



Lecture 9 & 10: Stereo Vision

Professor Fei-Fei Li
Stanford Vision Lab

What we will learn today?

- Introduction to stereo vision
- Epipolar geometry: a gentle intro
- Parallel images
- Image rectification
- Solving the correspondence problem
- Active stereo vision system

Reading:

[HZ] Chapters: 4, 9, 11
[FP] Chapters: 10

What we will learn today?

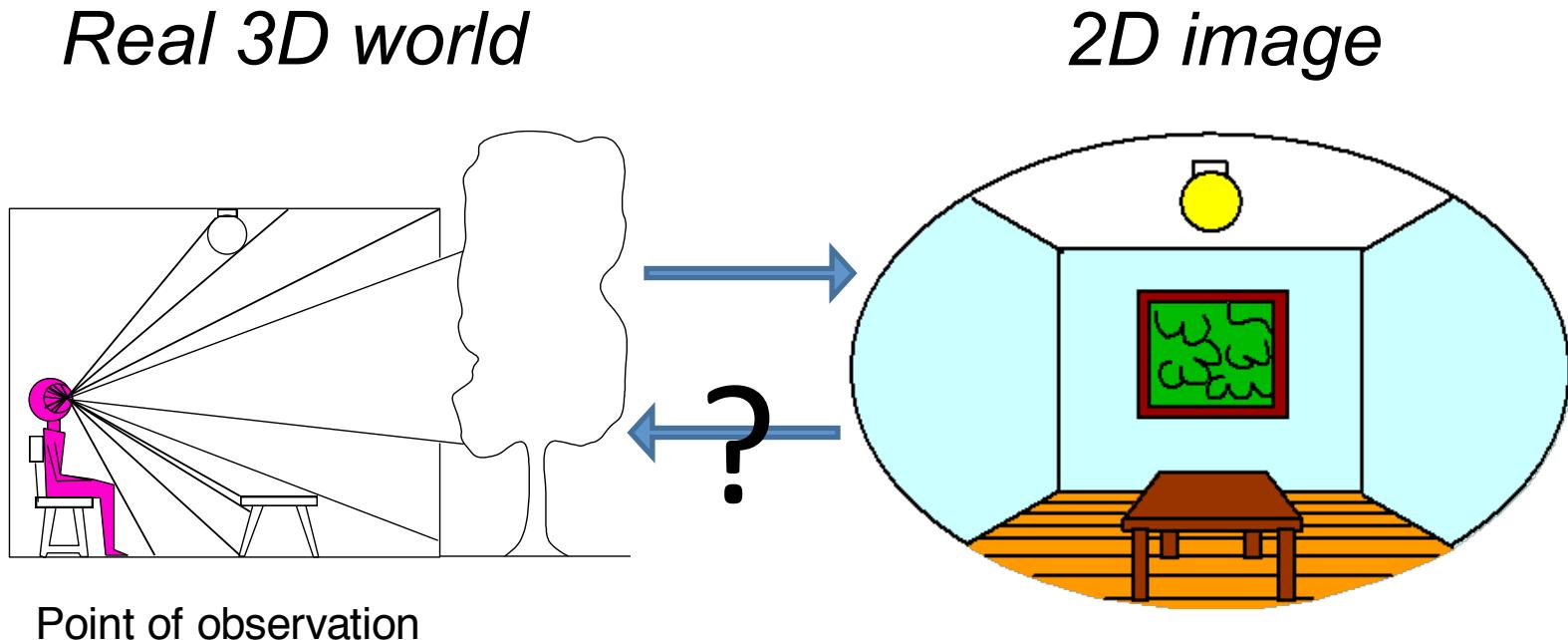
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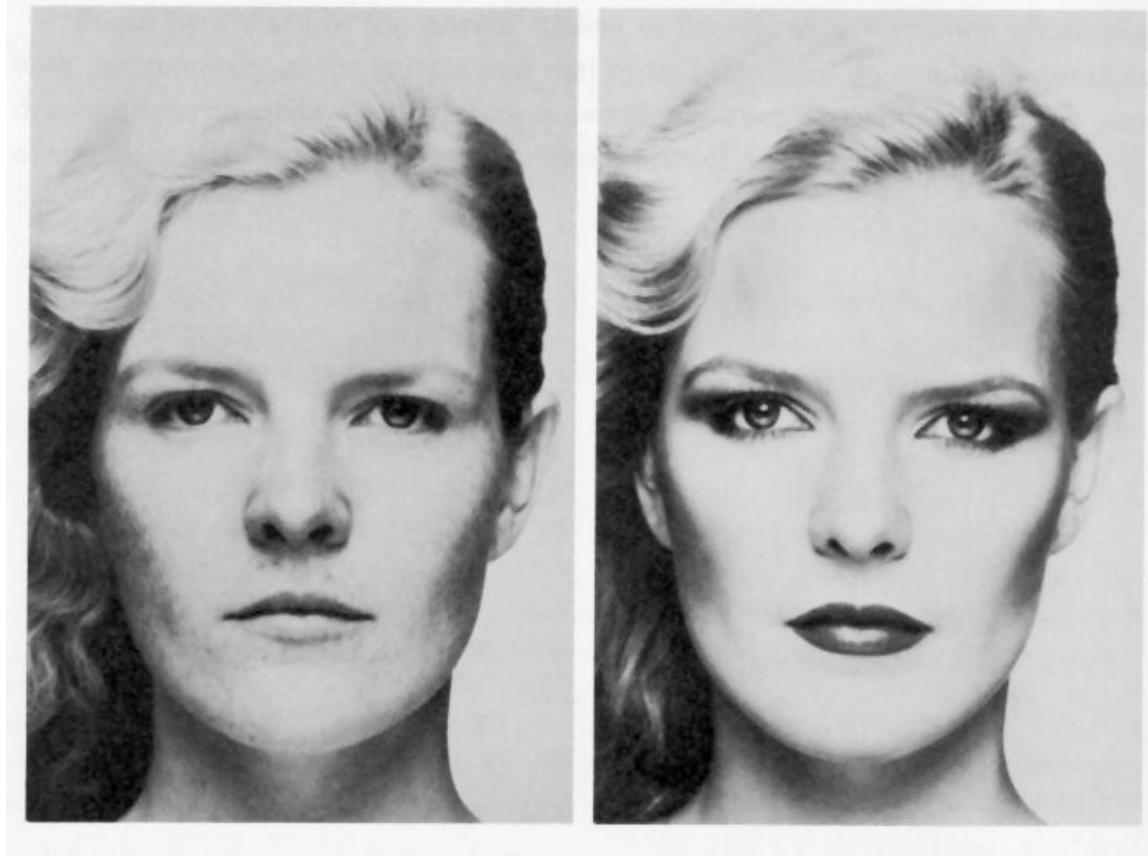
Recovering 3D from Images

- How can we automatically compute 3D geometry from images?
 - What cues in the image provide 3D information?



Visual Cues for 3D

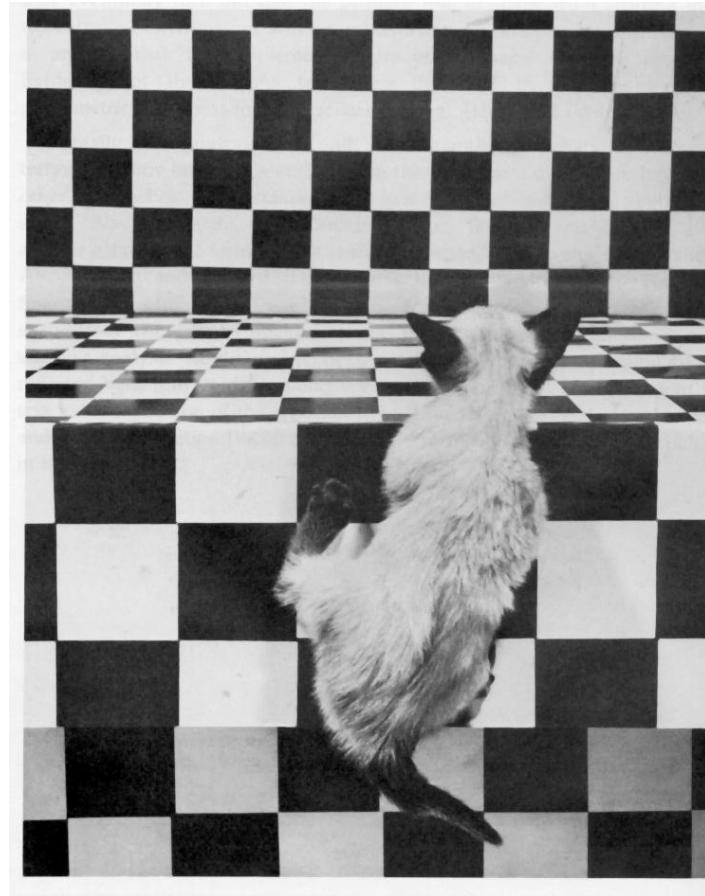
- Shading



Merle Norman Cosmetics, Los Angeles

Visual Cues for 3D

- Shading
- Texture



The Visual Cliff, by William Vandivert, 1960

Visual Cues for 3D

- Shading
- Texture
- Focus



From *The Art of Photography, Canon*

Visual Cues for 3D

- Shading
- Texture
- Focus
- Motion



Visual Cues for 3D

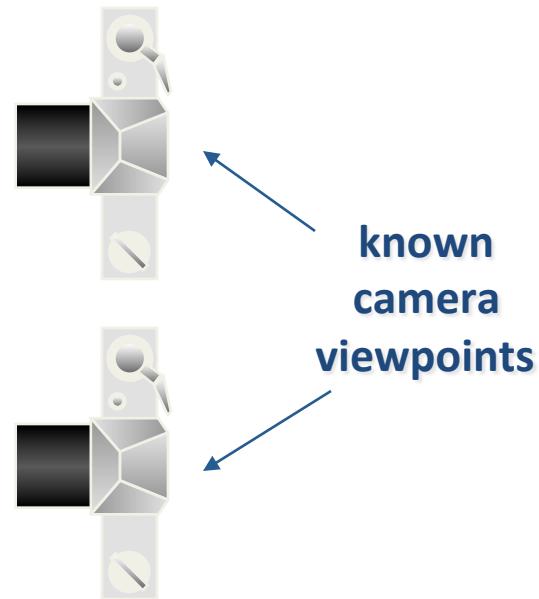
- Shading
 - Texture
 - Focus
 - Motion
- Others:
 - Highlights
 - Shadows
 - Silhouettes
 - Inter-reflections
 - Symmetry
 - Light Polarization
 - ...

Shape From X

- $X = \text{shading, texture, focus, motion, ...}$
- We'll focus on the motion cue

Stereo Reconstruction

- The Stereo Problem
 - Shape from two (or more) images
 - Biological motivation



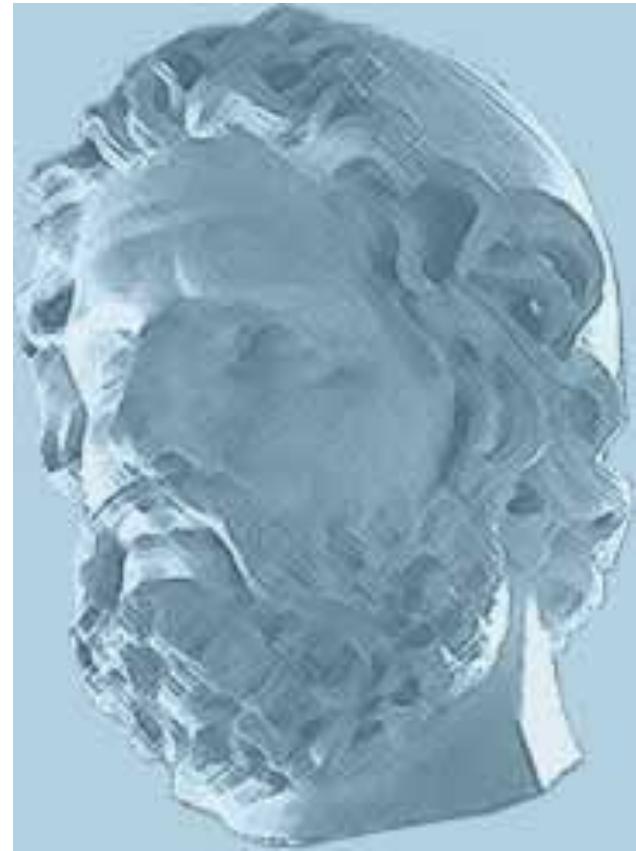
Why do we have two eyes?



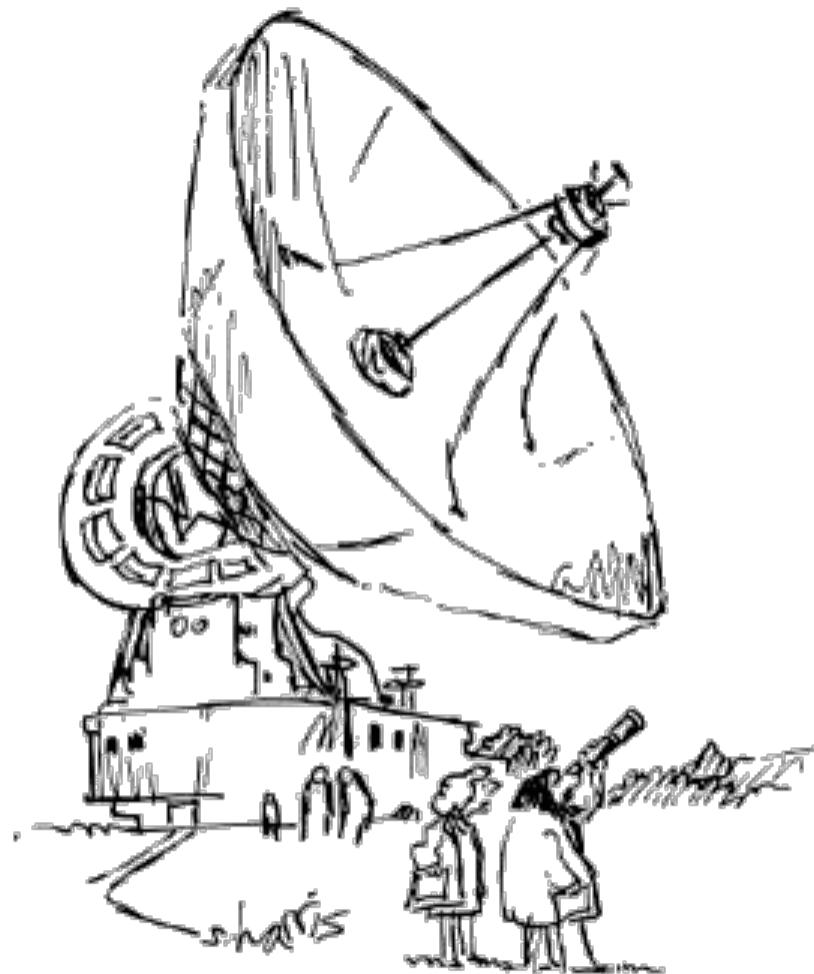
Cyclope

vs.

Odysseus



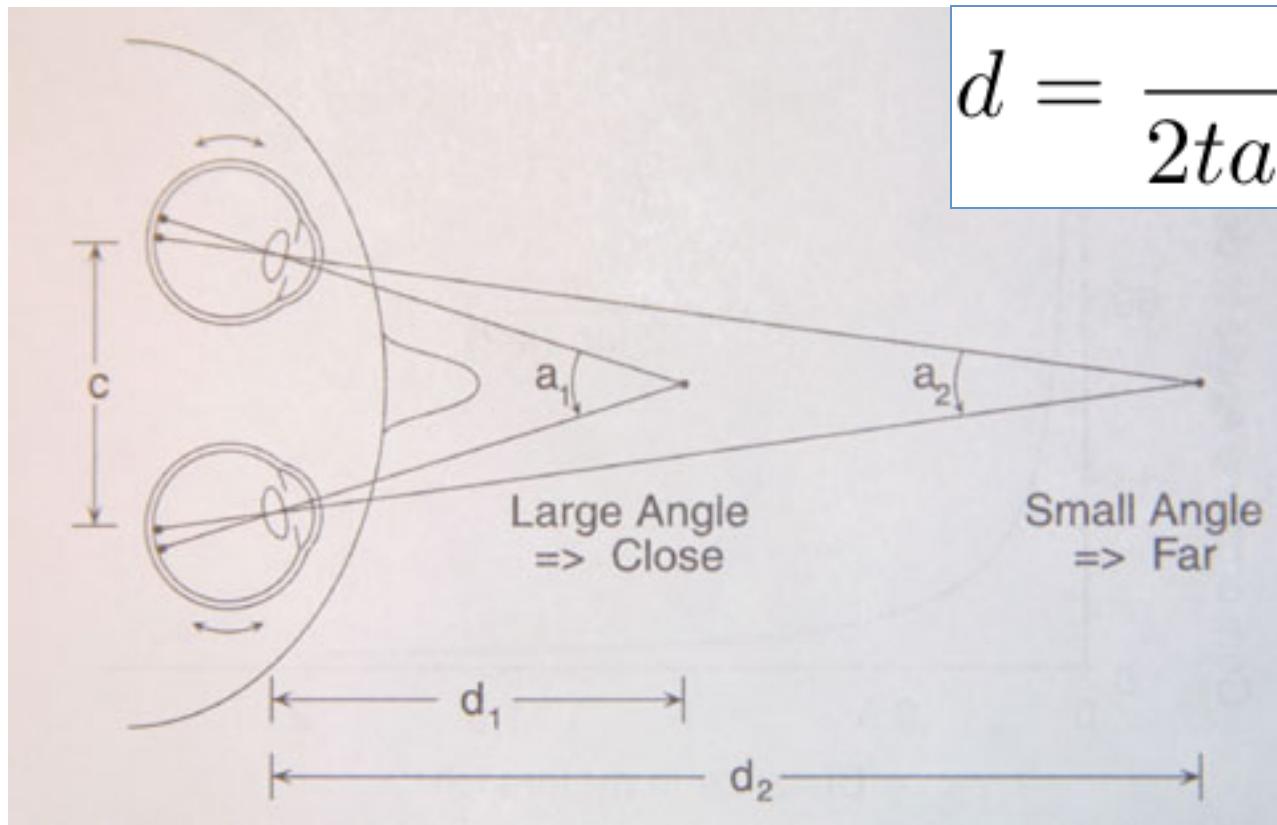
1. Two is better than one



"Just checking."

