

# TSBB15

## Computer Vision

Lecture 4  
Motion estimation and optical flow

1

## Motion

In many applications it is the case that

- the scene depicted in the image is dynamic
  - moving objects
  - deformable objects
- or the camera is moving relative to the scene
- in general: both cases

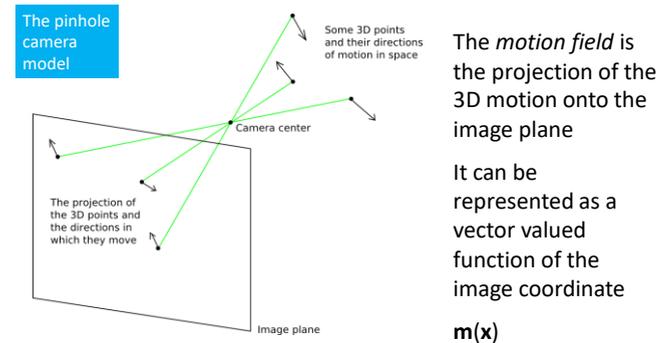
2

## Motion

- From the camera's (viewer's) perspective these two cases are indistinguishable
  - Unless a high-level interpretation of the scene is available
- However, we can describe how points in the scene move relative to some reference frame, e.g., as defined by the camera

3

## The motion field



4

5

## The motion field

- If we can measure the motion field  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x})$  it is possible to infer
  - how points and objects are moving relative the camera, or
  - how the camera is moving relative to the scene (*ego-motion* estimation)

5

6

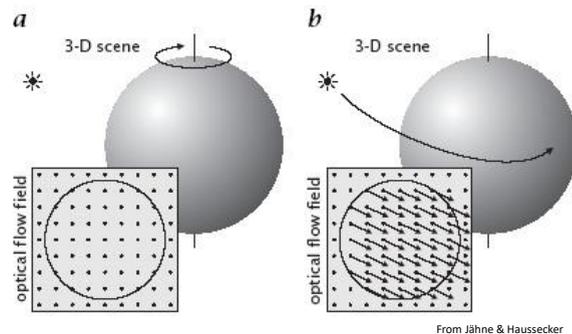
## The motion field

- In practice, we cannot measure  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x})$  directly
- However, we can measure how the image intensity moves/changes over time
  - Optical flow Will be formally defined shortly
- But there is no direct relation between the optical flow and the motion field
  - 3D motion may not always generate temporal variations in the image
    - 3D points that move along the projection lines have constant positions in the image
  - Temporal variations in the image may not always correspond to 3D motion

6

7

## Physical vs visual motion



7

8

## Displacement estimation

- One approach to motion estimation considers **two images** of the same scene, e.g.
  - Taken at two different time points, same camera position
    - Images from a video sequence, e.g., two consecutive images. Displacement is an estimate of the motion field  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x})$
  - Taken from two different position, possibly at the same time point
    - Stereo images. Displacement is an estimate of depth in the scene (assuming a stationary scene)

8

9

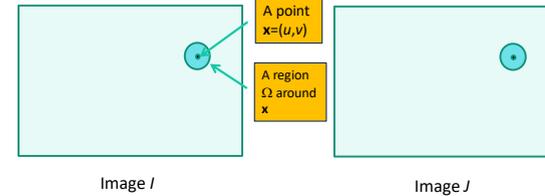
### Example (from *Middlebury*)



9

10

### Mathematical model



- **Assumption:**  $J(\mathbf{x}) = I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{d})$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$
- Pixel values are constant, but displaced by  $\mathbf{d}$
- How can we determine  $\mathbf{d}$  for each point  $\mathbf{x}$ ?

10

11

### Estimation of $\mathbf{d}$

- $\mathbf{d}$ , at point  $\mathbf{x}$ , can be estimated by forming a cost function, based on the constancy of the pixel values:

$$\epsilon = \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) (I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{d}) - J(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}))^2 d\mathbf{y}$$

A region of the origin, same size as  $\Omega$

A weighting function, e.g., a Gaussian, of same size as  $\Omega$

- The minimizer of  $\epsilon$  is an estimate of  $\mathbf{d}$  at  $\mathbf{x}$ , which we then use as an estimate of  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x})$

11

12

### Estimation of $\mathbf{d}$

- As an estimate of  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x})$  is referred to as **optic flow** (or optical flow)
- Finding the minimizer of  $\epsilon$  is a non-linear estimation problem
  - Computationally complex problem
- It can be simplified by a linearization of  $I$

