



## 3D Vision BLG 634E Spring 2022

Lecture: Introduction to 3D Vision

Professor: Gozde UNAL

Some material courtesy of :

- Greg Slabaugh @ Queen's Mary University, London
- Stanford University CS231A Lectures
- Angjoo Kanazawa CS294
- S Seitz "3D Computer Vision: Past, Present, and Future", 2012.

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## Computer Vision

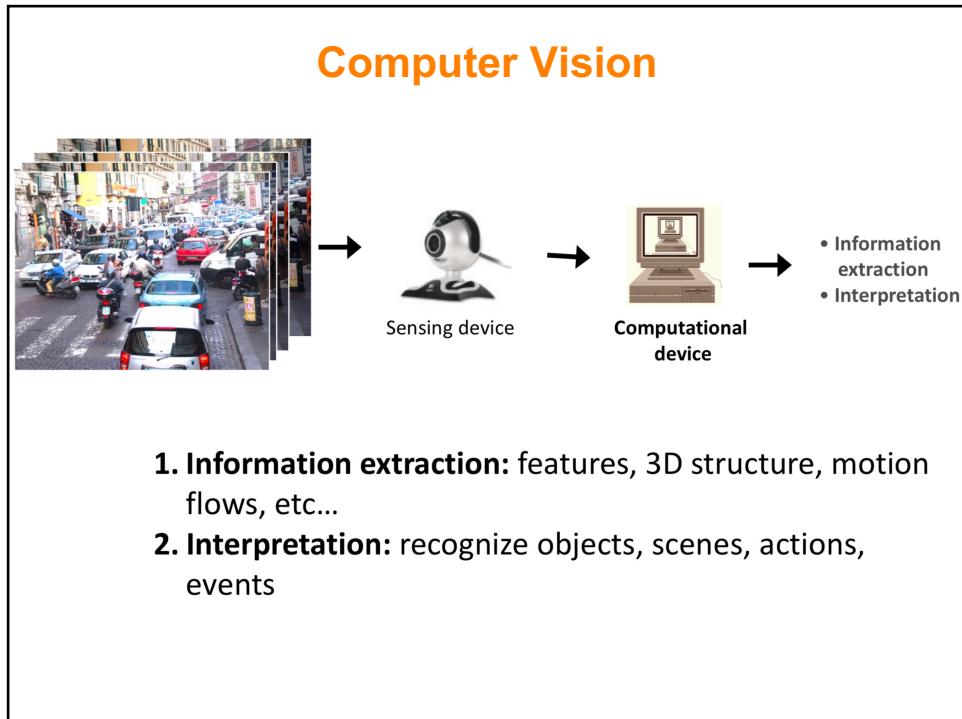
⇒ **Computer vision** is a scientific discipline that studies how computers can efficiently perceive, process, and evaluate visual data such as images and video in order to understand the surroundings, objects, scenes, actions, etc...

### Artificial vision:

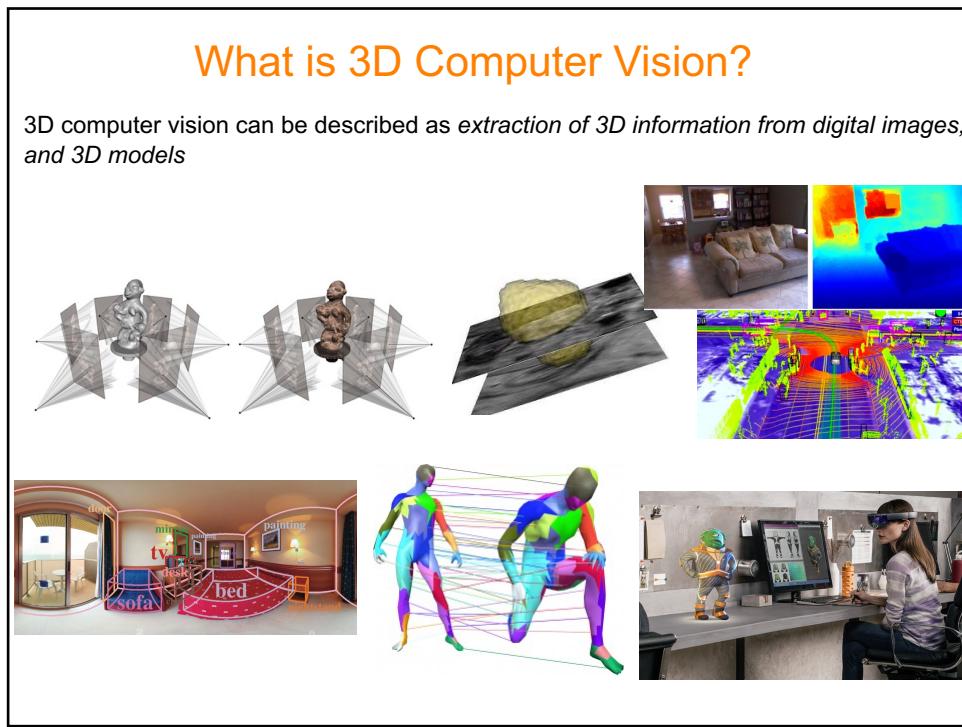
- potential of relieving humans of tasks that are
  - dangerous,
  - monotonous, boring or unnecessary time consuming such as driving/self driving cars; surveillance
  - infeasible to quickly process and sort through, extract info from big visual data
- Replace lost vision skills or augment capabilities
- Automate tasks such as navigation, obstacle avoidance, recognition, etc.

Alan Turing's remarks in 1950's, 'Computing Machinery and Intelligence', Mind: The problem was assumed to be easier in the beginning and **only processing power and limited storage was regarded as the major hurdle.**

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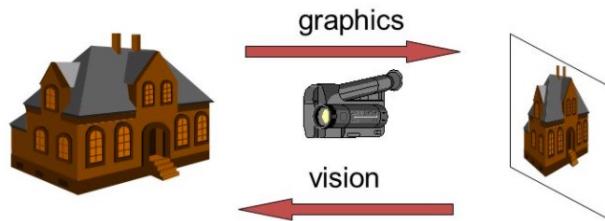


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## Computer Vision vs Computer Graphics



**Image formation:** how objects give rise to images: 3D to 2D (loss of information)

**Computer Vision:** Inverse problem of image formation: 2D to 3D  
uses images to recover a description of objects in space  
Ill-posed since we lose 1 dimension coming from 3D world to 2D images

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## 3D Vision– The Fundamental Problem

Problem: how to recover the 3-D geometry of the scene?  
Q: What makes this problem difficult?

A: we typically do NOT know the viewpoints from which the images were taken.  
Furthermore, some of the camera parameters such as the focal length is also unknown.



**Input:** Corresponding “features” in multiple perspective images.  
**Output:** Camera pose, calibration, scene structure representation.

Difficult problem, but under some reasonable assumptions, we can recover the output

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## Stereovision

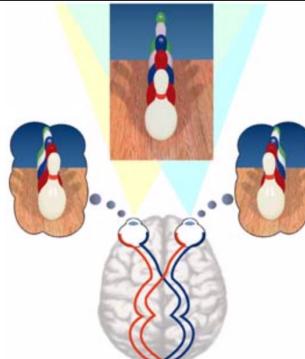
- In stereovision, *two or more* views of the scene are available from different vantage points, for example
  - **From two separate cameras**
  - **A single camera that is translated**
- By finding matches (correspondences) between the images, the relative distance of objects from the camera (depth) can be determined.
- The human visual system achieves stereopsis with **binocular vision**.
  - Two images of the world are captured by the eyes (~65 mm apart)
  - Receptive fields fuse images and recognise different positions
  - *Disparity* (the amount of displacement) is used to infer depth

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## Human 3D Vision

### Two Eyes = Three Dimensions (3D)!

Each eye captures its own view and the two separate images are sent on to the brain for processing. When the two images arrive simultaneously in the back of the brain, they are united into one picture. The mind combines the two images by matching up the similarities and adding in the small differences. The small differences between the two images add up to a big difference in the final picture!



The combined image is more than the sum of its parts. It is a three-dimensional *stereo* picture.

