Local features and image matching

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Last time

- RANSAC for robust fitting
  - Lines, translation
- Image mosaics
  - Fitting a 2D transformation
    - Homography

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Today

Mosaics recap:
How to warp one image to the other, given H?

How to detect *which features* to match?

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How to stitch together a panorama (a.k.a. mosaic)?

- Basic Procedure
  - Take a sequence of images from the same position
    - Rotate the camera about its optical center
  - Compute transformation between second image and first
  - Transform the second image to overlap with the first
  - Blend the two together to create a mosaic
  - (If there are more images, repeat)

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Source: Steve Seitz

Mosaics

Obtain a wider angle view by combining multiple images.

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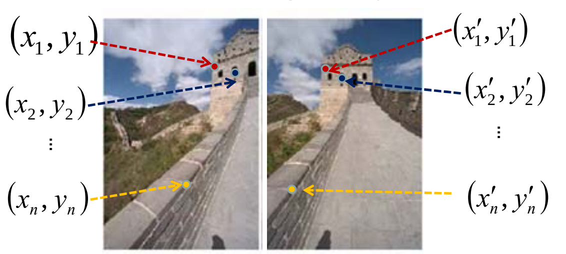
Homography



To **compute** the homography given pairs of corresponding points in the images, we need to set up an equation where the parameters of **H** are the unknowns…

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Solving for homographies

p' = Hp

$$\begin{bmatrix} wx' \\ wy' \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{00} & h_{01} & h_{02} \\ h_{10} & h_{11} & h_{12} \\ h_{20} & h_{21} & h_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Defined up to a scale factor.
Constrain Frobenius norm of H to be 1.

Problem to be solved:

$$\min \|Ah - b\|^2$$
$$s.t. \quad \|h\|^2 = 1$$

where vector of unknowns h = $[h_{00}, h_{01}, h_{02}, h_{10}, h_{11}, h_{12}, h_{20}, h_{21}, h_{22}]^T$

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Adapted from Devi Parikh

Solving for homographies

$$\begin{bmatrix} wx_i' \\ wy_i' \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{00} & h_{01} & h_{02} \\ h_{10} & h_{11} & h_{12} \\ h_{20} & h_{21} & h_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ y_i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$wx_i' = h_{00}x_i + h_{01}y_i + h_{02}$$
$$wy_i' = h_{10}x_i + h_{11}y_i + h_{12}$$
$$w = h_{20}x_i + h_{21}y_i + h_{22}$$

$$x_i' = \frac{h_{00}x_i + h_{01}y_i + h_{02}}{h_{20}x_i + h_{21}y_i + h_{22}}$$
$$y_i' = \frac{h_{10}x_i + h_{11}y_i + h_{12}}{h_{20}x_i + h_{21}y_i + h_{22}}$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$x_i' = \frac{kh_{00}x_i + kh_{01}y_i + kh_{02}}{kh_{20}x_i + kh_{21}y_i + kh_{22}}$$
$$y_i' = \frac{kh_{10}x_i + kh_{11}y_i + kh_{12}}{kh_{20}x_i + kh_{21}y_i + kh_{22}}$$

There are 9 variables $h_{00},\ldots,h_{22}$.
Are there 9 degrees of freedom?

No. We can multiply all h_{ij} by nonzero scalar k without changing the equations:

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Enforcing 8 DOF

Impose unit vector constraint

$$x_i' = \frac{h_{00}x_i + h_{01}y_i + h_{02}}{h_{20}x_i + h_{21}y_i + h_{22}} \qquad y_i' = \frac{h_{10}x_i + h_{11}y_i + h_{12}}{h_{20}x_i + h_{21}y_i + h_{22}}$$

Subject to: $h_{00}^2 + h_{01}^2 + h_{02}^2 + h_{10}^2 + h_{11}^2 + h_{12}^2 + h_{20}^2 + h_{21}^2 + h_{22}^2 = 1$

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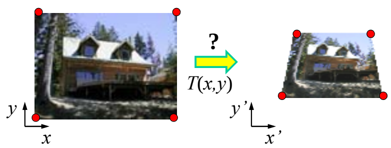
Projective: # correspondences?



