

Object Recognition

- REPRESENTATION PROBLEM
2D & 3D OBJECT MODELING
SHAPE, COLOR, TEXTURE, ...
- MODEL ACQUISITION PROBLEM
- SEARCH PROBLEM
HOW TO SELECT IMAGE
FEATURES & INDEX
INTO DB of ALL OBJECTS
TO FIND BEST MATCH ?
⇒ SELECTION/SEGMENTATION
INDEXING
MATCHING (SIMILARITY)
CORRESPONDENCE
VERIFICATION

FEATURE
DETECTION
PERCEPTUAL
GROUPING

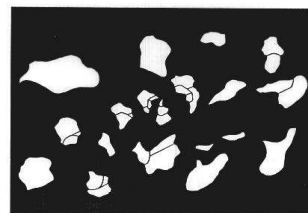
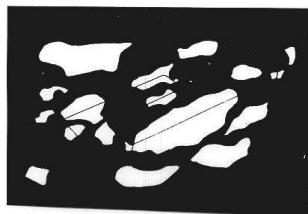
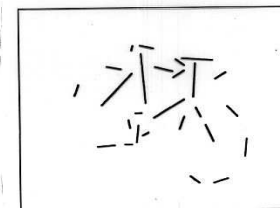


Figure 1. Recognition of a collection of small, dark, irregular shapes. The image is a black and white photograph of a collection of small, dark, irregular shapes scattered across a lighter background. The image is a black and white photograph of a collection of small, dark, irregular shapes scattered across a lighter background. The image is a black and white photograph of a collection of small, dark, irregular shapes scattered across a lighter background.





Lighting affects appearance



The "Margaret Thatcher Illusion" by Peter Thompson



The "Margaret Thatcher Illusion" by Peter Thompson

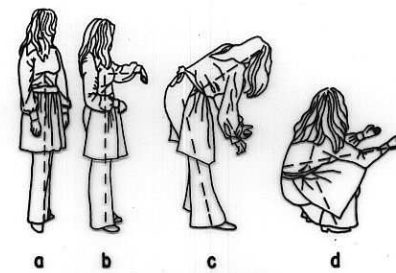


Figure 29. Four configurations of a nonrigid object.

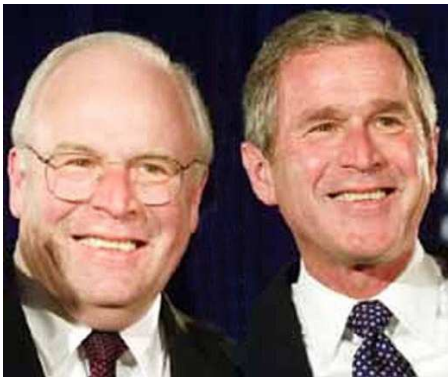
Recognition Problems

- What is it?
 - Object detection
- Who is it?
 - Recognizing identity
 - Object recognition
 - Category recognition
- What are they doing?
 - Activity recognition
- All of these are **classification** problems
 - Choose one class from a list of possible candidates

Face Detection



Face Recognition



P. Sinha and T. Poggio, Last but not least, *Perception* 31, 2002, 133.

3D OBJECT RECOGNITION FROM A SINGLE 2D IMAGE

- SOLUTION REQUIRES:
 - OBJECT IDENTIFICATION
 - VIEWPOINT IDENTIFICATION (POSE IDENTIFICATION)
- REQUIREMENTS:
 - INTERNAL MODEL OF OBJECT(\mathcal{V})
 - METHOD FOR SEARCHING "VIEWPOINT SPACE", i.e., SOLVE FOR ALL VIEWING PARAMETERS S.T. 2D IMAGE FEATURES BEST MATCH (FIT) PROJECTED 3D MODEL FEATURES
 - METHOD FOR PREDICTING APPEARANCE i.e., verify viewpoint consistency

What Makes Recognition Hard?

- Intrinsic variability within each class
- Pose variability
- Illumination variability
- Background variability
- Segmentation problem
 - What region within an image contains the object?
- Feature selection problem
 - What features describe shape and appearance?

