

# Computer Vision

## Direct Solutions for Computing Fundamental and Essential Matrix

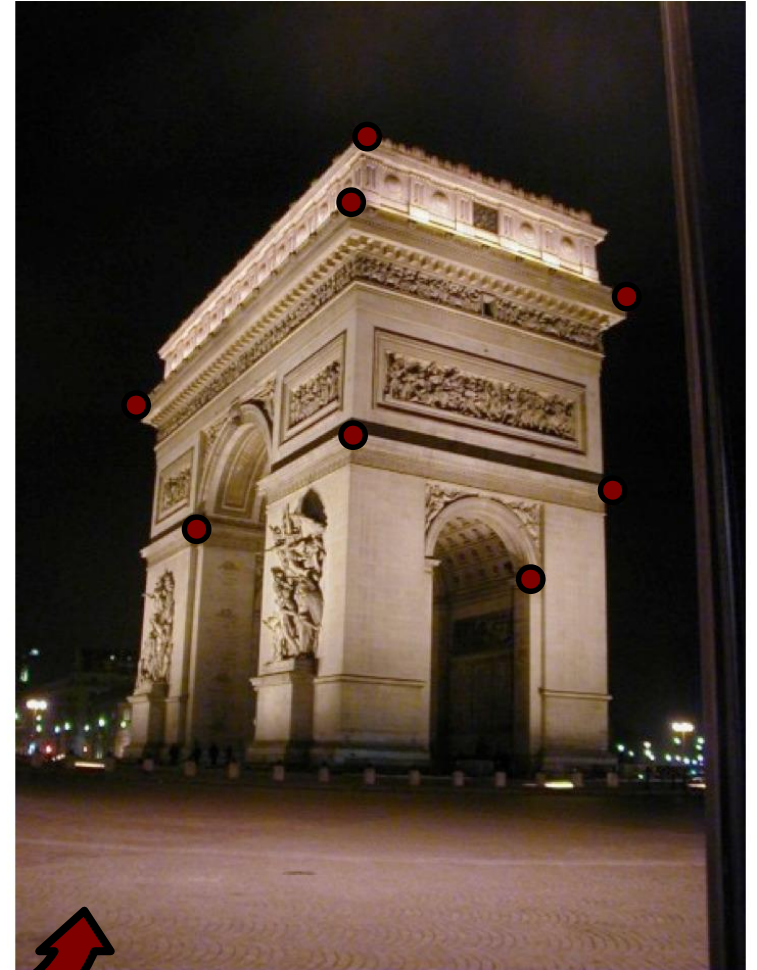
**Arjun Jain**

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# Course Project Submissions

- **Good news:** No report required!
- **Not so good news:** You are required to create a github page with the code just like our course webpage. The template for the same will be given out by the TA's shortly.
- Needs to be done before 5<sup>th</sup> of May (review day)
- We will then link to your project pages from the course webpage

# Motivation



$F/E$   $R, \mathbf{b}$  Image courtesy: Collins 3

# Topics of Today's Lecture

Compute the

- **Fundamental matrix** given corresponding points
- **Essential matrix** given corresponding points

# Table of Contents

1. Computing the Fundamental matrix (8-point algorithm)
2. Sketch of the 7-point algorithm
3. Computing the Essential matrix (8-point algorithm)
4. Computing the Essential matrix under special conditions (2 / 4 points)
5. Sketch of the 5-point algorithm

# **1**

## **Computing the Fundamental Matrix Given Corresponding Points**

# Fundamental Matrix (Uncalibrated Cameras)

- The **fundamental matrix**  $F$  is

$$F = (K')^{-T} R' S_b R''^T (K'')^{-1}$$

- It encodes the relative orientation for two uncalibrated cameras
- **Coplanarity constraint** through  $F$

$$\mathbf{x}'^T F \mathbf{x}'' = 0$$

# Fundamental Matrix

The fundamental matrix  $F$  can directly be computed if we know the

- $K', K''$  calibration matrices
- $R', R''$  viewing direction of the cameras
- $S_b$  baseline
- or the projection matrices  $P', P''$

**How to compute  $F$  given ONLY corresponding points in images?**



# Problem Formulation

- **Given:**  $N$  corresponding points

$$(x', y')_n, (x'', y'')_n \quad \text{with} \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$

- **Wanted:** fundamental matrix  $F$

# Fundamental Matrix From Corresponding Points

- For each point, we have the coplanarity constraint

$$\mathbf{x}'_n{}^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}''_n = 0 \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$

# Fundamental Matrix From Corresponding Points

- For each point, we have the coplanarity constraint

$$\mathbf{x}'_n{}^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}''_n = 0 \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$

- or

$$[x'_n, y'_n, 1] \begin{bmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} & F_{13} \\ F_{21} & F_{22} & F_{23} \\ F_{31} & F_{32} & F_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x''_n \\ y''_n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

unknowns!