The word "stereo" comes from the Greek word "stereos" which means firm or solid. With stereo vision you see an object as solid in three spatial dimensions—width, height and depth—or x, y and z. It is the added perception of the depth dimension that makes stereo vision so rich and special.

### Stereo Vision Has Many Advantages

Stereo vision--or stereoscopic vision --probably evolved as a means of survival. With stereo vision, we can see **WHERE** objects are in relation to our own bodies with much greater precision--especially when those objects are moving toward or away from us in the depth dimension. We can see a little bit around solid objects without moving our heads and we can even perceive and measure "empty" space with our eyes and brains.

<https://www.vision3d.com/stereo.html>

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3D movies make use of “stereoscopy”



3-D movies are actually two movies being shown at the same time through two projectors. The two movies are filmed from two slightly different camera locations (same distance as our eyes). Each individual movie is then projected from different sides of the audience onto a metal screen. The movies are projected through a polarizing filter.

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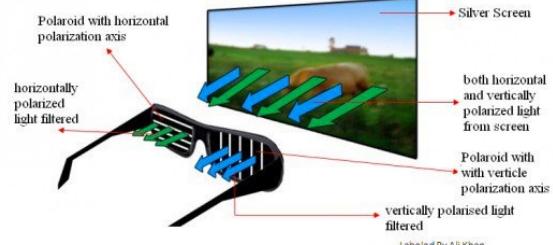
# 3D movies



A 3D film camera



A 3D projector



<http://hubpages.com/entertainment/How-3D-Movies-Work>

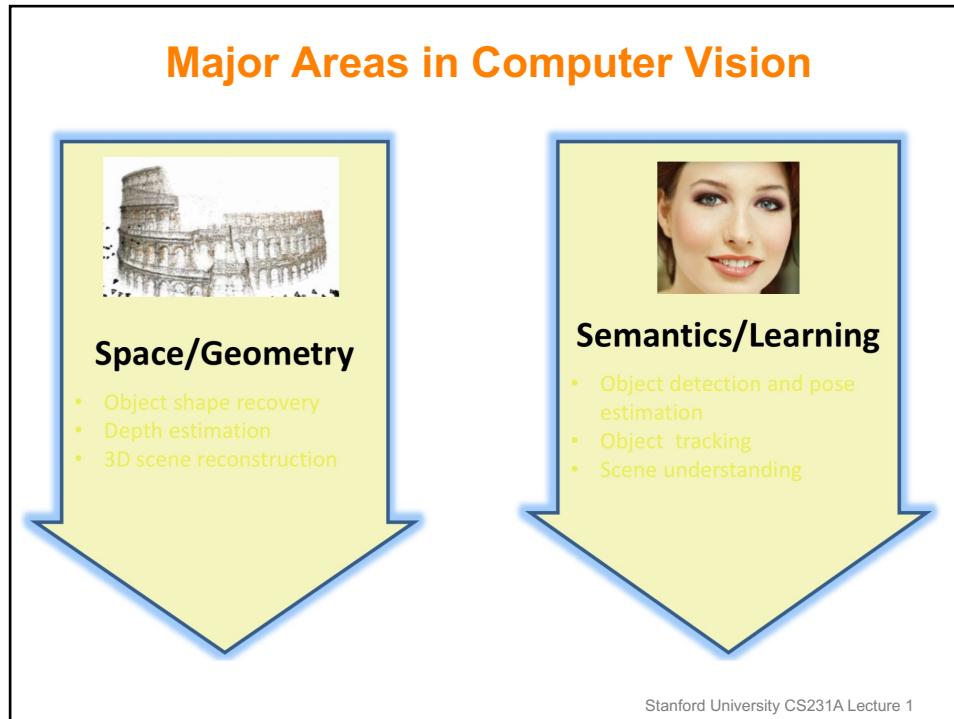
3D glasses used to watch stereoscopic 3D movies contain two polarizing filters.

One of the glass is coated with a vertical polarization filter – that is all light passing through it is vertically polarized.

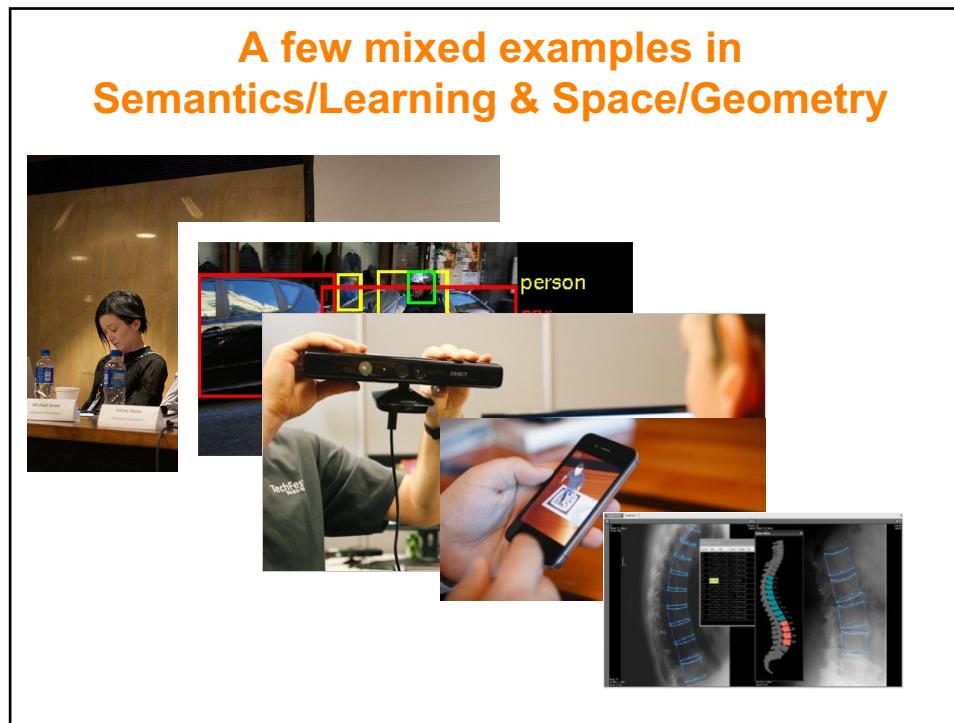
The other one is coated with a horizontal polarization filter – that is all light passing through is horizontally polarized.

Note: Most of the modern stereoscopic glasses contain circular polarizing filters but it is much easier to explain and understand linear polarization

