The Camera



(c) Tomasz Pluciennik

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How do we see the world?



Let's design a camera

- Idea 1: put a piece of film in front of an object
- Do we get a reasonable image?

Pinhole camera



Add a barrier to block off most of the rays

- This reduces blurring
- The opening known as the aperture
- How does this transform the image?

Pinhole camera model



Pinhole model:

- Captures pencil of rays all rays through a single point
- The point is called Center of Projection (COP)
- The image is formed on the **Image Plane**
- Effective focal length f is distance from COP to Image Plane

Dimensionality Reduction Machine (3D to 2D)

3D world

2D image



Point of observation

What have we lost?

- Angles
- Distances (lengths)

Funny things happen...



Parallel lines aren't...



Figure by David Forsyth

Lengths can't be trusted...



...but humans adopt!



We don't make measurements in the image plane

http://www.michaelbach.de/ot/sze_muelue/index.html

Modeling projection



The coordinate system

- We will use the pin-hole model as an approximation
- Put the optical center (Center Of Projection) at the origin
- Put the image plane (Projection Plane) in front of the COP
 = Why?
- The camera looks down the *negative* z axis
 - we need this if we want right-handed-coordinates

Modeling projection



Projection equations

- Compute intersection with PP of ray from (x,y,z) to COP
- Derived using similar triangles (on board)

$$(x,y,z)
ightarrow (-drac{x}{z}, -drac{y}{z}, -d)$$

• We get the projection by throwing out the last coordinate:

$$(x, y, z) \rightarrow (-d\frac{x}{z}, -d\frac{y}{z})$$

Slide by Steve Seitz

Homogeneous coordinates

Is this a linear transformation?

- no-division by z is nonlinear
- Trick: add one more coordinate:

homogeneous image coordinates

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

$$(x, y, z) \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

homogeneous scene
coordinates

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

Perspective Projection

Projection is a matrix multiply using homogeneous coordinates:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1/d & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ -z/d \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (-d\frac{x}{z}, -d\frac{y}{z})$$

aivide by third coordinate

This is known as **perspective projection**

- The matrix is the **projection matrix**
- Can also formulate as a 4x4

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1/d & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ -z/d \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (-d\frac{x}{z}, -d\frac{y}{z})$$
divide by fourth coordinate Slide by Steve Seitz

Orthographic Projection

Special case of perspective projection

• Distance from the COP to the PP is infinite



- Also called "parallel projection"
- What's the projection matrix?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (x, y)$$

Slide by Steve Seitz

Spherical Projection



What if PP is spherical with center at COP? In spherical coordinates, projection is trivial:

$$(\theta,\phi) = (\theta,\phi,d)$$

Note: doesn't depend on focal length d!

Building a real camera



Camera Obscura



The first camera

- Known to Aristotle
- Depth of the room is the effective focal length

Home-made pinhole camera



http://www.debevec.org/Pinhole/

Shrinking the aperture



Why not make the aperture as small as possible?

- Less light gets through
- Diffraction effects...

Shrinking the aperture



The reason for lenses



Slide by Steve Seitz

Focus



A lens focuses light onto the film

- There is a specific distance at which objects are "in focus"
 other points project to a "circle of confusion" in the image
- Changing the shape of the lens changes this distance

Thin lenses



Thin lens equation: $\frac{1}{d_o} + \frac{1}{d_i} = \frac{1}{f}$

- Any object point satisfying this equation is in focus
- What is the shape of the focus region?
- How can we change the focus region?
- Thin lens applet: http://www.phy.ntnu.edu.tw/java/Lens/lens_e.html (by Fu-Kwun Hwang)
 Slide by Steve Seitz

Varying Focus



Depth Of Field



DEPTH OF FIELD DEPTH OF FIELD DEPTH OF FIELD DEPTH OF FIELD DEPTH OF FIELD

http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials/depth-of-field.htm

Aperture controls Depth of Field



Changing the aperture size affects depth of field

- A smaller aperture increases the range in which the object is approximately in focus
- But small aperture reduces amount of light need to increase exposure

Varying the aperture





Small apeture = large DOF

Large apeture = small DOF

Nice Depth of Field effect



Field of View (Zoom)

Field of View (Zoom)



From London and Upton

Field of View (Zoom) = Cropping



From London and Upton

FOV depends of Focal Length



Size of field of view governed by size of the camera retina:

$$\varphi = \tan^{-1}(\frac{d}{2f})$$

Smaller FOV = larger Focal Length



From Zisserman & Hartley

Field of View / Focal Length





Large FOV, small f Camera close to car

Small FOV, large f Camera far from the car

Fun with Focal Length (Jim Sherwood)



http://www.hash.com/users/jsherwood/tutes/focal/Zoomin.mov





Figure 5.2

Lens Flaws

Lens Flaws: Chromatic Aberration

Dispersion: wavelength-dependent refractive index

(enables prism to spread white light beam into rainbow)

Modifies ray-bending and lens focal length: $f(\lambda)$



color fringes near edges of image

Corrections: add 'doublet' lens of flint glass, etc.

Near Lens Center



Near Lens Outer Edge



Radial Distortion (*e.g.* 'Barrel' and 'pin-cushion')

straight lines curve around the image center



Radial Distortion



Radial distortion of the image

- Caused by imperfect lenses
- Deviations are most noticeable for rays that pass through the edge of the lens

Radial Distortion

