

Lecture 16:

Image Sequence Analysis I: Models for the Smoothness Term

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Introduction (1)

Introduction

The Optic Flow Problem

- ◆ *given:* image sequence $f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ where (x_1, x_2) is location and x_3 time
 f can be Gaussian-smoothed: $f = K_\sigma * f_0$
- ◆ *wanted:* displacement field (*optic flow, OF*) between subsequent frames

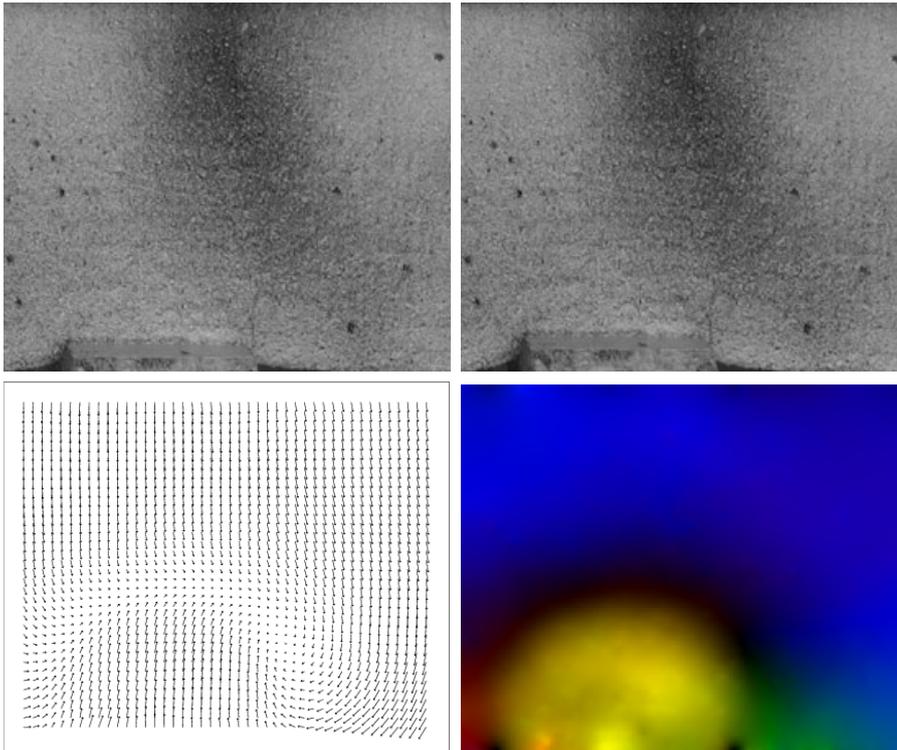
$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) \\ u_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

What is Optic Flow Good for?

- ◆ extracting motion information e.g. in robotics
- ◆ compact coding of image sequences
- ◆ related correspondence problems in computer vision:
 e.g. stereo reconstruction and medical image registration

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Introduction (2)



Deformation analysis of plastic foam using an optic flow method. (a) **Top left:** Frame 1 of a deformation sequence. (b) **Top right:** Frame 2. (c) **Bottom left:** Vector plot of the displacement field. (d) **Bottom right:** Colour-coded displacement field.

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Introduction (3)