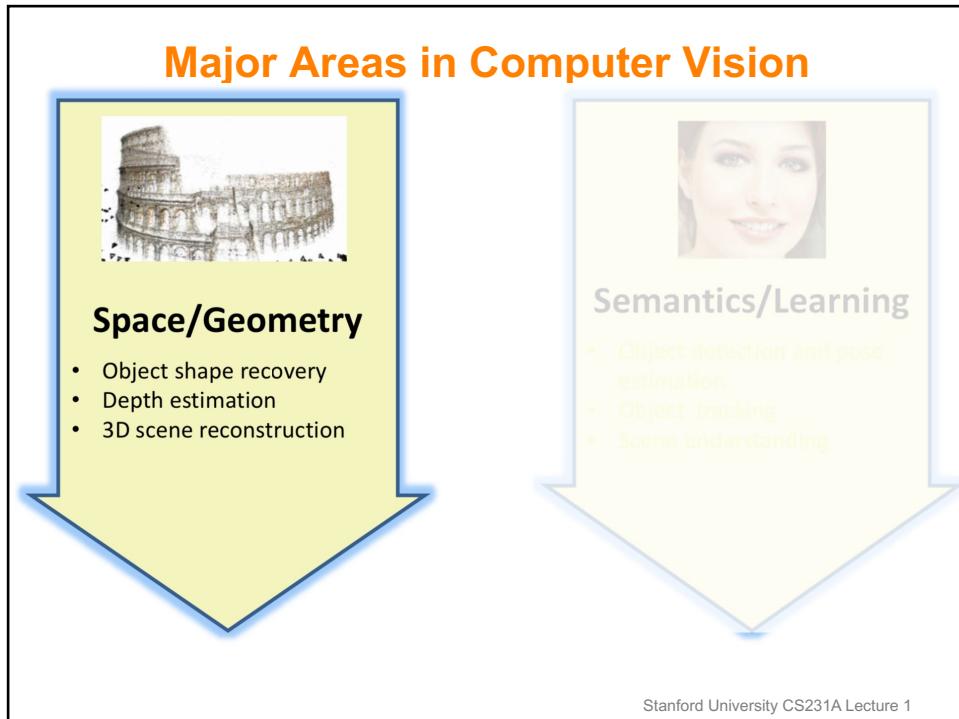
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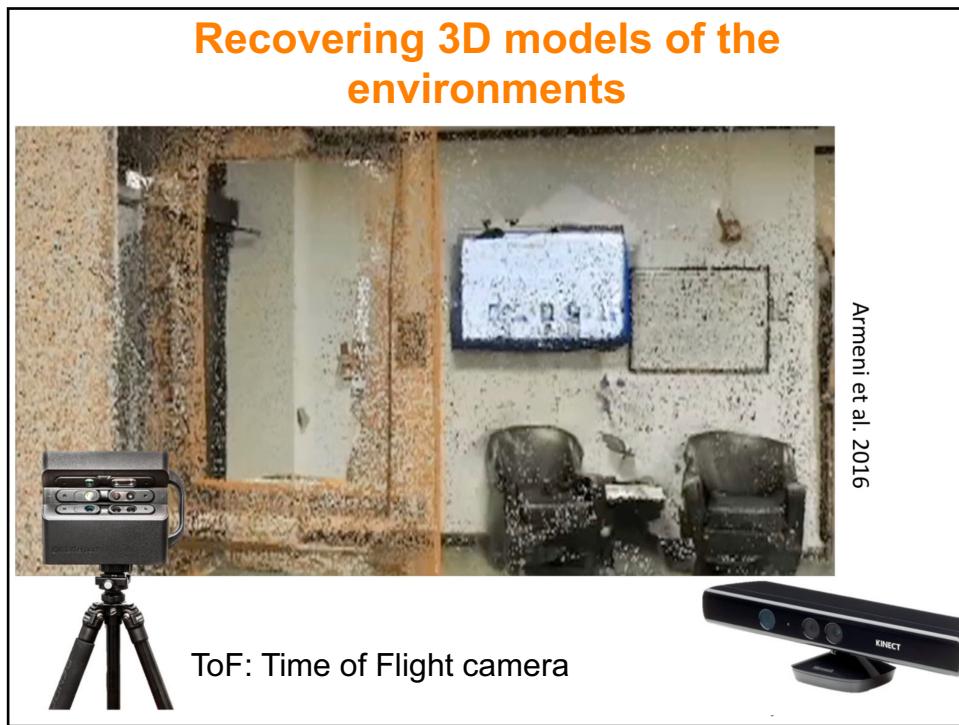
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## Recovering 3D models of the environments

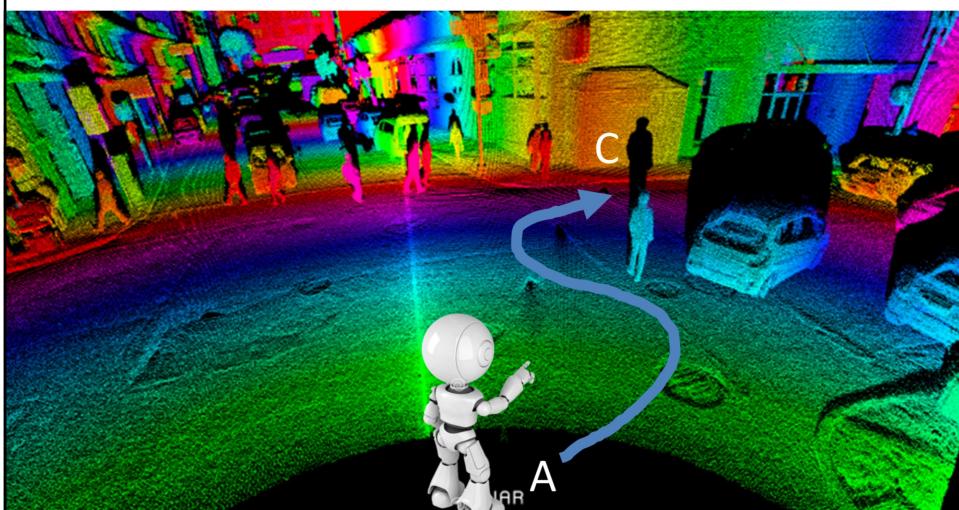


LIDAR cameras

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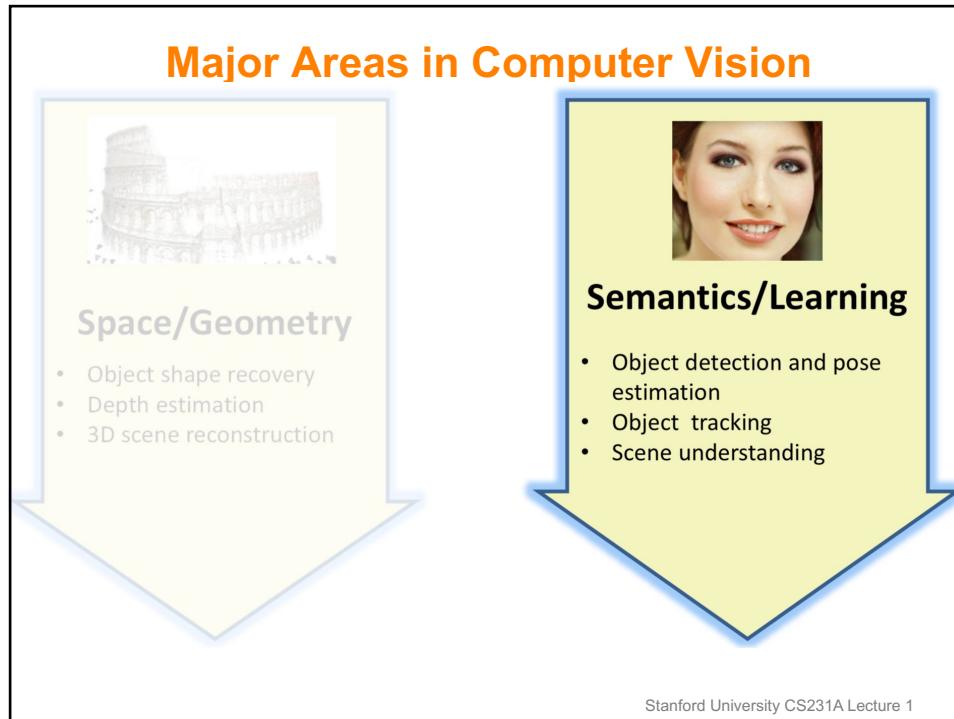
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## Critical for autonomous driving or navigation

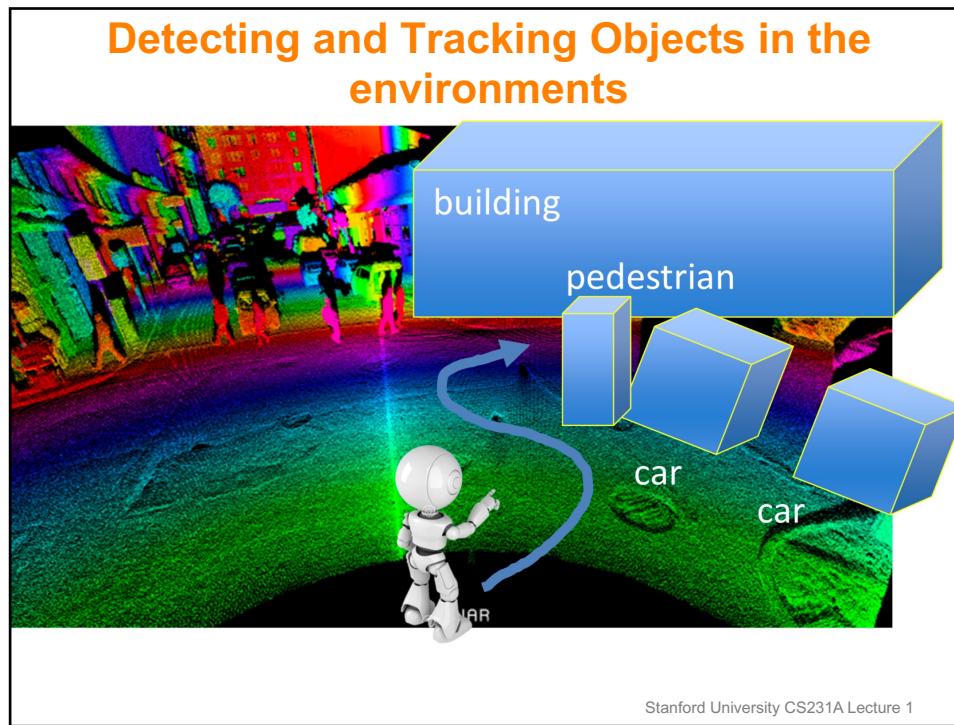


Stanford University CS231A Lecture 1

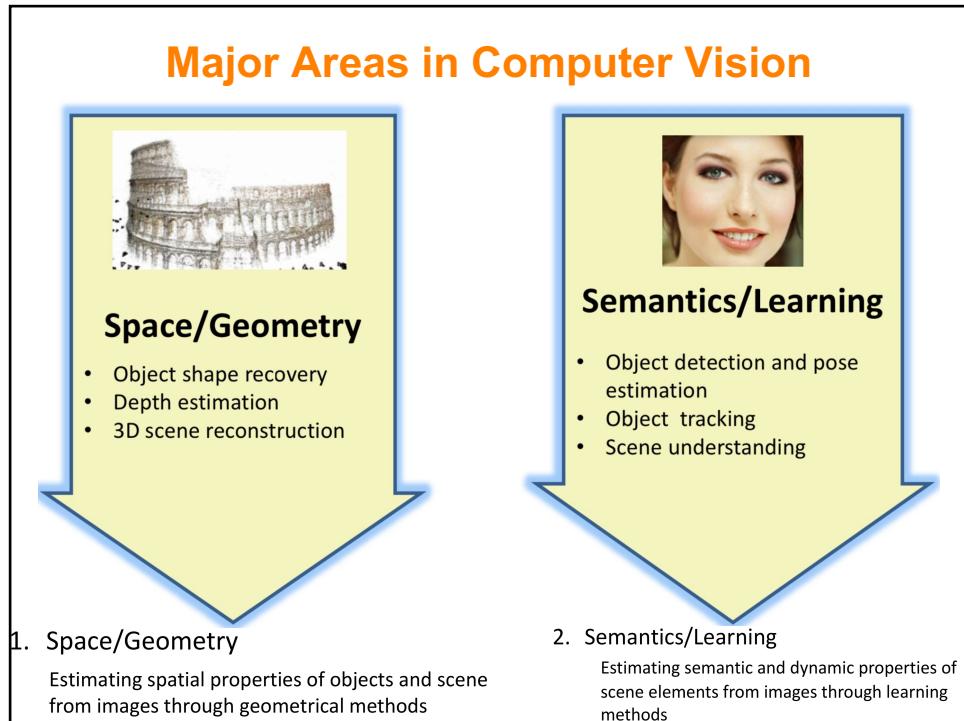
17



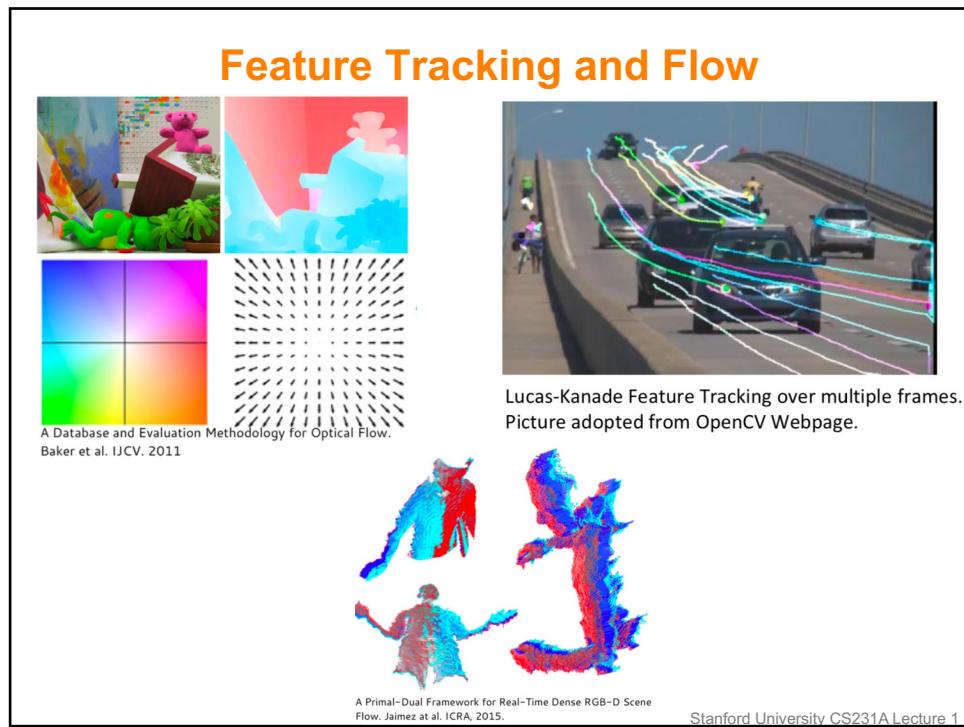
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## Structure from Motion (SfM)

Input: images with points in correspondence  
 $p_{i,j} = (u_i, j, v_i, j)$

Output: structure: 3D location  $x_i$  for each point  
 $p_i$  (not dense)

motion: camera parameters  $R_j, t_j$  possibly  $K_j$

Objective function: minimize reprojection error  
**(BUNDLE ADJUSTMENT)** i.e. explain the observed correspondences

Picture: Merging the Unmatchable: Stitching Visually Disconnected SfM Models, Cohen et al. ICCV2015

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## Visual Odometry (and Visual SLAM)

**Main differences with SfM:**

- Continuous visual input from sensor(s) over time
- Gives rise to problems such as loop closure
- Often the goal is to be online / real-time

Picture Credit: TartanVO, Wang et al. 2020.

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## 3D Vision → Camera Systems

Establish a mapping from 3D to 2D



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## How to calibrate a camera?

Estimate camera parameters such pose or focal length

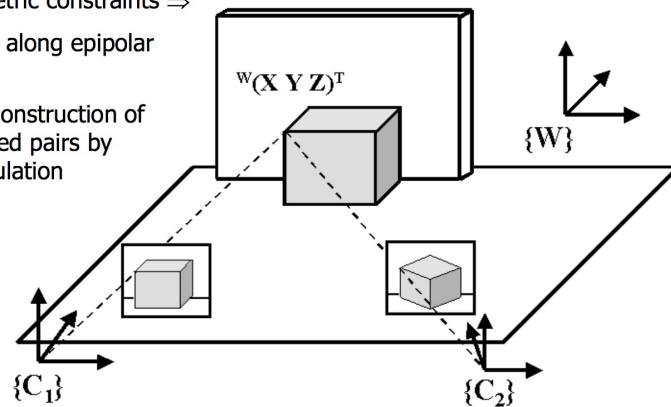


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## StereoVision: Passive Triangulation

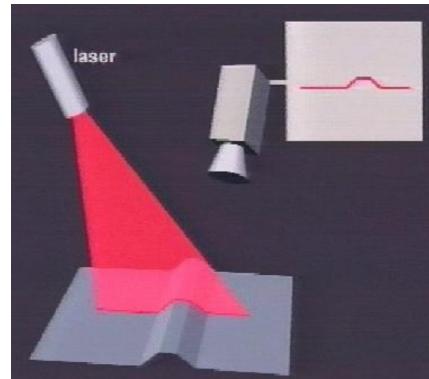
- Correspondence problem
- Geometric constraints  $\Rightarrow$   
search along epipolar  
lines
- 3D reconstruction of  
matched pairs by  
triangulation



Picture: G. Gerig Lecture Notes: C6320

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## Active Vision



Active manipulation of scene: Project Light Pattern on object. Observe geometry of pattern via camera  $\rightarrow$  3D geometry

Picture: G. Gerig Lecture Notes: C6320

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## Accurate 3D Object Prototyping

