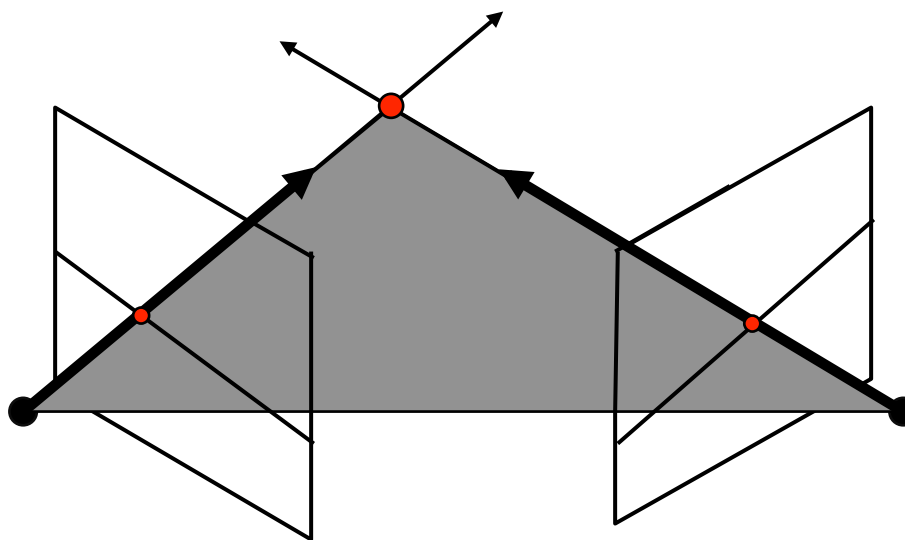


# CS4670 / 5670: Computer Vision

Kavita Bala

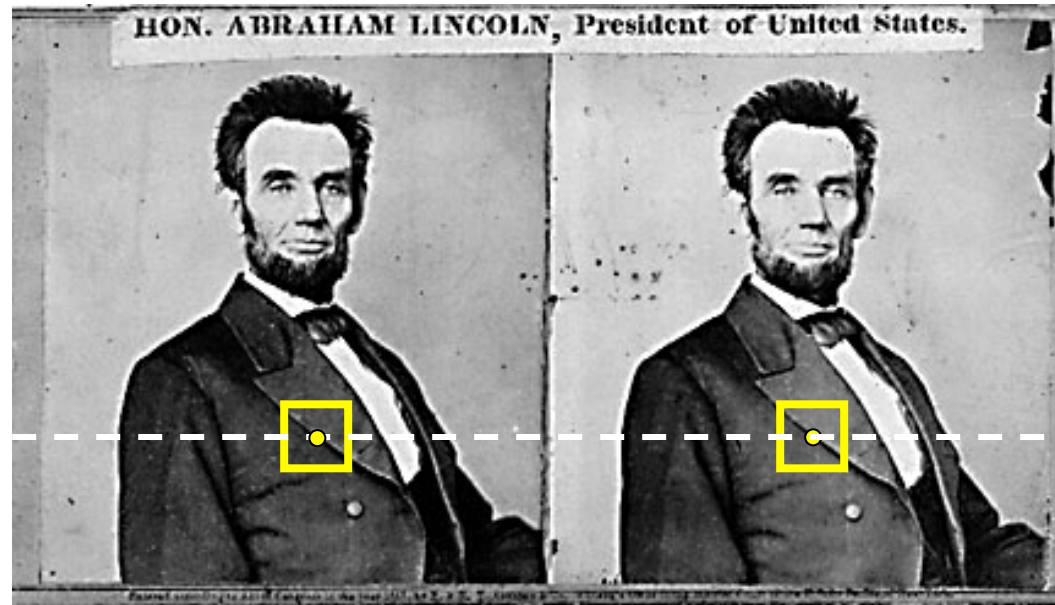
## Lec 26: Fundamental Matrix



# Readings

- Welcome back ..... to winter
- Szeliski, Chapter 7.2

# Back to stereo



# The objective

Given two images of a scene acquired by known cameras  
compute the 3D position of the scene (structure recovery)



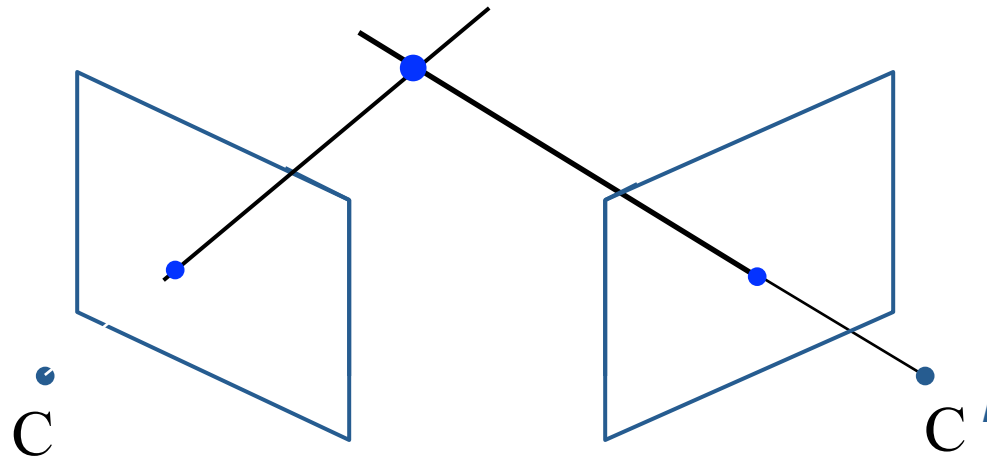
Basic principle: triangulate from corresponding image points

Determine 3D point at intersection of two back-projected rays

# Triangulation



Corresponding points are images of the same scene point



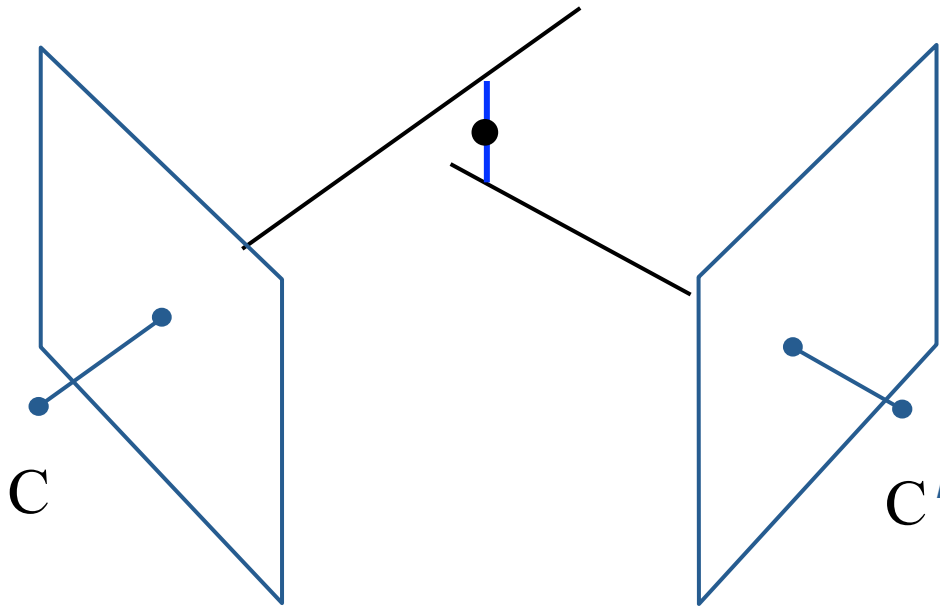
The back-projected points generate rays which intersect at the 3D scene point

# An algorithm for stereo reconstruction

1. For each point in the first image determine the corresponding point in the second image  
(this is a search problem)
2. For each pair of matched points determine the 3D point by triangulation  
(this is an estimation problem)

