Computational Vision U. Minn. Psy 5036 Daniel Kersten Lecture 19: Motion Illusions & Bayesian models

Initialize

■ Spell check off

```
In[4]:= Off[General::spell1];
In[5]:= SetOptions[ArrayPlot, ColorFunction → "GrayTones", DataReversed → True,
Frame → False, AspectRatio → Automatic, Mesh → False,
PixelConstrained → True, ImageSize → Small];
SetOptions[ListPlot, ImageSize → Small];
SetOptions[Plot, ImageSize → Small];
SetOptions[DensityPlot, ImageSize → Small, ColorFunction → GrayLevel];
nbinfo = NotebookInformation[EvaluationNotebook[]];
dir =
("FileName" /. nbinfo /. FrontEnd`FileName[d_List, nam_, __] :>
ToFileName[d]);
```

Outline

Last time

- Early motion measurement--types of models
- •Functional goals of motion measurements
- Optic flow

Cost function (or energy) descent model

A posteriori and a priori constraints

Gradient descent algorithms

Computer vs. human vision and optic flow

-- area vs. contour

Today

Local measurements, neural systems & orientation in space-time

Representing motion, Orientation in space-time

Fourier representation and sampling

Optic flow, the gradient constraint, aperture problem

Neural systems solutions to the problem of motion measurement.

Space-time oriented receptive fields

Motion phenomena & illusions

Neither the area-based nor the contour-based algorithms we've seen can account for the range of human motion phenomena or psychophysical data that we now have.

Look at human motion perception

Global integration

Sketch a Bayesian formulation--the integrating uncertain local measurements with the right priors can be used to model a variety of human motion results.

Orientation in space-time: Relating neuron responses to gradient-based motion models

In this section, we'll see how viewing motion measurement as detecting orientation in space-time is related to neurophysiological theories of neural motion selectivity.

Demo: area-based vs. contour-based models

Last time we asked: Are the representation, constraints, and algorithm a good model of human motion perception?

The answer seems to be "no". The representation of the input is probably wrong. Human observers often give more weight to contour movement than to intensity flow. Human perception of the sequence illustrated below differs from "area-based" models of optic flow such as the above Horn and Schunck algorithm. The two curves below would give a maximum correlation at zero--hence zero predicted velocity. Human observers see the contour move from left to right--because the contours are stronger features than the gray-levels. However we will see in Adelson's missing fundamental illusion that the story is not as simple as a mere "tracking of edges" --and we will return to spatial frequency channels to account for the human visual system's motion measurements. At the end of this lecture, we'll review a Bayesian model that integrates local motion information according to reliability, providing a theory that may explain a diverse set of motion illusions.



There is a clear sense of motion of the edge, even though the signal inferred from an intensity, region-based integration of optic flow would produce little or no optic flow in that direction.

Adelson's missing fundamental motion illusion

We first make a square-wave grating.

In[27]:=

realsquare[x_,y_,phase_] := Sign[Sin[x + phase]];

And make a four-frame movie in which the grating gets progressively shifted LEFT in steps of Pi/2. That is we shift the grating left in 90 degree steps.





A square wave can be decomposed into its Fourier components as:

realsquare(x) = $(4/\pi)^* \{ \sin(x) + 1/3 \sin(3x) + 1/5 \sin(5x) + 1/7 \sin(7x) + ... \}$

Now subtract out the fundamental frequency from the square wave

...leaving $(4/\pi)^* \{ 1/3 \sin(3x) + 1/5 \sin(5x) + 1/7 \sin(7x) + ... \}$

In[36]:=

realmissingfundamental[x_,y_,phase_] := realsquare[x,y,phase] - (4.0 / Pi) Sin[x + phase];

And make another four-frame movie in which the missing fundamental grating gets progressively shifted LEFT in steps of Pi/2. That is we shift the grating left in 90 degree steps.

It is well-known that a low contrast square wave with a missing fundamental appears similar to the square wave (with the fundamental). (There is a pitch analogy in audition.) One reason is that we are more sensitive to sharp than gradual changes in intensity. If you look at the luminance profile with the missing fundamental, you would probably guess that the perceived motion for this sequence would appear to move to the left, as before. But it doesn't. Surprisingly, the missing fundamental wave appears to move to the right!



Play the above movie. It typically appears to be moving to the right. You can generate movies with different contrasts by adjusting the PlotRange parameters.

If the visual system reconstructed the missing fundamental before computing motion direction we'd expect to see motion to the left. The missing fundamental moves towards the left as you can see by playing the movie below.



What in the stimulus does move to the right?

Why might this be? Probably the best explanation comes from looking at the dominant frequency component in the pattern, which is the 3rd harmonic. It turns out that the third harmonic is jumping in 1/4 cycle steps to the right, even though the pattern as a whole is jumping in 1/4 cycle steps (relative to the missing fundamental) to the left, as shown in the figure below:



Make a movie with Plot[] that shows the third harmonic. Which way does it move?

And here is the movie with just the third harmonic. Which way does it appear to move?



Human motion measurement mechanisms are tuned to spatial frequency.

How can the inferred biological mechanisms be pieced together to compute optic flow? We can construct the following rough outline. Assume we have, at each spatial location, a collection of filters tuned to various orientations (q) and speeds (s) over a local region. (For an algorithm for optic flow based on biologically plausible spatiotemporal filters see Heeger, 1987).

In this scheme, the optic flow measurements are distributed across the units, so if we wanted to read off the velocity from the pattern of activity, we would need some additional processing. For example, the optic flow components could be represented by the "centers of mass", measured by a "population vector" across the distributed activity. Because these measurements are local, we still have the aperture problem. We will look at possible biological solutions to this problem later.

(One problem with this simple interpretation is that many V1 cells are known to be tuned to spatial and temporal frequency in such a way that the spatio-temporal filter is the product of the space and time filters. This means that there is a favored temporal frequency that is the same across spatial frequencies, so the filter will be tuned to different speeds depending on the spatial frequency).

Representation of motion

■ *Mathematica* demo



Despite the dynamic background noise, your visual system is picking up on a regularity in the movie--a sub-group of pixels has a consistent displacement of luminance values across space and time. We can visualize this regularity by making a plot of intensity as a function of time and space, an "t-x" plot. Let's visualize it for the 8th row of an 8-frame noise image sequence, where the central square is moving from left to right, and the background is fixed.



(Note in this case, the motion boundaries are consistent with motion seen through a "hole", rather than of a square moving above the background. This distinction isn't important to the key idea of motion as orientation in space-time.)

In[55]:=

```
nframes = 8;
xt = {};
For[i=nframes,i>0,i--,
        A2[[Range[y0,y0+pw],Range[x0,x0+pw]]] =
        A1[[Range[y0,y0+pw],Range[x0+i,x0+pw+i]]];
        xt = Join[xt,{A2[[8]]}]
];
```



The luminance of pixels from rows 4 to 16 move to the right resulting in a positively oriented intensity pattern in t-x space.

■ x-y-t space

In general, patterns are 2-D, so the our representation is three dimensional. The diagram below (from Wandell), shows a a representation for a bar moving from right to left in the x direction.



Neurophysiological filters

How might one construct spatio-temporal filters to estimate orientation in space-time?







From Wandell, "Foundations of Vision", 1995

■ A possible mechansim for building space-time filters from two spatial filters with a temporal delay



10.7 A METHOD FOR CREATING A SPACE-TIME-ORIENTED RECEPTIVE FIELD. (A) A pair of spatial receptive fields, displaced in the x direction, is shown at the top. The response of the neuron on the left is delayed and then added to the response of the neuron on the right. (B) The (t, x) receptive field of the output neuron in panel (A). The temporal response of the neuron on the left is delayed compared to the temporal response of the neuron on the right. The combination of spatial displacement and temporal delay yields an output neuron whose receptive field is oriented in space-time.

In panel A above, two matched oriented x-y filters pick out preferred spatial frequency components, one of the outputs is delayed relative to the other, and then the outputs are combined through summation. The summed output would show maximum firing rate for that particular spatial frequency, spatial offset between filters, and temporal delay. Panel B shows the interpretation of such a receptive field (as measured in the summed ouput) in space-time.

Wandell, "Foundations of Vision", 1995

Relationship of the gradient constraint to oriented space-time filters

Let's pursue the analogy of edge detection in space to "edge detection" in space-time.

Recall the gradient constraint:

$$v_x \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial t} = 0$$

 v_x and v_y correspond to u and v used in the previous lecture. For simplicity, let's consider just one spatial dimension x, and thus (t,x) space.



As we saw for edge detection, blurring reduces the effect of noise. So let image L(x,y,t) be blurred in space and smeared in time, g(x,y,t).



