

# Lecture 7: Camera Models

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Stanford Vision Lab

# What we will learn today?

- Pinhole cameras
- Cameras & lenses
- The geometry of pinhole cameras

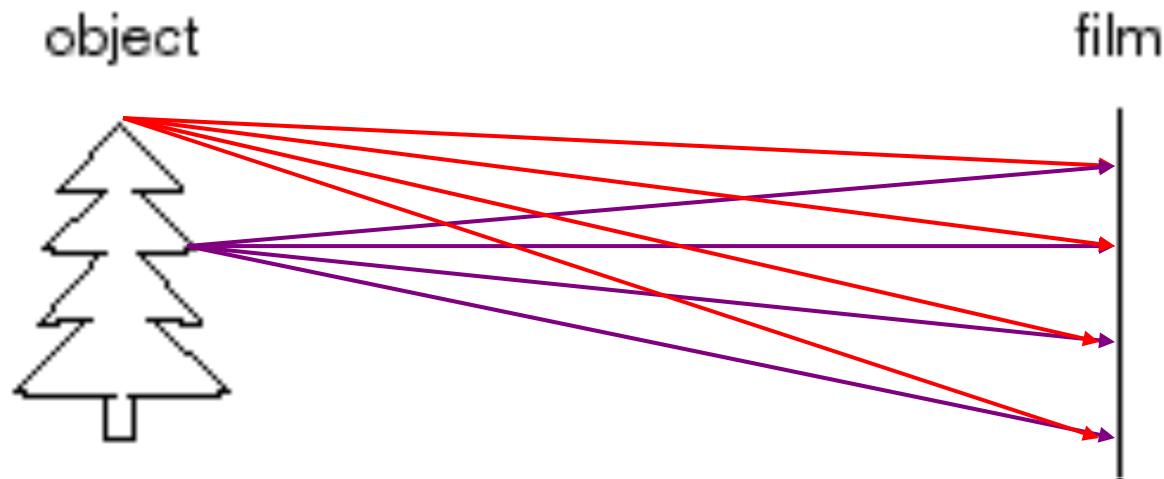
Reading:  
[FP] Chapters 1 – 3  
[HZ] Chapter 6

# What we will learn today?

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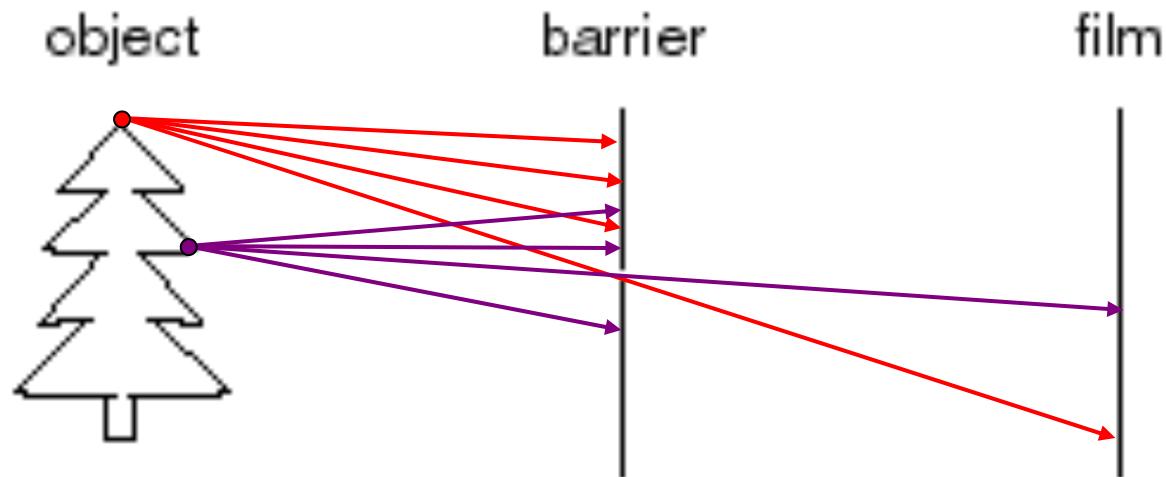
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# How do we see the world?



- Let's design a camera
  - Idea 1: put a piece of film in front of an object
  - Do we get a reasonable image?

# Pinhole camera

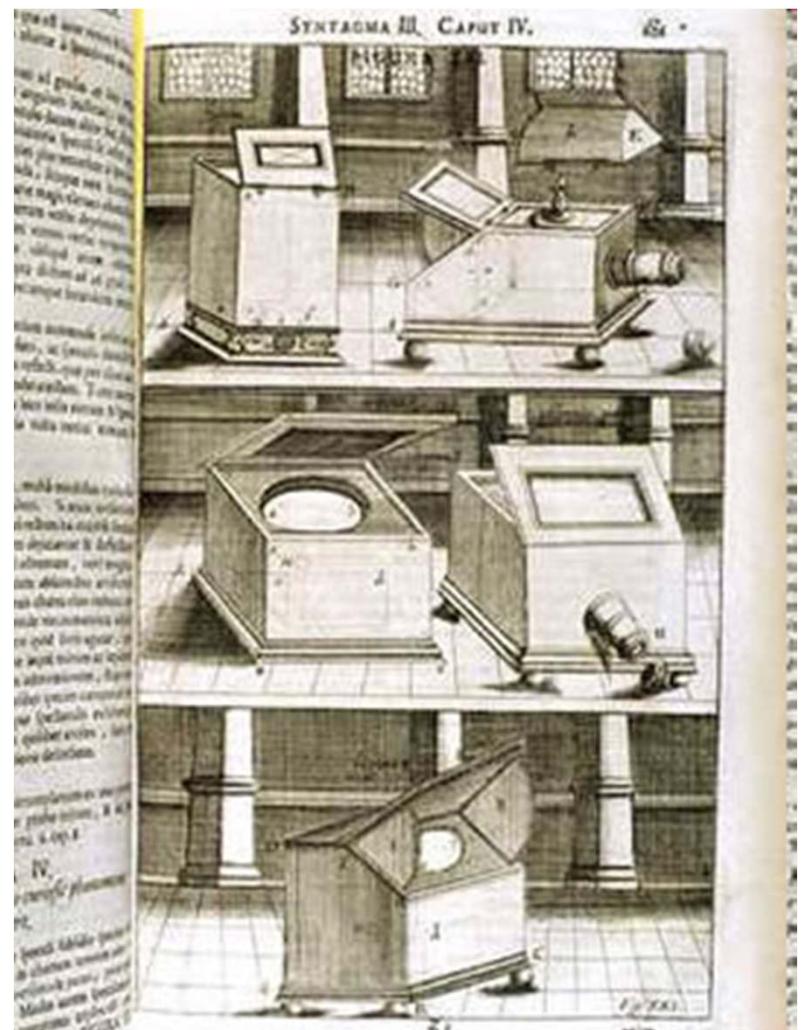


- Add a barrier to block off most of the rays
  - This reduces blurring
  - The opening known as the **aperture**

# Some history...

## Milestones:

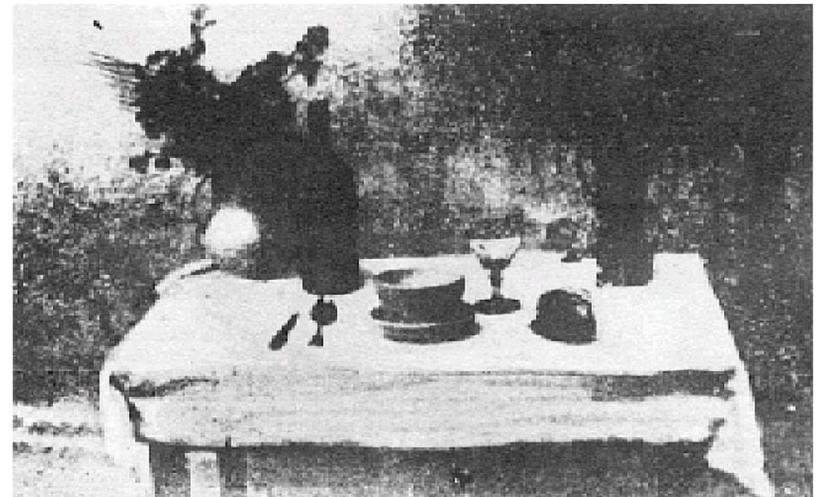
- Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519): first record of camera *obscura*
- Johann Zahn (1685): first portable camera



# Some history...

## Milestones:

- Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519): first record of camera *obscura*
- Johann Zahn (1685): first portable camera
- Joseph Nicéphore Niépce (1822): first photo - birth of photography
- Daguerreotypes (1839)
- Photographic Film (Eastman, 1889)
- Cinema (Lumière Brothers, 1895)
- Color Photography  
(Lumière Brothers, 1908)



Photography (Niépce, “La Table Servie,” 1822)

# Some history...



Motzu  
(468-376 BC)

Oldest existent book  
on geometry in China

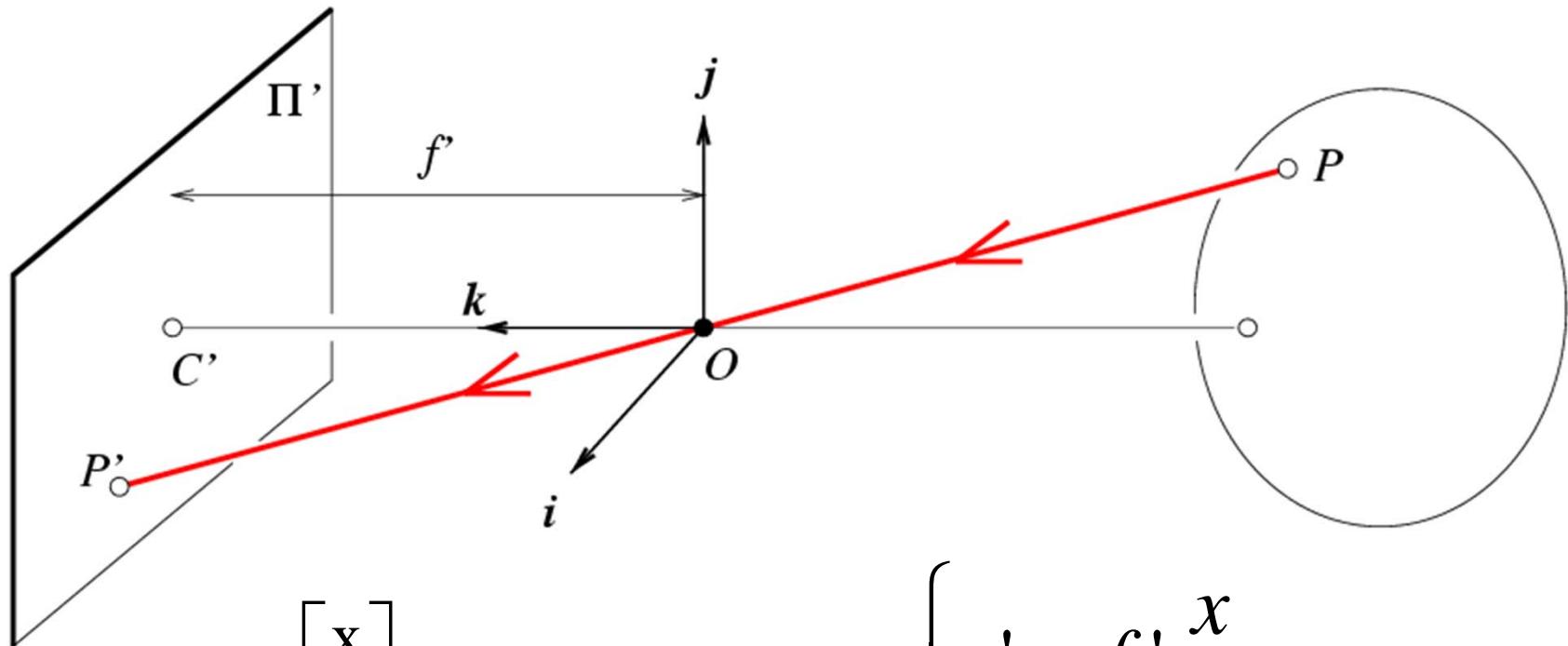


Aristotle  
(384-322 BC)  
Also: Plato, Euclid



Al-Kindi (c. 801–873)  
Ibn al-Haitham  
(965-1040)

