

# CSCE 448/748 - Computational Photography

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Stereo

Nima Kalantari

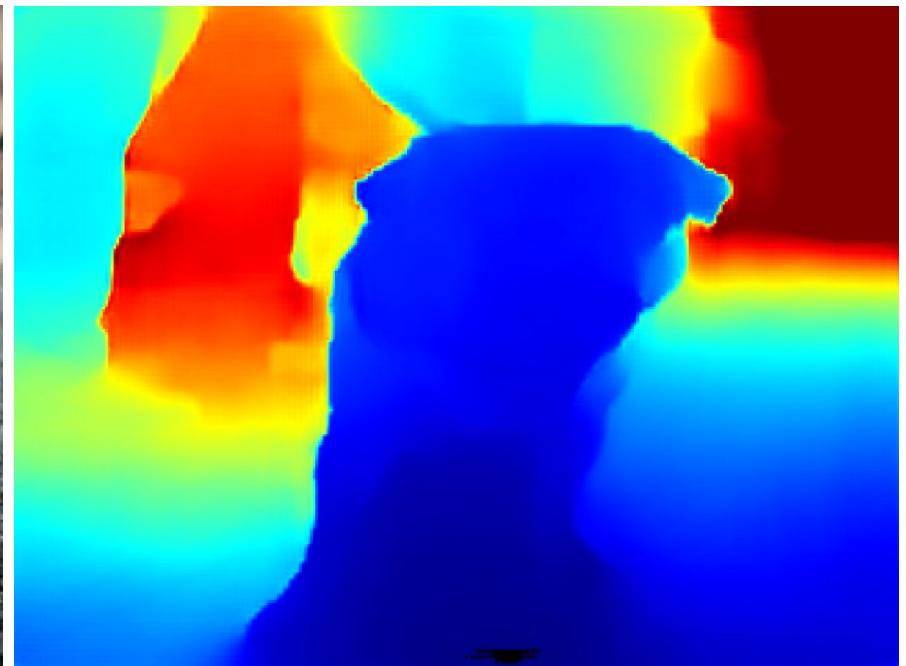
Many slides from Steve Seitz

# Depth of a scene



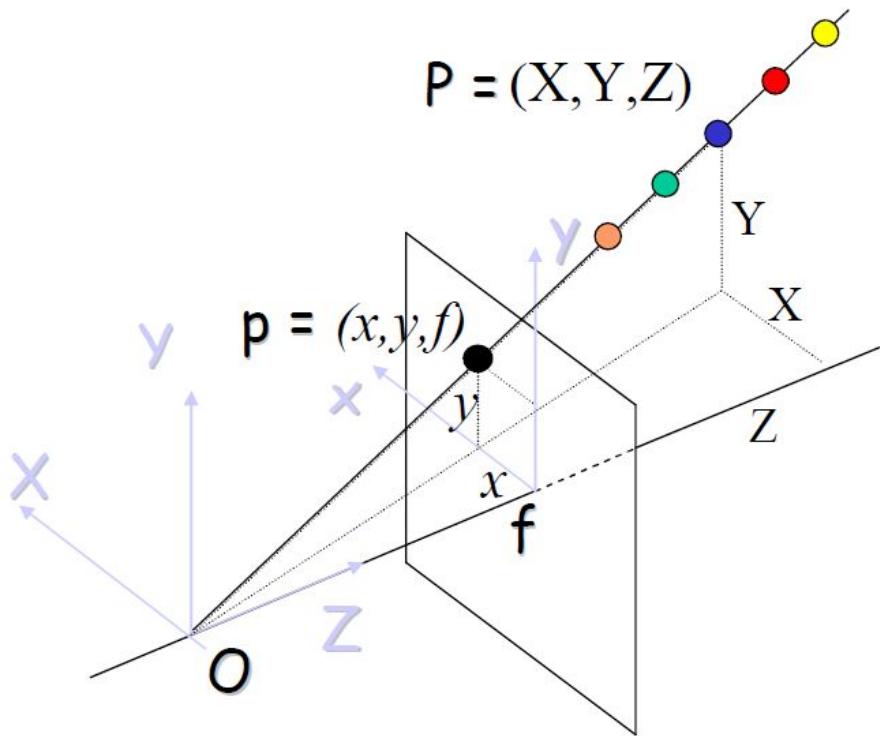
Credit: PetaPixel

# Depth of a scene



Credit: Li & Snavely

# Depth ambiguity



$$x = f \frac{X}{Z} = f \frac{kX}{kZ}$$

$$y = f \frac{Y}{Z} = f \frac{kY}{kZ}$$

**Fundamental Ambiguity:**  
Any point on the ray  $OP$  has image  $p$

# Depth ambiguity



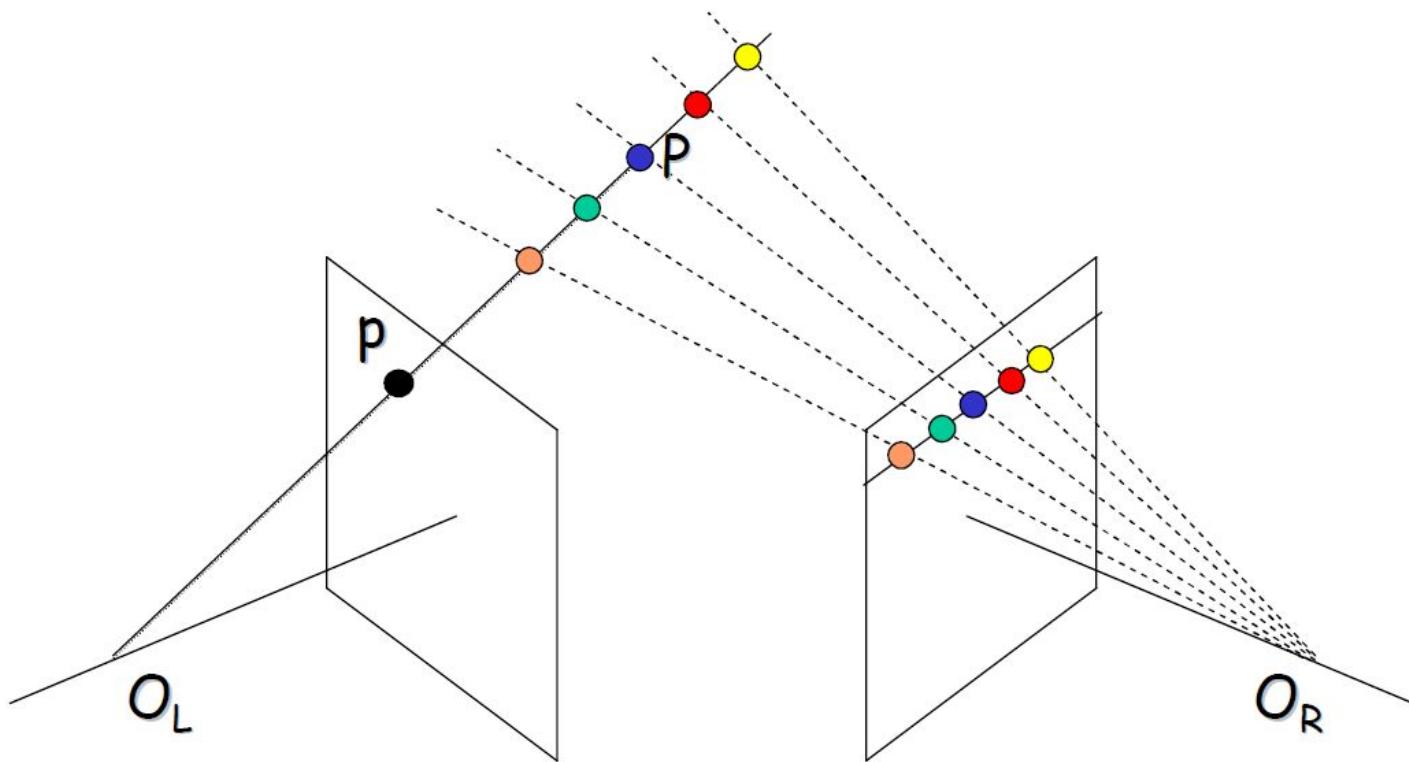
Images from Lana Lazebnik

# Forced Perspective



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWMFpxkGO\\_s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWMFpxkGO_s)

# Why Stereo Vision?



A second camera can resolve the ambiguity,  
enabling measurement of depth via triangulation.

# Stereo Vision

- Not that important for humans, especially at longer distances. Perhaps 10% of people are stereo blind.
- Many animals don't have much stereo overlap in their fields of view



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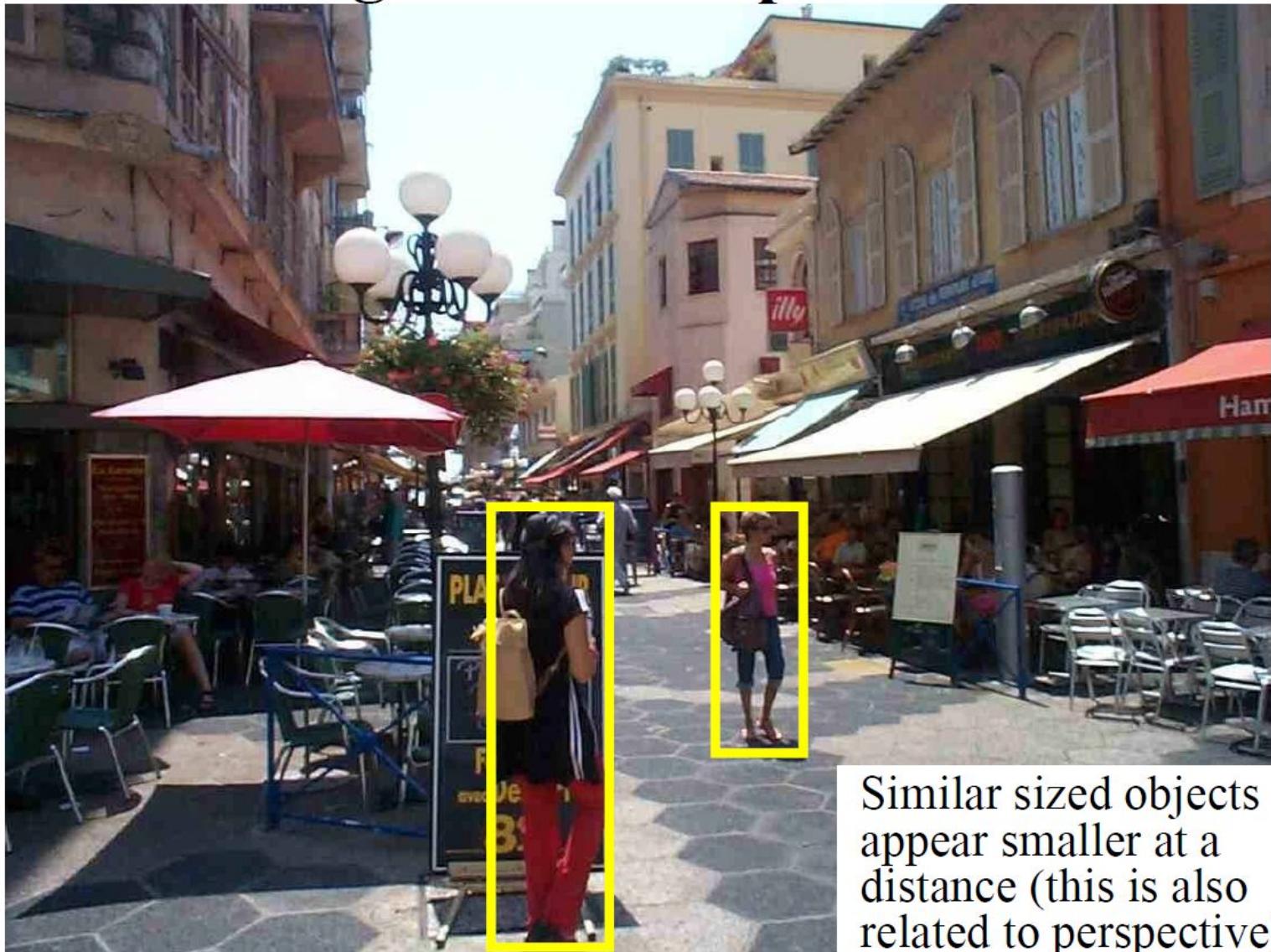
What cues help us to perceive 3d shape and depth?

