

Model Fitting

Computer Vision
CS 143, Brown

James Hays

PROBLEM VARIATIONS:

Fitting: find the parameters of a model that best fit the data.

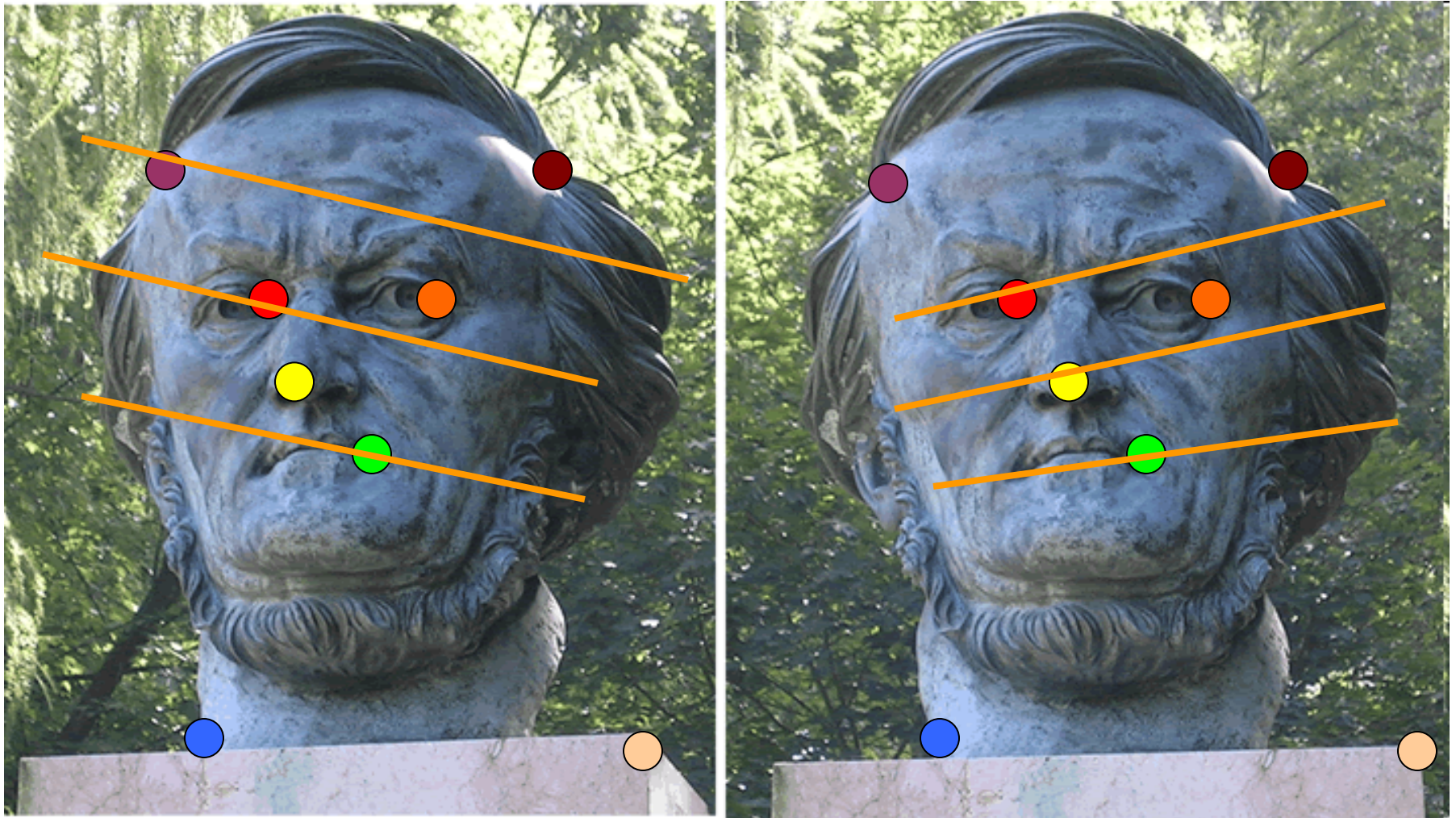
Alignment: find the parameters of the transformation that best align matched points

Example: Estimating an homographic transformation

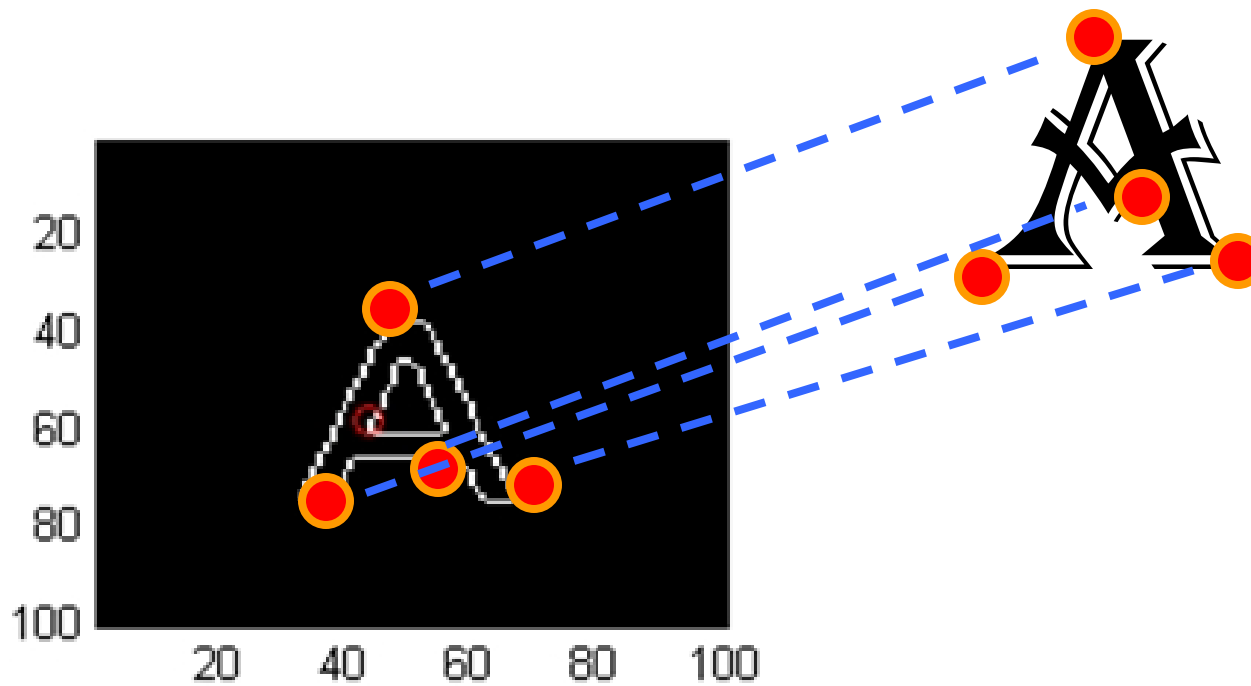


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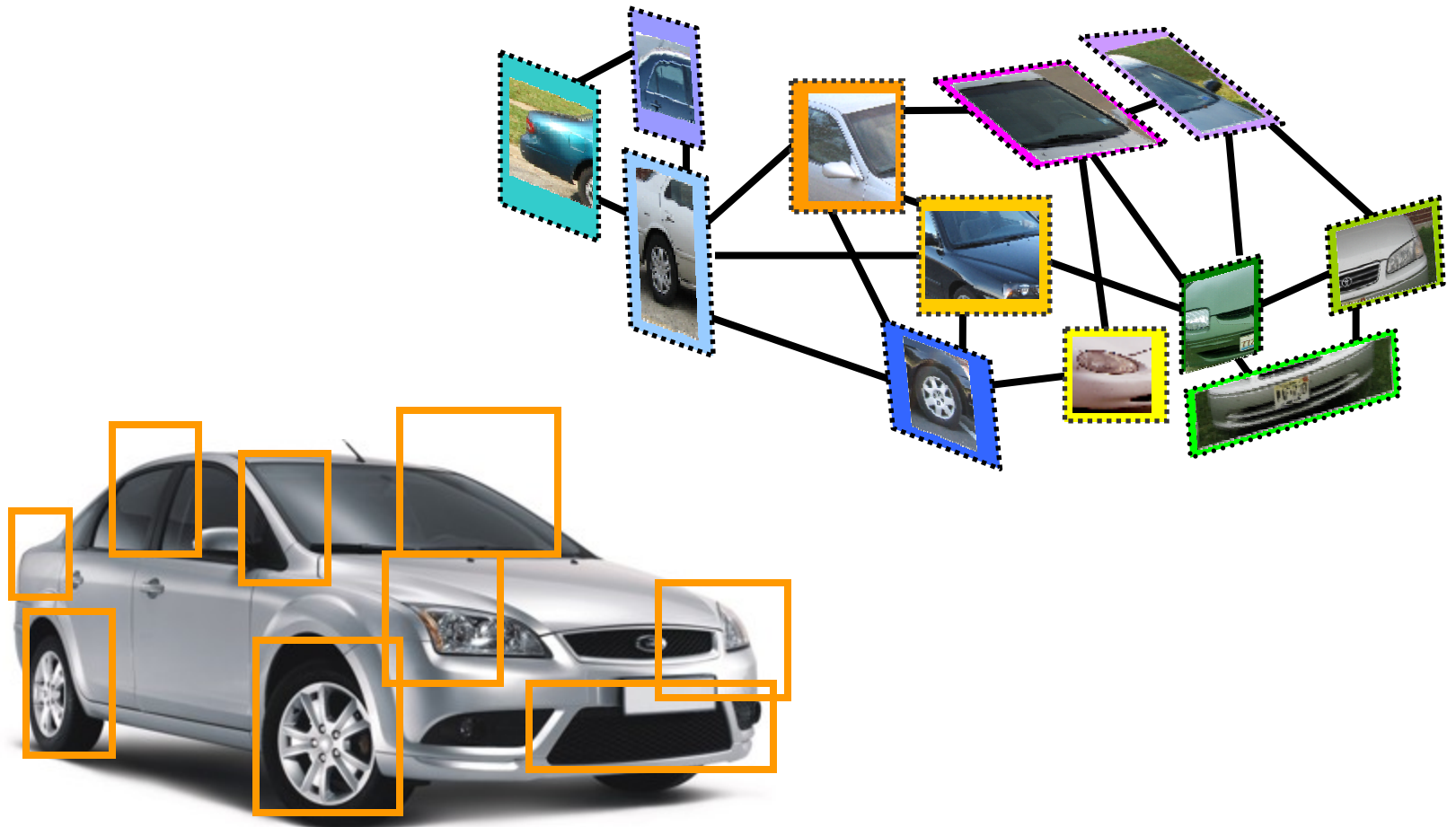
Example: Estimating “fundamental matrix” that corresponds two views



