



# GAMES 204



# Computational Imaging



Lecture 01: Introduction to Computational Imaging



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香港中文大学（深圳）

点昀技术 (Point Spread Technology)

## ► Instructors



### Qilin Sun (孙启霖)

- 2021-now: Assistant Professor @ The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen)
- 2020-now: Founder @ 点昀技术 Pointspread Technology (Shenzhen, Nantong)
  - 2011-2015 B.s @HUST, 2015-2021 Ph.D. @KAUST
- Website: <https://sds.cuhk.edu.cn/teacher/489>
- Email: sunqilin@cuhk.edu.cn
- Research: End-to-end Camera Design, Differentiable Optics, Optimization, Computational Imaging, VR



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点昀 POINT SPREAD

## ► Instructors



### PENG, Yifan (Evan Peng) (彭祎帆)

- 2022-now: Assistant Professor @ The University of Hong Kong
- 2018-2022 Postdoc @Stanford
  - 2013-2018 PhD @UBC. 2006-2013 MSc, BEs @ZJU
- Website: <https://www.eee.hku.hk/~evanpeng/>
- Email: evanpeng@hku.hk
- Research: Interdisciplinary field of Optics, Graphics, Vision, and Artificial Intelligence; Computational Microscope Imaging; Low-level Computer Vision; Human-centered Visual & Sensory Systems.

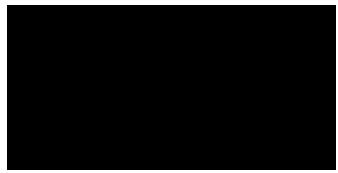


## ➤ Course Staff

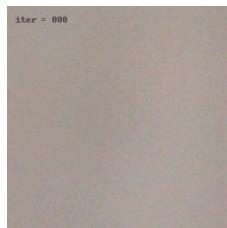
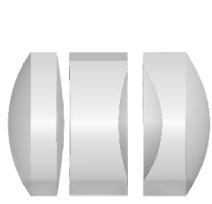
- Teaching Assistants
  - 柴子力 (Apple/CMU, zilichai@gmail.com)
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- Register GAMES204 through:  
<https://www.cesalpha.org/course/register/GAMES204/>
- Course Resources:  
<http://pointspread.cn/page94>



# ► Instructors' Achievement



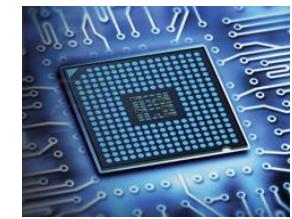
Maybe the world first  
differentiable diffractive optics  
model (proposed at 2018.5, ACM  
Trans. Graph. 2020)



The first differentiable/optimizable  
complex lens model all over the world.  
(ACM Trans. Graph. 2021)



High Speed, High Accuracy RGBD  
Camera (120fps, ~mm precision)  
for real time 3D reconstruction



Super low-power consumption,  
low latency full parallel  
heterogeneous ISP (IP core)

## Acedemic Achievements

## Industrial Achievements (Point Spread Technology)



## Today's Topic

- Imaging History and Today
- What's Computational Imaging
  - Definition
  - Applications
- Computational Methodology Overview
- Course Road Map

# Imaging History and Today

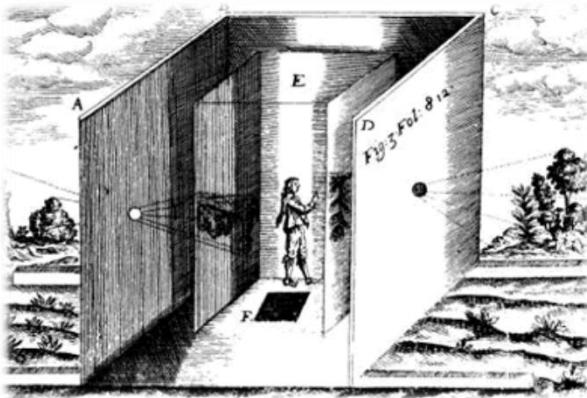


# Pinhole Camera



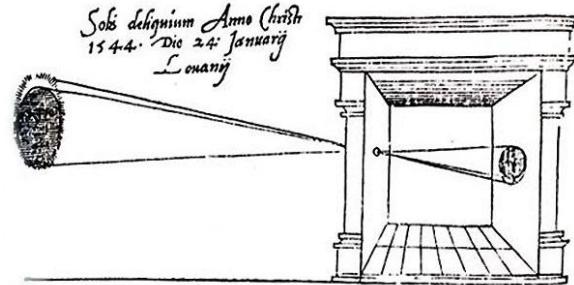
Mo-Ti, 470-390 BC

《墨经》记载“景到，在午有端”、“景。光之人，煦若射，下者之人也高；高者之人也下”。



Aristotele, 300 BC

illum in tabula per radios Solis, quā in cōlo contin-  
git: hoc est, si in cōlo superior pars deliquiū patiatur, in  
radius apparet inferior deficere, vt ratio exigit optica.



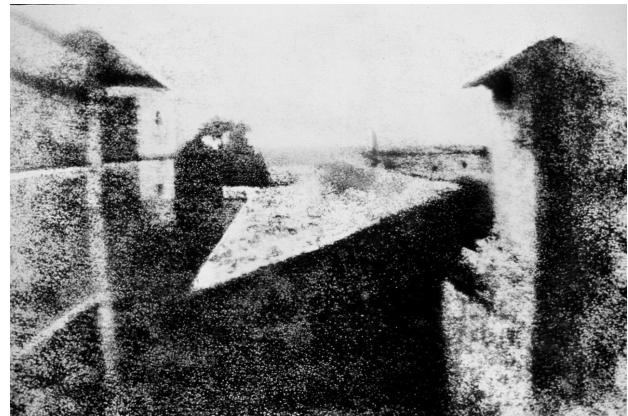
Sols deliquum Anno Christi  
1544. Die 24. Januarij  
Louanijs  
Sic nos exacte Anno. 1544. Louanijs eclipsim Solis  
obseruauimus, inuenimusq; deficere paulo plus q; dex-  
rantem, hoc est. 10. vncias sive digitos vt nostri loquun-

Gemma Frisius, 1544

# What's Photography?

- Heliograph (sun wrighting)

A wholly new, expressive  
medium (ca. 1830s)



The oldest surviving camera photograph, by Nicéphore Niépce, 1826 or 1827. Eight hours to develop and exposed.

Manipulated display of what we think, feel, want, ...

- Capture a memory, a visual experience in tangible form
- 'painting with light' express the subject's visual essence
- "Exactitude is not the truth." — Henri Matisse

# What's Photography?

- A bucket word: a neat container for messy notions (e.g. aviation, music, comprehension)

A record of what we see,  
or would like to see, in  
tangible form.

Does photography always capture it?



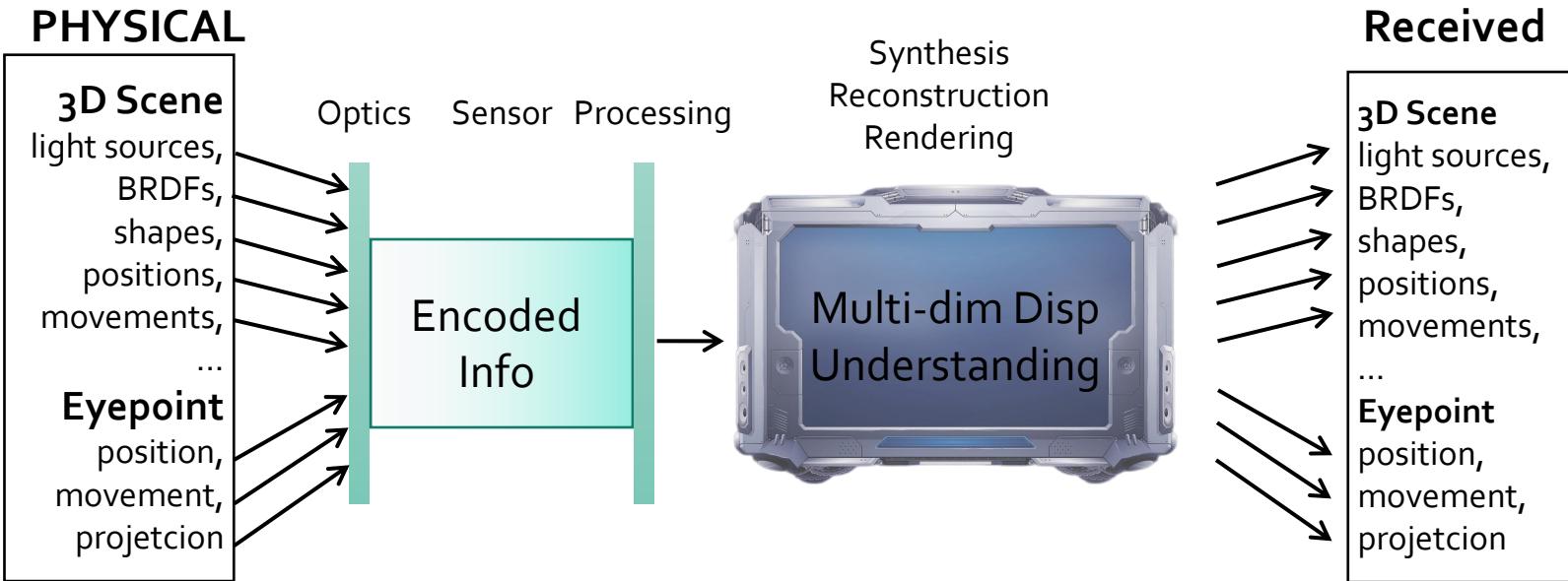
Muybridge used high-speed photography to make the first animated image sequences photographed in real-time (1878–1887)

# Today's Cameras, Every day, Every where





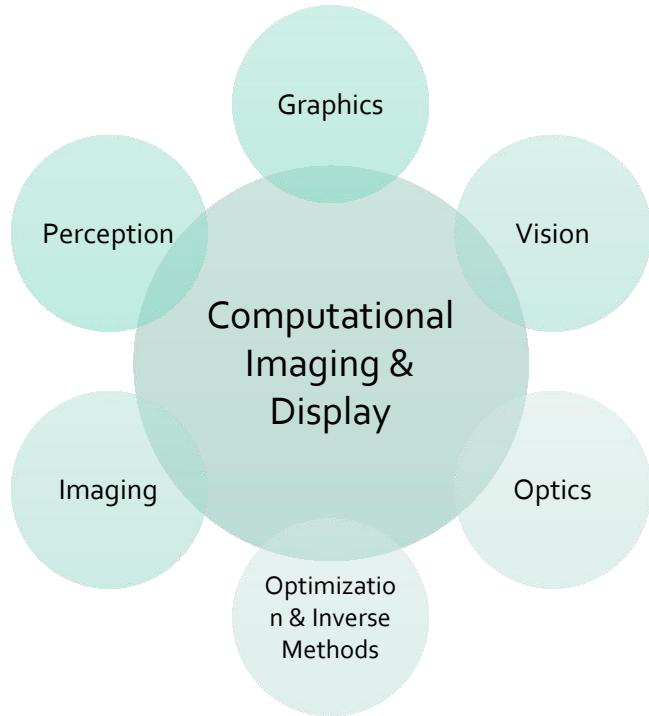
# What's Beyond Film-Like Photography?



