

ALGORITHMS TO SOLVE ABSOLUTE ORIENTATION PROBLEM FOR $GL(3)$, $O(3)$ AND $SO(3)$ GROUPS

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The most popular algorithm for aligning of 3D point data is the Iterative Closest Point (ICP). The point-to-point variational problem for orthogonal transformations is mathematically equivalent to the absolute orientation problem in photogrammetry. In this paper the survey of the known closed form methods to solve point-to-point ICP variation problem is proposed. Also, the new extension of the Horn algorithm for $O(3)$ group to $SO(3)$ group is obtained. Computer simulation illustrates the difference of performance for considered methods.

Keywords: *absolute orientation problem, Iterative Closest Points (ICP), point-to-point, closed form solution, exact solution, orthogonal transformation, affine transformation.*

Introduction

Creating a 3D spatial environment for a robot or sensor is based on algorithms for registering point clouds. Aligning two point clouds means finding either an orthogonal or affine transformation in \mathbb{R}^3 that maximizes consistent overlap between the two clouds. The iterative closest points algorithm (ICP) is the most common method for aligning point clouds based on exclusively geometric characteristics. The algorithm is widely used to record data obtained with 3D scanners. The ICP algorithm, originally proposed by Besl and Mackay [1], consists of the following iteratively applied basic steps:

- 1) a search for a correspondence between the points of two clouds;
- 2) a minimization of the error metric (variational problem of the ICP algorithm).

The two steps of the ICP algorithm alternate among themselves, that is, the estimation of the geometric transformation based on the fixed correspondence (step 2) and updating the correspondences to their closest matches (step 1). The key point of the ICP algorithm [2] is the search for either an orthogonal or affine transformation, which is the best with respect to a metric for combining two point clouds with a given correspondence between points.

The variational problem of the ICP algorithm contains the following three basic components: functional to be minimized; class of geometric transformations; functional minimization method. The most common types of functional is point-to-point [1].

The point-to-point variational problem for orthogonal transformations is mathematically equivalent to the absolute orientation problem in photogrammetry [3]. Geometric transformations can belong to the groups of $GL(3)$, $O(3)$, $SO(3)$ (affine transformations, orthogonal transformations, orthogonal transformations with positive determinants, respectively) extended by translations. A minimization method can be

either iterative or closed (closed-form solution). A closed-form solution can be an exact solution to a variational problem or its approximation. In this paper we consider closed form solutions of the point-to-point variational problem. Note that the solution to a variational problem in the class of orthogonal transformations is mathematically more complicated than in the class of affine transformations, since in the former case it is necessary to deal with the manifold $O(3)$ (or $SO(3)$) in \mathbb{R}^9 .

Many different variants of the variational problem have been proposed. In [4] a closed form solution is described for the point-to-point affine problem.

Closed-form solutions to the point-to-point problem in the class of orthogonal transformations were obtained by Horn [5; 6]. In [5], the solution is based on quaternions and belongs to $SO(3)$. In [6], the transformation matrix belongs to $O(3)$ and may have a negative determinant. In this case, the ICP algorithm does not converge to the true transformation. This problem was solved by modifying the Horn's algorithm for the class of $SO(3)$ in [7].

If the source and target clouds are located far from each other, then a common algorithm of searching for a correspondence between clouds matches all points of the source cloud with a small subset of the target cloud. In this case the affine variational problem finds a transformation that strongly distorts the source cloud. Also the bad correspondence significantly reduces the probability to obtain a good answer for orthogonal variants of variational problems. Thus, the probability of obtaining an acceptable transformation as a result of the ICP algorithm with an initial poor correspondence is the comparative criterion for different types of variational problems.

In this paper a survey of methods to solve the point-to-point variation problem (or the absolute orientation problem) for different cases is proposed. We consider the following types of the point-to-point variational problem:

- 1) a closed form solution of the affine point-to-point [4];
- 2) an approximation of the exact orthogonal solution by a projection of the affine solution onto $O(3)$ [6];
- 3) an approximation of the exact orthogonal solution by SVD of the affine solution;
- 4) a closed form exact solution ($O(3)$ case) [6];
- 5) a closed form exact solution ($O(3)$ case, SVD) [7];
- 6) a closed form exact solution ($SO(3)$ case);
- 7) an approximation of the exact orthogonal solution by a projection of the affine solution onto $SO(3)$ [7].

Note that all the considered algorithms are known, except for the algorithm described in Section 5.1.

Especially note that the method described in Section 3.3 is used in numerous papers in the point cloud registration field and it returns the solution belongs to $O(3)$ (not $SO(3)$) group.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 1, we formulate the point-to-point variational problem. In Section 2, the problem is reduced to the form without the translation vector. In Section 3, we consider algorithms for $O(3)$ group, in Section 4 for $GL(3)$ group, in Section 5 for $SO(3)$ group. In Section 6, the list of considered variational problems and methods to their solutions is proposed. In Section 7, computer simulation results are presented and discussed.

1. Absolute orientation problem

Let $P = \{p_1, \dots, p_s\}$ be a source point cloud, and $Q = \{q_1, \dots, q_s\}$ be a target point cloud in \mathbb{R}^3 . Suppose that the relation between points of P and Q is given in such a

manner that for each point p_i there is a corresponding point q_i . Note that a point q_i from Q can correspond to the several points from P . Denote by J the functional

$$J(R, T) = \sum_{i=1}^s \|Rp_i + T - q_i\|^2, \quad (1)$$

where R is an orthogonal matrix belongs to O(3) or SO(3) group, $p_i = (p_{i1} \ p_{i2} \ p_{i3})^t$, $q_i = (q_{i1} \ q_{i2} \ q_{i3})^t$. Consider the following constrained variational problem:

$$(R_*, T_*) = \arg \min_{R, T} J(R, T), \quad (2)$$

subject that $R^t R = I$ (O(3) case), or subject that $R^t R = I$ and $\det(R) = 1$ (SO(3) case). The variational problem (2) is called absolute orientation problem or point-to-point ICP variational problem.