Example: fitting a 2D shape template



Example: fitting a 3D object model

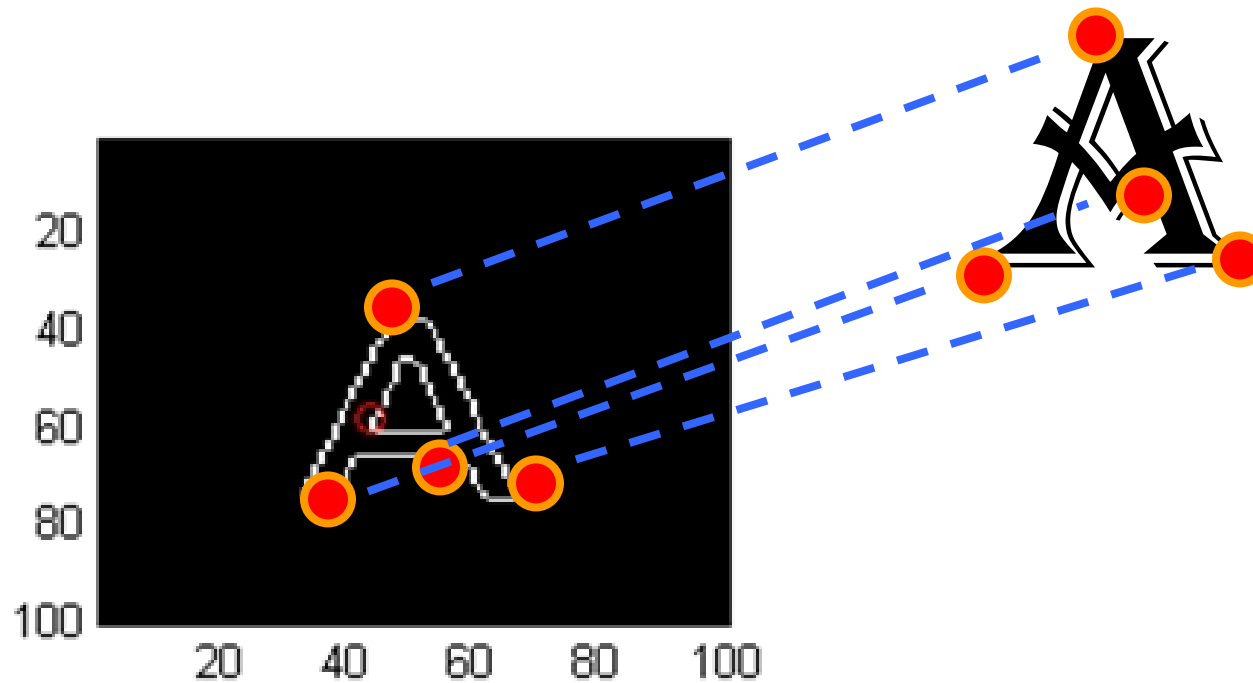


Critical issues: noisy data

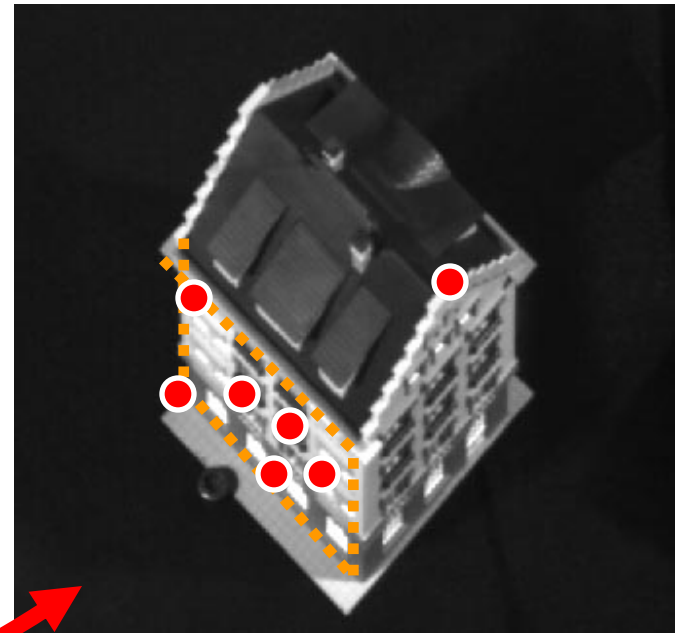


Critical issues: intra-class variability

“All models are wrong, but some are useful.” Box and Draper 1979

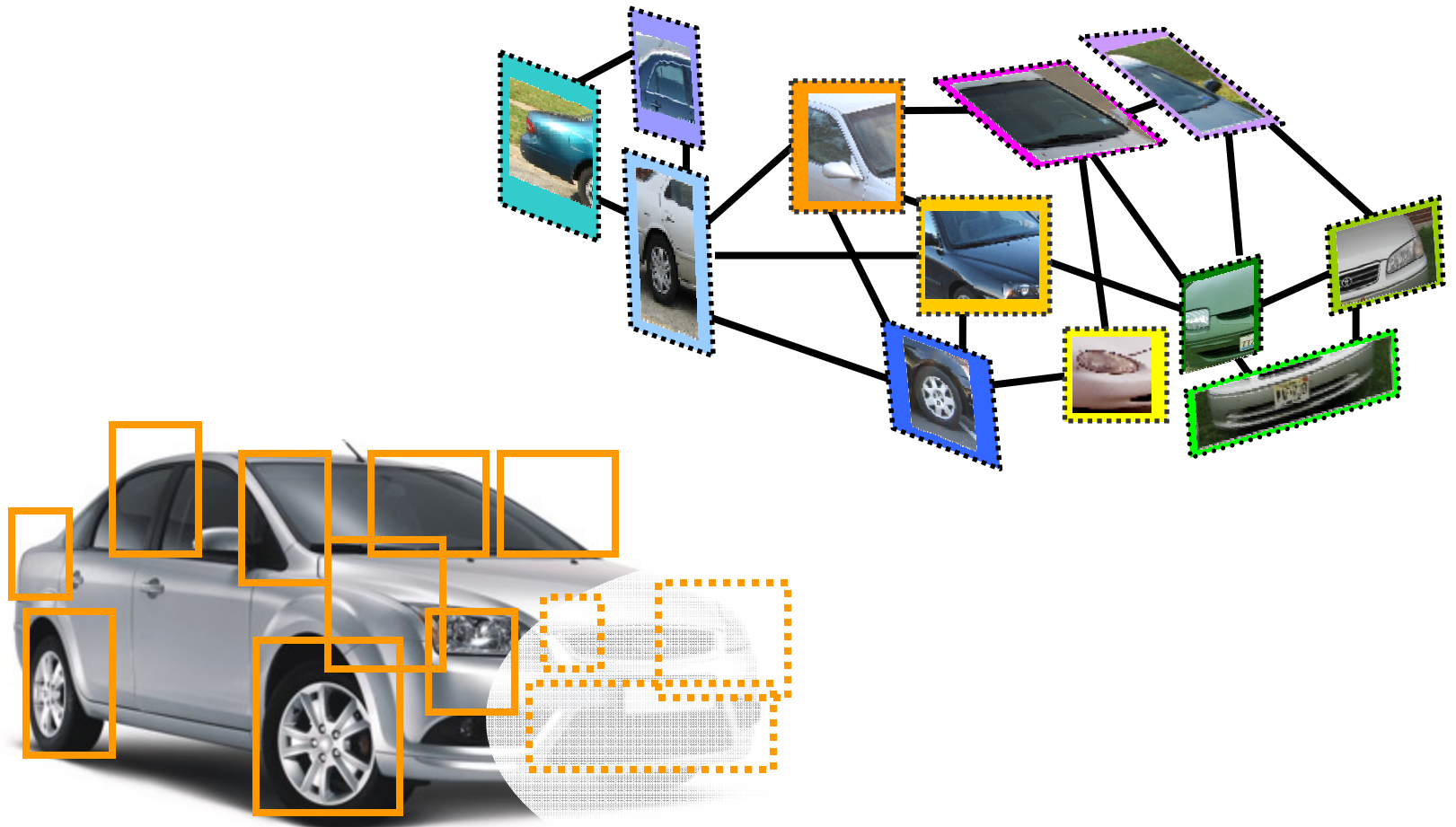


Critical issues: outliers



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Critical issues: missing data (occlusions)



Fitting and Alignment

- Design challenges
 - Design a suitable **goodness of fit** measure
 - Similarity should reflect application goals
 - Encode robustness to outliers and noise
 - Design an **optimization** method
 - Avoid local optima
 - Find best parameters quickly

Fitting and Alignment: Methods

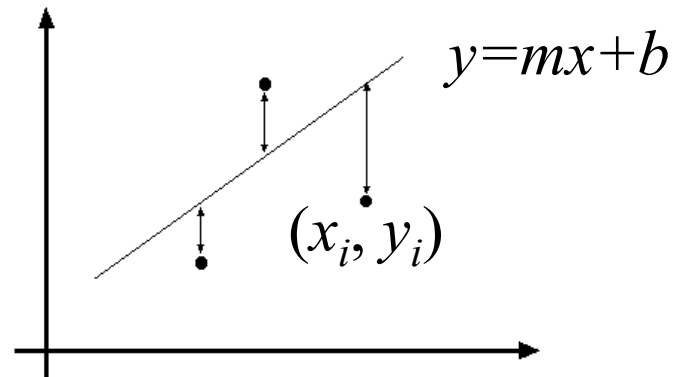
- Global optimization / Search for parameters
 - Least squares fit
 - Robust least squares
 - Iterative closest point (ICP)
- Hypothesize and test
 - Generalized Hough transform
 - RANSAC

Simple example: Fitting a line

Least squares line fitting

- Data: $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$
- Line equation: $y_i = mx_i + b$
- Find (m, b) to minimize

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - mx_i - b)^2$$



$$E = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\begin{bmatrix} x_i & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ b \end{bmatrix} - y_i \right)^2 = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ b \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 = \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{y}\|^2$$

$$= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p})^T \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p})^T (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{p})$$

