

---

# 2D projective transformations (homographies)

Christiano Gava

[christiano.gava@dfki.de](mailto:christiano.gava@dfki.de)

Gabriele Bleser

[gabriele.bleser@dfki.de](mailto:gabriele.bleser@dfki.de)



# Introduction

---

- Previous lectures:
  - From world to image
  - Homogeneous coordinates
  - Intrinsic and extrinsic camera parameters
  - Camera calibration, P-matrix estimation
- Today: (slides partly based on Marc Pollefeys)
  - Homographies
  - Homography estimation
  - Applications: panorama stitching, rotating camera, pose estimation from planar surfaces



## Reminder: homogeneous coordinates

- Allow to manipulate n-dim vectors in a n+1-dim space
- For n=2:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$

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

Converting *to* homogeneous  
image coordinates

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

Converting *from* homogeneous  
image coordinates

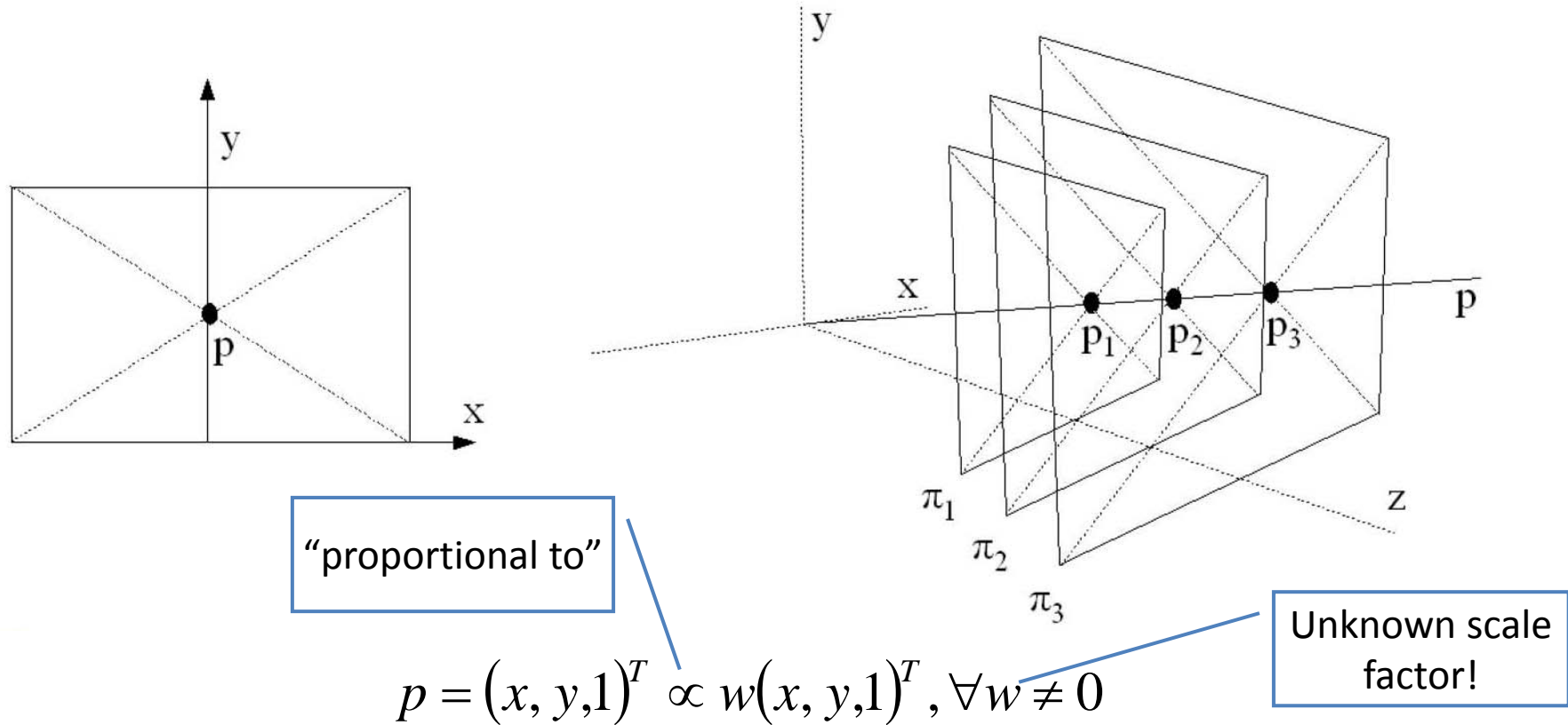
3 entries, but only 2  
degrees of freedom  
(DOF)

- Infinite points are represented with  $w=0$   $\left( \frac{x}{0}, \frac{y}{0}, 0 \right) \Rightarrow (\infty, \infty, 0)$

Where is this useful in computer vision?



