

- 1 2D points
- 2 Lines and Points in 2D
- 3 Perspective projection
- 4 Image Formation: The Pin-Hole Camera

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- Image points are 2-dimensional

$$\mathbf{x} = (x, y)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

- ## ■ Homogeneous Coordinates

- Vectors that differ only by scale are equivalent

$$\tilde{X} = (\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}, 1)^T \in \mathbb{P}^2$$

- \mathbb{P}^2 is the 2D projective space

- $(10, 20, 1)^T \equiv (30, 60, 3)^T \equiv (5, 10, \frac{1}{2})^T$

- Every point has infinite representations

- A homogenous vector \tilde{x} can be converted to non-homogeneous coordinates by dividing by \tilde{w}

$$\tilde{x} = (\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}, \tilde{w})^T = \tilde{w}(x, y, 1) = \tilde{w}\bar{x}, \quad x = \frac{\tilde{x}}{\tilde{w}}, y = \frac{\tilde{y}}{\tilde{w}}$$

Ideal Points

- Ideal points: when $\tilde{w} = 0$
- They define a direction from origin
- They do not have a non-homogeneous equivalent
- The ideal points in homogeneous coordinates are used to represent directions or points at infinity in projective geometry.

Projective space \mathbb{P}^2

- Every coordinate is defined by a 3D-vector
- The first two elements of the vector define its **direction only** (outward from origin)
- Each point in non-homogeneous coordinates has a whole equivalent class of points in homogeneous coordinates
- Point $(0, 0, 0)^T$ does not define a direction, hence is excluded from \mathbb{P}^2

$$\mathbb{P}^2 = \mathbb{R}^3 - (0, 0, 0)^T$$

How projective space is different from Euclidean space?

Projective space points at infinity whereas Euclidean space is a flat space

Why Projective Geometry?

There are four reason:

- Camera is a projective engine
 - Points at infinity are handled
 - Algebra is simpler than usual
 - It is the most general framework to work in
- Projective space contains Affine space
 - Affine or Euclidean upgrades can be made if required



You can consider affine space as the "finite" part of projective space, while projective space includes both finite and infinite points

3D Points

- World points are 3-dimensional

- In homogeneous coordinates

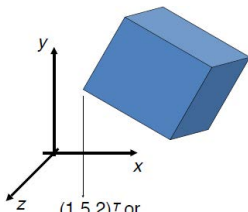
$$\mathbf{x} = (x, y, z)^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

- Homogeneous coordinates for 3D representation

- Vectors that differ only by scale are equivalent

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = (\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z}, \tilde{w})^T \in \mathbb{P}^3$$

$$\mathbb{P}^3 = \mathbb{R}^4 - (0, 0, 0, 0)^T$$



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Lines in 2D

- Equation of line in 2D

$$ax + by + c = 0$$

- Thus, a line can be represented by vector $(a, b, c)^T$
- $(a, b, c)^T$ and $k(a, b, c)^T$ mean the same line for $k \neq 0$
- Thus lines can be represented by equivalence classes of vectors in $\mathbb{R}^3 - (0, 0, 0)^T$ i.e., Projective space \mathbb{P}^2

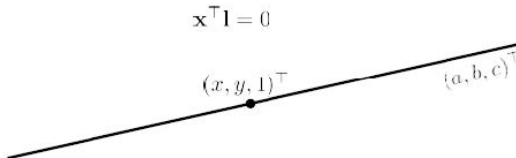
Point on a line

- 2D point $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)^T$
- Point will lie on line iff $ax + by + c = 0$
- This can be written as inner product¹
$$(x, y, 1)(a, b, c)^T = 0$$
$$(x, y, 1)l = 0$$
- Any non-zero k can be multiplied to the point, without loss of generality
- Hence points can also be represented as homogeneous vectors

¹Inner product measures the projection of one vector onto another

Point on a line

- Point \mathbf{x} lies on line l iff

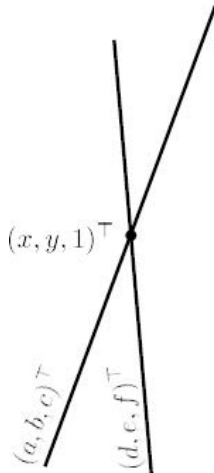


- Even though \mathbf{x} and l are 3D-vectors, they have 2 degrees of freedom² each

²a line is specified by two parameters (the two independent ratios $\{a : b : c\}$) and so has two degrees of freedom