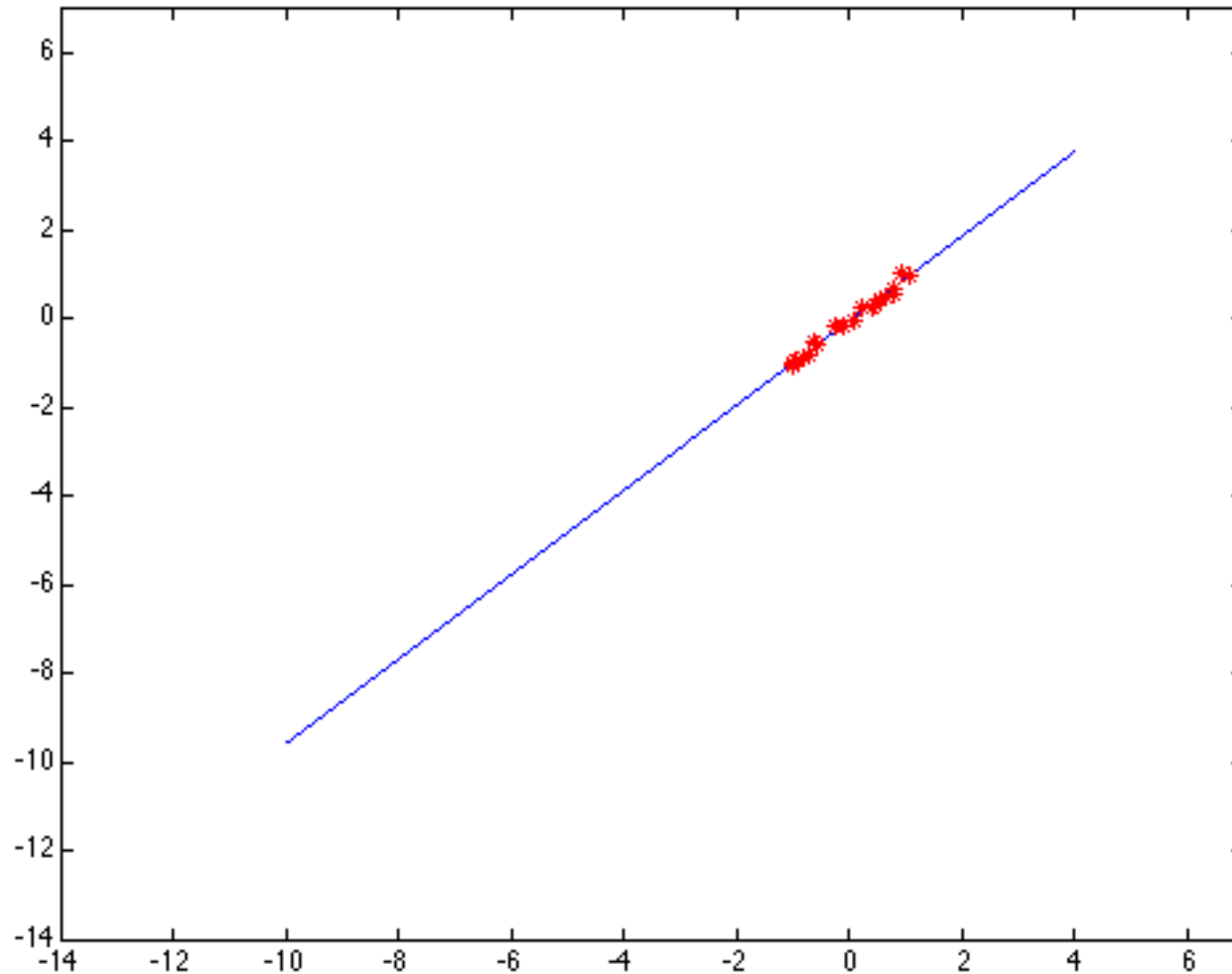
$$\frac{dE}{d\mathbf{p}} = 2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} - 2\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} = 0$$

Matlab: $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{A} \setminus \mathbf{y};$

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y} \Rightarrow \mathbf{p} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}$$

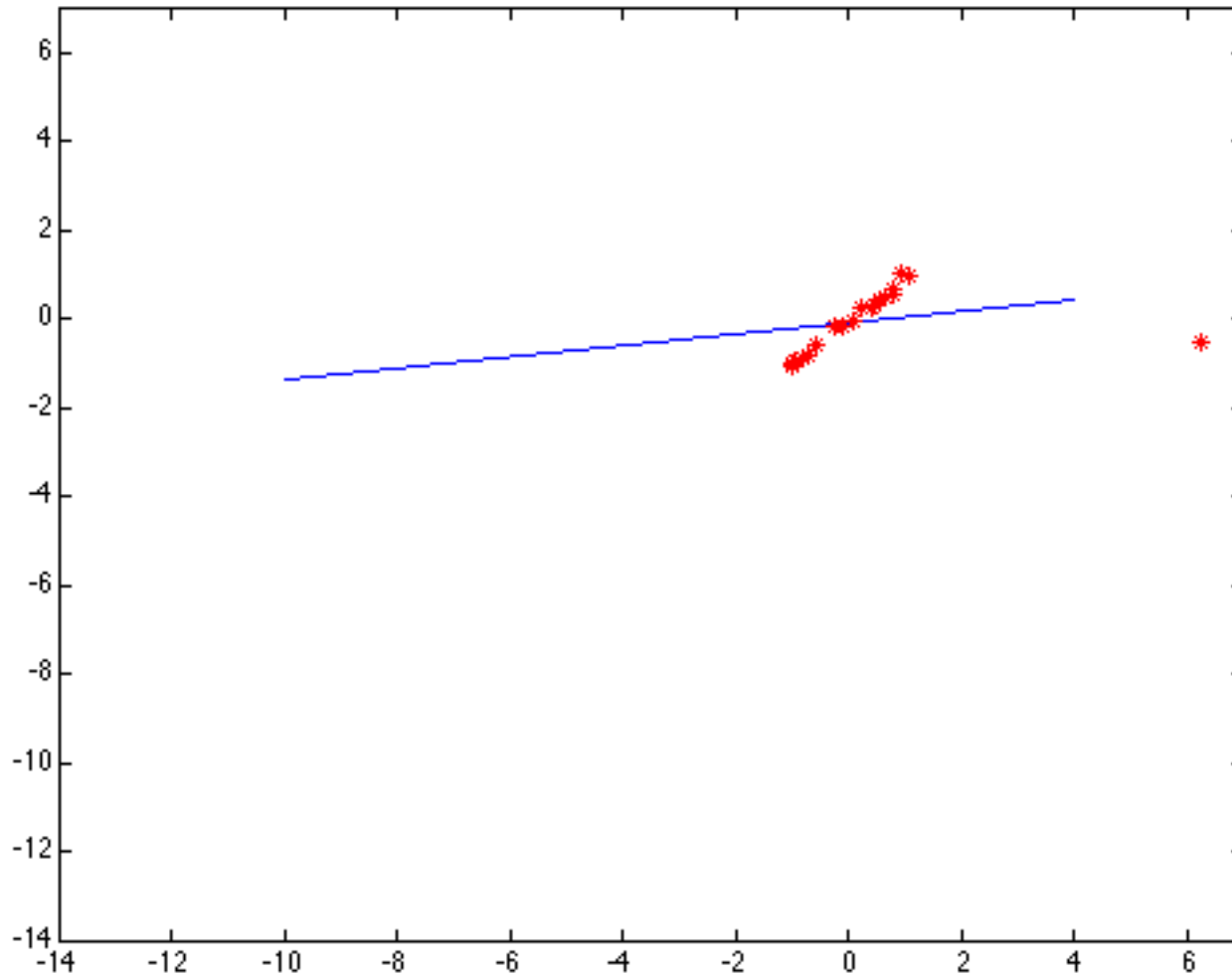
Least squares: Robustness to noise

Least squares fit to the red points:



Least squares: Robustness to noise

Least squares fit with an outlier:



Problem: squared error heavily penalizes outliers

Search / Least squares conclusions

Good

- Clearly specified objective
- Optimization is easy (for least squares)

Bad

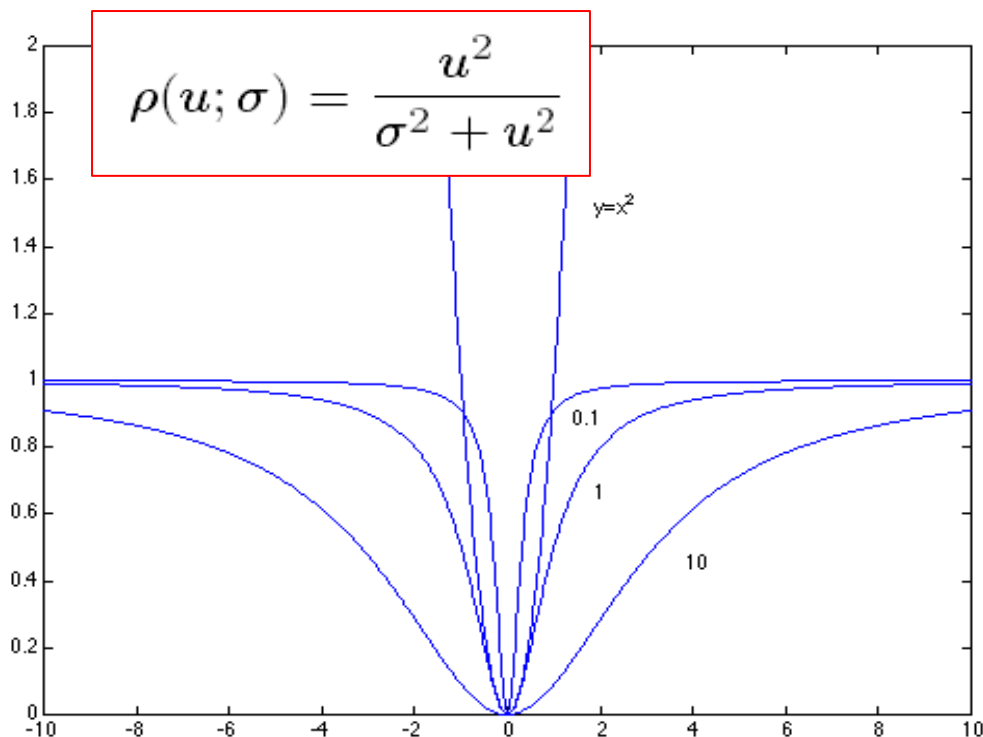
- Not appropriate for non-convex objectives
 - May get stuck in local minima
- Sensitive to outliers
 - Bad matches, extra points
- Doesn't allow you to get multiple good fits
 - Detecting multiple objects, lines, etc.

