

#### Practical Course: Vision Based Navigation

#### **Lecture 4: Structure from Motion (SfM)**

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### Topics Covered



- Introduction
	- − Structure from Motion (SfM)
	- − Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM)
- Bundle Adjustment
	- − Energy Function
	- − Non-linear Least Squares
	- − Exploiting the Sparse Structure
- Triangulation

#### Structure from Motion





Agarwal et al., "Building Rome in a day", ICCV 2009, "Dubrovnik" image set

- 3D reconstruction using a set of unordered images
- Requires estimation of 6DoF poses

#### Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM) THE



Engel et al., "LSD-SLAM: Large-Scale Direct Monocular SLAM", ECCV 2014

- Estimate 6DoF poses and map from sequential image data
- Update once new frames arrive

### Problem Definition SfM / Visual SLAM

Estimate camera poses and map from a set of images

• Input

Set of images  $I_{0:t} = \{I_0, I_1, ..., I_t\}$ 

#### Additional input possible

- Stereo
- Depth
- Inertial measurements
- Control input





fr3/long\_office\_household sequence, TUM RGB-D benchmark



Mur-Artal et al., 2015

• Output

Camera pose estimates  $\mathbf{T}_i \in \text{SE}(3)$ ,  $\mathbf{a}$ lso written as  $\boldsymbol{\xi}_i = (\log \mathbf{T}_i)^T$  $i \in \{0,1,...,t\}$ 

#### map *<sup>M</sup>*

## Typical SfM Pipeline



# Visual SLAM

 $SLAM \subset SHM$ , with special focus:

- Sequential image data
- Data arrives sequentially
- Preferably realtime
- More focus on trajectory

Technical solutions:

- Windowed optimization
- Selection of keyframes
- Removal of keyframes (e.g. marginalization)
- Detect loop closures for Accumulation of drift
- Global mapping in separate thread
- Pose graph optimization

**Odometry** 

- No global mapping
- Incremental tracking only
- Local map possible







#### Landmarks and Features





• The map consists of 3D locations of landmarks

$$
M = \{ \mathbf{m}_1, \mathbf{m}_2, \dots, \mathbf{m}_S \}
$$

• For image  $\tau$ , the set of 2D image coordinates of detected features is denoted

$$
Y_{\tau} = {\mathbf{y}_{\tau,1}, \mathbf{y}_{\tau,2}, ..., \mathbf{y}_{\tau,N}}
$$

• Known data association:

Feature  $i$  in image  $\tau$  corresponds to landmark  $j = c_{\tau,i}$  (  $1 \leq i \leq N, \, 1 \leq j \leq S$ )

## Bundle Adjustment Energy



$$
E(\xi_{0:t}, M) = \frac{1}{2} (\xi_0 \ominus \xi^0)^\top \Sigma_{0,\xi}^{-1} (\xi_0 \ominus \xi^0)
$$
  
Absolute pose prior  

$$
+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\tau=0}^t \sum_{i=1}^{N_\tau} \left( \mathbf{y}_{\tau,i} - h(\xi_\tau, \mathbf{m}_{c_{\tau,i}}) \right)^\top \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}_{\tau,i}}^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_{\tau,i} - h(\xi_\tau, \mathbf{m}_{c_{\tau,i}}))
$$
  
Reprojection  
error

- Pose prior: Fix absolute pose ambiguity
	- − In this case equivalent to keeping *ξ*<sup>0</sup> = *ξ*<sup>0</sup>
	- − Keep absolute pose information e.g. when first frame is marginalized
- Additional prior to fix scale ambiguity might be necessary



#### Energy Function as Non-linear Least Squares

 $\mathbf{x} :=$ 

*ξ*0

 $\ddot{\cdot}$ 

*ξt*

**m**<sup>1</sup>

 $\ddot{\cdot}$ 

 $m<sub>S</sub>$ 

• Residuals as function of state vector **x**

$$
\mathbf{r}_{t,i}^{0}(\mathbf{x}) := \xi_{0} \ominus \xi^{0}
$$

$$
\mathbf{r}_{t,i}^{y}(\mathbf{x}) := \mathbf{y}_{t,i} - h\left(\xi_{t}, \mathbf{m}_{c_{t,i}}\right)
$$

