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3. Image Processing


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## Edge detection

- Goal: map image from 2d array of pixels to a set of curves or line segments or contours.
- Why?


Figure from J. Shotton et al., PAMI 2007

Figure from D. Lowe

- Main idea: look for strong gradients, post-process


## Gradients $\rightarrow$ edges

Primary edge detection steps:

1. Smoothing: suppress noise
2. Edge enhancement: filter for contrast
3. Edge localization

Determine which local maxima from filter output are actually edges vs. noise

- Threshold, Thin


## Thresholding

- Choose a threshold value $t$
- Set any pixels less than t to zero (off)
- Set any pixels greater than or equal to $t$ to one (on)


## Original image



## Gradient magnitude image



## Thresholding gradient with a lower threshold



## Thresholding gradient with a higher threshold



## Canny edge detector

- Filter image with derivative of Gaussian
- Find magnitude and orientation of gradient
- Non-maximum suppression:
- Thin wide "ridges" down to single pixel width
- Linking and thresholding (hysteresis):
- Define two thresholds: low and high
- Use the high threshold to start edge curves and the low threshold to continue them
- MATLAB: edge (image, 'canny');
- $\quad>$ help edge


## The Canny edge detector



## The Canny edge detector


norm of the gradient

## The Canny edge detector


thresholding

## The Canny edge detector



How to turn these thick regions of the gradient into curves?

## Non-maximum suppression



Check if pixel is local maximum along gradient direction Select single max across width of the edge
Requires checking interpolated pixels $p$ and $r$

## The Canny edge detector



Problem: pixels along this edge didn't survive the thresholding
thinning
(non-maximum suppression)

## Hysteresis thresholding

- Use a high threshold to start edge curves, and a low threshold to continue them.



## Hysteresis thresholding


high threshold (strong edges)

original image

low threshold (weak edges)

hysteresis threshold 18

## Recap: Canny edge detector

- Filter image with derivative of Gaussian
- Find magnitude and orientation of gradient
- Non-maximum suppression:
- Thin wide "ridges" down to single pixel width
- Linking and thresholding (hysteresis):
- Define two thresholds: low and high
- Use the high threshold to start edge curves and the low threshold to continue them
- MATLAB: edge (image, 'canny');
- >>help edge


## Low-level edges vs. perceived contours


human segmentation

gradient magnitude



- Berkeley segmentation database:
http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu/Research/Projects/CS/vision/grouping/segbench/

Learn from humans which combination of features is most indicative of a "good" contour?
[D. Martin et al. PAMI 2004]


Human-marked segment boundaries



Figure from: Dollar and Zitnick, PAMI 2015

## Pushing the Boundaries of Boundary Detec-

 TION USING DEEP LEARNINGIasonas Kokkinos



Image Pyramid


Tied CNN outputs


Scale fusion


Final outputs

## Richer Convolutional Features for Edge Detection

Yun Liu ${ }^{1}$ Ming-Ming Cheng ${ }^{1}$ Xiaowei $\mathrm{Hu}^{1}$ Kai Wang ${ }^{1}$ Xiang Bai ${ }^{2}$ ${ }^{1}$ Nankai University ${ }^{2}$ HUST<br>https://mmcheng.net/rcfedge/ CVPR 2017



# Photo-Sketching: <br> Inferring Contour Drawings from Images 

Mengtian $\mathrm{Li}^{1} \quad$ Zhe Lin ${ }^{2} \quad$ Radomír Měch ${ }^{2}$ Ersin Yumer ${ }^{3} \quad$ Deva Ramanana ${ }^{1,4}$<br>${ }^{1}$ Carnegie Mellon University $\quad{ }^{2}$ Adobe Research ${ }^{3}$ Uber ATG ${ }^{4}$ Argo AI



Uses fairly advanced deep net technique (GANs), which we'll discuss only later in the course.
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## Voting and the Hough Transform

## Fitting

- Want to associate a model with observed features


For example, the model could be a line, a circle, or an arbitrary shape.

## Fitting: Main idea

- Choose a parametric model to represent a set of features
- Membership criterion is not local
- Can't tell whether a point belongs to a given model just by looking at that point
- Three main questions:
- What model represents this set of features best?
- Which of several model instances gets which feature?
- How many model instances are there?
- Computational complexity is important
- It is infeasible to examine every possible set of parameters and every possible combination of features


## Example: Line fitting

- Why fit lines?

