

Light Field Display Optimizer: Technical Documentation

Enhanced Multi-Ray Sampling Implementation

August 25, 2025

1 Overview

The Light Field Display Optimizer is a PyTorch-based system that optimizes display patterns for light field displays using multi-ray sub-aperture sampling and realistic optical physics simulation. The system optimizes display images to recreate target scenes as viewed through a complete optical system consisting of eye optics, tunable focus lens, and microlens array.

2 Optical System Model

2.1 Eye Optics

The human eye is modeled with the following parameters:

- **Pupil diameter:** 4.0 mm
- **Retina distance:** 24.0 mm (from eye lens)
- **Retina size:** 10.0 mm effective imaging area
- **Focal length range:** 17.0 - 60.0 mm (accommodation)

2.2 Multi-Ray Sub-Aperture Sampling

The system implements realistic depth-of-field through multi-ray sampling:

$$\text{Ray origins} = \text{Pupil samples} \times N_{\text{rays}} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Ray directions} = \frac{\text{Pupil point} - \text{Retina point}}{|\text{Pupil point} - \text{Retina point}|} \quad (2)$$

Where $N_{\text{rays}} = 16$ rays per pixel for realistic blur simulation.

2.3 Tunable Focus Lens

A tunable lens is positioned 50.0 mm from the eye with:

- **Diameter:** 15.0 mm
- **Focal range:** 10.0 - 100.0 mm
- **Thin lens equation:** $\frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{s_o} + \frac{1}{s_i}$

2.4 Microlens Array

The microlens array parameters:

- **Distance from eye:** 80.0 mm
- **Array size:** 20.0 mm \times 20.0 mm
- **Pitch:** 0.4 mm (center-to-center spacing)
- **Focal length:** 1.0 mm
- **Total microlenses:** 2,500 circular lenses

3 Display System

3.1 Light Field Display

The optimizable display consists of:

$$\mathbf{D} = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{N_f}\} \quad (3)$$

$$D_i \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times H \times W} \quad (4)$$

Where:

- $N_f = 10$ focal planes
- $H = W = 1536$ pixels (display resolution)
- Each D_i represents RGB display image for focal plane i

3.2 Focal Length Assignment

Fixed focal lengths are assigned linearly:

$$f_i = f_{\min} + \frac{i-1}{N_f-1}(f_{\max} - f_{\min}) \quad (5)$$

Where $f_{\min} = 10$ mm and $f_{\max} = 100$ mm.

4 Scene Definitions

4.1 Geometric Scenes

Six geometric scenes with parametric object definitions:

$$\text{Object}_j = \{pos_j, size_j, color_j, shape_j\} \quad (6)$$

$$pos_j \in \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ (world coordinates in mm)} \quad (7)$$

$$color_j \in [0, 1]^3 \text{ (RGB values)} \quad (8)$$

4.2 Spherical Checkerboard Scene

A MATLAB-compatible spherical checkerboard with:

$$\text{Sphere center} = [0, 0, 200] \text{ mm} \quad (9)$$

$$\text{Radius} = 50 \text{ mm} \quad (10)$$

$$\text{Pattern} = 1000 \times 1000 \text{ grid, } 50 \text{ pixels per square} \quad (11)$$

The checkerboard pattern is mapped using spherical coordinates:

$$\phi = \arctan 2(Z, X) \quad (12)$$

$$\theta = \arctan 2(Y, \sqrt{X^2 + Z^2}) \quad (13)$$

$$\text{Square}_{i,j} = \lfloor \frac{\theta_{\text{norm}} \times 999}{50} \rfloor + \lfloor \frac{\phi_{\text{norm}} \times 999}{50} \rfloor \bmod 2 \quad (14)$$

5 Ray Tracing Algorithm

5.1 Forward Ray Tracing

The system uses forward ray tracing from retina through the complete optical system:

1. **Retina sampling:** Generate N_{pixels} retina points
2. **Pupil sampling:** Generate N_{rays} pupil samples per retina point
3. **Eye lens refraction:** Apply thin lens equation
4. **Tunable lens refraction:** Secondary lens refraction
5. **Microlens selection:** Find nearest microlens for each ray
6. **Microlens refraction:** Apply microlens optical power
7. **Display sampling:** Sample from appropriate display image

5.2 Ray-Sphere Intersection

For spherical checkerboard scenes, ray-sphere intersection:

$$\mathbf{oc} = \mathbf{ray_origin} - \mathbf{sphere_center} \quad (15)$$

$$a = \mathbf{ray_dir} \cdot \mathbf{ray_dir} \quad (16)$$

$$b = 2(\mathbf{oc} \cdot \mathbf{ray_dir}) \quad (17)$$

$$c = \mathbf{oc} \cdot \mathbf{oc} - r^2 \quad (18)$$

$$\text{discriminant} = b^2 - 4ac \quad (19)$$

$$t = \frac{-b + \sqrt{\text{discriminant}}}{2a} \quad (20)$$

6 Optimization Process

6.1 Loss Function

The optimization minimizes mean squared error between target and simulated images:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{HW} \sum_{i=1}^H \sum_{j=1}^W \|\mathbf{I}_{\text{target}}(i, j) - \mathbf{I}_{\text{simulated}}(i, j)\|^2 \quad (21)$$

6.2 Optimization Algorithm

- **Optimizer:** AdamW with learning rate 0.02
- **Weight decay:** 10^{-4}
- **Gradient clipping:** Maximum norm 1.0
- **Mixed precision:** Automatic mixed precision (AMP) for A100 acceleration
- **Iterations:** 100 per scene

6.3 Multi-Scene Training

The system optimizes seven distinct scenes:

1. **Basic:** 3 colored spheres at different depths
2. **Complex:** 4 multi-colored spheres in complex arrangement
3. **Stick Figure:** 6 spheres arranged as humanoid figure
4. **Layered:** 3 spheres at different depth layers
5. **Office:** 4 spheres representing office objects
6. **Nature:** 4 spheres representing outdoor scene
7. **Spherical Checkerboard:** MATLAB-compatible spherical pattern

7 Output Generation

7.1 Training Progress Visualization

For each scene, the system generates:

- **Progress GIF:** 100 frames showing optimization evolution
- **Target image:** Ground truth scene appearance
- **Simulated image:** Optimized display output
- **Loss curve:** Convergence visualization

7.2 Display Analysis

- **Display images:** What each focal plane shows (10 planes per scene)
- **Eye views:** What the eye sees for each display focal length
- **Focal length mapping:** 10-100 mm range across display planes

7.3 Global Analysis

- **Focal length sweep:** 100 frames showing accommodation effects
- **Eye movement sweep:** 60 frames showing parallax effects
- **Focus calculation:** $d_{\text{focus}} = \frac{f \times d_{\text{retina}}}{f - d_{\text{retina}}}$

8 Technical Implementation

8.1 Memory Optimization

- **Batch processing:** 4096 pixels per batch
- **GPU memory management:** Automatic cache clearing
- **Mixed precision:** FP16/FP32 automatic casting
- **Gradient accumulation:** Per-scene optimization

8.2 Computational Complexity

$$\text{Rays per optimization} = N_{\text{pixels}} \times N_{\text{rays}} \times N_{\text{iterations}} \quad (22)$$

$$= 512^2 \times 16 \times 100 = 419,430,400 \text{ rays} \quad (23)$$

8.3 Hardware Requirements

- **GPU:** NVIDIA A100-SXM4-80GB
- **Memory usage:** 2.12 GB peak
- **Compute capability:** CUDA 11.8+
- **Storage:** 15 GB container disk

9 Results and Validation

The optimization system successfully generates:

- **28 individual files:** 4 files per scene \times 7 scenes
- **Progress tracking:** Every iteration recorded
- **Multi-ray sampling:** Realistic depth-of-field effects
- **Optical accuracy:** Physical ray tracing through complete system