

# Computational Photography

Independent Study Presentation 1:  
Introduction to Computational Photography and Optics

**Guide and Advisor:**

Dr. Anoop Namboodiri

**Presented By:**

Apoorva Srivastava

MS by Research, IIIT Hyderabad

2019702014

# Overview of the Presentation



## Introduction to Computational Photography

Components of Computational Photography  
Stages of Computational Photography



## Understanding Light

Wave and Particle Nature of light



## Defining Optical System with Rays

Measuring the light rays-Radiometry and Photometry  
Interaction of Light and Matter



## Understanding Lenses and Digital cameras\*

Optics of Lens and Ray bending  
Lens and Digital Camera Parameters and Trade-Offs



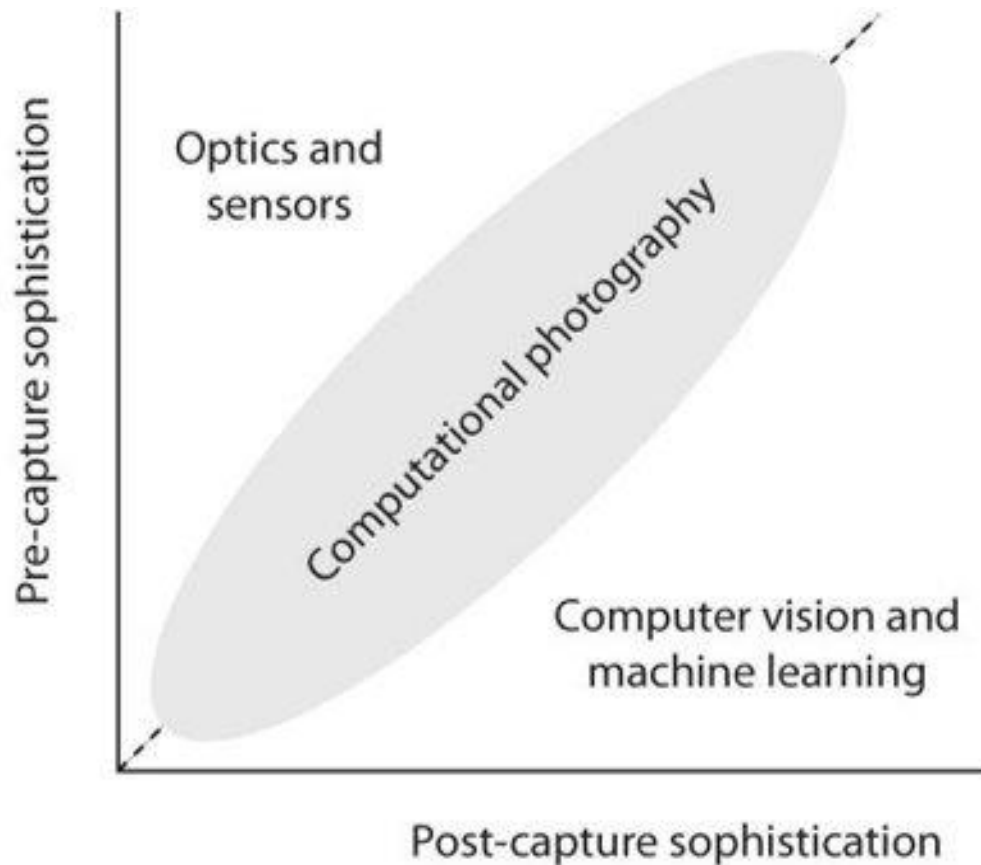
## Conclusion

Future of Computational Photography  
References



# **Introduction to Computational Photography**

# Definition and Origin of Computational Photography



Computational Photography captures a machine-readable representation of the physical world, allowing us to hyper-realistically synthesize the essence of our visual experience.

# Digital Photography

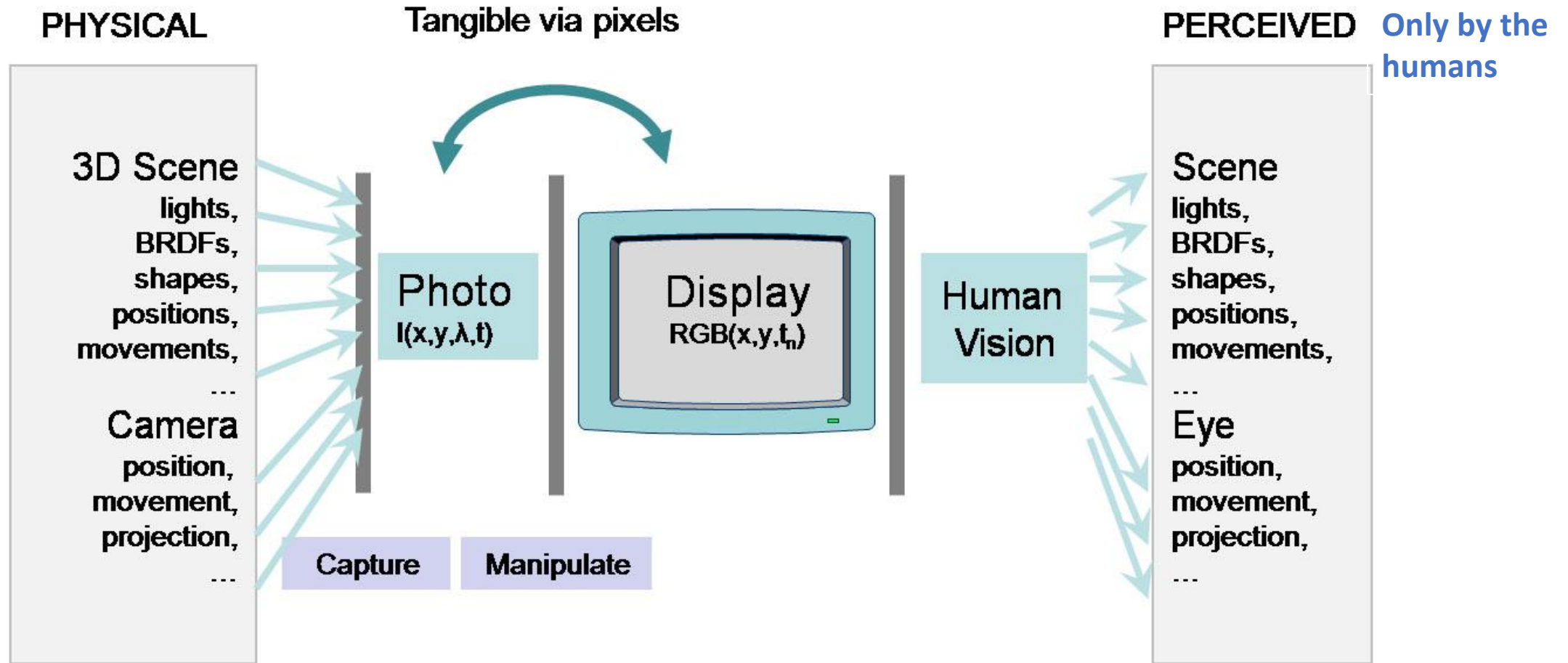
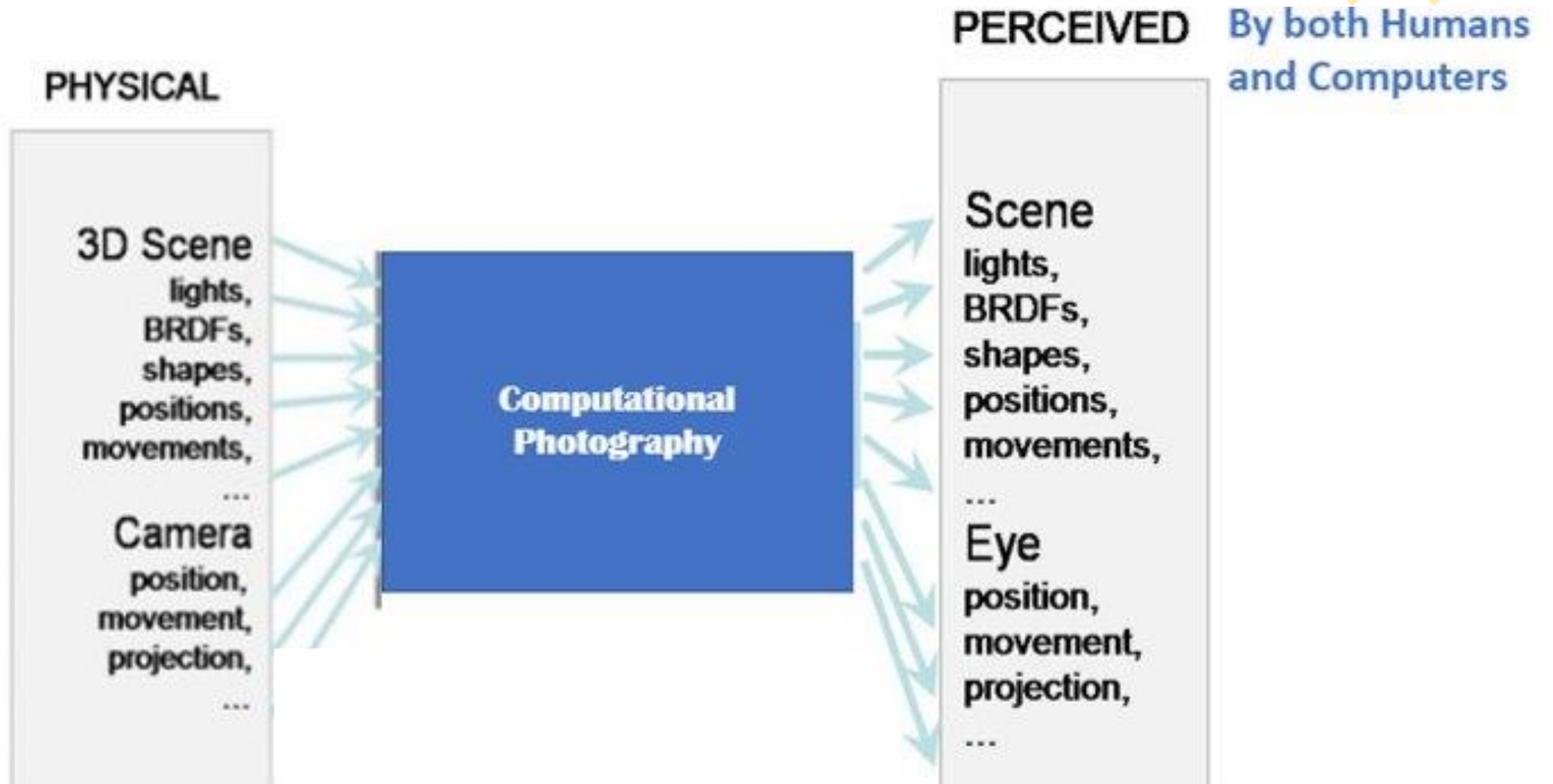


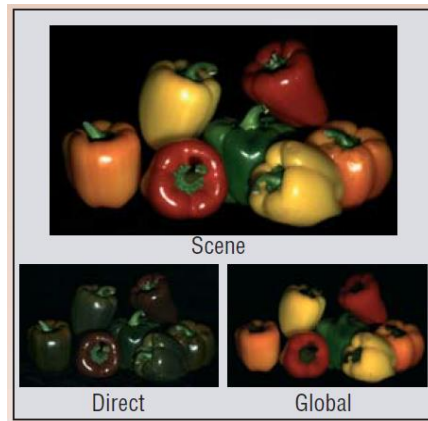
Image Credit: Raskar Tumblin Computational Photography

# Computational Photography



# What Computational Photography Enables:

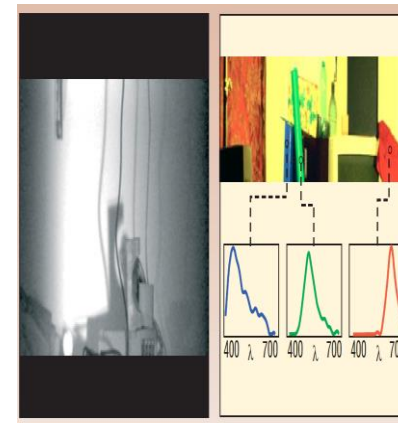
To Create New  
Visual Information from  
a given scene  
e.g. Creating Global  
and Direct Component of a  
scene



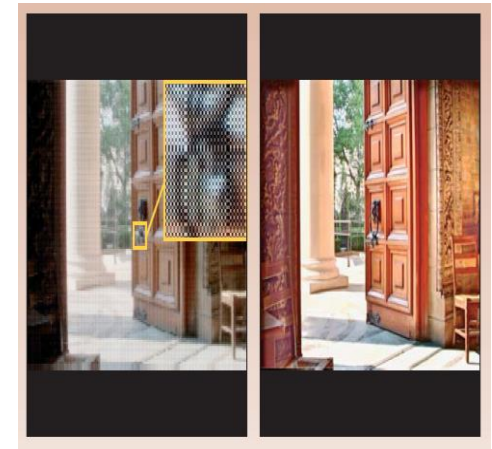
To Construct New Visual  
Information e.g. 360 degree  
view from a single point  
and single camera



