



GENERATIONS / VANCOUVER  
14-16 AUGUST  
SIGGRAPH2018

# Real-Time Neural Rendering In Image Space

Anton Kaplanyan, Facebook Reality Labs



GENERATIONS / VANCOUVER  
10-16 August  
SIGGRAPH2018

# Why Neural Rendering at Facebook?

# Facebook Reality Labs

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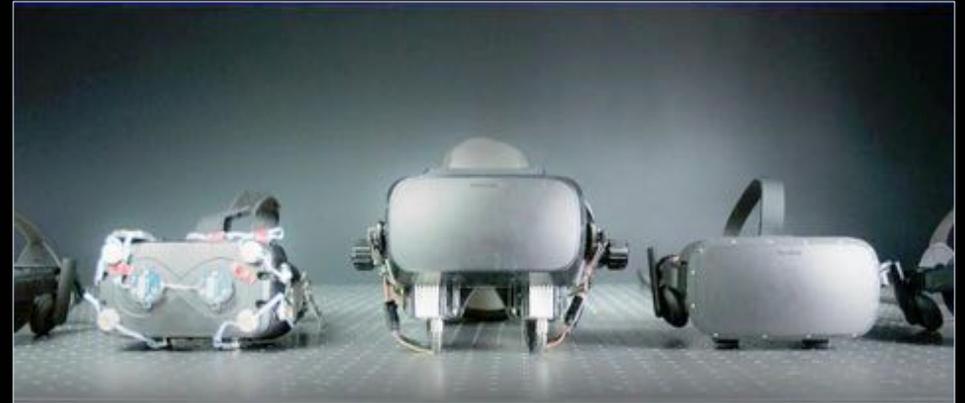
Former Oculus Research, located in Redmond, WA

Work on consumer VR/AR/MR

Graphics team: next generation graphics for VR/AR

- real-time ray casting
- machine learning
- perceptual rendering
- metaverse ecosystem