# Linear Dependency

- **Linear function** in the unknowns  $F_{ij}$

$$[x'_n, y'_n, 1] \begin{bmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} & F_{13} \\ F_{21} & F_{22} & F_{23} \\ F_{31} & F_{32} & F_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x''_n \\ y''_n \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$x''_n F_{11} x'_n + x''_n F_{21} y'_n + \dots = 0$$

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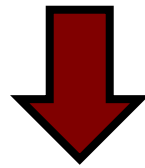
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$$\begin{aligned} & [x''_n x'_n, x''_n y'_n, x''_n, y''_n x'_n, y''_n y'_n, y''_n, x'_n, y'_n, 1] \cdot \\ & [F_{11}, F_{21}, F_{31}, F_{12}, F_{22}, F_{32}, F_{13}, F_{23}, F_{33}] = 0 \\ & n = 1, \dots, N \end{aligned}$$

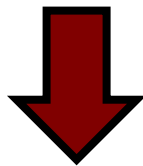
# Linear Dependency

- Linear function in the unknowns  $F_{ij}$

$$\mathbf{a}_n^\top \longrightarrow [x''_n x'_n, x''_n y'_n, x''_n, y''_n x'_n, y''_n y'_n, y''_n, x'_n, y'_n, 1] \cdot$$

$$\mathbf{f}^\top \longrightarrow [F_{11}, F_{21}, F_{31}, F_{12}, F_{22}, F_{32}, F_{13}, F_{23}, F_{33}] = 0$$

$$n = 1, \dots, N$$



$$\mathbf{a}_n^\top \cdot \mathbf{f}^\top = 0 \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$



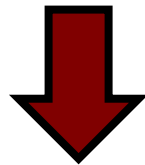
# Using the Kronecker Product

- Linear function in the unknowns  $F_{ij}$

$$\mathbf{a}_n^\top \longrightarrow [x''_n x'_n, x''_n y'_n, x''_n, y''_n x'_n, y''_n y'_n, y''_n, x'_n, y'_n, 1] \cdot$$

$$\mathbf{f}^\top \longrightarrow [F_{11}, F_{21}, F_{31}, F_{12}, F_{22}, F_{32}, F_{13}, F_{23}, F_{33}] = 0$$

$$n = 1, \dots, N$$



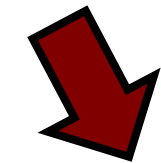
$$(\mathbf{x}''_n \otimes \mathbf{x}'_n)^\top \text{vec} \mathbf{F} = \underbrace{\mathbf{a}_n^\top}_{(\mathbf{x}''_n \otimes \mathbf{x}'_n)^\top \text{vec} \mathbf{F}} \underbrace{\mathbf{f}} = 0 \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$

(it holds in general:  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{F} \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{y} \otimes \mathbf{x})^\top \text{vec} \mathbf{F}$  )

# Linear System From All Points

- We directly obtain a linear system if we consider **all N points**

$$\underbrace{a_n^\top}_{(\mathbf{x}_n'' \otimes \mathbf{x}_n')^\top \text{vec} F} \underbrace{\mathbf{f}} = 0 \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$



$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^\top \\ \dots \\ a_n^\top \\ \dots \\ a_N^\top \end{bmatrix}$$


$$A\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$$

**So how to solve such a system of equations?**

# Solving the Linear System

- Singular value decomposition solves

$$A\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$$

- and thus provides a solution for

$$\mathbf{f} = [F_{11}, F_{21}, F_{31}, F_{12}, F_{22}, F_{32}, F_{13}, F_{23}, F_{33}]^T$$

- SVD:  $\mathbf{f}$  can be characterized as a right-singular vector corresponding to a singular value of  $A$  that is zero

# How Many Points Are Needed?

- The vector  $\mathbf{f}$  has 9 dimensions...

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^\top \\ \dots \\ a_n^\top \\ \dots \\ a_N^\top \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad A\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$$

# How Many Points Are Needed?

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- Fundamental matrix is **homogenous**
- Matrix  $A$  has a rank of at most **8**
- **We need ? corresponding points**

# How Many Points Are Needed?

- The vector  $\mathbf{f}$  has 9 dimensions

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^\top \\ \dots \\ a_n^\top \\ \dots \\ a_N^\top \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad A\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$$

- Fundamental matrix is **homogenous**
- Matrix  $A$  has a rank of at most **8**
- **We need 8 corresponding points**

