

# Lecture 17: Two-view Geometry

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Liuji Zheng



Course Website:  
Scan Me!

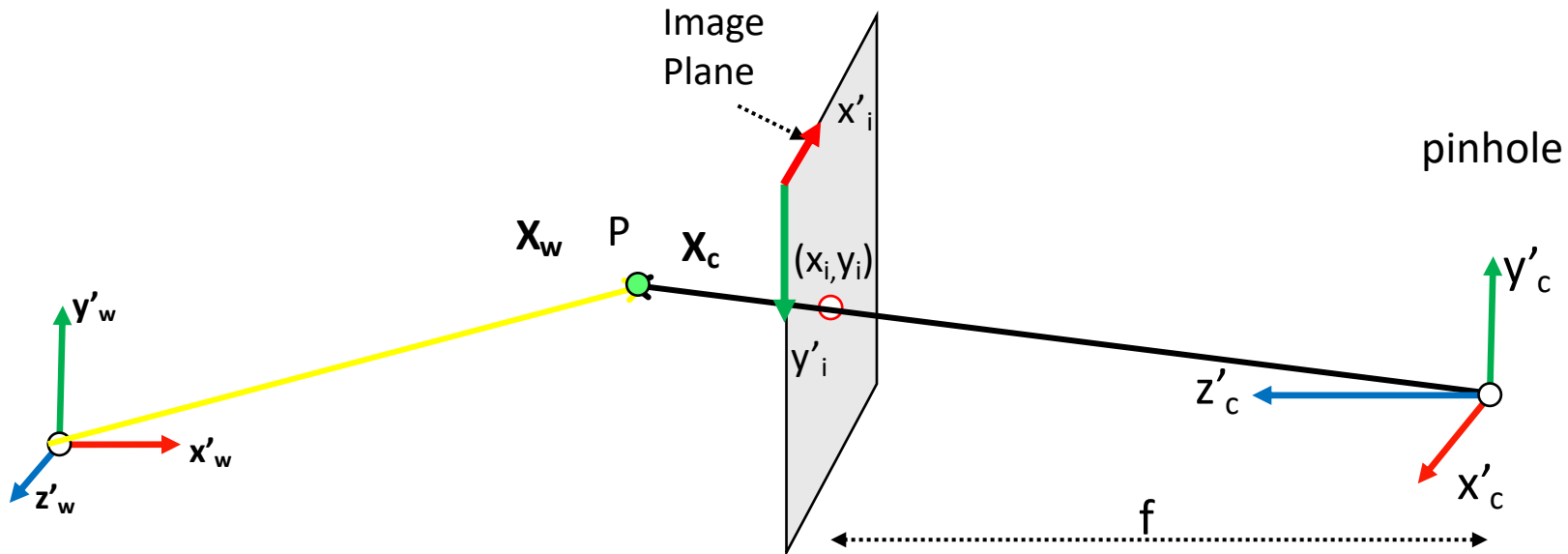


Image Coordinates

Camera Coordinates

World Coordinates

$$\mathbf{X}_i = \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ y_i \end{bmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \text{Perspective Projection} \quad \mathbf{X}_c = \begin{bmatrix} x_c \\ y_c \\ z_c \end{bmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \text{Coordinate Transformation} \quad \mathbf{X}_w = \begin{bmatrix} x_w \\ y_w \\ z_w \end{bmatrix}$$

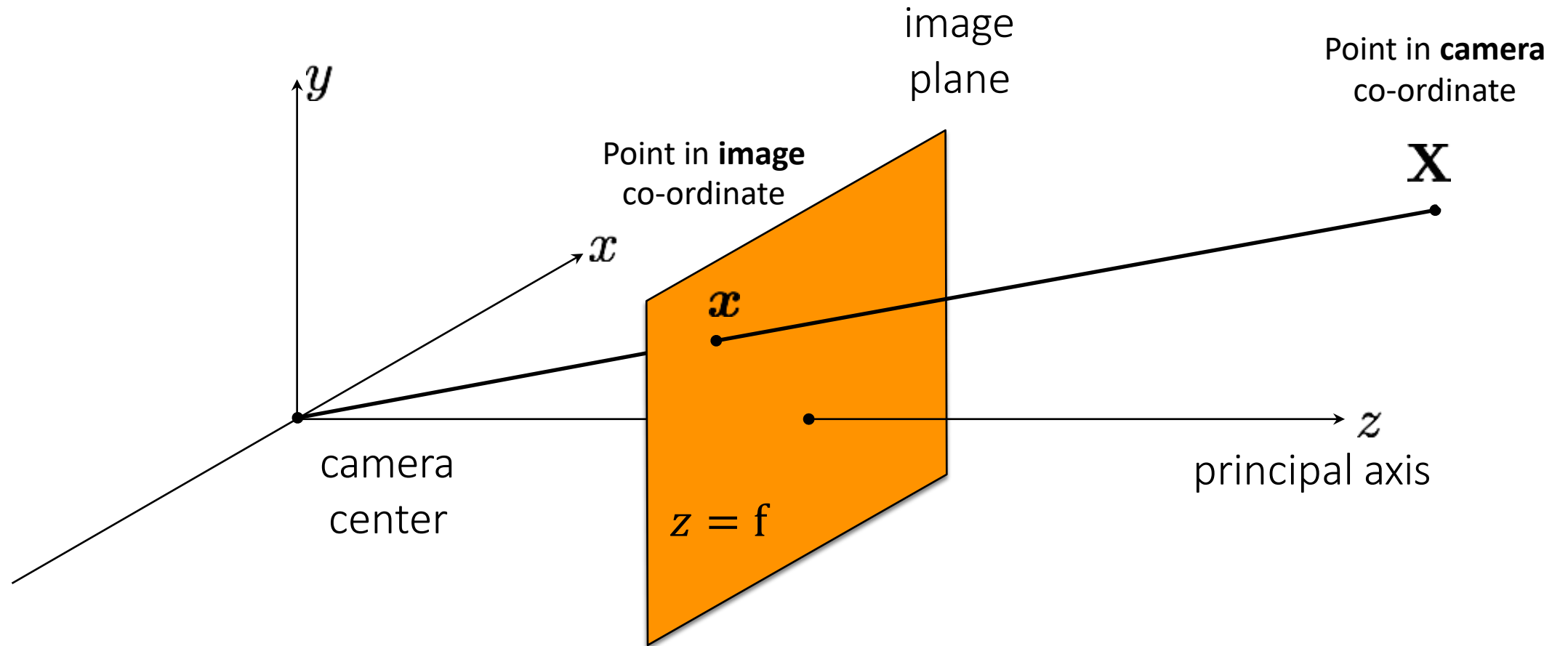
$$\begin{bmatrix} f_x & 0 & o_x & 0 \\ 0 & f_y & o_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_{3 \times 3} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}_{1 \times 3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Intrinsics**

**Extrinsics**

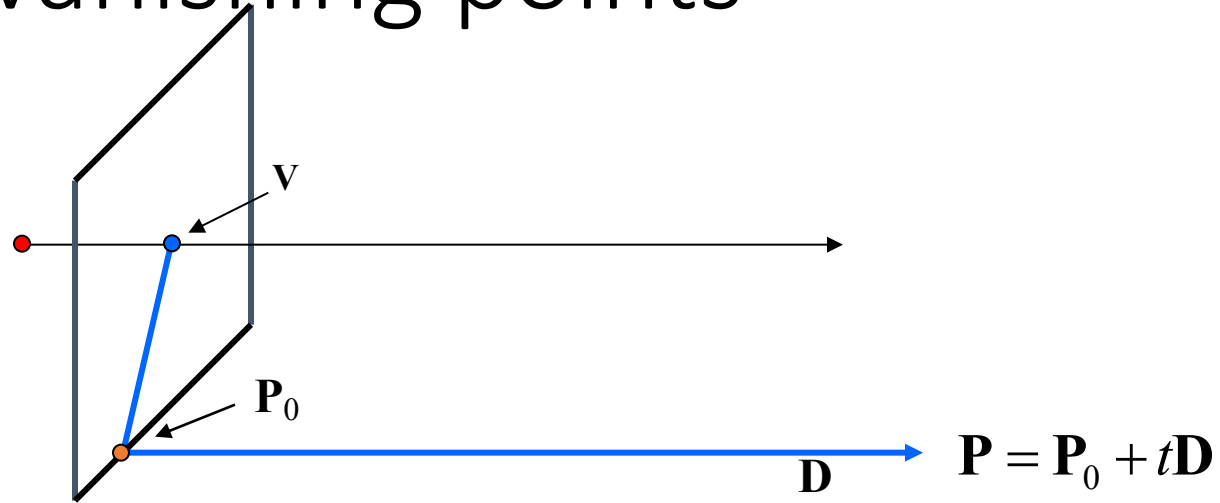
# The (rearranged) pinhole camera



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

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

# Computing vanishing points



Any point on a line =  $\mathbf{P}_0 + t[\mathbf{D}_x, \mathbf{D}_y, \mathbf{D}_z]$

Projection of that point on image plane =  $f * \left[ \frac{(\mathbf{P}_0x + t * \mathbf{D}_x)}{(\mathbf{P}_0z + t * \mathbf{D}_z)}, \frac{(\mathbf{P}_0y + t * \mathbf{D}_y)}{(\mathbf{P}_0z + t * \mathbf{D}_z)} \right]$

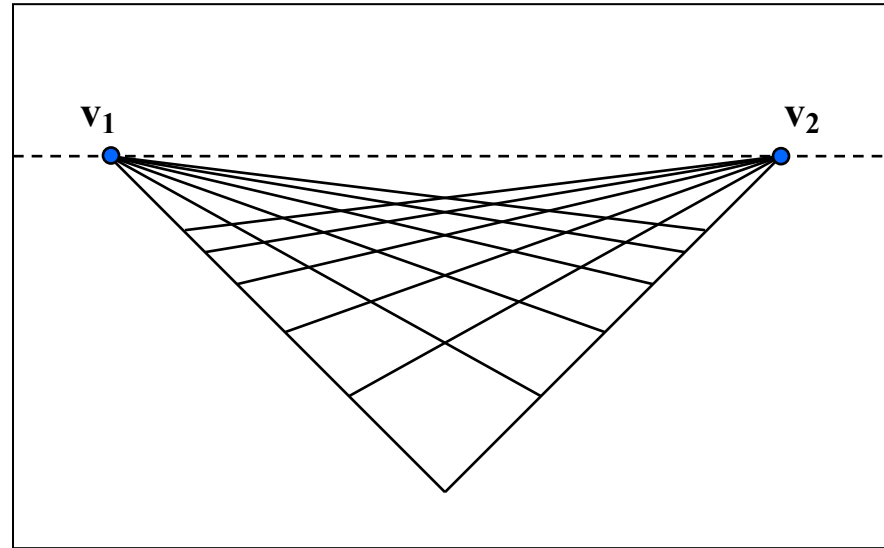
Vanishing Point = Limit  $t \rightarrow \infty$   $f * \left[ \frac{(\mathbf{P}_0x + t * \mathbf{D}_x)}{(\mathbf{P}_0z + t * \mathbf{D}_z)}, \frac{(\mathbf{P}_0y + t * \mathbf{D}_y)}{(\mathbf{P}_0z + t * \mathbf{D}_z)} \right]$

=  $(f * \mathbf{D}_x / \mathbf{D}_z, f * \mathbf{D}_y / \mathbf{D}_z)$

Properties:

2 set of parallel lines project to the same vanishing point.

# Vanishing lines (Horizon Lines)



## Properties:

- Union of any 2 vanishing points create a vanishing line
- Horizon line is the projection of a plane at infinity
- A point on horizon line visible in the image is at the height of the camera.

# Geometric camera calibration

Same setup as homography estimation

(slightly different derivation here)

Given a set of matched points

$$\{\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{x}_i\}$$

point in 3D space      point in the image

and camera model

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}$$

projection model      parameters      Camera matrix

Find the (pose) estimate of

# P

Compute SVD of a measurement matrix to obtain P

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P} &= \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{R}|\mathbf{t}] \\ &= \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{R} | -\mathbf{R}\mathbf{c}] \\ &= [\mathbf{M} | -\mathbf{M}\mathbf{c}]\end{aligned}$$

Find the camera center **C**

$$\mathbf{P}\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{0}$$

SVD of P!

