

CSE 167:  
Introduction to Computer Graphics  
Lecture #4: Coordinate Systems

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# Announcements

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- ▶ Friday: homework 1 due at 2pm
  - ▶ Upload to TritonEd
  - ▶ Demonstrate in CSE basement labs
- ▶ Thursday: TA Jean teaching class

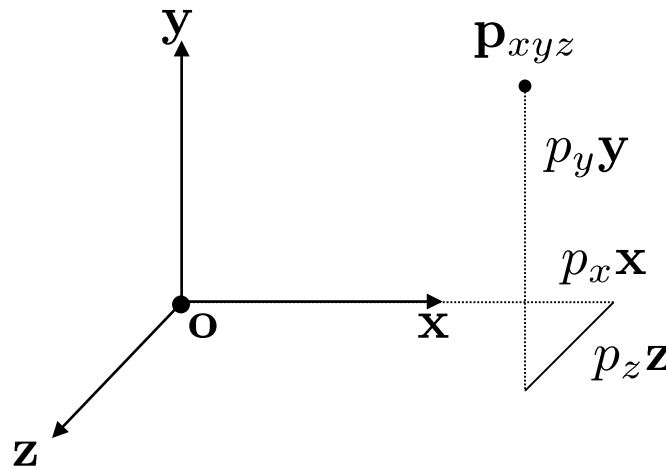
# Lecture Overview

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- ▶ **Coordinate Transformation**
- ▶ Typical Coordinate Systems

# Coordinate System

- ▶ Given point **p** in homogeneous coordinates:  $\begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- ▶ Coordinates describe the point's 3D position in a coordinate system with basis vectors **x**, **y**, **z** and origin **o**:

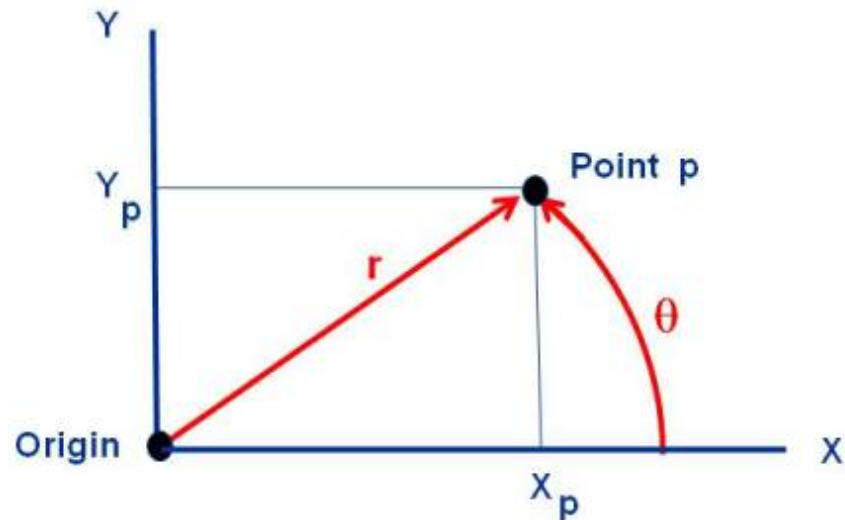


$$\mathbf{p}_{xyz} = p_x\mathbf{x} + p_y\mathbf{y} + p_z\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{o}$$

# Rectangular and Polar Coordinates

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

## *Rectangular and Polar Coordinates*



Point p can be located relative to the origin by Rectangular Coordinates  $(X_p, Y_p)$  or by Polar Coordinates  $(r, \theta)$

$$X_p = r \cos(\theta)$$

$$r = \sqrt{X_p^2 + Y_p^2}$$

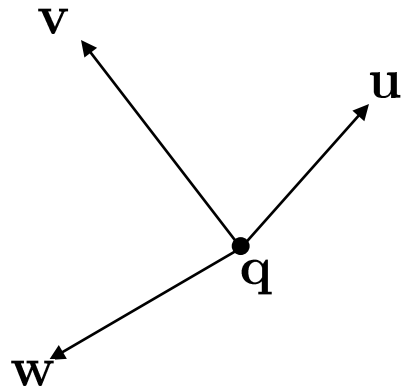
$$Y_p = r \sin(\theta)$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}(Y_p / X_p)$$