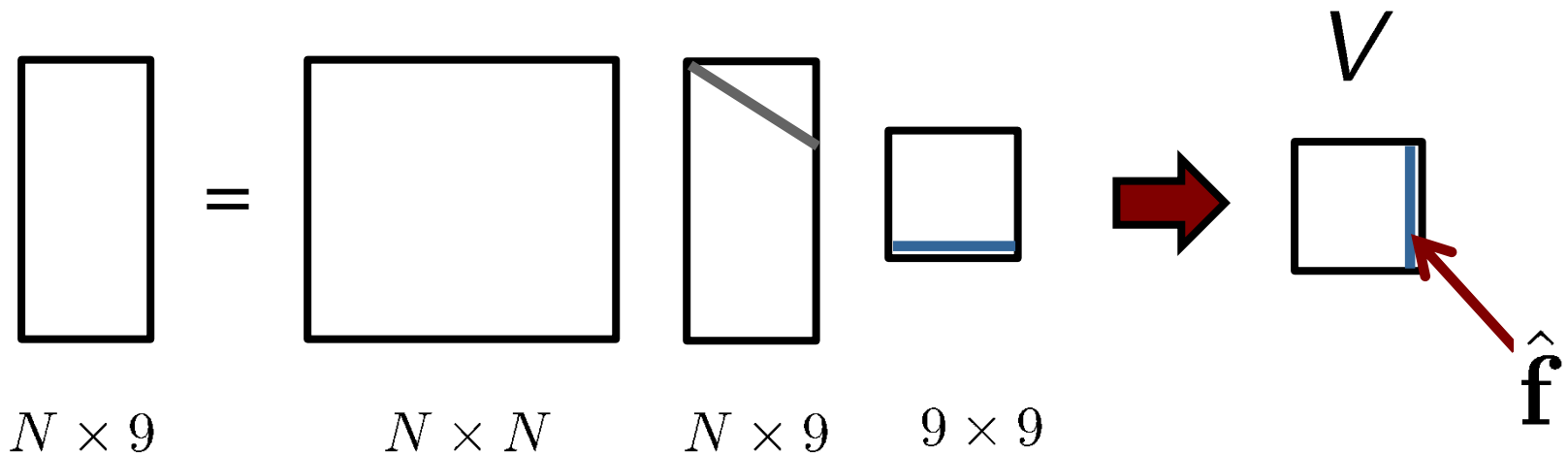
## More Than 8 Points...

- In reality: noisy measurements
- With more than 8 points, the matrix  $A$  will become regular (but should not!)
- Use the singular vector  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$  of  $A$  that corresponds to the **smallest** singular value is the solution  $\hat{\mathbf{f}} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{F}}$

# Singular Vector

- Use the singular vector  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$  of  $A$  that corresponds to the **smallest** singular value is the solution  $\hat{\mathbf{f}} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{F}}$

$$A = UDV^T$$





# 8-Point Algorithm 1<sup>st</sup> Try

```
1 function F = F_from_point_pairs(xs, xss)
2 % xs, xss: Nx3 homologous point coordinates, N > 7
3 % F:      3x3 fundamental matrix
4
5 % coefficient matrix
6 for n = 1 : size(xs, 1)
7     A(n, :) = kron(xss(n, :), xs(n, :));
8 end
9
```

# 8-Point Algorithm 1<sup>st</sup> Try

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10 % singular value decomposition
11 [U, D, V] = svd(A);
12
13 % select the singlar vector with the minimal singular value
14 F = reshape(V(:, 9), 3, 3)';
```

singular vector of the  
smallest singular value

Not necessarily a matrix of rank 2  
(but F should have:  $\text{rank}(F)=2$ )

# Enforcing Rank 2

- We want to enforce a matrix  $F$  with  $\text{rank}(F) = 2$  **Why?**
- $F$  should approximate our computed matrix  $\hat{F}$  as close as possible

**What to do?**

# Enforcing Rank 2

- We want to **enforce** a matrix  $F$  with  $\text{rank}(F) = 2$
- $F$  should **approximate** our computed matrix  $\hat{F}$  as close as possible
- Use a second SVD (this time of  $\hat{F}$ )

$$F = U D^a V^T = U \text{diag}(D_{11}, D_{22}, 0) V^T$$

$$\text{with } \text{svd}(\hat{F}) = U D V^T$$

$$\text{and } D_{11} \geq D_{22} \geq D_{33}$$

# 8-Point Algorithm

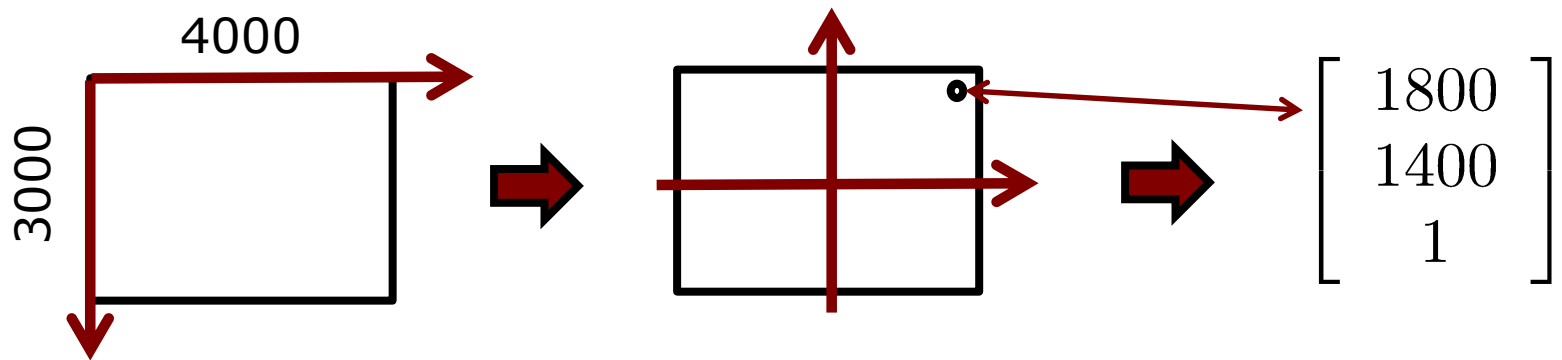
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13 % approximate F, possibly regular
14 Fa = reshape(V(:, 9), 3, 3)';
15
```