2. Translation vector exclusion

Let us compute the gradient $J(R, T)$ with respect to T . Let h be the increment with respect to T . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} J(R, T) &= \sum_{i=1}^s \|Rp_i + T - q_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^s \langle Rp_i + T - q_i, Rp_i + T - q_i \rangle = \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^s \langle Rp_i - q_i, Rp_i - q_i \rangle + 2\langle Rp_i - q_i, T \rangle + \langle T, T \rangle, \\ J(R, T + h) &= \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^s \|Rp_i + (T + h) - q_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^s \langle Rp_i + (T + h) - q_i, Rp_i + (T + h) - q_i \rangle = \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^s \langle Rp_i - q_i, Rp_i - q_i \rangle + 2\langle Rp_i - q_i, (T + h) \rangle + \langle (T + h), (T + h) \rangle = \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^s \langle Rp_i - q_i, Rp_i - q_i \rangle + 2\langle Rp_i - q_i, T \rangle + 2\langle Rp_i - q_i, h \rangle + \langle T, T \rangle + 2\langle T, h \rangle + \langle h, h \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

The residual of $J(R, T + h)$ and $J(R, T)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} J(R, T + h) - J(R, T) &= \sum_{i=1}^s 2\langle Rp_i - q_i, h \rangle + 2\langle T, h \rangle + \langle h, h \rangle = \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^s \langle 2(T + (Rp_i - q_i)), h \rangle + \langle h, h \rangle = \langle 2 \sum_{i=1}^s (T + (Rp_i - q_i)), h \rangle + o(h). \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

It follows from (3) that gradient $\nabla J(T)$ is

$$\nabla J(T) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^s T + (Rp_i - q_i).$$

Let us compute the extreme value of the variable T : $\nabla J(T) = 0$,

$$T_* = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{i=1}^s q_i - Rp_i. \quad (4)$$

We substitute the expression T_* through R into (1):

$$\begin{aligned} J(R, T_*) &= \sum_{i=1}^s \|Rp_i + T_* - q_i\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^s \left\| Rp_i + \left(\frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s q_j - Rp_j \right) - q_i \right\|^2 = \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^s \left\| \left(Rp_i - \frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s Rp_j \right) - \left(q_i - \frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s q_j \right) \right\|^2 = \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^s \left\| R \left(p_i - \frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s p_j \right) - \left(q_i - \frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s q_j \right) \right\|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Let p'_i and q'_i be

$$p'_i = p_i - \frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s p_j, \quad q'_i = q_i - \frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s q_j, \quad (6)$$

where $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$. The functional (1) with respect to (5) and (6) takes the form

$$J(R) = \sum_{i=1}^s \|Rp'_i - q'_i\|^2. \quad (7)$$

The variational problem (2) for point clouds $P' = \{p'_1, \dots, p'_s\}$ and $Q' = \{q'_1, \dots, q'_s\}$ is reduced to

$$R_* = \arg \min_R J(R), \quad (8)$$

subject that $R^t R = I$ (O(3) case), or subject that $R^t R = I$ and $\det(R) = 1$ (SO(3) case). Denote by \mathbf{P}' and \mathbf{Q}' the following matrices:

$$\mathbf{P}' = \begin{pmatrix} p'_{11} & \cdots & p'_{s1} \\ p'_{12} & \cdots & p'_{s2} \\ p'_{13} & \cdots & p'_{s3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{Q}' = \begin{pmatrix} q'_{11} & \cdots & q'_{s1} \\ q'_{12} & \cdots & q'_{s2} \\ q'_{13} & \cdots & q'_{s3} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (9)$$

Note that the functional (7) can be rewritten as

$$J(R) = \|R\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}'\|^2. \quad (10)$$

3. Algorithms for O(3) group

3.1. Horn algorithm for matrices

Let us consider variational problem (8) with functional in form (10). Note that we denote by $\langle A, B \rangle$ (where A and B are same size matrices) the matrix dot product, i. e. the sum of pointwise products of matrices elements.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^s \|Rp'_i - q'_i\|^2 &= \|R\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}'\|^2 = \langle R\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}', R\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}' \rangle = \\ &= \langle R\mathbf{P}', R\mathbf{P}' \rangle - 2\langle R\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle + \langle \mathbf{Q}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle = \langle R^t R\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{P}' \rangle - 2\langle R\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle + \langle \mathbf{Q}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle = \\ &= \langle \mathbf{P}', \mathbf{P}' \rangle - 2\langle R\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle + \langle \mathbf{Q}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle = \langle \mathbf{P}', \mathbf{P}' \rangle - 2\langle R, \mathbf{Q}'(\mathbf{P}')^t \rangle + \langle \mathbf{Q}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Let us denote by M the matrix

$$M = \mathbf{Q}'(\mathbf{P}')^t. \quad (11)$$

Note that M^t is the covariance matrix of point clouds \mathbf{P}' and \mathbf{Q}' . Since $\langle \mathbf{P}', \mathbf{P}' \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbf{Q}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle$ are constants with respect to the variational problem, problem (8) is reduced to

$$R_* = \arg \min_R (-\langle R, M \rangle) = \arg \max_R \langle R, M \rangle. \quad (12)$$

Let us consider the matrix $M^t M$. This matrix is symmetric and positive semi-definite. Suppose that $\text{rank}(M) = 3$ (matrix M is the sum of matrices of rank one). Since $\text{rank}(M^t M) = \text{rank}(M)$, we have that $\text{rank } M^t M$ is equal to three. Thus, three eigenvalues of the matrix $M^t M$ are strictly greater than zero. Let us write eigen decomposition of the matrix $M^t M$

$$M^t M = \mathfrak{R} \Lambda \mathfrak{R}^t, \quad (13)$$

where \mathfrak{R} is an orthogonal matrix consists of the eigenvectors, $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ are eigenvalues and $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3)$. Suppose that $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3$.

Proposition 1. *The matrix $S = (M^t M)^{1/2}$ can be expressed as*

$$S = (M^t M)^{1/2} = \mathfrak{R} \sqrt{\Lambda} \mathfrak{R}^t, \quad (14)$$

where $\sqrt{\Lambda} = \text{diag}(\sqrt{\lambda_1}, \sqrt{\lambda_2}, \sqrt{\lambda_3})$. The matrix $S = (M^t M)^{1/2}$ is symmetric.

