



# Seeing Beyond the Visible



---

**Doug Malchow**  
*Manager, Industrial Business  
Development*

**Goodrich Corporation**  
**ISR Systems - Princeton**

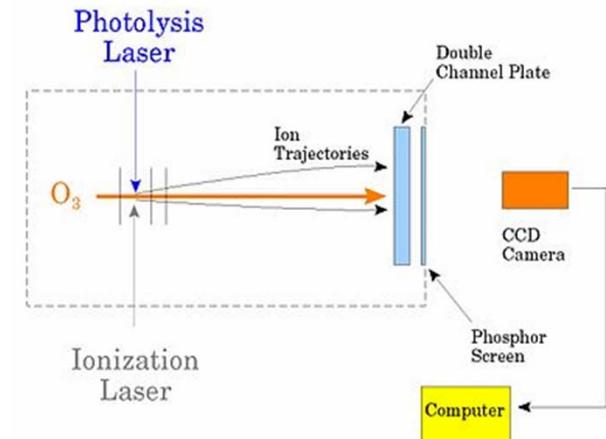
# Outline

- What is imaging? (If you can't see it, does it still exist?)
- What enables imaging: The Electromagnetic spectrum
- Imaging band descriptions and examples
  - Gamma radiation
  - X-ray radiation
  - Ultraviolet radiation
  - Visible radiation
  - Infrared radiation and sub-bands of NIR, SWIR, MWIR and LWIR
- SWIR Imaging
  - Why use?
  - Where used?
    - Application examples
- Summary



# What is Imaging in any Band?

- Making a visual representation of an *object* by scanning it with detector(s) or electromagnetic beam(s), or by passing an object between detector(s) and beam(s).
- It is a function of the *object* modifying the energy by passing, absorbing, reflecting or scattering the beam(s) resulting in creating a difference map for display for a human to view or for a computer to analyze
- The recorded differences are relative and influenced by everything in the beam path
  - The energy source,
  - The medium it passes through to get to *object*,
  - The *object* being imaged, which effects the beam.
  - The medium the energy passes to get to the detector,
  - The elements used to collect or focus
  - The detector
- These influences can be calibrated to take out non-uniformities or to measure the energy in absolute units



[http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photofragment-ion\\_imaging](http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photofragment-ion_imaging)



# Energy Source Emits

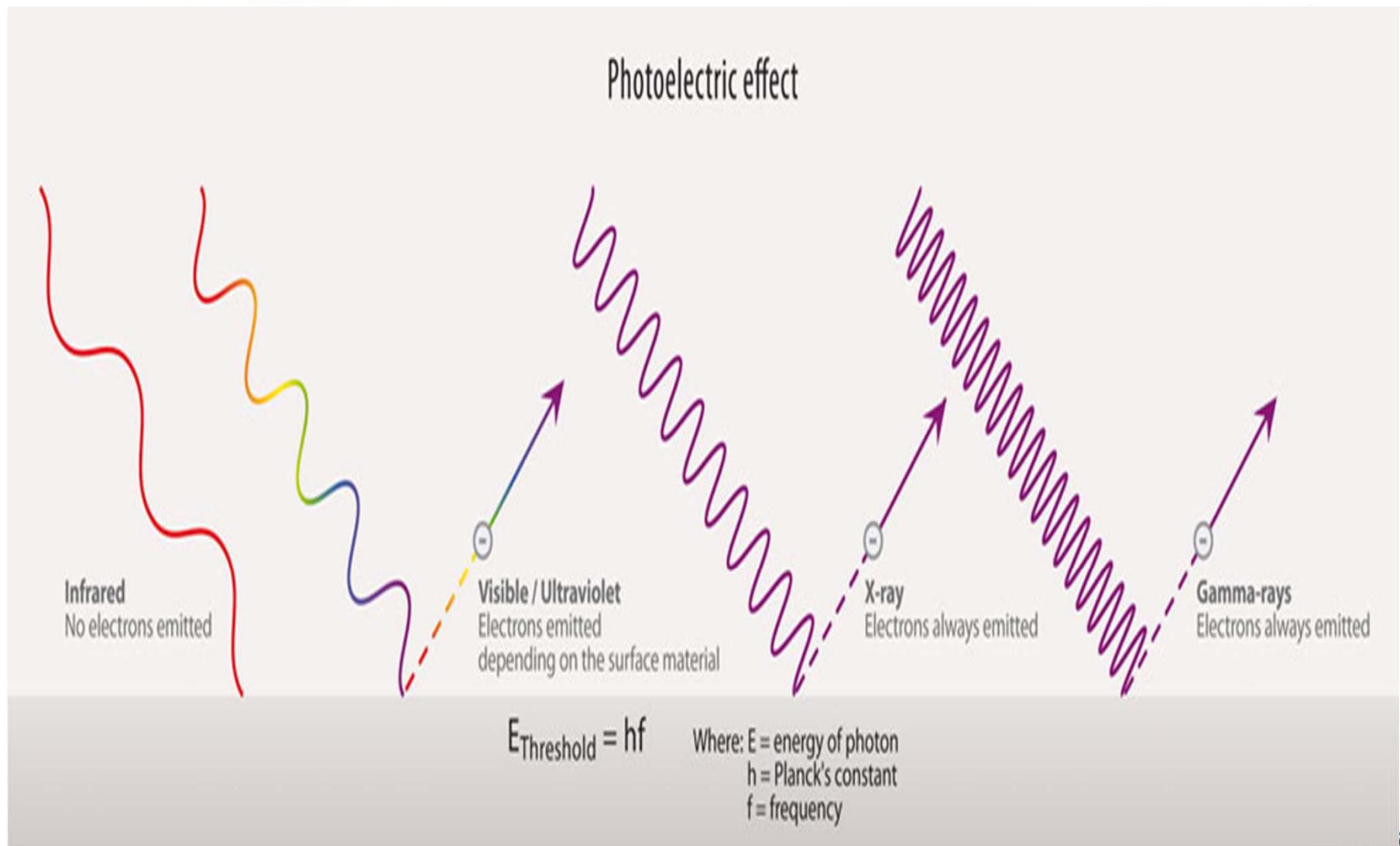


Image courtesy of ESA / AOES Mediale  
Microsoft clip art



# Interacts with Stuff



[http://missionscience.nasa.gov/ems/03\\_behaviors.html](http://missionscience.nasa.gov/ems/03_behaviors.html)

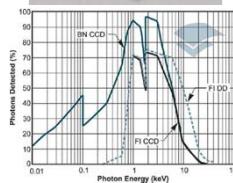
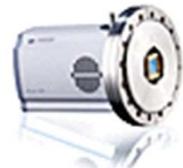
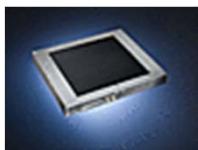
<http://marketplace.secondlife.com>

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/strobist/discuss/72157600866439843/page2/>

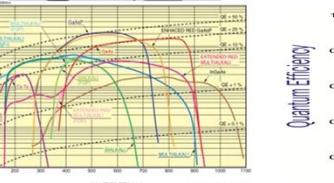


# Is Detected

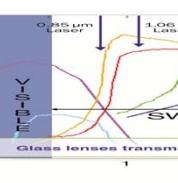
## Gamma and X-ray



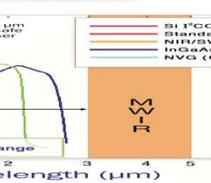
## UV - Visible - NIR



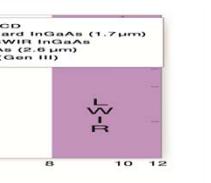
## SWIR



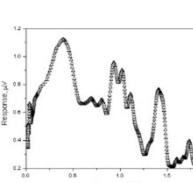
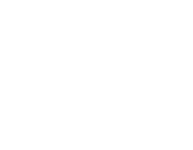
## MWIR



## LWIR

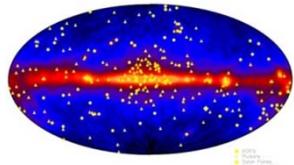


## TeraHertz



# Is Displayed

Gamma and X-ray



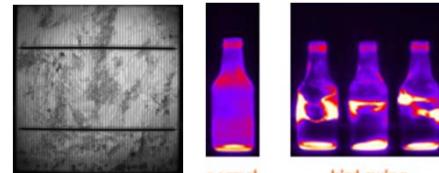
Deep UV



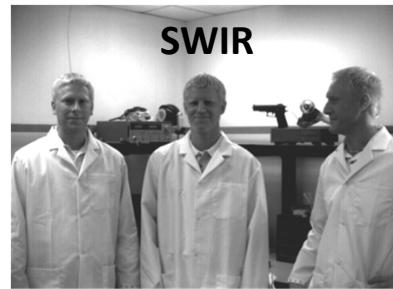
Car paint  
Bruises  
Fingerprints



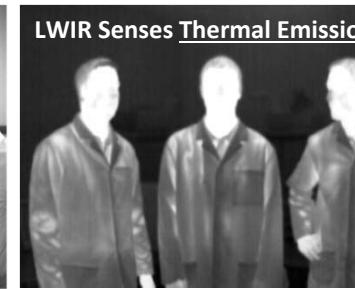
UV - Visible - NIR



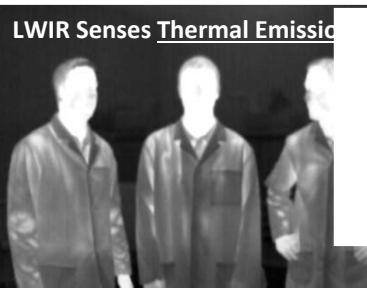
SWIR



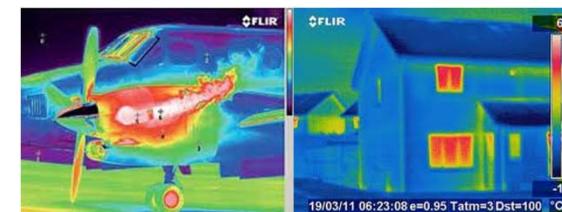
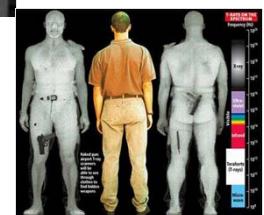
MWIR