# Higher-level Depth Cues



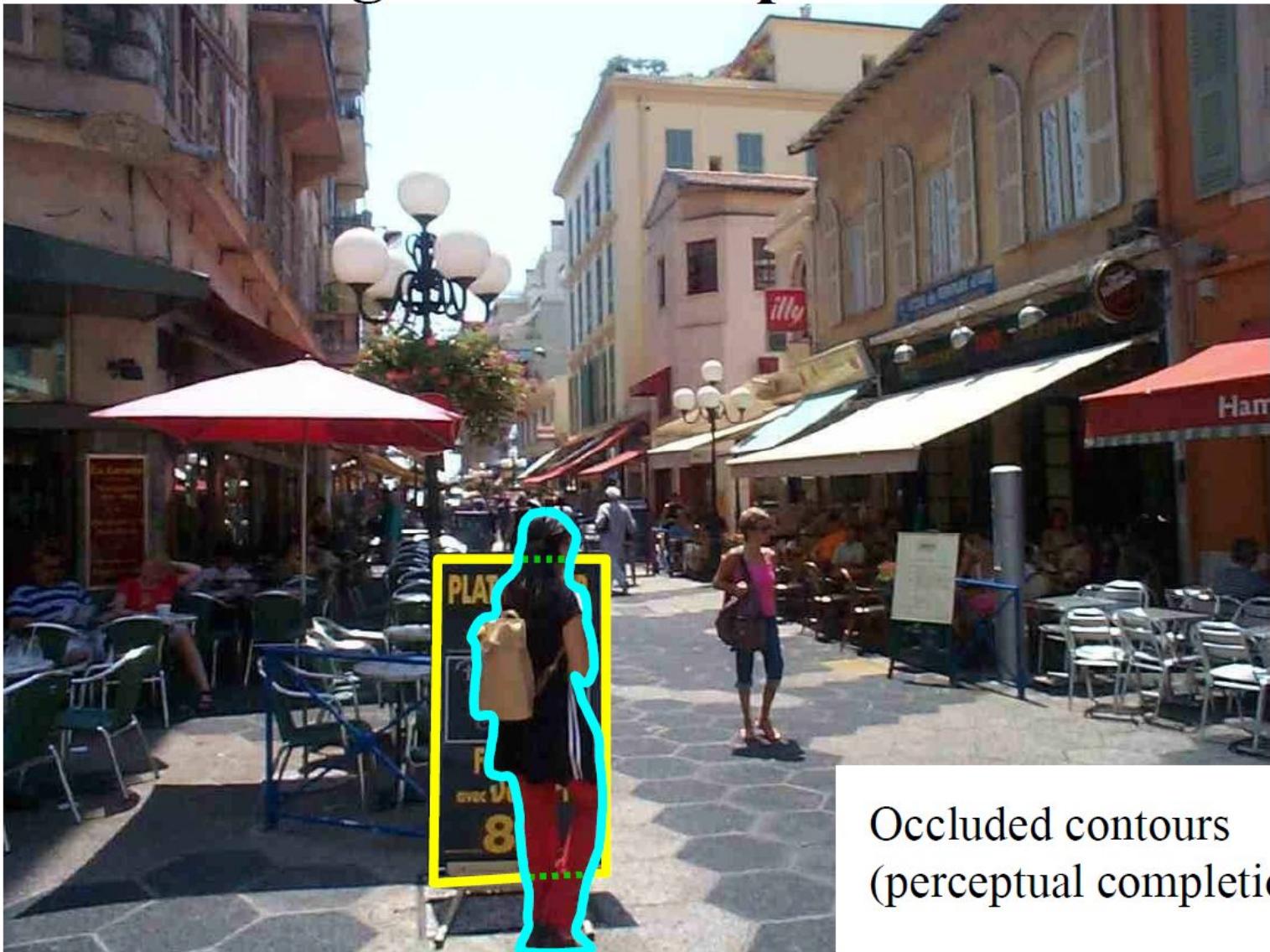
Perspective  
(vanishing points)

# Higher-level Depth Cues



Similar sized objects appear smaller at a distance (this is also related to perspective)

# Higher-level Depth Cues



Occluded contours  
(perceptual completion)

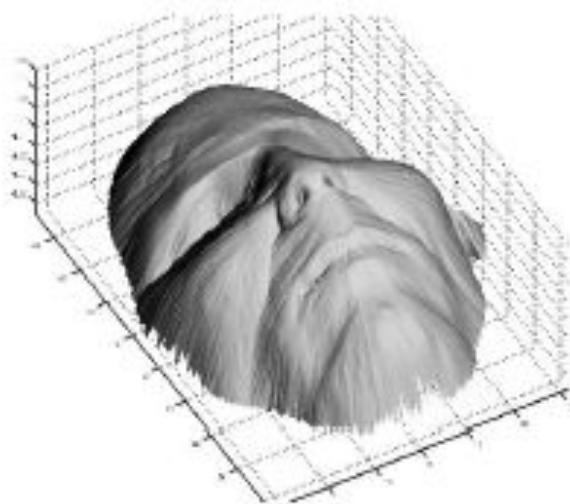
# Shading



a)



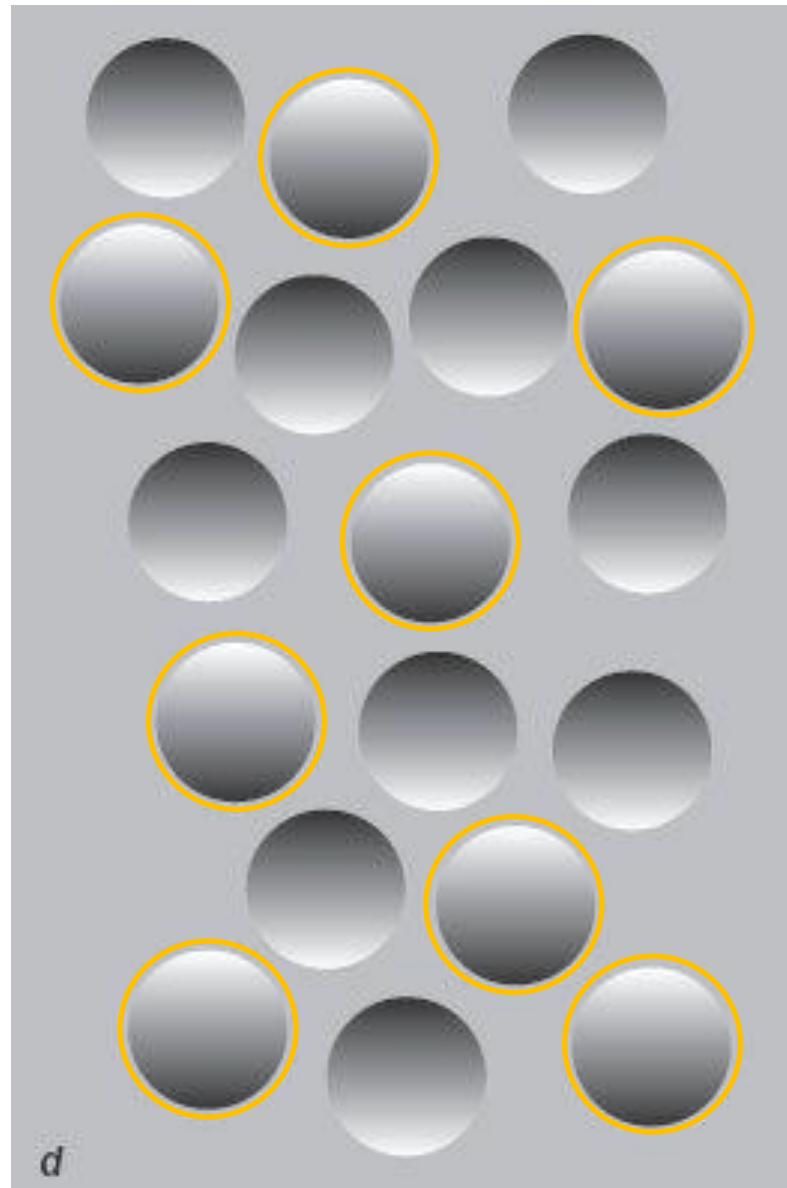
b)



