



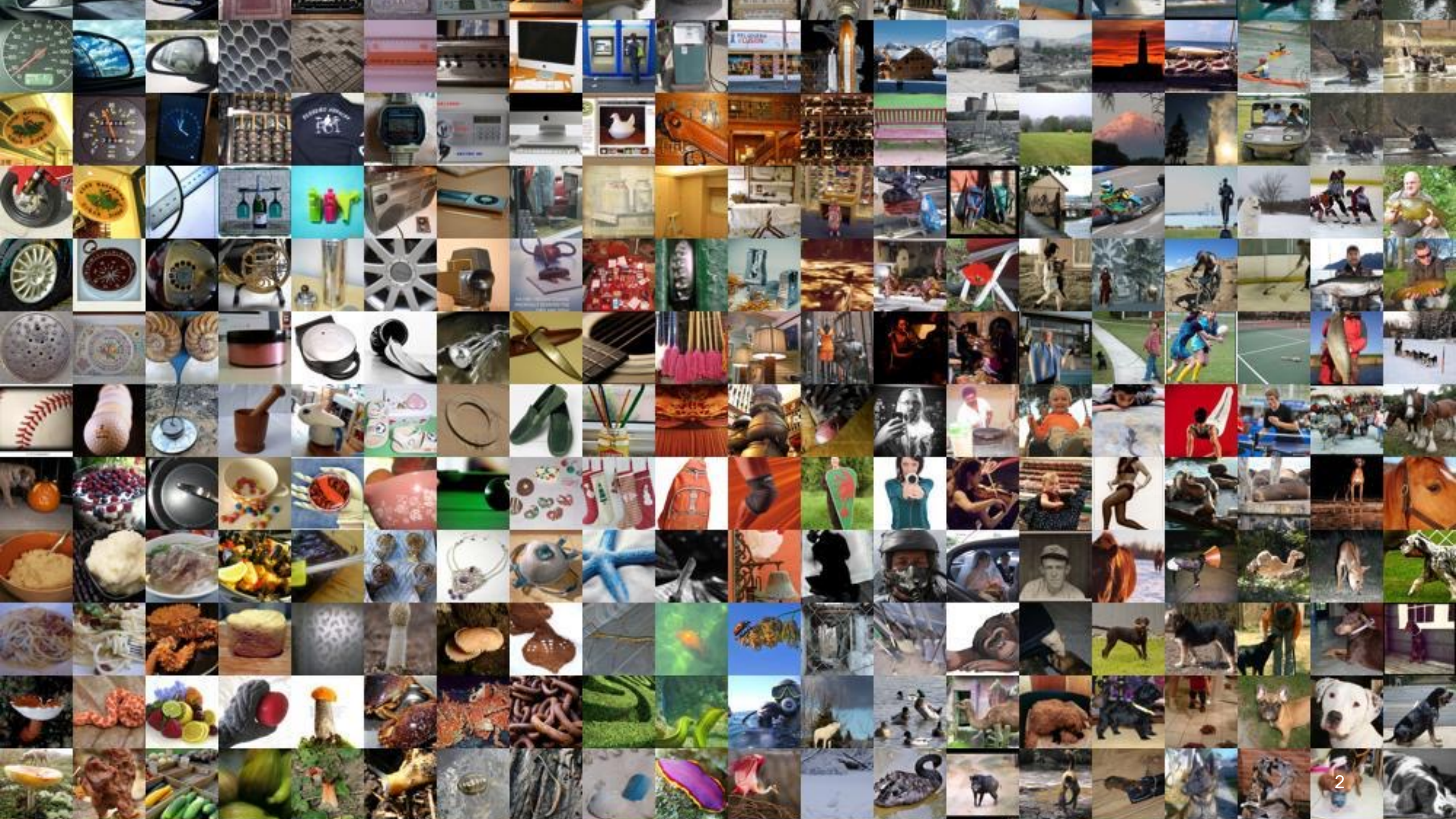
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

# Image Formulation: Camera Models

CS 6384 Computer Vision

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Department of Computer Science



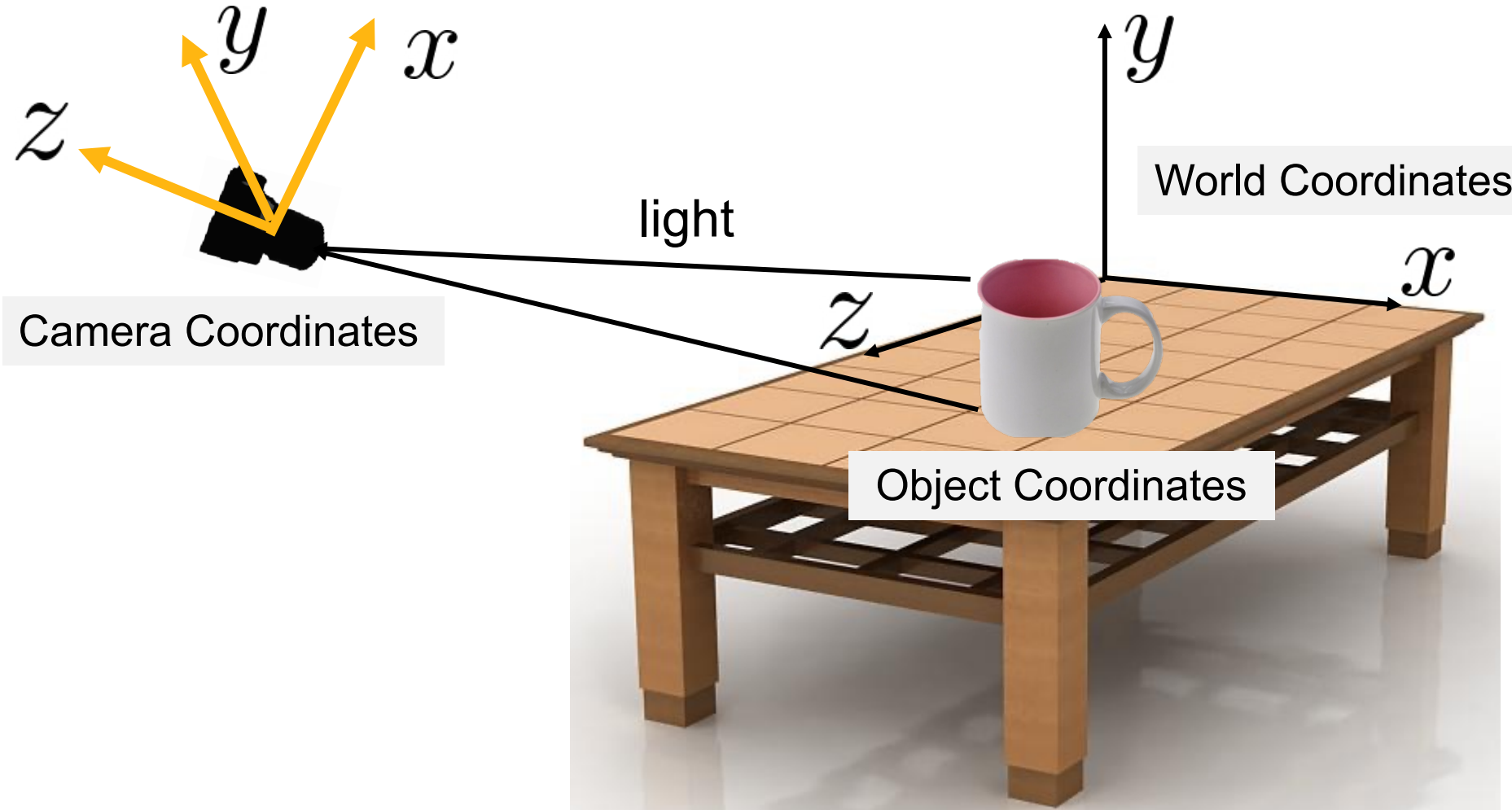


The objects are essentially 3D.

