



3D-aware Synthesis

Jun-Yan Zhu

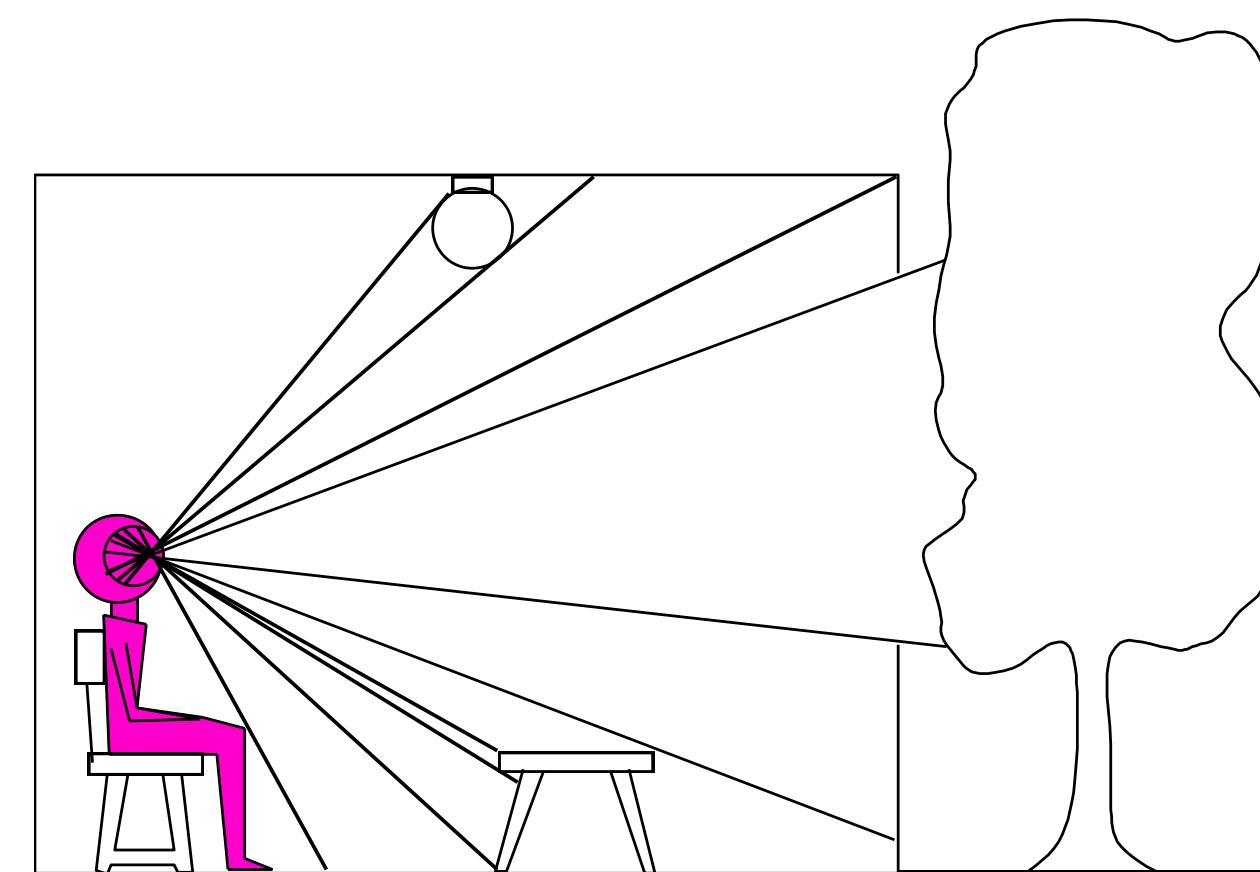
16-726, Spring 2023

Many slides from Alyosha Efros, Rick Szeliski, Michael Cohen
Paul Srinivasan, Ben Mildenhall, Jon Barron, Ren Ng

© NeRF [Mildenhall*, Srinivasan* et al., 2020]

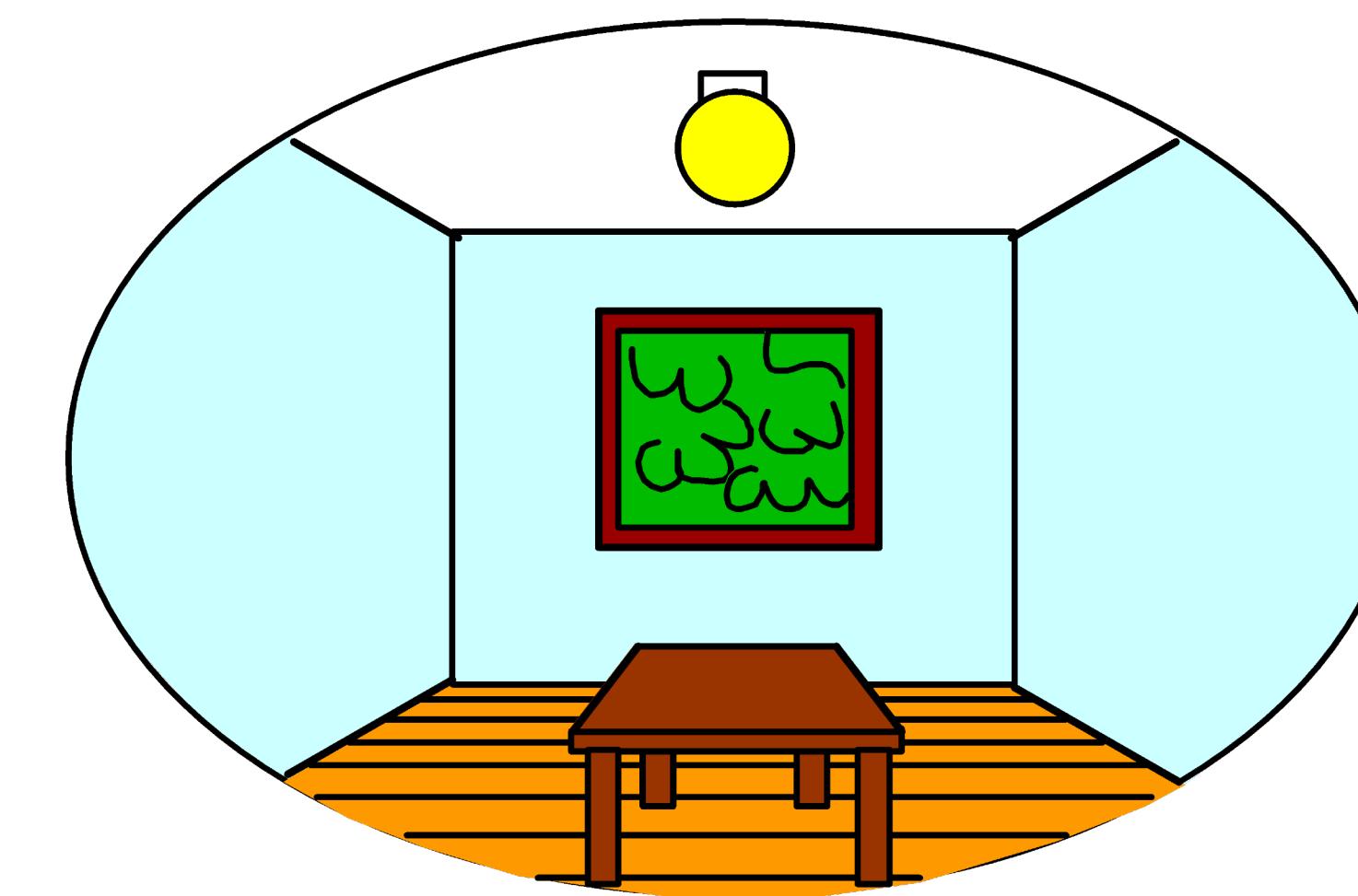
What do we see?

3D world



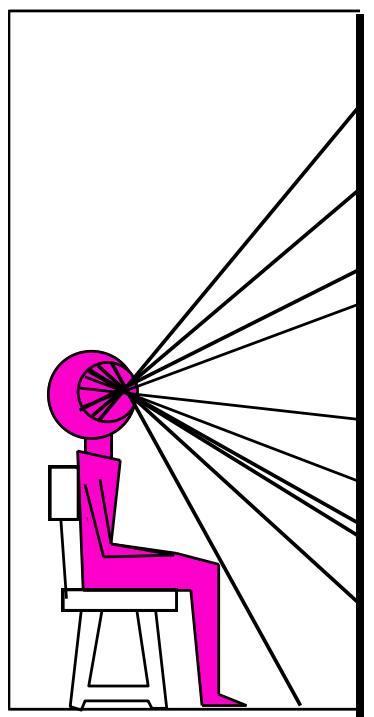
Point of observation

2D image



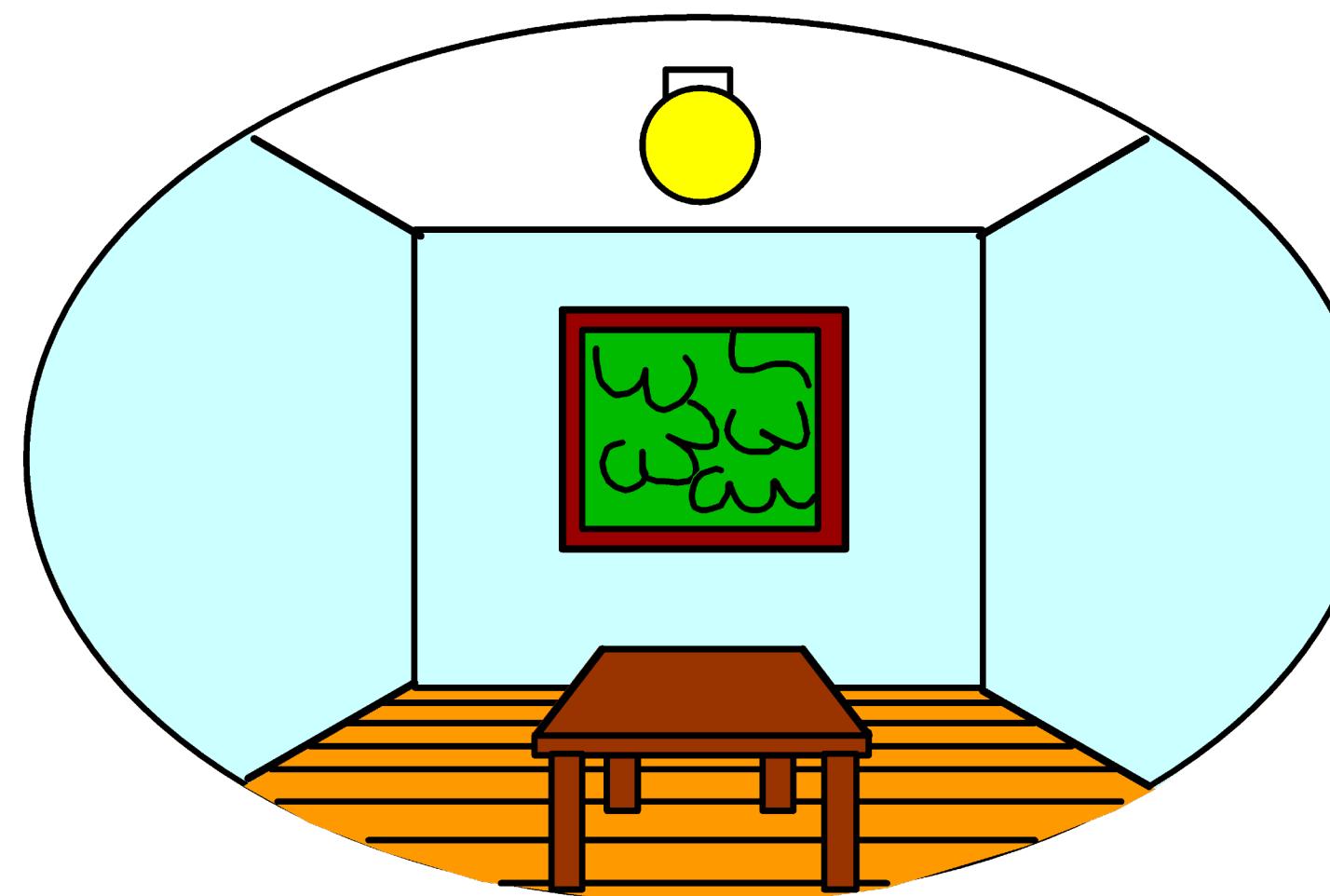
What do we see?

3D world



Painted backdrop

2D image



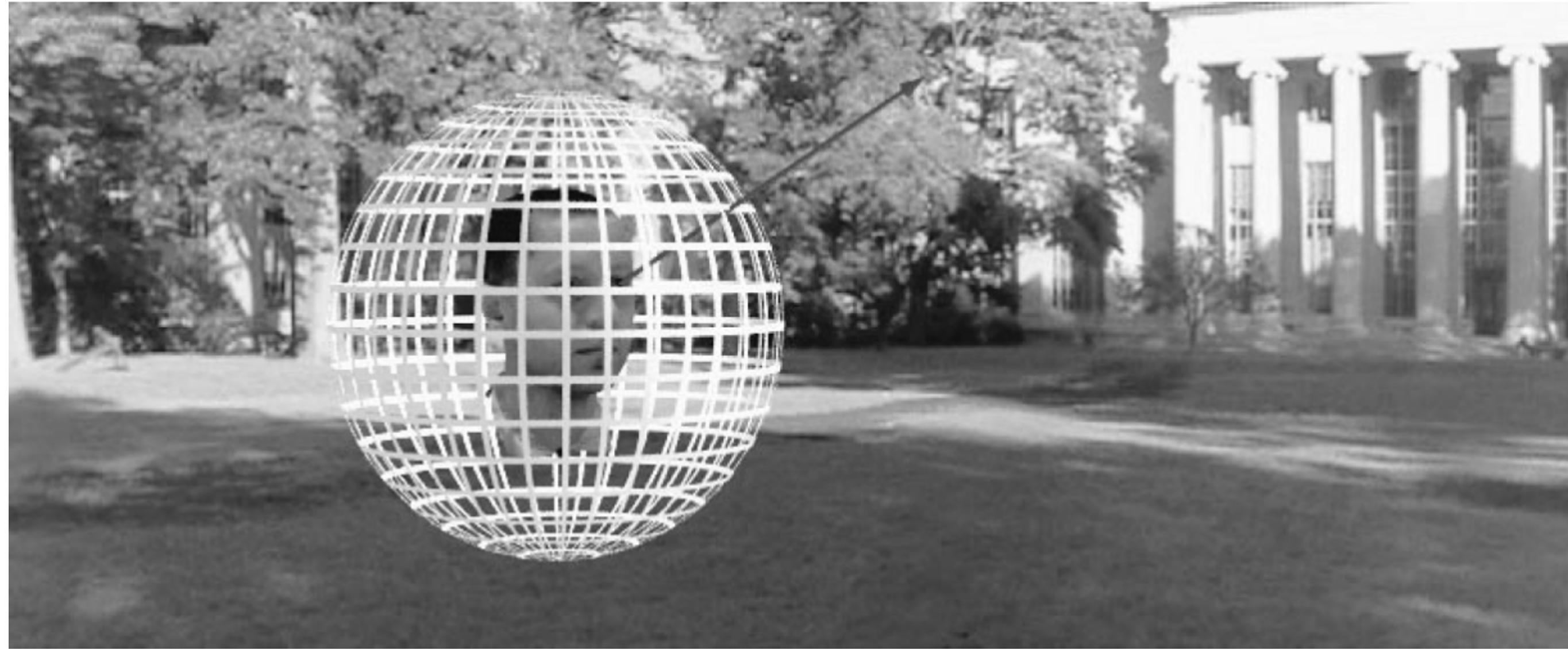
The Plenoptic Function



Figure by Leonard McMillan

- Q: What is the set of all things that we can ever see?
- A: The Plenoptic Function (Adelson & Bergen)
- Let's start with a stationary person and try to parameterize everything that she or he can see...

Grayscale snapshot



- is intensity of light $P(\theta, \phi)$
- Seen from a single view point
- At a single time
- Averaged over the wavelengths of the visible spectrum
- (can also do $P(x, y)$, but spherical coordinate are nicer)

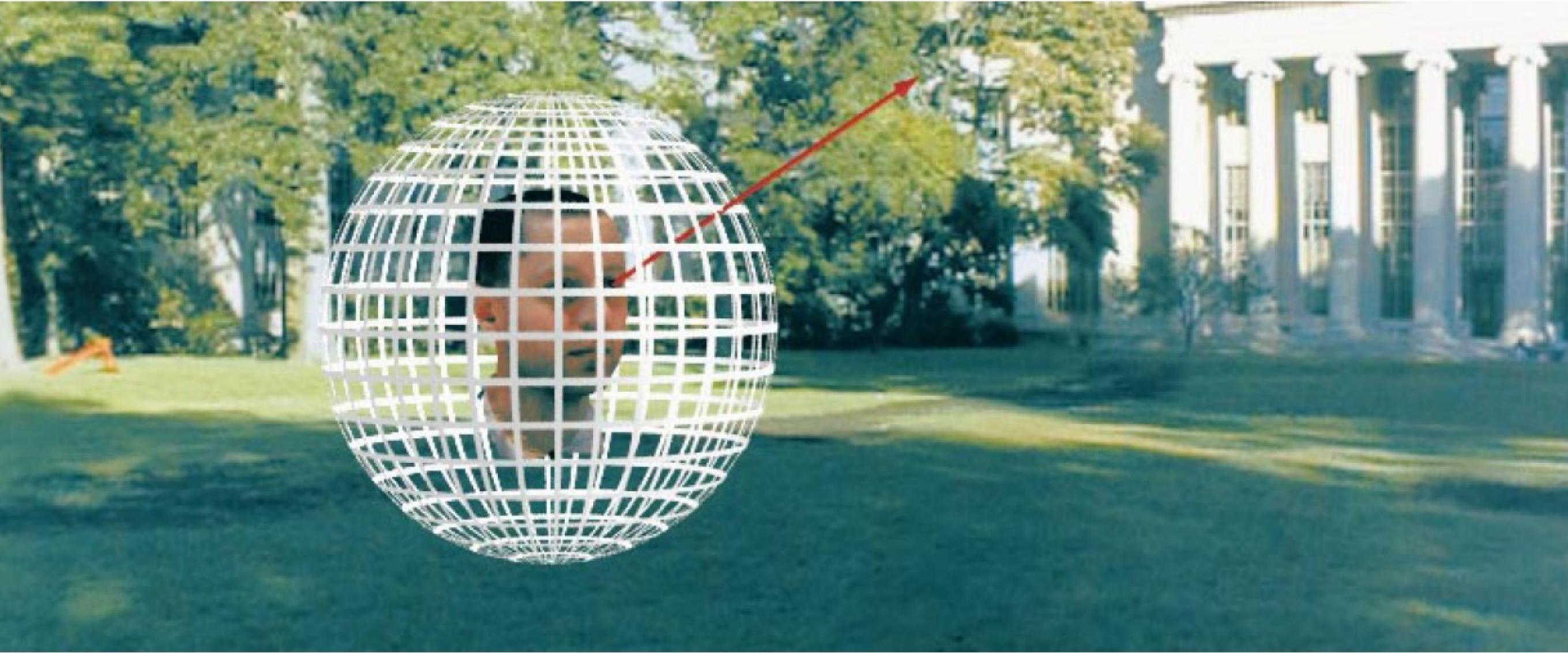
Color snapshot



$$P(\theta, \phi, \lambda)$$

- is intensity of light
 - Seen from a single view point
 - At a single time
 - As a function of wavelength

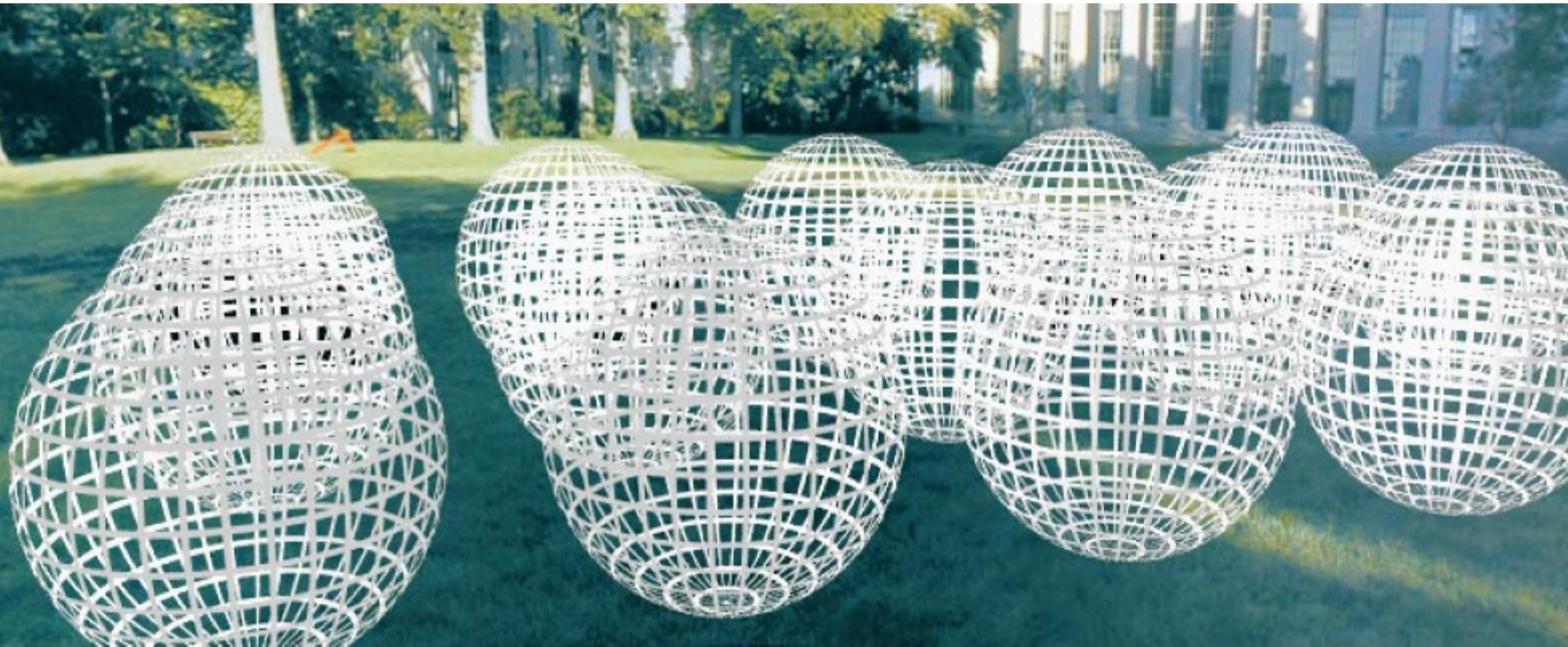
A movie



$$P(\theta, \phi, \lambda, t)$$

- is intensity of light
 - Seen from a single view point
 - Over time
 - As a function of wavelength

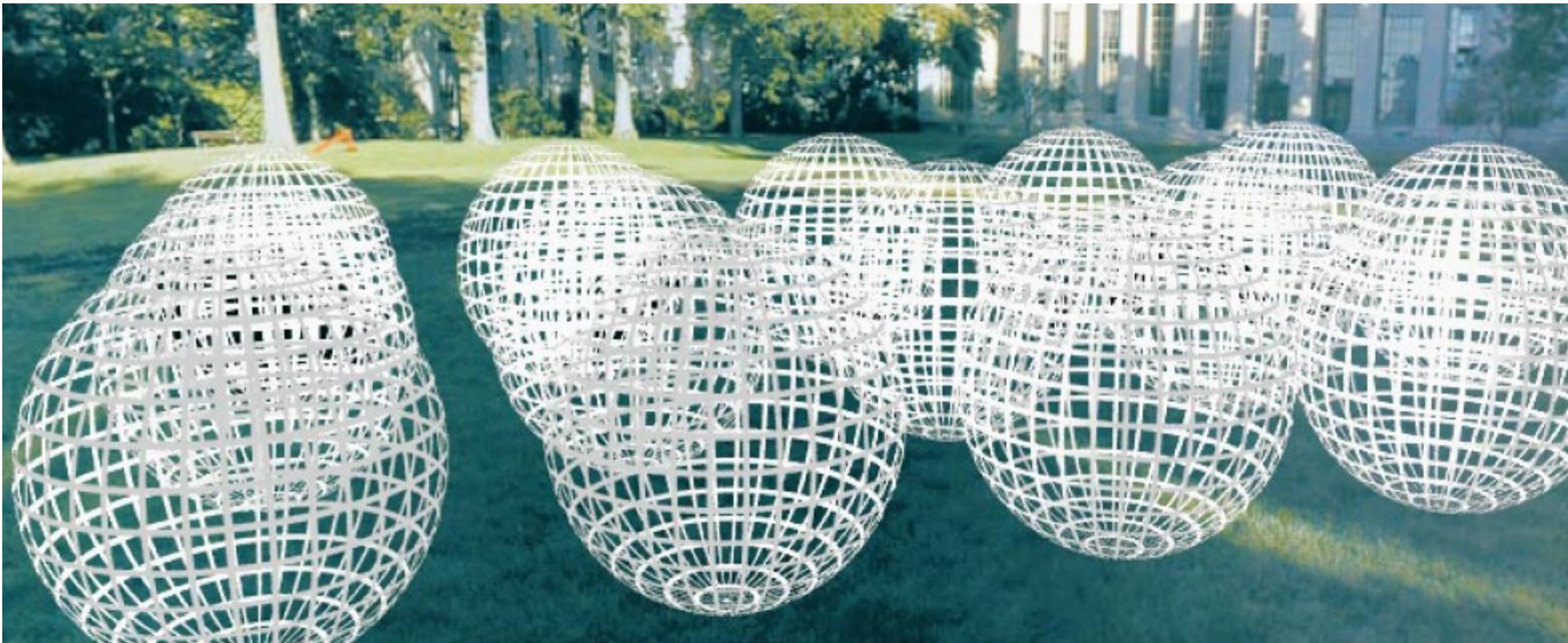
Holographic movie



$$P(\theta, \phi, \lambda, t, V_x, V_y, V_z)$$

- is intensity of light
 - Seen from ANY viewpoint
 - Over time
 - As a function of wavelength

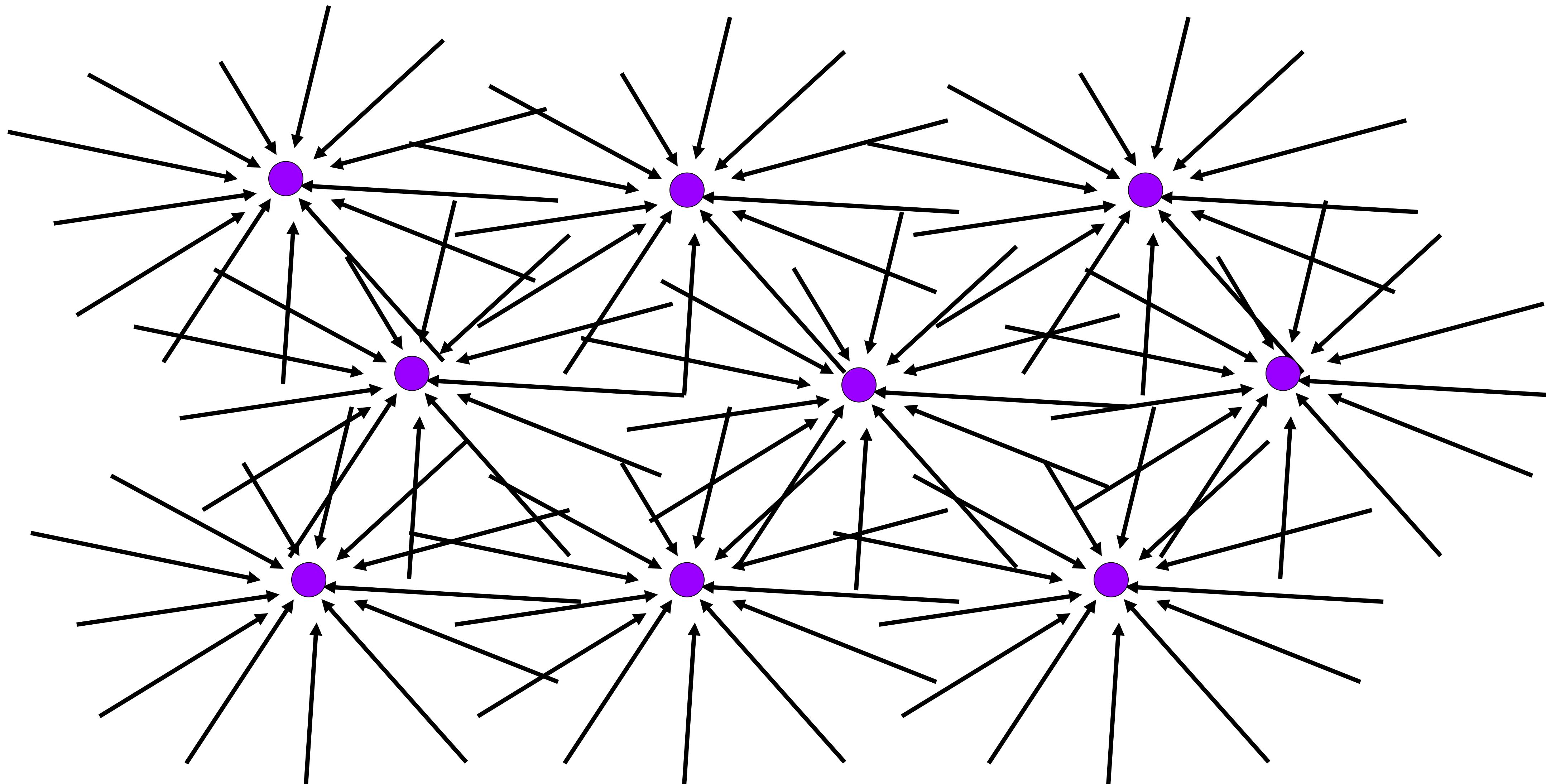
The Plenoptic Function



$$P(\theta, \phi, \lambda, t, V_x, V_y, V_z)$$

- Can reconstruct every possible view, at every moment, from every position, at every wavelength
- Contains every photograph, every movie, everything that anyone has ever seen! it completely captures our visual reality! Not bad for a function...

