

ECE 278A: Digital Image Processing

Q-Sweep for Triangulation and Multi-View Projective Matching

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Overview



Pipeline



Matching



Reconstruction



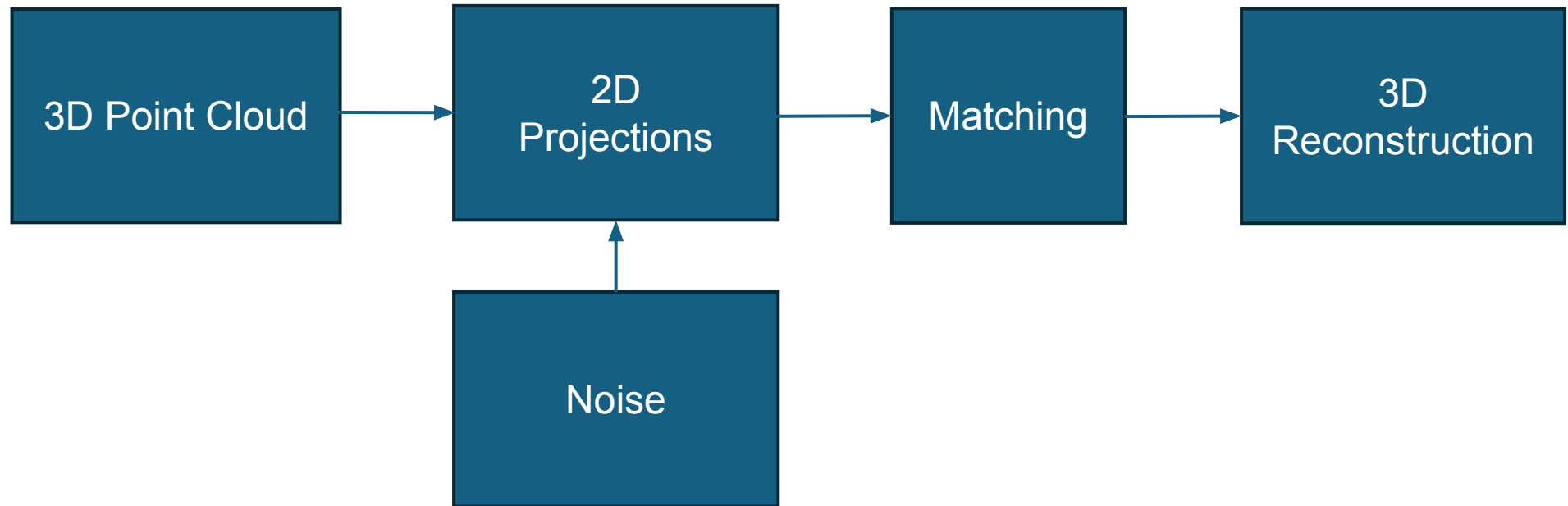
Comparison



Future Directions

Pipeline

Pipeline



Matching

The Matching Problem

Overview :

