

CS4277 / CS5477

3D Computer Vision

Lecture 5: Single View Metrology

Assoc Prof. Lee Gim Hee

AY 2022/23

Semester 2

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments
1	11 Jan	2D and 1D projective geometry	Assignment 0: Getting started with Python (Ungraded)
2	18 Jan	3D projective geometry, Circular points and Absolute conic	
3	25 Jan	Rigid body motion and Robust homography estimation	
4	01 Feb	Camera models and calibration	Assignment 1: Metric rectification and robust homography (10%) Due: 2359hrs, 07 Feb
5	08 Feb	Single view metrology	Assignment 2: Affine 3D measurement from vanishing line and point (10%) Due: 2359hrs, 14 Feb
6	15 Feb	The Fundamental and Essential matrices	
-	22 Feb	Semester Break	No lecture
7	01 Mar	Mid-term Quiz (20%)	In-person Quiz (LT 15, 1900hrs – 2000hrs)
8	08 Mar	Absolute pose estimation from points or lines	
9	15 Mar	Three-view geometry from points and/or lines	
10	22 Mar	Structure-from-Motion (SfM) and bundle adjustment	Assignment 3: SfM and Bundle adjustment (10%) Due: 2359hrs, 28 Mar
11	29 Mar	Two-view and multi-view stereo	Assignment 4: Dense 3D model from multi-view stereo (10%) Due: 2359hrs, 04 Apr
12	05 Apr	3D Point Cloud Processing	
13	12 Apr	Neural Field Representations	

Final Exam: 03 MAY 2023

Learning Outcomes

- Students should be able to:
 1. Describe the **action of camera projection** on planes, lines, conics and quadrics.
 2. Explain the respective effect of **fixed camera centre**, **increased focal length** and **pure rotation** on the image.
 3. Calibrate the intrinsic of a camera with the **Image of Absolute Conic** (IAC).
 4. Define **vanishing point** and **vanishing line**, and use them to find the geometric properties of the scene and camera.

Acknowledgements

- A lot of slides and content of this lecture are adopted from:
 1. R. Hartley, and Andrew Zisserman: “Multiple view geometry in computer vision”, Chapter 8.

Projection of Other Entities

- In last lecture, we discussed the **projection matrix** as the model for the **action of a camera on points**.
- In this lecture, we describe the **link between other 3D entities and their images** under perspective projection.
- These entities include **planes, lines, conics and quadrics**; and we develop their **forward and back-projection** properties.

Action of Projective Camera on Planes

- Assuming we assign the XY-plane of the world coordinate frame to **lie on** the plane π , we get

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 & \mathbf{p}_2 & \mathbf{p}_3 & \mathbf{p}_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 & \mathbf{p}_2 & \mathbf{p}_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

\mathbf{X} : 3-space point

\mathbf{x}_π : 2-space point \mathbf{X} on plane π

\mathbf{x} : 2-space point on the image

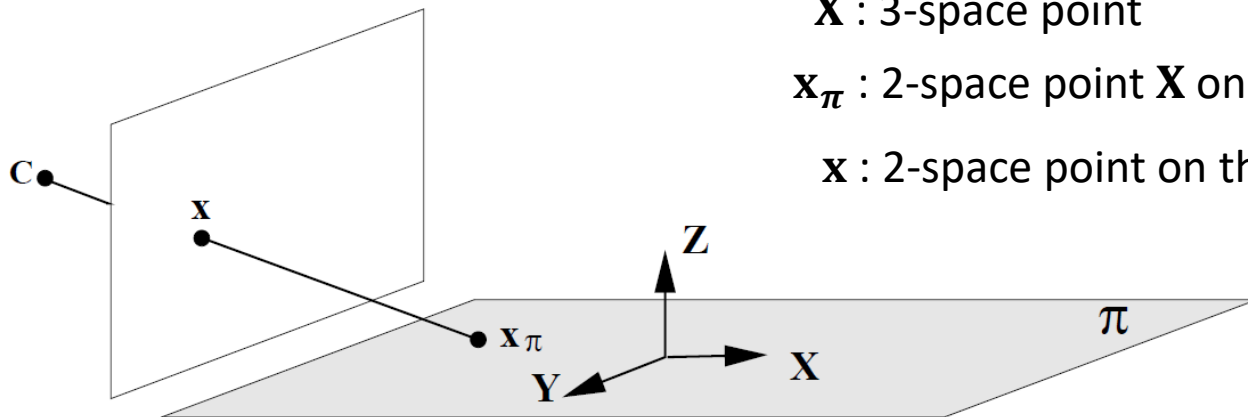


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Action of Projective Camera on Planes

- So that the map between points $\mathbf{x}_\pi = (X, Y, 1)^\top$ on π and their image \mathbf{x} is a general **planar homography**.
- That is a **plane-to-plane** projective transformation: $\mathbf{x} = H\mathbf{x}_\pi$, with H a 3×3 matrix of rank 3.

$$\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 & \mathbf{p}_2 & \mathbf{p}_3 & \mathbf{p}_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 & \mathbf{p}_2 & \mathbf{p}_4 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Homography } H} \overbrace{\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}^{\mathbf{x}_\pi}.$$

Action of Projective Camera on Lines

- **Forward projection:** A line in 3-space **projects to a line** in the image.
- The line and camera centre **define a plane**, and the image is **the intersection of this plane with the image plane**.

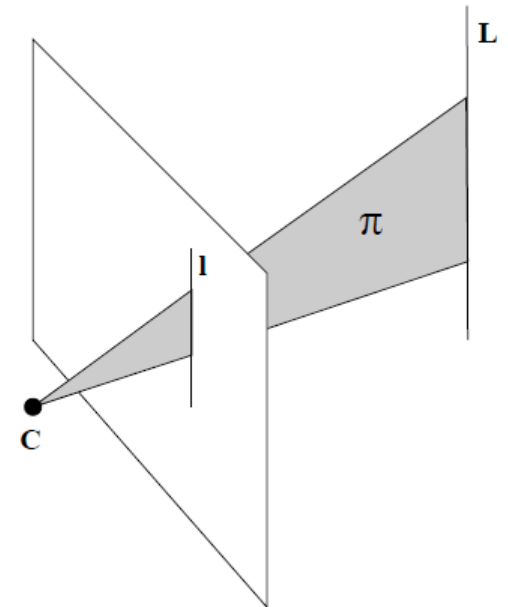


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Action of Projective Camera on Lines

- Given two 3-space points \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} , where \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} are their images under P , then a point $\mathbf{X}(\mu) = \mathbf{A} + \mu\mathbf{B}$ on the \mathbf{L} projects to a point:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}(\mu) &= P(\mathbf{A} + \mu\mathbf{B}) = P\mathbf{A} + \mu P\mathbf{B} \\ &= \mathbf{a} + \mu\mathbf{b}\end{aligned}$$

which is **on the line \mathbf{l}** joining \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} .

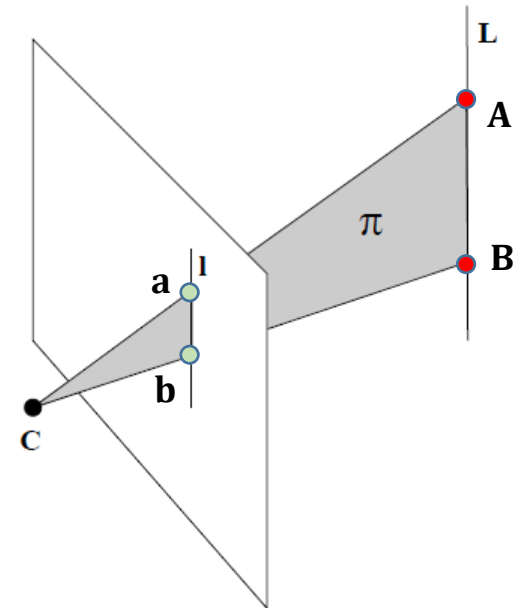


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Action of Projective Camera on Lines

- **Back-projection of lines:** The set of points in space which map to a line in the image is **a plane in space** defined by the camera centre and image line.
- The set of points in space mapping to a line \mathbf{l} via the camera matrix P is **the plane** $\boldsymbol{\pi} = P^T \mathbf{l}$.

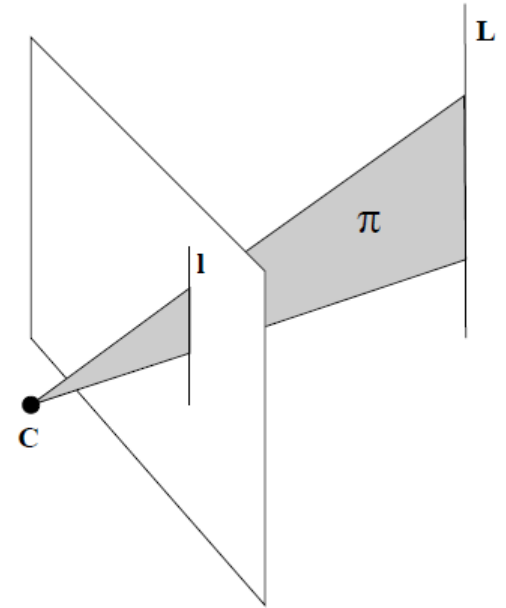


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Action of Projective Camera on Lines

Proof:

- A point \mathbf{x} lies on \mathbf{l} if and only if $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{l} = 0$.
- A space point \mathbf{X} maps to a point $\mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}$, which lies on the line if and only if $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{P}^\top \mathbf{l} = 0$.

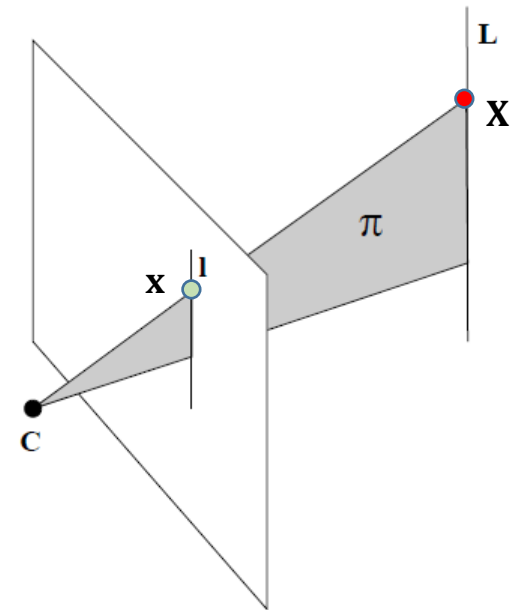
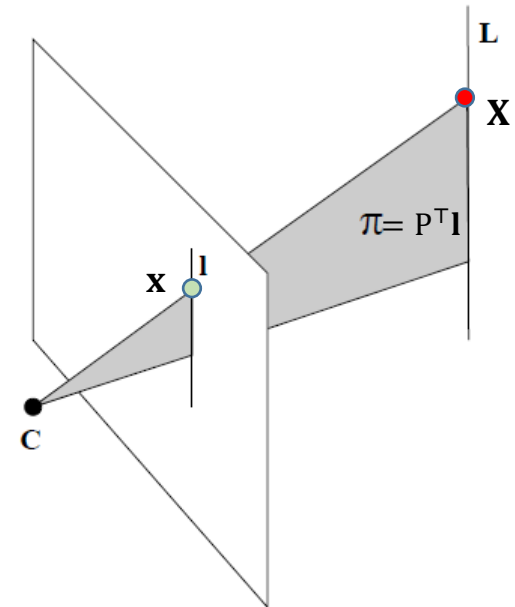


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Action of Projective Camera on Lines

Proof:

- Thus, if $P^T \mathbf{l}$ is taken to represent a plane, then **\mathbf{X} lies on this plane** if and only if \mathbf{X} maps to a point on the line \mathbf{l} .
- In other words, $P^T \mathbf{l}$ is the **back-projection of the line \mathbf{l}** .