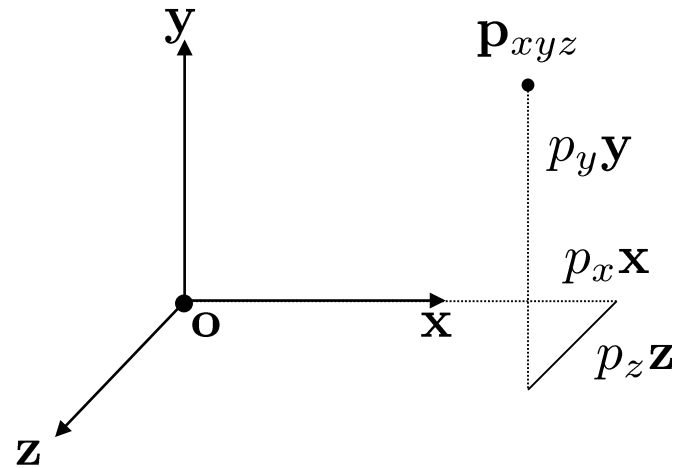
[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)

# Coordinate Transformation

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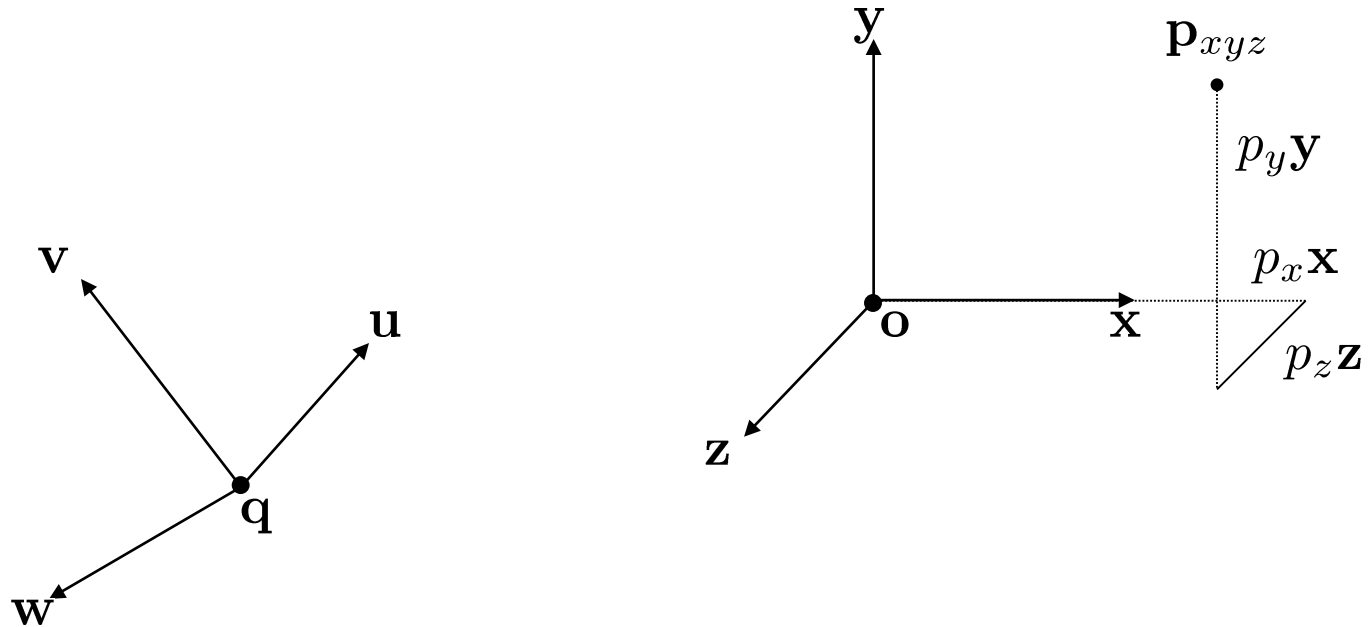
New **uvwq** coordinate system



Original **xyzo** coordinate system

Goal: Find coordinates of  $p_{xyz}$  in new **uvwq** coordinate system

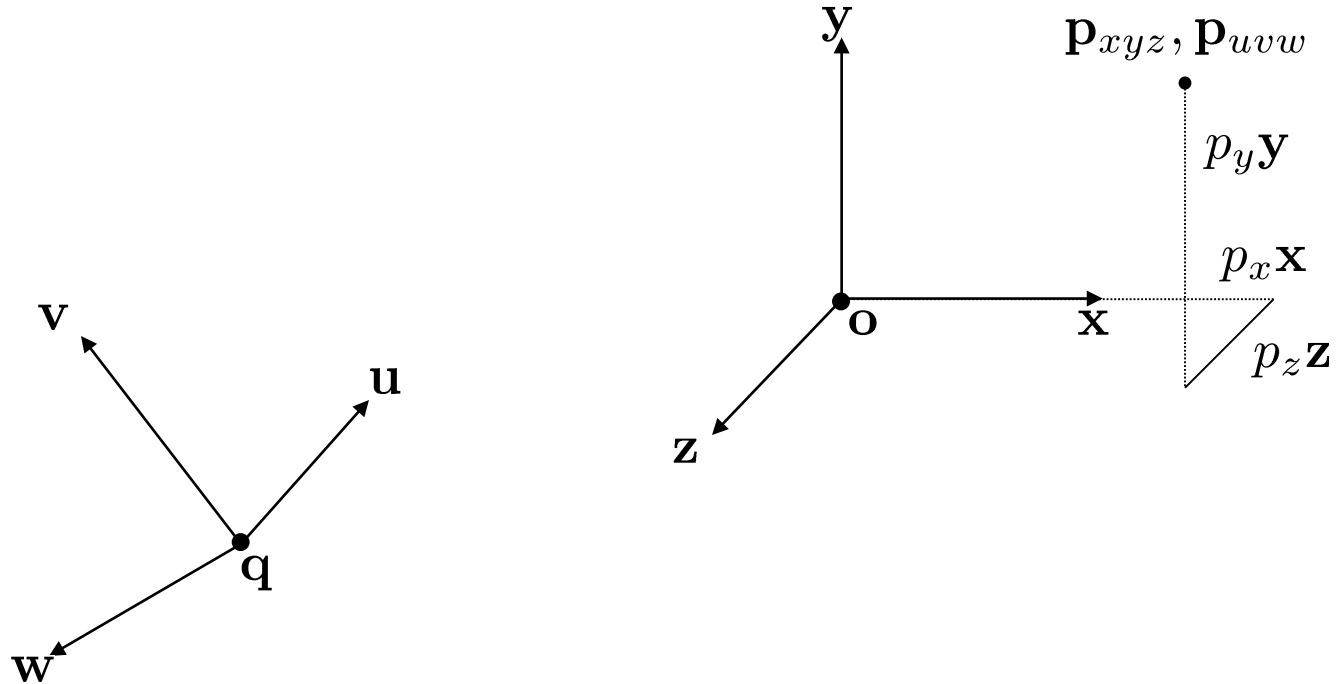
# Coordinate Transformation



Express coordinates of **xyzo** reference frame  
with respect to **uvwq** reference frame:

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_u \\ x_v \\ x_w \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_u \\ y_v \\ y_w \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} z_u \\ z_v \\ z_w \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{o} = \begin{bmatrix} o_u \\ o_v \\ o_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Coordinate Transformation



