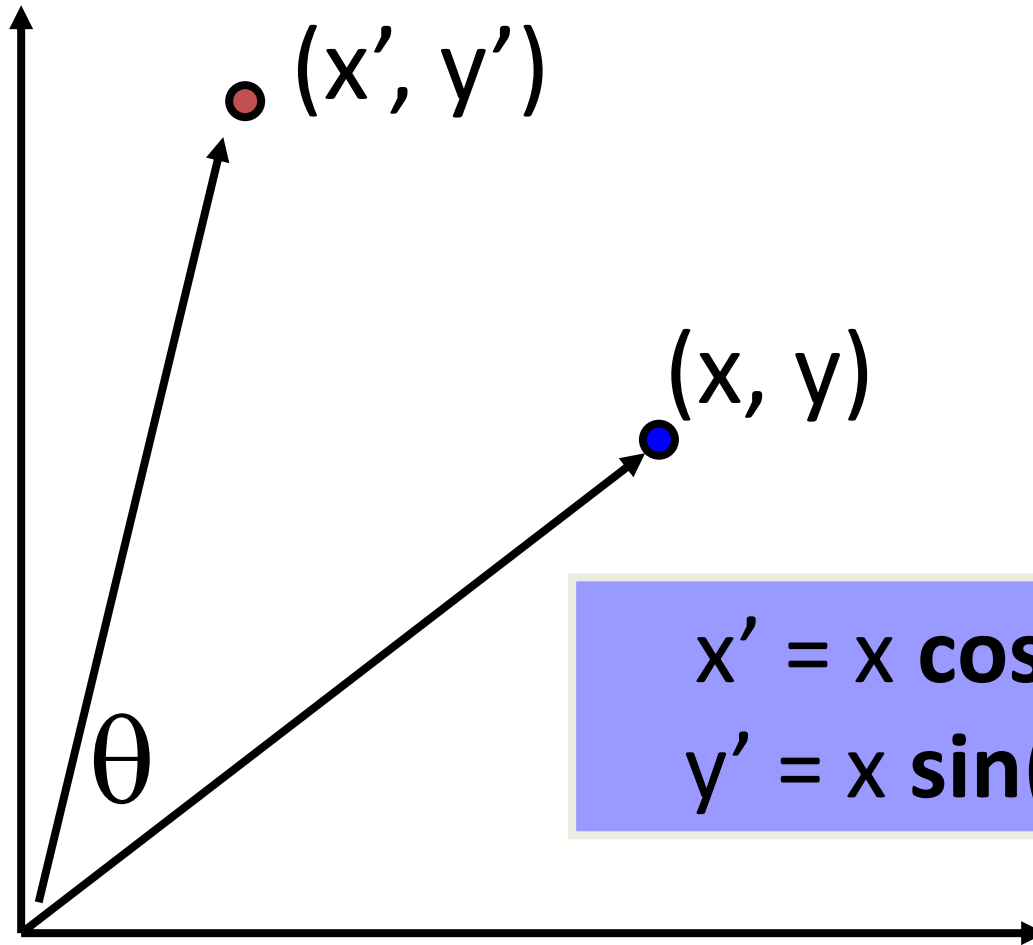
- *Non-uniform scaling*: different scalars per component:



# Scaling

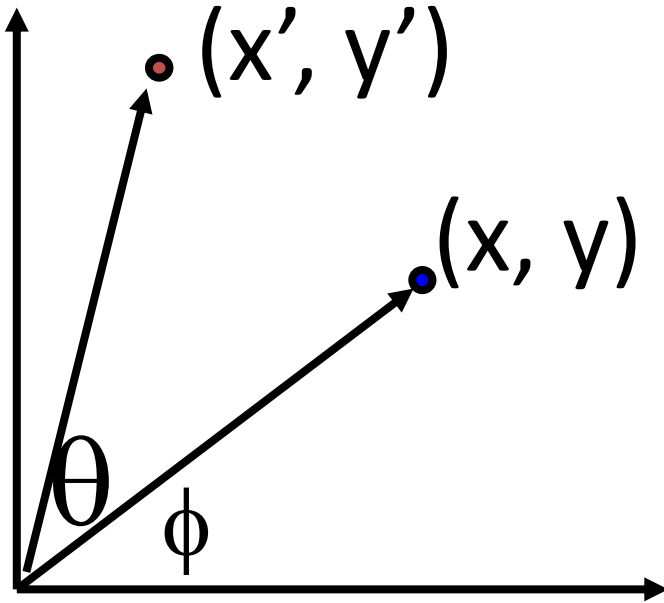
- Scaling operation:  $x' = ax$   
 $y' = by$
- Or, in matrix form: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{scaling matrix } S} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

# 2-D Rotation



$$\begin{aligned}x' &= x \cos(\theta) - y \sin(\theta) \\y' &= x \sin(\theta) + y \cos(\theta)\end{aligned}$$

# 2-D Rotation



Polar coordinates...

$$x = r \cos(\phi)$$

$$y = r \sin(\phi)$$

$$x' = r \cos(\phi + \theta)$$

$$y' = r \sin(\phi + \theta)$$

Trig Identity...

$$x' = r \cos(\phi) \cos(\theta) - r \sin(\phi) \sin(\theta)$$

$$y' = r \sin(\phi) \cos(\theta) + r \cos(\phi) \sin(\theta)$$

Substitute...

$$x' = x \cos(\theta) - y \sin(\theta)$$

$$y' = x \sin(\theta) + y \cos(\theta)$$

# 2-D Rotation

This is easy to capture in matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{R}} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Even though  $\sin(\theta)$  and  $\cos(\theta)$  are nonlinear functions of  $\theta$ ,

- *$x'$  is a linear combination of  $x$  and  $y$*
- *$y'$  is a linear combination of  $x$  and  $y$*

What is the inverse transformation?

- Rotation by  $-\theta$
- For rotation matrices  $\mathbf{R}^{-1} = \mathbf{R}^T$

# Basic 2D transformations

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_x & 0 \\ 0 & s_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Scale

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \alpha_x \\ \alpha_y & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Shear

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \Theta & -\sin \Theta \\ \sin \Theta & \cos \Theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotate

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & t_x \\ 0 & 1 & t_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Translate

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Affine

Affine is any combination of translation, scale, rotation, shear



# Affine Transformations

Affine transformations are combinations of

- Linear transformations, and
- Translations

Properties of affine transformations:

- Lines map to lines
- Parallel lines remain parallel
- Ratios are preserved
- Closed under composition

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Projective Transformations

Projective transformations are combos of

- Affine transformations, and
- Projective warps

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ w' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

Properties of projective transformations:

- Lines map to lines
- Parallel lines do not necessarily remain parallel
- Ratios are not preserved
- Closed under composition
- Models change of basis
- Projective matrix is defined up to a scale (8 DOF)