# Triangulation

# Vector solution



Compute the mid-point of the shortest line between the 2 rays

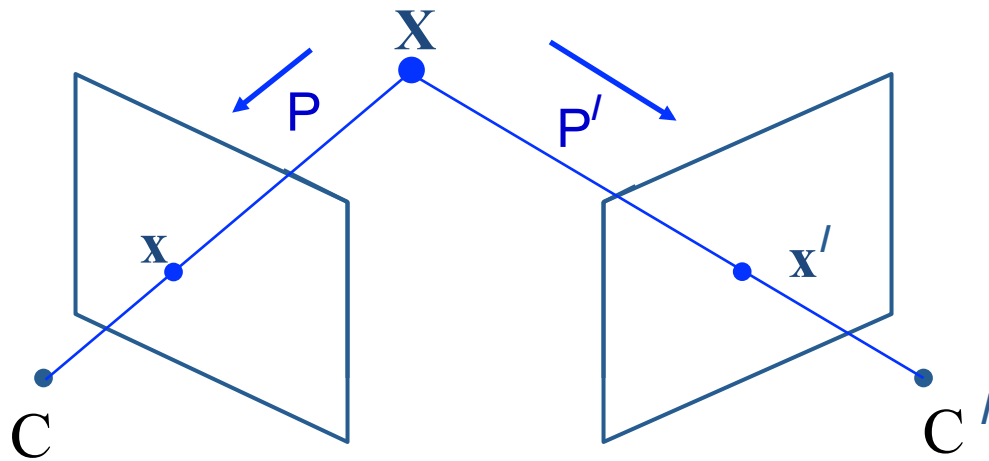
Problems: multiple cameras, one camera closer than other



# Minimizing reprojection error

The two cameras are  $P$  and  $P'$ , and a 3D point  $\mathbf{X}$  is imaged as

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



$P$  :  $3 \times 4$  matrix

$\mathbf{X}$  : 4-vector

$\mathbf{x}$  : 3-vector

Remember

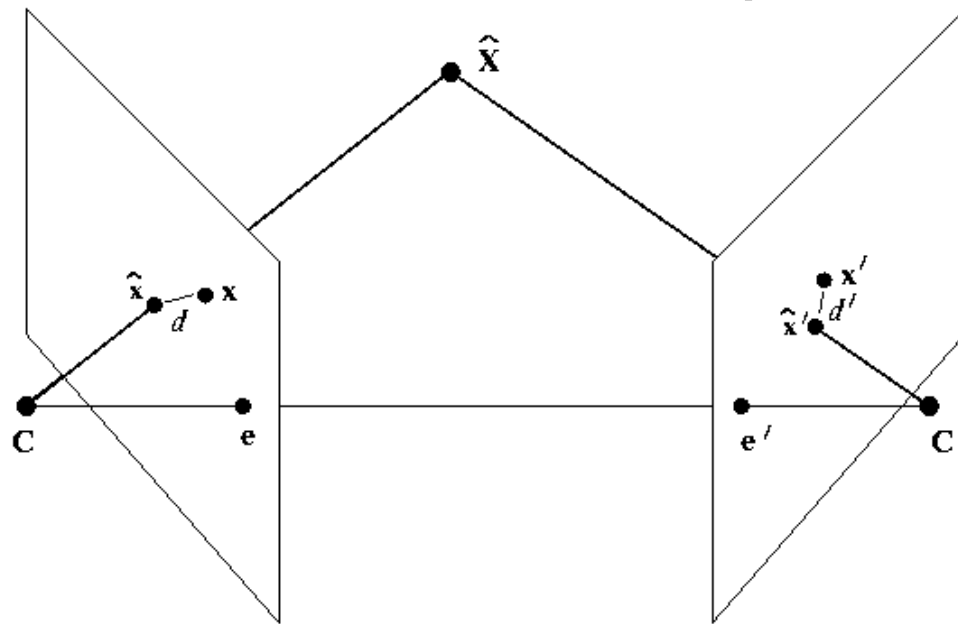
for equations involving homogeneous quantities '=' means 'equal up to scale'

# Minimizing a geometric/statistical error

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

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

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.

# The correspondence problem

Given a point  $x$  in one image find the corresponding point in the other image

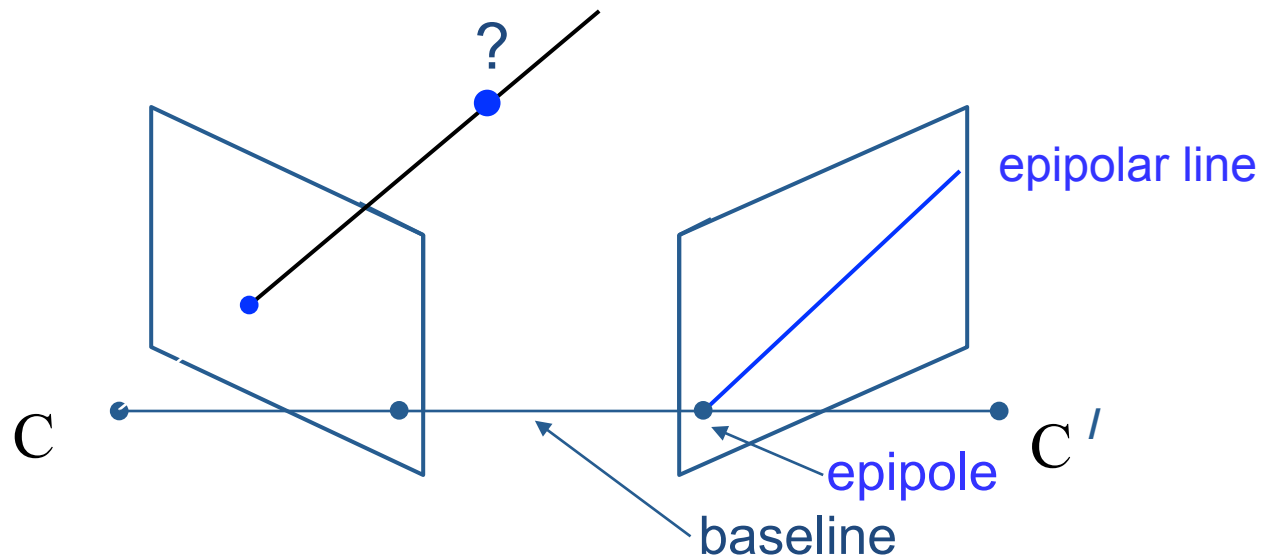


This appears to be a 2D search problem, but it is reduced to a 1D search by the **epipolar constraint**

# Epipolar geometry

# Epipolar geometry

Given an image point in one view, where is the corresponding point in the other view?



- A point in one view “generates” an **epipolar line** in the other view
- The corresponding point lies on this line