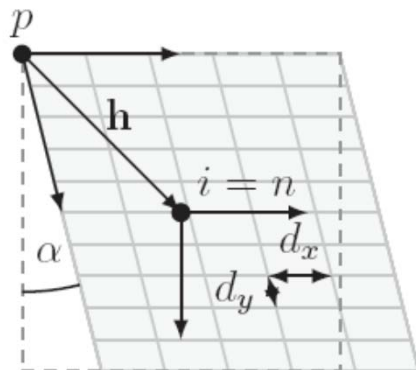
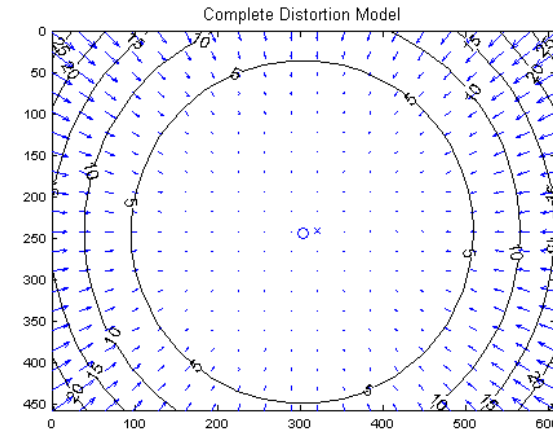
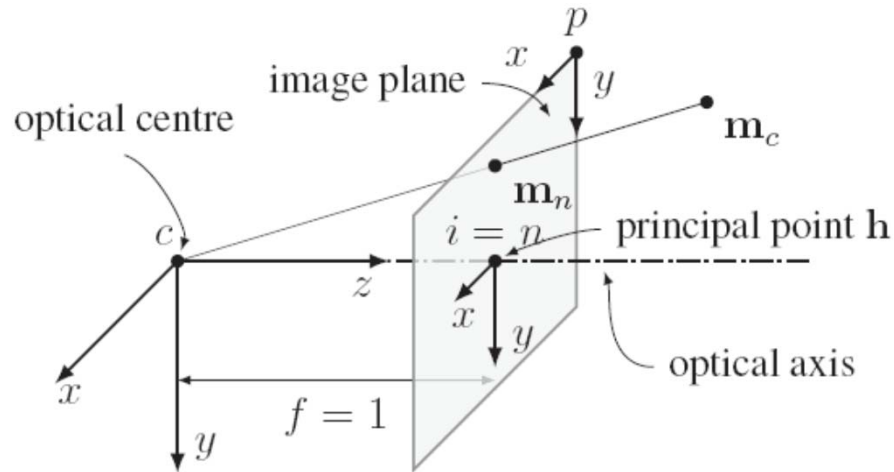
## Reminder: homogeneous coordinates



- A vector in  $P$  is just a representative of an equivalence class of vectors
- Everything is up-to-scale!



# Follow-up: intrinsic parameters



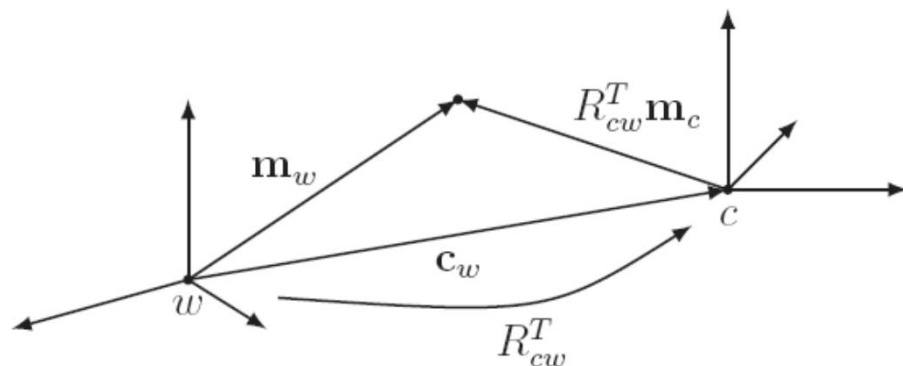
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_d \\ y_d \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{(1 + \kappa_1 r^2 + \kappa_2 r^4 + \kappa_3 r^6)}_{\text{radial distortion}} \begin{bmatrix} x_n \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f_x & s_\alpha & h_x \\ 0 & f_y & h_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_K \begin{bmatrix} x_d \\ y_d \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Distorted  
coordinates



## Follow-up: extrinsic parameters and P-matrix



$$\begin{bmatrix} x_c \\ y_c \\ z_c \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{cw} & \mathbf{w}_c \\ \mathbf{0}_3^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_w \\ y_w \\ z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \propto z_c \begin{bmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f_x & s_\alpha & h_x \\ 0 & f_y & h_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_{cw} & \mathbf{w}_c \\ \mathbf{0}_3^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_P \begin{bmatrix} x_w \\ y_w \\ z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

“proportional to”

P does not include  
lens distortion!  
This makes it a  
nonlinear function.

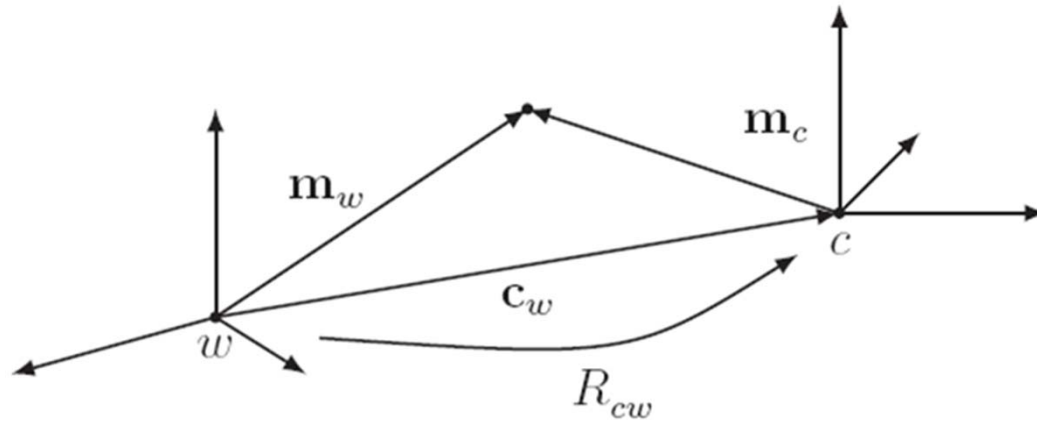
$$\mathbf{m}_p = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{m}_w) = (\mathcal{K} \circ \mathcal{D} \circ \mathcal{P}_n \circ \mathcal{T})(\mathbf{m}_w)$$

How do  $\mathbf{c}_w$  and  $\mathbf{w}_c$  relate?

$$\mathbf{w}_c = -R_{cw} \mathbf{c}_w$$



## Follow-up: extrinsic parameters and P-matrix



How do  $m_w$  and  $m_c$  relate?

$$m_w = R_{cw}^T m_c + c_w$$

or

$$m_c = R_{cw} m_w + w_c$$

$w_c$ ???

$$w_c = -R_{cw} c_w$$

In matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_c \\ y_c \\ z_c \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{cw} & w_c \\ \mathbf{0}_3^T & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_w \\ y_w \\ z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \propto z_c \begin{bmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f_x & s_\alpha & h_x \\ 0 & f_y & h_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_{cw} & w_c \\ \mathbf{0}_3^T & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_P \begin{bmatrix} x_w \\ y_w \\ z_w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

P does not include  
lens distortion!  
This makes it a  
nonlinear function.