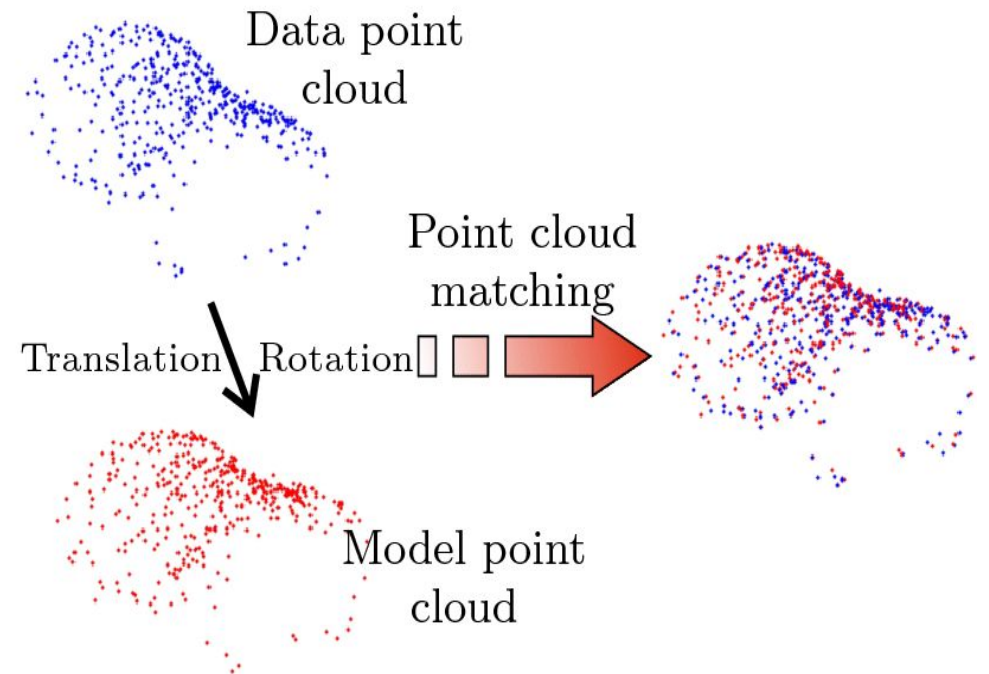
- Fundamental problem in computer vision.
- Align two or more point sets in the same coordinate system.

Objective :

- Find the optimal transformation aligning two or more point sets.

Applications :

- Robotic path planning, localization.
- 3D Reconstruction.

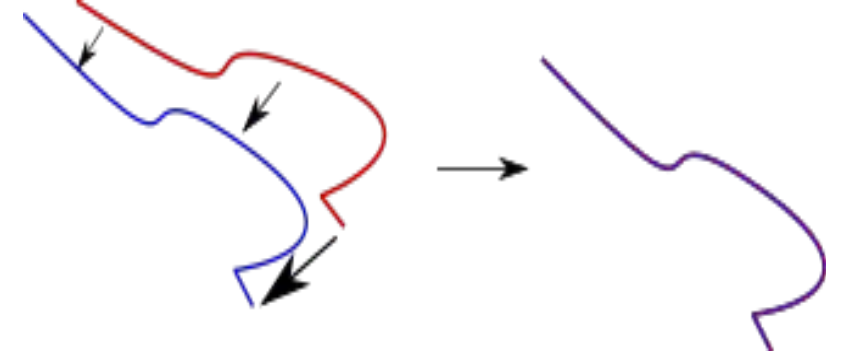


Iterative Closest Point

- Find the optimal rigid transformation (R, t) , aligning one point cloud P with another Q.
- ICP is an iterative process :
 - Estimate correspondences between P & Q
 - Optimizes the rigid transformation between them, until convergence.
 - Requires a good initial estimate.

- Mathematical formulation :

$$\min_{R, t} \sum_{i=1}^M D_i(R, t)^2$$



Where $D_i(R, t) = \min_{q \in Q} \|Rp_i + t - q\|$

Variant - Projective ICP

- Matches point sets obtained from different perspectives.
- Optimizes the projective transformation (homography) between the point sets.

$S = \{s_1, \dots, s_{N_s}\}$, \mathcal{M} is the corresponding 2D model.

Let $d_p(s, m)$ be the projective distance between point $s \in S$ and $m \in \mathcal{M}$.

Let $\text{CP}(s, \mathcal{M})$ be the ‘closest’ point in \mathcal{M} to the scene point s

Algorithm 1 Projective ICP algorithm (PICP)

Let $\mathbf{T}^{[0]}$ be an initial estimate of the homography

Repeat for $k = 1, \dots, k_{\max}$ or until convergence:

1. Compute the set of correspondences $\mathcal{C} = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_s} \{(s_i, \text{CP}(\mathbf{T}^{[k-1]}(s_i), \mathcal{M}))\}$.
2. Compute the new homography $\mathbf{T}^{[k]}$ between point pairs in \mathcal{C}

Summary

SIFT

- Scale-Invariant Feature Transform
- Match local features in the images
- Not a good estimate due to outliers.
- Limited correspondences in absence of colour gradient.