Many objects characterized by presence of straight lines


- Wait, why aren't we done just by running edge detection?


## Difficulty of line fitting



- Extra edge points (clutter), multiple models:
- which points go with which line, if any?
- Only some parts of each line detected, and some parts are missing:
- how to find a line that bridges missing evidence?
- Noise in measured edge points, orientations:
- how to detect true underlying parameters?


## Voting

- It's not feasible to check all combinations of features by fitting a model to each possible subset.
- Voting is a general technique where we let the features vote for all models that are compatible with it.
- Cycle through features, cast votes for model parameters.
- Look for model parameters that receive a lot of votes.
- Noise \& clutter features will cast votes too, but typically their votes should be inconsistent with the majority of "good" features.


## Fitting lines: Hough transform

- Given points that belong to a line, what is the line?
- How many lines are there?
- Which points belong to which lines?
- Hough Transform is a voting technique that can be used to answer all of these questions.


## Main idea:



1. Record vote for each possible line on which each edge point lies.
2. Look for lines that get many votes.


## Finding lines in an image: Hough space

Equation of a line?

image space



Hough (parameter) space

Connection image ( $x, y$ ) and Hough ( $m, b$ ) spaces:

- Line in image corresponds to a point in Hough space
- To go from image space to Hough space:
- given a set of points $(x, y)$, find all $(m, b)$ such that $y=m x+b$


## Finding lines in an image: Hough space




Hough (parameter) space

Connection between image ( $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}$ ) and Hough ( $\mathrm{m}, \mathrm{b}$ ) spaces

- A line in the image corresponds to a point in Hough space
- To go from image space to Hough space:
- given a set of points $(x, y)$, find all $(m, b)$ such that $y=m x+b$
- What does a point $\left(\mathrm{x}_{0}, \mathrm{y}_{0}\right)$ in the image space map to?
- Answer: the solutions of $b=-x_{0} m+y_{0}$
- this is a line in Hough space


## Finding lines in an image: Hough space



Hough (parameter) space
What are the line parameters for the line that contains both ( $\mathrm{x}_{0}, \mathrm{y}_{0}$ ) and ( $\mathrm{x}_{1}, \mathrm{y}_{1}$ )?

- It is the intersection of the lines $b=-x_{0} m+y_{0}$ and $b=-x_{1} m+y_{1}$


## Finding lines in an image: Hough algorithm



How can we use this to find the most likely parameters $(m, b)$ for the most prominent line in the image space?

- Let each edge point in image space vote for a set of possible parameters in Hough space
- Accumulate votes in discrete set of bins; parameters with the most votes indicate line in image space.


## Polar representation for lines

Issues with usual ( $m, b$ ) parameter space: can take on infinite values, undefined for vertical lines.

$d$ : perpendicular distance from line to origin
$\theta$ : angle the perpendicular makes with the x -axis

$$
x \cos \theta-y \sin \theta=d
$$

Point in image space $\rightarrow$ sinusoid segment in Hough space

Original image


Canny edges


Vote space and top peaks


## Hough transform algorithm

Using the polar parameterization:

$$
x \cos \theta-y \sin \theta=d
$$

## Basic Hough transform algorithm

1. Initialize $H[d, \theta]=0$
2. for each edge point $I[x, y]$ in the image
$\mathrm{H}:$ accumulator array (votes)

$\theta$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { for } \theta=\left[\theta_{\min } \text { to } \theta_{\max }\right] / / \text { some quantization } \\
& d=x \cos \theta-y \sin \theta \\
& H[d, \theta]+=1
\end{aligned}
$$

3. Find the value(s) of ( $\mathrm{d}, \theta$ ) where $\mathrm{H}[\mathrm{d}, \theta]$ is maximum
4. The detected line in the image is given by

$$
d=x \cos \theta-y \sin \theta
$$



Showing longest segments found

## Impact of noise on Hough



What difficulty does this present for an implementation?

## Impact of noise on Hough



Here, everything appears to be "noise", or random edge points, but we still see peaks in the vote space.