# Epipolar line

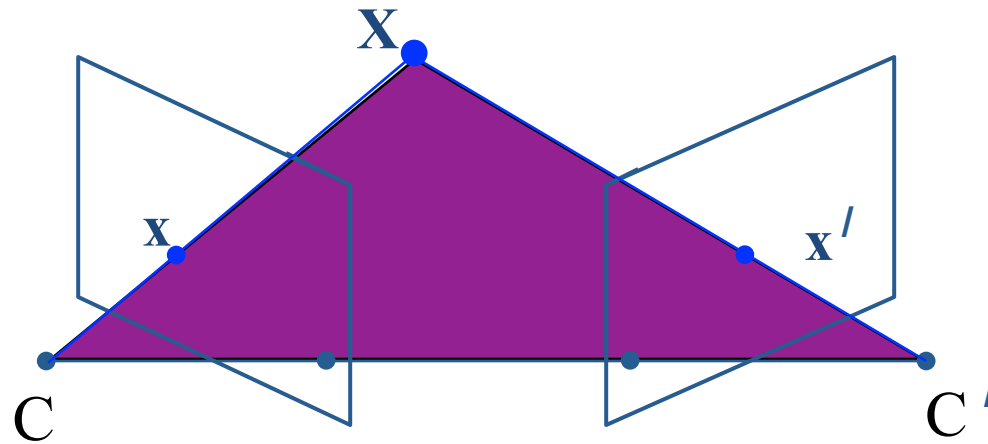


## Epipolar constraint

- Reduces correspondence problem to 1D search along an epipolar line

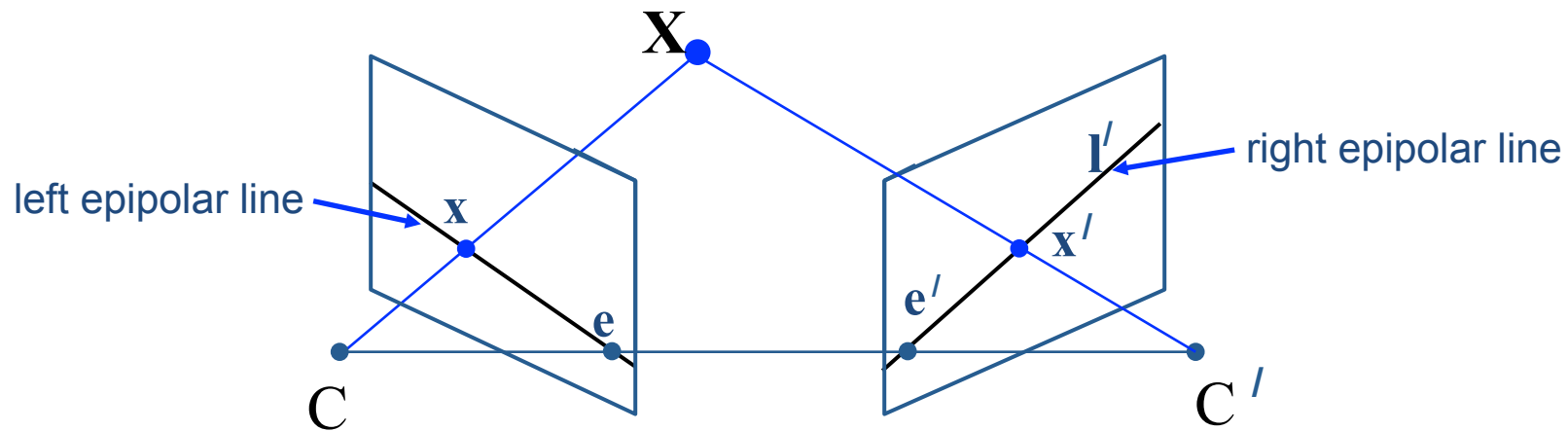
# Epipolar geometry continued

Epipolar geometry is a consequence of the coplanarity of the camera centres and scene point



The camera centres, corresponding points and scene point lie in a single plane, known as the **epipolar plane**

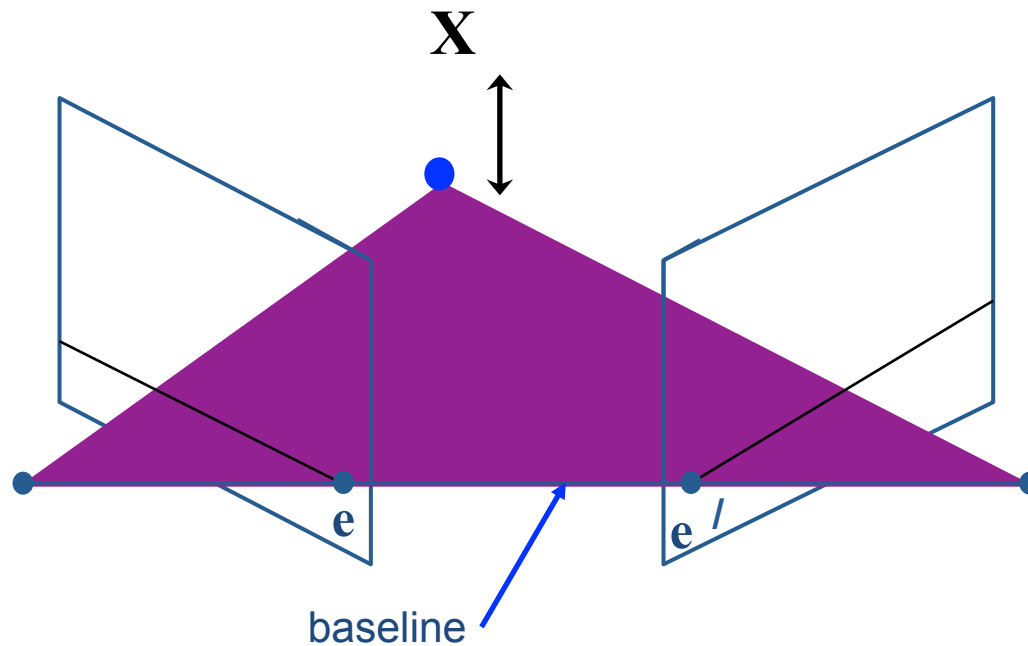
# Nomenclature



- The **epipolar line**  $l'$  is the image of the ray through  $x$
- The **epipole**  $e$  is the point of intersection of the line joining the camera centres with the image plane
  - this line is the **baseline** for a stereo rig, and
  - the translation vector for a moving camera
- The epipole is the image of the centre of the other camera:  $e = PC'$ ,  $e' = P'C$



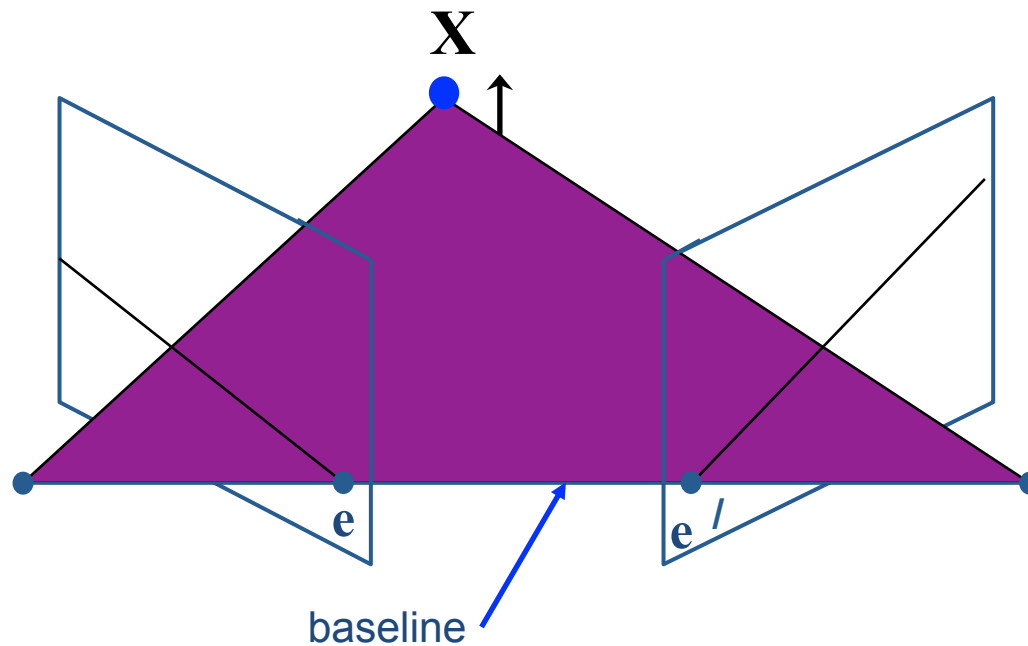
# The epipolar pencil



As the position of the 3D point  $X$  varies, the epipolar planes “rotate” about the baseline. This family of planes is known as an **epipolar pencil** (a pencil is a one parameter family).

All epipolar lines intersect at the epipole.