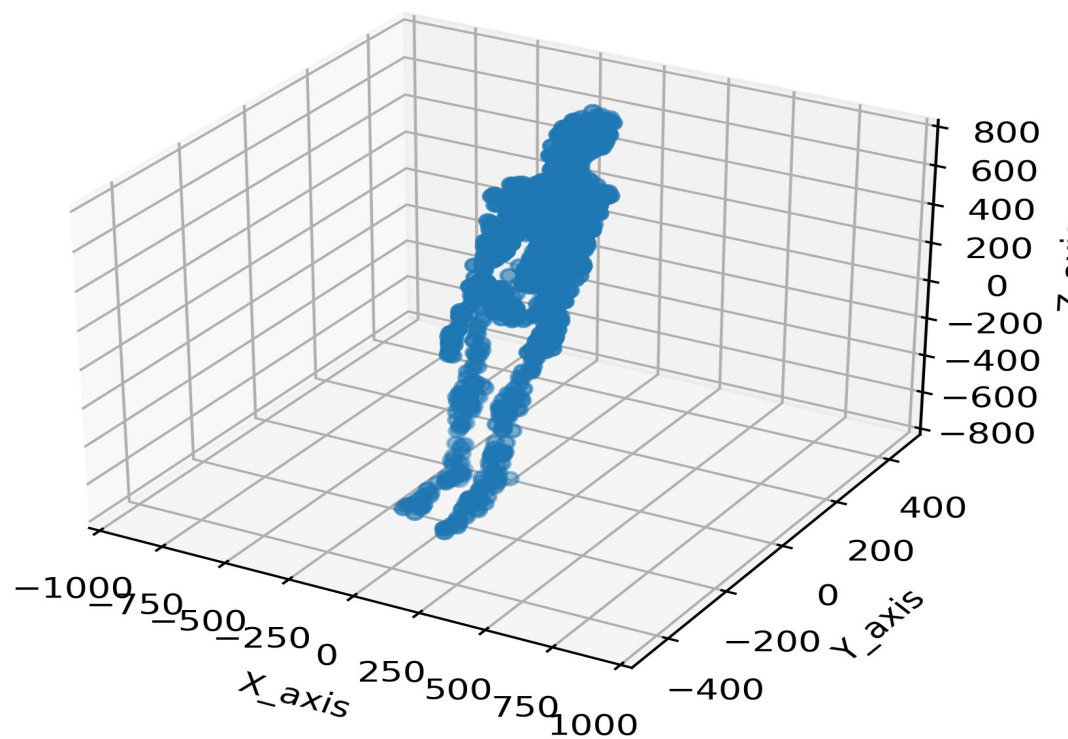
RANSAC-SIFT

- Random Sample Consensus.
- Robust homography estimate in the presence of outliers