Robust least squares (to deal with outliers)

General approach:

$$\text{minimize} \quad \sum_i \rho(u_i(x_i, \theta); \sigma) \quad u = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - mx_i - b)^2$$

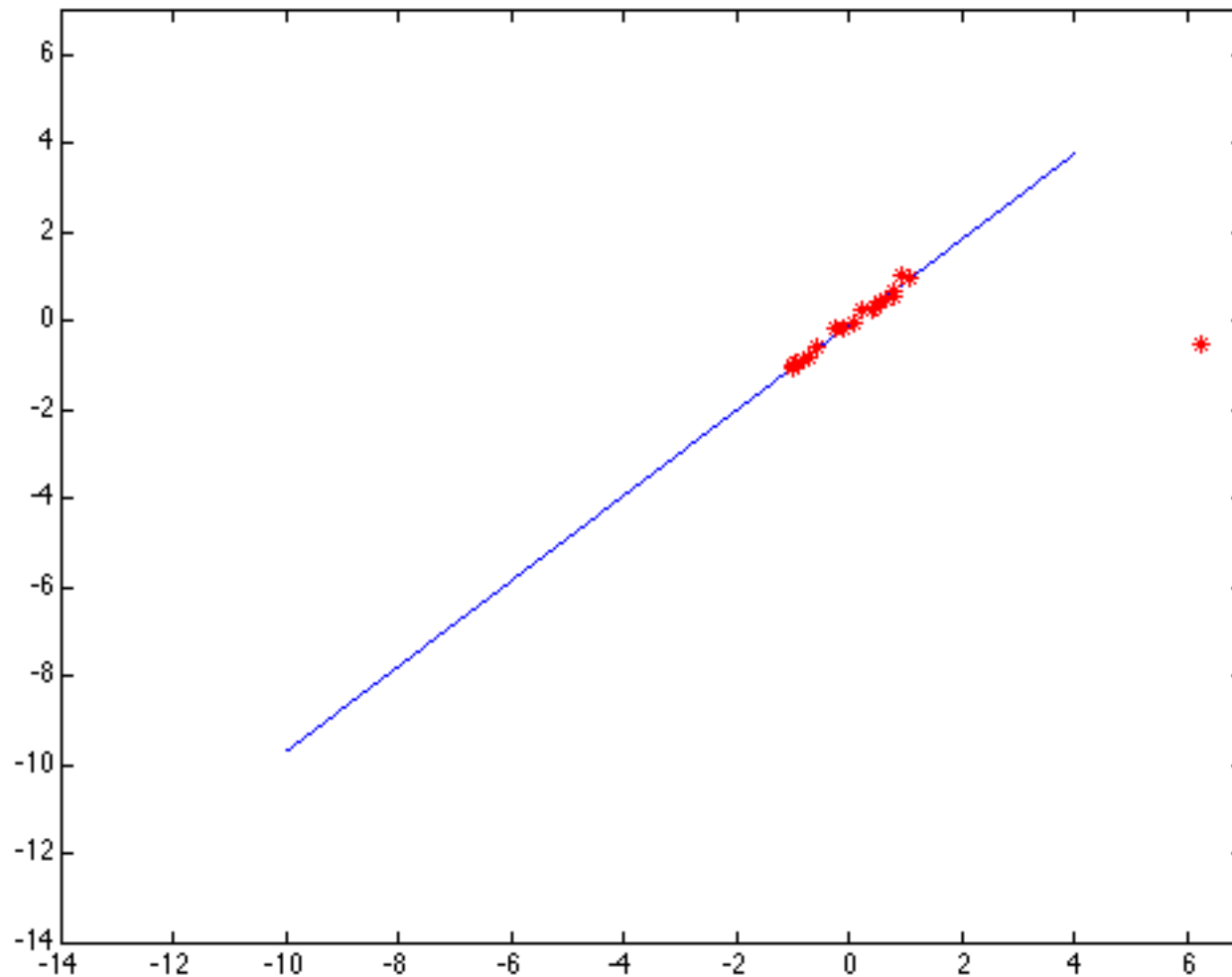
$u_i(x_i, \theta)$ – residual of i^{th} point w.r.t. model parameters θ
 ρ – robust function with scale parameter σ



The robust function ρ

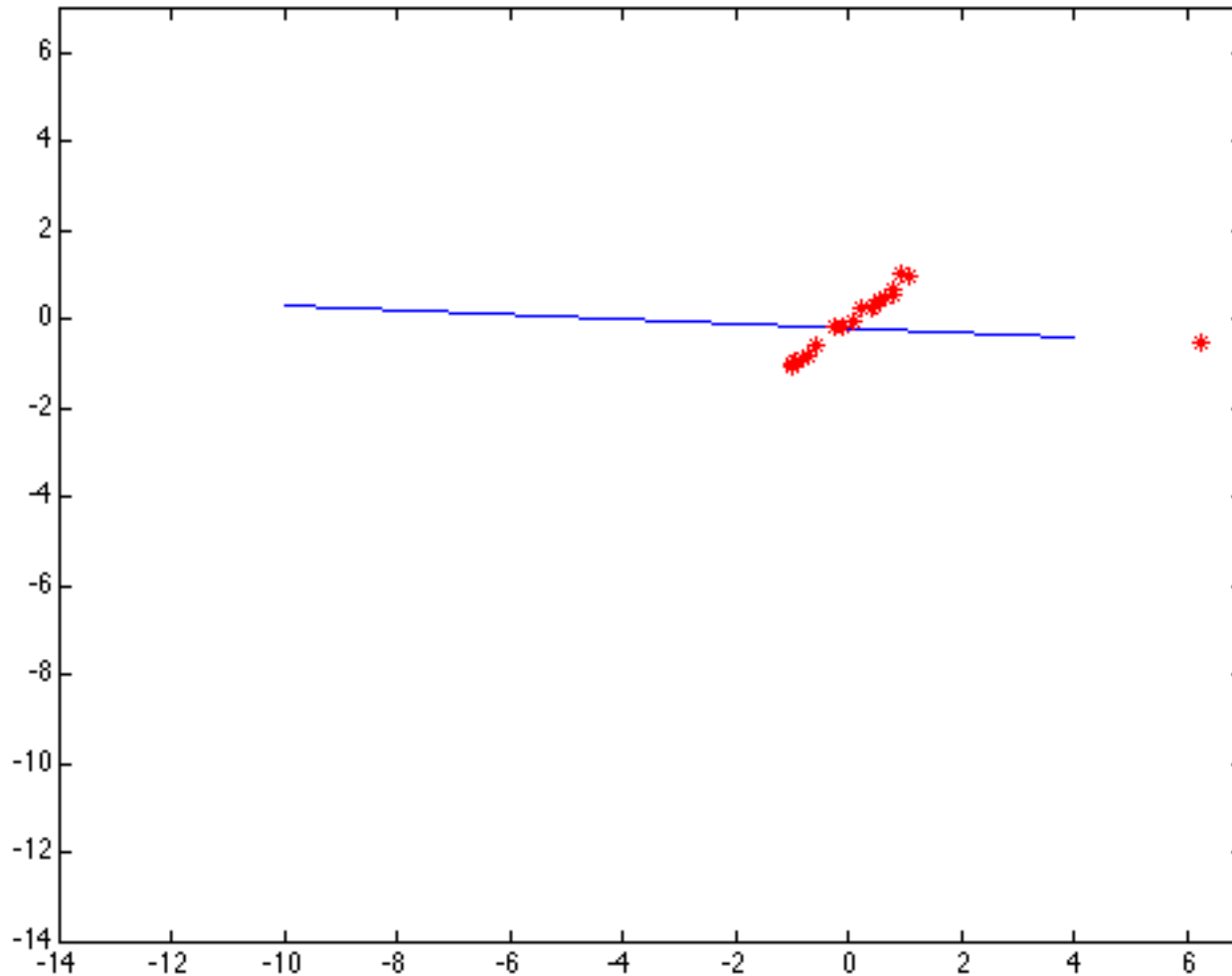
- Favors a configuration with small residuals
- Constant penalty for large residuals

