

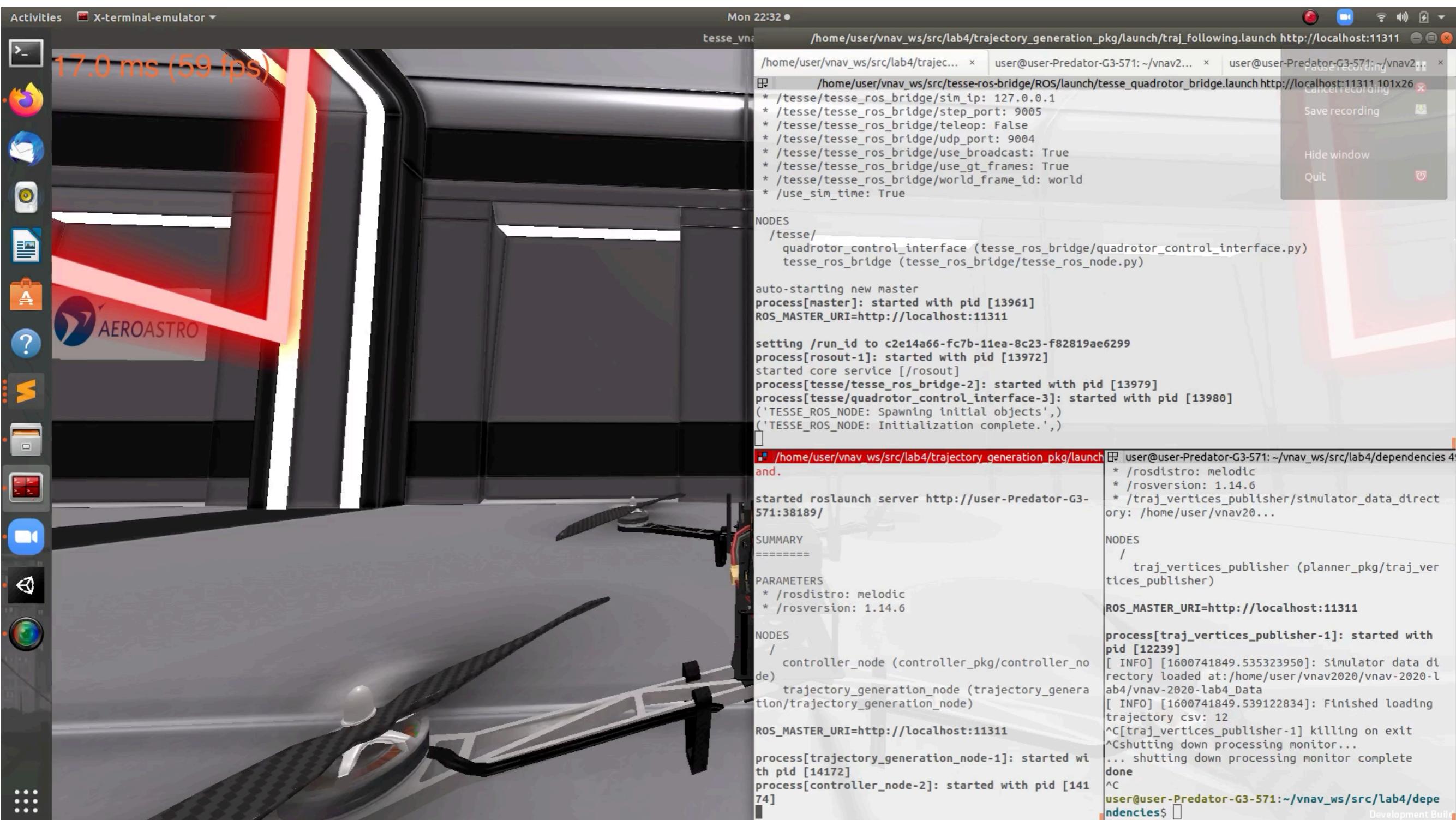


# 16.485: VNAV - Visual Navigation for Autonomous Vehicles

## Lecture 11: Image Formation

Luca Carlone

# What we learned so far

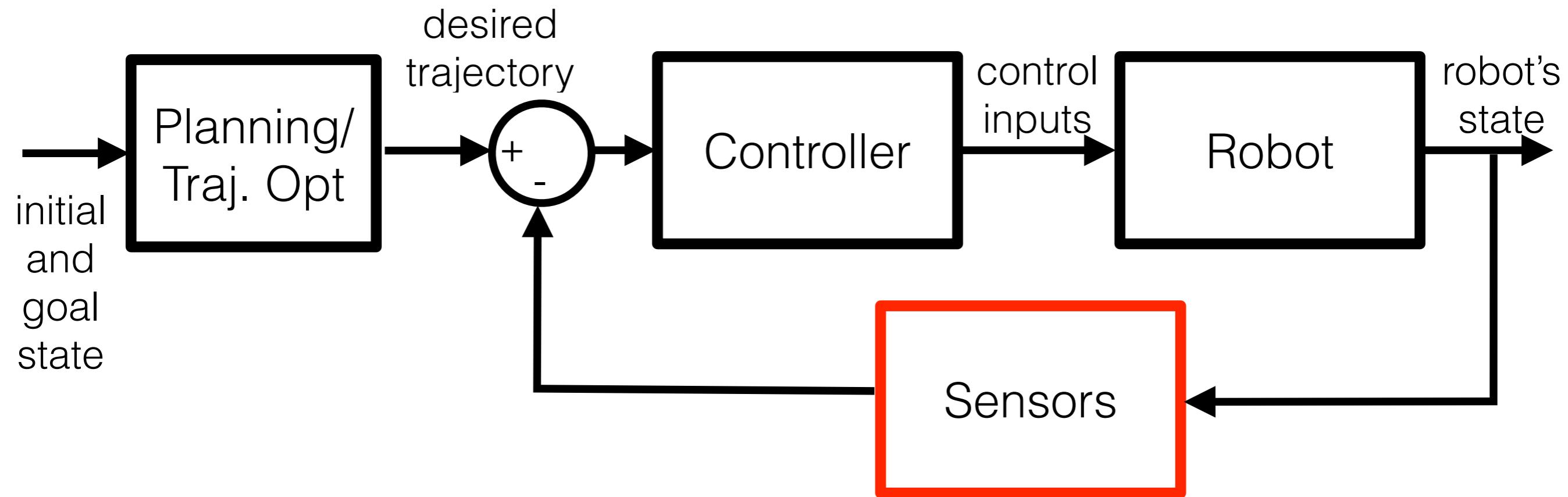


## Requires:

- state of the drone (localization)
- obstacles (mapping)

