



ICML 2014, Beijing

# Near-Optimal Joint Object Matching via Convex Relaxation

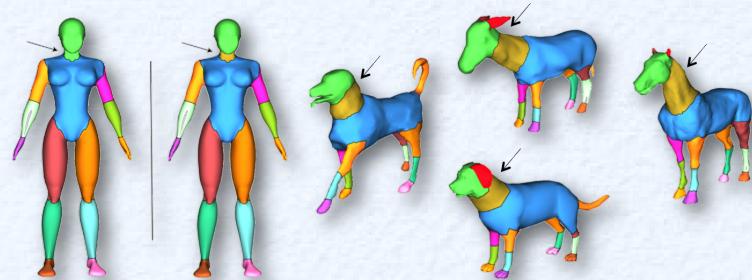
**Yuxin Chen, Leonidas Guibas, and Qixing Huang**

*Stanford University*

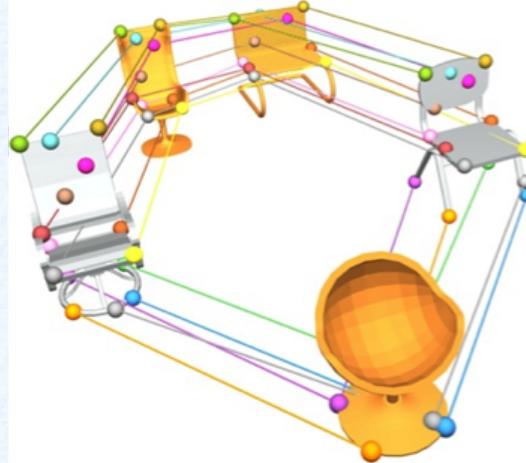
# Joint Matching



Structure from Motion



Joint Segmentation

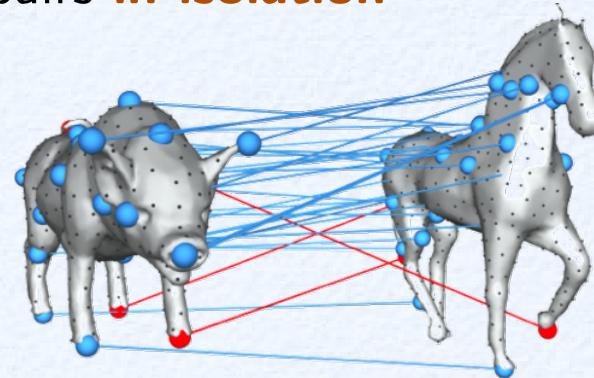


- **Given:**  $n$  instances (graphs), each containing a few elements (vertices)
- **Goal:** *jointly* match all similar elements across objects

# Popular Approach: 2-Stage Method

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- **Stage 1: Pairwise Matching**
  - Compute pairwise matching across a few pairs **in isolation**
  - *off-the-shelf pairwise methods*

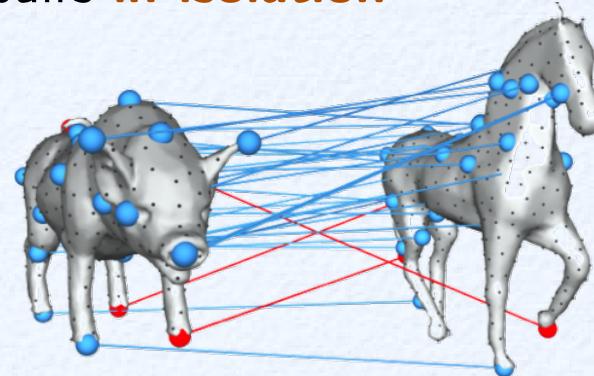


# Popular Approach: 2-Stage Method

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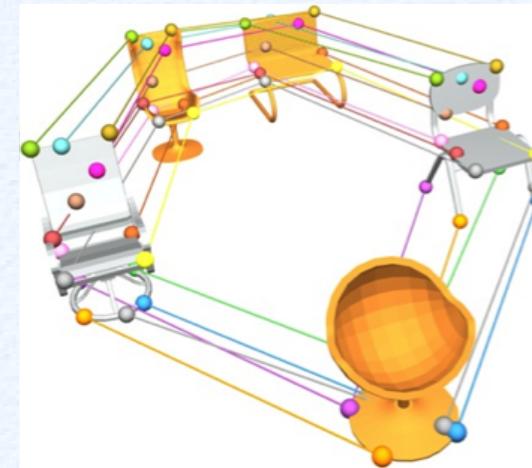
- **Stage 1: Pairwise Matching**

- Compute pairwise matching across a few pairs **in isolation**
- *off-the-shelf pairwise methods*



- **Stage 2: Global Refinement**

- Jointly refine all provided maps



# Representation

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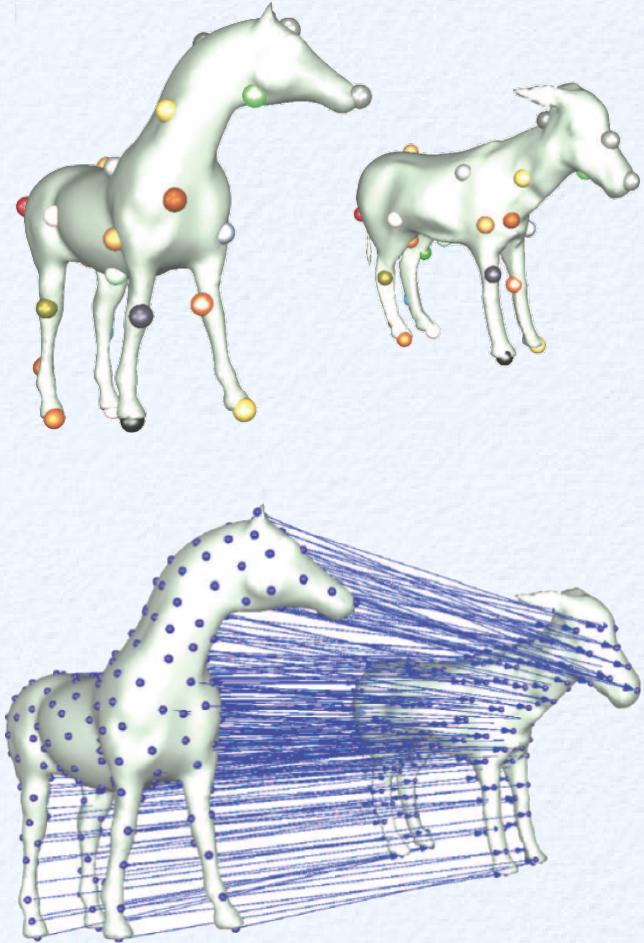
- **Objects**
  - a set of points
  - drawn from the same universe