# 8-Point Algorithm

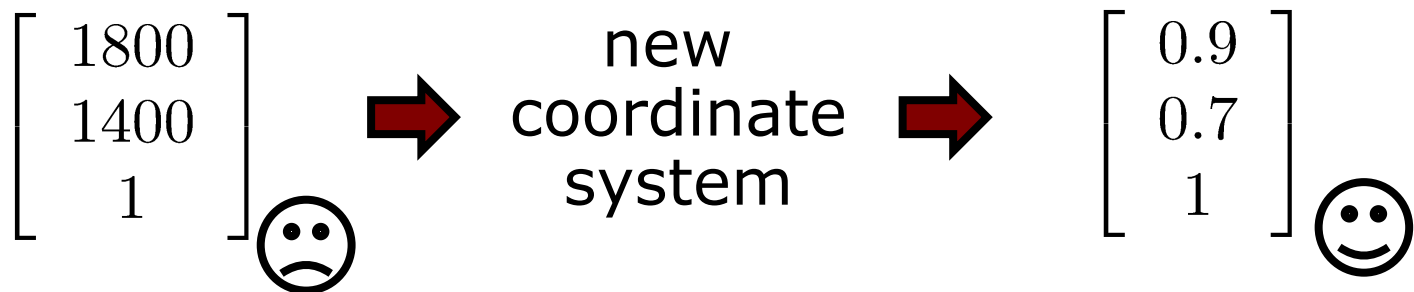
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13 % approximate F, possibly regular
14 Fa = reshape(V(:, 9), 3, 3)';
15
16 % svd decomposition of F
17 [Ua, Da, Va] = svd(Fa);
18
19 % algebraically best F, singular
20 F = Ua * diag([Da(1, 1), Da(2, 2), 0]) * Va';
```

# Well-Conditioned Problem

- Example image 12MPixel camera



- Ill-conditioned, numerically unstable



**When did you have to do something similar to this?**

# Conditioning/Normalization to Obtain a Well-Conditioned Problem

- Normalization of the point coordinates substantially **improves** the **stability**
- **Transform** the points so that the center of mass of all points is at  $(0,0)$
- **Scale** the image so that the  $x$  and  $y$  coordinates are within  $[-1,1]$






# Conditioning/Normalization

- Define  $T : T\mathbf{x} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}$  so that coordinates are zero-centered and in  $[-1,1]$
- Determine fundamental matrix  $\hat{F}$  from the transformed coordinates

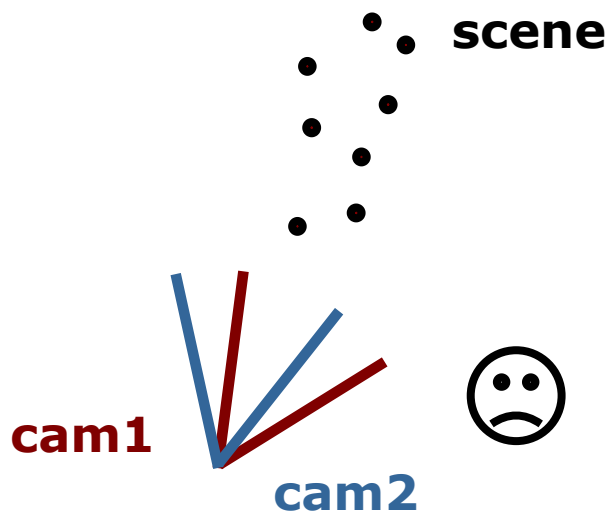
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}'^T F \mathbf{x}'' &= (T^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{x}}')^T F (\tilde{T}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{x}}'') \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{x}}'^T T^{-T} F \tilde{T}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{x}}'' \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{x}}'^T \hat{F} \hat{\mathbf{x}}''\end{aligned}$$

- Obtain fundamental matrix  $F$  through


$$\begin{aligned}\hat{F} &= T^{-T} F \tilde{T}^{-1} \\ F &= T^T \hat{F} \tilde{T}\end{aligned}$$

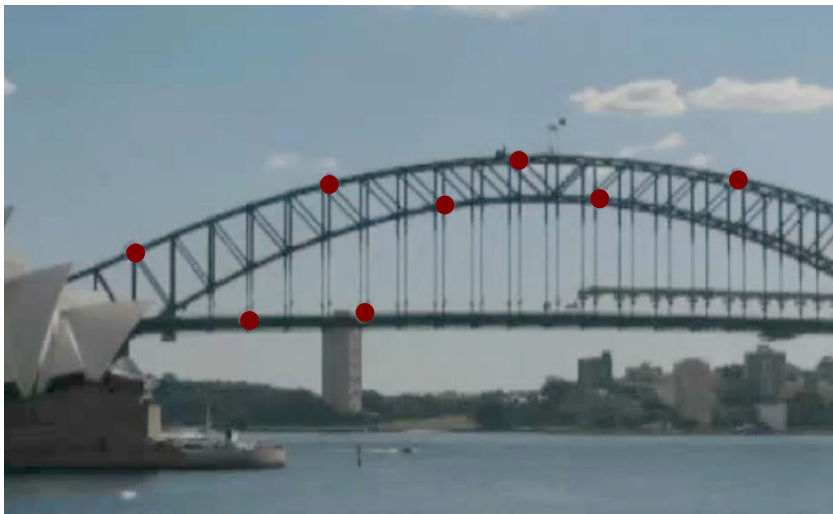
# Singularity – No Translation

- The projection centers of both cameras are identical:  $X_{O'} = X_{O''}$
- This happens if the translation of the camera is zero between both images



# Singularity – Points on a Plane

- If all corresponding points lie on a plane, then we have some instabilities.
- Pg. 296, 11.9.2 from H&Z's Multiple View Geometry in Computer Vision



**2**

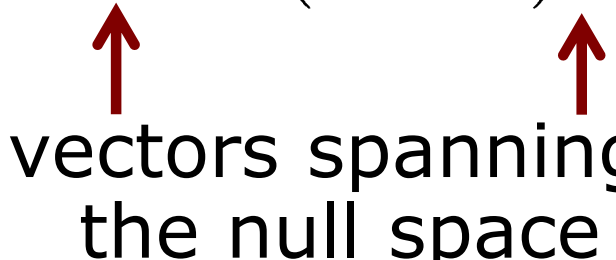
**Computing the  
Fundamental Matrix  
Given 7 Corresponding Points**

# Direct Solution with 7 Points

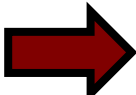
- We know that the fundamental matrix has **seven degrees of freedom**
- There exists a direct solution for 7 pts

**The solution itself is more complex,  
so just the idea should matter here**

# Direct Solution with 7 Points

- We know that the fundamental matrix has **seven degrees of freedom**
- There exists a direct solution for 7 pts
- Idea: 2-dimensional null space of  $A$
- Matrix  $F$  must fulfill  $\mathbf{f} = \lambda \mathbf{f}_1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{f}_2$   
  
