

# *Image Stitching and Alignment*

# Multiple Images

- ❖ So far, algorithms deal with *a single, static* image
- ❖ In the real world, a static pattern is a rarity, continuous motion and change are the rule
- ❖ Human eyes are well-equipped to take advantage of motion or change in *an image sequence*
- ❖ *Stitching (Alignment) and Motion*
  - ❑ Stitching has a “global” model – all pixel movement can be explained by a simple mathematic model (far field, pure rotational, pure translation)
  - ❑ 2D motion field is a “local” model – pixels by themselves (similarity in a local neighborhood only)

# Alignment

- ❖ Homographies
- ❖ Rotational Panoramas
- ❖ RANSAC
- ❖ Global alignment
- ❖ Warping
- ❖ Blending



(a)



(b)

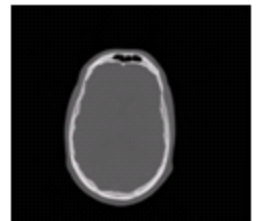
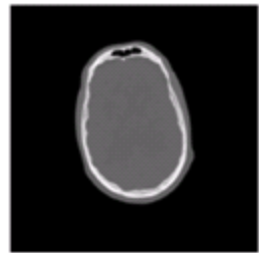
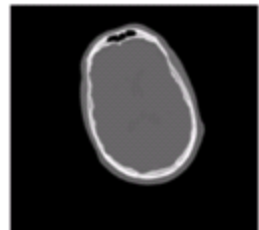
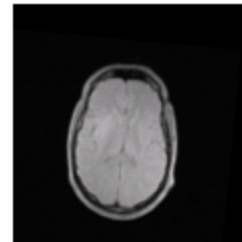
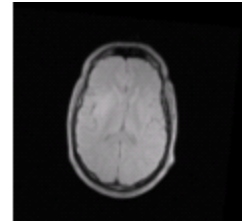
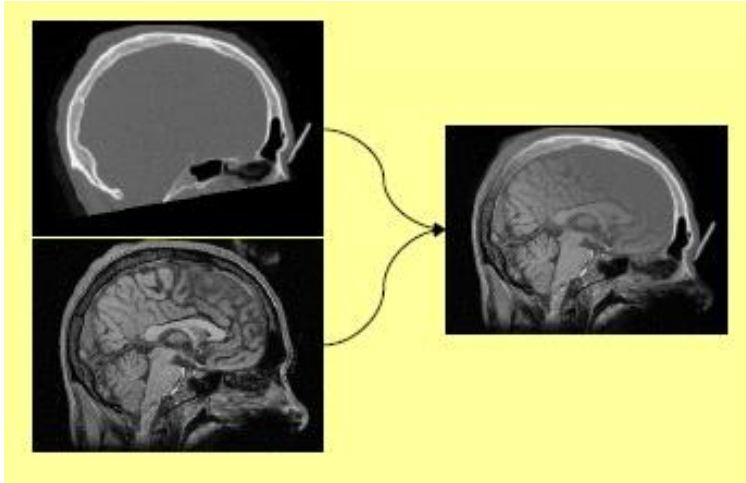


(c)

# *Motivation: Recognition*



# *Motivation: medical image registration*



# *Motivation: Mosaics*

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## ❖ Getting the whole picture

❑ Consumer camera:  $50^\circ \times 35^\circ$



# *Motivation: Mosaics*

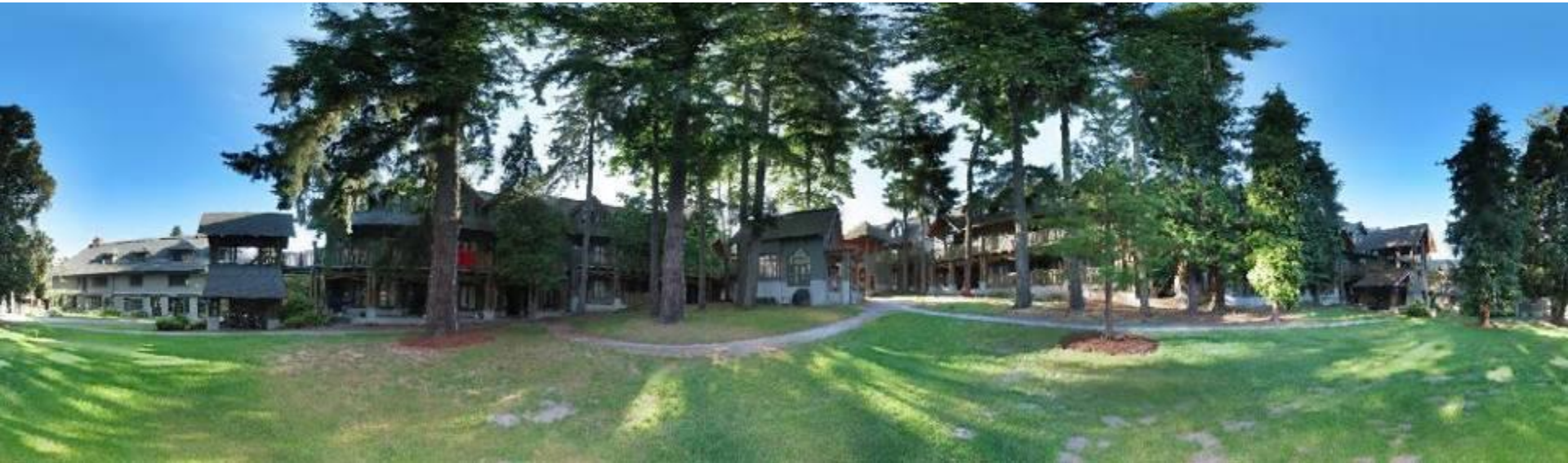
- ❖ Getting the whole picture
  - ❑ Consumer camera:  $50^\circ \times 35^\circ$
  - ❑ Human Vision:  $176^\circ \times 135^\circ$





# *Motivation: Mosaics*

- ❖ Getting the whole picture
  - ❑ Consumer camera:  $50^\circ \times 35^\circ$
  - ❑ Human Vision:  $176^\circ \times 135^\circ$





# *Motion models*

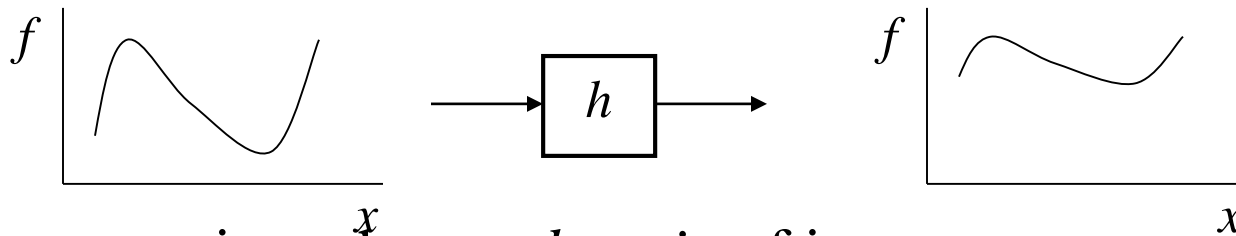
- ❖ What happens when we take two images with a camera and try to align them?
- translation?
- rotation?
- scale?
- affine?
- perspective?



# Image Warping

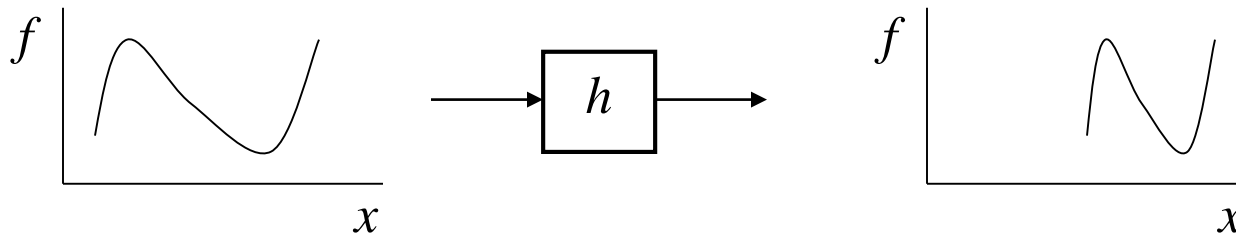
❖ image filtering: change *range* of image

$$\text{❖ } g(x) = h(f(x))$$



❖ image warping: change *domain* of image

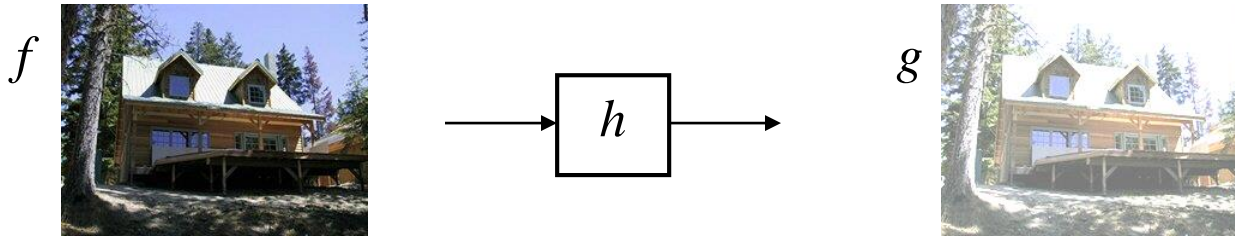
$$\text{❖ } g(x) = f(h(x))$$



# Image Warping

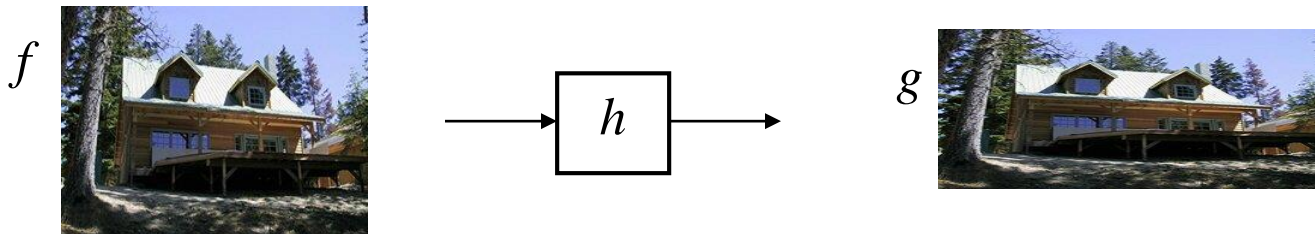
- ❖ image filtering: change *range* of image

- ❖  $g(x) = h(f(x))$



- ❖ image warping: change *domain* of image

- ❖  $g(x) = f(h(x))$



# *Parametric (global) warping*

## ❖ Examples of parametric warps:



translation



rotation



aspect



affine



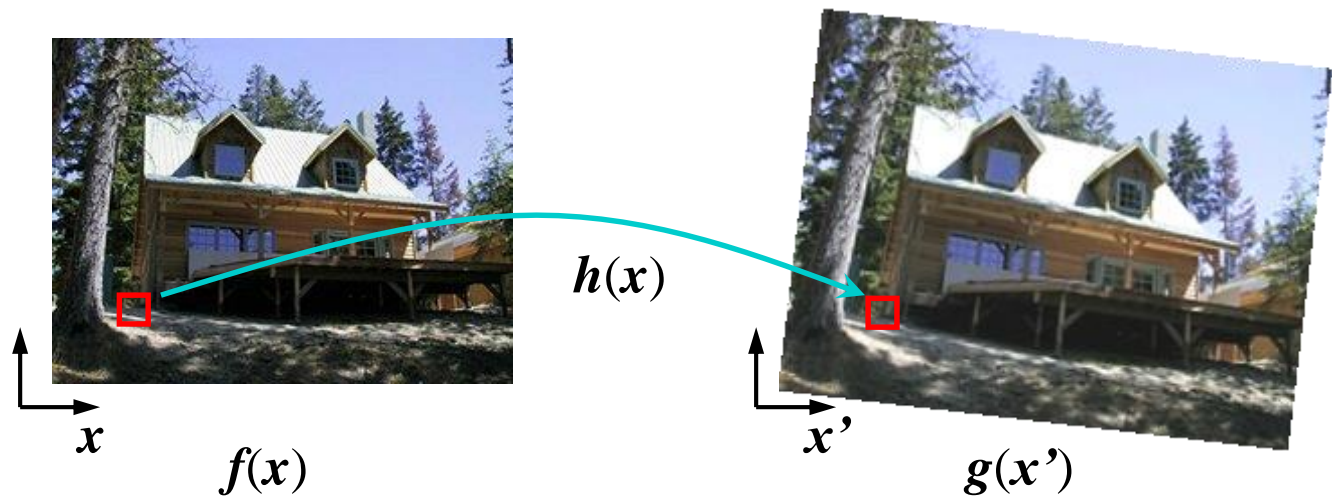
perspective



cylindrical

# Image Warping

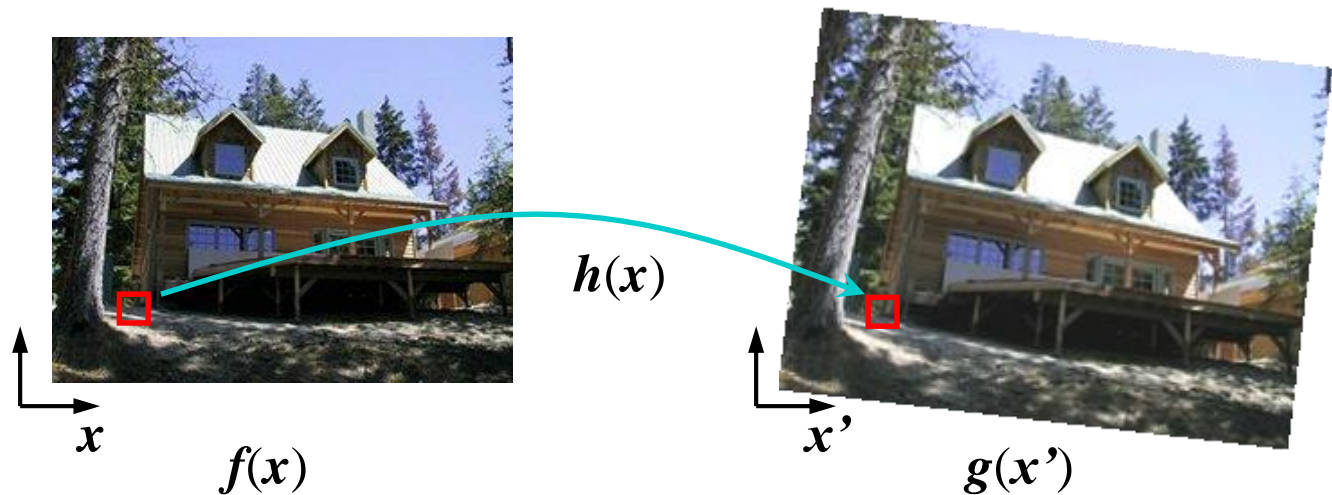
- ❖ Given a coordinate transform  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})$  and a source image  $f(\mathbf{x})$ , how do we compute a transformed image  $g(\mathbf{x}') = f(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}))$ ?





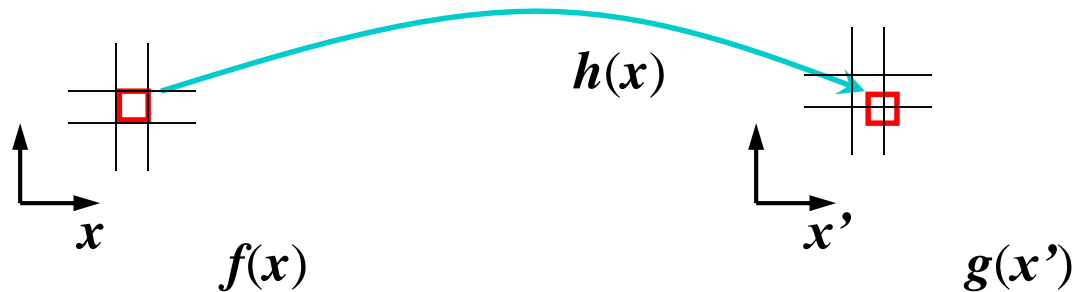
# Forward Warping

- ❖ Send each pixel  $f(x)$  to its corresponding location  $x' = h(x)$  in  $g(x')$
- What if pixel lands “between” two pixels?



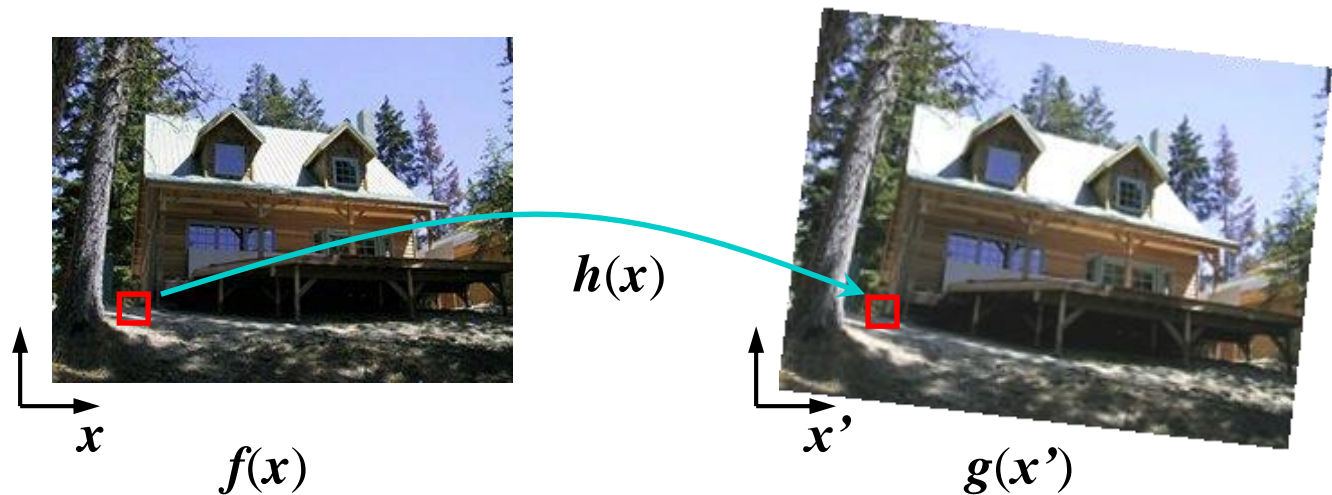
# Forward Warping

- ❖ Send each pixel  $f(x)$  to its corresponding location  $x' = h(x)$  in  $g(x')$
- What if pixel lands “between” two pixels?
- Answer: add “contribution” to several pixels, normalize later (*splatting*)

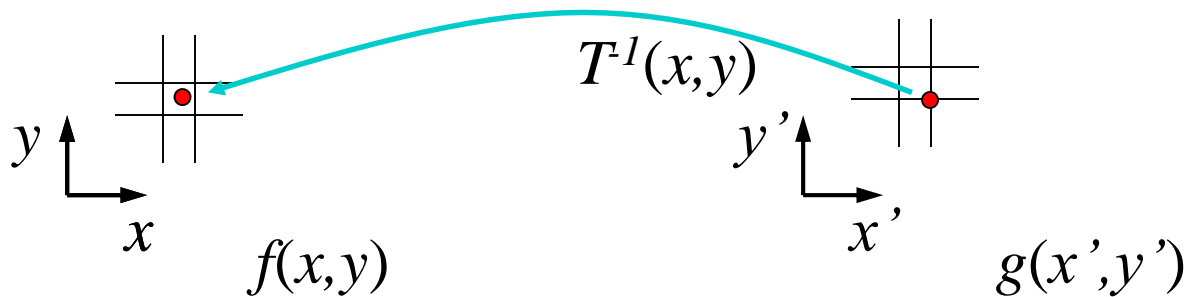


# Inverse Warping

- ❖ Get each pixel  $g(x')$  from its corresponding location  $x' = h(x)$  in  $f(x)$
- What if pixel comes from “between” two pixels?



# Inverse warping



Get each pixel  $g(x',y')$  from its corresponding location

$(x,y) = T^{-1}(x',y')$  in the first image

Q: what if pixel comes from “between” two pixels?

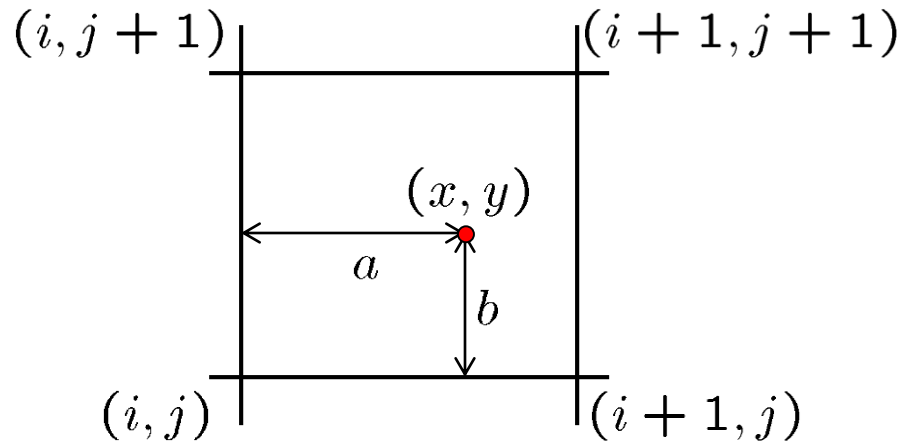
A: *Interpolate* color value from neighbors

– nearest neighbor, bilinear...



# Bilinear interpolation

Sampling at  $f(x, y)$ :



$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) = & (1 - a)(1 - b) f[i, j] \\ & + a(1 - b) f[i + 1, j] \\ & + ab f[i + 1, j + 1] \\ & + (1 - a)b f[i, j + 1] \end{aligned}$$



# Interpolation

## ❖ Possible interpolation filters:

- ☐ nearest neighbor
- ☐ bilinear
- ☐ bicubic (interpolating)
- ☐ sinc / FIR

## ❖ Needed to prevent “jaggies” and “texture crawl”



# *2D coordinate transformations*

- ❖ translation:  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{t}$   $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$
- ❖ rotation:  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{R} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{t}$
- ❖ similarity:  $\mathbf{x}' = s \mathbf{R} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{t}$
- ❖ affine:  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{t}$
- ❖ perspective:  $\underline{\mathbf{x}}' \cong \mathbf{H} \underline{\mathbf{x}}$   $\underline{\mathbf{x}} = (x, y, 1)$   
( $\underline{\mathbf{x}}$  is a *homogeneous* coordinate)
- ❖ These all form a nested *group* (closed w/ inv.)

# *Homogeneous Coordinates*

- ❖ consistent representation for all linear transform (including translation)
- ❖ can be concatenated & pre-computed

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (wx, wy, w), w \neq 0$$

$$(wx, wy, w) \rightarrow (wx / w, wy / w)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & T_x \\ 0 & 1 & T_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & S_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = (TRS) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Basic 2D Transformations

## ❖ Basic 2D transformations as 3x3 matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & t_x \\ 0 & 1 & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Translate

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Scale

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \Theta & -\sin \Theta & 0 \\ \sin \Theta & \cos \Theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotate

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & sh_x & 0 \\ sh_y & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Shear



# 2D Affine Transformations

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

- ❖ Affine transformations are combinations of ...
  - ❑ Linear transformations, and
  - ❑ Translations
  
- ❖ Parallel lines remain parallel

# Projective Transformations

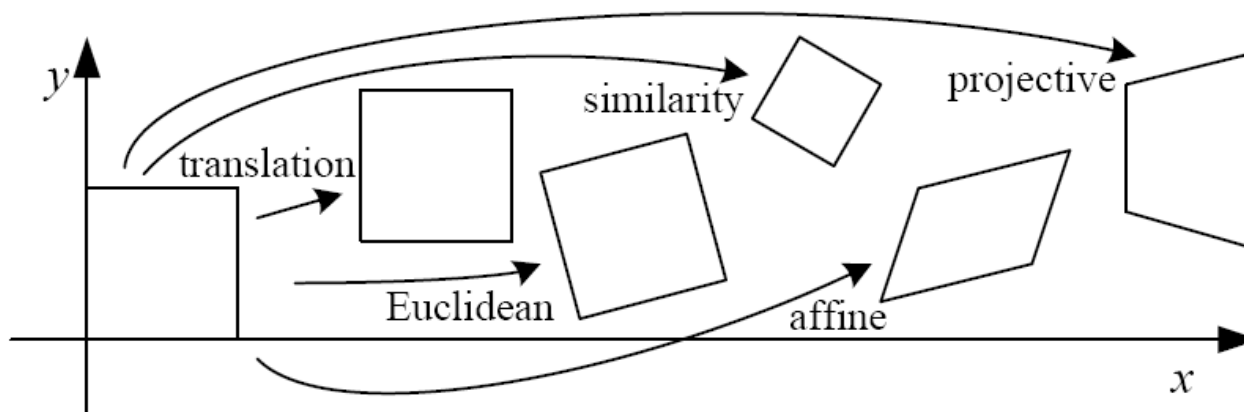
$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ w' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

## ❖ Projective transformations:

- Affine transformations, and

- Projective warps

## ❖ Parallel lines do not necessarily remain parallel



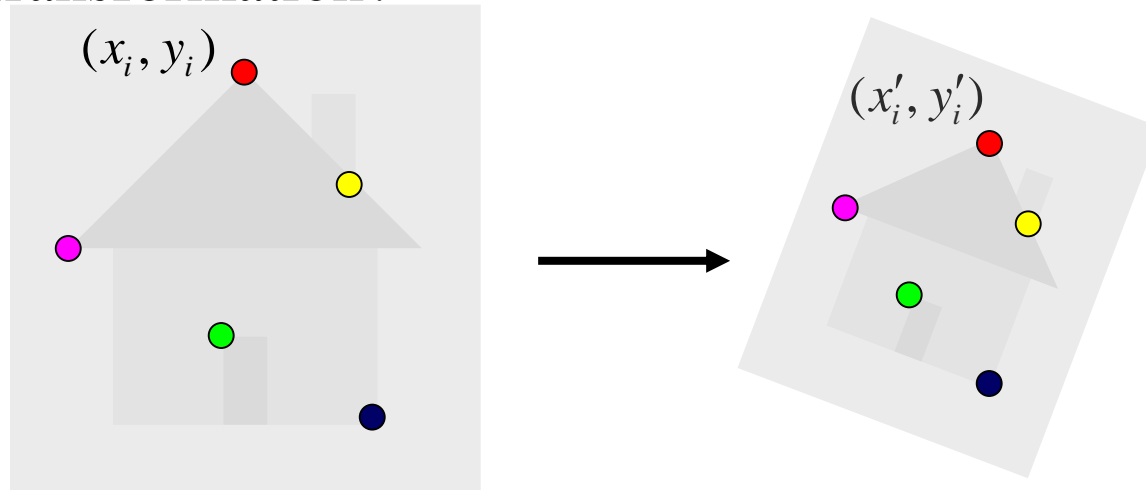
# *Fitting an affine transformation*



Affine model approximates perspective projection of planar objects.

# *Fitting an affine transformation*

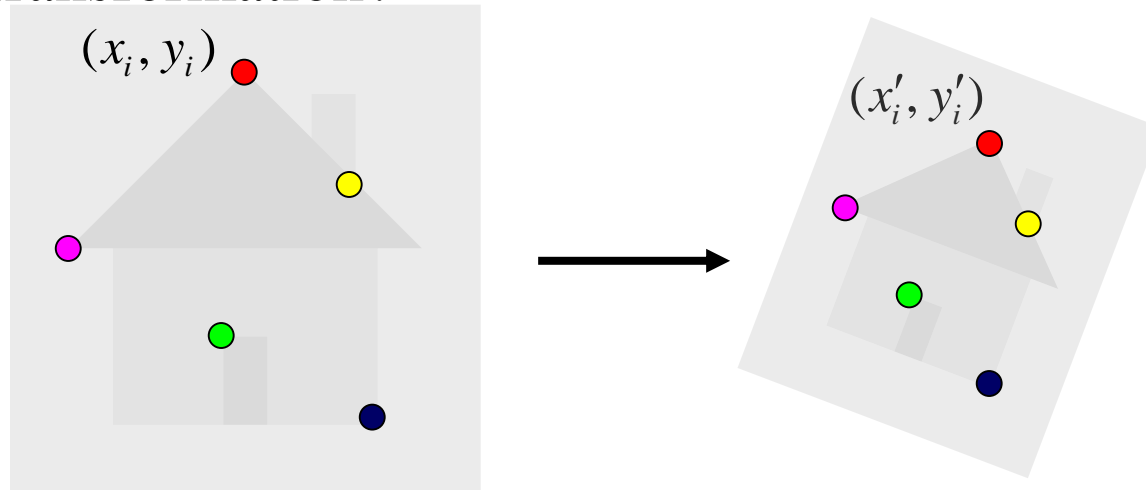
- Assuming we know the correspondences, how do we get the transformation?



$$\begin{bmatrix} x'_i \\ y'_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & m_2 \\ m_3 & m_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ y_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Fitting an affine transformation

- Assuming we know the correspondences, how do we get the transformation?



$$\begin{bmatrix} x'_i \\ y'_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & m_2 \\ m_3 & m_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ y_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \\ m_3 \\ m_4 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

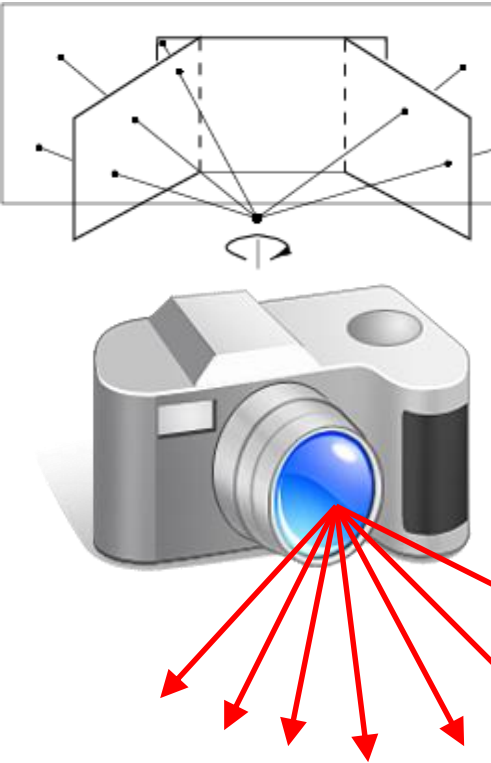


# *Fitting an affine transformation*

$$\begin{bmatrix} & & \dots & & & \\ x_i & y_i & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x_i & y_i & 0 & 1 \\ & & \dots & & & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \\ m_3 \\ m_4 \\ t_1 \\ t_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dots \\ x'_i \\ y'_i \\ \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

- How many matches (correspondence pairs) do we need to solve for the transformation parameters?
- Once we have solved for the parameters, how do we compute the coordinates of the corresponding point for ?  $(x_{new}, y_{new})$

# *Panoramas*



...



image from S. Seitz

Obtain a wider angle view by combining multiple images.

# How to stitch together a panorama?

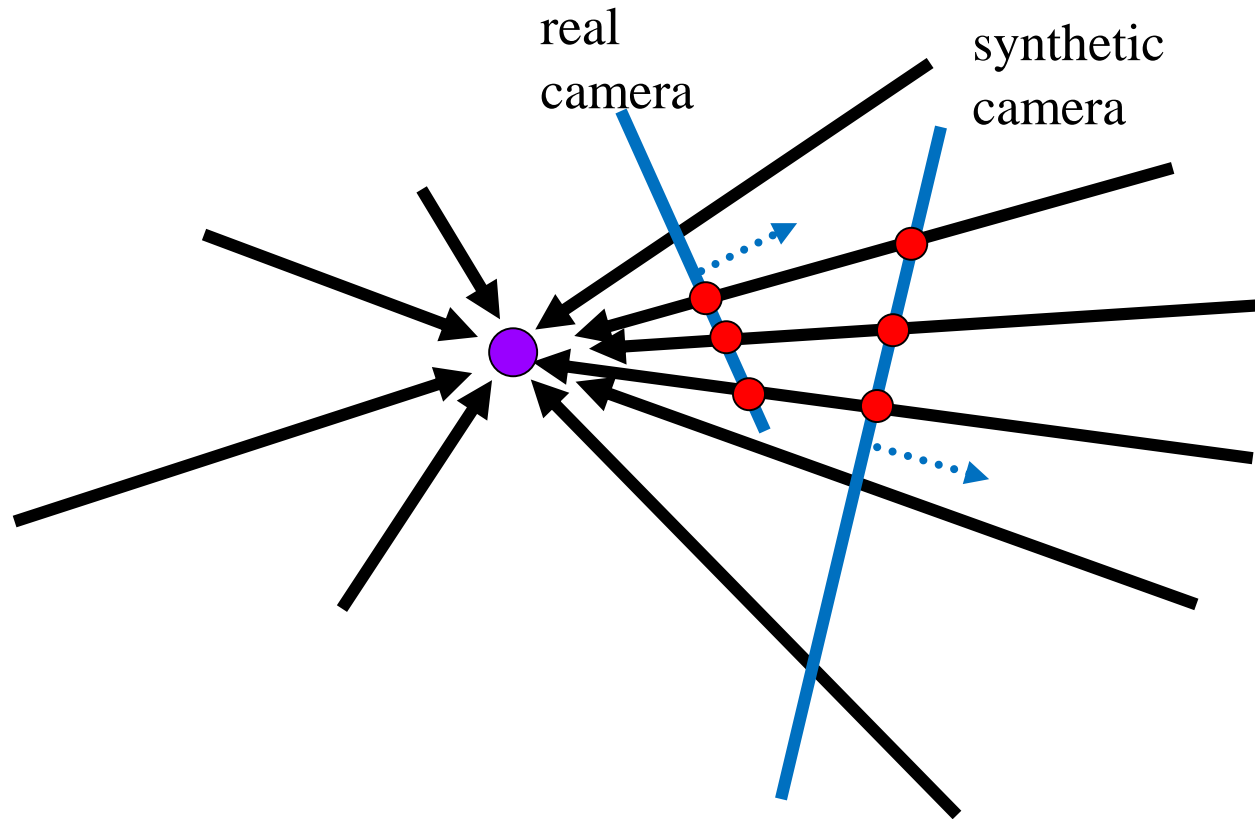
## ❖ Basic Procedure

- ❑ Take a sequence of images from the same position
  - Rotate the camera about its optical center
- ❑ Compute transformation between second image and first
- ❑ Transform the second image to overlap with the first
- ❑ Blend the two together to create a mosaic
- ❑ (If there are more images, repeat)

## ❖ ...but **wait**, why should this work at all?

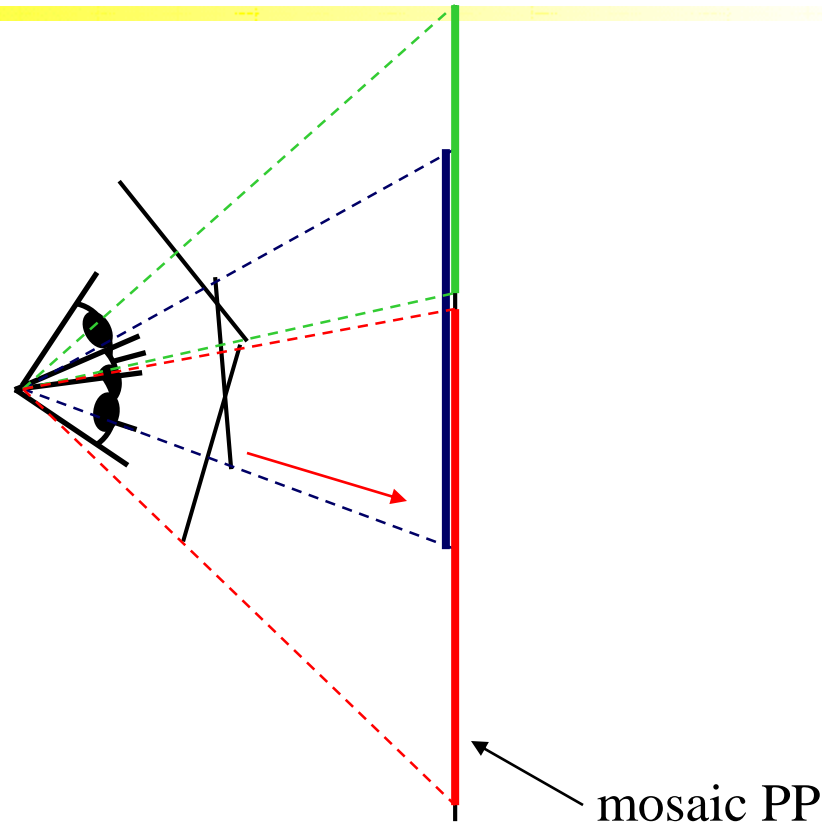
- ❑ What about the 3D geometry of the scene?
- ❑ Why aren't we using it?

# *Panoramas: generating synthetic views*



Can generate any synthetic camera view  
as long as it has **the same center of projection!**

# Image reprojection

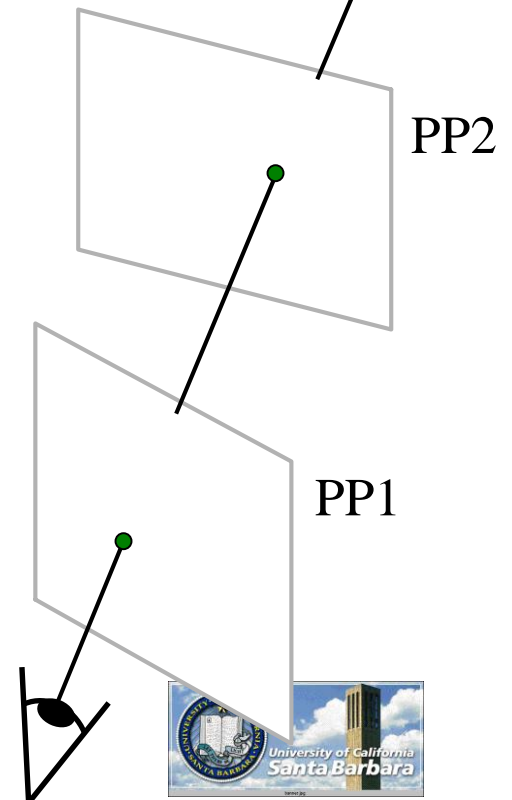


- ❖ The mosaic has a natural interpretation in 3D
  - ❑ The images are reprojected onto a common plane
  - ❑ The mosaic is formed on this plane
  - ❑ Mosaic is a *synthetic wide-angle camera*

# Homography

- ❖ How to relate two images from the same camera center?
  - how to map a pixel from PP1 to PP2?
- ❖ Think of it as a 2D **image warp** from one image to another.
- ❖ A projective transform is a mapping between any two PPs with the same center of projection
  - ❑ rectangle should map to arbitrary quadrilateral
  - ❑ parallel lines aren't
  - ❑ but must preserve straight lines
- ❖ called **Homography**

$$\begin{bmatrix} wx' \\ wy' \\ w \\ \mathbf{p}' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * \\ * & * & * \\ * & * & * \\ \mathbf{H} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \\ \mathbf{p} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Homography

$(x, y)$



$$\begin{pmatrix} wx'/w & wy'/w \end{pmatrix} = (x', y')$$

To **apply** a given homography  $\mathbf{H}$

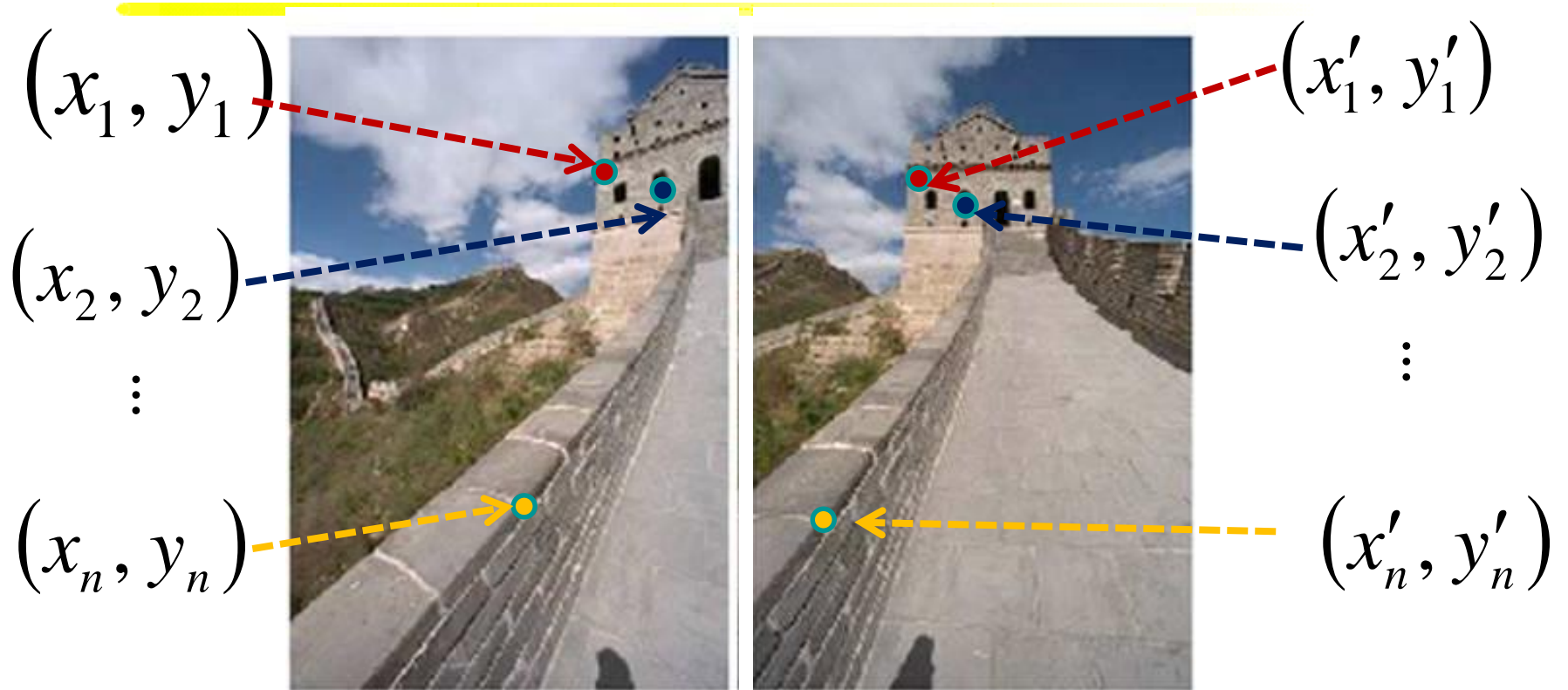
- Compute  $\mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{p}$  (regular matrix multiply)
- Convert  $\mathbf{p}'$  from homogeneous to image coordinates

$$\begin{bmatrix} wx' \\ wy' \\ w \\ \mathbf{p}' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * \\ * & * & * \\ * & * & * \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \\ \mathbf{p} \end{bmatrix}$$





# Homography



To **compute** the homography given pairs of corresponding points in the images, we need to set up an equation where the parameters of **H** are the unknowns...



# *Number of measurements required*

- ❖ At least as many independent equations as degrees of freedom required
- ❖ Example:

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

2 independent equations / point

8 degrees of freedom

$$4 \times 2 \geq 8$$



# *Solving for homographies*

$$\mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{p}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} wx' \\ wy' \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

❖ Can set scale factor  $i=1$ . So, there are 8 unknowns.

❖ Set up a system of linear equations:

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{b}$$

❖ where vector of unknowns  $\mathbf{h} = [a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h]^T$

❖ Need at least 8 eqs, but the more the better...

❖ Solve for  $\mathbf{h}$ . If overconstrained, solve using least-squares:

$$\min \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{h} - \mathbf{b}\|^2$$

❖ Work well if  $i$  is not close to 0 (not recommended!)

# Direct Linear Transformation (DLT)

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} h^{1T} \\ h^{2T} \\ h^{3T} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}'_i \times \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}_i = 0 \quad \mathbf{x}'_i = (x'_i, y'_i, w'_i)^T \quad \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}_i = \begin{pmatrix} h^{1T} \mathbf{x}_i \\ h^{2T} \mathbf{x}_i \\ h^{3T} \mathbf{x}_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}'_i \times \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}_i = \begin{pmatrix} y'_i h^{3T} \mathbf{x}_i - w'_i h^{2T} \mathbf{x}_i \\ w'_i h^{1T} \mathbf{x}_i - x'_i h^{3T} \mathbf{x}_i \\ x'_i h^{2T} \mathbf{x}_i - y'_i h^{1T} \mathbf{x}_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0^T & -w'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & y'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T \\ w'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & 0^T & -x'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T \\ -y'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & x'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & 0^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h^1 \\ h^2 \\ h^3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{h} = 0$$



# Direct Linear Transformation (DLT)

❖ Equations are linear in  $\mathbf{h}$

$$\mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{h} = 0$$

- Only 2 out of 3 are linearly independent (indeed, 2 eq/pt)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0^T & -w'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & y'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0^T & -w'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & y'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} w'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & 0^T & -x'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} w'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & 0^T & -x'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} y'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & x'_i \mathbf{x}_i^T & 0^T \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h^1 \\ h^2 \\ h^3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

(only drop third row if  $w'_i \neq 0$ )

- Holds for any homogeneous representation, e.g.  $(x'_i, y'_i, 1)$

# *Direct Linear Transformation (DLT)*

❖ Solving for  $\mathbf{H}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_3 \\ A_4 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{h} = 0$$

size  $A$  is  $8 \times 9$  or  $12 \times 9$ , but rank 8

Trivial solution is  $\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}_9^T$  is not interesting

1-D null-space yields solution of interest

pick for example the one with  $\|\mathbf{h}\| = 1$



# *Direct Linear Transformation (DLT)*

## ❖ Over-determined solution

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

No exact solution because of inexact measurement  
i.e. "noise"

Find approximate solution

- Additional constraint needed to avoid 0, e.g.  $\|\mathbf{h}\| = 1$
- $A\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$  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  $x_i' = Hx_i$

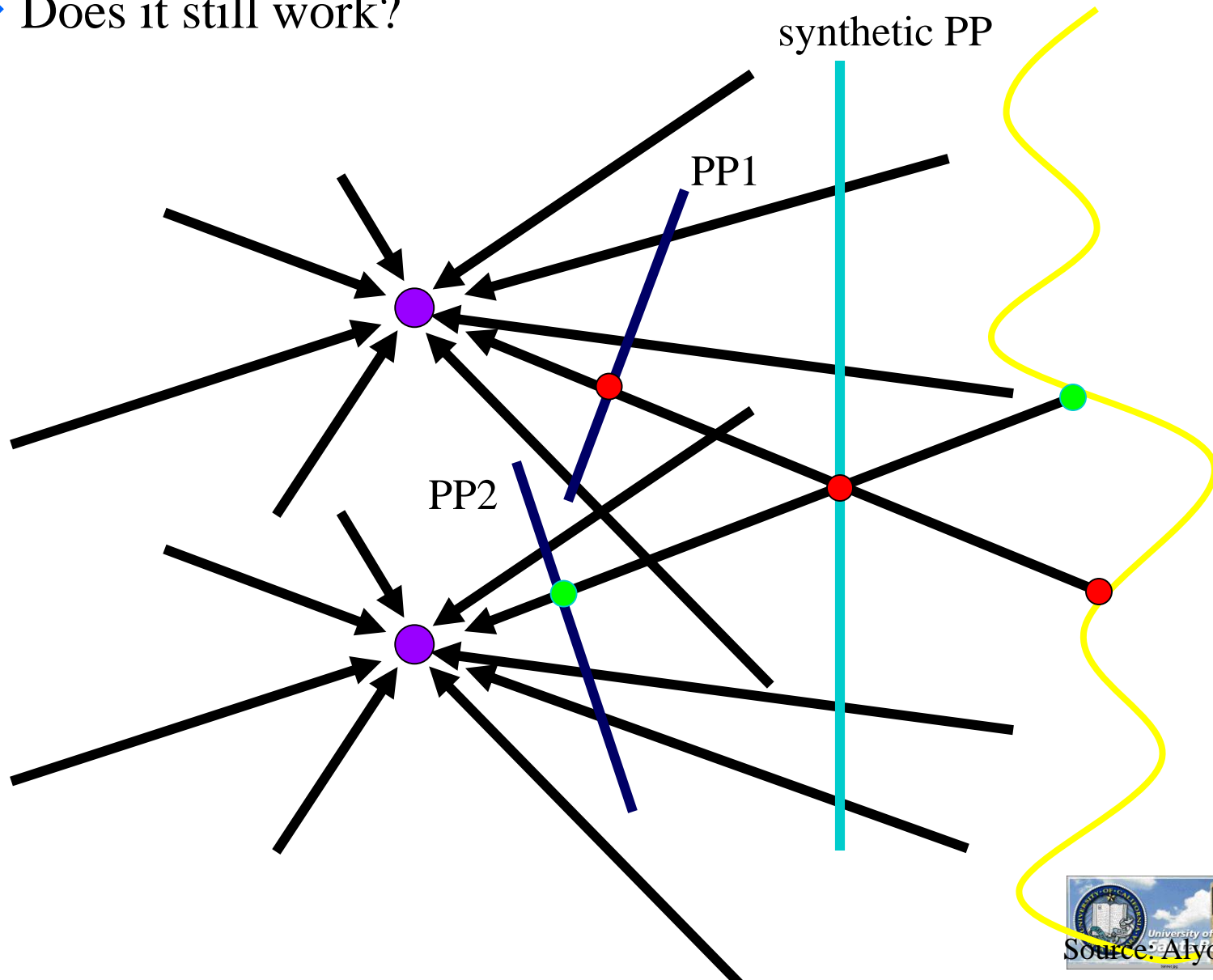
## Algorithm

- (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  $V$
- (iv) Determine  $H$  from  $h$

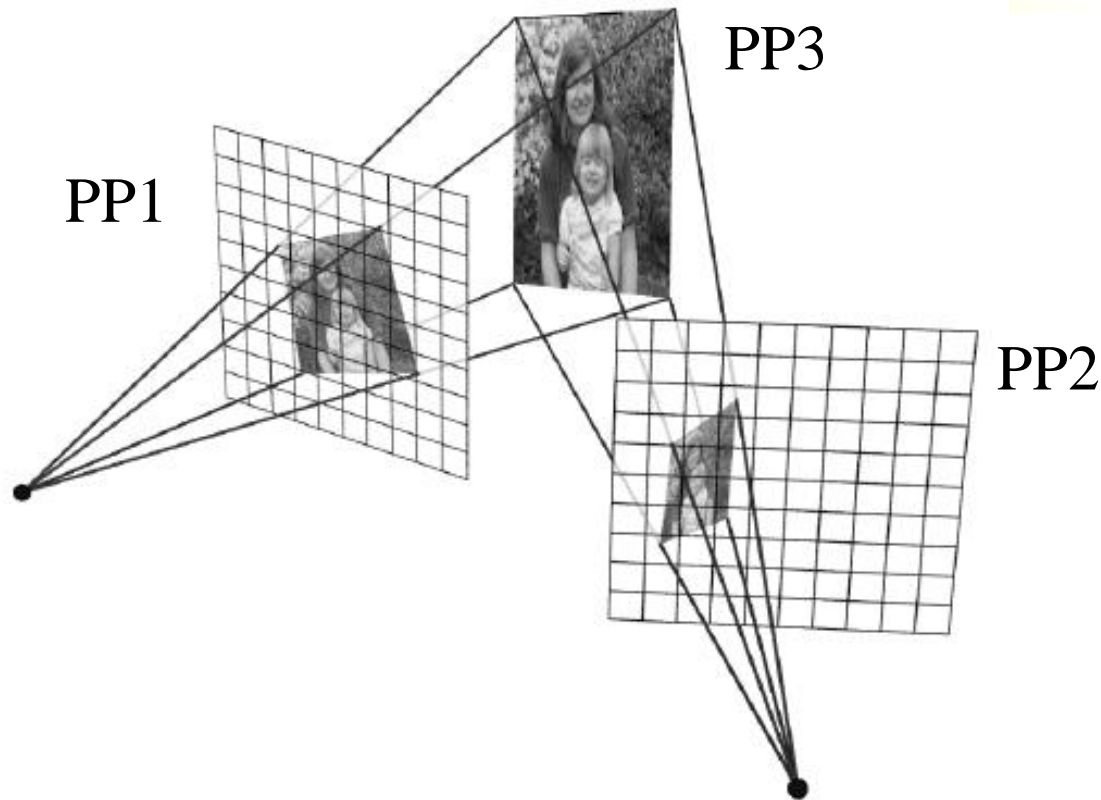


# *changing camera center*

❖ Does it still work?



# *Planar scene (or far away)*



- ❖ PP3 is a projection plane of both centers of projection, so we are OK!
- ❖ This is how big aerial photographs are made







Map

Satellite

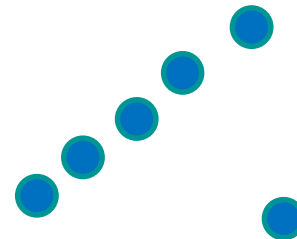
Hybrid





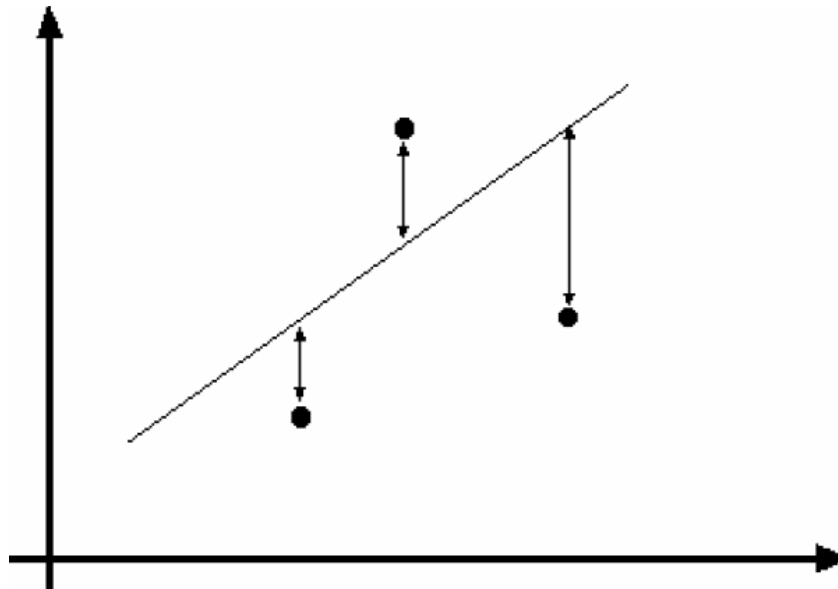
# Outliers

- ❖ **Outliers** can hurt the quality of our parameter estimates, e.g.,
  - ❑ an erroneous pair of matching points from two images
  - ❑ an edge point that is noise, or doesn't belong to the line we are fitting.

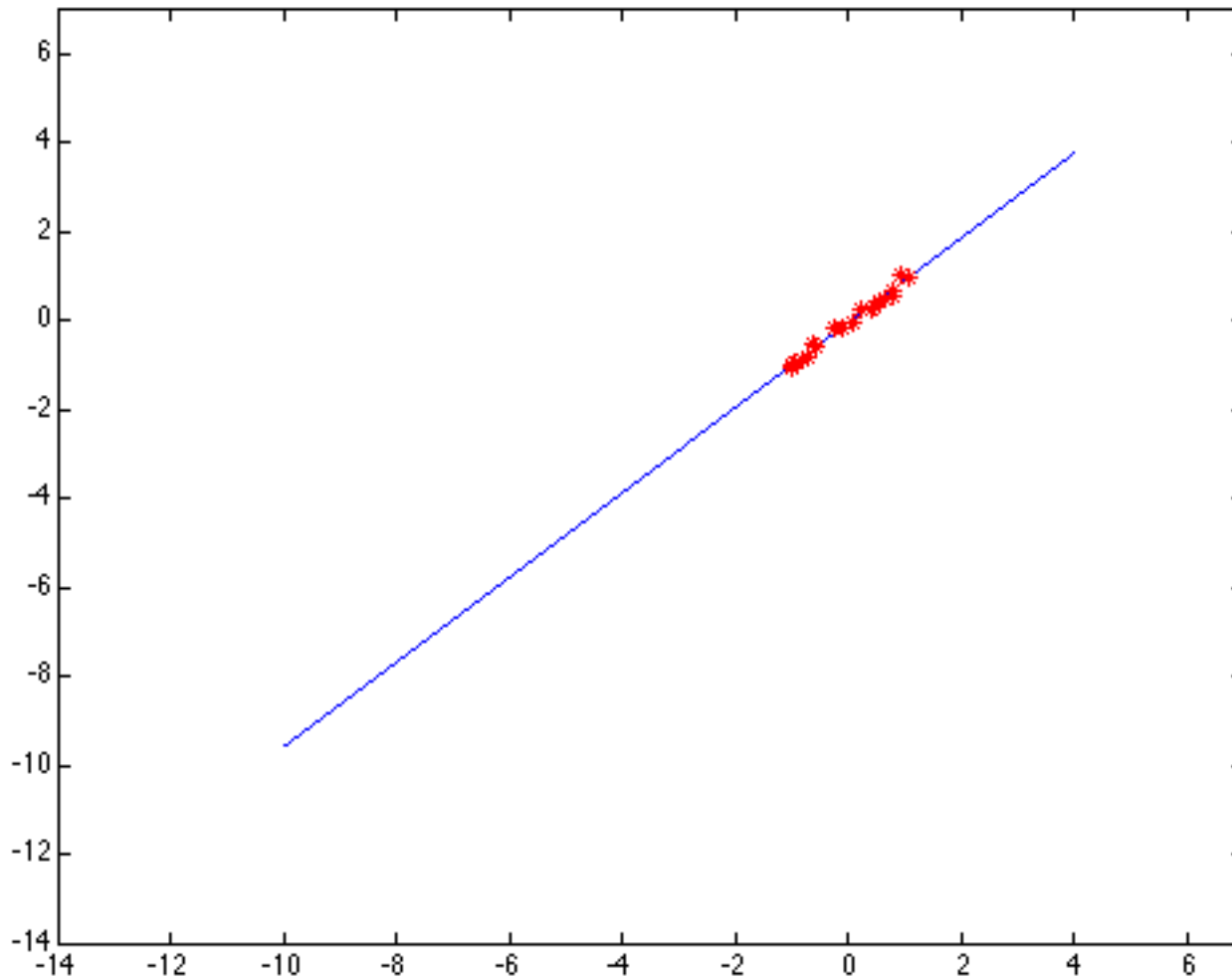


# *Example: least squares line fitting*

- ❖ Assuming all the points that belong to a particular line are known

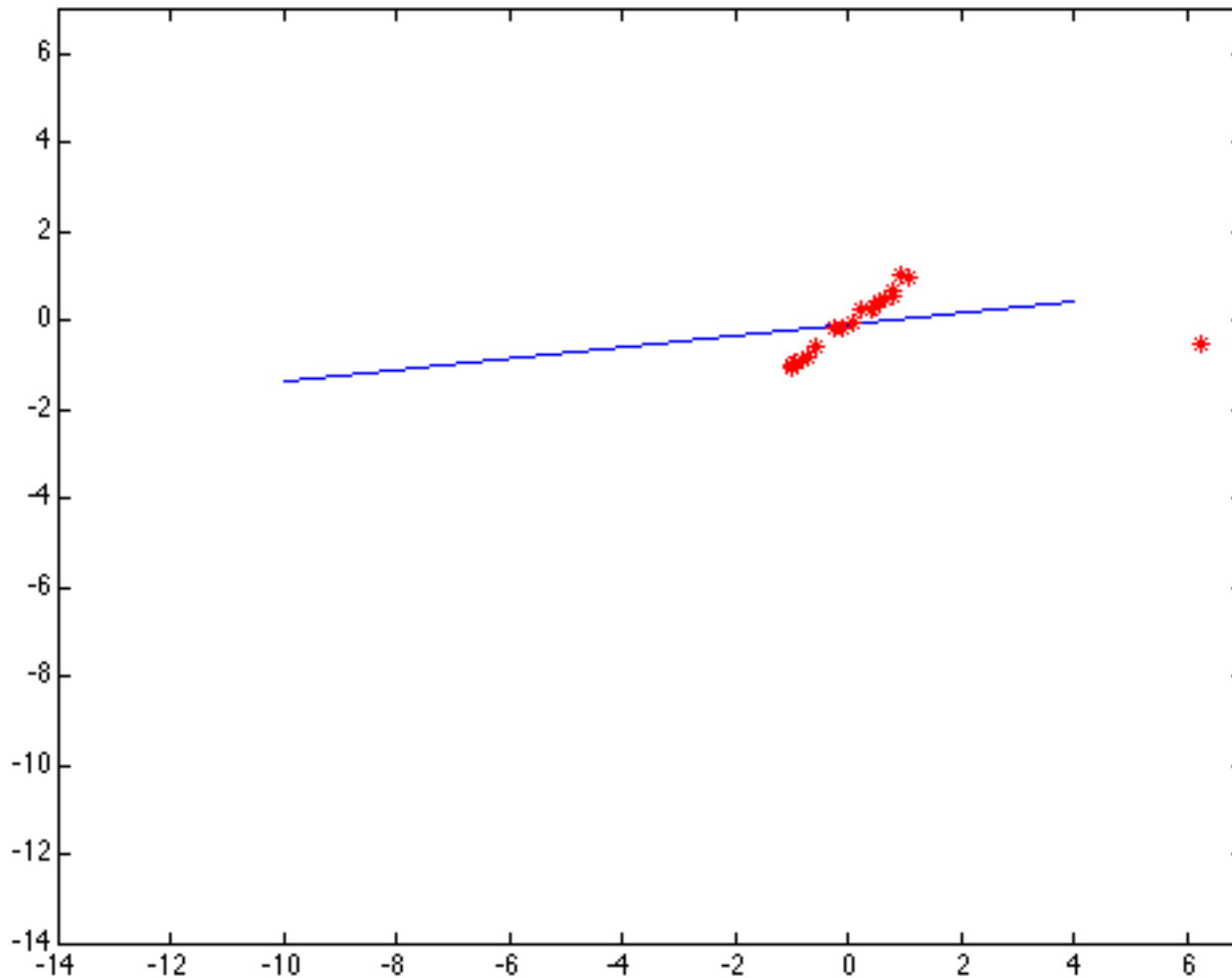


# *Outliers affect least squares fit*





# Outliers affect least squares fit



# RANSAC

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## ❖ RANdom Sample Consensus

- ❖ Approach: we want to avoid the impact of outliers, so let's look for “inliers”, and use those only.
- ❖ Intuition: if an outlier is chosen to compute the current fit, then the resulting line won't have much support from rest of the points.

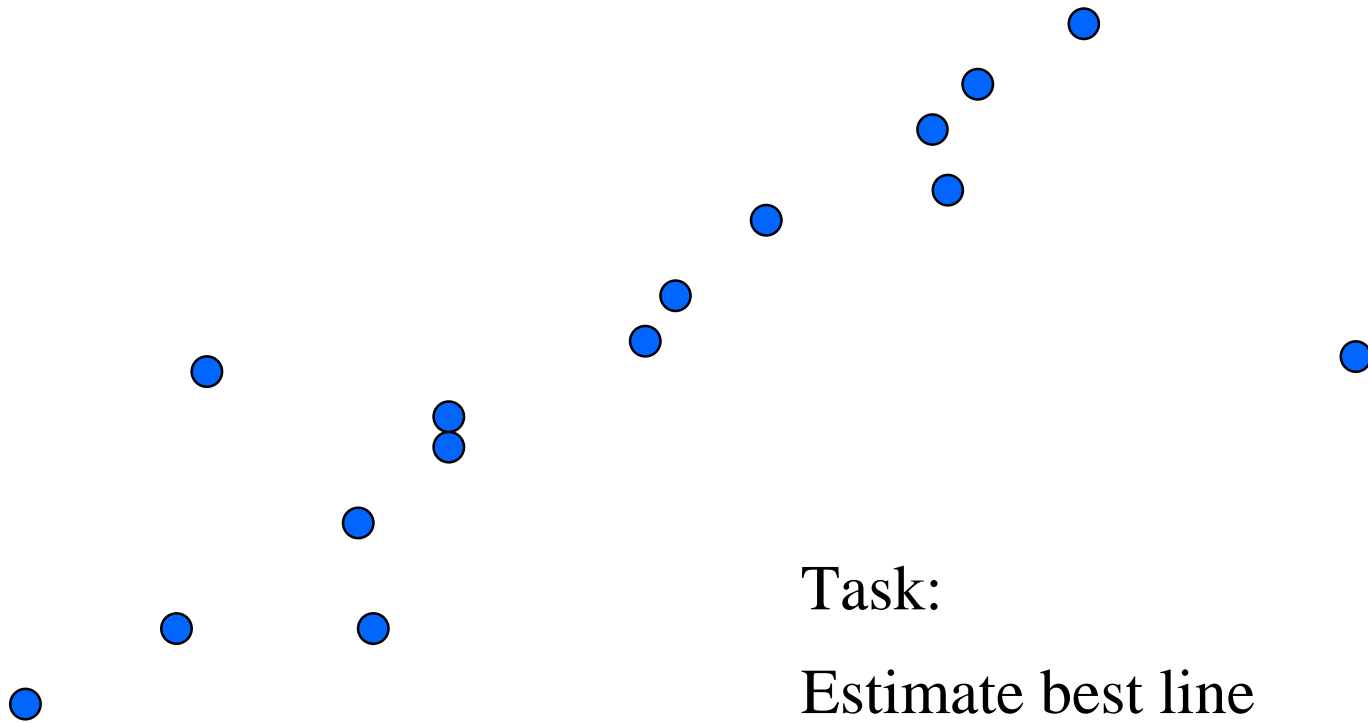
# RANSAC

## ❖ RANSAC loop:

1. Randomly select a *seed group* of points on which to base transformation estimate (e.g., a group of matches)
  2. Compute transformation from seed group
  3. Find *inliers* to this transformation
  4. If the number of inliers is sufficiently large, re-compute least-squares estimate of transformation on all of the inliers
- ❖ Keep the transformation with the largest number of inliers

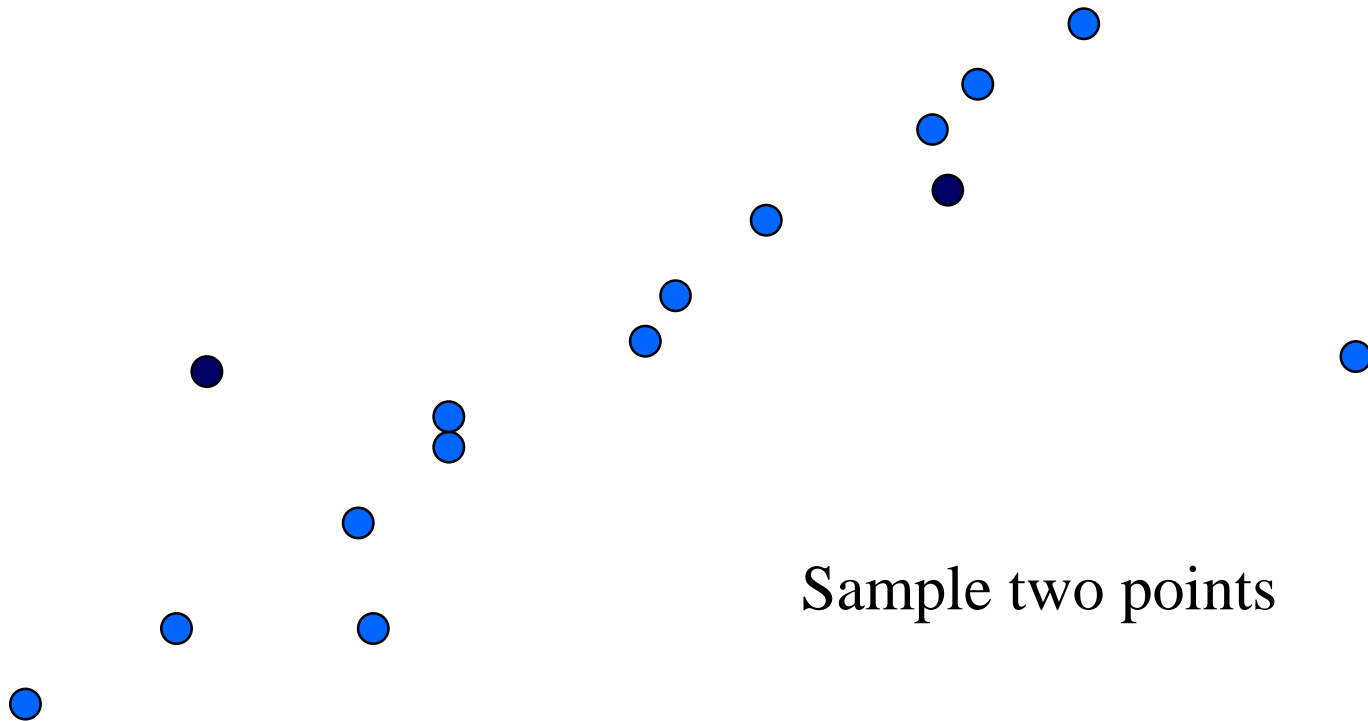
# *RANSAC Line Fitting Example*

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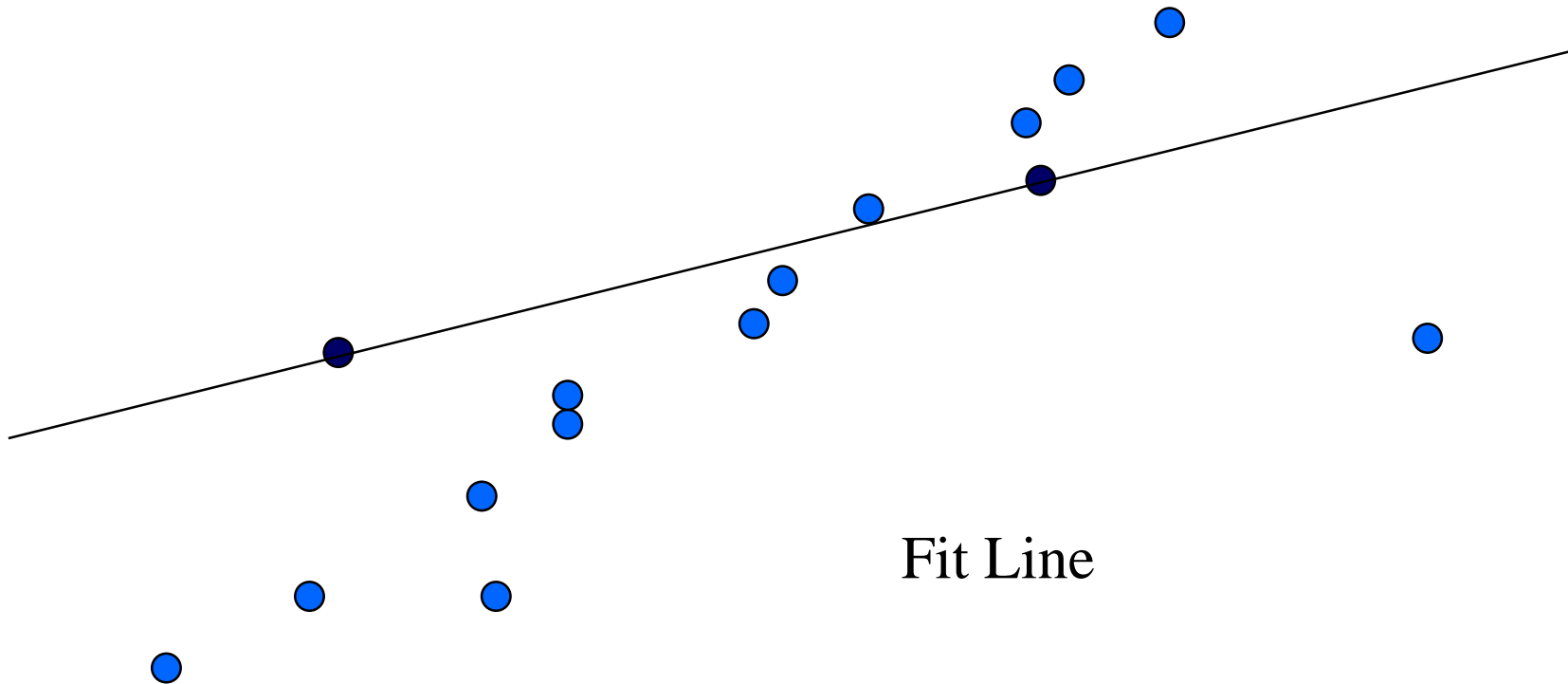


# *RANSAC Line Fitting Example*

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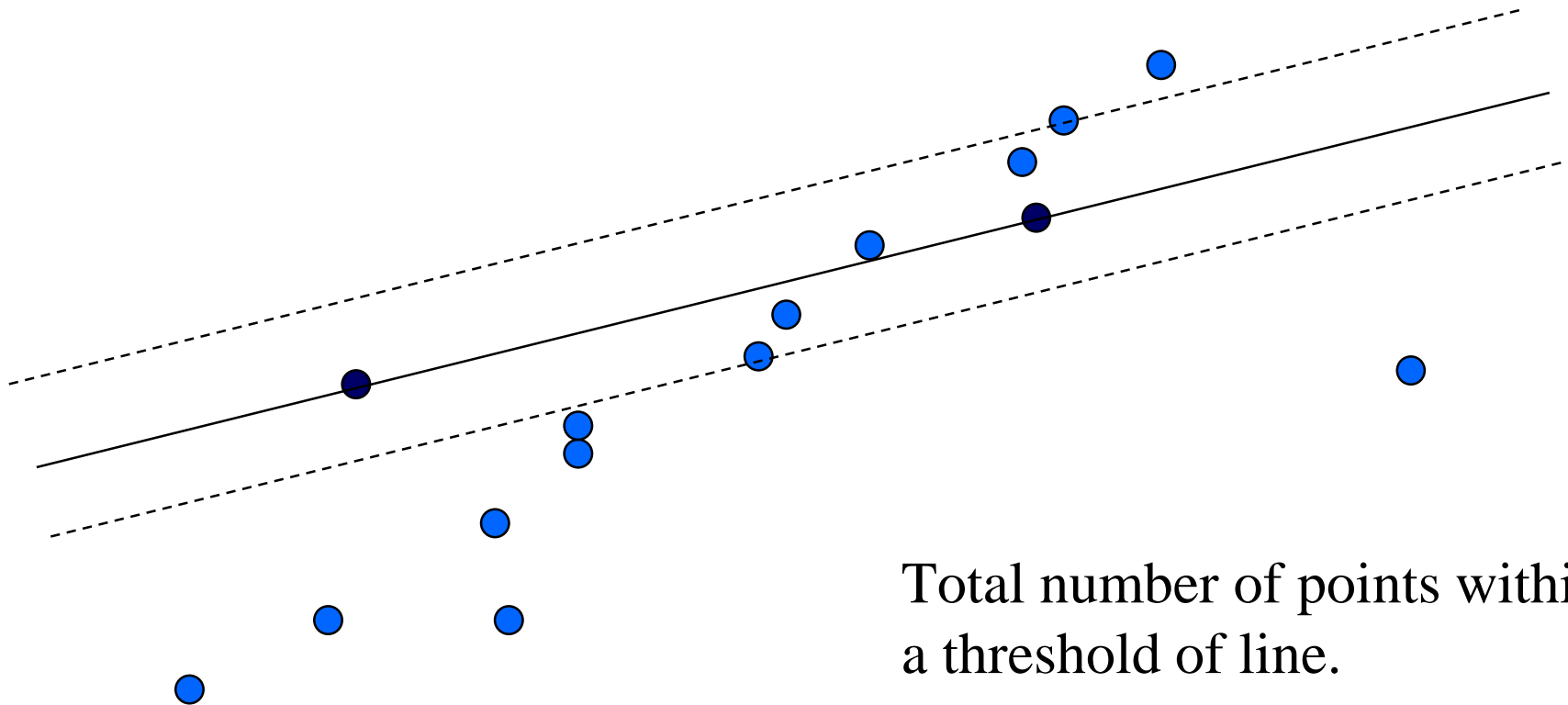


# *RANSAC Line Fitting Example*



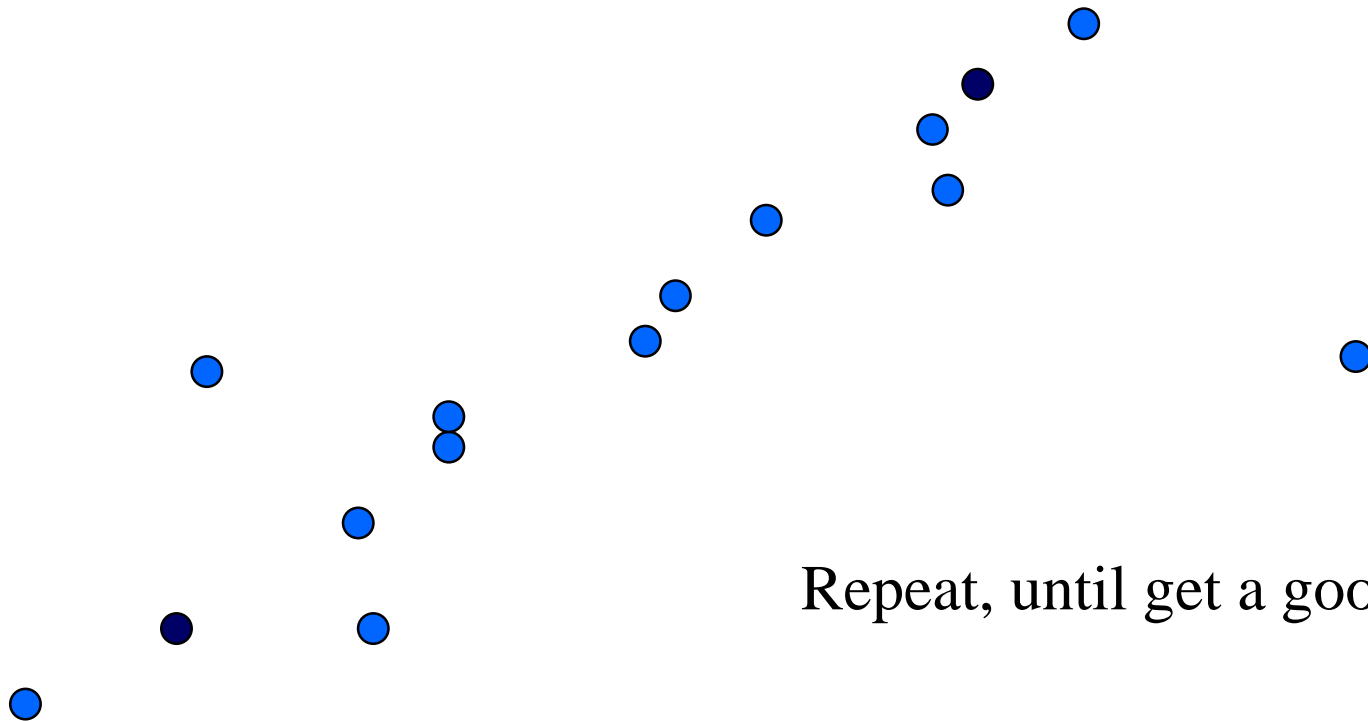
Fit Line

# *RANSAC Line Fitting Example*



# *RANSAC Line Fitting Example*

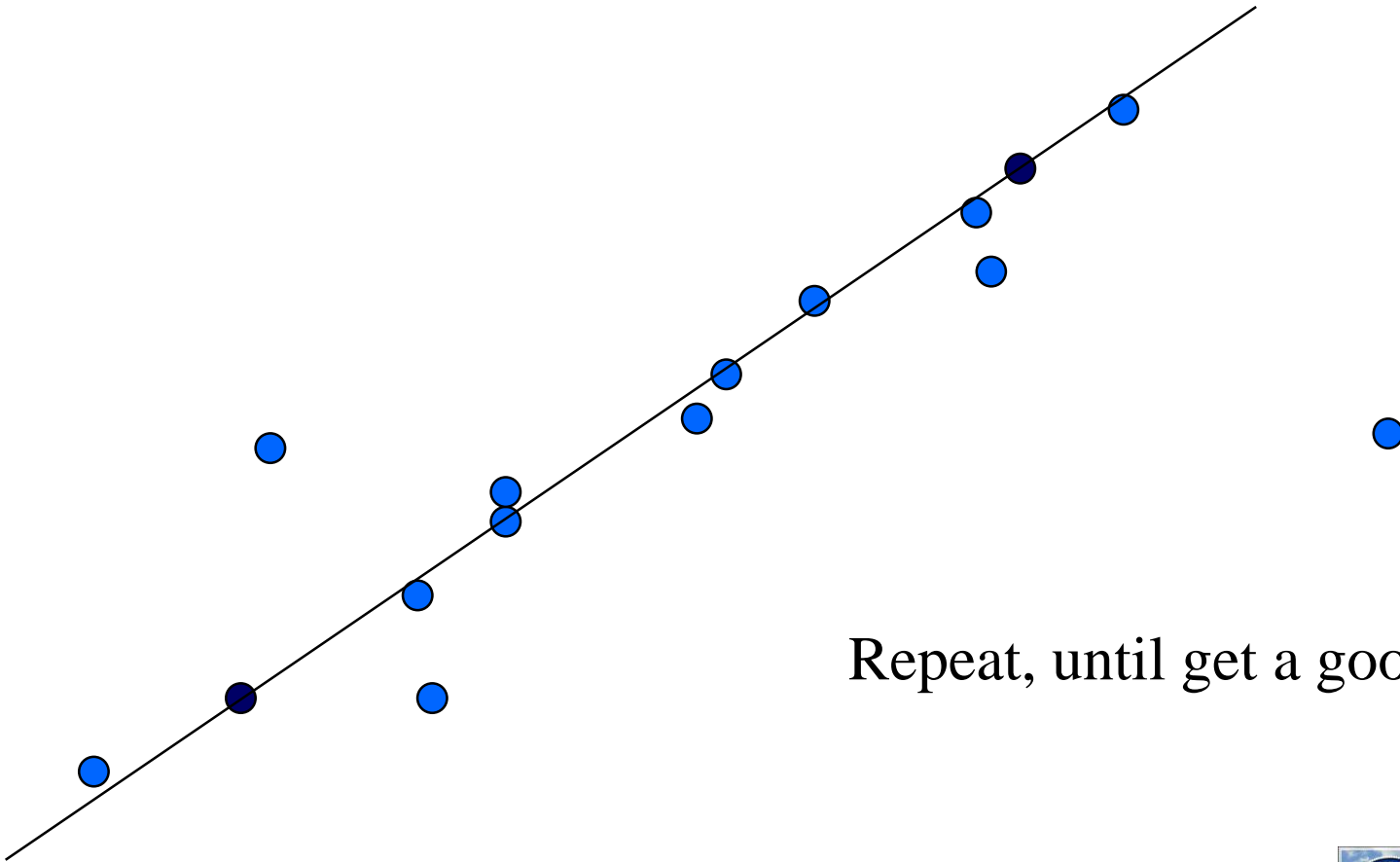
---



Repeat, until get a good result

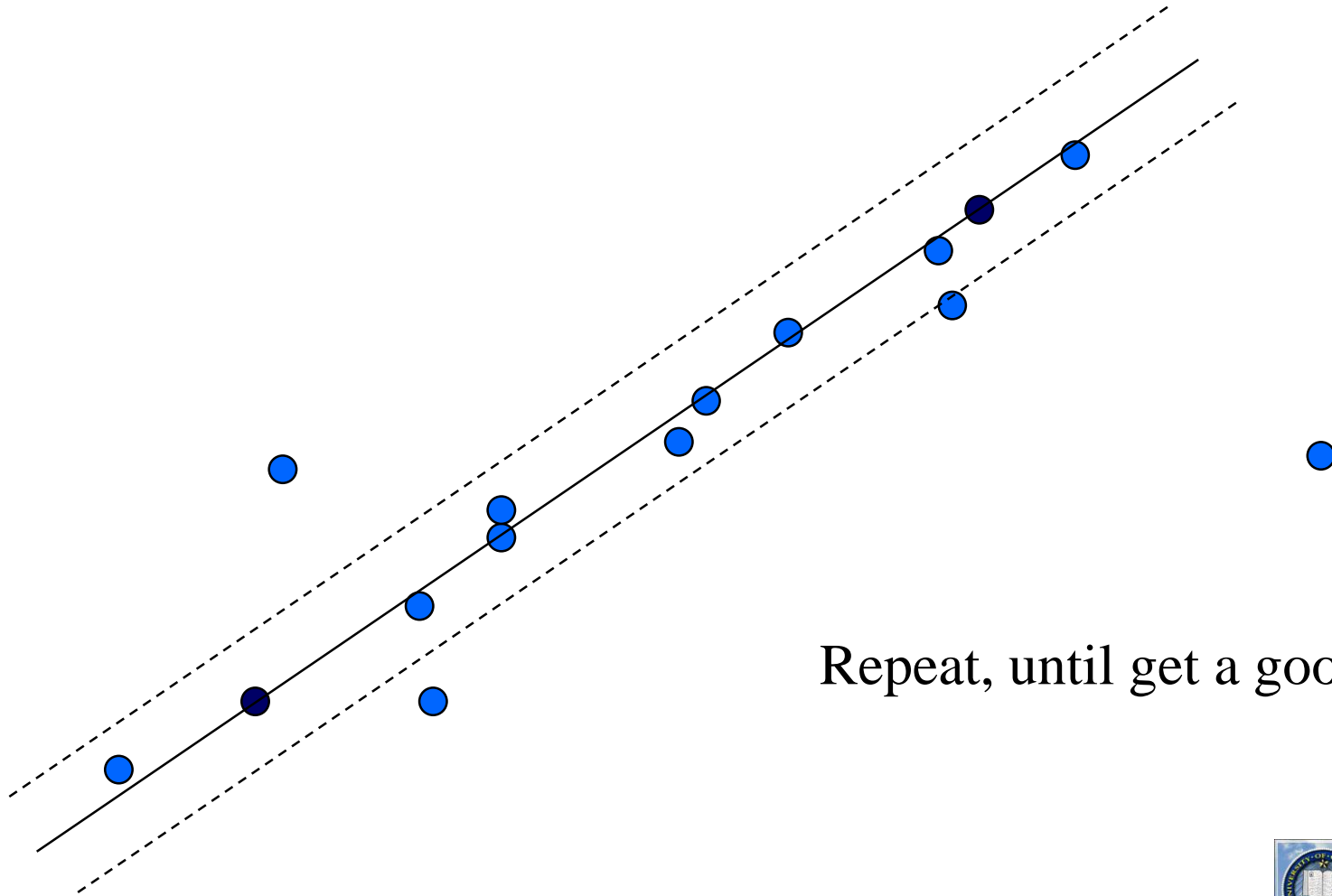


# *RANSAC Line Fitting Example*



Repeat, until get a good result

# *RANSAC Line Fitting Example*



Repeat, until get a good result

# *How Many Trials?*

- ❖ Well, theoretically it is  $C(n,p)$  to find all possible  $p$ -tuples
- ❖ Very expensive

$$1 - (1 - (1 - \varepsilon)^p)^m$$

$\varepsilon$  : fraction of bad data

$(1 - \varepsilon)$  : fraction of good data

$(1 - \varepsilon)^p$  : all  $p$  samples are good

$1 - (1 - \varepsilon)^p$  : at least one sample is bad

$(1 - (1 - \varepsilon)^p)^m$  : got bad data in all  $m$  tries

$1 - (1 - (1 - \varepsilon)^p)^m$  : got at least one good  $p$  set in  $m$  tries

# *How Many Trials (cont.)*

- ❖ Make sure the probability is high (e.g. >95%)
- ❖ given  $p$  and epsilon, calculate  $m$

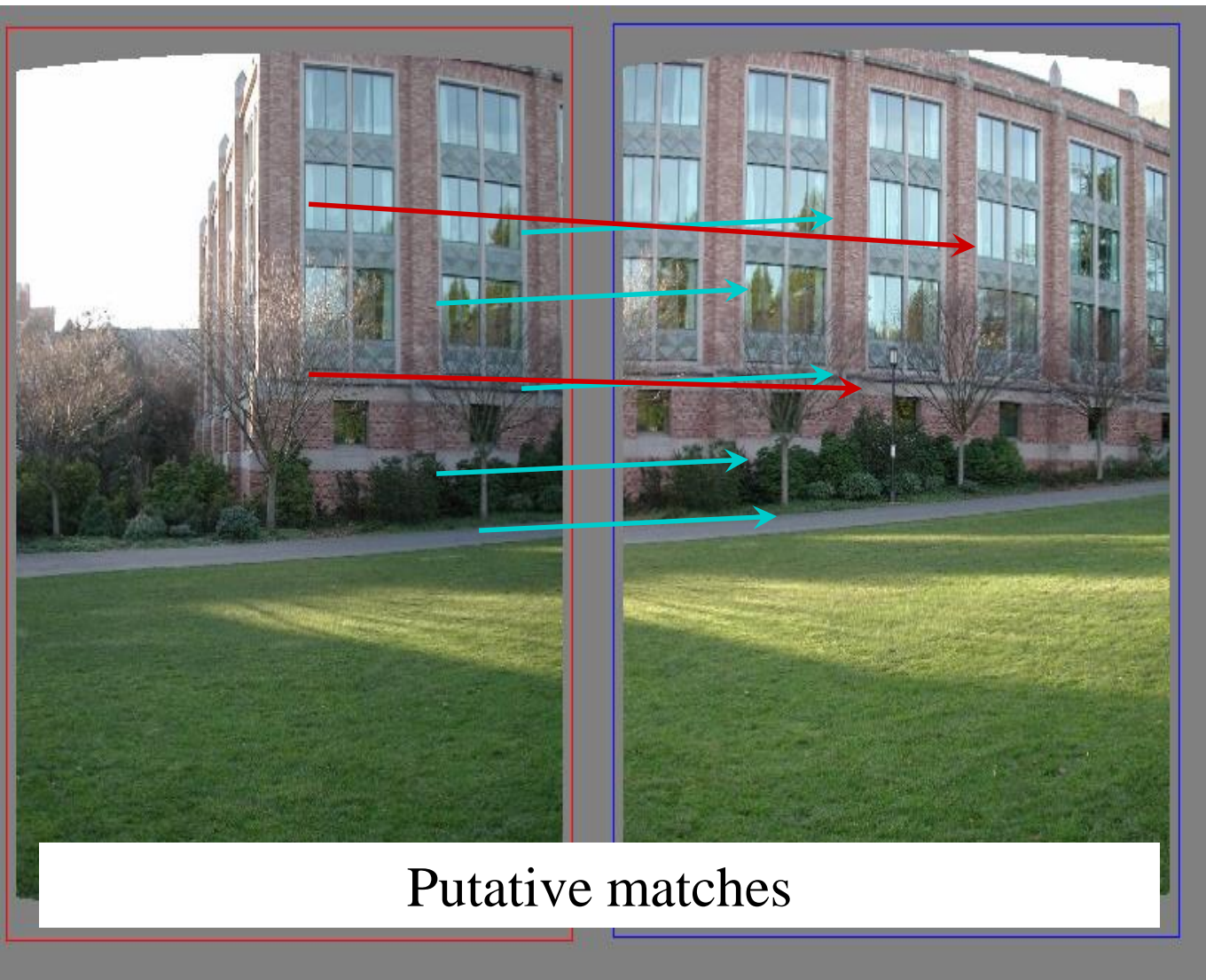
| $p$ | 5% | 10% | 20% | 25% | 30% | 40% | 50% |
|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1   | 1  | 2   | 2   | 3   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
| 2   | 2  | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 7   | 11  |
| 3   | 2  | 3   | 5   | 6   | 8   | 13  | 23  |
| 4   | 2  | 3   | 6   | 8   | 11  | 22  | 47  |
| 5   | 3  | 4   | 8   | 12  | 17  | 38  | 95  |

# *Best Practice*

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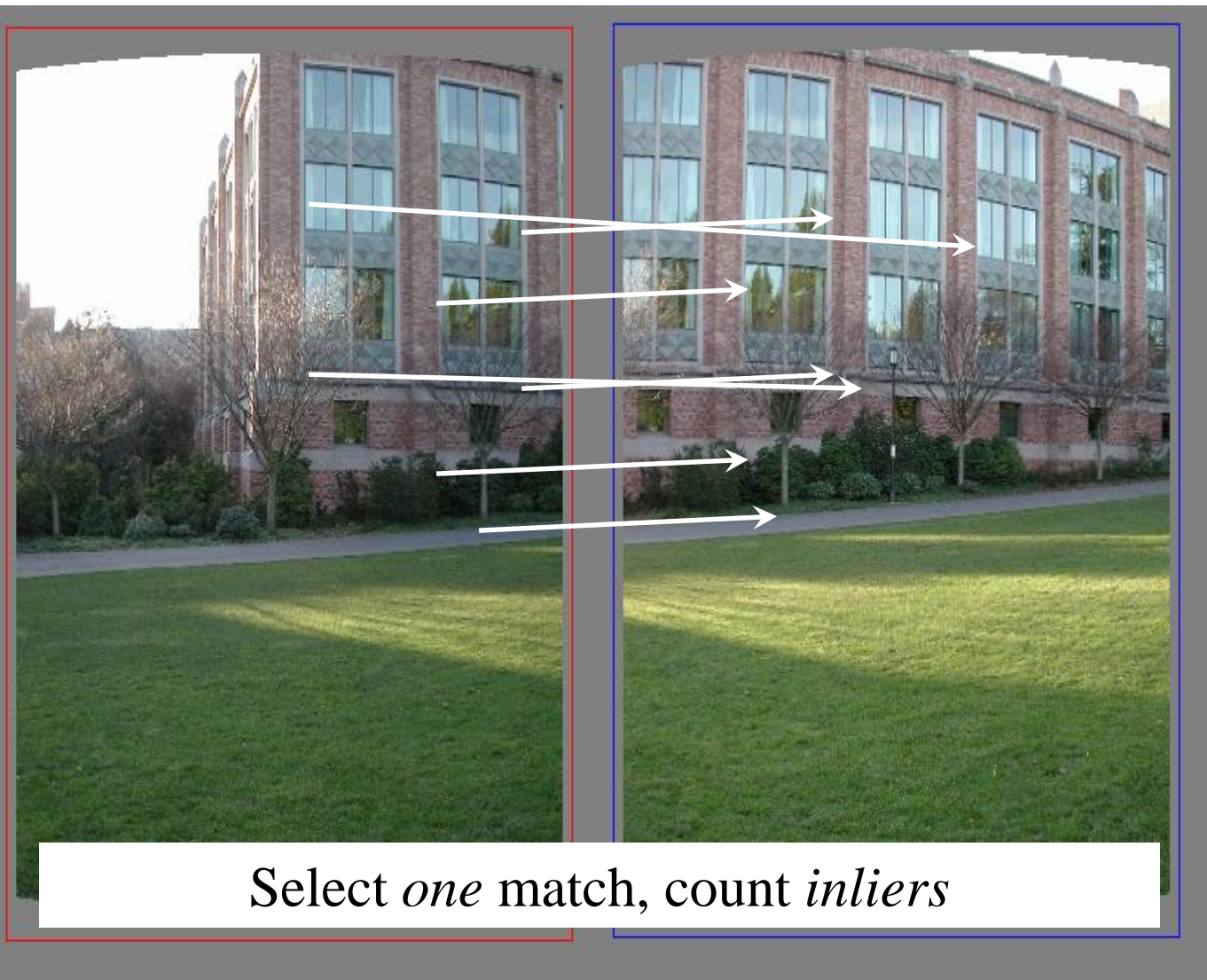
- ❖ Randomized selection can completely remove outliers
- ❖ “plutocratic”
- ❖ Results are based on a small set of features
- ❖ LS is most fair, everyone get an equal say
- ❖ “democratic”
- ❖ But can be seriously influenced by bad data
- ❖ Use randomized algorithm to remove outliers
- ❖ Use LS for final “polishing” of results (using all “good” data)
- ❖ Allow up to 50% outliers theoretically

# *RANSAC example: Translation*

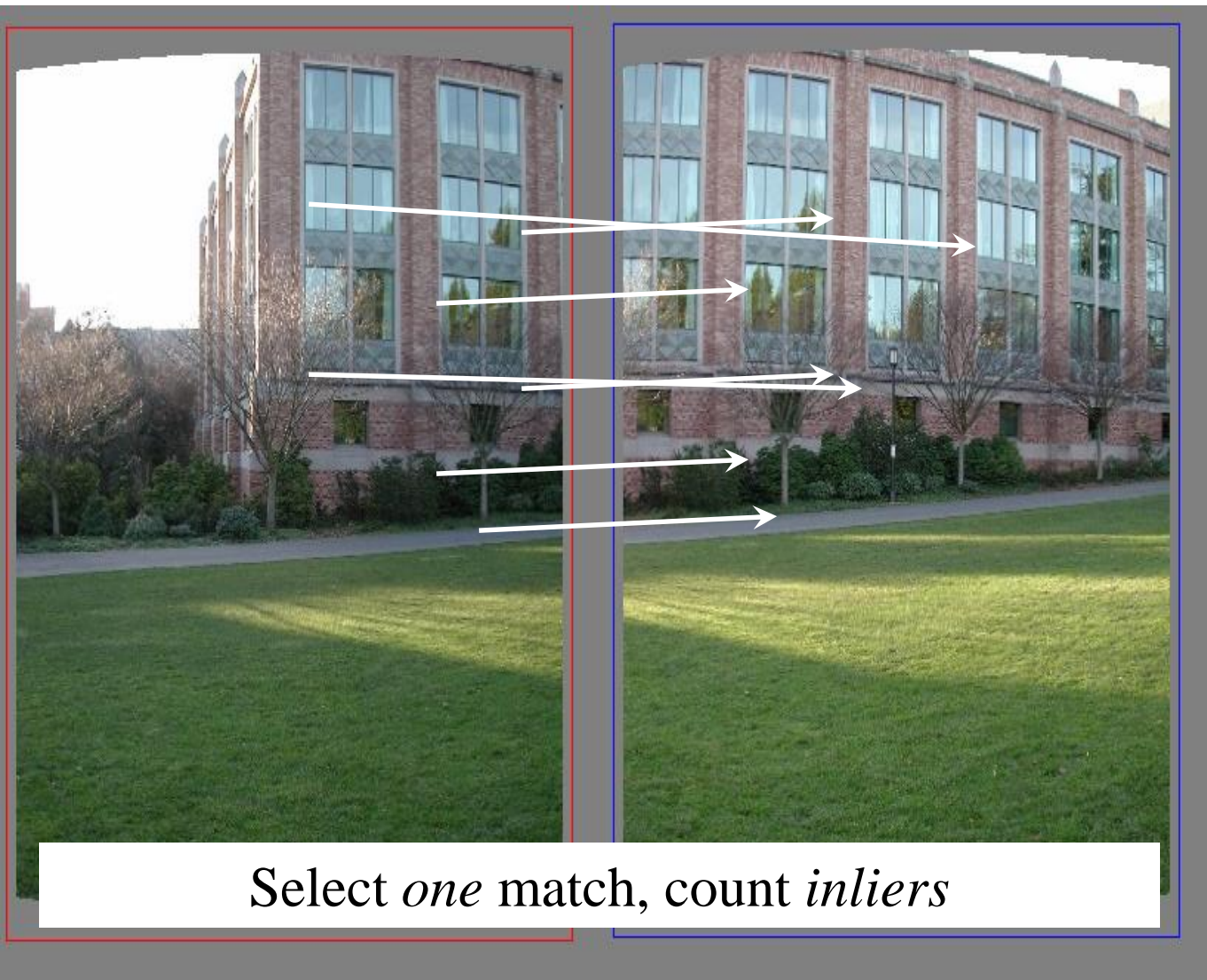




# *RANSAC example: Translation*

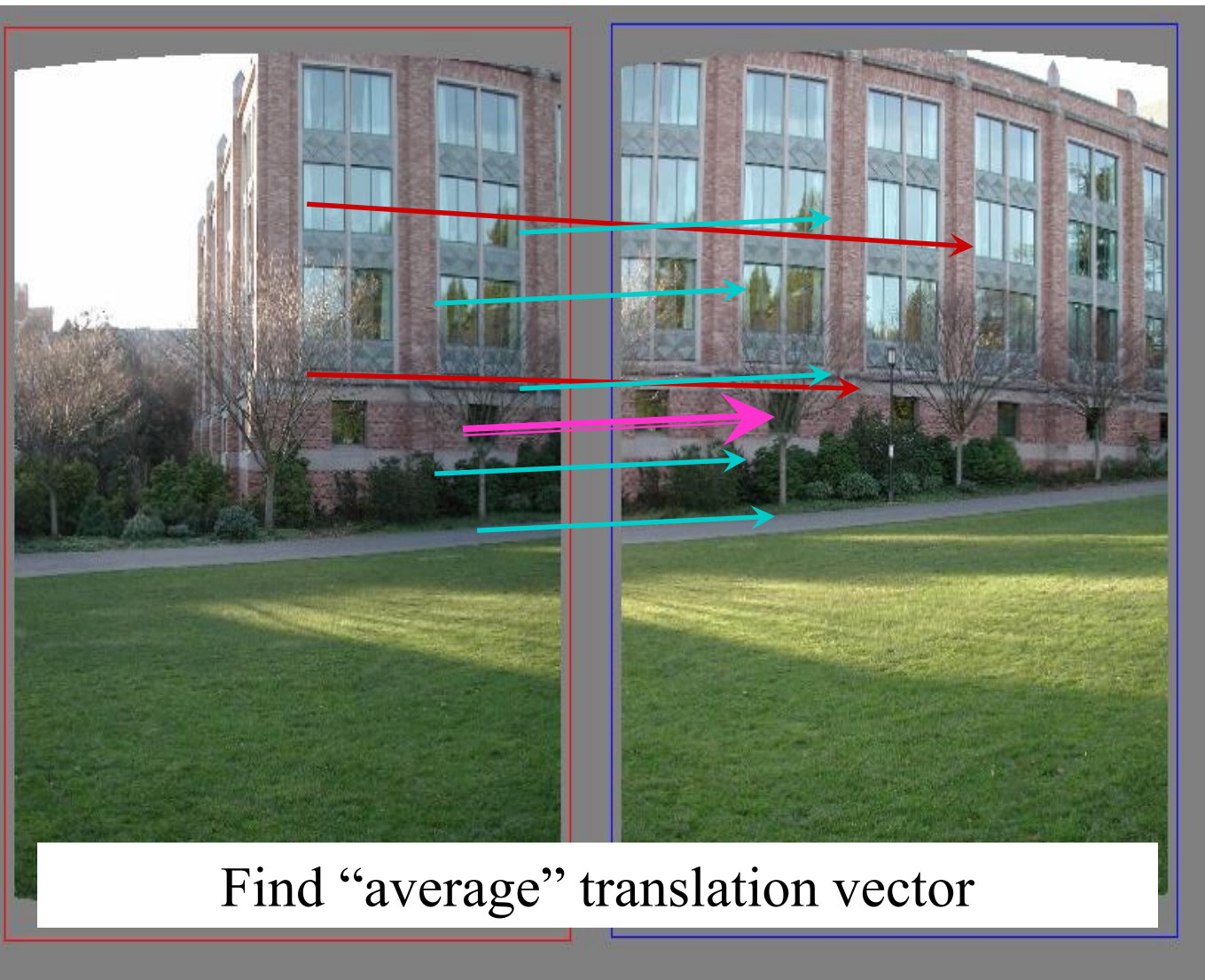


# *RANSAC example: Translation*





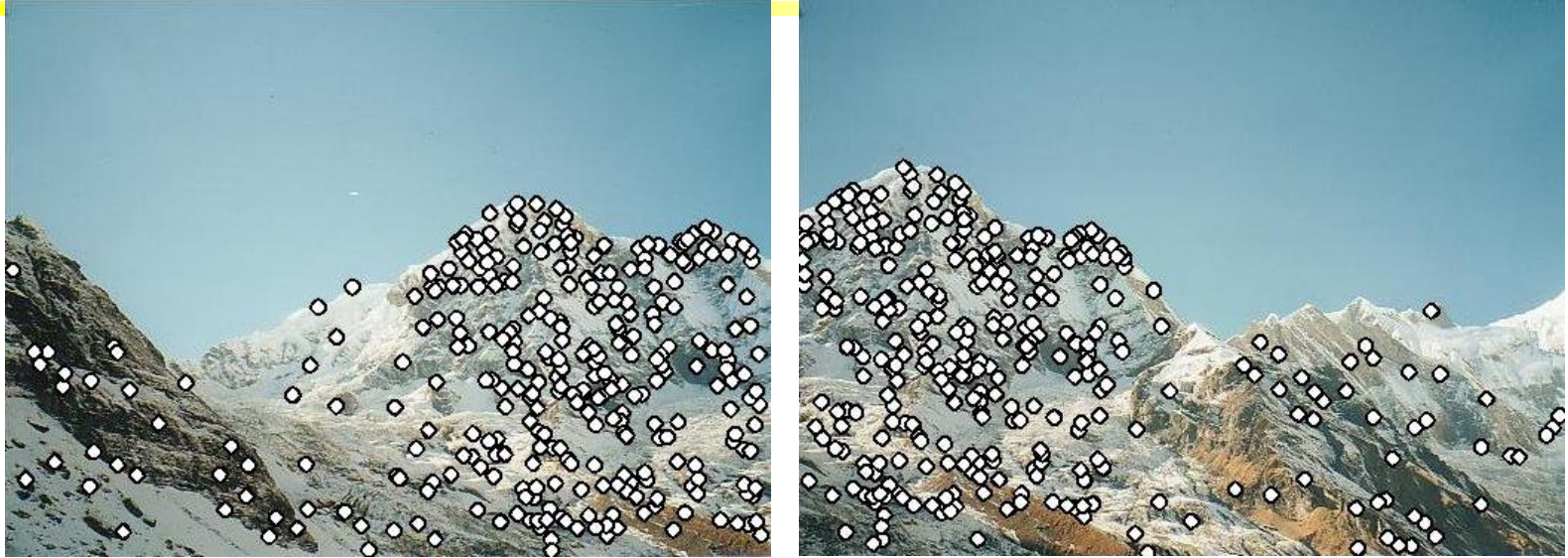
# *RANSAC example: Translation*



# *Feature-based alignment outline*



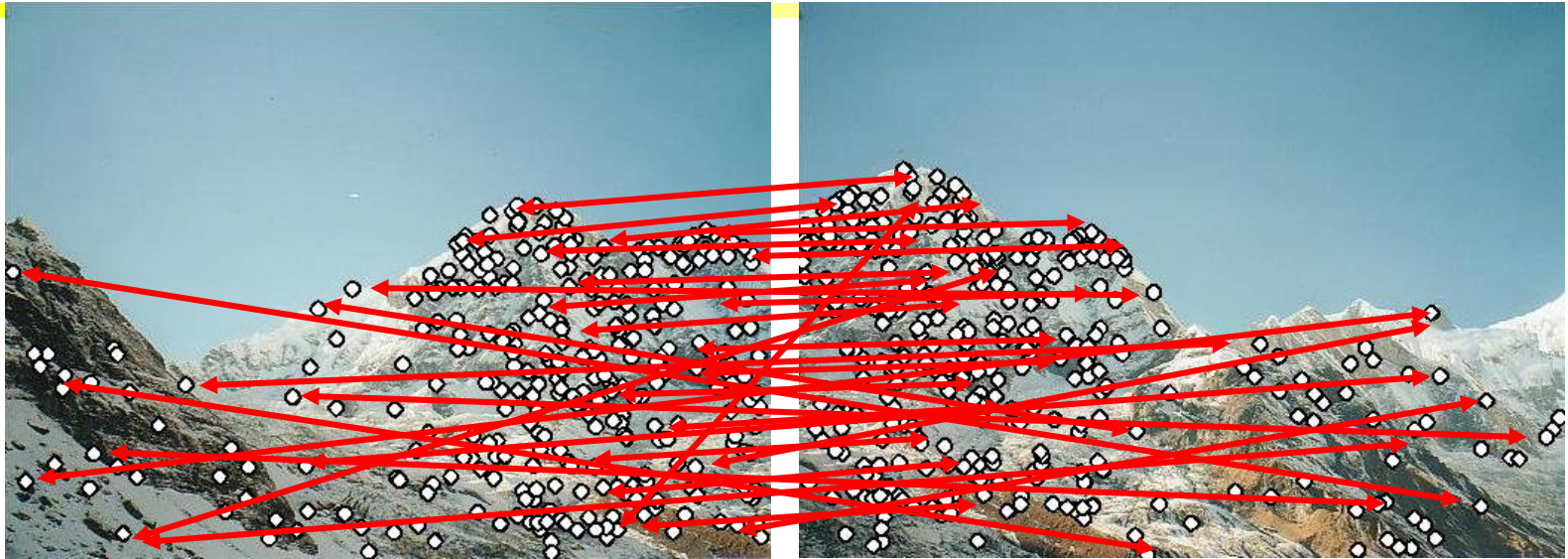
# *Feature-based alignment outline*



- Extract features

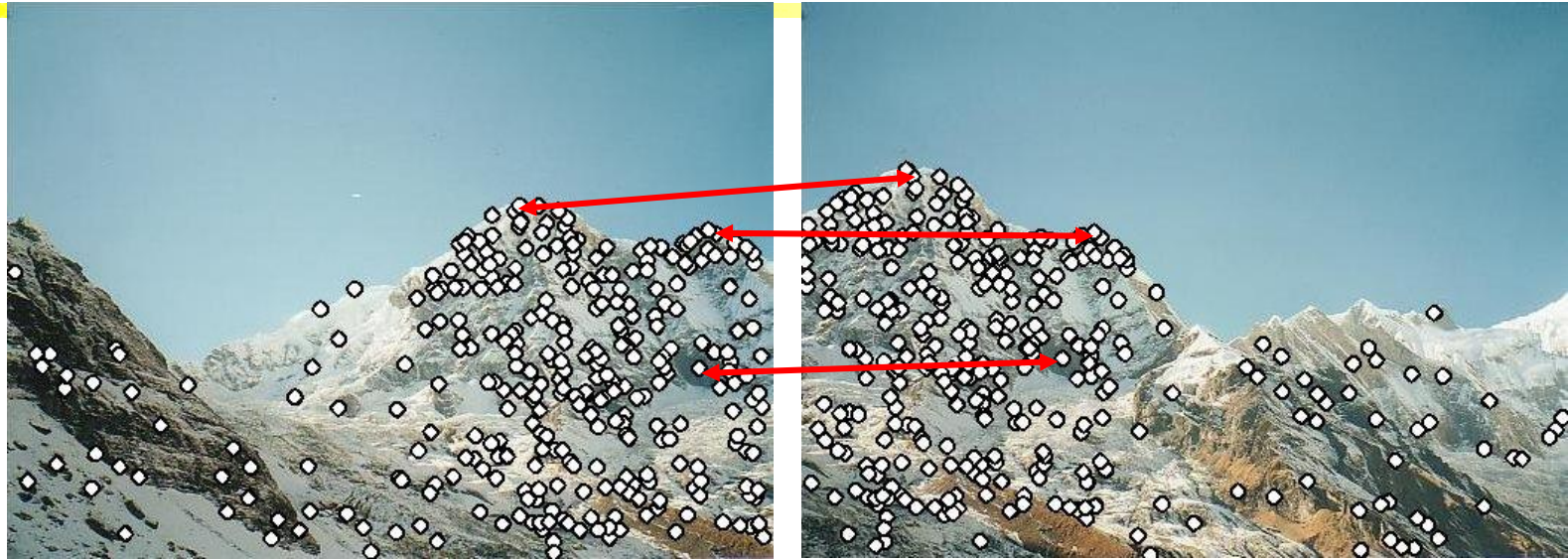


# *Feature-based alignment outline*



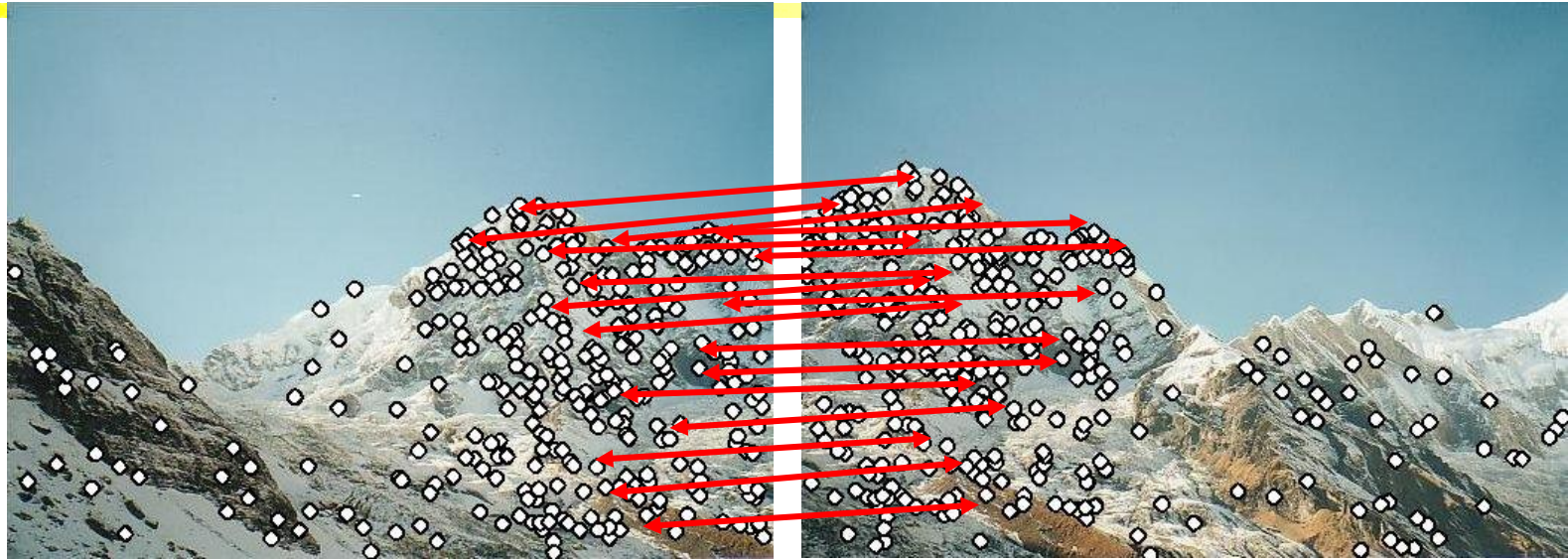
- Extract features
- Compute *putative matches*

# *Feature-based alignment outline*



- Extract features
- Compute *putative matches*
- Loop:
  - ❑ *Hypothesize* transformation  $T$  (small group of putative matches that are related by  $T$ )

# *Feature-based alignment outline*



- Extract features
- Compute *putative matches*
- Loop:
  - ❑ *Hypothesize* transformation  $T$  (small group of putative matches that are related by  $T$ )
  - ❑ *Verify* transformation (search for other matches consistent with  $T$ )



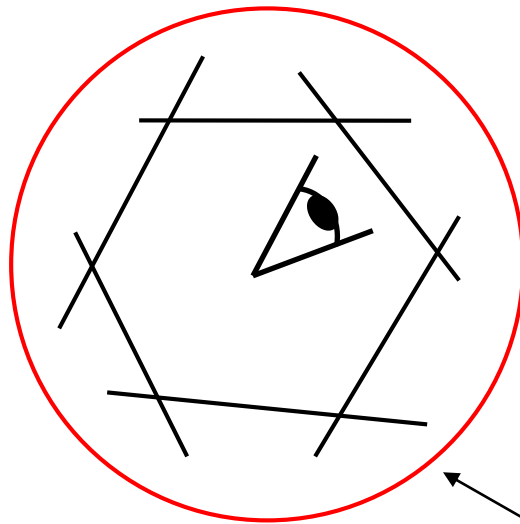
# *Feature-based alignment outline*



- Extract features
- Compute *putative matches*
- Loop:
  - ☐ *Hypothesize* transformation  $T$  (small group of putative matches that are related by  $T$ )
  - ☐ *Verify* transformation (search for other matches consistent with  $T$ )

# *Panoramas*

❖ What if you want a 360° field of view?

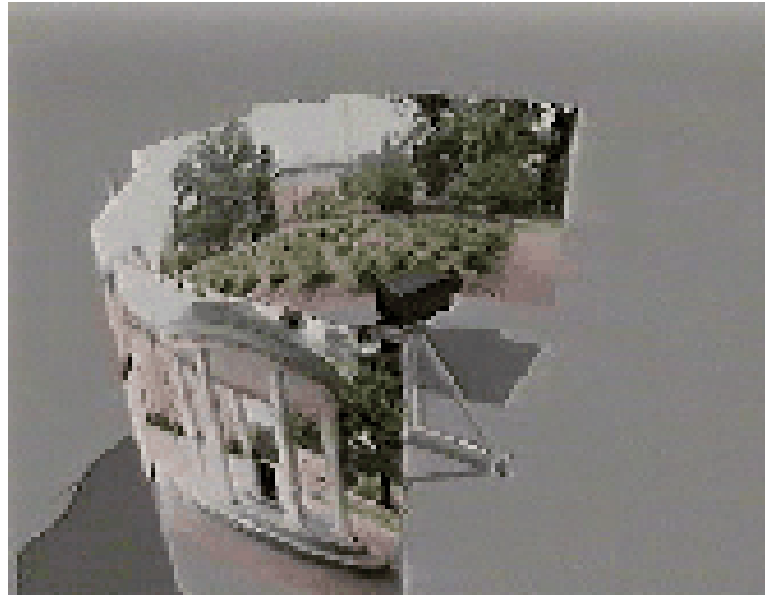


mosaic Projection Cylinder



# *Cylindrical panoramas*

---



## ❖ Steps

- ☐ Reproject each image onto a cylinder
- ☐ Blend
- ☐ Output the resulting mosaic

# Cylindrical Panoramas

- ❖ Map image to cylindrical or spherical coordinates
  - ❑ need *known* focal length



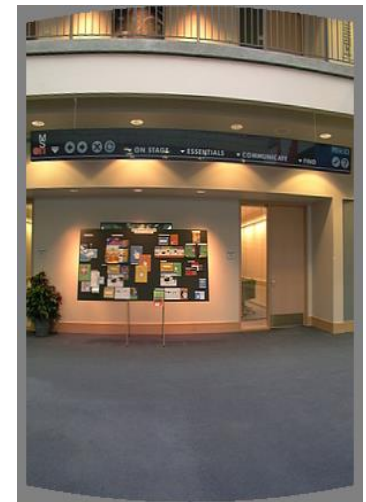
Image 384x300



$f = 180$  (pixels)

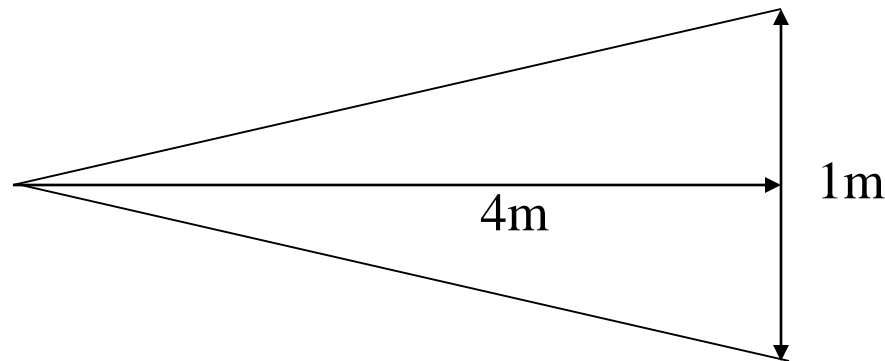


$f = 280$

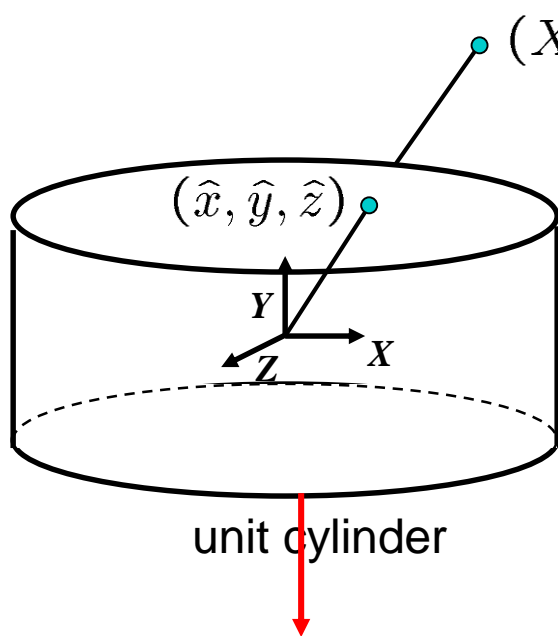


# *Determining the focal length*

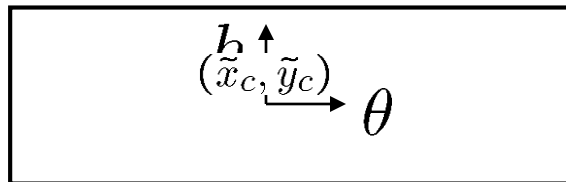
1. Initialize from homography  $H$   
(see text or [SzSh'97])
2. Use camera's EXIF tags (approx.)
3. Use a tape measure



# Cylindrical projection



unit cylinder



unwrapped cylinder

□ Map 3D point  $(X, Y, Z)$  onto cylinder

$$(\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{X^2 + Z^2}}(X, Y, Z)$$

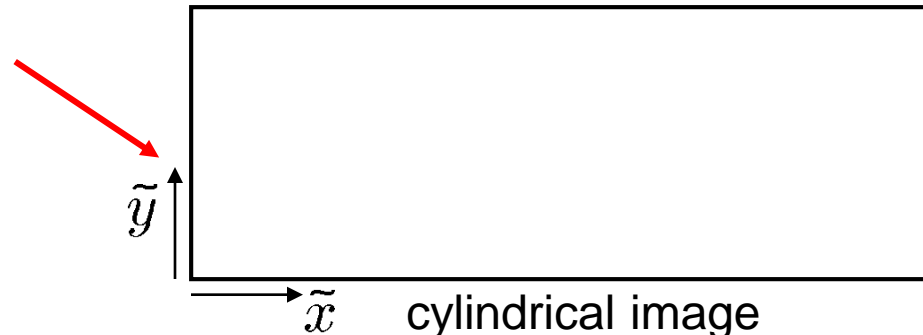
- Convert to cylindrical coordinates

$$(\sin\theta, h, \cos\theta) = (\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z})$$

- Convert to cylindrical image coordinates

$$(\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}) = (s\theta, sh) + (\tilde{x}_c, \tilde{y}_c)$$

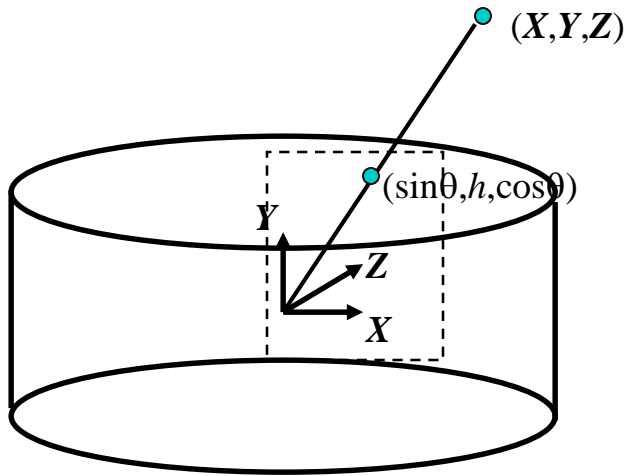
– s defines size of the final image



cylindrical image

# Cylindrical warping

❖ Given focal length  $f$  and image center  $(x_c, y_c)$



$$\theta = (x_{cyl} - x_c) / f$$

$$h = (y_{cyl} - y_c) / f$$

$$\hat{x} = \sin \theta$$

$$\hat{y} = h$$

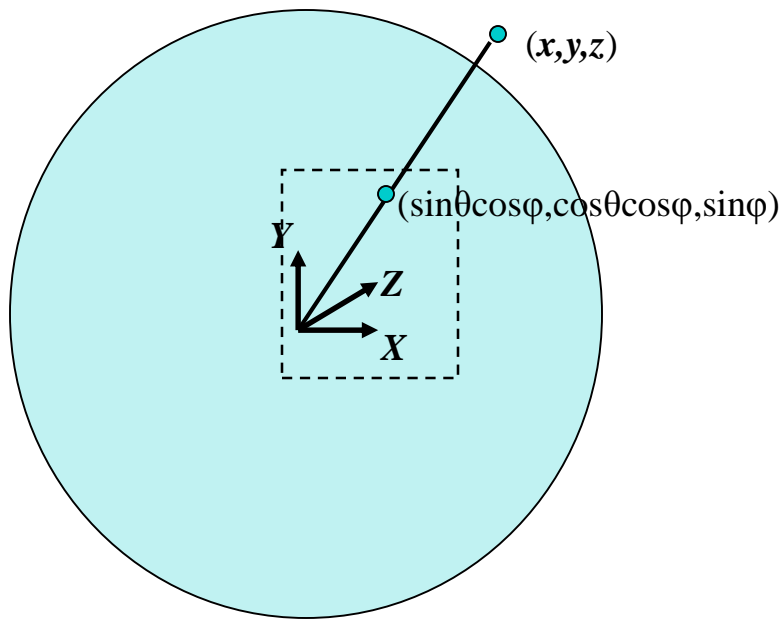
$$\hat{z} = \cos \theta$$

$$x = f \hat{x} / \hat{z} + x_c$$

$$y = f \hat{y} / \hat{z} + y_c$$

# Spherical warping

❖ Given focal length  $f$  and image center  $(x_c, y_c)$



$$\theta = (x_{cyl} - x_c) / f$$

$$\varphi = (y_{cyl} - y_c) / f$$

$$\hat{x} = \sin \theta \cos \varphi$$

$$\hat{y} = \sin \varphi$$

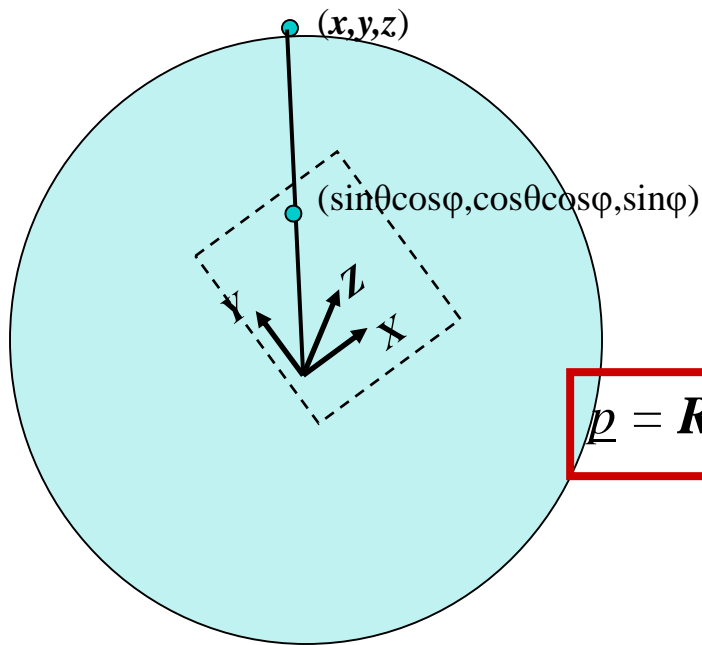
$$\hat{z} = \cos \theta \cos \varphi$$

$$x = f \hat{x} / \hat{z} + x_c$$

$$y = f \hat{y} / \hat{z} + y_c$$

# 3D rotation

❖ Rotate image before placing on unrolled sphere



$$\theta = (x_{cyl} - x_c) / f$$

$$\phi = (y_{cyl} - y_c) / f$$

$$\hat{x} = \sin \theta \cos \phi$$

$$\hat{y} = \sin \phi$$

$$\hat{z} = \cos \theta \cos \phi$$

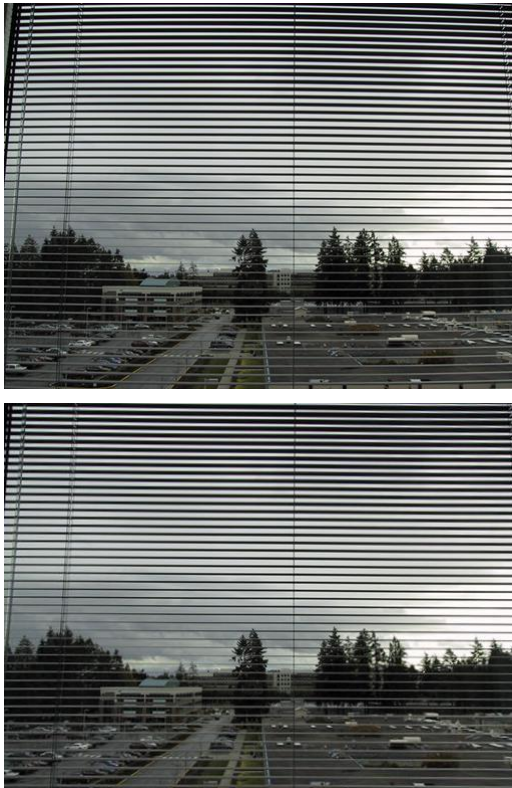
$$x = f \hat{x} / \hat{z} + x_c$$

$$y = f \hat{y} / \hat{z} + y_c$$



# Radial distortion

- ❖ Correct for “bending” in wide field of view lenses



$$\hat{r}^2 = \hat{x}^2 + \hat{y}^2$$

$$\hat{x}' = \hat{x} / (1 + \kappa_1 \hat{r}^2 + \kappa_2 \hat{r}^4)$$

$$\hat{y}' = \hat{y} / (1 + \kappa_1 \hat{r}^2 + \kappa_2 \hat{r}^4)$$

$$x = f \hat{x}' / \hat{z} + x_c$$

$$y = f \hat{y}' / \hat{z} + y_c$$

# *Fisheye lens*

- ❖ Extreme “bending” in ultra-wide fields of view



$$\hat{r}^2 = \hat{x}^2 + \hat{y}^2$$

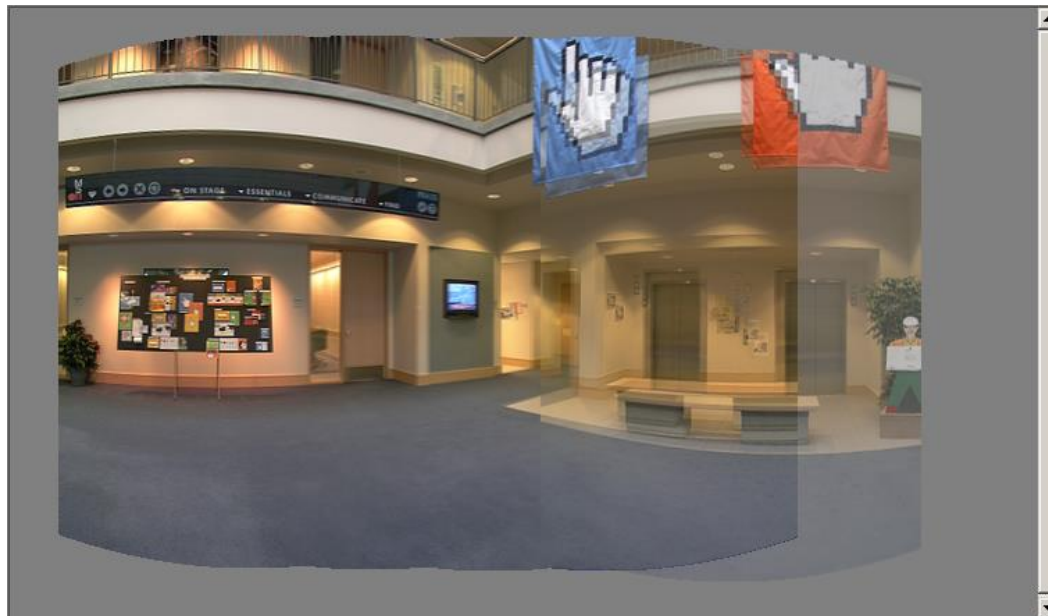
$$(\cos \theta \sin \phi, \sin \theta \sin \phi, \cos \phi) = s (x, y, z)$$

Equations become

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= s \phi \cos \theta = s \frac{x}{r} \tan^{-1} \frac{r}{z}, \\ y' &= s \phi \sin \theta = s \frac{y}{r} \tan^{-1} \frac{r}{z}, \end{aligned}$$

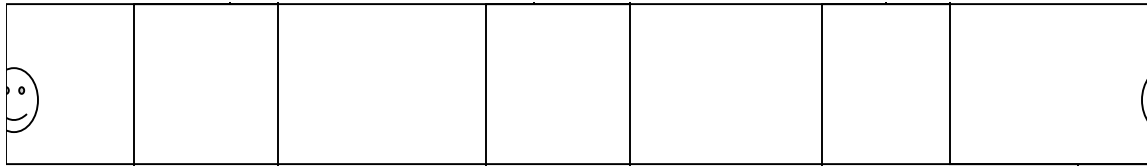
# *Image Stitching*

1. Align the images over each other
  - ☐ camera pan  $\leftrightarrow$  translation on cylinder
2. Blend the images together



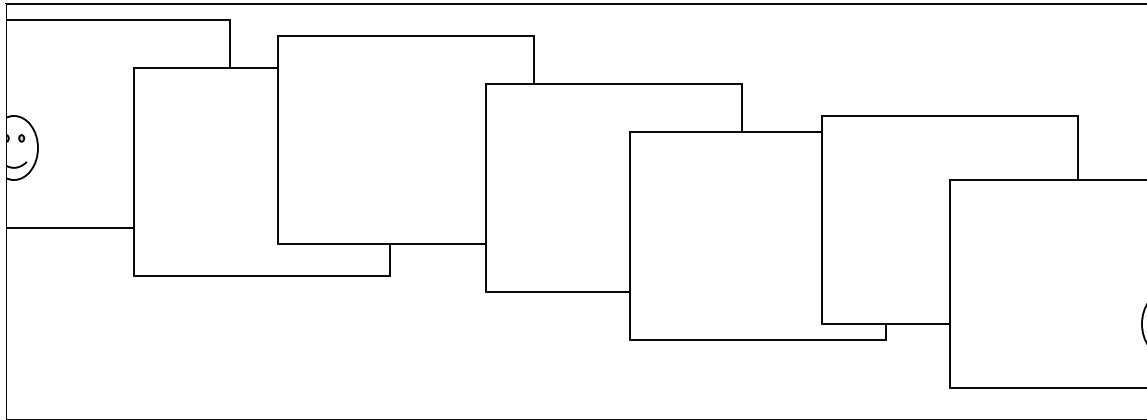
# *Assembling the panorama*

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❖ Stitch pairs together, blend, then crop

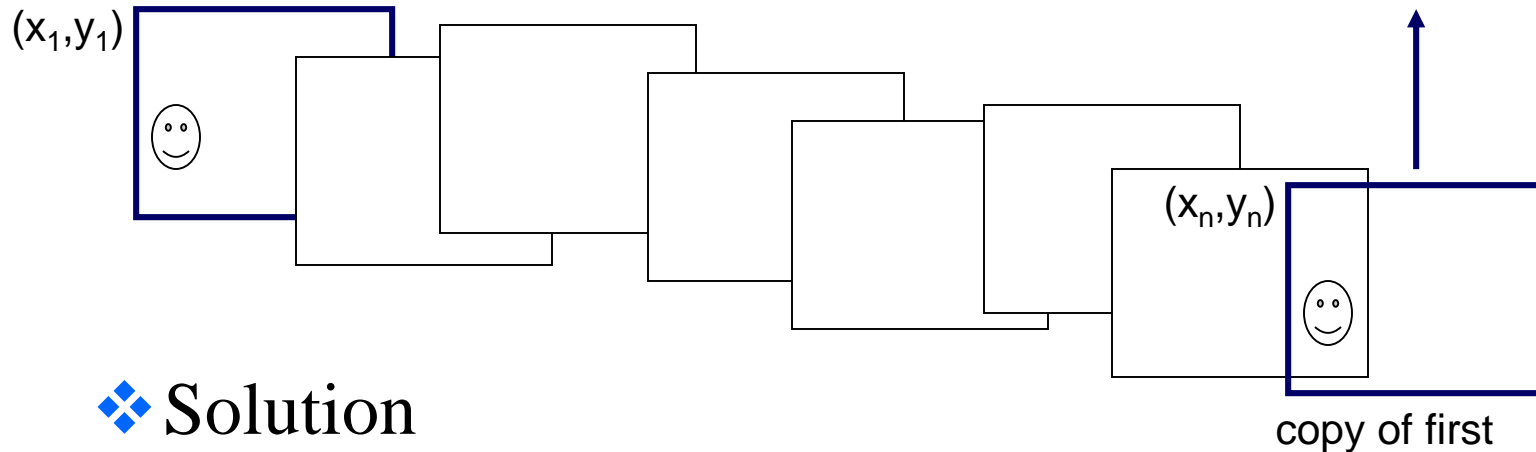
# *Problem: Drift*



## ❖ Error accumulation

- ❑ small (vertical) errors accumulate over time
- ❑ apply correction so that  $\text{sum} = 0$  (for  $360^\circ$  pan.)

# Problem: Drift



## ❖ Solution

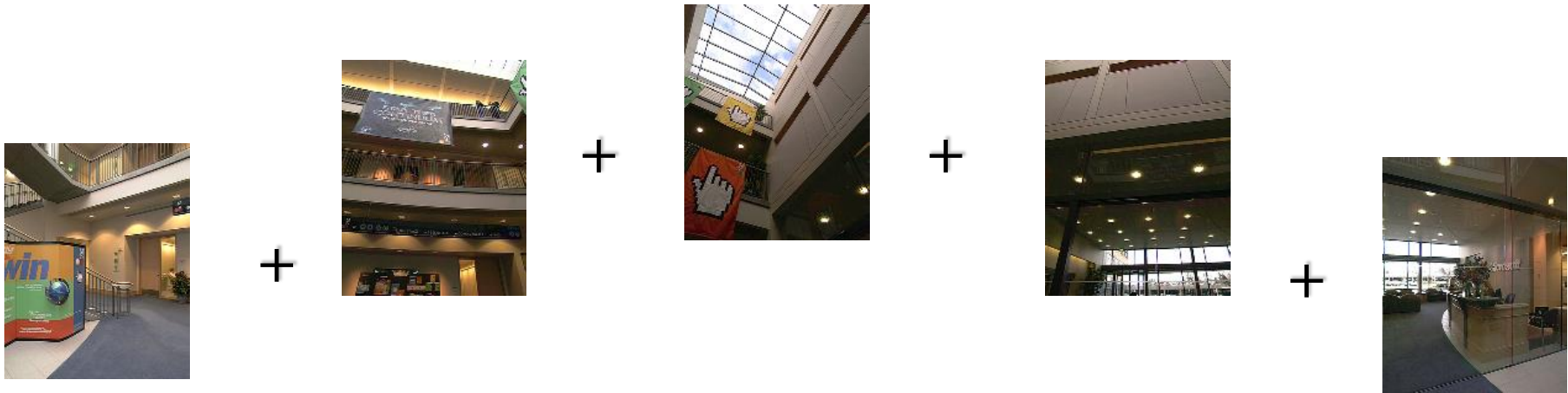
- ❑ add another copy of first image at the end
- ❑ this gives a constraint:  $y_n = y_1$
- ❑ there are a bunch of ways to solve this problem
  - add displacement of  $(y_1 - y_n)/(n - 1)$  to each image after the first
  - compute a global warp:  $y' = y + ax$
  - run a big optimization problem, incorporating this constraint
    - best solution, but more complicated
    - known as “bundle adjustment”

*Full-view (360° spherical)*  
*panoramas*





# *Full-view Panorama*



# *Texture Mapped Model*



# Global alignment

- Register *all* pairwise overlapping images
- Use a 3D rotation model (one  $R$  per image)
- Use direct alignment (patch centers) or feature based
- *Infer* overlaps based on previous matches (incremental)
- Optionally *discover* which images overlap other images using feature selection (RANSAC)

# Bundle adjustment formulations

All pairs optimization:

$$E_{\text{all-pairs-2D}} = \sum_i \sum_{jk} c_{ij} c_{ik} \left\| \tilde{x}_{ik}(\hat{x}_{ij}; \mathbf{R}_j, f_j, \mathbf{R}_k, f_k) - \hat{x}_{ik} \right\|^2, \quad (9.29)$$

*Map 2D point i in image j to 2D point in image k*

Full bundle adjustment, using 3-D point positions  $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}$

$$E_{\text{BA-2D}} = \sum_i \sum_j c_{ij} \left\| \tilde{x}_{ij}(\mathbf{x}_i; \mathbf{R}_j, f_j) - \hat{x}_{ij} \right\|^2, \quad (9.30)$$

*Map 3D point i in to 2D point in image i*

Bundle adjustment using 3-D ray:

$$E_{\text{BA-3D}} = \sum_i \sum_j c_{ij} \left\| \tilde{x}_i(\hat{x}_{ij}; \mathbf{R}_j, f_j) - \mathbf{x}_i \right\|^2, \quad (9.31)$$

*3-D ray from point i*

All-pairs 3-D ray formulation:

$$E_{\text{all-pairs-3D}} = \sum_i \sum_{jk} c_{ij} c_{ik} \left\| \tilde{x}_i(\hat{x}_{ij}; \mathbf{R}_j, f_j) - \tilde{x}_i(\hat{x}_{ik}; \mathbf{R}_k, f_k) \right\|^2. \quad (9.32)$$

*3-D ray from points i and j*

*Projected point*

$$\tilde{x}_{ij} \sim K_j \mathbf{R}_j \mathbf{x}_i \text{ and } \mathbf{x}_i \sim \mathbf{R}_j^{-1} K_j^{-1} \tilde{x}_{ij},$$