How many correspondences needed for projective?

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Source: Alyosha Efros

RANSAC for estimating homography

RANSAC loop:

1. Select four feature pairs (at random)
2. Compute homography H (exact)
3. Compute *inliers* where $SSD(p_i', \mathbf{H} p_i) < \varepsilon$
4. Keep largest set of inliers
5. Re-compute least-squares H estimate on all of the inliers

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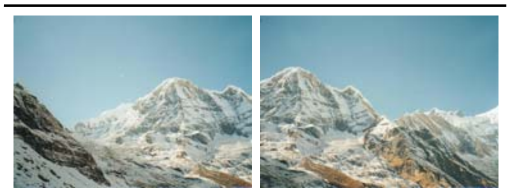
Slide credit: Steve Seitz

Robust feature-based alignment



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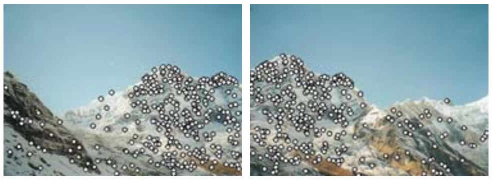
Source: L. Lazebnik

Robust feature-based alignment



- Extract features

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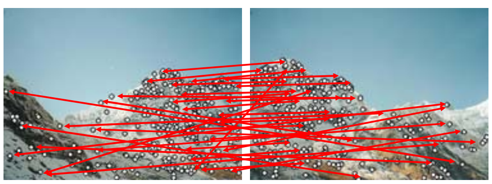
Source: L. Lazebnik

Robust feature-based alignment



- Extract features
- Compute *putative matches*

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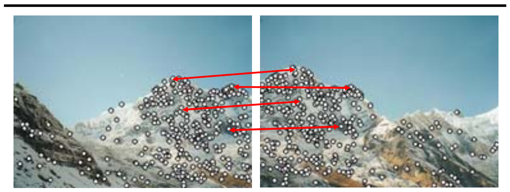
Source: L. Lazebnik

Robust feature-based alignment



- Extract features
- Compute *putative matches*
- Loop:
  - *Hypothesize* transformation *T* (small group of putative matches that are related by *T*)

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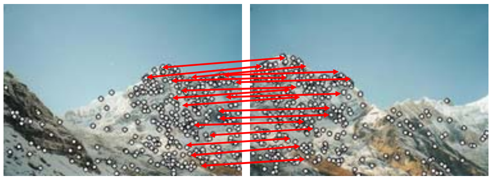
Source: L. Lazebnik

Robust feature-based alignment



- Extract features
- Compute *putative matches*
- Loop:
  - *Hypothesize* transformation *T* (small group of putative matches that are related by *T*)
  - *Verify* transformation (search for other matches consistent with *T*)

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Source: L. Lazebnik

Robust feature-based alignment

- Extract features
- Compute *putative matches*
- Loop:
  - *Hypothesize* transformation *T* (small group of putative matches that are related by *T*)
  - *Verify* transformation (search for other matches consistent with *T*)

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Source: L. Lazebnik

Creating and Exploring a Large Photorealistic Virtual Space

Josef Sivic, Biliana Kaneva, Antonio Torralba, Shai Avidan and William T. Freeman, Internet Vision Workshop, CVPR 2008.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E0rboU10rPo

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Creating and Exploring a Large Photorealistic Virtual Space

Current view, and desired view in green

Synthesized view from new camera

Induced camera motion

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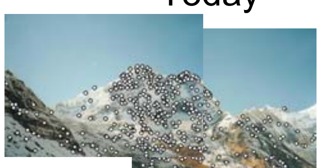
Today



Mosaics recap:
How to warp one image to the other, given H?

How to detect *which features* to match?