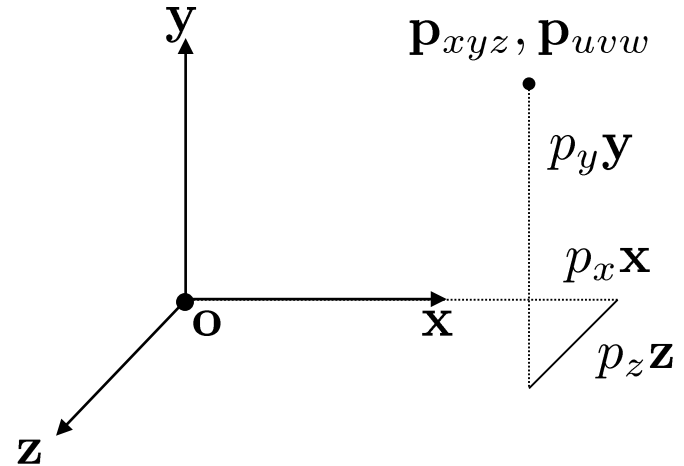
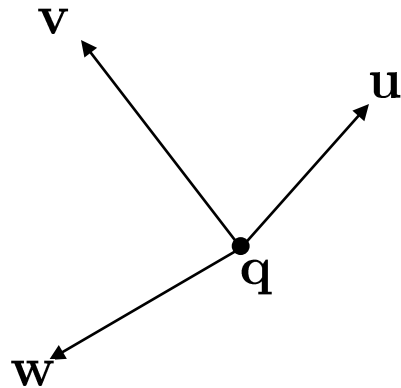
Point  $\mathbf{p}$  expressed in new  $\mathbf{uvw}$  reference frame:

$$\mathbf{p}_{uvw} = p_x \begin{bmatrix} x_u \\ x_v \\ x_w \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + p_y \begin{bmatrix} y_u \\ y_v \\ y_w \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + p_z \begin{bmatrix} z_u \\ z_v \\ z_w \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} o_u \\ o_v \\ o_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Coordinate Transformation

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$$\mathbf{p}_{uvw} = \begin{bmatrix} x_u & y_u & z_u & o_u \\ x_v & y_v & z_v & o_v \\ x_w & y_w & z_w & o_w \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{y} & \mathbf{z} & \mathbf{o} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_x \\ p_y \\ p_z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Coordinate Transformation

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## Inverse transformation

- ▶ Given point  $\mathbf{P}_{uvw}$  w.r.t. reference frame **uvwq**:
  - ▶ Coordinates  $\mathbf{P}_{xyz}$  w.r.t. reference frame **xyzo** are calculated as:

$$\mathbf{P}_{xyz} = \begin{bmatrix} x_u & y_u & z_u & o_u \\ x_v & y_v & z_v & o_v \\ x_w & y_w & z_w & o_w \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} p_u \\ p_v \\ p_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Lecture Overview

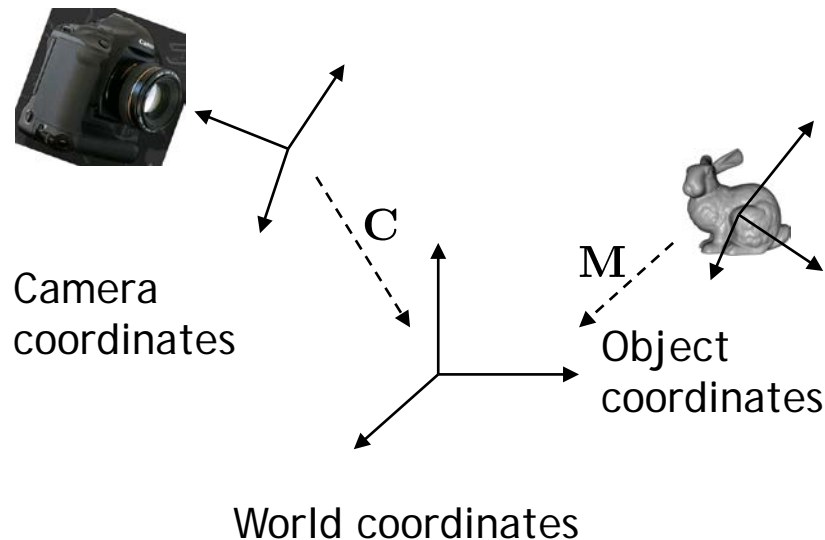
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- ▶ Coordinate Transformation
- ▶ Typical Coordinate Systems