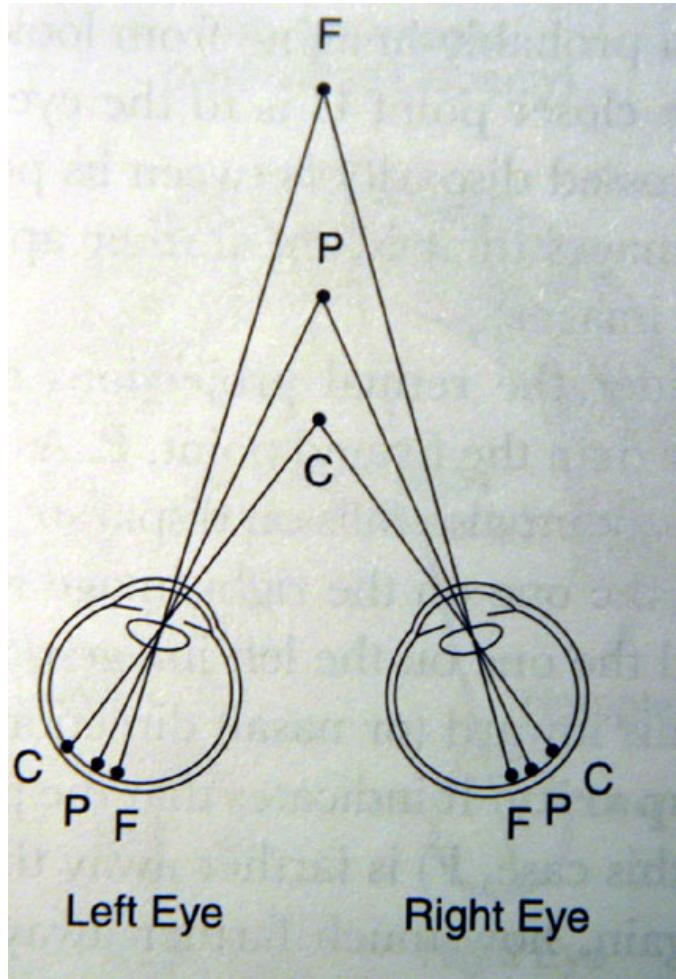
2. Depth from Convergence

$$d = \frac{c}{2\tan(a/2)}$$



Human performance: up to 6-8 feet

3. Depth from binocular disparity



P: converging point

C: object nearer projects to the outside of the P, disparity = +

F: object farther projects to the inside of the P, disparity = -

Sign and magnitude of disparity

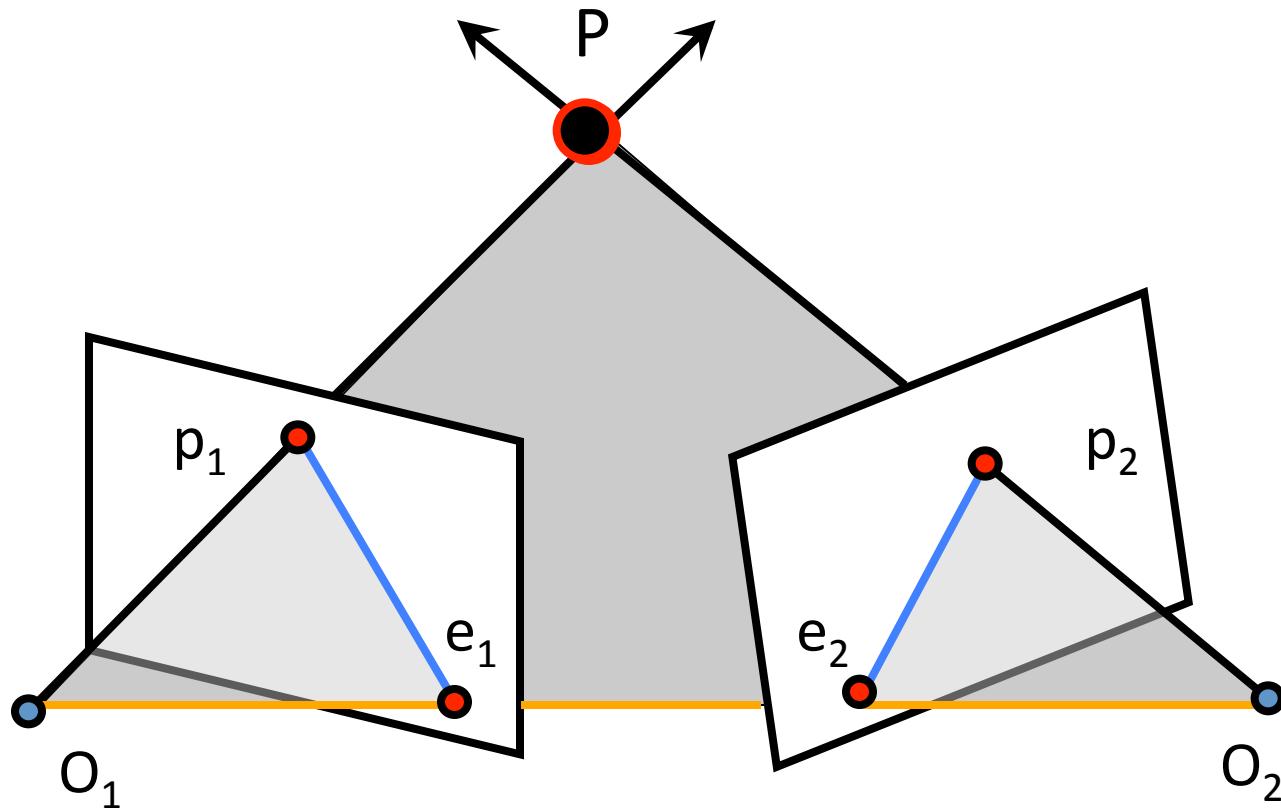
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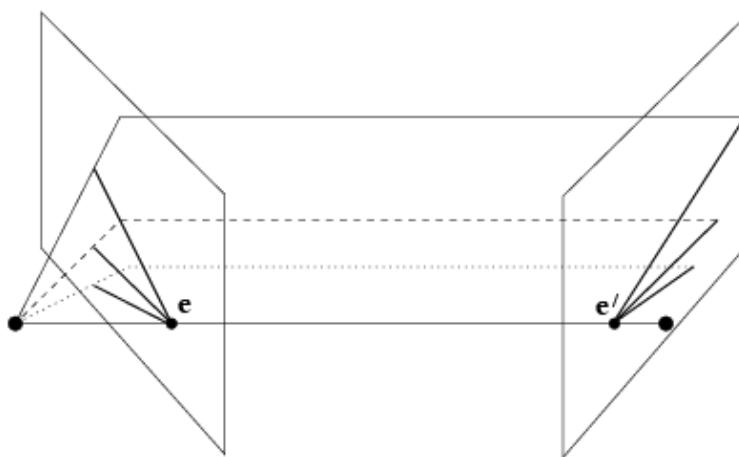
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Epipolar geometry

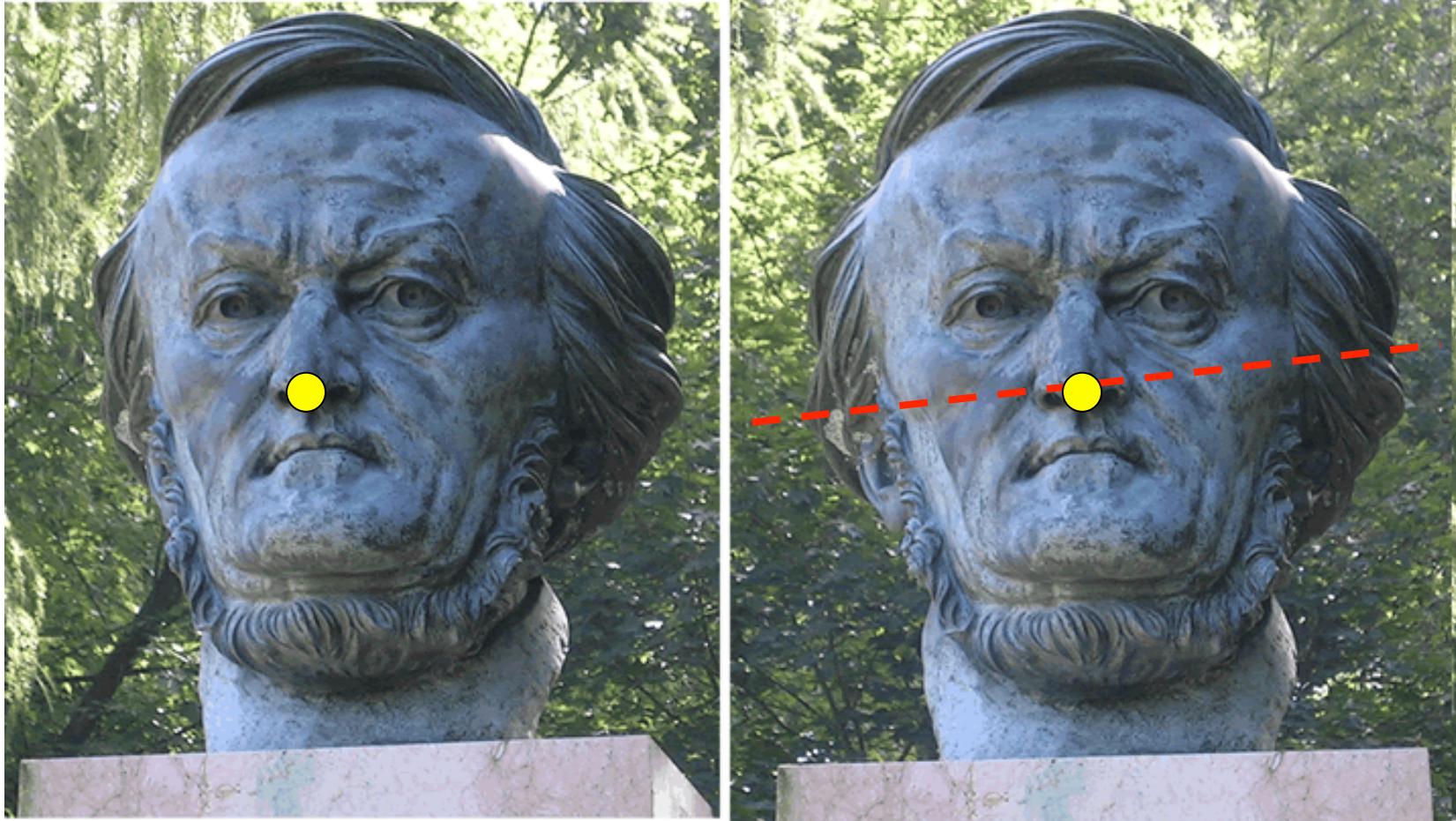


- Epipolar Plane
- Baseline
- Epipolar Lines
- Epipoles e_1, e_2
 - = intersections of baseline with image planes
 - = projections of the other camera center
 - = vanishing points of camera motion direction

Example: Converging image planes

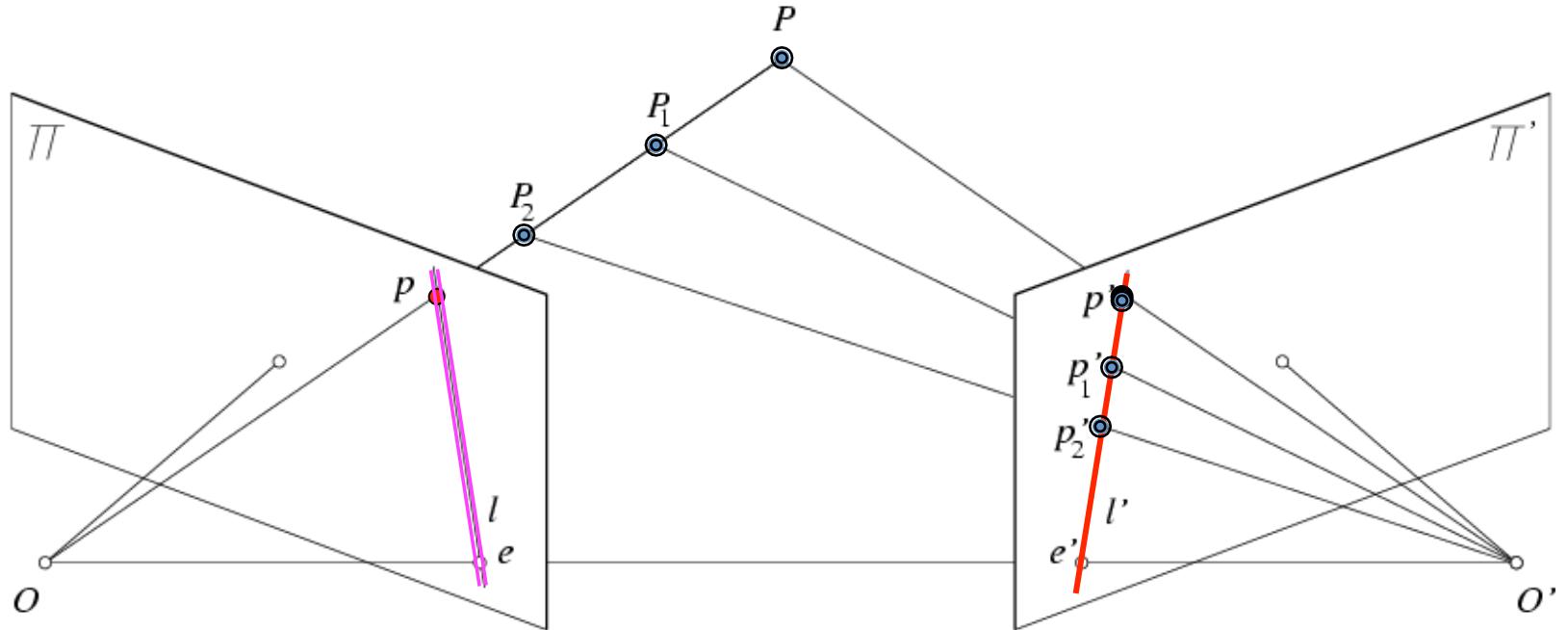


Epipolar Constraint



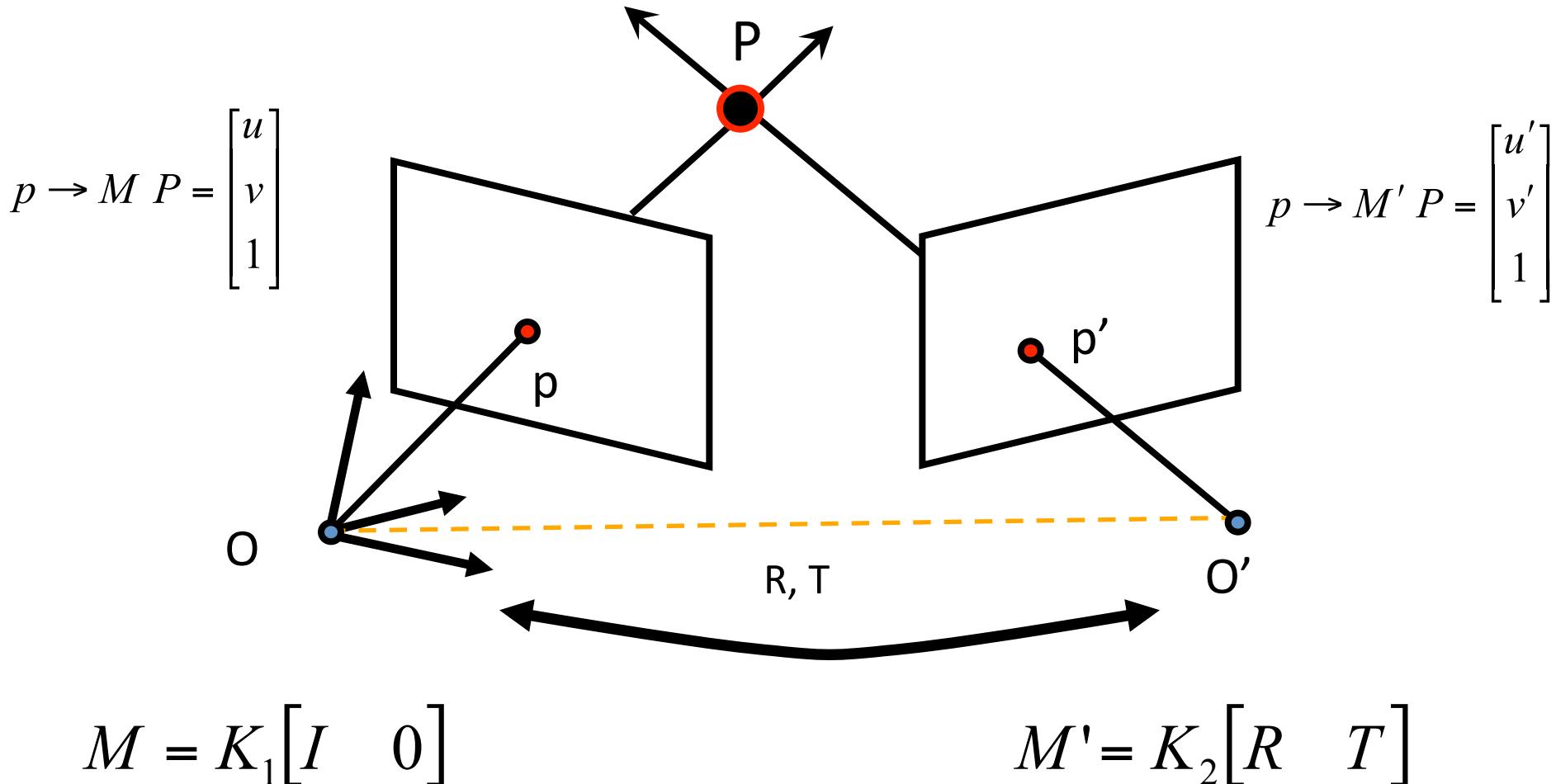
- Two views of the same object
- Suppose I know the camera positions and camera matrices
- Given a point on left image, how can I find the corresponding point on right image?

Epipolar Constraint

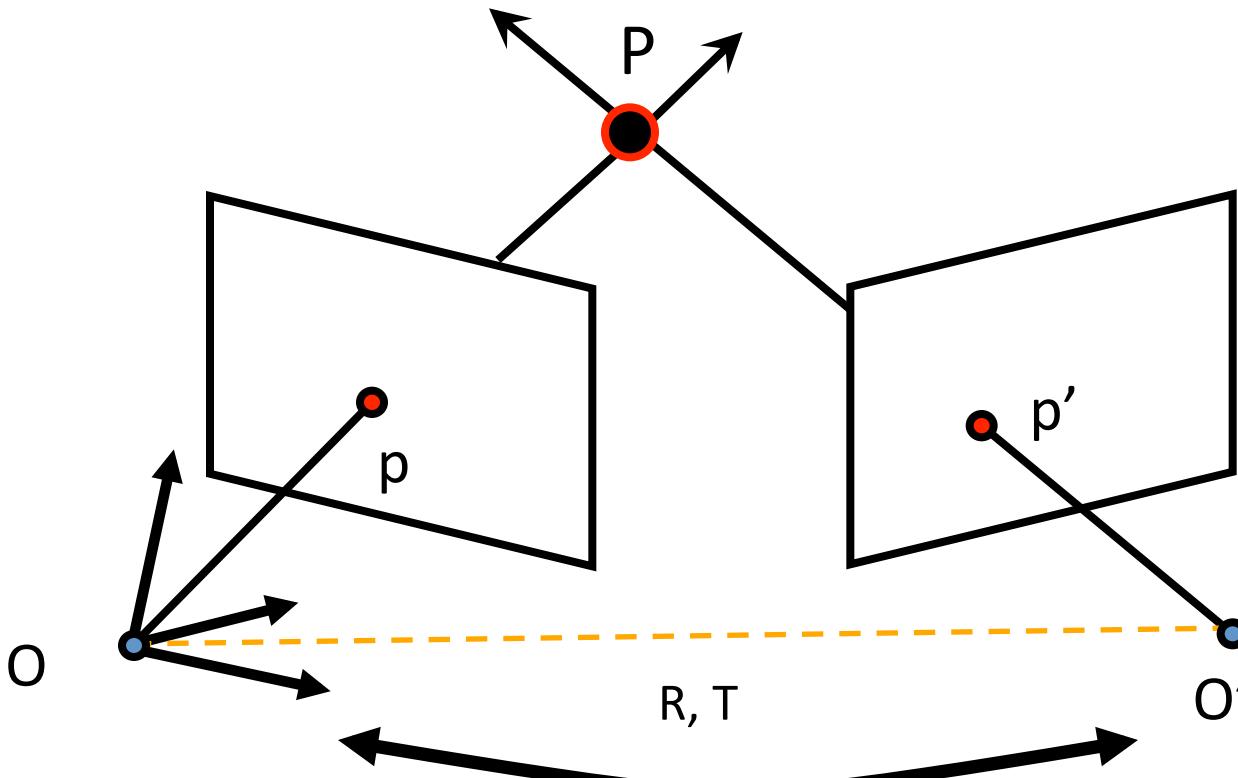


- Potential matches for p have to lie on the corresponding epipolar line l' .
- Potential matches for p' have to lie on the corresponding epipolar line l .

