

ELEG4701: Intelligent Interactive Robot Practice

Lecture 9: Visual Servoing for Mobile Robots

Jiewen Lai
Research Assistant Professor

jwlai@ee.cuhk.edu.hk

EE, CUHK

2024 Spring





Outline

- ① What is Visual Servoing?
- ② Introduction to Pinhole Camera Model
- ③ Prep for Lab 9 - Task 1
- ④ Camera Calibration - Task 2
- ⑤ Aruco Marker Detection - Task 3
- ⑥ Turtlebot Following Aruco Marker - Task 4



Part 1. What is Visual Servoing?



What is Visual Servoing?

Visual Servoing is also known as **Vision-based Robot Control**

- It uses feedback information extracted from a vision sensor (e.g., camera) to control the robot's motion.

Visual servoing was first proposed by *Gerald* in 1979, referred to “Real Time Control of A Robot with a Mobile Camera.”



Part 2. Introduction to Pinhole Camera Model



Introduction to Pinhole Camera Model

Pinhole imaging principle

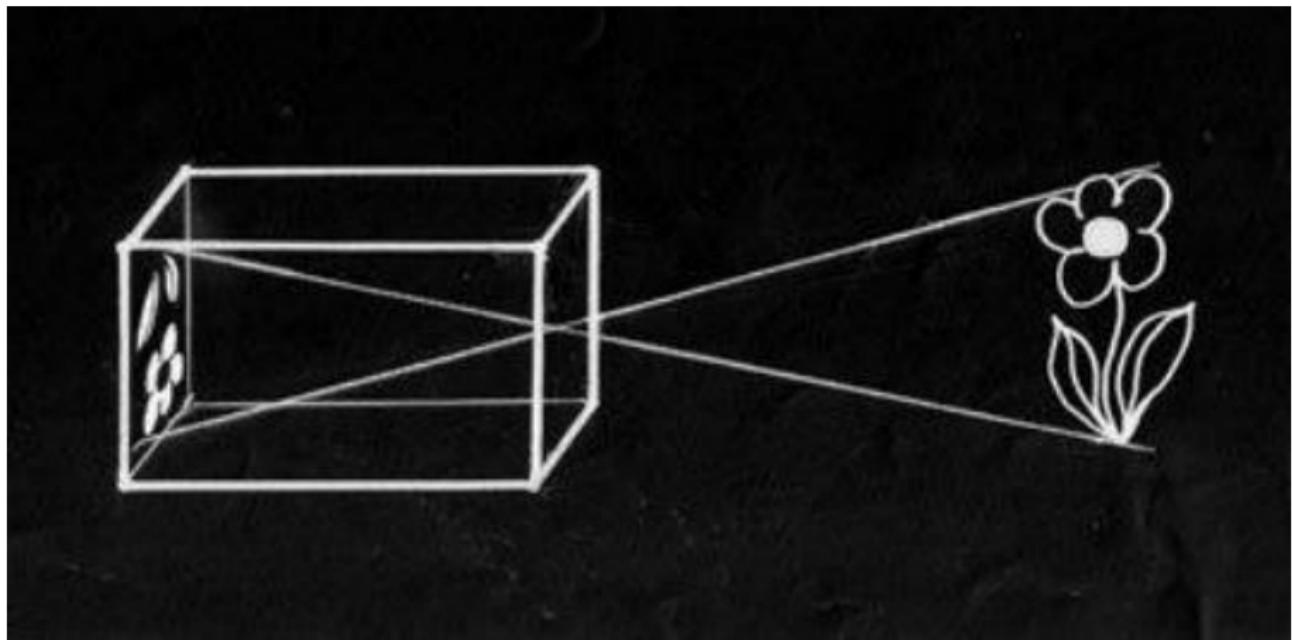
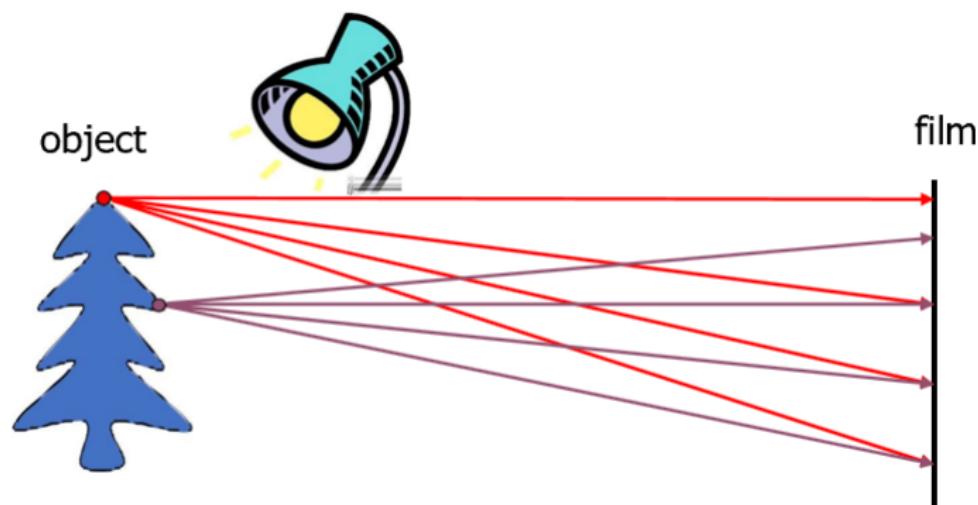


Figure: Camera model can be simplified as a pinhole camera model.