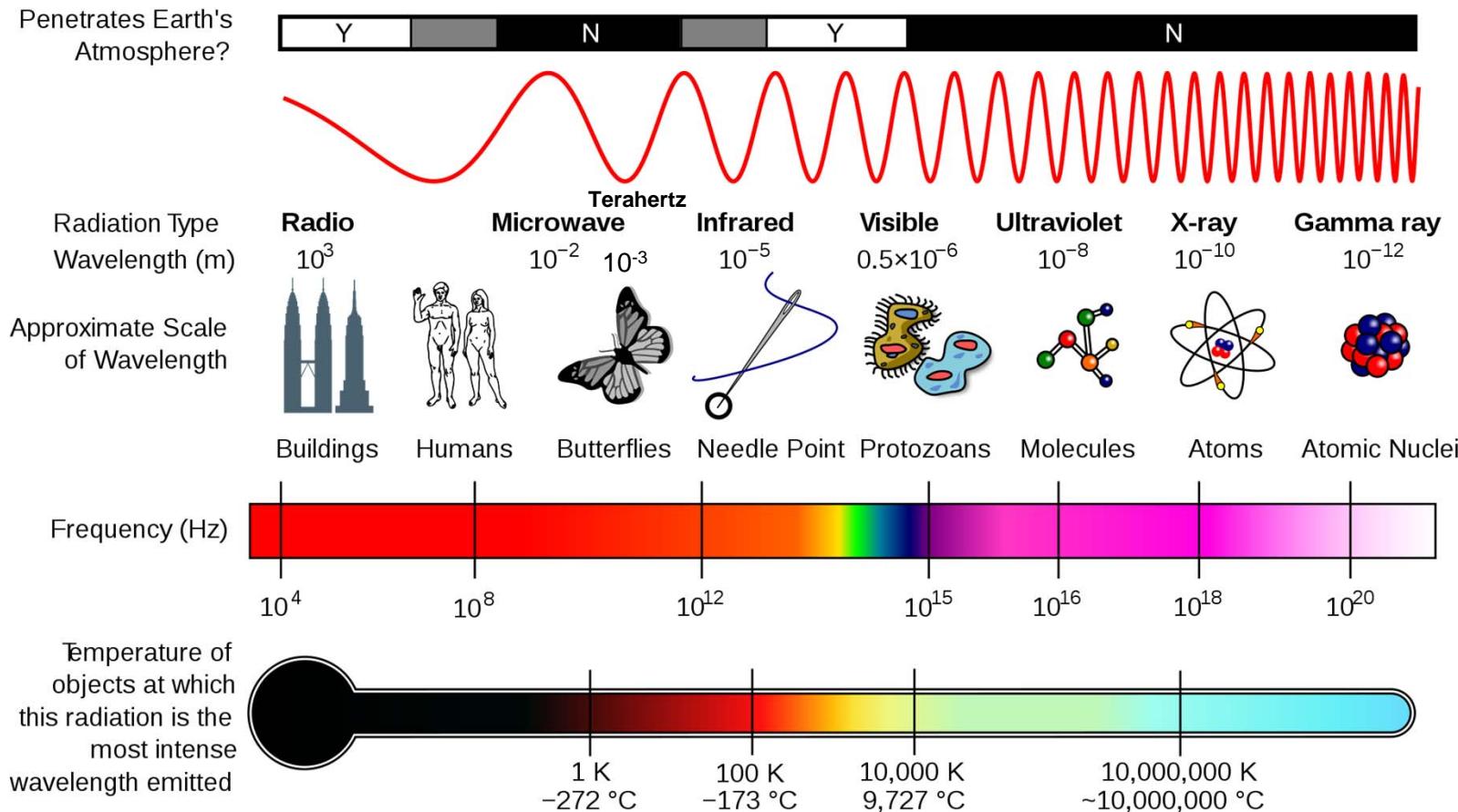
LWIR



TeraHertz



# Electromagnetic Spectrum

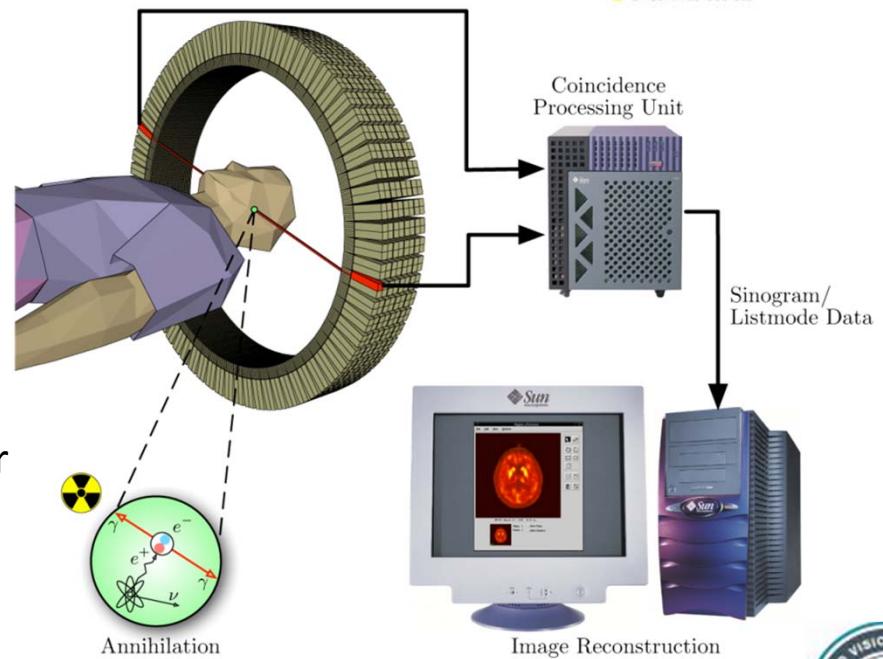
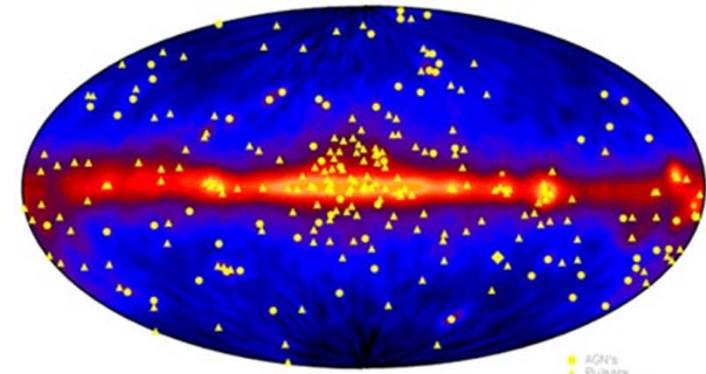


Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electromagnetic\\_spectrum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electromagnetic_spectrum)



# Gamma Rays

- The most energetic photons,
- Produced by radioisotopes
- No defined lower wavelength limit
- Use for imaging by:
  - Astronomers to study high-energy objects or regions
  - Physicists due to the penetrative ability
  - Doctors for PET scans
    - Isotope inside person emits gamma ray
    - Scintillator converts to visible for CCD

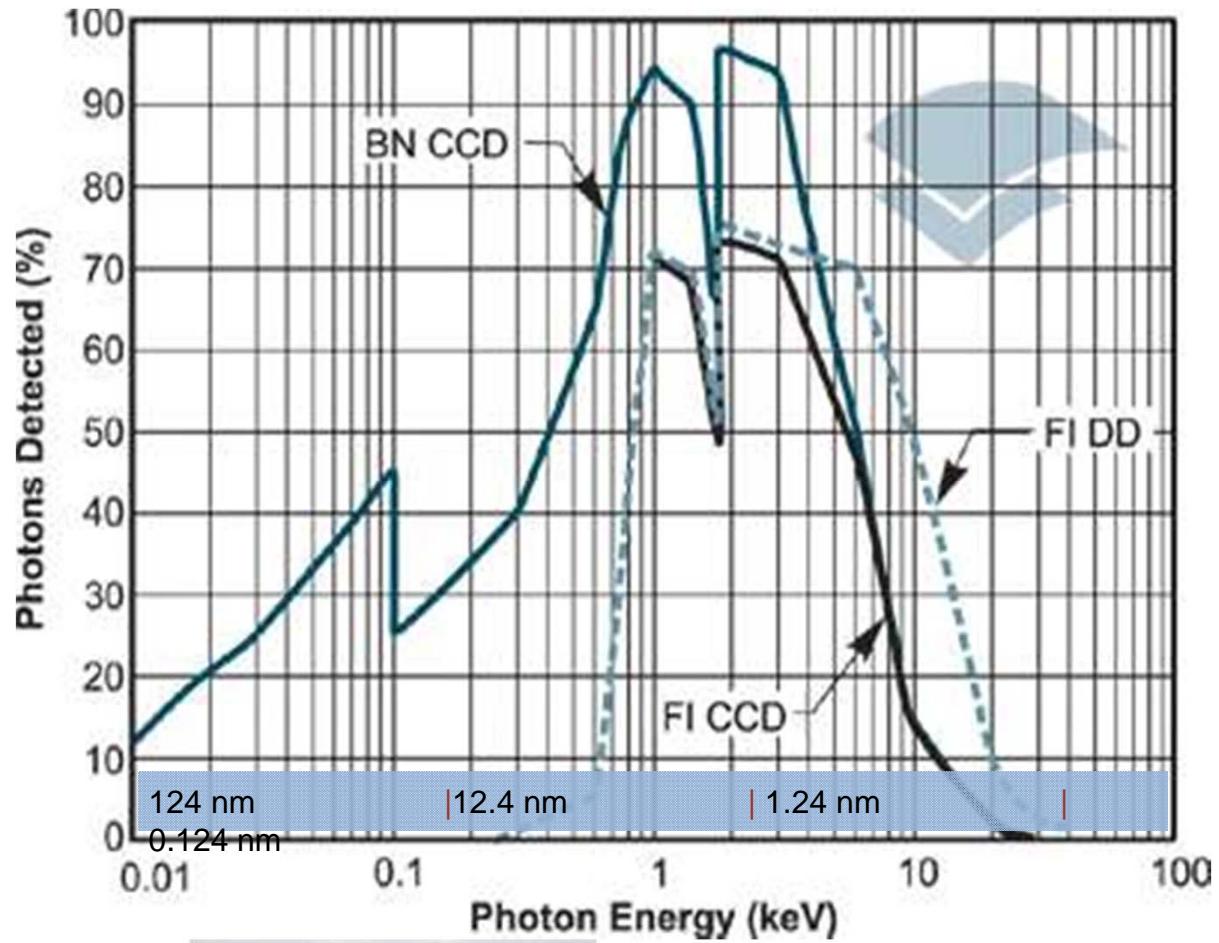


[http://science.hq.nasa.gov/kids/imagers/ems/gamma\\_ray\\_sky.jpg](http://science.hq.nasa.gov/kids/imagers/ems/gamma_ray_sky.jpg)  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Positron\\_emission\\_tomography](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Positron_emission_tomography)



# X-rays

- Lower energy, but longer wavelengths than Gamma
- Also ionizing.
- Hard X-rays have shorter wavelengths than soft X-rays.
- Used to 'see through' objects:
  - Radiography for diagnostic images in medicine
  - Homeland security
- Imaging high-energy sources in physics and astronomy:
  - Neutron stars
  - Black holes
  - Some types of nebulae



Drawing: <http://www.physics.monash.edu.au/research/pcxi.html> © Monash University

Man/gun :<http://www.nickveasey.com/NV%20Gallery%20Catalogue.pdf> © Nick Veasey

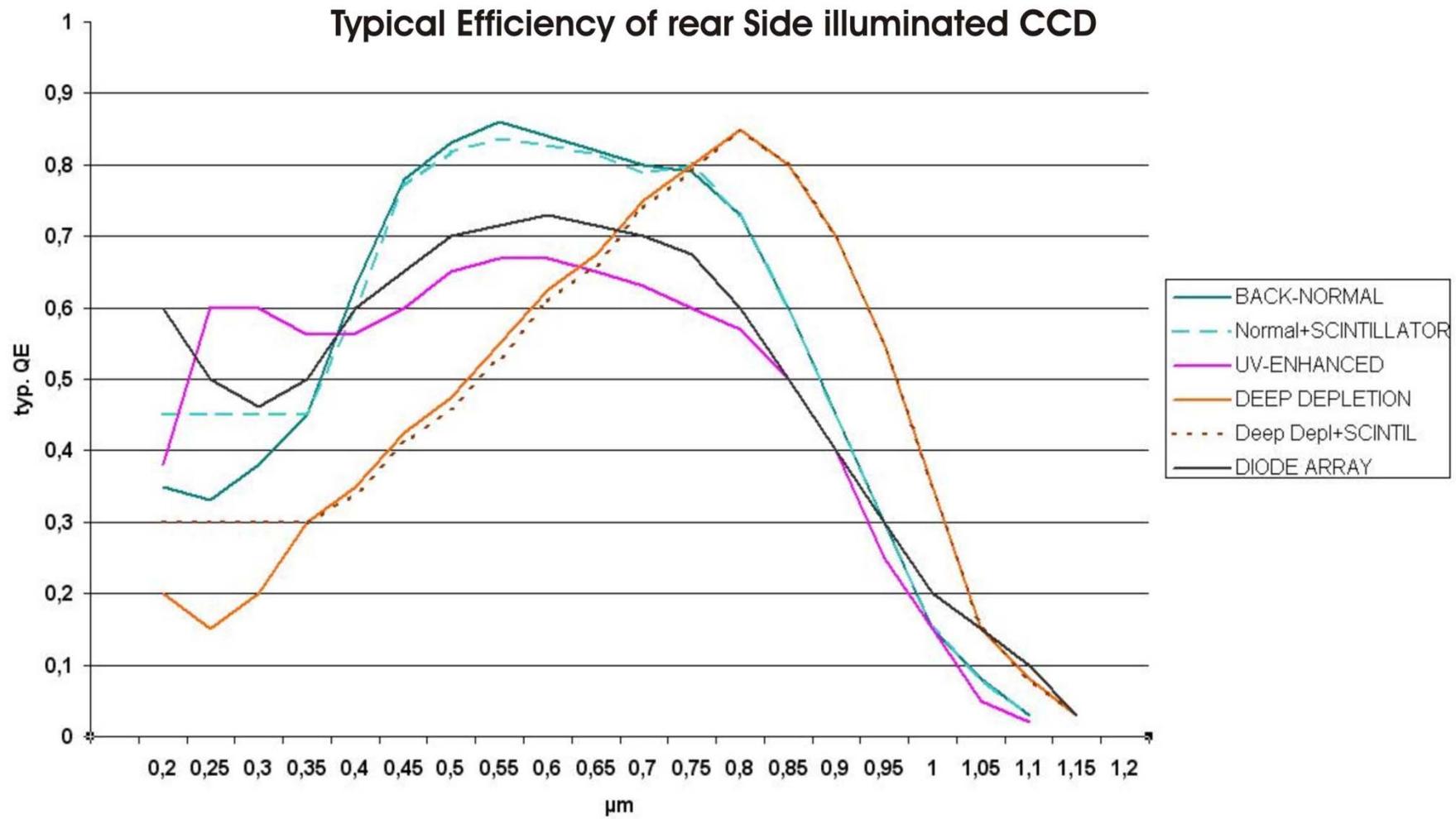
X-ray tube: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/X-ray>

Tooth X-ray: [http://doctorspiller.com/copyright\\_info.htm](http://doctorspiller.com/copyright_info.htm)

Tooth: [http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/b8/Lower\\_wisdom\\_tooth.jpg/220px-Lower\\_wisdom\\_tooth.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/b8/Lower_wisdom_tooth.jpg/220px-Lower_wisdom_tooth.jpg)



# UV Imaging



<http://www.stanford.edu/group/pandegroup/folding/education/papers/nature02.html>