Epipolar Constraint



Epipolar Constraint



$$M = K_1 \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

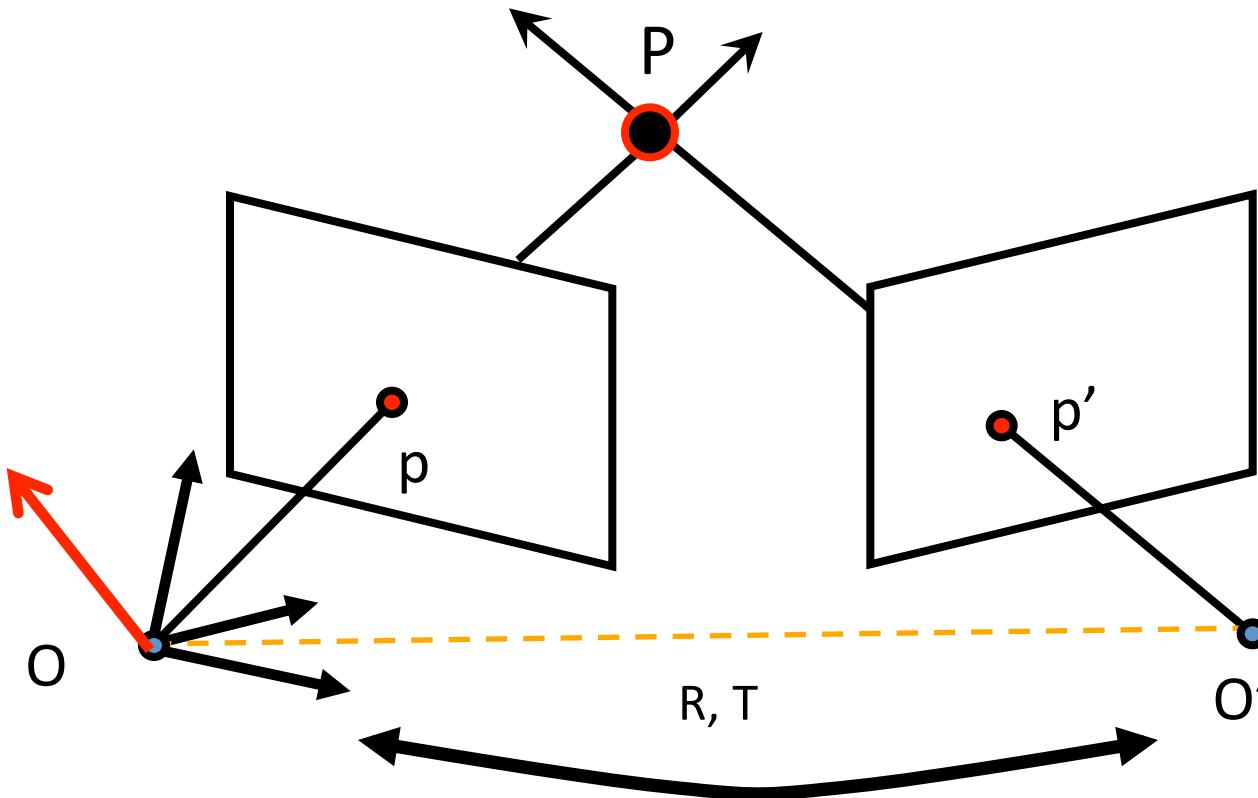
K_1 and K_2 are known
(calibrated cameras)

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M' = K_2 \begin{bmatrix} R & T \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M' = \begin{bmatrix} R & T \end{bmatrix}$$

Epipolar Constraint



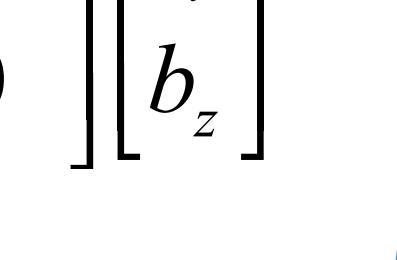
$$T \times (R p')$$

Perpendicular to epipolar plane

$$p^T \cdot [T \times (R p')] = 0$$

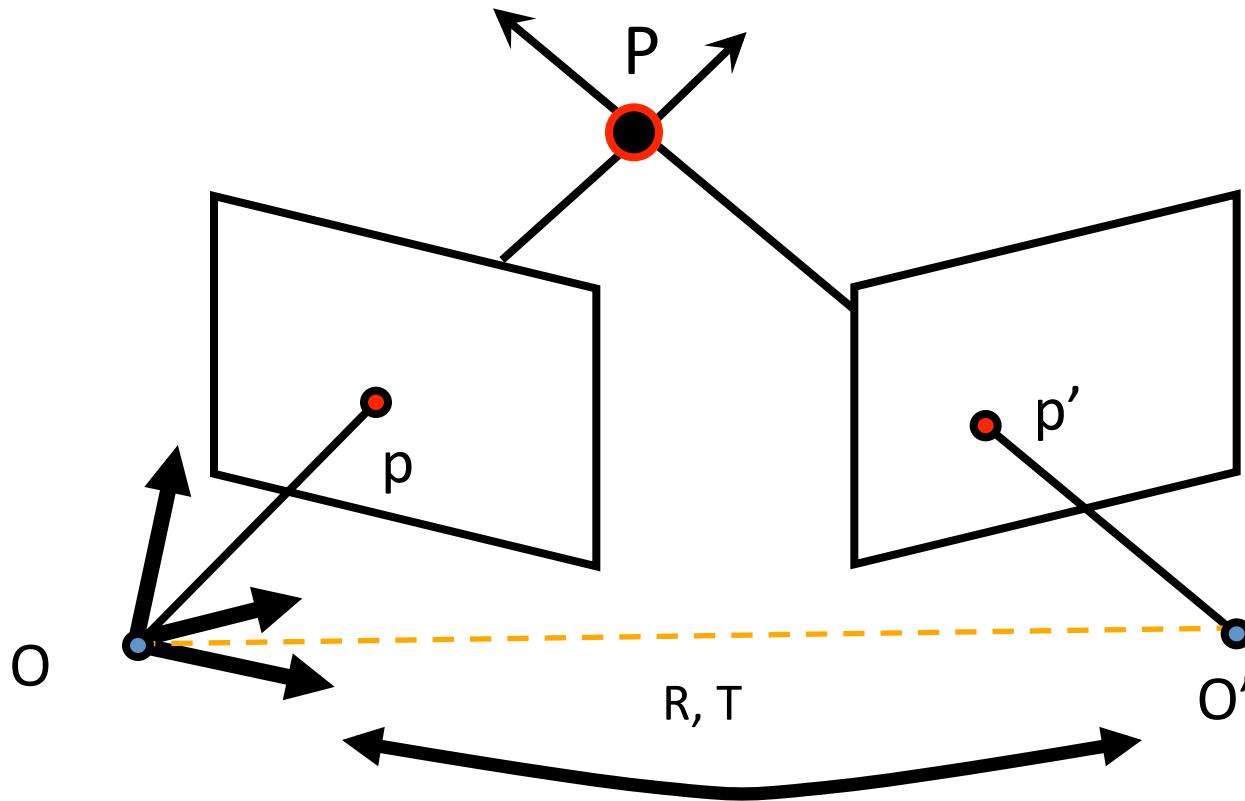
Cross product as matrix multiplication

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_z & a_y \\ a_z & 0 & -a_x \\ -a_y & a_x & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_x \\ b_y \\ b_z \end{bmatrix} = [\mathbf{a}_x] \mathbf{b}$$



“skew symmetric matrix”

Epipolar Constraint

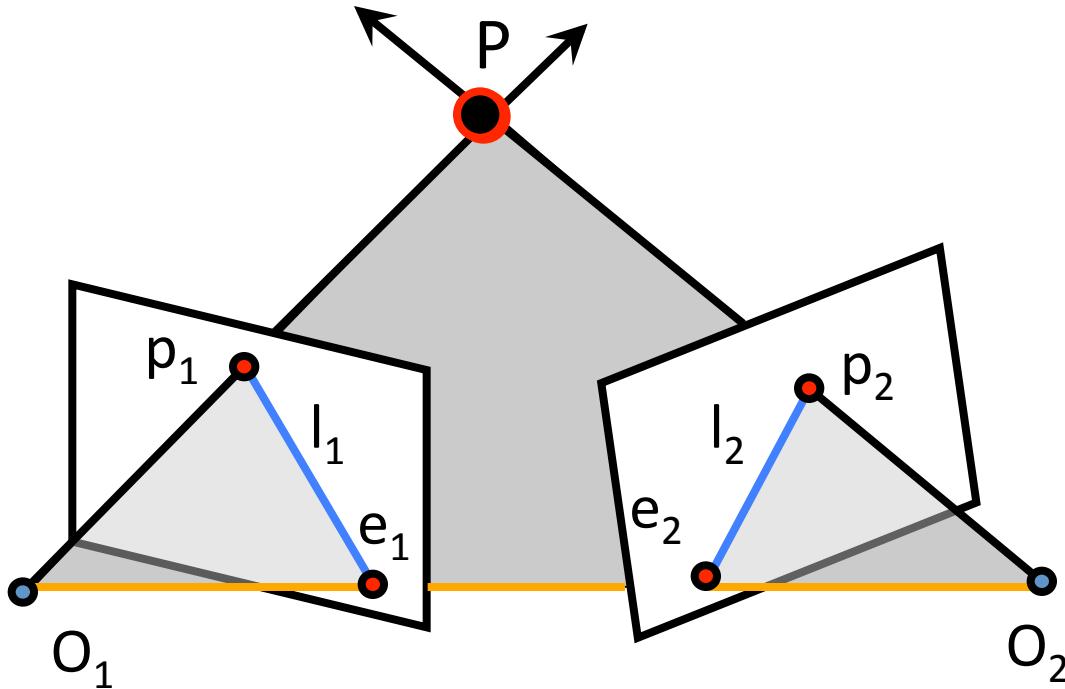


$$p^T \cdot [T \times (R p')] = 0 \rightarrow p^T \cdot [T_x] \cdot R p' = 0$$

(Longuet-Higgins, 1981)

E = essential matrix

Epipolar Constraint



- $E p_2$ is the epipolar line associated with p_2 ($l_1 = E p_2$)
- $E^T p_1$ is the epipolar line associated with p_1 ($l_2 = E^T p_1$)
- E is singular (rank two)
- $E e_2 = 0$ and $E^T e_1 = 0$
- E is 3x3 matrix; 5 DOF

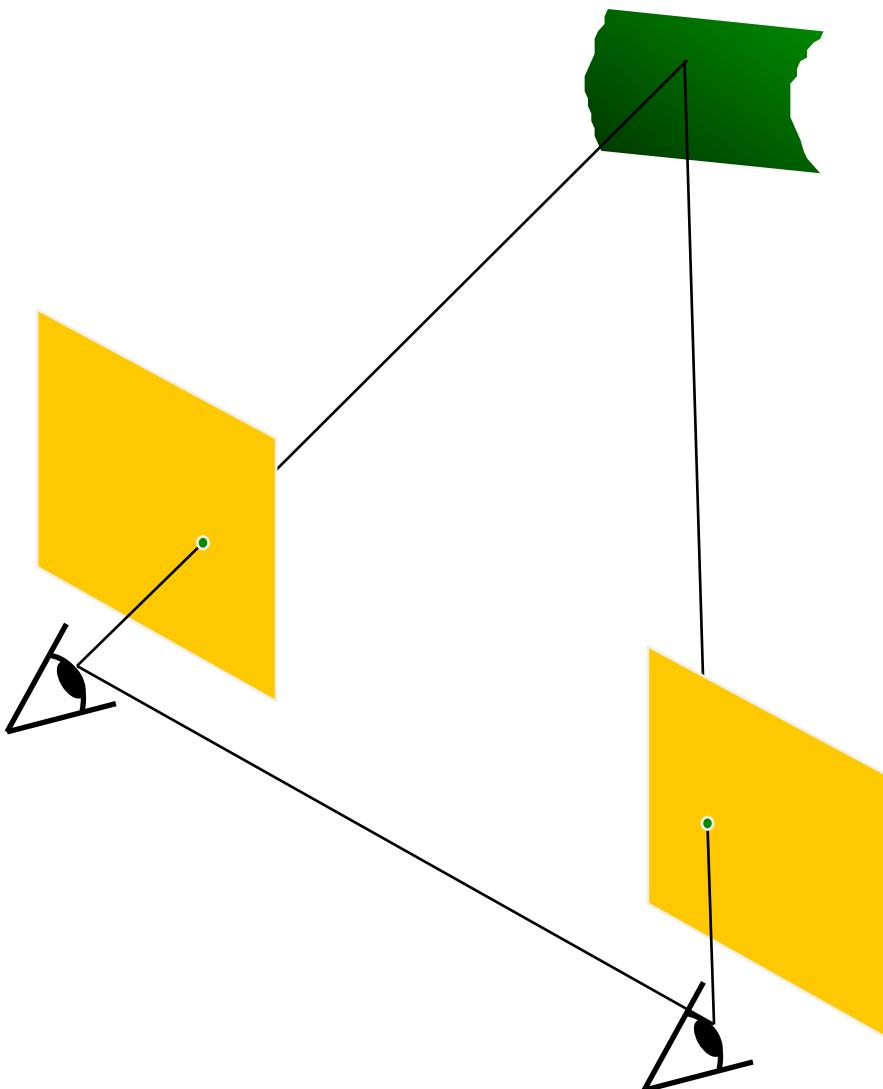
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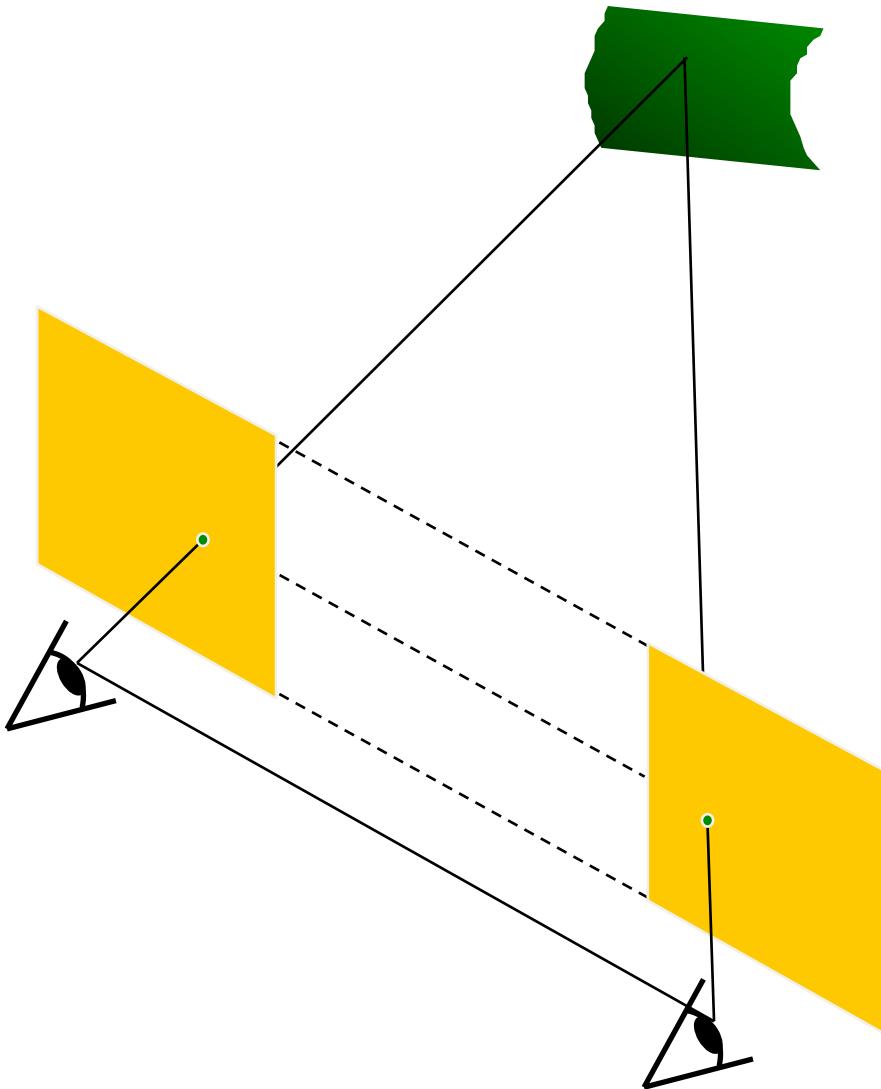
[HZ] Chapters: 4, 9, 11
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Simplest Case: Parallel images



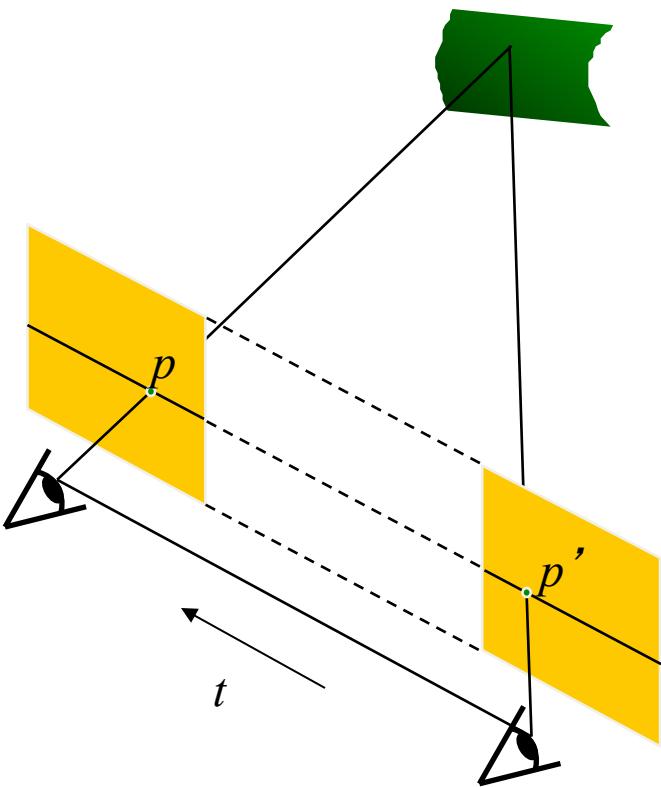
- Image planes of cameras are parallel to each other and to the baseline
- Camera centers are at same height
- Focal lengths are the same

Simplest Case: Parallel images



- Image planes of cameras are parallel to each other and to the baseline
- Camera centers are at same height
- Focal lengths are the same
- Then, epipolar lines fall along the horizontal scan lines of the images

Essential matrix for parallel images



Epipolar constraint:

$$R = I \quad t = (T, 0, 0)$$

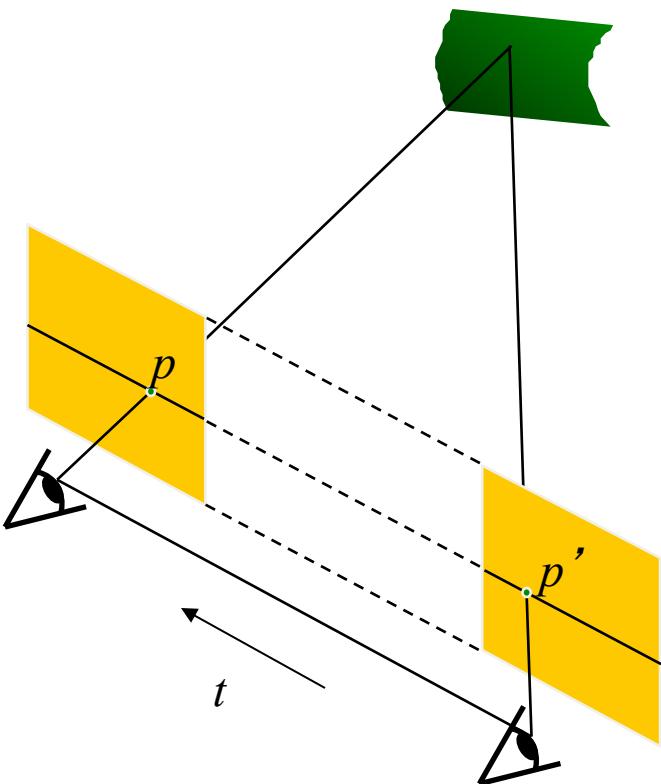
$$p^T E p' = 0, \quad E = [t_x]R$$

$$E = [t_x]R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -T \\ 0 & T & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Reminder: skew symmetric matrix

$$[a_x] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_z & a_y \\ a_z & 0 & -a_x \\ -a_y & a_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Essential matrix for parallel images



Epipolar constraint:

$$R = I \quad t = (T, 0, 0)$$

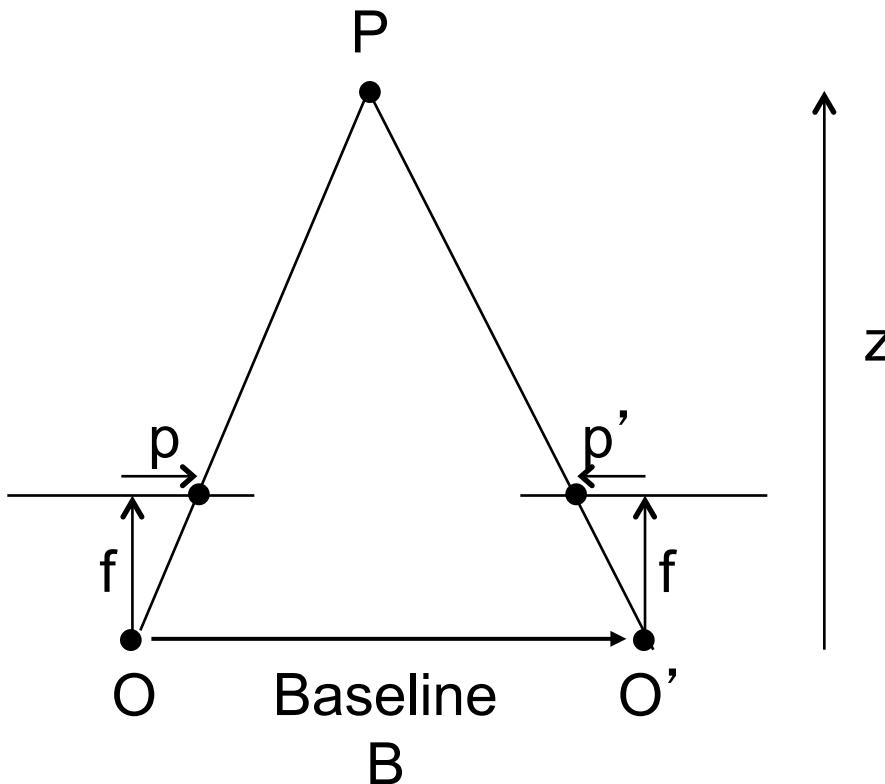
$$p^T E p' = 0, \quad E = [t_x]R$$

$$E = [t_x]R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -T \\ 0 & T & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(u \quad v \quad 1) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -T \\ 0 & T & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u' \\ v' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad (u \quad v \quad 1) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -T \\ Tv' \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad Tv = Tv'$$

The y-coordinates of corresponding points are the same!