Choosing the scale: Just right



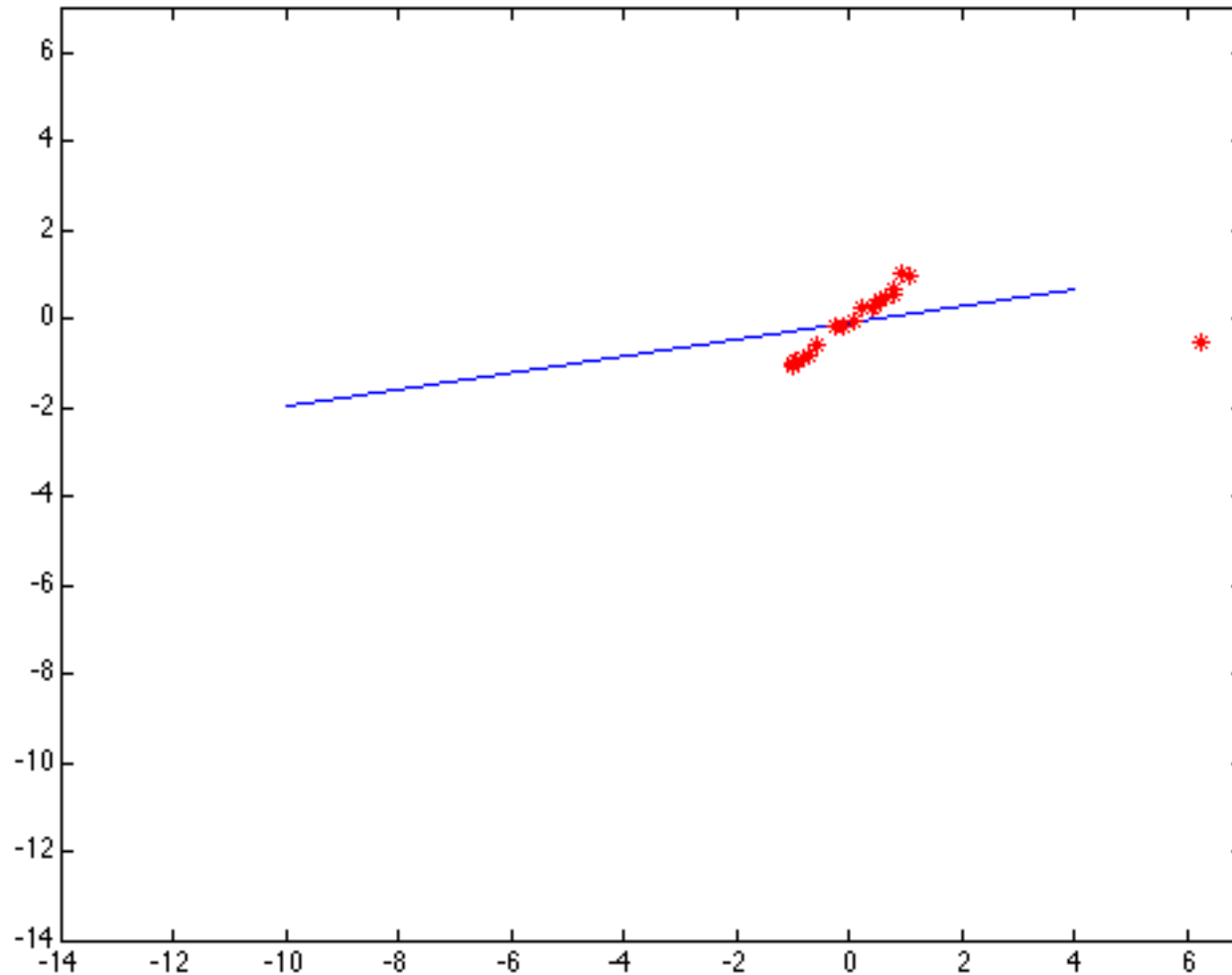
The effect of the outlier is minimized

Choosing the scale: Too small



The error value is almost the same for every point and the fit is very poor

Choosing the scale: Too large

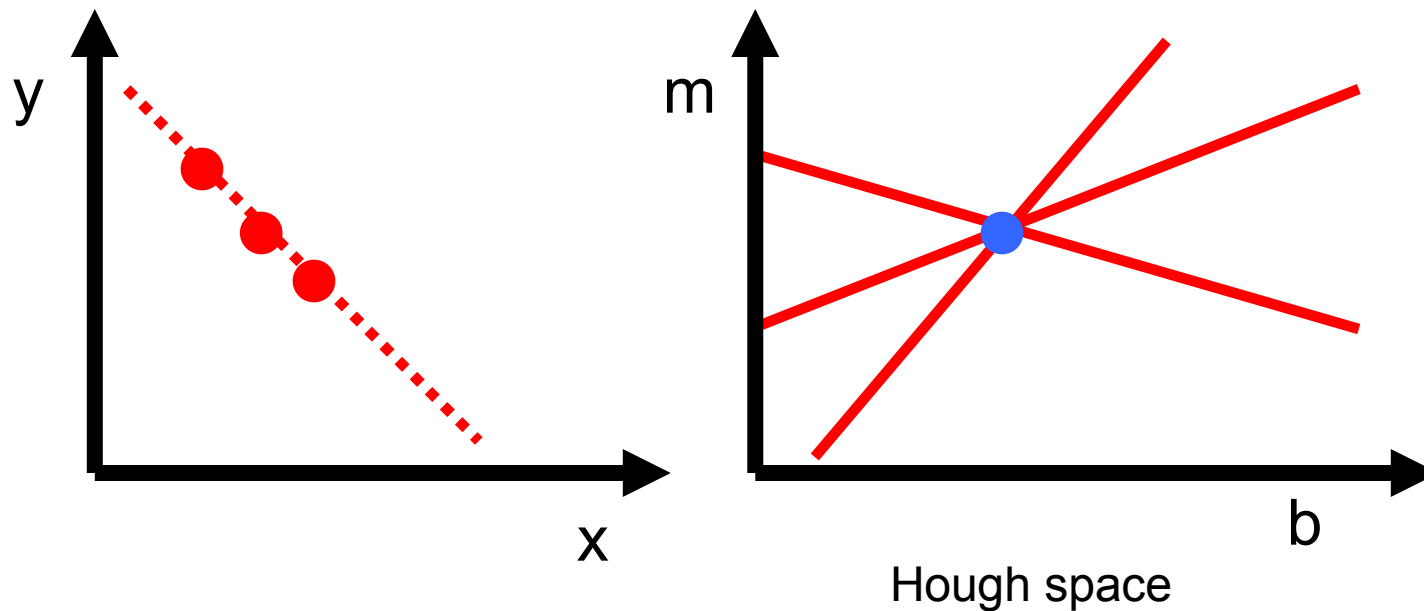


Behaves much the same as least squares

Hough transform

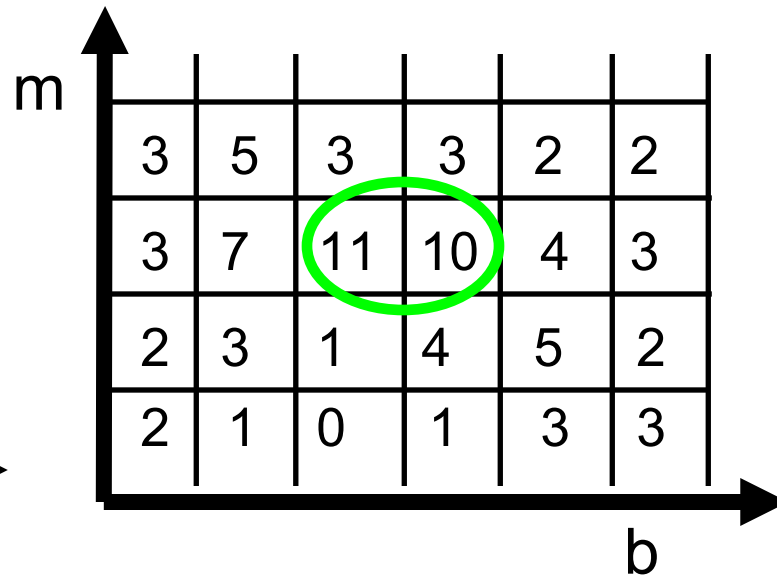
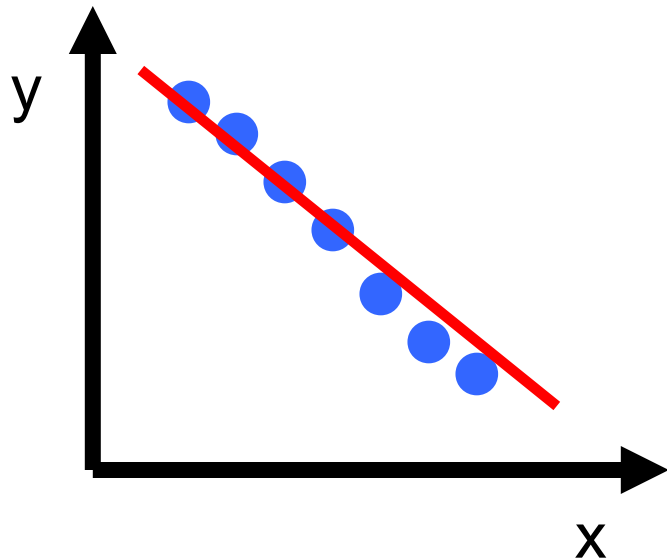
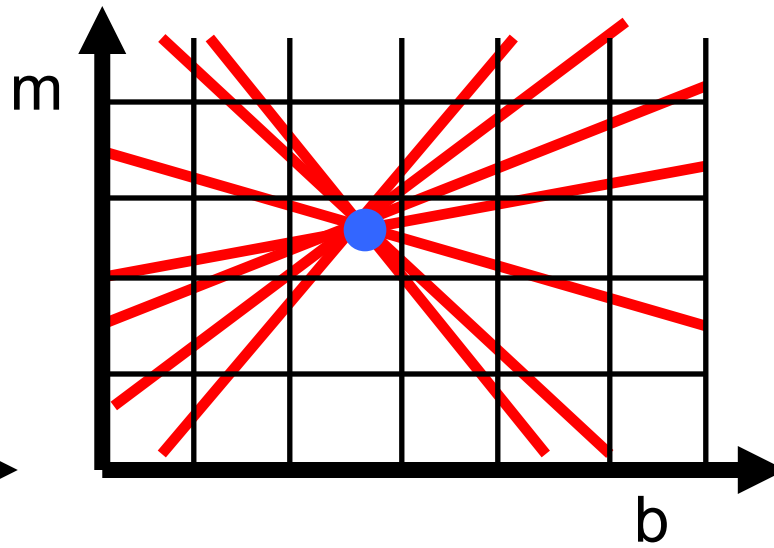
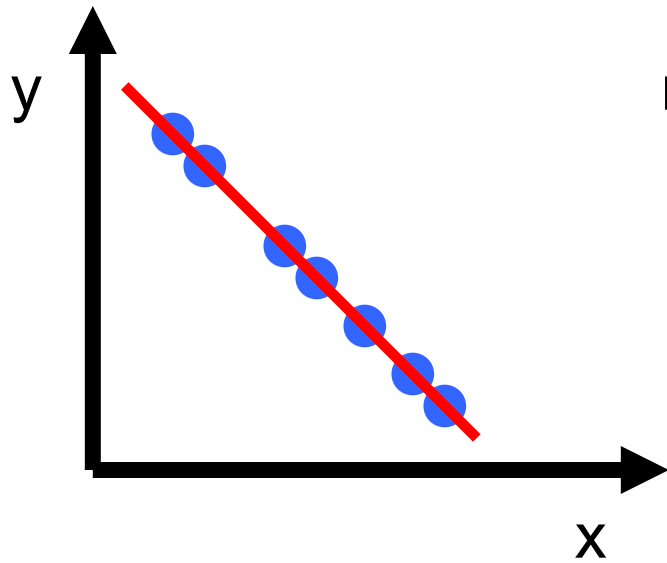
P.V.C. Hough, *Machine Analysis of Bubble Chamber Pictures*, Proc. Int. Conf. High Energy Accelerators and Instrumentation, 1959

Given a set of points, find the curve or line that explains the data points best



$$y = m x + b$$

Hough transform

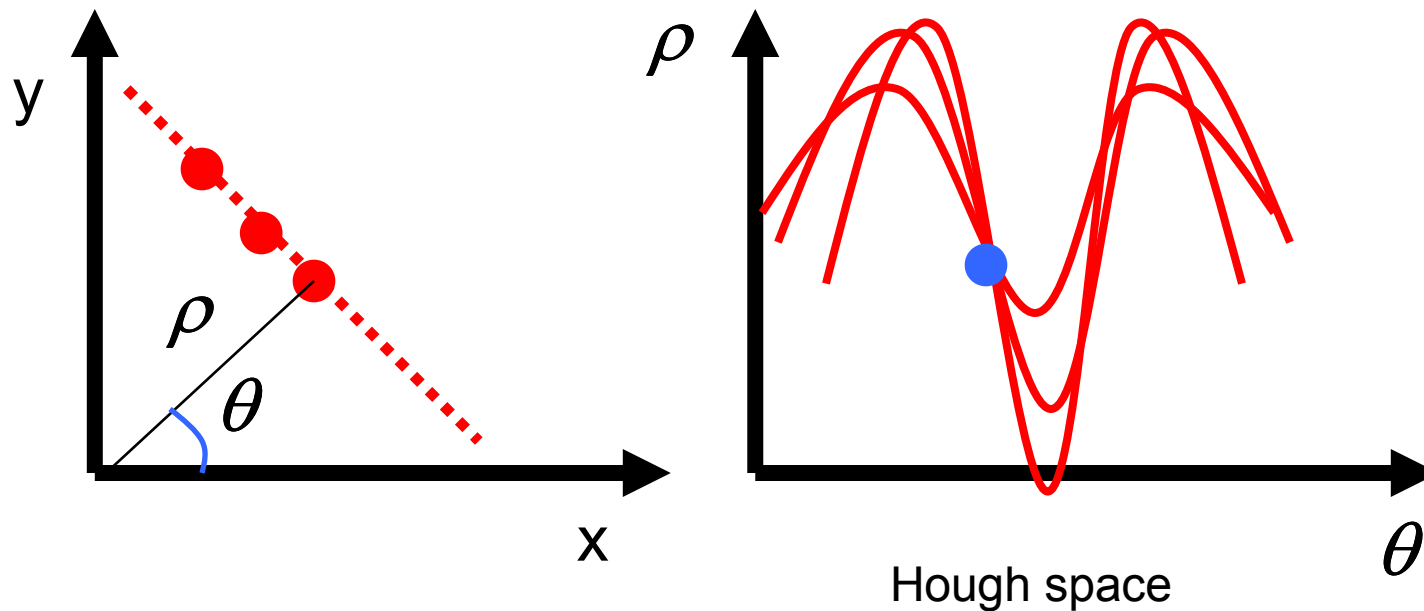


Hough transform

P.V.C. Hough, *Machine Analysis of Bubble Chamber Pictures*, Proc. Int. Conf. High Energy Accelerators and Instrumentation, 1959

Issue : parameter space $[m,b]$ is unbounded...