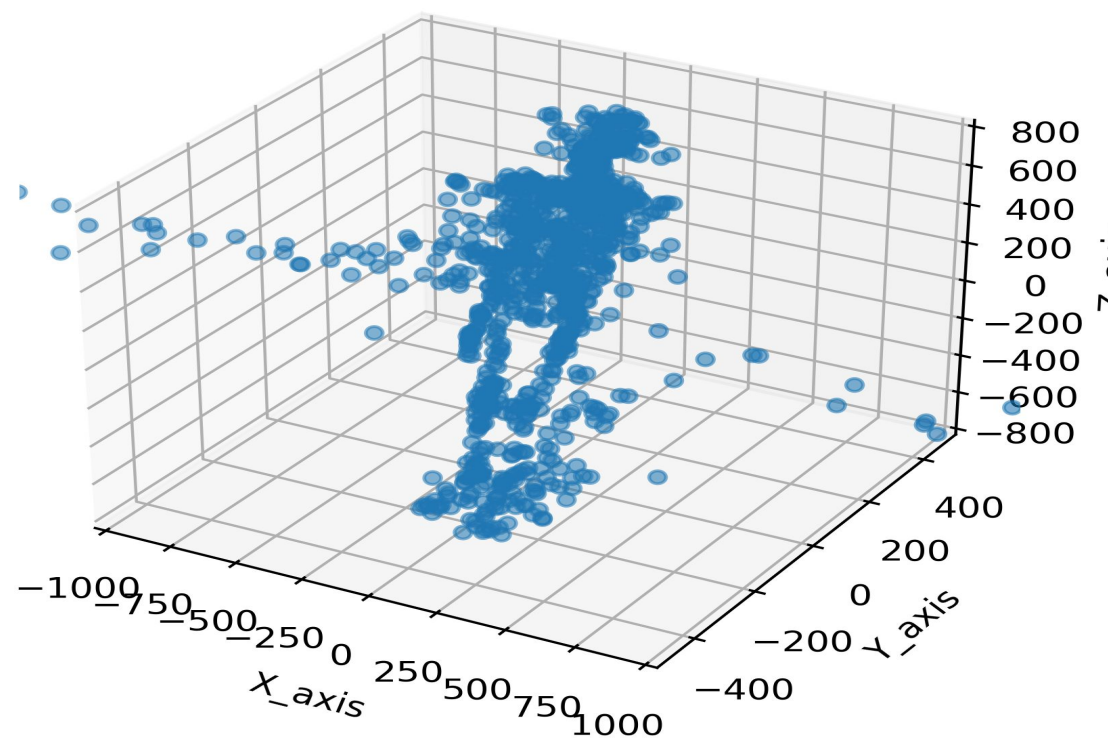
Projective-ICP

- Use homography obtained from RANSAC-SIFT as initial estimate.
- Refined homography estimate.
- Correspondence between all points.

Results



Original 3D Point Cloud



Reconstructed 3D Point Cloud with PICP Matching

Reconstruction

Formulations

Given a set of N 2D image measurements,

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3} \quad & \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}} \left\| \mathbf{u}_i - \frac{\mathbf{P}_i^{1:2} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{\mathbf{P}_i^3 \tilde{\mathbf{x}}} \right\|_p, \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{P}_i^3 \tilde{\mathbf{x}} > 0 \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, N\}, \end{aligned}$$