# The epipolar pencil

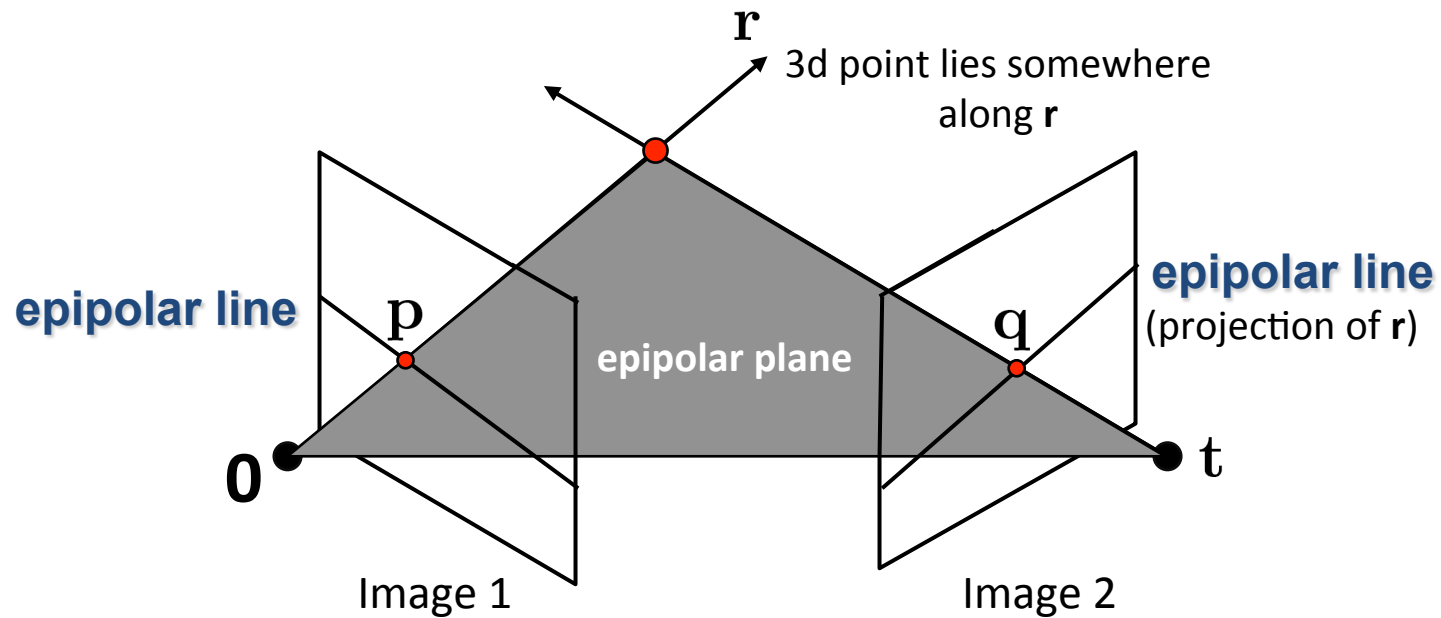


As the position of the 3D point  $\mathbf{X}$  varies, the epipolar planes “rotate” about the baseline. This family of planes is known as an **epipolar pencil** (a pencil is a one parameter family).

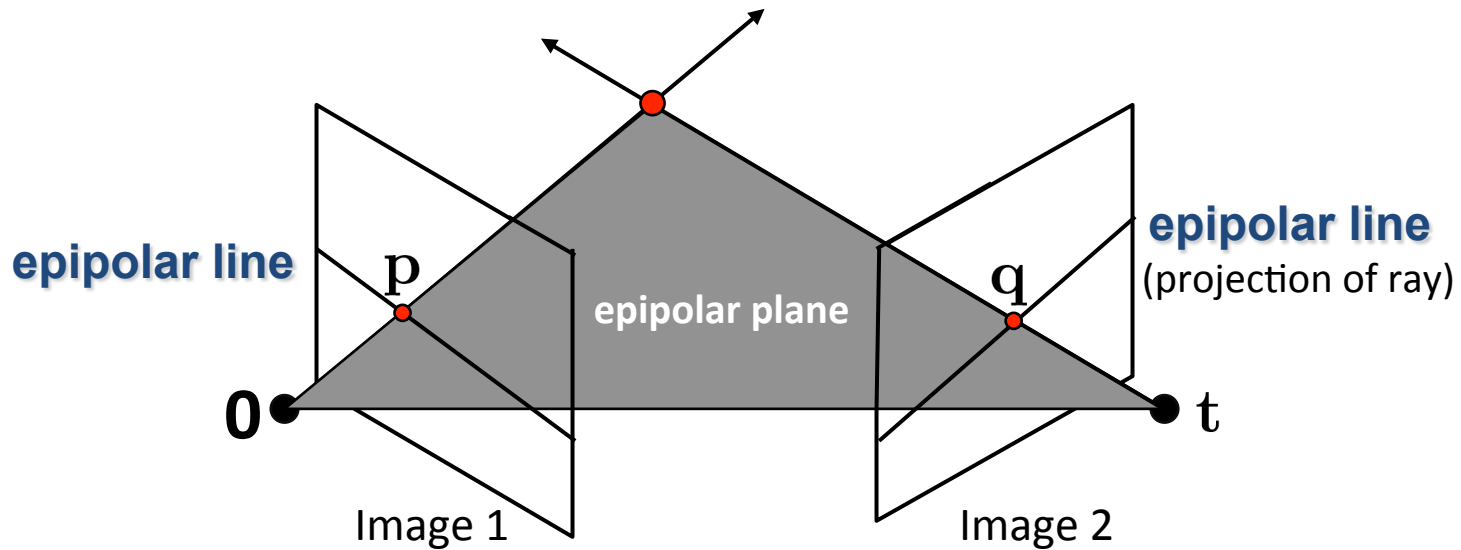
All epipolar lines intersect at the epipole.

# Two-view geometry

- Two-view geometry represented by fundamental matrix

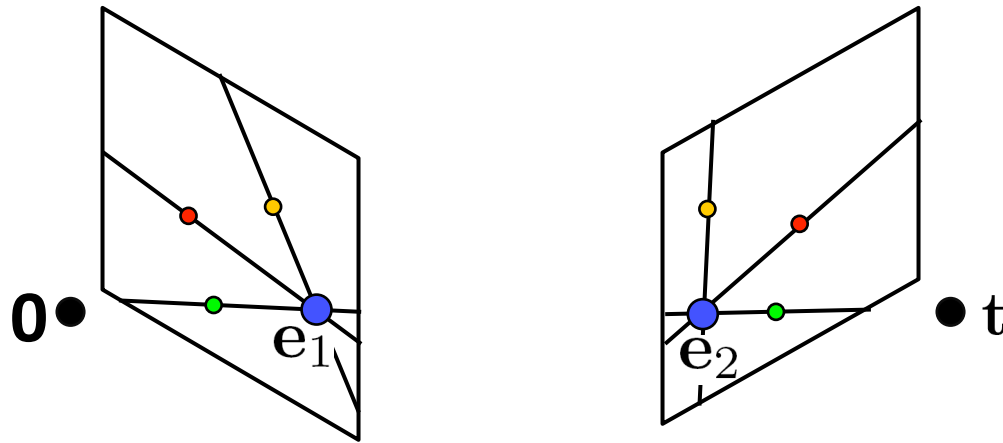


# Fundamental matrix



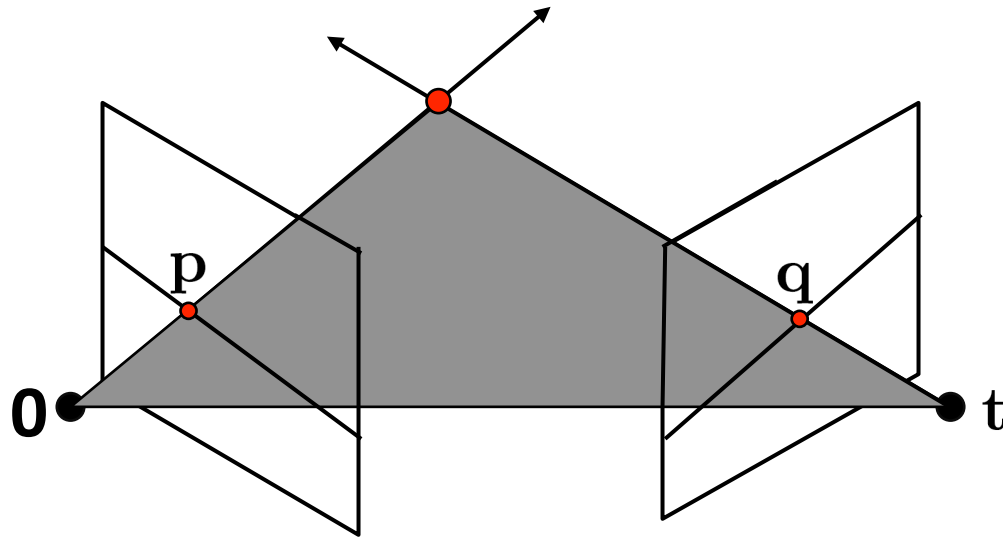
- *Epipolar geometry* of two views is described by a very special 3x3 matrix  $\mathbf{F}$ , called the *fundamental matrix*
- $\mathbf{F}$  maps (homogeneous) *points* in image 1 to *lines* in image 2!
- The epipolar line (in image 2) of point  $\mathbf{p}$  is:  $\mathbf{F}\mathbf{p}$
- *Epipolar constraint* on corresponding points:  $\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{F}\mathbf{p} = 0$