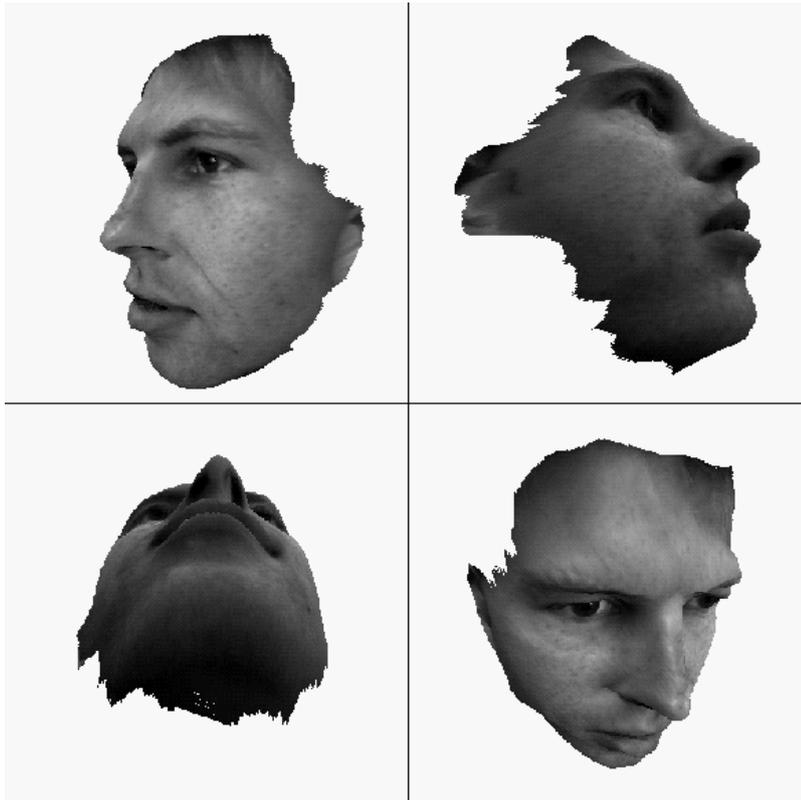


Pair of stereo images.

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Introduction (4)



Four views of a stereo reconstruction algorithm based on optic flow ideas. **Authors:** Alvarez/Derliche/Sánchez/W. (2002)

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Introduction (5)



Hairstyle simulation using an optic flow based registration approach. (a) **Left:** Customer face. (b) **Middle:** Model face with desired hairstyle. (c) **Right:** Optic flow computes a registration from the model face to the customer face. By adapting the hairstyle in the same way, a convincing registration to the customer face is obtained. **Author:** O. Demetz (2006).

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Variational Optic Flow Methods

- ◆ optic flow as minimiser of a suitable energy functional: data constraints plus smoothness constraints
- ◆ first model due to Horn and Schunck (1981), but many improvements in the meantime:
 - modified data and smoothness constraints
 - theoretical foundation
 - efficient numerical algorithms
- ◆ competitive performance

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General Structure

Variational OF methods recover the optic flow field $\mathbf{u}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ as minimiser of

$$E(\mathbf{u}) = \int_{\Omega} \left(\underbrace{M(D^k f, \mathbf{u})}_{\text{data term}} + \alpha \underbrace{S(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u})}_{\text{regulariser}} \right) dx$$

- ◆ Ω is either a spatial or a spatiotemporal domain
- ◆ spatial case: $\mathbf{x} := (x_1, x_2)^\top$ and $\nabla := \nabla_2 := (\partial_{x_1}, \partial_{x_2})^\top$
 spatiotemporal case: $\mathbf{x} := (x_1, x_2, x_3)^\top$ and $\nabla := \nabla_3 := (\partial_{x_1}, \partial_{x_2}, \partial_{x_3})^\top$
- ◆ $D^k f$: spatiotemporal partial derivatives of order k
- ◆ data term $M(D^k f, \mathbf{u})$ penalises deviations from constancy assumptions
- ◆ smoothness term $S(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u})$ penalises deviations from (piecewise) smoothness ($\nabla \mathbf{u} := (\nabla u_1, \nabla u_2)$)
- ◆ regularisation parameter $\alpha > 0$ determines smoothness

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Specific Features of Variational OF Models

- ◆ transparent formalism without hidden model assumptions
- ◆ continuous energy functional allows rotationally invariant modelling
- ◆ can be arbitrarily well approximated by consistent numerical methods
- ◆ strictly convex functionals allow unique minimiser and well-posedness
- ◆ minimiser can be found by relatively simple globally convergent algorithms (such as gradient descent)
- ◆ global method giving *filling-in effect* for small data terms: dense flow fields without subsequent interpolation steps

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The Data Term

Brightness Constancy Assumption

- ◆ most frequently used optic flow assumption
- ◆ The brightness f is supposed not to change along the path $(x_1(x_3), x_2(x_3))$ of a moving structure:

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &= \frac{df(x_1(x_3), x_2(x_3), x_3)}{dx_3} \\
 &= f_{x_1} \partial_{x_3} x_1 + f_{x_2} \partial_{x_3} x_2 + f_{x_3} \\
 &= f_{x_1} u_1 + f_{x_2} u_2 + f_{x_3}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $f_{x_i} := \partial_{x_i} f$, and the OF component $u_i = \partial_{x_3} x_i$ gives the velocity in direction x_i .