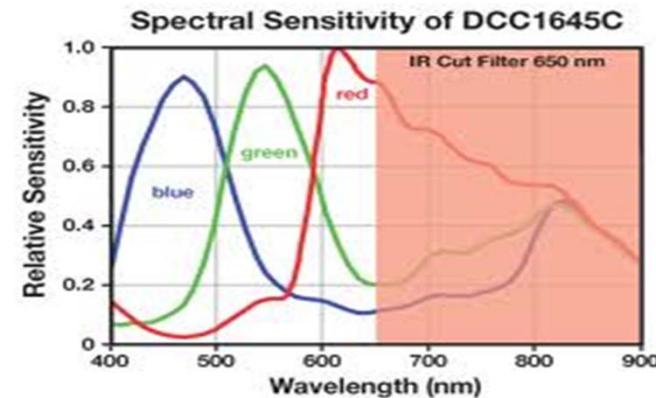
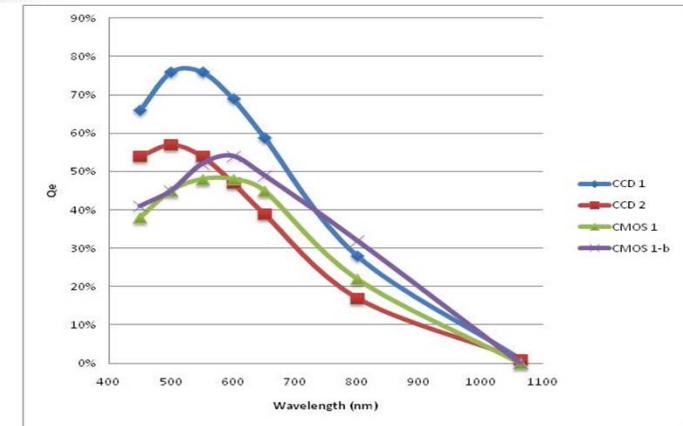
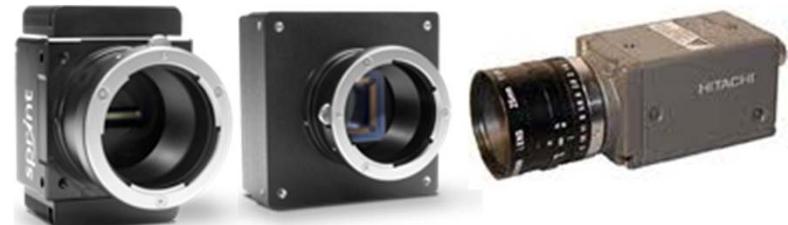
<http://www.uvcamera.com/Faraghan%20Medical%20Camera%20Systems/Welcome.html>

BI CCD QE © <http://www.spectra-magic.de/E-Detectors.htm>



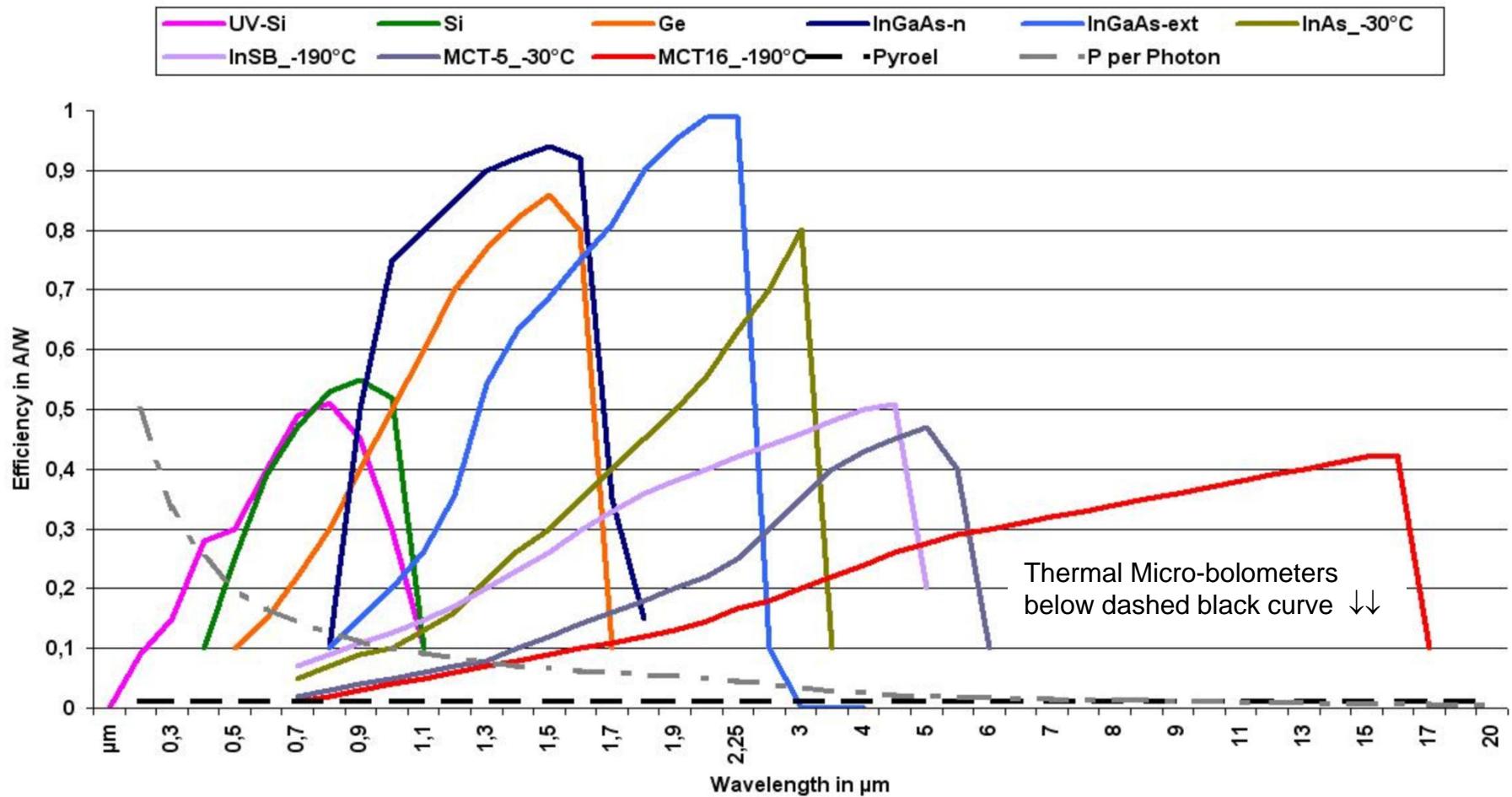
# Visible

- Visible light and near-infrared light is absorbed and emitted by molecules and atoms as the electrons move from one energy level to another.
- Wavelengths between 380 nm and 760 nm (790–400 terahertz) are detected by the human eye as visible light.
- White light is a combination all the wavelengths in the visible spectrum.
- Passing white light through a prism splits it up (refracts) into the rainbow.
- Silicon detectors respond from 200 to 1100 nm; Back illuminated CCDs have highest QE, lowest noise.

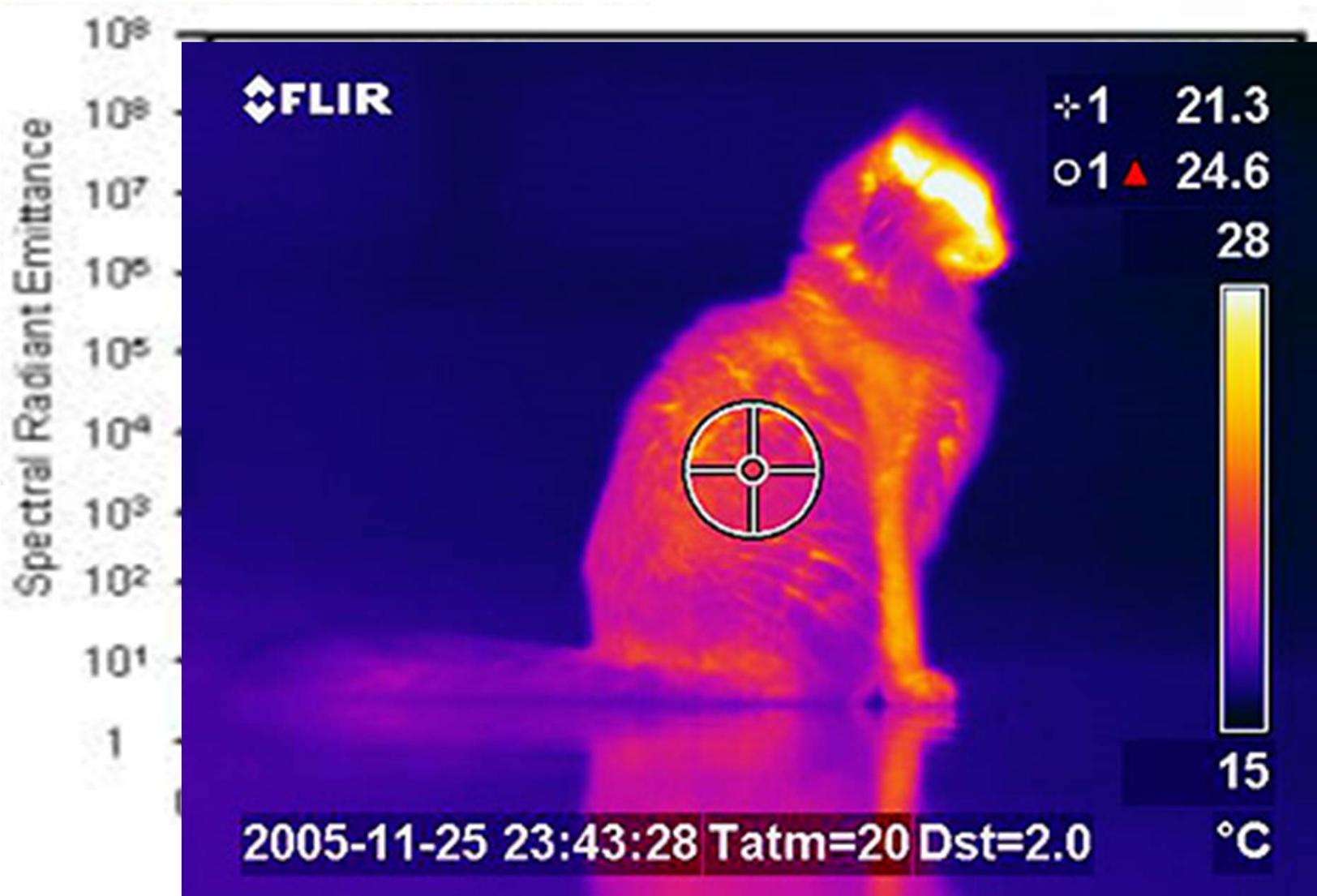


# Infrared

## IR Detectors



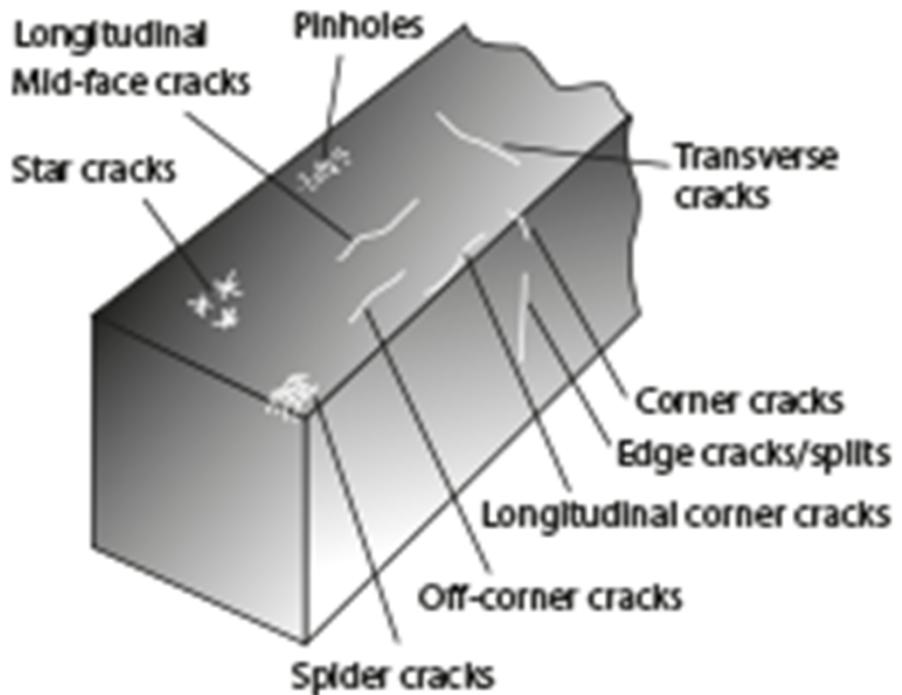
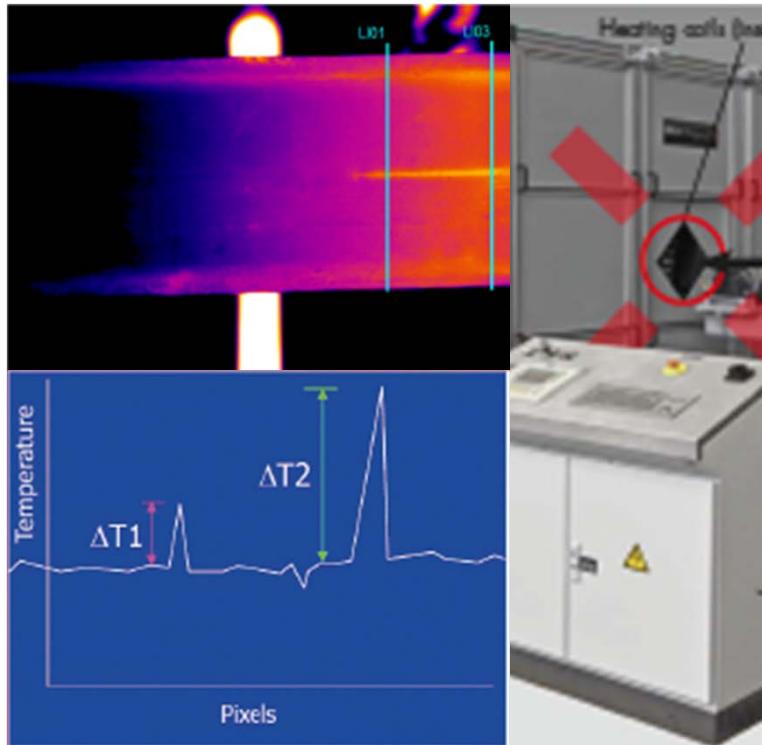
# Infrared - Thermal