# Typical Coordinate Systems

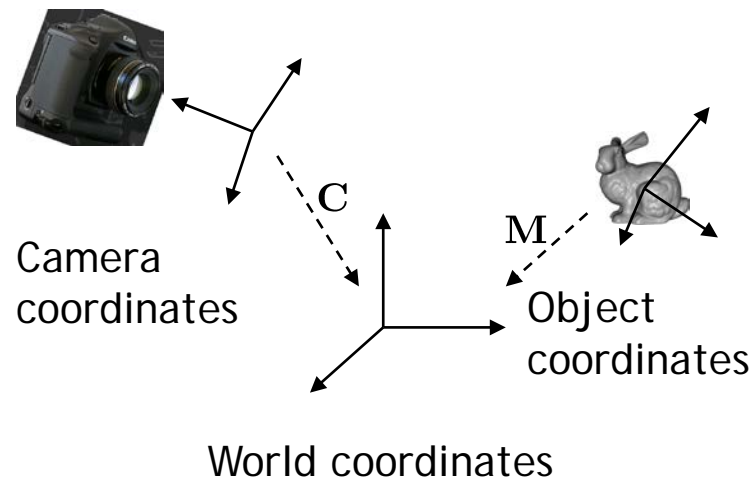
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- ▶ In computer graphics, we typically use at least three coordinate systems:
  - ▶ World coordinate system
  - ▶ Camera coordinate system
  - ▶ Object coordinate system



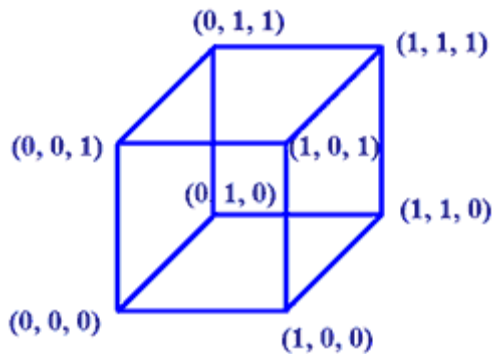
# World Coordinates

- ▶ Common reference frame for all objects in the scene
- ▶ No standard for coordinate system orientation
  - ▶ If there is a ground plane, usually x/y is horizontal and z points up (height)
  - ▶ Otherwise, x/y is often screen plane, z points out of the screen

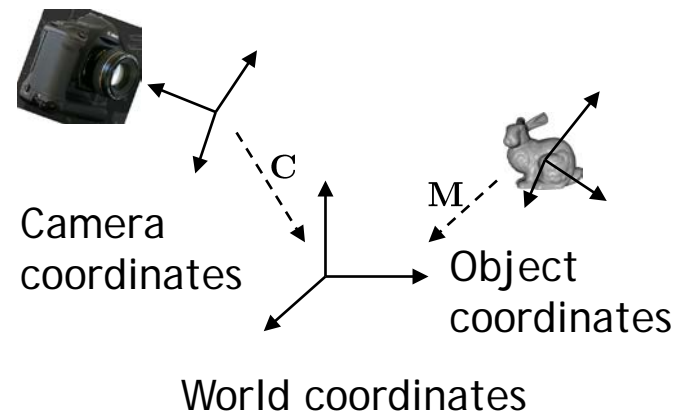


# Object Coordinates

- ▶ Local coordinates in which points and other object geometry are given
- ▶ Often origin is in geometric center, on the base, or in a corner of the object
  - ▶ Depends on how object is generated or used.