□

Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Action of Projective Camera on Conics

- **Back-projection of conics:** Under the camera P the conic C **back-projects to the cone**

$$Q_{co} = P^T C P.$$

- A cone is a **degenerate quadric**, i.e. the 4×4 matrix representing the quadric **does not have full rank**.
- The cone vertex, in this case the camera centre, is the **null-vector** of the quadric matrix.

Action of Projective Camera on Conics

Proof:

- Point \mathbf{x} lies on C iff $\mathbf{x}^T C \mathbf{x} = 0$.
- A space point \mathbf{X} maps to a point $P\mathbf{X}$, which lies on the conic iff $\mathbf{X}^T P^T C P \mathbf{X} = 0$.
- Thus, if $Q_{co} = P^T C P$ is taken to represent a **quadric**, then \mathbf{X} lies on this quadric iff \mathbf{X} maps to a point on the conic C .
- In other words, Q_{co} is the **back-projection** of the conic C .

□

Action of Projective Camera on Conics

- Note the camera centre \mathbf{C} is the **vertex of the degenerate quadric** since $Q_{co}\mathbf{C} = P^T C(PC) = \mathbf{0}$.

Example:

Suppose that $P = K[I \mid \mathbf{0}]$; then the conic C back-projects to the cone

$$Q_{co} = \begin{bmatrix} K^T \\ \mathbf{0}^T \end{bmatrix} C [K \mid \mathbf{0}] = \begin{bmatrix} K^T C K & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0}^T & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The matrix Q_{co} has rank 3. Its **null-vector** is the camera centre $\mathbf{C} = (0, 0, 0, 1)^T$.

Images of Smooth Surfaces

- The image outline of a smooth surface S results from surface points at which the **imaging rays are tangent to the surface**.
- Similarly, lines tangent to the outline back-project to planes which are **tangent planes to the surface**.

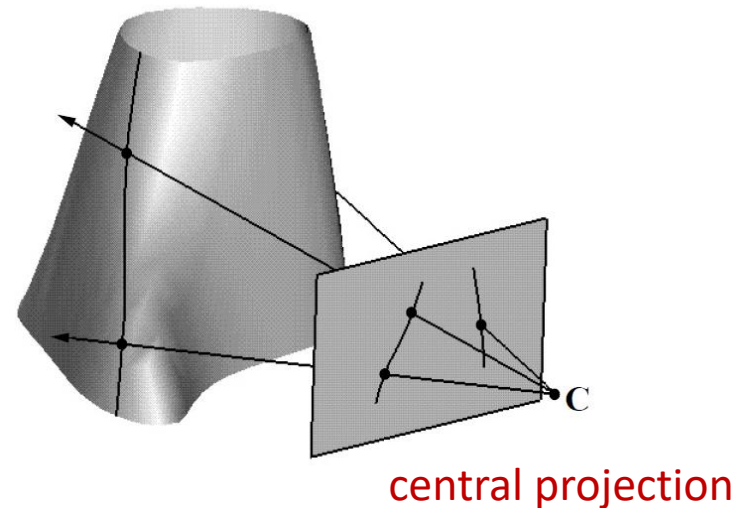
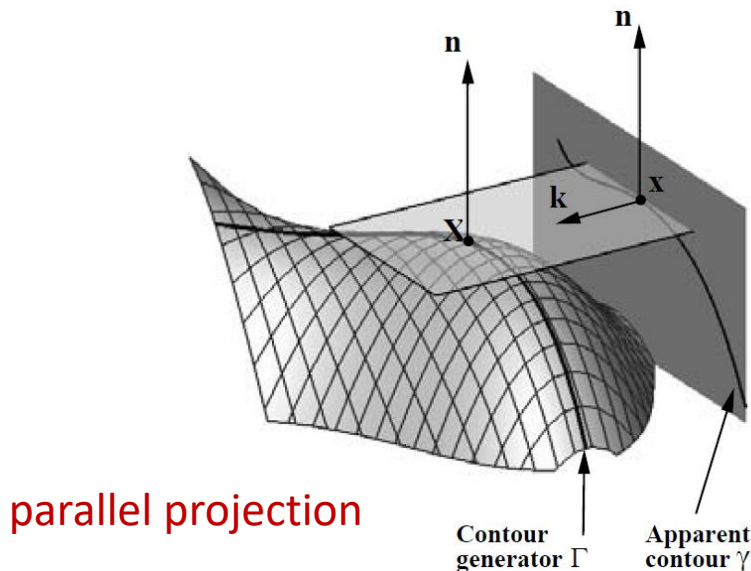


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Images of Smooth Surfaces

- The **contour generator** Γ is the set of points \mathbf{X} on S at which rays are tangent to the surface.
- The corresponding image **apparent contour** γ is the set of points \mathbf{x} which are the image of \mathbf{X} , i.e. γ is the image of Γ .

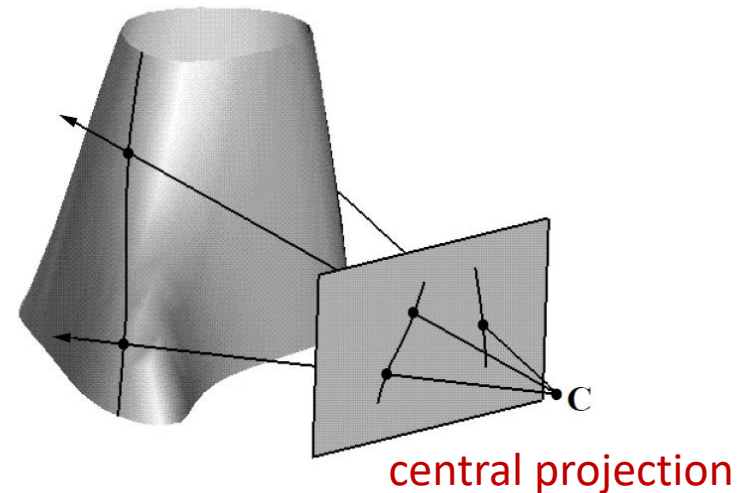
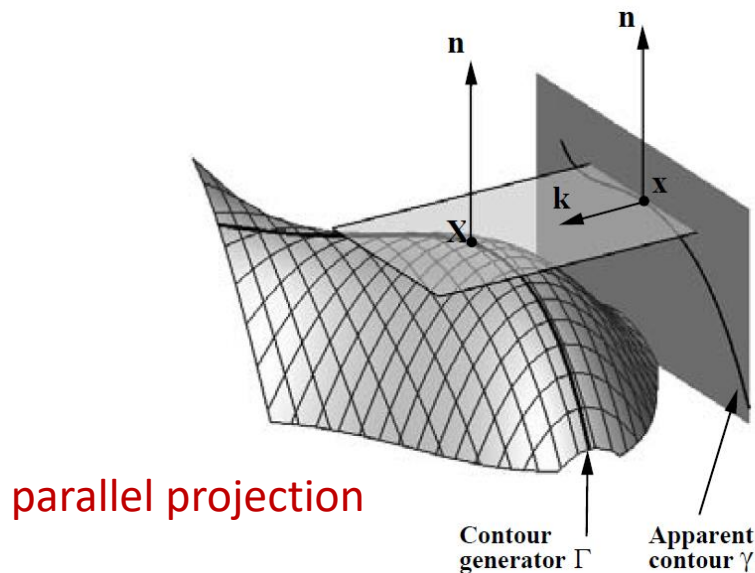


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Images of Smooth Surfaces

- The apparent contour is also called the “**outline**” and “**profile**”.
- Contour generator Γ depends only on the relative position of the **camera centre and surface**, not on the image plane.
- Apparent contour γ is defined by the intersection of the **image plane** with the **rays to the contour generator**, and does depend on position of the image plane.

Action of a Projective Camera on Quadrics

- **Forward projection:** Under the camera matrix P the outline of the quadric Q is **the conic** C given by

$$C^* = PQ^*P^T.$$

Action of a Projective Camera on Quadrics

Proof:

- This expression is simply derived from the observation that lines \mathbf{l} **tangent to the conic outline** satisfy $\mathbf{l}^T \mathbf{C}^* \mathbf{l} = 0$.
- These lines back-project to planes $\boldsymbol{\pi} = \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{l}$ that are **tangent to the quadric** and thus satisfy $\boldsymbol{\pi}^T \mathbf{Q}^* \boldsymbol{\pi} = 0$.
- Then it follows that for each line:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}^T \mathbf{Q}^* \boldsymbol{\pi} = \mathbf{l}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{Q}^* \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{l} = \mathbf{l}^T \mathbf{C}^* \mathbf{l} = 0 \quad \square$$

The Importance of the Camera Centre

- An object in 3-space and camera centre define a set of rays, and **an image is obtained** by intersecting these rays with a plane.
- Often this set is referred to as **a cone of rays**, even though it is not a classical cone.