# What's Computational Imaging?

# What's Computational Imaging?

- **Computational Imaging (Photography)**  
*optically encode*  
information about the real world  
in images aimed for  
*computational decoding*
- **Computational Display**  
*computationally encode*  
information so that it can be  
*optically decoded*  
to form images to be presented to a user



new optics

new sensors

new illumination

new algorithms



# Computational Imaging vs Computational Photography?

## No Strict Difference

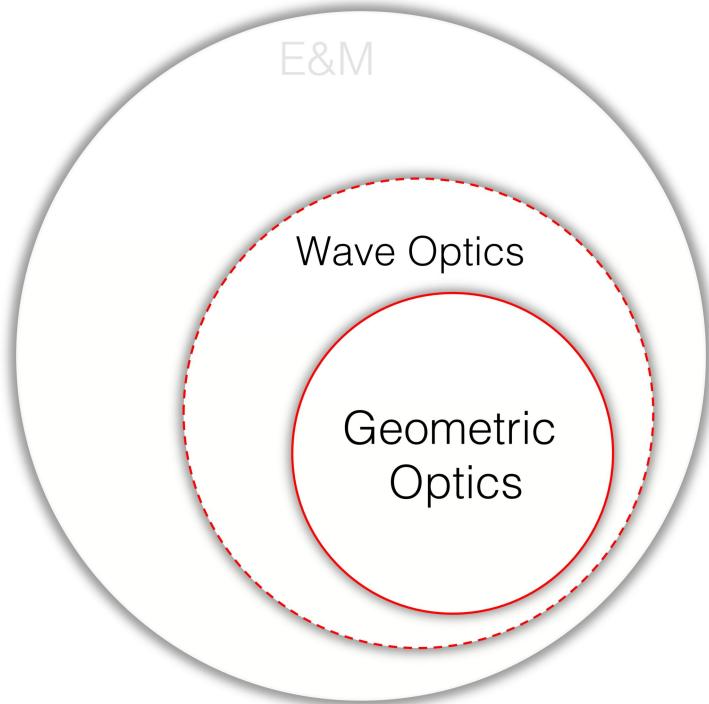
Academic community and industrial community are more accustomed to

- **Computational Imaging**
  - With Optics Optimized for Target
- **Computational Photography**
  - Traditional Optics
  - Mostly used for mobile camera



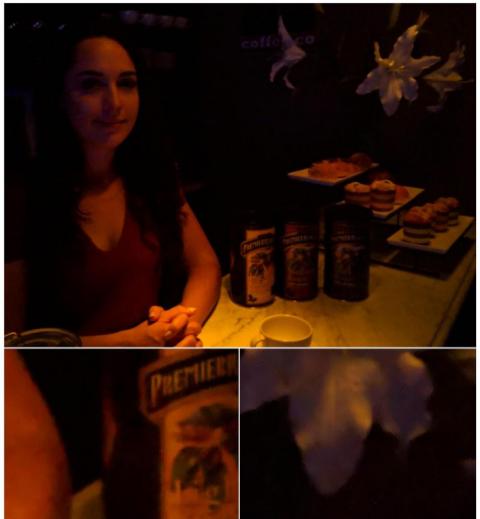
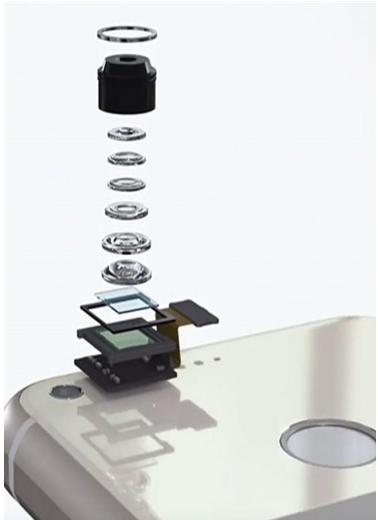
# What is Light?

- Light as rays
- Unit: (spectral) radiance
- Properties: wavelength, polarization, direction, ...
- Only introduction & outlook for wave optics





# Applications of Computational Imaging



(a) Previously described result



(b) Previously described result, gained



(c) Our result

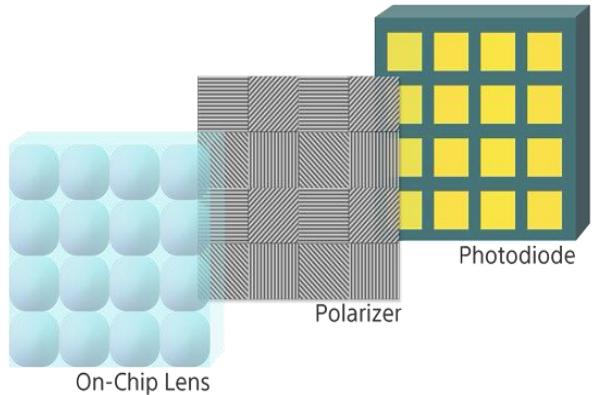
Google Pixel

Mobile Photography in Low Light

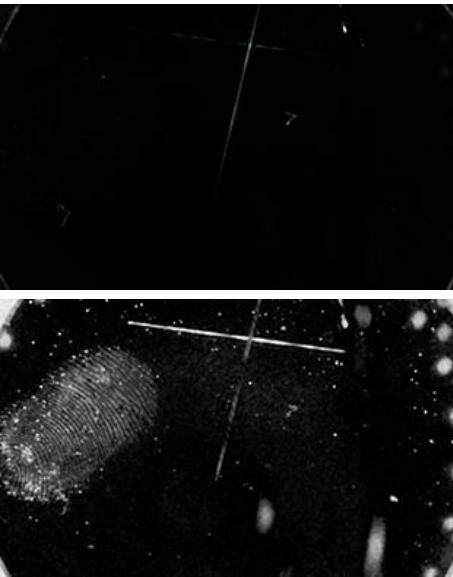
Orly et.al 2019, Handheld Mobile Photography in Very Low Light



# Applications of Computational Imaging



Polarizer imager



Polarimetric Imaging and Applications



Source: <https://www.sony-semicon.co.jp/e/products/IS/industry/technology/polarization.html>

# Applications of Computational Imaging



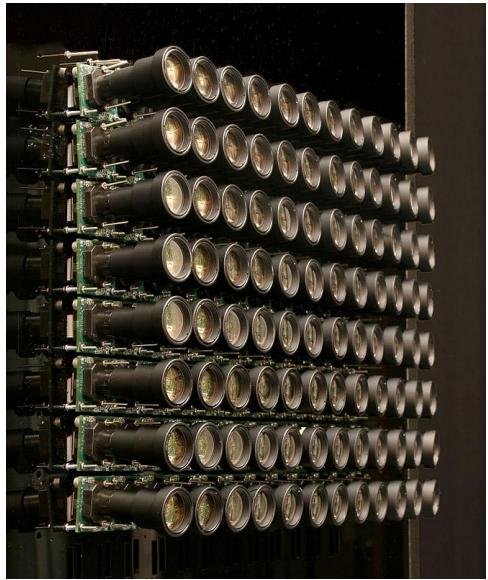
Computed Tomography  
United Imaging 640-slice CT scanner



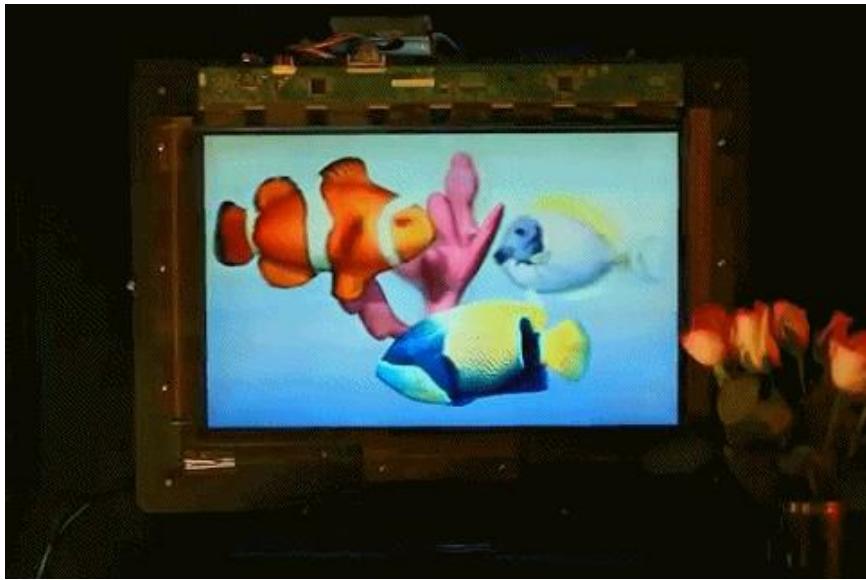
PET-CT  
Prof. Qingguo Xie's "Digital PET"

