#### Image Shape Extraction using Interval Methods

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## 1 Shape detection problem



Sauc'isse robot swimming inside a pool



A spheric buoy seen by Sauc'isse



### 2 Set estimation

An *implicit parameter set estimation problem* amounts to characterizing

$$\mathbb{P} = \bigcap_{i \in \{1,...,m\}} \underbrace{\{\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \exists \mathbf{y} \in [\mathbf{y}](i), \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{0}\}}_{\mathbb{P}_i}$$

where  $\mathbf{p}$  is the parameter vector,  $[\mathbf{y}](i)$  is the *i*th measurement box and  $\mathbf{f}$  is the model function.

**Example**: Find the set of all  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2)^{\mathsf{T}}$  such that  $20 \exp(-p_1 t) - 8 \exp(-p_2 t)$  goes through all ten boxes



For this problem, the model function is

$$f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{y}) = 20 \exp(-p_1 y_1) - 8 \exp(-p_2 y_1) - y_2,$$

and the boxes  $[y](1), \ldots, [y](10)$  are those represented on the figure.

3 Shape extraction as a set estimation problem Consider the shape function f(p, y), where  $y \in \mathbb{R}^2$  corresponds to a pixel and p is the shape vector.

The shape associated with  $\ensuremath{\mathbf{p}}$  is

$$\mathcal{S}\left(\mathbf{p}
ight)\stackrel{\mathsf{def}}{=}\left\{\mathbf{y}\in\mathbb{R}^{2},\mathbf{f}\left(\mathbf{p},\mathbf{y}
ight)=\mathbf{0}
ight\}.$$

Consider a set of (small) boxes in the image

$$\mathcal{Y} = \{ [\mathbf{y}](1), \ldots, [\mathbf{y}](m) \}$$
.

Each of this box is assumed to intersect the edge of the shape we want to extract.

In our buoy example,

•  $\mathcal Y$  corresponds to edge pixel boxes.

• 
$$f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{y}) = (y_1 - p_1)^2 + (y_2 - p_2)^2 - p_3^2$$
.

•  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2, p_3)^{\mathsf{T}}$  where  $p_1, p_2$  are the coordinates of the center of the circle and  $p_3$  its radius.

Now, in our shape extraction problem, a lot of [y](i) are outlier.

## 4 Robust set estimation

The q-relaxed intersection denoted by  $\bigcap^{\{q\}} X_i$  is the set of all x which belong to all  $X_i$ 's, except q at most.



The  $\boldsymbol{q}$  relaxed feasible set is

$$\mathbb{P}^{\{q\}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcap_{i \in \{1,...,m\}}^{\{q\}} \left\{ \mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \exists \mathbf{y} \in [\mathbf{y}](i), \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{0} \right\}.$$

# 5 Interval propagation

An optimal contractor for the set

$$\left\{\mathbf{p} \in [\mathbf{p}], \exists \mathbf{y} \in [\mathbf{y}], (y_1 - p_1)^2 + (y_2 - p_2)^2 - p_3^2 = \mathbf{0}\right\}.$$

#### 5.1 Relaxed intersection

Computing the q relaxed intersection of m boxes is tractable.





The black box is the 2-intersection of 9 boxes

### 5.2 Algorithm













**Algorithm** Enclose(in:  $[\mathbf{p}], [\mathbf{y}](1), \dots, [\mathbf{y}](m), q$ , out:  $\mathcal{L}$ )  $\mathcal{L} := \{ [\mathbf{p}] \}$ ; 1 2 repeat 3 pull  $([\mathbf{p}], \mathcal{L})$  ; 4 while the contraction are significant for i = 1 to m, compute  $[\mathbf{p}](i)$  enclosing  $[\mathbf{p}] \cap \mathbb{P}_i$ 5  $\left[\mathbf{p}
ight] := \left[igcap_{i \in \{1,...,m\}}^{\{q\}} \left[\mathbf{p}
ight](i)
ight]$ 6 7 end repeat bisect  $[\mathbf{p}]$  and push the resulting boxes into  $\mathcal{L}$ 8 until all boxes of  $\mathcal{L}$  have a width smaller than  $\varepsilon$ . 9

### 6 Results



q= 0.70 m (i.e. 70% of the data can be outlier)



#### q= 0.80 m (i.e. 80% of the data can be outlier)



q= 0.81 m (i.e. 81% of the data can be outlier)

O'Gorman and Clowes (1976), in the context of the Hough transform (1972):

the local gradient of the image intensity is orthogonal to the edge.



Now,  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, y_3)^T$  where  $y_3$  is the direction of the gradient.

The gradient condition is

$$\det \left( egin{array}{c} rac{\partial f(\mathbf{p},\mathbf{y})}{\partial y_1} & \cos\left(y_3
ight) \ rac{\partial f(\mathbf{p},\mathbf{y})}{\partial y_2} & \sin\left(y_3
ight) \end{array} 
ight) = 0.$$

For 
$$f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{y}) = (y_1 - p_1)^2 + (y_2 - p_2)^2 - p_3^2$$
, we get  

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{y}) = \begin{pmatrix} (y_1 - p_1)^2 + (y_2 - p_2)^2 - p_3^2 \\ (y_1 - p_1)\sin(y_3) - (y_2 - p_2)\cos(y_3) \end{pmatrix}.$$

New outliers: the edge points that are on the shape, but that do not satisfy the gradient condition.

The computing time is now 2 seconds instead of 15 seconds.

# 7 Hough transform

The Hough transform is defined by

$$\eta$$
 (**p**) = card { $i \in \{1, ..., m\}, \exists$ **y**  $\in$  [**y**]( $i$ ), **f** (**p**, **y**) = **0**},

Hough method keeps all  $\mathbf{p}$  such that  $\eta(\mathbf{p}) \geq m - q$ .

Instead, our approach solves  $\eta(\mathbf{p}) \geq m - q$ .

# 8 Perspective



