



# Reconstruction/Triangulation

Old book Ch11.1 F&P  
New book Ch7.2 F&P

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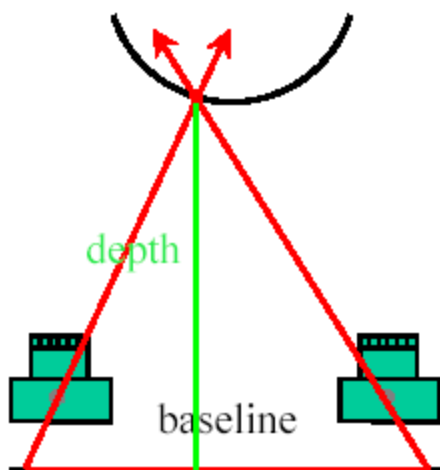
CS 6320, S 2015

(modified from original slides by J.  
Ponce and by Marc Pollefeys)

Credits: J. Ponce, M. Pollefeys, A. Zisserman & S. Lazebnik



# Reconstruction



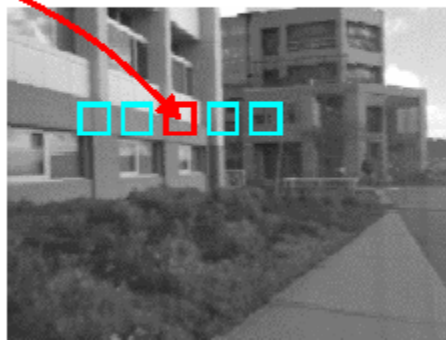
*Triangulate on two images of the same point to recover depth.*

- Feature matching across views
- Calibrated cameras

Left



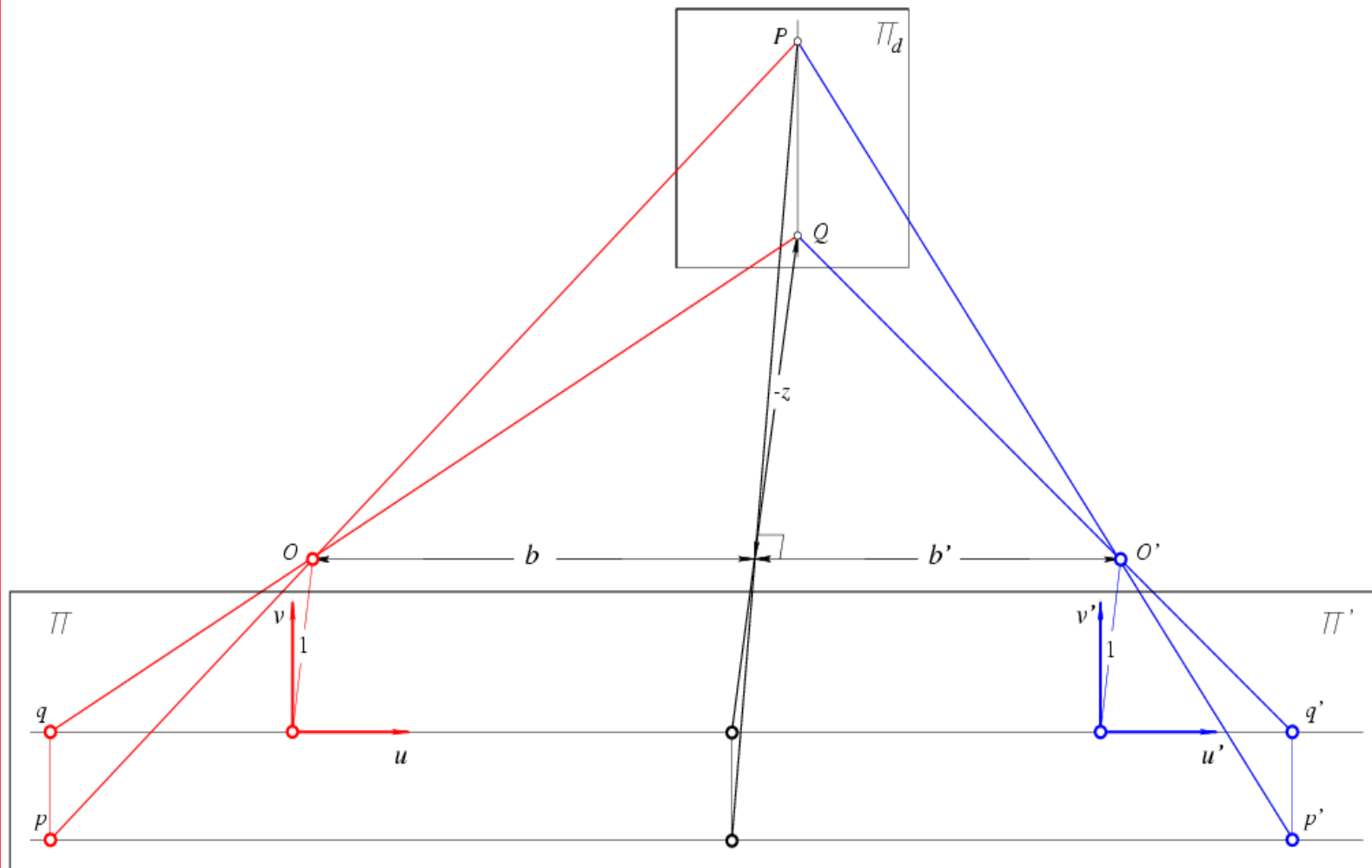
Right



Only need to match features across epipolar lines



## Reconstruction from Rectified Images



Disparity:  $d = u' - u$ .