How to form an image?

Place a piece of film in front of an object.



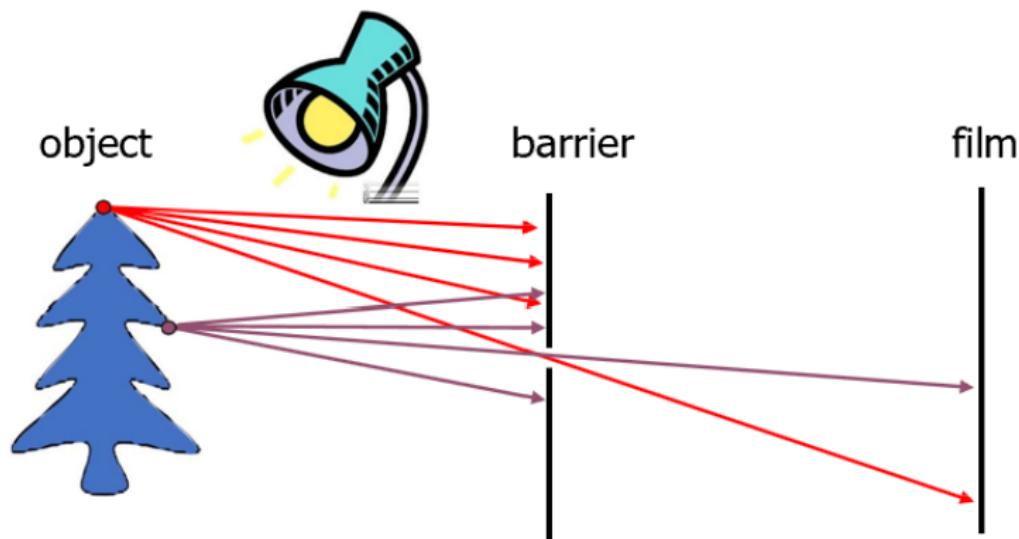
Do we get a reasonable image?



Pinhole Camera Model

Add a barrier to block off most of the rays

- It reduces blurring
- The opening is known as **aperture**





Home-made Pinhole Camera

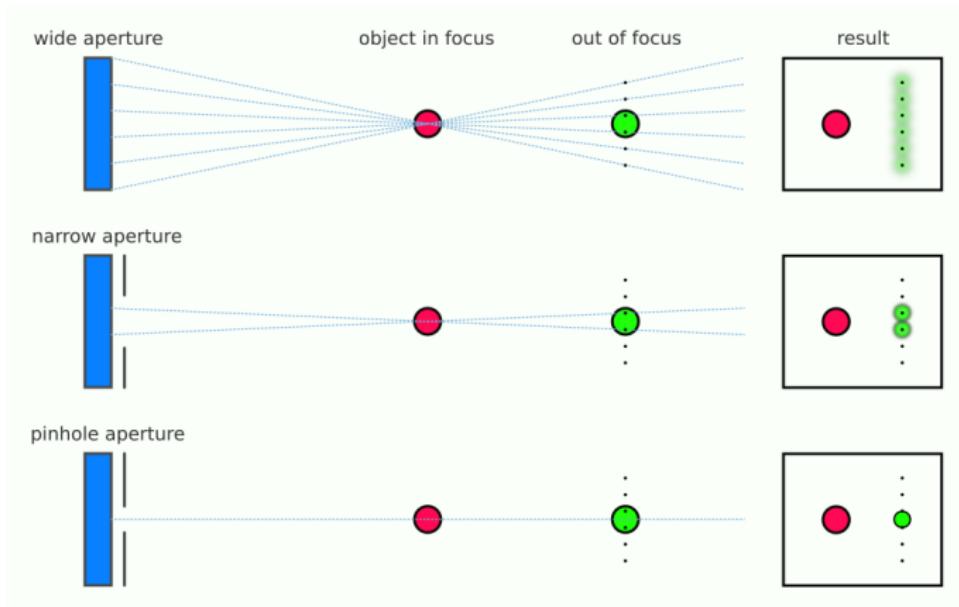
This is a pinhole camera image - but it's blurred



What can we do to reduce the blur?