# Fundamental matrix



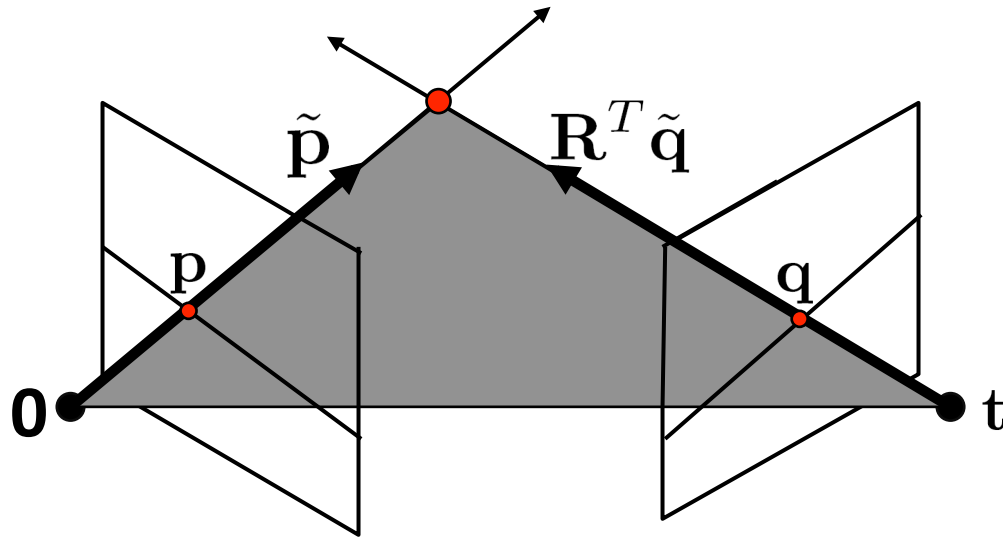
- Two special points:  $\mathbf{e}_1$  and  $\mathbf{e}_2$  (the *epipoles*): projection of one camera into the other
- All of the epipolar lines in an image pass through the epipole

# Fundamental matrix



- Why does  $\mathbf{F}$  exist?
- Let's derive it...

# Fundamental matrix



$\mathbf{K}_1$  : intrinsics of camera 1

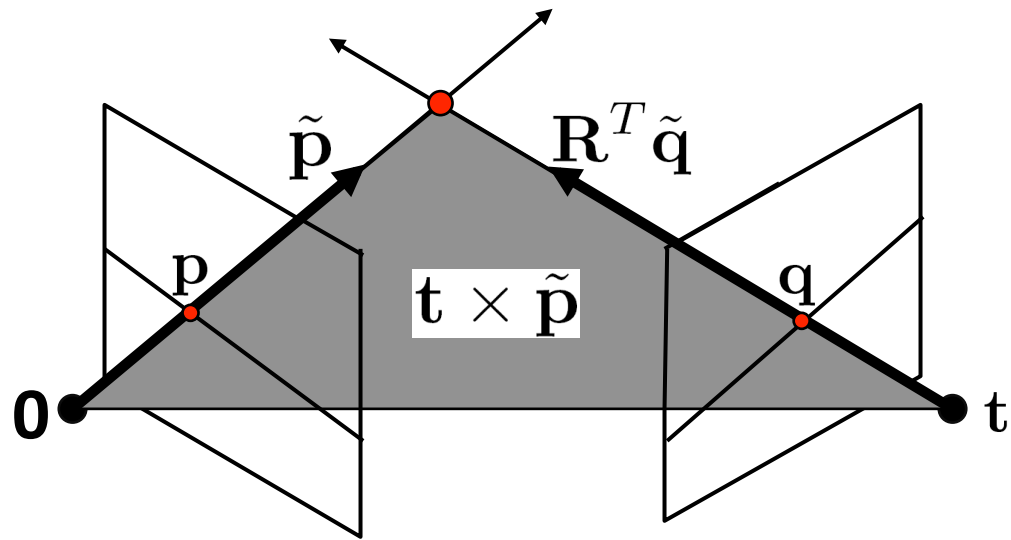
$\mathbf{K}_2$  : intrinsics of camera 2

$\mathbf{R}$  : rotation of image 2 w.r.t. camera 1

$\tilde{\mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{K}_1^{-1} \mathbf{p}$  : ray through  $\mathbf{p}$  in camera 1's (and world) coordinate system

$\tilde{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{K}_2^{-1} \mathbf{q}$  : ray through  $\mathbf{q}$  in camera 2's coordinate system

# Fundamental matrix

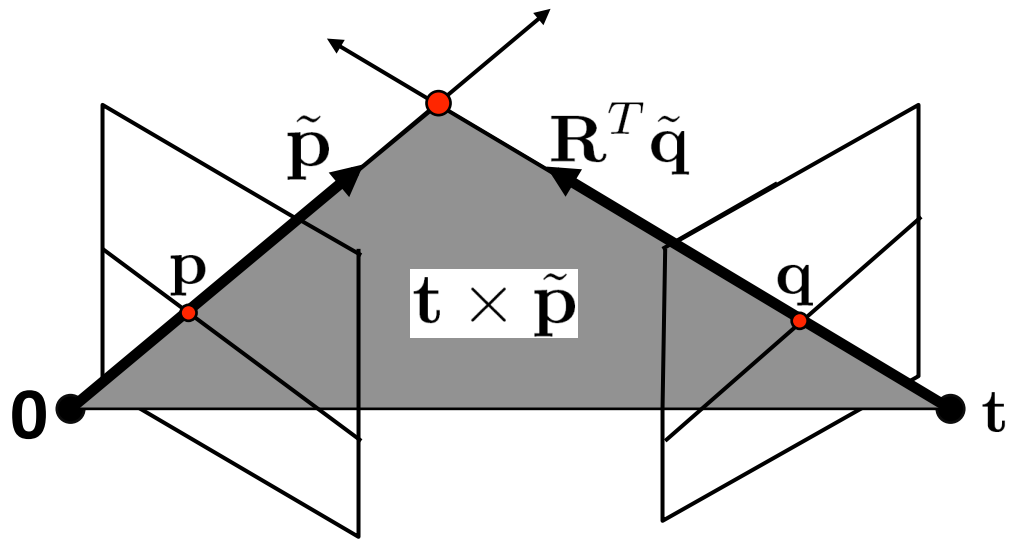


- $\tilde{\mathbf{p}}$ ,  $\mathbf{R}^T \tilde{\mathbf{q}}$ , and  $\mathbf{t}$  are coplanar
- epipolar plane can be represented as  $\mathbf{t} \times \tilde{\mathbf{p}}$

$$(\mathbf{R}^T \tilde{\mathbf{q}})^T (\mathbf{t} \times \tilde{\mathbf{p}}) = 0$$



# Fundamental matrix



$$(\mathbf{R}^T \tilde{\mathbf{q}})^T (\mathbf{t} \times \tilde{\mathbf{p}}) = 0$$



$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{R} (\mathbf{t} \times \tilde{\mathbf{p}}) = 0$$

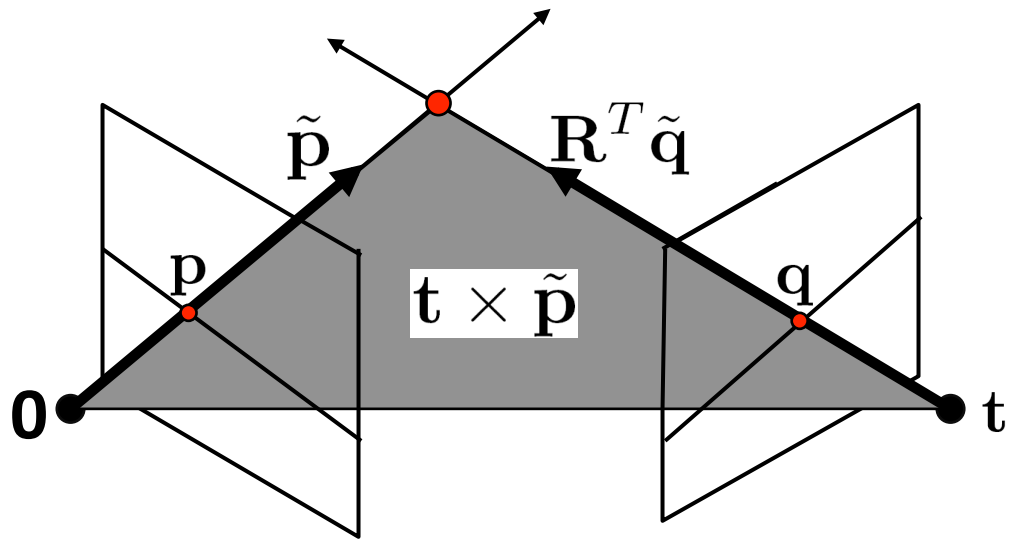
# Cross-product as linear operator

**Useful fact:** Cross product with a vector  $\mathbf{t}$  can be represented as multiplication with a (*skew-symmetric*) 3x3 matrix

$$[\mathbf{t}]_{\times} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -t_z & t_y \\ t_z & 0 & -t_x \\ -t_y & t_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