Intersection of Two Lines-Projective Space

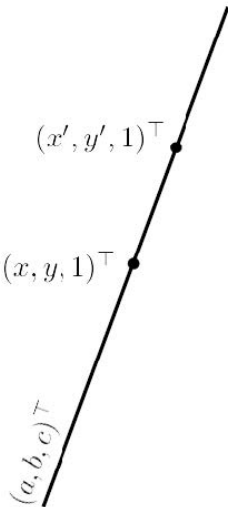
- Two lines will intersect at a point
- Let l and l' intersect at point, \mathbf{x}
- Then $l \times l' = \mathbf{x}$
- Proof:
 - The point \mathbf{x} lies on both l and l' .
Therefore
$$\mathbf{x}^T l = 0$$
$$\mathbf{x}^T l' = 0$$
 - This is non-trivially possible only when \mathbf{x} is orthogonal to both l and l' .



The cross product of two vectors equal to zero implies that the two vectors are either parallel or antiparallel to each other.

Line joining two points

- Two points lie on a line
- Let \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}' lie on line l
- Then $\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}' = l$
- Proof:
 - The line l passes through both \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}'
Therefore
$$l^T \mathbf{x} = 0$$
$$l^T \mathbf{x}' = 0$$
 - This is non-trivially possible only when l is orthogonal to both \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{x}' .



Intersection of Parallel Lines

- Consider two parallel lines³

$$l : ax + by + c = 0$$

$$l' : ax + by + c' = 0$$

- Computing intersection (as before)

$$l \times l' = (c' - c)(b, -a, 0)^T$$

- Thus, point of intersection

$$(b, -a, 0)^T$$

- Converting to non-homogeneous coordinates:

$$\left(\frac{b}{0}, -\frac{a}{0}\right)^T$$

- Hence Parallel lines intersect at ideal points

³For parallel lines, the slope of both lines will be the same, but the intercept values may differ.

Ideal Points lie on a line

- Recall that all parallel lines intersect at an ideal point or point at infinity, of the form $(x, y, 0)^T$
- Consider two such ideal points:

$$\mathbf{x} = (x, y, 0)^T$$
$$\mathbf{x}' = (x', y', 0)^T$$

- The line joining them is given by:

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

or

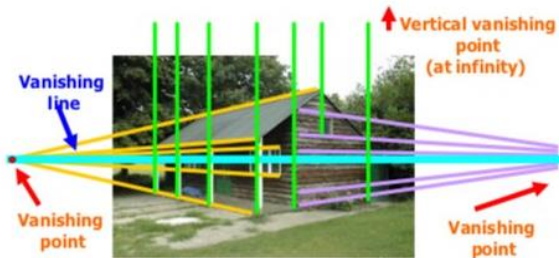
$$l = (0, 0, xy' - yx')^T = (0, 0, 1)^T$$

- Thus, all points at infinity lie on a single line, the **line at infinity**

$$l_{\infty} = (0, 0, 1)^T$$

Line at infinity

- Any line $l : (a, b, c)^T$ intersects l_∞ at $(b, -a, 0)^T$
- Any line parallel to l , i.e., $l' : (a, b, c')^T$ will intersect l_∞ also at $(b, -a, 0)^T$
- In non-homogeneous coordinates, $(b, -a)^T$ represents line direction
- Hence, as line direction varies, its intersection with l_∞ varies.
- Line at infinity is the set of directions for lines in a plane



Duality

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &\longleftrightarrow \mathbf{l} \\ \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{l} = 0 &\longleftrightarrow \mathbf{l}^\top \mathbf{x} = 0 \\ \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{l} &\longleftrightarrow \mathbf{l} \times \mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

Duality theorem: To any theorem of 2-dimensional projective geometry, there corresponds a dual theorem, which may be derived by interchanging the role of points and lines in the original theorem

Example

Consider the two lines are parallel, and consequently intersect "at infinity". In homogeneous notation the lines are $l = (-1, 0, 1)^T$, $l = (-1, 0, 2)^T$ and find their intersection point⁴.

Result: The point at infinity in the direction of the y-axis.

An aerial photograph of a complex railway yard. The yard features numerous tracks, some straight and some curved, with various switches and crossings. A central control building with a yellow staircase is prominent. Surrounding the yard are several large, multi-story urban buildings. A train is visible on the right side of the tracks.

An aerial photograph of a city streetcar system. The tracks curve through the scene, with a streetcar visible on the right. Two yellow crosshair markers are placed on the tracks: one on the left track and one on the right track. In the background, there are several multi-story buildings, including one with a large 'TREX' sign. A small white building with a sign that says 'Tower 10' is on the left.