UNKNOWN'S

DATA SELECTION:

WHAT SUBSET OF DATA
CORRESPONDS TO A SINGLE OBJECT?

OBJECT IDENTIFICATION:

WHICH OBJECT MODEL
CORRESPONDS TO DATA SUBSET

OBJECT INSTANCE:

FOR NON-RIGID OBJECTS OR OBJECT
CLASSES, SPECIFICATION OF THE
PARAMETERS THAT COMPLETELY
DESCRIBE A GIVEN LEGAL
INSTANCE OF OBJECT

FEATURE CORRESPONDENCE:

WHICH INDIVIDUAL MODEL
FEATURES CORRESPOND TO
EACH DATA FEATURE?

POSE: POSITION & ORIENTATION OF VIEWER
WRT OBJECT IN SCENE

RECOGNITION INVARIANTS

METHOD SHOULD BE INVARIANT UNDER

- VIEWPOINT INVARIANTS**
 - TRANSLATION
 - ROTATION
 - SCALE
 - PARTIAL OCCLUSION
(SELF & FROM OTHER OBJECTS)
- SENSOR INVARIANTS**
 - SENSOR NOISE
 - ILLUMINATION / SHADOWS
 - "LOCAL" ERRORS IN EARLY
PROCESSING MODULES
(E.G., EDGE DETECTION)
- OBJECT INVARIANTS**
 - INTRINSIC SHAPE "DISTORTIONS"
(E.G. ARTICULATED OBJECTS)

SEARCH SPACES

DATA SPACE: 2^n , $n = \# \text{ image features}$

OBJECT-MODEL SPACE: M , $\# \text{ models}$

MODEL-PARAMETERIZATION SPACE: d^k
where $k = \# \text{ parameters}$
 $d = \# \text{ values per parameter}$

CORRESPONDENCE SPACE: $(n+1)^n$
where $n = \# \text{ model features}$
 $n = \# \text{ image features}$
(assuming all n features part
of 1 object)

POSE SPACE: (TRANSFORMATION SPACE)

2D objects: 3D or 4D
(2: translation, 1 rotation, 1 scale)

3D objects:

Orthography: 5D
(2: viewing direction, 1: rotation in
image plane, 2: translation)

Perspective: 6D

(3: translation, 3: rotation)

MATCHING MODELS w/ IMAGES

2D-2D MATCH

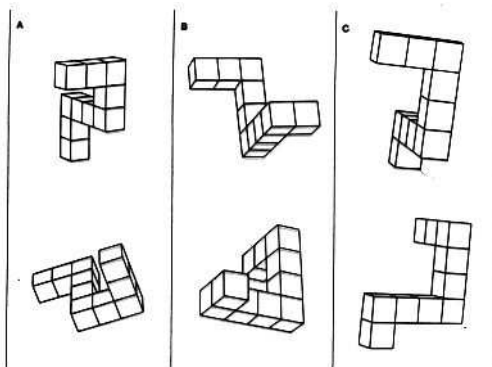
- SMALL # "CHARACTERISTIC VIEWS"
- MAY BE USEFUL FOR FAMILIAR OBJECTS w/ FEW "TYPICAL" VIEWS
- VIEWER-CENTERED MODELS

2D/3D MATCH

- RECOVER BOTTOM-UP FROM IMAGE(S)
2D to 3D DATA
E.G. STEREO
SHAPE-FROM-X [Biederman]
GEONS
GENERALIZED CYLINDERS [Marr]