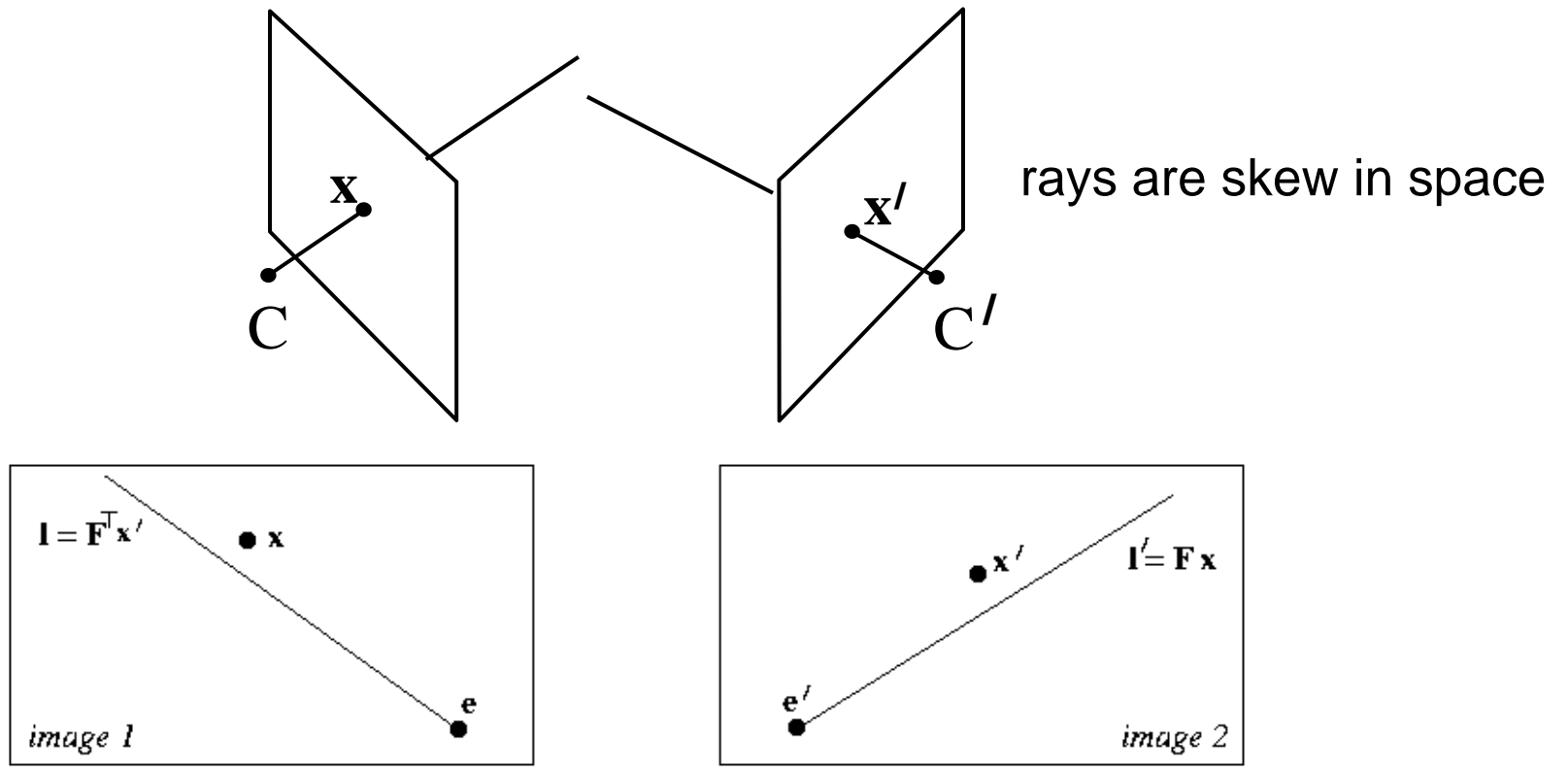
Depth:  $z = -B/d$ .

# Problem statement

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Given: corresponding measured (i.e. noisy) points  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{x}'$ , and cameras (exact)  $P$  and  $P'$ , compute the 3D point  $\mathbf{X}$

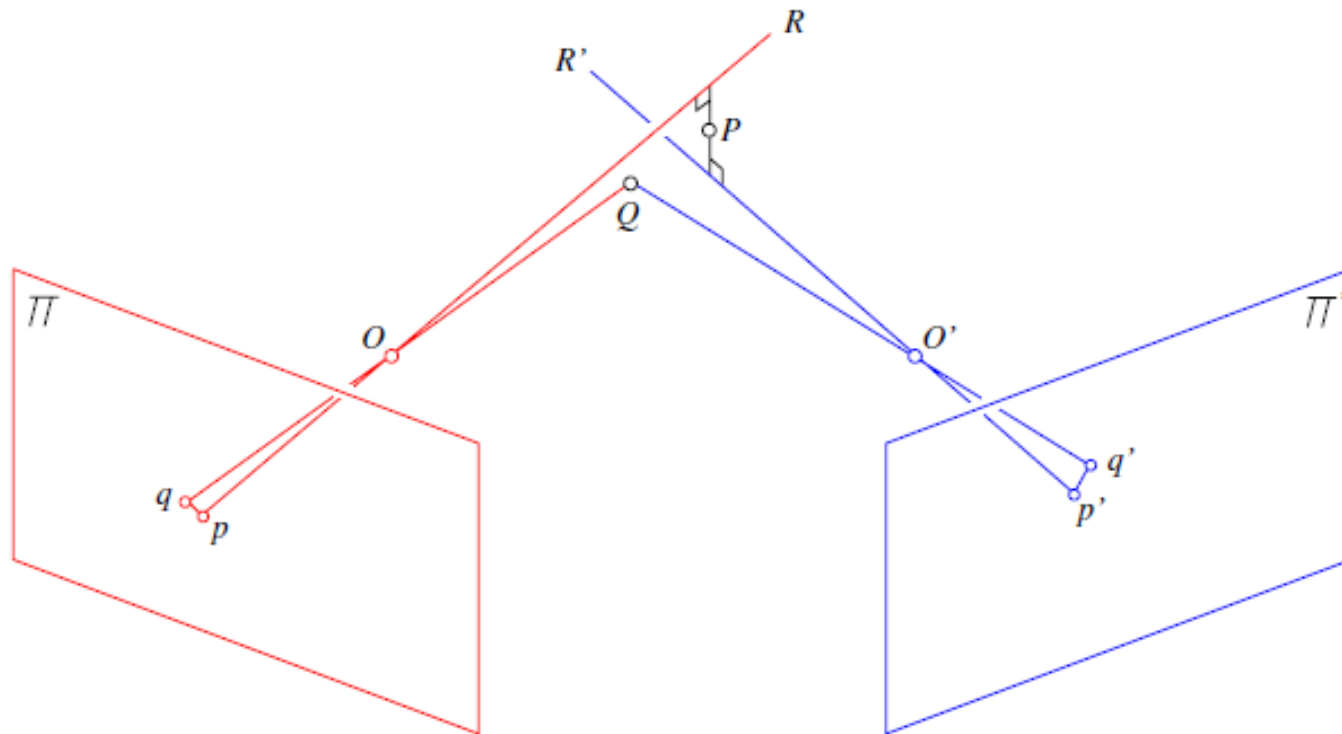
Problem: in the presence of noise, back projected rays do not intersect