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Detecting local invariant features

- Detection of interest points
  - Harris corner detection
  - (Scale invariant blob detection: LoG)
- (Next time: description of local patches)

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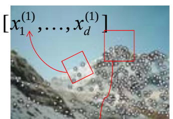
Local features: main components

1) Detection: Identify the interest points

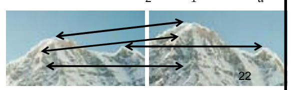
2) Description: Extract vector feature descriptor surrounding each interest point.

$\mathbf{x}_1 = [x_1^{(1)}, \ldots, x_d^{(1)}]$



$\mathbf{x}_2 = [x_1^{(2)}, \ldots, x_d^{(2)}]$

3) Matching: Determine correspondence between descriptors in two views



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Kristen Grauman

Local features: desired properties

- Repeatability
  - The same feature can be found in several images despite geometric and photometric transformations
- Saliency
  - Each feature has a distinctive description
- Compactness and efficiency
  - Many fewer features than image pixels
- Locality
  - A feature occupies a relatively small area of the image; robust to clutter and occlusion

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Applications

- Local features have be used for:
  - Image alignment
  - 3D reconstruction
  - Motion tracking
  - Robot navigation
  - Indexing and database retrieval
  - Object recognition

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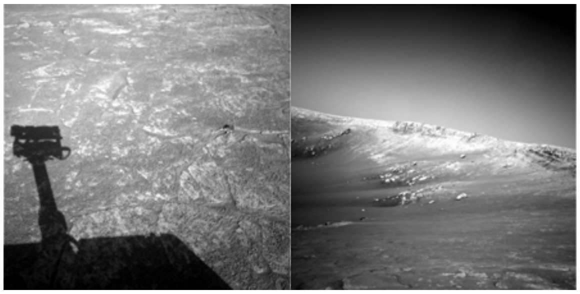
Lana Lazebnik

A hard feature matching problem



NASA Mars Rover images

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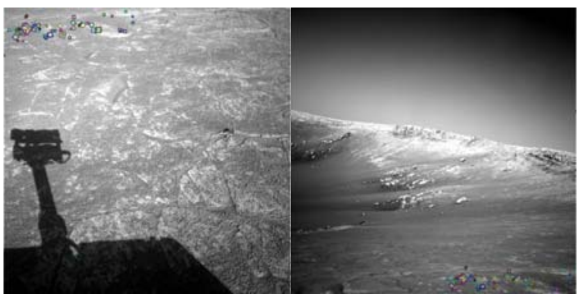
Answer below (look for tiny colored squares…)



NASA Mars Rover images
with SIFT feature matches
Figure by Noah Snavely

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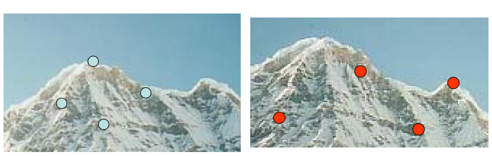
Goal: interest operator repeatability

- We want to detect (at least some of) the same points in both images.



No chance to find true matches!

- Yet we have to be able to run the detection procedure *independently* per image.

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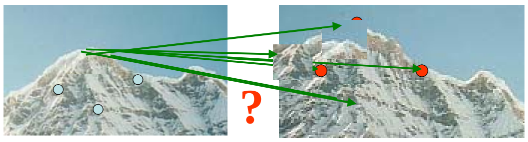
Goal: descriptor distinctiveness

- We want to be able to reliably determine which point goes with which.



- Must provide some invariance to geometric and photometric differences between the two views.

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Local features: main components

1) Detection: Identify the interest points

2) Description: Extract vector feature descriptor surrounding each interest point.

3) Matching: Determine correspondence between descriptors in two views

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- What points would you choose (for repeatability, distinctiveness)?

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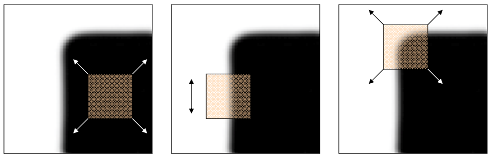
Corners as distinctive interest points

We should easily recognize the point by looking through a small window

Shifting a window in *any direction* should give *a large change* in intensity



"flat" region: no change in all directions

"edge": no change along the edge direction

"corner": significant change in all directions

Slide credit: Alyosha Efros, Darya Frolova, Denis Simakov

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Corners as distinctive interest points

$$M = \sum \begin{bmatrix} I_x I_x & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y I_y \end{bmatrix}$$

2 x 2 matrix of image derivatives (averaged in neighborhood of a point).