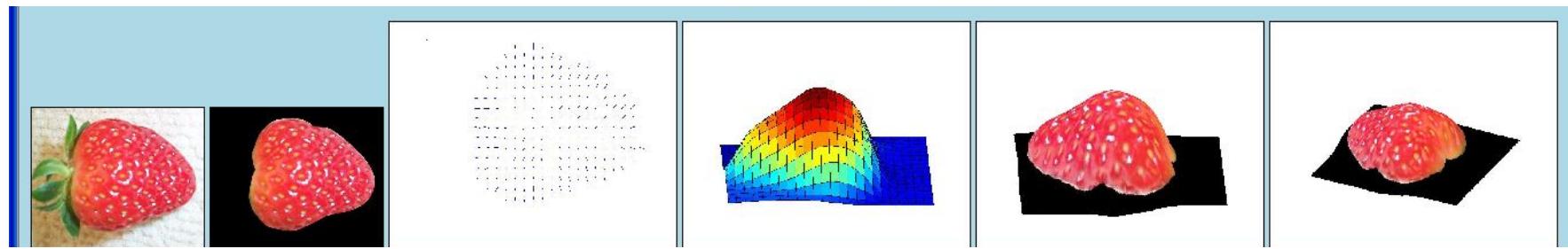
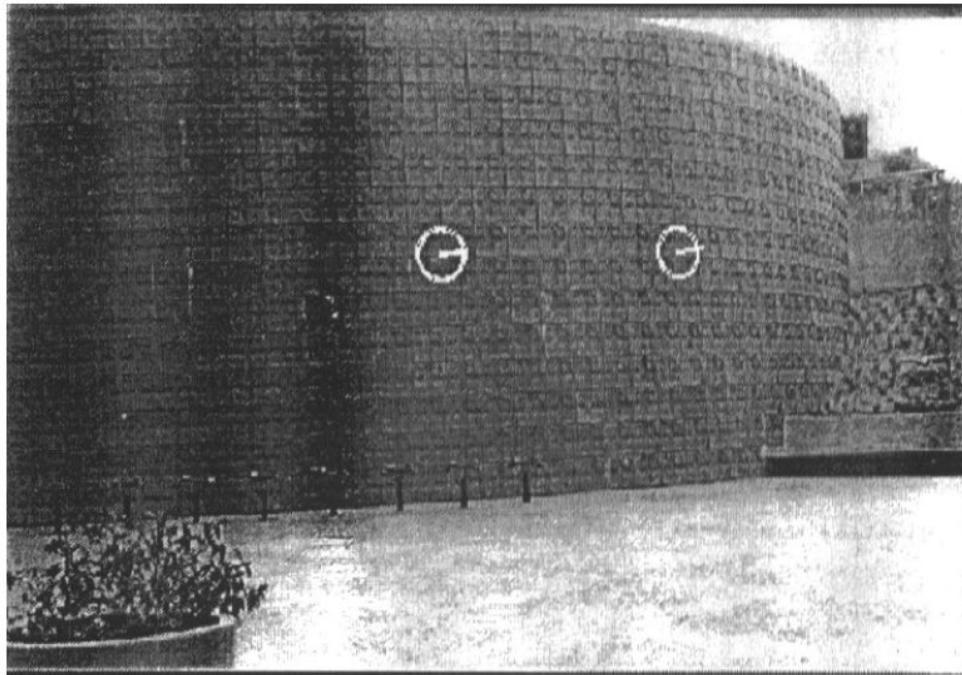
c)

[Figure from Prados & Faugeras 2006]

# Shading

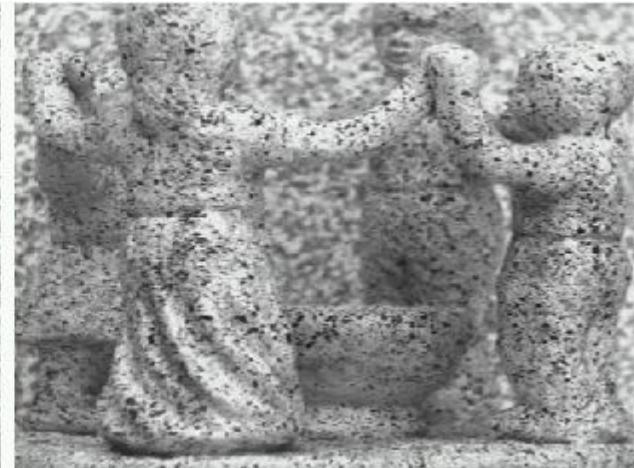


# Texture

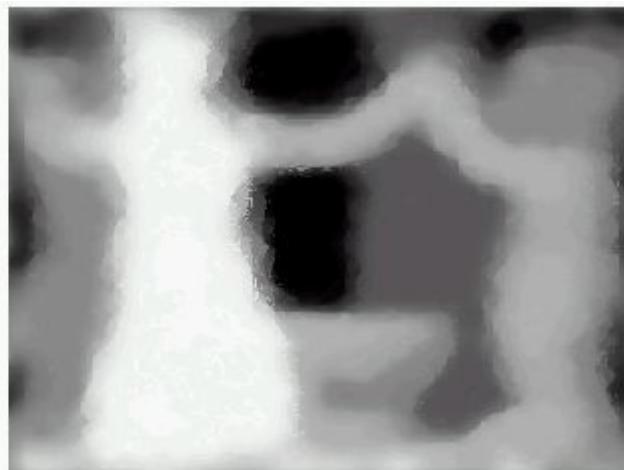
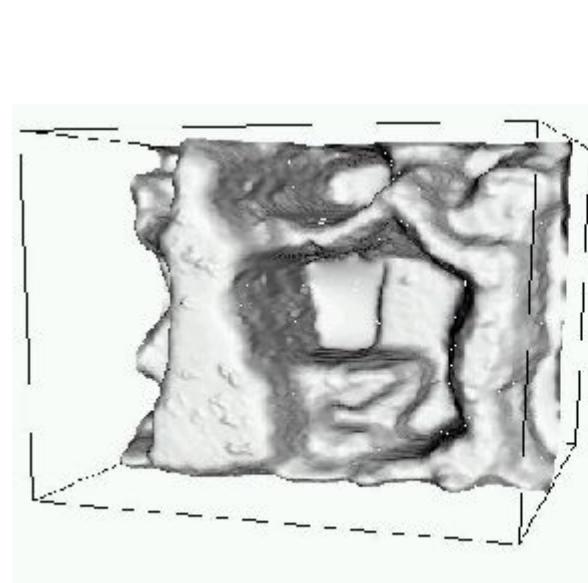


[From [A.M. Loh. The recovery of 3-D structure using visual texture patterns. PhD thesis](#)]

# Focus/defocus

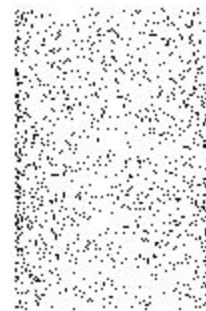


Images from  
same point of  
view, different  
camera  
parameters



3d shape / depth  
estimates

# Motion

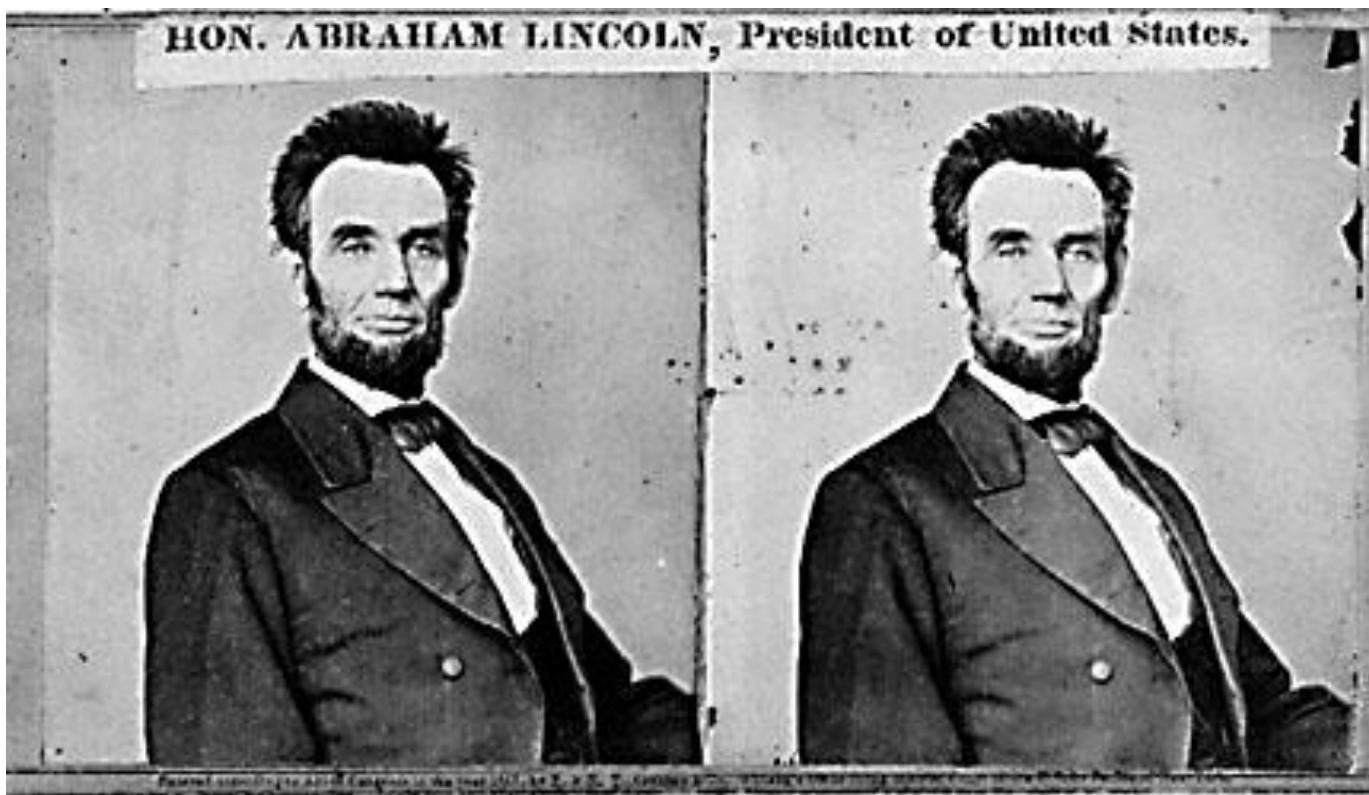


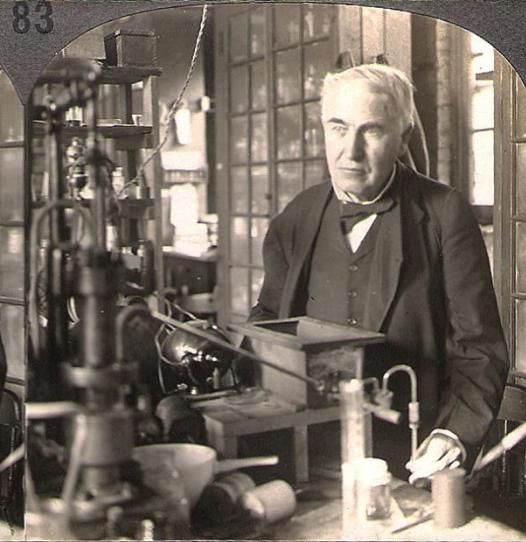
# Stereo photography



Invented by Charles Wheatstone 1838

# Stereo photography





V28007 Most Famous Inventor of the Age, Thomas A. Edison in His Laboratory.

83

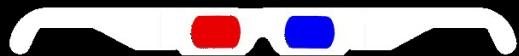
Meadville, Pa., New York, N.Y.,  
Chicago, Ill., London, England.



