Perceiving 3D from 2D Images

How can we derive 3D information from one or more 2D images?

There have been 2 approaches:
1. Intrinsic images: a 2D representation that stores some 3D properties of the scene
2. 3D shape from X: methods of inferring 3D depth information from various sources

What can you determine about
1. the sizes of objects
2. the distances of objects from the camera?

What knowledge do you use to analyze this image?

What objects are shown in this image?
How can you estimate distance from the camera?
What feature changes with distance?

Intrinsic Images: 2.5 D

The idea of intrinsic images is to label features of a 2D image with information that tells us something about the 3D structure of the scene.

Contour Labels for Intrinsic Images

- convex crease (+)
- concave crease (-)
- blade (>)
- limb (>>)
- shadow (S)
- illumination boundary (I)
- reflectance boundary (M)

Labeling Simple Line Drawings

- Huffman and Clowes showed that blocks world drawings could be labeled (with +, -, >) based on real world constraints.
- Labeling a simple blocks world image is a consistent labeling problem!
- Waltz extended the work to cracks and shadows and developed one of the first discrete relaxation algorithms, known as Waltz filtering.
Simple Blocks World Constraints for Objects with Trihedral Junctions

There are only 16 topologically possible junctions for this class of images. Huffman/Clowes categorized these.

L’s

arrows

forks

T’s

2 Interpretations

Line Drawing Labeling

Given a line drawing extracted from an image, find the correct labeling(s).

Automatic Labeling

Finding a legal labeling can be done by:
1. tree search with backtracking when a node is inconsistent
2. Waltz filtering or discrete relaxation

Problems with this Approach

• Research on how to do these labelings was confined to perfect blocks world images
• There was no way to extend it to real images with missing segments, broken segments, nonconnected junctions, etc.
• It led some groups down the wrong path for a while.

3D Shape from X

• shading
• silhouette
• texture
• stereo
• light striping
• motion

mainly research
used in practice
This is the axis of the real image plane. O is the center of projection. This is the axis of the front image plane, which we use.

Here camera coordinates equal world coordinates.

Disparity: the difference in image location of the same 3D point when projected under perspective to two different cameras.

For stereo cameras with parallel optical axes, focal length f, baseline b, corresponding image points (x_l,y_l) and (x_r,y_r) with disparity d:

$$z = \frac{f^2b}{d} \quad x = \frac{x_l z}{f} \quad y = \frac{y_l z}{f}$$

This method of determining depth from disparity is called triangulation.

Find the correspondence is correct, triangulation works VERY well.

But correspondence finding is not perfectly solved for the general stereo problem.

For some very specific applications, it can be solved for those specific kind of images, e.g. windshield of a car.
2 Main Matching Methods

1. Cross correlation using small windows.

2. Symbolic feature matching, usually using segments/corners.

Epipolar Geometry Constraint: 1. Normal Pair of Images

The epipolar plane cuts through the image plane(s) forming 2 epipolar lines.

The match for P1 (or P2) in the other image, must lie on the same epipolar line.

Epipolar Geometry: General Case

Epipolar Geometry:
General Case

Constraints

1. Epipolar Constraint:
Matching points lie on corresponding epipolar lines.

2. Ordering Constraint:
Usually in the same order across the lines.

Structured Light

3D data can also be derived using

- a single camera
- a light source that can produce stripe(s) on the 3D object

Structured Light
3D Computation

3D data can also be derived using

- a light source
- a light source that can produce stripe(s) on the 3D object

3D point

\( \mathbf{f} \)

\( (x, y, z) \)

\( (0,0,0) \)

\( x' \)

Light source

Camera

3D point

\( \mathbf{b} \)

\( \mathbf{f} \cot \theta - x' \)

Image
Depth from Multiple Light Stripes

What are these objects?

Our (former) System
4-camera light-stripping stereo

[Image of objects and light patterns]

[Image of 4-cameras on a table]