How to project 3D into 2D and capture these images?

Camera Model!

# Camera Models: 3D-to-2D Projection





Q1: Are three balls in a same size?

Q2: Are the two rail lines parallel?

A1&A2: No?

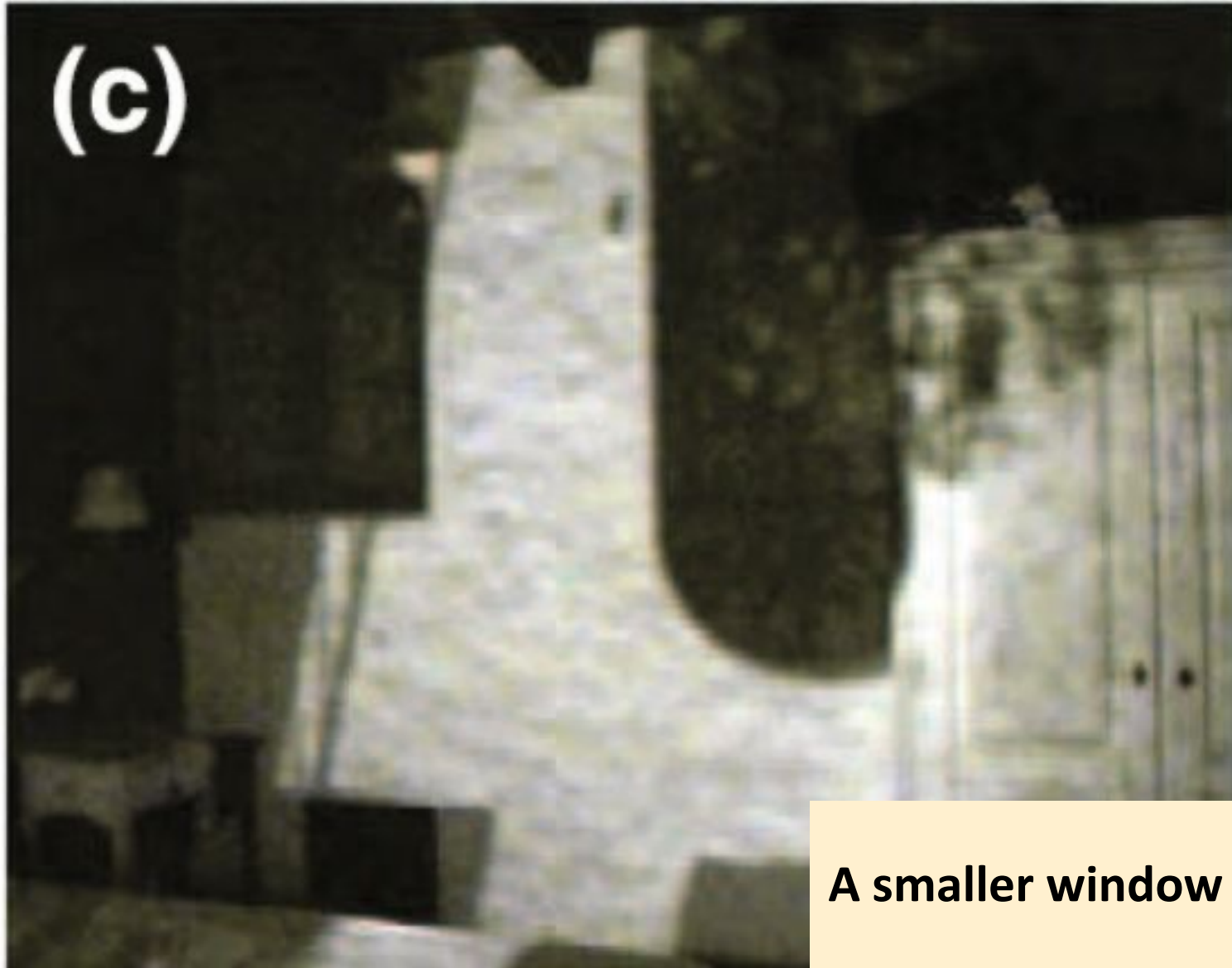


**A Living Room  
What objects or scenes?**

Largely opened window



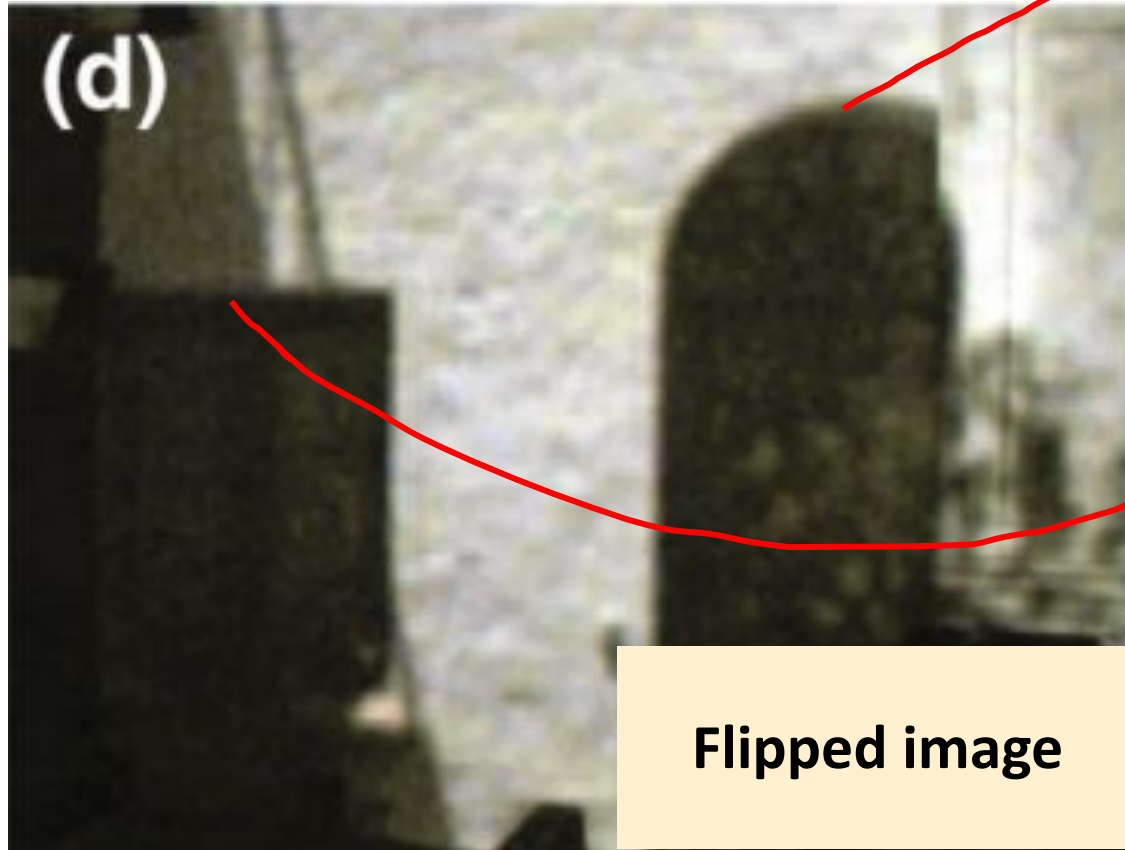
(c)