# Pinhole camera

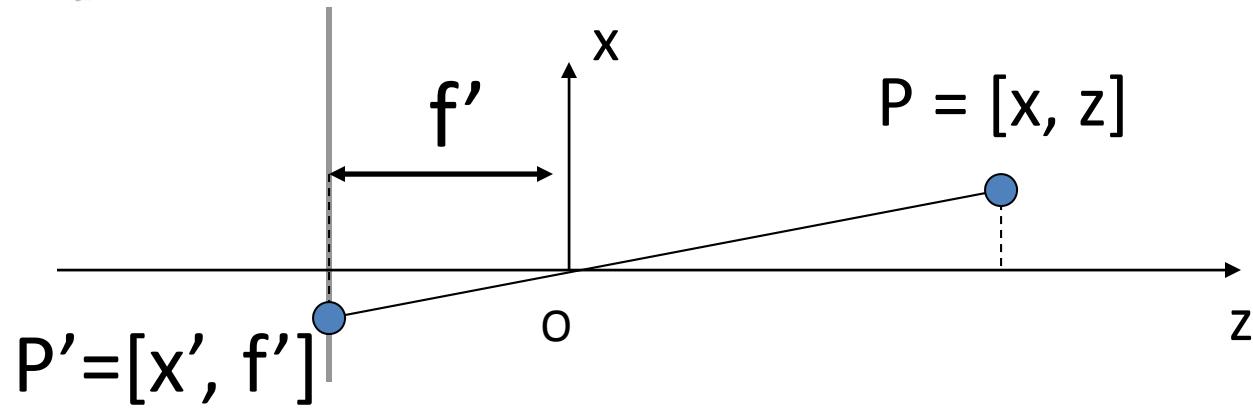
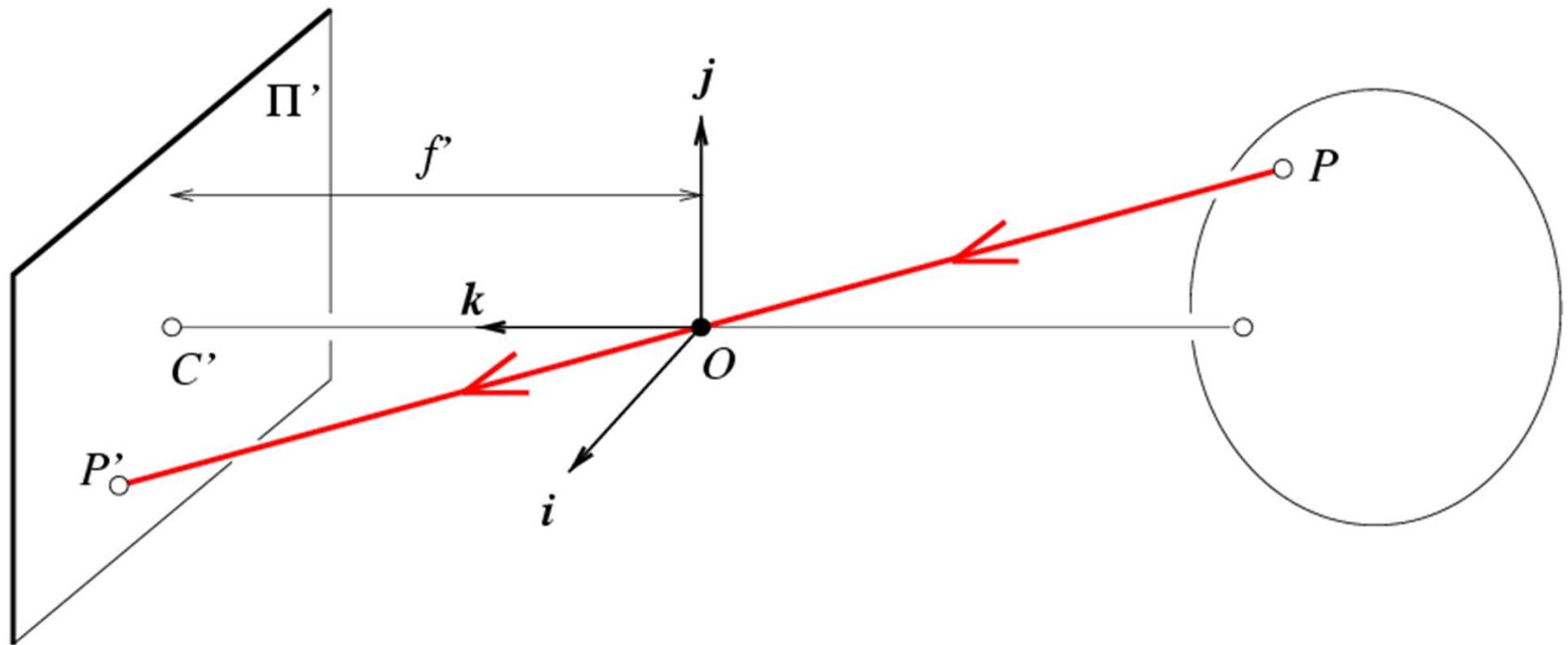


$$P = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow P' = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x' = f' \frac{x}{z} \\ y' = f' \frac{y}{z} \end{array} \right.$$

Note:  $z$  is always negative.

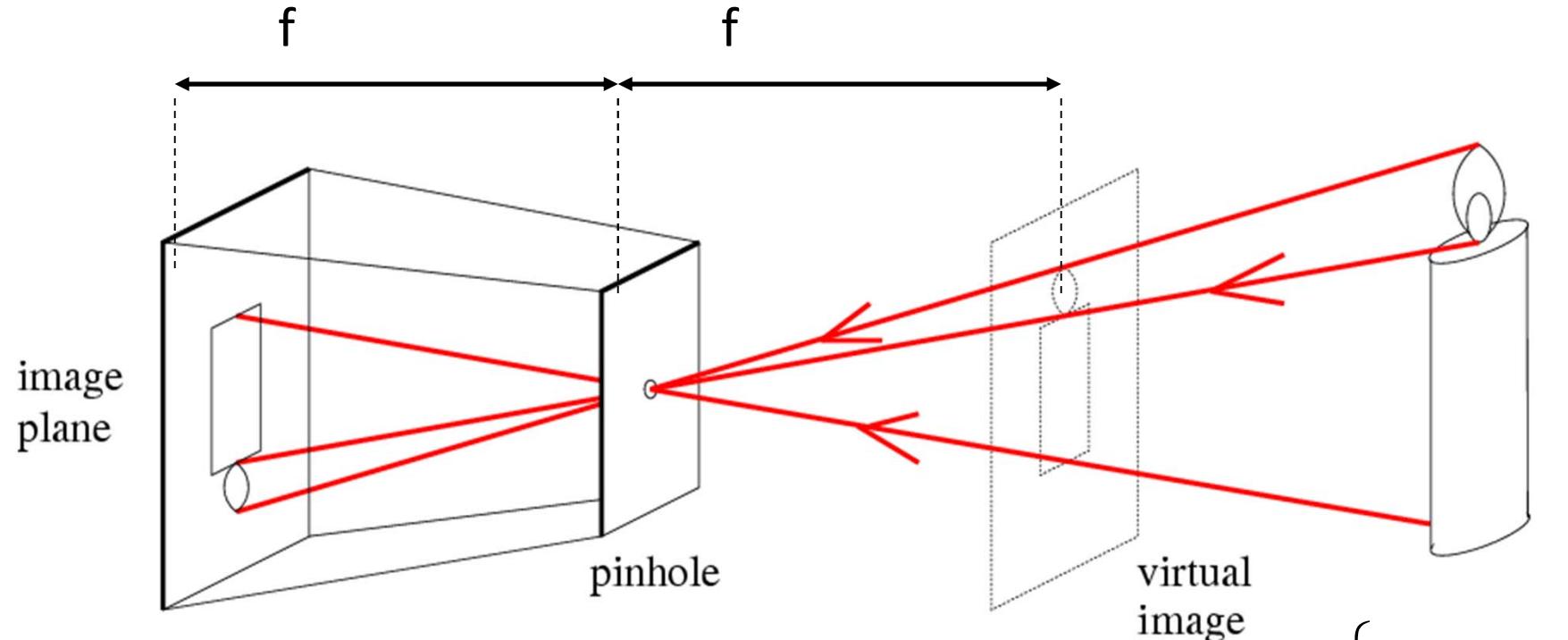
Derived using similar triangles

# Pinhole camera



$$\frac{x'}{f'} = \frac{x}{z}$$

# Pinhole camera

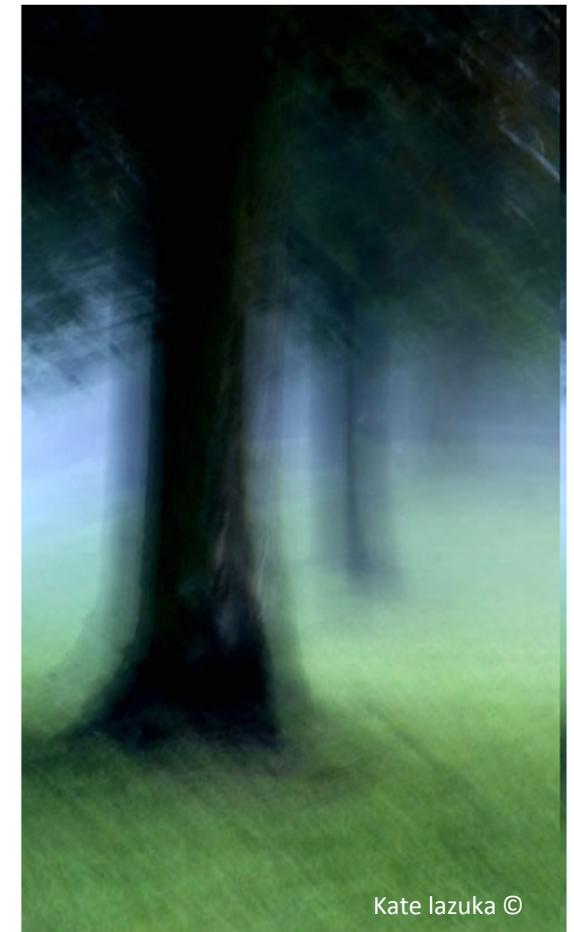
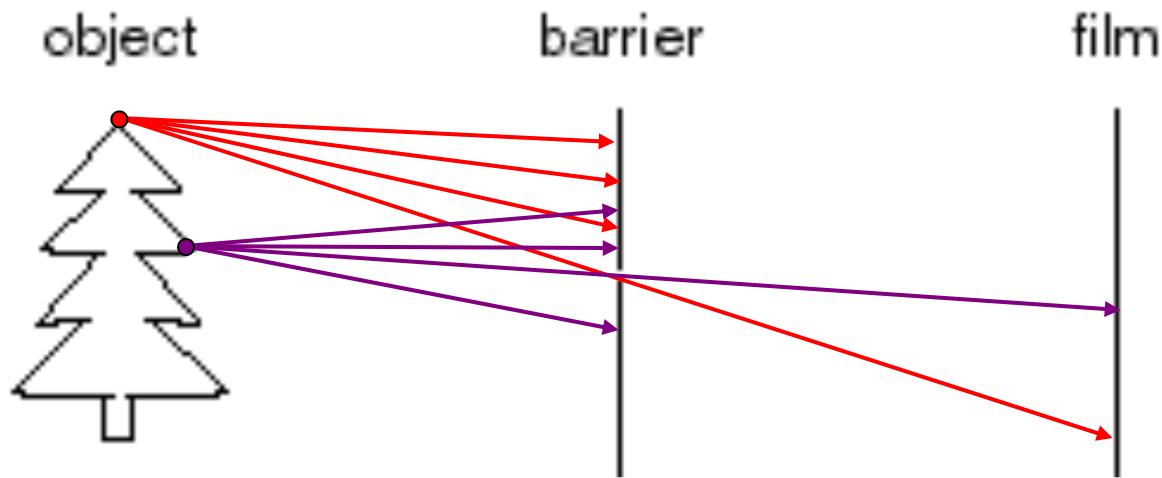


- Common to draw image plane *in front* of the focal point
- Moving the image plane merely scales the image.

