

Camera Pose  
Estimation  
and RANSAC

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Ramalingam

Review  
Pose  
Estimation  
RANSAC

# Camera Pose Estimation and RANSAC

Srikumar Ramalingam

School of Computing  
University of Utah

# Presentation Outline

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# Camera Models and Projection (Reminder)

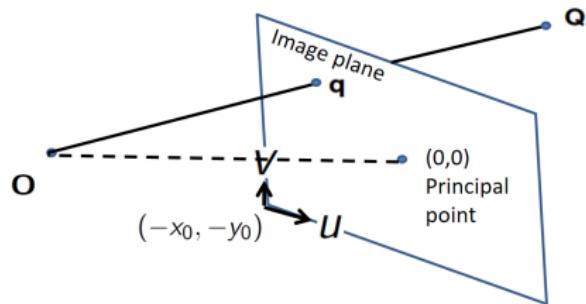
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- Let the optical center  $\mathbf{O}$  be the origin of the camera.
- Let  $(X^m, Y^m, Z^m)$  be the coordinates of a 3D point  $\mathbf{Q}$ , relative to the world system.
- Let the 2D pixel be denoted by  $\mathbf{q}(u, v, 1)^T$ .

# Camera Models and Projection (Reminder)

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- Projection of 3D point on the image:

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \sim (K \quad \mathbf{0}) \begin{pmatrix} R & -R\mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}^T & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X^m \\ Y^m \\ Z^m \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- The following  $3 \times 3$  matrix is the camera matrix:

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} k_u f & 0 & k_u x_0 \\ 0 & k_v f & k_v y_0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Projection Matrix (Reminder)

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- The projection matrix that map 3D points to 2D image is given by:

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} K & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R & -Rt \\ \mathbf{0}^T & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} KR & -KRt \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P = KR \begin{pmatrix} I & -t \end{pmatrix}$$

# What is Camera Calibration?

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- The task refers to the problem of computing the calibration matrix  $K$ .
- In other words, we compute the focal length, principal point, and aspect ratio in the camera matrix.

# Forward Projection

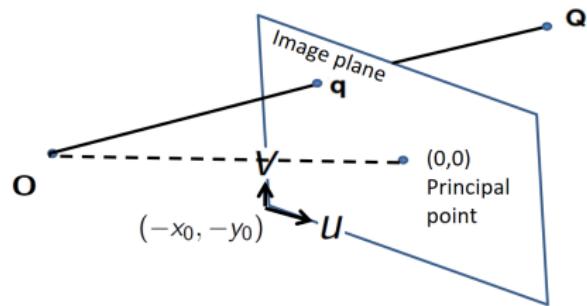
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$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \sim KR \begin{pmatrix} I & -\mathbf{t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X^m \\ Y^m \\ Z^m \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Backward Projection

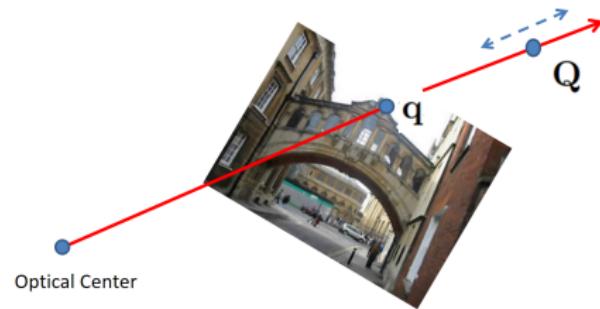
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$$\mathbf{Q} \sim \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{q}$$

$$\mathbf{Q} \sim \mathbf{K}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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# What is pose estimation?

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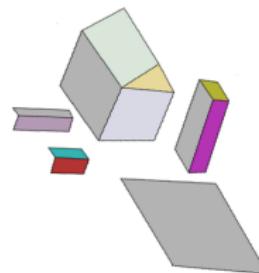
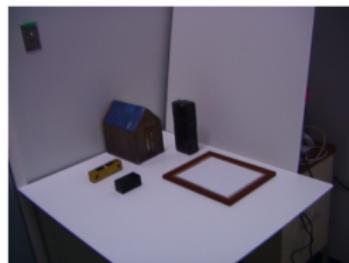
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The problem of determining the position and orientation of the camera relative to the object (or vice-versa).



Left: Camera Image, Right: 3D model of the world

# What is pose estimation?

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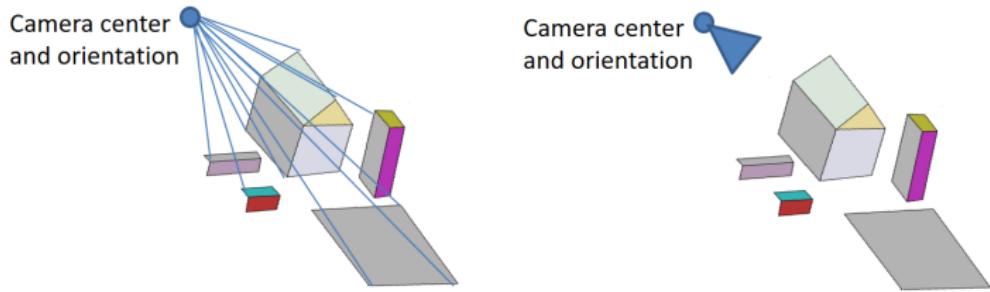
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The problem of determining the position and orientation of the camera relative to the object (or vice-versa).