12

13

### Linearization of $I$

- At each point  $\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{y}$ , the dependency on  $\mathbf{d}$  in the intensity function  $I$  can be expressed as a Taylor expansion:

$$\nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial I}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix} = \text{Image gradient at } \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$$

$$I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{d}) = I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) + \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \cdot \mathbf{d}$$

- Assumption:** higher order terms in  $\mathbf{d}$  can be neglected



13

14

### Linear estimation of $\mathbf{d}$

With this linearization of  $I$  at hand:

$$\epsilon = \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) (I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - J(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) + \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \cdot \mathbf{d})^2 dy$$

Equation (A)

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial u} v_1 + \frac{\partial I}{\partial v} v_2$$

- We want to find the minimum of  $\epsilon$  with respect to the elements of  $\mathbf{d} = (v_1, v_2)$
- Find  $\mathbf{d}$  where  $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial v_1} \\ \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial v_2} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$



14

15

### Determining $\mathbf{d}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial v_1} \\ \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial v_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) (I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - J(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) + \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \cdot \mathbf{d}) \frac{\partial I}{\partial u} dy \\ 2 \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) (I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - J(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) + \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \cdot \mathbf{d}) \frac{\partial I}{\partial v} dy \end{pmatrix}$$

⇓

$$\int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial I}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial v} \end{pmatrix} (I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - J(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) + \nabla^T I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \mathbf{d}) dy = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



15

16

### The Lucas-Kanade equation

**Assumption:**  $\mathbf{d}$  is constant within  $\Omega$ ,  
i.e.,  $\mathbf{d}$  is independent of  $\mathbf{y}$

$$\int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \nabla^T I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) dy \mathbf{d} = \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) (J(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) - I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y})) dy$$

$=\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x})$

$=\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x})$

The structure tensor

$$\mathbf{T} \mathbf{d} = \mathbf{s}$$

This is *the Lucas-Kanade equation (LK-equation)*.  
One equation per pixel in the image (gives one  $\mathbf{d}$  per pixel)



16

17

## Determining $\mathbf{d}$

- In principle,  $\mathbf{d}$  can be determined from the LK-equation as

$$\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{T}^{-1} \mathbf{s}$$

- Only works if  $\mathbf{T}$  is not singular, i.e.,  $I$  in  $\Omega$  **must not be i1D**
- Lucas & Kanade: *An Iterative Image Registration Technique with an Application to Stereo Vision*, IUW, 1981

17

18

## Alternative derivation of LK

- The LK-equation derived here is based on finding the local displacement between two images
- An alternative derivation is provided by the brightness constancy principle

18

19

## Brightness constancy

- Think of the intensity function  $I$  as explicitly depending on the 3 variables  $(u, v, t)$
- Basic assumption:
  - If we observe intensity  $I$  at  $(u, v, t)$ , this intensity **remains constant over time**, but it may change position as a function of time
- This is referred to as: **brightness constancy**

19

20

## Mathematical formulation

Means: the total derivative of  $I$  w.r.t.  $t$  is = 0

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = 0$$

Expand in partial derivatives of  $I$ :

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \frac{dt}{dt} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial u} \frac{du}{dt} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial v} \frac{dv}{dt} = 0$$

20

21

## Mathematical formulation

Cont.

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \underbrace{\frac{dt}{dt}}_{=1} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial u} \underbrace{\frac{du}{dt}}_{=v_1} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial v} \underbrace{\frac{dv}{dt}}_{=v_2} = 0$$

- $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2)$  is the velocity vector of the intensity  $I$  at  $(u, v, t)$
- $\mathbf{v}$  is a function of  $(u, v, t)$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x})$
- Local estimate of the motion field  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x})$



21

22

## BCCE / Optic flow equation

$$\text{Cont. } \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial I}{\partial u} v_1 + \frac{\partial I}{\partial v} v_2 = 0$$

Alternative formulation:

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + \nabla I \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

- This is the **Brightness Constancy Constraint Equation (BCCE)**
- A.k.a. the optic (optical) flow equation



22

23

## BCCE

- Is a differential equation
- It assumes that we can determine/estimate the temporal derivative of  $I$  at  $(u, v, t)$ 
  - In practice, it must be estimated in terms of finite differences
  - Compare to the two-image derivation of the LK-eq
- BCCE is one equation per pixel (and time)
  - But it has 2 unknowns:  $(v_1, v_2)$
  - Cannot be solved at the pixel level