$$\begin{cases} x' = f \frac{x}{z} \\ y' = f \frac{y}{z} \end{cases}$$

# Pinhole camera

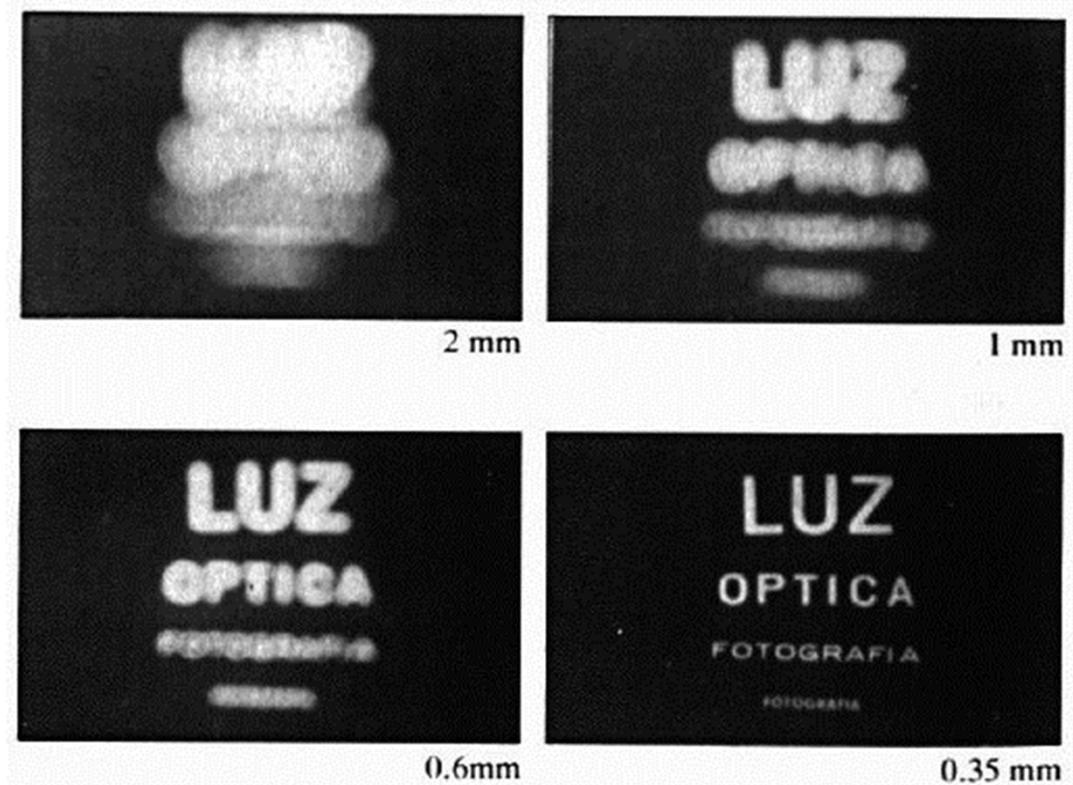
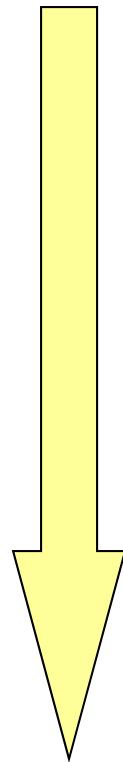
Is the size of the aperture important?



# Cameras & Lenses

Shrinking  
aperture  
size

- Rays are mixed up

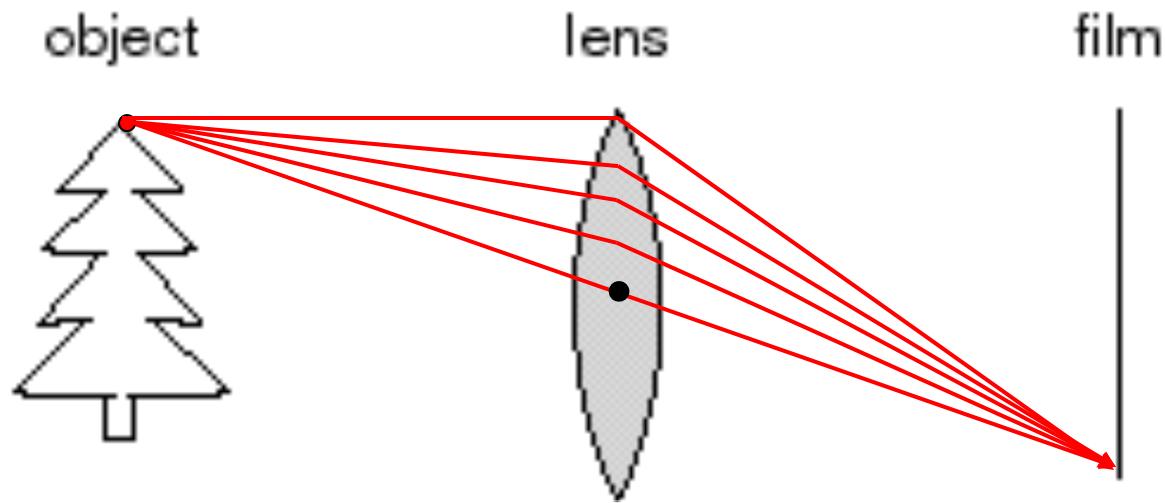


-Why the aperture cannot be too small?

- Less light passes through
- Diffraction effect

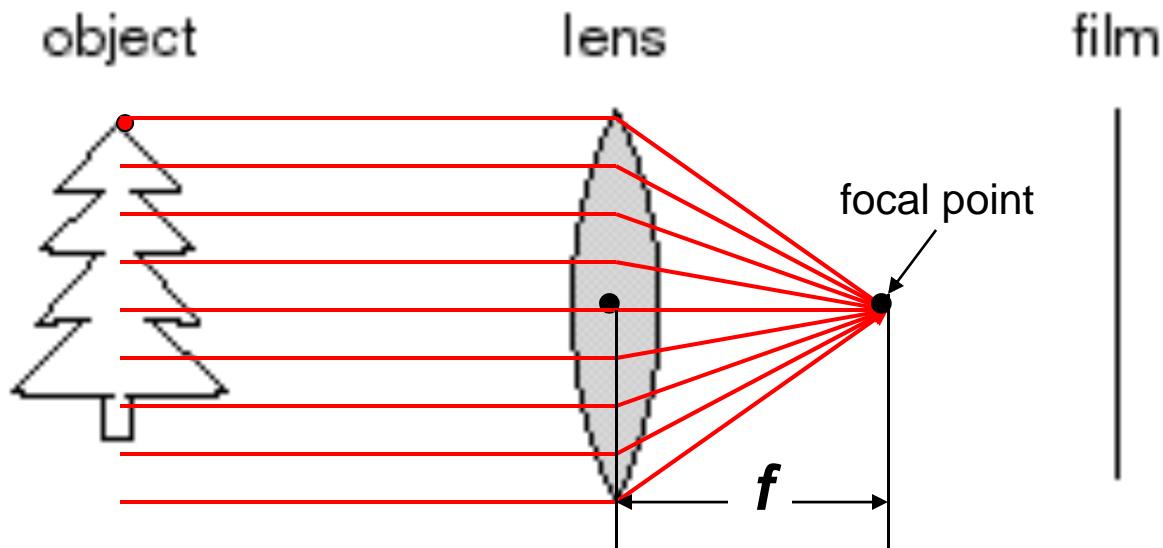
Adding lenses!

# Cameras & Lenses



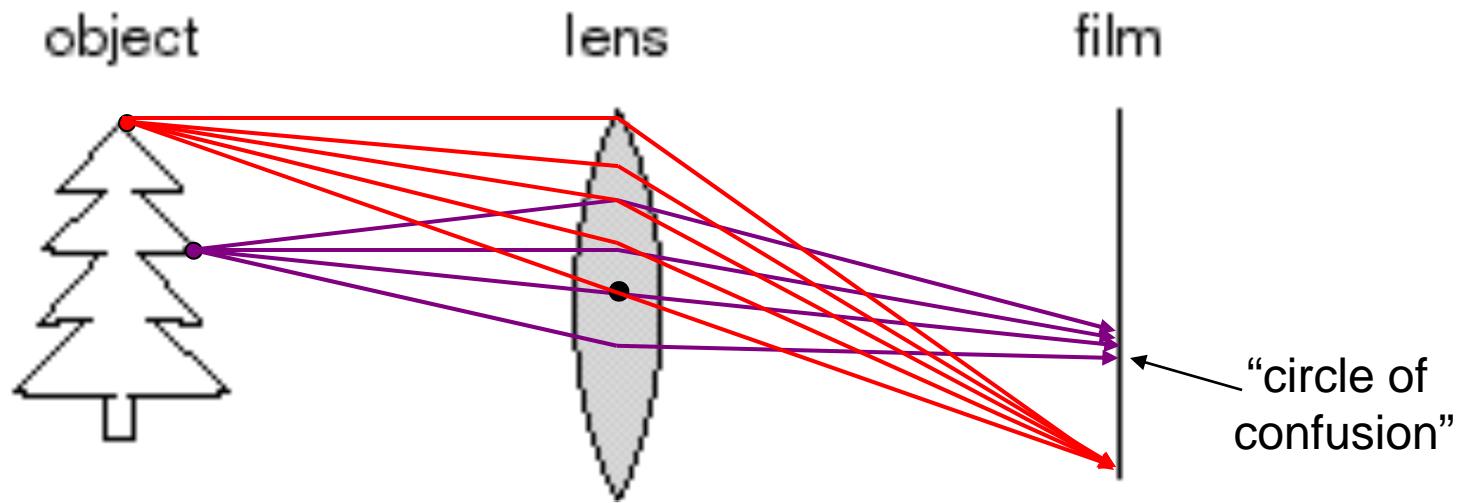
- A lens focuses light onto the film

# Cameras & Lenses



- A lens focuses light onto the film
  - Rays passing through the center are not deviated
  - All parallel rays converge to one point on a plane located at the *focal length*  $f$

# Cameras & Lenses



- A lens focuses light onto the film
  - There is a specific distance at which objects are “in focus”  
[other points project to a “circle of confusion” in the image]

# Cameras & Lenses

- Laws of geometric optics
  - Light travels in straight lines in homogeneous medium
  - Reflection upon a surface: incoming ray, surface normal, and reflection are co-planar
  - Refraction: when a ray passes from one medium to another