We use the correspondences between 2D image pixels (and thus camera rays) and 3D object points (from the world) to compute the pose.

# Pose Estimation

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- We consider that the camera is calibrated, i.e. we know its calibration matrix  $K$ .
- We are given three 2D image to 3D object correspondences. Let the 3 2D points be given by:

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ v_1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{q}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} u_2 \\ v_2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{q}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} u_3 \\ v_3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} .$$

- Let the 3 3D points be given by:

$$\mathbf{Q}_1^m, \mathbf{Q}_2^m, \mathbf{Q}_3^m$$

# Input and Unknowns

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Given  $\mathbf{q}_i, \mathbf{Q}_i^m, i = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , and  $\mathbf{K}$  in the following equation:

$$\mathbf{q}_i \sim \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & -\mathbf{t} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{Q}_i^m, i = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

Our goal is to compute the rotation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  and the translation  $\mathbf{t}$ .

# Pairwise Distance Computation

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- Given the three 3D points  $\mathbf{Q}_i^m, i = \{1, 2, 3\}$  we compute the 3 pairwise distances  $d_{12}, d_{23}$ , and  $d_{31}$  as follows:



$$d_{ij} = dist(\mathbf{Q}_i^m, \mathbf{Q}_j^m)$$



$$dist(\mathbf{Q}_i^m, \mathbf{Q}_j^m) =$$

$$\sqrt{(X_i^m - X_j^m)^2 + (Y_i^m - Y_j^m)^2 + (Z_i^m - Z_j^m)^2}$$

# World frame to Camera frame

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- Let the three 3D points  $\mathbf{Q}_i^m, i = \{1, 2, 3\}$  be denoted by  $\mathbf{Q}_i^c, i = \{1, 2, 3\}$  in the camera coordinate system.
- In other words, we have  $\mathbf{Q}_i^c = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{Q}_i^m - \mathbf{R}\mathbf{t}$ .
- Here  $\mathbf{Q}_i^m$ 's are known variables and  $\mathbf{Q}_i^c$ 's are unknowns.
- It is easy to observe the following since the distance between two points do not change when we transform them from one coordinate frame to another:

$$dist(\mathbf{Q}_i^m, \mathbf{Q}_j^m) = dist(\mathbf{Q}_i^c, \mathbf{Q}_j^c)$$

# Reformulation of Pose Estimation

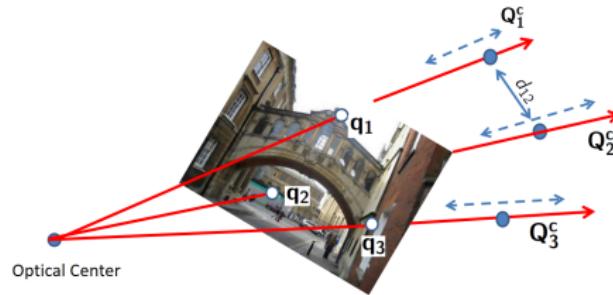
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We can compute  $\mathbf{Q}_i^c$  as follows:

$$\mathbf{Q}_i^c \sim \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{q}_i$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_i^c = \lambda_i \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{q}_i$$

Here  $\lambda_i$  is an unknown scalar that determines the distance of the 3D point  $\mathbf{Q}_i^c$  from the optical center along the ray  $\mathbf{OQ}_i^c$ .

# Reformulation of Pose Estimation

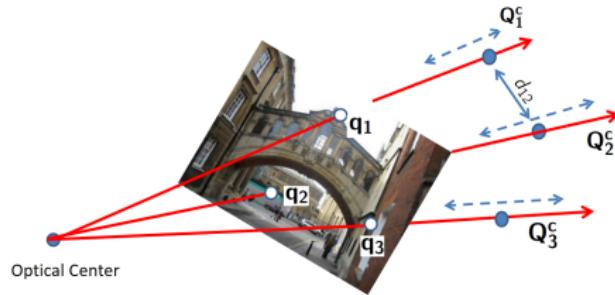
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$$Q_i^c = \lambda_i K^{-1} q_i$$

We simplify the notations, let us denote  $K^{-1} q_i$  as follows:

$$K^{-1} q_i = \begin{pmatrix} X_i \\ Y_i \\ Z_i \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

# Reformulation of Pose Estimation

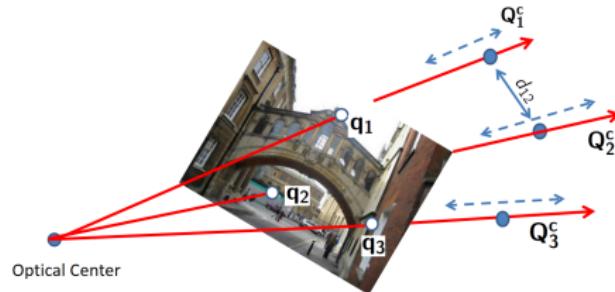
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$$Q_i^c = \lambda_i \begin{pmatrix} X_i \\ Y_i \\ Z_i \end{pmatrix}$$

The pose estimation can be seen as the computation of the unknown  $\lambda_i$  parameters.