vectors spanning the null space

# Direct Solution with 7 Points

- We know that the fundamental matrix has **seven degrees of freedom**
- There exists a direct solution for 7 pts
- Idea: 2-dimensional null space of  $A$
- Matrix  $F$  must fulfill  $\mathbf{f} = \lambda \mathbf{f}_1 + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{f}_2$
- We also know that the determinant of the 3x3 matrix must be zero:  $|F| = 0$
- Can be combined to an equation of degree 3  up to three solutions

# Summary so far

- Estimating the fundamental matrix from  $N$  pairs of corresponding points
- Direct solution of  $N > 7$  points based on solving a homogenous linear system ("8 point algorithm")
- Idea for a direct solution with 7 points (up to 3 solutions)



**3**

**Let's Do the Same for the  
Essential Matrix**

# Reminder: Essential Matrix

- **Fundamental matrix for calibrated cameras**

$$E = R' S_b R''^T$$

- Often parameterized through  
(general parameterization of dependent images)

$$E = S_b R^T$$

- Coplanarity constraint for calibrated cameras

$${}^k \mathbf{x}'^T E {}^k \mathbf{x}'' = 0$$

# Essential Matrix from 8+ Corresponding Points

- For each point, we have the coplanarity constraint

$${}^k\mathbf{x}'_n{}^T \mathbf{E} {}^k\mathbf{x}''_n = 0 \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$

# Essential Matrix from 8+ Corresponding Points

- For each point, we have the coplanarity constraint

$${}^k \mathbf{x}'_n{}^T \mathbf{E} {}^k \mathbf{x}''_n = 0 \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$

- or

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^k x'_n & {}^k y'_n & c' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_{11} & E_{12} & E_{13} \\ E_{21} & E_{22} & E_{23} \\ E_{31} & E_{32} & E_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^k x''_n \\ {}^k y''_n \\ c'' \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

# As for the Fundamental Matrix...

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^k x'_n & {}^k y'_n & c' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_{11} & E_{12} & E_{13} \\ E_{21} & E_{22} & E_{23} \\ E_{31} & E_{32} & E_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^k x''_n \\ {}^k y''_n \\ c'' \end{bmatrix} = 0$$



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10 % singular value decomposition
11 [U, D, V] = svd(A);
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13 % select the singular vector with the minimal singular value
14 E = reshape(V(:, 9), 3, 3)';
```

**build matrix A**

**solve Ae=0**

**build matrix E**

**Which constraints to consider?**

# Constraints

- For the fundamental matrix, we enforced the  $\text{rank}(F) = 2$  constraint

$$F = UDV^T = U \begin{bmatrix} D_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & D_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} V^T$$