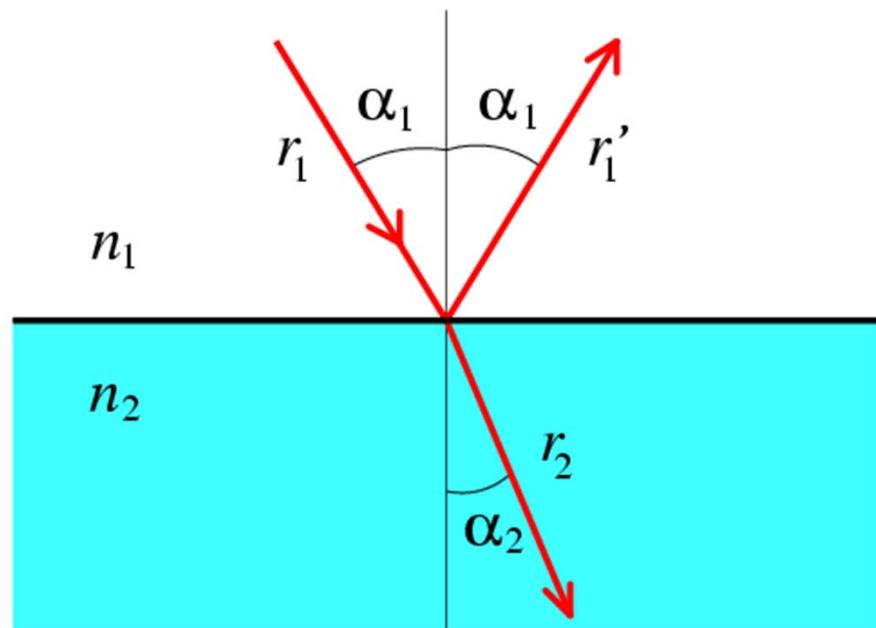
Snell's law

$$n_1 \sin \alpha_1 = n_2 \sin \alpha_2$$

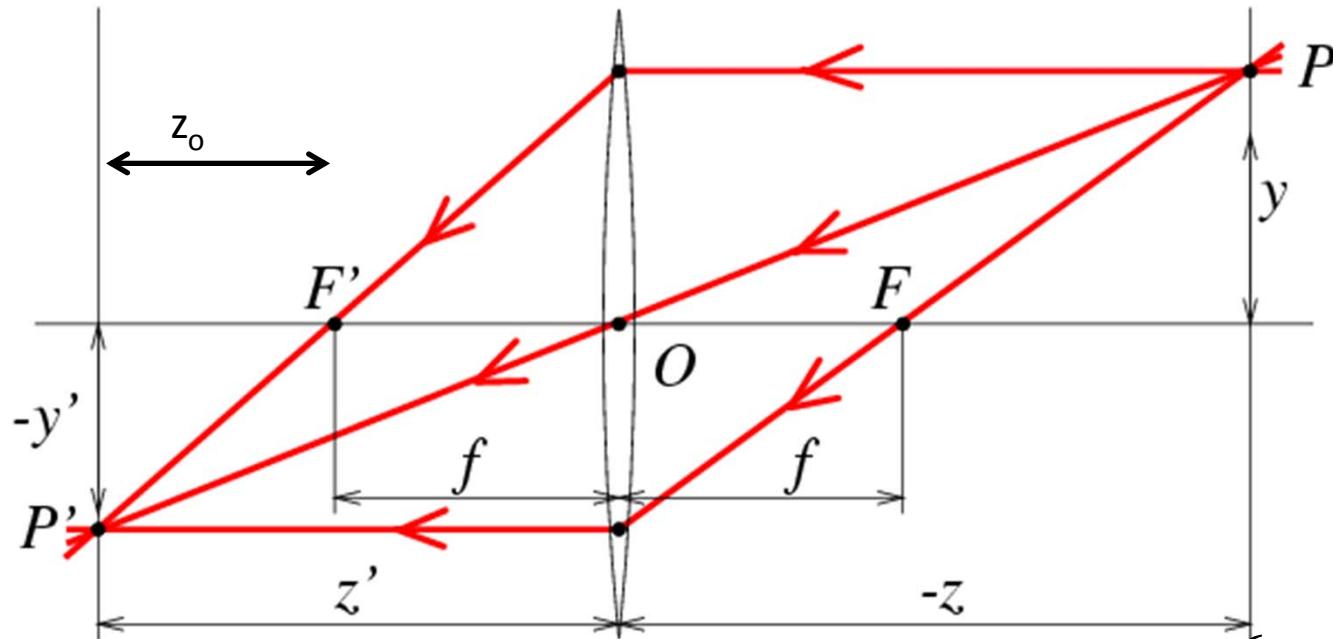
$\alpha_1$  = incident angle

$\alpha_2$  = refraction angle

$n_i$  = index of refraction



# Thin Lenses



$$z' = f + z_o$$

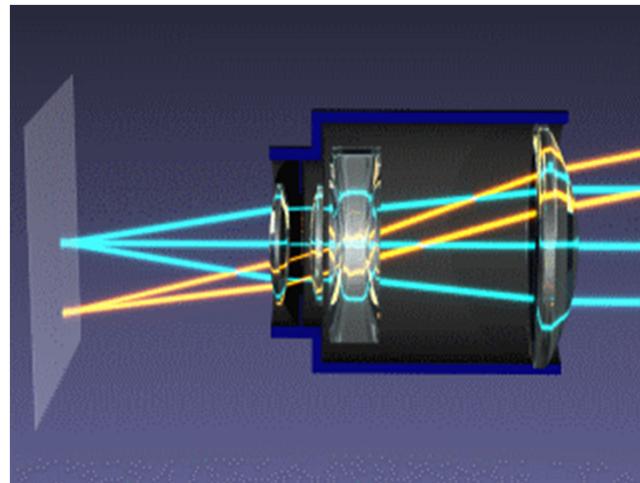
$$f = \frac{R}{2(n-1)}$$

Snell's law:

$$n_1 \sin \alpha_1 = n_2 \sin \alpha_2$$

$$\begin{cases} \text{Small angles:} \\ n_1 \alpha_1 \approx n_2 \alpha_2 \\ n_1 = n \text{ (lens)} \\ n_1 = 1 \text{ (air)} \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x' = z' \frac{x}{z} \\ y' = z' \frac{y}{z} \end{cases}$$

# Cameras & Lenses

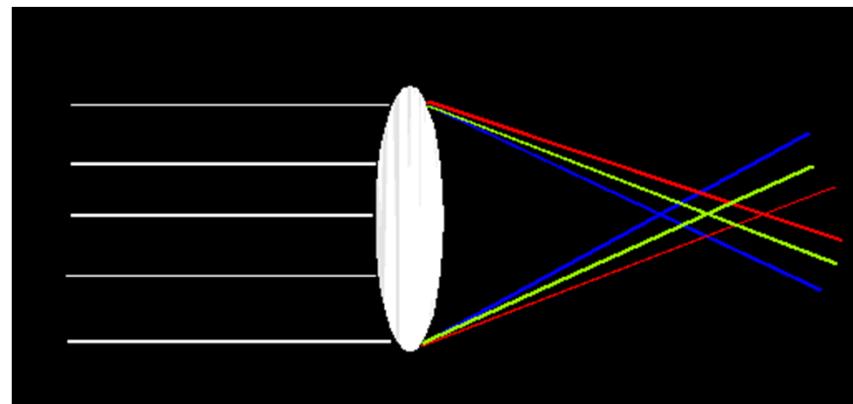


Source wikipedia

# Issues with lenses: Chromatic Aberration

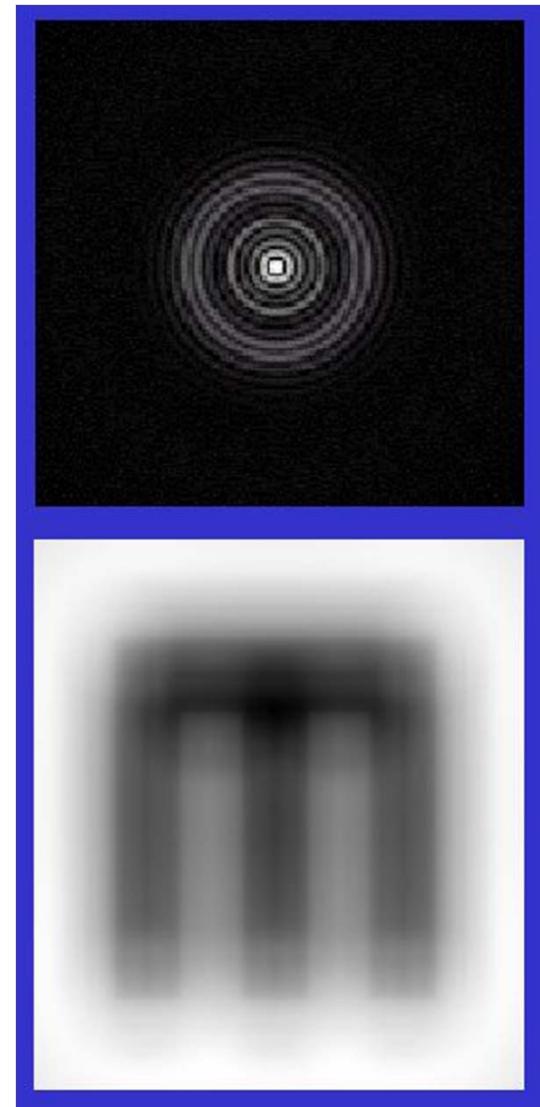
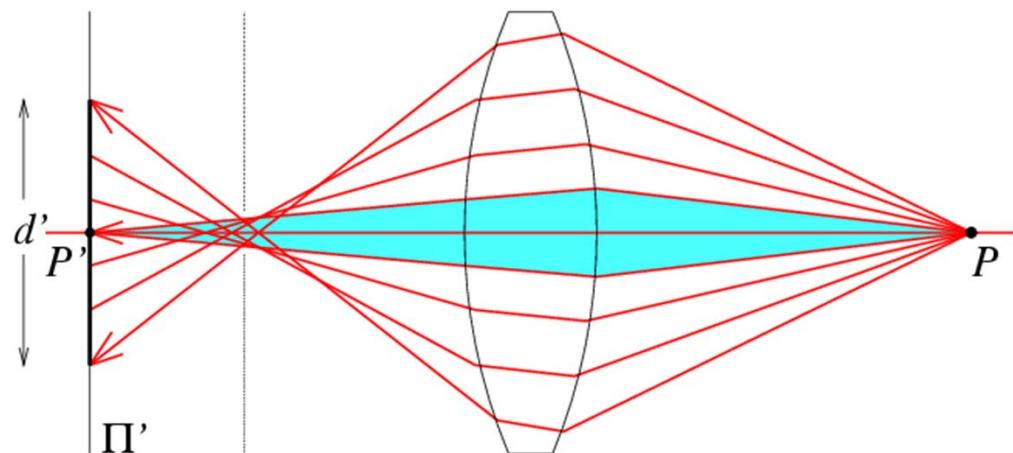
- Lens has different refractive indices for different wavelengths: causes color fringing

$$f = \frac{R}{2(n - 1)}$$



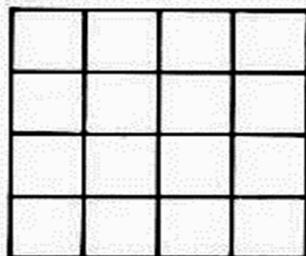
# Issues with lenses: Chromatic Aberration

- Rays farther from the optical axis focus closer

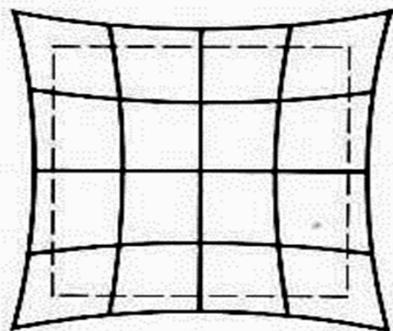


# Issues with lenses: Chromatic Aberration

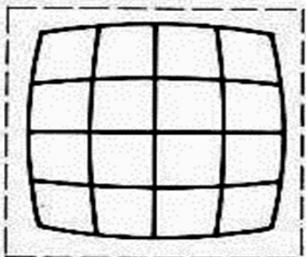
- Deviations are most noticeable for rays that pass through the edge of the lens



No distortion



Pin cushion



Barrel (fisheye lens)

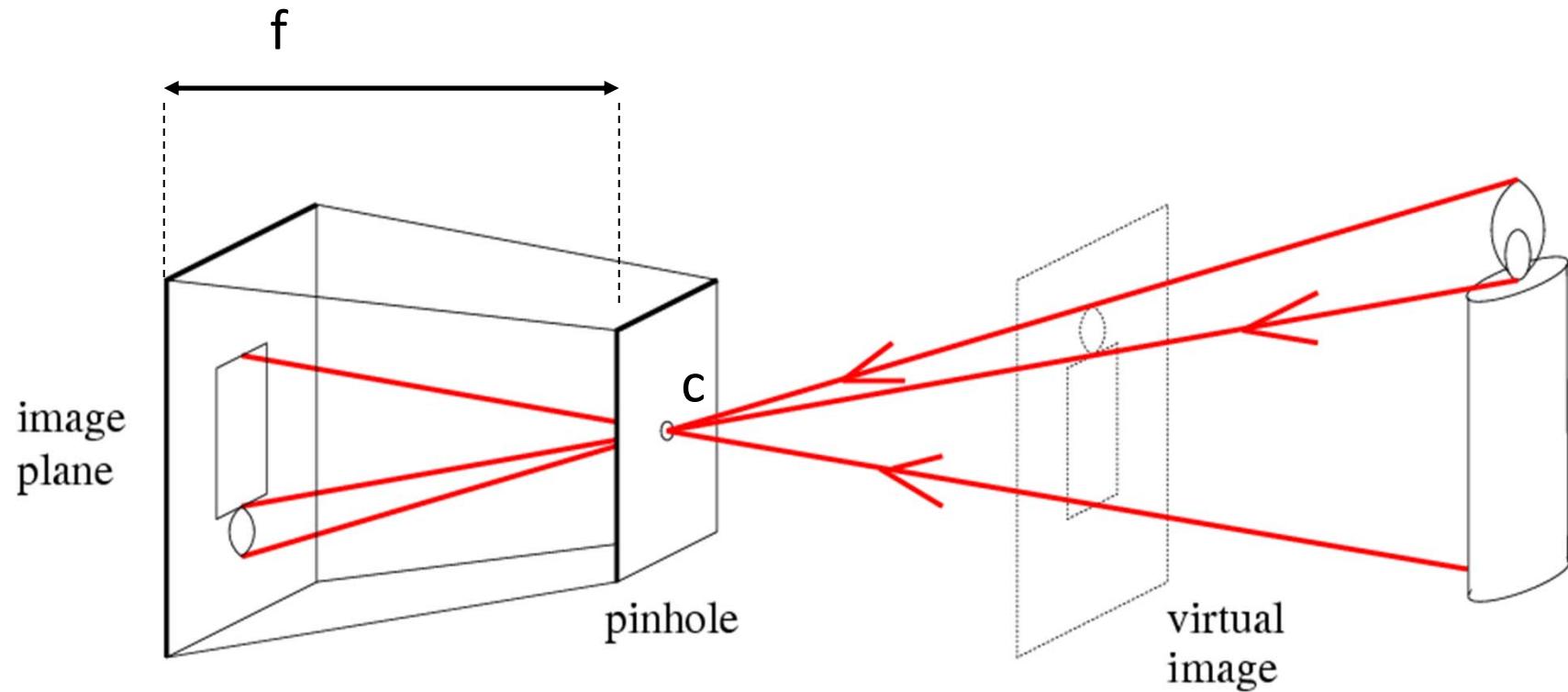
Image magnification decreases with distance from the optical axis



# What we will learn today?

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# Pinhole camera



$f$  = focal length

$c$  = center of the camera

$$(x, y, z) \rightarrow (f \frac{x}{z}, f \frac{y}{z})$$

$$\mathcal{R}^3 \xrightarrow{E} \mathcal{R}^2$$

# Pinhole camera

Is this a linear transformation?

$$(x, y, z) \rightarrow (f \frac{x}{z}, f \frac{y}{z})$$

No — division by  $z$  is nonlinear!

How to make it linear?

# Homogeneous coordinates

$$(x, y) \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

homogeneous image  
coordinates

$$(x, y, z) \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

homogeneous scene  
coordinates

- Converting *from* homogeneous coordinates

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ w \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x/w, y/w)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x/w, y/w, z/w)$$

# Homogeneous coordinates

Perspective Projection Transformation:

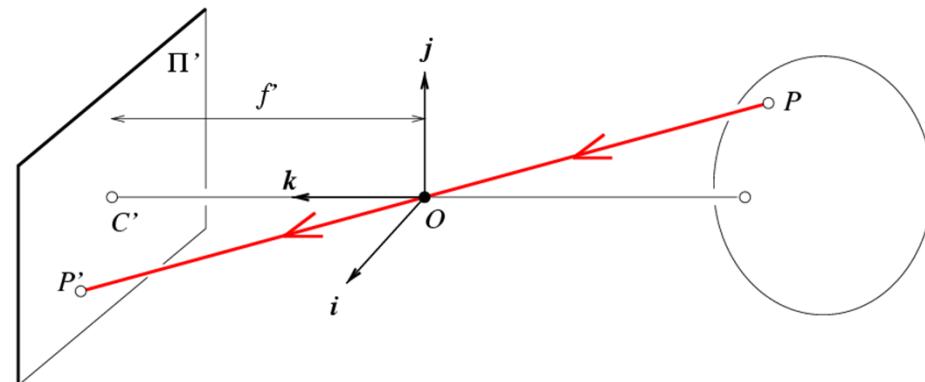
$$P' = \begin{bmatrix} f & x \\ f & y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & f & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_M \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

“Projection matrix”

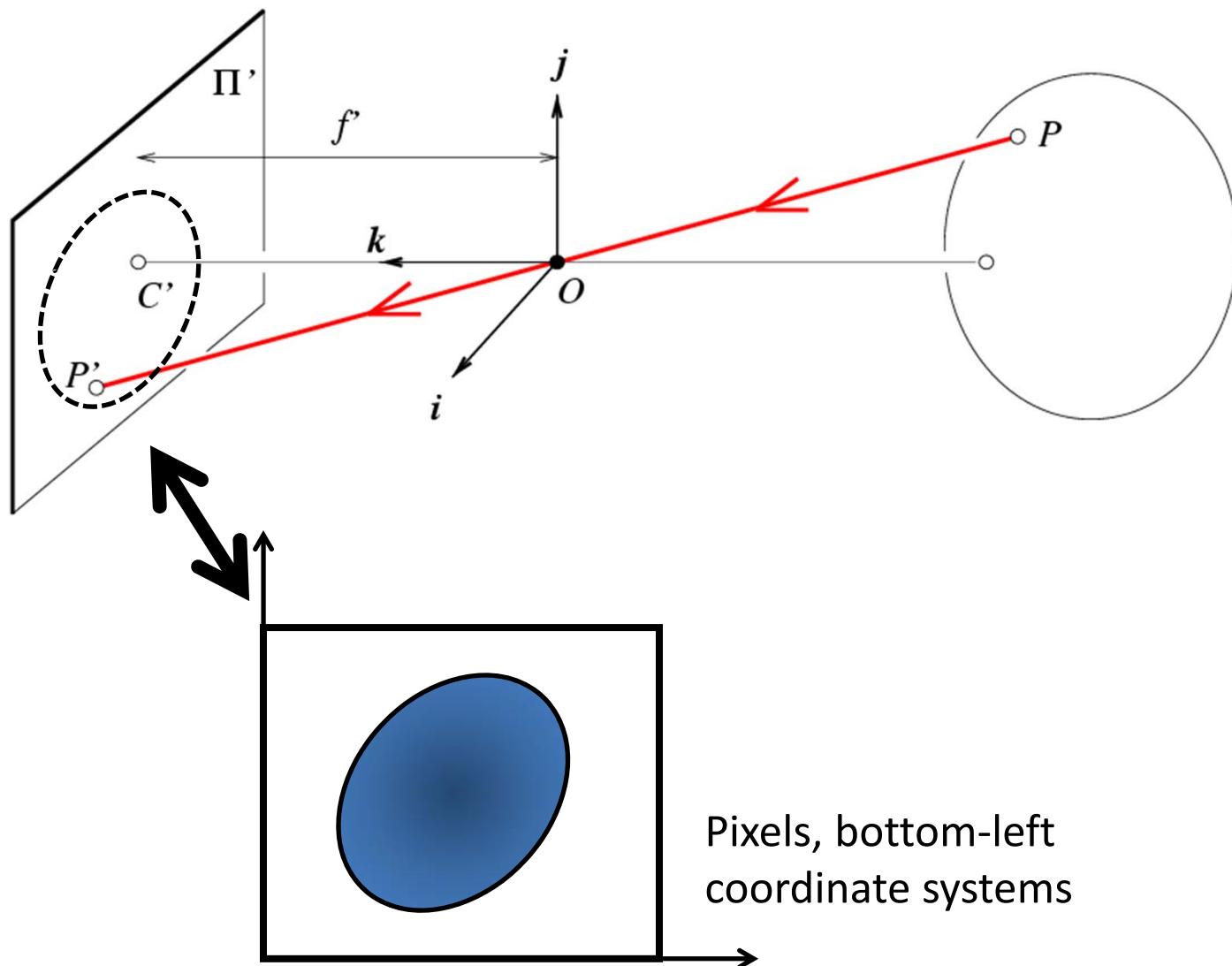
$$P' = M P$$

$$\mathbb{R}^4 \xrightarrow{H} \mathbb{R}^3$$

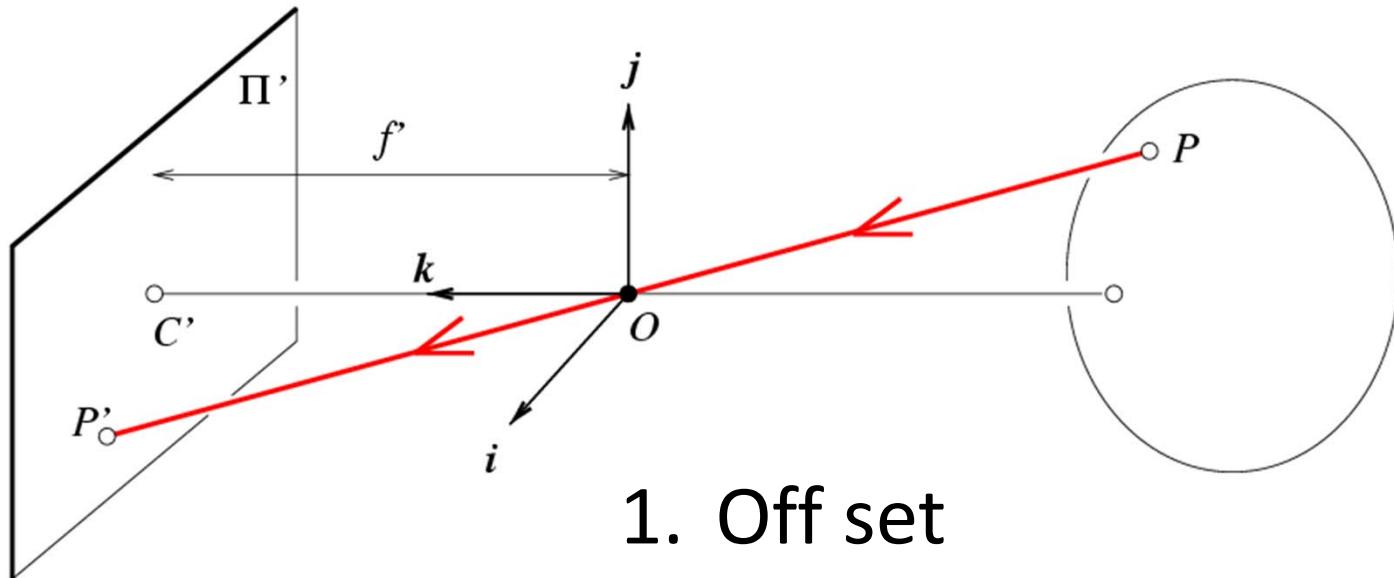
$$P'_i = \begin{bmatrix} f \frac{x}{z} \\ f \frac{y}{z} \end{bmatrix}$$



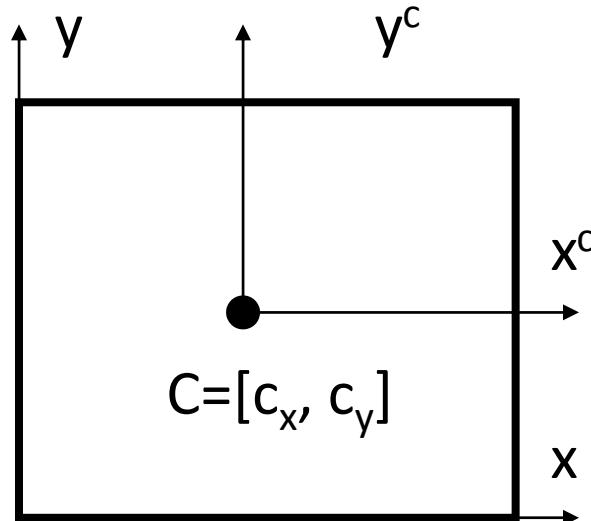
# From retina plane to images



# From retina plane to images

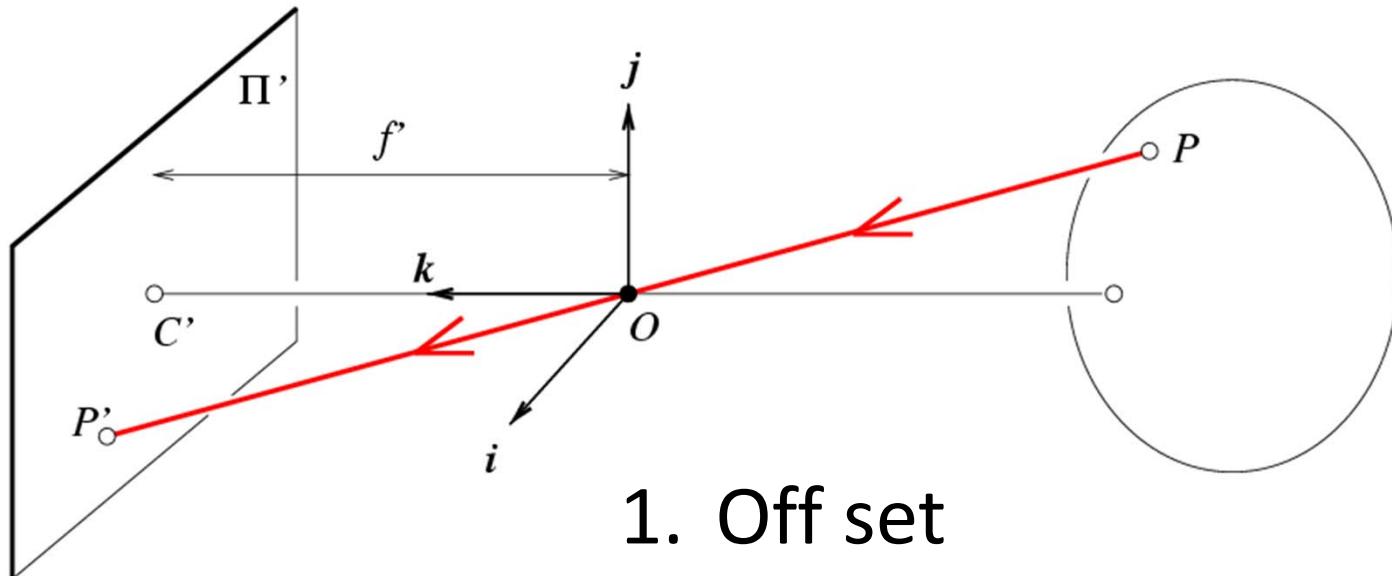


1. Off set



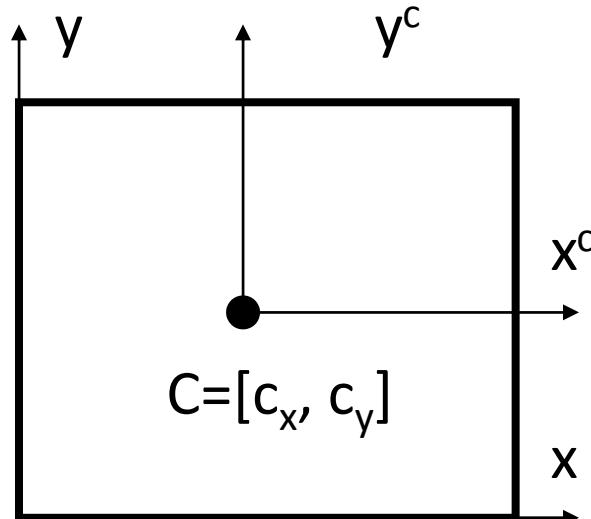
$$(x, y, z) \rightarrow \left( f \frac{x}{z} + c_x, f \frac{y}{z} + c_y \right)$$

# From retina plane to images



1. Off set

2. From metric to pixels

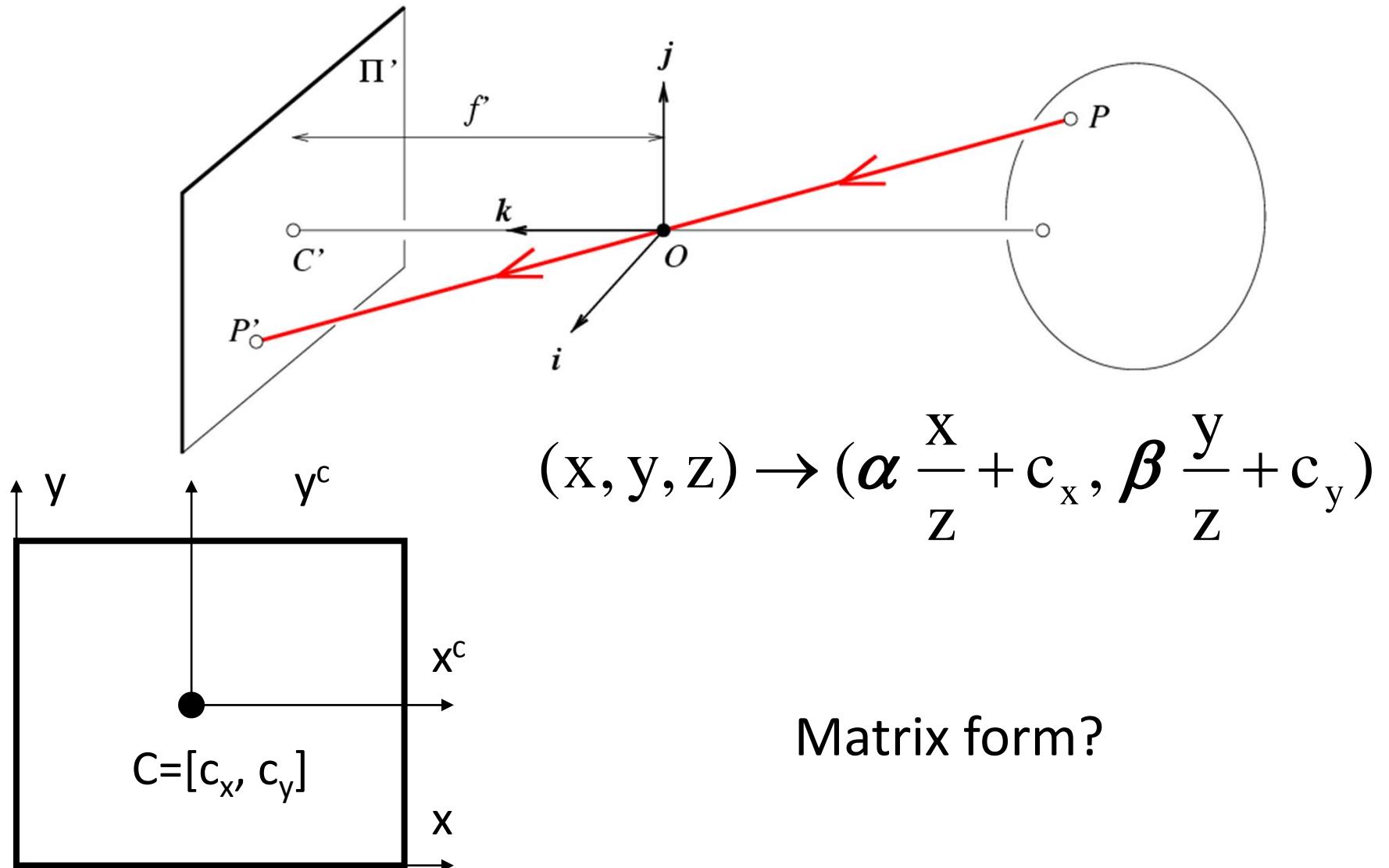


$$(x, y, z) \rightarrow \left( f \frac{x}{z} + c_x, f \frac{y}{z} + c_y \right)$$

