

# Computer Vision

## Epipolar Geometry and the Essential Matrix

**Arjun Jain**

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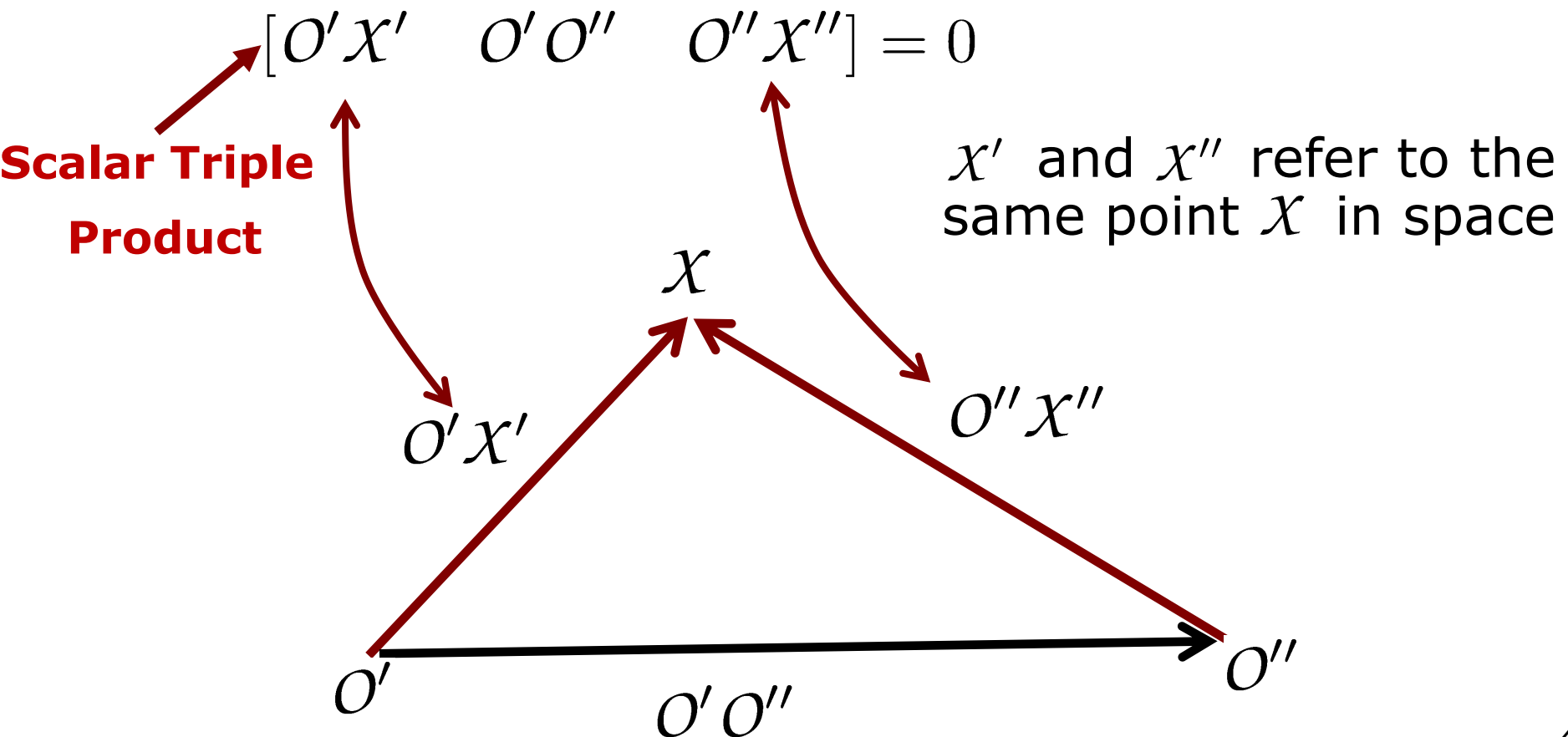
# Administrative Matters

- Final project demo dates:
  - 5<sup>th</sup> May (Sat) vs. 6<sup>th</sup> May (Sun)
  - Outstanding cases?
  - Cribs on same days
- Assignment 5 feedback?
- Assignment 6:
  - Stereo Vision

**Recap:**  
**Coplanarity Constraint for**  
**Straight-Line Preserving**  
**(Uncalibrated) Cameras**

# Coplanarity Constraint for Uncalibrated Cameras


Coplanarity can be expressed by





# Refresher from Camera Geometry

- Recall that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda \mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{I}_3 | -\mathbf{X}_O]\mathbf{X} \\
 &= [\mathbf{K}\mathbf{R} | -\mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{X}_O] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{X}_O
 \end{aligned}$$

factor resulting from the H.C. 

3D Homogeneous 

3D Euclidean 

# Refresher from Camera Geometry

- Starting from  $\lambda \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{X}_O$
- we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{X} &= (\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{X}_O + \lambda (\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{X}_O + \lambda (\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

- The term  $(\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{x}$  describes the direction of the ray from the camera origin  $\mathbf{X}_O$  to the 3D point  $\mathbf{X}$

 **3x1 Euclidean**

# Coplanarity Constraint for Uncalibrated Cameras

- The directions of the vectors  $O'x'$  and  $O''x''$  can be derived from the image coordinates  $x', x''$

$$x' = P'X \quad x'' = P''X$$

- with the projection matrices

$$P' = K'R'[I_3 | -X_{O'}] \quad P'' = K''R''[I_3 | -X_{O''}]$$

**Euclidean coord.**

Reminder:  $[I_3 | -X_{O''}] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -X_{O''} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -Y_{O''} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -Z_{O''} \end{bmatrix}$

# Directions to a Point

- The directions of the vectors  $O''x''$  and  $O'x'$  are

**3x1 Euclidean**

$${}_n\mathbf{x}' = (R')^{-1}(K')^{-1}\mathbf{x}'$$

pixel space,  
Homogenous coord

- provides the direction to from the center of projection to the point in 3D
- Analogous:

$${}_n\mathbf{x}'' = (R'')^{-1}(K'')^{-1}\mathbf{x}''$$



# Base Vector

- The base vector  $O'O''$  directly results from the coordinates of the projection centers

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{X}_{O''} - \mathbf{X}_{O'}$$

# Coplanarity Constraint

- Using the previous relations, the coplanarity constraint

$$[O'X' \quad O'O'' \quad O''X''] = 0$$

- can be rewritten as

$$[{}^n\mathbf{x}' \quad \mathbf{b} \quad {}^n\mathbf{x}''] = 0$$

$${}^n\mathbf{x}' \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times {}^n\mathbf{x}'') = 0$$

$${}^n\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{S}_b {}^n\mathbf{x}'' = 0$$



skew-symmetric matrix

# Derivation

- Why is this correct?

$$\begin{aligned} {}^n\mathbf{x}' \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times {}^n\mathbf{x}'') &= 0 \\ {}^n\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{S}_b {}^n\mathbf{x}'' &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array}$$

# Derivation

- Why is this correct?

$$\begin{aligned} n_{\mathbf{x}'} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times n_{\mathbf{x}''}) &= 0 \\ n_{\mathbf{x}'}^\top S_b n_{\mathbf{x}''} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array}$$

- Results from the cross product as

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{b}} \times \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} -b_3x_2 + b_2x_3 \\ b_3x_1 - b_1x_3 \\ -b_2x_1 + b_1x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -b_3 & b_2 \\ b_3 & 0 & -b_1 \\ -b_2 & b_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{S_b} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}}$$

- with  $S_b$  being a skew-symmetric matrix

# Coplanarity Constraint

- By combining  $n_{\mathbf{x}'} = (R')^{-1}(K')^{-1}\mathbf{x}'$   
and  $n_{\mathbf{x}'}^T S_b n_{\mathbf{x}''} = 0$
- we obtain

$$\mathbf{x}'^T (K')^{-T} (R')^{-T} S_b (R'')^{-1} (K'')^{-1} \mathbf{x}'' = 0$$

# Coplanarity Constraint

- By combining  $n_{\mathbf{x}'} = (R')^{-1}(K')^{-1}\mathbf{x}'$   
and  $n_{\mathbf{x}'}^T S_b n_{\mathbf{x}''} = 0$
- we obtain

$$\mathbf{x}'^T \underbrace{(K')^{-T}(R')^{-T}S_b(R'')^{-1}(K'')^{-1}}_F \mathbf{x}'' = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} F &= (K')^{-T}(R')^{-T}S_b(R'')^{-1}(K'')^{-1} \\ &= (K')^{-T}R'S_bR''^T(K'')^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

# Fundamental Matrix

- The matrix  $F$  is the **fundamental matrix** (for uncalibrated cameras):

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

- It allow for expressing the **coplanarity constraint** by

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

# Summary: Fundamental Matrix

- F encodes the R.O. of two images from uncalibrated cameras
- F has 7 DoF (5 pose, 2 intrinsics)
- F can be computed easily from  $P', P''$
- Fundamental matrix is defined as

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

- Coplanarity constraint

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



# The Fundamental Matrix



video courtesy: Daniel wege  
<http://danielwege.com/fmatrix/>

# Table of Contents

1. Introduction to epipolar geometry
2. Essential matrix
3. Popular parameterizations for the relative orientation
4. Generating the normalized stereo case from arbitrary views

# 1

## Epipolar Geometry

# Epipolar Geometry – Motivation

- **Given** a point  $x'$  in the plane of the **first** image
- **Find** the corresponding point  $x''$  in the **second** image plane