Home-made Pinhole Camera

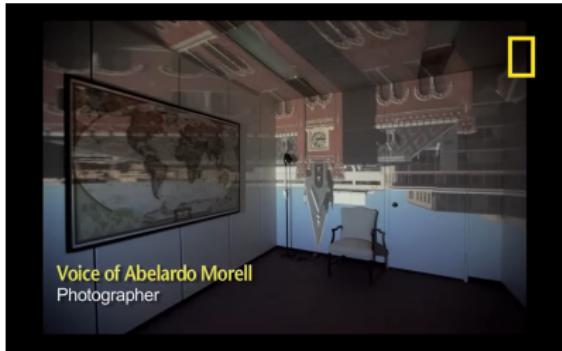


Smaller pinhole aperture



Home-made Pinhole Camera

A ‘room-sized’ pinhole camera

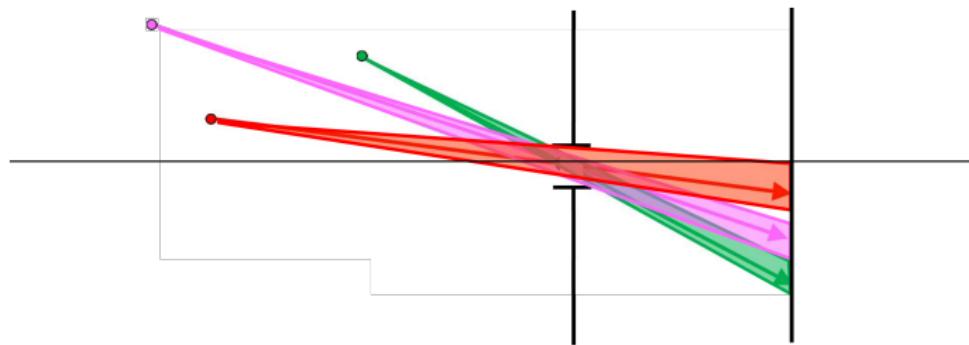


Making Your Own Room With a View, *National Geographic*: <https://youtu.be/gvzpu0Q9RTU>



Why do we use a lens?

- The ideal pinhole: only one ray of light reaches each point on the film
 - but the image can be very dim
 - We need to make the pinhole (i.e. aperture) bigger



- A lens can focus multiple rays coming from the same point

Image formation using a converging lens

- A lens focuses light onto the film
- Rays passing through the optical center are **NOT** deviated

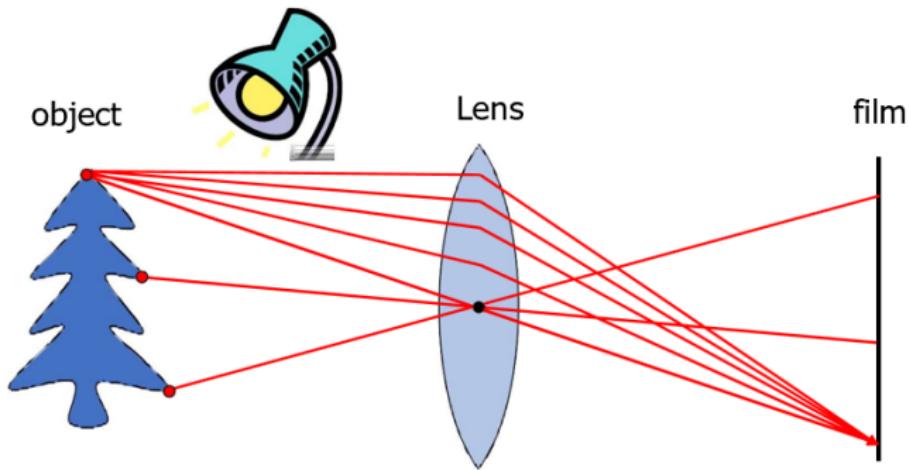
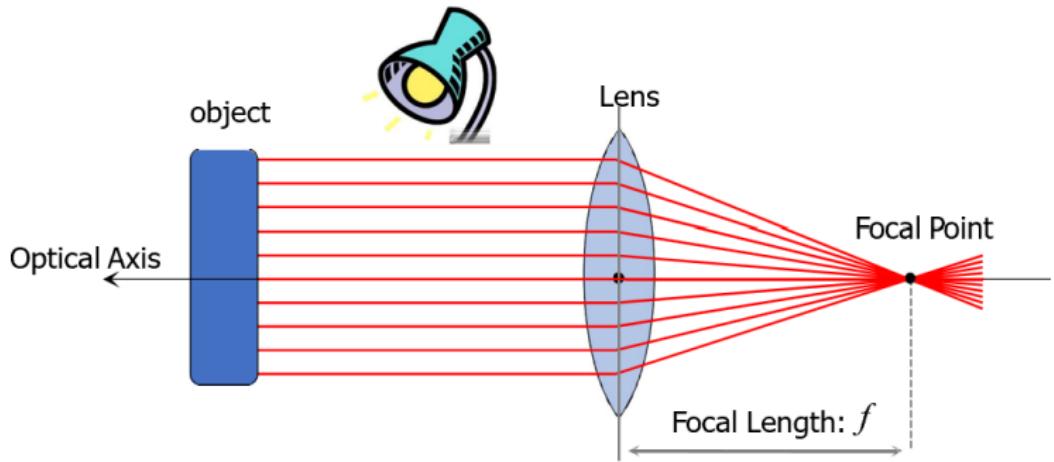


Image formation using a converging lens

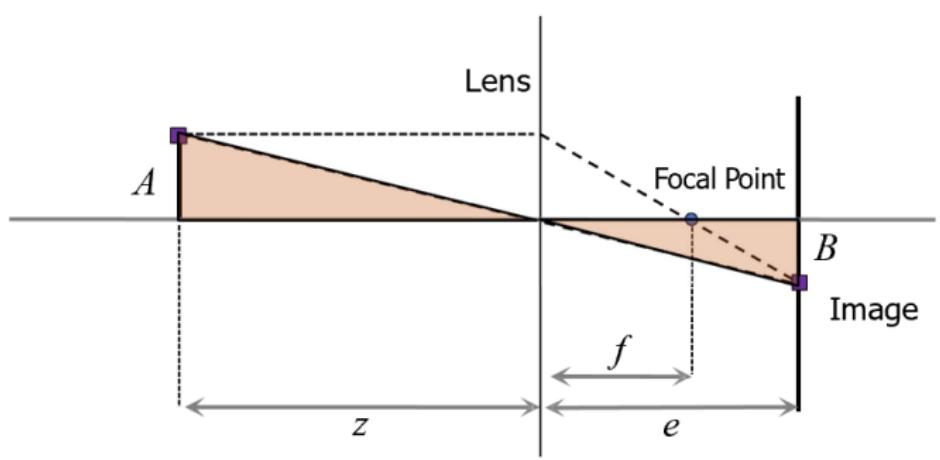
- A lens focuses light onto the film
- Rays passing through the optical center are **NOT deviated**
- All rays parallel to the **Optical Axis** will converge at the **Focal Point**