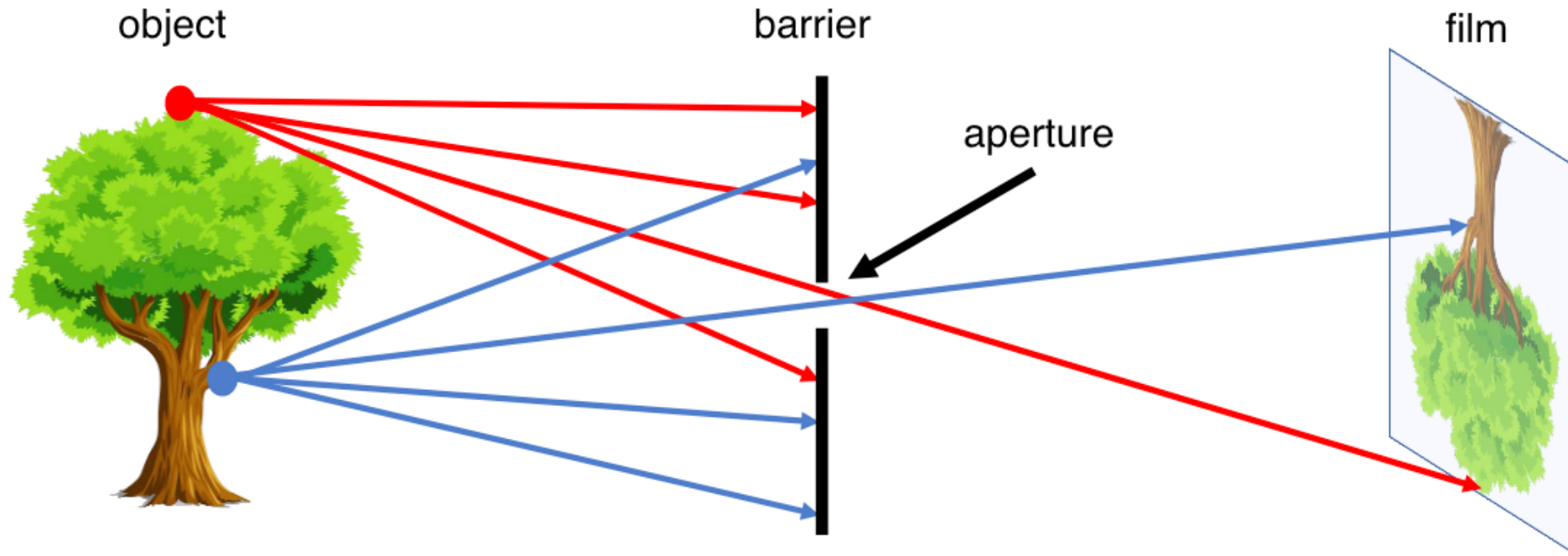
**A smaller window**



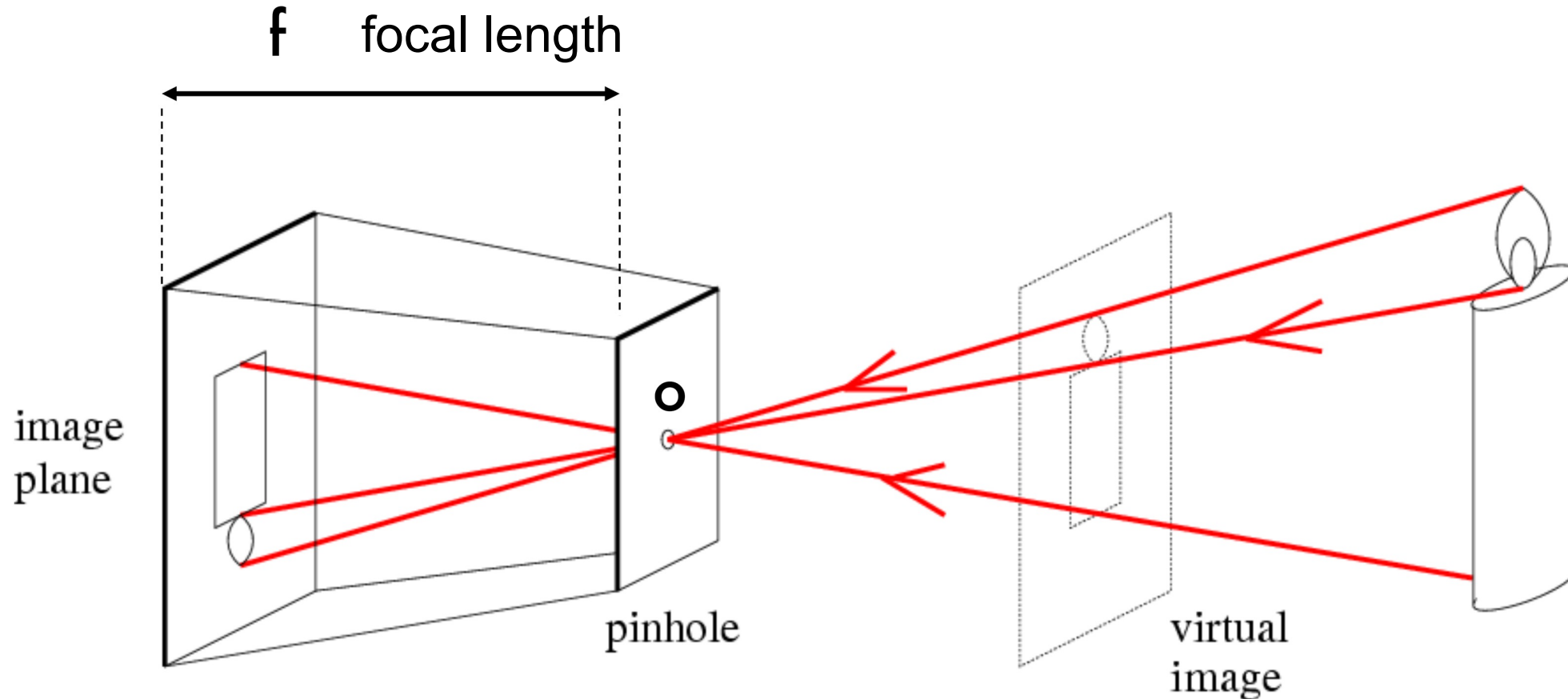
# Nature Example of Pinhole Camera



# Pinhole Camera



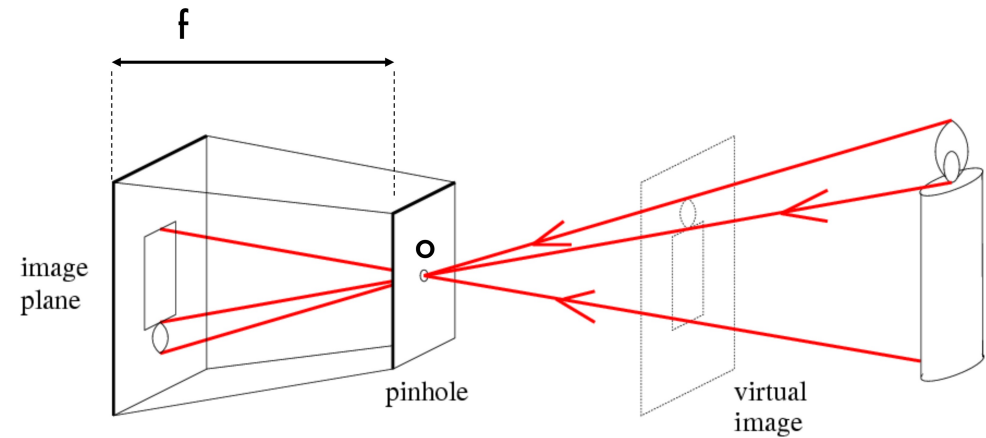
# Pinhole Camera



Rotate the image plane by 180°

Cannot be implemented in practice  
Useful for theoretic analysis

# Natural Pinhole Cameras

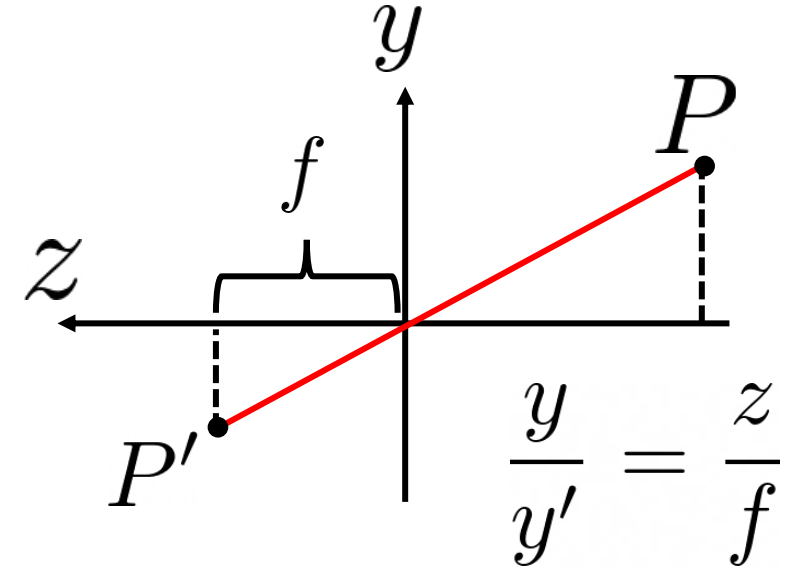
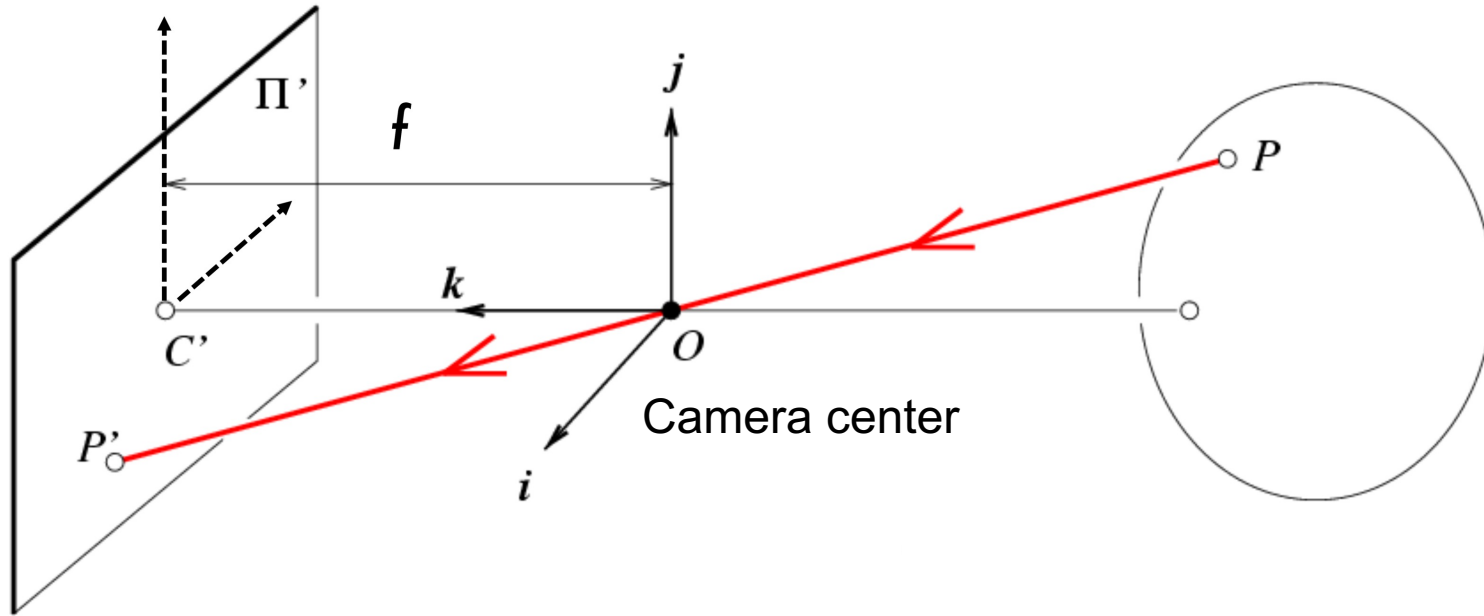


**Object:** the sun

**Pinhole:** gaps between the leaves

**Image plane:** the ground

# Central Projection in Camera Coordinates



Camera coordinates

