Hand-Eye Calibration

Simon Leonard Department of Computer Science Johns Hopkins University



Coordinate Frames

• On robots



• On sensors



6 axes robot arm



600.436/600.636

G.D. Hager S. Leonard

Combining Sensors and Robots

"Eye-in-Hand"



"Eye-to-Hand"





600.436/600.636

G.D. Hager S. Leonard

Hand-Eye Calibration

- Find the transformation between the coordinate frame of the sensor and a coordinate frame on the robot
- With few exceptions, this transformation "X" must be known if measurements from the sensor are used to control the motion of the robot



Not Just for Robots

- Use for any sensor that is tracked by some device
 - Navigation system tracks an endoscope in 3D and can "register" the position of the device to the patient's CT
 - Endoscope images are in the camera coordinate frame
 - Hand-eye calibration will relate the images of the endoscope to the patient's CT







600.436/600.636

G.D. Hager S. Leonard

AX=XB

- 1. Move to robot to position E_1
- 2. Measure the position of the sensor S_1
- 3. Move the robot to position E_2
- 4. Measure the position of the sensor S_2
- E₁ and E₂ are given by the forward kinematics

S₁ and S₂ are given by measuring the position of the sensor wrt to the "world"





$$E_1 X S_1 = E_2 X S_2$$
$$X S_1 S_2^{-1} = E_1^{-1} E_2 X$$
$$A X = X B$$

Where

 $A = E_1^{-1}E_2$ is the relative motion of the robot $B = S_1S_2^{-1}$ is the relative motion of the sensor

X is the transformation between the robot and the sensor





Solution to AX=XB

- There are dozens of ways to solve AX=XB
 - Close form solution (quaternion, angle-axis, dual quaternion, etc.)
 - Iterative (non-linear least-squares, convex optimization, etc.)
 - Probabilistic methods



Park and Martin Method

• First solve for the rotation, then solve for the translation

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_A & t_A \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_X & t_X \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_X & t_X \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_B & t_B \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The strategy is

1) Solve for the rotation R_x (closed form) $R_A R_X = R_X R_B$

2) Use the solution R_{χ} to solve for t_{χ} using least squares

$$R_A t_X + t_A = R_X t_B + t_X$$



Solving the Rotation

A rotation matrix can be represented by the matrix exponential

$$R(\omega,\theta) = e^{\widehat{\omega}\theta}$$

where ω is an axis of rotation and θ is a rotation angle

$$\widehat{\log(R)} = \frac{\theta}{2\sin\theta} (R - R^T)$$

with

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\operatorname{trace}(R) - 1}{2}\right)$$





Solving the Rotation

Given the axis-angle representation of each rotation

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= \log(R_{A1}) & \alpha_2 &= \log(R_{A2}) \\ \beta_1 &= \log(R_{B1}) & \beta_2 &= \log(R_{B2}) \end{aligned}$$

we use the identity $\alpha_i = R_X \beta_i$ to build the system of equations

$$\mathcal{A}=R_X\mathcal{B}$$

where

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_1 \times \alpha_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathcal{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 & \beta_2 & \beta_1 \times \beta_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and we get

$$R_X = \mathcal{AB}^{-1}$$



Solving the Translation

$$R_A t_X - t_X = R_X t_B - t_A$$
$$(R_A - I)t_X = R_X t_B - t_A$$

Using A₁, A₂, B₁ and B₂ we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_{A_1} - I \\ R_{A_2} - I \end{bmatrix} t_X = \begin{bmatrix} R_X t_{B_1} - t_{A_1} \\ R_X t_{B_2} - t_{A_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

which can be solved by using least squares



More Than Two Data Points

- If we have $A_1, ..., A_N, B_1, ..., B_N$, then we want to R_x and t_x to "best fit the data"
- We start again by solving for the rotation
- Using a polar decomposition we have $R_X = (M^T M)^{-1/2} M^T$

where

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \beta_i \alpha_i^T$$



More Than Two Data Points

Note that $(M^T M)^{-1/2}$ can be computed by observing that $M^T M$ is symmetric positive definite and as such it has the diagonal factorization

$$M^T M = Q \Lambda Q^{-1}$$

and

$$(M^{T}M)^{-1/2} = Q\Lambda^{-1/2}Q^{-1}$$
$$= Q \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_{1}}} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_{2}}} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_{3}}} \end{bmatrix} Q^{-1}$$



More Than Two Data Points

Once R_X is found, we solve for t_X using least squares

$$\begin{bmatrix} I - R_{A_1} \\ \vdots \\ I - R_{A_N} \end{bmatrix} t_X = \begin{bmatrix} t_{A_1} - R_X t_{B_1} \\ \vdots \\ t_{A_N} - R_X t_{B_N} \end{bmatrix}$$

