

# Camera API

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In Sigma, multiple views may be made of the same graph, and multiple renderers may subscribe to the exact same view. Cameras in Sigma encapsulate the information needed for such a view, separate from the renderer.

## Basic use

To add a camera to the graph, simply call Sigma's `addCamera` method, providing a unique ID for the camera (or omitting it and allowing Sigma to generate one for you):

```
sigInst.addCamera('cam1');
```

Then, to assign a specific renderer to it, add the ID to the configuration object for the renderer:

```
s.addRenderer({
  container: document.getElementById("graphContainer"),
  camera: 'cam1',
  /* rest of settings */
});
```

## Camera methods

Camera objects (returned from `sigInst.cameras`) expose the following methods:

- **`sigma.classes.camera( id, graph, settings )`**
  - Constructor for creating a camera manually, using the specified string ID, Sigma graph, and settings object. This is rarely called from outside Sigma - calling `sigInst.addCamera` is much preferred.
- **`goTo( coordinates )`**
  - Update the camera's position immediately. The coordinates argument expects an object with the following properties:
    - `x`: The center x position of the camera in graph space
    - `y`: The center y position of the camera in graph space
    - `ratio`: The zoom ratio of the graph and its items

- `angle` : The rotation angle of the camera
  - Returns the camera instance
- **`applyView( read, write )`**
  - Applies a view to the attached graph by reading all of the coordinates prefixed with the string given by `read` and transforming them to the coordinates given by `write` .
  - This is called whenever the renderer detects a camera move and needs to re-render the nodes. It is rarely called from outside Sigma.
  - It returns the camera instance
- **`graphPosition( x, y )`**
  - Takes coordinates in camera space and returns them in graph space as an object `{x, y}`
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  - Takes coordinates in graph space and returns them in camera space as an object `{x, y}`
- **`getMatrix()`**
  - Gets the WebGL-compatible matrix for the graph, useful for applying rendering transformations
- **`getRectangle( width, height )`**
  - Takes the screen width and height and returns a rectangle (in the form of an object `{x1, x2, y1, y2, height}` ) that represents the camera on screen.
  - To help prevent node labels from going out of the screen, the method keeps a small margin around the screen in the rectangle automatically.

## Camera properties

Cameras expose the following properties:

Property	Description
<b>graph</b>	(Read only) Returns the graph this camera is bound to
<b>id</b>	(Read only) Returns the unique string ID of this camera
<b>readPrefix</b>	(Read only) Returns the preferred input prefix for node coordinate transformations
<b>prefix</b>	(Read only) Returns the preferred output prefix for node coordinate transformations
<b>x</b>	The center x position of the camera on the graph
<b>y</b>	The center y position of the camera on the graph
<b>ratio</b>	The scaling ratio of the camera
<b>angle</b>	The rotation angle of the camera
<b>isAnimated</b>	Indicates whether or not a camera's position is being animated
<b>settings</b>	The <a href="#">settings</a> object for this camera

The properties `x`, `y`, `ratio`, and `angle` should be set via the `goTo()` method so that other objects may be informed that the camera has moved.

## Camera events

Cameras in Sigma also implement `sigma.classes.dispatcher`, which means that they fire [events](#). Currently, cameras only fire one event with no arguments:

Event	Description
<code>coordinatesUpdated</code>	Fires whenever the camera's coordinates have been updated via <code>goTo()</code> . Use this event to watch for camera changes and update things such as scrolling backgrounds.

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