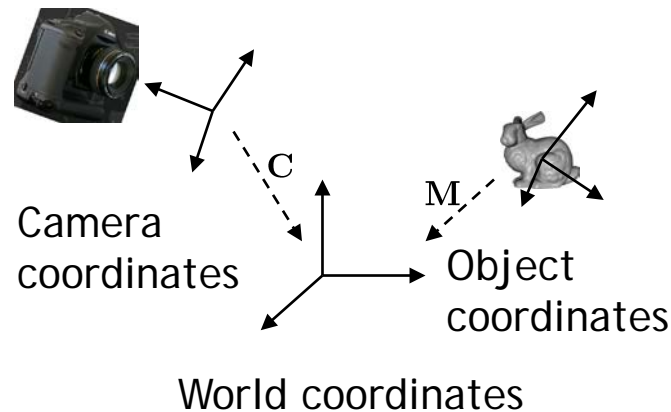
Source: <http://motivate.maths.org>



# Object Transformation

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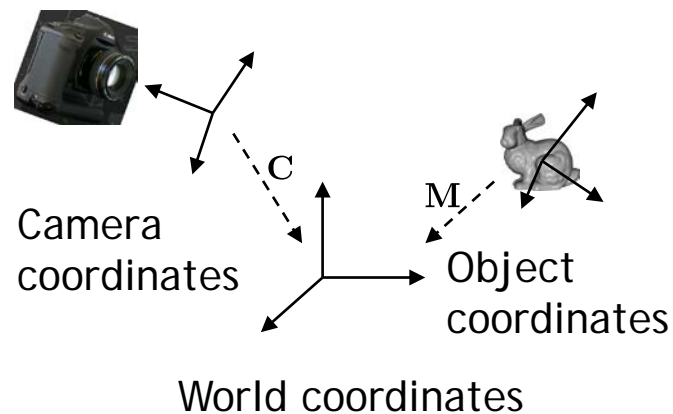
- ▶ The transformation from object to world coordinates is different for each object.
- ▶ Defines placement of object in scene.
- ▶ Given by “model matrix” (model-to-world transformation) **M**.



# Camera Coordinate System

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- ▶ Origin defines center of projection of camera
- ▶ x-y plane is parallel to image plane
- ▶ z-axis is perpendicular to image plane

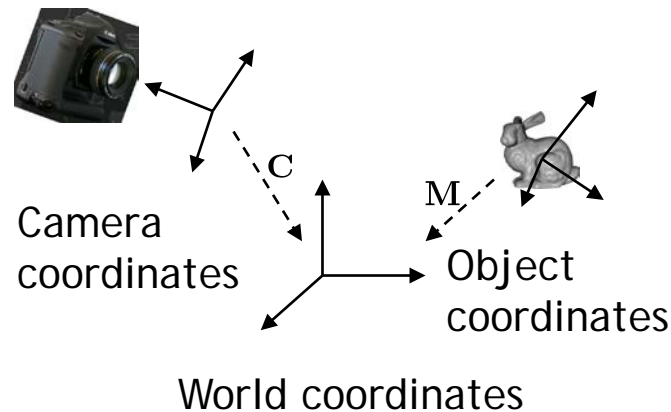




# Camera Coordinate System

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- ▶ The Camera Matrix defines the transformation from camera to world coordinates
  - ▶ Placement of camera in world



# Camera Matrix

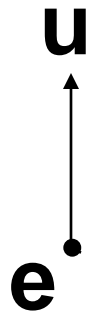
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► Given:

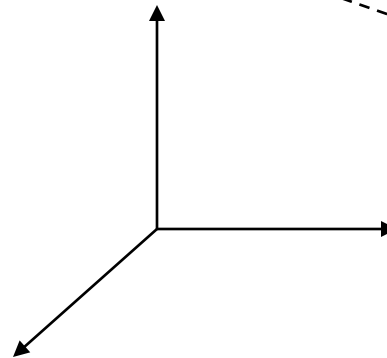
- Center point of projection  $\mathbf{e}$
- Look at point  $\mathbf{d}$
- Camera up vector  $\mathbf{u}$



