

# Structure from motion



Драконъ, видимый подъ различными углами зрѣнія  
По гравюру на мѣди изъ „Oculus artificialis teleiopicus“ Цана. 1702 года.

# Multiple-view geometry questions

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- **Scene geometry (structure):** Given 2D point matches in two or more images, where are the corresponding points in 3D?
- **Correspondence (stereo matching):** Given a point in just one image, how does it constrain the position of the corresponding point in another image?
- **Camera geometry (motion):** Given a set of corresponding points in two or more images, what are the camera matrices for these views?

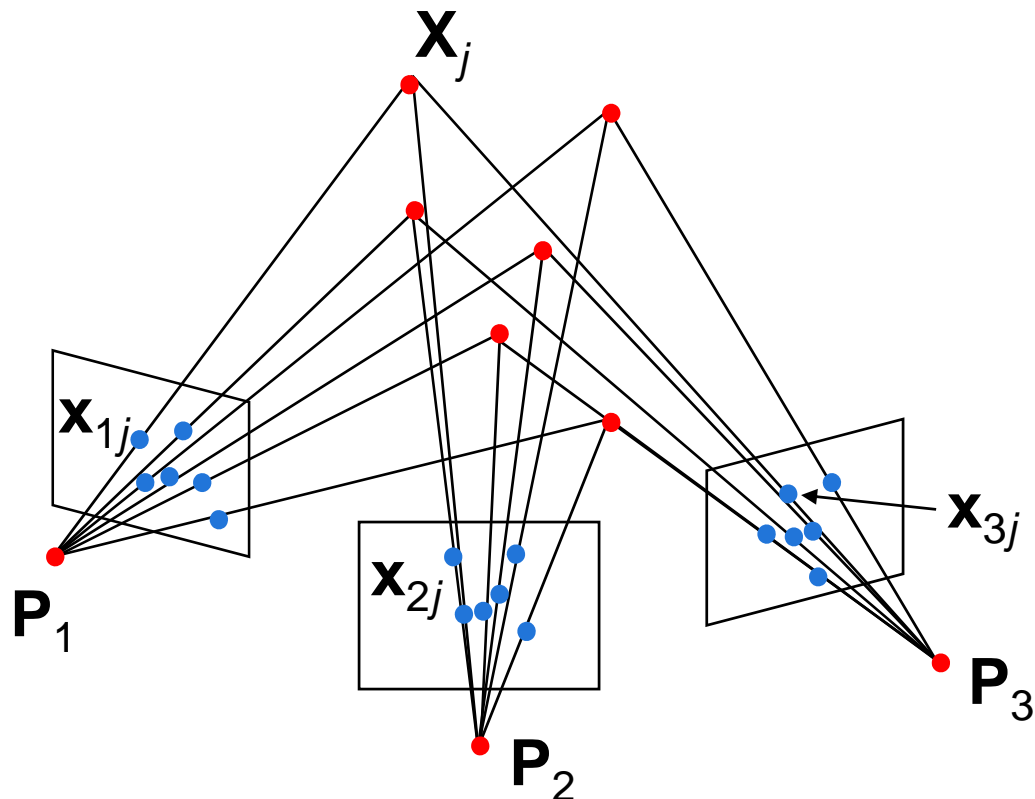
# Structure from motion

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- Given:  $m$  images of  $n$  fixed 3D points

$$\mathbf{x}_{ij} = \mathbf{P}_i \mathbf{X}_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

- Problem: estimate  $m$  projection matrices  $\mathbf{P}_i$  and  $n$  3D points  $\mathbf{X}_j$  from the  $mn$  correspondences  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}$



# Structure from motion ambiguity

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- If we scale the entire scene by some factor  $k$  and, at the same time, scale the camera matrices by the factor of  $1/k$ , the projections of the scene points in the image remain exactly the same:

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} = \left( \frac{1}{k} \mathbf{P} \right) (k \mathbf{X})$$

It is impossible to recover the absolute scale of the scene!

# Structure from motion ambiguity

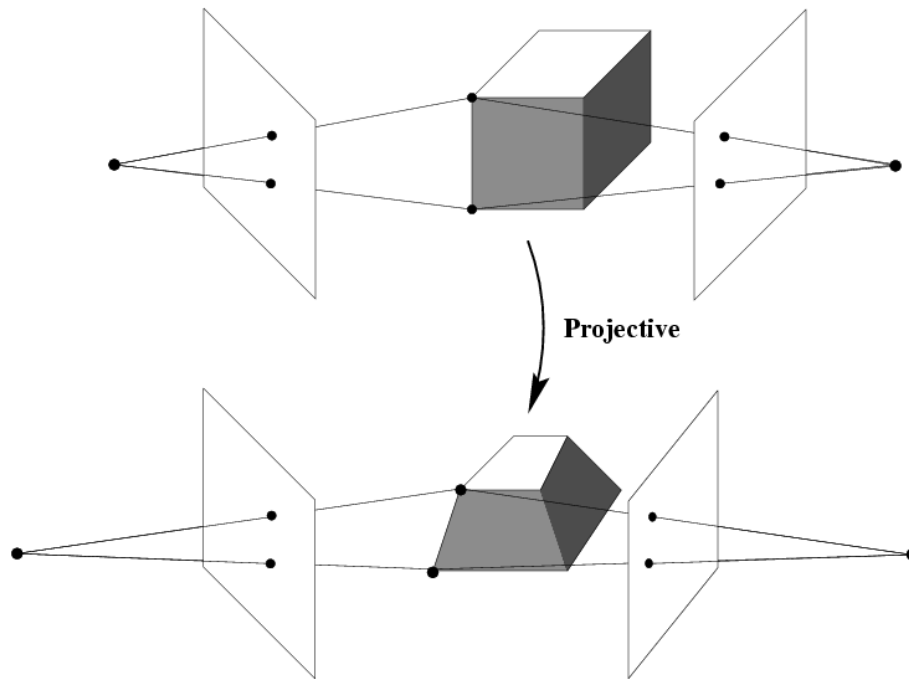
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- If we scale the entire scene by some factor  $k$  and, at the same time, scale the camera matrices by the factor of  $1/k$ , the projections of the scene points in the image remain exactly the same
- More generally: if we transform the scene using a transformation  $\mathbf{Q}$  and apply the inverse transformation to the camera matrices, then the images do not change

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q}^{-1})(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{X})$$

# Projective ambiguity

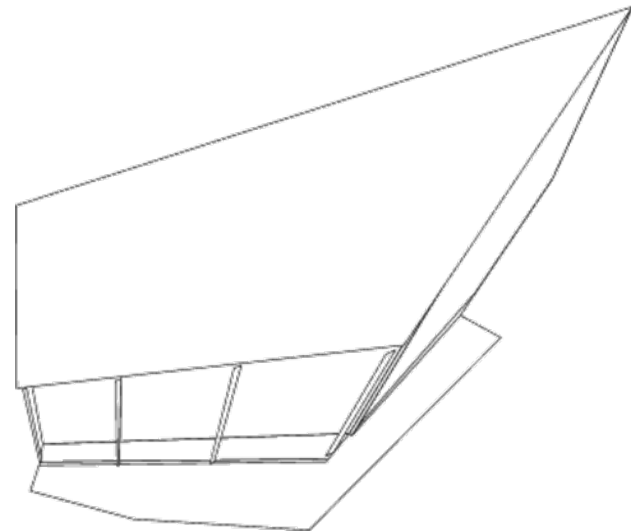
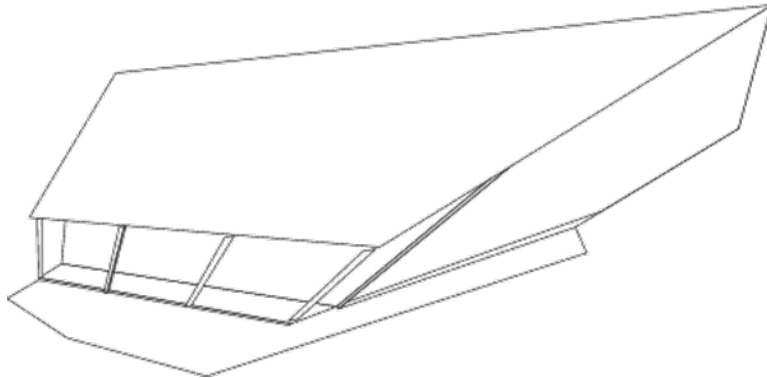
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$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} = \left( \mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q}_P^{-1} \right) \left( \mathbf{Q}_P \mathbf{X} \right)$$

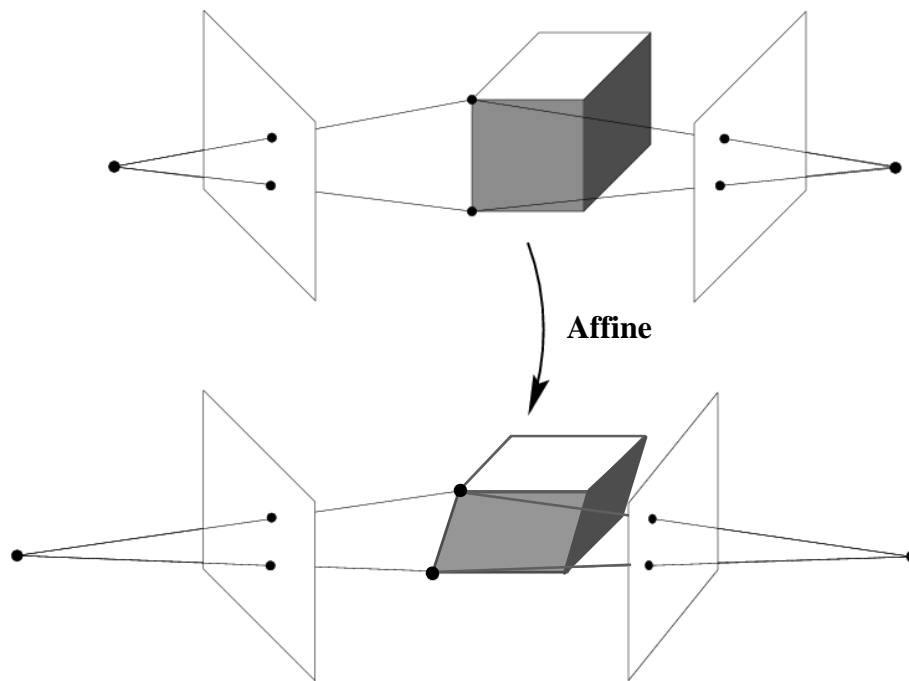
# Projective ambiguity

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# Affine ambiguity

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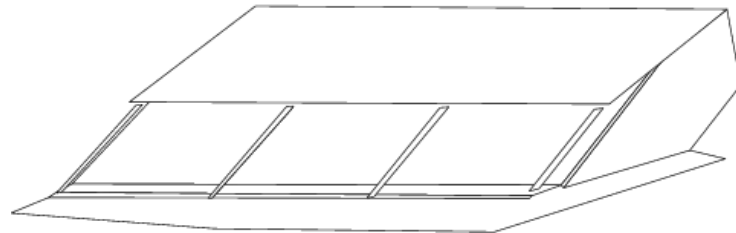
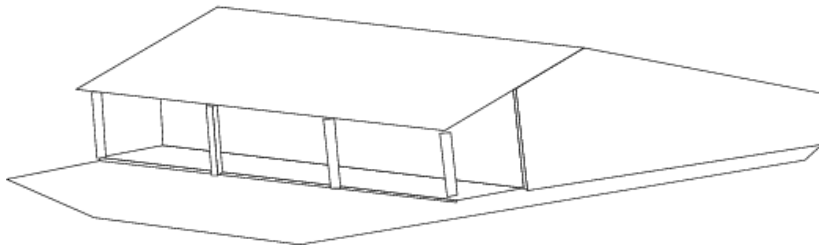
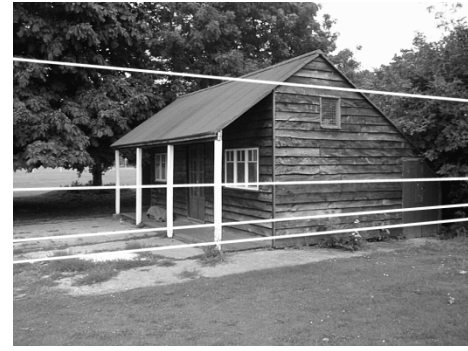
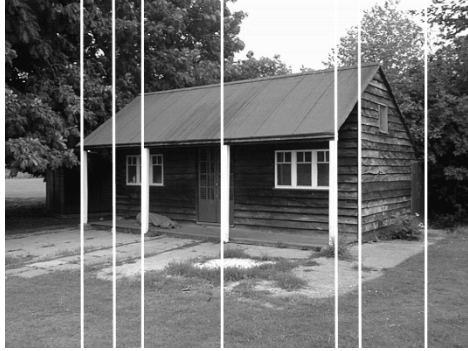


$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} = \left( \mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q}_A^{-1} \right) \left( \mathbf{Q}_A \mathbf{X} \right)$$



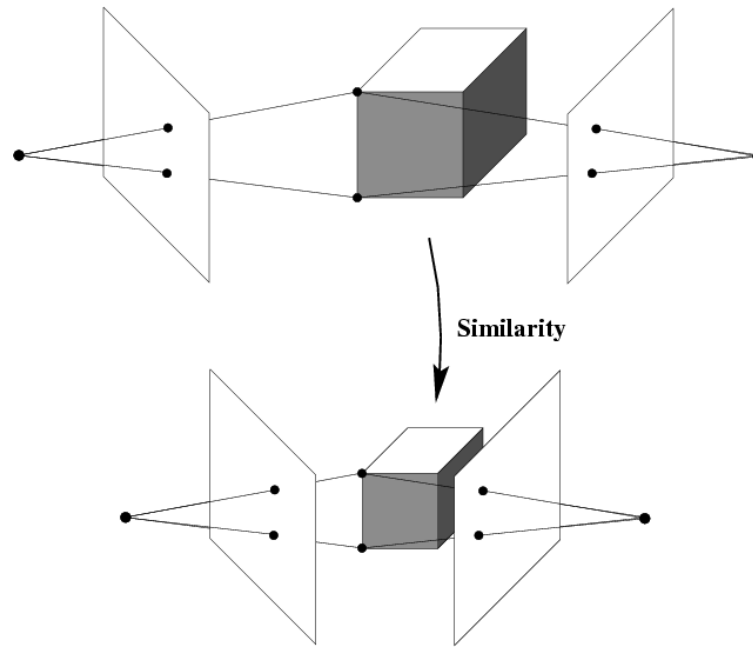
# Affine ambiguity

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# Similarity ambiguity

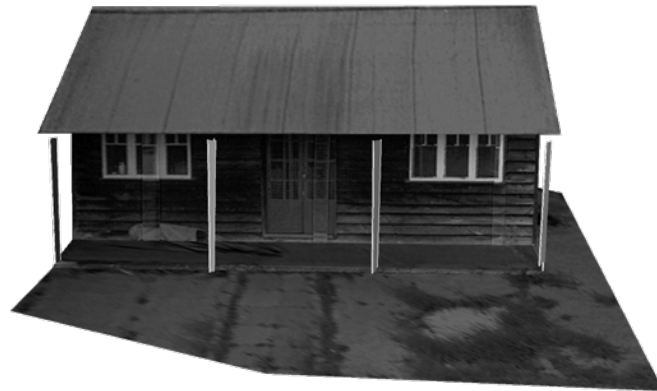
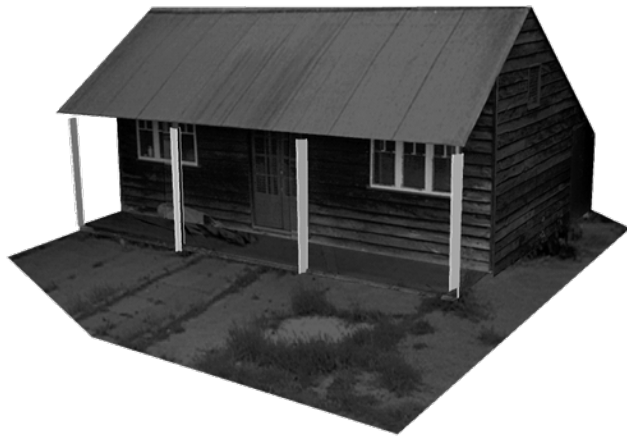
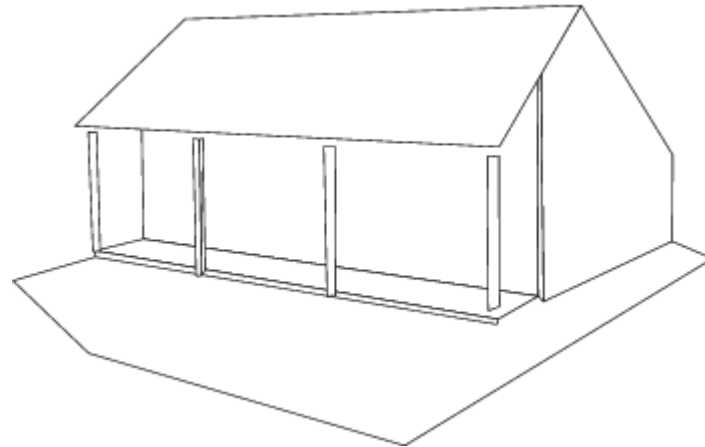
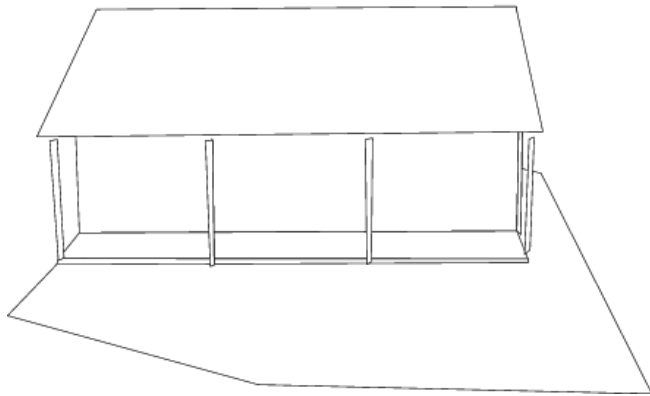
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$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{X} = \left(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{Q}_s^{-1}\right)\left(\mathbf{Q}_s\mathbf{X}\right)$$

# Similarity ambiguity

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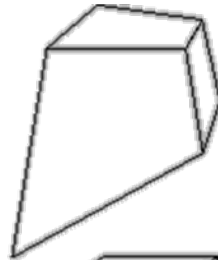


# Hierarchy of 3D transformations

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Projective  
15dof

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{v}^\top & v \end{bmatrix}$$



Preserves intersection and tangency

Affine  
12dof

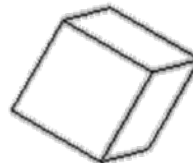
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Preserves parallelism, volume ratios

Similarity  
7dof

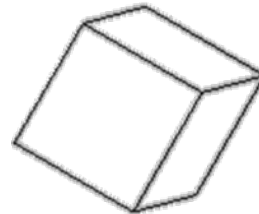
$$\begin{bmatrix} s\mathbf{R} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Preserves angles, ratios of length

Euclidean  
6dof

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} & \mathbf{t} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

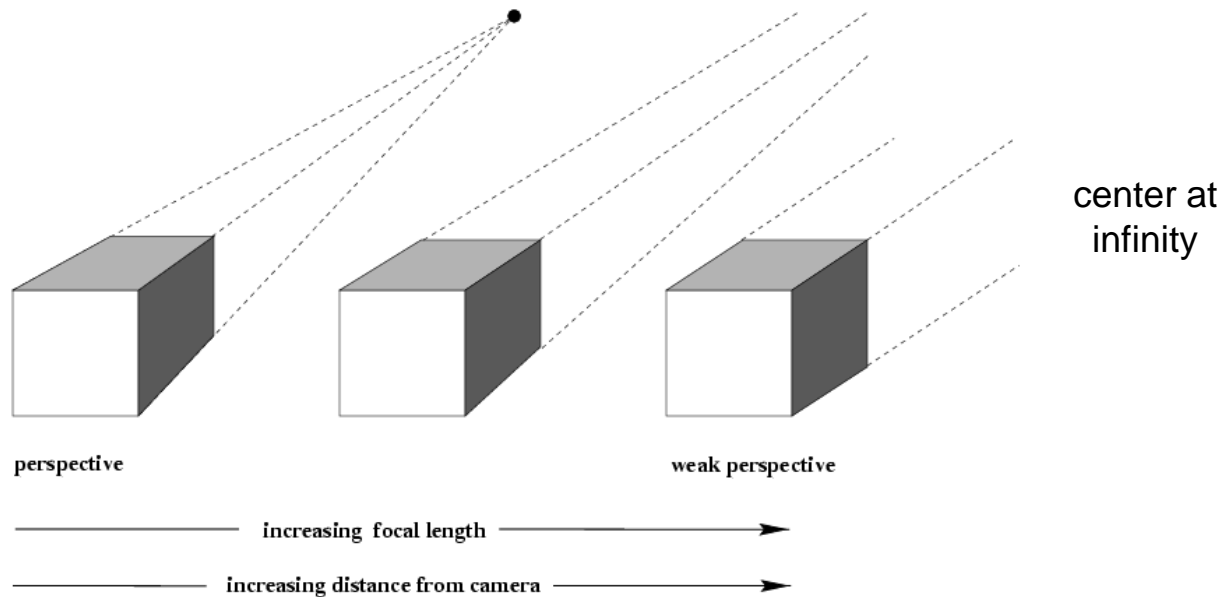


Preserves angles, lengths

- With no constraints on the camera calibration matrix or on the scene, we get a *projective* reconstruction
- Need additional information to *upgrade* the reconstruction to affine, similarity, or Euclidean

# Structure from motion

- Let's start with *affine cameras* (the math is easier)

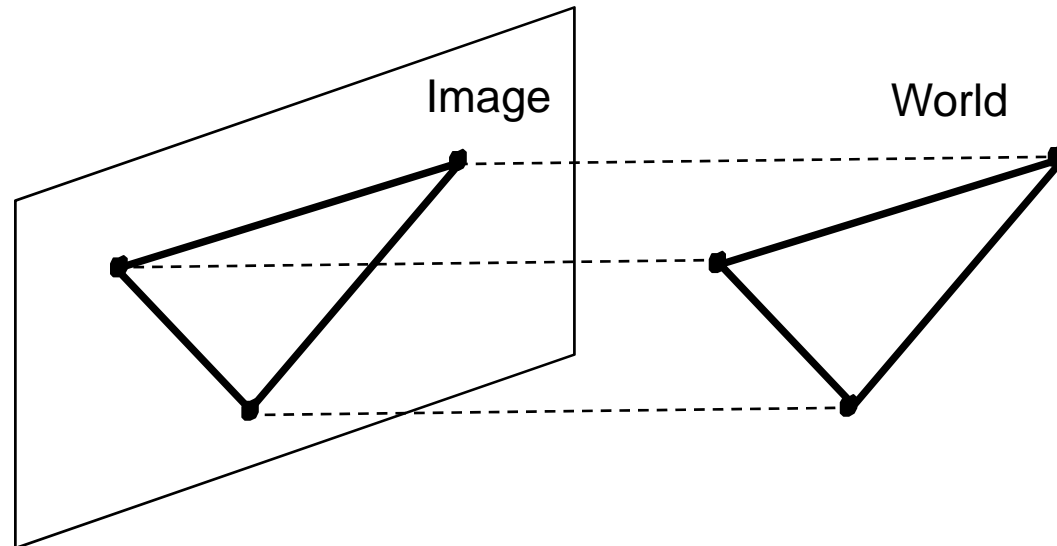


# Recall: Orthographic Projection

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Special case of perspective projection

- Distance from center of projection to image plane is infinite



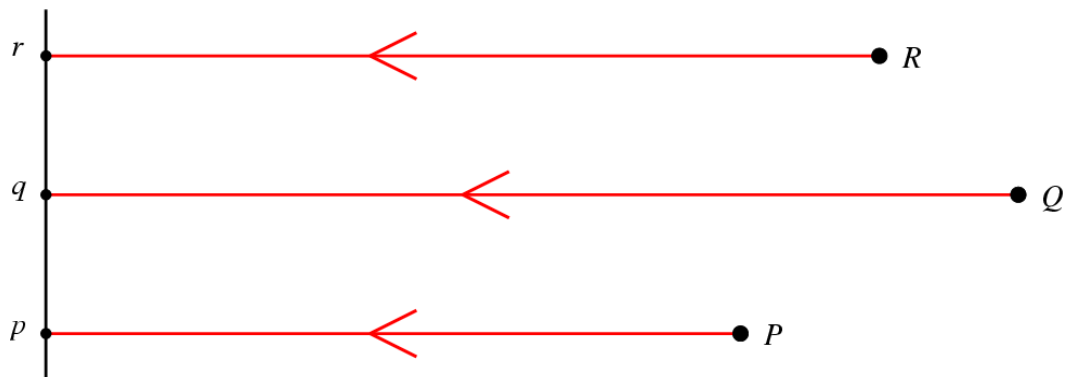
- Projection matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x, y)$$

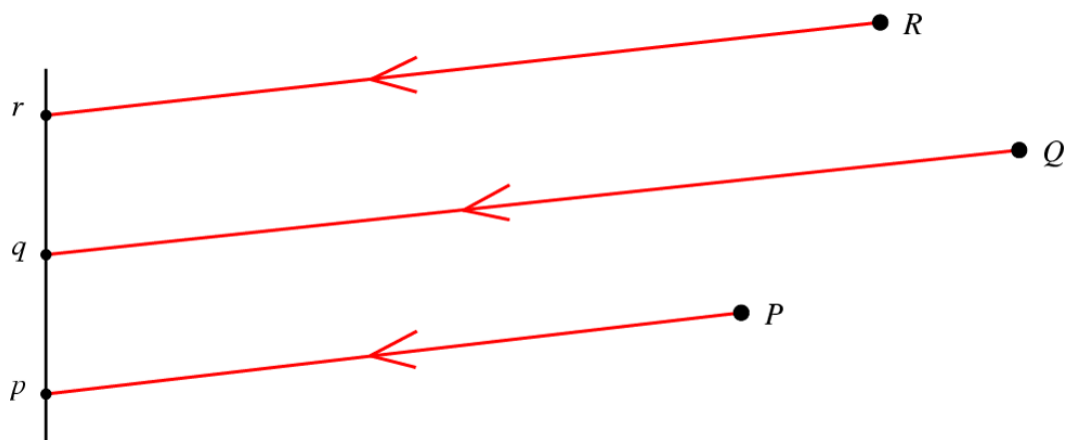
# Affine cameras

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Orthographic Projection



Parallel Projection



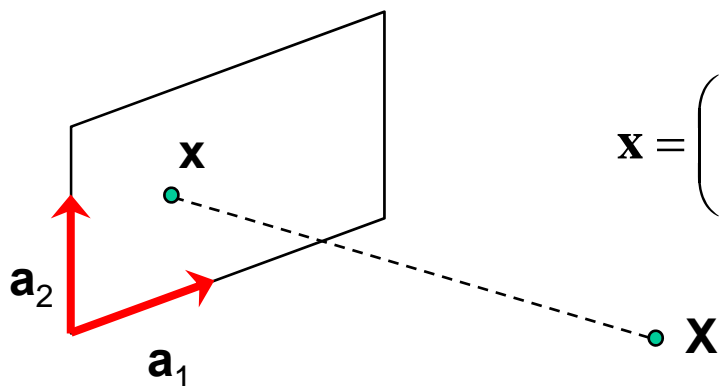
# Affine cameras

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- A general affine camera combines the effects of an affine transformation of the 3D space, orthographic projection, and an affine transformation of the image:

$$\mathbf{P} = [3 \times 3 \text{ affine}] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} [4 \times 4 \text{ affine}] = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & b_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Affine projection is a linear mapping + translation in inhomogeneous coordinates



$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b}$$

Projection of world origin



# Affine structure from motion

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- Given:  $m$  images of  $n$  fixed 3D points:

$$\mathbf{x}_{ij} = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_j + \mathbf{b}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

- Problem: use the  $mn$  correspondences  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}$  to estimate  $m$  projection matrices  $\mathbf{A}_i$  and translation vectors  $\mathbf{b}_i$ , and  $n$  points  $\mathbf{X}_j$
- The reconstruction is defined up to an arbitrary *affine* transformation  $\mathbf{Q}$  (12 degrees of freedom):

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}^{-1}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{1} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \mathbf{Q} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{1} \end{pmatrix}$$

- We have  $2mn$  knowns and  $8m + 3n$  unknowns (minus 12 dof for affine ambiguity)
- Thus, we must have  $2mn \geq 8m + 3n - 12$
- For two views, we need four point correspondences

# Affine structure from motion

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- Centering: subtract the centroid of the image points

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij} &= \mathbf{x}_{ij} - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{x}_{ik} = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_j + \mathbf{b}_i - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (\mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_k + \mathbf{b}_i) \\ &= \mathbf{A}_i \left( \mathbf{X}_j - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{X}_k \right) = \mathbf{A}_i \hat{\mathbf{X}}_j\end{aligned}$$

- For simplicity, assume that the origin of the world coordinate system is at the centroid of the 3D points
- After centering, each normalized point  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}$  is related to the 3D point  $\mathbf{X}_j$  by

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{ij} = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_j$$

# Affine structure from motion

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- Let's create a  $2m \times n$  data (measurement) matrix:

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{11} & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{12} & \cdots & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{1n} \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{21} & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{22} & \cdots & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{m1} & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{m2} & \cdots & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{mn} \end{bmatrix}$$

↓ cameras ( $2m$ )

→ points ( $n$ )

# Affine structure from motion

---

- Let's create a  $2m \times n$  data (measurement) matrix:

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{11} & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{12} & \cdots & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{1n} \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{21} & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{22} & \cdots & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{m1} & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{m2} & \cdots & \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_1 \\ \mathbf{A}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 & \mathbf{X}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{X}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

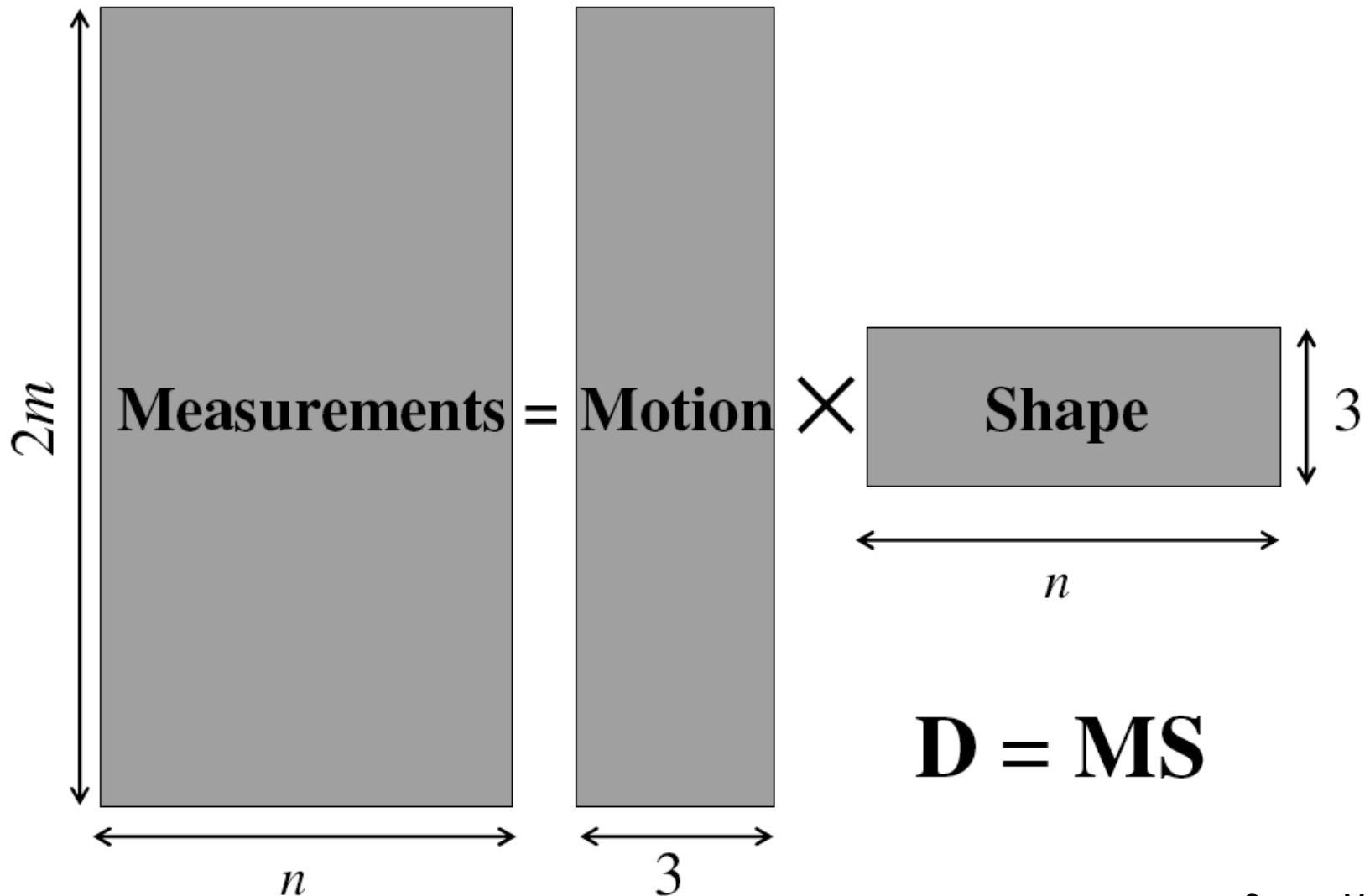
points ( $3 \times n$ )

cameras  
( $2m \times 3$ )

The measurement matrix  $\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{MS}$  must have rank 3!

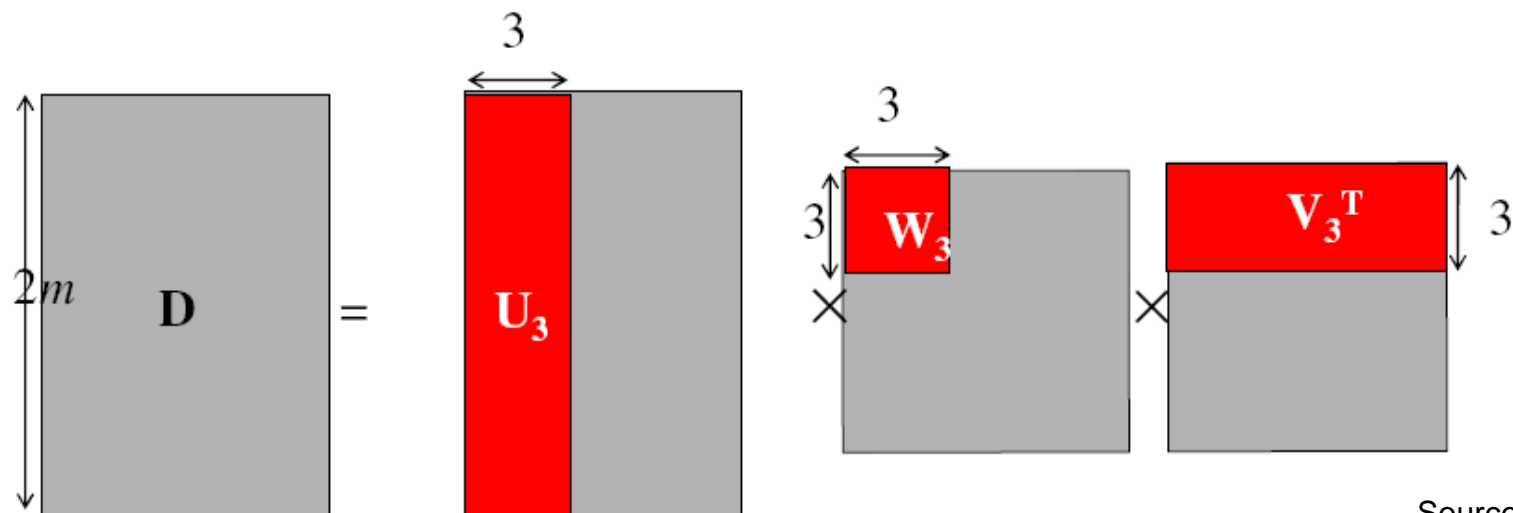
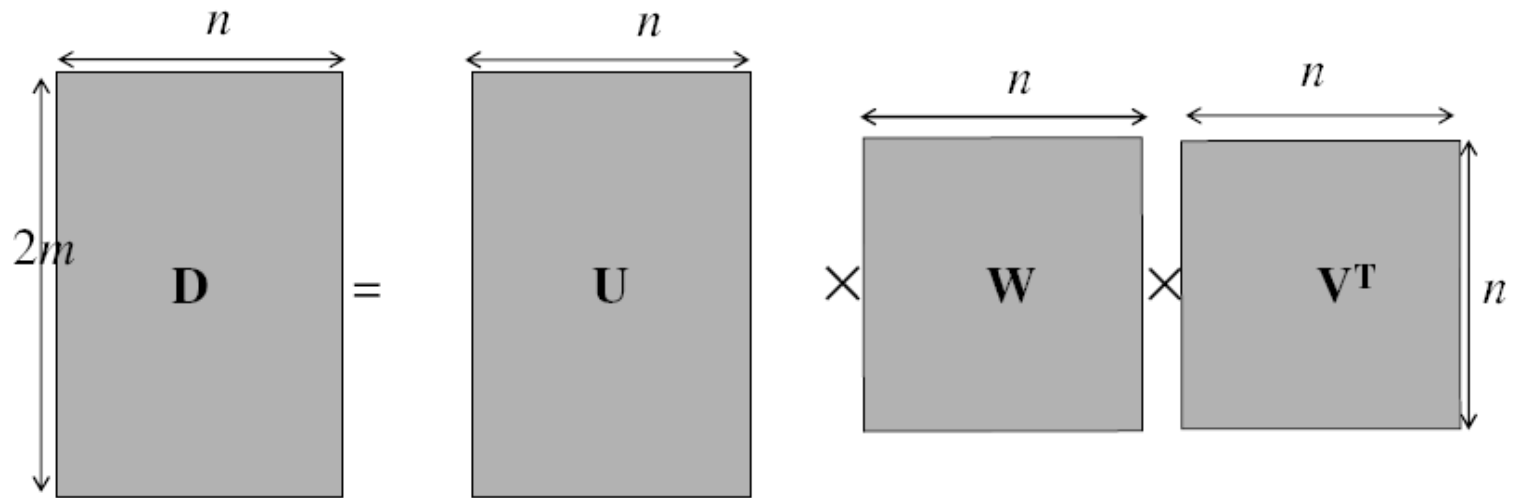
# Factorizing the measurement matrix

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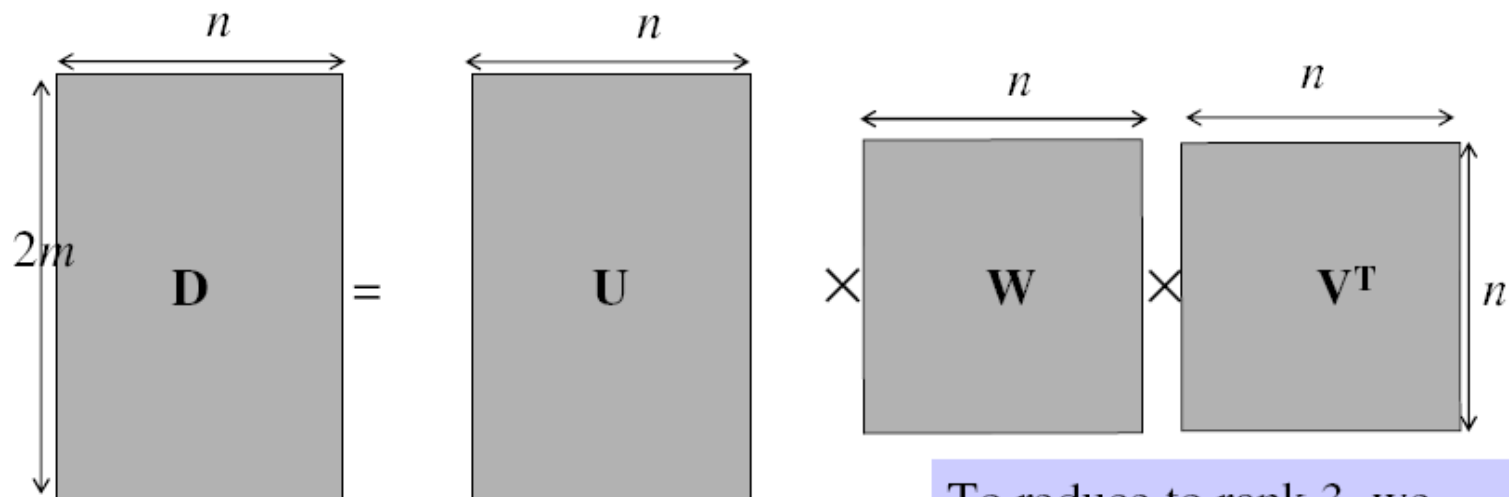
# Factorizing the measurement matrix

- Singular value decomposition of  $D$ :

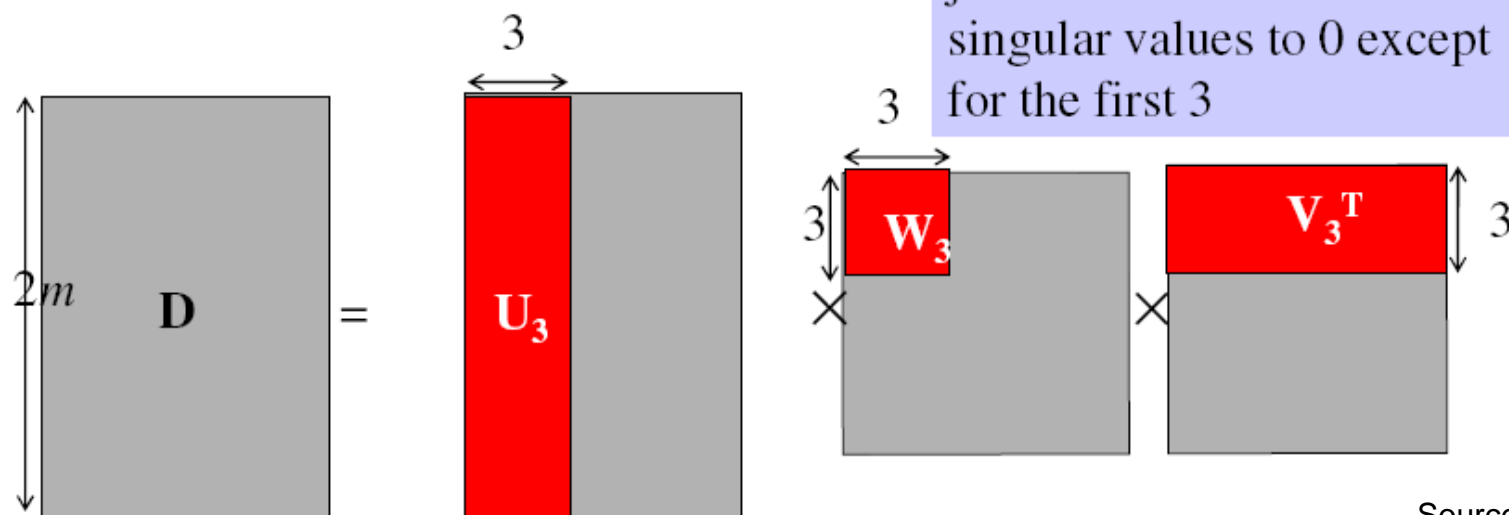


# Factorizing the measurement matrix

- Singular value decomposition of  $D$ :



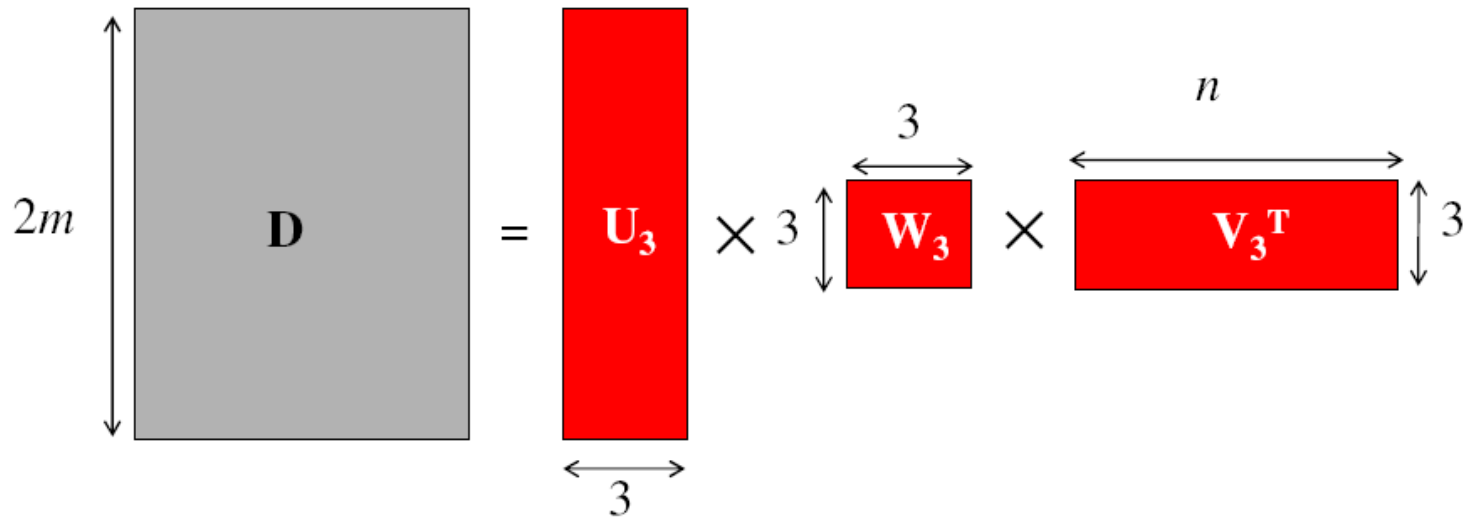
To reduce to rank 3, we just need to set all the singular values to 0 except for the first 3



# Factorizing the measurement matrix

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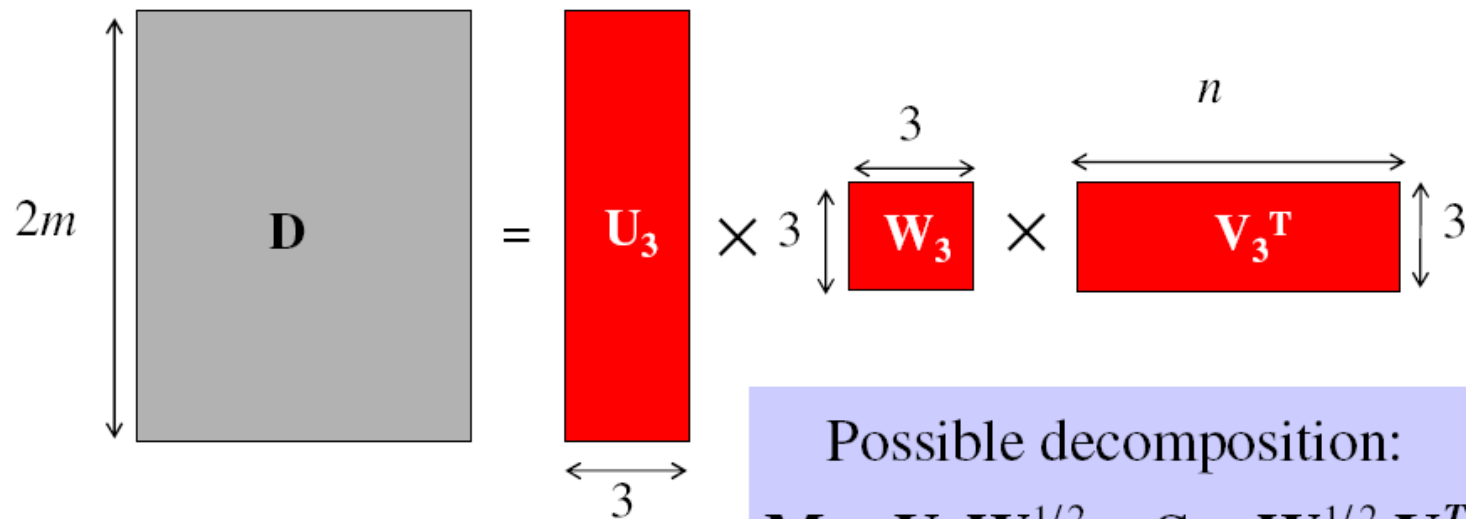
- Obtaining a factorization from SVD:





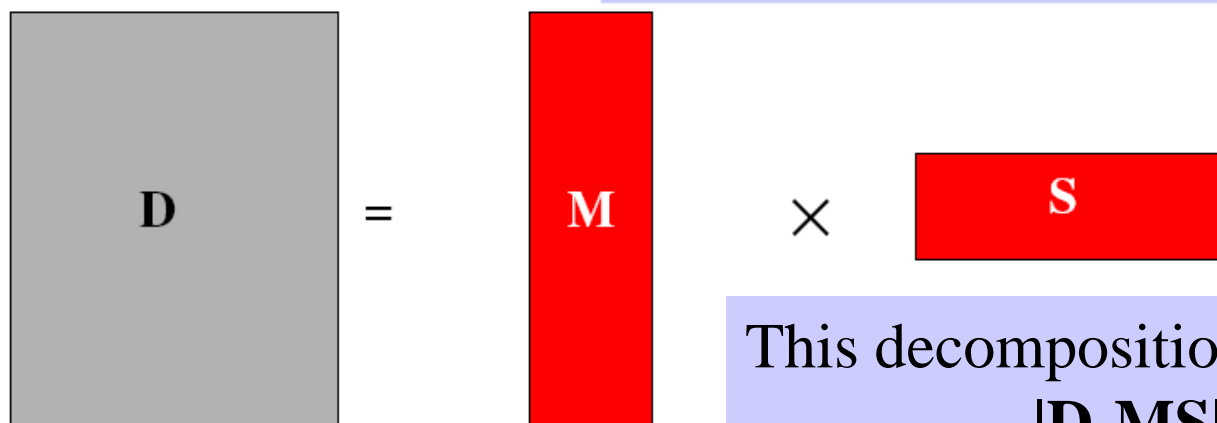
# Factorizing the measurement matrix

- Obtaining a factorization from SVD:



Possible decomposition:

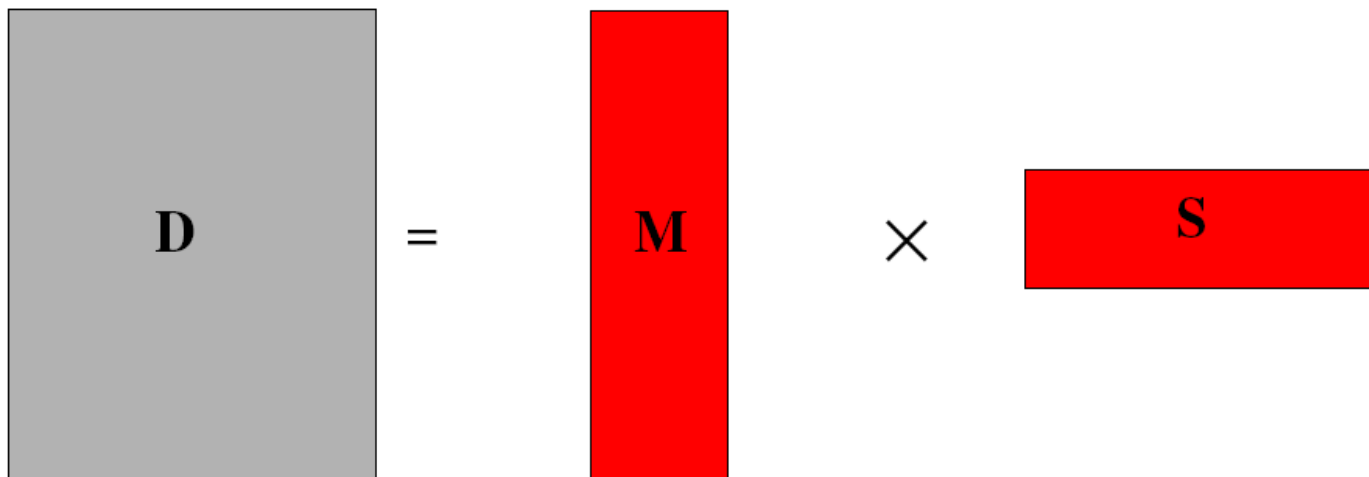
$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{U}_3 \mathbf{W}_3^{1/2} \quad \mathbf{S} = \mathbf{W}_3^{1/2} \mathbf{V}_3^T$$



This decomposition minimizes  $|\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{MS}|^2$

# Affine ambiguity

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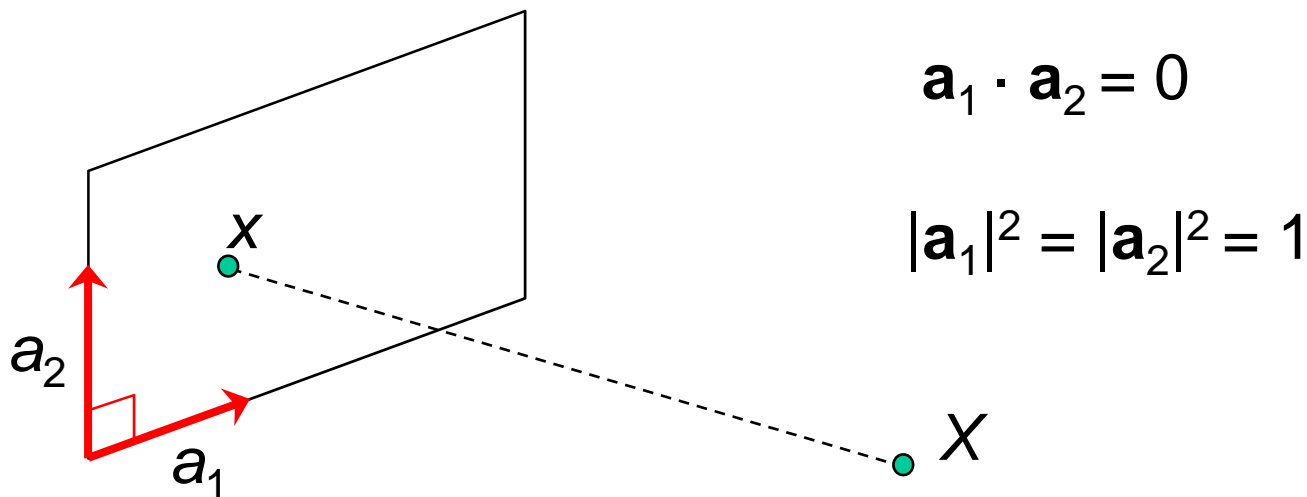
The diagram illustrates the equation  $D = M \times S$ . On the left is a gray square labeled **D**. To its right is an equals sign. Further right is a tall red vertical rectangle labeled **M**. To its right is a multiplication symbol  $\times$ . Finally, on the far right is a wide red horizontal rectangle labeled **S**.

- The decomposition is not unique. We get the same **D** by using any  $3 \times 3$  matrix **C** and applying the transformations  $\mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{MC}$ ,  $\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}$
- That is because we have only an affine transformation and we have not enforced any Euclidean constraints (like forcing the image axes to be perpendicular, for example)

# Eliminating the affine ambiguity

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- Orthographic: image axes are perpendicular and scale is 1



- This translates into  $3m$  equations in  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}^T$ :

$$\mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{L} \mathbf{A}_i^T = \mathbf{I}_d, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

- Solve for  $\mathbf{L}$
- Recover  $\mathbf{C}$  from  $\mathbf{L}$  by Cholesky decomposition:  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}^T$
- Update  $\mathbf{M}$  and  $\mathbf{S}$ :  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{C}$ ,  $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}$

# Algorithm summary

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- Given:  $m$  images and  $n$  features  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}$
- For each image  $i$ , center the feature coordinates
- Construct a  $2m \times n$  measurement matrix  $\mathbf{D}$ :
  - Column  $j$  contains the projection of point  $j$  in all views
  - Row  $i$  contains one coordinate of the projections of all the  $n$  points in image  $i$
- Factorize  $\mathbf{D}$ :
  - Compute SVD:  $\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{V}^T$
  - Create  $\mathbf{U}_3$  by taking the first 3 columns of  $\mathbf{U}$
  - Create  $\mathbf{V}_3$  by taking the first 3 columns of  $\mathbf{V}$
  - Create  $\mathbf{W}_3$  by taking the upper left  $3 \times 3$  block of  $\mathbf{W}$
- Create the motion and shape matrices:
  - $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{U}_3 \mathbf{W}_3^{1/2}$  and  $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{W}_3^{1/2} \mathbf{V}_3^T$  (or  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{U}_3$  and  $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{V}_3^T$ )
- Eliminate affine ambiguity

# Reconstruction results



1



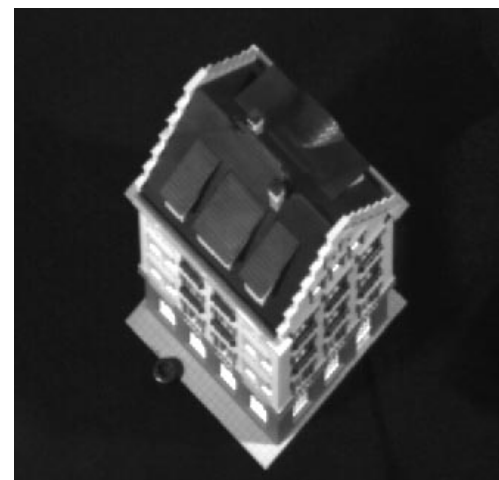
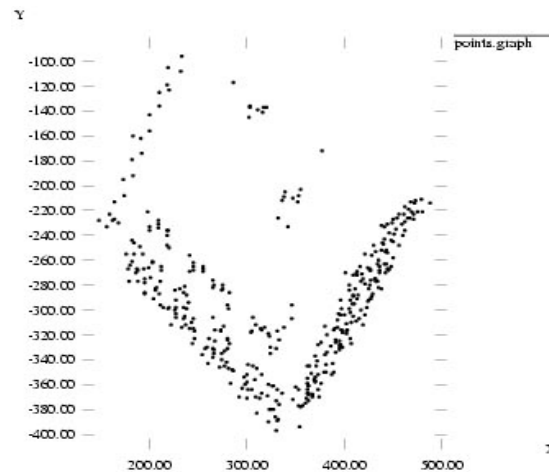
60



120



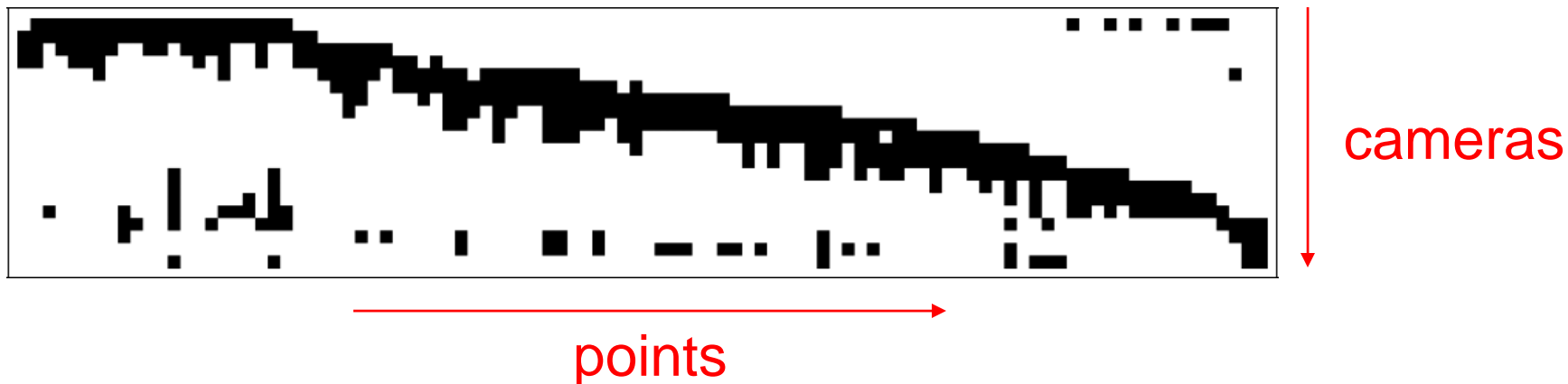
150



# Dealing with missing data

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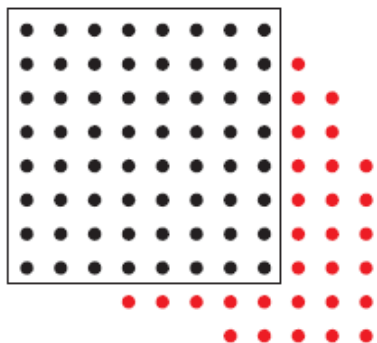
- So far, we have assumed that all points are visible in all views
- In reality, the measurement matrix typically looks something like this:



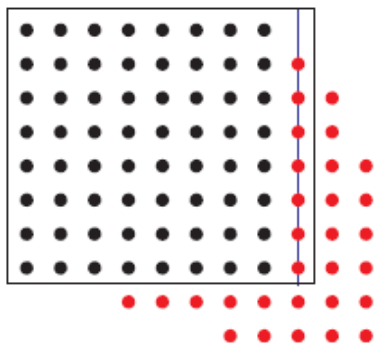
# Dealing with missing data

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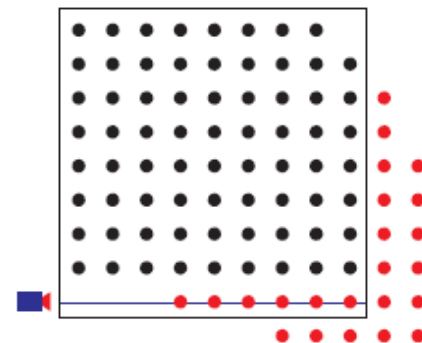
- Possible solution: decompose matrix into dense sub-blocks, factorize each sub-block, and fuse the results
  - Finding dense maximal sub-blocks of the matrix is NP-complete (equivalent to finding maximal cliques in a graph)
- Incremental bilinear refinement



(1) Perform factorization on a dense sub-block



(2) Solve for a new 3D point visible by at least two known cameras (linear least squares)



(3) Solve for a new camera that sees at least three known 3D points (linear least squares)

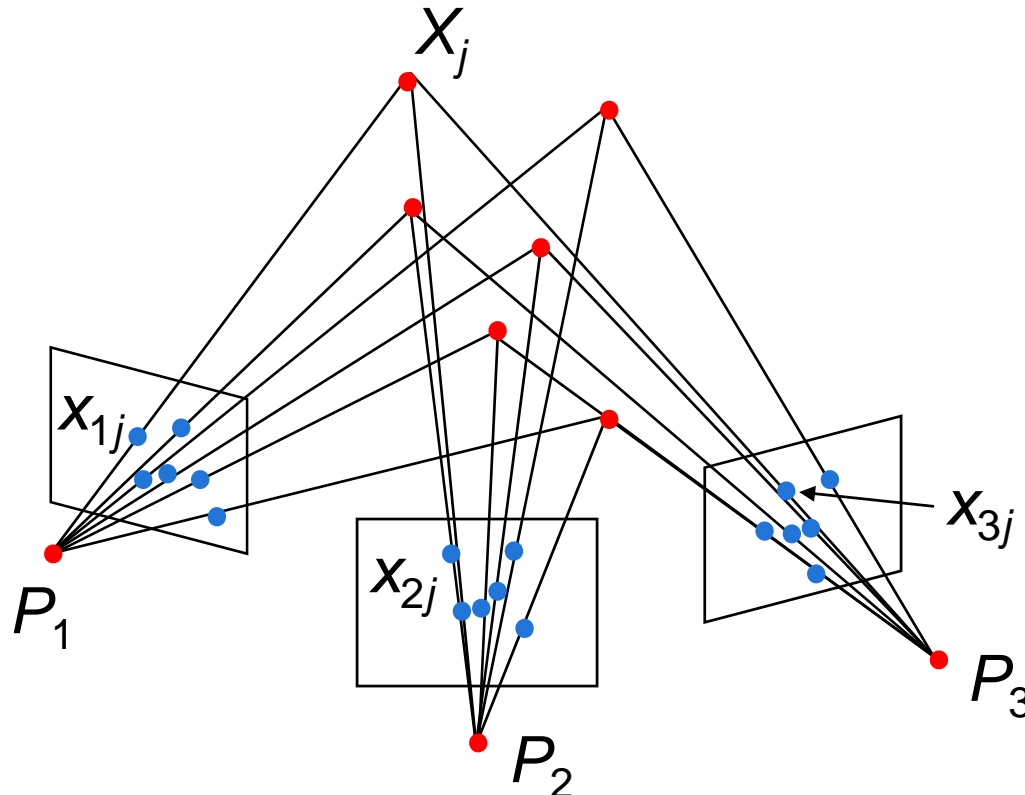
# Projective structure from motion

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- Given:  $m$  images of  $n$  fixed 3D points

$$z_{ij} \mathbf{x}_{ij} = \mathbf{P}_i \mathbf{X}_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

- Problem: estimate  $m$  projection matrices  $\mathbf{P}_i$  and  $n$  3D points  $\mathbf{X}_j$  from the  $mn$  correspondences  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}$





# Projective structure from motion

---

- Given:  $m$  images of  $n$  fixed 3D points

$$z_{ij} \mathbf{x}_{ij} = \mathbf{P}_i \mathbf{X}_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

- Problem: estimate  $m$  projection matrices  $\mathbf{P}_i$  and  $n$  3D points  $\mathbf{X}_j$  from the  $mn$  correspondences  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}$
- With no calibration info, cameras and points can only be recovered up to a 4x4 projective transformation  $\mathbf{Q}$ :

$$\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{QX}, \quad \mathbf{P} \rightarrow \mathbf{PQ}^{-1}$$

- We can solve for structure and motion when

$$2mn \geq 11m + 3n - 15$$

- For two cameras, at least 7 points are needed

# Projective SFM: Two-camera case

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- Compute fundamental matrix  $\mathbf{F}$  between the two views
- First camera matrix:  $[\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0}]$
- Second camera matrix:  $[\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{b}]$
- Then  $z\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{I} | \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X}$ ,  $z'\mathbf{x}' = [\mathbf{A} | \mathbf{b}]\mathbf{X}$

$$z'\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{A}[\mathbf{I} | \mathbf{0}]\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b} = z\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$$

$$z'\mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{b} = z\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{b}$$

$$(z'\mathbf{x}' \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{x}' = (z\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{x}'$$

$$\mathbf{x}'^T [\mathbf{b}_\times] \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{b}_\times] \mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{b}: \text{epipole } (\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{b} = 0), \quad \mathbf{A} = -[\mathbf{b}_\times] \mathbf{F}$$

# Projective factorization

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$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} z_{11}\mathbf{X}_{11} & z_{12}\mathbf{X}_{12} & \cdots & z_{1n}\mathbf{X}_{1n} \\ z_{21}\mathbf{X}_{21} & z_{22}\mathbf{X}_{22} & \cdots & z_{2n}\mathbf{X}_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ z_{m1}\mathbf{X}_{m1} & z_{m2}\mathbf{X}_{m2} & \cdots & z_{mn}\mathbf{X}_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P}_1 \\ \mathbf{P}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{P}_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 & \mathbf{X}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{X}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

points ( $4 \times n$ )

cameras  
( $3m \times 4$ )

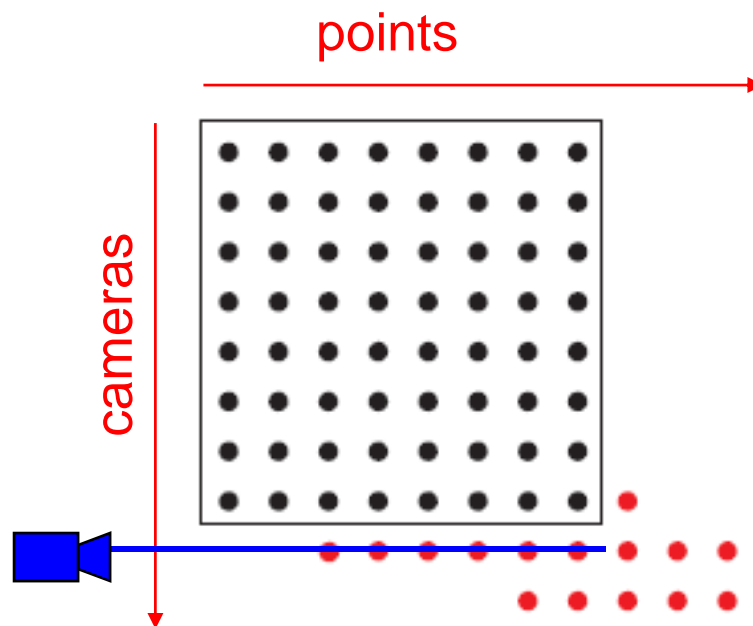
$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{MS}$  has rank 4

- If we knew the depths  $z$ , we could factorize  $\mathbf{D}$  to estimate  $\mathbf{M}$  and  $\mathbf{S}$
- If we knew  $\mathbf{M}$  and  $\mathbf{S}$ , we could solve for  $z$
- Solution: iterative approach (alternate between above two steps)

# Sequential structure from motion

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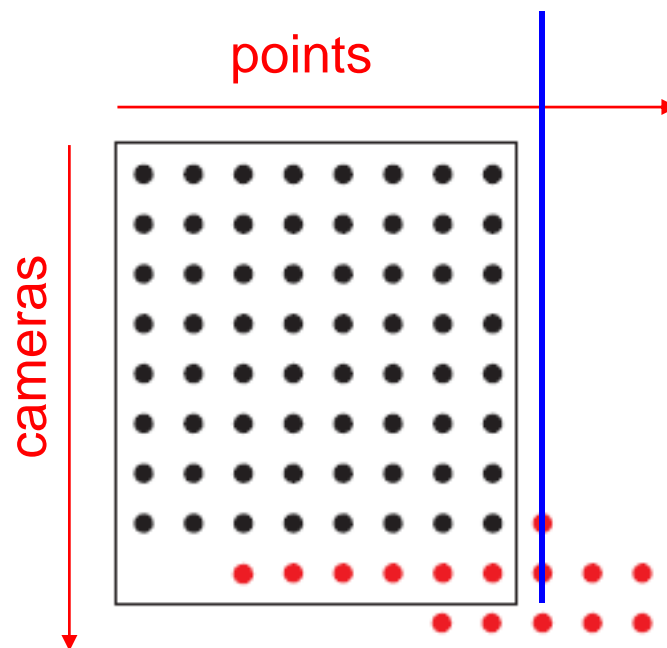
- Initialize motion from two images using fundamental matrix
- Initialize structure
- For each additional view:
  - Determine projection matrix of new camera using all the known 3D points that are visible in its image – *calibration*



# Sequential structure from motion

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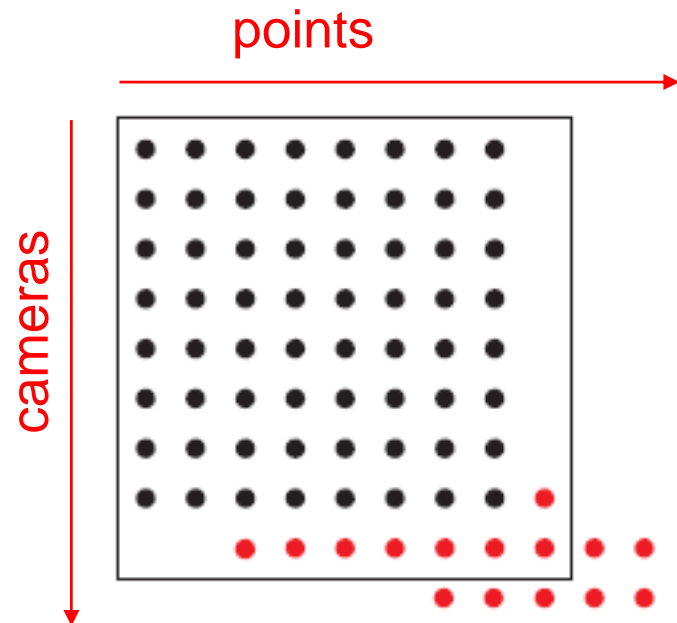
- Initialize motion from two images using fundamental matrix
- Initialize structure
- For each additional view:
  - Determine projection matrix of new camera using all the known 3D points that are visible in its image – *calibration*
  - Refine and extend structure: compute new 3D points, re-optimize existing points that are also seen by this camera – *triangulation*



# Sequential structure from motion

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- Initialize motion from two images using fundamental matrix
- Initialize structure
- For each additional view:
  - Determine projection matrix of new camera using all the known 3D points that are visible in its image – *calibration*
  - Refine and extend structure: compute new 3D points, re-optimize existing points that are also seen by this camera – *triangulation*
- Refine structure and motion: bundle adjustment

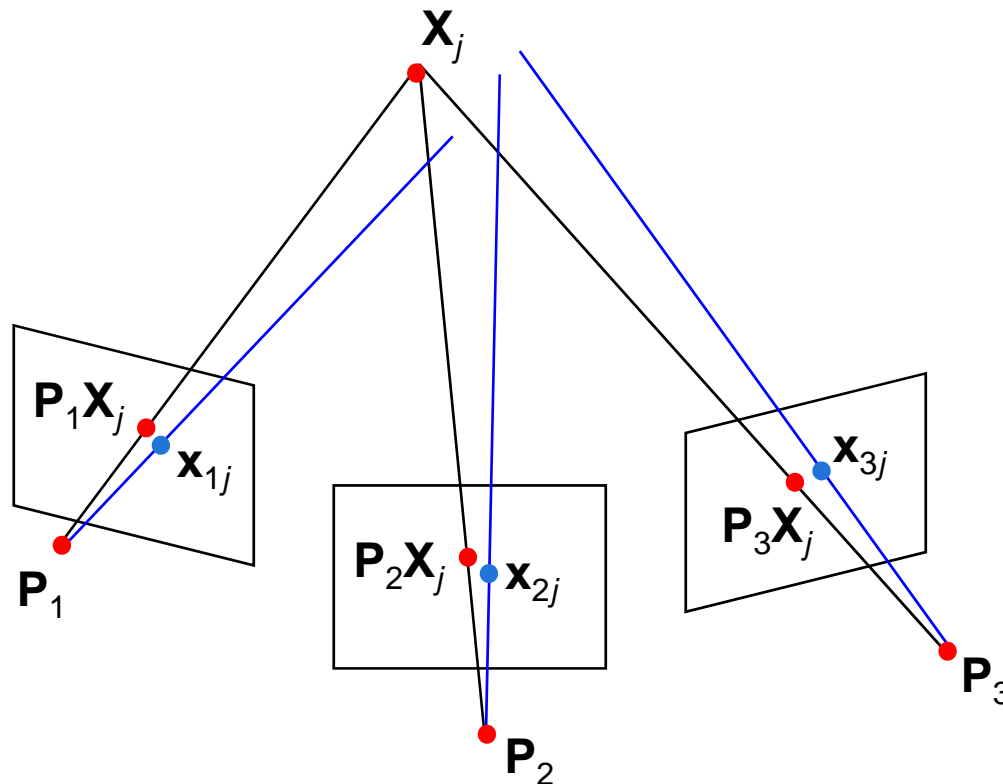


# Bundle adjustment

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- Non-linear method for refining structure and motion
- Minimizing reprojection error

$$E(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{X}) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n D(\mathbf{x}_{ij}, \mathbf{P}_i \mathbf{X}_j)^2$$



# Self-calibration

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- Self-calibration (auto-calibration) is the process of determining intrinsic camera parameters directly from uncalibrated images
- For example, when the images are acquired by a single moving camera, we can use the constraint that the intrinsic parameter matrix remains fixed for all the images
  - Compute initial projective reconstruction and find 3D projective transformation matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  such that all camera matrices are in the form  $\mathbf{P}_i = \mathbf{K} [\mathbf{R}_i | \mathbf{t}_i]$
- Can use constraints on the form of the calibration matrix: zero skew



# Summary: Structure from motion

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- Ambiguity
- Affine structure from motion: factorization
- Dealing with missing data
- Projective structure from motion: two views
- Projective structure from motion: iterative factorization
- Bundle adjustment
- Self-calibration

# Summary: 3D geometric vision

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- Single-view geometry
  - The pinhole camera model
    - Variation: orthographic projection
  - The perspective projection matrix
  - Intrinsic parameters
  - Extrinsic parameters
  - Calibration
- Multiple-view geometry
  - Triangulation
  - The epipolar constraint
    - Essential matrix and fundamental matrix
  - Stereo
    - Binocular, multi-view
  - Structure from motion
    - Reconstruction ambiguity
    - Affine SFM
    - Projective SFM