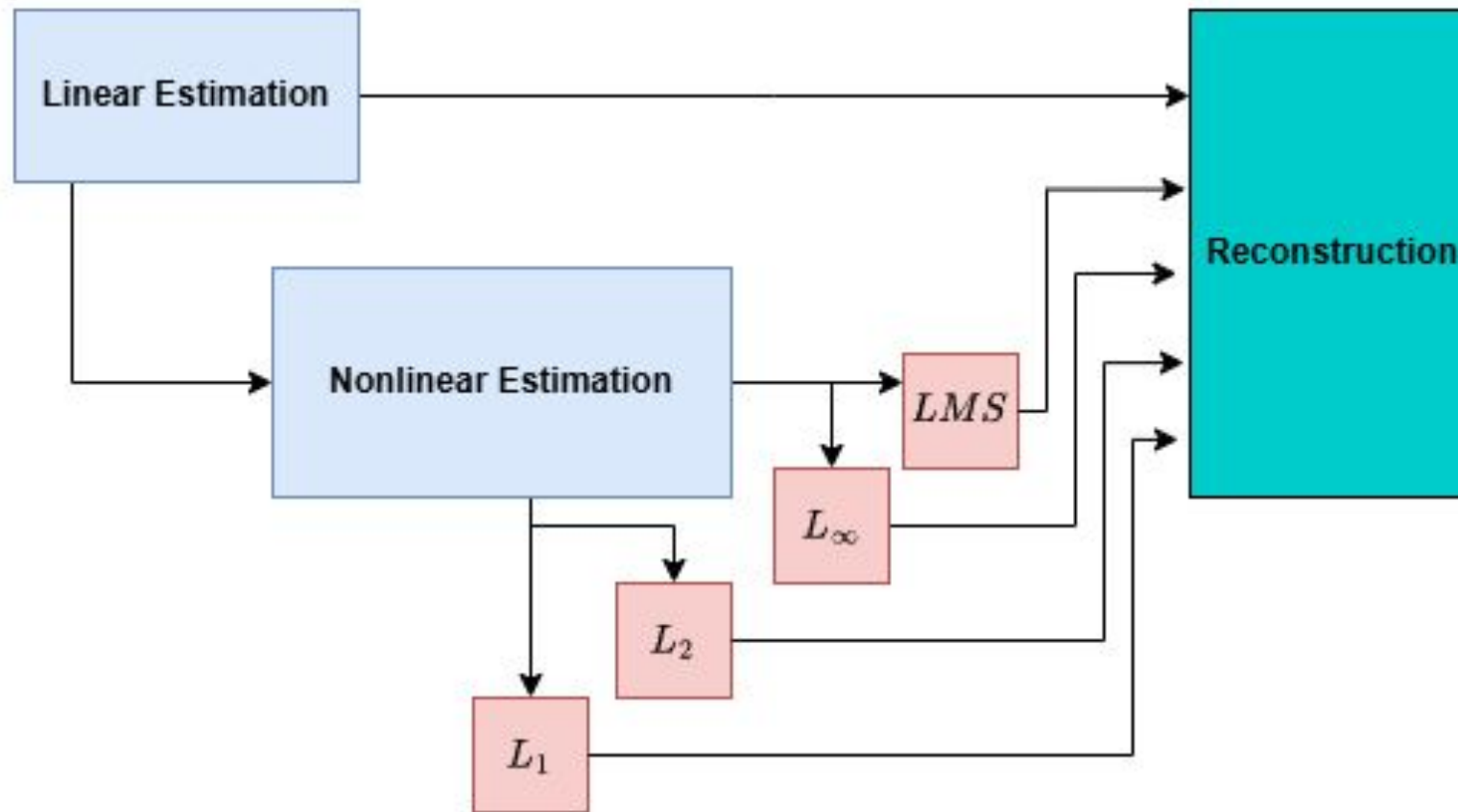
where, \mathbf{x} is the 3D point in inhomogeneous coordinates,

\mathbf{u}_i is the 2D point visualized by the i^{th} camera,

$\mathbf{P}_i^{1:2}$ is the matrix containing first and second rows of the camera matrix, \mathbf{P}

Now, we proceed to see how the model works under $p = 1, 2, \text{infinity}$

Reconstruction Pipeline



L-BFGS-B

(Limited-memory Broyden–Fletcher–Goldfarb–Shanno with Box constraints)

Initialization:

- * Initial guess x_0 .
- * Objective function $f(x)$ and its gradient $\nabla f(x)$.
- * Bounds $l \leq x \leq u$.

Iteration:

- * Calculate $\nabla f(x_k)$ at the current position x_k .
- * Approximate the inverse Hessian matrix H_k^{-1} .
- * Update the position:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \alpha_k H_k^{-1} \nabla f(x_k)$$

where α_k is the step size.

- * Apply the box constraints: $l \leq x \leq u$.

Convergence criteria:

$$\|\nabla f(x_k)\| < \epsilon$$

where ϵ is a small threshold.

