

EE 417 Introduction to Computer Vision
/ EE 569 3D vision
Motion and Optical Flow
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Optical Flow

(Problem definition)

Estimate the motion (flow) between these two consecutive images

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Key assumptions of Lucas-Kanade Tracker

- Brightness constancy:** projection of the same point looks the same in every frame Lambertian assumption
- Small motion:** points do not move very far
- Spatial coherence:** points move like their neighbors Rigid body motion

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Assumption 1

Brightness constancy

Scene point moving through image sequence

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Assumption 1

Brightness constancy

Scene point moving through image sequence

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Assumption 1 **Lambertian assumption**

Brightness constancy

Scene point moving through image sequence

Assumption: Brightness of the point will remain the same

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Assumption 1

Brightness constancy

Scene point moving through image sequence

Assumption: Brightness of the point will remain the same

$$I(x(t), y(t), t) = C$$

constant

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Assumption 2

Small motion

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Assumption 2

Small motion

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Assumption 2

Small motion

Optical flow (velocities): (u, v) Displacement: $(\delta x, \delta y) = (u\delta t, v\delta t)$

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Assumption 2

Small motion

Optical flow (velocities): (u, v) Displacement: $(\delta x, \delta y) = (u\delta t, v\delta t)$

For a *really small space-time step*...

$$I(x + u\delta t, y + v\delta t, t + \delta t) = I(x, y, t)$$

... the brightness between two consecutive image frames is the same

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The brightness constancy constraint

(x, y)
 $I(x, y, t)$

$\text{displacement} = (u, v)$

$(x + u, y + v)$
 $I(x, y, t + 1)$

- Brightness Constancy Equation:**

$$I(x, y, t) = I(x + u, y + v, t + 1)$$

Take Taylor expansion of $I(x + u, y + v, t + 1)$ at (x, y, t) to linearize the right side:

$I(x + u, y + v, t + 1) \approx I(x, y, t) +$

$I_x \cdot u + I_y \cdot v +$

I_t

$$I(x + u, y + v, t + 1) - I(x, y, t) = I_x \cdot u + I_y \cdot v + I_t$$

So: $I_x \cdot u + I_y \cdot v + I_t \approx 0$

$\rightarrow \nabla^T I \cdot \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} + I_t = 0$

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(putting the math aside for a second...)

What do the term of the
brightness constancy equation represent?

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

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Image gradients
(at a point p)

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flow velocities

Image gradients
(at a point p)

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(putting the math aside for a second...)

What do the term of the
brightness constancy equation represent?

$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

flow velocities

Image gradients
(at a point p)

temporal gradient

How do you compute these terms?

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$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

spatial derivative

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$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

spatial derivative

Forward difference
Sobel filter
Scharr filter
...

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$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

spatial derivative

Forward difference
Sobel filter
Prewitt filter
...

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$

temporal derivative

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$$I_x u + I_y v + I_t = 0$$

How do you compute ...

$$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \quad I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$$

spatial derivative

Forward difference
Sobel filter
Scharr filter
...

$$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$$

temporal derivative

frame differencing

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Frame differencing

t

1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10

$t + 1$

1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10

$=$

$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$

0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9

(example of a forward difference)

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Example:

t

1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10

3 x 3 patch

$t + 1$

1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10
1	10	10	10	10

$I_x = \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$

0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9

-1 0 1

$I_y = \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$

-	-	-	-	-
0	0	0	0	0
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9

-1 0 1

$I_t = \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$

0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9
0	9	9	9	9

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The brightness constancy constraint

Can we use this equation to recover image motion (u,v) at each pixel?

$$\nabla^T I \cdot \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} + I_t = 0$$

- How many equations and unknowns per pixel?
 - One equation (this is a scalar equation!), two unknowns (u,v)

The component of the motion perpendicular to the gradient (i.e., **parallel to the edge**) cannot be measured

If (u, v) satisfies the equation, so does (u+u', v+v') if

$$\nabla^T I \cdot \begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

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Optical Flow

- Integrate around over image patch

$$E_b(u) = \sum_{W(x,y)} [\nabla I^T(x,y,t) u(x,y) + I_t(x,y,t)]^2$$

- Solve

$$\nabla E_b(u) = 2 \sum_{W(x,y)} \nabla I (\nabla I^T u + I_t)$$

$$= 2 \sum_{W(x,y)} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} u + \begin{bmatrix} I_x I_t \\ I_y I_t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum I_x^2 & \sum I_x I_y \\ \sum I_x I_y & \sum I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} u + \begin{bmatrix} \sum I_x I_t \\ \sum I_y I_t \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$Gu + b = 0$$

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Optical Flow

$$\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{G}^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum I_x^2 & \sum I_x I_y \\ \sum I_x I_y & \sum I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Conceptually:

- rank(G) = 0 blank wall problem
- rank(G) = 1 aperture problem
- rank(G) = 2 enough texture – good feature candidates

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Aperture Problem

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The barber pole illusion

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barberpole_illusion

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Point Feature Extraction

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum I_x^2 & \sum I_x I_y \\ \sum I_x I_y & \sum I_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Compute eigenvalues of G
- If smallest eigenvalue σ of G is bigger than τ - mark pixel as candidate feature point
- Alternatively feature quality function (Harris Corner Detector)

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Wide Baseline Matching

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Region based Similarity Metric

- Sum of squared differences

$$SSD(h) = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in W(\mathbf{x})} \|I_1(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) - I_2(h(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}))\|^2$$

- Normalize cross-correlation

$$NCC(h) = \frac{\sum_{W(\mathbf{x})} (I_1(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) - \bar{I}_1)(I_2(h(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})) - \bar{I}_2)}{\sqrt{\sum_{W(\mathbf{x})} (I_1(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) - \bar{I}_1)^2 \sum_{W(\mathbf{x})} (I_2(h(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})) - \bar{I}_2)^2}}$$

- Sum of absolute differences

$$SAD(h) = \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in W(\mathbf{x})} |I_1(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) - I_2(h(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}))|$$

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