Scanning Michelangelo's "*The David*"

- [The Digital Michelangelo Project](http://graphics.stanford.edu/projects/mich/)

as of 2009

- <http://graphics.stanford.edu/projects/mich/>
- 2 BILLION polygons, accuracy to .29mm

model of the entire 5-meter statue

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## Active Triangulation: Structured Light

- One of the cameras is replaced by a light emitter
- Correspondence problem is solved by searching the pattern in the camera image (pattern decoding)

G. Gerig Lecture Notes: C6320

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## Single View Metrology

Estimate 3D properties of the world from a single image

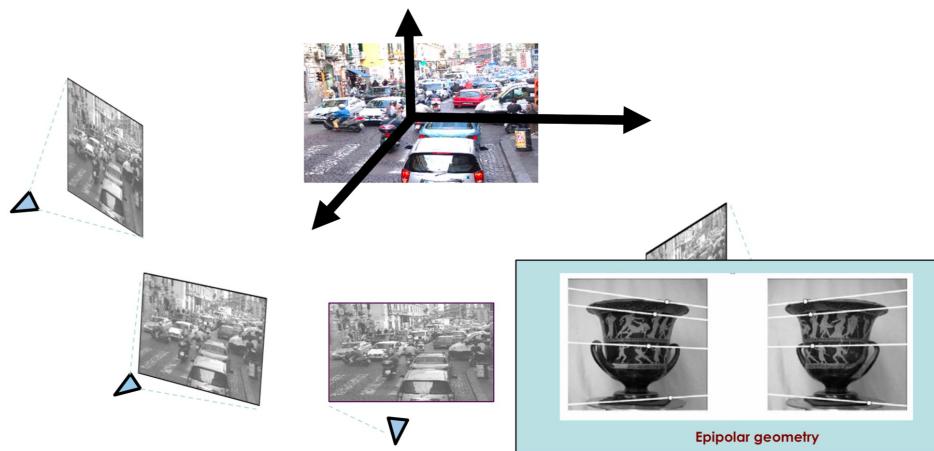


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## Multiview Geometry

Estimate 3D properties of the world from multiple views

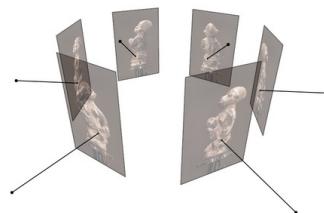


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## Multi-view Stereo

**Input:** calibrated images from several viewpoints  
**(known camera:** intrinsics and extrinsics)

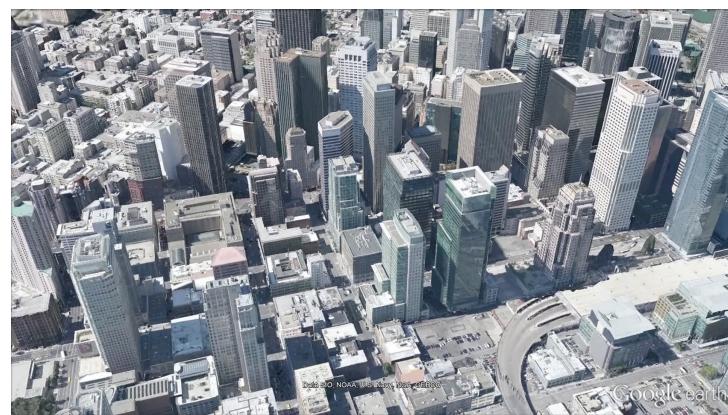
**Output:** 3D object model



Figures by Carlos Hernandez

Slide credit: Noah Snavely

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Slide credit: Noah Snavely

For example, Google maps and google earth make heavy use of this to reconstruct cities

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## Photo Tourism

<http://grail.cs.washington.edu/projects/rome/>

Takes as input large collections of images from either personal photo collections or Internet photo sharing sites (a), and automatically computes each photo's viewpoint and a sparse 3D model of the scene (b).

<http://phototour.cs.washington.edu/>

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## Human body mapping: 2D to 3D

<http://densepose.org/> by R. Alp Güler et al.

Dense human pose estimation aims at mapping all human pixels of an RGB image to the 3D surface of the human body.

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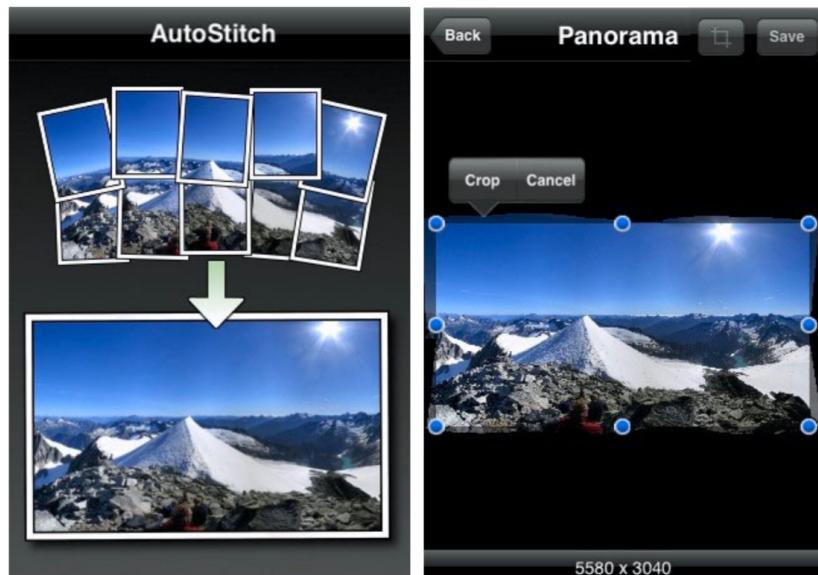
## 3D Vision– Image Alignment and Mosaicing



Even if our final goal is not for a 3-D model, understanding the 3-D geometry encoded in the images facilitates many image processing tasks

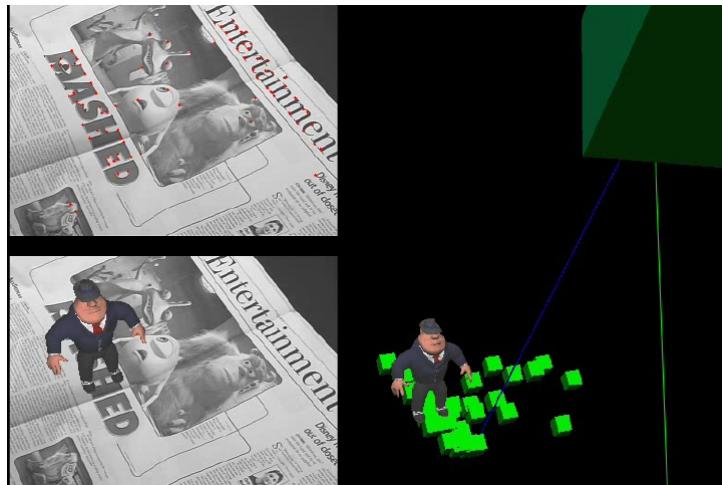
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## Panoramic Photography



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## 3D Vision: Augmented Reality AR



e.g. Real-Time Virtual Object Insertion into your own home-made video

UCLA Vision Lab

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**SYFY WIRE**

MOVIES TV COMICS VIDEOS PODCASTS BAD ASTRONOMY SHOP INTERVIEWS MORE WATCH SYFY SHOWS

**TURN PHONE PHOTOS INTO A JURASSIC PLAYGROUND WITH GOOGLE'S NEW AR DINOSAUR VIEWER**

Credit: Universal Studios / Amblin Entertainment, Inc.