Proof. We have

$$(\mathfrak{R} \sqrt{\Lambda} \mathfrak{R}^t)(\mathfrak{R} \sqrt{\Lambda} \mathfrak{R}^t) = \mathfrak{R} \sqrt{\Lambda} \sqrt{\Lambda} \mathfrak{R}^t = \mathfrak{R} \Lambda \mathfrak{R}^t = M^t M,$$

$$(M^t M)^t = (\mathfrak{R} \Lambda \mathfrak{R}^t)^t = \mathfrak{R} (\Lambda)^t \mathfrak{R}^t = \mathfrak{R} \Lambda \mathfrak{R}^t = M^t M.$$

□

Proposition 2. *The matrix $U = M(M^t M)^{-1/2}$ can be expressed as*

$$U = M(M^t M)^{-1/2} = M \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t, \quad (15)$$

where $(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} = \text{diag}(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_3}})$. The matrix $U = M(M^t M)^{-1/2}$ is orthogonal.

Proof. We have the equalities

$$\begin{aligned} ((M^t M)^{-1/2} (M^t M)^{-1/2})^{-1} &= ((\mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t)(\mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t))^{-1} = \\ &= (\mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t)^{-1} = ((\mathfrak{R} \Lambda^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t))^{-1} = \mathfrak{R} \Lambda \mathfrak{R}^t = M^t M, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} U^t U &= (M \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t)^t M \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t = (\mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t M^t) M \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t = \\ &= \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t (M^t M) \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t = \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t (\mathfrak{R} \Lambda \mathfrak{R}^t) \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t = \\ &= \mathfrak{R} (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \Lambda (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1} \mathfrak{R}^t = \mathfrak{R} \mathfrak{R}^t = I. \end{aligned}$$

□

Proposition 3. *The equality*

$$M = US \quad (16)$$

is valid.

Proof. It is obvious that $US = M(M^tM)^{-1/2}(M^tM)^{1/2} = M$. Substitute (16) to the functional in variational problem (12) and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} R_* &= \arg \max_R \langle R, M \rangle = \arg \max_R \langle R, US \rangle = \arg \max_R \langle U^t R, S \rangle = \\ &= \arg \max_R \langle U^t R, \mathfrak{R} \sqrt{\Lambda} \mathfrak{R}^t \rangle = \arg \max_R \langle \mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R}, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

subject that $R^t R = I$.

The matrix $\mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R}$ is orthogonal. Let us denote the diagonal elements of this matrix by r_1, r_2, r_3 . In this case the dot product can be written as

$$\langle \mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R}, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle = r_1 \sqrt{\lambda_1} + r_2 \sqrt{\lambda_2} + r_3 \sqrt{\lambda_3}.$$

Maximum value of dot product of an orthogonal matrix and the matrix $\sqrt{\Lambda}$ is equal to $\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} + \sqrt{\lambda_3}$, i. e. $r_1 = 1, r_2 = 1, r_3 = 1$ and $\mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R} = I$.

Therefore, we have that

$$R = U = M(M^tM)^{-1/2}. \quad (17)$$

□

3.2. Nearest orthogonal matrix (O(3) case)

Let us denote by M a 3×3 matrix, $\text{rank}(M) = 3$. We call a nearest orthogonal matrix for the matrix M such matrix R_* , that

$$R_* = \arg \min_R \|R - M\|^2, \quad (18)$$

subject that $R^t R = I$. We rewrite the functional in variational problem (18) as

$$\begin{aligned} \|R - M\|^2 &= \langle R - M, R - M \rangle = \langle R, R \rangle - 2\langle R, M \rangle + \langle M, M \rangle = \\ &= \langle R^t R, I \rangle - 2\langle R, M \rangle + \langle M, M \rangle = \langle I, I \rangle - 2\langle R, M \rangle + \langle M, M \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Since terms $\langle I, I \rangle$ and $\langle M, M \rangle$ are constant with respect to variational problem (19), the variational problem takes the form

$$R_* = \arg \max_R \langle R, M \rangle, \quad (20)$$

subject that $R^t R = I$.

Variational problems (20) and (12) are coincide. Therefore, the nearest orthogonal matrix R for the the matrix M is

$$R = M(M^tM)^{-1/2}. \quad (21)$$

3.3. Solution of the variational problem by Singular Value Decomposition

Let M be a 3×3 matrix and $\text{rank}(M) = 3$. Let us apply Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) to the matrix $M = \mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t$, where \mathfrak{U} and \mathfrak{V}^t are orthogonal matrices, $D = \text{diag}(\sqrt{\lambda_1}, \sqrt{\lambda_2}, \sqrt{\lambda_3})$ and $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 > 0$ are eigenvalues of the matrix M^tM .

Formula (21) describes the solution of variational problem (12). Substitute SVD of the matrix M to (21) and get

$$\begin{aligned} R &= M(M^tM)^{-1/2} = (\mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t)((\mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t)^t(\mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t))^{-1/2} = \\ &= (\mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t)(\mathfrak{V}D\mathfrak{U}^t\mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t)^{-1/2} = (\mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t)(\mathfrak{V}D^2\mathfrak{V}^t)^{-1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $((\mathfrak{Y}D^{-1}\mathfrak{Y}^t)(\mathfrak{Y}D^{-1}\mathfrak{Y}^t))^{-1} = (\mathfrak{Y}D^{-2}\mathfrak{Y}^t)^{-1} = \mathfrak{Y}D^2\mathfrak{Y}^t$, we have that

$$(\mathfrak{Y}D\mathfrak{Y}^t)(\mathfrak{Y}D^2\mathfrak{Y}^t)^{-1/2} = (\mathfrak{Y}D\mathfrak{Y}^t)(\mathfrak{Y}D^{-1}\mathfrak{Y}^t) = \mathfrak{Y}\mathfrak{Y}^t,$$

and

$$R = M(M^tM)^{-1/2} = \mathfrak{Y}\mathfrak{Y}^t. \quad (22)$$

Remark 1. The sign of the matrix R determinant in (22) is defined by the sign of the matrix M determinant

$$\begin{aligned} \det(R) &= \det(M(M^tM)^{-1/2}) = \det(M\mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1})\mathfrak{R}^t = \\ &= \det(M) \det(\mathfrak{R}) \det((\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}) \det(\mathfrak{R}^t) = \det(\mathfrak{Y}\mathfrak{Y}^t), \end{aligned}$$

where the matrices \mathfrak{R} and $(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}$ are defined in (13) and (15), also note that $\det(\mathfrak{R}) = \det(\mathfrak{R}^t) > 0$ and $\det((\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}) > 0$.

If the condition $\det(M) = \det(\mathbf{Q}'(\mathbf{P}')^t) < 0$ holds (we use here (11)), then we have that $\det(R) = -1$.

