

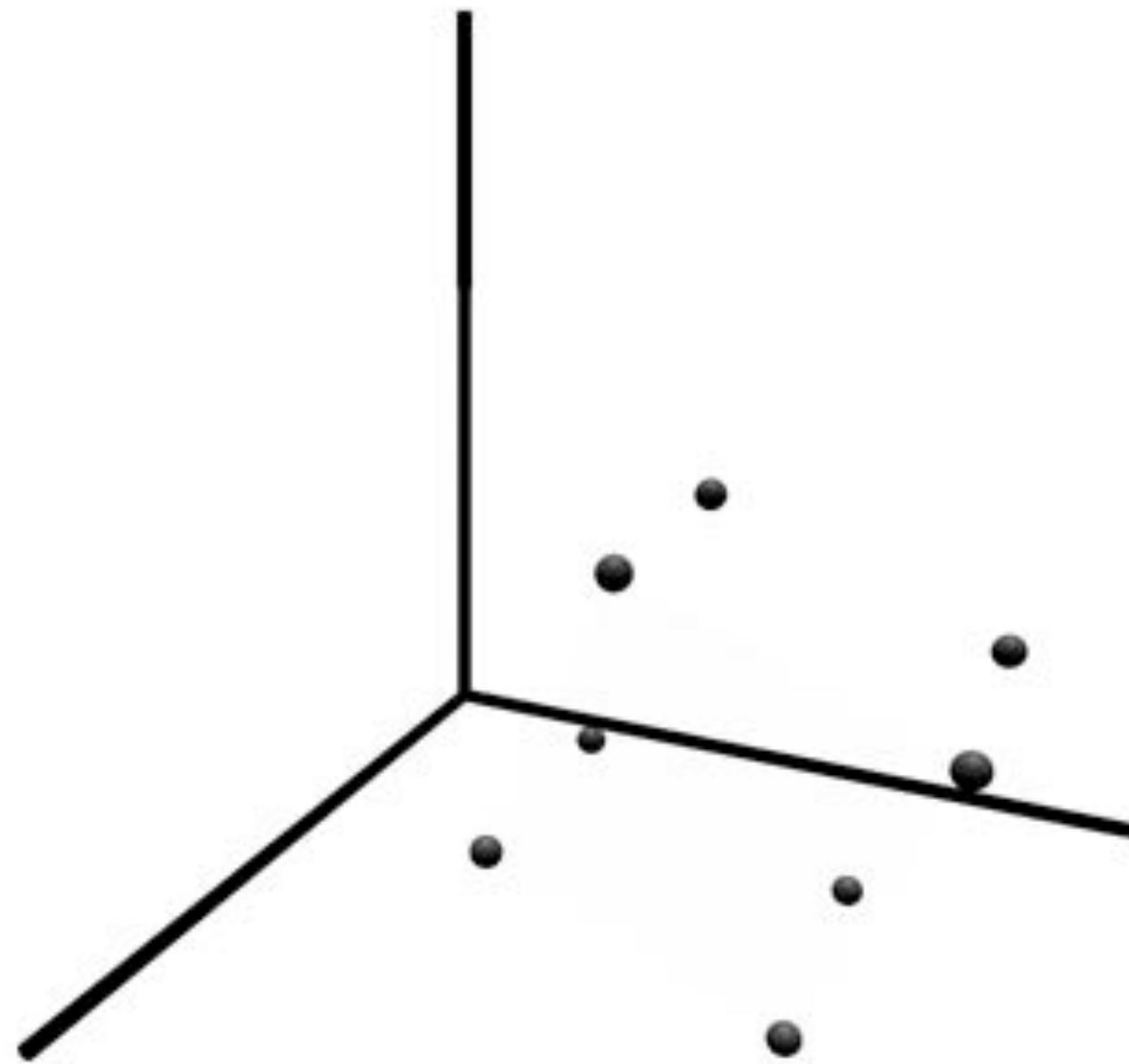
# **Spatial Transformations**

---

**Computer Graphics**  
**CMU 15-462/15-662**

# Spatial Transformation

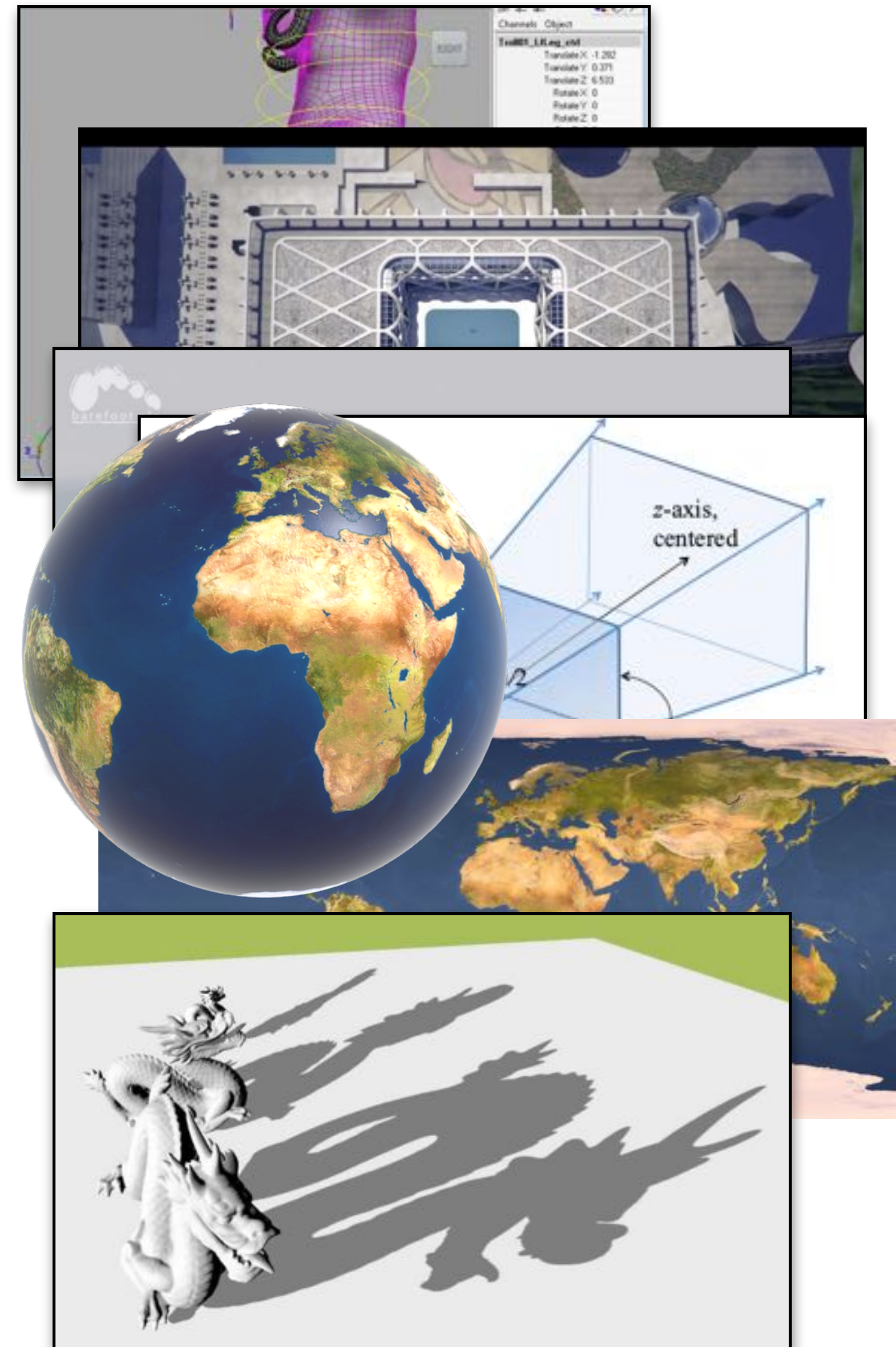
- Basically any function that assigns each point a new location
- Today we'll focus on common transformations of space (rotation, scaling, etc.) encoded by linear maps



$$f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

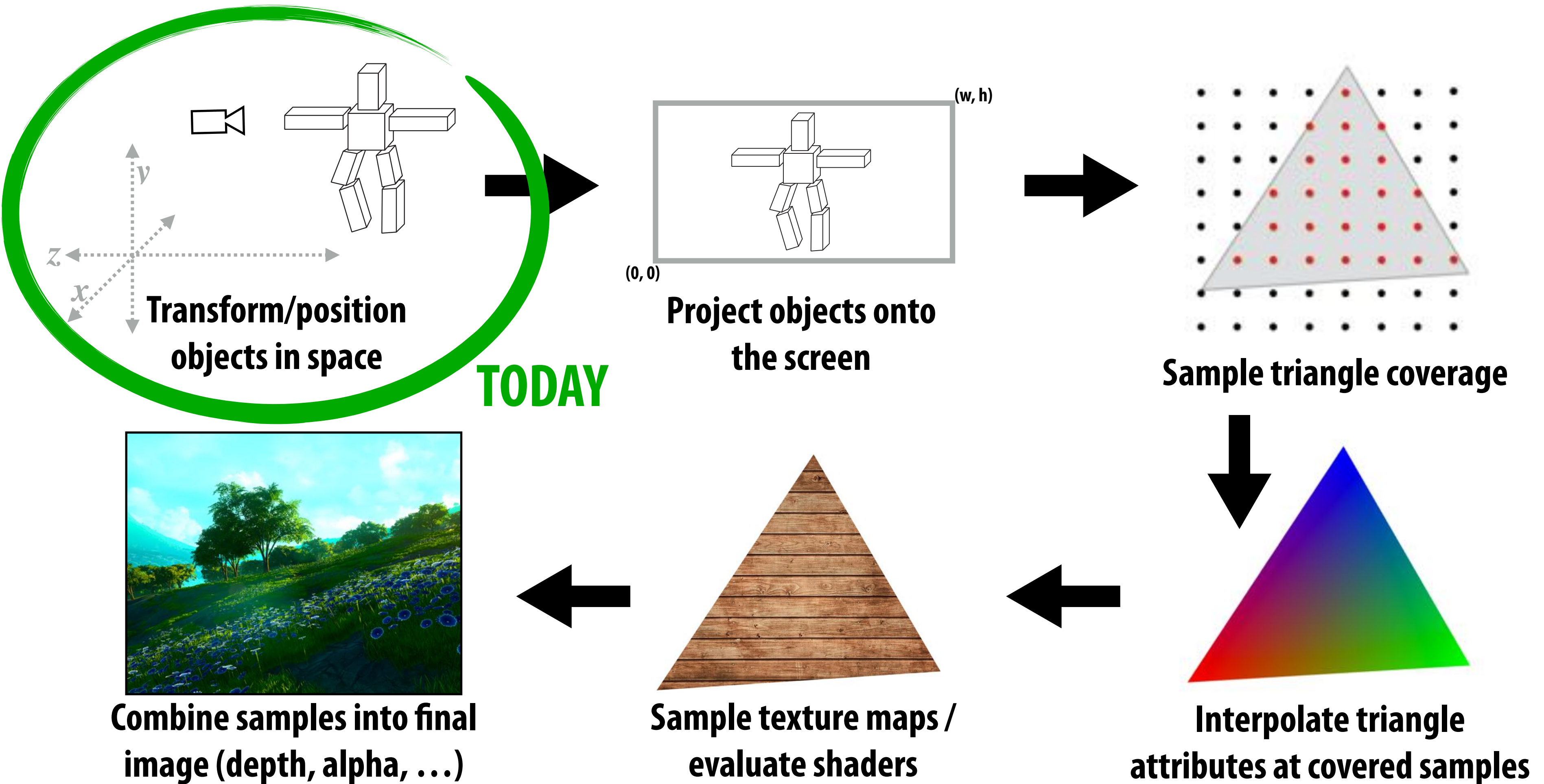
# Transformations in Computer Graphics

- Where are linear transformations used in computer graphics?
- All over the place!
  - Position/deform objects in space
  - Move the camera
  - Animate objects over time
  - Project 3D objects onto 2D images
  - Map 2D textures onto 3D objects
  - Project shadows of 3D objects onto other 3D objects
  - ...





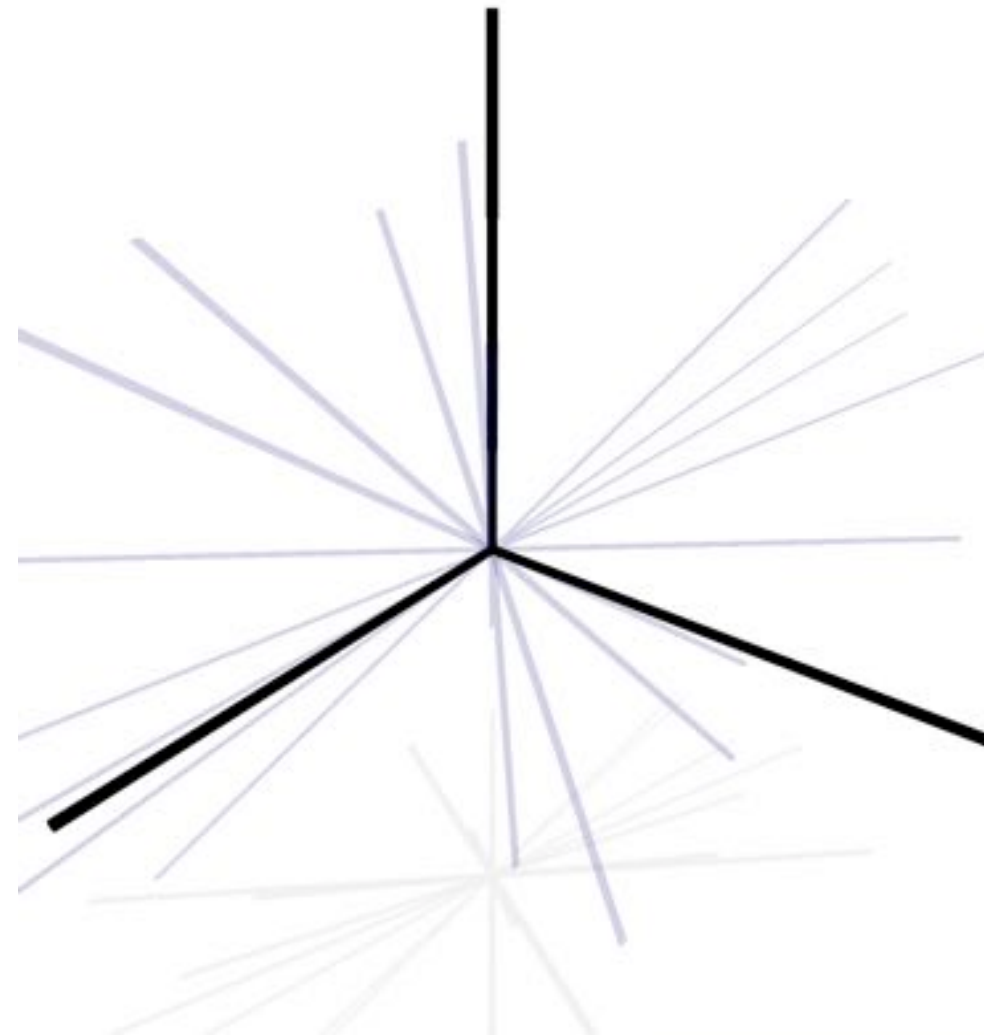
# The Rasterization Pipeline



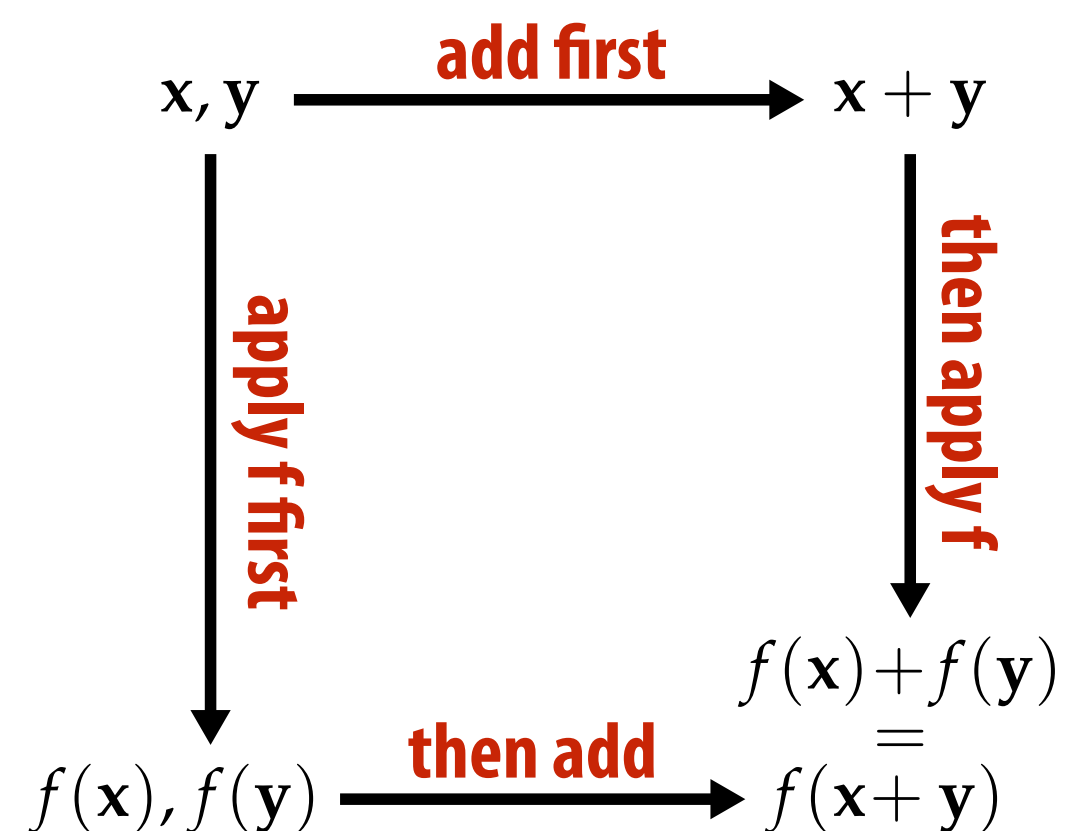
# Review: Linear Maps

**Q: What does it mean for a map  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  to be linear?**

**Geometrically:** it maps lines to lines, and preserves the origin



**Algebraically:** preserves vector space operations (addition & scaling)



# Why do we care about linear transformations?

- Cheap to apply
- Usually pretty easy to solve for (linear systems)
- **Composition of linear transformations is linear**
  - product of many matrices is a single matrix
  - gives uniform representation of transformations
  - simplifies graphics algorithms, systems (e.g., GPUs & APIs)

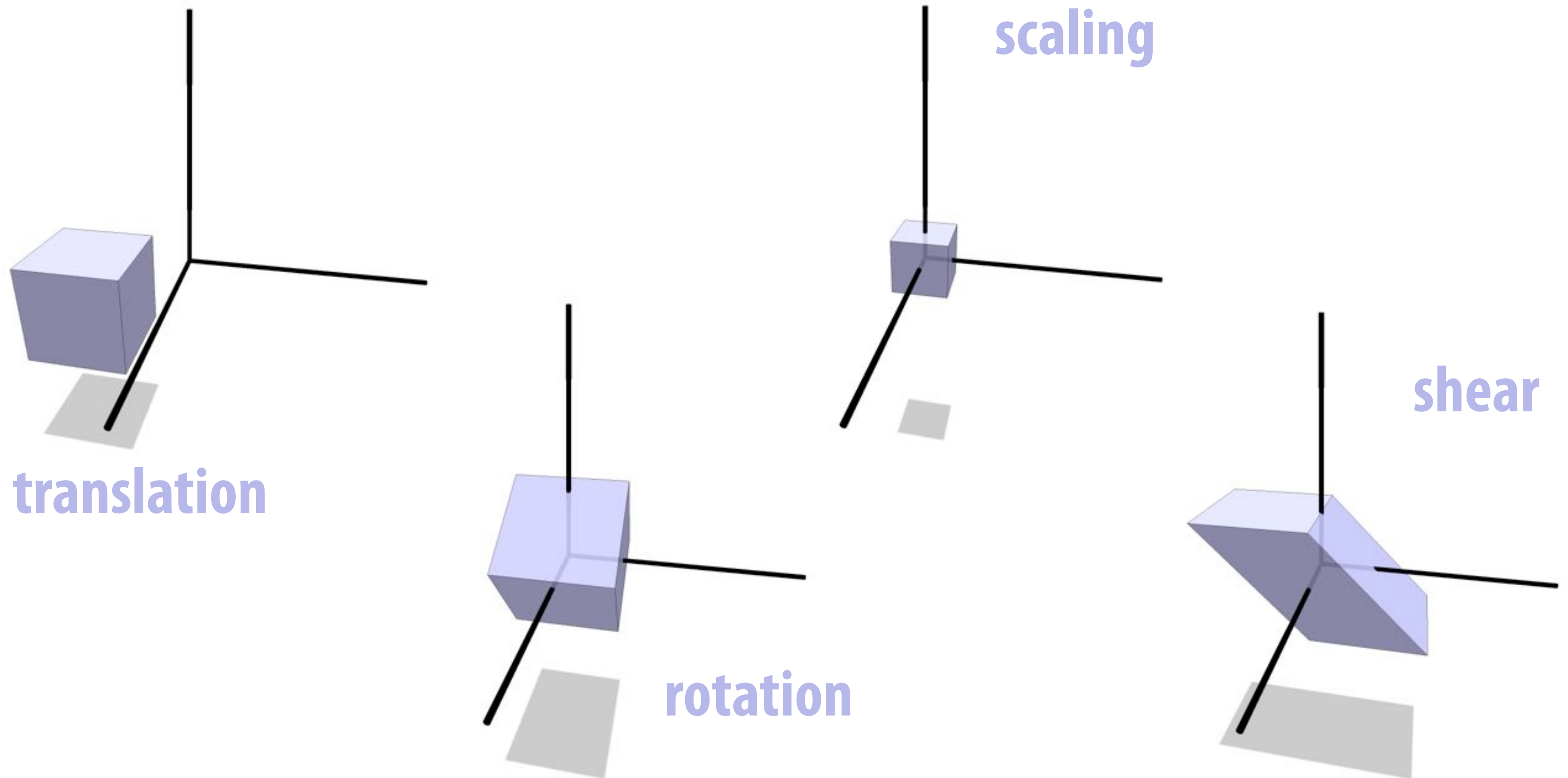
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \dots = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

*rotation*                      *scale*                      *rotation*                      *composite transformation*

**What kinds of linear  
transformations can we compose?**

# Types of Transformations

What would you call each of these types of transformations?



**Q: How did you know that? (Hint: you did not inspect a formula!)**



# Invariants of Transformation

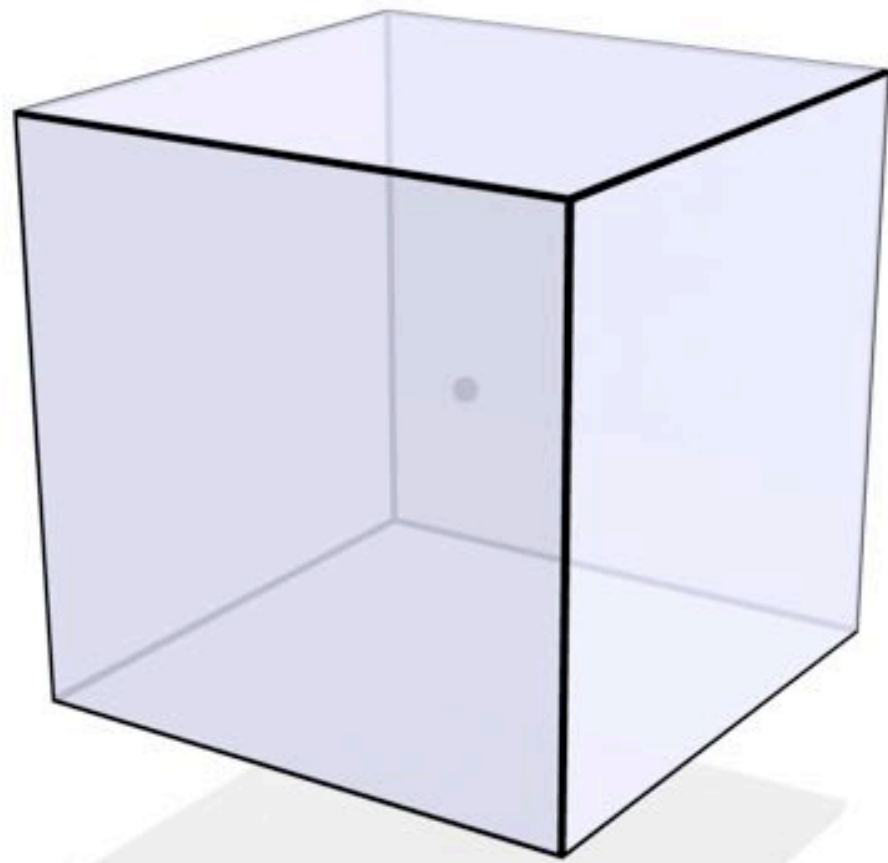
A transformation is determined by the invariants it preserves

transformation	invariants	algebraic description
linear	<i>straight lines / origin</i>	$f(a\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) = af(\mathbf{x}) + f(\mathbf{y}),$ $f(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$
translation	<i>differences between pairs of points</i>	$f(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}$
scaling	<i>lines through the origin / direction of vectors</i>	$f(\mathbf{x}) /  f(\mathbf{x})  = \mathbf{x} /  \mathbf{x} $
rotation	<i>origin / distances between points / orientation</i>	$ f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{y})  =  \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y} ,$ $\det(f) > 0$
...	...	...

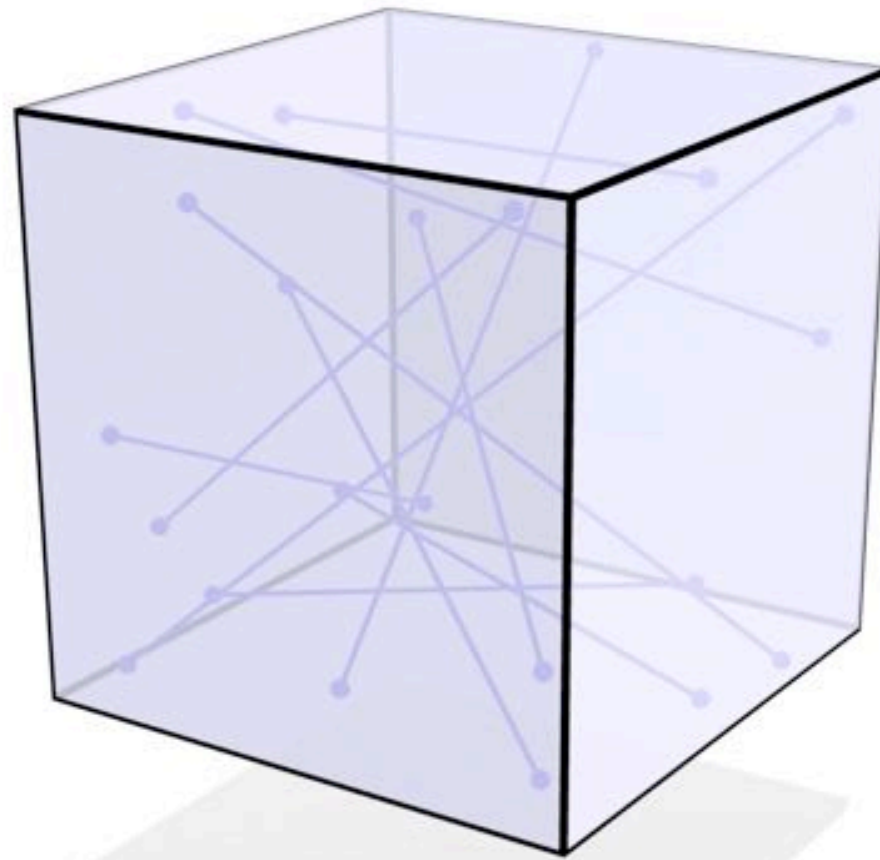
(Essentially how your brain “knows” what kind of transformation you’re looking at...)

# Rotation

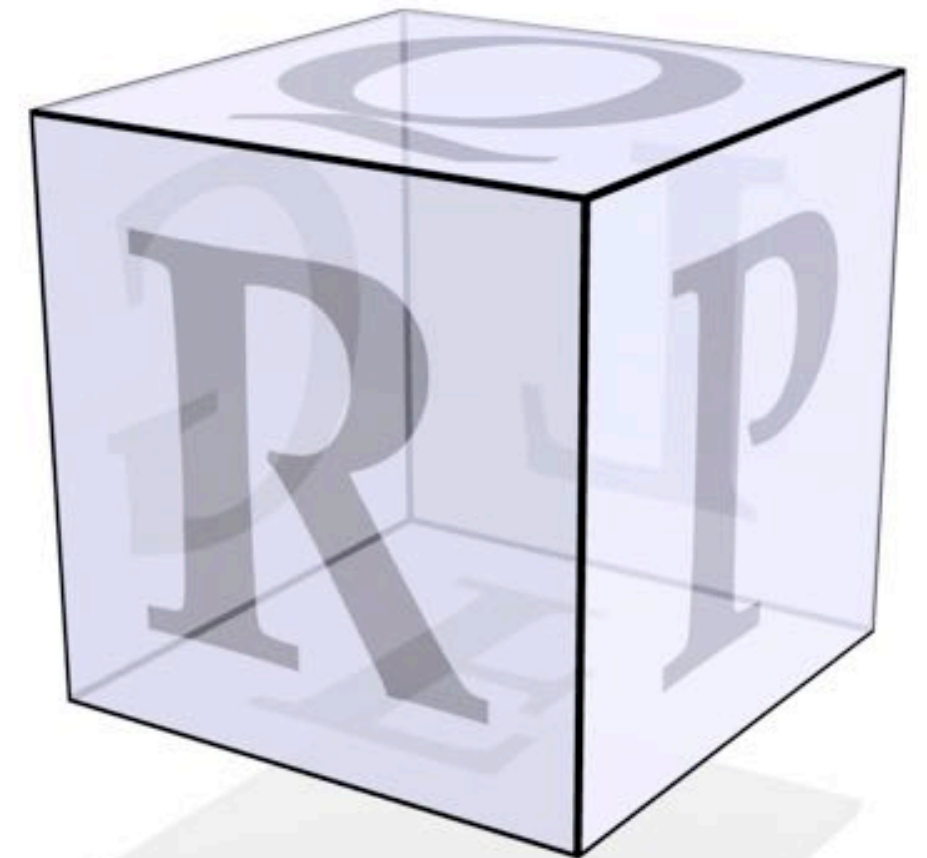
Rotations defined by three basic properties:



**keeps origin fixed**



**preserves distances**



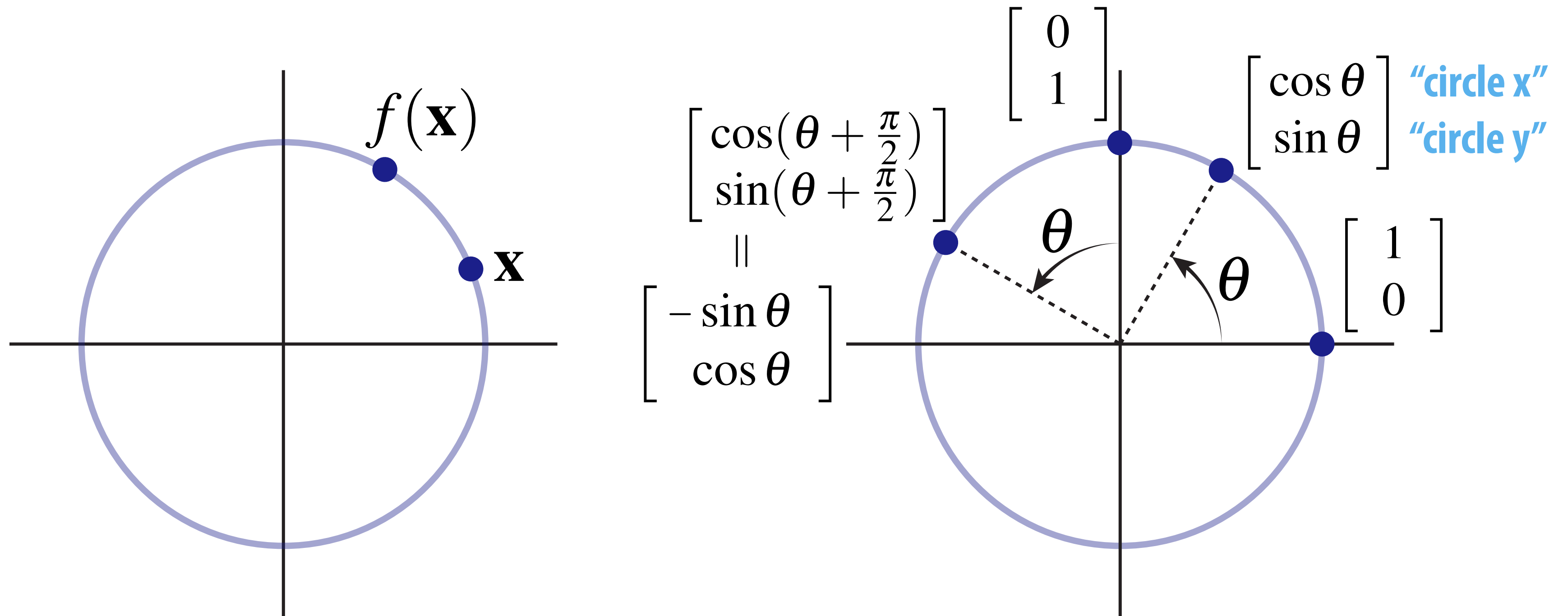
**preserves orientation**

**First two properties together imply that rotations are linear.**

**Will have a lot more to say about rotations next lecture...**

# 2D Rotations—Matrix Representation

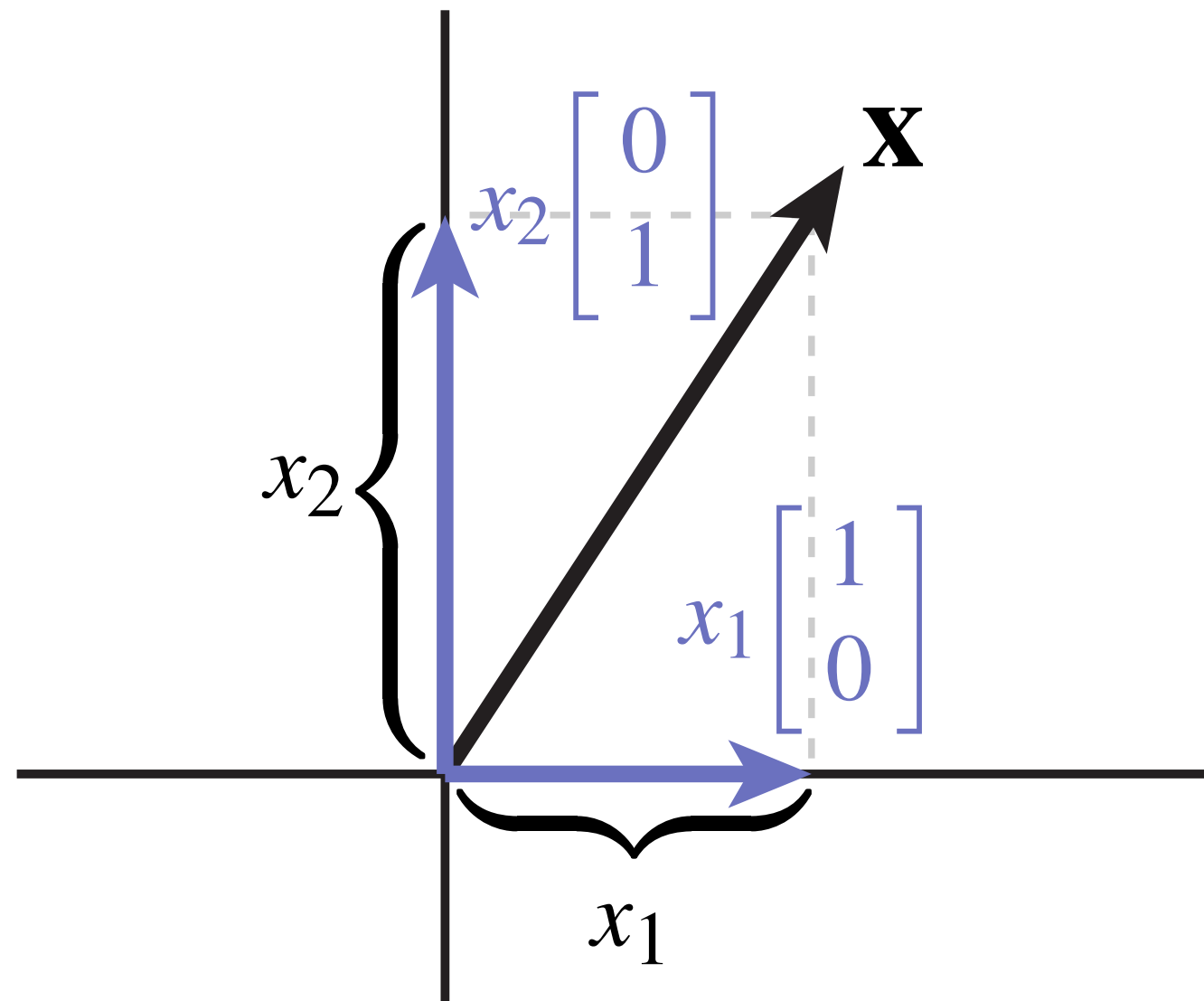
Rotations preserve distances and the origin—hence, a 2D rotation by an angle  $\theta$  maps each point  $\mathbf{x}$  to a point  $f_\theta(\mathbf{x})$  on the circle of radius  $|\mathbf{x}|$ :



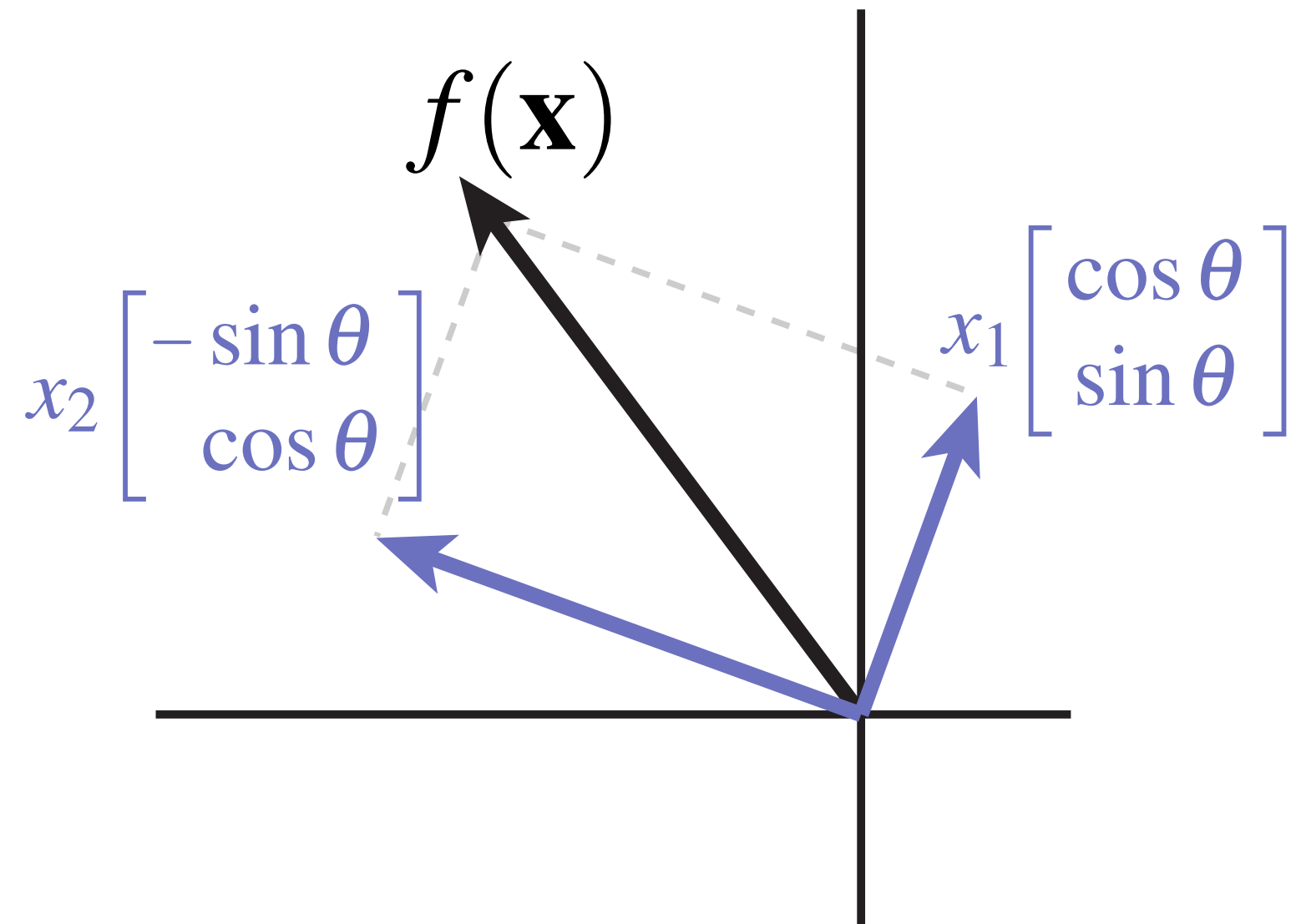
- Where does  $\mathbf{x} = (1, 0)$  go if we rotate by  $\theta$  (counter-clockwise)?
- How about  $\mathbf{x} = (0, 1)$ ?

**What about a general vector  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2)$ ?**

# 2D Rotations—Matrix Representation



$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$f(\mathbf{x}) = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

**So, How do we represent the 2D rotation function  $f_\theta(\mathbf{x})$  using a matrix?**

$$f_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin \theta & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

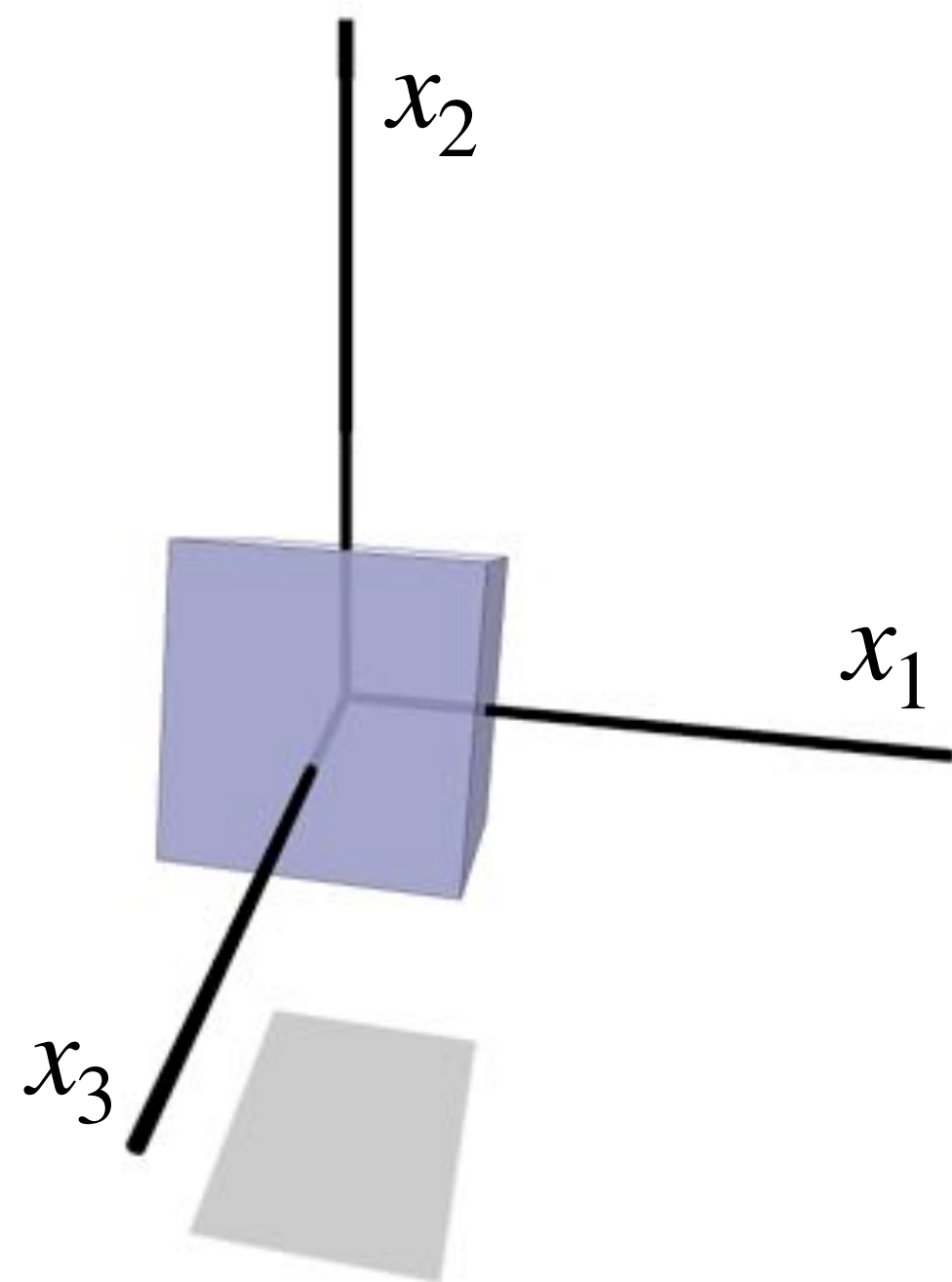


# 3D Rotations

- **Q: In 3D, how do we rotate around the  $x_3$ -axis?**
- **A: Just apply the same transformation of  $x_1, x_2$ ; keep  $x_3$  fixed**

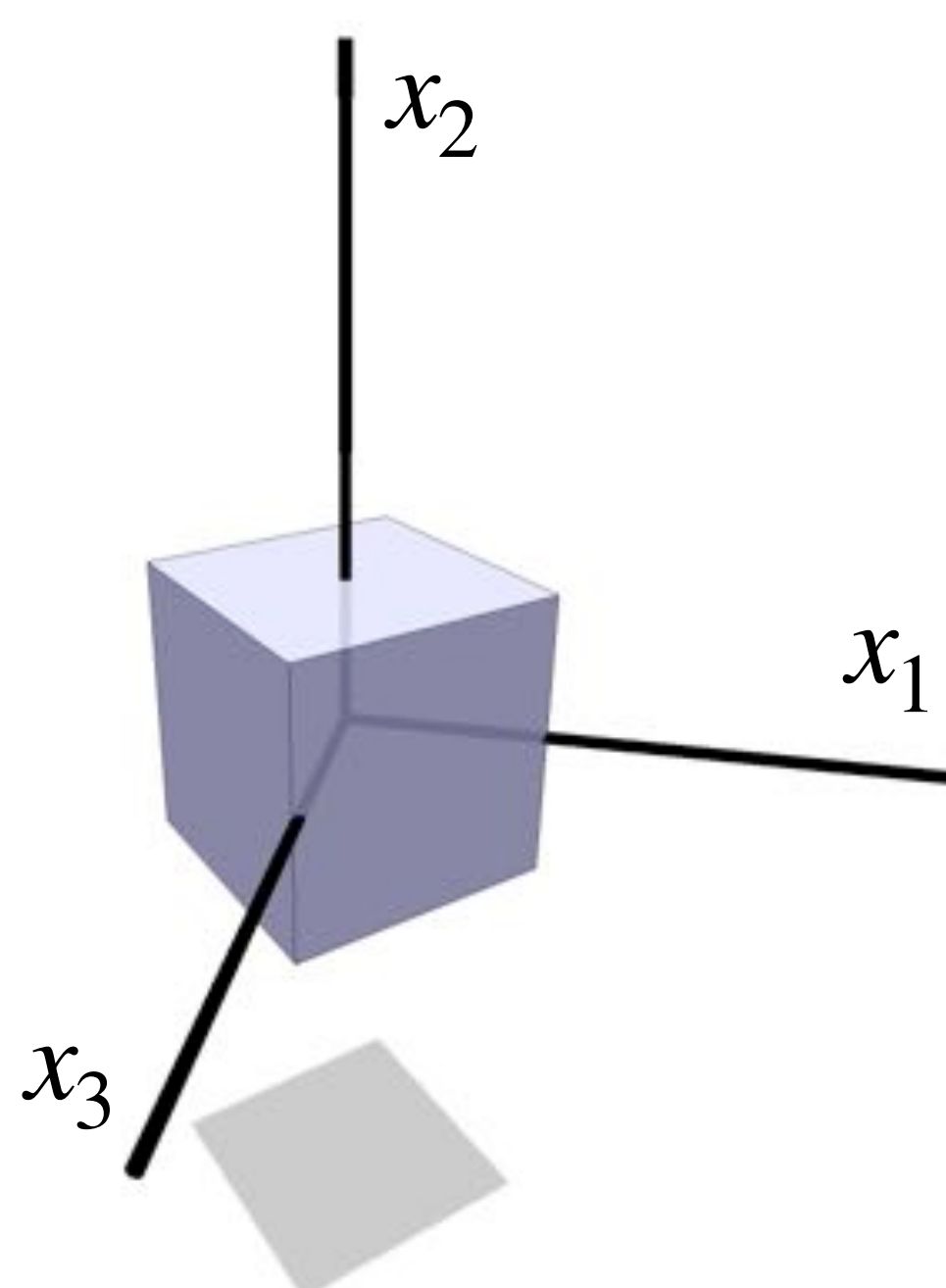
rotate around  $x_1$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin(\theta) \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$



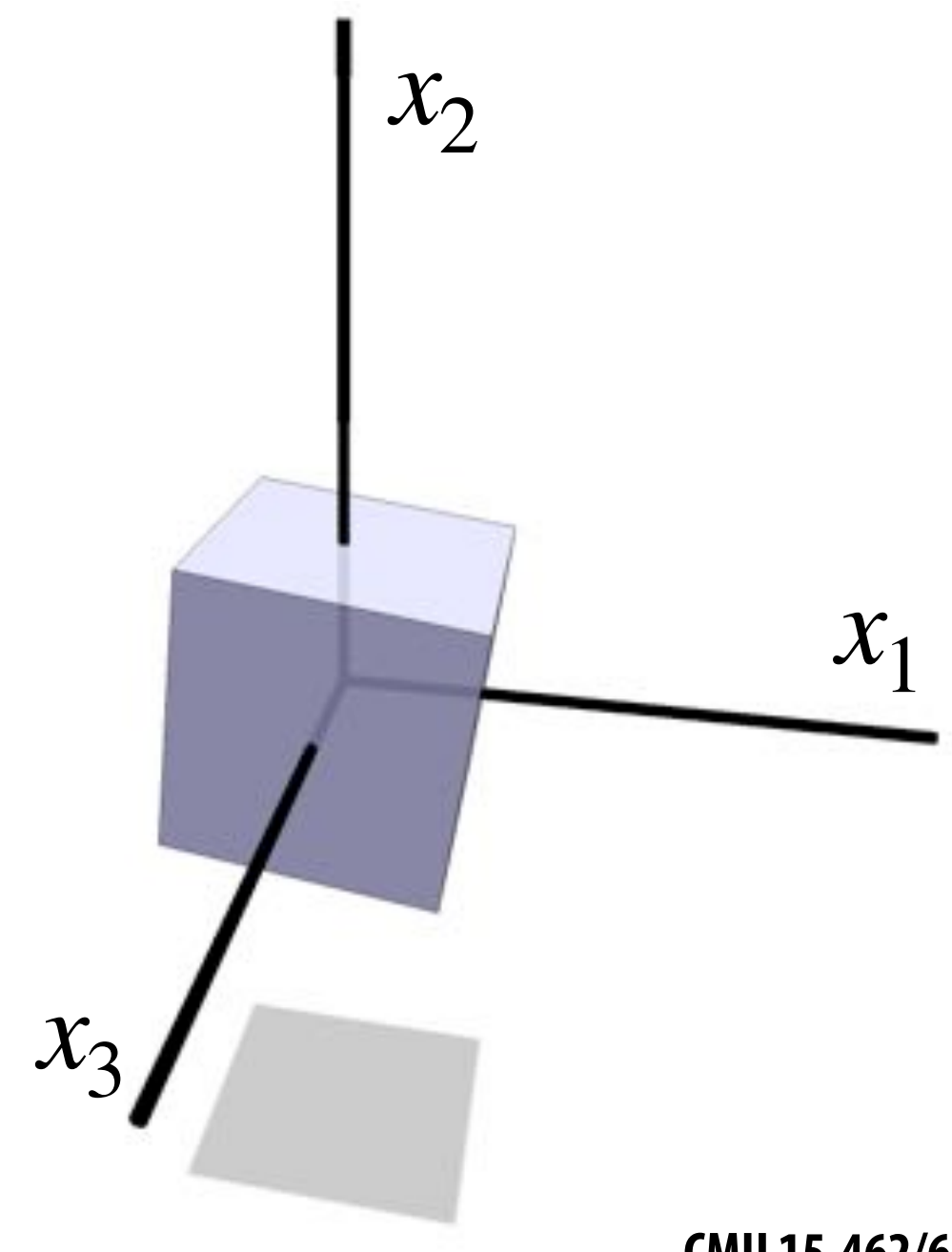
rotate around  $x_2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin(\theta) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$



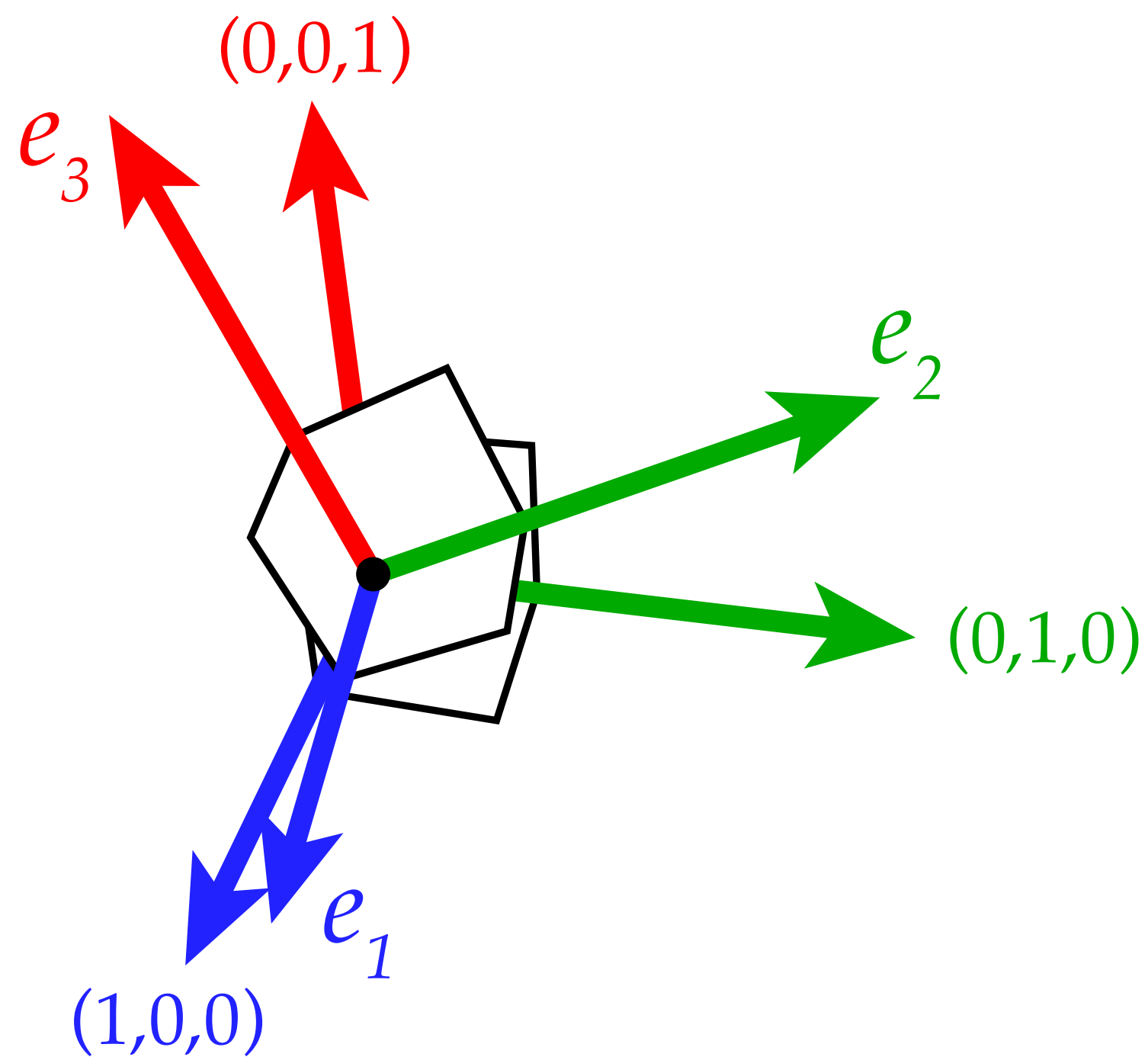
rotate around  $x_3$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin(\theta) & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos(\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Rotations—Transpose as Inverse

Rotation will map standard basis to orthonormal basis  $e_1, e_2, e_3$ :



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{matrix} R^T & & R \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c} \text{---} & e_1^T & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & e_2^T & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & e_3^T & \text{---} \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c} | & | & | \\ e_1 & e_2 & e_3 \\ | & | & | \end{array} \right] \end{matrix} \\
 & = \begin{matrix} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} e_1^T e_1 & e_1^T e_2 & e_1^T e_3 \\ e_2^T e_1 & e_2^T e_2 & e_2^T e_3 \\ e_3^T e_1 & e_3^T e_2 & e_3^T e_3 \end{array} \right] \\ I \end{matrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $R^T R = I$ , or equivalently,  $R^T = R^{-1}$ .

# Reflections

- Q: Does every matrix  $Q^T Q = I$  describe a rotation?
- Remember that rotations must preserve the origin, preserve distances, and preserve orientation
- Consider for instance this matrix:

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad Q^T Q = \begin{bmatrix} (-1)^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I$$

**Q: Does this matrix represent a rotation?  
(If not, which invariant does it fail to preserve?)**

**A: No! It represents a reflection across the y-axis  
(and hence fails to preserve orientation)**

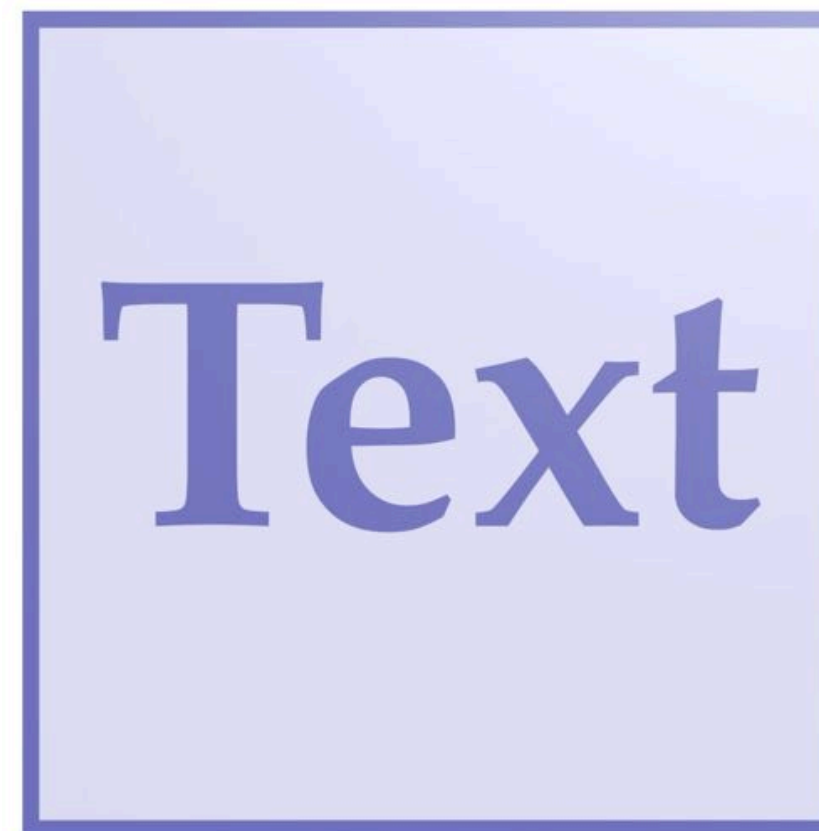


# Orthogonal Transformations

- In general, transformations that preserve distances and the origin are called orthogonal transformations
- Represented by matrices  $Q^T Q = I$ 
  - **Rotations** additionally preserve orientation:  $\det(Q) > 0$
  - **Reflections** reverse orientation:  $\det(Q) < 0$



**rotation**



**reflection**



\*assuming  $a \neq 0, \mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$

# Scaling

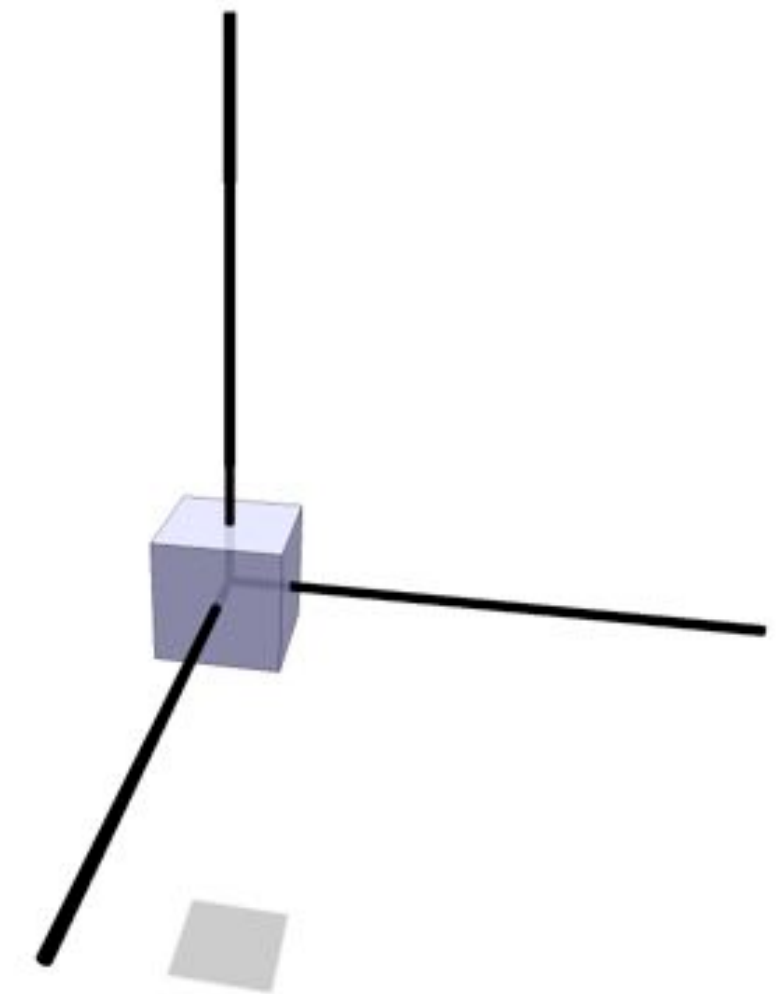
- Each vector  $\mathbf{u}$  gets mapped to a scalar multiple

- $f(\mathbf{u}) = a\mathbf{u}, \quad a \in \mathbb{R}$

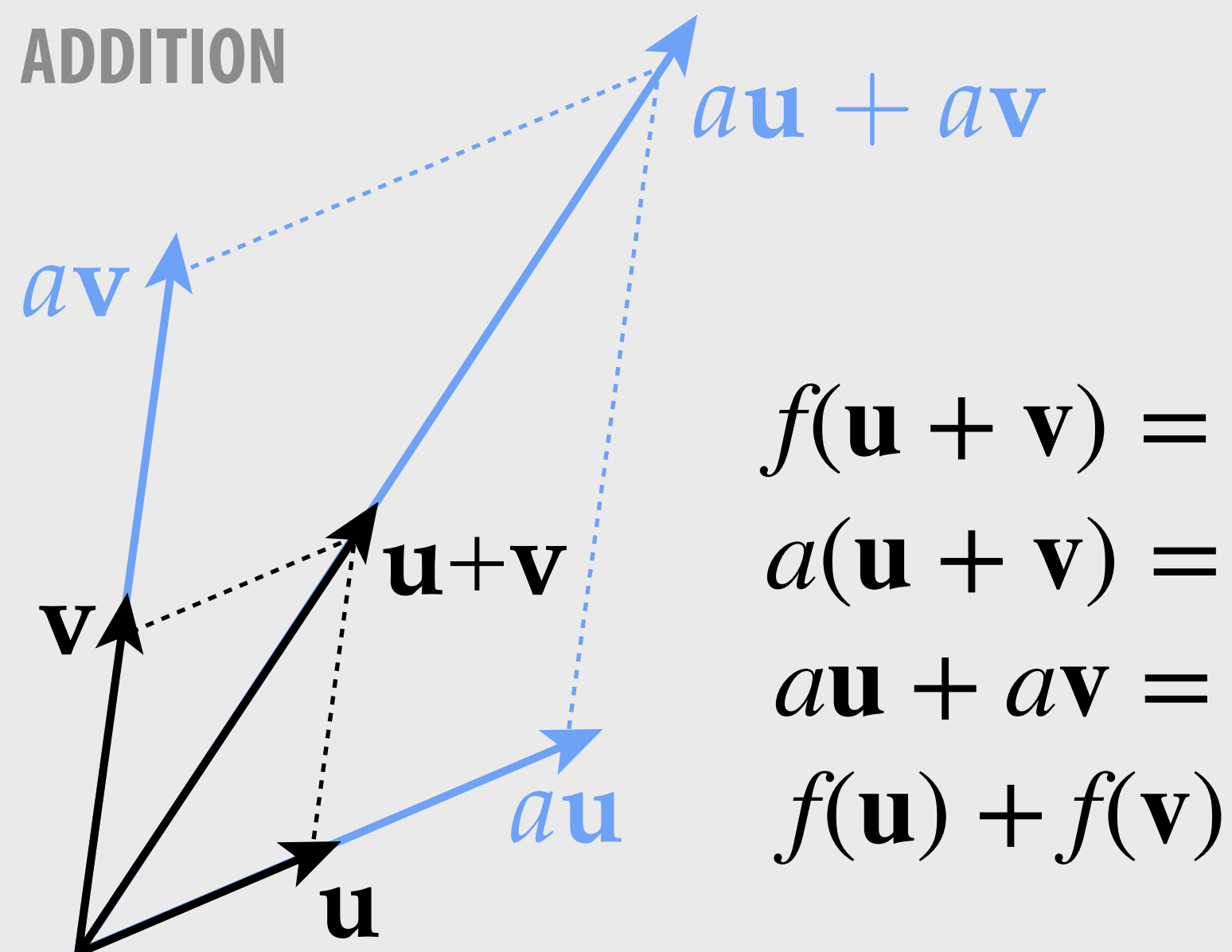
- Preserves the direction of all vectors\*

- $\frac{\mathbf{u}}{|\mathbf{u}|} = \frac{a\mathbf{u}}{|a\mathbf{u}|}$

- Q: Is scaling a linear transformation? A: Yes!

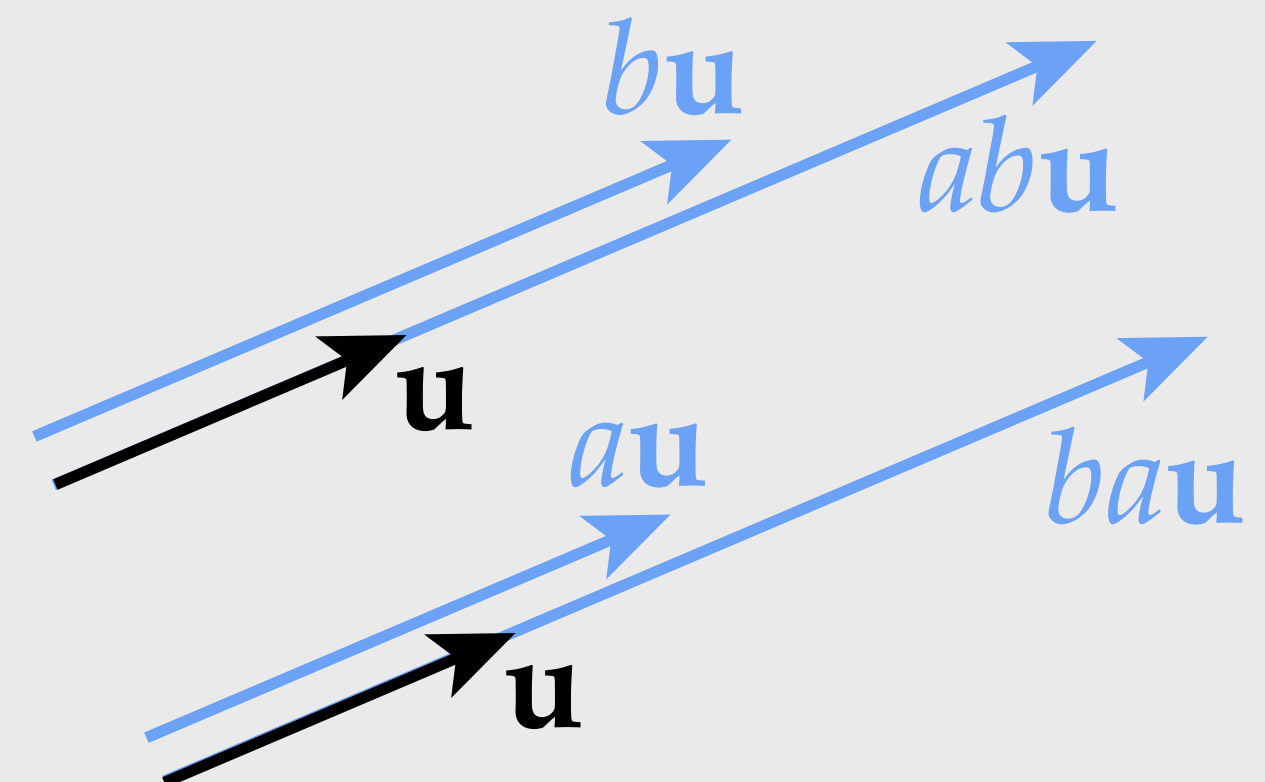


ADDITION



SCALAR MULTIPLICATION

$$f(b\mathbf{u}) = ab\mathbf{u} = b a\mathbf{u} = b f(\mathbf{u})$$



# Scaling — Matrix Representation

**Q: Suppose we want to scale a vector  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$  by  $a$ . How would we represent this operation via a matrix?**

**A: Just build a diagonal matrix  $D$ , with  $a$  along the diagonal:**

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a \end{bmatrix}}_D \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{u}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} au_1 \\ au_2 \\ au_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{a\mathbf{u}}$$

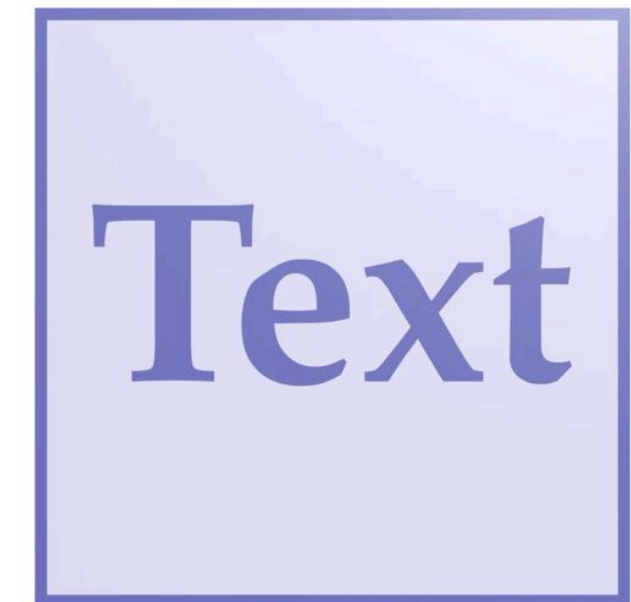
**Q: What happens if  $a$  is negative?**

# Negative Scaling

For  $a = -1$ , can think of scaling by  $a$  as sequence of reflections.

E.g., in 2D:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Since each reflection reverses orientation, orientation is preserved.

**What about 3D?**

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Now we have three reflections, and so orientation is reversed!

# Nonuniform Scaling (Axis-Aligned)

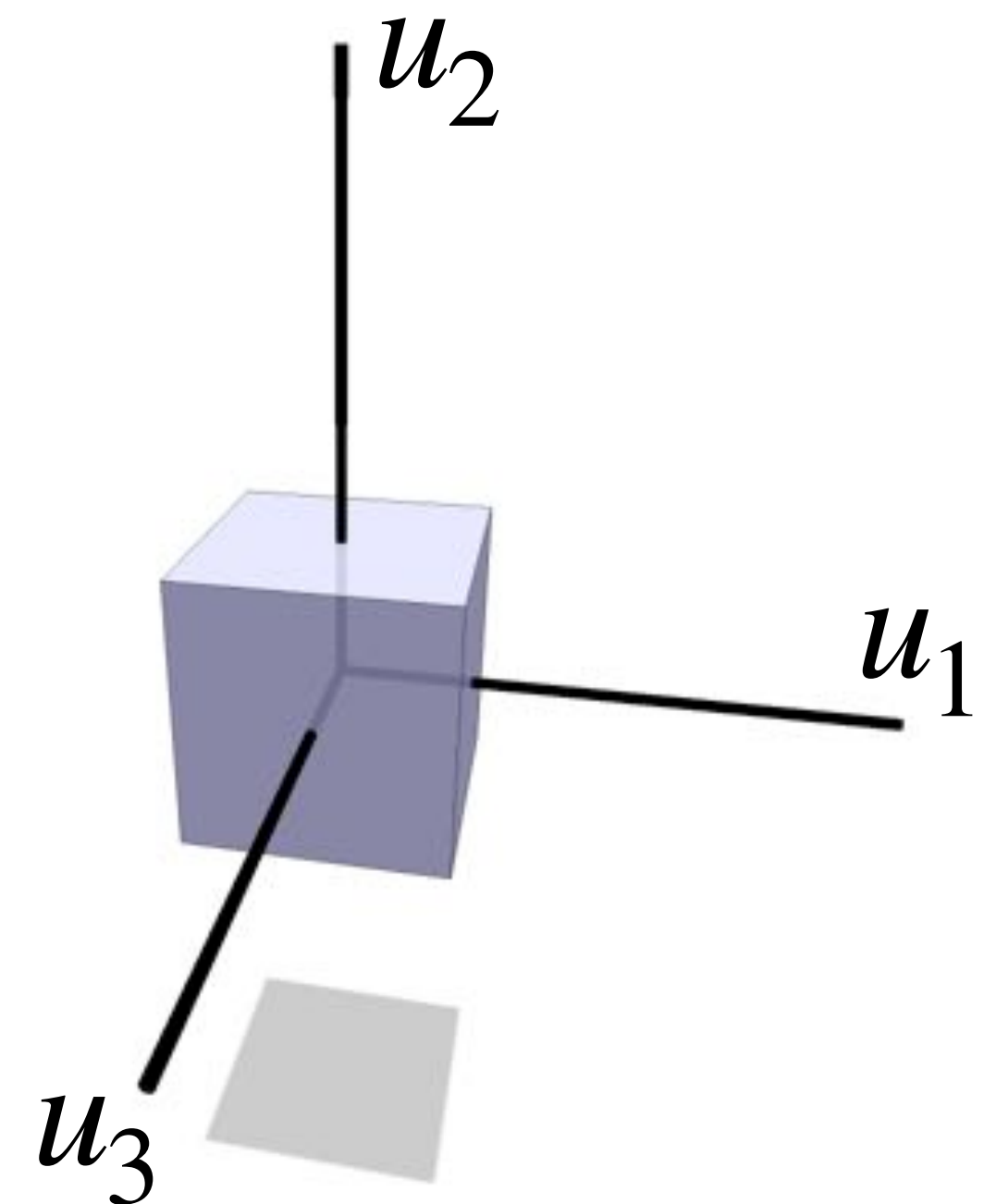
- We can also scale each axis by a different amount

- $f(u_1, u_2, u_3) = (au_1, bu_2, cu_3)$ ,  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$

- Q: What's the matrix representation?

- A: Just put  $a, b, c$  on the diagonal:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} au_1 \\ bu_2 \\ cu_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

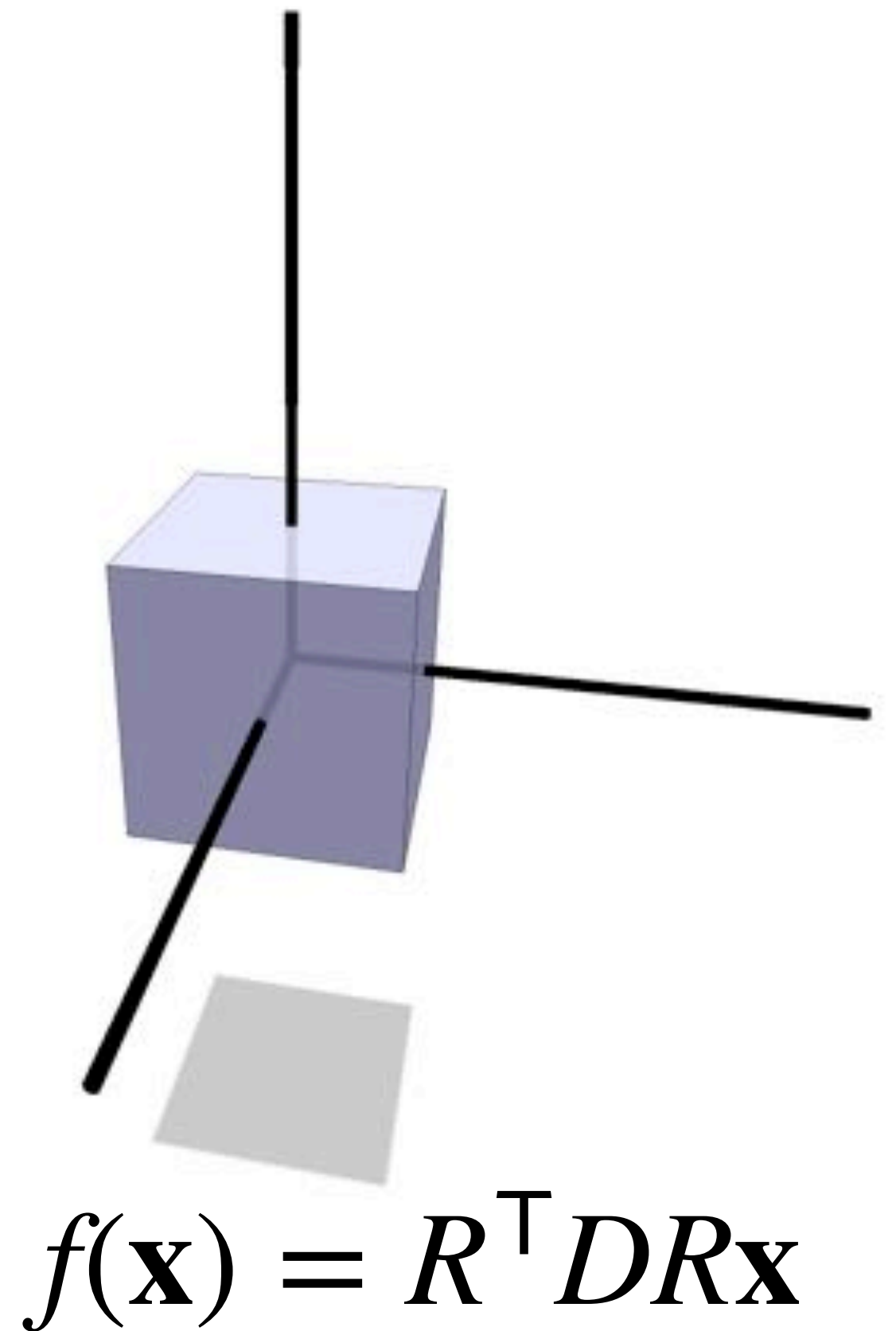


**Ok, but what if we want to scale along some other axes?**



# Nonuniform Scaling

- Idea. We could:
  - rotate to the new axes ( $R$ )
  - apply a diagonal scaling ( $D$ )
  - rotate back\* to the original axes ( $R^T$ )
- Notice that the overall transformation is represented by a symmetric matrix
$$A := R^T D R$$



**Q: Do all symmetric matrices represent nonuniform scaling (for some choice of axes)?**

\*Recall that for a rotation, the inverse equals the transpose:  $R^{-1} = R^T$

# Spectral Theorem

- **A: Yes! Spectral theorem says a symmetric matrix  $A = A^T$  has**

- **orthonormal eigenvectors  $e_1, \dots, e_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$**

- **real eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R}$**

$$Ae_i = \lambda_i e_i$$

- **Can also write this relationship as  $AR = RD$ , where**

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} e_1 & \cdots & e_n \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

- **Equivalently,  $A = RDR^T$**

- **Hence, every symmetric matrix performs a non-uniform scaling along some set of orthogonal axes.**

- **If  $A$  is positive definite ( $\lambda_i > 0$ ), this scaling is positive.**

# Shear

- A shear displaces each point  $\mathbf{x}$  in a direction  $\mathbf{u}$  according to its distance along a fixed vector  $\mathbf{v}$ :

$$f_{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} + \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \mathbf{u}$$

- **Q: Is this transformation linear?**
- **A: Yes**—for instance, can represent it via a matrix

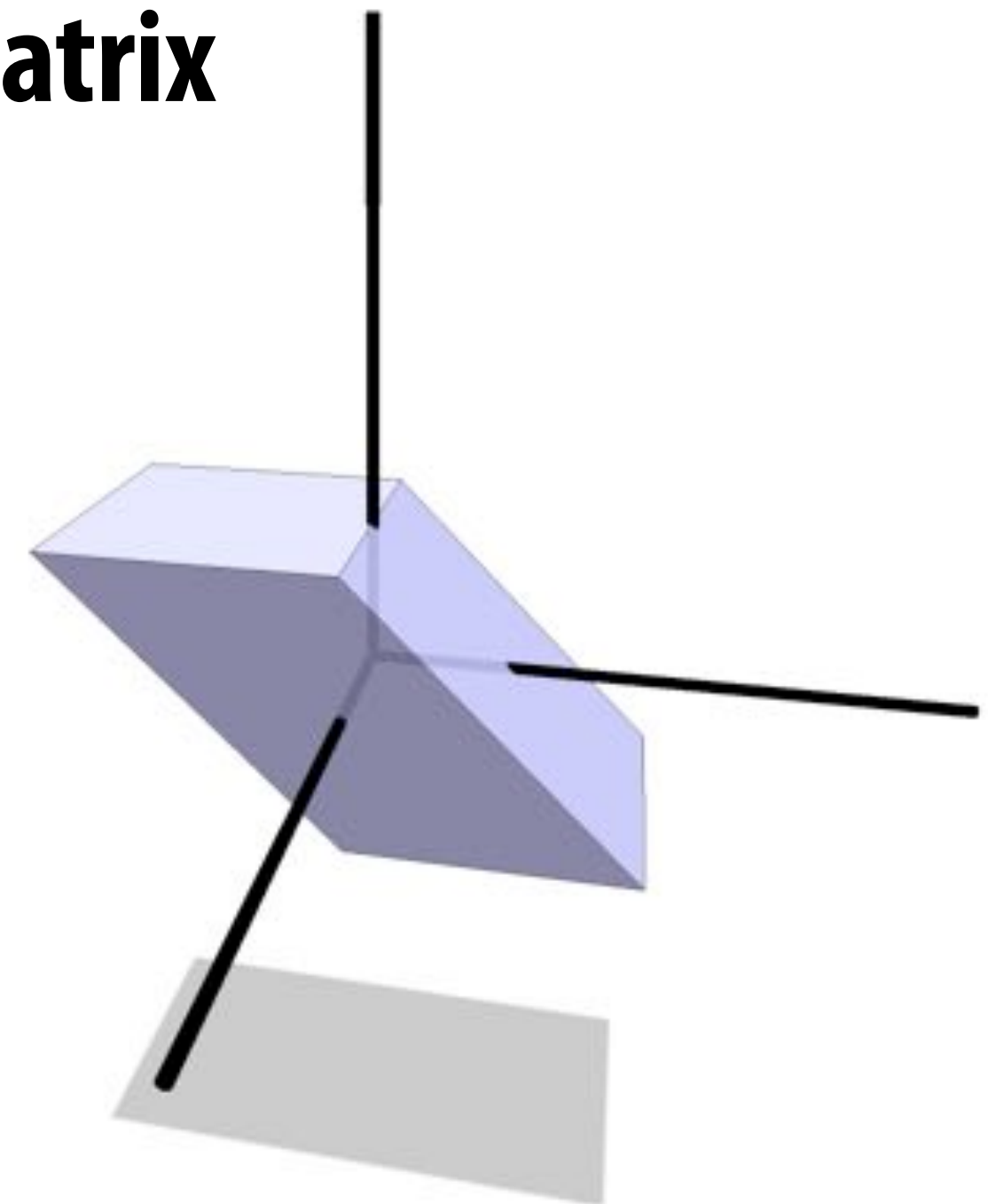
$$A_{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}} = I + \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^T$$

## Example.

$$\mathbf{u} = (\cos(t), 0, 0)$$

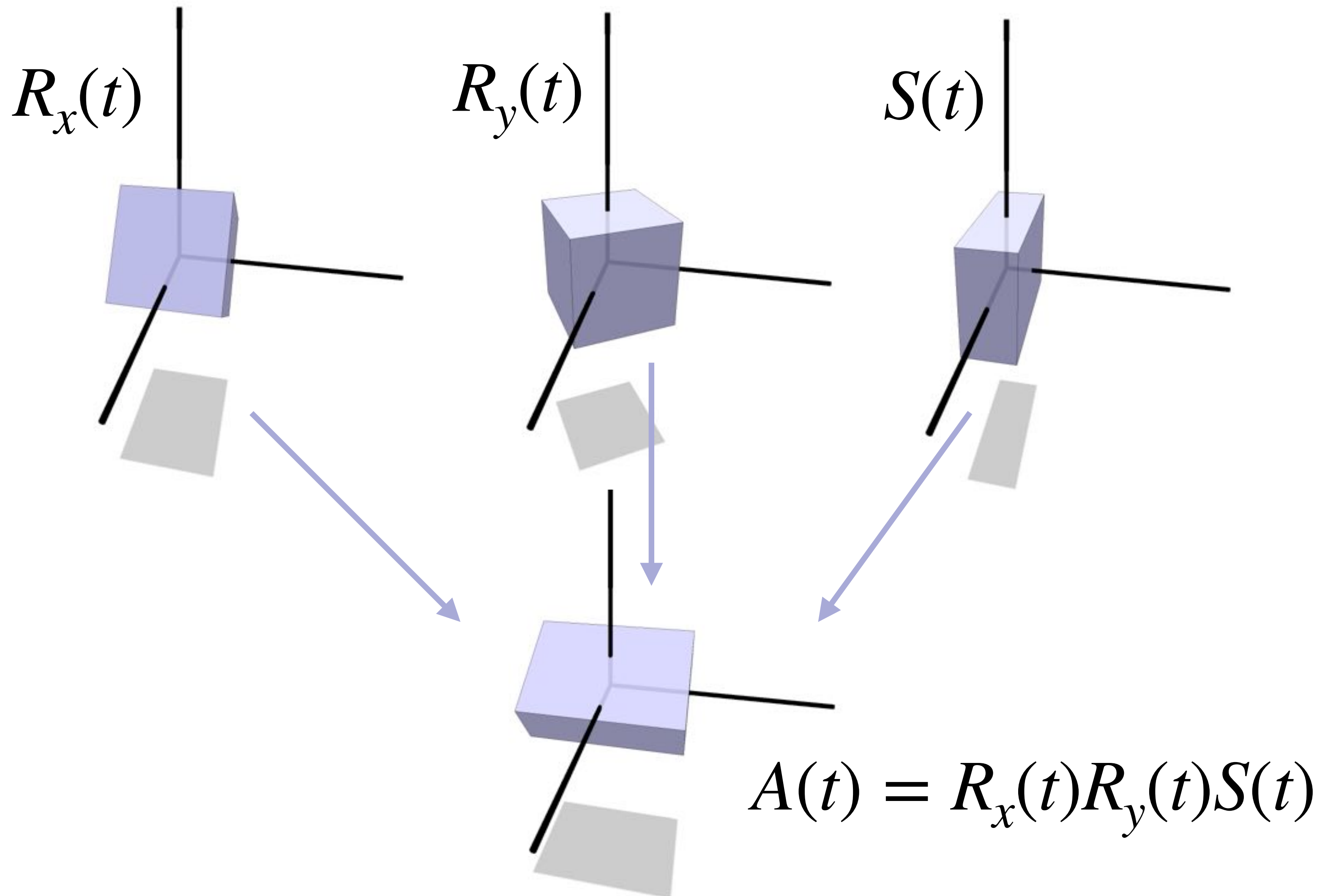
$$\mathbf{v} = (0, 1, 0)$$

$$A_{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cos(t) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Composite Transformations

From these basic transformations (rotation, reflection, scaling, shear...)  
we can now build up composite transformations via matrix multiplication:

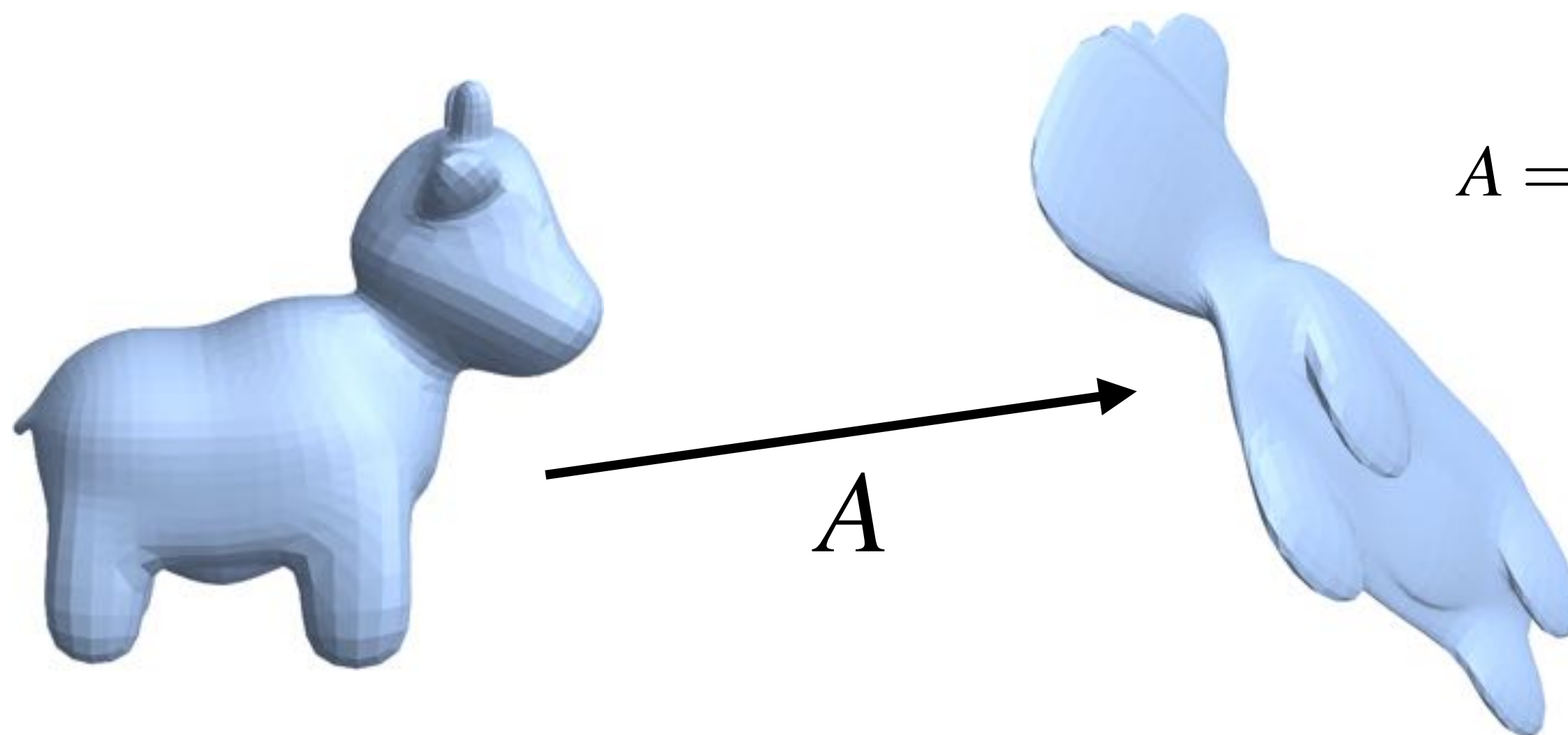


**How do we decompose a linear  
transformation into pieces?**  
(rotations, reflections, scaling, ...)



# Decomposition of Linear Transformations

- In general, no **unique** way to write a given linear transformation as a composition of basic transformations!
- However, there are many useful decompositions:
  - singular value decomposition (good for signal processing)
  - LU factorization (good for solving linear systems)
  - polar decomposition (good for spatial transformations)
  - ...
- Consider for instance this linear transformation:



$$A = \begin{bmatrix} .34 & -.11 & -.89 \\ -.65 & .52 & -.70 \\ .25 & .23 & -.69 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Polar & Singular Value Decomposition

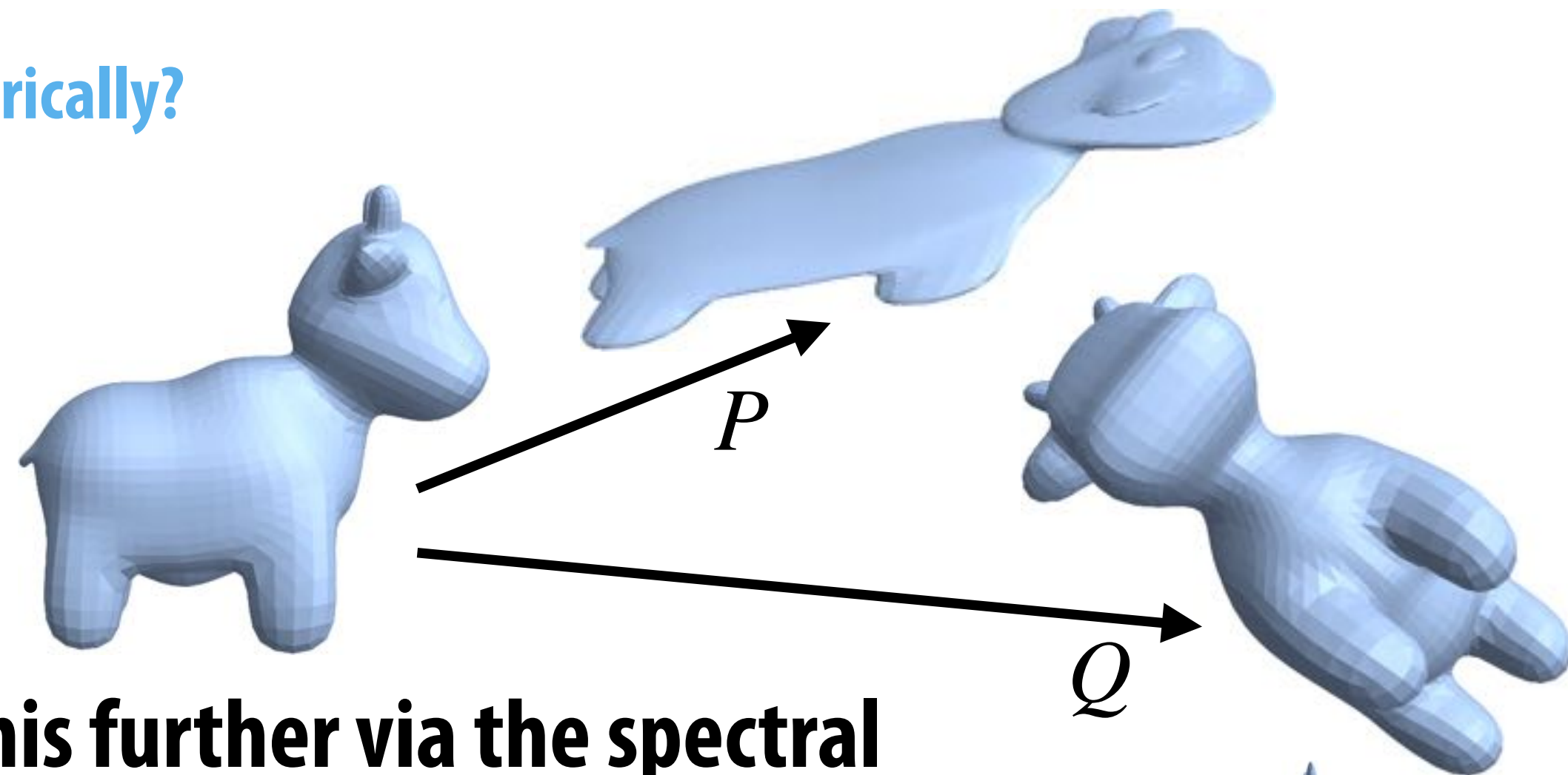
For example, polar decomposition decomposes any matrix  $A$  into orthogonal matrix  $Q$  and symmetric positive-semidefinite matrix  $P$ :

Q: What do each of the parts mean geometrically?

rotation/reflection

nonnegative,  
nonuniform scaling

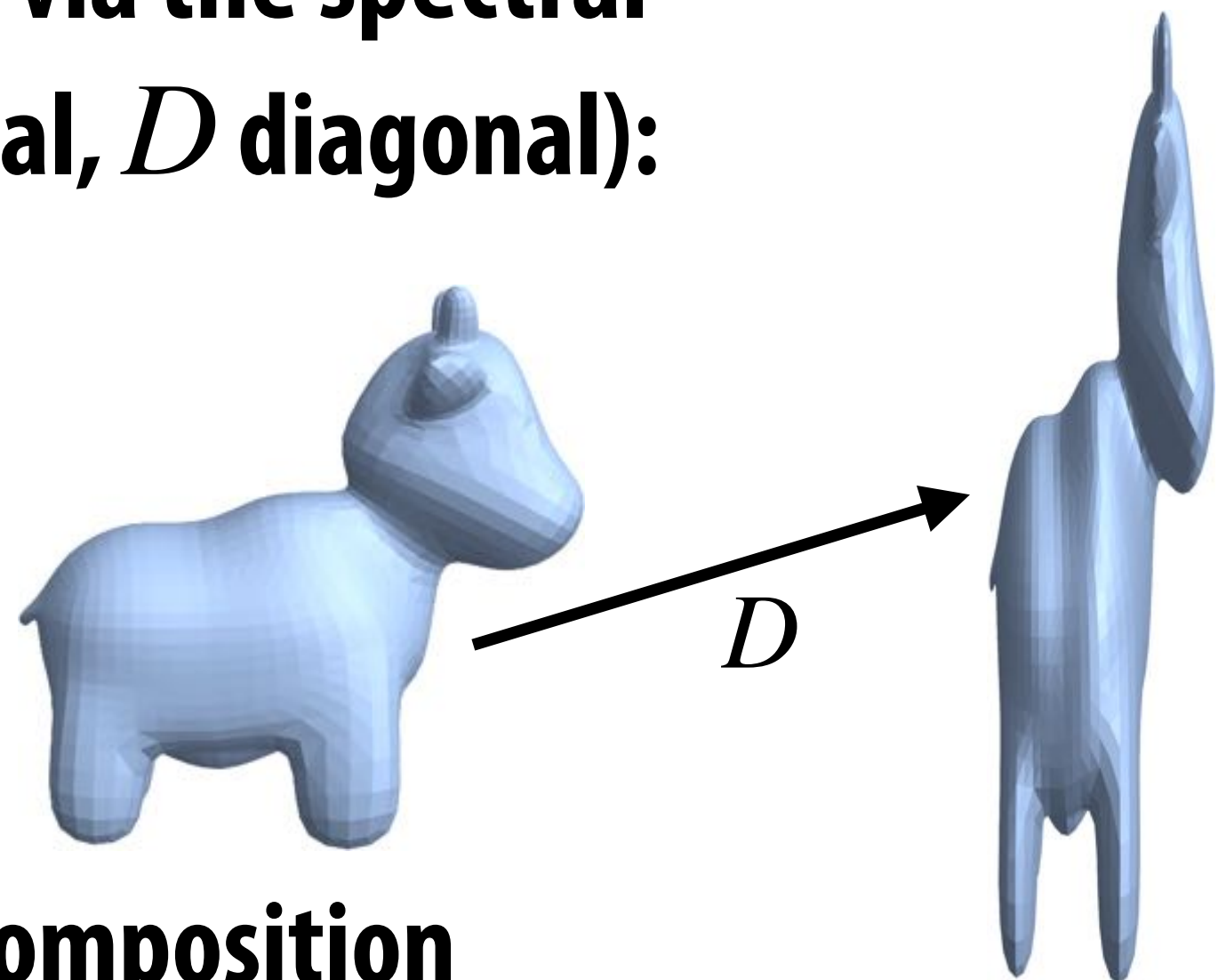
$$A = QP$$



Since  $P$  is symmetric, can take this further via the spectral decomposition  $P = VDV^T$  ( $V$  orthogonal,  $D$  diagonal):

$$A = \underbrace{QV}_U D V^T = U D V^T$$

rotation      axis-aligned scaling      rotation

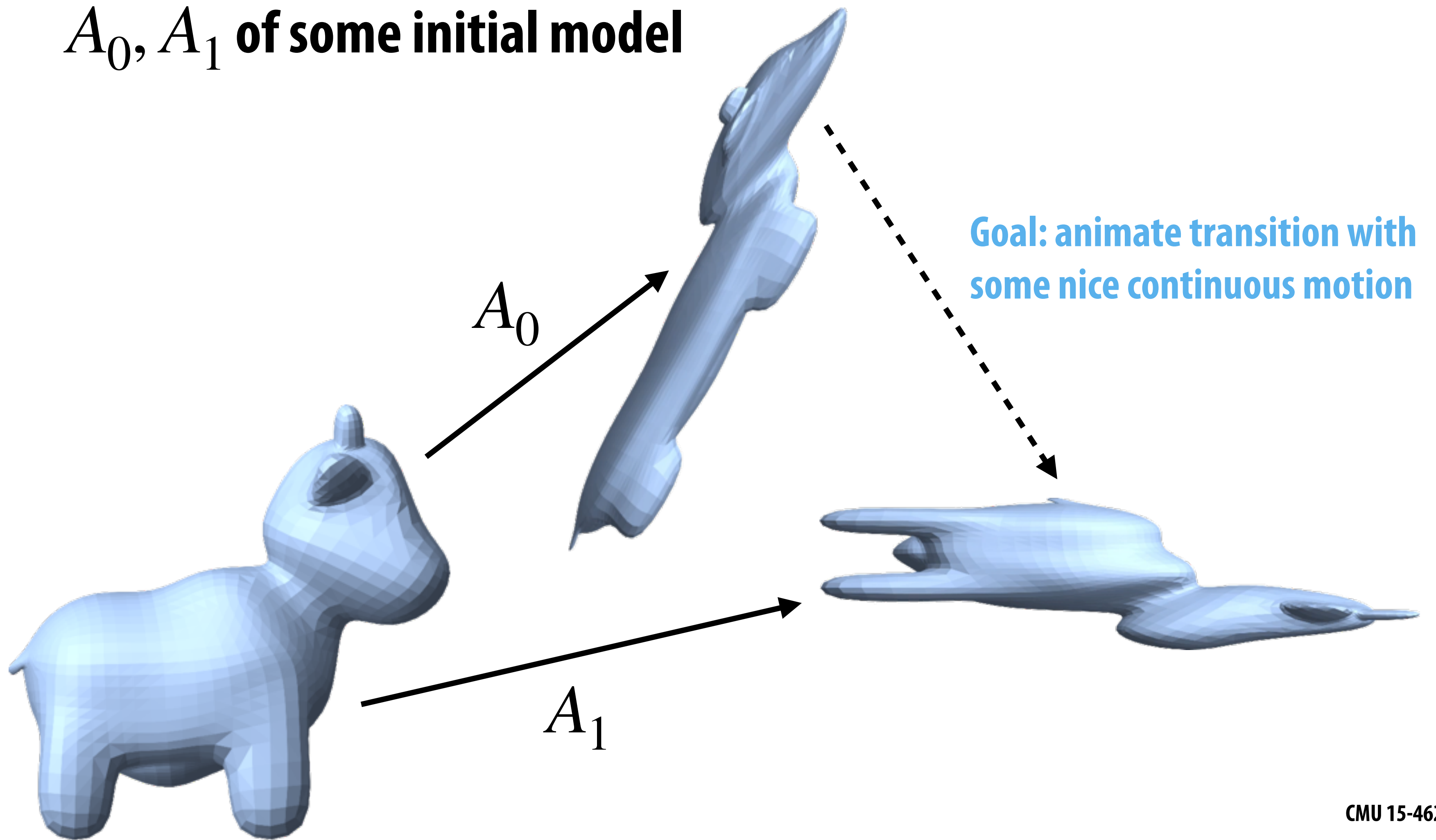


Result  $UDV^T$  is called the singular value decomposition

# Interpolating Transformations

- How are these decompositions useful for graphics?
- Consider interpolating between two linear transformations

$A_0, A_1$  of some initial model



# Interpolating Transformations—Linear

**One idea: just take a linear combination of the two matrices, weighted by the current time  $t \in [0, 1]$**

$$A(t) = (1 - t)A_0 + tA_1$$



**Hits the right start/endpoints... but looks awful in between!**

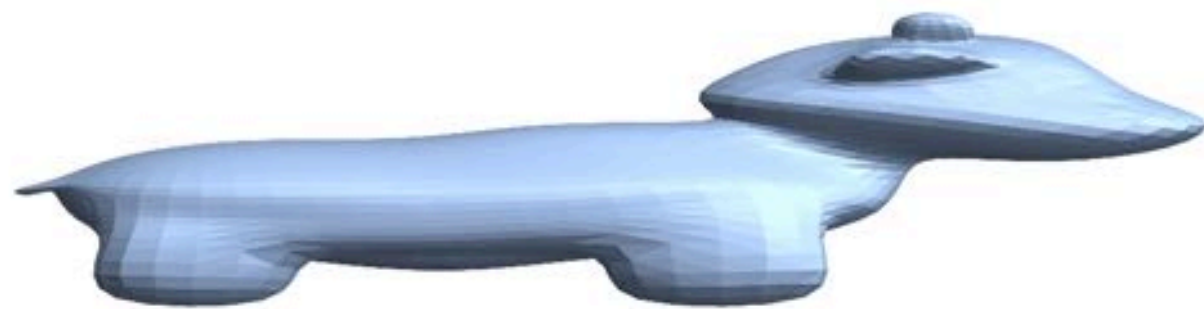


# Interpolating Transformations—Polar

**Better idea: separately interpolate components of polar decomposition.**

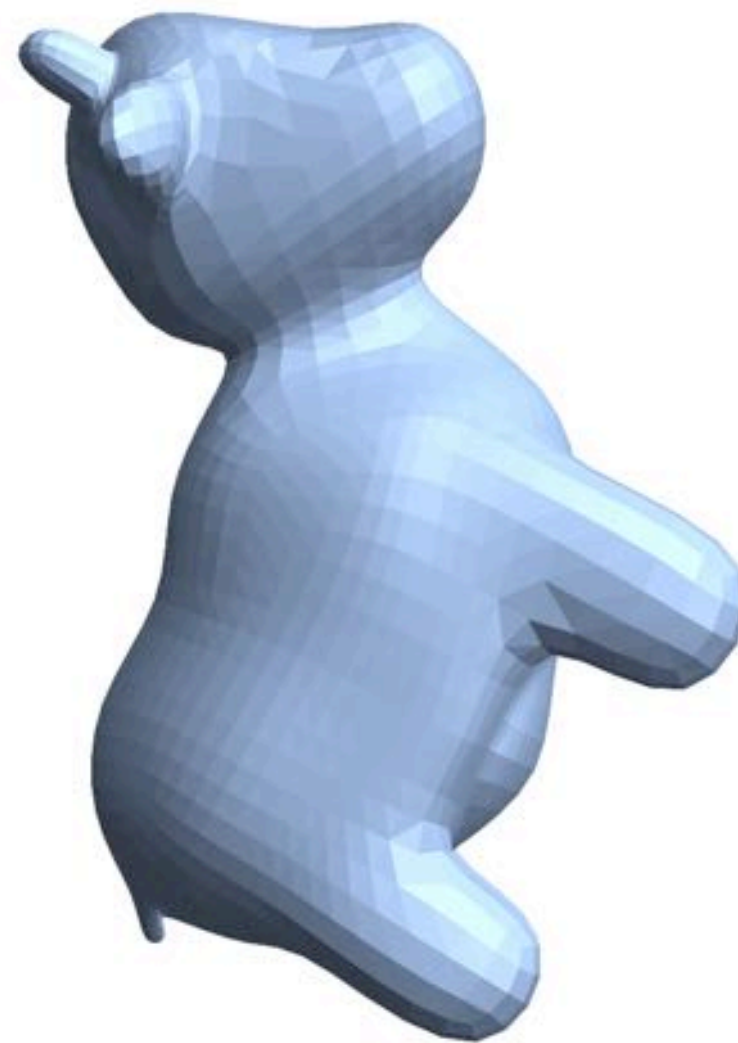
$$A_0 = Q_0P_0, \quad A_1 = Q_1P_1$$

scaling



$$P(t) = (1 - t)P_0 + tP_1$$

rotation



$$\widetilde{Q}(t) = (1 - t)Q_0 + tQ_1$$

$$\widetilde{Q}(t) = Q(t)X(t)$$

final interpolation



$$A(t) = Q(t)P(t)$$

**...looks better!**



# Example: Linear Blend Skinning

- Naïve linear interpolation also causes artifacts when blending between transformations on a character (“candy wrapper effect”)
- Lots of research on alternative ways to blend transformations...

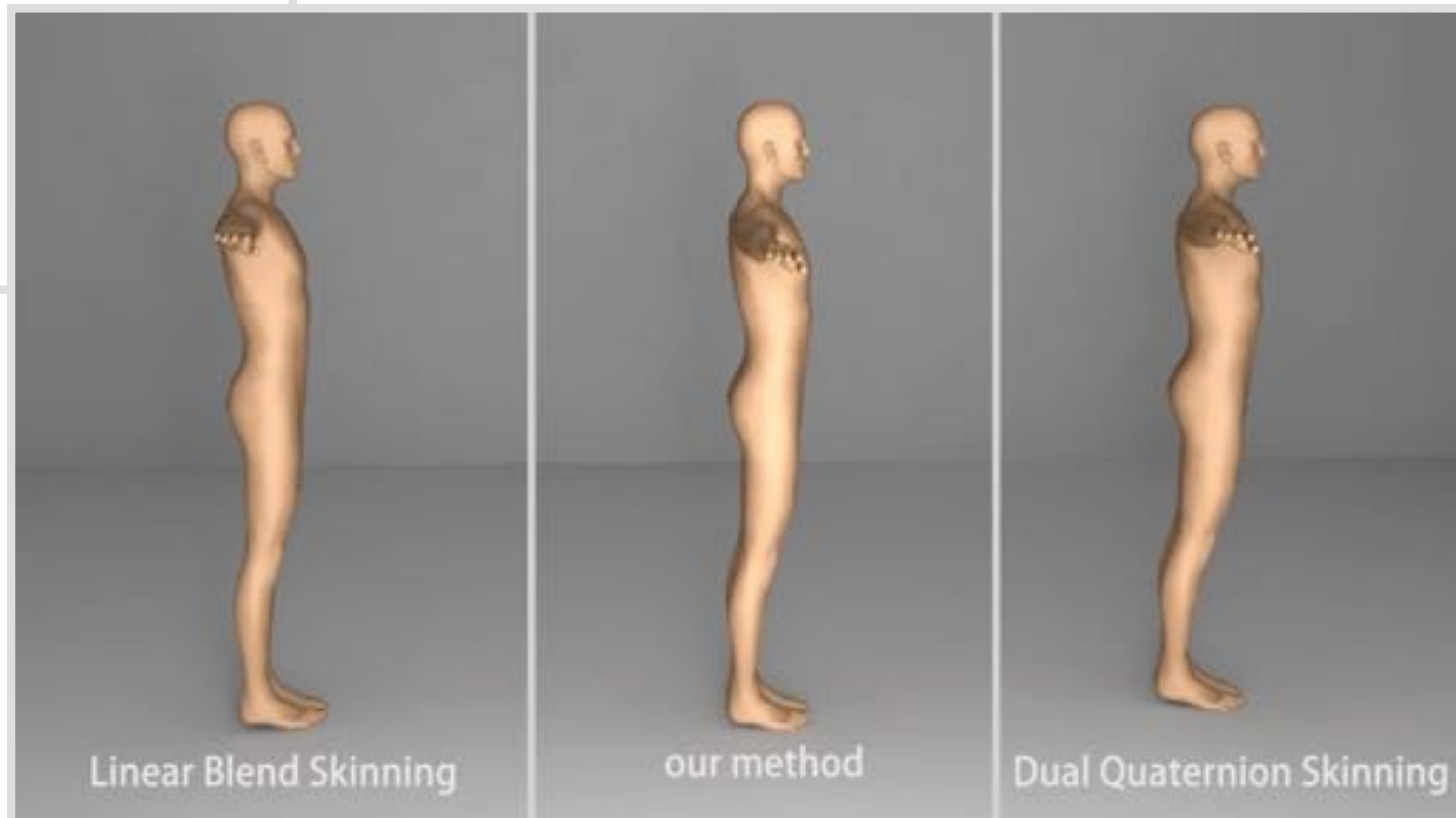
LBS: candy-wrapper artifact



Rumman & Fratarcangeli (2015)

“Position-based Skinning for Soft Articulated Characters”

Jacobson, Deng, Kavan, & Lewis (2014)  
“Skinning: Real-time Shape Deformation”



# Translations

- So far we've ignored a basic transformation—translations
- A translation simply adds an offset  $\mathbf{u}$  to the given point  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$f_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}$$

**Q: Is this transformation linear?**  
(Certainly seems to move us along a line...)

**Let's carefully check the definition...**

additivity

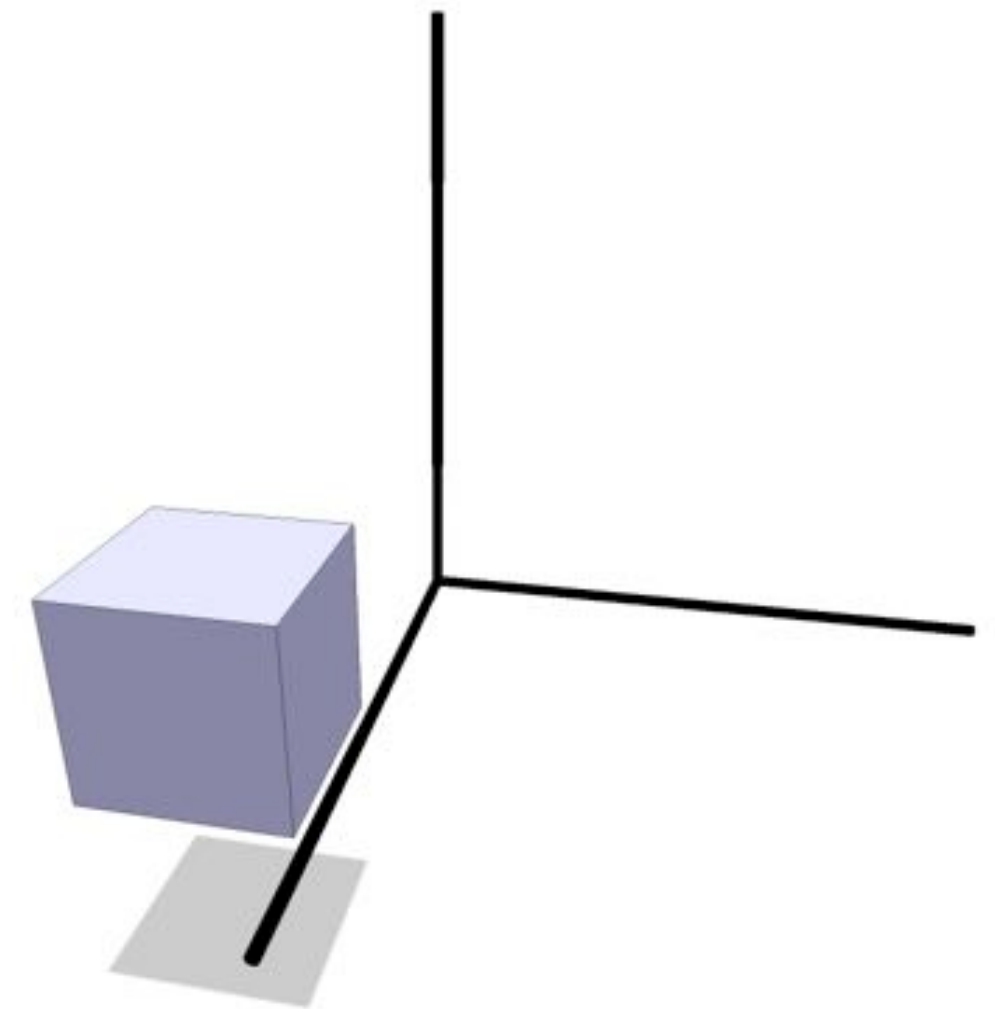
$$f_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{u}$$

$$f_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{x}) + f_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} + 2\mathbf{u}$$

homogeneity

$$f_{\mathbf{u}}(a\mathbf{x}) = a\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}$$

$$af_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{x}) = a\mathbf{x} + a\mathbf{u}$$



**A: No! Translation is affine, not linear!**

# Composition of Transformations

- Recall we can compose linear transformations via matrix multiplication:

$$A_3(A_2(A_1\mathbf{x})) = (A_3A_2A_1)\mathbf{x}$$

- It's easy enough to compose translations—just add vectors:

$$f_{\mathbf{u}_3}(f_{\mathbf{u}_2}(f_{\mathbf{u}_1}(\mathbf{x}))) = f_{\mathbf{u}_1+\mathbf{u}_2+\mathbf{u}_3}(\mathbf{x})$$

- What if we want to intermingle translations and linear transformations (rotation, scale, shear, etc.)?

$$A_2(A_1\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}_1) + \mathbf{b}_2 = (A_2A_1)\mathbf{x} + (A_2\mathbf{b}_1 + \mathbf{b}_2)$$

- Now we have to keep track of a matrix and a vector
- Moreover, we'll see (later) that this encoding won't work for other important cases, such as perspective transformations

But there is a better way...

**Strange idea:**

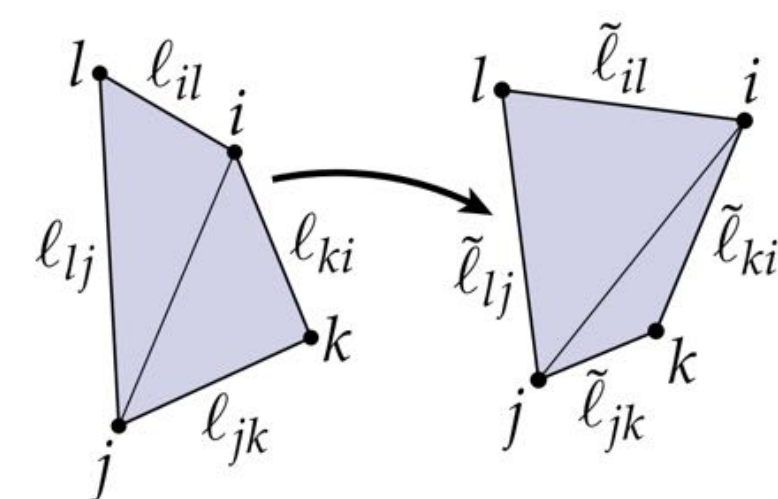
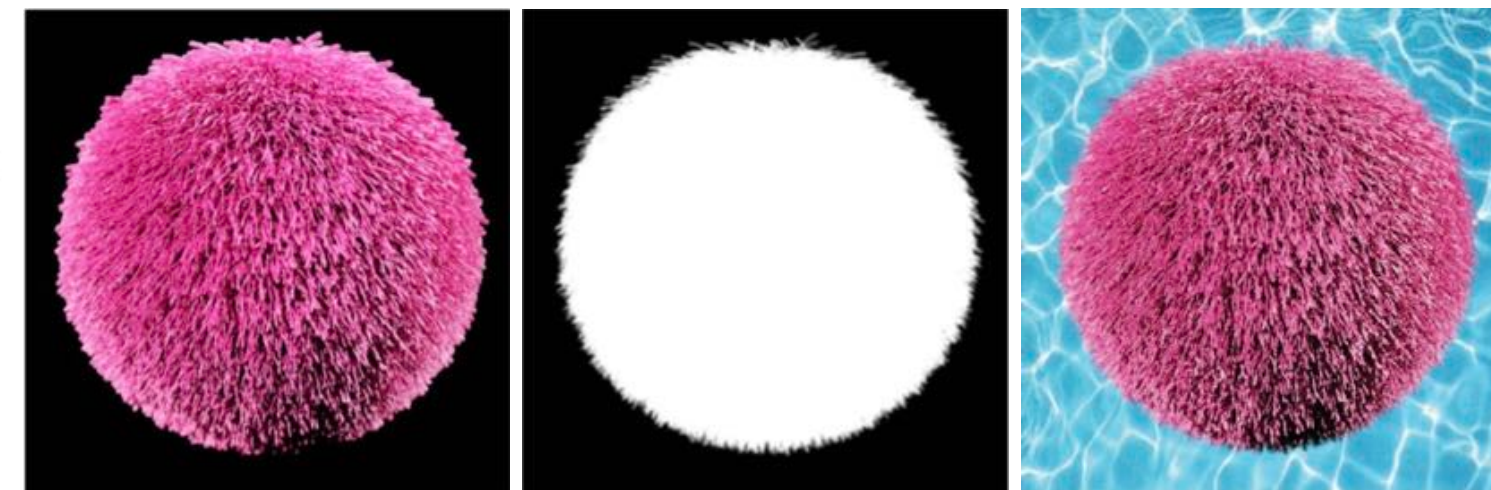
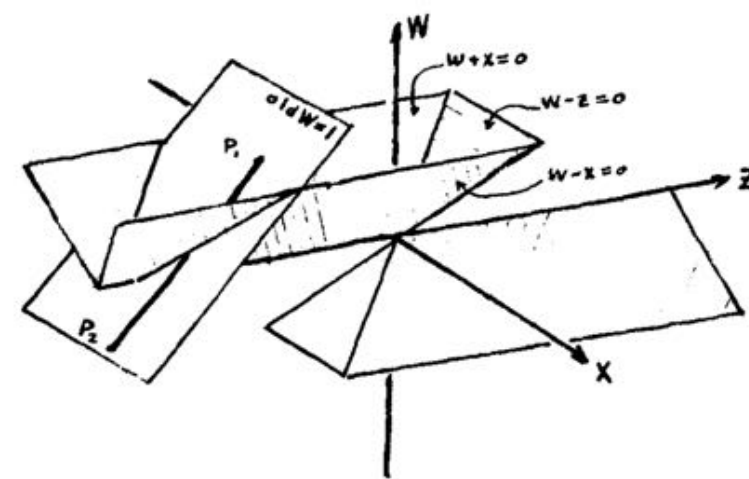
**Maybe translations turn into linear  
transformations if we go into the  
4th dimension...!**





# Homogeneous Coordinates

- Came from efforts to study perspective
- Introduced by Möbius as a natural way of assigning coordinates to lines
- Show up naturally in a surprising large number of places in computer graphics:
  - 3D transformations
  - perspective projection
  - quadric error simplification
  - premultiplied alpha
  - shadow mapping
  - projective texture mapping
  - discrete conformal geometry
  - hyperbolic geometry
  - clipping
  - directional lights
  - ...

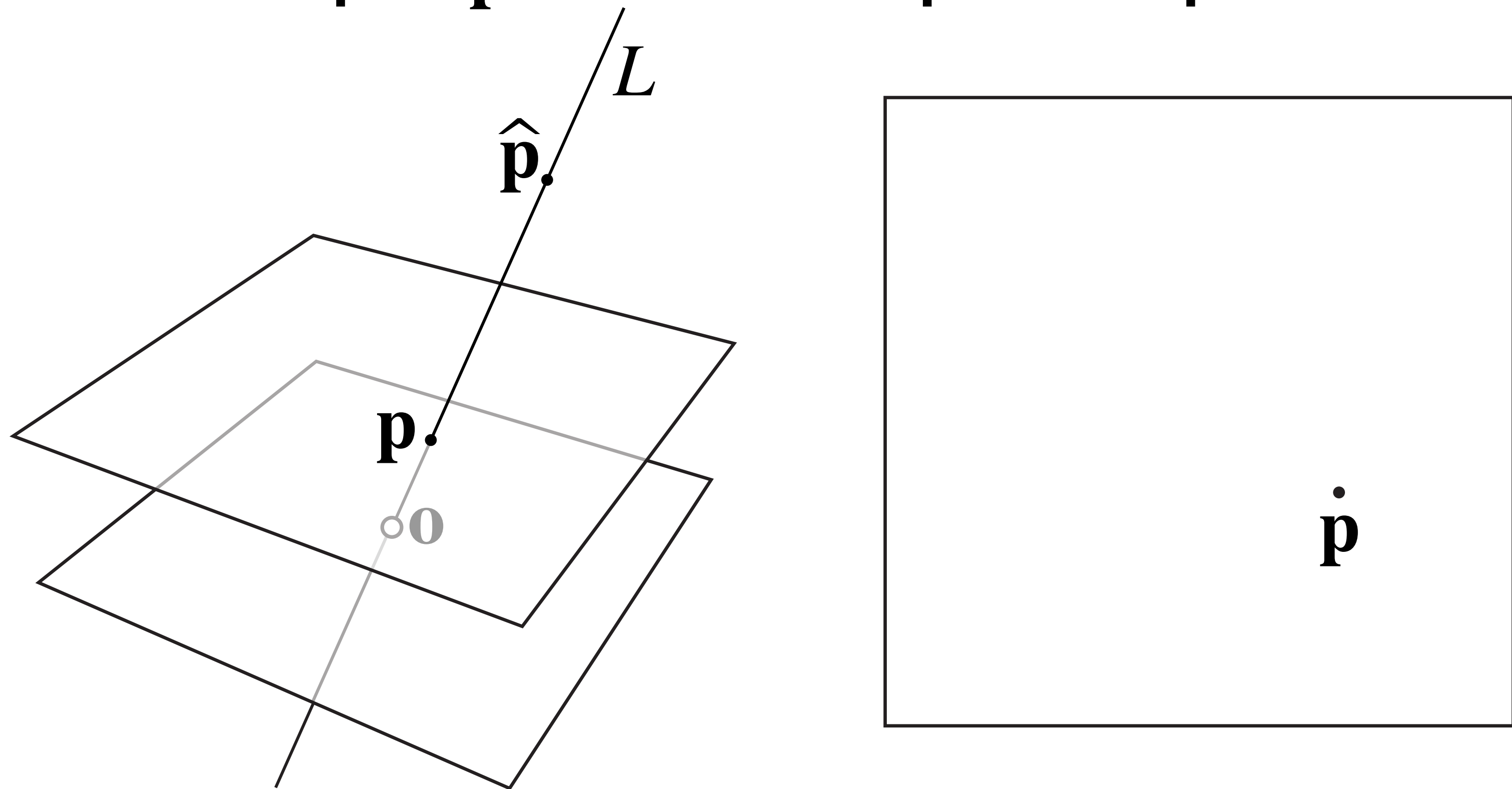


Probably worth understanding!



# Homogeneous Coordinates—Basic Idea

- Consider any 2D plane that does not pass through the origin  $\mathbf{0}$  in 3D
- Every line through the origin in 3D corresponds to a point in the 2D plane
  - Just find the point  $\mathbf{p}$  where the line  $L$  pierces the plane

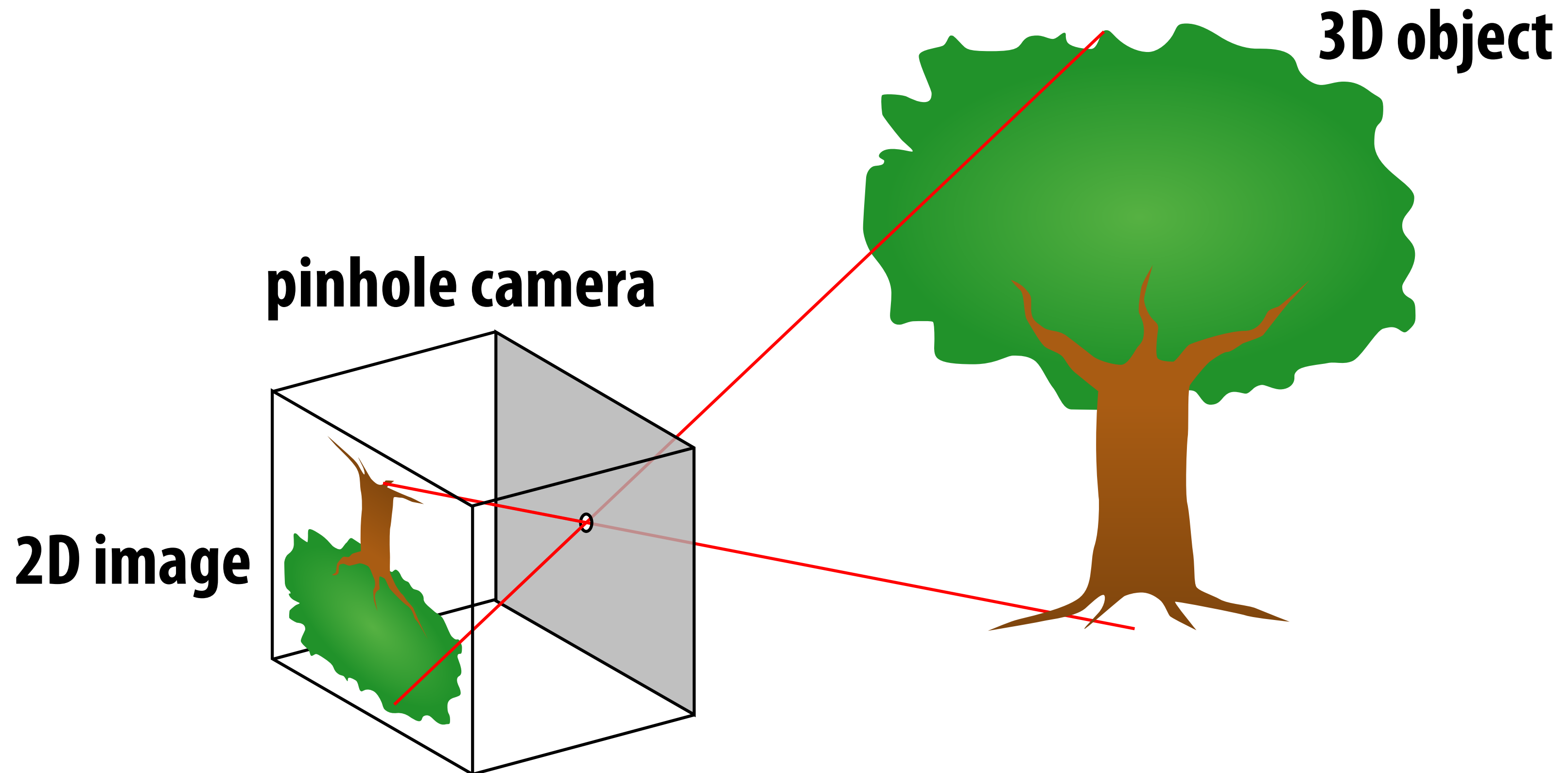


Hence, any point  $\hat{\mathbf{p}}$  on the line  $L$  can be used to represent the point  $\mathbf{p}$ .

**Q: What does this story remind you of?**

# Review: Perspective projection

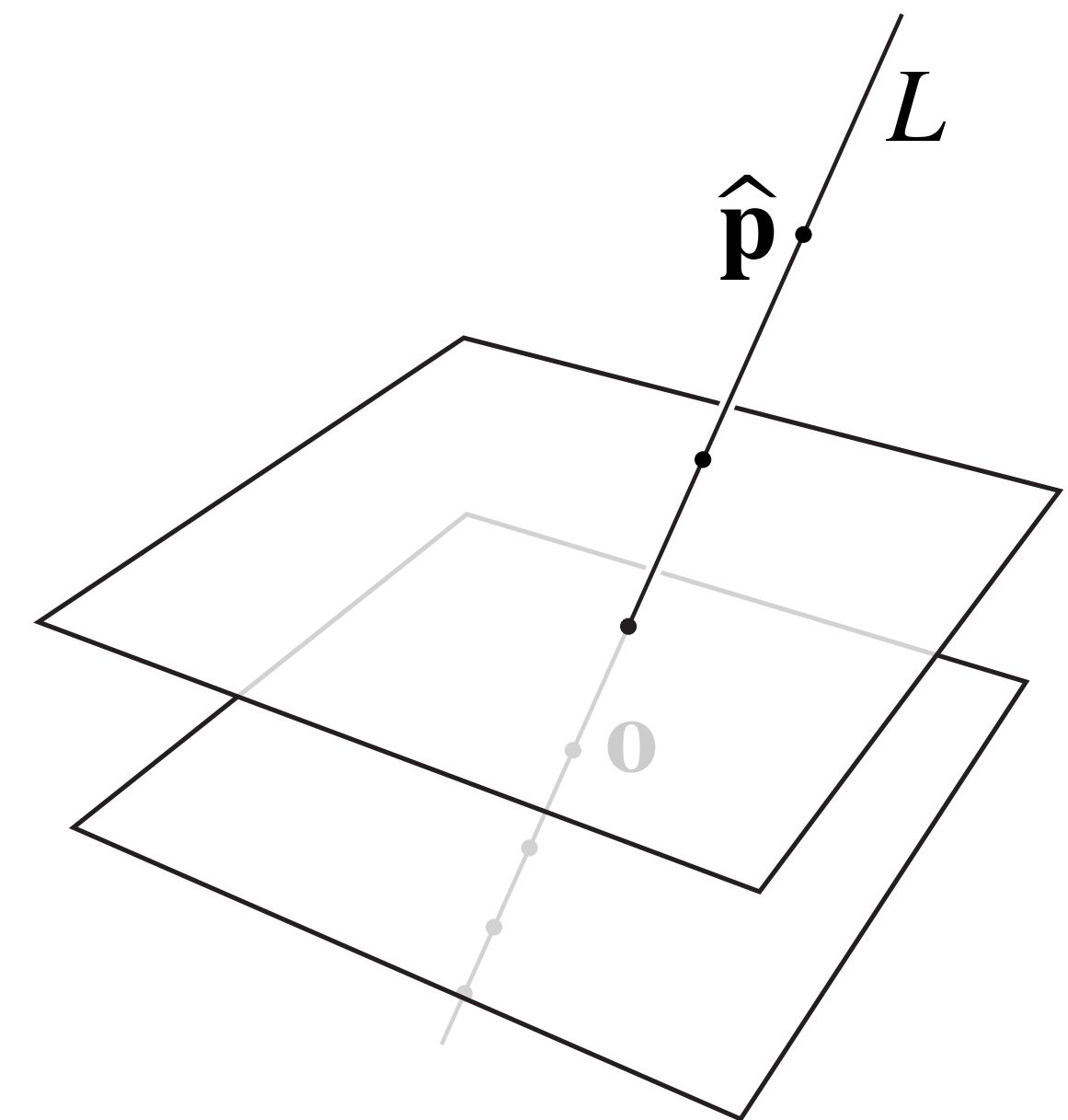
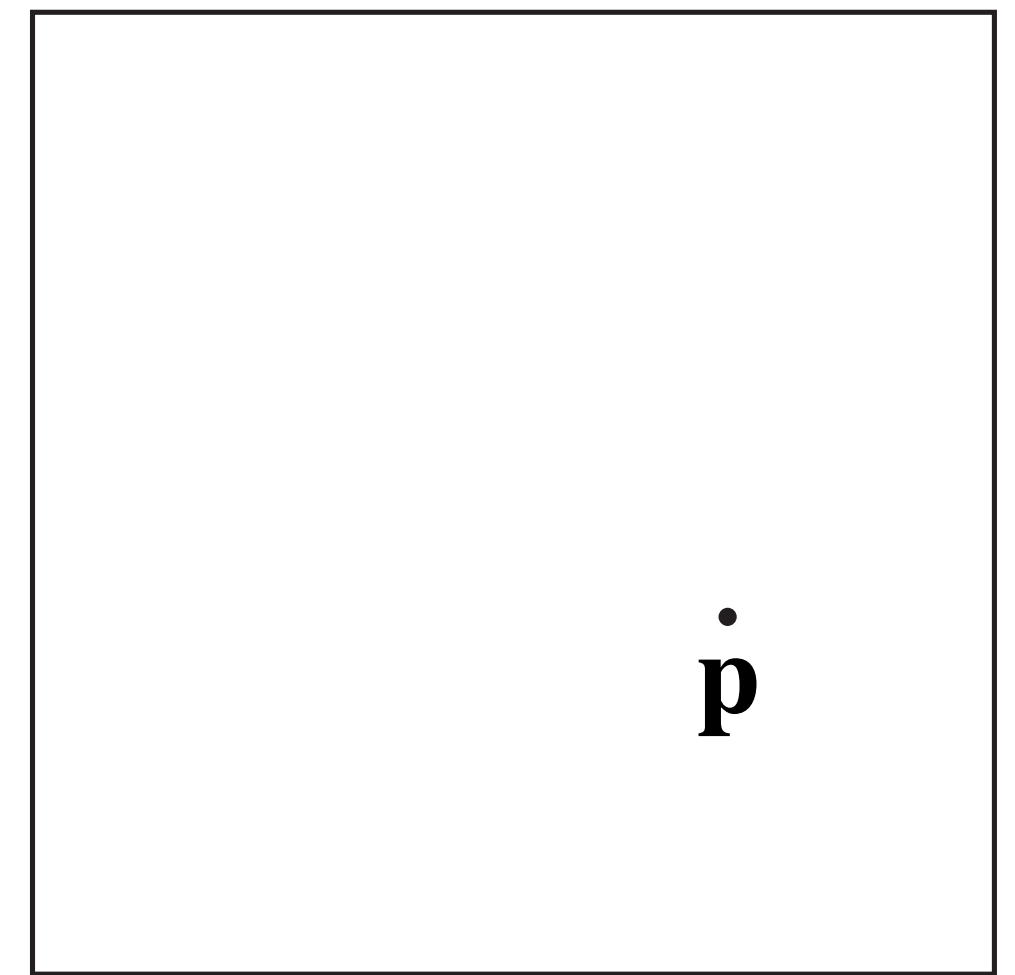
- Hopefully it reminds you of our “pinhole camera”
- Objects along the same line project to the same point



**If you have an image of a single dot, can't know where it is!  
Only which line it belongs to.**

# Homogeneous Coordinates (2D)

- More explicitly, consider a point  $\mathbf{p} = (x, y)$ , and the plane  $z = 1$  in 3D
- Any three numbers  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} = (a, b, c)$  such that  $(a/c, b/c) = (x, y)$  are homogeneous coordinates for  $\mathbf{p}$ 
  - E.g.,  $(x, y, 1)$
  - In general:  $(cx, cy, c)$  for  $c \neq 0$
- Hence, two points  $\hat{\mathbf{p}}, \hat{\mathbf{q}} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{O\}$  describe the same point in 2D (and line in 3D) if  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} = \lambda \hat{\mathbf{q}}$  for some  $\lambda \neq 0$

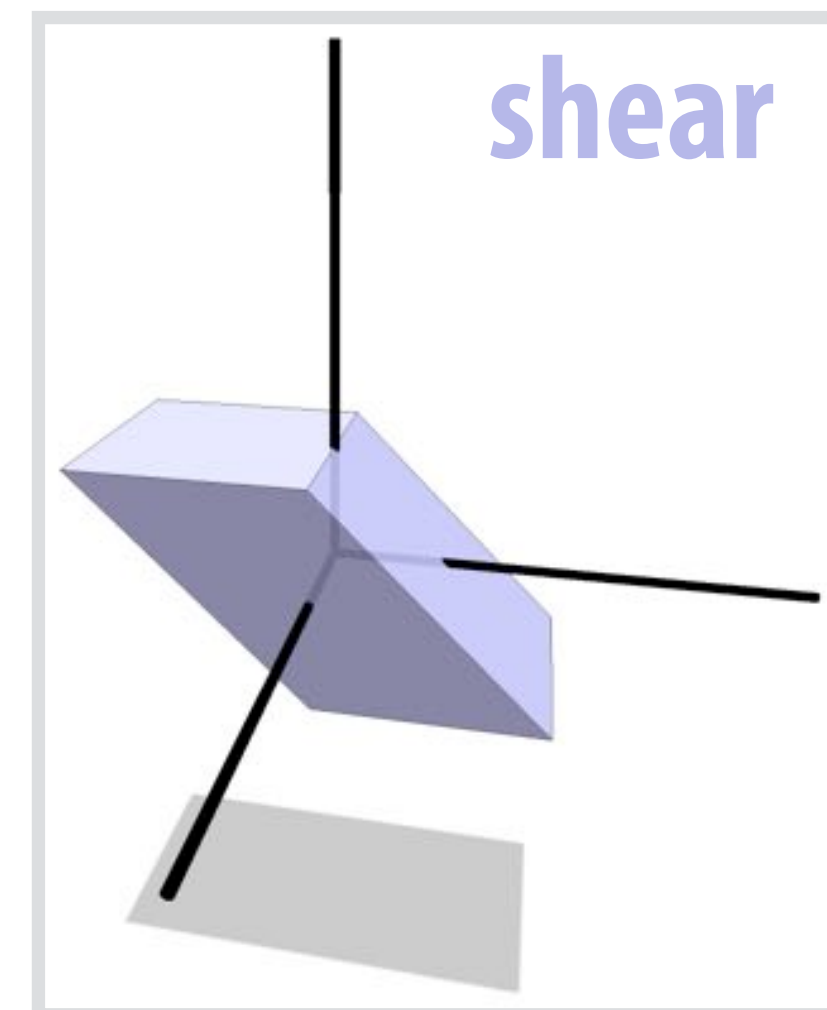
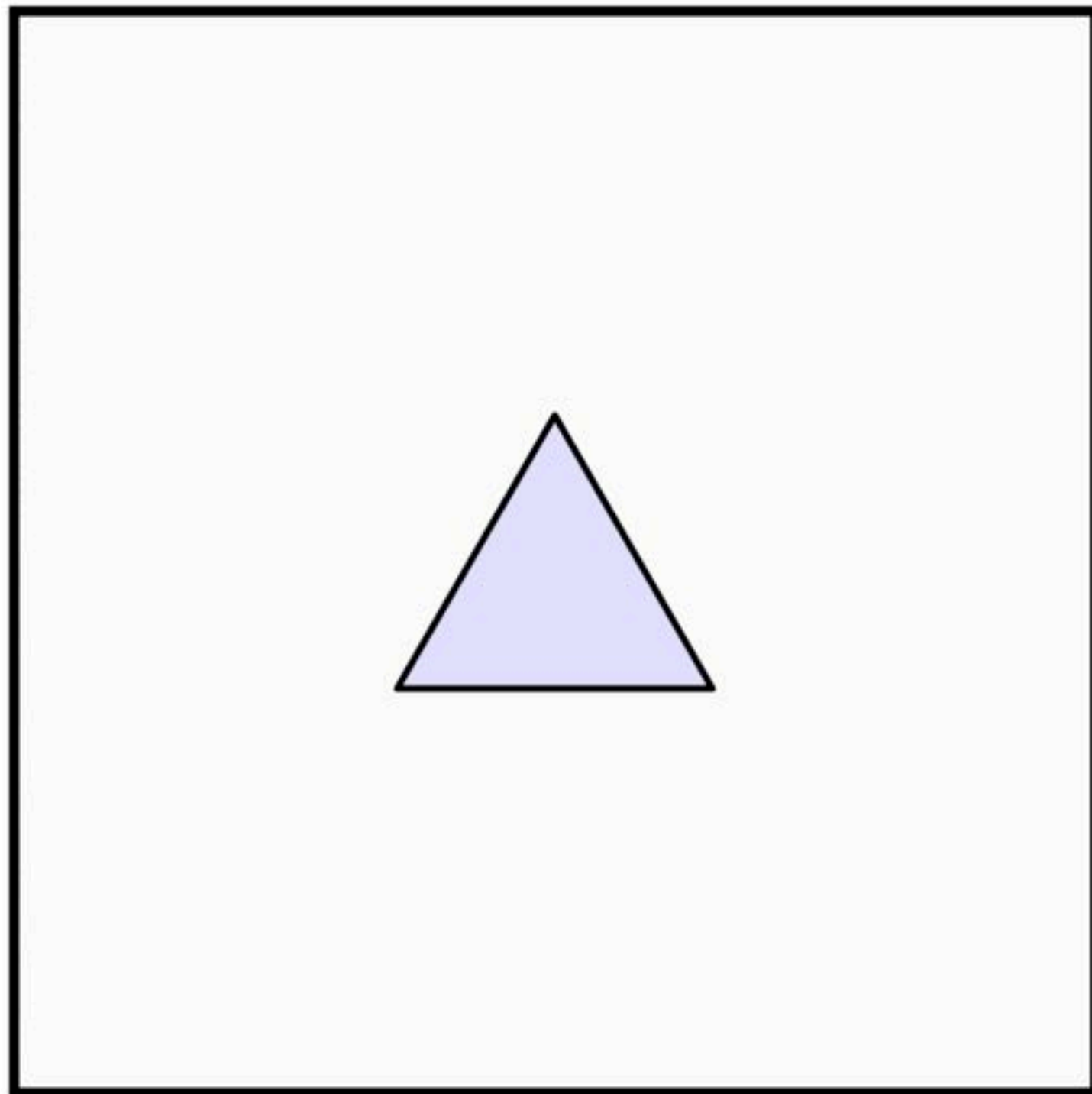


Great... but how does this help us with transformations?

# Translation in Homogeneous Coordinates

Let's think about what happens to our homogeneous coordinates  $\hat{p}$  if we apply a translation to our 2D coordinates  $p$

2D coordinates



**Q: What kind of transformation does this look like?**

# Translation in Homogeneous Coordinates

- But wait a minute—shear is a linear transformation!
- Can this be right? Let's check in coordinates...
- Suppose we translate a point  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, p_2)$  by a vector  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2)$  to get  $\mathbf{p}' = (p_1 + u_1, p_2 + u_2)$
- The homogeneous coordinates  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} = (cp_1, cp_2, c)$  then become  $\hat{\mathbf{p}}' = (cp_1 + cu_1, cp_2 + cu_2, c)$
- Notice that we're shifting  $\hat{\mathbf{p}}$  by an amount  $c\mathbf{u}$  that's proportional to the distance  $c$  along the third axis—a shear

Using homogeneous coordinates, we can represent an affine transformation in 2D as a linear transformation in 3D



# Homogeneous Translation—Matrix Representation

- To write as a matrix, recall that a shear in the direction  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2)$  according to the distance along a direction  $\mathbf{v}$  is

$$f_{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} + \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \mathbf{u}$$

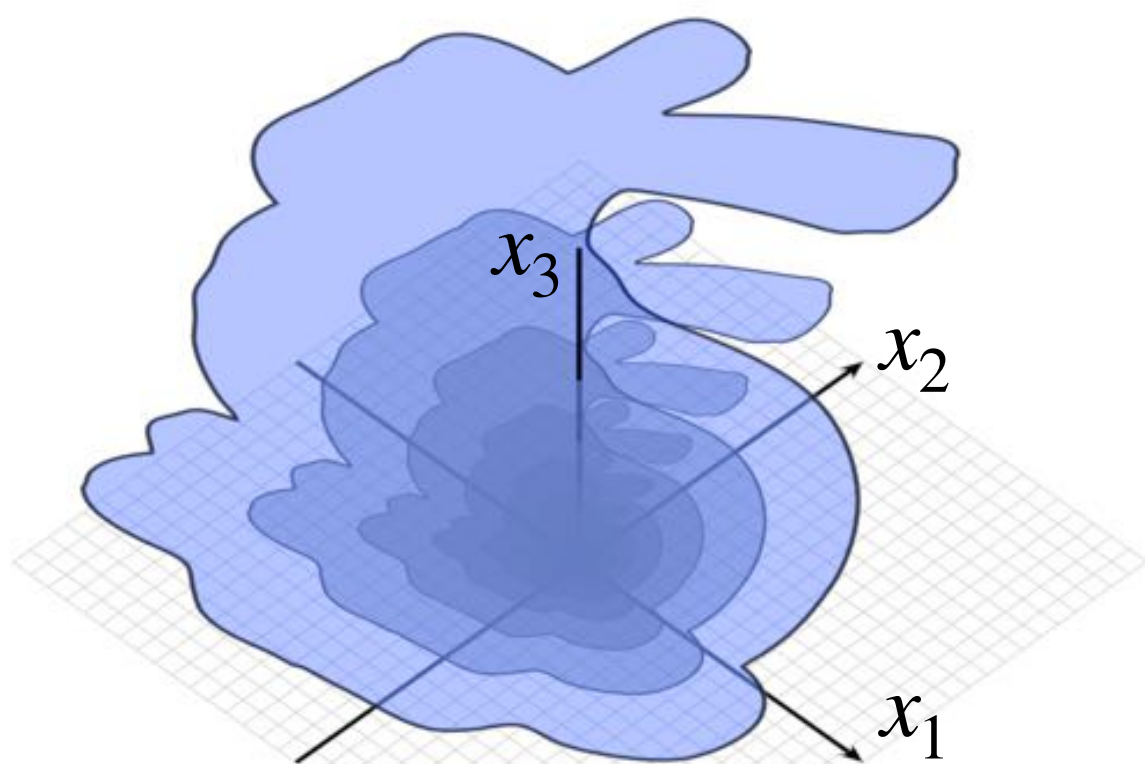
- In matrix form:

$$f_{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}) = (I + \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^T) \mathbf{x}$$

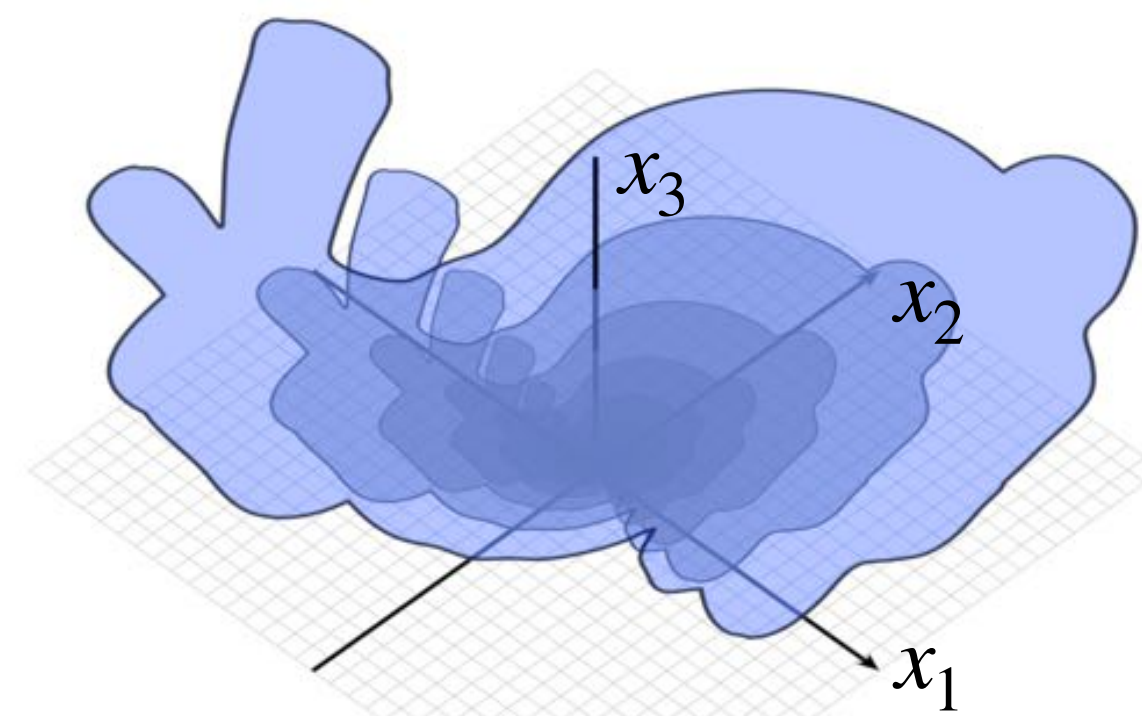
- In our case,  $\mathbf{v} = (0,0,1)$  and so we get a matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & u_1 \\ 0 & 1 & u_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} cp_1 \\ cp_2 \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c(p_1 + u_1) \\ c(p_2 + u_2) \\ c \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{1/c} \begin{bmatrix} p_1 + u_1 \\ p_2 + u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

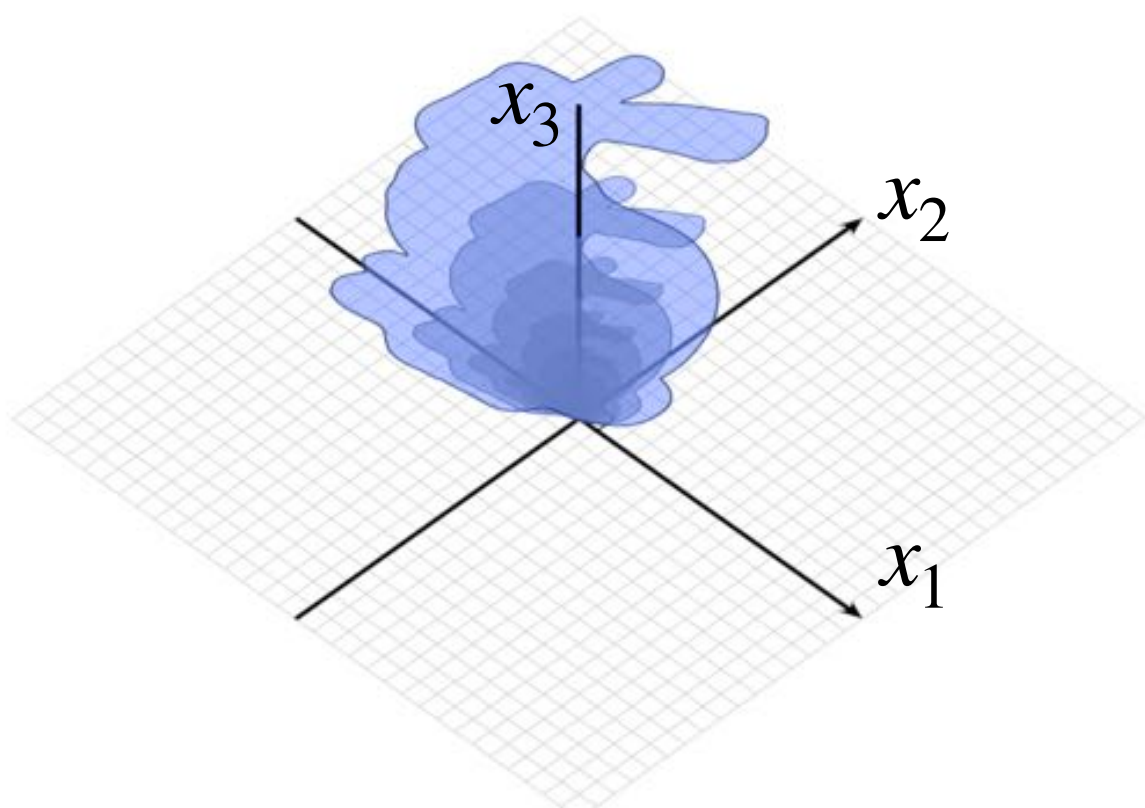
# Other 2D Transformations in Homogeneous Coordinates



Original shape in 2D can be viewed as many copies, uniformly scaled by  $x_3$

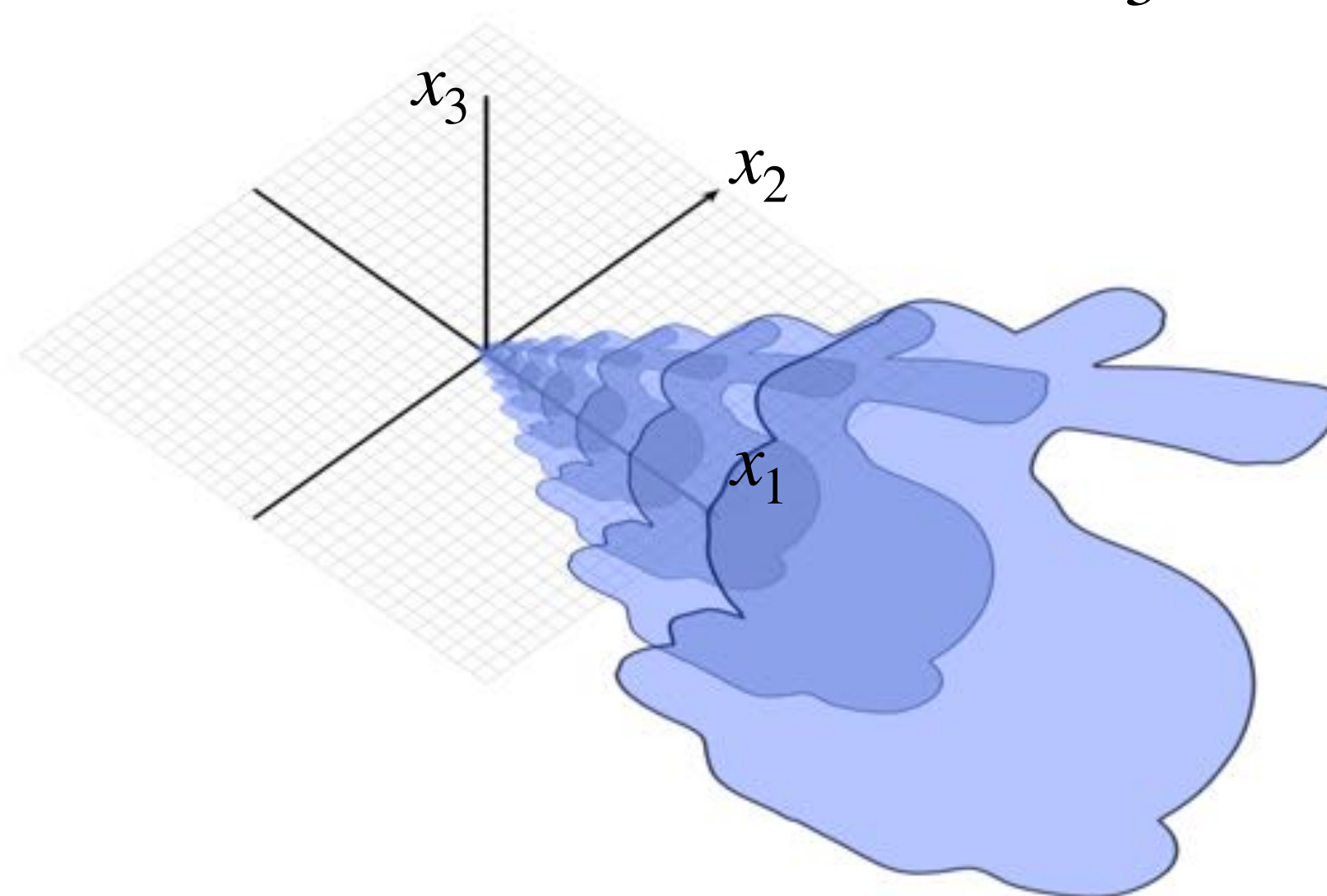


2D rotation  $\leftrightarrow$  rotate around  $x_3$



2D scale  $\leftrightarrow$  scale  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ ; preserve  $x_3$

(Q: what happens to 2D shape if you scale  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_3$  uniformly?)



2D translate  $\leftrightarrow$  shear

Now easy to compose all these transformations

# 3D Transformations in Homogeneous Coordinates

- Not much changes in three (or more) dimensions: just append one “homogeneous coordinate” to the first three
- Matrix representations of 3D linear transformations just get an additional identity row/column; translation is again a shear

point in 3D

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

rotate  $(x, y, z)$  around  $y$  by  $\theta$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

shear  $(x, y)$  by  $z$  in  $(s, t)$  direction

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & s & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

scale  $x, y, z$  by  $a, b, c$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

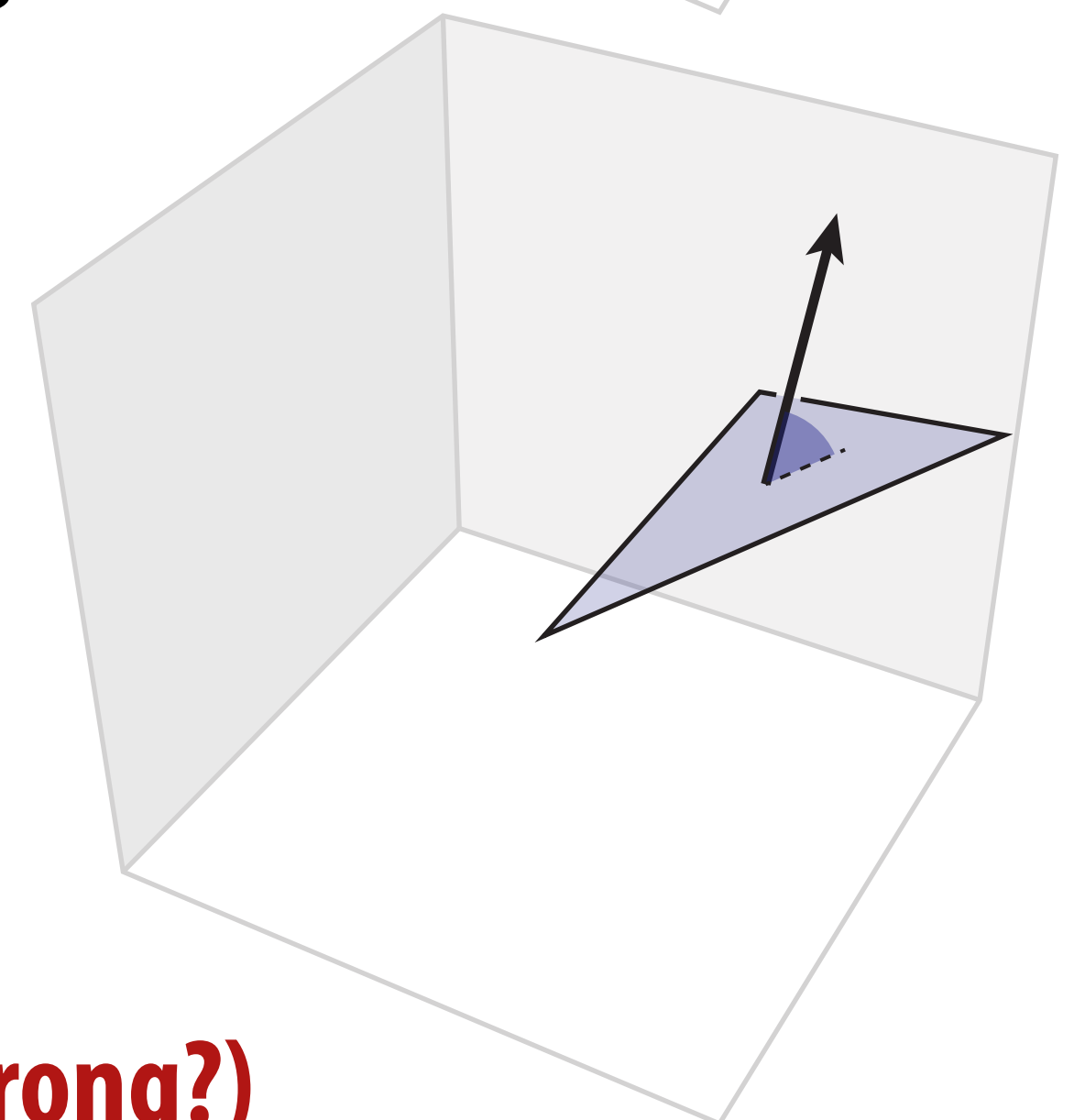
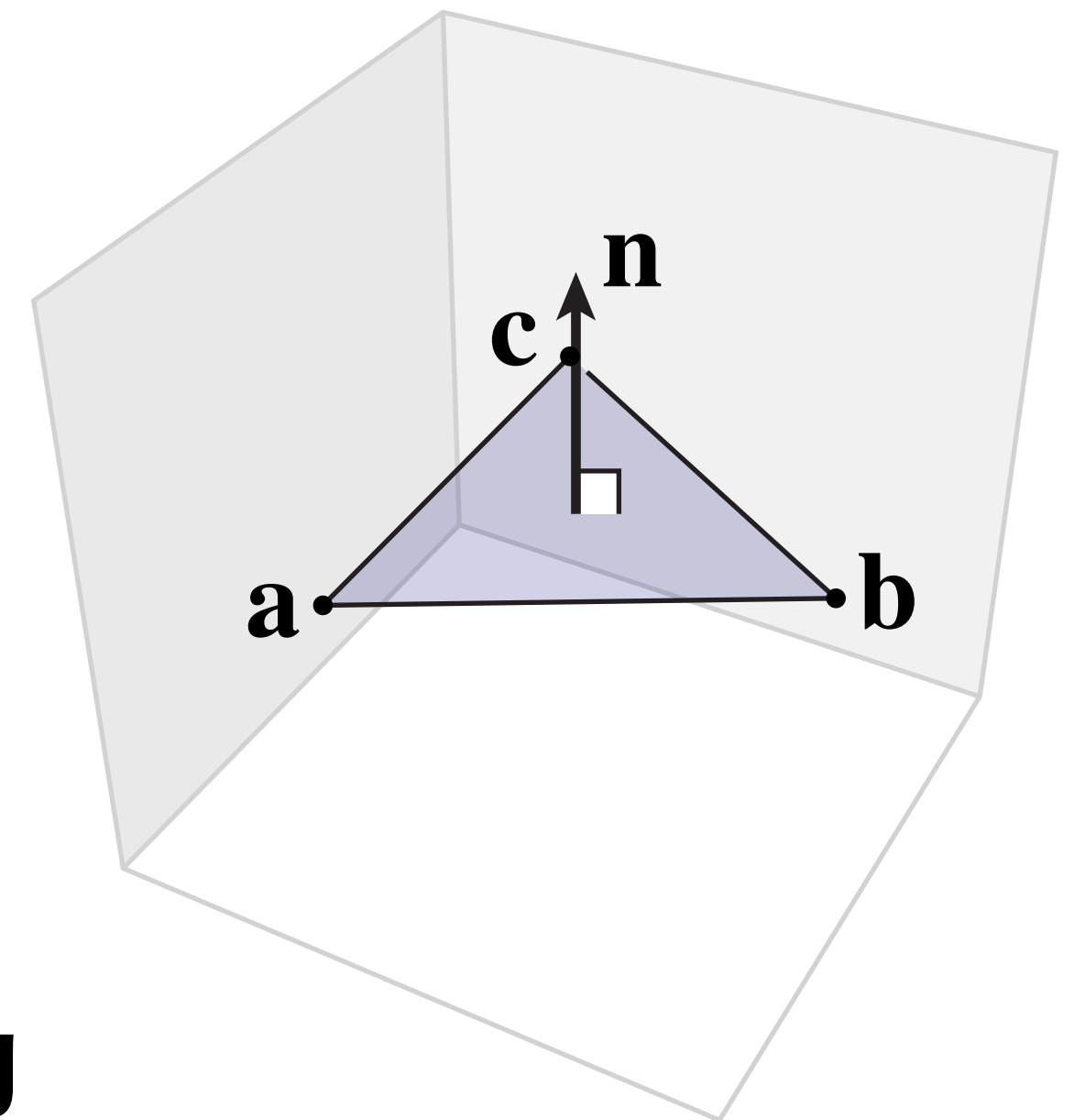
translate  $(x, y, z)$  by  $(u, v, w)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & u \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & v \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & w \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Points vs. Vectors

- Homogeneous coordinates have another useful feature: distinguish between points and vectors
- Consider for instance a triangle with:
  - vertices  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^3$
  - normal vector  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^3$
- Suppose we transform the triangle by appending "1" to  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{n}$  and multiplying by this matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta & u \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & v \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta & w \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



**Normal is not orthogonal to triangle! (What went wrong?)**



# Points vs. Vectors (continued)

- Let's think about what happens when we multiply the normal vector  $\mathbf{n}$  by our matrix:

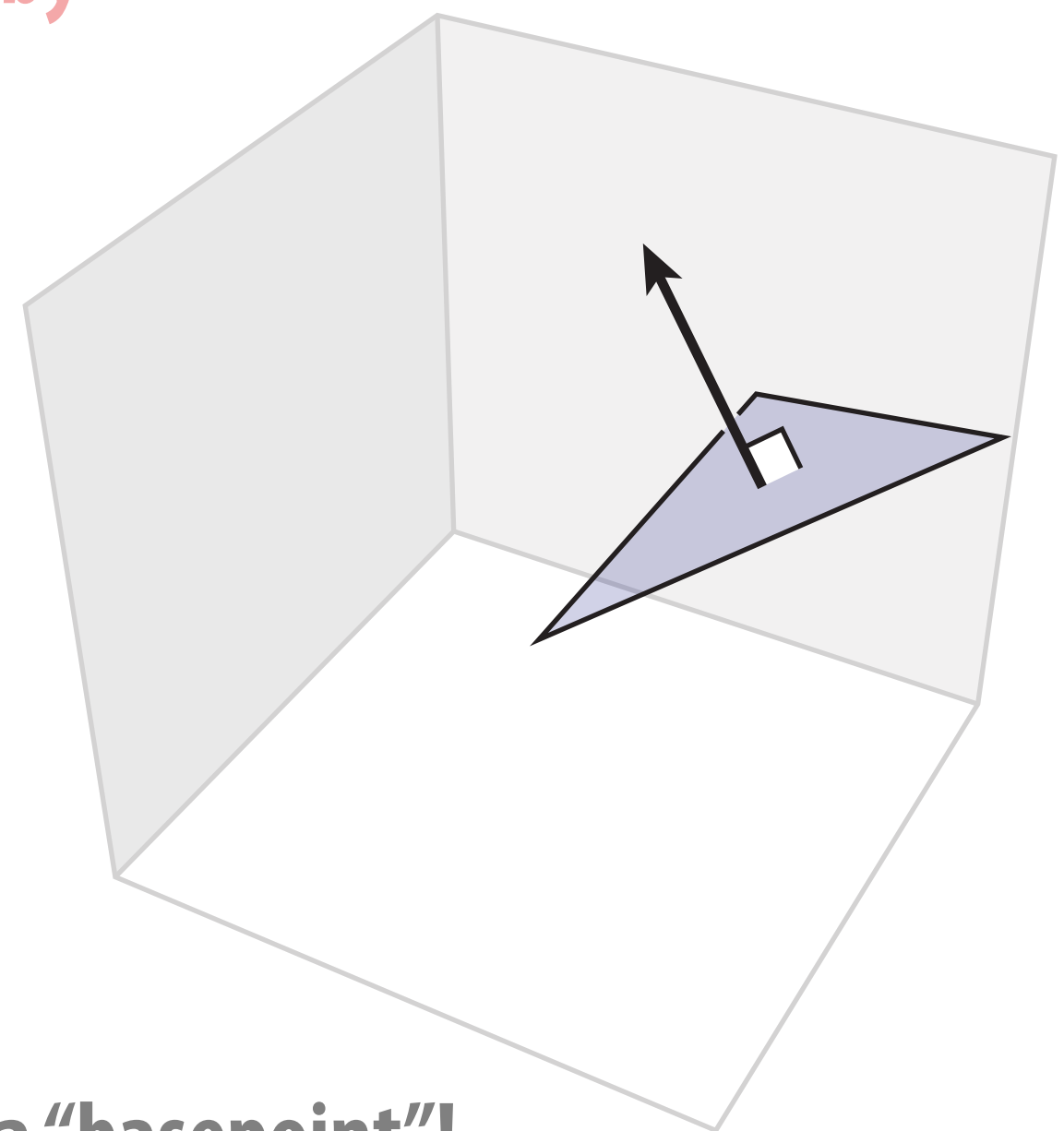
rotate normal around  $y$  by  $\theta$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_1 \\ n_2 \\ n_3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

translate normal by  $(u, v, w)$

- But when we rotate/translate a triangle, its normal should just rotate!\*
- Solution? Just set homogeneous coordinate to zero!
- Translation now gets ignored; normal is orthogonal to triangle

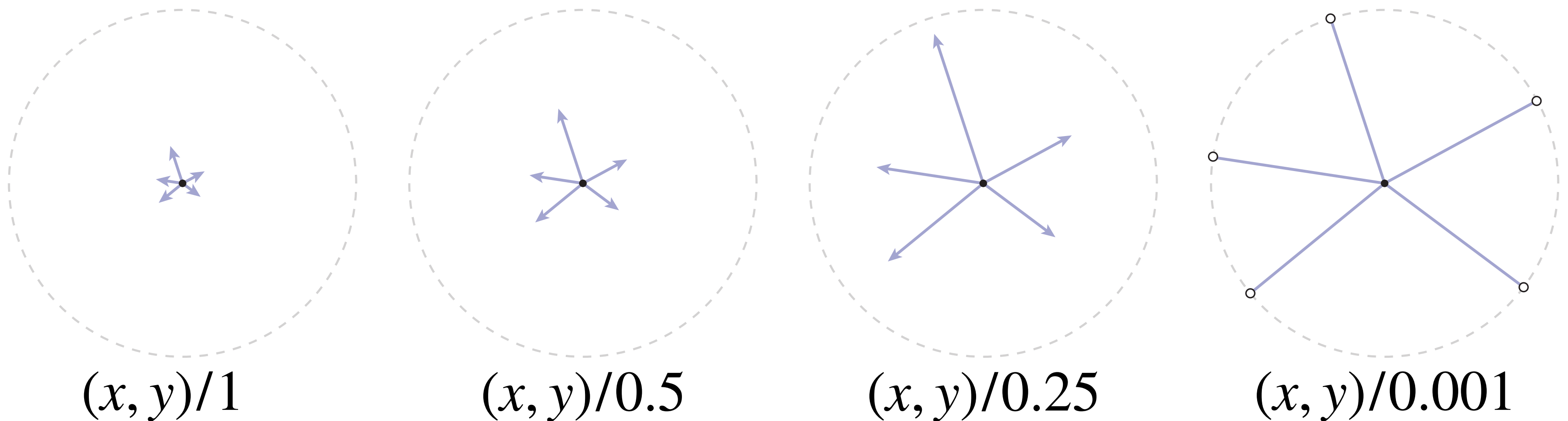
$$\begin{bmatrix} n_1 \\ n_2 \\ n_3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



\*Recall that vectors just have direction and magnitude—they don't have a "basepoint"!

# Points vs. Vectors in Homogeneous Coordinates

- In general:
  - A point has a nonzero homogeneous coordinate ( $c = 1$ )
  - A vector has a zero homogeneous coordinate ( $c = 0$ )
- But wait... what division by  $c$  mean when it's equal to zero?
- Well consider what happens as  $c \rightarrow 0$ ...



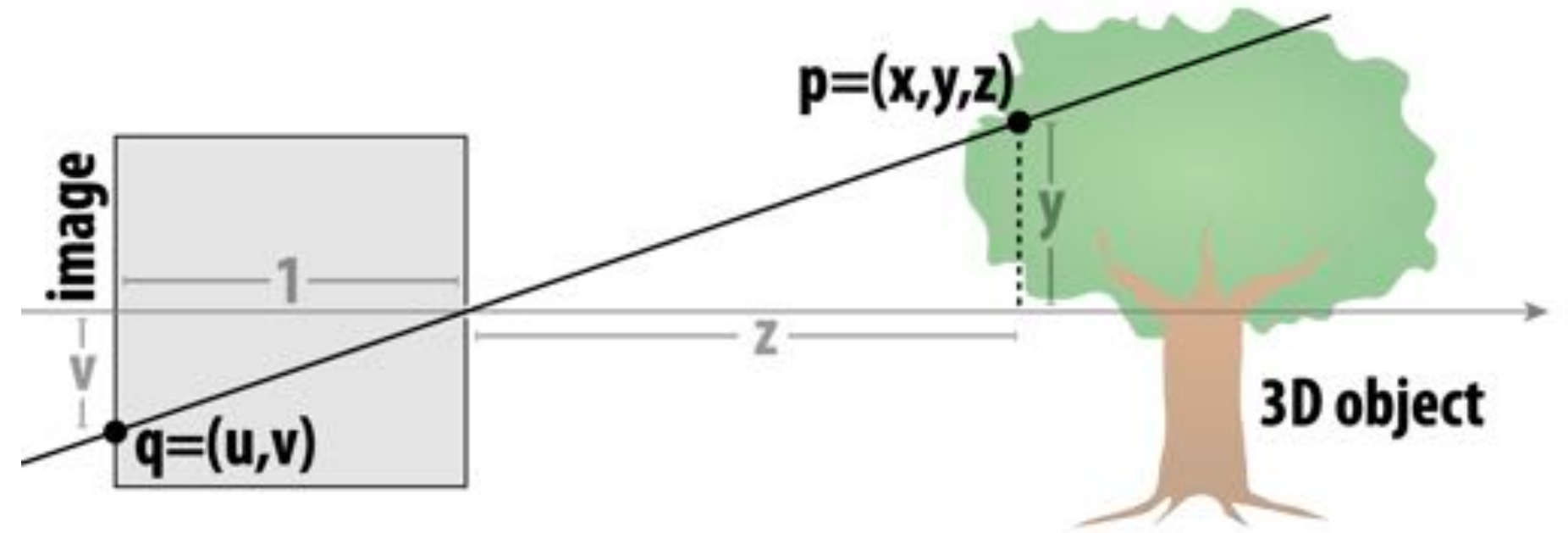
Can think of vectors as “points at infinity” (sometimes called “ideal points”)

(In practice: still need to check for divide by zero!)



# Perspective Projection in Homogeneous Coordinates

- **Q: How can we perform perspective projection\* using homogeneous coordinates?**
- **Remember from our pinhole camera model that the basic idea was to “divide by  $z$ ”**
- **So, we can build a matrix that “copies” the  $z$  coordinate into the homogeneous coordinate**
- **Division by the homogeneous coordinate now gives us perspective projection onto the plane  $z = 1$**



$$(x, y, z) \mapsto (x/z, y/z)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

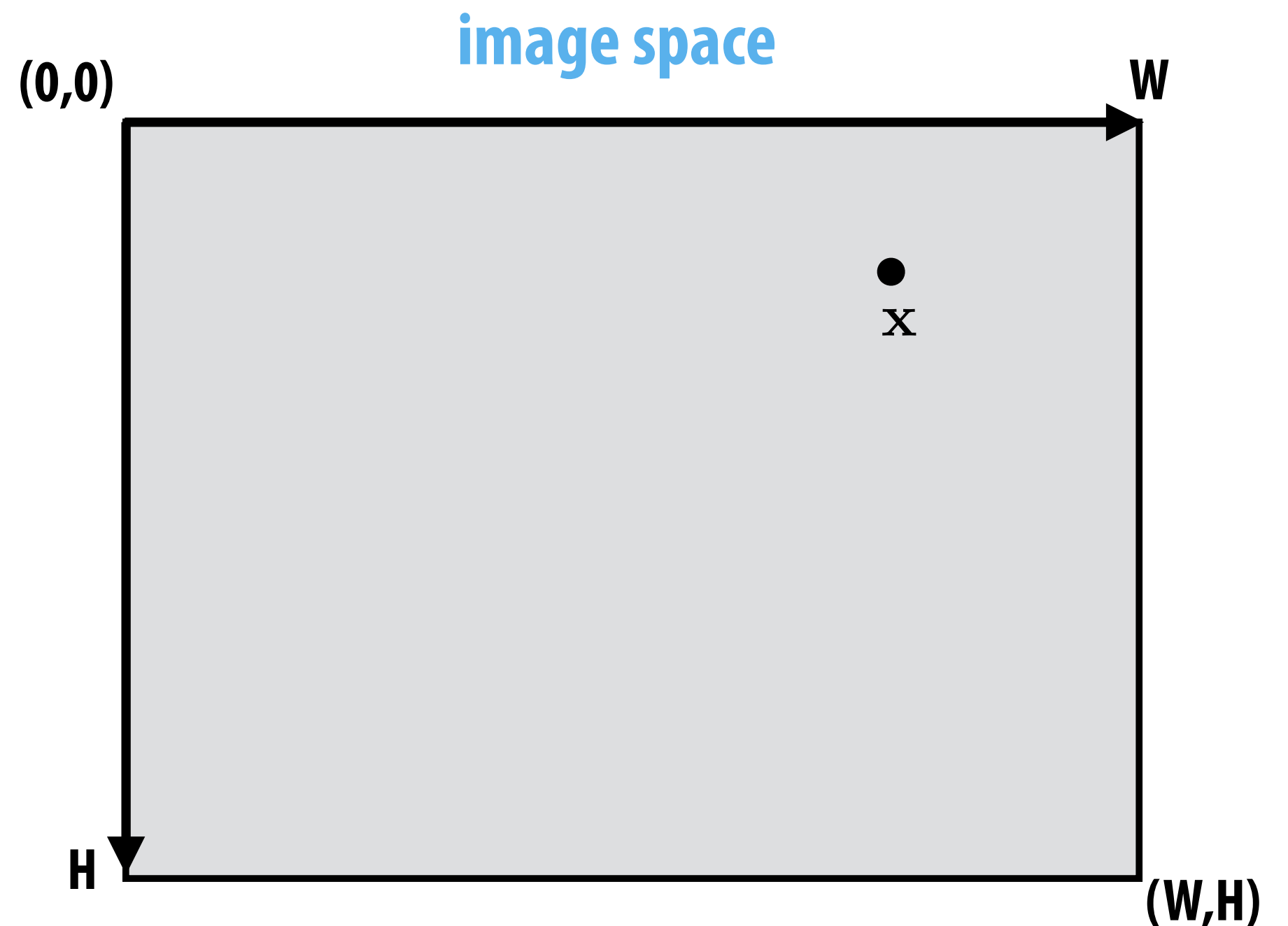
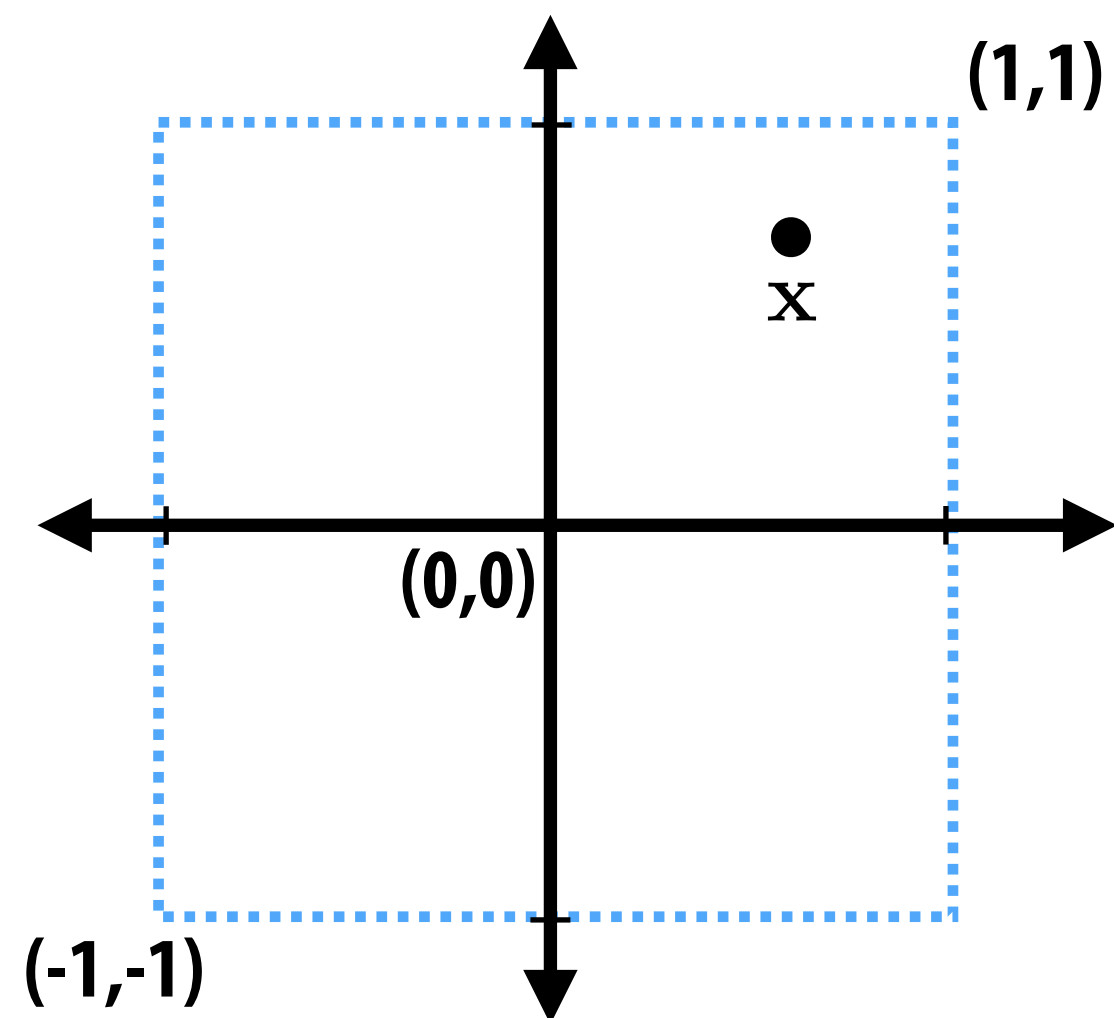
$$\implies \begin{bmatrix} x/z \\ y/z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\*Assuming a pinhole camera at  $(0,0,0)$  looking down the  $z$ -axis

# Screen Transformation

- One last transformation is needed in the rasterization pipeline: transform from viewing plane to pixel coordinates
- E.g., suppose we want to draw all points that fall inside the square  $[-1,1] \times [-1,1]$  on the  $z = 1$  plane, into a  $W \times H$  pixel image

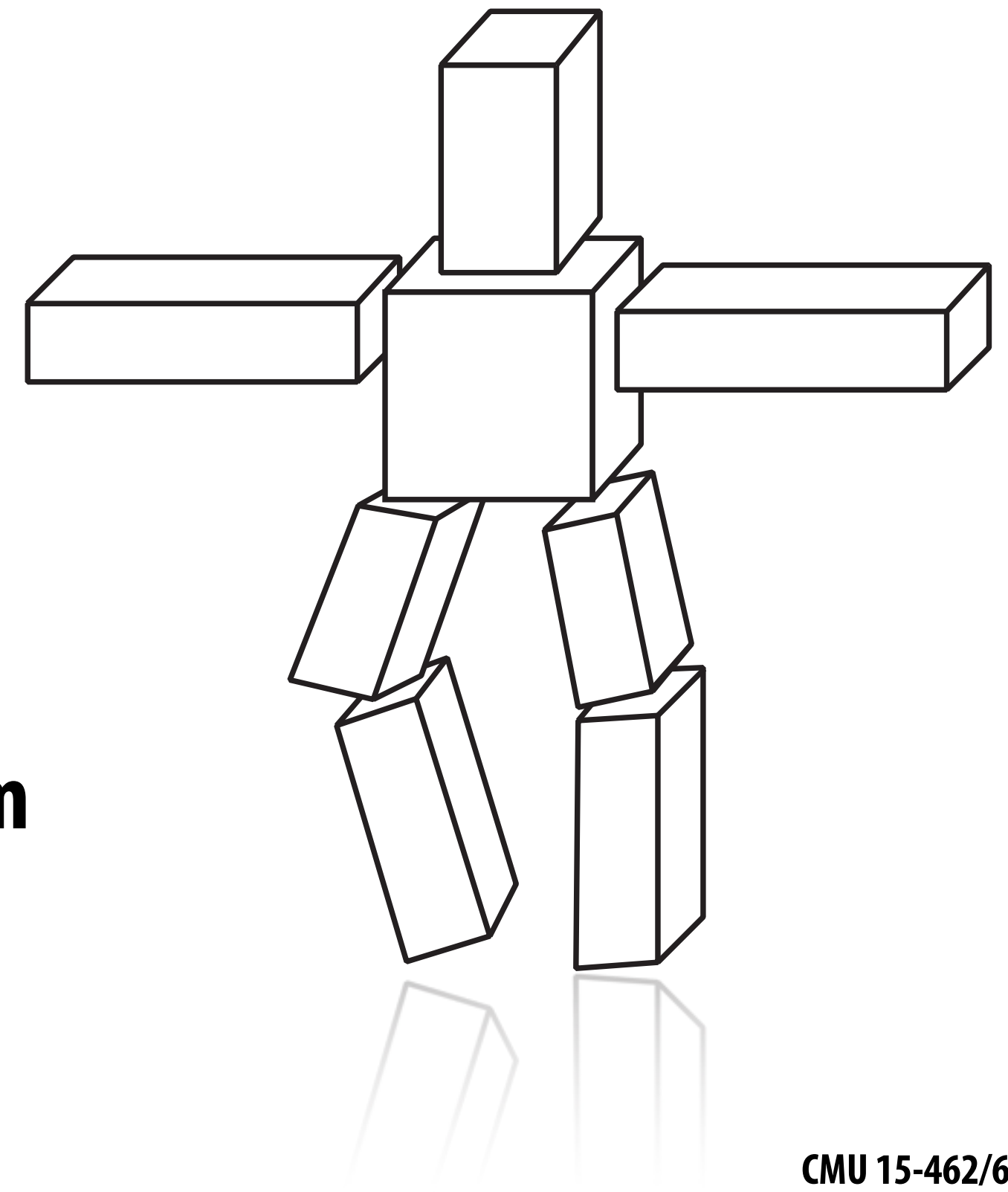
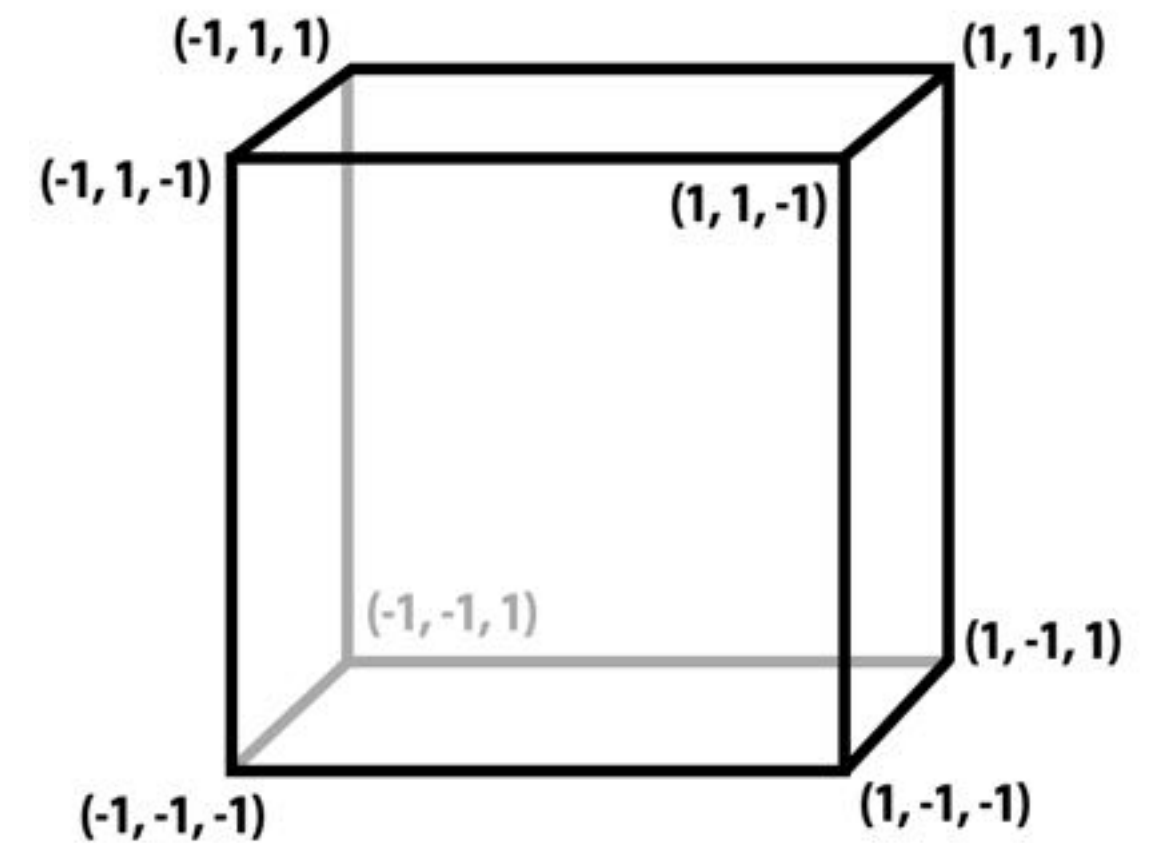
“normalized device coordinates”



**Q: What transformation(s) would you apply? (Careful:  $y$  is now down!)**

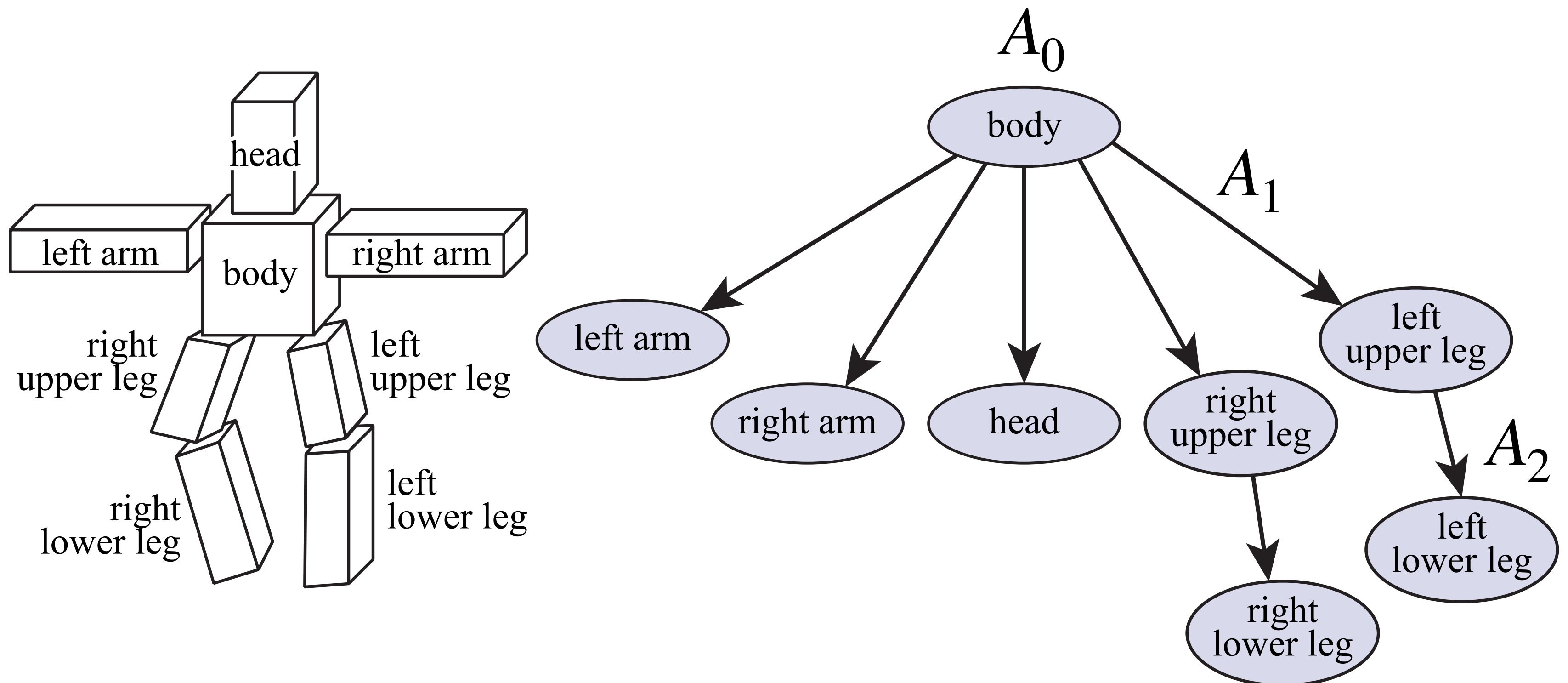
# Scene Graph

- For complex scenes (e.g., more than just a cube!) scene graph can help organize transformations
- Motivation: suppose we want to build a “cube creature” by transforming copies of the unit cube
- Difficult to specify each transformation directly
- Instead, build up transformations of “lower” parts from transformations of “upper” parts
  - E.g., first position the body
  - Then transform upper arm relative to the body
  - Then transform lower arm relative to upper arm
  - ...



# Scene Graph (continued)

- Scene graph stores relative transformations in directed graph
- Each edge (+root) stores a linear transformation (e.g., a 4x4 matrix)
- Composition of transformations gets applied to nodes

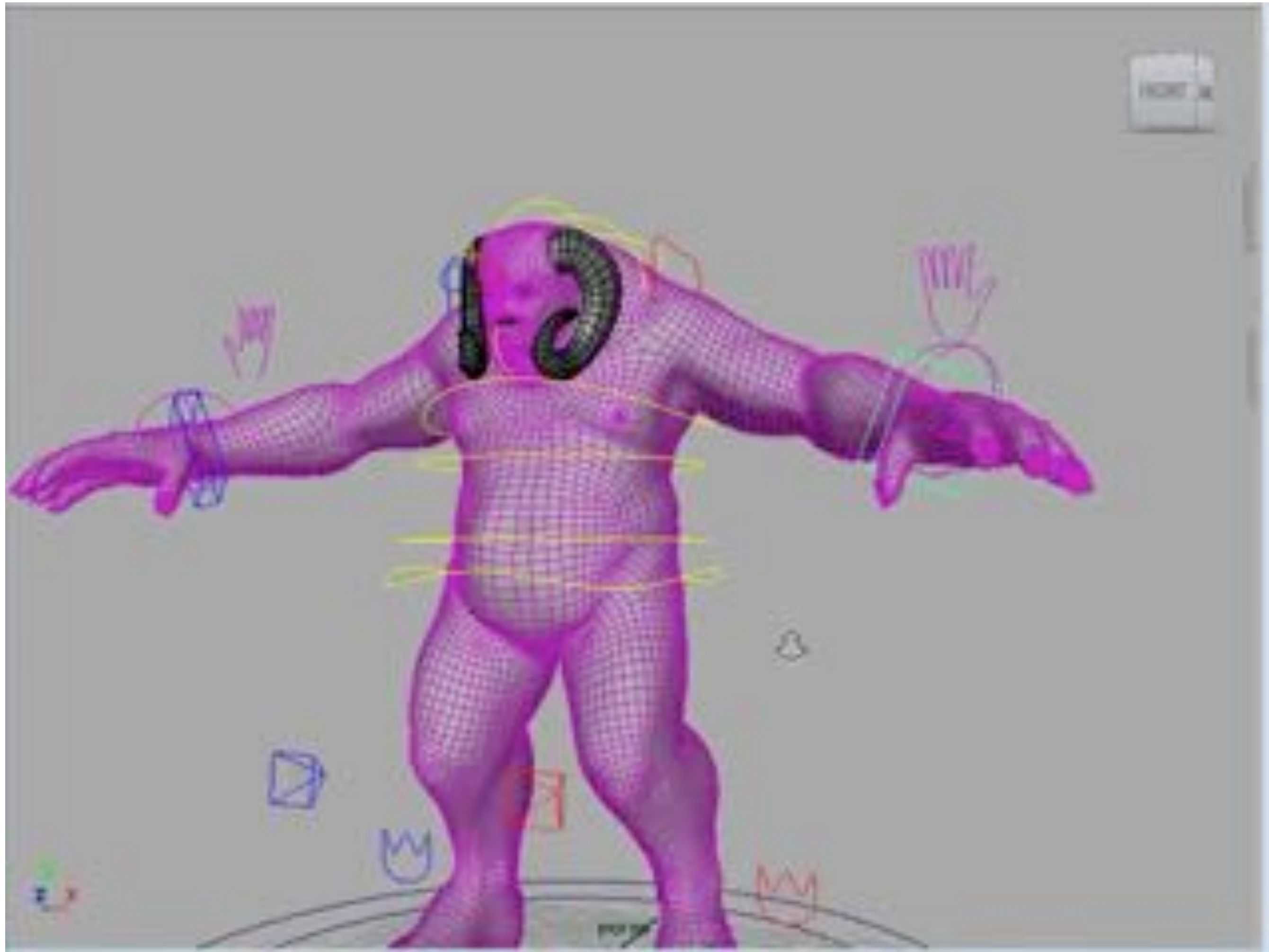


- E.g.,  $A_1A_0$  gets applied to left upper leg;  $A_2A_1A_0$  to left lower leg
- Keep transformations on a stack to reduce redundant multiplication



# Scene Graph—Example

Often used to build up complex “rig”:

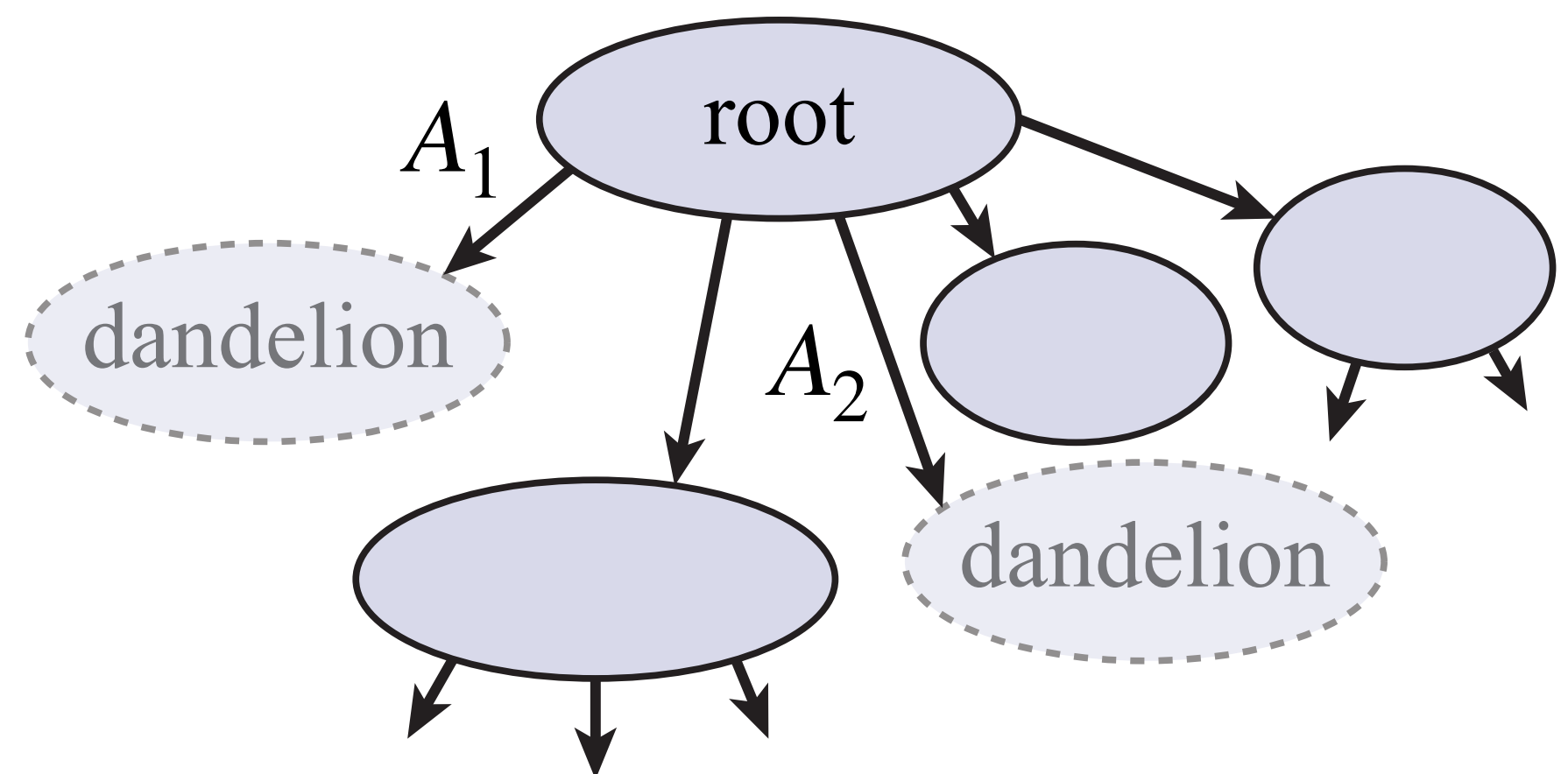
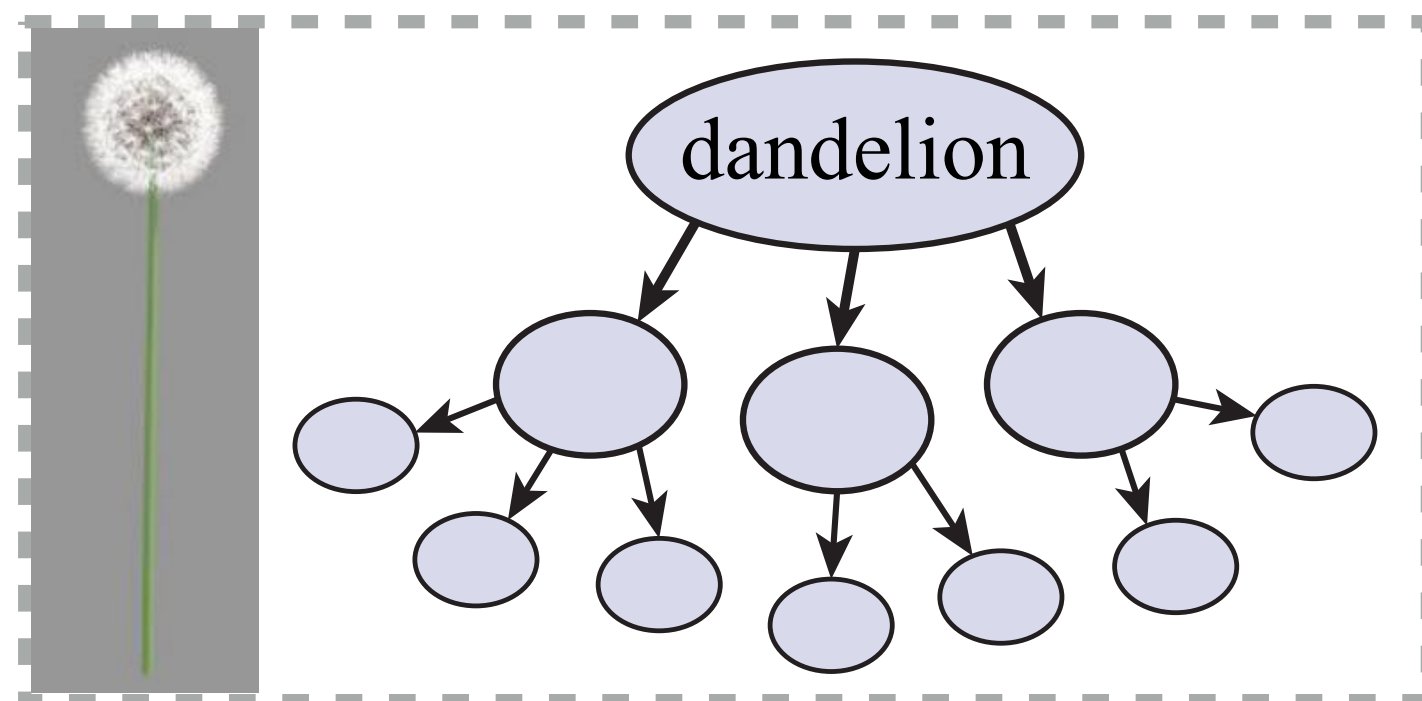
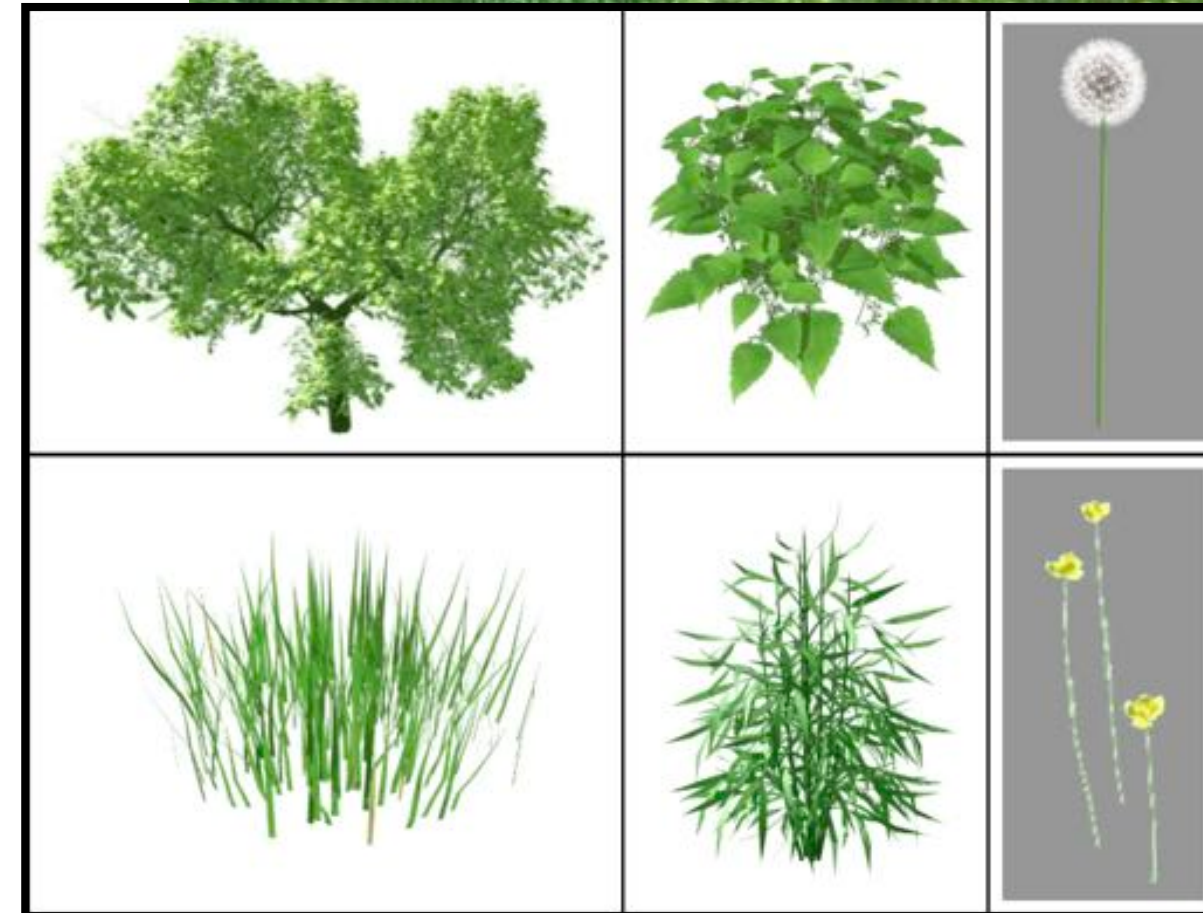
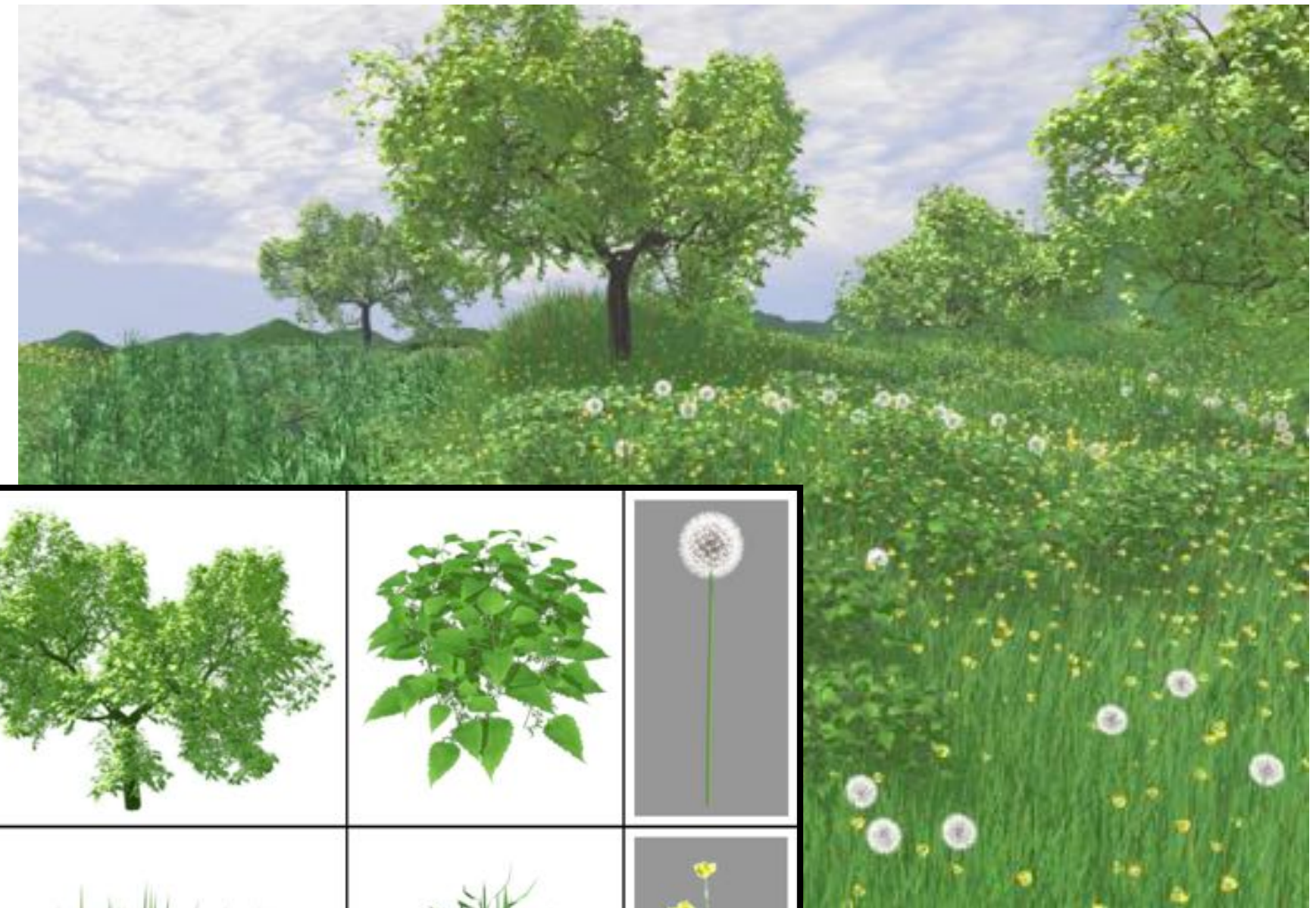


In general, scene graph also includes other models, lights, cameras, ...



# Instancing

- What if we want many copies of the same object in a scene?
- Rather than have many copies of the geometry, scene graph, etc., can just put a "pointer" node in our scene graph
- Like any other node, can specify a different transformation on each incoming edge

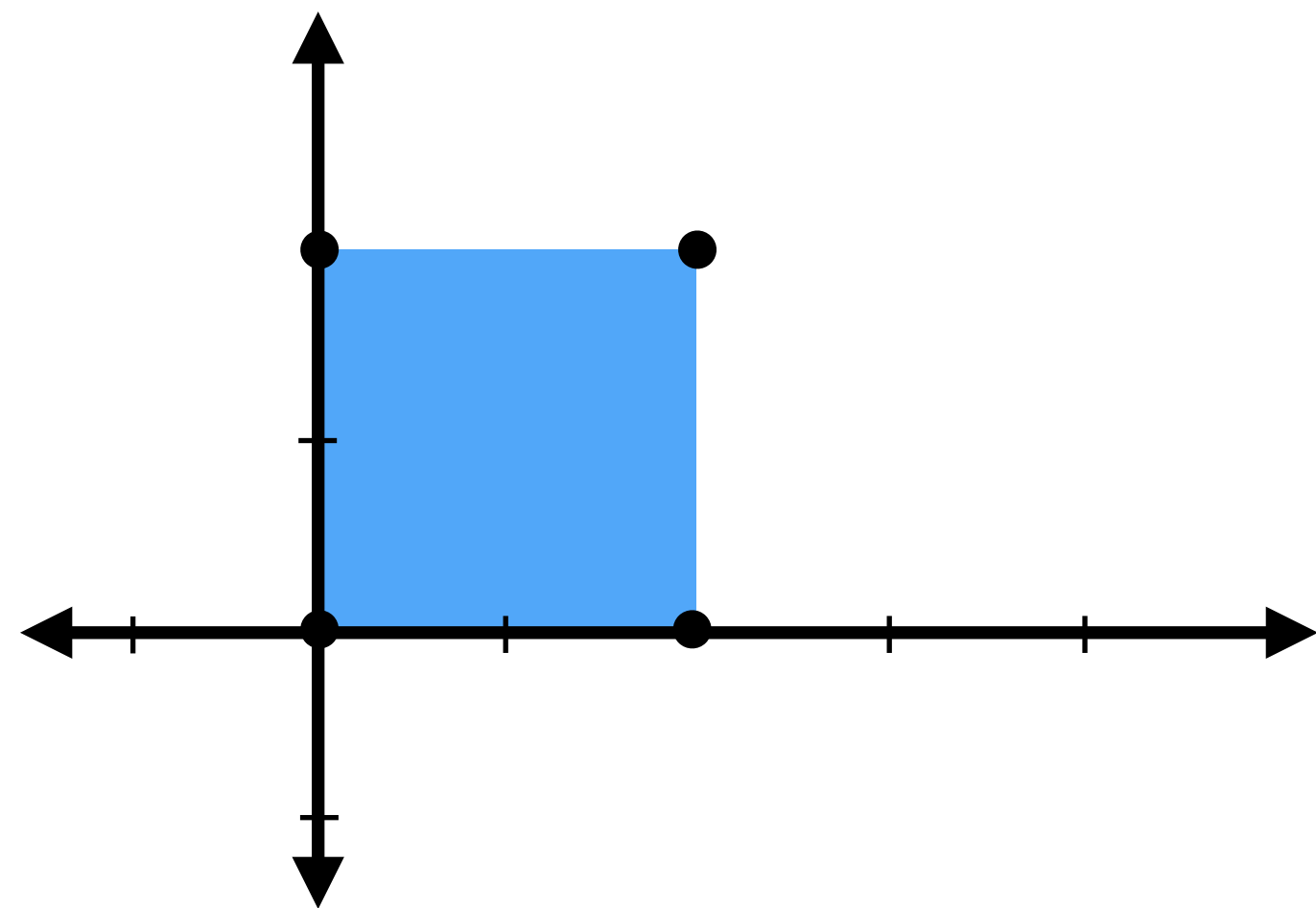


# Instancing—Example

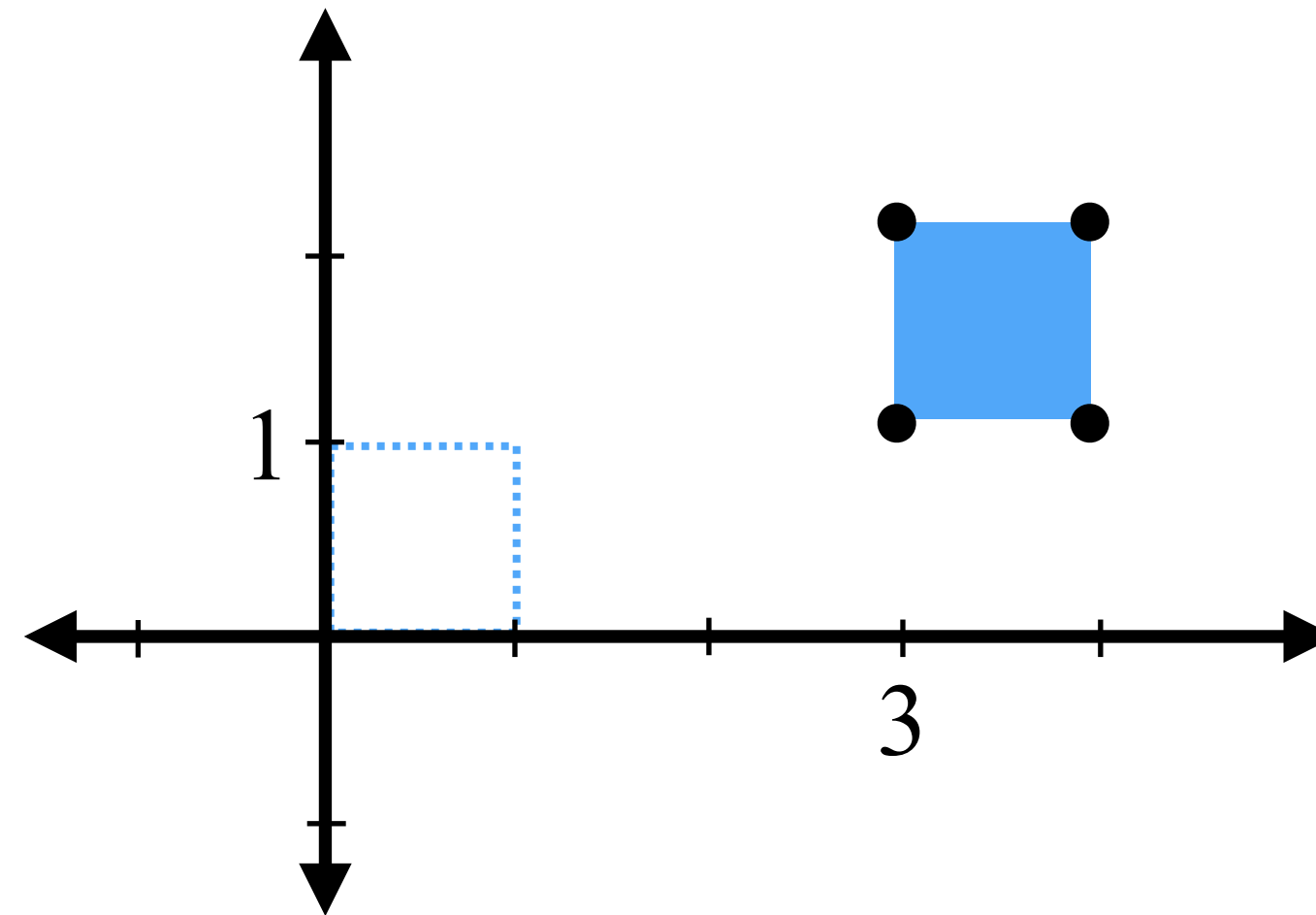




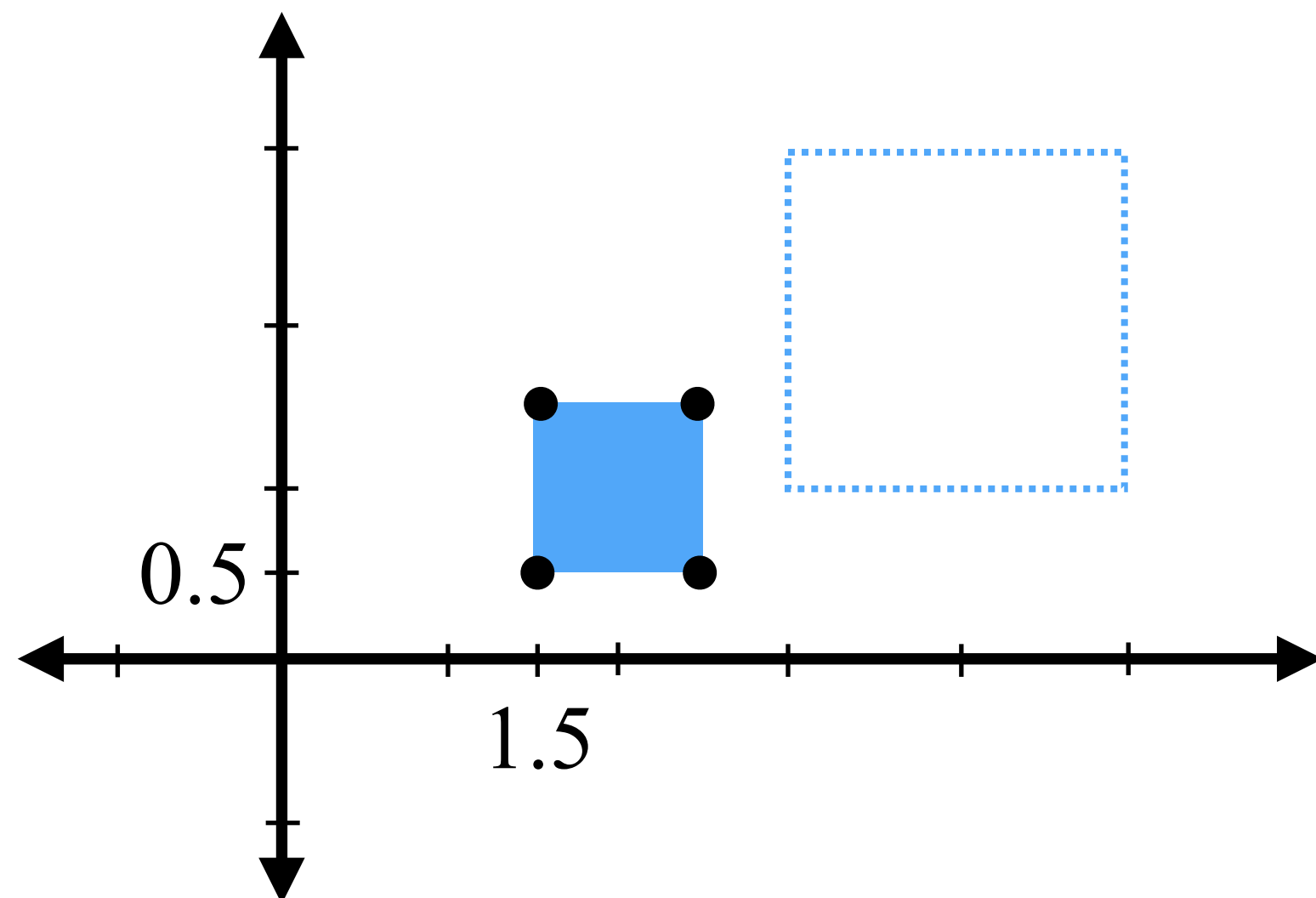
# Order matters when composing transformations!



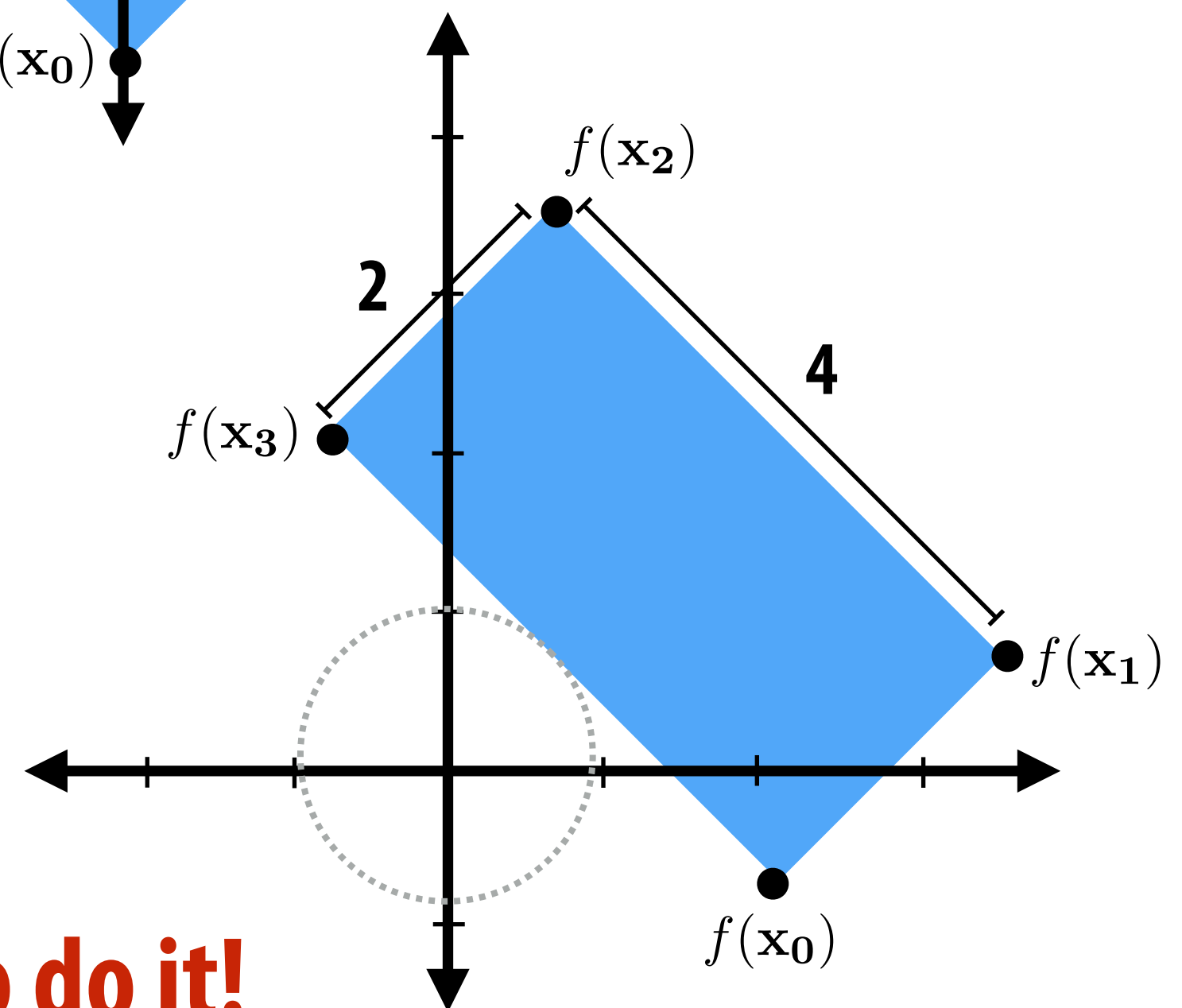
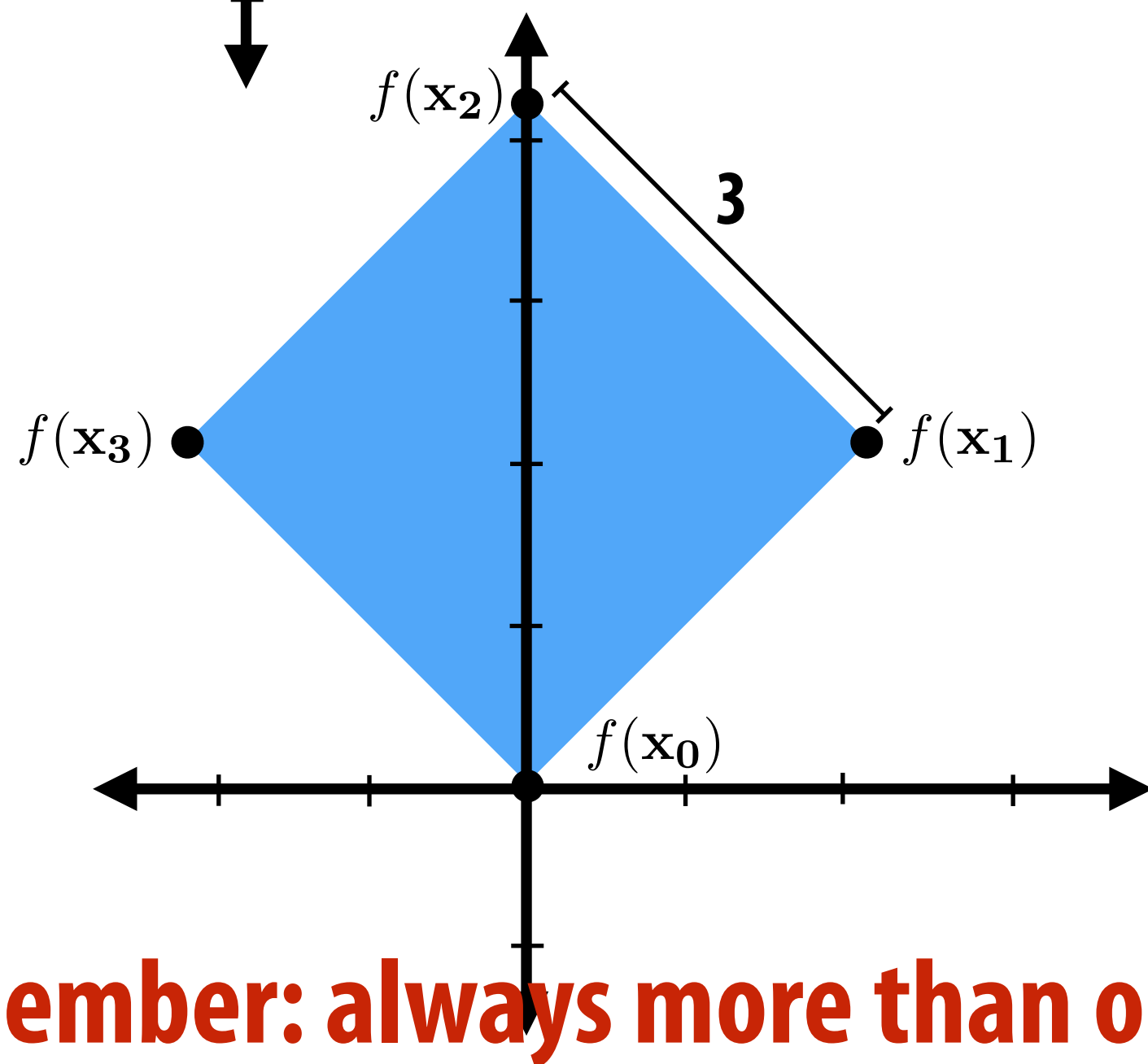
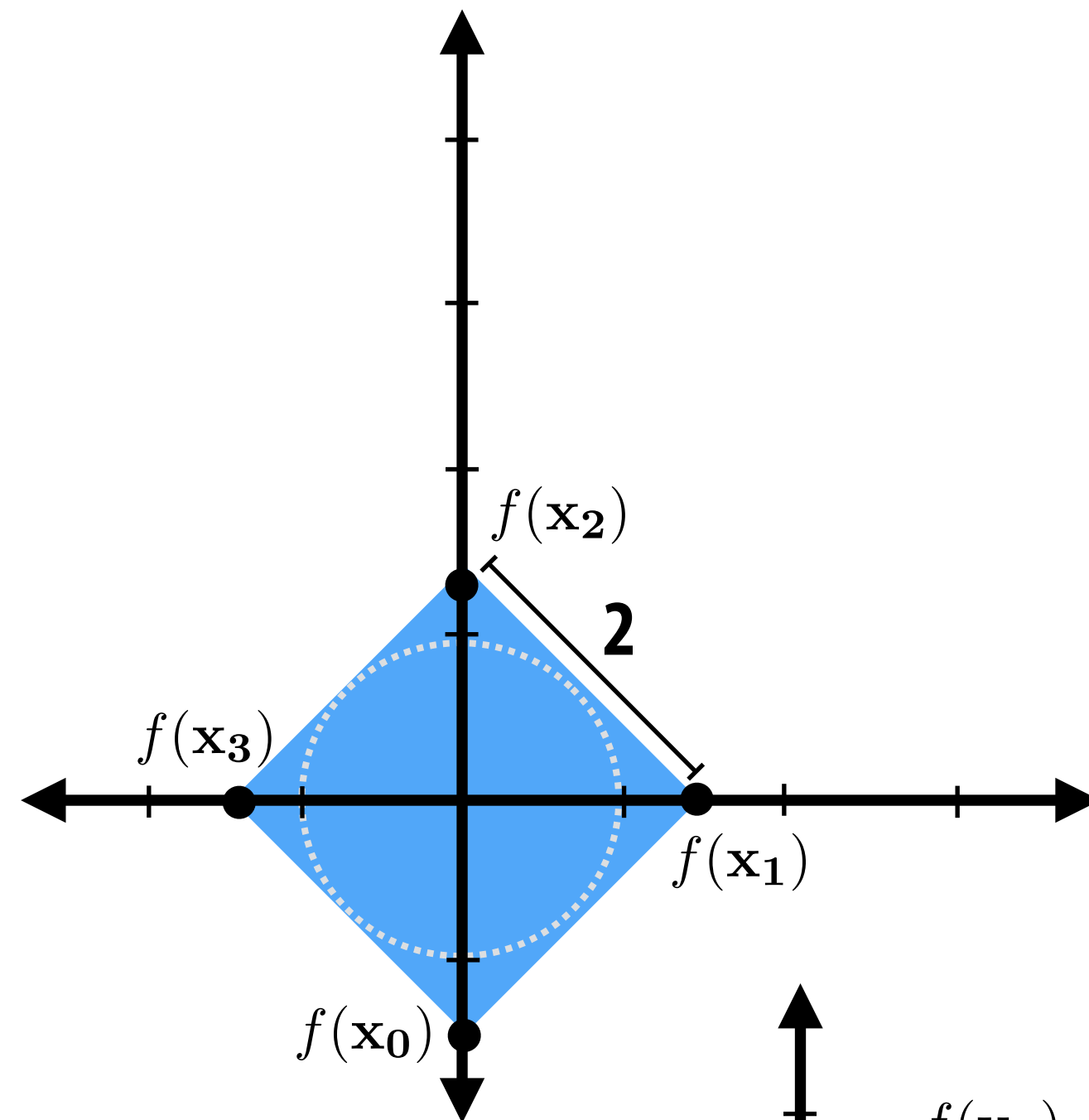
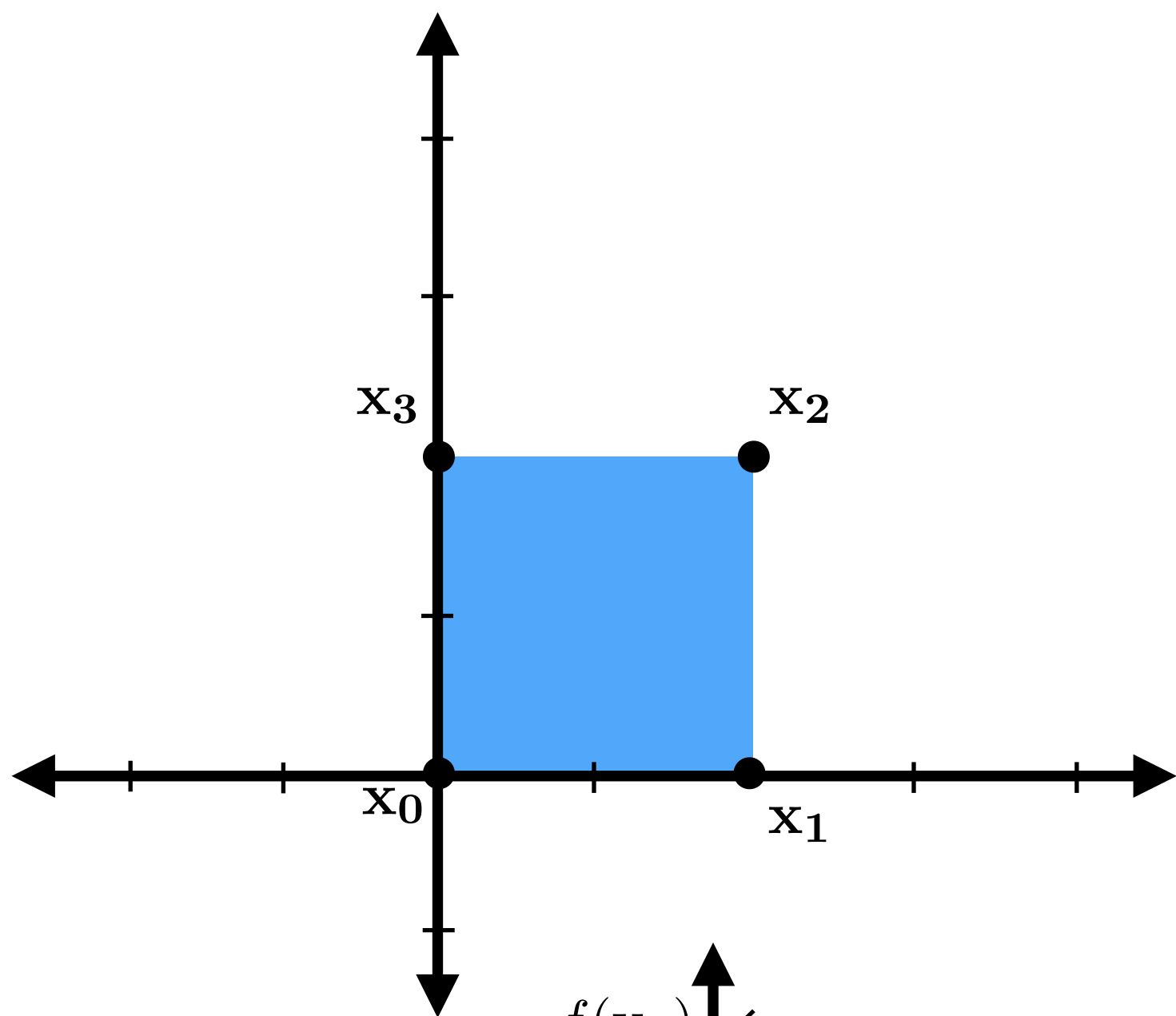
scale by 1/2, then translate by (3,1)



translate by (3,1), then scale by 1/2

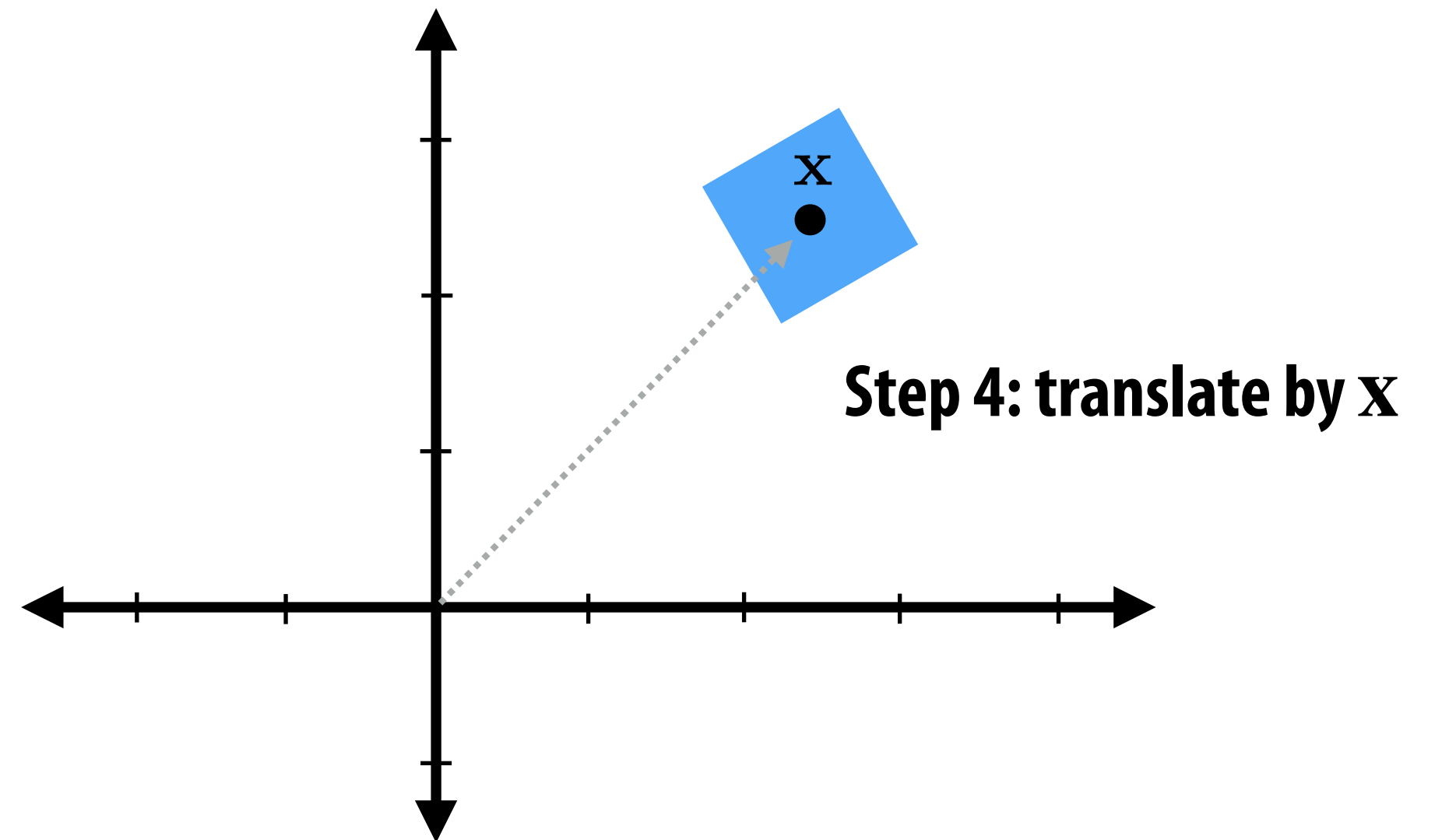
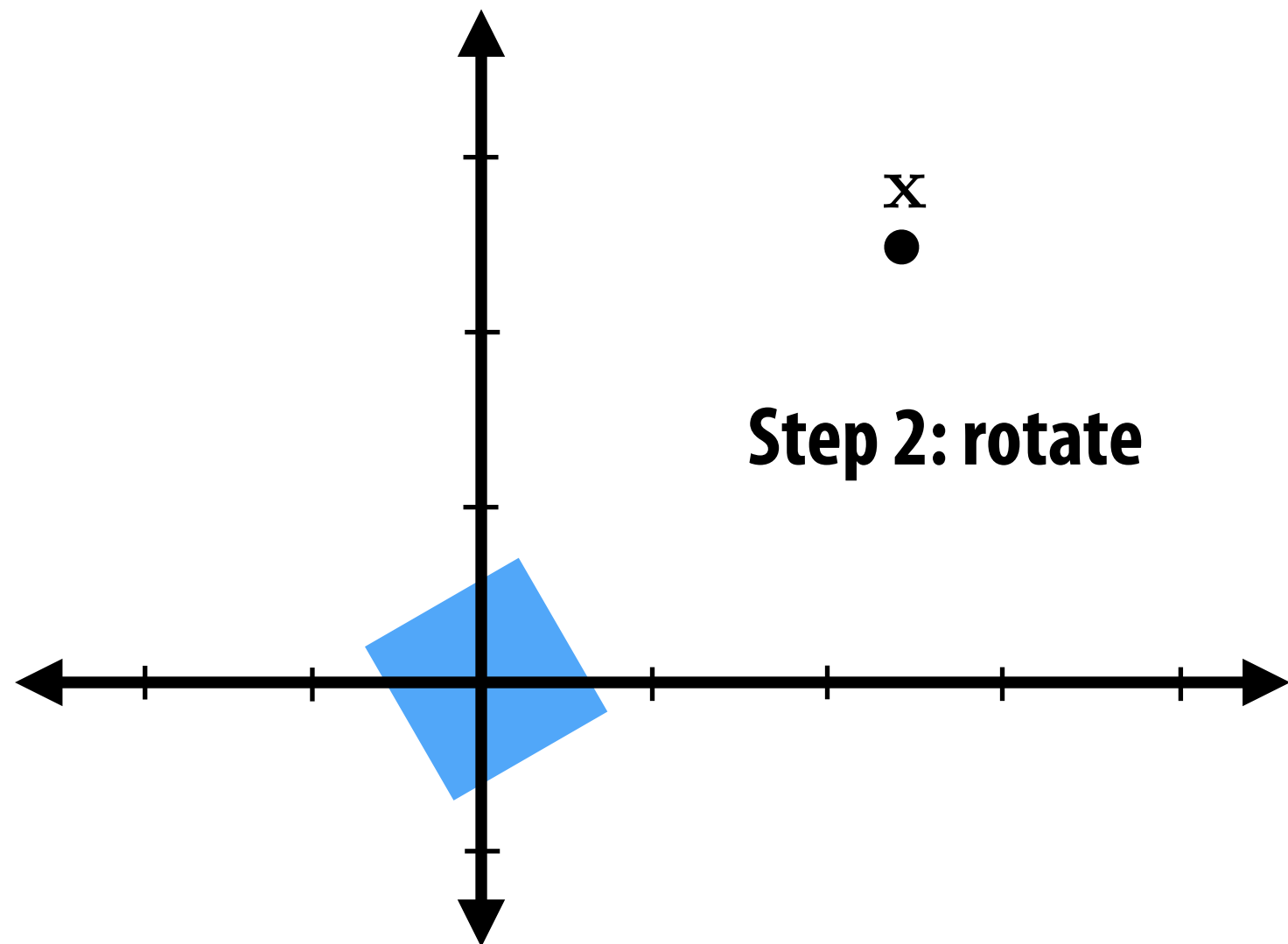
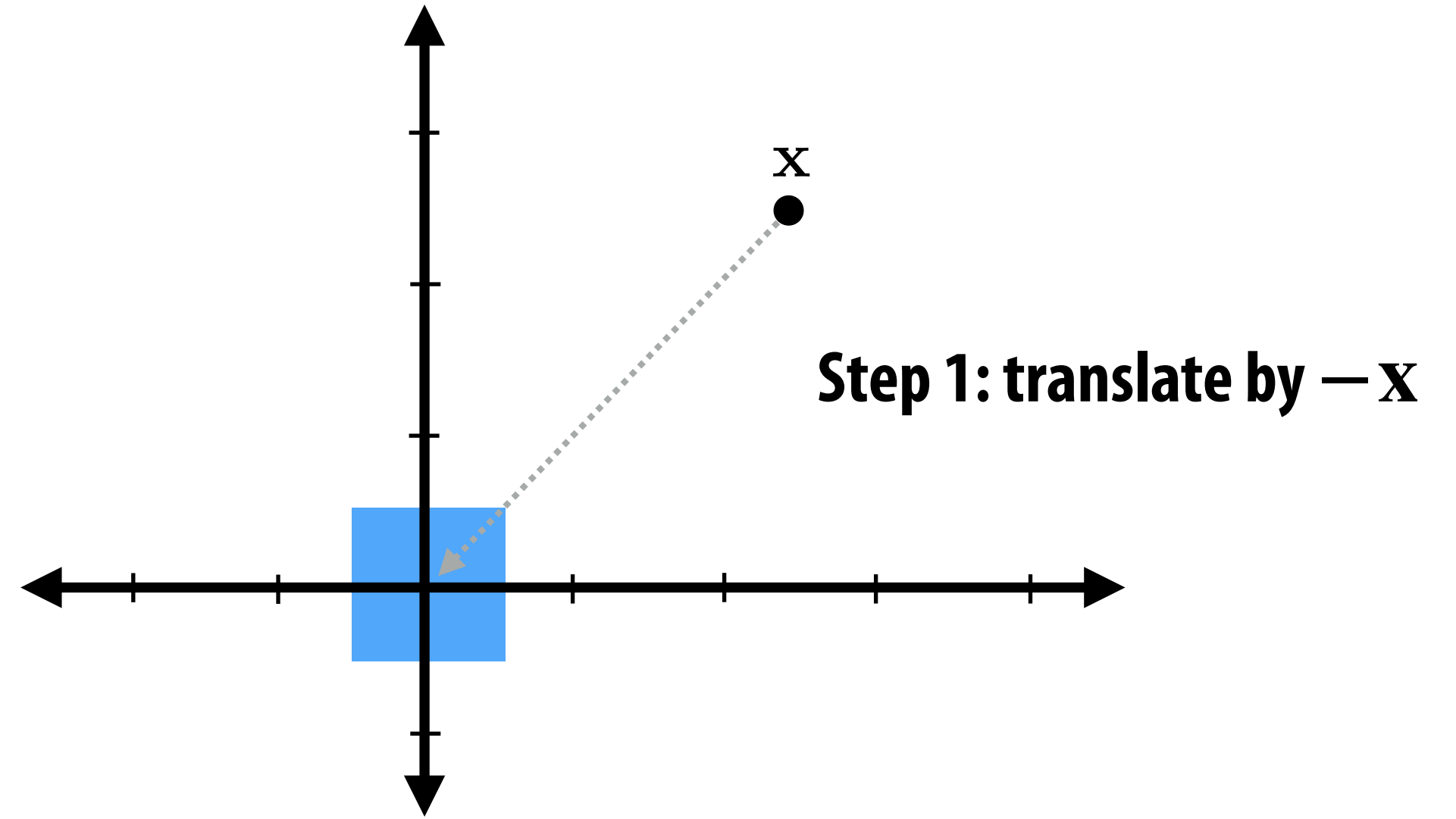
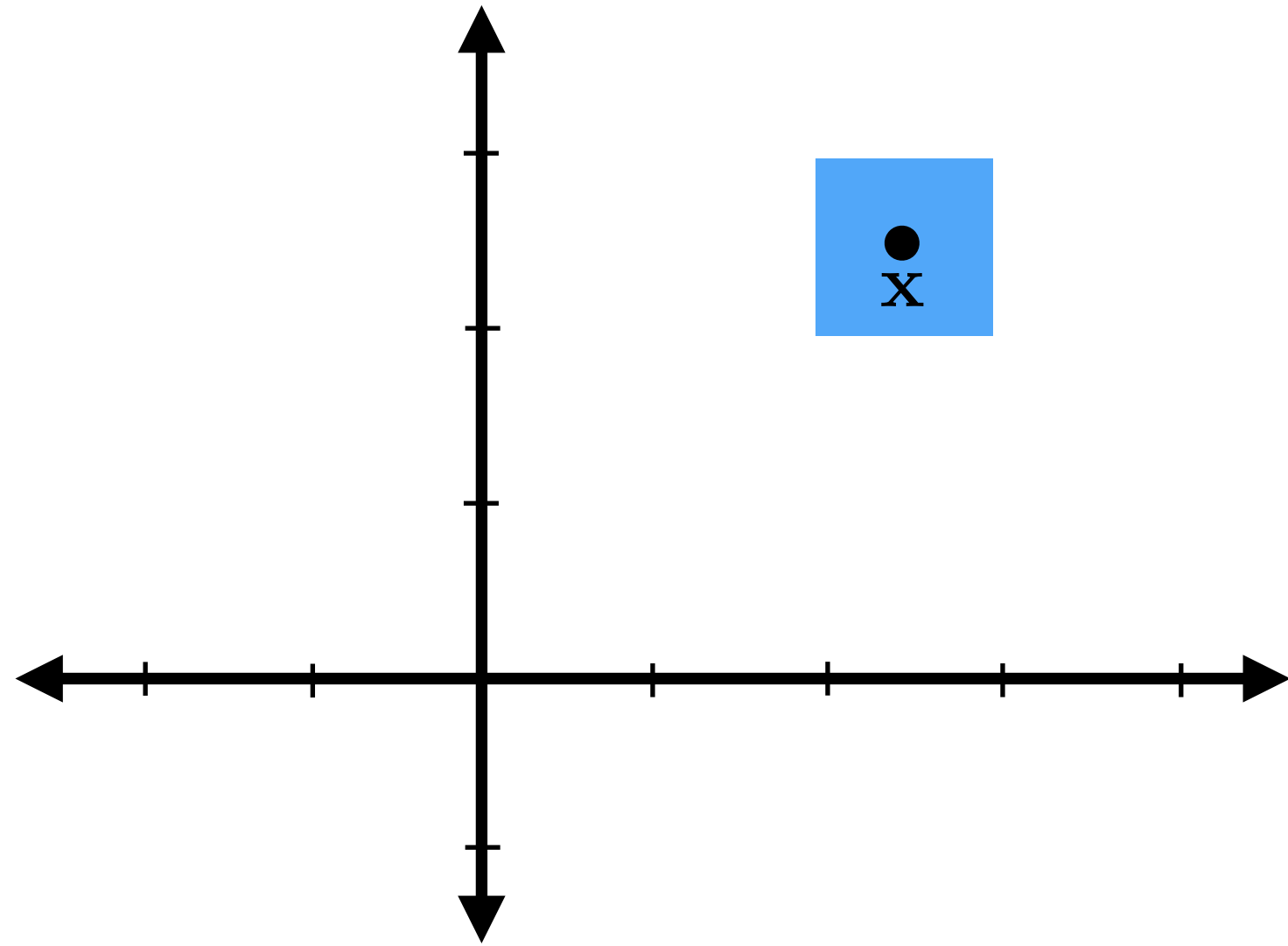


# How would you perform these transformations?



**Remember: always more than one way to do it!**

# Common task: rotate about a point $x$

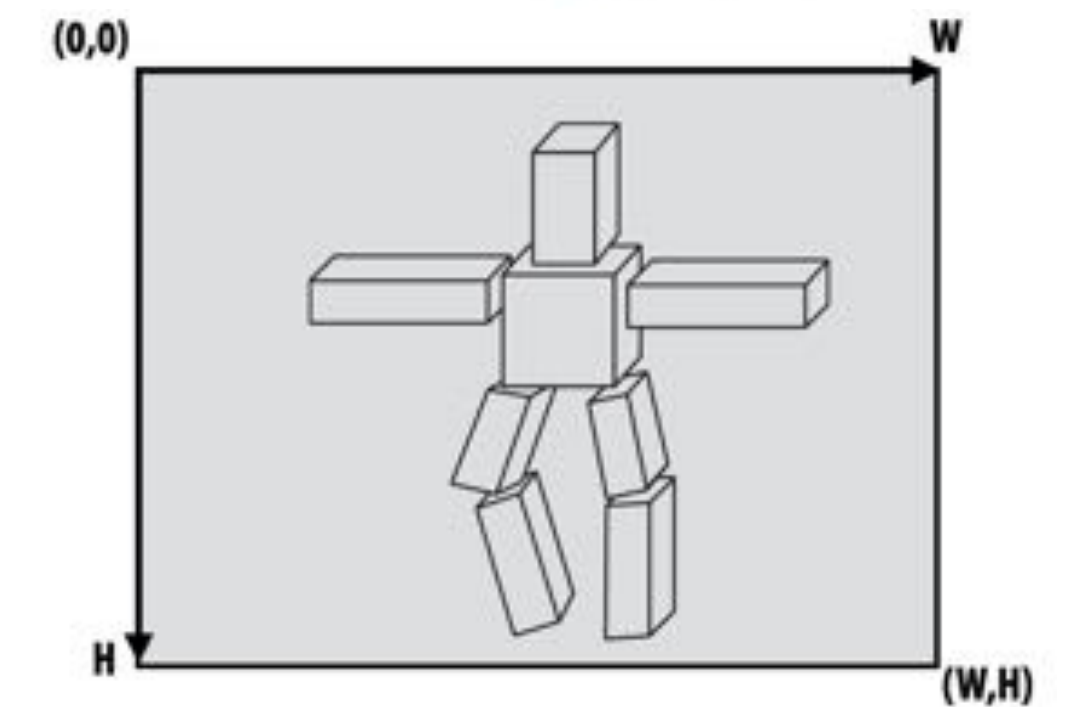
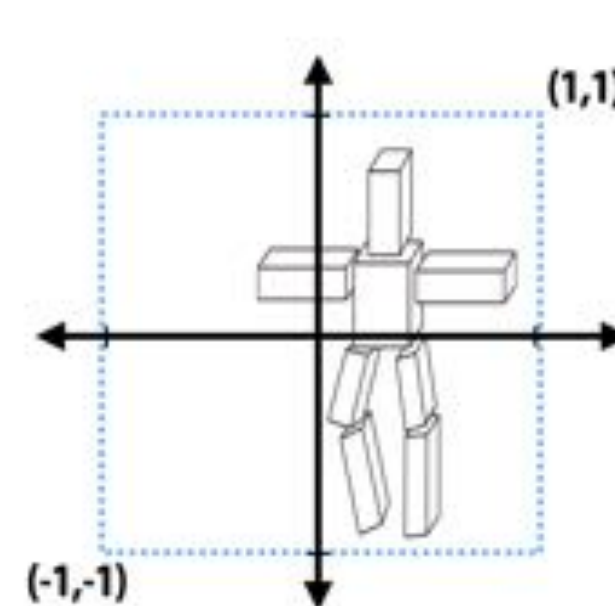
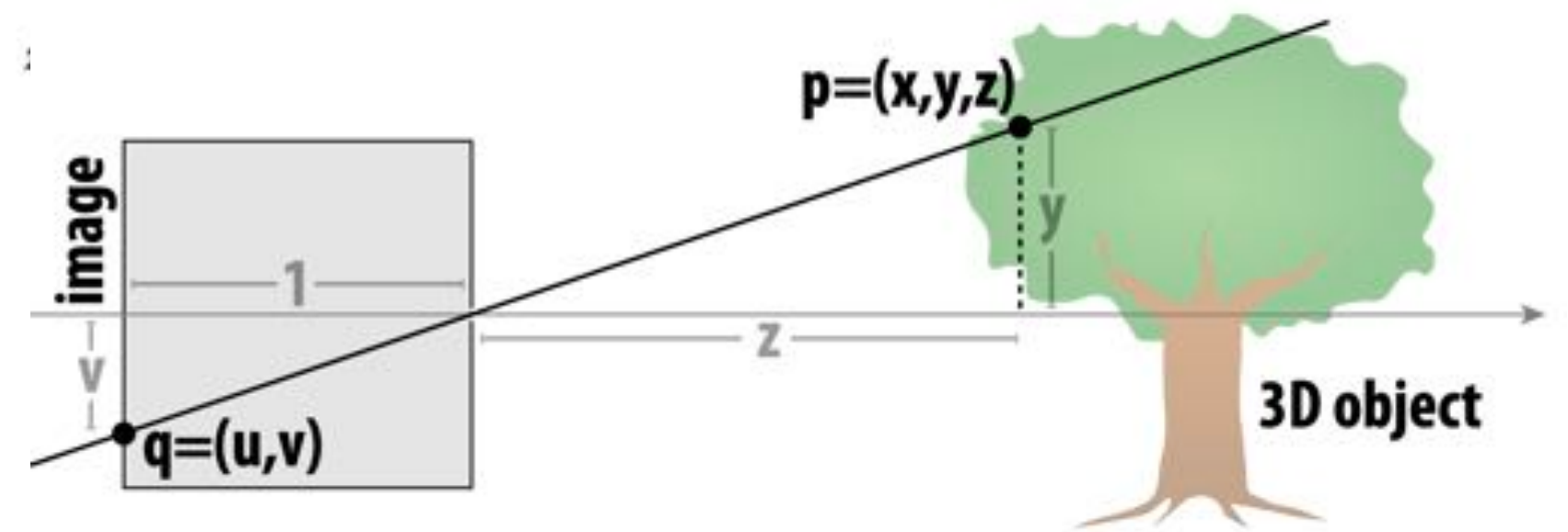
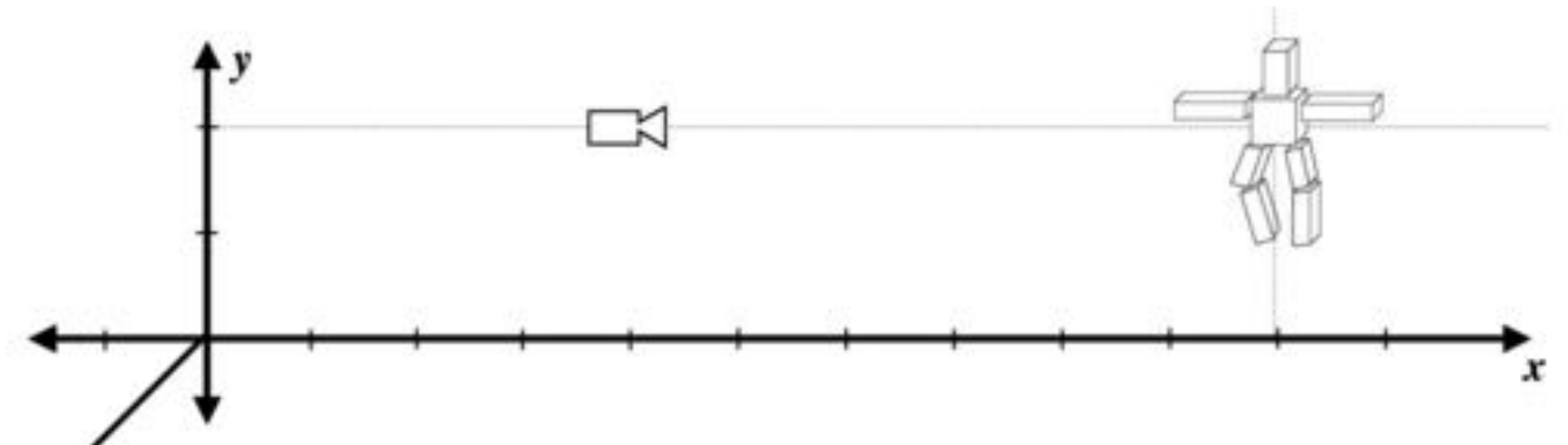
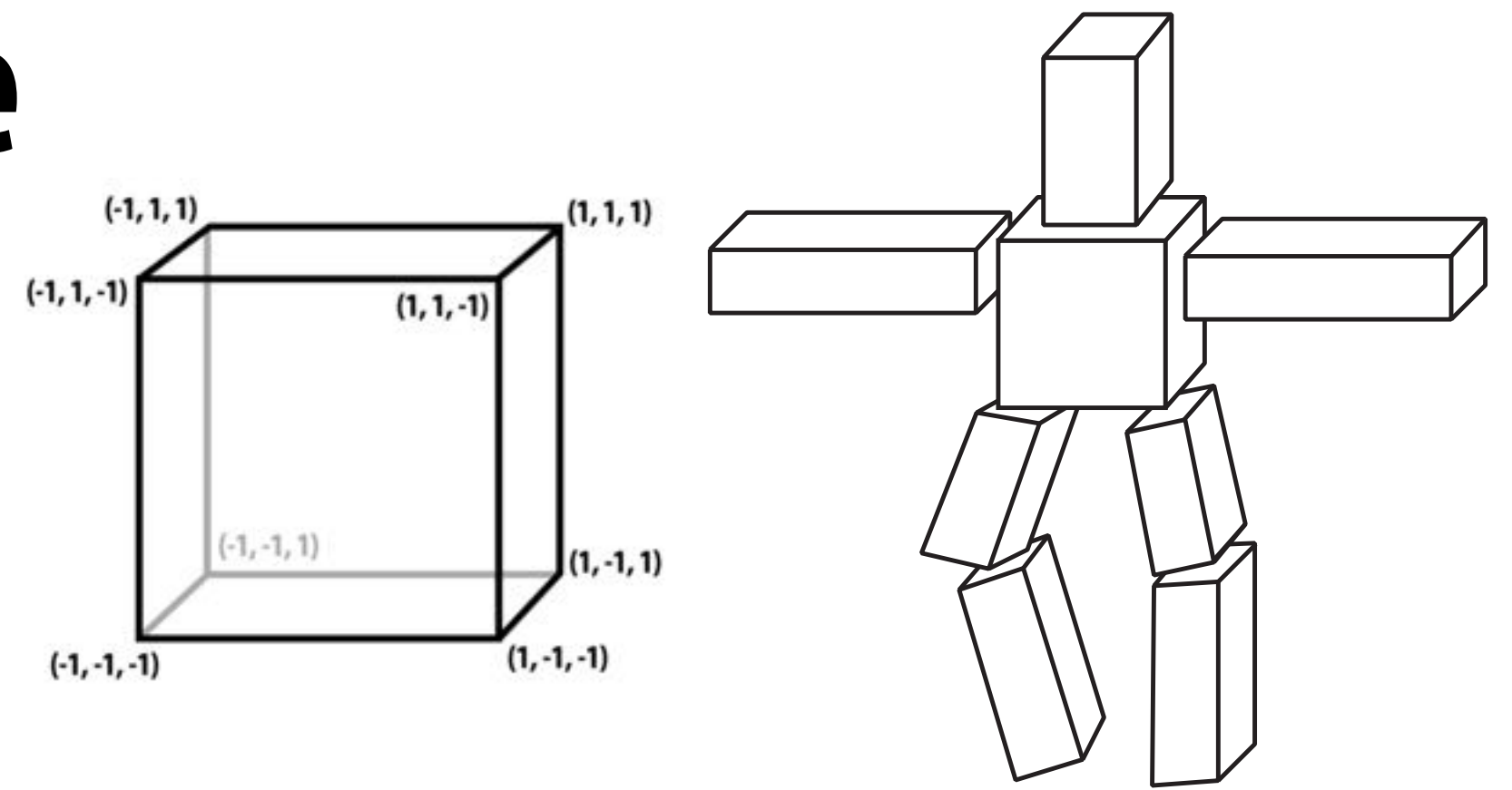


**Q: What happens if we just rotate without translating first?**



# Drawing a Cube Creature

- Let's put this all together: starting with our 3D cube, we want to make a 2D, perspective-correct image of a "cube creature"
- First we use our scene graph to apply 3D transformations to several copies of our cube
- Then we apply a 3D transformation to position our camera
- Then a perspective projection
- Finally we convert to image coordinates (and rasterize)
- ...Easy, right? :-)



# Spatial Transformations—Summary

**transformation defined by its invariants**

## basic linear transformations

scaling  
rotation  
reflection  
shear

## basic nonlinear transformations

translation  
perspective projection

linear when represented via homogeneous coords

homogeneous coords also distinguish points & vectors

## composite transformations

- **compose basic transformations to get more interesting ones**
- **always reduces to a single 4x4 matrix (in homogeneous coordinates)**
  - simple, unified representation, efficient implementation
- **order of composition matters!**
- **many ways to decompose a given transformation (polar, SVD, ...)**
- **use scene graph to organize transformations**
  - **use instancing to eliminate redundancy**

# Next time: 3D Rotations