Source: [https://www.sohu.com/a/366411143\\_118392](https://www.sohu.com/a/366411143_118392)

# Applications of Computational Imaging



Light Field Imaging



Light Field Display

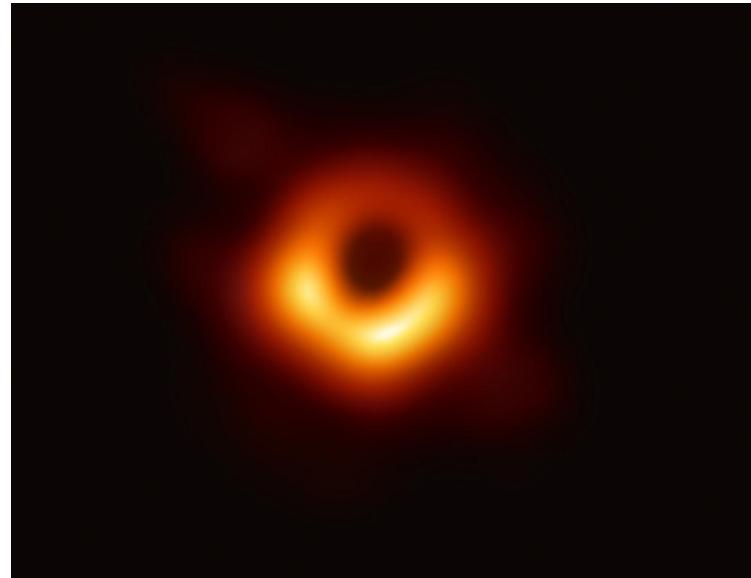
Source: <http://www.graphics.stanford.edu/projects/lightfield/>



# Applications of Computational Imaging



**Atacama Large Millimeter Array**  
one of the 8 telescope facilities used in imaging a black  
hole. By ESO/B. Tafreshi (twanight.org)

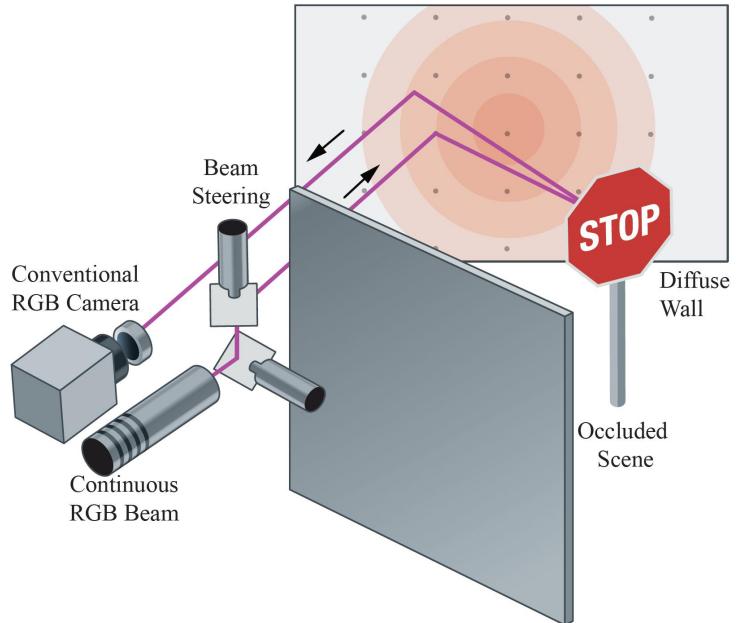


**Imaging Black Holes**

Source: <https://www.nature.com/articles/35025179>

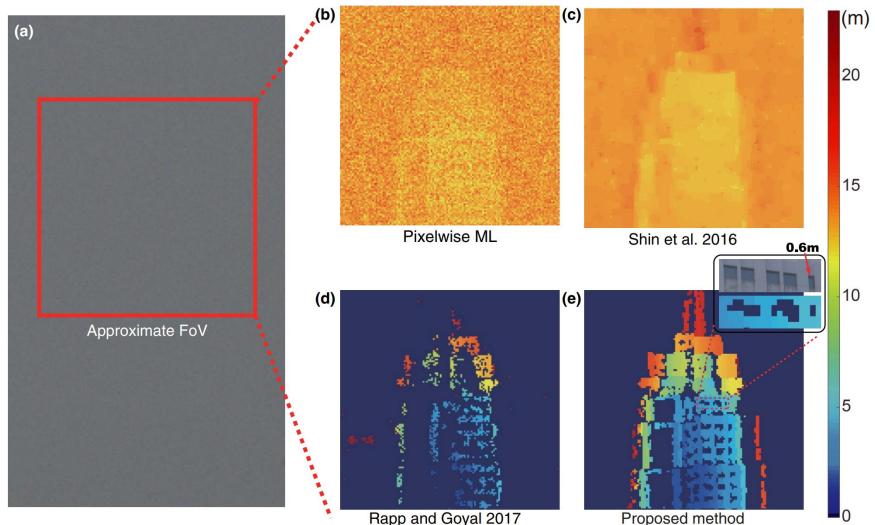


# Applications of Computational Imaging



## Non-line-of-sight Imaging

By Felix Heide



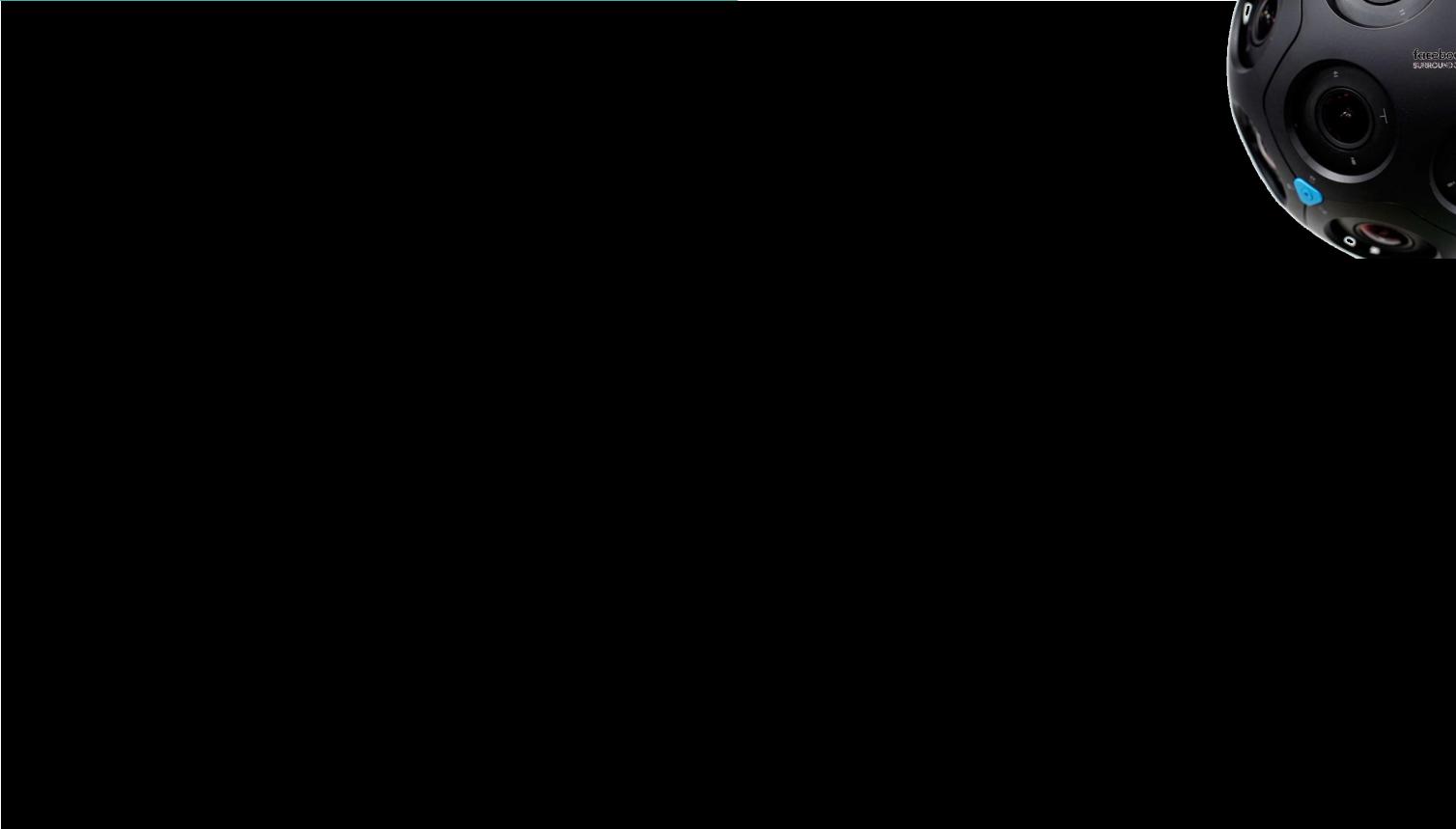
## Long Range 3D Imaging 45KM

By Jianwei Pan and Feihu Xu

Source: <https://www.cs.princeton.edu/~fheide/steadystatenlos>, <https://opg.optica.org/prj/fulltext.cfm?uri=prj-8-9-1532&id=437808>