*c* is the singular vector corresponding to the smallest singular value

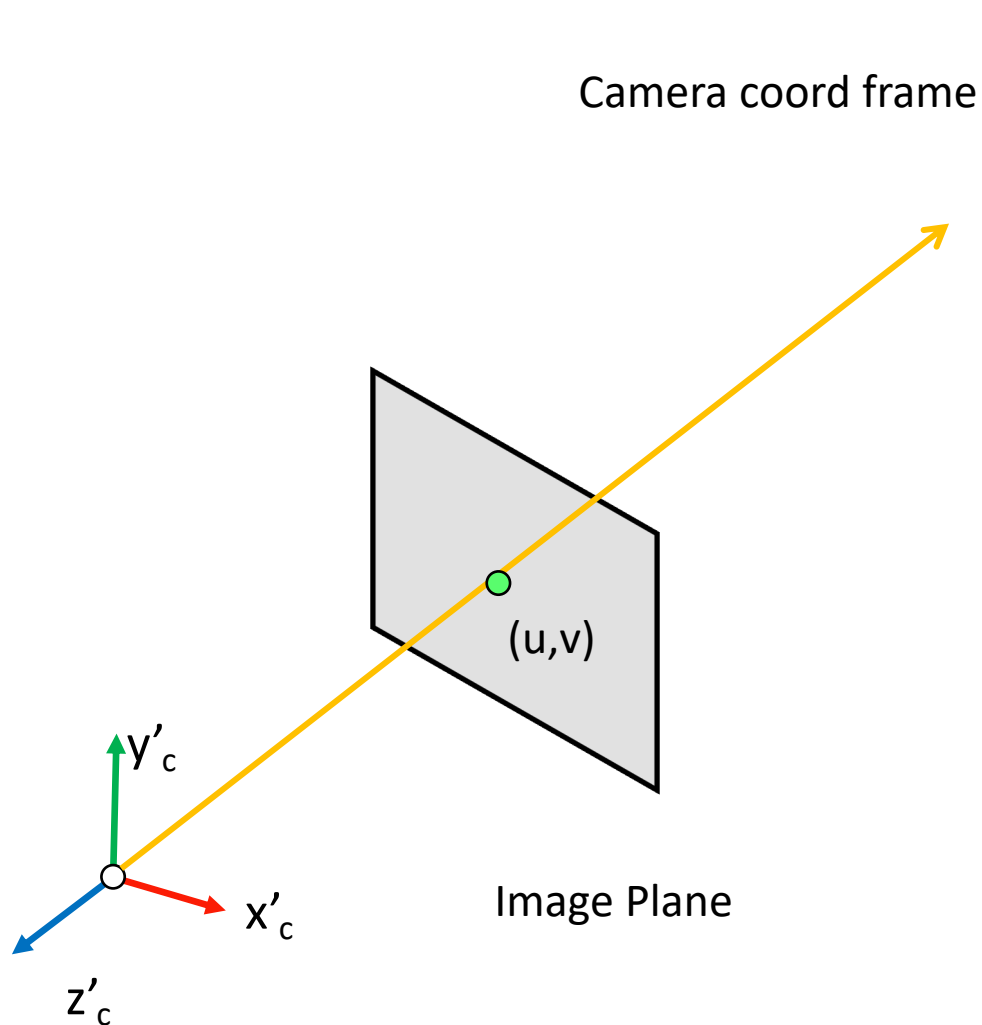
Find intrinsic **K** and rotation **R**

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}$$

QR decomposition

Now that our cameras are calibrated, can we find the 3D scene point of a pixel?

You know we can't, but we know it'll be...  
on the ray!



Ray

3D to 2D:  
(point)

$$u = f_x \frac{x_c}{z_c} + o_x$$
$$v = f_y \frac{y_c}{z_c} + o_y$$

2D to 3D:  
(ray)  
Back projection

$$x = \frac{z}{f_x} (u - o_x)$$
$$y = \frac{z}{f_y} (v - o_y)$$
$$z > 0$$



Our goal: Develop theories and study how a 3D point and its projection in 2 images are related to each other!

From a single image you can only back project a pixel to obtain a ray on which the actual 3D point lies



To find the actual location of the 3D point, you need:

an additional image captured from another viewpoint.

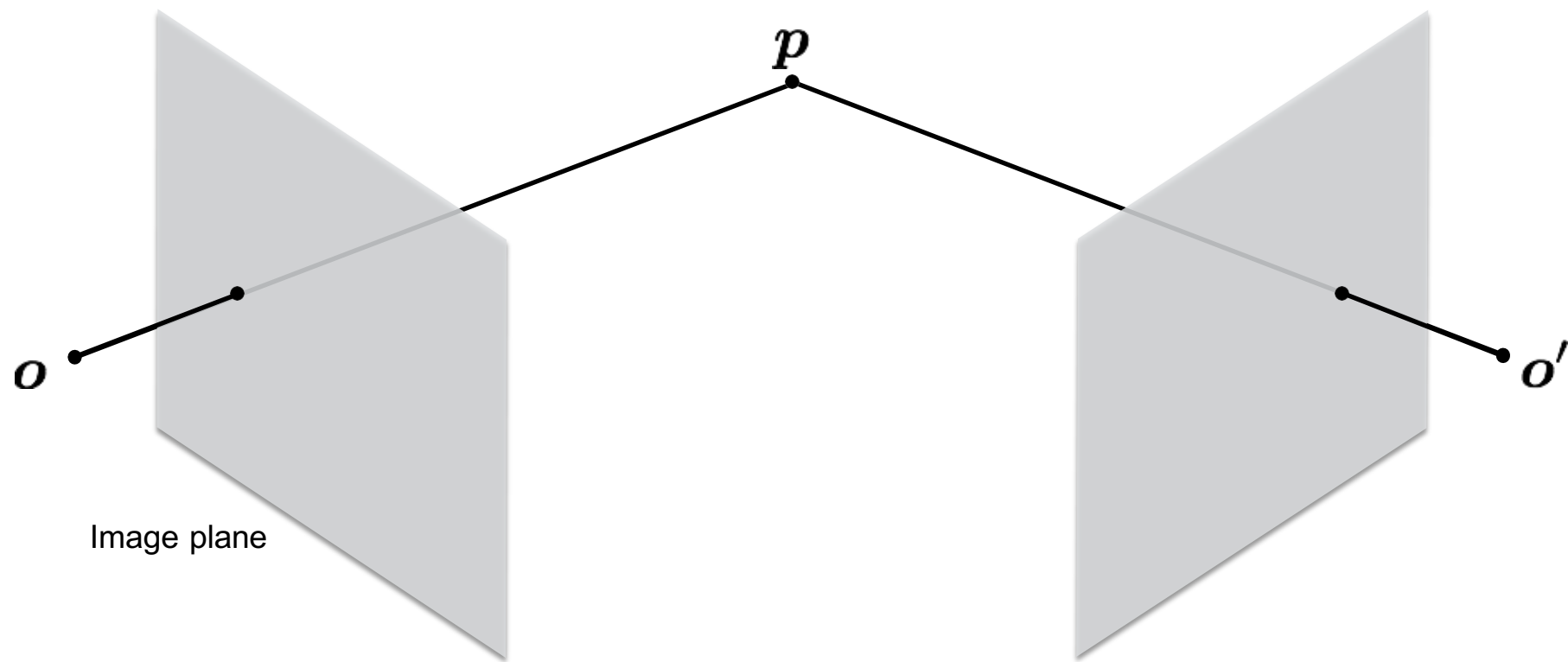
# Today's class

- Epipolar Geometry
- Essential Matrix
- Fundamental Matrix
- 8-point Algorithm
- Triangulation

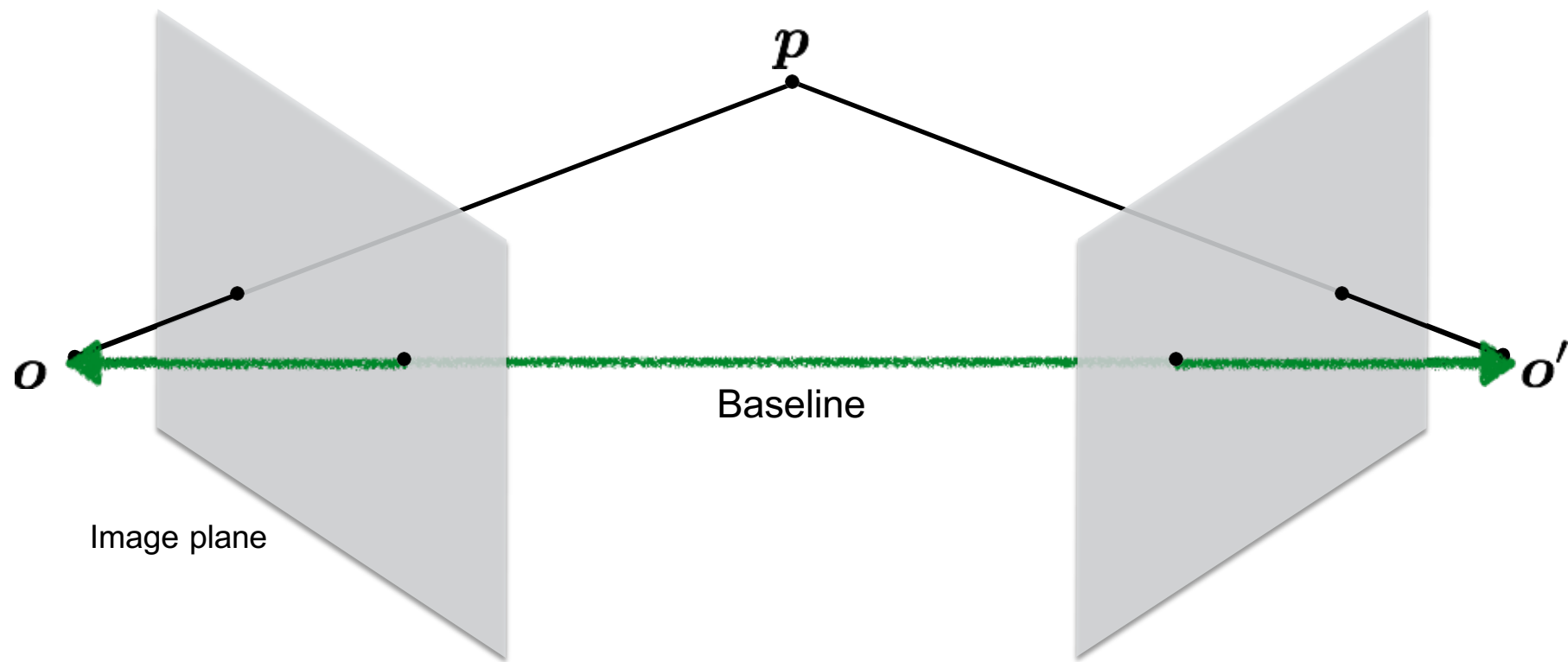
# Today's class

- Epipolar Geometry (few definitions)
- Essential Matrix
- Fundamental Matrix
- 8-point Algorithm
- Triangulation

