CS 2770: Computer Vision Grouping & Transformations

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Plan for this lecture

- Group pixels into:
 - Edges: Extract gradients and threshold
 - Lines: Find which edge points are collinear or belong to another shape
 - Segments: Find which pixels form a consistent region, e.g. via clustering
- Transform pixels:
 - Find relationships between multiple views of the same world point
 - Both parts rely on finding geometric relationships between pixels

Edge detection

- **Goal**: map image from 2d array of pixels to a set of curves or line segments or contours.
- Why?



• Main idea: look for differences in intensity, i.e. find strong gradients, then post-process

What causes an edge?

Reflectance change: appearance information, texture



Characterizing edges

• An edge is a place of rapid change in the image intensity function



Source: L. Lazebnik

Now with a little noise...

- Consider a single row or column of the image
 - Plotting intensity as a function of position gives a signal



Where is the edge?

Solution: smooth first



Source: S. Seitz

Derivative theorem of convolution

• Differentiation is convolution, and convolution is associative: $\frac{d}{dx}(f * g) = f * \frac{d}{dx}g$



Canny edge detector

- Filter image with derivative of Gaussian
- Find magnitude and orientation of gradient
- Threshold: Determine which local maxima from filter output are actually edges
- Non-maximum suppression:
 - Thin wide "ridges" down to single pixel width
- Linking and thresholding (hysteresis):
 - Define two thresholds: low and high
 - Use the high threshold to start edge curves and the low threshold to continue them

Example



input image ("Lena")

Derivative of Gaussian filter



Source: L. Lazebnik

Compute Gradients



X-Derivative of Gaussian

Y-Derivative of Gaussian

Gradient Magnitude

Thresholding

- Choose a threshold value t
- Set any pixels less than t to 0 (off)
- Set any pixels greater than or equal to t to 1 (on)

The Canny edge detector



norm of the gradient (magnitude)

The Canny edge detector



thresholding

Another example: Gradient magnitudes



Thresholding gradient with a lower threshold



Thresholding gradient with a higher threshold



The Canny edge detector



How to turn these thick regions of the gradient into curves?

See hidden slides.

Related: Line detection (fitting)

 Why fit lines? Many objects characterized by presence of straight lines



Why aren't we done just by running edge detection?

Kristen Grauman

Difficulty of line fitting



- **Noise** in measured edge points, orientations:
 - e.g. edges not collinear where they should be
 - how to detect true underlying parameters?
- Extra edge points (clutter):
 - which points go with which line, if any?
- Only some parts of each line detected, and some parts are missing:
 - how to find a line that bridges missing evidence?

Least squares line fitting

- •Data: $(x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_n, y_n)$ •Line equation: $y_i = mx_i + b$
- •Find (*m*, *b*) to minimize

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (mx_i + b - y_i)^2$$

where line you found tells you point is along y axis

where point really is along y axis



You want to find a single line that "explains" all of the points in your data, but data may be noisy!

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x_i & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ b \end{bmatrix} - y_i \right)^2 = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & 1 \\ m \\ x_n & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b \\ b \end{bmatrix} - \left[\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \right]^2 = \left\| \mathbf{A} \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{y} \right\|^2$$

Matlab: $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{A} \setminus \mathbf{y}$

А

у;

Adapted from Svetlana Lazebnik

Outliers affect least squares fit



Kristen Grauman

Outliers affect least squares fit



Kristen Grauman

Dealing with outliers: Voting

- Voting is a general technique where we let the features vote for all models that are compatible with it.
 - Cycle through features, cast votes for model parameters.
 - Look for model parameters that receive a lot of votes.
- Noise & clutter features?
 - They will cast votes too, *but* typically their votes should be inconsistent with the majority of "good" features.
- Two common techniques
 - Hough transform
 - RANSAC (hidden slides)



Connection between image (x,y) and Hough (m,b) spaces $y = m_0 x + b_0 \bullet$ A line in the image corresponds to a point in Hough space



Connection between image (x,y) and Hough (m,b) spaces

- $y = m_0 x + b_0$ A line in the image corresponds to a point in Hough space
 - What does a point (x_0, y_0) in the image space map to?
 - Answer: the solutions of $b = -x_0m + y_0$
 - This is a line in Hough space
 - Given a pair of points (x,y), find all (m,b) such that y = mx + b



What are the line parameters for the line that contains both (x_0, y_0) and (x_1, y_1) ?

• It is the intersection of the lines $b = -x_0m + y_0$ and $b = -x_1m + y_1$



How can we use this to find the most likely parameters (m,b) for the most prominent line in the image space?

- Let each edge point in image space vote for a set of possible parameters in Hough space
- Accumulate votes in discrete set of bins; parameters with the most votes indicate line in image space.



Parameter space representation

- Problems with the (m,b) space:
 - Unbounded parameter domains
 - Vertical lines require infinite m
- Alternative: polar representation



Each point (x,y) will add a sinusoid in the (θ,ρ) parameter space

Svetlana Lazebnik

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Svetlana Lazebnik

Algorithm outline: Hough transform

- Initialize accumulator H to all zeros
- For each edge point (x,y) in the image For $\theta = 0$ to 180 $\rho = x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta$ $H(\theta, \rho) = H(\theta, \rho) + 1$ end



- Find the value(s) of (θ*, ρ*) where H(θ, ρ) is a local maximum
 - The detected line in the image is given by
 ρ* = x cos θ* + y sin θ*

end

Incorporating image gradients

- Recall: when we detect an edge point, we also know its gradient direction
- But this means that the line is uniquely determined!
- Modified Hough transform:

```
For each edge point (x,y) in the image

\theta = gradient orientation at (x,y)

\rho = x cos \theta + y sin \theta

H(\theta, \rho) = H(\theta, \rho) + 1

end
```



Hough transform example



Impact of noise on Hough



Image space edge coordinates Votes

Kristen Grauman
Impact of noise on Hough



What difficulty does this present for an implementation?

Voting: practical tips

- Minimize irrelevant tokens first (reduce noise)
- Choose a good grid / discretization



- **Too coarse:** large votes obtained when too many different lines correspond to a single bucket

- Too fine: miss lines because points that are not exactly collinear cast votes for different buckets
- Vote for neighbors (smoothing in accumulator array)
- Use direction of edge to reduce parameters by 1
- To read back which points voted for "winning" peaks, keep tags on the votes

 A circle with radius r and center (a, b) can be described as:



• Circle: center (a, b) and radius r

$$(x_i - a)^2 + (y_i - b)^2 = r^2$$

• For a fixed radius r, unknown gradient direction



• Circle: center (a, b) and radius r

$$(x_i - a)^2 + (y_i - b)^2 = r^2$$

• For a fixed radius r, unknown gradient direction



 $x = a + r \cos(\theta)$ For every edge pixel (x, y): $y = b + r sin(\theta)$ For each possible radius value r. For each possible gradient direction θ : // or use estimated gradient at (x,y) $a = x - r \cos(\theta) // \operatorname{column}$ $b = y - r \sin(\theta) // row$ H[a,b,r] += 1end

end

Modified from Kristen Grauman

Example: detecting circles with Hough



Note: a different Hough transform (with separate accumulators) was used for each circle radius (quarters vs. penny).

Example: detecting circles with Hough



Note: a different Hough transform (with separate accumulators) was used for each circle radius (quarters vs. penny).

Hough transform: pros and cons

<u>Pros</u>

- All points are processed independently, so can cope with occlusion, gaps
- Some robustness to noise: noise points *unlikely* to contribute *consistently* to any single bin
- Can detect multiple instances of a model in a single pass

<u>Cons</u>

- Complexity of search time for maxima increases exponentially with the number of model parameters
 - If 3 parameters and 10 choices for each, search is $O(10^3)$
- Quantization: can be tricky to pick a good grid size

Generalized Hough transform

 We want to find a template defined by its reference point (center) and several distinct types of landmark points in stable spatial configuration



Triangle, circle, diamond: some *type* of visual token, e.g. feature or edge point

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Edges vs Segments



- Edges: More low-level; don't need to be closed
- Segments: Ideally one segment for each semantic group/object; should include closed contours

Image segmentation: toy example



- These intensities define the three groups.
- We could label every pixel in the image according to which of these primary intensities it is.
 - i.e., *segment* the image based on the intensity feature.
- What if the image isn't quite so simple?



- Now how to determine the three main intensities that define our groups?
- We need to *cluster.*



- Goal: choose three "centers" as the representative intensities, and label every pixel according to which of these centers it is nearest to.
- Best cluster centers are those that minimize sum of squared differences (SSD) between all points and their nearest cluster center ci:

$$\sum_{ ext{clusters } i} \sum_{ ext{points p in cluster } i} \|p-c_i\|^2$$

Clustering

- With this objective, it is a "chicken and egg" problem:
 - If we knew the cluster centers, we could allocate points to groups by assigning each to its closest center.



 If we knew the group memberships, we could get the centers by computing the mean per group.



K-means clustering

- Basic idea: randomly initialize the k cluster centers, and iterate between the two steps we just saw.
 - 1. Randomly initialize the cluster centers, c₁, ..., c_K
 - 2. Given cluster centers, determine points in each cluster
 - For each point p, find the closest c_i. Put p into cluster i

2

- 3. Given points in each cluster, solve for c_i
 - Set c_i to be the mean of points in cluster i
- 4. If c_i have changed, repeat Step 2

Properties

- Will always converge to some solution
- Can be a "local minimum" of objective:

$$\sum_{\text{clusters } i} \sum_{\text{points p in cluster } i} ||p - c_i||$$



Slide: Steve Seitz, image: Wikipedia

1. Ask user how many clusters they'd like. *(e.g. k=5)*



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- Ask user how many clusters they'd like. (e.g. k=5)
- 2. Randomly guess k cluster Center locations
- Each datapoint finds out which Center it's closest to. (Thus each Center "owns" a set of datapoints)



- 1. Ask user how many clusters they'd like. *(e.g. k=5)*
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- Each Center finds the centroid of the points it owns



- Ask user how many clusters they'd like. (e.g. k=5)
- 2. Randomly guess k cluster Center locations
- Each datapoint finds out which Center it's closest to.
- Each Center finds the centroid of the points it owns...
- 5. ...and jumps there
-Repeat until terminated!



K-means converges to a local minimum



How can I try to fix this problem?

K-means: pros and cons

<u>Pros</u>

- Simple, fast to compute
- Converges to local minimum of within-cluster squared error







(B): Ideal clusters



- Setting k?
 - One way: silhouette coefficient
- Sensitive to initial centers
 - Use heuristics or output of another method
 - Try different initializations
- Sensitive to outliers
- Detects spherical clusters

ALTERNATIVES?







(B): k-means clusters

Adapted from K. Grauman

Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

Grouping pixels based on **intensity** similarity



Feature space: intensity value (1-d)

Source: K. Grauman



Adapted from K. Grauman

Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

Grouping pixels based on **intensity** similarity

Clusters based on intensity similarity don't have to be spatially coherent.



Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

Grouping pixels based on **intensity+position** similarity





Both regions are black, but if we also include **position** (**x**,**y**), then we could group the two into distinct segments; way to encode both similarity & proximity.

Depending on what we choose as the *feature space*, we can group pixels in different ways.

Grouping pixels based on **texture** similarity







Filter bank of 24 filters

Feature space: filter bank responses (e.g., 24-d)

Source: K. Grauman

Summary

- Edges: threshold gradient magnitude
- Lines: edge points vote for parameters of line, circle, etc. (works for general objects)
- Segments: use clustering (e.g. K-means) to group pixels by intensity, texture, etc.

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Why multiple views?

• Structure and depth are inherently ambiguous from single views.



Multiple views help us to perceive 3d shape and depth.

Alignment problem

- We previously discussed how to match features across images, of the same or different objects
- Now let's focus on the case of "two images of the same object" (e.g. x_i and x_i')
- What transformation relates x_i and x_i'?
- In *alignment*, we will fit the parameters of some transformation according to a set of matching feature pairs ("correspondences").



Adapted from Kristen Grauman and Derek Hoiem

Motivation: Image mosaics



First, what are the correspondences?



- Compare content in **local** patches, find best matches.
 - Scan x_i' with template formed from a point in x_i, and compute e.g. Euclidean distance between SIFT features of the patches

Second, what are the transformations?

Examples of transformations:



translate



rotate



change aspect ratio



squish/shear



change perspective
Parametric (global) warping



Transformation T is a coordinate-changing machine:

What does it mean that T is global?

- It is the same for any point p
- It can be described by just a few numbers (parameters)

Let's represent *T* as a matrix:



Scaling

Scaling a coordinate means multiplying each of its components by a scalar

Uniform scaling means this scalar is the same for all components:



Scaling

Non-uniform scaling: different scalars per component



Scaling

Scaling operation:

$$x' = ax$$

$$y' = by$$

Or, in matrix form:



2D Linear transformations

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Only linear 2D transformations can be represented with a 2x2 matrix.

Linear transformations are combinations of ...

- Scale,
- Rotation,
- Shear, and
- Mirror

What transforms can we write w/ 2x2 matrix?

2D Scaling?

$$x' = s_x * x$$

 $y' = s_y * y$

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

2D Rotate around (0,0)? (see hidden slide) $x' = \cos \Theta * x - \sin \Theta * y$ $y' = \sin \Theta * x + \cos \Theta * y$ $\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \Theta & -\sin \Theta \\ \sin \Theta & \cos \Theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$

2D Shear?
$$\underbrace{x' = x + sh_x * y}_{y' = sh_y * x + y} \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & sh_x \\ sh_y & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Fig. from https://www.siggraph.org/education/materials/HyperGraph/modeling/mod_tran/2dshear.htm

What transforms can we write w/ 2x2 matrix?



2D Mirror over (0,0)?

$$\begin{array}{c} x' = -x \\ y' = -y \end{array} \qquad \qquad \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

2D Translation?

$$x' = x + t_x$$
$$y' = y + t_y$$

To convert to homogeneous coordinates:

$$(x,y) \Rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{c} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{array} \right]$$

homogeneous image coordinates

Converting from homogeneous coordinates $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ w \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x/w, y/w)$

Translation



Adapted from Alyosha Efros

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

Maps lines to lines, parallel lines remain parallel



Detour: Keypoint matching for search



 $d(f_A, f_B) < T$

- Find a set of distinctive keypoints
- Define a region around each keypoint (window)
- 3. Compute a local descriptor from the region
- 4. Match descriptors

Adapted from K. Grauman, B. Leibe

Detour: solving for translation with outliers





Given matched points in {A} and {B}, estimate the translation of the object

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_i^B \\ y_i^B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_i^A \\ y_i^A \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_x \\ t_y \end{bmatrix}$$

Detour: solving for translation with outliers





Problem: outliers, multiple objects

Hough transform solution

- 1. Initialize a grid of parameter values
- 2. Each matched pair casts a vote for consistent values
- 3. Find the parameters with the most votes



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



Image mosaics: Goals



Obtain a wider angle view by combining multiple images.

Image mosaics: Camera setup

Two images with camera rotation but no translation



Image mosaics: Many 2D views, one 3D object



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

Steve Seitz

How to stitch together panorama (mosaic)?

Basic Procedure

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

Computing the 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...

Computing the homography

• Assume we have four matched points: How do we compute homography **H**?

$$\mathbf{p'=Hp} \qquad \mathbf{p'} = \begin{bmatrix} wx' \\ wy' \\ w \end{bmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} h_1 & h_2 & h_3 \\ h_4 & h_5 & h_6 \\ h_7 & h_8 & h_9 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{p} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ I \end{bmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{h} = \begin{bmatrix} h_4 \\ h_5 \\ h_6 \\ h_7 \\ h_8 \\ h_9 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} wx' \\ wy' \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_1 & h_2 & h_3 \\ h_4 & h_5 & h_6 \\ h_7 & h_8 & h_9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Can set scale factor $h_9 = 1$. So, there are 8 unknowns. Need at least 8 eqs, but the more the better...

$$\begin{bmatrix} -x & -y & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & xx' & yx' & x' \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -x & -y & -1 & xy' & yy' & y' \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0} \qquad \mathbf{DEMO}$$

 h_1

 h_{2}

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Transforming the second image



To **apply** a given homography **H**

- Compute **p'** = **Hp** (regular matrix multiply)
- Convert p' from homogeneous to image coordinates

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

$$p' \qquad H \qquad p$$

Transforming the second image



Forward warping:

Send each pixel f(x,y) to its corresponding location (x',y') = H(x,y) in the right image

Transforming the second image

ALTERNATIVES?



Forward warping:

Send each pixel f(x,y) to its corresponding location (x',y') = H(x,y) in the right image

- Q: what if pixel lands "between" two pixels?
- A: distribute color among neighboring pixels (x',y')

Next: Stereo vision

- Homography: Same camera center, but camera rotates
- Stereo vision: Camera center is not the same (we have multiple cameras)
- Epipolar geometry
 - Relates cameras from two positions/cameras
- Stereo depth estimation
 - Recover depth from disparities between two images

Stereo photography and stereo viewers

Take two pictures of the same subject from two slightly different viewpoints and display so that each eye sees only one of the images.



Invented by Sir Charles Wheatstone, 1838



Image from fisher-price.com



Depth from stereo for computers



Two cameras, simultaneous views

Single moving camera and static scene

Kristen Grauman

Depth from stereo

 Goal: recover depth by finding image coordinate x' that corresponds to x, then measuring discrepancy between x and x'



Geometry for a simple stereo system

• Assume parallel optical axes, known camera parameters (i.e., calibrated cameras). What is expression for Z?



Depth is inversely proportional to disparity.

Similar triangles (p_l, P, p_r) and (O_l, P, O_r) :

$$\frac{T + x_l - x_r}{Z - f} = \frac{T}{Z}$$



Adapted from Kristen Grauman

Depth from disparity

- We have two images from different cameras.
- First, find corresponding points in two images
 - How to do this efficiently?
- Second, estimate relative depth from correspondences



Stereo correspondence constraints



 Given p in left image, where can corresponding point p' be?

Epipolar constraint



Geometry of two views constrains where the corresponding pixel for some image point in the first view must occur in the second view.

- It must be on the line where (1) the plane connecting the world point and optical centers, and (2) the image plane, intersect.
- Potential matches for *p* have to lie on the corresponding line *l*'.
- Potential matches for p' have to lie on the corresponding line I.

Epipolar geometry: notation



- Baseline line connecting the two camera centers
- Epipoles
- = intersections of baseline with image planes
- = projections of the other camera center
- Epipolar Plane plane containing baseline
- Epipolar Lines intersections of epipolar plane with image planes (always come in corresponding pairs)

Epipolar constraint



The epipolar constraint is useful because it reduces the correspondence problem to a 1D search along an epipolar line.

See hidden slides for details.

Rigs related by: Rotation: 3x3 matrix **R** Translation: 3x1 vector **T**.

Essential matrix



E is called the **essential matrix**, and it relates corresponding image points between both cameras, given the **rotation** and **translation**.

Before we said: If we observe a point in one image, its position in other image is constrained to lie on line defined by above. It turns out that:

- $E^{T}x$ is the epipolar line I' through x' in the second image, corresponding to x.
- Ex' is the epipolar line I through x in the first image, corresponding to x'.

Basic stereo matching algorithm



- For each pixel in the first image
 - Find corresponding epipolar scanline in the right image
 - Search along epipolar line and pick the best match x' (e.g. smallest Euclidean distance between SIFT in patch)
 - Compute disparity x-x' and set depth(x) = f*T/(x-x')
Results with window search

Data





Predicted depth

Ground truth





Derek Hoiem

Projective structure from motion

• Given: *m* images of *n* fixed 3D points

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

Problem: estimate *m* projection matrices P_i and *n* 3D points X_j from the *mn* corresponding 2D points X_{ij}



Photo tourism

Noah Snavely, Steven M. Seitz, Richard Szeliski, "Photo tourism: Exploring photo collections in 3D," SIGGRAPH 2006



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

3D from multiple images

Sameer Agarwala, Noah Snavely, Ian Simon, Steven M. Seitz, Richard Szeliski, "Building Rome in a Day," ICCV 2009



Summary of multiple views

- Write **2d transformations** as matrix-vector multiplication
- Fitting transformations: Solve for unknown parameters given corresponding points from two views – linear, affine, projective (homography)
- **Mosaics**: Uses homography and image warping to merge views taken from same center of projection
- **Stereo depth estimation:** Find corresponding points along epipolar scanline, then measure disparity (as inverse to depth)
- Epipolar geometry: Matching point in second image is on a line passing through its epipole; makes search for correspondences quicker