- ◆ Deviations from the brightness constancy assumption can be penalised by the data term (Horn/Schunck 1981)

$$M(D^1 f, \mathbf{u}) := (f_{x_1} u_1 + f_{x_2} u_2 + f_{x_3})^2$$

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The Smoothness Term

Diffusion Processes Induced by the Smoothness Constraint

Minimising

$$E(\mathbf{u}) = \int_{\Omega} \left(M(D^k f, \mathbf{u}) + \alpha S(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) \right) dx$$

by means of steepest descent gives the diffusion–reaction system

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u_1 &= \partial_{x_1} S_{u_1, x_1} + \partial_{x_2} S_{u_1, x_2} - \frac{1}{\alpha} \partial_{u_1} M, \\ \partial_t u_2 &= \partial_{x_1} S_{u_2, x_1} + \partial_{x_2} S_{u_2, x_2} - \frac{1}{\alpha} \partial_{u_2} M \end{aligned}$$

where S_{u_i, x_j} denotes the partial derivative of S with respect to $\partial_{x_j} u_i$.

- ◆ diffusion processes caused by smoothness term $S(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u})$,
reaction processes caused by data term $M(D^k f, \mathbf{u})$
- ◆ steady state for $t \rightarrow \infty$ gives minimising flow field $u(x_1, x_2, x_3)$.

Diffusion Filtering of Multichannel Images

For filtering some multichannel image

$$\mathbf{f} = (f_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, f_m(\mathbf{x}))^\top$$

one of the following diffusion processes can be used (cf. also Lecture 14):

- (a) *Homogeneous diffusion:* $\partial_t u_i = \Delta u_i$
- (b) *Linear isotropic diffusion:* $\partial_t u_i = \operatorname{div} (g(\nabla \mathbf{f}) \nabla u_i)$
- (c) *Linear anisotropic diffusion:* $\partial_t u_i = \operatorname{div} (D(\nabla \mathbf{f}) \nabla u_i)$
- (d) *Nonlinear isotropic diffusion:* $\partial_t u_i = \operatorname{div} (g(\nabla \mathbf{u}) \nabla u_i)$
- (e) *Nonlinear anisotropic diffusion:* $\partial_t u_i = \operatorname{div} (D(\nabla \mathbf{u}) \nabla u_i)$

with \mathbf{f} as initial condition:

$$u_i(\mathbf{x}, 0) = f_i(\mathbf{x}) \quad (i = 1, \dots, m).$$

The Smoothness Term (3)



Diffusion filtering of a colour image. (a) **Top Left:** Noisy original image. (b) **Top Middle:** Homogeneous diffusion. (c) **Top Right:** Linear isotropic diffusion. (d) **Bottom Left:** Linear anisotropic diffusion. (e) **Bottom Middle:** Nonlinear isotropic diffusion. (f) **Bottom Right:** Nonlinear anisotropic diffusion.

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The Smoothness Term (4)

Table illustrating the one-to-one correspondence between vector-valued diffusion filtering and optic flow regularisation.

optic flow regulariser $S(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u})$	vector-valued diffusion process $\partial_t u_i = \partial_{x_1} S_{u_i, x_1} + \partial_{x_2} S_{u_i, x_2}$
homogeneous (Horn/Schunck 1981) $\sum_i \nabla u_i ^2$	homogeneous (Iijima 1959) $\partial_t u_i = \Delta u_i$
image-driven, isotr. (Alvarez et al. 1999) $g(\nabla f ^2) \sum_i \nabla u_i ^2$	linear isotropic (Fritsch 1992) $\partial_t u_i = \text{div} (g(\nabla f ^2) \nabla u_i)$
image-driven, anisotropic (Nagel 1983) $\sum_i \nabla u_i^\top D(\nabla f) \nabla u_i$	linear anisotropic (Iijima 1962) $\partial_t u_i = \text{div} (D(\nabla f) \nabla u_i)$
flow-driven, isotropic (Schnörr 1994) $\Psi \left(\sum_i \nabla u_i ^2 \right)$	nonlinear isotr. (Gerig et al. 1992) $\partial_t u_i = \text{div} \left(\Psi'(\sum_k \nabla u_k ^2) \nabla u_i \right)$
flow-driven, anisotr. (W./Schnörr 2001) $\text{tr} \Psi \left(\sum_i \nabla u_i \nabla u_i^\top \right)$	nonlinear anisotropic (W. 1994) $\partial_t u_i = \text{div} \left(\Psi'(\sum_k \nabla u_k \nabla u_k^\top) \nabla u_i \right)$