...next generation rendering for head-mounted displays

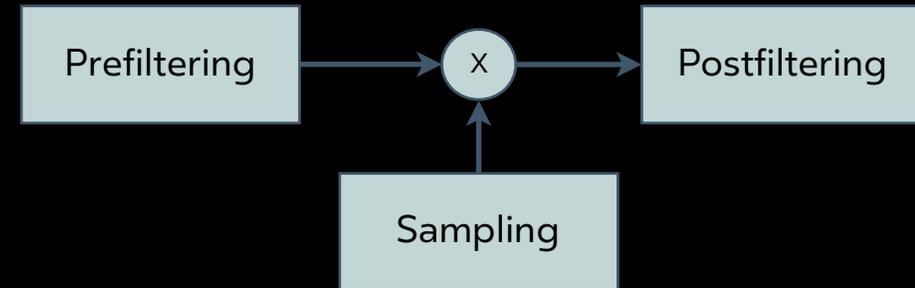


**facebook** Reality Labs

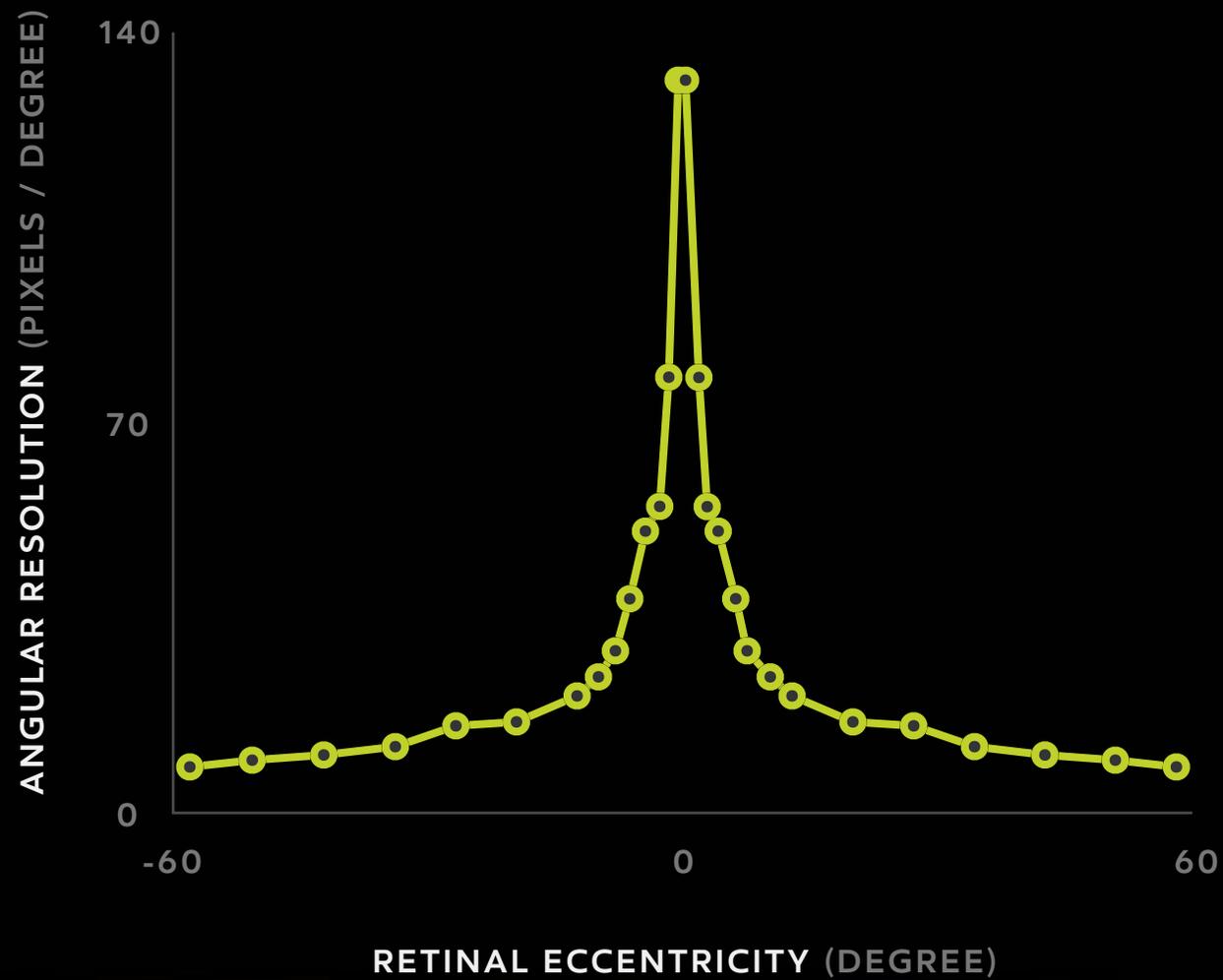
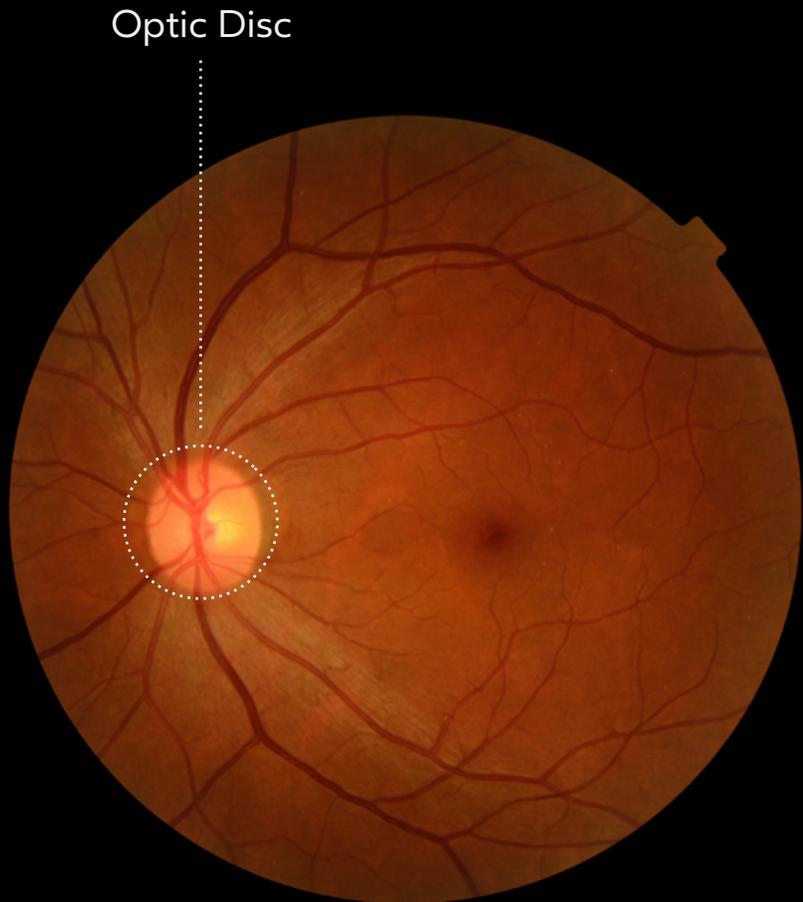
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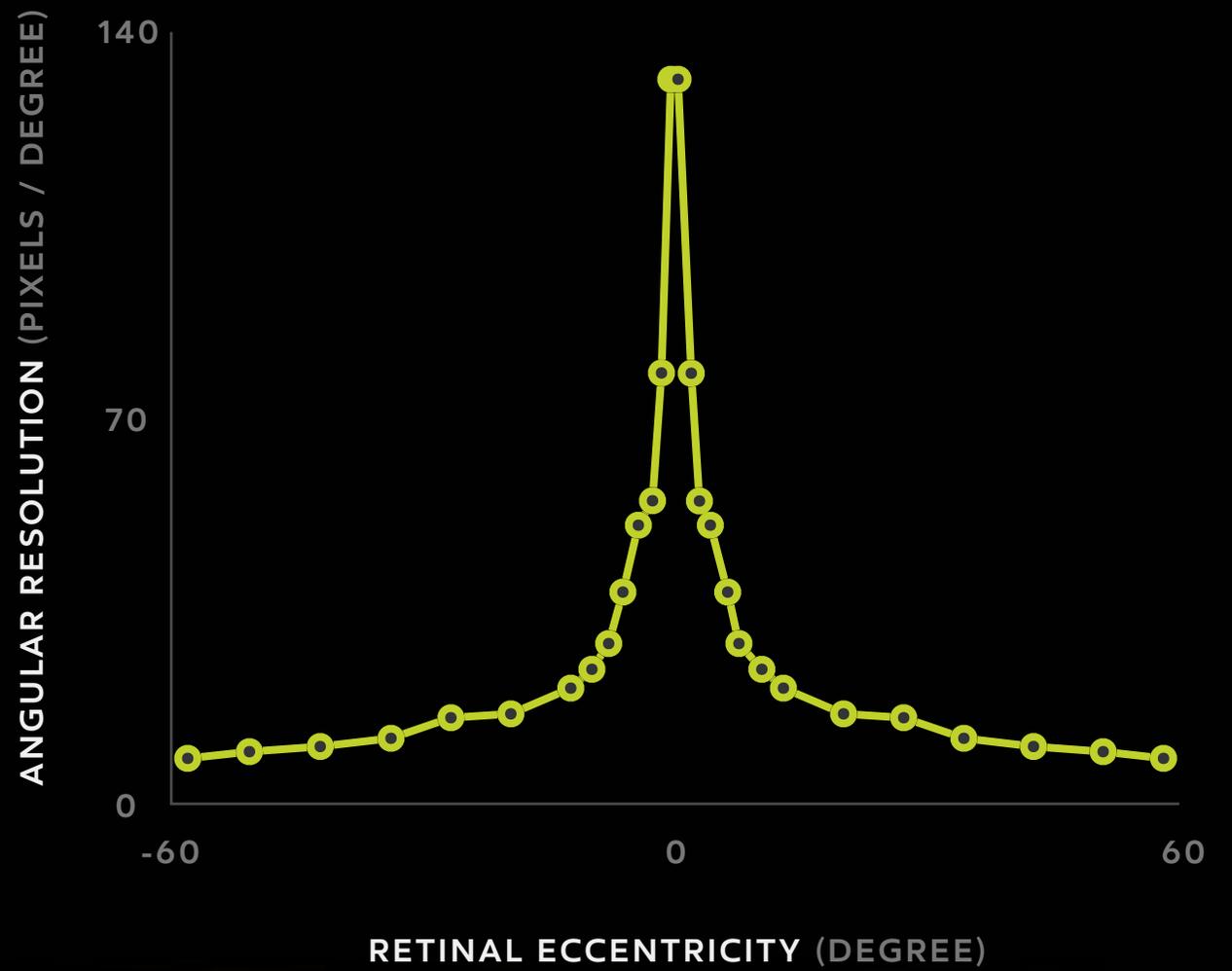
