
Identifying the Vanishing Points of Surgical Tools via Conic Convolution Using a Neural Network

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Abstract

1 Robot-assisted minimally invasive surgery (RMIS) is becoming increasingly popular
2 due to its numerous advantages, such as higher precision and shorter patient
3 recovery time. However, one of the main drawbacks is the lack of force feedback
4 from the surgical tool. Force sensors are not a viable solution because they tend
5 to be very expensive and can only be used once. A new idea that could enable
6 the widespread adoption of RMIS is using computer vision to get force feedback.
7 Finding the vanishing point of the surgical tool is a crucial step to get accurate
8 results. The vanishing point is the point where the two parallel edges of the tool
9 seem to converge. In this paper, a novel idea was implemented to find the vanishing
10 point of surgical tools using a neural network. The datasets were created by the
11 author as there no datasets were found online. In real life, surgical tool images are
12 often obstructed due to tissues and blood; this is called occlusion. The model was
13 trained on a dataset of occluded images and a data set of unoccluded images. The
14 results showed that the model was able to learn equally well for both datasets and
15 also performed well when cross-tested on the two datasets. This shows that this
16 approach has a significant advantage over traditional methods of identifying the
17 vanishing point, as the results are not affected by occlusion. This approach has
18 a lot of potential to enable the application of computer vision to improve RMIS,
19 leading to better outcomes for millions of patients.

20 1 Introduction

21 1.1 Motivation

22 Robot-assisted minimally invasive surgeries (RMIS) are becoming more and more popular with
23 advancing technologies and have significant advantages, such as increased stability and precision,
24 which leads to shorter recovery time and less medication for patients. However, one major drawback
25 is that there is currently no technology that can effectively give force feedback from the surgical
26 tool to the surgeon [1] [2]. This can lead to unintentional tissue damage, as too much force might
27 be applied. While force sensors can be used, they need to be sanitized at high temperatures after
28 each procedure, so they can be used only once. Therefore, they are very expensive, making them an
29 unviable solution.

30 A new approach that has been suggested is to get force feedback using computer vision. In this
31 process, tool segmentation is used to locate the tool in the image. The deformation of tissues around
32 the tool tip is then used to predict the force being applied. [3]. It has been shown that tool segmentation
33 is more effective when the image is transformed to polar coordinates with the tool's vanishing point
34 (shown in Figure 4) as the center [4]. Therefore, identifying the vanishing point is a critical part of

35 the process. Section 1.2 explains the different methods that have been used to identify the vanishing
36 point. Using a neural network is expected to be the most effective method, as it can be used to detect
37 the vanishing point in segmented tools and in images with multiple tools, and they may be less likely
38 to be affected by occlusion. They can make sophisticated decisions because of their consecutive,
39 interconnected layers; this is something which cannot be done using any of the other methods listed
40 below.

41 1.2 Related Work

42 Based on the author's research, the following three methods to detect vanishing points seem to be
43 the most relevant. However, each method has a few drawbacks and limitations which are discussed
44 below.

45 **Minimum Area Enclosing Triangle** One of the methods that is currently used to find the vanishing
46 point of surgical tools is the minimum area enclosing triangle method [4]. However, this method can
47 only be used for images with a single unjointed tool, as a single triangle is drawn around the entire
48 tool. If there are multiple tools or tools with joints, the triangle will be drawn around all the tools and
49 joints, leading to an incorrect calculation of the vanishing point. Therefore, this method has limited
50 use and is not always accurate.

51 **Edge Detection** Another method that has been used to find the vanishing point in images with
52 natural scenes (e.g. roads and buildings) is getting the edge image of the picture, finding all the
53 relevant lines through filtering with respect to angle and length, and mathematically calculating the
54 vanishing point based on the longest lines [5]. This method works for natural scenes because all the
55 lines generally converge in the same direction, and the few lines which are pointing in other directions
56 can be filtered out. However, for surgical tools, there are very few lines and jointed tools will have an
57 equal number of lines pointing in different directions, so it will be difficult to autonomously find the
58 lines only from the last segment of the tool. Therefore, this method is not effective for surgical tools.

59 **Neural Networks for Natural Scenes** Currently, there are a few neural networks which have been
60 trained to find the vanishing point in images with natural scenes (roads, buildings, etc.). The results
61 from both these studies [6] [7] show that the neural networks were more effective than traditional
62 methods of identifying the vanishing point in natural scenes. To the knowledge of the author, there
63 are no neural networks that have been trained to identify the vanishing point of surgical tools, but this
64 is a promising approach as a pre-existing model can be trained on surgical images.

65 1.3 Contributions

66 Training a neural network to identify the vanishing point of a surgical tool is a novel approach that
67 can greatly increase the efficiency of the process. While some mathematical approaches to identify
68 the vanishing point exist, they are more laborious and cannot be easily generalized to images with
69 multiple, jointed tools. Although there are neural networks trained to find the vanishing point in
70 natural scenes, these are unlikely to be effective in predicting the vanishing point in surgical images as
71 they are two very different scenarios. This has been confirmed using the NeurVPS Conic Convolution
72 Neural Network [7] which was trained on the Tmm17 dataset of natural scene images. When this
73 pre-trained model was tested on surgical tool images, it performed very poorly (see Section 3.1). The
74 performance improved after being trained on surgical tool images (see Section 3.2), showing that this
75 is a promising method.