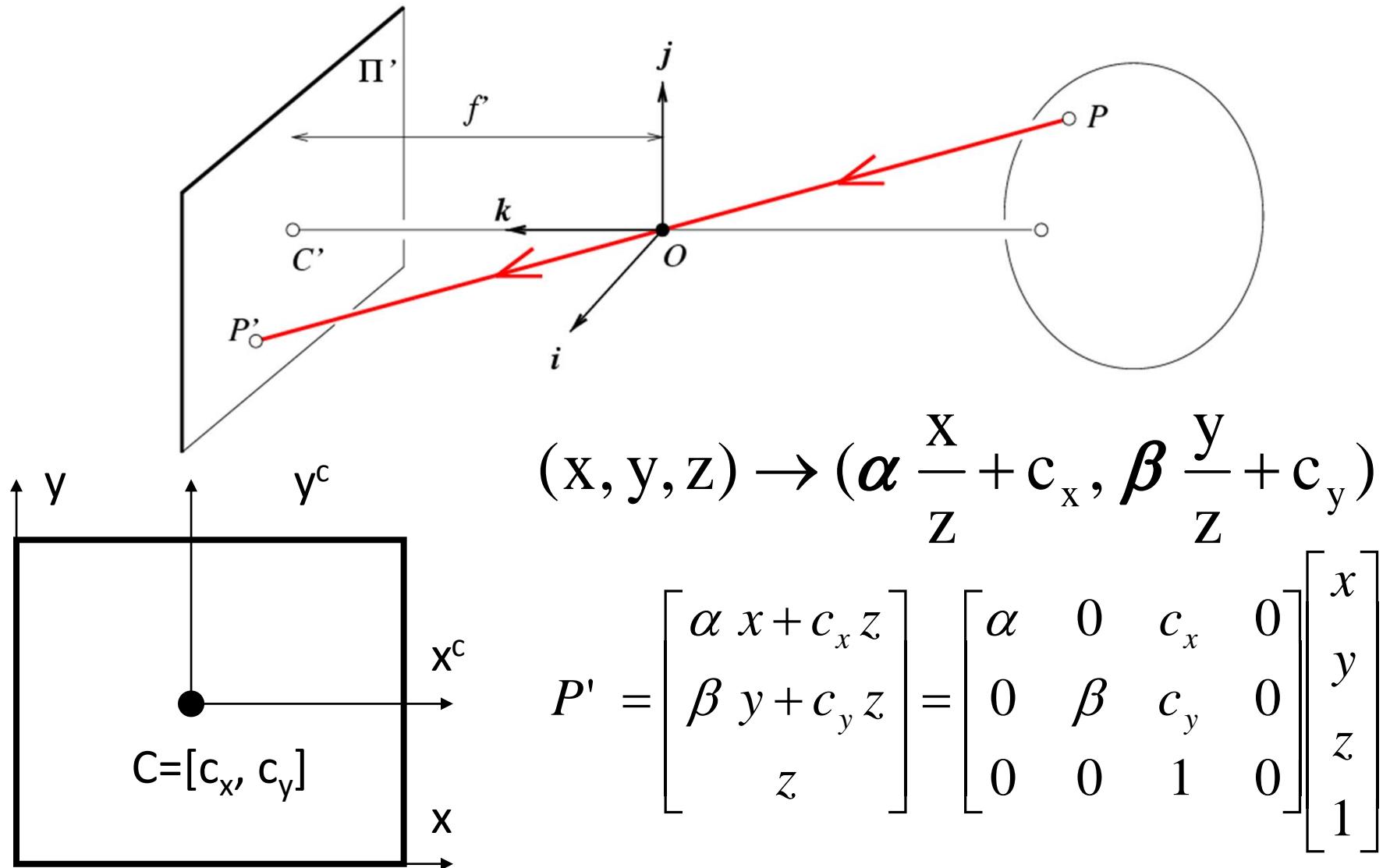
Units:  $k, l$  : pixel/m  
 $f$  : m

Non-square pixels  
 $\alpha, \beta$  : pixel

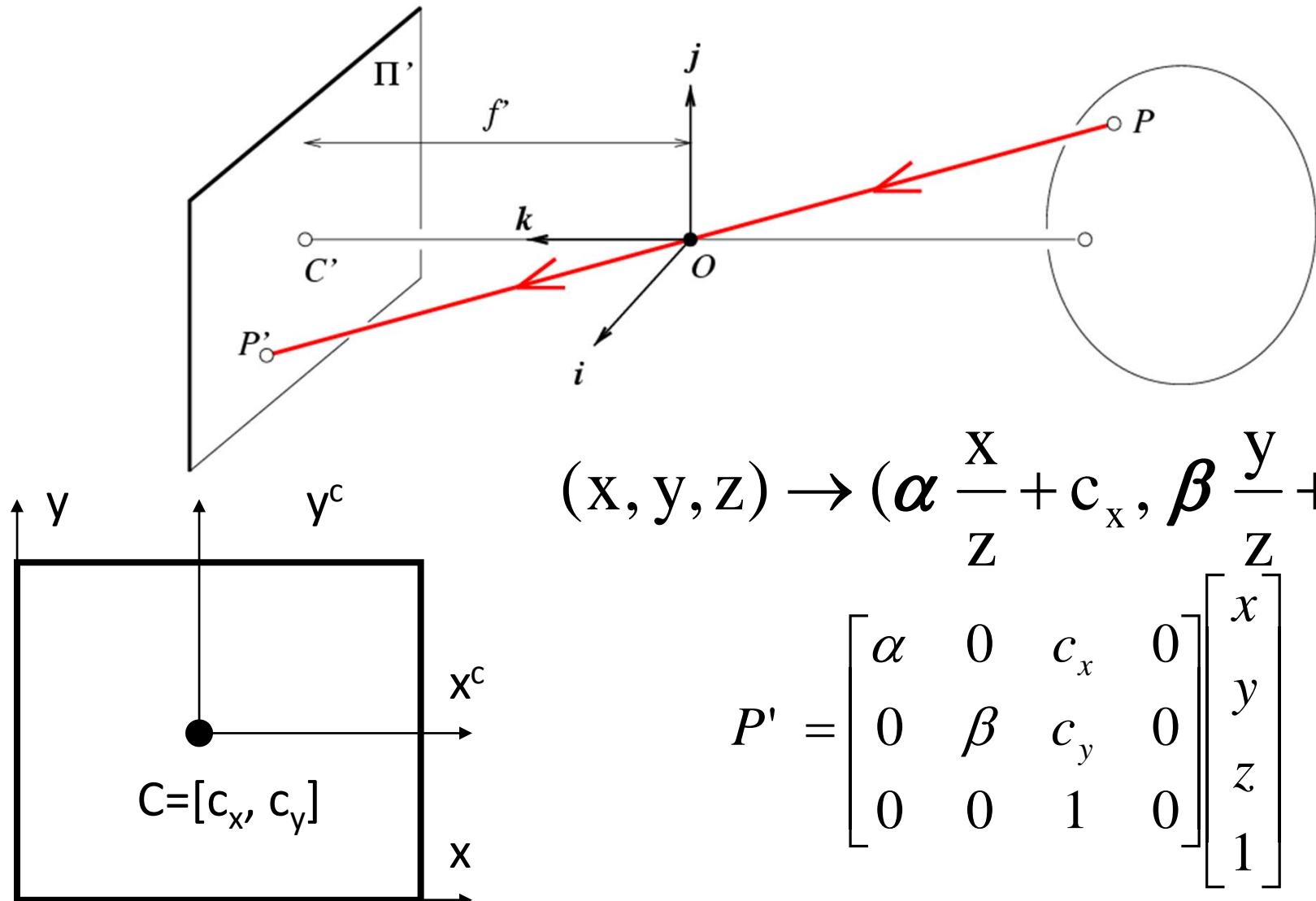
# From retina plane to images



# Camera matrix



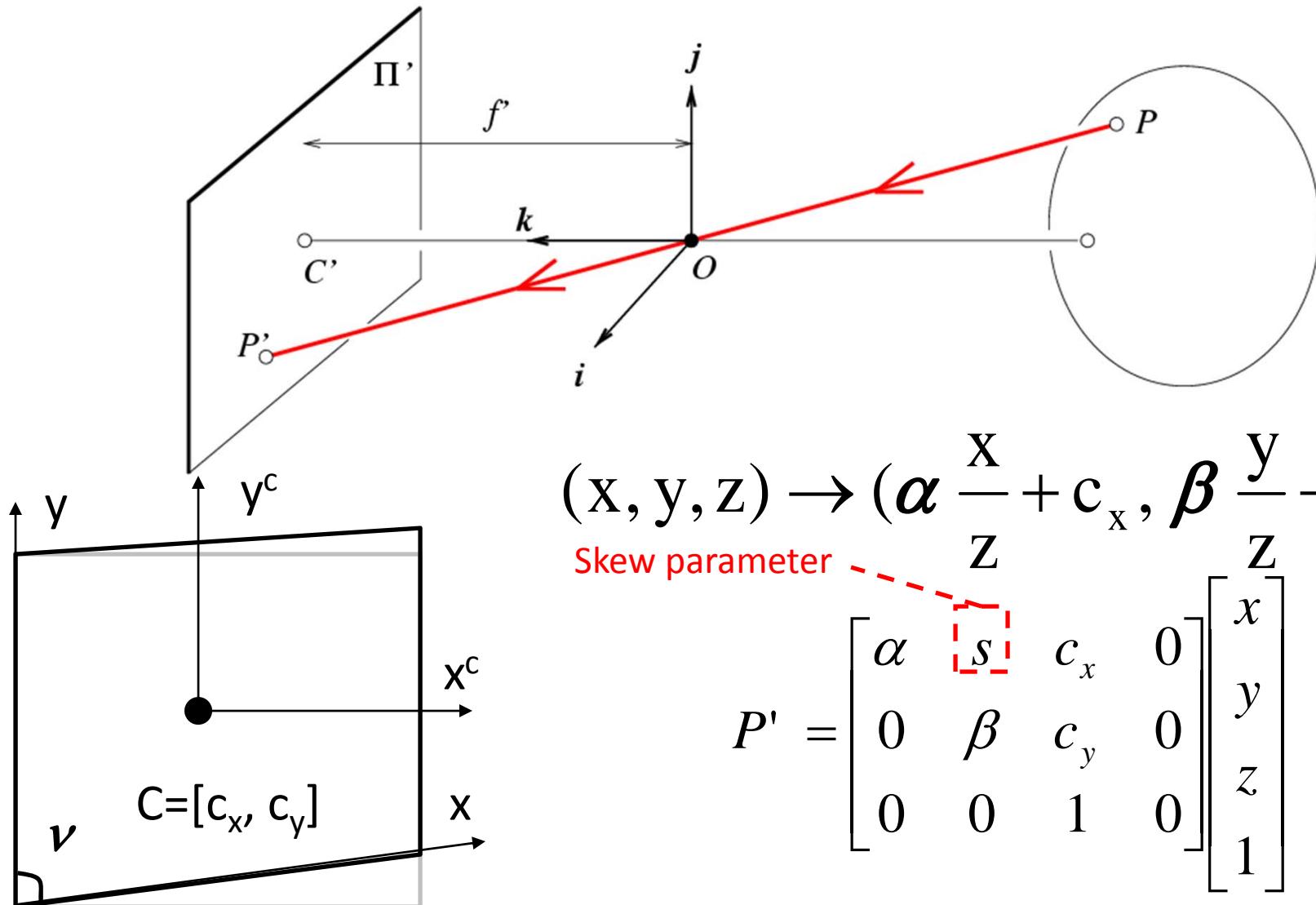
# Camera matrix



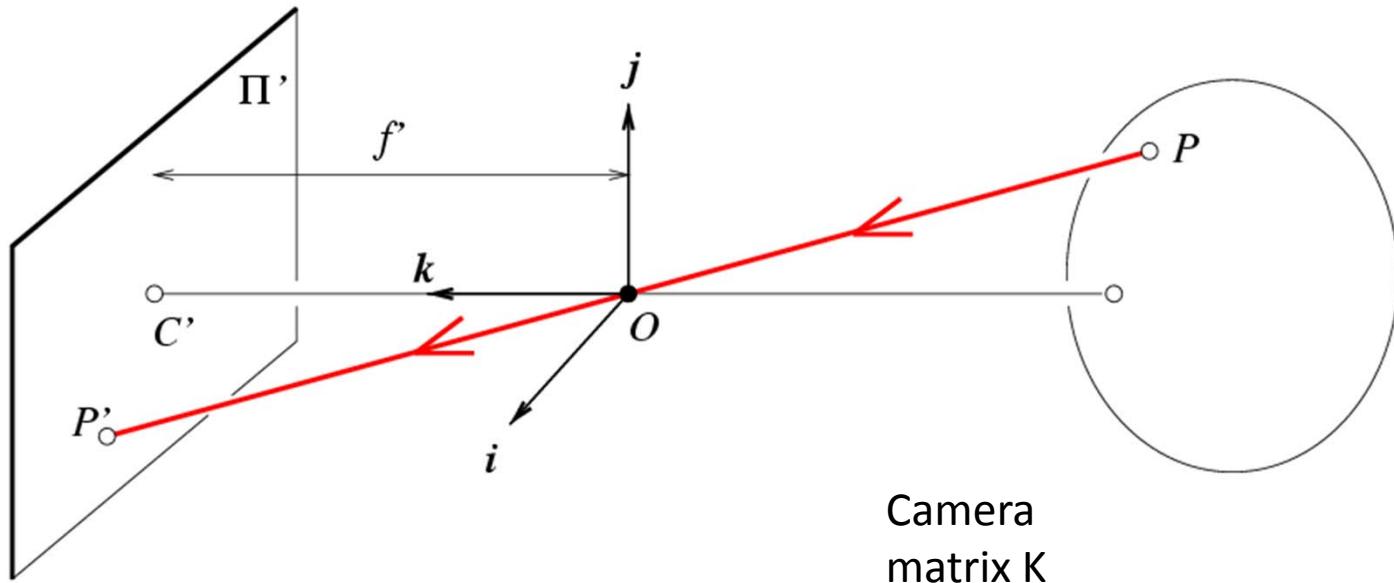
$$(x, y, z) \rightarrow (\alpha \frac{x}{z} + c_x, \beta \frac{y}{z} + c_y)$$

$$P' = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & 0 & c_x & 0 \\ 0 & \beta & c_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Camera matrix



# Camera matrix



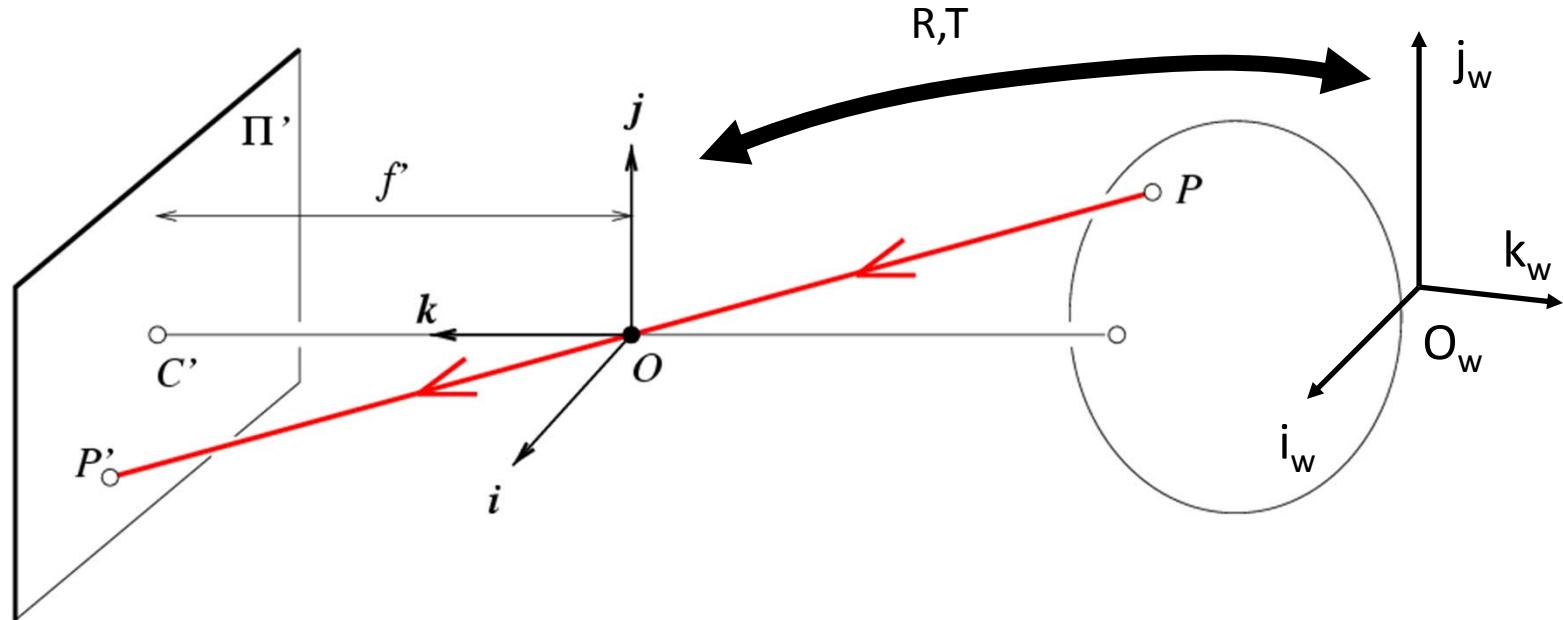
Camera  
matrix  $K$

$$\begin{aligned}P' &= M \ P \\&= K [I \quad 0] P\end{aligned}$$

$$P' = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & s & c_x & 0 \\ 0 & \beta & c_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

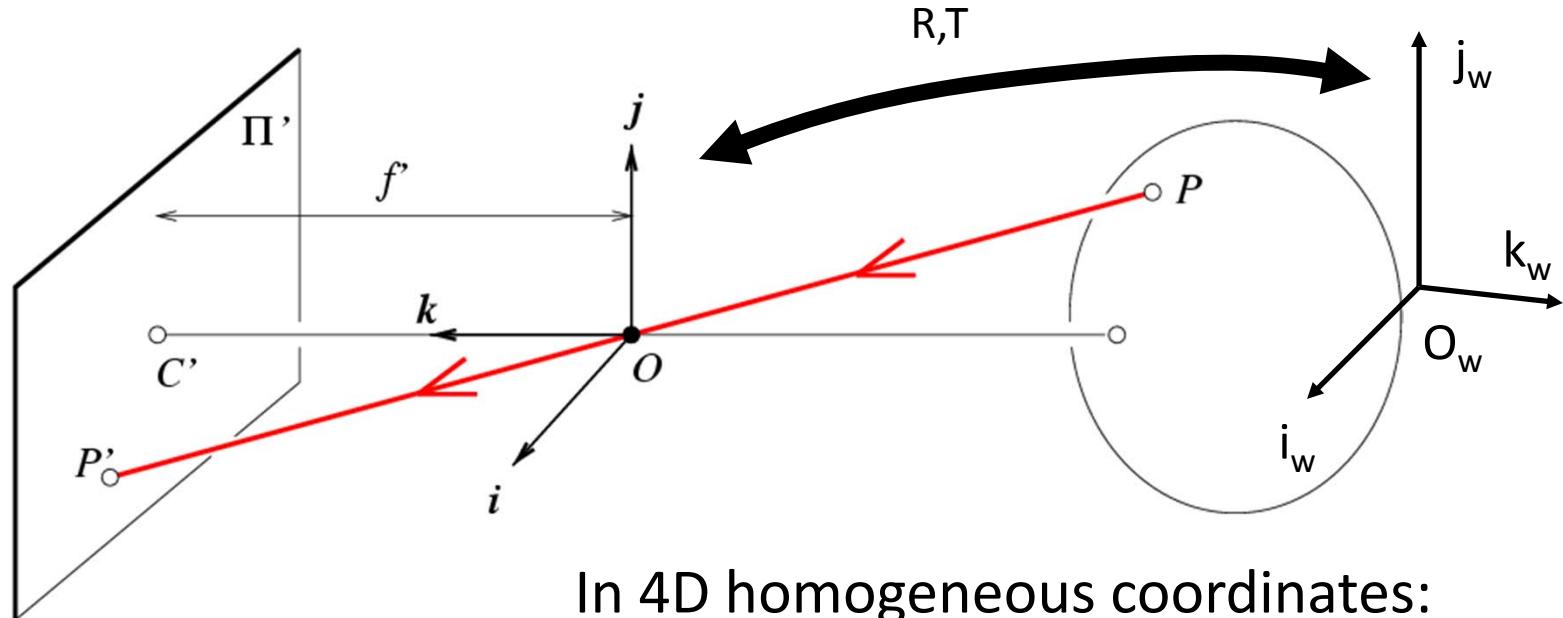
$K$  has 5 degrees of freedom!

# Camera & world reference system



- The mapping is defined within the camera reference system
- What if an object is represented in the world reference system?