## Hough transform for circles

- Circle: center ( $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ ) and radius r

$$
\left(x_{i}-a\right)^{2}+\left(y_{i}-b\right)^{2}=r^{2}
$$

- For a fixed radius $r$

$b \uparrow \xrightarrow[\text { Hough space }]{\substack{\text { Equation of set of } \\ \text { circles that all pass } \\ \text { through a point? }}}$


## Hough transform for circles

- Circle: center ( $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ ) and radius r

$$
\left(x_{i}-a\right)^{2}+\left(y_{i}-b\right)^{2}=r^{2}
$$

- For a fixed radius $r$



## Hough transform for circles

- Circle: center ( $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ ) and radius r

$$
\left(x_{i}-a\right)^{2}+\left(y_{i}-b\right)^{2}=r^{2}
$$

- For an unknown radius $r$



## Hough transform for circles

- Circle: center ( $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ ) and radius r

$$
\left(x_{i}-a\right)^{2}+\left(y_{i}-b\right)^{2}=r^{2}
$$

- For an unknown radius $r$



## Hough transform for circles

- Circle: center ( $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ ) and radius r

$$
\left(x_{i}-a\right)^{2}+\left(y_{i}-b\right)^{2}=r^{2}
$$

- For an unknown radius r, known gradient direction



## Hough transform for circles

For every edge pixel ( $x, y$ ) :
For each possible radius value $r$ :
For each possible gradient direction $\vartheta$ :
// or use estimated gradient at ( $x, y$ )

$$
\begin{aligned}
& a=x-r \cos (\vartheta) / / \text { column } \\
& b=y+r \sin (\vartheta) / / \text { row } \\
& H[a, b, r]+=1
\end{aligned}
$$

end
end

## Example: detecting circles with Hough

## Original



Votes: Penny


Note: a different Hough transform (with separate accumulators) was used for each circle radius (quarters vs. penny).

## Example: detecting circles with Hough

Combined detections


Votes: Quarter


## Example: iris detection




Gradient+threshold


Hough space (fixed radius)


Max detections

- Hemerson Pistori and Eduardo Rocha Costa


## Example: iris detection



Figure 3. Distance image Figure 4. Detected face region



Figure 15. Looking sideways


- An Iris Detection Method Using the Hough Transform and Its Evaluation for Facial and Eye Movement, by Hideki Kashima, Hitoshi Hongo, Kunihito Kato, Kazuhiko Yamamoto, ACCV 2002.


## Hough Voting for Object recognition



Hough voting pipeline (in 2D):

- Select interest points
- Match patch around each interest point to a training patch (codebook)
- Vote for object center given that training instance
vote for center of object


## Hough Voting for Object recognition



Hough voting pipeline (in 2D):

- Select interest points
- Match patch around each interest point to a training patch (codebook)
- Vote for object center given that training instance
- Votes clustering to find peaks
- Find patches that voted for the peaks back-projection

Find patches that voted for the peaks (back-projection).

## Hough Voting for Object recognition



Hough voting pipeline (in 2D):

- Select interest points
- Match patch around each interest point to a training patch (codebook)
- Vote for object center given that training instance
- Votes clustering to find peaks
- Find patches that voted for the peaks back-projection
- Find full objects based on back-projected patches
Find full objects based on the back-projected patches.


## Hough transform: pros and cons

Pros

- All points are processed independently, so can cope with occlusion, gaps
- Some robustness to noise: noise points unlikely to contribute consistently to any single bin
- Can detect multiple instances of a model in a single pass


## Cons

- Complexity of search time increases exponentially with the number of model parameters
- Non-target shapes can produce spurious peaks in parameter space
- Quantization: can be tricky to pick a good grid size


## Deep Hough Voting for 3D Object Detection in Point Clouds

Charles R. $\mathrm{Qi}^{1} \quad$ Or Litany $^{1} \quad$ Kaiming He ${ }^{1}$ Leonidas J. Guibas ${ }^{1,2}$<br>${ }^{1}$ Facebook AI Research ${ }^{2}$ Stanford University

## Deep Hough Voting: 3D Object Detection in Point Clouds



Or Litany

## Deep Hough voting:



