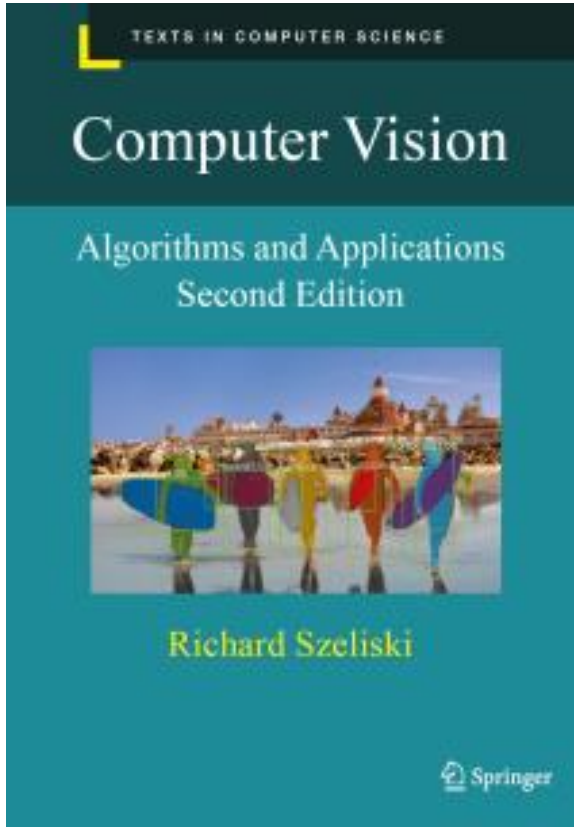
Computer Vision
Cameras

Source: S. Lazebnik

Important information



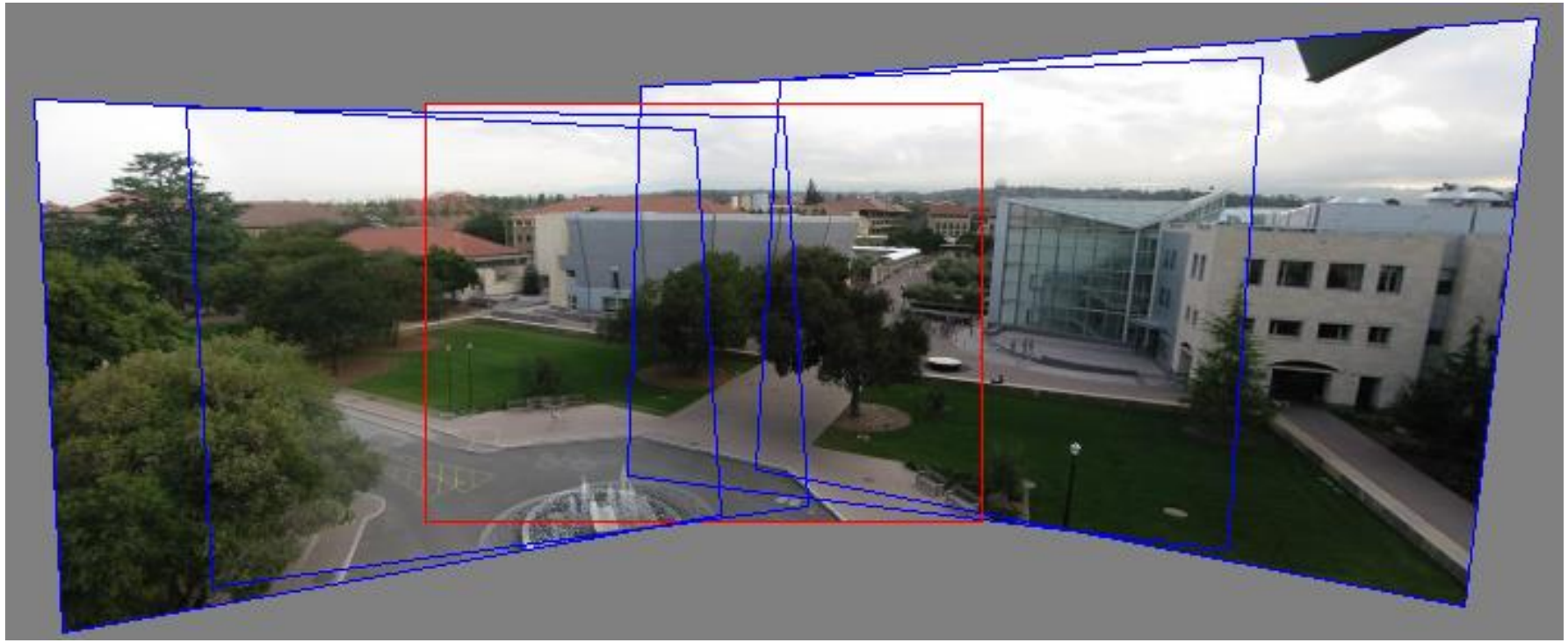
Textbook

Rick Szeliski, *Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications* online at: http://szeliski.org/Book/

Many of the slides in this course are modified from the excellent class notes of similar courses offered in other schools by Noah Snavely, Prof Yung-Yu Chuang, Fredo Durand, Alyosha Efros, Bill Freeman, James Hays, Svetlana Lazebnik, Andrej Karpathy, Fei-Fei Li, Srinivasa Narasimhan, Silvio Savarese, Steve Seitz, Richard Szeliski, and Li Zhang. The instructor is extremely thankful to the researchers for making their notes available online. Please feel free to use and modify any of the slides, but acknowledge the original sources where appropriate.

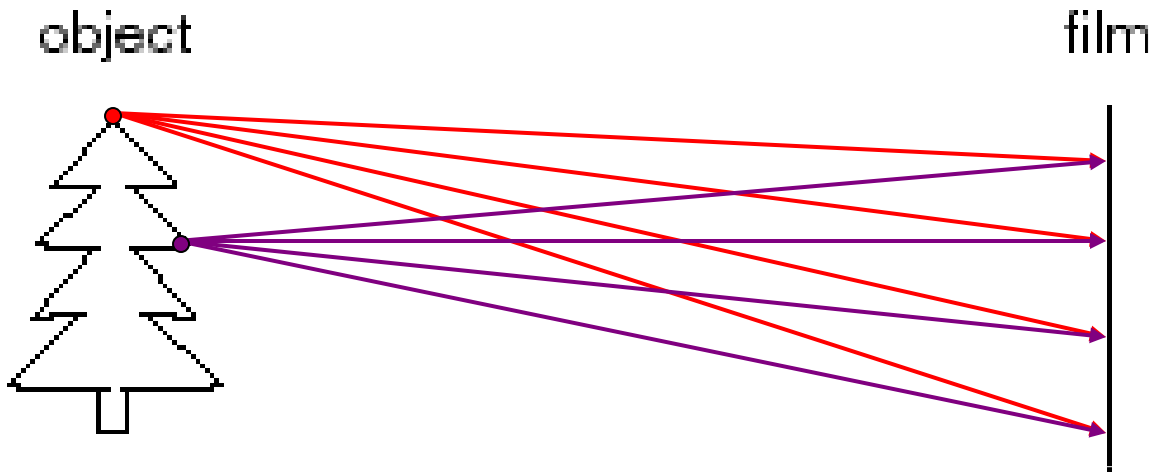
All readings are from Richard Szeliski, Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications, 2nd Edition, unless otherwise noted.

Can we use homographies to create a 360 panorama?



- In order to figure this out, we need to learn what a **camera** is

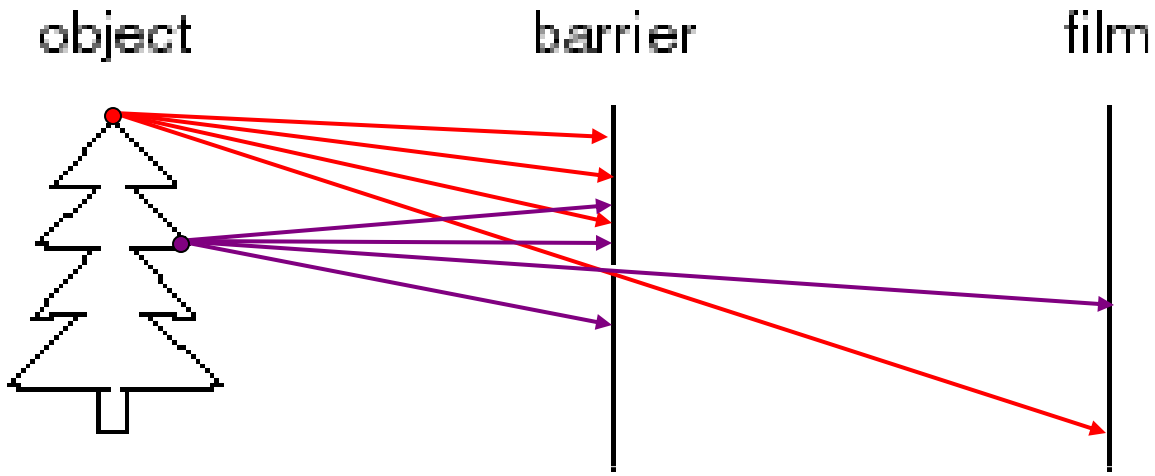
Image formation



Let’s design a camera

- Idea 1: put a piece of film in front of an object
- Do we get a reasonable image?
- No. This is a bad camera.

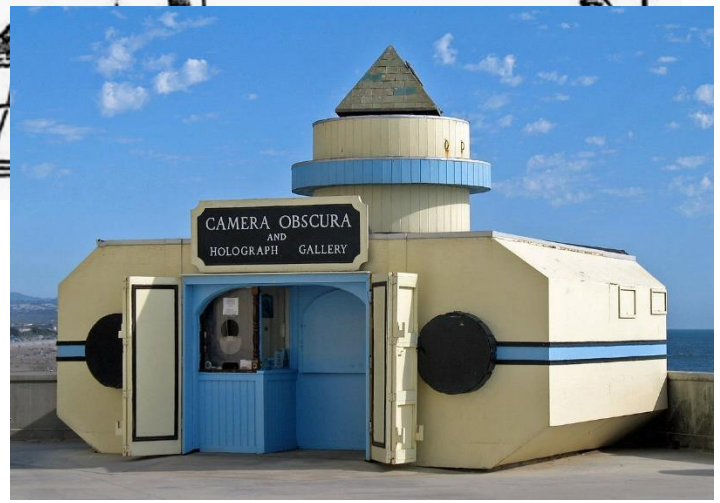
Pinhole camera



Add a barrier to block off most of the rays

- This reduces blurring
- The opening known as the **aperture**
- How does this transform the image?

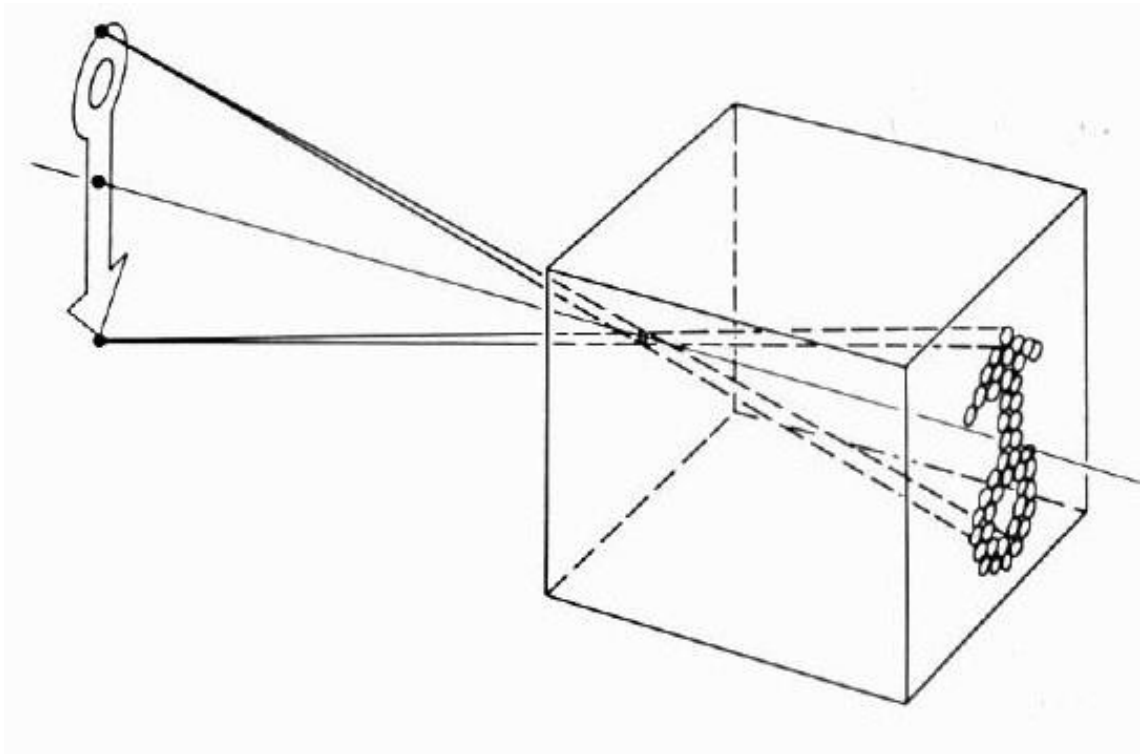
Camera Obscura



- Basic principle known to Mozi (470-390 BC), Aristotle (384-322 BC)
- Drawing aid for artists: described by Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

Source: A. Efros

Camera Obscura



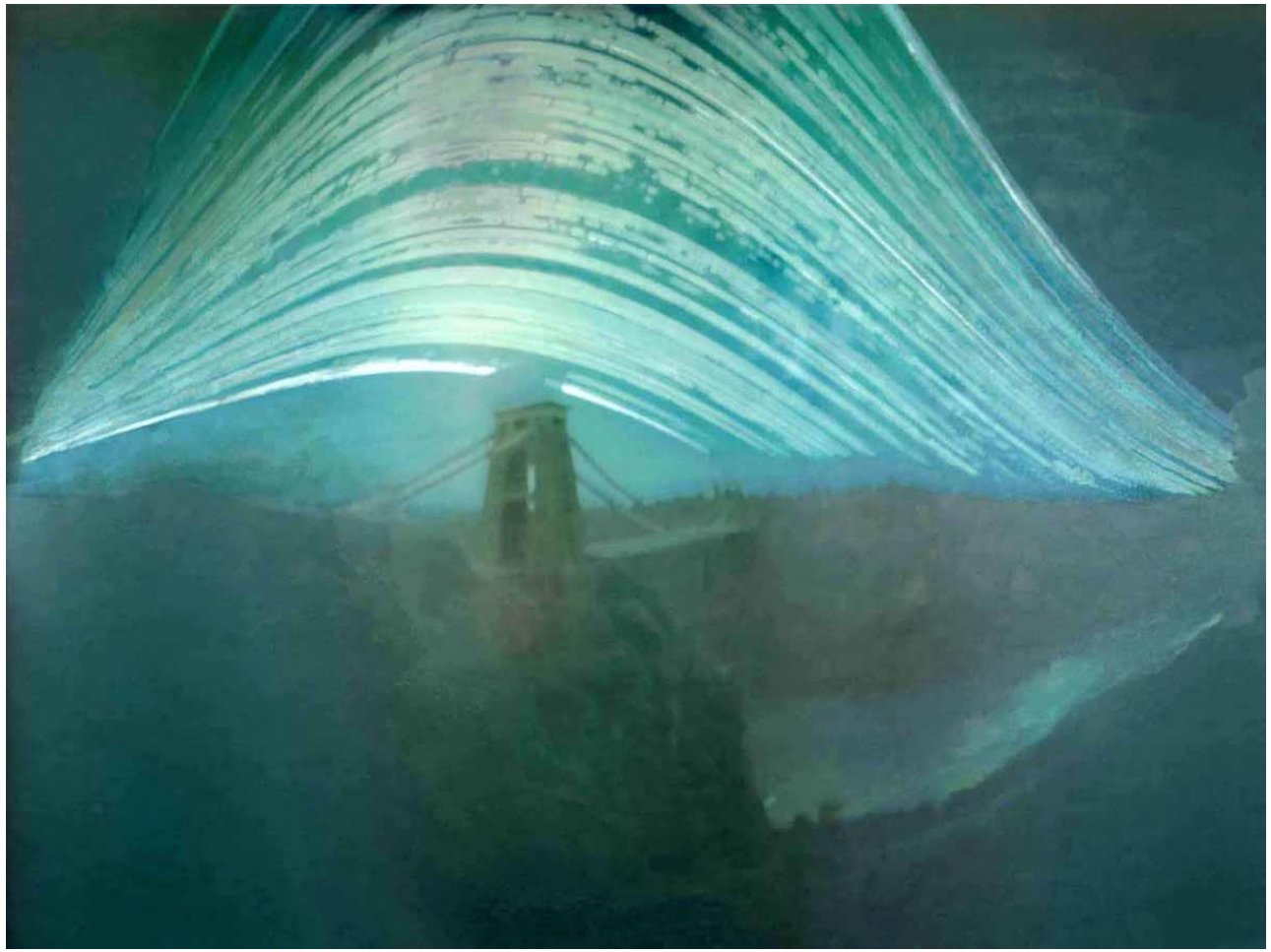
Home-made pinhole camera

Why so blurry?