Sampling Plenoptic Function (top view)



Just lookup -- Quicktime VR

QuickTime VR

Panoramic image



Perspective Warp



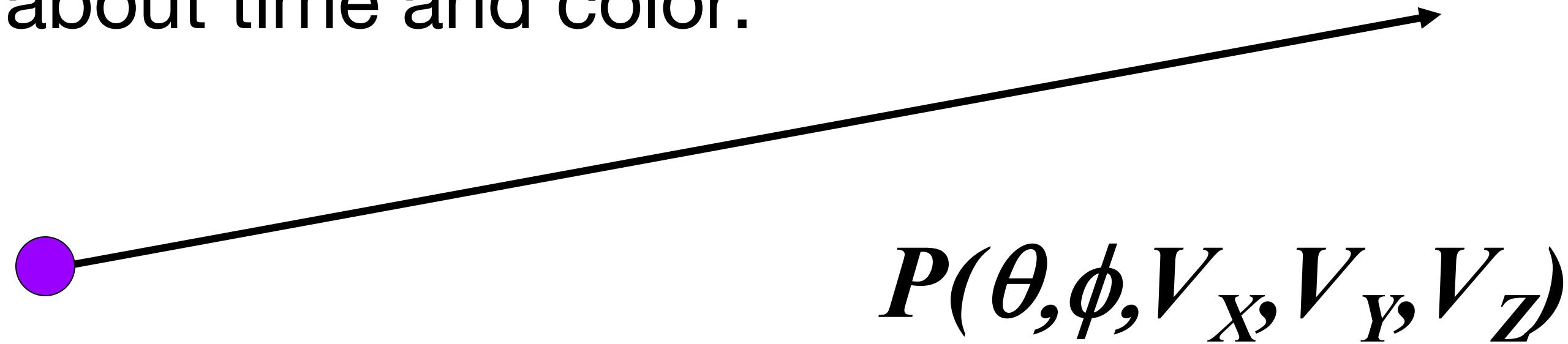
QuickTime VR



Quicktime VR: An image-based approach to virtual environment
navigation. Shenchang Eric Chen. SIGGRAPH 1995

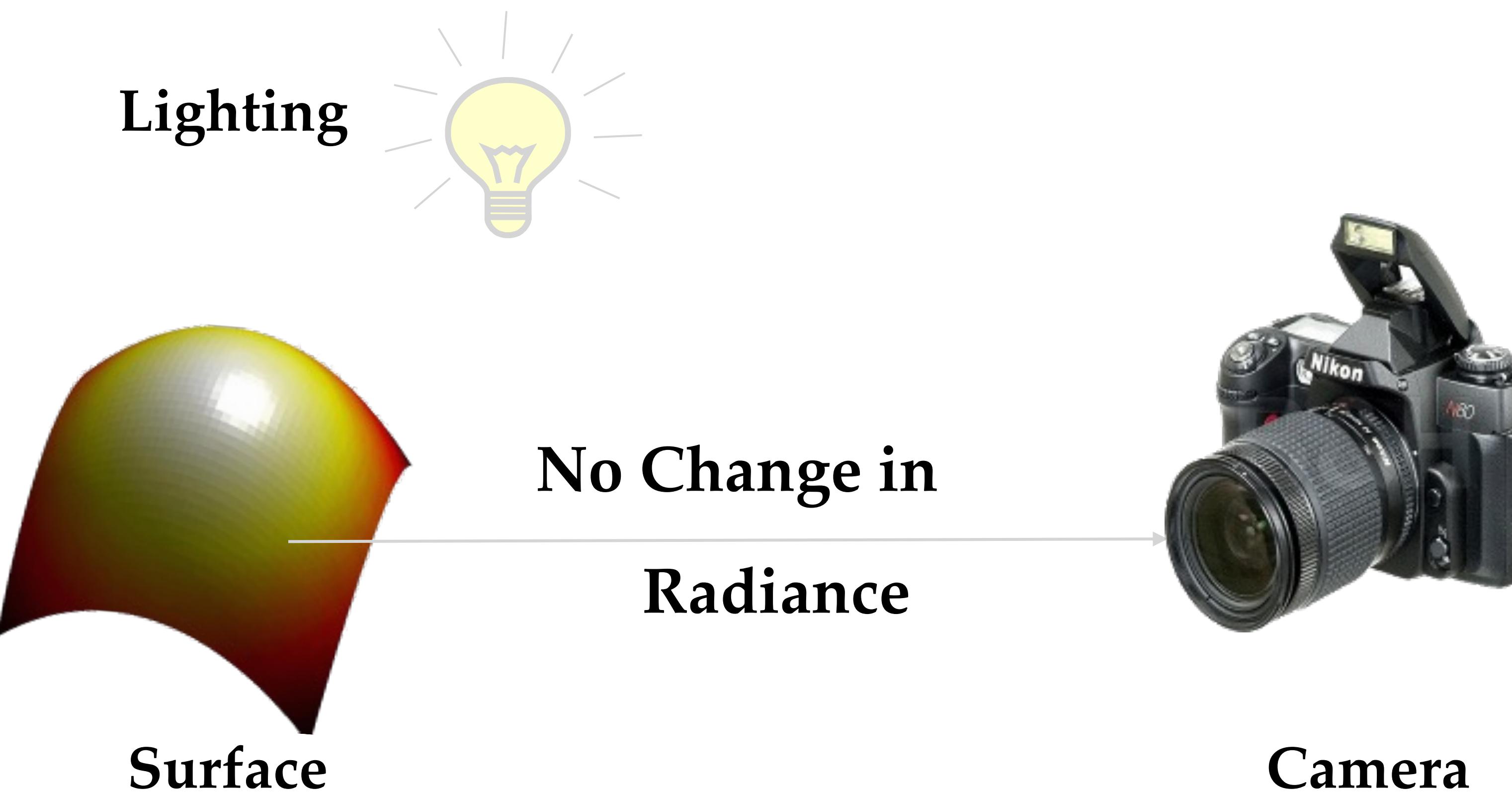
Ray

- Let's not worry about time and color:



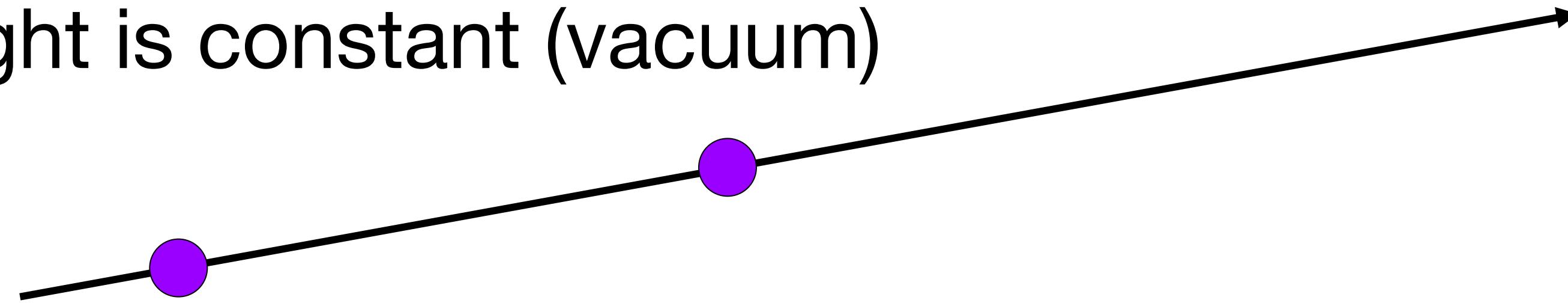
- 5D
 - 3D position
 - 2D direction

How can we use this?



Ray Reuse

- Infinite line
- Assume light is constant (vacuum)



- 4D
 - 2D direction
 - 2D position
 - non-dispersive medium

Only need plenoptic surface

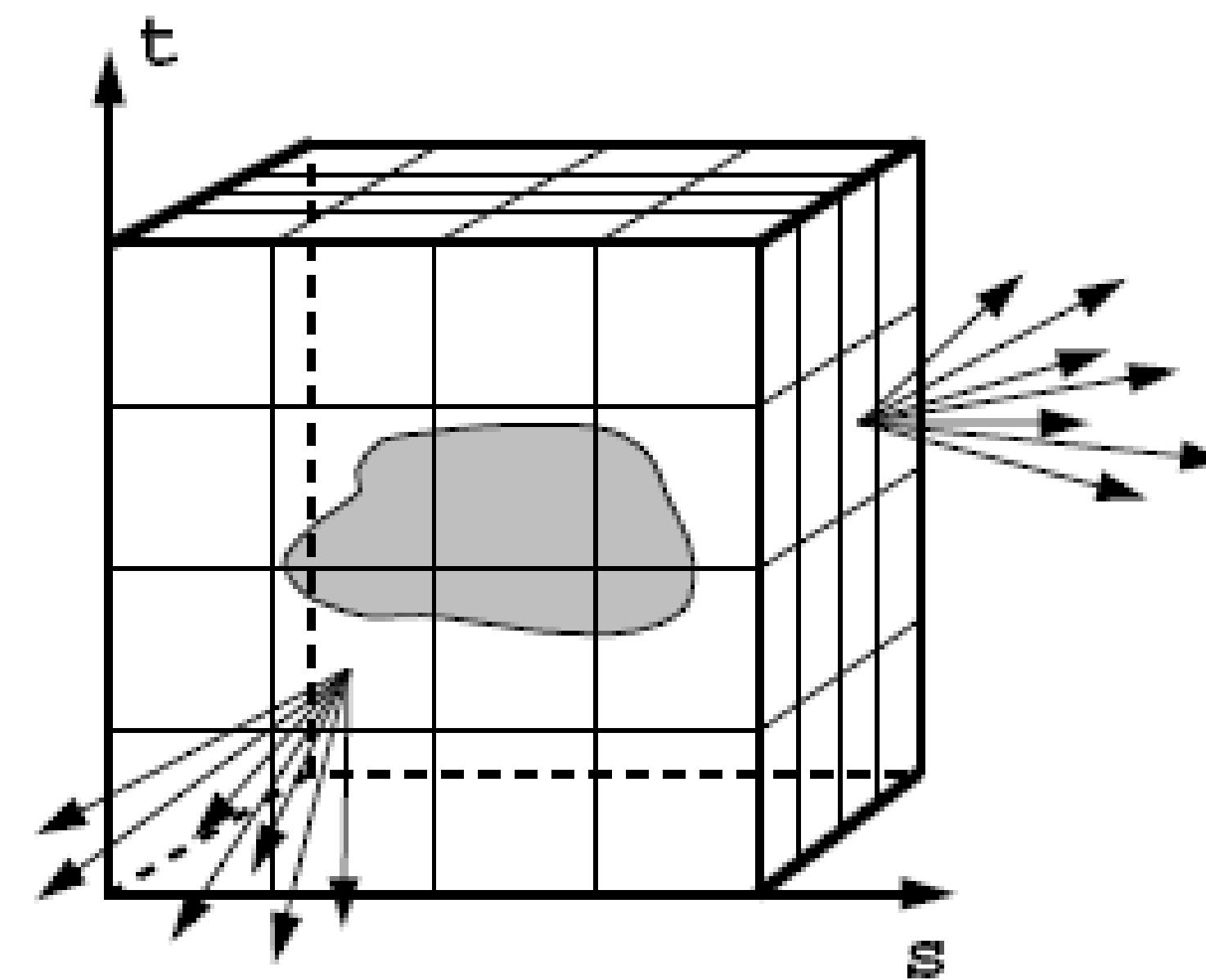
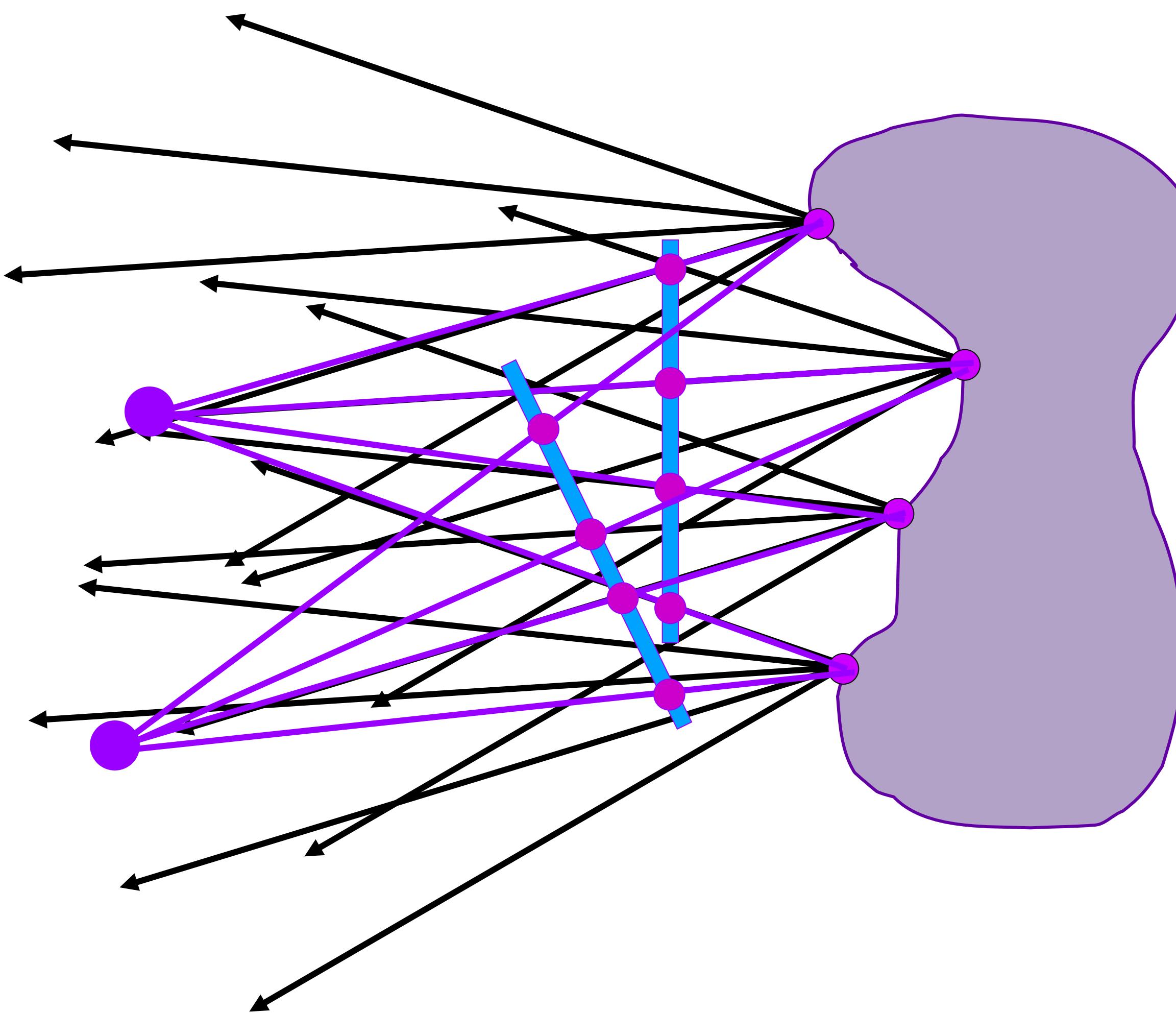


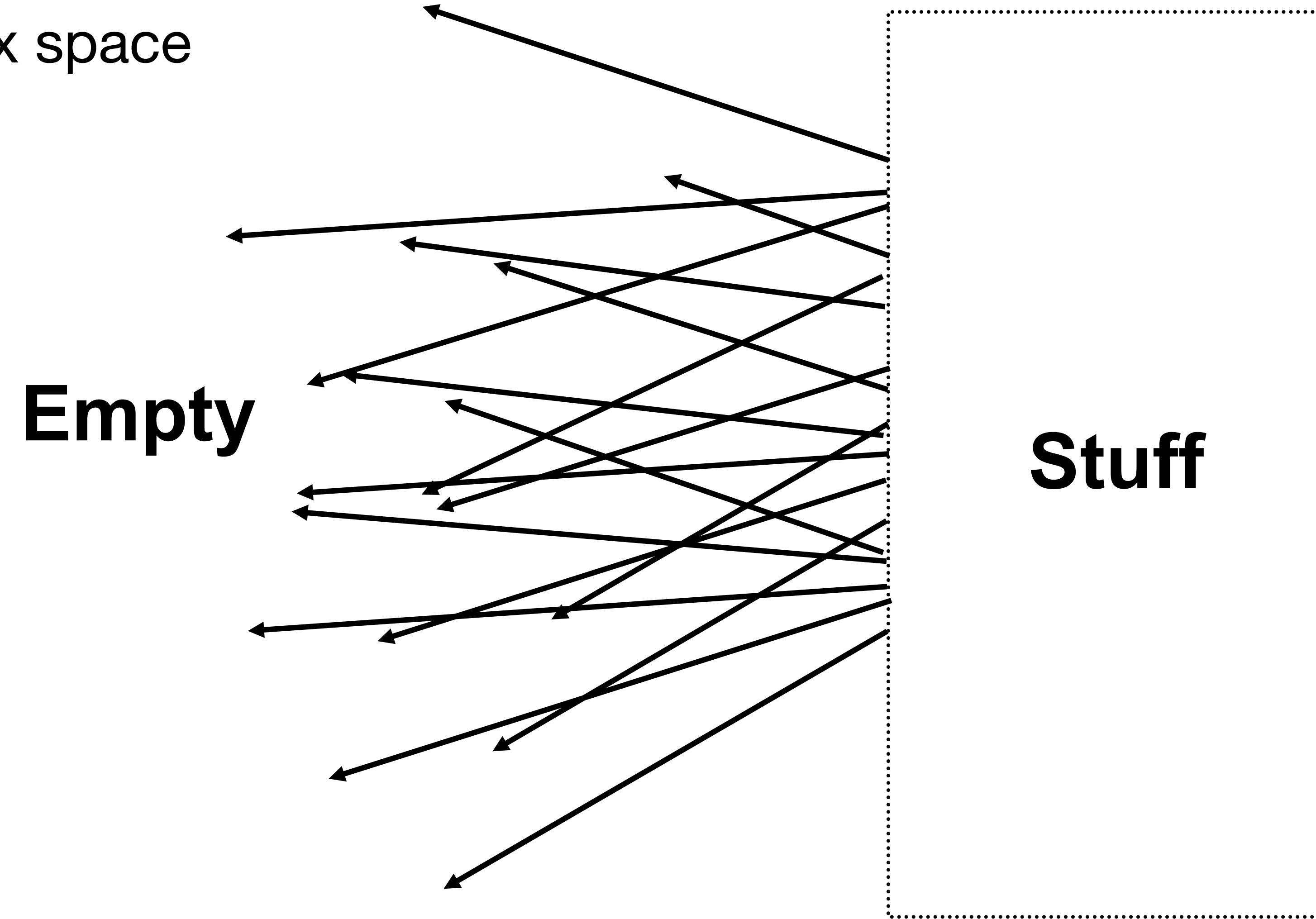
Figure 1: The surface of a cube holds all the radiance information due to the enclosed object.