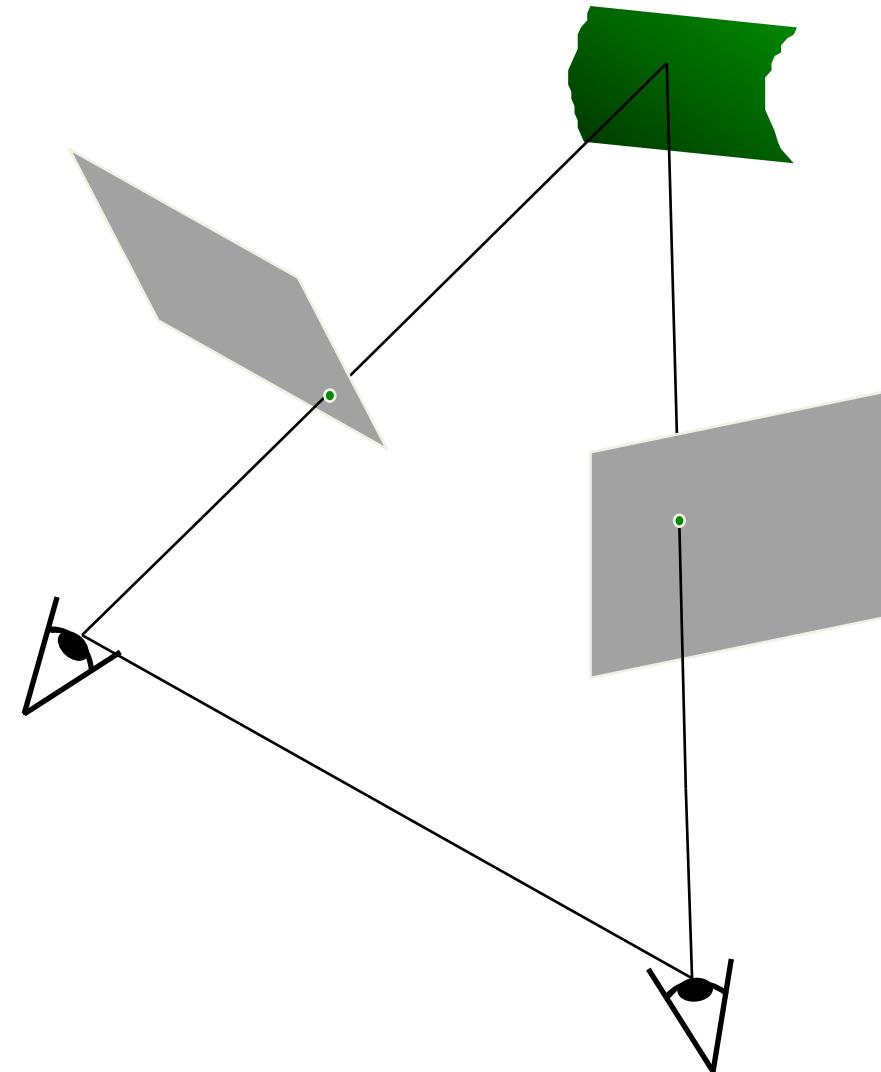
Triangulation -- depth from disparity



$$\text{disparity} = u - u' = \frac{B \cdot f}{z}$$

Disparity is inversely proportional to depth!

Stereo image rectification

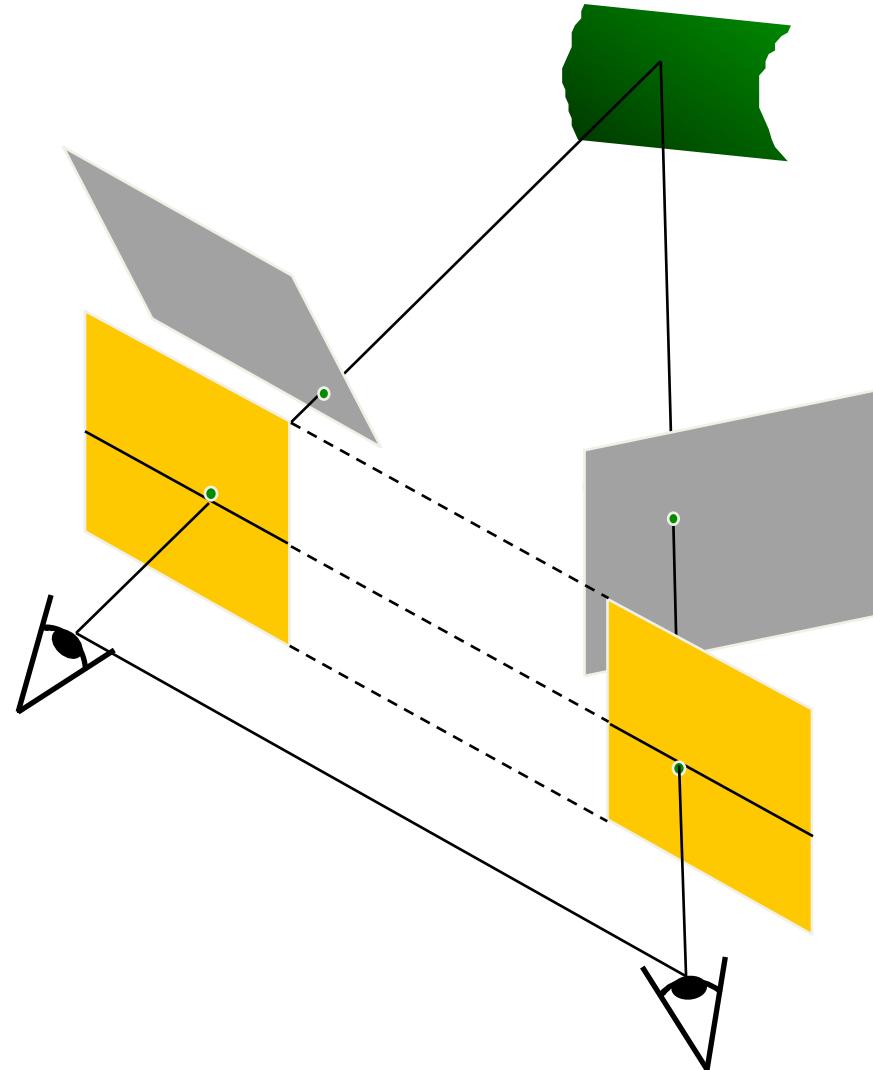


Slide credit: J. Hayes

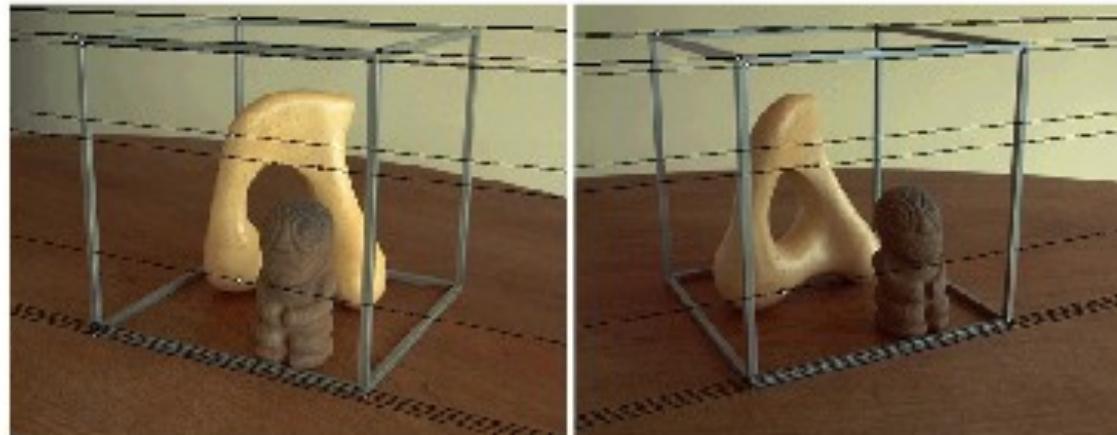
Stereo image rectification

Algorithm:

- Re-project image planes onto a common plane parallel to the line between optical centers
 - Pixel motion is horizontal after this transformation
 - Two transformation matrices, one for each input image reprojection
- C. Loop and Z. Zhang,
[Computing Rectifying Homographies for Stereo Vision](#). IEEE Conf. Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, 1999.

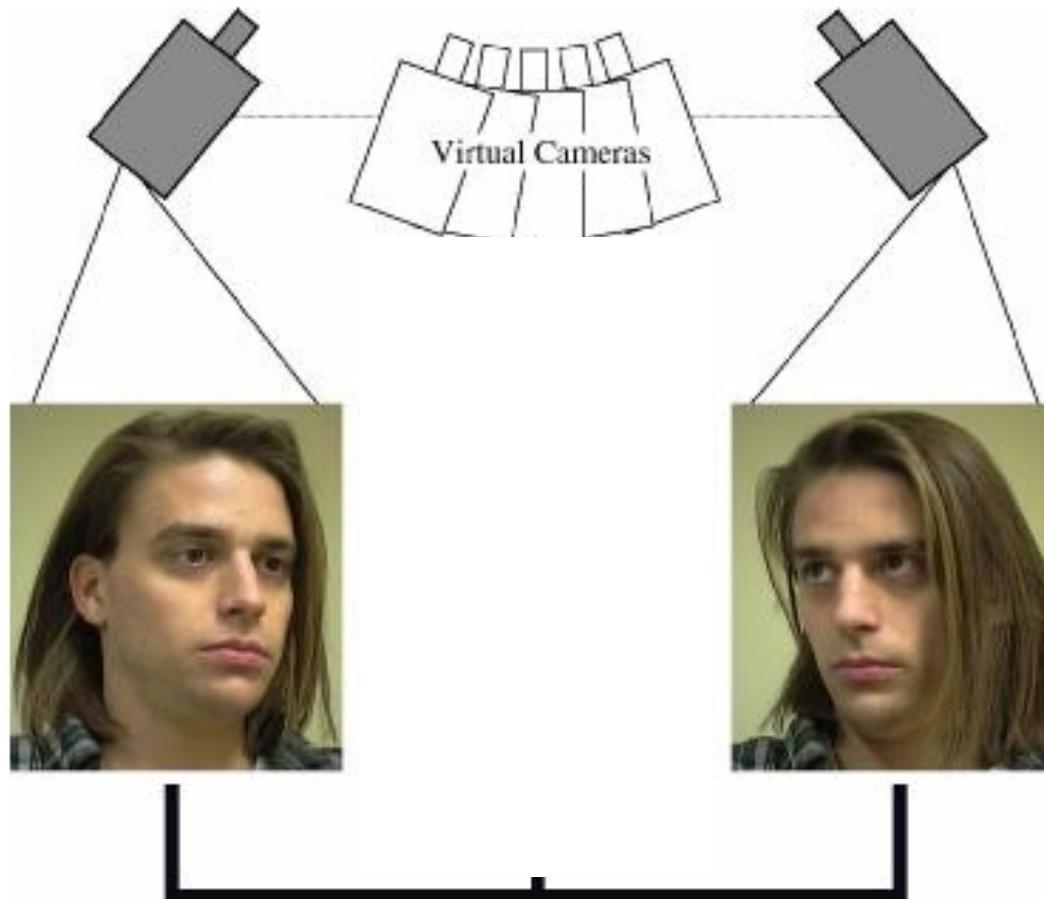


Rectification example

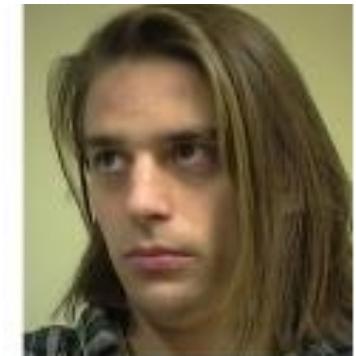


Application: view morphing

S. M. Seitz and C. R. Dyer, *Proc. SIGGRAPH 96*, 1996, 21-30



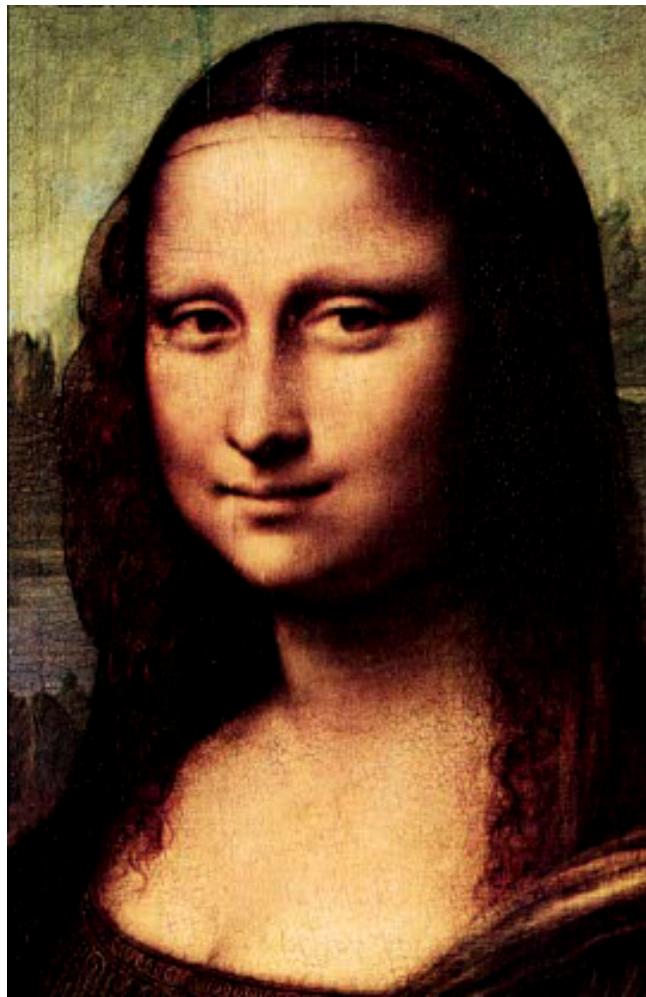
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Application: view morphing

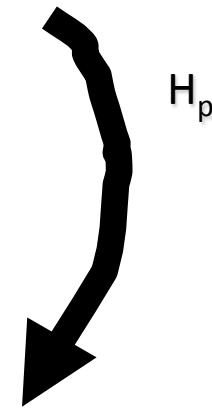


Application: view morphing



Removing perspective distortion

(rectification)



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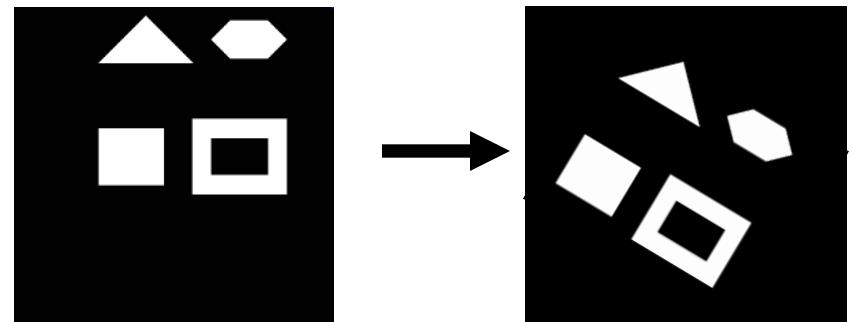
[HZ] Chapters: 4, 9, 11
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Reminder: transformations in 2D

Special case
from lecture 2
(planar rotation
& translation)

$$\begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R & t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = H_e \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 3 DOF
- Preserve distance (areas)
- Regulate motion
of rigid object

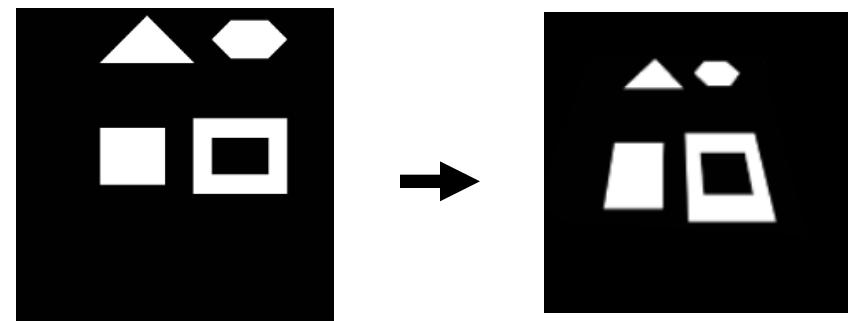


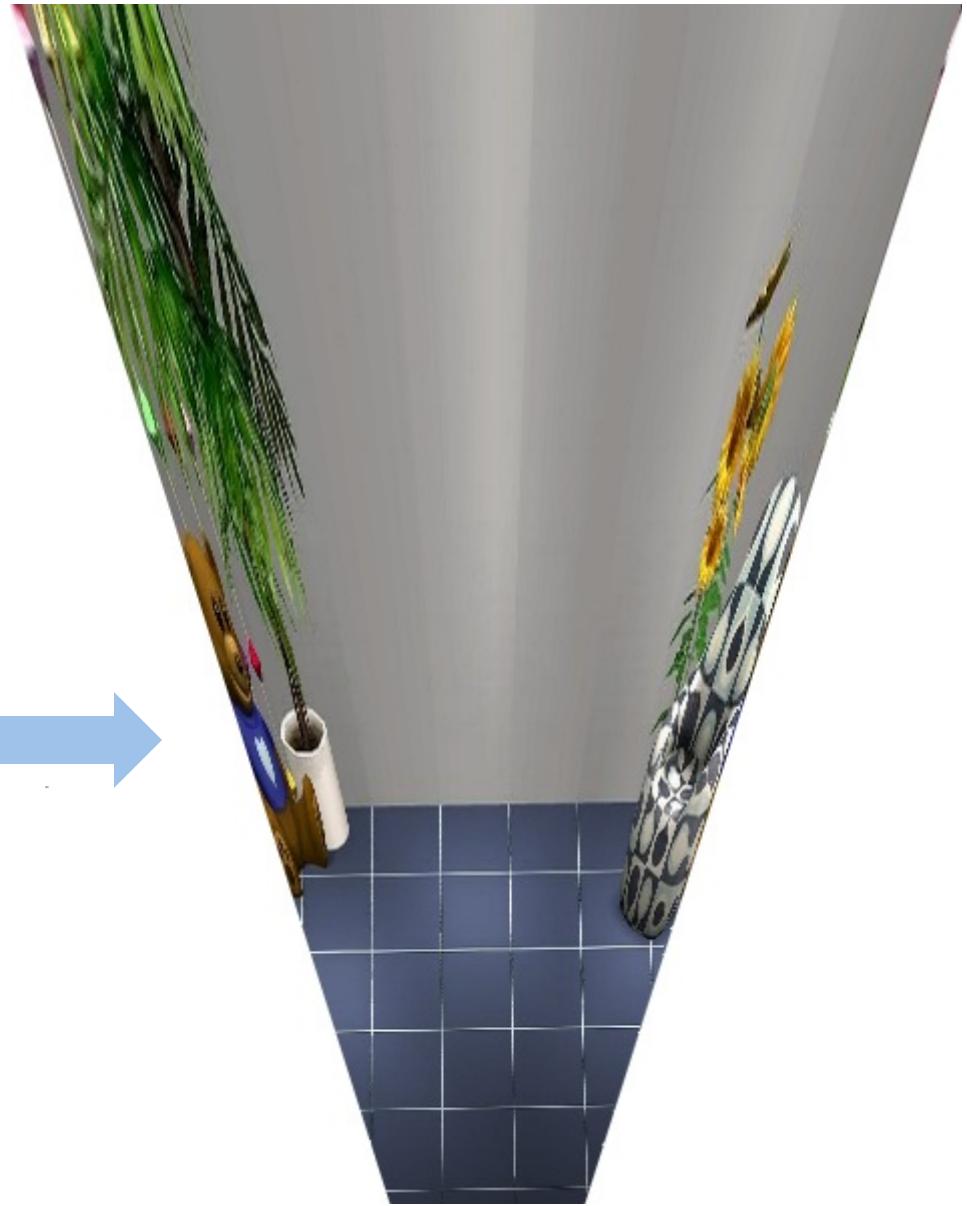
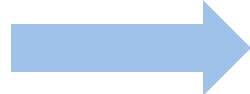
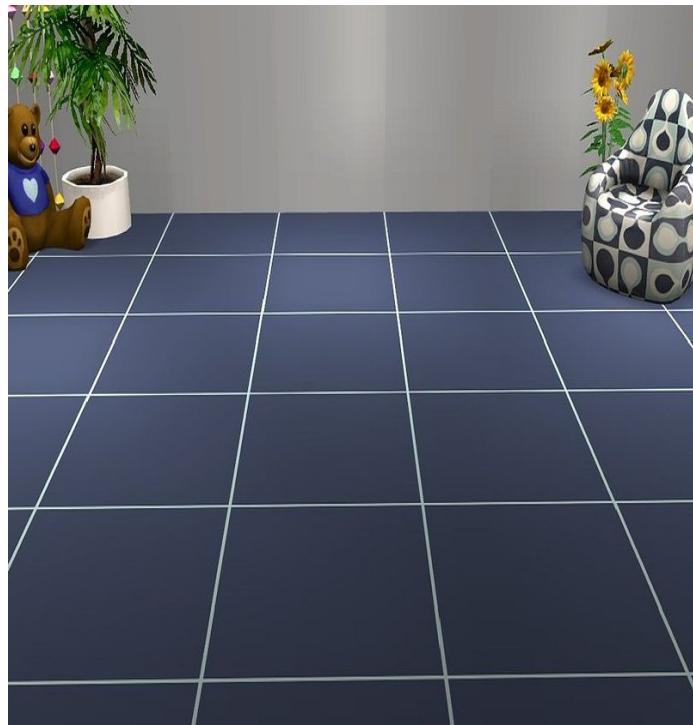
Reminder: transformations in 2D

Generic case
(rotation in 3D, scale
& translation)

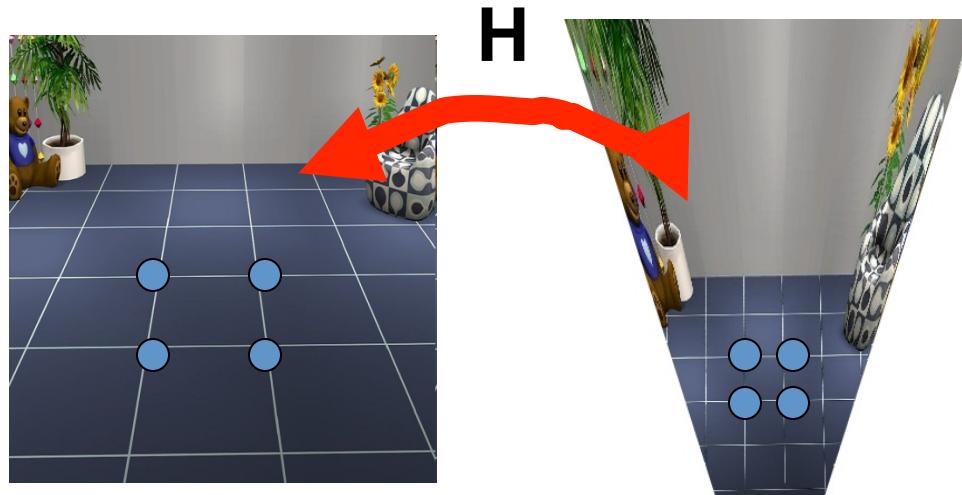
$$\begin{bmatrix} u' \\ v' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ a_4 & a_5 & a_6 \\ a_7 & a_8 & a_9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = H \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 8 DOF
- Preserve colinearity





Computing H

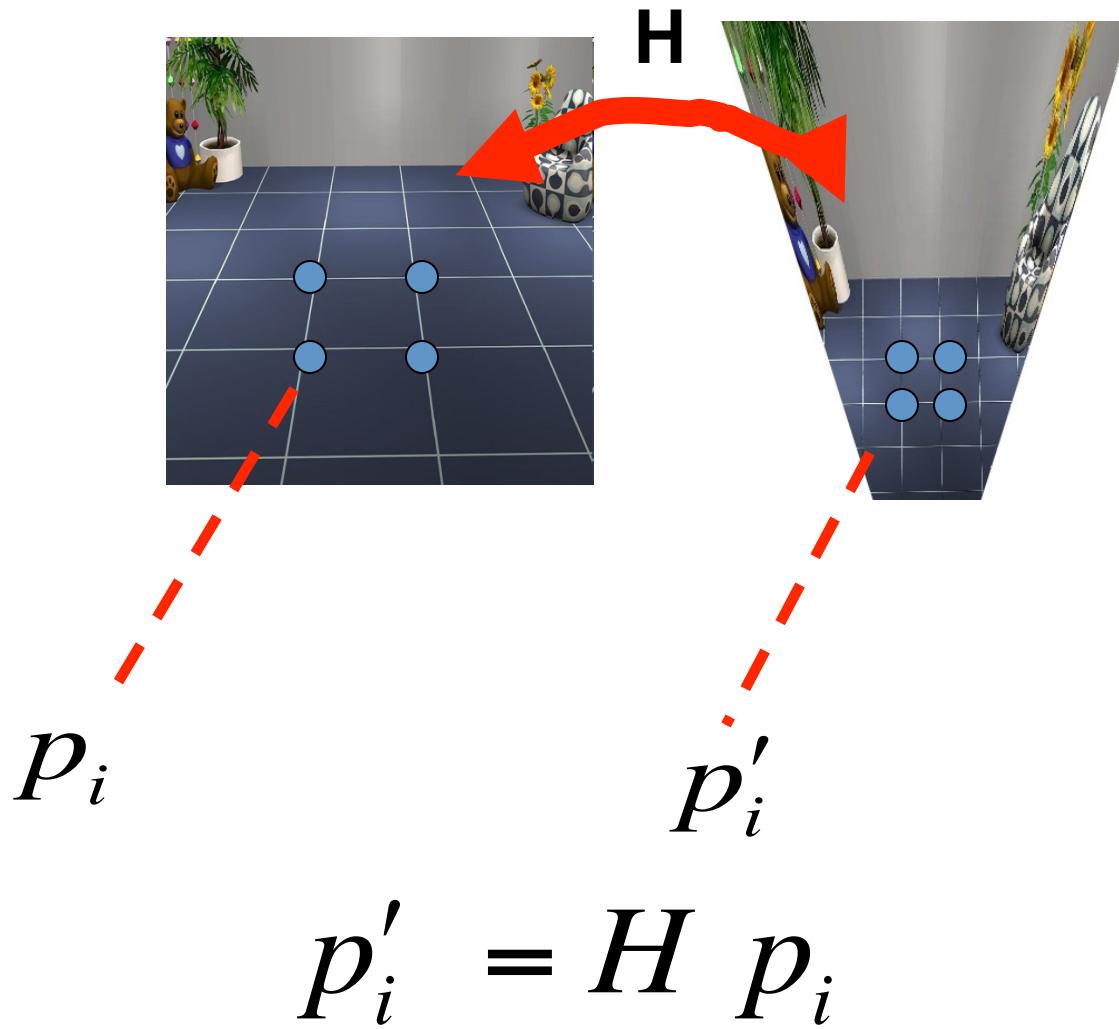


- 8 DOF
- how many points do I need to estimate H?

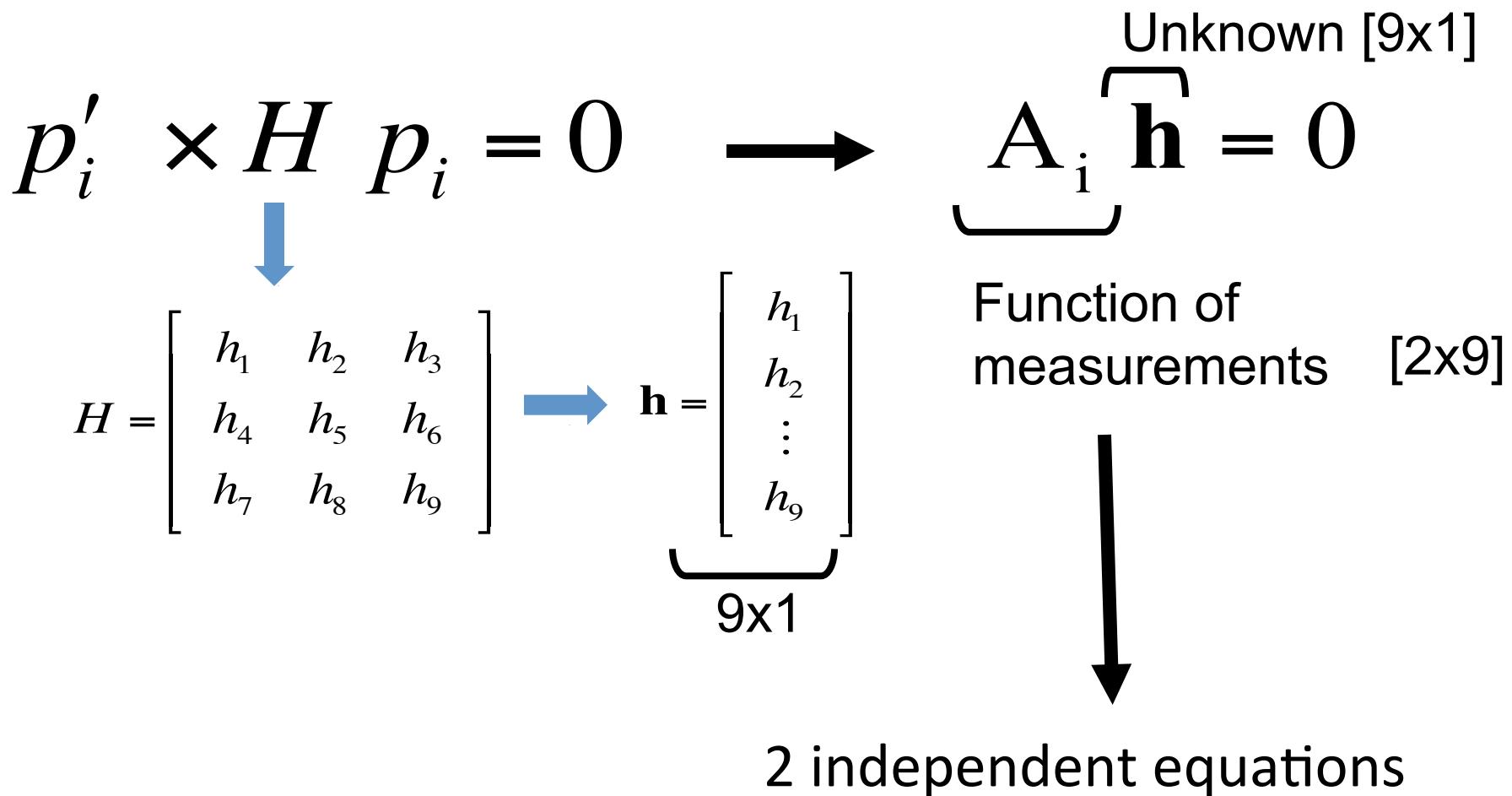
At least 4 points! (8 equations)

- There are several algorithms...

DLT algorithm (Direct Linear Transformation)

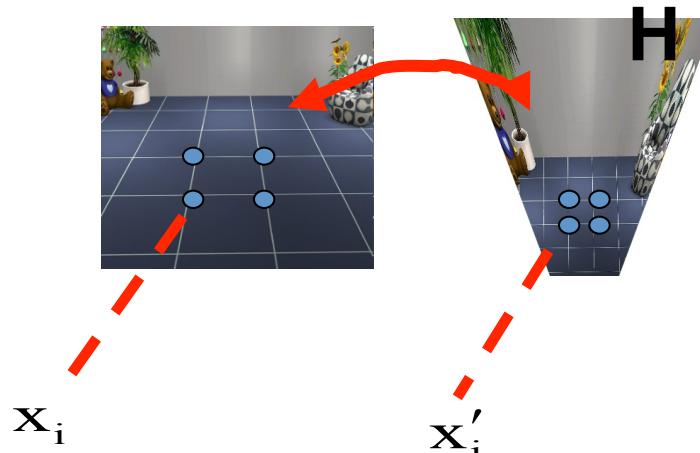


DLT algorithm (direct Linear Transformation)



DLT algorithm (direct Linear Transformation)

$$A_{2 \times 9} \quad h_{9 \times 1}$$
$$\boxed{A_i} \boxed{h} = 0$$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A_1 h = 0 \\ A_2 h = 0 \\ \vdots \\ A_N h = 0 \end{array} \right. \rightarrow A_{2N \times 9} h_{9 \times 1} = 0$$

Over determined
Homogenous system

DLT algorithm (direct Linear Transformation)

How to solve $A_{2N \times 9} h_{9 \times 1} = 0$?

Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)!

DLT algorithm (direct Linear Transformation)

How to solve $A_{2N \times 9} h_{9 \times 1} = 0$?

Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)!



$$U_{2n \times 9} \Sigma_{9 \times 9} V^T_{9 \times 9}$$

Last column of V gives h! $\rightarrow H!$

Why? See pag 593 of AZ

DLT algorithm (direct Linear Transformation)

How to solve $A_{2N \times 9} h_{9 \times 1} = 0$?

```
[U,D,V] = svd(A,0);  
x = V(:,end);
```

Clarification about SVM

$$P_{m \times n} = \boxed{U}_{m \times n} D_{n \times n} \boxed{V}^T_{n \times n}$$

Has n orthogonal columns

Orthogonal matrix

- This is one of the possible SVD decompositions
- This is typically used for efficiency
- The classic SVD is actually:

$$P_{m \times n} = \boxed{U}_{m \times m} D_{m \times n} \boxed{V}^T_{n \times n}$$

orthogonal

Orthogonal

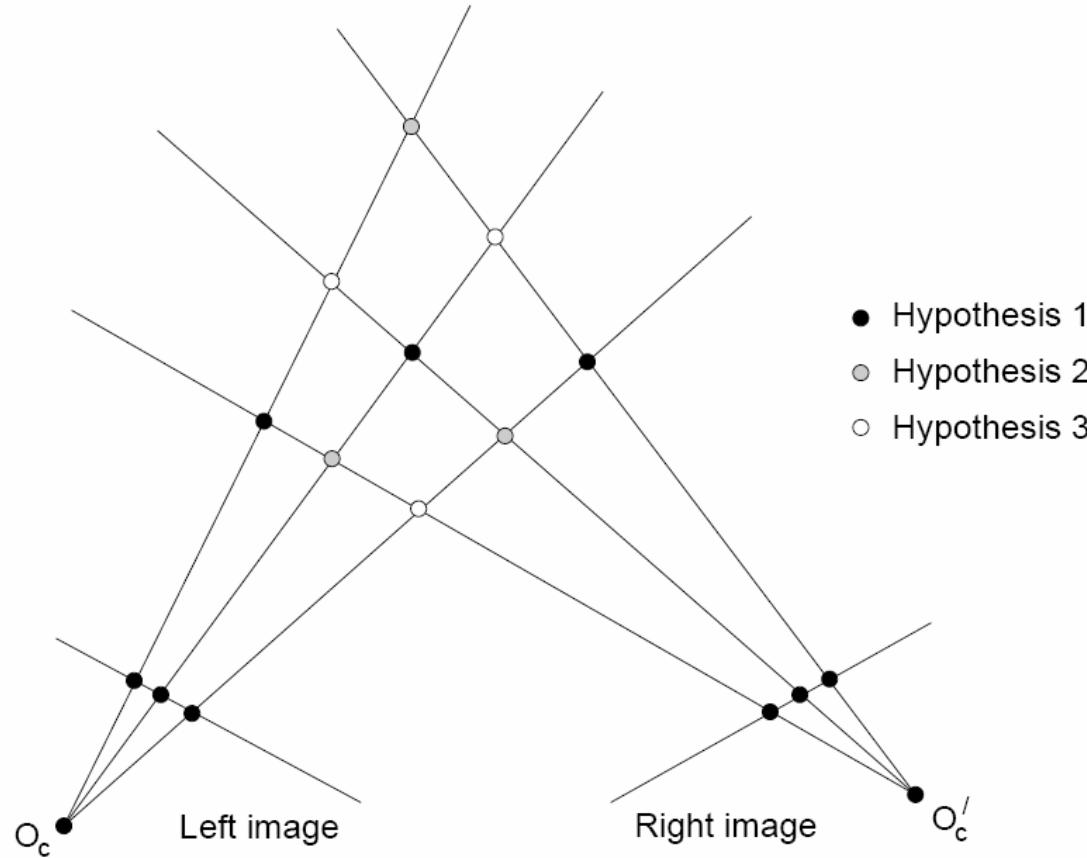
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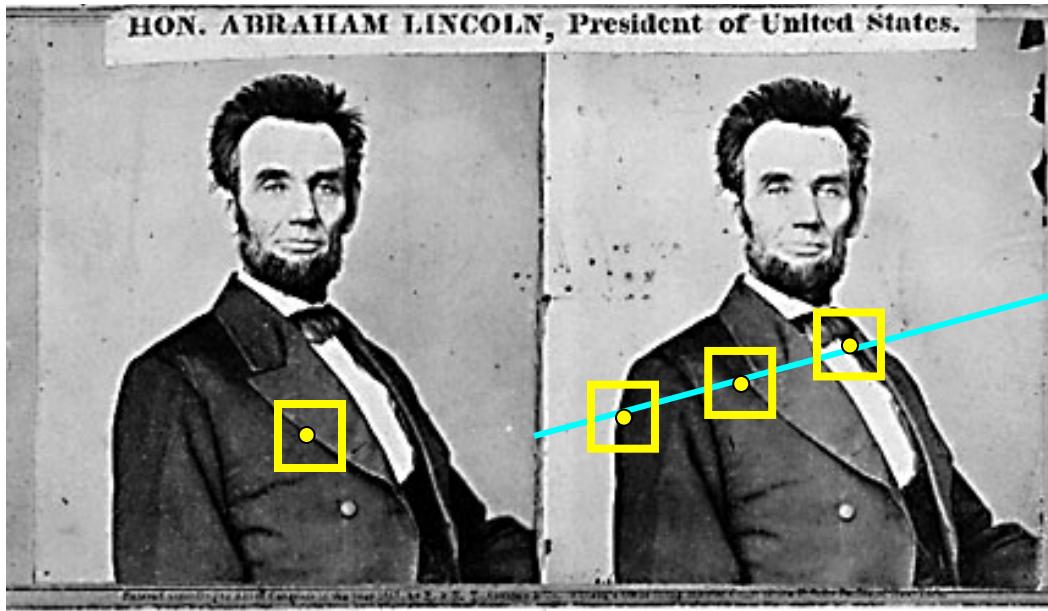
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Stereo matching: solving the correspondence problem



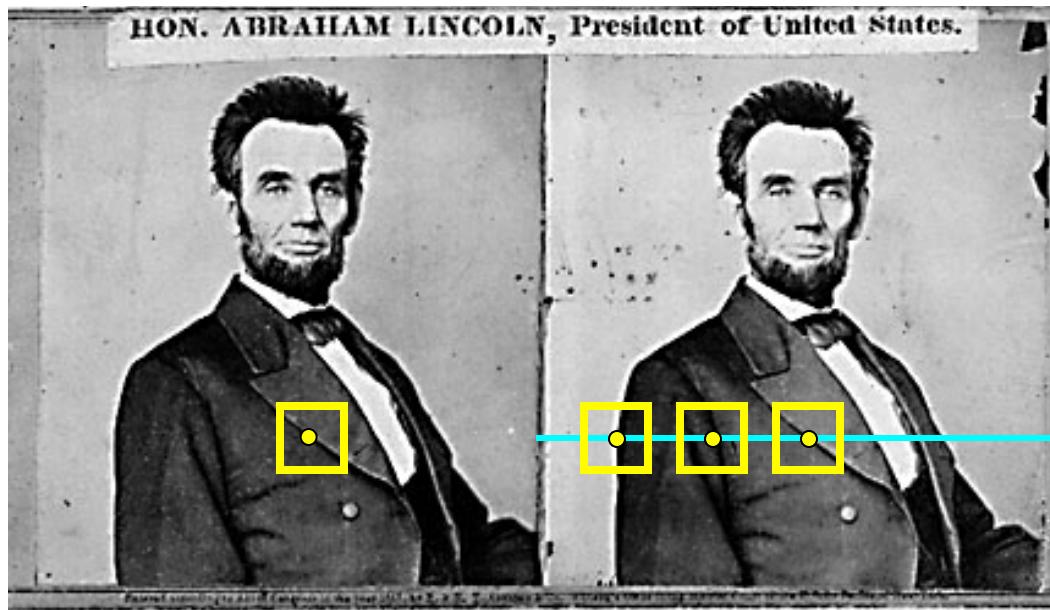
- Multiple matching hypotheses satisfy the epipolar constraint, but which one is correct?