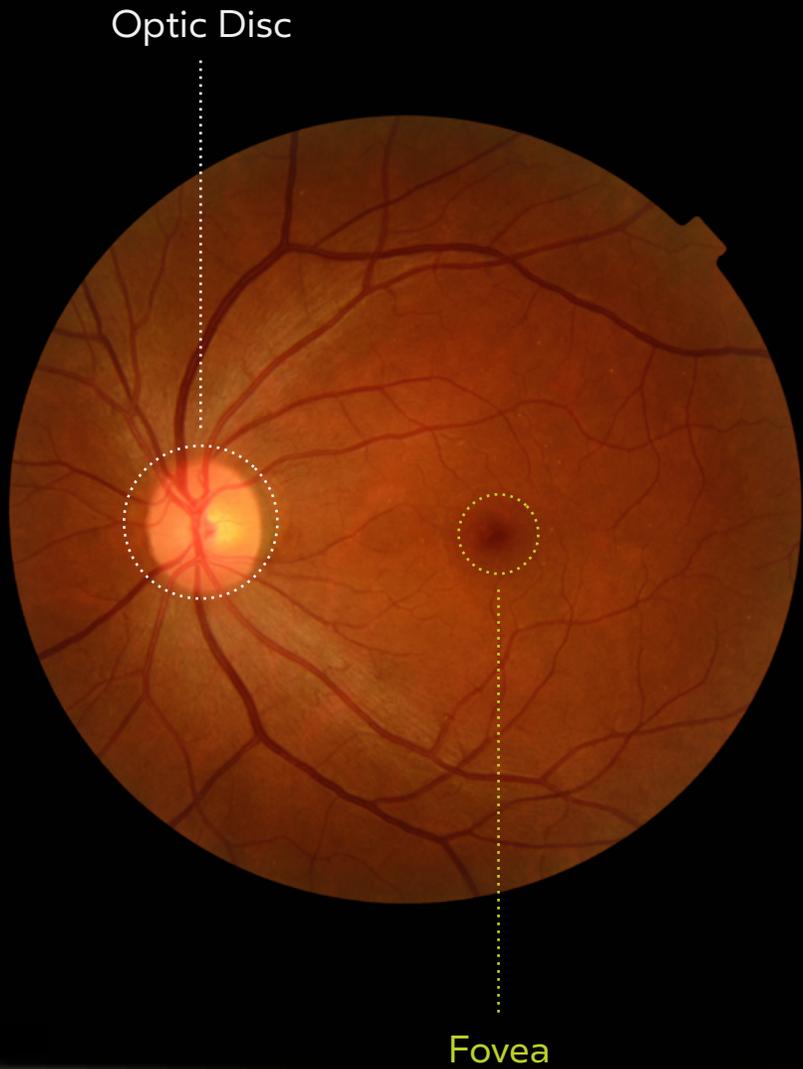
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- Rendering as signal processing
  - Prefiltering
  - Sampling
  - Postfiltering
- Local approximations
  - New material models
  - Sampling and variance reduction
  - Texture compression
- Content creation
  - Texture synthesis







