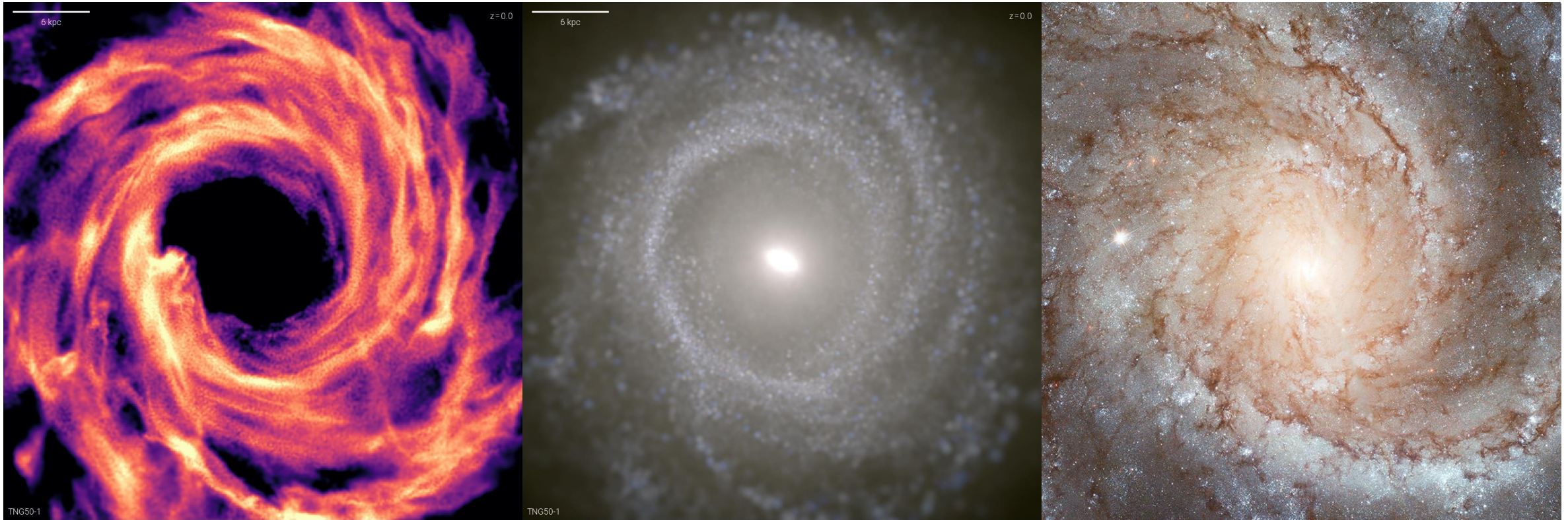


# Radiative Transfer

2022.02.22 AstroRead @ NTHU Astronomy Club

Why do we care about radiative processes?

# 為什麼我們要學輻射過程？

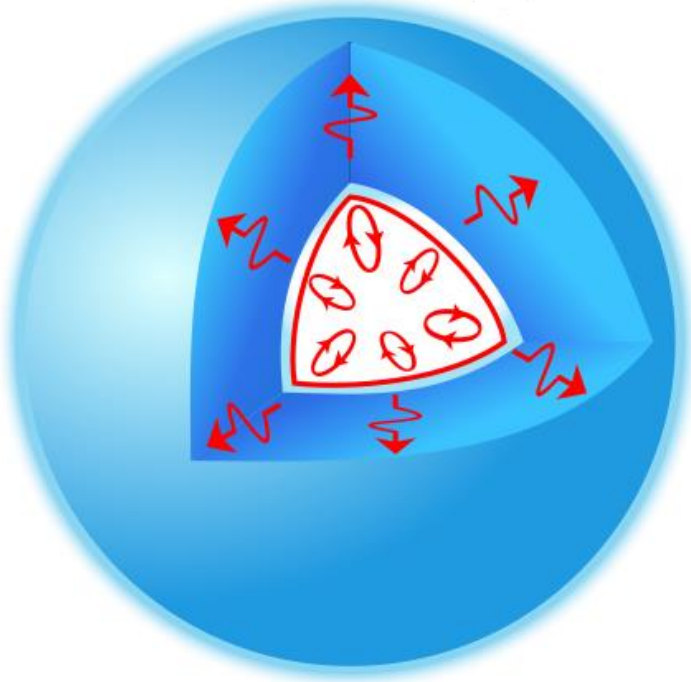


illustrisTNG | NASA, ESA, K. Kuntz, F. Bresolin, J. Trauger, J. Mould, Y.-H. Chu, Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope/J.-C. Cuillandre/Coelum, and G. Jacoby, B. Bohannon, and M. Hanna/NOAO/AURA/NSF

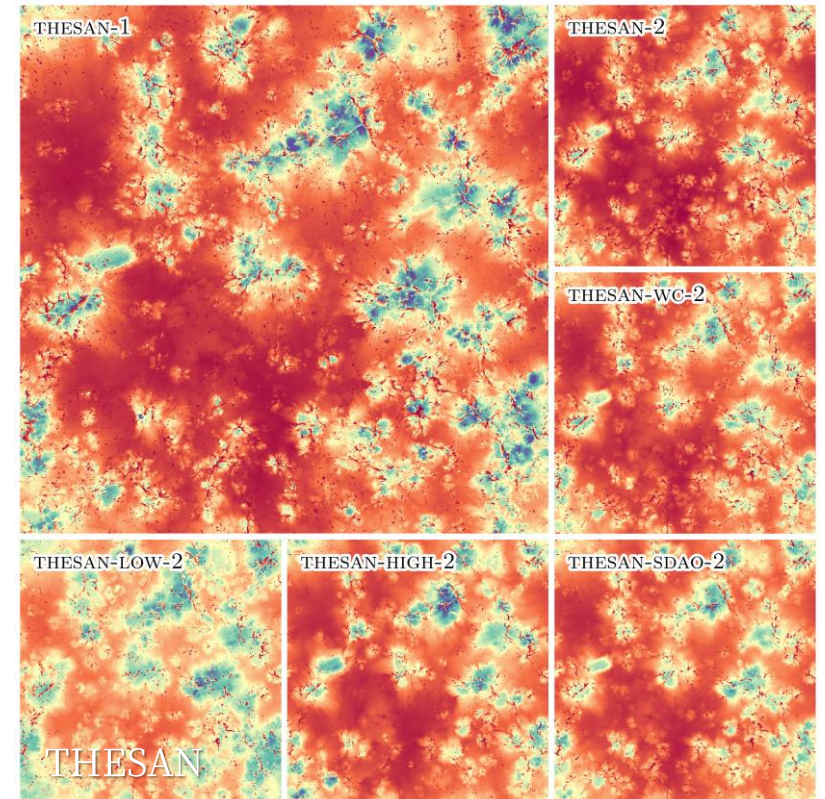
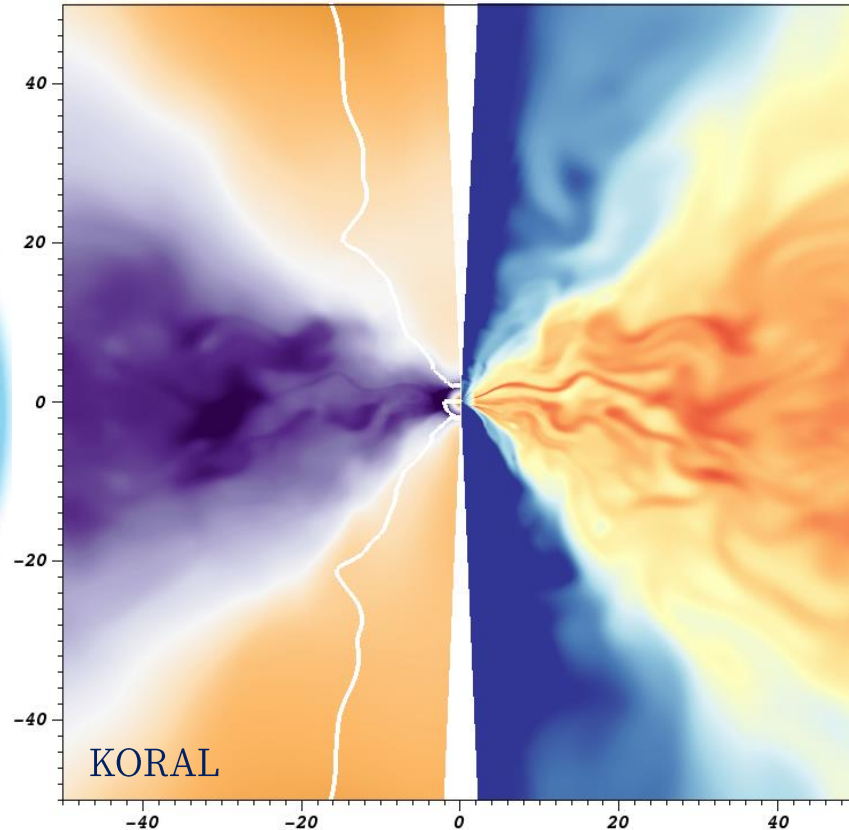