The figure below shows how adding weighted combinations of spatial and temporal derivatives, one can produce a family of space-time oriented filters whose orientation is given by the speed v_x :



The bottom panels B and C in Figure 10.9 from Wandell show how the response as a function of time has a greater amplitude for the motion filter that matches the pattern in t-x space.

Here's a bit of *Mathematica* that illustrates how v_x rotates the filter in space-time.



http://www.amazon.com/Foundations-Vision-Brian-Wandell/dp/0878938532/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=book-s&qid=1226337031&sr=1-1

From theory to demos

If motion is measured using oriented excitatory-inhibitory space-time filters, one might be able to generate a continuous sense of motion by cyclying through a set of frames designed to excite these filters. See: http://www.georgemather.com





ListAnimate[mov2, 15]

Out[72]=



Try producing a sequence of frames by convolving a single input image with a oriented spatial (x-y)

gabor function filter (with inhibitory side-lobes), then produce the next frame by phase-shifted from the filter used in the previous frame, and so forth. Try generating a sequence of 8 frames. (See Heeger, SIGGRAPH 1991).

Human motion perception: Rhombi and plaids

Aperture effects

In[73]:=

```
niter = 8; width = 32;
theta1 = Pi/4.; contrast1 = 0.5;
freq1 = 4.; period1 = 1/freq1;
stepx1 = Cos[theta1]*(period1/niter); stepy1 = Sin[theta1]*(period1/niter);
grating[x_,y_,freq_,theta_] := Cos[(2. Pi freq)*(Cos[theta]*x + Sin[theta]*y)];
```

■ Circular aperture

```
In[79]:=
```

```
iseq=Table[DensityPlot[If[(x-0.5)^2+(y-0.5)^2<0.3^2,grating[x+i*stepx1,y+i*stepy1];</pre>
```



■ Square aperture

In[81]:=

iseqs=Table[DensityPlot[grating[x+i*stepx1,y+i*stepy1,freq1,theta1],{x,0,1},{y,0,
];



What do you see if you attend to the vertical boundaries? The horizontal boundaries?



Rectangular horizontal aperture

■ Rectangular vertical aperture



The main point is that spatial integration of motion information takes into account flow at the boundaries. E.g. if boundary features at the vertical edge outweigh contributions from those at the horizontal edge, there will be a vertical bias, and so forth.

Project idea: Try the above with stereo-defined apertures. Does stereo de-couple the integration of the boundary cues with the internal cues?

Moving rhombus illusions

http://www.cs.huji.ac.il/~yweiss/Rhombus/rhombus.html

Motion Plaids

Two overlapping (additive transparent) sinusoids at different orientations and moving in different directions are, under certain conditions seen as a single pattern moving with a velocity consistent with an intersection of constraints. Under other conditions, the two individual component motions are seen.

■ Adding two gratings, single frame

Plaid grating: Grating 1 + Grating 2



■ Initialize parameters



Now try the above motion plaid with different motion directions and contrasts

There is a substantial history of research into understanding how both human and neural mechanisms integrate motion information in plaids. Movshon et al. (1986) provides perhaps the earliest examples of an interdisciplinary approach combining computational theory, perceptual observations, and neuron responses (in MT and V1) to understand motion processing.

Bayesian model for integrating local motion measurements

Global integration.

Yuille, A., & Grzywacz, N. (1988);

Lorenceau & Shiffrar's demo (http://gandalf.psych.umn.edu/users/kersten/kerstenlab/courses/Psy5036W2008/Lectures/18.MotionOpticFlow/aperturedemomovie.mov)



General problem



Intersection of constraints revisited

Grating plaids sometime seen as coherent, other times as two overlapping transparent gratings moving separately.



Both intersection of constraints and vector average models have been proposed to account for motion perception in different regimes, i.e. different combinations of plaid component parameters.

Bayes model for integration

Yuille, A., & Grzywacz, N. (1988)

Weiss Y, Simoncelli EP, Adelson EH (2002) Motion illusions as optimal percepts. Nat Neurosci 5:598-604.



