

Pose Graph Optimization

Note: pose measurements are Non-mutable.

P₁

- > Given a set of relative pose "measurements", $\{\bar{T}_{kl}, \Sigma_{kl}\}$, and a stationary frame \mathcal{F}_o , $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_o$. There are K poses in total, i.e., $k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$
 $k, l \in [0, K]$.

We assume each relative pose measurement is drawn from a Gaussian (on SE(3)) that has a mean and variance of $\{\bar{T}_{kl}, \Sigma_{kl}\}$.

- > So a pose measurement for the k^{th} relative to the l^{th} frame, T_{kl} can be thought of a random sample with:

$$\bar{T}_{kl} = \underbrace{\exp(\mathcal{G}_{kl}^\wedge)}_{\text{noise}} \cdot \underbrace{\bar{T}_{kl}}_{\text{mean of Gaussian}}, \quad (1)$$

Note: the T_{kl} 's are given values, we cannot change these measurements. The \bar{T}_{kl} is the mean of underlying prob. dist., thus, we have no access to it.

$$\mathcal{G}_{kl} \sim \mathcal{N}(\vec{0}, \Sigma_{kl}).$$

- > The problem will be set up as a batch Maximum Likelihood problem. For each measurement, we formulate an error term as:

$$\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}) = \ln(\bar{T}_{kl} (T_k T_l^{-1})^{-1})^\vee = \ln(\bar{T}_{kl} T_k T_l^{-1})^\vee, \quad (2)$$

where, $\vec{x} = \{T_1, \dots, T_K\}$, and each T_k is a transformation matrix representing pose of $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_k$ relative to $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_o$.

- > Note, in the above setting, each error term $\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x})$ is a 6×1 vector, (or residual term) and it can be thought of as with the form of (with a lower notation)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{estimated} & \boxminus & \text{true} \\ \text{value} & & \text{value} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{analogue}} \bar{T}_{\text{truth}} \cdot T_{\text{estimated}}^{-1},$$

one may think of the \boxminus symbol as "minus" operator (in scalar arithmetic), since the direct element-wise minus operation on transformation ^{matrices} will not result in a valid transformation matrix, the \boxminus is an analogue of such operation.

> By adopting the SE(3)-sensitive perturbation scheme, we have

$$\bar{T}_k = \exp(\hat{\epsilon}_k) T_{\text{op},k}, \quad (3)$$

where $T_{\text{op},k}$ is the operating point and $\hat{\epsilon}_k$ is a 6×1 small perturbation.

The unknowns that we are trying to find are the T_k 's.

> By inserting (3) into (2) to substitute T_k and T_L :

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\epsilon}_{kl}(\vec{x}) &= \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} (\exp(\hat{\epsilon}_l) \cdot T_{\text{op},l}) (\exp(\hat{\epsilon}_k) \cdot T_{\text{op},k})^{-1} \right)^v \\ &= \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} \exp(\hat{\epsilon}_l) T_{\text{op},l}^{-1} T_{\text{op},k} (\exp(\hat{\epsilon}_k))^{-1} \right)^v \\ &= \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} \exp(\hat{\epsilon}_l) \cdot T_{\text{op},l}^{-1} \cdot T_{\text{op},k} \exp(-\hat{\epsilon}_k) \right)^v. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Barfoot's
SE(3) table
(in CH 7)
(4)

> In order to continue ^{to} simplify (4), we first recall some properties of SE(3).

$$T \exp(\hat{\xi}) T^{-1} = \exp((\text{Ad}(T) \cdot \hat{\xi})^{\wedge}) = \exp((T \hat{\xi})^{\wedge}). \quad (5)$$