Remark 2. If on an iteration of ICP algorithm we obtain a geometrical transformation with $\det(R) = -1$, then ICP practically can not to converge to the right solution, because we have in this situation clouds RP and Q that can not be aligned by rotations and translations.

4. Algorithms for GL(3) group

4.1. Solution for GL(3)

Here we consider variational problem (8) with functional in form (10). We will interpret here the matrix R as matrix of an affine transformation. Let us denote this matrix as R_a . Rewrite the considered functional by the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} J(R_a) &= \|R_a\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}'\|^2 = \langle R_a\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}', R_a\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}' \rangle = \\ &= \langle R_a\mathbf{P}', R_a\mathbf{P}' \rangle - 2\langle R_a\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle + \langle \mathbf{Q}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Let us denote by h the increment with respect to R_a . The increment of the functional takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} J(R_a + h) &= \langle (R_a + h)\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}', (R_a + h)\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}' \rangle = \\ &= \langle (R_a + h)\mathbf{P}', (R_a + h)\mathbf{P}' \rangle - 2\langle (R_a + h)\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle + \langle \mathbf{Q}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle = \\ &= \langle R_a\mathbf{P}', R_a\mathbf{P}' \rangle + 2\langle R_a\mathbf{P}', h\mathbf{P}' \rangle + \langle h\mathbf{P}', h\mathbf{P}' \rangle - 2\langle R_a\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle - 2\langle h\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle + \langle \mathbf{Q}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We consider the difference

$$\begin{aligned} J(R_a + h) - J(R_a) &= 2\langle R_a\mathbf{P}', h\mathbf{P}' \rangle + \langle h\mathbf{P}', h\mathbf{P}' \rangle - 2\langle h\mathbf{P}', \mathbf{Q}' \rangle = \\ &= 2\langle R_a\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}', h\mathbf{P}' \rangle + \langle h\mathbf{P}', h\mathbf{P}' \rangle = 2\langle (R_a\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}')(\mathbf{P}')^t, h \rangle + \langle h\mathbf{P}', h\mathbf{P}' \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the gradient $\nabla J(R_a)$ is $\nabla J(R_a) = 2(R_a\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}')(\mathbf{P}')^t$, and the equation $\nabla J(R_a) = 0$ takes the form $(R_a\mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{Q}')(\mathbf{P}')^t = 0$, $R_a\mathbf{P}'(\mathbf{P}')^t - \mathbf{Q}'(\mathbf{P}')^t = 0$, and

$$R_a = (\mathbf{Q}'(\mathbf{P}')^t)(\mathbf{P}'(\mathbf{P}')^t)^{-1}. \quad (23)$$

4.2. Projection of affine solution to $O(3)$

We can obtain an approximated orthogonal solution $R = R_a(R_a^t R_a)^{-1/2}$ of the variational problem (12) by applying affine solution (23). The matrix R is projection of R_a to $O(3)$ by formula (21).

5. Algorithms for $SO(3)$ group

It follows from Remark 2 that eliminating the possibility of obtaining an orthogonal matrix with a negative determinant increases the convergence of ICP to true geometric transformations. Therefore, the algorithms to solve variation problem (12) in the $SO(3)$ class have better performance than algorithms for $O(3)$.

5.1. Modified Horn algorithm for $SO(3)$ case

Consider the following variational problem:

$$R_* = \arg \max_R \langle R, M \rangle, \quad (24)$$

subject that $R^t R = I$ and $\det(R) = 1$. Denote by sgn det the sign of a matrix determinant. Note that $\text{sgn det}(R) = \text{sgn det}(U) = \text{sgn det}(M(M^t M)^{-1/2}) = \text{sgn det}(M)$. If $\text{sgn det}(M) = 1$, then the solution $R = U$ belongs to $SO(3)$.

Suppose that $\text{sgn det}(M) = -1$. Since $M = US$ and $S = (M^t M)^{1/2}$ (formulas (16) and (14)) we have

$$\langle R, M \rangle = \langle R, US \rangle = \langle U^t R, S \rangle = \langle U^t R, (M^t M)^{1/2} \rangle = \langle U^t R, \mathfrak{R} \sqrt{\Lambda} \mathfrak{R}^t \rangle = \langle \mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R}, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle.$$

The matrix $\mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R}$ is orthogonal and $\text{sgn det}(\mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R}) = \text{sgn det}(U) = \text{sgn det}(M) = -1$. Note that any element R_o of the group $O(3)$ can be represented as $R_o = R_s E$, where R_s is an element of $SO(3)$ and $E = \text{diag}(\pm 1, \pm 1, \pm 1)$. Particularly, we have that $\mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R} = R_s E_i$, where $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ and $E_1 = \text{diag}(1, 1, -1)$, $E_2 = \text{diag}(-1, -1, -1)$, $E_3 = \text{diag}(-1, 1, 1)$, $E_4 = \text{diag}(1, -1, 1)$.

Note that any rotation in \mathbb{R}^3 can be represented by a value α of the rotation angle, and a rotation axis. The rotation axis contains the origin of the coordinates system and is defined by a direction vector $v = (x, y, z)$. We suppose that $\|v\| = 1$. The matrix R_s can be written as

$$R_s = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha + x^2(1 - \cos \alpha) & xy(1 - \cos \alpha) - z \sin \alpha & xz(1 - \cos \alpha) + y \sin \alpha \\ xy(1 - \cos \alpha) + z \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha + y^2(1 - \cos \alpha) & zy(1 - \cos \alpha) - x \sin \alpha \\ zx(1 - \cos \alpha) - y \sin \alpha & zy(1 - \cos \alpha) + x \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha + z^2(1 - \cos \alpha) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proposition 4. *For any matrix R_s from $SO(3)$ the following condition holds (recall that $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3 > 0$):*

$$\langle R_s E_1, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle \leq \sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} - \sqrt{\lambda_3}. \quad (25)$$