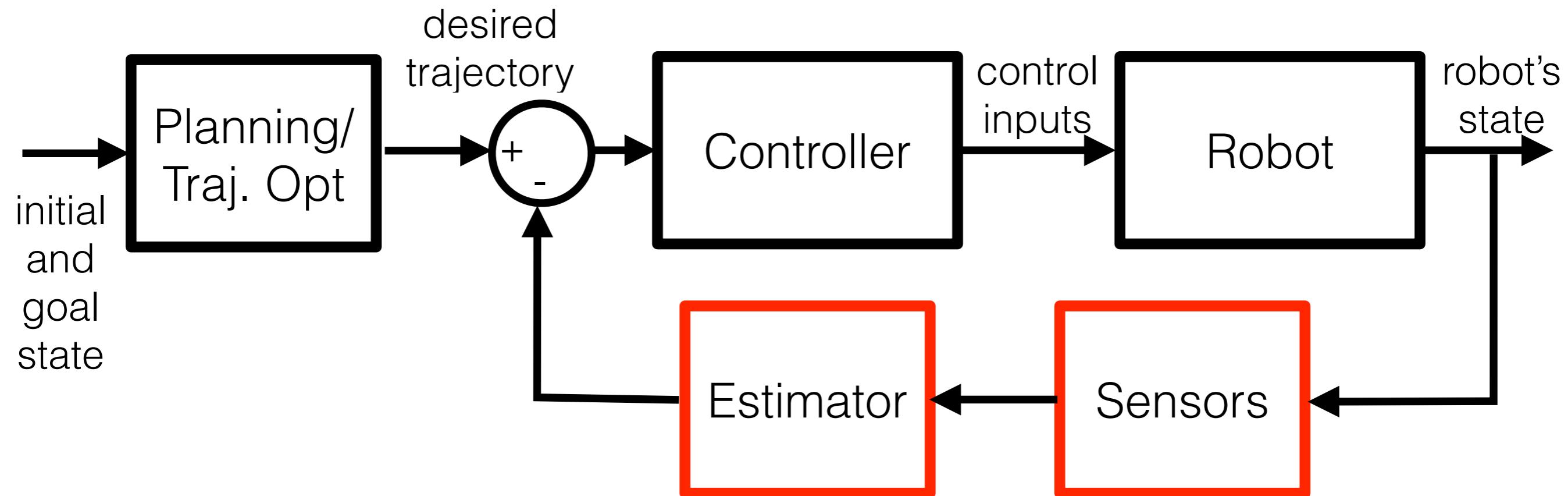
# What's next

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# What's next

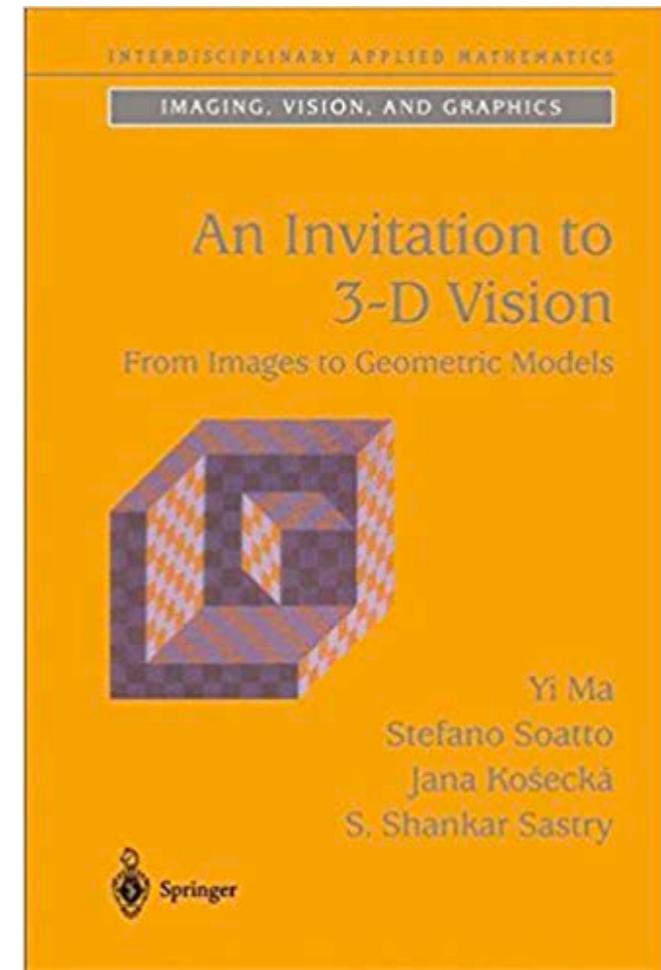
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# Today

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- Image Formation
- Pinhole Camera Model

