# Rectification of an Edgy Photograph 

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## rough sketch of the talk

| edgy photograph | motivation |
| ---: | :--- |
| image portions | good and bad choice |
| basic knowledge | geometric reconstruction |
| conjugate diameters | rectification of a circle, elliptic involutions |
| naive approach | and why it failed |
| geometry succeeds | at last |

## The edgy photograph


"Ramp and Hyphen" by Paul Neagu. The picture was taken during an exhibition in Glasgow (Scotland) in 1978 (with kind permission of Toni Neagu)
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## Why do we use/prefer the constructive approach?

simplicity
needs only paper and pencil
geometric knowledge vs. algorithms
Do algorithms check the plausibilty of results?
plea for (descriptive) geometry
Geometric knowledge is endangered of getting lost.

## Good and badly chosen portions


improperly chosen portion of the image

perspective image with circles marking the traces of the viewing cones with semi apertures $45^{\circ}, 30^{\circ}, 15^{\circ}, 7.5^{\circ}$

properly chosen display window


1. determine principal vanishing points, i.e., vanishing points $V_{x}, V_{y}, V_{z}$ of a triple of mutually orthogonal lines
2. principle point $H=$ orthocenter of $V_{x} V_{y} V_{z}$
3. (eye) distance $d$ via side view, distance circle o
4. measurement points $=$ centers of perspective collineations that rectify planar figures

This allows for the construction of measurement points for any plane and any line. For example: $M_{1}$ (horizontal planes $\left.\| \pi_{1}=[x, y]\right), M_{y}\left(y\right.$-direction in $\left.\pi_{2}=[y, z]\right), \ldots$

Geometric rectification is only up to scale. It does not fail with perfect images.

The rectification uses perspective collineations with measurement points for their centers and the vanishing lines (image of a plane's ideal line) as their vanishing lines.

Perspective collineations are sources of inaccuracies.

Collineations that rectify images in different planes have to be made consistent.

## Conjugate diameters



The center $M$ of a conic $c$ is the pole of the ideal line $\omega$ w.r.t. c.

Each line through $M$ is a diameter of $c$. $\left(d_{1}, d_{2}\right)$ is a pair of conjugate diameters of a conic $c$ if $d_{1}$ and $d_{2}$ are conjugate w.r.t. c, i.e., $d_{j}$ contains $d_{j}$ 's pole $D_{j}$.

Conjugate diameters of a circle are orthogonal.

Orthogonality / diameters not preserved.
Persp. images of pairs of ideal points of conjugate diameters are pairs of points in an elliptic involution on the vanishing line.

## Conjugate diameters



The measurement point $M$ for the rectification that maps a conic $c^{c}$ to a circle is the Laguerre point $M$ of the elliptic involution on the vanishing line.

From $M$, conjugate pairs have to be seen at right angles. $\Longrightarrow M$ is a common point of Thales circles on conjuate vanishing points.

Solutions on both sides can serve as Measurement points.

First attempt
based on the vanishing points of
apparently orthogonal directions

1. principal point $H$ not in the image center
2. rectification of $c^{c}$ is an ellipse $c^{\circ} \neq$ circle

## Second attempt



## Top view of "Ramp and Hyphen"



## Literature

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Thank You For Your Attention!