Images © FLIR



# Thermal MV

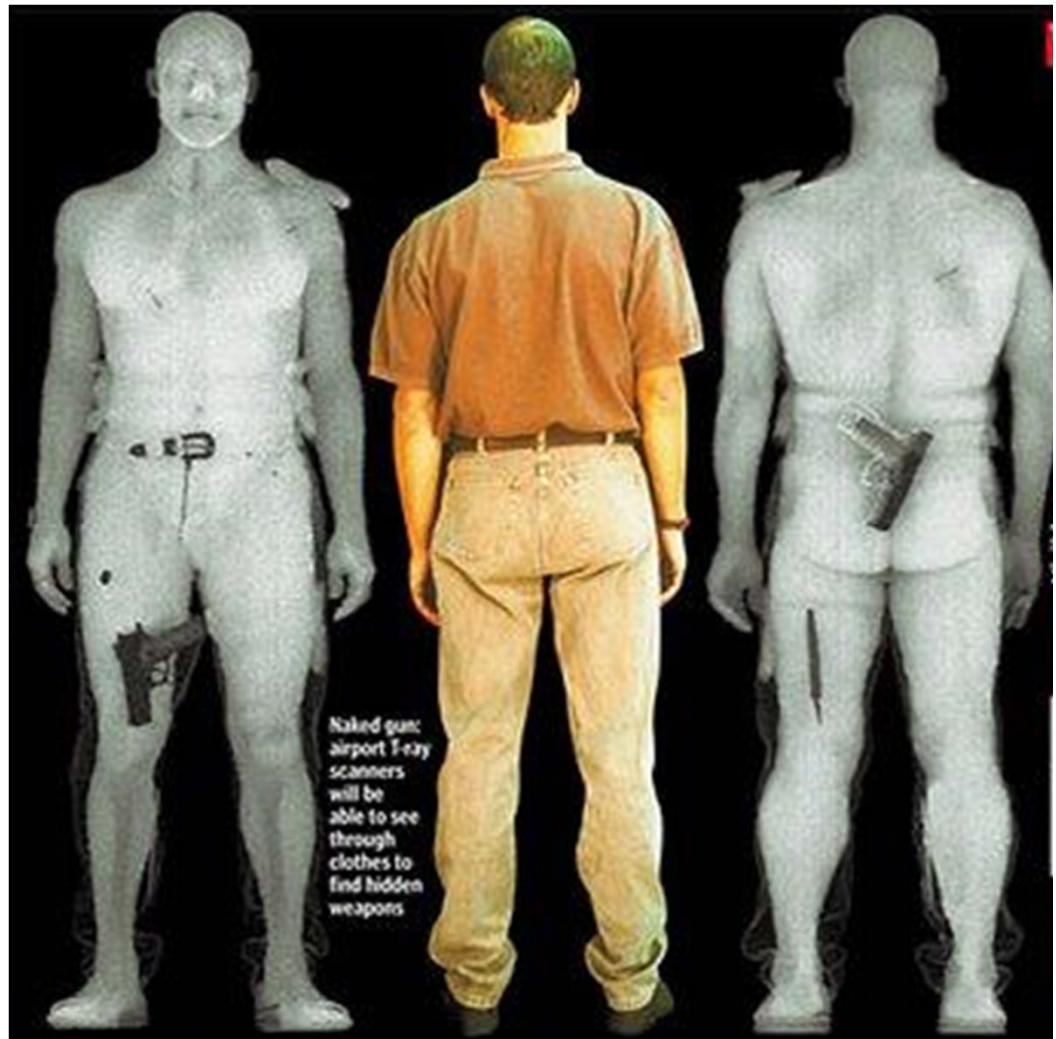


- **FLIR Application Stories – Automation**
  - raw steel quality
- <http://www.flir.com/cs/emea/en/view/?id=42180>

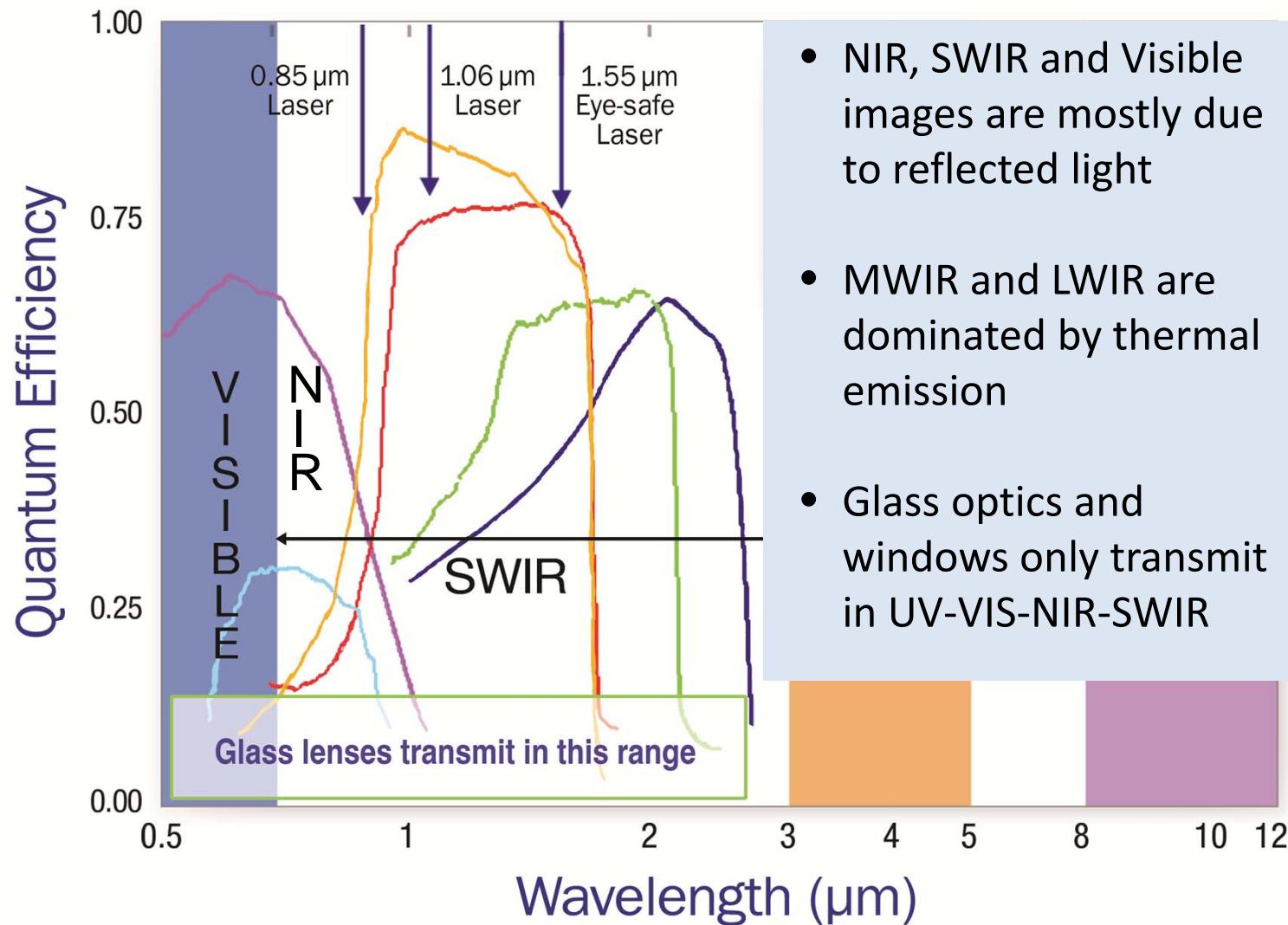


# Terahertz

- 0.1 mm (or 100 μm) infrared to 1.0 mm microwave aka the long-wavelength edge of far-infrared light.
- From 3000 GHz ( $3 \times 10^{12}$  Hz or 3 THz) to 300 gigahertz ( $3 \times 10^{11}$  Hz or 0.3 THz), aka high-frequency edge of the microwave band.
- The THz band straddles region of wave-like characteristics (microwave) and particle-like characteristics (infrared).



# Infrared Wavelength Bands



# Why Use SWIR Wavelengths

- **Reduced Scattering** - Longer wavelengths penetrate obscuring layers (haze, fog, smoke)
  - Small particles (relative to light wavelength) scatter short wavelengths heavily (Rayleigh scattering model)
  - Medium particles scatter proportionally to wavelength (Mie scattering model)
  - Large particles scatter all wavelengths
- **For Chemical ID** - Molecular vibrations absorb light in unique wavelength bands
  - SWIR bands easily observed remotely with diffuse reflected light
  - No sample preparation
  - Lower detector cooling needs less costly, more robust
- **For SWIR MV** – Sees contrast where visible cameras do not
  - illumination is non-interfering with visible cameras
- **For Telecom** - Fiber communications use SWIR wavelengths
- **For Silicon inspection** – Silicon and GaAs detectors become transparent and/or emit in SWIR wavelengths when excited



# Applications

## Military & Law Enforcement

- Target Acquisition and Tracking
  - Munitions
  - Adaptive Optics
  - See-spot
  - Free Space Communication
- Surveillance/Passive Imaging
- Sniper detection and spotting
- Covert Illumination
- Range Gated Imaging
- Hyperspectral Imaging
  - Camouflage detection
  - Friend/Foe ID
  - Chemistry of explosives

## Commercial

- Inspection/Sorting
  - Agricultural products
  - Plastic Sorting
  - Pharmaceutical materials, QC
  - Semiconductors
  - Solar cell inspection
- Telecommunications
- Thermal Measurements
  - above 100°C
- Spectroscopy
- Medical Imaging
  - Optical Coherence Tomography
  - Dental Trans-illumination
- Infrared Reflectography
  - Artwork
  - Ancient texts

