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Linear Camera Calibration Methodology

Given a set of 2D and 3D points, the intrinsic and extrinsic parameters of cameras can been linearly estimated. In the homogenous system, suppose we have 2D point $p = (u, v, 1)^T$ on an image and its corresponding 3D point $P = (X, Y, Z, 1)^T$ in 3D space:

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_i \\ v_i \\ w_i \end{bmatrix} = M \begin{bmatrix} X_i \\ Y_i \\ Z_i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where M is a 3x4 projection matrix with

$$x = \frac{u_i}{w_i} = \frac{m_{11}X_i + m_{12}Y_i + m_{13}Z_i + m_{14}}{m_{31}X_i + m_{32}Y_i + m_{33}Z_i + m_{34}} \qquad y = \frac{v_i}{w_i} = \frac{m_{21}X_i + m_{22}Y_i + m_{23}Z_i + m_{24}}{m_{31}X_i + m_{32}Y_i + m_{33}Z_i + m_{34}}$$

Given N pairs of 3D and 2D coordinates, we have

$$Am = 0$$

where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 & Y_1 & Z_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -x_1X_1 & -x_1Y_1 & -x_1Z_1 & -x_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & X_1 & Y_1 & Z_1 & 1 & -y_1X_1 & -y_1Y_1 & -y_1Z_1 & -y_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ X_N & Y_N & Z_N & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -x_NX_N & -x_NY_N & -x_NZ_N & -x_N \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & X_N & Y_N & Z_N & 1 & -y_NX_N & -y_NY_N & -y_NZ_N & -y_N \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$m = [m_{11} \quad m_{12} \quad \cdots \quad m_{33} \quad m_{34}]$$

Since **A** has rank 11, the vector **m** can be recovered from SVD related techniques as the column of V corresponding to the zero (in practice the smallest) singular value of **A**. This algorithm can be illustrated in details in the Matlab code.

As the multiplication of intrinsic camera matrix and extrinsic camera matrix, after divided by a scale factor $\sqrt{m_{31}^2+m_{32}^2+m_{33}^2}$ the expression of M can be written as

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} s_x f r_1 + c_0 r_3 & s_x f r_1 + c_0 r_3 \\ s_x f r_1 + c_0 r_3 & s_x f r_1 + c_0 r_3 \\ s_x f r_1 + c_0 r_3 & s_x f r_1 + c_0 r_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now let

$$q_1 = [m_{11} \quad m_{12} \quad m_{13}]^T \qquad q_2 = [m_{21} \quad m_{22} \quad m_{23}]^T \qquad q_3 = [m_{31} \quad m_{32} \quad m_{33}]^T$$

Then we have

$$r_{3} = q_{3}^{T} t_{z} = m_{34} c_{0} = q_{1}^{T}q_{3} r_{0} = q_{2}^{T}q_{3}$$

$$s_{x}f = \pm \sqrt{q_{1}^{T}q_{1} - c_{0}^{2}} s_{y}f = \pm \sqrt{q_{2}^{T}q_{2} - r_{0}^{2}}$$

$$t_{x} = (m_{14} - c_{0}t_{z})/(s_{x}f) t_{x} = (m_{14} - c_{0}t_{z})/(s_{x}f)$$

$$r_{1} = (q_{1}^{T} - c_{0}r_{3})/(s_{x}f) r_{2} = (q_{2}^{T} - r_{0}r_{3})/(s_{y}f)$$

The above equations solve all the camera parameters.

Experimental Results

We randomly chose several points in the Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 as 2D references. The visual results are as follows

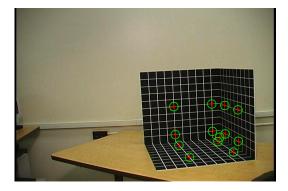


Figure 1 Reference points

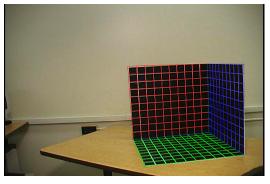


Figure 2 Calibration grid

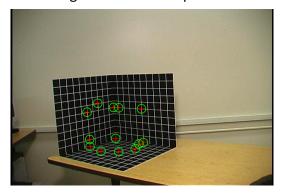


Figure 3 Reference points

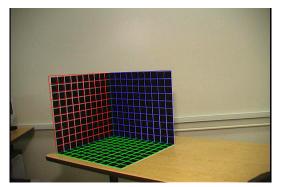


Figure 4 Calibration gird

Reference

- [1] https://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/67132-camera-calibration-and-calculating-intrinsic-and-extrinsic-parameters
- [2] https://github.com/cdbunker/linearCameraCalibration