Least Median Squares

Given a set of N 2D image measurements,

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3} \quad & \text{median}_{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}} \left\| \mathbf{u}_i - \frac{\mathbf{P}_i^{1:2} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{\mathbf{P}_i^3 \tilde{\mathbf{x}}} \right\|_p, \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{P}_i^3 \tilde{\mathbf{x}} > 0 \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, N\} \end{aligned}$$

However, the non-differentiability of the median also complicates the usage of standard gradient-based optimization

Q-Sweep

- A technique designed for efficient, accurate depth estimation and stereo matching in computer vision tasks.
- Enhances traditional plane sweep methods by leveraging the properties of quasiconvex functions.

Advantages:

- Efficiency: Reduces computational complexity compared to traditional methods.
- Accuracy: Improves the precision of depth maps by focusing on quasiconvex properties.
- Flexibility: Applicable to various stereo vision tasks, including real-time applications.

Q-Sweep

Algorithm 1 Q-sweep method for LMS triangulation.

Require: Input data $\{\mathbf{A}_i, \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{c}_i, d_i\}_{i=1}^N$, initial soln. $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$.

1: $\Delta \mathbf{x} \leftarrow \text{DESCENTDIR}(\{\mathbf{A}_i, \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{c}_i, d_i\}_{i=1}^N, \hat{\mathbf{x}})$.

2: **while** $\Delta \mathbf{x}$ is not null **do**

3: $\alpha \leftarrow \text{STEPsize}(\{\mathbf{A}_i, \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{c}_i, d_i\}_{i=1}^N, \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \Delta \mathbf{x})$.

4: $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \leftarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \alpha \Delta \mathbf{x}$.

5: $\Delta \mathbf{x} \leftarrow \text{DESCENTDIR}(\{\mathbf{A}_i, \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{c}_i, d_i\}_{i=1}^N, \hat{\mathbf{x}})$.

6: **end while**

7: **return** $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$.

Summary

L_2 with L-BFGS-B

- Least squares problem
- Second-lowest runtime among all the methods
- Performance worse than L_∞ in accuracy terms