15



Public Library, Stereoscopic Looking Room, Chicago, by Phillips, 1923



# Basic Idea

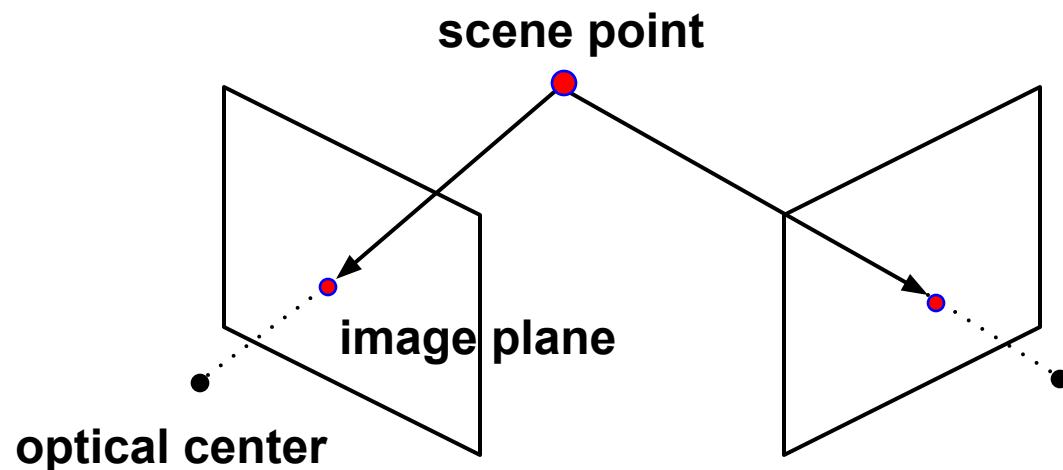


Credit: [https://people.well.com/user/jimg/stereo/stereo\\_list.html](https://people.well.com/user/jimg/stereo/stereo_list.html)



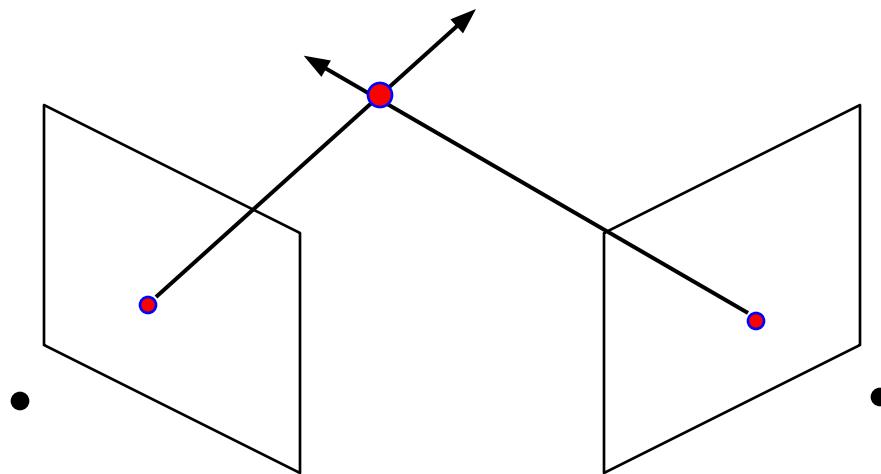
# Stereo

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# Stereo

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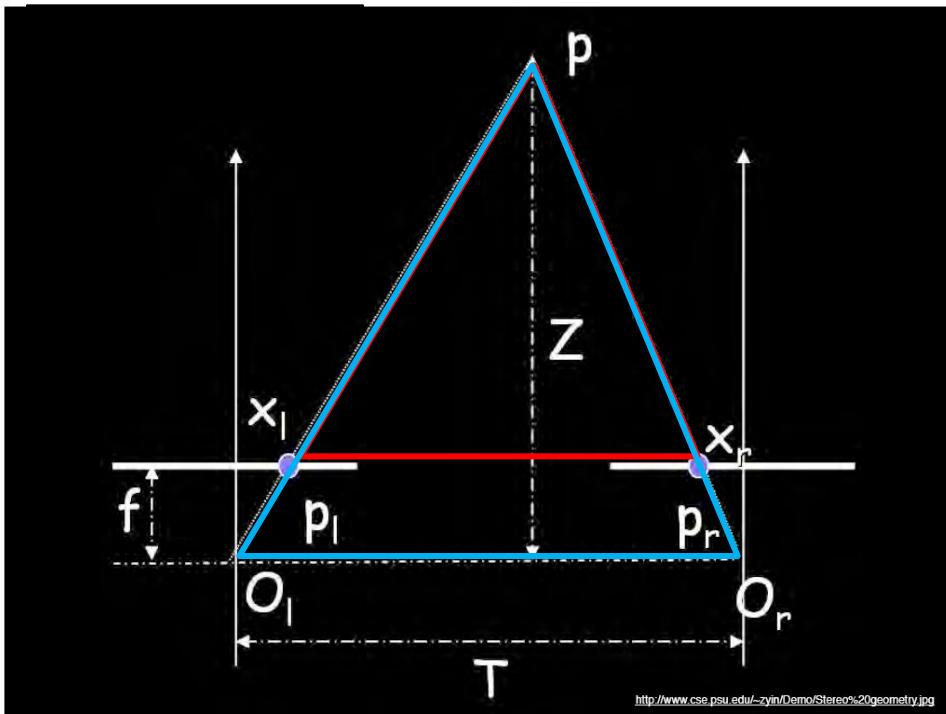


## Basic Principle: Triangulation

- Gives reconstruction as intersection of two rays
- Requires
  - camera pose (calibration)
  - *point correspondence*

# Geometry for a simple stereo system

Assume parallel optical axes, known camera parameters (i.e., calibrated cameras). **What is expression for Z?**



Similar triangles ( $p_l, P, p_r$ ) and ( $O_l, P, O_r$ ):

$$\frac{T - x_l + x_r}{Z - f} = \frac{T}{Z}$$

$$Z = f \frac{T}{x_l - x_r}$$

disparity

# Depth from disparity

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image  $I(x,y)$



Disparity map  $D(x,y)$

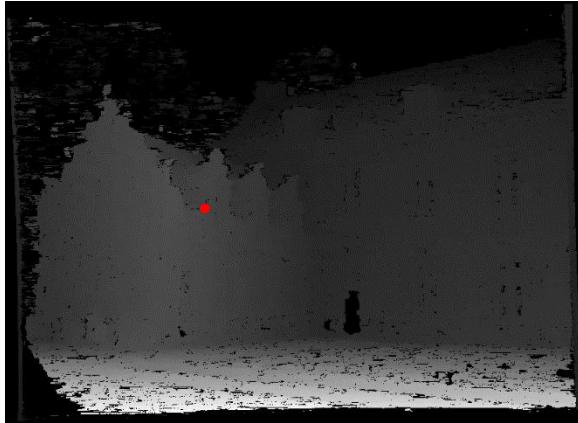


image  $I'(x',y')$

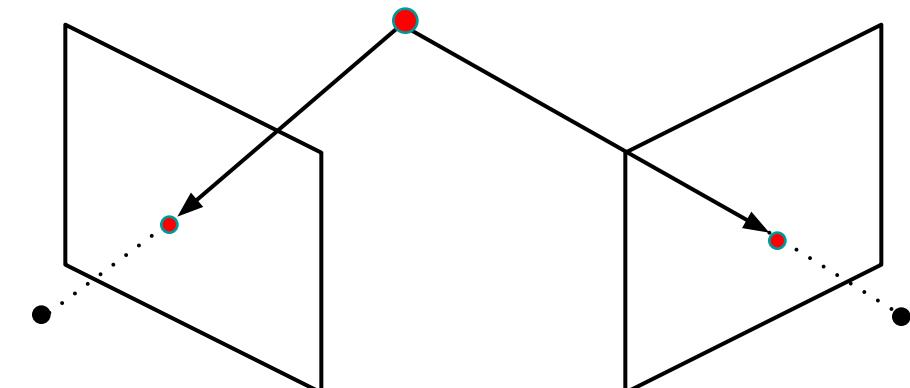
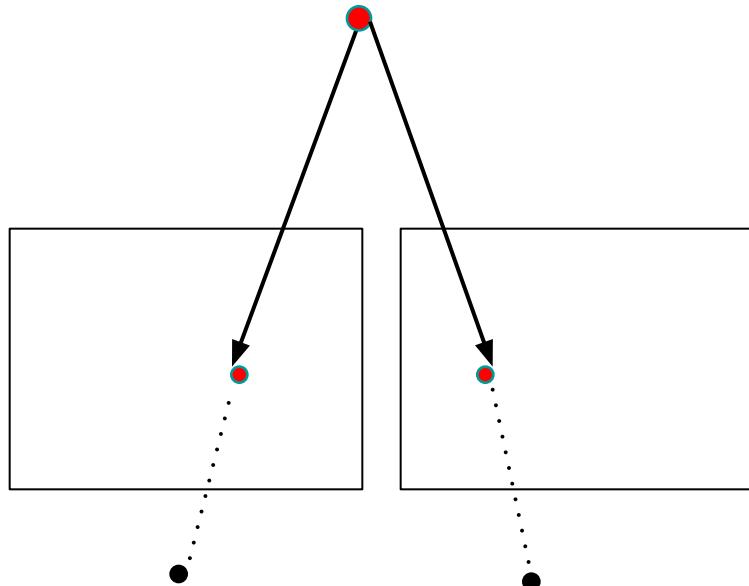


$$(x', y') = (x + D(x, y), y)$$

So if we could find the **corresponding points** in two images,  
we could **estimate relative depth**...