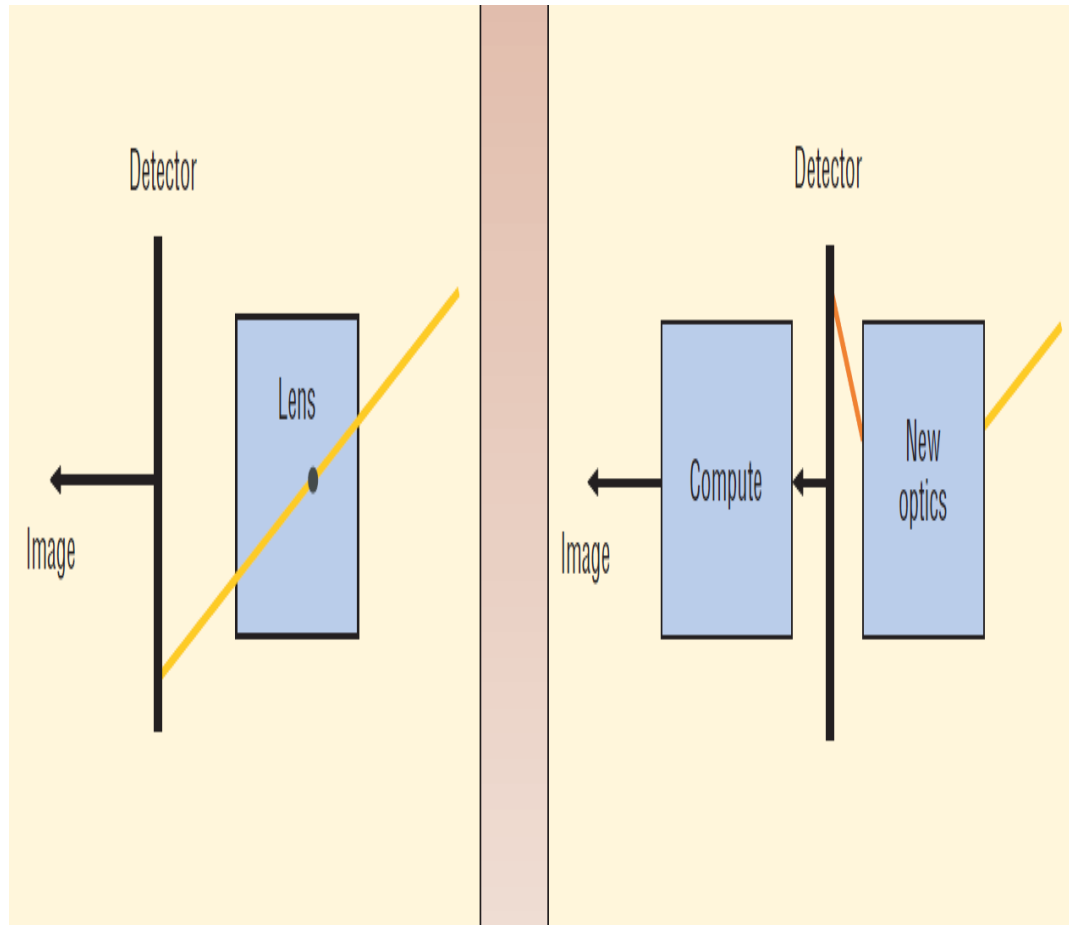
To Measure already present  
Visual Information e.g.  
Observing multiple EM  
frequencies present in the  
scene



To Manipulate Visual  
Information e.g. Relighting  
the images and Creating the  
new viewpoints



# How Computational Photography Does so?



**Digital Photography**

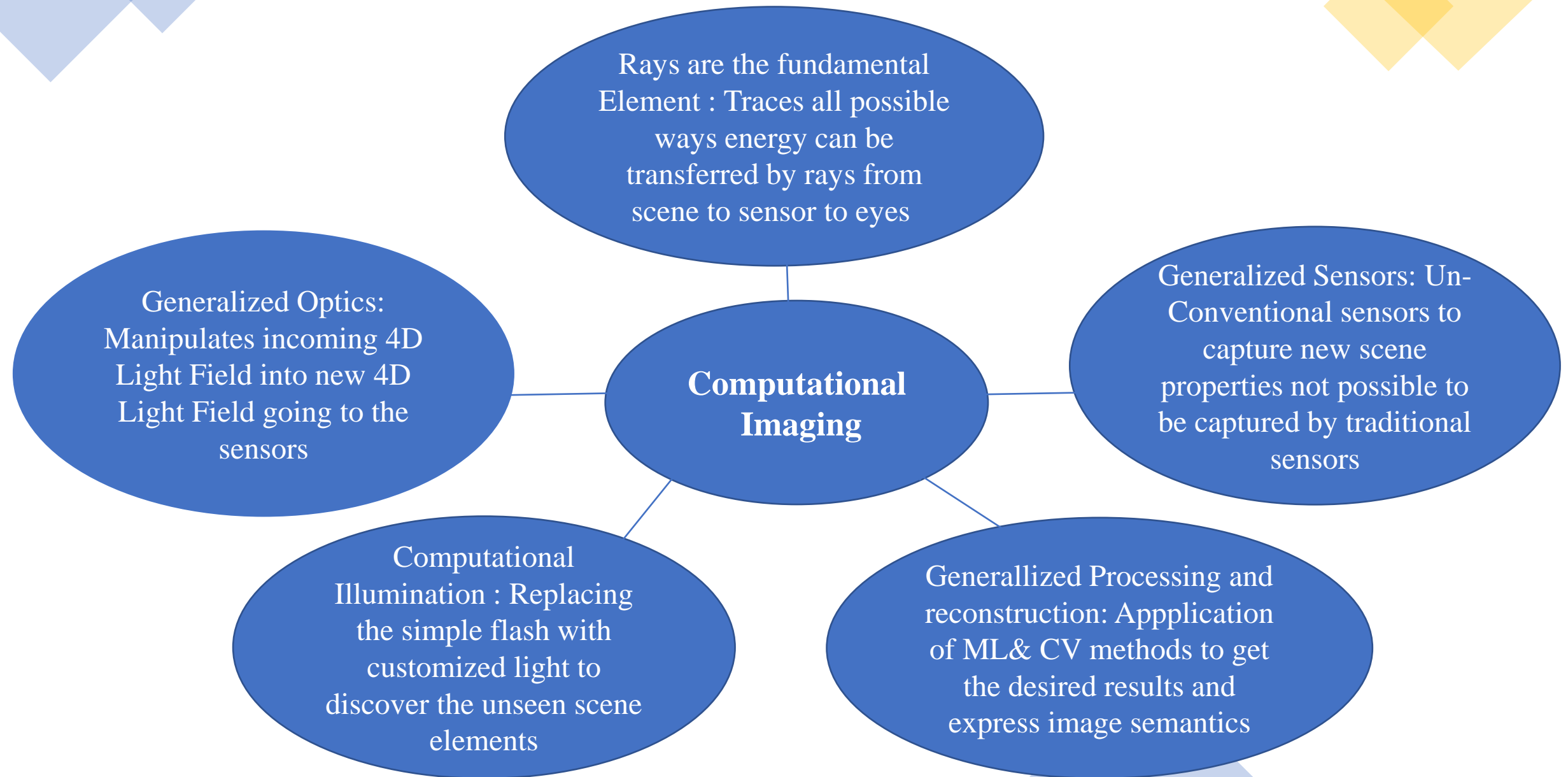
**Computational Photography**

It replaces the

- Lens with Generalized Optics
- Sensor with Generalized sensor
- Natural Light and Flashlight with Programmable Illumination
- Incorporates Processing Computational Algorithm before giving out the final Image.



# Components of Computational Photography



# Stages of Computational Photography

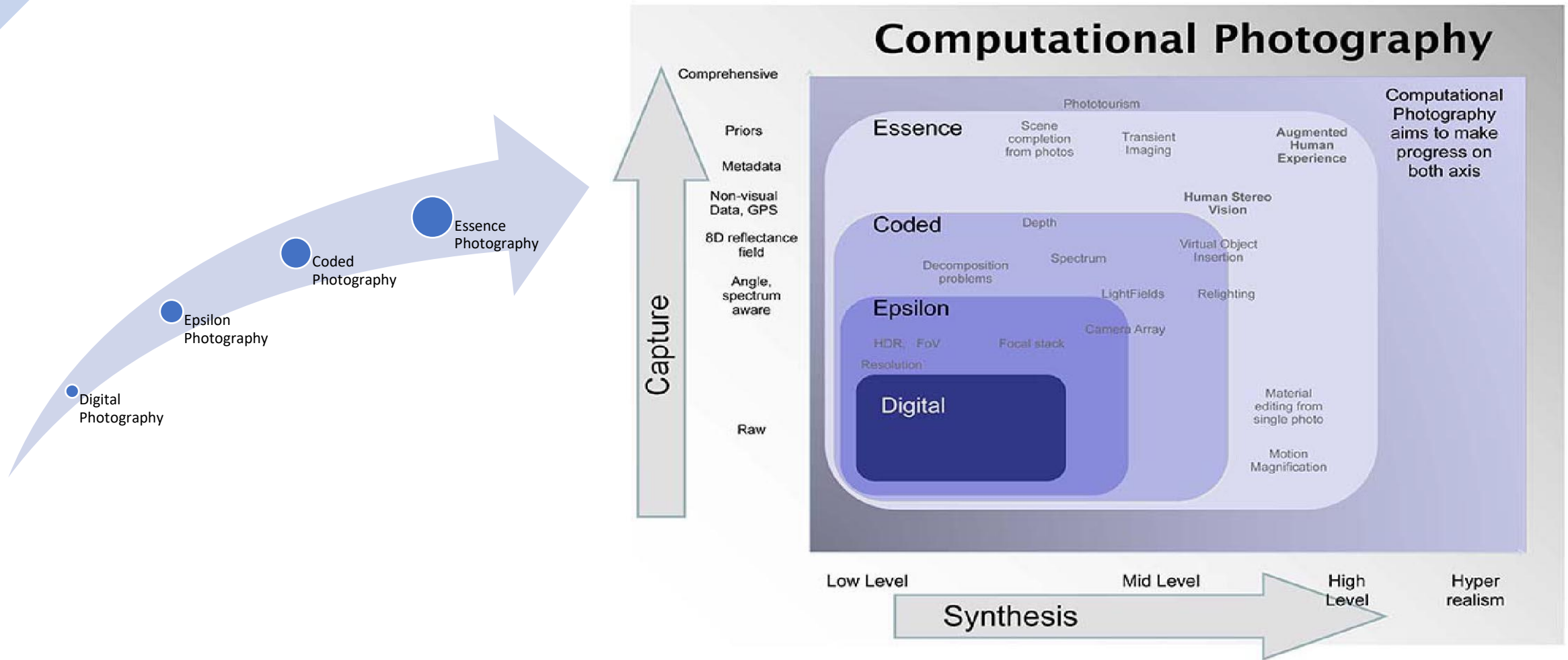


Image Credit: Raskar Tumblin Computational Photography

# Film-like Digital Photography

## Basic Structure and Components

| Component                | Purpose  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Camera Obscura Structure | To admit light in a dark box and forming image on a plane inside the box |
| Lens                     | To control aperture ,focus distance and focal length                     |
| Sensor                   | To control light sensitivity, latitude and color sensing                 |
| Camera Box               | To control moment of exposure, location and orientation                  |
| Auxiliary Lighting       | To control position, intensity and timing of illumination                |

# Film-like Digital Photography

Parameters to be decided while clicking a Digital Photograph

Field of View

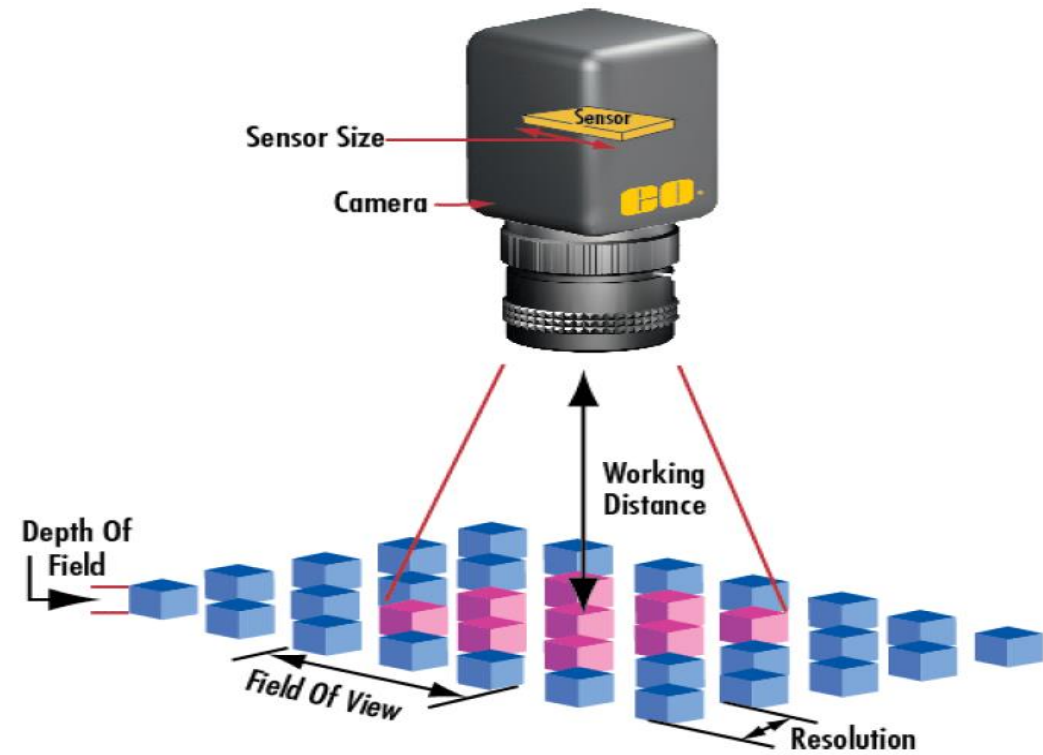
Exposure & Dynamic Range

Depth of Field

Spatial Resolution

Temporal Resolution

Wavelength Resolution



# Digital Camera and Trade-Offs

Larger the focal length  
larger the PMAG but  
smaller the field of view

Shorter the focal length  
larger the field of view but  
more distortions and cost  
of lens

Larger the Focal Length  
and aperture more is the  
light admitted for dimly lit  
scene but smaller the FOV

Increasing Depth of Focus  
requires smaller aperture  
hence increased exposure  
time and higher sensor  
sensitivity leading to  
higher noise

Higher the Spatial  
resolution smaller the pixel  
size larger the data storage  
requirements

Exposure time too large  
moving objects appear  
blurred and when too short  
then less amount of light  
gets captured

Higher the spatial  
resolution poorer is Depth  
of Focus

Larger lens apertures  
gather more light, but  
reduce the depth of focus  
in the image

A longer exposure time, additional scene lighting, or greater sensitivity makes brighter pictures. But a longer exposure time can increase blur, additional lighting can disrupt scene appearance, and greater sensitivity results in increased noise.