Proof. Let us rewrite (25) as $\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} - \sqrt{\lambda_3} - \langle R_s E_1, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle \geq 0$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} \langle R_s E_1, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle &= (\cos \alpha + x^2(1 - \cos \alpha))\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \\ &+ (\cos \alpha + y^2(1 - \cos \alpha))\sqrt{\lambda_2} - (\cos \alpha + z^2(1 - \cos \alpha))\sqrt{\lambda_3} = \\ &= \cos \alpha (\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} - \sqrt{\lambda_3}) + (1 - \cos \alpha) (\sqrt{\lambda_1} x^2 + \sqrt{\lambda_2} y^2 - \sqrt{\lambda_3} z^2), \end{aligned}$$

we have that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} - \sqrt{\lambda_3} - \\ & -(\cos \alpha(\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} - \sqrt{\lambda_3}) - (1 - \cos \alpha)(\sqrt{\lambda_1}x^2 + \sqrt{\lambda_2}y^2 - \sqrt{\lambda_3}z^2)) = \\ & = (1 - \cos \alpha)(\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} - \sqrt{\lambda_3}) - (1 - \cos \alpha)(\sqrt{\lambda_1}x^2 + \sqrt{\lambda_2}y^2 - \sqrt{\lambda_3}z^2) = \\ & = (1 - \cos \alpha)(\sqrt{\lambda_1}(1 - x^2) + \sqrt{\lambda_2}(1 - y^2) + \sqrt{\lambda_3}(z^2 - 1)) \end{aligned}$$

Note that $(1 - \cos \alpha) \geq 0$, $(1 - x^2) \geq 0$, $(1 - y^2) \geq 0$ and $(z^2 - 1) \leq 0$, since $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$, and also $\sqrt{\lambda_1} \geq \sqrt{\lambda_2} \geq \sqrt{\lambda_3}$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{\lambda_1}(1 - x^2) + \sqrt{\lambda_2}(1 - y^2) + \sqrt{\lambda_3}(z^2 - 1) \geq \\ & \geq \sqrt{\lambda_2}(1 - x^2) + \sqrt{\lambda_2}(1 - y^2) + \sqrt{\lambda_3}(z^2 - 1) = \\ & = \sqrt{\lambda_2}(2 - (x^2 + y^2)) + \sqrt{\lambda_3}(z^2 - 1) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

□

Consider the following inequalities $\langle R_s E_i, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle \leq \sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} - \sqrt{\lambda_3}$, where $i = 2, 3, 4$. Denote by $E_{\text{aux}2}$, $E_{\text{aux}3}$ and $E_{\text{aux}4}$ the following matrices:

$$E_{\text{aux}2} = \text{diag}(-1, -1, 1), \quad E_{\text{aux}3} = \text{diag}(-1, 1, -1), \quad E_{\text{aux}4} = \text{diag}(1, -1, -1).$$

Note that $\text{sgn det}(E_{\text{aux}2}) = \text{sgn det}(E_{\text{aux}3}) = \text{sgn det}(E_{\text{aux}4}) = 1$ and

$$E_{\text{aux}2} E_1 = E_2, \quad E_{\text{aux}3} E_1 = E_3, \quad E_{\text{aux}4} E_1 = E_4.$$

Note that it is possible represent the expression $\langle R_s E_i, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle$ in the form

$$\langle R_s E_i, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle = \langle (R_s E_{\text{aux}i}) E_1, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle, \quad i = 2, 3, 4.$$

The matrix $R_s E_{\text{aux}i}$ is an element of SO(3). It follows that the following conditions holds: $\langle R_s E_i, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle \leq \langle E_1, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle$, where $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$. In such a way, the dot product takes maximum value when $R_o = E_1$, and

$$\mathfrak{R}^t U^t R \mathfrak{R} = E_1. \quad (26)$$

Let us express R from equation (26): $R = U \mathfrak{R} E_1 \mathfrak{R}^t$. Note that if $\text{sgn det}(U) = -1$, then $\text{sgn det}(R) = 1$. So, we obtain that $R = U \mathfrak{R} E_1 \mathfrak{R}^t$. The solution of the variational problem (12) for SO(3) is

$$R = \begin{cases} M(M^t M)^{-1/2}, & \text{if } \text{sgn det}(M) = 1, \\ M(M^t M)^{-1/2} \mathfrak{R} \text{diag}(1, 1, -1) \mathfrak{R}^t, & \text{if } \text{sgn det}(M) = -1, \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

where \mathfrak{R} is the matrix consisting of eigenvectors of the matrix $M^t M$ and eigenvalues of $M^t M$ ordered in the descending order.

5.2. Algorithm for SO(3) based on Lagrange multipliers

Let us consider here variational problem (24). The constrained variational problem (24) can be reformulated as unconstrained problem by applying Lagrange multipliers $(R_*, C_*, \lambda_*) = \arg \max_{R, C, \lambda} J(R, C, \lambda)$, where

$$J(R, C, \lambda) = \langle R, M \rangle - \langle C, R^t R - I \rangle - \lambda(\det(R) - 1),$$

and C is a symmetric matrix of Lagrange coefficients, the number λ is the Lagrange coefficient. Let us denote $J_1 = \langle R, M \rangle$, $J_2 = \langle C, R^t R - I \rangle$ and $J_3 = \lambda(\det(R) - 1)$, then

$$J(R, C, \lambda) = J_1(R, C, \lambda) - J_2(R, C, \lambda) - J_3(R, C, \lambda).$$

Let us compute the gradient $\nabla J(R)$ with respect to R . The gradient ∇J_1 is $\nabla J_1(R) = M$. Compute the gradient $\nabla J_2(R)$. $J_2(R, C, \lambda) = \langle C, R^t R - I \rangle = \langle C, R^t R \rangle - \langle C, I \rangle$. Let us denote by h the increment with respect to R , then

$$J_2(R + h, C, \lambda) = \langle C, ((R + h)^t(R + h) - I) \rangle = \langle C, (R + h)^t(R + h) \rangle - \langle C, I \rangle,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle C, (R + h)^t(R + h) \rangle &= \langle C, (R^t + h^t)(R + h) \rangle = \langle C, R^t R + R^t h + h^t R + h^t h \rangle = \\ &= \langle C, R^t R + R^t h + h^t R + h^t h \rangle = \langle C, R^t R \rangle + \langle C, R^t h \rangle + \langle C, h^t R \rangle + \langle C, h^t h \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

$$J_2(R + h, C, \lambda) - J_2(R, C, \lambda) = \langle C, R^t h \rangle + \langle C, h^t R \rangle + o(h),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle C, R^t h \rangle + \langle C, h^t R \rangle &= \langle RC, h \rangle + \langle C, h^t R \rangle = \langle RC, h \rangle + \langle I, h^t RC^t \rangle = \\ &= \langle RC, h \rangle + \langle h, RC^t \rangle = \langle RC + RC^t, h \rangle = \langle 2RC, h \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We have that $\nabla J_2(R) = 2RC$. Compute the gradient $\nabla J_3(R)$.