# Applications of Computational Imaging



Facebook and Red 360VR Camera

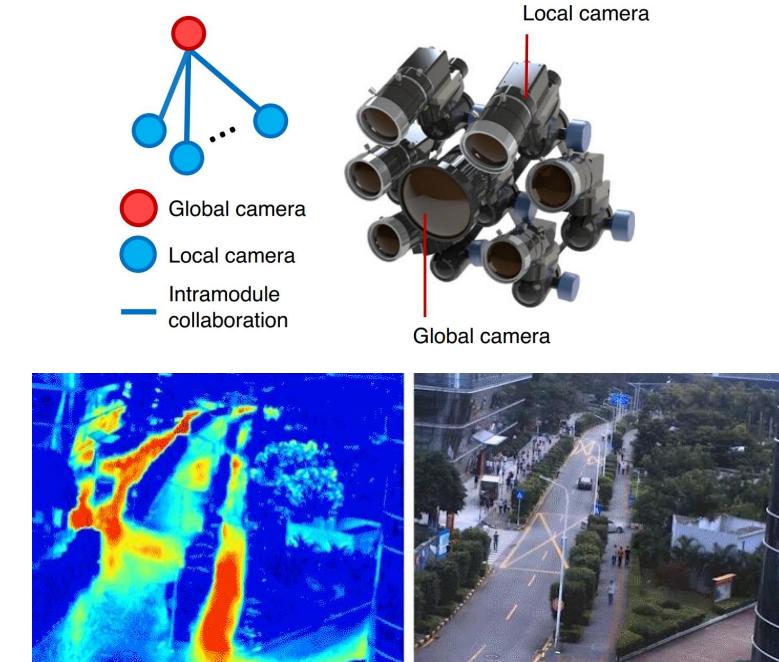
Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lGkvOgfRPFk>



# Applications of Computational Imaging



Light L16



Unstructured Gigapixel Videography  
By Qionghai Dai and Lu Fang

Source: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41377-021-00485-x>

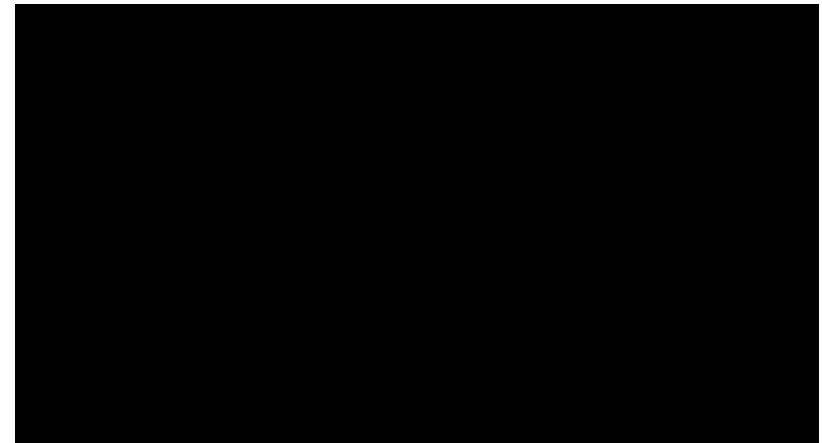
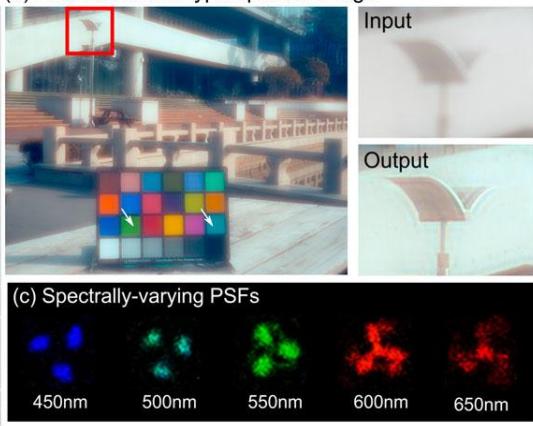


# Applications of Computational Imaging

(a) Our DOE & camera



(b) Reconstructed hyperspectral image



## Snapshot Hyperspectral Imaging

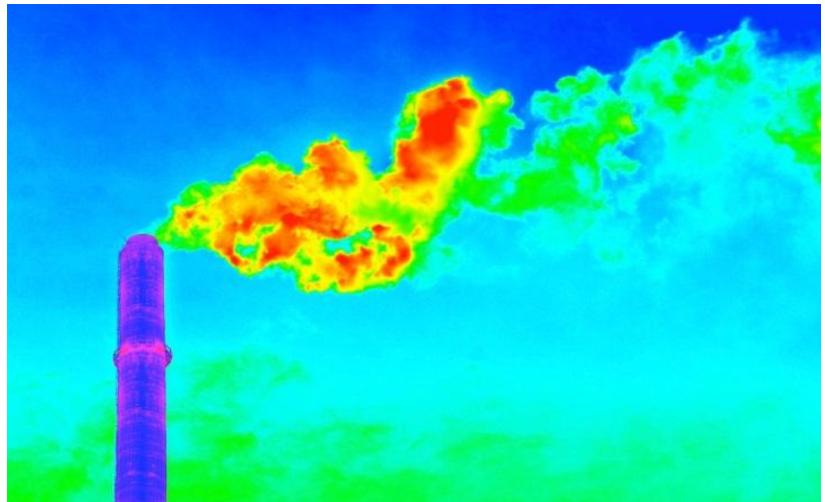
## Transient Imaging

By Qilin

Source:<https://vccimaging.org/>, <https://pointspread.cn>

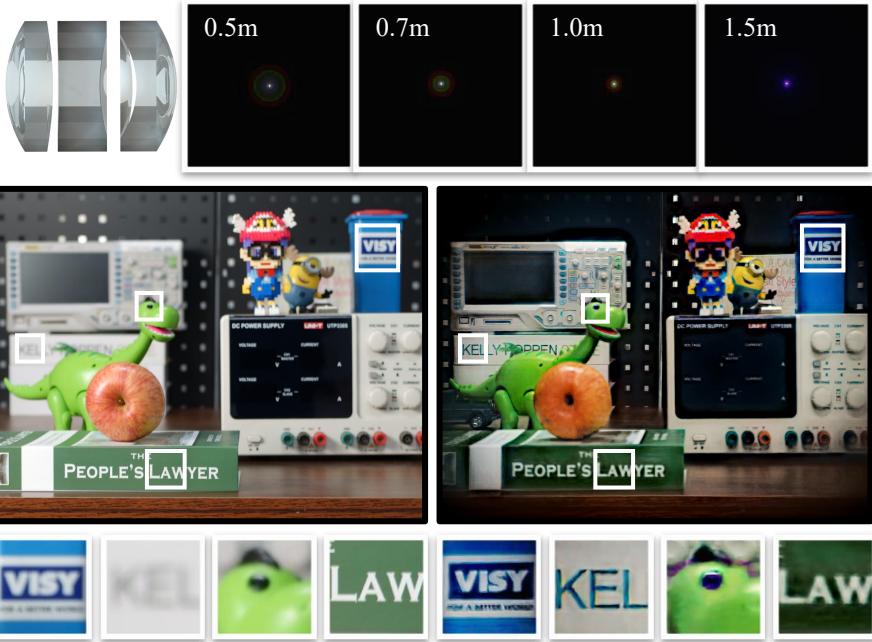


# Applications of Computational Imaging



Smart IR Sensor, Northeastern University

Supported by DARPA, triggered and enabled by signal



Sony standard zoom lens at  $50\text{mm}/f4.5$

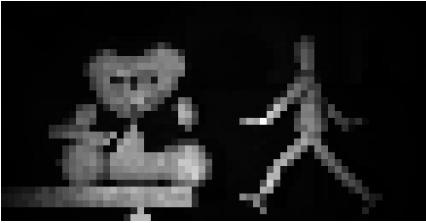
Ours at  $50\text{mm}/f4$

Extende Depth of Field Imaging

By Qilin, Siggraph 2021



# Applications of Computational Imaging



Raw image without mask



Result without mask



Raw image with mask



Result with mask

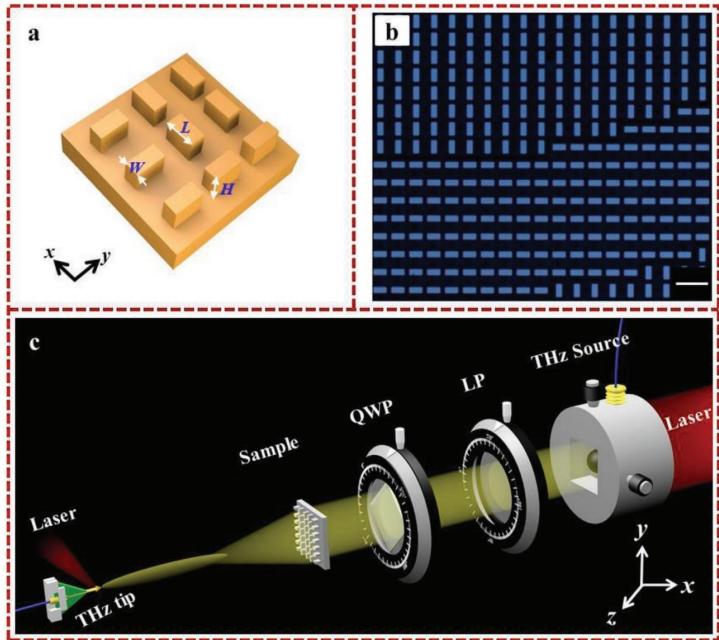
Marine Imaging's Photogrammetry System

Optimal Optics Encoding  
By Qilin, TOG/Siggraph 2020

Source:<https://marineimagingtech.com/>, <https://pointspread.cn>

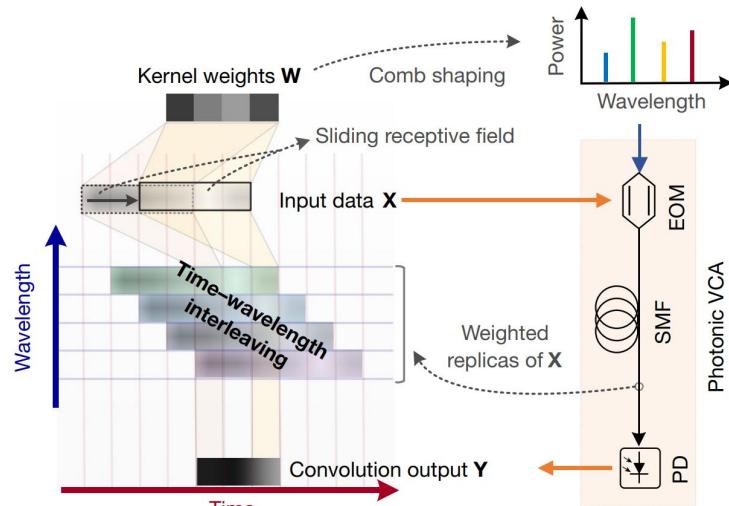


# Applications of Computational Imaging



## Terahertz Imaging with Metasurface

By Songlin Zhuang, Yiming Zhu



## 11 TOPS Optical CNN

Source: <https://vccimaging.org>, <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-020-03063-0>