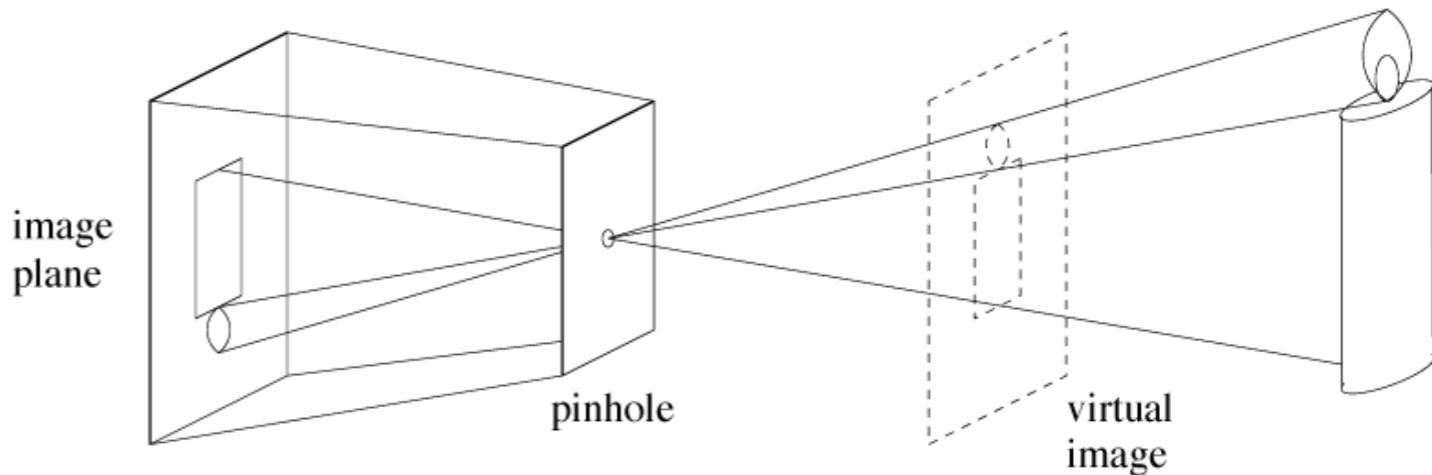


## Chapter 3

### Image Formation

# Image Formation

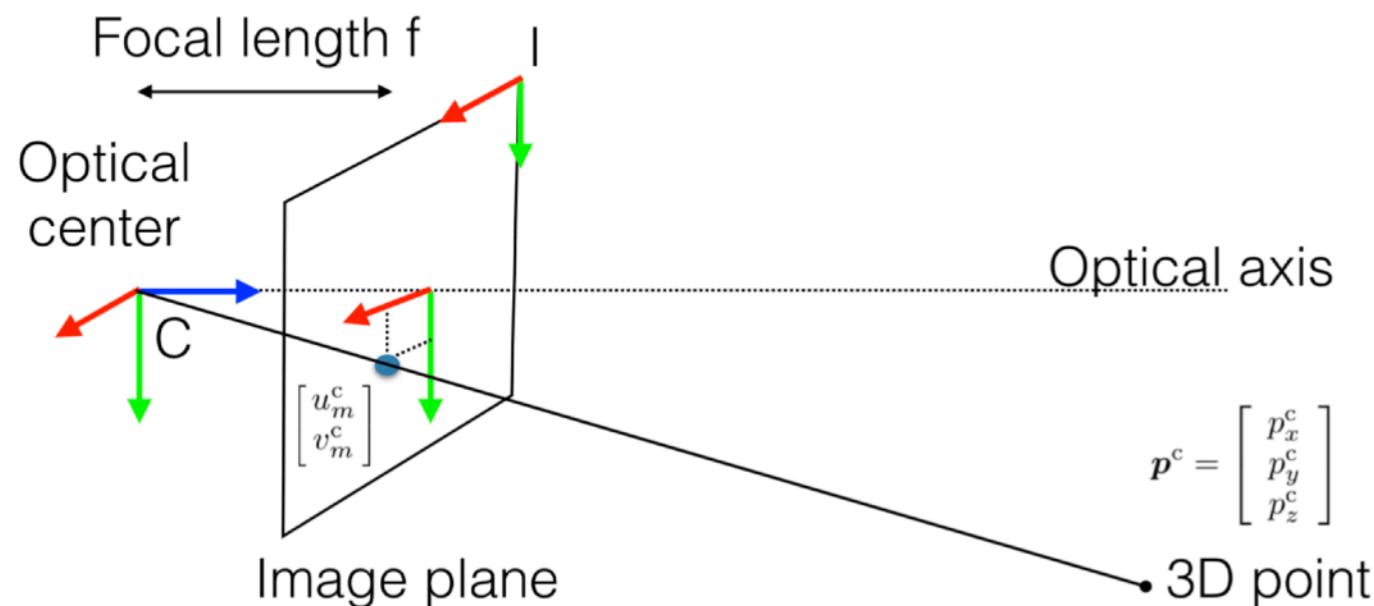
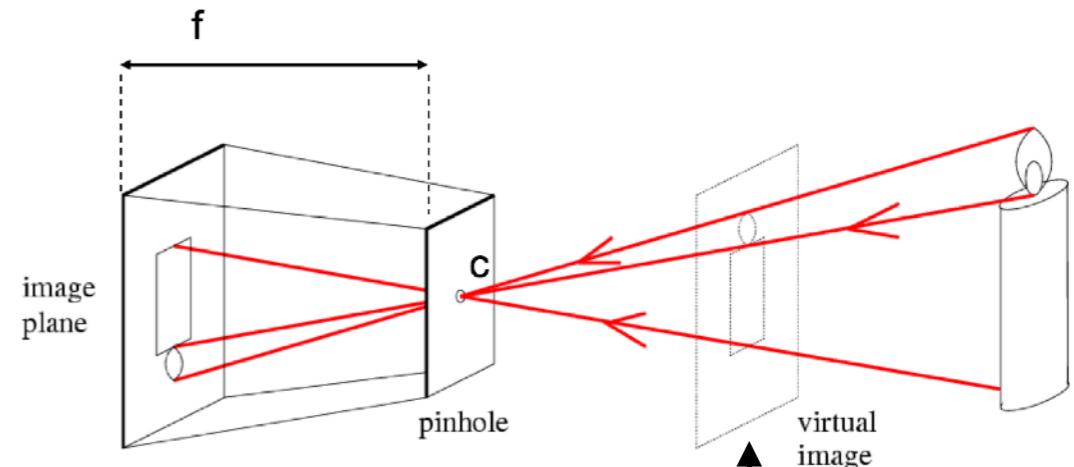
- How to capture a 3D scene on a 2D image?
- **Camera obscura**  
(Latin: “dark room”):
  - optical device that projects 3D scene to a surface
  - box with a hole on one side
  - known for several centuries:
    - Mo Ti, Chinese philosopher  
(5<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.)
    - Leonardo da Vinci  
(1452-1519)



Frisius (1544)

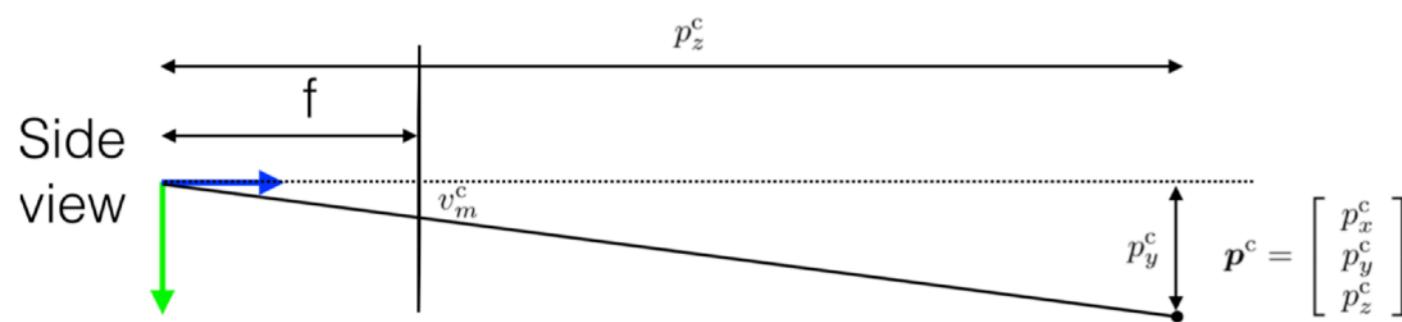
# Geometry: Pinhole Camera Model

- How to compute the 2D projection (pixel) of a given 3D point?