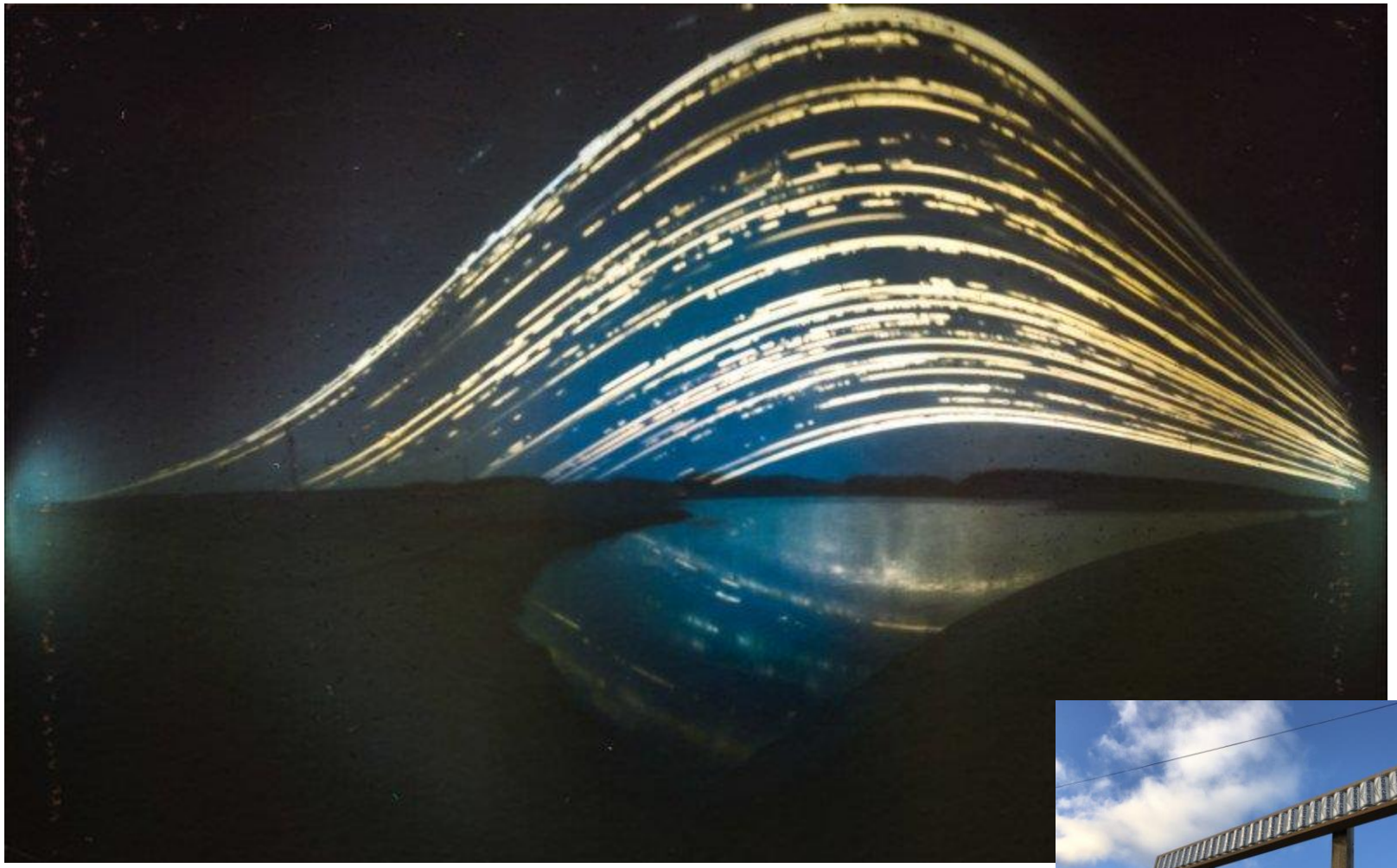
Slide by A. Efros

http://www.debevec.org/Pinhole/

Pinhole photography

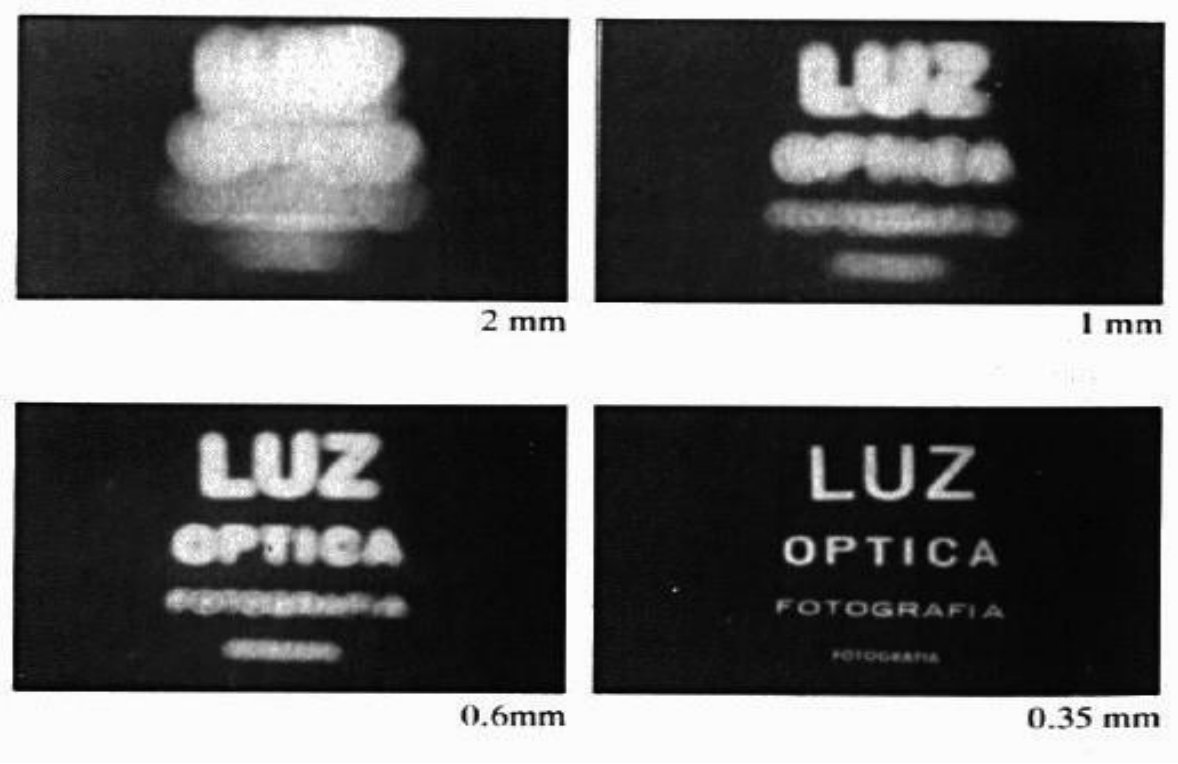


Justin Quinnell, The Clifton Suspension Bridge. December 17th 2007 - June 21st 2008
***6-month* exposure**



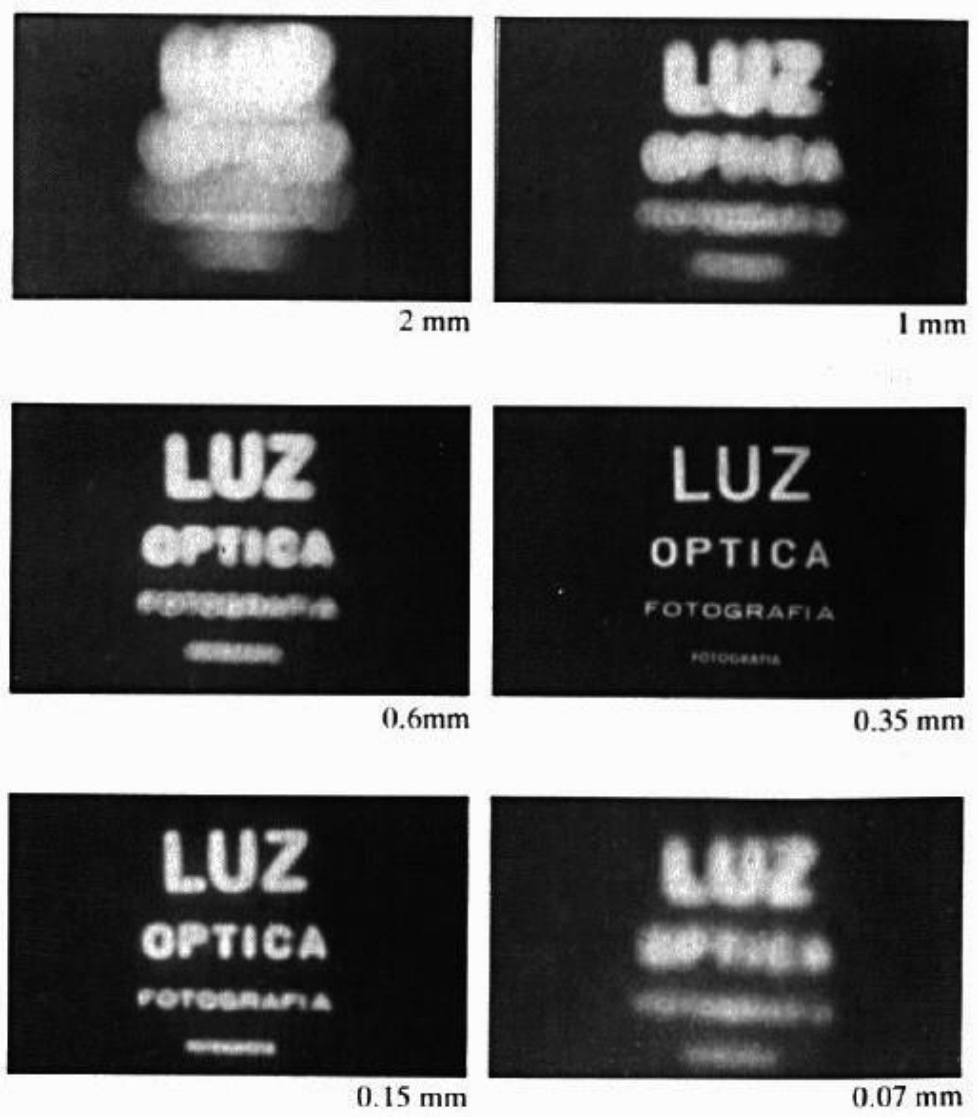
https://petapixel.com/2019/07/17/this-is-the-worlds-first-solargraphy-timelapse/

Shrinking the aperture

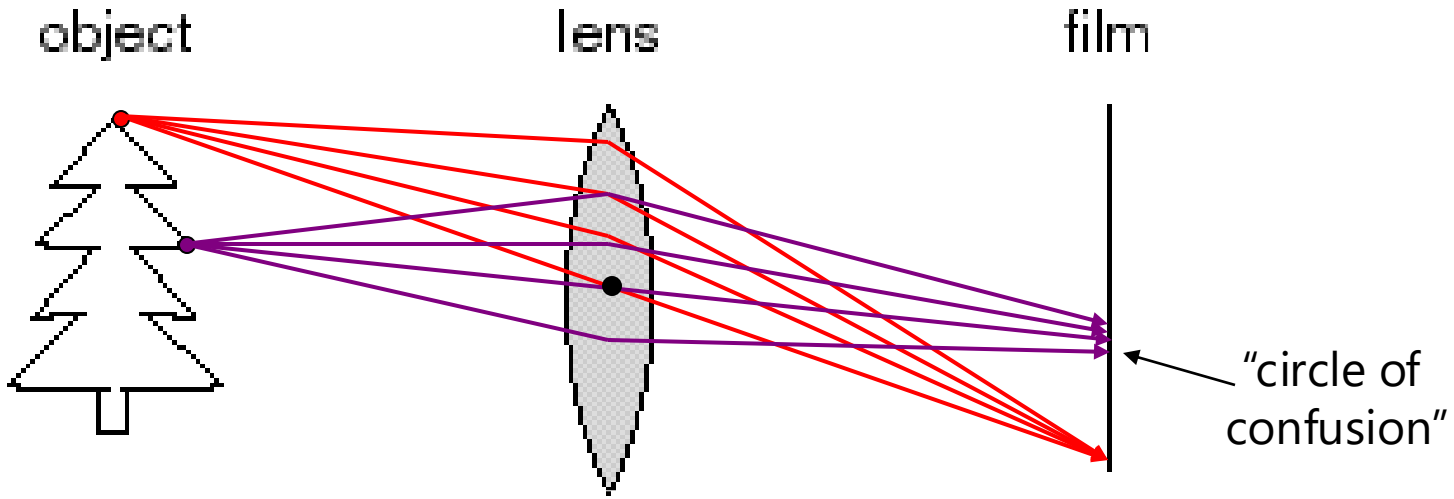


- Why not make the aperture as small as possible?
  - Less light gets through
  - *Diffraction* effects...