## 2D homography (projective transformation)

### Definition:

A 2D *homography* is an invertible mapping  $h$  from  $P^2$  to itself such that three points  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  lie on the same line if and only if  $h(x_1), h(x_2), h(x_3)$  do.

Line  
preserving

### Theorem:

A mapping  $h: P^2 \rightarrow P^2$  is a homography if and only if there exist a non-singular 3x3 matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  such that for any point in  $P^2$  represented by a vector  $\mathbf{x}$  it is true that  $h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}$

### Definition: Homography

$$\begin{pmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}$$

8DOF

Homography=projective transformation=projectivity=collineation

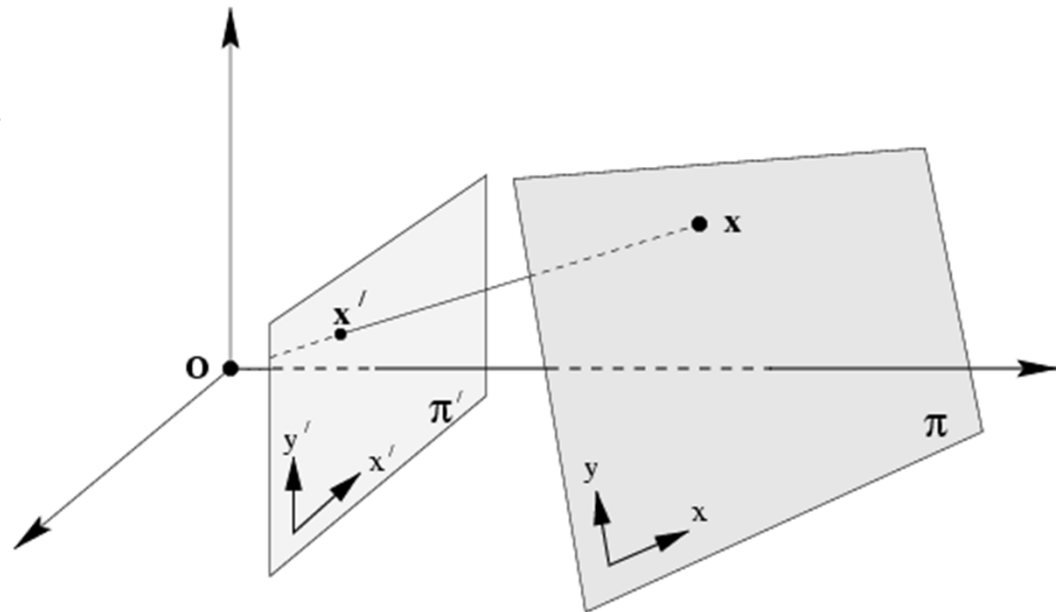




# General homography

- Note: homographies are not restricted to  $P^2$
- General definition:  
A homography is a non-singular, line preserving, projective mapping  $h: P^n \rightarrow P^n$ .  
It is represented by a square  $(n + 1)$ -dim matrix with  $(n + 1)^2 - 1$  DOF

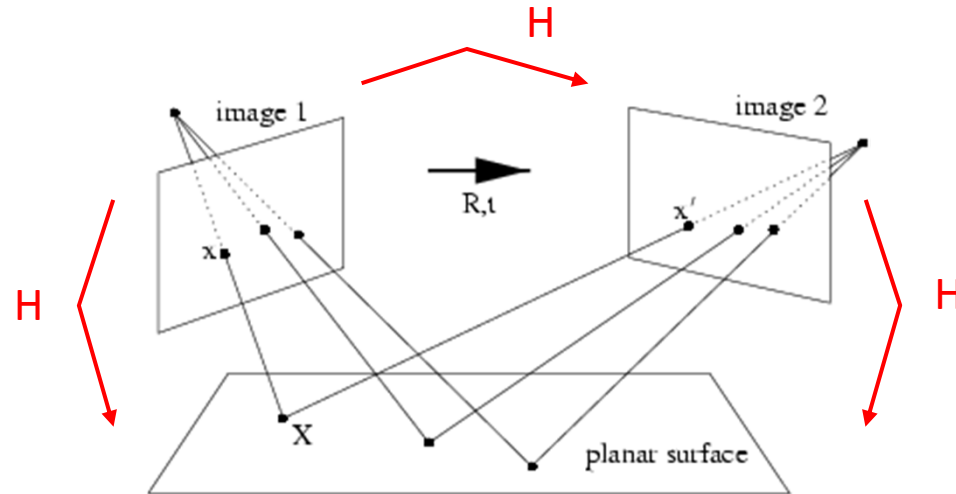
- Now back to the 2D case...
- Mapping between planes