Synthesizing novel views



Lumigraph / Lightfield

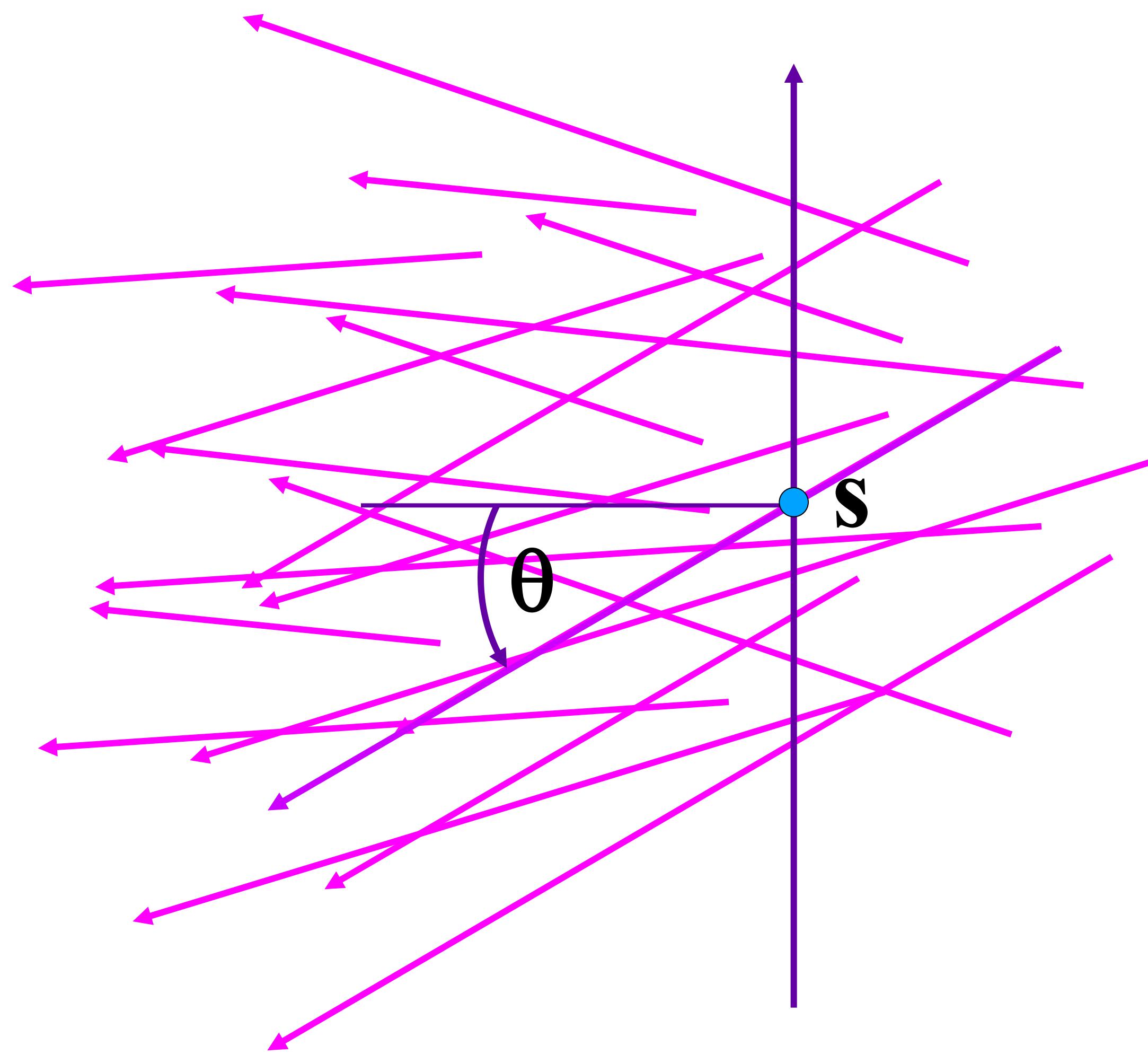
- Outside convex space



- 4D

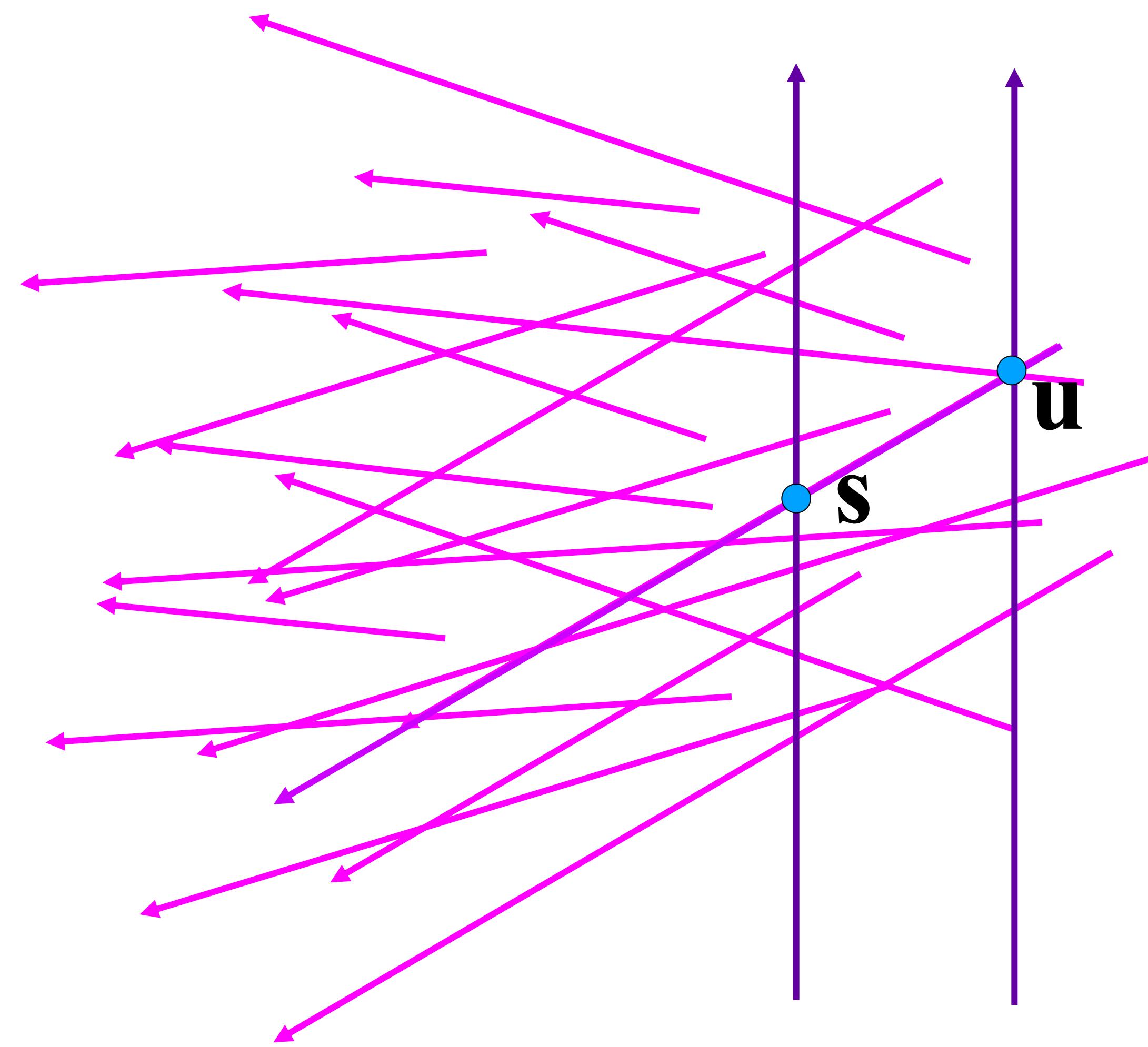
Lumigraph - Organization

- 2D position
- 2D direction



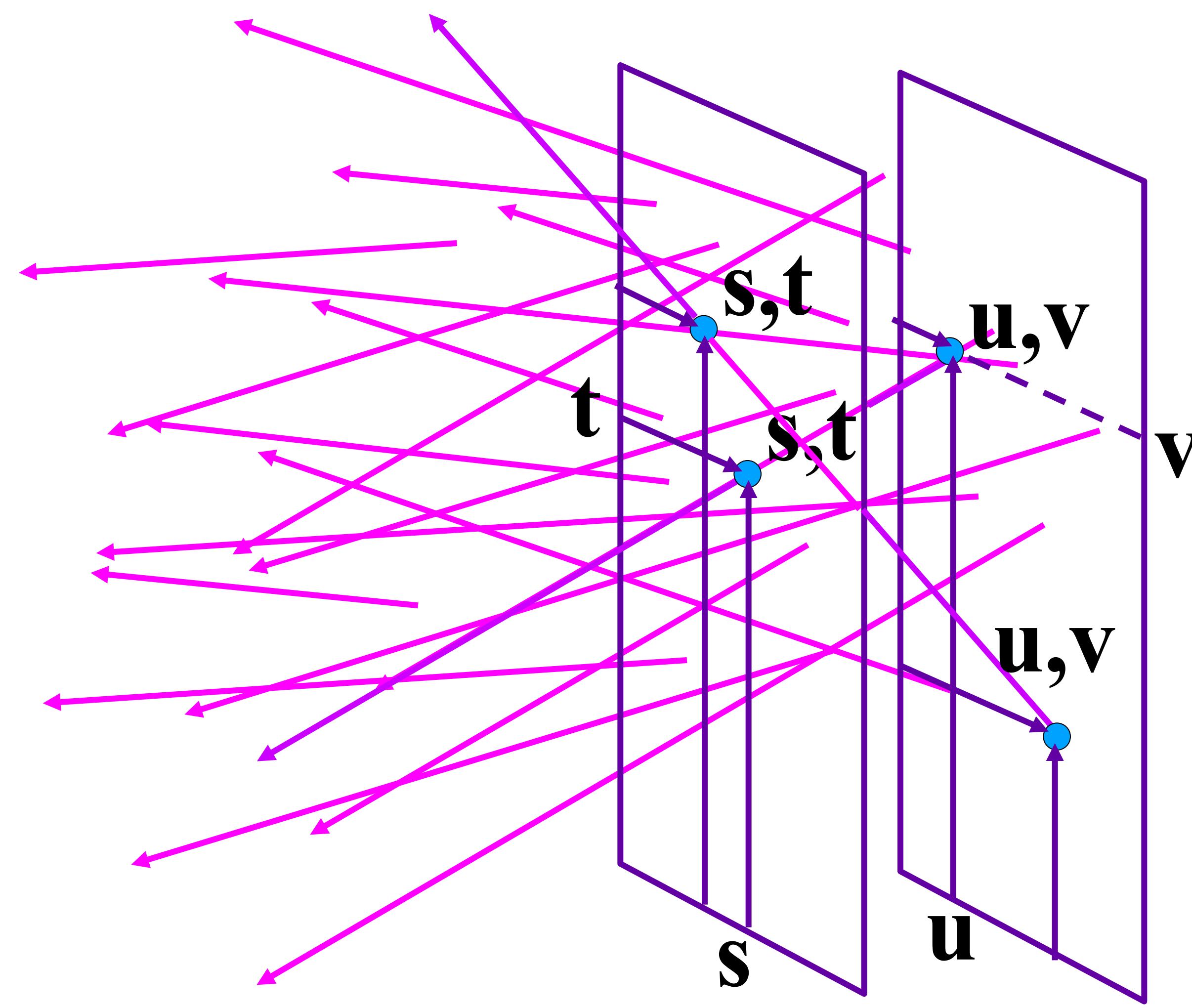
Lumigraph - Organization

2D position
2D position
2 plane parameterization



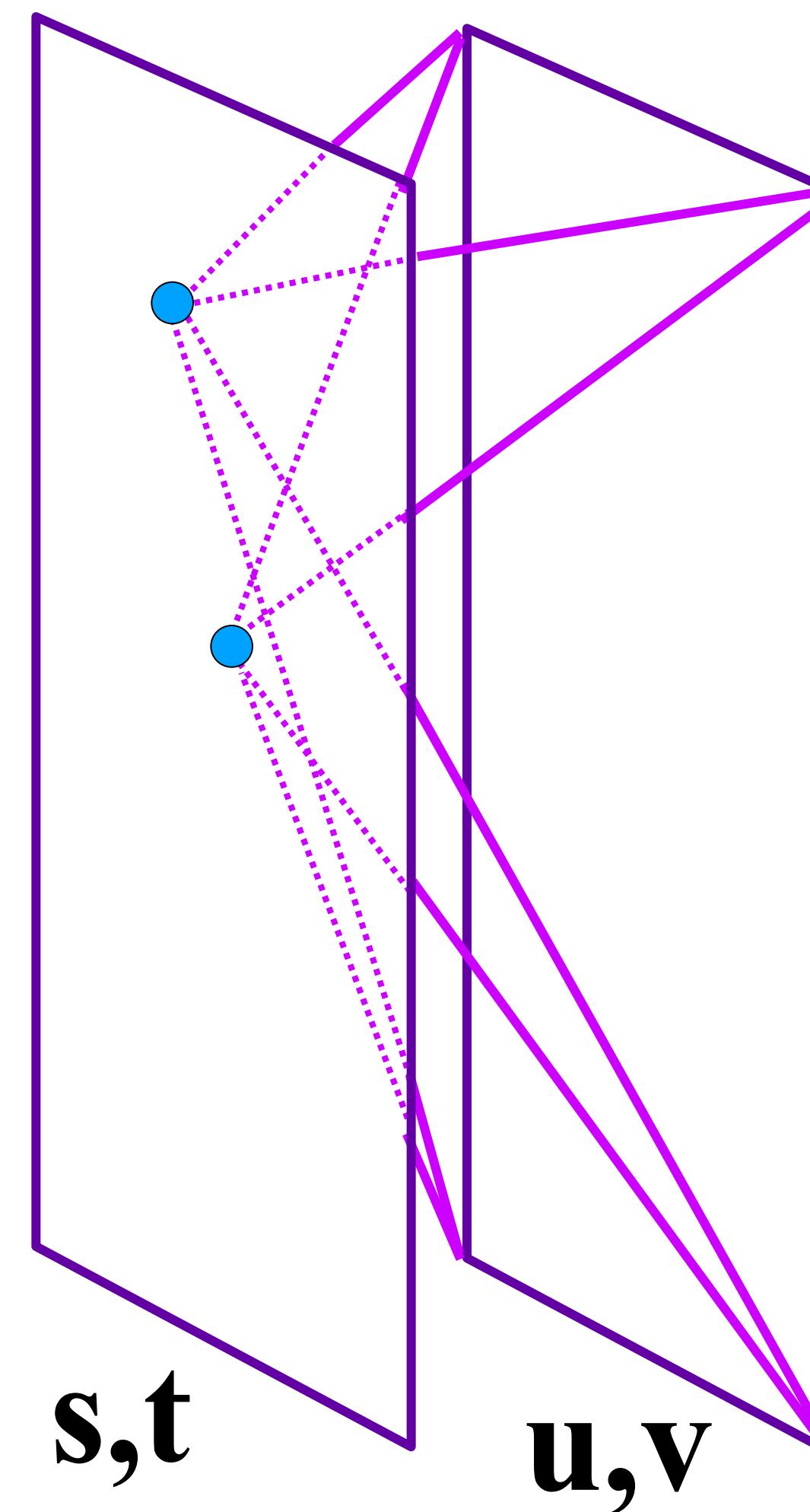
Lumigraph - Organization

2D position
2D position
2 plane parameterization

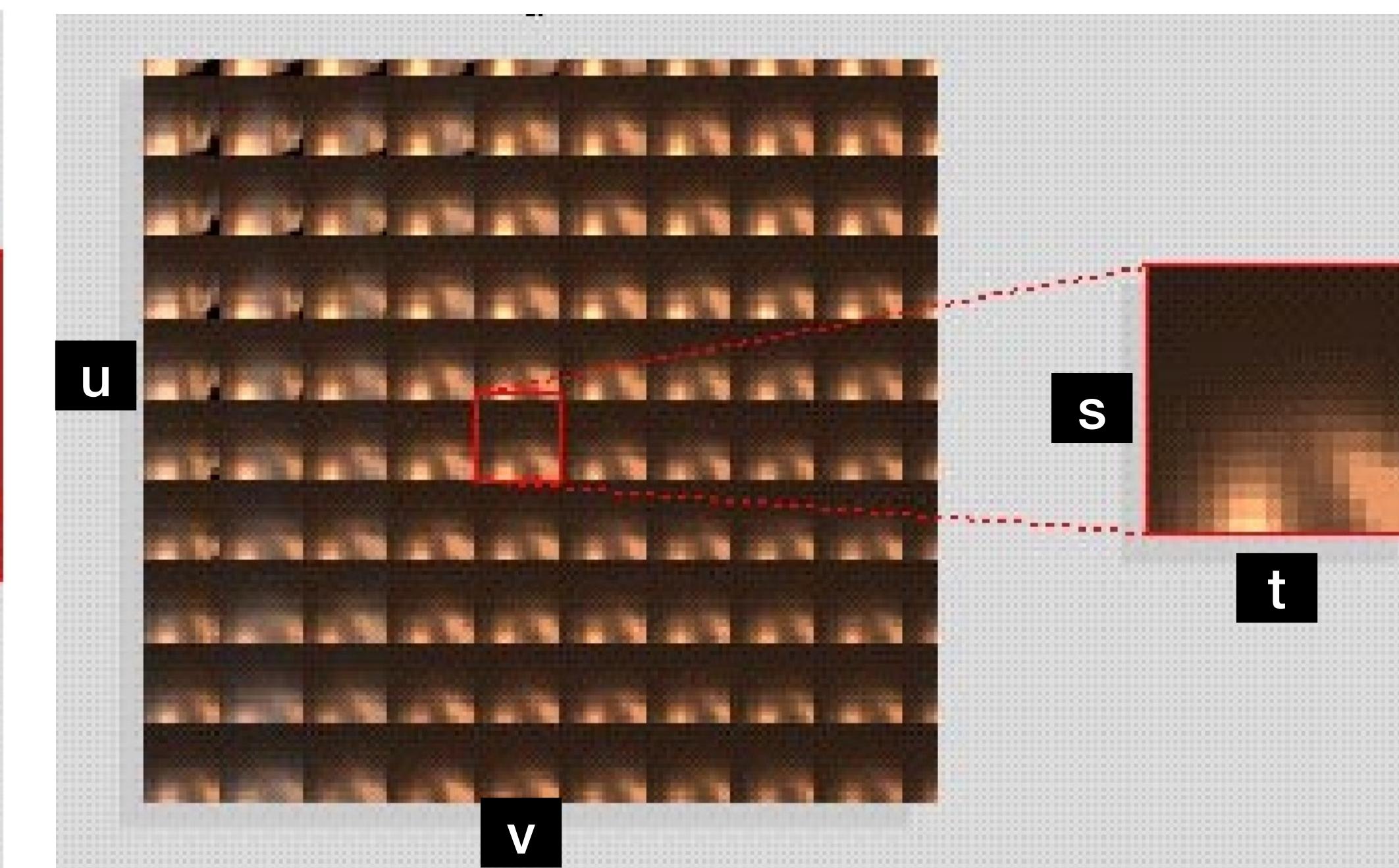
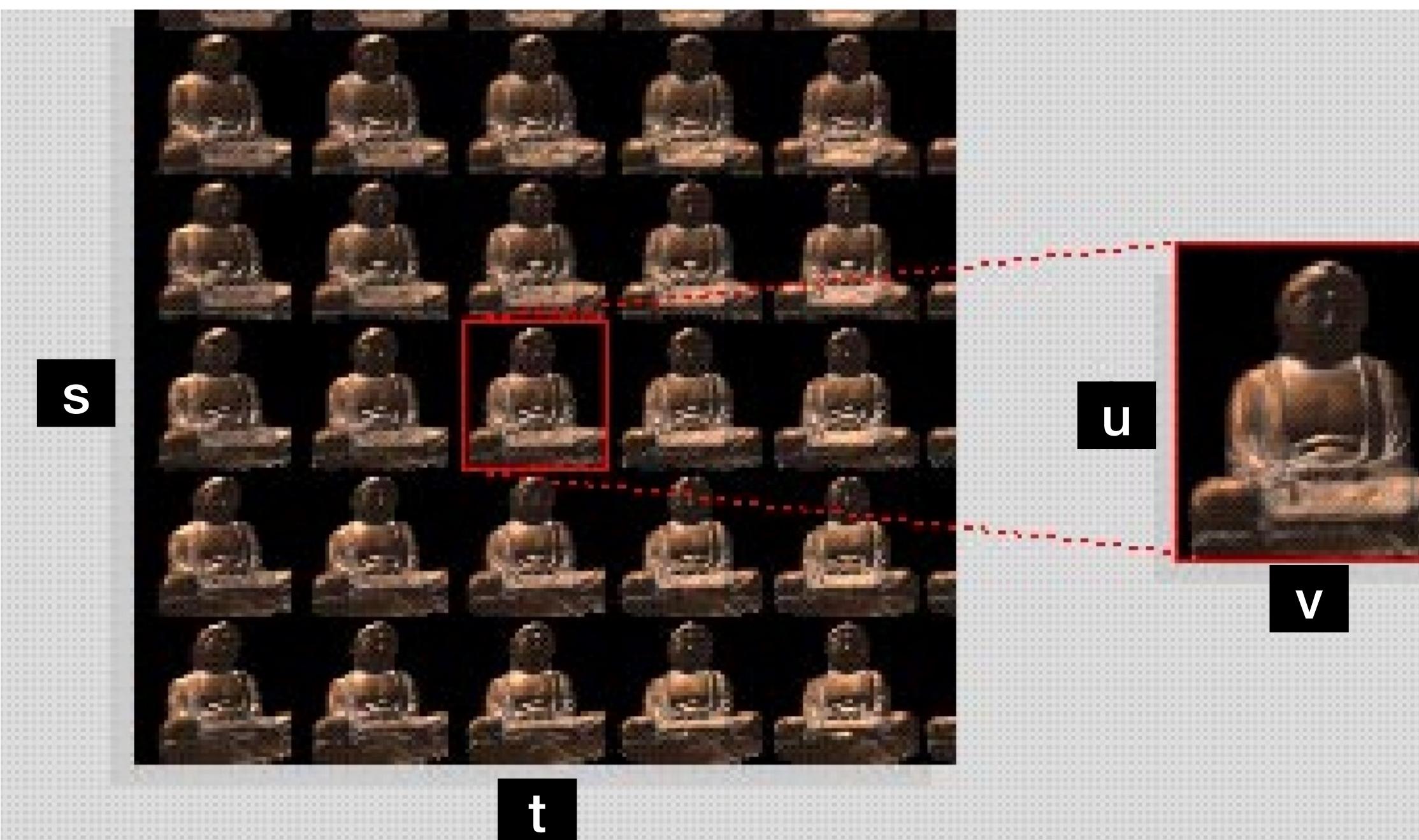


Lumigraph - Organization

Hold s,t constant
Let u,v vary
An image



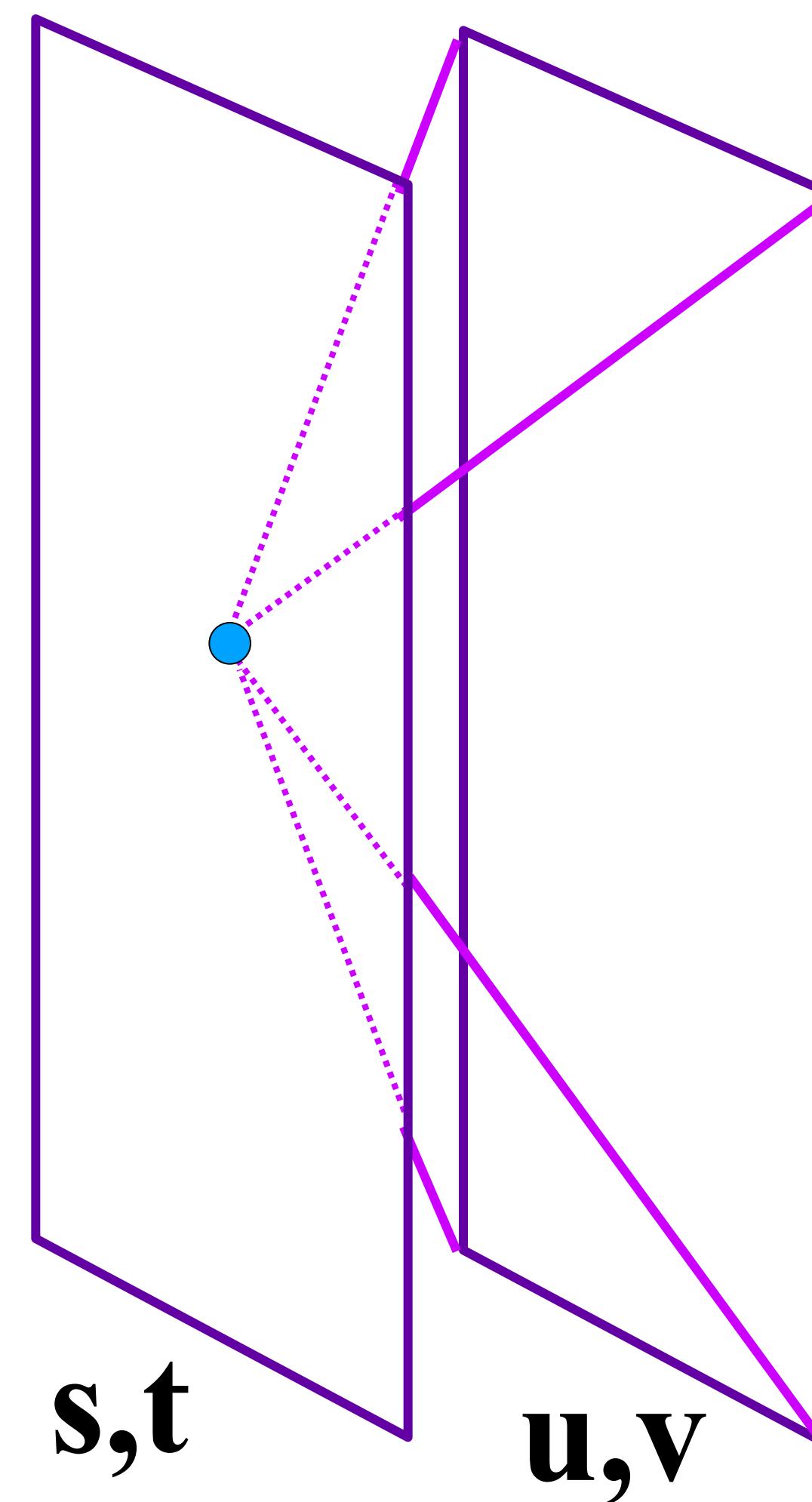
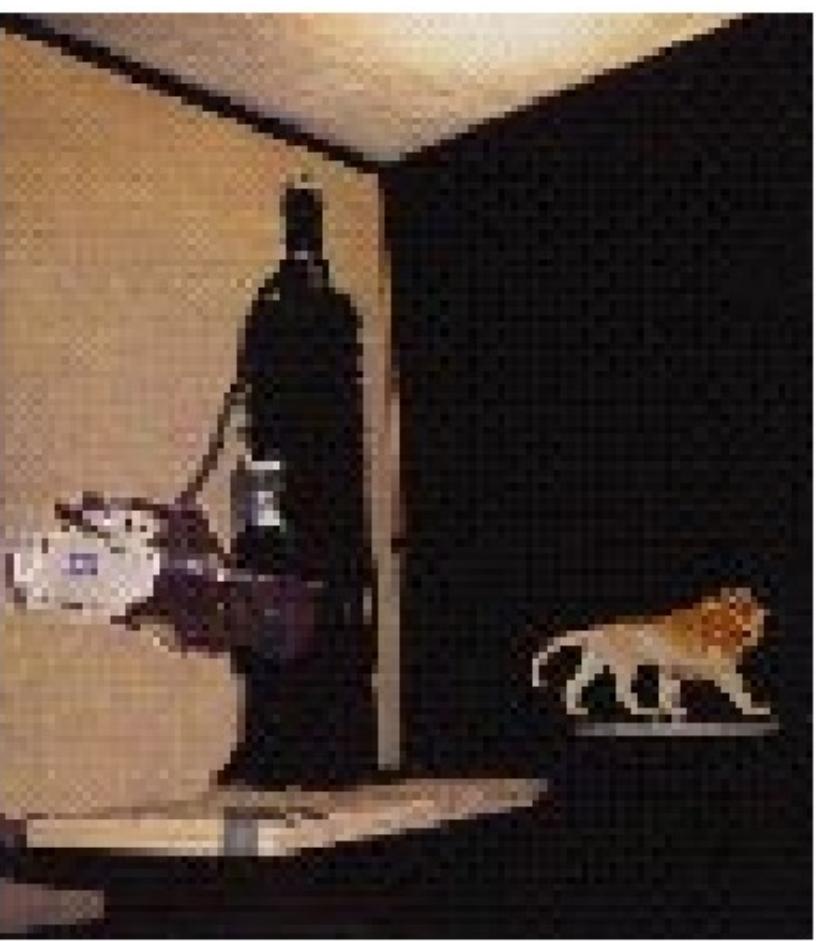
Lumigraph / Lightfield



Capture Light Field

Idea 1

- Move camera carefully over s, t plane
 - Grantry
 - see Lightfield paper
- [Marc Levoy and Pat Hanrahan]

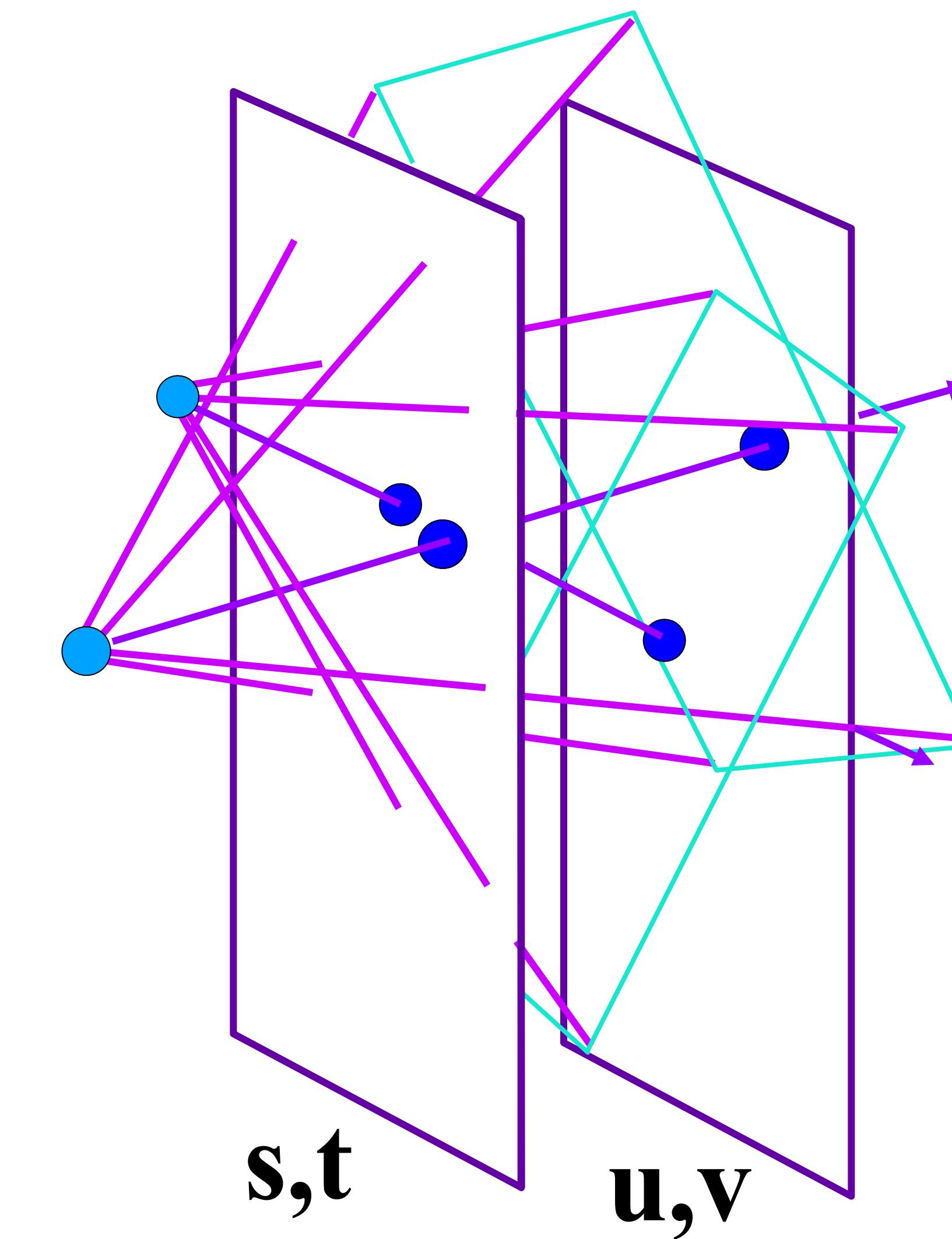
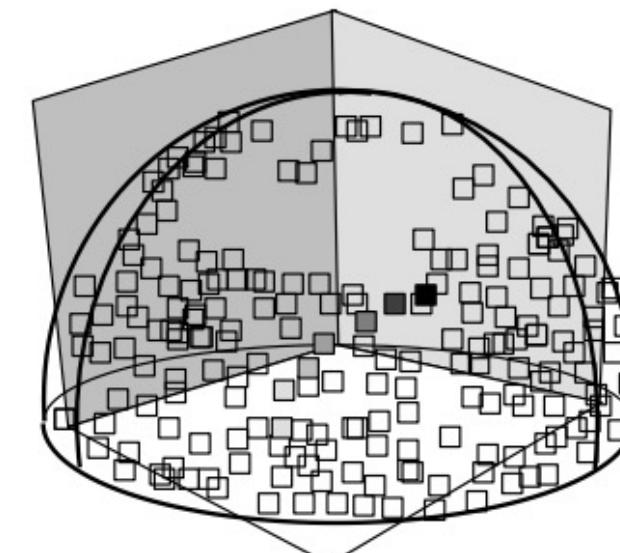
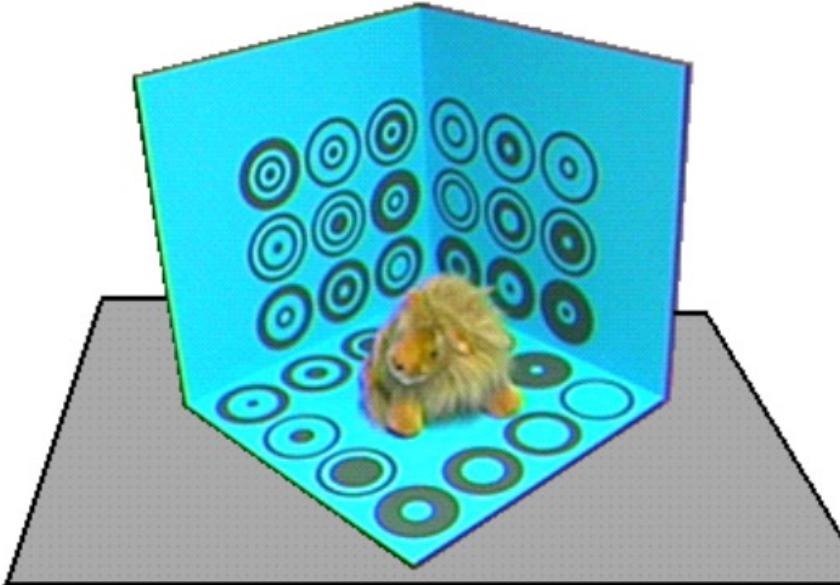


Capture Light Field

Idea 2

- Move camera anywhere
- Interpolation over irregular samples
 - see Lumigraph paper

[Gortler, Grzeszczuk, Szeliski,
Cohen]