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Nonlinear}} P' = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x' = f \frac{x}{z} \\ y' = f \frac{y}{z} \end{cases}$$

# Homogeneous Coordinates

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

homogeneous image  
coordinates

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

homogeneous scene  
coordinates

Conversion

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

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

# Central Projection with Homogeneous Coordinates

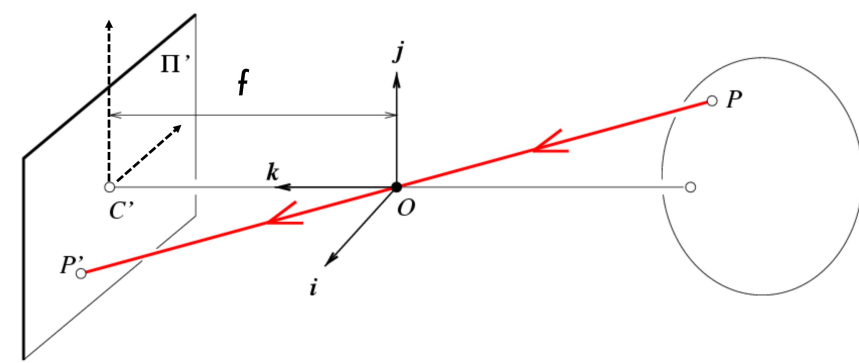
$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} f \frac{x}{z} \\ f \frac{y}{z} \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