# Fundamental matrix

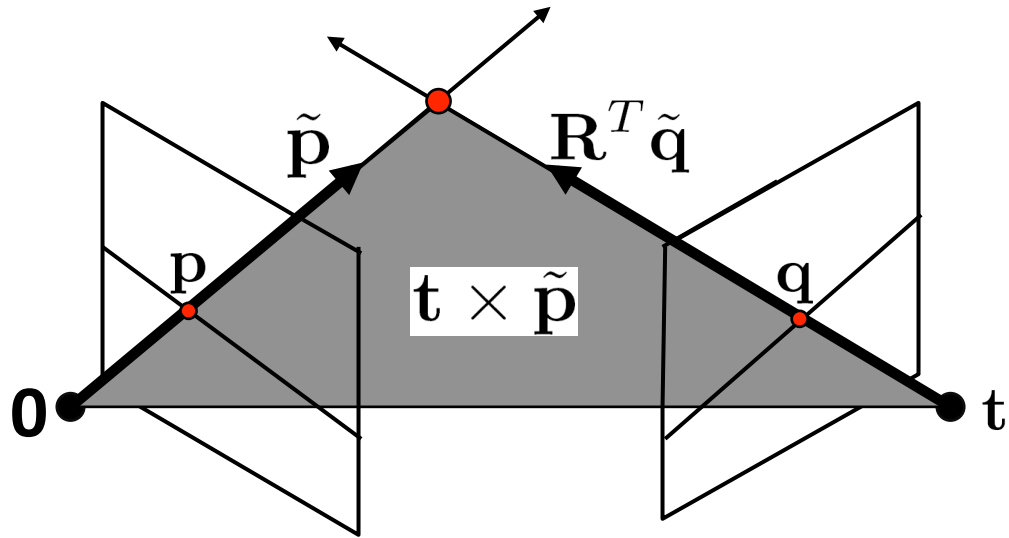


$$\tilde{q}^T \mathbf{R} (\mathbf{t} \times \tilde{p}) = 0$$



$$\tilde{q}^T \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} \tilde{p} = 0$$

# Fundamental matrix



$$\tilde{q}^T \mathbf{R} [t]_{\times} \tilde{p} = 0$$

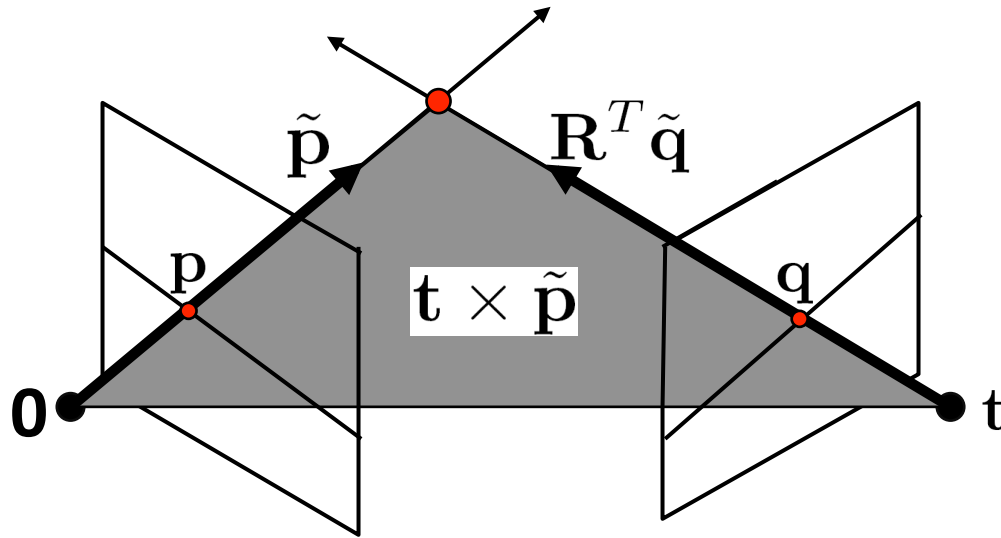


$\mathbf{E}$

$$\tilde{q}^T \mathbf{E} \tilde{p} = 0$$

the Essential matrix

# Fundamental matrix



$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} \tilde{\mathbf{p}} = 0$$

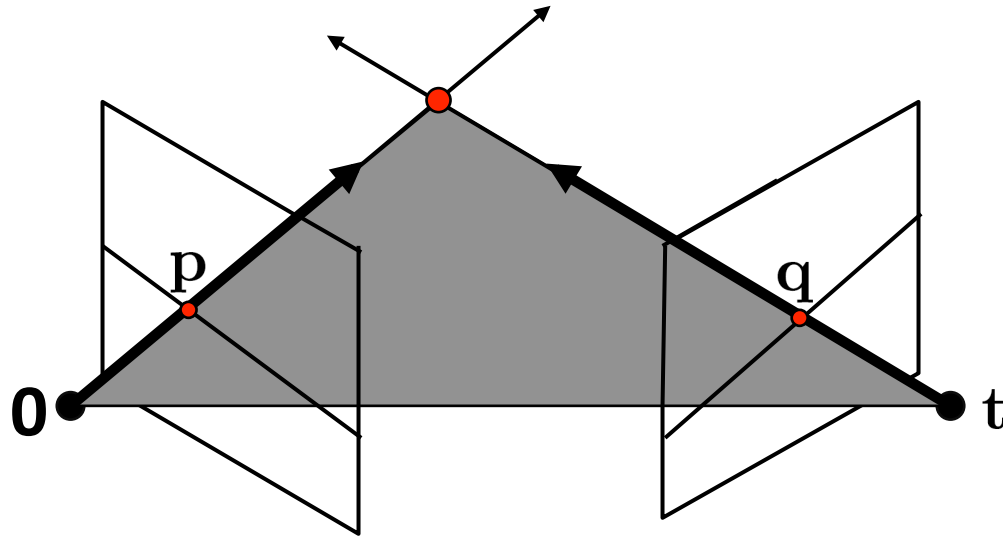


$$\underbrace{\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{K}_2^{-T} \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} \mathbf{K}_1^{-1} \mathbf{p}} = 0$$

$\mathbf{F}$

← the Fundamental matrix

# Fundamental matrix



$\mathbf{K}_1$  : intrinsics of camera 1

$\mathbf{K}_2$  : intrinsics of camera 2

$\mathbf{R}$  : rotation of image 2 w.r.t. camera 1

$$\mathbf{q}^T \underbrace{\mathbf{K}_2^{-T} \mathbf{R} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} \mathbf{K}_1^{-1}}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{p} = 0$$