# Epipolar Geometry

- Epipolar geometry is used to describe geometric relations in image pairs
- Enables efficient search for and prediction of corresponding points
- Given a straight-line preserving mapping, the search space reduces from 2D (whole image) to 1D (line)

# Epipolar Geometry

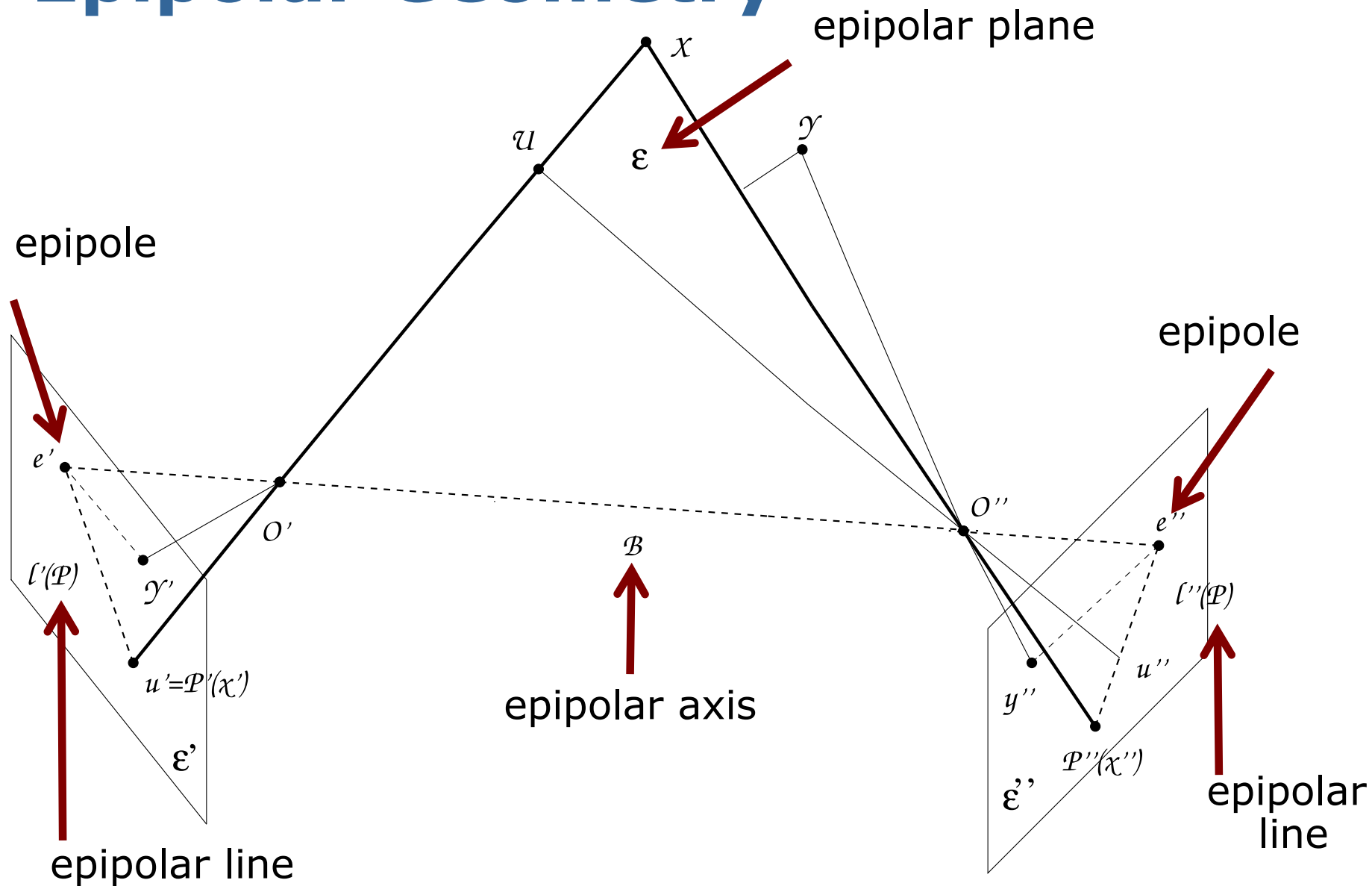
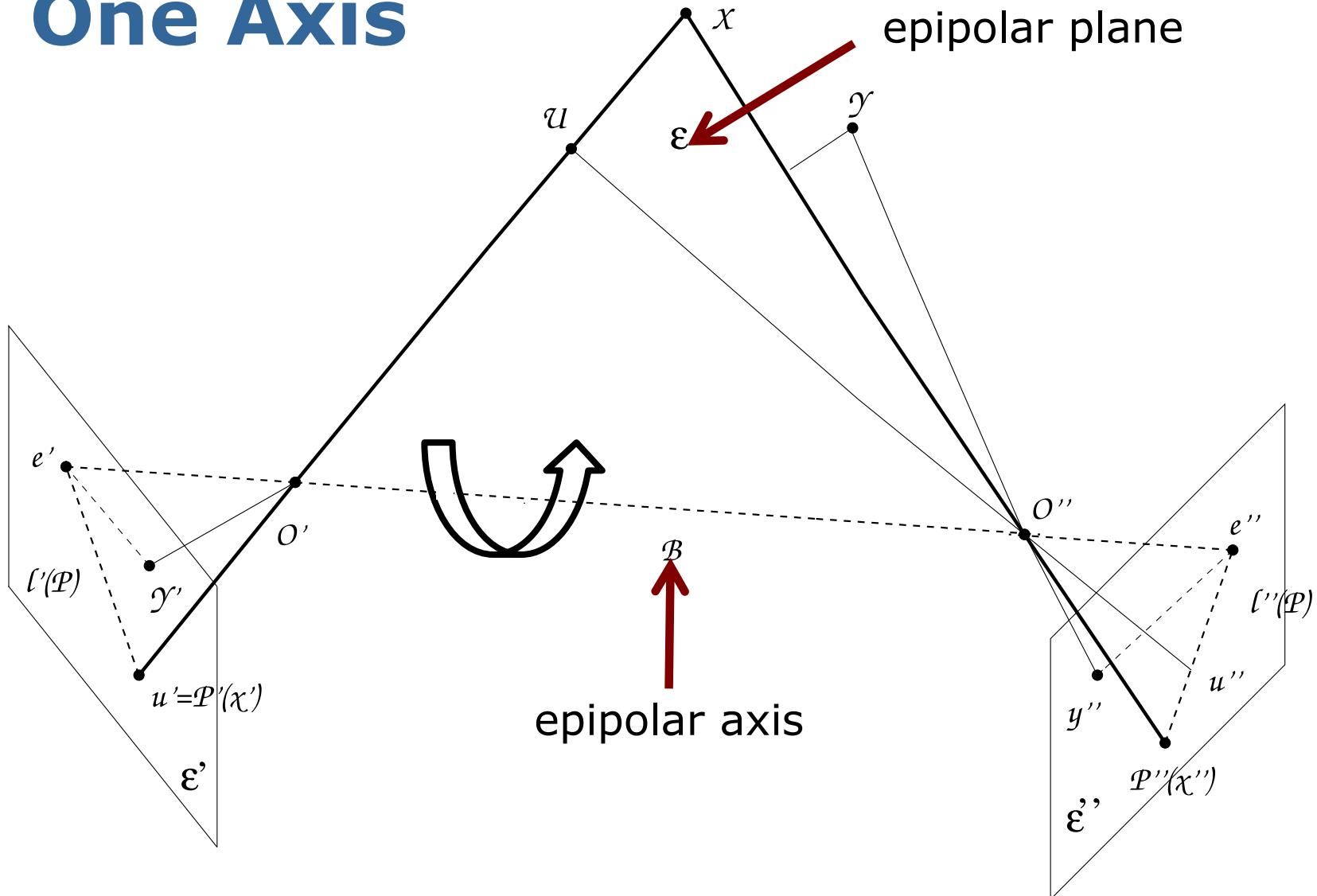


Image courtesy: Förstner 23

# Important Elements (1)

- **Epipolar axis**  $\mathcal{B} = (O' O'')$  is the line through the two projection centers
- **Epipolar plane**  $\varepsilon = (O' O'' \mathcal{X})$  depends on the projection centers and the point

# Multiple Epipolar Planes, One Axis





## Important Elements (2)

- **Epipolar axis**  $\mathcal{B} = (O' O'')$  is the line through the two projection centers
- **Epipolar plane**  $\varepsilon = (O' O'' \mathcal{X})$  depends on the projection centers and the point
- **Epipoles**  $e' = (O'')'$ ,  $e'' = (O')''$  are the images of the projection centers
- **Epipolar lines**  $\ell'(\mathcal{X}) = (O'' \mathcal{X})'$ ,  $\ell''(\mathcal{X}) = (O' \mathcal{X})''$  are the images of the rays  $(O'' \mathcal{X})$  and  $(O' \mathcal{X})$  in the other image respectively

# Epipoles and Epipolar Lines

- **Epipoles**  $e' = (O'')'$ ,  $e'' = (O')''$  are the images of the projection centers