> Let $A = T^{-1}$, which is also in SE(3), so (5) can also be applied on A:
(inversion of a transformation matrix is still a transformation)

$$A \exp(\hat{\xi}) A^{-1} = \exp((\text{Ad}(A) \cdot \hat{\xi})^{\wedge})$$

$$\Rightarrow T^{-1} \cdot \exp(\hat{\xi}) \cdot T = \exp((\text{Ad}(T^{-1}) \cdot \hat{\xi})^{\wedge})$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} T^{-1} \cdot \exp(\hat{\xi}) = \exp((\text{Ad}(T^{-1}) \cdot \hat{\xi})^{\wedge}) \cdot T^{-1} & \text{(i) obtained by multiplying } \\ & \text{ } T^{-1} \text{ on right for both sides} \\ \exp(\hat{\xi}) \cdot T = T \cdot \exp((\text{Ad}(T^{-1}) \cdot \hat{\xi})^{\wedge}) & \text{(ii) obtained by multiplying } \\ & \text{ } T \text{ on left for both sides} \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

Note:

P3

> Back to (2) and substituting (6) into (2):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}) &= \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} \cdot \exp(\hat{\epsilon}_l^\wedge) T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \cdot \exp(-\hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge) \right)^v \\
 &\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} \cdot T_{op,l} \cdot \exp \left((\text{Ad}(T_{op,l}^{-1}) \cdot \hat{\epsilon}_l)^\wedge \right) \cdot T_{op,k}^{-1} \cdot \exp(-\hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge) \right)^v \\
 &\stackrel{(iii)}{=} \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} \cdot T_{op,l} \cdot T_{op,k}^{-1} \cdot \exp \left((\text{Ad}(T_{op,k}) \text{Ad}(T_{op,l}^{-1}) \cdot \hat{\epsilon}_l)^\wedge \right) \cdot \exp(-\hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge) \right)^v \\
 &= \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \exp \left((T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \hat{\epsilon}_l)^\wedge \right) \cdot \exp(-\hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge) \right)^v, \quad (7)
 \end{aligned}$$

where $T_{op,k} = \text{Ad}(T_{op,k})$, $T_{op,l}^{-1} = \text{Ad}(T_{op,l}^{-1})$. Based on Barfoot's SE(3) Table, we can approximate a transformation matrix as:

$$T = \exp(\hat{\xi}^\wedge) \approx I_{4 \times 4} + \hat{\xi}^\wedge \Leftrightarrow I_{4 \times 4} + \hat{\xi}^\wedge \approx \exp(\hat{\xi}) = T \quad (8)$$

> In this way, we can approximate (7) as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}) &= \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \exp \left((T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \hat{\epsilon}_l)^\wedge \right) \cdot \exp(-\hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge) \right)^v \\
 &\approx \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} \cdot T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \left(I_{4 \times 4} + (T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \hat{\epsilon}_l)^\wedge \right) \left(I_{4 \times 4} - \hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge \right) \right)^v \\
 &= \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \left(I_{4 \times 4} + (T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \hat{\epsilon}_l)^\wedge - \hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge - \underbrace{(T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \hat{\epsilon}_l)^\wedge \hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge}_{\text{omit this product of two small terms}} \right) \right)^v \\
 &\approx \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \left(I_{4 \times 4} + (T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \hat{\epsilon}_l)^\wedge - \hat{\epsilon}_k^\wedge \right) \right)^v \\
 &= \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \left(I_{4 \times 4} + (T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \hat{\epsilon}_l - \hat{\epsilon}_k)^\wedge \right) \right)^v
 \end{aligned}$$

Note:

$$(\vec{x} + \vec{y})^\wedge = \vec{x}^\wedge + \vec{y}^\wedge$$

$$\ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \left(I_{4 \times 4} + (T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \hat{\epsilon}_l - \hat{\epsilon}_k)^\wedge \right) \right)^v$$

cont).

$$\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}) \approx \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \left(I_{4 \times 4} + (T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \epsilon_l - \epsilon_k)^\wedge \right) \right)^\vee \quad P_4$$

$$\stackrel{(8)}{\approx} \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \exp((T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \epsilon_l - \epsilon_k)^\wedge) \right)^\vee \quad (9)$$

\Rightarrow In (9), we can define $\exp((\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}))^\wedge) = \bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1}$
 $\Leftrightarrow \vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}) = \ln \left(\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1} \right)^\vee$. Since $\bar{T}_{kl} T_{op,l} T_{op,k}^{-1}$ is a small term,
we can further simplify (9) using (7.100a) in Barfoot's Book.