- For the essential matrix, both non-zero singular values are identical

$$E = U \begin{bmatrix} d & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} V^T = U \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} V^T$$

↑  
homogenous

# 8-Point Algorithm for the Essential Matrix

```
1 function E = E_from_point_pairs(xs, xss)
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11 [U, D, V] = svd(A);
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13 % approximate E, possibly regular
14 Ea = reshape(V(:, 9), 3, 3)';
15
16 % svd decomposition of E
17 [Ua, Da, Va] = svd(Ea);
18
19 % algebraically best E, singular, same singular values
20 E = Ua * diag([1, 1, 0]) * Va';
```

**build matrix A**

**solve  $Ae=0$**

**build matrix Ea**

**compute SVD of Ea**

**build matrix E from Ea  
by imposing constraints**

# Conditioning/Normalization to Obtain a Well-Conditioned Problem (As Done Before)

- As for the 8-Point algorithm for the fundamental matrix, normalization of the point coordinates is **essential**
- **Transform** the points so that the center of mass of all points is at  $(0,0)$
- **Scale** the image so that the  $x$  and  $y$  coordinates are within  $[-1,1]$




# Conditioning/Normalization

- Define  $T : T\mathbf{x} = \hat{\mathbf{x}}$  so that coordinates are zero-centered and in  $[-1,1]$
- Determine essential matrix  $\hat{E}$  from the transformed coordinates

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}'^T E \mathbf{x}'' &= (T^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{x}}')^T E (\tilde{T}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{x}}'') \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{x}}'^T T^{-T} E \tilde{T}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{x}}'' \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{x}}'^T \hat{E} \hat{\mathbf{x}}''\end{aligned}$$

- Obtain essential matrix  $E$  through


$$\begin{aligned}\hat{E} &= T^{-T} E \tilde{T}^{-1} \\ E &= T^T \hat{E} \tilde{T}\end{aligned}$$

# Properties of the Essential Mat.

- Homogenous
- Singular:  $|E| = 0$  (determinant is zero)
- Two identical non-zero singular values

$$E = U \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} V^T$$

- As a result of the skew-sym. matrix (not currently exploiting):

$$2EE^T E - \text{tr}(EE^T)E = \mathbf{0}_{3 \times 3}$$

# 4

## **Special Cases for Computing the Essential Matrix**

# Essential Matrix in Case of Known Rotations

- In case the rotations are known, the coplanarity constraints simplifies

$${}^k\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{E} {}^k\mathbf{x}'' = 0$$



$${}^k\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{S}_B \mathbf{R}^T {}^k\mathbf{x}'' = {}^k\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{S}_B {}^1\mathbf{x}'' = 0$$

point in the  
rotated image

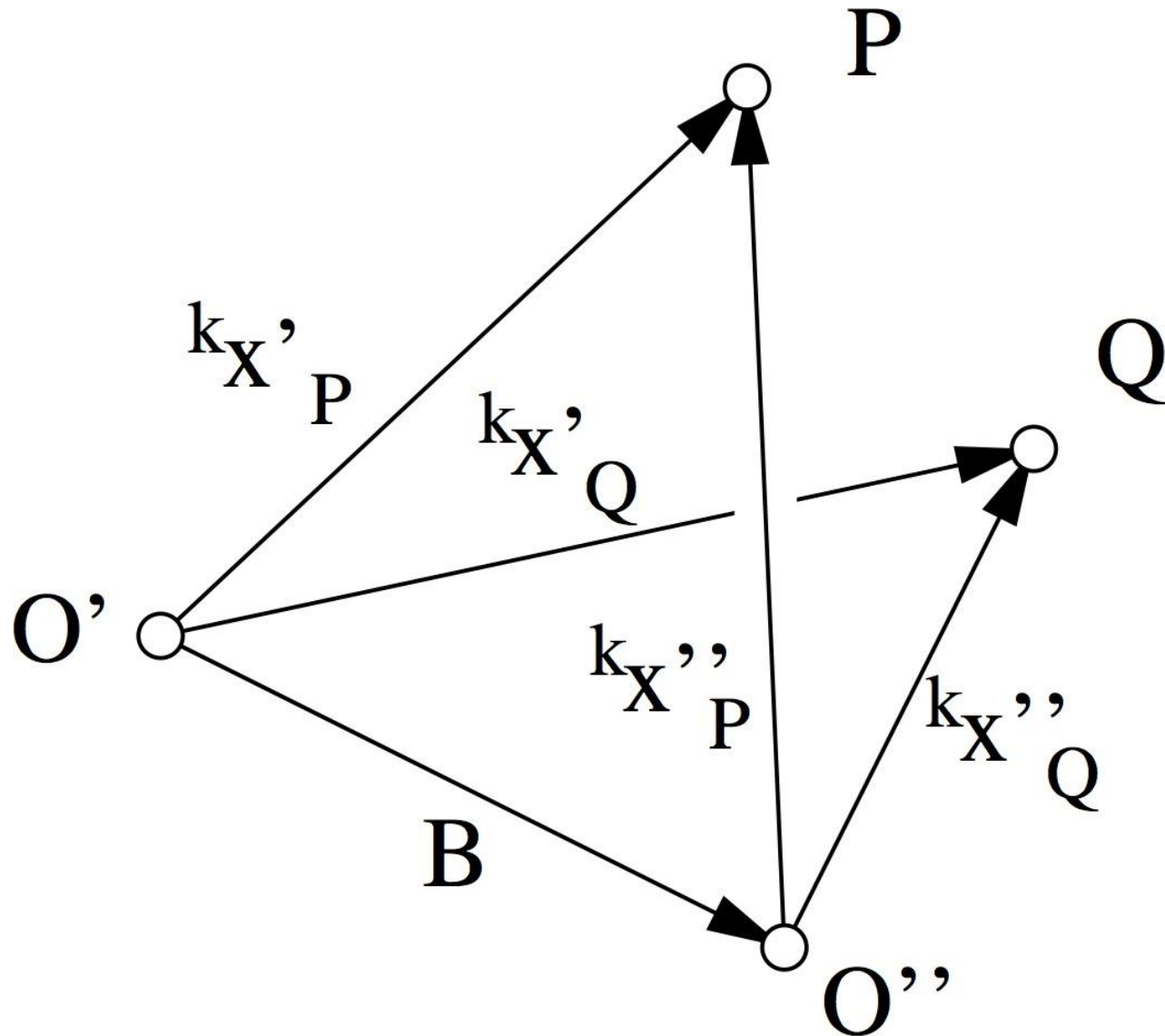
- As the rotations are known, we only have 2 DoF. Why?