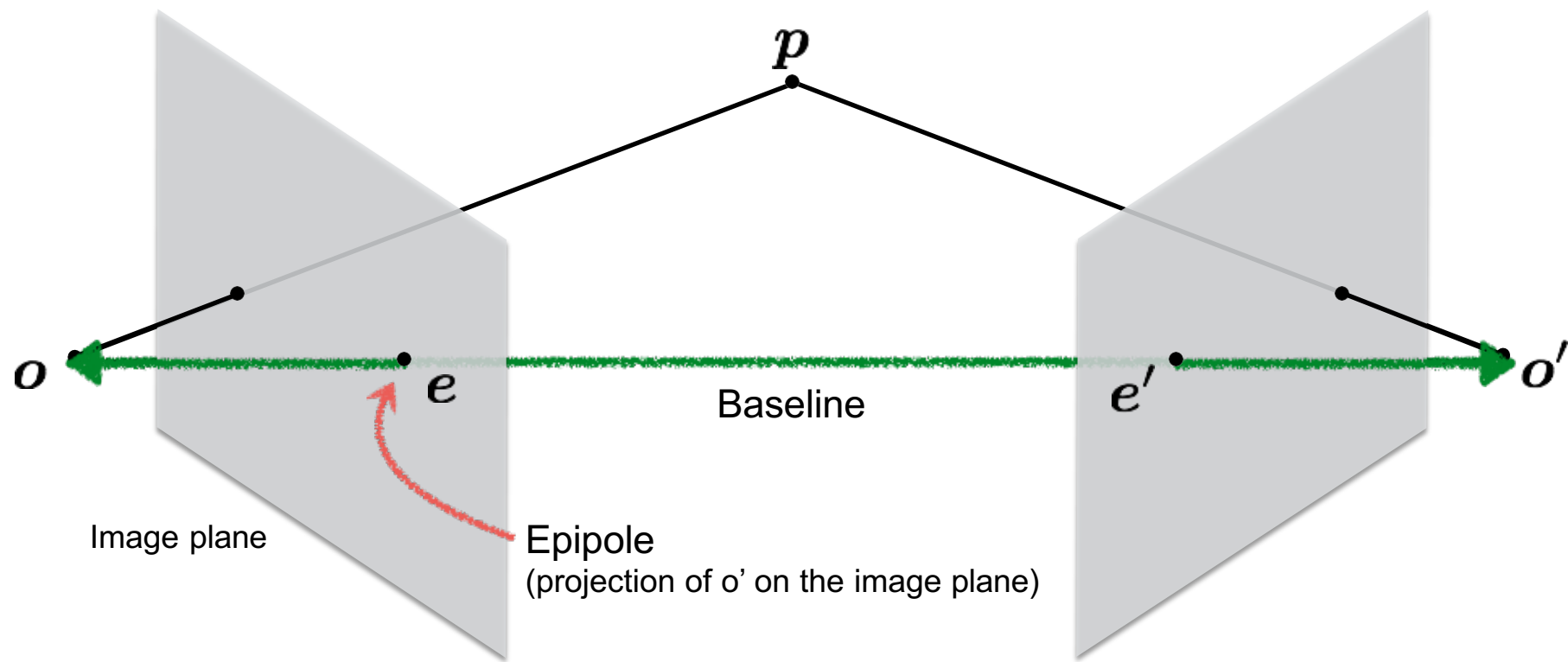
# Epipolar geometry



# Epipolar geometry



# Epipolar geometry

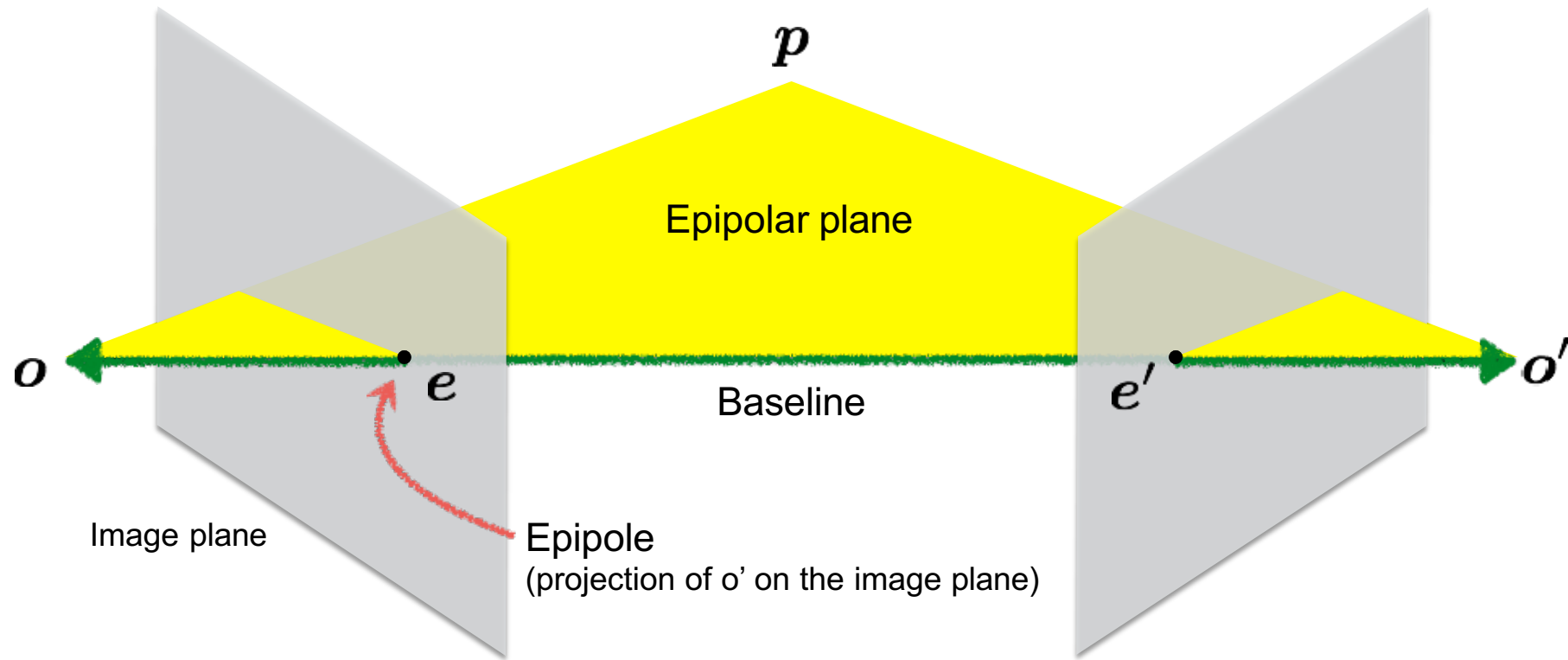


# The Epipole



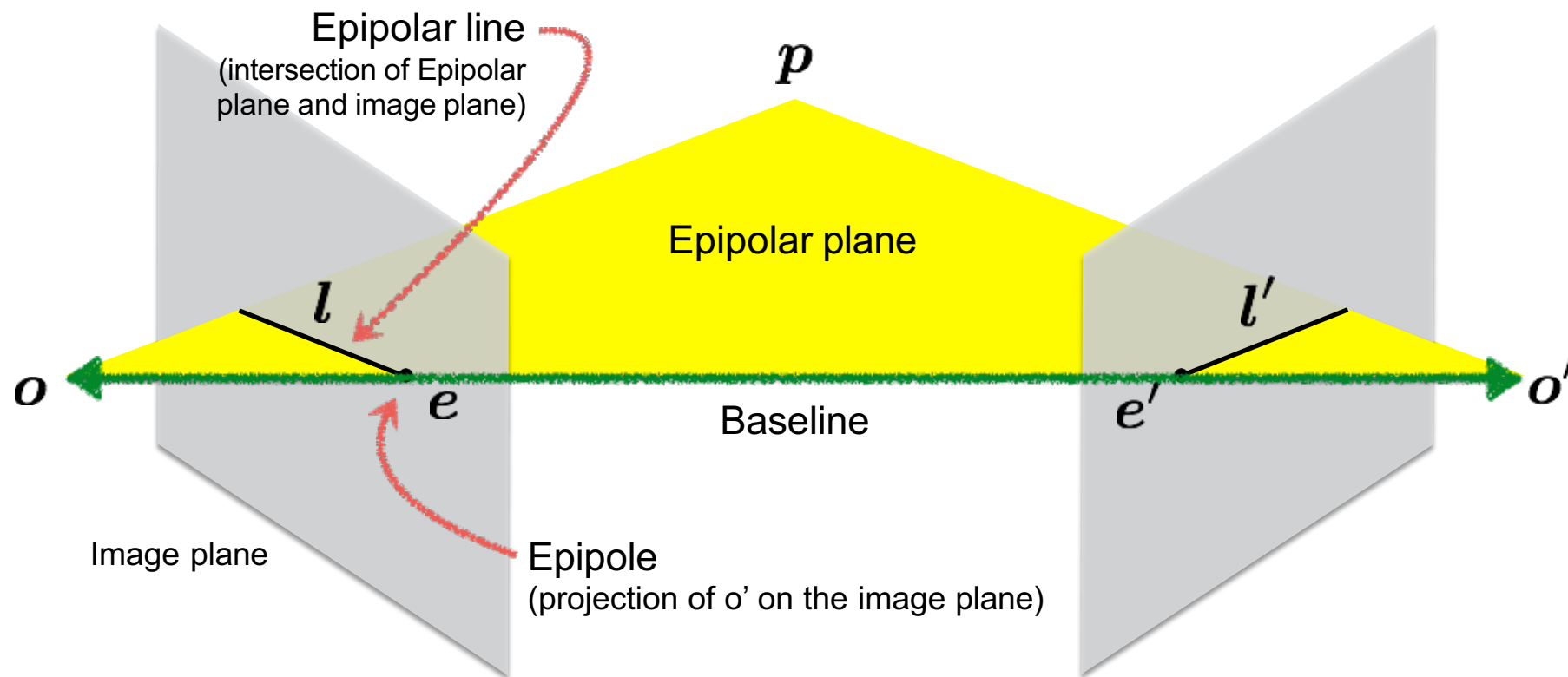
Photo by Frank Dellaert

# Epipolar geometry



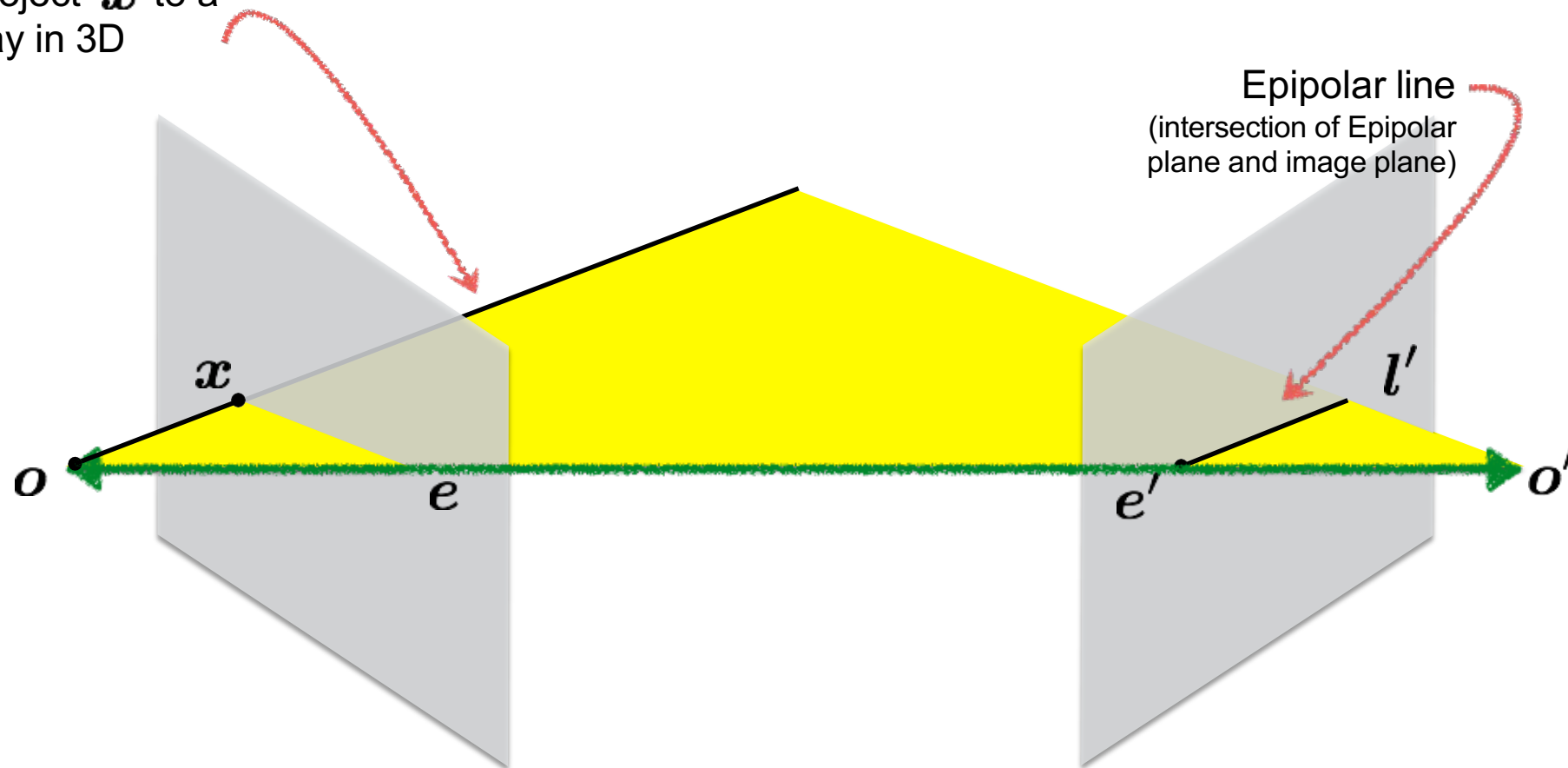


# Epipolar geometry



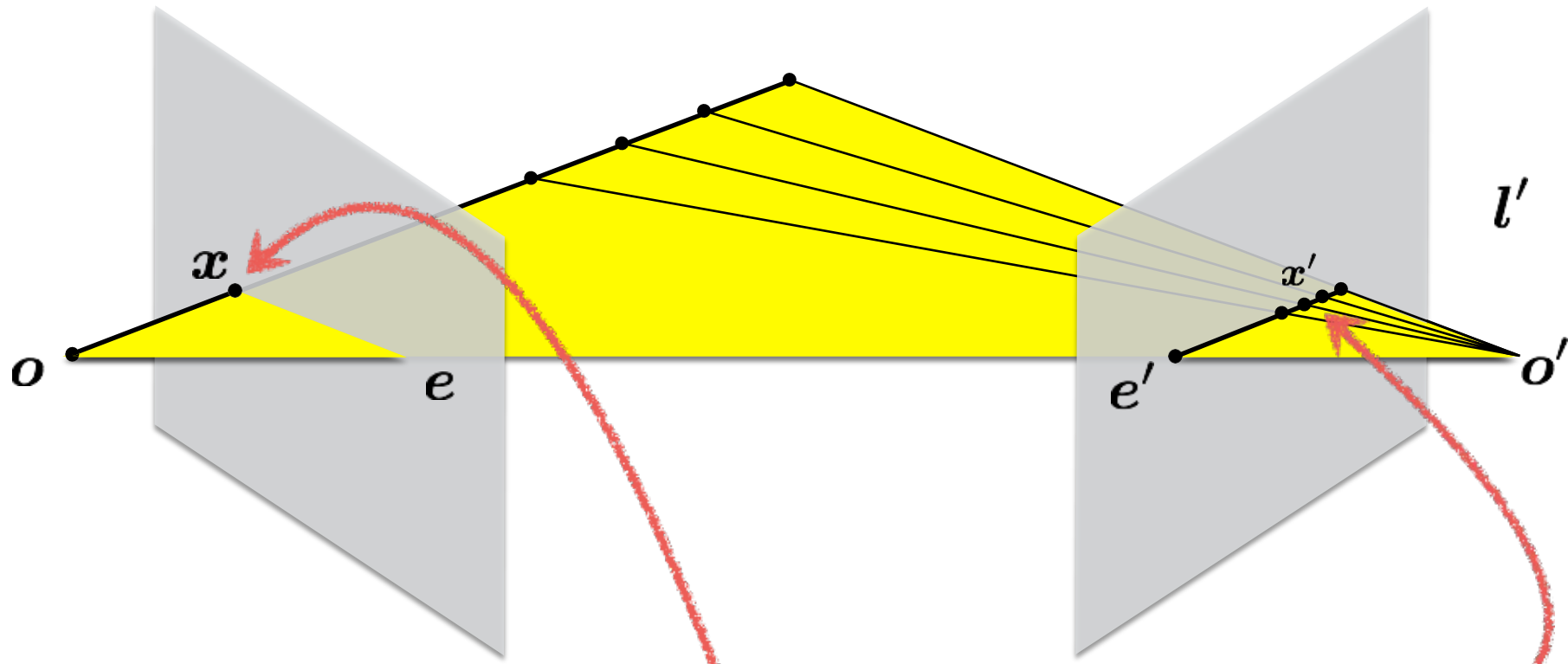
# Epipolar constraint

Backproject  $\boldsymbol{x}$  to a ray in 3D



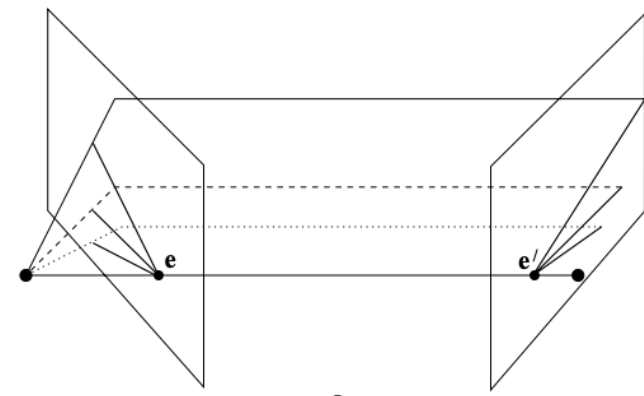
Another way to construct the epipolar plane, this time given  $\boldsymbol{x}$