2D-3D MATCH

- OBJECT-CENTERED MODELS
- VIEWPOINT-INVARIANT FEATURES
OR
VIEWPOINT-VARIANT FEATURES



METHOD 0: DIRECT APPROACH

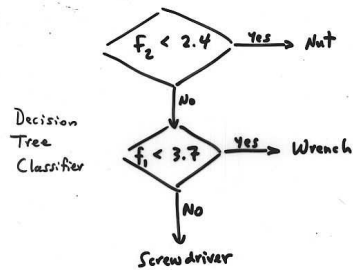
- FOR EACH ~~OBJECT~~ ^{MODEL}, STORE A SUFFICIENTLY LARGE NUMBER OF DIFFERENT VIEWS
- DEFINE A SIMILARITY MEASURE TO FIND BEST MATCH BETWEEN IMAGE DATA AND DIFFERENT VIEWS OF ALL OBJECT MODELS
E.G. CROSS-CORRELATION w/ A TEMPLATE
- DISADVANTAGES:
 - VERY LARGE SPACE OF POSSIBLE VIEWS (TRANSFORMATIONS)
 - BRUTE-FORCE SEARCH OF "POSE SPACE"
 - OBJECTS ~~SHOULD~~ ^{SHOULD} BE RECOGNIZED IN NOVEL VIEWS

EX. 2D position & 2D orientation invariant to 1 pixel and 1° \Rightarrow
 $512 \times 512 \times 360 \approx 90,000,000$ poses

METHOD 1: INVARIANT GLOBAL PROPERTIES

- SELECT A SET OF GLOBAL, INVARIANT PROPERTIES — EXPLOITS REGULARITIES ACROSS VIEWPOINTS — VIEWPOINT-INVARIANT FEATURES
E.G. COMPACTNESS (P/A), AREA (A), MOMENTS ($\sum x^2, \sum xy$)
- FEATURES MUST BE RELATIVELY SIMPLE TO COMPUTE \Rightarrow NEED PROCEDURE FOR DETECTING/COMPUTING EACH SUCH PROPERTY
- IF OBJECT'S PROPERTIES HAVE CHARACTERISTIC RANGES OF VALUES \Rightarrow POLYTOPE IN N-D FEATURE SPACE
- PATTERN RECOGNITION GIBSON SRI VISION MODULE
- ARE THERE INVARIANT FEATURES FOR REAL, 3D OBJECTS??

Given n -D feature vector, $\langle f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n \rangle$,
match w/ N possible objects:



A Geometric Invariant

CROSS RATIO

Given 4 points (x_i, y_i, z_i)
that are collinear in scene

let (x_{ik}, y_{ik}, z_{ik}) be the
perspective projection of those
4 points into an image.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cross Ratio} &= \frac{(x_3 - x_1)(x_4 - x_2)}{(x_3 - x_2)(x_4 - x_1)} \\ &= \frac{(x_{i3} - x_{i1})(x_{i4} - x_{i2})}{(x_{i3} - x_{i2})(x_{i4} - x_{i1})} \end{aligned}$$

and similarly for y 's.

\Rightarrow If we know coords of 3 collinear
points, we can compute coords of any
other point on same line from its image coords

Approximate Invariants

- Over a limited range of viewpoint variation
- Parallelism
- Collinearity
- Angle between a pair of lines
- Co-termination

MATCHING USING OCCULding CONTOURS

Kriegman & Ponce, 1990, PAMI

- Given: Smooth, 3D Shape
- Calculate (offline) the implicit
equation of the occluding contour
 $F(u, v, V) = 0$

- (For each aspect)

Solve for pose by minimizing
average distance between
model contour and image edges

$$\min \sum_i F^2(u_i, v_i, V)$$

where (u_i, v_i) are image edge pts.

(Nonlinear least-squares minimization
of an expression for the distance
b/w contour & image \Rightarrow
Iterative techniques)

Ex. Focus - Feature Table

"Focus" FEATURE: HOLE (i.e., CIRCLE)

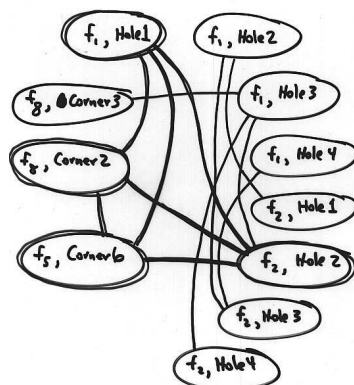
POSSIBLE OBJECT FEATURES: HOLE1 in OBJECT3
HOLE4 in OBJECT5
HOLE6 in OBJECT5
:

NEARBY FEATURES:

CORNER	DISTANCE, ORIENTATION	CORNER3 in OBJ2
CORNER	DISTANCE, ORIENTATION	CORNER1 in OBJ5
HOLE	DISTANCE	HOLE1 in OBJ2 OR HOLE5 in OBJ4 OR ...