# Camera & world reference system



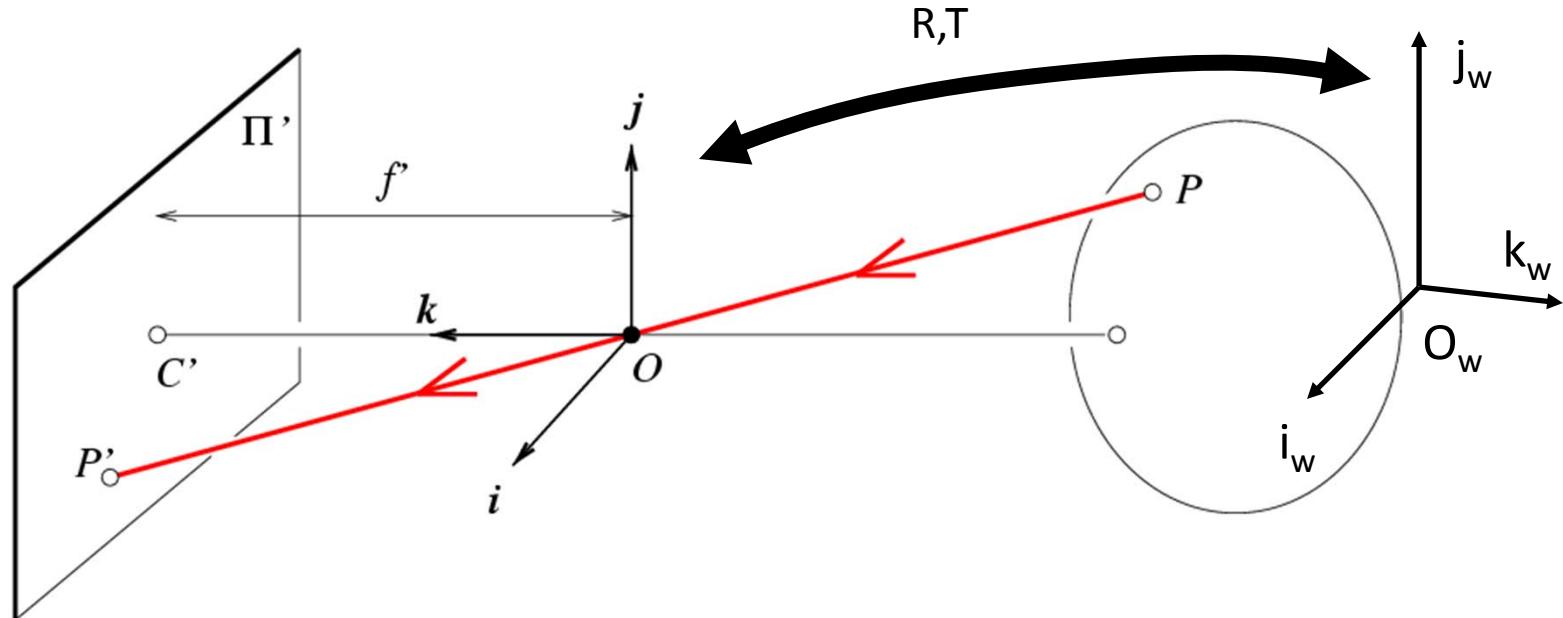
In 4D homogeneous coordinates:

$$P = [R \quad T] P_w$$

$$P' = M P_w = K [R \quad T] P_w$$

Internal parameters      External parameters

# Projective cameras



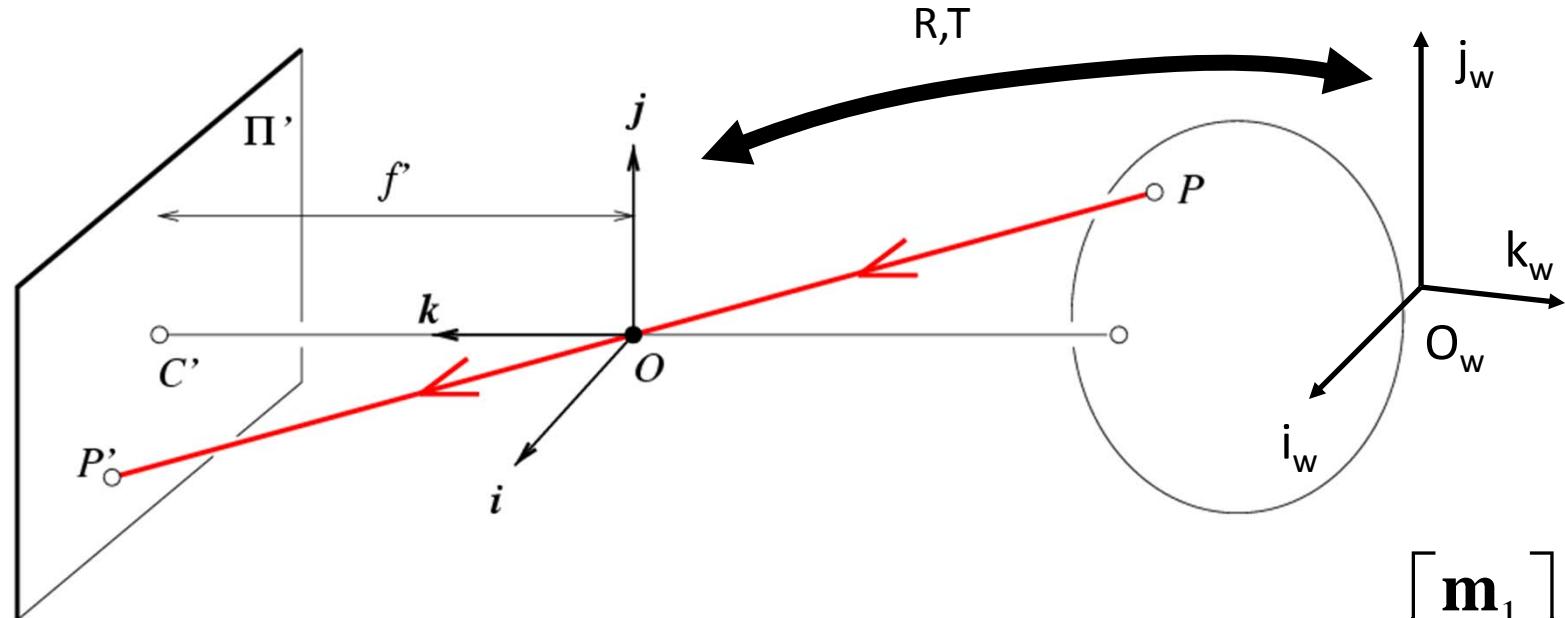
$$P'_{3 \times 1} = M \quad P_w = K_{3 \times 3} [R \quad T]_{3 \times 4} \quad P_{w4 \times 1}$$

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & s & c_x \\ 0 & \beta & c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

How many degrees of freedom?

$$5 + 3 + 3 = 11!$$

# Projective cameras



$$P'_{3 \times 1} = M \quad P_w = K_{3 \times 3} [R \quad T]_{3 \times 4} \quad P_{w4 \times 1}$$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{m}_1 \\ \mathbf{m}_2 \\ \mathbf{m}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(x, y, z)_w \rightarrow \left( \frac{\mathbf{m}_1 P_w}{\mathbf{m}_3 P_w}, \frac{\mathbf{m}_2 P_w}{\mathbf{m}_3 P_w} \right)$$

$M$  is defined up to scale!  
Multiplying  $M$  by a scalar  
won't change the image

# Theorem (Faugeras, 1993)

$$M = K \begin{bmatrix} R & T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} K R & K T \end{bmatrix} = [A \quad b]$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \mathbf{a}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{A} \quad \mathbf{b})$  be a  $3 \times 4$  matrix and let  $\mathbf{a}_i^T$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) denote the rows of the matrix  $\mathcal{A}$  formed by the three leftmost columns of  $\mathcal{M}$ .

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & s & c_x \\ 0 & \beta & c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- A necessary and sufficient condition for  $\mathcal{M}$  to be a perspective projection matrix is that  $\text{Det}(\mathcal{A}) \neq 0$ .
- A necessary and sufficient condition for  $\mathcal{M}$  to be a zero-skew perspective projection matrix is that  $\text{Det}(\mathcal{A}) \neq 0$  and

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha} = f \ k; \\ \boldsymbol{\beta} = f \ l$$

$$(\mathbf{a}_1 \times \mathbf{a}_3) \cdot (\mathbf{a}_2 \times \mathbf{a}_3) = 0.$$

- A necessary and sufficient condition for  $\mathcal{M}$  to be a perspective projection matrix with zero skew and unit aspect-ratio is that  $\text{Det}(\mathcal{A}) \neq 0$  and

$$\begin{cases} (\mathbf{a}_1 \times \mathbf{a}_3) \cdot (\mathbf{a}_2 \times \mathbf{a}_3) = 0, \\ (\mathbf{a}_1 \times \mathbf{a}_3) \cdot (\mathbf{a}_1 \times \mathbf{a}_3) = (\mathbf{a}_2 \times \mathbf{a}_3) \cdot (\mathbf{a}_2 \times \mathbf{a}_3). \end{cases}$$

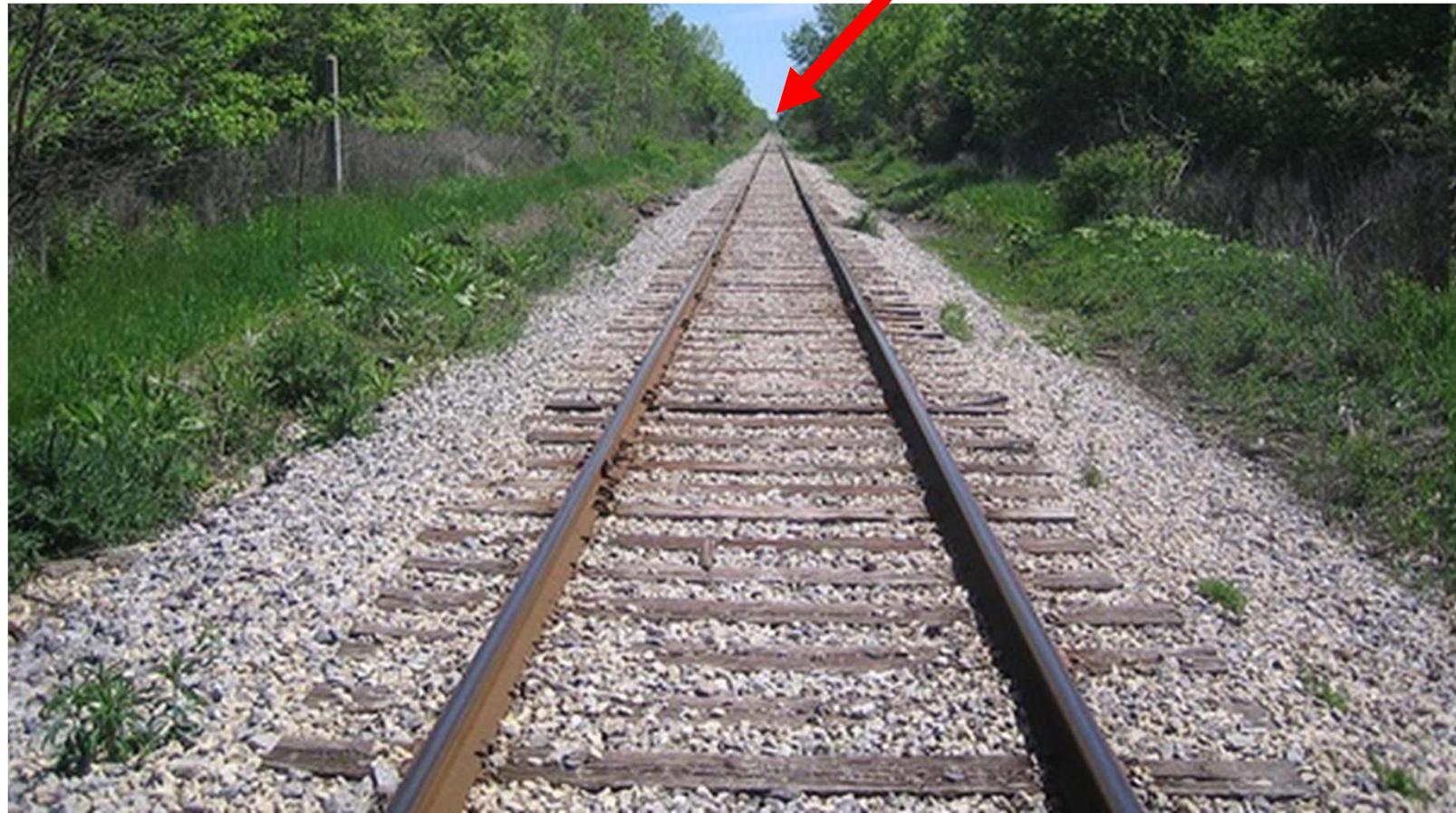
# Properties of Projection

- Points project to points
- Lines project to lines



# Properties of Projection

- Angles are not preserved
- Parallel lines meet



Vanishing point

# What we have learned today?

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