■ Probabilistic interpretation of intersection of constraints

The plot illustrates the calculation of the posterior:

 $p(v_x,v_y|$ perpendicular component 1, perpendicular component 2) $\propto p(\text{perpendicular component 1} | v_x)p(\text{perpendicular component 1} | v_x)p(\text{perpendicu$

Probabilistic interpretation with noisy measurements



Key ideas

A. Information for motion direction and speed comes from two types of sources: 1) the data, which involves many measurements of local velocity that produce a likelihood of $(v_x v_y)$ for each measurement. (Two are shown above). These likelihoods have various degrees of uncertainty (i.e. variance in the possible values of $(v_x v_y)$) that depend on image signal-tonoise ratio, e.g. contrast. 2) Prior assumptions that assume the speeds are slow, i.e. a probability distribution of $(v_x v_y)$ with a mean of zero.

B. A Bayes optimal solution multiplies the prior and likelihoods to obtain the posterior. The important qualitative idea is that estimates based on this posterior effectively weight information from the data and prior according to reliability. So if there is more certainty in the measurements (e.g. high contrast), this will bias the estimates of $(v_x v_y)$ towards the intersection of constraints and away from the prior. If it is hard to see the motion, then the estimates should be biased towards the prior, i.e. slower.

Exercise: Assume Gaussian distributions and prove that the maximum a posteriori estimate of a parameter given two measurements is given by:

$\mathbf{v} = v_1 r_1 / (r_1 + r_2) + v_2 r_2 / (r_1 + r_2)$

Where v_1 and v_2 are the best estimates based on measurements 1 and 2 separately,

and $r_i = 1/\sigma_i^2$, *i.e.* the reciprocal of the variance of each. The math for this is identical to that

for cue integration (e.g., see Lecture 6, and Ernst, M.O., & Banks, M.S.(2002). Humans integrate

visual and haptic information in a statistically optimal fashion.Nature, 415 (6870), 429 - 433.)

Tests of theory

Rhombus experiment

The above figure shows how as the rhombus gets skinnier, the peak of the posterior moves towards the lower right quadrant of velocity space, consistent with psychophysics.



■ Aperture effects

Imagine a corrugated surface moving up, but viewed through apertures. For a circular aperture, information around the boundary is symmetric, so the bias for a certain direction balances out, leaving the interior velocity measurements to dominate.

For a rectangular aperture, corner information can provide a strong bias.



Fig. 3. Likelihood functions for three local patches of a horizontally translating diamond stimulus, computed using equation (4). Intensity corresponds to probability. Top, high-contrast sequence. Bottom, low-contrast sequence, with the same parameter σ . At edges, the local likelihood is a 'fuzzy' constraint line; at corners, the local likelihood peaks around the veridical velocity. The sharpness of the likelihood decreases with decreasing contrast.



So for the rectangular aperture below, there is more and overall stronger evidence for leftward motion.

Plaids



From Weiss and Adelson, 1998. Type I and I plaids. (Yo and Wilson, 1992)

Appendix

■ Generalization of the Bayesian motion model to other types of motion stimuli

Requirements for generalizatoin: Base likelihoods on actual image data spatiotemporal measurements Include "2D" features E.g. corners Rigid rotations, non-rigid deformations Stage 1:local likelihoods Stage 2: Bayesian combination

- Prior

slowness -- wagon wheel example, quartet example

smoothness - e.g. translating rigid circle

■ Overview Weiss, Simoncelli, Adelson models

Weiss Y, Simoncelli EP, Adelson EH (2002) Motion illusions as optimal percepts. Nat Neurosci 5:598-604 has a shorter version of the theory. And http://www-bcs.mit.edu/people/yweiss/intro/intro.html has a more complete algorithm that takes as input the actual image intensity values.

Dense to sparse:

$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}) = \Phi(\mathbf{r})\theta$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N/2} \theta_{i} G(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_{i})$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{i=1+N/2}^{N} \theta_{i} G(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_{i})$$

Likelihood:
$$L(v) \propto e^{-\sum_r w(r)(I_x v_x + I_y v_y + I_t)^2 / 2\sigma^2}$$

Prior:
$$\begin{split} L_{r}(v) &\to p(I \mid \theta) \propto \prod_{r} L_{r}(\theta) \\ P(V) &\propto e^{-\sum_{r} (Dv)^{t}(r)(Dv)(r)/2} \\ P(V) &\to P(\theta) \end{split}$$
Posterior: $P(\theta \mid I) \propto P(I \mid \theta) P(\theta)$

Prior

Log posterior is quadratic in θ , \rightarrow linear estimator for θ

Weiss & Adelson, 1998

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