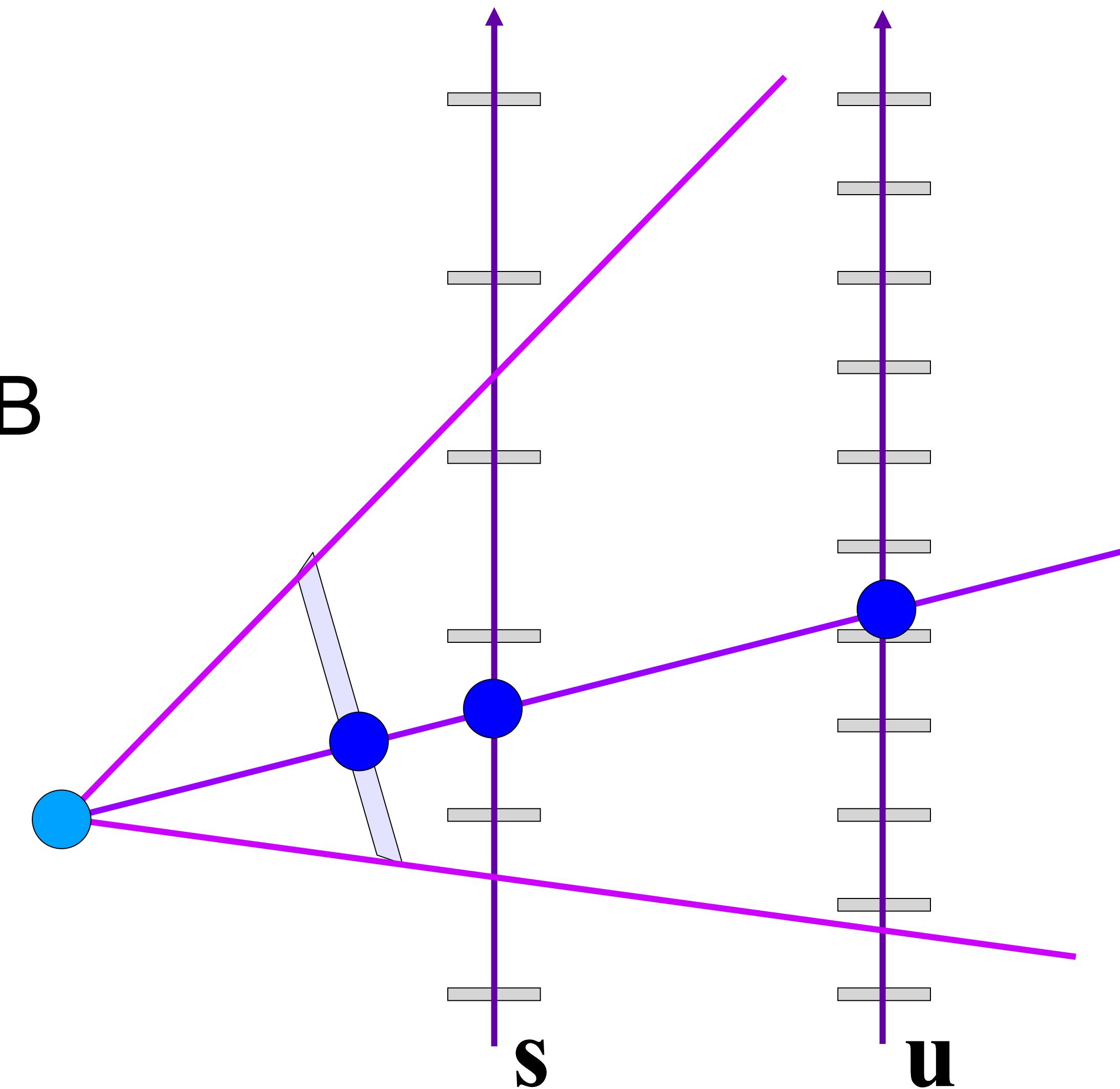
Novel View Synthesis

For each output pixel

- determine s, t, u, v
- use closest discrete RGB

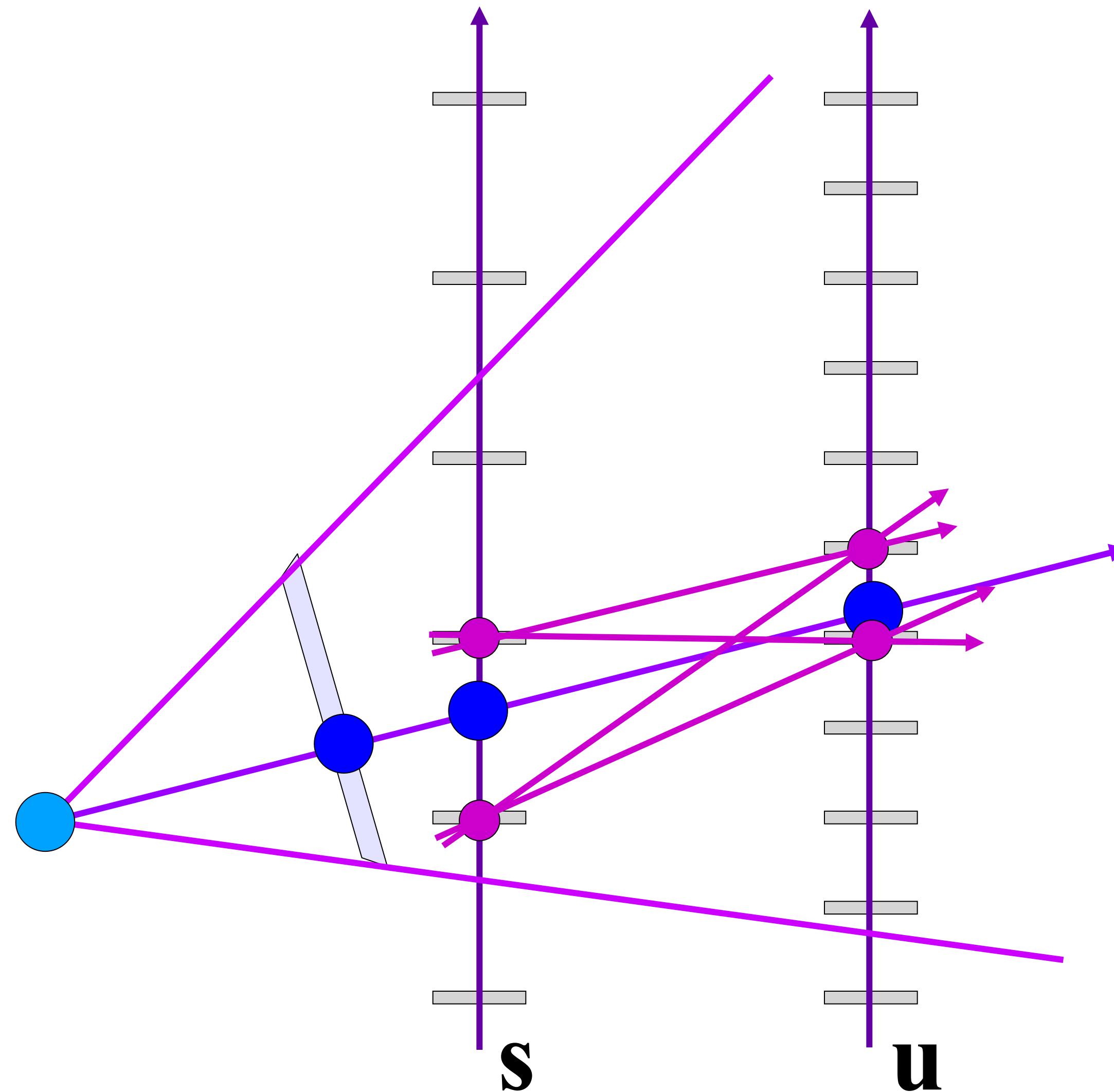
OR

- interpolate near values



Interpolation

- Nearest neighbor
 - closest s
 - closest u
 - draw it
- Blend 16 nearest
 - quadrilinear interpolation



Stanford multi-camera array



- 640×480 pixels \times
 30 fps $\times 128$ cameras
- synchronized timing
- continuous streaming
- flexible arrangement



Light field photography using a handheld plenoptic camera



*Ren Ng, Marc Levoy, Mathieu Brédif,
Gene Duval, Mark Horowitz and Pat Hanrahan*



Ren Ng

Light field photography using a handheld plenoptic camera



Refocusing

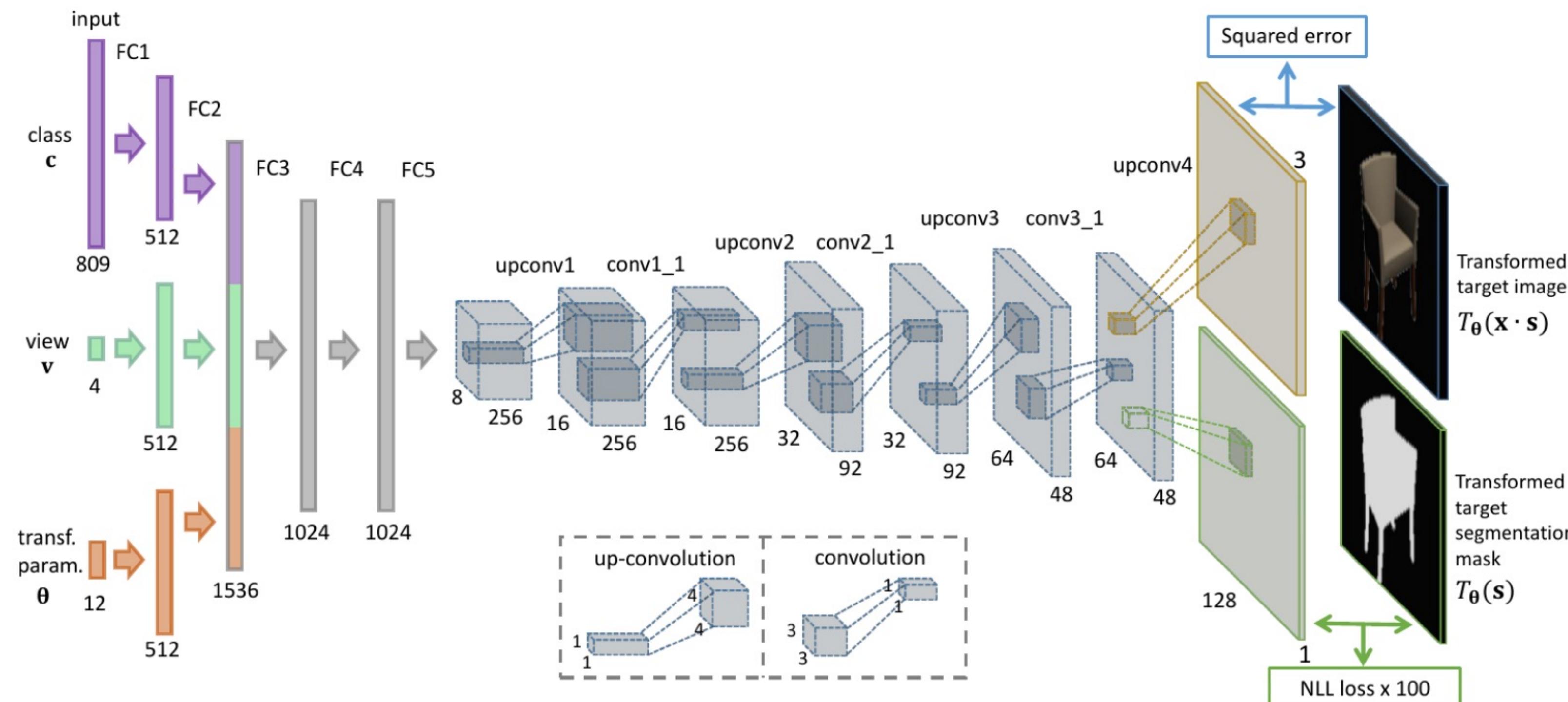


Novel View Synthesis

<http://lightfield-forum.com/en/>

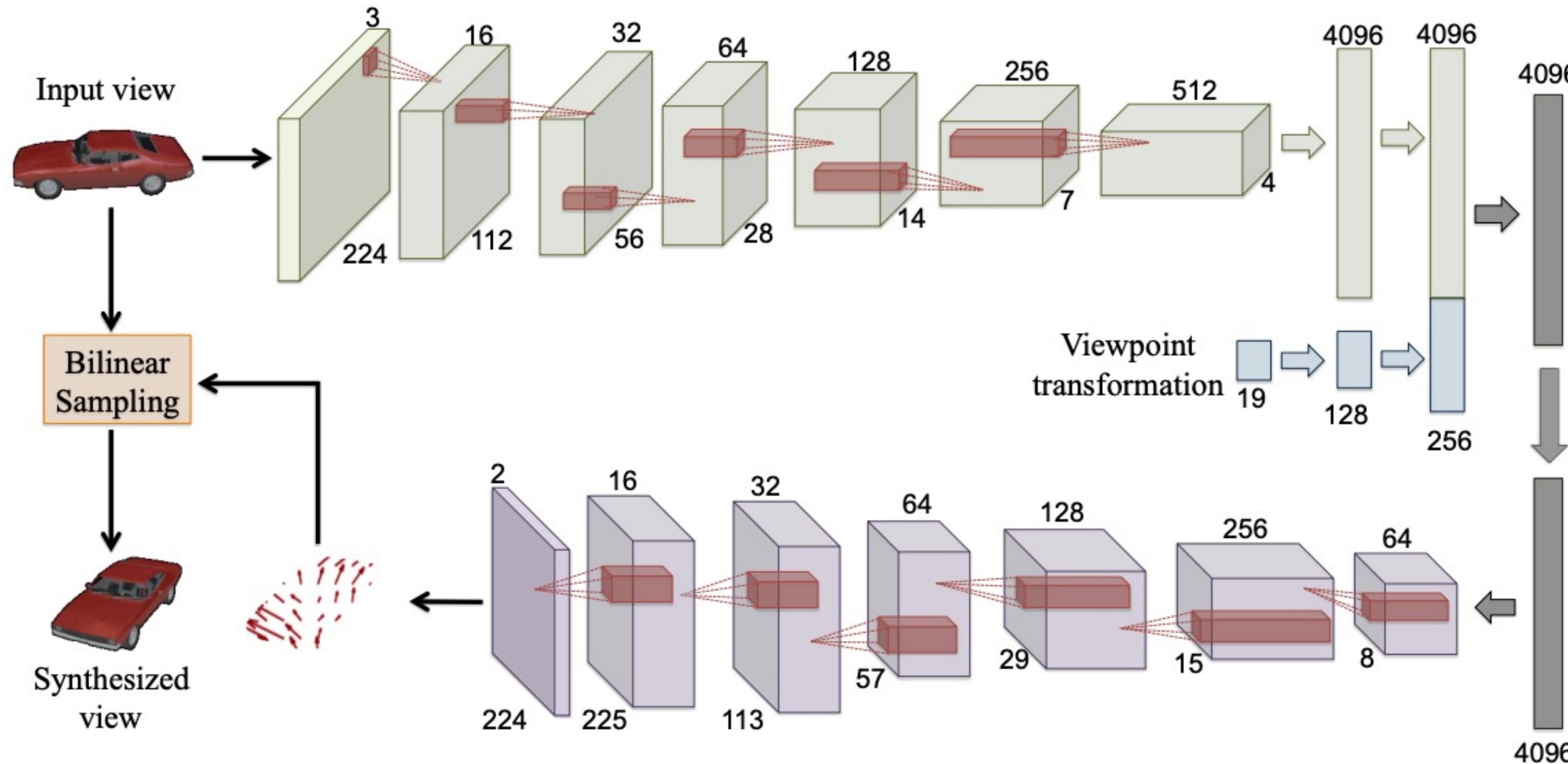
Deep Learning for View Synthesis

Generating Chairs with CNNs



Dosovitskiy et al. Learning to Generate Chairs, Tables and Cars with Convolutional Networks
PAMI 2017 (CVPR 2015)

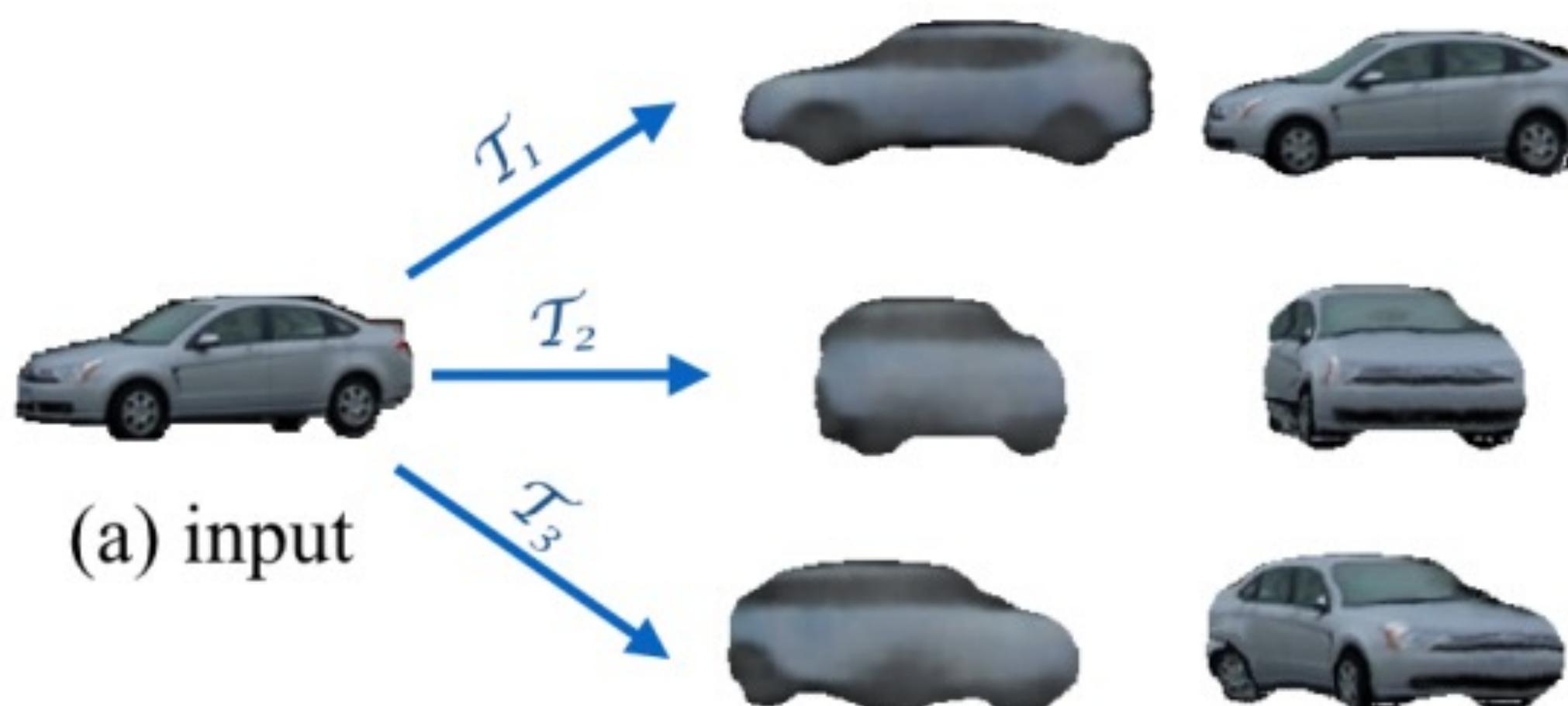
View Synthesis with Dense Correspondence



View Synthesis by Appearance Flow

Tinghui Zhou, Shubham Tulsiani, Weilun Sun, Jitendra Malik, Alexei A. Efros
ECCV 2016

View Synthesis with Dense Correspondence

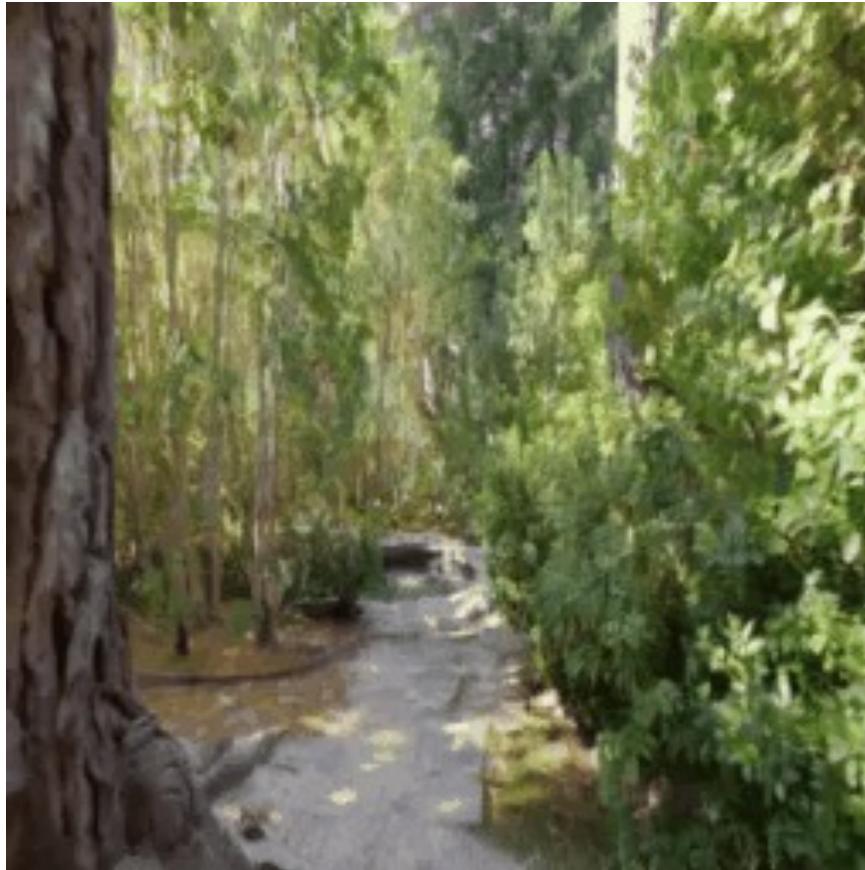


Tatarchenko *et al.* [1] Ours



Tatarchenko *et al.* [1] Ours

Lots of recent progress using deep learning for view synthesis!



Wiles CVPR 2020



Choi ICCV 2019



Flynn CVPR 2019

The following slides deck is from

Ben Mildenhall*, Pratul Srinivasan*, Matthew Tancik*, Jonathan T. Barron, Ravi Ramamoorthi, Ren Ng

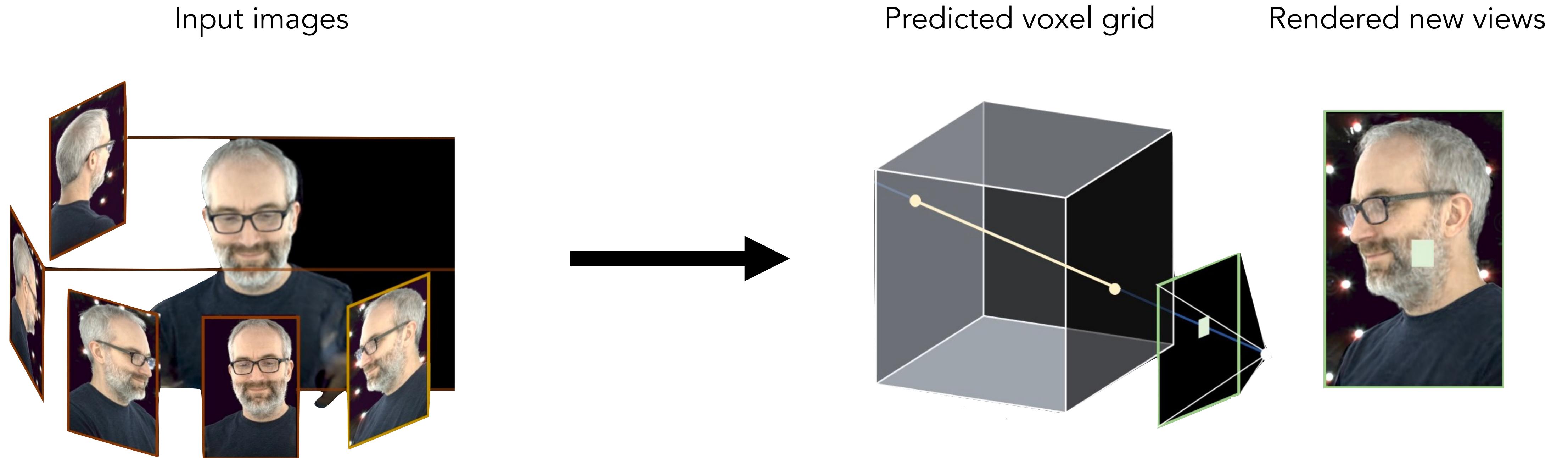
The problem of novel view interpolation



Inputs: sparsely sampled images of scene

Outputs: new views of same scene

Very successful approach: predict 3D voxel RGB-alpha grid



Neural Volumes, Lombardi et al. 2019

RGB-alpha volume rendering for view synthesis

Soft 3D

(Penner & Zhang 2017)

Culmination of non-deep stereo matching techniques



Multiplane image methods

Stereo Magnification (Zhou et al. 2018)

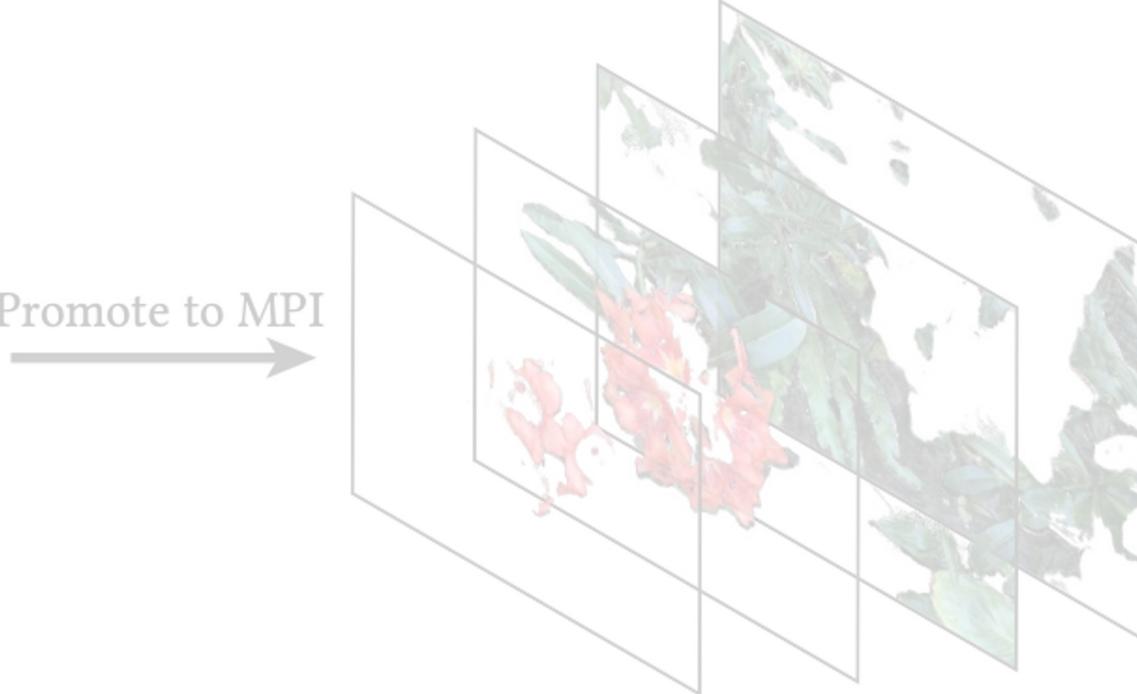
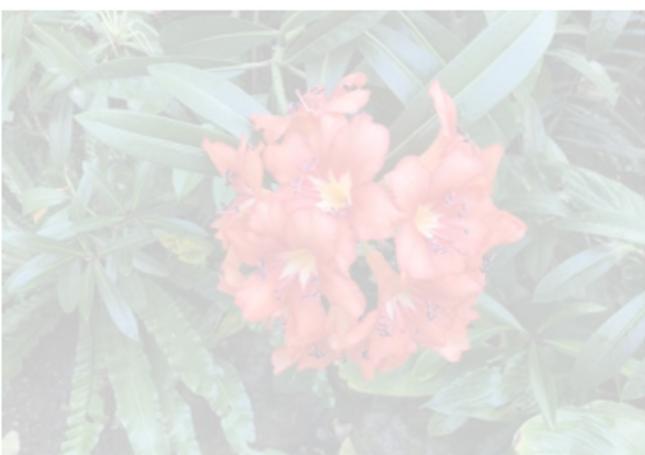
Pushing the Boundaries... (Srinivasan et al. 2019)

Local Light Field Fusion (Mildenhall et al. 2019)

DeepView (Flynn et al. 2019)

Single-View... (Tucker & Snavely 2020)

Typical deep learning pipelines - images go into a 3D CNN, big RGBA 3D volume comes out



Neural Volumes

(Lombardi et al. 2019)

Direct gradient descent to optimize an RGBA volume, regularized by a 3D CNN

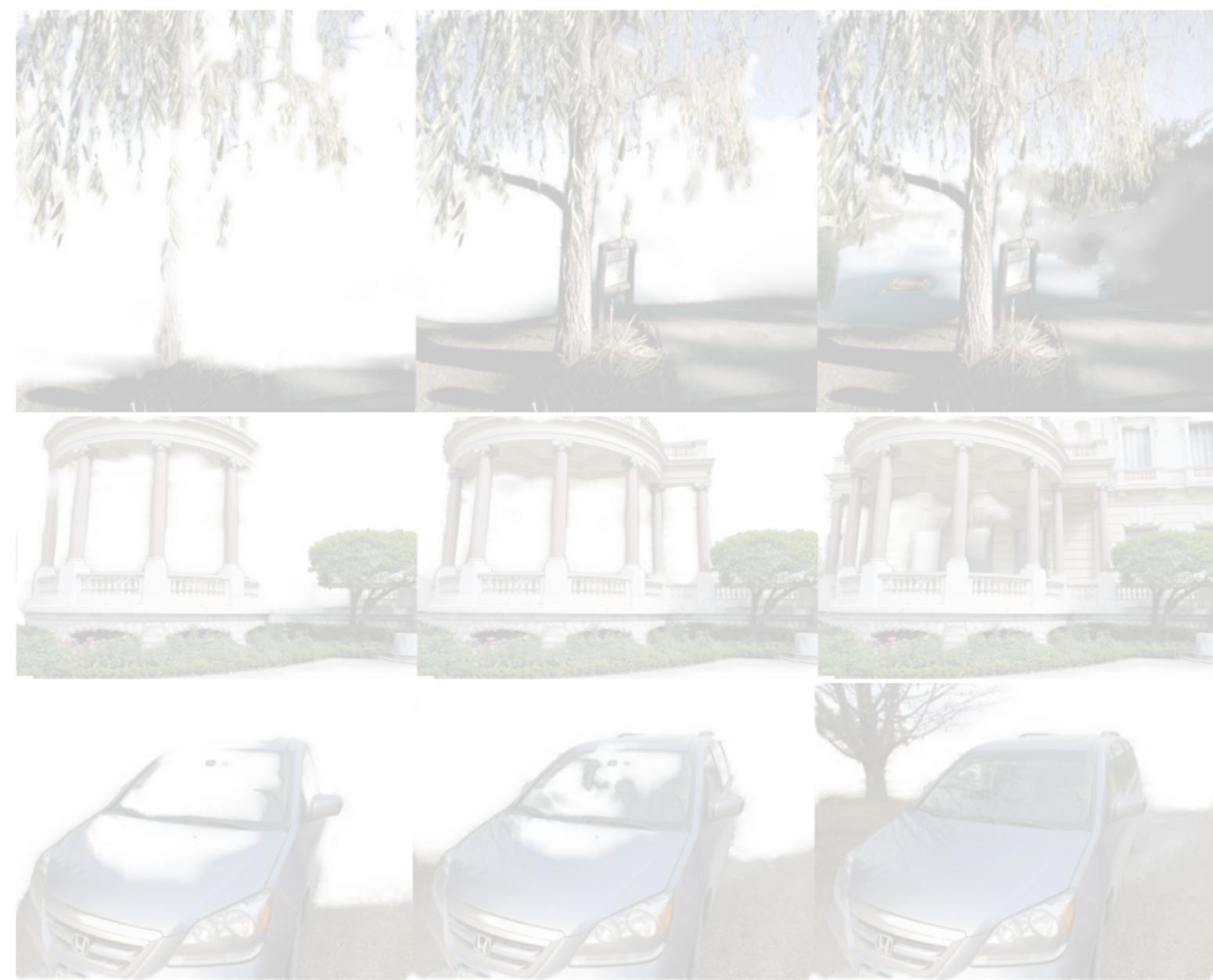


RGB-alpha volume rendering for view synthesis

Soft 3D

(Penner & Zhang 2017)