76 2 Methods

77 2.1 Dataset

78 There are many datasets available for identifying the surgical tool in an image, but there do not seem
79 to be any datasets for identifying the vanishing point. Therefore, a Python program was written to

80 create a dataset of 10,000 images with randomly generated surgical tool images and ground truth
81 masks with the corresponding vanishing point. The dataset was created using the ImageDraw module
82 from Python's 'pillow' library. The content from endoscopic cameras is limited to a circular area
83 since the image sensor is usually larger than the image circle of the endoscope [8], so the tools in the
84 dataset are confined within a circle.

85 Three versions of the dataset were created: unjointed tools without occlusion, unjointed tools with
86 occlusion, and jointed tools without occlusion. The dataset with occlusion has black blobs covering
87 parts of the tool to simulate the occlusion caused by tissues and blood in real life. Both datasets were
88 split into 96% for training, 4% for testing.

89 2.1.1 Creating the Tool Images

90 The point from which the tool appears is randomly selected along the bottom half of the image circle,
91 as this is generally the case in real life. The second point is chosen randomly to the right of the
92 first point within a range of $\pi/9$ radians to $\pi/5$ radians. This forms the bottom edge of the first
93 quadrilateral. To create the rest of the tool, two points are randomly chosen to create a top edge. Two
94 methods for generating the top edge of the tool are discussed below.

95 This process is repeated with the top edge of the first quadrilateral being the bottom edge of the second
96 quadrilateral and so on to create two or three quadrilaterals to form a jointed tool. Approximately
97 half the tools have one joint and the remaining tools have two joints. Finally, a small semi-circle is
98 drawn at the tip of the last quadrilateral to make the tool shape look realistic. To avoid any biases,
99 all parameters are chosen randomly within given ranges. Note that the coordinates are chosen in an
100 anti-clockwise order with the first coordinate being at the bottom left (see Figure 4).

101 The code that was used to create the datasets can be accessed here: [https://github.com/
102 bhavaniv1101/vpd_data](https://github.com/bhavaniv1101/vpd_data)

103 **Method 1: Generating random points within a triangle** After generating the bottom edge, a
104 random point is chosen along the perpendicular bisector of the bottom edge. This forms a triangle
105 with the first two vertices. This triangle is divided into two identical triangles by the perpendicular
106 bisector. In order to get the two upper vertices of the quadrilateral, a random point is chosen from each
107 of the two triangles. However, many of the images generated by this method were not satisfactory.
108 The two upper vertices were often too close together, making the quadrilateral look like a triangle. In
109 some other cases, the two points formed a line with one of the base vertices, again making it look
110 like a triangle instead of a quadrilateral. This could be because the points are not being generated
111 uniformly within the triangle. This method was not used as it did not give the expected results.

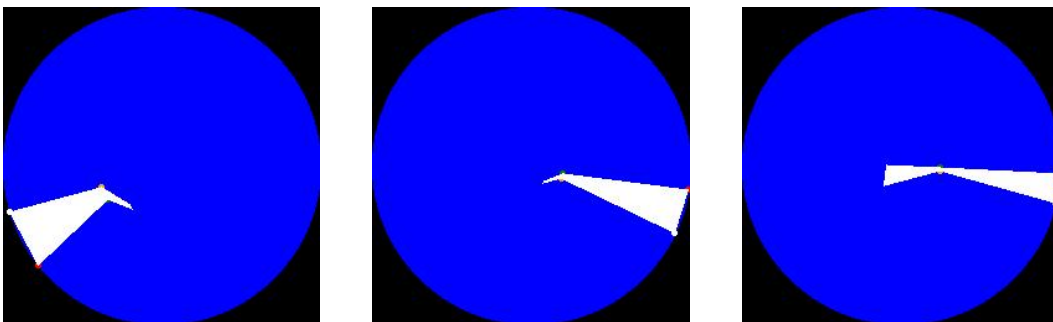


Figure 1: (left) The second quadrilateral is flattened into a line; (middle) The second quadrilateral is extremely small, making the tool look triangular; (right) The upper edge of the second triangle is larger than the lower edge, creating an unrealistic shape.

112 **Method 2: Rotating a line about the perpendicular bisector** A random point is chosen along
113 the perpendicular bisector (within the range of 45.0 to 85.0 pixel units) of the quadrilateral's bottom

114 edge. A random length between 40% and 60% of the base length is chosen for the length of the
115 upper edge. A line of this length is drawn parallel to the base, with the point on the perpendicular
116 bisector as its center, forming a trapezium. This line is then rotated by a random angle between
117 $-\pi/5$ and $\pi/5$. This forms the upper edge of the quadrilateral. This method gave better tool images
118 because the length of the upper edge and size of the quadrilateral can be controlled more easily, and
119 the randomization is more reliable, preventing the cases which occurred with the previous method.
120 This method can be easily generalised for any number of quadrilaterals using the top edge of the first
121 quadrilateral as the base for the second one. This is the method that was finally used to generate a
122 dataset of 10,000 images.