Contributed by Benjamin Bullard

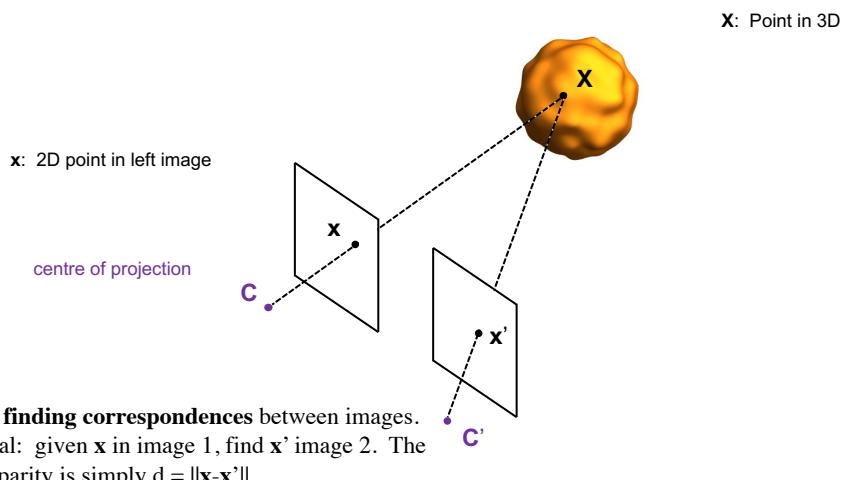
Jun 30, 2020, 7:41 PM EDT

**W**anna park a **T-rex** in your driveway? Make a Brachiosaurus the tallest landmark on your lawn? Put an artificially oversized Stegosaurus in the middle of the freeway? Thanks to a reptilian new enhancement to Google's search features, creating your own **Jurassic** world is now just a tap away.

<https://www.syfywire.com/syfywire/google-search-adds-augmented-reality-dinosaurs>

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## Stereopsis: Computing disparity ?



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## Finding correspondences

- Given a point in one image, how do we find its match in the other image?



Left image



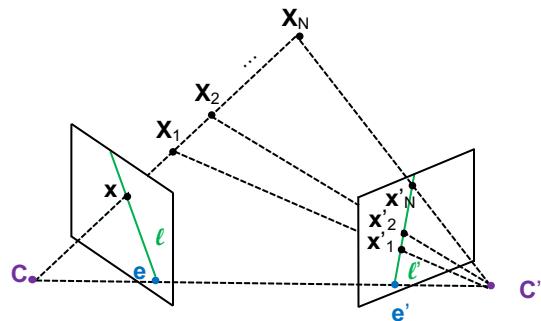
Right image

- Brute force: search every pixel in the right image to find a match.
- Actually we can do better...

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## Epipolar geometry

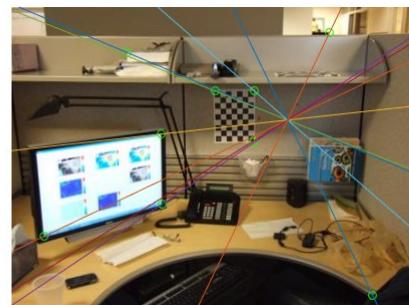
- Epipolar geometry can be used to constrain the search to a line.



⇒ Potential matches for  $x$  must be on the line  $\ell$ .  
 Similarly, potential matches for  $x'$  have to be on the line  $\ell'$ .

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## An example

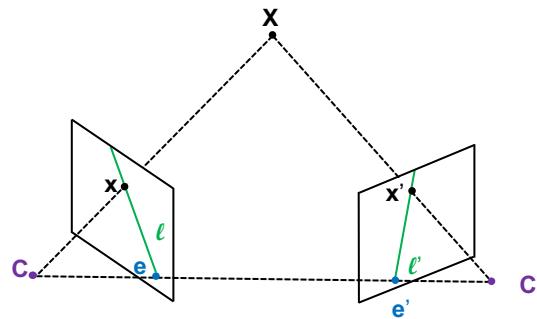


⇒ This example shows epipolar lines in both images

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## Epipolar Geometry

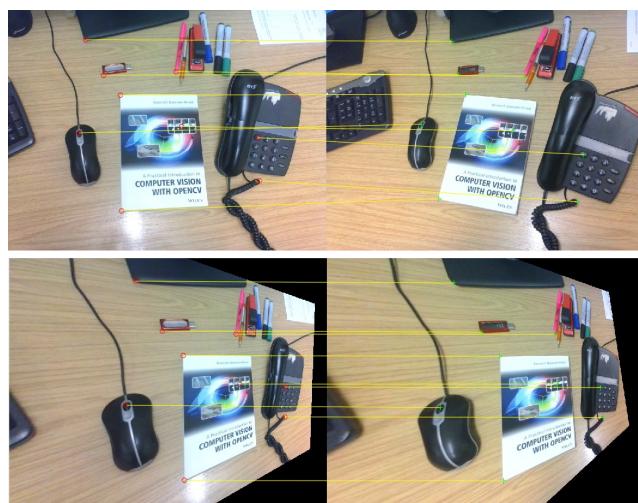
- Epipolar geometry can be used to constrain the search to a line.



- C, C', and X** are three 3D points that form the *epipolar plane*.
- The baseline connects the two camera centres. The *epipoles* **e** and **e'** are where the baseline intersects the image plane.
- All epipolar lines in an image will go through the epipole, regardless of **X**.

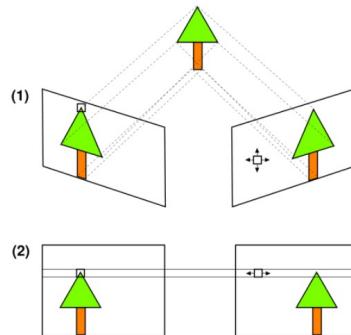
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## Example



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## Image Rectification



If the two cameras are aligned to be coplanar, the search is simplified to one dimension - a horizontal line parallel to the baseline between the cameras

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image\\_rectification](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image_rectification)

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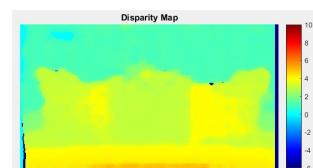
## Dense stereo matching

- To compute disparity. The standard algorithm to this is
  - Find a sparse set of inlier correspondences, estimate  $\mathbf{F}$
  - If necessary, rectify the stereo images
  - For each pixel  $\mathbf{x}$  in image 1, search along the epipolar line for a match  $\mathbf{x}'$
  - Save the disparity  $d = \|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}'\|$



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## Example



Depth/disparity estimation from stereo images

Middlebury dataset:

<http://vision.middlebury.edu/stereo/>

with GT disparities

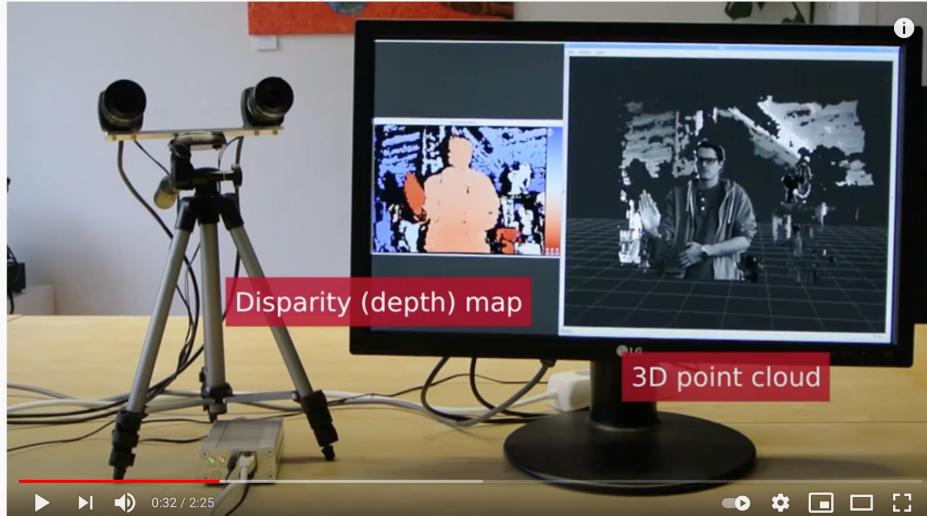
<http://vision.middlebury.edu/stereo/data/scenes2014/>

Kitti

<http://www.cvlibs.net/datasets/kitti/>

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## Real time stereo vision system (2015)