Measured points do **not** lie on corresponding epipolar lines

# Problem statement

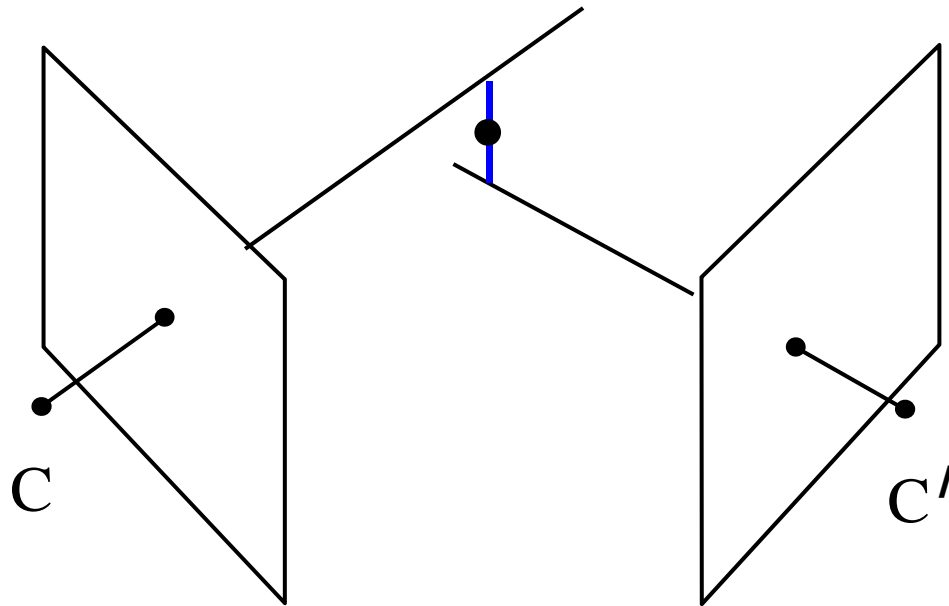
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**Figure 13.4.** Triangulation in the presence of measurement errors. See text for details.

## 1. Vector solution

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Compute the mid-point of the shortest line between the two rays

## 2. Linear triangulation (algebraic solution)

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Use the equations  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{X}$  to solve for  $\mathbf{X}$

For the first camera:

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & p_{13} & p_{14} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & p_{23} & p_{24} \\ p_{31} & p_{32} & p_{33} & p_{34} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}^{1\top} \\ \mathbf{p}^{2\top} \\ \mathbf{p}^{3\top} \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\mathbf{p}^{i\top}$  are the rows of  $\mathbf{P}$

- eliminate unknown scale in  $\lambda\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}$  by forming a cross product  $\mathbf{x} \times (\mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{0}$

$$\begin{aligned} x(\mathbf{p}^{3\top}\mathbf{X}) - (\mathbf{p}^{1\top}\mathbf{X}) &= 0 \\ y(\mathbf{p}^{3\top}\mathbf{X}) - (\mathbf{p}^{2\top}\mathbf{X}) &= 0 \\ x(\mathbf{p}^{2\top}\mathbf{X}) - y(\mathbf{p}^{1\top}\mathbf{X}) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- rearrange as (first two equations only)

$$\begin{bmatrix} x\mathbf{p}^{3\top} - \mathbf{p}^{1\top} \\ y\mathbf{p}^{3\top} - \mathbf{p}^{2\top} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$$

Similarly for the second camera:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \mathbf{p}'^{3\top} - \mathbf{p}'^{1\top} \\ y' \mathbf{p}'^{3\top} - \mathbf{p}'^{2\top} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$$

Collecting together gives

$$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$$

where  $\mathbf{A}$  is the  $4 \times 4$  matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} x \mathbf{p}^{3\top} - \mathbf{p}^{1\top} \\ y \mathbf{p}^{3\top} - \mathbf{p}^{2\top} \\ x' \mathbf{p}'^{3\top} - \mathbf{p}'^{1\top} \\ y' \mathbf{p}'^{3\top} - \mathbf{p}'^{2\top} \end{bmatrix}$$

from which  $\mathbf{X}$  can be solved up to scale.