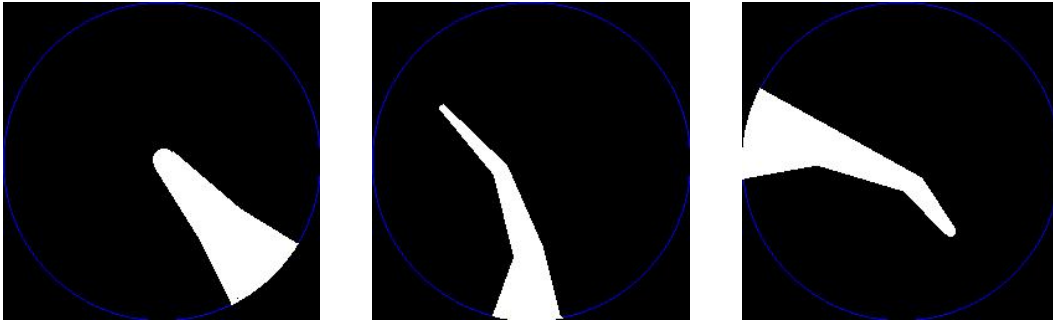


Figure 2: (left) Tool with a single joint; (middle and right) Tools with two joints where each quadrilateral is smaller than the previous one.

123 2.1.2 Creating Occluded Images

124 In real life, the tool image is often occluded due to tissues covering the tool. The occluded dataset was
125 generated by creating blobs on the image to cover parts of the tool. The code for creating the blobs
126 was generated based on code found on Stack Overflow [9]. The 'seedval' and 'threshold' parameters
127 were randomized within a range to vary the amount of occlusion created by the blobs. Without this,
128 the same blobs were being created for each image, so randomizing it made it more realistic.

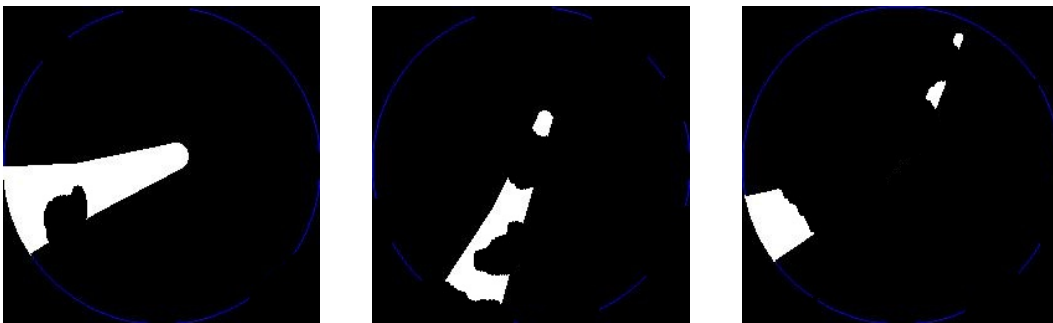


Figure 3: (left) Tool with some occlusion; (middle) Tool with more occlusion; (right) Tool with lot of occlusion.

129 2.1.3 Creating the ground truth masks

130 The approach that was originally chosen for the ground truth masks was to create images with a black
131 background and a small white circle at the tool's vanishing point. However, after trying to run the
132 neural network on this dataset, it was found that the neural network expected the coordinates of the
133 vanishing point with respect to the image center, not an image with the vanishing point. Therefore, a
134 '.txt' file with the coordinates was given for each image. A third value was also required in the '.txt'
135 file: the focal length. However, this value can only be found based on the camera parameters, and
136 this information is not available, so it was set to a common value of 1.0. The figure below shows how

137 the coordinates of the vanishing point are calculated. The vanishing point is the point of intersection
 138 of the lines forming the two sides of the tool's final quadrilateral.

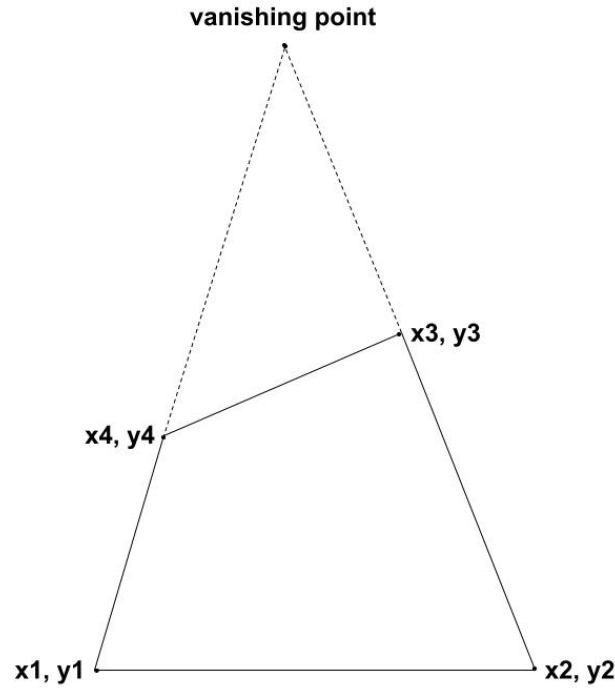


Figure 4: The points (x_1, y_1) and (x_4, y_4) form the line on the left and the point (x_2, y_2) and (x_3, y_3) form the line on the right.

