

# Stereo Vision

16-385 Computer Vision (Kris Kitani)  
**Carnegie Mellon University**



*What's different between these two images?*



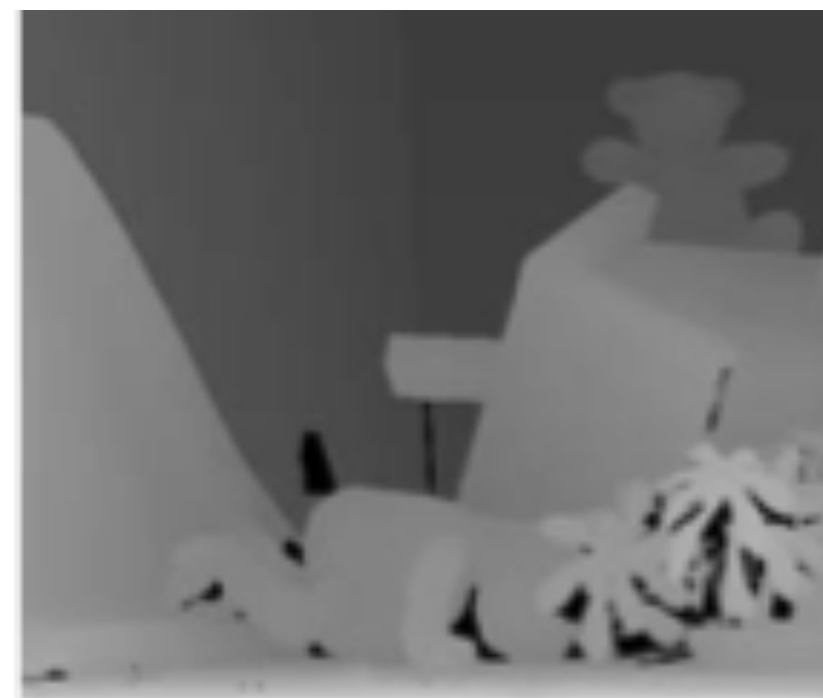






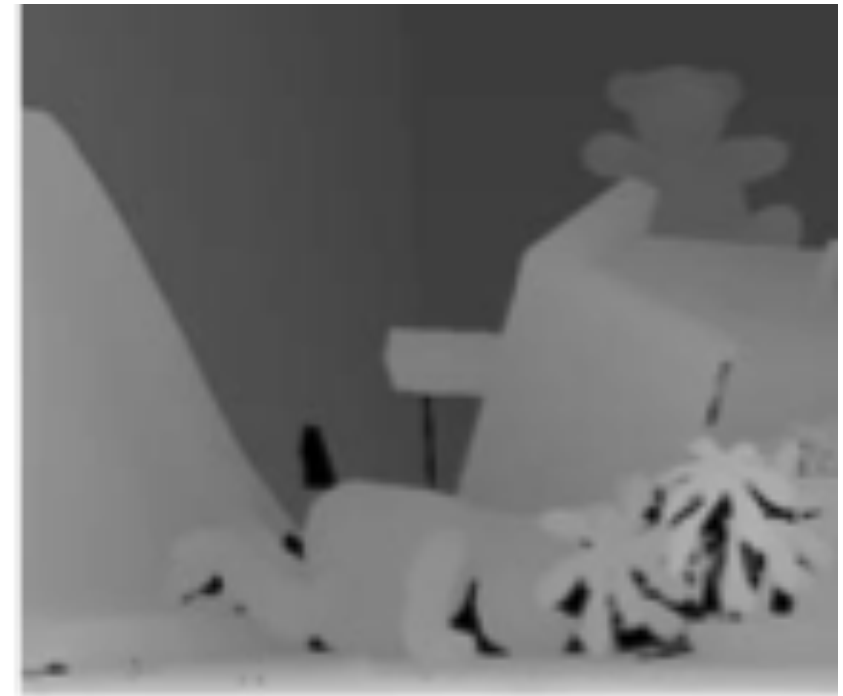
*Objects that are close move more or less?*

The amount of horizontal movement is  
inversely proportional to ...

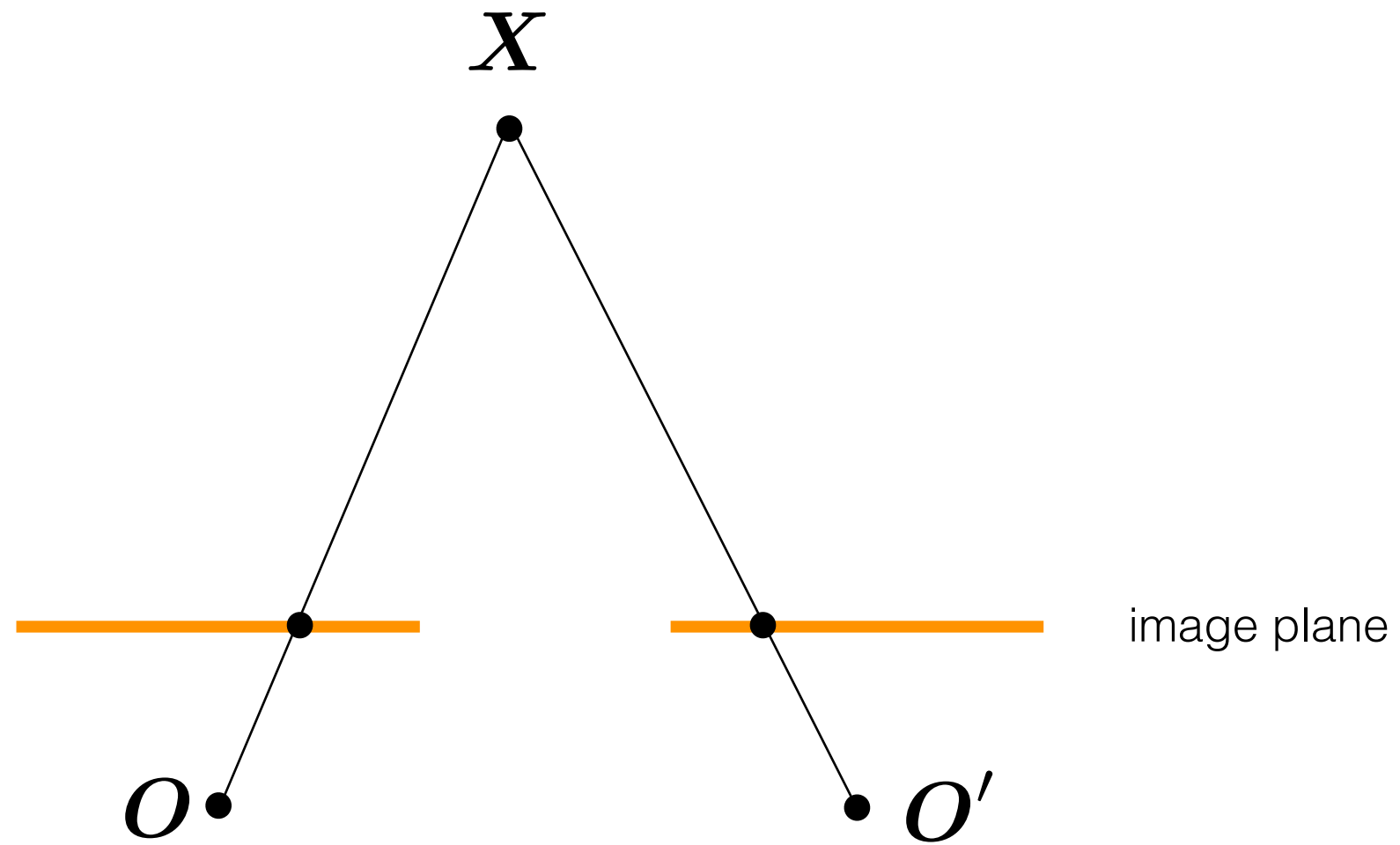




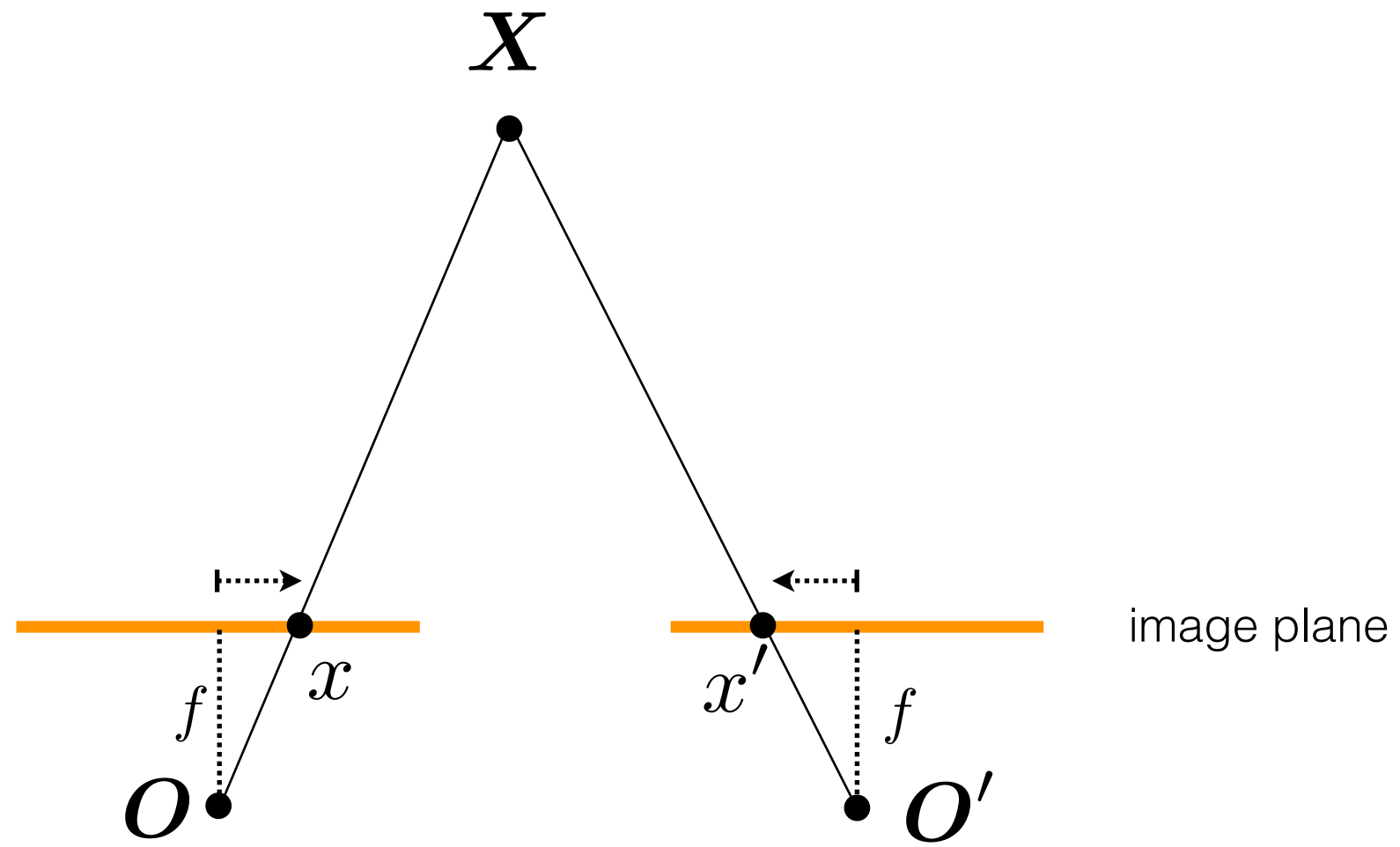
The amount of horizontal movement is  
inversely proportional to ...

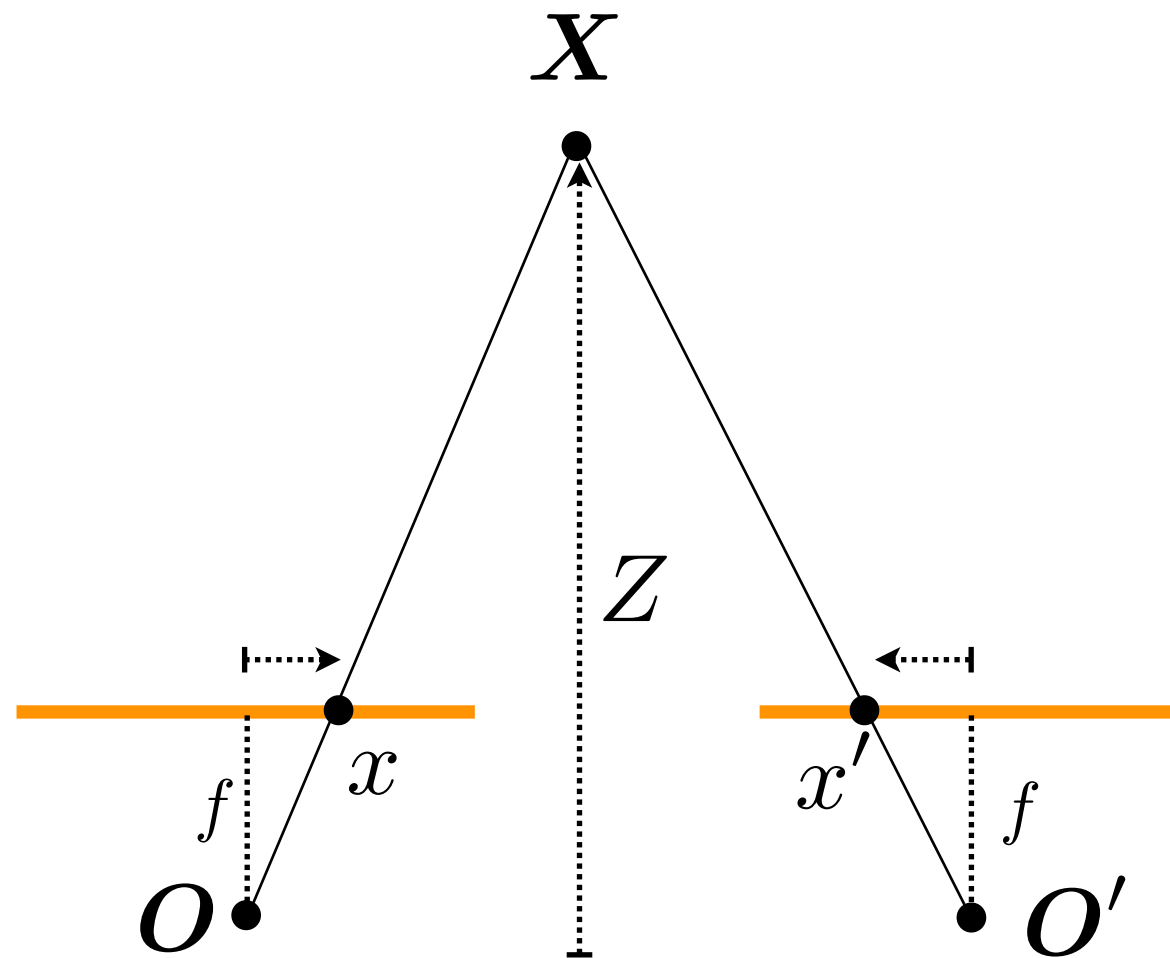


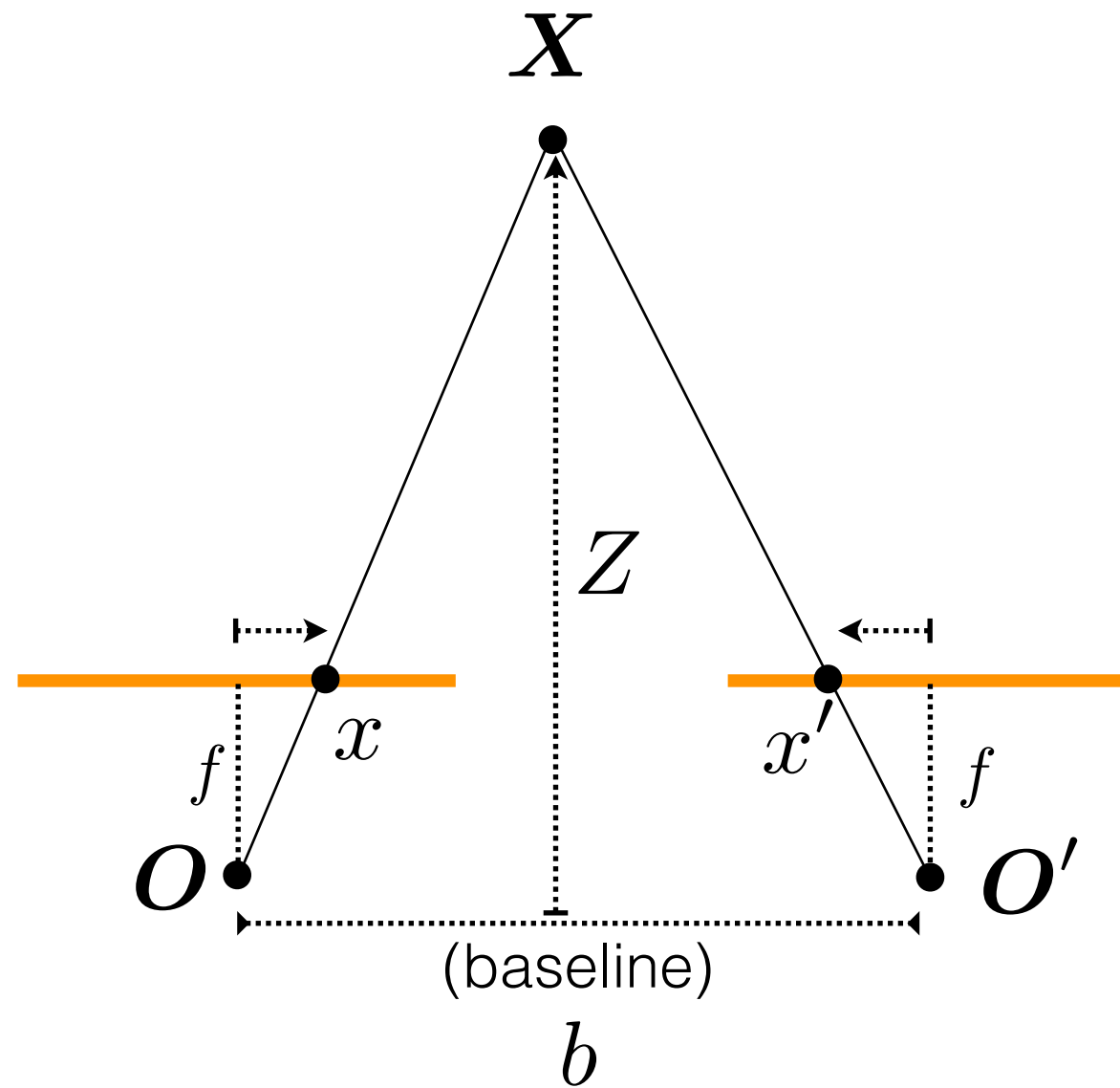
... the distance from the camera.



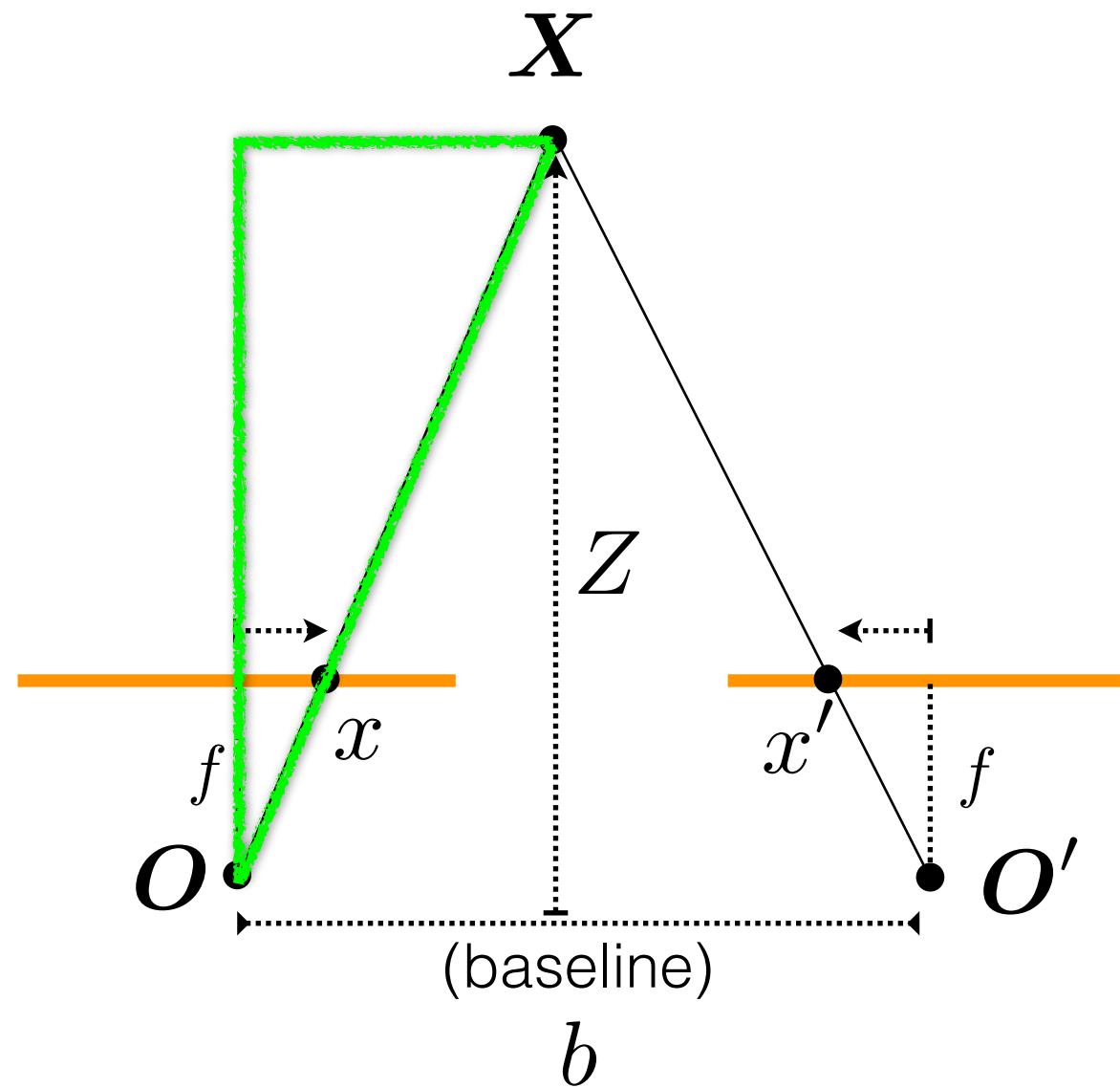






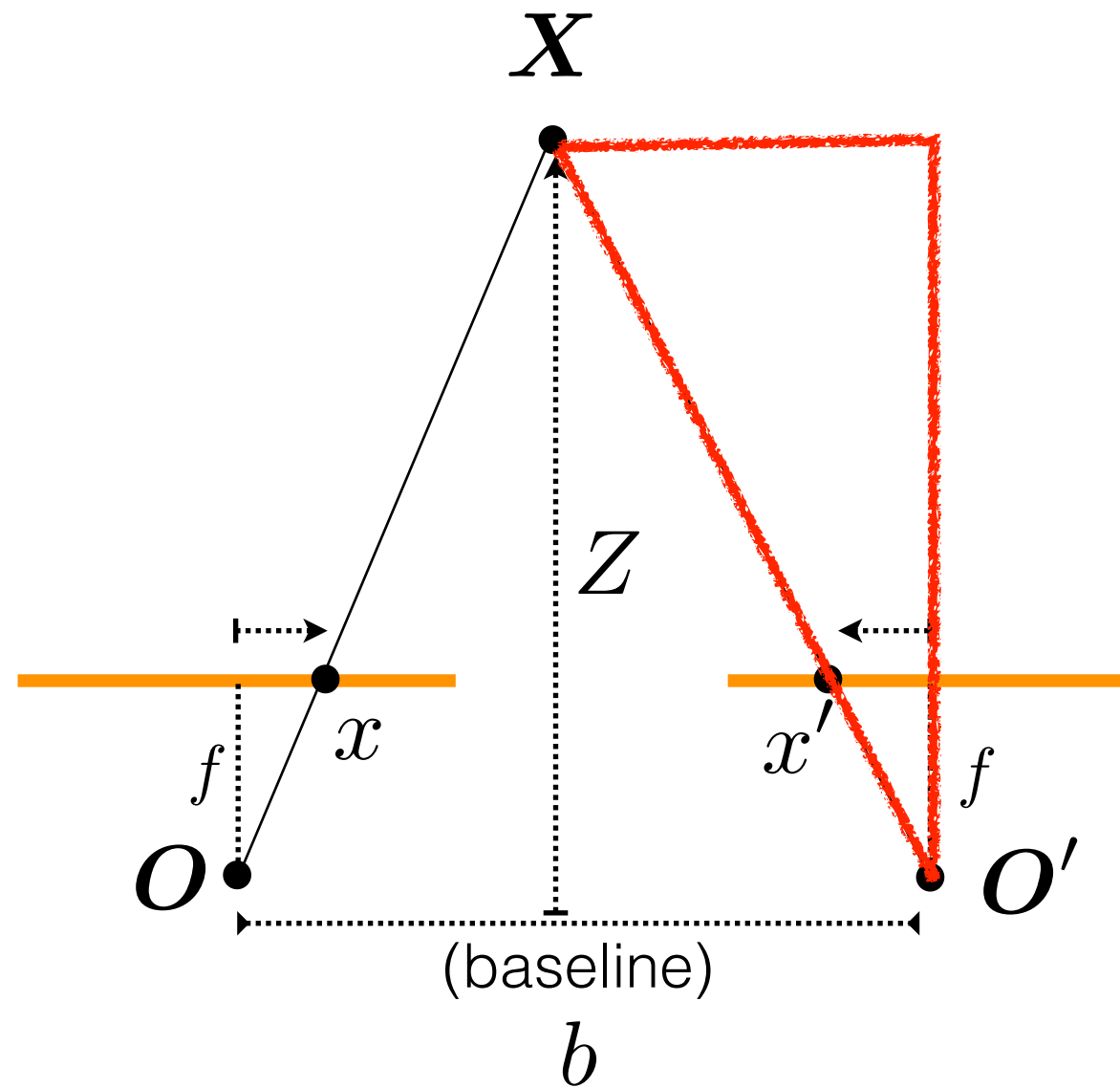


$$\frac{X}{Z} = \frac{x}{f}$$



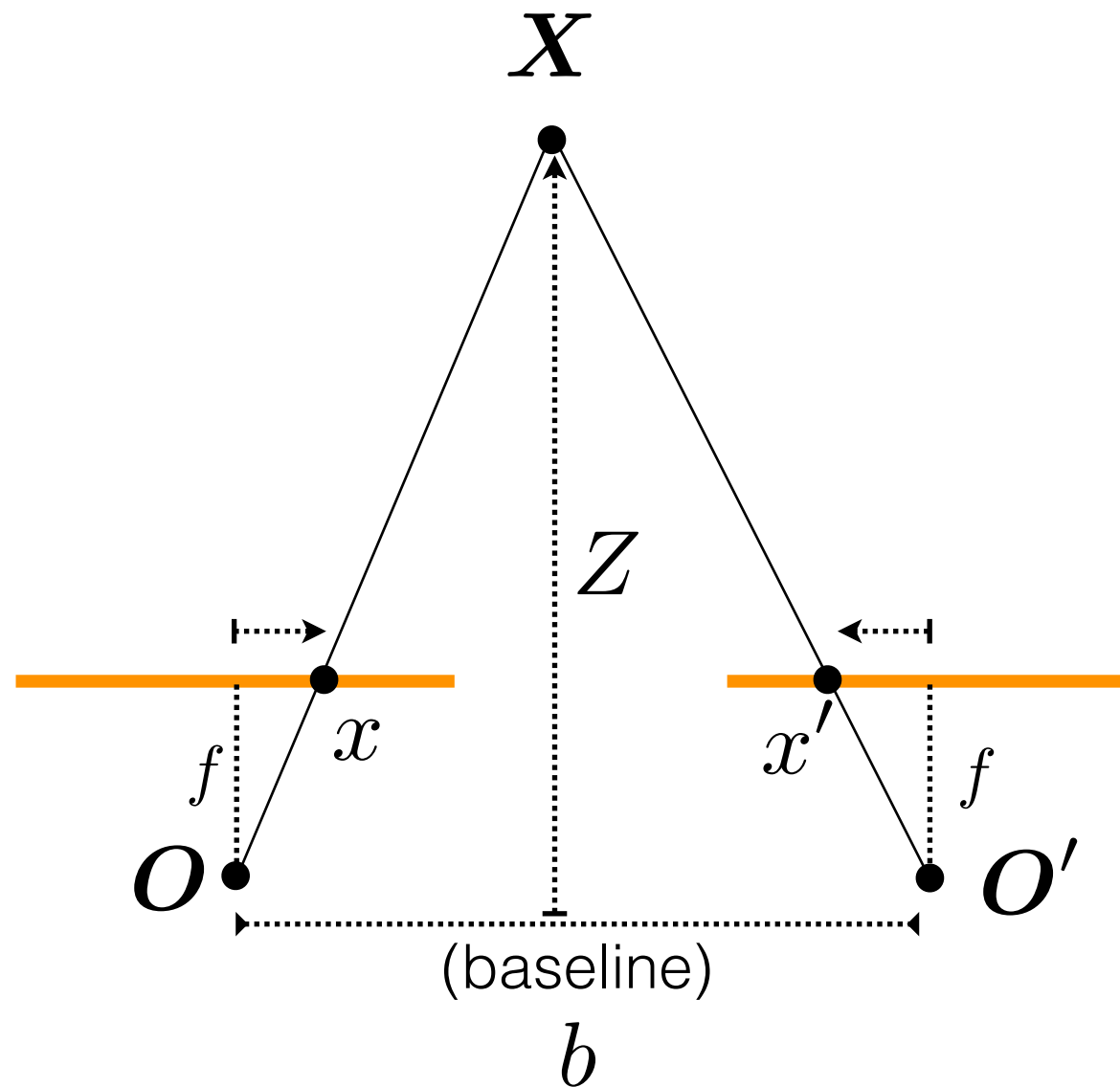


$$\frac{X}{Z} = \frac{x}{f}$$



$$\frac{b - X}{Z} = \frac{x'}{f}$$

$$\frac{X}{Z} = \frac{x}{f}$$



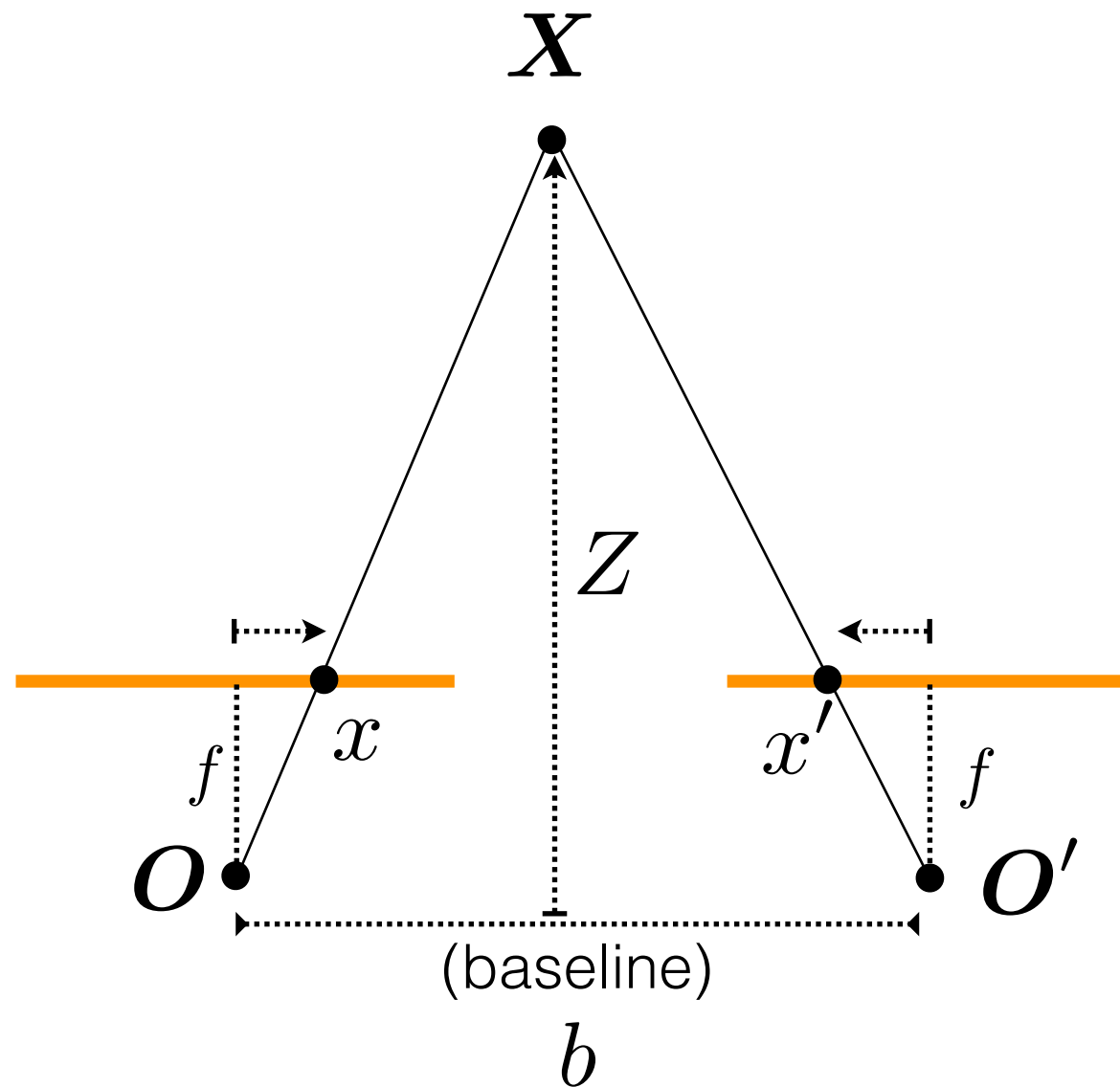
$$\frac{b - X}{Z} = \frac{x'}{f}$$

## Disparity

$$d = x - x'$$

$$= \frac{bf}{Z}$$

$$\frac{X}{Z} = \frac{x}{f}$$



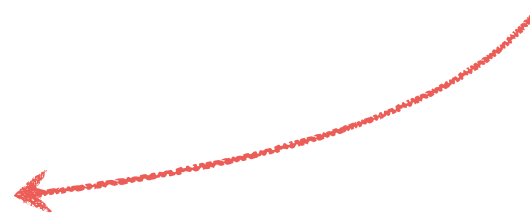
$$\frac{b - X}{Z} = \frac{x'}{f}$$

## Disparity

$$d = x - x'$$

$$= \frac{bf}{Z}$$

inversely proportional  
to depth



# Real-time stereo sensing



Nomad robot searches for meteorites in Antarctica

<http://www.frc.ri.cmu.edu/projects/meteorobot/index.html>





Navigability Map

VFH





Subaru  
Eyesight system

Pre-collision  
braking

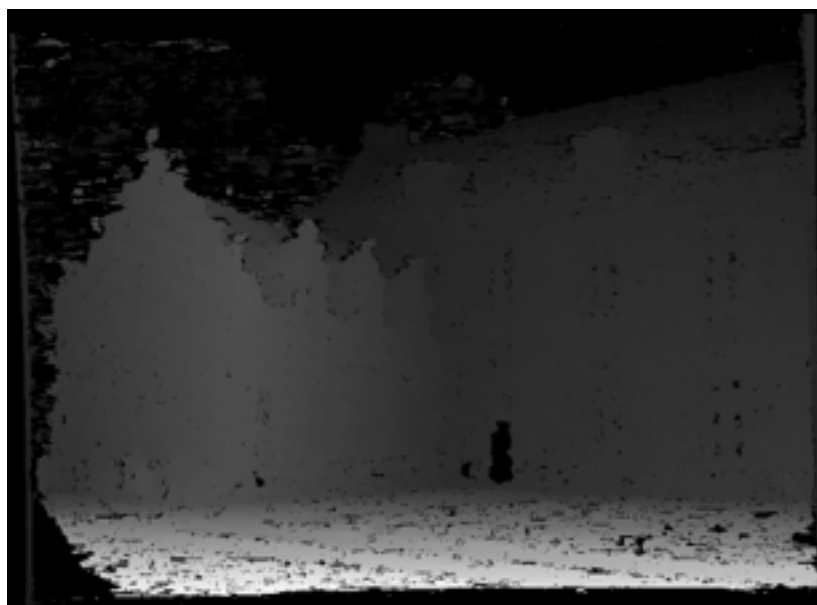




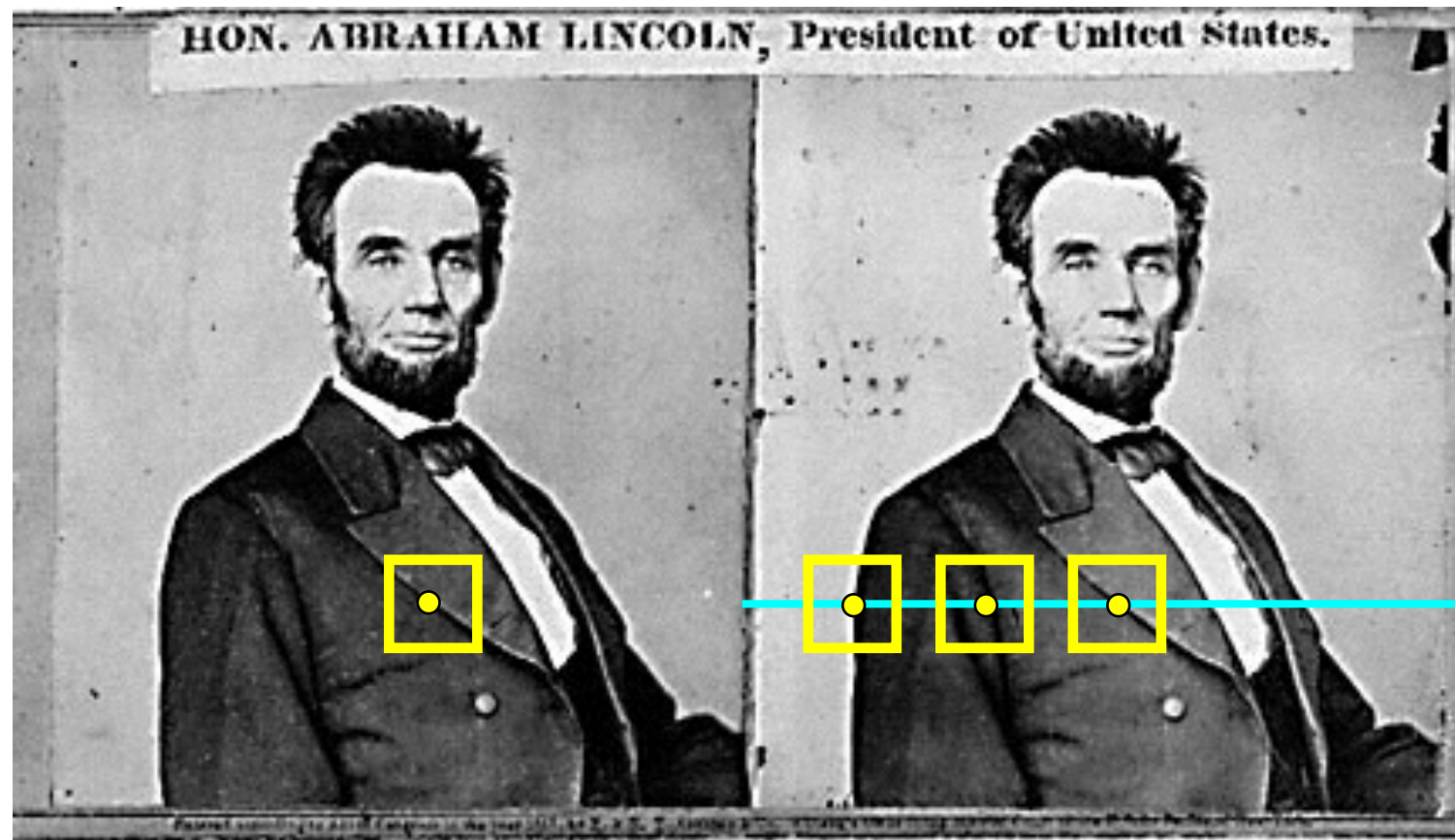




How so you compute depth  
from a stereo pair?

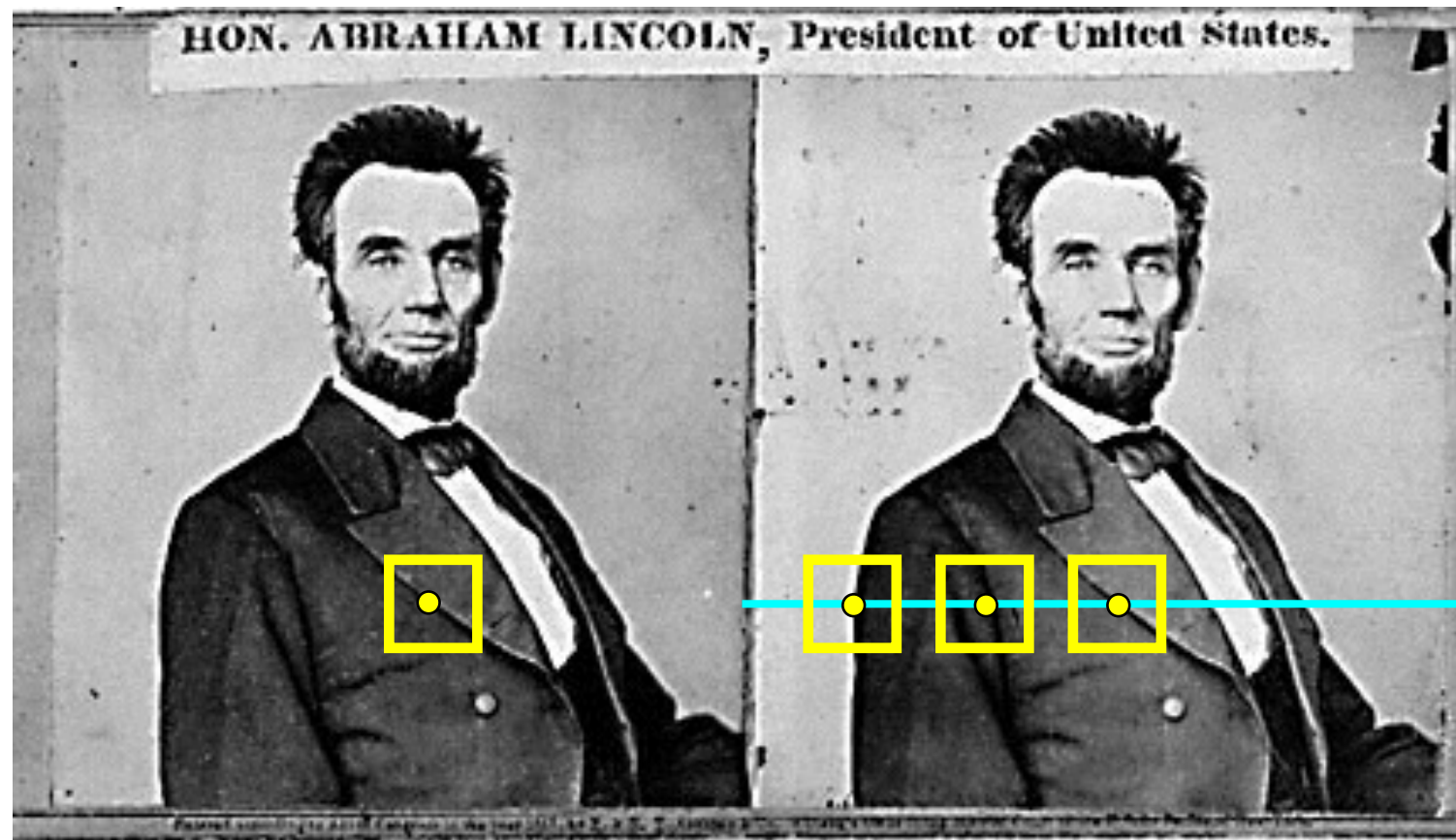




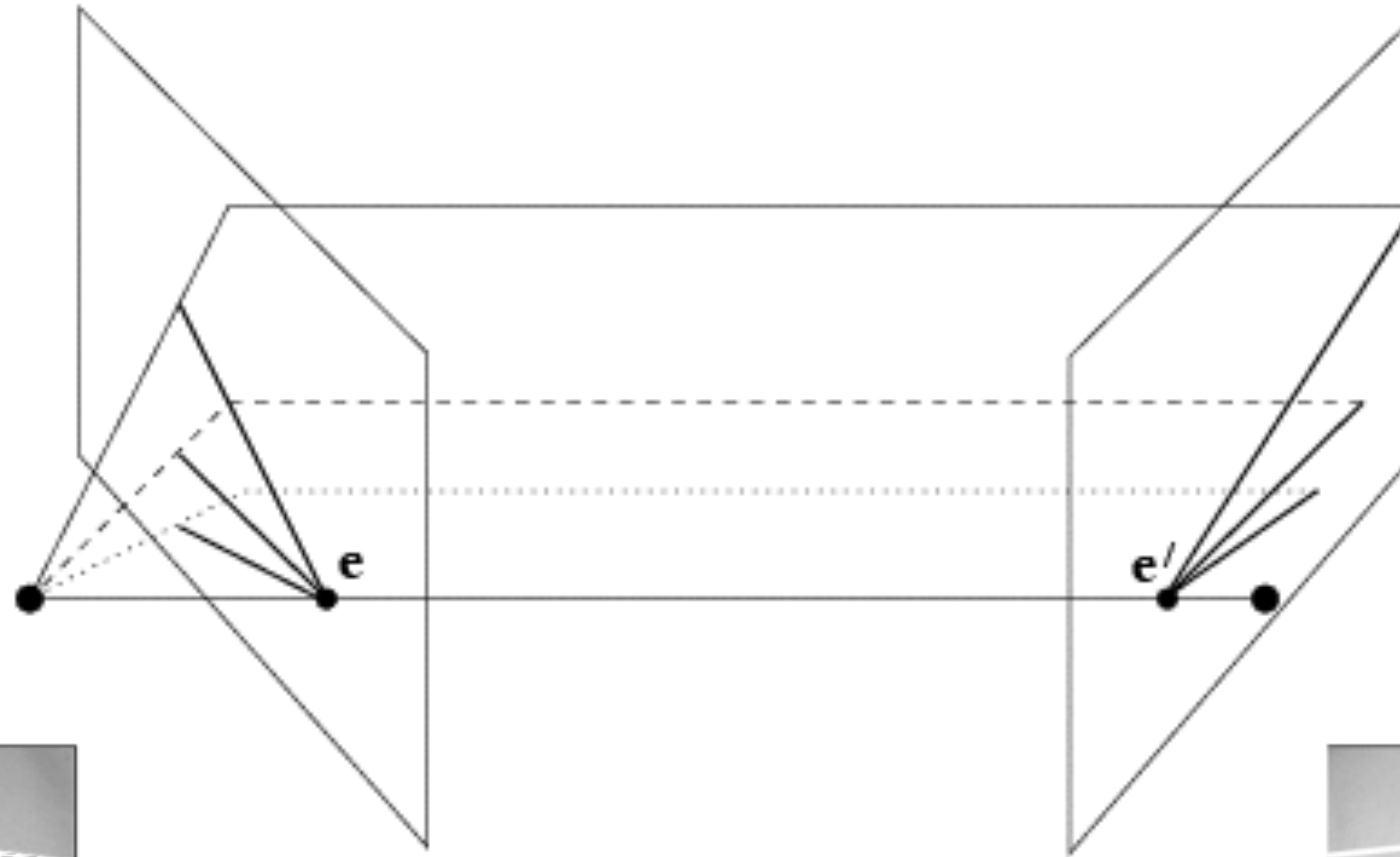


1. Rectify images  
(make epipolar lines horizontal)
2. For each pixel
  - a. Find epipolar line
  - b. Scan line for best match
  - c. Compute depth from disparity

$$Z = \frac{bf}{d}$$



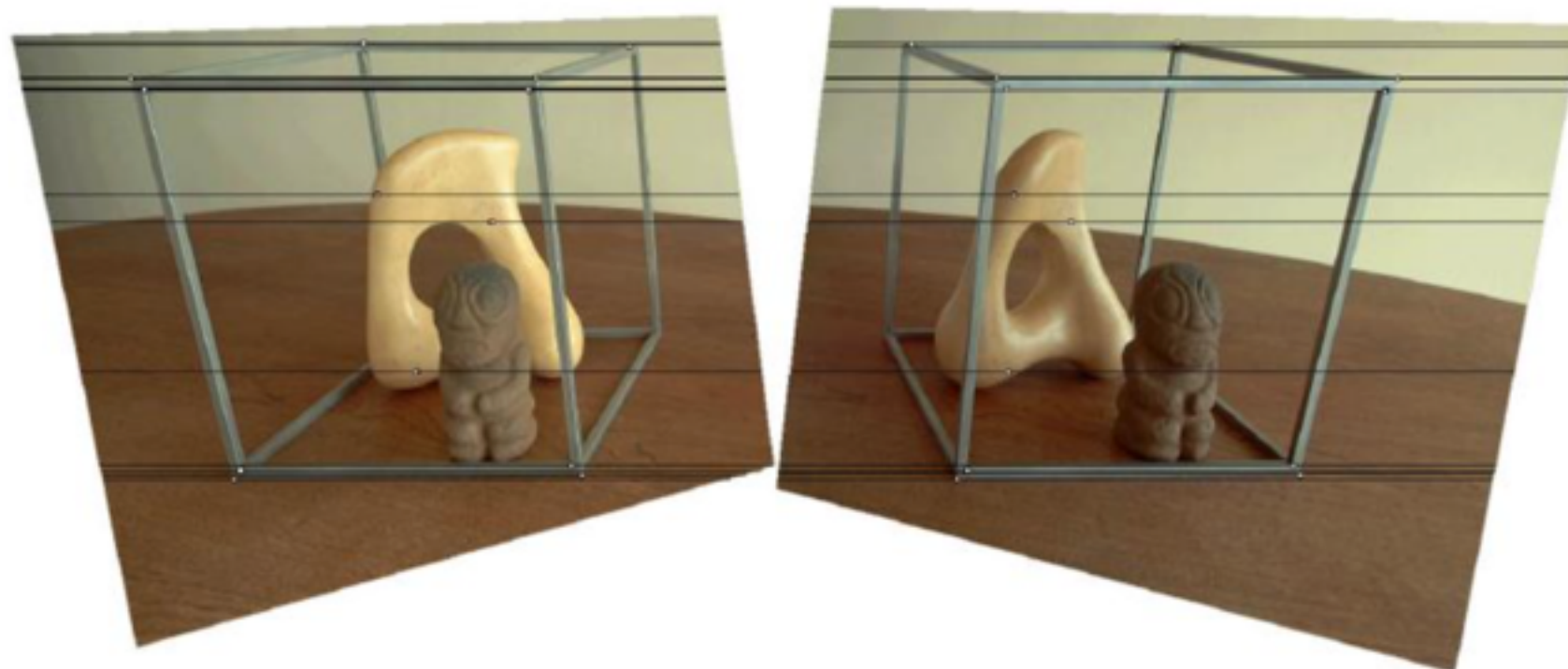
*How can you make the epipolar lines horizontal?*



It's hard to make the image planes exactly parallel



*How can you make the epipolar lines horizontal?*



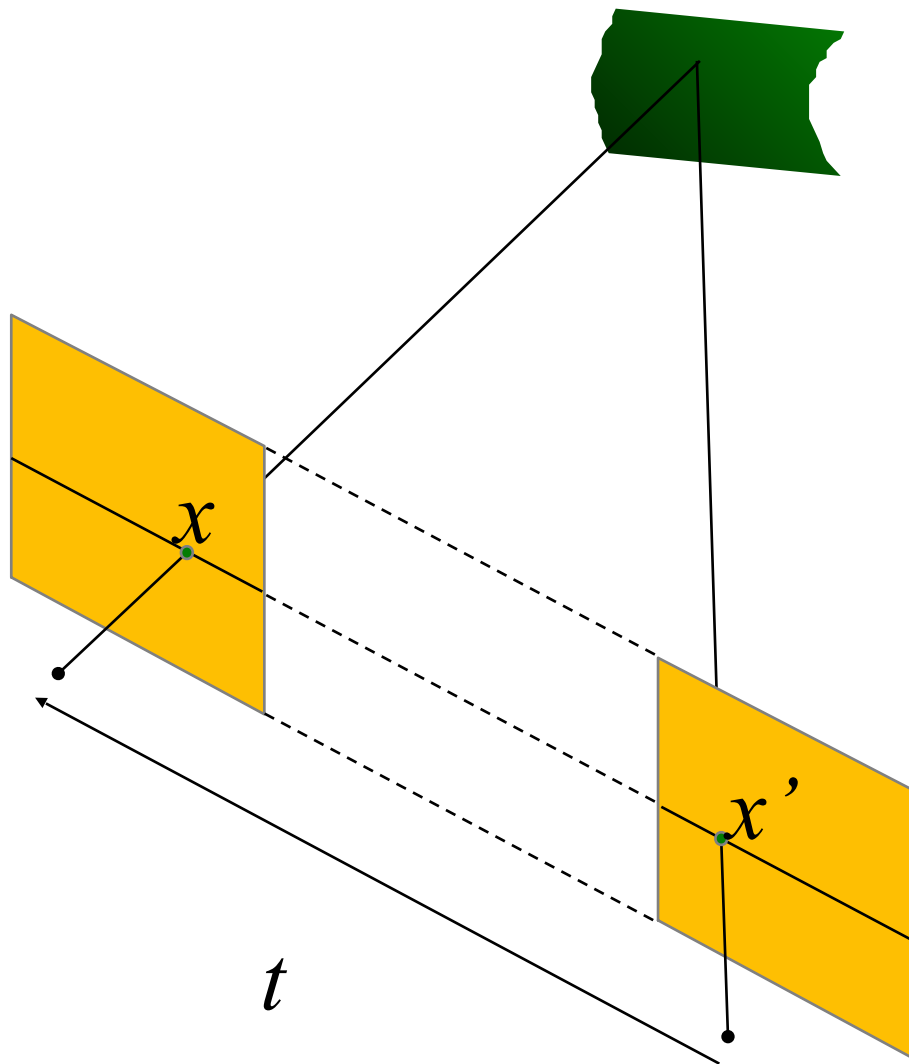


*How can you make the epipolar lines horizontal?*

**When this relationship holds:**

$$R = I$$

$$t = (T, 0, 0)$$



*How can you make the epipolar lines horizontal?*

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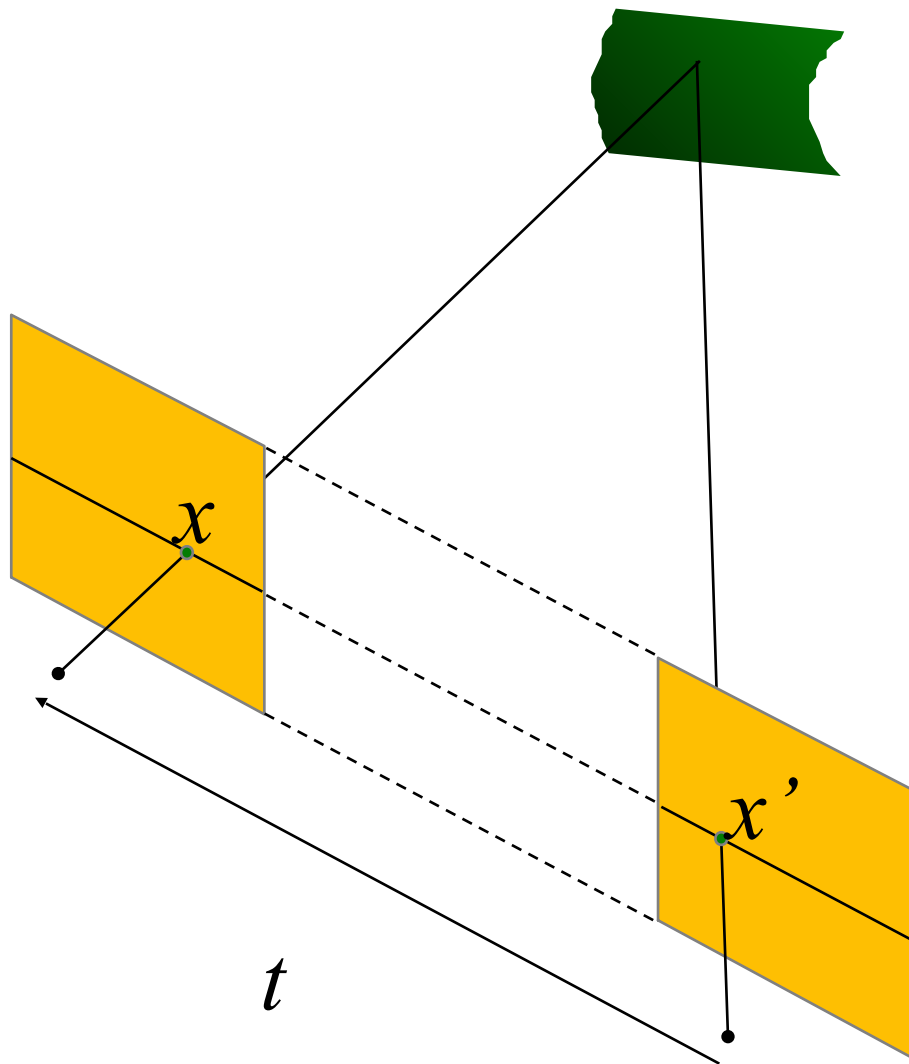
$$R = I \quad t = (T, 0, 0)$$

Let's try this out...

$$E = t \times R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -T \\ 0 & T & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This always has to hold

$$x^T E x' = 0$$



# How can you make the epipolar lines horizontal?

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$$R = I \quad t = (T, 0, 0)$$

Let's try this out...

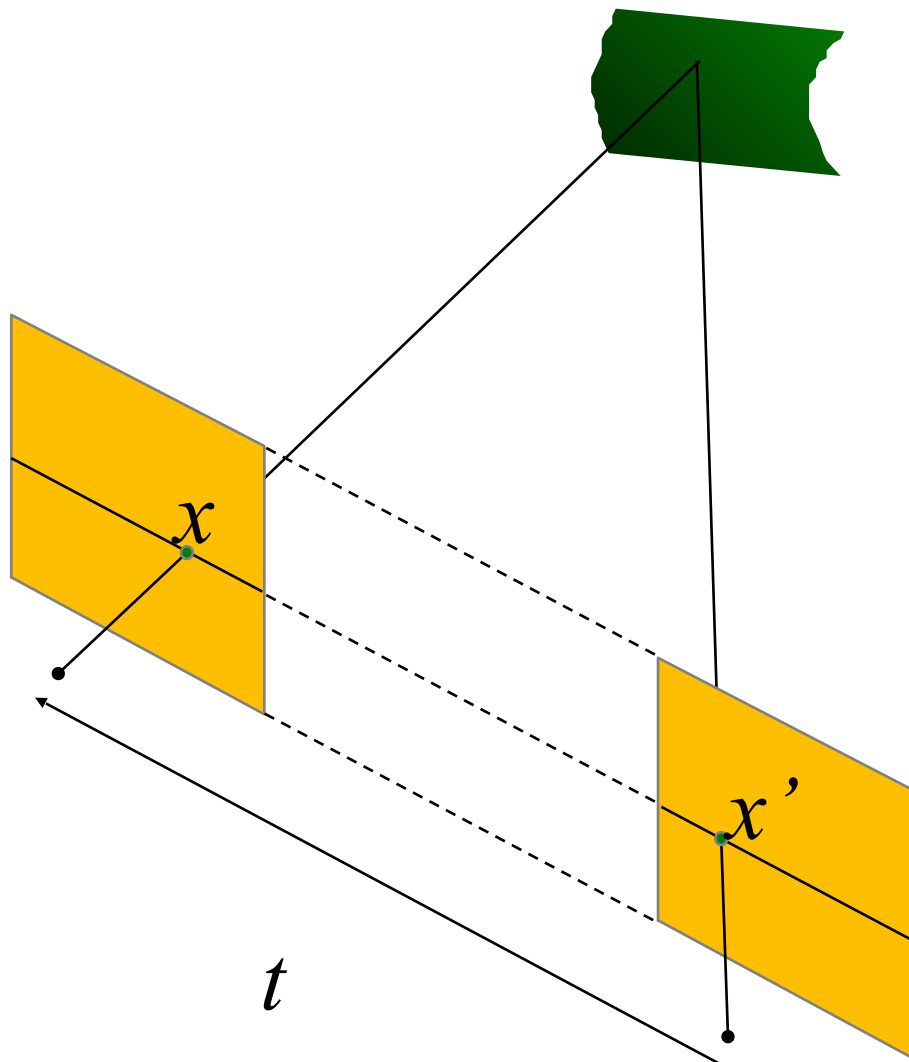
$$E = t \times R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -T \\ 0 & T & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This always has to hold

$$x^T E x' = 0$$

Write out the constraint

$$(u \quad v \quad 1) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -T \\ 0 & T & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u' \\ v' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad (u \quad v \quad 1) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -T \\ Tv' \end{pmatrix} = 0$$



# How can you make the epipolar lines horizontal?

When this relationship holds:

$$R = I \quad t = (T, 0, 0)$$

Let's try this out...

$$E = t \times R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -T \\ 0 & T & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This always has to hold

$$x^T E x' = 0$$

The image of a 3D point will always be on the same horizontal line

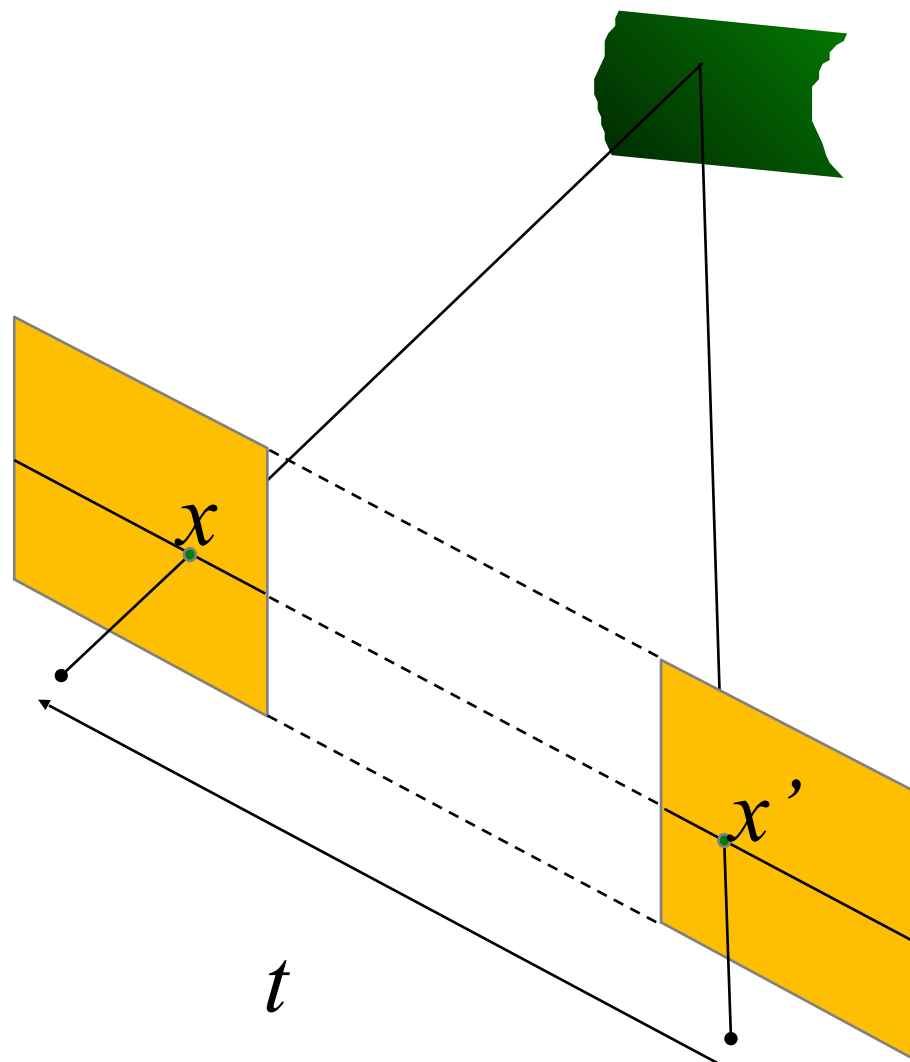
Write out the constraint

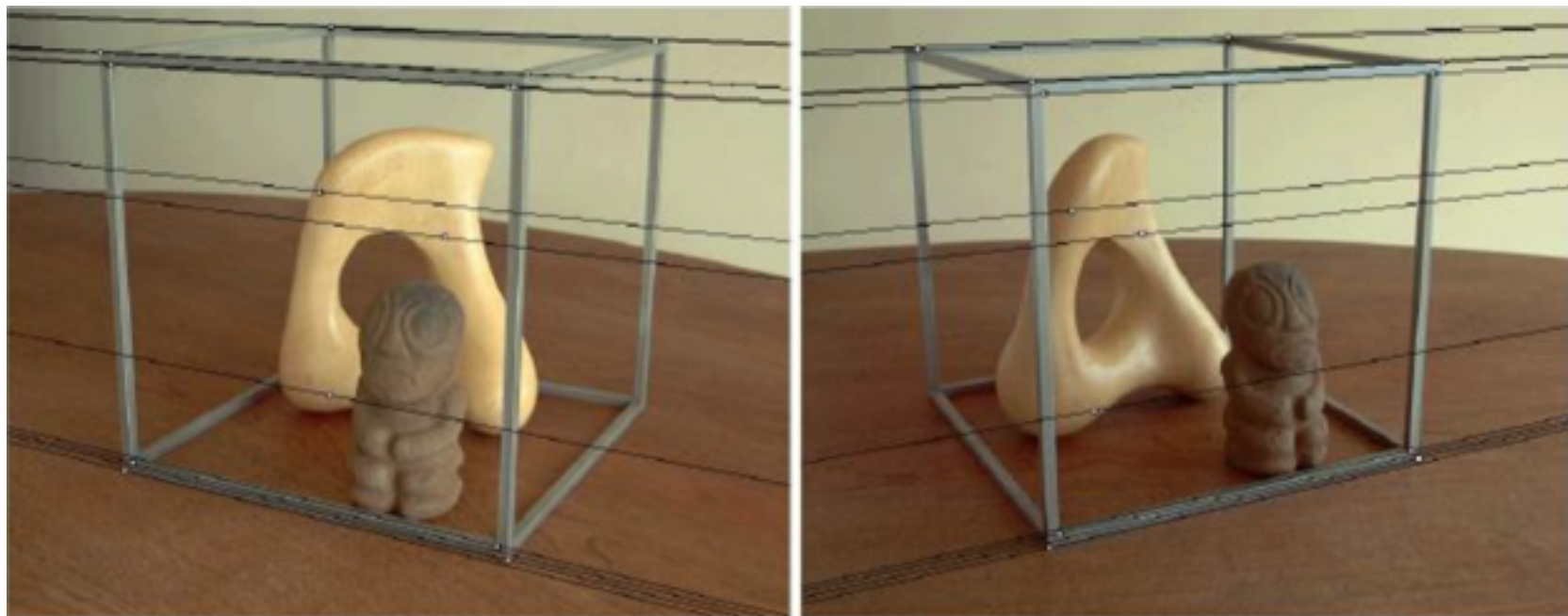
$$\begin{pmatrix} u & v & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -T \\ 0 & T & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u' \\ v' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} u & v & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -T \\ Tv' \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

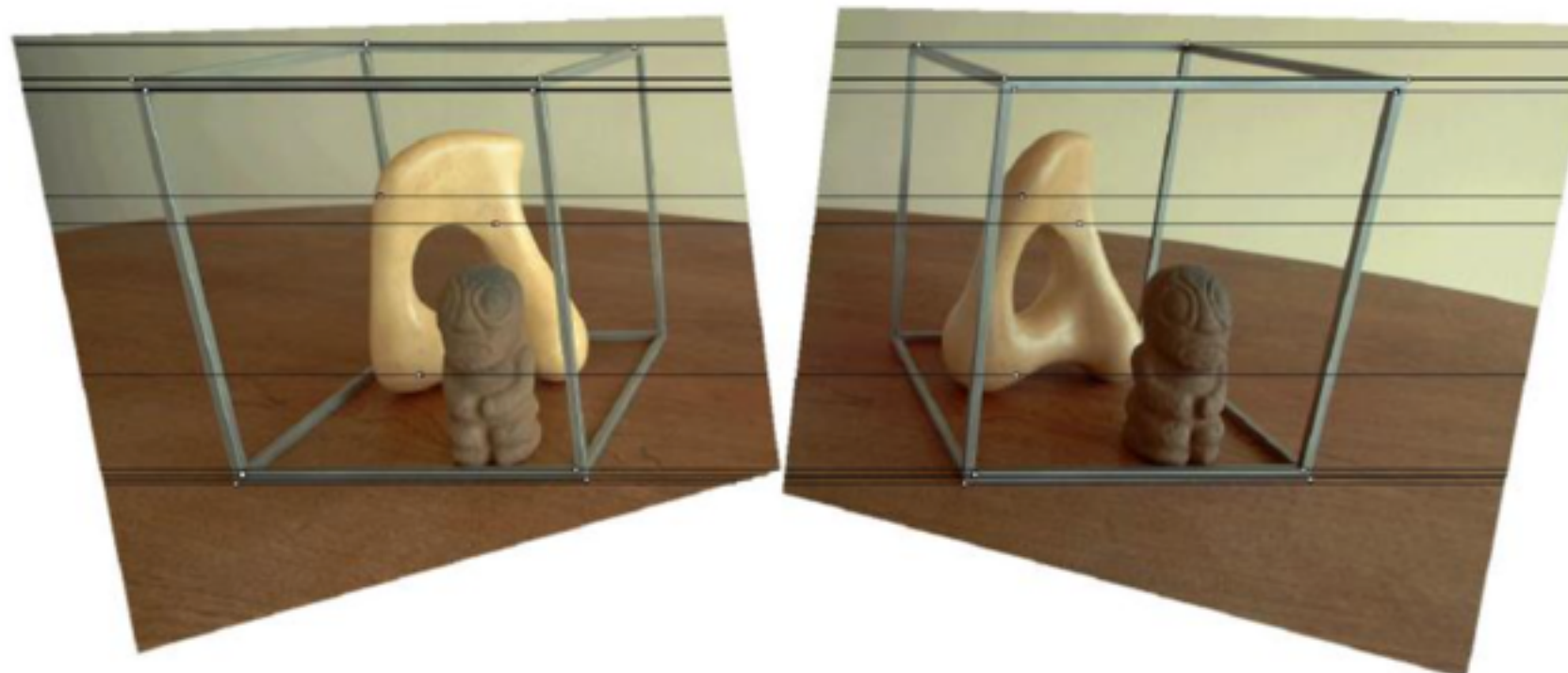
$$Tv = Tv'$$

y coordinate is always the same!



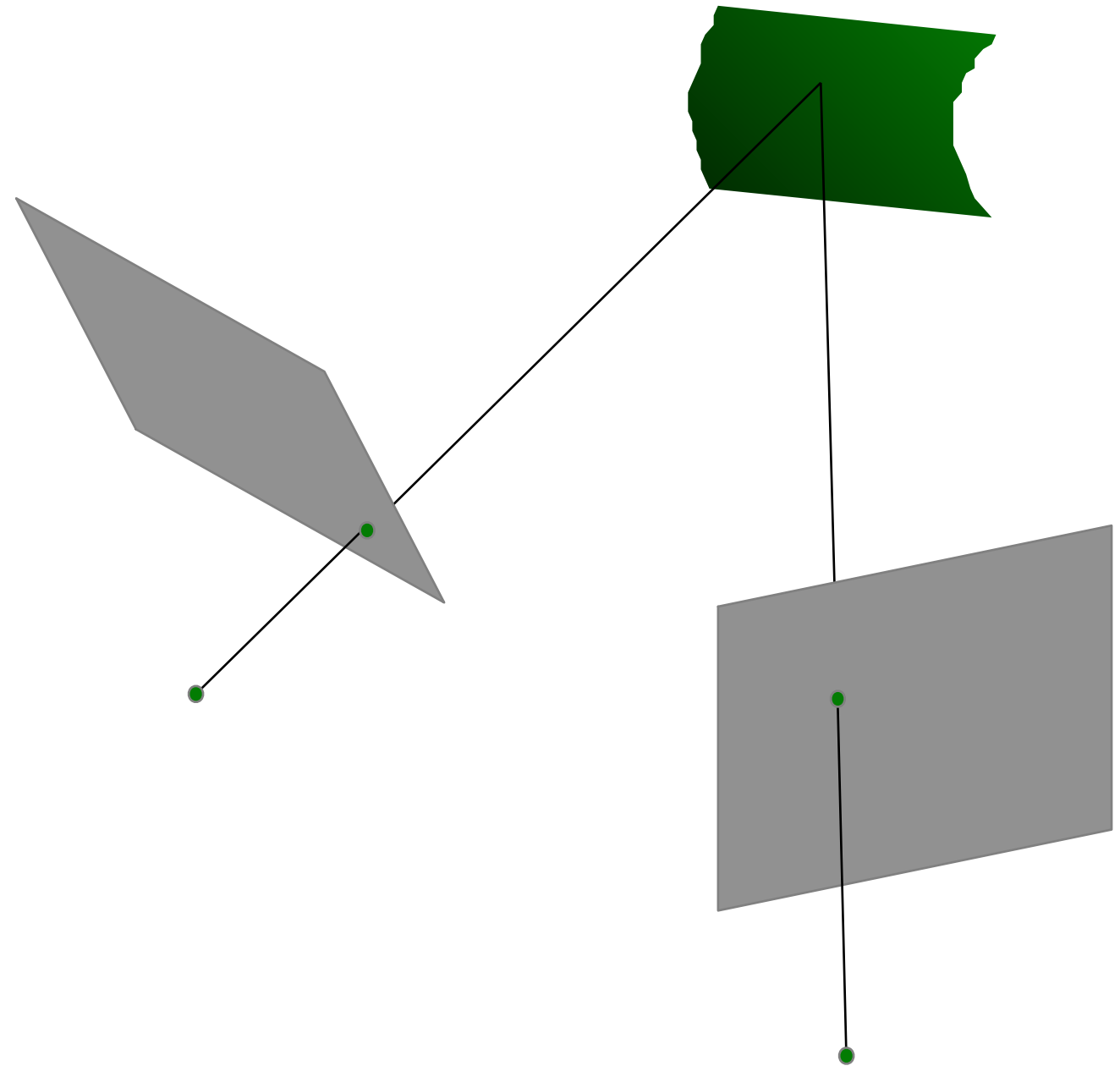


*What is stereo rectification?*



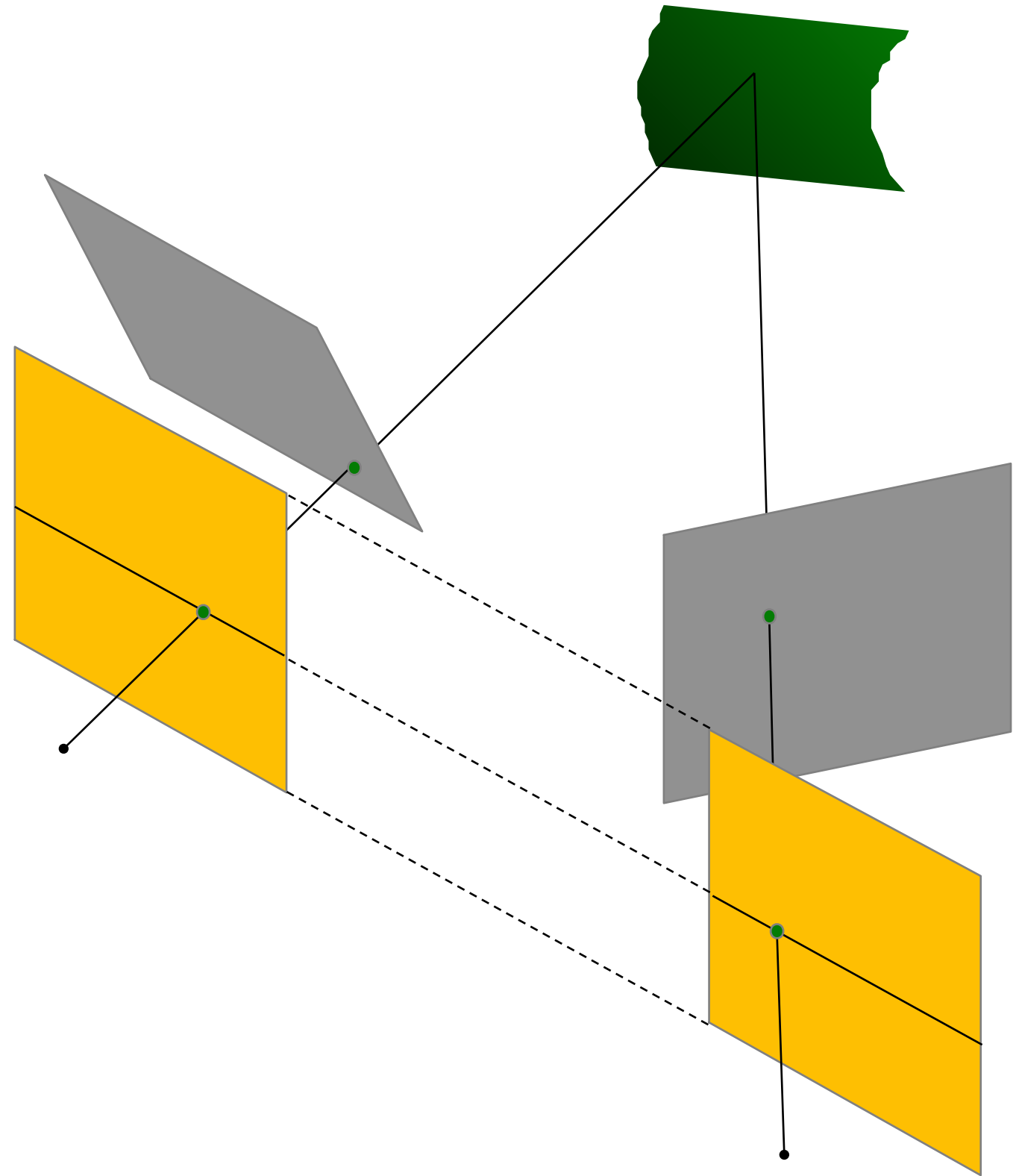


*What is stereo rectification?*



## *What is stereo rectification?*

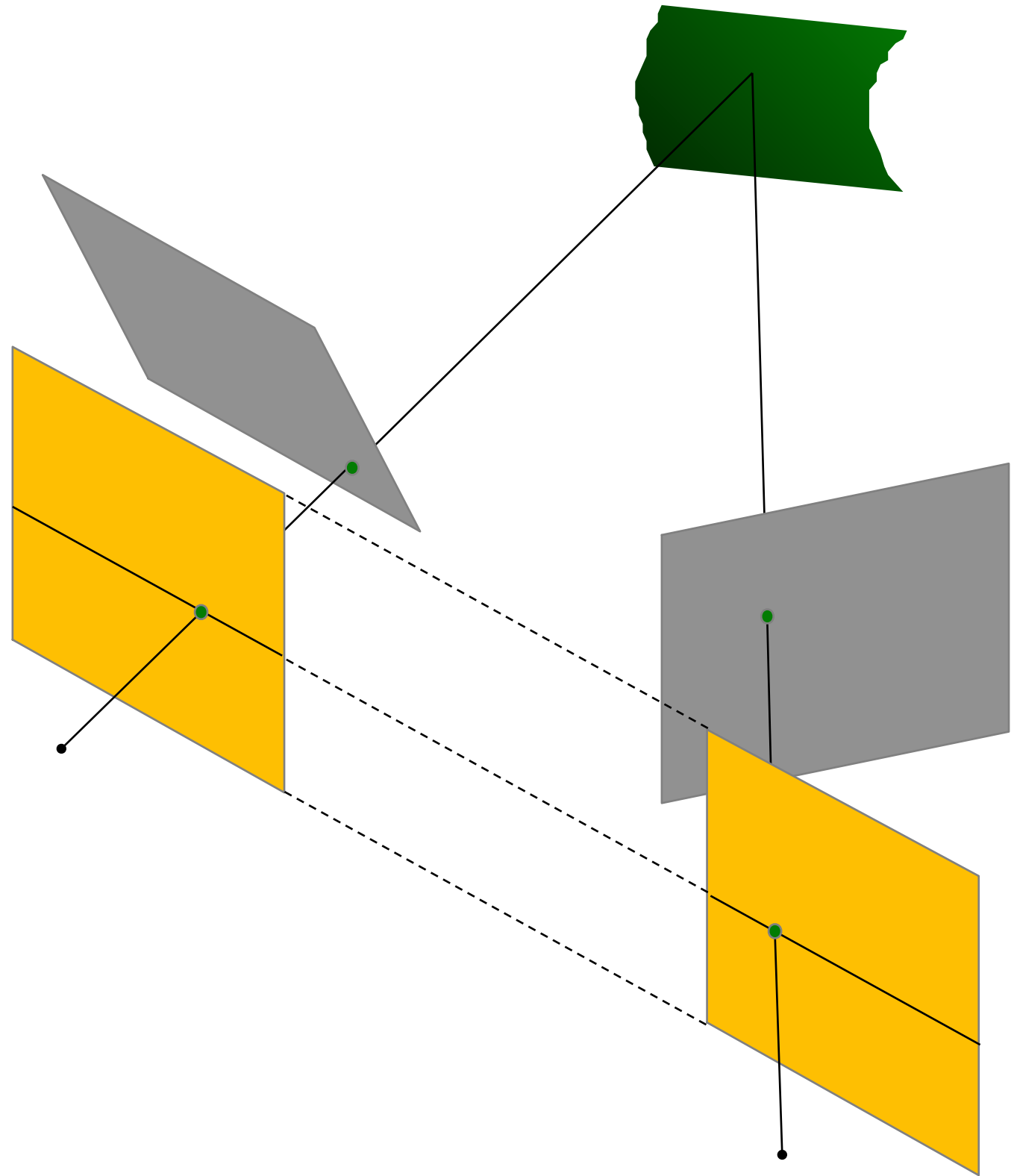
Reproject image planes onto a common plane parallel to the line between camera centers



## *What is stereo rectification?*

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

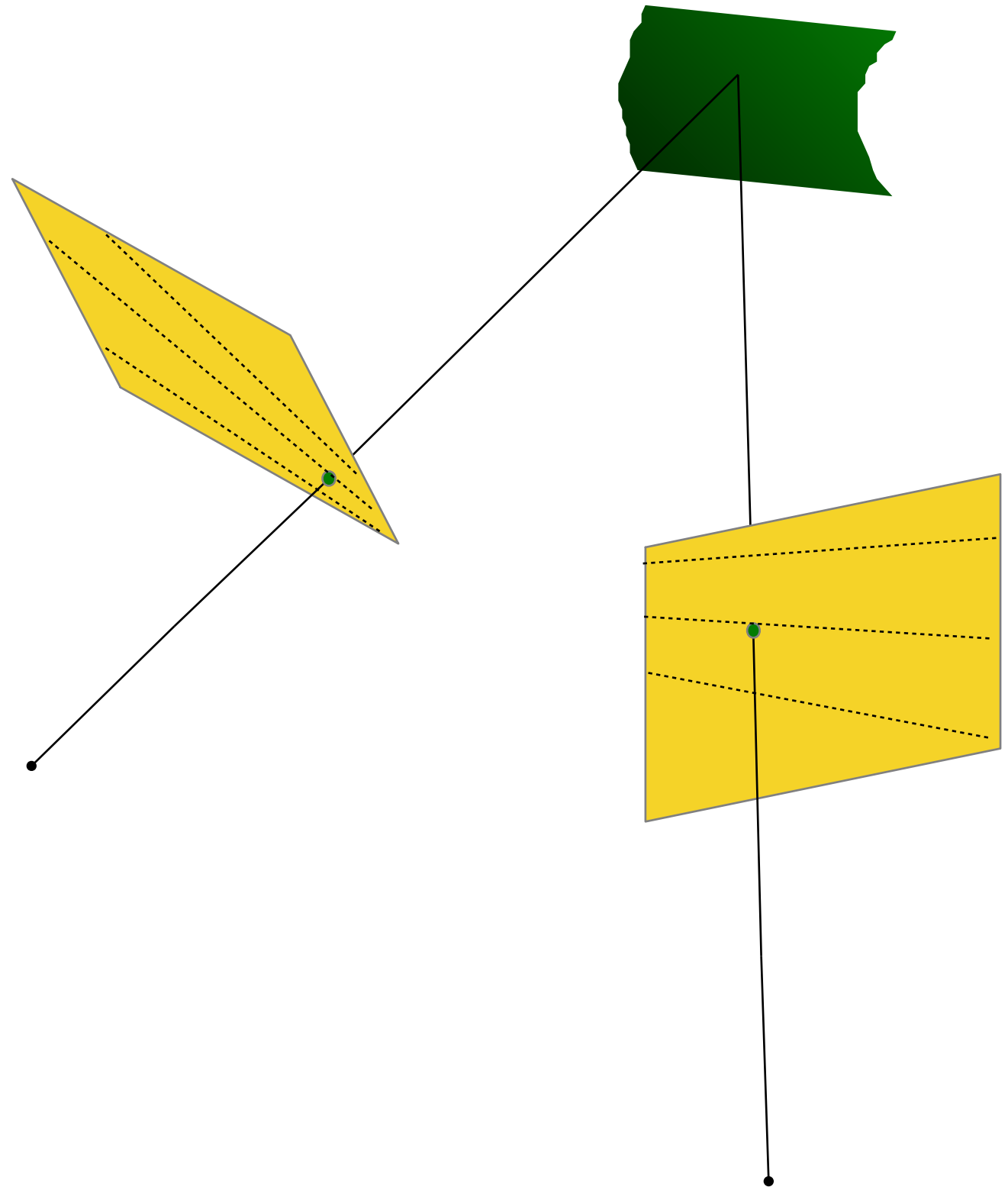
Need two homographies (3x3 transform), one for each input image reprojection



# Stereo Rectification

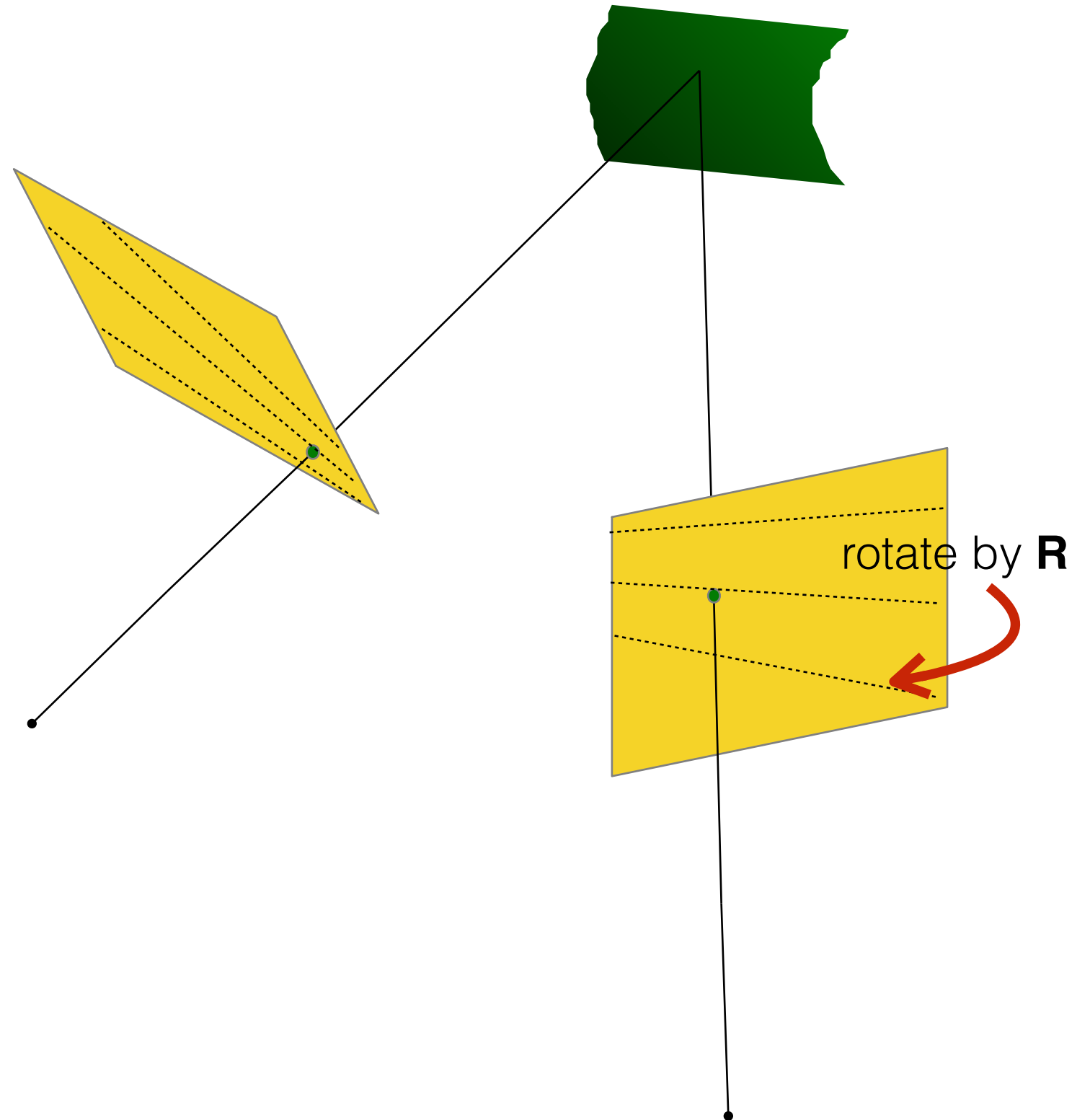
1. **Rotate** the right camera by **R**  
(aligns camera coordinate system orientation only)
2. Rotate (**rectify**) the left camera so that the epipole is at infinity
3. Rotate (**rectify**) the right camera so that the epipole is at infinity
4. Adjust the **scale**

# Stereo Rectification:



1. Compute **E** to get **R**
2. Rotate right image by **R**
3. Rotate both images by **R<sub>rect</sub>**
4. Scale both images by **H**

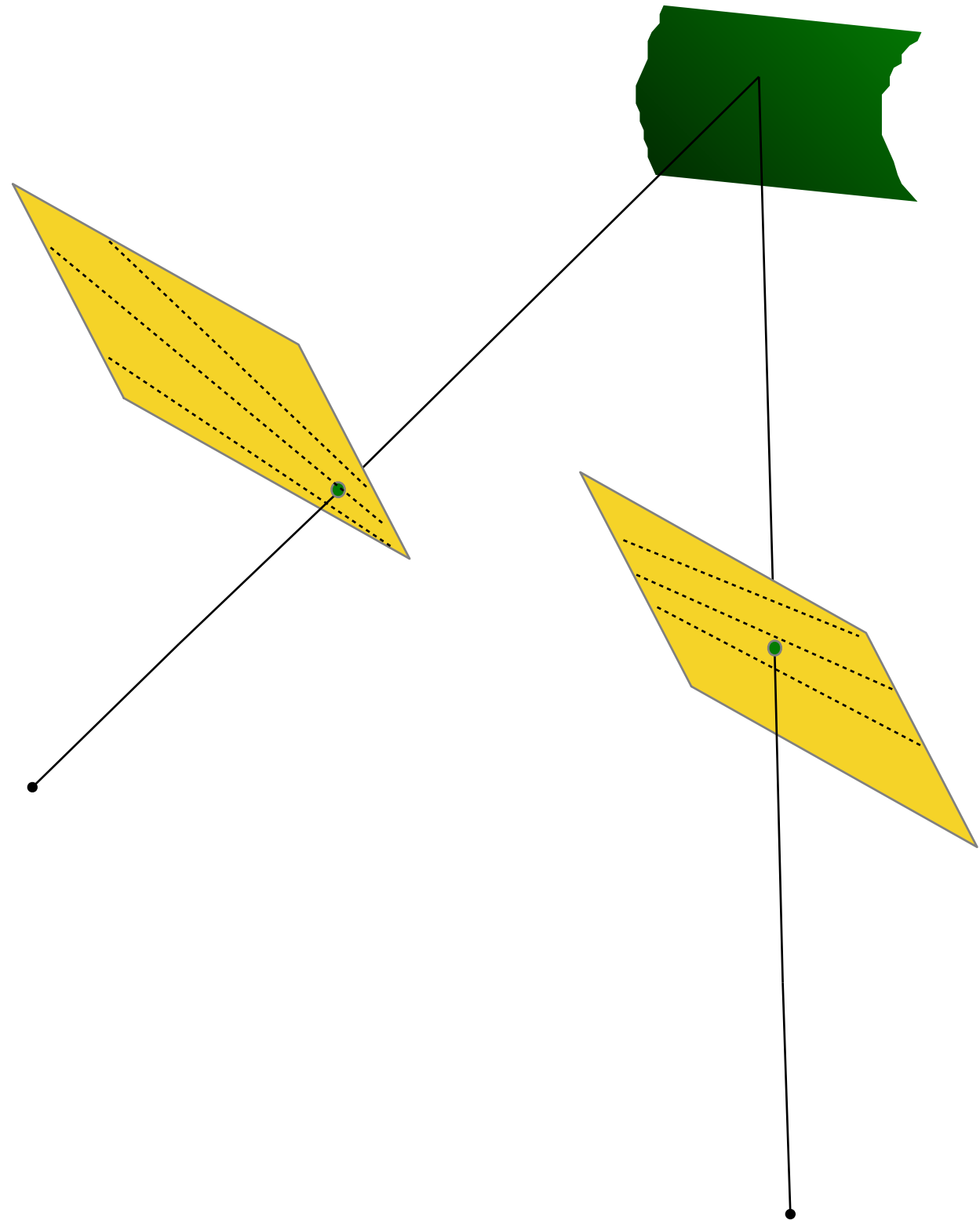
# Stereo Rectification:



1. Compute  $\mathbf{E}$  to get  $\mathbf{R}$
2. Rotate right image by  $\mathbf{R}$
3. Rotate both images by  $\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$
4. Scale both images by  $\mathbf{H}$

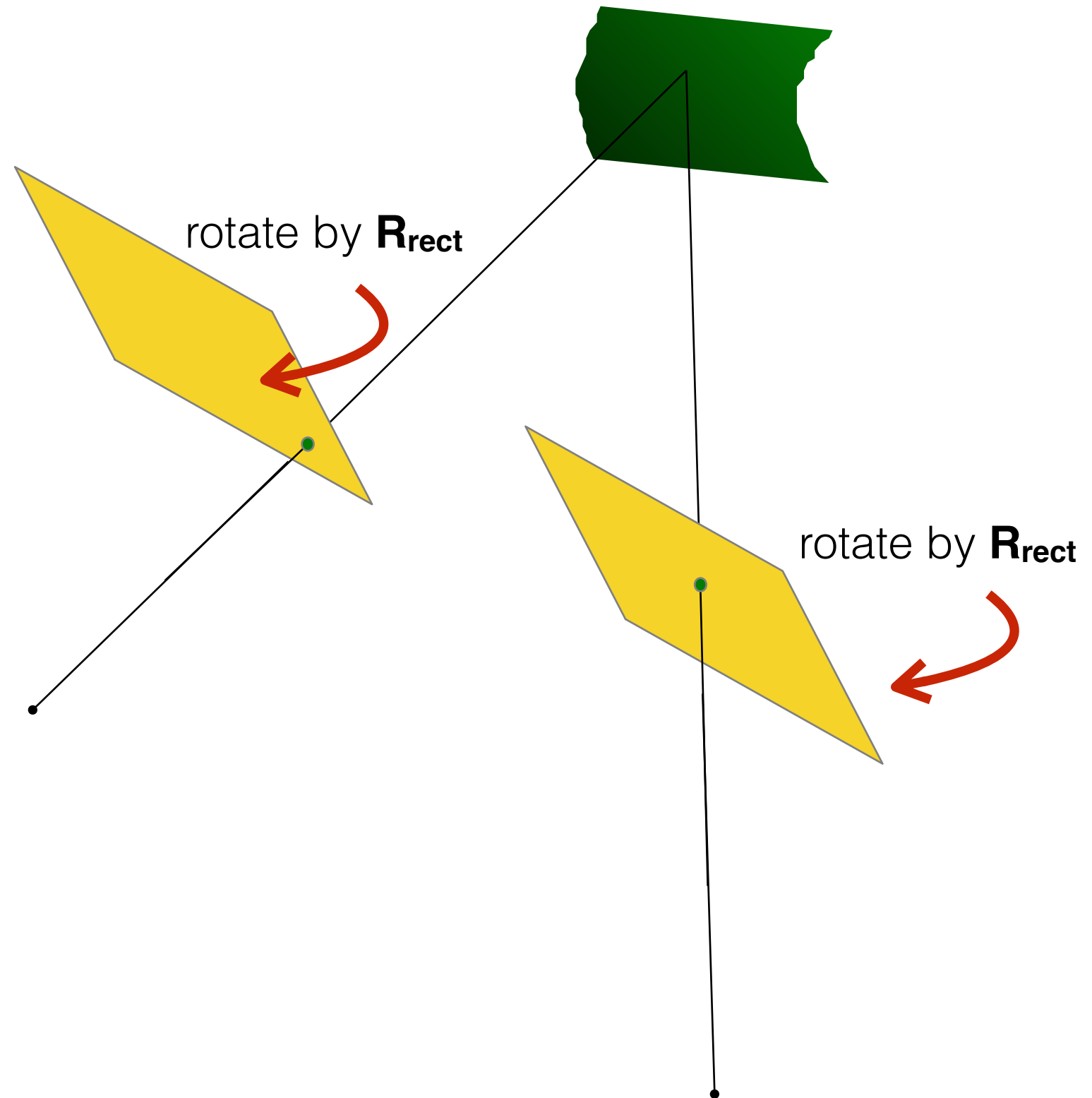


# Stereo Rectification:



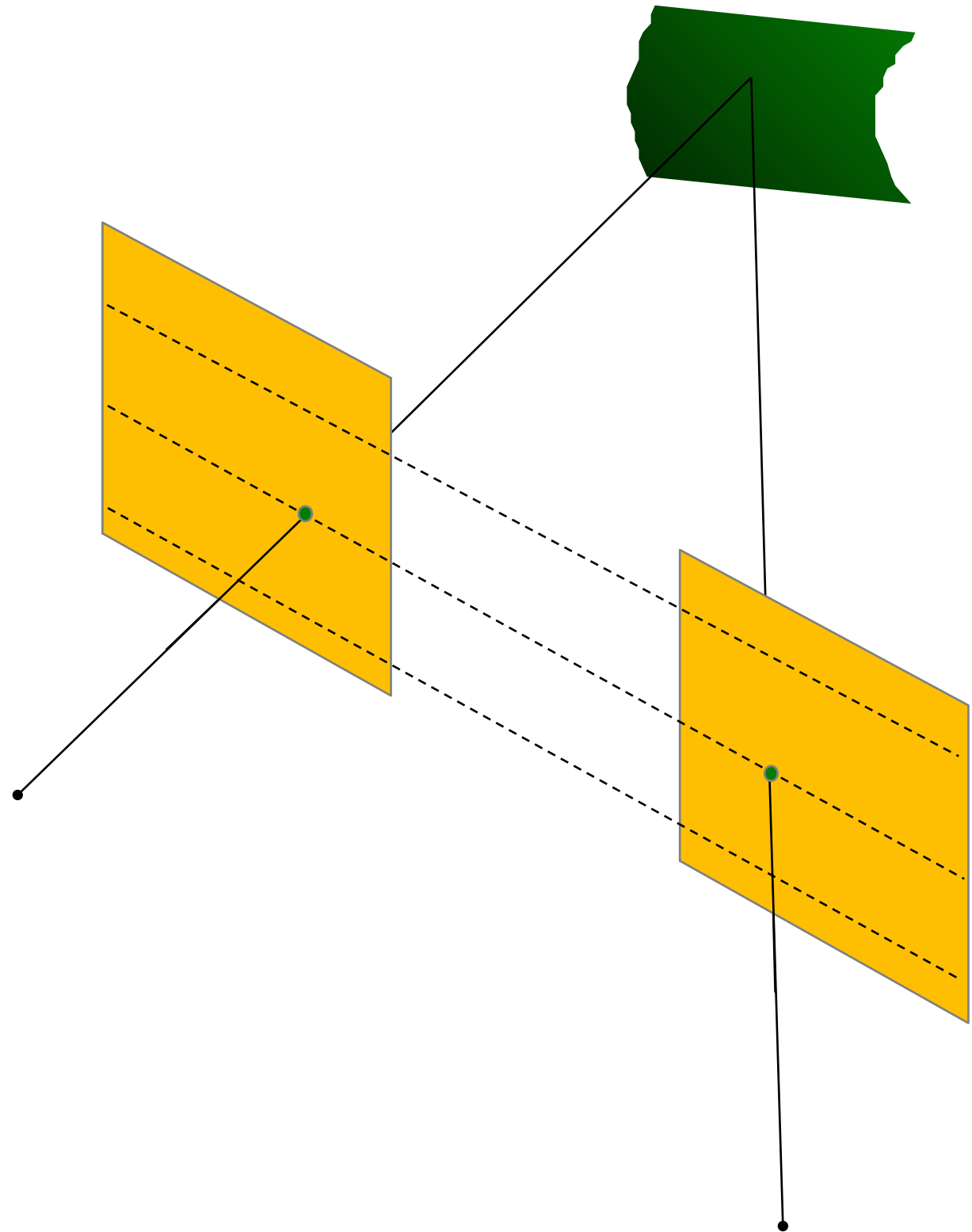
1. Compute **E** to get **R**
2. Rotate right image by **R**
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# Stereo Rectification:



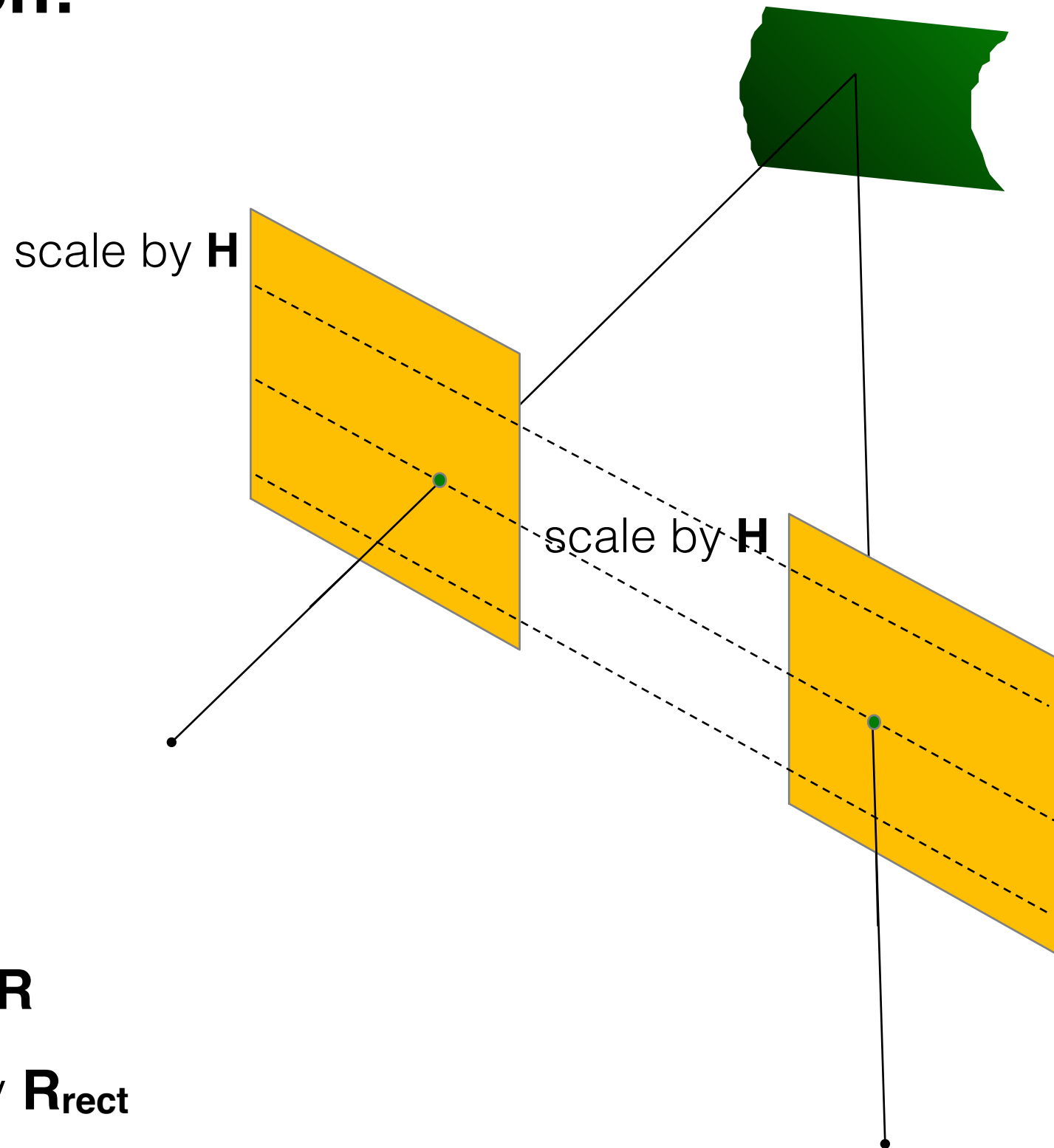
1. Compute  $\mathbf{E}$  to get  $\mathbf{R}$
2. Rotate right image by  $\mathbf{R}$
3. Rotate both images by  $\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$
4. Scale both images by  $\mathbf{H}$

# Stereo Rectification:



1. Compute **E** to get **R**
2. Rotate right image by **R**
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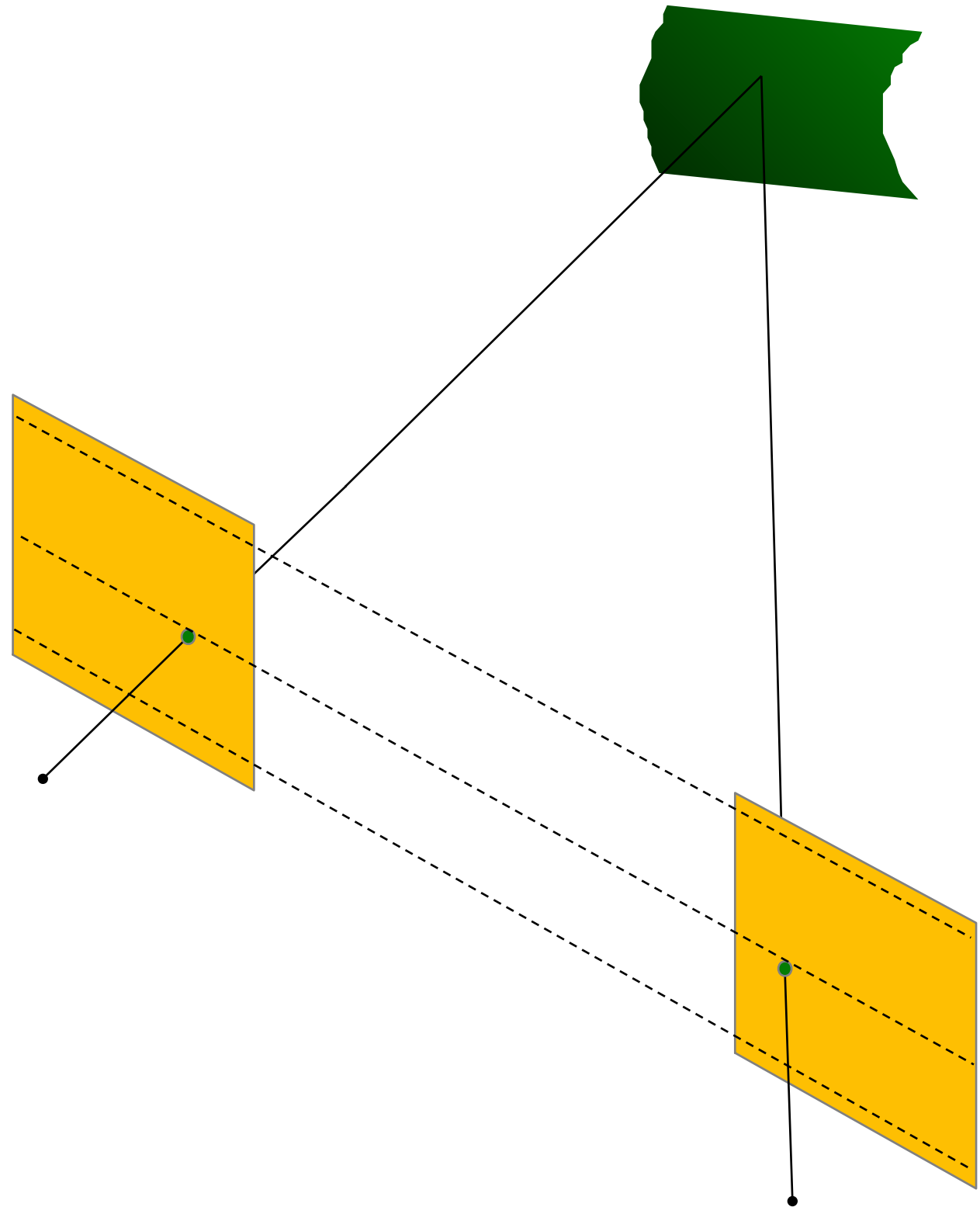
# Stereo Rectification:



1. Compute  $\mathbf{E}$  to get  $\mathbf{R}$
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3. Rotate both images by  $\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$
4. Scale both images by  $\mathbf{H}$



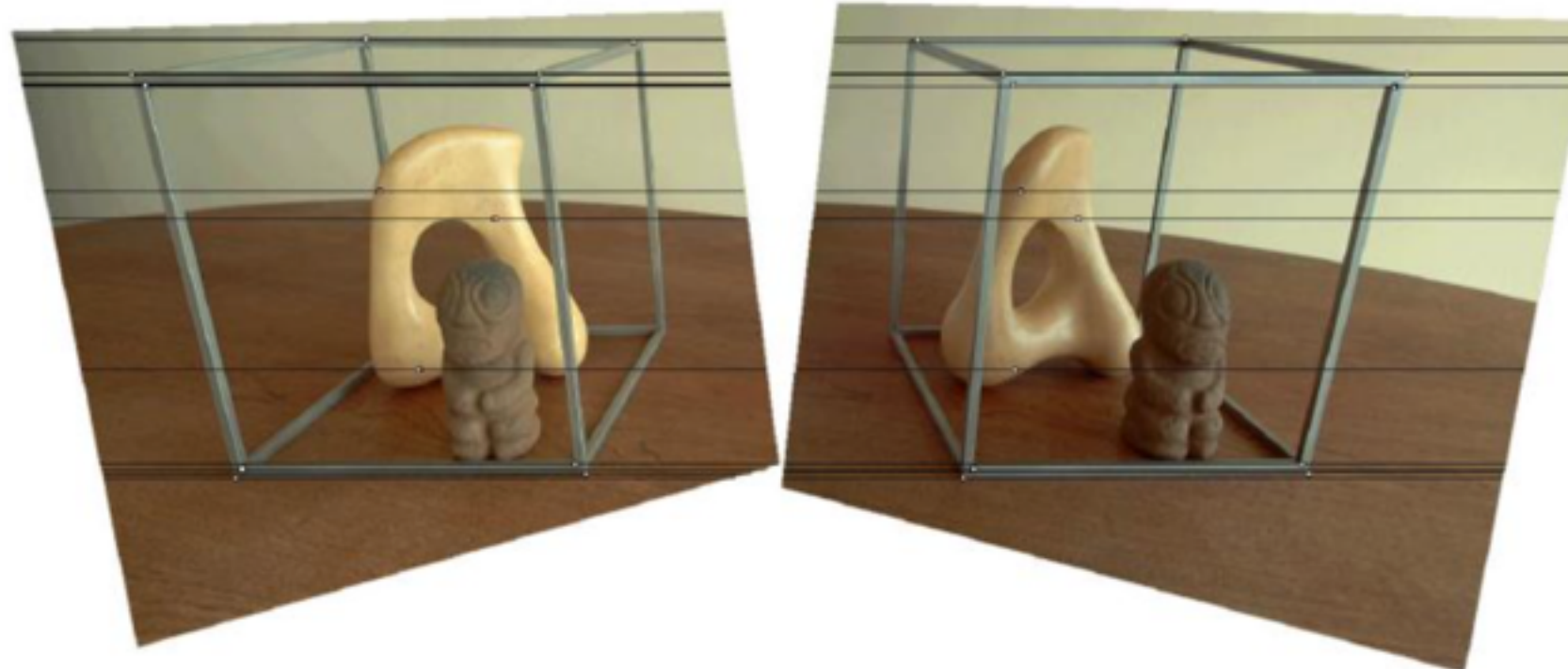
# Stereo Rectification:



1. Compute  $\mathbf{E}$  to get  $\mathbf{R}$
2. Rotate right image by  $\mathbf{R}$
3. Rotate both images by  $\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$
4. Scale both images by  $\mathbf{H}$



What can we do after  
rectification?



# Setting the epipole to infinity

(Building  $\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$  from  $\mathbf{e}$ )

Let  $R_{\text{rect}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1^\top \\ \mathbf{r}_2^\top \\ \mathbf{r}_3^\top \end{bmatrix}$       Given: epipole  $\mathbf{e}$   
(using SVD on  $\mathbf{E}$ )  
(translation from  $\mathbf{E}$ )

$$\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{e}_1 = \frac{T}{\|T\|}$$

epipole coincides with translation vector

$$\mathbf{r}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{T_x^2 + T_y^2}} \begin{bmatrix} -T_y & T_x & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

cross product of  $\mathbf{e}$  and the direction vector of the optical axis

$$\mathbf{r}_3 = \mathbf{r}_1 \times \mathbf{r}_2$$

orthogonal vector

If  $\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{e}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{T}}{\|\mathbf{T}\|}$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3$  orthogonal

then  $R_{\text{rect}} \mathbf{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1^\top \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \mathbf{r}_2^\top \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \mathbf{r}_3^\top \mathbf{e}_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix}$



If  $\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{e}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{T}}{\|\mathbf{T}\|}$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3$  orthogonal

then  $R_{\text{rect}} \mathbf{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_1^\top \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \mathbf{r}_2^\top \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \mathbf{r}_3^\top \mathbf{e}_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

*Where is this point located on the image plane?*

If  $\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{e}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{T}}{\|\mathbf{T}\|}$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3$  orthogonal

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*Where is this point located on the image plane?*

At x-infinity

# Stereo Rectification Algorithm

1. Estimate  $\mathbf{E}$  using the 8 point algorithm (SVD)
2. Estimate the epipole  $\mathbf{e}$  (SVD of  $\mathbf{E}$ )
3. Build  $\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$  from  $\mathbf{e}$
4. Decompose  $\mathbf{E}$  into  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{T}$
5. Set  $\mathbf{R}_1 = \mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$  and  $\mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$
6. Rotate each left camera point (warp image)  
$$[x' \ y' \ z'] = \mathbf{R}_1 [x \ y \ z]$$
7. Rectified points as  $\mathbf{p} = f/z' [x' \ y' \ z']$
8. Repeat 6 and 7 for right camera points using  $\mathbf{R}_2$

# Stereo Rectification Algorithm

1. Estimate  $\mathbf{E}$  using the 8 point algorithm
2. Estimate the epipole  $\mathbf{e}$  (solve  $\mathbf{E}\mathbf{e}=0$ )
3. Build  $\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$  from  $\mathbf{e}$
4. Decompose  $\mathbf{E}$  into  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{T}$
5. Set  $\mathbf{R}_1=\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$  and  $\mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}_{\text{rect}}$
6. Rotate each left camera point  $\mathbf{x}' \sim \mathbf{H}\mathbf{x}$  where  $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{R}_1$   
\*You may need to alter the focal length (inside  $\mathbf{K}$ ) to keep points within the original image size
7. Repeat 6 and 7 for right camera points using  $\mathbf{R}_2$

Unrectified





Unrectified



Rectified





Unrectified



Rectified