23

24

## Determining $\mathbf{v}$

- At a pixel  $\mathbf{x} = (u, v)$ , at time  $t$ , we can formulate a cost function

$$\epsilon = \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) \left( \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \cdot \mathbf{v} \right)^2 d\mathbf{y}$$

- Assumes that  $\mathbf{v}$  is constant within  $\Omega$
- This cost function is very similar to the one used for the 2-image case, [Equation \(A\)](#), slide 14



24

25

## LK-equation, again...

- Minimizing  $\epsilon$ , therefore, implies finding  $\mathbf{v}$  such that

$$\mathbf{T} \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{s}$$

Continuous time LK-eq

- Where

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \nabla^T I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x}) = - \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$



25

26

## The aperture problem

- Regardless of how the LK-eq has been derived, it cannot be solved robustly for pixels where  $I$  in  $\Omega$  is 1D
- Even approximately 1D may cause problems
- This is related to the so-called aperture problem:
  - In a 1D region we cannot determine the local displacement/velocity along a line/edge***



26

27

## The aperture problem

- Is the pattern in the circle moving down, right, or right-down?
- Since the pattern is 1D, its velocity cannot be completely determined
- We can, however, determine a unique *normal velocity*
  - How?*



27

28

## BCCE revisited

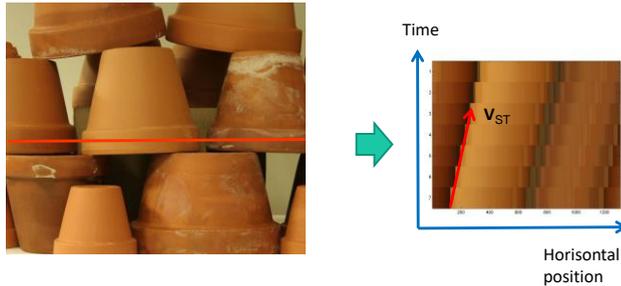
- A consequence of BCCE:**  
In the 3D spatio-temporal volume,  $I$  must be constant in a direction given by  $\mathbf{v}_{ST} = (v_1, v_2, 1)$
- This implies that  $\nabla_{ST} I$ , the 3D spatio-temporal gradient of  $I$ , is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{v}_{ST}$



28

29

## Example



29

31

## Spatio-temporal motion vector

- $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}$  (and  $\mathbf{v}_{ST}$ ) is called the *spatio-temporal motion vector* (it is 3-dimensional)
- $\nabla_{ST}I$  is the spatio-temporal gradient of  $I$  (also 3-dimensional)
- We will minimize  $\epsilon_{ST}$  over  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}$ , with the additional constraint

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}\| = 1$$

- This is a *total least squares* formulation of how to determine  $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x})$

31

Lecture 4

JANUARY 30, 2019 30

## A new cost function

- We define a new cost function  $\epsilon_{ST}$  as

$$\epsilon_{ST} = \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) (\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}^T \nabla_{ST} I)^2 dy$$

where

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ r_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \|\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}\| = 1, \quad \nabla_{ST} I = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial I}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial x_3} \end{pmatrix}$$

30

32

## Finding the minimum of $\epsilon_{ST}$

- The constraint can be expressed as

$$c = \|\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}\|^2 = r_1^2 + r_2^2 + r_3^2 = 1$$

- The solution is given by  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} = (r_1, r_2, r_3)$  that satisfies

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r_k} \epsilon = \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial r_k} c$$

for  $k = 1, 2, 3$  (why?)

Lagrange's method  
for minimisation with  
constraints

32

33

## The 3D structure tensor revisited

- These 3 equations can be rewritten as

$$\left[ \int_{\Omega} w(\mathbf{x}) \nabla_{ST} I \nabla_{ST}^T I d\mathbf{x} \right] \hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} = \lambda \hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}$$

(why?)

- Note that the expression inside the bracket is a 3D structure tensor!



33

34

## The 3D structure tensor revisited

- We rewrite this as

$$\mathbf{T}_{3D} \hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} = \lambda \hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}$$

- This means that the  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}$  which minimizes  $\varepsilon$  must be an eigenvector of  $\mathbf{T}_{3D}$
- It should also be normalized:  $\|\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}\| = 1$
- The eigenvector that minimizes  $\varepsilon$  is the one of smallest eigenvalue (why?)