# Epipolar constraint

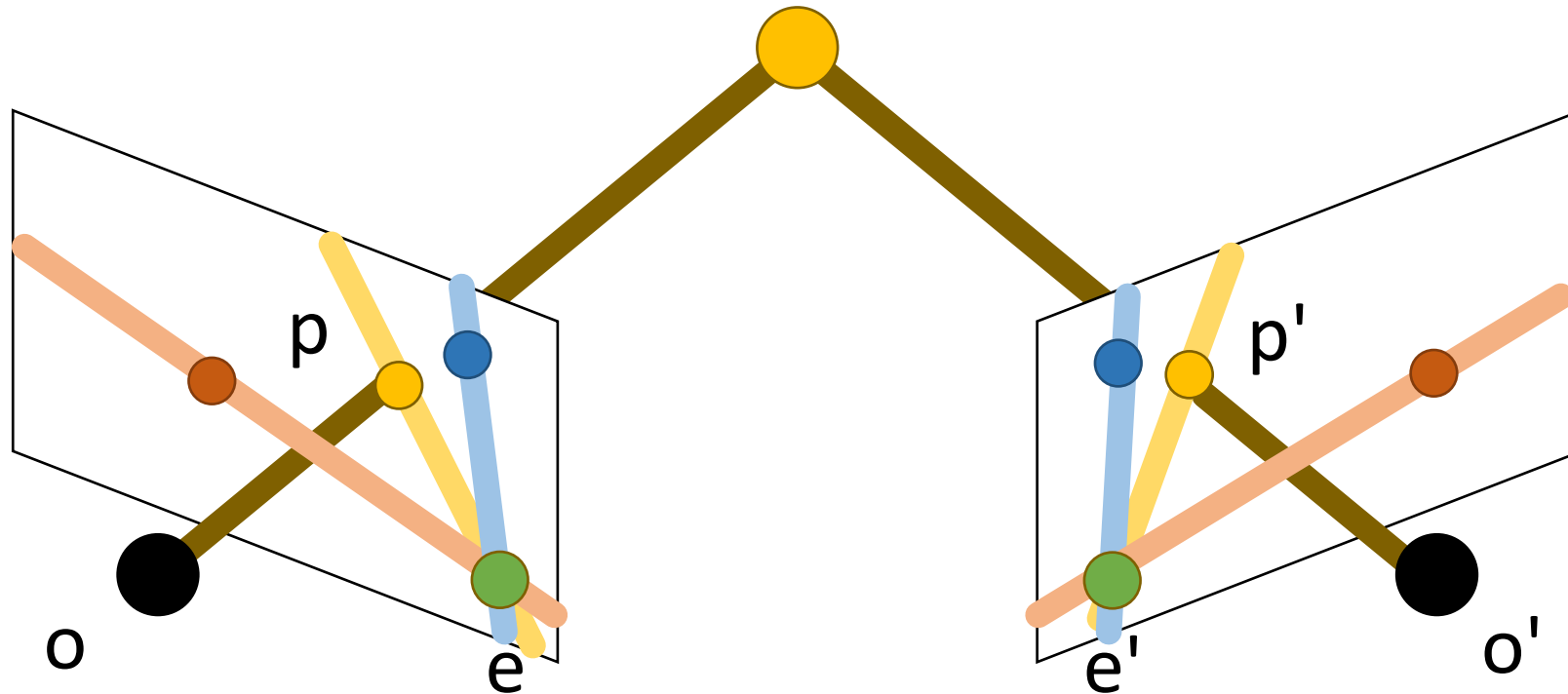


Potential matches for  $x$  lie on the epipolar line  $l'$

# Example : Converging Cameras



# Example: Converging Cameras



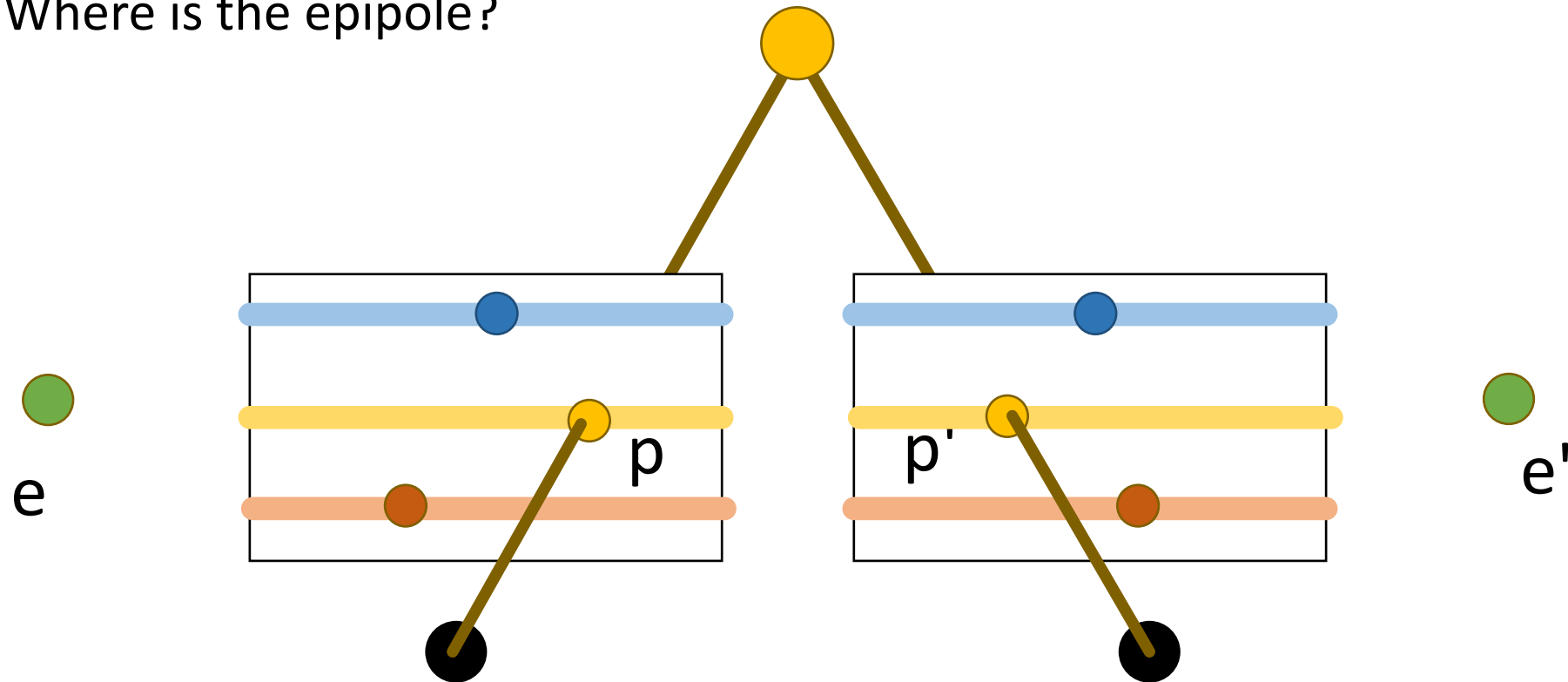
Epipoles finite, maybe in image; epipolar lines converge

Epipolar lines come in pairs:

given a point  $p$ , we can construct the epipolar line for  $p'$ .

# Example: Parallel to Image Plane

Where is the epipole?



Epipoles *infinitely* far away, epipolar lines parallel

# Example: Forward Motion



Image Credit: Hartley & Zisserman

# Example: Forward Motion



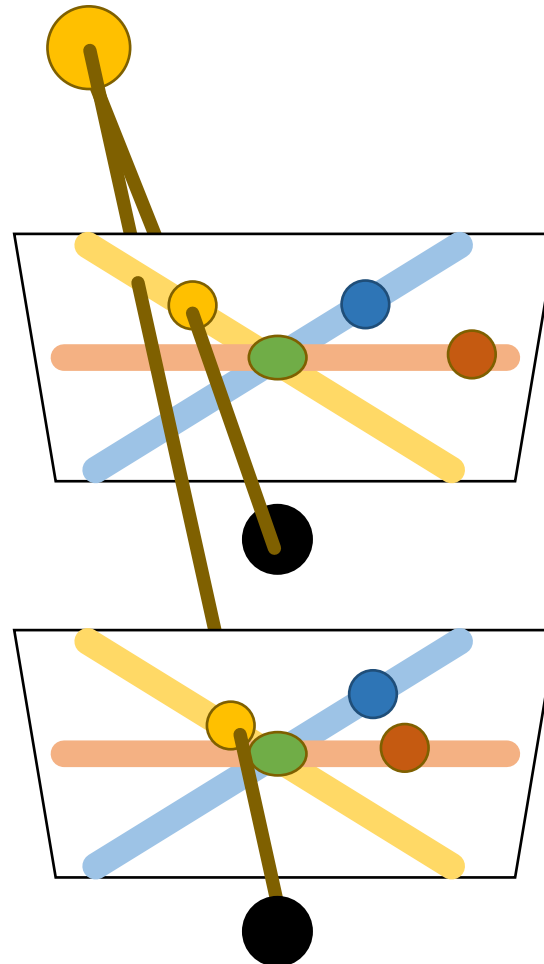
Image Credit: Hartley & Zisserman



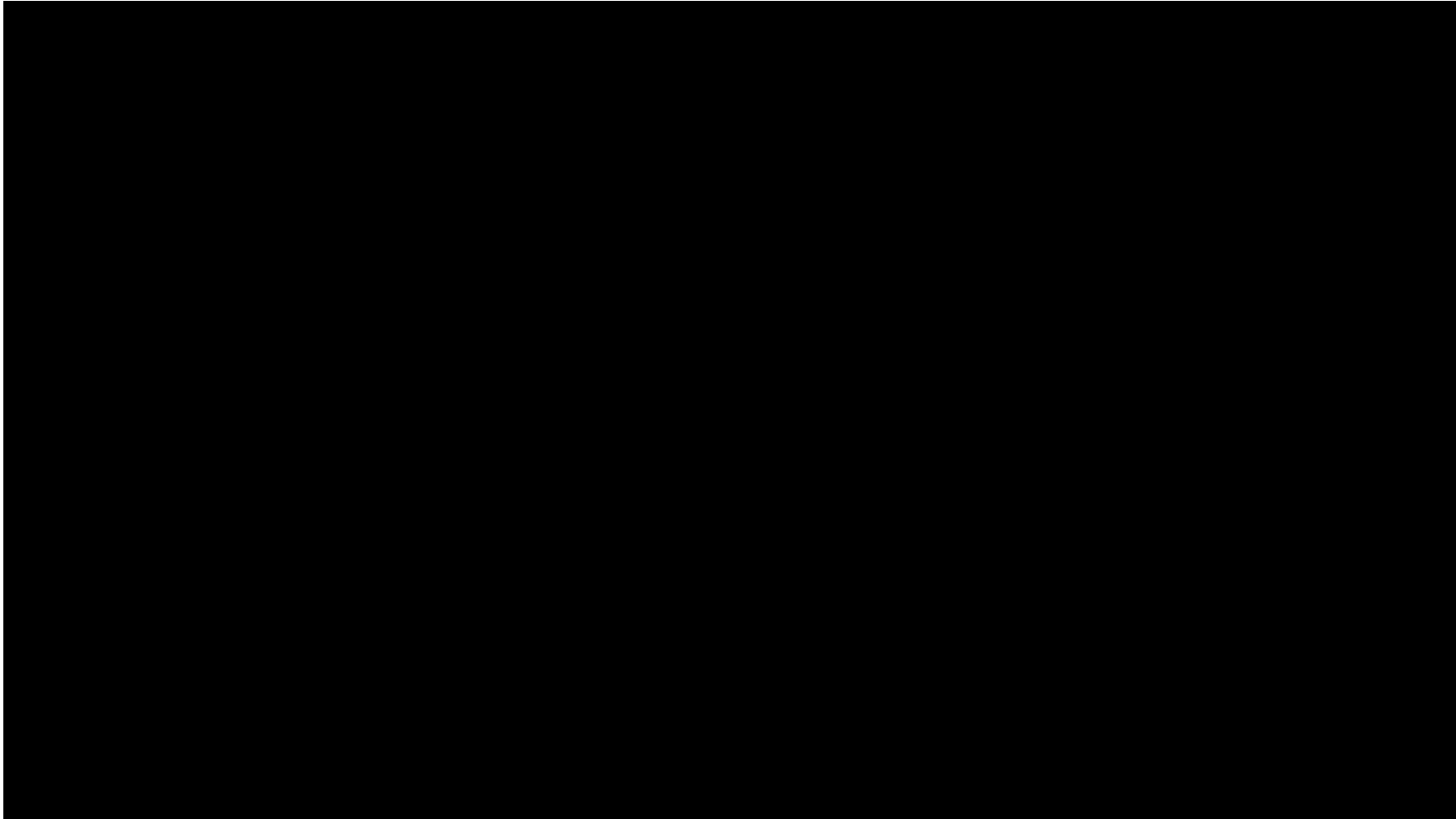
# Example: Forward Motion

Epipole is focus of expansion / principal point of the camera.

