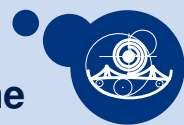


Incremental method for multiple line detection problem



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Real world motivation example: recognizing maize rows



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Data points in the plane \mathcal{A} :

$$\mathcal{A} = \{a^i = (x_i, y_i) : i = 1, \dots, m\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$

scattered along multiple lines, not known in advance.

MLD problem

Detect multiple lines on the basis of data points set \mathcal{A}



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- **computer vision and image processing**

L. A. Fernandes, M. M. Oliveira, Real-time line detection through an improved Hough transform voting scheme, *Pattern Recognition*, 41(2008) 299–314

A. Manzanera, T. P. Nguyen, X. Xu, Line and circle detection using dense one-to-one Hough transforms on greyscale images, *EURASIP Journal on Image and Video Processing*, (2016), DOI 10.1186/s13640-016-0149-y

- **robotics, laser range measurements**

C. Fernández, V. Moreno, B. Curto, J. A. Vicente, Clustering and line detection in laser range measurements, *Robotics and Autonomous Systems*, 58(2010) 720–726

- **civil engineering and geodesy**

A. Manzanera, T. P. Nguyen, X. Xu, Line and circle detection using dense one-to-one Hough transforms on greyscale images, *EURASIP Journal on Image and Video Processing*, (2016), DOI 10.1186/s13640-016-0149-y

- **crop row detection in agriculture**

I. Vidović, R. Scitovski, Center-based clustering for line detection and application to crop rows detection, *Computers and Electronics in Agriculture*, 109(2014) 212–220



- Hough Transform (data without noise)
- Probabilistic Hough Transform and Randomized Hough Transform (data with noise)

L. A. Fernandes, M. M. Oliveira, Real-time line detection through an improved Hough transform voting scheme, *Pattern Recognition*, 41(2008) 299–314

A. Manzanera, T. P. Nguyen, X. Xu, Line and circle detection using dense one-to-one Hough transforms on greyscale images, *EURASIP Journal on Image and Video Processing*, (2016), DOI 10.1186/s13640-016-0149-y

P. Mukhopadhyay, B. B. Chaudhuri, A survey of Hough transform, *Pattern Recognition*, 48(2015) 993–1010



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Set of lines in the plane \mathcal{L} :

$$\mathcal{L} = \{\ell(\xi, \eta, \zeta) \equiv \xi x + \eta y + \zeta = 0, [\xi, \eta, \zeta]^T \in \mathcal{P}\}$$

Set of parameter-vectors \mathcal{P} :

$$\mathcal{P} = \{\mathbf{p} = [\xi, \eta, \zeta]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 : \xi^2 + \eta^2 = 1\}$$



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Euclidean distance from the point $a^i = (x_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{A}$ to the line $\ell(\mathbf{p}) \in \mathcal{L}$, $\mathbf{p} = [\xi, \eta, \zeta]^T \in \mathcal{P}$:

$$\mathfrak{D}(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p})) = (\xi x_i + \eta y_i + \zeta)^2$$

Globally Optimal k -partition:

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\Pi \in \text{Part}(\mathcal{A}; k)} \mathcal{F}(\Pi), \quad \mathcal{F}(\Pi) = \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{a^i \in \pi_j} \mathfrak{D}(a^i, \ell_j(\mathbf{p}_j)),$$

where $\text{Part}(\mathcal{A}; k)$ is the set of all k -partitions of the set \mathcal{A} and

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Globally Optimal k -partition:

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{p}_j \in \mathcal{P}} F(\mathbf{p}_1 \dots, \mathbf{p}_k), \quad F(\mathbf{p}_1 \dots, \mathbf{p}_k) = \sum_{i=1}^m \min_{1 \leq j \leq k} \mathfrak{D}(a^i, \ell_j(\mathbf{p}_j)),$$

- F is nonconvex and nondifferentiable
- F is Lipschitz-continuous



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Special case $k = 1$



Total Least Squares (TLS) line

- $w_i > 0$ be the corresponding weights of the data points $a^i \in \mathcal{A}$.
- line $\tilde{\ell} \in \mathcal{L}$, with parameter-vector $[\tilde{\xi}, \tilde{\eta}, \tilde{\zeta}]^T \in \mathcal{P}$, passes through the centroid (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) of the weighted data point set (w, \mathcal{A}) , it can be written in the form:

$$\tilde{\ell} \equiv \tilde{\xi}(x - \bar{x}) + \tilde{\eta}(y - \bar{y}) = 0.$$

