

CS4277 / CS5477

3D Computer Vision

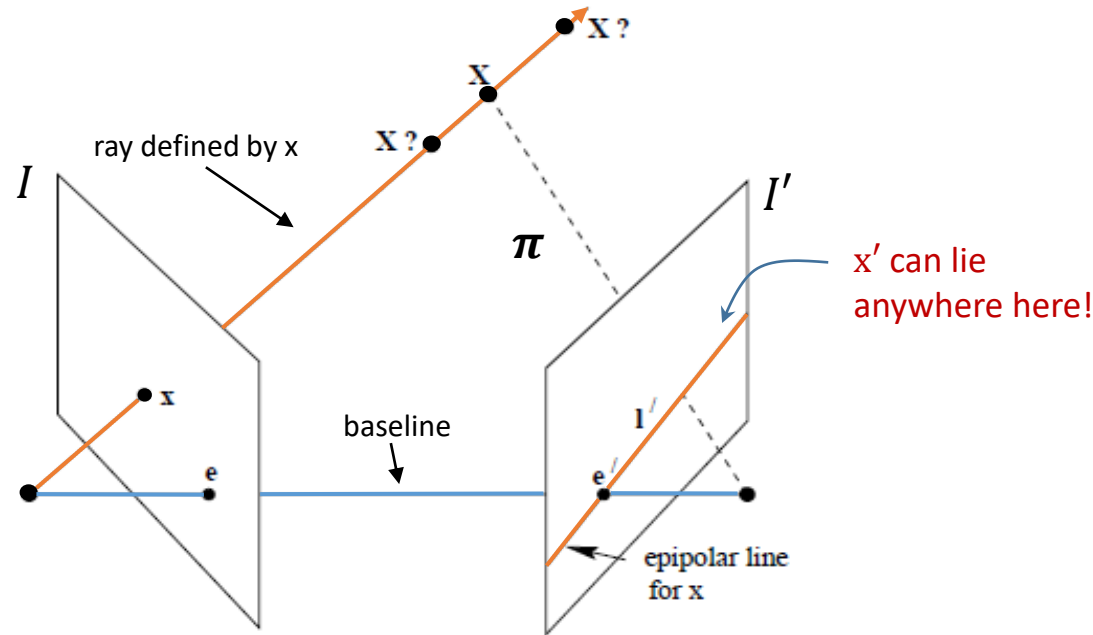
Lecture 6: The fundamental and essential matrices

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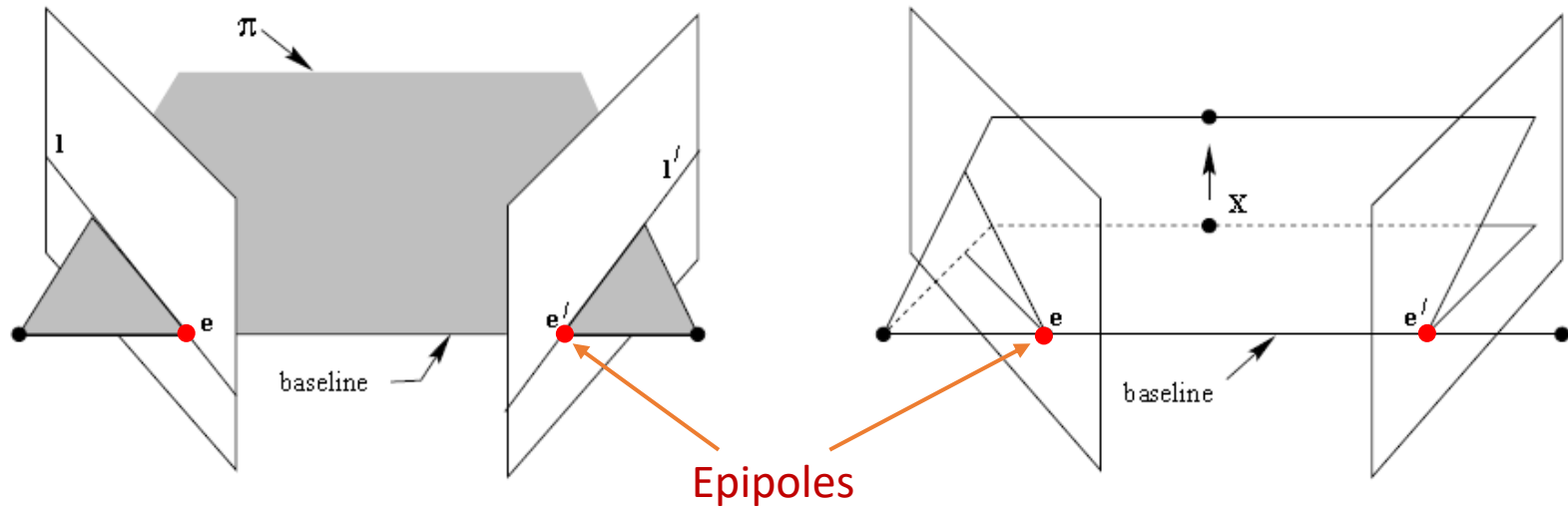
Semester 2

The Epipolar Geometry



- The image point x in I back-projects to a ray, and this ray projects to I' as the **epipolar line** l' .
- The corresponding point x' can lie anywhere on l' .
- **Epipolar plane** π is determined by the **baseline** and **ray** defined by x .

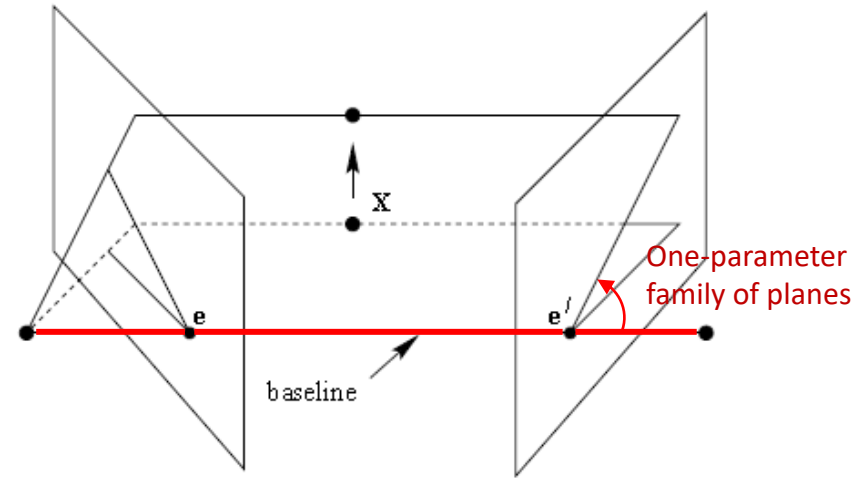
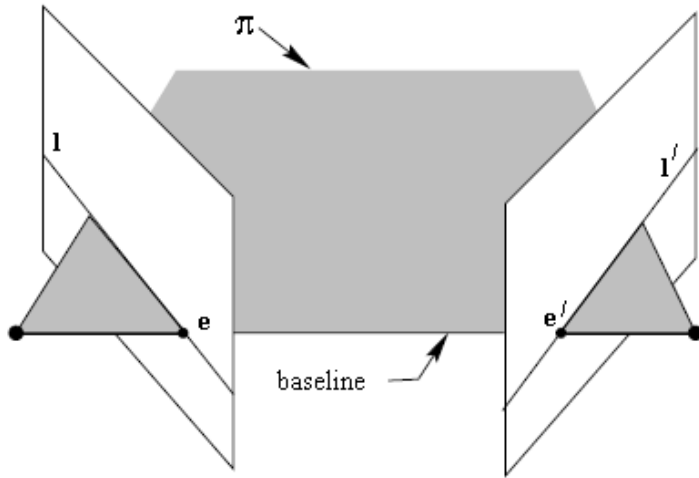
The Epipolar Geometry: Terminology



Epipoles (e, e'):

- Point of intersection of the line joining the camera centers (baseline) with the image plane.
- Equivalently, it is the image in one view of the camera center of the other view.
- Also, the **vanishing point** of the baseline (translation) direction.

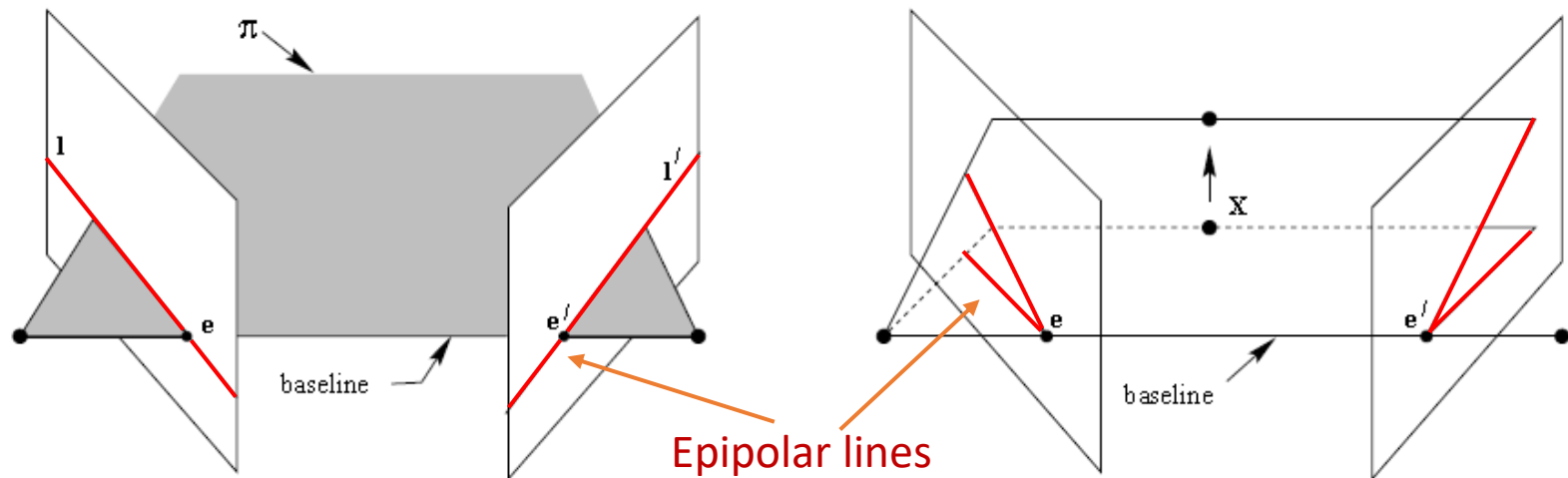
The Epipolar Geometry: Terminology



Epipolar plane π :

- A plane containing the baseline.
- There is a **one-parameter family** (a pencil) of epipolar planes.

The Epipolar Geometry: Terminology



Epipolar lines (l, l') :

- The intersection of an epipolar plane with the image plane.
- All epipolar lines intersect at the epipole.
- An epipolar plane intersects the left and right image plane in epipolar lines, and **defines the correspondences** between the lines.

The Fundamental Matrix

- The fundamental matrix is the **algebraic representation** of epipolar geometry.
- Gives the **projective mapping** relationship between a point \mathbf{x} on one image to a line \mathbf{l}' on the other.

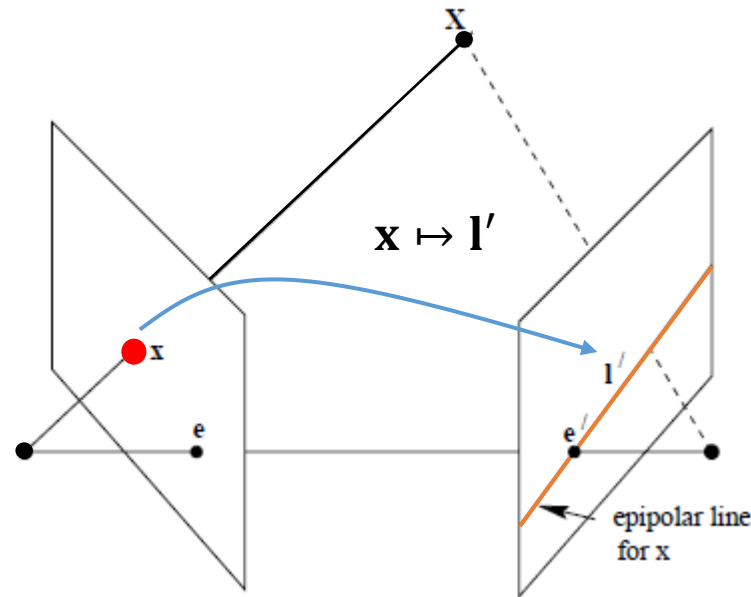


Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

F Matrix: Geometric Derivation

- The mapping $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{l}'$ may be decomposed into two steps:
 1. The point \mathbf{x} is mapped to some point \mathbf{x}' in the other image lying on the epipolar line \mathbf{l}' ; this point \mathbf{x}' is a **potential match** for the point \mathbf{x} .
 2. The **epipolar line** \mathbf{l}' is obtained as the line joining \mathbf{x}' to the epipole \mathbf{e}' .

F Matrix: Geometric Derivation

Step 1: Point transfer via a plane.

- Consider a plane π in space not passing through either of the two camera centres and contains the point \mathbf{X} .
- Thus, there is a **2D homography** H_π mapping each \mathbf{x}_i to \mathbf{x}'_i .

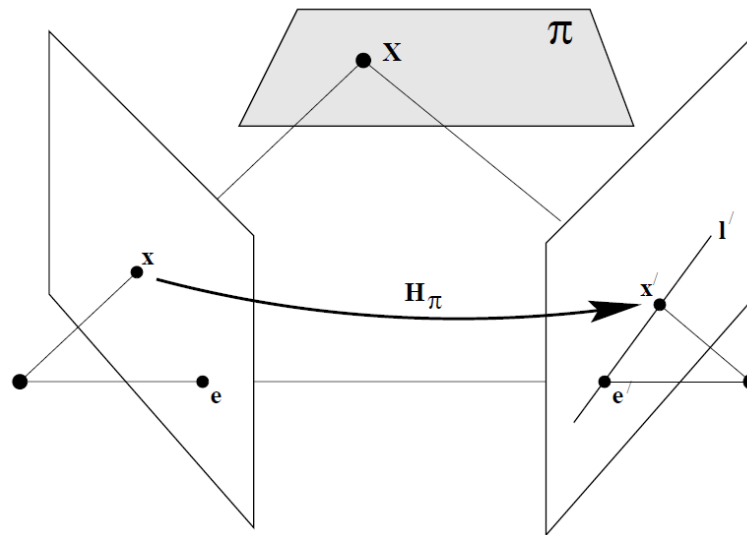


Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

F Matrix: Geometric Derivation

Step 2: Constructing the epipolar line.

- Given the point \mathbf{x}' , the **epipolar line** \mathbf{l}' passing through \mathbf{x}' and the epipole \mathbf{e}' can be written as $\mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{e}' \times \mathbf{x}' = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} \mathbf{x}'$.
- Since \mathbf{x}' may be written as $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{H}_{\pi} \mathbf{x}$, we have:

$$\mathbf{l}' = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} \mathbf{H}_{\pi} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} ,$$

where we define $\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} \mathbf{H}_{\pi}$ as the **fundamental matrix**.

Cross-Product as Matrix Multiplication

- Vector cross product can be expressed as the product of a **skew-symmetric matrix** and a vector:

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = [\mathbf{a}]_{\times} \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_3 & a_2 \\ a_3 & 0 & -a_1 \\ -a_2 & a_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

F Matrix: Geometric Derivation

- The fundamental matrix F may be written as:

$$F = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} H_{\pi},$$

- where H_{π} is the **transfer mapping** from one image to another via any plane.
- Furthermore, since $[\mathbf{e}']_{\times}$ has rank 2 and H_{π} rank 3, F is a matrix of rank 2.

F Matrix: Geometric Derivation

- Geometrically, F represents a mapping from the 2-dimensional projective plane \mathbb{P}^2 of the first image to the **pencil of epipolar lines** through the epipole e' .
- Thus, it represents a mapping of $\mathbb{P}^2 \mapsto \mathbb{P}^1$, and hence must have rank 2.
- **Note:** The plane is simply used here as a means of defining a point map from one image to another, but **not required** for F to exist.

F Matrix: Algebraic Derivation

- The form of the fundamental matrix in terms of the **two camera projection matrices**, P and P' , may be derived algebraically.
- The **back-projected ray** from \mathbf{x} is given by:

$$\mathbf{X}(\lambda) = P^+ \mathbf{x} + \lambda \mathbf{C} ,$$

where

- P^+ is the pseudo-inverse of P , i.e. $PP^+ = I$
- \mathbf{C} the null-vector of P , i.e. the camera center, $P\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{0}$
- The ray is parametrized by the scalar λ

F Matrix: Algebraic Derivation

- Let's **consider two points** on the ray: $P^+ \mathbf{x}$ at $\lambda = 0$ and the first camera center \mathbf{C} at $\lambda = \infty$.
- These two points are imaged by the second camera P' at $P'P^+ \mathbf{x}$ and $P'\mathbf{C}$, respectively in the second view.
- The **epipolar line** is the line joining these two projected points, i.e. $\mathbf{l}' = (P'\mathbf{C}) \times (P'P^+ \mathbf{x})$.
- The point $P'\mathbf{C}$ is the **epipole** in the second image, i.e. \mathbf{e}' .

F Matrix: Algebraic Derivation

- Thus, $\mathbf{l}' = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} (\mathbf{P}'\mathbf{P}^+) \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{x}$, where \mathbf{F} is the matrix

$$\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{P}^+.$$

- This is **similar to** $\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} \mathbf{H}_{\pi}$ that we have derived geometrically.
- We can see that the **homography** takes the form

$$\mathbf{H}_{\pi} = \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{P}^+$$

in terms of the two camera matrices.

F Matrix: Algebraic Derivation

- **Remarks:** Note that this derivation **breaks down** in the case where the two camera centres are the same.

Proof:

$\mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{0}$, when $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{C}'$. It follows that:

$$\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} \mathbf{P}' \mathbf{P}^+ = \mathbf{0}. \quad \square$$

F Matrix: Algebraic Derivation

Example: Suppose the camera matrices are those of a calibrated stereo rig with the world origin at the first camera

$$P = K[I \mid \mathbf{0}] \quad P' = K'[R \mid \mathbf{t}].$$

Then

$$P^+ = \begin{bmatrix} K^{-1} \\ \mathbf{0}^T \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} F &= [P'C]_{\times} P' P^{+} \\ &= [K'\mathbf{t}]_{\times} K'RK^{-1} = K'^{-T}[\mathbf{t}]_{\times} RK^{-1} = K'^{-T}R[R^T\mathbf{t}]_{\times} K^{-1} = K'^{-T}RK^T[KR^T\mathbf{t}]_{\times} \end{aligned}$$

Correspondence Condition

- For any pair of corresponding points $\mathbf{x} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'$ in two images:

$$\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

Proof:

\mathbf{x}' lies on the epipolar line $\mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}$ corresponding to the point \mathbf{x}

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

Correspondence Condition

- The importance of the relation $\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} = 0$ is that it gives a way of characterizing the fundamental matrix **without reference** to the camera matrices.
- That is the relation is only in terms of **corresponding image points**, and this enables \mathbf{F} to be computed from image correspondences alone.
- We will discuss the details later: **how many correspondences** are required to compute \mathbf{F} from $\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} = 0$?

Properties of the F Matrix

- **Transpose:**

- F is the fundamental matrix of the pair of cameras (P, P')
- F^T is the fundamental matrix of the pair in the **opposite order**: (P', P)

- **Epipolar lines:**

- For any point \mathbf{x} in first image, corresponding epipolar line is $\mathbf{l}' = F\mathbf{x}$
- $\mathbf{l} = F^T\mathbf{x}'$ represents epipolar line corresponding to \mathbf{x}' in second image

- **Epipole:**

- For any point \mathbf{x} (other than \mathbf{e}) the epipolar line $\mathbf{l}' = F\mathbf{x}$ contains the epipole \mathbf{e}'
- \mathbf{e}' satisfies $\mathbf{e}'^T(F\mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{e}'^T F)\mathbf{x} = 0$ for all \mathbf{x}
- $\mathbf{e}'^T F = \mathbf{0}$, i.e. \mathbf{e}' is the **left null-vector** of F
- $F\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{0}$, i.e. \mathbf{e} is the **right null-vector** of F

Properties of the F Matrix

- **7 degrees of freedom (9 elements – 2 dof):**
 - 3 x 3 homogenous matrix with **8 independent ratios** \Rightarrow -1 dof
 - $\det(F) = 0 \Rightarrow$ -1 dof
- **Not a proper correlation (not invertible):**
 - Projective map taking a point to a line
 - A point in first image \mathbf{x} defines a line in the second $\mathbf{l} = F\mathbf{x}$, i.e. epipolar line of \mathbf{x}
 - If \mathbf{l} and \mathbf{l}' are corresponding epipolar lines, then any point \mathbf{x} on \mathbf{l} is mapped to the same line \mathbf{l}'
 - This means **no inverse mapping**, and **F is not of full rank**

Summary of F Matrix Properties

- F is a rank 2 homogeneous matrix with 7 degrees of freedom.
- **Point correspondence:** If \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}' are corresponding image points, then $\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} = 0$.
- **Epipolar lines:**
 - ◇ $\mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}$ is the epipolar line corresponding to \mathbf{x} .
 - ◇ $\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{x}'$ is the epipolar line corresponding to \mathbf{x}' .
- **Epipoles:**
 - ◇ $\mathbf{F} \mathbf{e} = 0$.
 - ◇ $\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{e}' = 0$.
- **Computation from camera matrices \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{P}' :**
 - ◇ General cameras,
 $\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} \mathbf{P}' \mathbf{P}^+$, where \mathbf{P}^+ is the pseudo-inverse of \mathbf{P} , and $\mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{P}' \mathbf{C}$, with $\mathbf{P} \mathbf{C} = 0$.
 - ◇ Canonical cameras, $\mathbf{P} = [\mathbf{I} \mid 0]$, $\mathbf{P}' = [\mathbf{M} \mid \mathbf{m}]$,
 $\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}^{-T} [\mathbf{e}]_{\times}$, where $\mathbf{e}' = \mathbf{m}$ and $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{m}$.
 - ◇ Cameras not at infinity $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{I} \mid 0]$, $\mathbf{P}' = \mathbf{K}'[\mathbf{R} \mid \mathbf{t}]$,
 $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{K}'^{-T} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{K}^{-1} = [\mathbf{K}' \mathbf{t}]_{\times} \mathbf{K}' \mathbf{R} \mathbf{K}^{-1} = \mathbf{K}'^{-T} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{K}^T [\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{t}]_{\times}$.

The Epipolar Line Homography

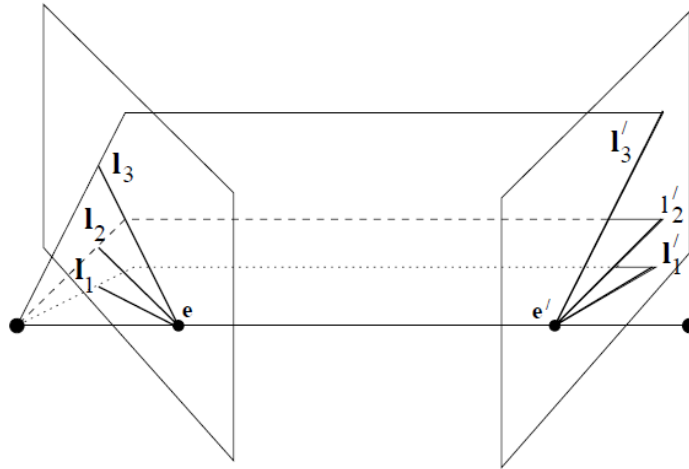
- Suppose \mathbf{l} and \mathbf{l}' are **corresponding epipolar lines**, and \mathbf{k} is any line not passing through the epipole \mathbf{e} , then \mathbf{l} and \mathbf{l}' are related by $\mathbf{l}' = F[\mathbf{k}]_{\times} \mathbf{l}$, where $F[\mathbf{k}]_{\times}$ is a **homography**.
- Symmetrically, $\mathbf{l} = F^T[\mathbf{k}']_{\times} \mathbf{l}'$.

Proof:

The expression $[\mathbf{k}]_{\times} \mathbf{l} = \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{l}$ is the point of intersection of the two lines \mathbf{k} and \mathbf{l} , and hence a point on the epipolar line \mathbf{l} – call it \mathbf{x} .

Hence, $F[\mathbf{k}]_{\times} \mathbf{l} = F\mathbf{x}$ is the epipolar line corresponding to the point \mathbf{x} , namely the line \mathbf{l}' .

The Epipolar Line Homography



Homography in \mathbb{P}^2 :

$$\mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{F}[\mathbf{k}] \times \mathbf{l}$$

$$\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{F}^T[\mathbf{k}'] \times \mathbf{l}'$$

- There is a **pencil of epipolar lines** in each image centred on the epipole.
- The correspondence between epipolar lines, $\mathbf{l}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{l}'_i$, is defined by the **pencil of planes** with axis the baseline.

Special Motion: Pure Translation

- Suppose the motion of the cameras is a pure translation with **no rotation** ($R = I$) and **no change in the internal parameters** ($K = K'$).
- The two cameras are $P = K[I \mid \mathbf{0}]$ and $P' = K[I \mid \mathbf{t}]$, and

$$F = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} K K^{-1} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times}.$$

- F is skew-symmetric and has only **2 degrees of freedom**, which correspond to the position of the epipole.

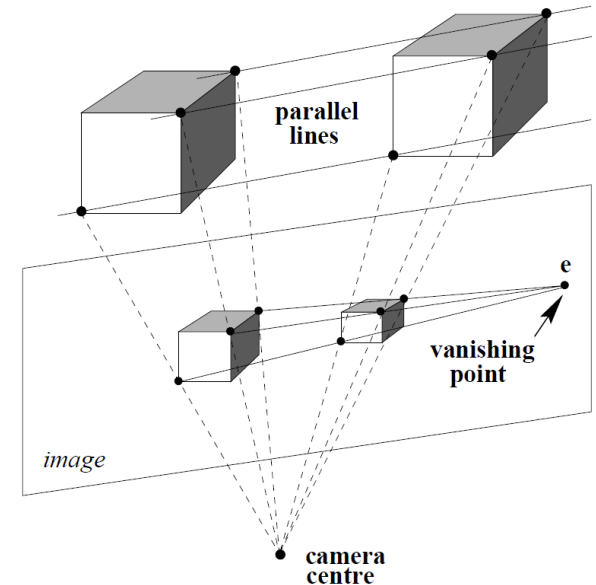
Special Motion: Pure Translation

- The epipolar line of \mathbf{x} is $\mathbf{l}' = F\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{e}]_{\times}\mathbf{x}$, and \mathbf{x}' lies on this line since $\mathbf{x}'^T [\mathbf{e}]_{\times}\mathbf{x} = 0$.
- That is \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{x}' and $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{e}'$ **are collinear** (assuming both images are overlaid on top of each other).
- This collinearity property is termed **auto-epipolar**, and **does not hold** for general motion.