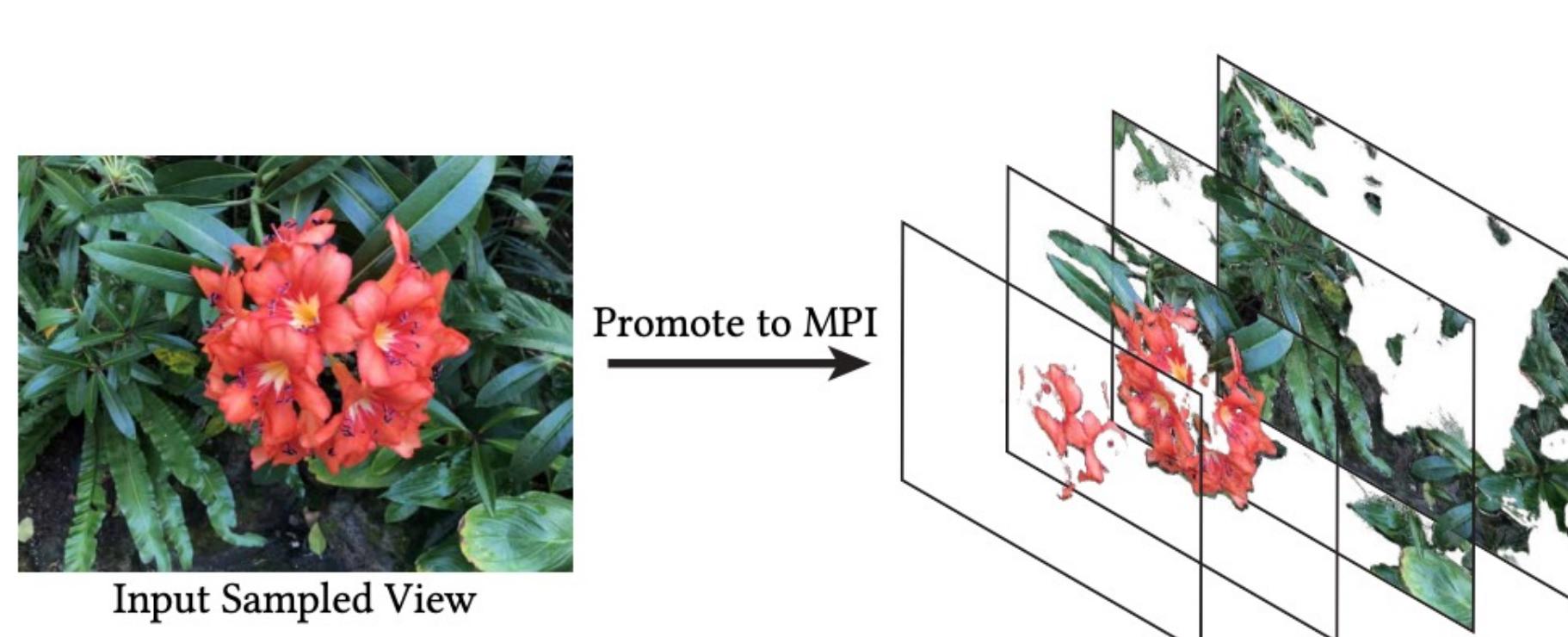
Culmination of non-deep stereo matching techniques



Multiplane image methods

Stereo Magnification (Zhou et al. 2018)
Pushing the Boundaries... (Srinivasan et al. 2019)
Local Light Field Fusion (Mildenhall et al. 2019)
DeepView (Flynn et al. 2019)
Single-View... (Tucker & Snavely 2020)

Typical deep learning pipelines - images go into a 3D CNN, big RGBA 3D volume comes out



Neural Volumes

(Lombardi et al. 2019)

Direct gradient descent to optimize an RGBA volume, regularized by a 3D CNN



RGB-alpha volume rendering for view synthesis

Soft 3D

(Penner & Zhang 2017)

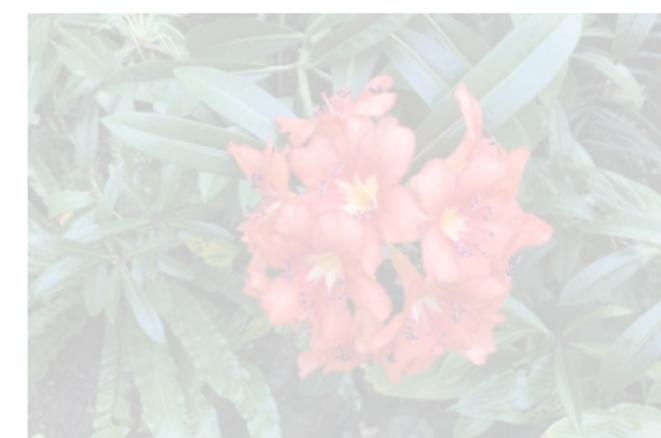
Culmination of non-deep stereo matching techniques



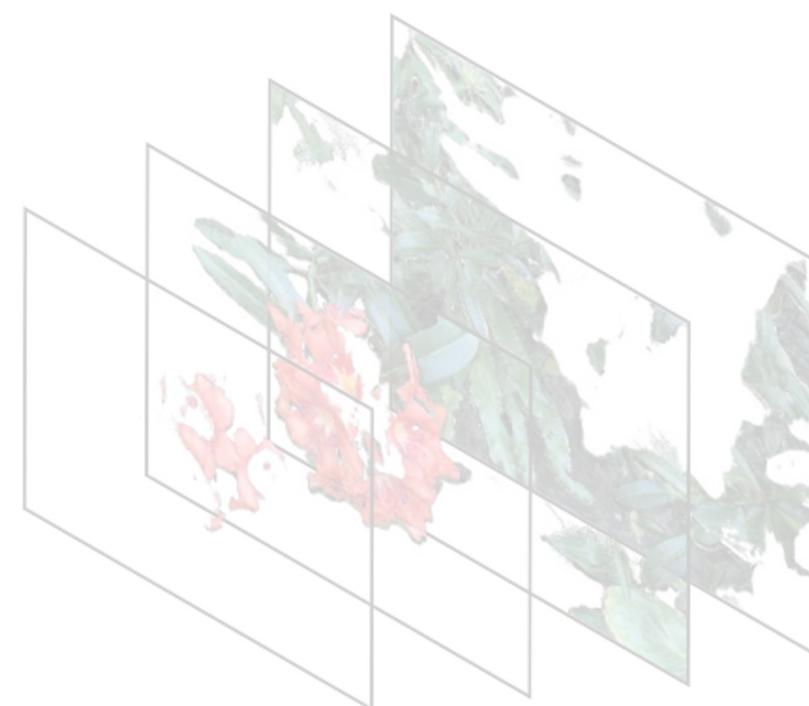
Multiplane image methods

Stereo Magnification (Zhou et al. 2018)
Pushing the Boundaries... (Srinivasan et al. 2019)
Local Light Field Fusion (Mildenhall et al. 2019)
DeepView (Flynn et al. 2019)
Single-View... (Tucker & Snavely 2020)

Typical deep learning pipelines - images go into a 3D CNN, big RGBA 3D volume comes out



Promote to MPI

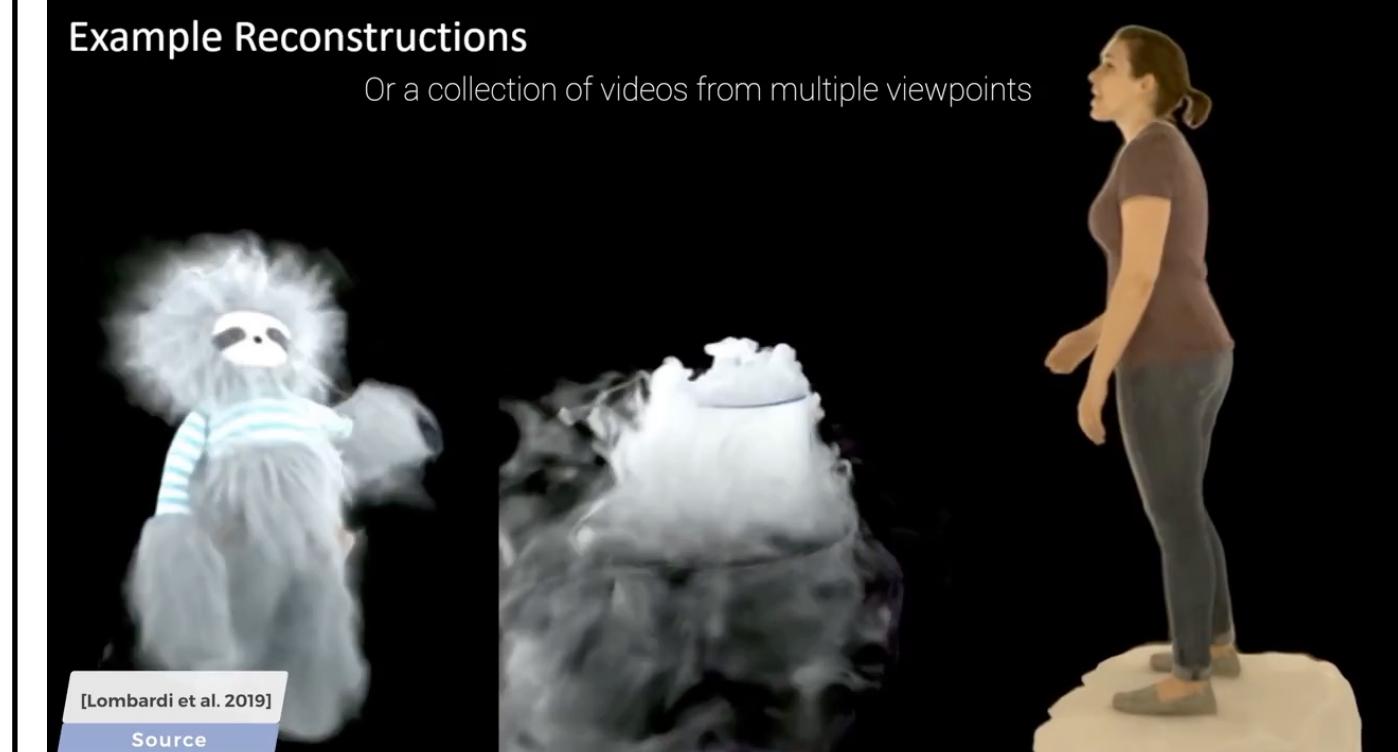


Input Sampled View

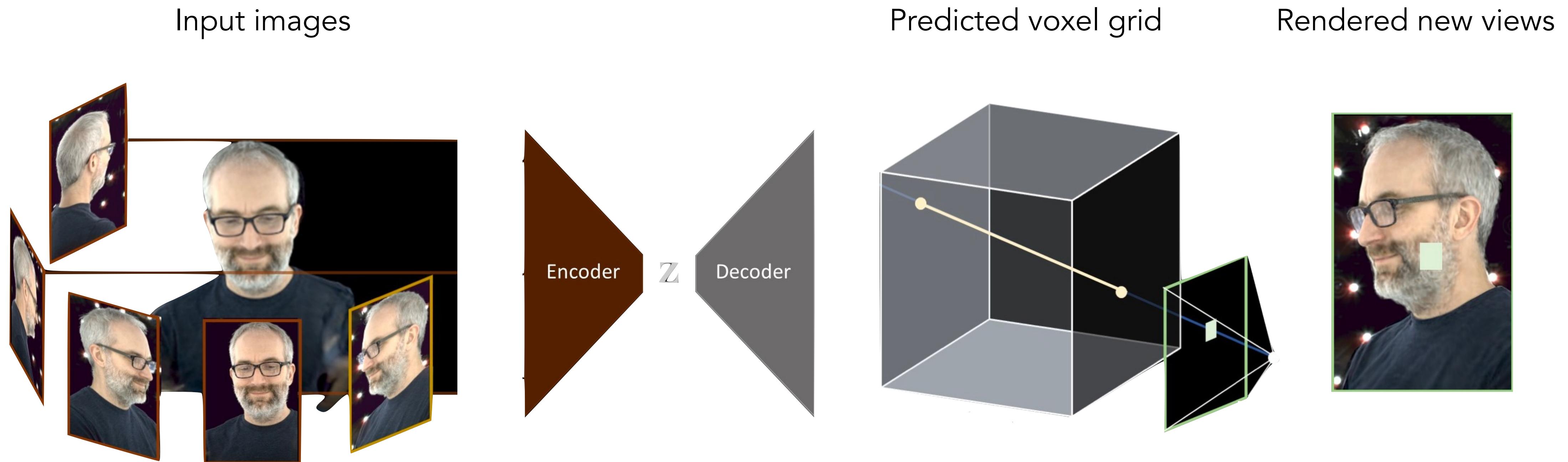
Neural Volumes

(Lombardi et al. 2019)

Direct gradient descent to optimize an RGBA volume, regularized by a 3D CNN



RGB-alpha volume rendering for view synthesis



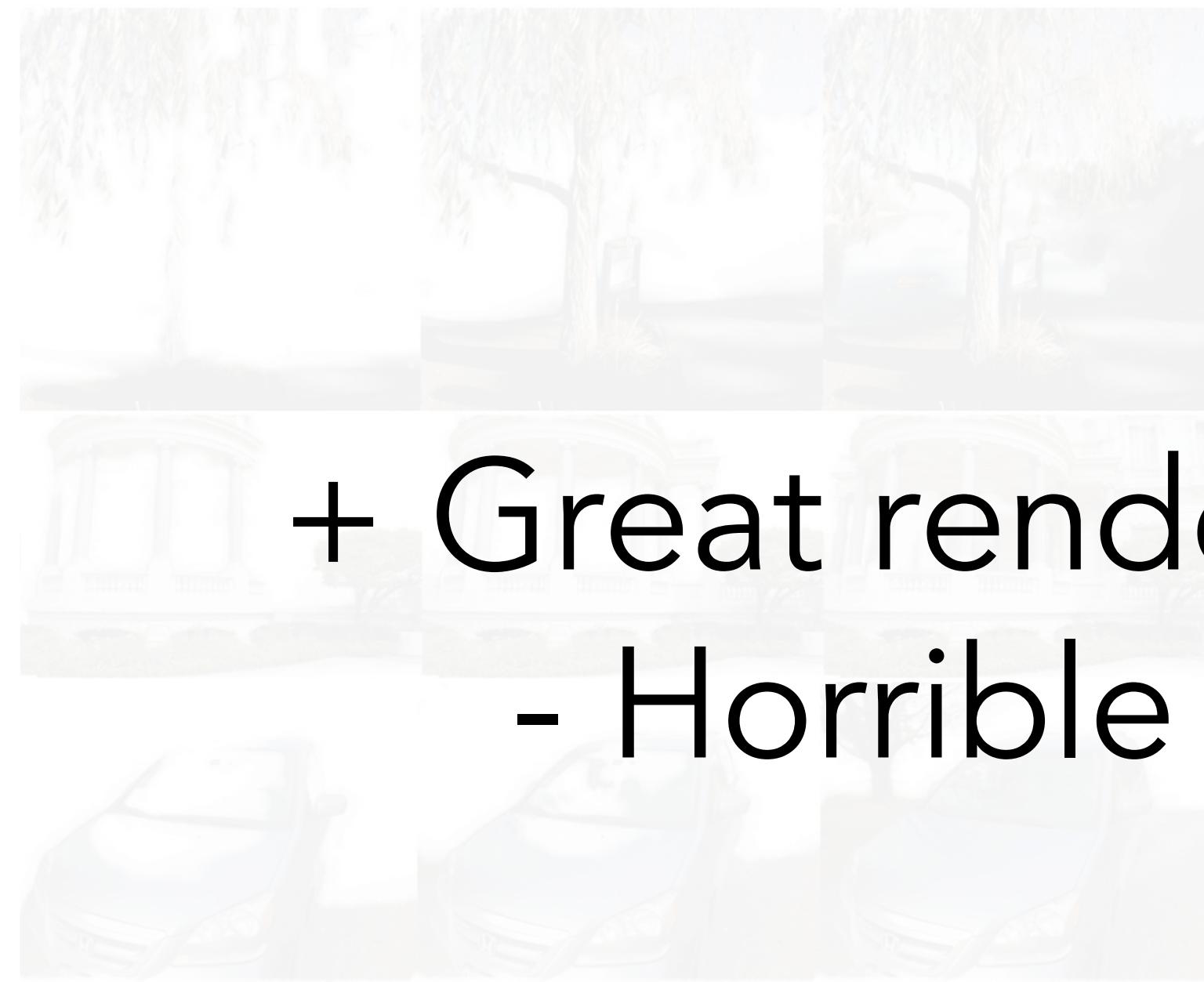
Neural Volumes, Lombardi et al. 2019

RGB-alpha volume rendering for view synthesis

Soft 3D

(Penner & Zhang 2017)

Culmination of non-deep stereo matching techniques



Multiplane image methods

Stereo Magnification (Zhou et al. 2018)

Pushing the Boundaries... (Srinivasan et al. 2019)

Local Light Field Fusion (Mildenhall et al. 2019)

DeepView (Flynn et al. 2019)

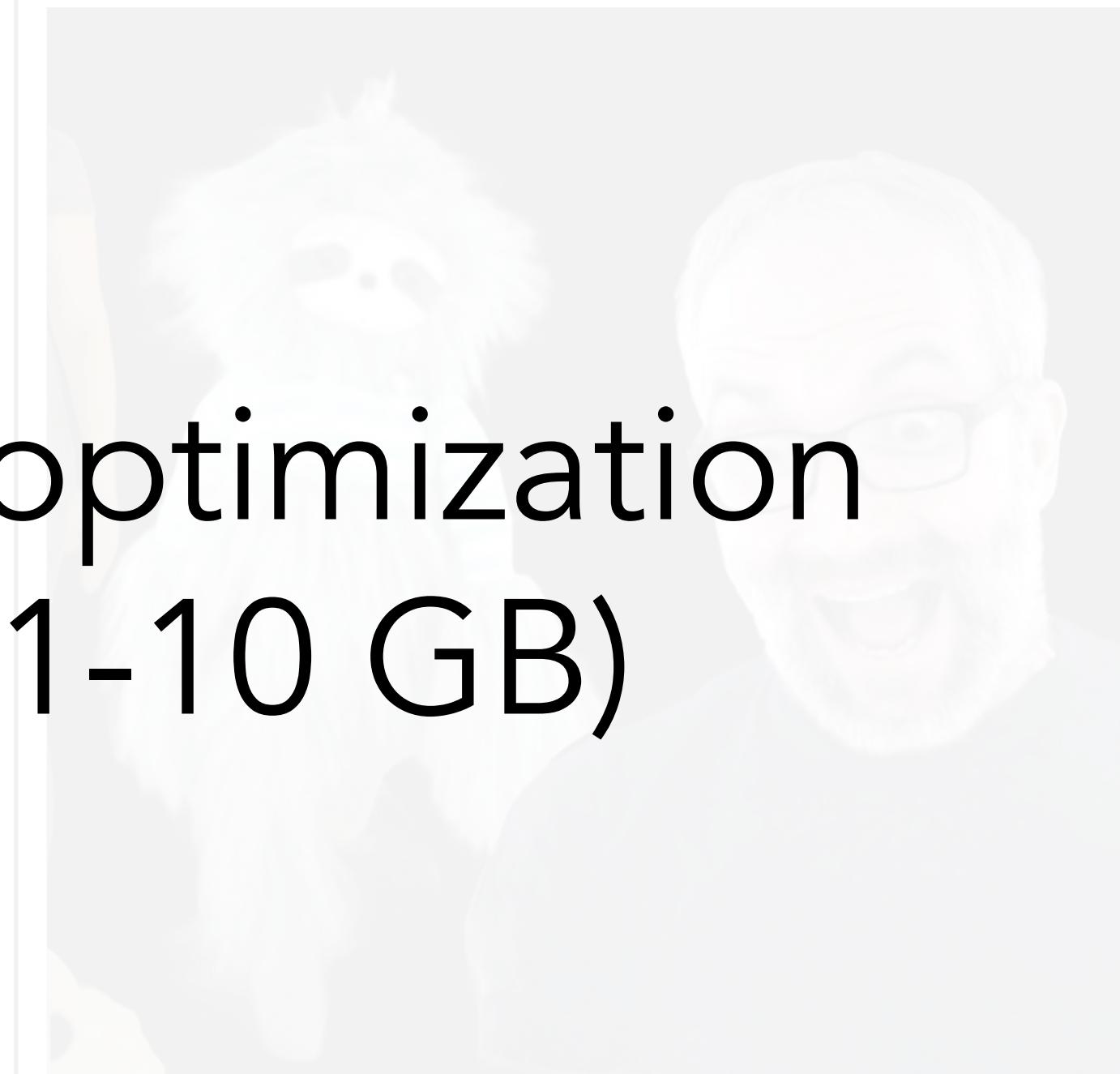
Single-View... (Tucker & Snavely 2020)

Typical deep learning pipelines - images go into a 3D CNN, big RGBA 3D volume comes out

Neural Volumes

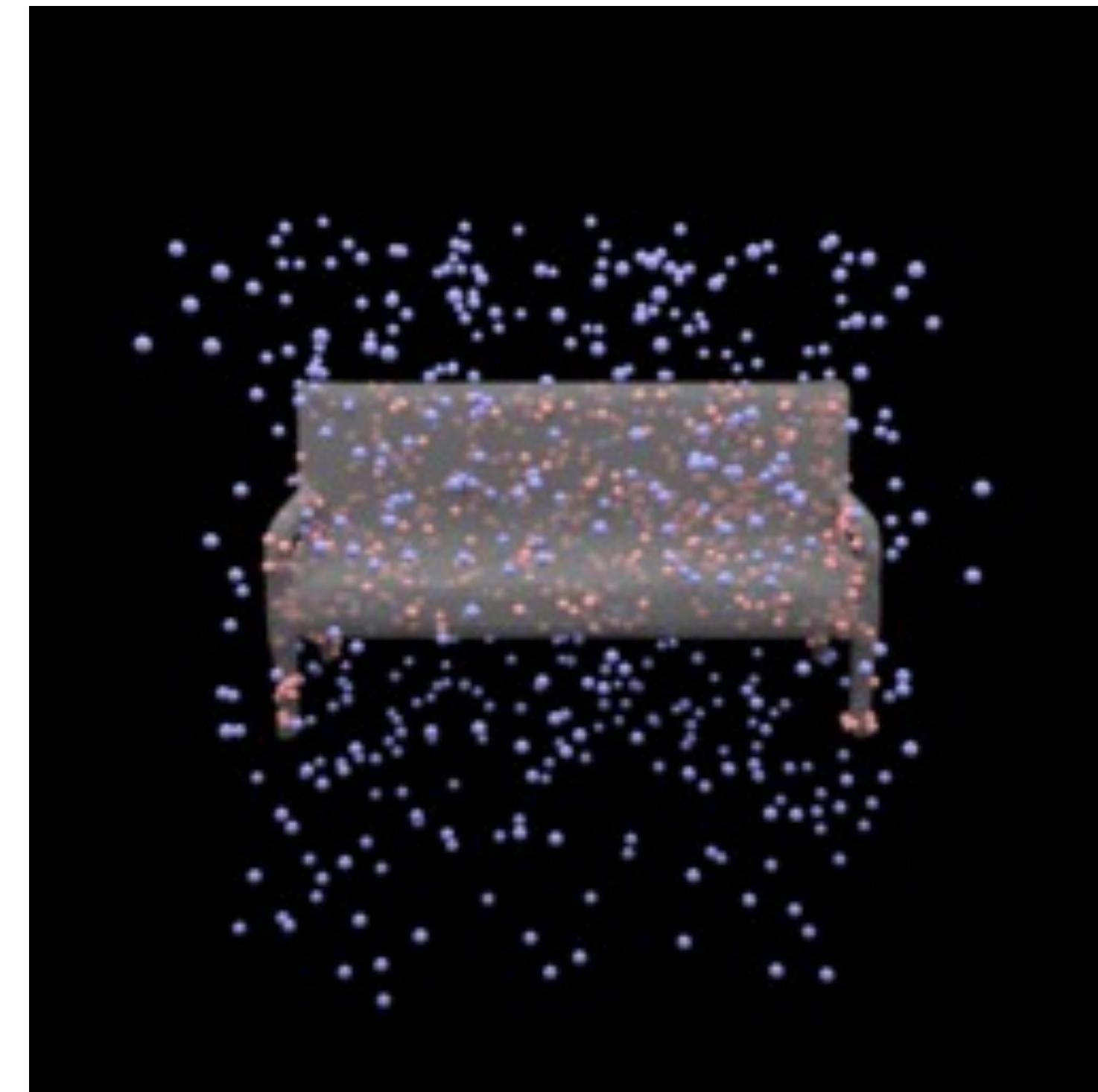
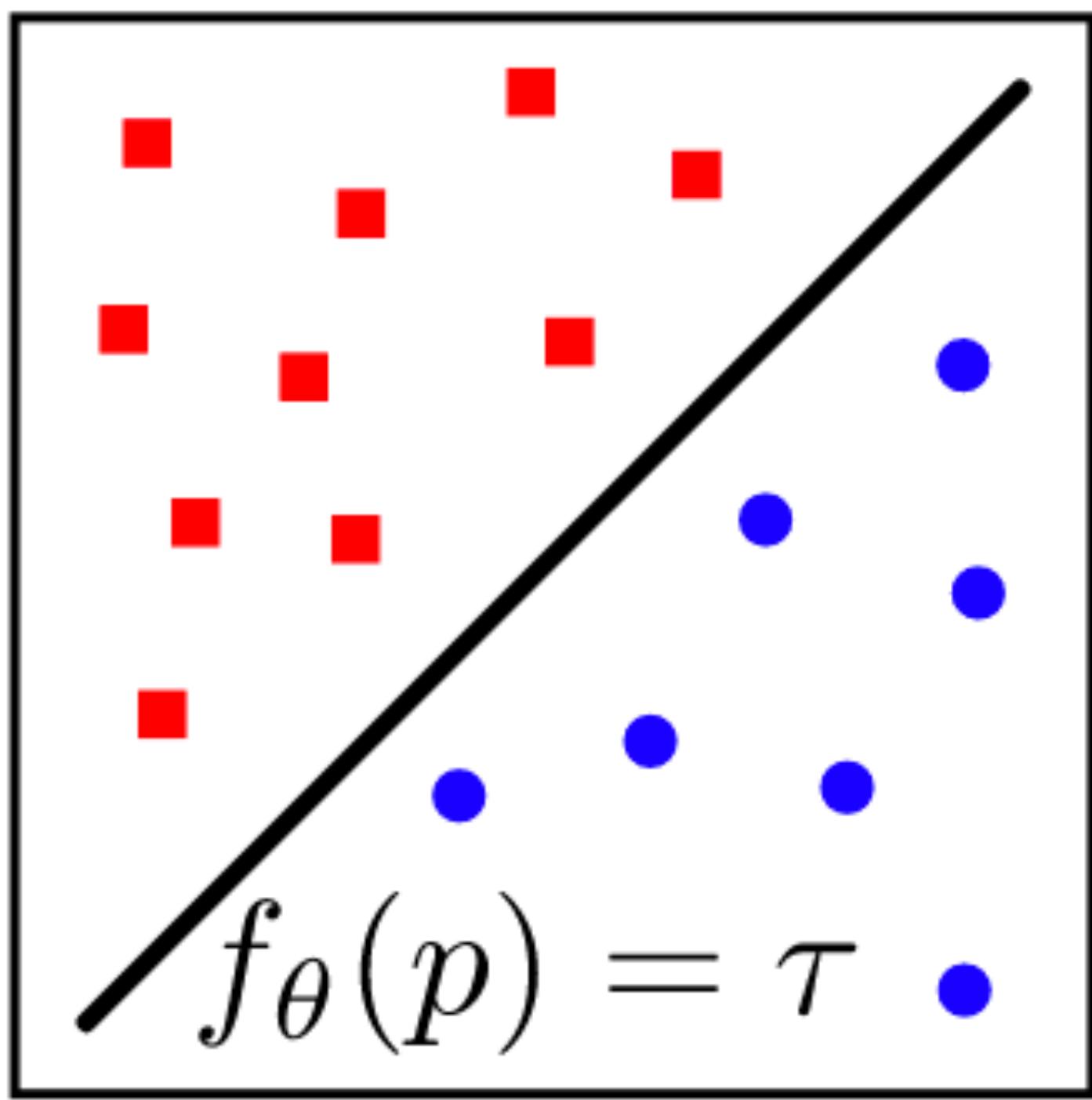
(Lombardi et al. 2019)