Camera  
coordinates



$\mathbf{d}$

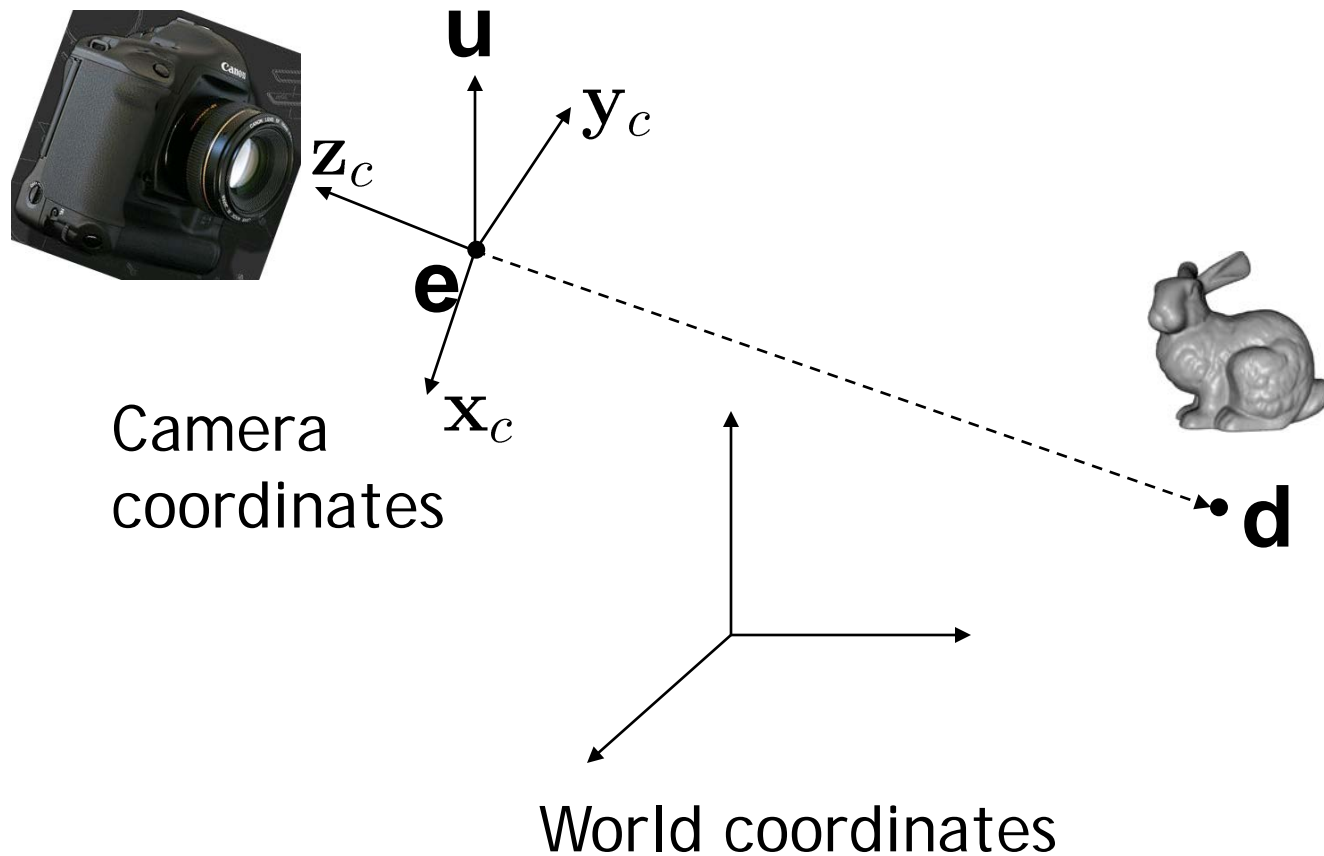


World coordinates

# Camera Matrix

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- Construct  $\mathbf{x}_c$ ,  $\mathbf{y}_c$ ,  $\mathbf{z}_c$