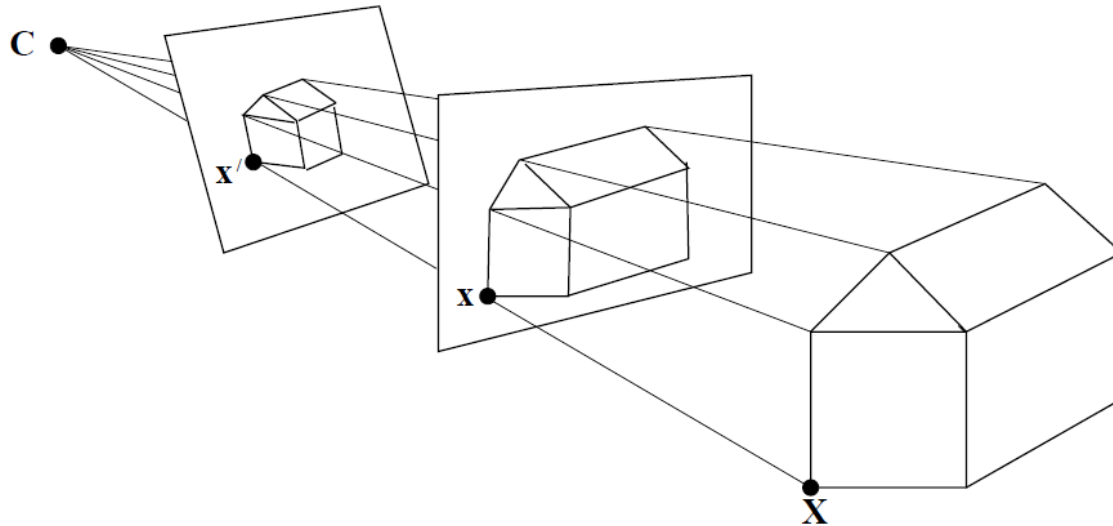


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

The Importance of the Camera Centre

- Images obtained with the same camera centre may be mapped to one another by a **plane projective transformation**, i.e. homography.
- In other words, they are **projectively equivalent** and so have the same projective properties.
- A camera can thus be thought of as a **projective imaging device** – measuring projective properties of the cone of rays with vertex the camera centre.

The Importance of the Camera Centre

- We now show that the two images, I and I' , with the same camera centre are clearly related by **a homography**.
- Consider two cameras $P = KR[I \mid -\tilde{C}]$, $P' = K'R'[I \mid -\tilde{C}]$ with the **same centre**, i.e. $P' = (K'R')(KR)^{-1}P$.
- It then follows that the images of a 3-space point \mathbf{X} by the two cameras are related as

$$\mathbf{x}' = P'\mathbf{X} = (K'R')(KR)^{-1}P\mathbf{X} = (K'R')(KR)^{-1}\mathbf{x}.$$

- That is, the corresponding image points are related by a **planar homography** (a 3×3 matrix) as $\mathbf{x} = H\mathbf{x}'$, where $H = (KR)(K'R')^{-1}$.

The Importance of the Camera Centre

Moving the image plane (increase focal length):

- This corresponds to a displacement of the image plane along the principal axis, where the image effect is a **simple magnification**.
- If \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{x}' are the images of a point \mathbf{X} before and after zooming, then

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x} &= K[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{x}' &= K'[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X} = K'K^{-1} (K[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X}) = K'K^{-1}\mathbf{x}\end{aligned}$$

so that $\mathbf{x}' = H\mathbf{x}$ with $H = K'K^{-1}$.

The Importance of the Camera Centre

Moving the image plane (increase focal length):

- If only the **focal lengths differ** between K and K' then

$$K'K^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} k\mathbf{I} & (1-k)\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0 \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- where $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0$ is the inhomogeneous principal point, and $k = f'/f$ is the **magnification factor**.
- Consequently, the **effect of zooming** by a factor k is to multiply the calibration matrix K on the right by $\text{diag}(k, k, 1)$:

$$\begin{aligned} K' &= \begin{bmatrix} k\mathbf{I} & (1-k)\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0 \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix} K = \begin{bmatrix} k\mathbf{I} & (1-k)\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0 \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0 \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} k\mathbf{A} & \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_0 \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix} = K \begin{bmatrix} k\mathbf{I} & \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

The Importance of the Camera Centre

Camera rotation:

- Here we consider the camera is **rotated about its centre** with **no change** in the internal parameters.
- If \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{x}' are the images of a point \mathbf{X} before and after the **pure rotation**:

$$\mathbf{x} = K[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X}$$

$$\mathbf{x}' = K[\mathbf{R} \mid \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X} = K\mathbf{R}K^{-1}K[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X} = K\mathbf{R}K^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

so that $\mathbf{x}' = H\mathbf{x}$ with $H = K\mathbf{R}K^{-1}$.

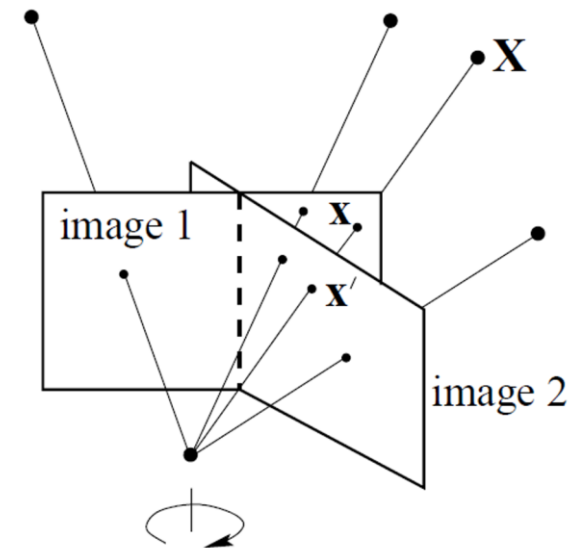


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

The Importance of the Camera Centre

Properties of a conjugate rotation:

- This homography $H = K R K^{-1}$ is a **conjugate rotation**.
- It has the **same eigenvalues** (up to scale) as the rotation matrix, i.e. $\{\mu, \mu e^{i\theta}, \mu e^{-i\theta}\}$.
- μ is an **unknown scale factor** (if H is scaled such that $\det H = 1$, then $\mu = 1$).
- The **angle of rotation** between views may be computed directly from the **phase of the complex eigenvalues** of H .

The Importance of the Camera Centre

Moving the camera centre (Motion parallax):

- **No information on 3-space structure** can be obtained by zooming and pure rotation, i.e. with fixed camera centres.
- Corresponding image points **does depend** on the 3-space structure if the camera centre is moved.
- May often be used to (partially) **determine the structure**.
- More details in subsequent lectures.

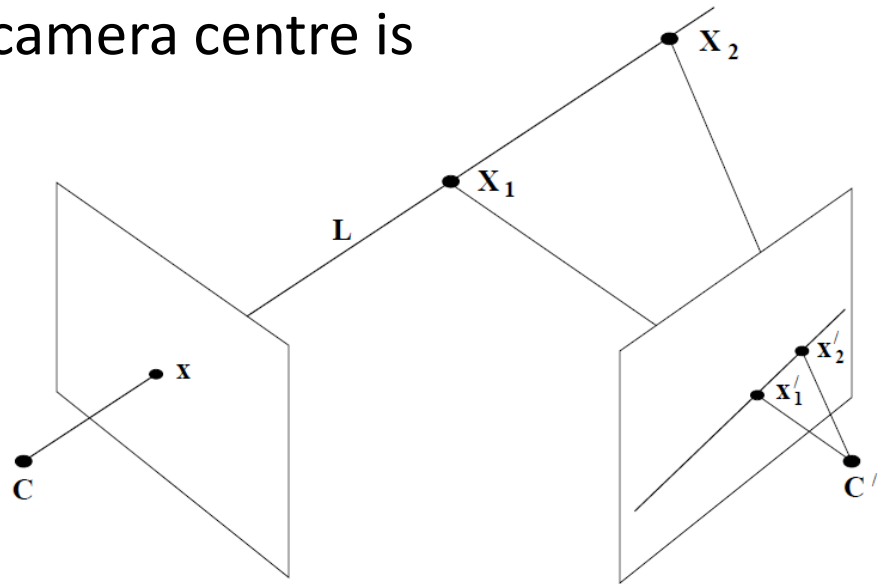


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Applications and Examples

Example: Synthetic Views

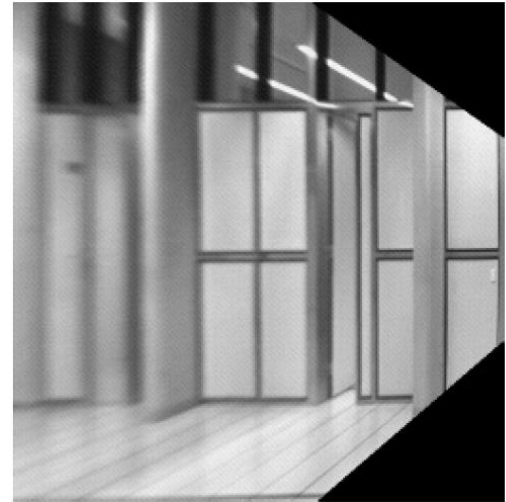
- New images corresponding to different camera orientations (same camera centre) can be generated from an existing image by **warping with planar homographies**.



Source image



homographies



Fronto-parallel views of floor and wall

Applications and Examples

Example: Synthetic Views

The algorithm is:

- i. Compute the homography H which **maps the image quadrilateral to a rectangle** with the correct aspect ratio.
- ii. Projectively warp the source image with this homography.

Applications and Examples

Example: Planar Panoramic Mosaicing

- Images acquired by a **camera rotating about its centre** are related to each other by a planar homography.
- A set of such images may be registered with the plane of one of the images by **projectively warping** the other images.

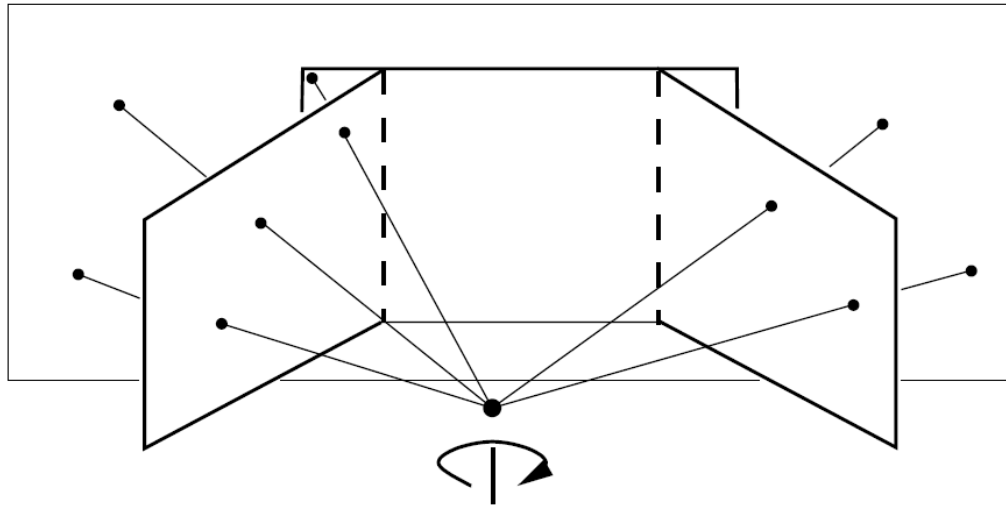


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Applications and Examples



Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Applications and Examples

Example: Planar Panoramic Mosaicing

In outline the algorithm is:

- i. Choose one image of the **set as a reference**.
- ii. **Compute the homography** H (4-point) which maps one of the other images of the set to this reference image.
- iii. Projectively **warp the image** with this homography, and augment the reference image with the non-overlapping part of the warped image.
- iv. Repeat the last two steps for the remaining images of the set.