**Problem:** does not minimize anything meaningful

**Advantage:** extends to more than two views



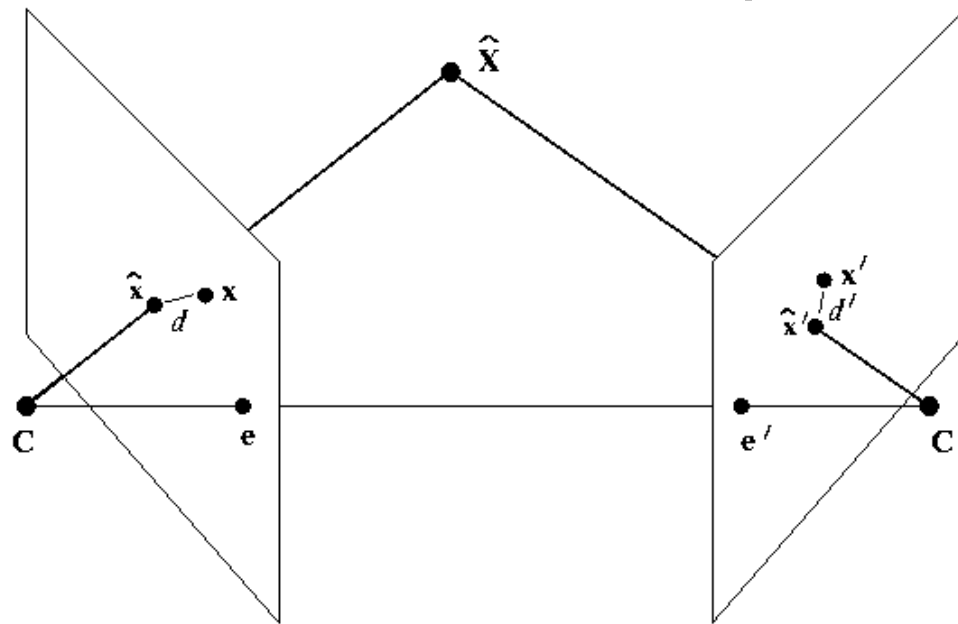
### 3. Minimizing a geometric/statistical error

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The idea is to estimate a 3D point  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}$  which exactly satisfies the supplied camera geometry, so it projects as

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{P}\hat{\mathbf{X}} \quad \hat{\mathbf{x}}' = \mathbf{P}'\hat{\mathbf{X}}$$

and the aim is to estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}$  from the image measurements  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{x}'$ .



$$\min_{\hat{\mathbf{X}}} \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = d(\mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{x}})^2 + d(\mathbf{x}', \hat{\mathbf{x}}')^2$$

where  $d(*, *)$  is the Euclidean distance between the points.

- It can be shown that if the measurement noise is Gaussian mean zero,  $\sim N(0, \sigma^2)$ , then minimizing geometric error is the **Maximum Likelihood Estimate** of  $X$
- The minimization appears to be over three parameters (the position  $X$ ), but the problem can be reduced to a minimization over one parameter

# Different formulation of the problem

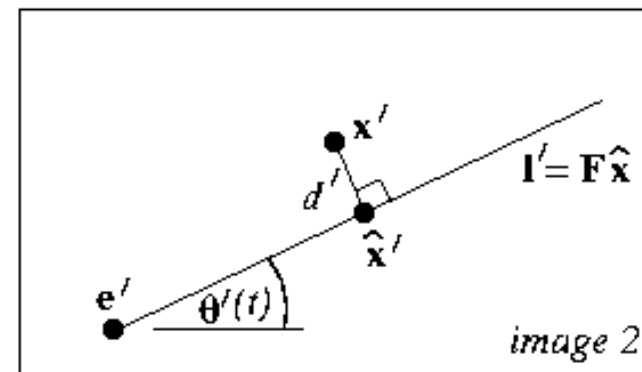
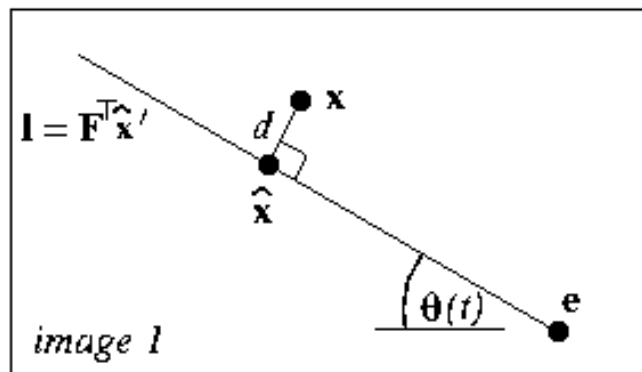
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The minimization problem may be formulated differently:

- Minimize

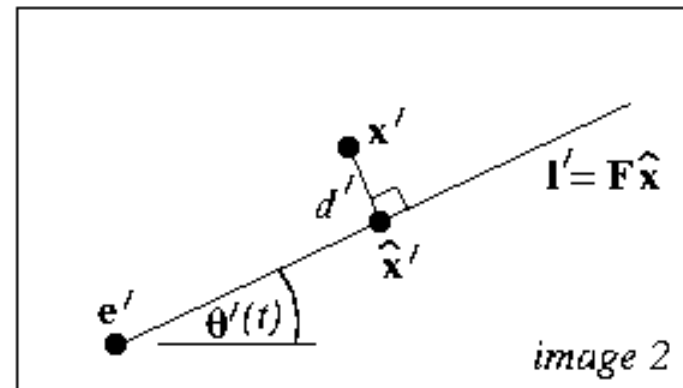
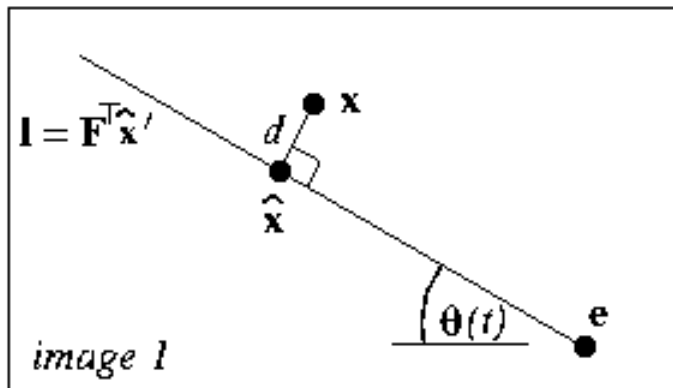
$$d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l})^2 + d(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{l}')^2$$

- $\mathbf{l}$  and  $\mathbf{l}'$  range over all choices of corresponding epipolar lines.
- $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is the closest point on the line  $\mathbf{l}$  to  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- Same for  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}'$ .