Central projection

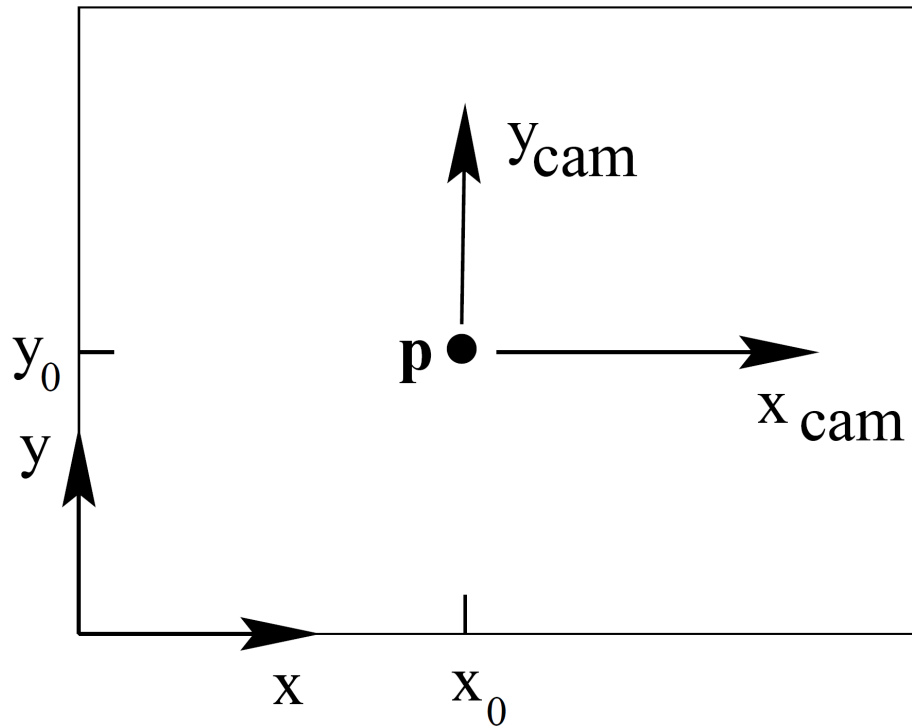
$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} fx \\ fy \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f & & & 0 \\ & f & & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

3x4 matrix

# Principal Point Offset



Principal point  $\mathbf{p} = (p_x, p_y)$



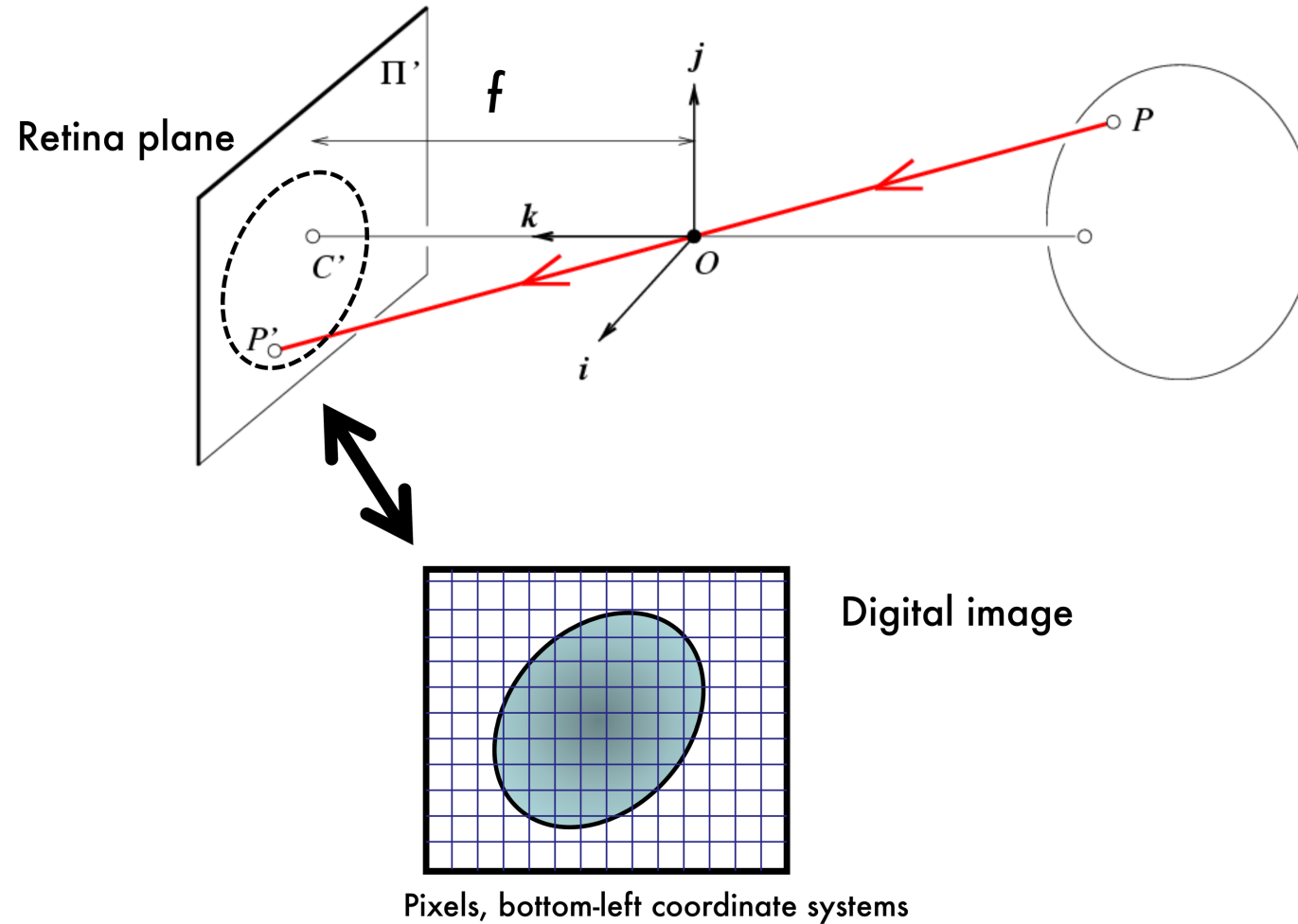
Principle point: projection of the camera center

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} f \frac{x}{z} + p_x \\ f \frac{y}{z} + p_y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} f & p_x & 0 \\ & f & p_y & 0 \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# From Metric to Pixels



# From Metric to Pixels

Metric space, i.e., meters

$$\begin{bmatrix} f & p_x & 0 \\ & f & p_y & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Pixel space

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & x_0 & 0 \\ & \alpha_y & y_0 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_x = f m_x$$