What does Calibration Give?

- Suppose **points on the ray** are written as $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \lambda \mathbf{d}$ in the camera Euclidean coordinate frame.

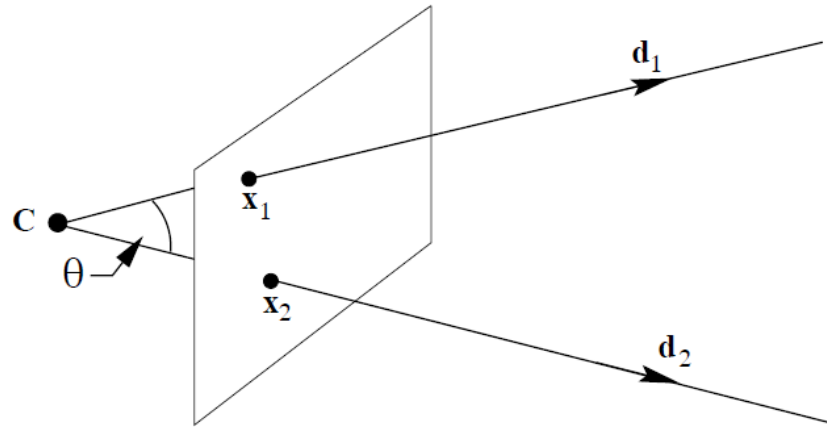
- Then, these points **map to the point**

$$\mathbf{x} = K[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}](\lambda \mathbf{d}^T, 1)^T = K\mathbf{d}$$

up to scale.

- Conversely, **the direction** \mathbf{d} is obtained from the image point \mathbf{x} as $\mathbf{d} = K^{-1}\mathbf{x}$.
- Note, $\mathbf{d} = K^{-1}\mathbf{x}$ is in general **not a unit vector**.

What does Calibration Give?



- The **angle between two rays**, with directions \mathbf{d}_1 , \mathbf{d}_2 corresponding to image points \mathbf{x}_1 , \mathbf{x}_2 respectively, may be obtained:

$$\begin{aligned}\cos \theta &= \frac{\mathbf{d}_1^T \mathbf{d}_2}{\sqrt{\mathbf{d}_1^T \mathbf{d}_1} \sqrt{\mathbf{d}_2^T \mathbf{d}_2}} = \frac{(\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_1)^T (\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_2)}{\sqrt{(\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_1)^T (\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_1)} \sqrt{(\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_2)^T (\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_2)}} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{x}_1^T (\mathbf{K}^{-T} \mathbf{K}^{-1}) \mathbf{x}_2}{\sqrt{\mathbf{x}_1^T (\mathbf{K}^{-T} \mathbf{K}^{-1}) \mathbf{x}_1} \sqrt{\mathbf{x}_2^T (\mathbf{K}^{-T} \mathbf{K}^{-1}) \mathbf{x}_2}} .\end{aligned}$$

Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

What does Calibration Give?

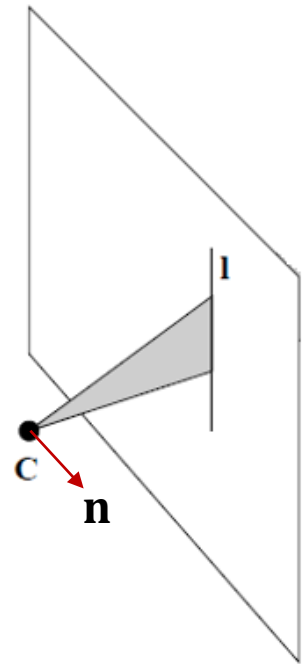
- A camera for which K is known is termed **calibrated**, and thus the matrix $K^{-T}K^{-1}$ is known.
- Then the angle between rays **can be measured** from their corresponding image points.
- A calibrated camera is a **direction sensor**, able to measure the direction of rays – like a 2D protractor.

What does Calibration Give?

- An image line \mathbf{l} defines a plane through the camera centre with normal direction $\mathbf{n} = K^T \mathbf{l}$ measured in the camera's Euclidean coordinate frame.

Proof:

- Points \mathbf{x} on the line \mathbf{l} back-project to directions $\mathbf{d} = K^{-1} \mathbf{x}$.
- Which are orthogonal to the plane normal \mathbf{n} , and thus satisfy $\mathbf{d}^T \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{x}^T K^{-T} \mathbf{n} = 0$.
- Since points on \mathbf{l} satisfy $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{l} = 0$, it follows that $\mathbf{l} = K^{-T} \mathbf{n}$, and hence $\mathbf{n} = K^T \mathbf{l}$. □



The Image of the Absolute Conic

- Points on π_∞ may be written as $\mathbf{X}_\infty = (\mathbf{d}^\top, 0)^\top$, and are imaged by a general camera $P = KR[I \mid -\tilde{\mathbf{C}}]$ as:

$$\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{X}_\infty = KR[I \mid -\tilde{\mathbf{C}}] \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{d} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = KR\mathbf{d}.$$

- This shows that the mapping between π_∞ and an image is given by the planar homography $\mathbf{x} = H\mathbf{d}$ with:

$$H = KR.$$

- This map is independent of the position of camera \mathbf{C} , and depends only on the camera internal calibration and orientation w.r.t the world frame.

The Image of the Absolute Conic

- Now, since the absolute conic Ω_∞ is on π_∞ we can compute **its image under H** .
- And find that the **image of the absolute conic** (the IAC) is the conic $\omega = (KK^\top)^{-1} = K^{-\top}K^{-1}$.
- Like Ω_∞ the conic ω is an imaginary point conic with **no real points**.
- Nonetheless, we will see some of its **practical uses** later.

The Image of the Absolute Conic

Proof:

- Under a point homography $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}$ a conic \mathbf{C} maps as $\mathbf{C} \mapsto \mathbf{H}^{-\top}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{H}^{-1}$.
- It follows that Ω_∞ , which is the conic $\mathbf{C} = \Omega_\infty = \mathbf{I}$ on π_∞ , maps to $\omega = (\mathbf{K}\mathbf{R})^{-\top}\mathbf{I}(\mathbf{K}\mathbf{R})^{-1} = \mathbf{K}^{-\top}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{K}^{-1} = (\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}^\top)^{-1}$.
- So, the IAC is $\omega = (\mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}^\top)^{-1}$.

□

The Image of the Absolute Conic

- A few remarks here:
 - i. The image of the absolute conic, ω , depends only on the internal parameters K of the matrix P ; it does not depend on the camera orientation or position.
 - ii. The angle between two rays we seen earlier can now be expressed with ω , i.e.

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{x}_1^T \omega \mathbf{x}_2}{\sqrt{\mathbf{x}_1^T \omega \mathbf{x}_1} \sqrt{\mathbf{x}_2^T \omega \mathbf{x}_2}} .$$

The Image of the Absolute Conic

- This expression is **unchanged** under projective transformation of the image.

Proof:

Let's consider the numerator $\mathbf{x}_1^T \boldsymbol{\omega} \mathbf{x}_2$. Under any projective transformation $\mathbf{x}' = H\mathbf{x}$, the numerator becomes:

$$(\mathbf{x}_1^T H^T)(H^{-T} \boldsymbol{\omega} H^{-1})(H\mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{x}_1^T \boldsymbol{\omega} \mathbf{x}_2$$

It can also be easily shown that H is also canceled out in the demoninator.

□

The Image of the Absolute Conic

- iii. A direct result of (ii) is: if two image points \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 correspond to **orthogonal directions** then

$$\mathbf{x}_1^T \boldsymbol{\omega} \mathbf{x}_2 = 0.$$

- iv. We may also define the **dual image of the absolute conic** (the DIAC) as

$$\boldsymbol{\omega}^* = \boldsymbol{\omega}^{-1} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{K}^T.$$

- This is a **dual (line) conic**, whereas $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is a point conic (though it contains no real points).
- The conic $\boldsymbol{\omega}^*$ is the **image of Q_∞^*** and is given by $\boldsymbol{\omega}^* = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q}_\infty^* \mathbf{P}^T$.

The Image of the Absolute Conic

- v. Once ω (or equivalently ω^*) is identified in an image, K can be identified uniquely via **Cholesky factorization**, i.e. $\omega^* = KK^T$.
 - vi. The **imaged circular points** lie on ω at the points at which the vanishing line of the plane π intersects ω .
- We saw in Lecture 2 that a plane π intersects π_∞ in a line, and this line intersects Ω_∞ in two points which are the circular points of π .

Example: A Simple Calibration Device

- The **image of three squares** (on planes which are not parallel, but which need not be orthogonal) provides sufficiently many constraints to **compute K** .



Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Example: A Simple Calibration Device

Outline the calibration algorithm:

1. For each square, **compute the homography** H that maps its corner points, $(0, 0)^T$, $(1, 0)^T$, $(0, 1)^T$, $(1, 1)^T$, to their imaged points.

Remarks:

The alignment of the plane coordinate system with the square is a **similarity transformation** and does not affect the position of the circular points on the plane.

Example: A Simple Calibration Device

2. Compute the **imaged circular points** for the plane of that square as $H(1, \pm i, 0)^\top$; and writing $H = [\mathbf{h}_1, \mathbf{h}_2, \mathbf{h}_3]$, the imaged circular points are $\mathbf{h}_1 \pm i\mathbf{h}_2$.
3. Fit a conic ω to the **six imaged circular points**.

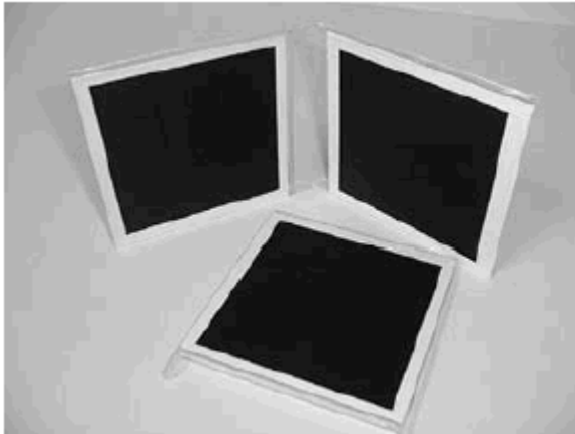
If $\mathbf{h}_1 \pm i\mathbf{h}_2$ lies on ω then $(\mathbf{h}_1 \pm i\mathbf{h}_2)^\top \omega (\mathbf{h}_1 \pm i\mathbf{h}_2) = 0$, and the imaginary and real parts give respectively:

$$\mathbf{h}_1^\top \omega \mathbf{h}_2 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{h}_1^\top \omega \mathbf{h}_1 = \mathbf{h}_2^\top \omega \mathbf{h}_2$$

which are **linear in ω** , then the conic ω is determined up to scale from **five or more** such equations.