Shrinking the aperture



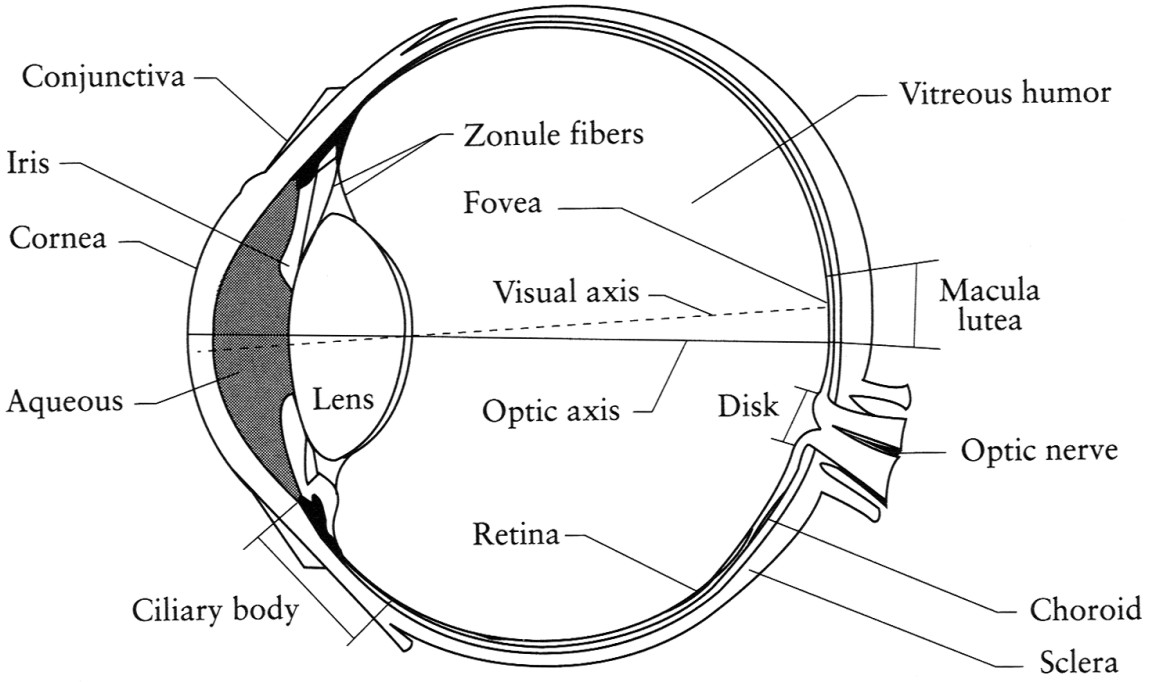
Adding a lens



A lens focuses light onto the film

- There is a specific distance at which objects are "in focus"
  - other points project to a "circle of confusion" in the image
- Changing the shape of the lens changes this distance

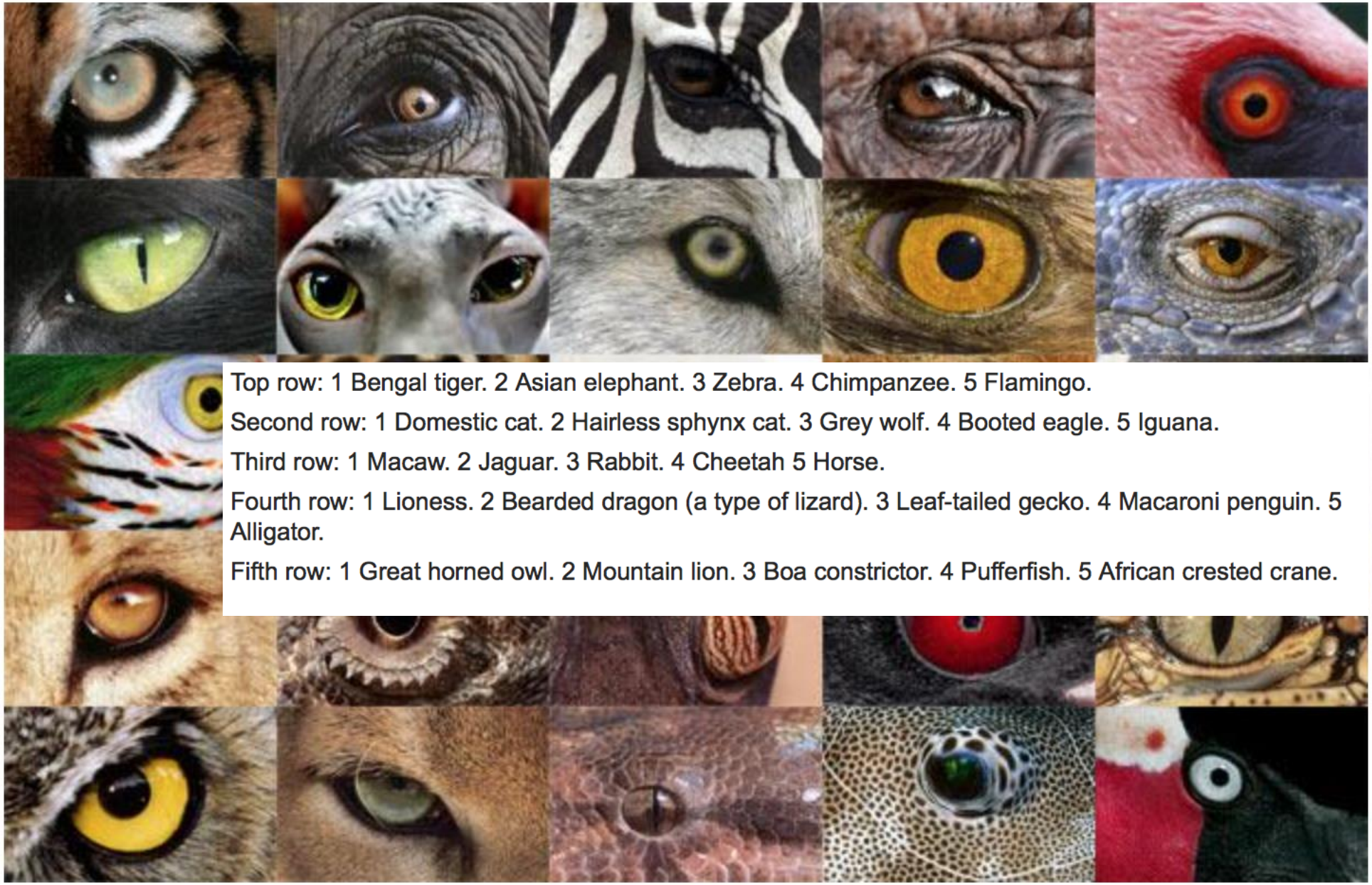
The eye



The human eye is a camera

- **Iris** - colored annulus with radial muscles
- **Pupil** - the hole (aperture) whose size is controlled by the iris
- What's the "film"?
  - photoreceptor cells (rods and cones) in the **retina**

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/earth/earthpicturegalleries/7598120/Animal-eyes-quiz-Can-you-work-out-which-creatures-these-are-from-their-eyes.html?image=25



Top row: 1 Bengal tiger. 2 Asian elephant. 3 Zebra. 4 Chimpanzee. 5 Flamingo.

Second row: 1 Domestic cat. 2 Hairless sphynx cat. 3 Grey wolf. 4 Booted eagle. 5 Iguana.

Third row: 1 Macaw. 2 Jaguar. 3 Rabbit. 4 Cheetah 5 Horse.

Fourth row: 1 Lioness. 2 Bearded dragon (a type of lizard). 3 Leaf-tailed gecko. 4 Macaroni penguin. 5 Alligator.

Fifth row: 1 Great horned owl. 2 Mountain lion. 3 Boa constrictor. 4 Pufferfish. 5 African crested crane.

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/earth/earthpicturegalleries/7598120/Animal-eyes-quiz-Can-you-work-out-which-creatures-these-are-from-their-eyes.html?image=25

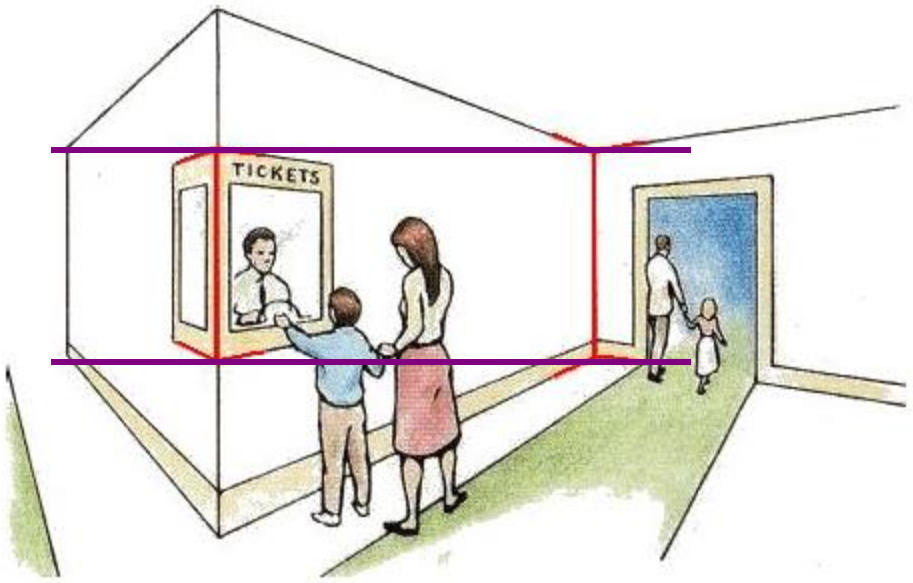
Eyes in nature: eyespots to pinhole camera

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6d/Mantis_shrimp.jpg

Projection

Projection

Müller-Lyer Illusion



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Müller-Lyer_illusion

Geometric Model: A Pinhole Camera

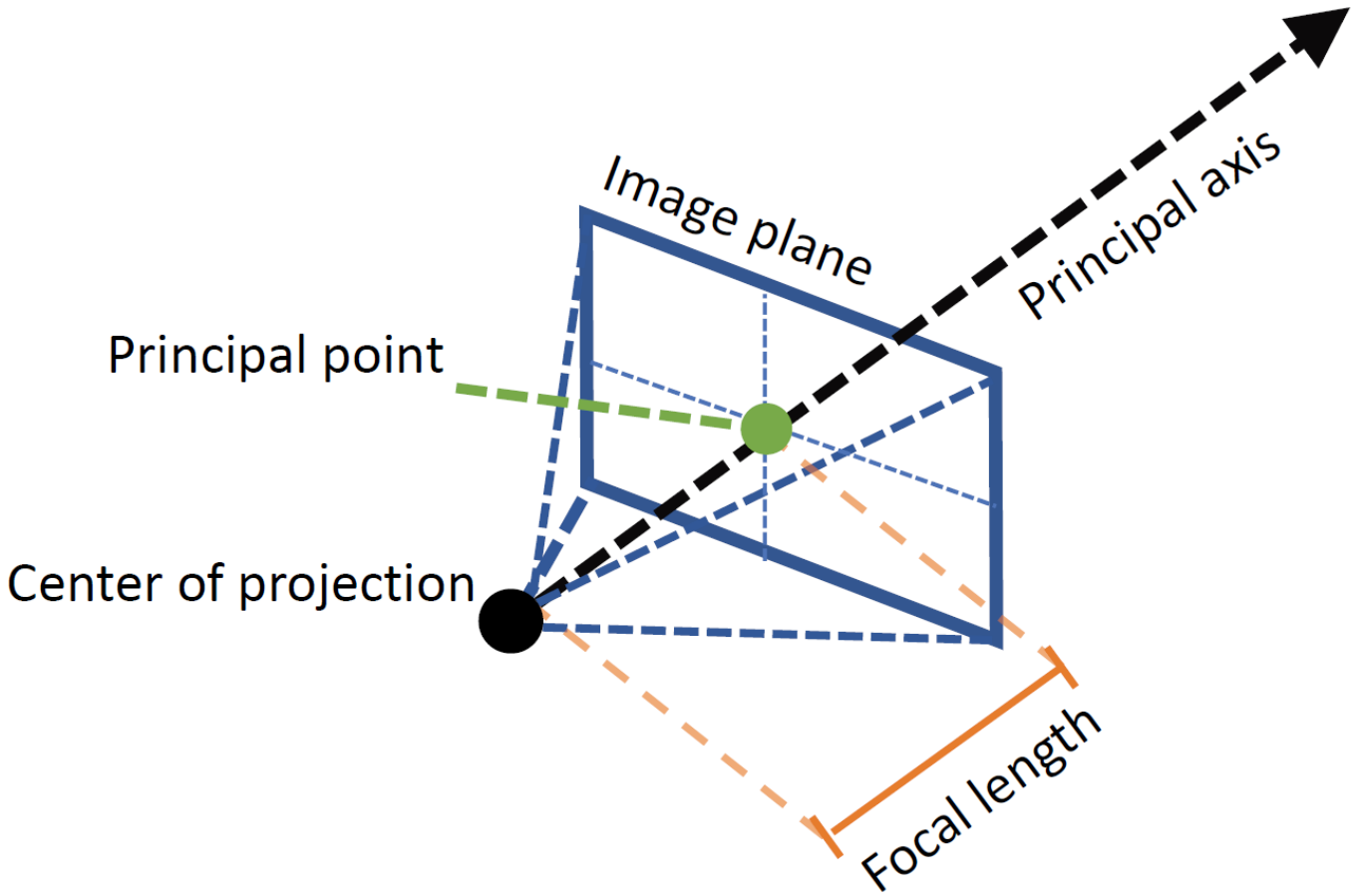
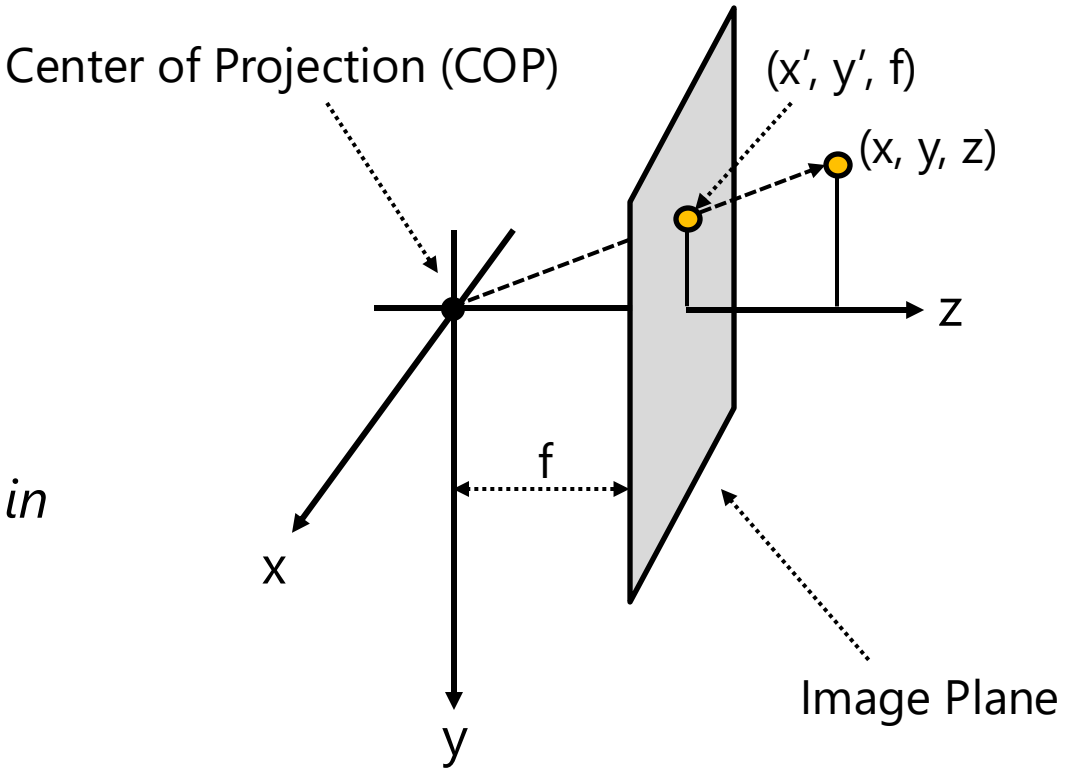


