

# Toward Automatic 3D Modeling of Scenes using a Generic Camera Model

Maxime Lhuillier

LASMEA-UMR 6602 UBP/CNRS, 63177 Aubière Cedex, France.

maxime.lhuillier.free.fr

## Abstract

*This document contains proofs referenced in the CVPR'08 paper. They are useful for readers which would like to check several assertions.*

## 1. Point Reconstruction by Ray Intersection

We show that function  $\alpha_i(\tilde{\mathbf{P}}) = \arccos(\mathbf{d}_i^\top \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{P}} - \mathbf{o}_i}{\|\tilde{\mathbf{P}} - \mathbf{o}_i\|})$  is not  $C^1$  continuous at point  $\mathbf{P}$  such that  $\alpha_i(\mathbf{P}) = 0$ .

Without loss of generality, we change the coordinate system such that  $\mathbf{d}_i = [0 \ 0 \ 1]^\top$  and write

$$\alpha_i(t) = \arccos(\mathbf{d}_i^\top \mathbf{D}(t)) \text{ with } \mathbf{D}(t) = \frac{[x(t) \ y(t) \ z(t)]^\top}{\|[x(t) \ y(t) \ z(t)]\|}$$

and  $x(t), y(t), z(t)$  three real  $C^1$  continuous functions with parameter  $t$  such that  $[x(0) \ y(0) \ z(0)] = [0 \ 0 \ 1]$ .

Apply the Chain Rule to  $\alpha_i = \arccos(\frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}})$  with  $\arccos'(u) = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}}$  if  $|u| < 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha'_i &= \arccos'(\frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}) (\frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}})' \\ &= -\sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}{x^2 + y^2}} \left( \frac{z'}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} - z \frac{xx' + yy' + zz'}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right) \\ &= -\frac{z'(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) - z(xx' + yy' + zz')}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \\ &= \frac{-1}{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} (z'\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} - \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}(xx' + yy')) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $[x(t) \ y(t) \ z(t)] \approx [x'(0)t \ y'(0)t \ 1]$ , we obtain

$$\alpha'_i(t) \approx \frac{t}{|t|} \sqrt{(x'(0))^2 + (y'(0))^2}.$$

We see that two  $\alpha'_i$  limits are obtained if  $t$  converges to 0: one for each possible  $t$  sign. Thus,  $\tilde{\mathbf{P}} \mapsto \alpha_i(\tilde{\mathbf{P}})$  is not  $C^1$  continuous at point  $\mathbf{P}$  such that  $\alpha_i(\mathbf{P}) = 0$ .

## 2. Virtual Covariance and Uncertainty

This is the proof for the  $C^-$  expression given by Eq. 3 in the paper.

The Jacobian of  $\pi([x \ y \ z]^\top) = [x/z \ y/z]^\top$  is

$$J_\pi([x \ y \ z]^\top) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{z} & 0 & -\frac{x}{z^2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{z} & -\frac{y}{z^2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $d_i = \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{o}_i\|$ . The Jacobian  $J_{\alpha_i}$  at point  $\mathbf{P}$  of function

$$\alpha_i(\tilde{\mathbf{P}}) = \pi(\mathbf{R}_i(\tilde{\mathbf{P}} - \mathbf{o}_i)) \text{ with } \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{d}_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{d}_i = \frac{\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{o}_i}{\|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{o}_i\|}$$

is equal to

$$J_{\alpha_i}(\mathbf{P}) = J_\pi([0 \ 0 \ d_i]^\top) \mathbf{R}_i = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{R}_i \text{ with } \mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{d_i} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $J$  be the Jacobian of the function  $\tilde{\mathbf{P}} \mapsto [\alpha_1^\top \ \dots \ \alpha_I^\top]^\top$ . The inverse of  $C(\mathbf{P}) = \sigma_\alpha^2 (J(\mathbf{P})^\top J(\mathbf{P}))^{-1}$  is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} C^- &= \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} J(\mathbf{P})^\top J(\mathbf{P}) = \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} \sum_{i=1}^I \mathbf{R}_i^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{R}_i \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{1}{d_i^2} \mathbf{R}_i^\top (\mathbf{I}_{3 \times 3} - \mathbf{k} \mathbf{k}^\top) \mathbf{R}_i \text{ with } \mathbf{k} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathbf{R}_i$  is a rotation such that  $\mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{d}_i = \mathbf{k}$ , we obtain

$$C^- = \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{\mathbf{I}_{3 \times 3} - \mathbf{d}_i \mathbf{d}_i^\top}{\|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{o}_i\|^2}.$$