- They can also be written as

$$e' = (O' O'') \cap \varepsilon' \quad e'' = (O' O'') \cap \varepsilon''$$

- **Epipolar lines**  $l'(\mathcal{X}) = (O''\mathcal{X})'$ ,  $l''(\mathcal{X}) = (O'\mathcal{X})''$  are the images of the rays  $(O''\mathcal{X})$  and  $(O'\mathcal{X})$  in the other image respectively and can be written as

$$l'(\mathcal{X}) = \varepsilon \cap \varepsilon' \quad l''(\mathcal{X}) = \varepsilon \cap \varepsilon''$$

# Epipolar Geometry

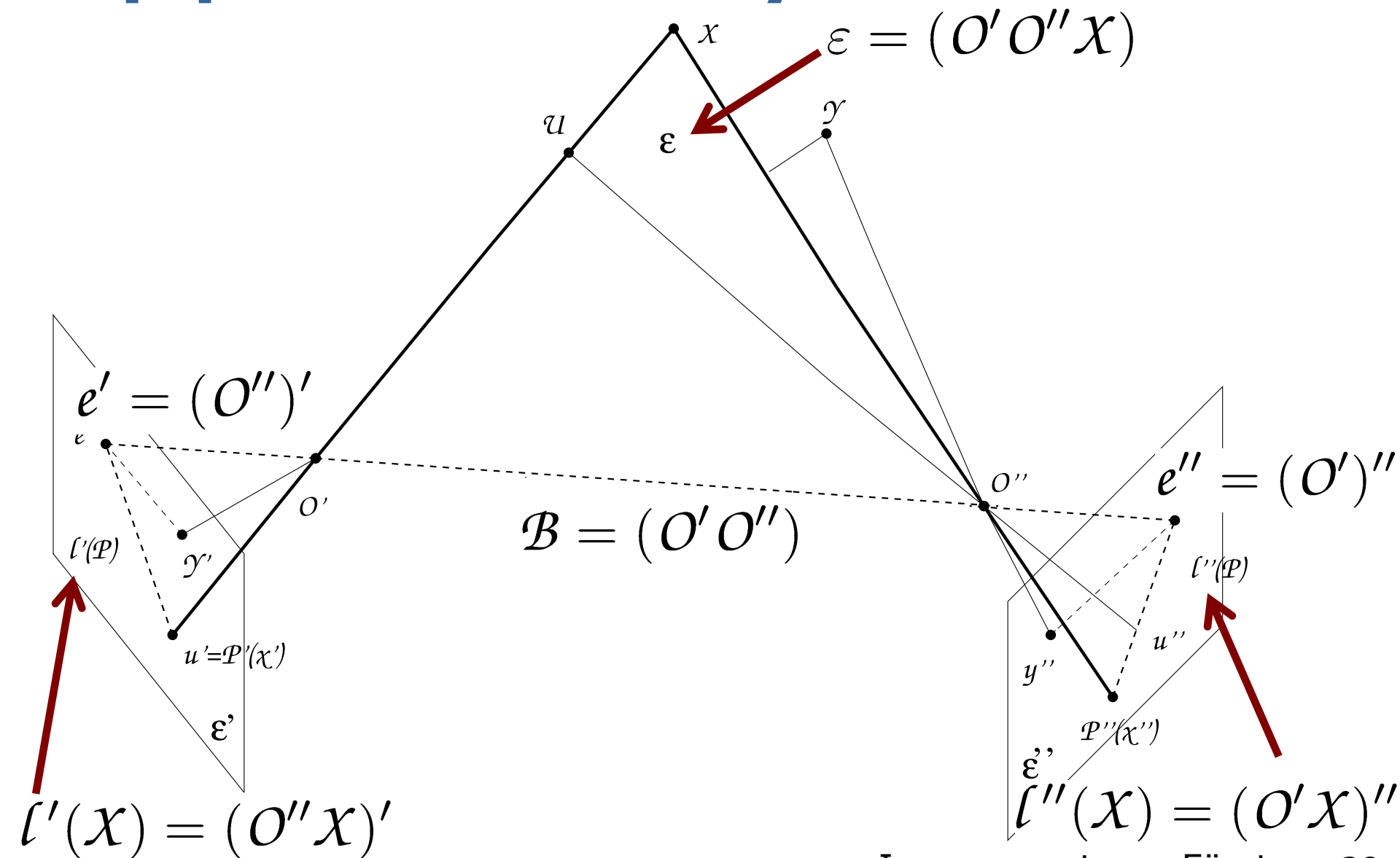


Image courtesy: Förstner 28

# In the Epipolar Plane...

Using a distortion-free lens,

- the projection centers  $O', O''$
- the point  $X$
- the epipolar lines  $\ell'(X), \ell''(X)$
- the image points  $x', x''$

**all lie in the epipolar plane  $\varepsilon$**

**This simplifies the task of predicting the location of corresponding a point in the other image**

# Predicting the Location of Corresponding Points

- Task: Predict the location  $x''$  given  $x'$
- The epipolar plane through  $\varepsilon = (O' O'' x')$
- The intersection of the epipolar plane and the second image plane  $\varepsilon''$  yields the epipolar line  $\ell''(x)$
- The corresponding point  $x''$  lies on the epipolar line  $\ell''(x)$

**Reduces the search space  
from 2D to 1D**

# **Computing the Key Elements of the Epipolar Geometry**

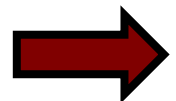
# Computing the Key Elements of the Epipolar Geometry

- We described the important quantities geometrically, but do not know yet how to obtain them.
- We will show how to compute them based on the **projection matrices** and the **fundamental matrix**

# Computing Epipolar Lines

- The image points lie on the epipolar lines, i.e.,  $x' \in \ell'$ ,  $x'' \in \ell''$
- For  $x'$ :  $x'^T \mathbf{l}' = 0$  2D Homogenous coord.
- We can exploit the coplanarity constraint for both points  $x', x''$

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

  $\mathbf{l}' = F x''$



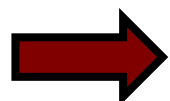
# Computing Epipolar Lines

- The same for the point  $x''$

$$l''^T x'' = 0$$

- We can again exploit the coplanarity constraint  $x'^T F x'' = 0$  and obtain

$$l''^T = x'^T F$$


$$l'' = F^T x'$$

**this is our  
prediction  
(1D space)**

# Computing the Epipoles

- The epipoles are the projections of the projection centers in the other image
- Both can be computed easily using the projection matrices

$$\mathbf{e}' =$$

$$\mathbf{e}'' =$$

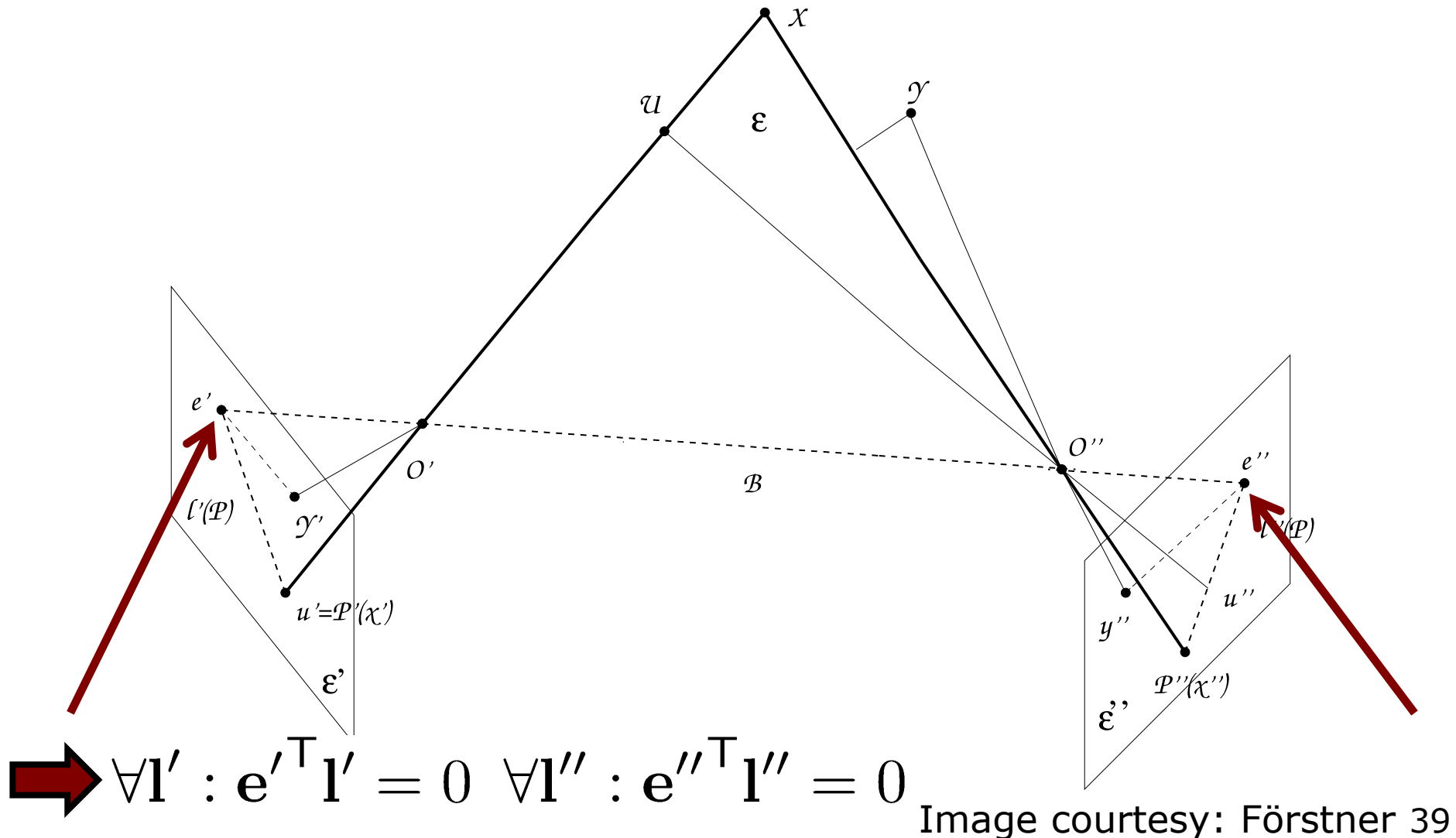
# Computing the Epipoles

- The epipoles are the projections of the projection centers in the other image
- Both can be computed easily using the projection matrices

$$e' = P' X_{O''} \quad e'' = P'' X_{O'}$$

**3D Homogenous  
coord.**

# Epipole is the Intersection of All Epipolar Lines in an Image



# Epipoles and Fundamental Mat.

- The epipoles are the intersection of all epipolar lines, i.e.,

$$\forall \mathbf{l}' : \mathbf{e}'^T \mathbf{l}' = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{l}'' : \mathbf{e}''^T \mathbf{l}'' = 0$$

- Combining this with the epipolar lines defined through  $F$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{l}' = F\mathbf{x}''$  yields for all points  $\mathbf{x}''$

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

- The epipole is the **null space** of  $F^T$

# Epipoles and Fundamental Mat.

- Analogous, we obtain for the second epipole  $\mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{e}'' = 0$
- Thus,

$$\text{null}(\mathbf{F}^T) = \mathbf{e}' \qquad \text{null}(\mathbf{F}) = \mathbf{e}''$$

# Eigenvectors of $F$

The epipoles are the left and right eigenvectors of the fundamental matrix

$$\mathbf{e}'^T F = \mathbf{0} \qquad F \mathbf{e}'' = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\text{null}(F^T) = \mathbf{e}' \qquad \text{null}(F) = \mathbf{e}''$$

(they correspond to an eigenvalue of zero)

# Epipolar Geometry Summary

- We only assumed a straight-line preserving (uncalibrated) camera
- We discussed the epipolar geometry and key elements such as epipolar lines, axis, plane, and epipoles
- **Insight:** epipolar geometry reduces the search for correspondences in image pairs from a 2D space to 1D space



# **2**

## **Essential Matrix (for Calibrated Cameras)**

# Using Calibrated Cameras

- Most photogrammetric systems rely on calibrated cameras
- Calibrated cameras simplify the orientation problem
- Often, we assume that both cameras have the same calibration matrix
- Assumption here: no distortions or other imaging errors

# Refresher from Camera Geometry

- Starting from  $\lambda \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{X}_O$
- we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{X} &= (\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{X}_O + \lambda (\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{x} \\ &= \mathbf{X}_O + \lambda (\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

- The term  $(\mathbf{K} \mathbf{R})^{-1} \mathbf{x}$  describes the direction of the ray from the camera origin  $\mathbf{X}_O$  to the 3D point  $\mathbf{X}$

 **3x1 Euclidean**

# Coplanarity Constraint

- For calibrated cameras the coplanarity constraint can be simplified
- Based on the calibration matrices, we obtain the **directions** as

$${}^k\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{K}'^{-1}\mathbf{x}'$$



direction in  
camera frame

$${}^k\mathbf{x}'' = \mathbf{K}''^{-1}\mathbf{x}''$$



coordinates  
in the image

# Coplanarity Constraint

- Exploiting the fundamental matrix

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}'' &= 0 \\ \mathbf{x}'^T \underbrace{(\mathbf{K}')^{-T} (\mathbf{R}')^{-T} \mathbf{S}_b (\mathbf{R}'')^{-1} (\mathbf{K}'')^{-1}}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{x}'' &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Coplanarity Constraint

- Exploiting the fundamental matrix

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

$$\mathbf{x}'^T \underbrace{(\mathbf{K}')^{-T} (\mathbf{R}')^{-T} \mathbf{S}_b (\mathbf{R}'')^{-1} (\mathbf{K}'')^{-1}}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{x}'' = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{x}'^T (\mathbf{K}')^{-T}}_{k_{\mathbf{x}'^T}} \mathbf{R}' \mathbf{S}_b \mathbf{R}''^T \underbrace{(\mathbf{K}'')^{-1} \mathbf{x}''}_{k_{\mathbf{x}''}} = 0$$

# Coplanarity Constraint

- Exploiting the fundamental matrix

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x}'' &= 0 \\
 \mathbf{x}'^T \underbrace{(\mathbf{K}')^{-T} (\mathbf{R}')^{-T} \mathbf{S}_b (\mathbf{R}'')^{-1} (\mathbf{K}'')^{-1}}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{x}'' &= 0 \\
 \underbrace{\mathbf{x}'^T (\mathbf{K}')^{-T}}_{k_{\mathbf{x}'^T}} \mathbf{R}' \mathbf{S}_b \mathbf{R}''^T \underbrace{(\mathbf{K}'')^{-1} \mathbf{x}''}_{k_{\mathbf{x}''}} &= 0 \\
 k_{\mathbf{x}'^T} \mathbf{R}' \mathbf{S}_b \mathbf{R}''^T k_{\mathbf{x}''} &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

**same form as the fundamental matrix but for calibrated cameras**

# Essential Matrix

- From  $F$  to the essential matrix  $E$

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

$$\mathbf{x}'^T \underbrace{(K')^{-T} (R')^{-T} S_b (R'')^{-1} (K'')^{-1}}_F \mathbf{x}'' = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{x}'^T (K')^{-T}}_{k_{\mathbf{x}'^T}} R' S_b R''^T \underbrace{(K'')^{-1} \mathbf{x}''}_{k_{\mathbf{x}''}} = 0$$

$$k_{\mathbf{x}'^T} \underbrace{R' S_b R''^T}_E k_{\mathbf{x}''} = 0$$

**essential matrix**



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



# Essential Matrix

- We derived a **specialization of the fundamental matrix**
- For the calibrated cameras, it is called the **essential matrix**

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

- We can write the coplanarity constraint for calibrated cameras as

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

# Essential Matrix

- The essential matrix has **five** degrees of freedom
- There are **five** parameters that determine the relative orientation of the image pair for calibrated cameras
- There are  $4=9-5$  constraints to its 9 elements (3 by 3 matrix)
- The essential matrix is homogenous and singular

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

# 4

## **Popular Parameterizations for the Relative Orientation**

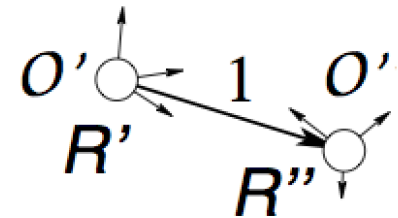
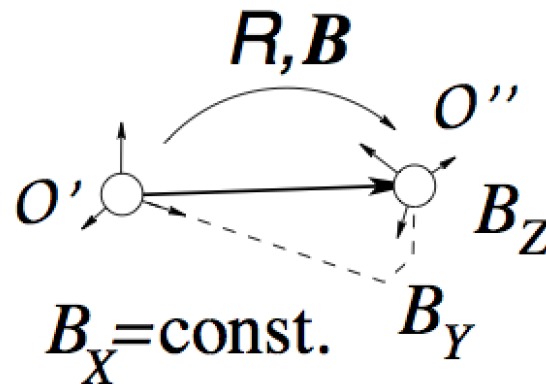
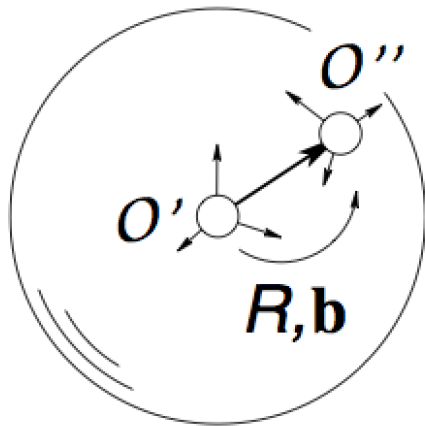
# Five Parameters – How?