$$\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}) \approx \ln \left(\exp \left((\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}))^\wedge \right) \cdot \exp \left(\underbrace{(T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \epsilon_l - \epsilon_k)^\wedge}_{\text{small term.}} \right) \right)^\vee$$

$$\stackrel{(7.100a)}{\sim} \vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}) + \mathcal{J}(-\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}))^{-1} \cdot (T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \epsilon_l - \epsilon_k)$$

$$= \vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}) + \mathcal{J}(-\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}))^{-1} \cdot T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} \epsilon_l - \mathcal{J}(-\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}))^{-1} \epsilon_k$$

$$= \vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}) - G_{kl} \cdot \delta \vec{x}_{kl}, \quad (10)$$

where,

$$G_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mathcal{J}(-\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}))^{-1} T_{op,k} T_{op,l}^{-1} & \mathcal{J}(-\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}))^{-1} \end{bmatrix}_{6 \times 12}$$

$$\delta \vec{x}_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_l \\ \epsilon_k \end{bmatrix}_{12 \times 1},$$

and $\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{J}_l$ is the left jacobian, and $\mathcal{J}(-\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op}))$ is the left Jacobian
of $-\vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{op})$ w.r.t. \mathfrak{g}_{kl} (i.e., the lie algebra representation of the transformation of k w.r.t l).

> By defining each individual error term, the overall objective function of the Ps-maximum likelihood problem is defined as:

$$J(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l} \vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x})^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} \vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}), \quad (11)$$

where the total number of terms involved in the summation is the number of relative pose measurements included in the pose graph. By substituting (10) into (11), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 J(\vec{x}) &\approx \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\sum_{k,l} (\vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op}) - G_{k,l} \cdot \delta \vec{x}_{k,l})^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} (\vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op}) - G_{k,l} \cdot \delta \vec{x}_{k,l})}_{\text{[scalar]}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l} (\vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op})^T - \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}^T \cdot G_{k,l}^T) \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} (\vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op}) - G_{k,l} \cdot \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l} (\vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op})^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} - \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}^T G_{k,l}^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1}) (\vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op}) - G_{k,l} \cdot \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l} \left(\vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op})^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} \vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op}) - \vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op})^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} G_{k,l} \delta \vec{x}_{k,l} - \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}^T G_{k,l}^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} \vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op}) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}^T G_{k,l}^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} G_{k,l} \cdot \delta \vec{x}_{k,l} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\sum_{k,l} \vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op})^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} \vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op})}_{J(\vec{x}_{op})} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l} (\vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op})^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} G_{k,l} \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l} (\delta \vec{x}_{k,l}^T G_{k,l}^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} G_{k,l} \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}) \\
 &= \bar{J}(\vec{x}_{op}) - \sum_{k,l} (\vec{e}^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} G_{k,l} \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l} (\delta \vec{x}_{k,l}^T G_{k,l}^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} G_{k,l} \delta \vec{x}_{k,l}) \\
 &= \bar{J}(\vec{x}_{op}) - \vec{b}^T \delta \vec{x} + \frac{1}{2} \delta \vec{x}^T A \cdot \delta \vec{x}, \quad (12)
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\vec{b} = \sum_{k,l} P_{k,l}^T G_{k,l}^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} \vec{e}_{k,l}(\vec{x}_{op})$$

$$A = \sum_{k,l} P_{k,l}^T G_{k,l}^T \Sigma_{k,l}^{-1} G_{k,l} P_{k,l}$$

$$\delta \vec{x}_{k,l} = P_{k,l} \delta \vec{x},$$

Note:
 $\Sigma_{k,l}^{-1}$ is
symmetric
in this
setting

(cont) and P_{kl} is a $[12 \times 6K]$ projection matrix to pick out the $k-l$
 12×1 perturbations, i.e., $\begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_K \end{bmatrix}$ from the full $[6K \times 1]$ perturbation vector,

$$S\vec{x}_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_K \end{bmatrix}_{6K \times 1}$$