# Homographies in computer vision

Rotating/translating camera, planar world



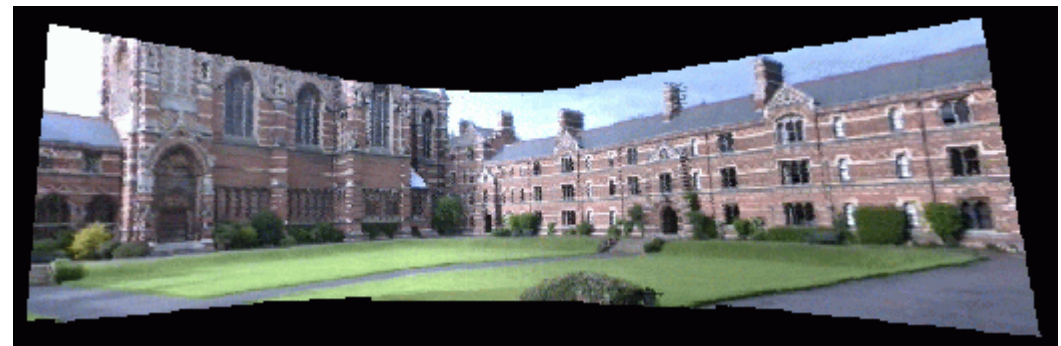
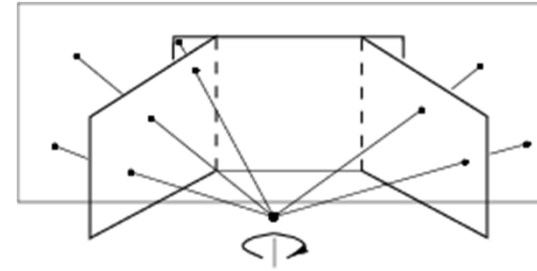
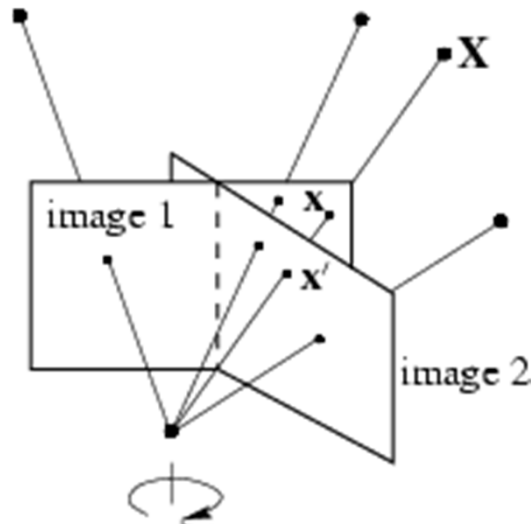
$$(x, y, 1)^T = x \propto PX = K[r_1 r_2 \cancel{r_3} t] \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ \cancel{0} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = H \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

What happens to the P-matrix, if Z is assumed zero?



# Homographies in computer vision

Rotating camera, arbitrary world



$$(x, y, 1)^T = x \propto PX = K \begin{pmatrix} r_1 & r_2 & r_3 & t \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \propto K R K^{-1} x' = H x'$$

What happens to the P-matrix, if t is assumed zero?



# Transformation hierarchy: isometries

(iso=same, *metric*=measure)

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & t_x \\ \varepsilon \sin \theta & \cos \theta & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \varepsilon = \pm 1$$

orientation preserving:  $\varepsilon = 1$

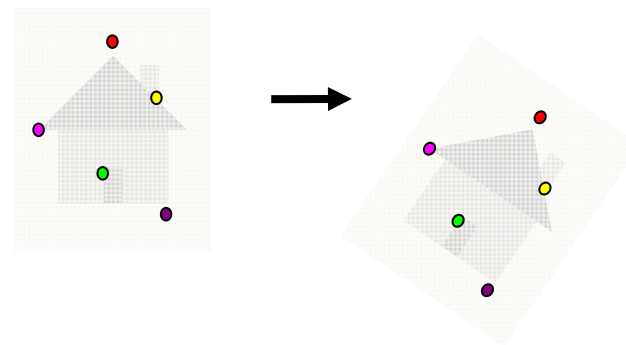
orientation reversing:  $\varepsilon = -1$

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{H}_E \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \quad \mathbf{R}^\top \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}$$

3DOF (1 rotation, 2 translation)

special cases: pure rotation, pure translation

**Invariants:** length, angle, area





## Transformation hierarchy: similarities

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s \cos \theta & -s \sin \theta & t_x \\ s \sin \theta & s \cos \theta & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{isometry} + \text{scale})$$

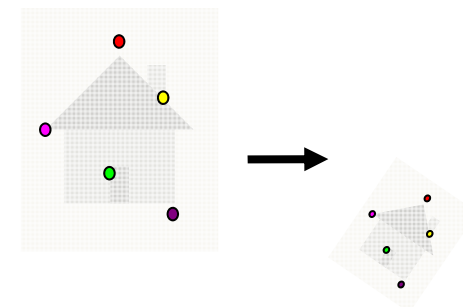
$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{H}_s \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} s\mathbf{R} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \quad \mathbf{R}^\top \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}$$

4DOF (1 scale, 1 rotation, 2 translation)

also known as *equi-form* (shape preserving)

*metric structure* = structure up to similarity (in literature)

**Invariants:** ratios of length, angle, ratios of areas,  
parallel lines





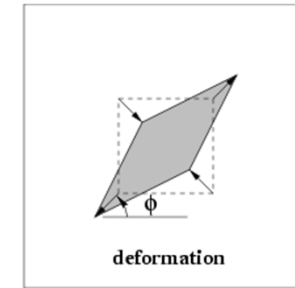
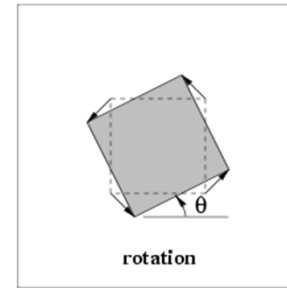
## Transformation hierarchy: affine transformations

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & t_x \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{H}_A \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}(\theta)\mathbf{R}(-\phi)\mathbf{D}\mathbf{R}(\phi)$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$



6DOF (2 scale, 2 rotation, 2 translation)

non-isotropic scaling! (2DOF: scale ratio and orientation)

**Invariants:** parallel lines, ratios of parallel lengths,  
ratios of areas



# Transformation hierarchy: homographies

$$\mathbf{H}_P = \begin{pmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \vec{t} \\ \vec{v}^T & v \end{pmatrix}$$

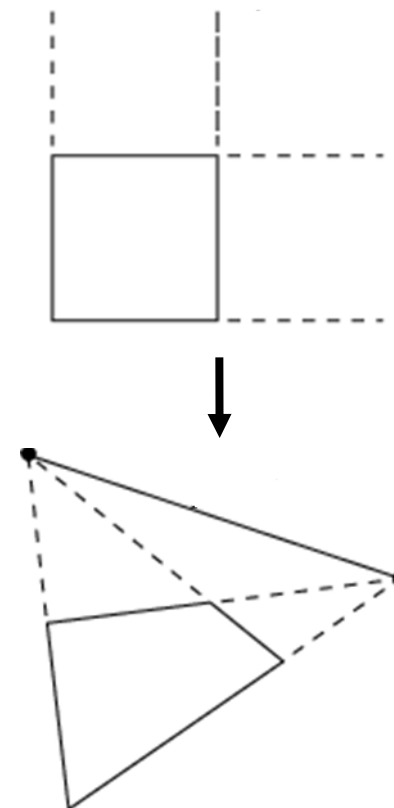
Changes  
homogeneous  
coordinate!