Figure credit: Peter Hedman

Modeling projection

- The coordinate system
  - We use the pinhole model as an approximation
  - Put the optical center (aka Center of Projection, or COP) at the origin
  - Put the Image Plane (aka Projection Plane) *in front* of the COP (Why)?
  - The camera looks down the *positive* z-axis, and the y-axis points down
    - we like this if we want right-handed-coordinates
    - other versions are possible (e.g., OpenGL)



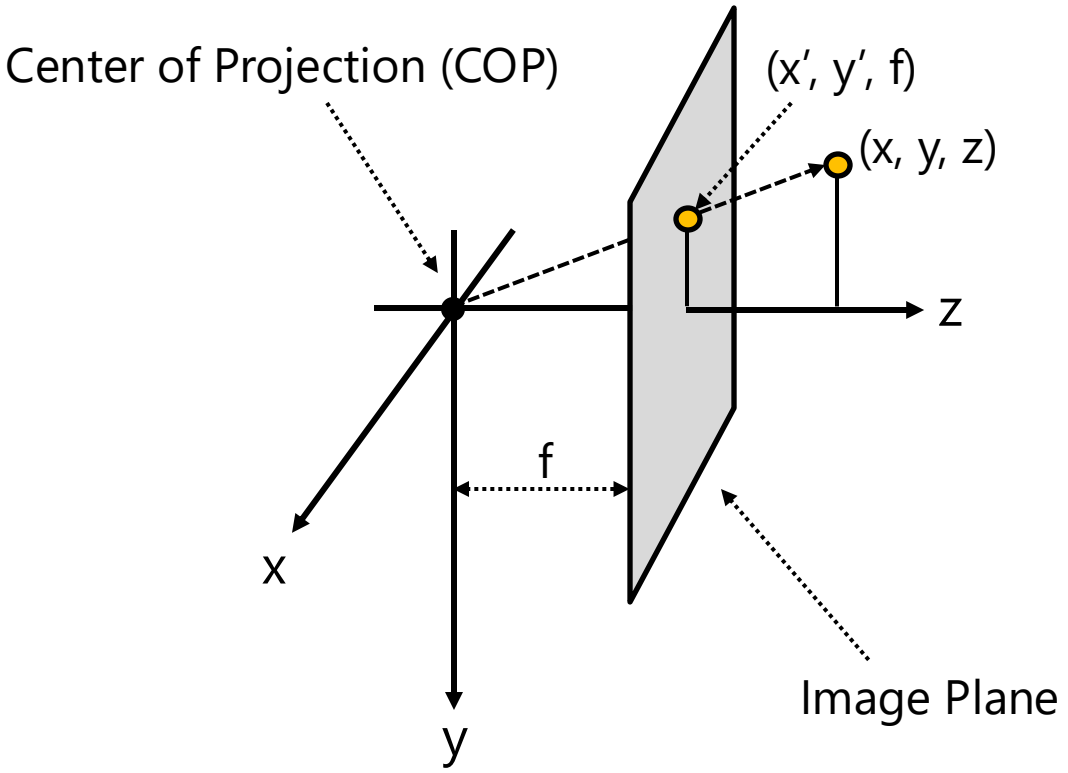
Modeling projection

- Projection equations
  - Compute intersection with PP of ray from (x,y,z) to COP
  - Derived using similar triangles

$$(x, y, z) \rightarrow (f\frac{x}{z}, f\frac{y}{z}, f)$$

  - We get the projection by throwing out the last coordinate:

$$(x, y, z) \rightarrow (f\frac{x}{z}, f\frac{y}{z})$$



Great Camera Demo

https://ciechanow.ski/cameras-and-lenses/

Modeling projection

- Is this a linear transformation?
  - no—division by z is nonlinear

Homogeneous coordinates to the rescue—again!

$$(x, y) \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

homogeneous image coordinates

$$(x, y, z) \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

homogeneous scene coordinates

Converting *from* homogeneous coordinates

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ w \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x/w, y/w)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x/w, y/w, z/w)$$

Perspective Projection

Projection is a matrix multiply using homogeneous coordinates:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/f & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z/f \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (f\frac{x}{z}, f\frac{y}{z})$$

divide by third coordinate

This is known as **perspective projection**

- The matrix is the **projection matrix**
- (Can also represent as a 4x4 matrix – OpenGL does something like this)

Perspective Projection

How does scaling the projection matrix change the transformation?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/f & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z/f \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (f\frac{x}{z}, f\frac{y}{z})$$

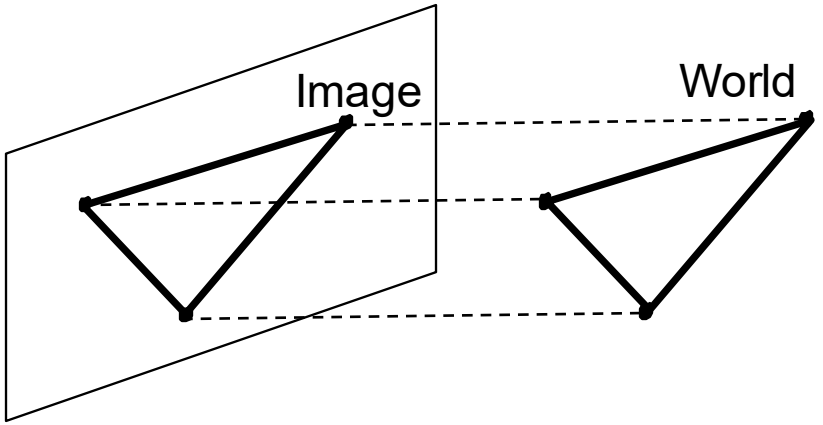
Scale by *f*:

$$\begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & f & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} fx \\ fy \\ z \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (f\frac{x}{z}, f\frac{y}{z})$$

Scaling a projection matrix produces an equivalent projection matrix!

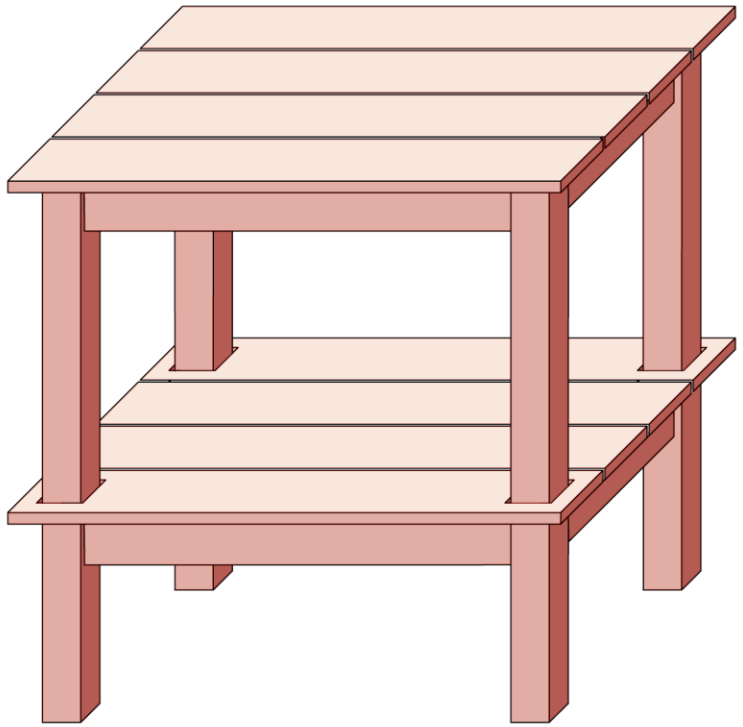
Orthographic projection

- Special case of perspective projection
  - Distance from the COP to the PP is infinite

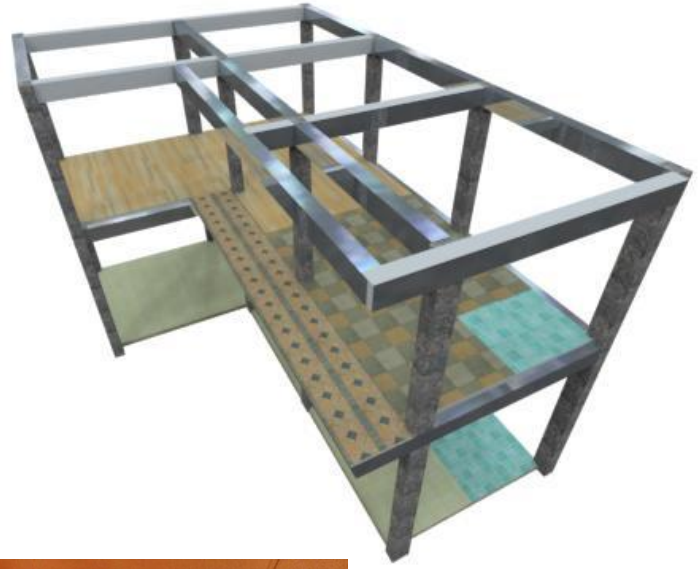


$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x, y)$$

Orthographic projection



Perspective projection



Variants of orthographic projection

- Scaled orthographic
  - Also called “weak perspective”

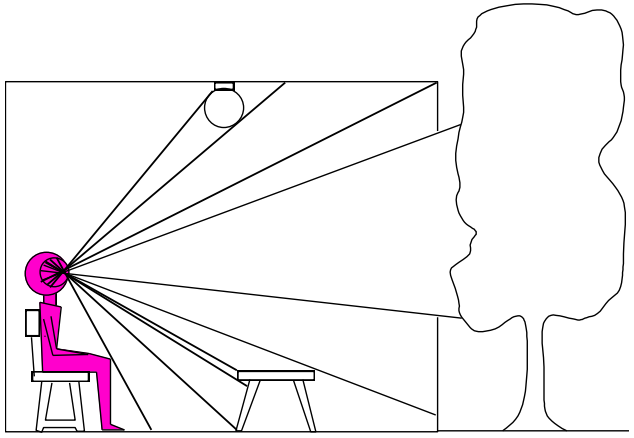
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1/d \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (dx, dy)$$

- Affine projection
  - Also called “paraperspective”

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

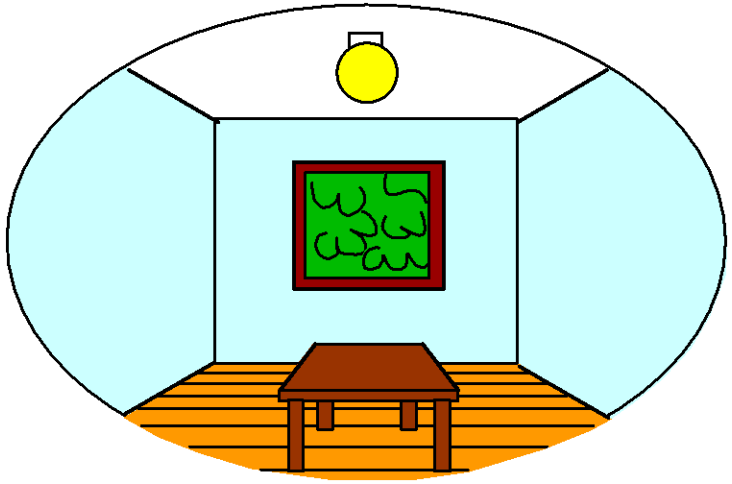
Dimensionality Reduction Machine (3D to 2D)

3D world



Point of observation

2D image



What have we lost?

- Angles
- Distances (lengths)

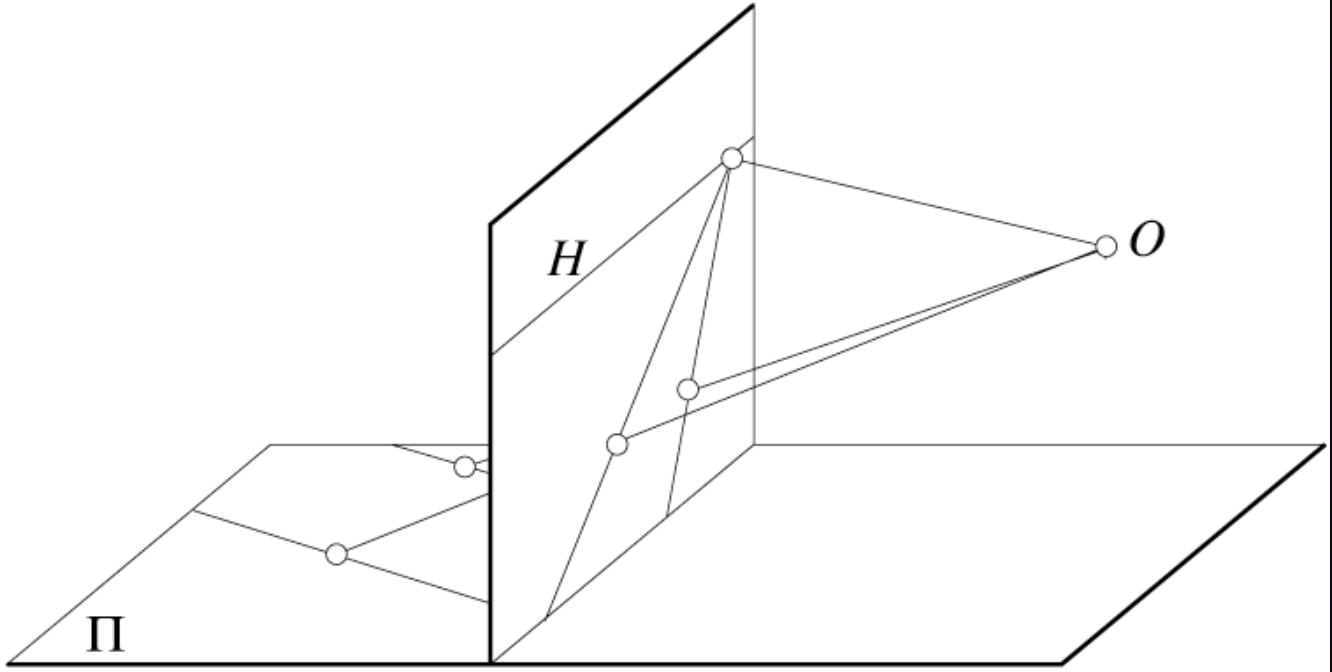
Slide by A. Efros

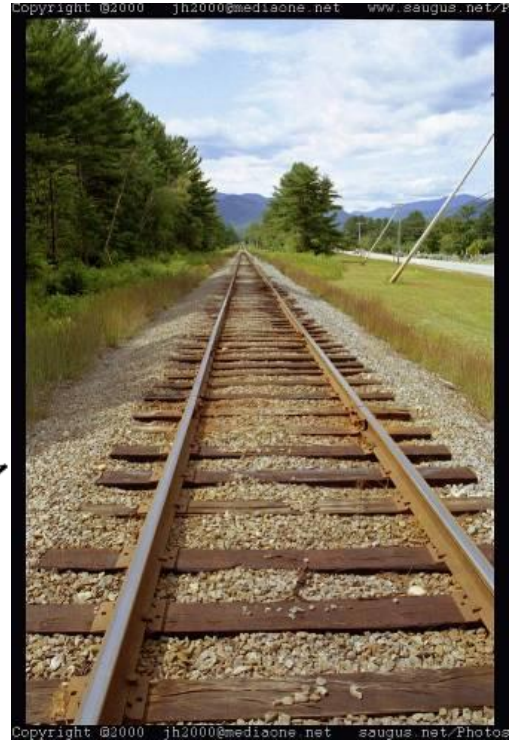
Projection properties

- Many-to-one: any points along same ray map to same point in image
- Points → points
- Lines → lines (collinearity is preserved)
  - But line through focal point projects to a point
- Planes → planes (or half-planes)
  - But plane through focal point projects to line