> Note that each ϵ_k is a 6×1 vector, and each $S\vec{x}_{kl}$ consists of ϵ_k, ϵ_l ,
thus, having a dimension of 12×1 . So, one may think of the P_{kl} matrix
as two rows of blocks, where each block is an 6×6 matrix, and the
 l^{th} block in the first row is an identity matrix, while all other blocks in
the first row are zeros. Similarly, the k^{th} block in the second block row
of P_{kl} is an 6×6 identity matrix, where all other blocks are zero:

$$P_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} O_{6 \times 6} & \cdots & \underbrace{I_{6 \times 6}}_{l^{th} \text{ block-column}} & \cdots & O_{6 \times 6} & \cdots \\ O_{6 \times 6} & \cdots & O_{6 \times 6} & \cdots & \underbrace{I_{6 \times 6}}_{k^{th} \text{ block-column}} & \cdots \end{bmatrix}_{12 \times 6K} \quad (13)$$

> Note that l does NOT necessarily be smaller than k . The example in (13) is just
to show the form of the P matrix. However, $k \neq l$ is typical.

> Therefore, the \vec{b} vector in (12) has a shape of $6K \times 1$; the A matrix in (12)
is a $6K \times 6K$ matrix; and, the $S\vec{x}$ vector is a $6K \times 1$ vector; and the overall
objective, $J(\vec{x})$, and $J(\vec{x}_{op})$ are both scalars.

> In this form, the approximate objective function is exactly quadratic in $S\vec{x}$,
and we minimize the approximate objective (12) by taking the derivative:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{S\vec{x}} J(\vec{x}) &= \frac{\partial J(\vec{x})}{\partial S\vec{x}} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial J(\vec{x}_{op})}{\partial S\vec{x}}}_{\text{not a f\# of } S\vec{x}} - \frac{\partial (\vec{b}^T S\vec{x})}{\partial S\vec{x}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial (S\vec{x}^T A S\vec{x})}{\partial S\vec{x}} \\ &= 0 - \vec{b} + \left(\frac{1}{2} \times 2\right) A \cdot S\vec{x} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

> By setting (14) to zero to solve for the optimal perturbation $\delta \vec{x}^*$:

$$\vec{\phi} = -\vec{b} + A \delta \vec{x}^* \quad P_7$$

$$A \delta \vec{x}^* = \vec{b}, \quad (15)$$

> The optimal perturbation will be a $6K \times 1$ vector as

$$\delta \vec{x}^* = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1^* \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon_K^* \end{bmatrix},$$

where each ϵ_k^* is a 6×1 vector.

> The optimal perturbations will then be used to update the K poses w.r.t. the inertial stationary frame as

$$T_{\text{op},k} \leftarrow \exp(\epsilon_k^{*\wedge}) \cdot T_{\text{op},k},$$

which will result in the updated pose is still belonging to $SE(3)$.

> The above updating process will iterate until certain stopping criterion is met.

> When the optimization is finished, we set $\hat{T}_{k0} = T_{\text{op},k}$ to represent the k^{th} pose relative to pose 0, the stationary frame E_0 .

Notes from Implementation:

> In actual implementation, we may not follow exactly as the derived steps. One key reason is that, when there are many poses and observations, the Projection matrix P_{kl} is of the size $[12 \times 6K]$, and each measurement will require one of such matrix. However, since the majority of the entries in the P_{kl} matrix are zeros, and it is used to pick up the corresponding elements to perform addition operation. If we use the P_{kl} matrix in actual implementation, there will be many redundant operations of $0 + 0$, which do not contribute much to the final result. In addition, it can cause running out of memory if the problem is large.

> Therefore, in the implementation, we may calculate the

$$G_{kl}^T \Sigma_{kl}^{-1} \vec{e}_{kl}(\vec{x}_{kp}) \quad \text{for } \vec{b}$$

and

$$G_{kl}^T \Sigma_{kl}^{-1} G_{kl} \quad \text{for } A$$

for the $k-l^{th}$ measurement and use array index accessing to add these terms to the corresponding elements in the \vec{b} vector and A matrix.