An aerial photograph of a complex railway yard, likely in an urban setting. The image shows a dense network of tracks, including straight sections and large curved loops. A central signal box or control room is visible, with a yellow crosshair marking a specific location on the tracks near it. Two yellow lines are drawn on the tracks, extending from the signal box area towards the right side of the frame. The surrounding area includes various buildings, some with graffiti, and a road with parked cars on the left. The overall scene depicts a busy and intricate rail infrastructure.

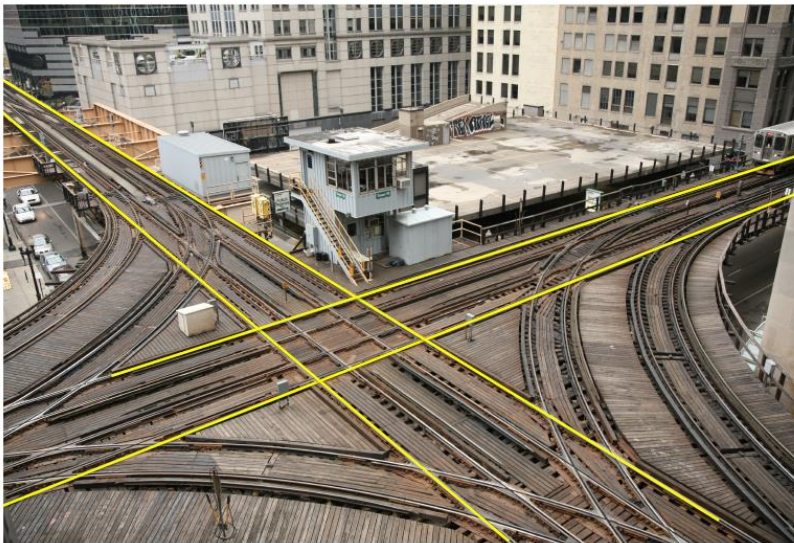
A photograph of a multi-story building with a yellow line highlighting a vertical strip of windows. A train is visible on tracks in the foreground, and a parking lot is to the left.

An aerial photograph of a complex railway yard. The yard features numerous tracks, some straight and some curved, with a dense network of overhead power lines and cables. A central control building with a yellow staircase is visible. The surrounding area includes urban buildings and a parking lot with several cars. A yellow line is drawn across the tracks in the lower right quadrant.

Example

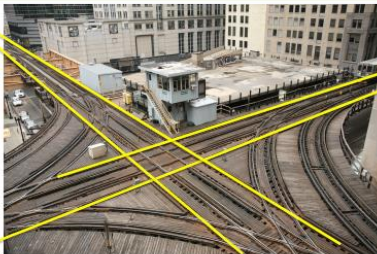


Example



Example

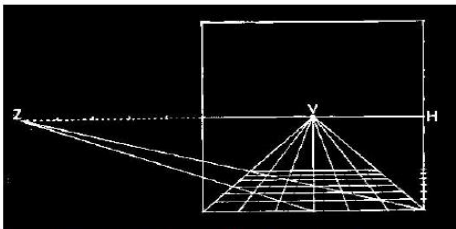
Reading: Section 2.2.1: Multi View Geometry by Andrew Zisserman



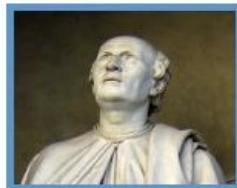
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Fillippo Brunelleschi

- Architect, 1377-1446 AD
- Founding father of Renaissance
- Discovered the vanishing point/line
- Formulated the notion that linear perspective governed the pictorial representation of space

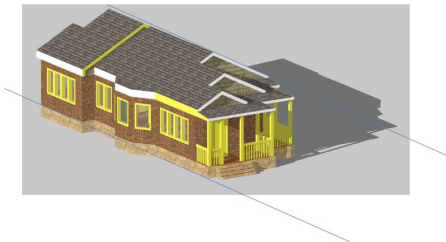


Slide adapted from: A Brief History of Computer Vision,
Presentation by Prof Yaser Sheikh, CMU

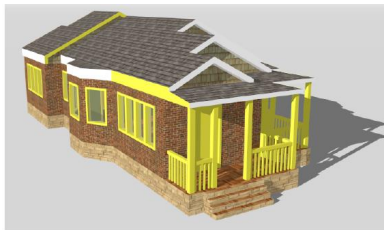


Types of projection

Orthographic



Perspective



With perspective



Changing the Focal Length of the Lens

- Wide-angle portraits can look wonky
- Nose is nearest to camera and looks bigger
- Ears and hair are further away and look smaller