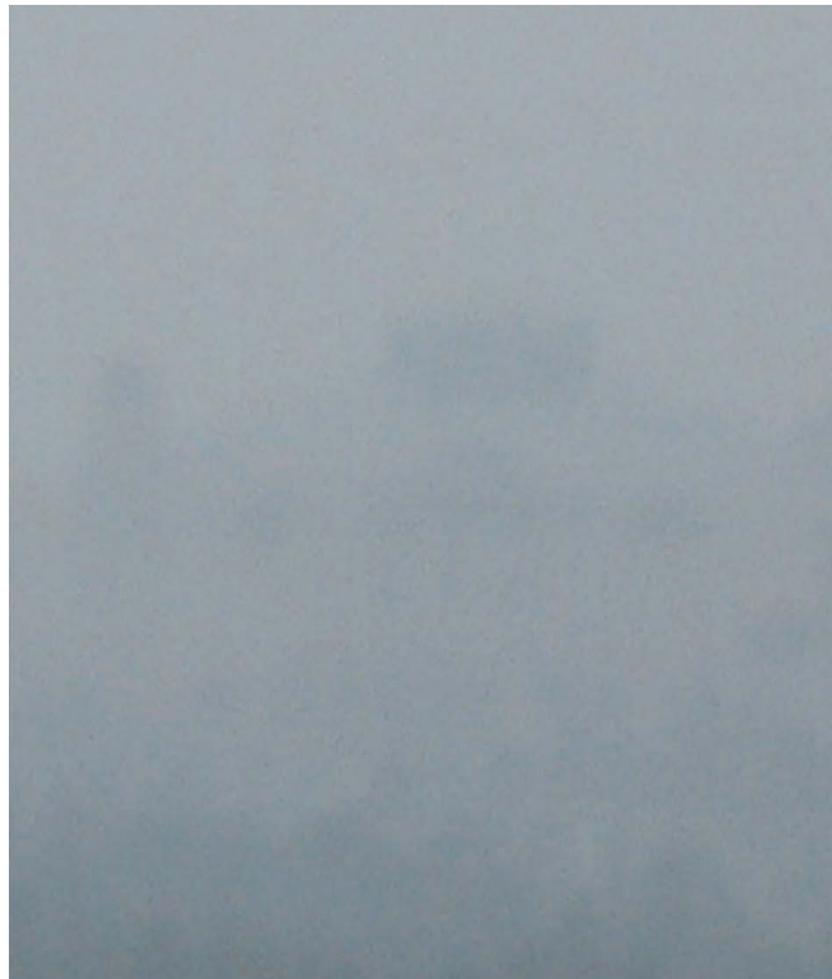


# Two Major Industrial Segments

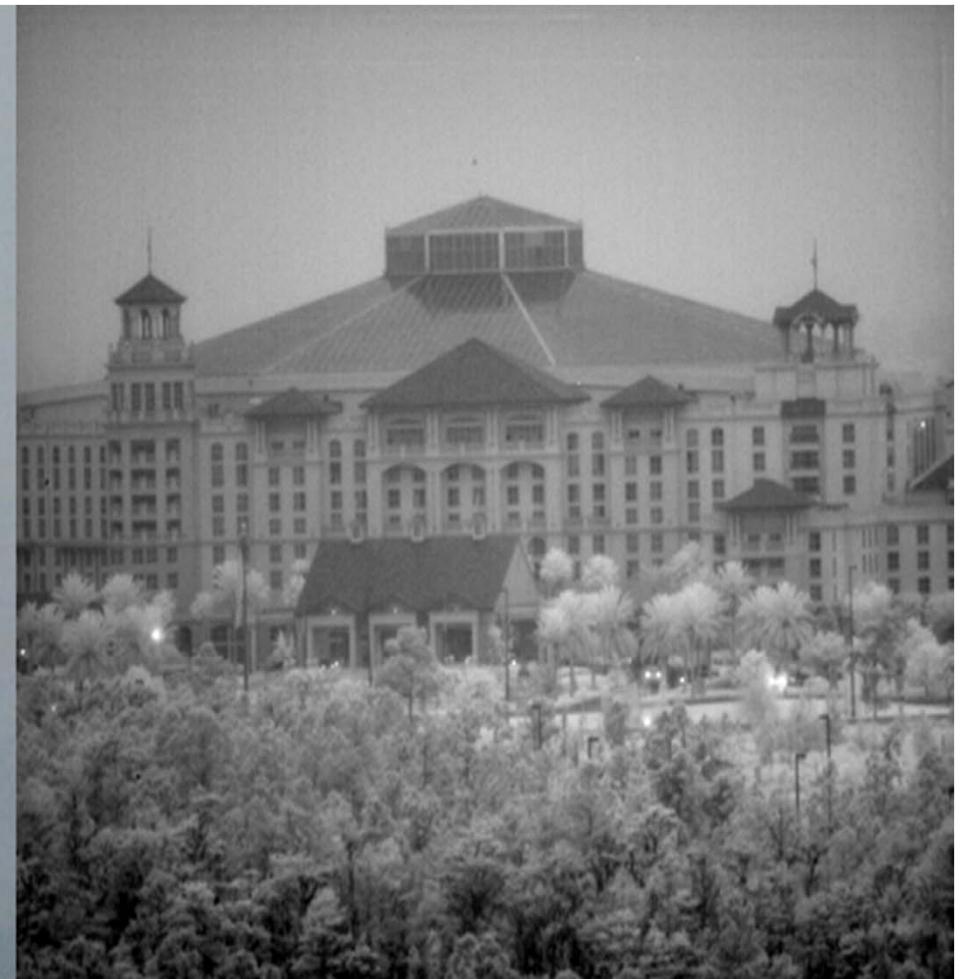
- **Imaging - Observing a scene to make an image**
  - Thermal analysis: metal smelting, furnace monitoring, hot glass processing
  - Machine Vision Inspection: agriculture, pharmaceutical, semiconductors, solar cell electroluminescence
    - Detect or see through coatings
  - Surveillance: Imaging through haze
  - Dentistry: Imaging caries and enamel erosion in teeth
- **Spectral - Looking at multiple wavelengths to conduct an analysis**
  - Biomedical: Optical Coherence Tomography, multi-spectral imaging
  - Telecommunication: Monitor multiple wavelengths simultaneously
  - Sorting: plastic recycling, agriculture product classification
  - General spectroscopy: scientific investigation, chemical ID



# Seeing Through Haze – Orlando, Florida



**Visible**  
Imaged in late afternoon in high humidity, 300 mm lens, 1.5 km distant



**SWIR**



# San Francisco Skyline – 3 km



- Haze penetration capability provides overall sharper image
- Significantly increases “seeing distance”



# Seeing Through Dust – Pine Barrens, New Jersey



- Scattering is a strong function of both wavelength and particle size
- Short wavelength scatter to the 4<sup>th</sup> power
- Long wavelengths attenuated linearly with size



# Seeing Through Smoke Forest Fire – Mt. Hood



*TASE Duo*

**Cloud Cap  
Gimbal holds  
two cameras**

**Video switches  
back and forth  
from Visible to  
SWIR**



This unique ability of SWIR applies to haze and fog, too!



# Smoker in SWIR

- Easily detected in cluttered environment
- Washington, DC
- October 2008/9:00 PM
- Range – 1000 ft
- Lens – 200mm →  
SWIR optimized stopped to f8

Walking smoker stands out strongly!!!



# Compact Spectral Engine

Monitor and control WDM lasers

Alignment of components

- Arrayed Waveguide Gratings

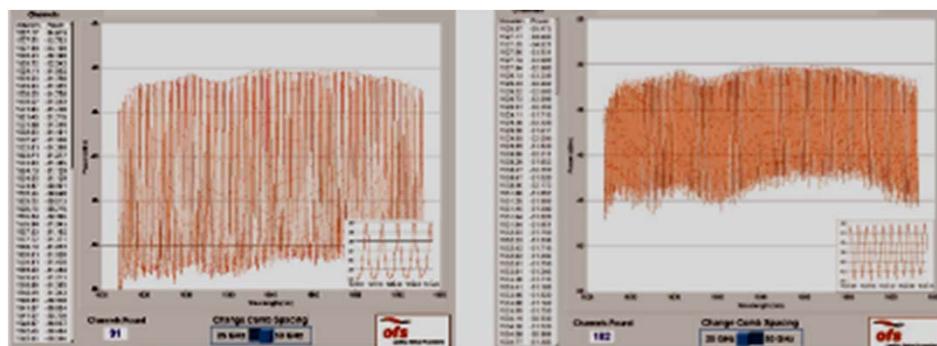
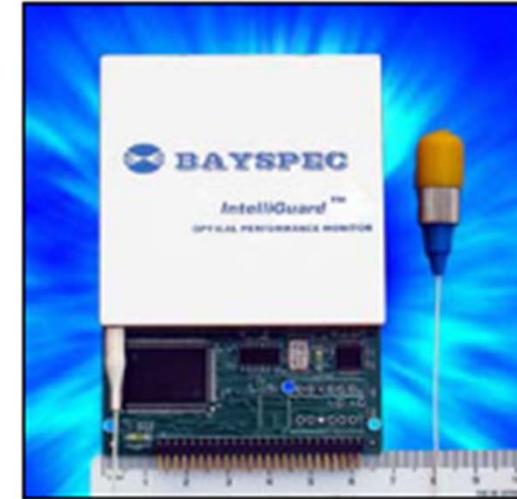
- Diode Lasers

General Inspection

- Light loss from waveguides

High-speed data reception

Stress monitoring via fiber



# Industrial Process Monitoring

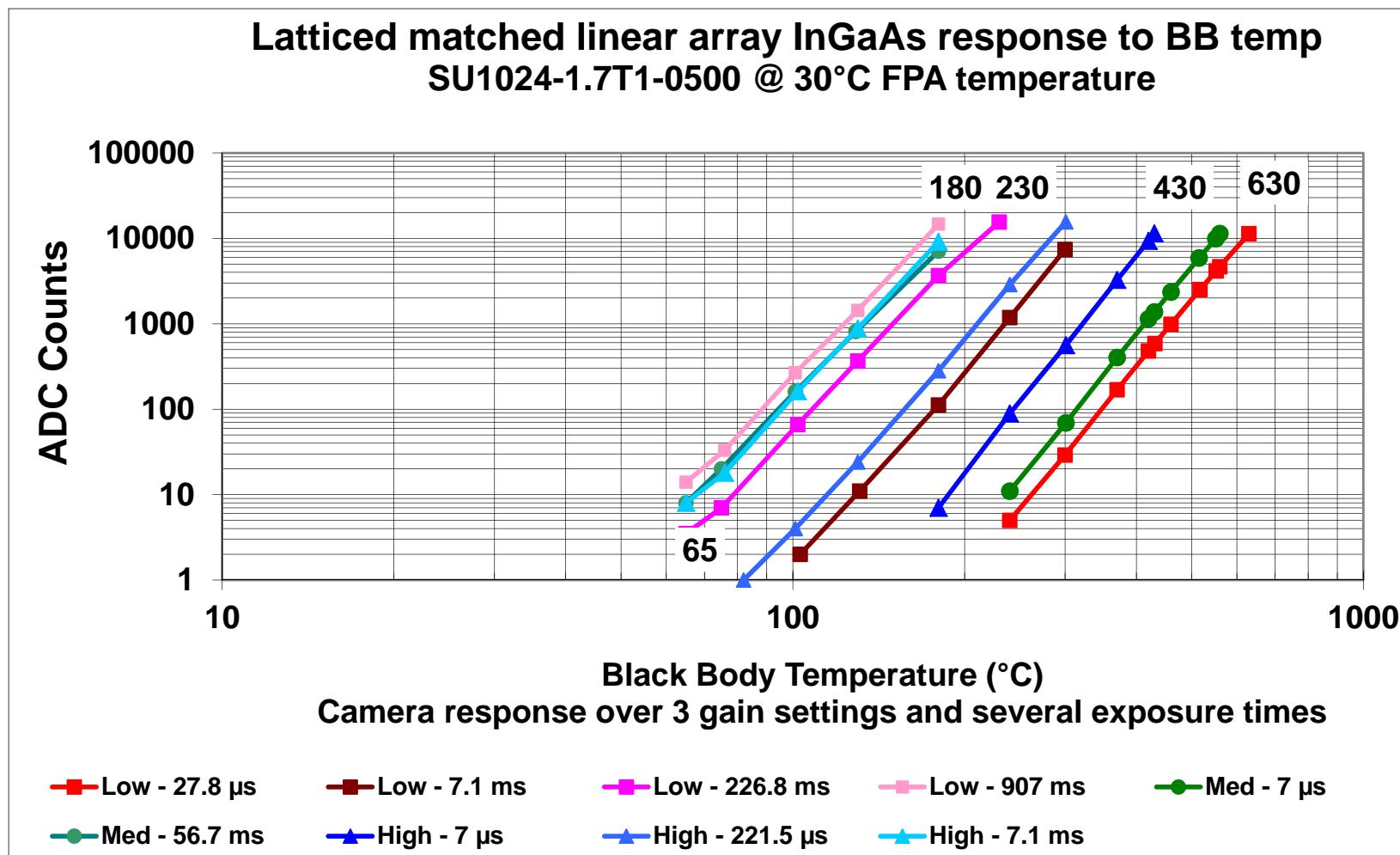
- Plastic Sorting
- Agricultural Sorting
- Fruit and Vegetable Inspection
- Seed Sorting



