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# CSC320H: Intro to Visual Computing

## Lecture 2

# Good to know

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A1 is now due Monday Jan 27 (midnight)

- Check grace-day lateness policy (ask me about it if unclear)
- Check academic honesty section of the course info sheet (this is very important stuff, better know now than to be sorry later!).

Please come to my office hours.

- You're welcome to come only to say hi, but it's great if you ask questions... there's never a bad one!

Slides are password now password protected. Same as the assignments. (usr: visual, pwd: computation)

# Today's Topics

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2. Color

3. Image matting

1. High Dynamic Photography

# Topic 2:

## Color

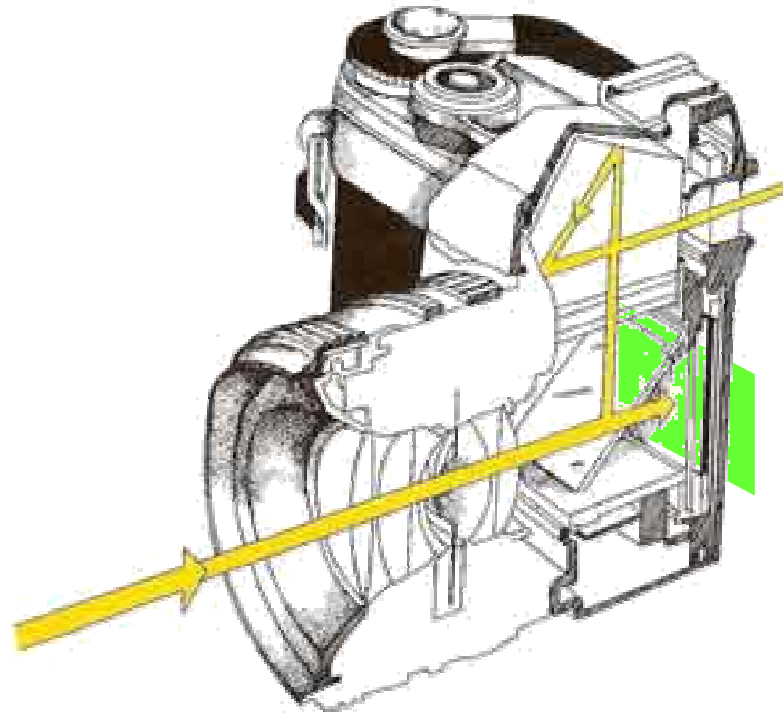
- The spectral power distribution function
- Color image sensors



# Image Acquisition

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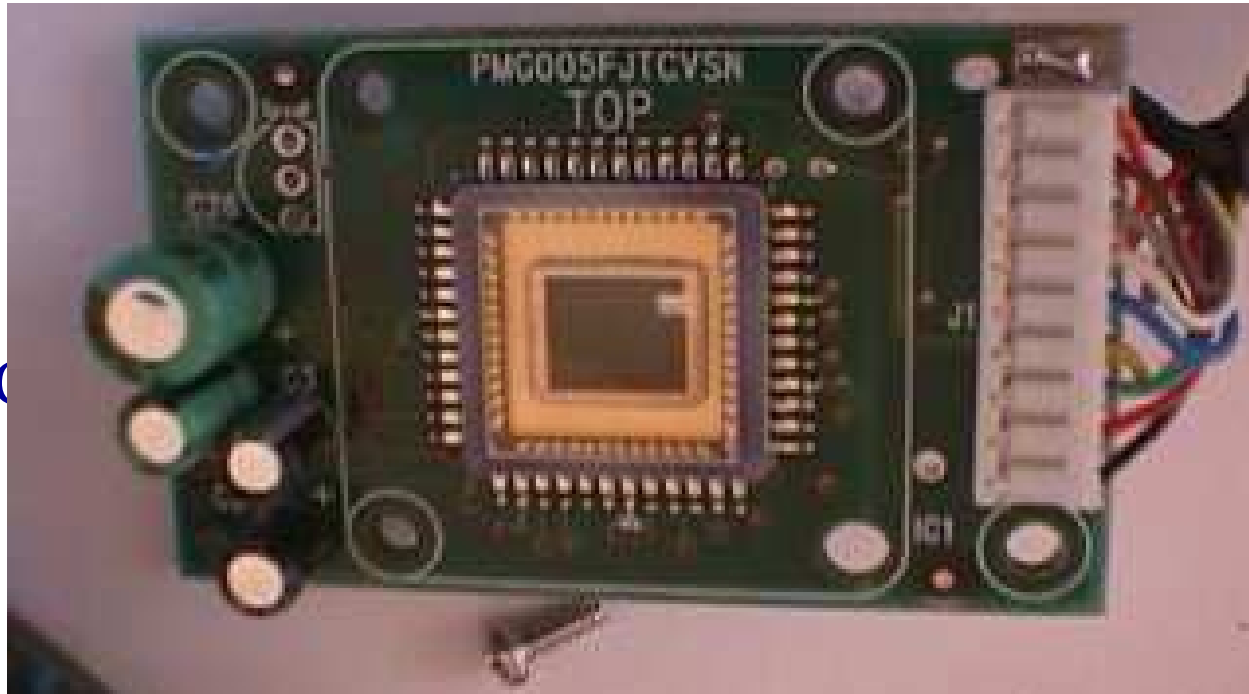
- Light goes through a lens and onto the sensor



# Image Acquisition: B&W Cameras

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- Image sensors: 2-dimensional array of photo-sensitive cells, each corresponding to one pixel

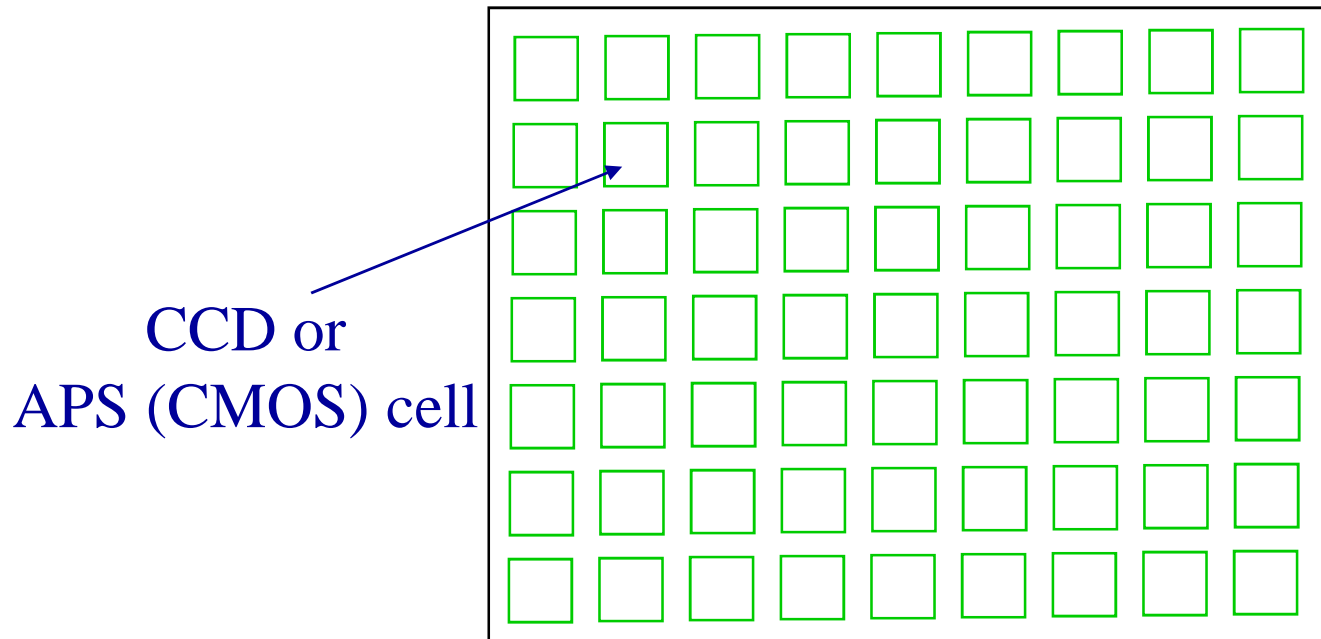


- Light falling onto cell footprint causes generation of voltage that depends on intensity of incident light
- Voltage reading converted to digital signal within a sensor-specific range (usually an 8-, 10- or 14-bit number)

# Image Acquisition: B&W Cameras

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# Image Acquisition: B&W Cameras

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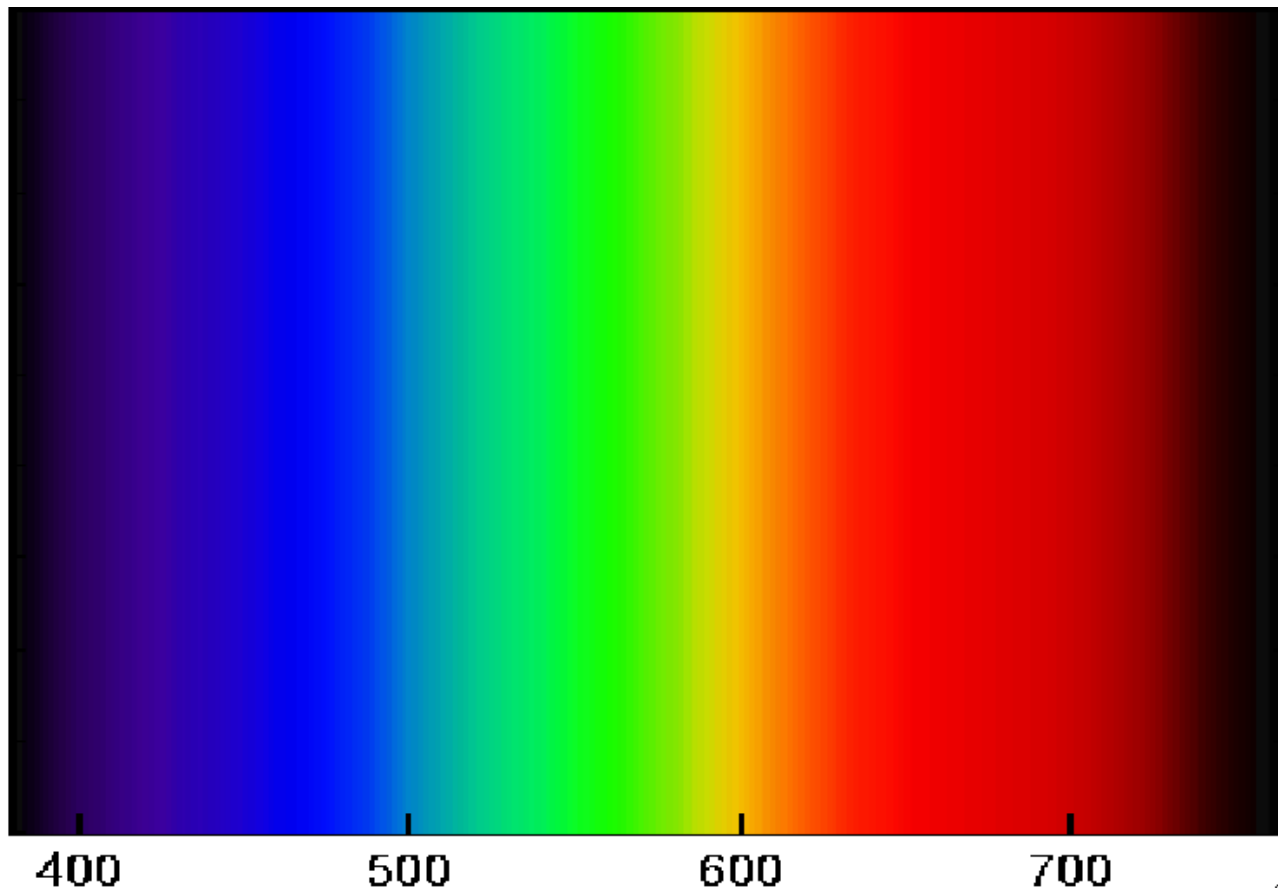


- Light falling onto cell footprint causes generation of voltage that depends on intensity of incident light
- Voltage reading converted to digital signal within a sensor-specific range (usually an 8-, 10- or 14-bit number)

# Color

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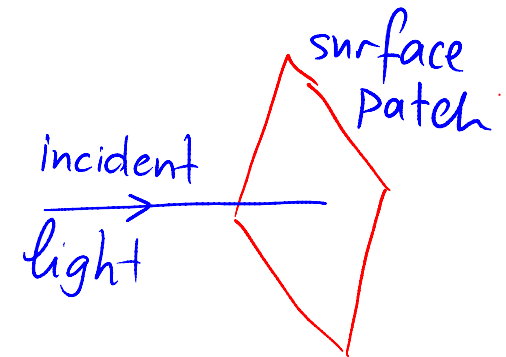
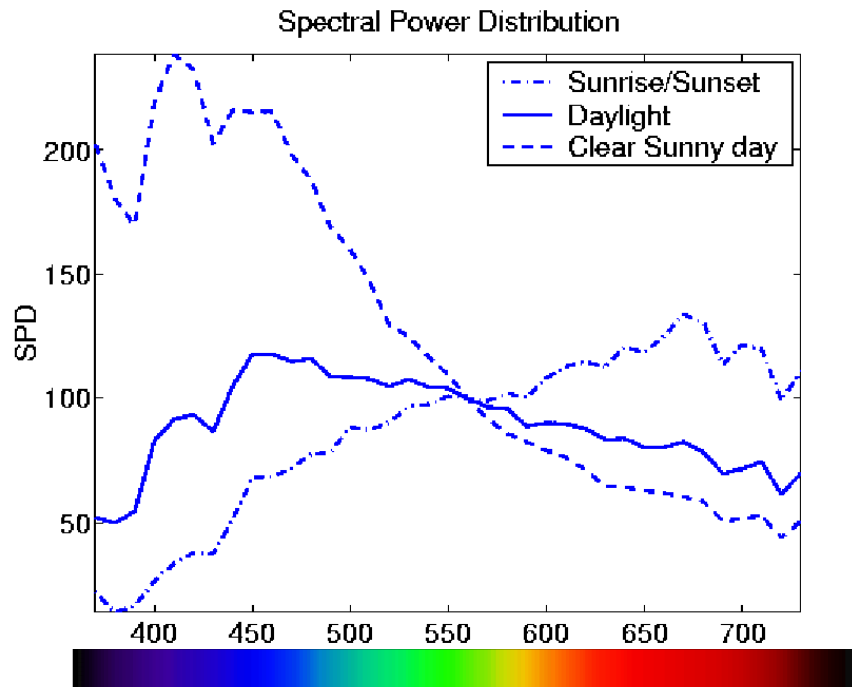
- The visible spectrum of light corresponds to wavelengths roughly from 400 to 700nm



(adapted from CS320 notes, Jepson, 2005)

# Color

- We describe light in terms of the power present at each wavelength in the visible spectrum,  $I(\lambda)$
- $I(\lambda)$  is called the spectral power distribution (SPD). It is measured in units of Watts per unit wavelength per unit cross-sectional area ( $\text{m}^2$ )



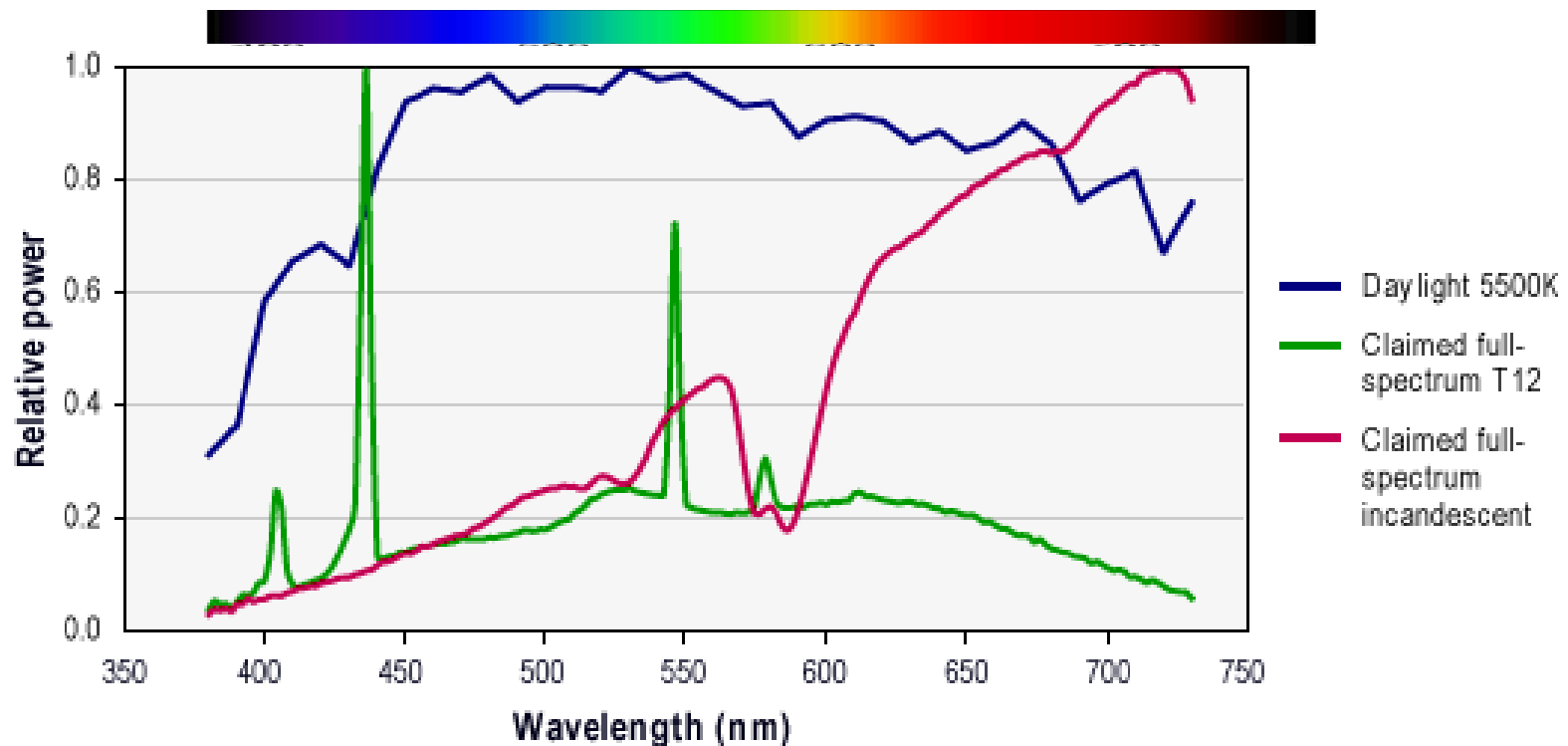
$I(\lambda)$  measures energy/sec flowing through the cross-section per  $\text{m}^2$

(adapted from CS320 notes, Jepson, 2005)

# Spectral Power Distribution

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- Are “full-spectrum” light sources close to “natural” day light?