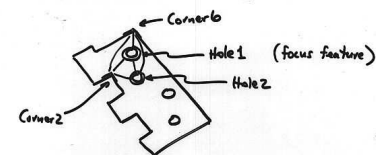
- BUILD A GRAPH FROM NODE-NODE MATCHES —
 NODE = (MODEL NODE, IMAGE FEATURE) PAIR
 ARC = CONNECTS PAIRS OF NODES WHICH ARE NEIGHBORS IN MODEL AND IMAGE FEATURES ARE DISTINCT
 (⇒ LOCALLY CONSISTENT (PAIRWISE) ASSIGNMENT)
- FIND MAXIMAL CLIQUE —
 LARGEST CONNECTED SUBGRAPH
 = LARGEST CLUSTER OF MUTUALLY-CONSISTENT MATCHES
- VERIFY MATCH BY COMPARING COMPLETE MODEL w/ IMAGE

Graph of pairwise-consistent feature matches



- MAXIMAL CLIQUE IN RED.
- EXAMPLE OF SEARCHING THE "CORRESPONDENCE SPACE"

Hypothesized Solution :



Verification :

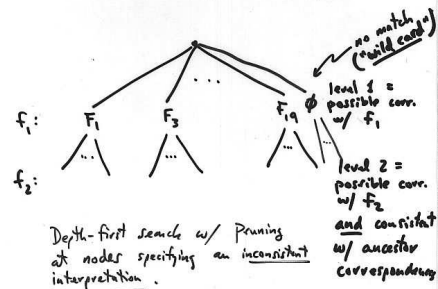
1. Compute pose
2. Project model to image space
3. Cross-correlation



Interpretation Trees

Using geometric constraints to limit search of Correspondence Space

Given: Image features f_1, \dots, f_n
Model features F_1, \dots, F_m



Size of Correspondence Space =

$$(m+1)^n$$

Height of Interpretation Tree = n

Goal: find path from root to leaf such that all n correspondences are consistent w/ a single model

Approach: Use 1st and 2nd order geometric constraints to prune interpretation tree as we traverse it.

Possible Constraints: Unary Constraints: properties of f_i and F_j must be similar (i.e. match)

Ex. length of edge
corner angle
color
texture

Binary Constraints: consistency constraints between (f_i, F_{j1}) and (f_i, F_{j2}) pairings.

Ex: Relative angle between 2 edges
Range of distances between 2 edges

Range of directions from f_{i1} to f_{i2}

etc.

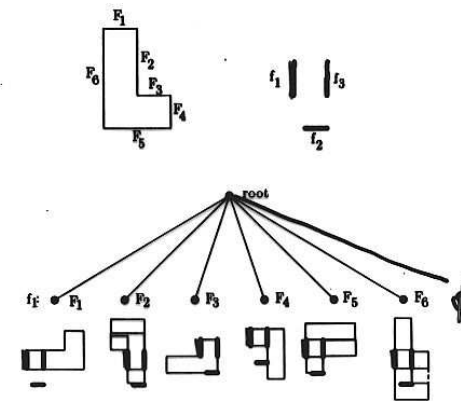
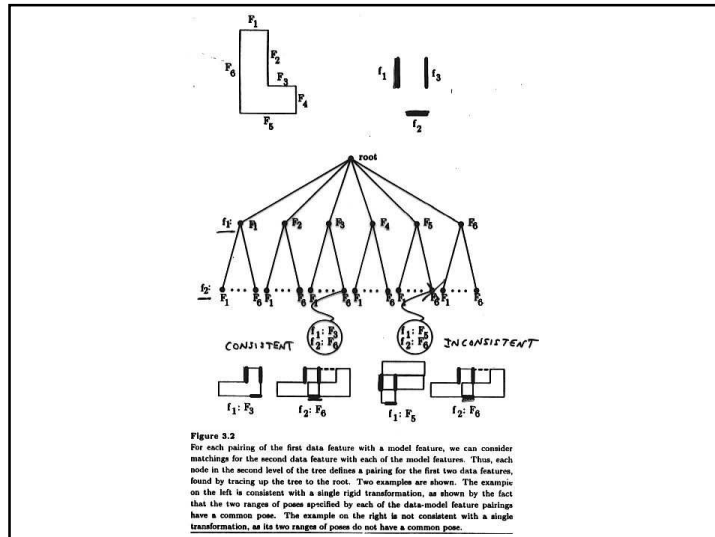