Thin lens equation

Similar Triangles (相似三角形):

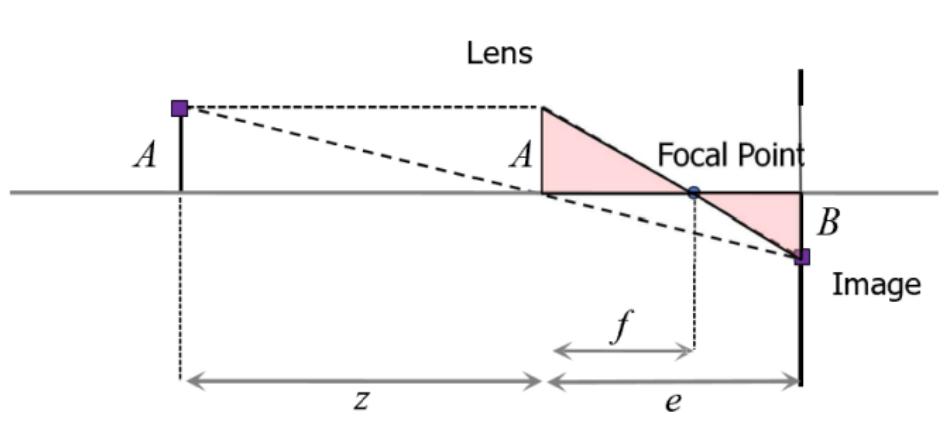


$$\frac{B}{A} = \frac{e}{z}$$

Find a relationship between f , z , and e



Thin lens equation



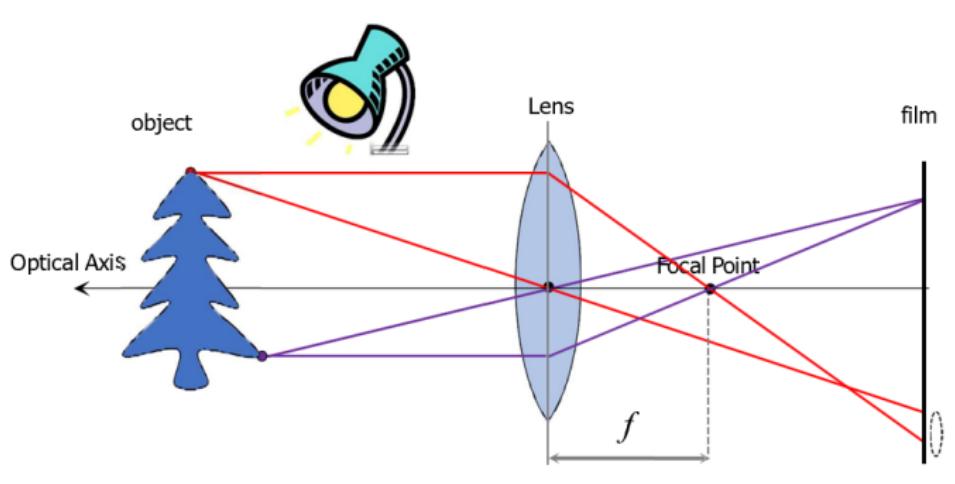
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{B}{A} = \frac{e-f}{f} = \frac{e}{f} - 1 \\ \frac{B}{A} = \frac{e}{z} \end{array} \right\} \frac{e}{f} - 1 = \frac{e}{z} \rightarrow \frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{e}$$

“Thin lens equation”

Any object point satisfying this equation is **in focus**

"In Focus"

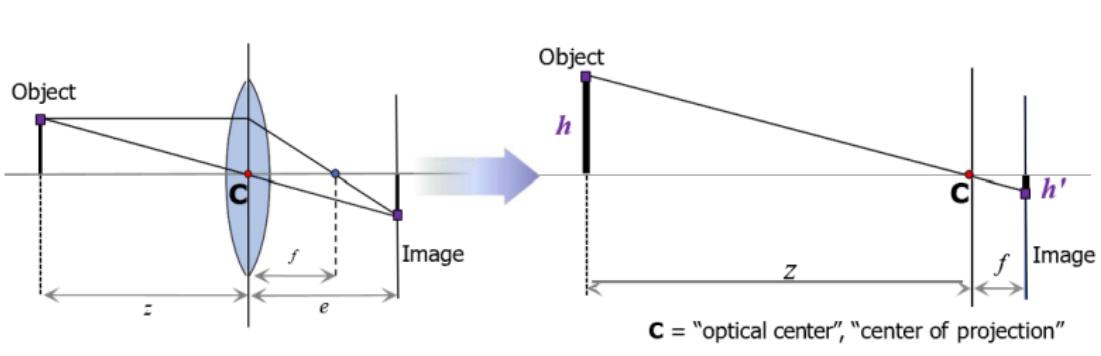
- There is a specific distance from the lens, at which the **world points** are “in focus” in the image
- Other points project to a “blur circle” in the image



On the right: “Circle of Confusion” or “Blur Circle”



Perspective Camera



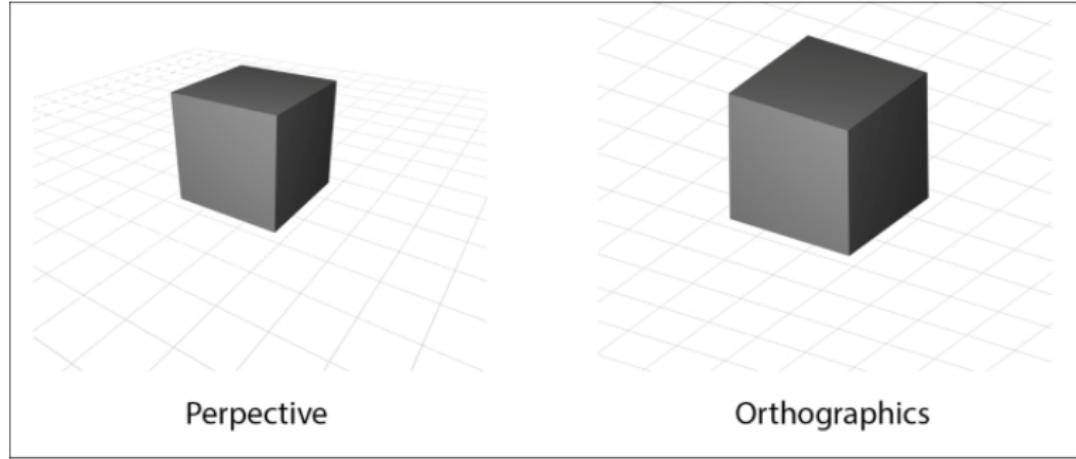
- Adjust the image plane so that the objects at infinity are **in focus**
- So,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} z &>> f, \quad z >> L \\ \frac{1}{f} &= \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{e} \end{aligned} \right\} \frac{1}{f} \approx \frac{1}{e} \rightarrow f \approx e$$

- With a constant f , we can express a relationship on perspective: The dependence of the apparent size of an object on its depth (i.e. distance from the camera) is known as **perspective**



Perspective vs Orthographics



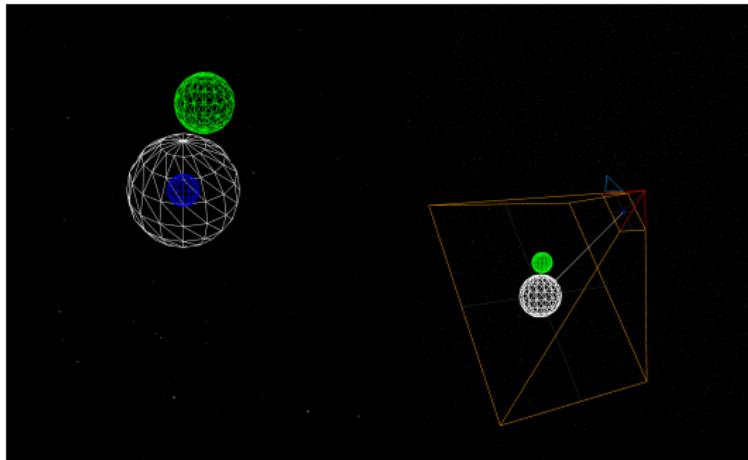
Which one is more natural / intuitive to you?

More reading: https://www.mathworks.com/help/matlab/creating_plots/understanding-view-projections.html



Playing with Perspective

- Perspective gives us very strong **depth** cues
- Hence, we can perceive a 3D scene by viewing its 2D representation (i.e. 2D image)



Objects vary in sizes within different distances

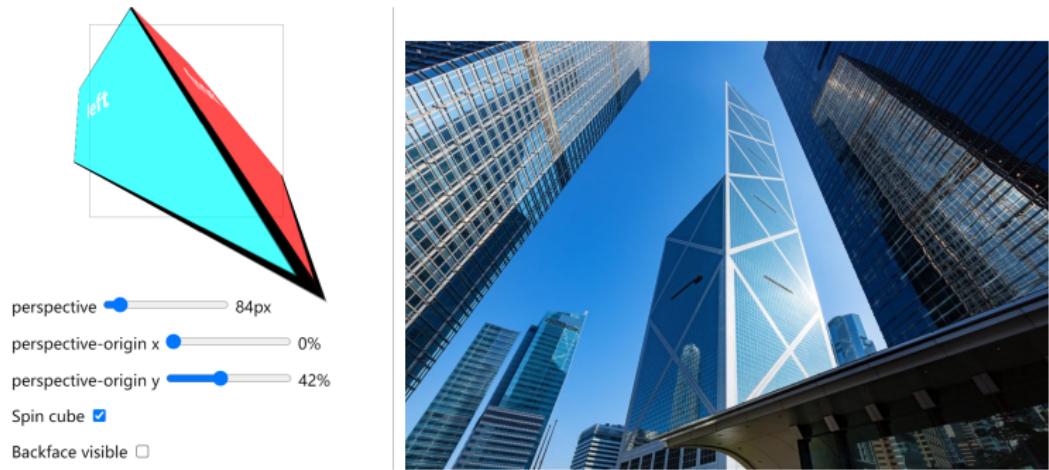
Try it yourself: https://threejs.org/examples/webgl_camera.html
(Press 'O' and 'P' to switch between Orthographic and Perspective mode)