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{[\xi, \eta]^T \in \mathbf{R}^2, \xi^2 + \eta^2 = 1} G(\xi, \eta)$$

$$G(\xi, \eta) = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i (\xi(x_i - \bar{x}) + \eta(y_i - \bar{y}))^2$$

- The problem attains a unique global minimum if and only if at least one of the following two conditions is fulfilled:
 - i) $\sum_{i=1}^m w_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \neq \sum_{i=1}^m w_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2$ and
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$$\mathbf{B} := \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - \bar{x} & y_1 - \bar{y} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_m - \bar{x} & y_m - \bar{y} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{D} := \text{diag}(w_1 \dots, w_m), \quad \mathbf{t} = [\xi, \eta]^T,$$

$$G(\xi, \eta) = \|\sqrt{\mathbf{D}}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{t}\|^2, \quad \|\mathbf{t}\| = 1$$

its global minimum is attained at every unit eigenvector $\hat{\mathbf{t}} = [\hat{\xi}, \hat{\eta}]^T$ corresponding to the smaller eigenvalue of the matrix $\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{D} \mathbf{B}$.

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The k -closest line algorithm (KCL)



Algorithm

Step A: (Assignment step) For each set of mutually different lines $\ell_1, \dots, \ell_k \in \mathcal{L}$, the set \mathcal{A} should be divided into k disjoint unempty clusters π_1, \dots, π_k by using the minimal distance principle

$$\pi_j := \{a \in \mathcal{A} : \mathfrak{D}(a, \ell_j) \leq \mathfrak{D}(a, \ell_s), \forall s \neq j\};$$

Step B: (Update step) Given a partition $\Pi = \{\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k\}$ of the set \mathcal{A} , one can define the corresponding line cluster-centers $\hat{\ell}_1, \dots, \hat{\ell}_k \in \mathcal{L}$ as corresponding TLS-lines. Set $\ell_j = \hat{\ell}_j$, $j = 1, \dots, k$.

KCL algorithm - usually initiated several times with different random initial lines and for the solution we will take the one yielding the smallest value of the function F .



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Incremental algorithm for multiple line detection



$\tilde{\ell}_1, \dots, \tilde{\ell}_{k-1}$ are known lines, the next line $\tilde{\ell}_k$ will be obtained by solving the following GOP:

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \Phi_k(\mathbf{p}), \quad \Phi_k(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^m \min\{\delta_{k-1}^{(i)}, \mathcal{D}(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p}))\}, \quad (1)$$

where

$$\delta_{k-1}^{(i)} = \min\{\mathcal{D}(a^i, \tilde{\ell}_1), \dots, \mathcal{D}(a^i, \tilde{\ell}_{k-1})\}. \quad (2)$$

After that, KCL algorithm is applied to the set of lines $\{\tilde{\ell}_1, \dots, \tilde{\ell}_k\}$. Since by increasing the number of clusters in partition, the objective value decreases, it is reasonable to stop the iterative process when

$$\frac{F_k - F_{k-1}}{F_1} < \epsilon_B,$$

for some small $\epsilon_B > 0$ (say .005).

A. M. Bagirov, J. Ugon, H. Mirzayeva, Nonsmooth nonconvex optimization approach to clusterwise linear regression problems, European

Journal of Operational Research, 229(2013) 132–142.

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Instead of solving GOP:

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we approximate Φ_k with differentiable function and we solve local optimization problem.



By using

$$|x| = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \epsilon \log(2 \cosh \frac{x}{\epsilon}),$$

$$0 \leq \epsilon \log(2 \cosh \frac{x}{\epsilon}) - |x| \leq \epsilon \log 2,$$

and the identity

$$\min\{x, y\} = \frac{1}{2} (x + y - |x - y|),$$

we will determine a smooth approximation Φ_k^ϵ of the function Φ_k given in (3):

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_k(\mathbf{p}) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m (\delta_{k-1}^{(i)} + \mathfrak{D}(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p})) - |\mathfrak{D}(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p})) - \delta_{k-1}^{(i)}|) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m (\delta_{k-1}^{(i)} + \mathfrak{D}(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p})) - \epsilon \log(2 \cosh \frac{\mathfrak{D}(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p})) - \delta_{k-1}^{(i)}}{\epsilon})) \\ &=: \Phi_k^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}). \end{aligned}$$



Main idea

By using such smoothing of the function Φ_k , we propose a simple, efficient local optimization method for solving MLD problem and prove its convergence.