# Epsilon Photography

It improves a given image by recording multiple images each varying one or more camera parameter by some small amount epsilon.

Each epsilon setting allows partial information of the scene which is combined to give a better scene representation.

This stage involves low level processing of pixels and localized scene features.

Goal: To enhance the performance of traditional parameters of the camera and go beyond their mutual trade-offs

# How Epsilon Photography improves the Digital Camera Parameters

## Field of View

- It can be enhanced by creating image panorama by stitching images of overlapping regions

## Exposure & Dynamic Range

- Can be improved by Exposure bracketting and calculating normalized pixel value

## Depth of Field

- Can be enhanced by combining images with different plane of focus

## Spatial Resolution

- Higher Spatial resolution can be obtained tiling multiple cameras and assembling spatially varying mosaic form

## Temporal Resolution

- High speed imaging is attained by staggering the exposure time of multiple low frame rate camera

## Wavelength Resolution

- Expands wavelength resolution by successively changing the color filter in front of the camera during exposure

# Coded Photography

Coded Photography tries to go beyond the Digital Camera capabilities

Unlike Epsilon Photography Coded Photography captures mid-level cues like shape, boundary, depth etc along with pixels

Goal: To estimate scene properties that are not directly visible and are critical for post capture manipulation and synthesis

Coded Photography is an out of box photographic method in which individual ray sample or data set may not be comprehensible without further re-binning decoding and reconstruction



# Some Examples of Coded Photography

Decomposition of Scene in meaningful components such as Global Direct Component ,Foreground and background Components etc.

Coded Exposure Technique to capture fast moving object which otherwise appears blurry

Gradient Camera for higher Dynamic Range

Confocal Synthetic Aperture to see through murky water

Coded Aperture Technique to re-focus the out of focus region by preserving the high spatial frequencies of light

Techniques to recover the glare by capturing selected ray through a calibrated grid

Using Multiple flashes to distinguish b/w geometric and reflectance boundaries of the object


# Essence Photography

In this photography measurements goes beyond radiometric quantities of the scene.

Goal: To capture the essence of a scene and scrutinize its perceptually critical components.

A camera equipped with essence photography may-

- Measure Geographical location coordinates of the scene
- Identifies Scene Contents
- Recognizes Gestures
- Can perform non-photorealistic synthesis like motion exaggeration, beautification of photographs etc.



**Hence, Computational Photography  
enables us to capture what we want  
to capture rather than what we can  
capture!!!**



# **Understanding Light**

# Scientific Theories about the Nature of the Light

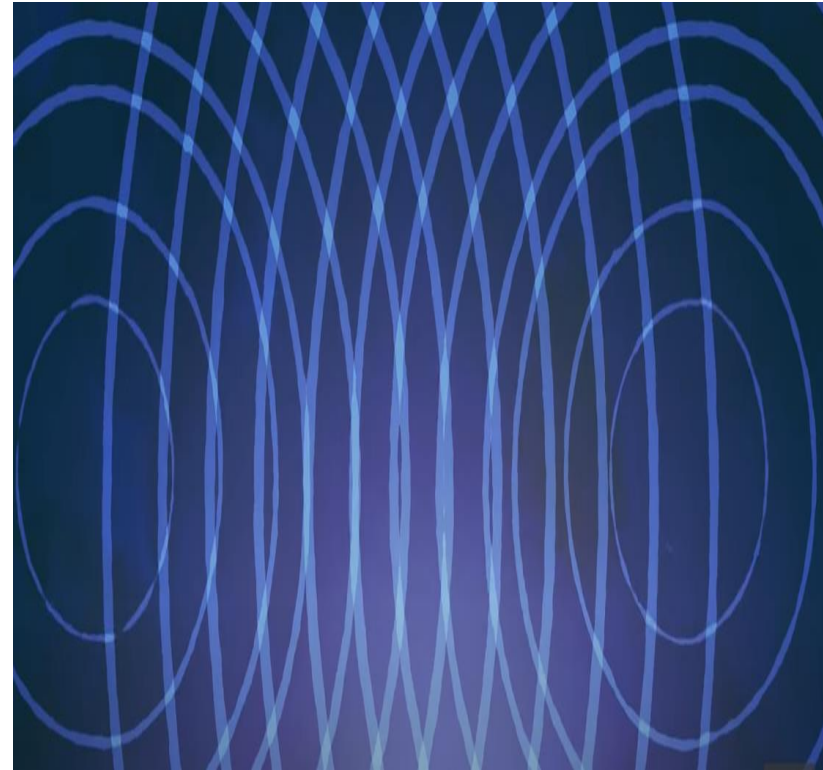
**Two Conflicting Approaches:**

**Light is made up of Particles**

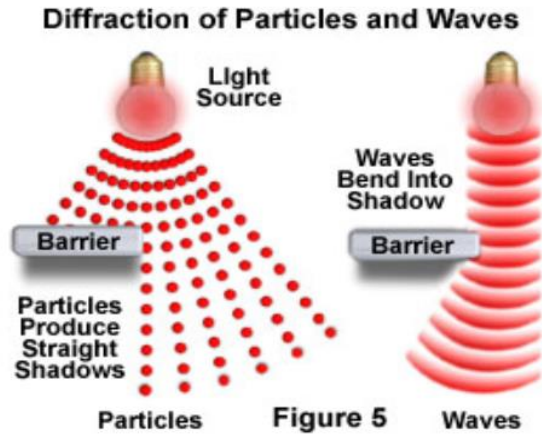
**Light is made up of Waves**



**VS**



# Phenomena and Experiments Demonstrating Wave Nature of Light



## Diffraction of Light

And God said...

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0}$$

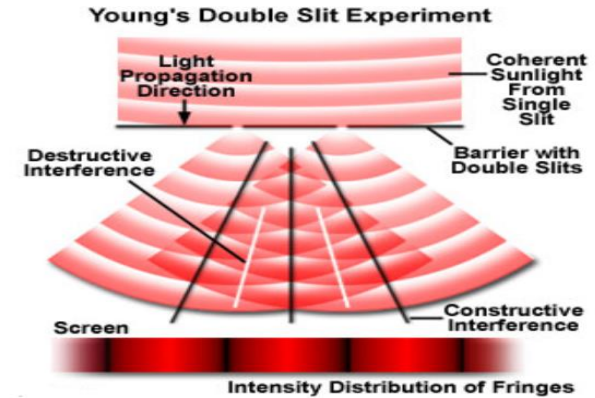
$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = 0$$

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \oint \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

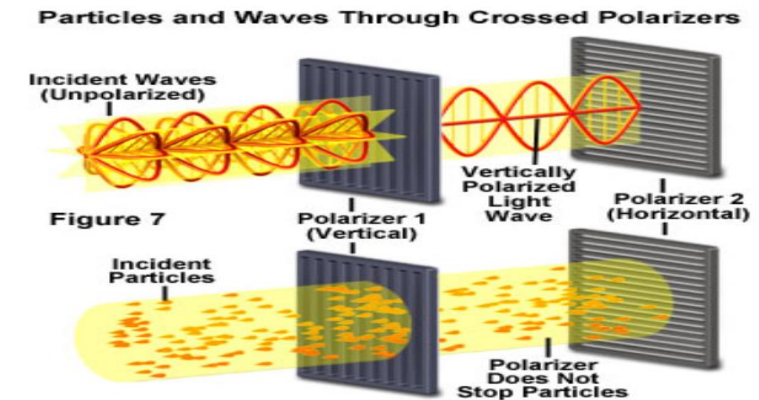
$$\oint \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{l} = i + \epsilon \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

...and there was light.

## Maxwell's Equation for Wave Propagation

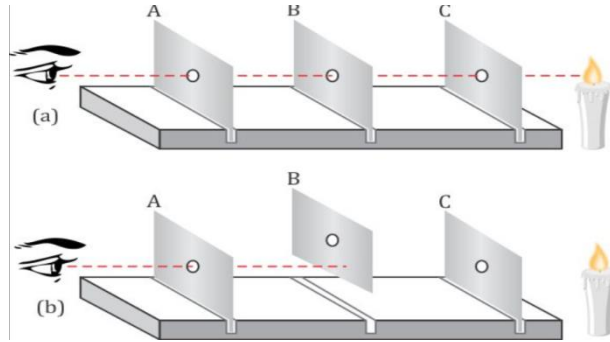


## Interference of Light as Waves



## Polarizers filtering the Light

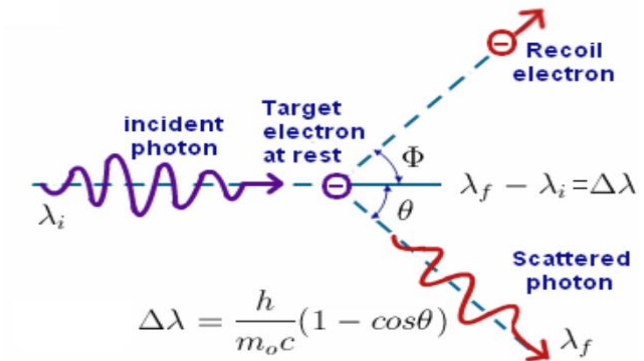
# Phenomena and Experiments Demonstrating Particle Nature of Light



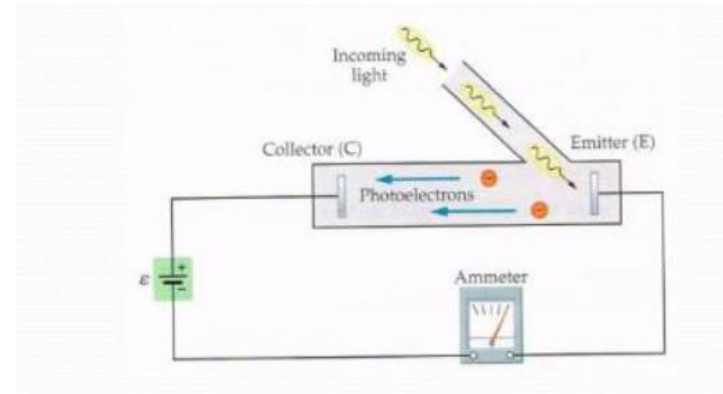
**Light travels in a straight-line path**



**Black body radiation explanation**



**Compton Scattering**



**Photoelectric Effect**



# Conclusions about the Nature of the Light

Light exhibits wave-particle duality

Light behaves as a wave at macroscopic scales, but it behaves as a particle at atomic scales.

Maxwell's equations are sufficient when there are many photons, and quantum theory is necessary when there are only a few photons.

Light propagates as a wave, but it interacts with matter as a particle when the matter is of comparable size as the wavelength of the wave.





# **Defining Optical System with Rays**

# Understanding the Ray Space

## What is a Ray intuitively?

- It is a 2-way tracing through space which a single photon might leave behind as it propagates
- It is a simplified model of wave nature, representing wave as a straight line

## Formal Definition of Ray Space

- We define Ray Space/Plenoptic 4D position-angle function to identify every ray in 3D space
- 2 dimensions for position on the plane it is being imaged and 2 dimensions for the incidence angle.
- Other dimensions such as polarization and wavelength etc. Characterizing the ray can be added

## Why Rays?

- Helps explore complex Optical System locally
- Decomposition of every optical operation as a ray bending event
- Ray paths are exactly reversible, so ray tracing helps to characterize any physical space.

# Challenges and Solution for Ray based measurements

**What is the basic challenge in measuring the rays?**

- One single ray doesn't exist in isolation and carries non-measurable amount of Light.
- Its angular extent is zero and it comes from a single point on source with zero area.

**Solution**

- We can measure the strength of the Light carried by bundle of rays instead of dealing with single ray
- Strength of Light can be measured in terms of Power and Energy leaving the source and reaching the destination in terms of rays
- This field which measures the Light Rays are referred as Radiometry and Photometry.