Wide-angle



Standard



Telephoto

Changing the Focal Length of the Lens

Perspective Distortion

- **Perspective distortion:** The effect that further away objects appear smaller in size
- As focal length increases (more zoom), perspective distortion becomes less
- Orthographic camera can be considered as being very far away (so no variation in Z) and having very long focal length ($\frac{f}{Z} = 1$), and hence zero perspective distortion



Changing the Focal Length of the Lens

- If focal length is small then perspective projection (wider field of view)
- If focal length reaches infinity then all rays become parallel resulting in orthographic projections

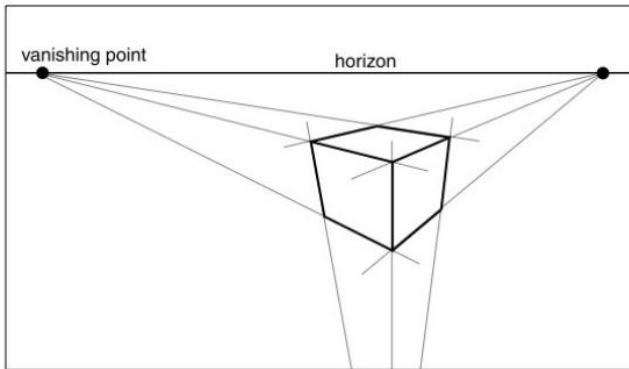


Top: Wide-angle ($f = 24\text{mm}$)
Bottom: Telephoto ($f = 392\text{mm}$)
(sensor: 35mm film)

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Three-point Perspective

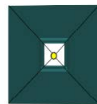
In perspective view parallel lines will meet at a point called **vanishing point**. Every set of parallel lines has its own vanishing point. The lines parallel to ground will meet at **horizon**.



Three-point Perspective

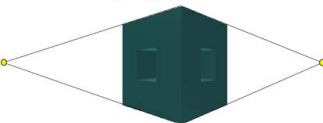
Conditions for 1,2 and 3 point perspective projections

1 Point: Image plane or film should be parallel to one of the faces (2-axis are parallel to object axis)



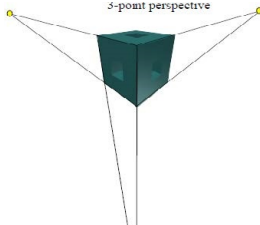
1-point perspective

2 Point: Vertical axis of the film is same as the vertical axis of the object



2-point perspective
3-point perspective

3 Point: None of the axis is parallel



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Camera obscura: dark room

Known during classical period in China and Greece (e.g., Mozi, China, 470BC to 390BC)

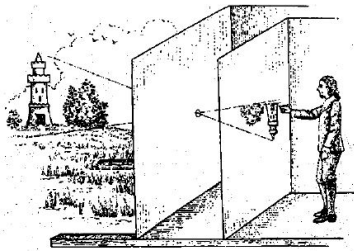


Illustration of Camera Obscura

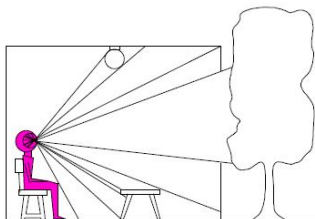


Freestanding camera obscura at UNC Chapel Hill

Photo by Seth Ilys

Camera: A Dimensionality Reduction Machine (3D to 2D)