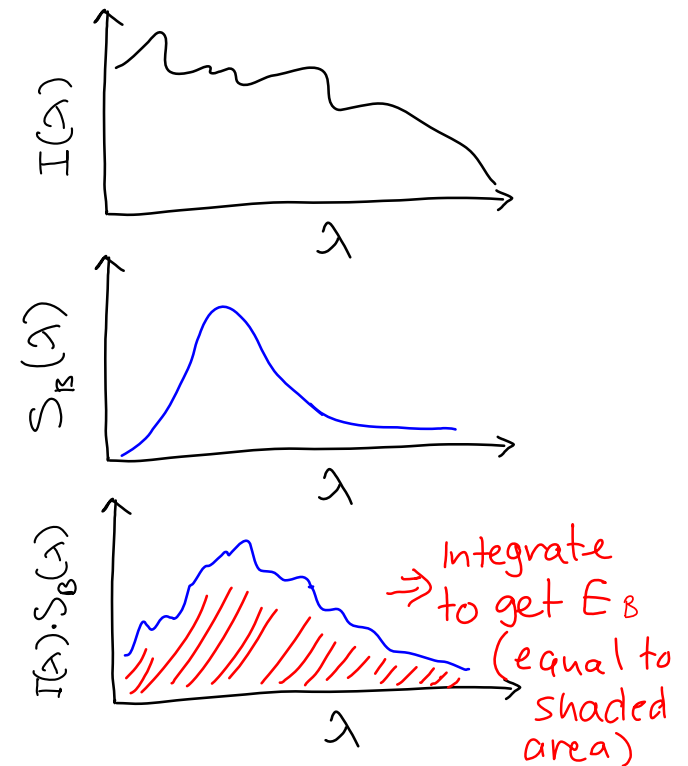
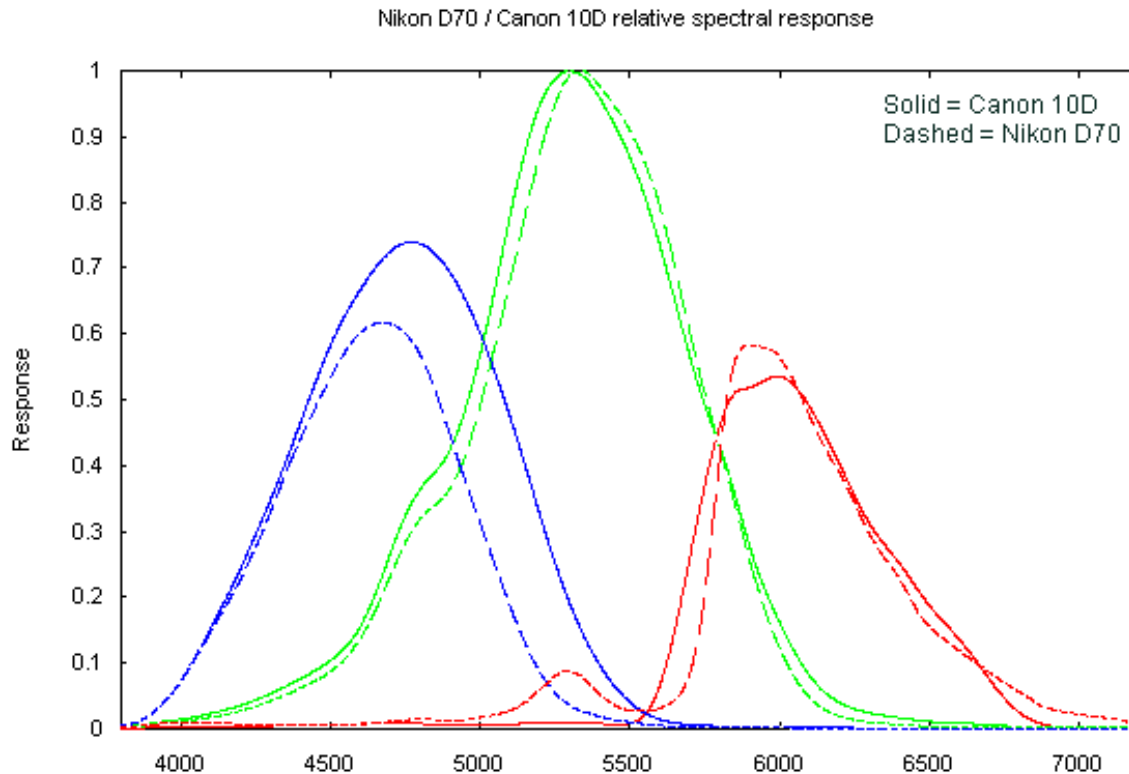


(from <http://www.lrc.rpi.edu/programs/nlpip/lightinganswers/fullspectrum/lightSources.asp>)

# Sensor irradiance

- Visual cells (cones) respond as a function of the energy absorbed. This energy, per unit time (i.e., sensor irradiance) is given by:

$$E_{\psi} = \int_0^{\infty} I(\lambda) \cdot S_{\psi}(\lambda) d\lambda \quad \text{for } \psi = R, G, B$$



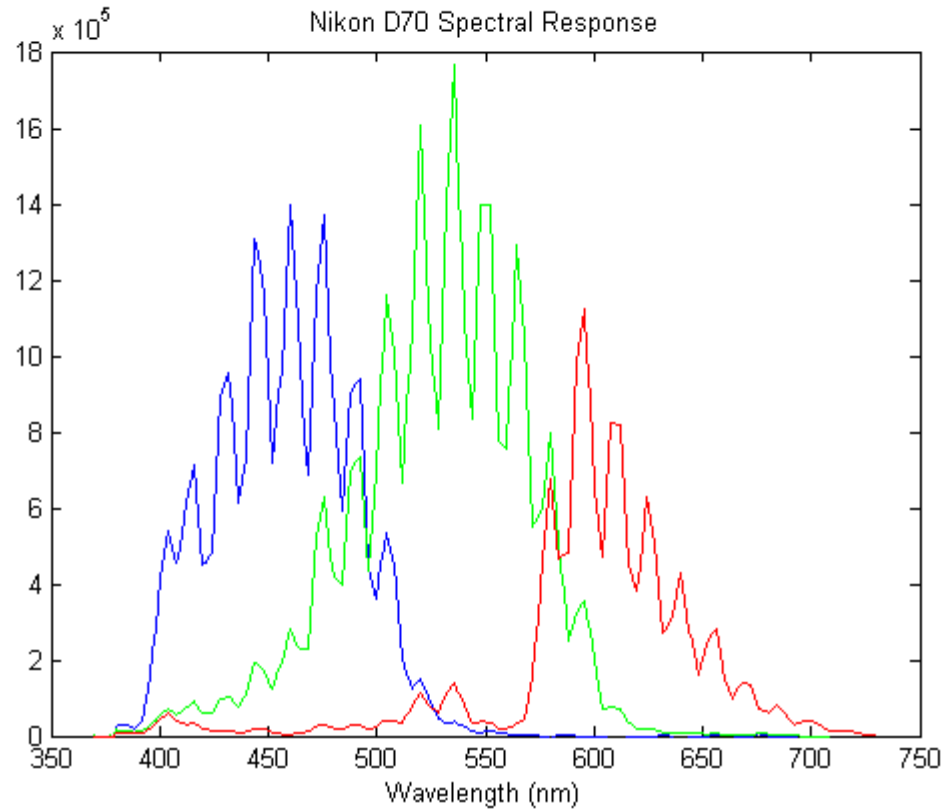
From: [astrosurf.com/buil/d70v10d/eval.htm](http://astrosurf.com/buil/d70v10d/eval.htm)



# Color Image Acquisition

- The same is true for electronic image sensors: sensor irradiance is given by

$$E_{\psi} = \int_0^{\infty} I(\lambda) \cdot S_{\psi}(\lambda) d\lambda \quad \text{for } \psi = R, G, B$$

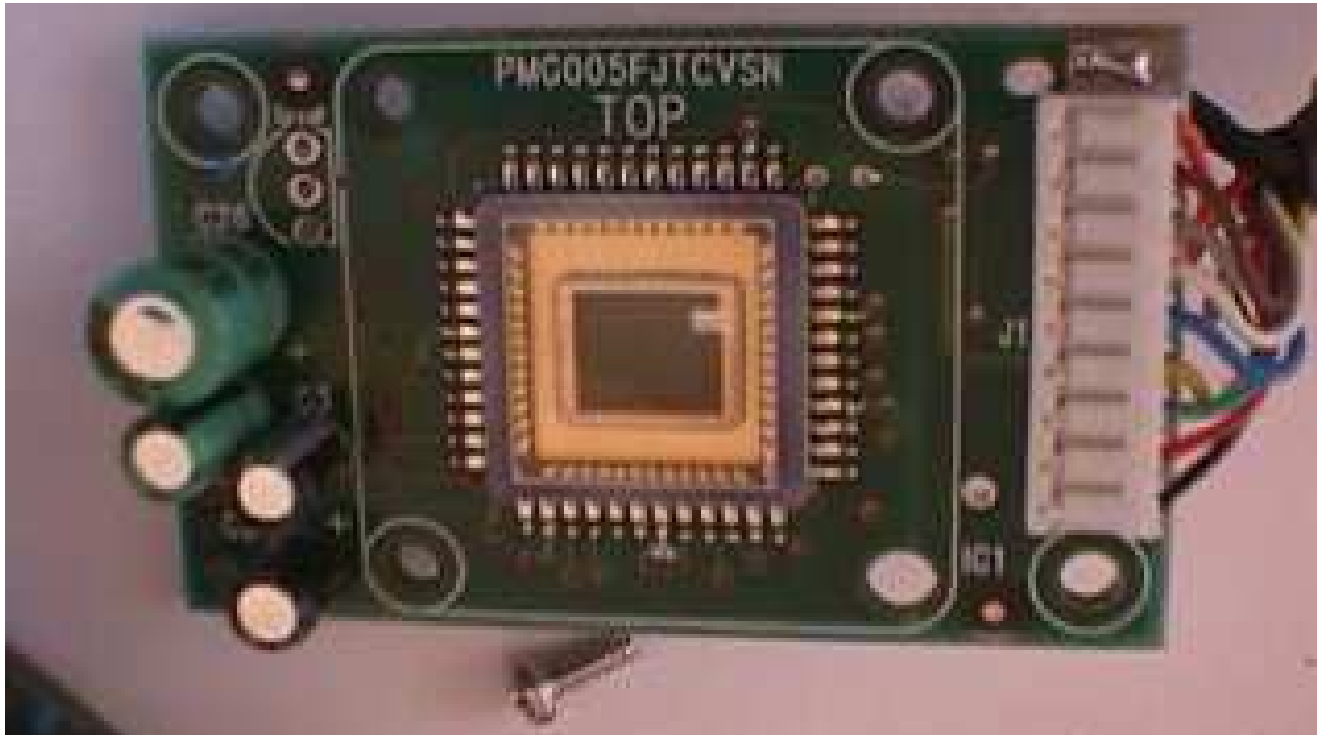


(from [http://scien.stanford.edu/pages/labsite/200//psych221/projects/0//camera\\_characterization/spectral\\_sensitivity.html](http://scien.stanford.edu/pages/labsite/200//psych221/projects/0//camera_characterization/spectral_sensitivity.html))

# Image Acquisition: Color Cameras?

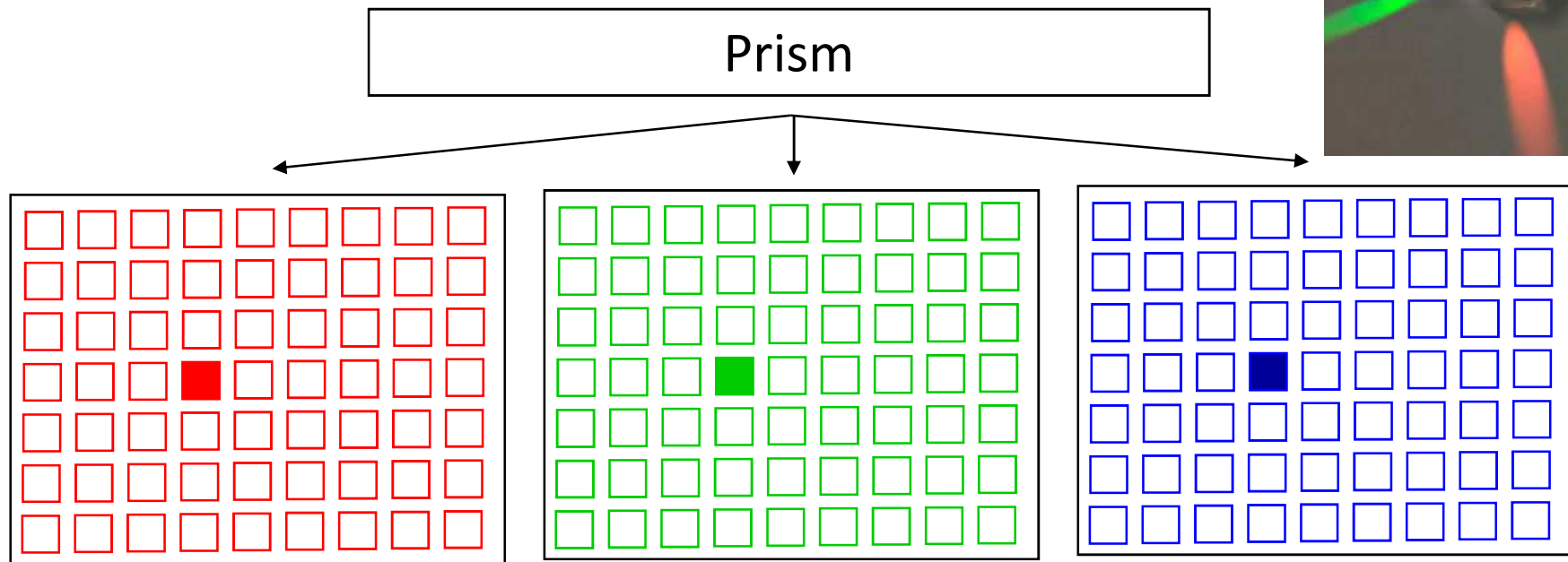
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- Imaging sensor: 2-dimensional array of photo-sensitive cells, each corresponding to one pixel



# Image Acquisition: Color Cameras

- Solution #1: 3-chip color cameras

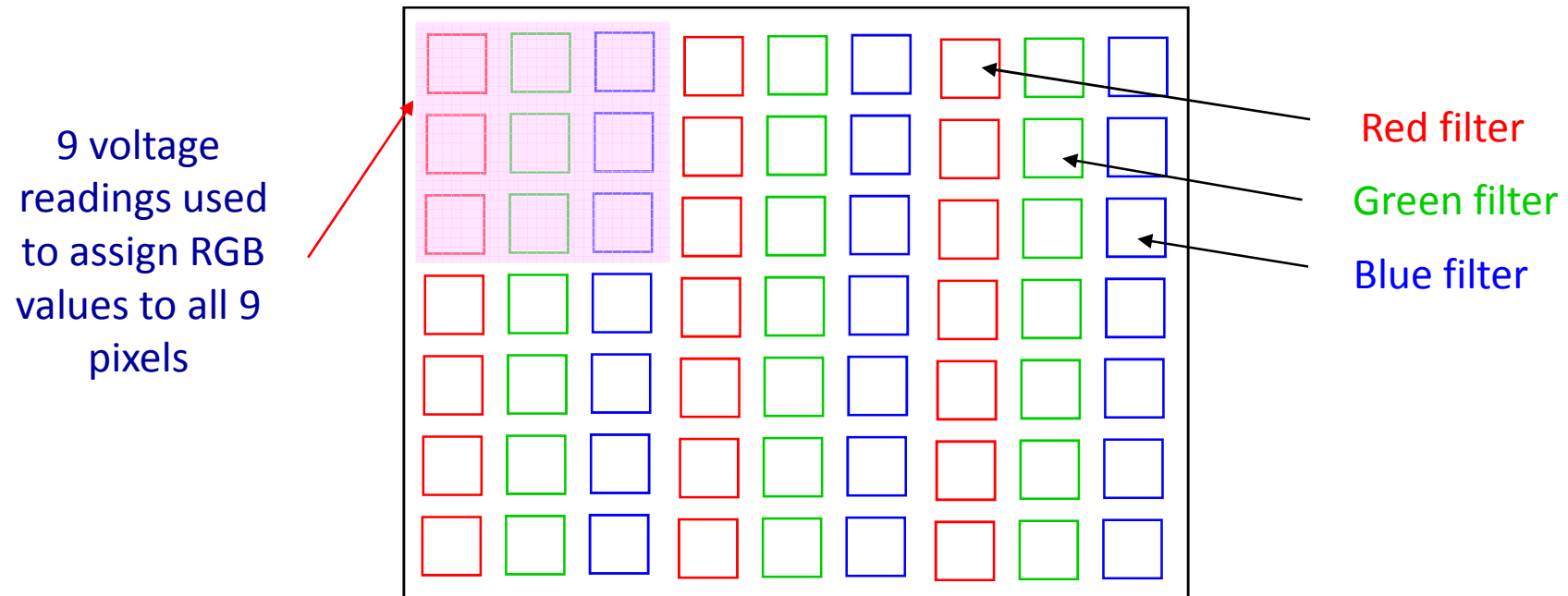


- $N \times M$  color images generated by 3  $N \times M$  sensor arrays
- Each array covered by single color filter (R, G, or B)
- R,G,B color of a pixel corresponds to color of light falling precisely at a single position of the sensor array(s)
- Prism & sensor arrays must be aligned very carefully

# Image Acquisition: Color Cameras

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- Solution #2: Single-chip color cameras

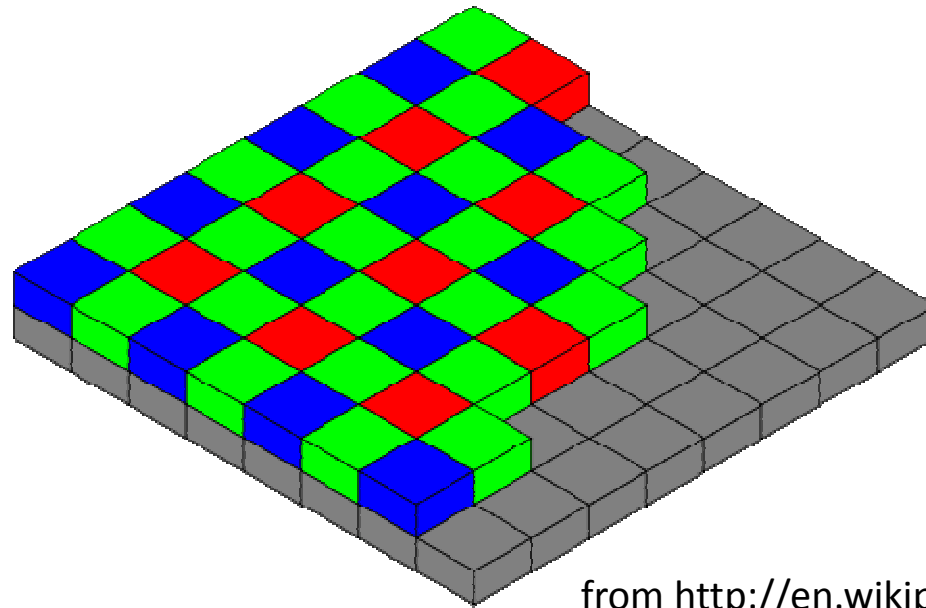


- 3-filter “mask” placed on top of sensor array, each permitting only red, green, or blue light to go through
- **Interpolation algorithms** assign 3-band colors to **every** pixel
- The process is called **de-mosaicing**
- Result: NxM color image from an NxM sensor array