139 To find the point of intersection of the two lines, we must first find the equations of the lines by
 140 calculating their respective slopes and y intercepts.

m_l = slope of the line connecting (x_1, y_1) and (x_4, y_4)
 m_r = slope of the line connecting (x_2, y_2) and (x_3, y_3)
 c_l = y intercept of the line connecting (x_1, y_1) and (x_4, y_4)
 c_r = y intercept of the line connecting (x_2, y_2) and (x_3, y_3)

$$m_l = \frac{y_4 - y_1}{x_4 - x_1} \qquad m_r = \frac{y_3 - y_2}{x_3 - x_2}$$

$$y_1 = m_l \cdot x_1 + c_l \qquad y_2 = m_r \cdot x_2 + c_r$$

$$c_l = y_1 - m_l \cdot x_1 \qquad c_r = y_2 - m_r \cdot x_2$$

141 At the point where the two lines intersect, we know that $y_l = y_r$. We can use this to solve for the
 142 coordinates of the point of intersection, which is the vanishing point (x_v, y_v) :

$$m_l \cdot x_v + c_l = m_r \cdot x_v + c_r$$

$$\therefore x_v = \frac{c_l - c_r}{m_r - m_l}$$

$$y_v = m_l \cdot x_v + c_l$$

143 To find the coordinates of the vanishing point with respect to the center, the coordinates of the image
 144 center were subtracted from the coordinates of the vanishing point (x_v, y_v) .

145 2.2 Training the Neural Network

146 The neural network used in this paper is an "end-to-end trainable deep network" which uses geometry-
 147 inspired convolutional operators to detect the vanishing points. This uses a novel approach involving
 148 conic convolution to extract features like structural lines. This model was chosen because it is
 149 expected to be more accurate as it has been created specifically for identifying vanishing points,
 150 although in a different context of natural scenes.

151 2.2.1 Using Conic Convolution

152 This model [7] is based on a convolutional neural network. The conic convolution operators use
 153 geometric priors (symmetry and scale separation) of vanishing points so the model does not rely
 154 on line detectors. This explicitly enforces the extraction of features such as structural lines while
 155 using the same number of parameters as the regular 2D convolution. For the network to learn line
 156 features related to the vanishing point, convolutions are applied in the space where related lines can
 157 be determined locally. The conic space for each pixel is a rotated local coordinate system where the
 158 x-axis points from the pixel to the vanishing point. In this space, related lines can be identified locally
 159 by checking whether its orientation is horizontal. Conic convolution applies the regular convolution
 160 in this conic space. This helps the model effectively classify whether a candidate point is a valid
 161 vanishing point.

162 2.2.2 Changes Made to the Code

163 The code used for the neural network requires a CUDA enabled GPU, which was not available on
 164 the local device. Therefore, the code was transferred from the PyCharm IDE on a Mac OS laptop to
 165 Google Colaboratory, where a T4 GPU was available. The original code uses two GPUs, but only
 166 one GPU was used for this paper due to hardware limitations.

167 The source code for the neural network was written to accept one of three specific datasets: Wireframe
 168 dataset, ScanNet dataset, or Tmm17 dataset. The 'datasets.py' file contained three classes which
 169 were written specifically to process each of these datasets. Since the dataset of surgical tools has a
 170 different format and structure, a new class was written to process the surgical tool data and change it
 171 from JPEG images to the tensor format required for the neural network.

172 2.2.3 Neural Network Structure

173 The configurations used for the neural network are similar to those for the Tmm17 model. This is the
 174 model that was trained to find the vanishing point in natural scenes in the NeurVPS paper [7].