Special Motion: Pure Translation

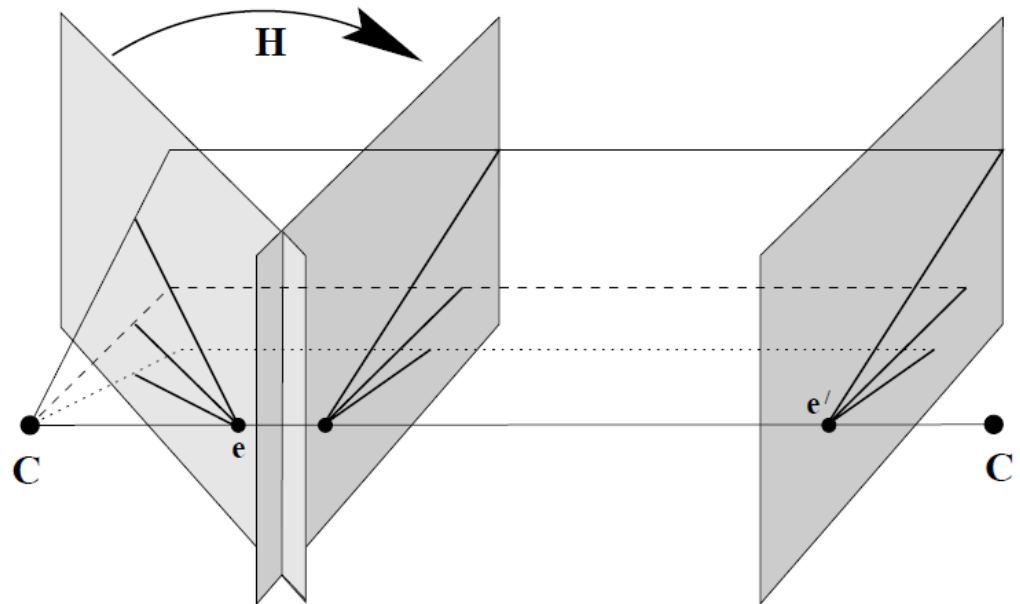
Example 1:

- We may consider the equivalent situation of pure translation.
- Camera is stationary, and the world undergoes a translation $-t$.
- 3D points appear to slide along **parallel rails**.
- The images of these parallel lines intersect in a vanishing point corresponding to the **translation direction**.
- The epipole e is the **vanishing point**.



General Motion

- A general motion and its effect on the fundamental matrix can be separate into **a pure rotation** followed by **a pure translation**.



Source: Page 246, R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

General Motion

- Now the the two cameras are given by $P = K[I \mid \mathbf{0}]$ and $P = K[R \mid \mathbf{t}]$.
- The **pure rotation** may be simulated by: $H = K'RK^{-1} = H_{\infty}$, where H_{∞} is the **infinite homography**.
- As seen earlier, the fundamental matrix \tilde{F} under **pure translation** is given by $\tilde{F} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times}$.
- Since $F = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times}K'RK^{-1}$ (c.f. algebraic derivation), we have $F = \tilde{F}H_{\infty} = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times}H_{\infty}$.

Retrieving the Camera Matrices

- To this point we have examined the properties of F and of image relations for a point correspondence $\mathbf{x} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'$.
- We now turn to one of the most significant properties of F , that the matrix may be used to **determine the camera matrices** of the two views.

Projective Invariance

- The **fundamental matrices** corresponding to the pairs of camera matrices (P, P') and $(PH, P'H)$ **are the same**.
- H is a 4×4 matrix representing a projective transformation of 3-space.

Proof:

- Observe that $P\mathbf{X} = (PH)(H^{-1}\mathbf{X})$, and similarly for P' .
- Thus, if $\mathbf{x} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'$ are matched points with respect to the pair of cameras (P, P') , corresponding to a 3D point \mathbf{X} .
- Then they are **also matched points** with respect to the pair of cameras $(PH, P'H)$, corresponding to the point $H^{-1}\mathbf{X}$.

□

Projective Invariance

- Thus, although a pair of camera matrices (P, P') uniquely determine a fundamental matrix F , **the converse is not true.**
- The fundamental matrix determines the pair of camera matrices at best up to right-multiplication by a **3D projective transformation.**

Given: (P, P') $\xrightarrow{\text{Unique}}$ F ,

Given: F $\xrightarrow{\text{Not Unique}}$ (P, P') or $(PH, P'H)$

Canonical Form of Camera Matrices

- The **fundamental matrix** corresponding to a pair of camera matrices $P = [I \mid \mathbf{0}]$ and $P' = [M \mid \mathbf{m}]$ is equal to $[\mathbf{m}]_{\times} M$.

Proof:

$$\mathbf{e}' = P' C = [M \mid \mathbf{m}] [0, 0, 0, 1]^T = \mathbf{m}$$

$$F = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} P' P^+ = [\mathbf{m}]_{\times} [M \mid \mathbf{m}] \begin{bmatrix} I_{3 \times 3} \\ 0_{3 \times 1} \end{bmatrix} = [\mathbf{m}]_{\times} M,$$

where $P^+ = \begin{bmatrix} I_{3 \times 3} \\ 0_{3 \times 1} \end{bmatrix}$ since $PP^+ = I$.

□

Projective Ambiguity of Cameras Given F

Theorem:

- Let (P, P') and (\tilde{P}, \tilde{P}') be two pairs of camera matrices such that F is the fundamental matrix **corresponding to** each of these pairs.
- Then, **there exists** a non-singular 4×4 matrix H such that $\tilde{P} = PH$ and $\tilde{P}' = P'H$.

Projective Ambiguity of Cameras Given F

Proof:

- Suppose that a given fundamental matrix F corresponds to two different pairs of camera matrices (P, P') and (\tilde{P}, \tilde{P}') .
- And the two pair of camera matrices is in **canonical form** with $P = \tilde{P} = [I \mid \mathbf{0}]$, $P' = [A \mid \mathbf{a}]$ and $\tilde{P}' = [\tilde{A} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{a}}]$.
- According to result of canonical cameras earlier, the fundamental matrix may then be written $F = [\mathbf{a}]_{\times} A = [\tilde{\mathbf{a}}]_{\times} \tilde{A}$.

Projective Ambiguity of Cameras Given F

Proof (cont.):

- We will need the following lemma:

Lemma:

Suppose the rank 2 matrix F can be decomposed in **two different ways** as $F = [\mathbf{a}]_{\times} A$ and $F = [\tilde{\mathbf{a}}]_{\times} \tilde{A}$;

then $\tilde{\mathbf{a}} = k\mathbf{a}$ and $\tilde{A} = k^{-1}(A + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{v}^T)$ for some non-zero constant k and 3-vector \mathbf{v} .

Projective Ambiguity of Cameras Given F

(Lemma) Proof:

First, note that $\mathbf{a}^\top \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{a}^\top [\mathbf{a}]_\times \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{0}$, and similarly, $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}^\top \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{0}$. Since \mathbf{F} has rank 2, it follows that $\tilde{\mathbf{a}} = k\mathbf{a}$ as required.

Next, from $[\mathbf{a}]_\times \mathbf{A} = [\tilde{\mathbf{a}}]_\times \tilde{\mathbf{A}}$, it follows that $[\mathbf{a}]_\times (k\tilde{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{0}$, and so $k\tilde{\mathbf{A}} - \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{v}^\top$ for some \mathbf{v} . Hence, $\tilde{\mathbf{A}} = k^{-1}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{v}^\top)$ as required.

□

Projective Ambiguity of Cameras Given F

Proof (cont.):

- Applying this result to the two camera matrices P and \tilde{P} shows that $P' = [A \mid \mathbf{a}]$ and $\tilde{P}' = [k^{-1}(A + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{v}^\top) \mid k\mathbf{a}]$ if they are to **generate the same F**.

- Now let $H = \begin{bmatrix} k^{-1}\mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ k^{-1}\mathbf{v}^\top & k \end{bmatrix}$, we then we can verify that $PH = k^{-1}[I \mid \mathbf{0}] = k^{-1}\tilde{P}$.

Projective Ambiguity of Cameras Given F

Proof (cont.):

- And furthermore,

$$P'H = [A \mid \mathbf{a}]H = [k^{-1}(A + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{v}^T) \mid k\mathbf{a}] = [\tilde{A} \mid \tilde{\mathbf{a}}] = \tilde{P}'$$

so that the pairs P, P' and \tilde{P}, \tilde{P}' are indeed **projectively related**.



Decomposition of F Matrix

- A non-zero matrix F is the fundamental matrix corresponding to a pair of camera matrices P and P' if and only if $P'^T F P$ is **skew-symmetric**.

Proof:

The condition that $P'^T F P$ is skew-symmetric is equivalent to $\mathbf{X}^T P'^T F P \mathbf{X} = 0$ for all \mathbf{X} .

Setting $\mathbf{x}' = P' \mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{x} = P \mathbf{X}$, this is equivalent to $\mathbf{x}'^T F \mathbf{x} = 0$, which is the defining equation for the fundamental matrix.

□

Decomposition of F Matrix

- The camera matrices corresponding to a fundamental matrix F may be chosen as $P = [I \mid \mathbf{0}]$ and $P' = [[\mathbf{e}']_{\times} F \mid \mathbf{e}']$.

Proof:

We may verify that

$$[SF \mid \mathbf{e}']^T F [I \mid \mathbf{0}] = \begin{bmatrix} F^T S^T F & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{e}'^T F & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F^T S^T F & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0}^T & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } S = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times}.$$

which is skew-symmetric and hence F is a valid fundamental matrix (as we have proven previously).



Decomposition of F Matrix

- According to the Lemma seen earlier:

F can be decomposed in **two different ways** as $F = [\mathbf{a}]_{\times} A$ and $F = [\tilde{\mathbf{a}}]_{\times} \tilde{A}$, where $\tilde{\mathbf{a}} = k\mathbf{a}$ and $\tilde{A} = k^{-1}(A + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{v}^T)$ for some non-zero constant k and 3-vector \mathbf{v} .