Epipolar lines go out from principal point

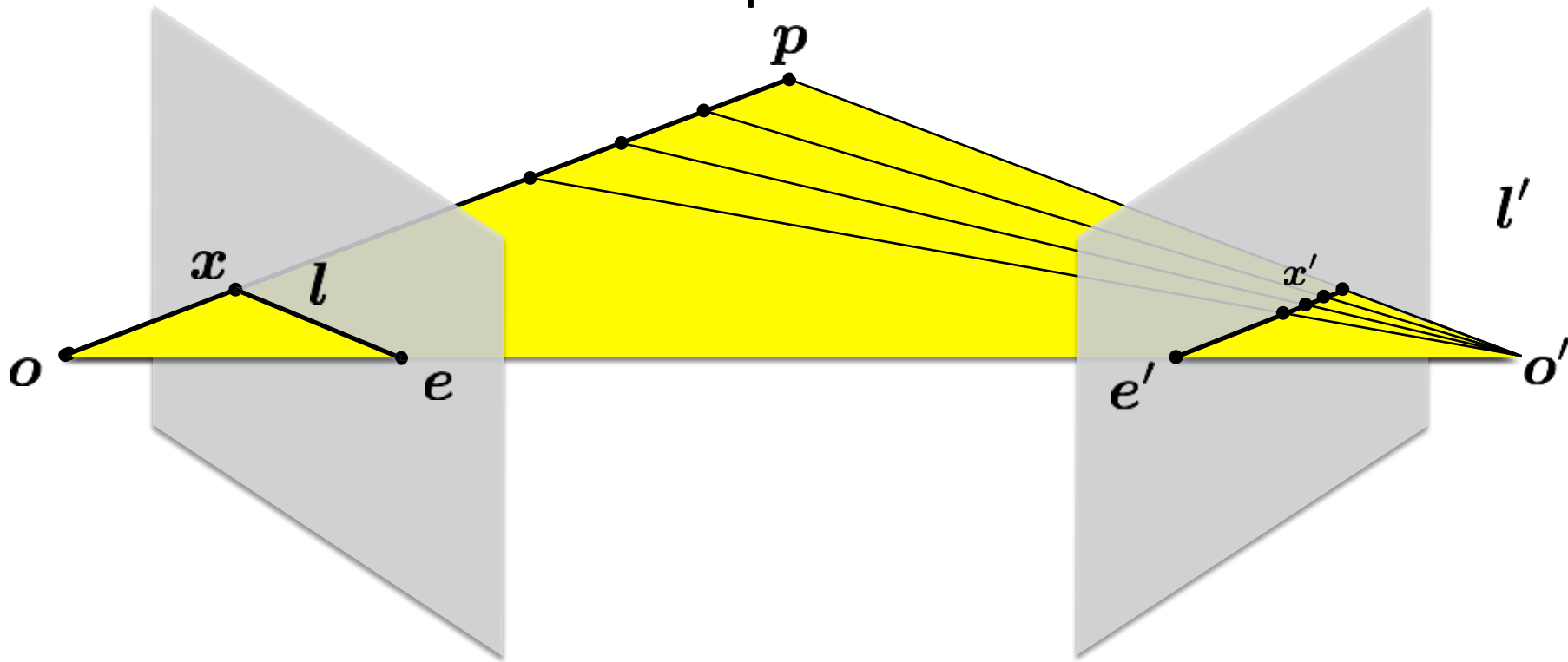


# Motion perpendicular to image plane



<http://vimeo.com/48425421>

## Recap Time!



The point  $\mathbf{x}$  (left image) maps to a \_\_\_\_\_ in the right image

The baseline connects the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

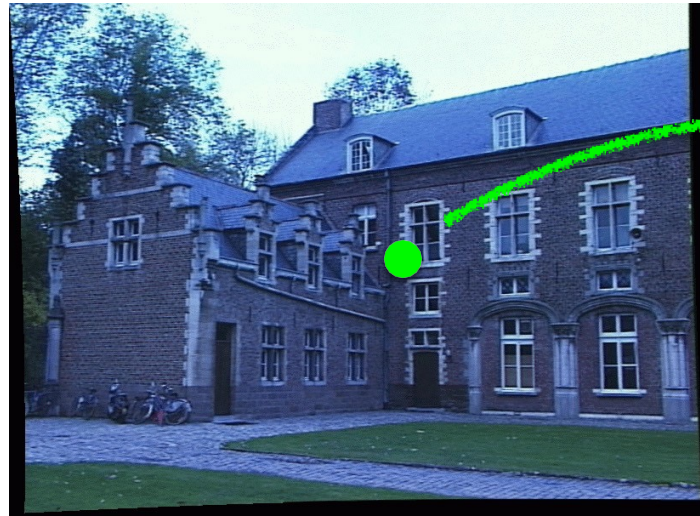
An epipolar line (left image) maps to a \_\_\_\_\_ in the right image

An epipole  $\mathbf{e}$  is a projection of the \_\_\_\_\_ on the image plane

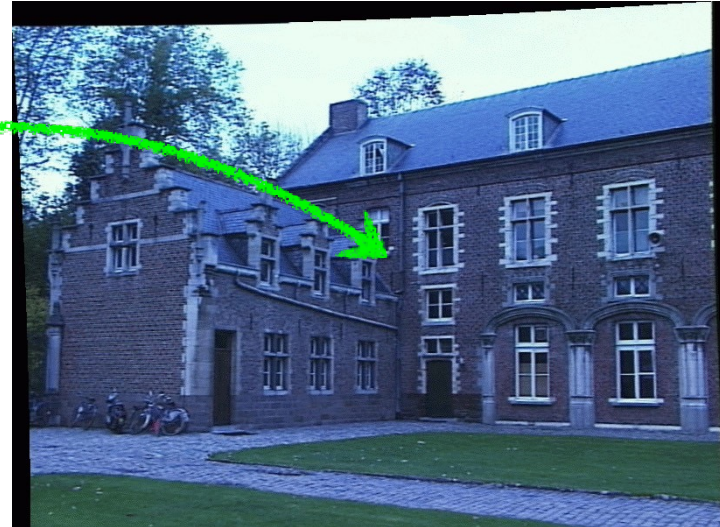
All epipolar lines in an image intersect at the \_\_\_\_\_

The epipolar constraint is an important concept for stereo vision

**Task:** Match point in left image to point in right image



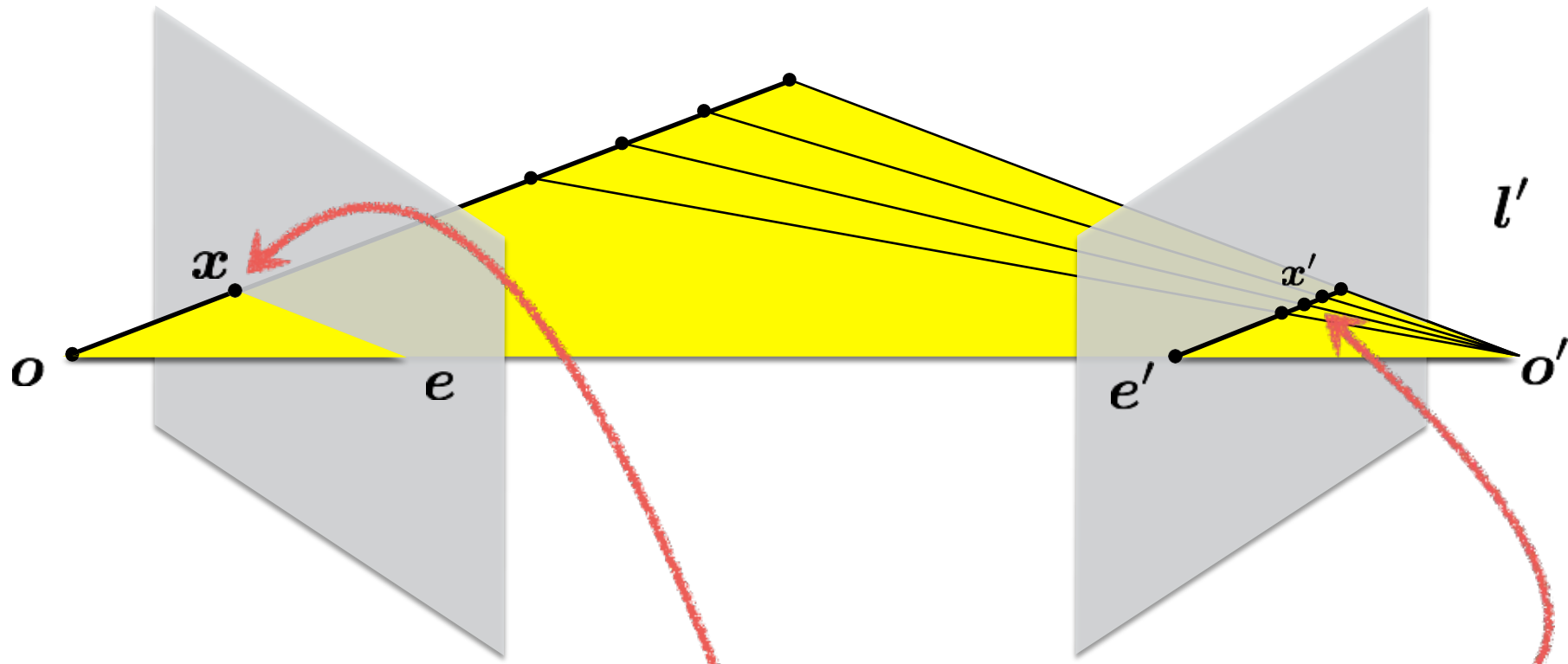
Left image



Right image

*How would you do it?*

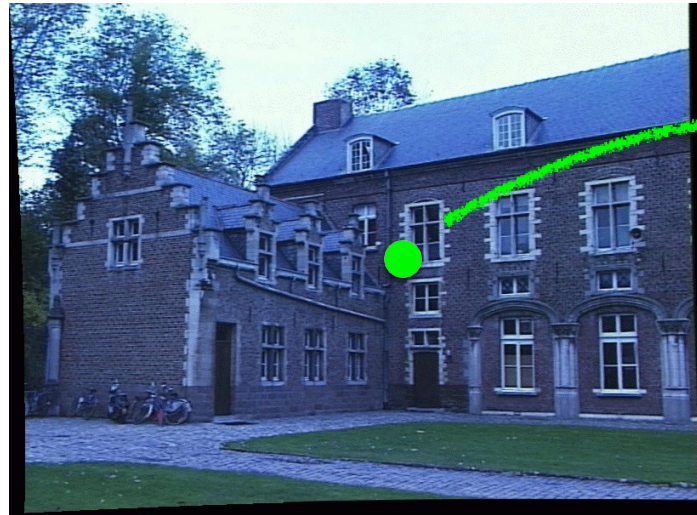
# Epipolar constraint



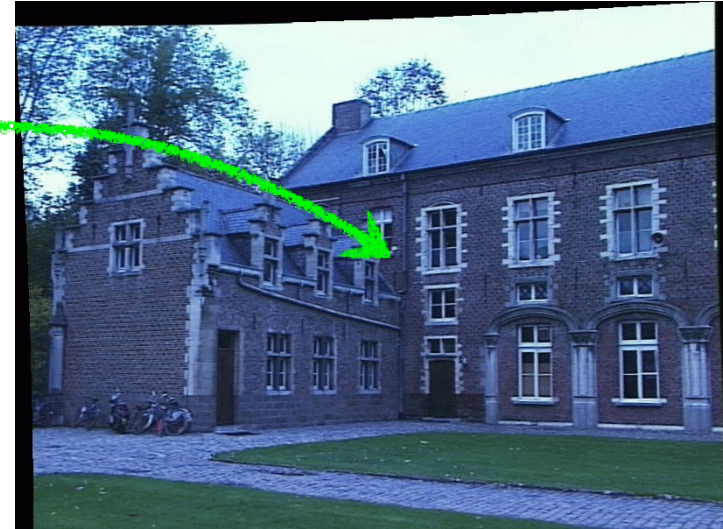
Potential matches for  $x$  lie on the epipolar line  $l'$