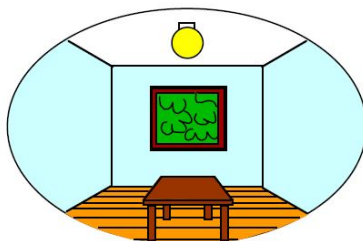
3D world



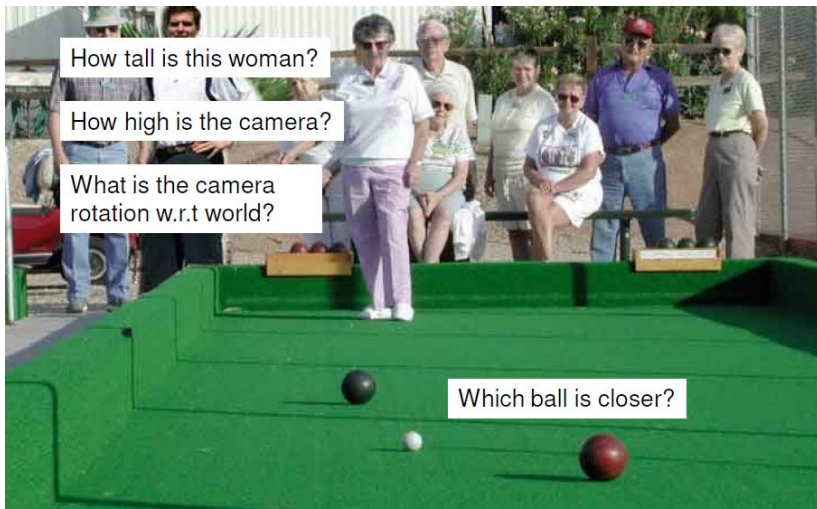
Point of observation



2D image



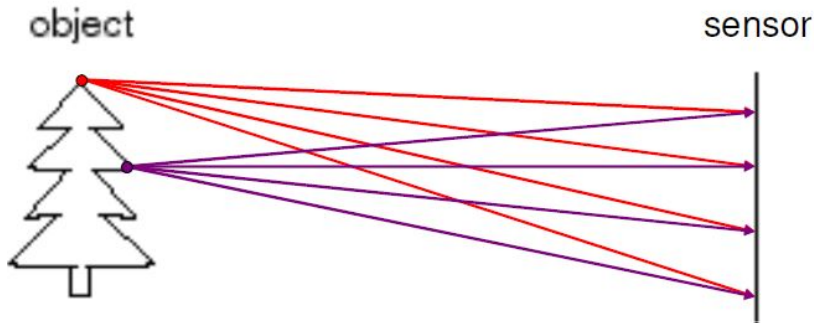
Cameras and World Geometry



Let's design a camera

Let's design a camera

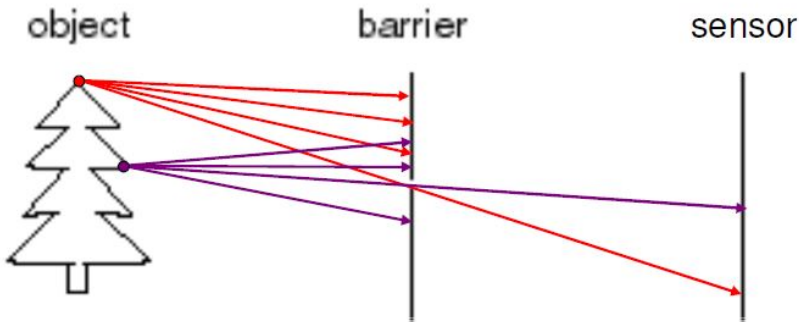
Do we get a reasonable image?



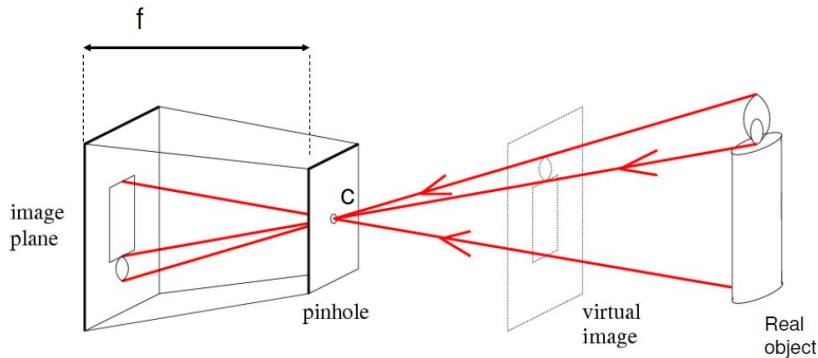
Blurry / hazy image

Let's design a camera

- Idea 2: Add a barrier to block most rays
 - Pinhole in barrier
 - Only sense light from one direction.
 - Reduces blurring.
 - In most cameras, this aperture can vary in size.



Pinhole camera model



f = Focal length

c = Optical center of the camera

Projective geometry

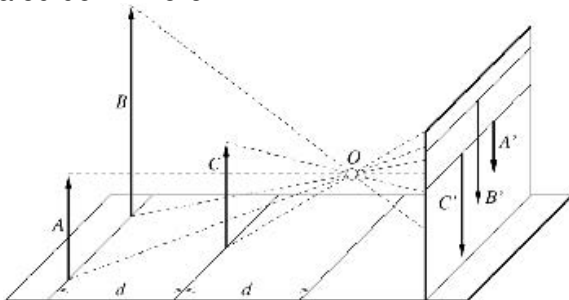
Length (and so area) is lost.