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{H}_P \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{v}^T & v \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \quad \mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2)^T$$

8DOF (2 scale, 2 rotation, 2 translation, 2 line at infinity)

Acts non-homogeneous over the plane

**Invariants:** cross-ratio of four points on a line  
(ratio of ratio)



Allows to observe  
vanishing points,  
horizon



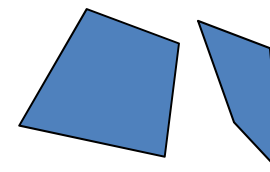
## 2D transformation hierarchy

A square transforms to:



Projective  
8dof

$$\begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$



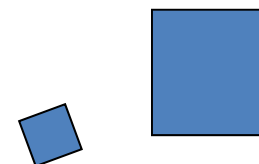
Affine  
6dof

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & t_x \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



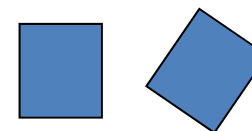
Similarity  
4dof

$$\begin{bmatrix} sr_{11} & sr_{12} & t_x \\ sr_{21} & sr_{22} & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Euclidean  
3dof

$$\begin{bmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} & t_x \\ r_{21} & r_{22} & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$





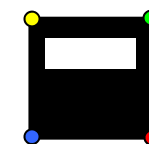
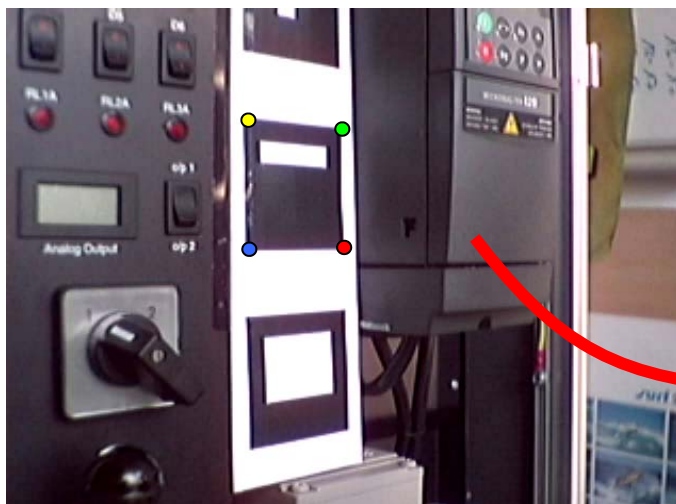
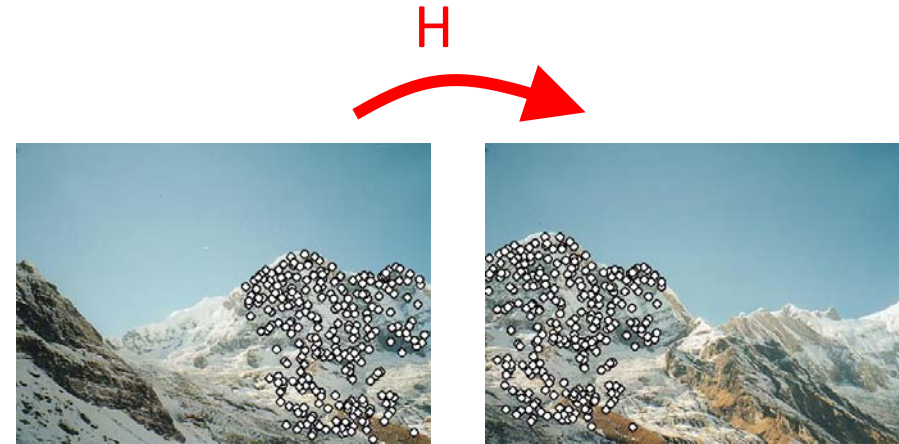
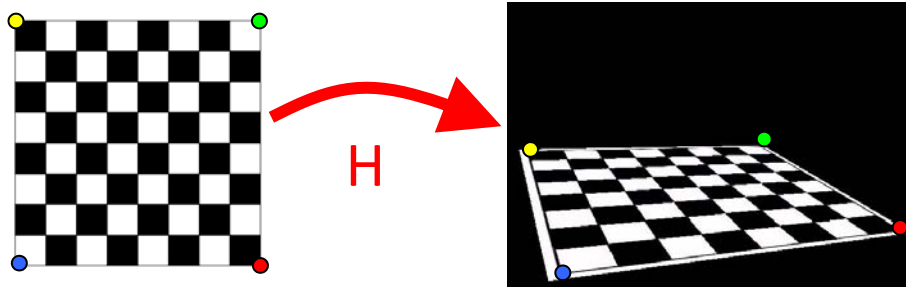


- 
- Before:
    - What is a homography and how does it act on vectors/points
  - Now:
    - How to estimate a homography from point correspondences
    - Same procedure as for P-matrix



# Homography estimation

- Estimate homography from point correspondences between:
  - two images
  - model plane and image
- Assumption: planar motion!