The epipolar constraint is an important concept for stereo vision

**Task:** Match point in left image to point in right image



Left image



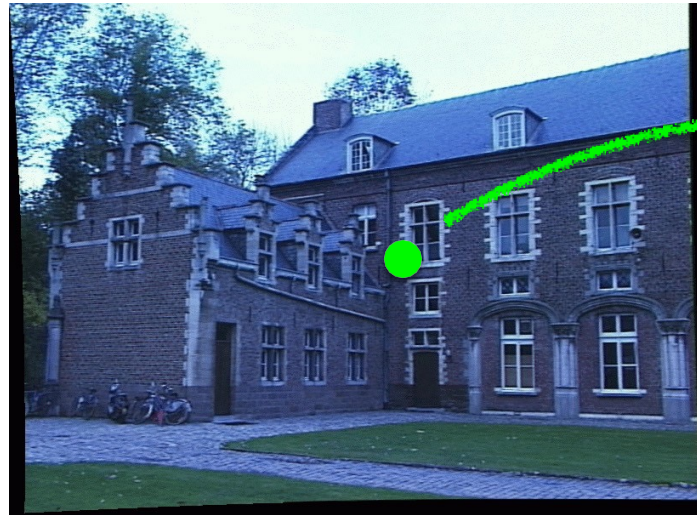
Right image

Want to avoid search over entire image

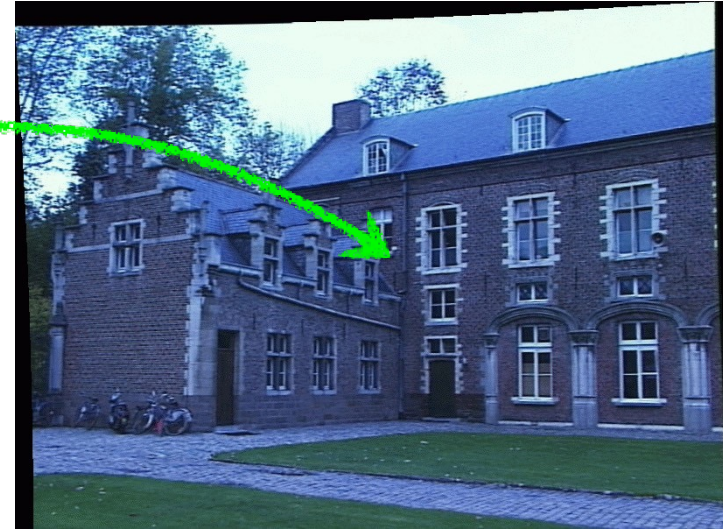
Epipolar constraint reduces search to a single line

The epipolar constraint is an important concept for stereo vision

**Task:** Match point in left image to point in right image



Left image



Right image

Want to avoid search over entire image

Epipolar constraint reduces search to a single line

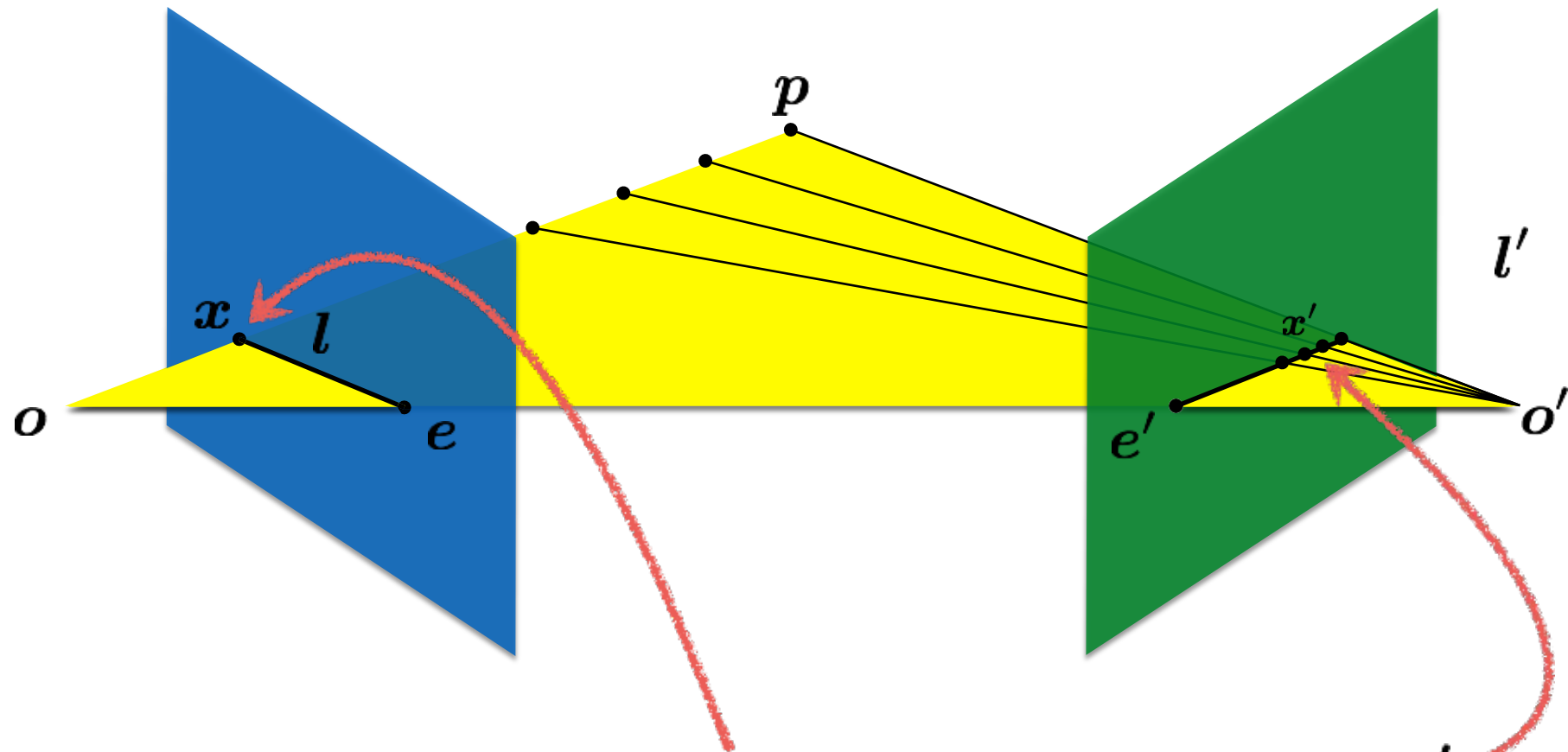
*How do you compute the epipolar line?*

# Today's class

- Epipolar Geometry
- **Essential Matrix**
- Fundamental Matrix
- 8-point Algorithm
- Triangulation



# Recall: Epipolar constraint

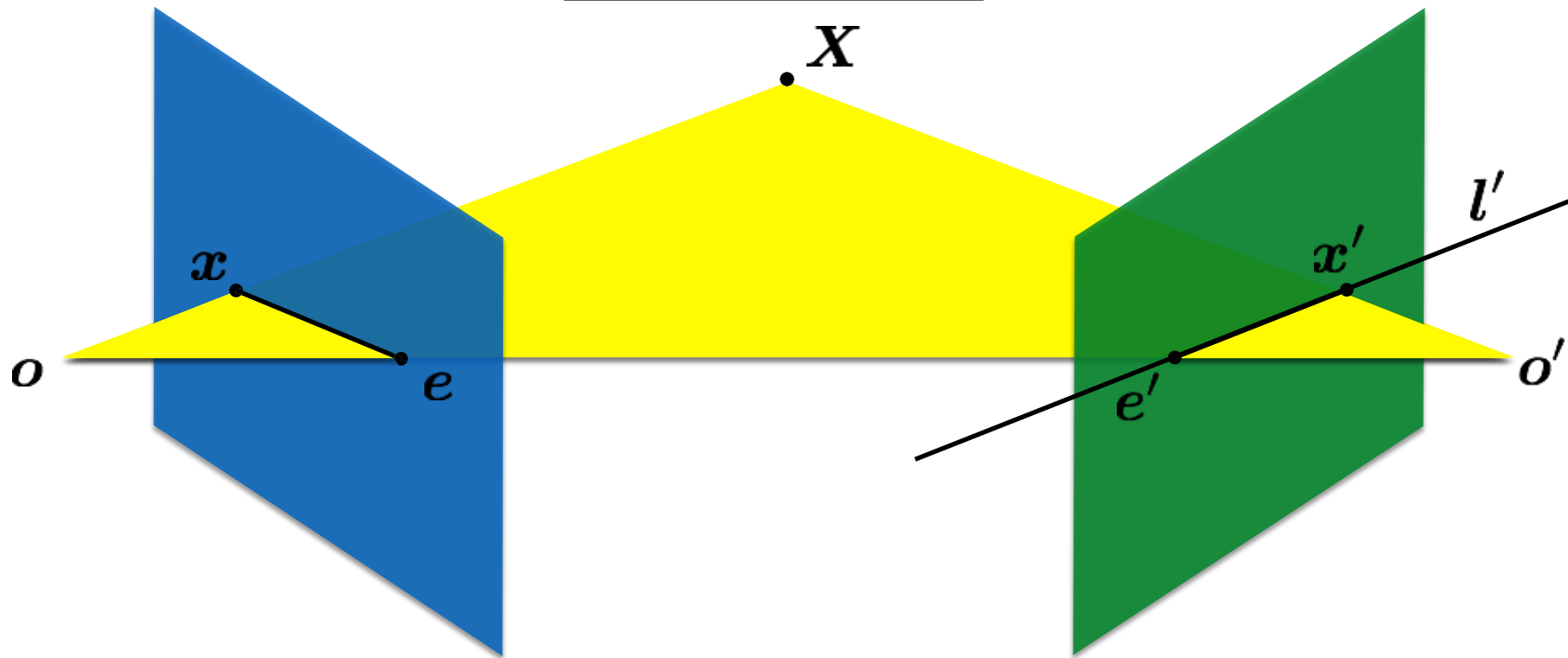


Potential matches for  $x$  lie on the epipolar line  $l'$

Given a point in one image,  
multiplying by the **essential matrix** will tell us  
the **epipolar line** in the second view.

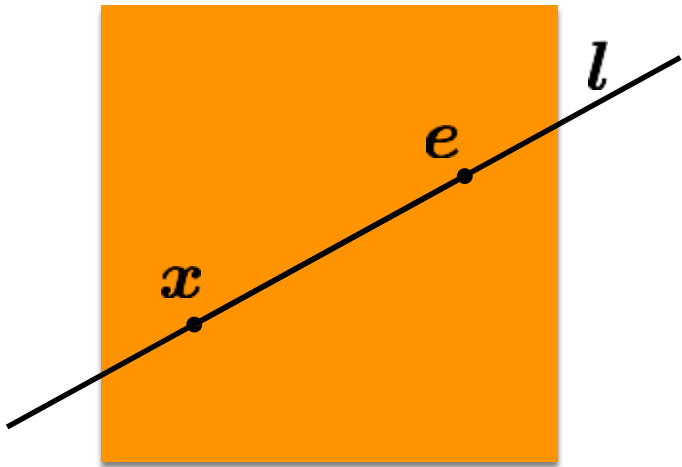
$$\mathbf{E}x = l'$$

Essential matrix is 3x3 and  
encodes epipolar geometry.



# Epipolar Line

$$ax + by + c = 0 \quad \text{in vector form} \quad \mathbf{l} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

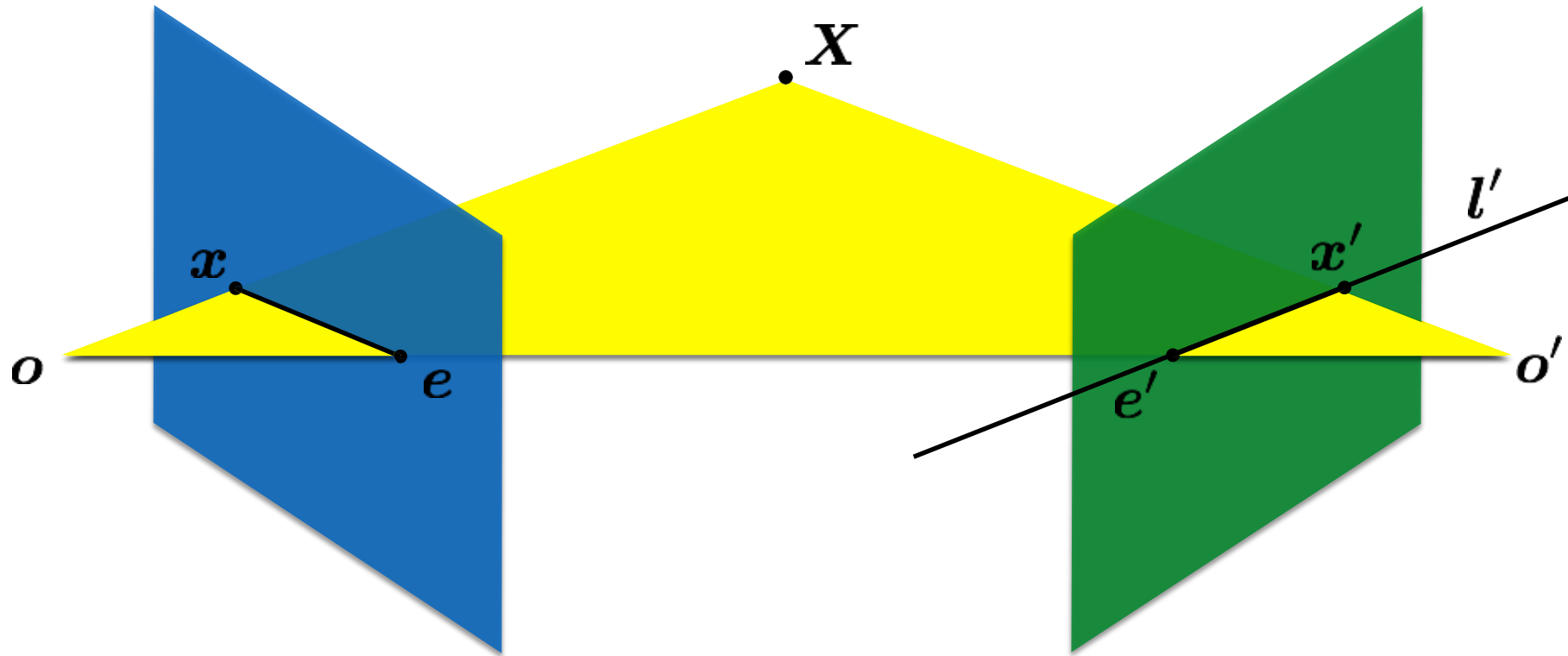


If the point  $\mathbf{x}$  is on the epipolar line  $\mathbf{l}$  then

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{l} = 0$$

So if  $\mathbf{x}'^\top \mathbf{l}' = 0$  and  $\mathbf{E}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{l}'$  then