$$\mathbf{p}^c = \begin{bmatrix} p_x^c \\ p_y^c \\ p_z^c \end{bmatrix}$$

Frontal  
pinhole  
model

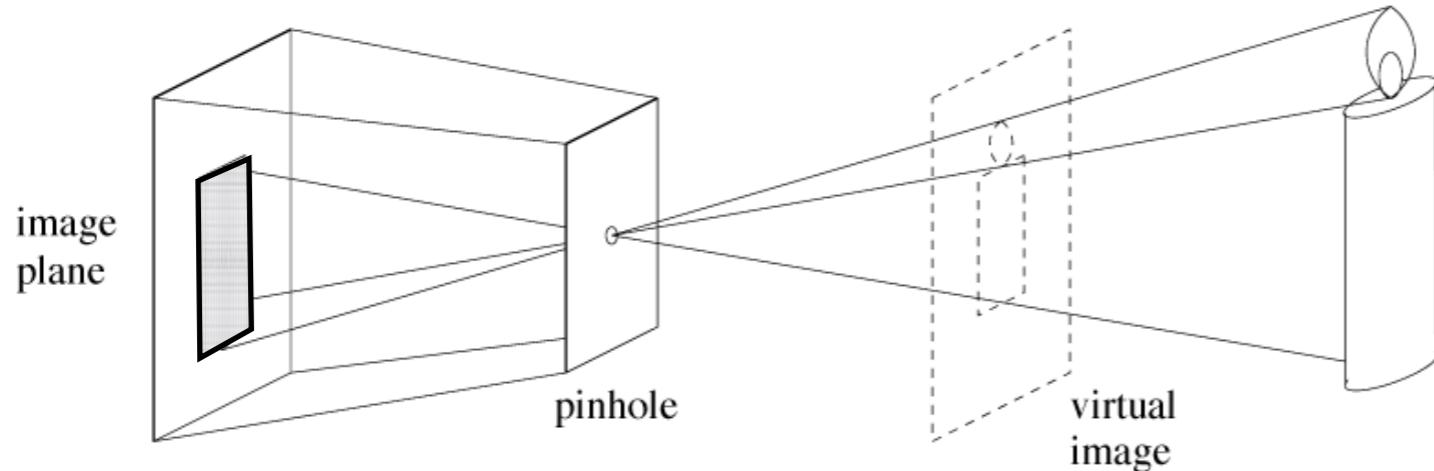


$$\mathbf{p}^c = \begin{bmatrix} p_x^c \\ p_y^c \\ p_z^c \end{bmatrix}$$

Let's do  
some math

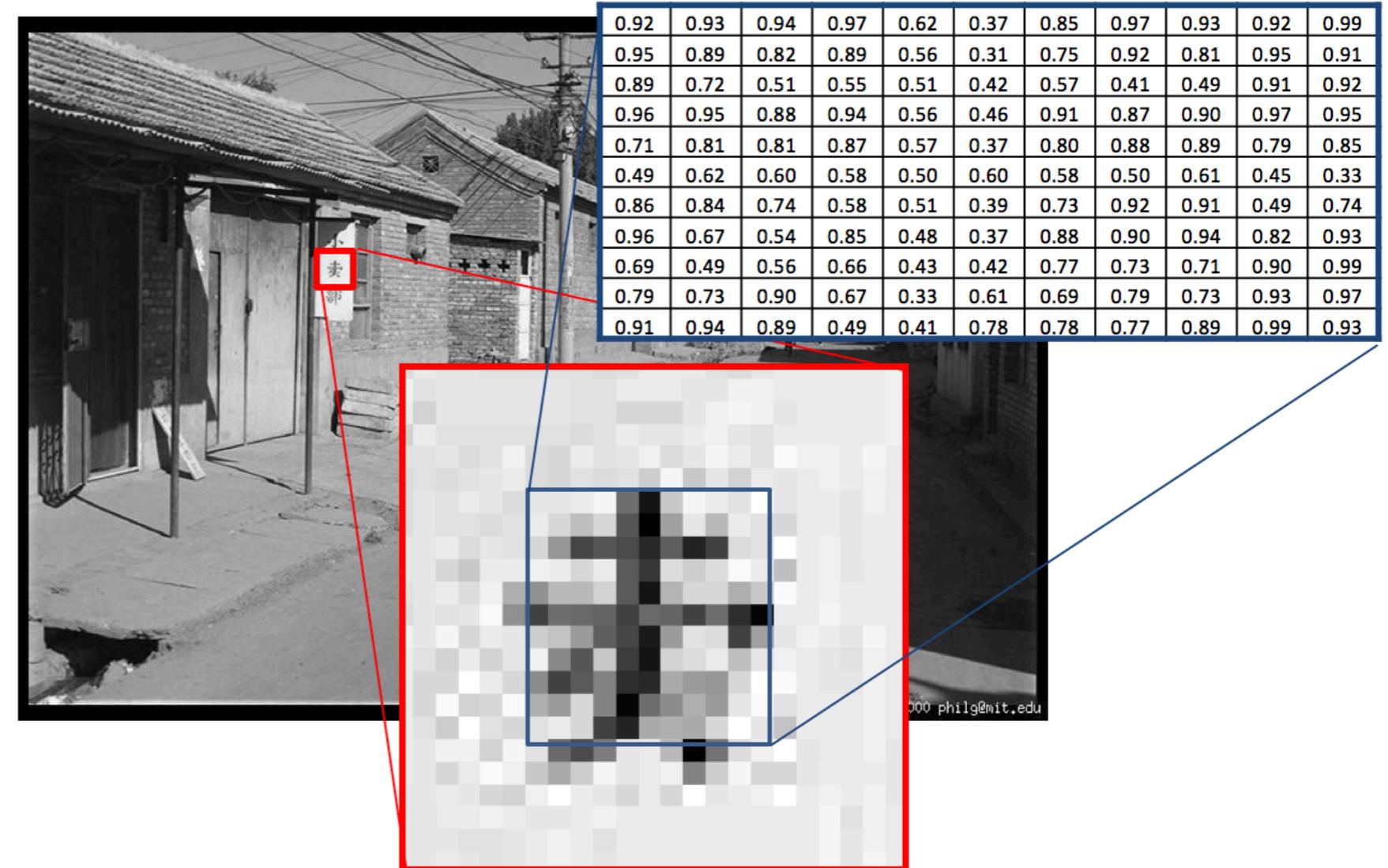
Figure 11.1: Pinhole Model.

# Digital Photography



2D array of  
“light sensors”

- CCD (charge-coupled device, 1960)
- CMOS (complementary metal-oxide semiconductor, 1963)