# Representation

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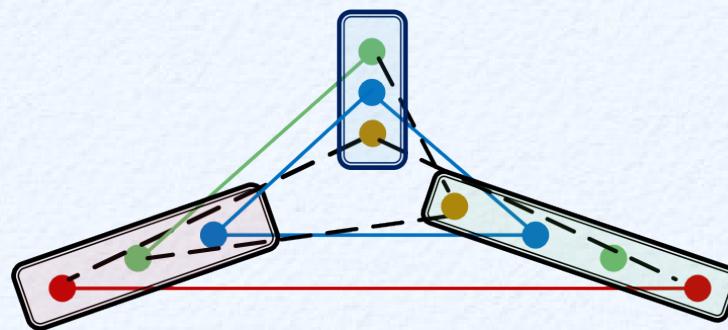
- **Objects**
  - a set of points
  - drawn from the same universe
- **Map**
  - point-to-point correspondence



# Problem Formulation

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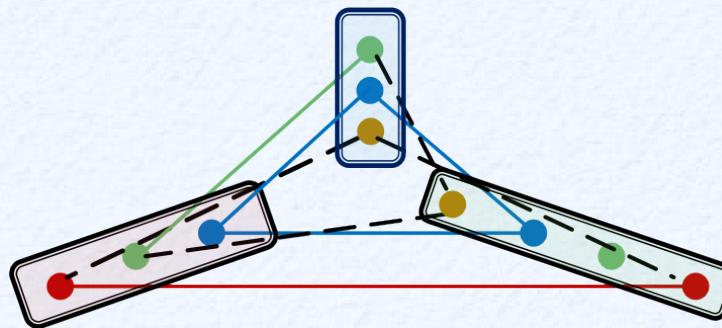
- **Input:** a few pairwise matches computed in isolation



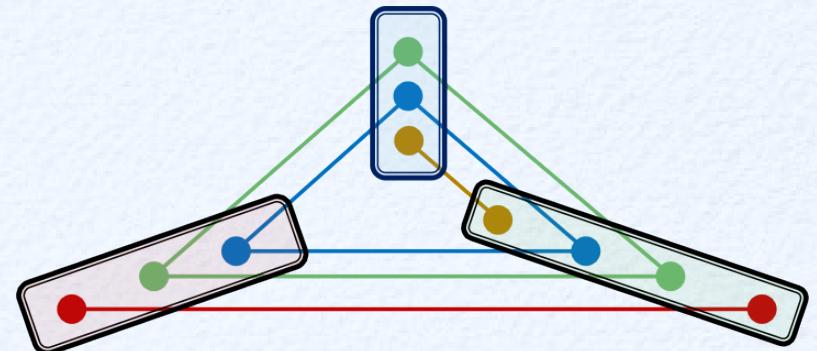
# Problem Formulation

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- **Input:** a few pairwise matches computed in isolation



- **Output:** a collection of maps that are
  - close to the inputs
  - globally consistent
- **NP-Hard! [Huber 02]**

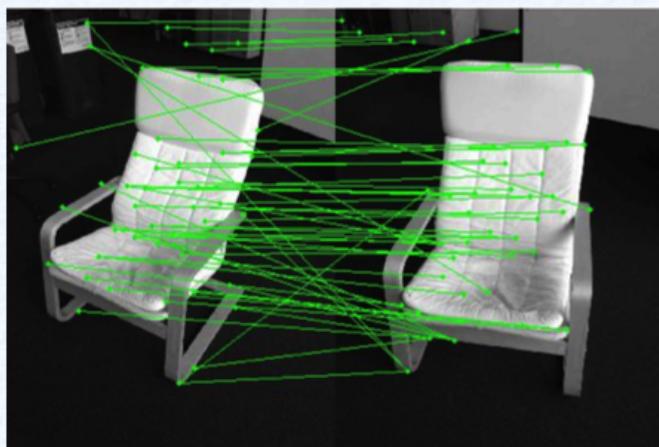


# Challenge 1: Dense Input Errors

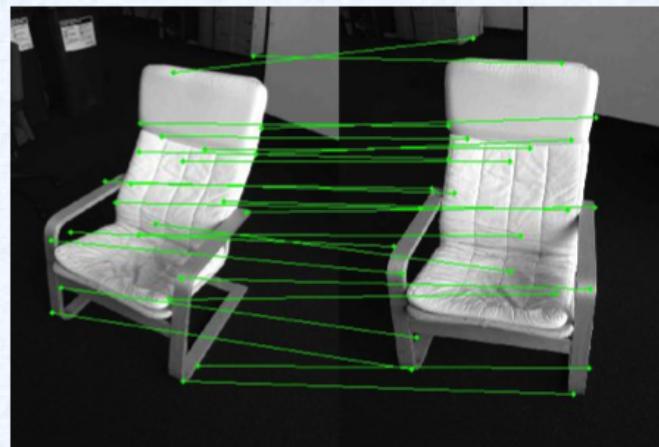
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- **Input Errors**