$\mathbf{F}$  ← the Fundamental matrix

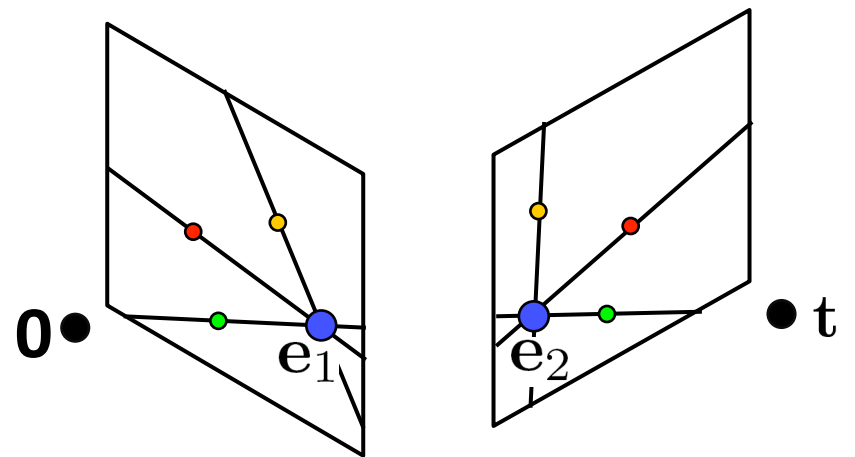
# Fundamental matrix result

$$\mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{F} \mathbf{p} = 0$$

(Longuet-Higgins, 1981)

# Properties of the Fundamental Matrix

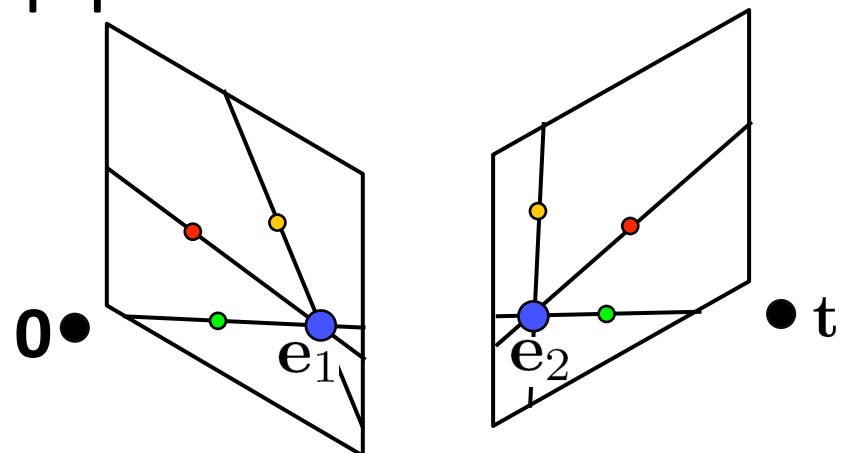
- $\mathbf{F}\mathbf{p}$  is the epipolar line associated with  $\mathbf{p}$
- $\mathbf{F}^T\mathbf{q}$  is the epipolar line associated with  $\mathbf{q}$





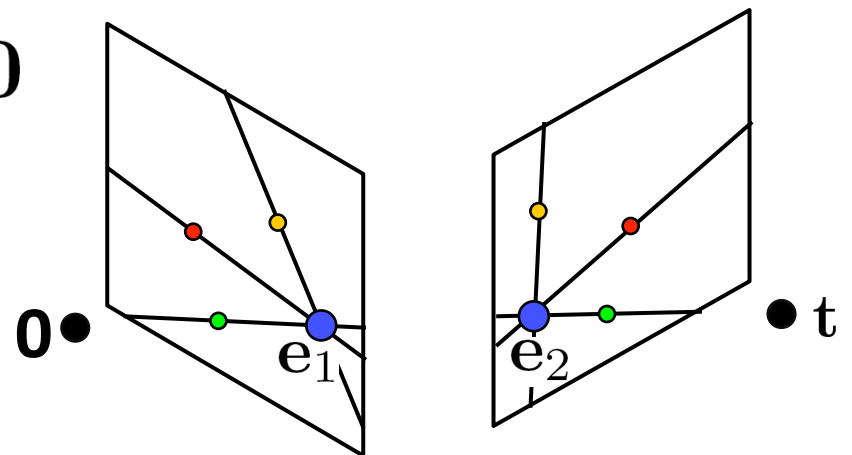
# Properties of the Fundamental Matrix

- $\mathbf{F}\mathbf{p}$  is the epipolar line associated with  $\mathbf{p}$
- $\mathbf{F}^T\mathbf{q}$  is the epipolar line associated with  $\mathbf{q}$
- $\mathbf{F}\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\mathbf{F}^T\mathbf{e}_2 = \mathbf{0}$
- All epipolar lines contain epipole



# Properties of the Fundamental Matrix

- $\mathbf{F}\mathbf{p}$  is the epipolar line associated with  $\mathbf{p}$
- $\mathbf{F}^T\mathbf{q}$  is the epipolar line associated with  $\mathbf{q}$
- $\mathbf{F}\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\mathbf{F}^T\mathbf{e}_2 = \mathbf{0}$
- $\mathbf{F}$  is rank 2



# Why Rank 2

**Useful fact:** Cross product with a vector  $\mathbf{t}$  can be represented as multiplication with a (*skew-symmetric*) 3x3 matrix

$$[\mathbf{t}]_{\times} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -t_z & t_y \\ t_z & 0 & -t_x \\ -t_y & t_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

Fundamental matrix song

Questions?

# Alternative Formulation

# Homogeneous notation for lines

Recall that a point  $(x, y)$  in 2D is represented by the homogeneous 3-vector  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3)^\top$ , where  $x = x_1/x_3, y = x_2/x_3$

A **line** in 2D is represented by the homogeneous 3-vector

$$\mathbf{l} = \begin{pmatrix} l_1 \\ l_2 \\ l_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

which is the line  $l_1x + l_2y + l_3 = 0$ .

Example represent the line  $y = 1$  as a homogeneous vector.

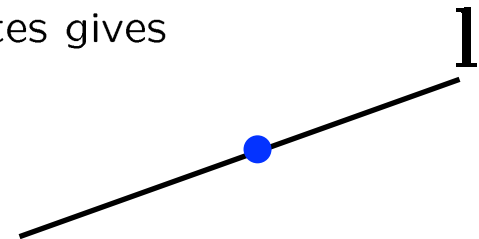
Write the line as  $-y + 1 = 0$  then  $l_1 = 0, l_2 = -1, l_3 = 1$ , and  $\mathbf{l} = (0, -1, 1)^\top$ .

Note that  $\mu(l_1x + l_2y + l_3) = 0$  represents the same line (only the ratio of the homogeneous line coordinates is significant).

Writing both the point and line in homogeneous coordinates gives

$$l_1x_1 + l_2x_2 + l_3x_3 = 0$$

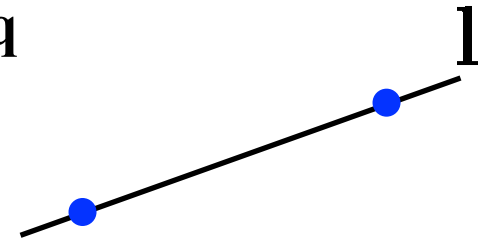
- **point on line**  $\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{x} = 0$  or  $\mathbf{l}^\top \mathbf{x} = 0$  or  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{l} = 0$



- The line  $\mathbf{l}$  through the two points  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  is  $\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$

Proof

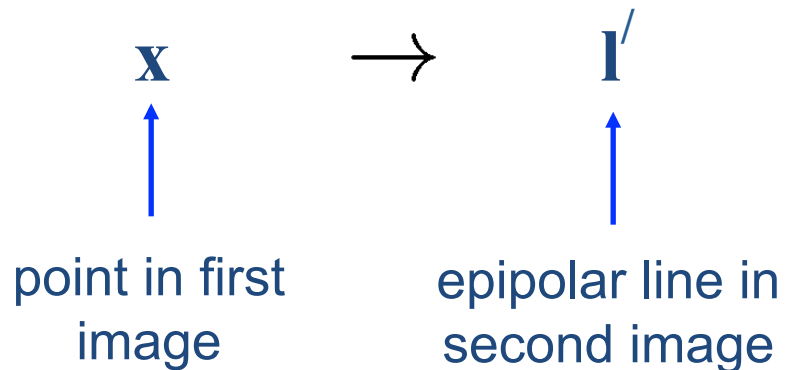
$$\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{p} = (\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}) \cdot \mathbf{p} = 0 \quad \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{q} = (\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}) \cdot \mathbf{q} = 0$$



- The intersection of two lines  $\mathbf{l}$  and  $\mathbf{m}$  is the point  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{l} \times \mathbf{m}$



