Surface Registration

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The problem

- 3D scanning generates multiple range images
- Each contain 3D points for different parts of the model in the local coordinates of the scanner
- Find a rigid transformation (rotation + translation) for each scan to align them in the same reference system



Registration

- 1. Rough alignment (manual or automatic)
- 2. Pair-wise refinement by ICP (Iterative Closest Point)
- 3. Global registration



Rough Alignment

- Different solutions to find corresponding points among the range scans
 - Manually by point picking (MeshLab)
 - Some scanner automatically during the acquisition using markers
 - Automatically after the acquisition
- Compute the best align matrix between the correspondence point





Best-fitting Rigid Transformation

 Given the point set p and q, to compute the rotation matrix and the translation vector that minimize the point-to-point error function E

 $\mathbf{p} = \{\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n\} \qquad \mathbf{q} = \{\mathbf{q}_1, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n\}$ $E = \sum_{i=1}^n \|\mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}_i + \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{q}_i\|^2$ $\min_{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{t}} E \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}, \ \mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{R}^3$

Best-fitting Rigid Transformation

1. Compute centroid

$$\bar{\mathbf{p}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{p}_i \qquad \bar{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{q}_i$$

2. Compute bary-centered point set

$$\hat{\mathbf{p}}_i = \mathbf{p}_i - \bar{\mathbf{p}}$$
 $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_i = \mathbf{q}_i - \bar{\mathbf{q}}$

3. Compute covariance matrix

$$\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q}^{T}$$
$$\mathbf{P} = (\hat{p}_{0}\dots\hat{p}_{n}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 3}, \mathbf{Q} = (\hat{q}_{0}\dots\hat{q}_{n}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 3}$$

Best-fitting Rigid Transformation

4. Compute Singular Value Decomposition of covariance matrix

$$\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^T$$

5. Compute Rotation

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{V}^T$$

6. Compute Translation

$$\mathbf{t} = \bar{p} - \mathbf{R}\bar{q}$$

- Input: two point clouds P and Q in arbitrary initial poses, with unknown percentage of overlap regions. The point clouds can present significant amount of noise and outliers
- Output: a transformation T aligning P to Q with a probabilistic approach
- The algorithm is completely automatic





- Observations
 - A pair of triplet (from P and Q) is enough to uniquely define a rigid transformation
 - A special set of 4 points, congruent sets, makes the problem simpler
 - Affine transformations preserve collinearity and ratios of distances





- Proposed approach
 - 1. Select coplanar base (4 points from P)
 - Select 3 point from P at random and find the 4th point to ensure coplanarity
 - Initial guess of the overlaps between P and Q to limit the maximum distance among the points of the coplanar base
 - 2. Find congruent point in Q
 - 3. Estimate rigid transformation

Extracting Congruent 4-points







Extracting Congruent 4-points







Extracting Congruent 4-points







Extracting Congruent 4-points







Ο

 \mathbf{q}_4

Extracting Congruent 4-points

 \mathbf{q}_1 ()

 $\bigcirc \mathbf{q}_2$

 $\circ_{\mathbf{q}_3}$

Extracting Congruent 4-points



Extracting Congruent 4-points



Extracting Congruent 4-points



Align 3D data

 If correct correspondences are known, we can find correct relative rotation/translation



Align 3D data

- How to find correspondences: user input? feature detection?
- Alternative: assume closest points correspond



Align 3D data

- ... and iterate to find alignment Iterative Closest
 Points (ICP) [Bels et al., PAMI92]
- Converges if starting position "close enough"



ICP

- Pairwise alignment of mesh P and Q
 - 1. Select sample point from one mesh or both
 - 2. Match each to closest point on other scan
 - 3. Reject bad correspondences
 - 4. Compute transformation that minimizes the error metric
 - 5. Iterate until convergence

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Sample selection

- All the points
- Random Sampling
- Uniform Sampling
- Stable Sampling
 - Select samples that constrain all degrees of freedom of the rigid-body transformation



UNIFORM SAMPLING



[Gelfand et al., 3DIM03]

Stable sampling

• Aligning transform is given by $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$ where

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{p}_1 \times \mathbf{n}_1)^T & \mathbf{n}_1^T \\ (\mathbf{p}_2 \times \mathbf{n}_2)^T & \mathbf{n}_2^T \\ \cdots & \cdots \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times n} \ \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{r} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^6 \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -(\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{q}_1)^T \mathbf{n}_1 \\ -(\mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{q}_2)^T \mathbf{n}_2 \\ \cdots \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

• Covariance matrix $C = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$ determines the change in error when surfaces are moved from optimal alignment

Stable sampling

• Eigenvectors of C with small eigenvalues correspond to sliding transformations



2 translations, 1 rotation



3 rotations



1 rotation, 1 translation



[Gelfand et al., 3DIM03]

Stable sampling

- Select points to prevent small eigenvalues
 - Based on C obtained from sparse sampling

- Simpler variant: normal-space sampling select points with uniform distribution of normals
 - Pro: faster, does not require eigenanalysis
 - Con: only constrains translation