Layer (type:depth-idx)	Output Shape	Param #
HourglassNet	[8, 64, 128, 128]	--
└Conv2d: 1-1	[8, 64, 256, 256]	9,472
└BatchNorm2d: 1-2	[8, 64, 256, 256]	128
└ReLU: 1-3	[8, 64, 256, 256]	--
└Sequential: 1-4	[8, 128, 256, 256]	--
└└Bottleneck2D: 2-1	[8, 128, 256, 256]	--
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-1	[8, 64, 256, 256]	128
└└└ReLU: 3-2	[8, 64, 256, 256]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-3	[8, 64, 256, 256]	4,160
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-4	[8, 64, 256, 256]	128
└└└ReLU: 3-5	[8, 64, 256, 256]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-6	[8, 64, 256, 256]	36,928
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-7	[8, 64, 256, 256]	128
└└└ReLU: 3-8	[8, 64, 256, 256]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-9	[8, 128, 256, 256]	8,320
└└└Conv2d: 3-10	[8, 128, 256, 256]	8,320
└MaxPool2d: 1-5	[8, 128, 128, 128]	--
└Sequential: 1-6	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└└Bottleneck2D: 2-2	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-11	[8, 128, 128, 128]	256
└└└ReLU: 3-12	[8, 128, 128, 128]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-13	[8, 128, 128, 128]	16,512
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-14	[8, 128, 128, 128]	256
└└└ReLU: 3-15	[8, 128, 128, 128]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-16	[8, 128, 128, 128]	147,584
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-17	[8, 128, 128, 128]	256
└└└ReLU: 3-18	[8, 128, 128, 128]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-19	[8, 256, 128, 128]	33,024
└└└Conv2d: 3-20	[8, 256, 128, 128]	33,024
└Sequential: 1-7	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└└Bottleneck2D: 2-3	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-21	[8, 256, 128, 128]	512
└└└ReLU: 3-22	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-23	[8, 128, 128, 128]	32,896
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-24	[8, 128, 128, 128]	256
└└└ReLU: 3-25	[8, 128, 128, 128]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-26	[8, 128, 128, 128]	147,584
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-27	[8, 128, 128, 128]	256
└└└ReLU: 3-28	[8, 128, 128, 128]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-29	[8, 256, 128, 128]	33,024
└ModuleList: 1-8	--	--
└└Hourglass: 2-4	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└└└ModuleList: 3-30	--	2,788,864
└└└ModuleList: 1-9	--	--
└└└Sequential: 2-5	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└└└└Bottleneck2D: 3-31	[8, 256, 128, 128]	214,528
└ModuleList: 1-10	--	--
└└Sequential: 2-6	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└└└Conv2d: 3-32	[8, 256, 128, 128]	65,792
└└└BatchNorm2d: 3-33	[8, 256, 128, 128]	512
└└└ReLU: 3-34	[8, 256, 128, 128]	--
└ModuleList: 1-11	--	--
└└Conv2d: 2-7	[8, 64, 128, 128]	16,448
=====		
Total params:	3,599,296	
Trainable params:	3,599,296	
Non-trainable params:	0	
Total mult-adds (G):	188.01	

Figure 5: Summary of neural network configuration

175 **2.3 Loss Function**

The loss function used to determine the performance of the neural network is the binary cross entropy loss function. It tracks incorrect labeling and penalizes the model if deviations in probability occur [10]. If the log loss value is low, it means that the model’s accuracy is high.

$$\text{Binary cross entropy} = -1 \cdot \log(\text{likelihood}).$$

176 During evaluation, the angle error is calculated. This is the difference between the angle to the
177 ground truth vanishing point and the angle to the predicted vanishing point, with respect to a common
178 reference point. The angle error graph shows the cumulative distribution function of the angle error.
179 The percentile rank on the y axis shows the percentage of images that have an angle error less than
180 or equal to the corresponding angle error on the x axis. This means that the angle error graph of a
181 well-performing model would have a steep slope at first and flatten out quickly, showing that a high
182 proportion of predictions have a small error.

183 **3 Experiments and Results**

184 The neural network was trained and tested with three different datasets. For each experiment, the
185 neural network was trained for 2 epochs on a dataset of 10,000 images, which was split into 96% for
186 training and 4% for testing.

187 **3.1 Testing the Pre-trained Model on Surgical Tool Images**

188 Before training the model on the surgical tool images, the pre-trained Tmm17 neural network was
189 evaluated on a dataset of unjointed surgical tools. The pre-trained model was originally trained on
190 natural scene images.

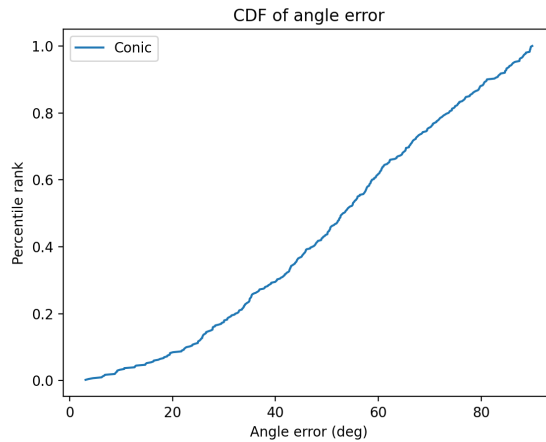


Figure 6: Angle Error of pre-trained model before training on the surgical tool dataset.

191 As expected, the accuracy is low as it has not been trained on surgical images. However, there are
192 some accurate predictions, showing that this model has potential to perform well after being trained
193 on surgical tool images.