Projection properties

- Parallel lines converge at a vanishing point
  - Each direction in space has its own vanishing point
  - But parallel lines parallel to the image plane remain parallel

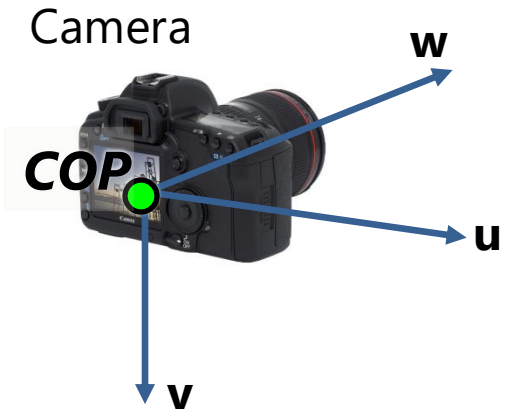


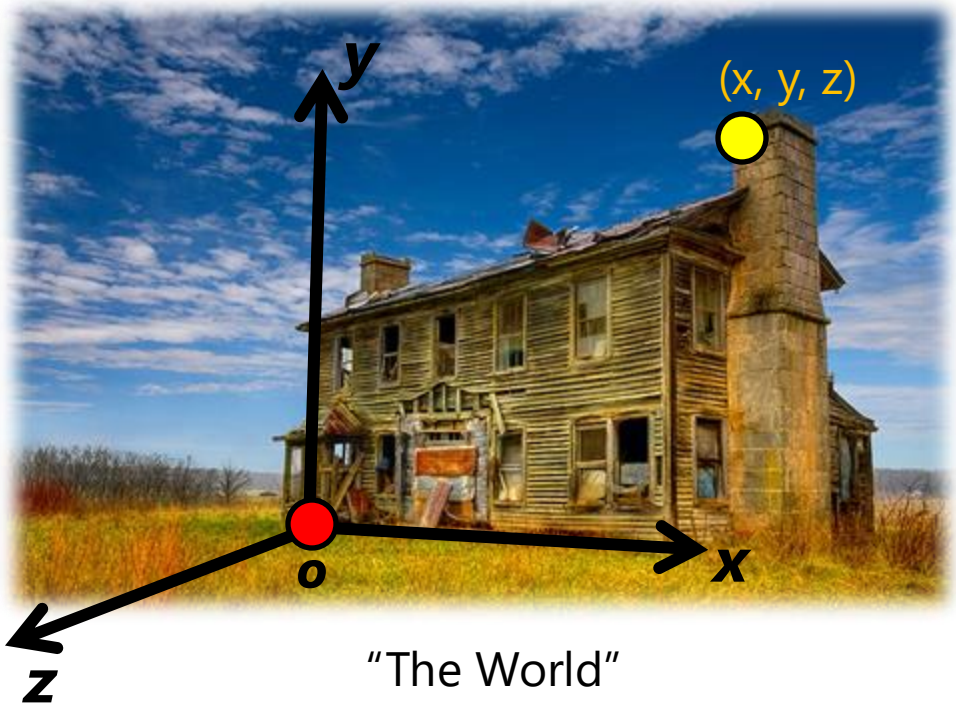


Questions?

Camera parameters

- How can we model the geometry of a camera?





"The World"

Three important coordinate systems:

1. *World* coordinates
2. *Camera* coordinates
3. *Image* coordinates

How do we project a given world point (x, y, z) to an image point?

Recap: coordinate frames

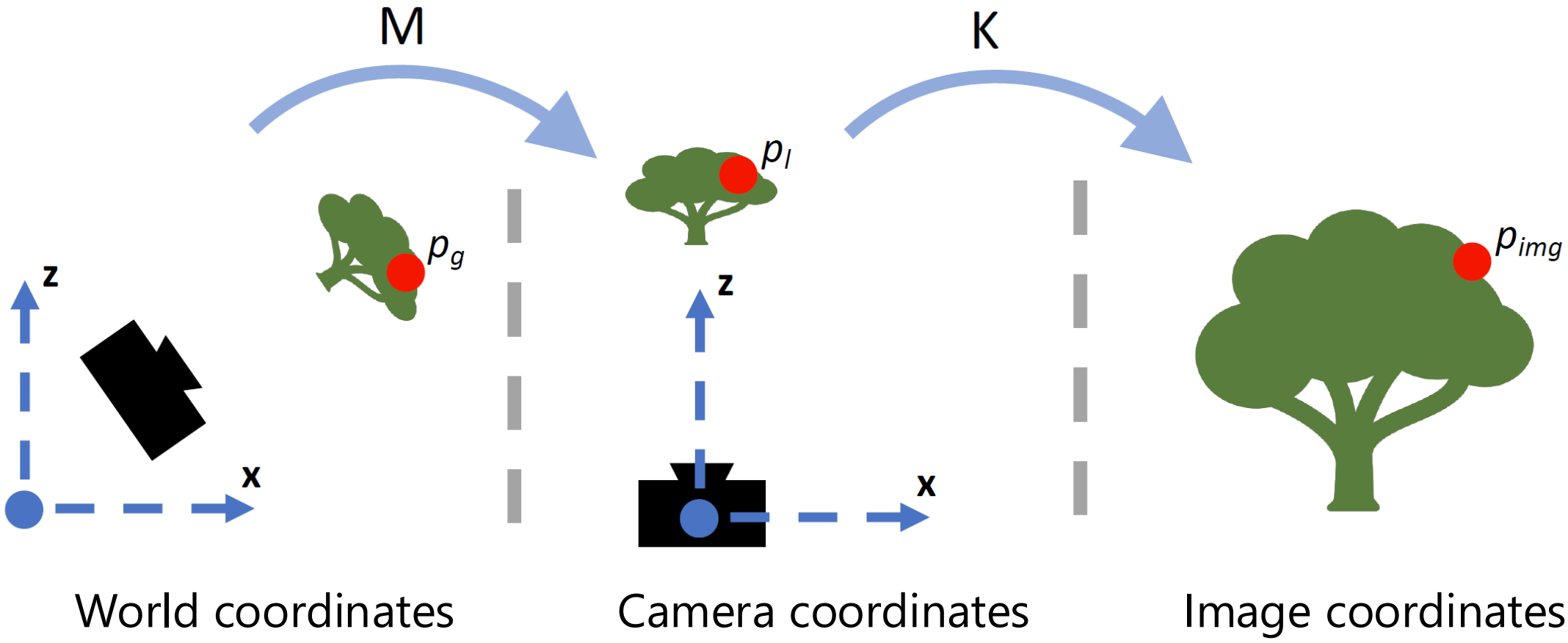


Figure credit: Peter Hedman

Camera parameters

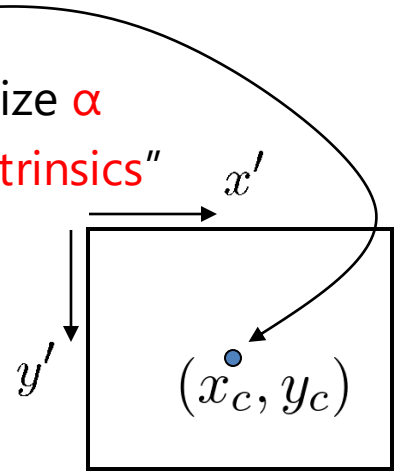
To project a point (*x*, *y*, *z*) in *world* coordinates into a camera

- First transform (*x*, *y*, *z*) into *camera* coordinates
- Need to know
  - Camera position (in world coordinates)
  - Camera orientation (in world coordinates)
- Then project into the image plane to get *image (pixel) coordinates*
  - Need to know camera *intrinsics*

Camera parameters

A camera is described by several parameters

- Translation T of the optical center from the origin of world coords
- Rotation R of the image plane
- focal length f, principal point (c_x, c_y), pixel aspect size α
- blue parameters are called "extrinsics," red are "intrinsics"



Projection equation

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} sx \\ sy \\ s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{\Pi X}$$

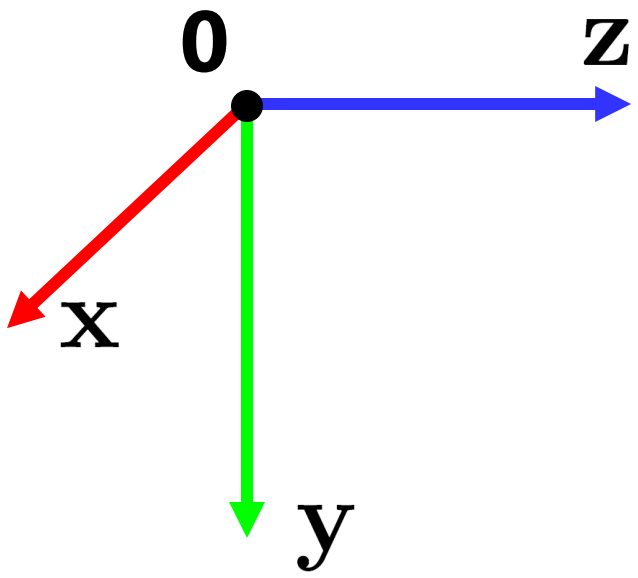
- The projection matrix models the cumulative effect of all parameters
- Useful to decompose into a series of operations

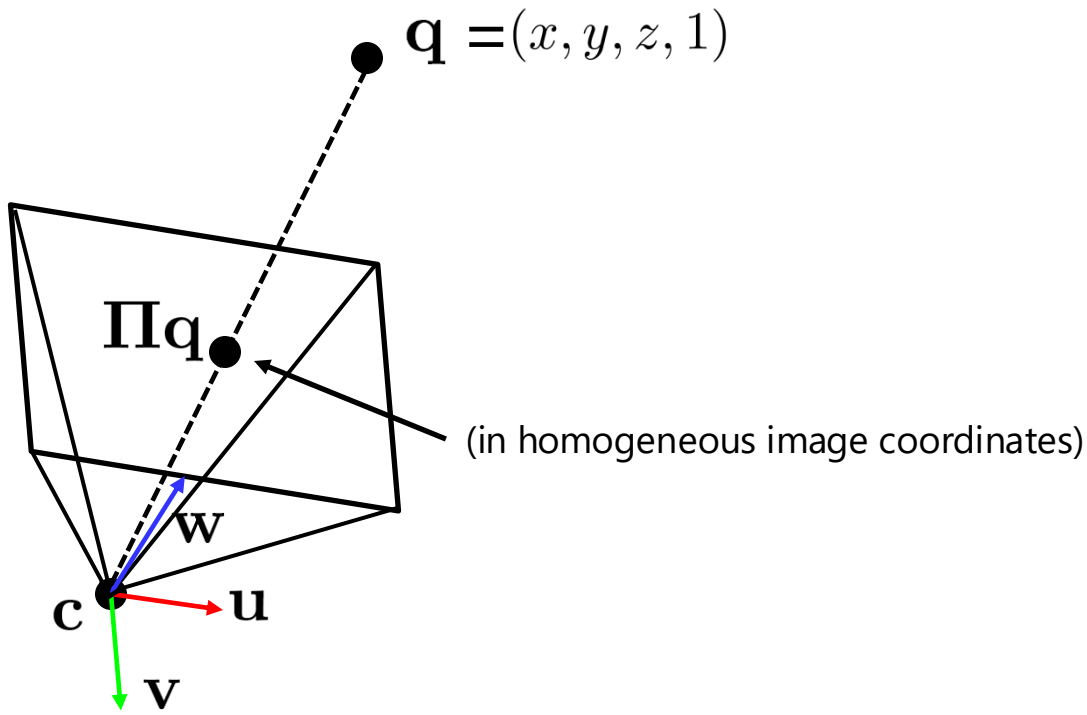
identity matrix

$$\mathbf{\Pi} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f & s & c_x \\ 0 & \alpha f & c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{intrinsics}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{projection}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{3\times3} & \mathbf{0}_{3\times1} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1\times3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{rotation}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_{3\times3} & \mathbf{t}_{3\times1} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1\times3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{translation}}$$

- The definitions of these parameters are **not** completely standardized
  - especially intrinsics—varies from one book to another

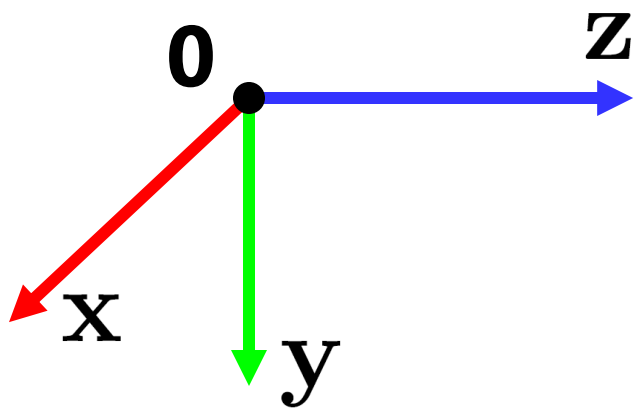
Projection matrix



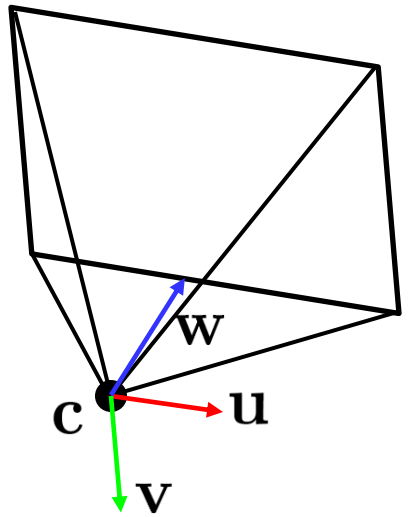


Extrinsics: from world to camera coordinates

- How do we get the camera to “canonical form”?
  - Canonical form: Center of projection at the origin, x-axis points right, y-axis points down, z-axis points forwards