Basic stereo matching algorithm



- For each pixel in the first image
 - Find corresponding epipolar line in the right image
 - Examine all pixels on the epipolar line and pick the best match
 - Triangulate the matches to get depth information
- Simplest case: epipolar lines are scanlines
 - When does this happen?

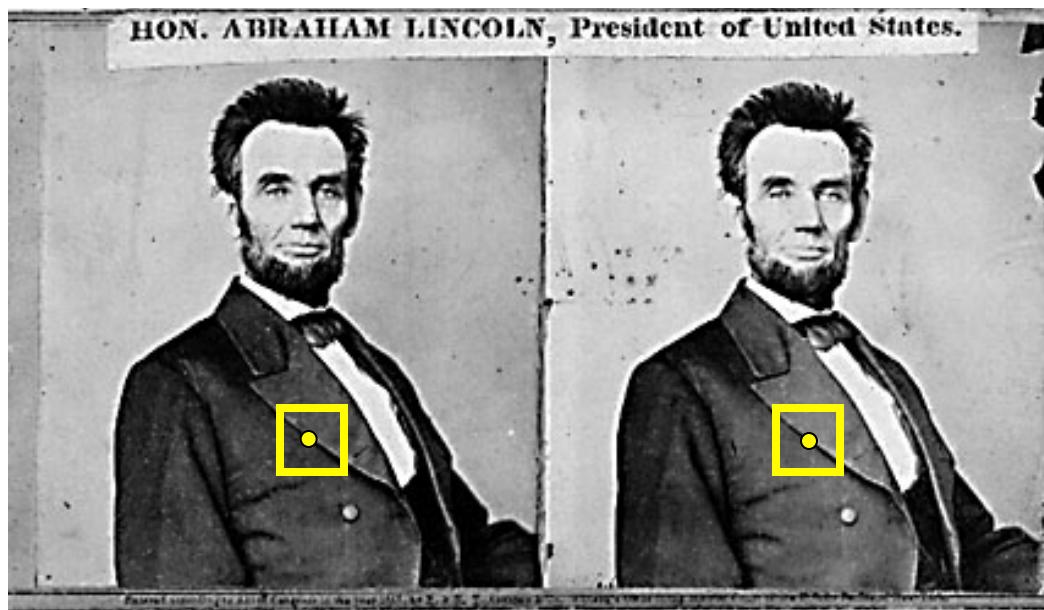
Basic stereo matching algorithm



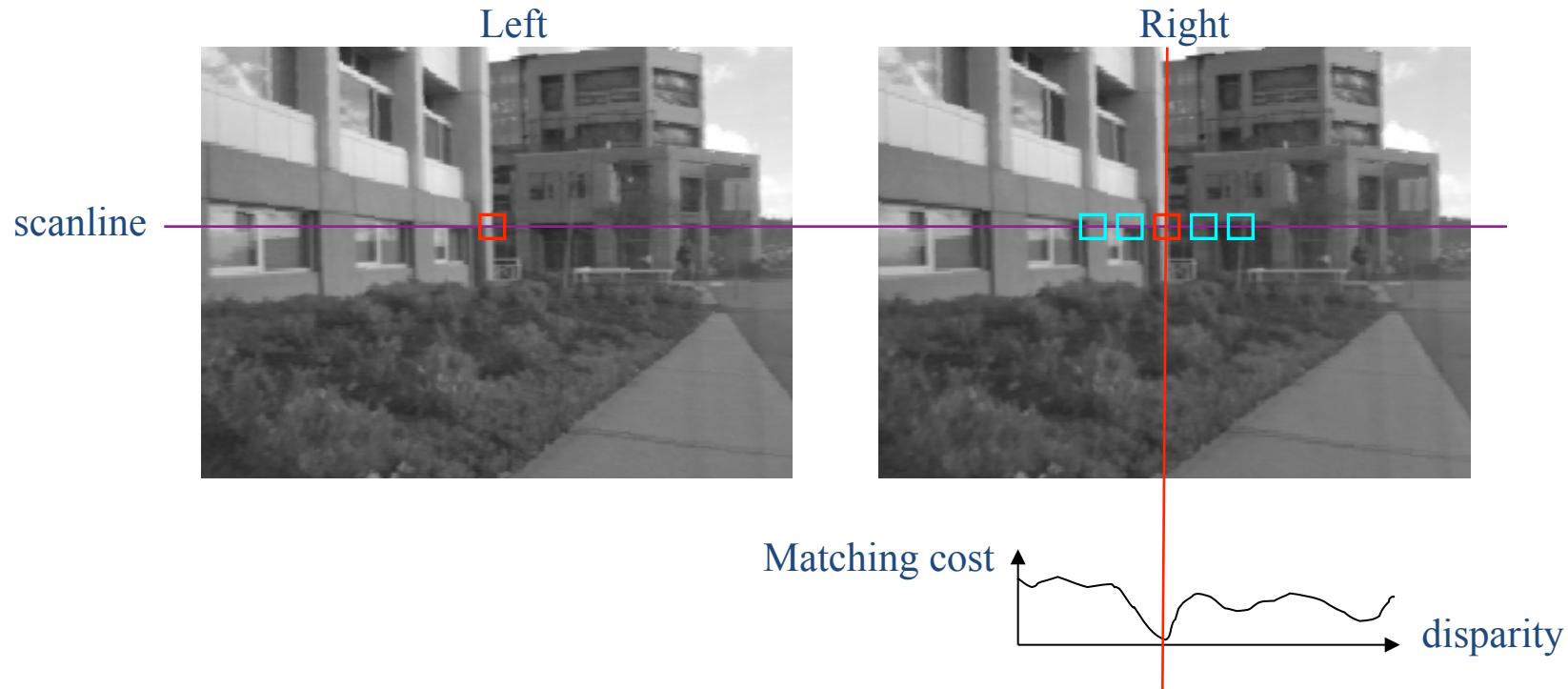
- If necessary, rectify the two stereo images to transform epipolar lines into scanlines
- For each pixel x in the first image
 - Find **corresponding** epipolar scanline in the right image
 - Examine all pixels on the scanline and pick the best match x'
 - Compute disparity $x-x'$ and set $\text{depth}(x) = 1/(x-x')$

Correspondence problem

- Let's make some assumptions to simplify the matching problem
 - The baseline is relatively small (compared to the depth of scene points)
 - Then most scene points are visible in both views
 - Also, matching regions are similar in appearance

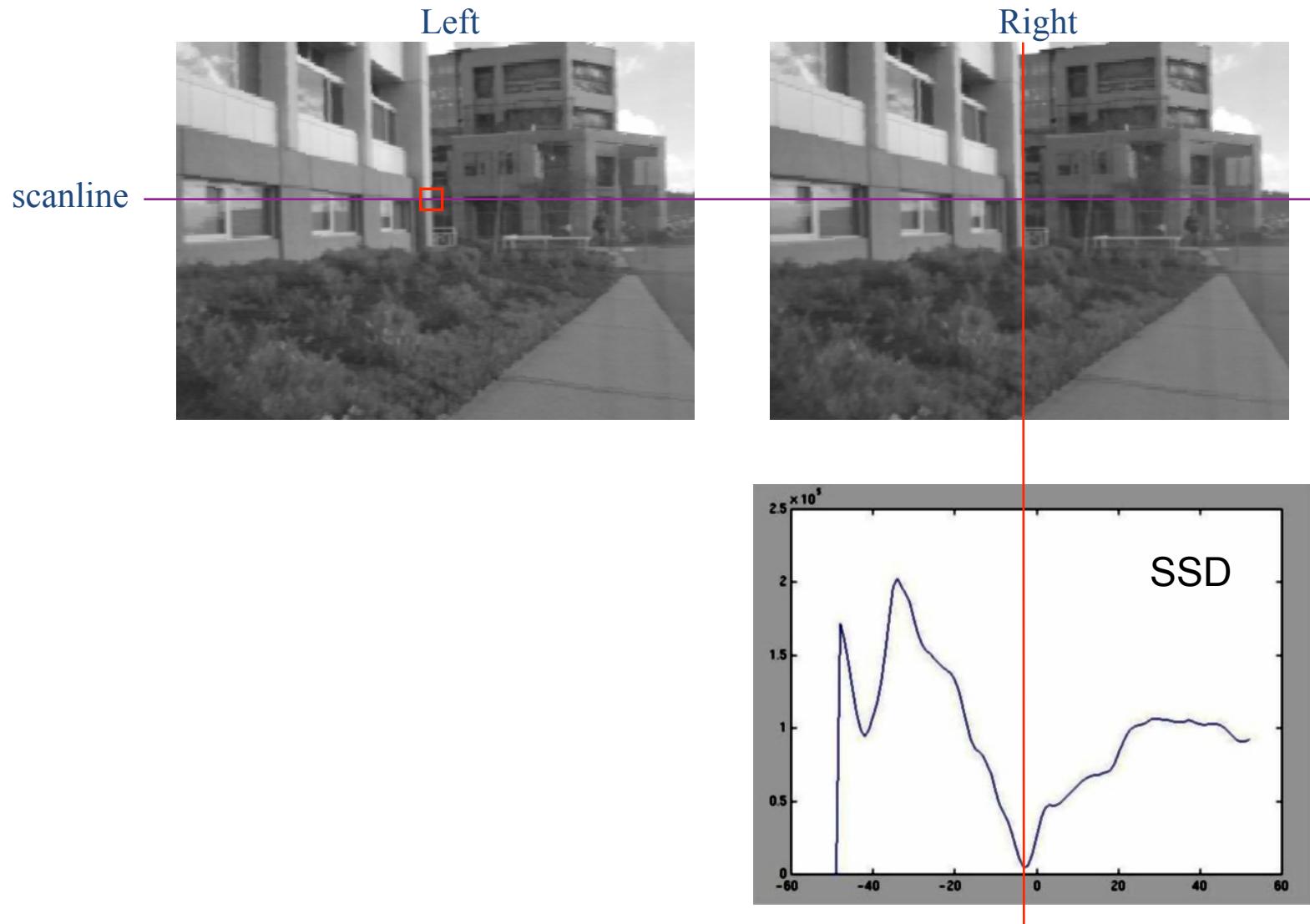


Correspondence search with similarity constraint

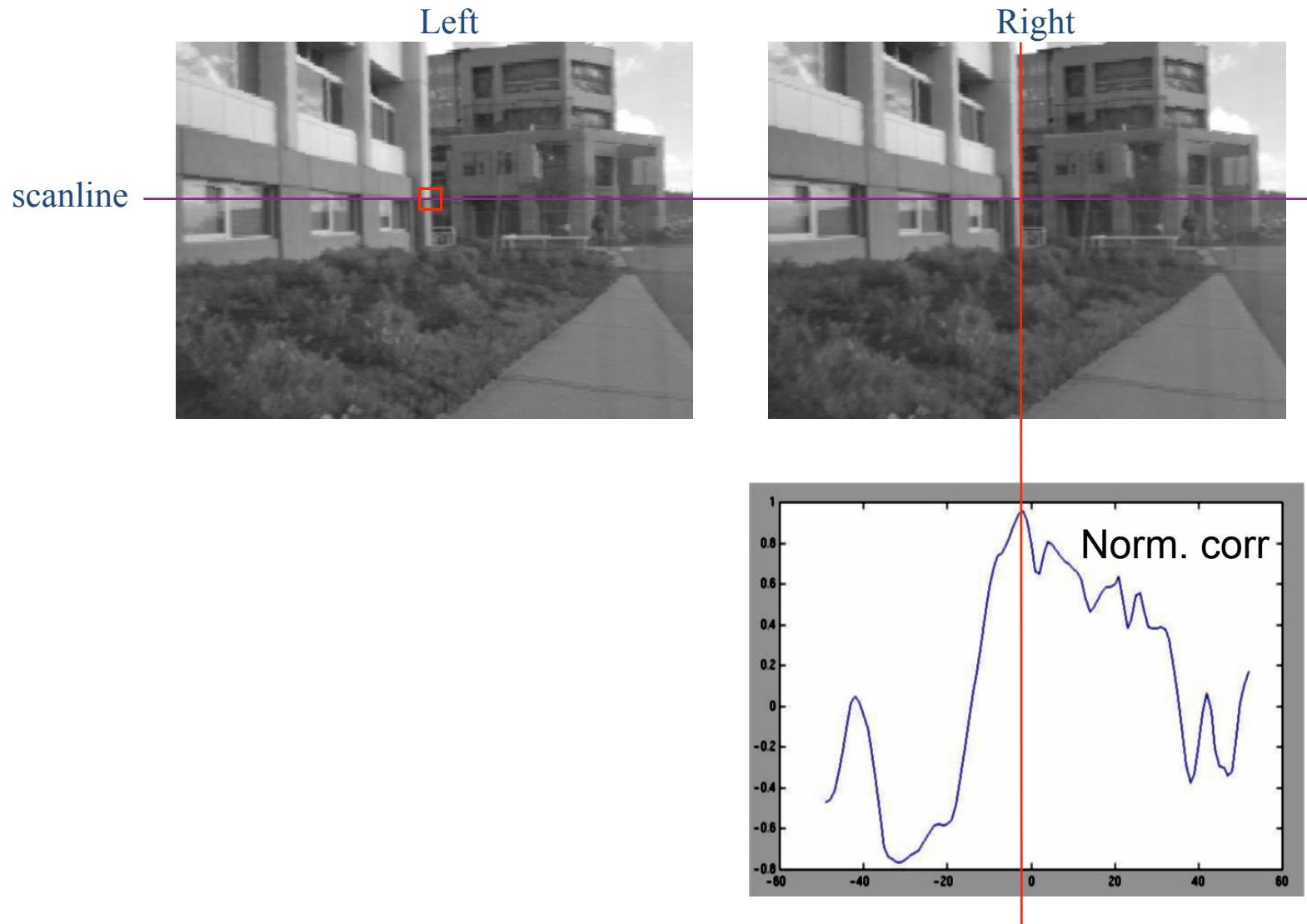


- Slide a window along the right scanline and compare contents of that window with the reference window in the left image
- Matching cost: SSD or normalized correlation

Correspondence search with similarity constraint



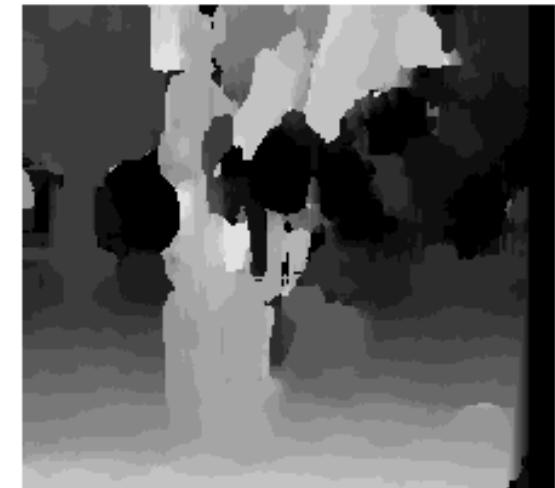
Correspondence search with similarity constraint



Effect of window size



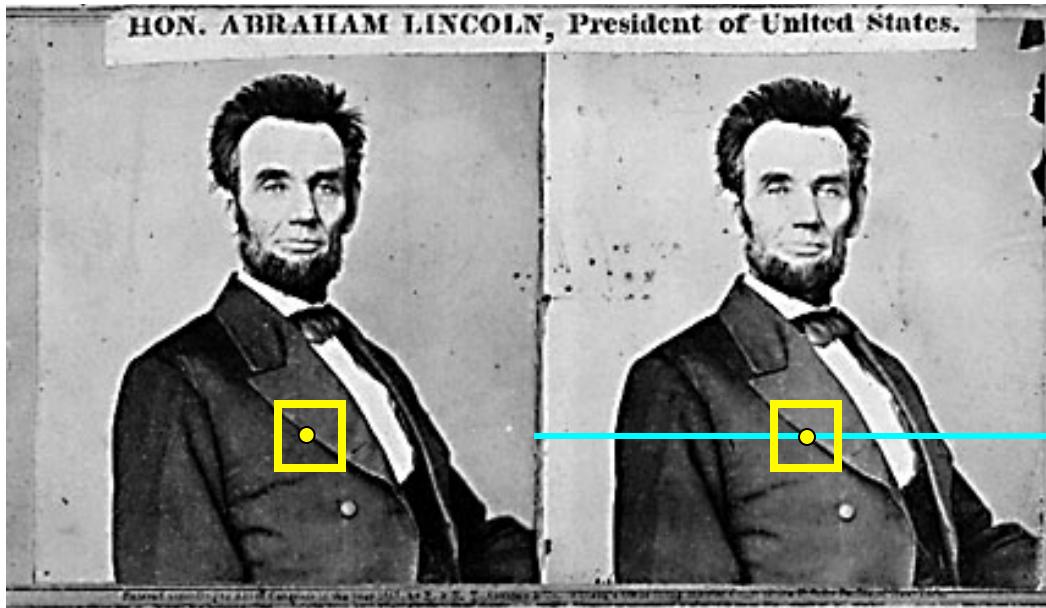
$$W = 3$$



$$W = 20$$

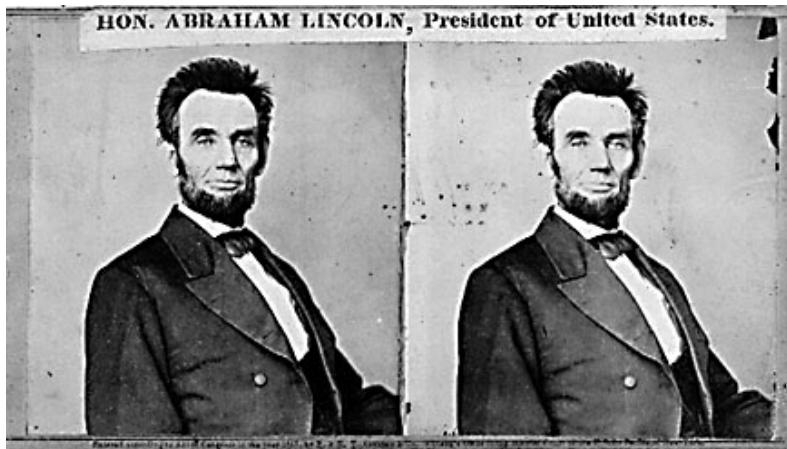
- Smaller window
 - + More detail
 - More noise
- Larger window
 - + Smoother disparity maps
 - Less detail

The similarity constraint



- Corresponding regions in two images should be similar in appearance
- ...and non-corresponding regions should be different
- When will the similarity constraint fail?