• Stack the residuals in a vector-valued function und collect the residual covariances on the diagonal blocks of a square matrix

$$
\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{x}) := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{r}^0(\mathbf{x}) \\ \mathbf{r}^y_{0,1}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{r}^y_{t,N_t}(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{W} := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{0,\xi}^{-1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{\Sigma}_{y_{0,1}}^{-1} & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \mathbf{\Sigma}_{y_{t,N_t}}^{-1} \end{pmatrix}
$$

• Rewrite energy function as

$$
E(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{r}(\mathbf{x})^{\top} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{r}(\mathbf{x})
$$

#### Recap: Gauss-Newton Method

- Idea: Approximate Newton's method to minimize *E*(**x**)
	- Approximate  $E(\mathbf{x})$  through linearization of residuals

$$
\tilde{E}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{W} \tilde{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{x})
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{r} \left( \mathbf{x}_k \right) + \mathbf{J}_k \left( \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k \right) \right)^\top \mathbf{W} \left( \mathbf{r} \left( \mathbf{x}_k \right) + \mathbf{J}_k \left( \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k \right) \right)
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{r} \left( \mathbf{x}_k \right)^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{r} \left( \mathbf{x}_k \right) + \mathbf{r} \left( \mathbf{x}_k \right)^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{J}_k \left( \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k \right)^\top \mathbf{J}_k^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{J}_k \left( \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k \right)
$$
\n
$$
= \mathbf{b}_k^\top
$$

• Finding root of gradient as in Newton's method leads to update rule

$$
\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \tilde{E}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}_k^{\top} + (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_k)^{\top} \mathbf{H}_k
$$
  

$$
\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \tilde{E}(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{H}_k^{-1} \mathbf{b}_k
$$

$$
\boxed{\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{H}_k^{-1} \mathbf{b}_k}
$$

- Pros:
	- Faster convergence than gradient descent (approx. quadratic convergence rate)
- Cons:
	- Divergence if too far from local optimum ( $H$  not positive definite)
	- Solution quality depends on initial guess

#### Structure of the Bundle Adjustment Problem

 $\cdot$   $\mathbf{b}_k$  and  $\mathbf{H}_k$  sum terms from individual residuals:

$$
\mathbf{b}_{k} = \mathbf{b}_{k}^{0} + \sum_{\tau=0}^{t} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\tau}} \mathbf{b}_{k}^{\tau,i} = (\mathbf{J}_{k}^{0})^{\top} \Sigma_{0,\xi}^{-1} \mathbf{r}^{0} (\mathbf{x}_{k}) + \sum_{\tau=0}^{t} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\tau}} (\mathbf{J}_{k}^{\tau,i})^{\top} \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}_{\tau,i}}^{-1} \mathbf{r}^{\mathbf{y}}_{\tau,i} (\mathbf{x}_{k})
$$

$$
\mathbf{H}_{k} = \mathbf{H}_{k}^{0} + \sum_{\tau=0}^{t} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\tau}} \mathbf{H}_{k}^{\tau,i} = (\mathbf{J}_{k}^{0})^{\top} \Sigma_{0,\xi}^{-1} (\mathbf{J}_{k}^{0}) + \sum_{\tau=0}^{t} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\tau}} (\mathbf{J}_{k}^{\tau,i})^{\top} \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}_{\tau,i}}^{-1} (\mathbf{J}_{k}^{\tau,i})
$$

 $\mathbf{J}_k^0$ *<sup>k</sup>* Jacobian of pose prior

- $\mathbf{J}_k^{\tau,i}$ *<sup>k</sup>* Jacobian of residuals for feature *i* in image *τ*
- What is the structure of these terms?