Example: A Simple Calibration Device

4. Compute the calibration K from $\omega = (KK^T)^{-1}$ using the **Cholesky factorization**.



$$K = \begin{bmatrix} 1108.3 & -9.8 & 525.8 \\ 0 & 1097.8 & 395.9 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) Three squares provide a simple calibration object. The **planes need not be orthogonal**. (b) The computed calibration matrix using the algorithm mentioned earlier. The image size is 1024×768 pixels.

Orthogonality and ω

- Image points $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$ back-project to orthogonal rays if the points **are conjugate** with respect to ω , i.e., $\mathbf{x}_1^T \omega \mathbf{x}_2 = 0$.
- The point \mathbf{x} and line \mathbf{l} back-project to a ray and plane that are orthogonal if \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{l} are **pole–polar** with respect to ω , i.e., $\mathbf{l} = \omega \mathbf{x}$.

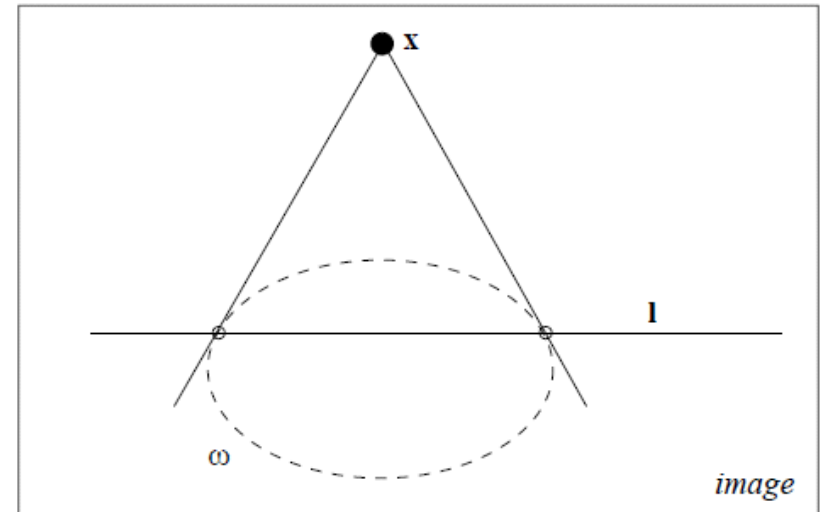
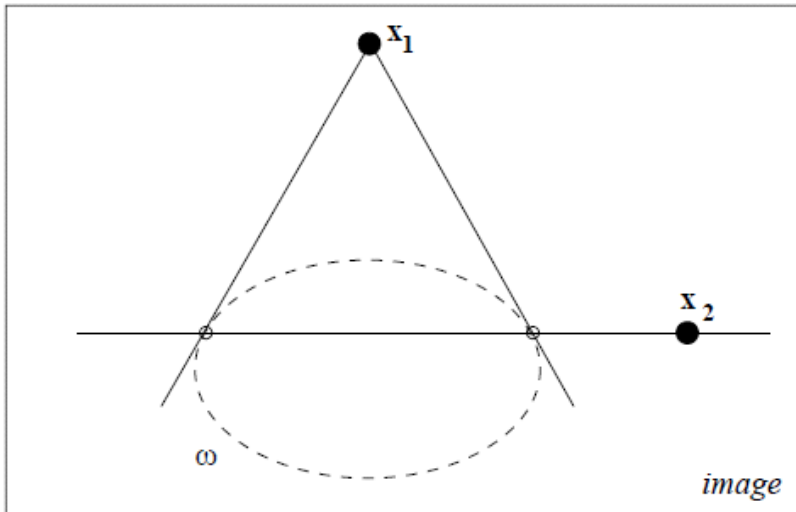


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

The Pole–Polar Relationship

The **polar line** $\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}$ of the point \mathbf{x} with respect to a conic \mathbf{C} intersects the conic in **two points**. The two lines tangent to \mathbf{C} at these points intersect at \mathbf{x} .

Note: Point \mathbf{x} **does not lie on** \mathbf{C} implies $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} \neq 0$.

Remark: If the point \mathbf{x} is on \mathbf{C} then the polar **is the tangent line** to the conic at \mathbf{x} .

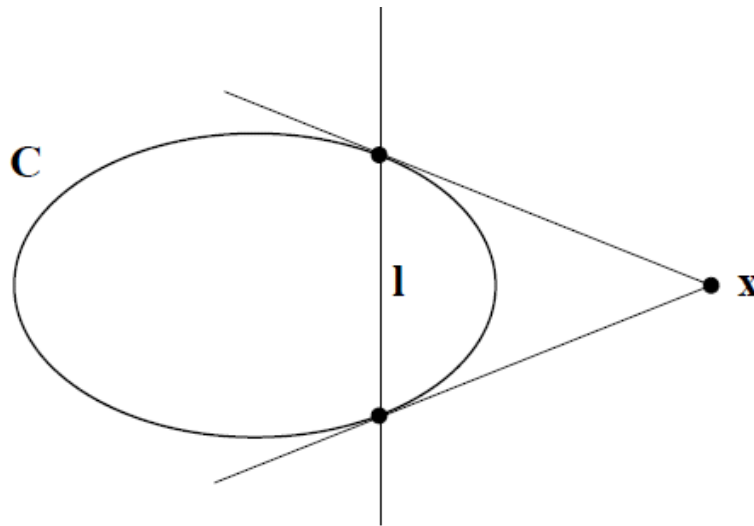
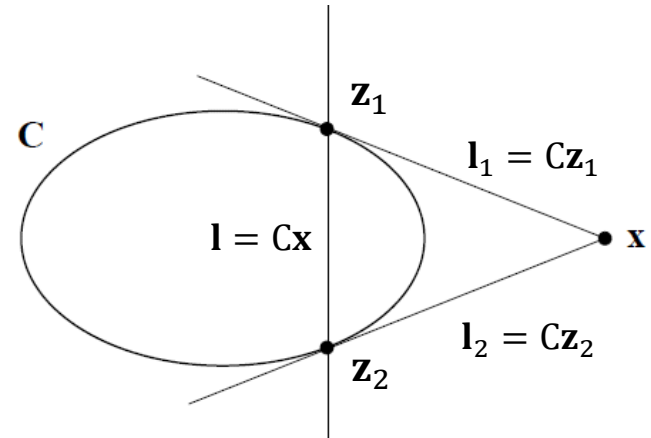


Image source: “Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision”, Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

The Pole–Polar Relationship

Proof:

Consider two points \mathbf{z}_1 and \mathbf{z}_2 on the conics, the **tangent lines** are given as $\mathbf{l}_1 = C\mathbf{z}_1$ and $\mathbf{l}_2 = C\mathbf{z}_2$, respectively.



The point $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{l}_1 \times \mathbf{l}_2$ is the intersection of lines \mathbf{l}_1 and \mathbf{l}_2 . Putting $\mathbf{l}_1 = C\mathbf{z}_1$ and $\mathbf{l}_2 = C\mathbf{z}_2$ into $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{l}_1 \times \mathbf{l}_2$, we get:

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{l}_1 \times \mathbf{l}_2 = (C\mathbf{z}_1) \times (C\mathbf{z}_2) = \det(C)(C^{-1})^T(\mathbf{z}_1 \times \mathbf{z}_2),$$

where $(C^{-1})^T = C^{-1}$ since C is symmetric and $\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{z}_1 \times \mathbf{z}_2$, i.e.

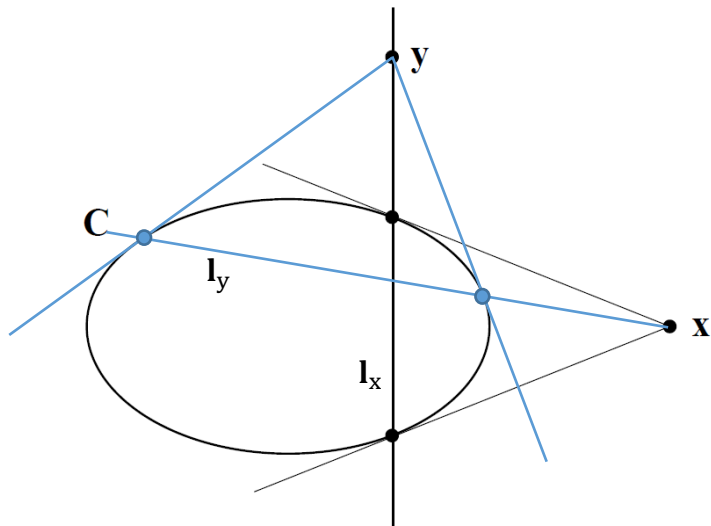
$$\mathbf{x} = \det(C)C^{-1}\mathbf{l} = kC^{-1}\mathbf{l} \Rightarrow \mathbf{l} = C\mathbf{x}.$$

Taking $\det(C)$ constant scale k , we get the relation $\mathbf{l} = C\mathbf{x}$. □

Image source: “Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision”, Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Conjugate Points

- If the point \mathbf{y} is on the line $\mathbf{l}_x = C\mathbf{x}$, then $\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{l}_x = \mathbf{y}^\top C\mathbf{x} = 0$.
- Any two points \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} satisfying $\mathbf{y}^\top C\mathbf{x} = 0$ **are conjugate** with respect to the conic C .
- The **conjugacy relation is symmetric**: If \mathbf{x} is on the polar of \mathbf{y} then \mathbf{y} is on the polar of \mathbf{x} .

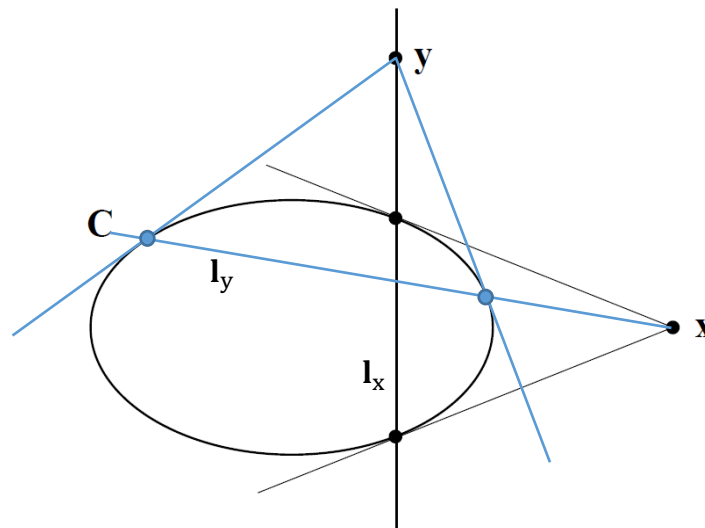


$(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_x)$ and $(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{l}_y)$ are two pairs of pole-polar, where \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are conjugate.