194 **3.2 Training on Unjointed Tool Images**

195 The neural network was then trained and tested on the dataset of unjointed surgical tool images. The
196 accuracy is significantly better than that of the pre-trained model, as shown in Figure 7. The accuracy
197 could still be improved as the angle error goes up to around 21° before flattening out. However, this
198 is significantly better compared to the pre-trained model which had angle errors of up to 80° , so the
199 model has been learning.

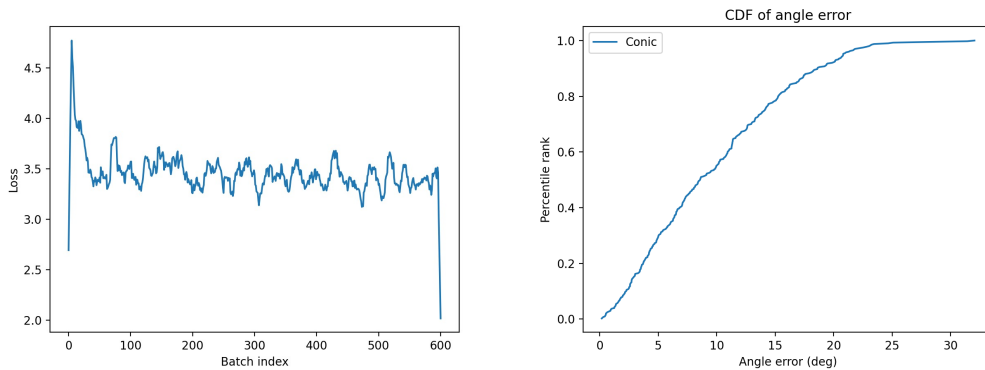


Figure 7: (left) Loss vs. Epoch and (right) Angle Error for unjointed surgical tools

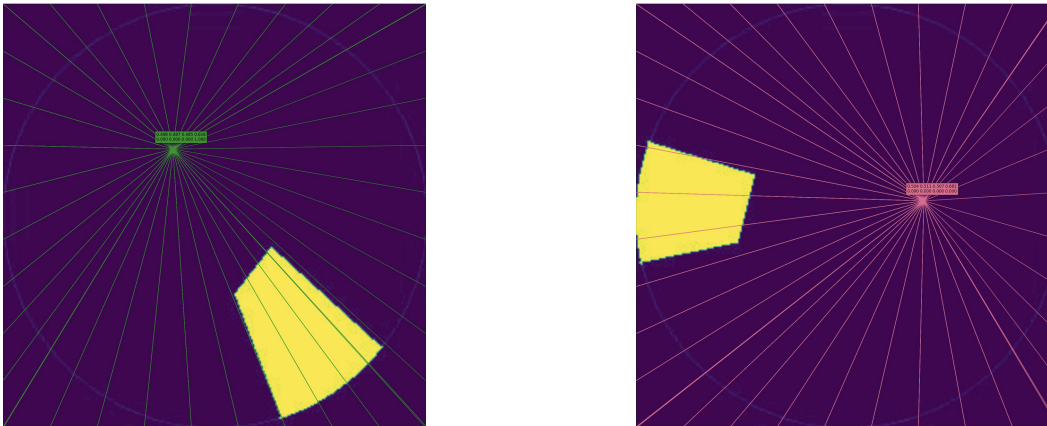


Figure 8: Unjointed tools with the predicted vanishing points

200 This model was then cross-tested on occluded unjointed tool images. The results were slightly better
201 for the unoccluded dataset, but overall, the results were quite similar. This shows that occlusion does
202 not have much effect on the model's performance.

203 **3.3 Training on Occluded Unjointed Tool Images**

204 The neural network was then trained on occluded unjointed tool images. As expected, the model
205 performed slightly better on unoccluded images than on occluded images. The angle error graph for
206 unoccluded images flatted out around 22° , compared to 21° for the unoccluded dataset. Similarly to
207 the previous section, the accuracy of the model after being trained on occluded images is very close
208 to the accuracy of the model trained on unoccluded images. This once again suggests that the model
209 is not affected much by occlusion.

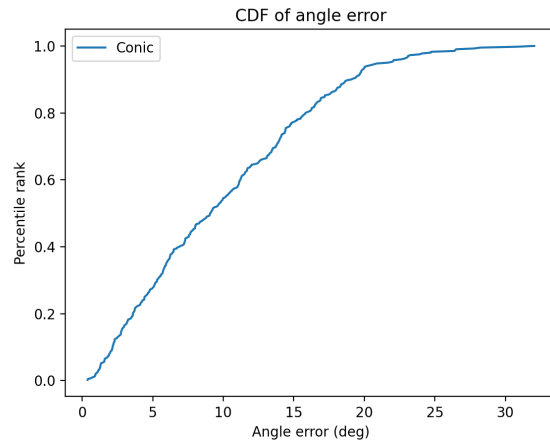


Figure 9: Angle Error of the model on the occluded unjointed tool dataset.