## 3. Reliability for 3D Modeling of a Scene

We show that  $R(\mathbf{P})$  is arbitrarily large in two cases: (1) nearly parallel  $\mathbf{d}_i$  and (2) large values of  $\|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{o}_i\|$ .

Let  $d = \min_i \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{o}_i\|$ . The smallest eigenvalue  $e$  of  $C^-$  is such that

$$e \leq \mathbf{d}_1^\top C^- \mathbf{d}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{1 - (\mathbf{d}_i^\top \mathbf{d}_1)^2}{\sigma_\alpha^2 \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{o}_i\|^2} \leq \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{1 - (\mathbf{d}_i^\top \mathbf{d}_1)^2}{\sigma_\alpha^2 d^2}.$$

This inequality and definitions (Eq. 4 and 5 in the paper)

$$U(\mathbf{P}) = \sqrt{\frac{\mathcal{X}_3^2(p)}{e}}, \quad R(\mathbf{P}) = \frac{U(\mathbf{P})}{\min_i \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{o}_i\|}$$

imply

$$R(\mathbf{P}) = \sqrt{\frac{\mathcal{X}_3^2(p)}{ed^2}} \geq \sigma_\alpha \sqrt{\frac{\mathcal{X}_3^2(p)}{\sum_{i=1}^I 1 - (\mathbf{d}_i^\top \mathbf{d}_i)^2}}.$$

Thus,  $R(\mathbf{P})$  is arbitrarily large in case (1). Since case (2) implies case (1),  $R(\mathbf{P})$  is also arbitrarily large in case (2).

## 4. Geometric Tests

This is the proof for the  $d^2(\mathbf{P}_1, \Pi)$  expression in Eq. 6 of the paper (more details in [1]).

Since  $C^{-1}(\mathbf{P}_1)$  is definite positive, there are the Choleski factorization  $C^{-1}(\mathbf{P}_1) = \mathbf{K}^\top \mathbf{K}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{P}}$  such that  $\mathbf{P}_2 = \mathbf{P}_1 + \mathbf{K}^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{P}}$ . Thus,

$$d^2(\mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}_2) = (\mathbf{P}_1 - \mathbf{P}_2)^\top C^{-1}(\mathbf{P}_1)(\mathbf{P}_1 - \mathbf{P}_2) = \|\tilde{\mathbf{P}}\|^2.$$

Let  $\Pi$  be the plane  $\mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{X} + d = 0$ . We have

$$\mathbf{P}_2 \in \Pi \iff \mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{P}_2 + d = 0 \iff \tilde{\mathbf{n}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{P}} + \tilde{d} = 0 \iff \tilde{\mathbf{P}} \in \tilde{\Pi}$$

with  $\tilde{\mathbf{n}} = \mathbf{K}^{-\top} \mathbf{n}$  and  $\tilde{d} = d + \mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{P}_1$ . Now, we see that

$$d^2(\mathbf{P}_1, \Pi) = \min_{\mathbf{P}_2 \in \Pi} d^2(\mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}_2) = \min_{\tilde{\mathbf{P}} \in \tilde{\Pi}} \|\tilde{\mathbf{P}}\|^2.$$

This is the Euclidean distance between  $\mathbf{0}_{3 \times 1}$  and the plane  $\tilde{\Pi} : \tilde{\mathbf{n}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{P}} + \tilde{d} = 0$ . Thus,

$$d^2(\mathbf{P}_1, \Pi) = \frac{(\tilde{\mathbf{n}}^\top \mathbf{0}_{3 \times 1} + \tilde{d})^2}{\|\tilde{\mathbf{n}}\|^2} = \frac{(\mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{P}_1 + d)^2}{\mathbf{n}^\top C(\mathbf{P}_1) \mathbf{n}}.$$

## 5. Comparing Specific and Generic Cameras

We show that virtual uncertainties of generic and specific camera models are the same iff Eq. 8 in the paper is true. The proof requires more notations than the paper.