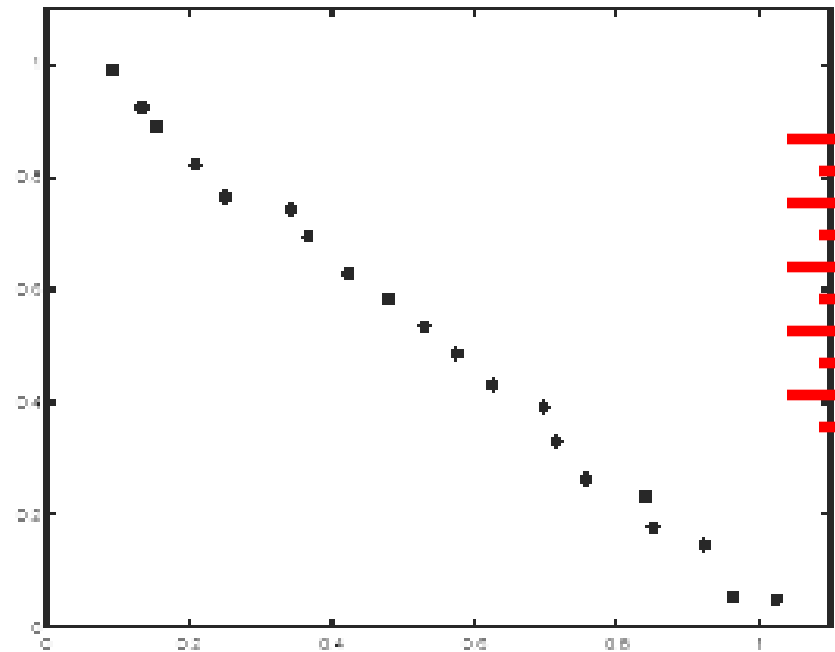
Use a polar representation for the parameter space



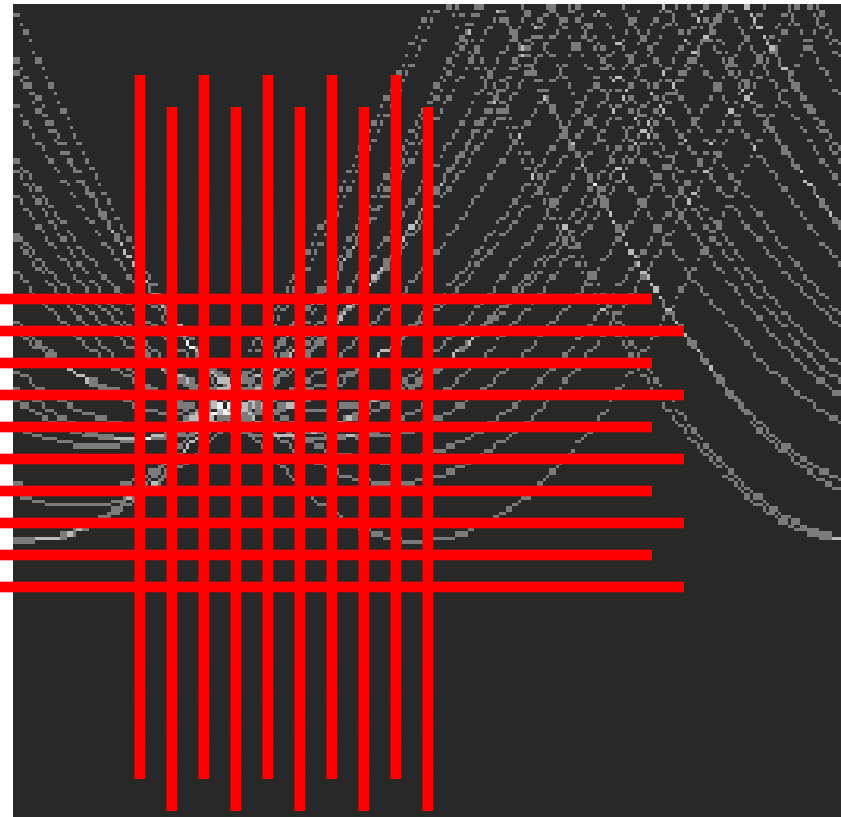
$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = \rho$$

Hough transform - experiments

Noisy data



features



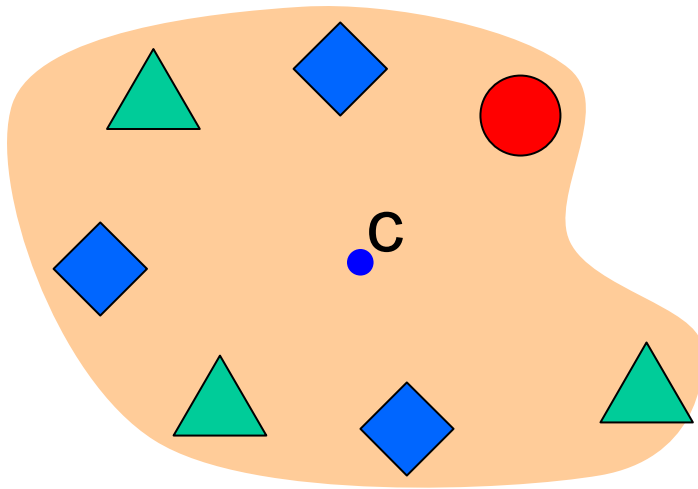
votes

Issue: Grid size needs to be adjusted...

Generalized Hough transform

- We want to find a template defined by its reference point (center) and several distinct types of landmark points in stable spatial configuration

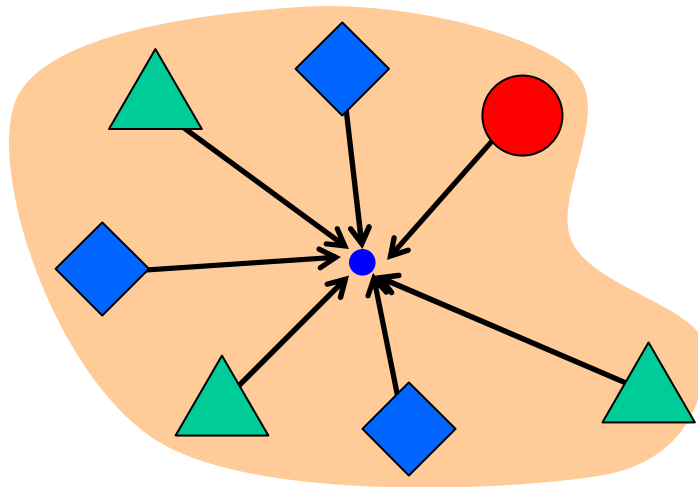
Template



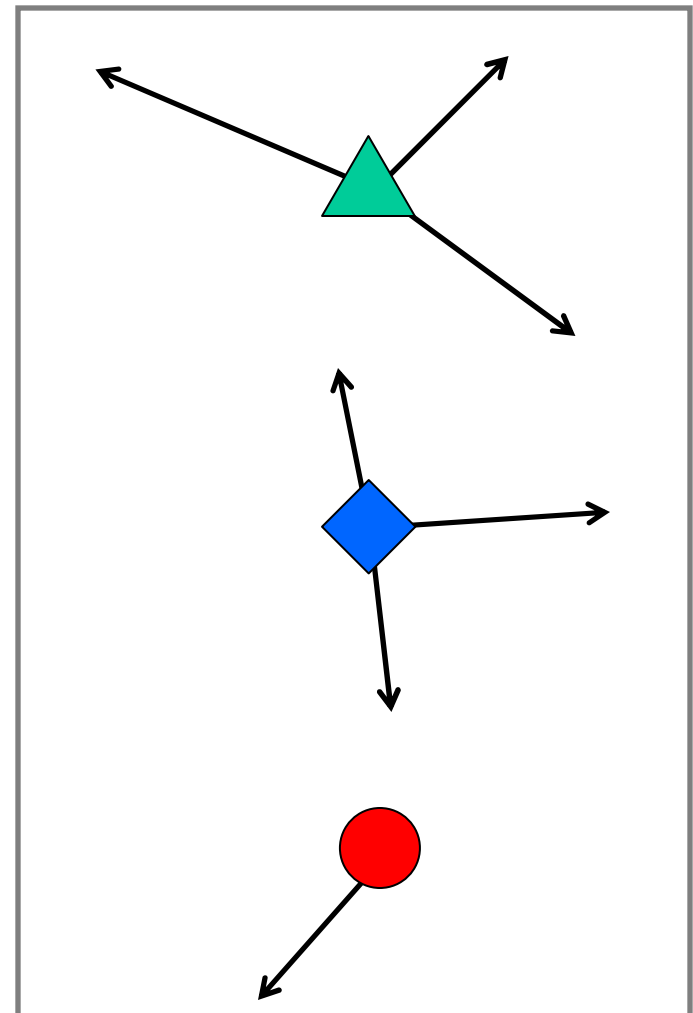
Generalized Hough transform

- Template representation:
for each type of landmark point, store all possible displacement vectors towards the center