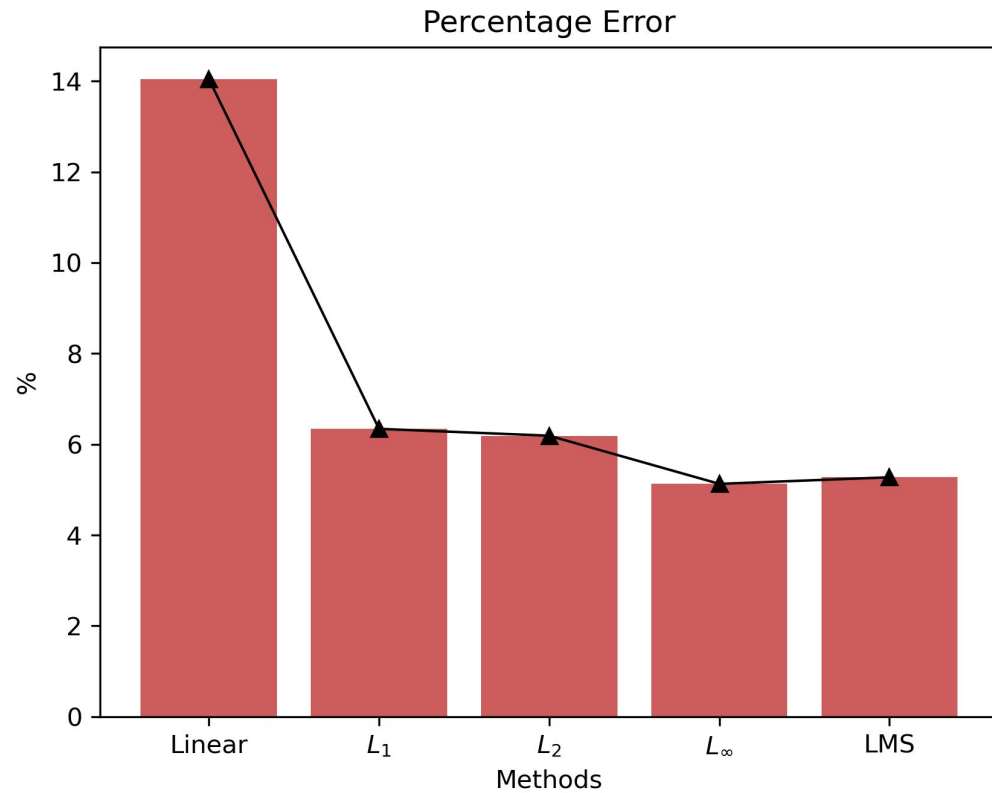
L_∞ with L-BFGS-B

- Double sorting-searching problem
- Maximum runtime among all the methods
- Performance best among all the methods

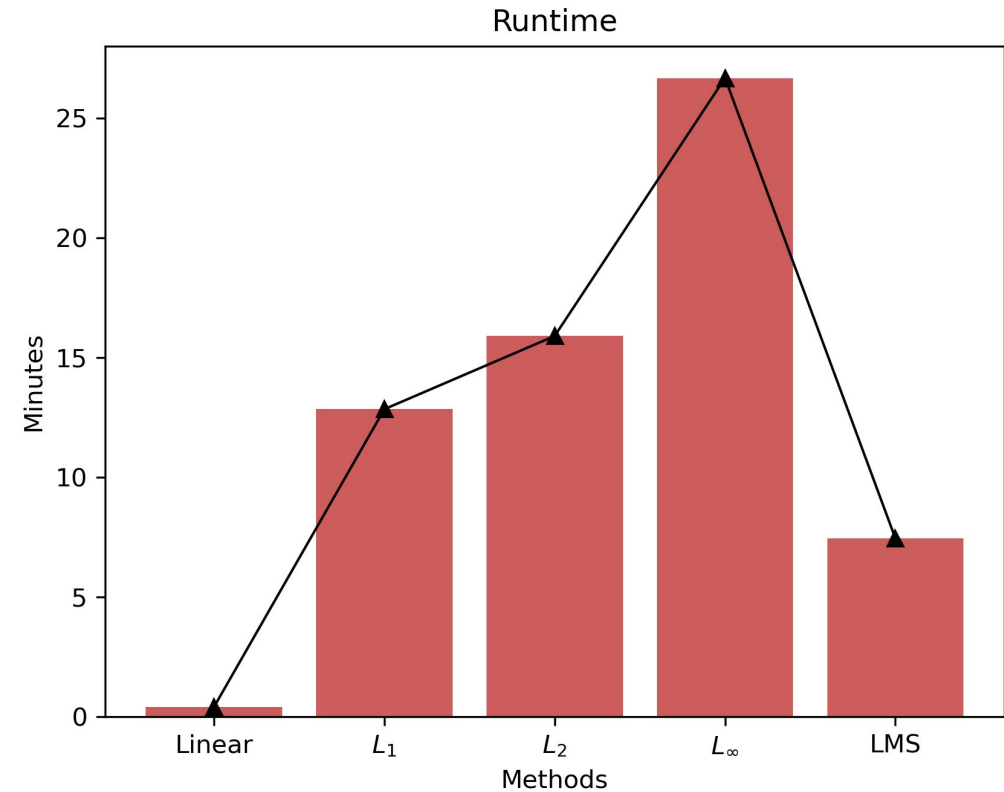
LMS with Q-Sweep

- Estimates p-norm formulation to fit into a plane sweeping algorithm
- Least runtime among the nonlinear solutions
- Performance is comparable to L_∞ method

Results



Accuracy through MAPE



Runtime (in minutes)

Discussion

Discussion

Challenges

- Slow runtime of PICP.
- PICP sensitive to initial estimate which is hard to obtain in challenging environments.
- Q-Sweep has slow update routine for small point clouds

Future Directions

- Fast and Robust PICP.
- Using machine learning methods, obtain a good initial coarse matching for challenging environments.
- Validating Q-Sweep for outliers with non-matched linear 3D estimations

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