### 5.1. Definitions of Angles and Coordinate Systems

Let  $\mathbf{p}_i^0$  be points in the  $i$ -th generic image. The calibration function applied to  $\mathbf{p}_i^0$  gives a ray with origin  $\mathbf{o}_i^c$  and direction  $\mathbf{d}_i^c$  in the camera coordinate system. We define  $\alpha_i^c$  in this coordinate system by  $\alpha_i^c(\mathbf{X}^c) = \pi(\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{d}_i^c}(\mathbf{X}^c - \mathbf{o}_i^c))$  with a rotation  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{d}_i^c}$  such that  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{d}_i^c} \mathbf{d}_i^c = [0 \ 0 \ 1]^\top$  and  $\pi([x \ y \ z]^\top) = [x/z \ y/z]^\top$ . Function  $\alpha_i^c$  is  $C^2$  continuous and  $\|\alpha_i^c(\mathbf{X}^c)\|$  is the tangent of the angle between  $\mathbf{X}^c - \mathbf{o}_i^c$  and  $\mathbf{d}_i^c$ .

Let  $(\mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{t}_i)$  be the  $i$ -th pose of the camera in the world coordinate system ( $\mathbf{R}_i$  is a rotation and  $\mathbf{t}_i$  a translation). The world coordinates of  $\mathbf{o}_i^c, \mathbf{d}_i^c$  are  $\mathbf{o}_i^w = \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{o}_i^c + \mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{d}_i^w = \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{d}_i^c$ . There are similar notations  $\mathbf{X}^w = \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{X}_i^c + \mathbf{t}_i$  for any point

$\mathbf{X}^w$  in the world coordinate system. We define  $\alpha_i^w$  by  $\alpha_i^w(\mathbf{X}^w) = \alpha_i^c(\mathbf{R}_i^\top(\mathbf{X}^w - \mathbf{t}_i))$  and obtain

$$\alpha_i^w(\mathbf{X}^w) = \pi(\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{d}_i^w}(\mathbf{X}^w - \mathbf{o}_i^w)) \text{ with } \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{d}_i^w} = \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{d}_i^c} \mathbf{R}_i^\top.$$

Thus,  $\alpha_i^w$  is  $C^2$  continuous and  $\|\alpha_i^w(\mathbf{X}^w)\|$  is the tangent of the angle between  $\mathbf{X}^w - \mathbf{o}_i^w$  and  $\mathbf{d}_i^w$ . This function is the function  $\alpha_i$  introduced by Eq. 1 in the paper.

### 5.2. Link Between Projection and Angle Error

Here we assume that the image projection  $p(\mathbf{X}^c)$  of a point  $\mathbf{X}^c$  in the camera coordinate system is a well defined and  $C^1$  continuous function.

In this part, we would like to define a  $C^1$  continuous function  $\phi_i$  such that  $\phi_i \circ p = \alpha_i^c$ . Let  $\mathbf{p}_i$  be a point with the corresponding observation ray  $(\mathbf{o}_i^c, \mathbf{d}_i^c)$  by the calibration function. We assume that the camera is central as in Section 4 of the paper:  $\mathbf{o}_i^c = \mathbf{o}_i^c$ . The image by  $\alpha_i^c$  of a ray point  $X^c(\lambda) = \mathbf{o}_i^c + \lambda \mathbf{d}_i^c$  is equal to  $\pi(\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{d}_i^c} \mathbf{d}_i^c)$  and does not depend on  $\lambda$ . Thus we define  $\phi_i(\mathbf{p}_i)$  by  $\pi(\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{d}_i^c} \mathbf{d}_i^c)$  with  $\mathbf{d}_i^c$  obtained by the calibration function applied to  $\mathbf{p}_i$ . Now,  $\phi_i$  is well defined,  $\phi_i \circ p = \alpha_i^c$  is true, and  $\phi_i$  is  $C^1$  continuous since  $\alpha_i$  (and the calibration function) is (assumed to be)  $C^1$  continuous.