Figure 3.1

We can build a tree of possible interpretations, by first considering all the ways of matching the first data feature, f_1 , to each of the model features, $F_j, j = 1, \dots, m$. In the bottom part of the figure, we show an example of these pairings for the model and data shown at the top. In some cases, due to occlusion of the data features, a range of possible poses is given.



Interpretation Tree Search Algorithm

- Depth-First search with pruning (cut-offs)
- At each node, test all unary & binary constraints. If all are satisfied, continue. Otherwise, backtrack
- At leaf node have an hypothesis for a feasible interpretation.
Verify by solving for pose given correspondences, and compare projected model w/ data.



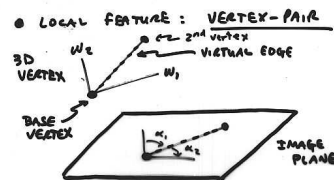
METHOD 3: COMBINING LOCAL EVIDENCE + POSE SPACE SEARCH

- FIRST MATCH, THEN FIND BEST VIEWING TRANSFORMATION
- DEFINE 6D PARAMETER SPACE - POSE SPACE OF ALL POSSIBLE (DISCRETELY SAMPLED) VIEWING TRANSFORMATIONS
- 1. FOR EACH MATCHING (IMAGE FEATURE, MODEL FOR.) PAIR, "VOTE" IN PARAMETER SPACE FOR ALL TRANSFORMATIONS THEY DESCRIBE.
2. FIND "PEAK" IN PARAMETER SPACE.
- EXAMPLES:
GENERALIZED HOUGH TRANSFORM
THOMPSON & MUNDY, 1987
HINTON, 1981

Voting on Pose

- Each model leads to many correct sets of correspondences, each of which has the same pose
 - Vote on pose, in an accumulator array
 - This is a Hough transform, with all its issues

THOMPSON & MUNDY'S ALGORITHM



EACH VERTEX = INTERSECTION OF 2 EDGES

GIVEN IMAGE w/ n VERTICES,
 $\Rightarrow 2n^2$ VERTEX-PAIRS

- GIVEN ~~AN~~ A CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MODEL & IMAGE VERTICES & EDGES, THERE IS A UNIQUE TRANSFORMATION (AFFINE) WHICH MAPS IMAGE VERTEX-PAIR TO MODEL VERTEX-PAIR
 \Rightarrow MODELS WEAK PERSPECTIVE PROJECTION

ALGORITHM

```

FOR EACH IMAGE VERTEX-PAIR DO
  FOR EACH MODEL VERTEX-PAIR DO
    COMPUTE 6-ELEMENT TRANSFORMATION
    T THAT MAPS ONE TO OTHER
    VOTE (INCREMENT "BIN") FOR 1
    POINT IN 6D TRANSFORM PARAM.
    SPACE CORRESPONDING TO T.
  FIND "CLUSTERS" of VOTES (PEAK FINDING)
  VERIFY PROJECTED MODEL w/ IMAGE
  