# Image Acquisition: Color Cameras

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- Solution #2: Single-chip color cameras



from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demosaicing>

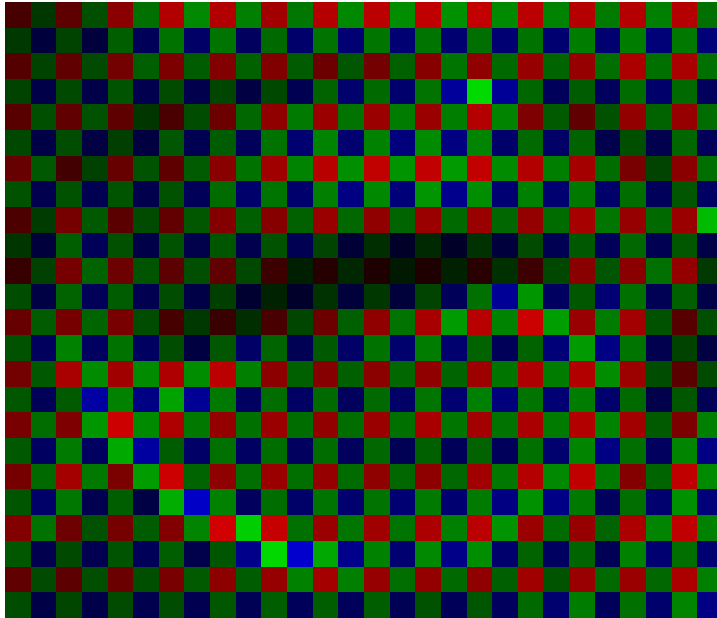
Bayern pattern

- In practice the R,G,B filters are laid out in a more complex pattern than just column-wise
- Usually there are more G filters than R or B filters

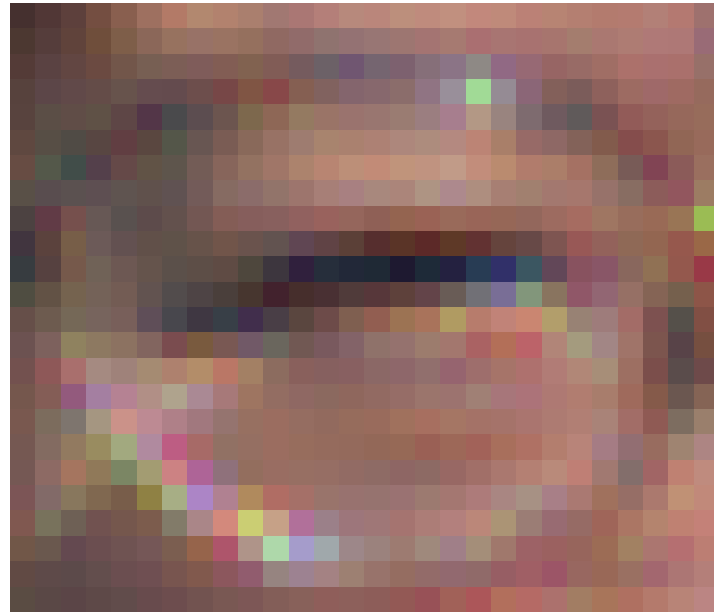
# Image Acquisition: Color Cameras

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- Solution #2: Single-chip color cameras



Raw sensor image

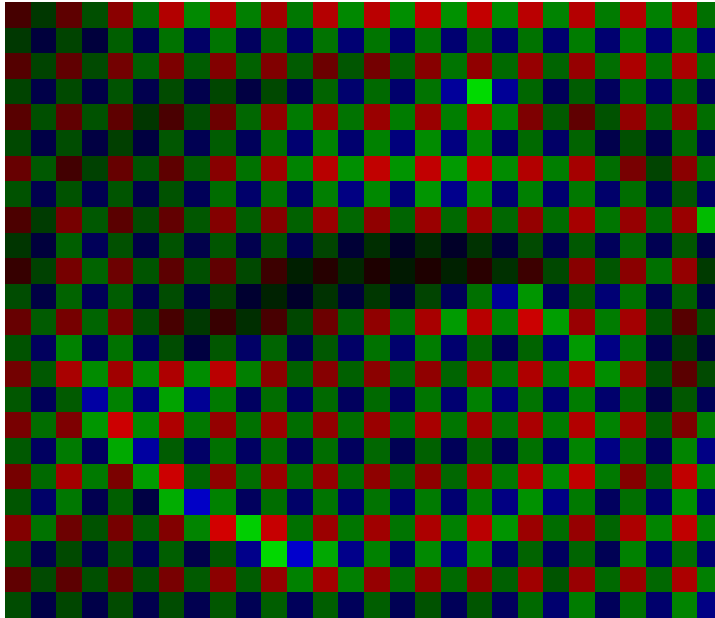


Demosaicing via Linear interpolation

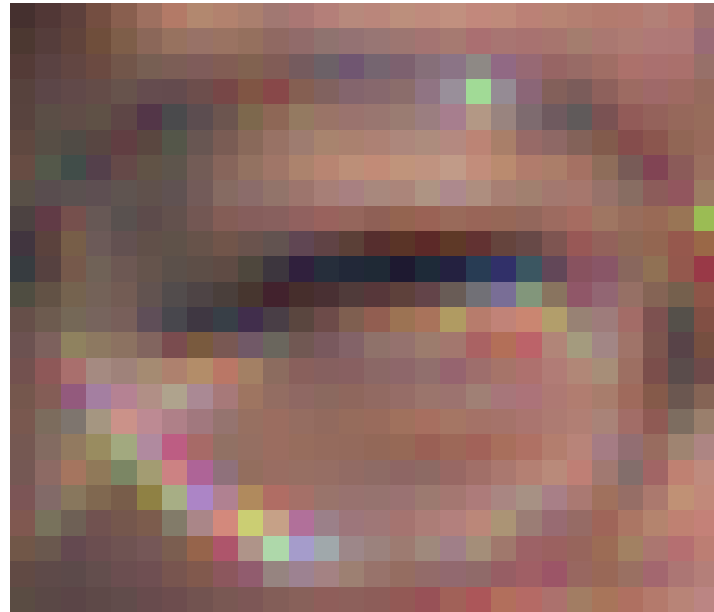
# Image Acquisition: Color Cameras

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- Solution #2: Single-chip color cameras



Raw sensor image



Demosaicing

Almost every modern camera can output 'raw' images.

'dcraw' is an open source program that reads most 'raw' formats

# RAW vs. Developed color images

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A color image after “developing” demosaicing + intensity mapping





# RAW vs. Developed color images

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- The color image before “developing” (linear RAW image)



# RAW vs. Developed color images

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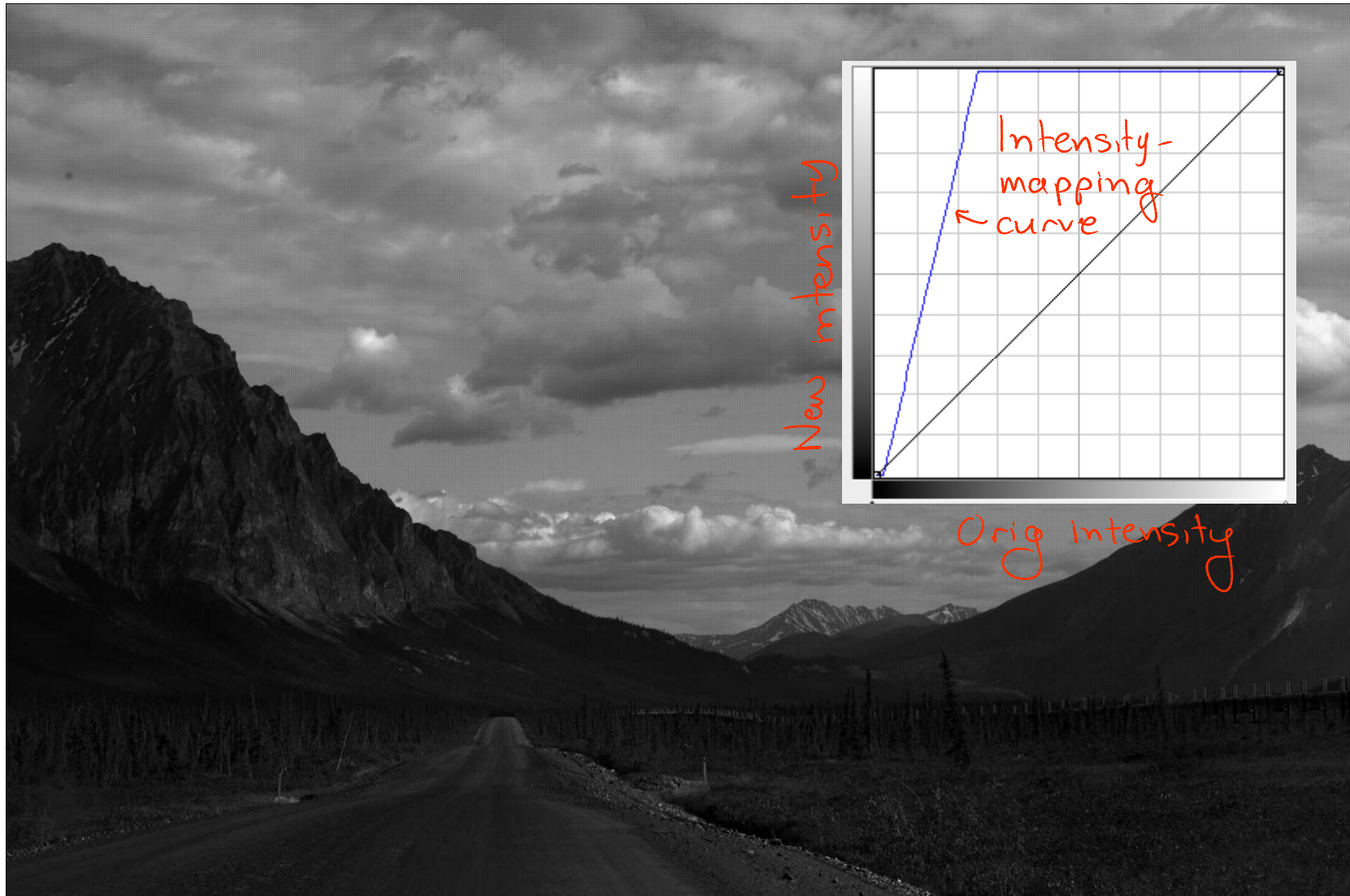
- The color image before “developing” (contrast-enhanced)



# RAW vs. Developed color images

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- The color image before “developing” (contrast-enhanced)

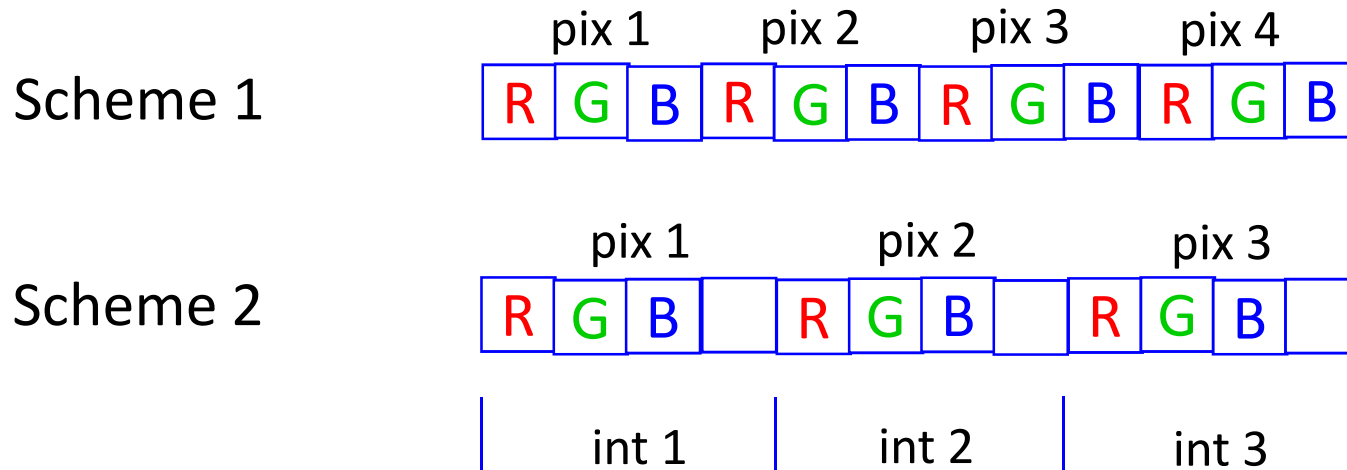


# Computational Considerations

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Suppose we allocate 1 byte per color component per pixel

Consider the following two image storage schemes:



Q: Is one scheme computationally faster?

Ans: Scheme 2 is often faster because pixels are aligned at 4-byte (i.e., integer) boundaries

# Topic 3:

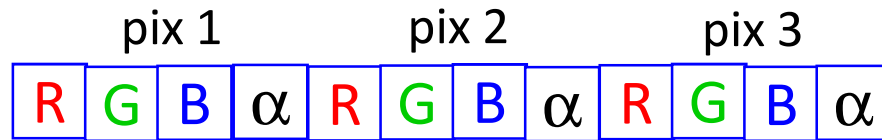
## Image Matting

- The pixel alpha component
- The Matting Equation
- Four solutions to the Matting Equation
- The Triangulation Matting algorithm

# The Alpha Pixel Component

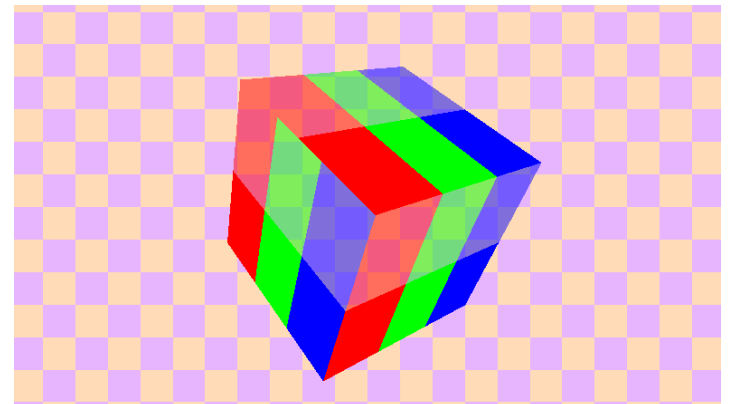
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Frequently in computer graphics, pixels are assumed to have 4 rather than 3 components



- The 4th component is called the alpha component
  - usually assumed to have fractional values between 0 & 1
  - when represented as 1 byte, carries the values  $\alpha=0/255, 1/255, \dots, 254/255, 255/255$
  - defines pixel 'transparency'

$$\begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha R \\ \alpha G \\ \alpha B \end{bmatrix}$$





## Image Matting

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Image Matting is typically used to merge graphics with real images (or with more computer graphics)



Technology has many applications:

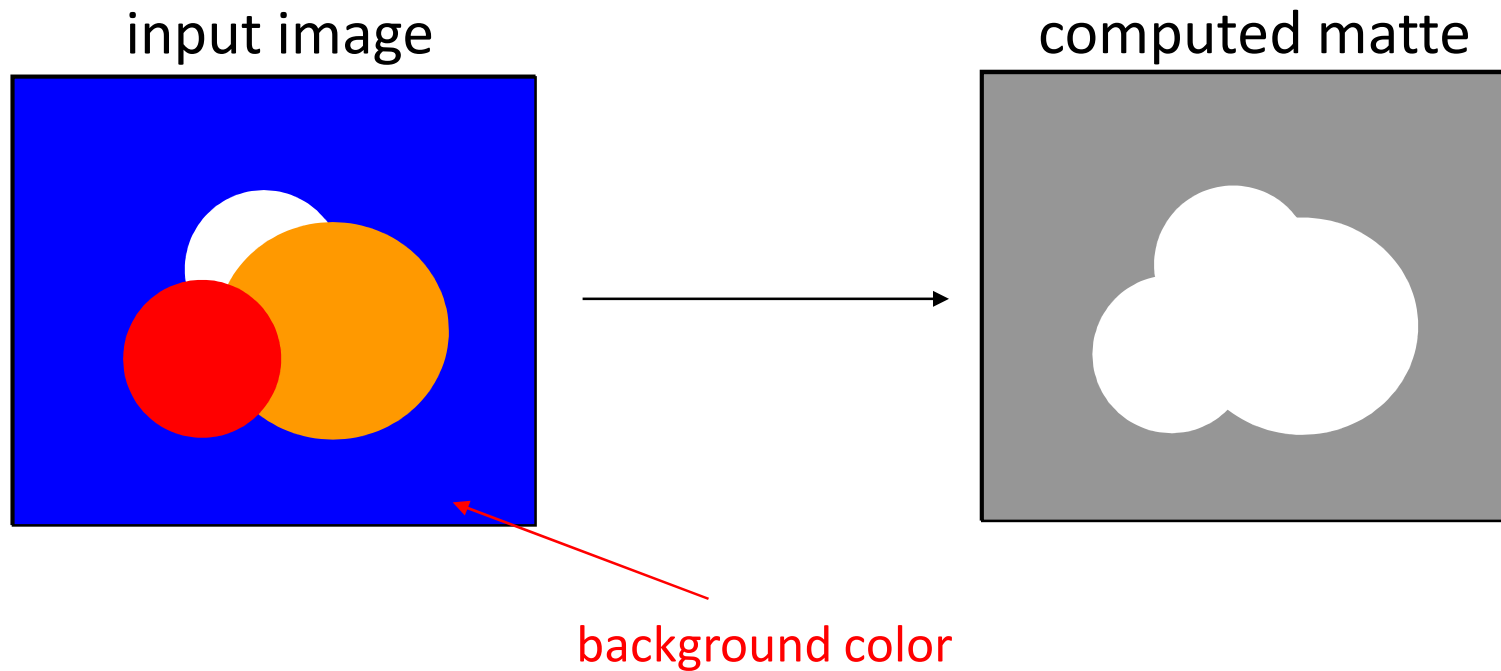
- Sports advertising
- Medical applications (“x-ray vision”)
- Special visual effects