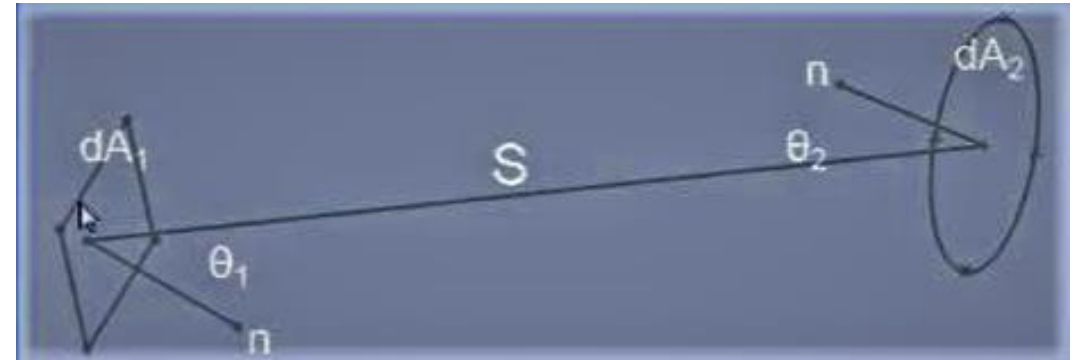
# Radiometry

Radiometry is the process of measuring the EM radiation which includes visible range also

**While**

Photometry is the process of measuring the visible light radiations as experienced by human eyes. It's a normalized form of Radiometry for human vision.

What we want to measure is How much energy from source area  $dA_1$  was captured by destination area  $dA_2$  per second

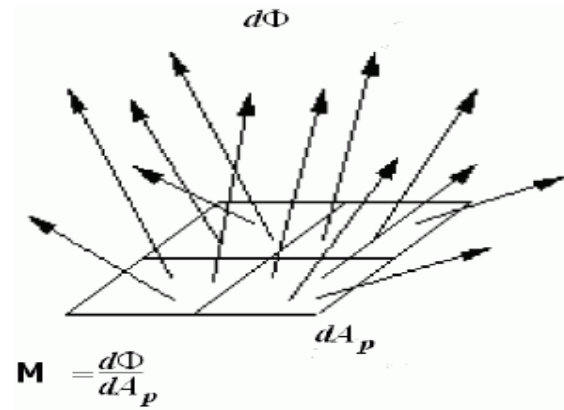


Fundamental Law of Radiative Transfer

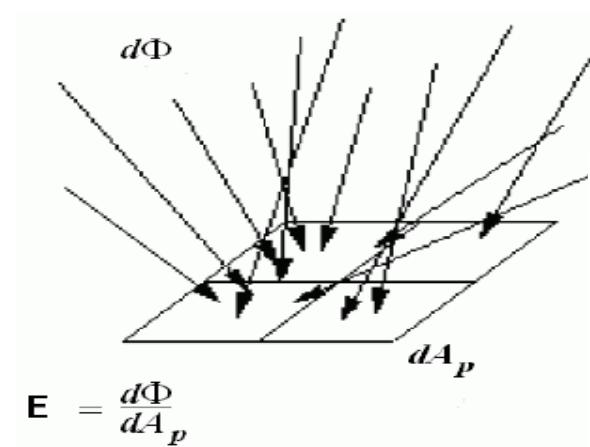
$$\Phi = \int_{A_1} \int_{A_2} \frac{L}{S^2} dA_1 \cos \theta_1 dA_2 \cos \theta_2$$

# Parameters of Radiometry

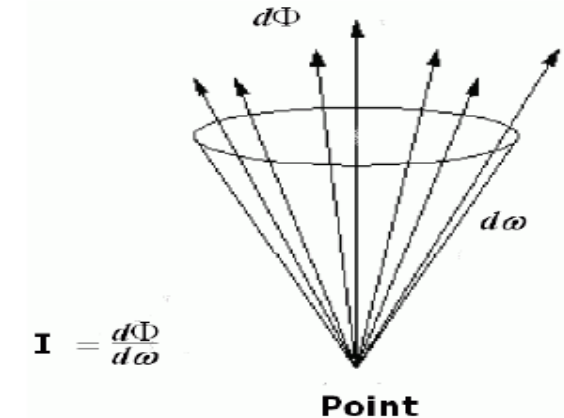
Radiant Exitance



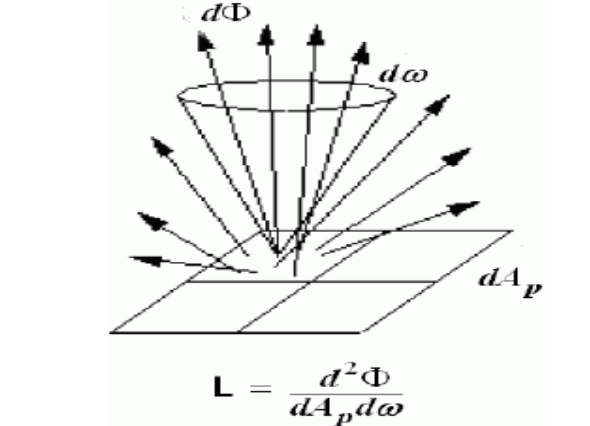
Radiant Incidence (irradiance)



Radiant Intensity



Radiance



| Radiometric       |          |                      | Photometric        |          |                       |
|-------------------|----------|----------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Quantity          | Symbol   | Units                | Quantity           | Symbol   | Units                 |
| Radiant Power     | $\Phi_e$ | W                    | Luminous Flux      | $\Phi_v$ | lumens (lm)           |
| Radiant Intensity | $I_e$    | W/sr                 | Luminous Intensity | $I_v$    | lm/sr                 |
| Irradiance        | $E_e$    | W/m <sup>2</sup>     | Illuminance        | $E_v$    | lm/m <sup>2</sup>     |
| Radiance          | $L_e$    | W/m <sup>2</sup> -sr | Luminance          | $L_v$    | lm/m <sup>2</sup> -sr |

“e” = “energetic”

“v” = “visual”

# Parameters of Radiometry

$$E(x, y) = \frac{d\Phi}{dA} \left( W / m^2 \right)$$

**Irradiance**

$$L(x, y, \theta, \varphi) \equiv \frac{d^2\Phi}{dA \cos \theta d\Omega} \left( W / (m^2 \cdot sr) \right)$$

**Radiance**

$$I(\theta, \varphi) = \frac{d\Phi}{d\omega} \left( W / sr \right)$$

**Radiant Intensity**

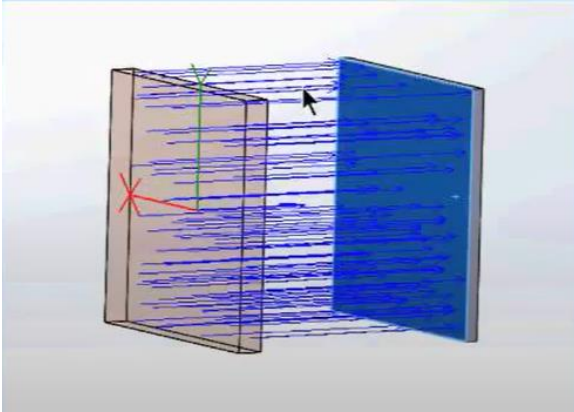
## Inter-Dependence among the parameters

$$E(\theta, \varphi) = \int_{\pi} L d\Omega$$

$$\Phi = \int L dA d\omega = \int E dA = \int I d\omega$$

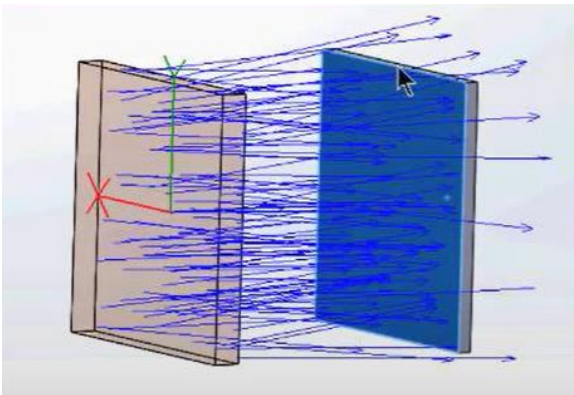
$$I(\theta, \varphi) = \int_A L dA$$

# Significance of Parameters of Radiometry



By measuring the power of ray bundles we want to measure and characterize rays which can't be measured in isolation

Irradiance basically localizes the position of rays on the incidence plane by measuring the power transferred to unit area



Radiant intensity localizes the incidence angle of the rays by measuring the power transferred to unit solid angles

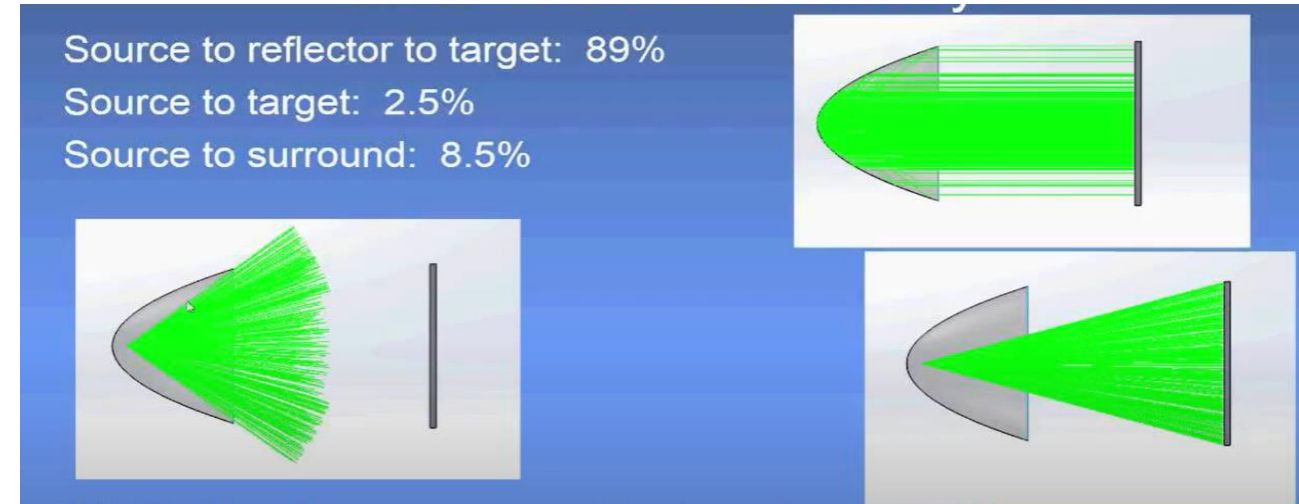
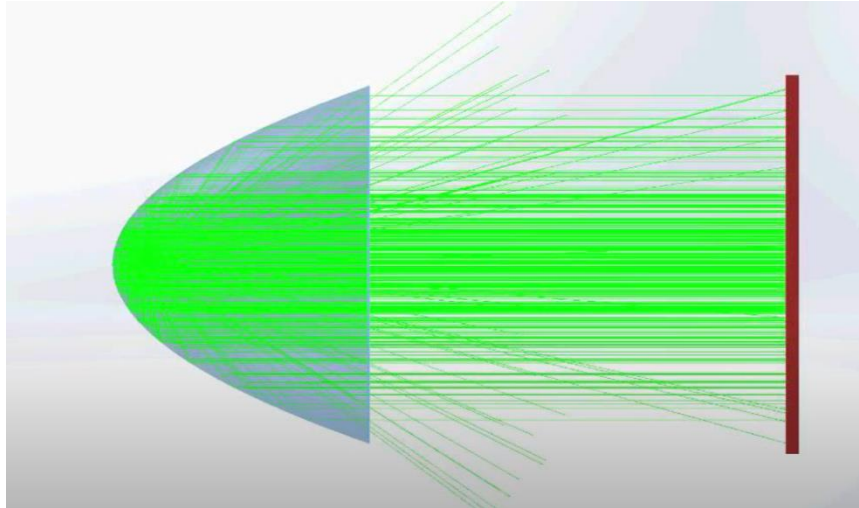
Irradiance and Radiant intensity talk about the power distribution on the destination

Radiance is power corresponding to a single ray; this is what our eyes can measure. Radiance identifies a single ray completely as it remains constant throughout the propagation in a lossless medium.