# Reformulation of Pose Estimation

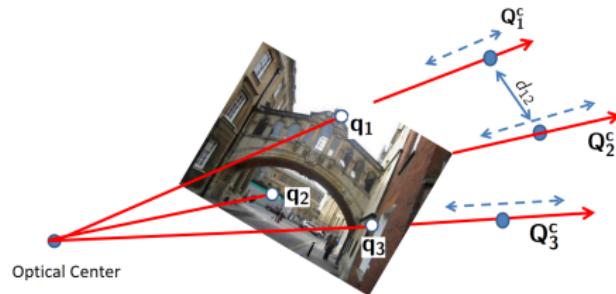
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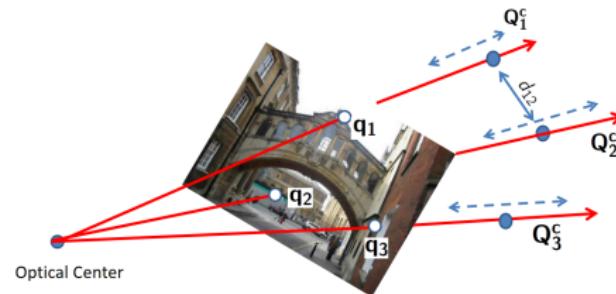
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$$dist(\mathbf{Q}_i^c, \mathbf{Q}_j^c) = dist(\mathbf{Q}_i^m, \mathbf{Q}_j^m) = d_{ij}, \forall i, j = \{1, 2, 3\}, i \neq j$$

$$\sqrt{(\lambda_i X_i - \lambda_j X_j)^2 + (\lambda_i Y_i - \lambda_j Y_j)^2 + (\lambda_i Z_i - \lambda_j Z_j)^2} = d_{ij}$$

# Reformulation of Pose Estimation



$$\begin{aligned}(\lambda_1 X_1 - \lambda_2 X_2)^2 + (\lambda_1 Y_1 - \lambda_2 Y_2)^2 + (\lambda_1 Z_1 - \lambda_2 Z_2)^2 &= d_{12}^2 \\(\lambda_2 X_2 - \lambda_3 X_3)^2 + (\lambda_2 Y_3 - \lambda_3 Y_3)^2 + (\lambda_2 Z_2 - \lambda_3 Z_3)^2 &= d_{23}^2 \\(\lambda_3 X_3 - \lambda_1 X_1)^2 + (\lambda_3 Y_3 - \lambda_1 Y_1)^2 + (\lambda_3 Z_3 - \lambda_1 Z_1)^2 &= d_{31}^2\end{aligned}$$

We have 3 quadratic equations and 3 unknowns.

# Reformulation of Pose Estimation

$$\begin{aligned}(\lambda_1 X_1 - \lambda_2 X_2)^2 + (\lambda_1 Y_1 - \lambda_2 Y_2)^2 + (\lambda_1 Z_1 - \lambda_2 Z_2)^2 &= d_{12}^2 \\(\lambda_2 X_2 - \lambda_3 X_3)^2 + (\lambda_2 Y_3 - \lambda_3 Y_3)^2 + (\lambda_2 Z_2 - \lambda_3 Z_3)^2 &= d_{23}^2 \\(\lambda_3 X_3 - \lambda_1 X_1)^2 + (\lambda_3 Y_3 - \lambda_1 Y_1)^2 + (\lambda_3 Z_3 - \lambda_1 Z_1)^2 &= d_{31}^2\end{aligned}$$

- We have 3 quadratic equations and 3 unknowns.
- We can have a total of  $2^3$  possible solutions for the three parameters  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3)$ .
- Several numerical methods exist to solve the polynomial system of equations.

# How to identify a unique solution?

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- Out of the 8 solutions, only one will be the correct solution.
- In some of the solutions, the 3D point will be behind the camera.
- Using additional point correspondence, we can identify the correct solution.

# Computing the Pose

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- We remind you the relation between  $\mathbf{Q}_i^c$  and  $\mathbf{Q}_i^m$ :  
$$\mathbf{Q}_i^c = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{Q}_i^m - \mathbf{R}\mathbf{t}.$$
- We are given  $\mathbf{Q}_i^m$  and we have computed  $\mathbf{Q}_i^c$ .
- From three 3D-to-3D point correspondences we can compute the transformation parameters  $(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{t})$  using Horn's method.

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# Matching Images

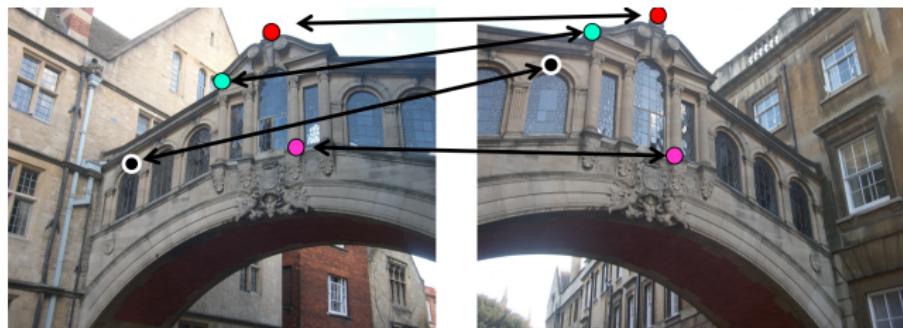
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We match keypoints from left and right images.