# Essential Matrix in Case of Known Rotations

- We only have 2 degrees of freedom
- Two corresponding points are sufficient to compute the basis

$$({}^k\mathbf{x}'_P, {}^k\mathbf{x}''_P), ({}^k\mathbf{x}'_Q, {}^k\mathbf{x}''_Q)$$

# Computing B from P and Q

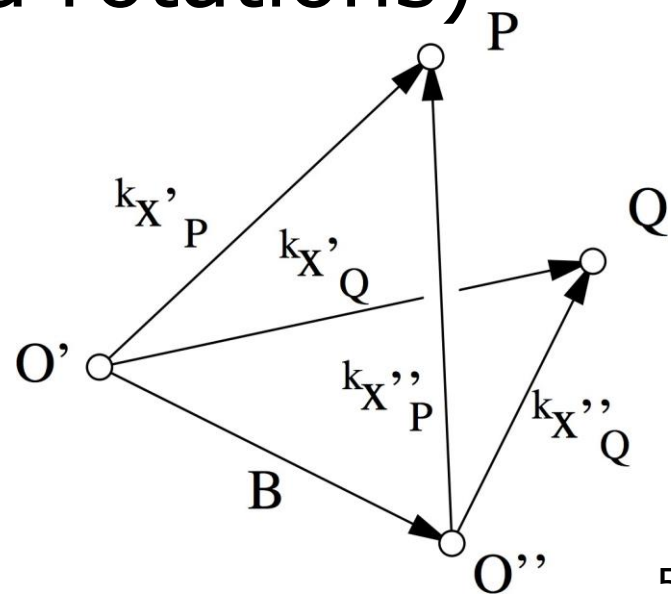


# Essential Matrix in Case of Known Rotations

- Two corresponding points  
 $({}^k\mathbf{x}'_P, {}^k\mathbf{x}''_P), ({}^k\mathbf{x}'_Q, {}^k\mathbf{x}''_Q)$
- Normal vectors of the epipolar planes  
(given known camera rotations)