Template



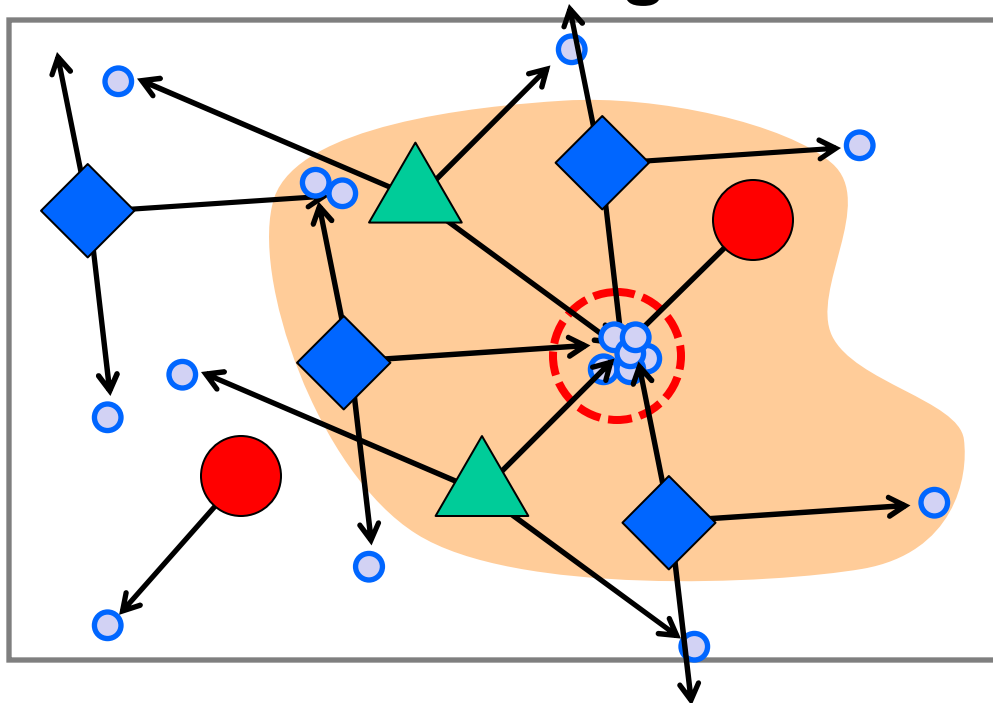
Model



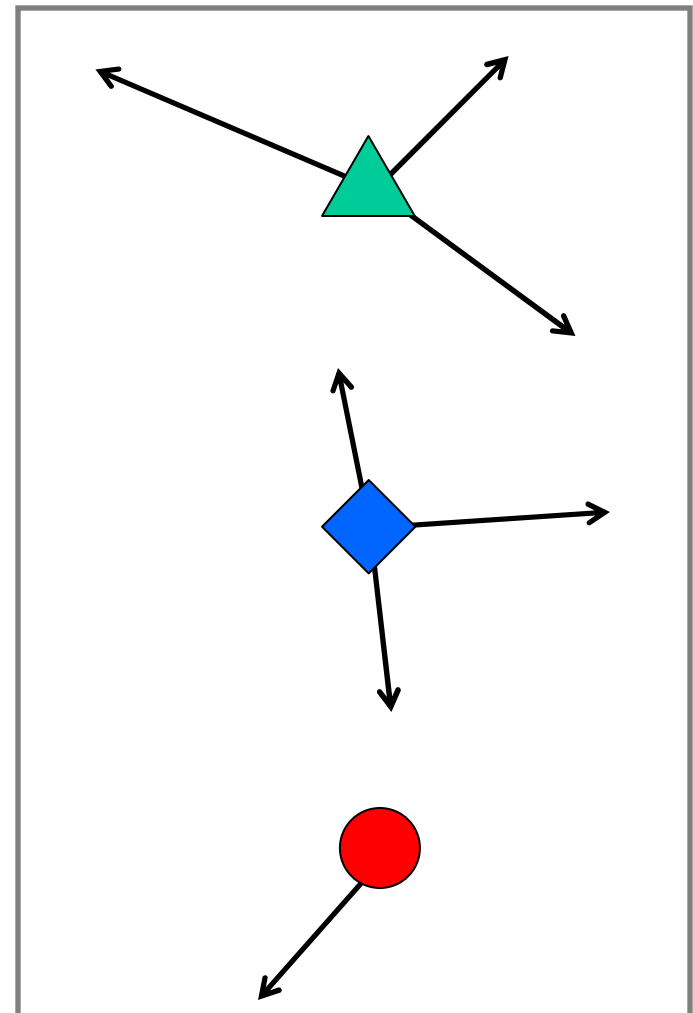
Generalized Hough transform

- Detecting the template:
 - For each feature in a new image, look up that feature type in the model and vote for the possible center locations associated with that type in the model

Test image

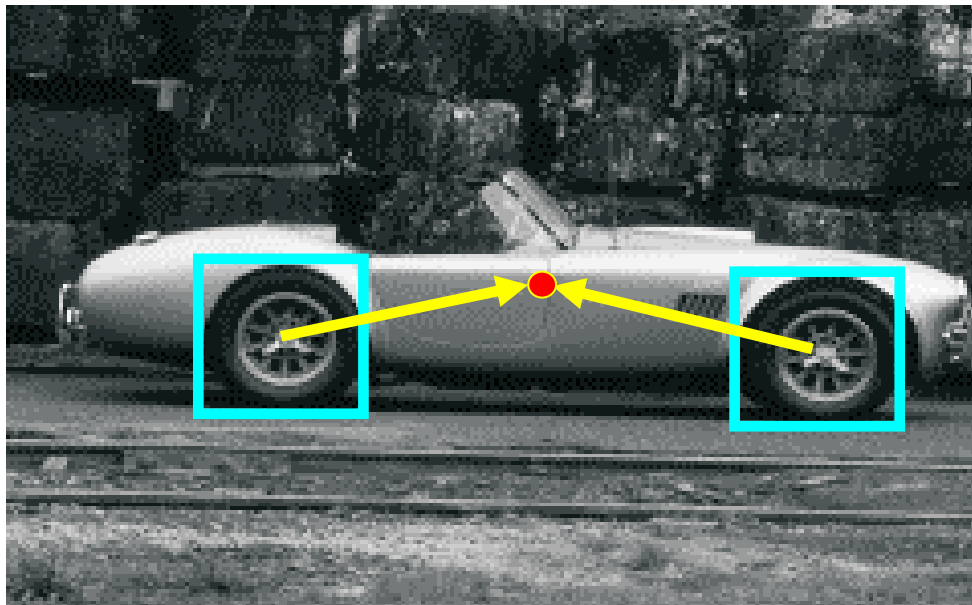


Model

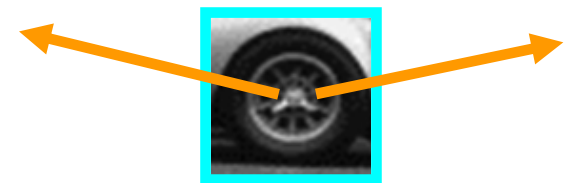


Application in recognition

- Index displacements by “visual codeword”



training image



visual codeword with displacement vectors

B. Leibe, A. Leonardis, and B. Schiele, [Combined Object Categorization and Segmentation with an Implicit Shape Model](#), ECCV Workshop on Statistical Learning in Computer Vision 2004

Application in recognition

- Index displacements by “visual codeword”



test image

B. Leibe, A. Leonardis, and B. Schiele, [Combined Object Categorization and Segmentation with an Implicit Shape Model](#), ECCV Workshop on Statistical Learning in Computer Vision 2004

Hough transform conclusions

Good

- Robust to outliers: each point votes separately
- Fairly efficient (often faster than trying all sets of parameters)
- Provides multiple good fits

Bad

- Some sensitivity to noise
- Bin size trades off between noise tolerance, precision, and speed/memory
 - Can be hard to find sweet spot
- Not suitable for more than a few parameters
 - grid size grows exponentially

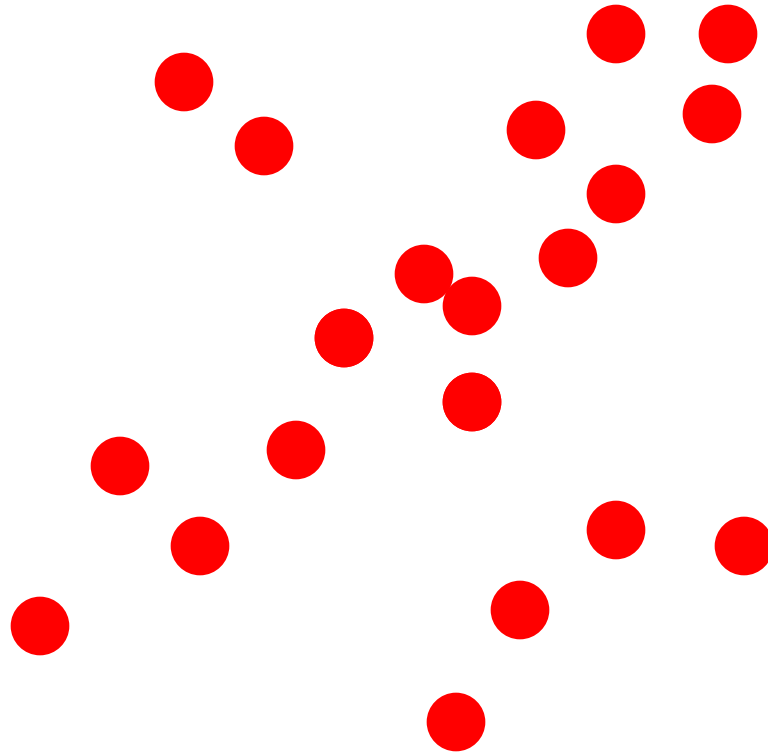
Common applications

- Line fitting (also circles, ellipses, etc.)
- Object instance recognition (parameters are affine transform)
- Object category recognition (parameters are position/scale)

RANSAC

(**RAN**dom **SA**mple **C**onsensus) :

Fischler & Bolles in '81.