# Matching Images

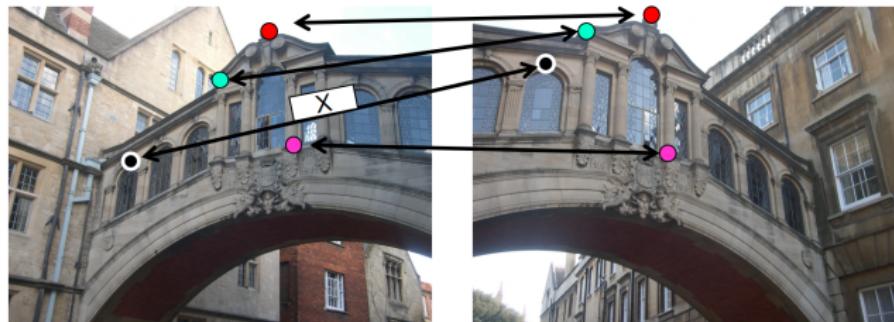
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We match keypoints from left and right images.

- One of the matches is incorrect!
- In a general image matching problem, we can have 100's of incorrect matches.

# Outliers and Inliers

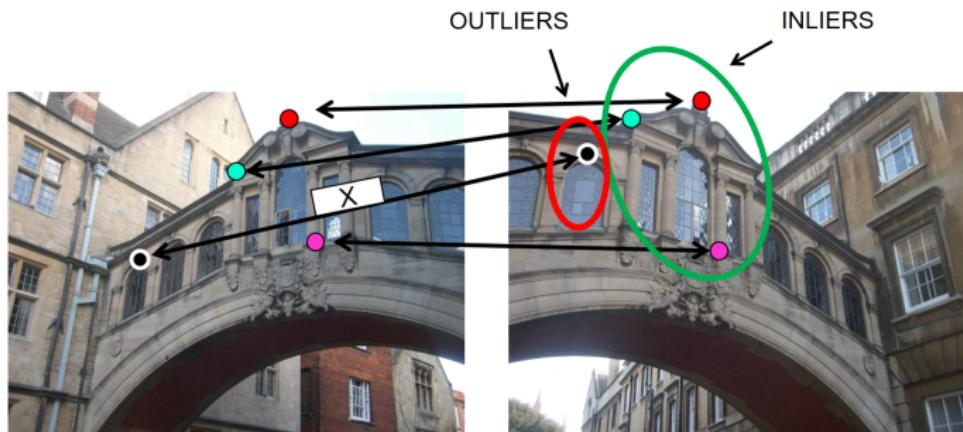
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We match keypoints from left and right images.

# Outliers and Inliers

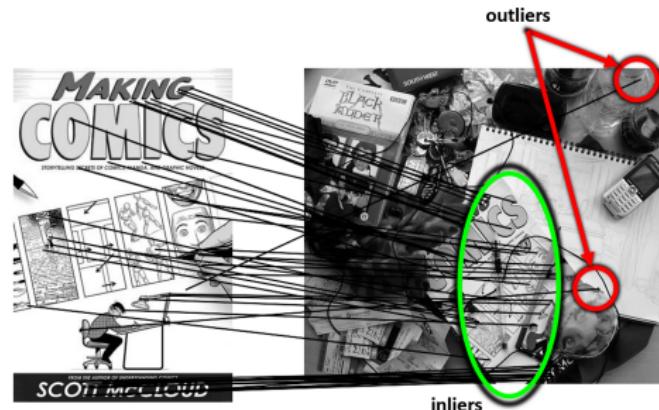
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# Robustness

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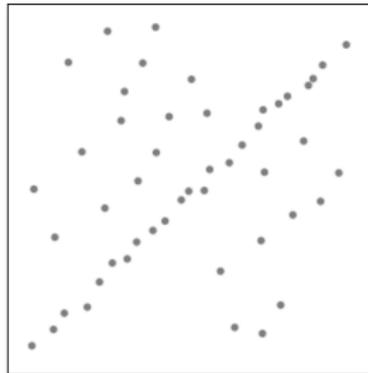
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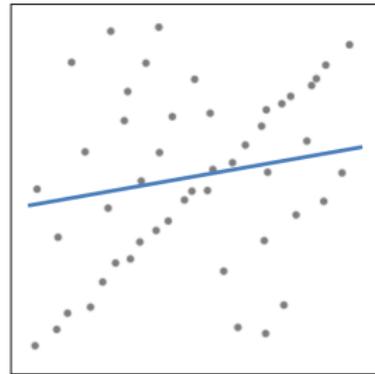
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- Let us consider a simpler linear regression problem.



Problem: Fit a line to these datapoints



Least squares fit

- How can we fix this?

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# Idea

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- Given a hypothesized line.
- Count the number of points that agree with the line, i.e., points within a small distance of the line.
- For all possible lines, select the one with the largest number of inliers.