Why do we care about radiative processes?

# 為什麼我們要學輻射過程？



Д.Ильин



How to define the Intensity of light?

# 描述光的強度

「亮」的天體到底是什麼意思？

In physical sciences [\[ edit \]](#)

Physics [\[ edit \]](#)

- **Intensity (physics)**, power per unit area ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ )
- **Field strength** of electric, magnetic, or electromagnetic fields ( $\text{V}/\text{m}$ ,  $\text{T}$ , etc.)
- **Intensity (heat transfer)**, radiant heat flux per unit area per unit solid angle ( $\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}$ )
- **Electric current**, whose value is sometimes called *current intensity* in older books

Optics [\[ edit \]](#)

- **Radiant intensity**, power per unit solid angle ( $\text{W}/\text{sr}$ )
- **Luminous intensity**, luminous flux per unit solid angle ( $\text{lm}/\text{sr}$  or  $\text{cd}$ )
- **Irradiance**, power per unit area ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ )

Astronomy [\[ edit \]](#)

- **Radiance**, power per unit solid angle per unit projected source area ( $\text{W}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$ )

Seismology [\[ edit \]](#)

- **Mercalli intensity scale**, a measure of earthquake impact
- **Japan Meteorological Agency seismic intensity scale**, a measure of earthquake impact
- **Peak ground acceleration**, a measure of earthquake acceleration ( $\text{g}$  or  $\text{m}/\text{s}^2$ )

Acoustics [\[ edit \]](#)

- **Sound intensity**, sound power per unit area

國際單位制的輻射量單位

閱·論·編

物理量	符號	國際單位制	單位符號	注釋
輻射出射度 ( Radiant exitance )	$M_e$	瓦特每平方米	$\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$	表面出射的輻射通量
輻射度 ( Radiosity )	$J_e$ or $J_{e\lambda}$	瓦特每平方米	$\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$	表面出射及反射的輻射通量總和
輻射率 ( Radiance )	$L_e$	瓦特每立徑每平方米	$\text{W}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$	每單位立體角每單位投射表面的輻射通量。
輻射能 ( Radiant energy )	$Q_e$	焦耳	$\text{J}$	能量。
輻射能量密度 ( Radiant energy density )	$\omega_e$	焦耳每立方公尺	$\text{J}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$	
輻射強度 ( Radiant intensity )	$I_e$	瓦特每立徑	$\text{W}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}$	每單位立體角的輻射通量。
輻射曝光量 ( Radiant exposure )	$H_e$	焦耳每平方米	$\text{J}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$	
輻射通量 ( Radiant flux )	$\Phi_e$	瓦特	$\text{W}$	每單位時間的輻射能量，亦作「輻射功率」。
輻照度 ( Irradiance )	$E_e$	瓦特每平方米	$\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}$	入射表面的輻射通量。
光譜輻射出射度 ( Spectral radiant emittance )	$M_{e\lambda}$ 或 $M_{e\nu}$	瓦特每立方公尺 或 瓦特每平方米每赫茲	$\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ or $\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{Hz}^{-1}$	表面出射的輻射通量的波長或頻率的分佈
光譜輻射率 ( Spectral radiance )	$L_{e\lambda}$ 或 $L_{e\nu}$	瓦特每立徑每立方公尺 或 瓦特每立徑每平方米每赫茲	$\text{W}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ 或 $\text{W}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{Hz}^{-1}$	常用 $\text{W}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{nm}^{-1}$
光譜輻照度 ( Spectral irradiance )	$E_\lambda$ 或 $E_\nu$	瓦特每立方公尺 或 瓦特每平方米每赫茲	$\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ 或 $\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{Hz}^{-1}$	通常測量單位為 $\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{nm}^{-1}$
光譜功率 ( Spectral power )	$\Phi_{e\lambda}$	瓦特每米	$\text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$	輻射通量的波長分佈
光譜強度 ( Spectral intensity )	$I_{e\lambda}$	瓦特每立徑每米	$\text{W}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$	輻射強度的波長分佈

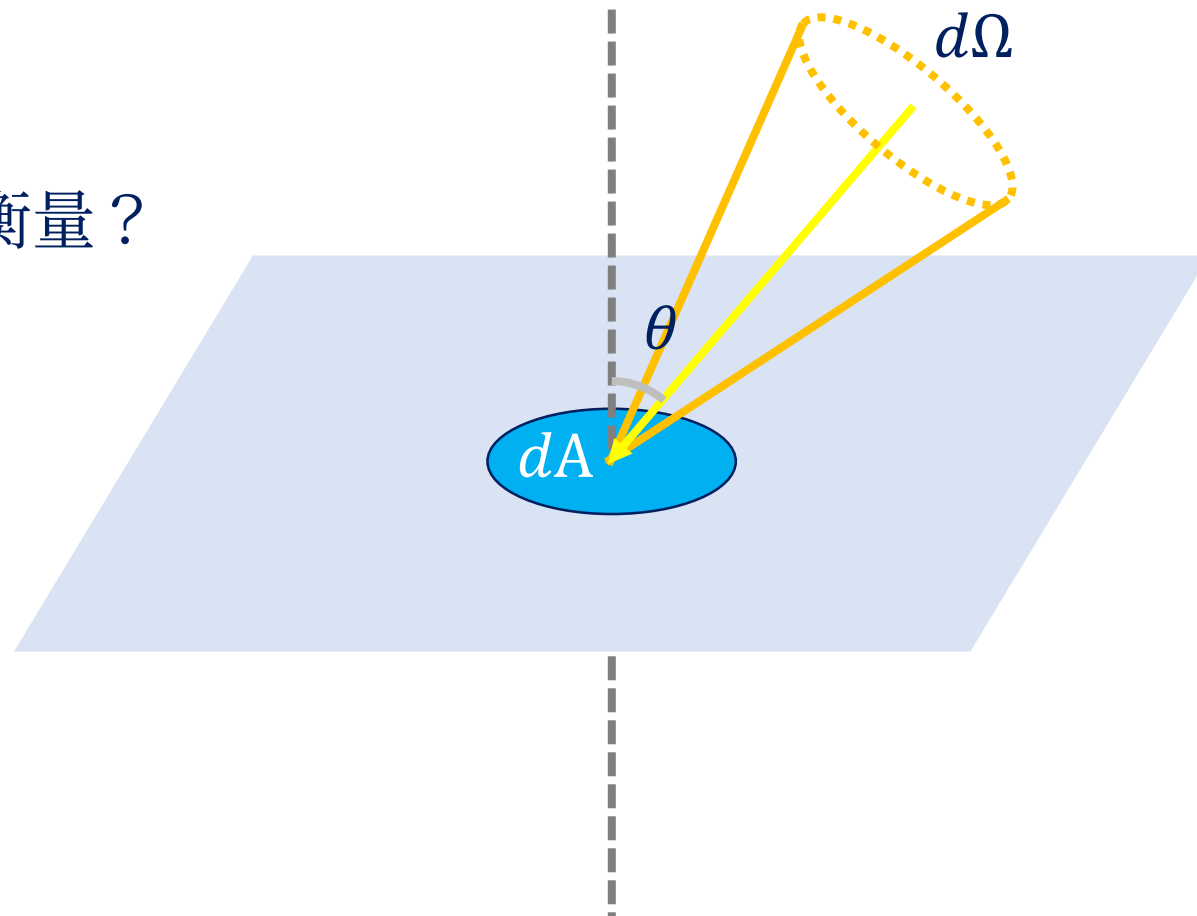
How to define the **Intensity** of light?