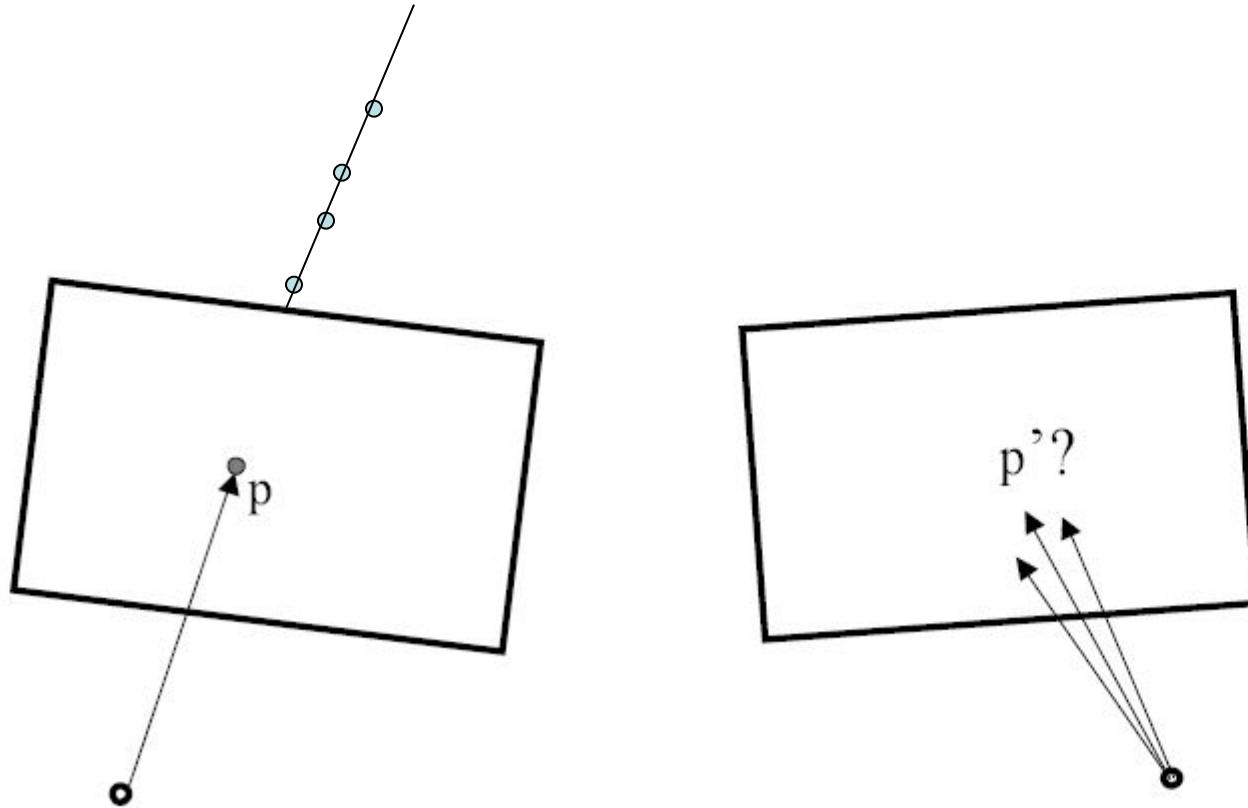
# General case, with calibrated cameras

- The two cameras need not have parallel optical axes.



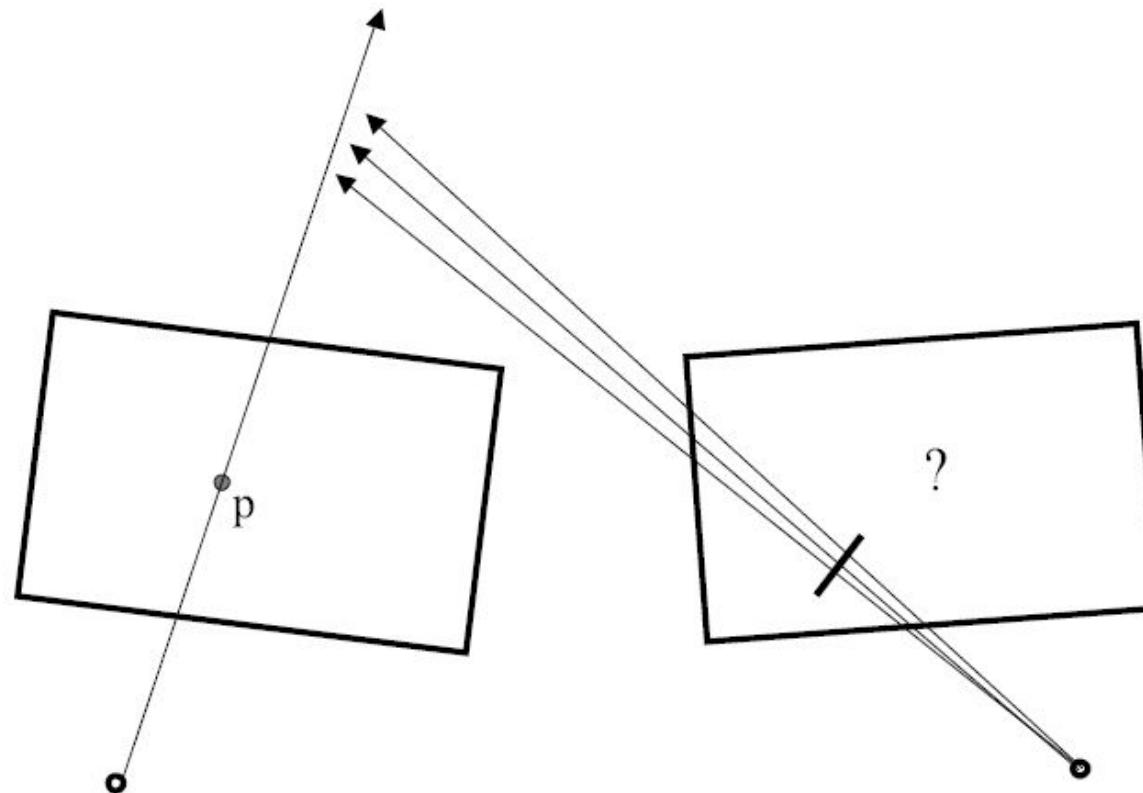
Vs.

# Stereo correspondence constraints

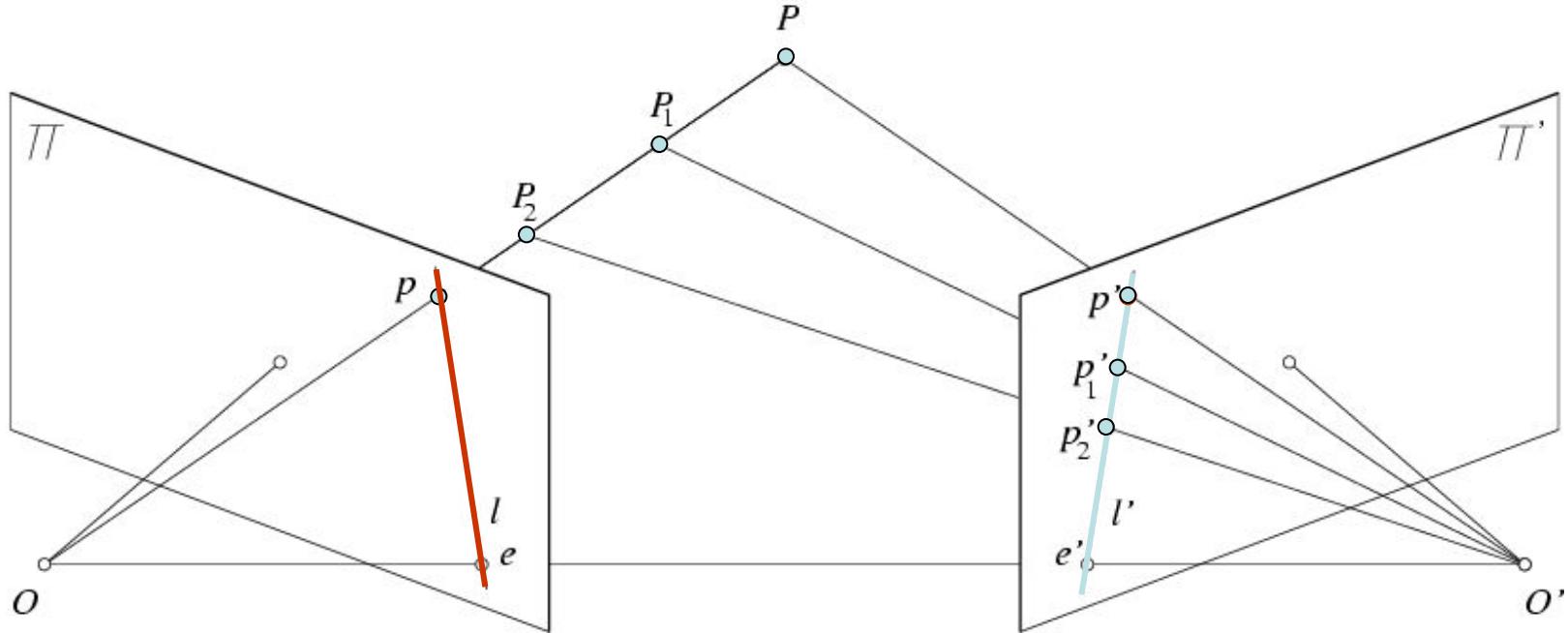


- Given  $p$  in left image, where can corresponding point  $p'$  be?

# Stereo correspondence constraints



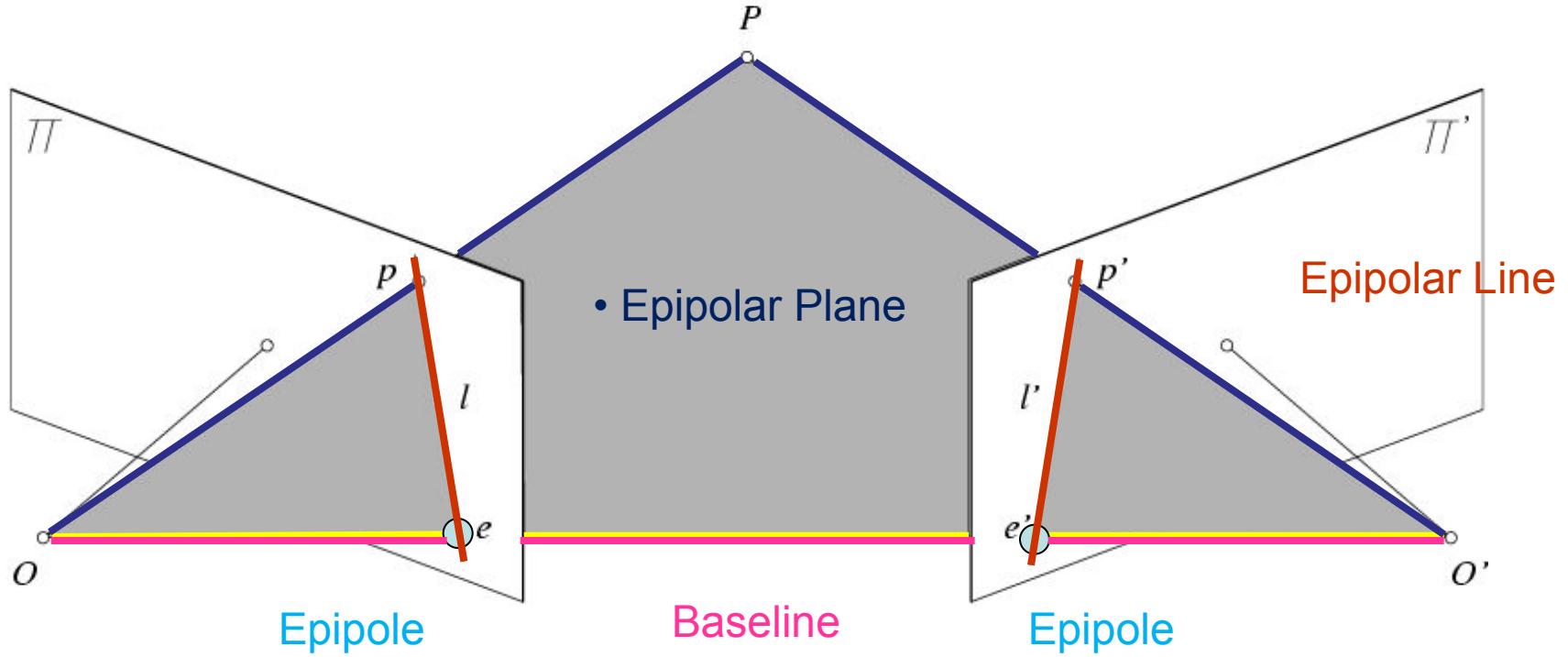
# Epipolar constraint



Geometry of two views constrains where the corresponding pixel for some image point in the first view must occur in the second view.