- The **general formula** for a pair of canonic camera matrices corresponding to a fundamental matrix F is given by:

$$P = [I \mid \mathbf{0}] \quad P' = [[\mathbf{e}']_{\times} F + \mathbf{e}'\mathbf{v}^T \mid \lambda \mathbf{e}']$$

where \mathbf{v} is any 3-vector, and λ a non-zero scalar.

Essential Matrix

- **Normalized coordinates:** Known calibration matrices K and $K' \Rightarrow$ we can write $\mathbf{x} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'$ as $K^{-1}\mathbf{x} \leftrightarrow K'^{-1}\mathbf{x}'$, i.e. $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \leftrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}'$:

$$\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}'^T K'^{-T} \mathbf{E} K^{-1} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}'^T \mathbf{E} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = 0$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}'^T [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} \mathbf{R} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = 0$$

- \mathbf{E} is the **Essential Matrix** which can be expressed in terms of the relative transformation between two image frames.

Essential Matrix

Proof:

Previously we seen $F = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} P' P^+$, since $P = K[I \mid 0]$ and $P' = K'[R \mid \mathbf{t}]$, we have:

$$P^+ = \begin{bmatrix} K^{-1} \\ 0_{1 \times 3} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 0_{3 \times 1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} F &= [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} P' P^+ = [P' \mathbf{c}]_{\times} P' P^+ \\ &= [K' \mathbf{t}]_{\times} K' R K^{-1} = K'^{-T} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} R K^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Properties of the Essential Matrix

- Five degree of freedom ($3+3-1$):
 - R and t have 3 degree of freedom each
 - But there is an overall scale ambiguity $\Rightarrow -1$ dof
- Singular values:
 - A 3×3 matrix is an essential matrix iff two of its singular values are equal, and the third is zero

Decomposition of E Matrix

- Extract R and t from the essential matrix E.

$$E = [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} R$$

Let us factorize $[\mathbf{t}]_{\times}$ and R into:

$$E = [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} R = \underbrace{(UZU^T)}_{\text{Skew-symmetric matrix}} \underbrace{(UXV^T)}_{\text{Some rotation matrix}} = \underbrace{U(ZX)V^T}_{\text{SVD of E}}$$

Since E is known **up to a scale** and **ignoring the sign**, we can set:

$$ZX = \begin{cases} ZW = \text{diag}(1,1,0) \\ ZW^T = \text{diag}(-1,-1,0) \end{cases}, \text{ where}$$

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$W = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Decomposition of E Matrix

- U and V are known from SVD of E.

Recovery of \mathbf{t} : $[\mathbf{t}]_{\times} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{Z}\mathbf{U}^T$

Since U is **orthogonal** and $[\mathbf{t}]_{\times}$ is **skew-symmetric**, we get:

$$\mathbf{t} = \pm \mathbf{U}_3, \quad \text{i.e. third column of U}$$

Recovery of R: $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{V}^T$, or $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{V}^T$

Make sure that R is in the **Right-Hand Coordinate**:

If $\det(\mathbf{R}) < 0$, then $\mathbf{R} = -\mathbf{R}$.

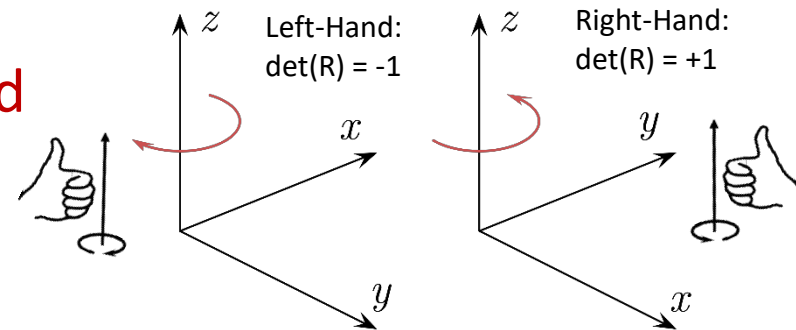
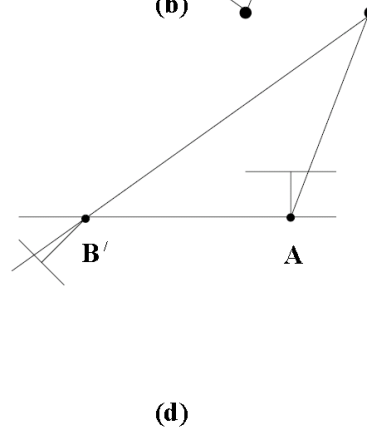
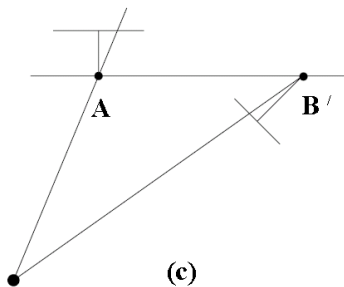
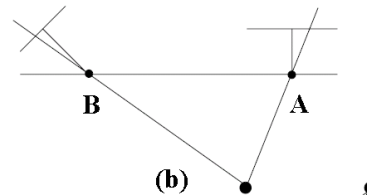
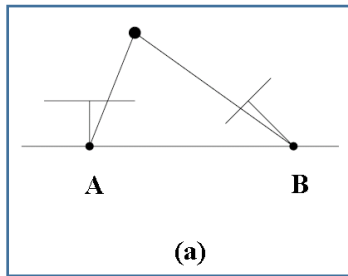


Image Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right-hand_rule

Decomposition of E Matrix

Four Possible Solutions for P' :

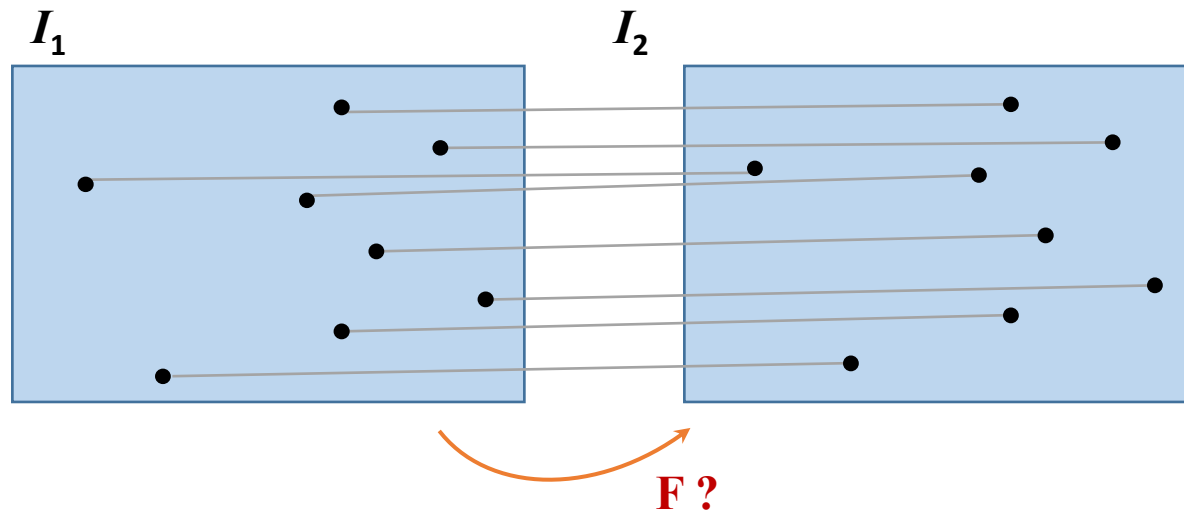
$$P' = [UWV^T \mid +\mathbf{u}_3] \text{ or } [UWV^T \mid -\mathbf{u}_3] \text{ or } [UW^T V^T \mid +\mathbf{u}_3] \text{ or } [UW^T V^T \mid -\mathbf{u}_3]$$



Only 1 of the 4 solutions is physically correct, i.e. the **3D point appears in front of both cameras.**

Linear 8-Point Algorithm for F Matrix

- **Given:** A set of points correspondences $\mathbf{x}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'_i$ between two images.
- **Compute:** The **Fundamental matrix F**.



Linear 8-Point Algorithm for F Matrix

- For any pair of matching points $\mathbf{x}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'_i$ in two images, the 3x3 **fundamental matrix** is defined by the equation:

$$\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

- Let $\mathbf{x} = (x, y, 1)^T$ and $\mathbf{x}' = (x', y', 1)^T$, we rewrite the above equation as:

$$x'x f_{11} + x'y f_{12} + x' f_{13} + y'x f_{21} + y'y f_{22} + y' f_{23} + x f_{31} + y f_{32} + f_{33} = 0$$

- Let \mathbf{f} be the 9-vector made up of the entries of \mathbf{F} in row-major order, we get:

$$(x'x, x'y, x', y'x, y'y, y', x, y, 1) \mathbf{f} = 0.$$

Linear 8-Point Algorithm for F Matrix

- From a set of n point matches, we obtain a set of linear equations of the form:

$$A\mathbf{f} = \begin{bmatrix} x'_1x_1 & x'_1y_1 & x'_1 & y'_1x_1 & y'_1y_1 & y'_1 & x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x'_nx_n & x'_ny_n & x'_n & y'_nx_n & y'_ny_n & y'_n & x_n & y_n & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$$

- A is a $n \times 9$ matrix.
- For a non-trivial solution to exist, $\text{rank}(A)=8$ since \mathbf{f} is a 9-vector.
- A **minimum of 8-point** correspondences is needed to solve for \mathbf{f} .