## Homography estimation

---

- Homography mapping from image to image  
(holds under planar camera motion as mentioned before):

$$x' \propto Hx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow$$

$$\lambda \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Homography estimation

- Equation for one point correspondence i:

$$\lambda \begin{bmatrix} x'_i \\ y'_i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ y_i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

9 entries, 8 degrees of freedom  
(scale is arbitrary)

$$\mathbf{x}'_i \times \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}_i = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0^\top & -w'_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top & y'_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top \\ w'_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top & 0^\top & -x'_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top \\ \hline y'_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top & x'_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top & 0^\top \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{h}^1 \\ \mathbf{h}^2 \\ \mathbf{h}^3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$i^{\text{th}}$  row of  
 $\mathbf{H}$

$$\lambda \mathbf{x}'_i = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}_i = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{h}_1^\top \\ \mathbf{h}_2^\top \\ \mathbf{h}_3^\top \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_i$$

Homogeneous  
coordinate, might be 1

$$\mathbf{x}'_i \times \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}_i = \begin{pmatrix} y'_i \mathbf{h}^3^\top \mathbf{x}_i - w'_i \mathbf{h}^2^\top \mathbf{x}_i \\ w'_i \mathbf{h}^1^\top \mathbf{x}_i - x'_i \mathbf{h}^3^\top \mathbf{x}_i \\ x'_i \mathbf{h}^2^\top \mathbf{x}_i - y'_i \mathbf{h}^1^\top \mathbf{x}_i \end{pmatrix}$$

3 equations, only 2 linearly  
independent, drop third row



## Direct linear transform

---

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ \vdots \\ A_n \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$$

- H has 8 DOF (9 parameters, but scale is arbitrary)
- One correspondence gives two linearly independent equations
- Four matches needed for a minimal solution (null space of 8x9 matrix)
- More points: search for “best” according to some cost function



## Direct linear transform

---

- No exact solution because of inexact measurements due to noise
- With  $n$  correspondences: size  $A$  is  $2n \times 9$ , rank most likely not 8

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ \vdots \\ A_n \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{h} = 0 \quad A\mathbf{h} = 0$$

- Find approximate solution
  - Additional constraint needed to avoid 0, e.g.  $\|\mathbf{h}\| = 1$
  - $A\mathbf{h} = 0$  not possible, so minimize  $\|A\mathbf{h}\|$



# DLT algorithm

---

## Objective

Given  $n \geq 4$  2D to 2D point correspondences  $\{x_i \leftrightarrow x'_i\}$ , determine the 2D homography matrix  $H$  such that  $x'_i = Hx_i$

## Algorithm

- (i) For each correspondence  $x_i \leftrightarrow x'_i$  compute  $A_i$ . Usually only two first rows needed.
- (ii) Assemble  $n$   $2 \times 9$  matrices  $A_i$  into a single  $2n \times 9$  matrix  $A$
- (iii) Obtain SVD of  $A$ . Solution for  $h$  is last column of  $V$ ,  
=singular value of  $A$   
=eigen vector to the smallest eigen value of  $A^T A$
- (iv) Determine  $H$  from  $h$



## Inhomogeneous solution

---

Since  $h$  can only be computed up to scale, impose constraint pick  $h_j=1$ , e.g.  $h_9=1$ , and solve for 8-vector

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & -x_i w_i' & -y_i w_i' & -w_i w_i' & x_i y_i' & y_i y_i' \\ x_i w_i' & y_i w_i' & w_i w_i' & 0 & 0 & 0 & x_i x_i' & y_i x_i' \end{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{h}} = \begin{pmatrix} -w_i y_i' \\ w_i x_i' \end{pmatrix}$$

Can be solved using linear least-squares

However, if  $h_9=0$  this approach fails

Also poor results if  $h_9$  close to zero

Therefore, not recommended



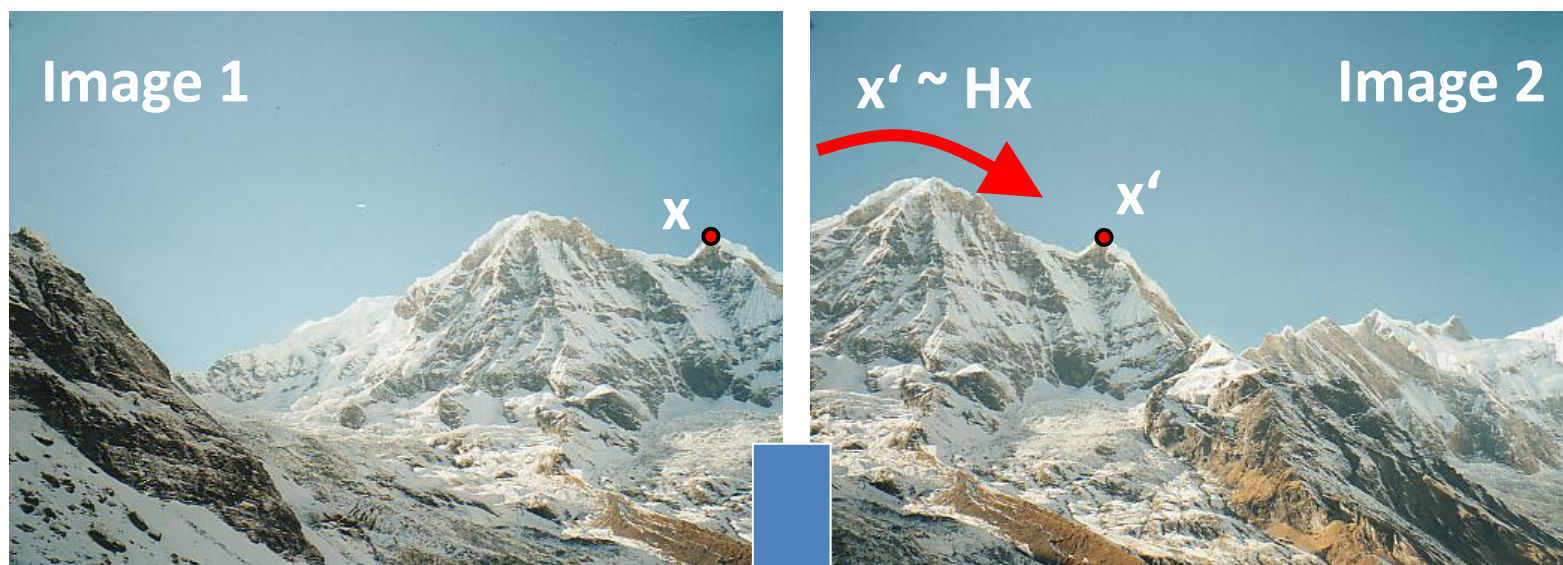
---

## And what now?

What can we do when knowing the homography  
between two images



## Application (1): panorama stitching



Panorama stitching:

1. Undistort images
2. Find point correspondences between images
3. Compute homography  $H$
4. Resample:
  1. Loop over image 1
  2. Project into image 2 using  $H$
  3. Bilinear interpolation in image 2





## Application (2): camera pose estimation

---

- Assuming that  $K$  (intrinsic calibration matrix) is known, derive the 3D camera pose from  $H$
- Enables augmentation of 3D virtual objects (augmented reality)
  - Set virtual camera to real camera
  - Render virtual scene
  - Compose with real image
- Enables localization/navigation
- Recall the two cases of planar motion:
  - purely rotating camera, arbitrary scene
  - Rotating and translating camera, planar scene



## Camera pose estimation

---

- Purely rotating camera:

$$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbf{K} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & | & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}$$

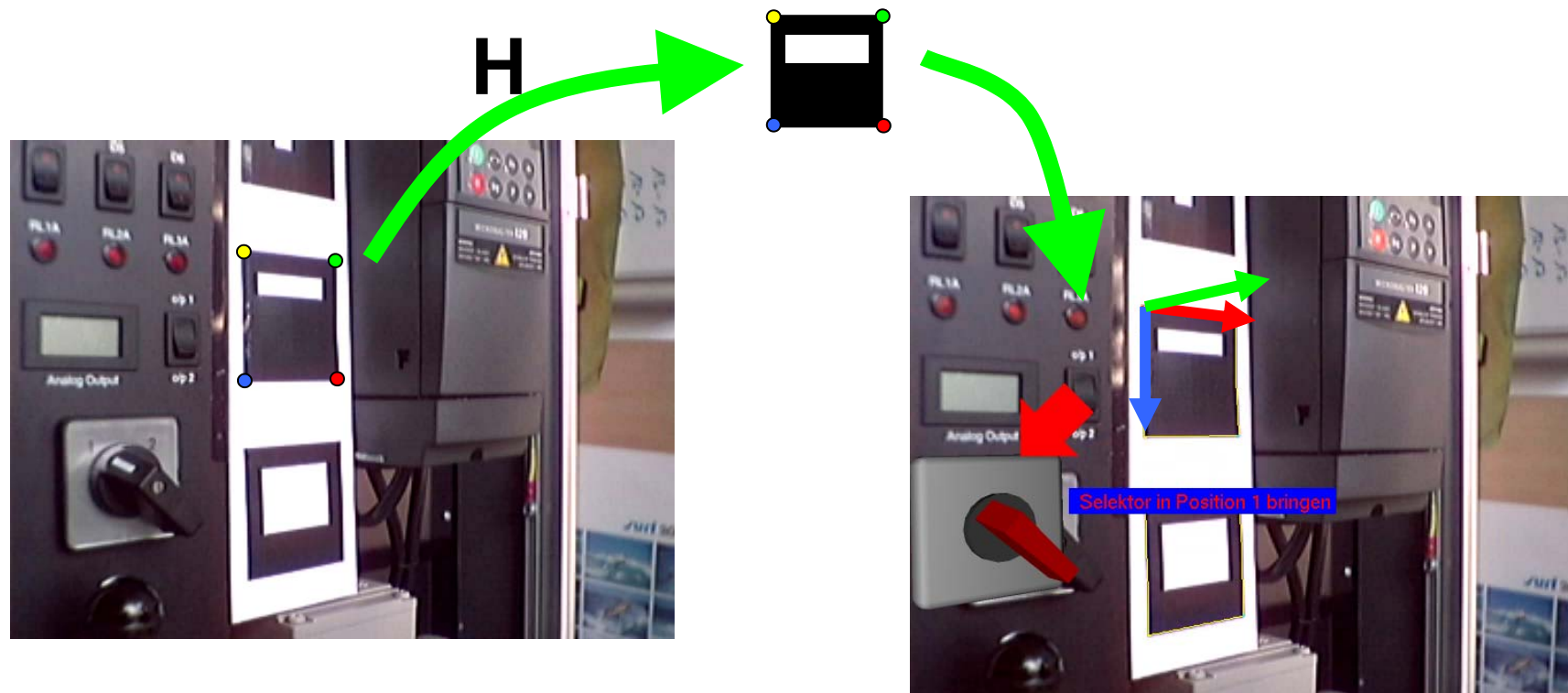
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}' &\sim \mathbf{K} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & | & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ &\sim \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & | & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ &\sim \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{x} \\ &\sim \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x} \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{H}_i \sim \mathbf{K} \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{K}^{-1}$$

⇒ Movie



# Camera pose estimation

- Planar scene (example marker tracker, applies to any planar scene):





## Camera pose estimation

---

Assume all points lie in one plane with  $Z=0$ :

$$\mathbf{X} = (X, Y, 0, 1)$$

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

$$= \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{r}_1 \mathbf{r}_2 \mathbf{r}_3 \mathbf{t}] \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{r}_1 \mathbf{r}_2 \mathbf{t}] \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \mathbf{H} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \lambda \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{r}_1 \mathbf{r}_2 \mathbf{t}]$$

$$\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{H} = \lambda [\mathbf{r}_1 \mathbf{r}_2 \mathbf{t}]$$

– $\mathbf{r}_1$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2$  are unit vectors  $\Rightarrow$  find lambda

–Use this to compute  $\mathbf{t}$

–Rotation matrices are orthogonal  $\Rightarrow$  find  $\mathbf{r}_3$

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1 & \mathbf{r}_2 & (\mathbf{r}_1 \times \mathbf{r}_2) & \mathbf{t} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Problems

