Discrete rigid transformation graph search for 2D image registration

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Motivation and clues

- Is it possible to avoid this re-digitization? Yes, use a fully discrete approach which allows to transform images pixel by pixel.
- How to explore explicitly such a discrete parameter space?

Rigid transformation on \mathbb{R}^2

Definition (Rigid transformation $\mathcal{T}: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$)

A rigid transformation is a bijection defined for any $\mathbf{x} = (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$, as

$$\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

with $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\theta \in [0, 2\pi[.$



Rigid transformation on \mathbb{Z}^2

Definition (Digital rigid transformation $T: \mathbb{Z}^2 \to \mathbb{Z}^2$)

A digital rigid transformation on \mathbb{Z}^2 is defined for any $oldsymbol{p}=(p,q)\in\mathbb{Z}^2$ as

$$T(\boldsymbol{p}) = D \circ \mathcal{T}(\boldsymbol{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} [p \cos \theta - q \sin \theta + a] \\ [p \sin \theta + q \cos \theta + b] \end{pmatrix}$$

where $D : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{Z}^2$ is digitization (a rounding function).



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Definition



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Definition

A **discrete rigid transformation** (DRT) is a set of all the rigid transformations that generate the same image.



The parameter space (a, b, θ) is partitioned in the disjoint set of DRTs.

Critical rigid transformations

Definition

A critical rigid transformation moves at least one point of \mathbb{Z}^2 to a point on the vertical or horizontal half-grid.



Tipping surfaces

Definition

The **tipping surfaces** are the surfaces associated to critical transformations in the parameter space (a, b, θ) :

$$a = k + \frac{1}{2} + q \sin \theta - p \cos \theta, \qquad (vertical)$$
$$b = l + \frac{1}{2} - p \sin \theta - q \cos \theta, \qquad (horizontal)$$

for $p, q, k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$.

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for $p, q, k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Each tipping surface

- is indexed by a triplet of integers (p, q, k) (resp. (p, q, l)),
- indicates that the pixel (p, q) in a transformed image changes its value from the one at (k, *) (resp. (*, l)) in an original image to the one at (k + 1, *) (resp. (*, l + 1)).

Example of tipping surfaces



Vertical surfaces Φ_{pqk} and horizontal ones Ψ_{pql} for $p, q \in [0, 2]$ and $k, l \in [0, 3]$. Soc

Tipping curves

Definition

The **tipping curves** are the orthogonal sections of vertical (resp. horizontal) tipping surfaces with respect to the axis a (resp. the axis b) on the plane :

$$a = k + \frac{1}{2} + q \sin \theta - p \cos \theta, \qquad (vertical)$$
$$b = l + \frac{1}{2} - p \sin \theta - q \cos \theta, \qquad (horizontal)$$
for p, q, k, l $\in \mathbb{Z}$.

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Example of tipping curves



Graph of discrete rigid transformations

Definition

A graph of discrete rigid transformations (DRT graph) is a graph G = (V, E) such that :

- each vertex $v \in V$ corresponds to a DRT,
- each edge $e \in E$ connects two DRTs sharing a tipping surface.



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- G models all the discrete rigid transformations with their topological information such that :
 - a vertex corresponds to each transformed image,
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- G models all the discrete rigid transformations with their topological information such that :
 - a vertex corresponds to each transformed image,
 - an edge corresponds to one pixel change, *i.e. a tipping surface*, (each edge posesses such pixel transition information).
- It enables to generate exhaustively and incrementally all the transformed images in a linear complexity.

Problem formulation

Given two images A and B of size $N \times N$, our image registration consists of finding a DRT such that

$$T^*_{v} = rg\min_{T_{v} \in \mathbb{T}} d(A, T_{v}(B))$$

where $\mathbb{T} = \{T_v \mid v \in V\}$ of all the DRTs, and *d* is a given distance between two images.

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Disadvantage

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Advantage

A local search on DRT graph can determine a local optimum.

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Local search on discrete rigid transformation graph

Algorithm (Local search)

- Input : An initial DRT $v_0 \in V$.
- **Output** : A local optimum $\hat{\mathbf{v}} \in V$.
- **Approach** : Gradient descent in a DRT graph G = (V, E).

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DRT graph provides

- **neighbourhood relation** N(v),
- efficient computation of *d*.



Neighbourhood construction in a DRT graph

Algorithm (Obtain neighbourhood from a parameter set)

- **Input** : A DRT v and its representative parameter triplet $P(v) = (a_v, b_v, \theta_v)$
- **Output** : Its neighbourhood N(v).

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- Approach : In the (dual) parameter space, find the closest tipping surfaces (edges in the primal) around P(v) by using the properties of dual DRTs, i.e. 3D cells (a- and b-convexity (Ngo et al., 2013)).



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Complexity : $O(mN^2)$ where *m* is the size of N(v).

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Neighbourhood construction in a DRT graph (cont.)

Algorithm (Find a representative parameter set associated to a DRT)

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Neighbourhood construction in a DRT graph (cont.)

Algorithm (Find a representative parameter set associated to a DRT)

- Input : A DRT v.
- **Output** : its representative parameter triplet $P(v) = (a_v, b_v, \theta_v)$.
- Approach : In the (dual) parameter space, find P(v) from 4N² tipping surfaces associated to v by using the properties of dual DRTs, i.e. 3D cells (a- and b-convexity (Ngo et al., 2013).)



Neighbourhood construction in a DRT graph (cont.)

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DRT graph neighbourhood size

• Theoretically, DRT graph neighbourhood size $m = O(N^2)$.

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DRT graph neighbourhood size

- Theoretically, DRT graph neighbourhood size $m = O(N^2)$.
- In practice, *m* is **bounded by a small constant** (observed from 960 experiments for images of size from 5 × 5 to 80 × 80).



k-Neighbourhood and its construction

Definition

$$N^k(v) = N^{k-1}(v) \cup \bigcup_{u \in N^{k-1}(v)} N(u)$$

where $N^{1}(v) = N(v)$.



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Experiment 1



(a) Reference image



(b) Target image



(c) Initial solution



(d) 1-neighbourhood



(e) 3-neighbourhood



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Experiment 1 (cont.)



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Experiments

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Experiment 1 (cont.)

Transformed image sequence by using 3-neighbours.

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Experiment 2



(c) 1-neighbourhood

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Experiment 2



(d) 3-neighbourhood \rightarrow $\leftarrow \equiv \rightarrow$ $\leftarrow \equiv \rightarrow$ \rightarrow

Experiments

Experiment 2 (cont.)

Sequences of distances and transformation parameters (only for 3-neighbofhoord) during iteration.



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Improve the theoretical upper bound for m, which is so far $O(N^2)$.

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Perspectives

- Improve the theoretical upper bound for m, which is so far $O(N^2)$.
- Combine our proposed method with other combinatorial approaches.
- Extend to higher dimensions, and gray-level or labeled images.