#### Structure of the Bundle Adjustment Problem



 $$ *t* ∑ *τ*=0 *i*=1 *Nτ* ∑  $\mathbf{b}_k^{\tau,i}$  $\mathbf{x}_k^{t,i} = \left(\mathbf{J}_k^0\right)^{\top} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{0,\xi}^{-1} \mathbf{r}^0\left(\mathbf{x}_k\right) +$ *t* ∑ *τ*=0 *Nτ* ∑ *i*=1  $\left(\mathbf{J}_{k}^{\tau,i}\right)$ ⊤  $\sum_{\mathbf{y}_{\tau,i}}^{-1} \mathbf{r}_{\tau,i}^{\mathbf{y}}\left(\mathbf{x}_k\right)$ 

#### Structure of the Bundle Adjustment Problem



*τ*=0 *i*=1

*τ*=0 *i*=1

#### Example Hessian of a BA Problem



Landmark dimensions (982 landmarks)

Lourakis et al., 2009

Large, but sparse!

How to invert efficiently?



• Idea:

Apply the Schur complement to solve the system in a partitioned way

$$
\mathbf{H}_{k}\Delta\mathbf{x} = -\mathbf{b}_{k} \qquad \qquad \left(\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{H}_{\xi\xi} & \mathbf{H}_{\xi\mathbf{m}} \\ \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{m}\xi} & \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{m}\mathbf{m}} \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} \Delta\mathbf{x}_{\xi} \\ \Delta\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{m}} \end{array}\right) = -\left(\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{b}_{\xi} \\ \mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{m}} \end{array}\right)
$$

$$
\Delta\mathbf{x}_{\xi} = -\left(\mathbf{H}_{\xi\xi} - \mathbf{H}_{\xi\mathbf{m}}\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{m}\mathbf{m}}^{-1}\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{m}\xi}\right)^{-1} \left(\mathbf{b}_{\xi} - \mathbf{H}_{\xi\mathbf{m}}\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{m}\mathbf{m}}^{-1}\mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{m}}\right)
$$

$$
\Delta\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{m}} = -\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{m}\mathbf{m}}^{-1} \left(\mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{m}} + \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{m}\xi}\Delta\mathbf{x}_{\xi}\right)
$$

• Is this any better?



• What is the structure of the two sub-problems?

• Poses:  
\n
$$
\Delta x_{\xi} = -\left(\mathbf{H}_{\xi\xi} - \mathbf{H}_{\xi m} \mathbf{H}_{mm}^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{m\xi}\right)^{-1} \left(\mathbf{b}_{\xi} - \mathbf{H}_{\xi m} \mathbf{H}_{mm}^{-1} \mathbf{b}_{m}\right)
$$
\n
$$
\mathbf{H}_{\xi\xi} - \mathbf{H}_{\xi m} \mathbf{H}_{mm}^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{m\xi} = \mathbf{H}_{\xi\xi} - \sum_{j=1}^{S} \mathbf{H}_{\xi m_{j}} \mathbf{H}_{m_{j}m_{j}}^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{m_{j}\xi}
$$
\nReduced pose Hessian  
\n
$$
\mathbf{b}_{\xi} - \mathbf{H}_{\xi m} \mathbf{H}_{mm}^{-1} \mathbf{b}_{m} = \mathbf{b}_{\xi} - \sum_{j=1}^{S} \mathbf{H}_{\xi m_{j}} \mathbf{H}_{m_{j}m_{j}}^{-1} \mathbf{b}_{m_{j}}
$$

• What is the structure of the two sub-problems?