- A significant fraction of inputs are corrupted



Input Maps



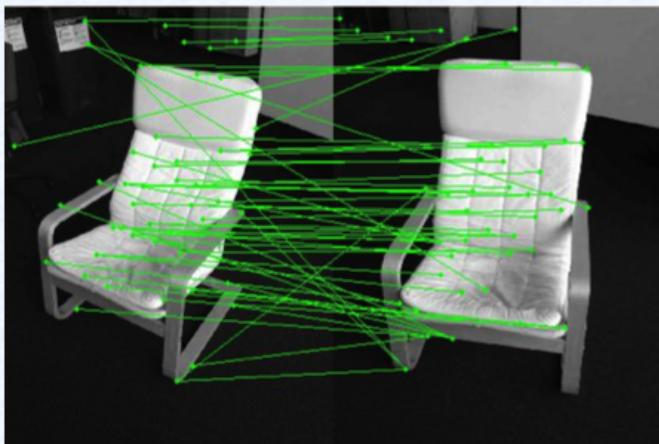
Ground Truth

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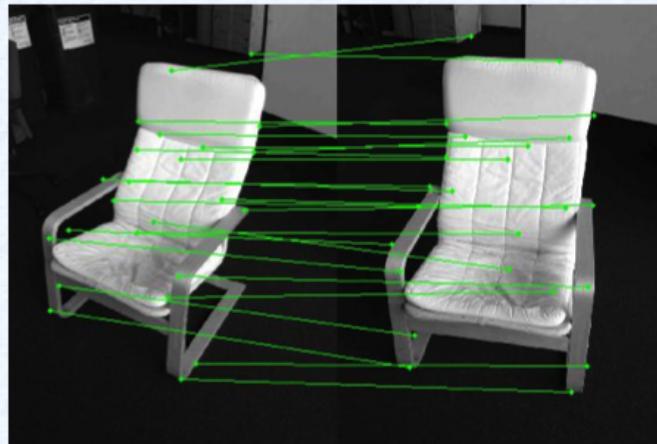
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- **Input Errors**

- A significant fraction of inputs are corrupted
- Prior art:
  - tolerate **50%** input errors



Input Maps



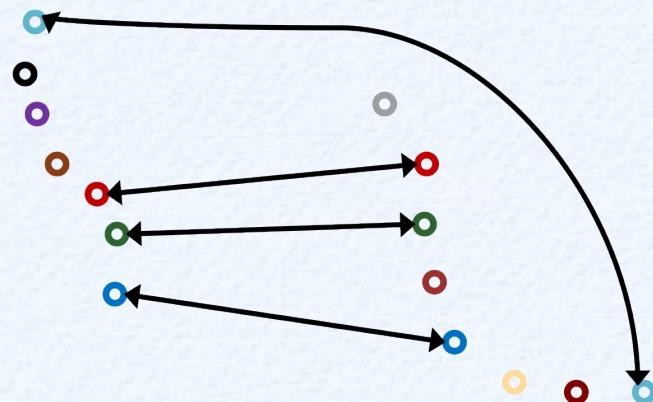
Ground Truth

# Challenge 2: Partial Similarity

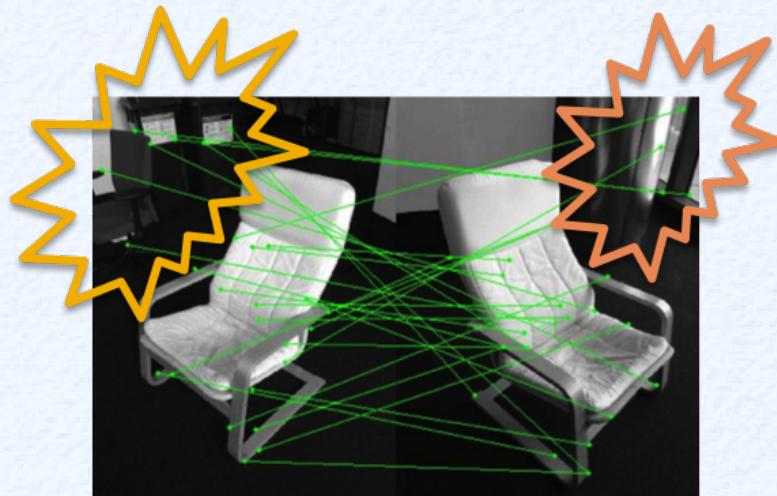
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- **Partial Similarity**

- Objects might only be partially similar to each other.



Subgraph Matching

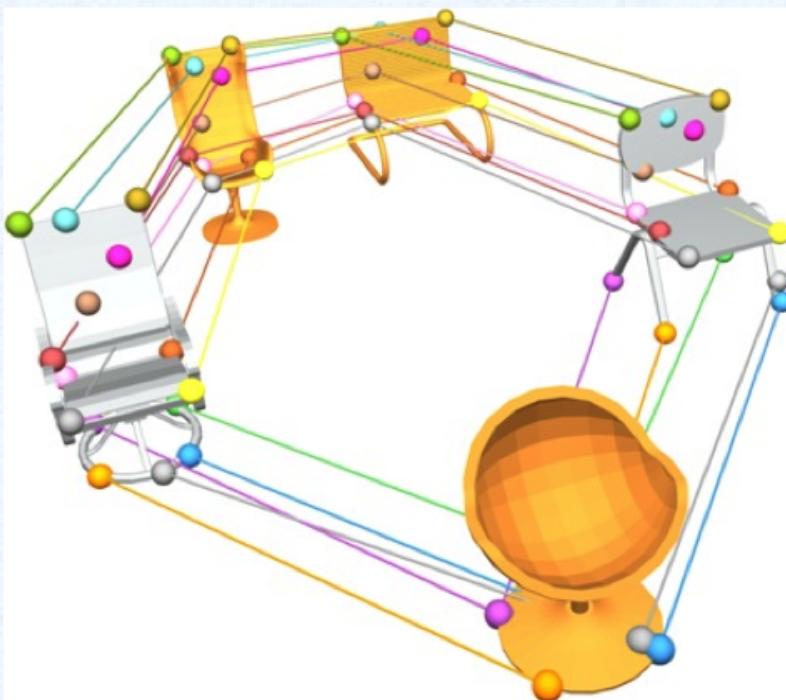


Input Maps

# Challenge 3: Missing Data

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- Incomplete Input Matches

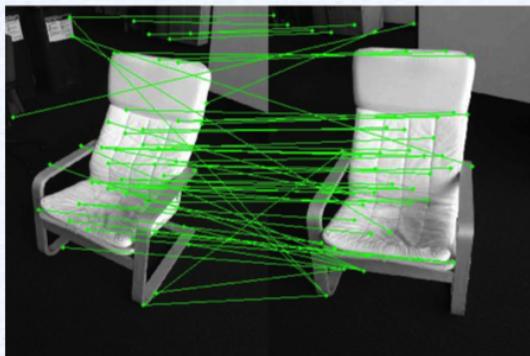


# Our Goal

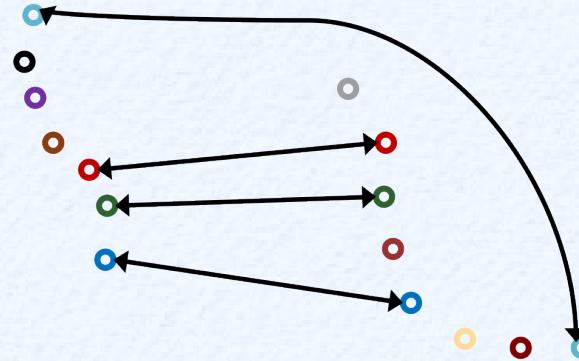
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- **Develop an effective joint recovery method**