Proposition 5. *Let R be 3×3 orthogonal matrix, then*

$$\frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial R} = R.$$

Proof. We have that

$$\begin{aligned} \det(R) &= \det \begin{pmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= r_{11}(r_{22}r_{33} - r_{23}r_{32}) - r_{12}(r_{21}r_{33} - r_{23}r_{31}) + r_{13}(r_{21}r_{32} - r_{22}r_{31}) = \\ &= r_{11}r_{22}r_{33} - r_{11}r_{23}r_{32} - r_{12}r_{21}r_{33} + r_{12}r_{23}r_{31} + r_{13}r_{21}r_{32} - r_{13}r_{22}r_{31}, \\ \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial R} &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{11}} & \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{12}} & \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{13}} \\ \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{21}} & \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{22}} & \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{23}} \\ \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{31}} & \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{32}} & \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial r_{33}} \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} r_{22}r_{33} - r_{23}r_{32} & -r_{21}r_{33} + r_{23}r_{31} & r_{21}r_{32} - r_{22}r_{31} \\ -r_{12}r_{33} + r_{13}r_{32} & r_{11}r_{33} - r_{13}r_{31} & -r_{11}r_{32} + r_{12}r_{31} \\ r_{12}r_{23} - r_{13}r_{22} & -r_{11}r_{23} + r_{13}r_{21} & r_{11}r_{22} - r_{12}r_{21} \end{pmatrix}, \\ R^{-1} &= \frac{1}{\det(R)} \begin{pmatrix} r_{22}r_{33} - r_{23}r_{32} & -r_{12}r_{33} + r_{13}r_{32} & r_{12}r_{23} - r_{13}r_{22} \\ -r_{21}r_{33} + r_{23}r_{31} & r_{11}r_{33} - r_{13}r_{31} & -r_{11}r_{23} + r_{13}r_{21} \\ r_{21}r_{32} - r_{22}r_{31} & r_{11}r_{32} + r_{12}r_{31} & r_{11}r_{22} - r_{12}r_{21} \end{pmatrix}, \\ R^{-1} &= \left(\frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial R} \right)^t, \quad R = \frac{\partial \det(R)}{\partial R}. \end{aligned}$$

□

So, we obtain that

$$\nabla J(R) = \nabla J_1(R) - \nabla J_2(R) - \nabla J_3(R) = M - 2RC - \lambda R = M - 2RC - R\lambda_m,$$

where $\lambda_m = \text{diag}(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda)$. We are looking for such orthogonal matrix R with positive determinant that $\nabla J(R) = M - 2RC - R\lambda_m = 0$,

$$R(2C + \lambda_m) = M. \quad (28)$$

Note that $2C + \lambda_m$ and $(2C + \lambda_m)^{-1}$ are symmetric matrices. Consider the transposed equation for (28)

$$(2C + \lambda_m)^t R^t = M^t. \quad (29)$$

We multiply each side of (29) with each side of (28) and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (2C + \lambda_m)^t R^t R(2C + \lambda_m) &= M^t M, \\ (2C + \lambda_m)^2 &= M^t M, \\ (2C + \lambda_m) &= \mathfrak{R}\sqrt{\Lambda}\mathfrak{S}\mathfrak{R}^t, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathfrak{S} = \text{diag}(s_1, s_2, s_3)$, $s_i = 1$ or $s_i = -1$, $i = 1, 2, 3$, and

$$(2C + \lambda_m)^{-1} = \mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\mathfrak{S}\mathfrak{R}^t.$$

It follows from (28) that $R = M(2C + \lambda_m)^{-1} = M\mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\mathfrak{S}\mathfrak{R}^t$,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle R, M \rangle &= \langle M\mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\mathfrak{S}\mathfrak{R}^t, M \rangle = \langle \mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\mathfrak{S}\mathfrak{R}^t, M^t M \rangle = \\ &= \langle \mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\mathfrak{S}\mathfrak{R}^t, \mathfrak{R}\Lambda\mathfrak{R}^t \rangle = \langle (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\mathfrak{S}, \Lambda \rangle = \langle \mathfrak{S}, (\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\Lambda \rangle = \langle \mathfrak{S}, (\sqrt{\Lambda}) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Note that $\text{sgn det}(R) = \text{sgn det}(M) \text{sgn det}(\mathfrak{S})$. If $\text{sgn det}(M) = 1$, then we obtain that $\text{sgn det}(\mathfrak{S}) = 1$ and maximum value of the expression $\langle R, M \rangle = \langle \mathfrak{S}, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle$ can be reached, when $\langle R, M \rangle = \langle \mathfrak{S}, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle = \sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} + \sqrt{\lambda_3}$, i. e. $\mathfrak{S} = I$.

If $\text{sgn det}(M) = -1$ then we obtain that $\text{sgn det}(\mathfrak{S}) = -1$ and maximum value of the expression $\langle R, M \rangle = \langle \mathfrak{S}, (\sqrt{\Lambda}) \rangle$ can be reached, when

$$\langle R, M \rangle = \langle \mathfrak{S}, \sqrt{\Lambda} \rangle = \sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2} - \sqrt{\lambda_3},$$

i. e. $\mathfrak{S} = \text{diag}(1, 1, -1)$.

The solution of variational problem (12) for SO(3) takes the form

$$R = \begin{cases} M\mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\mathfrak{R}^t, & \text{if } \text{sgn det}(M) = 1, \\ M\mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\text{diag}(1, 1, -1)\mathfrak{R}^t, & \text{if } \text{sgn det}(M) = -1, \end{cases} = \begin{cases} M(M^t M)^{-1/2}, & \text{if } \text{sgn det}(M) = 1, \\ M(M^t M)^{-1/2} \mathfrak{R} \text{diag}(1, 1, -1) \mathfrak{R}^t, & \text{if } \text{sgn det}(M) = -1, \end{cases}$$

where \mathfrak{R} is the matrix consists of eigenvectors of the matrix $M^t M$ and eigenvalues of $M^t M$ ordered in the descending order.