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The Smoothness Term (5)

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Homogeneous Regularisation (Horn/Schunck 1981)

- ◆ uses the Whittaker-Tikhonov regulariser

$$S_H(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) := |\nabla u_1|^2 + |\nabla u_2|^2.$$

- ◆ corresponds to homogeneous diffusion

$$\partial_t u_i = \Delta u_i$$

- ◆ Problem: blurs across motion boundaries

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The Smoothness Term (6)

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Isotropic Image-Driven Regularisation (Alvarez et al. 1999)

- ◆ many flow boundaries coincide with image boundaries
- ◆ reduce smoothing at *image* boundaries:

$$S_{II}(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) := g(|\nabla f|^2) (|\nabla u_1|^2 + |\nabla u_2|^2)$$

with some decreasing smooth function g , such as

$$g(s^2) := \varepsilon + \frac{1 - \varepsilon}{\sqrt{1 + s^2/\lambda^2}}$$

- ◆ corresponds to linear isotropic diffusion

$$\partial_t u_i = \operatorname{div} (g(|\nabla f|^2) \nabla u_i)$$

- ◆ Problems:

- Smoothing along image edges without blurring across them would be useful. This requires anisotropic models.
- Textured objects have more image boundaries than flow boundaries. This gives oversegmented flow fields.

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The Smoothness Term (7)

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Anisotropic Image-Driven Regularisation (Nagel 1983)

- ◆ reduce smoothing *across* image boundaries, permit smoothing *along* them
- ◆ consider regulariser

$$S_{AI}(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) := \sum_{i=1}^2 \nabla u_i^\top D(\nabla f) \nabla u_i$$

where $D(\nabla f)$ is a regularised projection matrix on $\nabla f^\perp := (f_{x_2}, -f_{x_1})^\top$:

$$D(\nabla f) := \frac{1}{|\nabla f|^2 + 2\lambda^2} (\nabla f^\perp \nabla f^{\perp\top} + \lambda^2 I),$$

- ◆ corresponding diffusion is linear and anisotropic:

$$\partial_t u_i = \operatorname{div} (D(\nabla f) \nabla u_i)$$

where D has eigenvectors $\nabla f, \nabla f^\perp$ with eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1(|\nabla f|) = \frac{\lambda^2}{|\nabla f|^2 + 2\lambda^2}, \quad \lambda_2(|\nabla f|) = \frac{|\nabla f|^2 + \lambda^2}{|\nabla f|^2 + 2\lambda^2}.$$

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The Smoothness Term (8)

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- ◆ isotropic behaviour at flat image regions:

$$\lim_{|\nabla f| \rightarrow 0} \lambda_1(|\nabla f|) = \frac{1}{2},$$

$$\lim_{|\nabla f| \rightarrow 0} \lambda_2(|\nabla f|) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

- ◆ anisotropic behaviour at image edges:

$$\lim_{|\nabla f| \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_1(|\nabla f|) = 0,$$

$$\lim_{|\nabla f| \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_2(|\nabla f|) = 1.$$

- ◆ Problem: may still suffer from oversegmented flow fields when the scene is strongly textured

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The Smoothness Term (9)

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Isotropic Flow-Driven Regularisation (Schnörr 1994)

- ◆ goal: reduce smoothing at *flow* discontinuities
- ◆ use regularisers of type

$$S_{IF}(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) := \Psi (|\nabla u_1|^2 + |\nabla u_2|^2),$$

where $\Psi(s^2)$ is increasing, differentiable, convex in s , and there exist $c_1, c_2 > 0$ such that $c_1 s^2 \leq \Psi(s^2) \leq c_2 s^2$.

- ◆ Example: Charbonnier penaliser

$$\Psi(s^2) = 2\lambda^2 \sqrt{1 + s^2/\lambda^2} - 2\lambda^2.$$

- ◆ S_{IF} corresponds to the isotropic nonlinear diffusion processes

$$\partial_t u_i = \operatorname{div} (\Psi' (|\nabla u_1|^2 + |\nabla u_2|^2) \nabla u_i)$$

- ◆ Problem: Smoothing along flow edges would be desirable. This requires anisotropic models.