## 描述光的強度・續

回歸本質，天體的亮應當用哪個物理量衡量？

又有什麼因素會影響天體的「亮度」？

$$\frac{dE}{\cos \theta dt dA d\Omega d\nu} = I_\nu$$





Specific Intensity

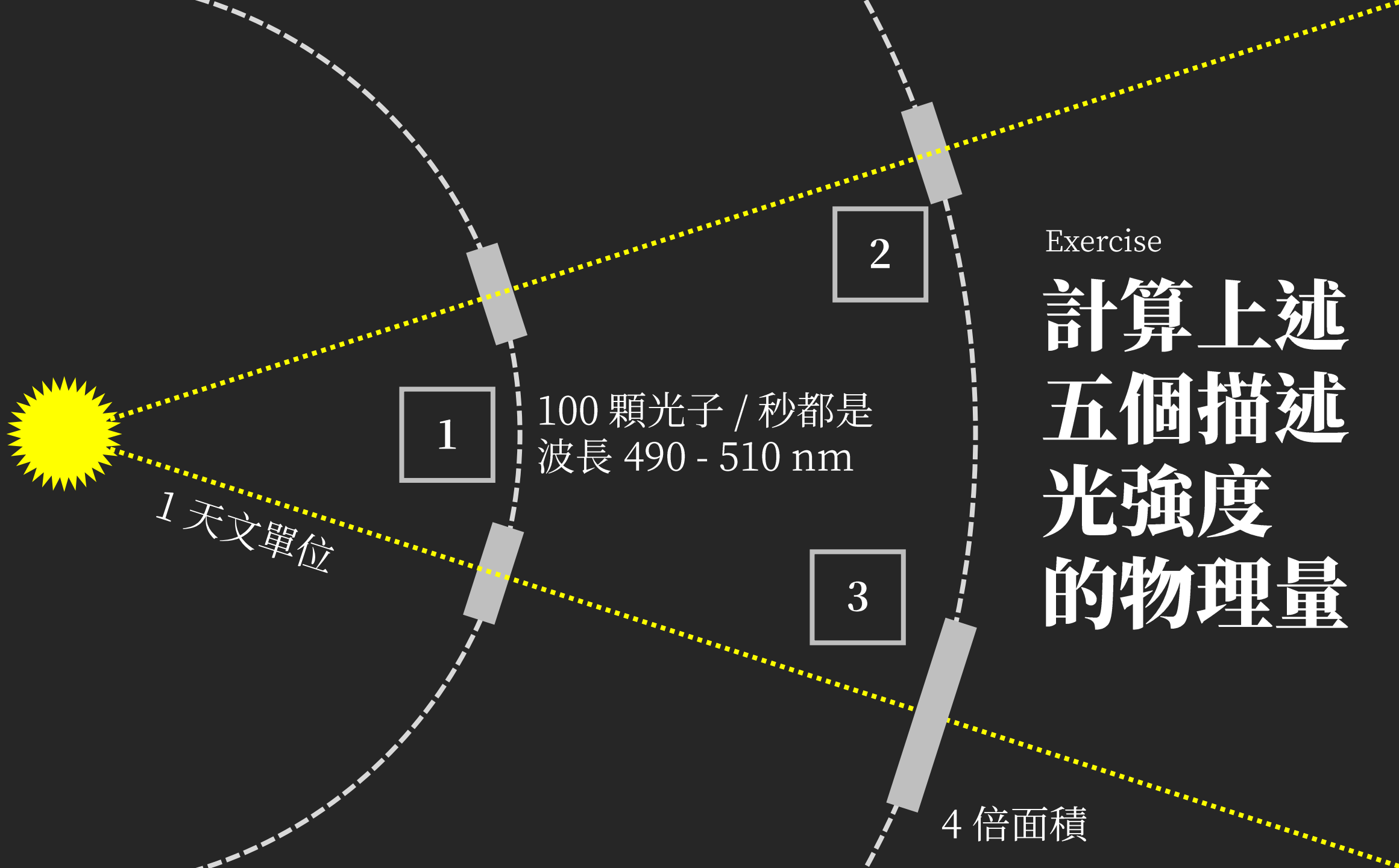
# 描述光的強度・再

1. Energy Received (E) , 單位 [ erg ]
2. Total Flux (F) , 單位 [ erg s<sup>-1</sup> ]
3. Flux (f) , 單位 [ erg cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> ]
4. Total Intensity (I) , 單位 [ erg cm<sup>-2</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> ] , 又叫 Surface Brightness
5. Specific Intensity (I<sub>ν</sub>) , 單位 [ erg cm<sup>-2</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> Hz<sup>-1</sup> ]

The **names** are not important. What you should care about is the **units**.

I<sub>ν</sub> is convenient because it is an **intrinsic** property of the source.

$$\frac{dE}{\cos \theta dt dA d\Omega d\nu} = I_{\nu}$$



Exercise

計算上述  
五個描述  
光強度  
的物理量

直覺法：

[1]

- $E = 100h\nu$
- $F = 100h\nu/t$
- $f = 100h\nu/At$
- $I = 100h\nu/At\Omega$
- $I_\nu = 100h\nu/At\Omega\Delta\nu$

[2]

- $E = 25h\nu$
- $F = 25h\nu/t$
- $f = 25h\nu/At$
- $I = 25h\nu/At\left(\frac{\Omega}{4}\right)$
- $I_\nu = \frac{25h\nu}{At\left(\frac{\Omega}{4}\right)\Delta\nu}$

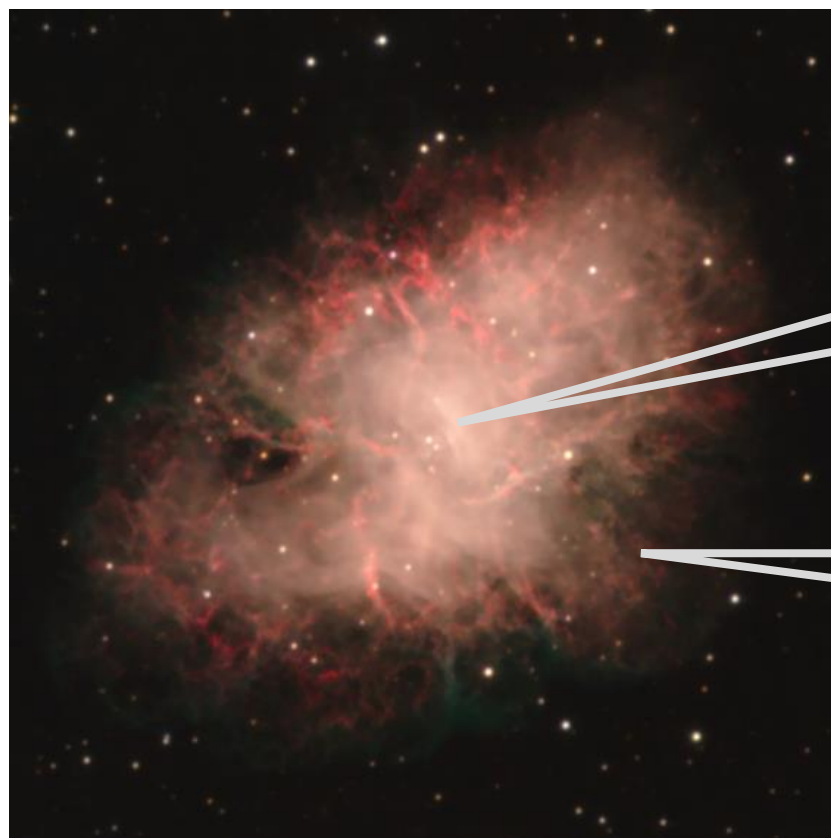
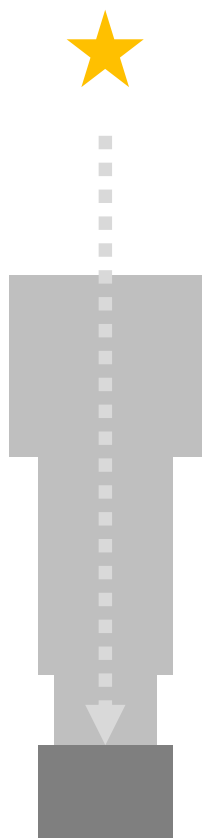
[3]