$$\mathbf{x}'^\top \mathbf{E}\mathbf{x} = 0$$



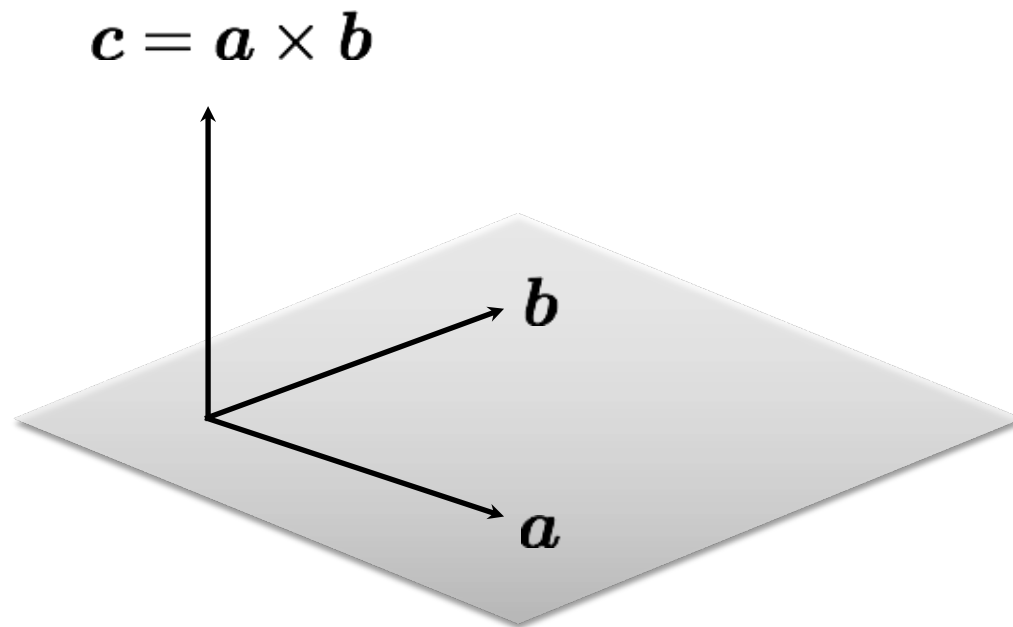
Where does the essential matrix come from?

Can we express essential matrix as function of camera parameters?

# Linear algebra reminder: cross product

## Vector (cross) product

takes two vectors and returns a vector perpendicular to both



$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} a_2b_3 - a_3b_2 \\ a_3b_1 - a_1b_3 \\ a_1b_2 - a_2b_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

cross product of two vectors in  
the same direction is zero  
vector

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}$$

remember this!!!

$$\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$$

# Linear algebra reminder: cross product

Cross product

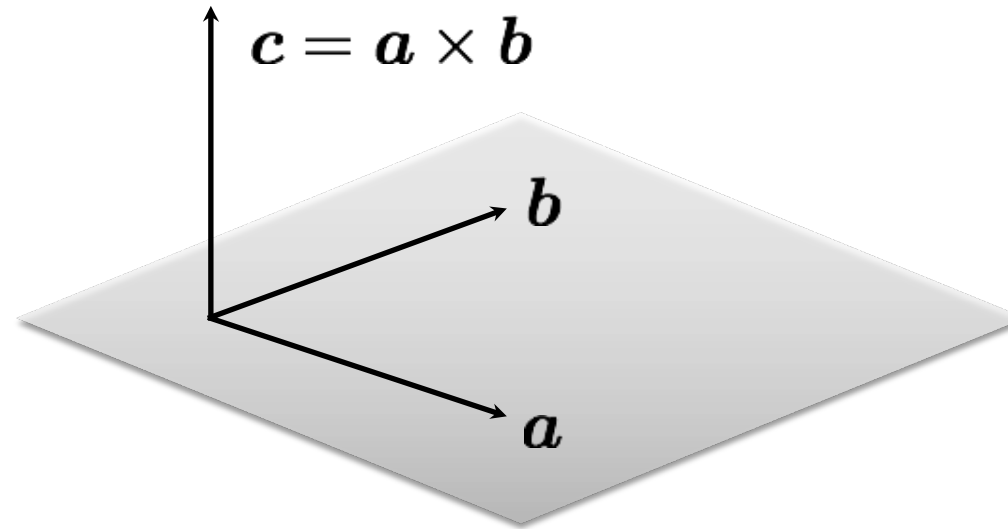
$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2 \\ a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3 \\ a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Can also be written as a matrix multiplication

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = [\mathbf{a}]_{\times} \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_3 & a_2 \\ a_3 & 0 & -a_1 \\ -a_2 & a_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Skew symmetric**

Compare with: dot product

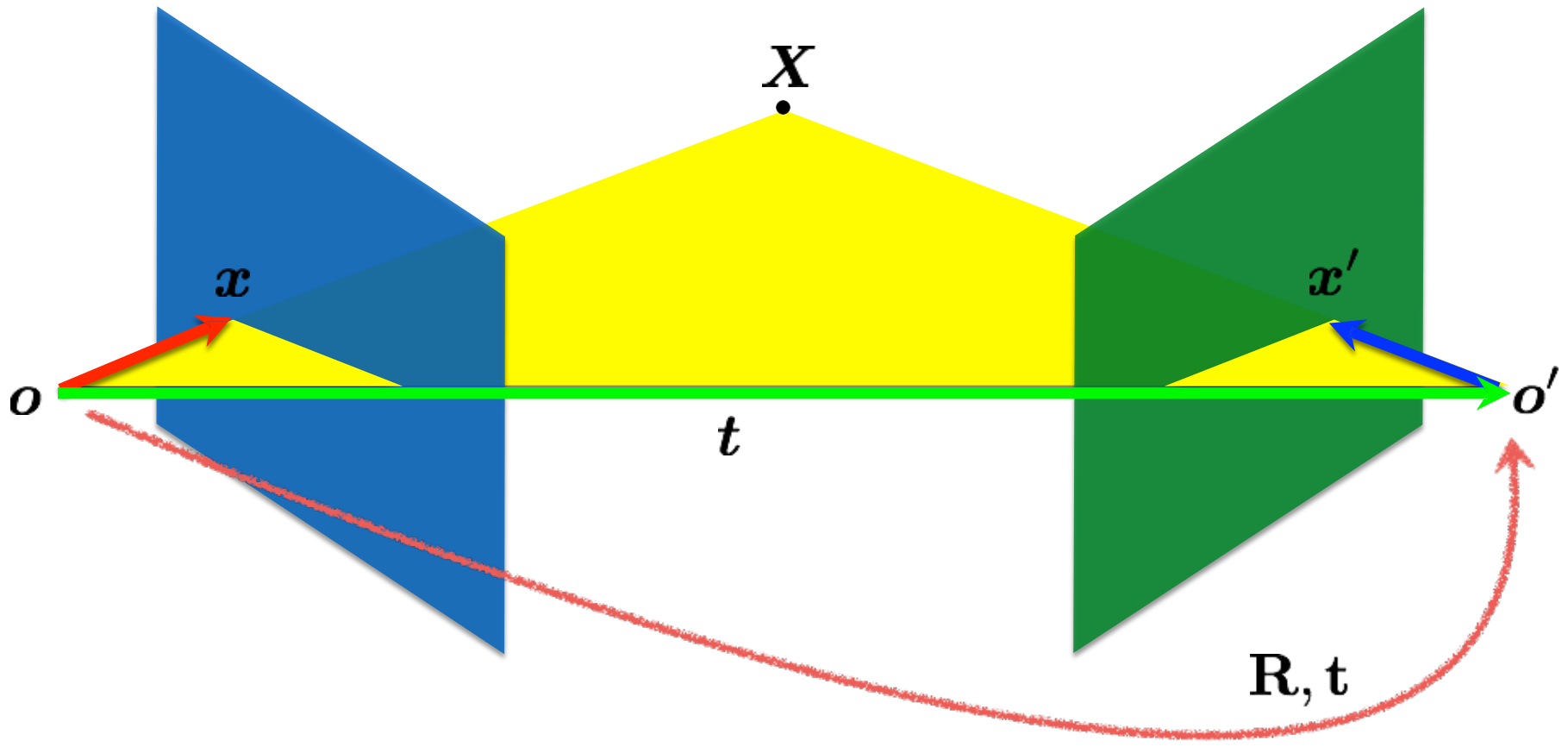


$$c \cdot a = 0$$

$$c \cdot b = 0$$

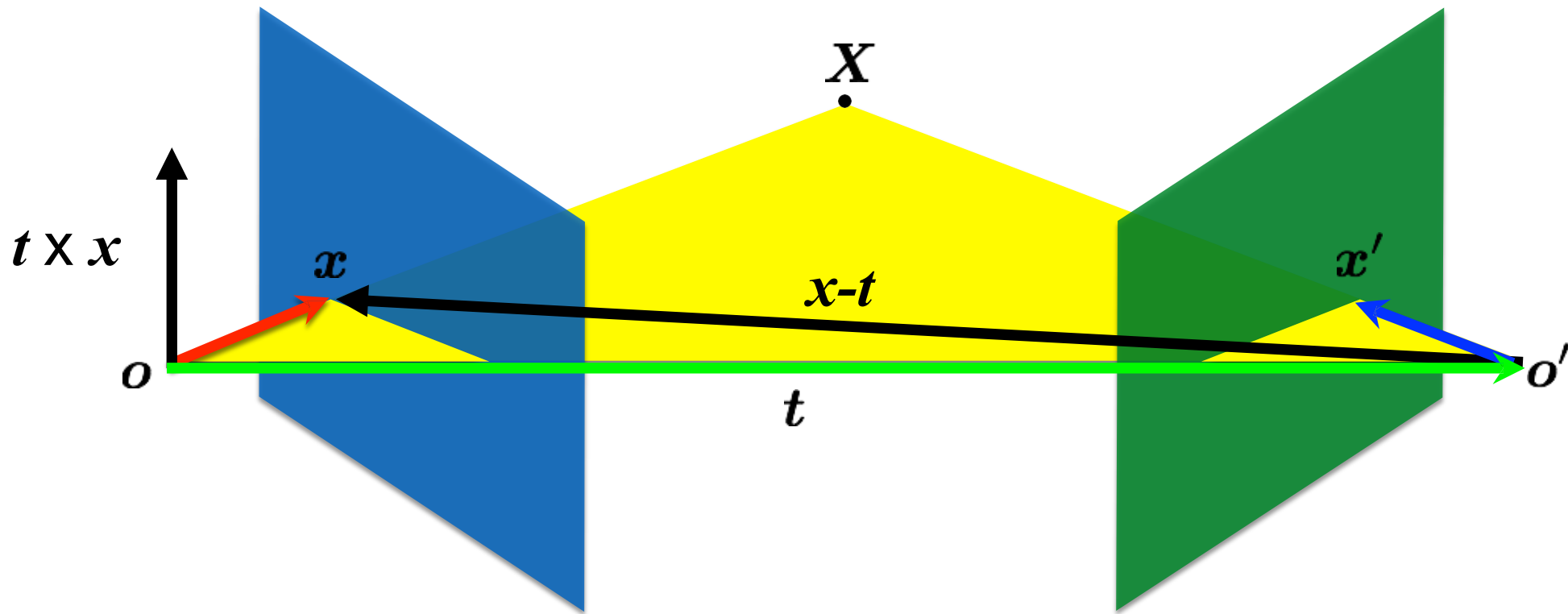
dot product of two orthogonal vectors is (scalar) zero





$$x' = \mathbf{R}(x - t)$$

Camera-camera transform just like world-camera transform



$$(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t})^\top (\mathbf{t} \times \mathbf{x}) = 0$$

dot product of orthogonal vectors

cross-product: vector orthogonal to plane

# Putting it together

rigid motion

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t})$$

coplanarity

$$(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t})^\top (\mathbf{t} \times \mathbf{x}) = 0$$

use skew-symmetric  
matrix to represent cross  
product

$$(\mathbf{x}'^\top \mathbf{R})(\mathbf{t} \times \mathbf{x}) = 0$$

$$(\mathbf{x}'^\top \mathbf{R})([\mathbf{t}_\times] \mathbf{x}) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}'^\top (\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{t}_\times]) \mathbf{x} = 0$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{x}'^\top \mathbf{E} \mathbf{x} = 0}$$

**Essential Matrix**  
[Longuet-Higgins 1981]

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = [\mathbf{a}]_\times \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_3 & a_2 \\ a_3 & 0 & -a_1 \\ -a_2 & a_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Skew symmetric**

$$\boxed{\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_\times}$$

# Properties of the E matrix

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times}$$

Longuet-Higgins equation

$$\mathbf{x}'^{\top} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

Epipolar lines

$$\mathbf{x}^{\top} \mathbf{l} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}'^{\top} \mathbf{l}' = 0$$

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

$$\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{E}^{\top} \mathbf{x}'$$

Epipoles

$$\mathbf{e}'^{\top} \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{E} \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{0}$$

(2D points expressed in camera coordinate system)

# Properties of the E matrix

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times}$$

- E has 5 degrees of freedom, why?
  - R has 3 degree of freedom
  - T has 3 degree of freedom
  - However since this is a projective transformation one can apply an arbitrary scale to E. Thus 1 degree of freedom less.
- E is rank 2, why?
  - $[\mathbf{t}_{\times}]$  is skew symmetric, hence rank 2.
  - Thus  $\text{Det}(\mathbf{E}) = 0$ .
- E has 2 singular value both of which are equal.
  - $[\mathbf{t}_{\times}]$  a skew symmetric matrix has 2 equal singular values

2 possible notation

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{R} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{t})$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}' &= \mathbf{R}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}\mathbf{t} \\ &= \mathbf{R}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{t}' \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{E} = [\tilde{\mathbf{t}}]_{\times} \mathbf{R}$$

# Today's class

- Epipolar Geometry
- Essential Matrix
- **Fundamental Matrix**
- 8-point Algorithm
- Triangulation

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}'^{\top} \mathbf{E} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = 0$$

In practice we have points in image coordinate, i.e. pixel values.