# Algebraic representation of epipolar geometry



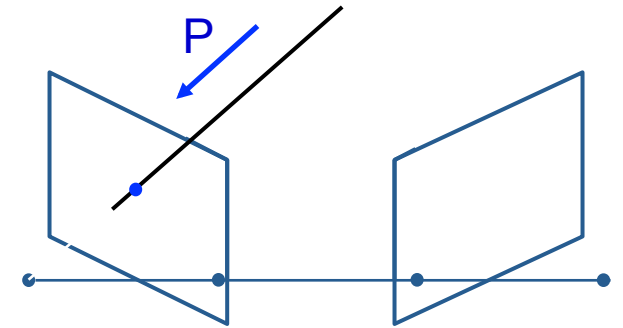
- the map only depends on the cameras  $P, P'$  (not on structure)
- it will be shown that the map is **linear** and can be written as  $\mathbf{l}' = F\mathbf{x}$ , where  $F$  is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix called the **fundamental matrix**

# Derivation of the algebraic expression

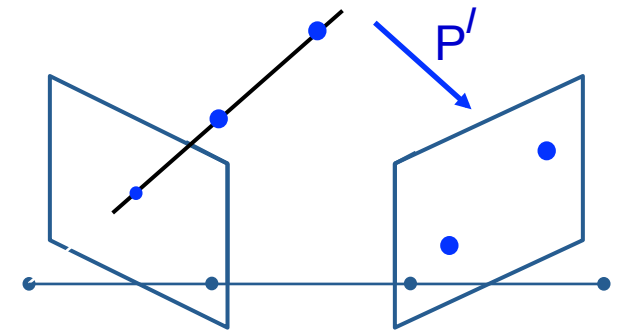
$$\mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{x}$$

## Outline

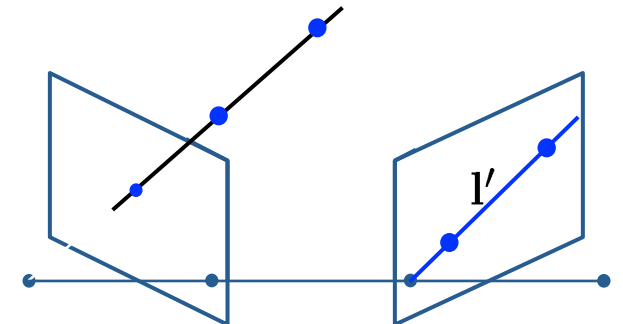
**Step 1:** for a point  $x$  in the first image back project a ray with camera  $P$



**Step 2:** choose two points on the ray and project into the second image with camera  $P'$



**Step 3:** compute the line through the two image points using the relation  $\mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$



- choose camera matrices

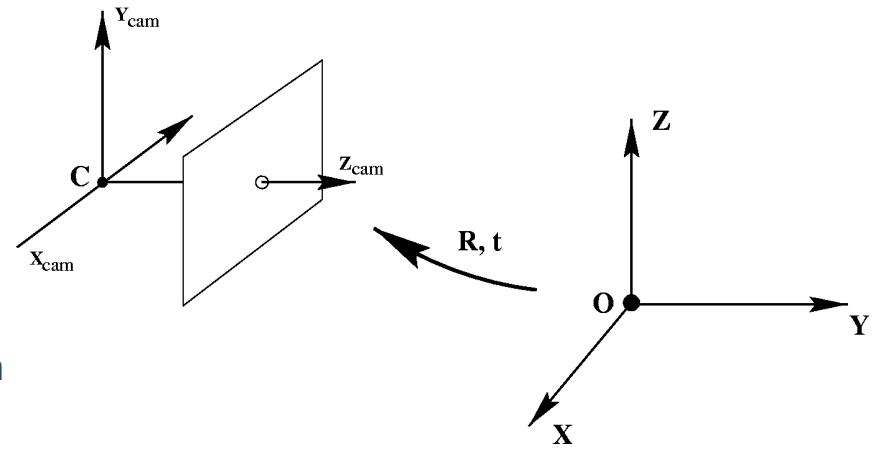
$$P = K [R | \mathbf{t}]$$

internal  
calibration

rotation

translation

from world to camera  
coordinate frame

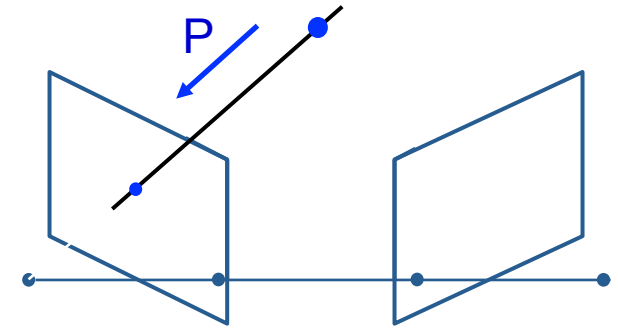


- first camera  $P = K [I | \mathbf{0}]$

world coordinate frame aligned with first camera

- second camera  $P' = K' [R | \mathbf{t}]$

Step 1: for a point  $\mathbf{x}$  in the first image  
back project a ray with camera  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K} [\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}]$



A point  $\mathbf{x}$  back projects to a ray

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = z\mathbf{K}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = z\mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

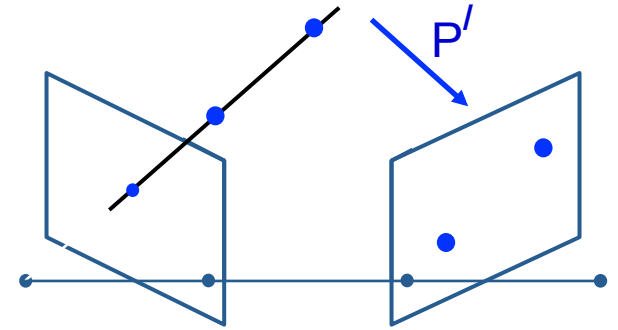
where  $\mathbf{Z}$  is the point's depth, since

$$\mathbf{X}(z) = \begin{pmatrix} z\mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

satisfies

$$\mathbf{P}\mathbf{X}(z) = \mathbf{K}[\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X}(z) = \mathbf{x}$$

Step 2: choose two points on the ray and project into the second image with camera  $P'$



Consider two points on the ray  $\mathbf{X}(z) = \begin{pmatrix} z\mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

- $\mathbf{Z} = 0$  is the camera centre  $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

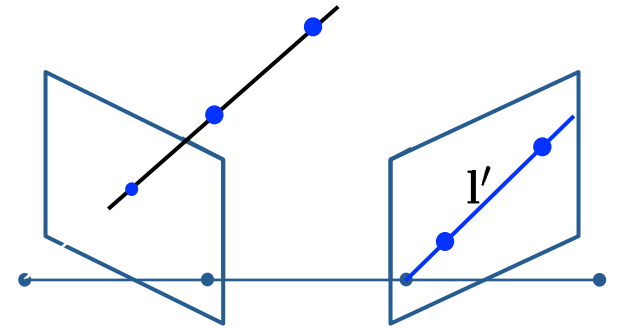
- $\mathbf{Z} = \infty$  is the point at infinity  $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Project these two points into the second view

$$P' \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = K'[\mathbf{R} \mid \mathbf{t}] \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = K'\mathbf{t}$$

$$P' \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = K'[\mathbf{R} \mid \mathbf{t}] \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = K'\mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x}$$

Step 3: compute the line through the two image points using the relation  $\mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q}$



Compute the line through the points  $\mathbf{l}' = (\mathbf{K}'\mathbf{t}) \times (\mathbf{K}'\mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x})$

Using the identity  $(\mathbf{M}\mathbf{a}) \times (\mathbf{M}\mathbf{b}) = \mathbf{M}^{-\top}(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b})$  where  $\mathbf{M}^{-\top} = (\mathbf{M}^{-1})^{\top} = (\mathbf{M}^{\top})^{-1}$

$$\mathbf{l}' = \mathbf{K}'^{-\top} \left( \mathbf{t} \times (\mathbf{R}\mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x}) \right) = \underbrace{\mathbf{K}'^{-\top} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} \mathbf{R}}_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{x} \quad \mathbf{F} \text{ is the fundamental matrix}$$

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

Points  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{x}'$  correspond ( $\mathbf{x} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}'$ ) then  $\mathbf{x}'^{\top} \mathbf{l}' = 0$

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