# Constant-Color Matting

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## Goal:

Separating a desired foreground image from a background of constant (or almost constant) color



## Blue-Screen Matting:

Matting images whose background color is blue



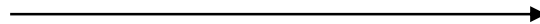
# Computing Semi-Transparent Mattes

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In general, we might want to obtain a semi-transparent matte from an original image (eg. image on the left)



compositing glass with  
portrait using  
a semi-transparent matte



⇒ Matte can be thought of as a gray-scale image with values between 0 & 1 (ie. the alpha component of an  $RGB\alpha$  image)

# Matting Problem: Mathematical Definition

Intuitively, the Matting Problem amounts to extracting a foreground image & its matte from a given composite image

For every pixel in the composite image,

given

- background color
- composite pixel color

compute

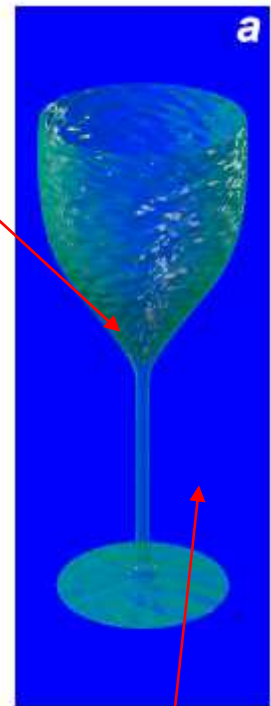
- object pixel color  
and alpha such that

$$C_k = \begin{bmatrix} R_k \\ G_k \\ B_k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C_o = \begin{bmatrix} R_o \\ G_o \\ B_o \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} R_o/a \\ G_o/a \\ B_o/a \\ a \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\alpha_o \cong 1$$



Matting Equation

$$C = C_o + C(1 - \alpha_o) C_k$$

Reminder:  $\begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha R \\ \alpha G \\ \alpha B \\ \alpha \end{bmatrix}$   $\alpha_o = 0$

# Why is Matting Hard?

Matting Equation

$$C = C_o + (1 - \alpha_o) C_k$$

$C$ : composite pixel color

$C_o$ : object pixel color

$C_k$ : background pixel color

Example:

$$C = C_k = \begin{bmatrix} 100 \\ 100 \\ 200 \end{bmatrix}$$

What is the solution of the matting eq?

$$\alpha = 1, \quad C_o = \begin{bmatrix} 100 \\ 100 \\ 200 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C_k = \text{arbitrary}$$

$$\alpha = 0, \quad C_o = \text{arbitrary}, \quad C_k = \begin{bmatrix} 100 \\ 100 \\ 200 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\alpha = 0.5, \quad C_o = \begin{bmatrix} 50 \\ 50 \\ 100 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C_k = \begin{bmatrix} 100 \\ 100 \\ 200 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Why is Matting Hard?

Matting Equation

$$C = C_0 + (1 - \alpha_0) C_K$$

More generally,

$$C = C_0 + C_K - \alpha_0 C_K$$

define  $C_\Delta = C - C_K$

$$C_\Delta = C_0 - \alpha_0 C_K$$

In matrix form,

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_\Delta \\ G_\Delta \\ B_\Delta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -R_K \\ & 1 & -G_K \\ & & 1 & -B_K \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_0 \\ G_0 \\ B_0 \\ \alpha_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To solve system,  
We must increase  
⇒ the number of  
equations

This 3x4 matrix  
is not invertible

# equations <

# unknowns

⇒  
infinite solutions

# Matting Solutions

Matting Equation

$$C = C_o + (1 - \alpha_o) C_k$$

More generally,

$$C = C_o + C_k - \alpha_o C_k$$

define  $C_\Delta = C - C_k$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} R_\Delta \\ G_\Delta \\ B_\Delta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -R_k \\ & 1 & -G_k \\ & & 1 & -B_k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_o \\ G_o \\ B_o \\ \alpha_o \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution #1

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} 0 & C = C_k \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Solution #2

No blue ( $B_o = 0$ )

Solution #3

Gray ( $R_o = G_o = B_o$ )

or  
Flesh  $C_o = \begin{bmatrix} d \\ 0.5d \\ 0.5d \end{bmatrix}$

Solution #4

Triangulation  
matting.

# Solution #1: Known Background Color

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- “Trivial” approach that never solves the matting equation:
  - set  $\alpha_0=0$  if pixel color is equal to the backing color
  - set  $\alpha_0=1$  otherwise
- Blue or green backing colors typically used



## Limitations:

- Background color must be known very accurately & must be constant (and, even then, pixels will still contain noise!)
- Foreground subject (e.g., weather-person) cannot wear anything with color similar to the backing color!!!
- No “mixed” pixels allowed (i.e., with  $\alpha_0$  between 0 & 1)

## Solution #2: No Blue

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Matting Equation:

$$C = C_o + (1 - \alpha_o) C_k$$

- If we know that the foreground contains no blue, we have  $B_o = 0$
- This leaves us with 3 equations and 3 unknowns, which has exactly one solution

$$R = \alpha_o R_o + (1 - \alpha_o) R_k$$

$$G = \alpha_o G_o + (1 - \alpha_o) G_k$$

$$B = B_k - \alpha_o B_k$$

← 3. Solve for  $R_o$

← 2. Solve for  $G_o$

← 1. Solve for  $\alpha_o$

Main difficulty:

- The “no blue” assumption is very restrictive!!!!
- Excludes all gray colors except black, about 2/3 of all hues, and all pastels & tints of the remaining hues (because white contains blue)

## Solution #3: Gray or Flesh

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Matting Equation:

$$C = C_o + (1 - \alpha_o) C_k$$

- If we know that the foreground contains gray, that means that  $R_o = B_o = G_o$
- This leaves us with 3 equations and 2 unknowns
- Flesh typically has color of the form  $[d \ 0.5d \ 0.5d]$ , where  $d$  determines the darkening due to skin color differences among races
- Again, this reduces the number of unknowns to 2



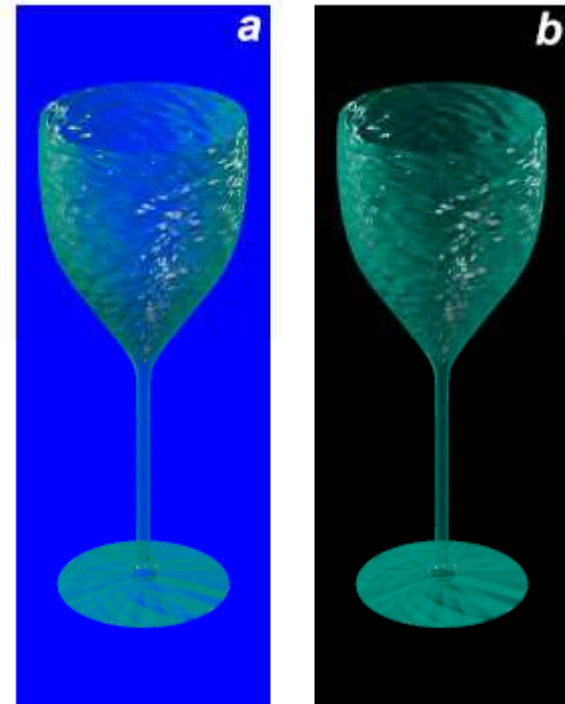
# Solution #4: Triangulation Matting

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Matting Equation:

$$C = C_o + (1 - \alpha_o) C_k$$

- Instead of reducing the number of unknowns, we could attempt to increase the number of equations
- One way to do this is to photograph an object of interest in front of two known but distinct backgrounds
- Equations: 6 (3 for each composite)
- Unknowns: 4
- Since each pixel is processed independently, the backgrounds don't need to be a constant backing color



# Triangulation Matting

Matting Equation

$$C = C_0 + (1 - \alpha_0) C_K$$

- Eqs for composite 1

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_\Delta \\ G_\Delta \\ B_\Delta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & \alpha_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -R_K \\ -G_K \\ -B_K \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} R_0 \\ G_0 \\ B_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Eqs for composite 2

$$\begin{bmatrix} R'_\Delta \\ G'_\Delta \\ B'_\Delta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & \alpha_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -R'_K \\ -G'_K \\ -B'_K \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} R_0 \\ G_0 \\ B_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution #1

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} 0 & C = C_K \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Solution #2

No blue ( $B_0 = 0$ )

Solution #3

Gray ( $R_0 = G_0 = B_0$ )

or

Flesh  $C_0 = \begin{bmatrix} d \\ 0.5d \\ 0.5d \end{bmatrix}$

Solution #4

Triangulation  
matting.

# Triangulation Matting

Matting Equation

$$C = C_o + (1 - \alpha_o) C_k$$

Solution #1

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} 0 & C = C_k \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Solution #2

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Solution #3

Gray ( $R_o = G_o = B_o$ )

or

Flesh  $C_o = \begin{bmatrix} d \\ 0.5d \\ 0.5d \end{bmatrix}$

Solution #4

Triangulation  
matting.

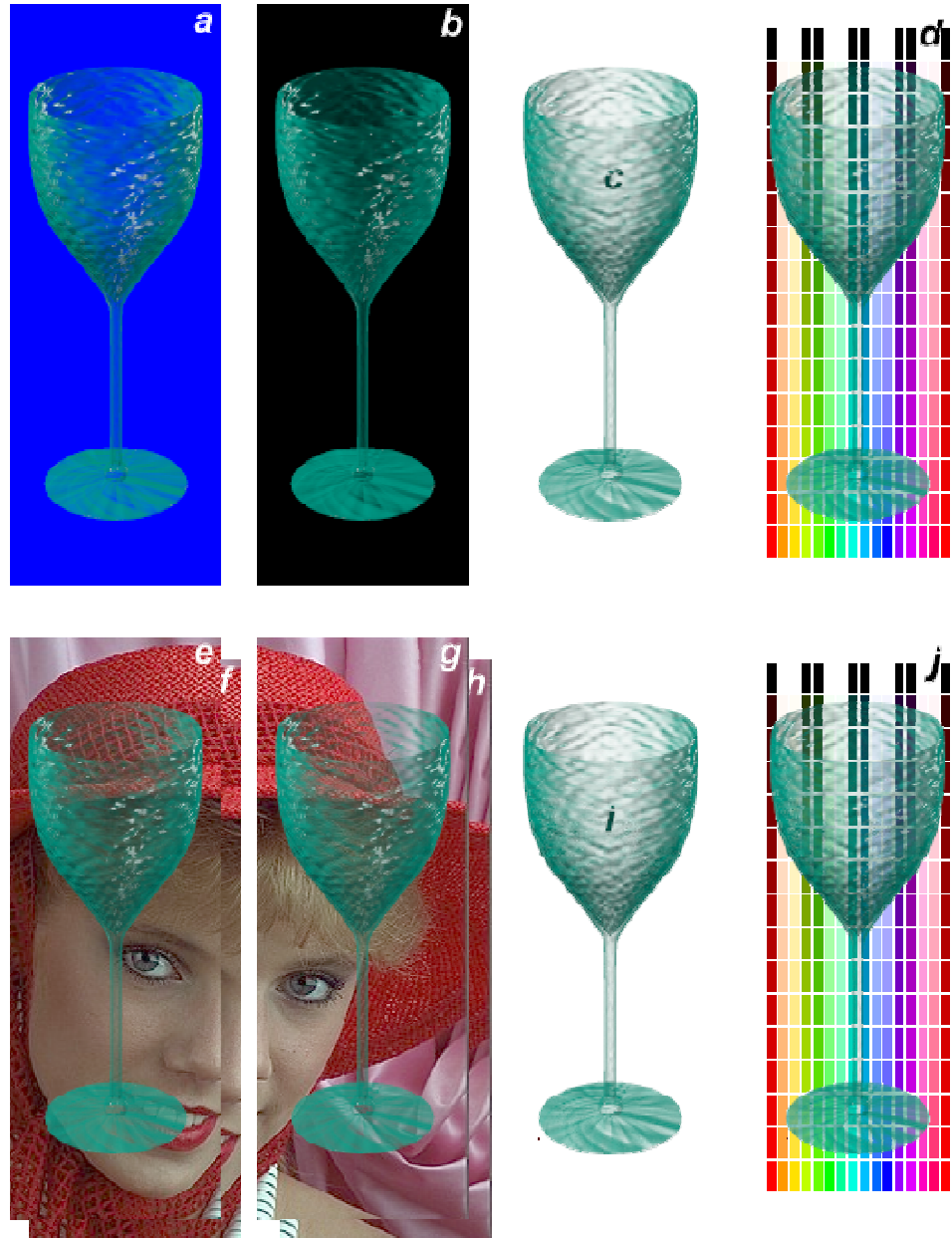
- Putting the two eqs together

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_\Delta \\ G_\Delta \\ B_\Delta \\ R'_\Delta \\ G'_\Delta \\ B'_\Delta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -R_k \\ & 1 & -G_k \\ & 0 & -B_k \\ 1 & 0 & -R'_k \\ & 1 & -G'_k \\ 0 & 1 & -B'_k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_o \\ G_o \\ B_o \\ \alpha_o \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution found by computing the pseudo-inverse of the coefficient matrix.

# Triangulation Matting Examples

From Smith & Blinn's  
SIGGRAPH'96 paper



# Triangulation Matting Examples

From Smith & Blinn's  
SIGGRAPH'96 paper





# Triangulation Matting Examples

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From Smith & Blinn's SIGGRAPH'96 paper



# Video Matting

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## Video Matting of Complex Scenes

Yung-Yu Chuang   Aseem Agarwala   Brian Curless

David Salesin   Richard Szeliski

University of Washington   Microsoft Research

# Topic 01:

## Image formation & HDR Photography

Computing the camera response function



# High Dynamic Range Photography

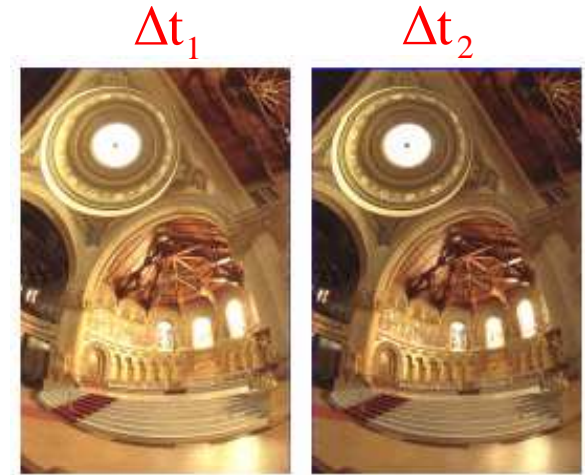
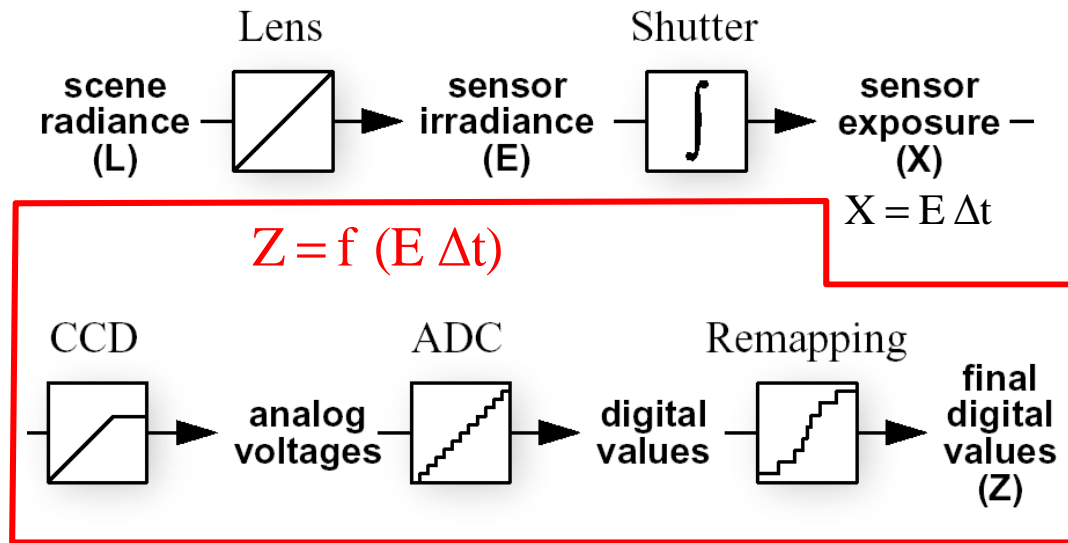
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Goal: to increase the ability of an imaging procedure to adequately image both high lights and dark shadows in a scene.



Dynamic range: The ratio of the largest non-saturating input signal to the smallest detectable input signal.

# Computing The Camera Response Function



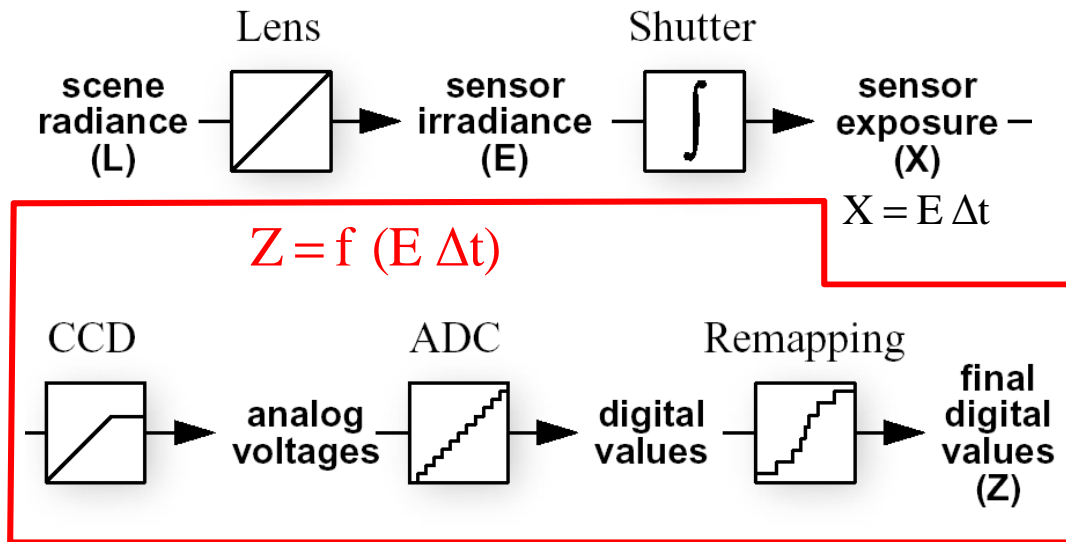
General procedure

- ① Collect photos for many exposure intervals  $\Delta t_1, \Delta t_2, \dots$  w/out moving the camera
- ② Process photos to compute  $f$

Problem:

For a given photo, we will know  $\Delta t_j$  and  $Z$  but we have no way of measuring  $E$ !