- $E = 100h\nu$
- $F = 100h\nu/t$
- $f = 100h\nu/(4A)t$
- $I = \frac{100h\nu}{(4A)t\left(\frac{\Omega}{4}\right)}$
- $I_\nu = \frac{100h\nu}{4At\left(\frac{\Omega}{4}\right)\Delta\nu}$



Exercise

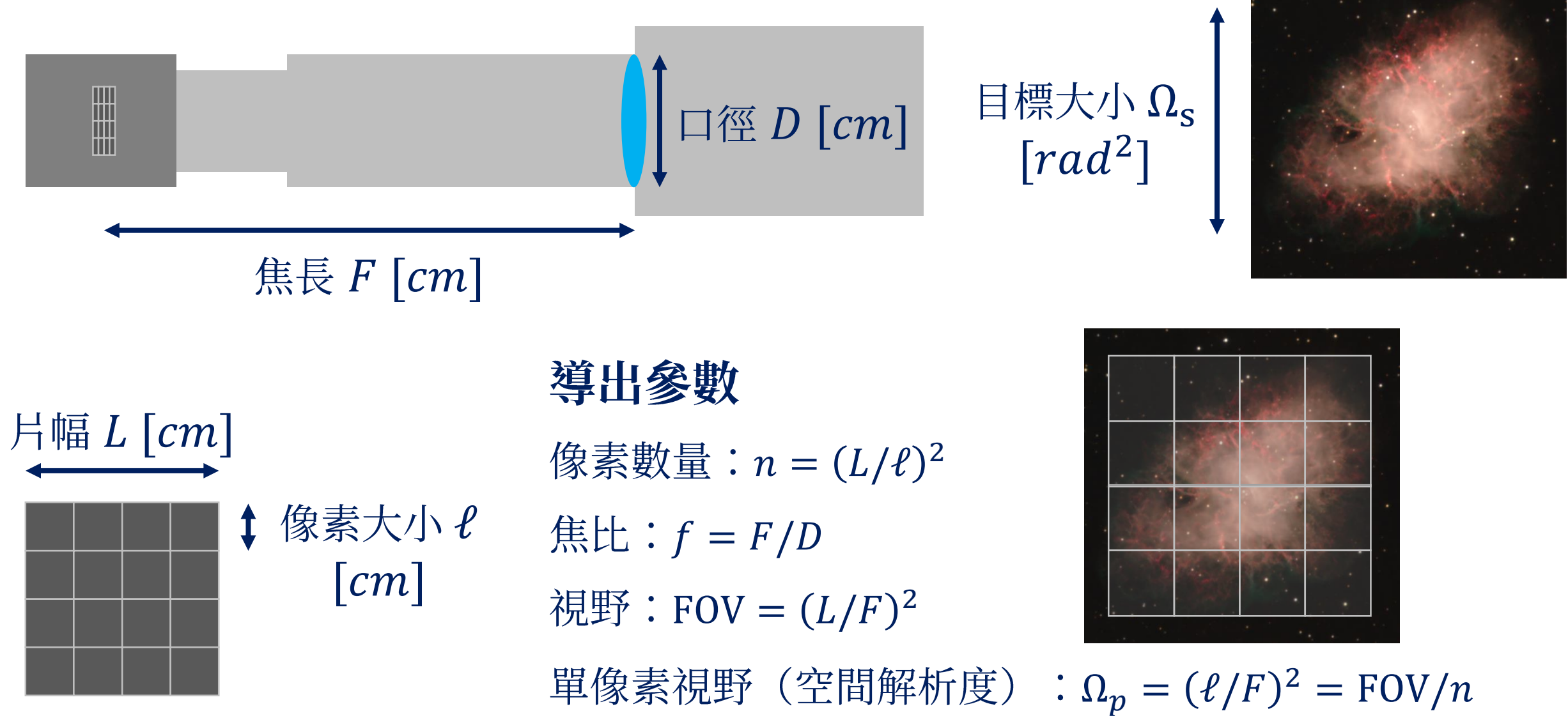
# 感光元件的 Count 對應的物理量是？

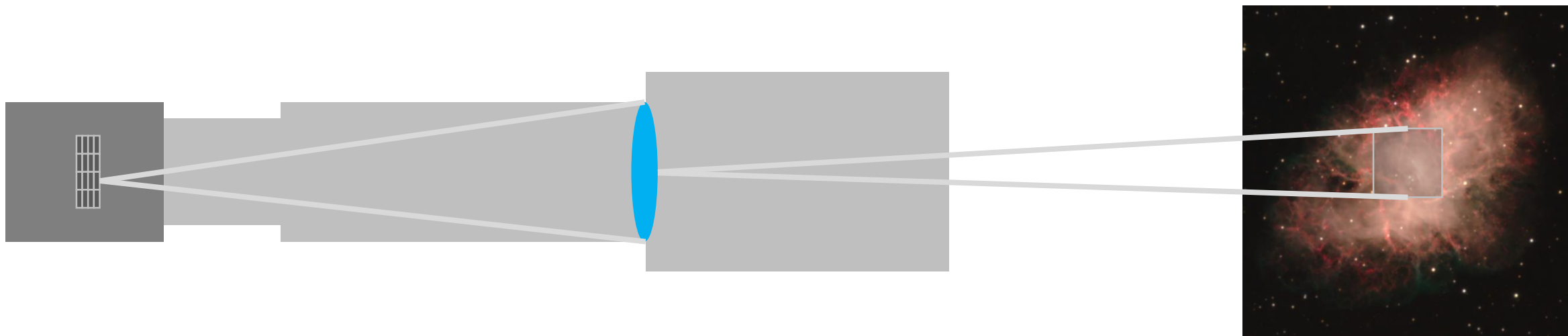


500

100

Credit: 許淵明





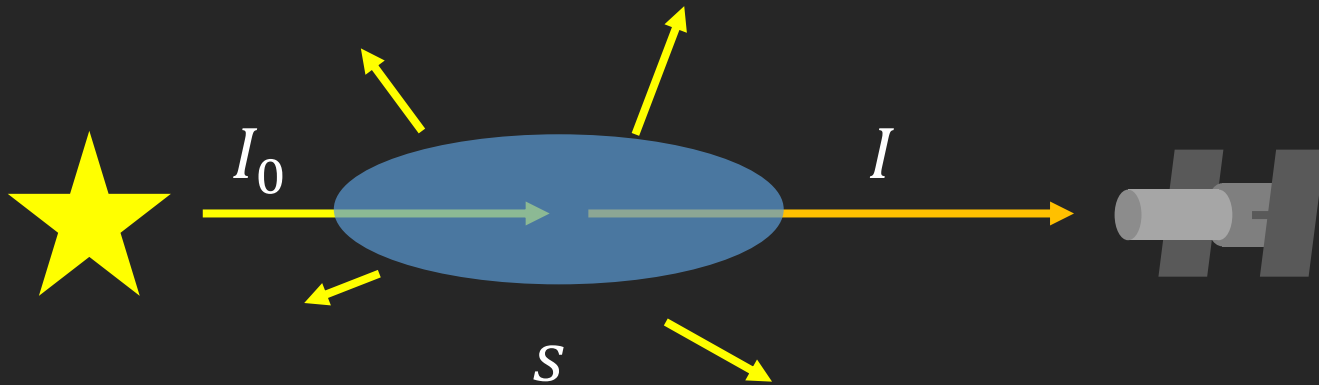
$$N = \int_T \int_A \int_{\Omega} I d\Omega dA dt = I \Omega A T = I \left( \frac{\ell}{F} \right)^2 D^2 T = I \left( \frac{D}{F} \right)^2 \ell^2 T$$

Radiative Transfer

# 光的強度變化：輻射轉移

What will change the intensity of light?