## Minimization method

- Parametrize the pencil of epipolar lines in the first image by  $t$ , such that the epipolar line is  $\mathbf{l}(t)$
- Using  $\mathbf{F}$  compute the corresponding epipolar line in the second image  $\mathbf{l}'(t)$
- Express the distance function  $d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l})^2 + d(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{l}')^2$  explicitly as a function of  $t$
- Find the value of  $t$  that minimizes the distance function
- Solution is a 6<sup>th</sup> degree polynomial in  $t$

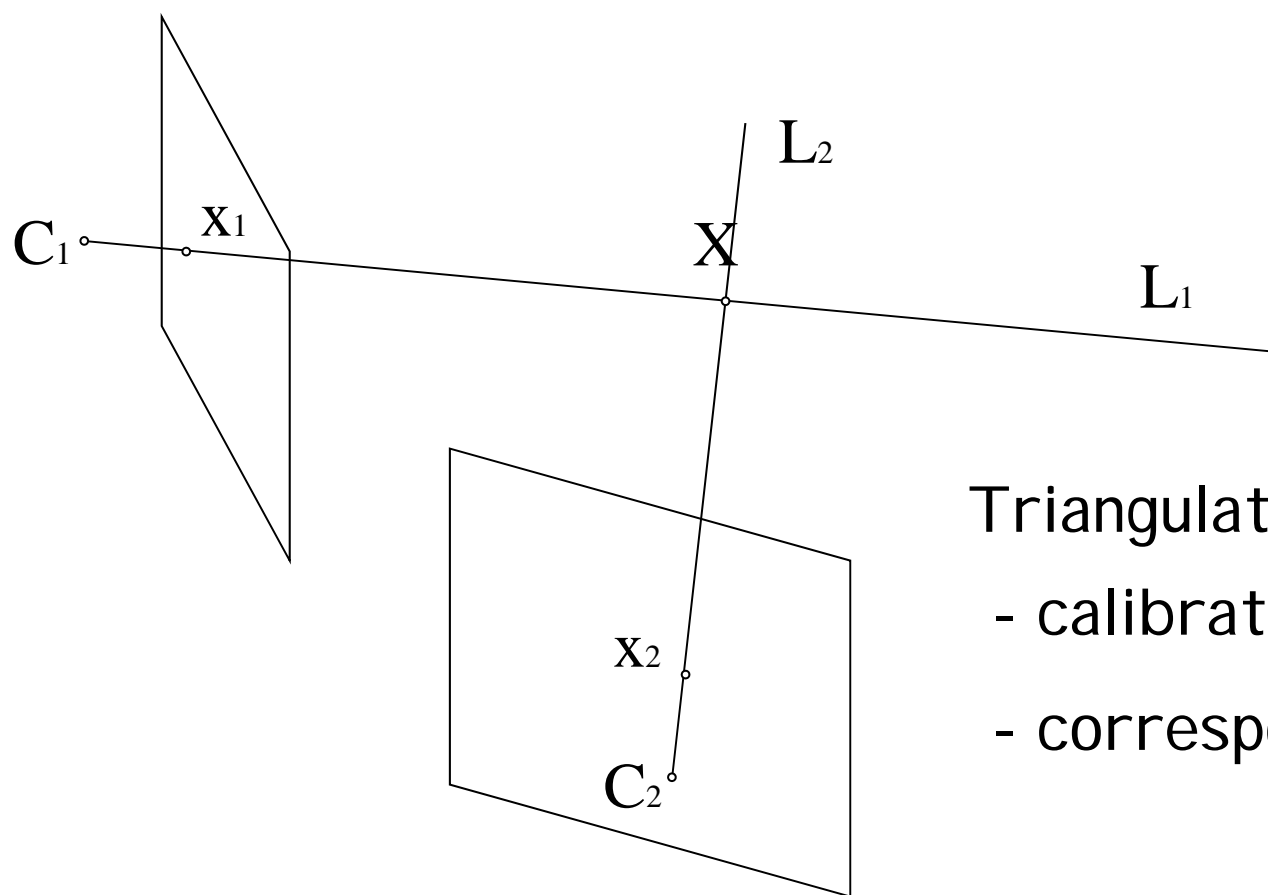




More slides for self-study.