# Understanding the Parameters with a Ray Tracing simulation result

**Case1**



**Case2**

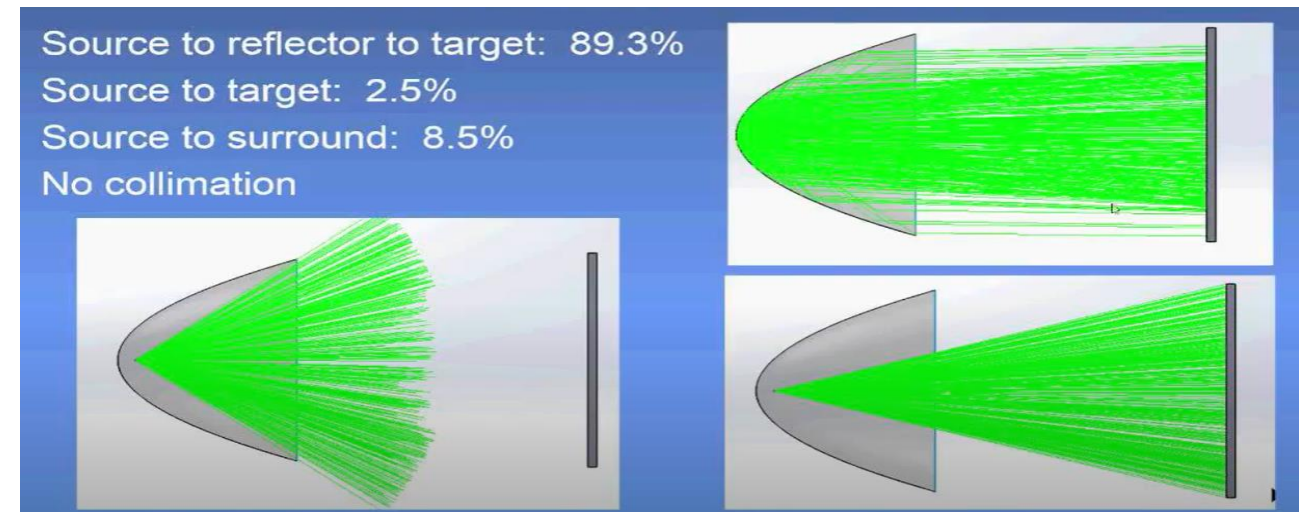
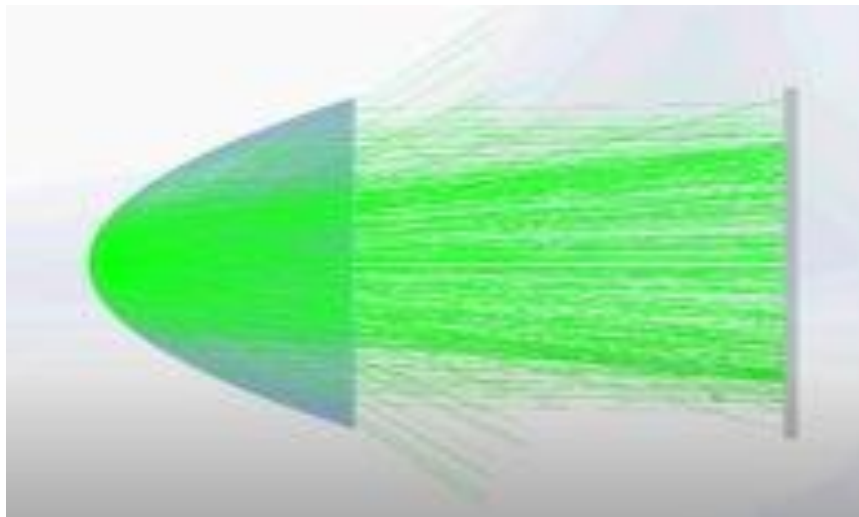
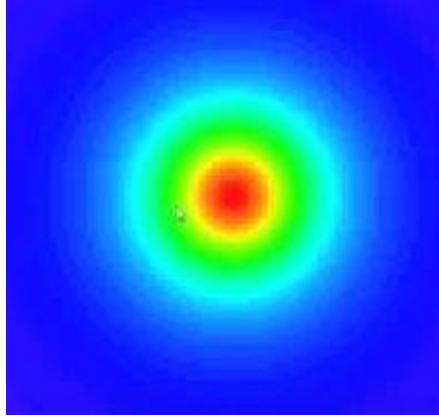


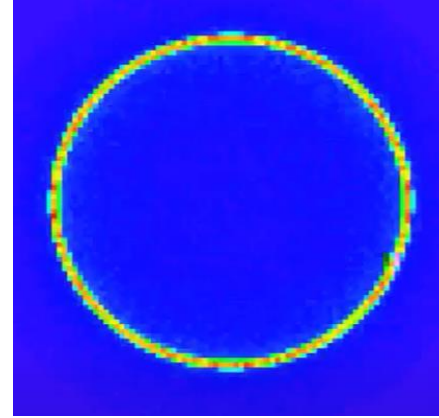
Image Credit: Breault Research Organization



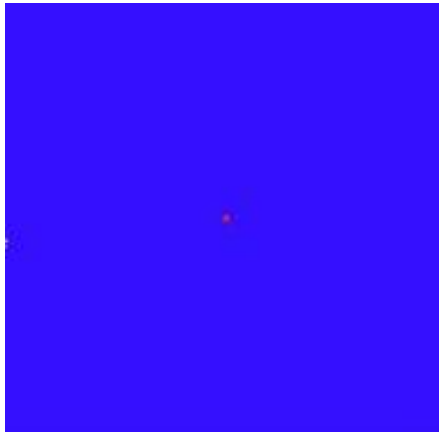
# Understanding the Parameters with a Ray Tracing simulation result



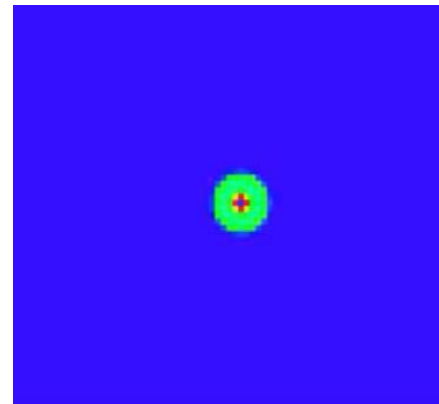
Irradiance Pattern for Case1



Irradiance Pattern for Case2

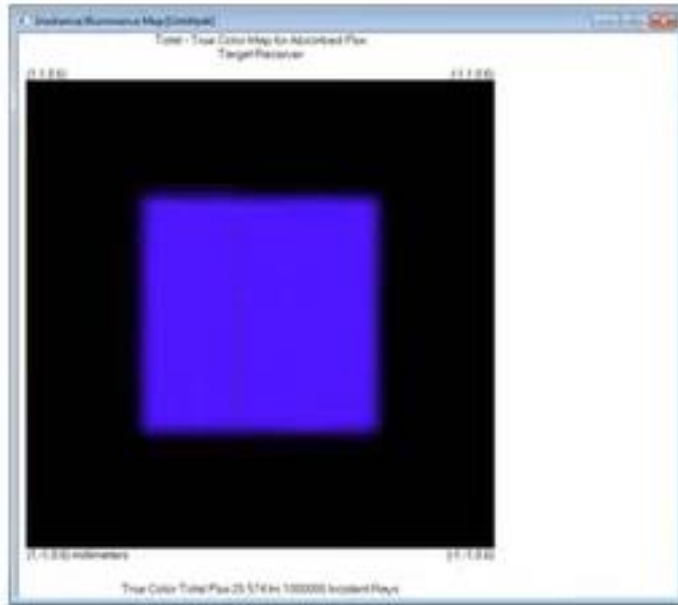


Radiant Intensity angle variation for Case1

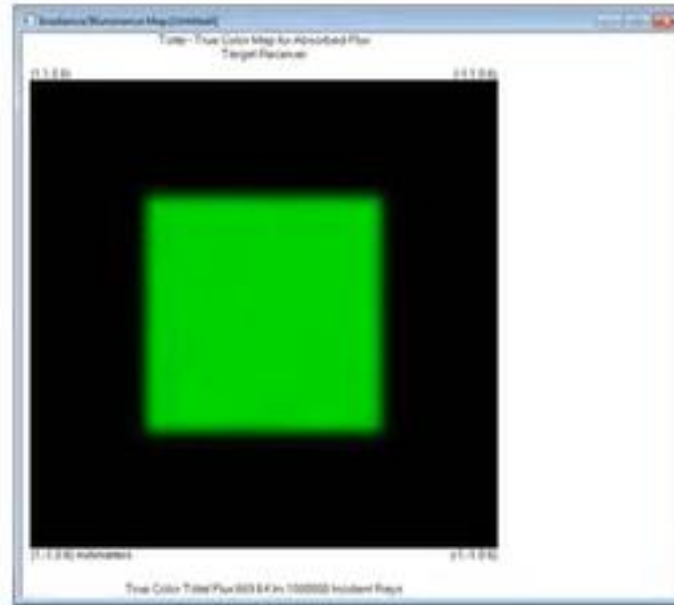


Radiant Intensity angle variation for Case2

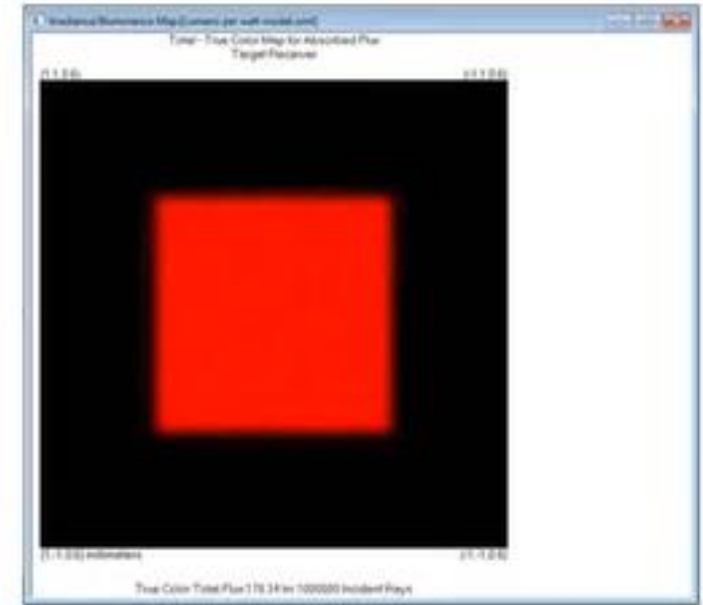
# Why do we need Photometry if we already have Radiometry



$\lambda = 0.45\mu\text{m}$   
1 watt  $\approx$  25.5 lumens

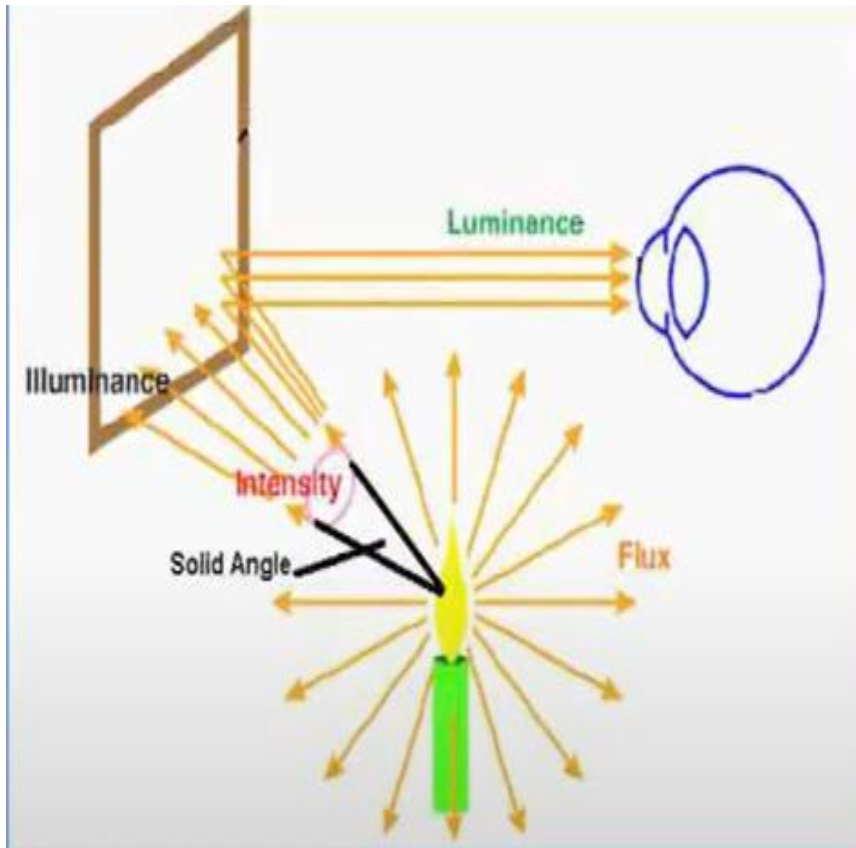


$\lambda = 0.55\mu\text{m}$   
1 watt  $\approx$  670 lumens



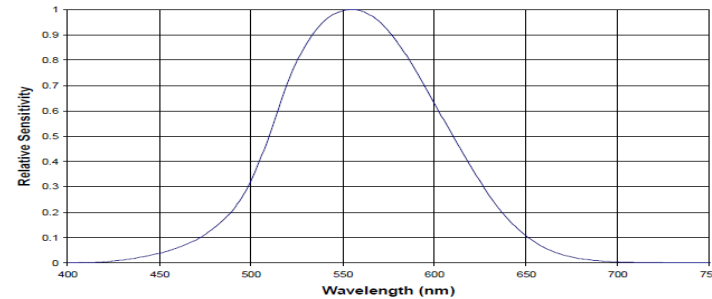
$\lambda = 0.63\mu\text{m}$   
1 watt  $\approx$  178 lumens

# Conversion from Radiometric to Photometric Quantities



- Power (Watts) is converted to luminous flux (lumens) via the relation:

$$\Phi_v = K \int_{380}^{780} P_e(\lambda) V(\lambda) d\lambda$$

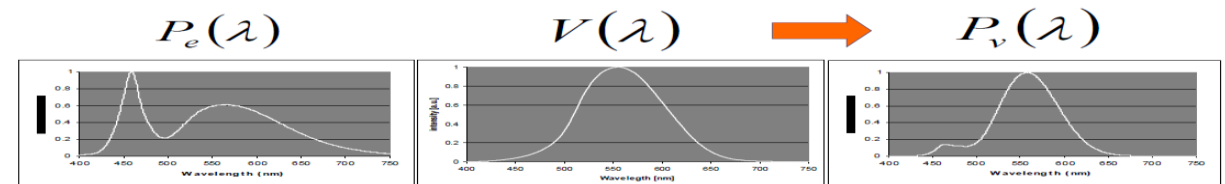


$\Phi_v$  = flux (lumens)

$P_e$  = Power

$V$  = photopic response function of the human eye

$K$  = constant (683 lm/W for photopic)



$$\Phi_v = K \int_{380}^{780} P_e(\lambda) V(\lambda) d\lambda$$

# Spectral Distribution and Luminous Efficacy

Photopic response of Light is the plot between Spectral Radiant Flux and the wavelength

Spectral Efficacy is a measure of how much lumens are obtained per watt of Radiant Flux