# Idea #1: The log-Inverse Response Function $g()$



Idea #1: Invert & use log's

$$Z = f(E \cdot \Delta t)$$

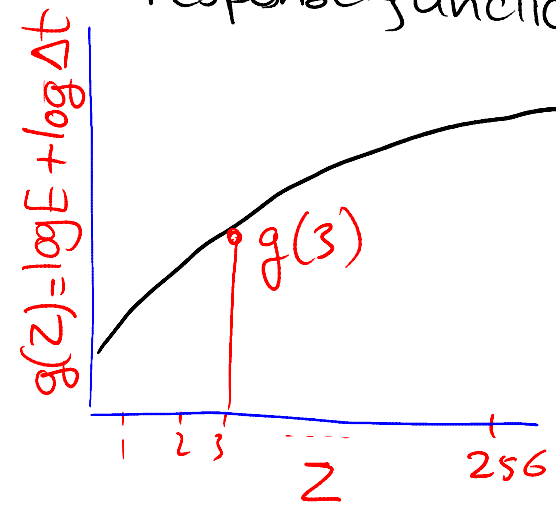
$$f^{-1}(Z) = E \cdot \Delta t$$

$$\log f^{-1}(Z) = \log(E) + \log \Delta t$$

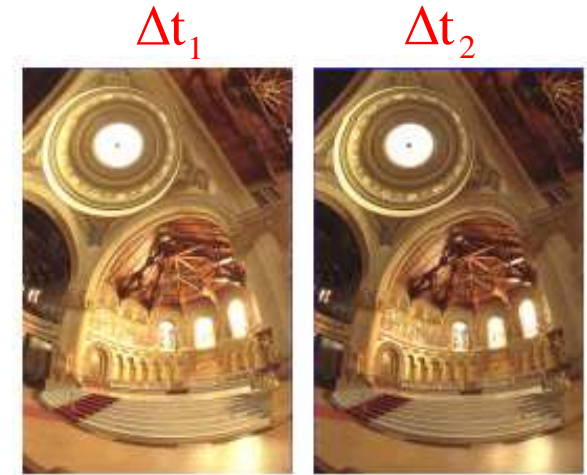
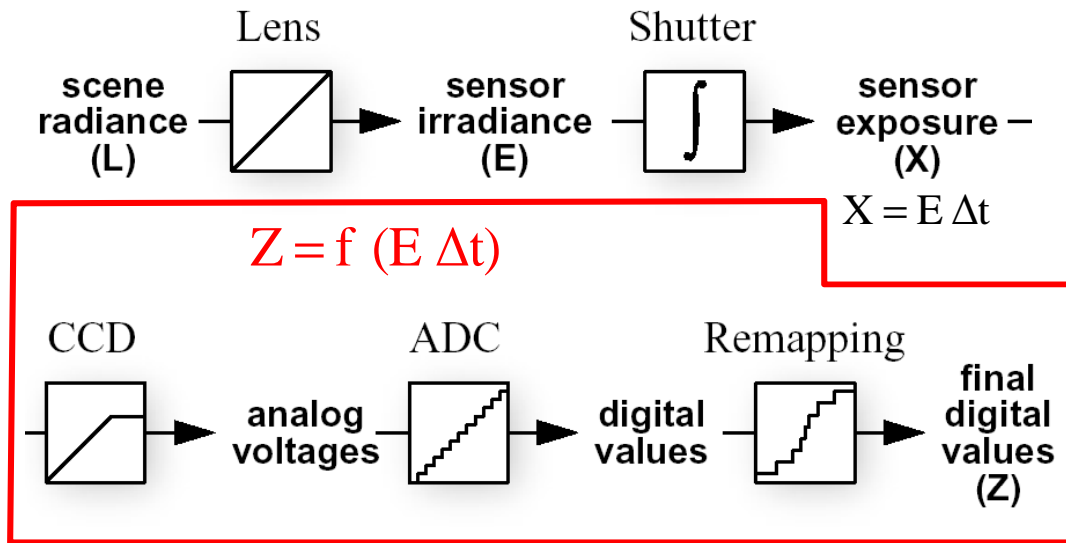
log-inverse response function:

$$g(Z) = \log(E) + \log \Delta t$$

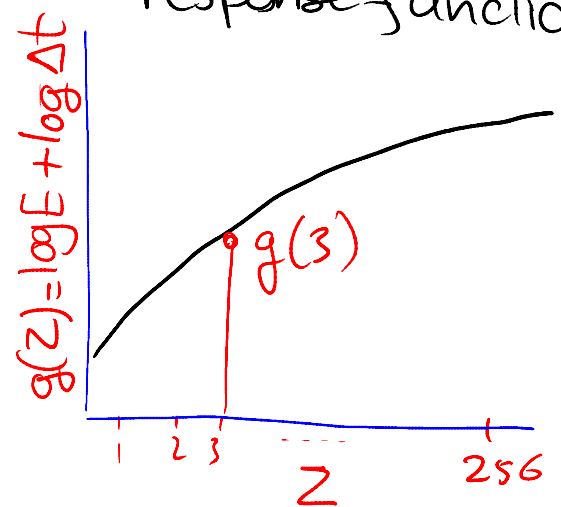
The log-inverse response function



# Idea #2: Compute Discrete Values of $g()$ , Not $f()$

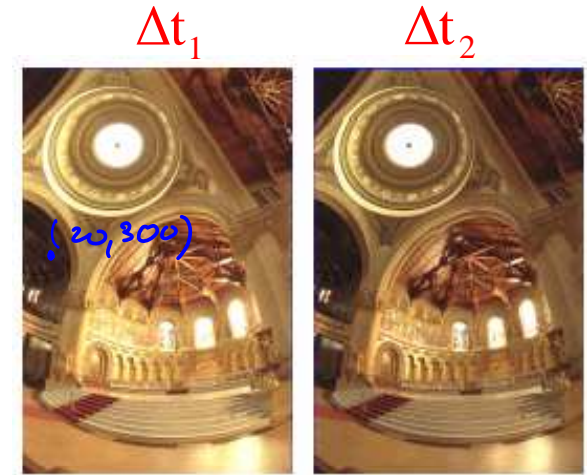
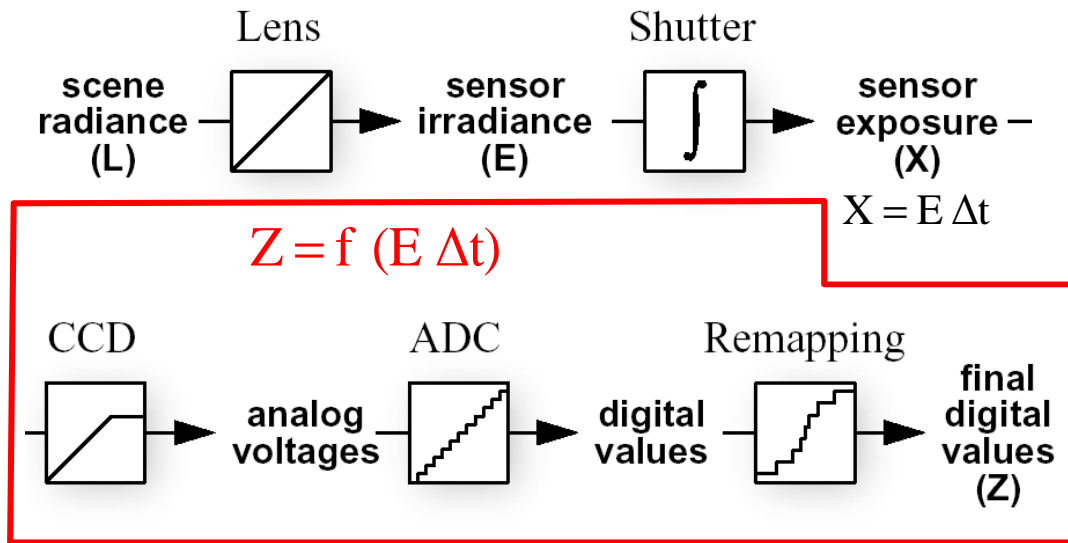


The log-inverse response function

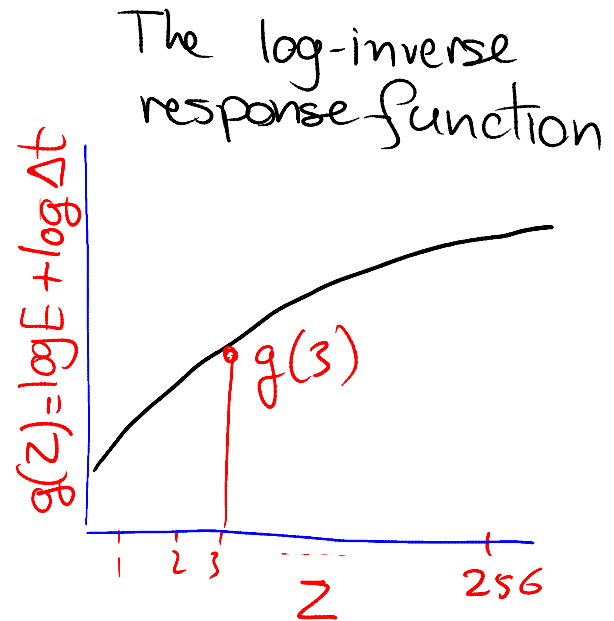
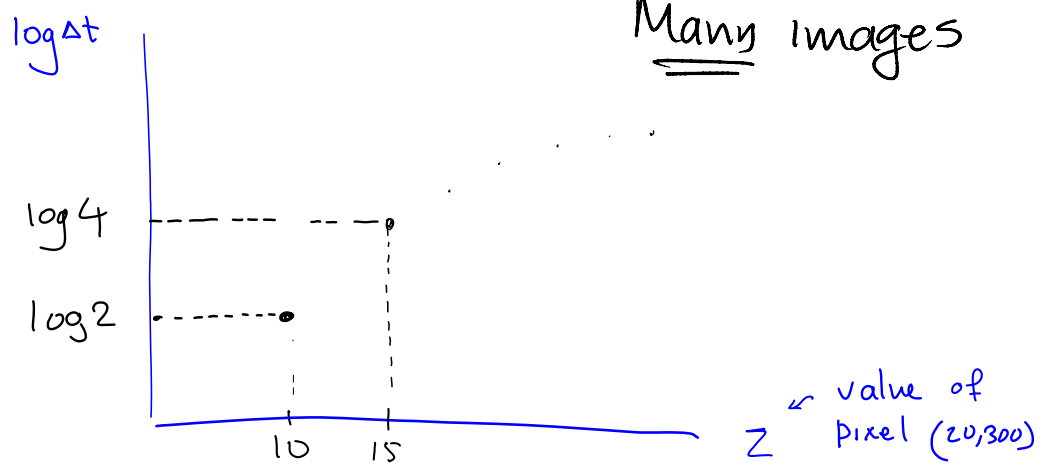


256 values of  $g$  only:  
 $g(0), g(1), \dots, g(255)$

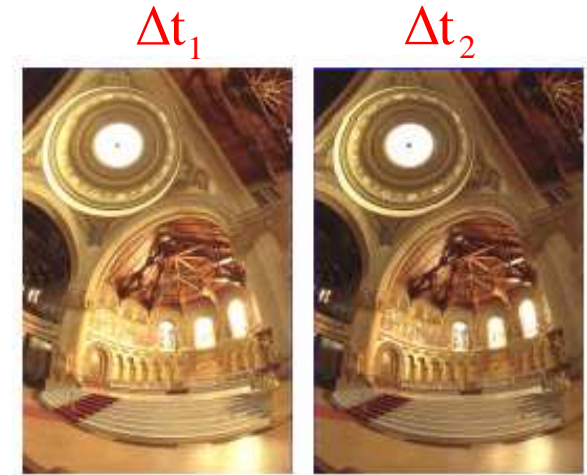
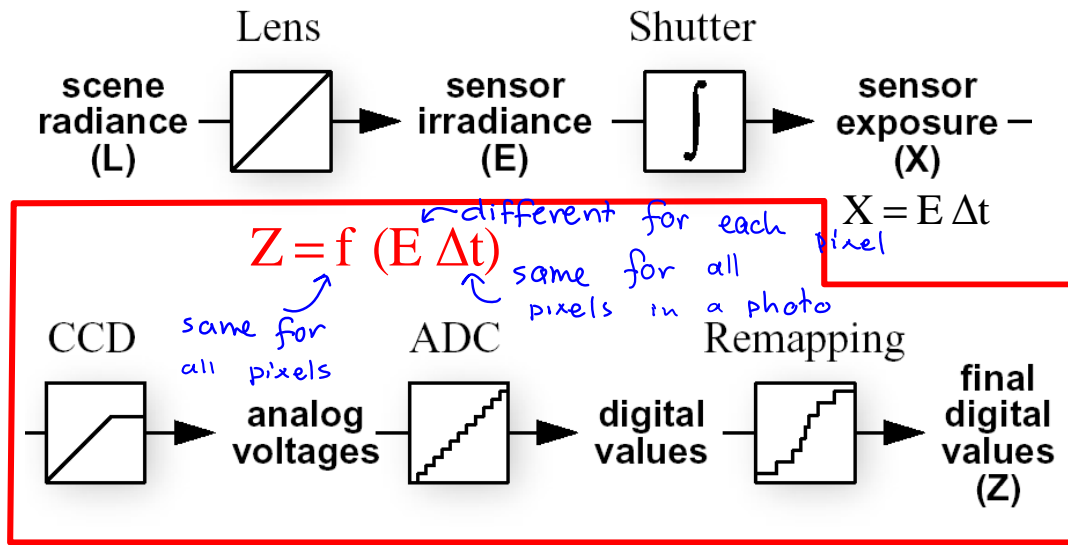
# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function



Approach #1 : One pixel  
Many images

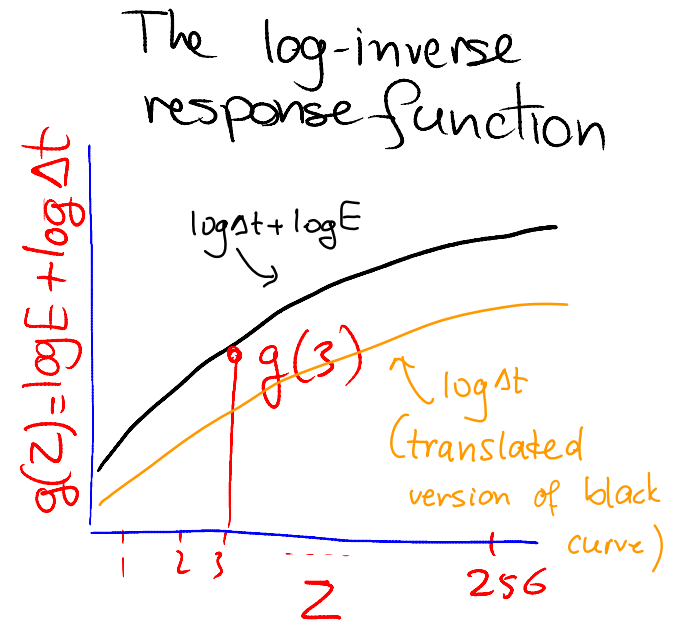


# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function



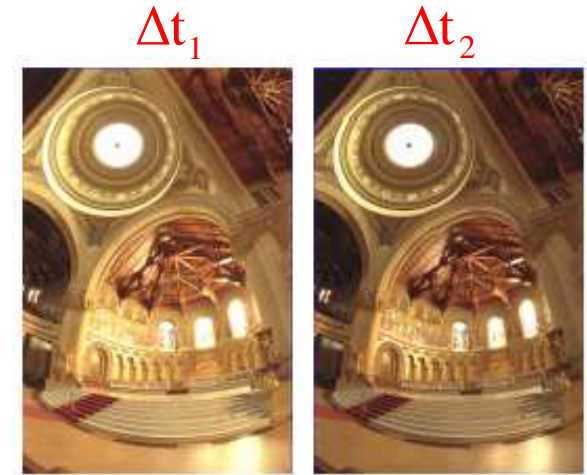
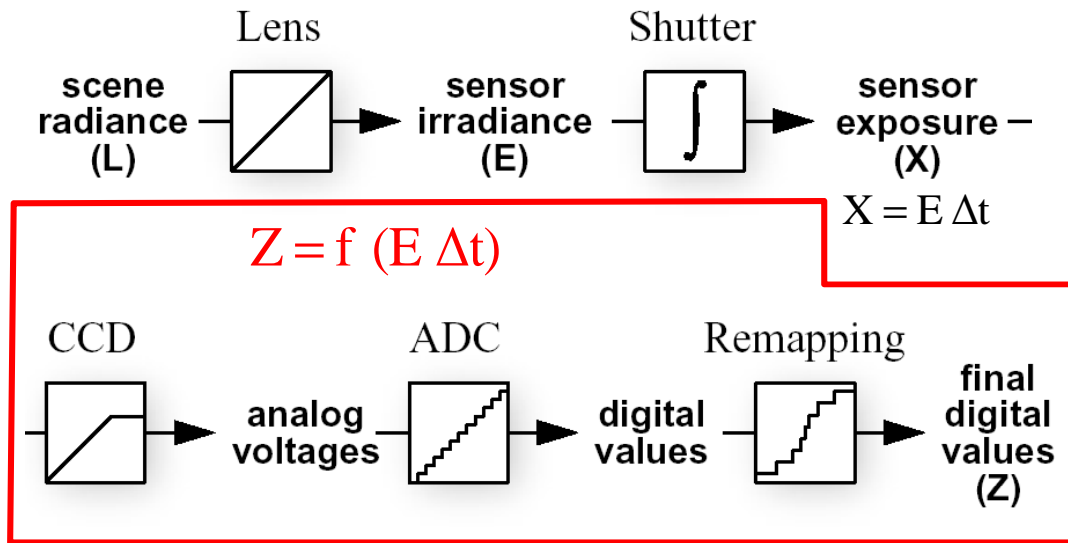
Approach #1: One pixel  
Many images

- ① Finely adjust  $\Delta t$  in range  $(\frac{1}{1000} \text{sec}, 30 \text{sec})$
  - ② Plot  $\log \Delta t$  as a function of the pixels' observed intensity
- ⇒ But  $\log E$  is unknown! Does it matter?