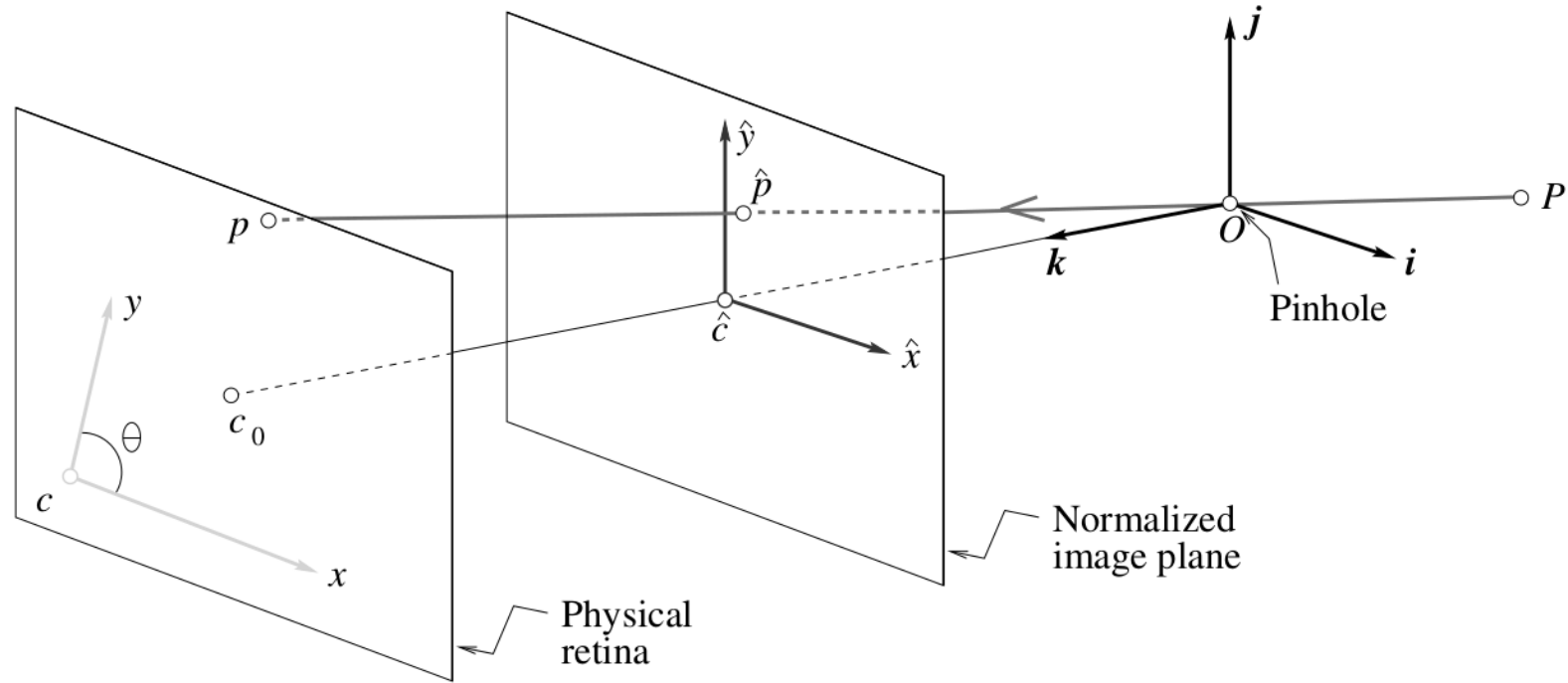
$$\alpha_y = f m_y$$

$$x_0 = p_x m_x$$

$$y_0 = p_y m_y$$

$m_x, m_y$  Number of pixel per unit distance

# Axis Skew



The skew parameter will be zero for most normal cameras.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & & x_0 & 0 \\ & \alpha_y & y_0 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x \frac{x}{z} + x_0 \\ \alpha_y \frac{y}{z} + y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & -\alpha_x \cot(\theta) & x_0 & 0 \\ & \frac{\alpha_y}{\sin(\theta)} & y_0 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

<https://blog.immenselyhappy.com/post/camera-axis-skew/>

# Camera Intrinsics

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & -\alpha_x \cot(\theta) & x_0 & 0 \\ & \frac{\alpha_y}{\sin(\theta)} & y_0 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Camera intrinsics

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & s & x_0 \\ & \alpha_y & y_0 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{X} = K [I | \mathbf{0}] \mathbf{X}_{\text{cam}}$$

3x1

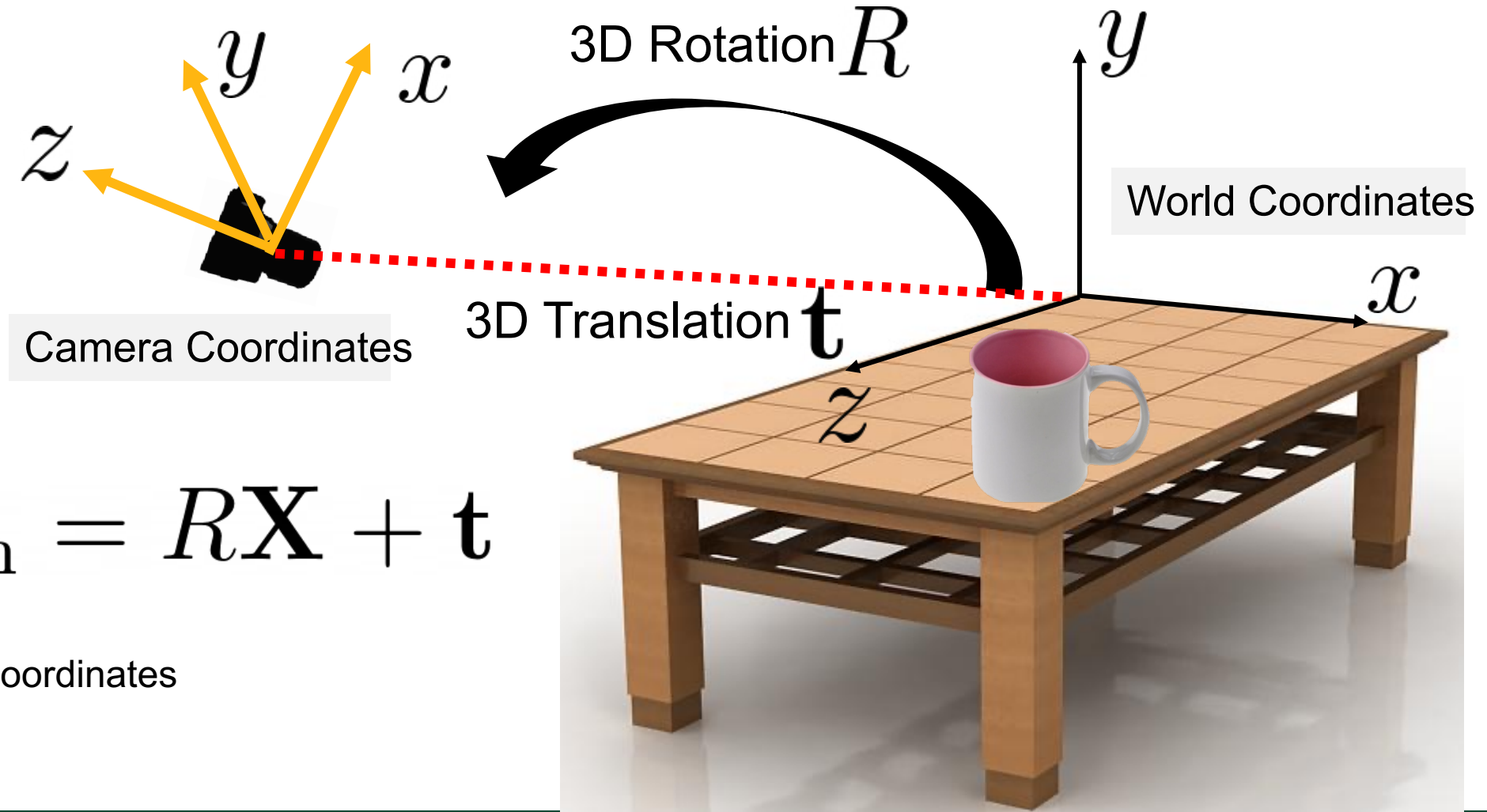
3x3

3x4

4x1

Homogeneous coordinates

# Camera Extrinsics: Camera Rotation and Translation



$$\mathbf{X}_{\text{cam}} = R\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{t}$$