Direct gradient descent to optimize an RGBA volume, regularized by a 3D CNN



- + Great rendering model: good for optimization
- Horrible storage requirements (1-10 GB)

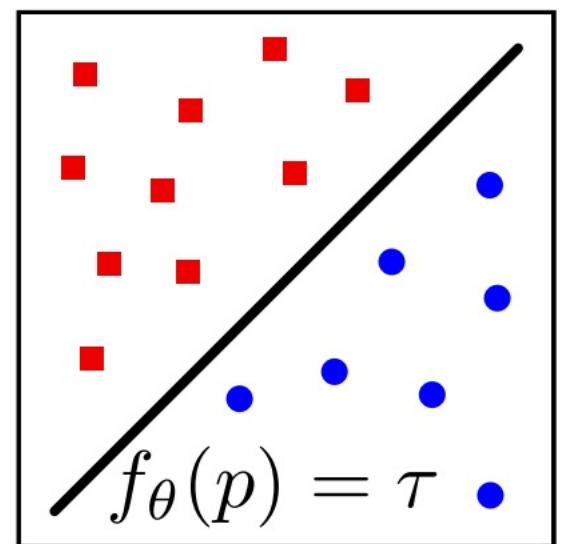
Neural networks as a continuous shape representation



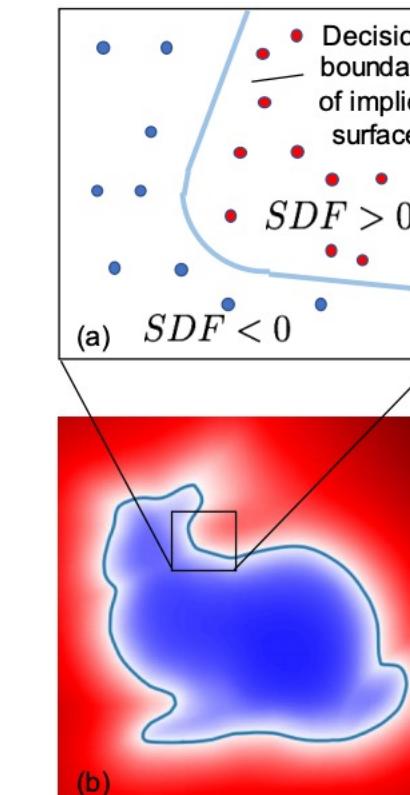
Occupancy Networks, Mescheder et al. CVPR 2019

Neural networks as a continuous shape representation

Occupancy Networks
(Mescheder et al. 2019)
 $(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{occupancy}$



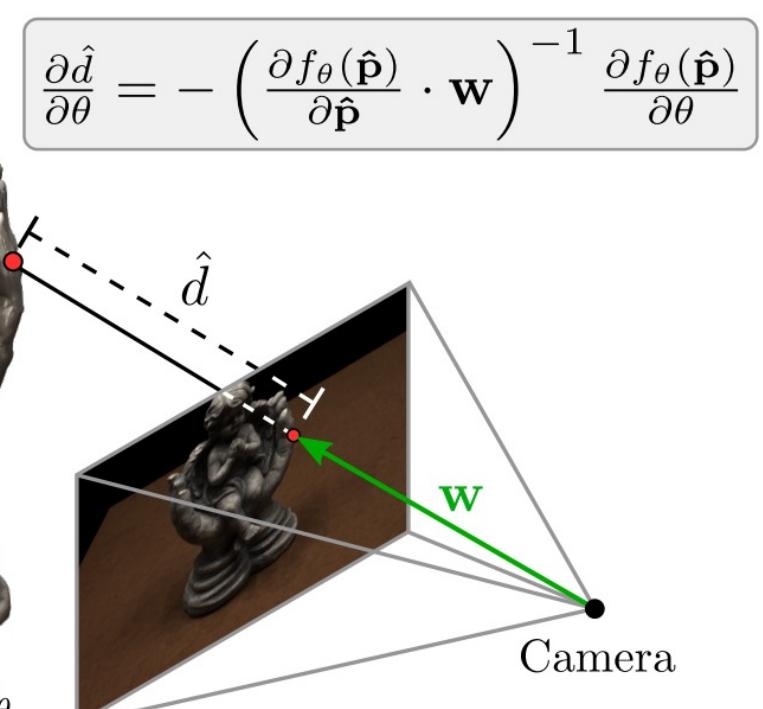
DeepSDF
(Park et al. 2019)
 $(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{distance}$



Scene Representation Networks
(Sitzmann et al. 2019)
 $(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{latent vec. (color, dist.)}$



Differentiable Volumetric Rendering
(Niemeyer et al. 2020)
 $(x, y, z) \rightarrow \text{color, occ.}$



Neural networks as a shape representation

DeepSDF

(Park et al. 2019)

$(x, y, z) \rightarrow distance$



Occupancy Networks

(Mescheder et al. 2019)

$(x, y, z) \rightarrow occupancy$



- Limited rendering model: difficult to optimize
 - + Highly compressible (1-10 MB)

Scene Representation Networks

(Sitzmann et al. 2019)

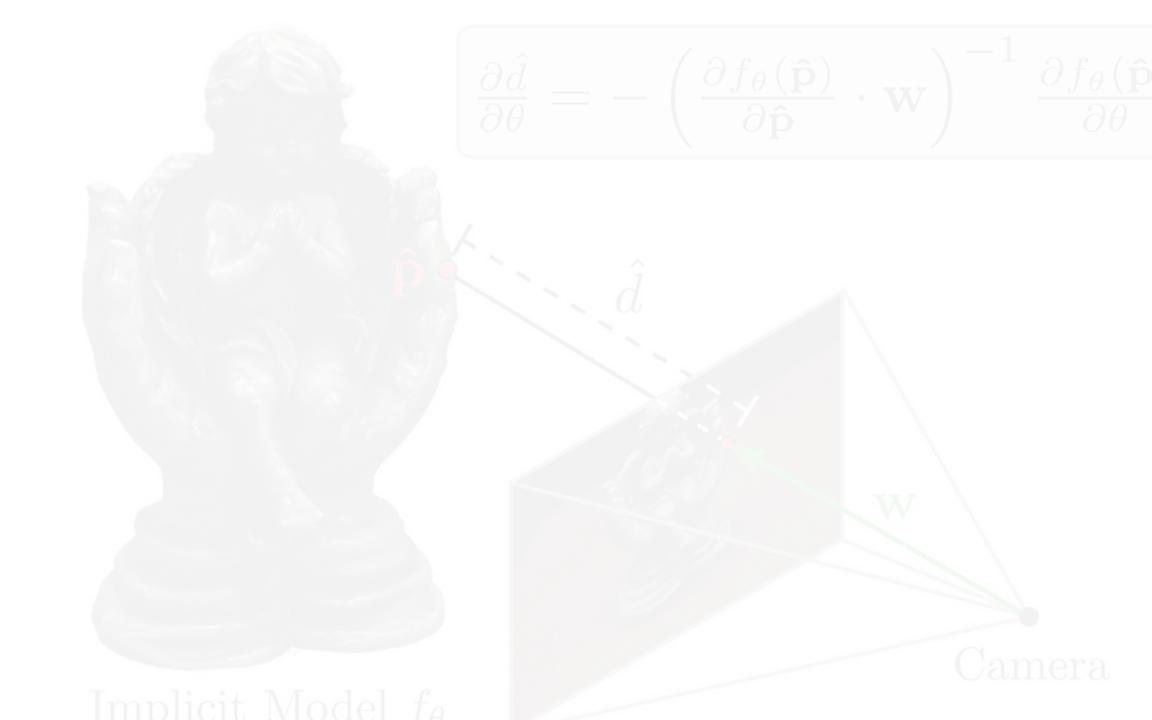
$(x, y, z) \rightarrow latent\ vec.\ (color, dist.)$



Differentiable Volumetric Rendering

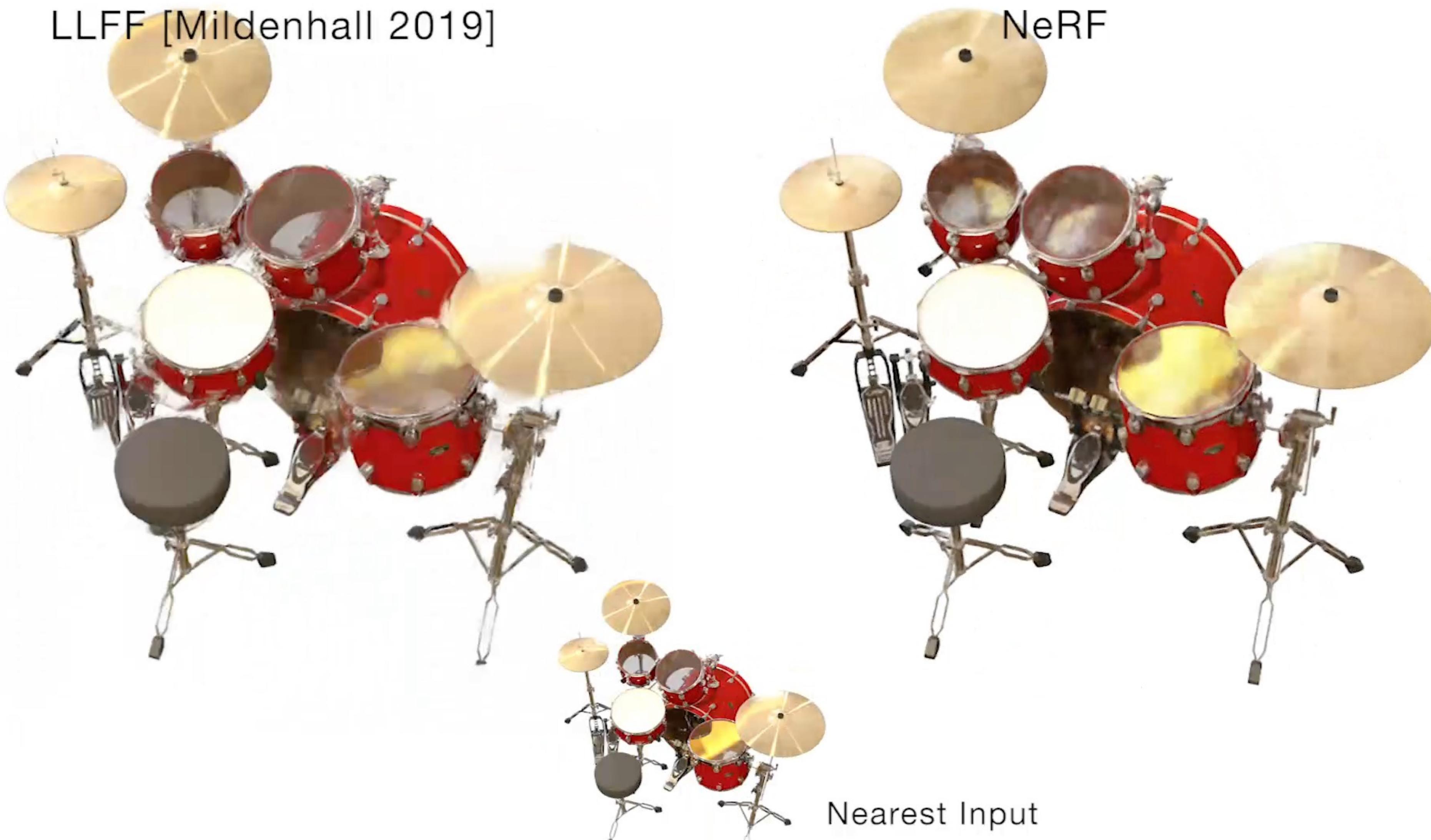
(Niemeyer et al. 2020)

$(x, y, z) \rightarrow color; occ.$



NeRF (*neural radiance fields*):
Neural networks as a *volume representation*,
using volume rendering to do view
synthesis. $(x, y, z, \theta, \phi) \rightarrow \text{color, opacity}$

NeRF achieves state-of-the-art results on an extremely difficult problem



NeRF achieves state-of-the-art results on an extremely difficult problem

Neural Volumes [Lombardi 2019]



NeRF



Nearest Input

NeRF achieves state-of-the-art results on an extremely difficult problem

SRN [Sitzmann 2019]



NeRF



Nearest Input

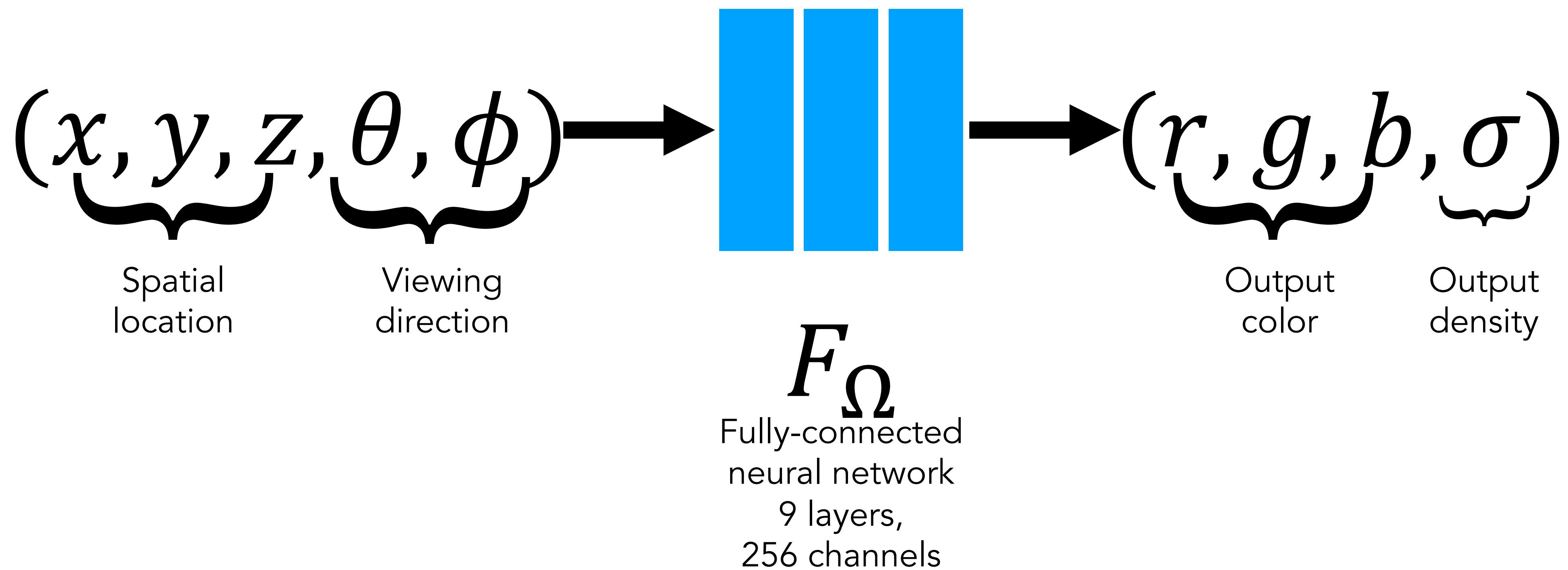
Key points

- ▶ Continuous neural network as a volumetric scene representation ($5D = xyz + \text{direction}$)
- ▶ Use volume rendering model to synthesize new views
- ▶ Optimize using rendering loss for one scene (no prior training)
- ▶ One extra trick for passing coordinates into network to get high frequency details

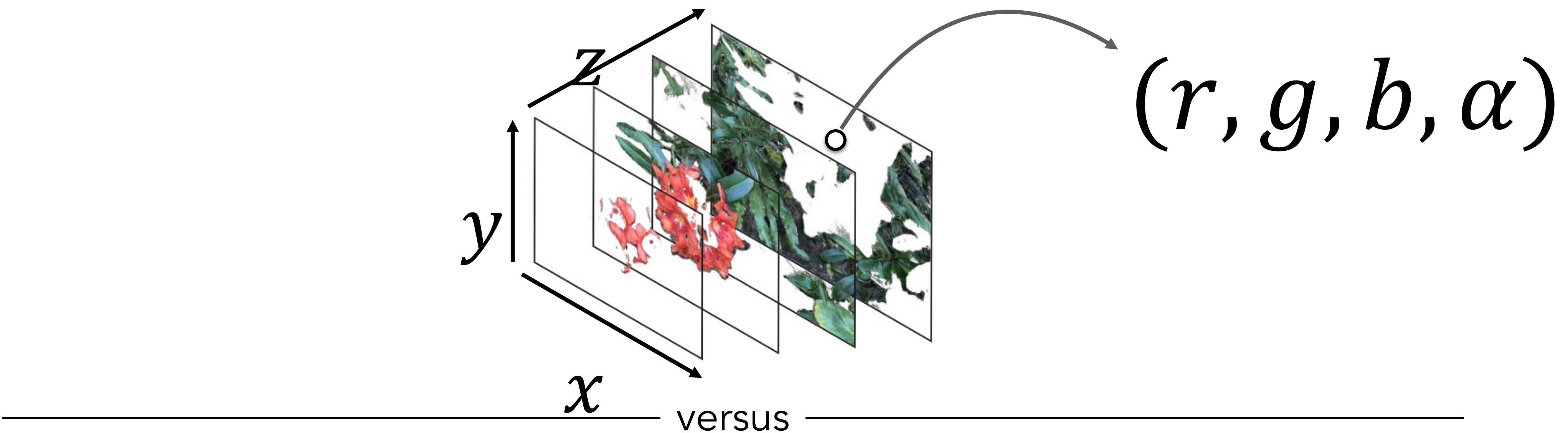
Key points

- ▶ Continuous neural network as a volumetric scene representation ($5D = xyz + \text{direction}$)
- ▶ Use volume rendering model to synthesize new views
- ▶ Optimize using rendering loss for one scene (no prior training)
- ▶ One extra trick for passing coordinates into network to get high frequency details

Representing a scene as a continuous 5D function



Neural network replaces large N-d array



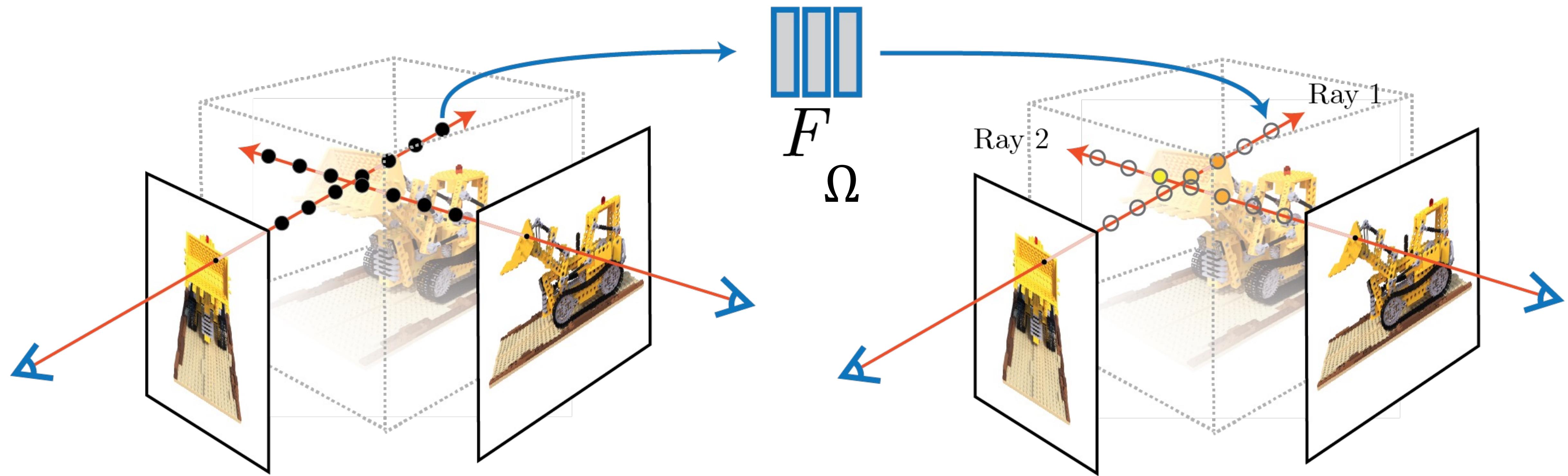
$(x, y, z, \theta, \phi) \rightarrow F_\Omega \rightarrow (r, g, b, \sigma)$

$$F_\Omega$$

Key points

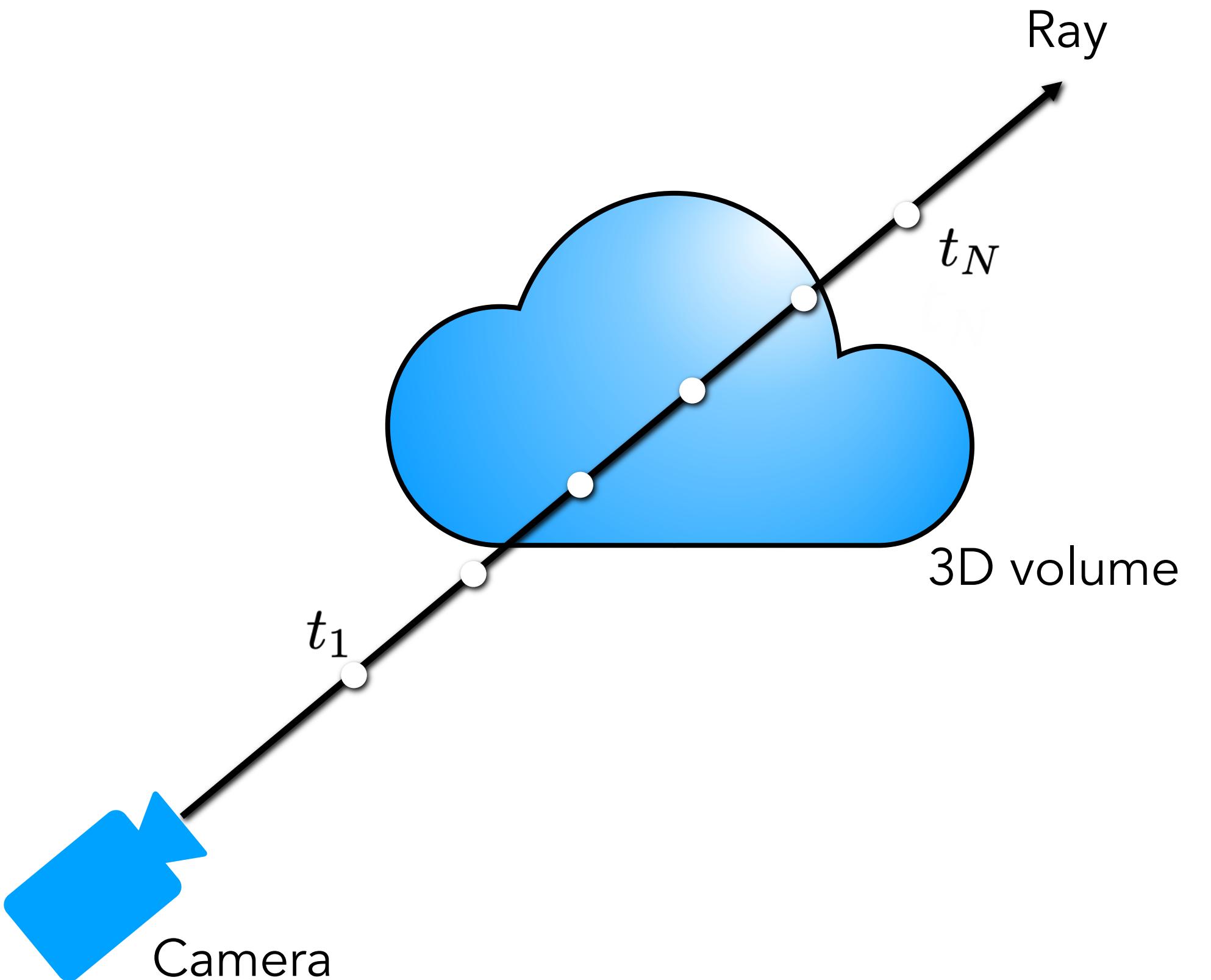
- ▶ Continuous neural network as a volumetric scene representation ($5D = xyz + \text{direction}$)
- ▶ Use volume rendering model to synthesize new views
- ▶ Optimize using rendering loss for one scene (no prior training)
- ▶ One extra trick for passing coordinates into network to get high frequency details

Generate views with traditional volume rendering



Generate views with traditional volume rendering

Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

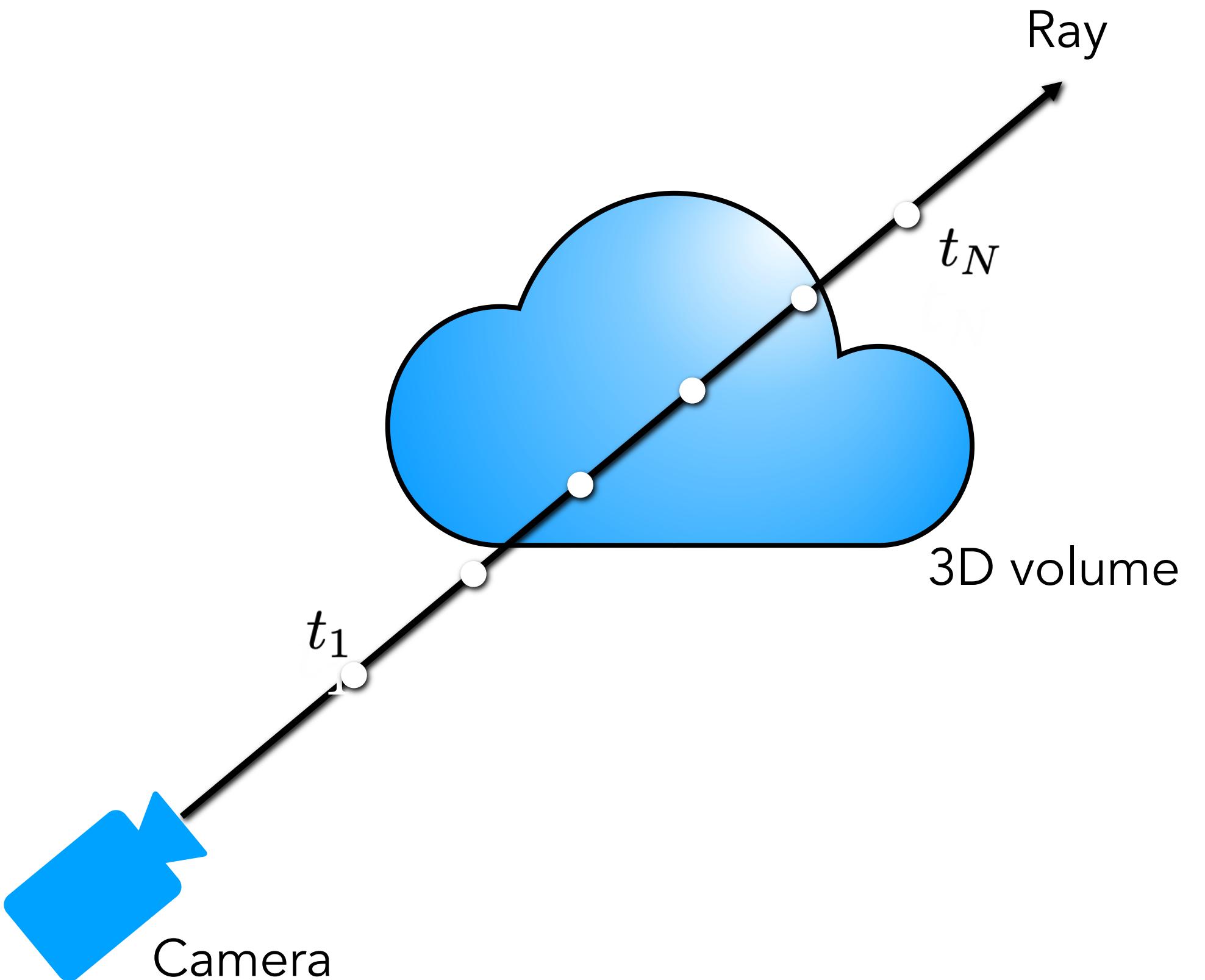


Generate views with traditional volume rendering

Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

weights colors



Generate views with traditional volume rendering

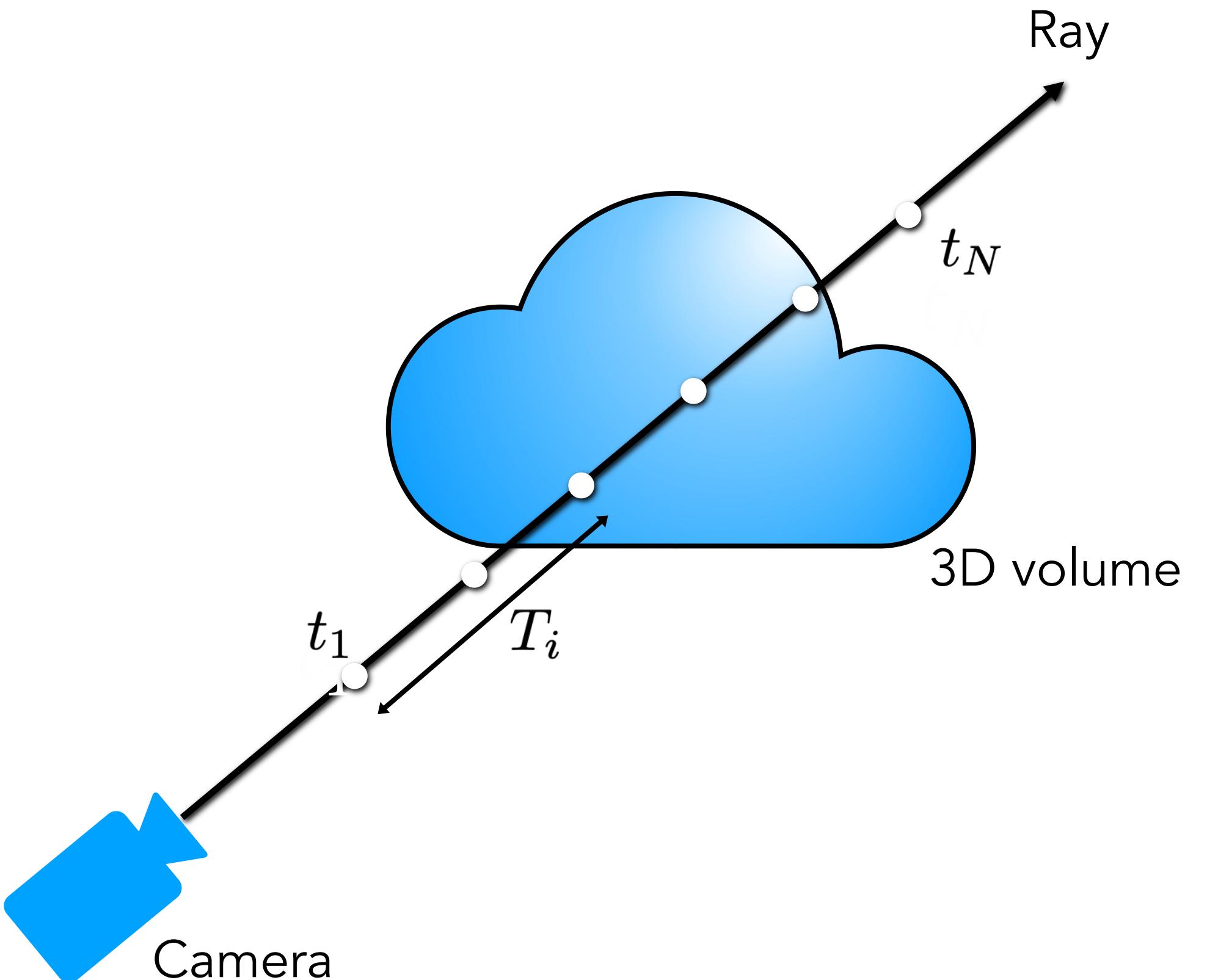
Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