# Computational Methodology

(e.g. rendering)

Forward problem

Physical Model

Physical  
Properties/Parameters

Observation

Inverse problem

e.g. computer vision

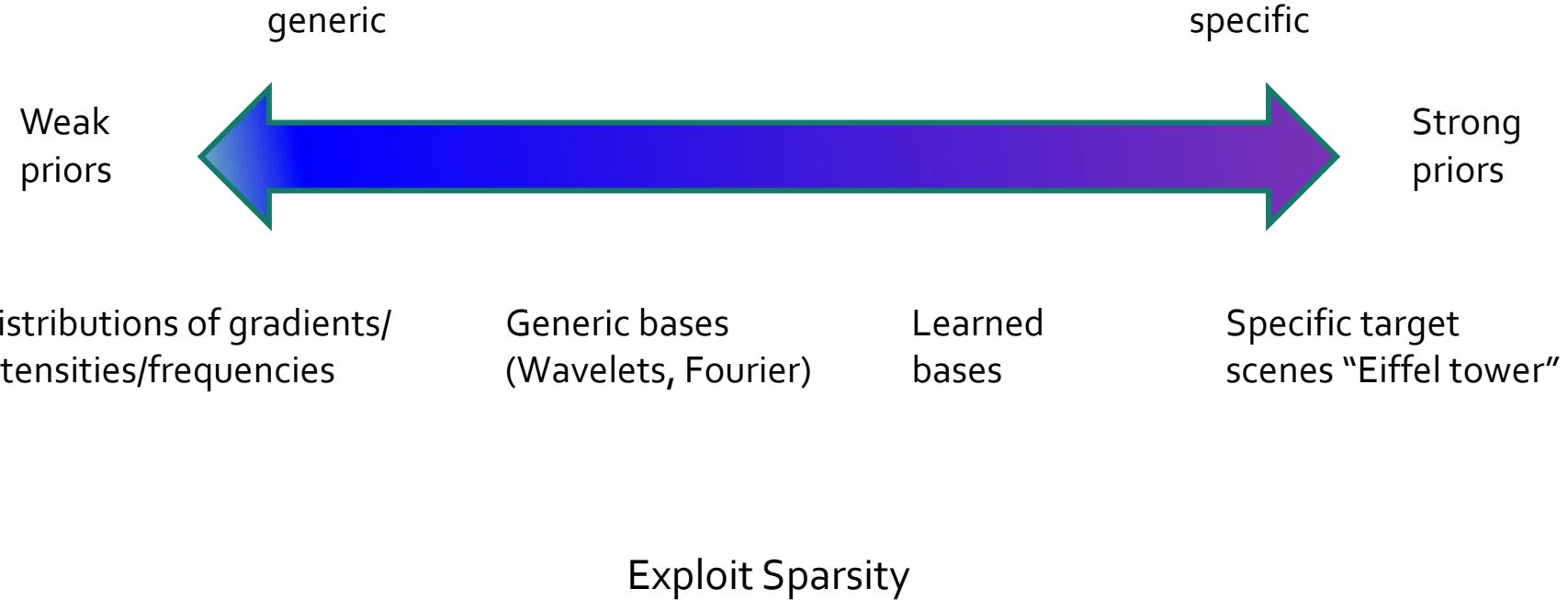


# Inverse Problems

- **Forward problems** describe how given physical objects and parameters result in observations, i.e. model->observation
  - These are classical simulation problems, e.g. computer graphics, image operations such as blur filters etc.
- **Inverse problems** describe how to estimate physical objects and parameters from observations, i.e. observation->model
  - Computer vision is in some sense an inverse problem, as are the standard imaging problems covered today
- **Linear inverse problems** are inverse problems where the forward model is a linear operator (e.g. matrix, tensor, etc).

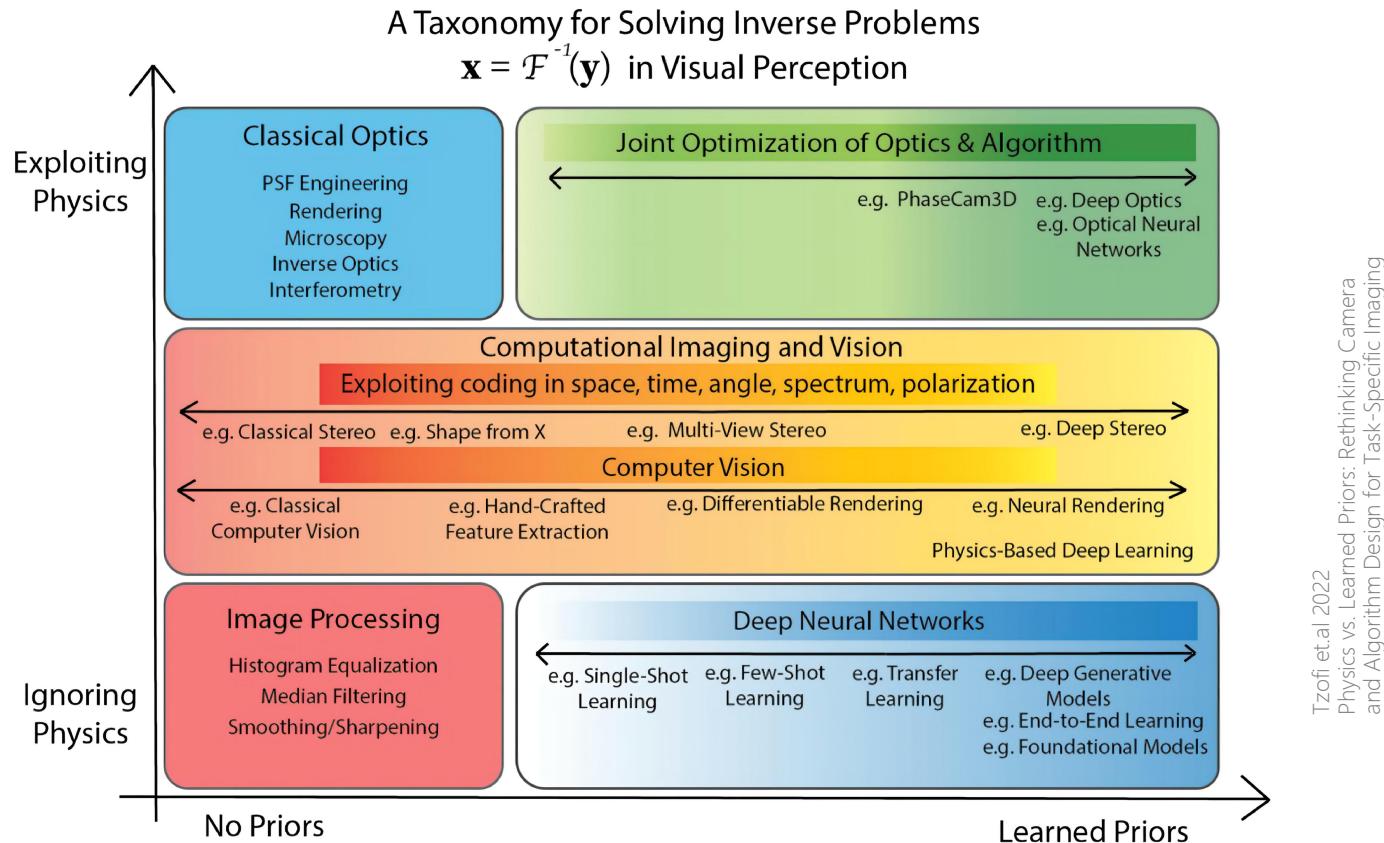


# Image Priors





# Image Priors





# Classification of Computational Imaging Problems

	Space	Time	Angle	Spectrum	Polarization
Coding with Illumination	Direct-Global Separation [16] Photometric Stereo [17]	Light Transport [18], [19] Multipath Interference [20] Fluorescence Imaging [21]	Refraction Measurement [22]	Multispectral Imaging [23] Low-Light Photography [24]	Descattering [25]
Coding with Optics	HDR Imaging [26] Single-Shot Depth [27], [28], [29]	Time Stretch Imaging Motion Deblurring [30]	Digital Refocusing [31] Novel View Estimation [32]	Multispectral Imaging [33], [34], [35], [36], [37]	Shape Estimation [38], [39] Stokes Imaging [40] Light Transport Decomposition [41], [42]
Coding with Sensors	Stereo Vision [43] HDR Imaging [44] Gradient Camera [45]	Depth Estimation (ToF) NLOS Imaging [46] Imaging Through Scattering [47]	Wavefront Sensing [48]	Spatio-Spectral Superresolution [49] Seeing Occluded Objects [50], [51]	3D Imaging [39]

A classification of computational imaging problems based on how physics is encoded



# Linear Inverse Problem + Regularization

- Write imaging problem as optimization problem:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{\mu}{2} \left\| \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x} \right\|_2^2 + \Gamma(\mathbf{x})$$

Where

- $\mathbf{x}$  is intrinsic/latent image,  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is its estimate
- $\mathbf{b}$  is the measurement / observation
- $\mathbf{A}$  describes imaging system
- $\Gamma$  is an image prior or regularizer

- Examples:

- Deblurring:  $\mathbf{A}$  = image blur,  $\mathbf{b}$  = blurred image,  $\mathbf{x}$  = sharp image
- Tomography:  $\mathbf{A}$  = projection matrix,  $\mathbf{b}$  = projected images,  $\mathbf{x}$  = volume