- What is the structure of the two sub-problems?
- Landmarks:



- Landmark-wise solution
- Comparably small matrix operations
- Only involves poses that observe the landmark







Camera on a moving vehicle (6375 images)



Flickr image search "Dubrovnik" (4585 images)

Agarwal et al., ECCV 2010

- Reduced pose Hessian can still have a sparse structure
- For many camera poses with many shared observations, the inversion of the reduced pose Hessian is still computationally expensive!
- Exploit further structure, e.g. using variable reordering or hierarchical decomposition

## Effect of Loop Closures on the Hessian



Full Hessian



Reduced pose Hessian



Band matrix



Before loop closure

## Effect of Loop Closures on the Hessian



Full Hessian

Reduced pose Hessian



No band matrix: costlier to solve



After loop closure

#### Further Considerations

Many methods to improve convergence / robustness / run-time efficiency, e.g.

- Use matrix decompositions (e.g. Cholesky) to perform inversions
- Levenberg-Marquardt optimization improves basin of convergence
- Heavier-tail distributions / robust norms on the residuals can be implemented using iteratively reweighted least squares
- Preconditioning
- Hierarchical optimization
- Variable reordering
- Delayed relinearization

#### **Triangulation**



- Find landmark position given the camera poses
- Ideally, the rays should intersect
- In practice, many sources of error: pose estimates, feature detections and camera model / intrinsic parameters

## **Triangulation**



- Goal: Reconstruct 3D point  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = (x, y, z, w)^{\top} \in \mathbb{P}^3$  from 2D image observations  $\{\mathbf{y}_1, ..., \mathbf{y}_N\}$  for known camera poses  $\{\mathbf{T}_1, ..., \mathbf{T}_N\}$
- Linear solution: Find 3D point such that reprojections equal its projection

For each image *i*, let 
$$
\mathbf{T}_i = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 \\ \mathbf{p}_2 \\ \mathbf{p}_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}
$$
 and  $\mathbf{y}_i = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}$ 

- Projecting 
$$
\tilde{\mathbf{x}}
$$
 yields  $\mathbf{y}'_i = \pi \left( \mathbf{T}_i \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 \tilde{\mathbf{x}} / \mathbf{p}_3 \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \\ \mathbf{p}_2 \tilde{\mathbf{x}} / \mathbf{p}_3 \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \end{pmatrix}$ 

- − Requiring  $y'_i = y_i$  gives two linear equations per image:
- $\mathbf{p}_1\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = u\mathbf{p}_3\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  $\mathbf{p}_2 \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = v \mathbf{p}_3 \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$
- $-$  Leads to system of linear equations  $\mathbf{A}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}=\mathbf{0},$  two approaches to solve:
	- $-$  Set  $w = 1$  and solve non-homogeneous least squares problem
	- − Find nullspace of  ${\bf A}$  using SVD, then scale such that  $w=1$
- Non-linear least squares on reprojection errors (more accurate):
- Different solutions for different methods in the presence of noise

$$
\min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_i'||_2^2 \right\}
$$

#### **Exercises**

Exercise sheet 4

- Implement components of SfM pipeline
- BA: Ceres can do the Schur complement ·
- Triangulation: use OpenGV's triangulate function

```
ceres::Solver::Options ceres_options;
ceres options.max num iterations = 20;
ceres options.linear solver type =
ceres::SPARSE_SCHUR;
ceres options.num threads = 8;
ceres::Solver::Summary summary;
Solve(ceres_options, &problem, 
&summary);
std::cout << summary.FullReport() <<
std::endl;
```
Next slide

Exercise sheet 5

- Implement components of odometry
- Similar to sheet 4, but:
	- − More efficient 2D-3D matching using approximate pose of previous frame
	- − New keyframe if number of matches too small
	- − New landmarks by triangulation from stereo pair
	- − Keep runtime bounded by removing old keyframes



#### пm

iterations: 20.)

Termination: NO\_CONVERGENCE (Maximum number of iterations reached. Number of

#### Summary

SfM

- Estimate map and camera poses from set of images
- SLAM: Sequential data, real-time
- Odometry: No global mapping

Bundle Adjustment

- Non-linear least squares problem
- Sparse structure of Hessian can be exploited for efficient inversion

**Triangulation** 

- Linear and non-linear algorithms
- Differences in the presence of noise