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# Counting Inliers

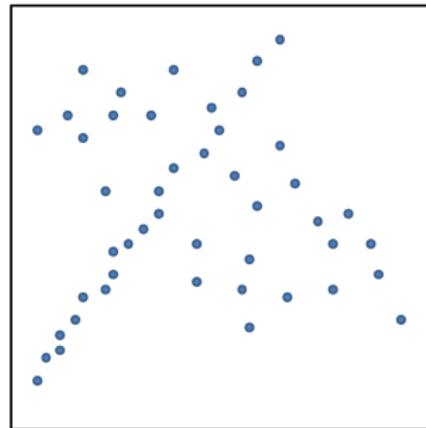
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# Counting Inliers

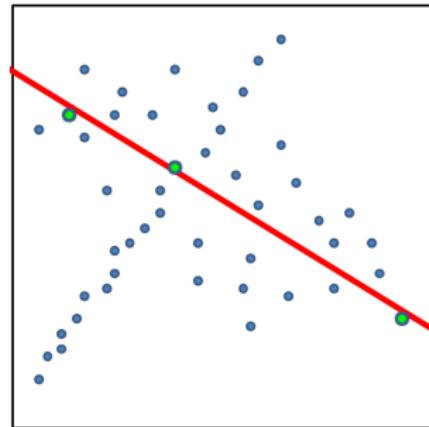
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- 3 inliers

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# Counting Inliers

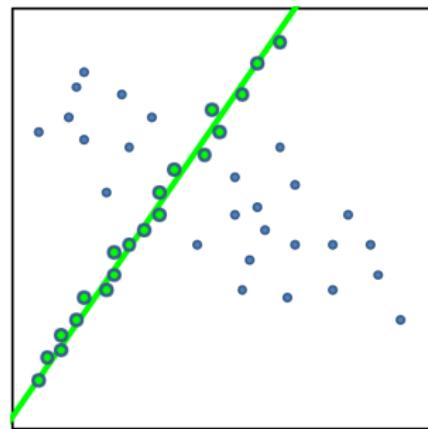
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- 20 inliers!

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# How do we find the best line?

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- Unlike least-squares, no simple closed-form solution
- Hypothesize-and-test
  - Try out many lines, keep the best one
  - Which lines?