香港中文大學(深圳)  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen



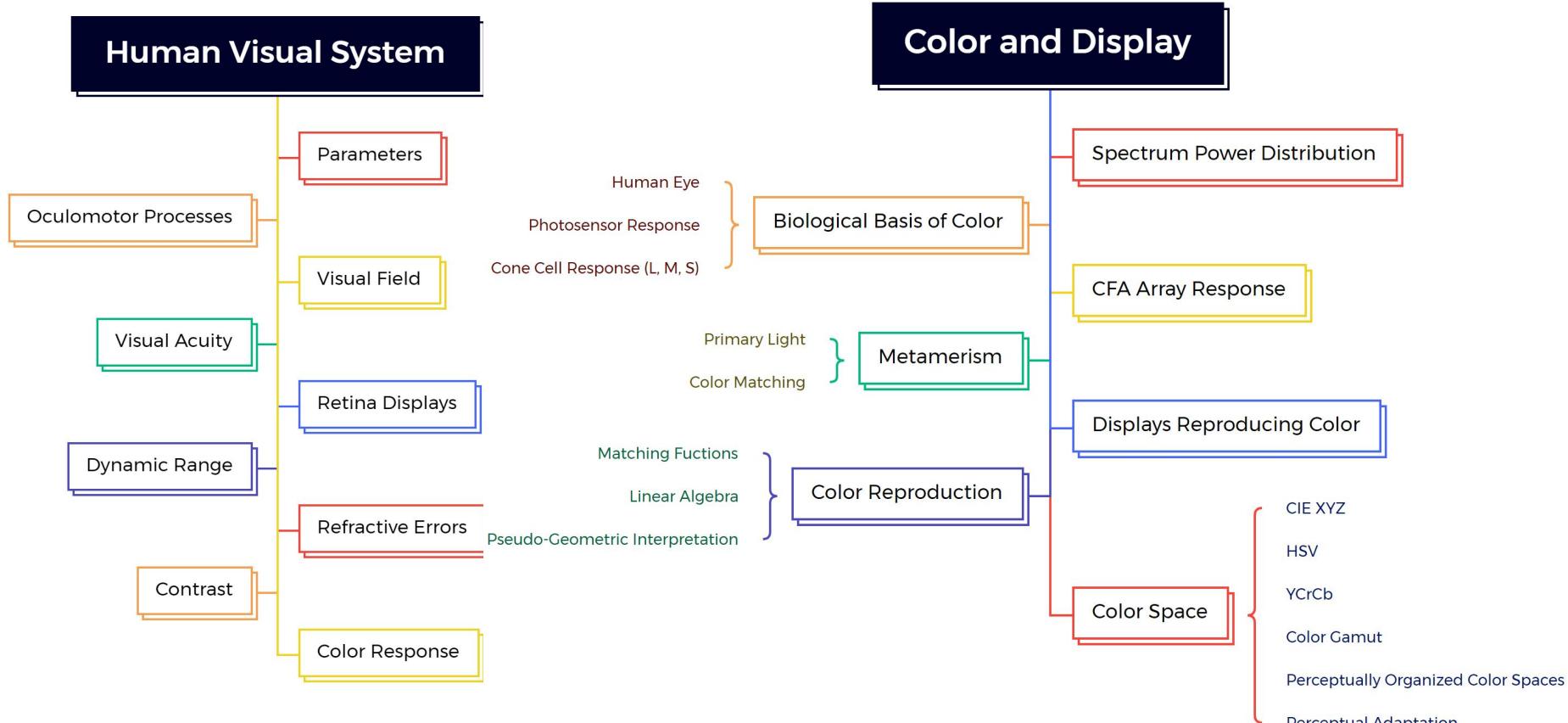
# Course Road Map



# Why Study Computational Imaging?

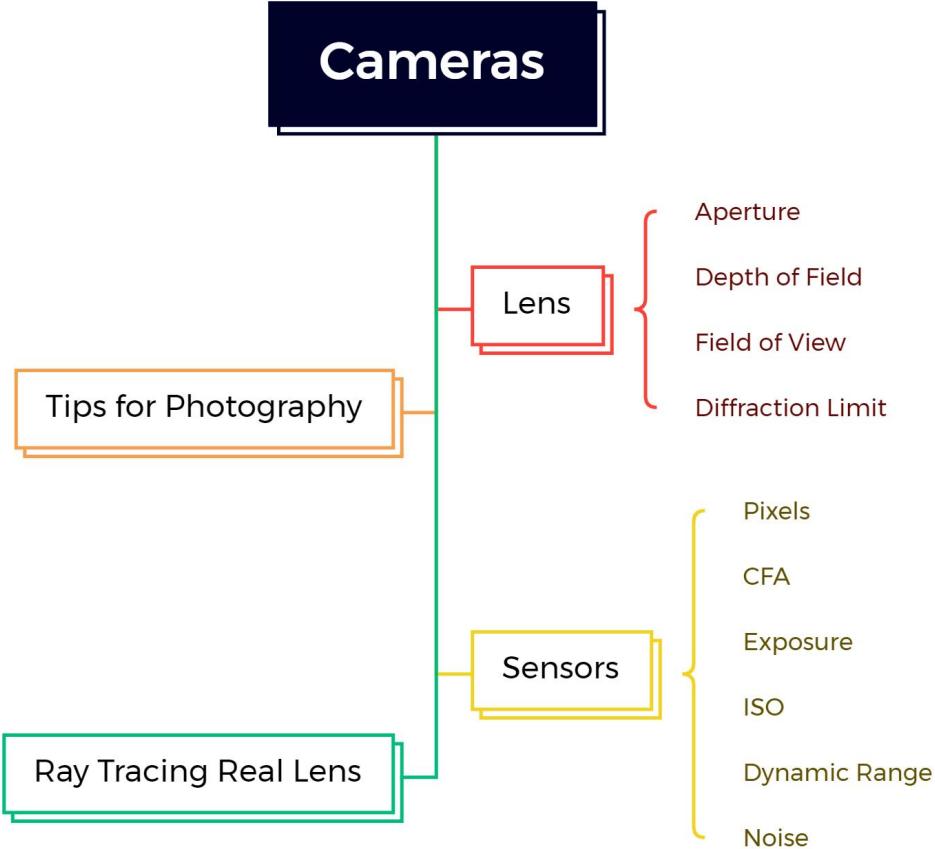
- Huge Market Size: 2024-p 29 Billion USD for just 3D Imaging, AR, VR and MR
- Build the bridge from realistic world to virtual world!
- A revolution of capturing the information
  
- Huge imaginary space!
- Fascinating!