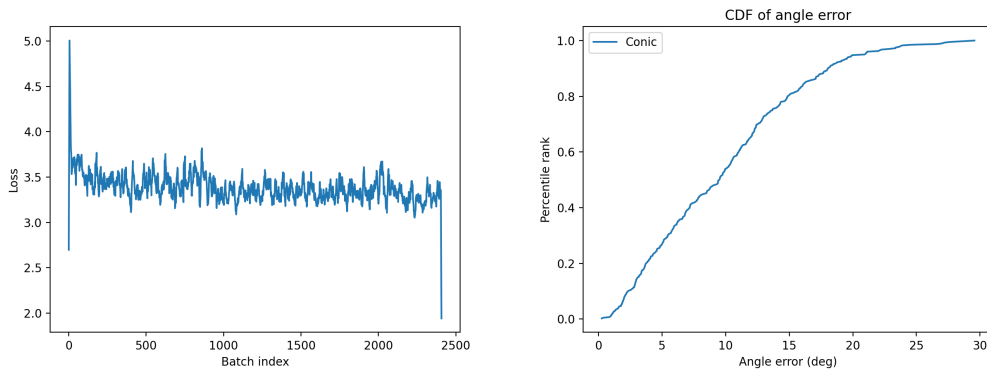


Figure 10: (left) Loss vs. Epoch and (right) Angle Error for occluded unjointed surgical tools

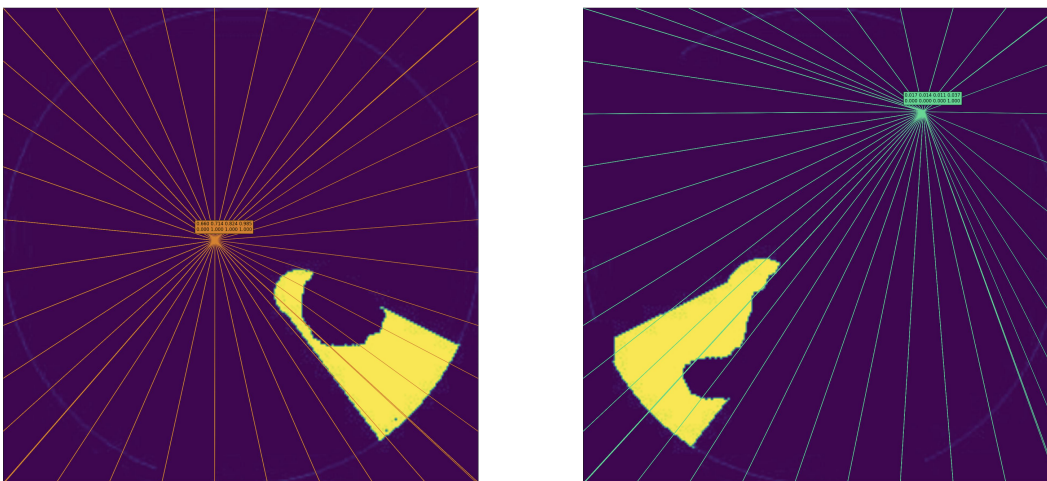


Figure 11: Occluded unjointed tools with the predicted vanishing points

210 3.4 Training on Jointed Tool Images

211 Finally, the model was trained on a dataset of jointed tool images, where approximately half the
212 tools have one joint and the remaining tools have two joints. The graphs below show that the
213 performance was quite poor on jointed tools as compared to unjointed tools because the loss is higher
214 at around 4.5 for jointed tools while it was around 3.5 for unjointed tools. Some approaches that
215 were tried to improve the accuracy include inverting the image colors, changing the learning rate and
216 hyperparameters, and removing the image circle outline. None of these approaches helped much with
217 the model's performance. However, there are a few instances where the prediction is close to the
218 ground truth, suggesting that the model could be improved with more training.

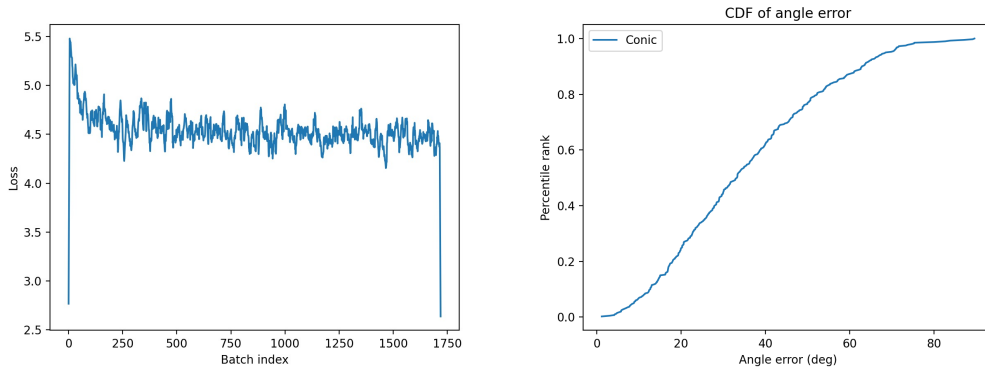


Figure 12: (left) Loss vs. Epoch and (right) Angle Error for jointed surgical tools