Step 1: Translate by **-c**



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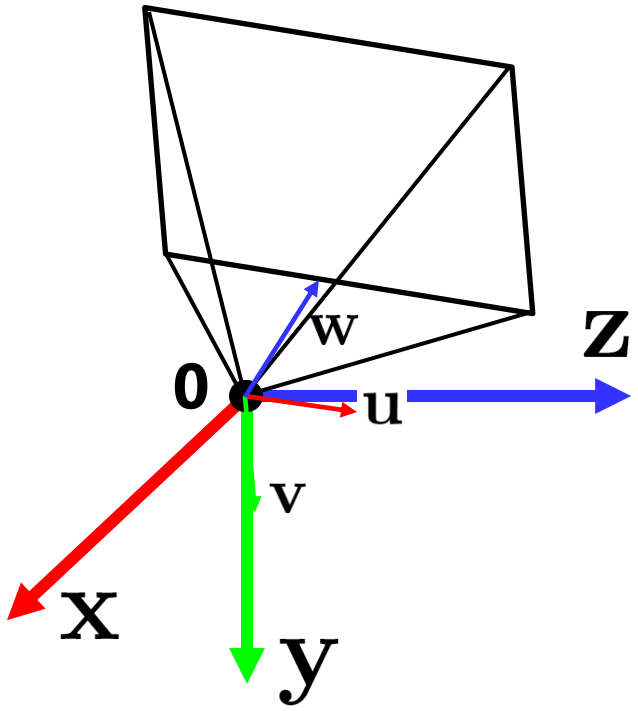


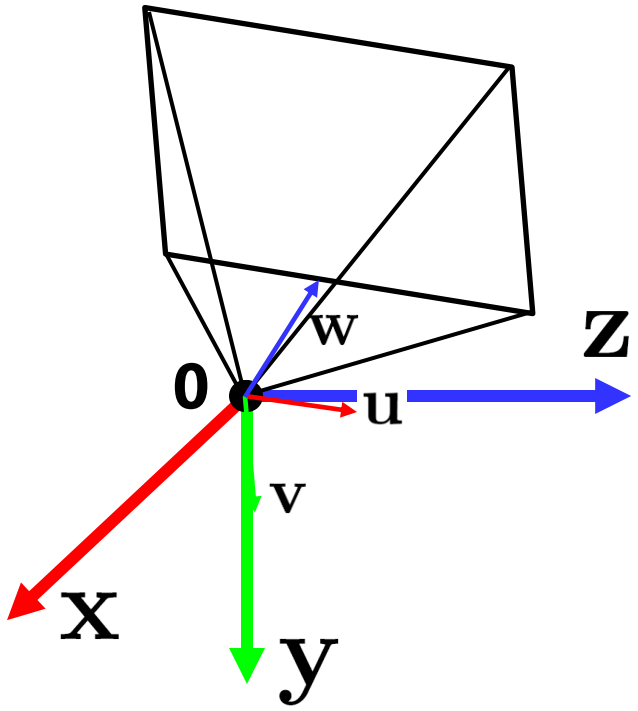
Step 1: Translate by **-c**

How do we represent translation as a matrix multiplication?

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_{3\times 3} & -\mathbf{c} \\ 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Extrinsics: from world to camera coordinates

- How do we get the camera to "canonical form"?
  - Canonical form: Center of projection at the origin, x-axis points right, y-axis points down, z-axis points forwards



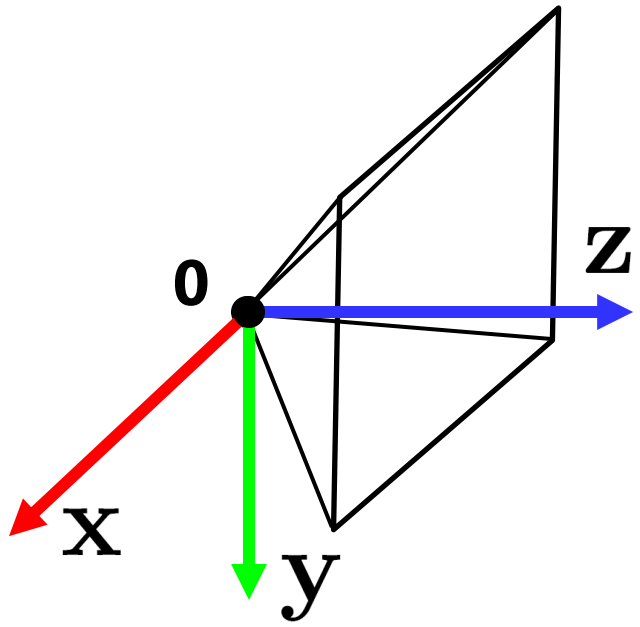
Step 1: Translate by **-c**
Step 2: Rotate by **R**

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}^T \\ \mathbf{v}^T \\ \mathbf{w}^T \end{bmatrix}$$

3x3 rotation matrix

Extrinsics: from world to camera coordinates

- How do we get the camera to “canonical form”?
  - Canonical form: Center of projection at the origin, x-axis points right, y-axis points down, z-axis points forwards



Step 1: Translate by **-c**
Step 2: Rotate by **R**

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}^T \\ \mathbf{v}^T \\ \mathbf{w}^T \end{bmatrix}$$

(with extra row/column of [0 0 0 1])

Perspective projection

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & c_x \\ 0 & f & c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{K}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(intrinsics)

(converts from 3D rays in camera coordinate system to pixel coordinates)

in general, $\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} f & s & c_x \\ 0 & \alpha f & c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

(upper triangular matrix)

α : **aspect ratio** (1 unless pixels are not square)

s : **skew** (0 unless pixels are shaped like rhombi/parallelograms)

(c_x, c_y) : **principal point** ((w/2,h/2) unless optical axis doesn't intersect projection plane at image center)

Typical intrinsics matrix

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & c_x \\ 0 & f & c_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- **2D affine transform** corresponding to a scale by *f* (focal length) and a translation by (c_x, c_y) (principal point)
- **Maps 3D rays to 2D pixels**

Focal length

- Can think of as “zoom”


24mm

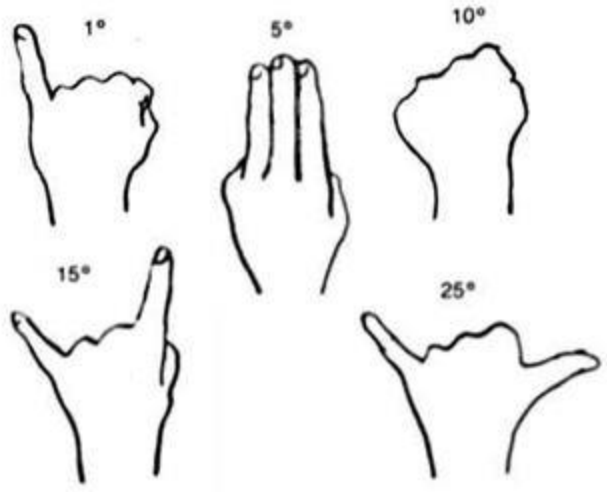

50mm


200mm


800mm

- Also related to *field of view*

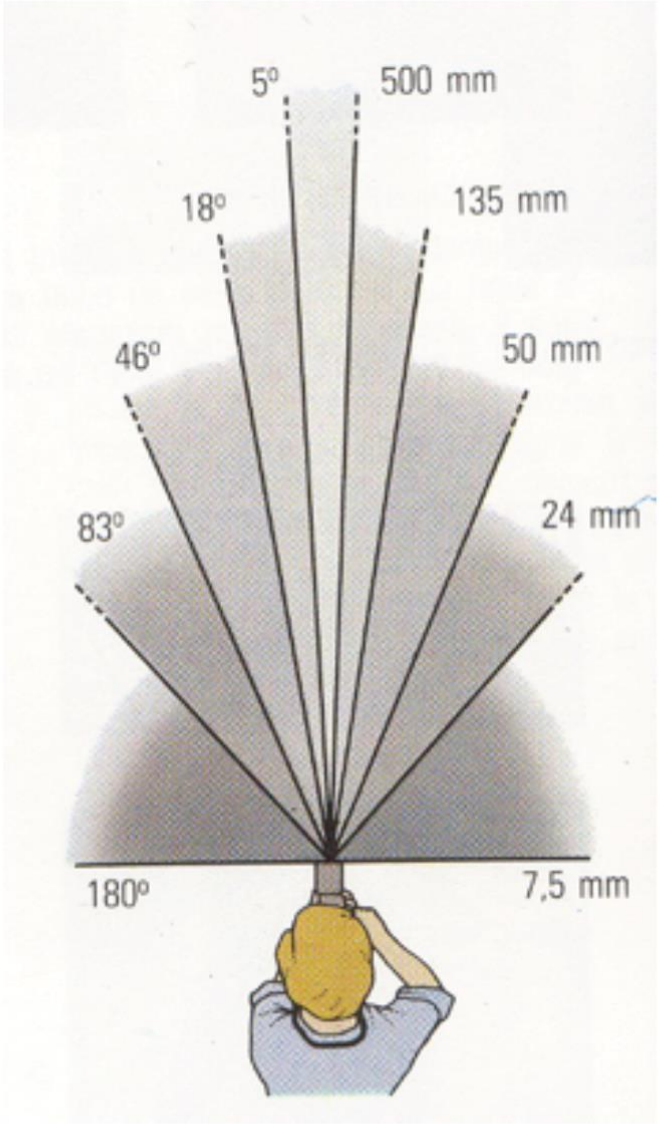
Field of view



APS-C Crop Body Measurement Table

Lens	After 1.62 Multiplier	APS-C Sensor (1.62 lens multiplier) Canon 60D, 7D, 70D, T3i, T4i	Hand Positions
18mm	29.16mm	**Three hands wide** at full arms length.	
28mm	45.36mm	**Slightly less than two hands wide** at full arms length.	
35mm	56.7mm	**One hand + width of one fist** at full arms length.	
50mm	81mm	**One hand wide + width of thumb** at full arms length.	
55mm	89.1mm	**Slightly less than one hand wide** at full arms length.	
85mm	137.7mm	**Inside edge of thumb to tip of forefinger wide** with hand in “L” shape, thumb up.	

Focal length in practice



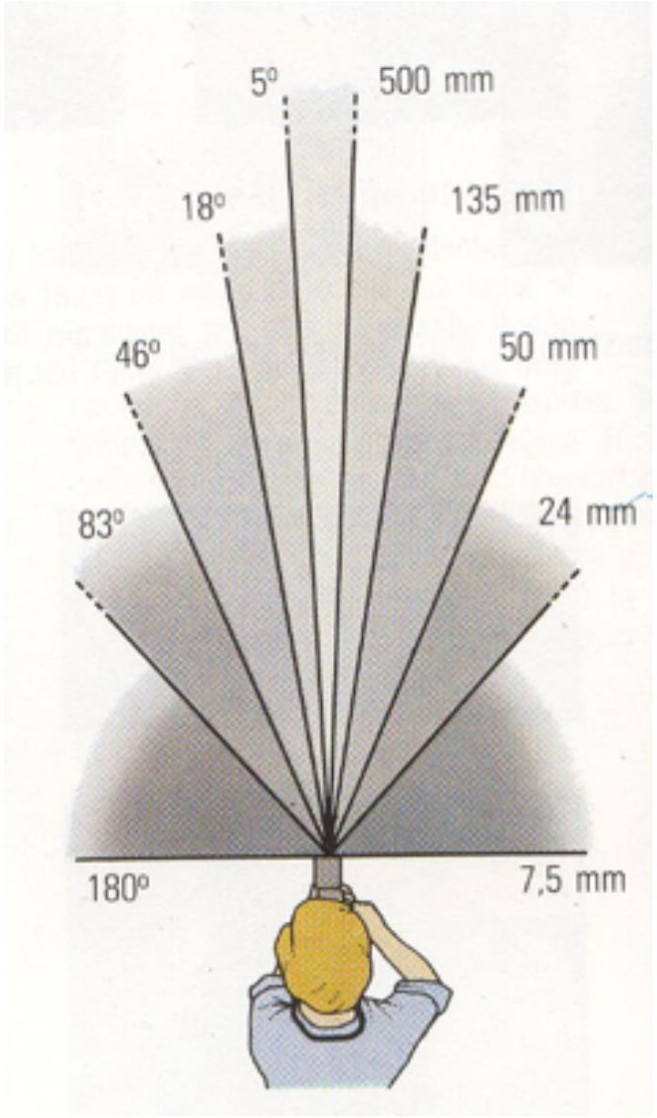
24mm

50mm

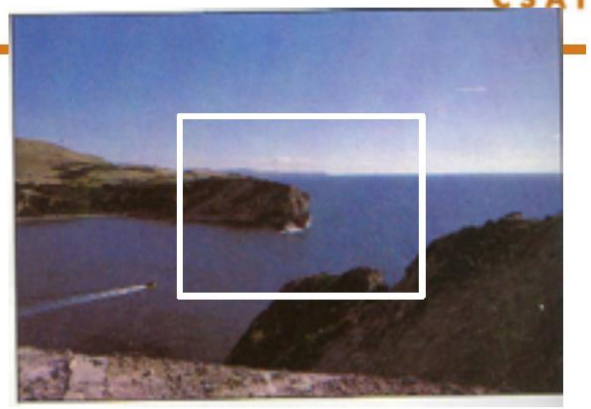
135mm

Fredo Durand

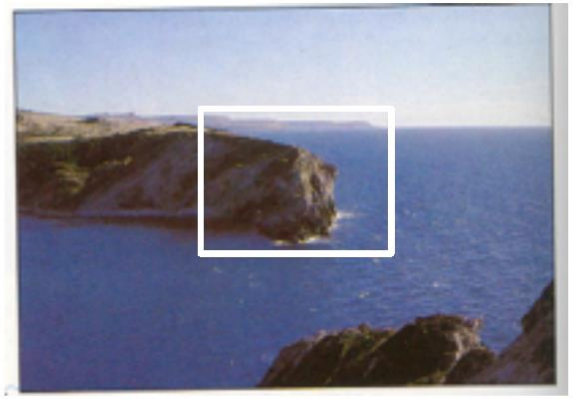
Focal length = cropping



24mm



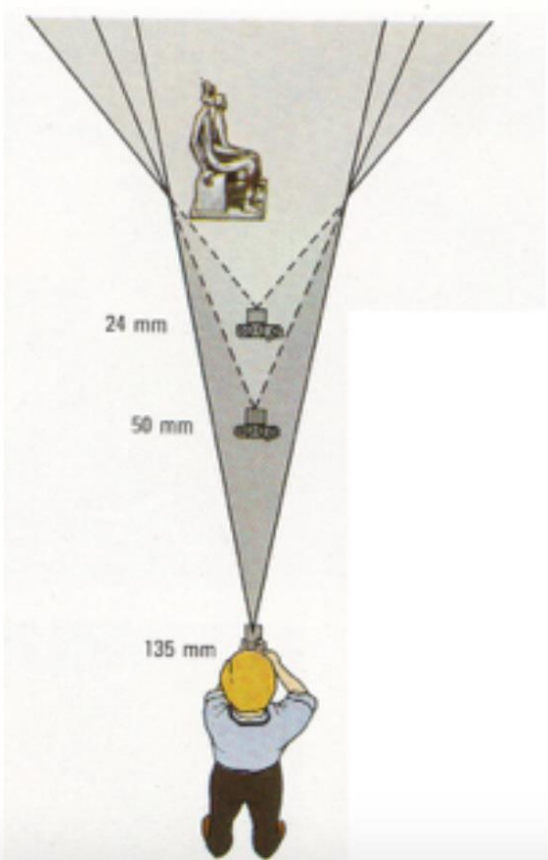
50mm



135mm

Focal length vs. viewpoint

- **Telephoto makes it easier to select background (a small change in viewpoint is a big change in background.**



Grand-angulaire 24 mm

Normal 50 mm

Longue focale 135 mm

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Dolly zoom

Wide angle

Standard

Telephoto

http://petapixel.com/2013/01/11/how-focal-length-affects-your-subjects-apparent-weight-as-seen-with-a-cat/

Projection matrix

$$\Pi = \underbrace{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{intrinsics}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{projection}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} & \mathbf{R} & & \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{rotation}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ & \mathbf{I}_{3\times 3} & & -\mathbf{c} \\ & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{translation}}$$

The **K** matrix converts 3D rays in the camera's coordinate system to 2D image points in image (pixel) coordinates.