The Smoothness Term (10)

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Anisotropic Flow-Driven Regularisation (W./Schnörr 2001)

- ◆ reduce smoothing *across* flow discontinuities, but permit smoothing *along* them
- ◆ uses regulariser

$$S_{AF}(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) := \operatorname{tr} \Psi (\nabla u_1 \nabla u_1^\top + \nabla u_2 \nabla u_2^\top)$$

- ◆ creates the anisotropic nonlinear diffusion processes

$$\partial_t u_i = \operatorname{div} (D(\nabla \mathbf{u}) \nabla u_i)$$

with a diffusion tensor

$$D(\nabla \mathbf{u}) := \Psi' (\nabla u_1 \nabla u_1^\top + \nabla u_2 \nabla u_2^\top).$$

- ◆ Let $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ denote the eigenvectors of $\nabla u_1 \nabla u_1^\top + \nabla u_2 \nabla u_2^\top$, and μ_1, μ_2 the corresponding eigenvalues. Then $D(\nabla \mathbf{u})$ has eigenvectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ with eigenvalues $\Psi'(\mu_1)$ and $\Psi'(\mu_2)$. This is exactly the desired anisotropy.

The Smoothness Term (11)

- ◆ Note that isotropic and anisotropic regularisers result from a simple interchange of trace operator and penaliser:

$$S_{IF}(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) := \Psi\left(\text{tr} \sum_i \nabla u_i \nabla u_i^\top\right),$$

$$S_{AF}(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) := \text{tr} \Psi\left(\sum_i \nabla u_i \nabla u_i^\top\right).$$

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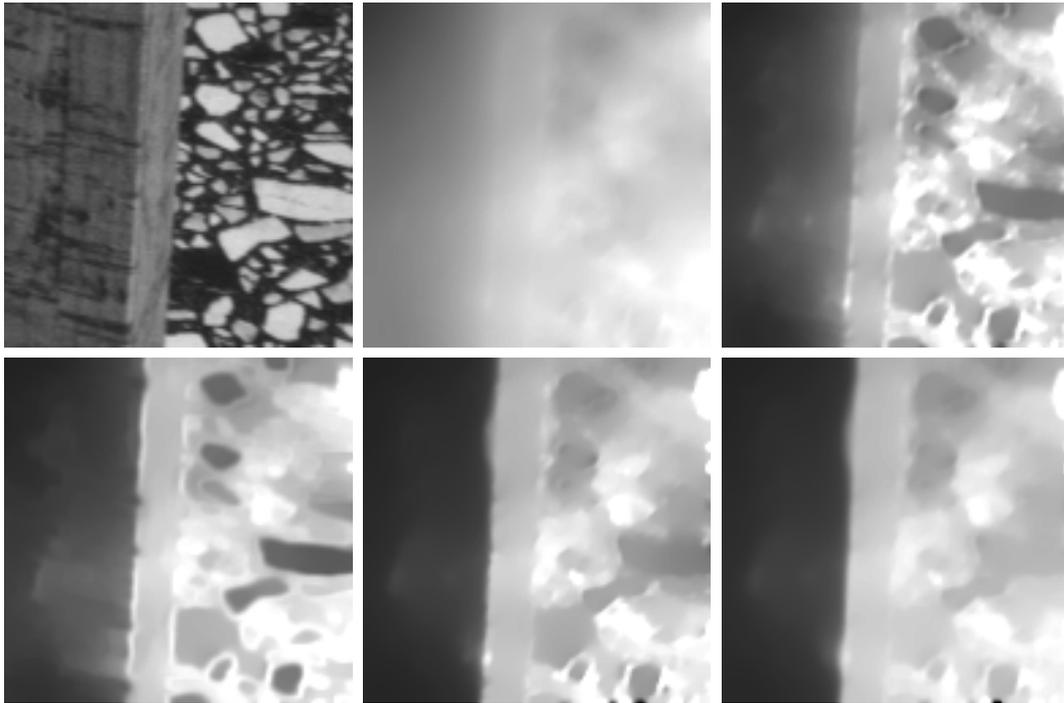
The Smoothness Term (12)



- (a) **Top left:** Frame 16 of the marbled block sequence (512 × 512 pixels). (b) **Top middle:** Optic flow magnitude between Frame 16 and 17 for homogeneous regularisation. (c) **Top right:** Result for image-driven isotropic regularisation (d) **Bottom left:** Image-driven anisotropic regularisation. (e) **Bottom middle:** Flow-driven isotropic regularisation (f) **Bottom right:** Flow-driven anisotropic regularisation.