### 5.3. Definitions of Virtual Covariances

Let  $\mathbf{P}^w$  be a point in the world coordinate system. The virtual covariance matrix of the generic camera model requires  $\mathbf{p}_i^0 = p(\mathbf{R}_i^\top(\mathbf{P}^w - \mathbf{t}_i))$  and is defined by

$$C_\alpha(\mathbf{P}^w) = \sigma_\alpha^2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^I J_{\alpha_i^w}^\top(\mathbf{P}^w) J_{\alpha_i^w}(\mathbf{P}^w) \right)^{-1}.$$

Let  $p_i$  be the function  $p_i(\mathbf{X}^w) = p(\mathbf{R}_i^\top(\mathbf{X}^w - \mathbf{t}_i))$ . The virtual covariance matrix of the specific camera model has a similar definition:

$$C_p(\mathbf{P}^w) = \sigma_p^2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^I J_{p_i}^\top(\mathbf{P}^w) J_{p_i}(\mathbf{P}^w) \right)^{-1}.$$

The Chain Rule provides equations

$$\begin{aligned} C_\alpha^{-1}(\mathbf{P}^w) &= \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} \sum_{i=1}^I \mathbf{R}_i J_{\alpha_i^c}^\top(\mathbf{P}_i^c) J_{\alpha_i^c}(\mathbf{P}_i^c) \mathbf{R}_i^\top \\ C_p^{-1}(\mathbf{P}^w) &= \frac{1}{\sigma_p^2} \sum_{i=1}^I \mathbf{R}_i J_p^\top(\mathbf{P}_i^c) J_p(\mathbf{P}_i^c) \mathbf{R}_i^\top \end{aligned}$$

which will be useful latter with  $\mathbf{P}_i^c = \mathbf{R}_i^\top(\mathbf{P}^w - \mathbf{t}_i)$ .

### 5.4. Comparing Virtual Covariances

We see that the condition  $C_\alpha = C_p$  is equivalent to

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^I \mathbf{R}_i \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} J_{\alpha_i^c}^\top(\mathbf{P}_i^c) J_{\alpha_i^c}(\mathbf{P}_i^c) - \frac{1}{\sigma_p^2} J_p^\top(\mathbf{P}_i^c) J_p(\mathbf{P}_i^c) \right\} \mathbf{R}_i^\top$$

for all rotations  $\mathbf{R}_i$  and points  $\mathbf{P}_i^c$ . We would like

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} J_{\alpha_i^c}^\top J_{\alpha_i^c} - \frac{1}{\sigma_p^2} J_p^\top J_p = 0 \iff C_\alpha = C_p.$$

The implication “ $\implies$ ” is obvious and we focus on the implication “ $\impliedby$ ”. Let  $\mathbf{P}^c$  and  $\mathbf{P}^w$  be points in the camera and world coordinate systems, respectively. We set  $\mathbf{P}_i^c = \mathbf{P}^c$  for all  $i$ . For all rotations  $\mathbf{R}_i$ , there is a  $\mathbf{t}_i$  such that  $\mathbf{P}_i^c = \mathbf{R}_i^\top (\mathbf{P}^w - \mathbf{t}_i)$ . Under these conditions,  $C_\alpha = C_p$  implies

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^I \mathbf{R}_i f(\mathbf{P}^c) \mathbf{R}_i^\top \text{ with } f = \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} J_{\alpha_i^c}^\top J_{\alpha_i^c} - \frac{1}{\sigma_p^2} J_p^\top J_p$$

for all rotations  $\mathbf{R}_i$ . We see that  $\mathbf{R}_i f(\mathbf{P}^c) \mathbf{R}_i^\top$  is constant for all rotations  $\mathbf{R}_i$ . Thus, there is  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(\mathbf{P}^c) = \lambda \mathbf{I}_{3 \times 3}$ . We deduce that

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^I \mathbf{R}_i f(\mathbf{P}^c) \mathbf{R}_i^\top = \lambda \sum_{i=1}^I \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{R}_i^\top = \lambda I$$

and  $\lambda = 0$ . Now, implication “ $\impliedby$ ” is obvious.

