Recovering structure from a single view



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Why is it so difficult?

Intrinsic ambiguity of the mapping from 3D to image (2D)

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Courtesy slide S. Lazebnik

Two eyes help!





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Triangulation

• Find P* that minimizes

 $d(p, M P^*) + d(p', M'P^*)$ [Eq. 2]



Multi (stereo)-view geometry

- **Camera geometry:** Given corresponding points in two images, find camera matrices, position and pose.
- Scene geometry: Find coordinates of 3D point from its projection into 2 or multiple images.

 Correspondence: Given a point p in one image, how can I find the corresponding point p' in another one?



- Epipolar Plane
- Baseline
- Epipolar Lines

• Epipoles e, e'

- = intersections of baseline with image planes
- = projections of the other camera center

Example of epipolar lines







- Epipoles are at infinity
- Epipolar lines are parallel to u axis

Example: Parallel Image Planes





Example: Forward translation



- The epipoles have same position in both images
- Epipole called FOE (focus of expansion)







- Two views of the same object

- Given a point on left image, how can I find the corresponding point on right image?

Epipolar geometry







- I = E p' is the epipolar line associated with p'
- $I' = E^T p$ is the epipolar line associated with p
- E e' = 0 and $E^{T} e = 0$
- E is 3x3 matrix; 5 DOF
- E is singular (rank two)



(Faugeras and Luong, 1992)



- I = F p' is the epipolar line associated with p'
- $I' = F^T p$ is the epipolar line associated with p
- F e' = 0 and $F^T e = 0$
- F is 3x3 matrix; 7 DOF
- F is singular (rank two)

Why F is useful?



- Suppose F is known
- No additional information about the scene and camera is given
- Given a point on left image, we can compute the corresponding epipolar line in the second imag

Why F is useful?

- F captures information about the epipolar geometry of 2 views + camera parameters
- MORE IMPORTANTLY: F gives constraints on how the scene changes under view point transformation (without reconstructing the scene!)
- Powerful tool in:
 - 3D reconstruction
 - Multi-view object/scene matching