Conjugate Points

Proof:

The point \mathbf{x} is on the polar of \mathbf{y} if $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{y} = 0$, and the point \mathbf{y} is on the polar of \mathbf{x} if $\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x} = 0$. Since $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{x}$, if one form is zero, then so is the other.



□

Remark: There is a **dual conjugacy relationship for lines**: two lines \mathbf{l} and \mathbf{m} are conjugate if $\mathbf{l}^T \mathbf{C}^* \mathbf{m} = 0$.

Vanishing Points

- Parallel lines in the world intersect in the image at a “**vanishing point**”
- Geometrically, the **vanishing point of a line** is obtained by intersecting the image plane with a ray parallel to the world line and passing through the camera centre.

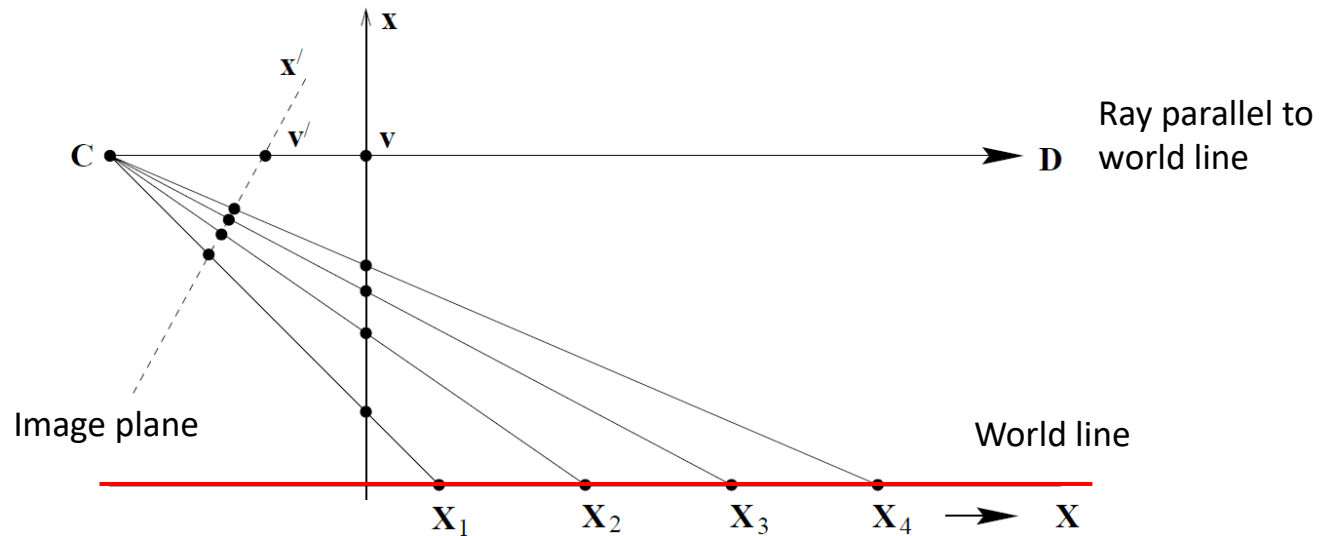


Image source: “Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision”, Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Vanishing Points

- Thus, a vanishing point depends only on the **direction of a line**, not on its position.
- Consequently, a set of parallel world lines have a **common vanishing point**.

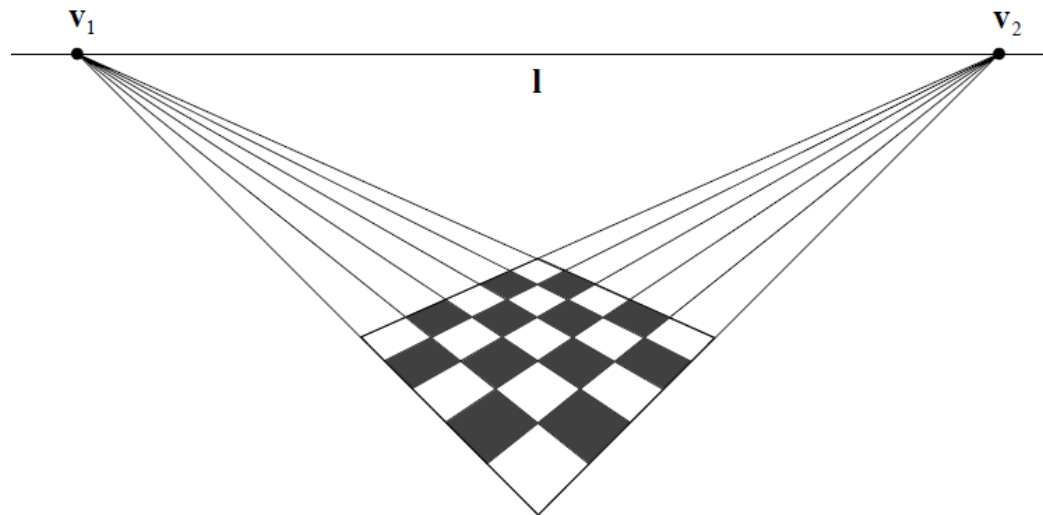


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Vanishing Points

- Algebraically, the vanishing point may be obtained as **a limiting point** as follows:

- Points on a line in 3-space through the point \mathbf{A} and with direction $\mathbf{D} = (\mathbf{d}^\top, 0)^\top$ are written as $\mathbf{X}(\lambda) = \mathbf{A} + \lambda\mathbf{D}$.

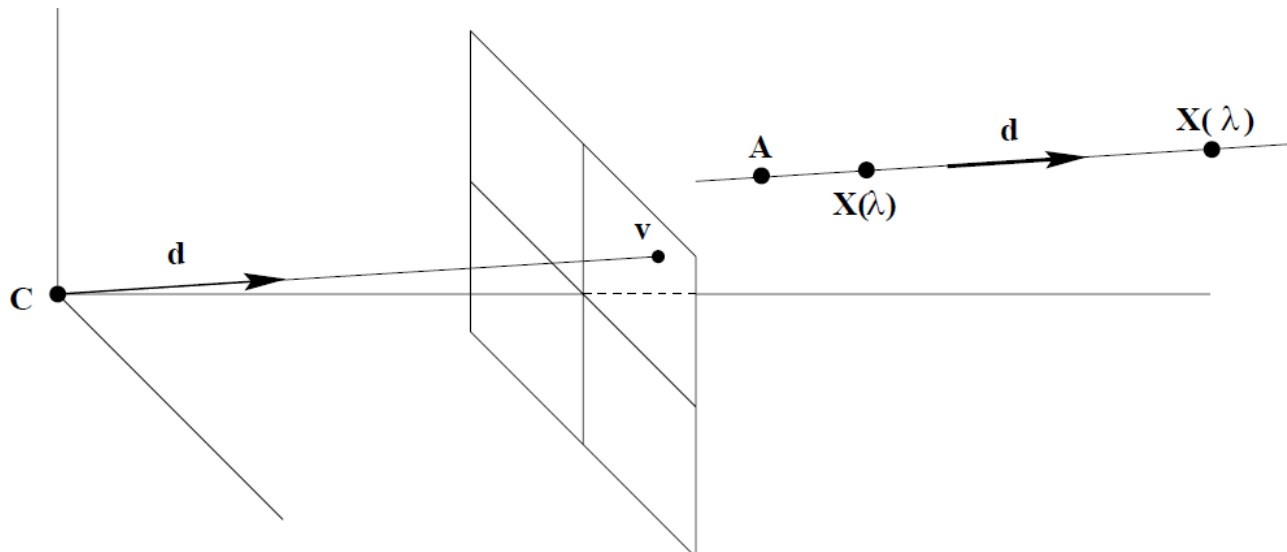


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Vanishing Points

2. Under a **projective camera** $P = K[I \mid \mathbf{0}]$, a point $\mathbf{X}(\lambda)$ is imaged at:

$$\mathbf{x}(\lambda) = P\mathbf{X}(\lambda) = P\mathbf{A} + \lambda P\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{a} + \lambda K\mathbf{d} ,$$

where \mathbf{a} is the image of \mathbf{A} .

3. Then, the **vanishing point** \mathbf{v} of the line is obtained as the limit:

$$\mathbf{v} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{x}(\lambda) = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} (\mathbf{a} + \lambda K\mathbf{d}) = K\mathbf{d}.$$

Note that \mathbf{v} **depends only on the direction** \mathbf{d} of the line, not on its position specified by \mathbf{A} .

Vanishing Points

- In projective 3-space, the vanishing point is simply the **image of the intersection** of the plane at infinity π_∞ and a set of lines with the same direction \mathbf{d} , i.e.

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}_\infty = \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}] \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{d} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{d}.$$

- Note, lines parallel to the image plane **are imaged as** parallel lines since \mathbf{v} is at infinity in the image.
- However, parallel image lines **might not be** the image of parallel scene lines since lines which intersect on the principal plane are imaged as parallel lines.

Vanishing Points

Example: rotation estimation from vanishing points.

- Suppose two cameras have the **same calibration matrix** K , and the **camera rotates by R** between views.
- Let a scene line have **vanishing point** \mathbf{v}_i in the first view, and \mathbf{v}'_i in the second, where the **directions** are given by:

$$\mathbf{d}_i = K^{-1}\mathbf{v}_i / \|K^{-1}\mathbf{v}_i\| , \quad (\text{a unit vector}).$$

- **Two independent constraints** on R are given by $\mathbf{d}'_i = R\mathbf{d}_i$, thus R can be computed from **two such corresponding directions**.

Vanishing Points

Example: angle between two scene lines.

- Let \mathbf{v}_1 and \mathbf{v}_2 be the **vanishing points of two lines** in an image, and let ω be the **image of the absolute conic** in the image.
- If θ is the **angle** between the two line directions, then

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{v}_1^T \omega \mathbf{v}_2}{\sqrt{\mathbf{v}_1^T \omega \mathbf{v}_1} \sqrt{\mathbf{v}_2^T \omega \mathbf{v}_2}} .$$

Computing Vanishing Points

Chicken-and-egg problem:

1. Under **known vanishing points**, we can compute the corresponding set of imaged parallel scene lines.
2. Under **known set of imaged parallel scene lines**, we can compute the vanishing points.

Problem: Both are unknown!