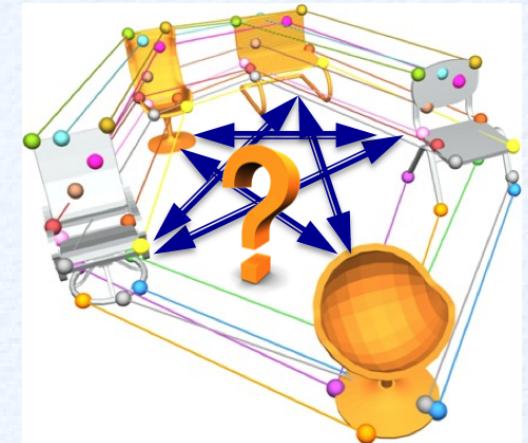
- strong theoretical guarantee (*address the 3 challenges*)
- parameter free
- computationally feasible



tolerate dense errors



handle partial similarity



fill in missing matches

# Matrix Representation

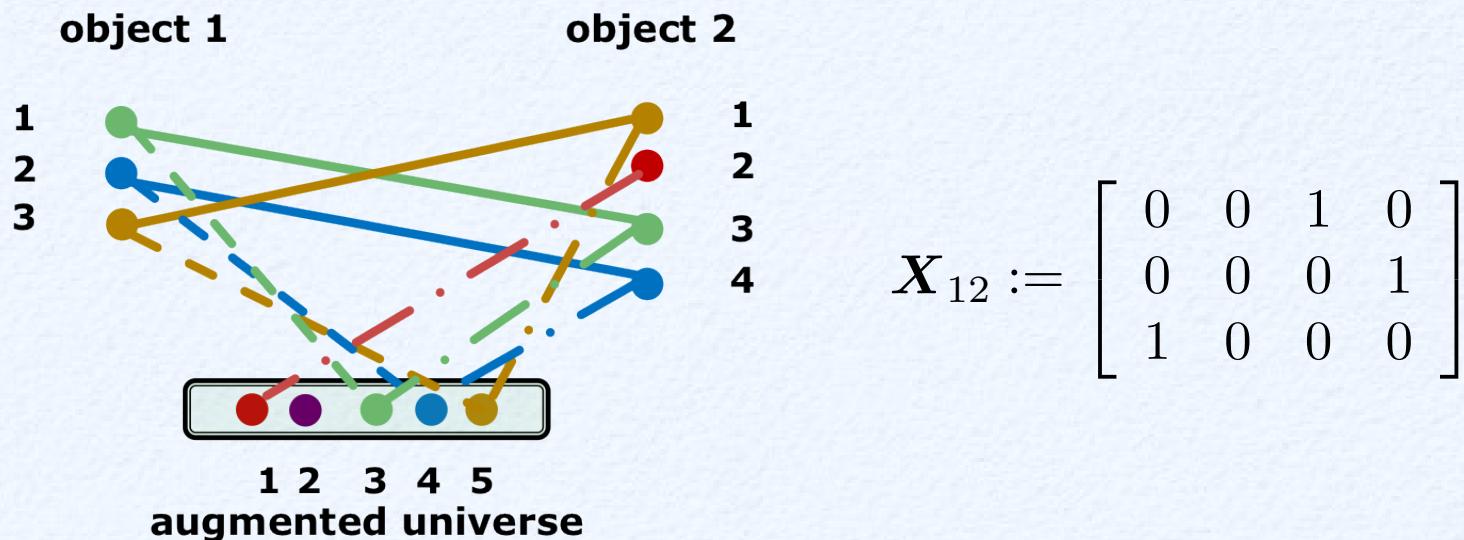
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- All objects / sets are sub-sampled from the same universe (of size  $m$ ).



# Matrix Representation

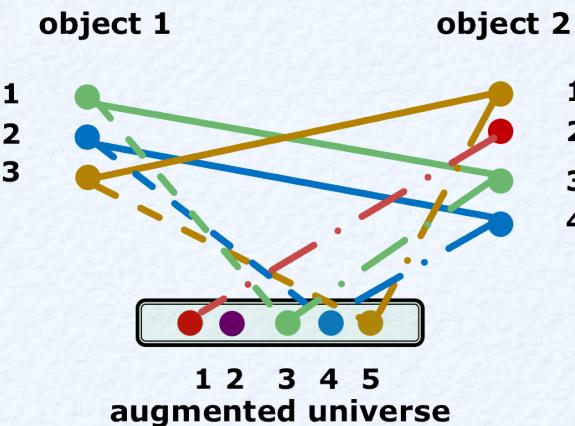
- All objects / sets are sub-sampled from the same universe (of size  $m$ ).