# Human Visual System, Color and Display





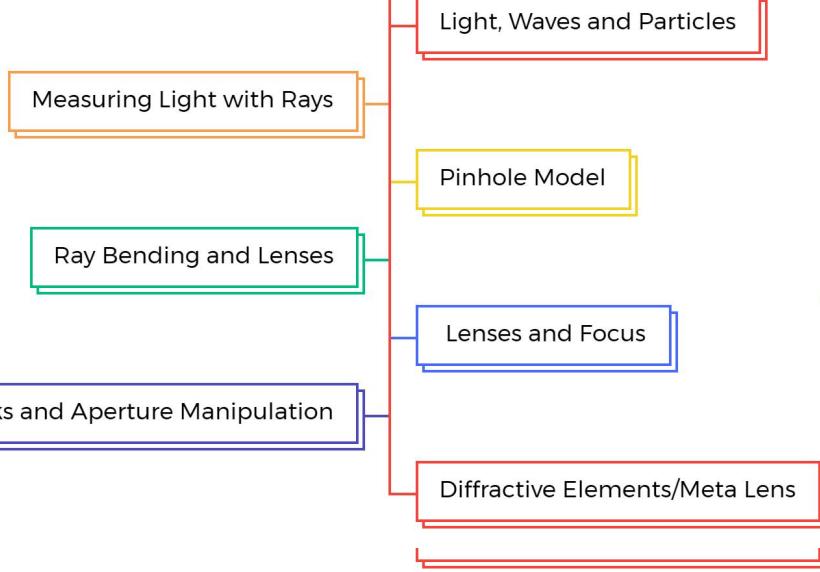
# Cameras



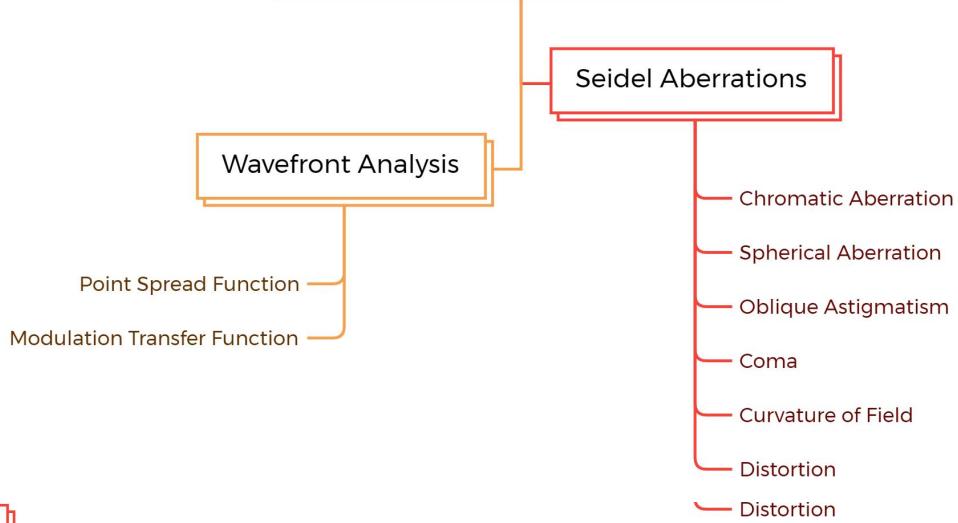


# Imaging Toolkit: Optics

## Optics

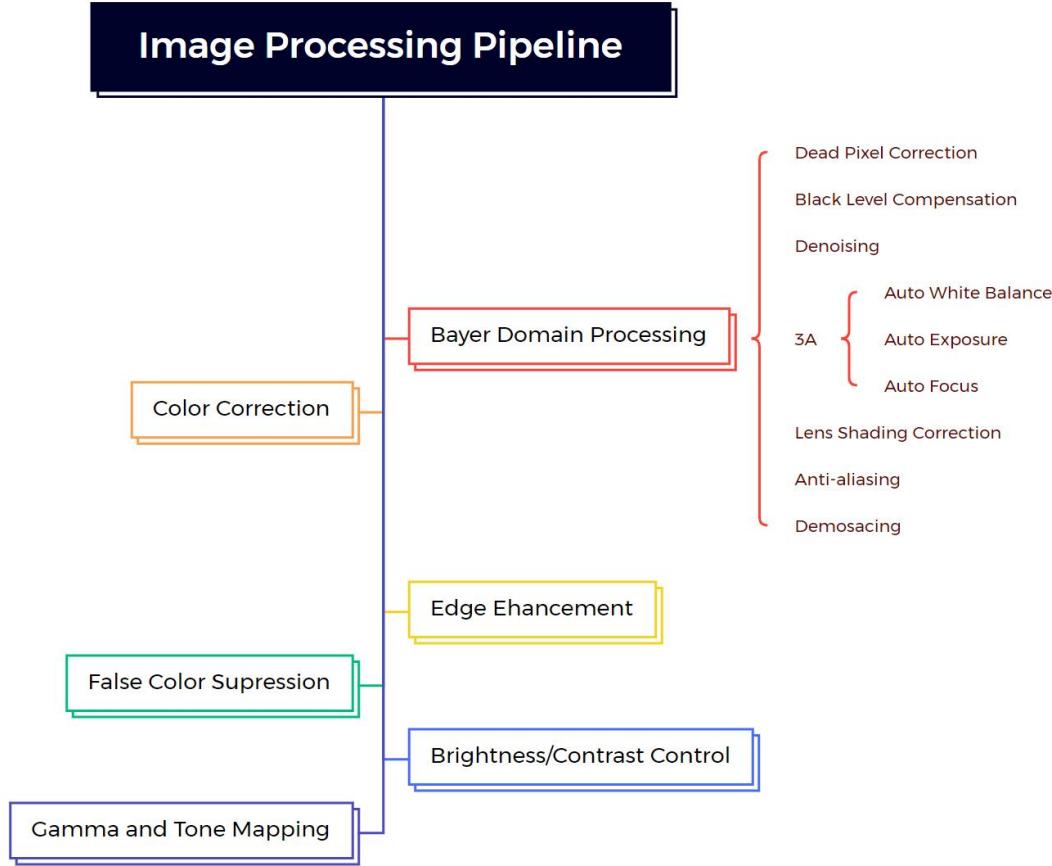


## Optical Aberrations



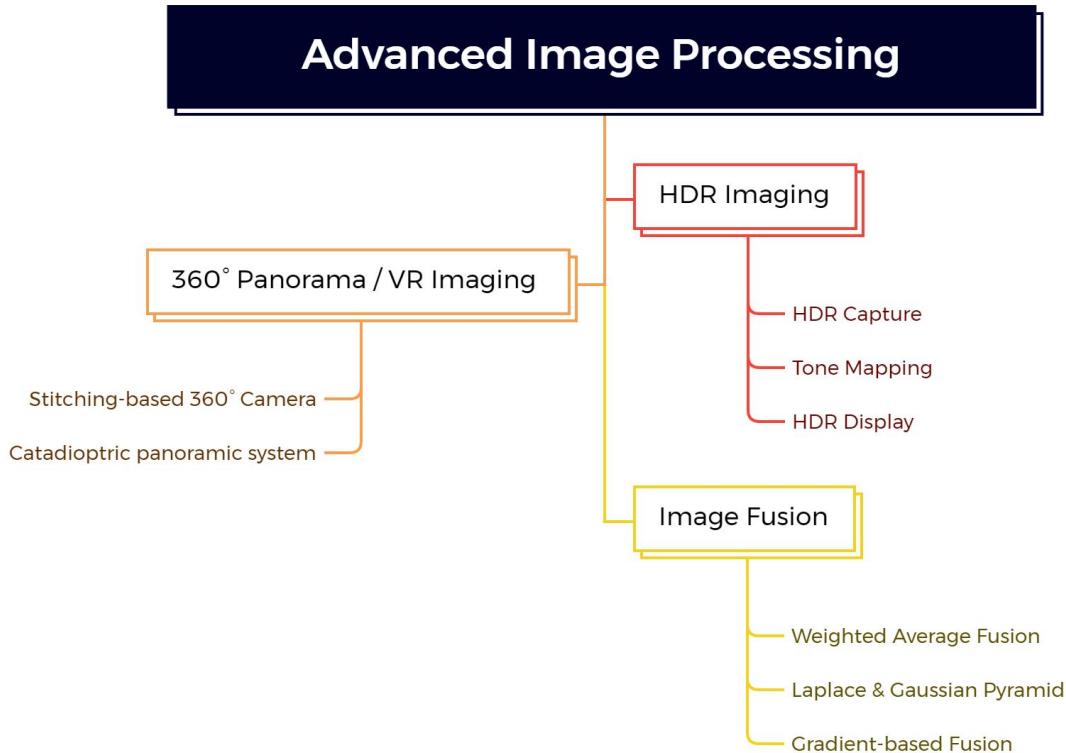


# Imaging Toolkit: Image Processing Pipeline



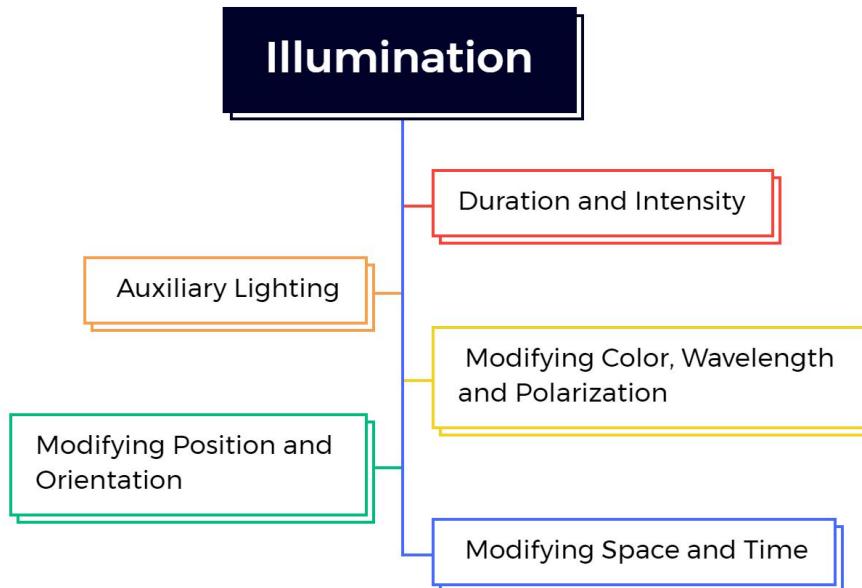


# Imaging Toolkit: Advanced Processing Pipeline



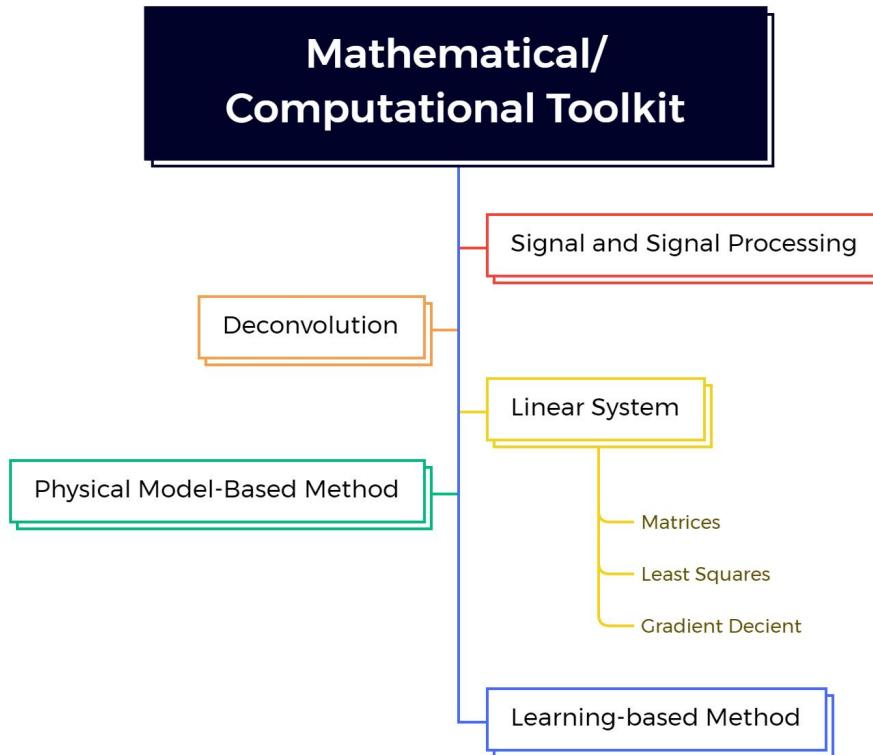


# Imaging Toolkit: Illumination



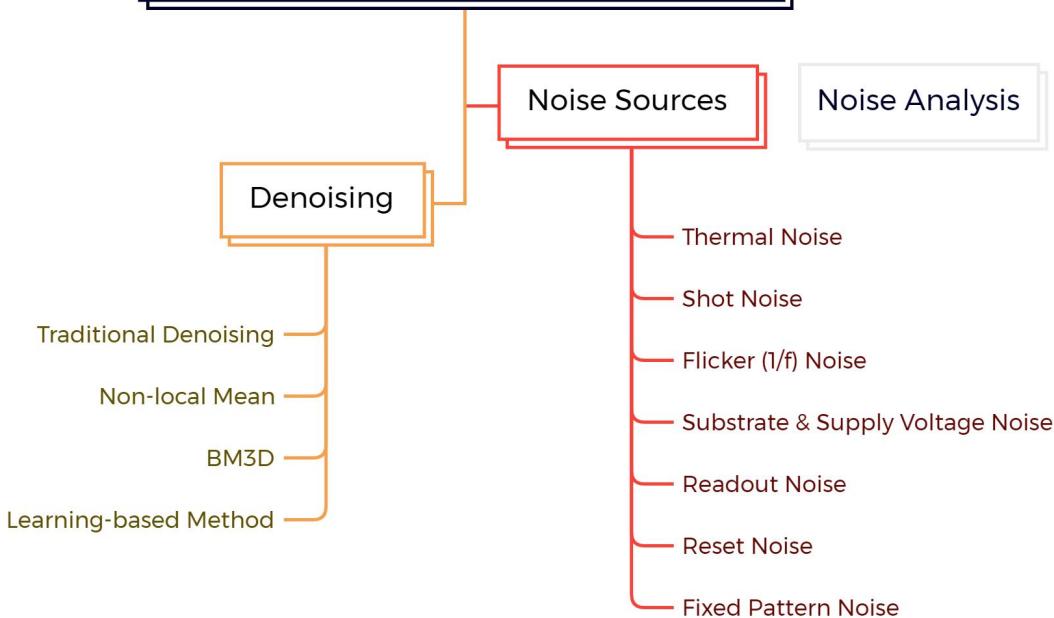


# Mathematical/Computational Toolkit



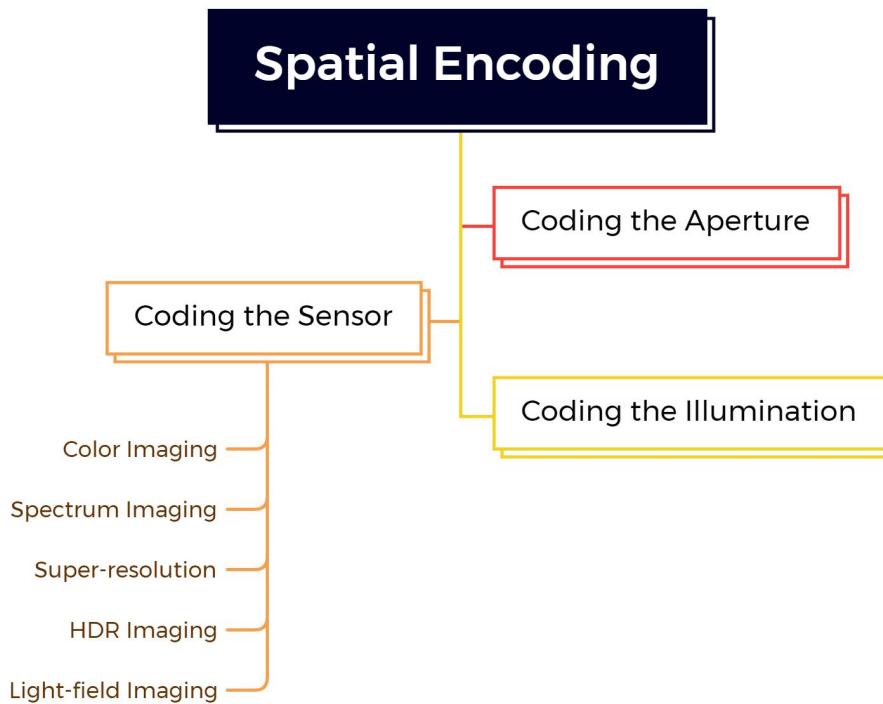