Playing with Perspective

Perspective Effects

- Parallel lines do not remain parallel
- Our visual system expects all parallel lines to intersect at **one point**

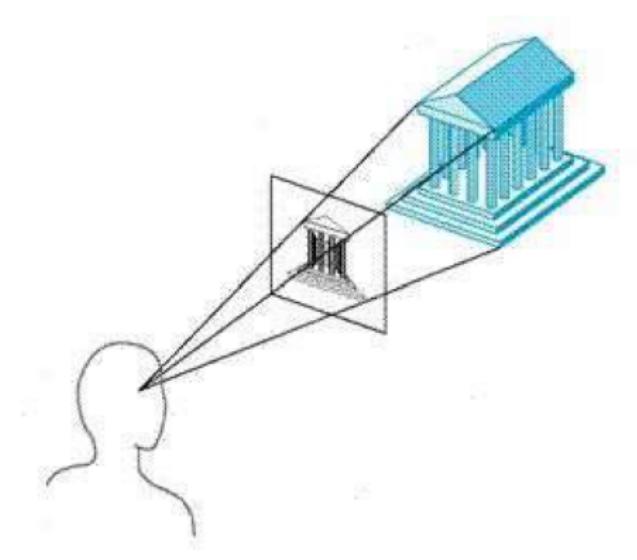


Try this to play with the “perspective-ness”: <https://codepen.io/desandro/pen/bMqZmr>



Perspective Projection

How the **3D world points** map to **pixels** in the 2D image?



From World to Pixel coordinates

Goal: We want to use a 2D pixel coordinates (u, v) to represent a real-world point P_w

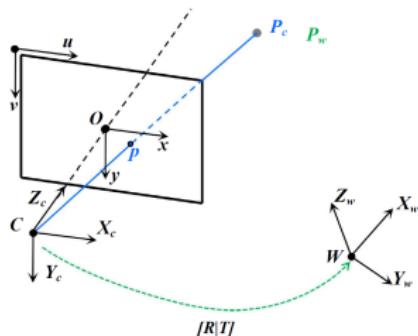
Tools: We have $\{W\}$, $\{C\}$, and $\{O\}$.

Find pixel coordinates (u, v) of point P_w in the world frame $\{W\}$:

- Convert world point P_w to camera point P_c

Find pixel coordinates (u, v) of point P_c in the camera frame $\{C\}$:

- Convert P_c to image-plane coordinates (x, y)
- Convert P_c to (discrete) pixel coordinates (u, v)

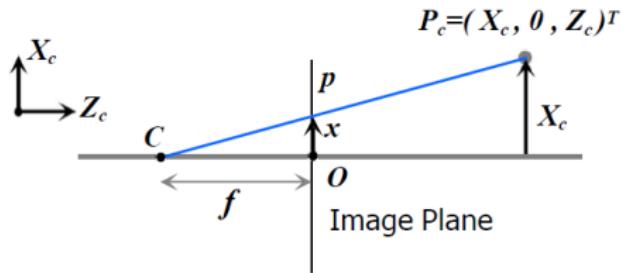




Perspective Projection

From Camera frame to Image plane

- Camera Point $P_c = [X_c, 0, Z_c]^\top$ projects to $p = [x, y]^\top$ onto the image plane
- According to similar triangles: $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{X_c}{Z_c} \Rightarrow x = \frac{f X_c}{Z_c}$
- Similarly, in the general case: $\frac{y}{f} = \frac{Y_c}{Z_c} \Rightarrow y = \frac{f Y_c}{Z_c}$





Perspective Projection

From Camera frame to Image plane Pixel coordinates

In order to convert p from local image plane coords $p = [x, y]^\top$ to pixel coords $[u, v]^\top$, we need to account for:

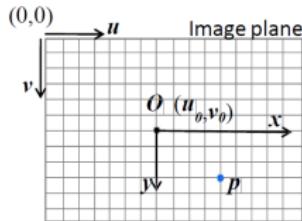
- The pixel coords of the camera optical center $O = [u_0, v_0]^\top$
- Scale factors k_u, k_v for the **pixel-size** in both dimensions, such that:

$$u = u_0 + k_u x \Rightarrow u = u_0 + \frac{k_u f X_c}{Z_c}$$

$$v = v_0 + k_v y \Rightarrow v = v_0 + \frac{k_v f Y_c}{Z_c}$$

- Use **Homogeneous Coordinates** for linear mapping from 3D to 2D, by introducing an **extra scale** λ :

$$p = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \tilde{p} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda u \\ \lambda v \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

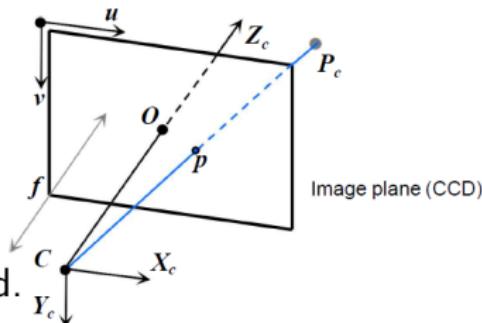


Note that usually $\lambda = 1$



Perspective Projection

Now we have: $\begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_0 + \frac{k_u f X_c}{Z_c} \\ v_0 + \frac{k_v f Y_c}{Z_c} \end{bmatrix}$



