

# Camera Matrices

## Math Lecture 3

Nicholas Dwork

1

## Central Projective Camera

Imaging plane in  
back collects light.

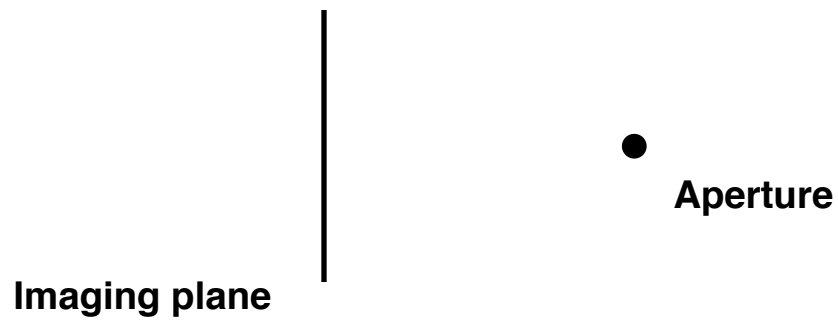
Extremely tiny hole (called  
the aperture) lets light in.



Box prevents stray rays of light from  
hitting the imaging plane.

2

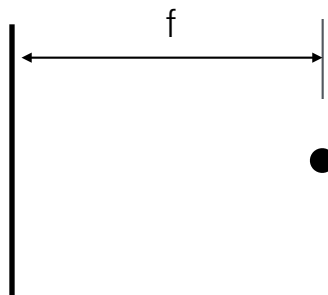
**We represent the central projective camera with a line and a dot.**



3

## **Focal Length**

**The focal length is the distance between the imaging plane and the aperture.**



4

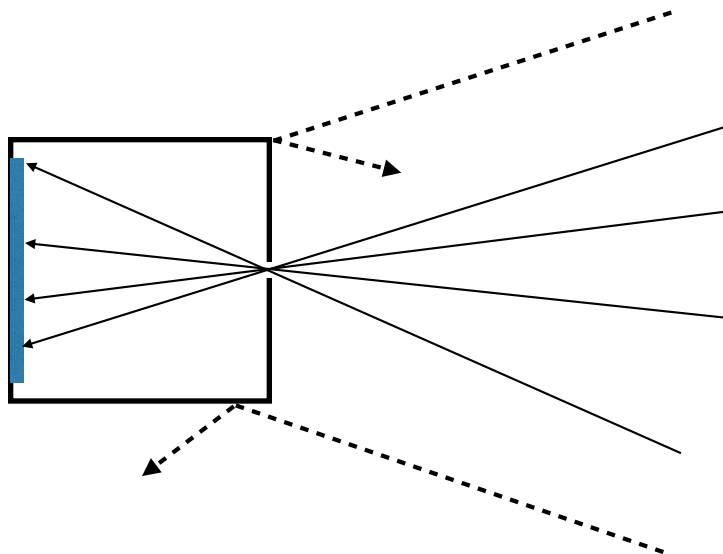
# Principal Axis

The line that passes through the aperture and is perpendicular to the imaging plane is called the Principal Axis.



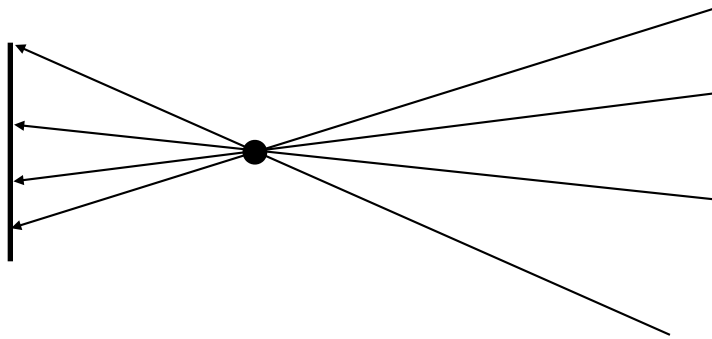
5

Light rays pass through the aperture and hit the imaging plane.



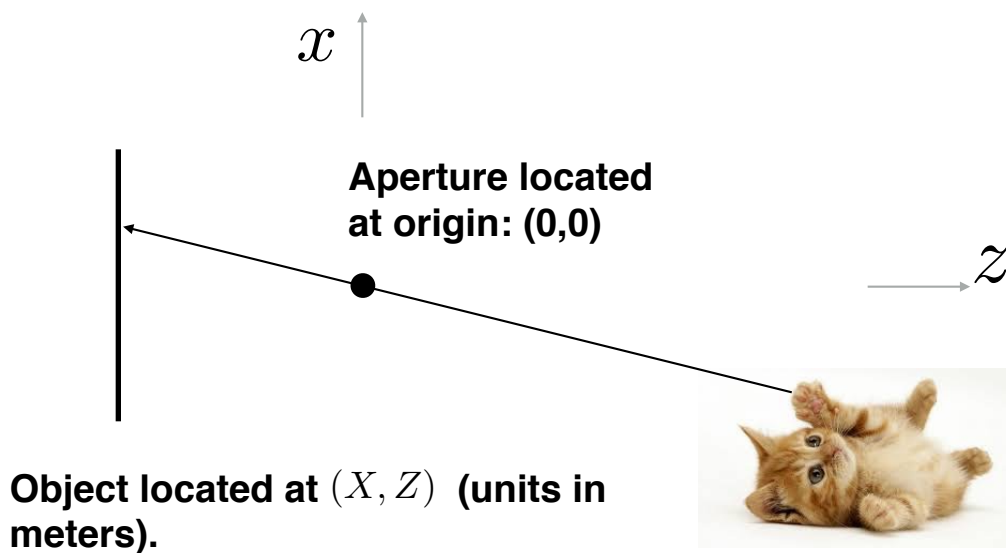
6

**Light rays pass through the aperture and hit the imaging plane.**



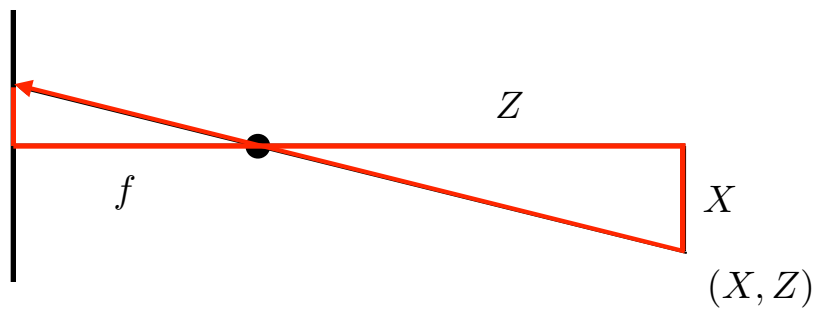
7

**Light ray reflects off of object onto the imaging plane.**

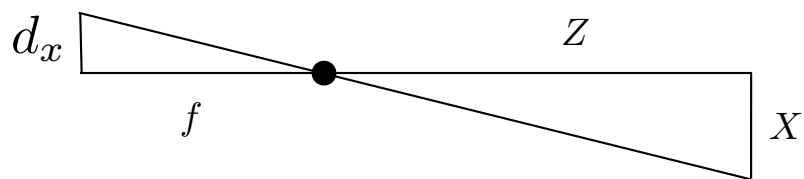


8

Do you see the *similar triangles*?



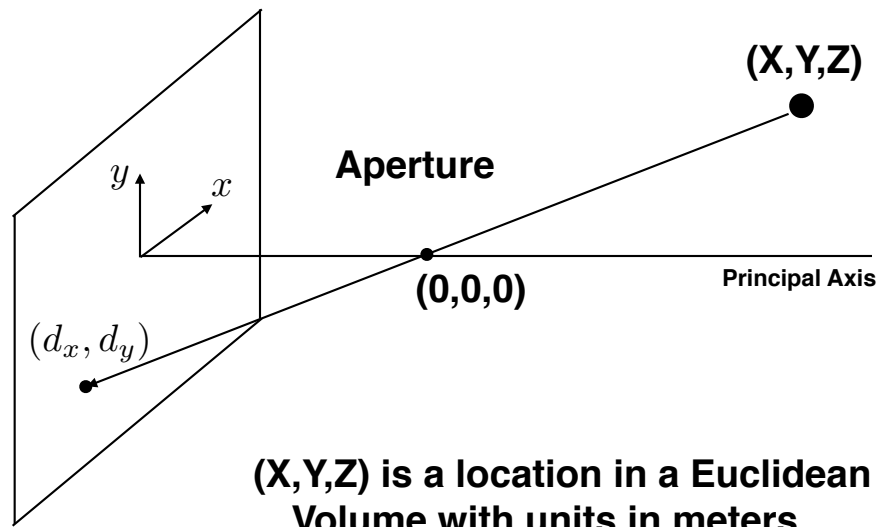
9



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

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

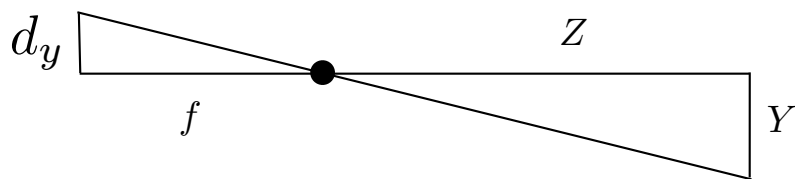
10



**$(X,Y,Z)$  is a location in a Euclidean Volume with units in meters.**

**$(d_x, d_y)$  is a location on the image plane in meters.**

11



$$\frac{d_y}{f} = \frac{Y}{Z}$$

$$d_y = f \frac{Y}{Z}$$

12

**These equations can be combined into a single matrix equation.**

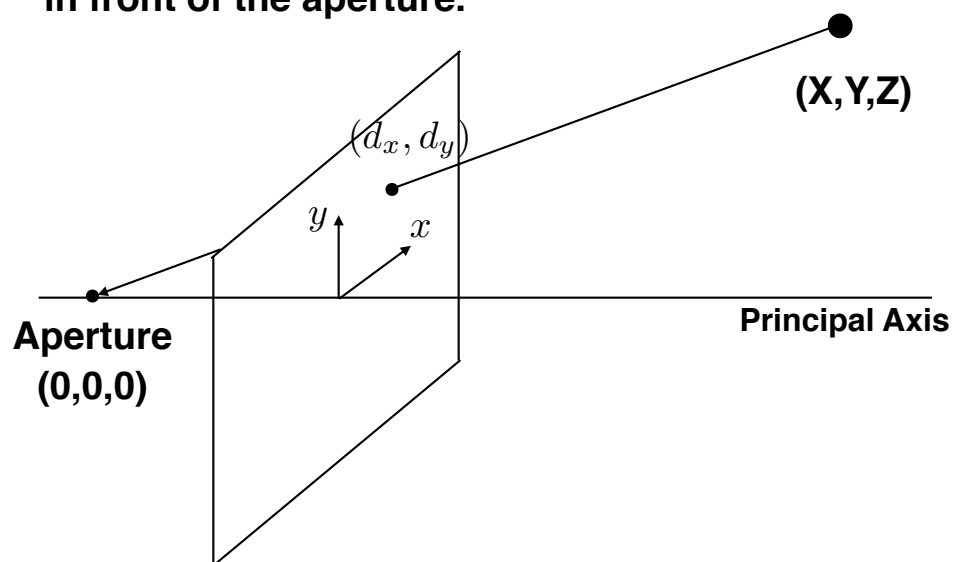
$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{d}_x \\ \tilde{d}_y \\ \tilde{d}_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} fX \\ fY \\ Z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & f & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**In the above equation, 3D homogeneous coordinates are mapped to 2D homogeneous coordinates.**

$$(d_x, d_y) = \left( \frac{\tilde{d}_x}{\tilde{d}_z}, \frac{\tilde{d}_y}{\tilde{d}_z} \right)$$

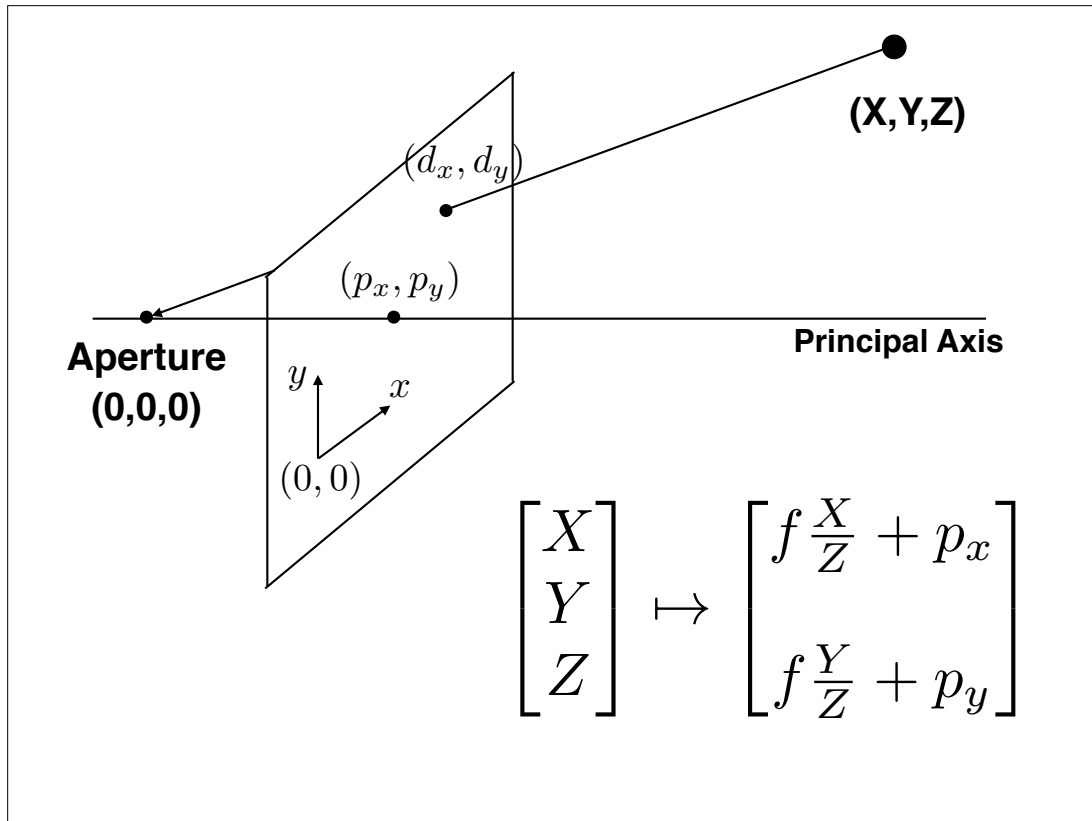
13

**For convenience, we can move the image plane in front of the aperture.**



**From now on, we'll assume the image plane is in front of the aperture.**

14



15

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} f \frac{X}{Z} + p_x \\ f \frac{Y}{Z} + p_y \end{bmatrix}$$

**We can form this mapping as a matrix equation.**

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{d}_x \\ \tilde{d}_y \\ \tilde{d}_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & p_x & 0 \\ 0 & f & p_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

16

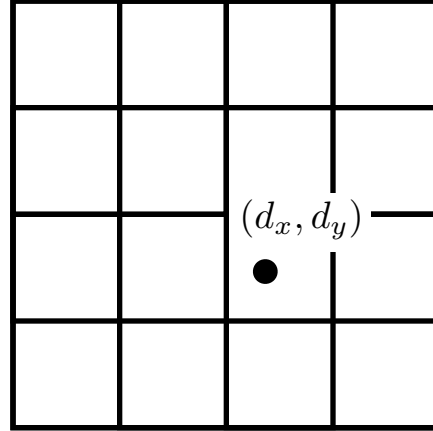


The dimensions of  $(d_x, d_y)$  are currently in meters.  
We may want to convert to “pixel units”.

Suppose  $(d_x, d_y)$  equals (0.23,0.14) meters.

Suppose further we know that pixels are 0.1 meters in size horizontally and vertically.

Then we can say that  $(d_x, d_y)$  is (2.3,1.4) pixels in size.



17

To convert to pixel units:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{d}_x \\ \tilde{d}_y \\ \tilde{d}_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & p_x & 0 \\ 0 & f & p_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where,  $m_x = s_x^{-1}$   $m_y = s_y^{-1}$

$s_x$  is the horizontal size of a pixel in meters.

$s_y$  is the vertical size of a pixel in meters.

18

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{d}_x \\ \tilde{d}_y \\ \tilde{d}_z \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} m_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f & 0 & p_x & 0 \\ 0 & f & p_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & 0 & x_0 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_y & y_0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

**where**

$$\alpha_x = fm_x \quad \alpha_y = fm_y \quad x_0 = m_x p_x \quad y_0 = m_y p_y$$

19

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{d}_x \\ \tilde{d}_y \\ \tilde{d}_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & 0 & x_0 & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_y & y_0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**We can rewrite this expression as follows:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{d}_x \\ \tilde{d}_y \\ \tilde{d}_z \end{bmatrix} = K \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad K = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x & 0 & x_0 \\ 0 & \alpha_y & y_0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**$K$  is called the intrinsic camera matrix.**

20

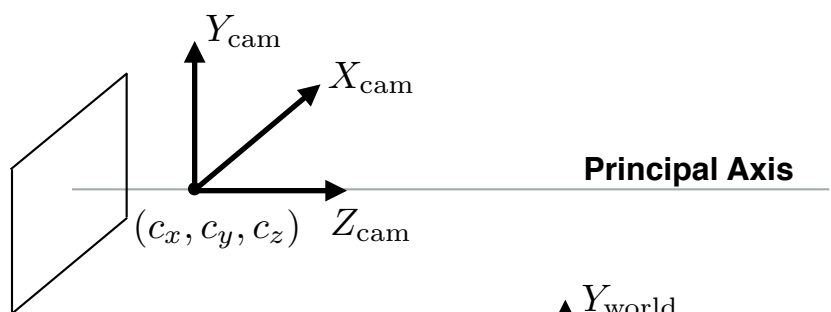
**What do we do if the camera is not located at the origin, but rather located at some other location pointed in some other direction?**

**Answer: we change the coordinates of all the points so that it looks to the camera like the camera is located at the origin pointing along the z axis.**

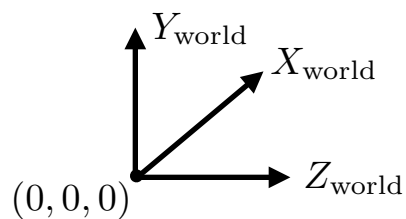
**“We change from world coordinates to camera coordinates.”**

21

**We translate (or shift) the camera by an amount  $C$ .**

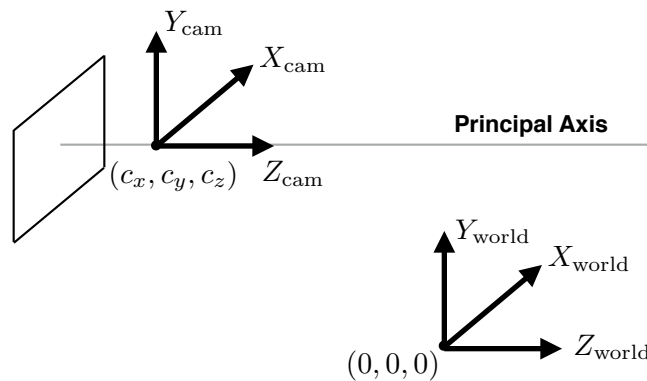


**Let  $(X, Y, Z)$  be a point in world coordinates.**



**How do we convert from world to camera coordinates?**

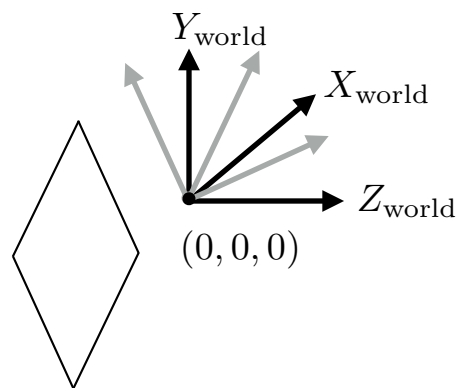
22



$$\begin{bmatrix} X_{\text{cam}} \\ Y_{\text{cam}} \\ Z_{\text{cam}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} c_x \\ c_y \\ c_z \end{bmatrix}$$

23

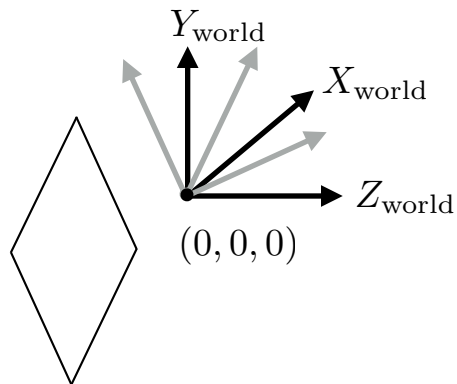
**We rotate the camera by some roll, pitch, and yaw.**



**Let  $(X, Y, Z)$  be a point in world coordinates.**

**How do we convert from world to camera coordinates?**

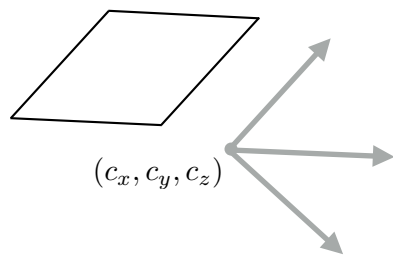
24



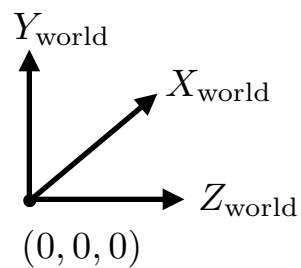
$$\begin{bmatrix} X_{\text{cam}} \\ Y_{\text{cam}} \\ Z_{\text{cam}} \end{bmatrix} = R \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{\textit{R} is the appropriate rotation matrix.}$$

25

**We translate (or shift) and rotate the camera by an amount  $C$ .**

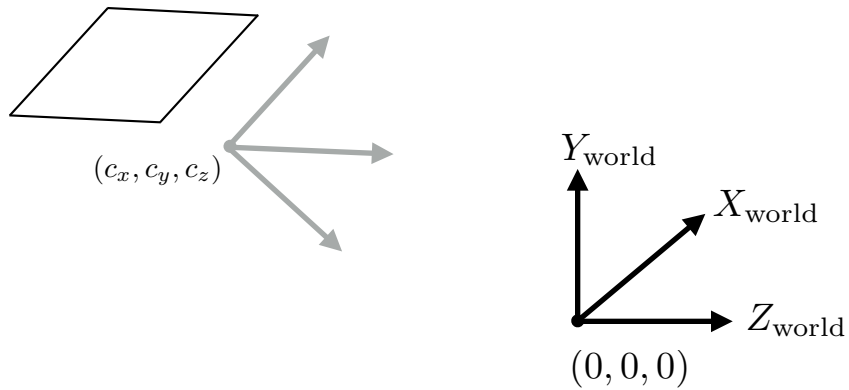


**Let  $(X, Y, Z)$  be a point in world coordinates.**



**How do we convert from world to camera coordinates?**

26



$$\begin{bmatrix} X_{\text{cam}} \\ Y_{\text{cam}} \\ Z_{\text{cam}} \end{bmatrix} = R \left( \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} c_x \\ c_y \\ c_z \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

27

**We can combine all equations to convert world coordinates into pixel units**

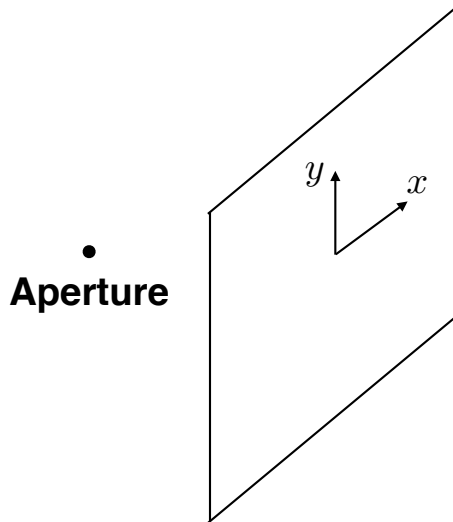
$$P = K R [I \quad -C]$$

**where**  $C = \begin{bmatrix} c_x \\ c_y \\ c_z \end{bmatrix}$

28

# Final Note

Once you've determined the location  $(d_x, d_y)$ , you must convert this into computer pixel units.



The way we've define our axis,  $x$  points left and  $y$  points up.

In Matlab,  $x$  points right and  $y$  points down. You'll need to do an appropriate conversion.