- Map matrix  $\mathbf{Y}_i$  between object  $i$  and the universe

$$\mathbf{Y}_1 := \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{m \text{ columns}}, \quad \mathbf{Y}_2 := \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{m \text{ columns}} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}_{12} = \mathbf{Y}_1 \mathbf{Y}_2^\top$$

# P.S.D. and Low-Rank Structure

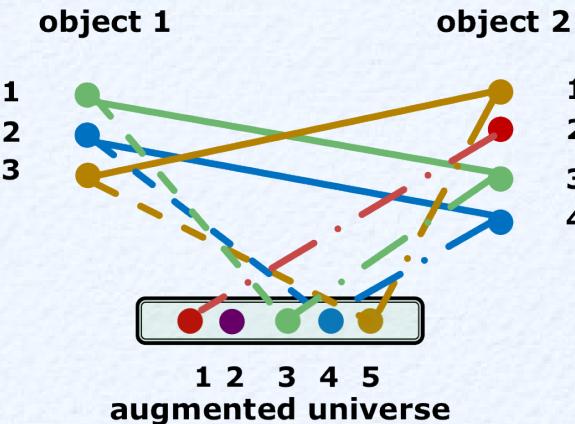


- Consider all  $n$  instances:

$$\mathbf{X} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{X}_{12} & \cdots & \mathbf{X}_{1n} \\ \mathbf{X}_{21} & \mathbf{I} & \cdots & \mathbf{X}_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{X}_{n1} & \mathbf{X}_{n2} & \cdots & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y}_1 \\ \mathbf{Y}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{Y}_n \end{bmatrix}}_{m \text{ columns}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y}_1^\top & \mathbf{Y}_2^\top & \cdots & \mathbf{Y}_n^\top \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0;$$

# P.S.D. and Low-Rank Structure

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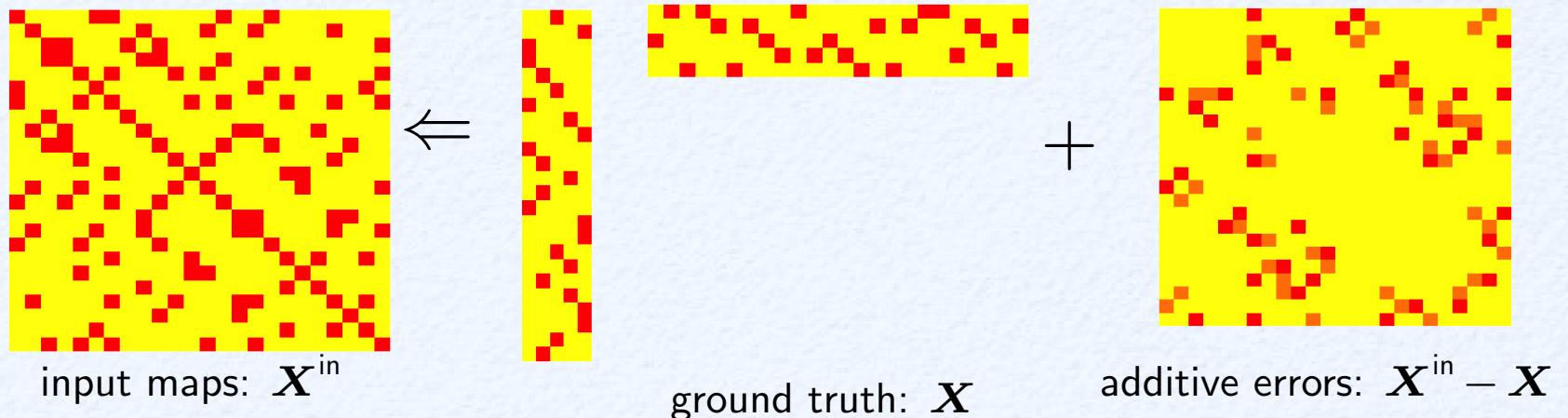
- Consider all  $n$  instances:

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- **low rank:**  $\text{rank}(X) \leq m$ .
  - $m$ : universe size

# Low Rank + Sparse Matrix Separation?

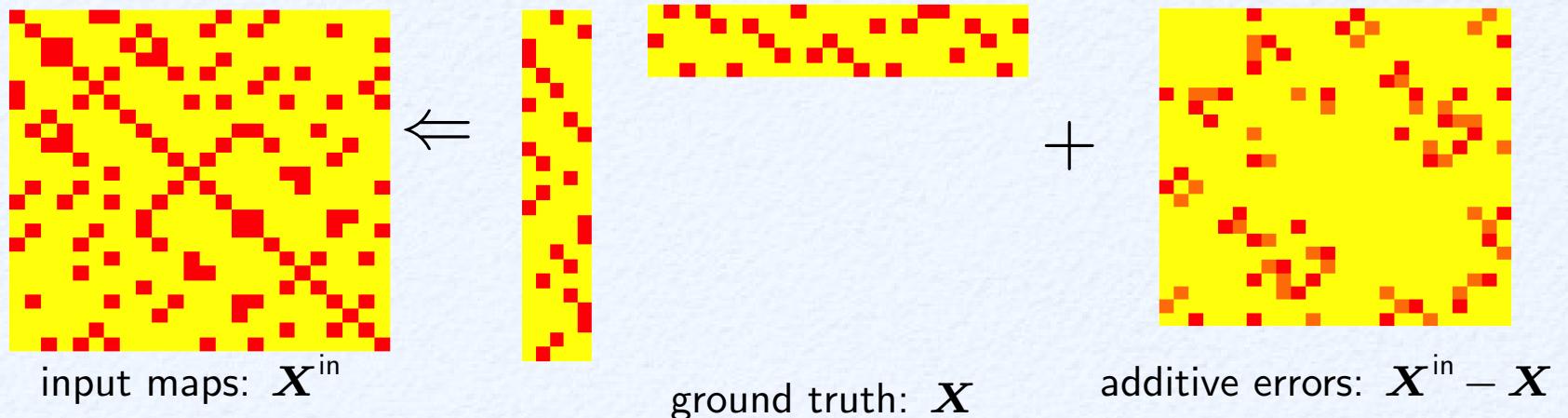
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- Robust PCA ? (Candes et al, Chandrasekaran et al)

# Low Rank + Sparse Matrix Separation?

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- Robust PCA ? (Candes et al, Chandrasekaran et al)
- Input errors are highly biased
  - *Cannot apply Chen et al (need random sign pattern)*

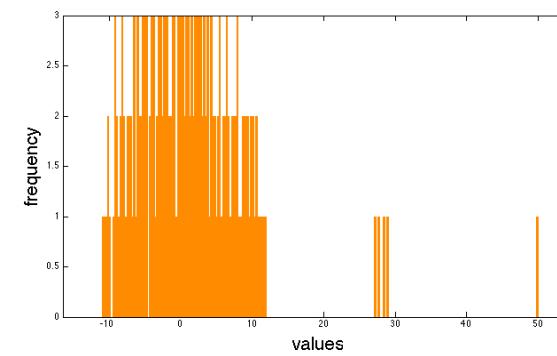
# Debias the Error Components

## Augmented Form

$$\begin{bmatrix} m & \mathbf{1}^\top \\ \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{X} \end{bmatrix} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}^\top \\ \mathbf{Y}_1 \\ \mathbf{Y}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{Y}_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{Y}_1^\top & \cdots & \mathbf{Y}_n^\top \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0$$

- Equivalently,

$$\mathbf{X} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{m} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^\top}_{\text{debiasing}} \succeq 0.$$



- $m$  (universe size) can be estimated via spectral method!