Projective geometry

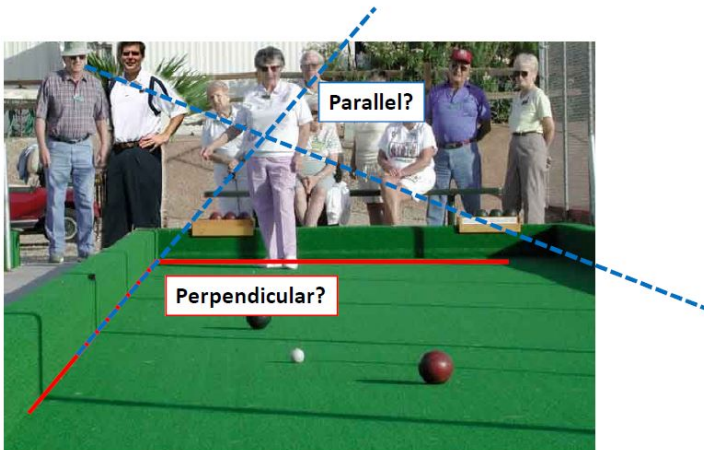
Length and area are not preserved

- Nonlinear transformation: an object with greater height but farther from the camera compared to object nearer the camera will be scaled down more



Projective geometry

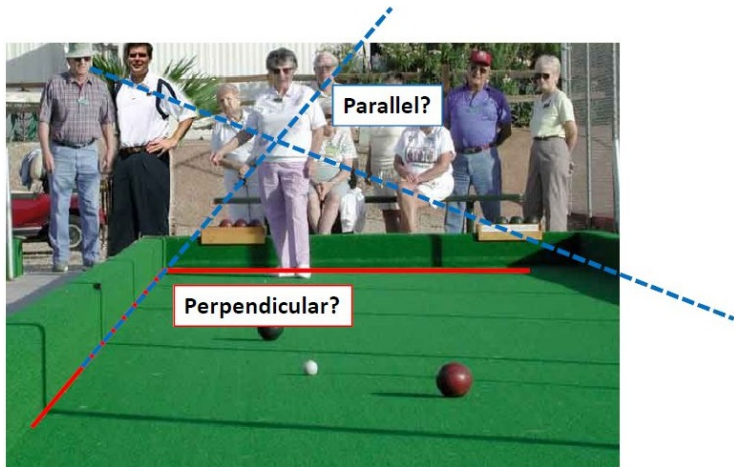
Angles are lost.



Projective geometry

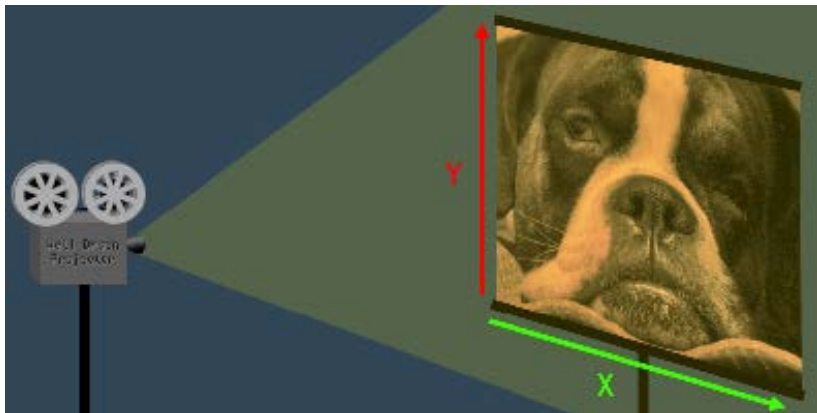
What is preserved?

- Straight lines are still straight.



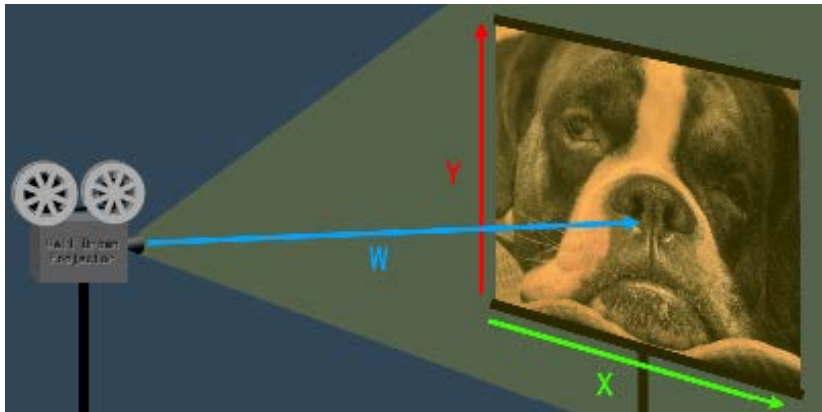
Projective geometry

- 2D point in Euclidean plane = (x,y) coordinates
- 2D point in projective plane = (x,y,w) coordinates