# Translations

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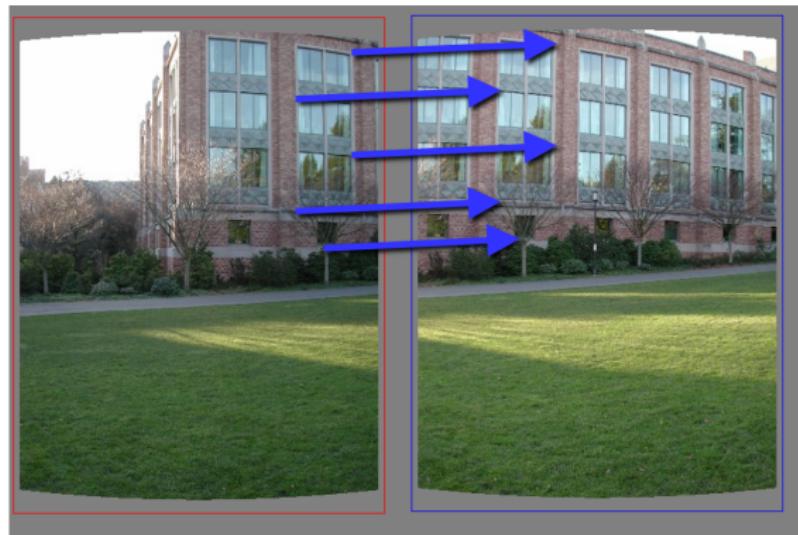
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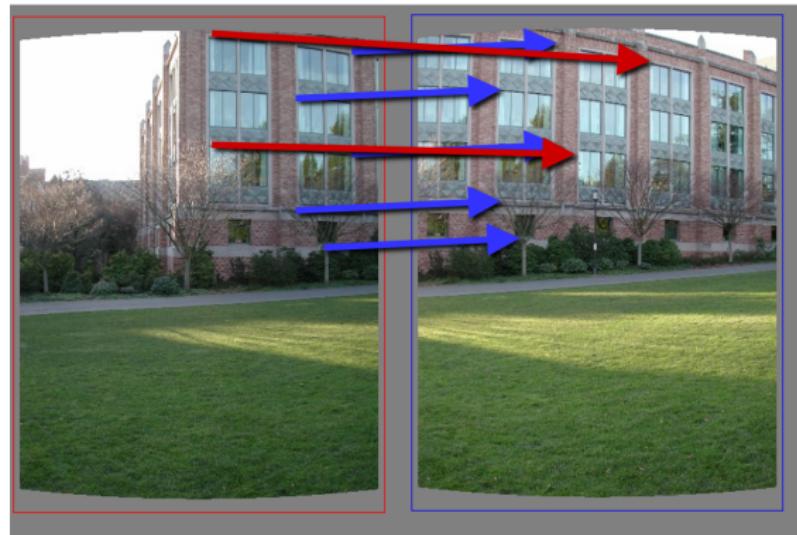
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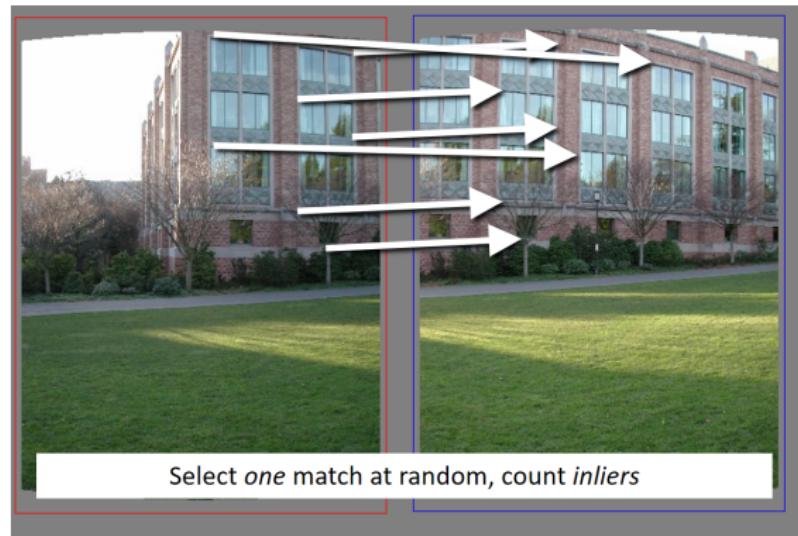
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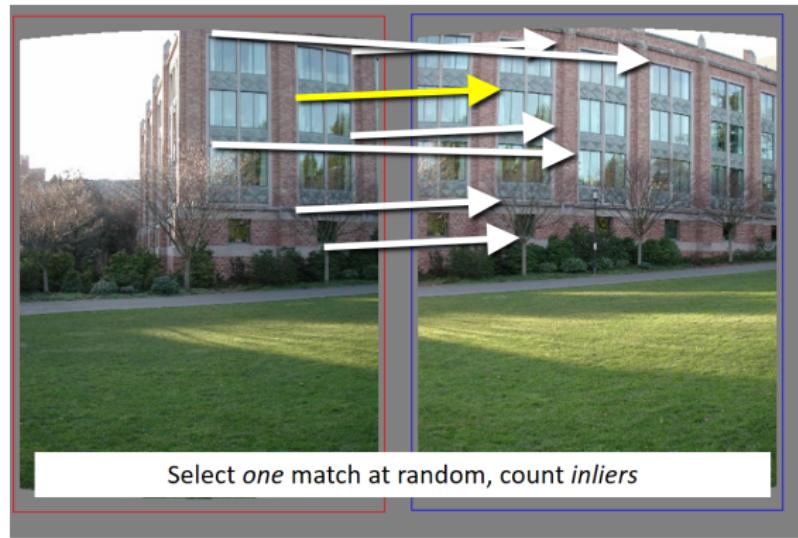
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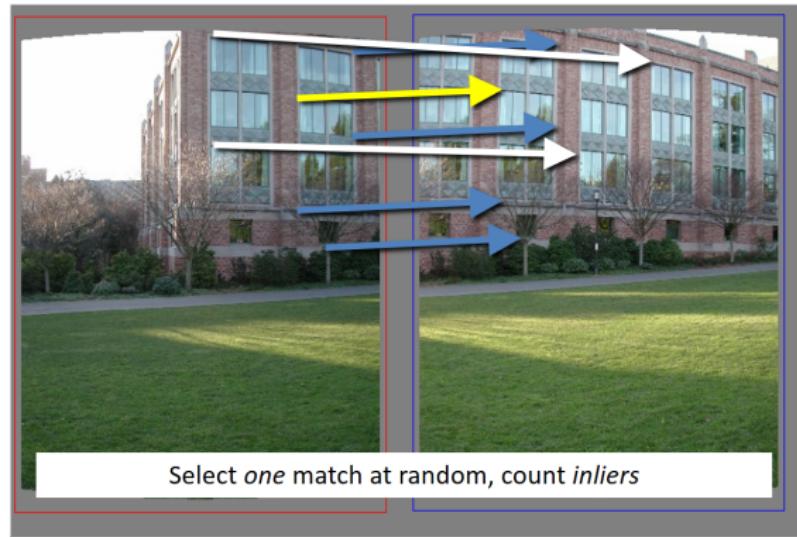