Remark 3. Let us consider the singular value decomposition (SVD) of the matrix $M = \mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t$, where \mathfrak{U} and \mathfrak{V}^t are orthogonal matrices, D is a diagonal matrix. Since

$$M^t M = \mathfrak{V}D\mathfrak{U}^t\mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t = \mathfrak{V}D^2\mathfrak{V}^t = \mathfrak{R}\Lambda\mathfrak{R}^t,$$

we obtain that $\mathfrak{V} = \mathfrak{R}$ and $D^2 = \Lambda$. Note that $M\mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\mathfrak{R}^t = \mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t\mathfrak{V}D^{-1}\mathfrak{V}^t = \mathfrak{U}\mathfrak{V}^t$, $M\mathfrak{R}(\sqrt{\Lambda})^{-1}\text{diag}(1, 1, -1)\mathfrak{R}^t = \mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t\mathfrak{V}D^{-1}\text{diag}(1, 1, -1)\mathfrak{V}^t = \mathfrak{U}\text{diag}(1, 1, -1)\mathfrak{V}^t$. So, the solution of the variation problem can be written as

$$R = \begin{cases} \mathfrak{U}\mathfrak{V}^t, & \text{if } \text{sgn det}(\mathfrak{U}) = \text{sgn det}(\mathfrak{V}), \\ \mathfrak{U}\text{diag}(1, 1, -1)\mathfrak{V}^t, & \text{if } \text{sgn det}(\mathfrak{U}) \neq \text{sgn det}(\mathfrak{V}). \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

5.3. Nearest orthogonal matrix (SO(3) case)

Let us denote by M a 3×3 matrix, $\text{rank}(M) = 3$. We call a nearest orthogonal matrix for the matrix M a matrix R_* , such that $R_* = \arg \min_R \|R - M\|^2$, subject that $R^t R = I$ and $\det(R) = 1$. By analogy with the item 3.2 we obtain that the variational problem takes the form

$$R_* = \arg \max_R \langle R, M \rangle, \quad (31)$$

subject that $R^t R = I$ and $\det(R) = 1$. Therefore, the nearest orthogonal matrix R for the the matrix M can be computed by (30), where $M = \mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t$.

5.4. Projection of affine solution to SO(3)

We can obtain an approximated orthogonal solution R of variational problem (12) by applying the affine solution (23) in (30), where $R_a = \mathfrak{U}D\mathfrak{V}^t$. The matrix R is the projection of R_a to SO(3) by formula (30).

6. List of types of variational problems

The approaches described above allow us to solve the following variants of variation problem (2). The input data for all algorithms are the point clouds P and Q , the output data are the matrix R and the vector T . The matrices \mathbf{P}' and \mathbf{Q}' are described in (9).

6.1. Affine point-to-point

A closed form solution of variation problem (2) in this case is given by formula (23) for the matrix R and by formula (4) for the vector T .

6.2. Approximation of the exact orthogonal solution by projection of the affine solution onto O(3)

A closed form solution of (2) in this case is given by formula (23) (affine solution) and by formula (21) (projection onto O(3)) for the matrix R and by (4) for the vector T .

6.3. Approximation of the exact orthogonal solution by SVD of the affine solution

A closed form solution of variation problem (2) in this case is given by (23) (affine solution) and by formula (22) (SVD of the matrix R_a) for the matrix R and by formula (4) for the vector T .

The algorithms described in items 6.2 and 6.3 are equivalent.

6.4. Closed form exact solution (O(3) case)

A closed form solution of variation problem (2) in this case is given by formula (17) for the matrix R and by formula (4) for the vector T .

6.5. Closed form exact solution (O(3) case, SVD)

A closed form solution of variation problem (2) in this case is given by formula (22) for the matrix R and by formula (4) for the vector T .

The algorithms described in items 6.4 and 6.5 are equivalent.

6.6. Closed form exact solution ($SO(3)$ case)

A closed form solution of problem (2) in this case is given by formula (27) or (30) for the matrix R and by formula (4) for the vector T .

6.7. Approximation of the exact orthogonal solution by projection of the affine solution onto $SO(3)$

A closed form solution of variation problem (2) in this case is given by formula (23) (affine solution) and by formulas (31) or (30) (projection onto $SO(3)$) for the matrix R and by formula (4) for the vector T .

7. Experimental comparison of some considered algorithms

We compare here the algorithms described in items 6.6 and 6.7. The ICP algorithm based on a closed form exact solution for $SO(3)$ is denoted as PtP_es, the ICP algorithm based on the approximation of the exact orthogonal solution by projection of the affine solution onto $SO(3)$ is denoted as PtP_pr. We compare these algorithms in terms of the convergence rate (i.e. the frequency of convergence of ICP algorithm to a correct solution).

The algorithms PtP_es and PtP_pr use the standard method for searching the correspondence between clouds based on k - d tree. Our experiments are organized as follows. An orthogonal geometric transformation given by a known matrix is applied to a source point cloud. The source and transformed clouds are input to a tested algorithm. The ICP algorithm converges if the reconstructed transformation matrix coincides with the original matrix with a given accuracy.

