Stereo Matching

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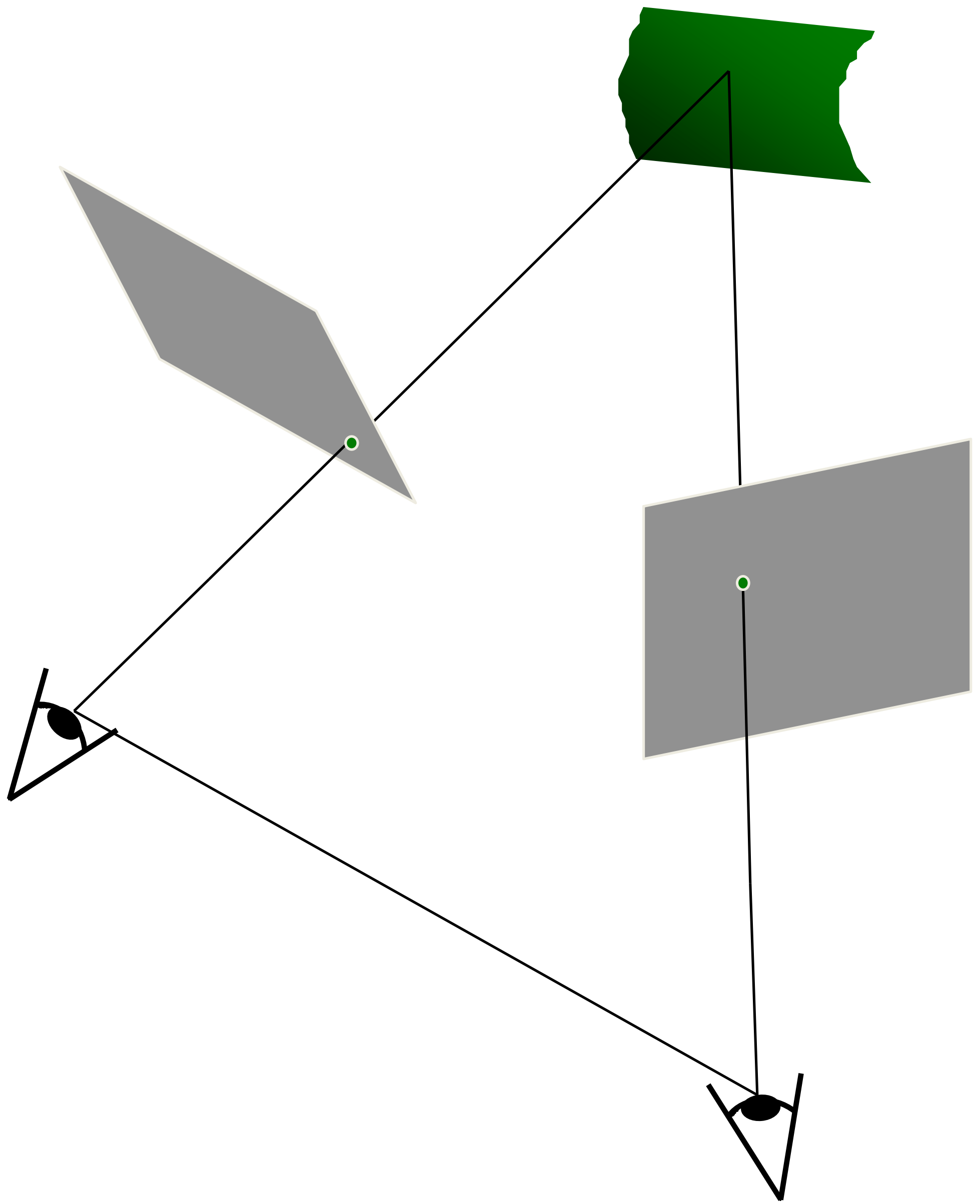
Course Website:
http://webpages.uncc.edu/jfan/itcs5152.html

Stereo image rectification



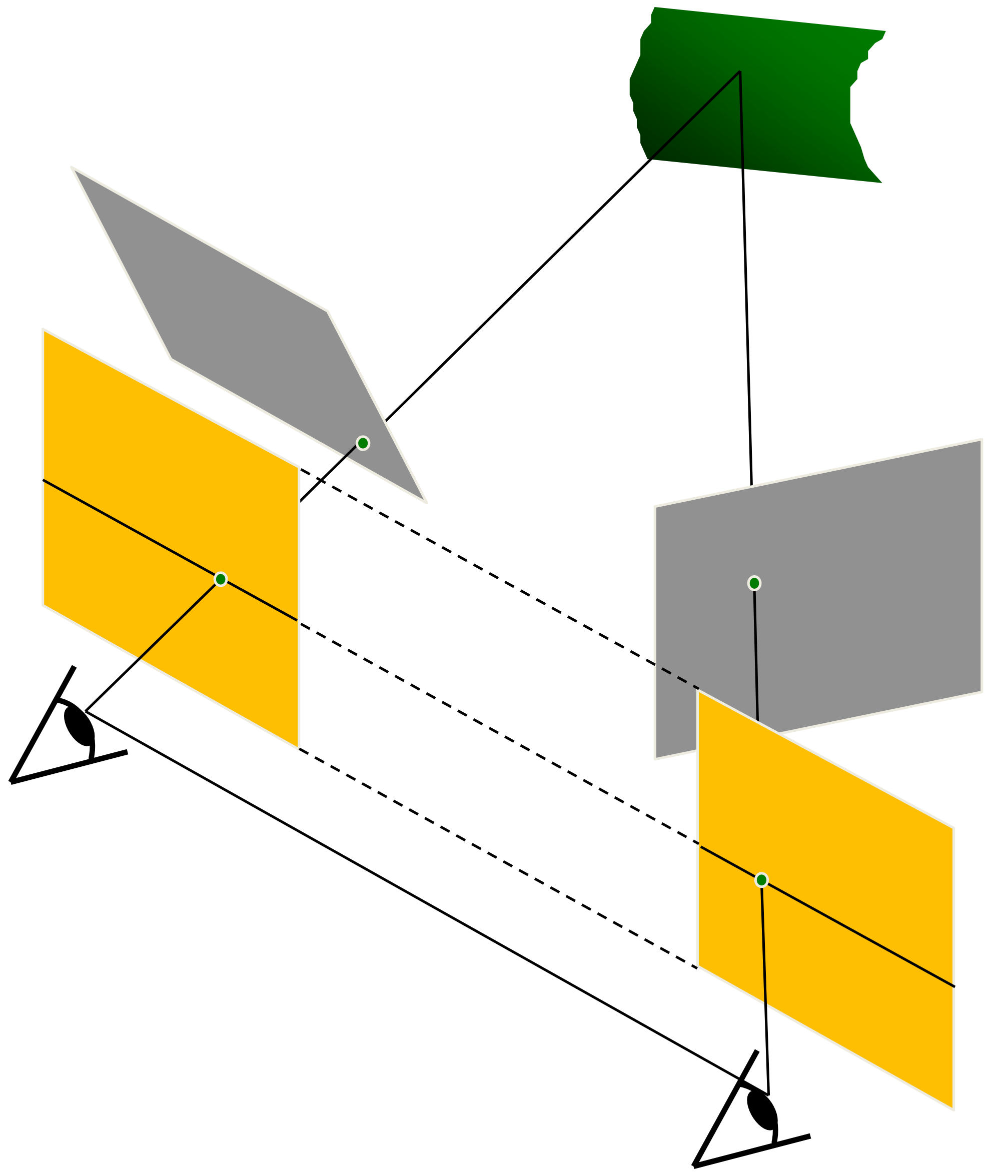
Stereo image rectification

- Reproject image planes onto a common plane parallel to the line between camera centers

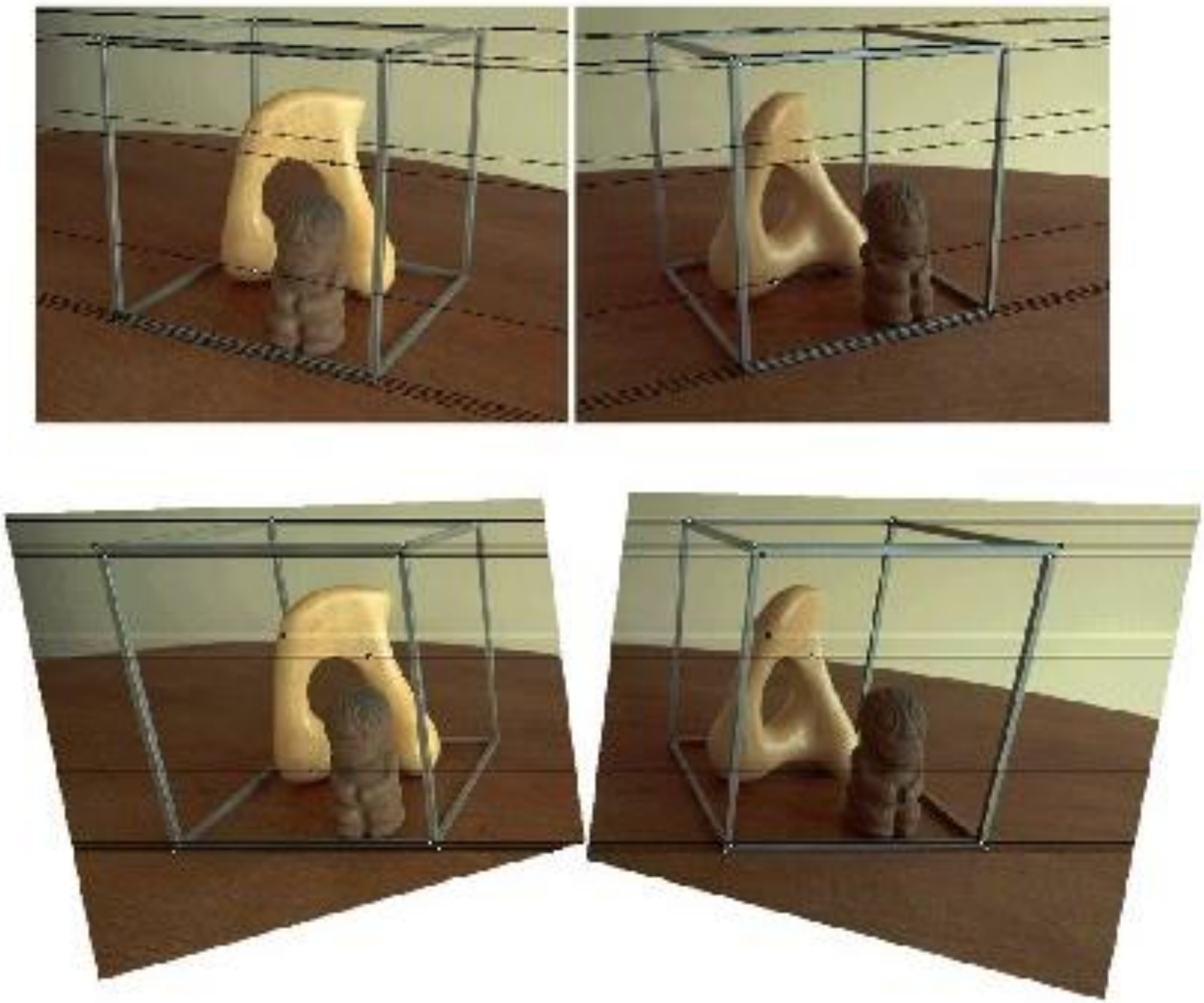
- Pixel motion is horizontal after this transformation

- Two homographies (3x3 transform), one for each input image reprojection

➢ C. Loop and Z. Zhang. [Computing Rectifying Homographies for Stereo Vision](). IEEE Conf. Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, 1999.



Rectification example



The correspondence problem

- Epipolar geometry constrains our search, but we still have a difficult correspondence problem.

Fundamental Matrix + Sparse correspondence

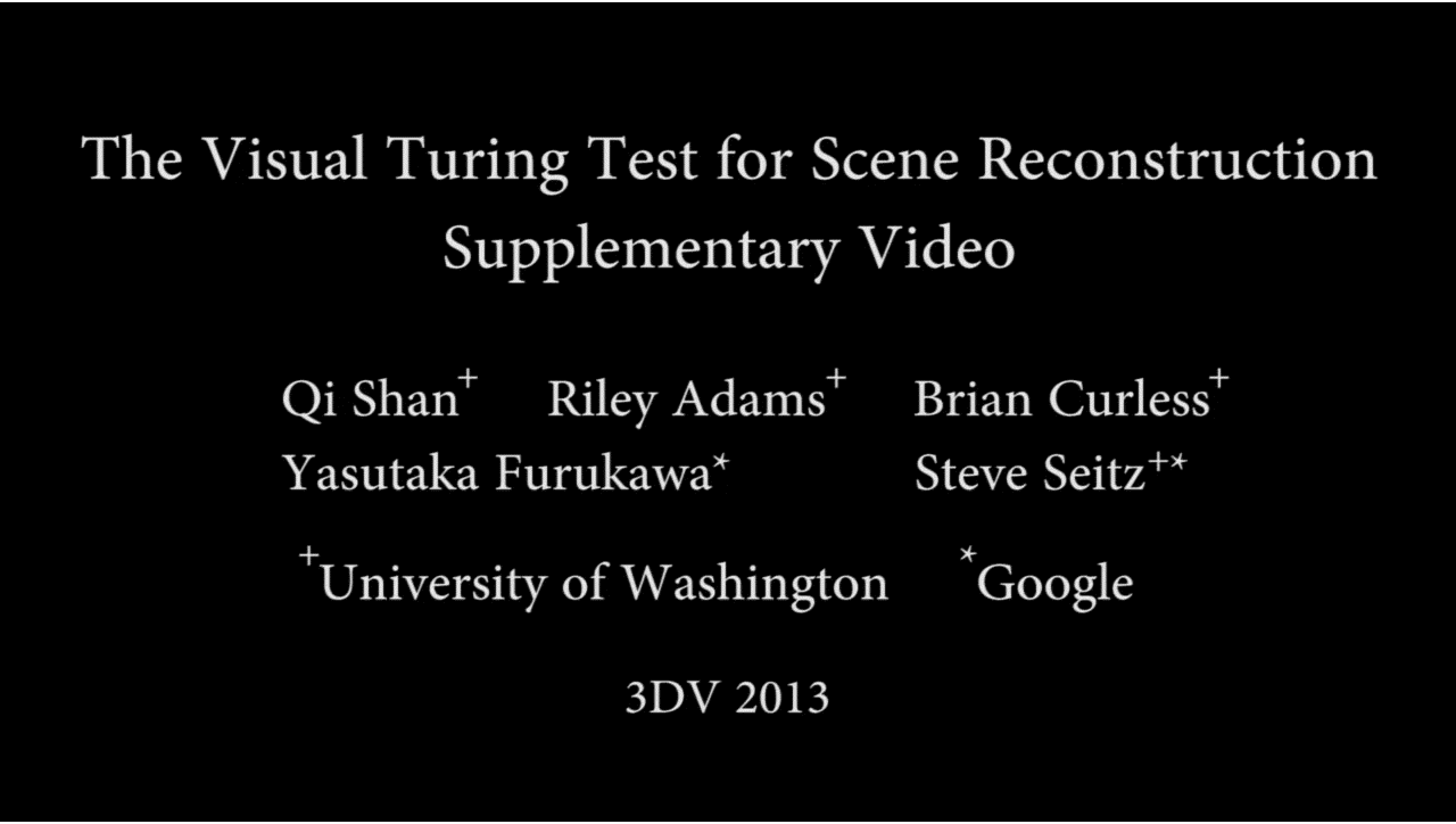
Photo Tourism
Exploring photo collections in 3D

Noah Snavely   Steven M. Seitz   Richard Szeliski

University of Washington   *Microsoft Research*

SIGGRAPH 2006

Fundamental Matrix + Dense correspondence



SIFT + Fundamental Matrix + RANSAC

Despite their scale invariance and robustness to appearance changes, SIFT features are *local* and do not contain any global information about the image or about the location of other features in the image. Thus feature matching based on SIFT features is still prone to errors. However, since we assume that we are dealing with rigid scenes, there are strong geometric constraints on the locations of the matching features and these constraints can be used to clean up the matches. In particular, when a rigid scene is imaged by two pinhole cameras, there exists a 3×3 matrix F, the *Fundamental matrix*, such that corresponding points x_{ij} and x_{ik} (represented in homogeneous coordinates) in two images j and k satisfy[10]:

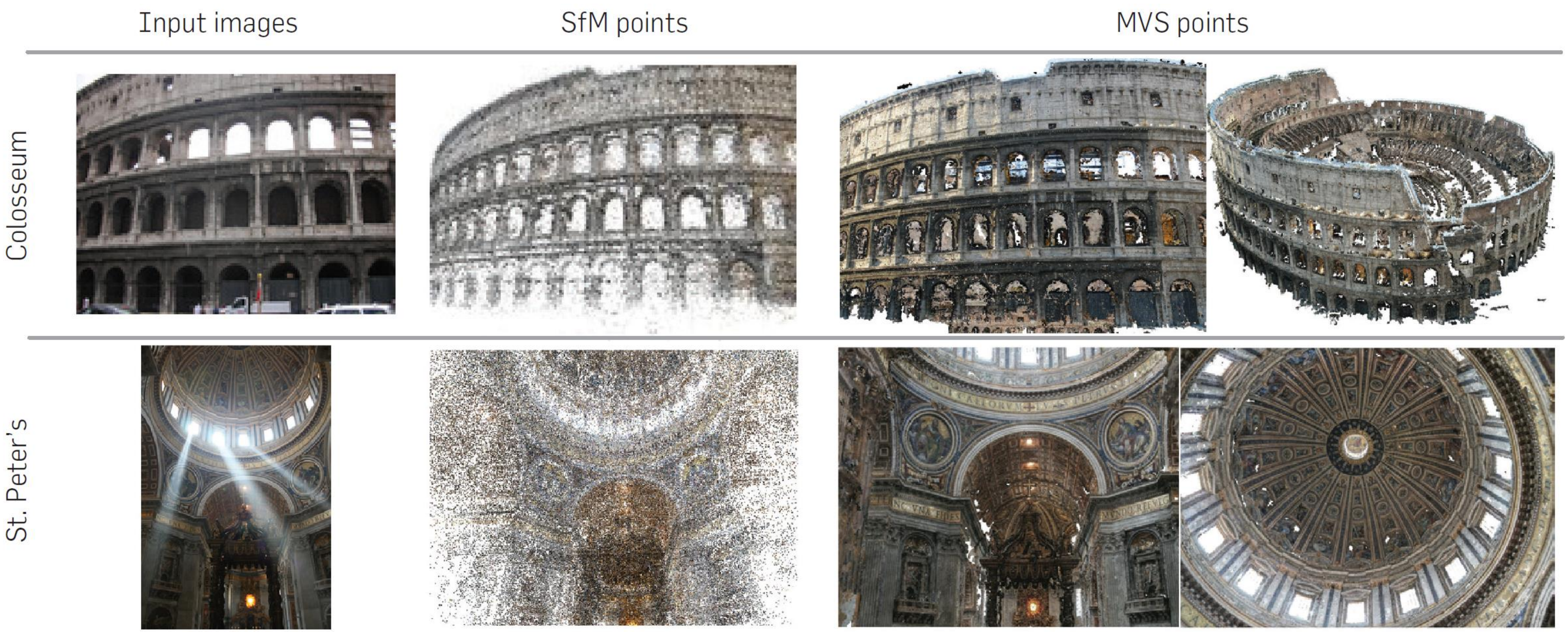
$$x_{ij}^{\top} F x_{ij} = 0. \tag{3}$$

A common way to impose this constraint is to use a greedy randomized algorithm to generate suitably chosen random estimates of F and choose the one that has the largest support among the matches, i.e., the one for which the most matches satisfy (3). This algorithm is called Random Sample Consensus (RANSAC)[6] and is used in many computer vision problems.

Building Rome in a Day

By Sameer Agarwal, Yasutaka Furukawa, Noah Snavely, Ian Simon, Brian Curless, Steven M. Seitz, Richard Szeliski
Communications of the ACM, Vol. 54 No. 10, Pages 105-112

Sparse to Dense Correspondence



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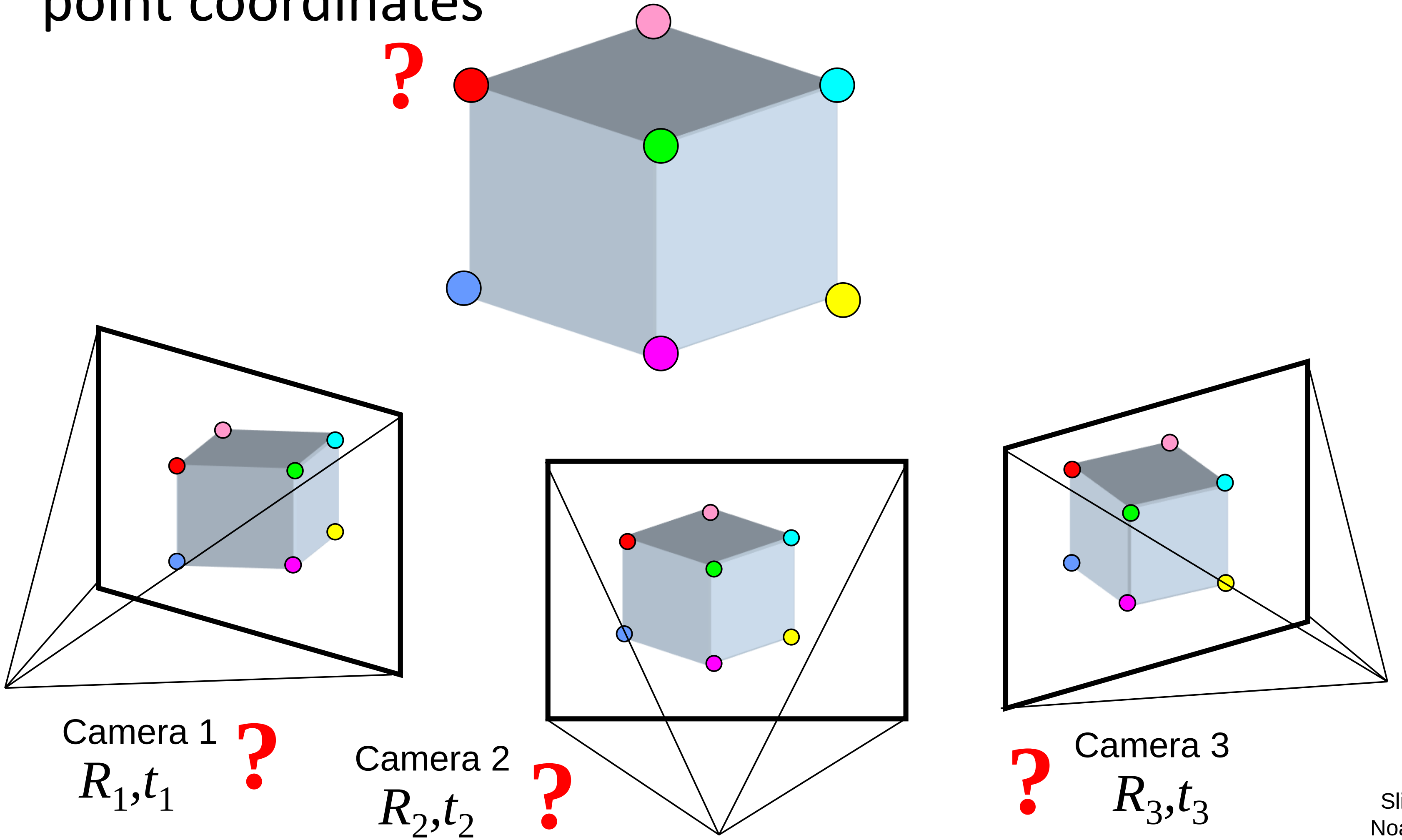
Structure from motion (or SLAM)

- Given a set of corresponding points in two or more images, compute the camera parameters and the 3D point coordinates



Slide credit: Noah Snavely

Structure from motion ambiguity

- 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!

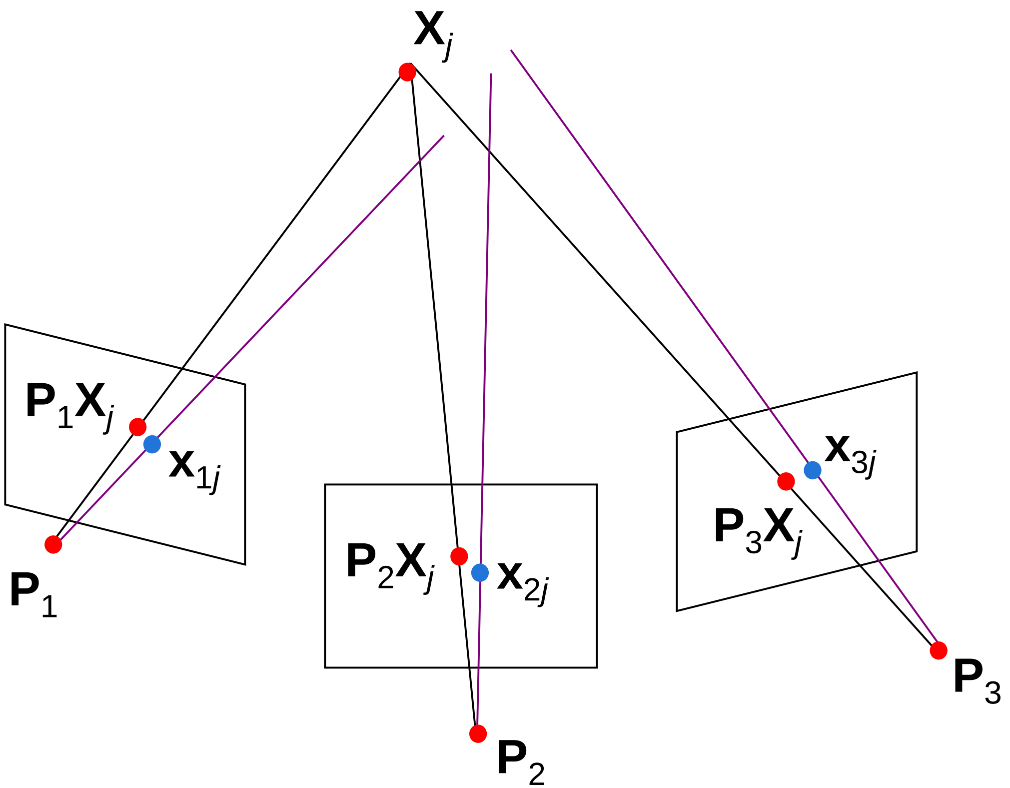
How do we know the scale of image content?


Photography
Your Eyes Deserve It
TOTAL
RECLAIMS
TOTAL
TOTAL
RECLAIMS

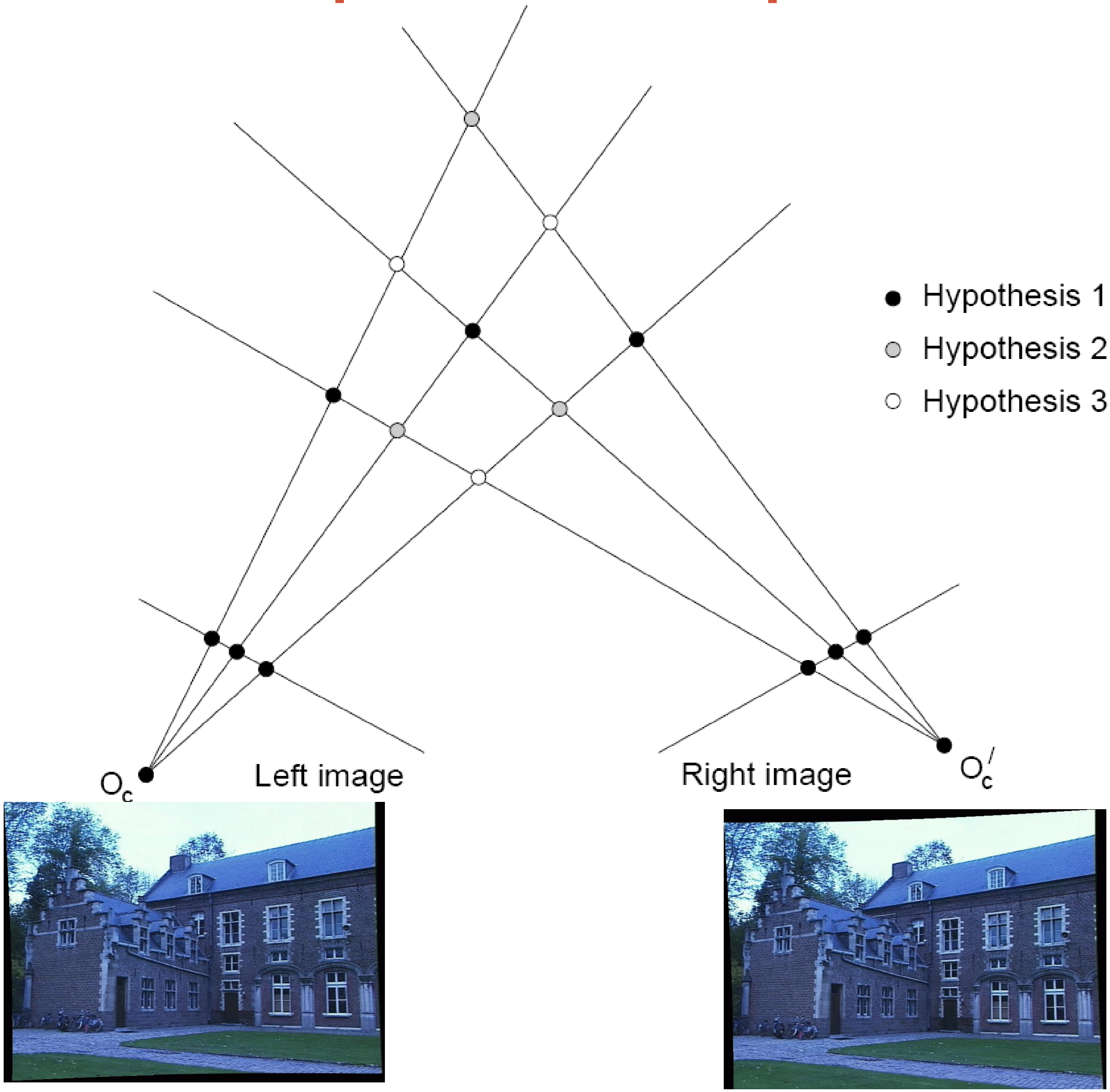
Bundle adjustment

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

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



Correspondence problem



Multiple match hypotheses satisfy epipolar constraint, but which is correct?

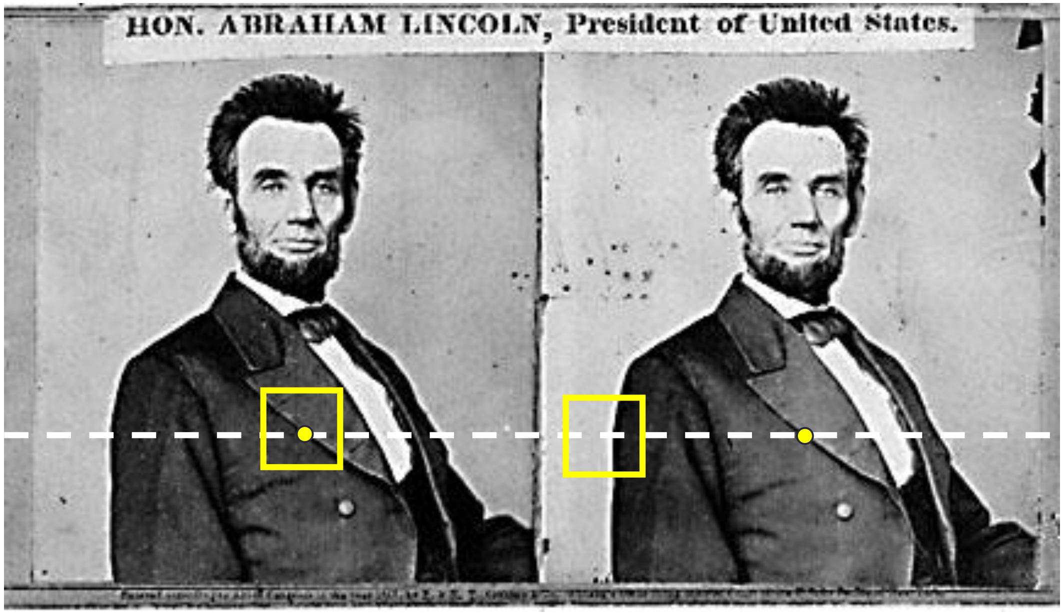
Figure from Gee & Cipolla 1999

Correspondence problem

- Beyond the hard constraint of epipolar geometry, there are “soft” constraints to help identify corresponding points
  - Similarity
  - Uniqueness
  - Ordering
  - Disparity gradient

- To find matches in the image pair, we will assume
  - Most scene points visible from both views
  - Image regions for the matches are similar in appearance

Dense correspondence search



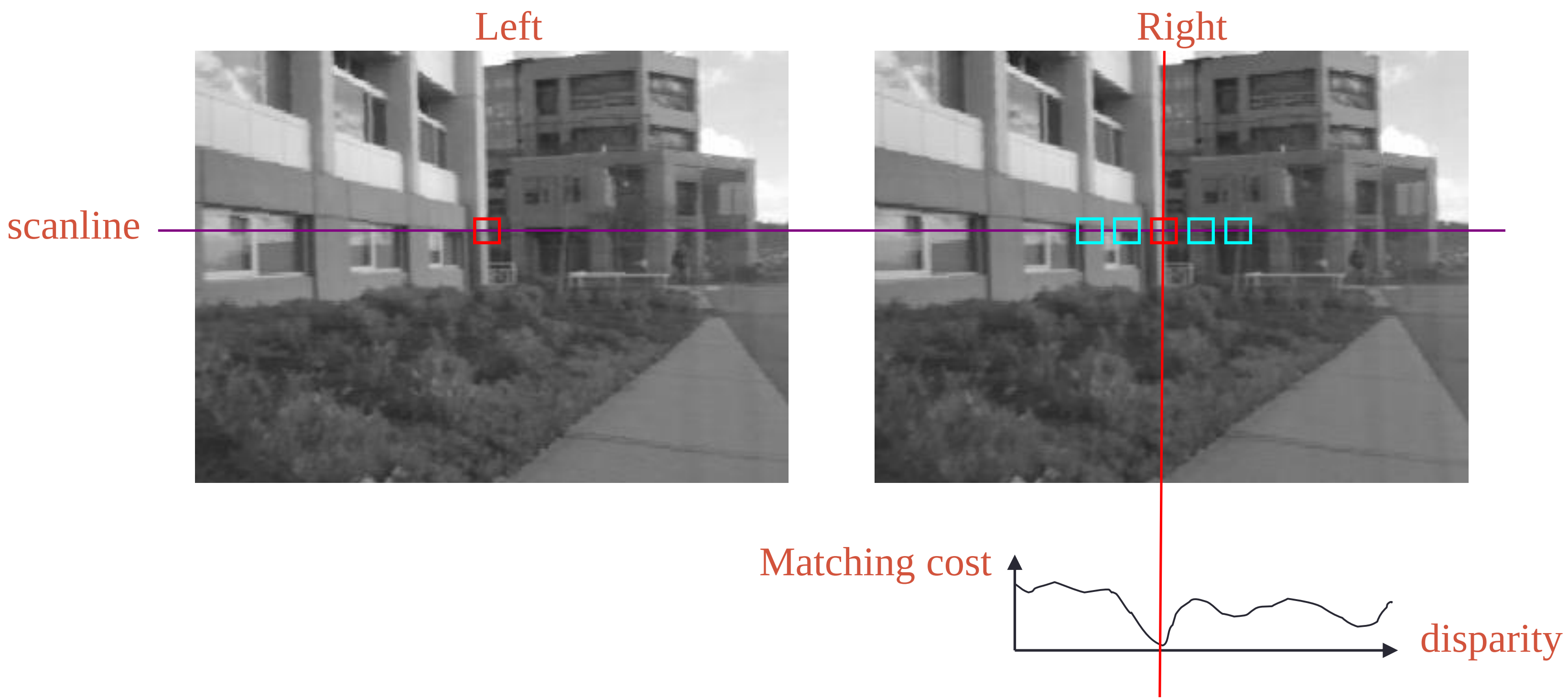
For each epipolar line

For each pixel / window in the left image

- compare with every pixel / window on same epipolar line in right image
- pick position with minimum match cost (e.g., SSD, normalized correlation)

Adapted from Li Zhang

Correspondence search with similarity constraint



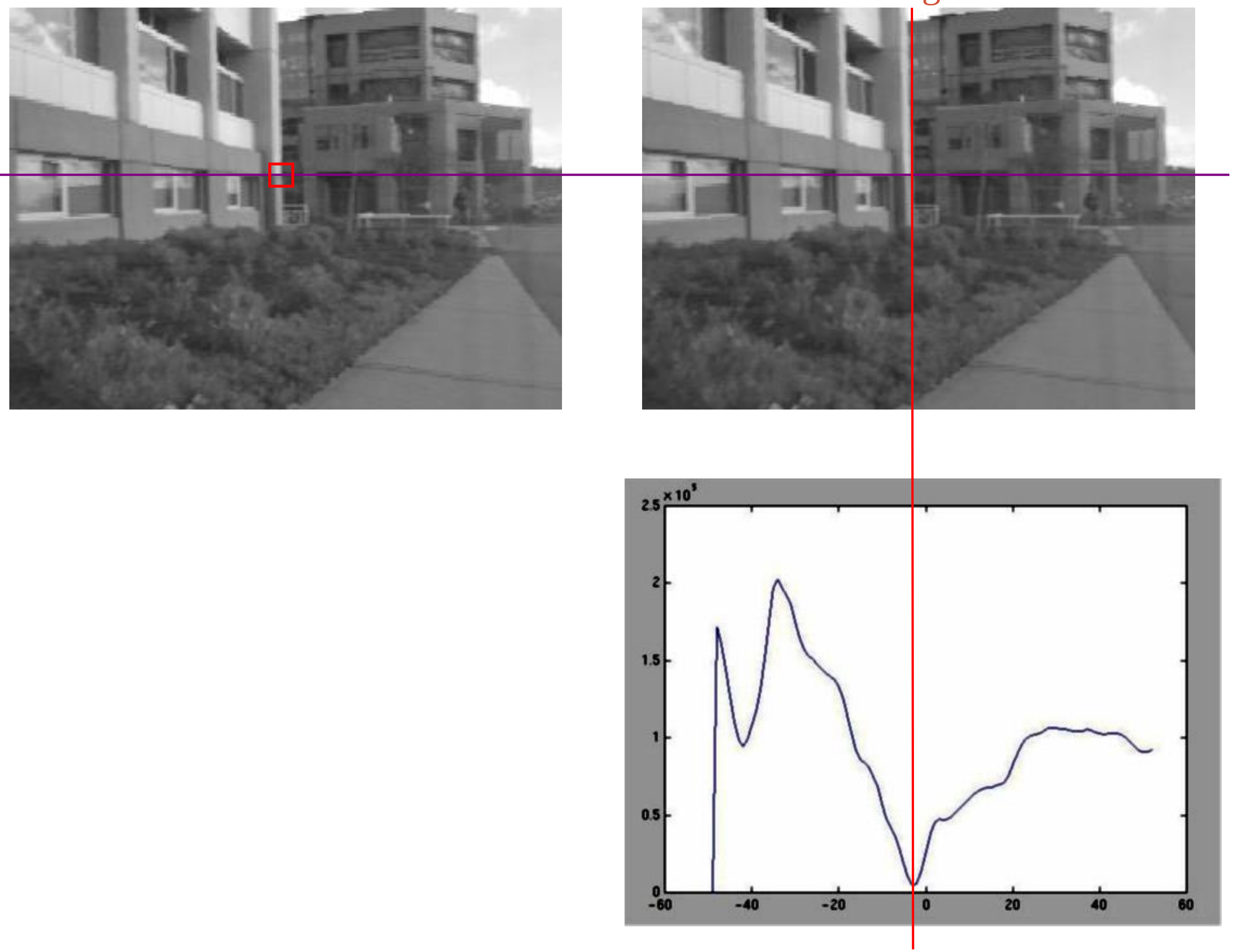
- Slide a window along the right scanline and compare contents of that window with the reference window in the left image
- Matching cost: SSD or normalized correlation

Correspondence search with similarity constraint

Left

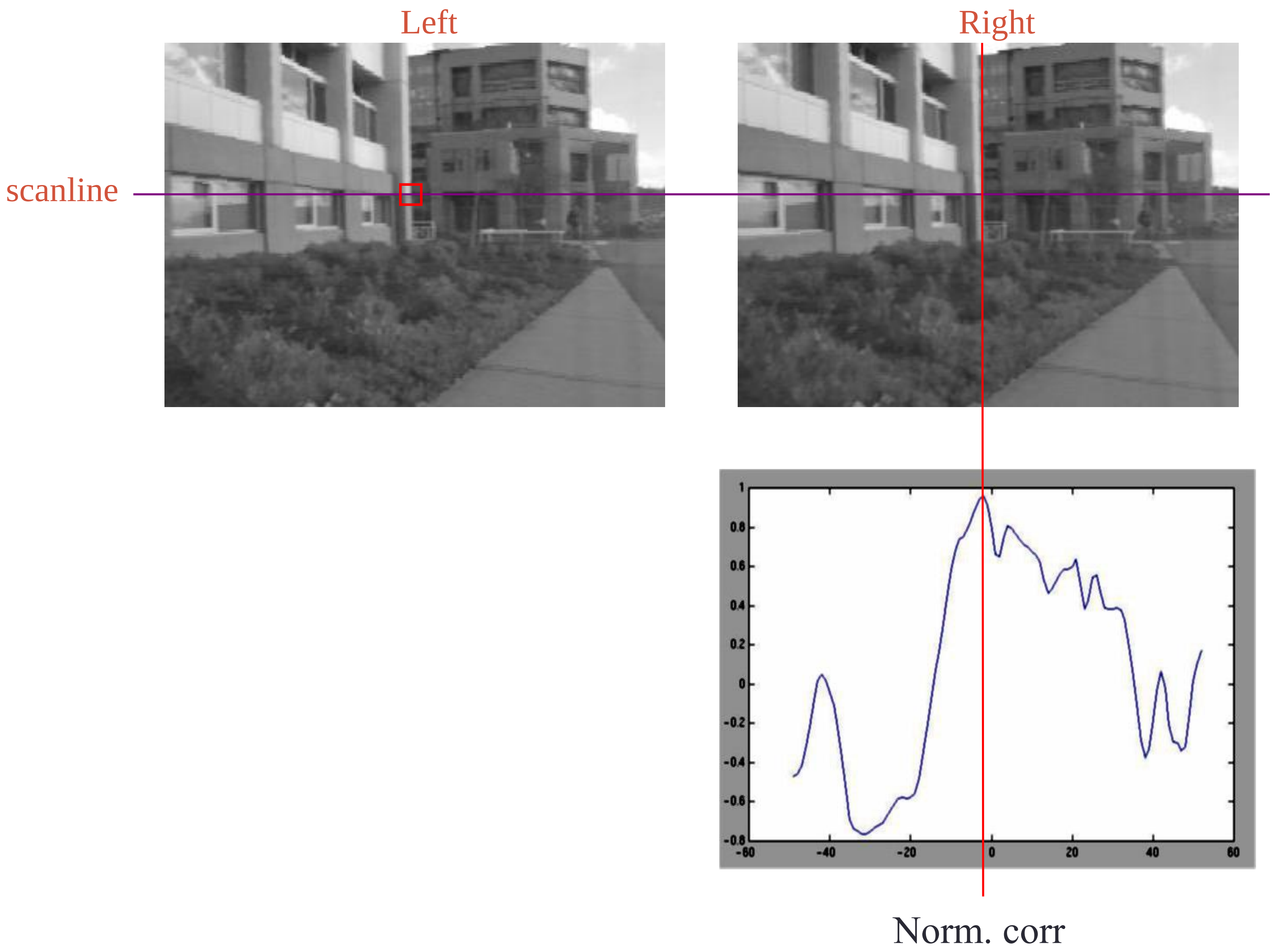
Right

scanline



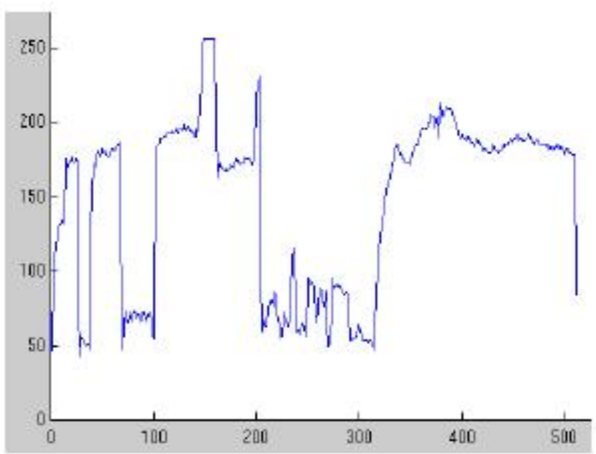
SSD

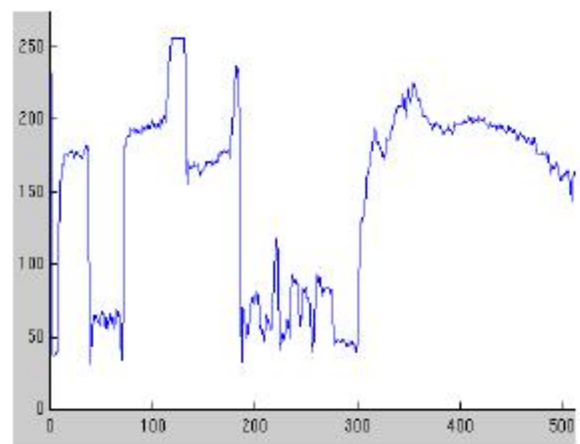
Correspondence search with similarity constraint



Correspondence problem


Intensity profiles

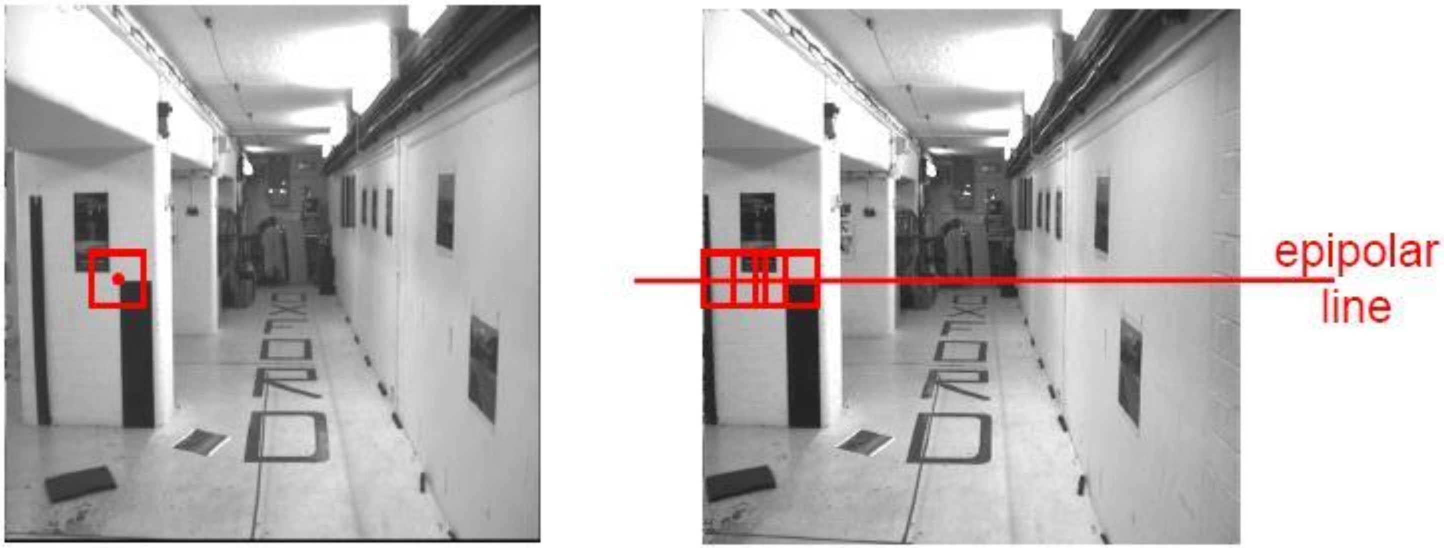




- Clear correspondence between intensities, but also noise and ambiguity

Source: Andrew Zisserman

Correspondence problem



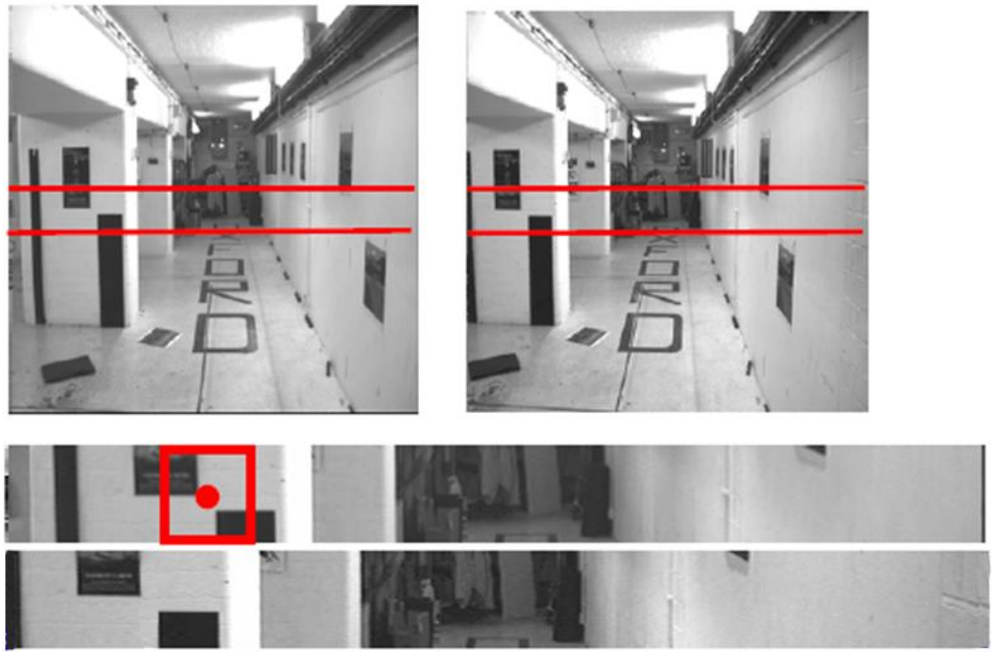
Neighborhoods of corresponding points are similar in intensity patterns.

Source: Andrew Zisserman

Correlation-based window matching

left image band (x)

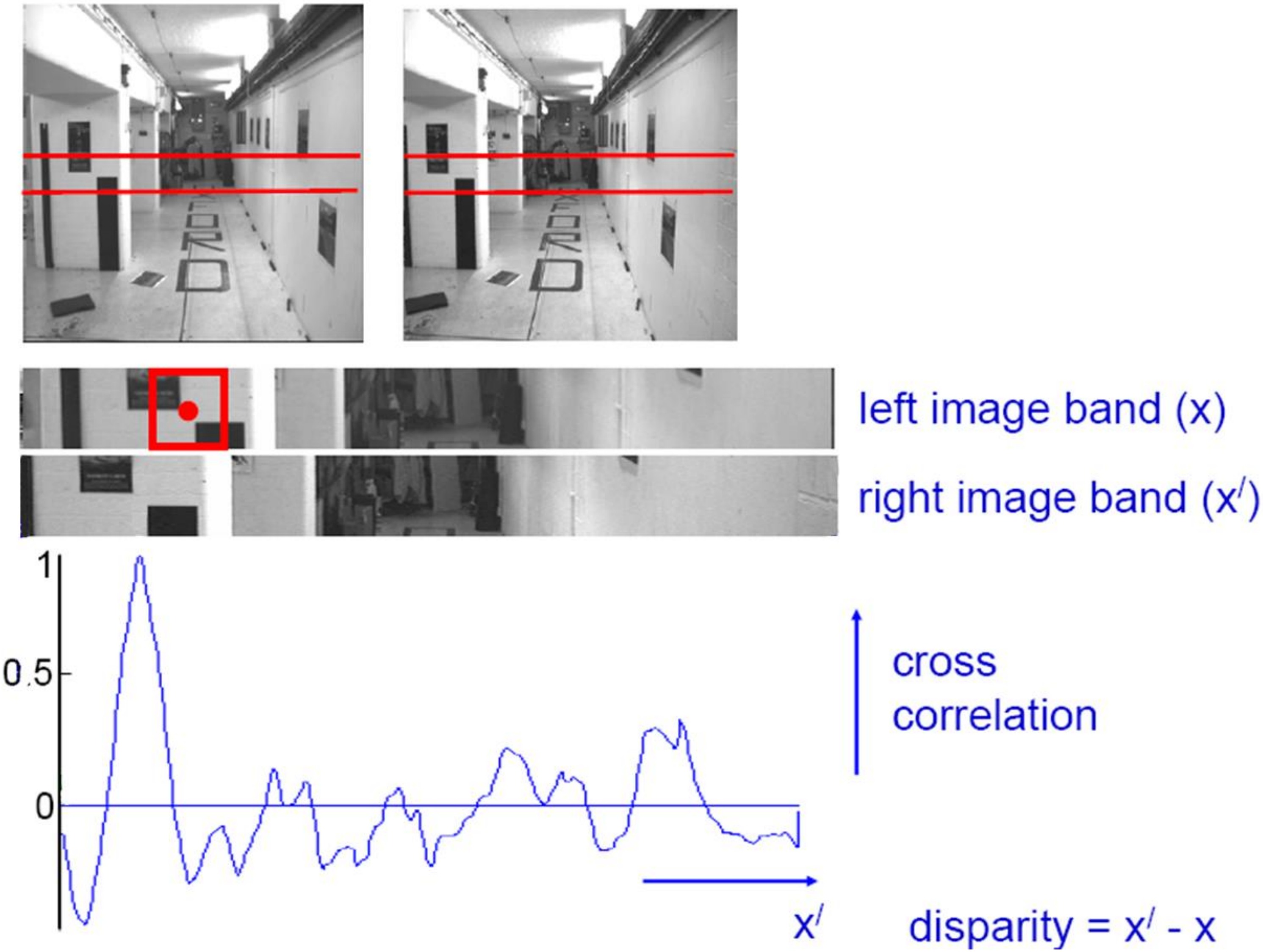
Correlation-based window matching



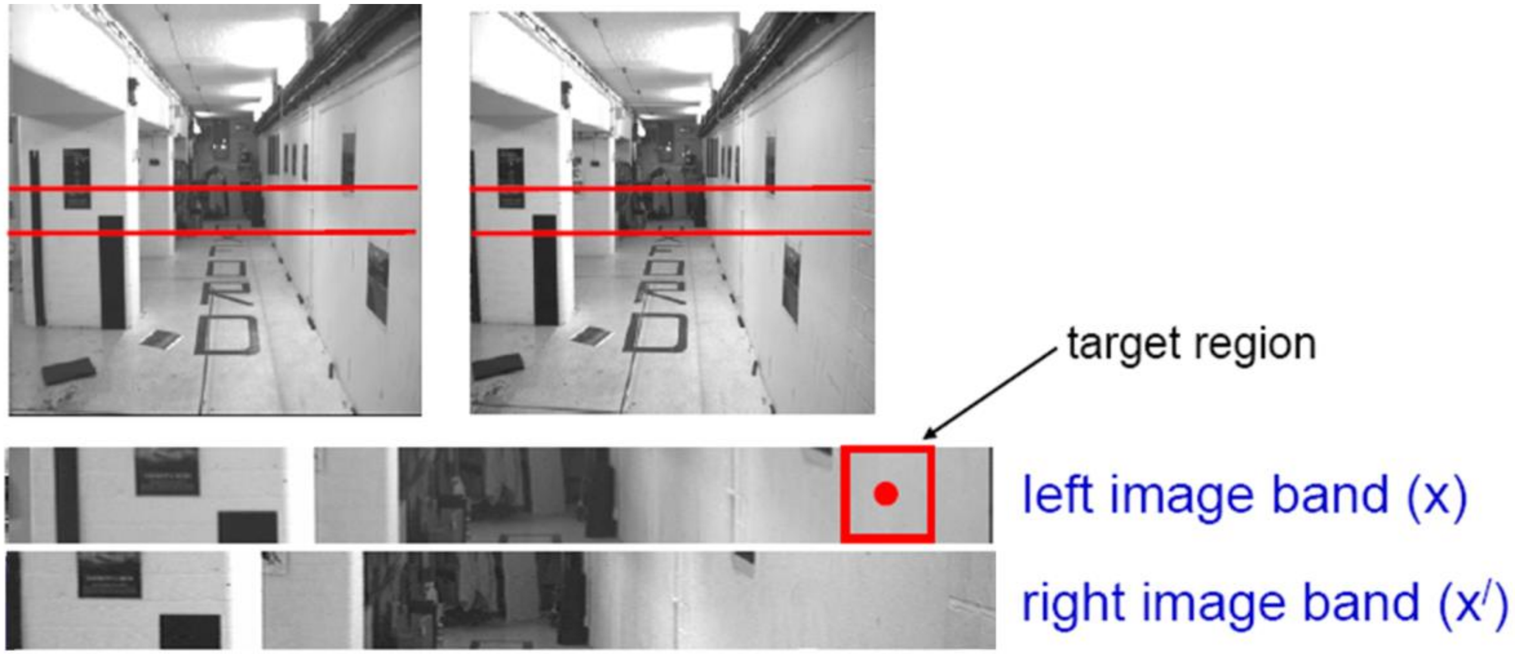
left image band (x)

right image band (x')

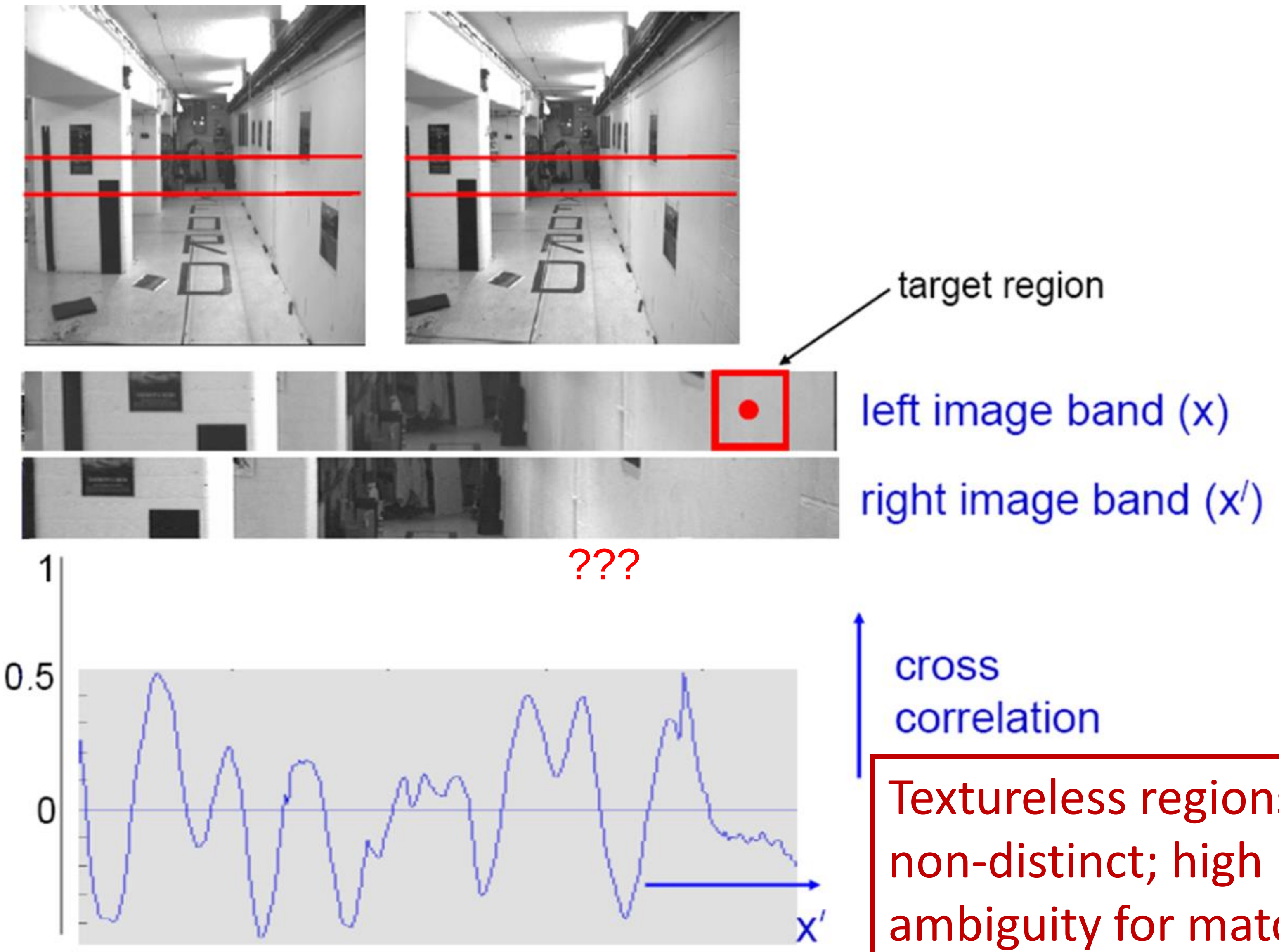
Correlation-based window matching



Correlation-based window matching

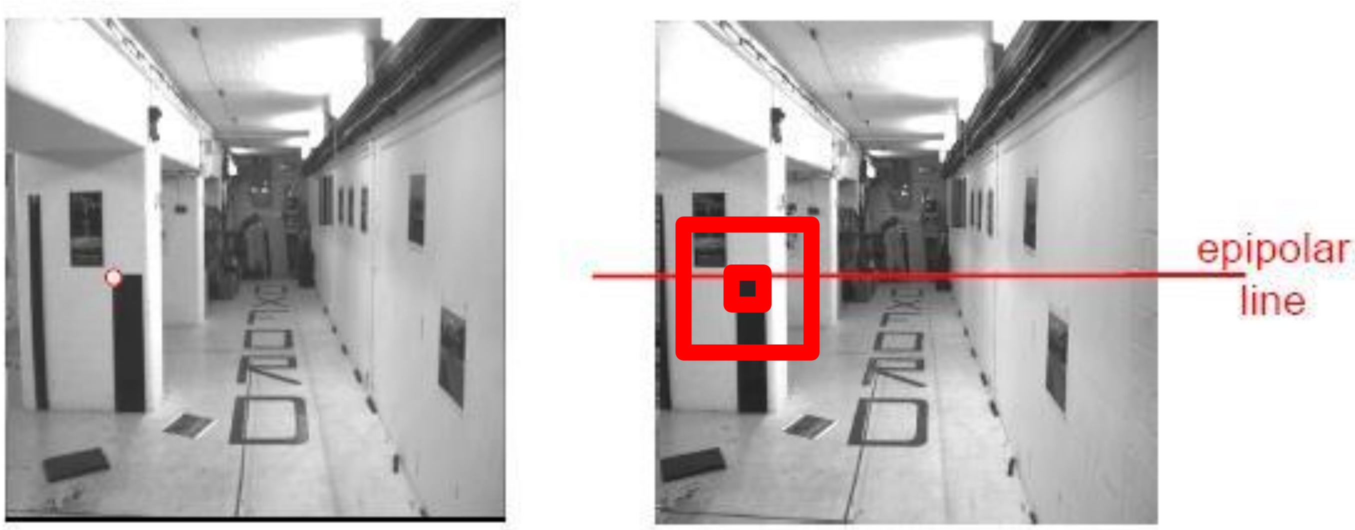


Correlation-based window matching



Textureless regions are non-distinct; high ambiguity for matches.

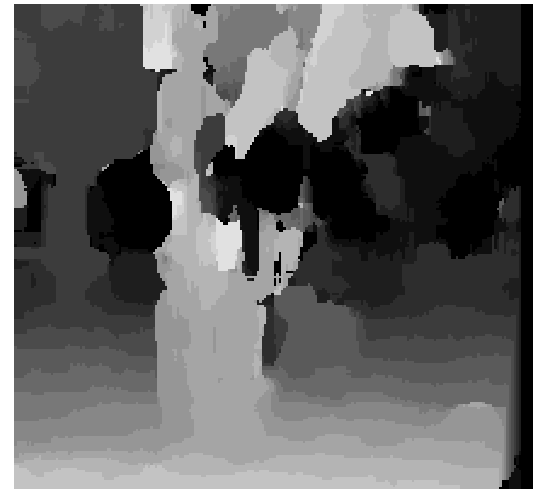
Effect of window size



Source: Andrew Zisserman

Effect of window size

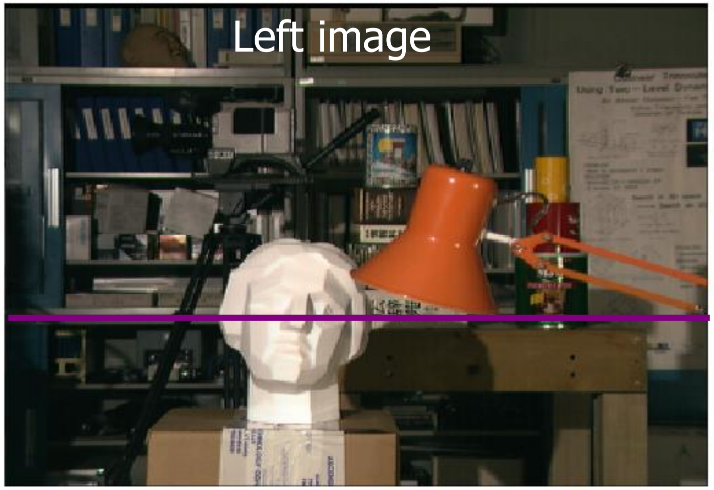
W = 3

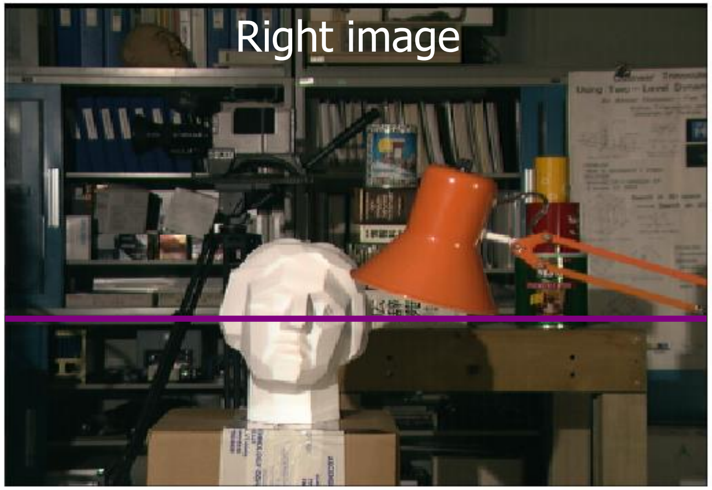


W = 20

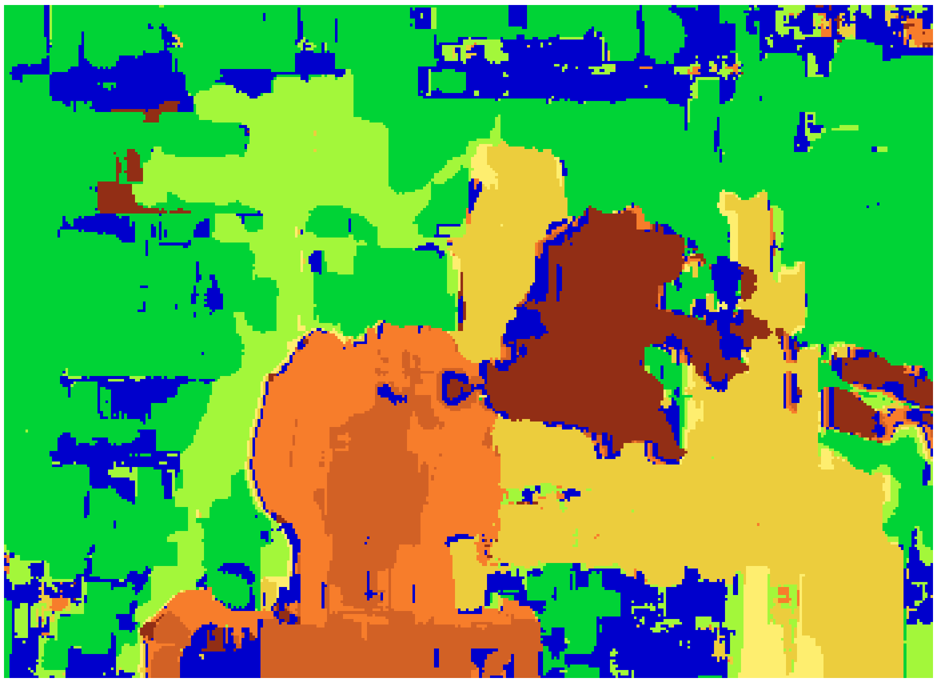
Want window large enough to have sufficient intensity variation, yet small enough to contain only pixels with about the same disparity.

Figures from Li Zhang


Left image


Right image

Results with window search



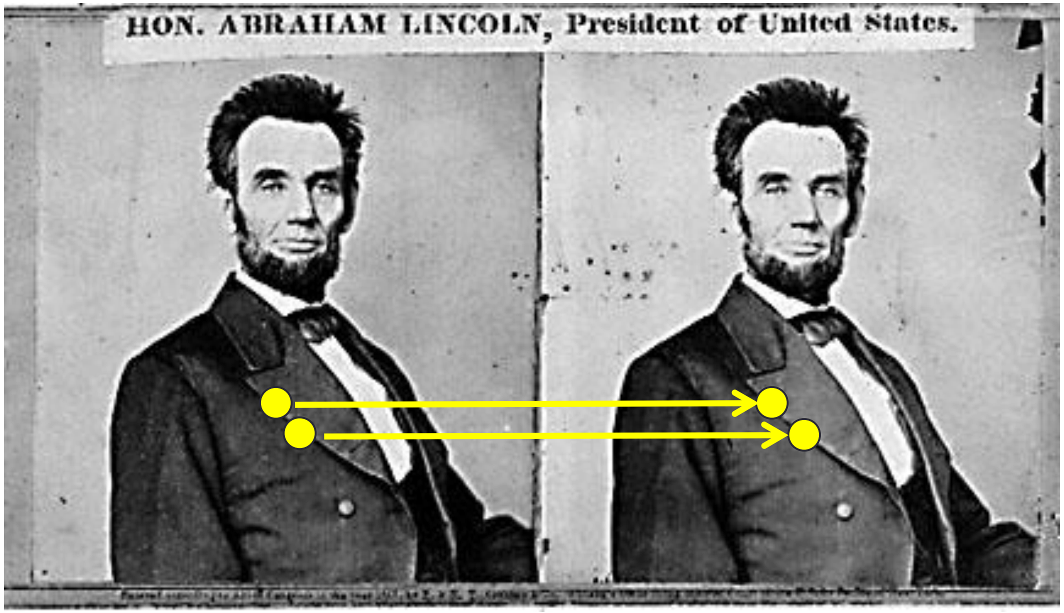
Window-based matching
(best window size)

Ground truth

Better solutions

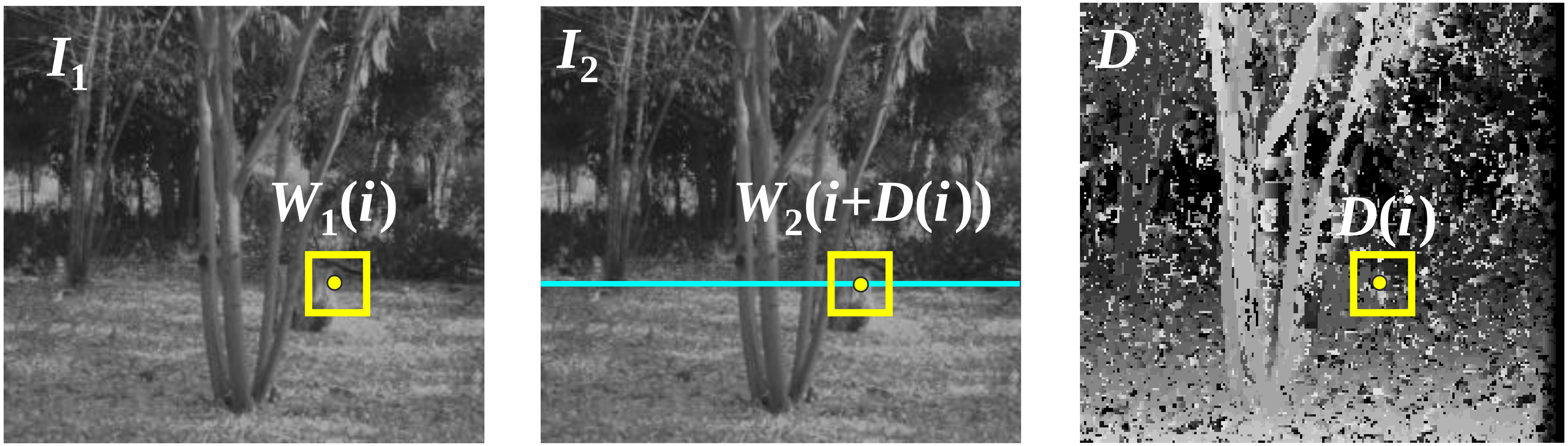
- Beyond individual correspondences to estimate disparities:
- Optimize correspondence assignments jointly
  - Scanline at a time (DP)
  - Full 2D grid (graph cuts)

Stereo as energy minimization



- What defines a good stereo correspondence?
  1. Match quality
     - Want each pixel to find a good match in the other image
  2. Smoothness
     - If two pixels are adjacent, they should (usually) move about the same amount

Stereo matching as energy minimization



$$E = \alpha E_{\text{data}}(I_1, I_2, D) + \beta E_{\text{smooth}}(D)$$

$$E_{\text{data}} = \sum_i \left(W_1(i) - W_2(i + D(i))\right)^2$$

$$E_{\text{smooth}} = \sum_{\text{neighbors}\, i,j} \rho\left(D(i) - D(j)\right)$$

- Energy functions of this form can be minimized using *graph cuts*

Y. Boykov, O. Veksler, and R. Zabih, [Fast Approximate Energy Minimization via Graph Cuts](), PAMI 2001

Source: Steve Seitz

Better results…

Graph cut method

Ground truth

Boykov et al., [Fast Approximate Energy Minimization via Graph Cuts](#), International Conference on Computer Vision, September 1999.

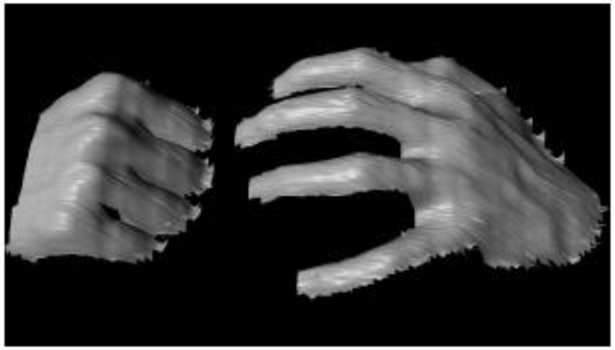
For the latest and greatest: http://www.middlebury.edu/stereo/

Challenges

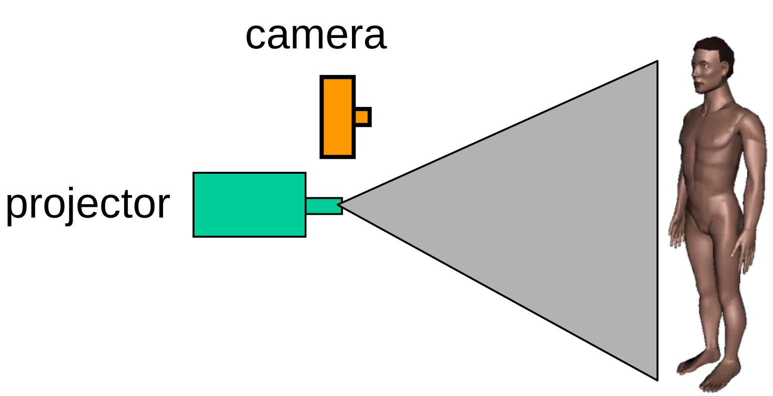
- Low-contrast ; textureless image regions
- Occlusions
- Violations of brightness constancy (e.g., specular reflections)
- Really large baselines (foreshortening and appearance change)
- Camera calibration errors

Active stereo with structured light





- Project “structured” light patterns onto the object
  - Simplifies the correspondence problem
  - Allows us to use only one camera



L. Zhang, B. Curless, and S. M. Seitz. Rapid Shape Acquisition Using Color Structured Light and Multi-pass Dynamic Programming. *3DPVT* 2002

Kinect: Structured infrared light

http://bbzippo.wordpress.com/2010/11/28/kinect-in-infrared/

iPhone X