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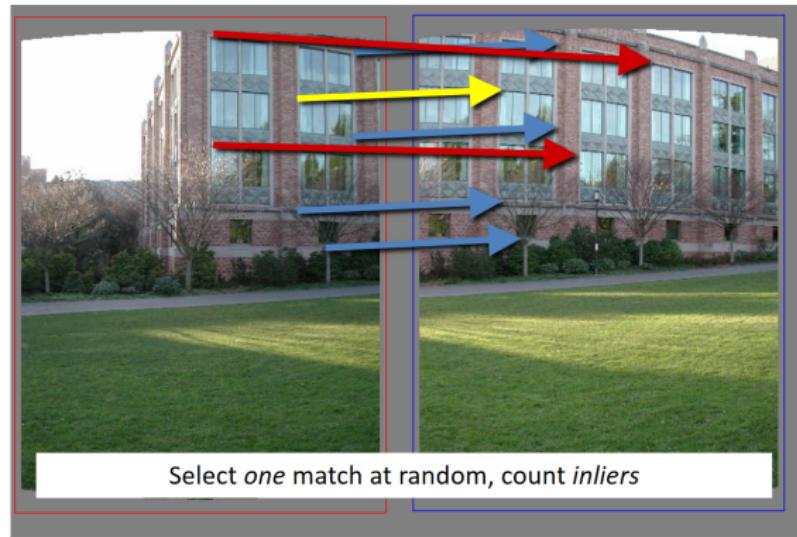
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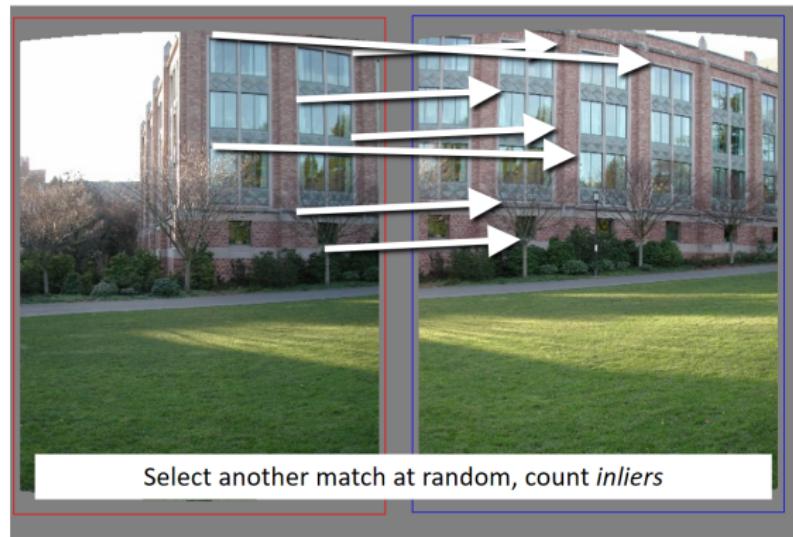
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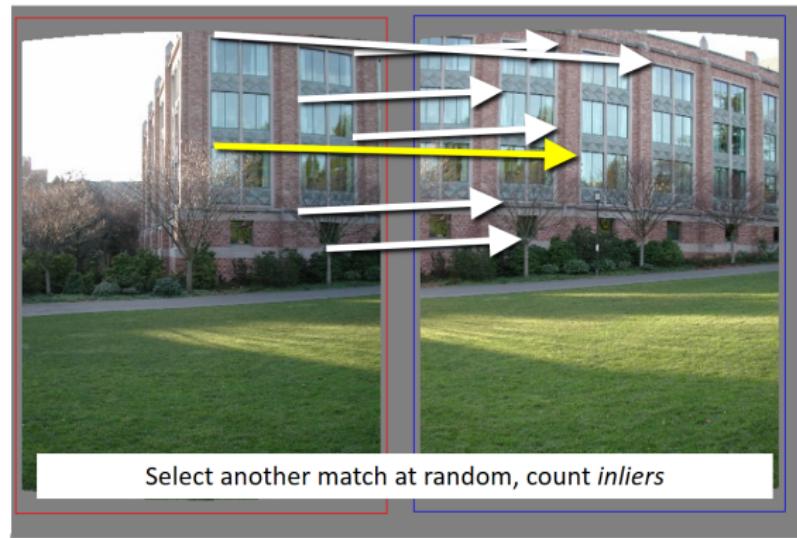
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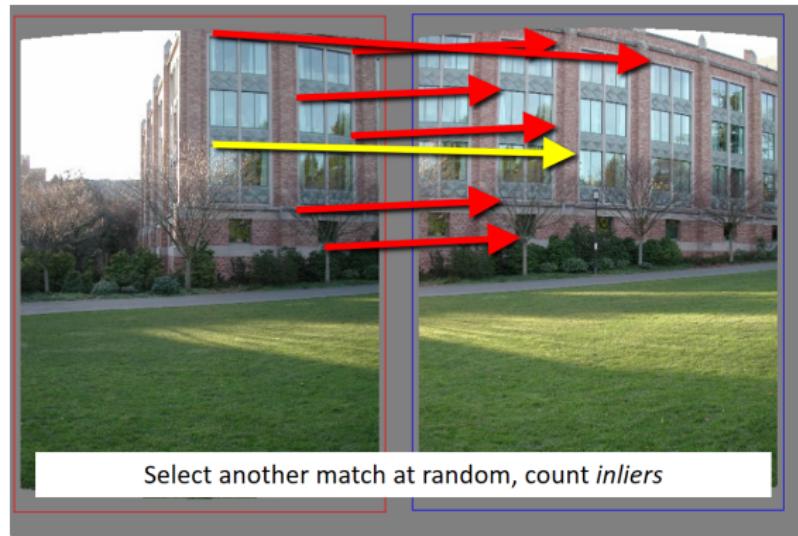
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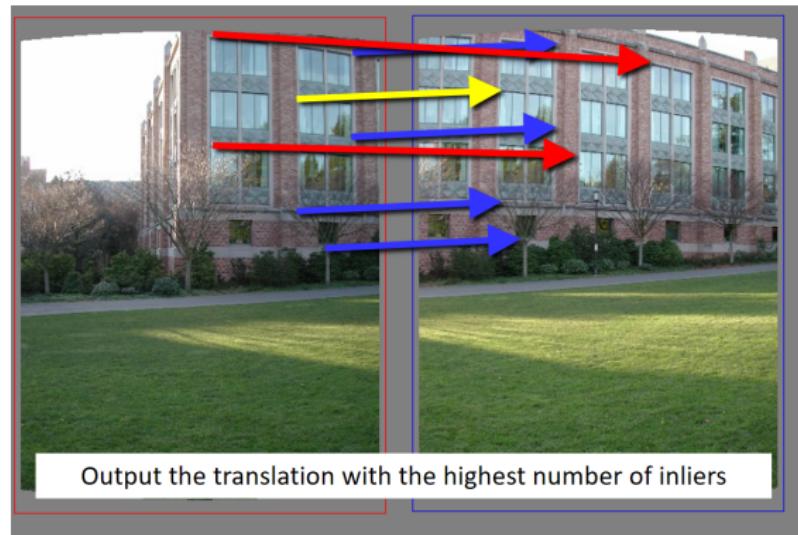
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# RANSAC