**Emission, Absorption and Scattering.**



$$\frac{dI_\nu}{ds} = -\alpha_\nu I_\nu + j_\nu$$



# 輻射轉移・續

More on absorption coefficient:

$$\alpha_\nu = n\sigma_\nu = \rho\kappa_\nu$$

With **no emission**, the radiation transfer equation reduce to:

$$\frac{dI_\nu}{ds} = -\alpha_\nu I_\nu$$

Solving this ODE we see

$$I_\nu(s) = I_\nu(0)\exp\left(-\int_0^s \alpha_\nu(s)ds\right) \equiv I_\nu(0)e^{-\tau_\nu}, \quad d\tau_\nu = \alpha_\nu ds$$

We define **optical depth** accordingly.

Radiative Transfer

# 輻射轉移・再

On the other hand, if there is no absorption, we have

$$\frac{dI_\nu}{ds} = j_\nu \Rightarrow I_\nu(s) = I_\nu(0) + \int_0^s j_\nu ds$$

Which is kind of trivial. :p

Radiative Transfer

# 輻射轉移・改

For some reason, people often use another form of radiative transfer equ.

We define the **Source Function**:

$$S_\nu = \frac{j_\nu}{\alpha_\nu}$$

Plug it back into the R.T.E we get

$$\frac{dI_\nu}{d\tau_\nu} = -I_\nu + S_\nu$$

Radiative Transfer

# 輻射轉移・改二

For some reason, people often use another form of radiative transfer equ.

We define the **Source Function**:

$$S_\nu = \frac{j_\nu}{\alpha_\nu}$$

Plug it back into the R.T.E, and use tau as spatial coordinate, we get

$$\frac{dI_\nu}{d\tau_\nu} = -I_\nu + S_\nu$$



Radiative Transfer

# 輻射轉移・改三

In this form, there is an exact solution

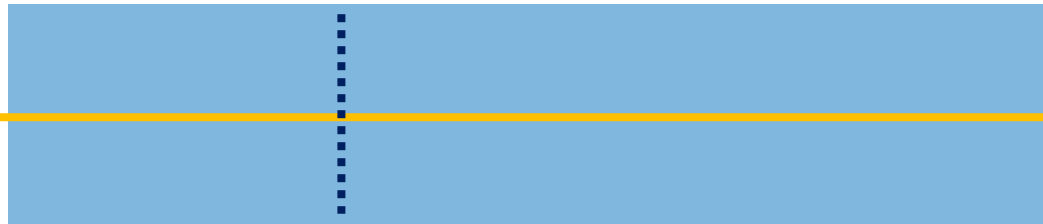
$$\frac{dI_\nu}{d\tau_\nu} = -I_\nu + S_\nu$$

$$I_\nu(\tau_\nu) = I_\nu(0)e^{-\tau_\nu} + \int_0^{\tau_\nu} S_\nu(\tau'_\nu)e^{-(\tau_\nu-\tau'_\nu)}d\tau'_\nu$$

$$\tau_\nu = 0$$

$$\tau_\nu = \tau'_\nu$$

$$\tau_\nu = \tau_\nu$$



# 輻射轉移・改四

$$I_\nu(\tau_\nu) = I_\nu(0)e^{-\tau_\nu} + \int_0^{\tau_\nu} S_\nu(\tau'_\nu)e^{-(\tau_\nu-\tau'_\nu)}d\tau'_\nu$$