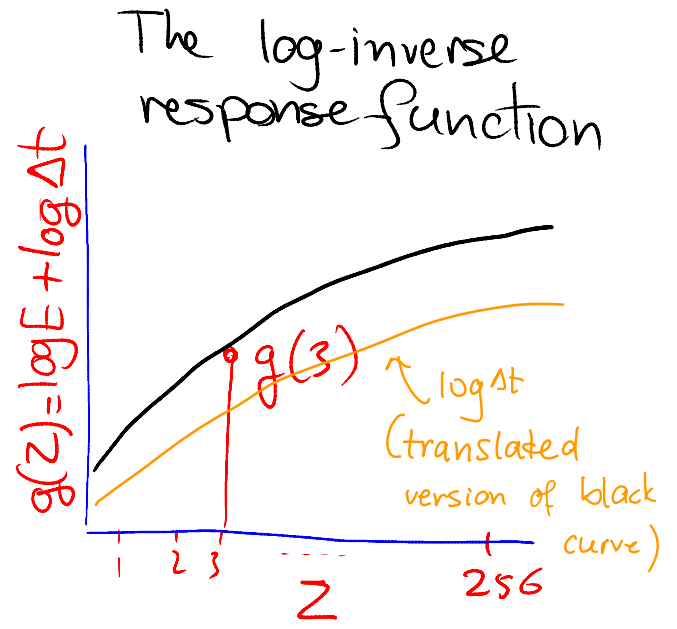
# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function



Approach #1 : One pixel  
Many images

What are the problems with this approach?

NEED LOTS OF IMAGES!  
WASTED PIXELS (we only use one out of 1000s in photo)  
POSSIBLE  $\Delta t$  VALUES DETERMINED BY CAMERA



# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

Approach #2: Few pixels, Few images

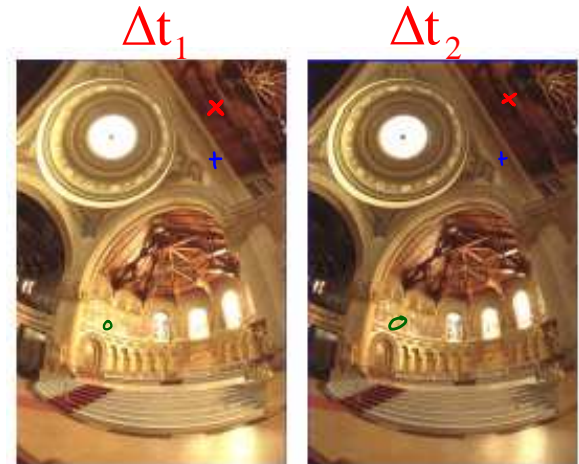
different for each pixel →

← different for each pixel

$$g(Z) = \log E + \log \Delta t$$

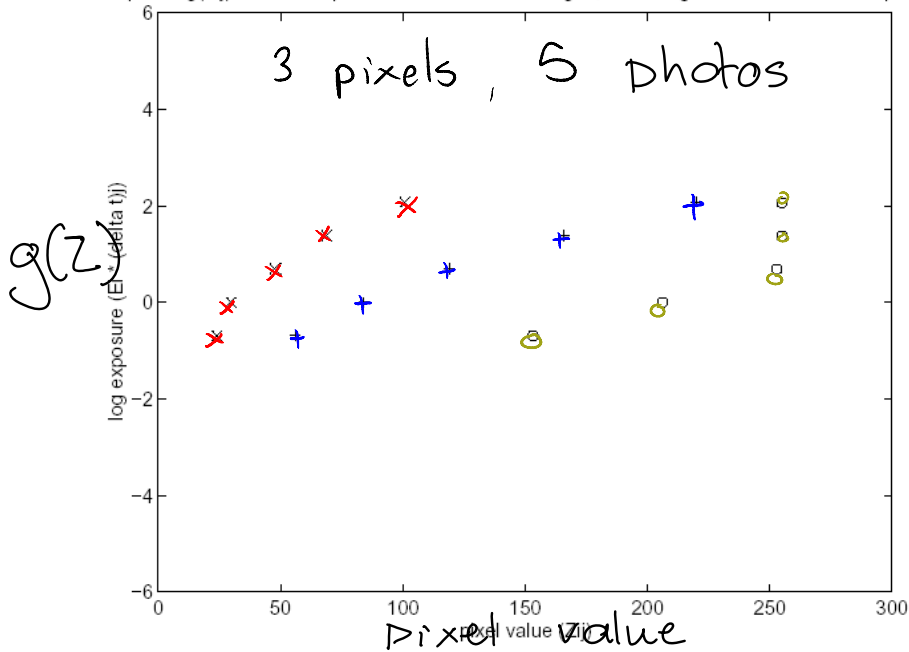
same for all pixels ↗

↖ same for all pixels in a photo

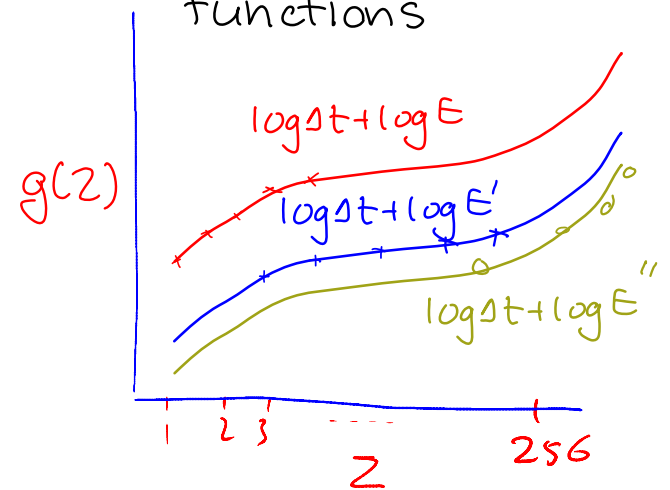


Samples of  $g(Z)$  for multiple pixels & photos

plot of  $g(Z_{ij})$  from three pixels observed in five images, assuming unit radiance at each pixel



Relation between samples & the  $g(Z)$  functions

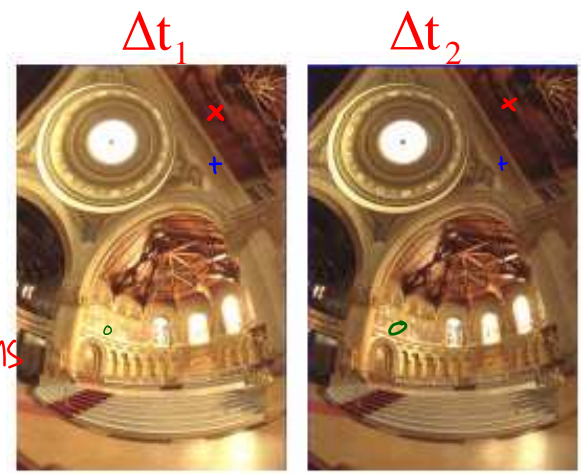




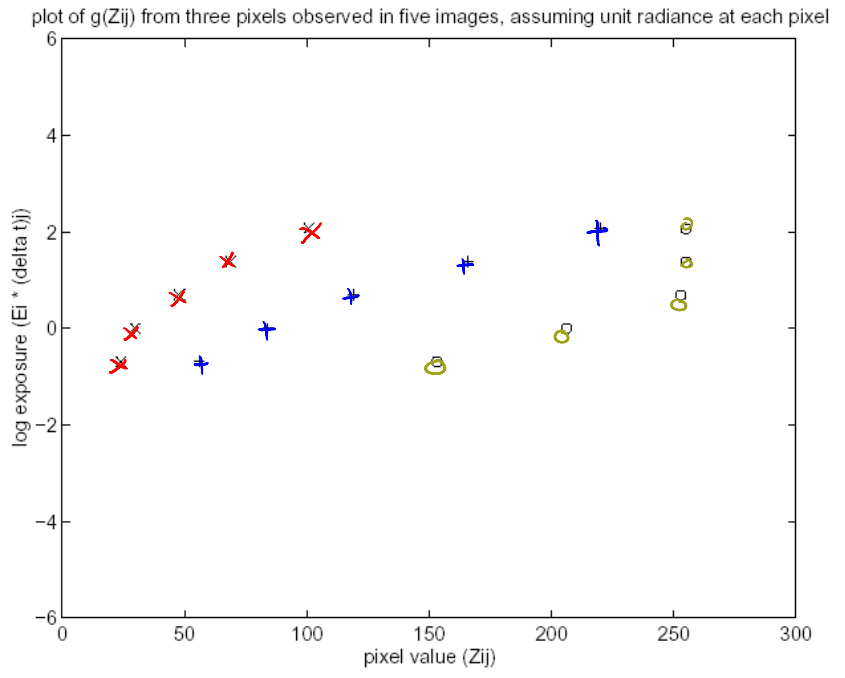
# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

Approach #2: Few pixels, Few images

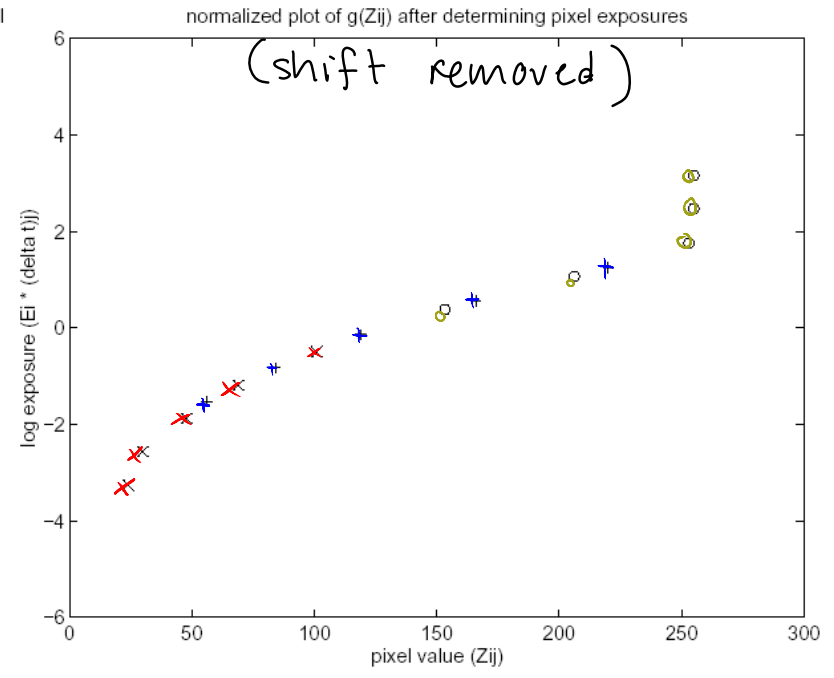
⇒ To compute the complete function, we must compute the relative vertical shift of the  $g(\cdot)$  functions from individual pixels



3 pixels, 5 images



Computed Function

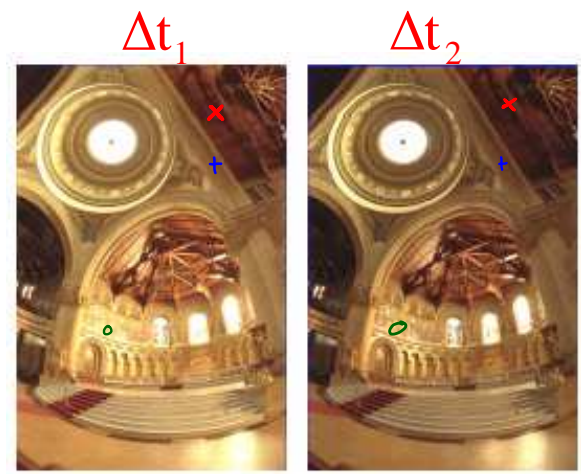


# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

Approach #2:  $N$  pixels,  $P$  images  
 pixel value (known)

$$g(Z_{ij}) = \log E_i + \log \Delta t_j$$

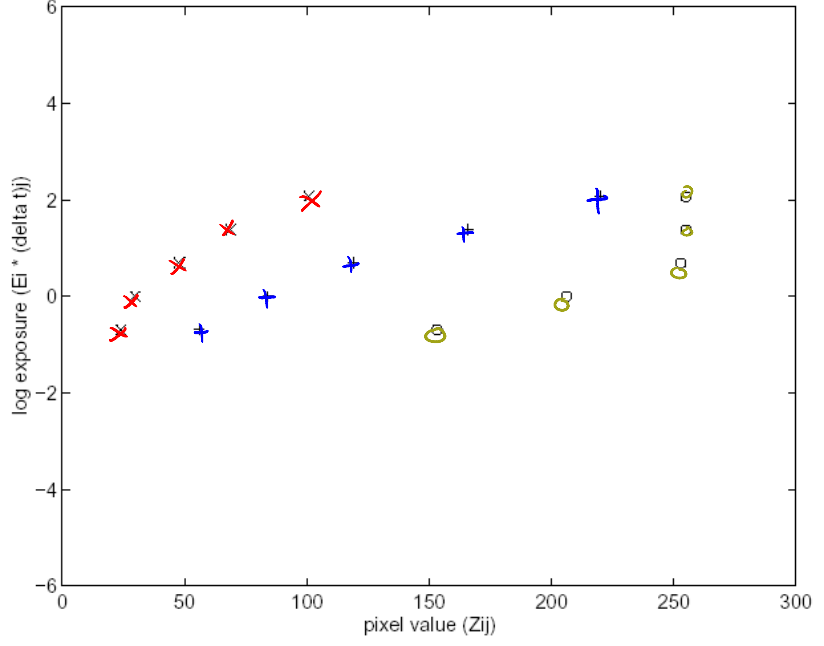
unknown  $\rightarrow$   $g(Z_{ij})$   
 $i$ -th pixel  $\rightarrow$   $E_i$   
 $j$ -th image  $\rightarrow$   $\Delta t_j$   
 Irradiance of  $i$ -th pixel (unknown)  $\rightarrow$   $E_i$   
 exposure interval of  $j$ -th image (known)  $\rightarrow$   $\Delta t_j$



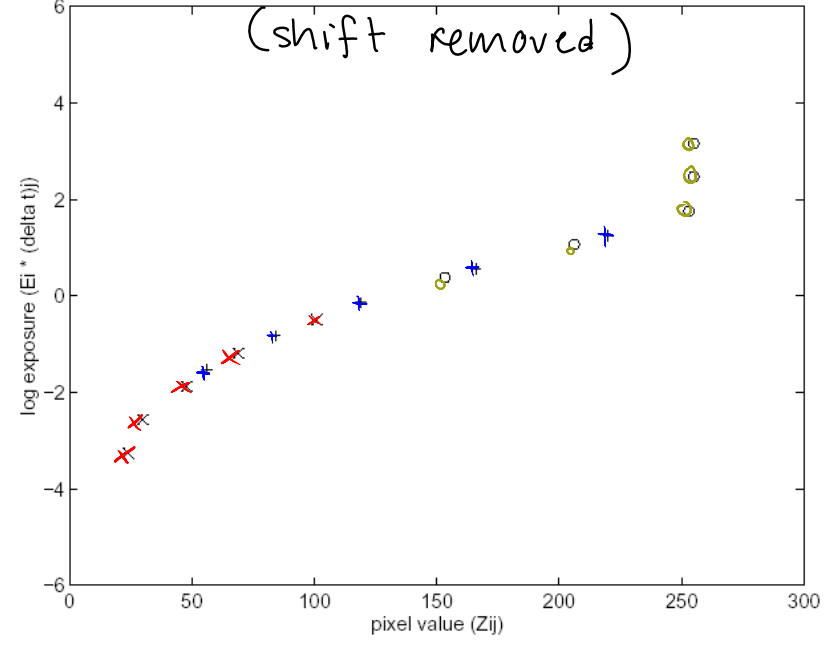
3 pixels, 5 images

Computed Function

plot of  $g(Z_{ij})$  from three pixels observed in five images, assuming unit radiance at each pixel



normalized plot of  $g(Z_{ij})$  after determining pixel exposures



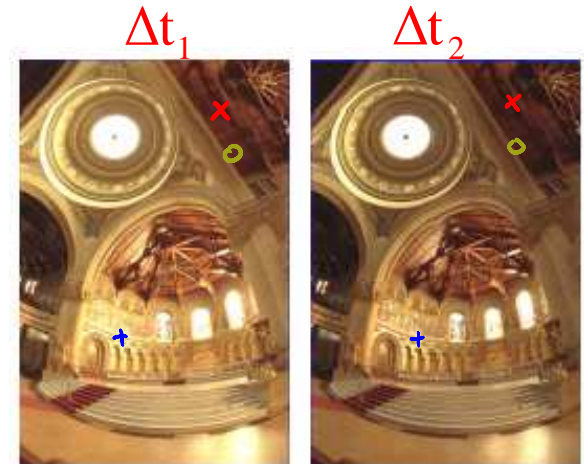
# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

Approach #2:  $N$  pixels,  $P$  images

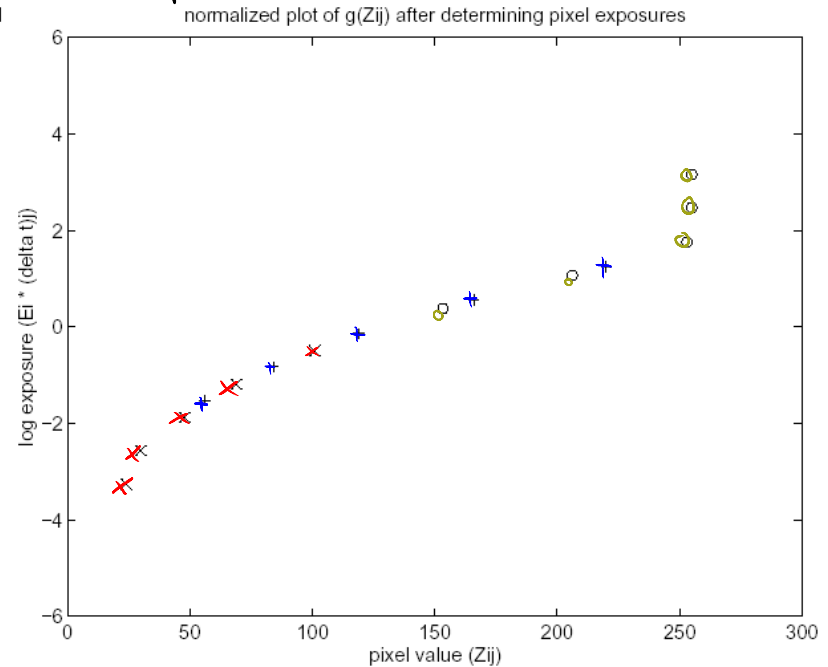
observed intensity

$$g(Z_{ij}) = \log E_i + \log \Delta t_j$$

$i$ -th pixel       $j$ -th image      exposure interval of  $j$ -th image



## Computed Response Function



Goal:

Compute  $g(0), g(1), \dots, g(255)$

Compute  $\log E_i$

Given:

$N$  pixel intensities in

$P$  images, known  $\Delta t_j$

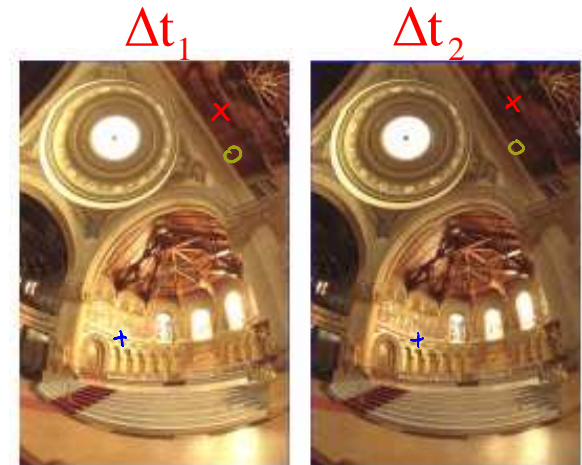
# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