Limitations of similarity constraint



Textureless surfaces



Occlusions, repetition



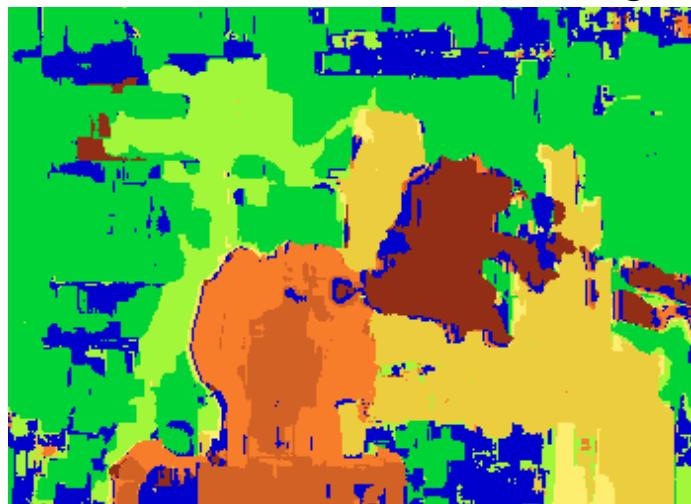
Specular surfaces



Results with window search



Window-based matching



Ground truth



Better methods exist... (CS231a)



Graph cuts

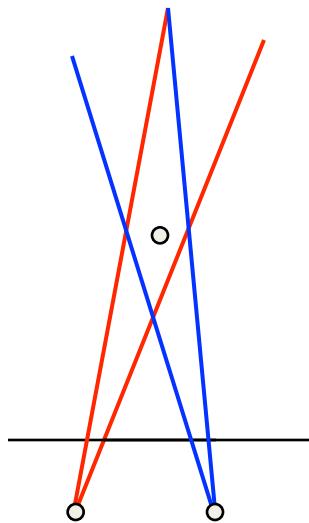


Ground truth

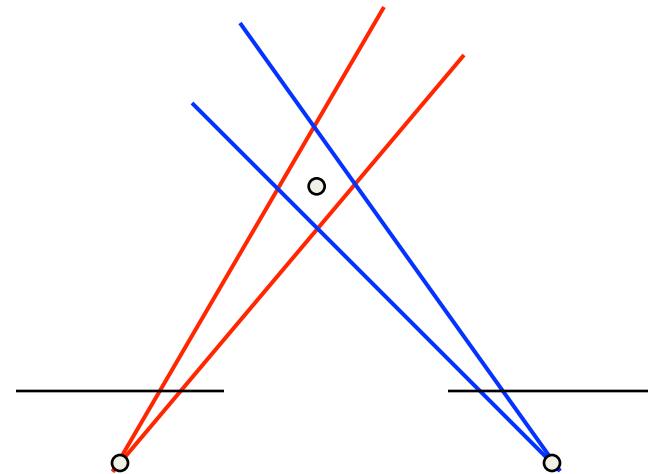
Y. Boykov, O. Veksler, and R. Zabih,

[Fast Approximate Energy Minimization via Graph Cuts](#), PAMI 2001

The role of the baseline



Small Baseline

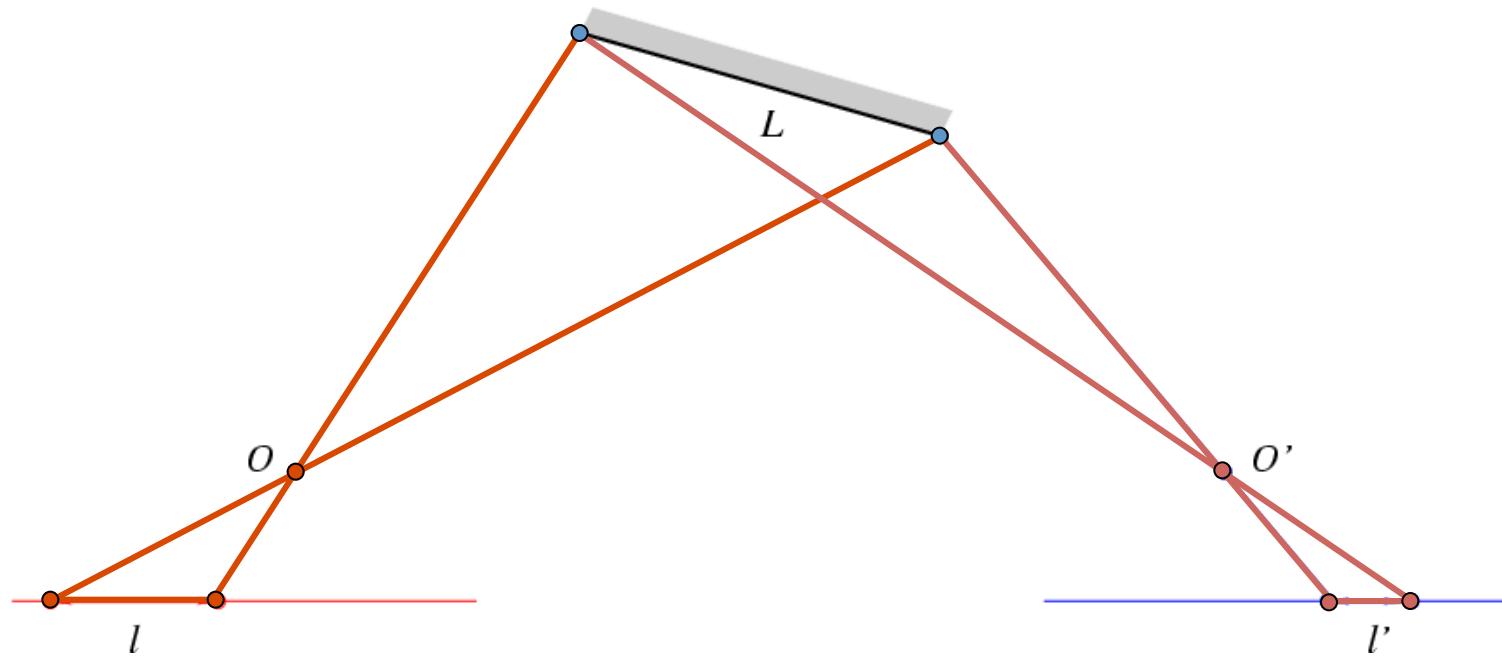


Large Baseline

- Small baseline: large depth error
- Large baseline: difficult search problem

Slide credit: S. Seitz

Problem for wide baselines: Foreshortening



- Matching with fixed-size windows will fail!
- Possible solution: adaptively vary window size
- Another solution: *model-based stereo* (CS231a)

Slide credit: J. Hayes

What we will learn today?

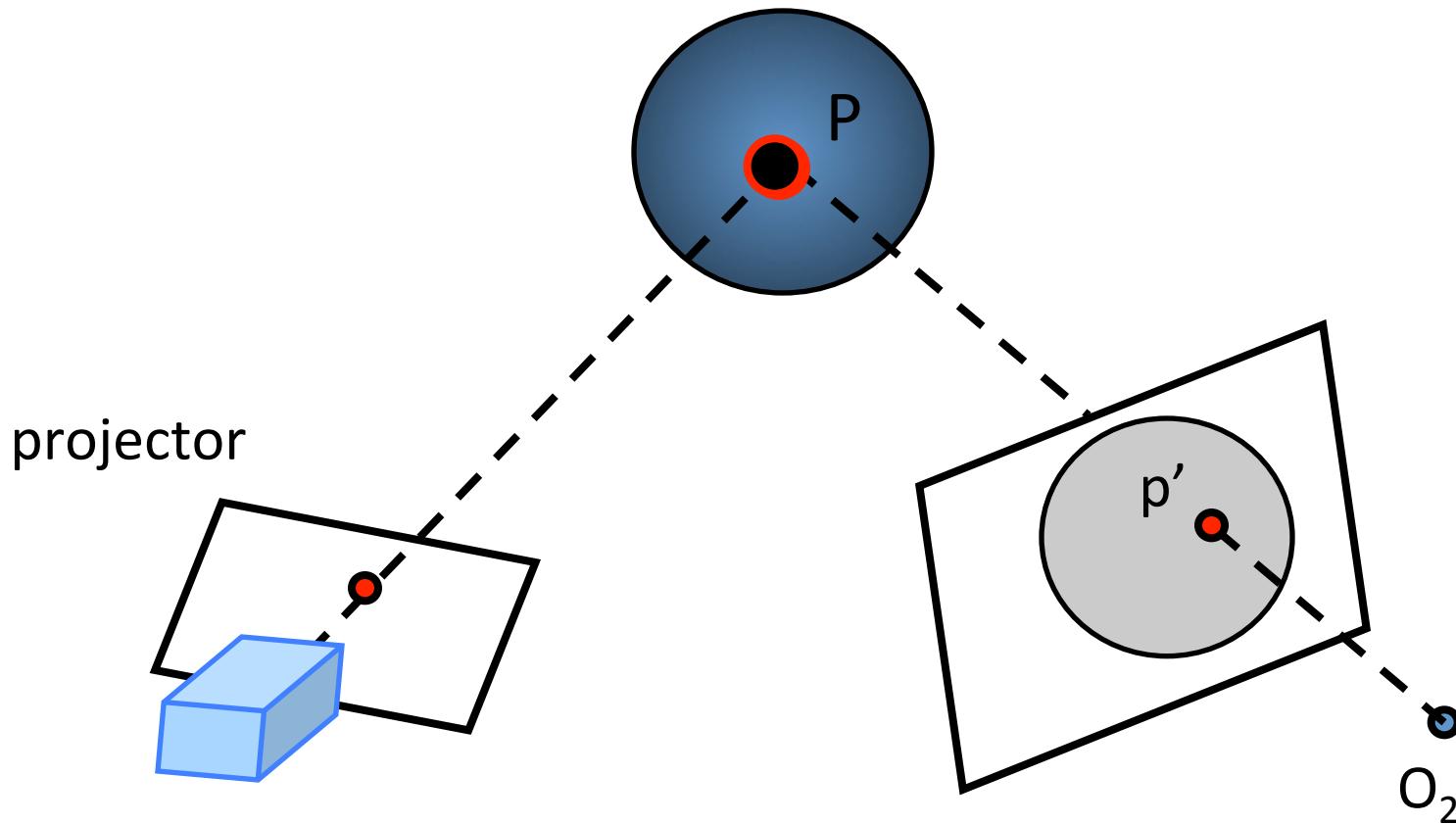
- Introduction to stereo vision
- Epipolar geometry: a gentle intro
- Parallel images
- Image rectification
- Solving the correspondence problem
- Active stereo vision system

Reading:

[HZ] Chapters: 4, 9, 11

[FP] Chapters: 10

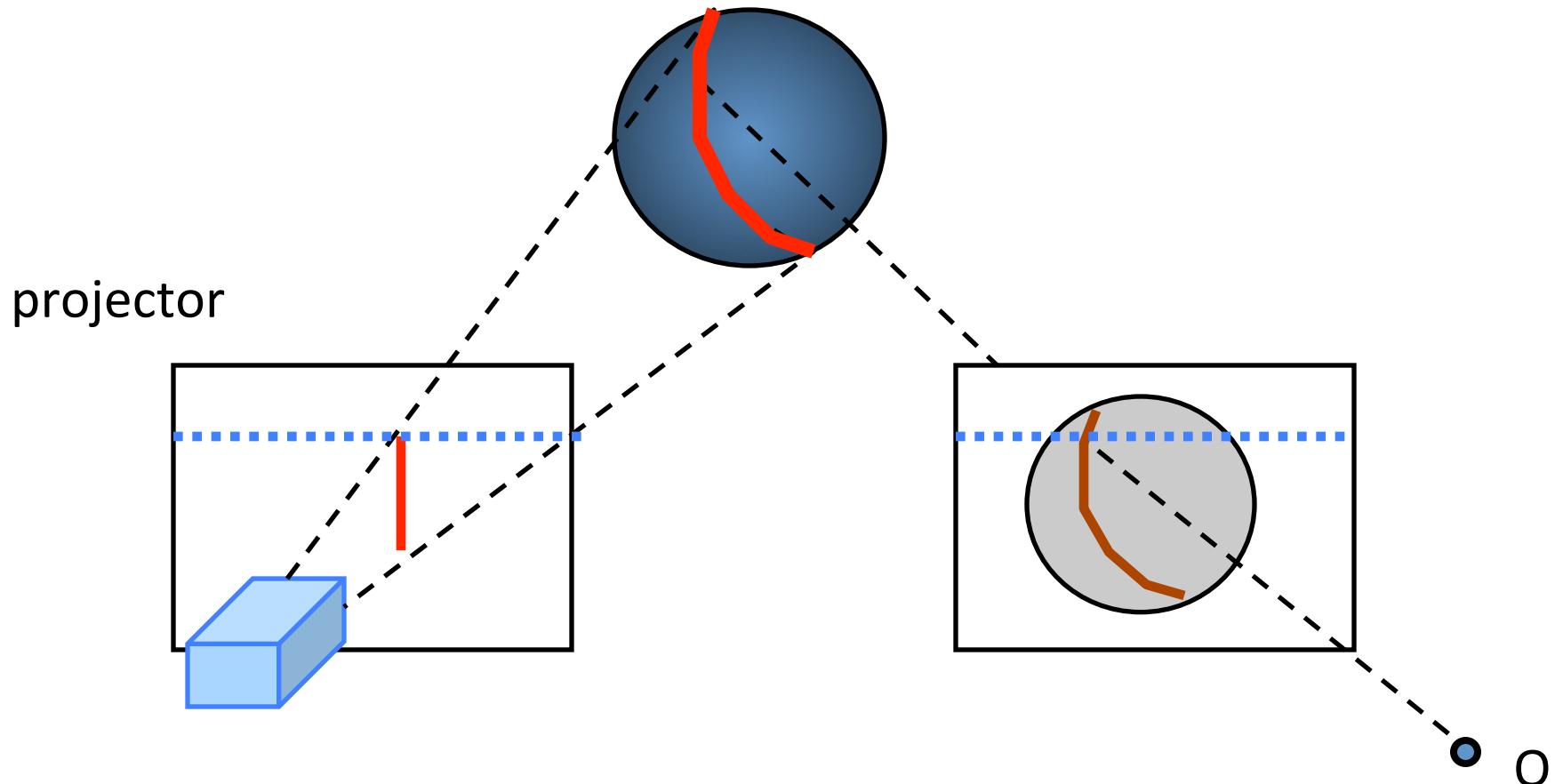
Active stereo (point)



Replace one of the two cameras by a projector

- Single camera
- Projector geometry calibrated
- What's the advantage of having the projector? Correspondence problem solved!

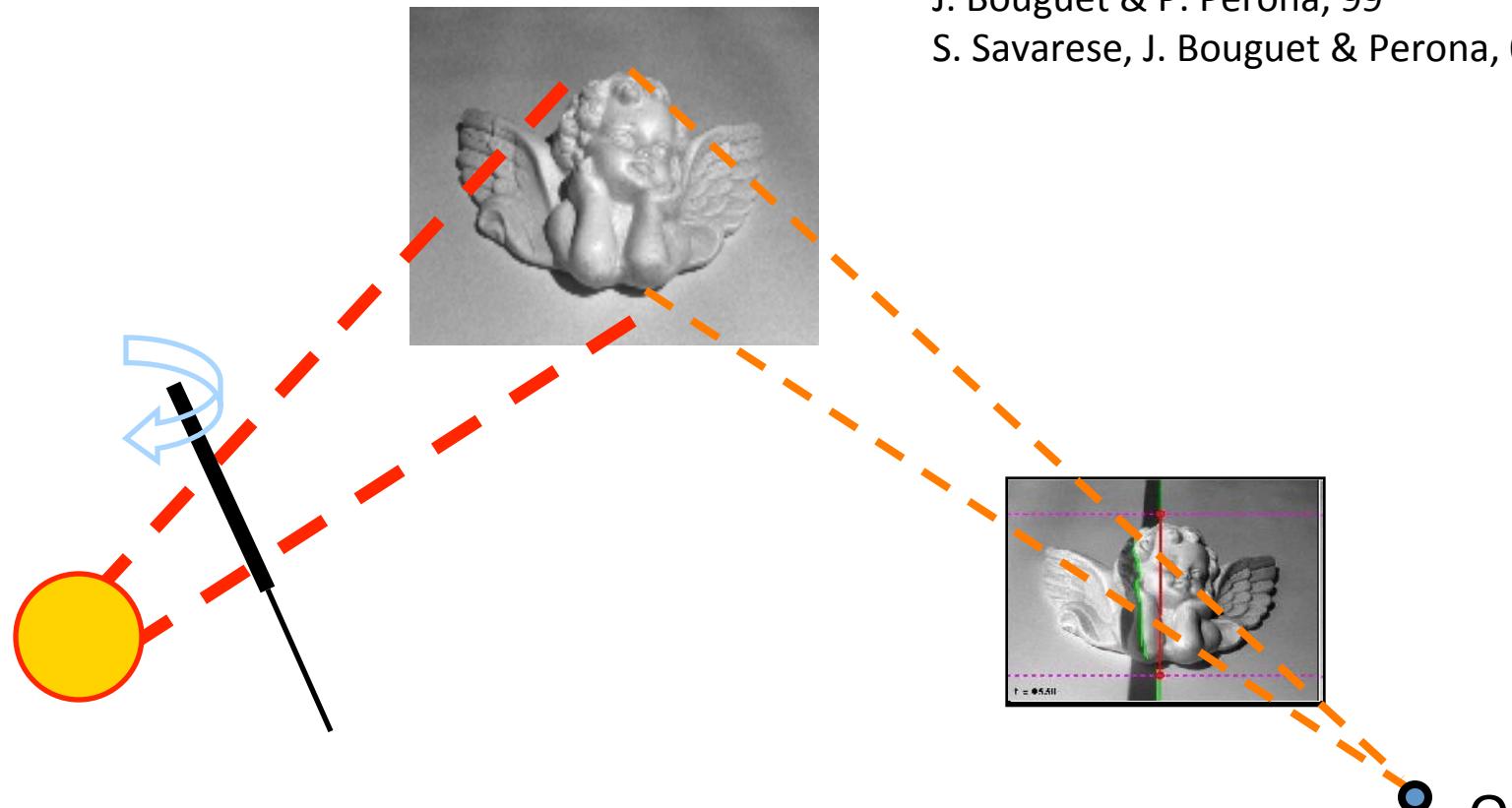
Active stereo (stripe)



- Projector and camera are parallel
- Correspondence problem solved!