# Appearance: Light and Colors



**R**  
(G=0,B=0)

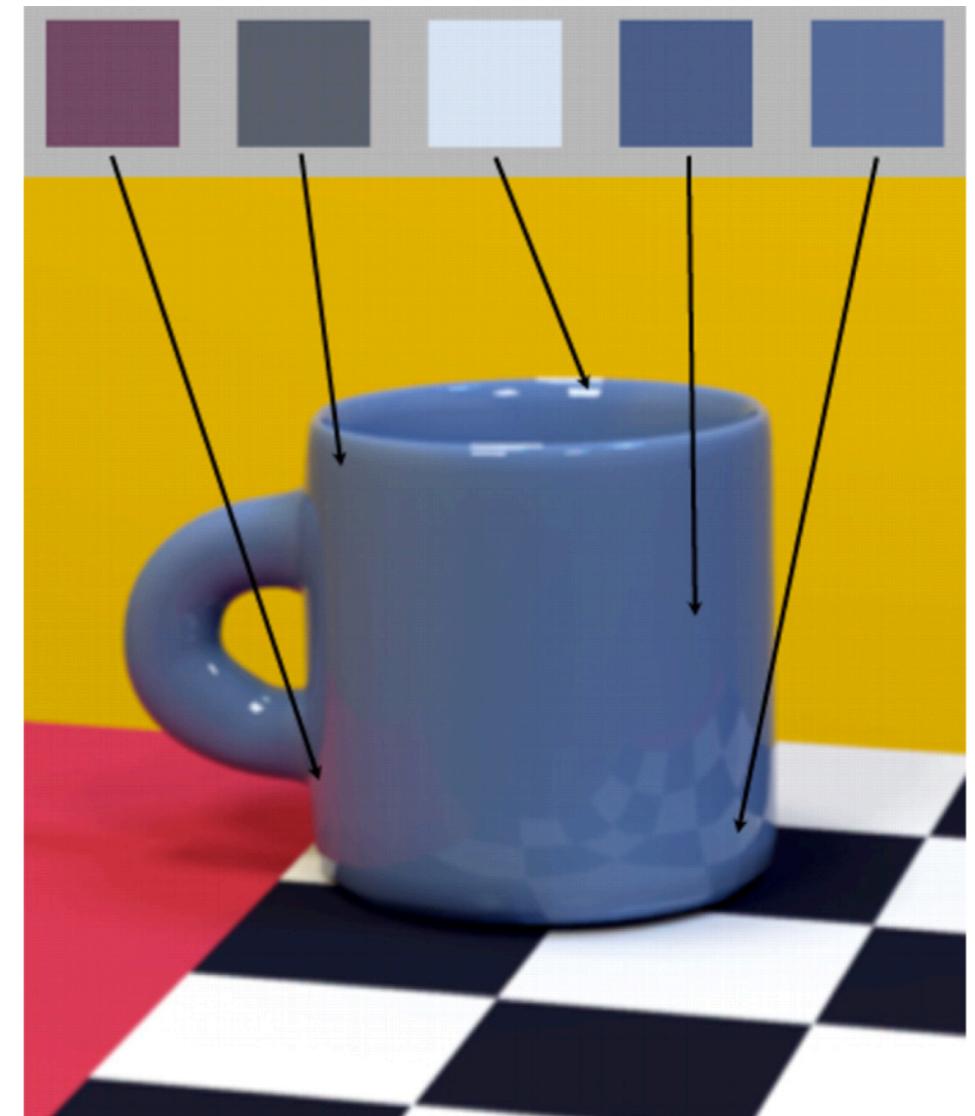
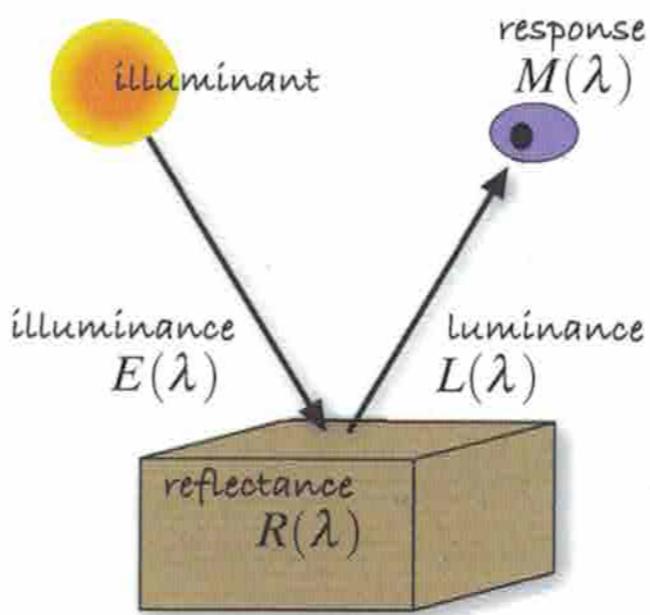


**G**  
(R=0,B=0)



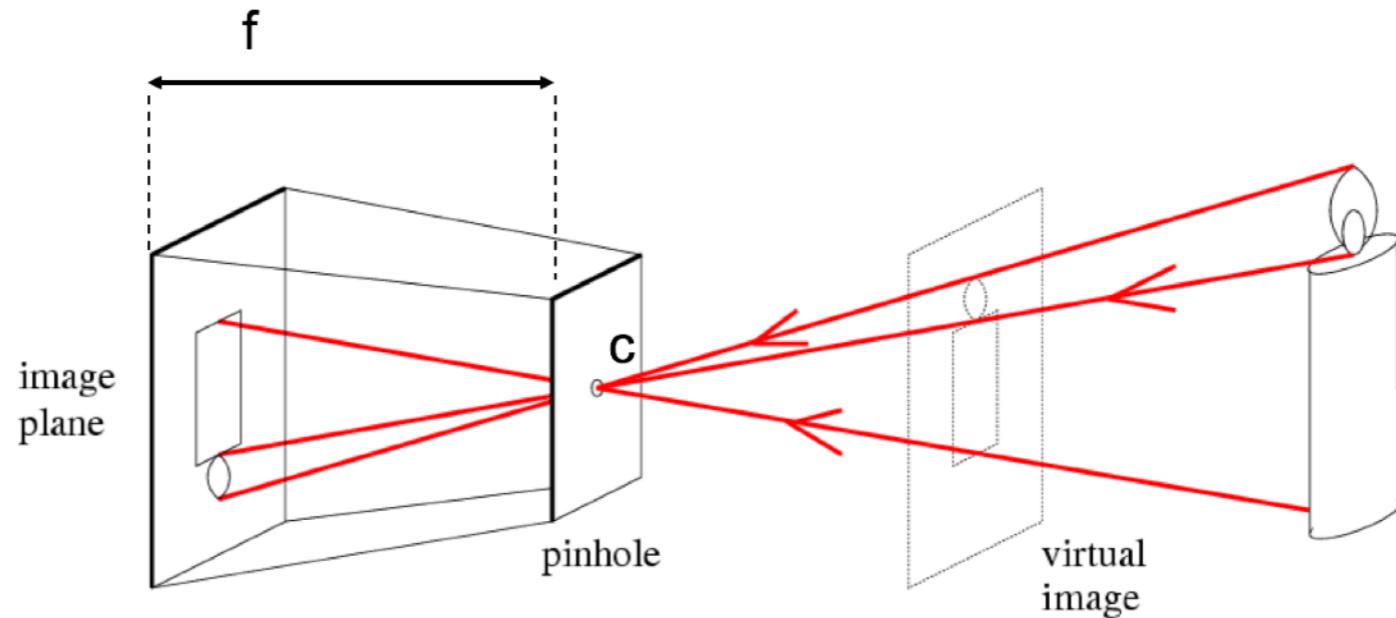
**B**  
(R=0,G=0)

Perceived appearance is the result of (i) geometry, (ii) illumination, (iii) material properties