Approach #2:  $N$  pixels,  $P$  images

observed intensity

$$g(Z_{ij}) = \log E_i + \log \Delta t_j$$

$i$ -th pixel       $j$ -th image      exposure interval of  $j$ -th image



Goal:

Compute  $g(0), g(1), \dots, g(255)$

Compute  $\log E_i$

Given:

$N$  pixel intensities in

$P$  images, known  $\Delta t_j$

We know that

$$I_{ij} g(Z_{ij}) - \log E_i = \log \Delta t_j \quad (*)$$

$N \cdot P$  equations,  $N + 256$  unknowns

Idea: Each pixel in each photo contributes one equation

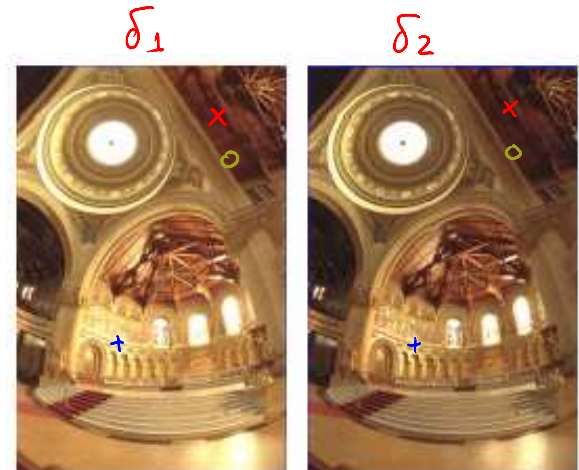
# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

Approach #2:  $N$  pixels,  $P$  images

observed intensity

$$g(z_{ij}) = \log E_i + \log \Delta t_j$$

$i$ -th pixel       $j$ -th image      exposure interval of  $j$ -th image



Goal:

simplified notation

Compute  $g(0), g(1), \dots, g(255)$

Compute  $\log E_i = e_i$

Given:

$N$  pixel intensities in

$P$  images, known  $\Delta t_j$   $\delta_j = \log \Delta t_j$

We know that

$$g(z_{ij}) - e_i = \delta_j \quad (*)$$

$N \cdot P$  equations,  $N + 256$  unknowns

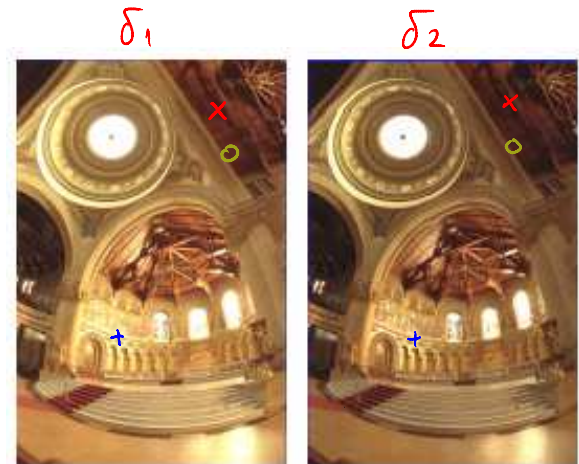
Example: Pixel 1000 in the 5th photo has intensity  $Z_{1000,5} = 125$ . The associated equation is

$$g_{125} - e_{1000} = \delta_5$$

# Computing The Camera Response Function

Single eq (\*) in matrix form

$$\begin{matrix}
 \left[ \begin{array}{cccccccc}
 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -1 & \dots & 0 \\
 \end{array} \right] & \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ (z_{ij} + 1)\text{-th} \\ \text{column} \end{matrix} & & \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ (256 + i)\text{-th} \\ \text{column} \end{matrix} & = & \delta_j
 \end{matrix}
 \begin{matrix}
 \left[ \begin{array}{c}
 g_0 \\
 \vdots \\
 g_{255} \\
 e_1 \\
 \vdots \\
 e_N
 \end{array} \right]
 \end{matrix}$$



We know that

$$\forall_{ij} \quad g_{z_{ij}} - e_i = \delta_j \quad (*)$$

$N \cdot P$  equations,  $N + 256$  unknowns

**Example:** Pixel 1000 in the 5th photo has intensity  $Z_{1000,5} = 125$ . The associated equation is

$$g_{125} - e_{1000} = \delta_5$$

Goal:

simplified notation

$g_0 \quad g_1 \quad g_{255}$

Compute  $g(0), g(1), \dots, g(255)$

Compute  $\log E_i = e_i$

Given:

$N$  pixel intensities in

$P$  images, known  $\Delta t_j$   $\delta_j = \log \Delta t_j$

# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

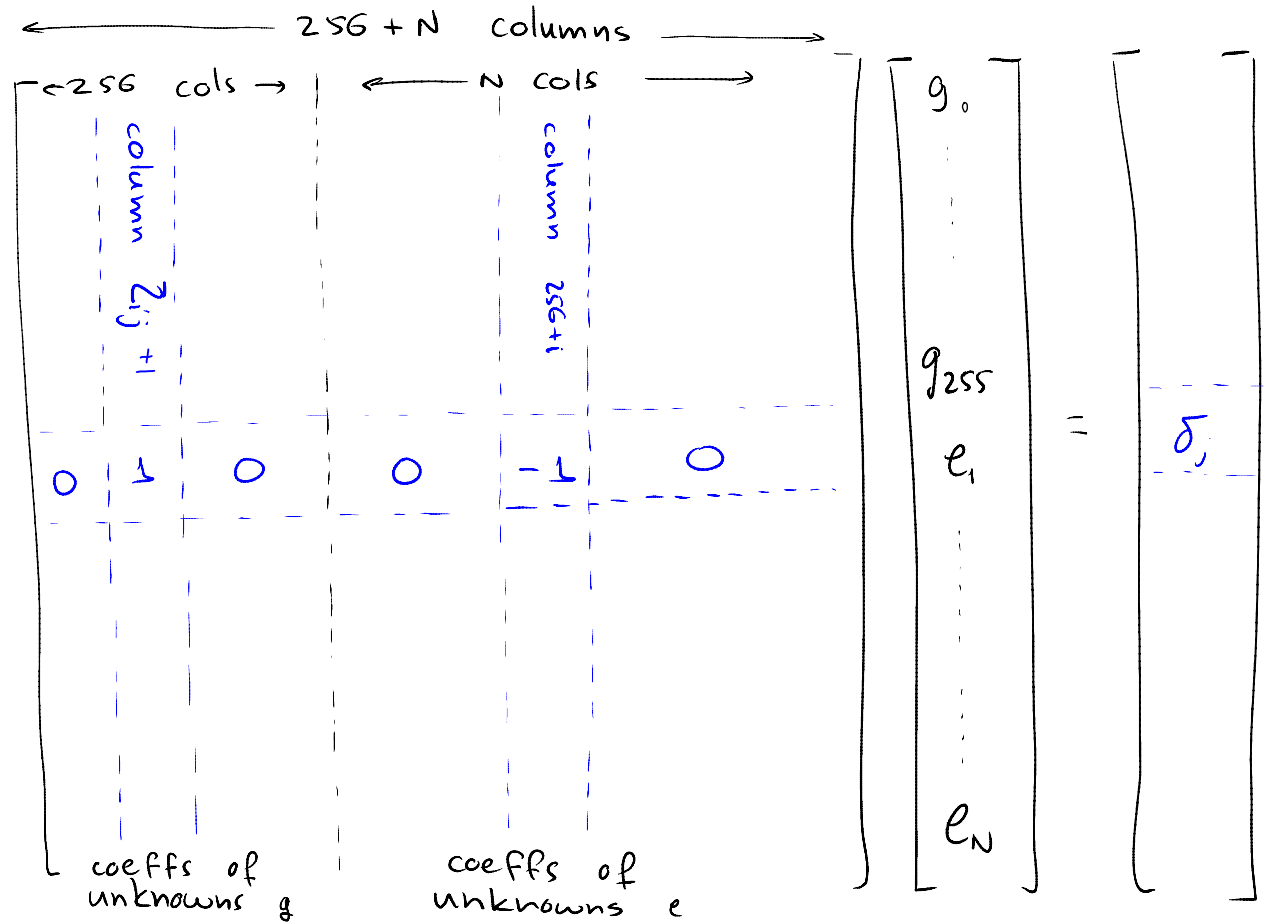
Single eq (\*) in matrix form

$$\begin{matrix}
 [0 \dots 0 \ 1 \ 0 \dots 0 \ -1 \dots 0] \\
 \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ (Z_{ij+1})\text{-th} \\ \text{column} \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ (256+i)\text{-th} \\ \text{column} \end{matrix}
 \end{matrix}
 \begin{bmatrix} g_0 \\ \vdots \\ g_{255} \\ e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_N \end{bmatrix} = \delta_j$$

$$\forall_{ij} \quad g_{Z_{ij}} - e_i = \delta_j \quad (*)$$

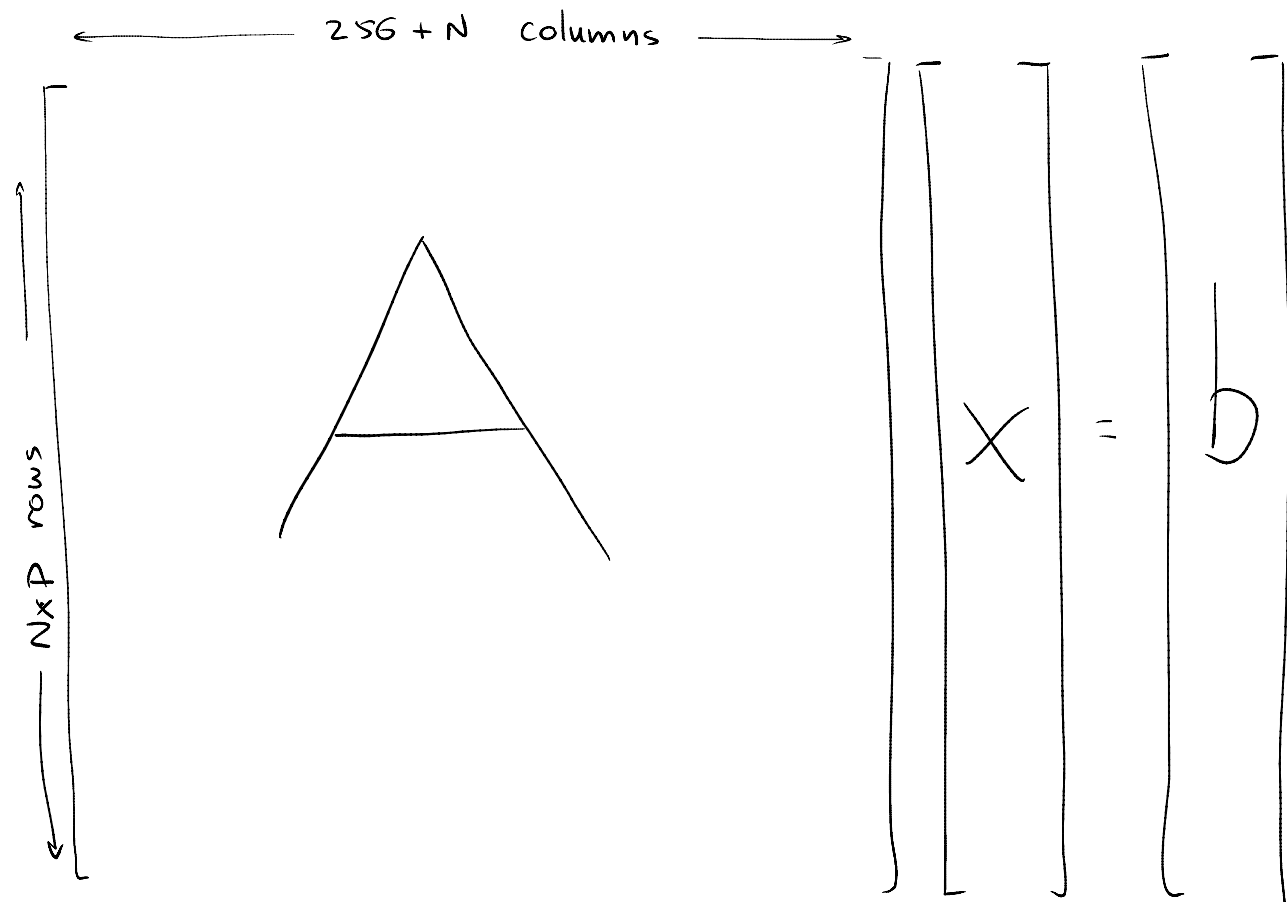
If pixel  $i$   
has intensity  
 $Z_{ij}$  in image  $j$

$(ij)$ -th row  $\rightarrow$



# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

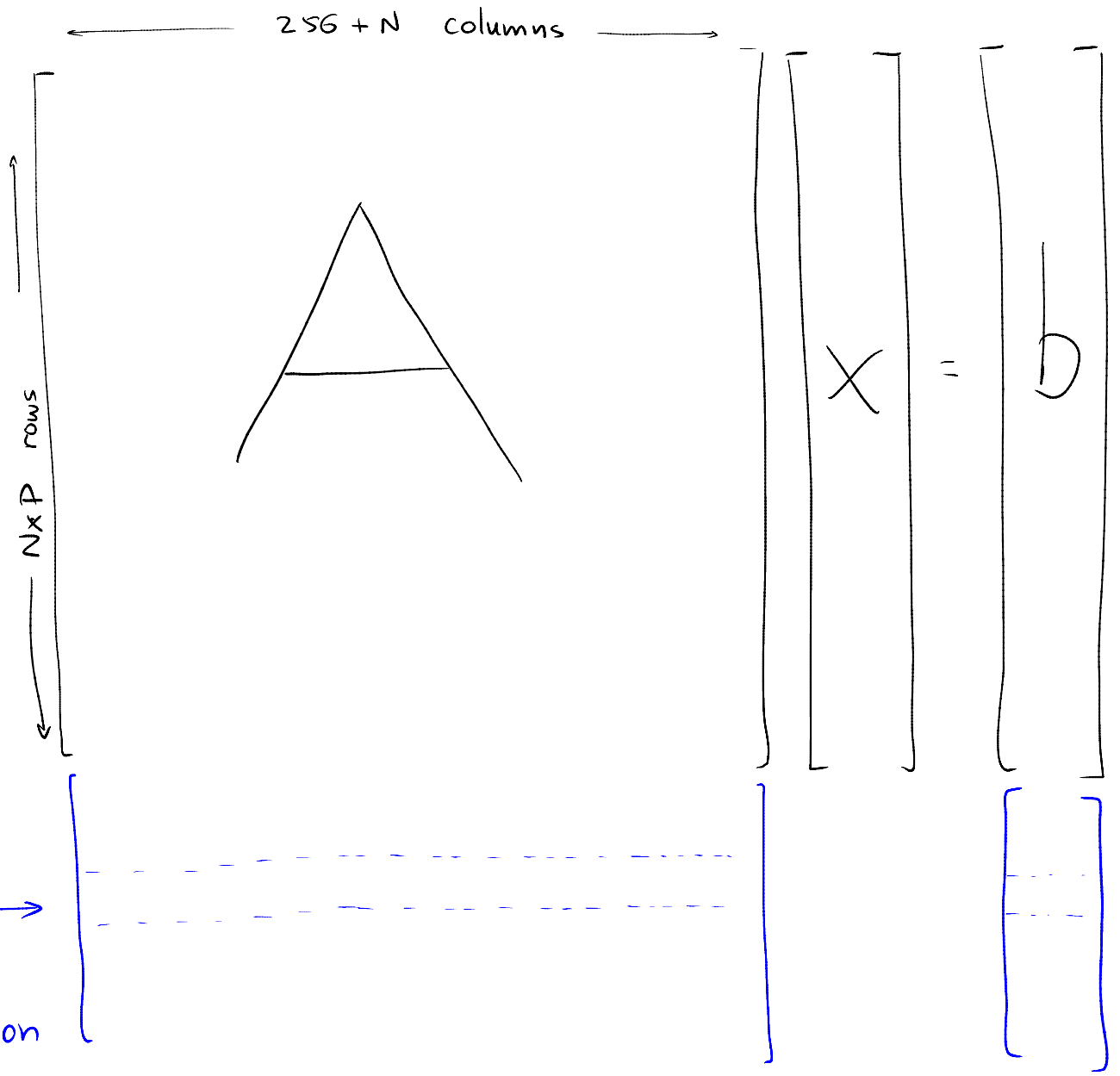
- To solve this system, matrix  $A$  must be non-singular
- We can achieve this by choosing  $N, P$  so that  
 $NP \gg 256 + N$  (e. 1000 pixels, 20 exposure settings)





# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

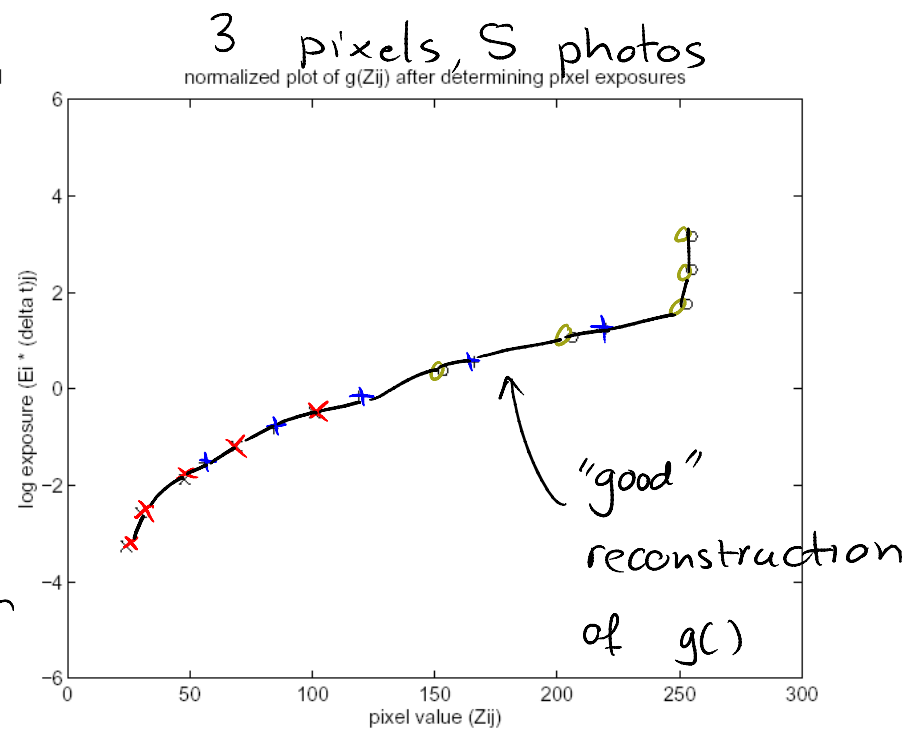
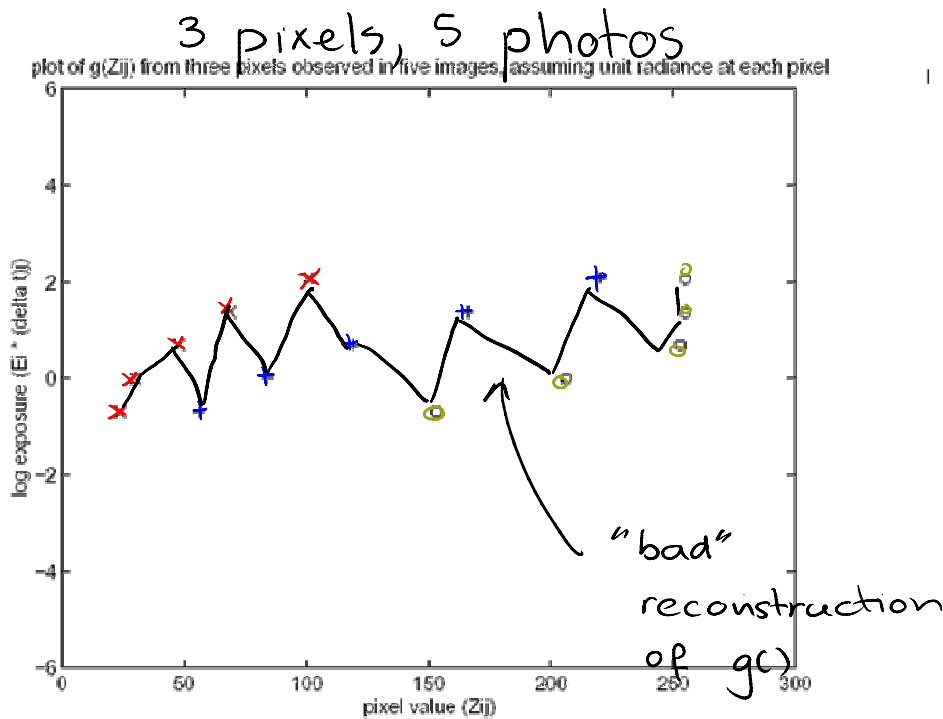
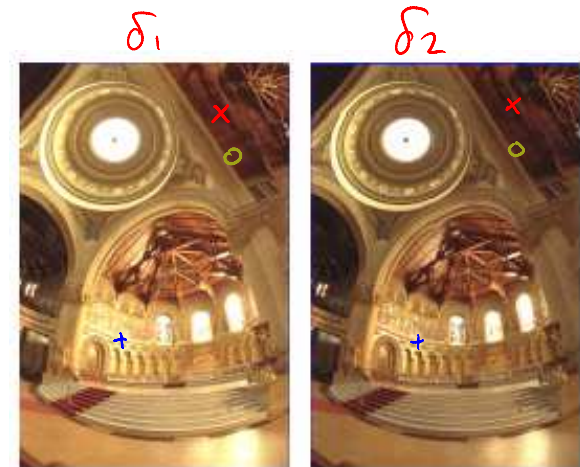
- In practice, we can add more constraints (i.e. equations) between the unknowns to account for pixel noise and to ensure the response curve is smooth



row representing  
one additional  
constraint equation

# Smoothness Constraints (aka Regularization)

- Idea: The camera response function changes smoothly in real cameras
- We add more Eqs to enforce smoothness



# Smoothness Constraints (aka Regularization)

- Idea: The camera response function changes smoothly in real cameras
- We add more Eqs to enforce smoothness

• Intuition: Force near-constant rate of change:

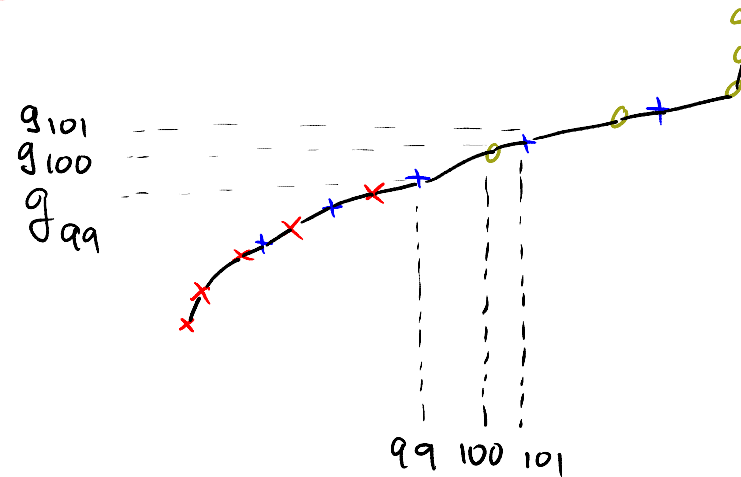
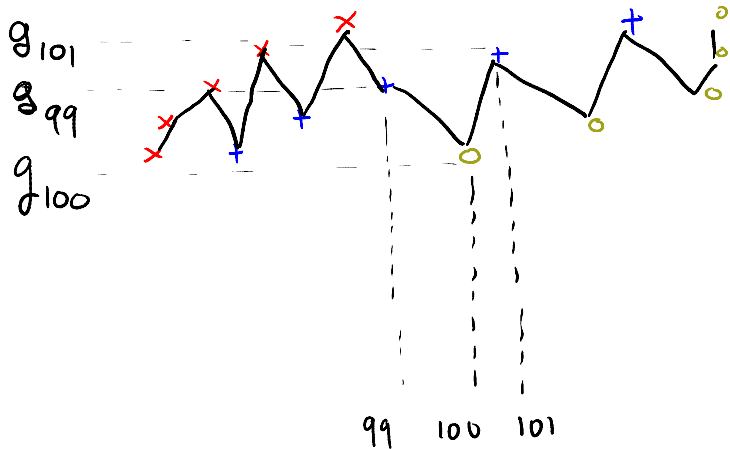
$$g_{100} - g_{99} \approx g_{101} - g_{100}$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$2g_{100} - g_{99} - g_{101} \approx 0$$

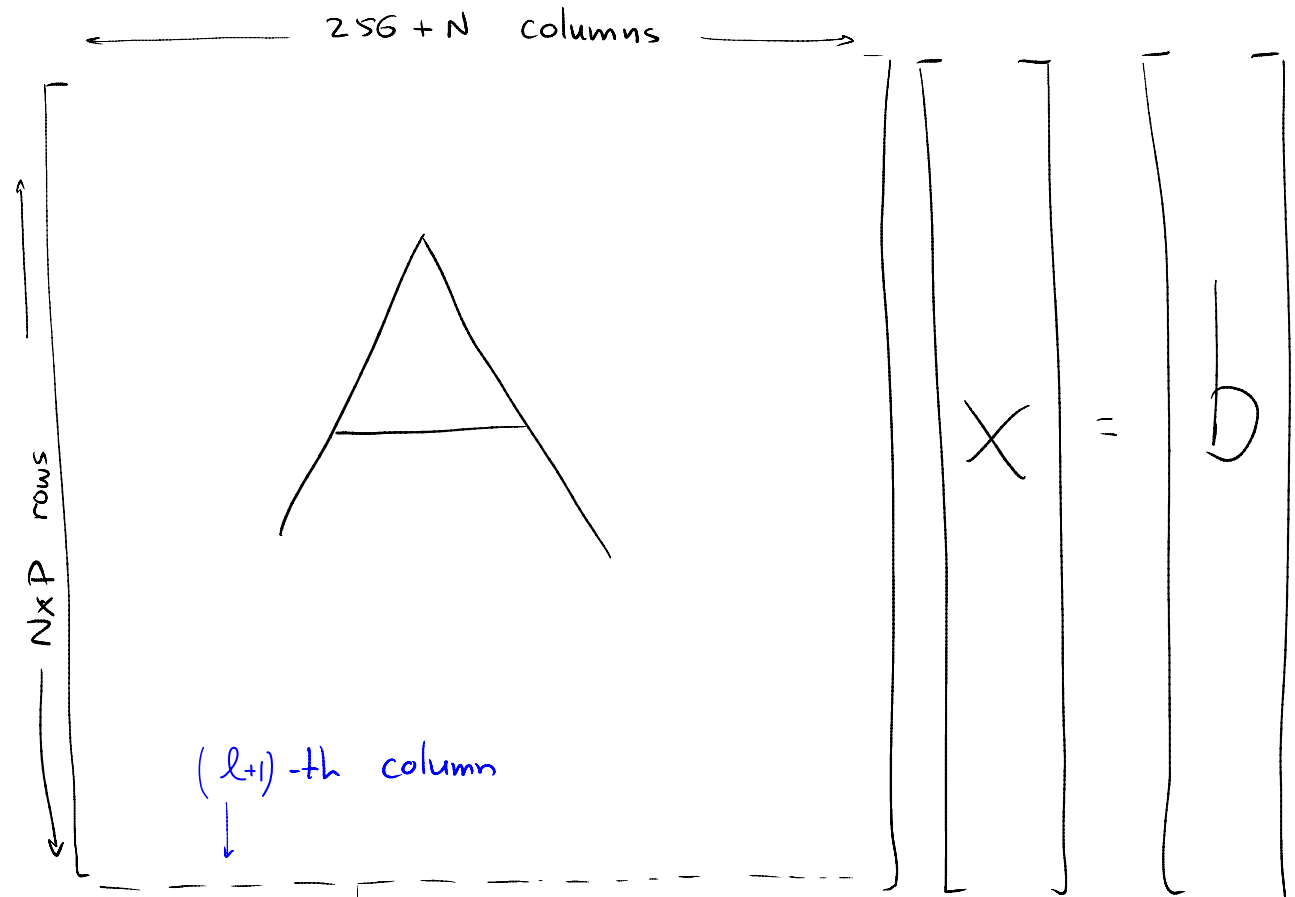
Add these Eqs to system:

$$(l=1, \dots, 254) \quad 2g_l - g_{l+1} - g_{l-1} = 0 \quad \begin{matrix} (** \\ **) \end{matrix}$$



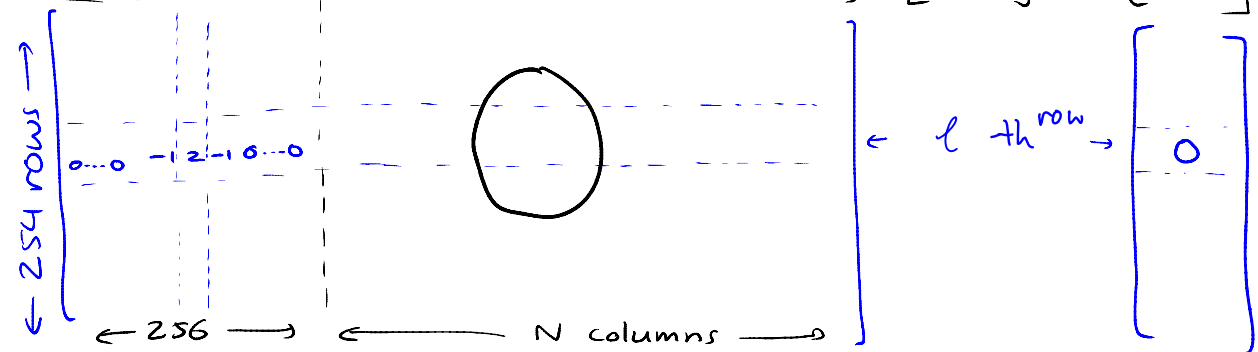
# Smoothness Constraints (aka Regularization)

Original equations



Smoothness Equations

$$2g_l - g_{l+1} - g_{l-1} = 0$$



# Computing The log-Inverse Response Function

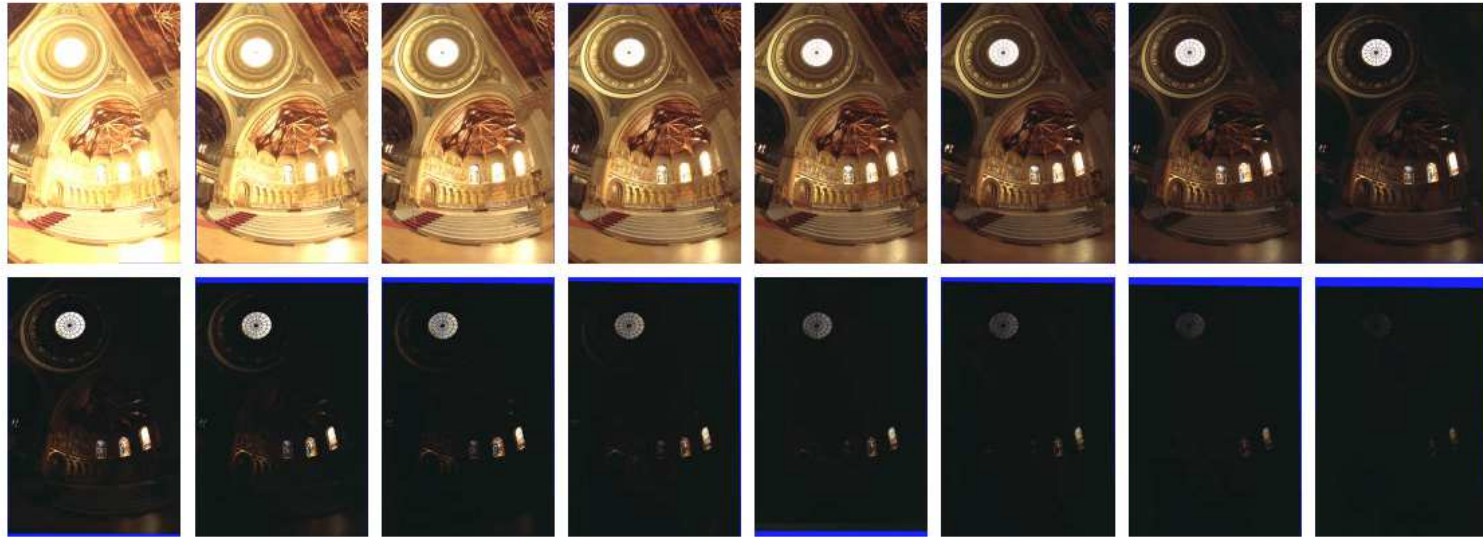
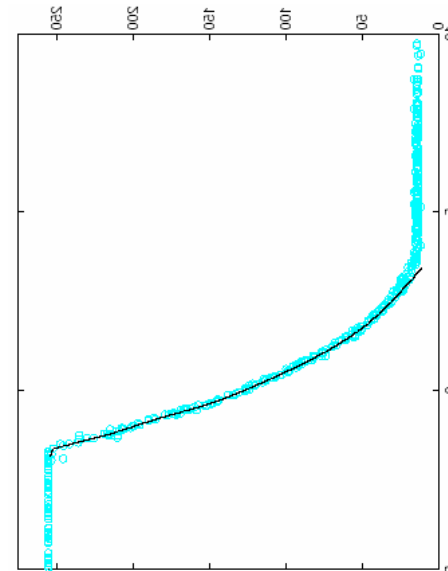


Figure 6: Sixteen photographs of a church taken at 1-stop increments from 30 sec to  $\frac{1}{1000}$  sec. The sun is directly behind the rightmost stained glass window, making it especially bright. The blue borders seen in some of the image margins are induced by the image registration process.

Result for red pixels  
(from Debevec & Malik, 1997)



# An Application of HDR Photography...

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Light probe:  
HDR photo of  
a reflective  
sphere

Useful for  
illuminating CG  
with natural  
light



For more information see <http://www.debevec.org/Probes/>

# Rendering With Natural Light

---

Short Film from the SIGGRAPH Animation Theater

<http://www.debevec.org/RNL/>

- Uses a light probe to illuminate a synthetically generated scene

# Aside: Representing a Linear Eq in Matrix Form

- Suppose we have  $N$  unknowns  $x_1, \dots, x_N$  and an equation of the form

$$a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_N x_N = b \quad (**)$$

known quantities

## Definitions

$N$ -dimensional **row vector** is just an  $1 \times N$  matrix

$$\left[ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{N \text{ elements}} \right]$$

$N$ -dimensional **column vector** is just an  $N \times 1$  matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \phantom{x} \\ \phantom{x} \\ \phantom{x} \end{array} \right] \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} \phantom{x} \\ \phantom{x} \\ \phantom{x} \end{array}} \right\} N \text{ elements}$$

## Convention:

Use a Row vector to represent known coefficients

$$[a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_N]$$

Use a column vector to represent unknowns

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$$



## Aside: Representing a Linear Eq in Matrix Form

- Suppose we have  $N$  unknowns  $x_1, \dots, x_N$  and an equation of the form

$$a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_N x_N = b \quad (**)$$

known quantities

- Eq (\*\*\*) in matrix form:

$$[a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_N] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix} = b$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{j=1}^N a_j x_j = b$$

- Convention:

Use a Row vector to represent known coefficients

$$[a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_N]$$

Use a column vector to represent unknowns

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$$

## Aside: Representing Linear Eqs in Matrix Form

---

- Suppose we have  $N$  unknowns  $x_1, \dots, x_N$  and a system of  $M$  equations

$$(i=1, \dots, M) \quad a_{i1} x_1 + a_{i2} x_2 + \dots + a_{iN} x_N = b_i \quad (***)$$

known quantities

$$\begin{array}{l} i=1 \\ i=k \\ i=M \end{array} \begin{array}{l} [a_{i1} \ a_{i2} \ \dots \ a_{iN}] \\ [a_{k1} \ a_{k2} \ \dots \ a_{kN}] \\ [a_{M1} \ a_{M2} \ \dots \ a_{MN}] \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{array} \right] \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{array} \right] \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{array} \right] \end{array} = \begin{array}{l} b_1 \\ b_k \\ b_M \end{array}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (i=1, \dots, M) \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} x_j = b_i$$

# Aside: Representing Linear Eqs in Matrix Form

- Suppose we have  $N$  unknowns  $x_1, \dots, x_N$  and a system of  $M$  equations

$$(i=1, \dots, M) \quad a_{i1} x_1 + a_{i2} x_2 + \dots + a_{iN} x_N = b_i \quad (***)$$

known quantities

System (\*\*\*) in matrix form:

$$\begin{aligned} i=1 & \quad [a_{11} \quad a_{12} \quad \dots \quad a_{1N}] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix} = b_1 \\ i=k & \quad [a_{k1} \quad a_{k2} \quad \dots \quad a_{kN}] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix} = b_k \\ i=M & \quad [a_{M1} \quad a_{M2} \quad \dots \quad a_{MN}] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix} = b_M \end{aligned}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (i=1, \dots, M) \quad \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} x_j = b_i$$

$$\Leftrightarrow AX = b$$