# MatchLift: tractable convex programming

## MatchLift

$$\text{minimize}_{\mathbf{X}} \quad - \underbrace{\langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}^{\text{in}} \rangle}_{\text{agreement to inputs}} + \lambda \underbrace{\langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top \rangle}_{\text{promote sparsity}}$$

subject to  $\mathbf{X} \geq \mathbf{0}$ ,

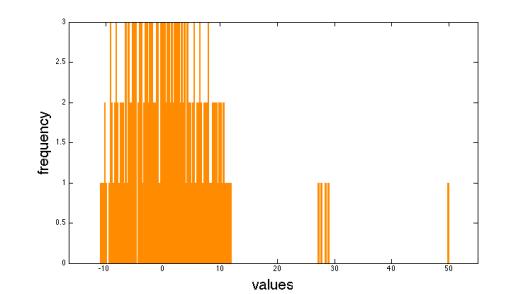
$$\begin{bmatrix} m & \mathbf{1}^\top \\ \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{X} \end{bmatrix} \succeq \mathbf{0},$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{ii} = \mathbf{I}.$$

- Efficient Semidefinite Program

# Two-Step Procedure: MatchLift

## 1. Pre-Estimate $m$ :



### Spectral Method

- $m \leftarrow \# \text{ dominant eigenvalues of } \mathbf{X}^{\text{in}}$

## 2. Joint Matching via Convex Relaxation:

### Convex Programming

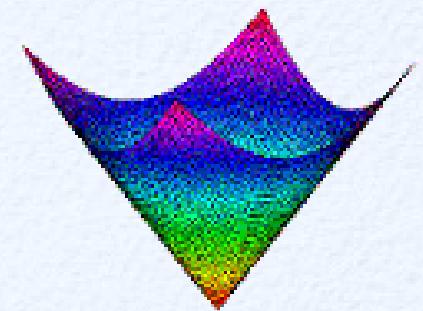
$$\underset{\mathbf{X}}{\text{minimize}} \quad - \langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}^{\text{in}} \rangle + \lambda \langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^T \rangle$$

subject to

$$\mathbf{X} \geq \mathbf{0},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{m} & \mathbf{1}^T \\ \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{X} \end{bmatrix} \succeq \mathbf{0},$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{ii} = \mathbf{I}.$$



# Exact Recovery under Randomized Model

$$\text{minimize}_{\mathbf{X}} \quad -\langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}^{\text{in}} \rangle + \lambda \langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top \rangle, \quad \text{s.t. feasible}$$

## Theorem

MatchLift with  $\lambda = \sqrt{p_{\text{obs}}}$  is exact with high probability if

$$p_{\text{true}} \gtrsim \frac{\log^2(mn)}{p_{\text{set}}^2 \sqrt{p_{\text{obs}} n}}$$

- Parameter-free
  - MatchLift is insensitive to  $\lambda$

# Exact Recovery under Randomized Model

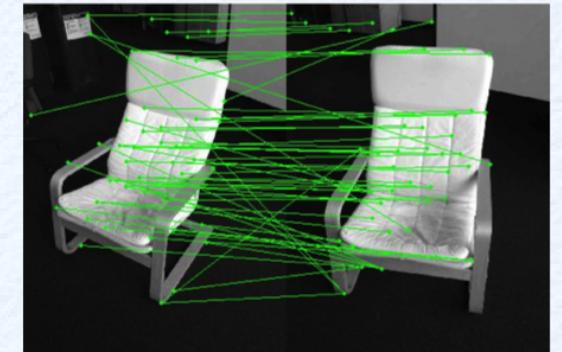
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$$\underbrace{p_{\text{true}}}_{\text{non-corruption rate}} \gtrsim \frac{\log^2(mn)}{p_{\text{set}}^2 \sqrt{p_{\text{obs}}} n}$$

- **Parameter-free**
  - *MatchLift is insensitive to  $\lambda$*
- **Dense Error Correction**



$$\text{error correction ability} \approx 1 - 1/\sqrt{n}$$

when  $p_{\text{set}}$  and  $p_{\text{obs}}$  are constants.

# Exact Recovery under Randomized Model

$$\text{minimize}_{\mathbf{X}} \quad -\langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}^{\text{in}} \rangle + \lambda \langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top \rangle, \quad \text{s.t. feasible}$$

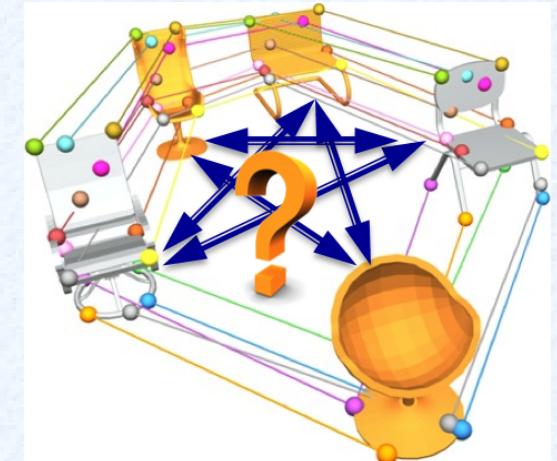
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$$p_{\text{true}} \gtrsim \frac{\log^2(mn)}{p_{\text{set}}^2 \sqrt{\underbrace{p_{\text{obs}}}_\text{observation ratio} n}}$$

- **Incomplete Input Matches**

- *Error correction ability decays at rate  $1/\sqrt{p_{\text{obs}}}$*



# Exact Recovery under Randomized Model

$$\text{minimize}_{\mathbf{X}} \quad -\langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}^{\text{in}} \rangle + \lambda \langle \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top \rangle, \quad \text{s.t. feasible}$$