When the source function and absorption is constant, the solution is

$$I_\nu(\tau_\nu) = I_\nu(0)e^{-\tau_\nu} + S_\nu(1 - e^{-\tau_\nu})$$

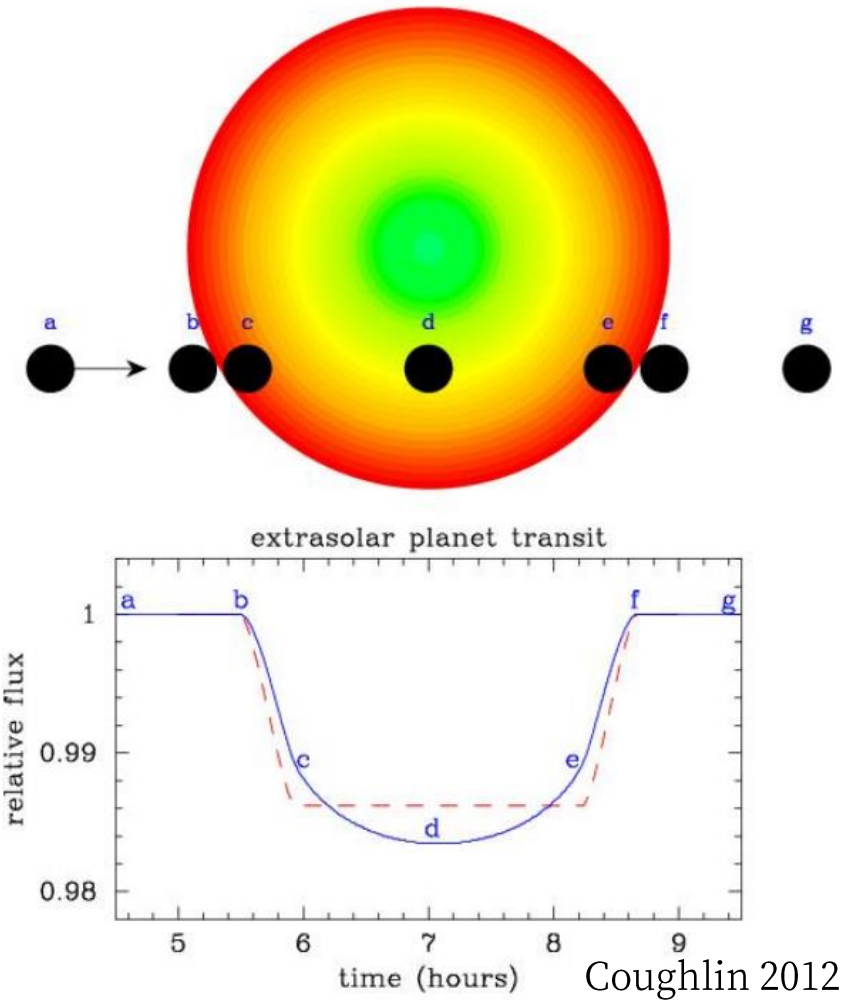
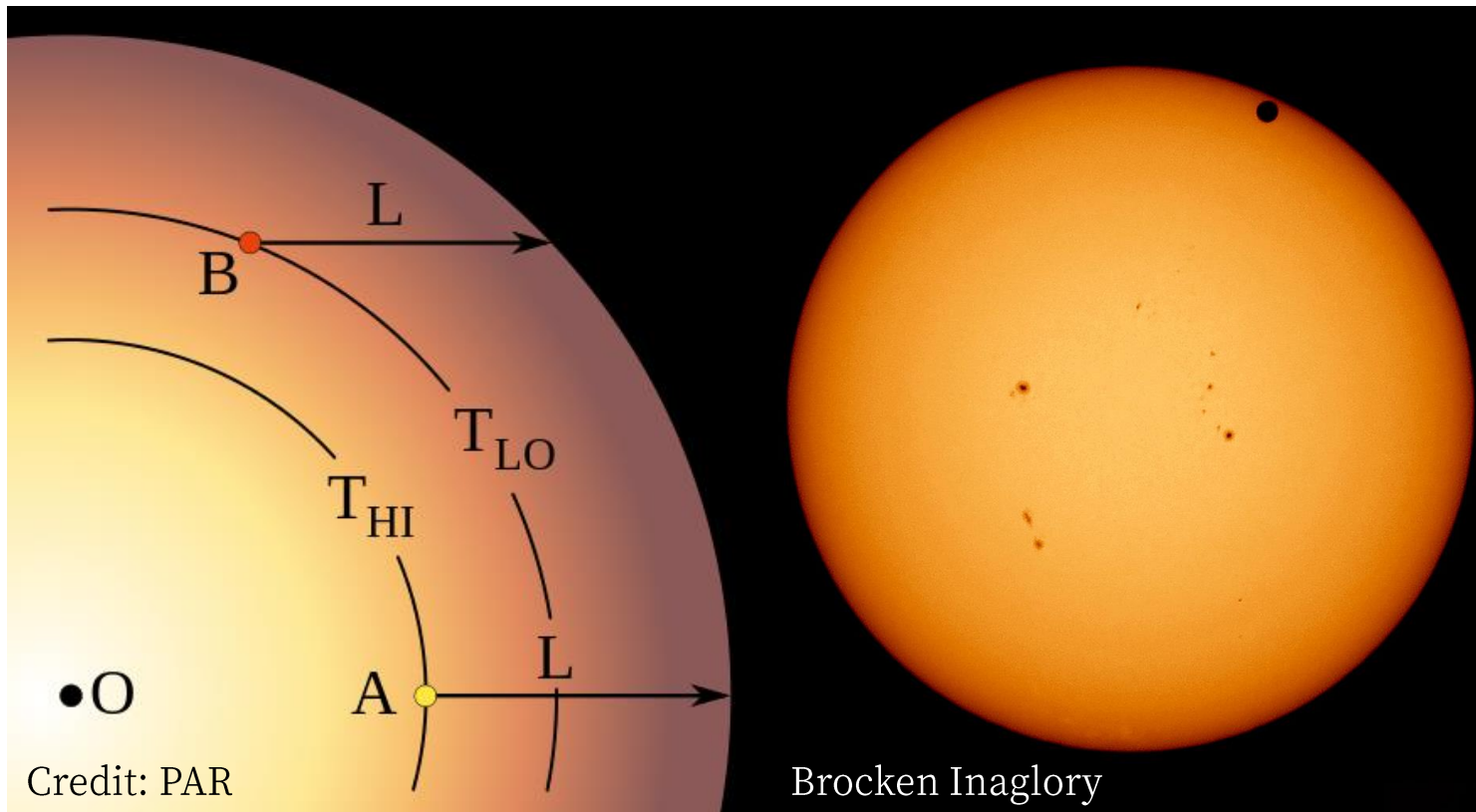
In some extreme cases:

- $\tau_\nu \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow I_\nu \rightarrow S_\nu$
- $\tau_\nu \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow I_\nu \rightarrow I_\nu(0)e^{-\tau_\nu} + S_\nu\tau_\nu$

You can verify this by expanding  $e^{-\tau_\nu}$  and take the first term.

Examples

# Limb darkening





Examples

# Dust Extinction



Examples

# Dust Extinction

Dust would extinguish photos.

This can be important in e.g. measuring distance.

The original distance modulus is:

$$m - M = 5 \log D - 5$$

But when there is dust, we should use

$$m - M = 5 \log D - 5 + A$$

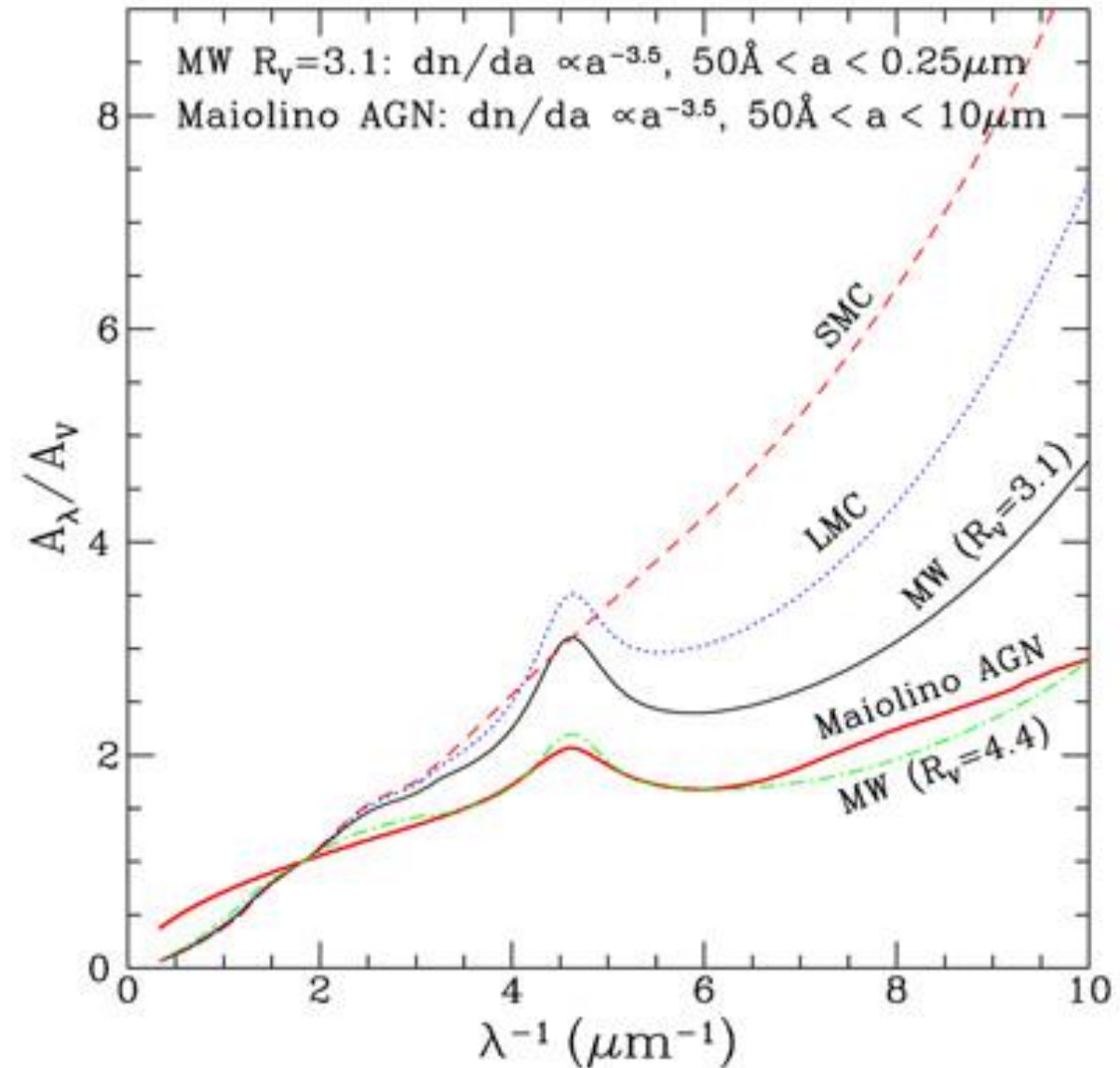
Examples

# Dust Extinction

More importantly, extinction strength changes with wavelength.