```

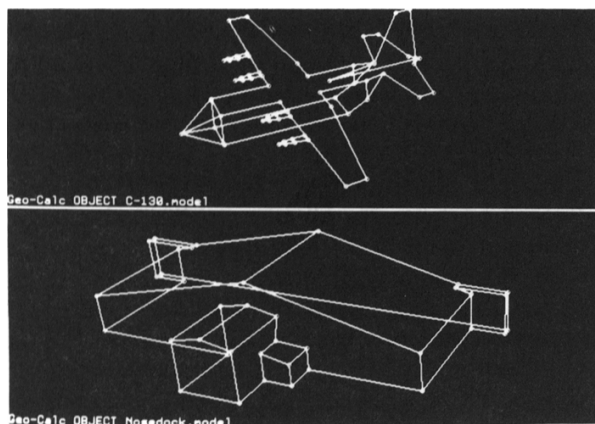
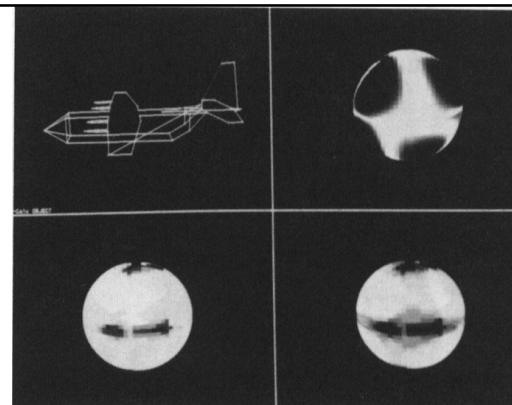


Figure from "The evolution and testing of a model-based object recognition system", J.L. Mundy and A. Heller, Proc. Int. Conf. Computer Vision, 1990 copyright 1990 IEEE



From "The evolution and testing of a model-based object recognition system", J.L. Mundy and A. Heller, Proc. ICCV, 1990

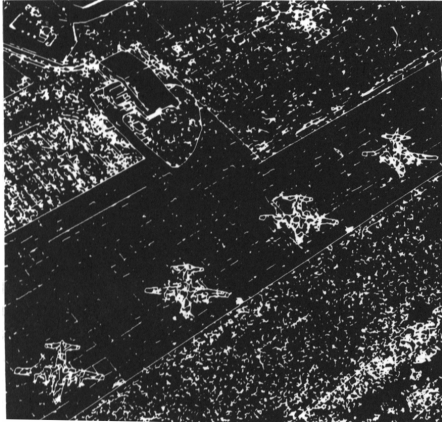


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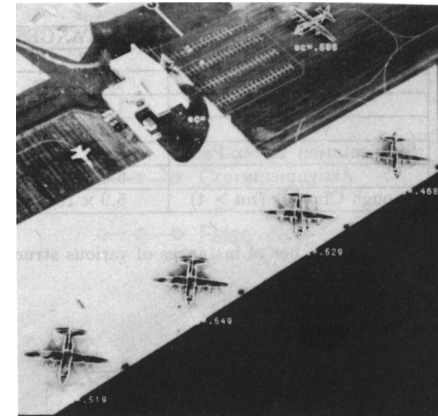


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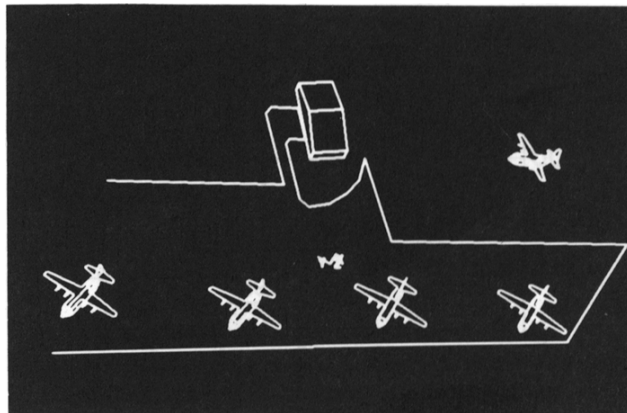


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GEOMETRIC HASHING

- Wolfson, Landan et al. 1988
- PLANAR, RIGID objects
- Affine camera model
- Property: An affine transform of a planar rigid body is uniquely defined by the transformation of 3 ordered, non-collinear pts [e.g., Klein, 1925]