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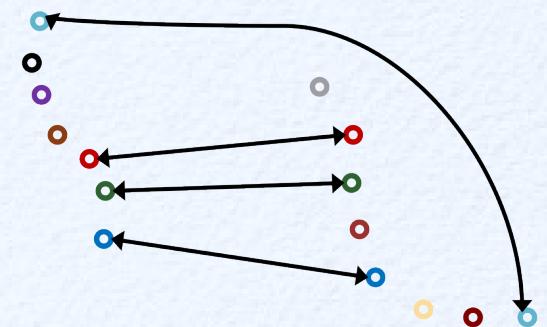
$$p_{\text{true}} \gtrsim \frac{\log^2(mn)}{\underbrace{p_{\text{set}}^2}_{\text{fraction of each object being disclosed}}} \sqrt{p_{\text{obs}}n}$$

- **Incomplete Input Matches**

- *Error correction ability decays at rate  $1/\sqrt{p_{\text{obs}}}$*

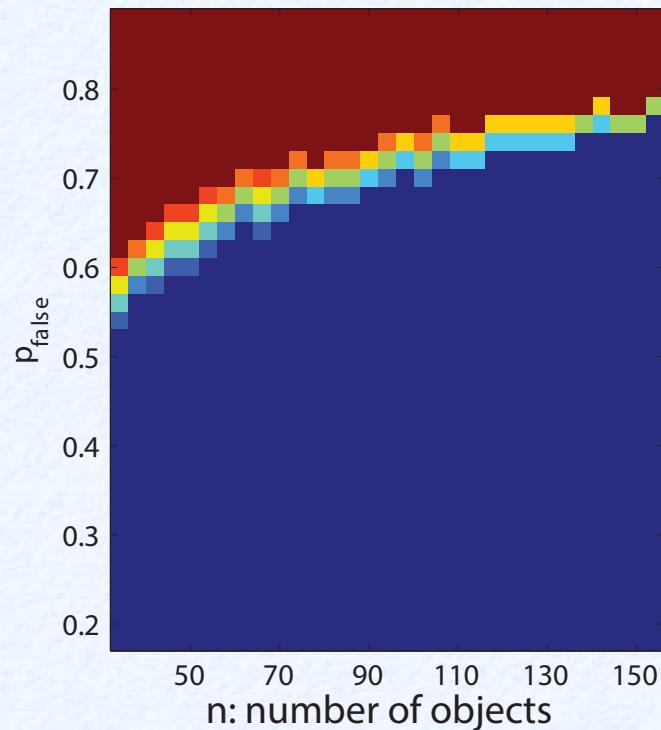
- **Partial Similarity**

- *Error correction ability decays at rate  $1/p_{\text{set}}^2$*

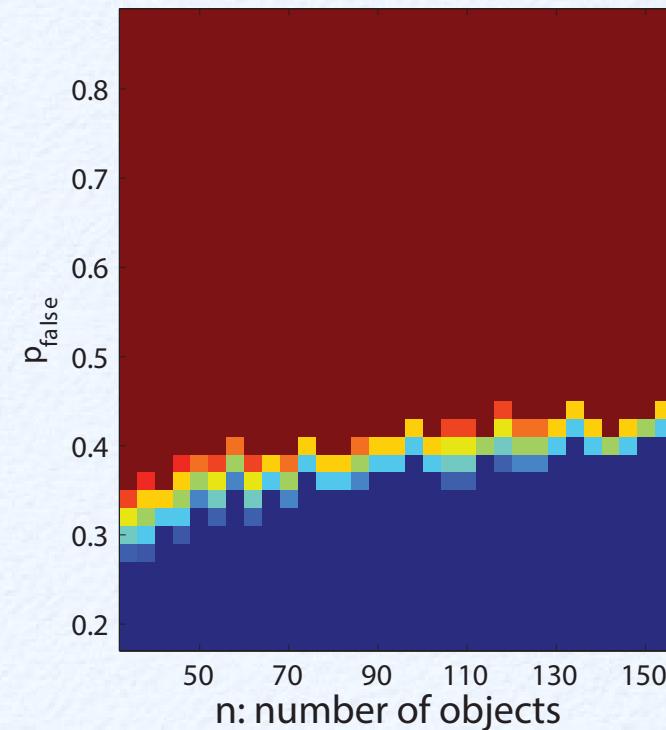


# Phase Transition

- Synthetic Data (input error rate v.s. # objects)