---

- Problem:
  - The vectors  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  might not yield the same lambda
- Solution:
  - Use the average value
- Problem:
  - The estimated rotation matrix might not be orthogonal
- Solution: orthogonalize  $R'$ 
  - Obtain SVD  $\Rightarrow R' = UWV^T$
  - Set singular values to 1  $\Rightarrow R = UV^T$



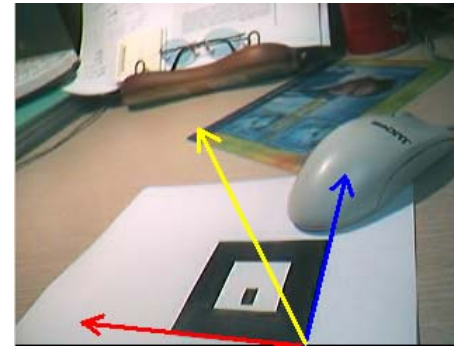
## Example: marker tracker



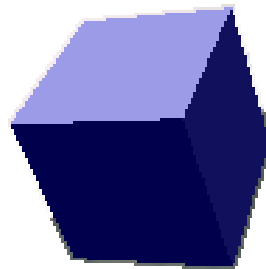
Video-input



Pattern recognition  
(point correspondences  
from 4 corners)



Homography  $\Rightarrow$  3D  
pose



Rendering of the  
virtual object



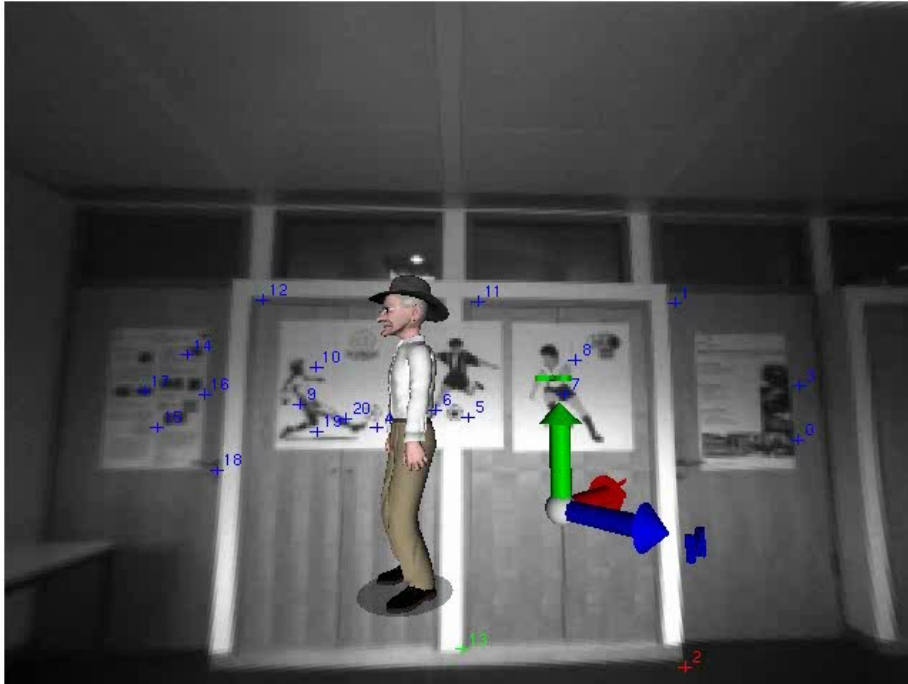
Synthesis and  
overlay



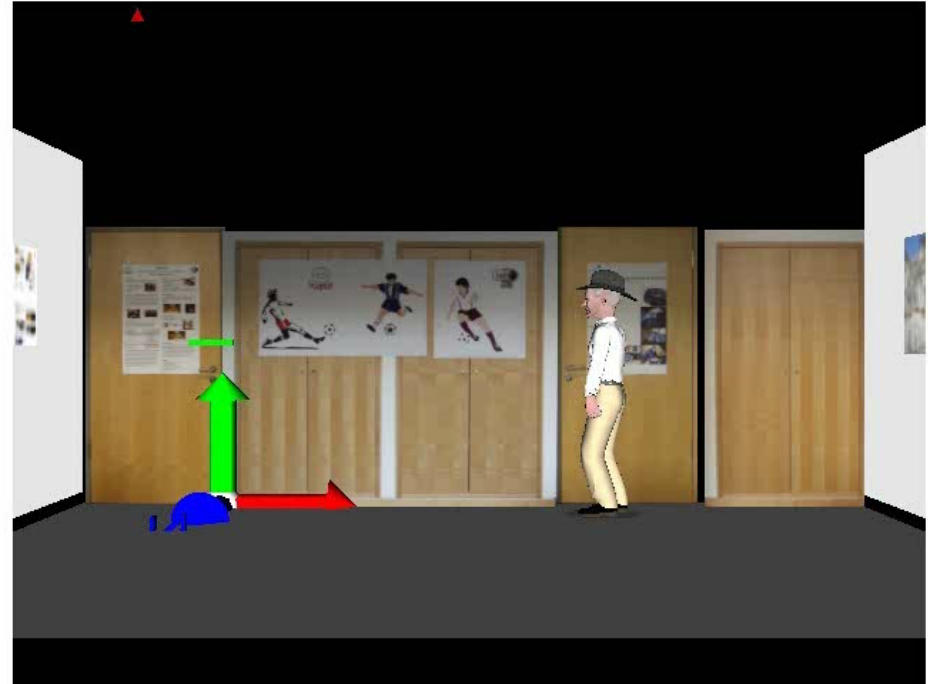


## Example: natural feature tracking

Life image with augmentations



Virtual scene





## References

---

- Homography estimation from planes:
  - Zhang: Flexible camera calibration by viewing a plane from unknown orientations, ICCV, 1999.
- Homography estimation from purely rotating camera
  - Hartley: Self-Calibration from Multiple Views with a Rotating Camera, ECCV, 1994
  - Brown and Lowe: Recognizing Panoramas, ICCV, 2003.

---

Thank you!

Next lecture:  
Linear/nonlinear/robust estimation techniques