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## Idea:

- All the inliers will agree with each other on the translation vector; the (hopefully small) number of outliers will (hopefully) disagree with each other
  - RANSAC only has guarantees if there are  $\leq 50\%$  outliers
- All good matches are alike; every bad match is bad in its own way - Alyosha Efros, CMU

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# Pose Estimation

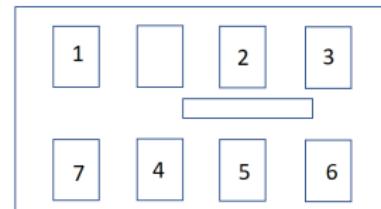
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■ Inliers?

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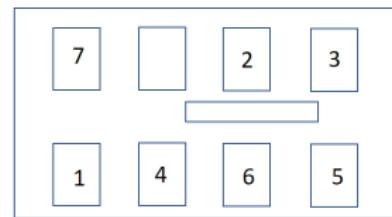
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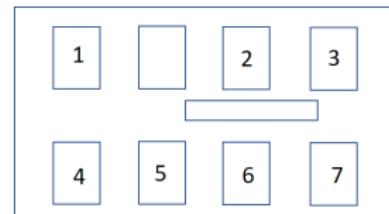
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Estimation  
and RANSAC

Srikumar  
Ramalingam

Review

Pose  
Estimation

RANSAC



■ Inliers?

# Pose Estimation

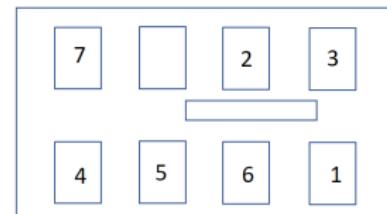
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# RANSAC

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- **Inlier threshold** related to the amount of noise we expect in inliers
  - Often model noise as Gaussian with some standard deviation (e.g., 3 pixels)
- **Number of rounds** related to the percentage of outliers we expect, and the probability of success we would like to guarantee
  - Suppose there are 20% outliers, and we want to find the correct answer with 99% probability
  - How many rounds do we need?

# Sample size

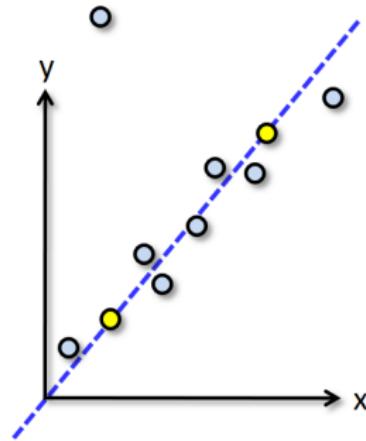
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- How do we generate a hypothesis?

Slide: Noah Snavely

# General Version - RANSAC

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- 1 Randomly choose  $s$  samples
  - Typically  $s = \text{minimum sample size that lets you fit a model}$
- 2 Fit a model (e.g., line) to those samples
- 3 Count the number of inliers that approximately fit the model
- 4 Repeat  $N$  times
- 5 Choose the model that has the largest set of inliers

Slide: Noah Snavely

# How many rounds?

s	proportion of outliers $e$							
	5%	10%	20%	25%	30%	40%	50%	
2	2	3	5	6	7	11	17	
3	3	4	7	9	11	19	35	
4	3	5	9	13	17	34	72	
5	4	6	12	17	26	57	146	
6	4	7	16	24	37	97	293	
7	4	8	20	33	54	163	588	
8	5	9	26	44	78	272	1177	

$$p = 0.99$$

- If we have to choose  $s$  samples each time
  - with an outlier ratio  $e$
  - and we want the right answer with probability  $p$

# Acknowledgments

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Some presentation slides are adapted from the following materials:

- Peter Sturm, Some lecture notes on geometric computer vision (available online).
- Kristen Grauman's computer vision lecture slides
- Noah Snavely's computer vision lecture slides