## Noise and Denoising





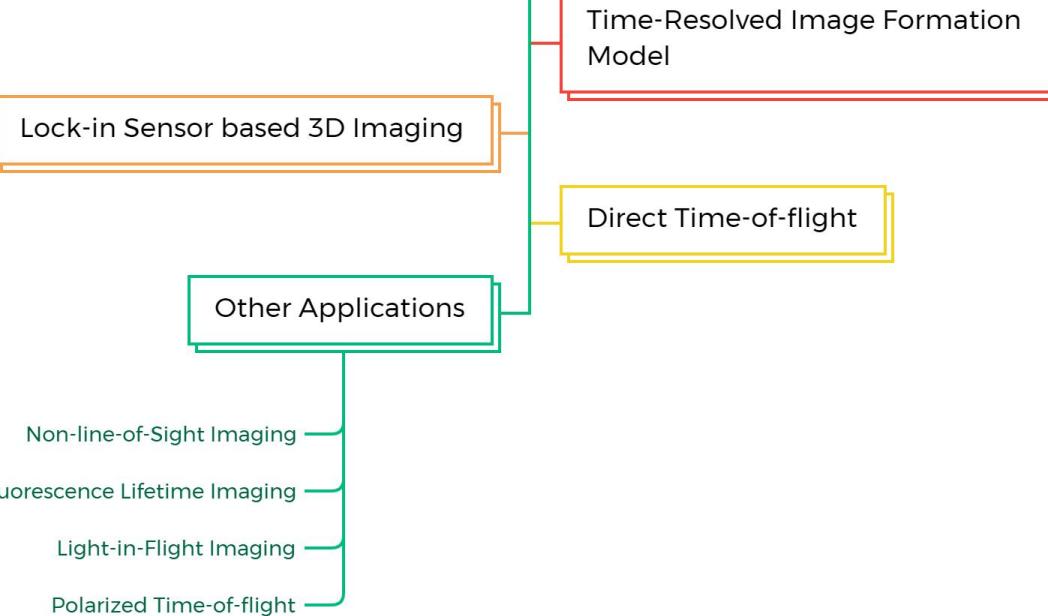
# Spatial Encoding





# Temporal Encoding

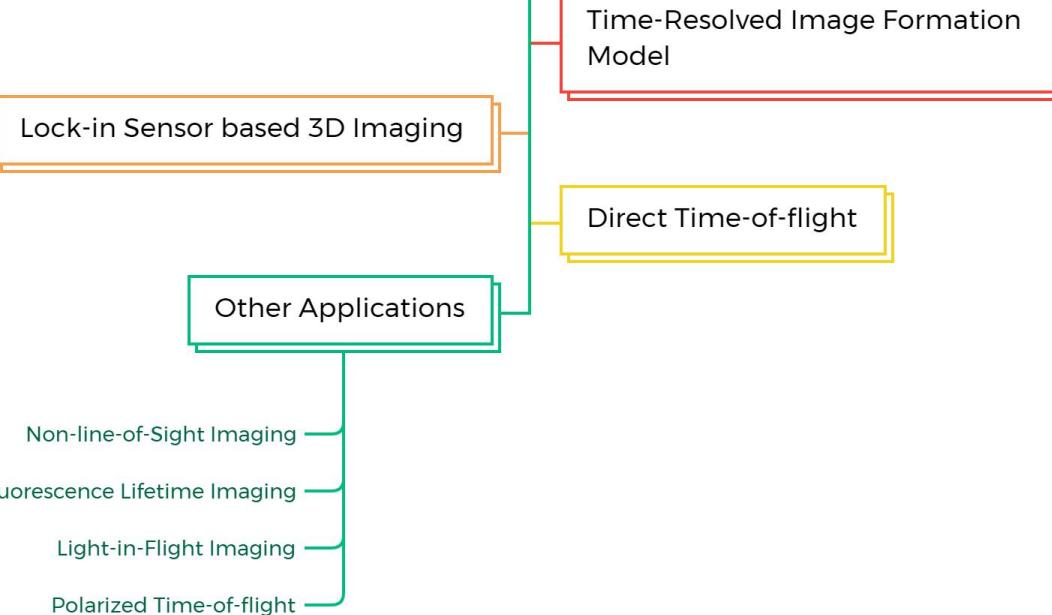
## Temporal Encoding





# Temporal Encoding

## Temporal Encoding





# Advanced Topics and Applications

**Light-field Imaging**

**Spectrum Imaging**

**Polarimetric Imaging**

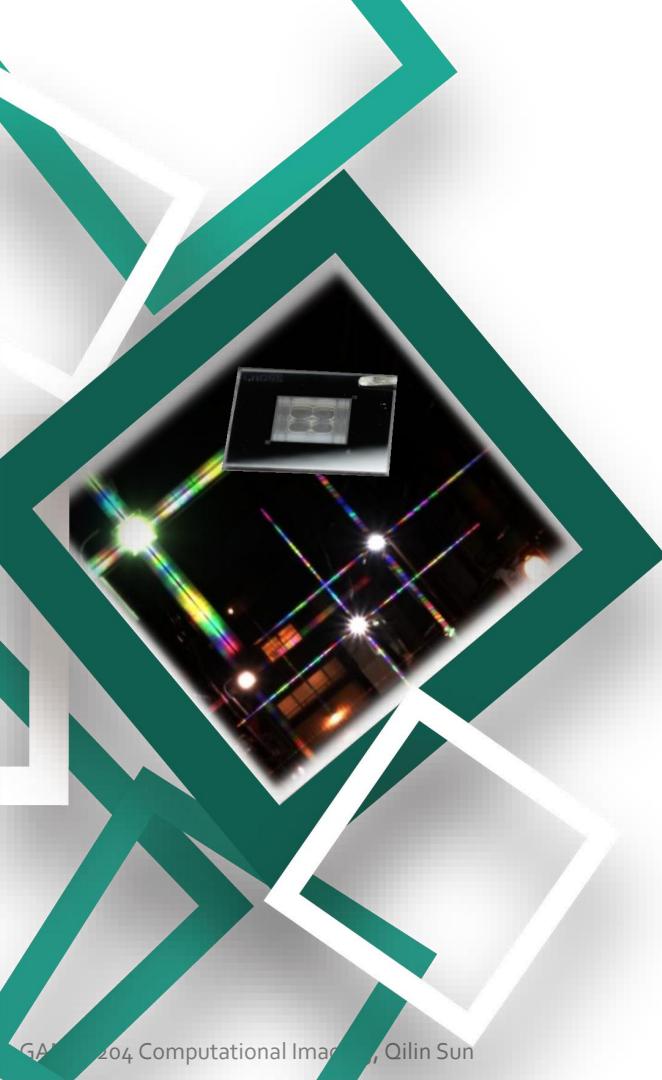
**Differentiable End-to-End  
Camera Design**

**A lot of interesting Topics!**



## Today's Topic

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# Thank You!



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