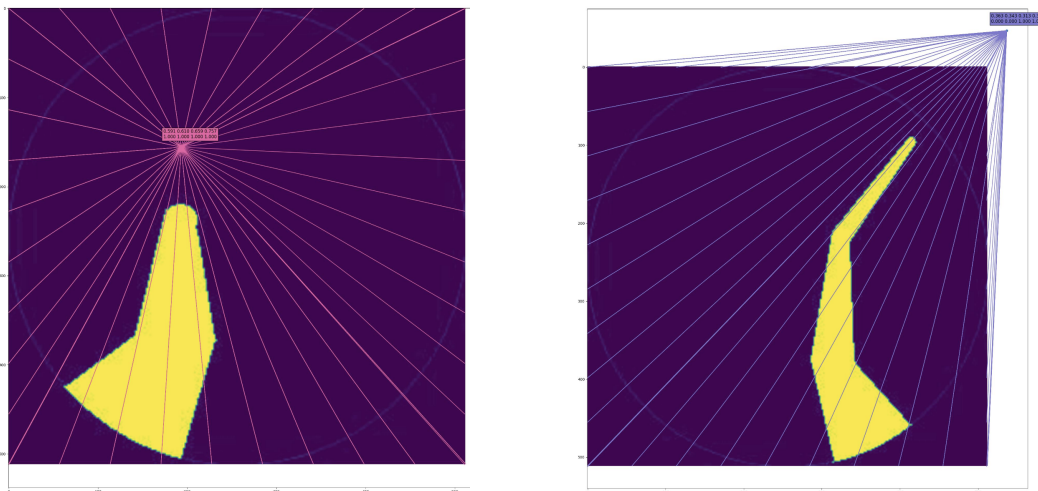


Figure 13: Jointed tools with the predicted vanishing points

219 4 Conclusion

220 In this paper, a neural network was trained to identify the vanishing point of surgical tools in three
221 different types of datasets: unjointed tools without occlusion, unjointed tools with occlusion, and
222 jointed tools without occlusion. A pre-trained neural network was tested on surgical tool images
223 and the performance was quite low, but after training the model on the unjointed dataset, the results
224 improved significantly. This shows that the model has potential to improve further with more training.
225 The model did not perform as well with jointed tool images but this could potentially be improved by
226 training it on more images and for more epochs.

227 One of the key takeaways is that when the model was cross-tested on occluded images, the angle
 228 error for the occluded images was quite close to that of the unoccluded images. Also, the result after
 229 training the model on occluded images was similar to the result of the model trained on unoccluded
 230 images. This suggests that the model's performance is not affected much by occlusion. Therefore,
 231 neural networks have a significant advantage compared to traditional, mathematical approaches as
 232 neural networks can adapt more easily to variations in the images, such as occlusion. This will be
 233 very useful in practical applications as real-life images are often messy and not very clear.

234 These results are summarised in the table below. The 'Mean Training Loss' represents the binary
 235 entropy loss while training. The 'Angle Error Flattening Point' is the point where the angle error
 236 graph flattens out, showing that few predictions had a higher error than this.

Model + Dataset	Mean Training Loss	Angle Error Flattening Point (deg)
Pre-trained Model Tested on Unjointed Tools	N/A	80°
Training on Unjointed Tools	3.4	21°
Cross-testing on Occluded Tools	N/A	24°
Training on Occluded Unjointed Tools	3.5	22°
Training on Jointed Tools	4.5	75°

238 4.1 Future Work

239 **Datasets with multiple tools** A dataset could be created with multiple surgical tools in each image,
 240 with the amount of overlap between tools varying randomly. The code would need to be modified to
 241 give multiple vanishing point coordinates as the output, based on the number of tools in the image. A
 242 layer of complexity could be added by having tools which overlap each other, so the model would
 243 have to learn to differentiate the tools.

244 **Datasets with continuous motion** A dataset could be created where the images simulate the motion
 245 of the tool in real-life surgeries. In each consecutive image, the tool would be displaced by a few
 246 pixels in a given direction. When the series of images is viewed side-by-side, it would appear that
 247 the tool follows a random path within the image circle. This can be repeated for different tools,
 248 creating around 20 images for each tool. To go one step further, the tool could also be rotated when
 249 the direction changes. The neural network could be trained on this dataset and the results could be
 250 compared with those from the other datasets.

251 **Comparing with traditional methods** The accuracy of the neural network in detecting the vanish-
 252 ing point could be compared with the accuracy and efficiency of the traditional methods mentioned
 253 in Section 1.2. This could be done by comparing the percentage of predictions which are accurate

254 for each approach and by comparing the time taken by the program to predict the coordinates of
255 the vanishing point. These methods would need to be implemented specifically for surgical tools
256 as they currently exist mainly for natural scenes. This should be done for all the different types of
257 datasets that were generated. This will help confirm that using a neural network is the best approach
258 for identifying the vanishing point of surgical tools.

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