Linear 8-Point Algorithm for F Matrix

- For noisy data, we obtain the solution of \mathbf{f} by finding the **least-squares solution**.
- Least-squares solution for \mathbf{f} is the singular vector corresponding to the **smallest singular value** of \mathbf{A} .
- That is the **last column of \mathbf{V}** in the SVD $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T$.
- Similar to homography estimation, **data normalization** is needed.

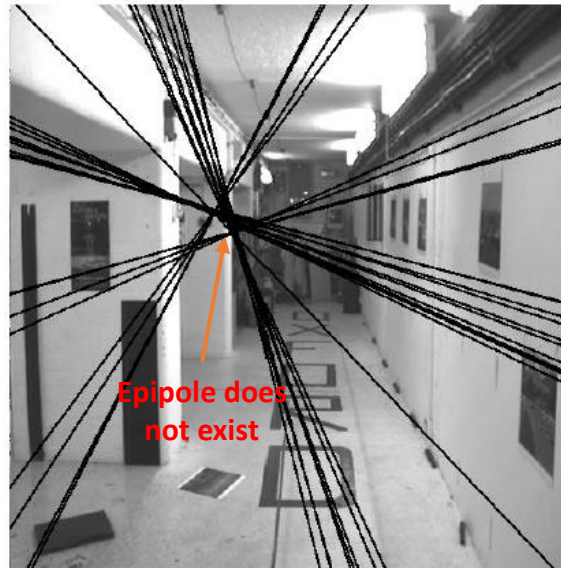
Singularity Constraint of F Matrix

- An important property of the fundamental matrix is that it is **singular**, i.e. $\text{rank}(F) = 2$.
- **Problem:** Least-squares solution in general will NOT give $\text{rank}(F)=2$.

Recall:

- Right and left nullspaces of F gives the epipoles, i.e. $F\mathbf{e} = 0$, and $F^T\mathbf{e}' = 0$.
- Since \mathbf{e} is a 3-vector, epipole exists if $\text{rank}(F)=2$.

$\text{rank}(F) \neq 2$



$\text{rank}(F) = 2$



Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

Singularity Constraint of F Matrix

- Most convenient way is to **correct the matrix F** found by the SVD solution from A.
- Matrix F is replaced by the matrix F' that **minimizes the Frobenius norm**:

$$\min_{F'} \|F - F'\|, \text{ s.t. } \det(F') = 0$$

Steps:

1. Take SVD of F, i.e. $F = UDV^T$, where $D = \text{diag}(r, s, t)$ satisfying $r \geq s \geq t$.
2. Then, **$F' = U\text{diag}(r, s, 0)V^T$** minimizes the Frobenius norm of $F - F'$.

Normalized 8-Point Algorithm for F Matrix

Objective

Given $n \geq 8$ image point correspondences $\{x_i \leftrightarrow x'_i\}$, compute the fundamental matrix F such that $x_i'^T F x_i = 0$.

Algorithm

(i) **Normalization:** Transform the image coordinates according to $\hat{x}_i = T x_i$ and $\hat{x}'_i = T' x'_i$, where T and T' are normalizing transformations.

(ii) Find the fundamental matrix \hat{F}' corresponding to the matches $\hat{x}_i \leftrightarrow \hat{x}'_i$ by:

- a) **Linear 8-point algorithm.**
- b) **Enforcing singularity constraint.**

Note: RANSAC should be used for robust estimation!

(iii) Denormalization: Set $F = T'^T \hat{F}' T$.

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} s & 0 & -s c_x \\ 0 & s & -s c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} c: \text{centroid of all data points} \\ s = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\bar{d}} \quad \text{where } \bar{d} : \text{mean distance of all points from centroid.} \end{array}$$

Normalized 8-Point Algorithm for E Matrix

Objective

Given $n \geq 8$ image point correspondences $\{\mathbf{x}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'_i\}$ and the **camera calibration matrices** K and K' , compute the essential matrix E such that $\mathbf{x}'_i{}^\top K'^{-\top} E K^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i = 0$.

Algorithm

- (i) **Normalized Coordinates:** For each correspondence $\mathbf{x}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'_i$, compute $K^{-1} \mathbf{x}_i \leftrightarrow K'^{-1} \mathbf{x}'_i$, i.e. $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \leftrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}'$.
- (ii) Find the essential matrix E corresponding to the matches $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_i \leftrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}'_i$ by:
 - a) **Linear 8-point algorithm.**
 - b) ***Enforcing singularity constraint.**
- (iii) Decompose E to get R and \mathbf{t} , thus forming P and P' .

*Singular constraint for E matrix is different from F matrix. See next slide for more detail.

Singularity Constraint of E Matrix

Problem:

- In general, the essential matrix E obtained from the linear 8-point algorithm **will NOT** have two similar singular values, and third is zero.

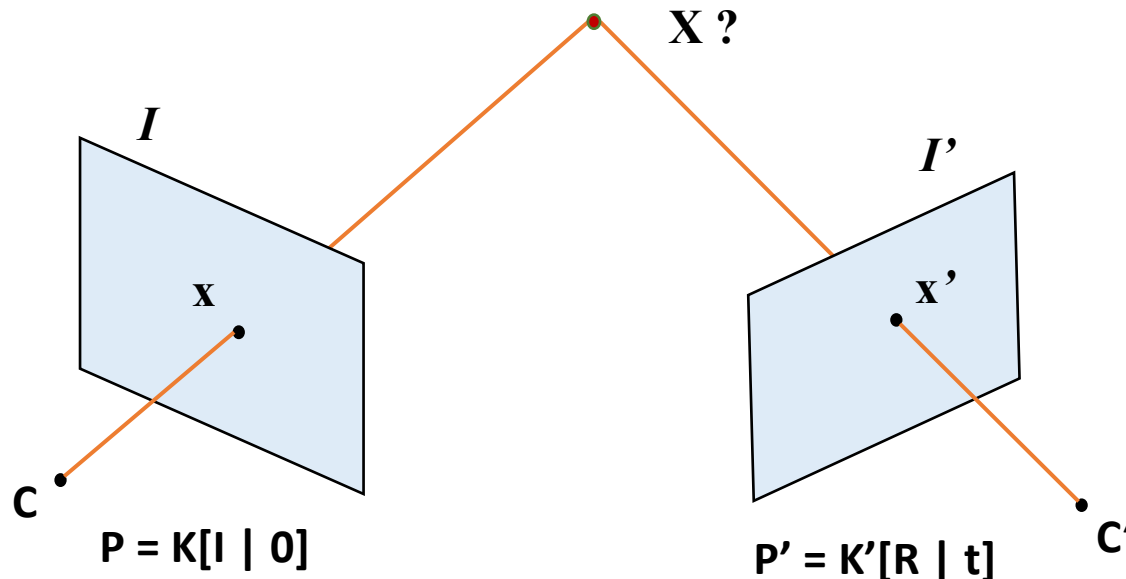
Solution:

1. Take SVD of E, i.e. $E = UDV^T$, where $D = \text{diag}(a, b, c)$ with $a \geq b \geq c$.
2. The closest essential matrix to E in **Frobenius norm** is given $\hat{E} = U\hat{D}V^T$, where

$$\hat{D} = \text{diag}\left(\frac{a+b}{2}, \frac{a+b}{2}, 0\right)$$

3D Structure Computation

- **Given:** The point correspondence $\mathbf{x}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'_i$ and camera projection matrices P and P' of two images.
- **Find:** The 3D structure points \mathbf{X}_i that corresponds to each 2D point correspondence.



3D Structure Computation

Linear Triangulation Method

- In each image, we have a measurement:

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{X}$$

- Unknown scale factor is eliminated by a cross-product, i.e. $\mathbf{x} \times (\mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}) = 0$ to give:

$$x(\mathbf{p}^{3\top}\mathbf{X}) - (\mathbf{p}^{1\top}\mathbf{X}) = 0$$

$$y(\mathbf{p}^{3\top}\mathbf{X}) - (\mathbf{p}^{2\top}\mathbf{X}) = 0$$

$$x(\mathbf{p}^{2\top}\mathbf{X}) - y(\mathbf{p}^{1\top}\mathbf{X}) = 0$$

- $\mathbf{p}^{i\top}$ are rows of \mathbf{P} .
- Two of the three equations are **linearly independent**.

3D Structure Computation

Linear Triangulation Method

- An equation of the form $A\mathbf{X} = 0$ can be formed:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} x\mathbf{p}^{3T} - \mathbf{p}^{1T} \\ y\mathbf{p}^{3T} - \mathbf{p}^{2T} \\ x'\mathbf{p}'^{3T} - \mathbf{p}'^{1T} \\ y'\mathbf{p}'^{3T} - \mathbf{p}'^{2T} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Two equations from each image, giving a total of four equations in **four homogeneous unknowns**, i.e. $\mathbf{X} = [X \ Y \ Z \ 1]^T$.
- Solution given by the **right singular vector** that corresponds to the **smallest singular value** of A , i.e. \mathbf{v}_4 .
- $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{v}_4 / v_{4w} \Rightarrow$ to make last element of \mathbf{X} equal to 1.