- It must be on the line carved out by a plane connecting the world point and optical centers.

# Epipolar geometry



~~Epipolar point of interest from one camera lies within the image plane of the other camera~~

# Epipolar constraint



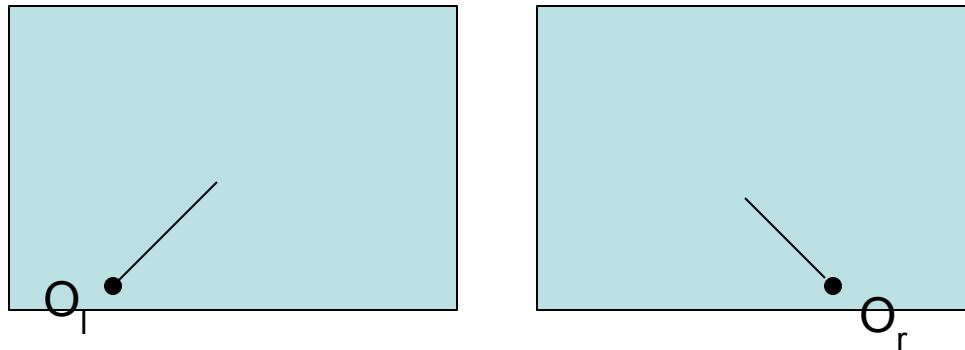
This is useful because it reduces the correspondence problem to a 1D search along an epipolar line.

# Example

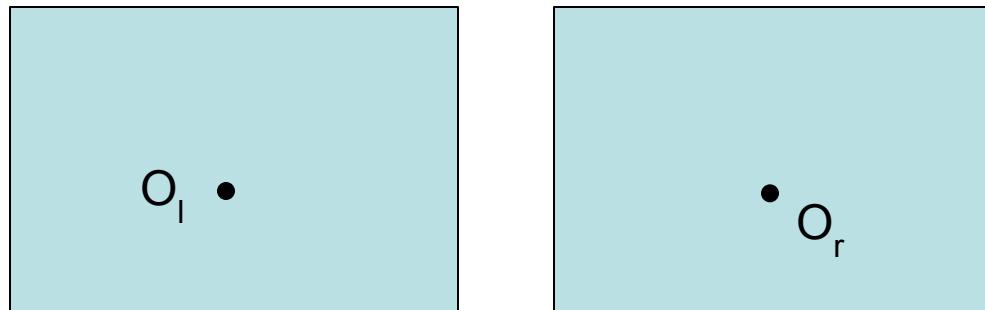


# What do the epipolar lines look like?

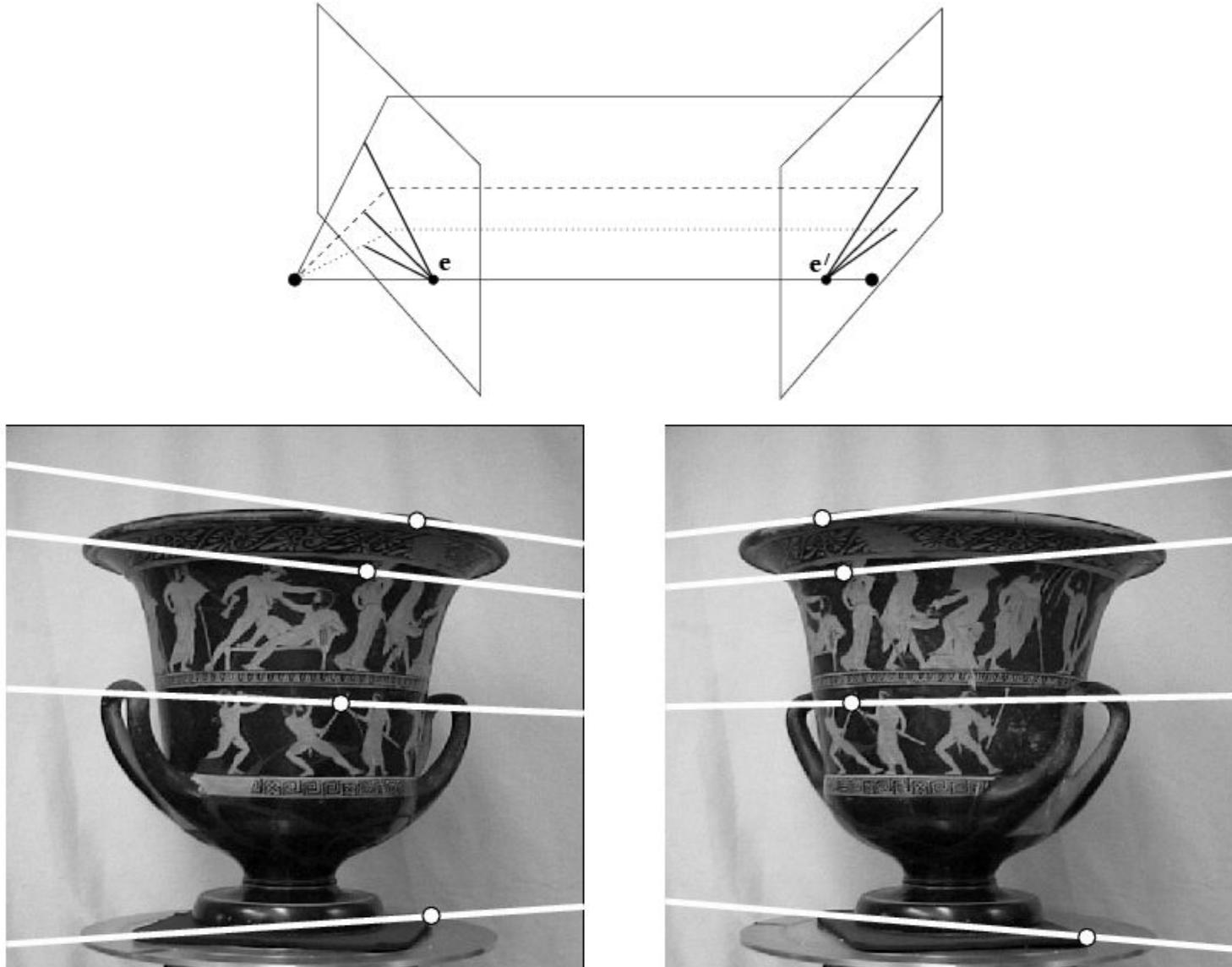
1.



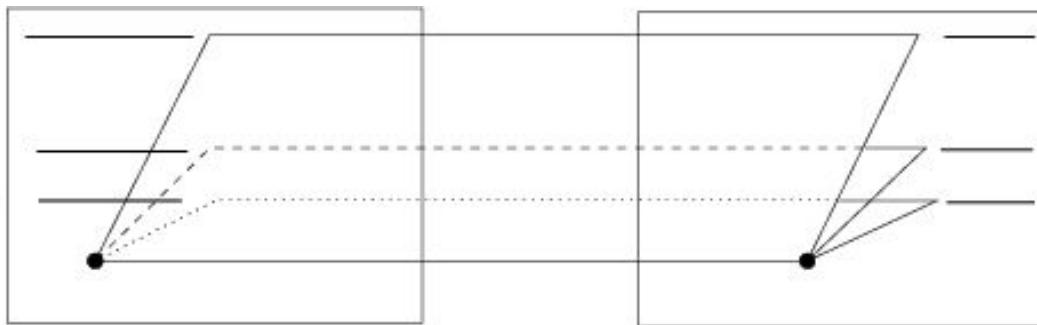
2.



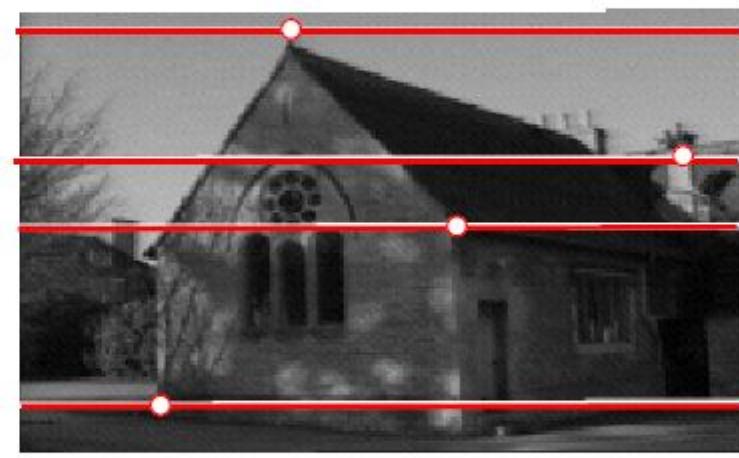
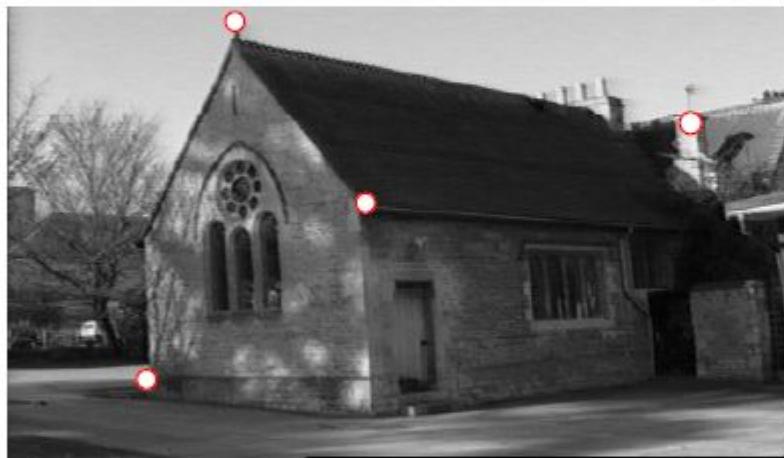
# Example: converging cameras



# Example: parallel cameras



Where are the epipoles?