Notation: $I_x \Leftrightarrow \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$ $\quad I_y \Leftrightarrow \frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$ $\quad I_x I_y \Leftrightarrow \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}\frac{\partial I}{\partial y}$

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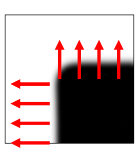
What does this matrix reveal?

First, consider an axis-aligned corner:



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What does this matrix reveal?

First, consider an axis-aligned corner:

$$M = \sum \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

This means dominant gradient directions align with x or y axis

Look for locations where **both** λ's are large.

If either λ is close to 0, then this is **not** corner-like.

What if we have a corner that is not aligned with the image axes?

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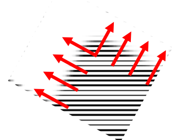
What does this matrix reveal?

Since *M* is symmetric, we have $M = X \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} X^T$

(Eigenvalue decomposition)

$$Mx_i = \lambda_i x_i$$



The *eigenvalues* of *M* reveal the amount of intensity change in the two principal orthogonal gradient directions in the window.

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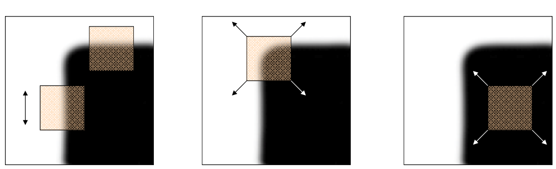
Corner response function



"edge": $\lambda_1 >> \lambda_2$, $\lambda_2 >> \lambda_1$

"corner": λ_1 and λ_2 are large, $\lambda_1 \sim \lambda_2$;

"flat" region: λ_1 and λ_2 are small;

$$f = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}$$

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Harris corner detector

1) Compute *M* matrix for each image window to get their *cornerness* scores.
2) Find points whose surrounding window gave large corner response (*f* > threshold)
3) Take the points of local maxima, i.e., perform non-maximum suppression

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Example of Harris application

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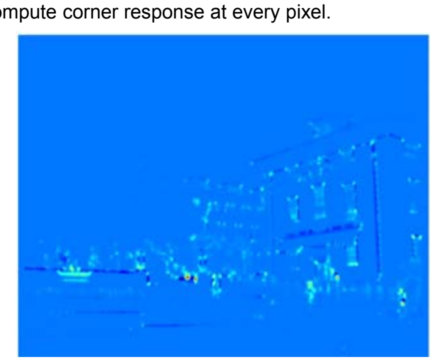
Example of Harris application

Compute corner response at every pixel.



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Example of Harris application

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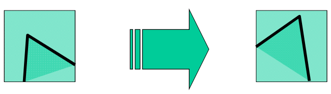
Properties of the Harris corner detector

Rotation invariant? Yes



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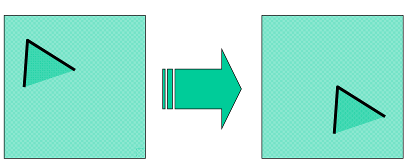
Properties of the Harris corner detector

Rotation invariant? Yes

Translation invariant? Yes



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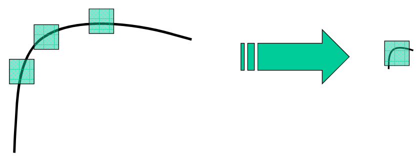
Properties of the Harris corner detector

Rotation invariant? Yes
Translation invariant? Yes
Scale invariant? No



All points will be classified as edges

Corner !

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Summary

- Image warping to create mosaic, given homography
- Interest point detection
  - Harris corner detector
  - Next time:
    - Laplacian of Gaussian, automatic scale selection

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