weights colors

How much light is blocked earlier along ray:

$$T_i = \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_j)$$



Generate views with traditional volume rendering

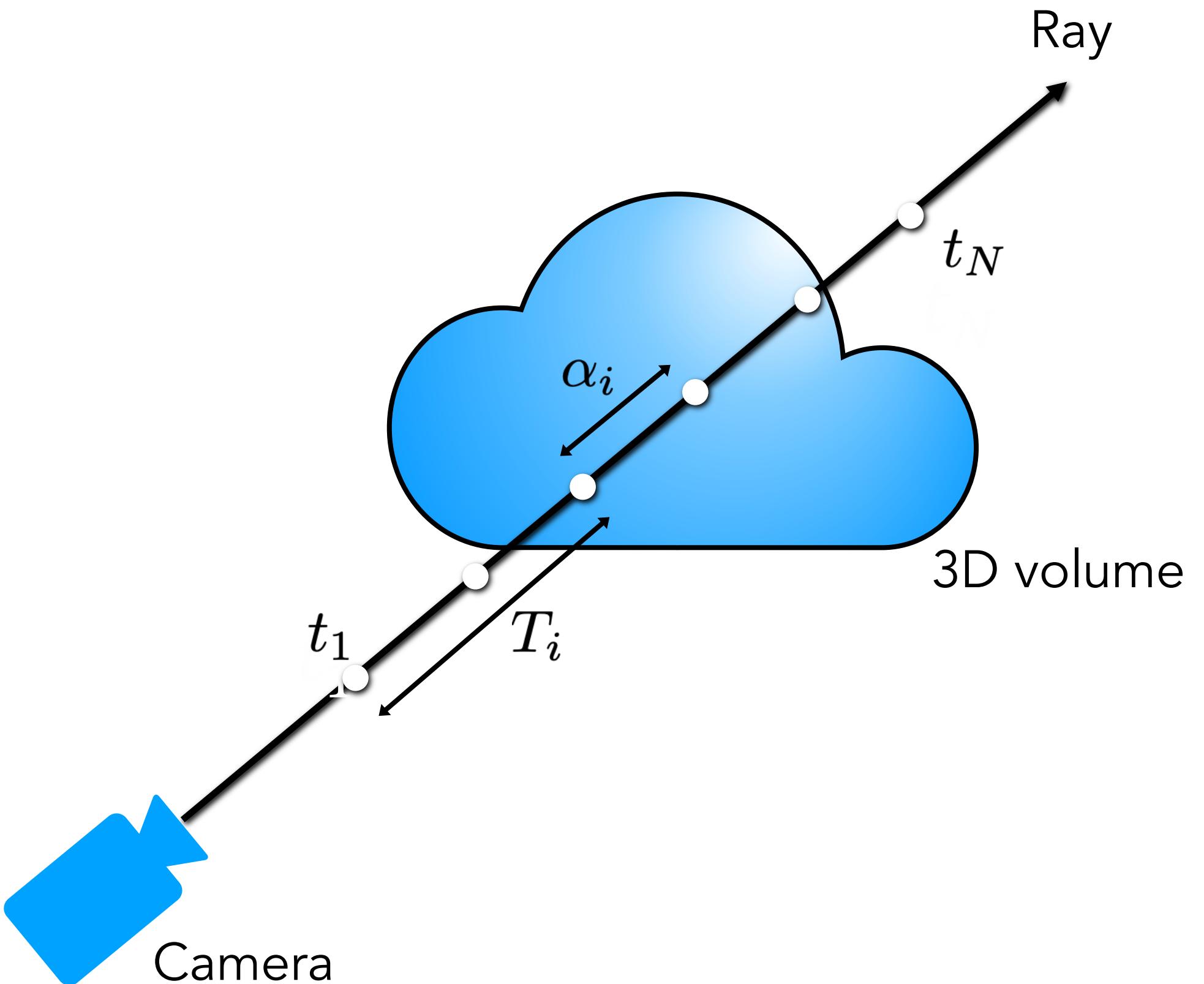
Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

How much light is blocked earlier along ray:

$$T_i = \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_j)$$

How much light is contributed by ray segment i :

$$\alpha_i = 1 - e^{-\sigma_i \delta t_i}$$



Sigma parametrization for continuous opacity

Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

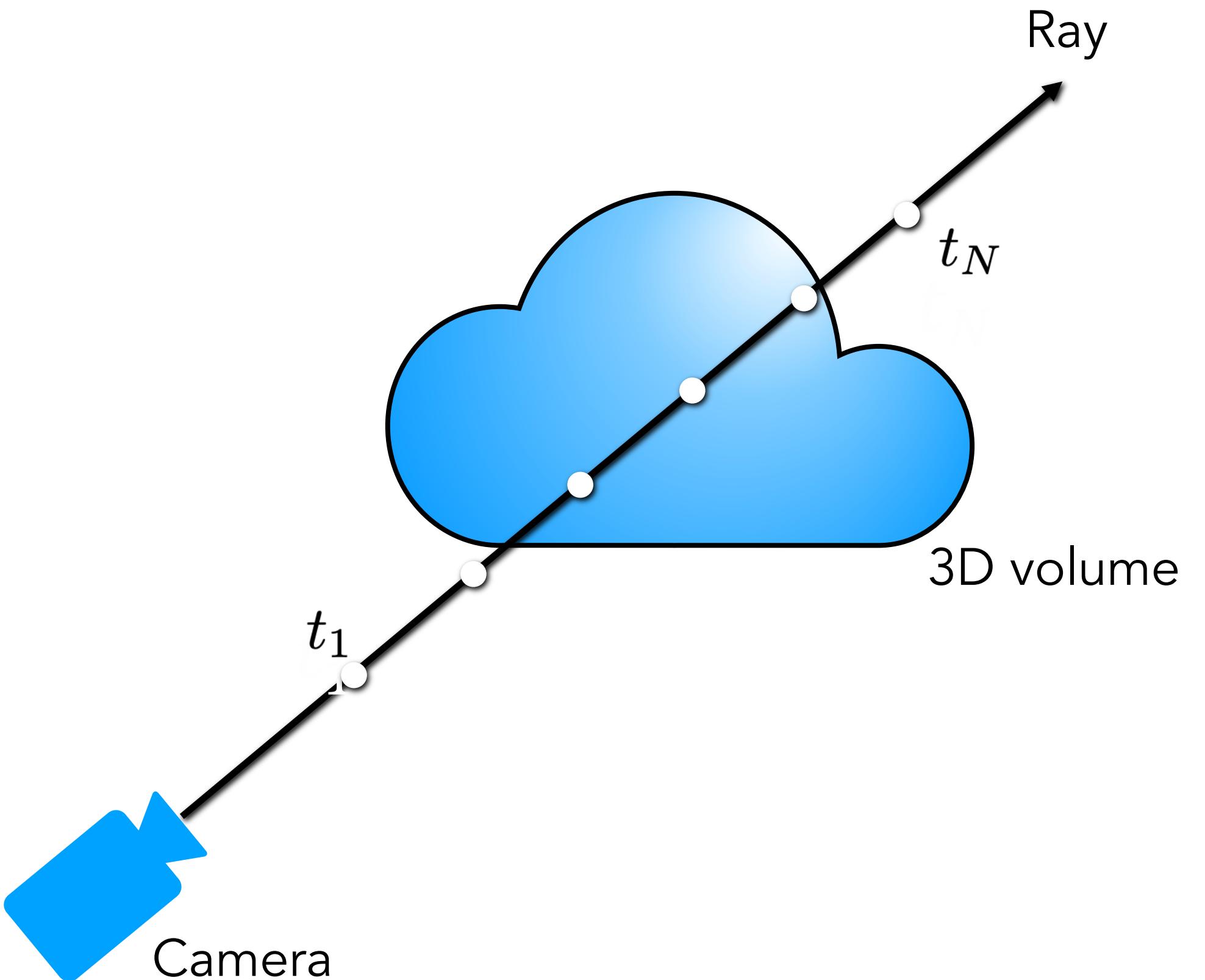
weights colors

How much light is blocked earlier along ray:

$$T_i = \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_j)$$

How much light is contributed by ray segment i :

$$\alpha_i = 1 - e^{-\sigma_i \delta t_i}$$



Effective resolution is tied to distance between samples

Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

weights colors

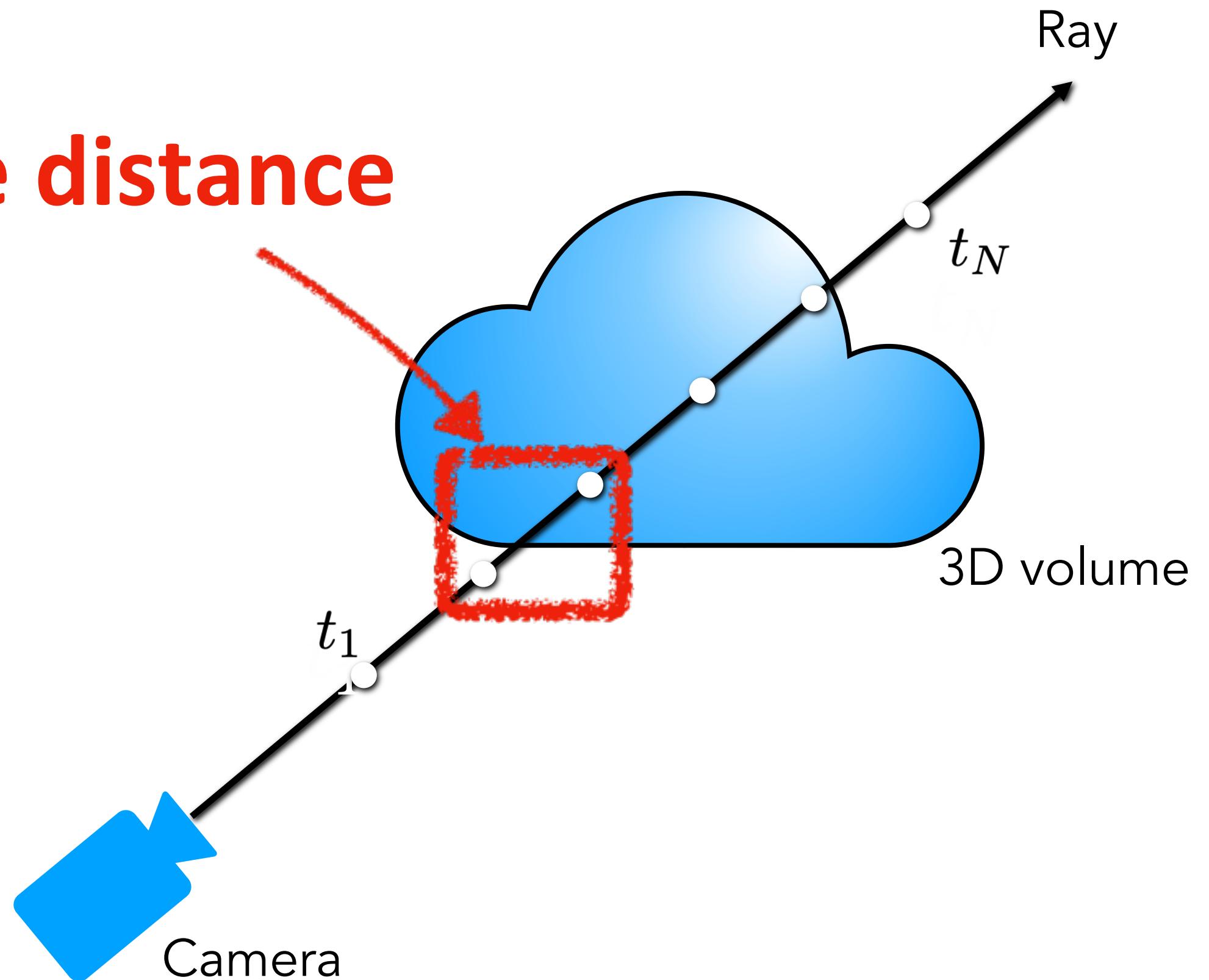
How much light is blocked earlier along ray:

$$T_i = \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_j)$$

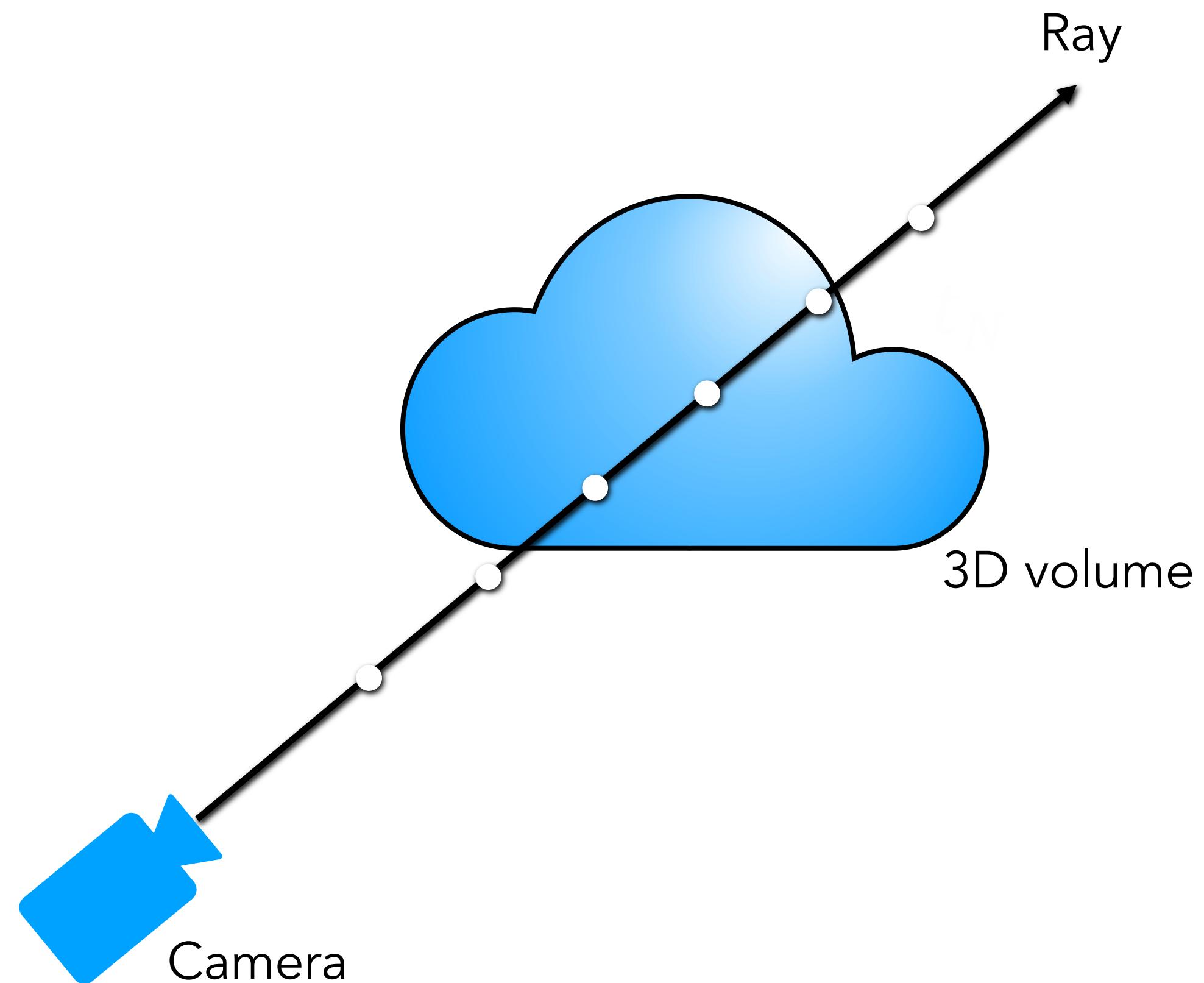
How much light is contributed by ray segment i :

$$\alpha_i = 1 - e^{-\sigma_i \delta t_i}$$

sample distance



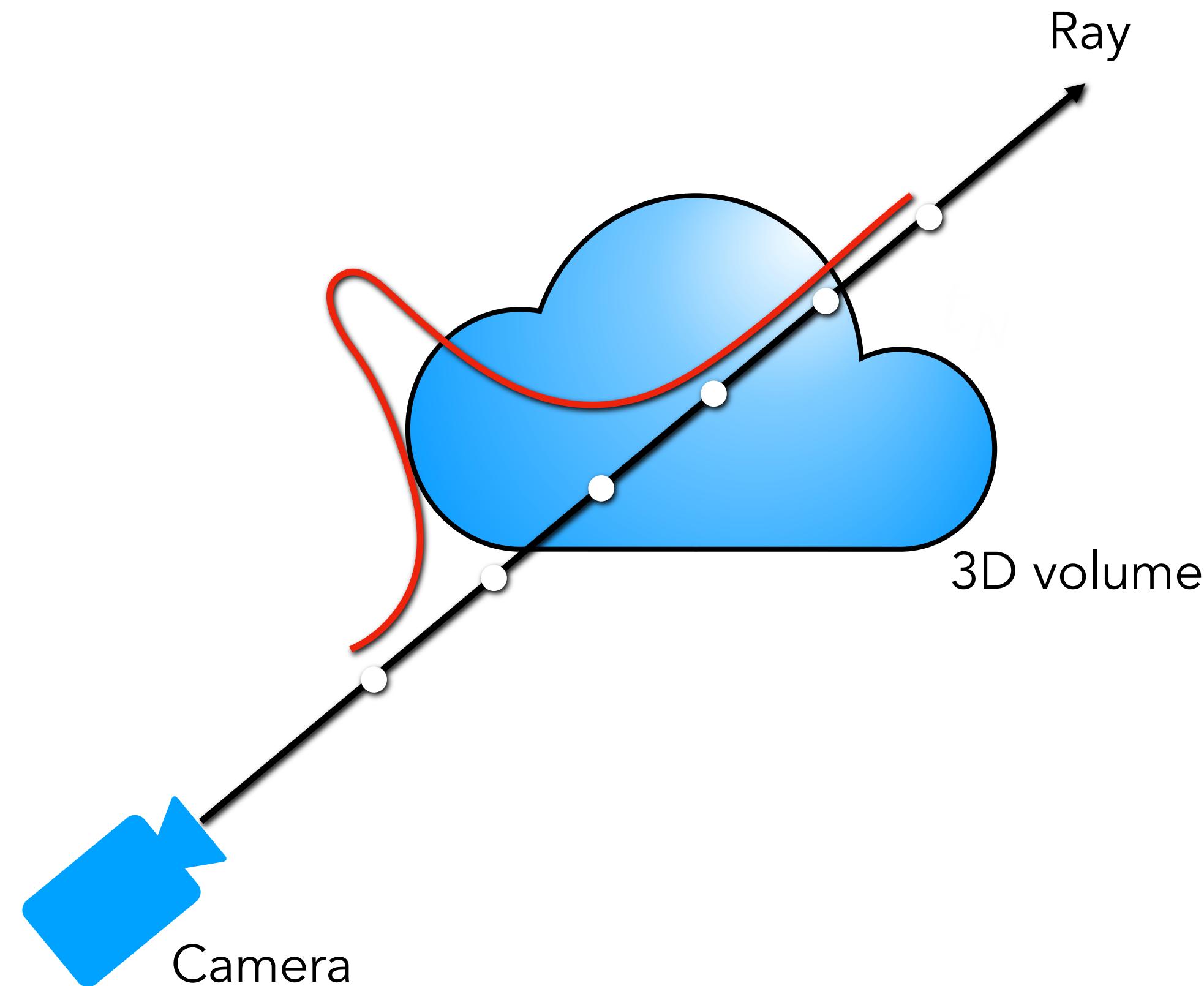
Can we allocate samples more efficiently? Two pass rendering



Two pass rendering: coarse

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

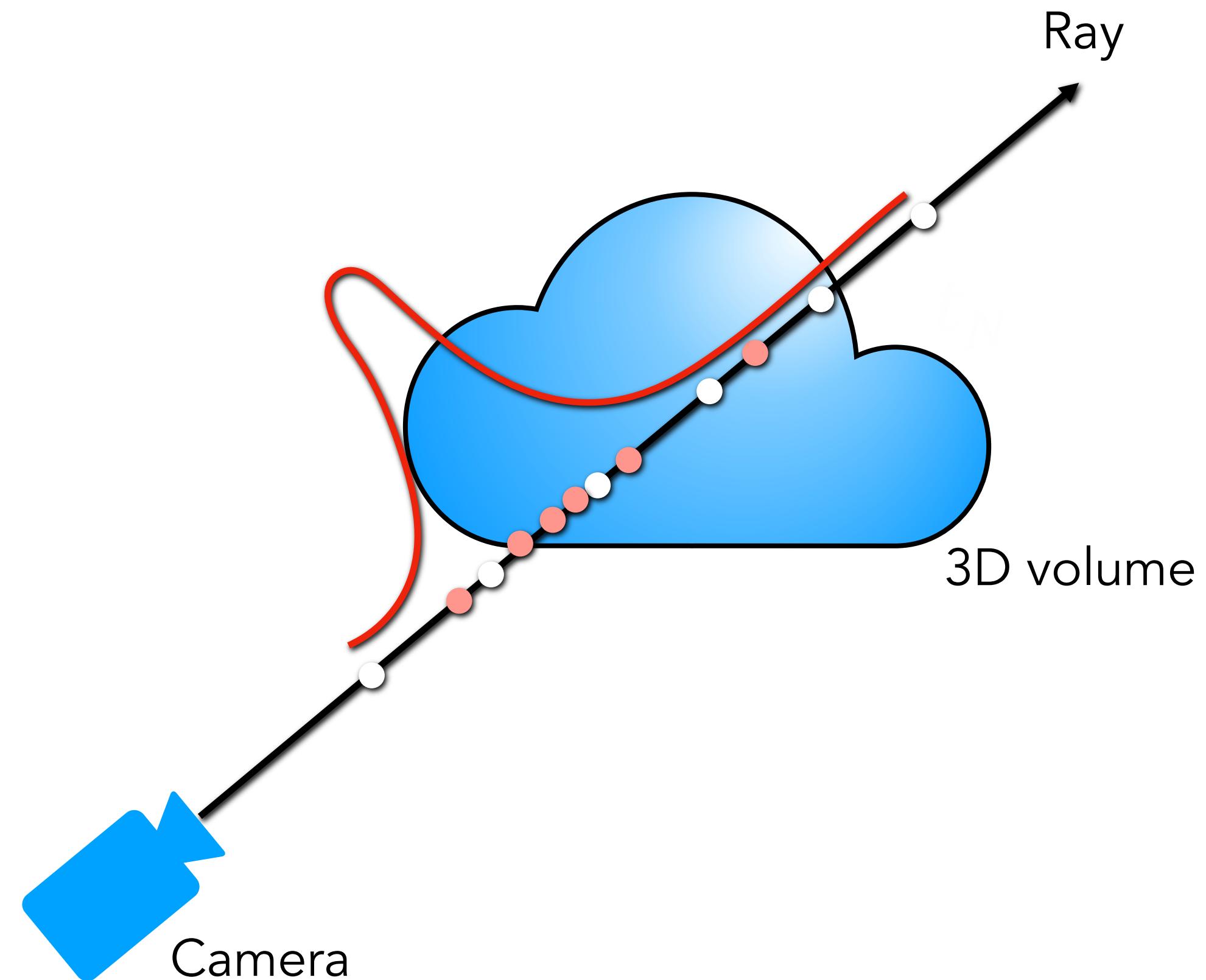
treat weights as probability distribution for new samples