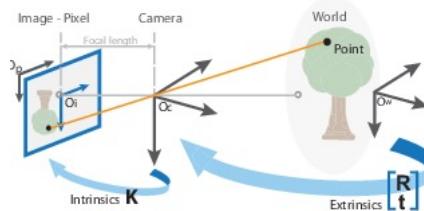
SP1 Real-Time Stereo Vision System

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVVjEqUkG4E>

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## Upgrading to depth

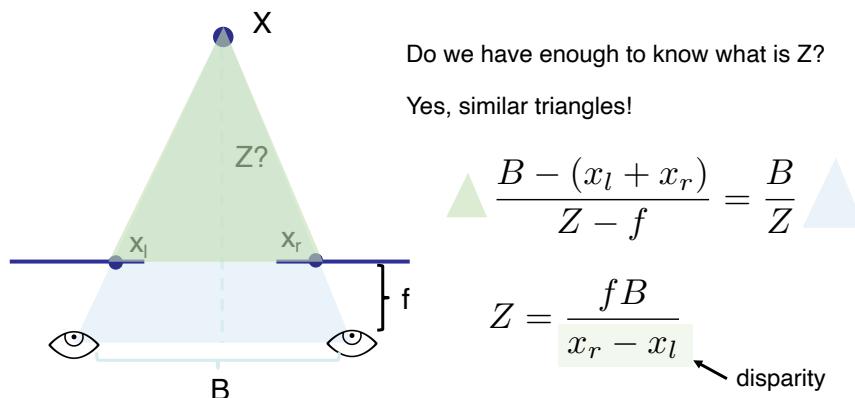
- Depth will be inversely proportional to disparity.
- To upgrade to depth, we must know the baseline  $B$  and the focal length  $f$ .  
But how to determine these?
- Normally these will come from **camera calibration**.



Picture: www.mathworks.com

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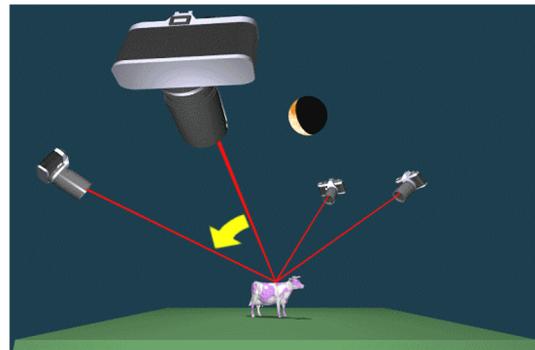
Once you have disparity aka how much did the pixel move, you can get (relative) depth



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## Summary: 3D Vision

- ❑ Want to infer some representation of the world from collection of images
- ❑ Complexity of the physical world >> complexity of the image measurements
- ❑ Projecting from 3D world to 2D images: 1 dimension is lost



- Cannot simply invert and reconstruct the “true” scene from a number of images
- We can reconstruct at best a “MODEL” of the world
- Modeling: a form of engineering art
- Depends on the applications/tasks at hand
  - Visualize the scene from different viewpoints
  - Recognize objects, their shape or motion, actions,
  - **Where am I? How should I navigate in the world? What to do next? ...**

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**Now, new norm in 3D Vision is becoming Learning Methods (just past 1-2 years)**

## Deep Methods in 3D

We will explore these together in the last part of the course.

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## Course Requirements

Basic Computer Vision and/or Image Processing knowledge is required.

See the Syllabus

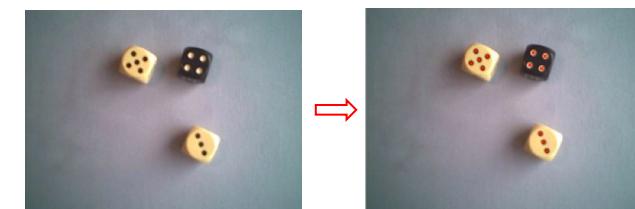
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## TEST YOUR Basic Computer Vision Skills

### HW0

Using the image on the left, perform image processing:  
Calculate and output the numbers on both the lighter dice and the dark dice.



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## 3D Vision A little bit history

some slides  
are due:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kyIzMr917Rc>

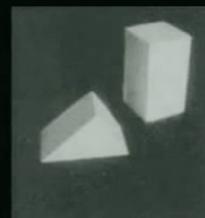
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## 3D Vision: A little bit History

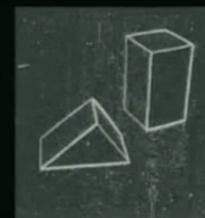
1963: Blocks World [Roberts, MIT Ph.D]



Larry Roberts  
Father of Computer Vision"  
"Father of ARPANET"



input image



2x2 gradient operator



computed 3D model  
rendered from  
new viewpoint

Larry Roberts PhD Thesis, MIT, 1963, Machine Perception of  
Three-Dimensional Solids

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**1970: Shape-from-shading [[Horn, MIT Ph.D., \(AITR 232\)](#)]**



Also known as *photoclinometry*

- measure planetary geometry
- Origins from mid 1960's
  - T. Rindfleisch, Photometric Method for Lunar Topography, Photometric Engineering, 1966.
- SfS vs. photoclinometry discussion in [Horn 1989](#)

Ernst Mach [1865] formulated image irradiance equation

- concluded shape inference was impossible because of instabilities

Figure 11-7. The shape-from-shading method is applied here to the recovery of the shape of a nose. The first picture shows the (crudely quantized) gray-level image available to the program. The second picture shows the base characteristics superimposed, while the third shows a contour map computed from the elevations found along the characteristic curves.

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## Photometric Stereo

Robert Woodham 1980

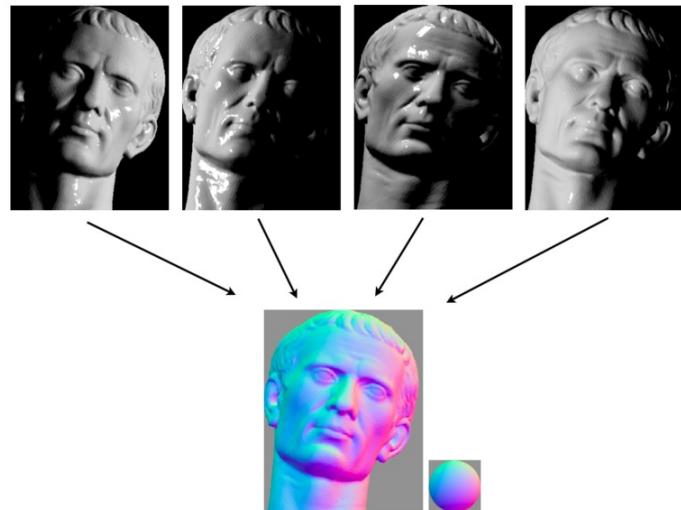


Single camera, multiple-lights, what is the surface normal?

D. Forsyth book Section 2.2.4

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## Photometric Stereo

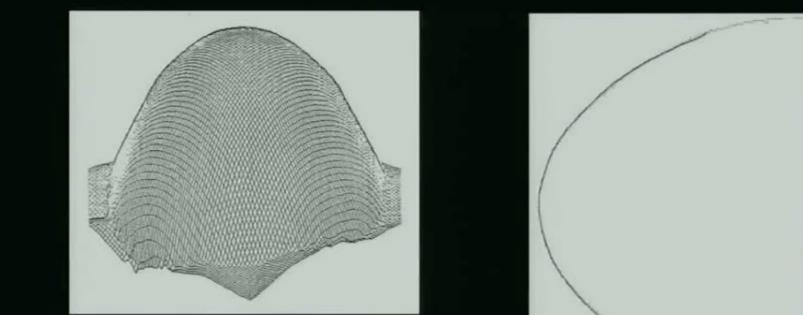


Photometric Stereo results in per-pixel high resolution capture

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## 3D Vision: A little bit History

1977: Photometric Stereo [Woodham, MIT Ph.D.]



Reconstruction of a Wooden "Egg", William Silver, 1980

profile: reconstruction (solid),  
ground truth (dotted)

### Multiview shape-from-shading

- Introduced by Bob Woodham: 1977 PhD, 1980 [opt. Eng paper](#)  
– first implementation by William Silver: 1980, MIT [master's thesis](#)
- Unprecedented detail, accuracy (requires 3+ views)
- Linear Lambertian form, but allows general BRDFs!