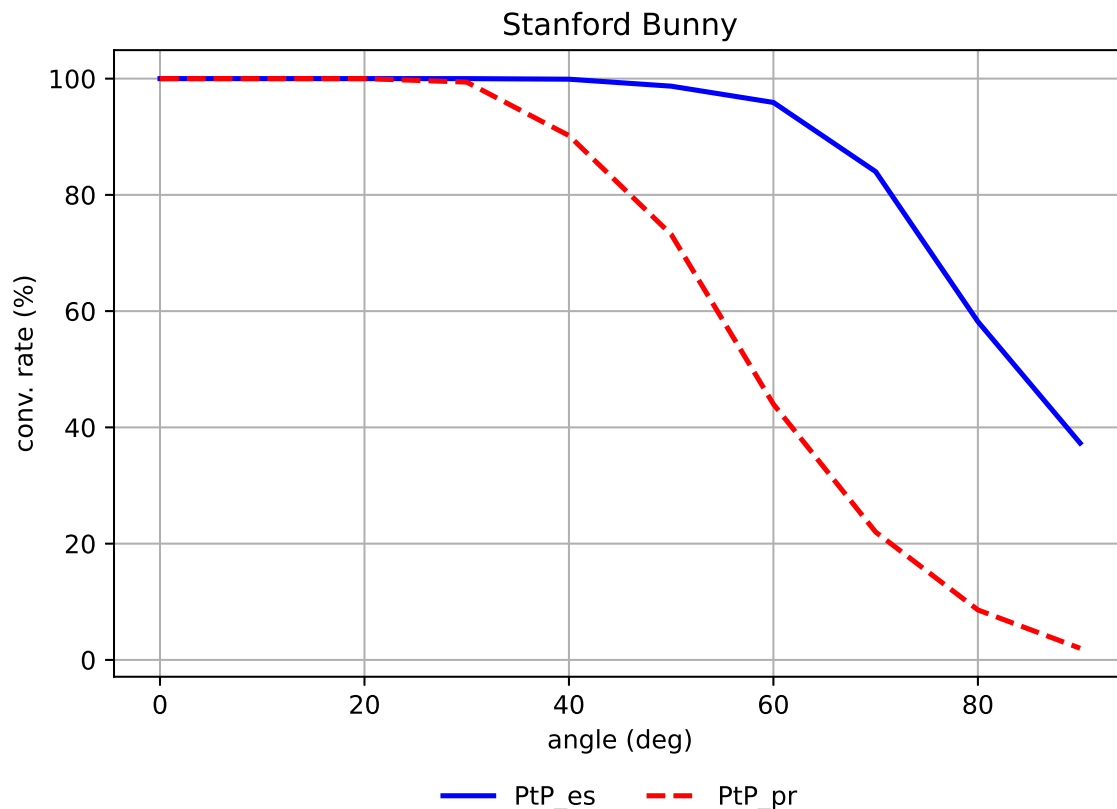


Fig. 1. Convergence rate for Stanford Bunny

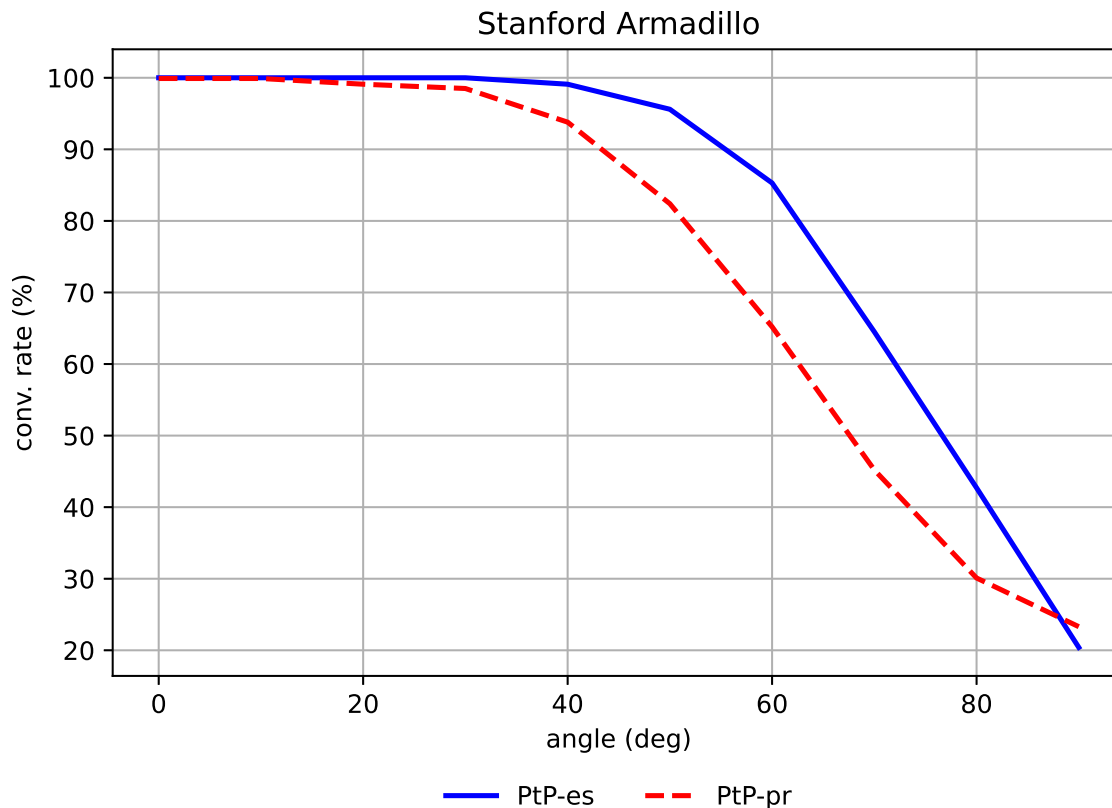


Fig. 2. Convergence rate for Stanford Armadillo

In the experiments, we use two following point clouds: Stanford Bunny and Stanford Armadillo. The Stanford Bunny and Stanford Armadillo clouds consist of 1024 points. All points lie in a centered unit sphere. The statistical experiments are organized as follows. Let us fix the value of the rotation angle. We take a random, uniformly distributed direction vector that defines a line containing the origin of the coordinate system. This line is the axis of rotation at a fixed angle. In addition, the components of the translation vector are a random variable uniformly distributed in the interval $(0, 1)$. The synthesized geometric transformation matrix (true matrix M_{true}) is applied to the source cloud P . The tested algorithms are applied to the clouds P and Q . We say that the registration algorithm converges to true data, if the reconstructed transformation matrix M_{est} coincides with the original matrix with a given accuracy. To guarantee statistically correct results, 1000 trials for each fixed rotation angle are carried out. The rotation angle varies from 0 to 90 degrees with a step of 10 degrees.

Fig. 1 shows the convergence rate of the PtP_es and PtP_pr algorithms for Stanford Bunny. Fig. 2 shows the convergence rate of the PtP_es and PtP_pr algorithms for Stanford Armadillo.

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АЛГОРИТМЫ РЕШЕНИЯ ЗАДАЧИ АБСОЛЮТНОЙ ОРИЕНТАЦИИ ДЛЯ ГРУПП $GL(3)$, $O(3)$ И $SO(3)$

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Наиболее используемый алгоритм регистрации облаков точек в трёхмерном пространстве — итеративный алгоритм ближайших точек (ICP). Вариационная задача типа point-to-point для ортогональных преобразований математически эквивалентна задаче абсолютной ориентации в фотограмметрии. В данной статье предлагается обзор известных методов решения в замкнутой форме вариационной задачи point-to-point. Здесь также получена новая модификация алгоритма Хорна для группы $SO(3)$. Компьютерное моделирование иллюстрирует разницу в точности работы рассматриваемых методов.

Ключевые слова: задача абсолютной ориентации, итерационный алгоритм ближайших точек (ICP), point-to-point, решение в замкнутой форме, точное решение, ортогональное преобразование, аффинное преобразование.

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