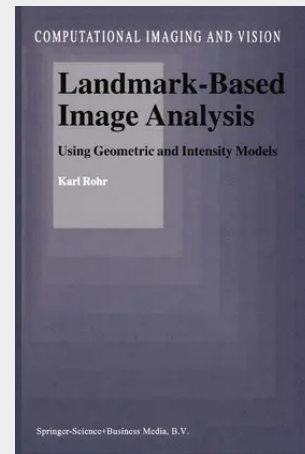


Landmark-Based Image Analysis

Using Geometric and Intensity Models

Landmarks are preferred image features for a variety of computer vision tasks such as image mensuration, registration, camera calibration, motion analysis, 3D scene reconstruction, and object recognition. Main advantages of using landmarks are robustness w. r. t. lightning conditions and other radiometric variations as well as the ability to cope with large displacements in registration or motion analysis tasks. Also, landmark-based approaches are in general computationally efficient, particularly when using point landmarks. Note, that the term landmark comprises both artificial and natural landmarks. Examples are comers or other characteristic points in video images, ground control points in aerial images, anatomical landmarks in medical images, prominent facial points used for biometric verification, markers at human joints used for motion capture in virtual reality applications, or in- and outdoor landmarks used for autonomous navigation of robots. This book covers the extraction of landmarks from images as well as the use of these features for elastic image registration. Our emphasis is on model-based approaches, i. e. on the use of explicitly represented knowledge in image analysis. We principally distinguish between geometric models describing the shape of objects (typically their contours) and intensity models, which directly represent the image intensities, i. e. the appearance of objects. Based on these classes of models we develop algorithms and methods for analyzing multimodal images such as traditional 2D video images or 3D medical tomographic images.

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