The essential matrix operates on image points expressed in **2D coordinates** in the camera coordinate system.

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}' = \mathbf{K}'^{-1} \mathbf{x}'$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{x}$$

camera point                      image point

Writing out the epipolar constraint in terms of image coordinates

$$\mathbf{x}'^{\top} (\mathbf{K}'^{-\top} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{K}^{-1}) \mathbf{x} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}'^{\top} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

Fundamental Matrix



# Properties of the $\mathbf{E}$ matrix

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{K}'^{-\top} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{K}^{-1} \quad \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{K}'^{-\top} [\mathbf{t}_{\times}] \mathbf{R} \mathbf{K}^{-1}$$

Longuet-Higgins equation

$$\mathbf{x}'^{\top} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{x} = 0$$

Epipolar lines

$$\mathbf{x}^{\top} \mathbf{l} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}'^{\top} \mathbf{l}' = 0$$

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

$$\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{E}^{\top} \mathbf{x}'$$

Epipoles

$$\mathbf{e}'^{\top} \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{E} \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{0}$$

(2D points expressed in **image** coordinate system)

# Properties of the $\mathbf{F}$ matrix

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{K}'^{-\top} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{K}^{-1} \quad \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{K}'^{-\top} [\mathbf{t}_{\times}] \mathbf{R} \mathbf{K}^{-1}$$

- $\mathbf{F}$  has 7 degrees of freedom, why?
  - $\mathbf{F}$  is 3x3, has 8 degrees of freedom, since it is a projective transformation.
  - $\mathbf{F}$  is rank 2. So 1 less degree of freedom.
- $\mathbf{F}$  is rank 2, why?
  - Same reason as  $\mathbf{E}$
  - $[\mathbf{t}_{\times}]$  is skew symmetric, hence rank 2.
- $\mathbf{F}$  has 2 singular value both of which are ~~equal~~.

# Essential Matrix vs Homography

*What's the difference between the essential matrix and a homography?*

They are both 3 x 3 matrices but ...

$$l' = Ex$$

Essential matrix maps a **point to a line**

- Rank 2
- 5 DoF

$$l' = Ex$$

Fundamental matrix maps a **point to a line**

- Rank 2
- 7 DoF

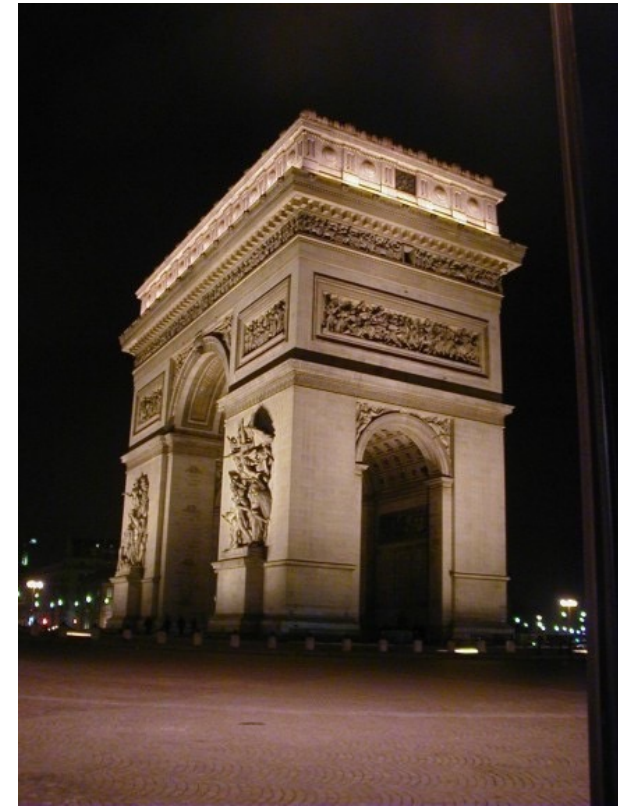
$$x' = Hx$$

Homography maps a **point to a point**

- Rank 3
- 8 DoF

Homography is a special case of the Essential/Fundamental matrix, for planar scenes

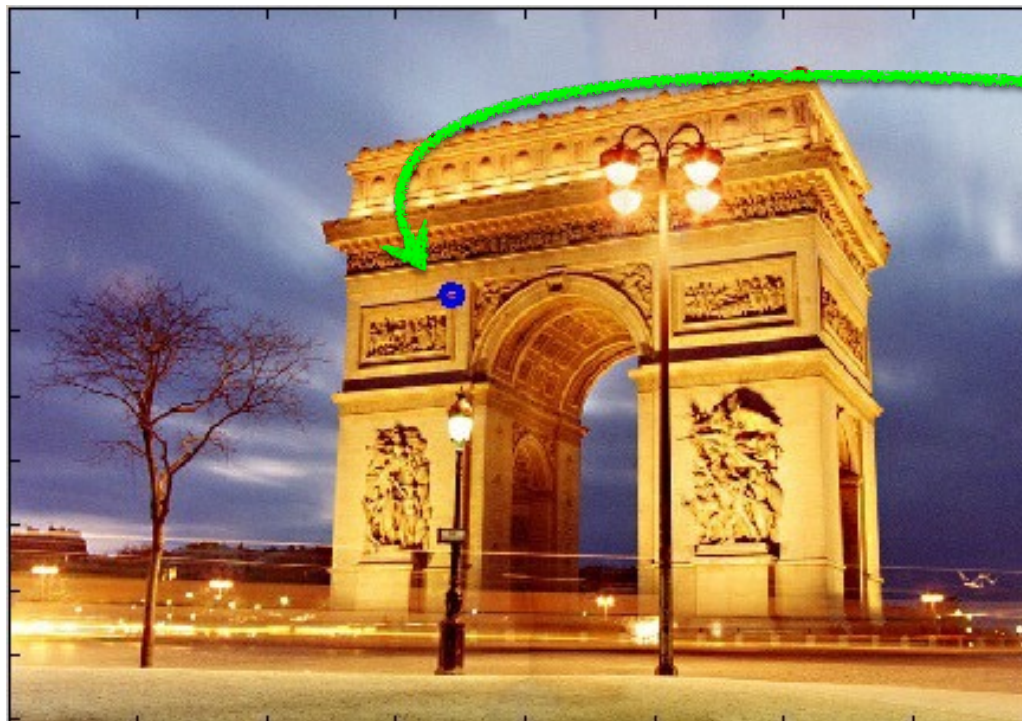
# Example



# epipolar lines



$$\mathbf{F} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.00310695 & -0.0025646 & 2.96584 \\ -0.028094 & -0.00771621 & 56.3813 \\ 13.1905 & -29.2007 & -9999.79 \end{bmatrix}$$

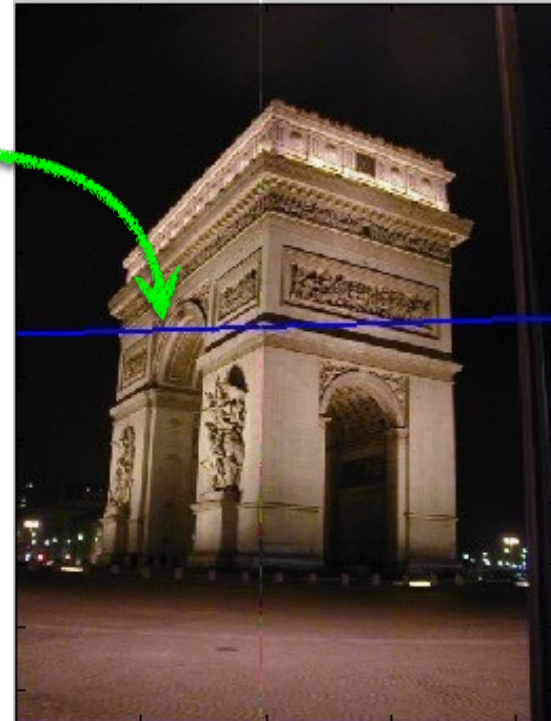
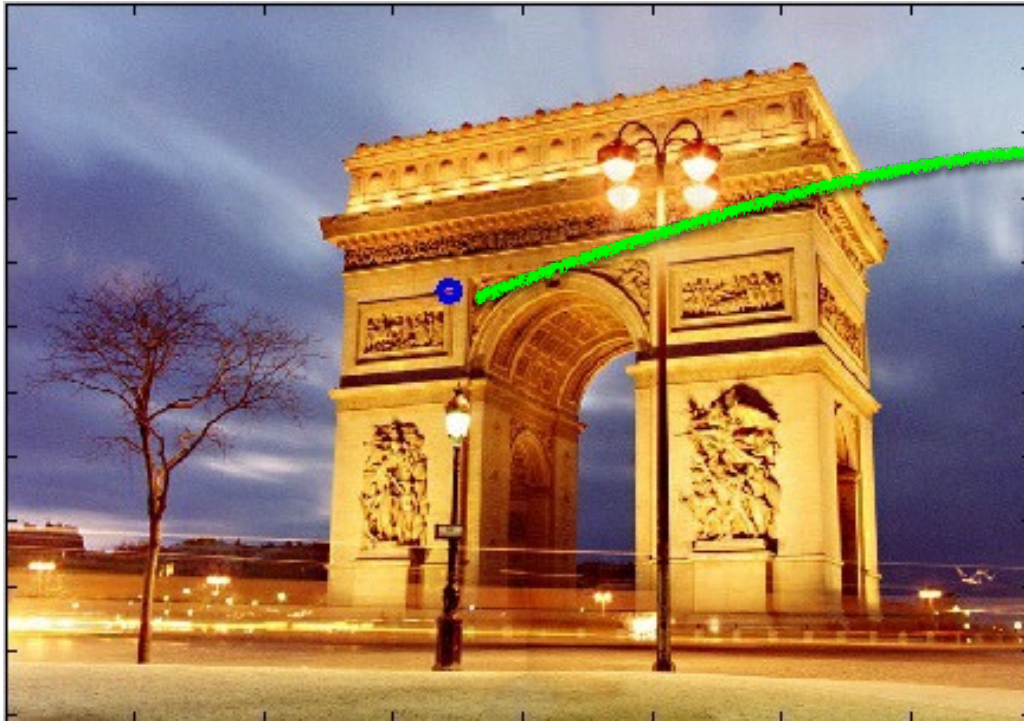


$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 343.53 \\ 221.70 \\ 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{l}' &= \mathbf{F}\mathbf{x} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0.0295 \\ 0.9996 \\ -265.1531 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0.0295 \\ 0.9996 \\ -265.1531 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Where is the epipole?



*How would you compute it?*





$$\mathbf{F}e = \mathbf{0}$$

The epipole is in the right null space of  $\mathbf{F}$

*How would you solve for the epipole?*



$$\mathbf{F}e = \mathbf{0}$$

The epipole is in the right null space of  $\mathbf{F}$

*How would you solve for the epipole?*

**SVD!**

SVDs are pretty  
useful, huh?

Continue to next Lecture 18

# Slide Credits

- [CS5670, Introduction to Computer Vision](#), **Cornell Tech**, by **Noah Snavely**.
- [CS 194-26/294-26: Intro to Computer Vision and Computational Photography](#), **UC Berkeley**, by **Angjoo Kanazawa**.
- [CS 16-385: Computer Vision](#), **CMU**, by **Matthew O'Toole**

# Additional Reading

- Multiview Geometry, Hartley & Zisserman,
  - Chapter 9 (focus on topics discussed or mentioned in the slides).
  - Chapter 10.1, 10.2 (not discussed in class, no midterm ques, but imp to understand, practical importance.)
  - Chapter 11.1, 11.2
  - Chapter 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4 (no midterm ques, but imp to understand)