- Five parameters that determine the relative orientation of the image pair

**How to parameterize  
the essential matrix?**

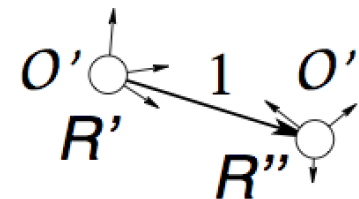
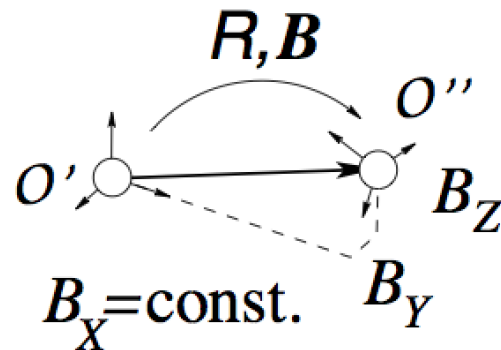
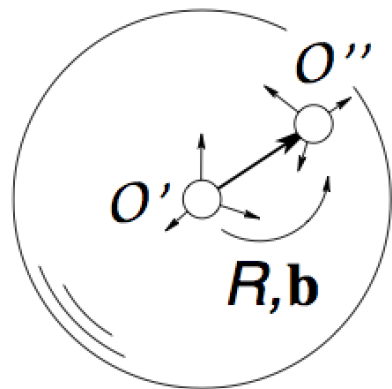
# The Popular Parameterizations

- Five parameters that determine the relative orientation of the image pair
- Three popular parameterizations



# The Popular Parameterizations

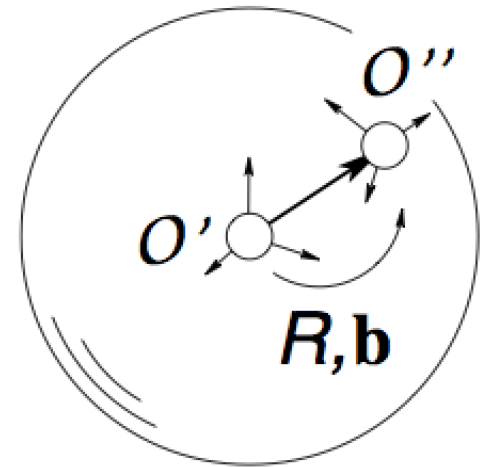
1. General parameterization of dependent images
2. Photogrammetric parameterization of dependent images
3. Parameterization with independent images



# General Parameterization of Dependent Images

The general parameterization of dependent images uses a

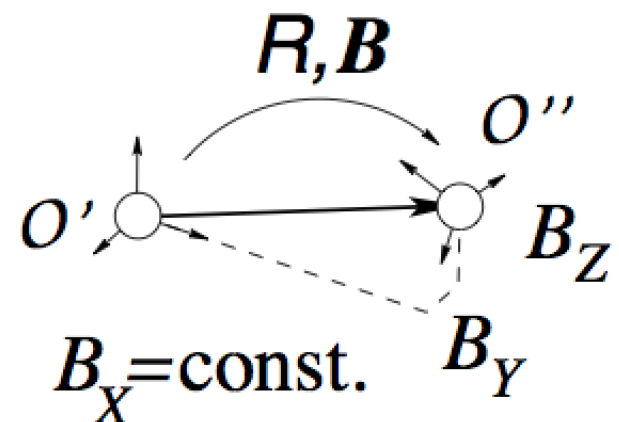
- **normalized direction vector  $b$**
- **rotation matrix  $R$**



# Photogrammetric parametrizat. of Dependent Images

Photogrammetric parameterization of dependent images uses

- **two components  $B_x$  and  $B_z$  of the base direction**
- **a rotation matrix  $R$**

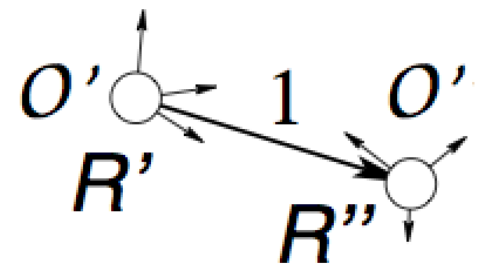




# Parameterization with Independent Images

The parameterization with independent images uses

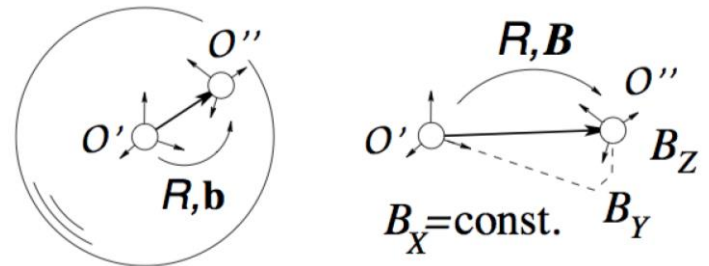
- a **rotation matrix**  $R'(\omega', \phi', \kappa')$
- a **rotation matrix**  $R''(\omega'', \phi'', \kappa'')$
- a fixed basis of constant length



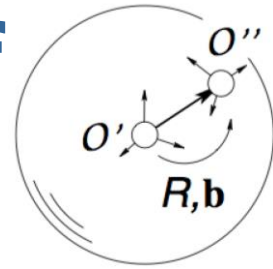
# **Parameterization of Dependent Images**

# For the Parameterizations of Dependent Images

- The reference frame is the frame of the first camera
- Describe the second camera relative to the first one
- Rotation mat. of the first cam is  $R' = I_3$
- The rotation of the R.O. is then  $R = R''$



# General Parameterization of Dependent Images

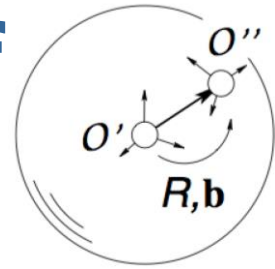


- The orientation of the second camera is  $R = R''$  and we obtain from the coplanarity constraint

$${}^k\mathbf{x}'^T S_b R^T {}^k\mathbf{x}'' = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad |\mathbf{b}| = 1$$

- 6 parameters + 1 constraint  $|\mathbf{b}| = 1$

# General Parameterization of Dependent Images

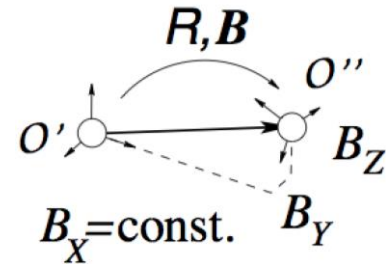


- The resulting 5 degree of freedom are

$$\underbrace{(B_X, B_Y, B_Z)}_{\mathbf{b}}, \underbrace{(\omega, \phi, \kappa)}_R \quad \text{with} \quad B_X^2 + B_Y^2 + B_Z^2 = 1$$

# Photogrammetric Parametrizat. of Dependent Images

- As before, the first camera defines the reference frame
- $R = R''$
- The basis directs towards the x axis
- The component  $B_X$  is constant



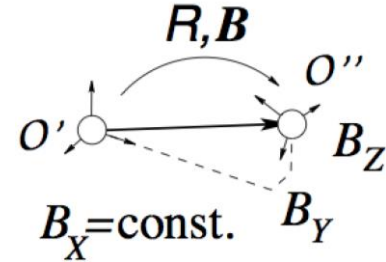
$${}^k_{\mathbf{x}'}{}^T S_b R^T {}^k_{\mathbf{x}''} = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad B_X = \text{const.}$$

- $B_Y, B_Z$  are parameters of the R.O.

# Photogrammetric Parametrizat. of Dependent Images

- The resulting 5 parameters are

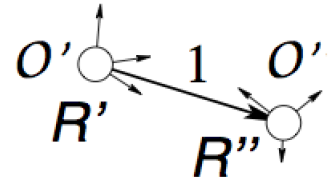
$$\underbrace{(B_Y, B_Z)}_B, \underbrace{(\omega, \phi, \kappa)}_R$$



# **Parameterization with Independent Images**



# Parameterization with Independent Images

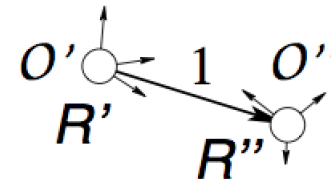


- The center of the reference frame is the projection center  $O'$  of the 1<sup>st</sup> cam
- The x-axis  $e_1^{[3]}$  of the object c.s. is the basis

$$\mathbf{B}_r = \begin{bmatrix} B_{X_r} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{X}_{O''_r} - \mathbf{X}_{O'_r}$$

- with  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{B}_r = (B_{X_r}, 0, 0)^\top$ ,  $B_{X_r} = \text{const.}$

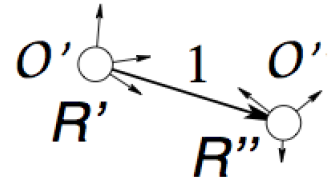
# Parameterization with Independent Images



- We have 6 rotation parameters but one rotation around the basis cannot be obtained
- It would result in a change in the exterior orientation of the camera pair
- Thus, one omits the rotation  $\omega'$  or uses the difference  $\Delta\omega = \omega' - \omega''$

$${}^k\mathbf{x}'^T R' S R''^T {}^k\mathbf{x}'' = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad \omega', S = \text{const.}$$

# Parameterization with Independent Images



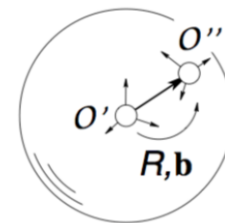
- The resulting 5 parameters are

$$(\Delta\omega, \phi', \kappa', \phi'', \kappa'')$$

# Parameterizations Summary

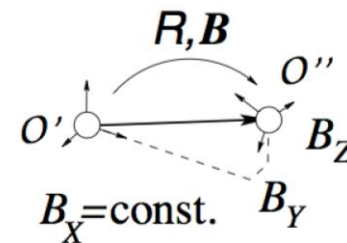
## 1. General parameterization of dependent images

$(B_X, B_Y, B_Z, \omega, \phi, \kappa)$  with  $B_X^2 + B_Y^2 + B_Z^2 = 1$



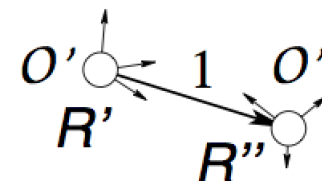
## 2. Photogrammetric parameterization of dependent images

$(B_Y, B_Z, \omega, \phi, \kappa)$



## 3. Parameterization with independent images

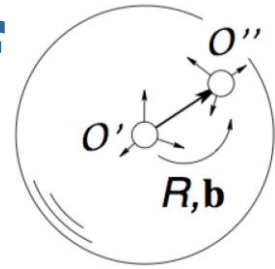
$(\Delta\omega, \phi', \kappa', \phi'', \kappa'')$



# Remark

- Two parameterizations are general and can represent **all geometric configurations**
- The classical photogrammetric parameterization **has a singularity**
- Singularity: If the base vector is directed orthogonal to the X axis, the base components  $B_Y$  and  $B_Z$  will be infinitely large in general
- This parameterization therefore leads to instabilities

# General Parameterization of Dependent Images



- This **general parameterization** is the **most frequently used one**
- The resulting parameters are

$$\underbrace{(B_X, B_Y, B_Z)}_{\mathbf{b}}, \underbrace{(\omega, \phi, \kappa)}_R \quad \text{with} \quad B_X^2 + B_Y^2 + B_Z^2 = 1$$

$(|\mathbf{b}| = 1)$

# Essential Matrix Summary

- The essential matrix  $E = R'S_bR''^T$  encodes the coplanarity const. for calibrated cams, i.e.,  ${}^k\mathbf{x}'^T E {}^k\mathbf{x}'' = 0$
- It encode the relative orientation
- It has 5 degree of freedom
- Given the general parameterization of dependent images, this yields

$$E(B_X, B_Y, B_Z, \omega, \phi, \kappa) = S_{(B_X, B_Y, B_Z)} R(\omega, \phi, \kappa)$$

$$\text{with } B_X^2 + B_Y^2 + B_Z^2 = 1$$

# 4

## Normalized Stereo Pairs





# Stereo Normal Case

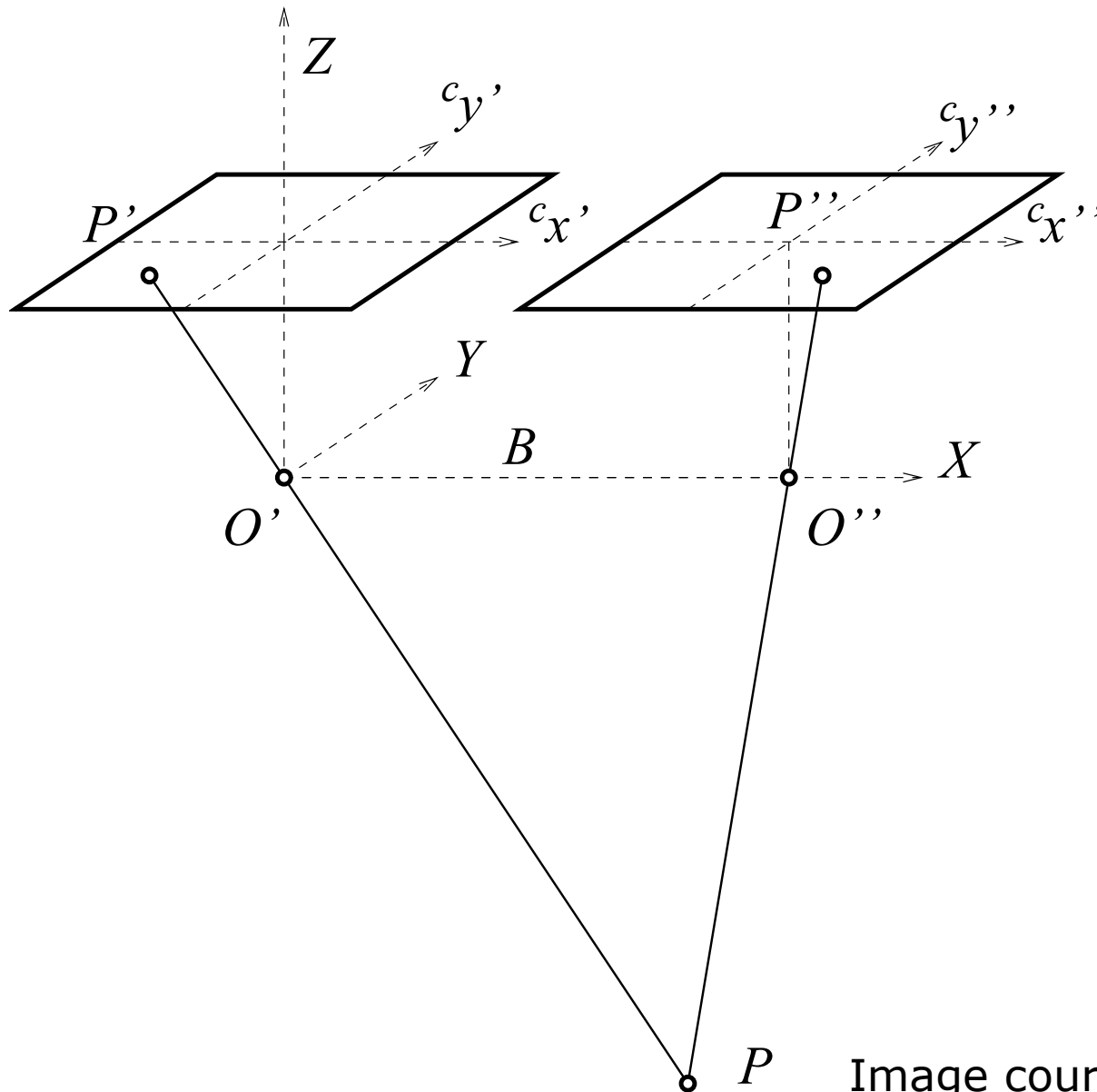


Image courtesy: Förstner 77

# Stereo Normal Case

- Images planes are parallel and not rotated w.r.t. each other
- Offset **only** in x direction
- Y-parallaxes are zero for all points

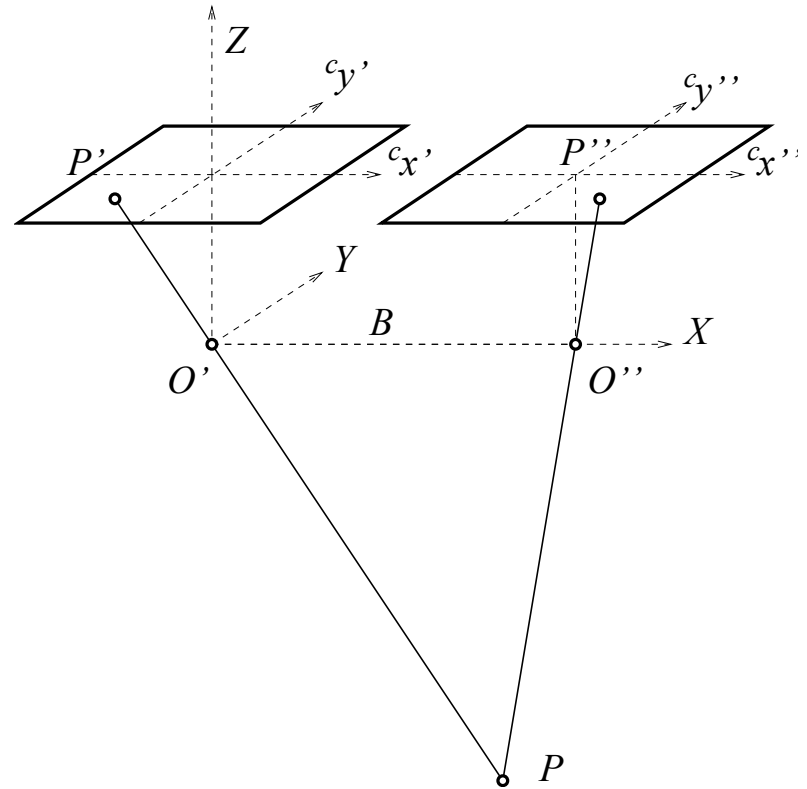
$$p_y = c_{y''} - c_{y'} = 0$$

# Stereo Normal Case

$$R' = R'' = I_3 \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} B_X \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$K \doteq K' = K'' = \begin{bmatrix} c & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E = S_b R^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -B_X \\ 0 & B_X & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



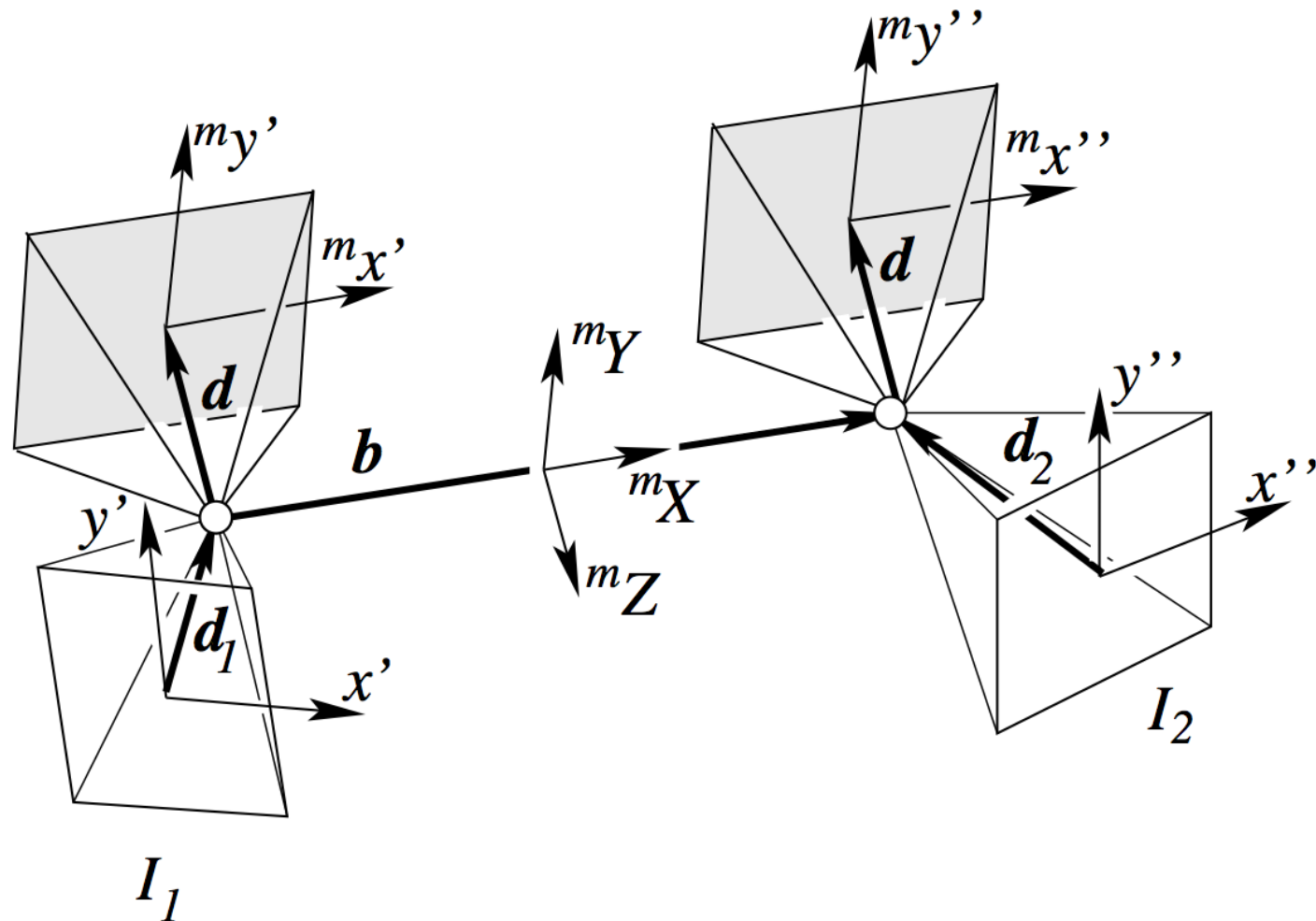
$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} {}^c x' & {}^c y' & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -B_X \\ 0 & B_X & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} {}^c x'' \\ {}^c y'' \\ c \end{bmatrix} = c B_X ({}^c y'' - {}^c y') = 0$$

# Stereo Normal Case

- Image planes are parallel and not rotated w.r.t. each other
- Offset **only** in x direction
- Y-parallaxes are zero for all points
- Approximately for aerial images
- **Not the case** for most image pairs

**Can we generate stereo normal pairs?**

# Generating Norm. Stereo Pairs

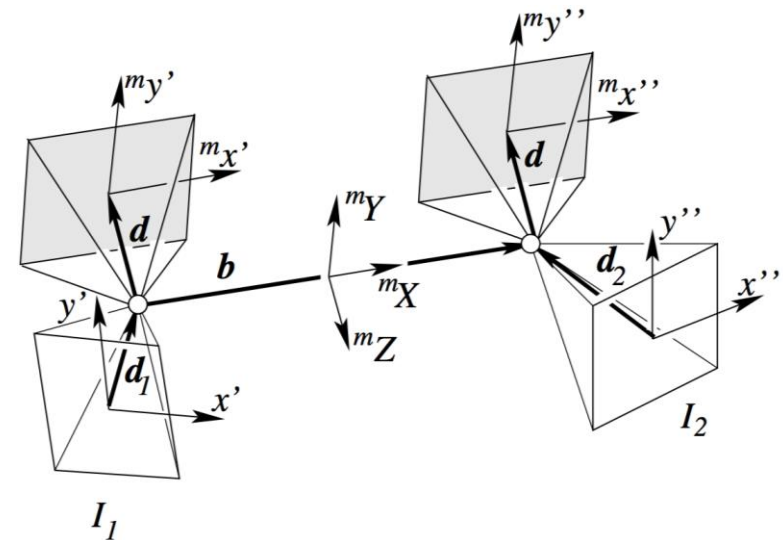


The normalized images have a common calibration and rotation matrix, the common viewing direction  $d$  being the average of the two viewing directions  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ .

# Generating Norm. Stereo Pairs

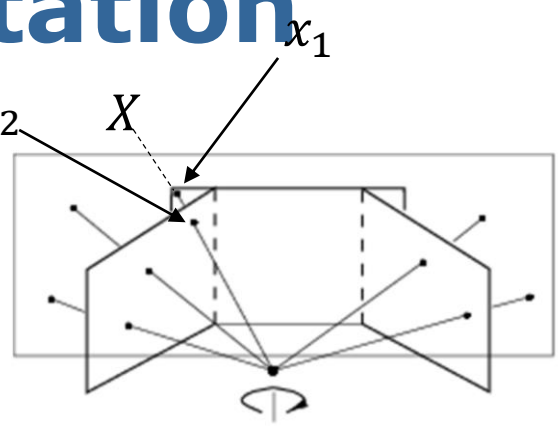
- Such that, the bundle of rays stays unchanged
- But now the image planes can change.
- Possibly have different zoom/focal length.

**What type of mapping is needed?**



# Homography: Pure Rotation

$$\lambda_1 \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = K_1 \begin{bmatrix} f_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & f_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_1 \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} & t_x \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} & t_y \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} & t_z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = K_2 \begin{bmatrix} f_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & f_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_2 \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} & t_x \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} & t_y \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} & t_z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$


$$\lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = K_2 R_2 R_1^{-1} K_1^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$H$

**Convert between 2D locations on 2 images with pure camera rotation with a 3X3 matrix H**

# Generating Norm. Stereo Pairs

- Can be expressed by a **homography (projective transformation)**

The diagram illustrates the relationship between world coordinates, camera coordinates, and normalized coordinates using homographies. At the center is the word "homographies". Four red arrows point from this central word to four equations arranged around it. The top-left equation is  $\mathbf{x}' = H'_m \mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{x}'}$ . The top-right equation is  $\mathbf{x}'' = H''_m \mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{x}''}$ . The bottom-left equation is  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{x}'} = \mathbf{m}_{H' \mathbf{x}'}$ . The bottom-right equation is  $\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{x}''} = \mathbf{m}_{H'' \mathbf{x}''}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{x}' = H'_m \mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{x}'} & & \mathbf{x}'' = H''_m \mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{x}''} \\ & \swarrow \text{homographies} \searrow & \\ \mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{x}'} = \mathbf{m}_{H' \mathbf{x}'} & & \mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{x}''} = \mathbf{m}_{H'' \mathbf{x}''} \end{array}$$

NB:  $\mathbf{m}_{H'} = (H'_m)^{-1}$  and  $\mathbf{m}_{H''} = (H''_m)^{-1}$



# Computing the Homographies

- Given  $P'(K', R', \mathbf{X}_{O'})$ ,  $P''(K'', R'', \mathbf{X}_{O''})$
- Compute  $H'_m, H''_m$  or  ${}^mH', {}^mH''$
- We have

$$\mathbf{x}' = P'\mathbf{X} = K'R'[I_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O'}]\mathbf{X}$$

$$\mathbf{x}'' = P''\mathbf{X} = K''R''[I_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O''}]\mathbf{X}$$

- Define the system for the stereo normal case (keeping the projection centers)

# Computing the Homographies

- Given  $P'(K', R', \mathbf{X}_{O'}), P''(K'', R'', \mathbf{X}_{O''})$
- Compute  $H'_m, H''_m$  or  ${}^mH', {}^mH''$
- We have

$$\mathbf{x}' = P'\mathbf{X} = K'R'[I_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O'}]\mathbf{X}$$

$$\mathbf{x}'' = P''\mathbf{X} = K''R''[I_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O''}]\mathbf{X}$$

- Define  $K, R$  so that

$${}^m\mathbf{x}' = {}^mP'\mathbf{X} = KR[I_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O'}]\mathbf{X}$$

$${}^m\mathbf{x}'' = {}^mP''\mathbf{X} = KR[I_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O''}]\mathbf{X}$$

- Typically:  $K = \text{Diag}([c, c, 1])$

# Computing the Homographies

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}'\mathbf{R}' \underbrace{[I_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O'}]}_{\mathbf{A}'} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}'\mathbf{R}'\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{X}$$

$${}^m\mathbf{x}' = {}^m\mathbf{P}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R} \underbrace{[I_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O'}]}_{\mathbf{A}'} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{X}$$

