

Structure From Motion

EECS 442 – David Fouhey

Fall 2019, University of Michigan

http://web.eecs.umich.edu/~fouhey/teaching/EECS442_F19/

Structure-from-Motion Revisited

Johannes L. Schönberger, Jan-Michael Frahm

CVPR 2016

Code available at:

<https://github.com/colmap/colmap>

Structure from motion

Have: 2D points \mathbf{p}_{ij} seen in m images

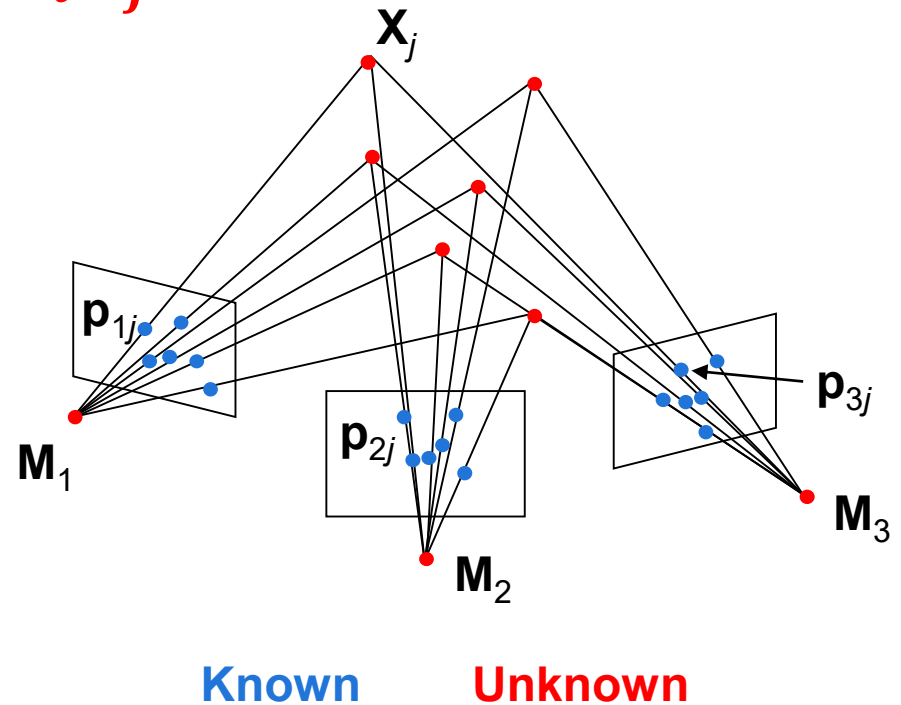
Assume: points generated from n fixed 3D points \mathbf{X}_j
and cameras M_i or $\mathbf{p}_{ij} \equiv M_i \mathbf{X}_j$

Want: Cameras M_i ,
points \mathbf{X}_j

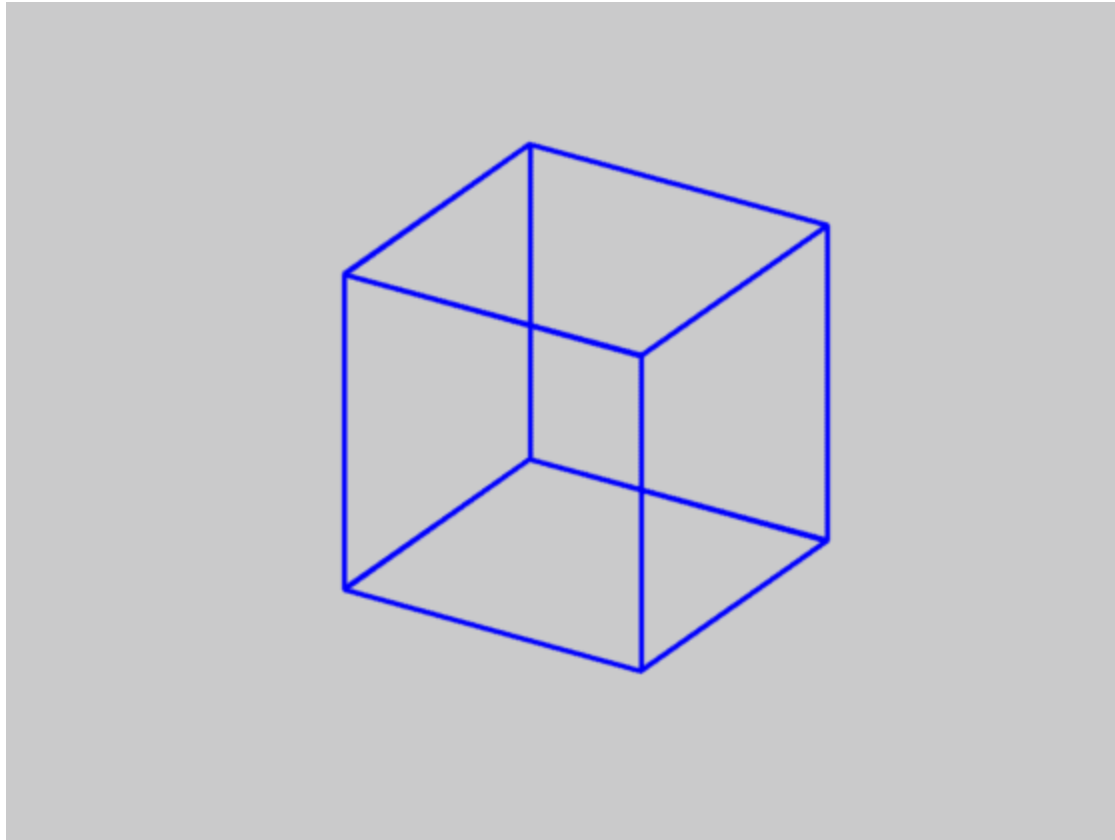
(Remember)

$$M_i \equiv K_i [R_i, t_i]$$

$$\lambda \mathbf{p}_{ij} = M_i \mathbf{X}_j, \lambda \neq 0$$



Is SFM always uniquely solvable?



- Necker cube

Structure from motion ambiguities

Let's first find one easy ambiguity

$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{X}_j$$

3x1 3x4 4x1



MOVIECLIPS.COM

Zoolander, 2001

Structure from motion ambiguities

Let's first find one easy ambiguity

$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{X}_j$$

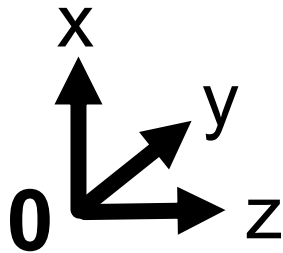
Can pick any arbitrary scaling factor k
and adjust the cameras and points

$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{M}_i k^{-1} k \mathbf{X}_j$$

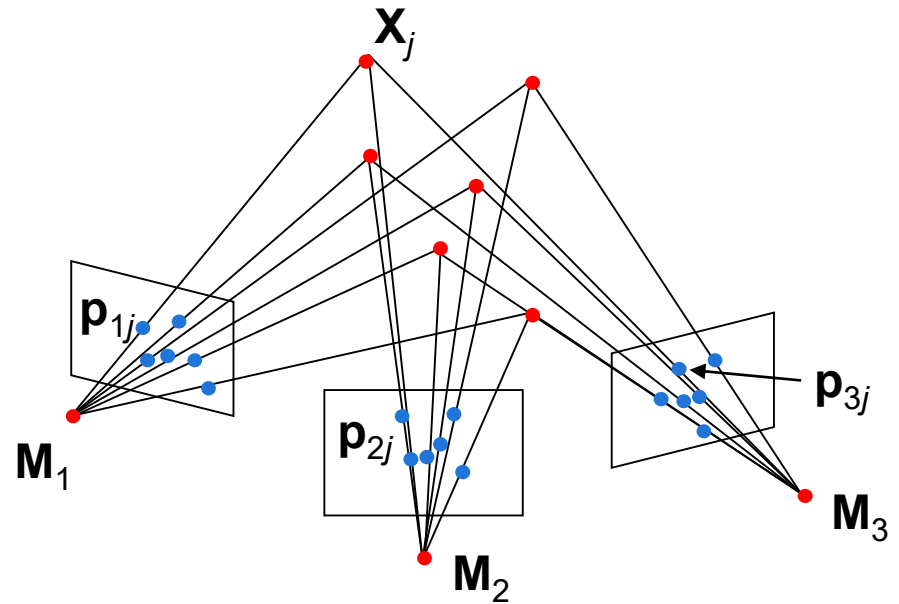
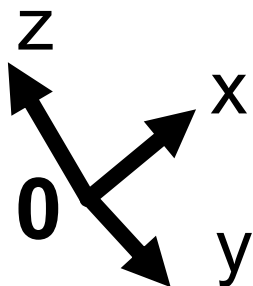
(Can usually be fixed in practice: just need a number, obtainable from heights of known objects or an IMU)

Structure from motion ambiguity

Does this diagram change meaning if I use this coordinate system?



Versus this coordinate system?



Coordinate system irrelevant!
So global \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{t} also ambiguous

Structure from motion ambiguities

Not just limited to scale. Given:

$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{X}_j$$

Can insert any global transform \mathbf{H}

$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{X}_j = \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{H}^{-1} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{X}_j$$

\mathbf{H} is a 3D homography / perspective transform / projective transform

Similarity/Affine/Perspective

Given:



Perspective



Lines

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix}$$

Affine



+Parallelism

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Similarity



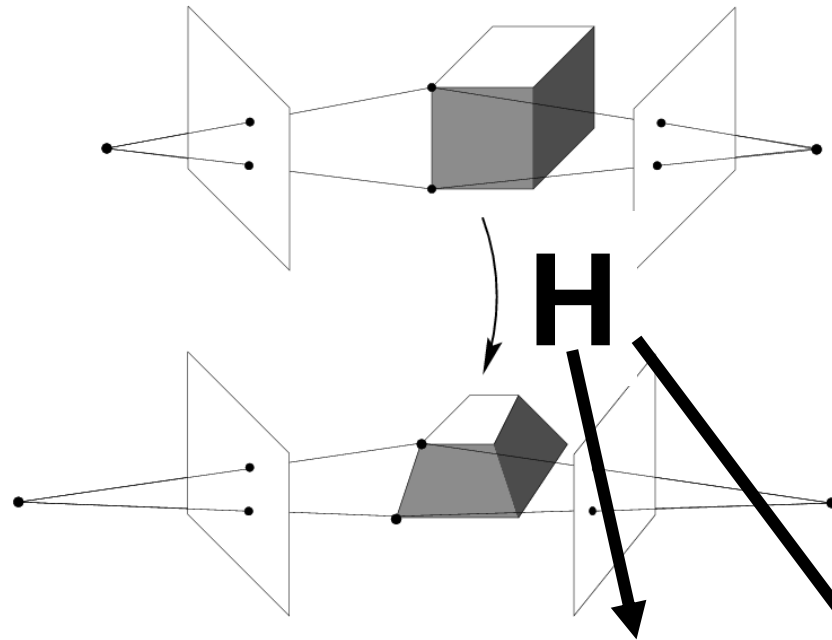
+Angles

$$\begin{bmatrix} sR & t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

3D: same idea, different dimensions

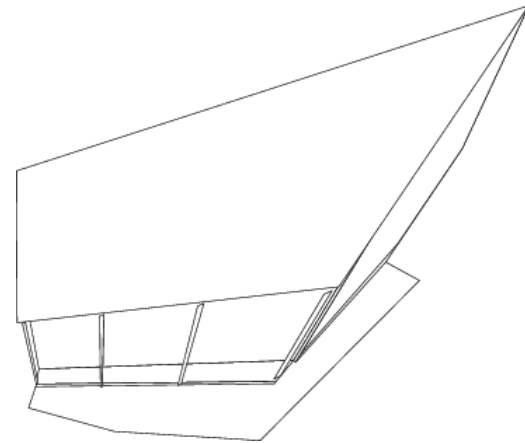
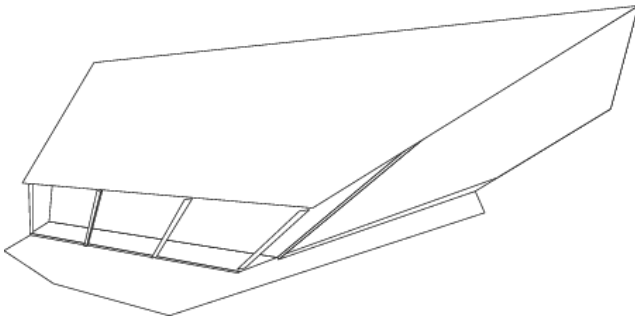
Projective ambiguity

With no constraints on cameras matrices and scene,
can only reconstruct up to a perspective ambiguity



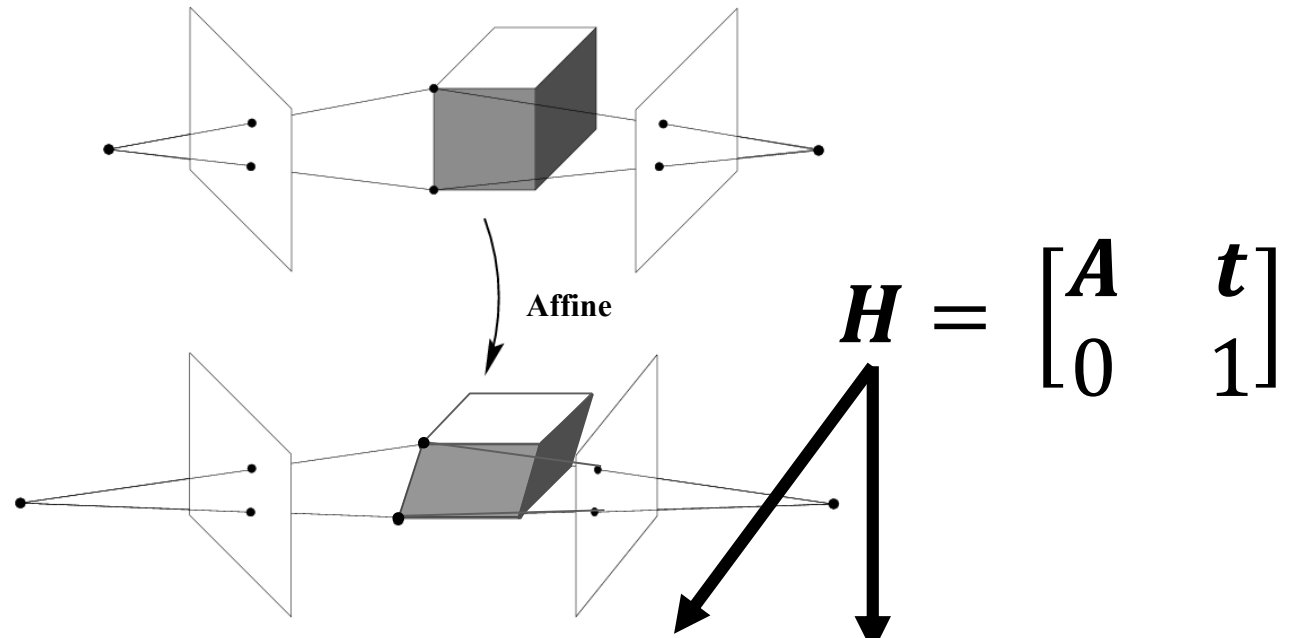
$$p_{ij} \equiv M_i X_j = M_i H^{-1} H X_j$$

Projective ambiguity



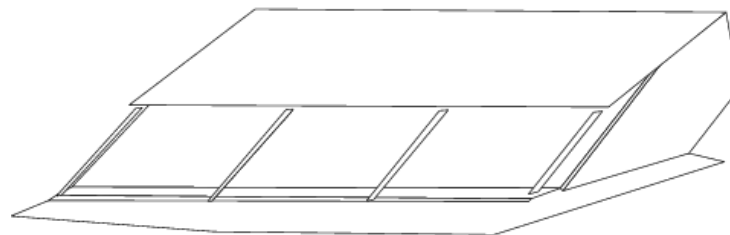
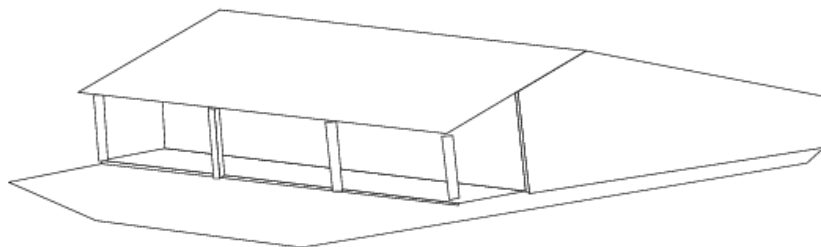
Affine ambiguity

If we have constraints in the form of what lines are parallel, can reduce ambiguity to *affine ambiguity*.



$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{X}_j = \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{H}^{-1} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{X}_j$$

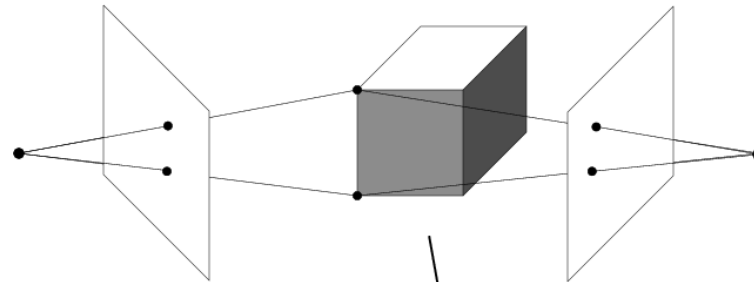
Affine ambiguity



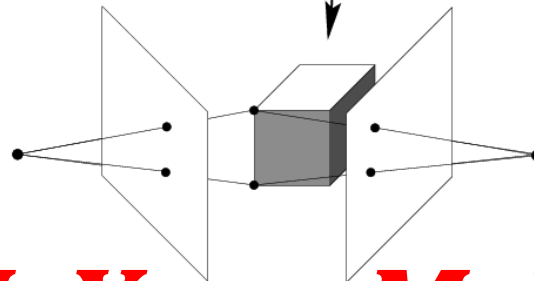
Similarity ambiguity

If we have orthogonality constraints, get up to similarity transform. *Really the best we can do.*

We get this if we have calibrated cameras.



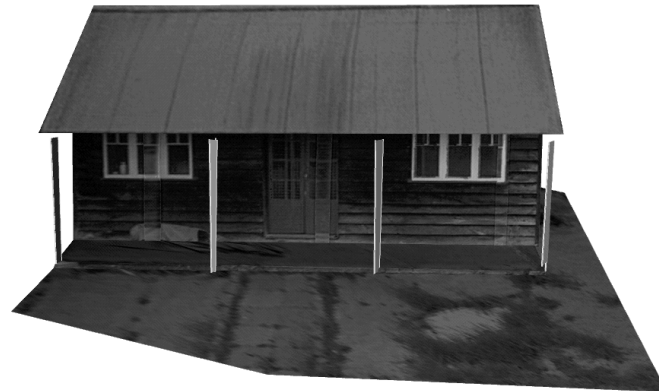
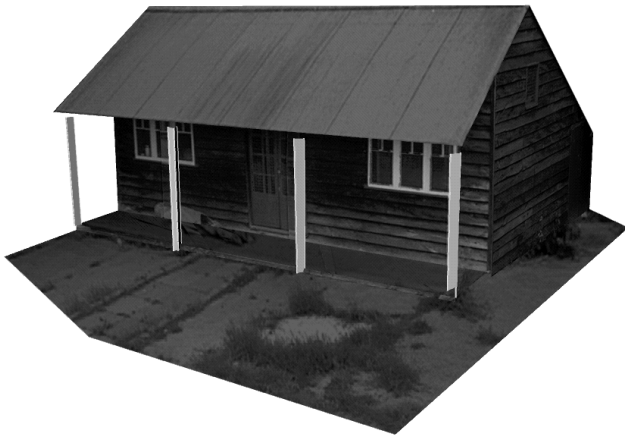
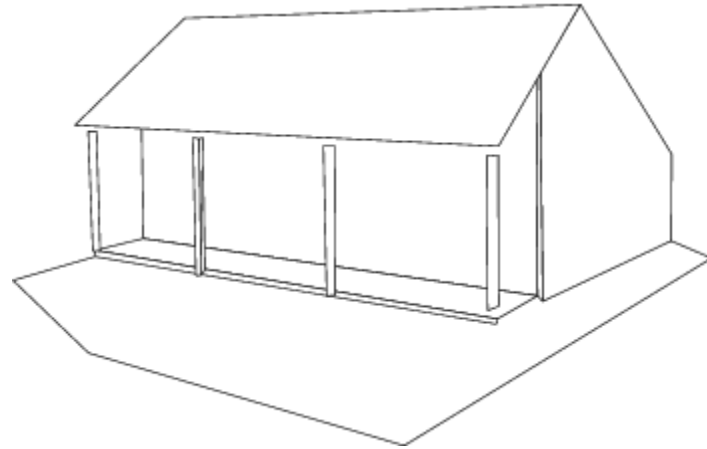
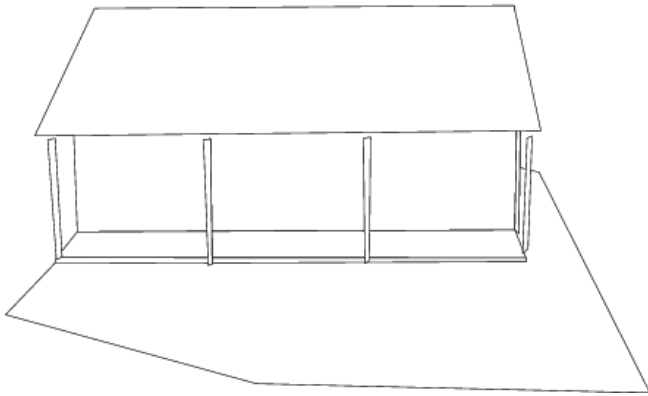
Similarity



$$H = \begin{bmatrix} sR & t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p_{ij} \equiv M_i X_j = M_i H^{-1} H X_j$$

Similarity ambiguity



Affine structure from motion

We'll do the math with affine / weak perspective cameras (math is much easier)



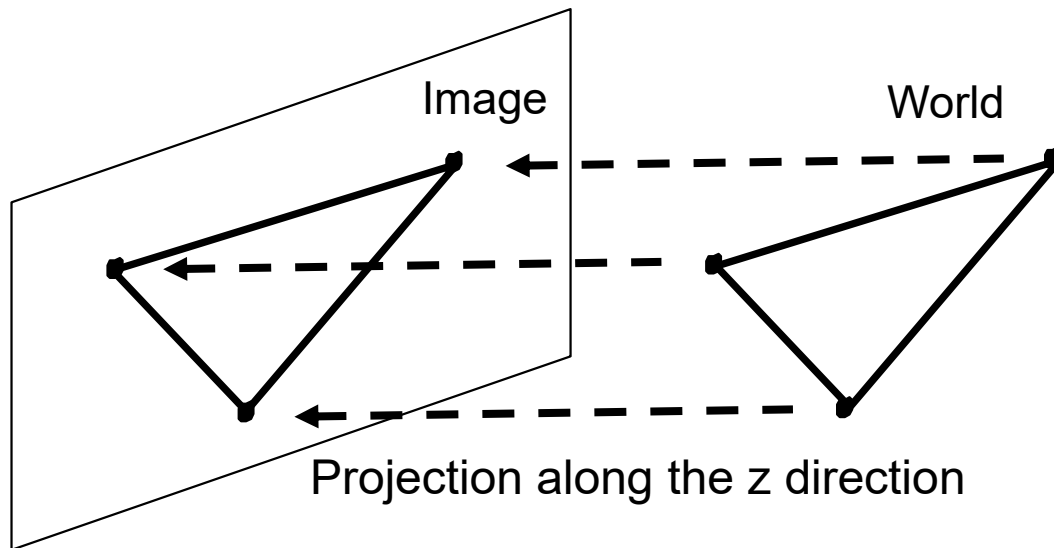
Perspective



Weak Perspective

Recall: orthographic projection

Orthographic camera: things infinitely far away but you have an amazing camera



$$\begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Field of view and focal length



wide-angle



standard



telephoto

Affine Camera

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{2D} & \mathbf{t}_{2D} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{3D} & \mathbf{t}_{3D} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

3x3 Matrix 3x4 Ortho. 4x4 Matrix
Affine 2D Proj Affine 3D

Tedious math...

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & b_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Affine Camera

So what? Who cares?

Examine the projection

$$\begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & b_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Projection becomes linear mapping + translation
and doesn't involve homogeneous coordinates!

$$\begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

b is projection of origin. **Can anyone see why?**

Affine structure from motion

General structure
from motion:

$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{M}_i \mathbf{X}_j$$

3×1 3×4 4×1

Assume M is affine
camera:

$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_j + \mathbf{b}_i$$

2×1 2×3 3×1 2×1

mn 2D points, m cameras, n 3D points
up to arbitrary 3D affine (12 DOF)

Need:

$$2mn \geq 8m + 3n - 12$$

$$(m = 2): n \geq 4$$

(for all m !)

One simplifying trick

$$\mathbf{p}_{ij} = \boxed{\mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_j + \mathbf{b}_i} \quad \text{Subtract off the average 2D point}$$

$$\widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{ij} = \mathbf{p}_{ij} - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{p}_{ik} = \boxed{\mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_j + \mathbf{b}_i} - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \boxed{\mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_k + \mathbf{b}_i}$$

Gather terms involving \mathbf{A}_i , push out \mathbf{b}_i

$$\widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{ij} = \mathbf{A}_i \left(\mathbf{X}_j - \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{X}_k}_{\text{mean of 3D points}} \right) + \cancel{\mathbf{b}_i - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{b}_i} \quad 0$$

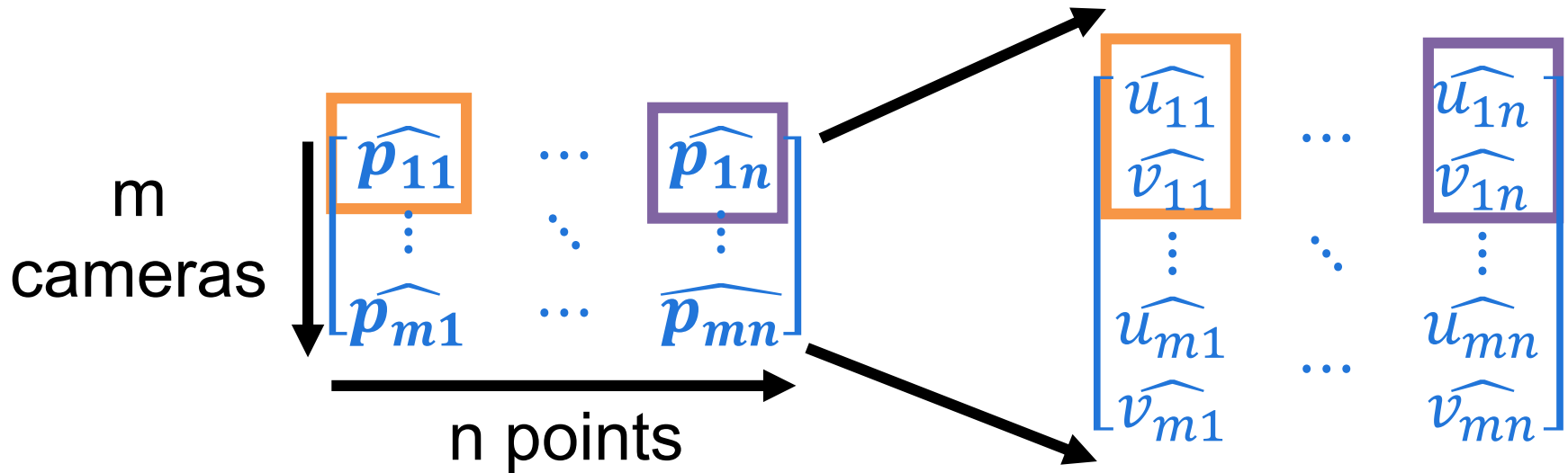
Set origin to mean of 3D points

$$\widehat{\mathbf{p}}_{ij} = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{X}_j$$

Can do this entirely in terms of \mathbf{A} !

Affine structure from motion

First, make data measurement matrix consisting of all the points stacked together



How big is this matrix?

Affine structure from motion

Then, write all the equations in one in terms of product of cameras and points.

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} \widehat{p}_{11} & \cdots & \widehat{p}_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \widehat{p}_{m1} & \cdots & \widehat{p}_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ \vdots \\ A_m \end{bmatrix} [X_1 \quad \cdots \quad X_n]$$

$2m \times n$ $2m \times 3$ $3 \times n$
D **M** **S**

What's the rank of D?

3!

Making Matrices Rank Deficient

Repeat of epipolar geometry class, but important enough to see twice. Given matrix \mathbf{M} :

$$M \rightarrow U \Sigma V^T$$

$U_{m \times m}, V_{n \times n}$ rotation matrices
 $\Sigma_{m \times n}$ diagonal scaling matrix

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \sigma_m \end{bmatrix}$$

Keep only k biggest σ ; set others to 0

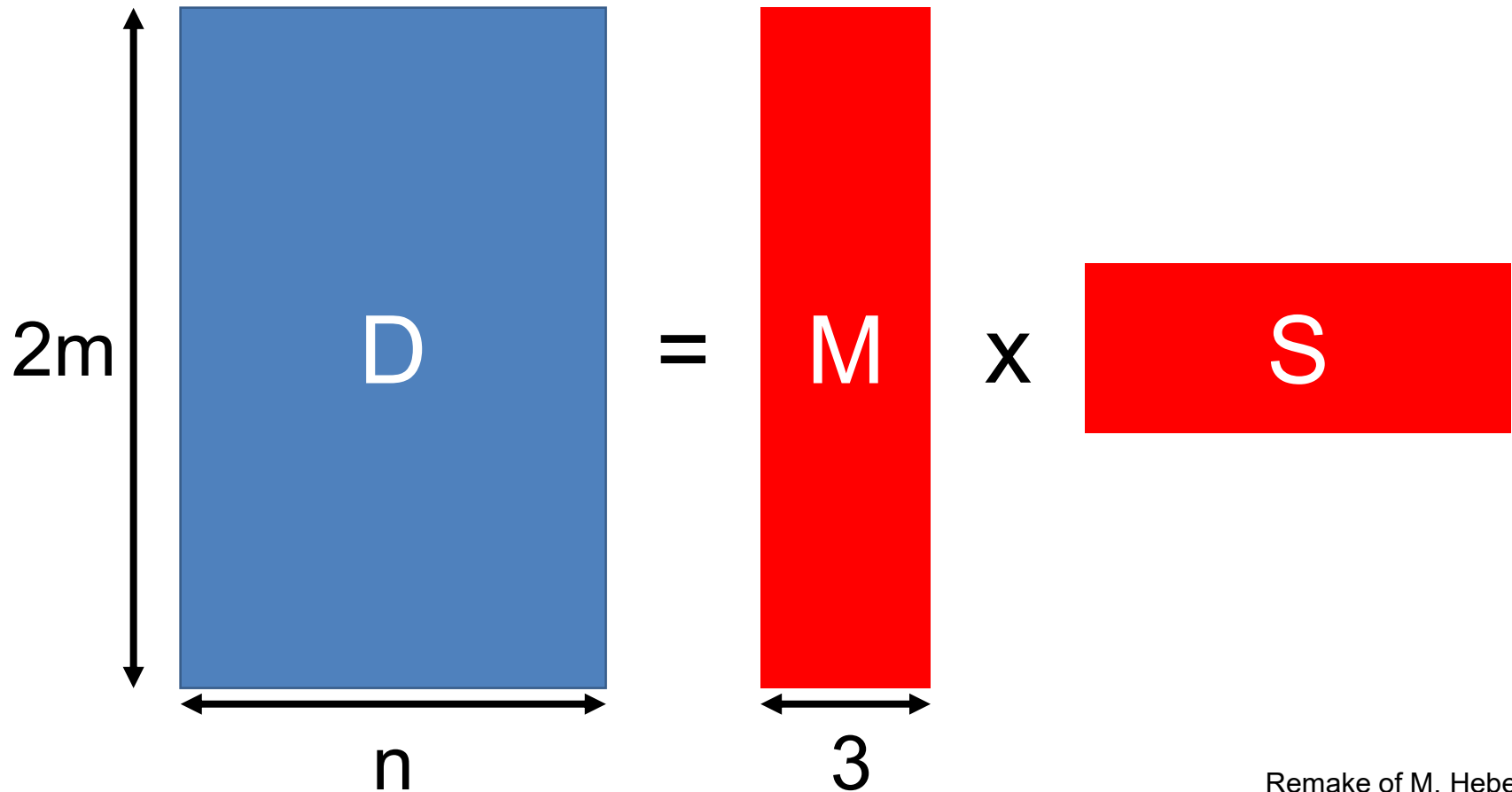
$$\hat{M} \leftarrow U \hat{\Sigma} V^T$$

Minimizes $\|M - \hat{M}\|_F$ (sum of squares) subject to $\text{rank}(\hat{M}) \leq k$

See Eckart–Young–Mirsky theorem if you're interested

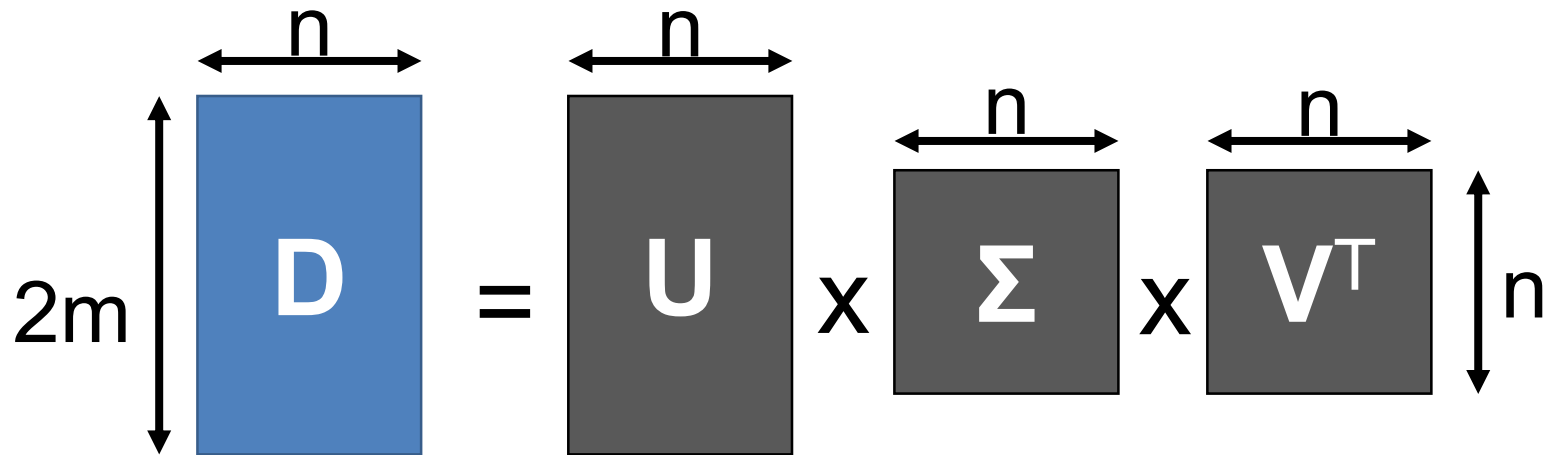
Affine structure from motion

We'd like to take the measurements and convert them into **M**, **S**

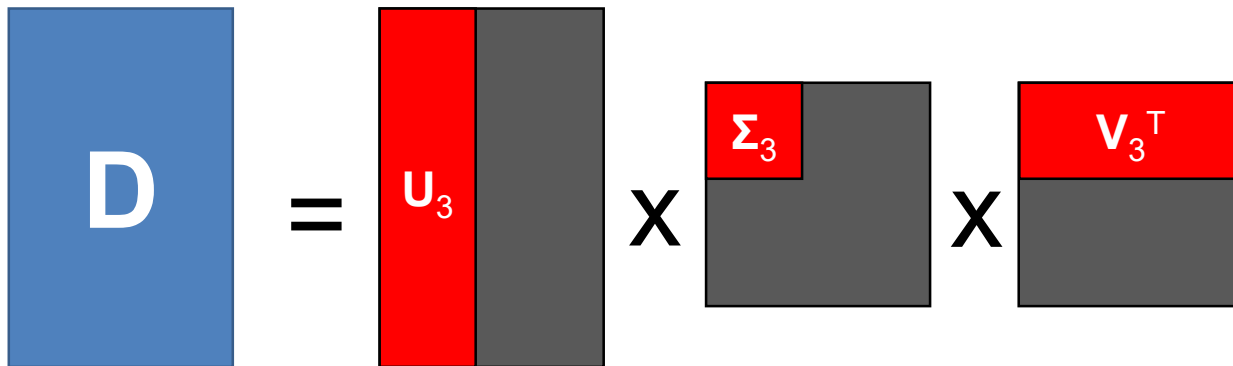


Affine structure from motion

Do SVD (typically you don't make full U, Σ, V)



Truncate to top 3 singular values



Affine structure from motion

Nearly there apart from this annoying Σ_3 .

$$D = U_3 \times \Sigma_3 \times V_3^T$$

One solution (split Σ_3 in two): $D = \boxed{U_3 \Sigma_3^{1/2} \quad \Sigma_3^{1/2} V_3^T}$

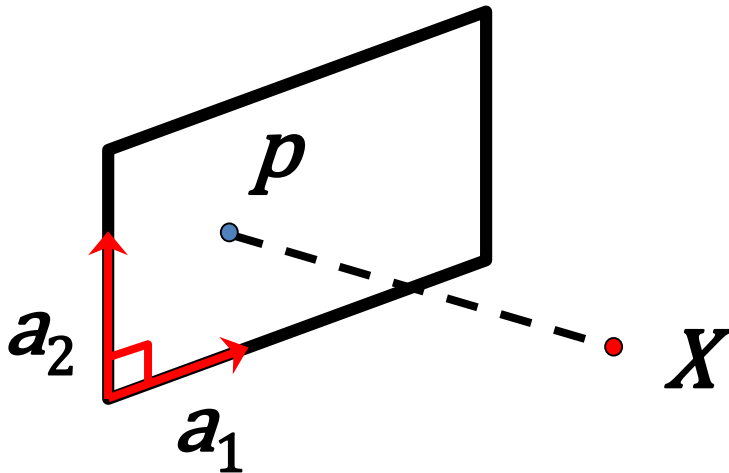
$$D = M \times S$$

M S

But remember
that we can put
 HH^{-1} in the
middle

Eliminating the affine ambiguity

Rows \mathbf{a}_i of \mathbf{A}_i give axes of camera. Can multiply each projection \mathbf{A}_i with \mathbf{C} to make $\mathbf{A}_i\mathbf{C}$ that satisfies:



$$\mathbf{a}_1^T \mathbf{a}_2 = 0$$

$$\|\mathbf{a}_1\| = 1$$

$$\|\mathbf{a}_2\| = 1$$

Gives 3 equations per camera, can set $\mathbf{A}_i\mathbf{C}$ to new camera, and $\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{S}$ to new points.

In general, a recipe for eliminating ambiguities

Reconstruction results



1



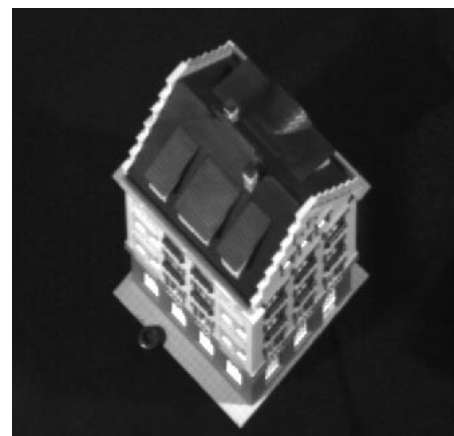
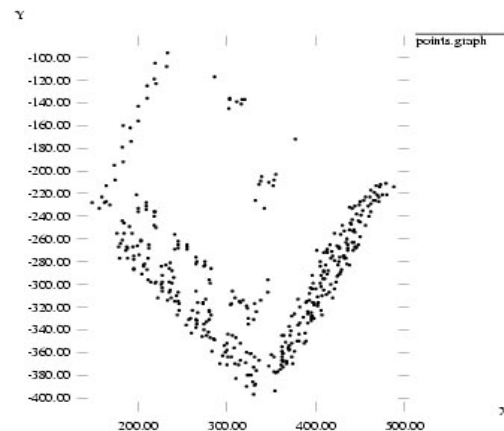
60



120

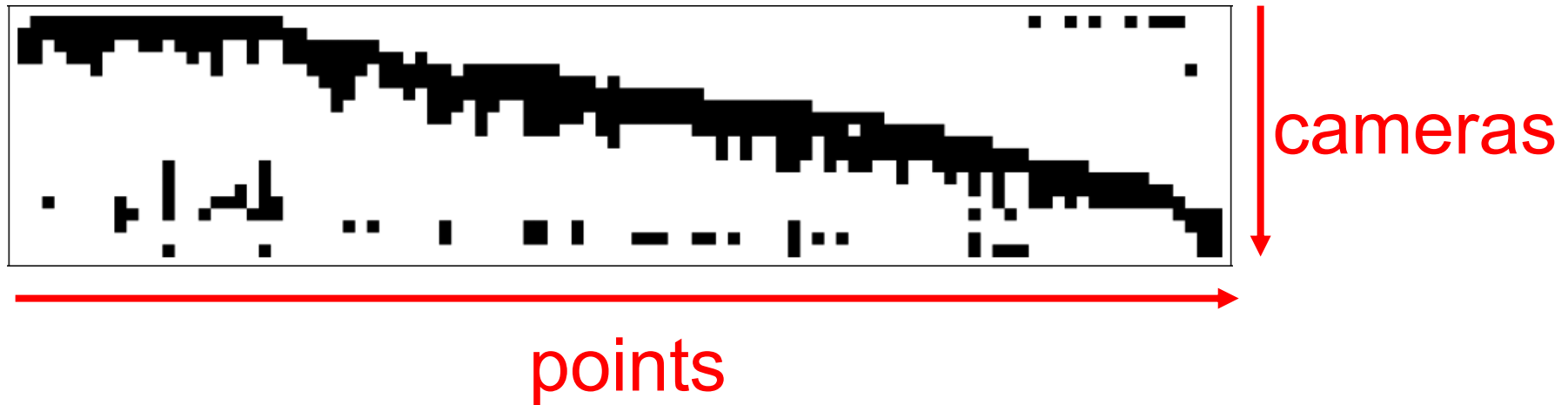


150



Dealing with missing data

So far, assume we can see all points in all views
In reality, measurement matrix typically looks like this:



Possible solution: find dense blocks, solve in block, fuse.
In general, finding these dense blocks is NP-complete

But cameras aren't affine!

Want: m cameras M_i , n 3D points X_j

Given: mn 2D points p_{ij}

$$p_{ij} \equiv M_i X_j = M_i H^{-1} H X_j$$

When is this Possible?

Want: m cameras M_i , n 3D points X_j

Given: mn 2D points p_{ij}

$$p_{ij} \equiv M_i X_j = M_i H^{-1} H X_j$$

2D point (2) \uparrow M_i \uparrow 3D point (3) \uparrow 4x4 homography (15) **why?**
3x4 camera matrix (11) **why?**

$$\text{Need } 2mn \geq 11m + 3n - 15$$

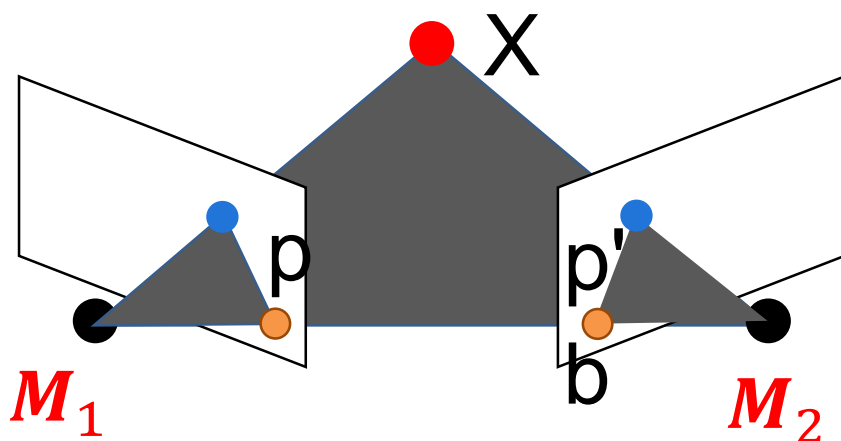
$$(m = 2): n \geq 7$$

$$(m = 3): n \geq 6 \text{ (doesn't get better after)}$$

$$(m=1): n \leq 4$$

Two Camera Case

For two cameras, we need 7 points. Hmm.
What else (in theory) requires 7 points?



Compute fundamental matrix F and epipole b s.t. $F^T b = 0$. Then:

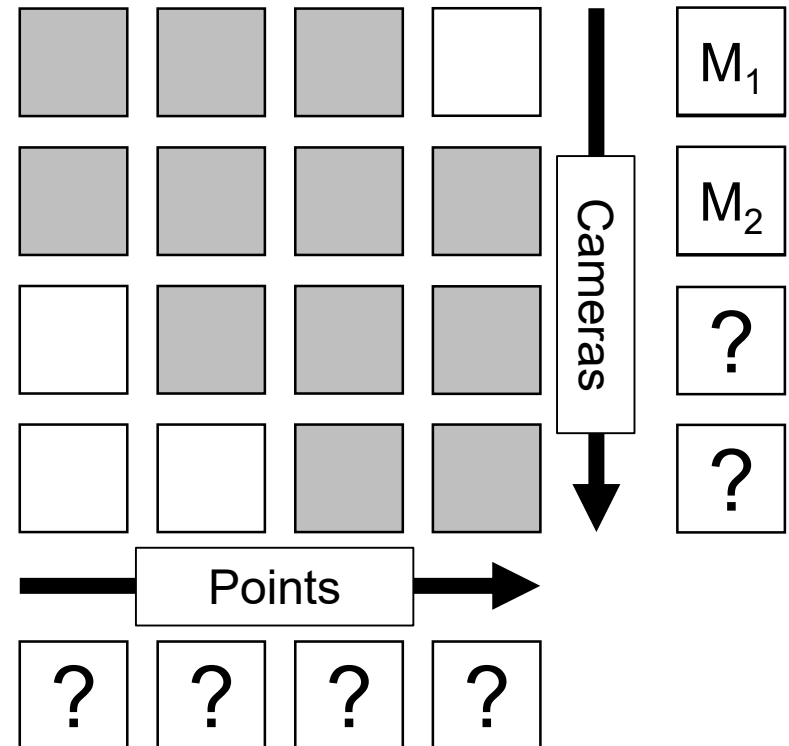
$$M_1 = [I, 0]$$

$$M_2 = [-[b_x]F, b]$$

Remember: this is up to a projective ambiguity!

Incremental SFM

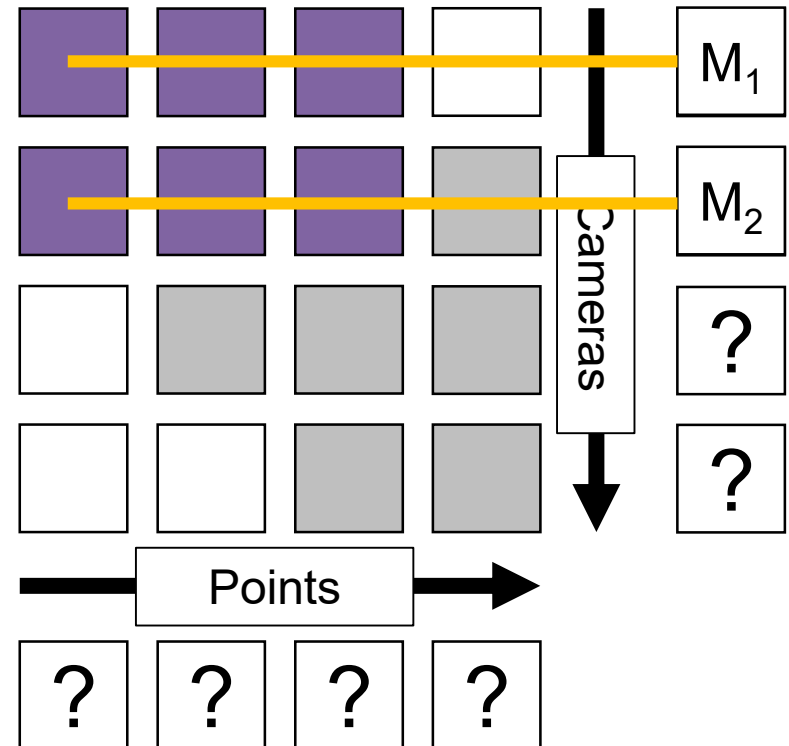
Key idea: incrementally add cameras, points



Incremental SFM

Key idea: incrementally add cameras, points

1. Initialize motion $M_i = [R_i, t_i]$ with fundamental matrix

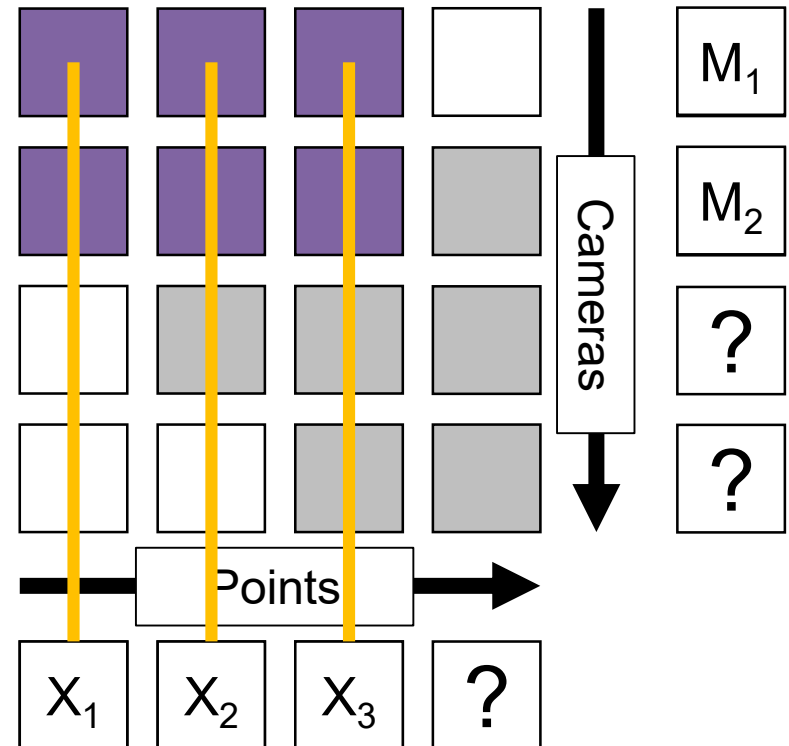


Incremental SFM

Key idea: incrementally add cameras, points

1. Initialize motion $M_i = [R_i, t_i]$ with fundamental matrix
2. Initialize structure X_j with triangulation

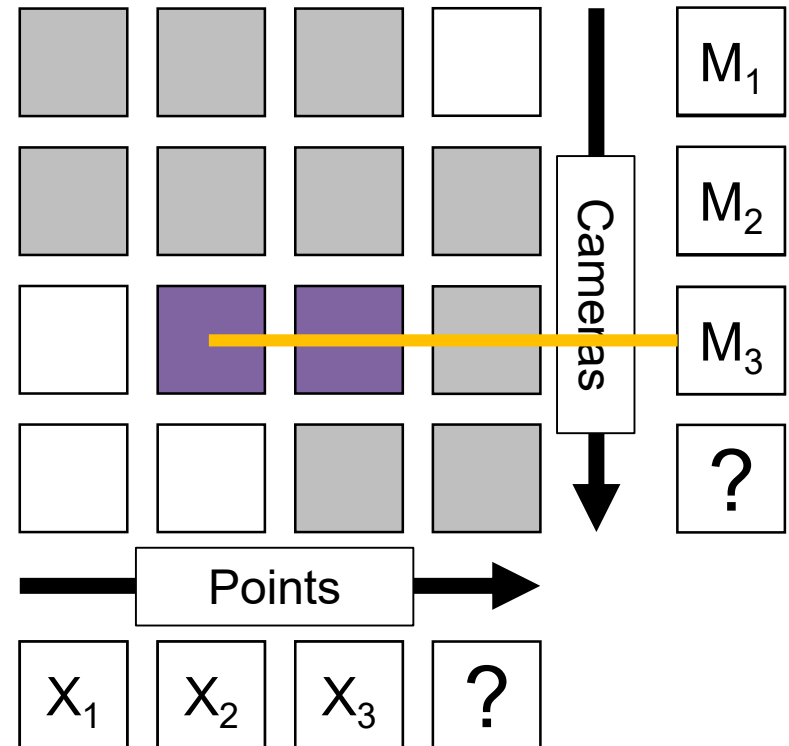
How could we add another camera?



Incremental SFM

Key idea: incrementally add cameras, points

1. Solve for camera matrix using visible, known points using calibration

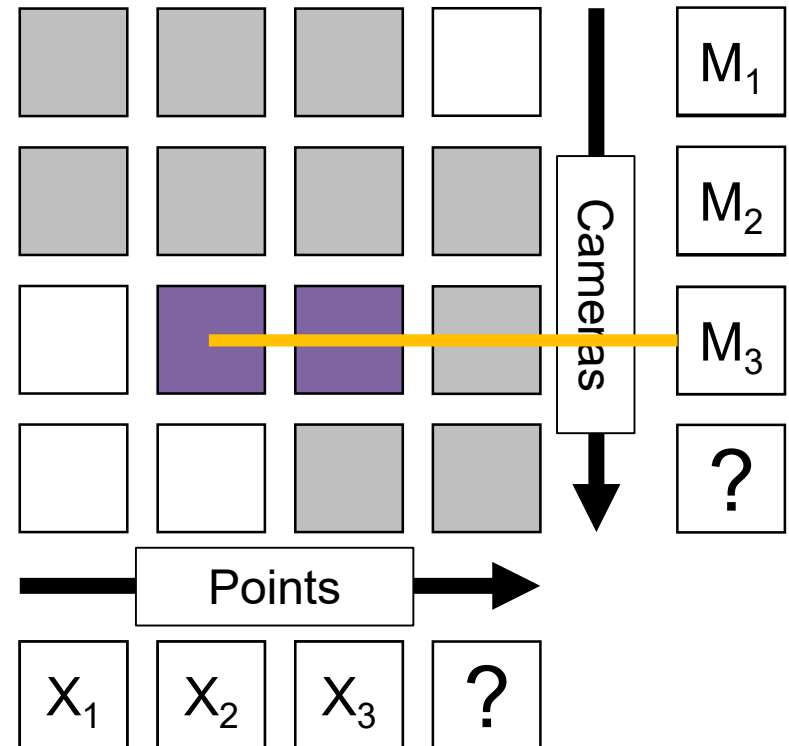


Incremental SFM

Key idea: incrementally add cameras, points

1. Solve for camera matrix using visible, known points using calibration

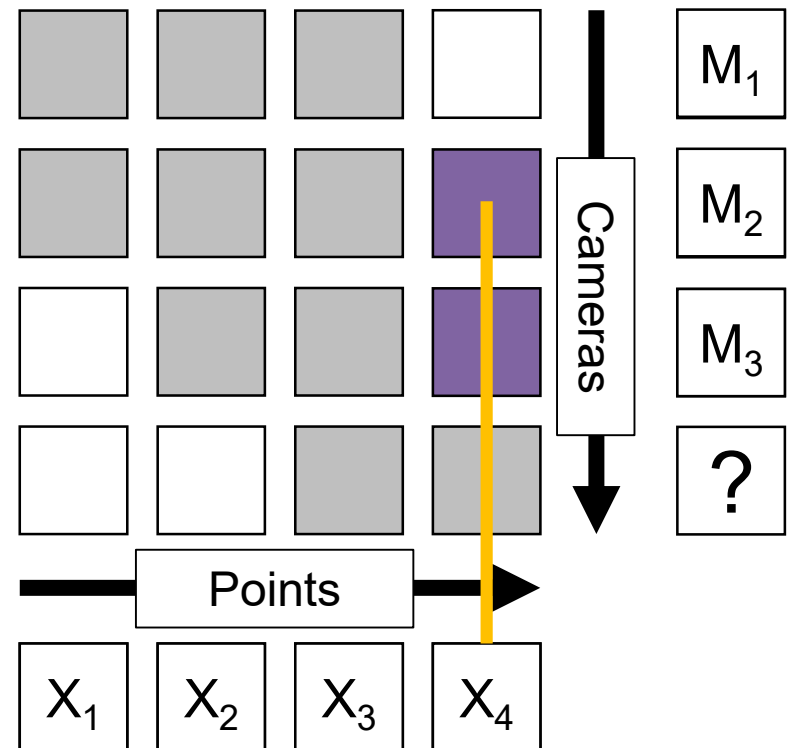
Now we can see the fourth point in two cameras.



Incremental SFM

Key idea: incrementally add cameras, points

1. Solve for camera matrix using visible, known points using calibration
2. Solve for 3D coordinates of newly visible points using triangulation

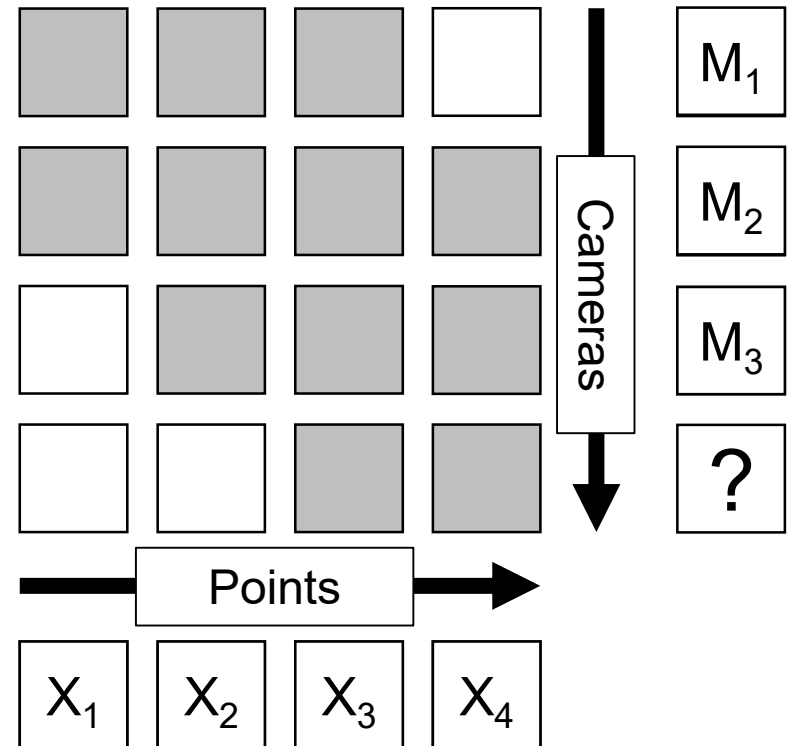


Incremental SFM

Key idea: incrementally add cameras, points

Big problem: don't ever jointly consider all the 3D points and camera.

Leads to final step, called bundle adjustment.

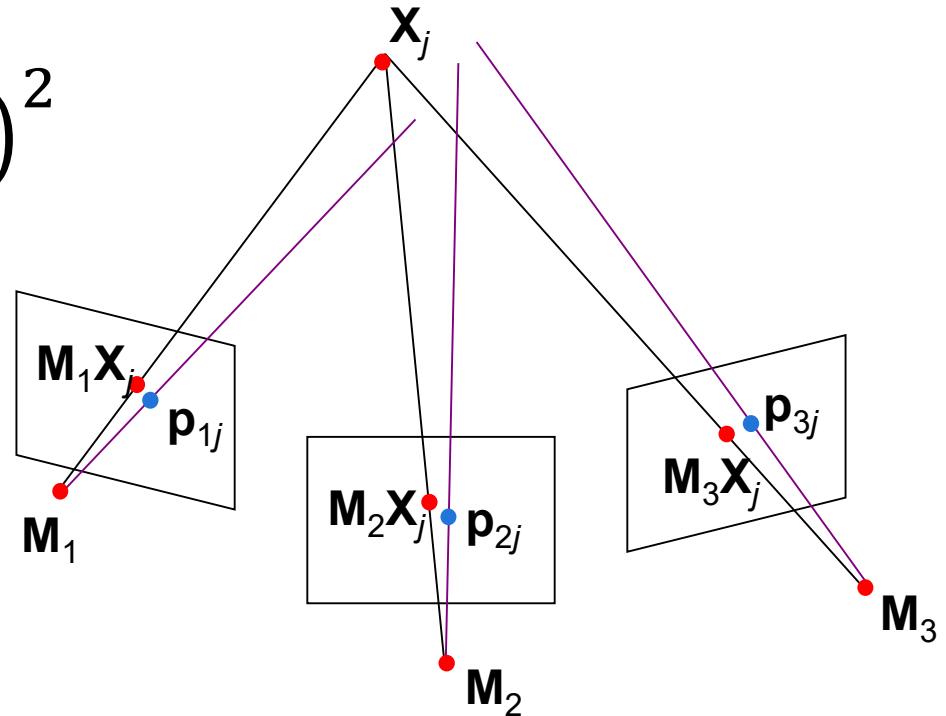


Bundle Adjustment

Do non-linear minimization over cameras M_i , points X_j to minimize distance between observed points p_{ij} and projections $M_i X_j$ when they're visible.

$$\arg \min_{M_i, X_j} w_{ij} d(M_i X_j, p_{ij})^2$$

↑
Visibility flag



Devil is in the details

High-level idea: $\arg \min_{M_i, X_j} w_{ij} d(M_i X_j, p_{ij})^2$

In practice:

- Have to initialize reasonably well
- Should minimize over K,R,t directly
- Problem is very sparse: w_{ij} almost always zero
- Need to integrate uncertainty information
- Probably want to use a system written by experts

Representative SFM pipeline

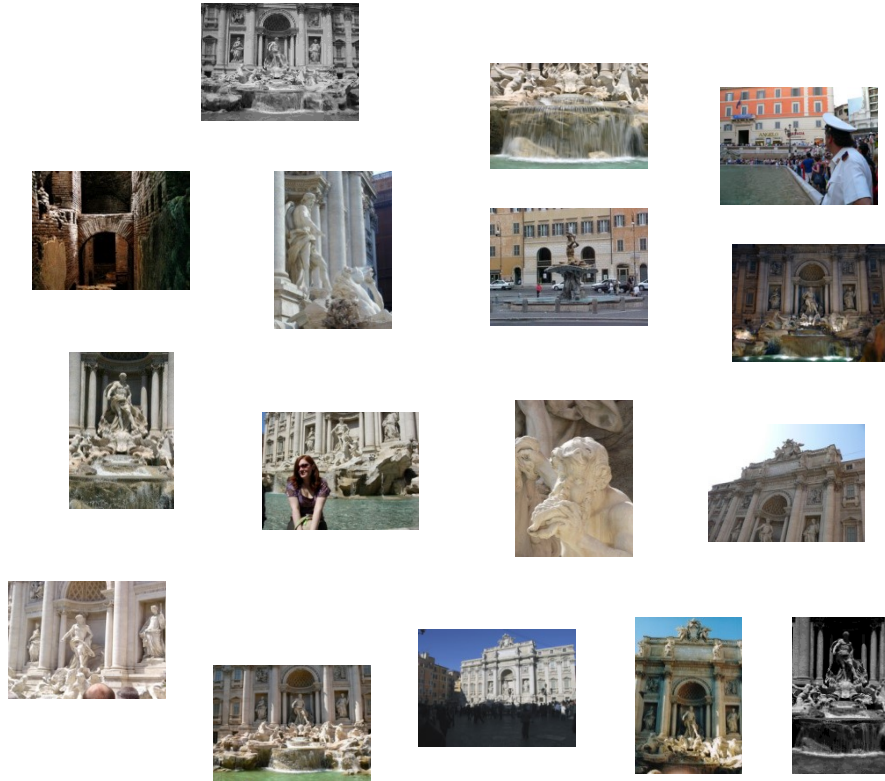


N. Snavely, S. Seitz, and R. Szeliski, [Photo tourism: Exploring photo collections in 3D](#), SIGGRAPH 2006.

<http://phototour.cs.washington.edu/>

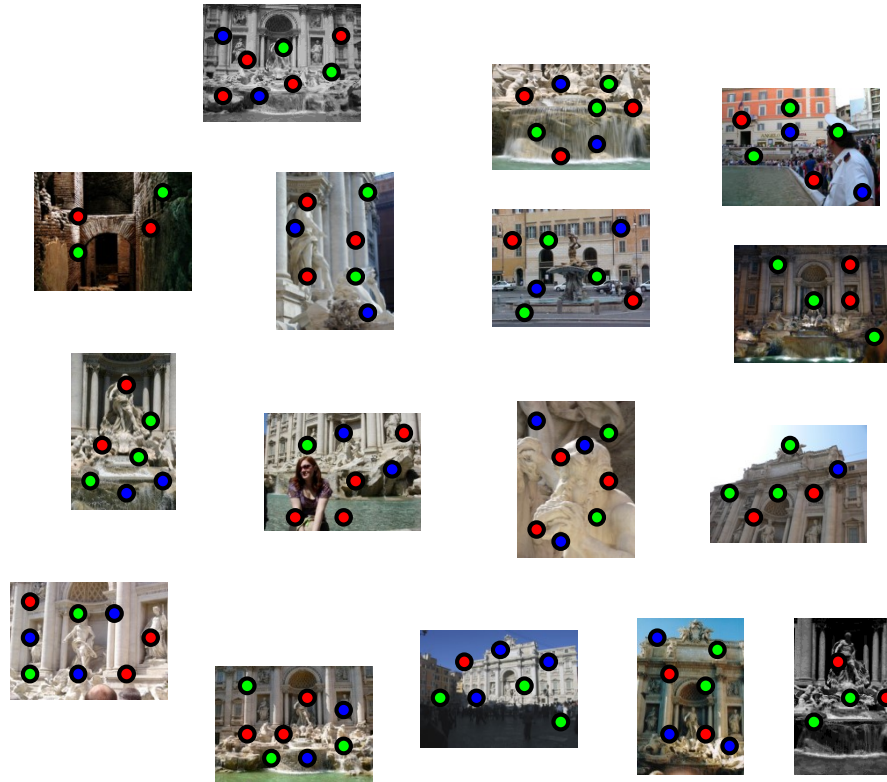
Feature detection

Detect SIFT features



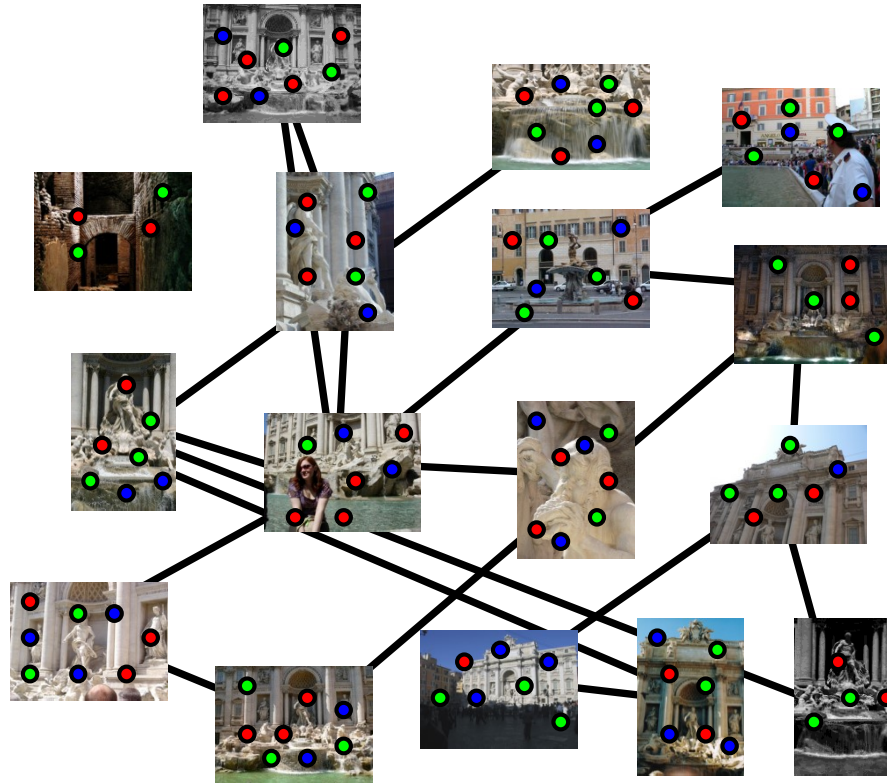
Feature detection

Detect SIFT features



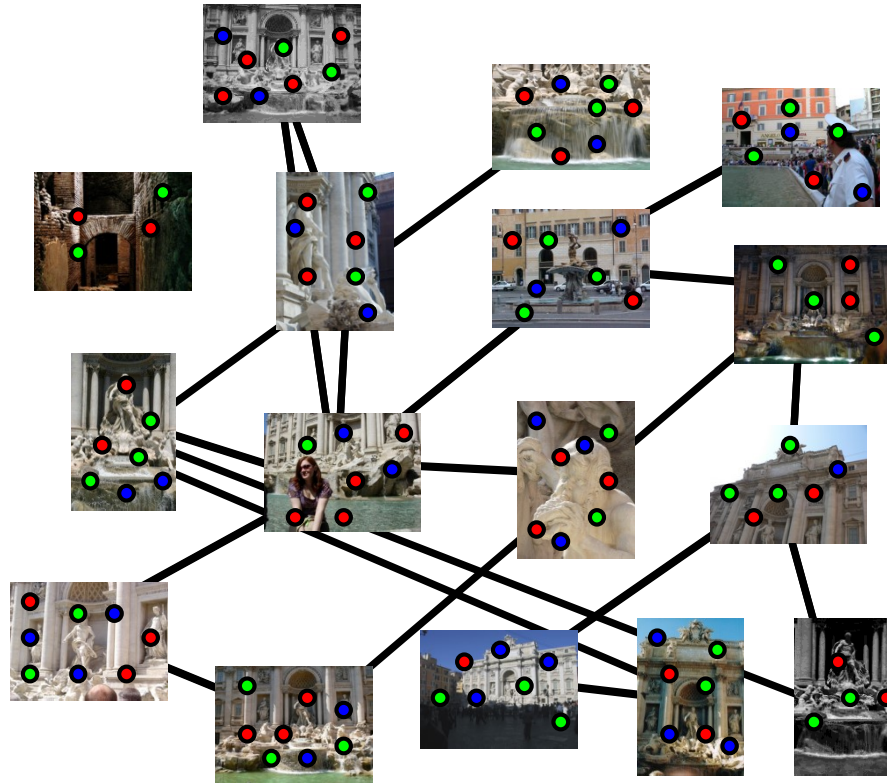
Feature matching

Match features between each pair of images



Feature matching

Use RANSAC to estimate fundamental matrix between each pair



Feature matching

Use RANSAC to estimate fundamental matrix between each pair



Feature matching

Use RANSAC to estimate fundamental matrix between each pair

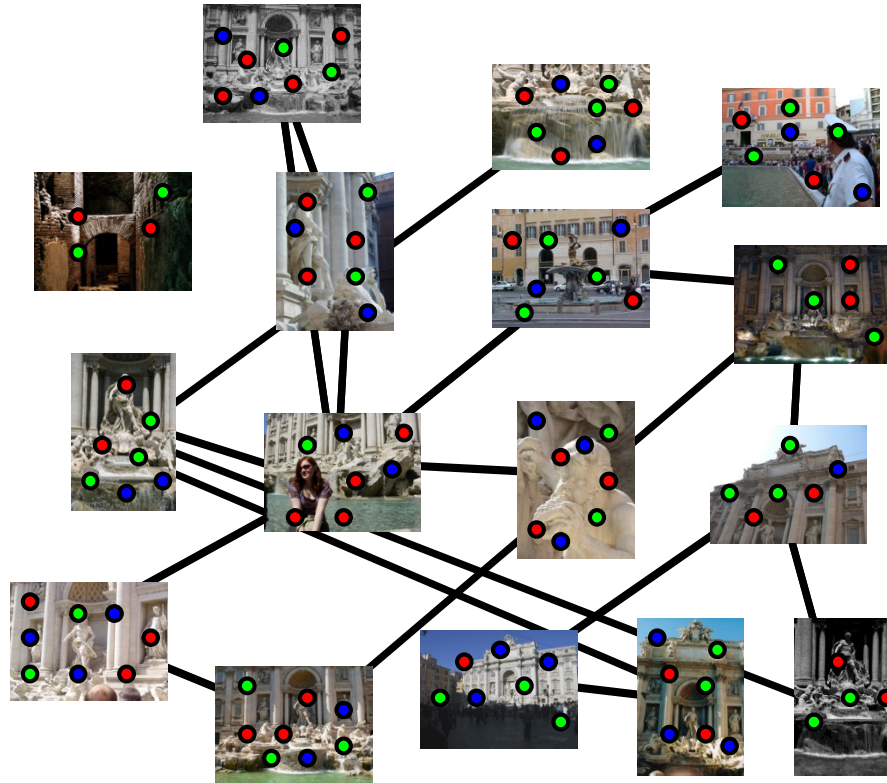
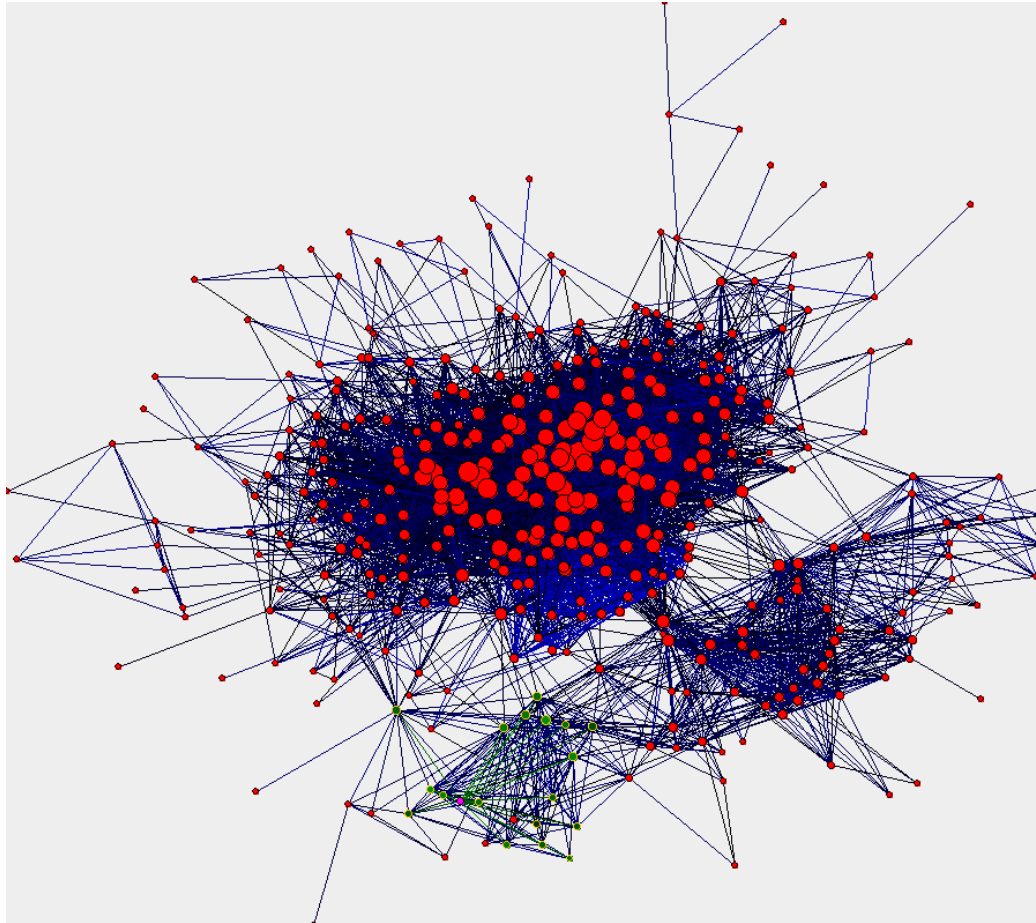


Image connectivity graph



(graph layout produced using the Graphviz toolkit: <http://www.graphviz.org/>)

In practice

- Pick a pair of images with lots of inliers (and preferably, good EXIF data)
 - Initialize intrinsic parameters (focal length, principal point) from EXIF
 - Estimate extrinsic parameters (\mathbf{R} and \mathbf{t}) Use triangulation to initialize model points
- While remaining images exist
 - Find an image with many feature matches with images in the model
 - Run RANSAC on feature matches to register new image to model
 - Triangulate new points
 - Perform bundle adjustment to re-optimize everything

The devil is in the details

- Degenerate configurations (homographies)
- Eliminating outliers
- Repetition and symmetry



The devil is in the details

- Degenerate configurations (homographies)
- Eliminating outliers
- Repetition and symmetry
- Multiple connected components