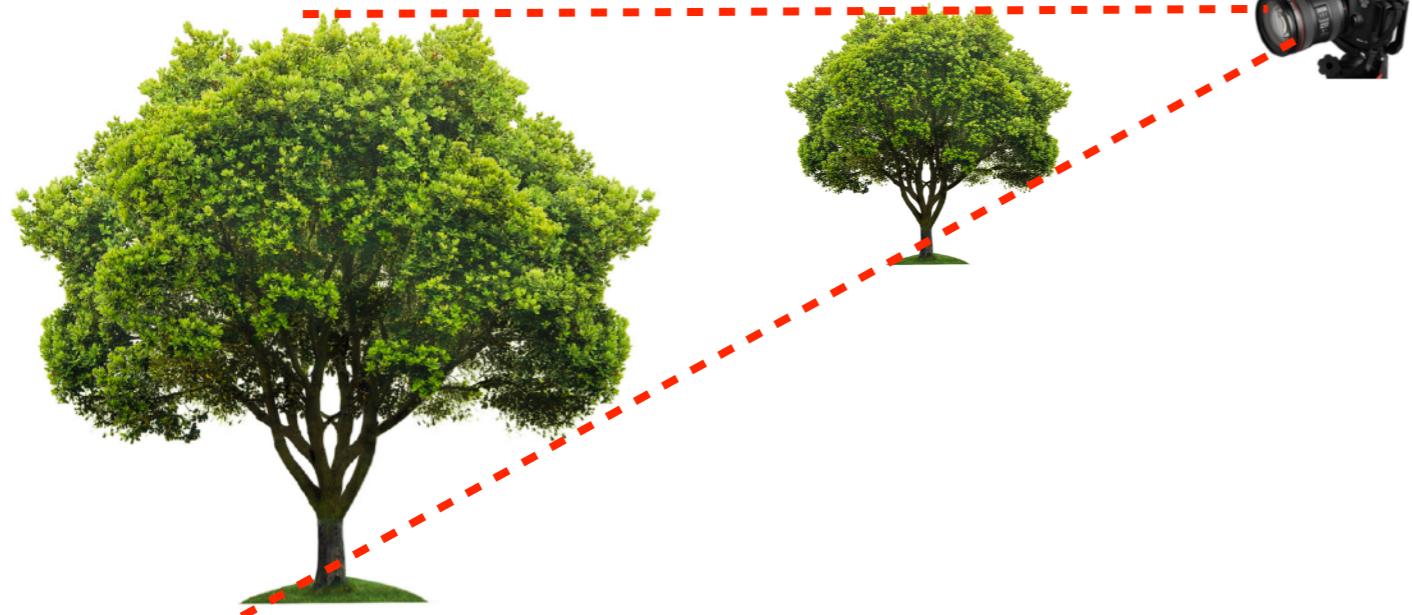


# Perspective Projection

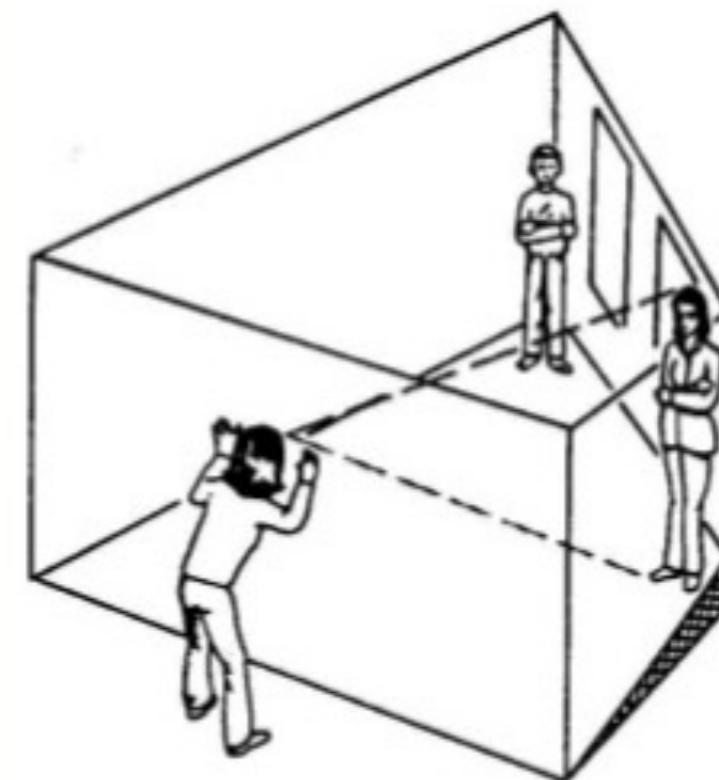
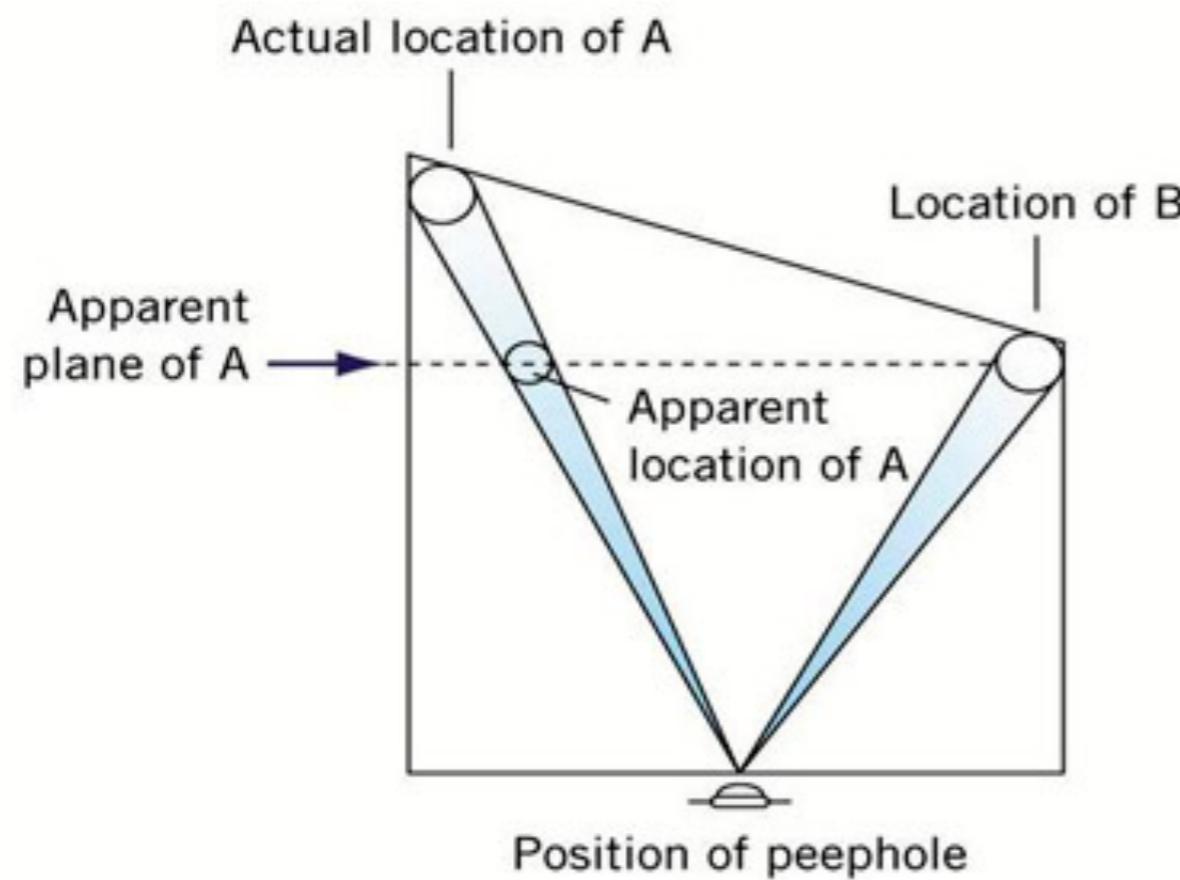
- what is lost?
  - depth?