⇒ Pick 3 non-collinear model pts B_0, B_1, B_2 as affine basis

Any pt p represented by the affine coords (α, β) where

$$p = \alpha(B_1 - B_0) + \beta(B_2 - B_0) + B_0$$

(α, β) invariant under affine transf. T

$$Tp = \alpha(TB_1 - TB_0) + \beta(TB_2 - TB_0) + TB_0$$

Invariants

- There are geometric properties that are invariant to camera transformations
 - Easiest case: view a plane object in weak perspective
 - Assume we have three base points P_i on the object
 - then any other point on the object can be written as
 - Now image points are obtained by multiplying by a plane affine transformation, so
- $$p_k = AP_k$$
- $$= A(P_1 + \mu_{ka}(P_2 - P_1) + \mu_{kb}(P_3 - P_1))$$
- $$= p_1 + \mu_{ka}(p_2 - p_1) + \mu_{kb}(p_3 - p_1)$$
- $$P_k = P_1 + \mu_{ka}(P_2 - P_1) + \mu_{kb}(P_3 - P_1)$$

Invariants

- This means that, if I know the base points in the image, I can read off the μ values for the object
 - they're the same in object and in image --- **invariant**
- Suggests a strategy rather like the Hough transform
 - search correspondences, form μ 's and vote

Geometric Hashing

- Vote on identity and correspondence using invariants
 - Take hypotheses with large enough votes
- Fill up a table, indexed by μ 's, with
 - the base points and fourth point that yield those μ 's
 - the object identity

Offline Modeling/Learning Phase

- Select m feature pts on planar model (x).
 - foreach ordered, non-collinear triple of model pts do
 - Compute coords of other $(m-3)$ pts
 - foreach coord (α, β) store
 - Hash $(\alpha, \beta) = (\text{object}, \text{basis})$
- $O(m^4)$ time and space.

Algorithm 18.3: Geometric hashing: voting on identity and point labels

```

For all groups of three image points  $T(I)$ 
  For every other image point  $p$ 
    Compute the  $\mu$ 's from  $p$  and  $T(I)$ 
    Obtain the table entry at these values
      if there is one, it will label the three points in  $T(I)$ 
      with the name of the object
      and the names of these particular points.
    Cluster these labels;
      if there are enough labels, backproject and verify
    end
  end
end
end

```

Online Matching Phase

1. Feature Detection:
Extract n interest pts from image
2. Choose Basis:
Pick 3 non-collinear pts.
Compute affine coords of other $(n-3)$ pts.
3. For each affine coord,
Vote for all (model basis) pairs
in entry in hash table.
4. Find Peaks in Object-Basis space
If none, goto step 2.
5. ~~For~~ (model pt, image pt) pairs in Peaks
compute best-fit affine transform
(least squares)
6. Verify complete transformed model
w/ image
7. If no peak verified, goto step 2
 $O(n^4)$ time

ALIGNMENT METHOD

- HUTTENLOCHER and ULLMAN, 1987
- ARBITRARY (NON-PLANAR) objects
defined by points and edge contours
- Weak-perspective camera model

$$\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ 2D}}{x'} = \Pi \left(\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ 3D}}{sR} x + \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ 3D}}{b} \right)$$

where Π = orthographic proj
 s = scale
 R = 3D rotation
 b = 2D translation } 6 params.

- Type of Affine transformation
 $x' = Lx + b$ where L is 2×2
- OK when object far from camera
 and object depth small relative to distance
 from camera

Main Idea:

Separate problem of finding best model
 from problem of finding best transformation
 (3D \rightarrow 2D determined by viewpoint)
 of model to image

1. Hypothesize viewpoint for each model
 \Rightarrow solve for viewing transformation
 "normalization" step
2. Select best model by matching
 "normalized" model w/ image

EX. CHARACTER RECOGNITION

- FOR EACH LETTER, STORE ITS DESCRIPTION IN SOME CANONICAL POSITION, ORIENTATION & SIZE
- GIVEN "VIEWED" LETTER, "UNDO" SHIFT, ROTATION AND SCALE:
 - + SHIFT CENTER-OF-MASS TO FIXED LOCATION (ORIGIN)
 - + SCALE CONVEX HULL TO FIXED SIZE
 - + ROTATE MAJOR AXIS TO FIXED ORIENTATION
(OR DETECT ORIENTATIONS OF KEY FEATURES & ORIENT THESE — E.G., \mathbf{p} , \mathbf{e})
- MATCH "NORMALIZED" INPUT w/ EACH MODEL AND SELECT BEST MATCH.