The relation  $\phi_i \circ p = \alpha_i^c$  implies  $J_{\phi_i} J_p = J_{\alpha_i^c}$  and

$$J_p^\top \left( \frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} J_{\phi_i}^\top J_{\phi_i} - \frac{1}{\sigma_p^2} \mathbf{I}_{2 \times 2} \right) J_p = 0 \iff C_\alpha = C_p$$

We assume that  $J_p$  is full rank and obtain

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_\alpha^2} J_{\phi_i}^\top J_{\phi_i} = \frac{1}{\sigma_p^2} \mathbf{I}_{2 \times 2} \iff C_\alpha = C_p.$$

## 5.5. Condition in the Paper

Let  $\mathbf{P}^w, \mathbf{X}^w$  be 3D points. Functions  $\alpha_i^c, \alpha_i^w$  are defined by  $\mathbf{p}_i^0 = p_i(\mathbf{P}^w)$ . Eq. 8 (in the paper) is

$$\|\alpha_i^w(\mathbf{X}^w)\| \approx \frac{\sigma_\alpha}{\sigma_p} \|p_i(\mathbf{X}^w) - p_i(\mathbf{P}^w)\|.$$

Using notations  $\mathbf{P}_i^c = \mathbf{R}_i^\top (\mathbf{P}^w - \mathbf{t}_i)$  and  $\mathbf{X}_i^c = \mathbf{R}_i^\top (\mathbf{X}^w - \mathbf{t}_i)$ , Eq. 8 is

$$\|\alpha_i^c(\mathbf{X}_i^c)\| \approx \frac{\sigma_\alpha}{\sigma_p} \|p(\mathbf{X}_i^c) - p(\mathbf{P}_i^c)\|$$

with  $\mathbf{p}_i^0 = p(\mathbf{P}_i^c)$ . We have  $\mathbf{p}_i^0 = p(\mathbf{P}_i^c) \implies \alpha_i^c(\mathbf{P}_i^c) = 0$  using the  $\alpha_i^c$  definition. Thus, Eq. 8 is equivalent to

$$\|\alpha_i^c(\mathbf{X}_i^c) - \alpha_i^c(\mathbf{P}_i^c)\| \approx \frac{\sigma_\alpha}{\sigma_p} \|p(\mathbf{X}_i^c) - p(\mathbf{P}_i^c)\|.$$

Since  $\phi_i$  is  $C^1$  continuous and  $\alpha_i^c = \phi_i \circ p$ , we approximate  $\phi_i$  by its linear Taylor expansion at point  $p(\mathbf{P}_i^c)$  and obtain

$$\|J_{\phi_i}(\mathbf{p}_i^0) \cdot (p(\mathbf{X}_i^c) - p(\mathbf{P}_i^c))\|^2 \approx \frac{\sigma_\alpha^2}{\sigma_p^2} \|p(\mathbf{X}_i^c) - p(\mathbf{P}_i^c)\|^2$$

for all  $p(\mathbf{X}_i^c)$  in a neighborhood of  $p(\mathbf{P}_i^c)$ . The quadratic forms in both sides are equal and we see that Eq. 8 is equivalent to

$$J_{\phi_i}^\top J_{\phi_i} \approx \frac{\sigma_\alpha^2}{\sigma_p^2} \mathbf{I}_{2 \times 2}.$$

This concludes the proof.

## References

- [1] K. Schindler and H. Bischof, On Robust Regression in Photogrammetric Point Clouds, DAGM'03 (also LNCS 2781, pp. 172-178, 2003).