This part converts 3D points in world coordinates to 3D rays in the camera's coordinate system. There are 6 parameters represented (3 for position/translation, 3 for rotation).

Projection matrix

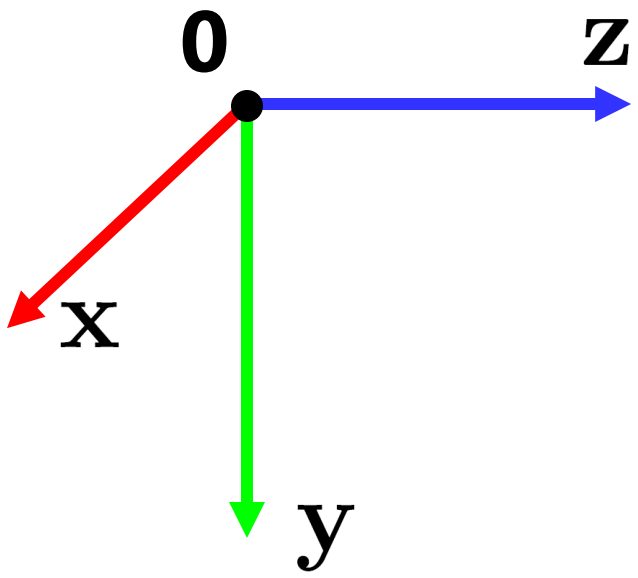
$$\Pi = \mathbf{K} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{intrinsics}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \begin{matrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix} & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{projection}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_{3\times 3} & -\mathbf{c} \\ \begin{matrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix} & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{rotation}} \underbrace{\qquad}_{\text{translation}}$$

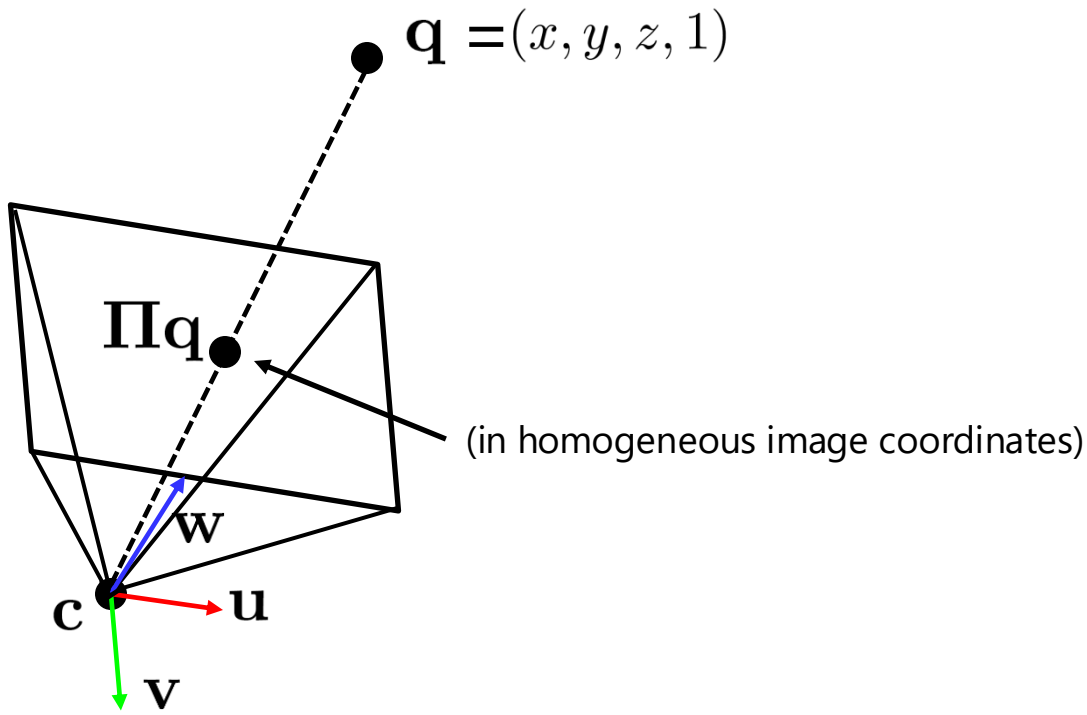
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \underbrace{-\mathbf{R}\mathbf{c}}_{\mathbf{t}} \end{bmatrix}$$

(**t** in book's notation)

$$\Pi = \mathbf{K} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & -\mathbf{R}\mathbf{c} \end{bmatrix}$$

Projection matrix





Questions?

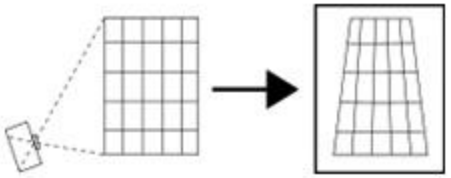
Perspective distortion

- Problem for architectural photography: converging verticals

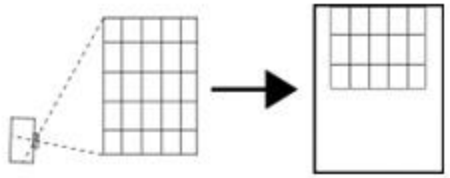
Source: F. Durand

Perspective distortion

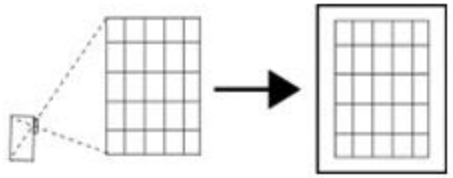
- Problem for architectural photography: converging verticals



Tilting the camera upwards results in converging verticals

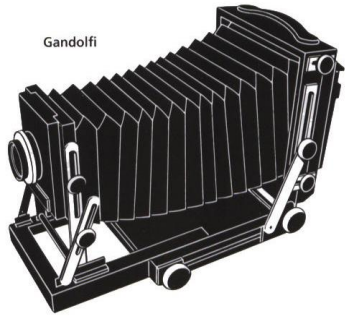


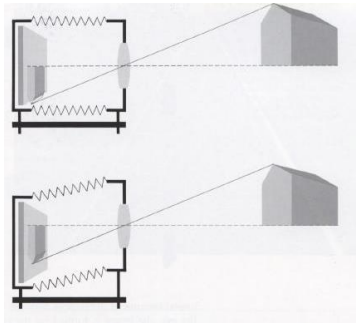
Keeping the camera level, with an ordinary lens, captures only the bottom portion of the building



Shifting the lens upwards results in a picture of the entire subject

- Solution: view camera (lens shifted w.r.t. film)



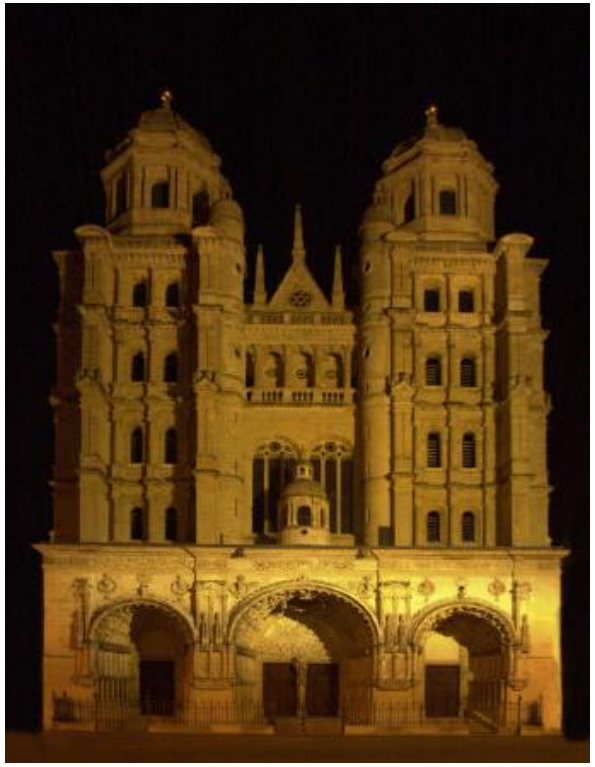


http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perspective_correction_lens

Source: F. Durand

Perspective distortion

- Problem for architectural photography: converging verticals
- Result:



Source: F. Durand

Perspective distortion

- What does a sphere project to?

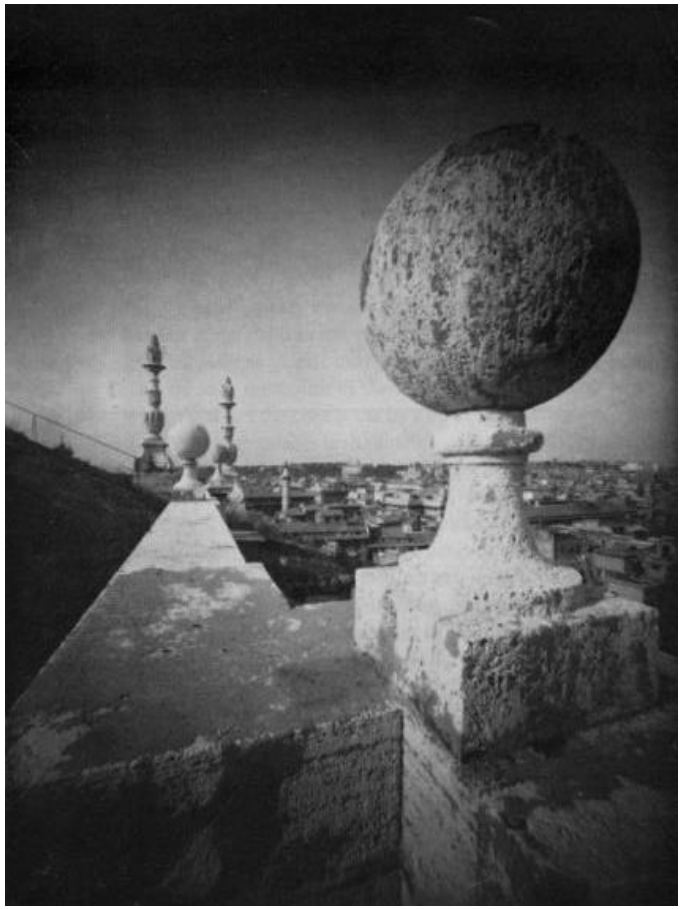
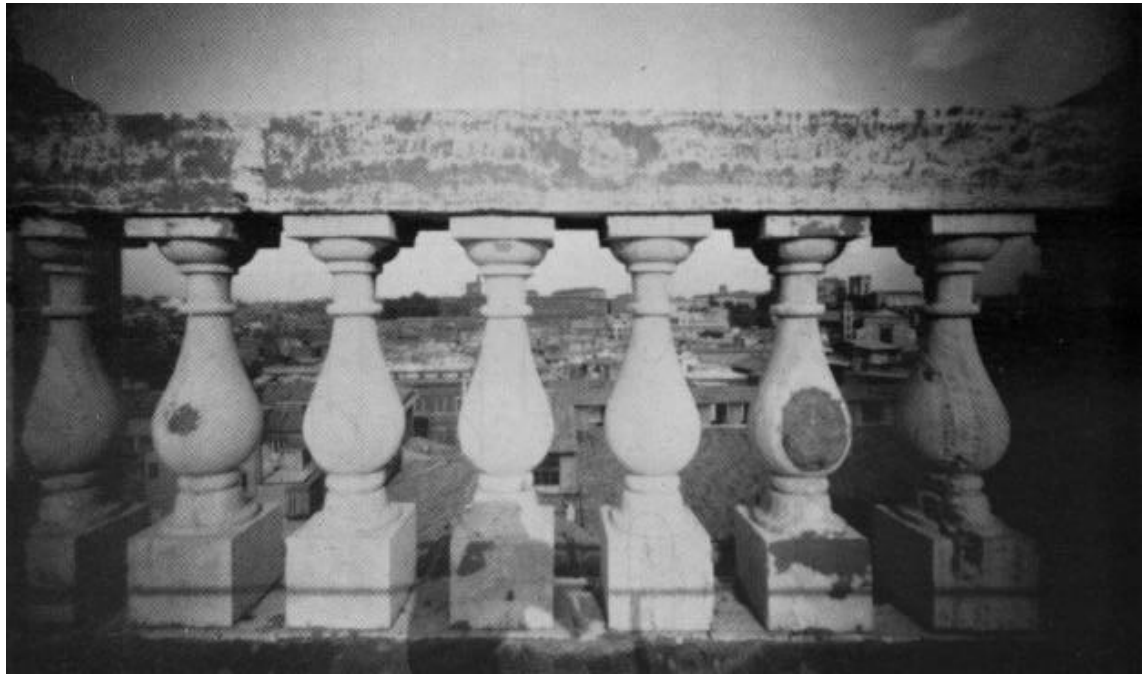
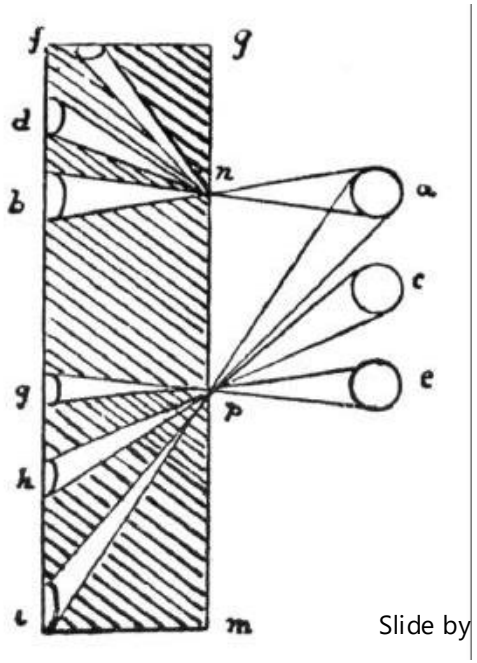


