



# Epipolar Geometry

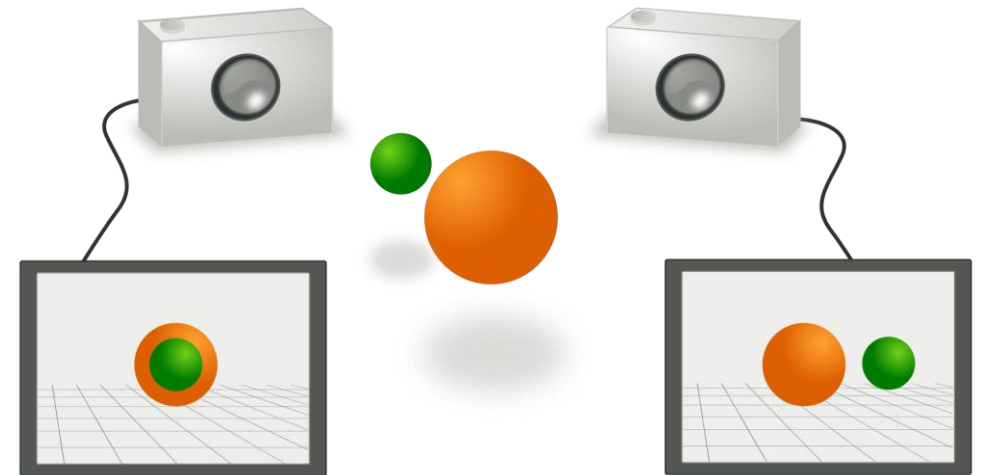
CS 4391 Introduction Computer Vision

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The University of Texas at Dallas

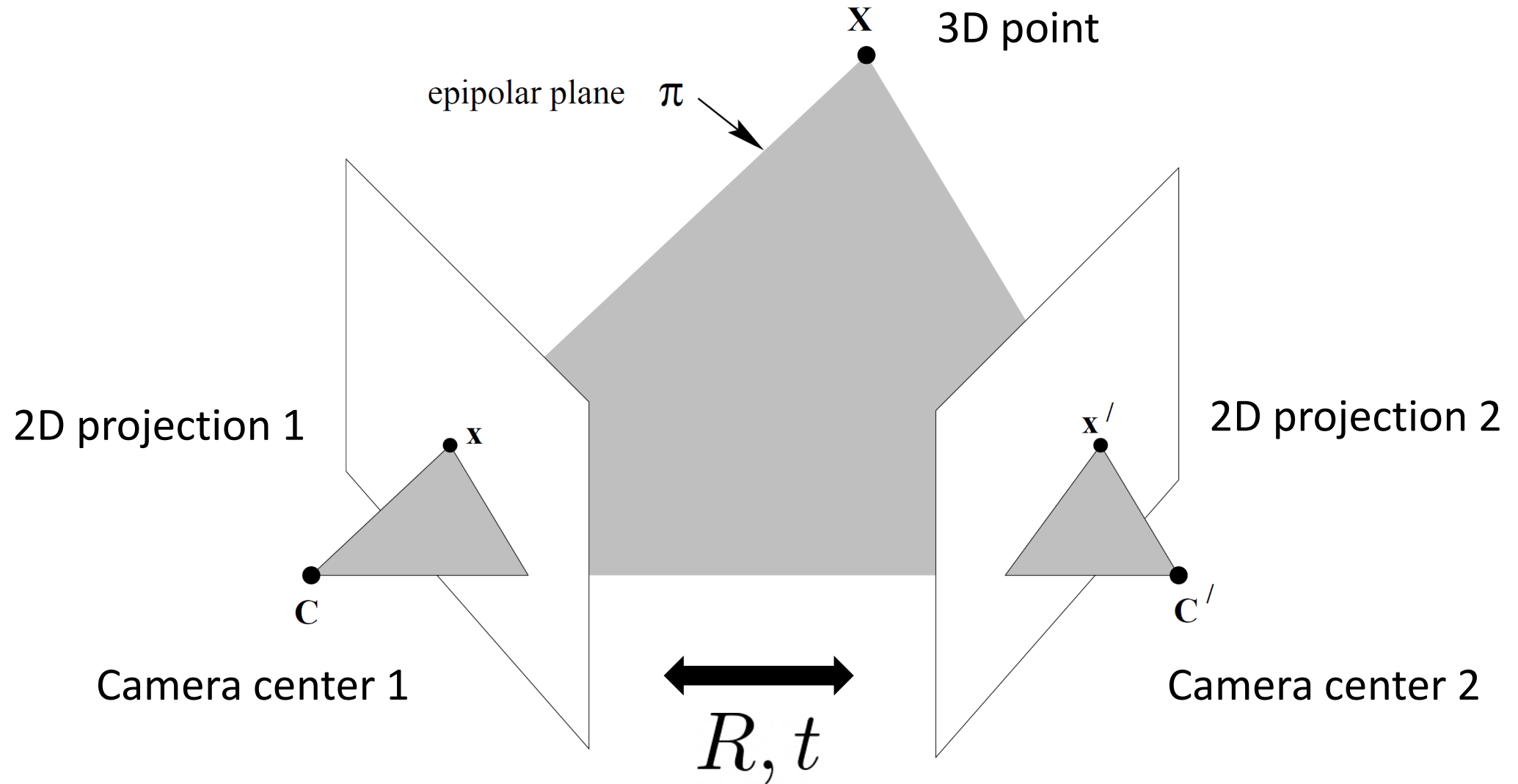
# Epipolar Geometry

- The geometry of stereo vision
  - Given 2D images of two views
  - What is the relationship between pixels of the images?
  - Can we recover the 3D structure of the world from the 2D images?

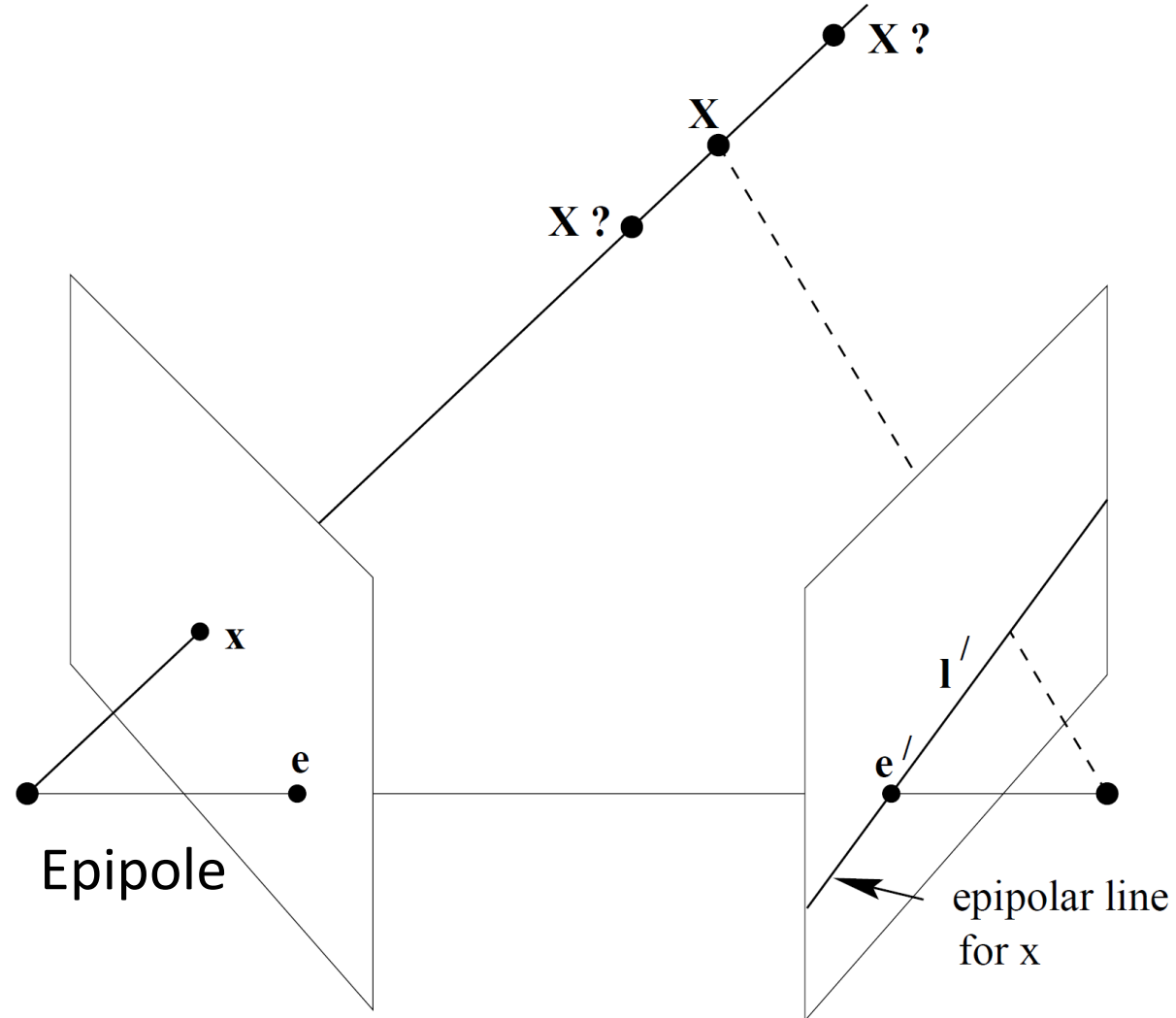


Wikipedia

# Epipolar Geometry



# Epipolar Geometry



# Epipolar Geometry



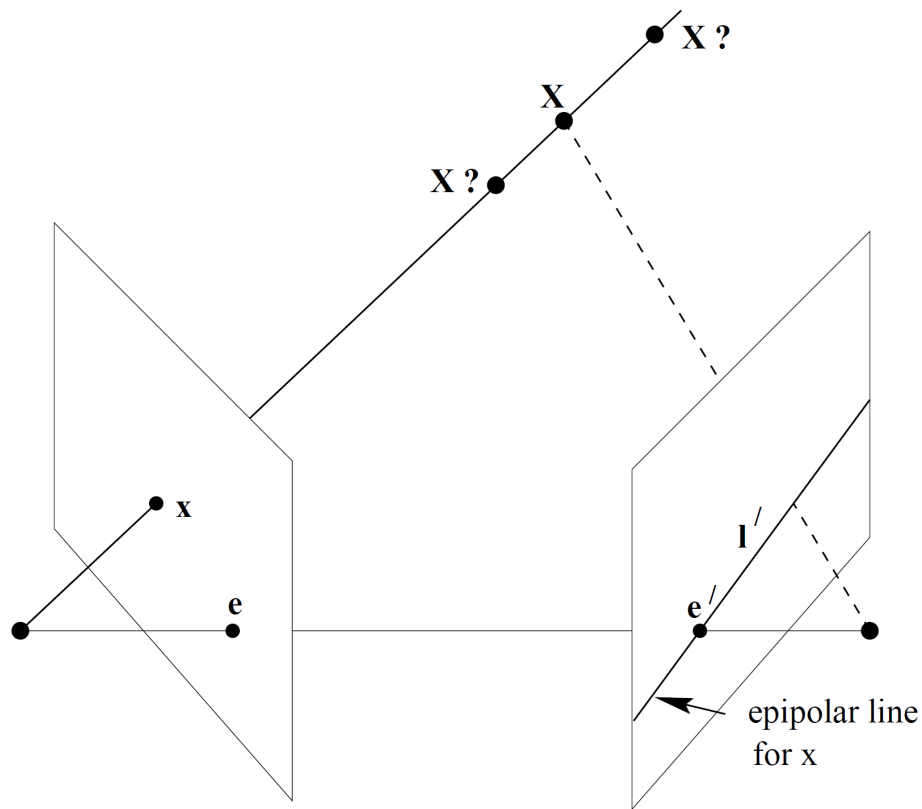
Epipolar lines



Rotation and Translation  
between two views

# Epipolar Geometry

- What is the mapping for a point in one image to its epipolar line?



$$\mathbf{X} \mapsto \mathbf{l}'$$

# 2D Lines

- A line in a 2D plane  $ax + by + c = 0$   $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- It is parameterized by  $\mathbf{l} = (a, b, c)^T$  Homogeneous Coordinates

$k(a, b, c)^T$  represents the same line for nonzero  $k$

- Line equation

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{l} = 0 \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{l} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

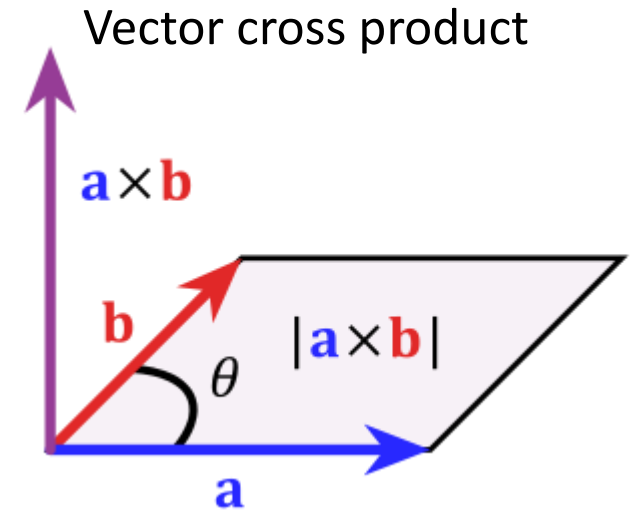
# A Line Joining two Points

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}'$$

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot (\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}') = \mathbf{x}' \cdot (\mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{x}') = 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{l} = \mathbf{x}'^T \mathbf{l} = 0$$



$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \sin(\theta) \mathbf{n}$$

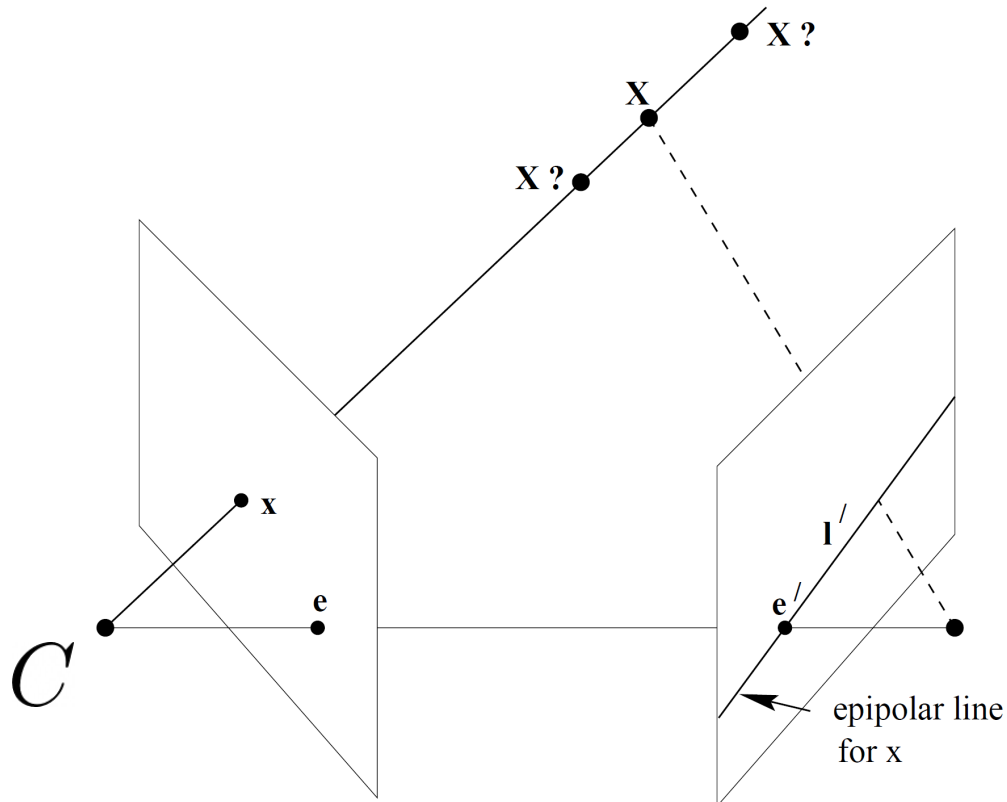
$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Vector dot product

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \cos \theta$$



# Fundamental Matrix



- Recall camera projection

$$P = K[R|\mathbf{t}]$$

$$\mathbf{x} = P\mathbf{X} \quad \text{Homogeneous coordinates}$$

- Backprojection

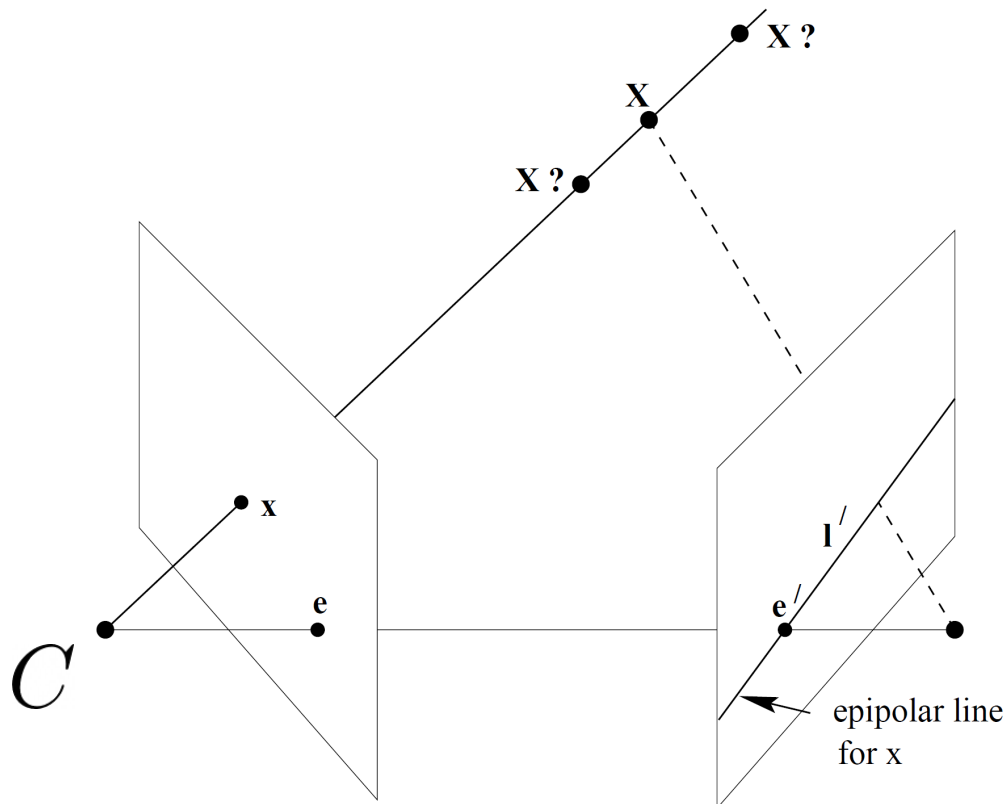
$P^+\mathbf{x}$  and  $C$  are two points on the ray

$P^+$  is the pseudo-inverse of  $P$ ,  $PP^+ = I$

$$P^+ = P^T (PP^T)^{-1}$$

$$\mathbf{X}(\lambda) = (1 - \lambda)P^+\mathbf{x} + \lambda C$$

# Fundamental Matrix



$P^+ \mathbf{x}$  and  $C$  are two points on the ray

- Project to the other image

$P' P^+ \mathbf{x}$  and  $P' C$

- Epipolar line

$$\mathbf{l}' = (P' C) \times (P' P^+ \mathbf{x})$$

Epipole  $\mathbf{e}' = (P' C)$

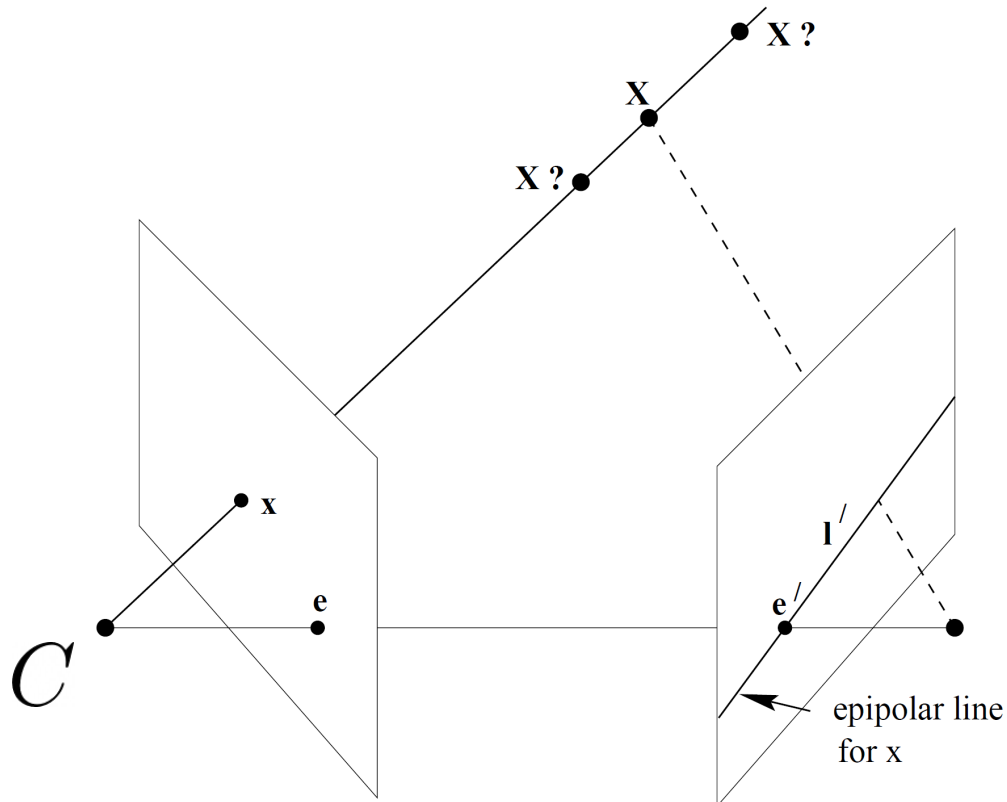
# Skew-symmetric Matrix

$$\boldsymbol{x} = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 \quad [\boldsymbol{x}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -x_3 & x_2 \\ x_3 & 0 & -x_1 \\ -x_2 & x_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{x} \times \boldsymbol{y} = [\boldsymbol{x}]\boldsymbol{y} \quad [\boldsymbol{x}] = -[\boldsymbol{x}]^T$$

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skew-symmetric\\_matrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skew-symmetric_matrix)

# Fundamental Matrix



- Epipolar line

$$\mathbf{l}' = (P' C) \times (P' P^+ \mathbf{x})$$

Epipole  $\mathbf{e}' = (P' C)$

$$\mathbf{l}' = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} (P' P^+ \mathbf{x}) = F \mathbf{x}$$

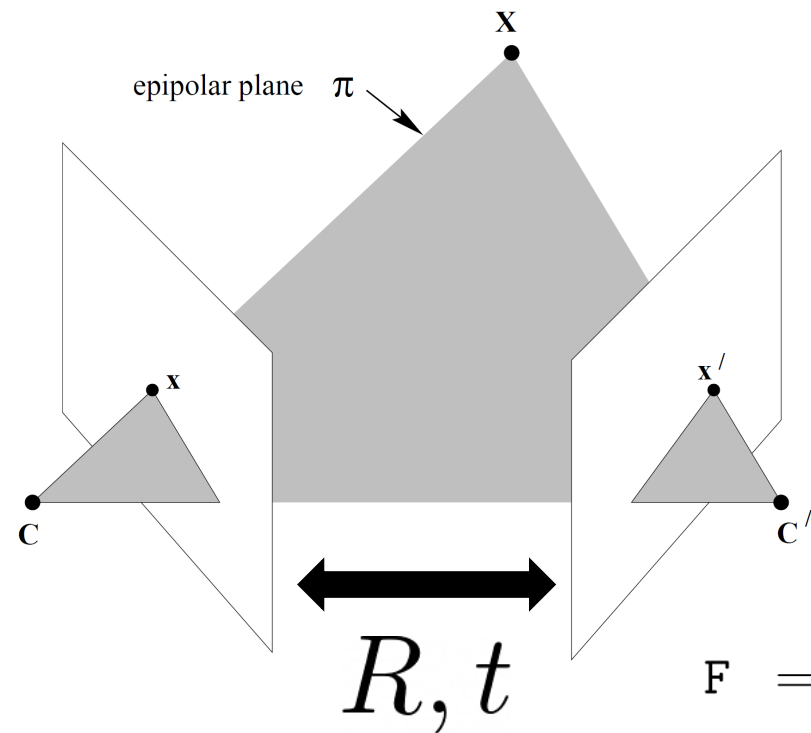
- Fundamental matrix

$$F = [\mathbf{e}']_{\times} P' P^+$$

3x3

$$\mathbf{l}' = F \mathbf{x}$$

# Fundamental Matrix



$$F = [e']_{\times} P' P^+ \quad e' = (P' C)$$

$$P = K[I \mid \mathbf{0}] \quad P' = K'[R \mid \mathbf{t}]$$

$$P^+ = \begin{bmatrix} K^{-1} \\ \mathbf{0}^T \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F &= [P' C]_{\times} P' P^+ \\ &= [K' \mathbf{t}]_{\times} K' R K^{-1} = K'^{-T} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} R K^{-1} = K'^{-T} R [R^T \mathbf{t}]_{\times} K^{-1} = K'^{-T} R K^T [K R^T \mathbf{t}]_{\times} \end{aligned}$$

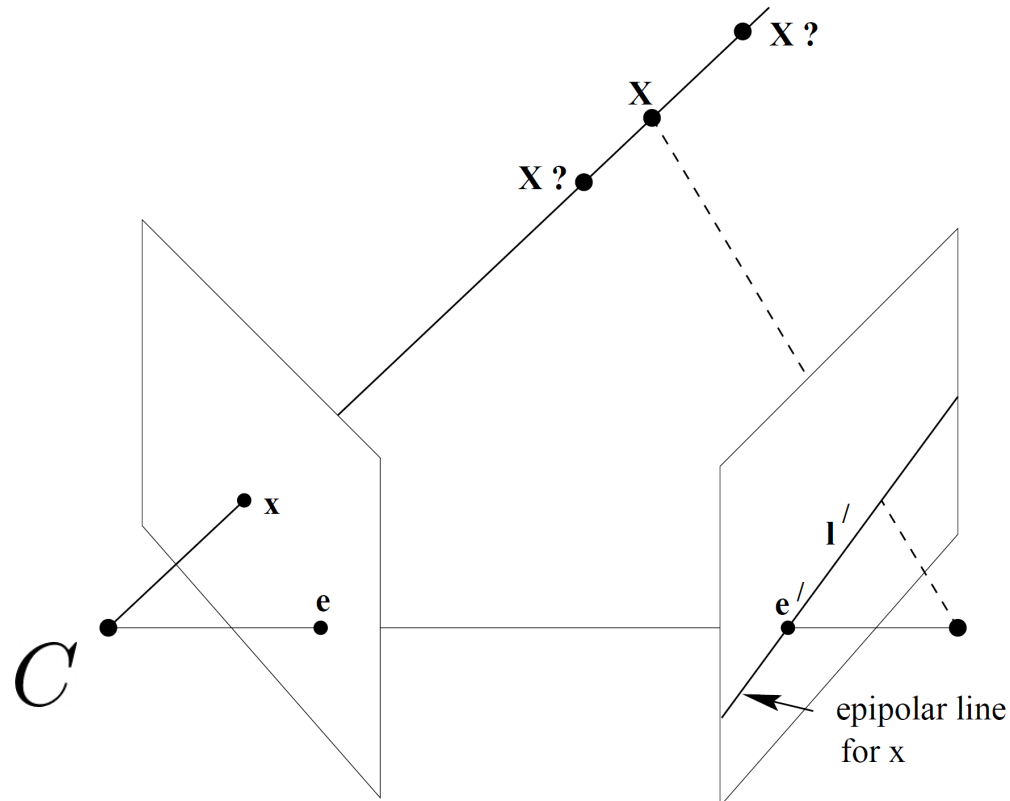
$$e = P \begin{pmatrix} -R^T \mathbf{t} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = K R^T \mathbf{t} \quad e' = P' \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = K' \mathbf{t}$$

$$F = [e']_{\times} K' R K^{-1} = K'^{-T} [\mathbf{t}]_{\times} R K^{-1} = K'^{-T} R [R^T \mathbf{t}]_{\times} K^{-1} = K'^{-T} R K^T [e]_{\times}$$

# Properties of Fundamental Matrix

$\mathbf{x}'$  is on the epipolar line  $\mathbf{l}' = F\mathbf{x}$

$$\mathbf{x}'^T F \mathbf{x} = 0$$



- Transpose: if  $F$  is the fundamental matrix of  $(P, P')$ , then  $F^T$  is the fundamental matrix of  $(P', P)$

- Epipolar line:  $\mathbf{l}' = F\mathbf{x}$   $\mathbf{l} = F^T \mathbf{x}'$

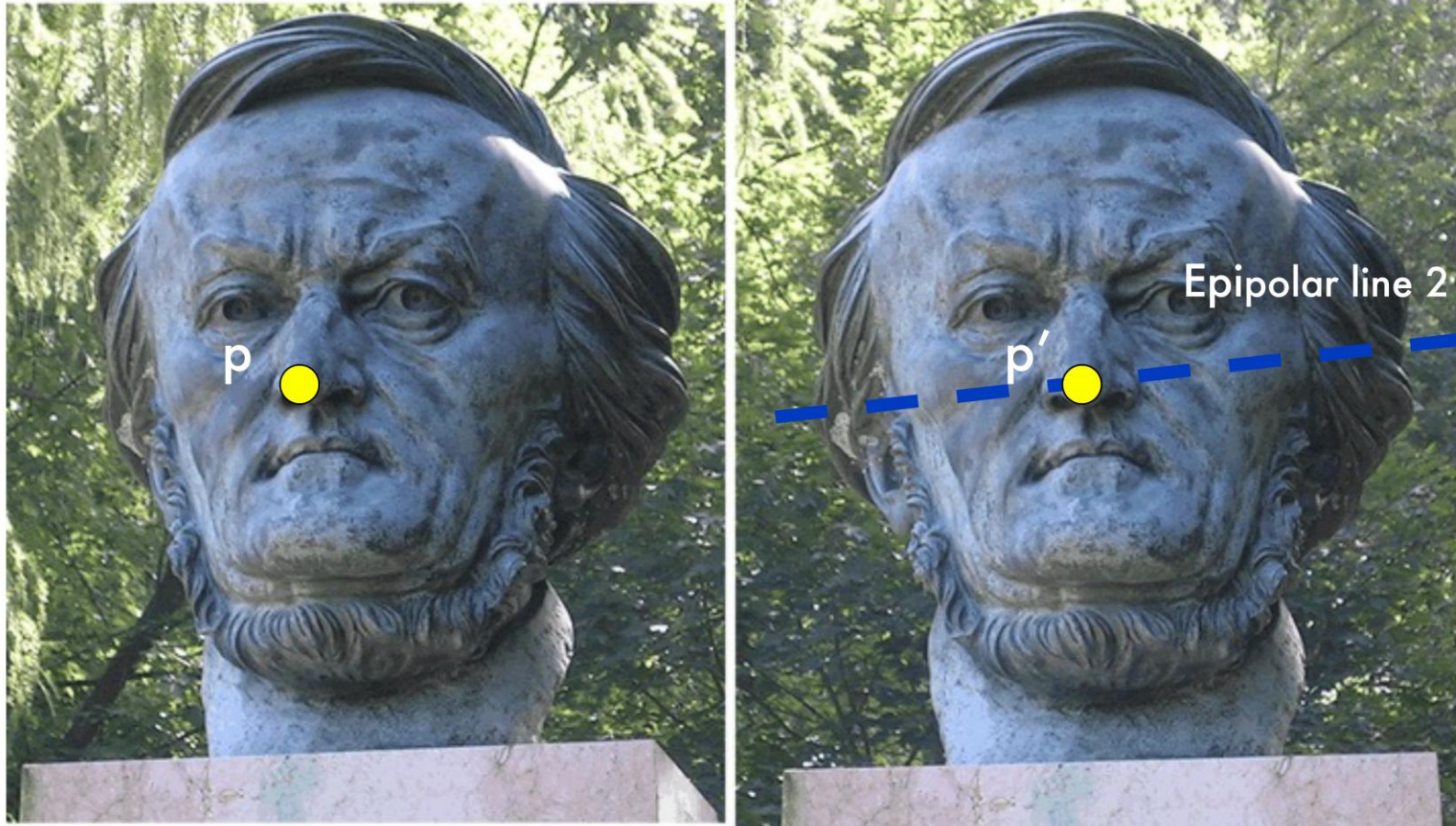
- Epipole:  $\mathbf{e}'^T F = \mathbf{0}$   $F \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{0}$

$$\mathbf{e}'^T (F\mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{e}'^T F)\mathbf{x} = 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{x}$$

- 7 degrees of freedom

$$\det F = 0$$

# Why the Fundamental Matrix is Useful?



$$l' = Fp$$

# Further Reading

- Stanford CS231A: Computer Vision, From 3D Reconstruction to Recognition, Lecture 5 <https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs231a/syllabus.html>
- Multiview Geometry in Computer Vision, Richard Hartley and Andrew Zisserman, Chapter 9, Epipolar Geometry and Fundamental Matrix