Active stereo (shadows)

J. Bouguet & P. Perona, 99
S. Savarese, J. Bouguet & Perona, 00

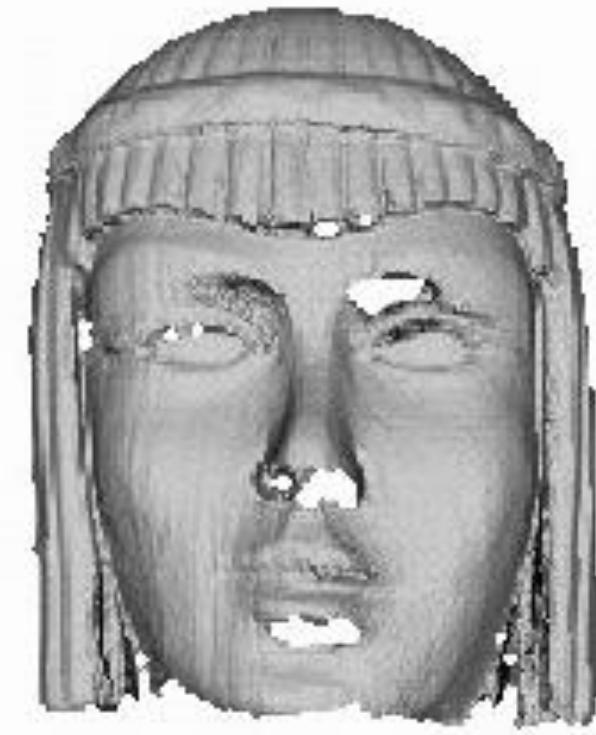


Light source

- 1 camera, 1 light source
- very cheap setup
- calibrated light source

Active stereo (shadows)

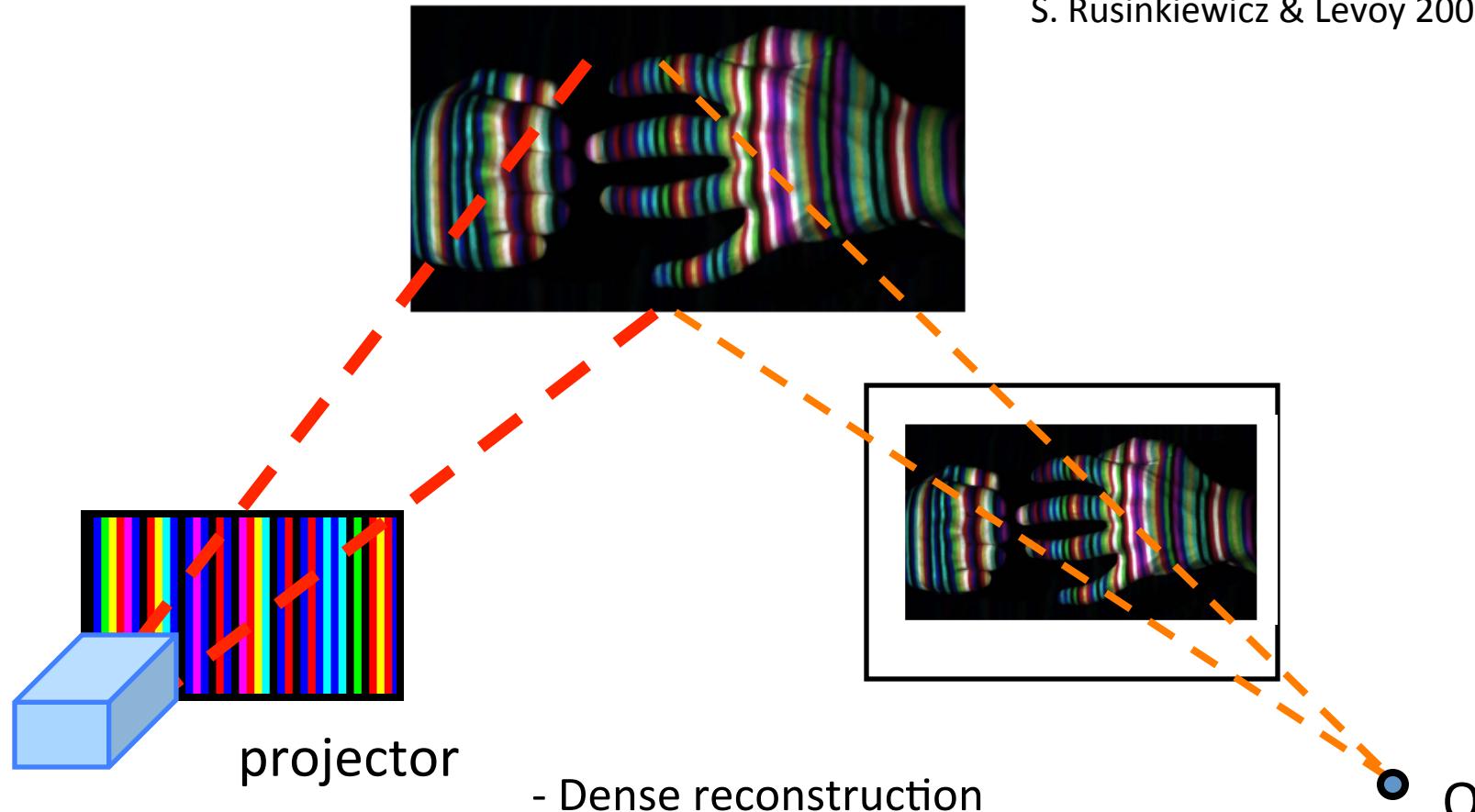
J. Bouguet & P. Perona, 99
S. Savarese, J. Bouguet & Perona, 00



Active stereo (color-coded stripes)

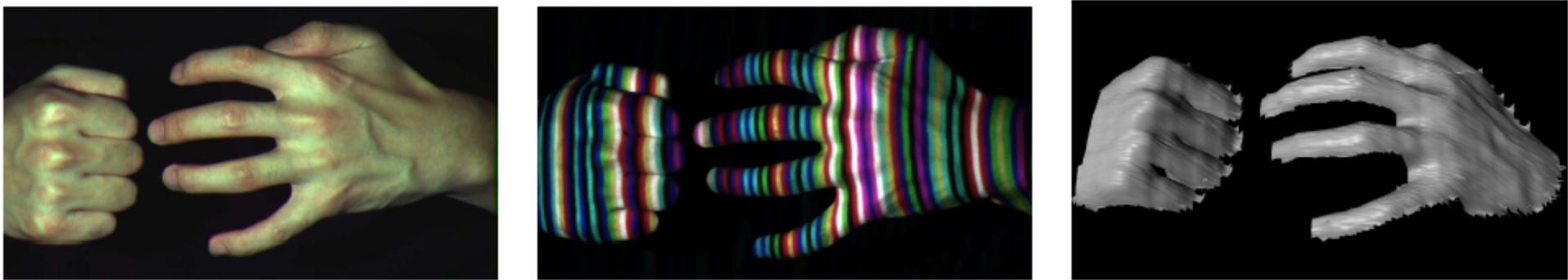
L. Zhang, B. Curless, and S. M. Seitz 2002

S. Rusinkiewicz & Levoy 2002



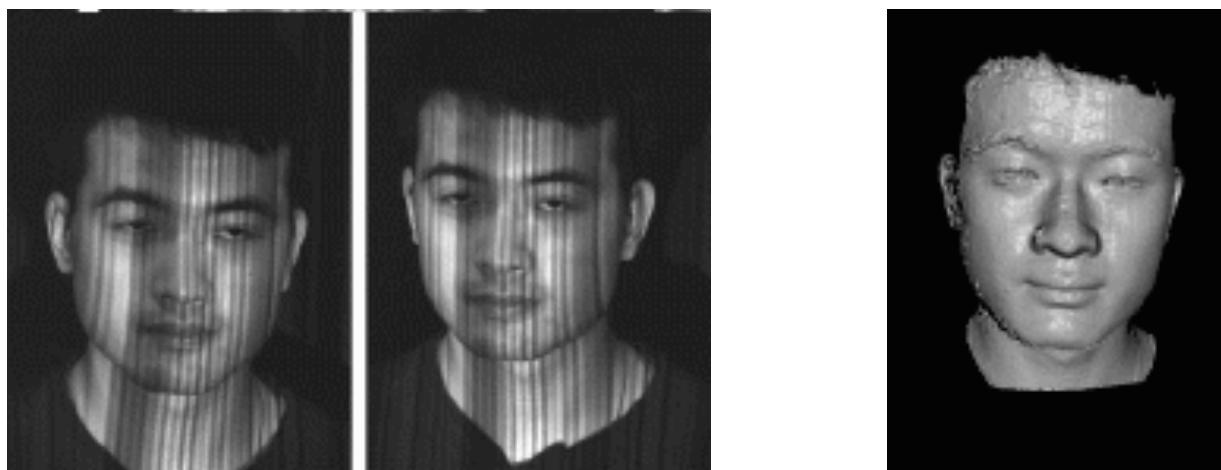
- Dense reconstruction
- Correspondence problem again
- Get around it by using color codes

Active stereo (color-coded stripes)

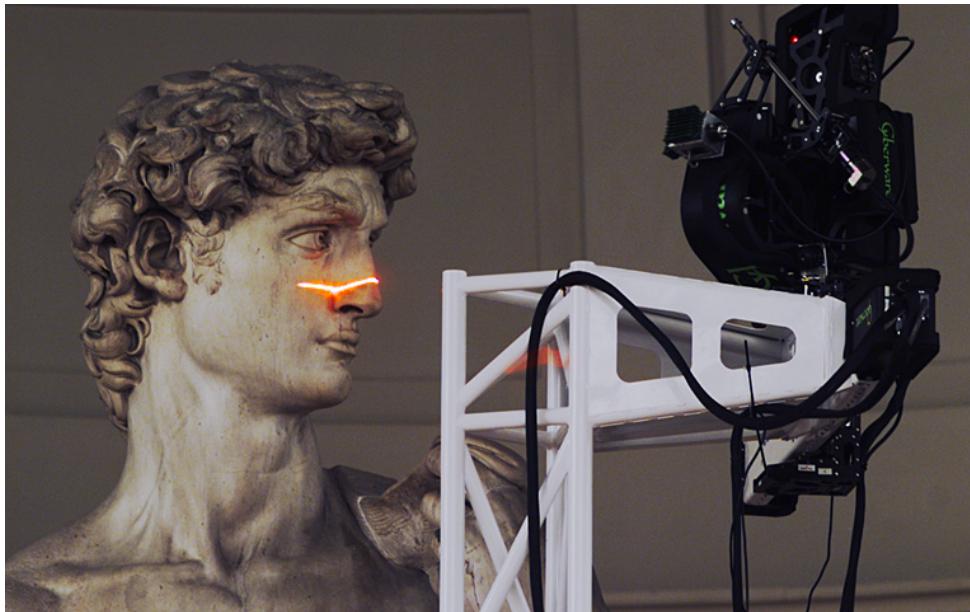


Rapid shape acquisition: Projector + stereo cameras

L. Zhang, B. Curless, and S. M. Seitz. Rapid Shape Acquisition Using Color Structured Light and Multi-pass Dynamic Programming. *3DPVT* 2002



Active stereo (stripe)



Digital Michelangelo Project
<http://graphics.stanford.edu/projects/mich/>

- Optical triangulation
 - Project a single stripe of laser light
 - Scan it across the surface of the object
 - This is a very precise version of structured light scanning

Laser scanned models



The Digital Michelangelo Project, Levoy et al.

Slide credit: S. Seitz

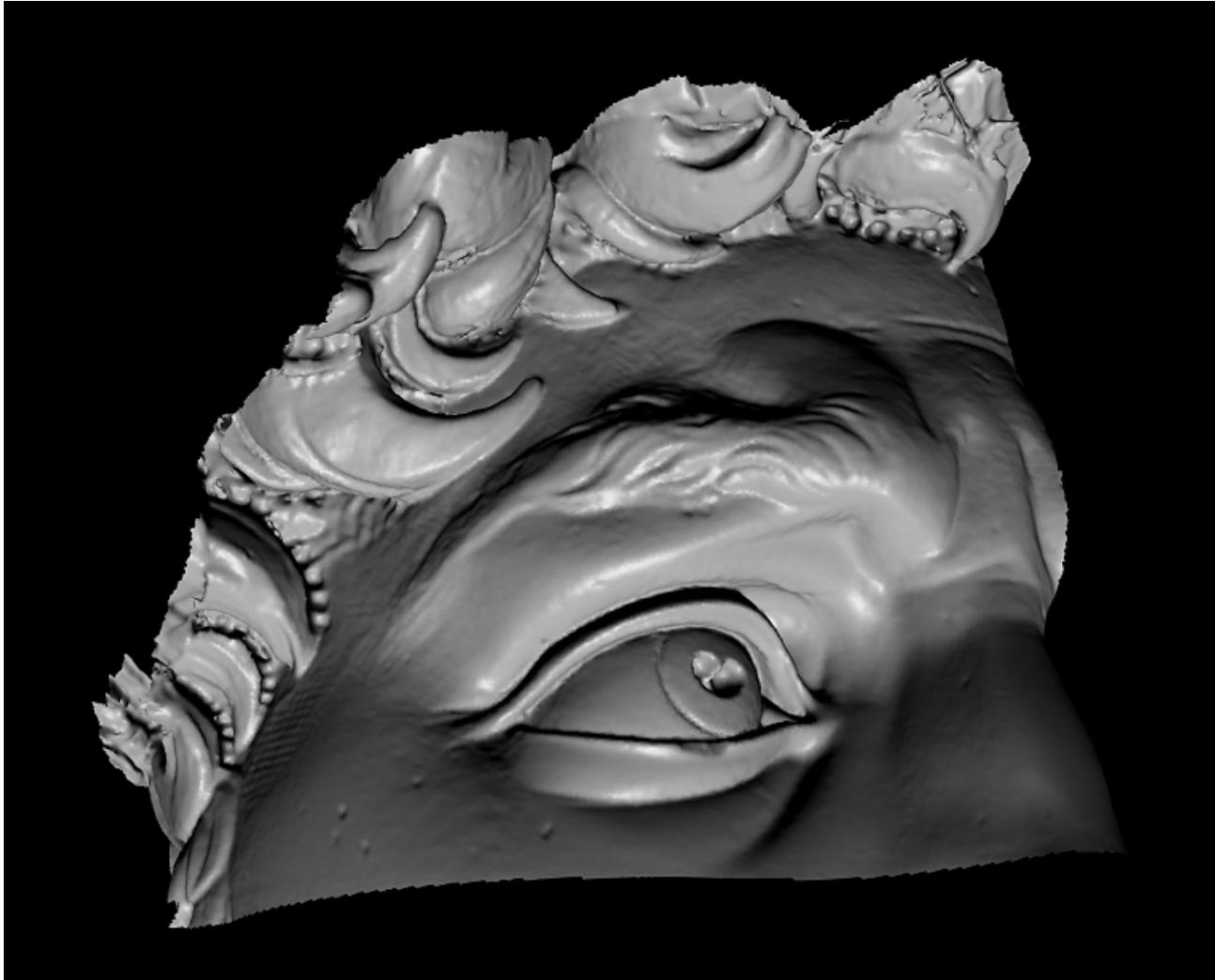
Laser scanned models



The Digital Michelangelo Project, Levoy et al.

Slide credit: S. Seitz

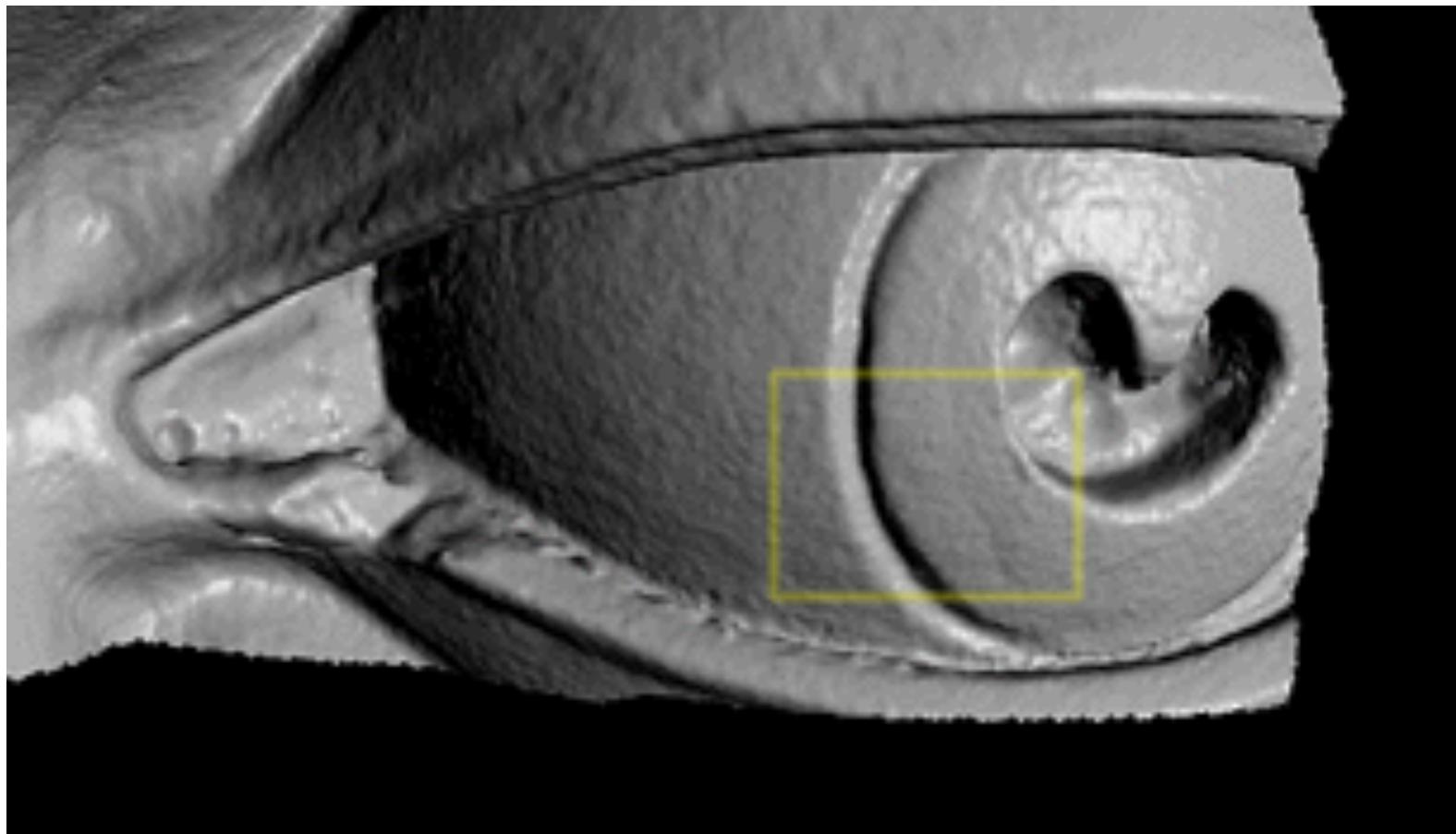
Laser scanned models



The Digital Michelangelo Project, Levoy et al.

Slide credit: S. Seitz

Laser scanned models

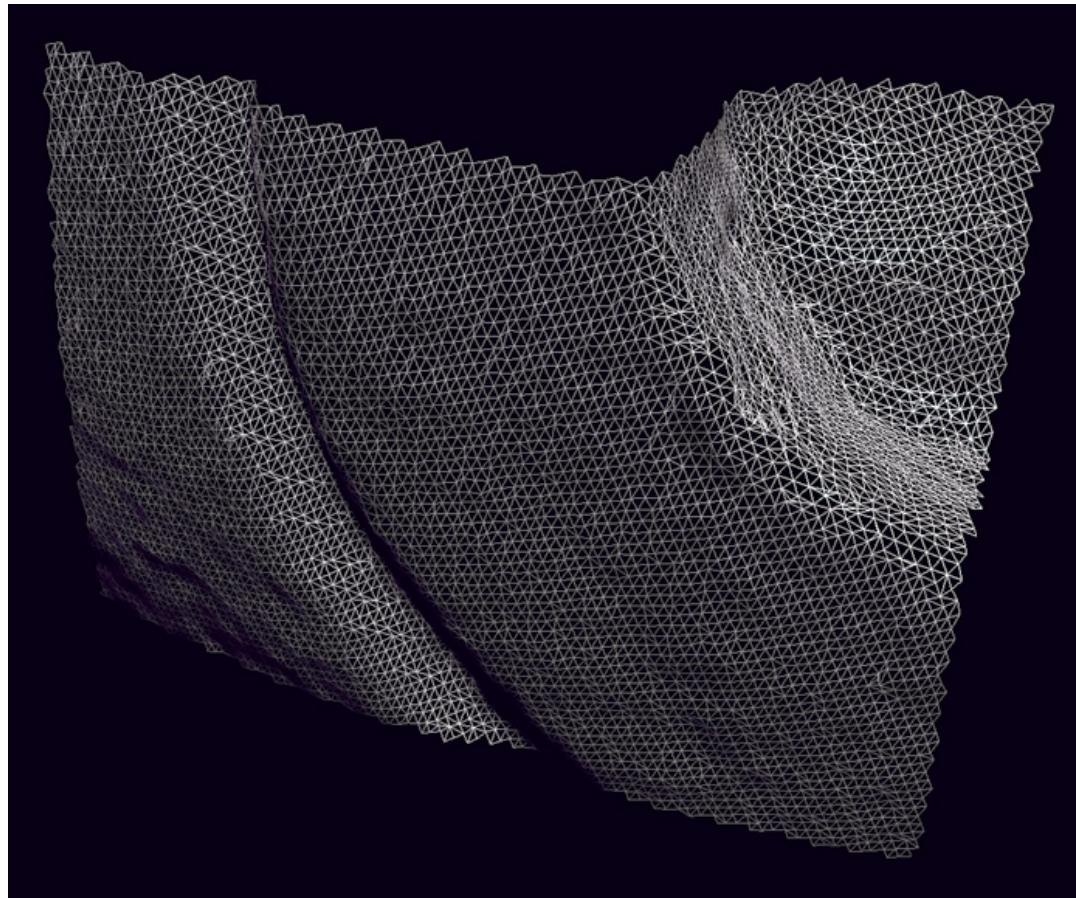


The Digital Michelangelo Project, Levoy et al.

Slide credit: S. Seitz

Laser scanned models

1.0 mm resolution (56 million triangles)



The Digital Michelangelo Project, Levoy et al.

Slide credit: S. Seitz

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