In optical, the short wavelength light usually suffers stronger extinction, creating the **reddening effect**.

The wavelength dependence of extinction is called **extinction curve**.



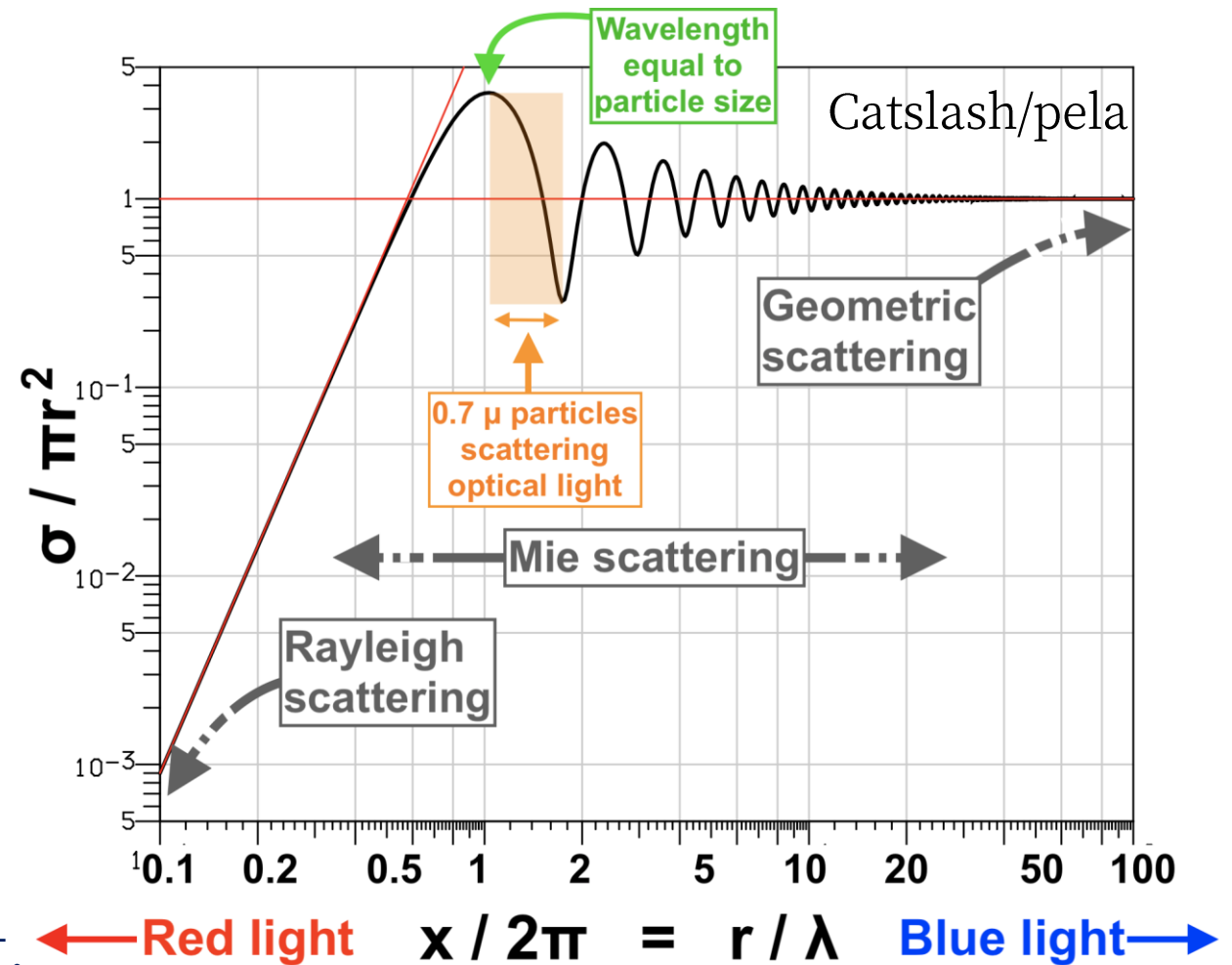
Nightmare

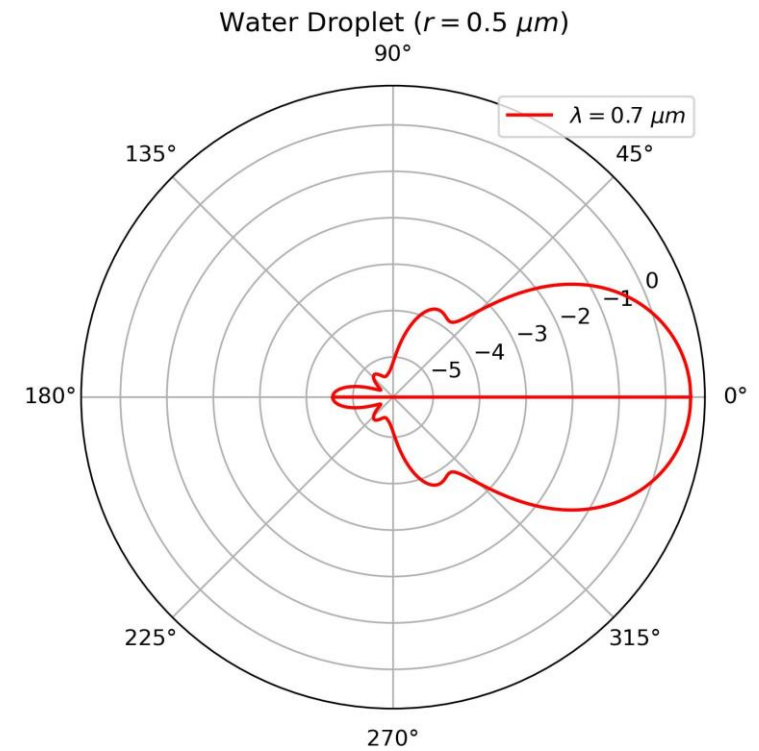
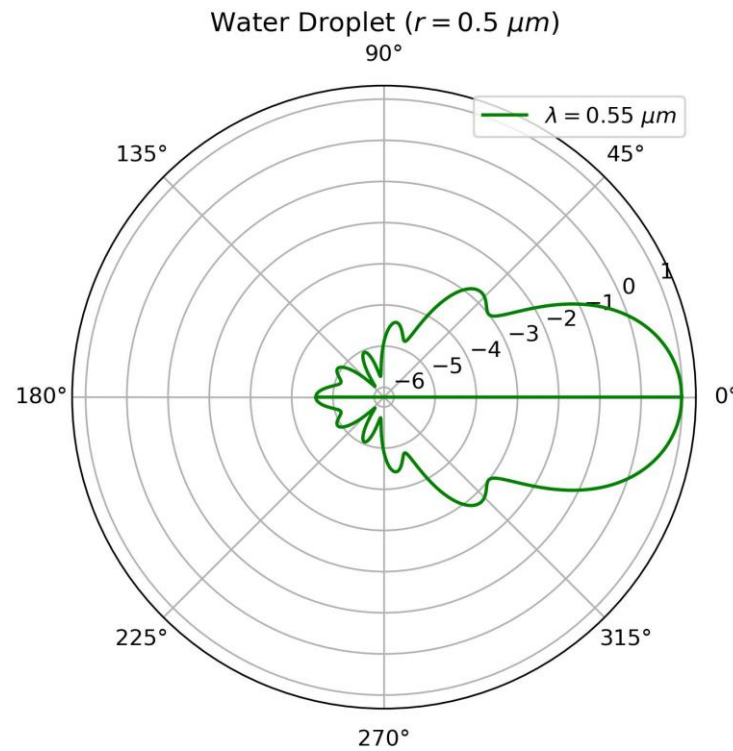
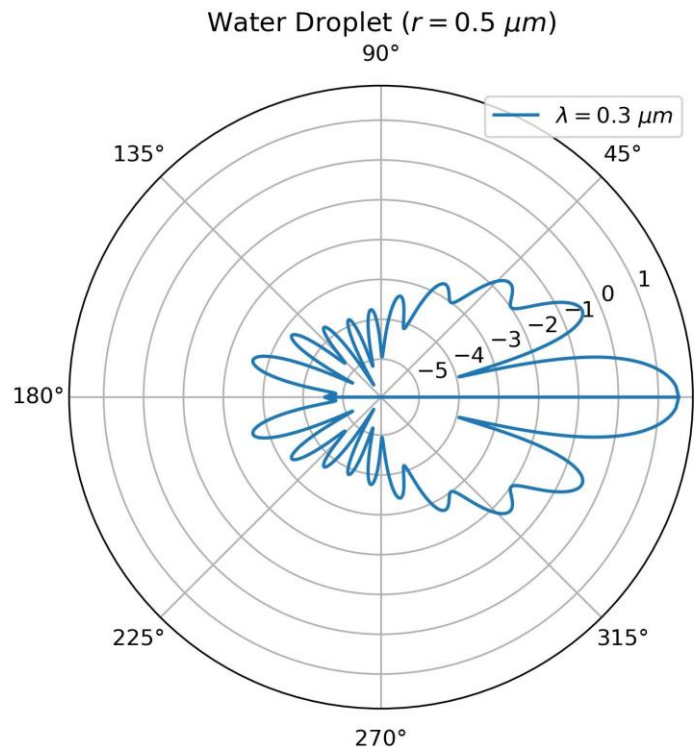
# Scattering