# The correspondence problem

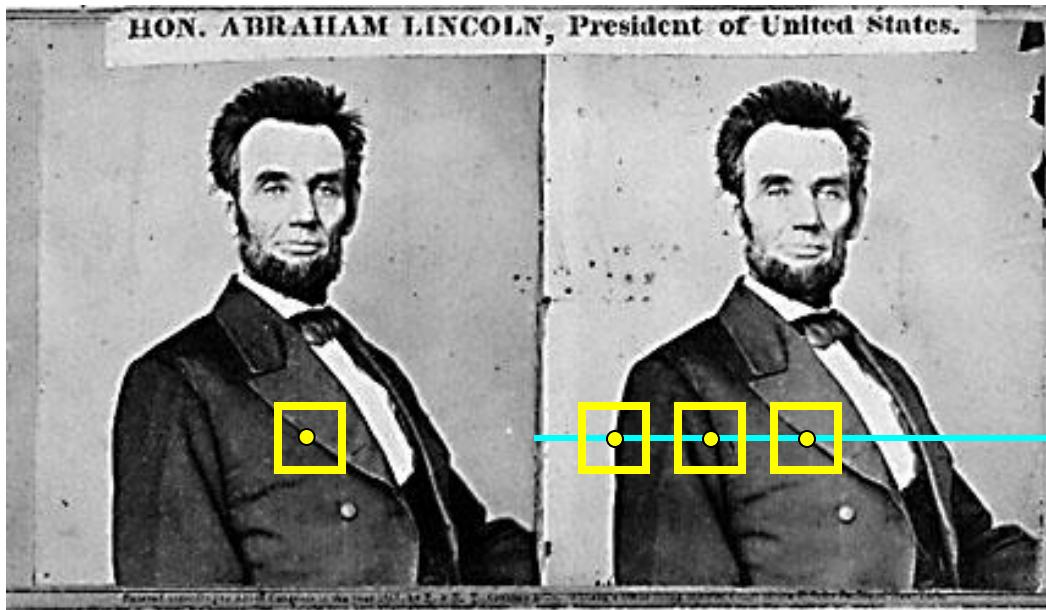
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Epipolar geometry constrains our search, but we still have a difficult correspondence problem.



# Basic stereo matching algorithm

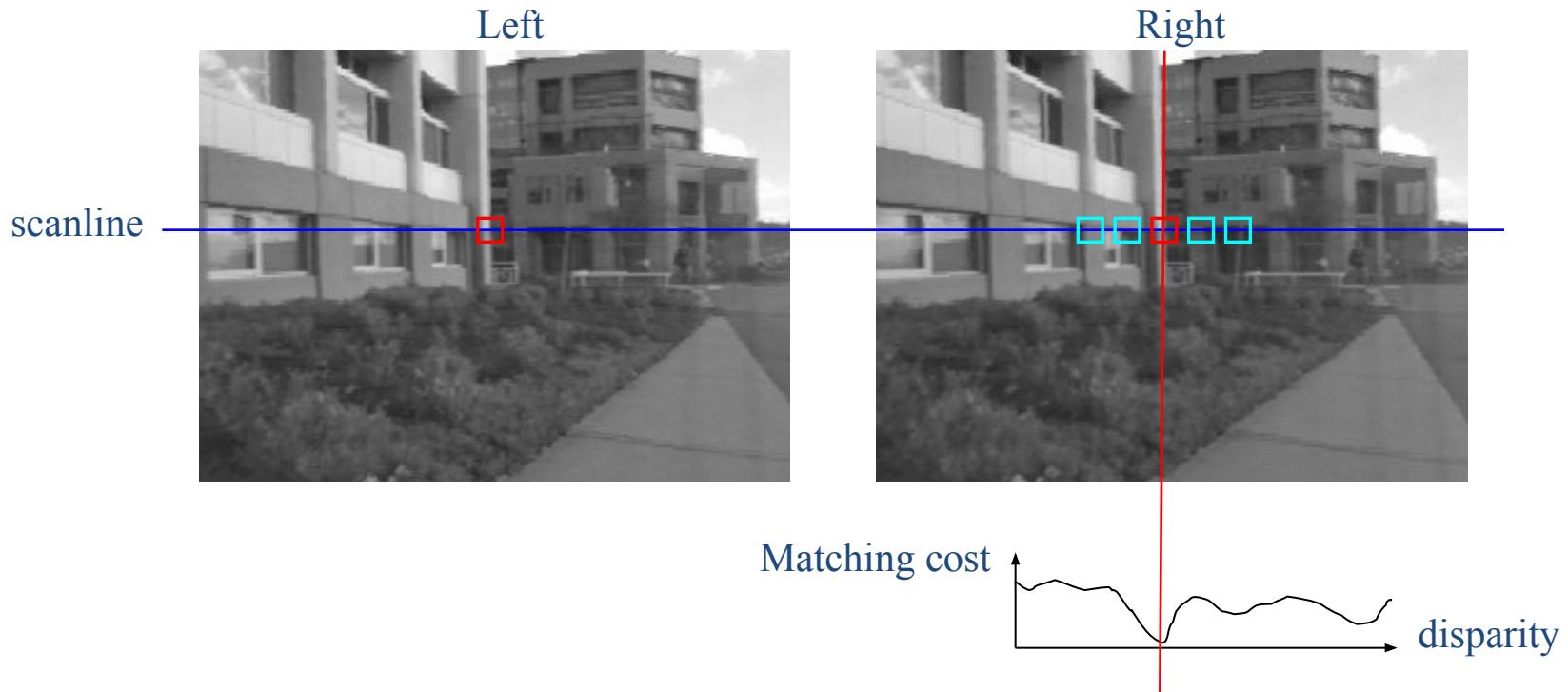
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- For each pixel  $x$  in the first image
  - Find corresponding epipolar scanline in the right image
  - Examine all pixels on the scanline and pick the best match  $x'$
  - Compute disparity  $x-x'$  and set  $\text{depth}(x) = fB/(x-x')$

# Correspondence search

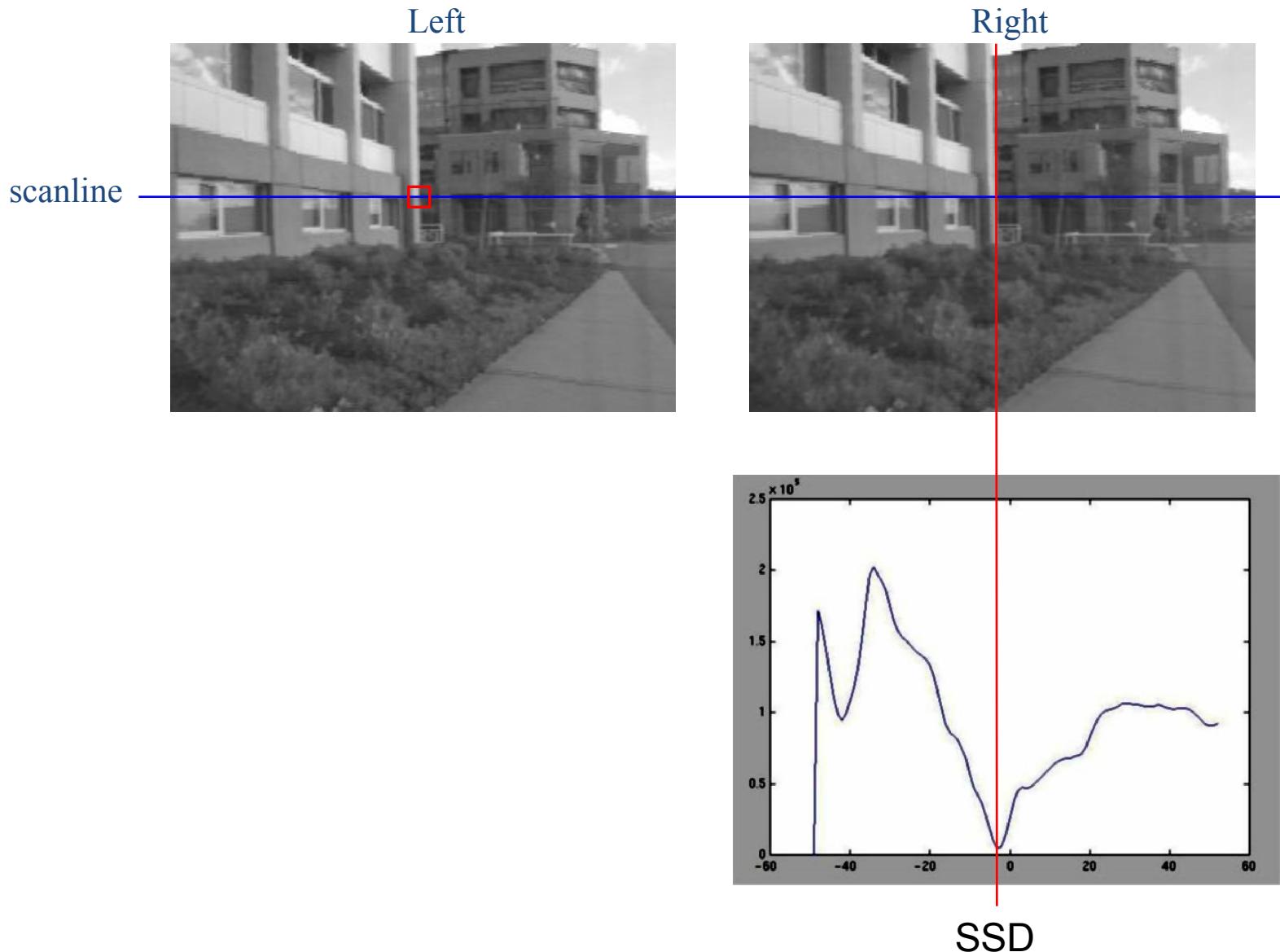
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- Slide a window along the right scanline and compare contents of that window with the reference window in the left image
- Matching cost: SSD or normalized correlation