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The Smoothness Term (13)



(a) **Top left:** Detail from the lower right part of Frame 16 (128×128 pixels). (b) **Top middle:** Optic flow magnitude for homogeneous regularisation. (c) **Top right:** Image-driven isotropic regularisation (d) **Bottom left:** Image-driven anisotropic regularisation. (e) **Bottom middle:** Flow-driven isotropic regularisation (f) **Bottom right:** Flow-driven anisotropic regularisation.

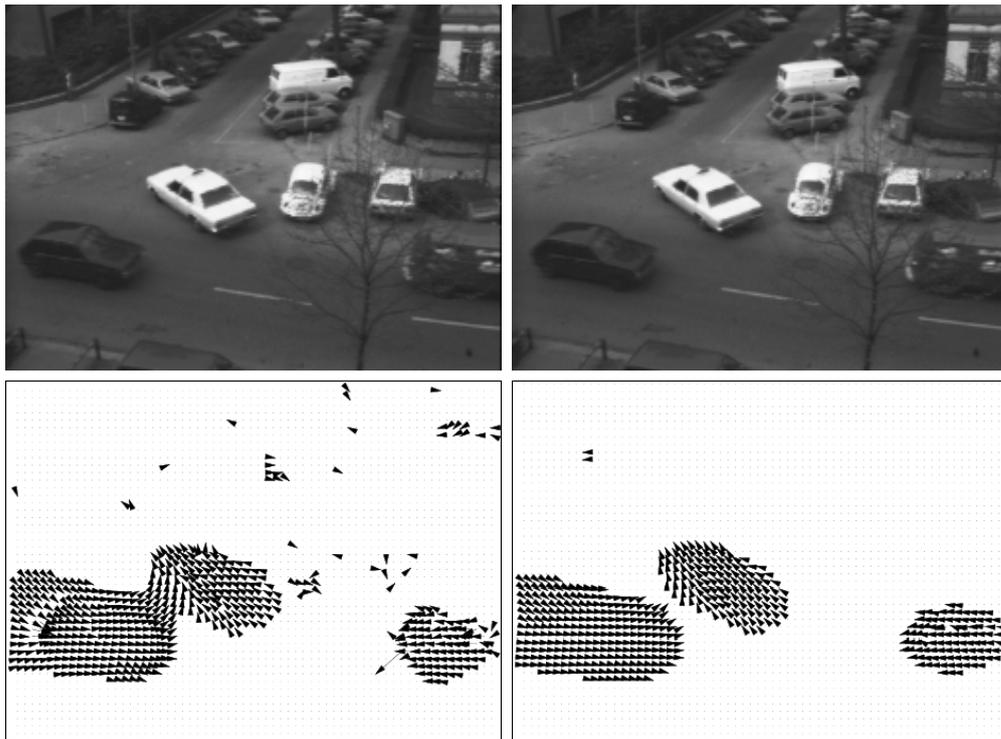
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The Smoothness Term (14)

Spatial versus Spatiotemporal Regularisation

- ◆ Extending the spatial formulation into the spatiotemporal setting leads to **3-D** diffusion–reaction instead of **2-D** diffusion–reaction
- ◆ first proposed by Nagel (1990), but not implemented at that time
- ◆ computational cost not much higher than 2-D approach for an entire sequence
- ◆ memory requirements uncritical for typical test sequences
- ◆ better results than with pure spatial regularisers

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(a) **Top Left:** Frame 10 of the Hamburg taxi sequence. (b) **Top Right:** Frame 11. (c) **Bottom Left:** Spatial processing. (d) **Bottom Right:** Spatio-temporal processing.