SUI line scan cameras



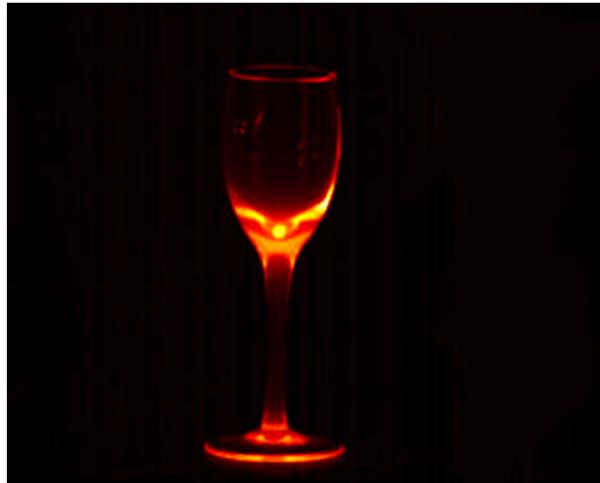
# Temperature Sensitivity



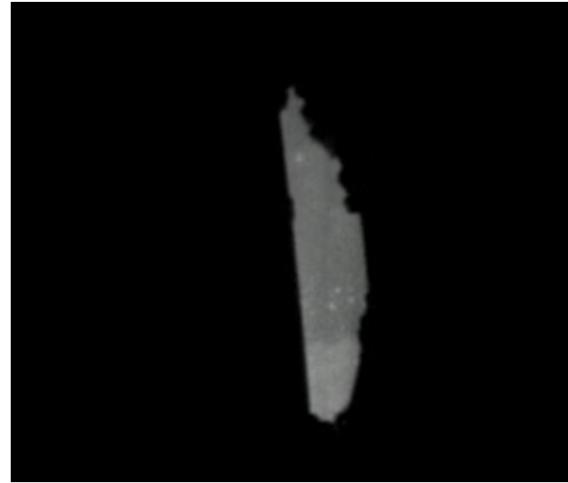
Lens at fixed f/1.4 aperture



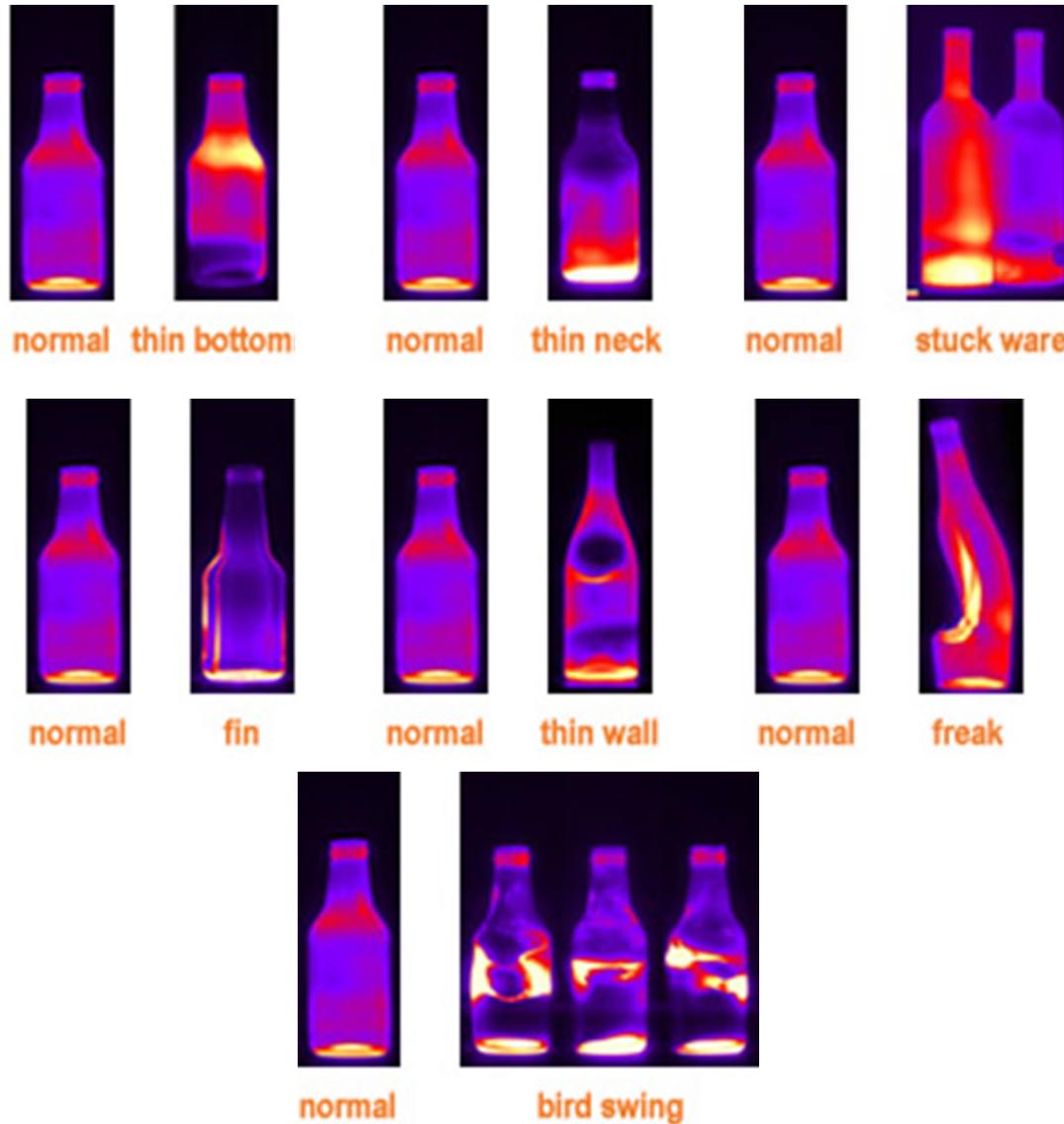
# Industrial Thermal Imaging



- Lattice matched InGaAs is useful for imaging thermal processes above 100°C
  - Too cold for silicon cameras
  - Glass is opaque at longer wavelengths
- Glass manufacturing
- Smelting of metals
- Furnace monitoring



# Hot Hollow Glass Mfg



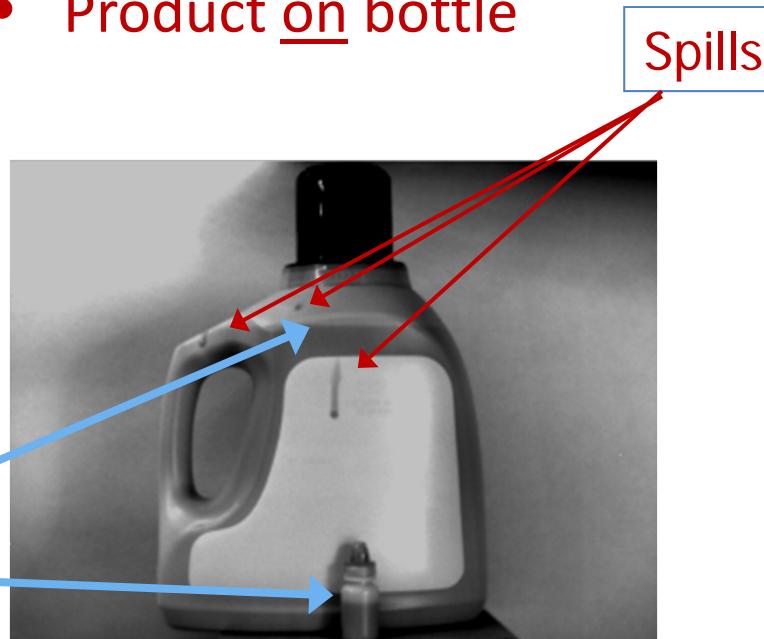
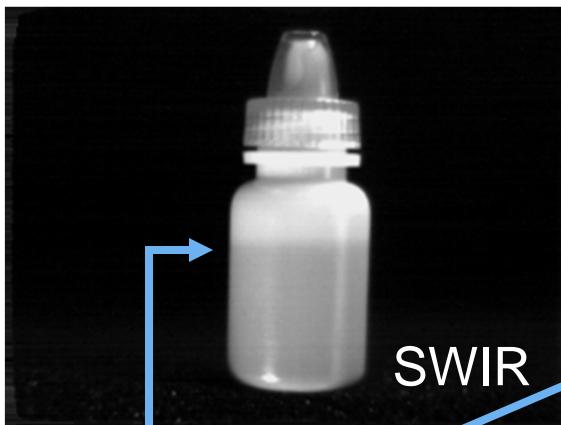
- Bottles placed on conveyor after molding
- SWIR images inside and outside
- Glass stringers difficult to image after cooled



# Inspection Applications

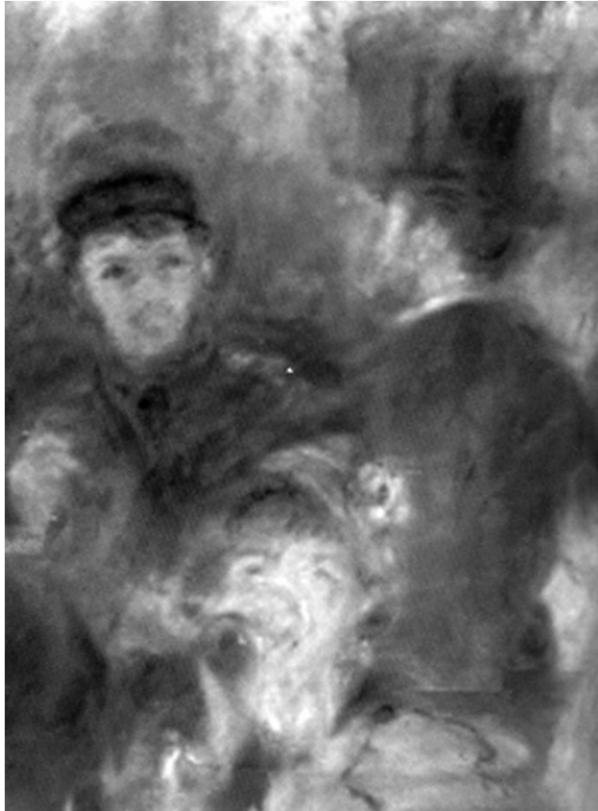


- Some plastics transmit SWIR light but are opaque to visible light
- Water based contents absorb in SWIR
- **Product in bottle**
- **Product on bottle**



# Imaging through Paint

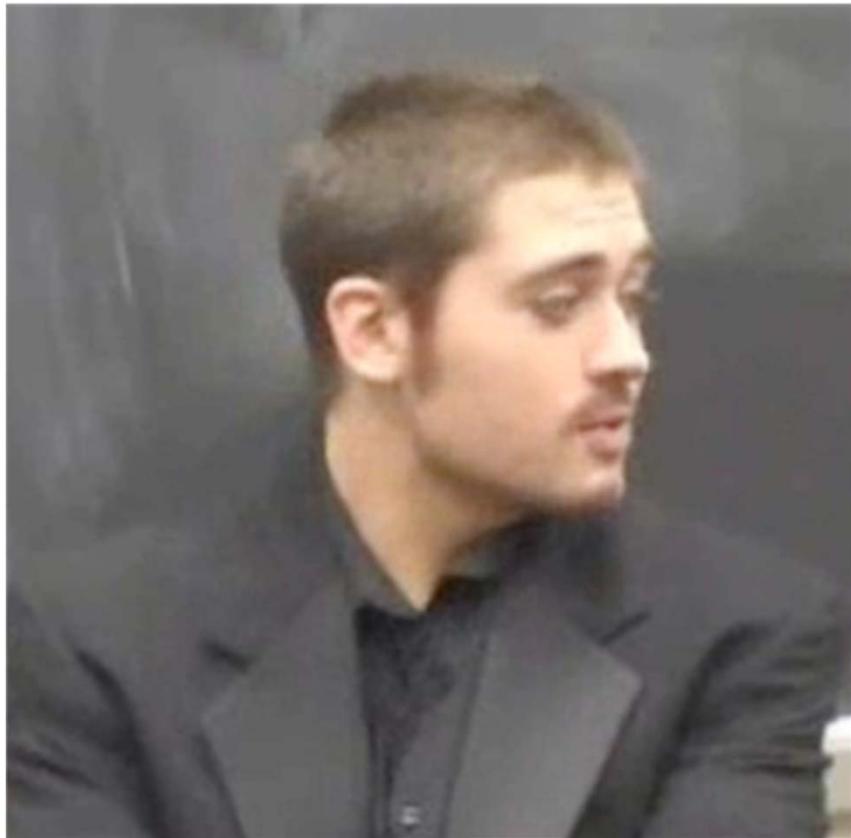
## Art Research and Restoration



Renoir's Luncheon of the Boating Party  
Courtesy of the Phillips Collection, Washington, DC



# SWIR Penetrates Disguises and Makeup

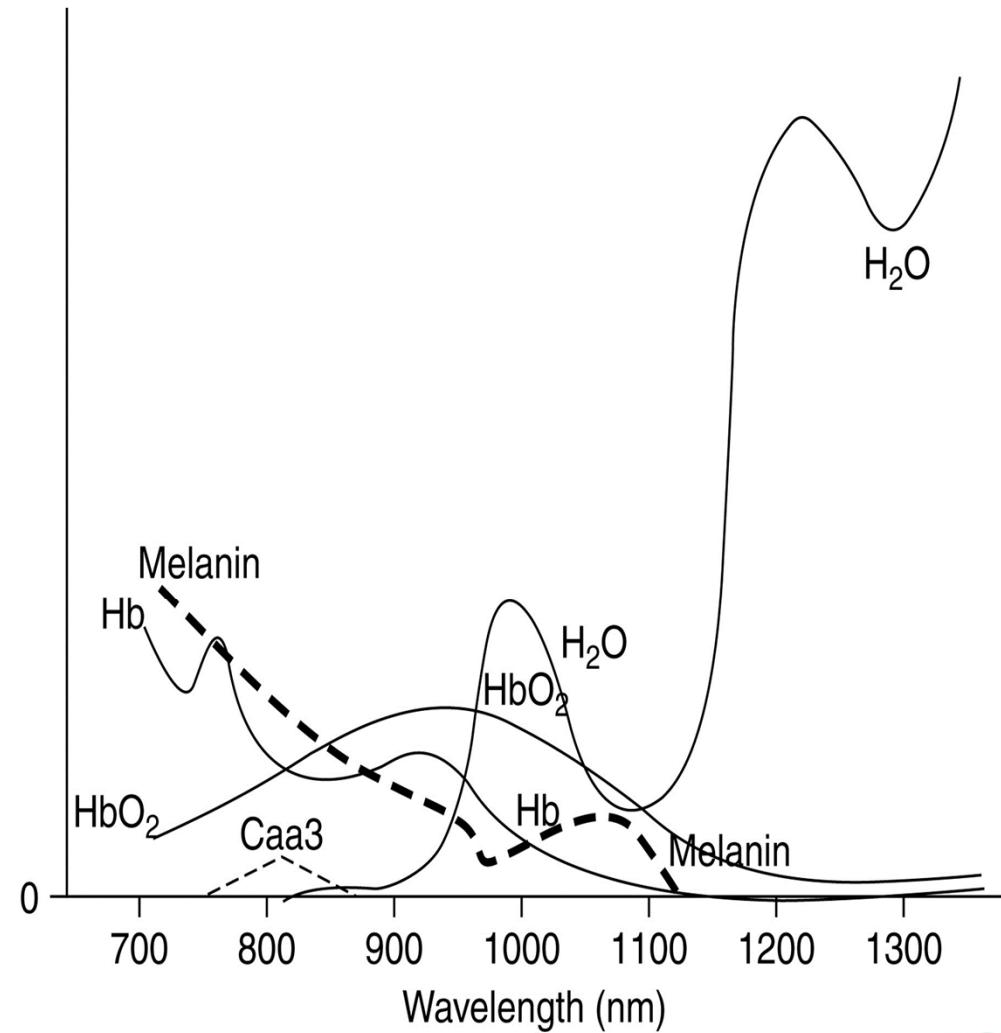


- The high reflectivity of natural hair makes it appear white
- Note the different materials in costume