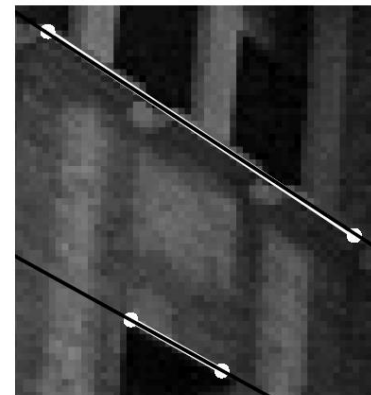
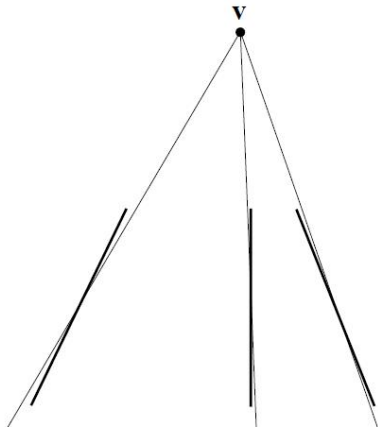


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Computing Vanishing Points

- We'll skip the details of computing vanishing points by just giving several references:
1. Grant Schindler, Frank Dellaert, "Atlanta world: An expectation maximization framework for simultaneous low-level edge grouping and camera calibration in complex man-made environments", CVPR 2004.
 2. Jean-Philippe Tardif, "Non-Iterative Approach for Fast and Accurate Vanishing Point Detection", ICCV 2009.
 3. Gim Hee Lee, "Line Association and Vanishing Point Estimation with Binary Quadratic Programming", 3DV 2017.

Vanishing Lines

- Parallel planes in 3-space intersect π_∞ in a common line, and the **image of this line** is the vanishing line of the plane.
- Geometrically the vanishing line is constructed by **intersecting the image** with a plane parallel to the scene plane through the camera centre.

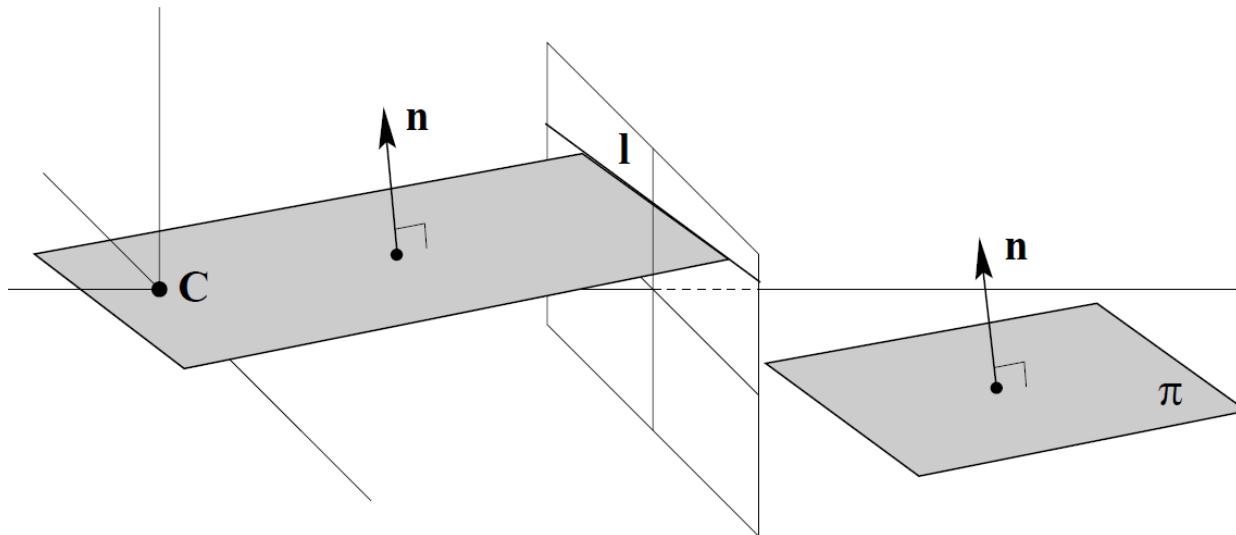


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Vanishing Lines

- Vanishing line depends only on the **orientation** of the scene plane; it does not depend on its position.
- Since lines parallel to a plane intersect the plane at π_∞ , the vanishing point of a line parallel to a plane **lies on the vanishing line** of the plane.

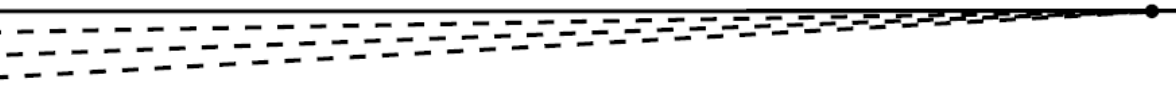


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Vanishing Lines

- If the camera calibration K is known, then a scene plane's vanishing line may be used to **determine information about the plane**.
- We will look at three examples.

Vanishing Lines

Case 1:

- The **plane's orientation** relative to the camera may be determined from its vanishing line.
- A plane through the camera centre with normal direction \mathbf{n} **intersects the image plane** in the line $\mathbf{l} = K^{-T} \mathbf{n}$.
- Consequently, \mathbf{l} is the vanishing line of **planes perpendicular** to \mathbf{n} .
- Thus, a plane with vanishing line \mathbf{l} has orientation $\mathbf{n} = K^T \mathbf{l}$ in the camera's Euclidean coordinate frame.

Vanishing Lines

Case 2:

- The plane may be **metrically rectified** given only its vanishing line.
- Since the **plane normal is known** from the vanishing line, the camera can be synthetically rotated by a homography so that the plane is **fronto-parallel** (i.e. parallel to the image plane).

Vanishing Lines

Case 3:

- The **angle between two scene planes** can be determined from their vanishing lines.
- Suppose the vanishing lines are \mathbf{l}_1 and \mathbf{l}_2 , then the angle θ between the planes is given by

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{l}_1^T \boldsymbol{\omega}^* \mathbf{l}_2}{\sqrt{\mathbf{l}_1^T \boldsymbol{\omega}^* \mathbf{l}_1} \sqrt{\mathbf{l}_2^T \boldsymbol{\omega}^* \mathbf{l}_2}}.$$

Exercise: Prove it!

Computing Vanishing Lines

- A common way to determine a vanishing line of a scene plane is:
 1. Determine **vanishing points** for two sets of lines parallel to the plane, and then
 2. Construct the **line through** the two vanishing points.

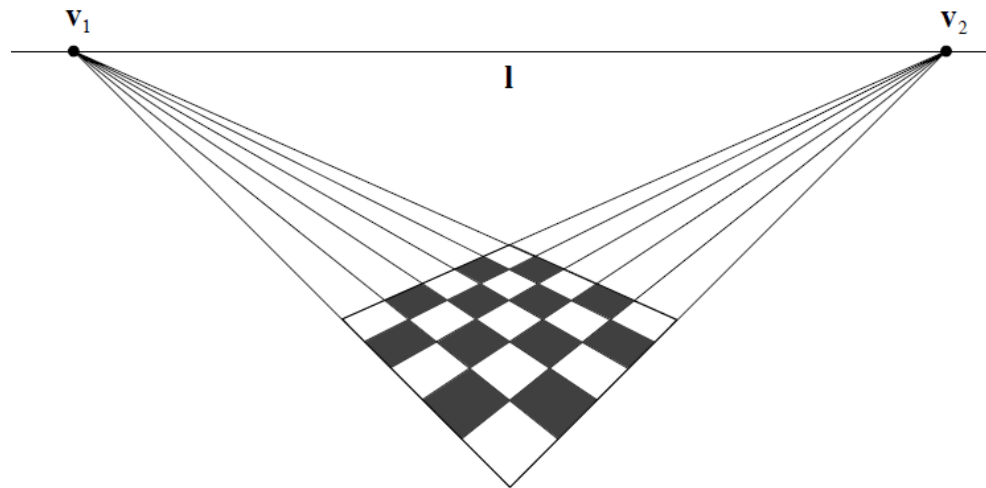


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Orthogonality Relationships: Vanishing Points and Lines

The orthogonality relationships among vanishing points and lines can be used to determine ω :

- i. The vanishing points of **lines with perpendicular directions** satisfy

$$\mathbf{v}_1^T \omega \mathbf{v}_2 = 0.$$

- ii. If **a line is perpendicular to a plane**, then their respective vanishing point \mathbf{v} and vanishing line \mathbf{l} are related by

$$\mathbf{l} = \omega \mathbf{v} \quad \text{and inversely} \quad \mathbf{v} = \omega^* \mathbf{l}.$$

- iii. The vanishing lines of **two perpendicular planes** satisfy $\mathbf{l}_1^T \omega^* \mathbf{l}_2 = 0$.

Affine 3D Measurements

- Given the **vanishing line** of the ground plane \mathbf{l} and the vertical **vanishing point** \mathbf{v} .
- Then the **relative length of vertical line segments** can be measured provided their end point lies on the ground plane.

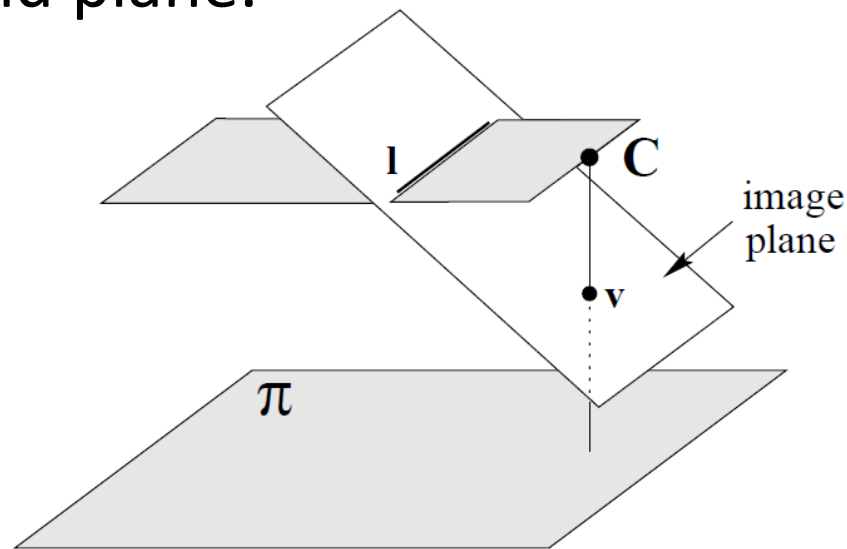


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Affine 3D Measurements

- **Given:** The vanishing line of the ground plane \mathbf{l} and the vertical vanishing point \mathbf{v} and the top ($\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2$) and base ($\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2$) points of two line segments.
- **Compute:** The **ratio of lengths** of the line segments in the scene.