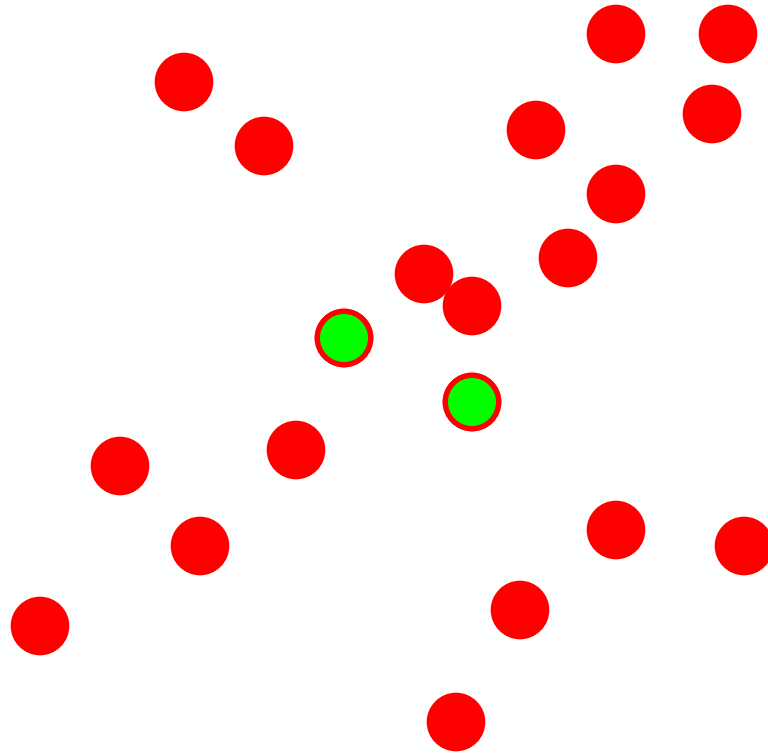
Algorithm:

1. **Sample** (randomly) the number of points required to fit the model
2. **Solve** for model parameters using samples
3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

Repeat 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence

RANSAC

Line fitting example



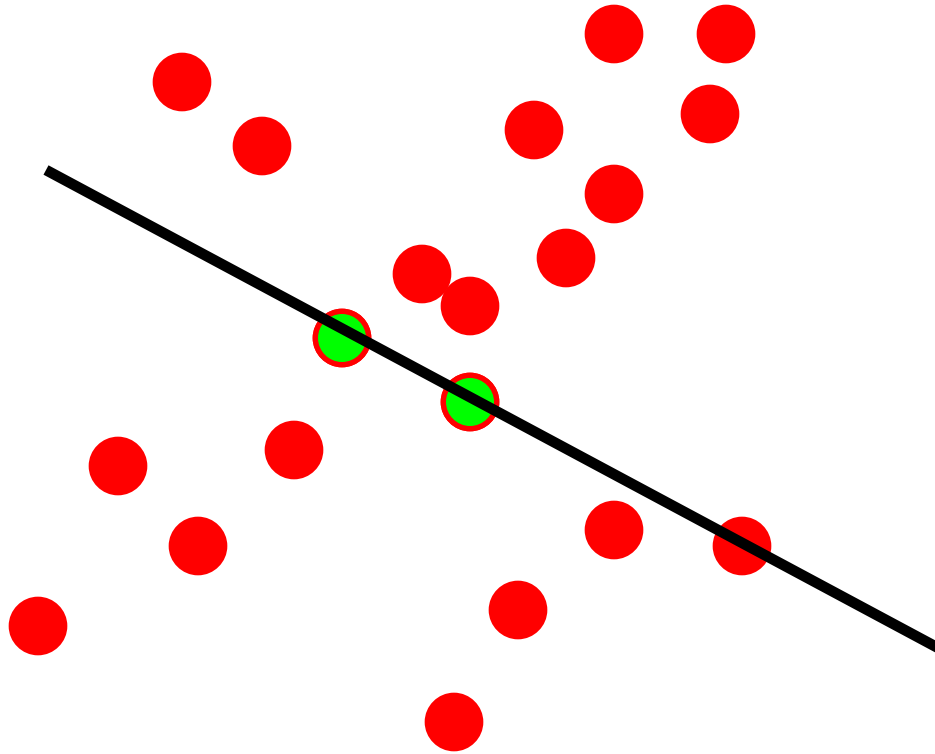
Algorithm:

1. **Sample** (randomly) the number of points required to fit the model ($\#=2$)
2. **Solve** for model parameters using samples
3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

Repeat 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence

RANSAC

Line fitting example



Algorithm:

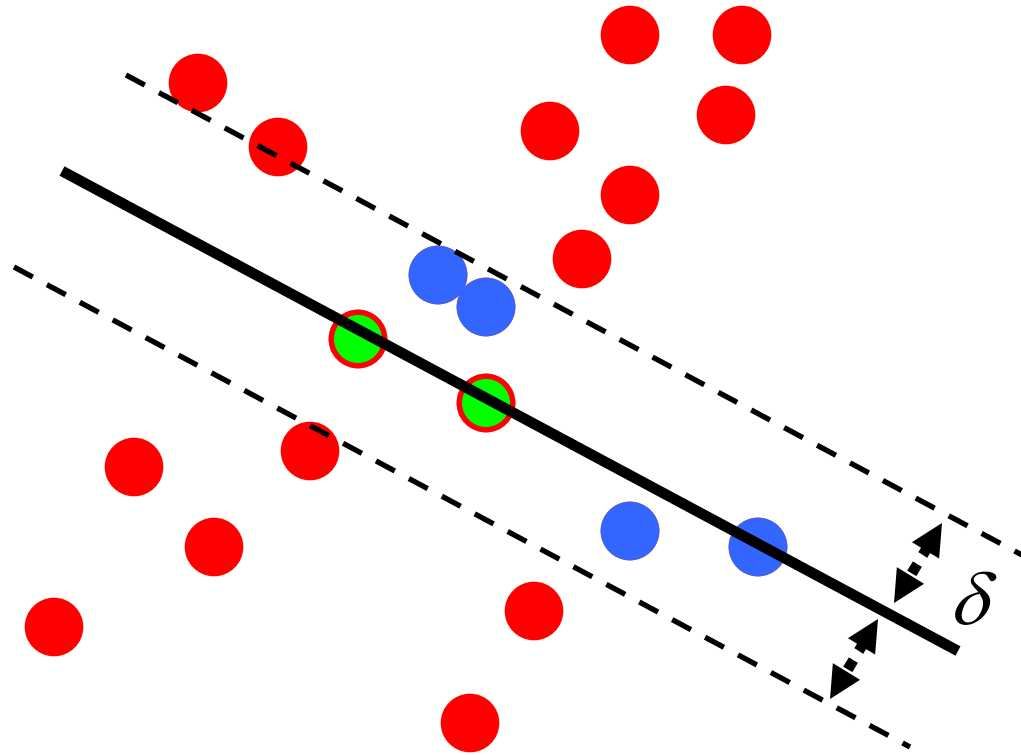
1. **Sample** (randomly) the number of points required to fit the model ($n=2$)
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3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

Repeat 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence

RANSAC

Line fitting example

$$N_I = 6$$

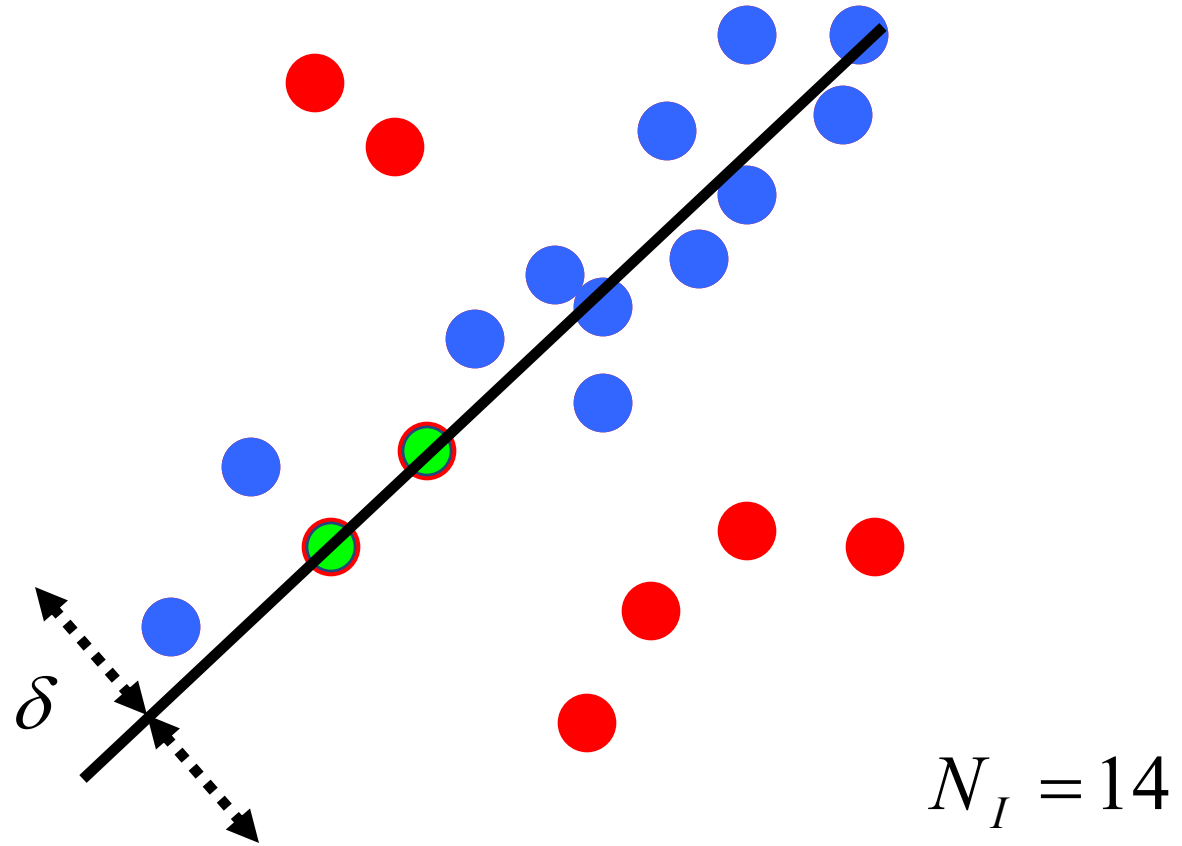


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RANSAC



Algorithm:

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3. **Score** by the fraction of inliers within a preset threshold of the model

Repeat 1-3 until the best model is found with high confidence

Choosing the parameters

- Initial number of points s
 - Typically minimum number needed to fit the model
- Distance threshold t
 - Choose t so probability for inlier is p (e.g. 0.95)
 - Zero-mean Gaussian noise with std. dev. σ : $t^2=3.84\sigma^2$
- Number of samples N
 - Choose N so that, with probability p , at least one random sample is free from outliers (e.g. $p=0.99$) (outlier ratio: e)

RANSAC conclusions

Good

- Robust to outliers
- Applicable for larger number of parameters than Hough transform
- Parameters are easier to choose than Hough transform

Bad

- Computational time grows quickly with fraction of outliers and number of parameters
- Not good for getting multiple fits

Common applications

- Computing a homography (e.g., image stitching)
- Estimating fundamental matrix (relating two views)