$$\mathbf{n}_P = {}^k\mathbf{x}'_P \times {}^k\mathbf{x}''_P$$

$$\mathbf{n}_Q = {}^k\mathbf{x}'_Q \times {}^k\mathbf{x}''_Q$$

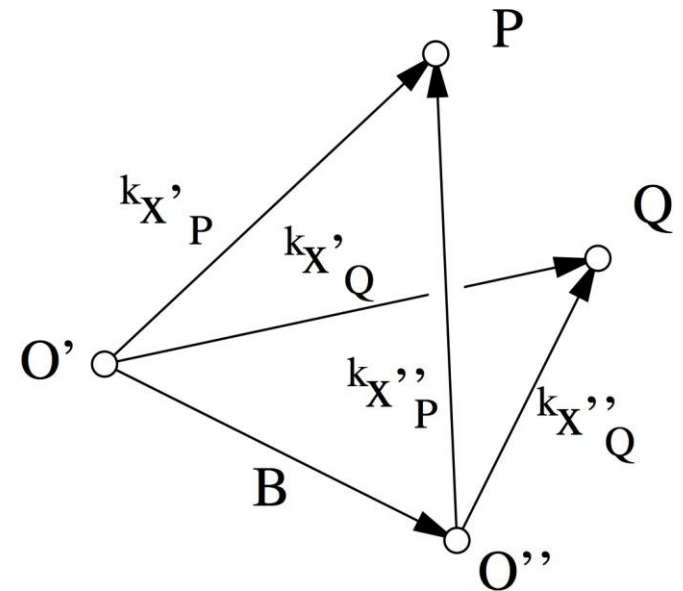


# Essential Matrix in Case of Known Rotations

- Normals

$$\mathbf{n}_P = {}^k\mathbf{x}'_P \times {}^k\mathbf{x}''_P$$

$$\mathbf{n}_Q = {}^k\mathbf{x}'_Q \times {}^k\mathbf{x}''_Q$$



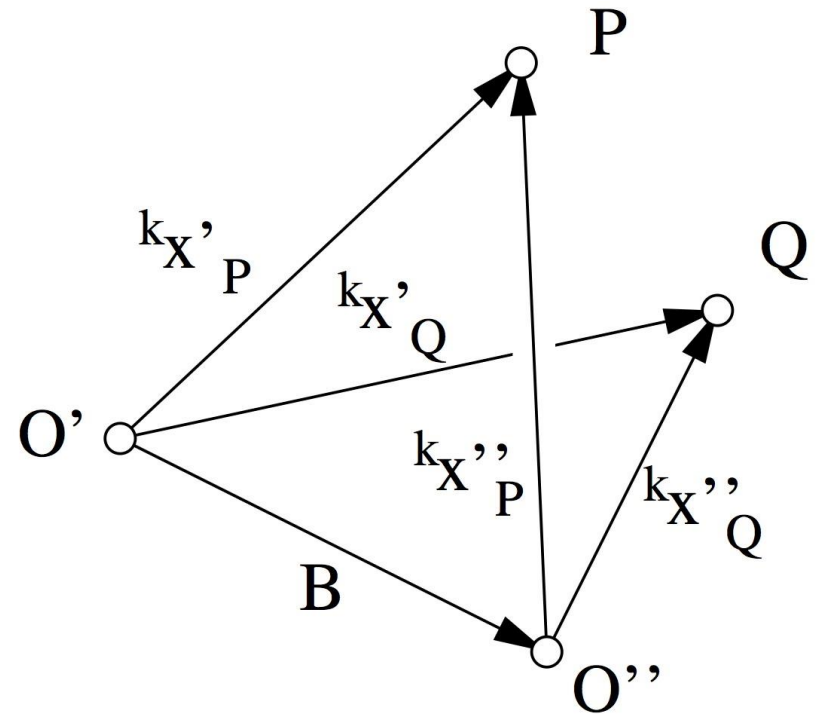
- The epipolar axis and thus  $B$  must be **orthogonal to the both normals**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{B} &= \mathbf{n}_P \times \mathbf{n}_Q \\ &= ({}^k\mathbf{x}'_P \times {}^k\mathbf{x}''_P) \times ({}^k\mathbf{x}'_Q \times {}^k\mathbf{x}''_Q)\end{aligned}$$



# Which Assumption Did We Make?

- $|B| > 0$
- Points in different epipolar planes
- No points at infinity
- No point on  $B$



$$\begin{aligned}\hat{B} &= \mathbf{n}_P \times \mathbf{n}_Q \\ &= ({}^k\mathbf{x}'_P \times {}^k\mathbf{x}''_P) \times ({}^k\mathbf{x}'_Q \times {}^k\mathbf{x}''_Q)\end{aligned}$$

# 5

## 5-Point Algorithm

# 5-Point Algorithm

- Proposed by Nistér in 2003/2004
- Standard solution today to obtaining a direct solution
- Solving a polynomial of degree 10
- 10 possible solutions
- Often used together RANSAC
  - RANSAC proposes correspondences
  - Evaluate all 5-point solutions based on the other corresponding points

# 5-Point Algorithm

- More details in the script by Förstner “Photogrammetrie II”, Ch 1.2
- Stewenius, Engels, Nistér: “Recent Developments on Direct Relative Orientation”, ISPRS 2006
- Li and Hartley: “Five-Point Motion Estimation Made Easy”

# Summary

- Compute  $S_B, R$  given  $E$
- Direct solutions
  - $F$  from  $N > 7$  points
  - $F$  from  $N = 7$  points (idea)
  - $E$  from  $N > 7$  points
  - $E$  from  $N = 2/4$  points under special cond.
  - $E$  from  $N = 5$  points (idea)
- Cannot exploit overdetermined cases
- Initial guess for iterative solutions

# Literature

- Förstner, Wrobel: Photogrammetric Computer Vision, Ch. 12.3.1-12.3.3
- Hartley: In Defence of the 8-point Algorithm
- Stewenius, Engels, Nistér: Recent Developments on Direct Relative Orientation, ISPRS 2006

# Slide Information

- The slides have been created by Cyrill Stachniss as part of the photogrammetry and robotics courses.
- I tried to acknowledge all people from whom I used images or videos. In case I made a mistake or missed someone, please let me know.
- The photogrammetry material heavily relies on the very well written lecture notes by Wolfgang Förstner and the Photogrammetric Computer Vision book by Förstner & Wrobel.
- Parts of the robotics material stems from the great Probabilistic Robotics book by Thrun, Burgard and Fox.

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