# Computing the Homographies

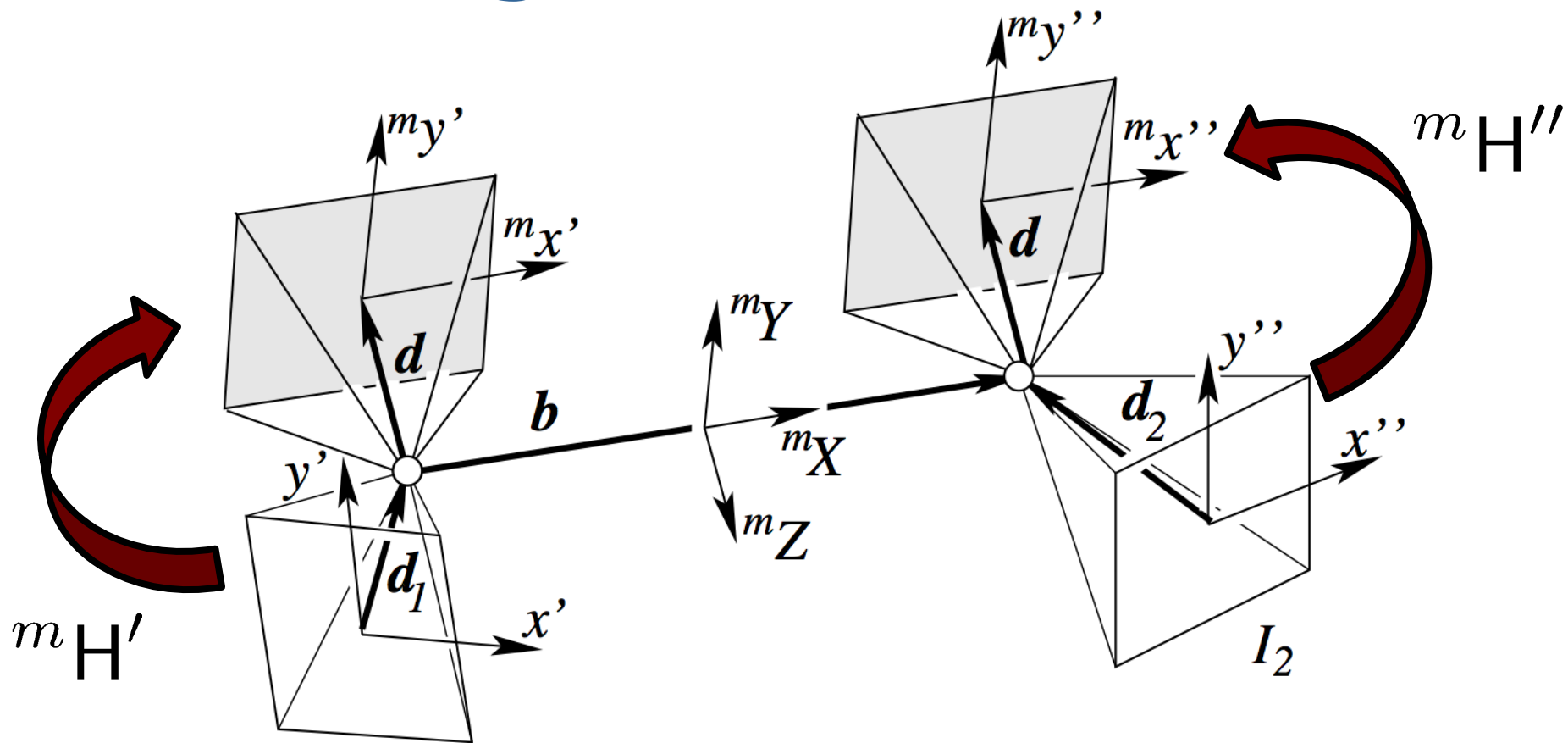
$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}'\mathbf{R}' \underbrace{[\mathbf{I}_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O'}]}_{\mathbf{A}'} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}'\mathbf{R}'\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{X}$$

$${}^m\mathbf{x}' = {}^m\mathbf{P}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R} \underbrace{[\mathbf{I}_3 | -\mathbf{X}_{O'}]}_{\mathbf{A}'} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{A}'\mathbf{X}$$

$$\Rightarrow {}^m\mathbf{H}' = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}'^T\mathbf{K}'^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow {}^m\mathbf{x}' = {}^m\mathbf{H}'\mathbf{x}'$$

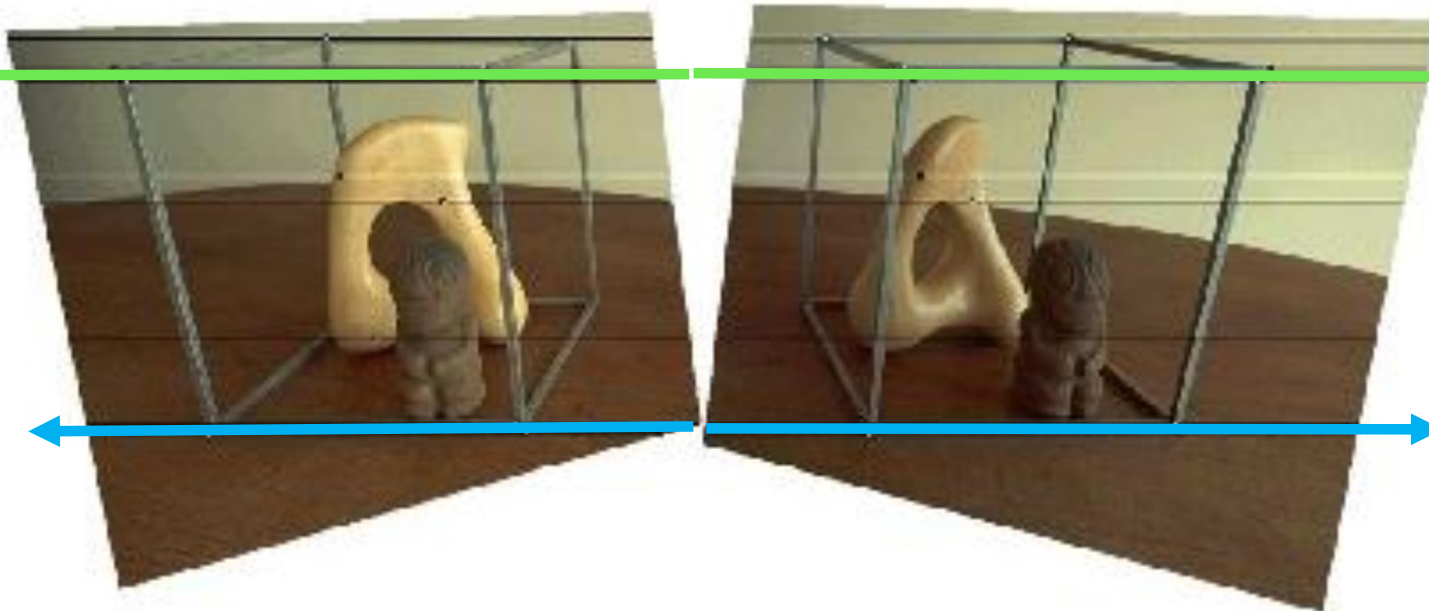
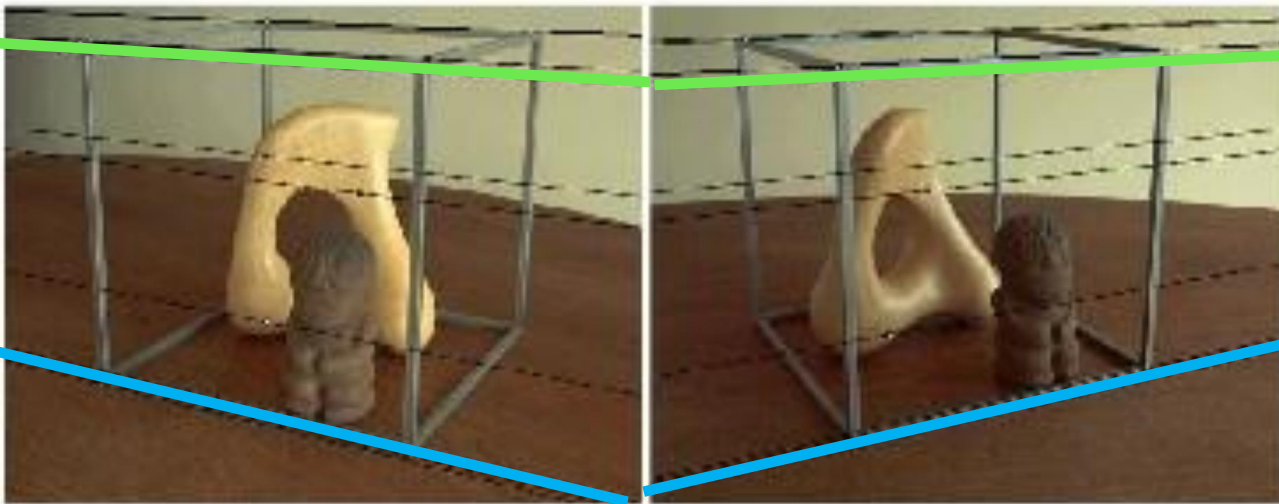
# Generating Norm. Stereo Pairs



$$m_{\mathbf{x}'} = m_{H' \mathbf{x}'}$$

$$m_{\mathbf{x}''} = m_{H'' \mathbf{x}''}$$

# Example



# Summary

- Epipolar geometry (epipoles, epipolar lines, planes, axes)
- Essential matrix
- Three key parameterization for the relative orientation
- Generating normalized stereo pairs

# Literature

- Förstner, Wrobel: Photogrammetric Computer Vision, Ch. 12.2.3-12.2.7



# 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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