1 Watt converts to 683 lumens at 555 nm wavelength.

The maximum Luminous efficacy of 100% is obtained as 683 lumens/watt at 555 nm

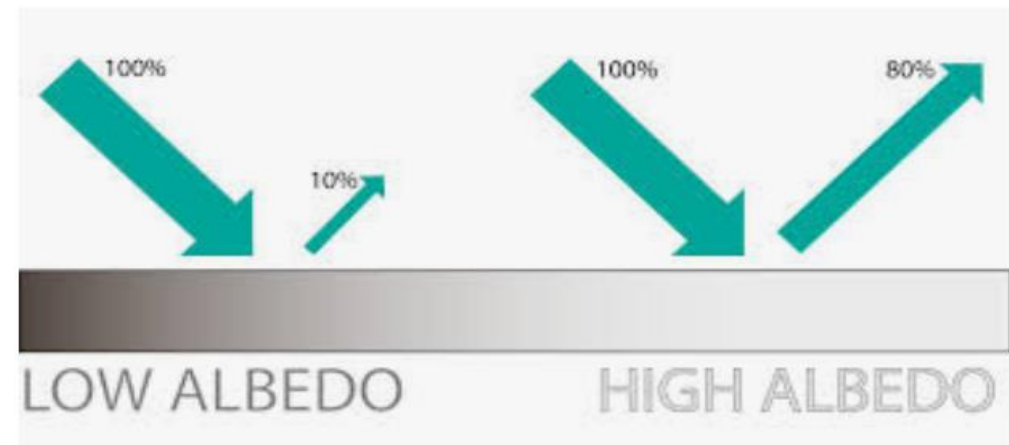
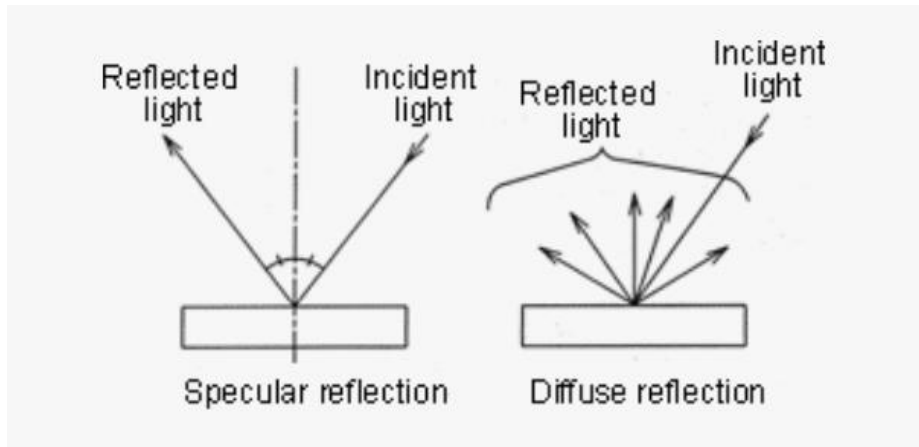
There is no direct correlation between Radiant flux and Luminous flux

Even if a white light source has Radiant spectral exactly same as the photopic curve the maximum efficacy is 240 lumens/watt

# Interaction of Light and Materials

## Albedo

The ratio of amount of radiant flux leaving a surface to the amount of radiant flux incident on the surface.



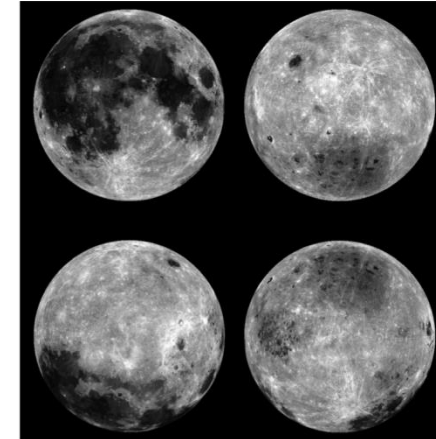
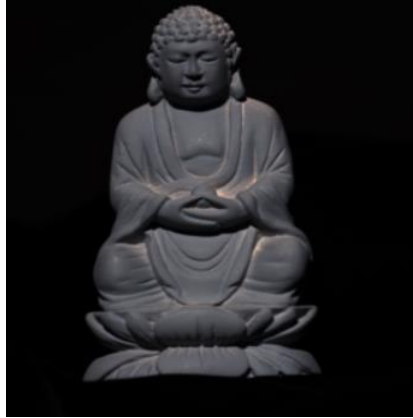
For perfectly diffuse surfaces

$$\Phi_r = E_i A \rho = \pi L_r A \rho$$

$$1 \geq \Phi_r / \Phi_i \geq 0$$

# Interaction of Light and Materials

## Example of Albedo Map



Objects and their corresponding albedos

# Interaction of Light and Materials

## **BRDF**

The Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function (BRDF), measured at a single point  $x$  on a surface, is the ratio of outgoing radiance  $L_i$  to incoming irradiance  $E_i$ , where irradiance is received from just one direction.

$$BRDF = f_r(x, \lambda, \theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_r, \phi_r) = dL_r / dE_i$$

The reflectance of the material varies with the illumination direction and the viewing direction. BRDF, which describes what portion of the incident light from one direction will leave in another given direction.

# Interaction of Light and Materials

## Properties of BRDF

1

- Incoming and outgoing directions cover all directions both above and below the surface, thus enabling BRDF to describe reflection and transmission combined.

2

- The BRDF function is symmetric for all materials. Its value is identical if we swap the incoming and outgoing directions. This is known as Helmholtz Reciprocity.

3

- It is not simply the ratio of incoming and outgoing radiance for two chosen rays, a ratio that would always fall between 0 and 1. It is the ratio of the outgoing ray's radiance  $L_r$  to the irradiance  $E$  from only one direction.
- Thus a perfect diffuse reflector has a BRDF value of 1 and not the value of  $1/\pi$  you might initially expect.

4

- The 5 input dimensions of BRDF namely the 4 angles(incoming,outgoing) and wavelength makes it tedious to calculate.
- Though BRDF databases for different surfaces are present,usually we resort for parameterized BRDF models for the surface.



# Interaction of Light and Materials

## BSSRDF

BSSRDF is Bi-Directional Sub-Surface Reflectance Distribution Function

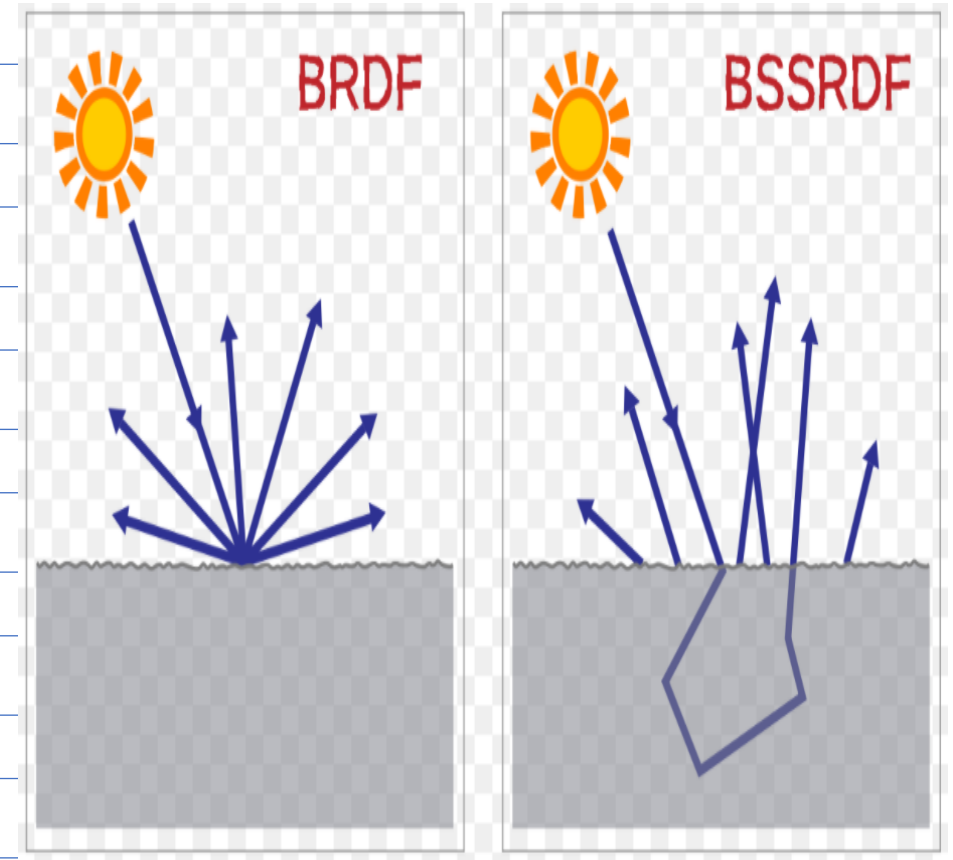
BRDF based models fail to model the surfaces which are translucent like human skin, marble, milk etc.

BRDF assumes every material to be either opaque or transparent.

BRDF assumes that ray changes occur only at surfaces not within the surface.

That is, it does not acknowledge sub-surface scattering.

BSSRDF is also calculated using predefined parametric surface models



- Using Radiometry and Photometry any source of light and its incidence on a surface can be measured.
- With the help of Albedo, BRDF and BSSRDF any material can be characterized for its interaction with light rays.

**Hence, we can define an optical system with**

**RAYs**



# **Understanding Lenses and Digital Cameras**

# What are Lenses

Any ray-bending device qualifies as a lens, including mirrors, running water, and atmospheric anomalies.

For imaging a lens is any device that bends incoming rays into useful patterns of outgoing rays.

Rays Define a vast set of Lenses in 9D space with each point defining a unique lens.

However, meaningful lenses for focused images fall on a 3D manifold of 9D space

Parameters we can control in Lens Design are

- Refractive Index
- Lens Shape

However, assessment of Lens Error is not done using 9D function calculation rather by assessing the images they form

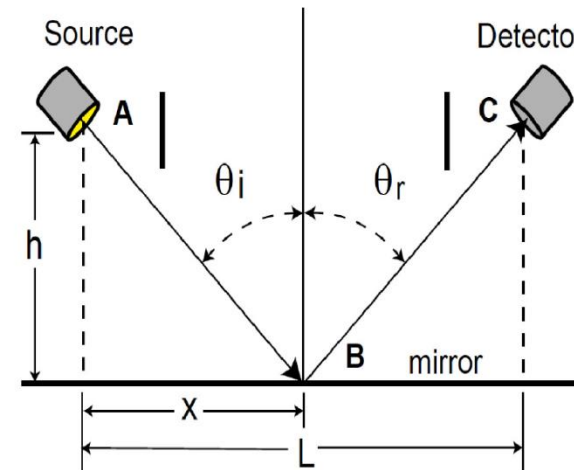
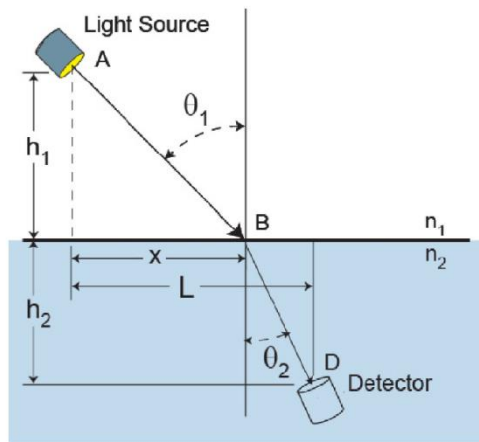
# Ray Bending

## 4 Laws of Ray bending in Optics

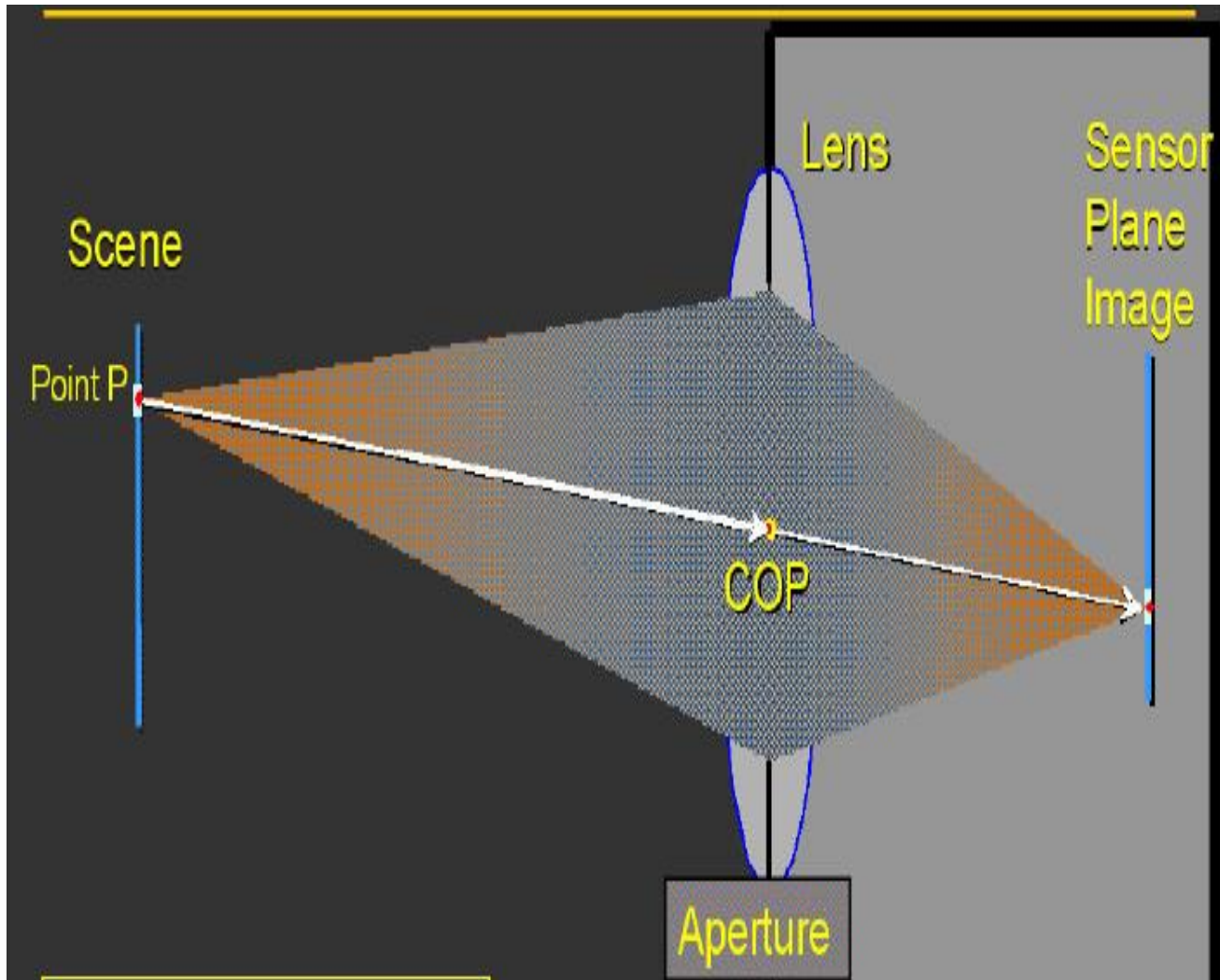
1. Light travels in a straight line path in a material of constant refractive index
2. The angle of incidence is same as the angle of reflection
3. The ray bending occurs when light propagates from one medium to other according to following equation

$$\eta_1 \sin \theta_1 = \eta_2 \sin \theta_2$$

4. Rays and Refraction Laws are only valid for optical systems where diffraction doesn't occur. Diffraction modifies the path of the rays that pass through openings of size  $< 10 \cdot \lambda$