# Triangulation (finally!)



Triangulation

- calibration
- correspondences



# Triangulation

- Backprojection

$$\lambda \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{X}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda x \\ \lambda y \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} P_1 \\ P_2 \\ P_3 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}$$

$$P_3 \mathbf{X} x = P_1 \mathbf{X}$$

$$P_3 \mathbf{X} y = P_2 \mathbf{X}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} P_3 x - P_1 \\ P_3 y - P_2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} = 0$$

- Triangulation

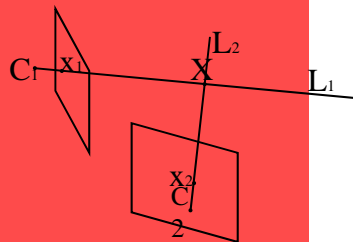
$$\begin{bmatrix} P_3 x - P_1 \\ P_3 y - P_2 \\ P'_3 x' - P'_1 \\ P'_3 y' - P'_2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{P_3 \tilde{\mathbf{X}}} \begin{pmatrix} P_3 x - P_1 \\ P_3 y - P_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \frac{1}{P'_3 \tilde{\mathbf{X}}} \begin{pmatrix} P'_3 x' - P'_1 \\ P'_3 y' - P'_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} = 0$$

Iterative least-squares

- Maximum Likelihood Triangulation

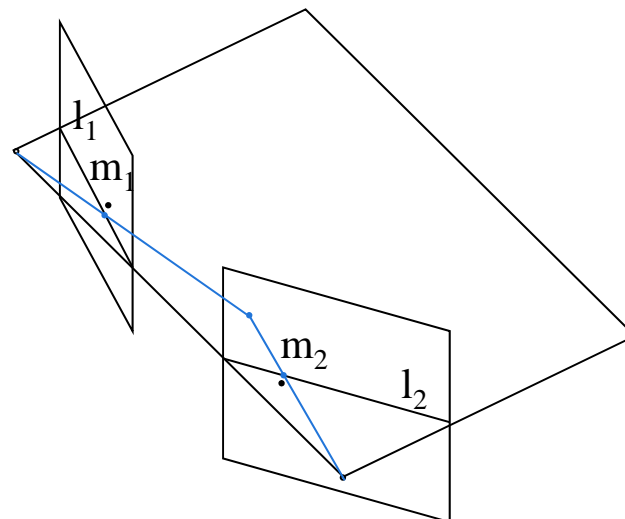
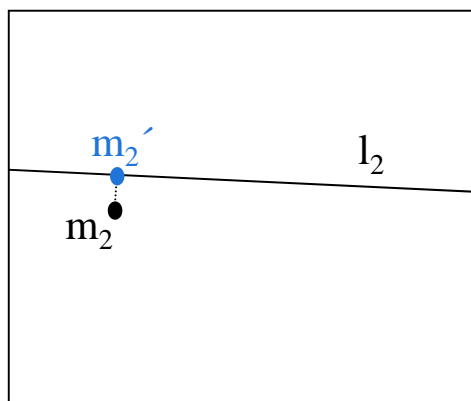
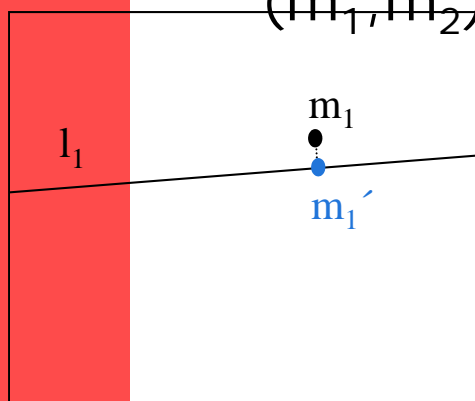
$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{X}} \sum_i (\mathbf{x}_i - \lambda^{-1} \mathbf{P}_i \mathbf{X})^2$$





# Optimal 3D point in epipolar plane

- Given an epipolar plane, find best 3D point for  $(m_1, m_2)$



Select closest points  $(m_1', m_2')$  on epipolar lines

Obtain 3D point through exact triangulation

Guarantees minimal reprojection error (given this epipolar plane)





# Non-iterative optimal solution

- Reconstruct matches in projective frame by minimizing the reprojection error

$$D(\mathbf{m}_1, \mathbf{P}_1 \mathbf{M})^2 + D(\mathbf{m}_2, \mathbf{P}_2 \mathbf{M})^2 \quad \text{3DOF}$$

- Non-iterative method

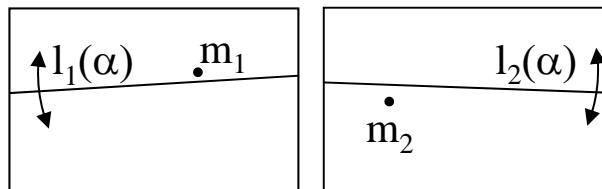
Determine the epipolar plane for reconstruction

(Hartley and Sturm, CVIU '97)

$$D(\mathbf{m}_1, \mathbf{l}_1(\alpha))^2 + D(\mathbf{m}_2, \mathbf{l}_2(\alpha))^2 \quad (\text{polynomial of degree 6})$$

Reconstruct optimal point from selected epipolar plane

Note: only works for two views



**1DOF**



# Backprojection

- Represent point as intersection of row and column

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{l}_x \times \mathbf{l}_y \text{ with } \mathbf{l}_x = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ x \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{l}_y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

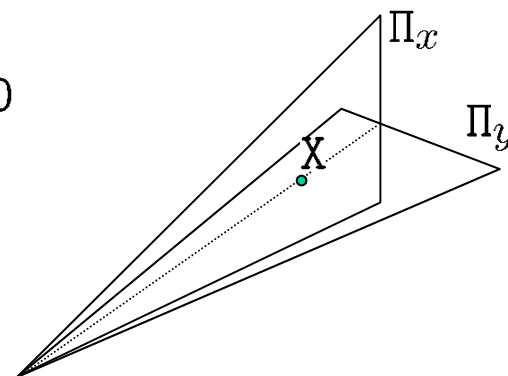
$$\Pi = \mathbf{P}^\top \mathbf{l}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Pi_x^\top \\ \Pi_y^\top \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{l}_x^\top \mathbf{P} \\ \mathbf{l}_y^\top \mathbf{P} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} = 0$$

- Condition for solution?