Euclidean coordinates

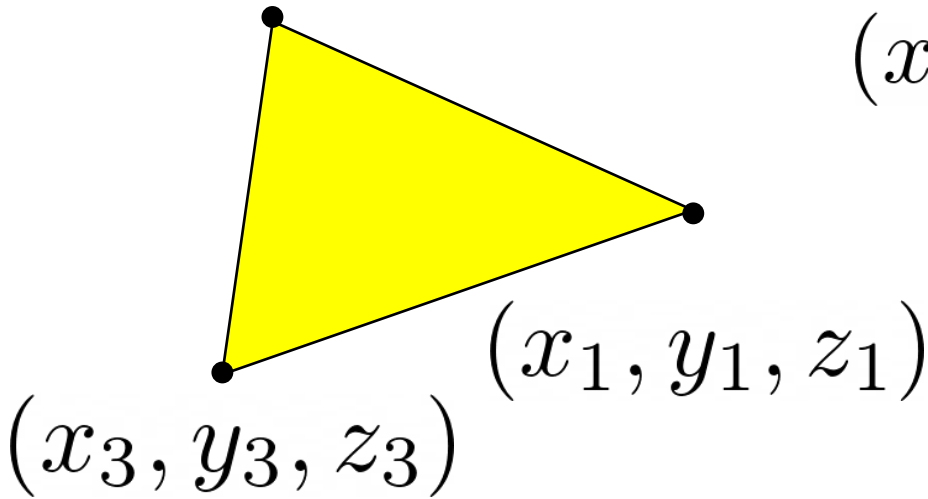
# 3D Translation

$$(x_1, y_1, z_1) \mapsto (x_1 + x_t, y_1 + y_t, z_1 + z_t)$$

$$(x_2, y_2, z_2) \mapsto (x_2 + x_t, y_2 + y_t, z_2 + z_t)$$

$$(x_3, y_3, z_3) \mapsto (x_3 + x_t, y_3 + y_t, z_3 + z_t)$$

$$(x_2, y_2, z_2)$$



$$\mathbf{v}_1 \mapsto \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{t}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 \mapsto \mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{t}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 \mapsto \mathbf{v}_3 + \mathbf{t}$$

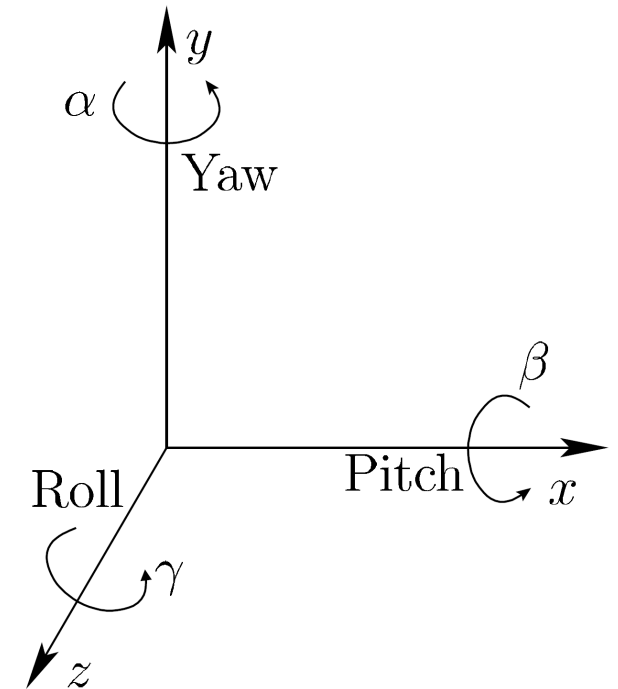
$$\text{3D Translation } \mathbf{t} = (x_t, y_t, z_t)$$

# 3D Rotation

The yaw, pitch, and roll rotations can be combined sequentially to attain any possible 3D rotation.

$$R(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = R_y(\alpha)R_x(\beta)R_z(\gamma)$$

$$R_z(\gamma) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \gamma & -\sin \gamma & 0 \\ \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad R_x(\beta) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \beta & -\sin \beta \\ 0 & \sin \beta & \cos \beta \end{bmatrix} \quad R_y(\alpha) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & 0 & \sin \alpha \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \alpha & 0 & \cos \alpha \end{bmatrix}$$



# Camera Projection Matrix $P = K[R|\mathbf{t}]$

Homogeneous coordinates

$$\mathbf{X} = K[I|\mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X}_{\text{cam}}$$

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & s & x_0 \\ & \alpha_y & y_0 \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= K[R|\mathbf{t}]\mathbf{X}$$