34

35

## The 3D structure tensor revisited

- Once  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} = (r_1, r_2, r_3)$  has been determined we can find  $\mathbf{v}_{ST}$  that is
  - Parallel to  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}$
  - Has its last component = 1
- The first two components of  $\mathbf{v}_{ST}$  are the motion vector  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2)$

$$v_1 = \frac{r_1}{r_3} \quad v_2 = \frac{r_2}{r_3}$$



35

36

## Summary

- We now have 2 alternatives to local motion estimation based on BCCE:
  1. least squares minimization (based on  $\mathbf{T}_{2D}$  and  $\mathbf{s}$ )
  2. total least squares minimization (based on  $\mathbf{T}_{3D}$ )



36

37

### Summary: Least squares minimization

- Minimize

$$\varepsilon_{ST} = \int_{\Omega} w(\mathbf{x}) [\mathbf{v}_{ST} \cdot \nabla_3 I]^2 d\mathbf{x}$$

where  $\mathbf{v}_{ST} = (v_1, v_2, 1)$  over the motion components  
 $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2)$

- Find  $\mathbf{v}$  by solving  $\mathbf{T}_{2D} \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{s}$
- We can see  $\mathbf{v}_{ST}$  as a homogeneous representation of  $\mathbf{v}$



37

38

### Summary: Total least squares minimization

- Minimize

$$\varepsilon_{ST} = \int_{\Omega} w(\mathbf{x}) [\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} \cdot \nabla_3 I]^2 d\mathbf{x}$$

over all components of  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} = (r_1, r_2, r_3)$  and with the constraint  $\|\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}\| = 1$

- Find  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}$  as the eigenvector of smallest eigenvalue with respect to  $\mathbf{T}_{3D}$
- Find  $\mathbf{v}$  from  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST}$  as  $v_1 = \frac{r_1}{r_3}$   $v_2 = \frac{r_2}{r_3}$



38

39

### The 3D tensor

- In the 3D case, we compute a structure tensor  $\mathbf{T}_{3D}$ , a symmetric  $3 \times 3$  matrix, that can be decomposed as (the spectral theorem)

$$\mathbf{T}_{3D} = \lambda_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1^T + \lambda_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2^T + \lambda_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^T$$

where  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3 \geq 0$  are the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{T}_{3D}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_k$  are the corresponding eigenvectors (an orthonormal set)



39

40

### The 3D structure tensor

- In general (*not only in the case of motion*) we can distinguish between three cases of the local 3D signal
  - The signal is constant on parallel planes (i1D)
  - The signal is constant on parallel lines (i2D)
  - The signal is isotropic
- Remember that  $\mathbf{T}$  is formed as

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\Omega_0} w(\mathbf{y}) \nabla I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) \nabla^T I(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$



40

41

## The signal is constant on parallel planes (Lasagna)

- (Case 1) The 3D signal is i1D
  - The gradient  $\nabla_3 I$  is always parallel to the normal vector of the planes

$$\mathbf{T} = \lambda_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1^T$$



- $\mathbf{T}$  has rank 1
- $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1$  is a normal vector to the planes
- A moving 2D line generates a 3D signal that is i1D  
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{T}$  has rank 1



41

42

## The signal is constant on parallel planes

- In this case, the Fourier transform of  $I$  is concentrated along a line through the origin, in the direction of  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1$



42

43

## The signal is constant on parallel lines (Spaghetti)

- (Case 2) The 3D signal is intrinsic 2D (i2D)
  - The gradient  $\nabla_3 I$  is always perpendicular to the direction  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$  of the lines

$$\mathbf{T} = \lambda_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1^T + \lambda_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2^T$$



- $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$  is an eigenvector of eigenvalue 0 relative to  $\mathbf{T}$
- $\mathbf{T}$  has rank 2
- A moving point generates a 3D signal that is i2D  
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{T}$  has rank 2



43

44

## The signal is constant on parallel lines

- In this case, the Fourier transform of  $I$  is concentrated to a plane through the origin, that has  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$  as its normal vector
- In other words, the plane is spanned by  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_2$



44

45

## The signal is isotropic (Dumpling)

- (Case 3) The signal varies uniformly in all directions
  - The gradient  $\nabla_3 I$  is not restricted to some subspace



$$\mathbf{T} = \lambda_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1^T + \lambda_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2^T + \lambda_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^T$$

where  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_3$  all are  $\neq 0$ .