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{l}_x^\top \mathbf{P} \\ \mathbf{l}_y^\top \mathbf{P} \\ \mathbf{l}_{x'}^\top \mathbf{P}' \\ \mathbf{l}_{y'}^\top \mathbf{P}' \end{bmatrix} = 0$$



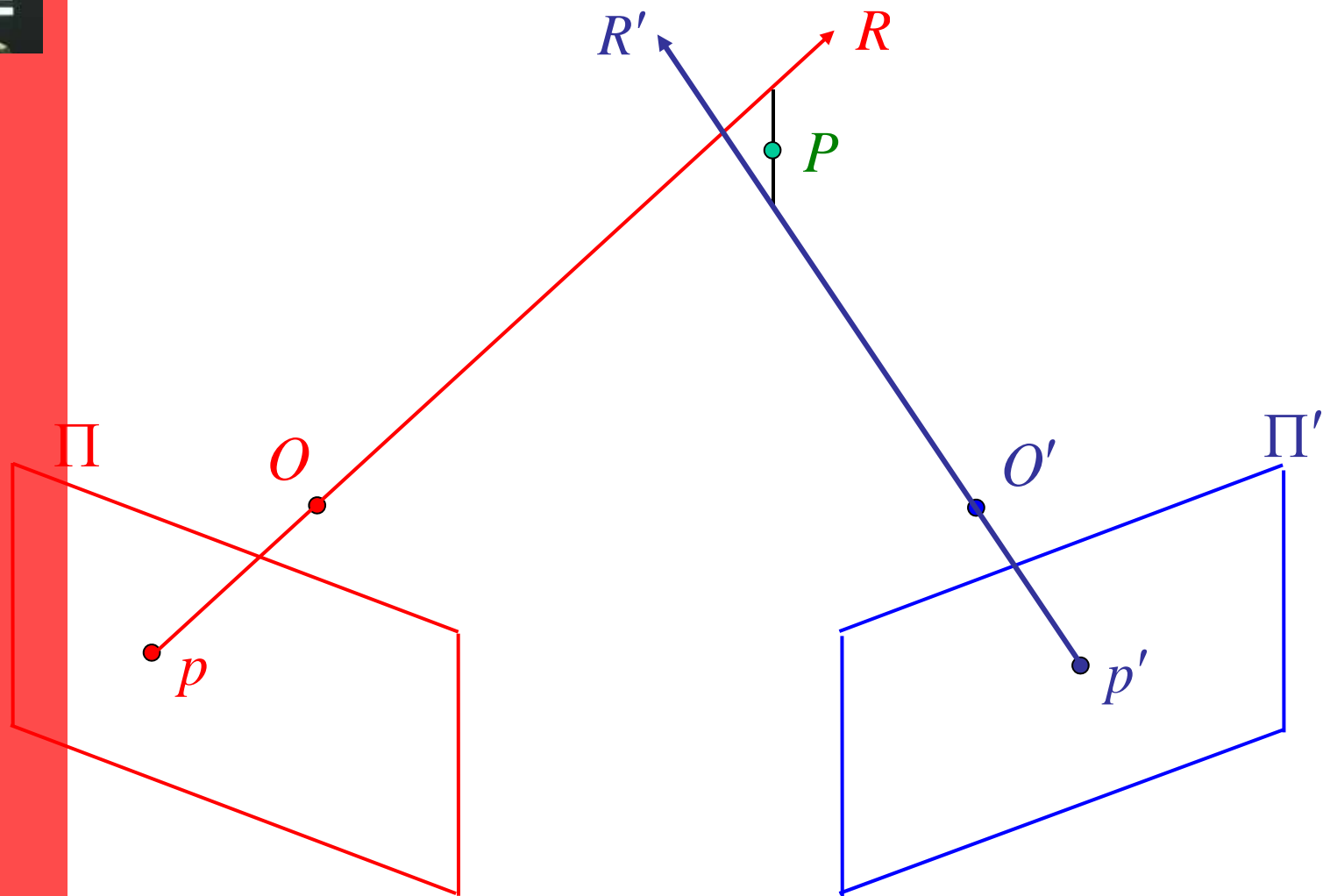
Useful presentation for deriving and understanding multiple view geometry  
(notice 3D planes are linear in 2D point coordinates)