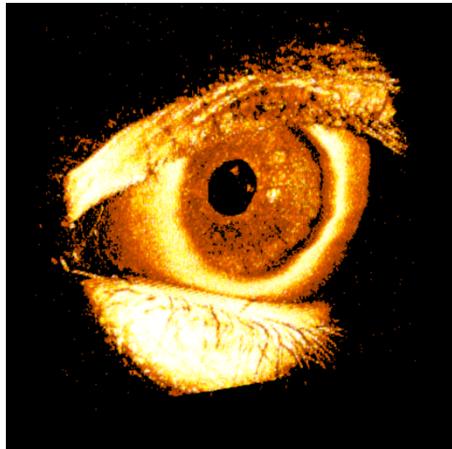


# NIR Therapeutic Windows

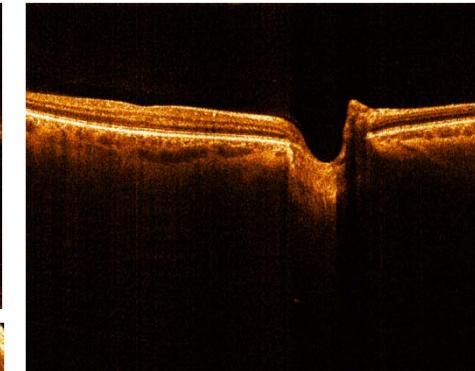
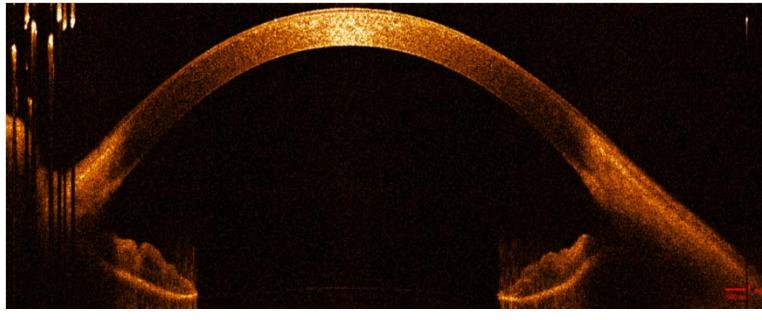
- Melanin in skin becomes transparent at 800 nm
- Water absorption has peaks at 980 and 1210, continues to rise logarithmically (shown x20 scale)
- Main windows:
  - 650 to 950 nm
  - 1000 to 1150 nm
  - 1250 to 1400 nm



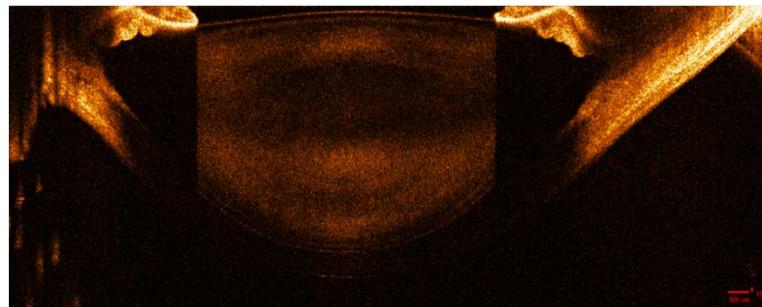
# Optical Coherence Tomography



Above and center  
8 mm image depth  
13  $\mu\text{m}$  axial resolution  
1310  $\mu\text{m}$  center wavelength



Above: retinal  
6.3 mm image depth  
11  $\mu\text{m}$  axial resolution  
1070  $\mu\text{m}$  center wavelength



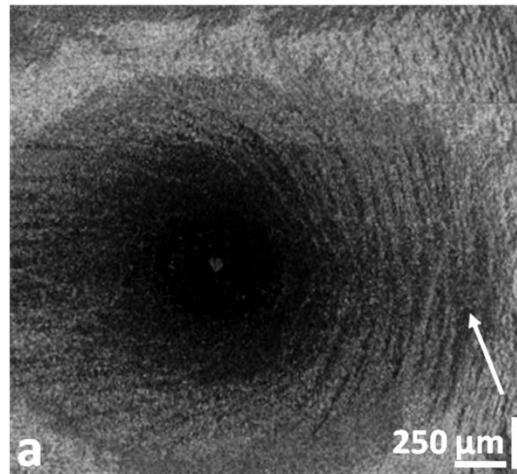
Top: from cornea to iris;  
Below: lens and folded over cornea image

- Uses backscattered photons to capture structure versus depth
- Applications in the eye, blood vessels, throat, teeth, integrated circuits, composites
- High speed line scan cameras enable 3-D imaging in a blink

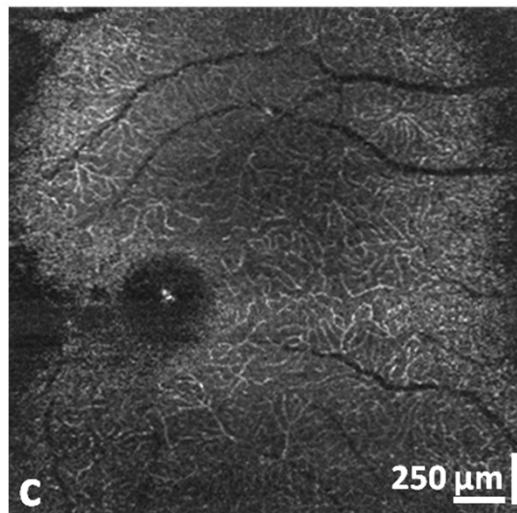


# 1060nm UHROCT of the Human Retina

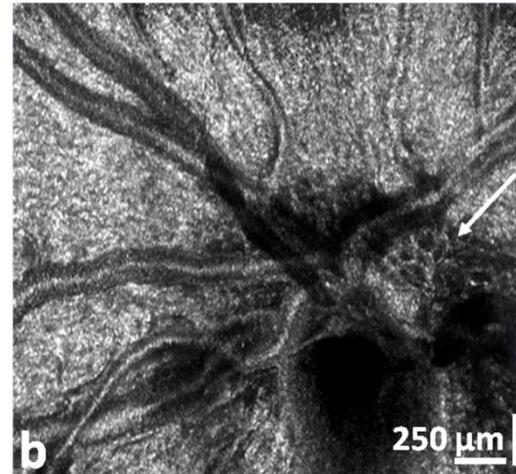
Healthy retina  
showing nerve  
fiber bundles  
(en-face)



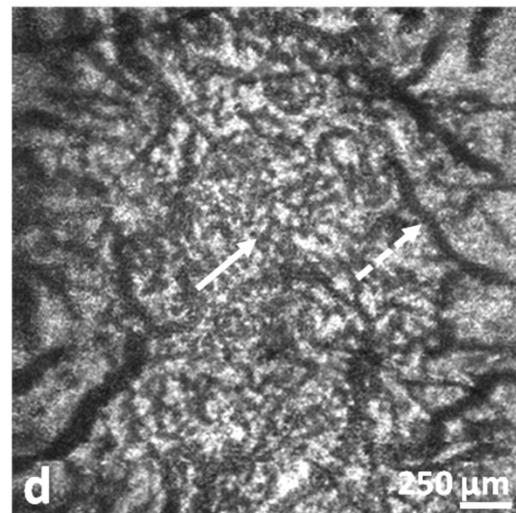
Capillary  
network in ON  
Head  
(en-face)



Optical Nerve  
Head showing  
arteries & veins  
(en-face)

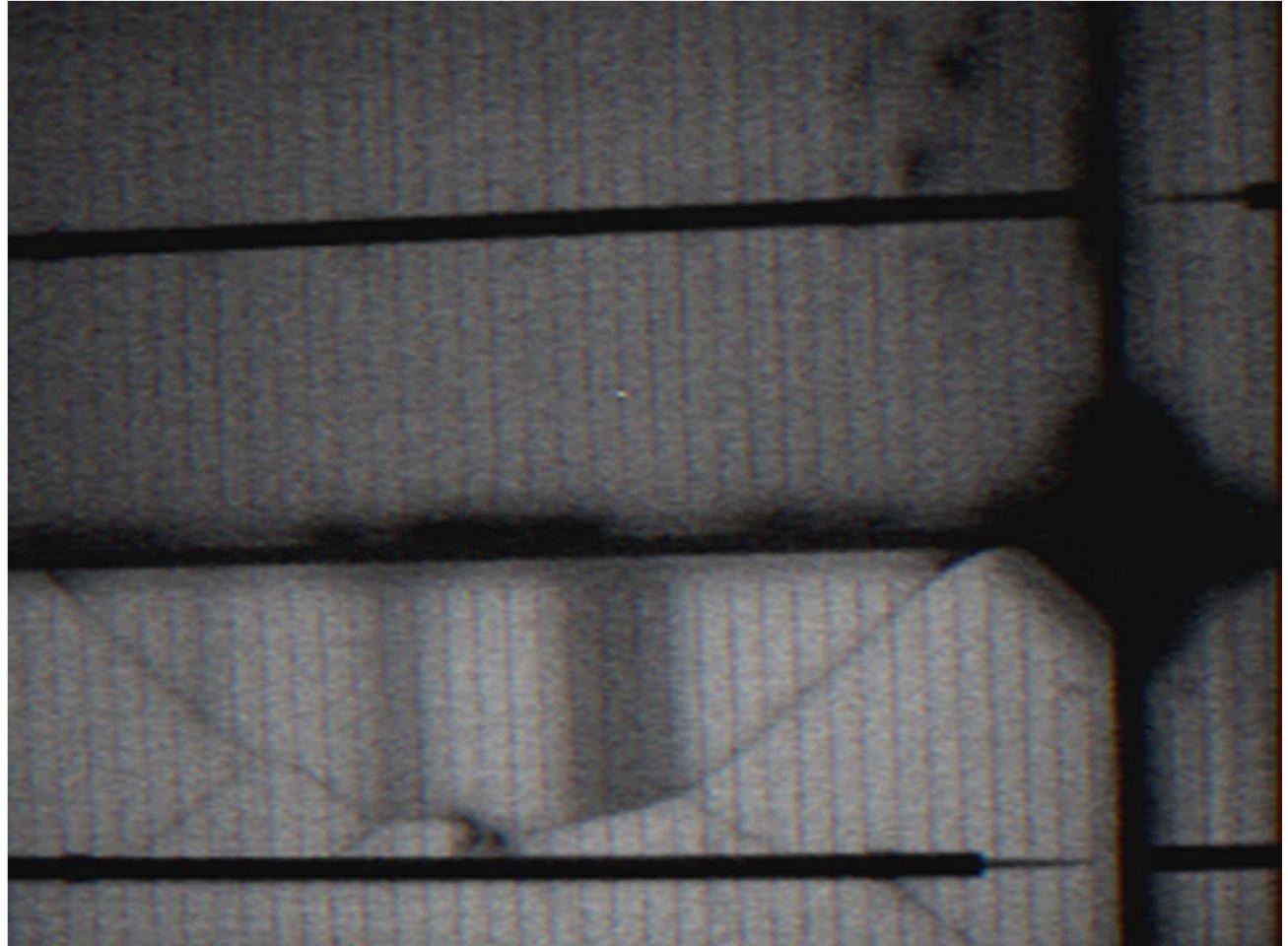


Chorio-  
capillaries  
network  
(deeper image  
at edges shows  
larger vessels)