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The president in 3D:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GiLAOtjHNo&t=167s>

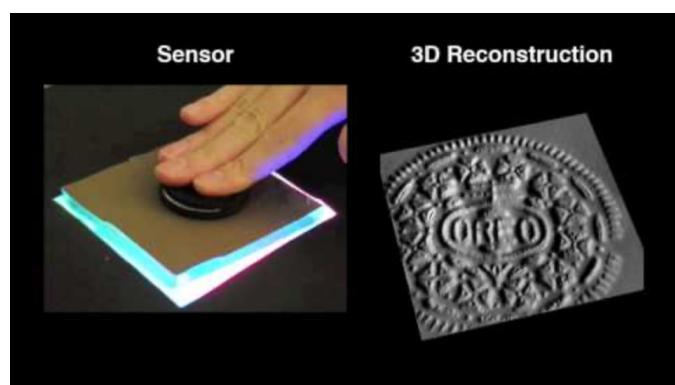
High-resolution 3D Capture



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Recent instantiation of Photometric Stereo:  
GelSight

Sensing Surfaces with Gelsight:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7gXih4XS7A>



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## Uses of Photometric Stereo

### Retrographic sensing for the measurement of surface texture and shape

#### Author(s)

Adelson, Edward H.; Johnson, Micah K.



#### Download

Johnson-2009-Retrographic sensing for the measurement of surface texture and shape.pdf (9.844Mb)

[PUBLISHER\\_POLICY](#)

#### Abstract

We describe a novel device that can be used as a 2.5D "scanner" for acquiring surface texture and shape. The device consists of a slab of clear elastomer covered with a reflective skin. When an object presses on the skin, the skin distorts to take on the shape of the object's surface. When viewed from behind (through the elastomer slab), the skin appears as a relief replica of the surface. A camera records an image of this relief, using illumination from red, green, and blue light sources at three different positions. A photometric stereo algorithm that is tailored to the device is then used to reconstruct the surface. There is no problem dealing with transparent or specular materials because the skin supplies its own BRDF. Complete information is recorded in a single frame; therefore we can record video of the changing deformation of the skin, and then generate an animation of the changing surface. Our sensor has no moving parts (other than the elastomer slab), uses inexpensive materials, and can be made into a portable device that can be used "in the field" to record surface shape and texture.

#### Sensing

Surfaces with  
GelSight

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7gXih4XS7A>

Johnson, M.K., and E.H. Adelson. "Retrographic sensing for the measurement of surface texture and shape." Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, 2009. CVPR 2009. IEEE Conference on. 2009. 1070-1077.

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## 3D Vision: A little bit History

### 1974: shape from silhouettes [\[Baumgart, Ph.D\]](#)



FIGURE 5.3 - FOUR VIEWS OF A BABY DOLL.  
silhouette contours



FIGURE 5.4 - FOUR TURNTABLE SILHOUETTE CONES.  
as viewed from above



FIGURE 5.5 - RESULTS OF SILHOUETTE CONE INTERSECTION

Front View

Rear View

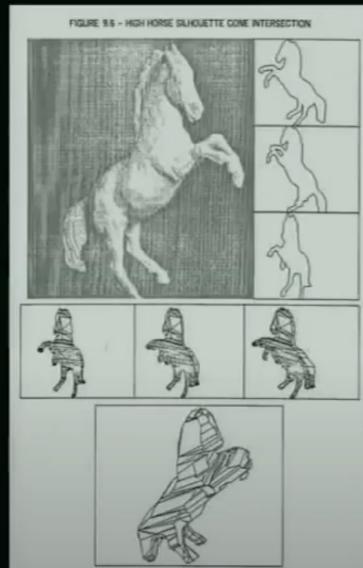
Top View

reconstruction  
(fuse as stereo)

Bruce G. Baumgart, Geometric Modeling for Computer Vision, Stanford PhD Thesis (CS-TR-74-463)

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1974: shape from silhouettes [Baumgart, Ph.D]



Bruce G. Baumgart, Geometric Modeling for Computer Vision, Stanford PhD Thesis (CS-TR-74-463)

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## 3D Vision: A little bit History Shape-from-silhouettes...

Other notable results include:

Theory: visual hull

- A. Laurentini, "The visual hull concept for silhouette-based image understanding". *IEEE Trans. Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*. 1994, pp. 150–162.

Efficient Algorithms

- Richard Szeliski. [Rapid octree construction from image sequences](#). *CVGIP: Image Understanding*, 58(1):23-32, July 1993.

Usage in graphics

- W. Matusik, C. Buehler, R. Raskar, L. McMillan, and S. Gortler, [Image-Based Visual Hulls](#). In Proc. SIGGRAPH 2000.

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Next major landmark:

## 3D Vision: A little bit History

### 1981: Essential Matrix [[Longuet-Higgins, Nature](#)]

H. Christopher Longuet-Higgins (September 1981). "A computer algorithm for reconstructing a scene from two projections". *Nature* **293** (5828): 133–135

#### 3x3 Matrix mapping points to epipolar lines

- corresponding points  $p, p'$  satisfy  $p^T E p' = 0$
- camera matrices can be computed from  $E$

#### Historical precedents

- Chasles, Hesse, Sturm
  - introduced key ideas 100 years earlier [1863-9]
- Kruppa's "Structure-from-motion" theorem [1913]
  - rediscovered by Ullman [1977]

Led to the field of "multi-view geometry" in the 1990s

- Fundamental matrix [Faugeras; Hartley ECCV 1992], uncalibrated case, [song!](#)
- Trifocal tensor [Hartley; Shashua 1995], 3 view case
- Self-calibration, stratification, [Faugeras, ECCV 1992]

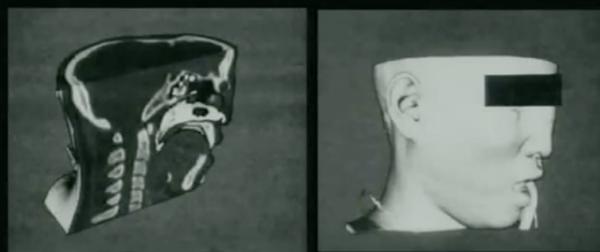
This work inspired an whole area of 3D computer vision, now known as Multiview Geometry

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## 3D Vision: A little bit History

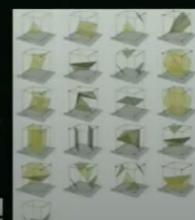
### 1987: Marching Cubes [[Lorensen & Cline, SIGGRAPH](#)]

Q:  
Maybe  
not 3D  
Vision?



#### From Volume to Surface mesh

- Start at voxel containing surface
- Add polygon(s) based on configuration table
  - earlier: 1970's Hummel & Zucker, 3D edge finding
- March to next voxel



To this day, still dominant meshing alg!

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## 3D Vision: A little bit History

[Tomasi & Kanade, ICCV]

**1990: Structure-from-motion by factorization**

Elegant "1 line" solution:  $W = MS$

- optimal under affine (orthographic) model
- many extensions
  - multibody [Costeira, ICCV 1995],
  - flow [Irani, ICCV 1999]
  - nonrigid [Bregler, CVPR 2000], [Brand, CVPR 2001]

→

Not the modern SfM

W matrix: positions of points in a set of video images. M motion of the camera (affine model), S is the shape of the scene.

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## 3D Vision: A little bit History

**1997: Multi-view Stereo**

Voxel Coloring  
Szelz & Dyer, CVPR 1997

Space Carving  
Kutulakos & Szelz, ICCV 1999  
Fromherz & Bichsel, ISPRS 1995

Level-set stereo  
Faugeras & Keriven, ECCV 1998

Space Carving + Level Set Stereo

- reconstruct 3D directly rather than image matching
  - key work in photogrammetry: object-based least squares correlation [Helava; Ebner 1988], also Grün & Baltsavias: Geometrically constrained least squares matching PERS, 1988.
- proper modeling of visibility
- provable convergence properties

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## 3D Vision: A little bit History

1998: Uncalibrated 3D [\[Pollefeys, Koch, Van Gool, ICCV\]](#)



3D stereo models from uncalibrated video

- culmination of many research advances
  - tracking, SfM, self-calibration, stereo, texture-mapping
  - ↳ used SfM approach by [\[Beardsley, Torr, Zisserman., ECCV 1996\]](#)
- major milestone for projective reconstruction research

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THE END

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