# Ray Bending for Image formation

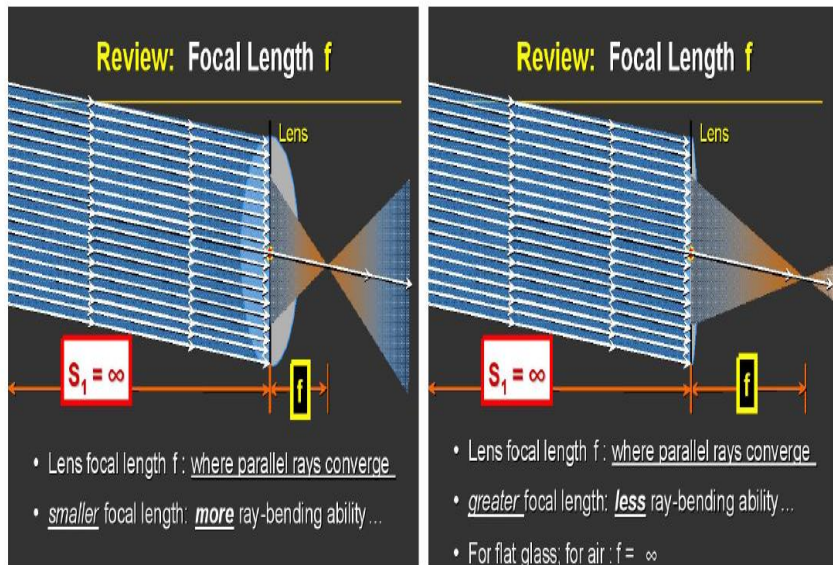


- Through the ray bundles some finite fraction of Radiant exitance  $M$  from scene point  $P$  becomes the radiance  $E$  on sensor
- However, every time calculating the  $E$  is cumbersome, so we model lenses as thin Lens for the practical purposes

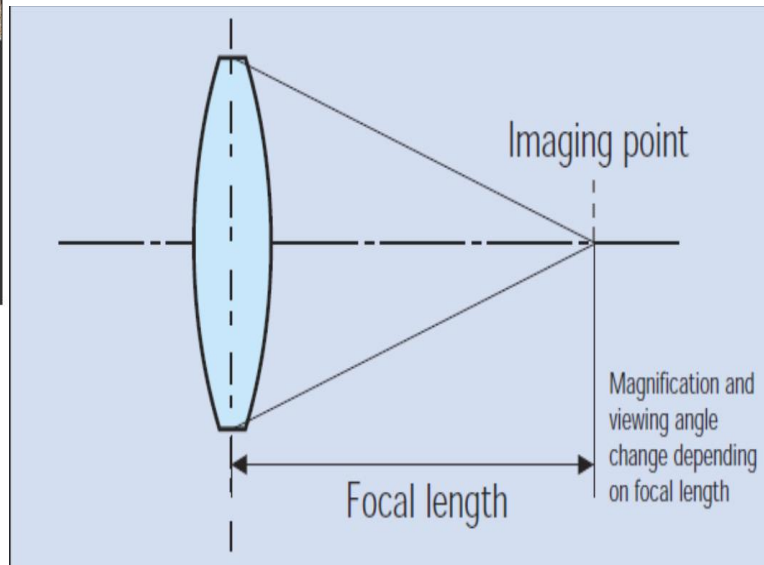
# Ideal Thin Lens parameters

We have 3 parameters to choose from for defining Ideal Lens completely

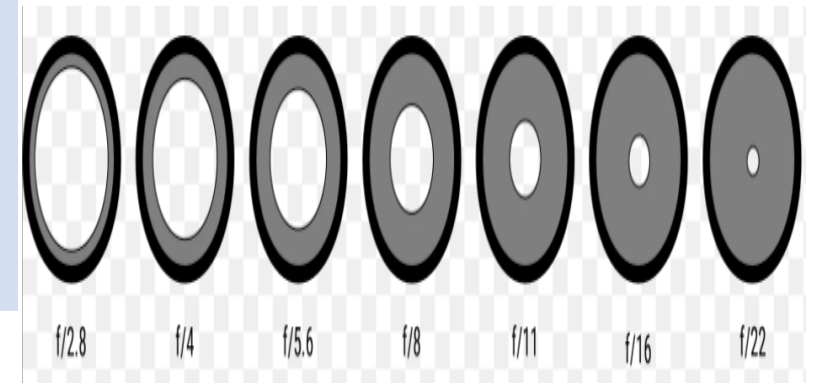
## Focal Length



## Aperture Diameter



## Lens Speed or f-number



# Digital Camera Parameters

Field of  
View

Depth of  
Field

Sensor  
Size

Working  
Distance

Resolution

PMAG

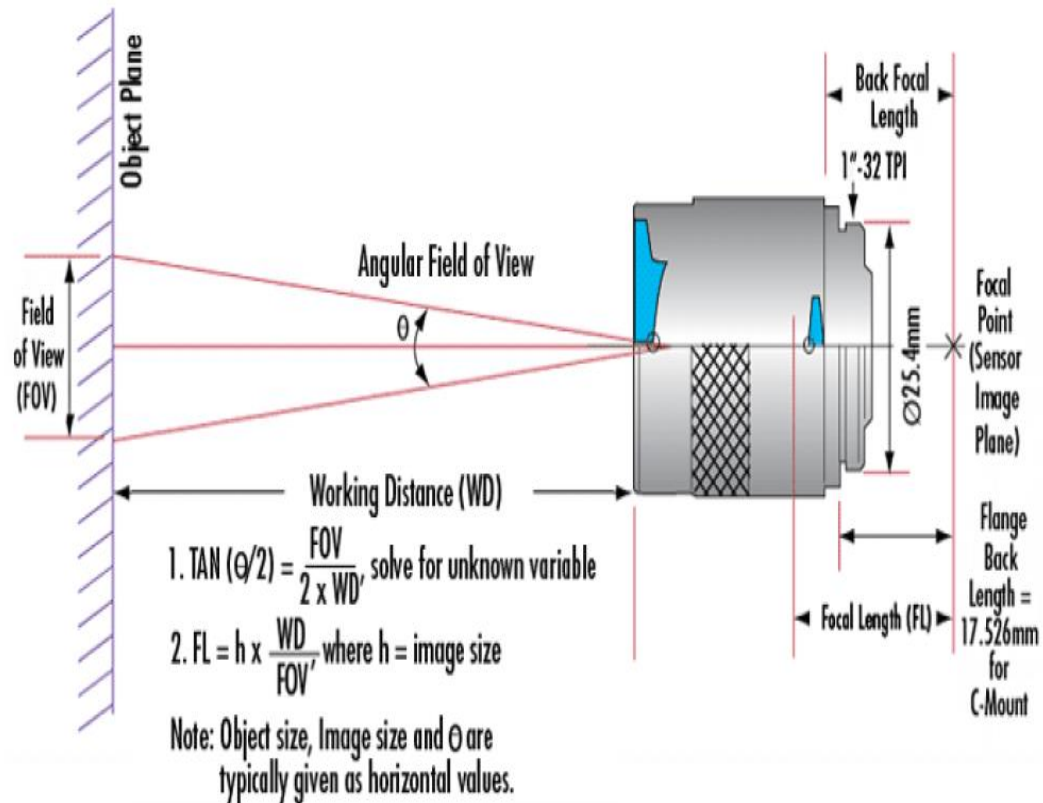
$$\text{PMAG} = \text{Sensor Size [mm]} / \text{Field of View[mm]}$$