Lemma

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and suppose that $\Phi_k : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\Phi_k^\epsilon : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then:

- (i) $0 \leq \Phi_k(\mathbf{p}) - \Phi_k^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}) \leq \frac{m\epsilon}{2} \log 2$
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Iterative procedure



Let $\mathbf{p}^{(0)} = [\xi^{(0)}, \eta^{(0)}, \zeta^{(0)}]^T \in \mathcal{P}$, and $\mathbf{s}^{(0)} = [\xi^{(0)}, \eta^{(0)}]^T$. Denoting $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}^i := [x_i, y_i, 1]^T$.

$$\mathbf{p}^{(n+1)} = \begin{bmatrix} \xi^{(n+1)} \\ \eta^{(n+1)} \\ \zeta^{(n+1)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{s}^{(n+1)} \\ \zeta^{(n+1)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \underset{\mathbf{s}, \|\mathbf{s}\|=1}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|\sqrt{\mathbf{D}^{(n)}} \mathbf{B}^{(n)} \mathbf{s}\|^2 \\ -\xi^{(n+1)} \bar{x}^{(n)} - \eta^{(n+1)} \bar{y}^{(n)} \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$\mathbf{D}^{(n)} = \operatorname{Diag} \left(w_1^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n)}), \dots, w_m^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n)}) \right)$$

and

$$\mathbf{B}^{(n)} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - \bar{x}^{(n)} & y_1 - \bar{y}^{(n)} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_m - \bar{x}^{(n)} & y_m - \bar{y}^{(n)} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$w_i^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \tanh \frac{(\mathbf{p}^T \tilde{\mathbf{a}}^i)^2 - \delta_{k-1}^{(i)}}{\epsilon} \right), \quad i = 1, \dots, m,$$

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$$\bar{x}^{(n)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m w_i^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^m w_i^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})}, \quad \bar{y}^{(n)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m w_i^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^m w_i^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})}.$$

In each iteration of the optimization process, the solution $\mathbf{s}^{(n+1)} = [\xi^{(n+1)}, \eta^{(n+1)}]^T$ is equal to the eigenvector corresponding to the smaller eigenvalue of the matrix $(\mathbf{B}^{(n)})^T \mathbf{D}^{(n)} \mathbf{B}^{(n)}$.



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In each iteration of the optimization process, the solution $\mathbf{s}^{(n+1)} = [\zeta^{(n+1)}, \eta^{(n+1)}]^T$ is equal to the eigenvector corresponding to the smaller eigenvalue of the matrix $(\mathbf{B}^{(n)})^T \mathbf{D}^{(n)} \mathbf{B}^{(n)}$.



Proposition

Let $\mathbf{p}^{(0)} = [\xi^{(0)}, \eta^{(0)}, \zeta^{(0)}]^T \in \mathcal{P}$ and $\mathbf{s}^{(0)} = [\xi^{(0)}, \eta^{(0)}]^T$, and let the sequence $(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})$ be given by the previous iterative process.

If $\mathbf{p}^{(n+1)} \neq \mathbf{p}^{(n)}$, then $\Phi_k^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n+1)}) < \Phi_k^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})$

Theorem

Let $\mathbf{p}^{(0)} = [\xi^{(0)}, \eta^{(0)}, \zeta^{(0)}]^T \in \mathcal{P}$, and $\mathbf{s}^{(0)} = [\xi^{(0)}, \eta^{(0)}]^T$, and let the sequence $(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})$ be given by the previous iterative process. Then

- (i) The sequence $(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})$ has an accumulation point.
- (ii) The sequence $((\Phi_k^\epsilon)^{(n)})$, where $(\Phi_k^\epsilon)^{(n)} := \Phi_k^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})$, converges.
- (iii) Every accumulation point $\hat{\mathbf{p}}$ of the sequence $(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})$ is a stationary point of the functional Φ_k^ϵ .
- (iv) If $\hat{\mathbf{p}}_1$ and $\hat{\mathbf{p}}_2$ are two accumulation points of the sequence $(\mathbf{p}^{(n)})$, then $\Phi_k^\epsilon(\hat{\mathbf{p}}_1) = \Phi_k^\epsilon(\hat{\mathbf{p}}_2)$.



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usually initiated several times with different random initial approximation
and for the solution we will take the one yielding the smallest value of the
function Φ_k^ϵ .



