

Lecture 9

Let us have two vectors \vec{x} , \vec{y} with coordinates w.r.t. basis β

$$\vec{x}_\beta = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]^\top$$

$$\vec{y}_\beta = [y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3]^\top$$

Then the “matrix multiplication” of \vec{x}_β , \vec{y}_β yields the following formula

$$\vec{x}_\beta^\top \vec{y}_\beta = x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + x_3 y_3$$

Let us investigate the behavior of this formula when changing the basis w.r.t. which we write coordinates of vectors \vec{x} , \vec{y} .

Let matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$ transforms the coordinates when passing from the basis β to basis β'

$$\vec{x}_{\beta'} = A \vec{x}_\beta$$

$$\vec{y}_{\beta'} = A \vec{y}_\beta$$

then

$$\vec{x}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta'} = \vec{x}_\beta^\top A^\top A \vec{y}_\beta$$

We see that in general $\vec{x}_\beta^\top A^\top A \vec{y}_\beta \neq \vec{x}_\beta^\top \vec{y}_\beta$ since, for instance, when

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{x}_\beta = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{y}_\beta = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{x}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta'} &= \vec{x}_{\beta}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \vec{y}_{\beta} = [1 \ 0 \ 0] \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 4 \\ &\neq 1 = [1 \ 0 \ 0] \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{x}_{\beta}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta}\end{aligned}$$

However, we also see that for all matrices \mathbf{A} such that $\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}$ we get

$$\vec{x}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta'} = \vec{x}_{\beta}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \vec{y}_{\beta} = \vec{x}_{\beta}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta}$$

Interestingly, when we assume that

$$\vec{x}_{\beta}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \vec{y}_{\beta} = \vec{x}_{\beta}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta} \quad \text{for all vectors } \vec{x}_{\beta}, \vec{y}_{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

then $\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}$ must be true! See the next argument.

Since we assume that the above equation holds true for all vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 , we can choose some particular vectors for which it holds true. Let us choose all vectors with exactly one non-zero coordinate equal 1 and construct all equations with them. For instance, when taking

$$\vec{x}_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{y}_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

we then get

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} A^T A \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

which means that $(A^T A)_{12}$ element of matrix $A^T A$ is equal to 0. We see that by choosing all possible combinations of vectors with only one nonzero element, which is equal to 1, we can “pick” all elements of $A^T A$ and make them equal to elements of identity matrix I . It is also clear that the above argument works for any dimension, not only for three-dimensional vectors.

The above observation shows the importance of the role which play orthonormal matrices $A^T A = I$. We see that

$$\vec{x}_\beta^T A^T A \vec{y}_\beta = \vec{x}_\beta^T \vec{y}_\beta \text{ for all vectors } \vec{x}_\beta, \vec{y}_\beta \in \mathbb{R}^n \Leftrightarrow A^T A = I$$

Now, let us derive the geometrical meaning of the formula

$$\vec{x}_\beta^T \vec{y}_\beta = x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + \cdots + x_n y_n$$

in the three-dimensional space.

Let us start with two vectors with coordinates

$$\vec{x}_\beta = [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]^\top$$

$$\vec{y}_\beta = [y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3]^\top$$

w.r.t. an orthonormal basis. We can choose a new orthonormal basis β' such that

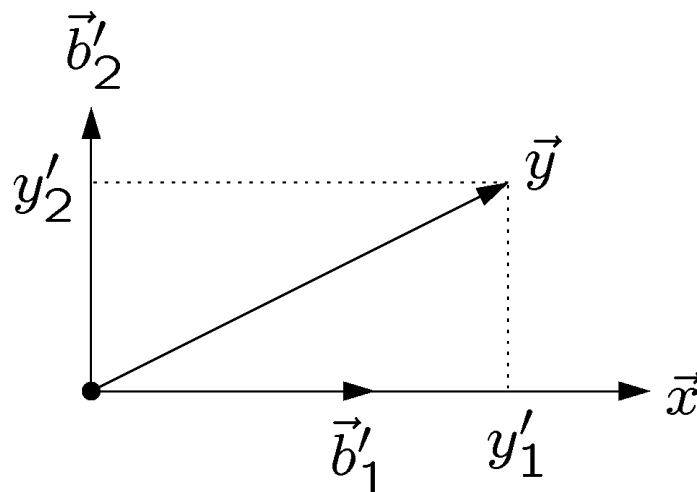
$$\vec{x}_{\beta'} = [x'_1 \ 0 \ 0]^\top$$

$$\vec{y}_{\beta'} = [y'_1 \ y'_2 \ 0]^\top$$

and evaluate the formula

$$\frac{\vec{x}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta'}}{(\vec{x}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{x}_{\beta'})^{\frac{1}{2}} (\vec{y}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta'})^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{x'_1 y'_1}{x'_1 (y_1'^2 + y_2'^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{y'_1}{(y_1'^2 + y_2'^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \cos \angle(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$$

thanks to the Pythagoras theorem:



Since bases β, β' are orthonormal, we conclude that

$$\frac{\vec{x}_\beta^\top \vec{y}_\beta}{(\vec{x}_\beta^\top \vec{x}_\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\vec{y}_\beta^\top \vec{y}_\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{\vec{x}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta'}}{(\vec{x}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{x}_{\beta'})^{\frac{1}{2}} (\vec{y}_{\beta'}^\top \vec{y}_{\beta'})^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \cos \angle(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$$

We see that in an orthonormal basis β the formula

$$\vec{x}_\beta^\top \vec{y}_\beta = (\vec{x}_\beta^\top \vec{x}_\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\vec{y}_\beta^\top \vec{y}_\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cos \angle(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$$

allows to measure the angle between vectors \vec{x} and \vec{y} .

Let us next look at the behaviour of the formula for the vector product under a change of the basis.

Let us have two vectors \vec{x} , \vec{y} with coordinates w.r.t. basis β

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{x}_\beta &= [x_1 \ x_2 \ x_3]^\top \\ \vec{y}_\beta &= [y_1 \ y_2 \ y_3]^\top\end{aligned}$$

and vector \vec{z}_β constructed by using the vector product formula

$$\vec{z}_\beta \equiv \left| \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ i & j & k \end{bmatrix} \right| = [i \ j \ k] \begin{bmatrix} x_2 y_3 - x_3 y_2 \\ -x_1 y_3 + x_3 y_1 \\ x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1 \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} x_2 y_3 - x_3 y_2 \\ -x_1 y_3 + x_3 y_1 \\ x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$ transforms the coordinates when passing from the basis β to basis β'

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{x}_{\beta'} &= A \vec{x}_\beta \\ \vec{y}_{\beta'} &= A \vec{y}_\beta\end{aligned}$$

we shall now construct vector $\vec{w}_{\beta'}$ in using the vector product formula on coordinates in β' and investigate its relationship to

$$\vec{z}_{\beta'} = A \vec{z}_\beta$$

Let us introduce

$$\vec{s} = [i \quad j \quad k]^\top$$

and construct

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{w}_{\beta'} &\equiv \left| \begin{bmatrix} \vec{x}_{\beta'}^\top \\ \vec{y}_{\beta'}^\top \\ \vec{s}^\top \end{bmatrix} \right| = \left| \begin{bmatrix} \vec{x}_\beta^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \\ \vec{y}_\beta^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \\ \vec{s}^\top \end{bmatrix} \right| = \left| \begin{bmatrix} \vec{x}_\beta^\top \\ \vec{y}_\beta^\top \\ \vec{s}^\top \mathbf{A}^{-\top} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}^\top \right| = \left| \begin{bmatrix} \vec{x}_\beta^\top \\ \vec{y}_\beta^\top \\ \vec{s}^\top \mathbf{A}^{-\top} \end{bmatrix} \right| |\mathbf{A}^\top| \\ &= \vec{s}^\top \mathbf{A}^{-\top} \begin{bmatrix} x_2 y_3 - x_3 y_2 \\ -x_1 y_3 + x_3 y_1 \\ x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1 \end{bmatrix} |\mathbf{A}^\top| \\ &\equiv \frac{\mathbf{A}^{-\top}}{|\mathbf{A}^{-\top}|} \begin{bmatrix} x_2 y_3 - x_3 y_2 \\ -x_1 y_3 + x_3 y_1 \\ x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{A}^{-\top}}{|\mathbf{A}^{-\top}|} \vec{z}_\beta \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{A}^{-\top} \mathbf{A}^{-1}}{|\mathbf{A}^{-\top}|} \mathbf{A} \vec{z}_\beta \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{A}^{-\top} \mathbf{A}^{-1}}{|\mathbf{A}^{-\top}|} \vec{z}_{\beta'} \end{aligned}$$

Hence we conclude

$$\vec{w}_{\beta'} = \frac{\mathbf{A}^{-\top} \mathbf{A}^{-1}}{|\mathbf{A}^{-\top}|} \vec{z}_{\beta'}$$

This again shows the importance of orthonormal matrices since when

$$\mathbf{A}^{\top} \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I} \ \& \ |\mathbf{A}| = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \vec{w}_{\beta'} = \frac{\mathbf{A}^{-\top} \mathbf{A}^{-1}}{|\mathbf{A}^{-\top}|} \vec{z}_{\beta'} = (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^{-1}) |\mathbf{A}| \vec{z}_{\beta'} = \vec{z}_{\beta'}$$

Internally Calibrated Camera

We say that a camera is internally calibrated if the camera coordinate system is constructed by using an orthogonal basis δ . In such a case, we can measure the angle between projection rays generated by vectors \vec{x} , \vec{y} by the formula

$$\cos \angle(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = \frac{\vec{x}_\delta^\top \vec{y}_\delta}{(\vec{x}_\delta^\top \vec{x}_\delta)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\vec{y}_\delta^\top \vec{y}_\delta)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

In general, the camera basis β , derived from the image basis and the projection center, is often not orthogonal. Then, we need to use

$$\vec{x}_\beta = K \vec{x}_\delta$$

and evaluate

$$\cos \angle(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = \frac{\vec{x}_\beta^\top K^{-\top} K^{-1} \vec{y}_\beta}{(\vec{x}_\beta^\top K^{-\top} K^{-1} \vec{x}_\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\vec{y}_\beta^\top K^{-\top} K^{-1} \vec{y}_\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{\vec{x}_\beta^\top \omega \vec{y}_\beta}{(\vec{x}_\beta^\top \omega \vec{x}_\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}} (\vec{y}_\beta^\top \omega \vec{y}_\beta)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

with

$$\omega = K^{-\top} K^{-1}$$

Once we have matrix ω , we can recover matrix K from it.

Assuming

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} k_{11} & k_{12} & k_{13} \\ 0 & k_{22} & k_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

we get

$$K^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} k_{11} & k_{12} & k_{13} \\ 0 & k_{22} & k_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{k_{11}} & \frac{-k_{12}}{k_{11}k_{22}} & \frac{k_{12}k_{23} - k_{13}k_{22}}{k_{11}k_{22}k_{23}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{k_{22}} & \frac{-k_{23}}{k_{22}} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} & m_{13} \\ 0 & m_{22} & m_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{m_{11}} & \frac{-m_{12}}{m_{11}m_{22}} & \frac{m_{12}m_{23} - m_{13}m_{22}}{m_{11}m_{22}m_{23}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{m_{22}} & \frac{-m_{23}}{m_{22}} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\omega = K^{-\top} K^{-1}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} o_{11} & o_{12} & o_{13} \\ o_{12} & o_{22} & o_{23} \\ o_{13} & o_{23} & o_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{11}^2 & m_{11}m_{12} & m_{11}m_{13} \\ m_{11}m_{12} & m_{12}^2 + m_{22}^2 & m_{12}m_{13} + m_{22}m_{23} \\ m_{11}m_{13} & m_{12}m_{13} + m_{22}m_{23} & m_{13}^2 + m_{23}^2 + 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

which can be solved for K^{-1} up to the sign of the rows of K^{-1} as follows.

$$\begin{bmatrix} o_{11} & o_{12} & o_{13} \\ o_{12} & o_{22} & o_{23} \\ o_{13} & o_{23} & o_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{11}^2 & m_{11} m_{12} & m_{11} m_{13} \\ m_{11} m_{12} & m_{12}^2 + m_{22}^2 & m_{12} m_{13} + m_{22} m_{23} \\ m_{11} m_{13} & m_{12} m_{13} + m_{22} m_{23} & m_{13}^2 + m_{23}^2 + 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

provides equations

$$o_{11} = m_{11}^2 \Rightarrow m_{11} = s_1 \sqrt{o_{11}}$$

$$o_{12} = m_{11} m_{12} \Rightarrow m_{12} = o_{12} / (s_1 \sqrt{o_{11}}) = s_1 o_{12} / \sqrt{o_{11}}$$

$$o_{13} = m_{11} m_{13} \Rightarrow m_{13} = o_{13} / (s_1 \sqrt{o_{11}}) = s_1 o_{13} / \sqrt{o_{11}}$$

$$o_{22} = m_{12}^2 + m_{22}^2 \Rightarrow m_{22} = s_2 \sqrt{o_{22} - m_{12}^2} = s_2 \sqrt{o_{22} - o_{12}^2 / o_{11}}$$

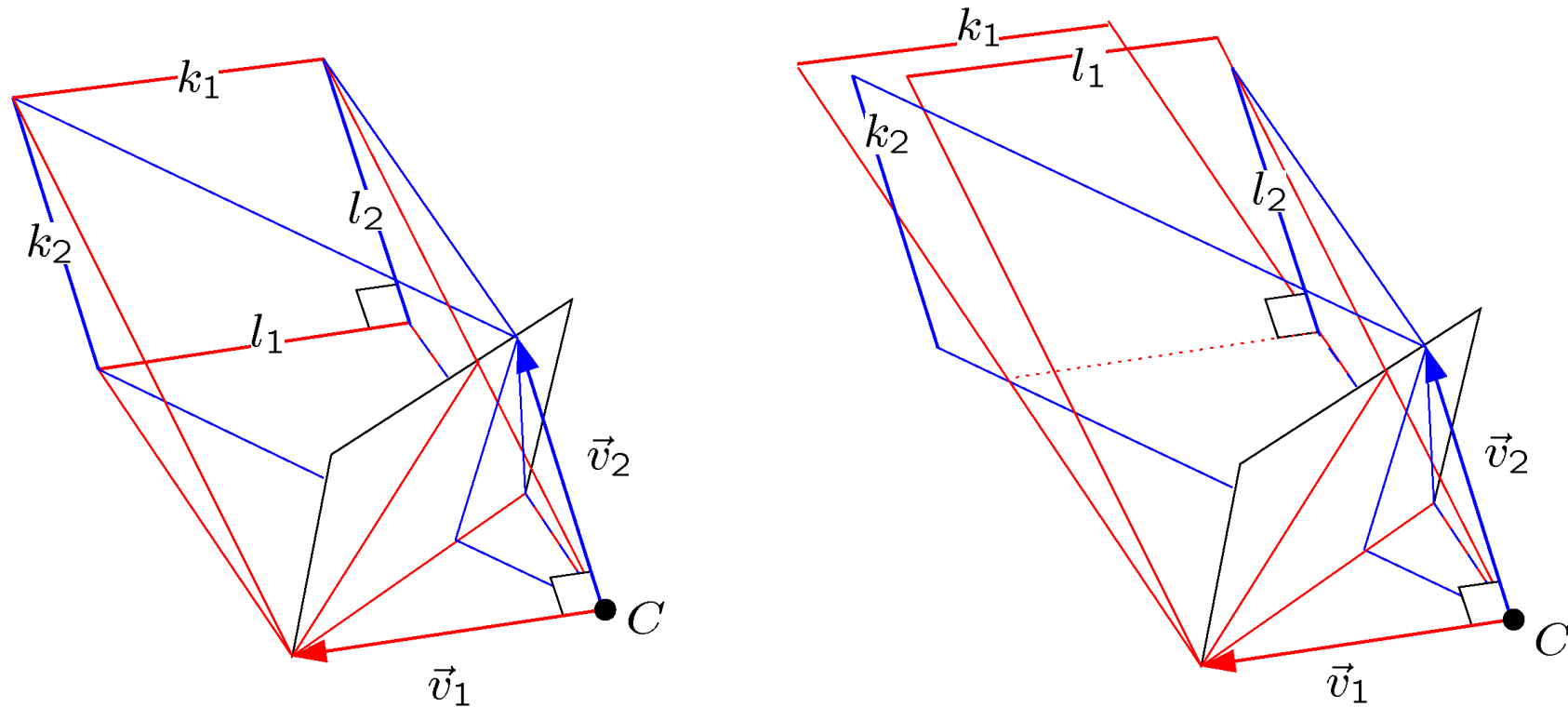
$$\begin{aligned} o_{23} = m_{12} m_{13} + m_{22} m_{23} &\Rightarrow m_{23} = s_2 (o_{23} - o_{12} o_{13} / o_{11}) / \sqrt{o_{22} - o_{12}^2 / o_{11}} \\ &= s_2 (o_{11} o_{23} - o_{12} o_{13}) / \sqrt{o_{11}^2 o_{22} - o_{11} o_{12}^2} \end{aligned}$$

for $s_1 = \pm 1$ and $s_2 = \pm 1$.

Hence

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} s_1 \sqrt{o_{11}} & s_1 o_{12} / \sqrt{o_{11}} & s_1 o_{13} / \sqrt{o_{11}} \\ 0 & s_2 \sqrt{o_{22} - o_{12}^2 / o_{11}} & s_2 (o_{23} - o_{12} o_{13} / o_{11}) / \sqrt{o_{22} - o_{12}^2 / o_{11}} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

Camera calibration from vanishing points



We will now show how to calibrate the camera by finding the matrix $\omega = K^{-T}K^{-1}$ from at least three vanishing points in general position.

Let us have two pairs of parallel lines in space, such that they are also orthogonal, i.e. let k_1 be parallel with l_1 and k_2 be parallel with l_2 and at the same time let k_1 be orthogonal to k_2 and l_1 be orthogonal to l_2 .

This, for instance, happens when lines k_1, l_2, k_2, l_1 form a rectangle but they also may be arranged in the three-dimensional space as non-intersecting.

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Let lines k_1, l_1, k_2, l_2 be represented by the corresponding vectors $\vec{k}_{1\beta}, \vec{l}_{1\beta}, \vec{k}_{2\beta}, \vec{l}_{2\beta}$ in the camera coordinates system with (in general non-orthogonal) basis β .

Parallel lines k_1 and l_1 , resp. k_2 and l_2 , generate vanishing points

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_{1\beta} &= \vec{k}_{1\beta} \times \vec{l}_{1\beta} \\ \vec{v}_{2\beta} &= \vec{k}_{2\beta} \times \vec{l}_{2\beta}\end{aligned}$$

Vector \vec{v}_1 is a direction vector of the line through C , which is parallel with line l_1 . Vector \vec{v}_2 is a direction vector of the line through C , which is parallel with line l_2 . Lines l_1 and l_2 are perpendicular. Therefore, vector \vec{v}_1 is perpendicular to vector \vec{v}_2 .

The perpendicularity of \vec{v}_1 to \vec{v}_2 is, in the camera orthogonal basis δ , modeled by

$$\vec{v}_{1\delta}^\top \vec{v}_{2\delta} = 0$$

We therefore get

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_{1\beta}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}^{-1} \vec{v}_{2\beta} &= 0 \\ \vec{v}_{1\beta}^\top \omega \vec{v}_{2\beta} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

which is a linear homogeneous equation on ω .

There are 6 unknowns in ω and hence we need 5 pairs of perpendicular vanishing points spanning \mathbb{R}^3 to recover the one-dimensional space of matrices ω .

Often, when working with digital cameras, we can assume that pixels are square and hence the canonical choice of coordinates in the image plane, i.e. setting the corners of a pixel to $(0,0)^\top$, $(1,0)^\top$, $(0,1)^\top$, $(1,1)^\top$, gives an orthogonal basis in the image coordinate system and consequently, the camera coordinate system basis β has the first two vectors orthogonal. This leads to a more special \mathbf{K} matrix, which is then as

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} k_{11} & 0 & k_{13} \\ 0 & k_{11} & k_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The corresponding

$$\omega = \frac{1}{k_{11}^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -k_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & -k_{23} \\ -k_{13} & -k_{23} & k_{11}^2 + k_{13}^2 + k_{23}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

then provides equation

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}_{1\beta}^\top \omega \vec{v}_{2\beta} &= 0 \\ \begin{bmatrix} v_{11} & v_{12} & v_{13} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & o_1 \\ 0 & 1 & o_2 \\ o_1 & o_2 & o_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{21} \\ v_{22} \\ v_{23} \end{bmatrix} &= 0 \\ \begin{bmatrix} v_{23} v_{11} + v_{21} v_{13} & v_{23} v_{12} + v_{22} v_{13} & v_{23} v_{13} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} o_1 \\ o_2 \\ o_3 \end{bmatrix} &= v_{21} v_{11} + v_{22} v_{12} \end{aligned}$$

Now, we need only 3 pairs of perpendicular vanishing points, e.g. to observe 3 rectangles not all in one plane to compute o_1, o_2, o_3 and then

$$\begin{aligned} k_{13} &= -o_1 \\ k_{23} &= -o_2 \\ k_{11} &= \sqrt{o_3 - k_{13}^2 - k_{23}^2} \end{aligned}$$