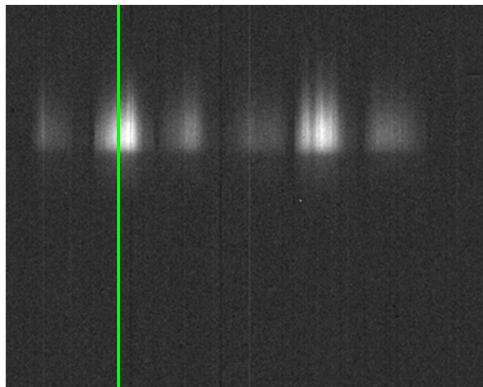


# Electroluminescence: Panels

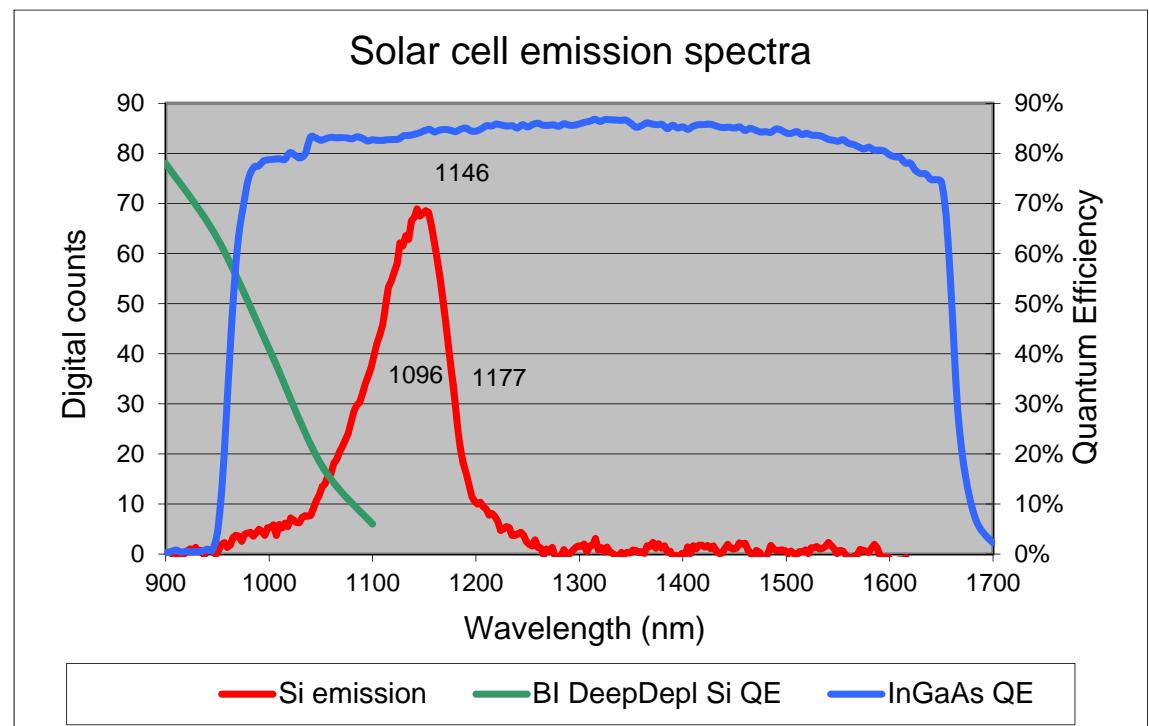
- Commercial panel
- Cracks and non-uniformities revealed
- Bias of 18.3 V at 2.8 A
- Close up of cracked cell shows cracks, dead regions, and defects on the upper cell



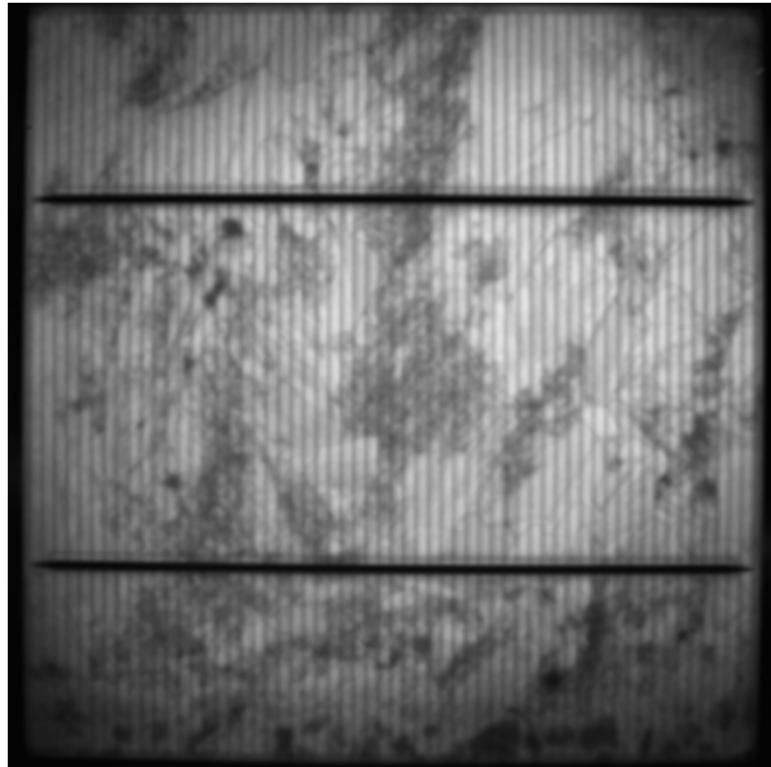
# Si Electroluminescence



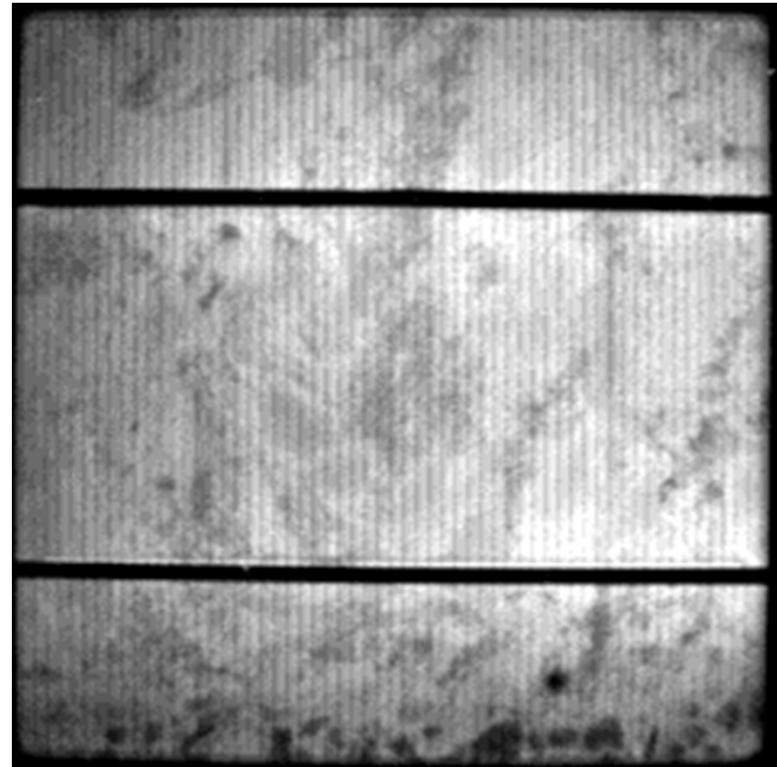
- Imaging spectrograph of 2nd cell on lower row of cells
- Emission at bandgap of silicon
- Spread (width) indicates structure is not pure monocrystalline



# Photoluminescence Inspection Finished Cell



**PL - SWIR 16 ms exposure time**



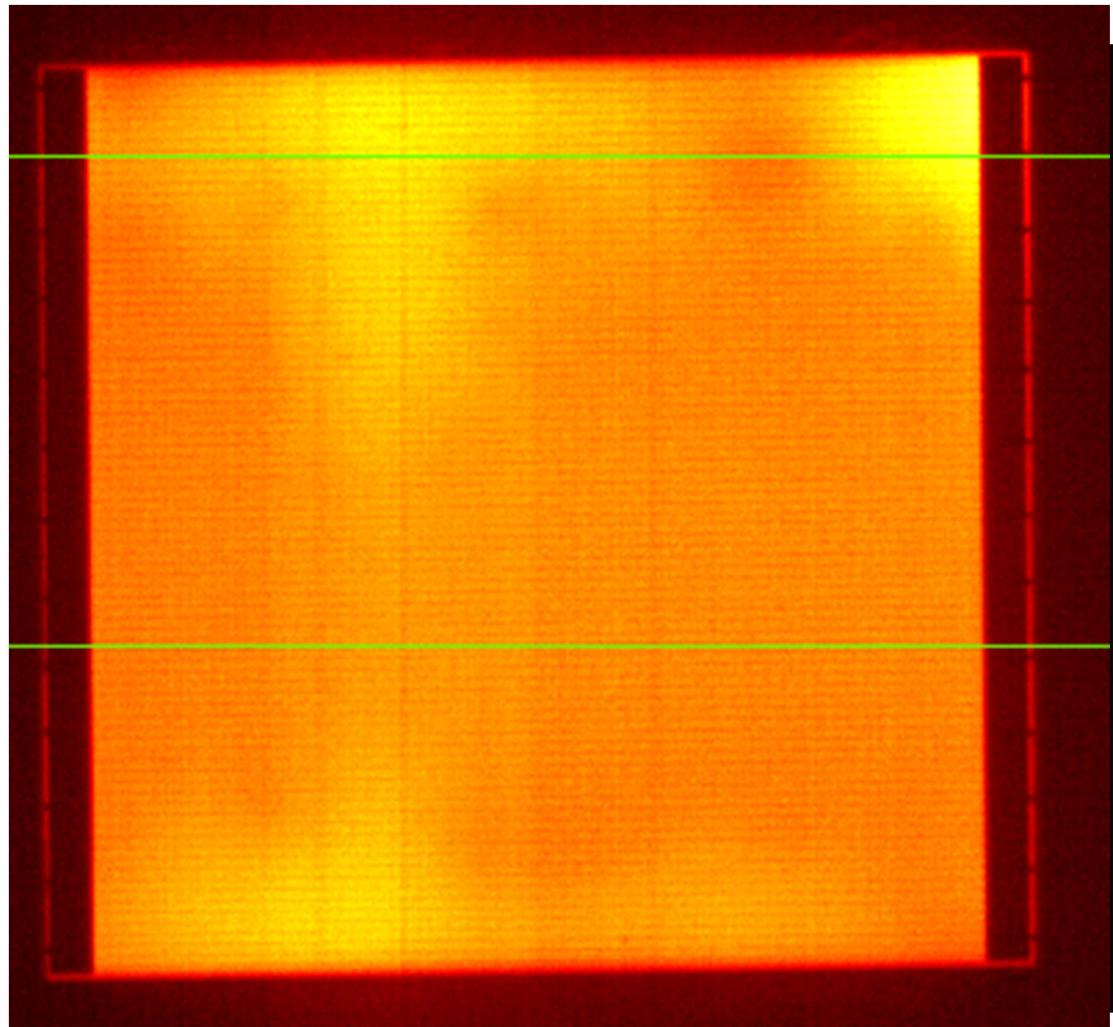
**PL - Silicon BI CCD – 1 second ET  
EL w/1.5 V bias – SWIR 16 ms**

- Flood illuminated with ~30 W of diffuse laser light at 810 nm
- Filtered with 1000 nm long pass filter – 1 for SWIR, 3 for CCD
- PL is non-contact; EL requires electrical connections



# Multi-spectral Triple Junction EL Inspection

- Three layers, each with own luminescence:
  - GaInP @ 700 nm
  - **InGaAs @ 940 nm**
  - Ge @ 1550-1800 nm
- Top layer shows more point defects than other layers
- Some appear in all three
  - likely surface dig or dust
- Uniformity similar but different for each layer
- Line scan camera

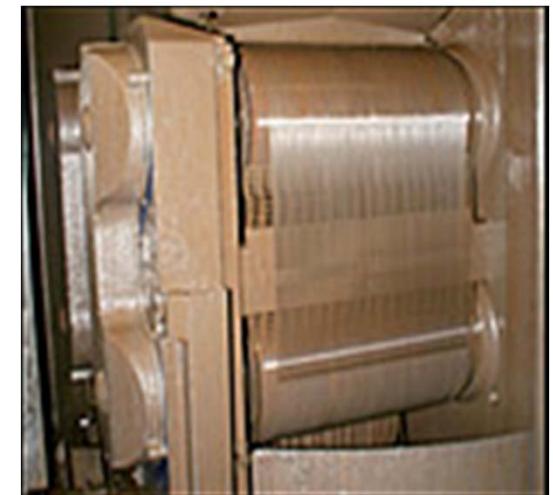


# Imaging through Silicon Bricks, Ingots

How pure is your material?

*Who will do the inspection?*

*Raw material producer or cell manufacturer?*



Eliminate the waste prior to the slicing and dicing process!



# Imaging through Silicon Bricks, Ingots

High Quality Silicon Brick cut from larger ingot and polished on one face



Rotated  
polished side  
to camera:  
sharper image

Maglite flashlight 36" from  
backside of the block. AF Chart  
against backside of block.



6"x6"x10" Brick



# SWIR Summary

- The short wave infrared covers the wavelength range from 0.7 to 2.5 microns
- InGaAs detectors cover much of this range, enabling small cameras with low power and weight because of high sensitivity at room temperature for SUI process
- Imaging in the SWIR is different from visible imaging due to differences in optical scattering, and spectral absorbance
- Imaging in the MWIR and LWIR is different from SWIR in that the thermal emission of objects dominate the scene, rather than reflection of ambient light
- SWIR machine vision inspection applications help to:
  - see ‘invisible’ transparent coatings,
  - see through opaque coatings,
  - see through silicon,
  - sort materials, agricultural products, and pharmaceutical chemicals
  - Align and monitor the telecommunications network



# Contact Information



**UTC Aerospace Systems**

## **Douglas Malchow**

Manager, Industrial Business  
Development

## **Sensors Unlimited, Inc.**

3490 US Route 1, Building 12  
Princeton, New Jersey  
USA

Phone: (609) 524-0249

Email: [doug.malchow@utas.utc.com](mailto:doug.malchow@utas.utc.com)

[www.sensorsinc.com](http://www.sensorsinc.com)