$\tilde{\ell}_1, \dots, \tilde{\ell}_{k-1}$ are known lines, the next line $\tilde{\ell}_k$ will be obtained by solving the following GOP:

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \Phi_k(\mathbf{p}), \quad \Phi_k^\epsilon(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^m \min\{\delta_{k-1}^{(i)}, \mathfrak{D}(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p}))\}, \quad (3)$$

where

$$\delta_{k-1}^{(i)} = \min\{\mathfrak{D}(a^i, \tilde{\ell}_1), \dots, \mathfrak{D}(a^i, \tilde{\ell}_{k-1})\}. \quad (4)$$

After that, KCL algorithm is applied to the set of lines $\{\tilde{\ell}_1, \dots, \tilde{\ell}_k\}$. Since by increasing the number of clusters in partition, the objective value decreases, it is reasonable to stop the incremental iterative process when

$$\frac{F_k - F_{k-1}}{F_1} < \epsilon_B,$$

for some small $\epsilon_B > 0$ (say .005).



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Motivated by DBSCAN algorithm:

M. Ester, H. Kriegel, J. Sander, A density-based algorithm for discovering clusters in large spatial databases with noise, In: 2nd International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD-96), Portland, 1996, 226–231.

Let $MinPts(\mathcal{A}) > 2$. For every $a \in \mathcal{A}$, let $\epsilon_a > 0$ be the radius of the smallest disc centered at a and containing $MinPts$ elements of the set \mathcal{A}
 $MinPts(\mathcal{A}) := \lfloor \log |\mathcal{A}| \rfloor$

R. Scitovski, K. Sabo, DBSCAN-like clustering method for various data densities, Pattern Analysis and Applications 23 (2020), 541-554

Let $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A}) = \{\epsilon_a : a \in \mathcal{A}\}$. We define ϵ -density of the set \mathcal{A} to be the 99% quantile of the set $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ and denote it by $\epsilon(\mathcal{A})$.



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Note that for almost all points $a \in \mathcal{A}$, the corresponding disc with center a and radius $\epsilon(\mathcal{A})$ contains at least $MinPts$ elements from the set \mathcal{A} . Let $\Pi^{(k)}$ be the partition obtained in step k of the iterative process. For each cluster $\pi \in \Pi^{(k)}$ with line-center $\ell(\mathbf{p})$ let

$$V(\pi) := \{\mathcal{D}_1(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p})) : a^i \in \pi\},$$

where $\mathcal{D}_1(a^i, \ell(\mathbf{p})) = |\xi x_i + \eta y_i + \zeta|$ is the ordinary Euclidean distance from the point $a^i = (x_i, y_i) \in \pi$ to the line $\ell(\mathbf{p})$. We define *Quantile of the Data to Line Deviations* (QD) of cluster π as 90% quantile of the set $V(\pi)$.

We expect that the partition $\Pi^{(k)}$ is near k -G0Part if:

$$QD[\pi] < \epsilon(\mathcal{A}), \quad \forall \pi \in \Pi^{(k)}.$$

Therefore, stopping criterion can be complemented with this condition.



The method has been tested on numerous artificial data sets, which have been constructed in the following way: $n \in \{5, 10\}$ lines, which intersect rectangle $\Delta = [0, 10] \times [0, 10]$ and whose mutual Hausdorff distances in rectangle Δ are at least 1, were chosen randomly. To each point on the line noise was added by generating pseudorandom numbers from bivariate normal distribution with mean zero and covariance matrix $\sigma^2 I$, $\sigma^2 \in \{.05, .1\}$, where I is the 2×2 identity matrix. For each pair (n, σ^2) , 100 examples were generated.

Results - percent of recognition

n	$\sigma^2 = 0.05$	$\sigma^2 = 0.1$
5	100%	100%
10	96%	88%



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For each cluster $\pi = \pi(\ell) \in \Pi^{(k)}$ we will determine $MinPts(\pi) := \lfloor \log |\pi| \rfloor$ and ϵ -density $\epsilon(\pi)$ of the cluster π . In the sequence $(\epsilon(\pi))_{\pi \in \Pi^{(k)}}$, we will try to identify outliers, so that this sequence is standardized with

$$\nu_{\pi} := |\epsilon(\pi) - \text{med}_{\pi \in \Pi^{(k)}} \epsilon(\pi)| / \text{MAD}, \quad \text{MAD} = 1.483 \text{ med}_{\pi \in \Pi^{(k)}} |\epsilon(\pi) - \text{med}_{\pi \in \Pi^{(k)}} \epsilon(\pi)|. \quad (5)$$

The center-line ℓ of a cluster π will be dropped if $\nu_{\pi} > 3.5$. This would mean that such cluster is more sparse around its center-line than other clusters.









- Problems when data are in noisy environment \Rightarrow Further research!