# Camera Matrix

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- ▶ Step 1: z-axis

$$\mathbf{z}_C = \frac{\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{d}}{\|\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{d}\|}$$

- ▶ Step 2: x-axis

$$\mathbf{x}_C = \frac{\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{z}_C}{\|\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{z}_C\|}$$

- ▶ Step 3: y-axis

$$\mathbf{y}_C = \mathbf{z}_C \times \mathbf{x}_C = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|}$$

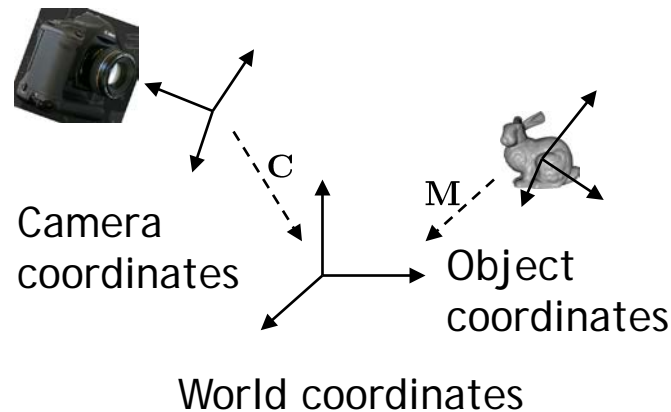
- ▶ Camera Matrix:

$$\mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_C & \mathbf{y}_C & \mathbf{z}_C & \mathbf{e} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Transforming Object to Camera Coordinates

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- ▶ Object to world coordinates: **M**
- ▶ Camera to world coordinates: **C**
- ▶ Point to transform: **p**
- ▶ Resulting transformation equation:  **$p' = C^{-1} M p$**



# Tips for Notation

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- ▶ Indicate coordinate systems with every point or matrix

- ▶ Point:  $\mathbf{p}_{\text{object}}$

- ▶ Matrix:  $\mathbf{M}_{\text{object} \rightarrow \text{world}}$

- ▶ Resulting transformation equation:

$$\mathbf{p}_{\text{camera}} = (\mathbf{C}_{\text{camera} \rightarrow \text{world}})^{-1} \mathbf{M}_{\text{object} \rightarrow \text{world}} \mathbf{p}_{\text{object}}$$

- ▶ In source code use similar names:

- ▶ Point: `p_object` or `p_obj` or `p_o`

- ▶ Matrix: `object2world` or `obj2wld` or `o2w`

- ▶ Resulting transformation equation:

```
wld2cam = inverse(cam2wld);
```

```
p_cam = p_obj * obj2wld * wld2cam;
```

# Inverse of Camera Matrix

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- ▶ How to calculate the inverse of camera matrix  $\mathbf{C}^{-1}$ ?
- ▶ Generic matrix inversion is complex and compute-intensive!
- ▶ Solution: affine transformation matrices can be inverted more easily
- ▶ Observation:
  - ▶ Camera matrix consists of translation and rotation:  $\mathbf{T} \times \mathbf{R}$
- ▶ Inverse of rotation:  $\mathbf{R}^{-1} = \mathbf{R}^T$
- ▶ Inverse of translation:  $\mathbf{T}(t)^{-1} = \mathbf{T}(-t)$
- ▶ Inverse of camera matrix:  $\mathbf{C}^{-1} = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \times \mathbf{T}^{-1}$

# Objects in Camera Coordinates

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- ▶ We have things lined up the way we like them on screen
  - ▶  $x$  points to the right
  - ▶  $y$  points up
  - ▶  $-z$  into the screen (i.e.,  $z$  points out of the screen)
  - ▶ Objects to look at are in front of us, i.e., have negative  $z$  values
- ▶ But objects are still in 3D
- ▶ Next step: project scene to 2D plane