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Well-Posedness

Assumptions

- ◆ $\Psi(s^2)$ is differentiable and strictly convex in $s \in \mathbb{R}$.
- ◆ There exist $c_1, c_2 > 0$ such that $c_1 s^2 \leq \Psi(s^2) \leq c_2 s^2$ for all s .
- ◆ The initial data are sufficiently smooth: $f \in H^1(\Omega)$.
- ◆ f_{x_1} and f_{x_2} are linearly independent in $L^2(\Omega)$ and have finite $L^\infty(\Omega)$ norm.

Well-Posedness Result (W./Schnörr 2001)

The energy functional

$$E(\mathbf{u}) = \int_{\Omega} \left((f_{x_1} u_1 + f_{x_2} u_2 + f_{x_3})^2 + \alpha S(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) \right) dx$$

has a unique minimiser $(u_1, u_2) \in H^1(\Omega) \times H^1(\Omega)$.

It depends in a continuous way on the image sequence f .

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Extensions (1)

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Extensions

Design Principle for Anisotropic Regularisers

Assume that we are given some isotropic regulariser $\Psi(\sum_i |\nabla u_i|^2)$, and a decomposition of its argument

$$\sum_i |\nabla u_i|^2 = \sum_j \rho_j,$$

where the ρ_j are rotationally invariant expressions.

Then the regulariser $\sum_j \Psi(\rho_j)$ is rotationally invariant and anisotropic.

Remark

The transition from isotropic to anisotropic is just an exchange of the order of penalisation and summation:

◆ isotropic: $\Psi\left(\sum_j \rho_j\right)$

◆ anisotropic: $\sum_j \Psi(\rho_j)$

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Extensions (2)

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Example 1

Previously used decomposition was trace identity

$$|\nabla u_1|^2 + |\nabla u_2|^2 = \text{tr}(J) = \mu_1 + \mu_2$$

where μ_1, μ_2 are eigenvalues of

$$J = \nabla u_1 \nabla u_1^\top + \nabla u_2 \nabla u_2^\top.$$

Then the isotropic regulariser

$$\Psi(|\nabla u_1|^2 + |\nabla u_2|^2) = \Psi(\mu_1 + \mu_2)$$

induces the anisotropic regulariser

$$\Psi(\mu_1) + \Psi(\mu_2) = \text{tr} \Psi(J) = \text{tr} \Psi(\nabla u_1 \nabla u_1^\top + \nabla u_2 \nabla u_2^\top).$$

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Extensions (3)

Example 2

The identity

$$|\nabla u_1|^2 + |\nabla u_2|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (\operatorname{div}^2 \mathbf{u} + \operatorname{curl}^2 \mathbf{u} + \operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u})$$

with

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{u} := u_{2x_1} - u_{1x_2}$$

$$\operatorname{sh} \mathbf{u} := \sqrt{(u_{2x_2} - u_{1x_1})^2 + (u_{1x_2} + u_{2x_1})^2}$$

gives the anisotropic regulariser (Schnörr 1994)

$$V_{AFS}(\nabla f, \nabla \mathbf{u}) := \Psi(\operatorname{div}^2 \mathbf{u}) + \Psi(\operatorname{curl}^2 \mathbf{u}) + \Psi(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u}).$$

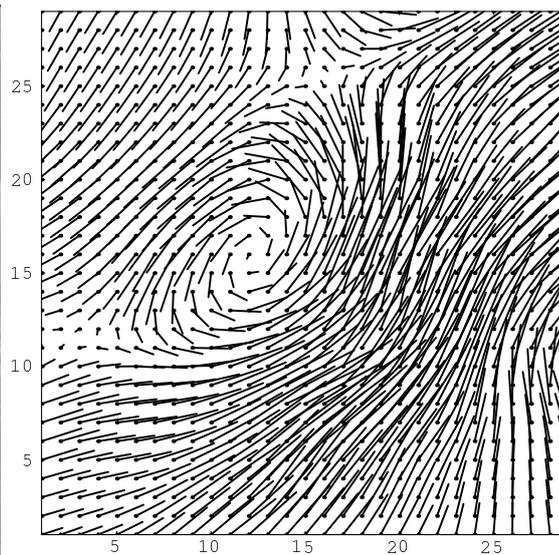
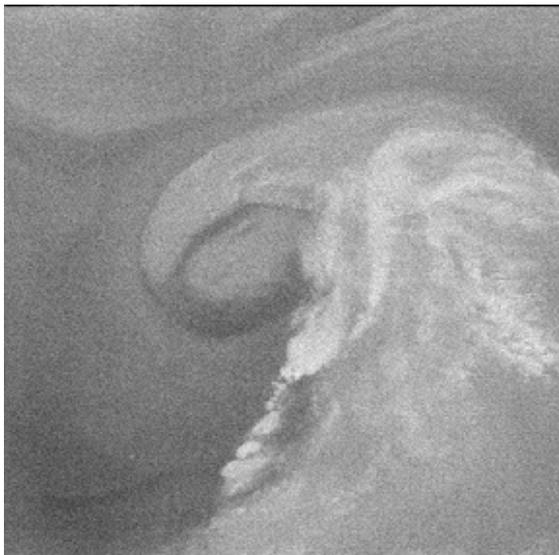
This creates the highly anisotropic processes