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Points Matching

- Finding Closest point is most expensive stage of the ICP algorithm
 - Brute force search O(n)
 - Spatial data structure (e.g., k-d tree) O(log n)



Points Matching

Alternative: Normal Shooting



Points Matching

 Alternative for range map: Projection Project the point onto the destination mesh from the point of view of the destination camera



ICP

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Rejecting Pairs

- Corresponding points with point to point distance higher than a given threshold.
- Rejection of worst n% pairs based on some metric.
- Pairs containing points on mesh border.
- Rejection of pairs that are not consistent with their neighboring pairs
- Pair with not consistent normal

DISTANCE BORDER



ICP

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Error metric

 Point-to-Point error metric (minimization with a direct method)

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\| \mathbf{R} \mathbf{p}_i + \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{q}_i \right\|^2$$

 Point-to-Plane error metric (flat regions can slide along each other, then faster convergence)

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\left(\mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}_{i} + \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{q}_{i} \right) \mathbf{n}_{i} \right)^{2}$$





 Doesn't exist a closed form to minimize this error metric because rotation is not a linear function

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\left(\mathbf{R}\mathbf{p}_i + \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{q}_i \right) \mathbf{n}_i \right)^2$$

n

We can make the problem linear assuming small rotation

$$\cos\theta \approx 1$$
$$\sin\theta \approx \theta$$

We can make the problem linear assuming small rotation

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_{z}(\gamma)\mathbf{R}_{y}(\beta)\mathbf{R}_{x}(\alpha)$$
$$\mathbf{R}_{x}(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha \\ 0 & \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{R}_{y}(\beta) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \beta & 0 & \sin \beta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \beta & 0 & \cos \beta \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{R}_{z}(\gamma) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \gamma & -\sin \gamma & 0 \\ \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\cos \theta \approx 1$$
$$\sin \theta \approx \theta \qquad \qquad \mathbf{R} \approx \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\gamma & \beta \\ \gamma & 1 & -\alpha \\ -\beta & \alpha & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Linearize

$$E \approx \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left((\mathbf{p}_{i} - \mathbf{q}_{i})^{T} \mathbf{n}_{i} + \mathbf{r}^{T} (\mathbf{p}_{i} \times \mathbf{n}_{i}) + \mathbf{t}^{T} \mathbf{n}_{i} \right)^{2}$$
$$\mathbf{r}^{T} = (\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$$

Result: overconstrained linear system

Overconstrained linear system

$$Ax = b$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{p}_1 \times \mathbf{n}_1)^T & \mathbf{n}_1^T \\ (\mathbf{p}_2 \times \mathbf{n}_2)^T & \mathbf{n}_2^T \\ \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times n} \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{t} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^6 \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -(\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{q}_1)^T \mathbf{n}_1 \\ -(\mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{q}_2)^T \mathbf{n}_2 \\ \dots \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Solve using least squares

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$$
$$\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$$

Global registration

- Given: n scans around an object
- Goal: align them
- Want method for distributing accumulated error among all scans

Approach 1: Avoid the problem

- In some cases, have 1 (possibly low-resolution) scan that covers most surface
- Align all other scans to this "anchor"
- Disadvantage: not always practical to obtain anchor scan

Approach 2: The Greedy Solution

- Align each new scan to all previous scans [Masuda '96]
- Disadvantages:
 - Order dependent
 - Doesn't spread out error

Approach 3: The Brute-Force Solution

While not converged:

For each scan

For each point

For every other scan

Find closest point

- Minimize error w.r.t. transforms of **all** scans
- Disadvantage: Solve (6n)x(6n) matrix equation, where n is number of scans

Approach 4: The Less Brute-Force Solution

While not converged:

For each scan:

For each point:

For every other scan

Find closest point

- Minimize error w.r.t. transforms of this scans
- Faster than previous method (matrices are 6x6)

 Many global registration algorithms create a graph of pairwise alignments between scans (an edge for each pair of scans with enough overlapping)



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[Pulli et al., 3DIM99]
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- Pairwise registration between every view and each overlapping neighboring, record the corresponding points
- For each scan, starting with most connected

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Add most connect view in the queue
While (queue is not empty)
Align the current view with the neighbor in
the graph
If (change in error > threshold)
Add neighbors to the queue
```

 All alignments during global phase use precompute corresponding points.

Put most connected scan in the queue







 Select overlapping scans and use the correspondences of the pairwise alignment to estimate the new transformation



 If the change error is above a threshold put neighbors in the queue and iterate



Non-Rigid Registration

- More difficult problems
 - Deformation
 - Correspondences
 - Overlap
- Solution: global optimization via local refinement
 - Minimize the deformation energy
 - Minimize the alignment error
 - Maximize regions of overlaps





Images by [Li et al., SGP08]

Non-Rigid Registration

 $E = \alpha_{rigid} E_{rigid} + \alpha_{smooth} E_{smooth} + \alpha_{fit} E_{fit} + \alpha_{conf} E_{conf}$



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