Recognizing Human Actions

- Movement and posture change
 - run, walk, crawl, jump, hop, swim, skate, sit, stand, kneel, lie, dance (various), ...
- Object manipulation
 - pick, carry, hold, lift, throw, catch, push, pull, write, type, touch, hit, press, stroke, shake, stir, turn, eat, drink, cut, stab, kick, point, drive, bike, insert, extract, juggle, play musical instrument (various)...
- Conversational gesture
 - point, ...
- Sign Language

Activities and Situation Assessment

- Example: Withdrawing money from an ATM
- Activities constructed by composing actions. Partial order plans may be a good model.
- Activities may involve multiple agents
- Detecting unusual situations or activity patterns is facilitated by the video activity transform

Objects in Space

- Segment/Region-of-interest
- Features (points, curves, wavelet coefficients..)
- Correspondence and deform into alignment
- Recover parameters of generative model
- Discriminative classifier

Actions in Space-Time

- Segment/volume-of-interest
- Features (points, curves, wavelets, motion vectors..)
- Correspondence and deform into alignment
- Recover parameters of generative model
- Discriminative classifier

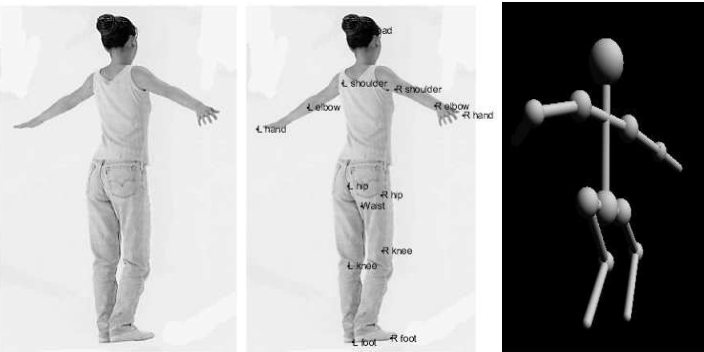
Key Cues for Action Recognition

- “Morpho-kinesics” of action (shape and movement of the body)
- Identity of the object/s
- Activity context

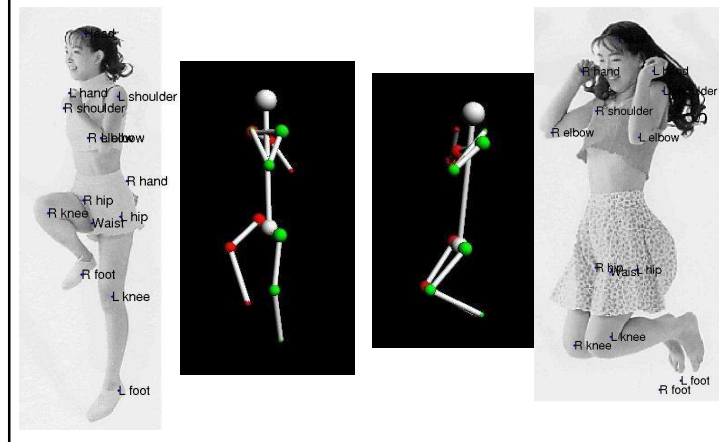
Image/Video Stick figure Action

- Stick figures can be specified in a variety of ways or at various resolutions (degrees of freedom)
 - 2D joint positions
 - 3D joint positions
 - Joint angles
- Complete representation
- Evidence that it is effectively computable

Human Body Configurations



Human Body Configurations



Mathematical Challenges

- Modeling shape variation
- Nearest neighbor search in high dimensions
- Combining statistical optimality with computational efficiency
- Reconstruction algorithms for novel sensing modalities