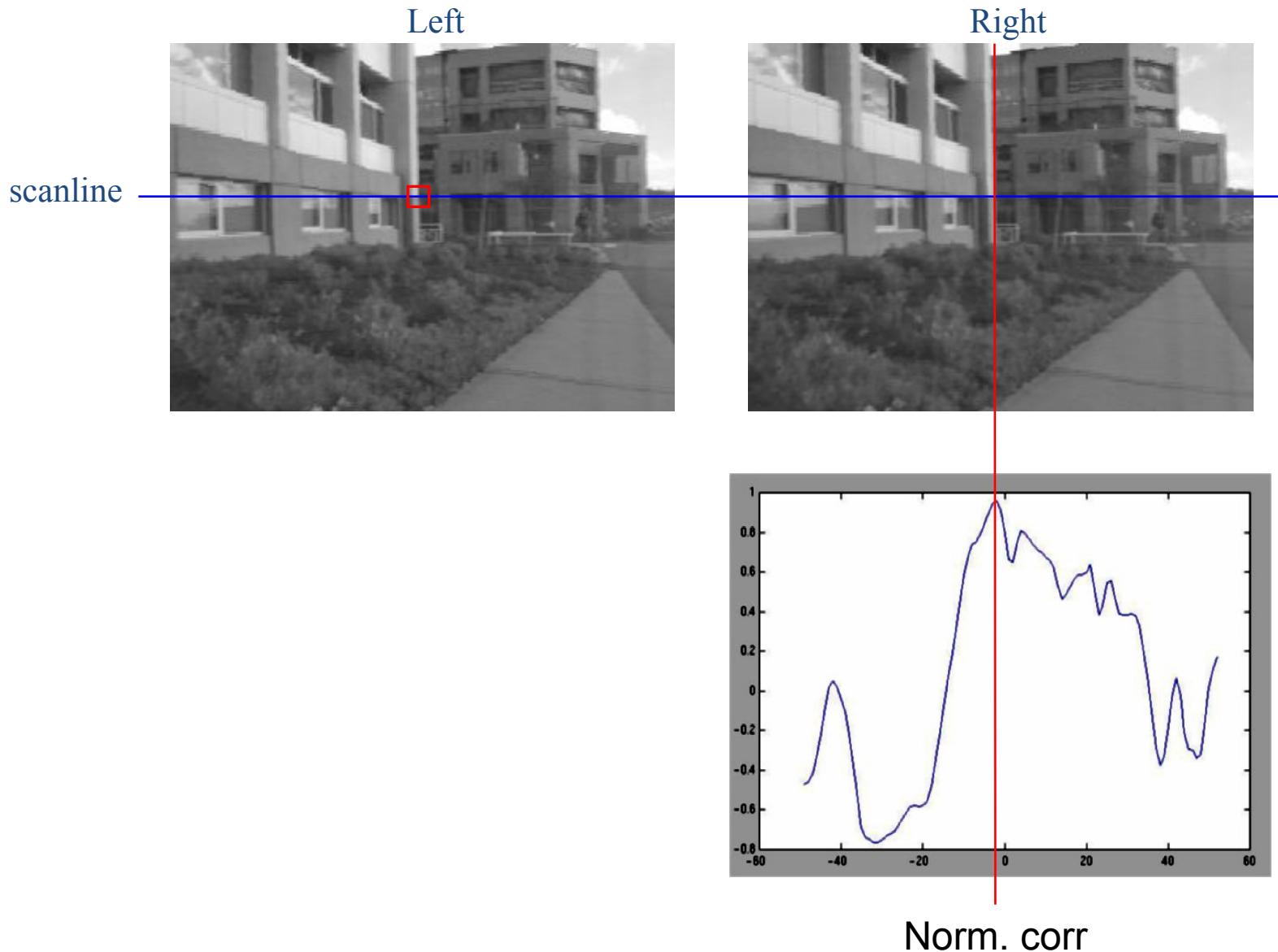
# Correspondence search

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# Correspondence search

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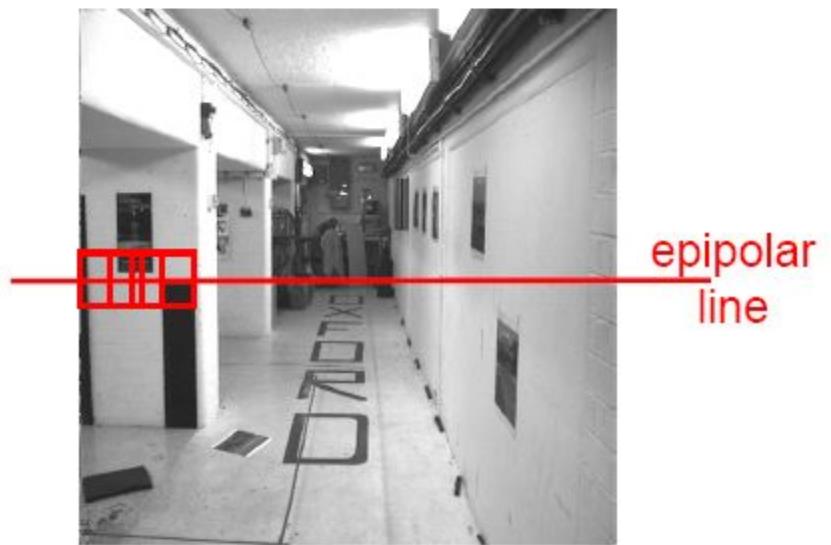


# Correspondence problem



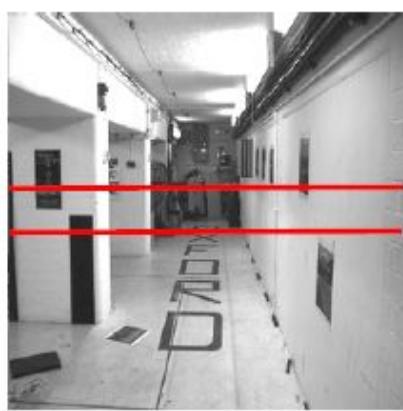
Parallel camera example: epipolar lines are corresponding image scanlines

# Correspondence problem



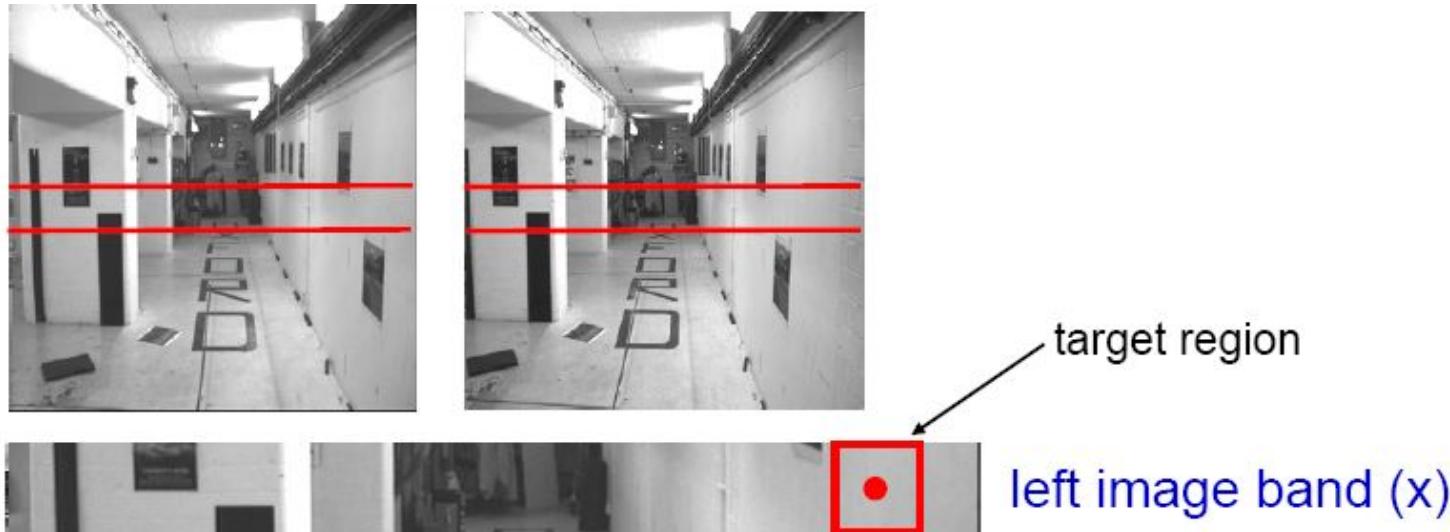
Neighborhoods of corresponding points are similar in intensity patterns.

# Correlation-based window matching

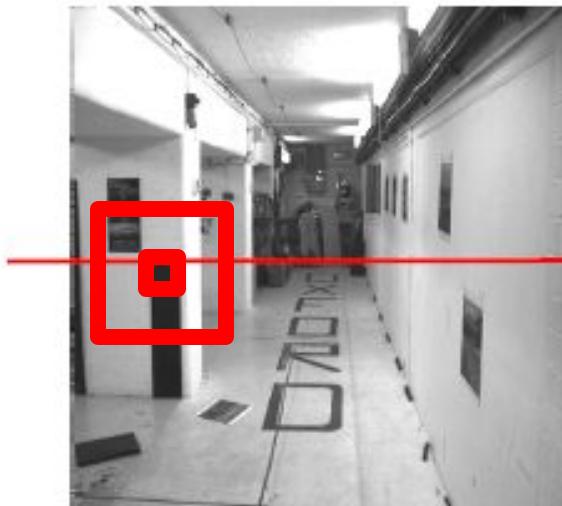


left image band ( $x$ )

# Textureless regions



# Effect of window size



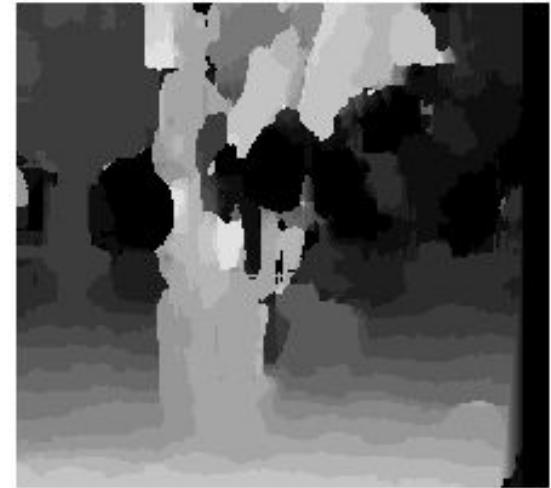
epipolar  
line

# Effect of window size

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$W = 3$



$W = 20$

- Smaller window
  - + More detail
  - More noise
- Larger window
  - + Smoother disparity maps
  - Less detail

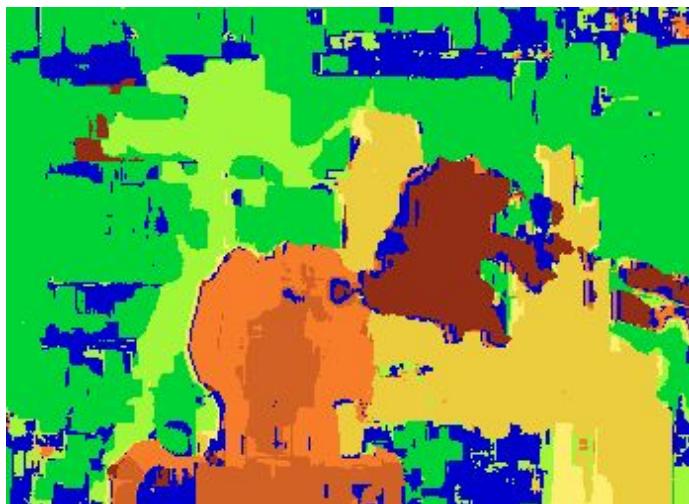
# Results with window search

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Data



Window-based matching



Ground truth