Reconstruction (Similarity) Ambiguity

- **Known Calibration:** Scene determined by the image is only **up to a similarity transformation** (rotation, translation and scaling).

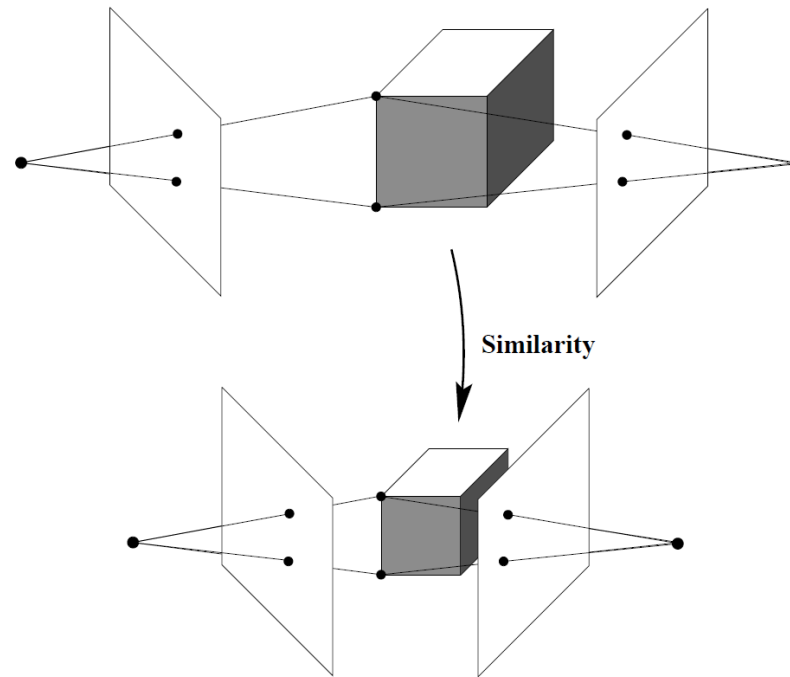


Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

Reconstruction (Similarity) Ambiguity

Proof sketch:

Let H_S be any **similarity transformation**: $H_S = \begin{bmatrix} R & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$.

We can see that the projection on X_i is the same under P and PH_S^{-1} :

$$P\mathbf{X}_i = (PH_S^{-1})(H_S\mathbf{X}_i)$$

And PH_S^{-1} is still a valid projection matrix:

$$P = K[R_P \mid \mathbf{t}_P], \quad PH_S^{-1} = K[R_P R^{-1} \mid \mathbf{t}']$$

□

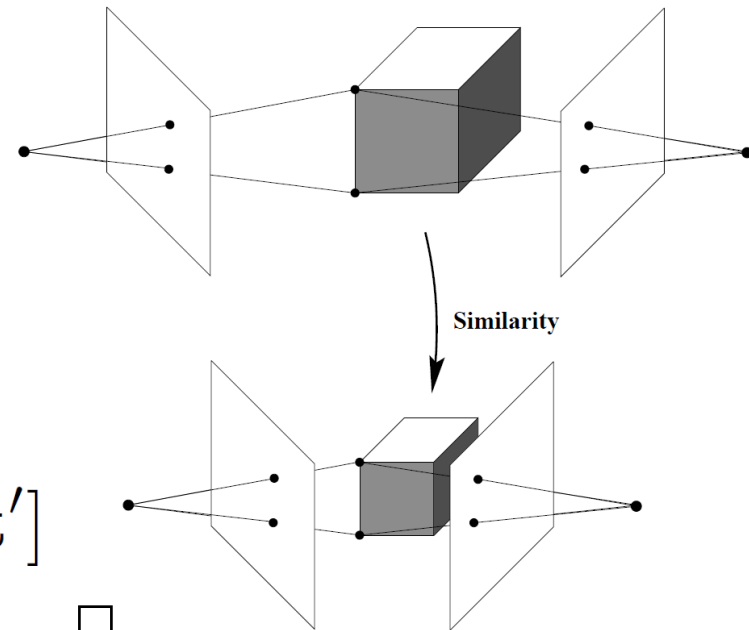


Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

Reconstruction (Projective) Ambiguity

- **Unknown Calibration:** We saw earlier that the fundamental matrix can be decomposed into P and P' or PH^{-1} and $P'H^{-1}$.

- The point \mathbf{X} is reconstructed as $H\mathbf{X}$ under PH^{-1} and $P'H^{-1}$ since:

$$P\mathbf{X} = PH^{-1}H\mathbf{X}.$$

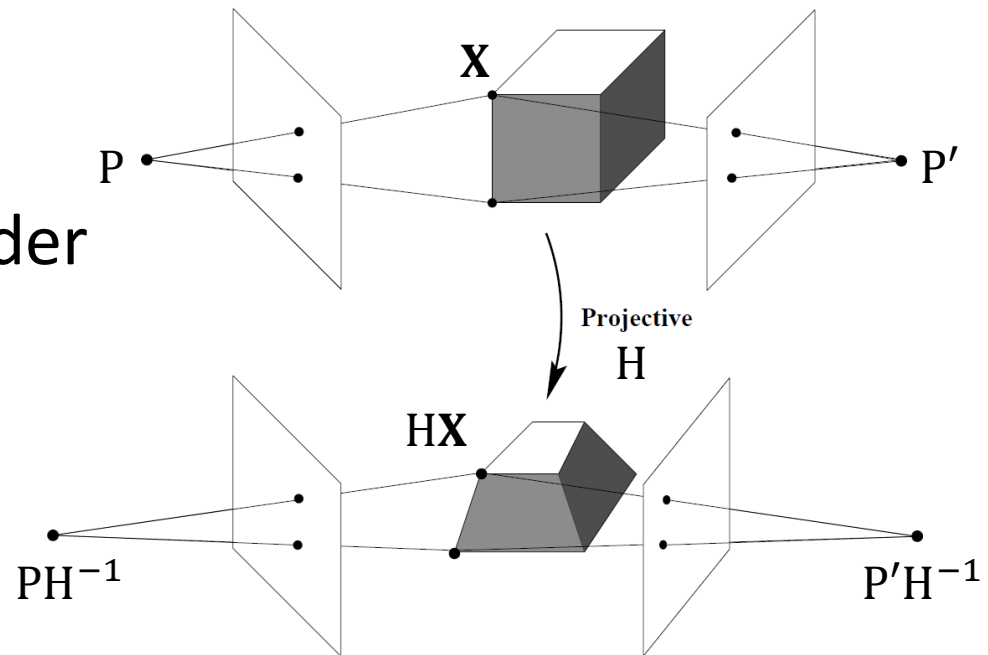


Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

Reconstruction (Projective) Ambiguity

- Original image pair



- Two different views of the **reconstruction** by P and P' decomposed from the F matrix obtained with the image pair.

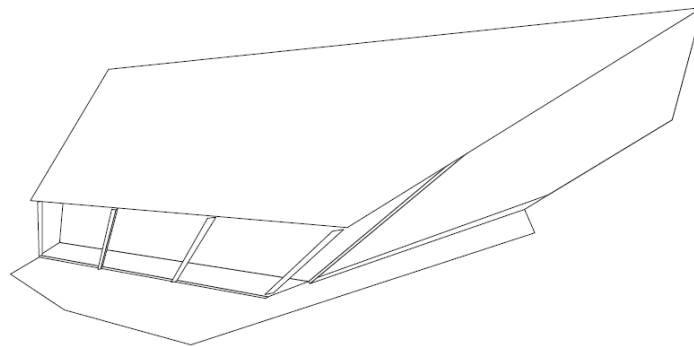
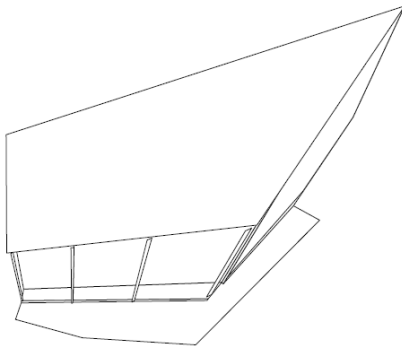


Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

Stratified Reconstruction

- The “stratified” approach to reconstruction:
 1. Begin with a **projective** reconstruction.
 2. And then refine it progressively to an **affine**.
 3. Finally a **metric** reconstruction.
- We will see that affine and metric reconstruction are **not possible** without further information either about the scene, the motion or the camera calibration.

The Step to Affine Reconstruction

- The essence of affine reconstruction is to locate the **plane at infinity**.
- Let the 4-vector $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ be the plane at infinity under **projective distortion**; the goal is to find the projective transformation H that maps $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ to $(0,0,0,1)^\top$, i.e. $\boldsymbol{\pi}_\infty = H^{-\top} \boldsymbol{\pi}$.
- H can be easily obtained as:
$$H = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & | & \mathbf{0} \\ \boldsymbol{\pi}^\top & & \end{bmatrix}.$$
- Map all 3D reconstruction points X using H to remove the projective distortion (get an **affine reconstruction**).

The Step to Affine Reconstruction

- Let v_1, v_2, v_3 be the intersection points of a pair of parallel lines in **three different directions**, i.e. vanishing points.
- π can be identified from: $[v_1 \ v_2 \ v_3]^T \pi = \mathbf{0}$.