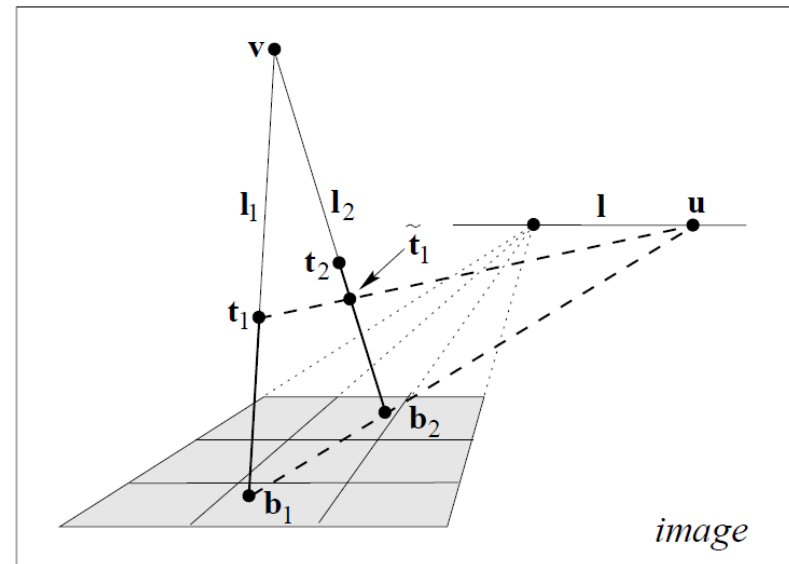
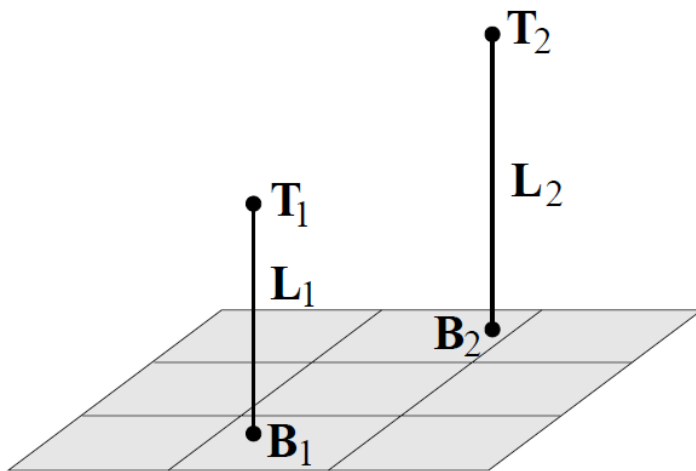


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Affine 3D Measurements

1. Compute the **vanishing point** $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{b}_1 \times \mathbf{b}_2) \times \mathbf{l}$.
2. Compute the **transferred point** $\tilde{\mathbf{t}}_1 = (\mathbf{t}_1 \times \mathbf{u}) \times \mathbf{l}_2$, where $\mathbf{l}_2 = \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{b}_2$.
3. Represent the four points \mathbf{b}_2 , $\tilde{\mathbf{t}}_1$, \mathbf{t}_2 and \mathbf{v} on the image line \mathbf{l}_2 by their distance from \mathbf{b}_2 , as 0, $\tilde{\mathbf{t}}_1$, \mathbf{t}_2 and \mathbf{v} , respectively.

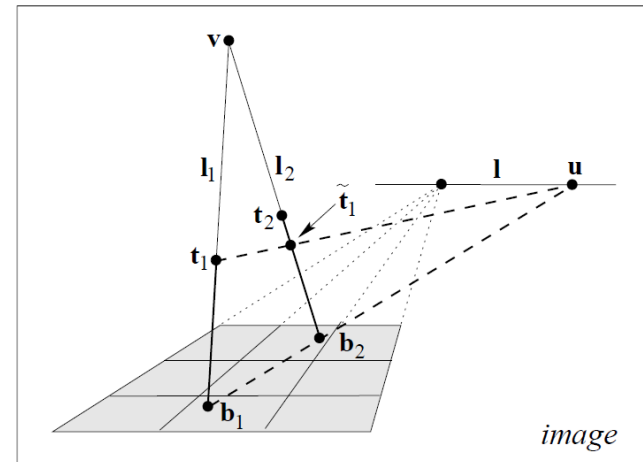
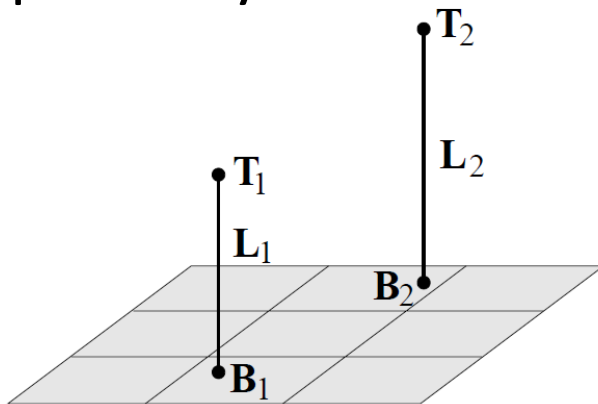


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Affine 3D Measurements

4. Compute a **1D projective transformation** $H_{2 \times 2}$ mapping homogeneous coordinates $(0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 1)$ and $(v, 1) \rightarrow (1, 0)$ (which maps the vanishing point \mathbf{v} to infinity).

A suitable matrix is given by:

$$H_{2 \times 2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -v \end{bmatrix}.$$

Affine 3D Measurements

- The (scaled) distance of the scene points $\tilde{\mathbf{T}}_1$ and \mathbf{T}_2 from \mathbf{B}_2 on \mathbf{L}_2 may then be obtained from the position of the points $H_{2 \times 2}(\tilde{t}_1, 1)^\top$ and $H_{2 \times 2}(t_2, 1)^\top$.
- Their **distance ratio** is then given by:
$$\frac{d_1}{d_2} = \frac{\tilde{t}_1(v - t_2)}{t_2(v - \tilde{t}_1)}.$$

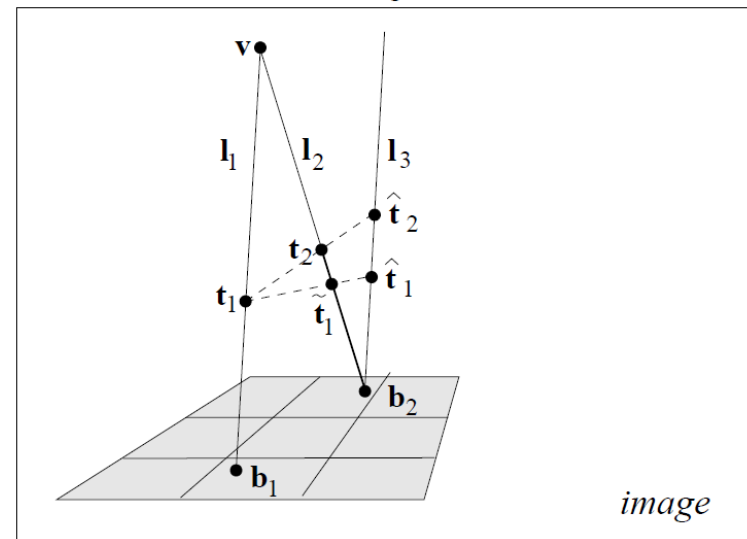
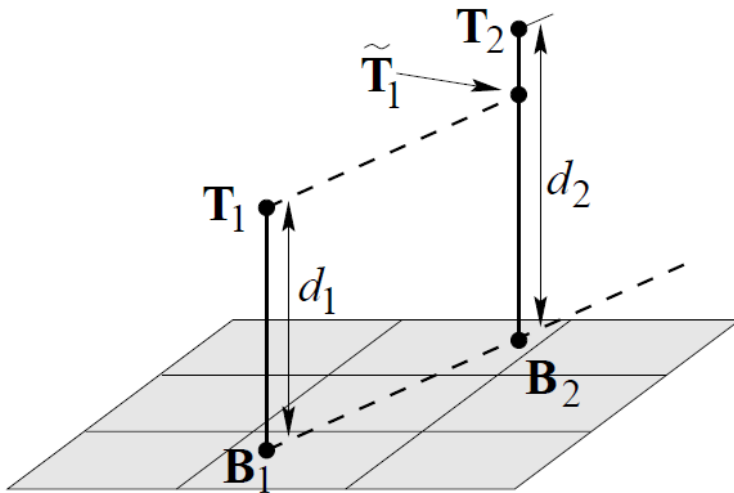


Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Height Measurements using Affine Properties

- Given the vanishing line of the ground plane \mathbf{l} (cyan line) and the vertical vanishing point \mathbf{v} (not shown).
- And using the known height of the filing cabinet, the absolute **height of the two people** are measured.



Image source: "Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision", Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Determining Camera Calibration K from a Single View

Scene and internal constraints on ω .

Condition	constraint	type	# constraints
vanishing points $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ corresponding to orthogonal lines	$\mathbf{v}_1^T \omega \mathbf{v}_2 = 0$	linear	1
vanishing point \mathbf{v} and vanishing line \mathbf{l} corresponding to orthogonal line and plane	$[\mathbf{l}]_{\times} \omega \mathbf{v} = 0$	linear	2
metric plane imaged with known homography $\mathbf{H} = [\mathbf{h}_1, \mathbf{h}_2, \mathbf{h}_3]$	$\mathbf{h}_1^T \omega \mathbf{h}_2 = 0$ $\mathbf{h}_1^T \omega \mathbf{h}_1 = \mathbf{h}_2^T \omega \mathbf{h}_2$	linear	2
zero skew	$\omega_{12} = \omega_{21} = 0$	linear	1
square pixels	$\omega_{12} = \omega_{21} = 0$ $\omega_{11} = \omega_{22}$	linear	2

Table source: “Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision”, Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman

Determining Camera Calibration K from a Single View

Computing K from scene and internal constraints:

1. Represent ω as a **homogeneous 6-vector** $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, w_5, w_6)^T$ where:

$$\omega = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & w_2 & w_4 \\ w_2 & w_3 & w_5 \\ w_4 & w_5 & w_6 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. Each available constraint from the table may be written as $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{w} = 0$.

Determining Camera Calibration K from a Single View

3. Stack the equations $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{w} = 0$ from each constraint in the form $A\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$, where A is a $n \times 6$ matrix for n constraints.
4. Solve for \mathbf{w} using the SVD, and this determines ω .
5. Decompose ω into K using matrix inversion and Cholesky factorization.

Summary

- We have looked at how to:
 1. Describe the **action of camera projection** on planes, lines, conics and quadrics.
 2. Explain the respective effect of **fixed camera centre**, **increased focal length** and **pure rotation** on the image.
 3. Calibrate the intrinsic of a camera with the **Image of Absolute Conic** (IAC).
 4. Define **vanishing point** and **vanishing line**, and use them to find the geometric properties of the scene and camera.