# Reconstruction



# Geometric Reconstruction





# Reconstruction

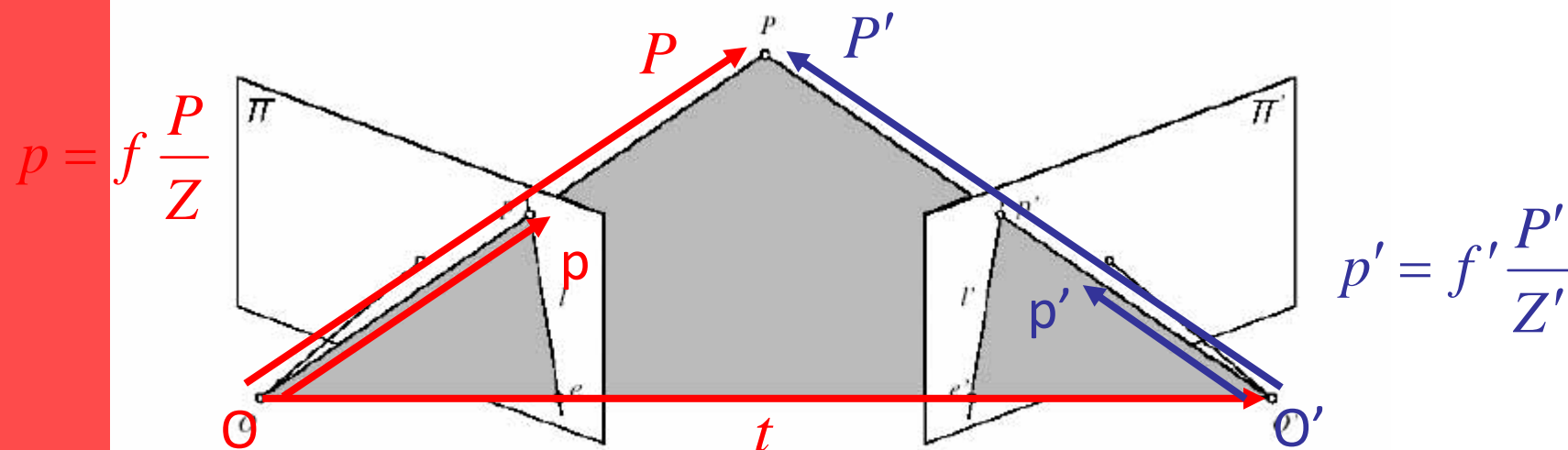


FIGURE 11.1: Epipolar geometry: the point  $P$ , the optical centers  $O$  and  $O'$  of the two cameras, and the two images  $p$  and  $p'$  of  $P$  all lie in the same plane.

$$P = RP' + t$$

$$P' = R^{-1}(P - t) = R^T(P - t)$$



# Reconstruction

$$p' = f' \frac{P'}{Z'}$$

$$P' = R^T (P - t) = R' (P - t)$$

$$R' = \begin{bmatrix} R_1'^T \\ R_2'^T \\ R_3'^T \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p' = f' \frac{R'(P - t)}{R_3'^T (P - t)}$$

$$x' = f' \frac{R_1'^T (P - t)}{R_3'^T (P - t)} \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

$$p = f \frac{P}{Z} \Rightarrow P = \frac{pZ}{f} \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

$$Z = f \frac{(x'R_3' - fR_1')^T t}{(x'R_3' - fR_1')^T p}$$

(From equations 1 and 2)



# Reconstruction up to a Scale Factor

- Assume that intrinsic parameters of both cameras are known
- Essential Matrix is known up to a scale factor (for example, estimated from the 8 point algorithm).



# Reconstruction up to a Scale Factor

$$\mathcal{E} = k[t_{\times}]R$$

$$\mathcal{E}\mathcal{E}^T = k^2[t_{\times}]RR^T[t_{\times}]^T = k^2[t_{\times}][t_{\times}]^T = \begin{bmatrix} k^2(T_Y^2 + T_Z^2) & -k^2T_XT_Y & -k^2T_XT_Z \\ -k^2T_XT_Y & k^2(T_X^2 + T_Z^2) & -k^2T_YT_Z \\ -k^2T_XT_Z & -k^2T_YT_Z & k^2(T_X^2 + T_Y^2) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Trace}[\mathcal{E}\mathcal{E}^T] = 2k^2(T_X^2 + T_Y^2 + T_Z^2) = 2k^2\|t\|^2$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}}{\|k\|\|t\|} = \text{sgn}(k)\frac{[t_{\times}]}{\|t\|}R = \text{sgn}(k)\left[\left(\frac{t}{\|t\|}\right)_{\times}\right]R = \text{sgn}(k)[\hat{t}_{\times}]R = \hat{E}$$

$$\hat{E}\hat{E}^T = [\hat{t}_{\times}][\hat{t}_{\times}]^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \hat{T}_X^2 & -\hat{T}_X\hat{T}_Y & -\hat{T}_X\hat{T}_Z \\ -\hat{T}_X\hat{T}_Y & 1 - \hat{T}_Y^2 & -\hat{T}_Y\hat{T}_Z \\ -\hat{T}_X\hat{T}_Z & -\hat{T}_Y\hat{T}_Z & 1 - \hat{T}_Z^2 \end{bmatrix}$$





# Reconstruction up to a Scale Factor

$$\hat{E} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{E}_1^T \\ \hat{E}_2^T \\ \hat{E}_3^T \end{bmatrix} \quad R = \begin{bmatrix} R_1^T \\ R_2^T \\ R_3^T \end{bmatrix}$$

Let  $w_i = \hat{E}_i \times \hat{t}$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

It can be proved that

$$R_1 = w_1 + w_2 \times w_3$$

$$R_2 = w_2 + w_3 \times w_1$$

$$R_3 = w_3 + w_1 \times w_2$$



# Reconstruction up to a Scale Factor

We have two choices of  $\mathbf{t}$ , ( $\mathbf{t}^+$  and  $\mathbf{t}^-$ ) because of sign ambiguity  
and two choices of  $\mathbf{E}$ , ( $\mathbf{E}^+$  and  $\mathbf{E}^-$ ).

This gives us four pairs of translation vectors and rotation matrices.



# Reconstruction up to a Scale Factor

Given  $\hat{E}$  and  $\hat{t}$

1. Construct the vectors  $\mathbf{w}$ , and compute  $R$
2. Reconstruct the  $Z$  and  $Z'$  for each point
3. If the signs of  $Z$  and  $Z'$  of the reconstructed points are
  - a) both negative for some point, change the sign of  $\hat{t}$  and go to step 2.
  - b) different for some point, change the sign of each entry of  $\hat{E}$  and go to step 1.
  - c) both positive for all points, exit.

$$Z = f \frac{(x'R'_3 - f'R'_1)^T t}{(x'R'_3 - f'R'_1)^T p}$$

$$Z' = -f' \frac{(xR_3 - fR_1)^T (t)}{(xR_3 - fR_1)^T p'}$$



# 3D Reconstruction

[Trucco pp. 161]

- Three cases:
  - a) intrinsic and extrinsic parameters known: Solve reconstruction by triangulation: ray intersection
  - b) only intrinsic parameters known: estimate essential matrix  $E$  up to scaling
  - c) intrinsic and extrinsic parameters not known: estimate fundamental matrix  $F$ , reconstruction up to global, projective transformation



# Run Example

**Demo for stereo reconstruction:**

<http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/people/zhang/inria/calibenv/calibenv.html>