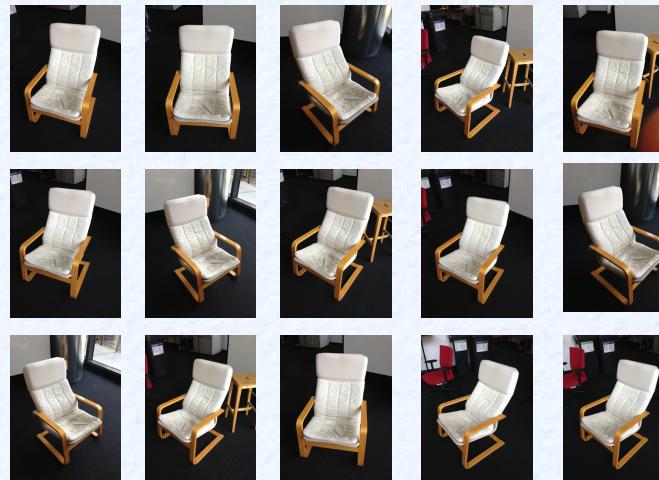


MatchLift

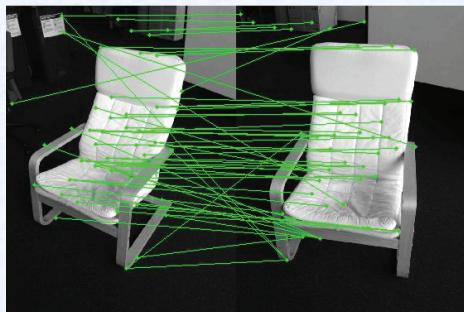


Robust PCA

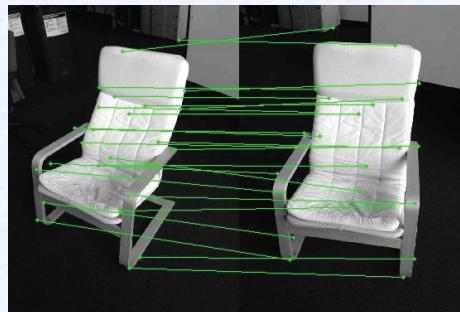
# Benchmark: Chairs



benchmark



initial maps



optimized maps

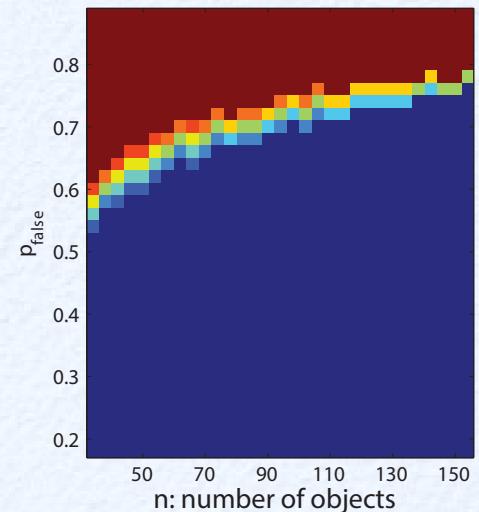
Input	MatchLift	RPCA	Leordeanu et al. 12
64.1%	100%	90.1%	94.8%

# Concluding Remarks

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- **MatchLift**

- Parameter Free
- Dense error correction (*near-optimal when  $m = \Theta(1)$* )
- Allow partial similarity
- Missing inputs



- **Paper: Near-Optimal Joint Object Matching via Convex Relaxation**

- Yuxin Chen, Leonidas Guibas, and Qixing Huang

**Thank You! Questions?**

# Optimality of MatchLift

## Theorem (ChenGuibasHuang'14)

MatchLift with  $\lambda = \sqrt{p_{\text{obs}}}$  is exact with high probability if

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- Is MatchLift Optimal?

# Optimality of MatchLift

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- Is MatchLift Optimal?
- Fundamental Limits under Random Measurement Graphs
  - *Erdos-Renyi Graph  $\mathcal{G}(n, p_{\text{obs}})$*

## Theorem (ChenGoldsmith'14)

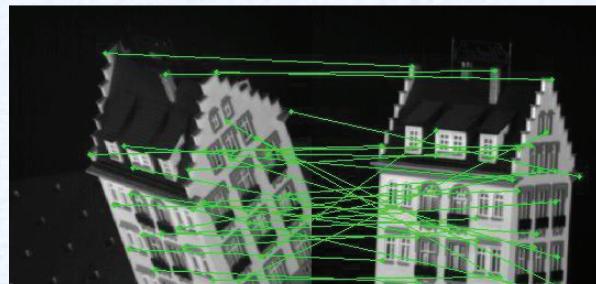
If the universe size  $m$  is a constant, then

No method works if  $p_{\text{true}} \lesssim \frac{1}{\sqrt{p_{\text{obs}} n}} (\approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{\text{avg-degree}}})$

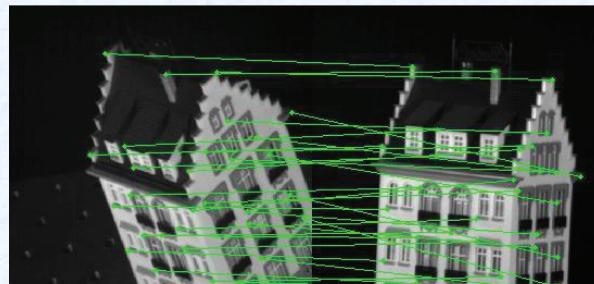
# Benchmark: CMU Hotel



benchmark



initial maps



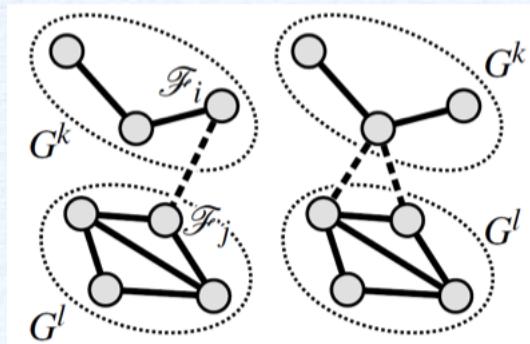
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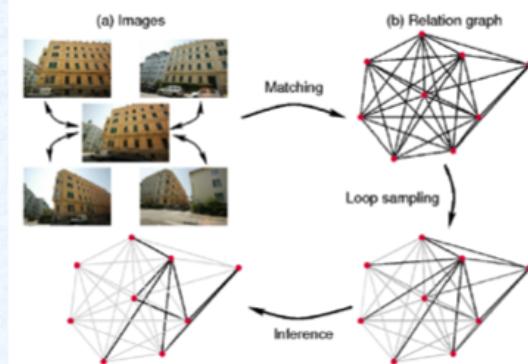
# Prior Art

- Empirical Advances

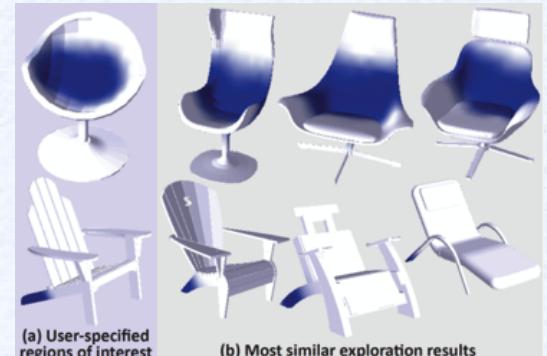
- little fundamental understanding
- rely on hyper-parameter tuning



spanning tree opt [Huber'02]



detect inconsistent cycle [Zach'10, Ngu'11]



spectral [Kim'12, Huang'12]

- Fundamental Understanding

- SDP (HuangGuibas'13), spectral methods (Pachauri et al'13)
- generic graph clustering methods (Jalali et al, Chen et al, ...)