$f$  = focal length  
 $c$  = center of the camera



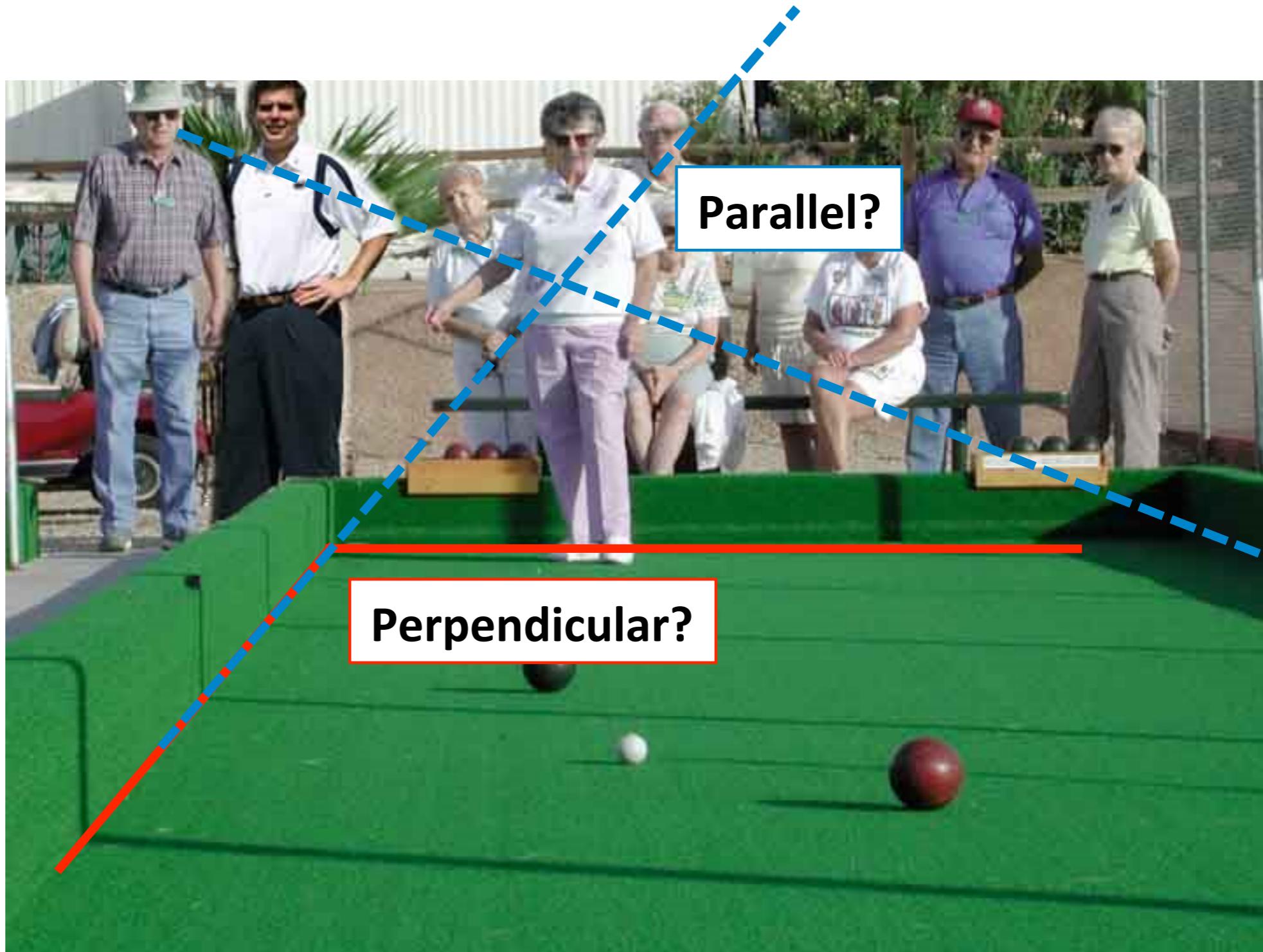
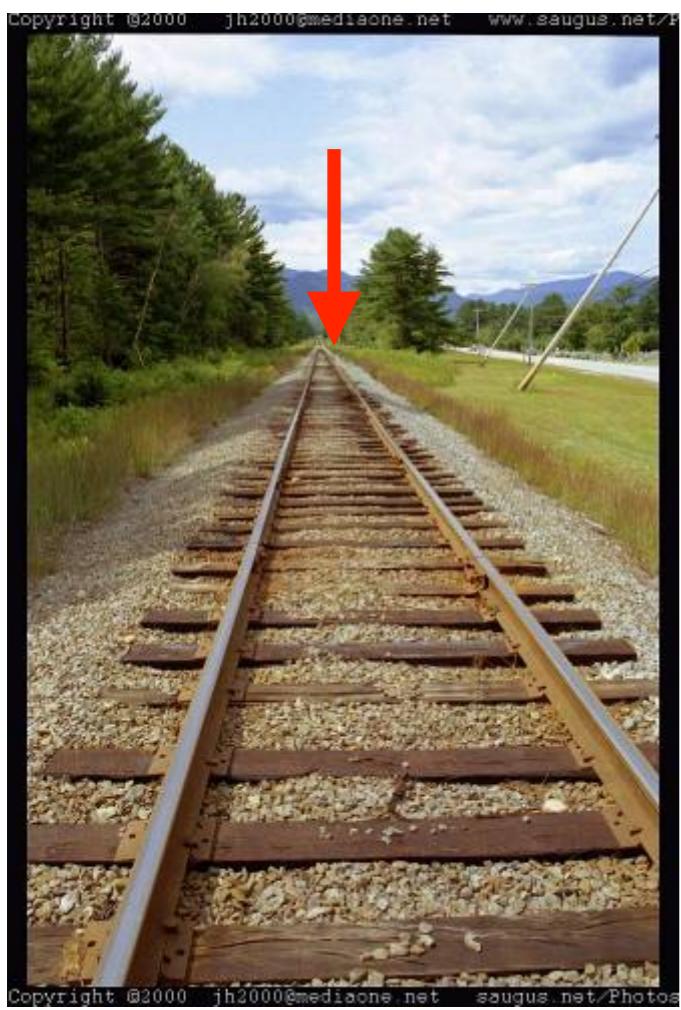
# Ames Room



Ames, 1946

# Perspective Projection

- what is lost?
  - depth?
  - length?
  - angles?