Rewrite in **matrix form** with homogeneous coord.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda u \\ \lambda v \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} k_u f & 0 & u_0 \\ 0 & k_v f & v_0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_c \\ Y_c \\ Z_c \end{bmatrix}$$

Or, in a shorter way:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda u \\ \lambda v \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_u & 0 & u_0 \\ 0 & \alpha_v & v_0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{'Calibration matrix' or 'Matrix of Intrinsic Parameters'}} \begin{bmatrix} X_c \\ Y_c \\ Z_c \end{bmatrix} = K \begin{bmatrix} X_c \\ Y_c \\ Z_c \end{bmatrix}$$

α_u : Focal length in u -direction

α_v : Focal length in v -direction



Perspective Projection

From Camera frame to Image plane Pixel coordinates World frame

Define Camera frame by World frame (Through spatial trans/rot)

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_c \\ Y_c \\ Z_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \\ t_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

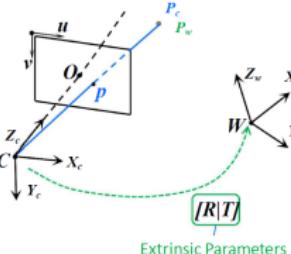
in homog.
coord.

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_c \\ Y_c \\ Z_c \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} & t_1 \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} & t_2 \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} & t_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R & T \\ 0_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Define Pixel Frame by Camera Frame: $\lambda \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = K \begin{bmatrix} X_c \\ Y_c \\ Z_c \end{bmatrix}$

Define Pixel Frame by World Frame: $\lambda \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = K \left(\begin{bmatrix} R & T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$

Here, $K[R|T]$ is the **Projection Matrix**
 $[R|T]$ is the **Matrix of Extrinsic Parameters**





Perspective Projection

Define Pixel Frame (2D) by World Frame (3D):

$$\lambda \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = K \begin{pmatrix} [R & T] \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

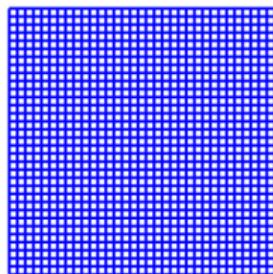


$$\lambda \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f_x & 0 & c_x \\ 0 & f_y & c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Intrinsic Param. Matrix}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & r_{13} & t_1 \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & r_{23} & t_2 \\ r_{31} & r_{32} & r_{33} & t_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Extrinsic Param. Matrix}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\{W\}}$$

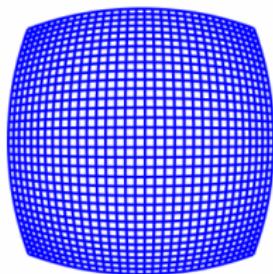
Radial distortion

Radial lens distortion

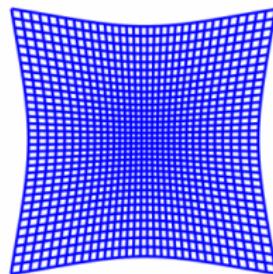
- Radial lens distortion causes straight lines to be mapped as curved lines.
- There are two types of radial lens distortion:
Barrel Distortion and **Pincushion Distortion**.



INPUT GRID



BARREL DISTORTION



PINCUSHION DISTORTION



Camera Calibration

Normally, we will use a **checkerboard** to find the **intrinsic parameters**.



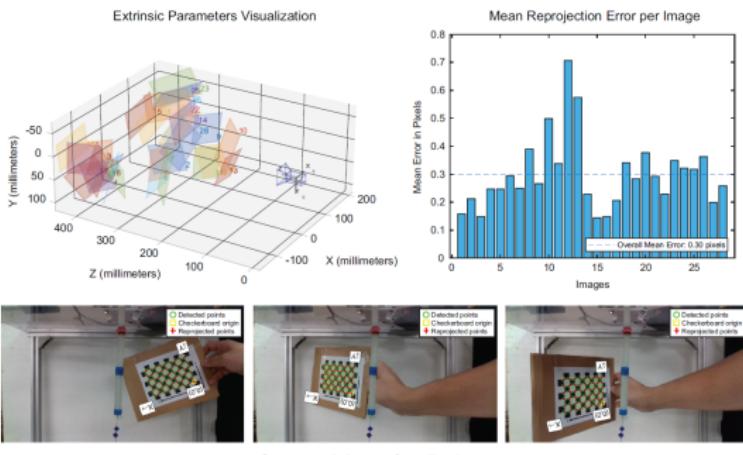
- Camera Calibrator in Matlab:
<https://www.mathworks.com/help/vision/ref/cameracalibrator-app.html>
- Camera Calibrator in OpenCV:
https://docs.opencv.org/4.x/dc/dbb/tutorial_py_calibration.html



Camera Calibration

$$\text{Recall: } \lambda [u \ v \ 1]^\top = \underbrace{K [\mathbf{R} \ \mathbf{T}]}_{\text{Projection Matrix}} \underbrace{[X_w \ Y_w \ Z_w \ 1]^\top}_{\text{World Frame}}$$