Projective geometry

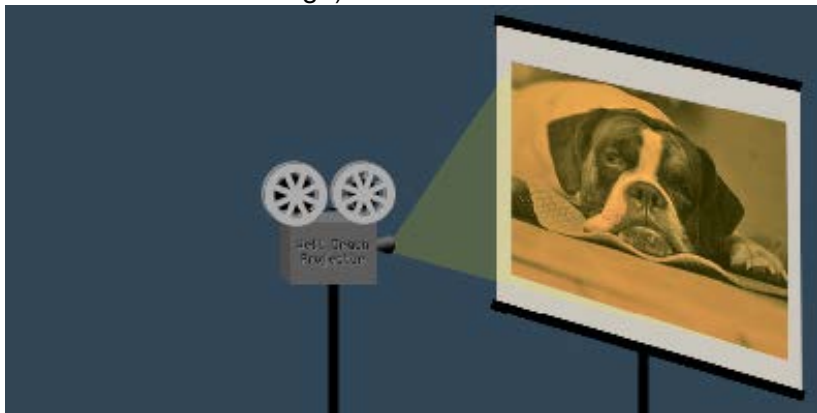
- 2D point in Euclidean plane = (x,y) coordinates
- 2D point in projective plane = (x,y,w) coordinates (one additional dimension / parameter)



Projective geometry

Varying w

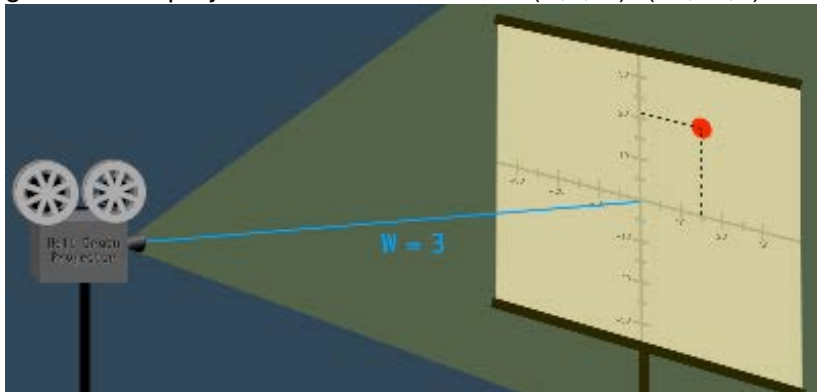
As w becomes smaller, projected image becomes smaller (i.e., w affects scale of the image).



Projective geometry

Varying w

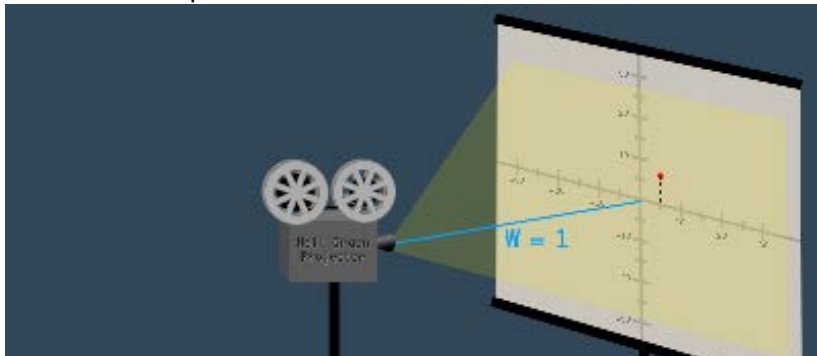
Assume the projector is 3 meters away from the screen, and there is a dot on the 2D image at the coordinate (15,21). This gives us the projective coordinate vector $(X,Y,W)=(15,21,3)$



Projective geometry

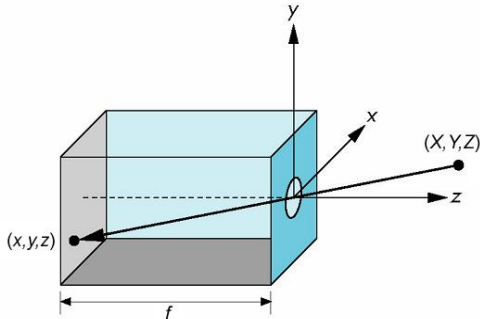
Varying w

Now, the projector is pushed closer to the screen so that the distance is 1 meter. The location of the point is then:
 $(15/3, 21/3, 3/3) = (5, 7, 1)$, i.e, the dot is now at coordinate (5,7) in the Euclidean plane.