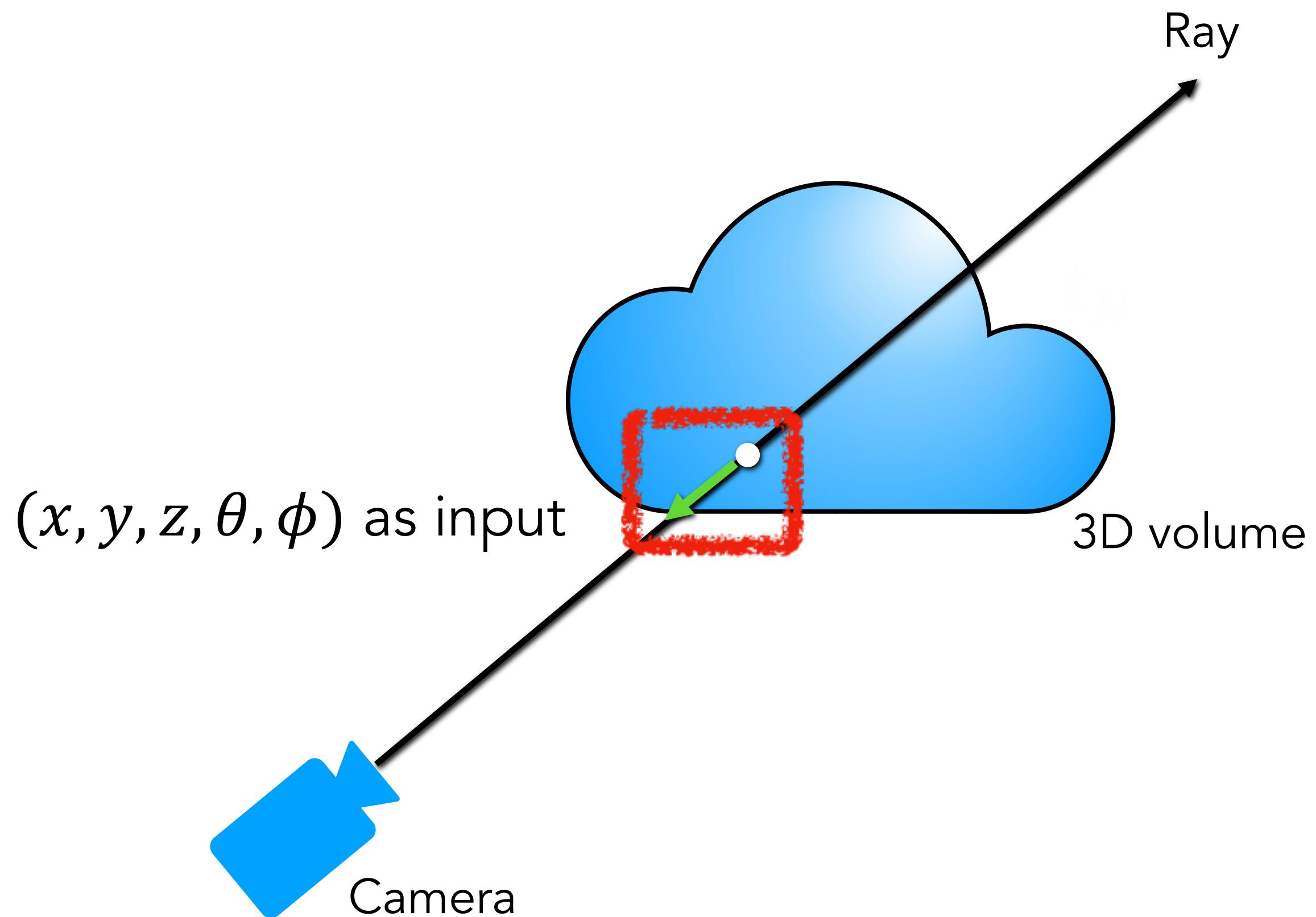
Two pass rendering: fine

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

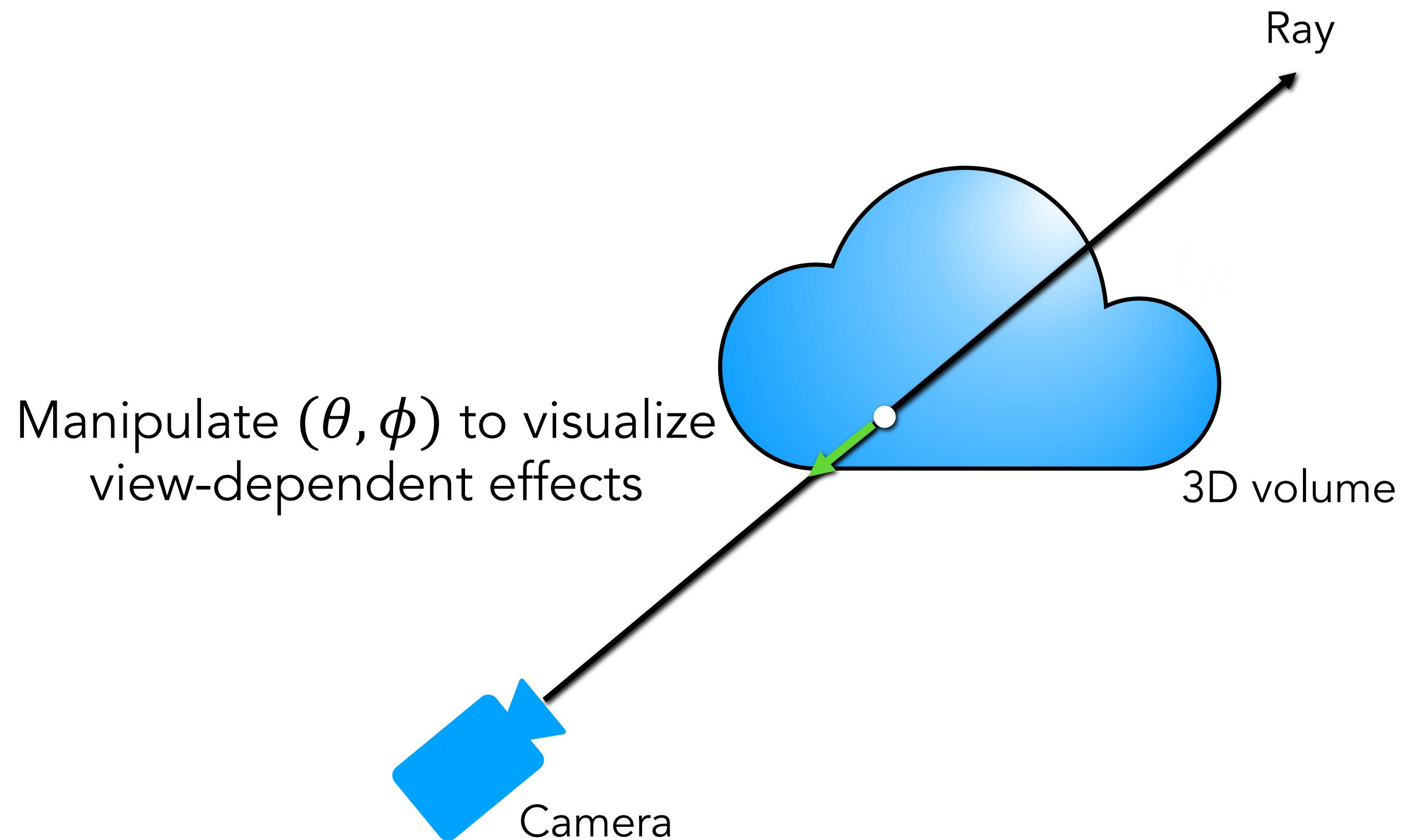
treat weights as probability distribution for new samples



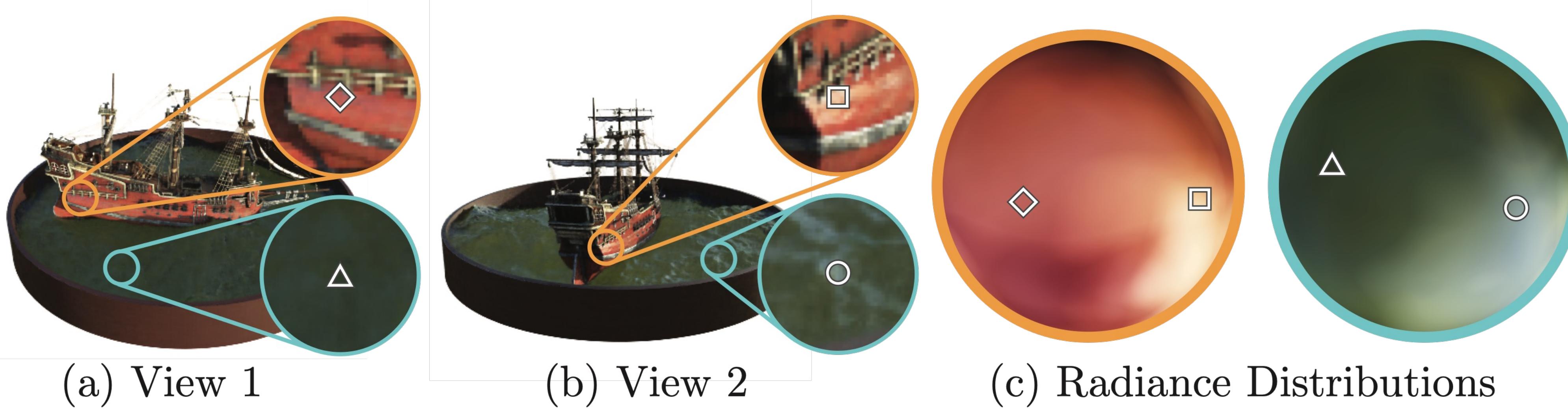
Viewing directions as input



Viewing directions as input



Viewing directions as input



Key points

- ▶ Continuous neural network as a volumetric scene representation ($5D = xyz + \text{direction}$)
- ▶ Use volume rendering model to synthesize new views
- ▶ Optimize using rendering loss for one scene (no prior training)
- ▶ One extra trick for passing coordinates into network to get high frequency details

Volume rendering is trivially differentiable

Rendering model for ray $r(t) = o + td$:

$$C \approx \sum_{i=1}^N T_i \alpha_i c_i$$

weights

colors

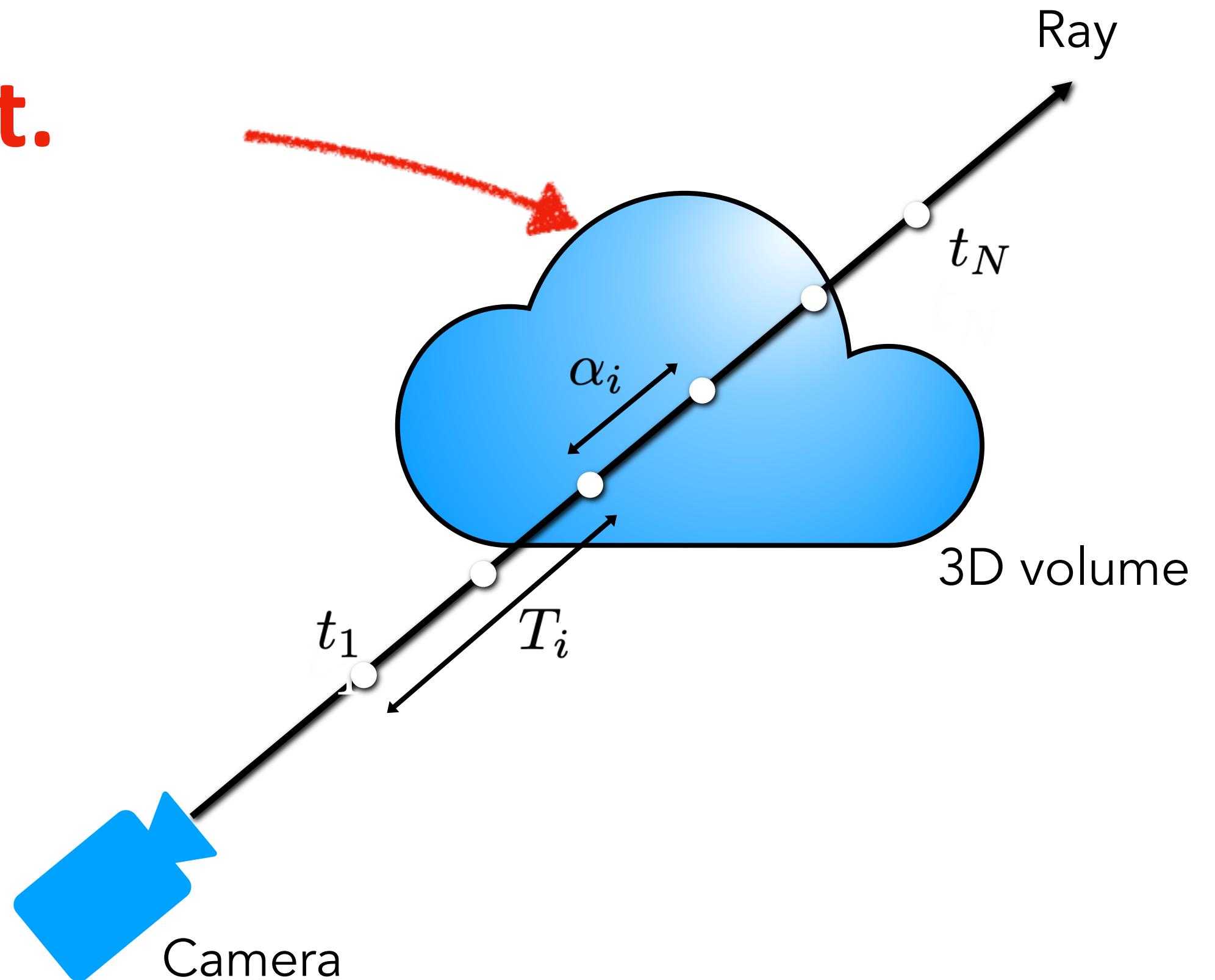
differentiable w.r.t.

How much light is blocked earlier along ray:

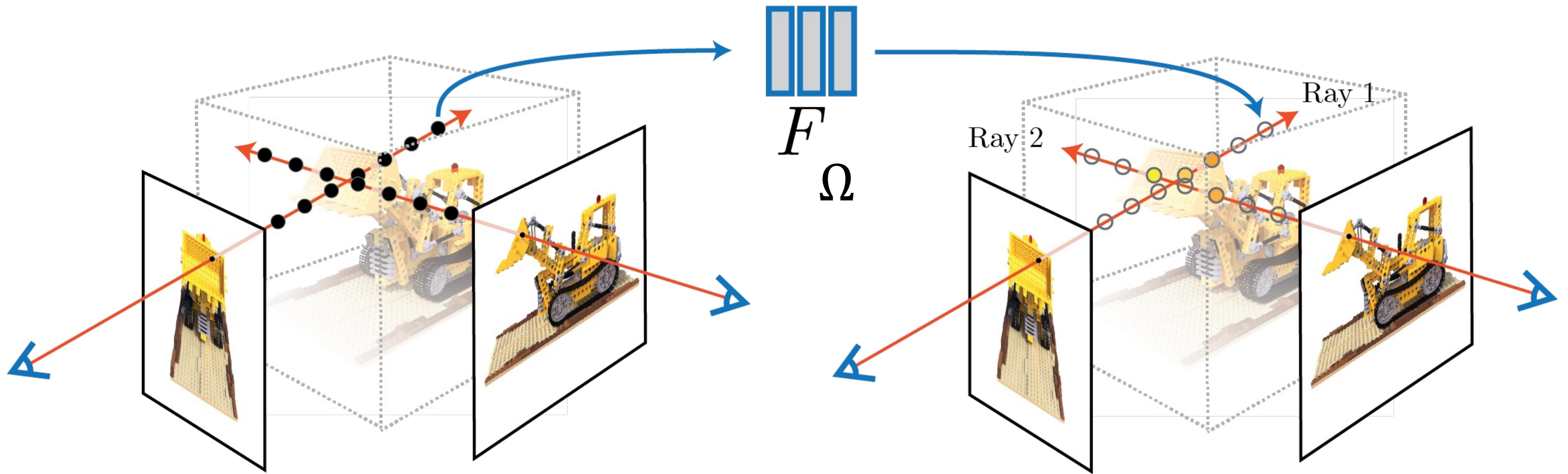
$$T_i = \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (1 - \alpha_j)$$

How much light is contributed by ray segment i :

$$\alpha_i = 1 - e^{-\sigma_i \delta t_i}$$



Optimize with gradient descent on rendering loss



$$\min_{\Omega} \sum_i \| \text{render}^{(i)}(F_\Omega) - I_{\text{gt}}^{(i)} \|^2$$

Training network to reproduce all input views of the scene



Naive implementation produces blurry results



NeRF (Naive)

Naive implementation produces blurry results



NeRF (Naive)



NeRF (with positional encoding)

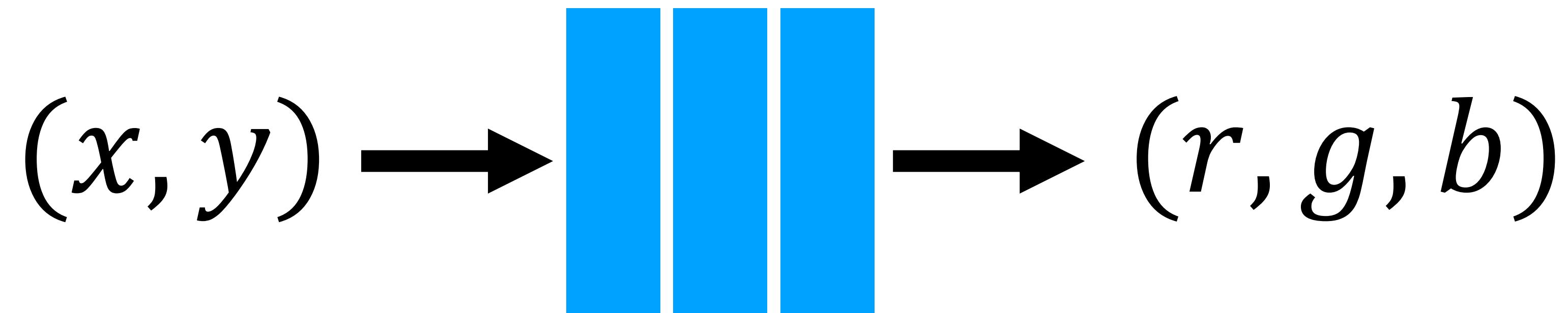
Key points

- ▶ Continuous neural network as a volumetric scene representation ($5D = xyz + \text{direction}$)
- ▶ Use volume rendering model to synthesize new views
- ▶ Optimize using rendering loss for one scene (no prior training)
- ▶ One extra trick for passing coordinates into network to get high frequency details

Challenge:

How to get MLPs to represent higher frequency functions?

Simpler toy problem: memorizing a 2D image



Simple trick enables network to memorize images

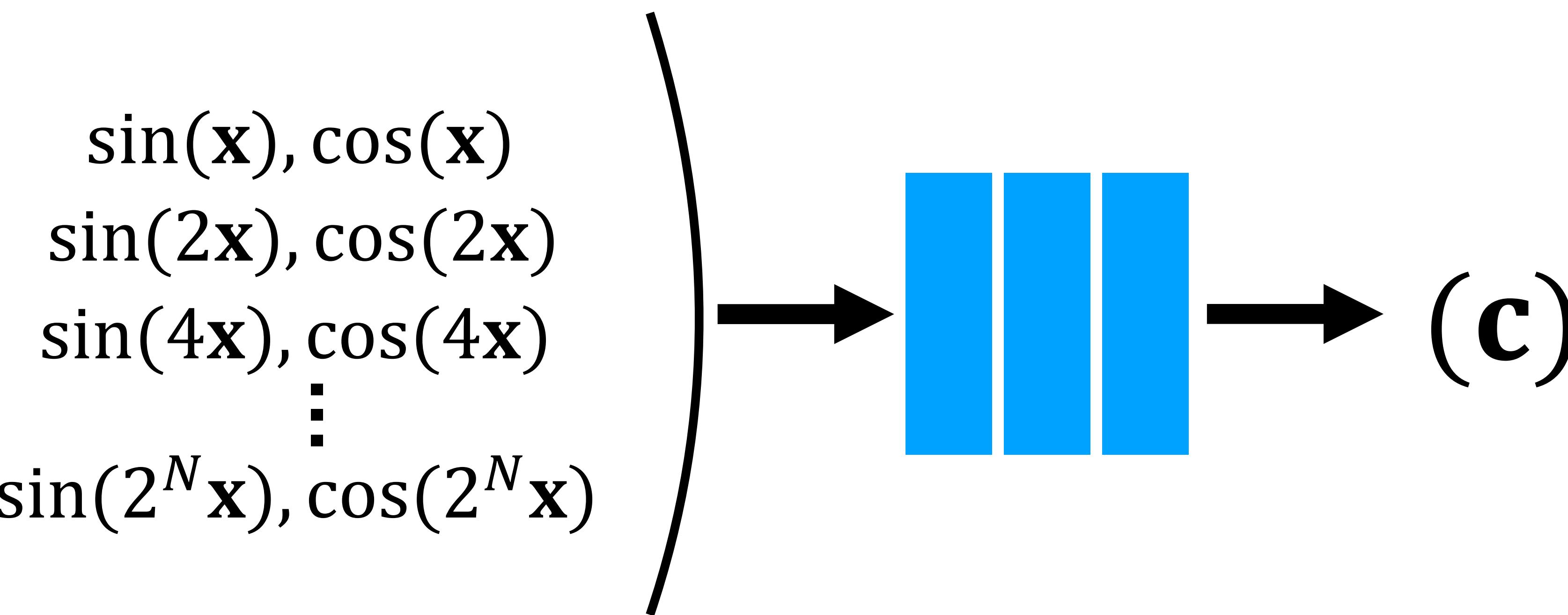
Ground truth image



Standard fully-connected net



Positional encoding: high frequency embedding of input coordinates



Simple trick enables network to memorize images

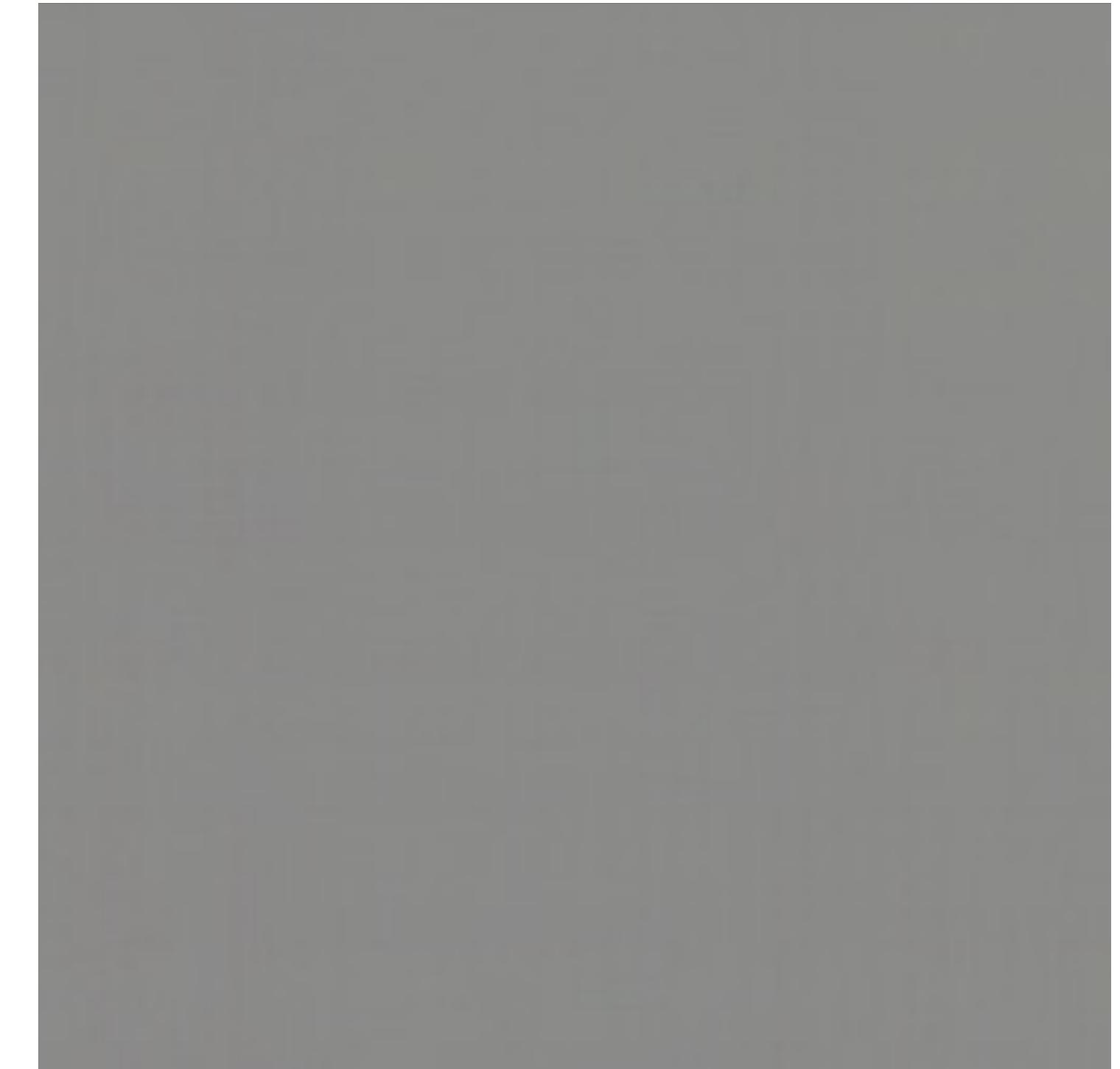
Ground truth image



Standard fully-connected net



With “embedding”



Positional encoding also directly improves our scene representation!



NeRF (Naive)



NeRF (with positional encoding)

Results



NeRF encodes convincing view-dependent effects using directional dependence



NeRF encodes convincing view-dependent effects using directional dependence



NeRF encodes detailed scene geometry with occlusion effects



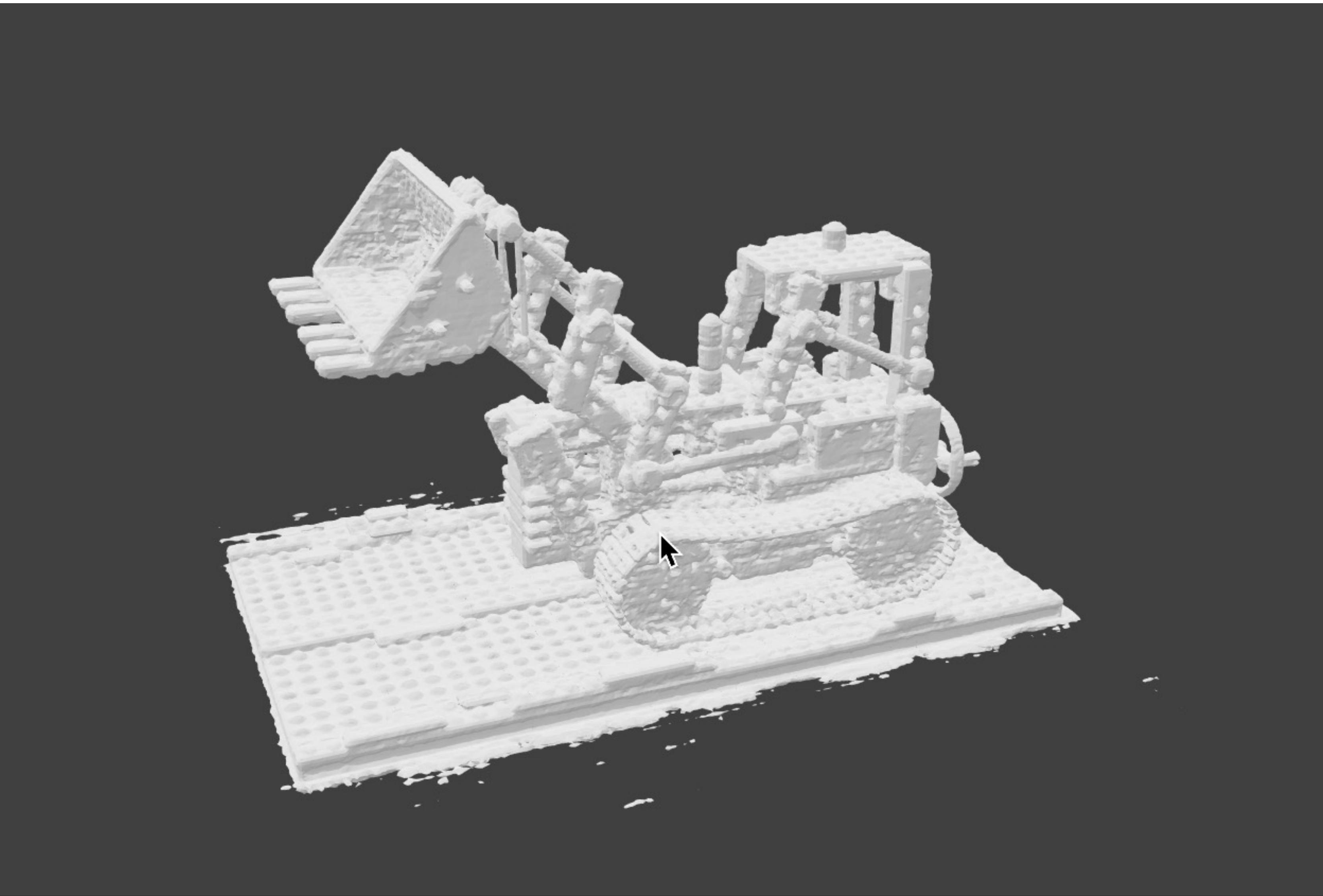
NeRF encodes detailed scene geometry with occlusion effects



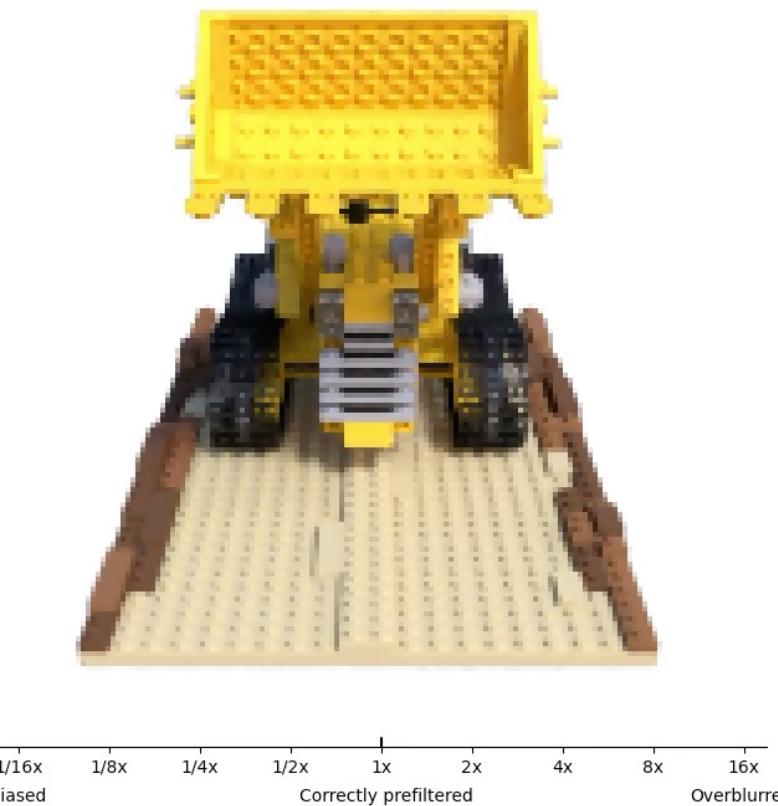
NeRF encodes detailed scene geometry with occlusion effects



NeRF encodes detailed scene geometry



Thank You!



16-726, Spring 2023
<https://learning-image-synthesis.github.io/sp23>