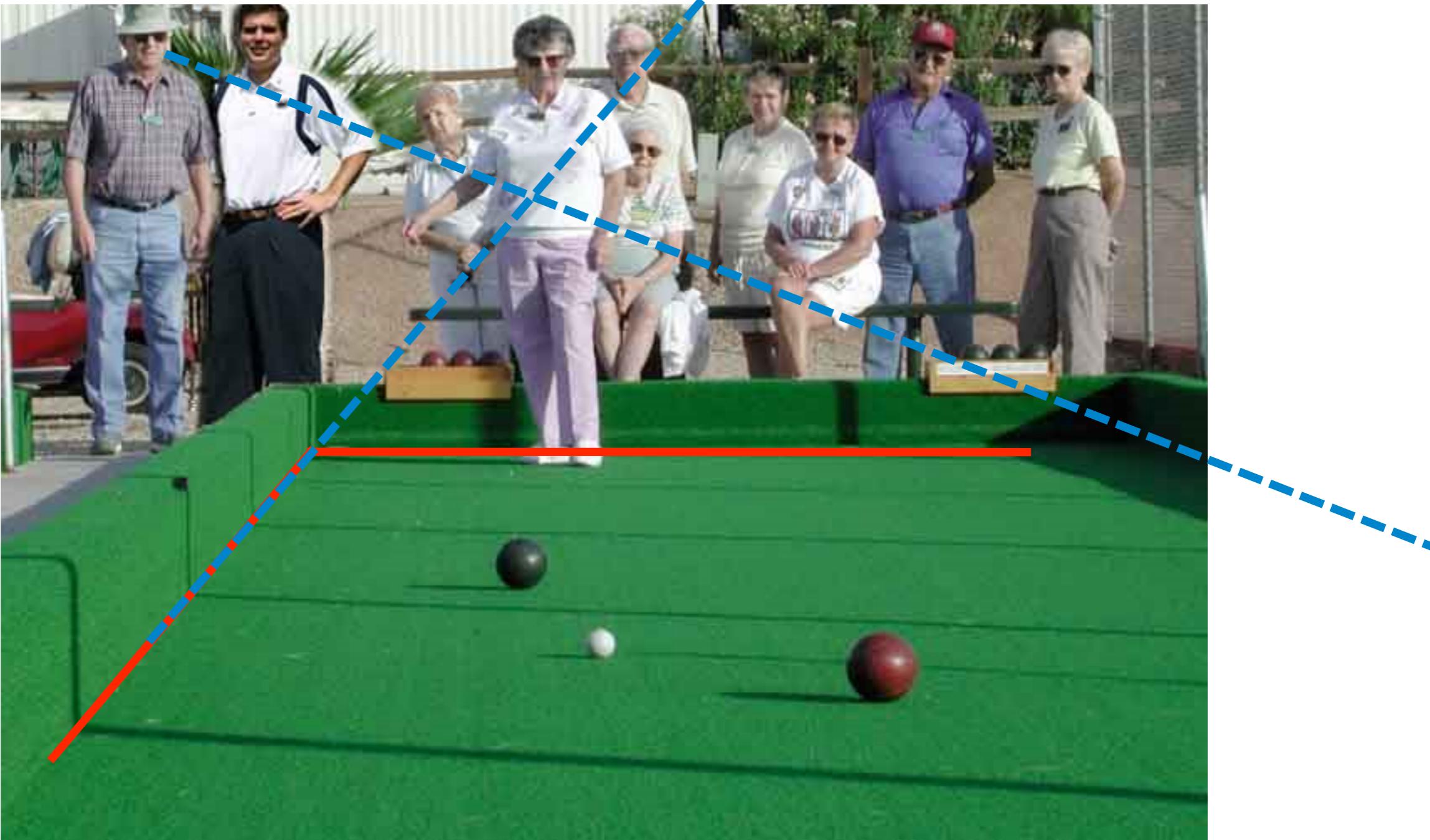
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Parallel lines which intersect ...

Slide adapted from  
Frank Dellaert

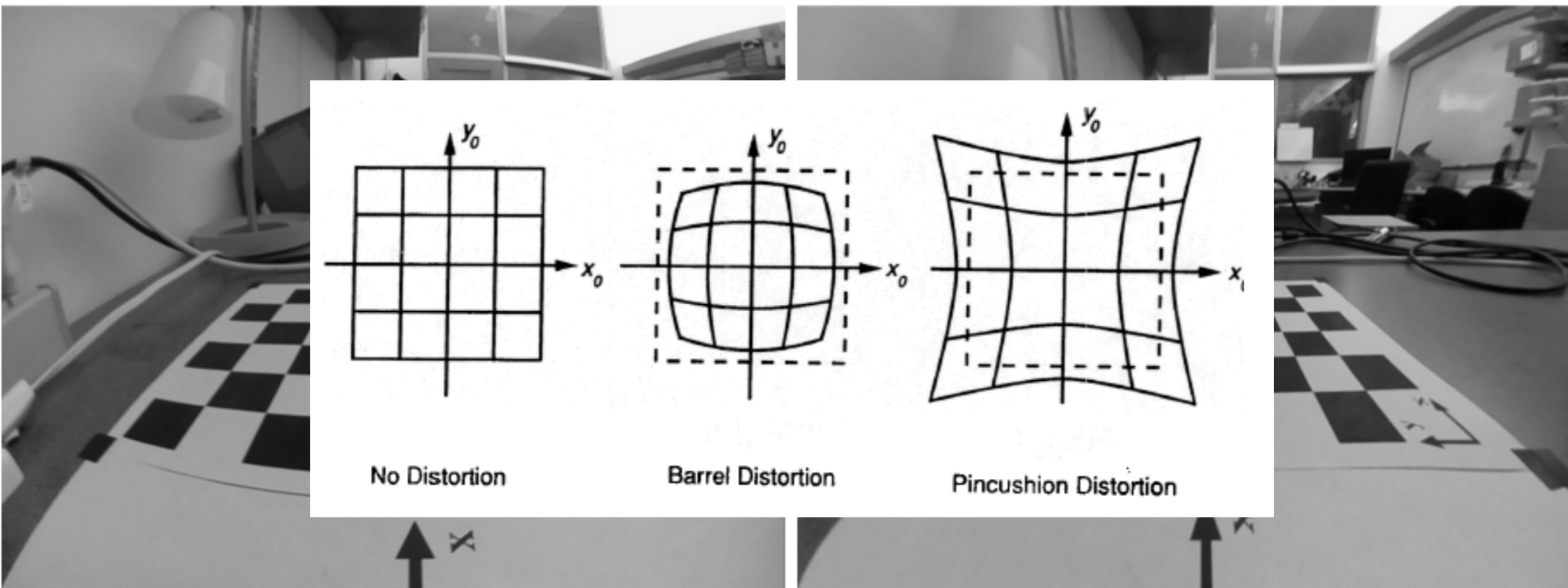
# Perspective Projection

- what is preserved?
  - straight lines remain straight



# The final Touch: Adding a Lens

- Pinhole model is based on the geometry of the **camera obscura**
- In practice: add a **lens** in front of the aperture to capture more light
- Pinhole model holds, but **distortion** may appear due lens imperfections



- distortion can be described mathematically using **distortion parameters**
- can be estimated during calibration and compensated for (**undistortion**)