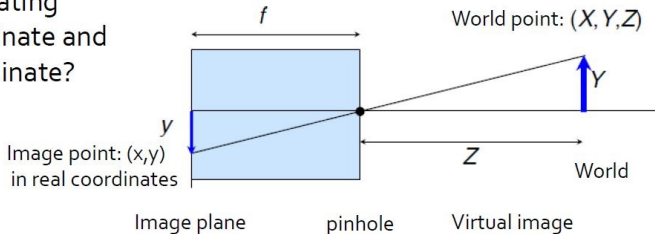
Projective geometry

- Orient along z-axis
- World point (X, Y, Z) [in world coordinates]
- Image point at (x, y, z) [in real world coordinates]



Perspective transform

Equation relating
world coordinate and
image coordinate?



$$\frac{-y}{Y} = \frac{f}{Z}$$

$$y = -\frac{fY}{Z}$$

$$x = -\frac{fX}{Z}$$

It is customary to use a negative sign to indicate that the image is always formed upside down

Perspective transform

Representation in homogeneous coordinates

We can write this as a matrix using the homogeneous coordinates

$$\begin{bmatrix} hx \\ hy \\ h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{f} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$hx = X, hy = Y, h = -\frac{Z}{f}$$

$$x = -\frac{fX}{Z}, y = -\frac{fY}{Z}$$

Perspective transform

Representation in homogeneous coordinates

Any scaling of a homogeneous transform is equivalent

$$\begin{bmatrix} hx \\ hy \\ h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{f} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is equivalent to

$$\begin{bmatrix} hx \\ hy \\ h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & f & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = PX$$

Central projection

- The camera can be more compactly written as

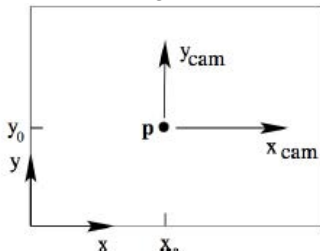
$$x = PX$$

- where P is a 3×4 matrix that maps from $\mathbb{P}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$
- P may also be written as:

$$P = \text{diag}(f, f, 1)[I|0]$$

Principal point offset

- The expression assumes that $P = \text{diag}(f, f, 1) [I | 0]$ image origin is at the principal point.
- This may not be the case in general. For example:



- If the image coordinates of the principal point are $(p_x, p_y)^T$, then the camera mapping will be

$$(X, Y, Z)^T \rightarrow \left(\frac{fX}{Z} + p_x, \frac{fY}{Z} + p_y \right)^T$$

Principal point offset

More General Perspective Camera Model

■ General Perspective Transform

$$\begin{bmatrix} hx \\ hy \\ h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_x f & 0 & p_x & 0 \\ 0 & m_y f & p_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

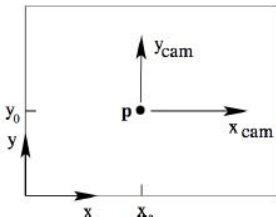
■ m_x and m_y are scaling, to convert to pixels

- m_x = number of pixels in x direction i.e., pixels per unit length in x direction
- m_y = number of pixels in y direction, i.e., pixels per unit length in y direction

■ p_x and p_y are principal point offset

Principal point offset

We want the principal point to map to (p_x, p_y) instead of $(0, 0)$



$$(X, Y, Z)^T \rightarrow \left(\frac{fX}{Z} + p_x, \frac{fY}{Z} + p_y \right)^T$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} fX + Zp_x \\ fY + Zp_y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & p_x & 0 \\ 0 & f & p_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: f will be positive in canonical representation of the camera model where the projection of the world does not invert

Example

Perspective transform: This relates the camera frame to the real image frame

Example: I take the image of a person (2m tall) standing 4m away from the camera, with a 35mm camera using the geometry shown previously. How high will be the image?

Answer: $y = -(35)(2000)/4000 = -17.5mm$

i.e., the image will be formed inverted of the length 17.5mm

How to convert to pixel frame (i.e. what will be the coordinates of the head of the person in the image)?

Example

- Suppose I know that the size of the film is $8\text{cm} \times 6\text{cm}$, and that the resolution of the camera is 640×480 pixels
- Implies, the center of the image is at $4\text{cm} \times 3\text{cm}$ from the corner, and is at location $(320, 240)$ which represents the principal point offset
- 17.5mm out of 60mm is 140 out of 480 pixels
- Hence the coordinates of the head will be
 $(\text{same in } x, 240 - 140 \text{ in } y) = (320, 100)$