- Use Cam model to interpret the projection from **world** to **image plane**
- With the known correspondences of p and P_w , we can compute the **Projection Matrix** by applying the perspective projection equation
- ... so we can associate known physical distance in real-world with pixel-distance in image to figure out the **Projection Matrix**



Some sample images for calibration



Camera Calibration

$$\text{Recall: } \lambda [u \quad v \quad 1]^\top = \underbrace{K [\mathbf{R} \quad \mathbf{T}]}_{\text{Projection Matrix}} \underbrace{[X_w \quad Y_w \quad Z_w \quad 1]^\top}_{\text{World Frame}}$$

- We know that: $\lambda \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} & m_{13} & m_{14} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} & m_{23} & m_{24} \\ m_{31} & m_{32} & m_{33} & m_{34} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

- So there are 11 values to estimate: (the overall scale doesn't matter, so m_{34} can be set to 1 for now)
- Each observed point gives us a pair of equations:

$$u_i = \frac{\lambda u_i}{\lambda} = \frac{m_{11}X_i + m_{12}Y_i + m_{13}Z_i + m_{14}}{m_{31} + m_{32} + m_{33} + m_{34}}$$

$$v_i = \frac{\lambda v_i}{\lambda} = \frac{m_{21}X_i + m_{22}Y_i + m_{23}Z_i + m_{24}}{m_{31} + m_{32} + m_{33} + m_{34}}$$

- To estimate 11 unknowns, we need at least **6 points** to calibrate the camera using linear least squares



Camera Calibration

$$\lambda \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} & m_{13} & m_{14} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} & m_{23} & m_{24} \\ m_{31} & m_{32} & m_{33} & m_{34} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Projection Matrix}} \begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{K \begin{bmatrix} R & T \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Projection Matrix}} \begin{bmatrix} X_w \\ Y_w \\ Z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- **What we obtained:** a 3-by-4 projection matrix
- **What we need:** its decomposition into the **intrinsic parameter matrix** K , and the **rotation** R and **transformation** T of the camera
- For K and R : Use **QR factorization** to decompose the 3-by-3 submatrix ($m_{11:33}$) into the product of an **upper triangular matrix** K and a **rotation matrix** R (which is always an orthogonal matrix)
- The translation T can be subsequently obtained by: $T = K^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} m_{14} \\ m_{24} \\ m_{34} \end{bmatrix}$



Thanks for listening!



Part 3. Prep for Lab 9 - Task 1



Prep for Lab 9 - Task 1

- Copy the bags from TAs
- Download the sample codes from Blackboard:
`aruco_detector_sample.py`
`image_listener_sample.py`
`simple_controller_sample.py`
- Follow the guide on the lab sheet to create a package for lab 9



Part 4. Camera Calibration - Task 2



Camera Calibration - Task 2

Camera calibration steps:

- Type the following command in the terminal

Terminal

```
$ rosrun camera_calibration cameracalibrator.py --size 8x6 -  
-square 0.015 image:=/camera/color/image_raw
```

- Play calibration.bag. You will see the checkerboard moving around in the scope of the camera

Terminal

```
$ cd lab9/bags  
$ rosbag play calibration.bag
```

- When all the progressing bars in the GUI turn green, click the Calibrate button; the software will calculate the intrinsic param and print the result in the terminal
- Record the results for Task 3



Part 5. Aruco Marker Detection - Task 3

Aruco Marker Detection - Task 3



Detect Aruco marker with RealSense (follow the guide on the lab sheet)

- ① Complete TODOs in aruco_detector_sample.py
- ② Play rosbag aruco.bag

Terminal

```
$ rosbag play aruco.bag
```

- ③ Run your aruco_detector

Terminal

```
$ rosrun lab9 aruco_detector_sample.py
```



Part 6. Turtlebot Following Aruco Marker - Task 4



Install turtlebot3 packages in ROS

- ① Go to your ws src folder

Terminal

```
$ cd ~/catkin_ws/src
```

- ② Download packages from turtlebot3 repository

Terminal

```
$ git clone https://github.com/ROBOTIS-GIT/turtlebot3.git
```

- ③ Download turtlebot3_msgs.

Terminal

```
$ git clone https://github.com/ROBOTIS-GIT/turtlebot3_msgs.git
```



- ④ Download turtlebot3_simulation packages

Terminal

```
$ git clone https://github.com/ROBOTIS-GIT/turtlebot3_simulations.git
```

- ⑤ Go back to your workspace

Terminal

```
$ cd ..
```

- ⑥ Compile all the packages newly added

Terminal

```
$ catkin_make
```



Turtlebot follows Aruco marker

- ① Complete the TODOs in `simple_controller_sample.py` from Blackboard (we use a P-Controller same as lab 4)
- ② Bring up turtlebot

Terminal

```
$ export TURTLEBOT3_MODEL=burger  
roslaunch turtlebot3_fake turtlebot3_fake.launch
```

- ③ Run your `aruco_detector`

Terminal

```
$ rosrun lab9 aruco_detector_simple.py
```



- ④ cd to bags, and play aruco.bag

Terminal

```
$ cd catkin_ws/src/lab9/bags  
rosbag play aruco.bag
```

- ⑤ Check the result in RViz (see if the frame of aruco marker is moving.)
- ⑥ Run your controller.

Terminal

```
$ rosrun lab9 simple_controller_sample.py
```

- ⑦ You should see the turtlebot moving in RViz