Image source: F. Durand

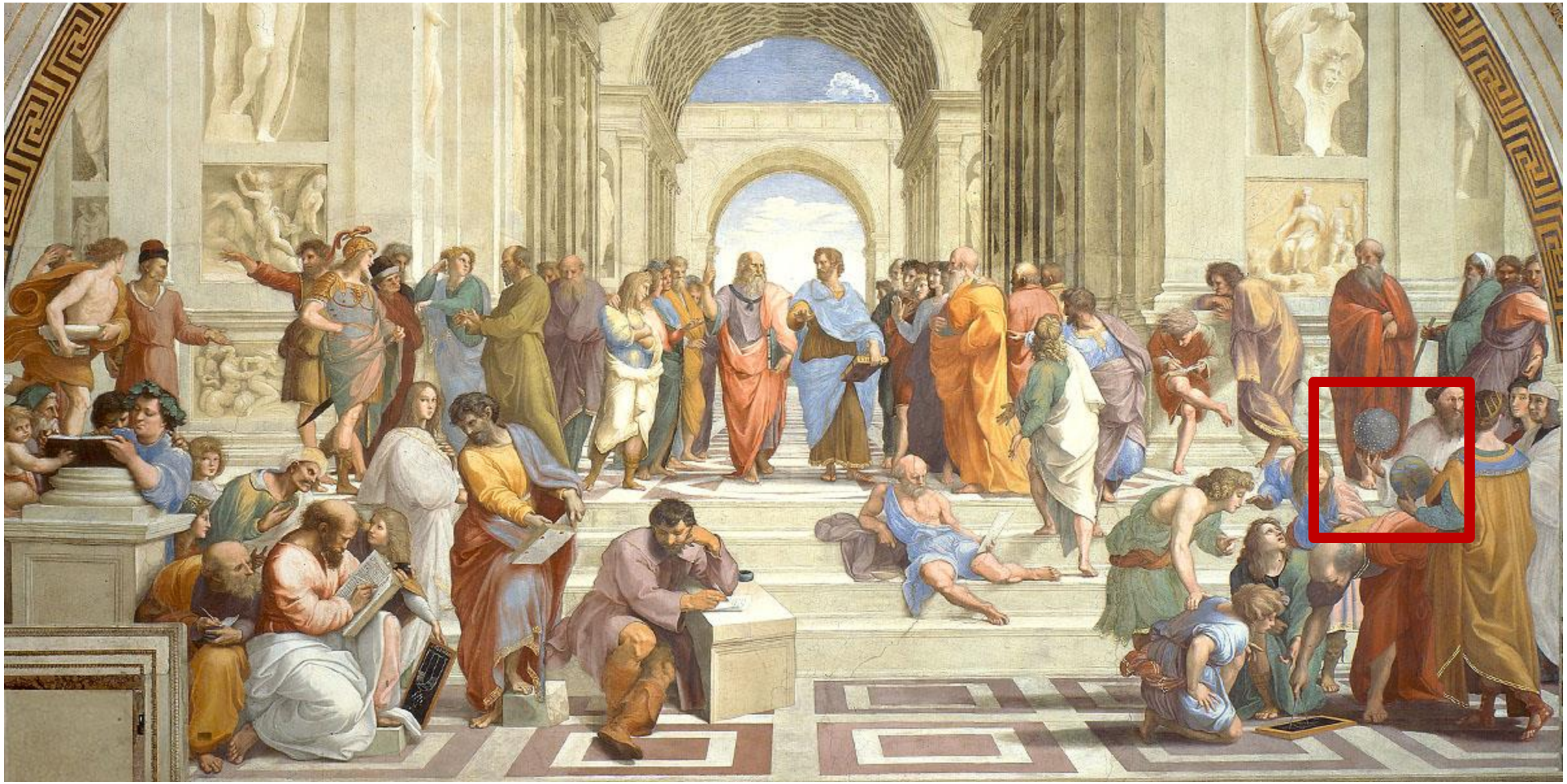
Perspective distortion

- The exterior columns appear bigger
- The distortion is not due to lens flaws
- Problem pointed out by Da Vinci





Slide by F. Durand



https://aaronhertzmann.com/2022/02/28/how-does-perspective-work.html

Perspective distortion: People

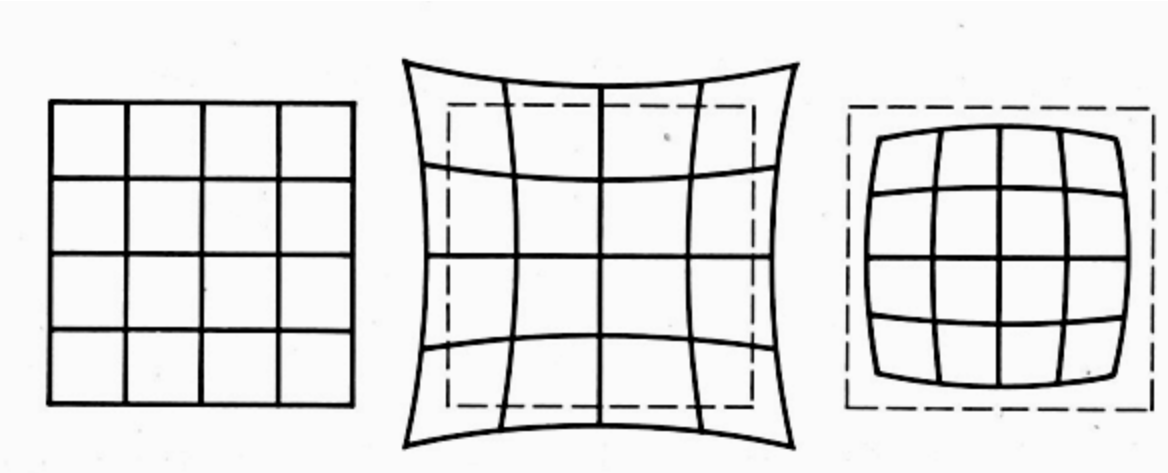
Distortion-Free Wide-Angle Portraits on Camera Phones

(a) A wide-angle photo with distortions on subjects' faces.

(b) Distortion-free photo by our method.

YiChang Shih, Wei-Sheng Lai, and Chia-Kai Liang, Distortion-Free Wide-Angle Portraits on Camera Phones, SIGGRAPH 2019
https://people.csail.mit.edu/yichangshih/wide_angle_portrait/

Distortion

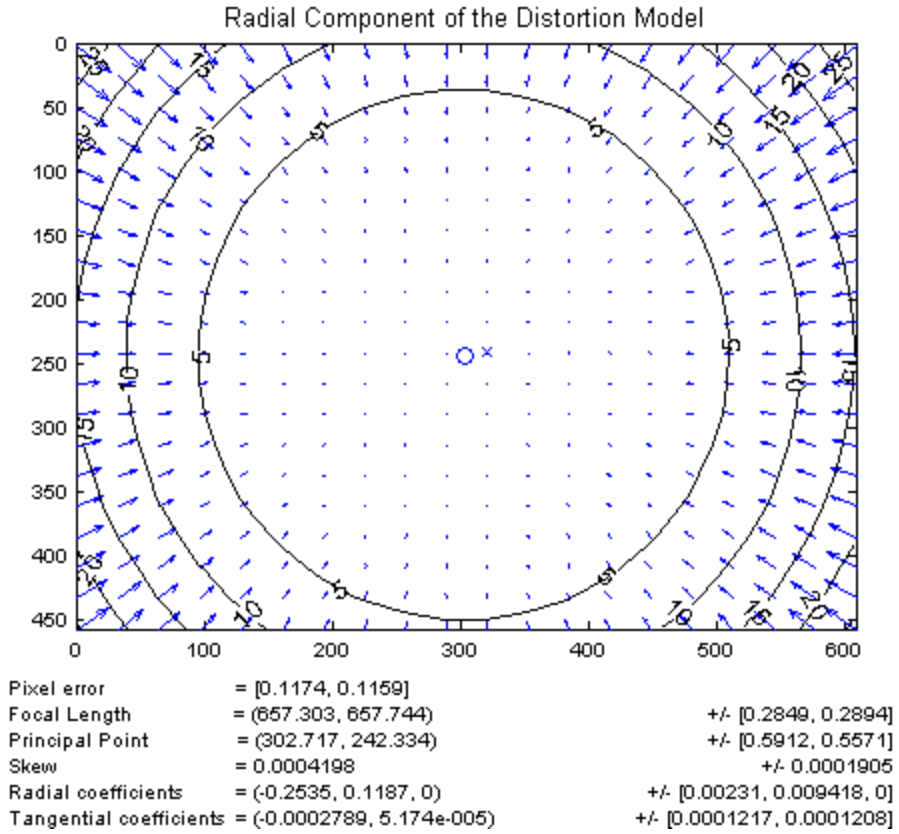


- Radial distortion of the image
  - Caused by imperfect lenses
  - Deviations are most noticeable for rays that pass through the edge of the lens


©2004 Vincent Backaert 123di


©2004 Vincent Backaert 123di

Radial distortion



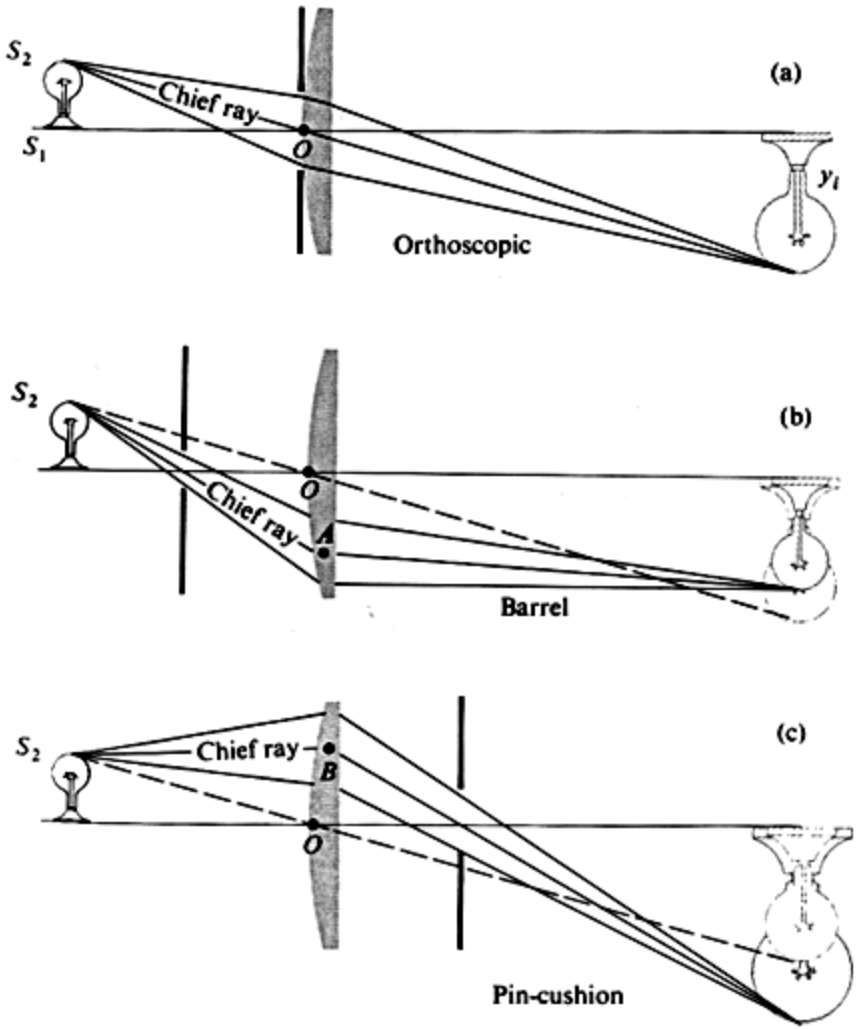
- Arrows show motion of projected points relative to an ideal (distortion-free lens)

[Image credit: J. Bouguet http://www.vision.caltech.edu/bouguetj/calib_doc/htmls/example.html]

Correcting radial distortion

from Helmut Dersch

Distortion


S_2
Chief ray
S_1
O
(a)
y_i
Orthoscopic
S_2
O
Chief ray
A
(b)
Barrel
S_2
Chief ray
B
O
(c)
Pin-cushion

Modeling distortion

Project $(\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z})$ to "normalized" image coordinates

$$x'_n = \hat{x}/\hat{z}$$
$$y'_n = \hat{y}/\hat{z}$$

$$r^2 = {x'_n}^2 + {y'_n}^2$$

Apply radial distortion

$$x'_d = x'_n(1 + \kappa_1 r^2 + \kappa_2 r^4)$$
$$y'_d = y'_n(1 + \kappa_1 r^2 + \kappa_2 r^4)$$

Apply focal length translate image center

$$x' = f x'_d + x_c$$
$$y' = f y'_d + y_c$$

- To model lens distortion
  - Use above projection operation instead of standard projection matrix multiplication

Other types of projection

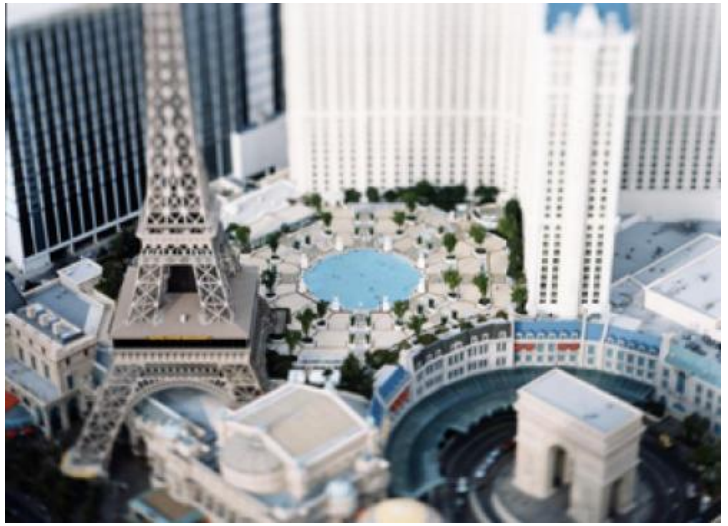
- Lots of intriguing variants…
- (I’ll just mention a few fun ones)

360 degree field of view…

- Basic approach
  - Take a photo of a parabolic mirror with an orthographic lens (Nayar)
  - Or buy one a lens from a variety of omnicam manufacturers…
    - See http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~kostas/omni.html

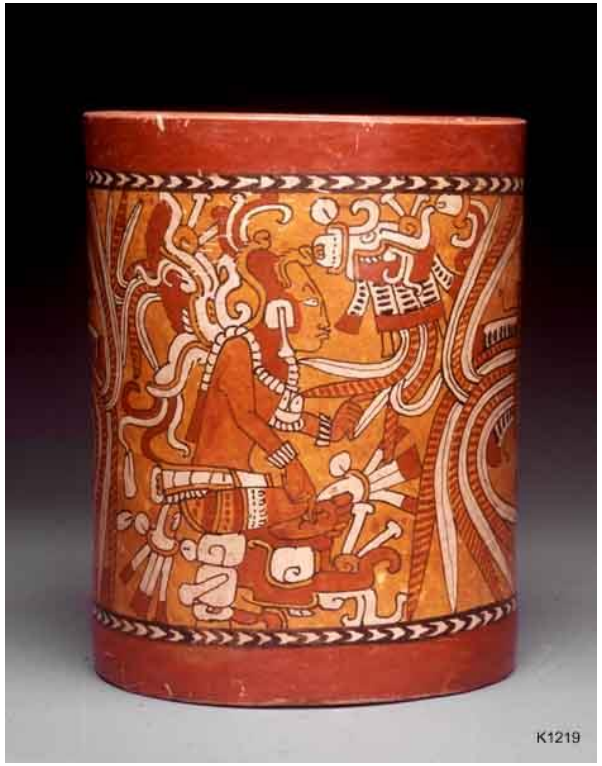
Tilt-shift

http://www.northlight-images.co.uk/article_pages/tilt_and_shift_ts-e.html



Tilt-shift images from Olivo Barbieri
and Photoshop imitations

Rotating sensor (or object)



Rollout Photographs © Justin Kerr
http://research.famsi.org/kerrmaya.html

Also known as “cyclographs”, “peripheral images”

Questions?