- $\mathbf{T}$  has rank 3
- Not consistent the BCCE



45

46

## The signal is isotropic

- In the isotropic case, variations in all directions are uniformly distributed
- Implies that  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = \lambda$
- We can write  $\mathbf{T} = \lambda \mathbf{I}$  ( $\mathbf{I}$  is the identity tensor)
- The Fourier transform of the signal extends into all 3 dimensions



46

47

## Confidence measures

- As confidence measures for the three cases we can use, *for example*:

$$c_1 = \frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \quad \text{Case 1}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{\lambda_2 - \lambda_3}{\lambda_1} \quad \text{Case 2}$$

$$c_3 = \frac{\lambda_3}{\lambda_1} \quad \text{Case 3}$$



47

48

## Confidence measures

- They satisfy  $c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = 1$ .
- Furthermore
  - i1D-signal  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{T}$  has rank 1  $\Rightarrow \lambda_1 > 0, \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = 1, c_2 = c_3 = 0$ .
  - i2D-signal  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{T}$  has rank 2  $\Rightarrow \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 > 0, \lambda_3 = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 \neq 0, c_3 = 0$ .
  - Isotropic signal  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{T}$  has rank 3  $\Rightarrow c_3 \neq 0$ .



48

49

## Decomposing $\mathbf{T}$

- Based on these confidence measures,  $\mathbf{T}$  can be decomposed as

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{T} &= \lambda_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1^T + \lambda_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2^T + \lambda_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^T \\ &= (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1^T + \\ &\quad + (\lambda_2 - \lambda_3) (\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1^T + \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2^T) + \\ &\quad + \lambda_3 (\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1^T + \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2^T + \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3^T) \\ &= \lambda_1 [c_1 \mathbf{T}_{\text{rang1}} + c_2 \mathbf{T}_{\text{rang2}} + c_3 \mathbf{I}]\end{aligned}$$

49

51

## Summary

- The rank of  $\mathbf{T}$  equals the dimension of its range
- The range represent the dimensions in the Fourier domain where there is energy
- We can define confidence measures (in various ways) that indicate which rank or case that  $\mathbf{T}$  represents
- In general,  $\mathbf{T}$  can be a combination of the different cases

51

50

## Summary

- Given a local picture of the signal:
  - The directions along which the signal is constant correspond to the null space of  $\mathbf{T}$
  - $\mathbf{T}$  has a range that is orthogonal to this null space
  - In the Fourier domain: the energy is concentrated to the range of  $\mathbf{T}$

50

52

## Computation of the motion vector (rank 2)

- At each point  $(x_1, x_2, t)$  we can estimate the local 3D structure tensor  $\mathbf{T}$
- If  $\mathbf{T}$  has rank 2 it corresponds to a non-i1D signal in the 2D image
- Since  $\mathbf{T}$  has rank 2 we can "uniquely" determine an eigenvector of smallest eigenvalue:

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} = (r_1 \ r_2 \ r_3)$$

52

53

### Computation of the motion vector (rank 2)

- From the previous derivations we know that

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}}_{ST} \sim \mathbf{v}_{ST} = (v_1 \ v_2 \ 1)$$

- Consequently, we can compute the motion components as

$$v_1 = \frac{r_1}{r_3} \quad v_2 = \frac{r_2}{r_3}$$



53

54

### Computation of the motion vector (rank 1)

- If  $\mathbf{T}$  has rank 1 it means that the corresponding 2D-signal is 1D
  - A moving line or edge
- The null space of  $\mathbf{T}$  is 2-dimensional
- We cannot uniquely determine  $\mathbf{v}_{ST}$ , and therefore  $\mathbf{v}$  cannot be uniquely determined
- Related to the aperture problem



54

55

### Computation of the motion vector (rank 1)

- However, in this case we can determine the *normal motion* of the 2D-signal
- Let  $\mathbf{p}=(p_1, p_2, p_3)$  be an eigenvector of largest eigenvalue relative to  $\mathbf{T}$



55

56

### Computation of the motion vector (rank 1)

- The spatio-temporal normal motion vector  $\mathbf{v}_{ST}$  must satisfy

$$\mathbf{p}^T \mathbf{v}_{ST} = 0 \quad \text{1}$$

$$p_1 v_1 + p_2 v_2 + p_3 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \kappa \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{2}$$

– (why?)



56

57

### Computation of the motion vector (rank 1)

- From these two relations, the normal motion is given as

$$\mathbf{v}_{\text{norm}} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{p_3}{p_1^2 + p_2^2} \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



57

58

### Computation of the motion vector (rank 3)

- Finally, if  $\mathbf{T}$  has rank 3 this implies that the local signal does not satisfy the conditions expressed in BCCE. (why?)



58

59

### A strategy for motion estimation

- Compute the 3D tensor  $\mathbf{T}_3$
- Determine its eigenvalues
- Classify the tensor into each of the three cases, based on some confidence measures (how?)
- If rank 1: compute the normal motion
- If rank 2: compute the “true” motion
- If rank 3: no motion can be determined



59