Example:

Points on span by the lines:

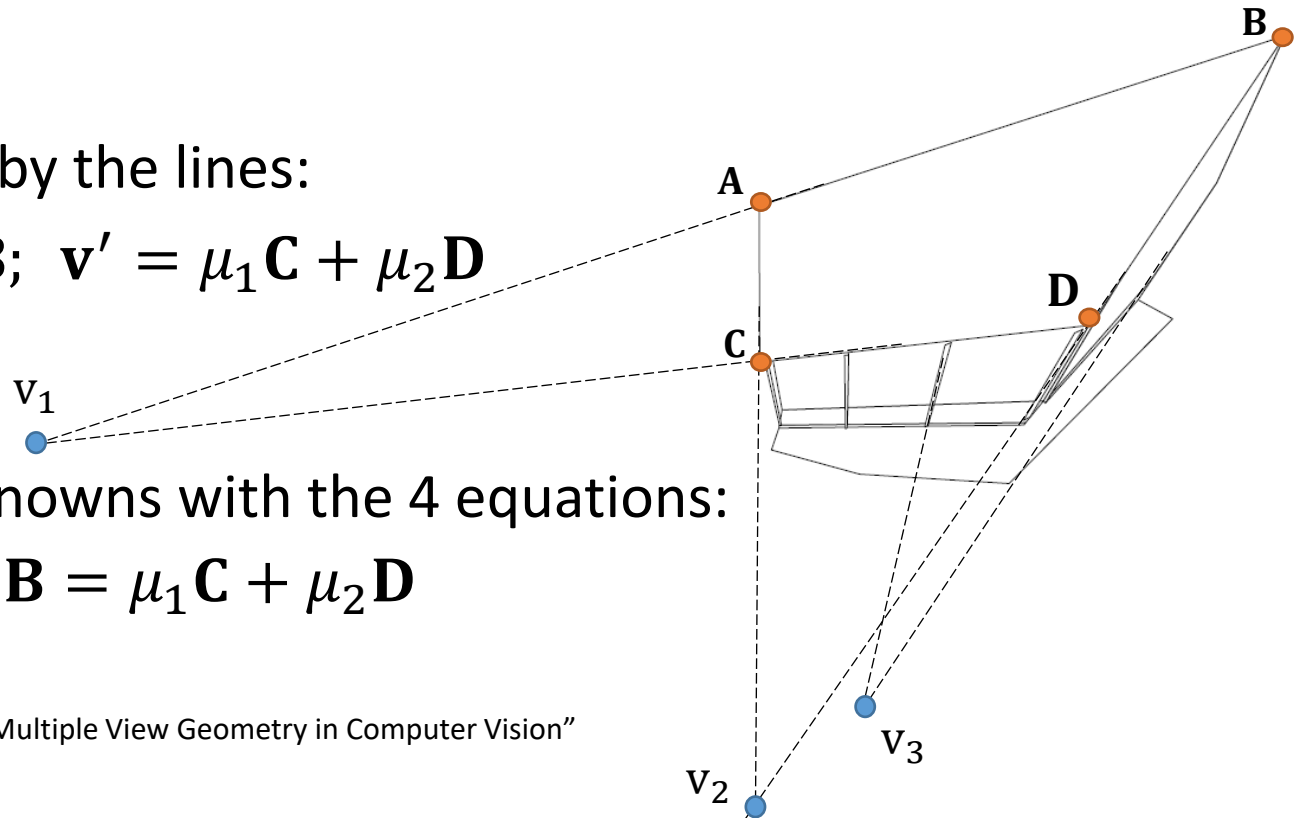
$$\mathbf{v} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{A} + \lambda_2 \mathbf{B}; \quad \mathbf{v}' = \mu_1 \mathbf{C} + \mu_2 \mathbf{D}$$

Solve for 4 unknowns with the 4 equations:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \lambda_1 \mathbf{A} + \lambda_2 \mathbf{B} = \mu_1 \mathbf{C} + \mu_2 \mathbf{D}$$

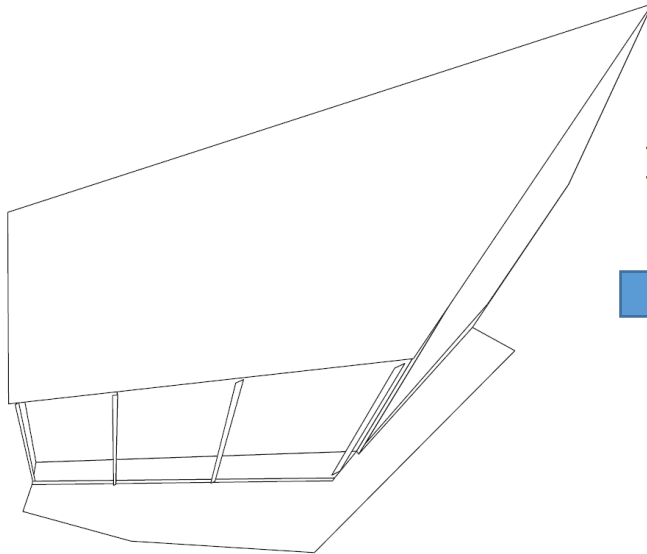
Image Source:


R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"



The Step to Affine Reconstruction

Projective distortion



$$H = \begin{bmatrix} I & | & \mathbf{0} \\ \hline \boldsymbol{\pi}^T & \end{bmatrix}$$


Affine distortion

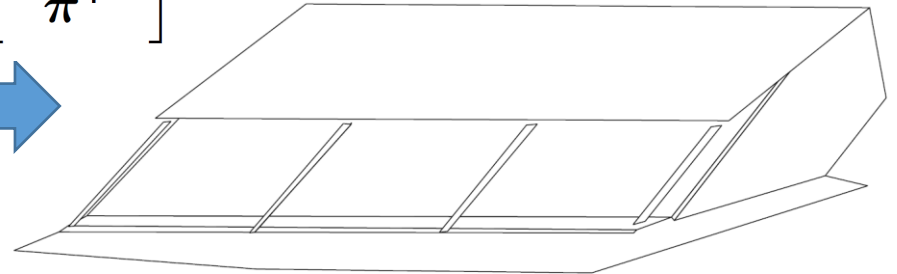


Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"

The Step to Metric Reconstruction

- The key to metric reconstruction is the identification of the **image of absolute conic ω** (IAC).
- The affine reconstruction may be **transformed to a metric reconstruction** by applying a 3D transformation of the form:

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} A^{-1} & \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

where

- A is obtained by Cholesky factorization of $AA^T = (M^T \omega M)^{-1}$.
- The affine reconstruction is from the camera matrix $P' = [M \mid m]$.

The Step to Metric Reconstruction

Proof:

- We have seen earlier that under **known calibration** K' , the camera matrix $P'_M = K'[R \mid \mathbf{t}]$ is subjected to **similarity distortion**.
- The **affinely distorted** camera matrix $P' = [M \mid \mathbf{m}]$ is transformed to P'_M as $P'_M = P'H^{-1}$, where

$$H^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} A & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow [K'R \mid K'\mathbf{t}] = [MA \mid \mathbf{m}]$$

The Step to Metric Reconstruction

Proof (cont.):

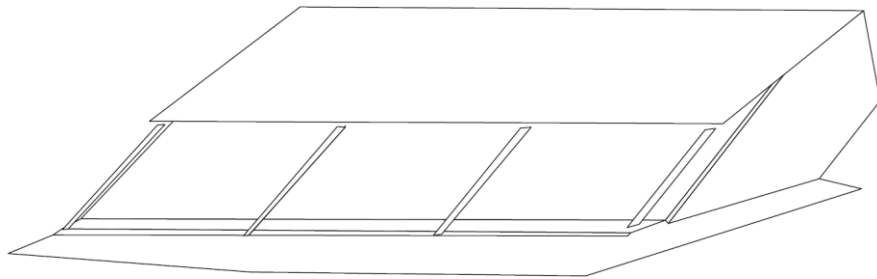
- Hence, we get $MA = K'R$, which can be written as:


$$\begin{aligned} MA(MA)^T &= K'R(K'R)^T \Rightarrow MAA^T M^T = K'K'^T \\ &\Rightarrow AA^T = M^{-1} \underbrace{K'K'^T}_{\omega^* = \omega^{-1}} M^{-T} \\ &\Rightarrow AA^T = (M^T \omega M)^{-1}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

- Refer to Lecture 5 for the various methods to get the Image of absolute conic ω (IAC).

The Step to Metric Reconstruction

Affine distortion



$$H = \begin{bmatrix} A^{-1} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$


Similarity distortion

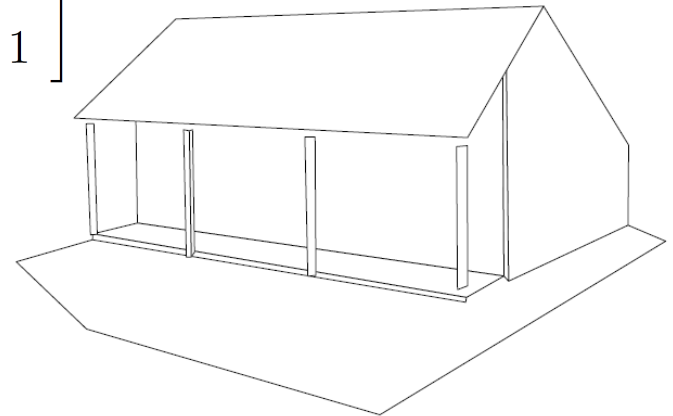


Image Source: R. Hartley and A. Zisserman, "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision"