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# Realistic Image Synthesis

Philipp Slusallek  
Karol Myszkowski  
Gurprit Singh

# Personnel

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- Instructors:
  - Philipp Slusallek
    - <http://graphics.cg.uni-saarland.de/slusallek/>
  - Karol Myszkowski
    - <http://www.mpi-inf.mpg.de/~karol/>
  - Gurprit Singh
    - <http://people.mpi-inf.mpg.de/~gsingh/>
- Teaching Assistant:
  - Pascal Grittmann
- Secretary:
  - Hanna Loger

# Administrative Information

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- Type
  - Special topic lecture
  - Applied computer science (Praktische Informatik)
- ECTS
  - 9 credit points
- Prerequisites
  - Interest in mathematics, physics, programming
- Language
  - All lectures will be given in English
- Time and Location
  - Tuesday 8-10 & Friday, 10-12h, HS 01, E1.3
- Web-Page
  - <http://graphics.cg.uni-saarland.de/courses/>
  - Schedule, slides as PDF
  - Literature, assignments, other information
- Mailing list
  - Up-to-date information, exercise updates, etc...
  - Please also do not forget to sign up on LSF for the course

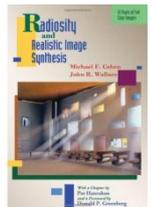
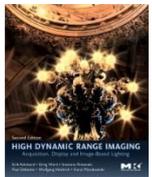
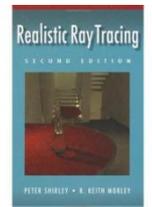
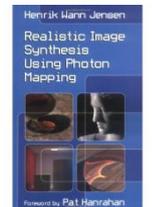
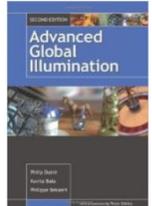
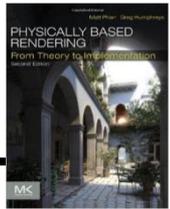
# Grading

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- Weekly assignments
  - Average of at least 50% of all assignments in the semester
  - Required for admission to final exam
  - Demonstrate your solution in exercise groups
- Practical assignments
  - Longer-term projects
  - Build your own physically-based renderer
- Final grade
  - Assignments: 50%
  - Final oral exam: 50%

# Textbooks

- Pharr & Humphreys, **Physically-Based Rendering: From Theory to Implementation**, Morgan Kaufmann, **3rd Edition (Dec 2016)**
- Dutre, Bekaert, Bala, **Advanced Global Illumination**, A.K. Peters, 2006, **2nd Edition**.
- Jensen, **Realistic Image Synthesis Using Photon Mapping**, A.K. Peters, 2005, **2nd Edition**.
- Shirley & Morley, **Realistic Ray Tracing**, A.K. Peters, 2003, **2nd Ed.**
- Reinhard, Ward, Pattanaik, Debevec, Heidrich, Myszkowski, **High Dynamic Range Imaging**, Morgan Kaufmann Publish.,2010,**2nd Ed.**
- Cohen & Wallace, **Radiosity and Realistic Image Synthesis**, Academic Press, 1993.
- Apodaca & Gritz, **Advanced Renderman: Creating CGI for the Motion Pictures**, Morgan Kaufmann, 1999.
- Glassner, **Principles of Digital Image Synthesis**, 2 volumes, Morgan Kaufman, 1995.
- Iliyan Georgiev, **Path Sampling Techniques for Efficient Light Transport Simulation**, PhD Thesis, Saarland University, 2015



# Ingredients for Realistic Images

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- *Shape* (Geometry)
  - Objects in our scene: surfaces, volumes, points, ...
- *Material* of surfaces & volumes
  - Places of interaction of light with matter
    - Reflection, refraction, scattering, absorption, ...
  - Applied to shapes (“shaders”)
- *Light sources*
  - Sources of light
    - Position, color, directional characteristics, ...
  - Applied to shapes or independent (“light shaders”)
- *Camera*
  - Sensor that captures the light from the scene
    - Lenses, shutter & film; also surfaces can be sensors: e.g. light maps
- **Simulation of Light Propagation**
  - Computing the distribution of light at the sensor (and thus in scene)

# Motivation

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- Goal: Create images on the computer that are
  - Indistinguishable from reality
    - “(Photo-)Realistic rendering” or “Predictive rendering”
    - Must understand human perception
  - That convey specific information
    - “Visualization” or “non-photorealistic rendering (NPR)”
- Applications
  - Industrial design
  - Movies and games
  - Architecture and 3D geospatial data
  - Cultural heritage
- Holy Grail: “Digital Reality”
  - Provide simulated reality that feels “real” – for humans & machines
  - All optical (acoustic, haptic, ...) features one would perceive in reality
  - Truly convincing real-time simulated reality (aka “Holo-Deck”)
  - Models allow computers (AI) to understand the world around us

# Applications

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- Entertainment Industry: Special effects for motion pictures



# Applications

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- Entertainment Industry: Special effects for motion pictures

Ready Player One [© Warner Bros. Pictures]



# Applications

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- Entertainment Industry: Special effects for motion pictures

Guardians of the Galaxy 2 [© Marvel Studios]



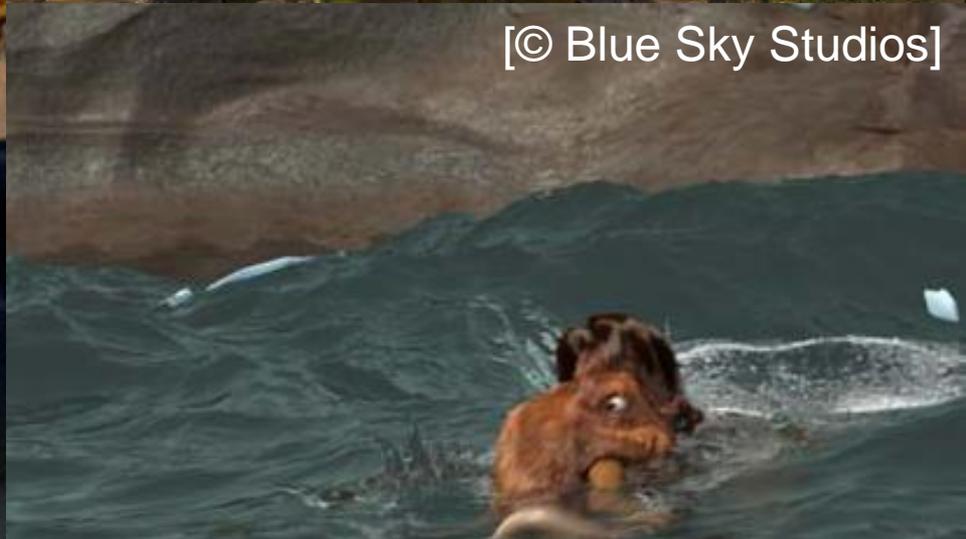
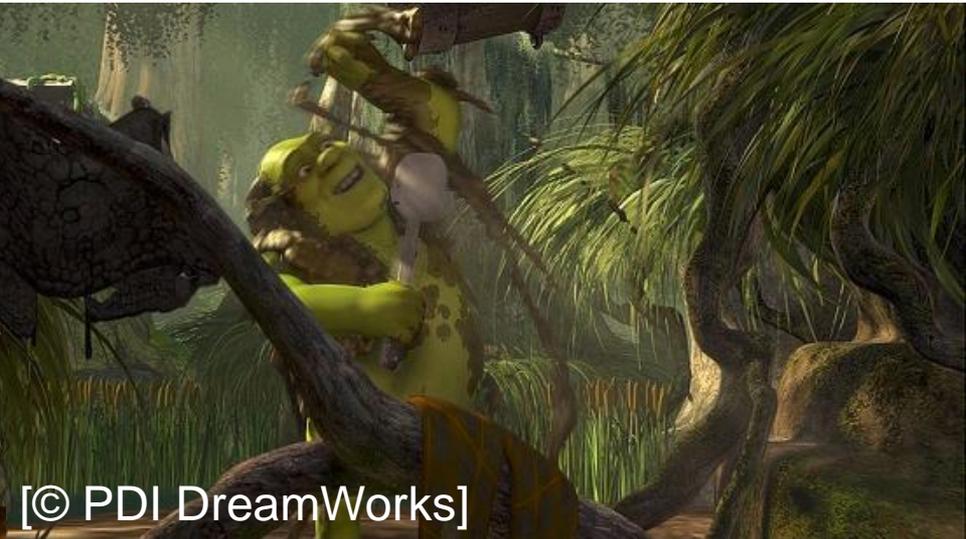
Avengers: Infinity War [© Marvel Studios]



# Applications

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- Entertainment Industry: Animated films



# Applications

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- Entertainment Industry: Animated films

Toy story 4 [© Pixar]



Coco [© Pixar]



How to train your dragon [© DreamWorks]



Big Hero 6 [© Disney]



# Applications

- Entertainment Industry: Video games



# Applications

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- Entertainment Industry: Video games

Shadow of the Tomb Raider [© Crystal Dynamics]



Metro Exodus [© 4A Games]

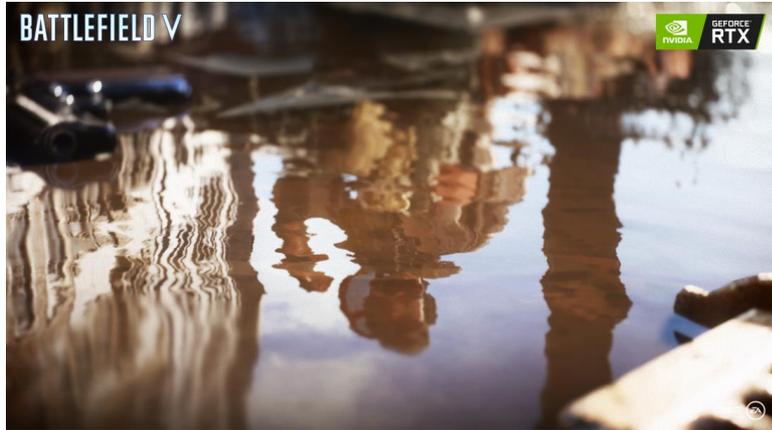


# Applications

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- Entertainment Industry: Video games

Battlefield V [© EA DICE]



Quake 2 RT remake



# Applications

- Simulation & Augmented Reality



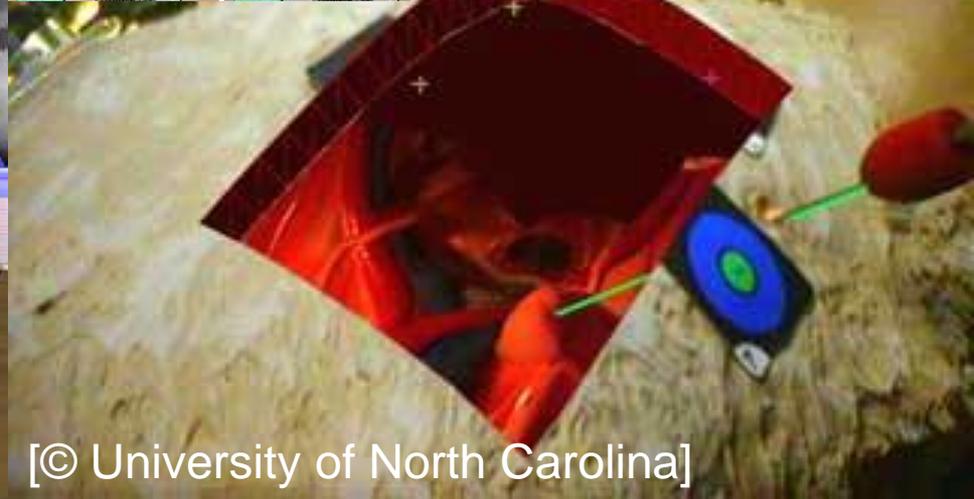
[© NASA]



[© Renault]



[© ENIB]

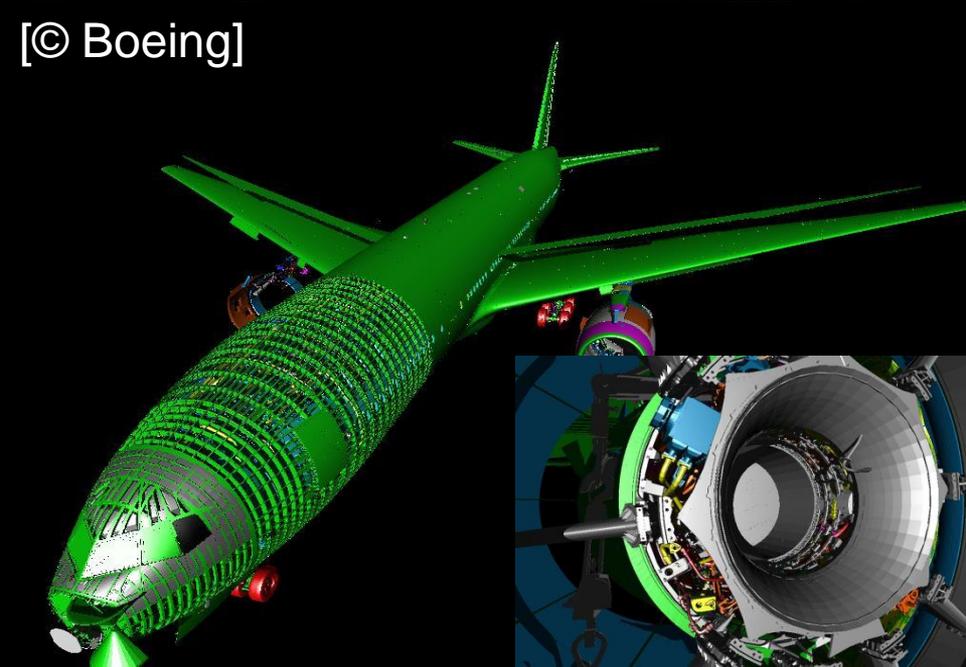


[© University of North Carolina]

# Applications

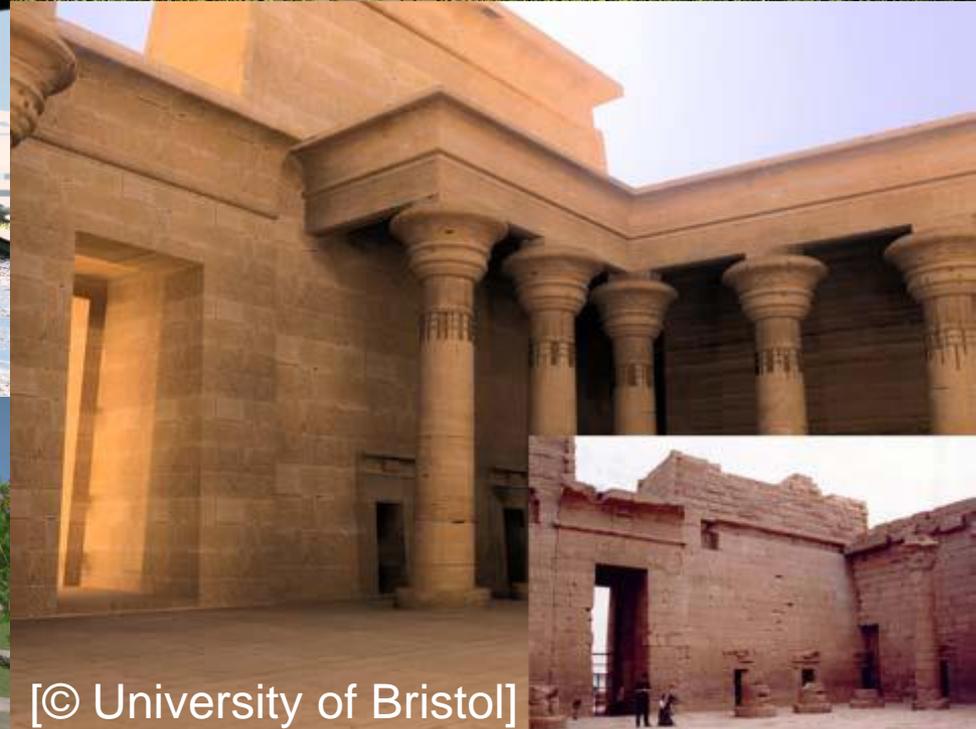
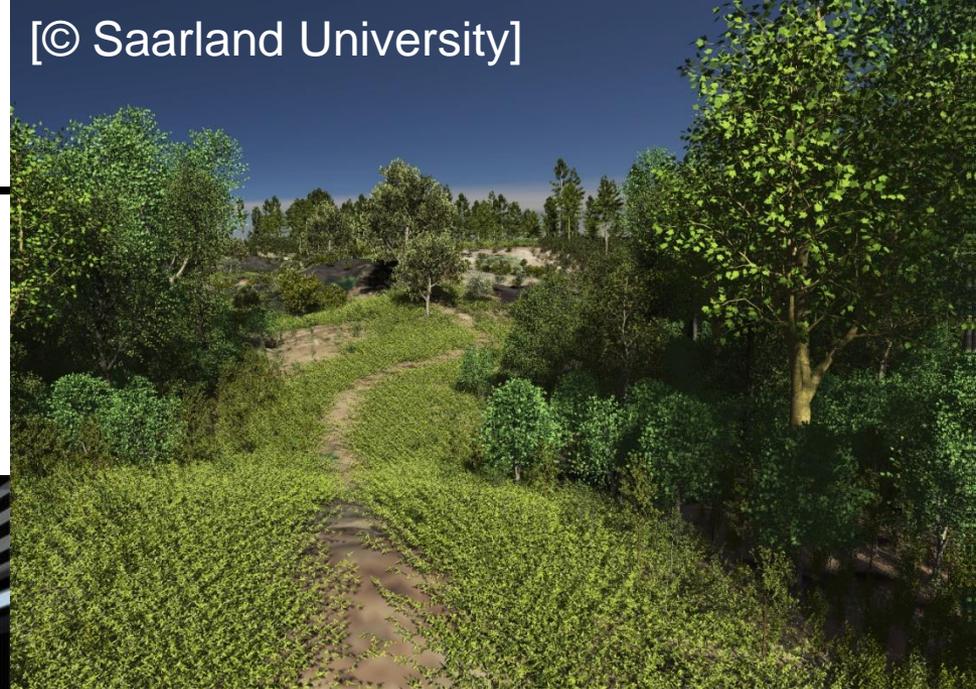
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- Industrial Design & Engineering: Automotive / Aerospaceal



# Applications

- Architectural / Interior Design
- Landscape / Urban Planning
- Archeological Reconstruction



# Syllabus

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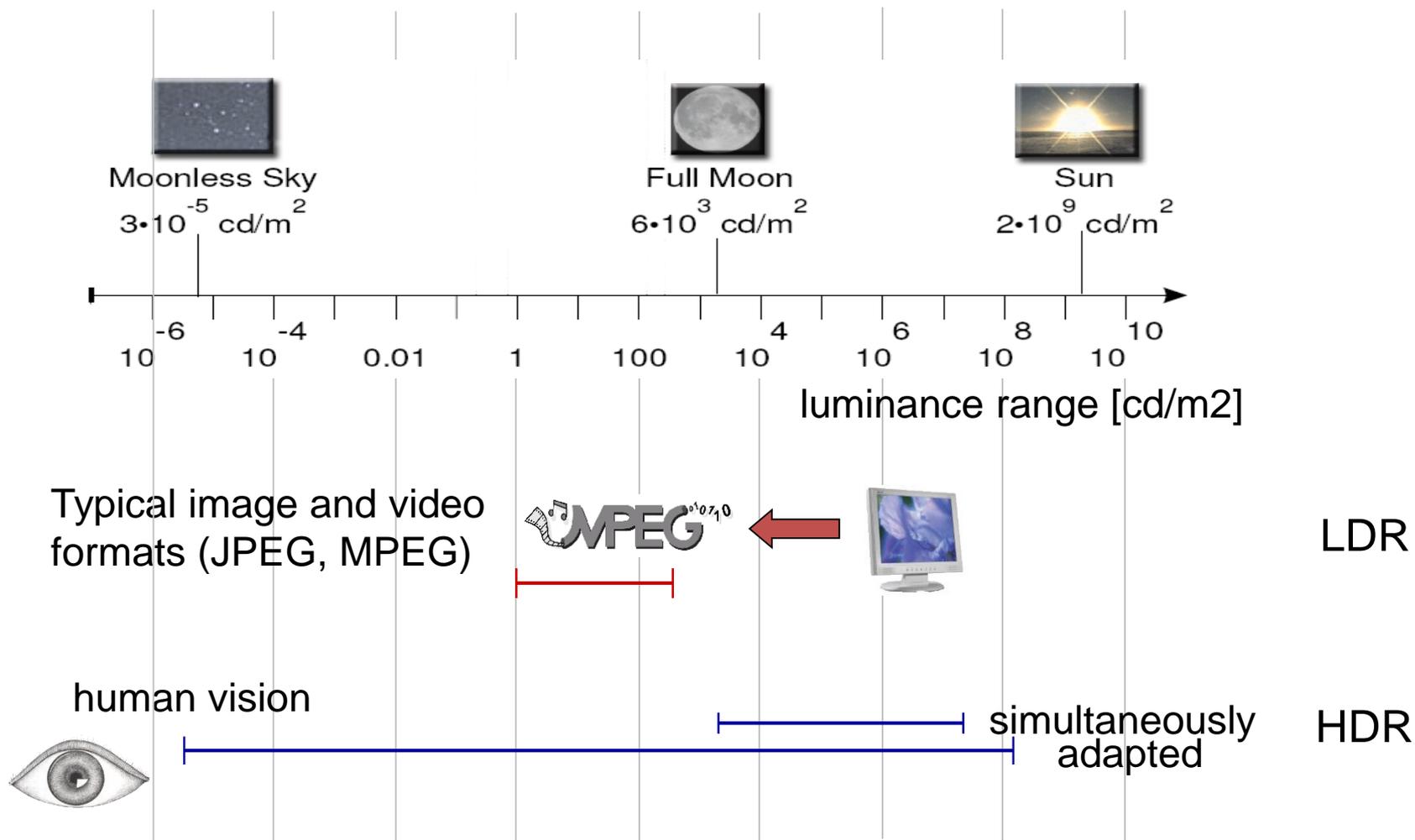
- Rendering Equation
- Finite Elements/Radiosity
- Perception, HDR Imaging, Tone Mapping
- Perception-based Rendering & Display Limitations
- Probability Theory & Monte-Carlo (MC) Integration
- Sampling & Reconstruction
- Spatio-Temporal Sampling, Temporal Filtering
- BRDF & Path Tracing
- Density Estimation, Photon Mapping, Merge with MC
- BiDir Tracing & MCMC
- Volume Techniques
- Interactive GI & HW-Support for Rendering and Lighting

# Research From Saarbrücken

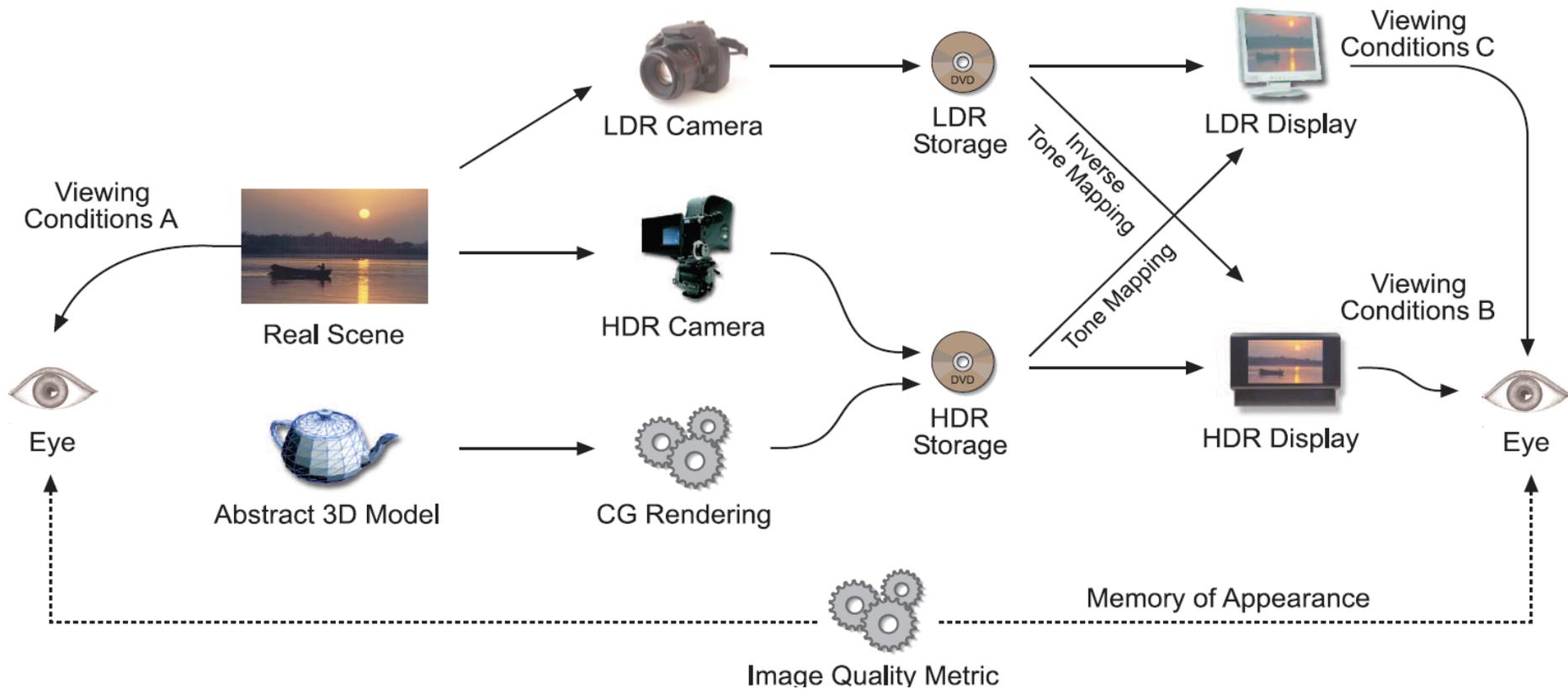
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- Some examples

# High Dynamic Range (HDR) Imaging



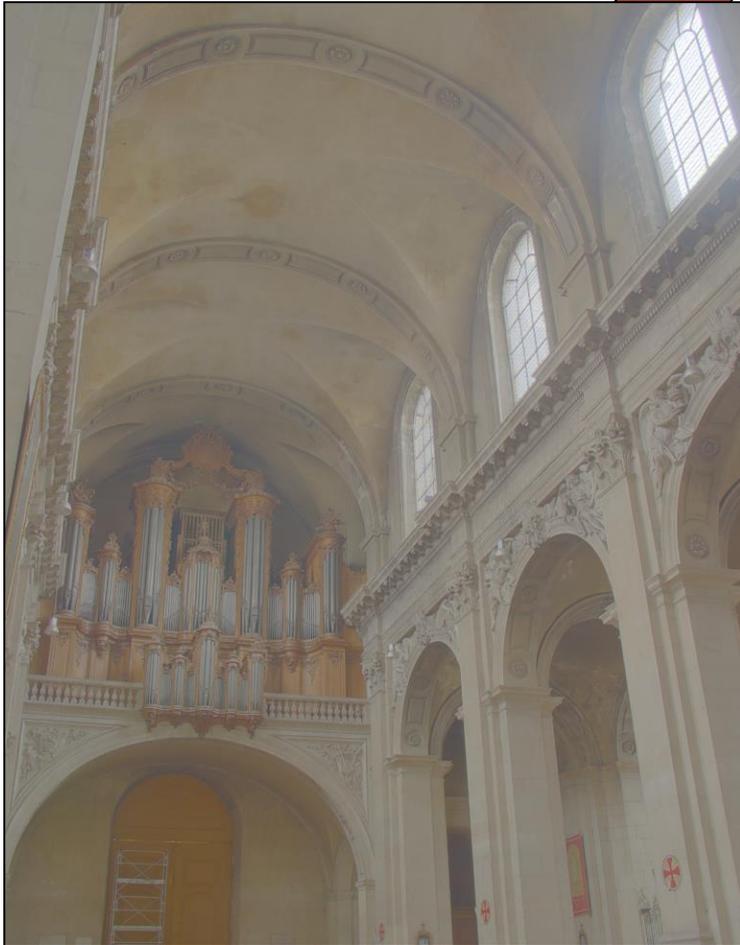
# HDR Imaging Pipeline



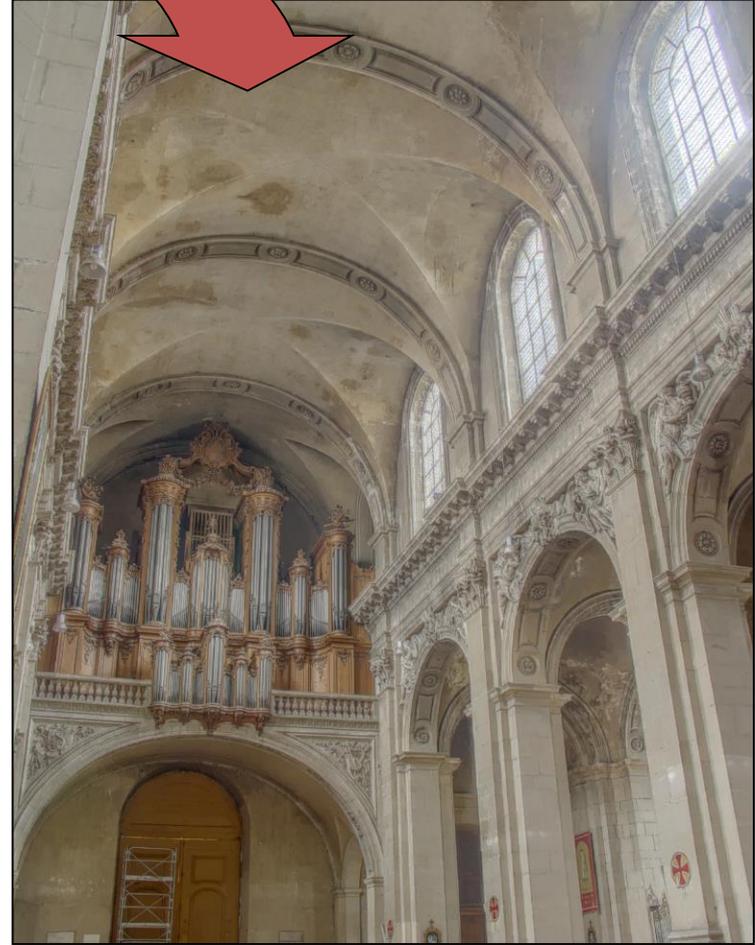
# Tone Mapping

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Naïve  
non-linear compression



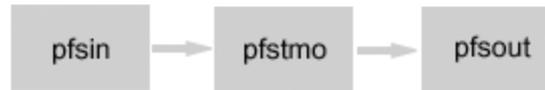
Advanced  
contrast perception model



# MPI HDR Software

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**PFSTools**  
For High Dynamic Range Images and Video



<http://pfstools.sourceforge.net/>

**PFStmo**

tone mapping operators

<http://www.mpii.mpg.de/resources/tmo/>

**PFScalibration**  
Photometric Calibration of HDR and LDR Cameras

<http://www.mpii.mpg.de/resources/hdr/calibration/pfs.html>

**HDR Visual Difference Predictor**

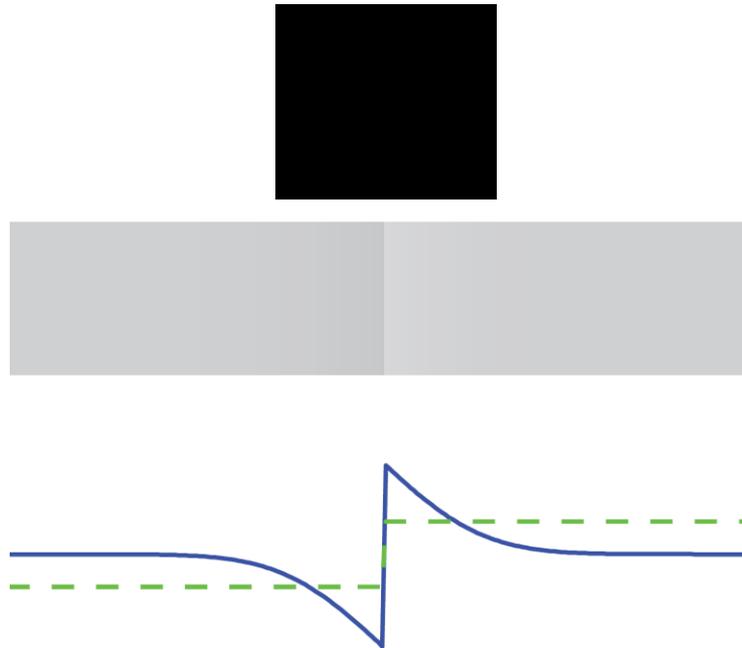


<http://www.mpi-sb.mpg.de/resources/hdr/vdp/index.html>

GPL License

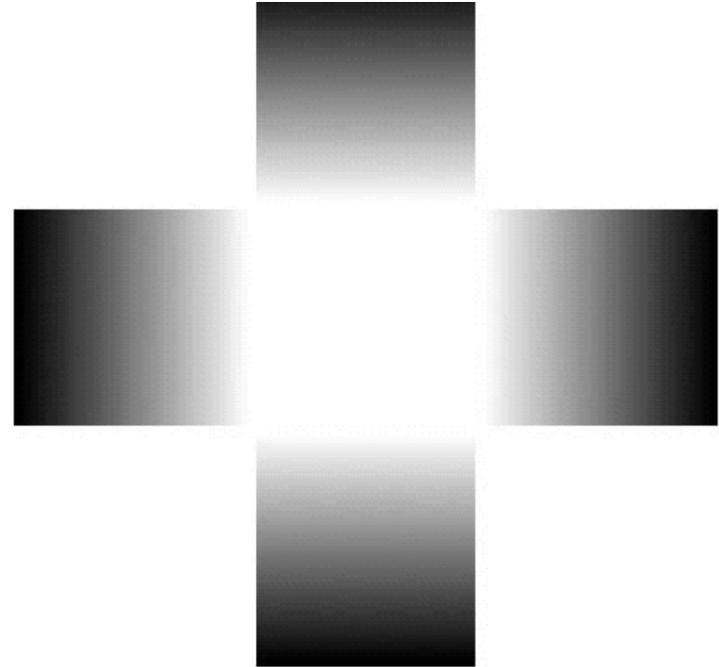
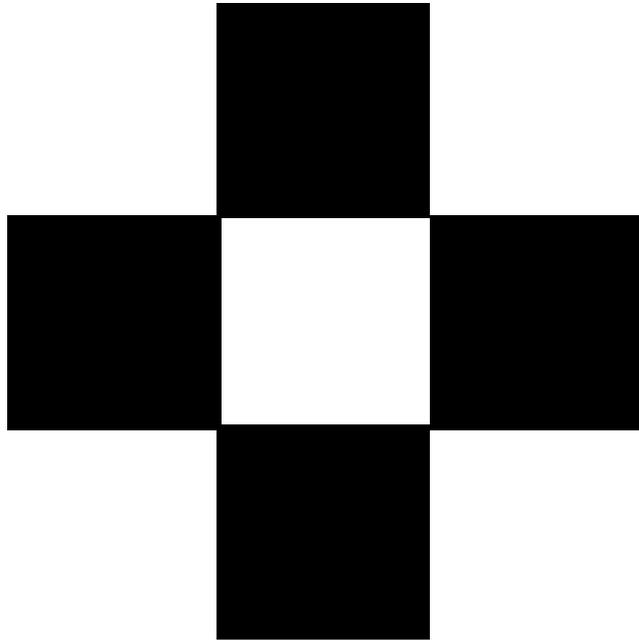
# Cornsweet Illusion

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# Glowing Effect

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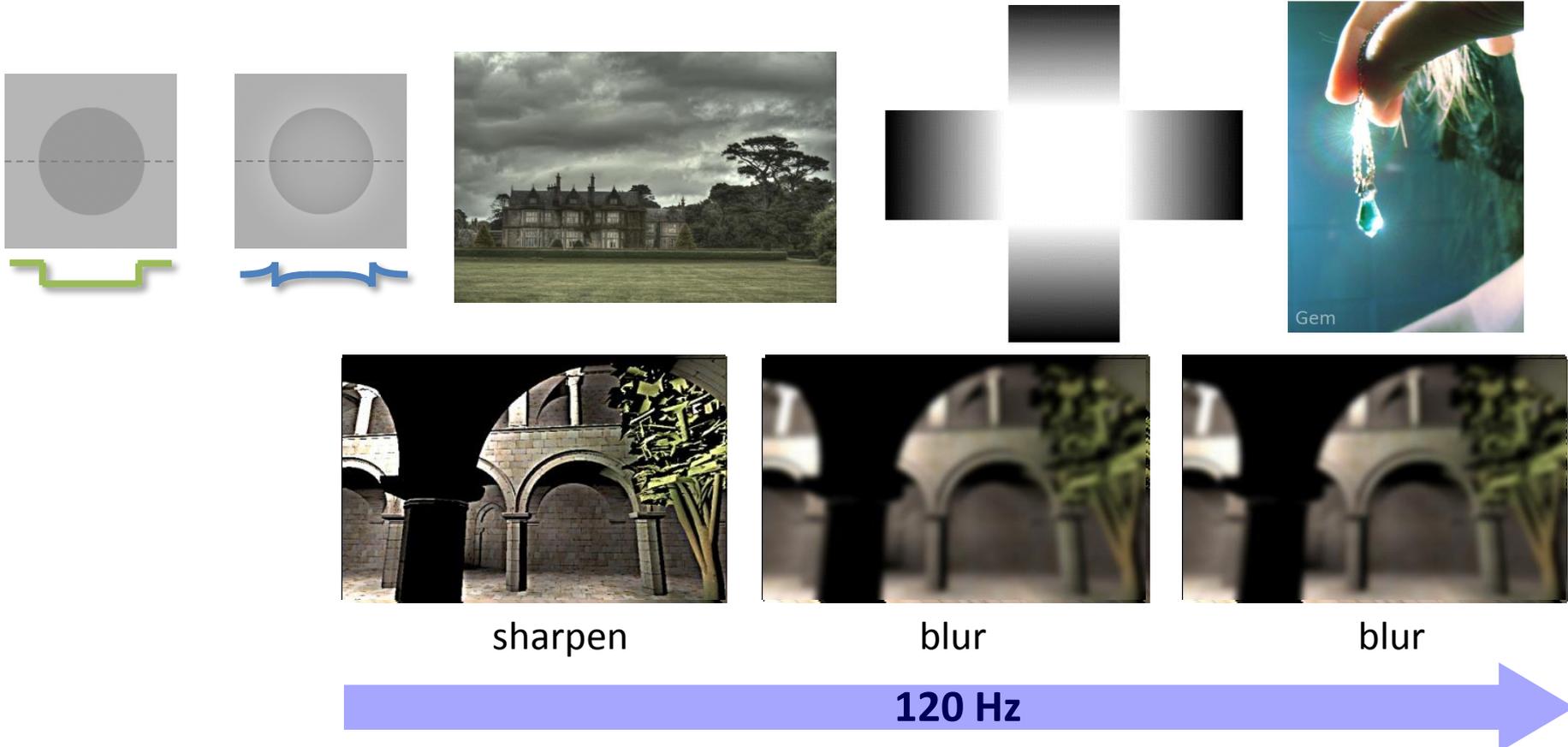


[Zavagno and Caputo 2001]

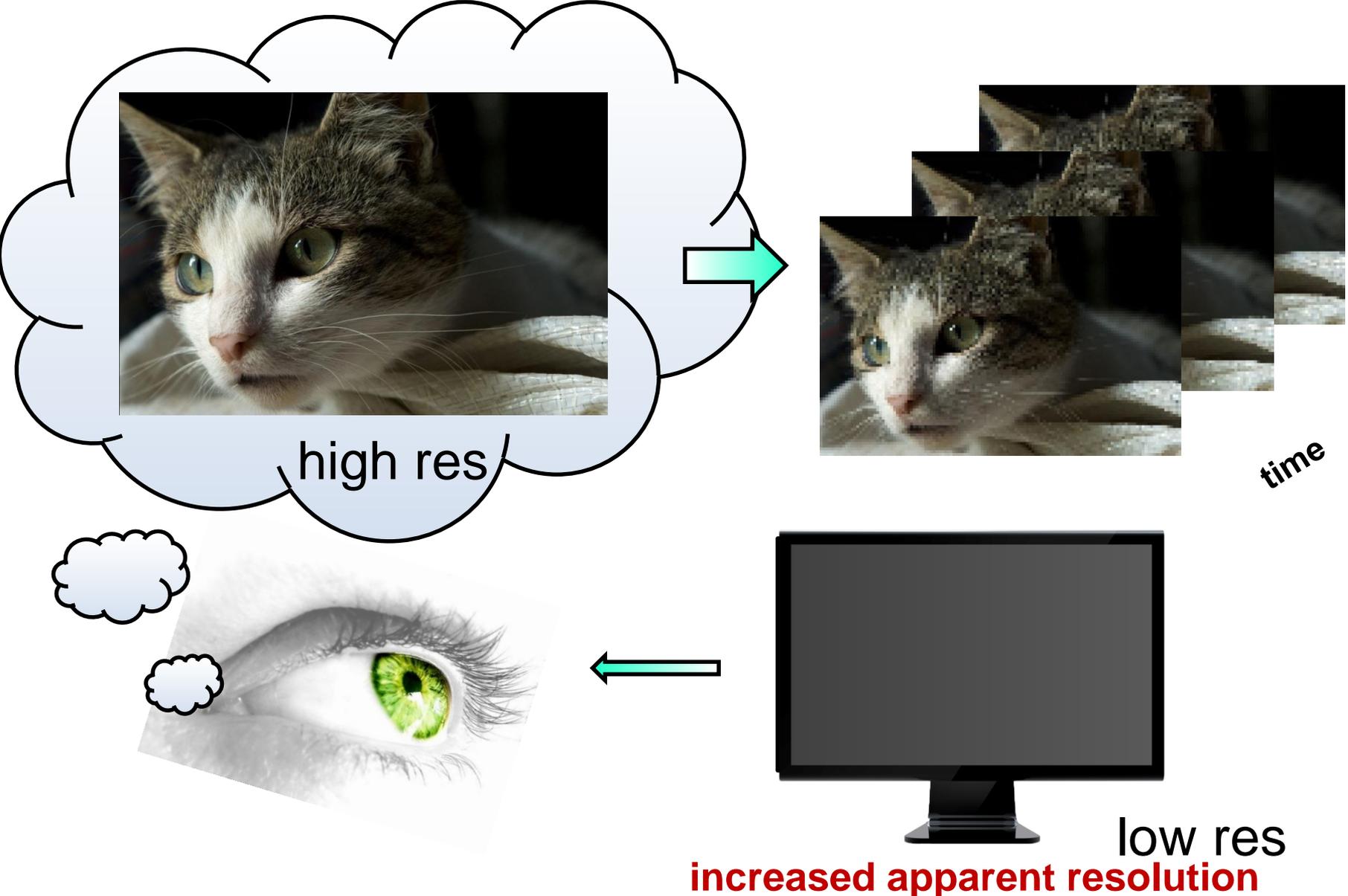
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# Overcoming Display Limitations

- Enhancing apparent (perceived) quality rather than improving technical aspects
- Take advantage of the visual system properties

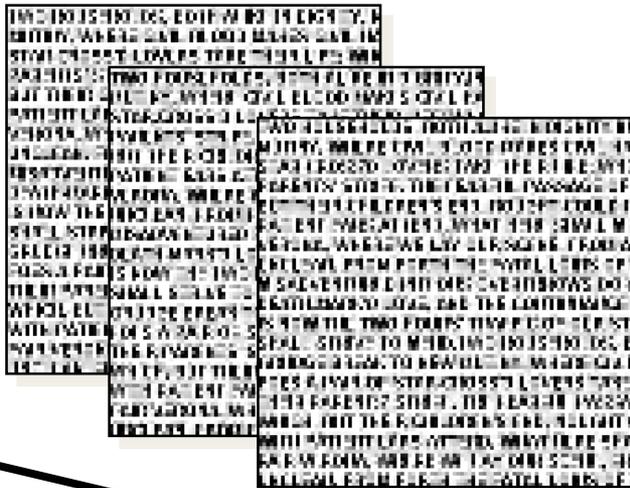


# Apparent Resolution Enhancement

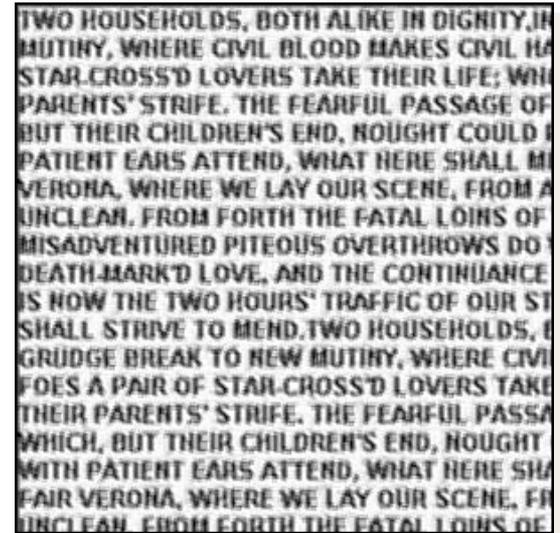


# Optimization Result

Display



Predicted image on the retina



integration



time



# 3D Image Retargeting

Input devices

Produce different depth ranges

Output devices

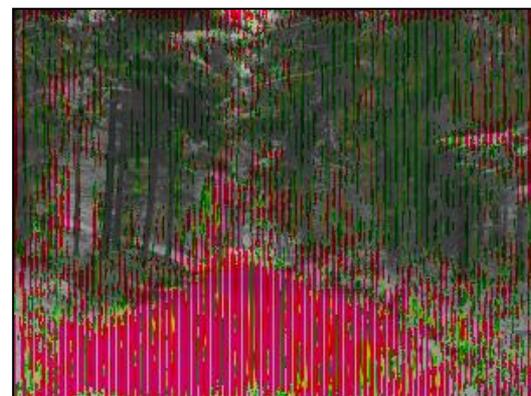
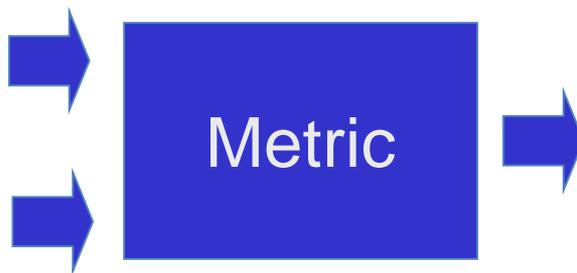
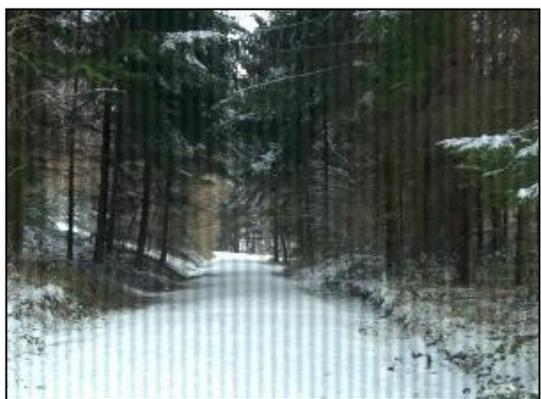
Reproduce different depth ranges



# Visible Difference Metric (VDP)

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- Can the human eye see the differences between two images?



# Dataset of Visible Distortions

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Compression



Mixed



[Čadík et al. 2012]

# Dataset of Visible Distortions

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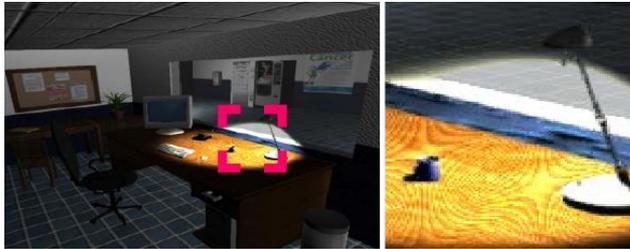
Peter Panning



Z-fighting



Shadow acne



Shadowmap downsampling



[Piórkowski et al. 2017]

# Dataset of Visible Distortions

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## Aliasing



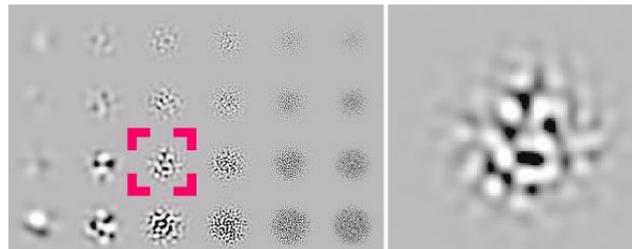
[Piórkowski et al. 2017]

## IBR



[Adhikarla et al. 2017]

## Perception patterns



[Čadík et al. 2013]

## Deghosting



[Karađuzović-Hadžiabdić et al. 2017]

# Dataset of Visible Distortions

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**145**

**SCENES**

**1-3**

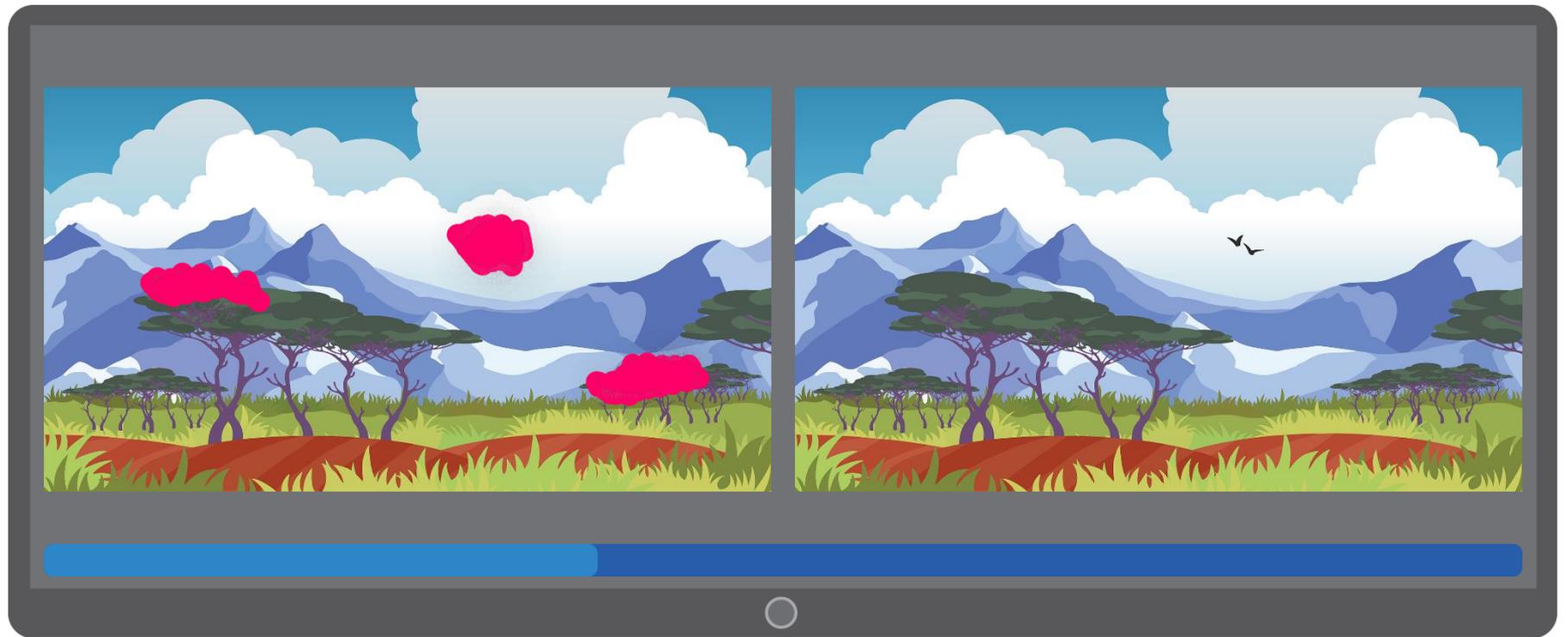
**LEVELS**

**296!**

**IMAGES**

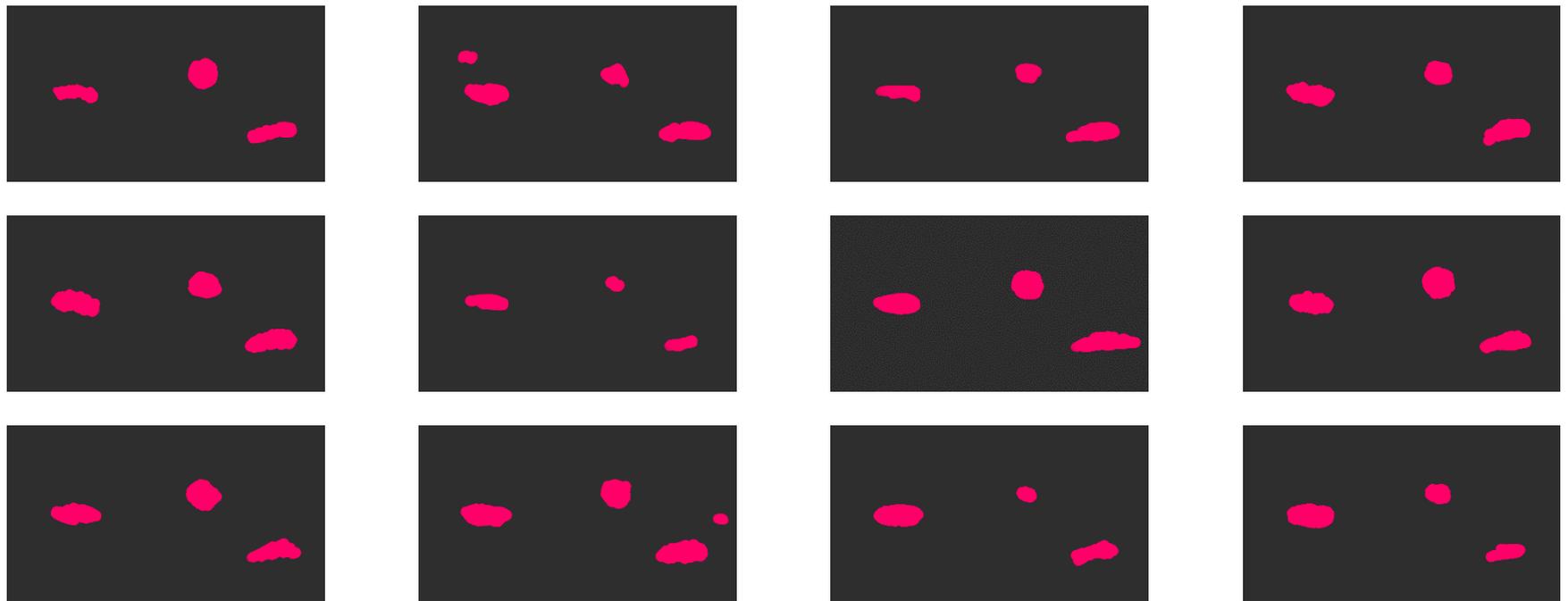
# Label Creation

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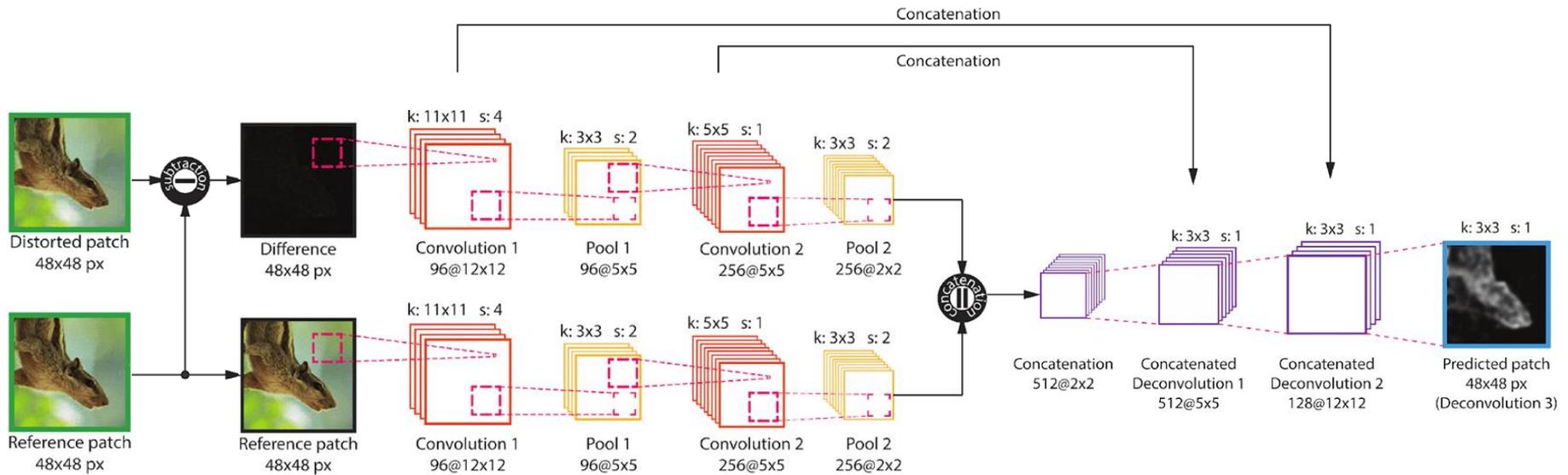


# Label Creation

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# Neural Network Architecture

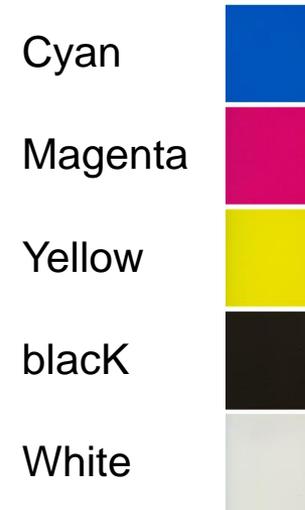


# Multi-material Printing

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Stratasys J750 (poly-jetting printer)



*Vero Opaque* materials  
(not actually opaque!)

# 3D Appearance Printing

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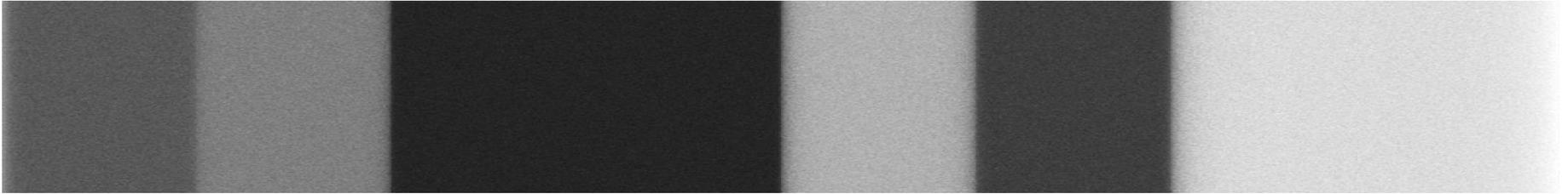


Goal: Visually Reducing Light Diffusion in the 3D Printed Material

# 3D Appearance Printing

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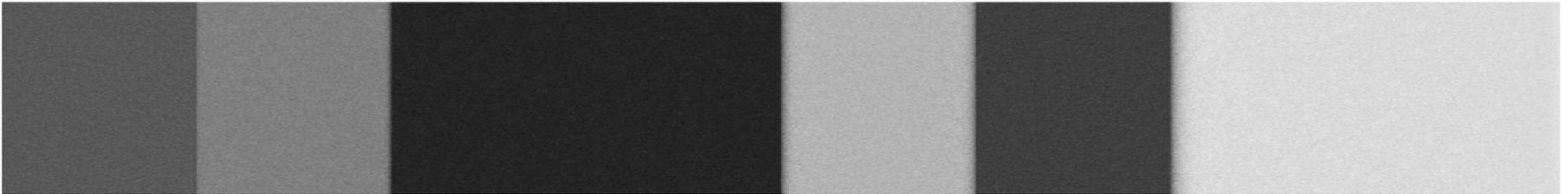
Without correction (MC simulation)



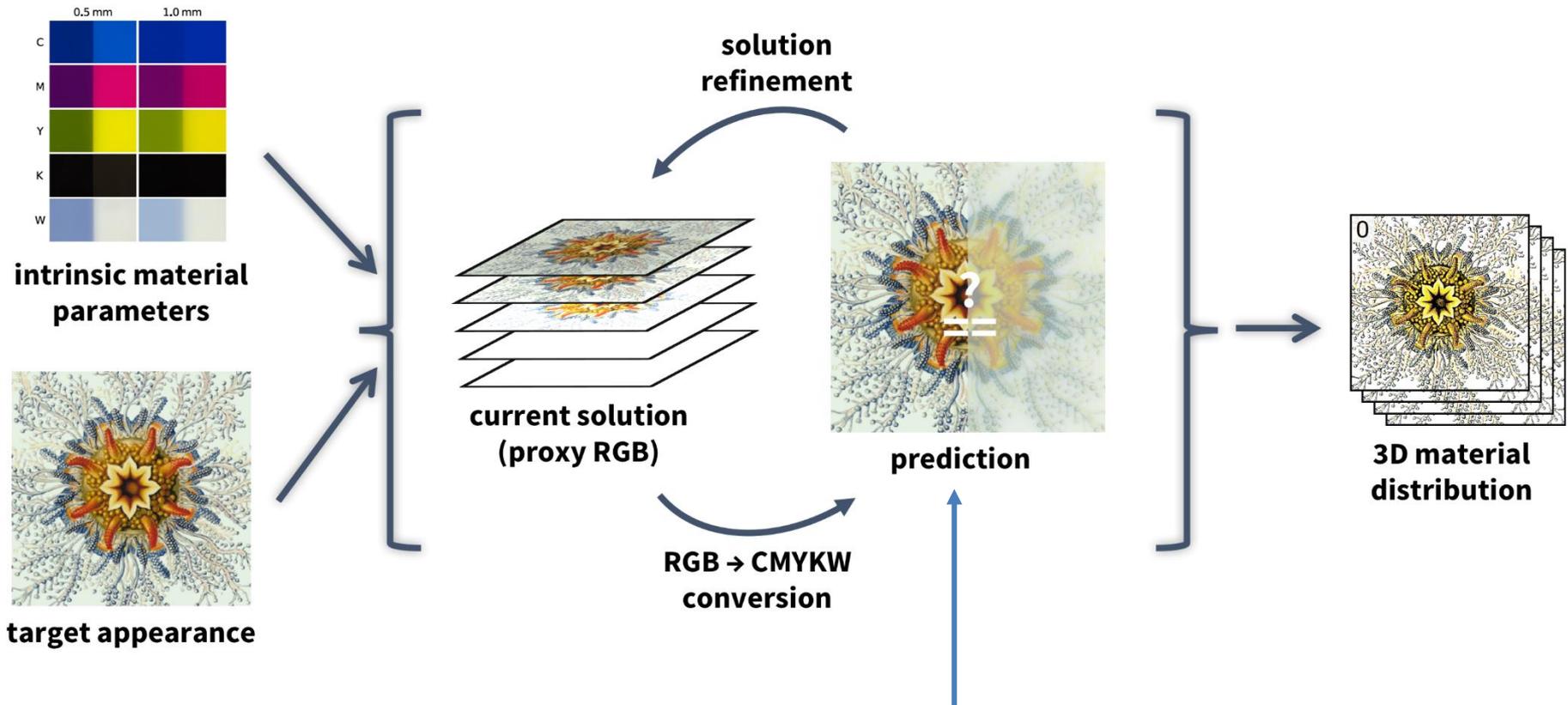
Target texture



With correction (MC simulation)

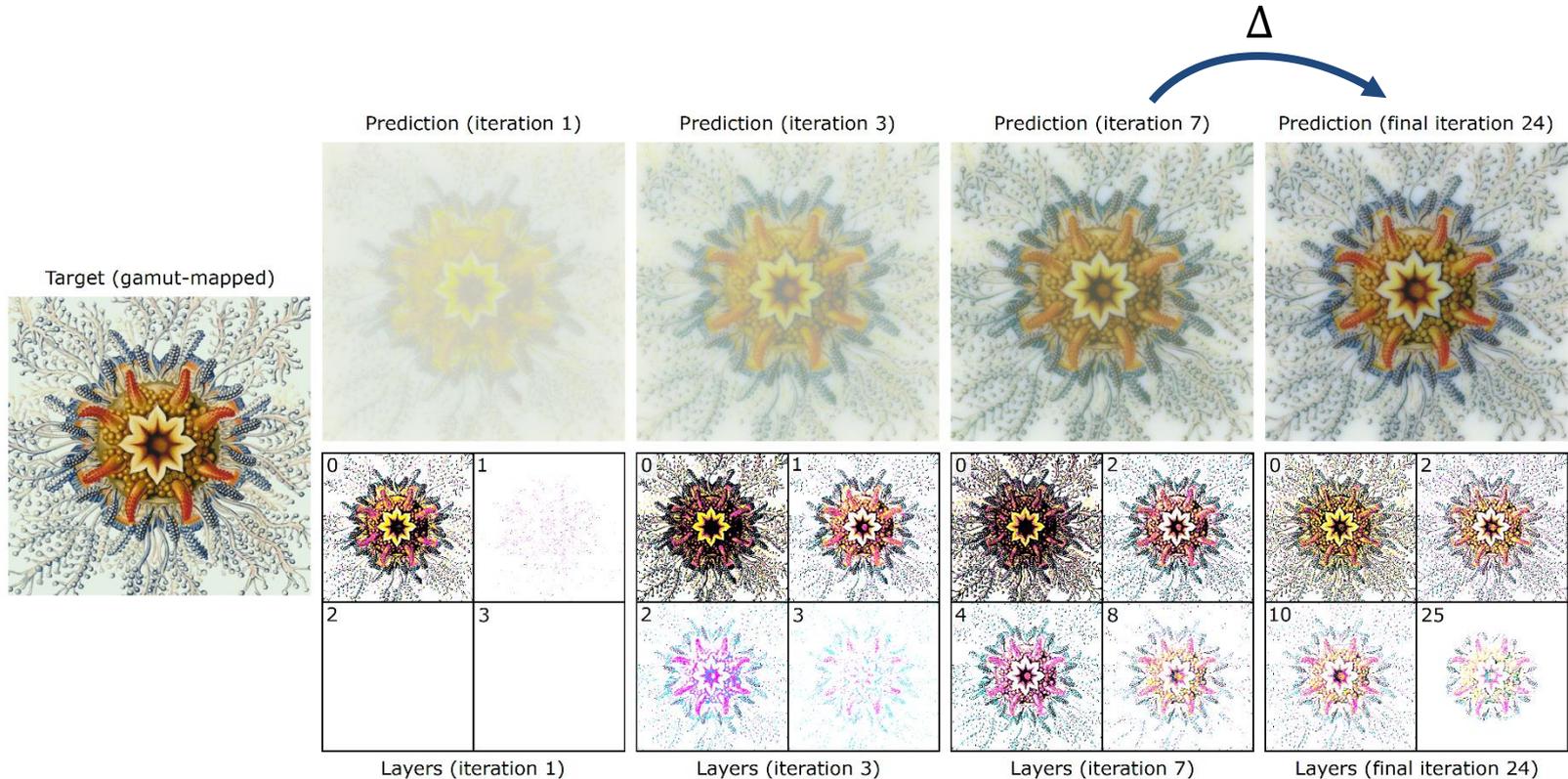


# 3D Appearance Printing



Volumetric MC global illumination simulation

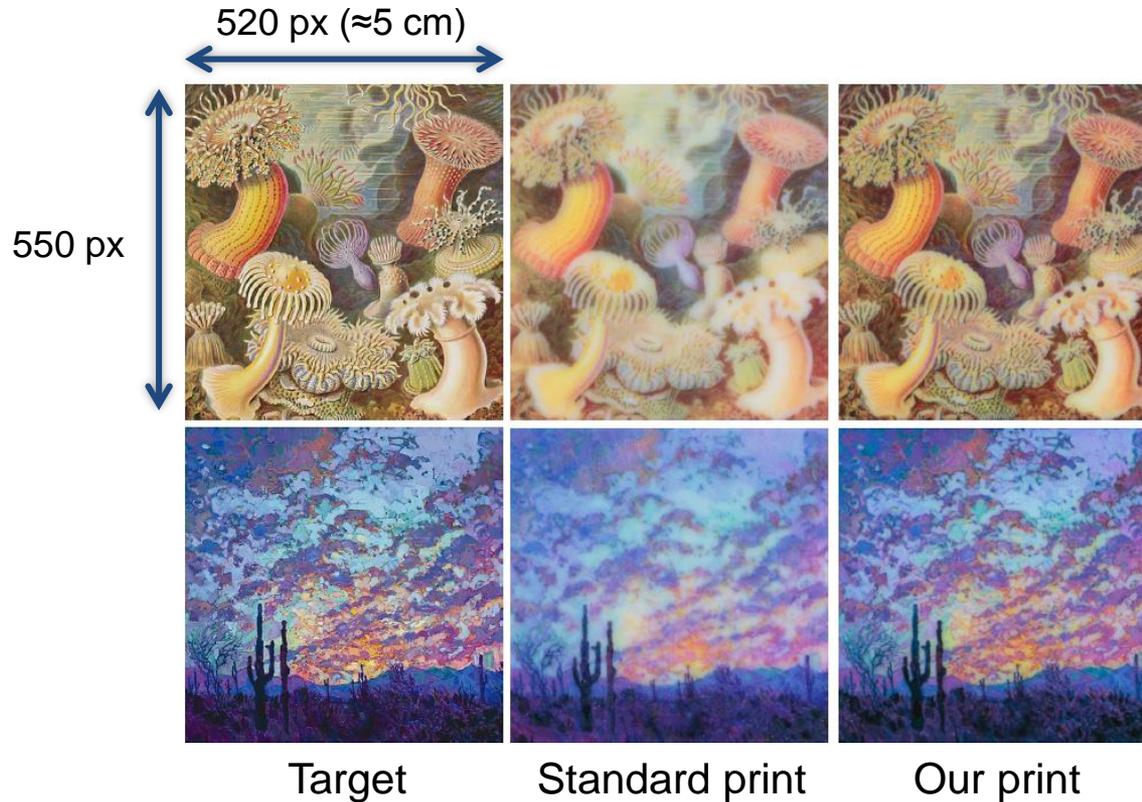
# 3D Appearance Printing



despite the non-linearity of the appearance, it changes monotonically  
→ simple residual energy minimization

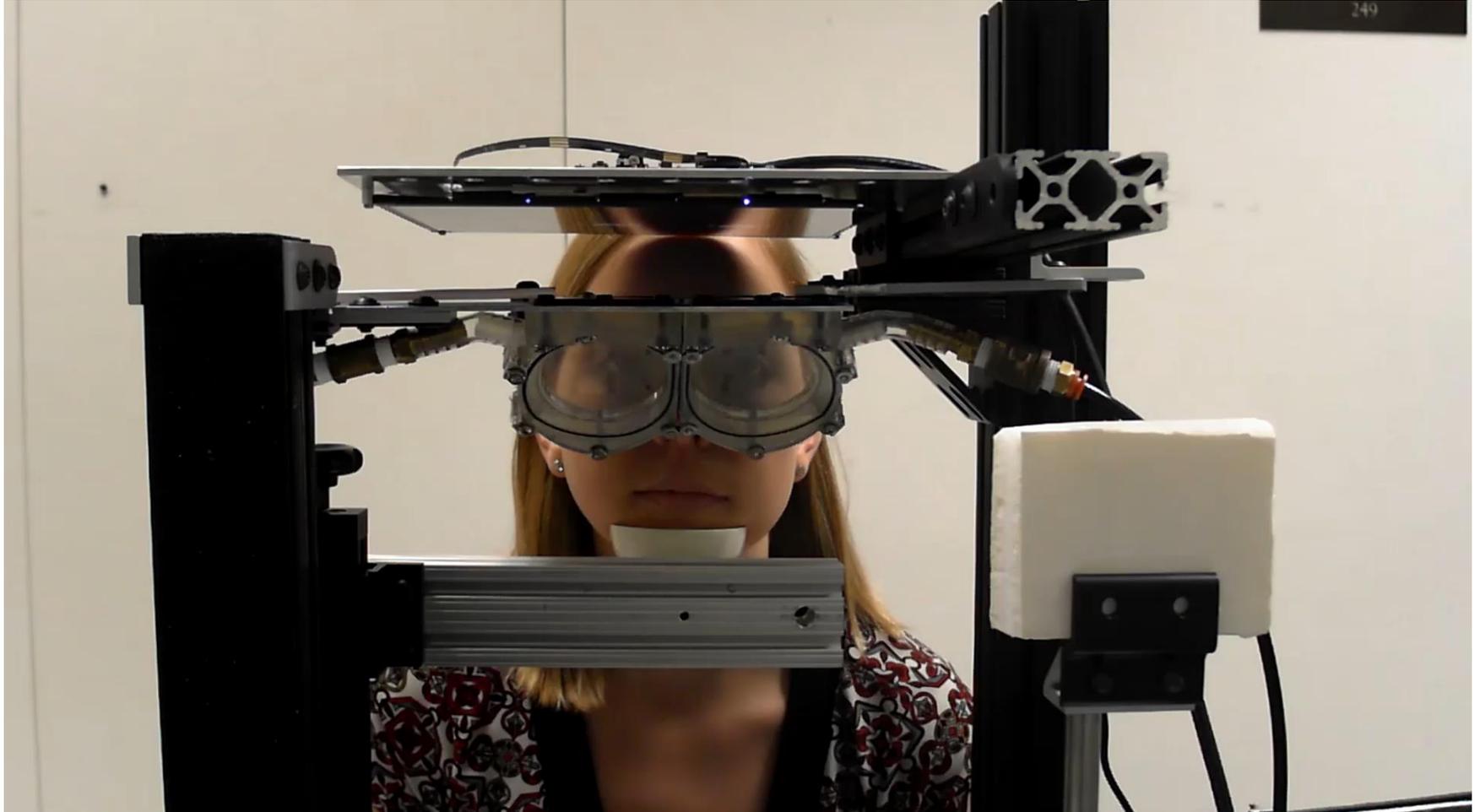
# 3D Appearance Printing

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# Varifocal Displays

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Membrane AR – Dunn et al.

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# Deformable Beamsplitter

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Dynamic focal depth: objects at any depth

Wide field of view

Optics are simple

Membrane AR – Dunn et al.

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# Deformable Beamsplitter

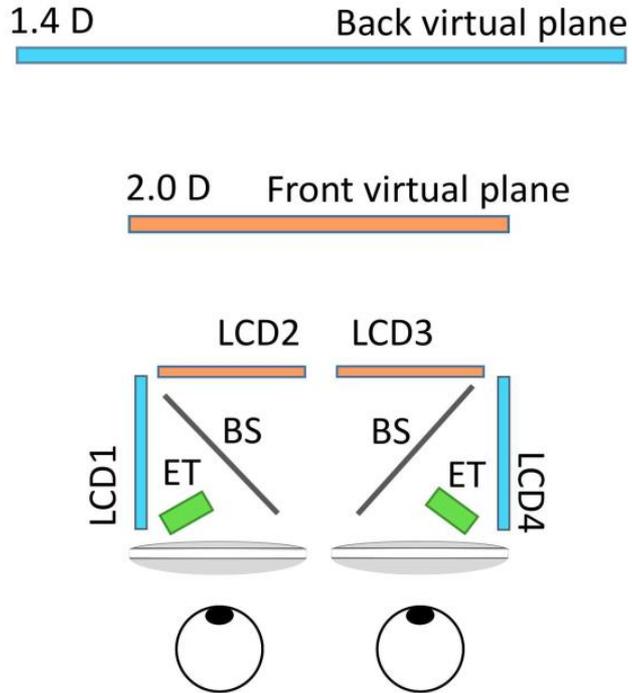
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Membrane AR – Dunn et al.

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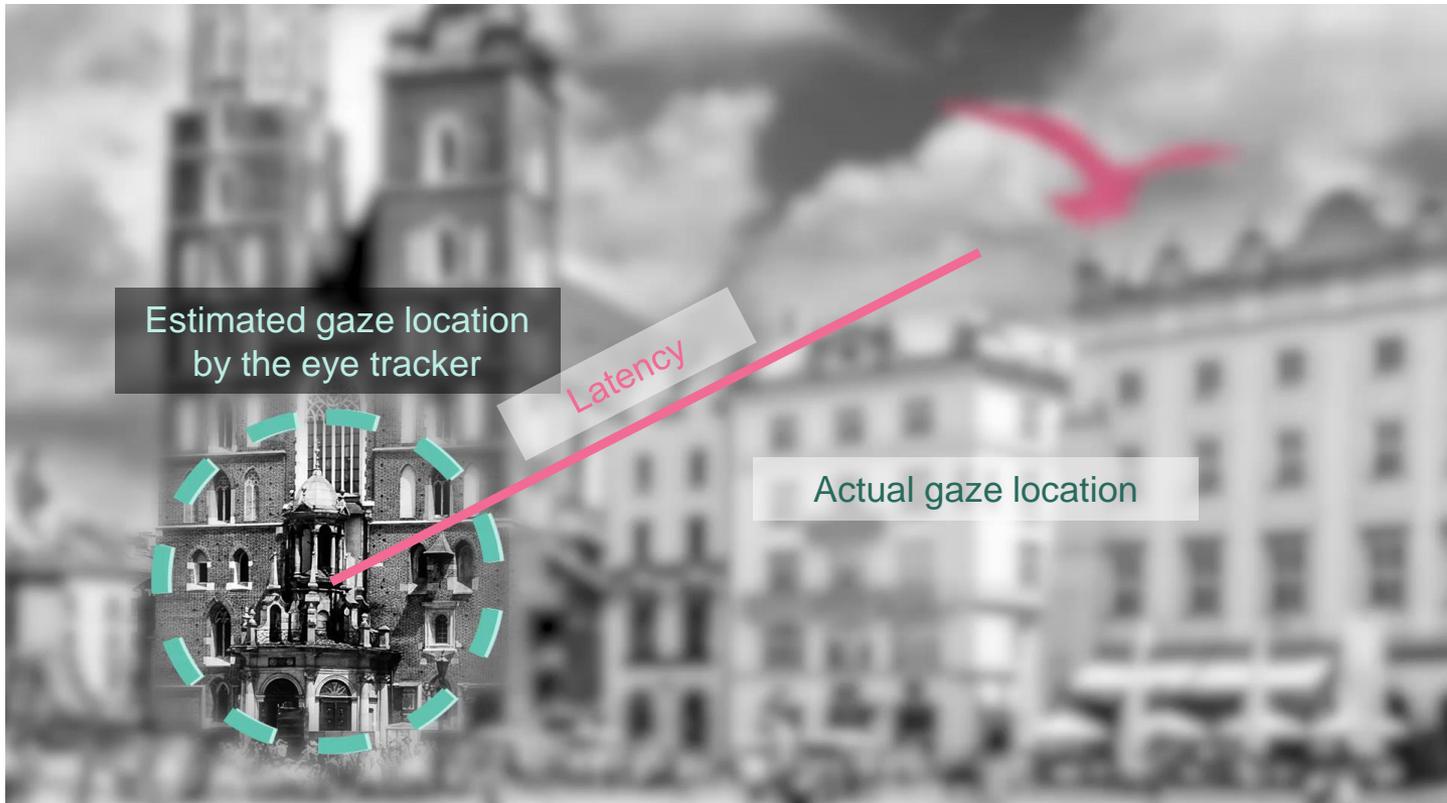
# Multi-focal Plane Display



15cpd, 40 deg, 1200x1200 pixels

# Saccade in Foveated Rendering

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Saccade Landing Position Prediction for Gaze-Contingent Rendering

# Saccade in Foveated Rendering

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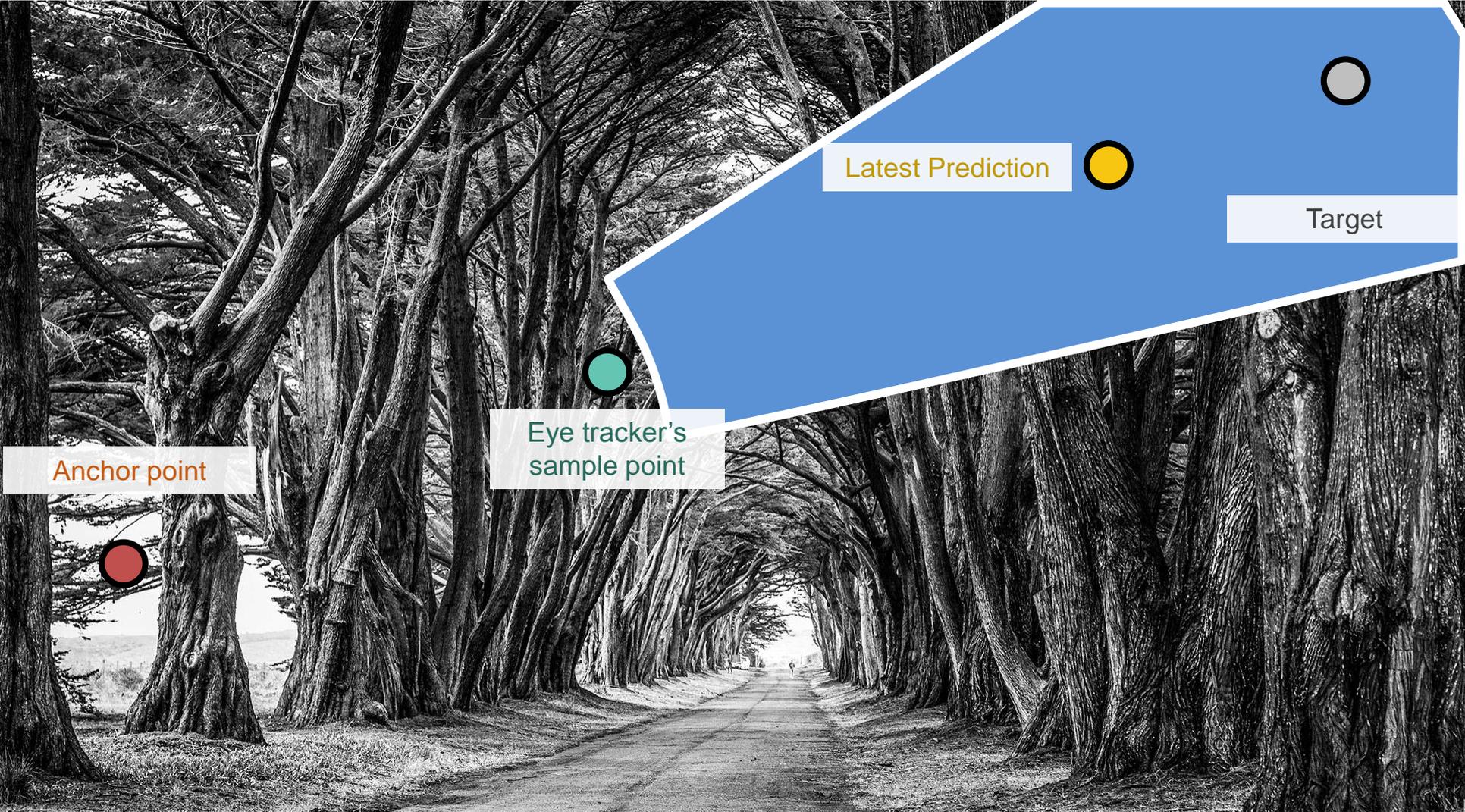


Saccade Landing Position Prediction for Gaze-Contingent Rendering

# Eye Tracking: Saccade Landing Prediction



# Eye Tracking: Saccade Landing Prediction



Anchor point

Eye tracker's  
sample point

Latest Prediction

Target

# Eye Tracking: Saccade Landing Prediction



Anchor point

Latest Prediction

Eye tracker's sample point

Target

# Eye Tracking: Saccade Landing Prediction



Anchor point



Latest Prediction



Eye tracker's sample point



Target

# Eye Tracking: Saccade Landing Prediction

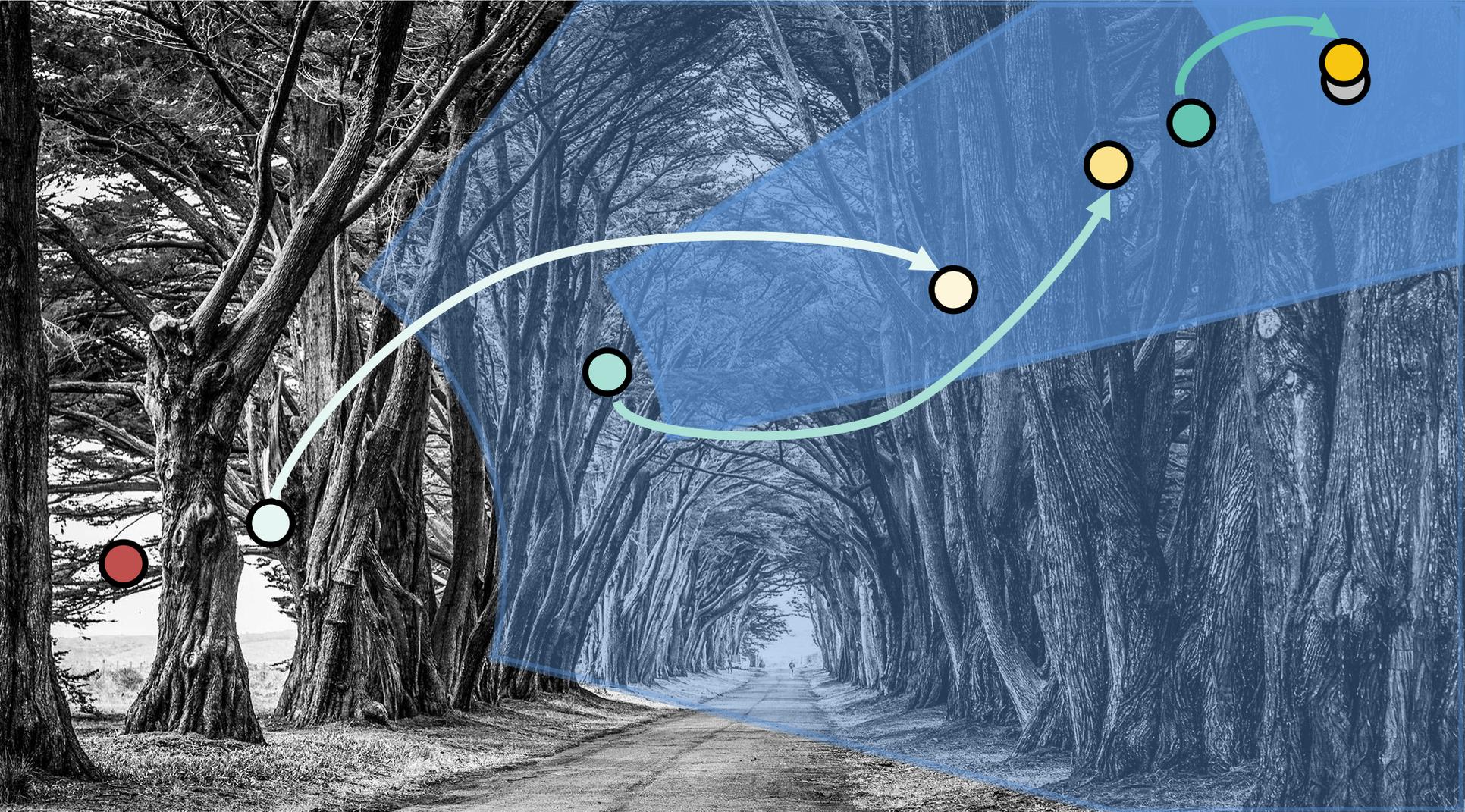


Anchor point

Eye tracker's  
sample point

Target

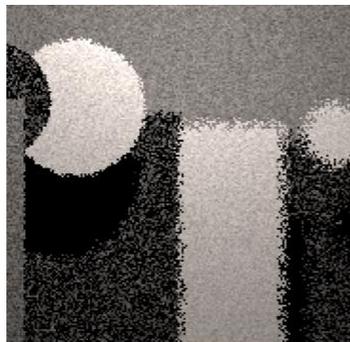
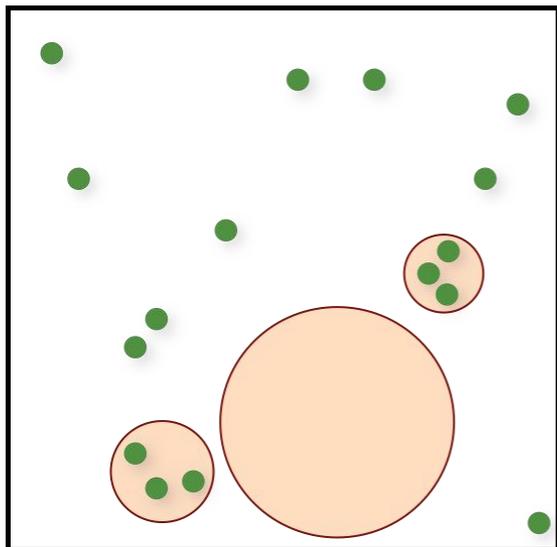
# Eye Tracking: Saccade Landing Prediction



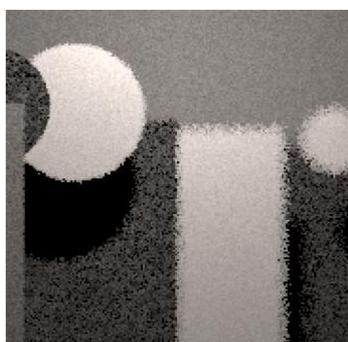
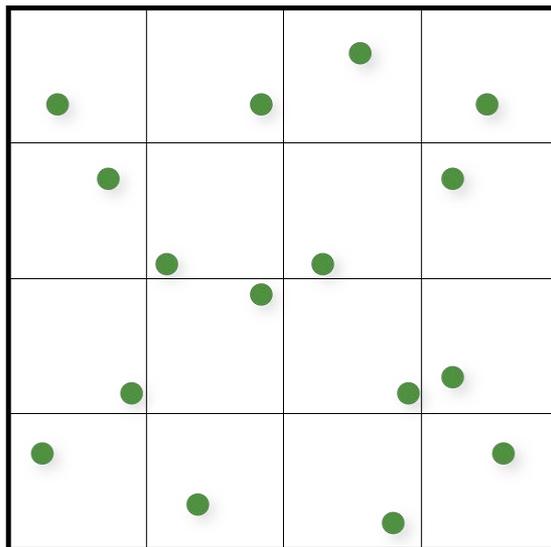
# Sampling Patterns

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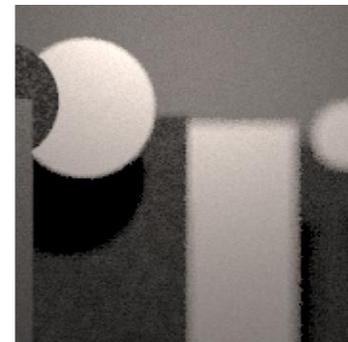
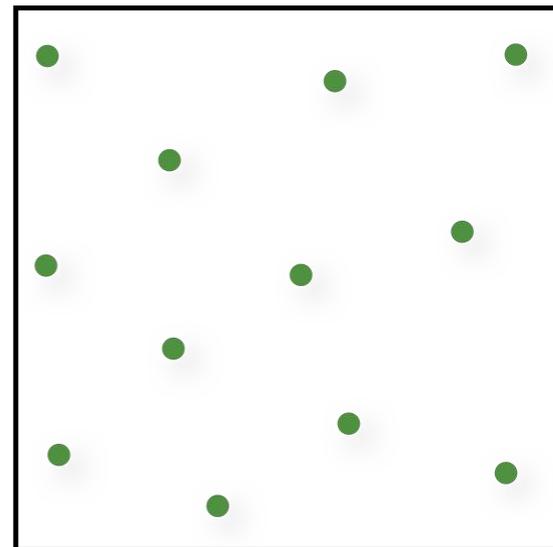
Random



Jitter



Poisson Disk



# Advanced Sampling

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How error in MC integration is affected by different sampling patterns?

Spatial domain statistics: Pair Correlation Function / Discrepancy

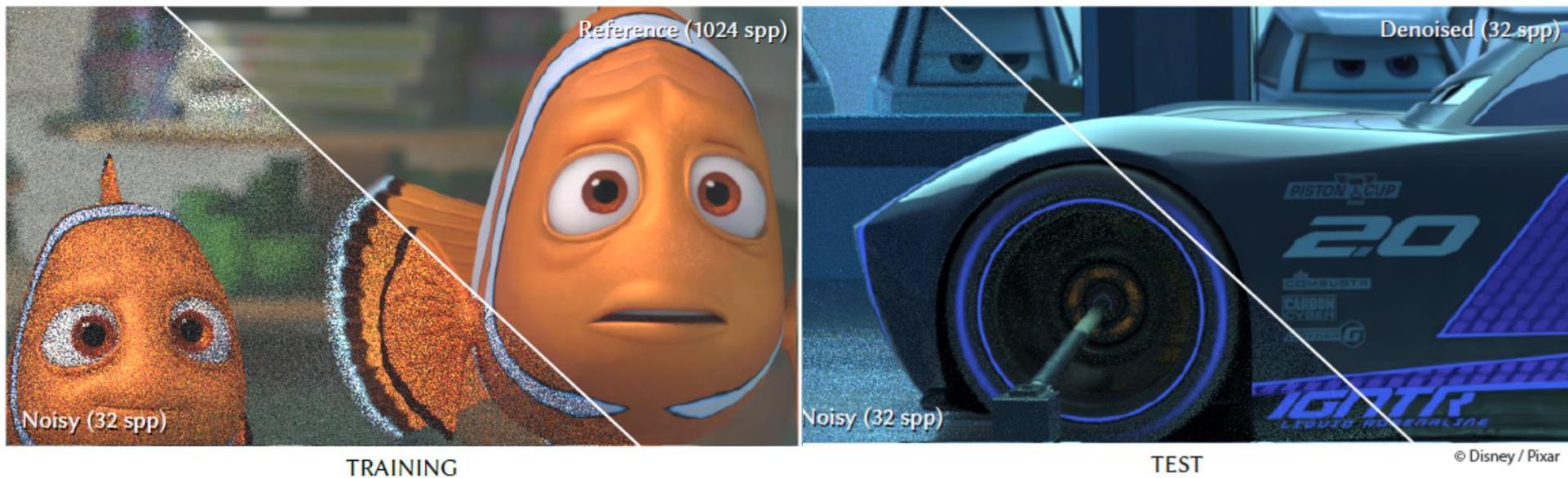
Fourier domain statistics

Define Error in terms of Spatial and Fourier domain statistics

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# Learn to Render: Path to Neural Networks

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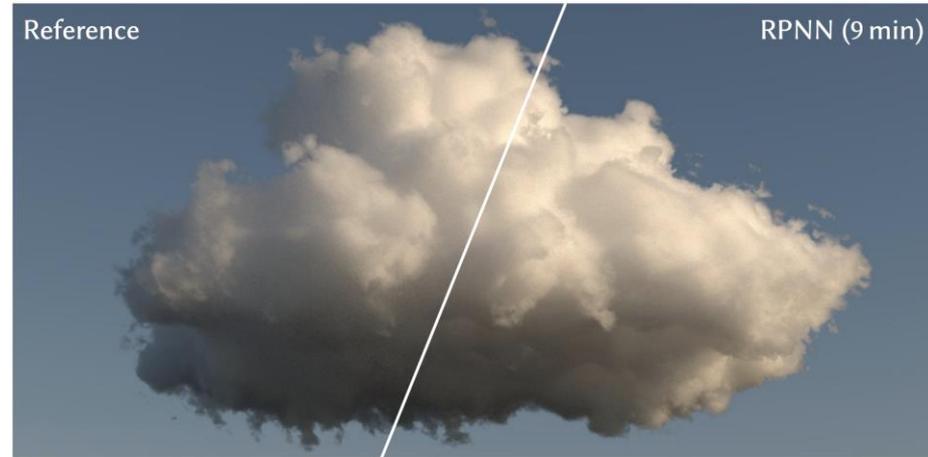
Bako et al.[2017]

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# Our Focus: Learn to Render

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- ML/NN algorithms for denoising
- CNNs/GANs (unstructured)
- Learning Light Transport the Reinforced Way
- Learning to Importance Sample



# Reflection & Refraction

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- Visualization of a car headlight
  - It reflects and refracts light almost entirely from the environment. Up to 50 rays per path are needed to render this image faithfully (800k triangles).



# Instant Global Illumination

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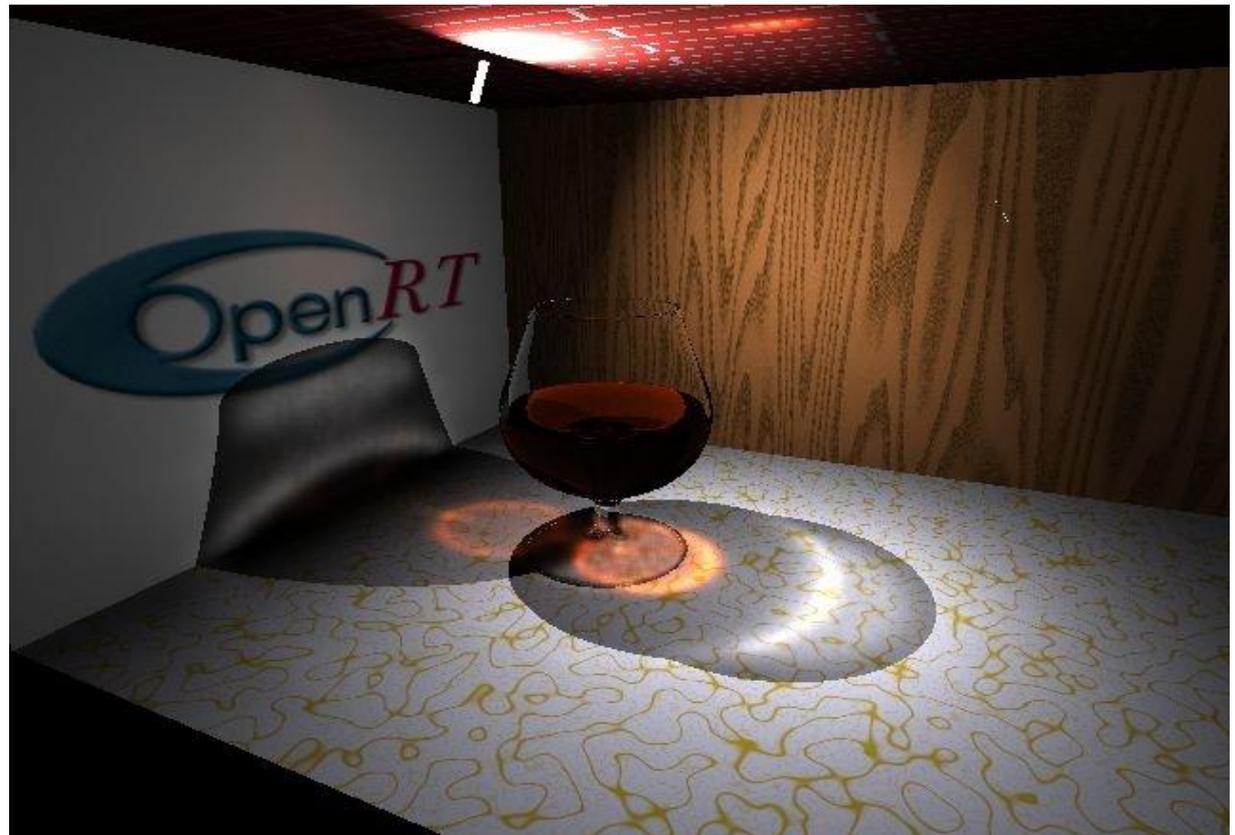
- Real-time simulation of indirect lighting (“many-light method”)



# Real-Time Photon Mapping

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- Real-time performance with procedural textures and density estimation. Interleaved sampling allows to reduce computation by a factor of 10.



# Photon Mapping

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- Car headlight used as a light source
  - Photons are emitted and traced until they hit a wall. Density estimation is used to reconstruct the illumination. The results run at 3 FPS with 250k photons on a cluster of 25 cores (in 2004). Visualization without running the simulation achieves even 11 FPS (lower center) and compare well to a real photograph (lower right).



# Advanced Materials

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- Application to a real car using spline surfaces, realistic paint shaders, BTF shaders in the interior, and realistic environment lighting.



# Advanced Materials

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- The use of BTF for realistic materials with optical effects on the meso-scale (e.g. shadows in bumps and creases).



# Light Transport Simulation

- Volkswagen's large Corporate Visualization Center in Wolfsburg using using ray tracing technology developed in Saarbrücken (Spin-off "inTrace").



# Massive Models

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- The original CAD model of a Boeing 777 consisting of 365 million polygons (30 GB). Ray tracing was the first method to allow real-time visualization of such models.



Copyright (c) 2005 Computer Graphics Group, Saarland University.

Source 3D data provided by and used with permission of the Boeing Company.

# Massive Models

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- Visualization of large outdoor scenes (300x300m<sup>2</sup>) with 365k plants and several billion triangles.



# Massive Models

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- Much larger outdoor scene (80x80 km<sup>2</sup>) with realistic lighting and full vegetation (90\*10<sup>12</sup> triangles)



# Volume Rendering

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- Global illumination of iso-surfaces.



# Multiple Iso-Surfaces

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- Ray tracing allows easy integration of multiple modalities into a single rendering framework.



# High-Performance Simulation

- Advanced rendering techniques in games



# Importance Caching

- Reuse samples based on probability [Eurographics 2012]



Reference



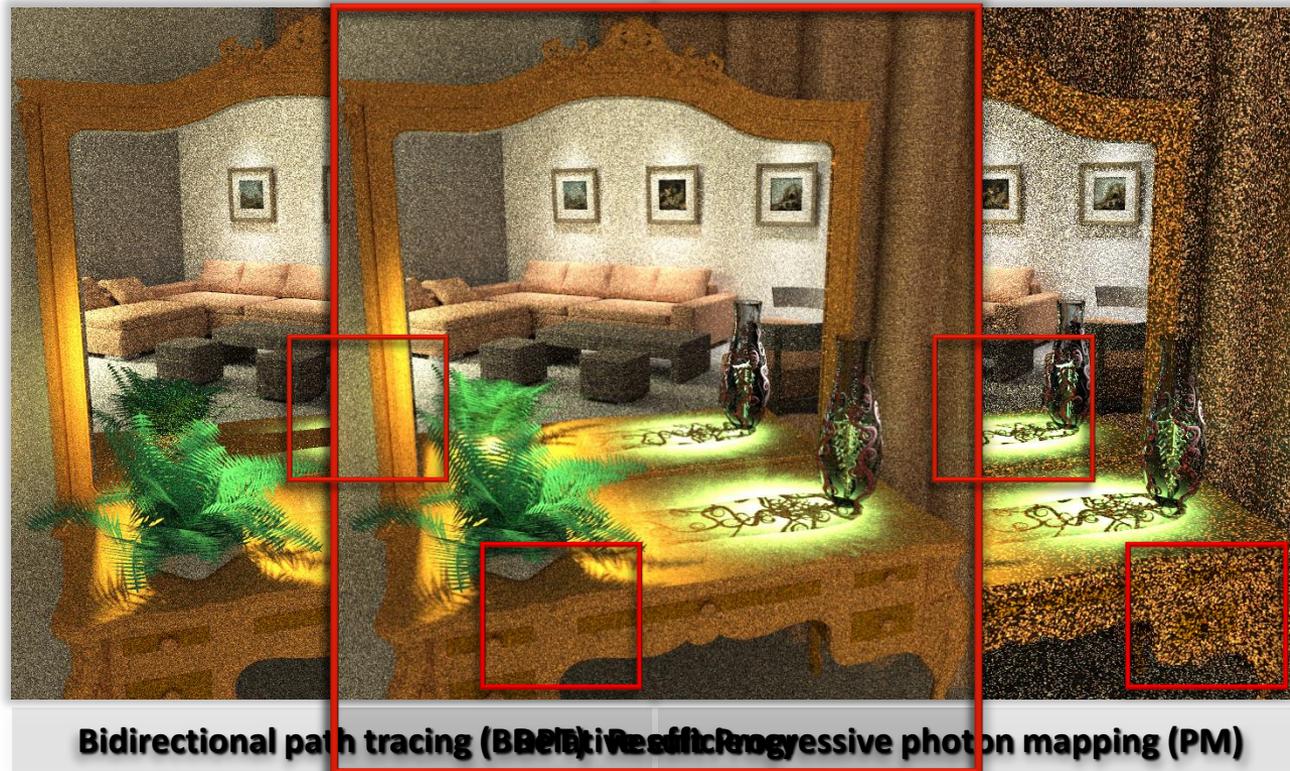
Importance caching



Uniform

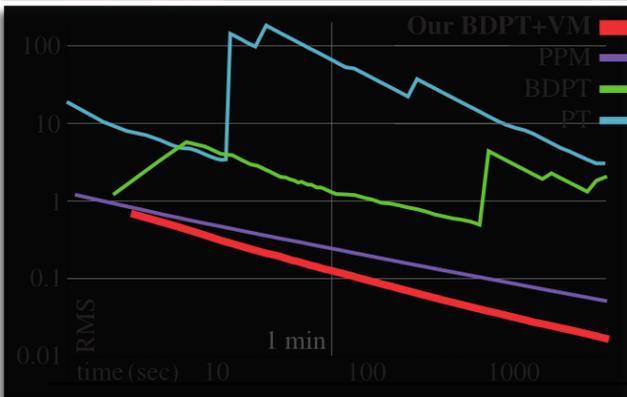
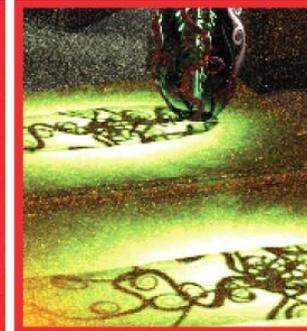
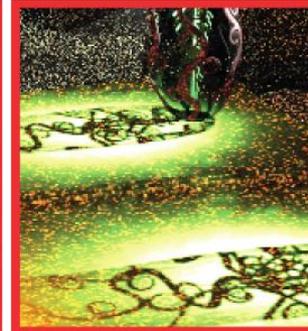
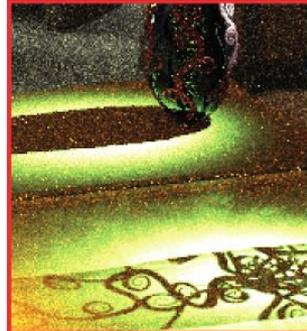
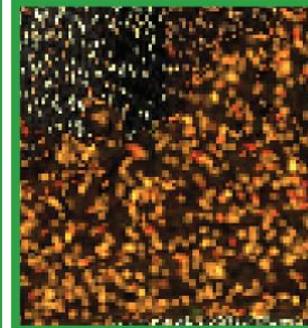
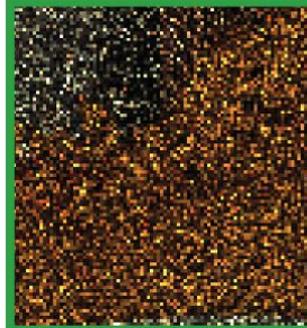
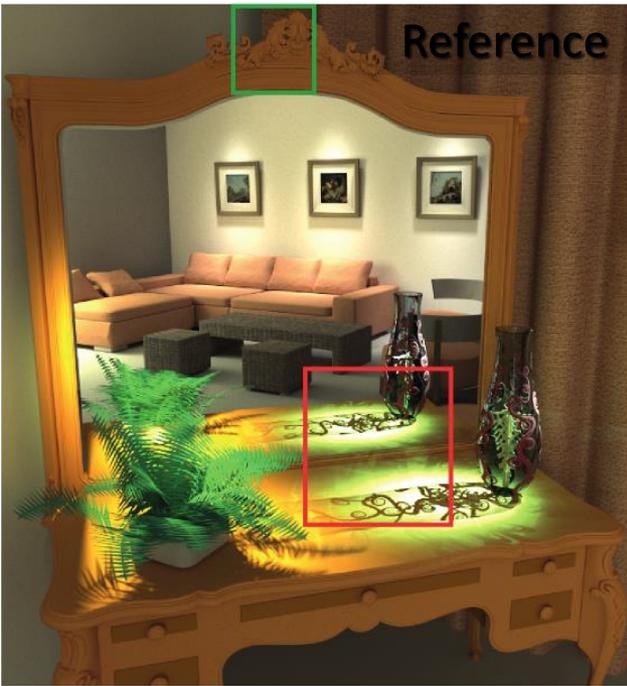
# Monte-Carlo vs Density Estimation

- Vertex Connection and Merging [SiggraphAsia 2012]



Same time (1 minute)

# Order of Convergence



PT

👍  $O(N^{-0.5})$

BDPT

👍  $O(N^{-0.5})$

PPM

👎  $O(N^{-0.33})$

BDPT+VM

👍  $O(N^{-0.5})$

Same time (1 minute)

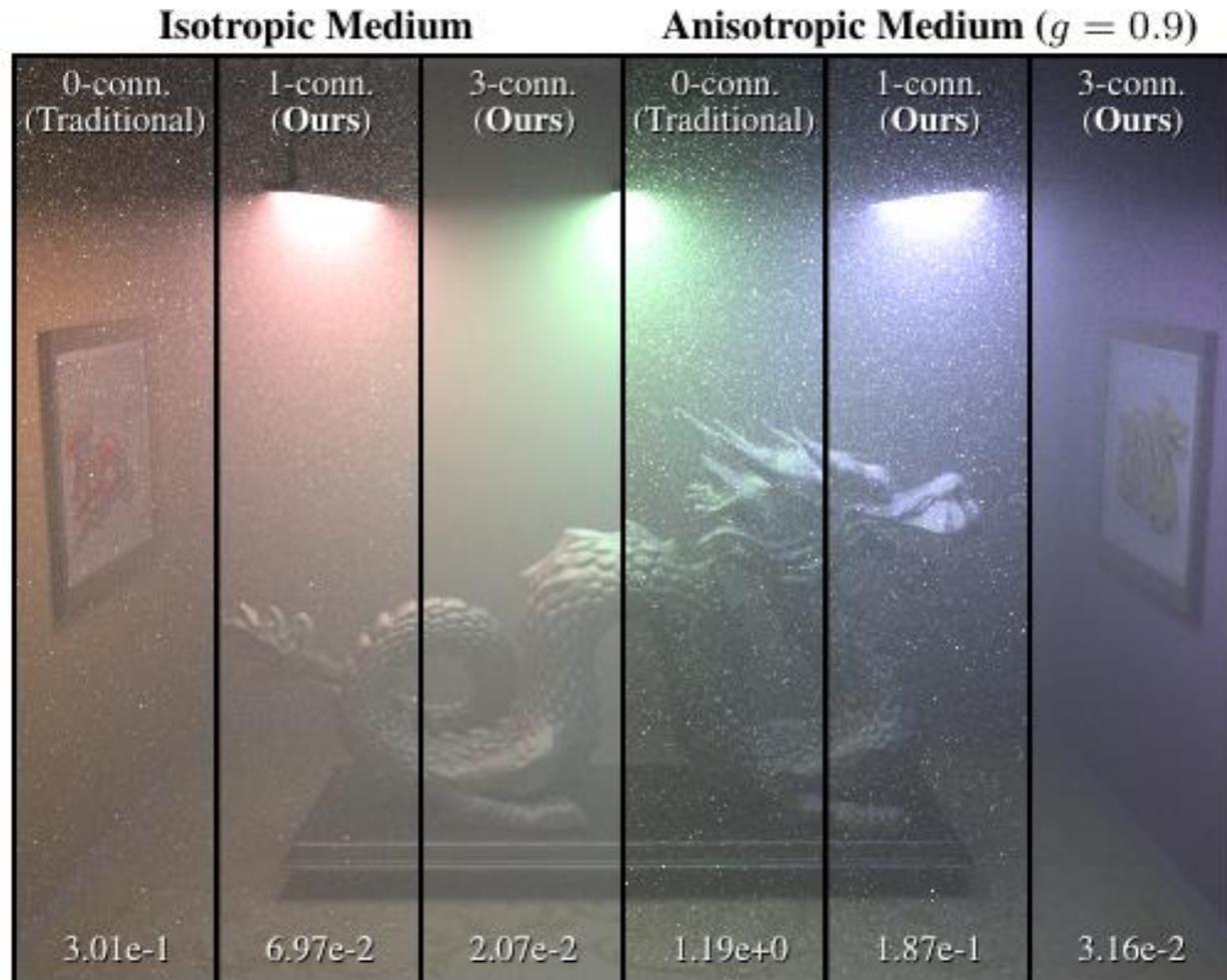
# Monte-Carlo vs Density Estimation



Same time (3 minutes)

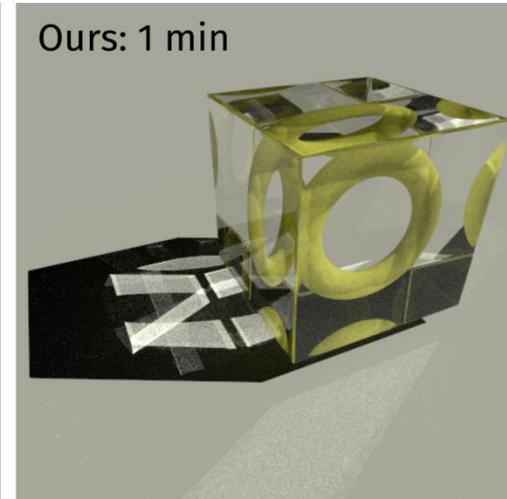
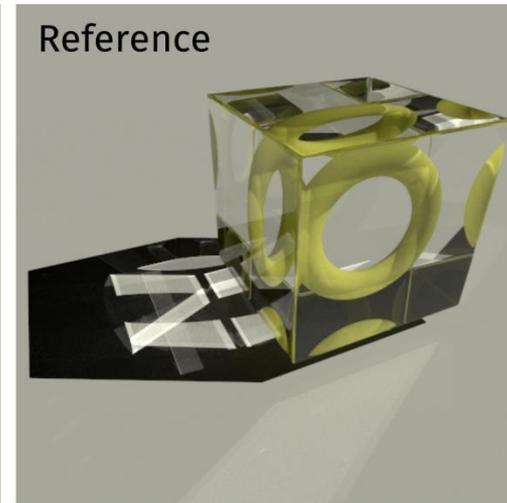
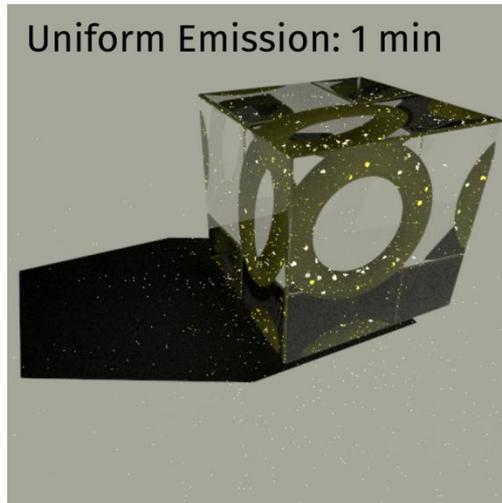
# Joint Path Sampling

- Joint sampling of set of next events [SiggraphAsia 2013]



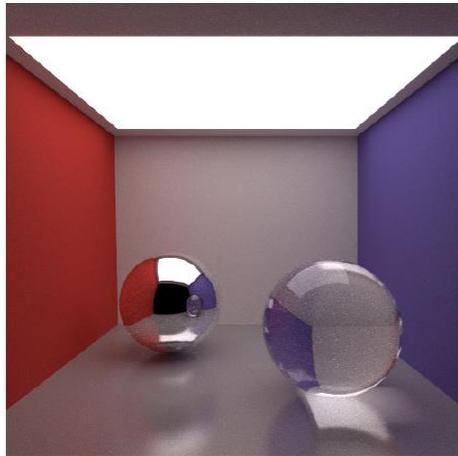
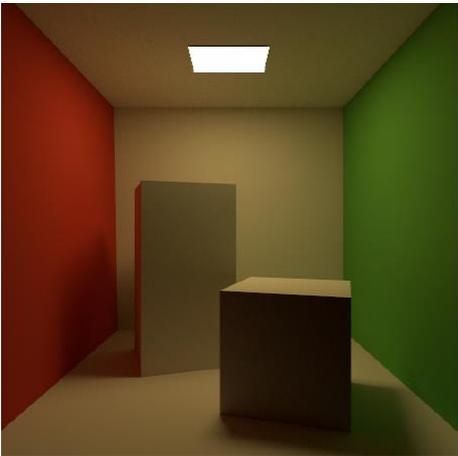
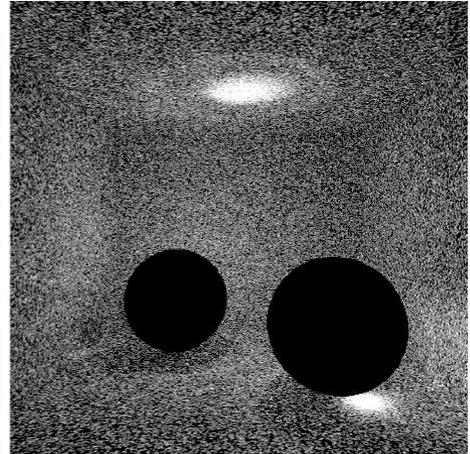
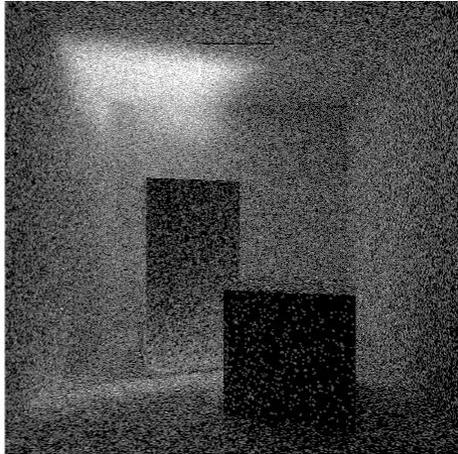
# Emission Guiding

- Using Photon Mapping only where it is useful



# Emission Guiding

- Using Photon Mapping only where it is useful



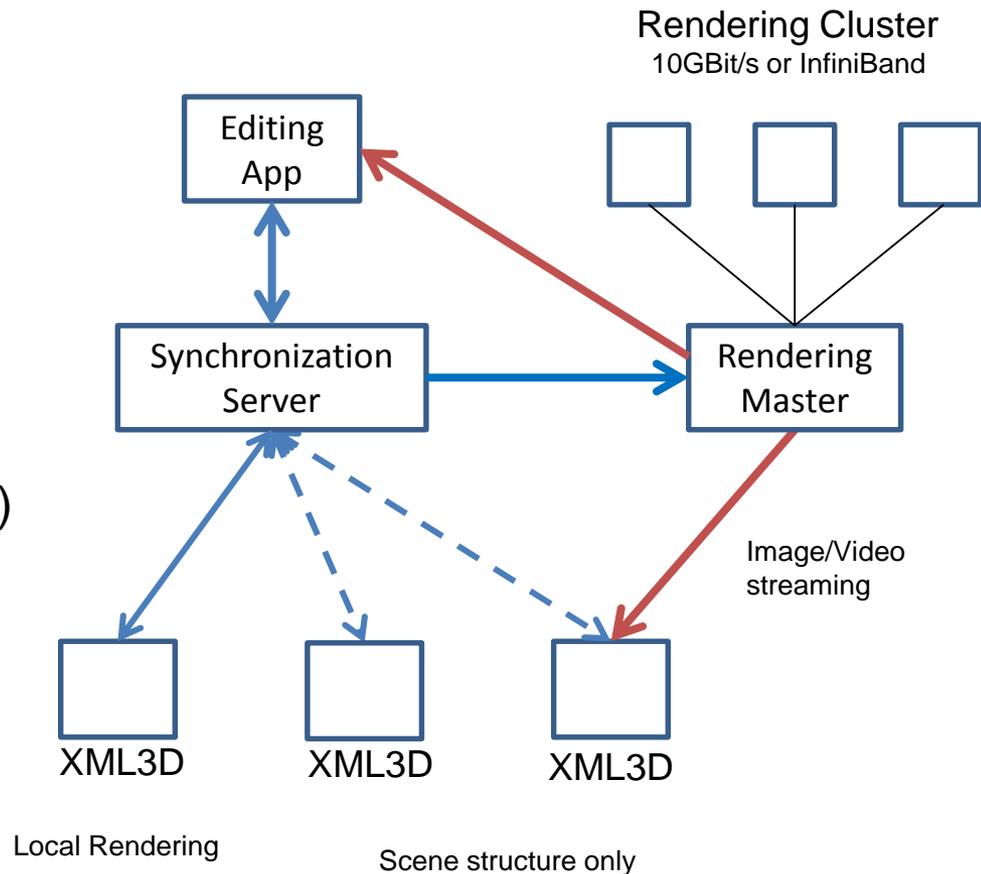
# Dreamspace Renderer

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# Dreamspace Renderer

- Editing App (e.g. Katana)
  - Provides scene data
  - Real-time updates
- Browser with XML3D for visualizing scene
  - XML3D scene (with shade.js)
    - Local rendering (WebGL)
    - Server-based rendering (MC)
  - Enables real-time interaction
- Synchronization Server
  - Synchronizes all changes
- Rendering Master
  - Manages rendering on cluster
  - Streams results as real-time video



# Ultimate Goal

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- Reality check
  - Can we render real-time video of such scenes ?

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