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u_1 &= \partial_{x_1} ((\Psi'(\operatorname{div}^2 \mathbf{u}) + \Psi'(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u})) u_{1x_1} + (\Psi'(\operatorname{div}^2 \mathbf{u}) - \Psi'(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u})) u_{2x_2}) \\ &+ \partial_{x_2} ((\Psi'(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u}) + \Psi'(\operatorname{curl}^2 \mathbf{u})) u_{1x_2} + (\Psi'(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u}) - \Psi'(\operatorname{curl}^2 \mathbf{u})) u_{2x_1}), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u_2 &= \partial_{x_1} ((\Psi'(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u}) - \Psi'(\operatorname{curl}^2 \mathbf{u})) u_{1x_2} + (\Psi'(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u}) + \Psi'(\operatorname{curl}^2 \mathbf{u})) u_{2x_1}) \\ &+ \partial_{x_2} ((\Psi'(\operatorname{div}^2 \mathbf{u}) - \Psi'(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u})) u_{1x_1} + (\Psi'(\operatorname{div}^2 \mathbf{u}) + \Psi'(\operatorname{sh}^2 \mathbf{u})) u_{2x_2}). \end{aligned}$$

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Extensions (4)



Left: Frame from a cyclone image sequence. **Right:** Optic flow field with the regulariser V_{AFS} .

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Summary

- ◆ Rotationally invariant convex optic flow regularisers can be classified using a diffusion framework.
- ◆ This taxonomy includes the following regularisers:
 - isotropic and anisotropic ones
 - image-driven and flow-driven ones
 - spatial and spatio-temporal ones
- ◆ Well-posedness results exist for all these methods.
- ◆ There are interesting structural similarities between isotropic and anisotropic flow-driven models.
- ◆ There is a design principle for creating anisotropic regularisers from isotropic ones.

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Assignment P4 (1)



Assignment P4 – Programming

You can download the file Ex04.tar from the web page

<http://www.mia.uni-saarland.de/Teaching/dic08.shtml>

To unpack these data, use `tar xvf Ex04.tar`.

1. The object code `inp.o` has all routines on board in order to become an explicit scheme for edge-enhancing-diffusion (EED) based inpainting, except for routines for calculating the diffusion tensor and for computing the inpainting from the results of an explicit EED step.
 - ◆ Supplement the file `inpainting.c` with the missing code. You may use the included routines for principal axis transformation and backtransformation. Compile the programme with `gcc -O2 -o inp inp.o inpainting.c -lm`.
 - ◆ Use the obtained programme `inp` to inpaint the images `trui.pgm` and `neworleans.pgm`. The required inpainting masks are given by `trui_mask.pgm` and `neworleans_mask.pgm`. Try to find good parameters for λ and σ .
 - ◆ In order to determine the quality of your inpainted results compute the average Euclidean error (AEE) and the average absolute error (AAE) compared to the original (complete) image `trui_orig.pgm`. To this end, supplement the file `errors.c` with the missing code.

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Assignment P4 (2)



For assessment:

Use `tar -cvzf P4_yourname.tgz file1 file2 ...` to pack the following files into an archive:

- ◆ the supplemented file `inpainting.c`
- ◆ two results for variational image inpainting for each of the two test images
- ◆ the supplemented file `errors.c`
- ◆ the corresponding error measures for all your results

Include a short README file stating the parameters used in filtering all of the submitted images. Send the archive by e-mail to the address specified by your tutor.

Deadline for electronic submission: Friday, June 13, 10 am.

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