3x1

3x3

3x4

4x1

Image coordinates

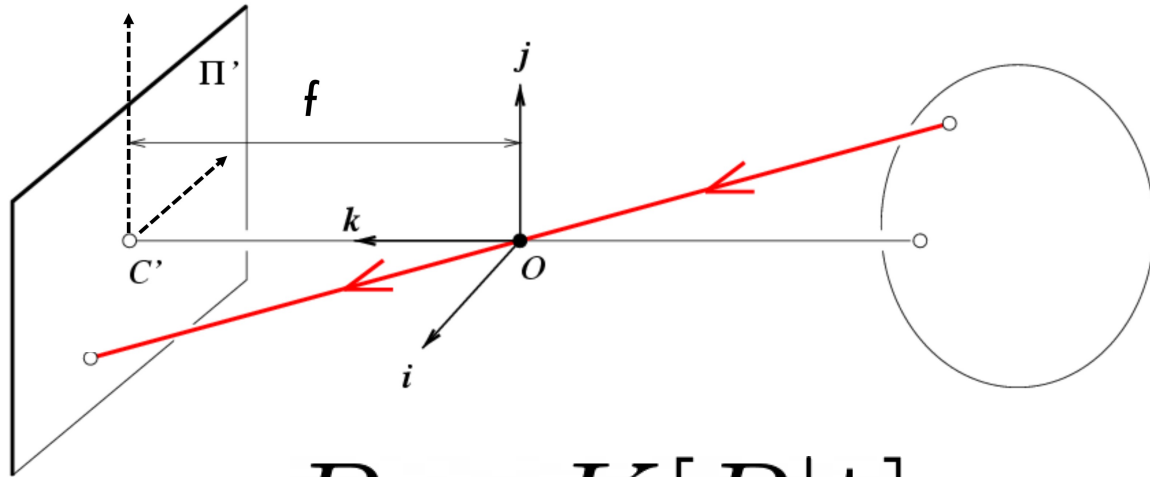
World coordinates

Camera intrinsics

Camera extrinsics:  
rotation and translation



# Back-projection in World Coordinates



$$P = K[R|\mathbf{t}]$$

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

- The camera center  $O$  is on the ray

- $P^+ \mathbf{x}$  is on the ray

$$P^+ = P^T (PP^T)^{-1}$$

Pseudo-inverse

The ray can be written as

$$P^+ \mathbf{x} + \lambda O$$

- A pixel on the image backprojects to a ray in 3D

# Back-projection in Camera Coordinates

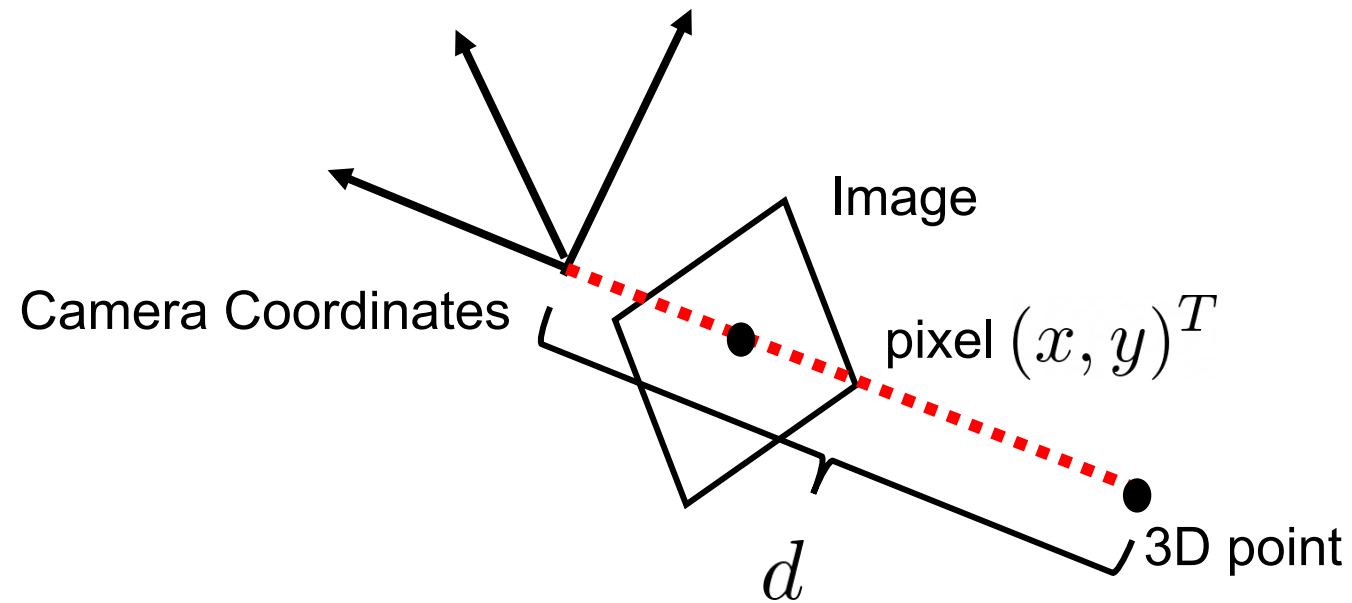
$$P = K[I|\mathbf{0}]$$

$$\mathbf{x} = K[I|\mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X}_{\text{cam}}$$

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

$$\text{3D point with depth } d : dK^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

$$\text{3D camera coordinates } \begin{bmatrix} d \frac{x-p_x}{f_x} \\ d \frac{y-p_y}{f_y} \\ d \end{bmatrix}$$



# Summary: Camera Models

Camera projection matrix: intrinsics and extrinsics

$$P = K [R | \mathbf{t}]$$

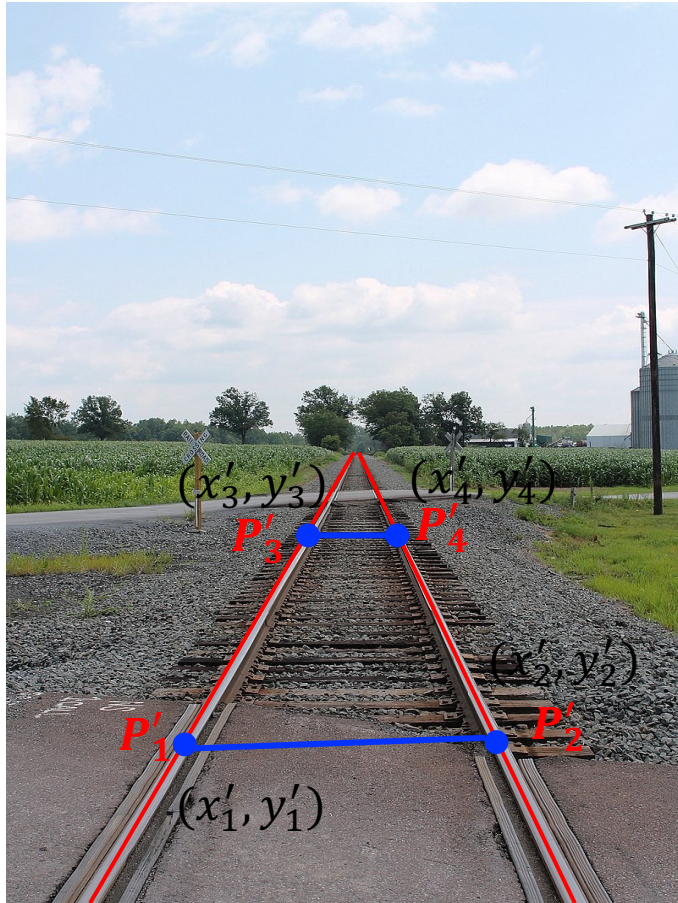
3x3

3x4

Camera intrinsics

Camera extrinsics:  
rotation and translation

# Interpreting Perceived Images



The lengths of two lines  $P_1P_2$  and  $P_3P_4$  in 3D space are equal

$$\begin{matrix} \text{3D} \\ \mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ y \\ \mathbf{Z} \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} \text{2D} \\ \mathbf{P}' = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{cases} \mathbf{x}' = f \frac{\mathbf{X}}{\mathbf{Z}} \\ y' = f \frac{y}{\mathbf{Z}} \end{cases}$$

Why is  $P_3'P_4'$  shorter than  $P_1'P_2'$  in the 2D image?

- For the two 3D points  $P_1$  and  $P_3$ , let's assume we have  $x_1 = x_3, y_1 = y_3$ , and  $z_1 < z_3$  in the 3D coordinate system
- After 3D-to-2D projection, we have  $x_1' > x_3'$  and  $y_1' > y_3'$
- Larger depth and shorter length due to the projection

# Further Reading

Stanford CS231A: Computer Vision, From 3D Reconstruction to Recognition, [Course Notes 1: Camera Models](#)

[Multiview Geometry in Computer Vision](#), Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman, Chapter 6, Camera Models

Computer Vision: Algorithms and Applications. Richard Szeliski, Chapter 2.1.4, 3D to 2D projections