In reality, photons can be scattered back into the line of sight, which fu\*k up everything.

With scattering, our problem is no longer 1 dimensional.

Now, we have to consider the complicated geometry of our target.





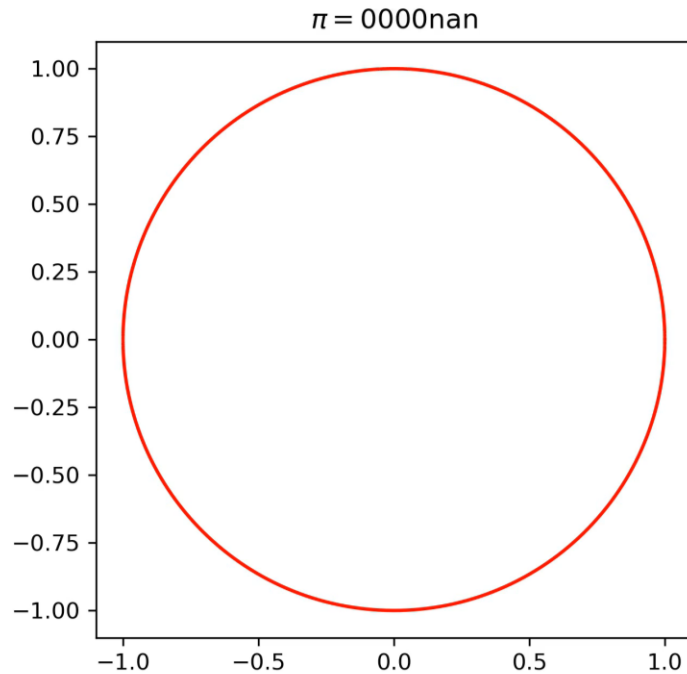
Scattering is not only wavelength dependent, but also anisotropic.  
Different wavelength / grain size, creates different scattering pattern.  
This is very hard to model analytically.

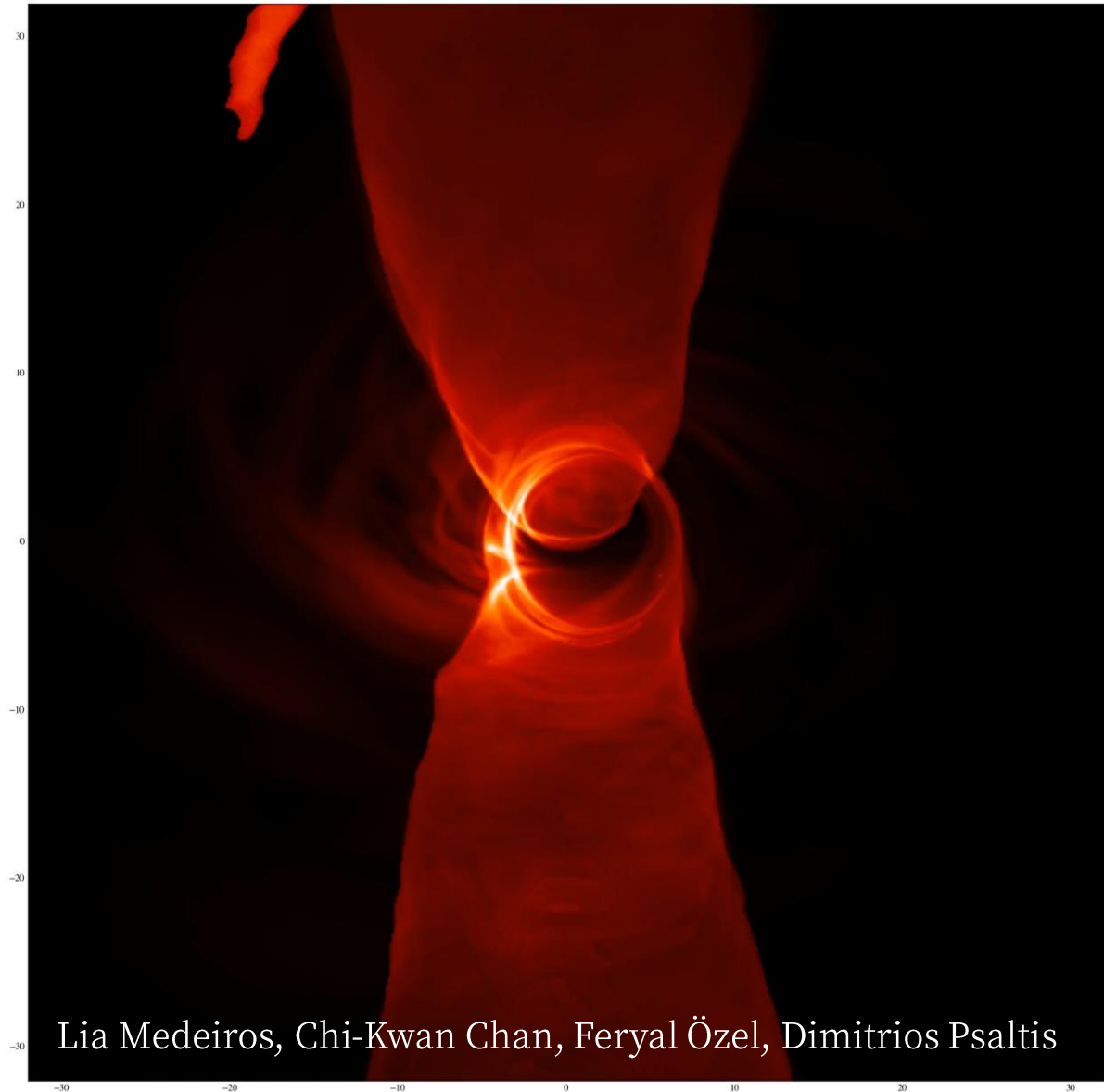


Computer go brrrrrrrrrrrr

# Numerical Radiative transfer

Utilizing Monte-Carlo method and Ray Tracing to solve RTE.





# Summary

- In astrophysics, we often use **specific intensity** [  $\text{erg cm}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}$  ] to describe the strength of light.
- Specific intensity is an **intrinsic property** of the source.
- Specific intensity is changed by **absorption**, **scattering** and **emission**, described by **radiative transfer equation**.
- Radiative transfer effects are often discussed using **optical depth**.
- Complicated radiative transfer problems can usually solved numerically.