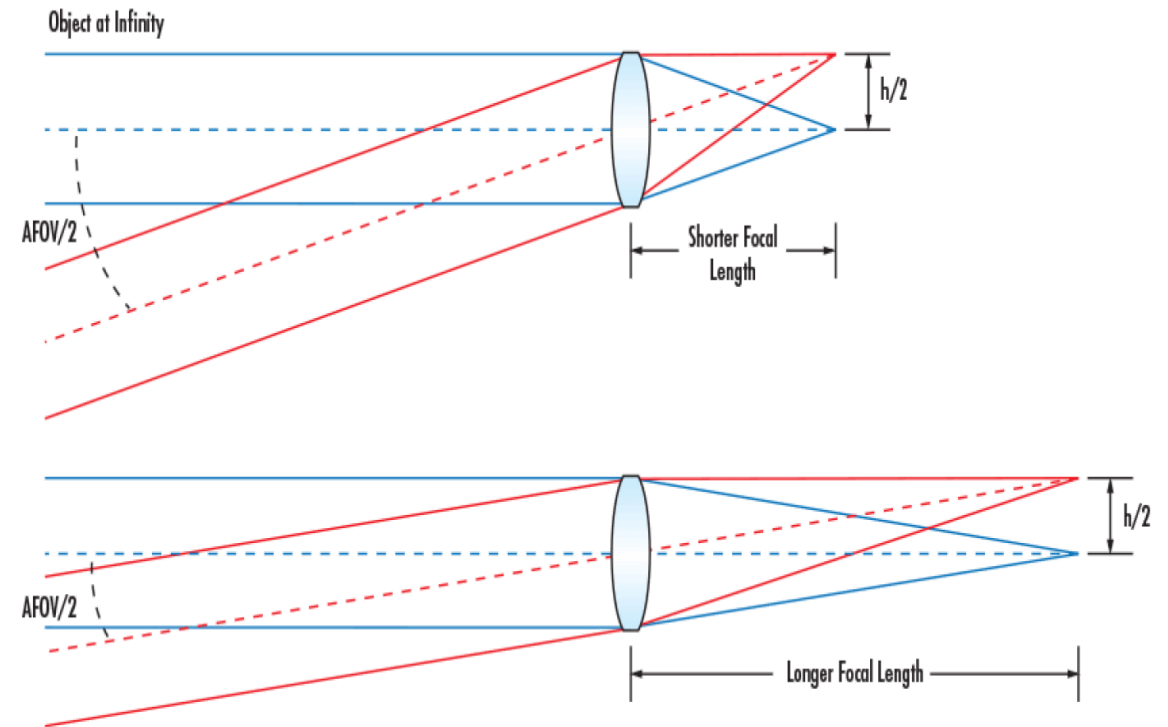
Image Credit: Edmund Optics



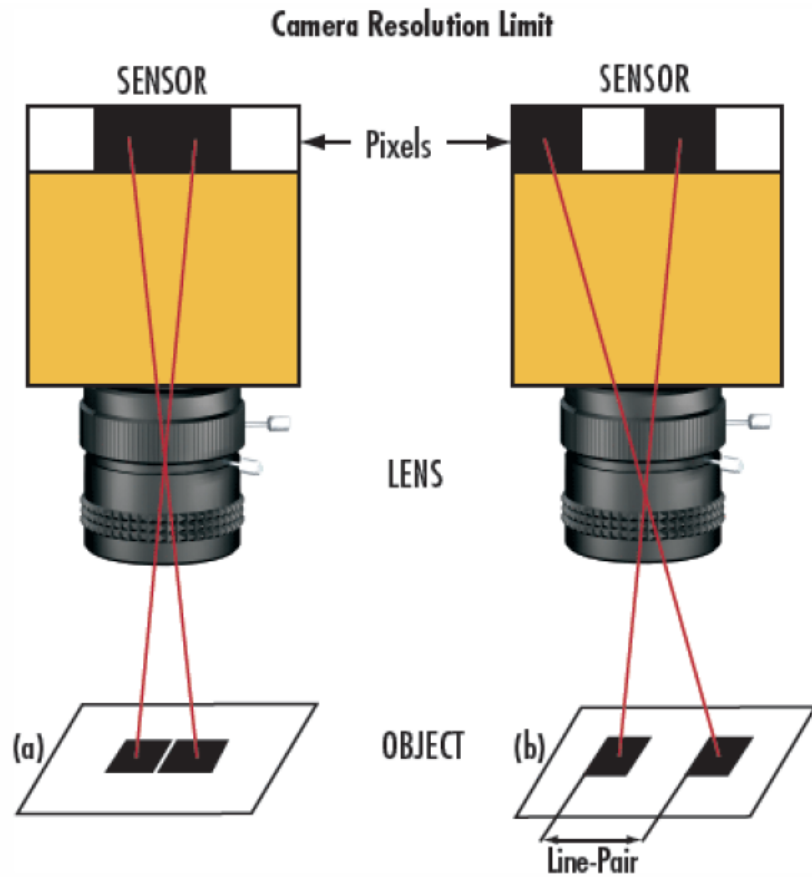
# Focal Length and Field of View



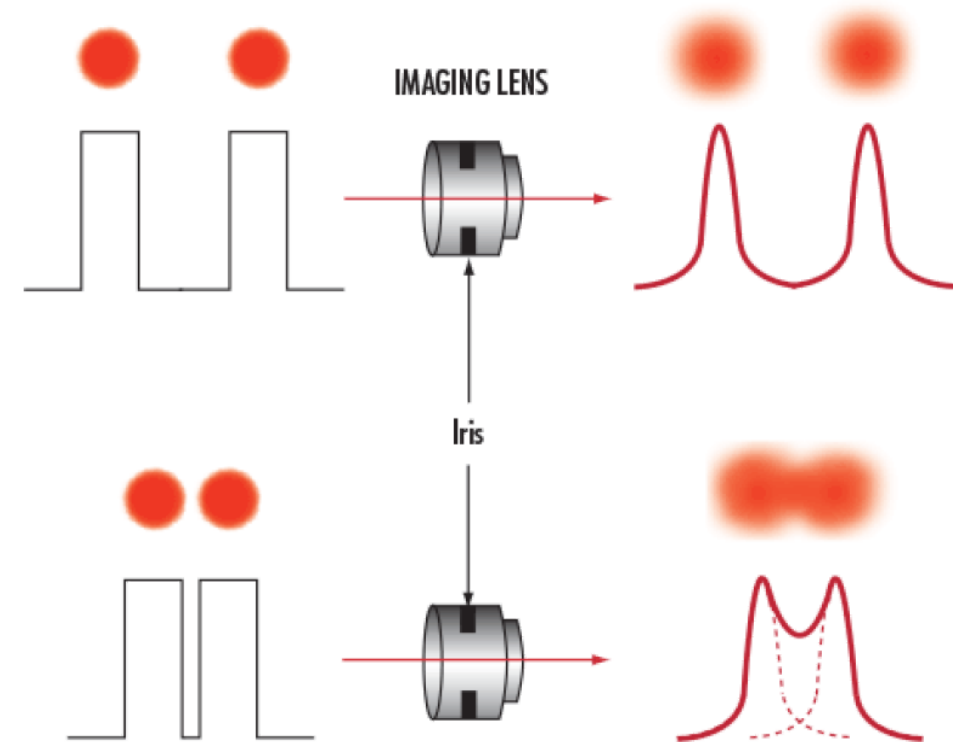
$$\text{AFOV} [^\circ] = 2 \times \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{h}{2f} \right)$$



# Resolution

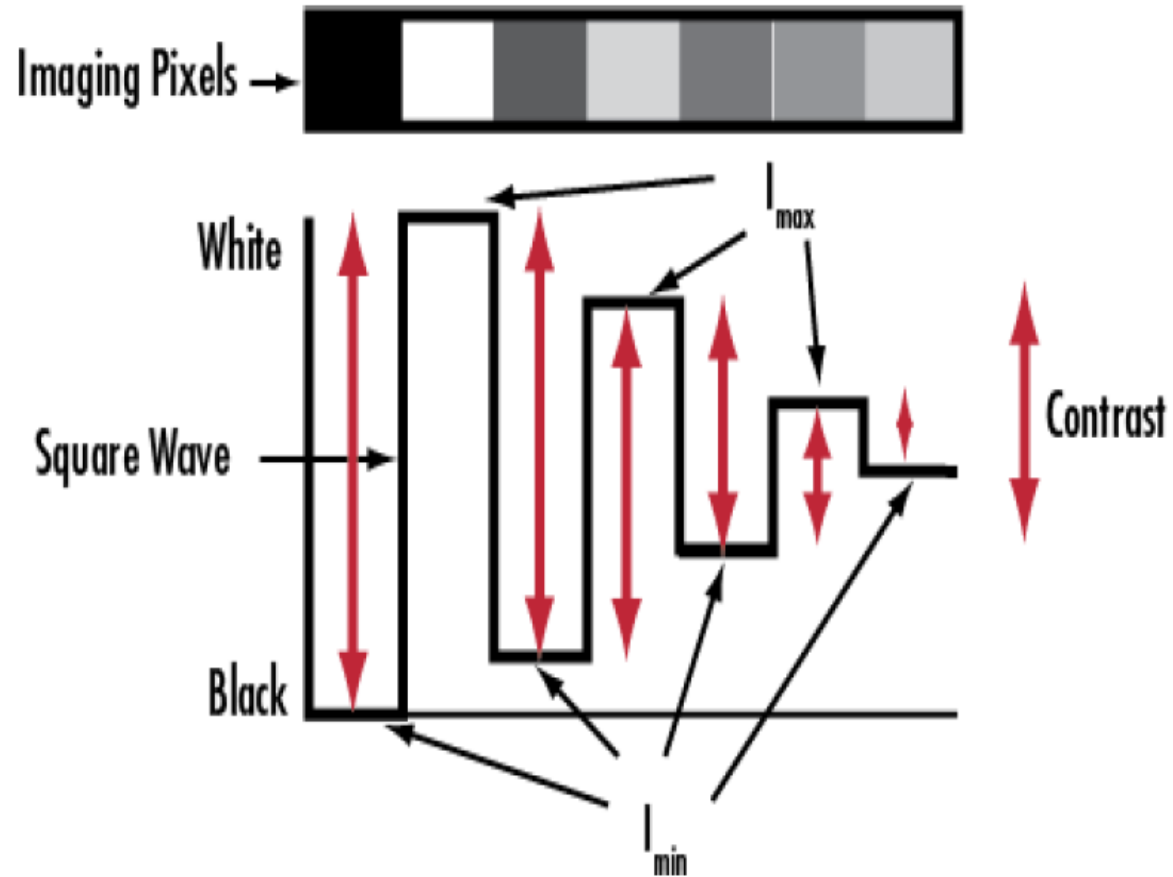


**Figure 1:** Resolving Two Squares. If the space between the squares is too small (a) the camera sensor will be unable to resolve them as separate objects



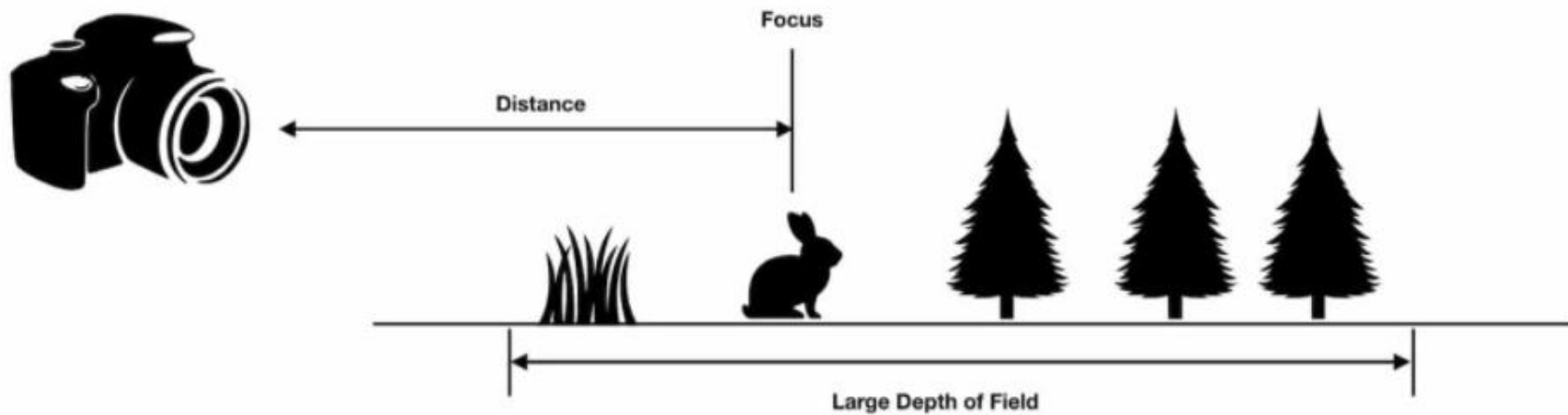
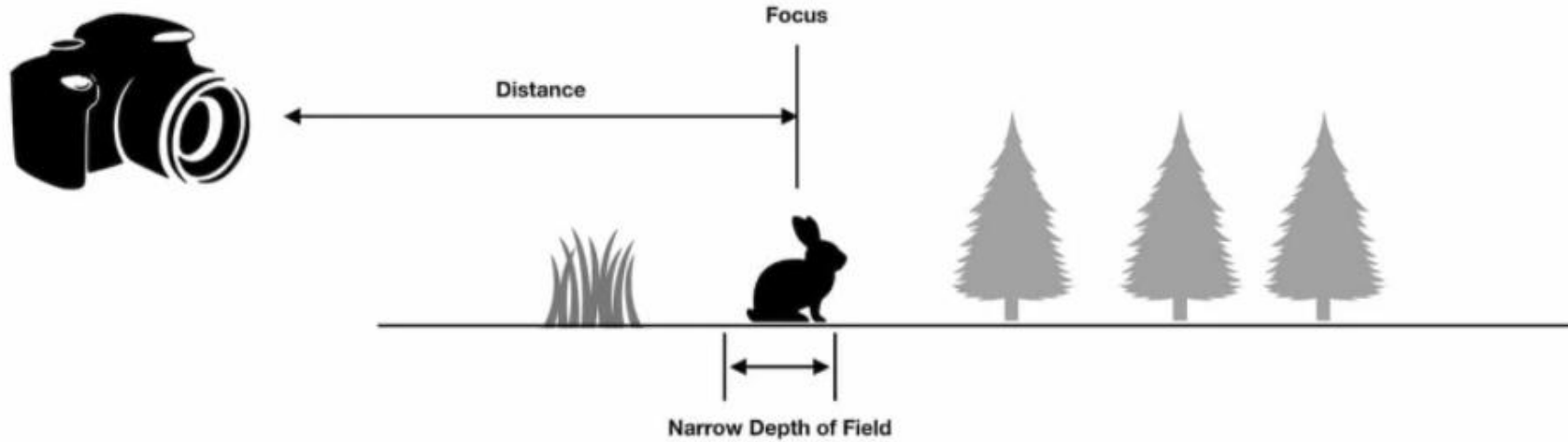
**Figure 2:** Two spots Being Imaged by the Same Lens. The Top Lens is Imaging Objects at a Low Frequency, the Bottom Lens is Imaging Objects at a Higher Frequency

# Contrast



$$\% \text{ Contrast} = \left[ \frac{I_{\max} - I_{\min}}{I_{\max} + I_{\min}} \right]$$

# Depth of Field



# Digital Camera and Thin Lens Trade-Offs

Larger the focal length  
larger the PMAG but  
smaller the field of view

Shorter the focal length  
larger the field of view but  
more distortions and cost  
of lens

Larger the Focal Length  
and aperture more is the  
light admitted for dimly lit  
scene but smaller the FOV

Increasing Depth of Focus  
requires smaller aperture  
hence increased exposure  
time and higher sensor  
sensitivity leading to  
higher noise

Higher the Spatial  
resolution smaller the pixel  
size larger the data storage  
requirements

Exposure time too large  
moving objects appear  
blurred and when too short  
then less amount of light  
gets captured

Higher the spatial  
resolution poorer is Depth  
of Focus

Larger lens apertures  
gather more light, but  
reduce the depth of focus  
in the image

A longer exposure time, additional scene lighting, or greater sensitivity makes brighter pictures. But a longer exposure time can increase blur, additional lighting can disrupt scene appearance, and greater sensitivity results in increased noise.



# **Conclusion**

# Future Impact of Computational Photography

Still many unanswered questions remain in-front of Computational Photography few of them are-

- What will the future of photography look like?
- What will a camera look like in ten years? In twenty years? In fifty years?
- How will powerful new movie-making capabilities change the nature of photography?
- Will photography as we know it disappear into a soup of unlimited media possibilities?
- How will online photo collections transform visual social computing?
- How will a billion portable networked cameras change the social culture?

But Overall,

**Computational photography, in which photographs of the future will be computed rather than recorded, has already started to change the work-flow of imaging and give us new and expanded opportunities for seeing.**

# References

- Computational Photography by Raskar Tumblin
- Computational Cameras: Redefining the Image By Shree K. Nayar
- <https://www.edmundoptics.com/knowledge-center>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3PeDWVmlEc&list=PLhjuzo9ZFB2klp0S8IVrKwdVT13aBTI0q&index=18>
- <https://www.khanacademy.org/science/physics/geometric-optics/lenses/v/diopters-aberration-and-the-human-eye?modal=1>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Koq19e4xVgg&list=PLjRBT0-8H-NHkA7JxZ4b4o5WDgFcbghOd&index=5>
- <https://www.breault.com/bro-products/apex>





**Thank You!!!**