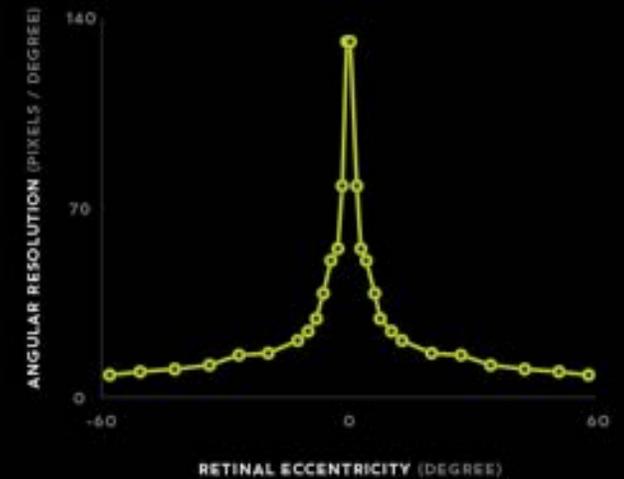
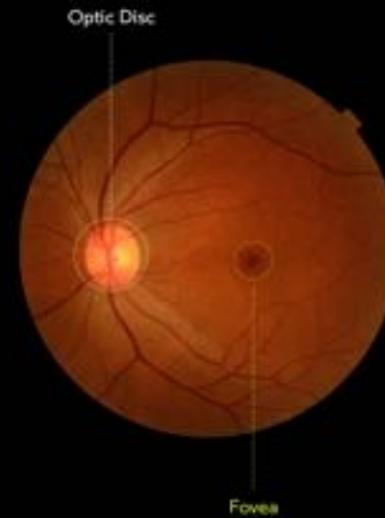
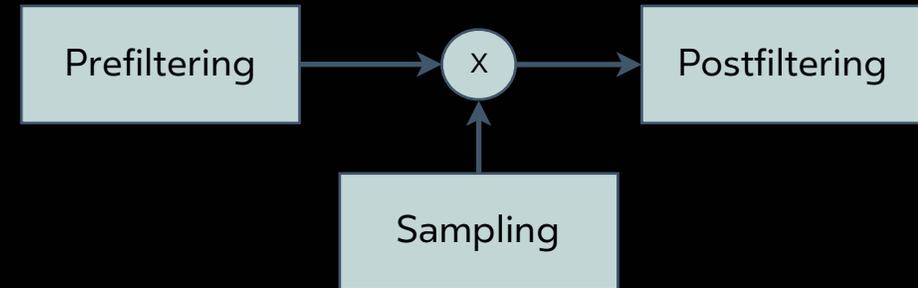






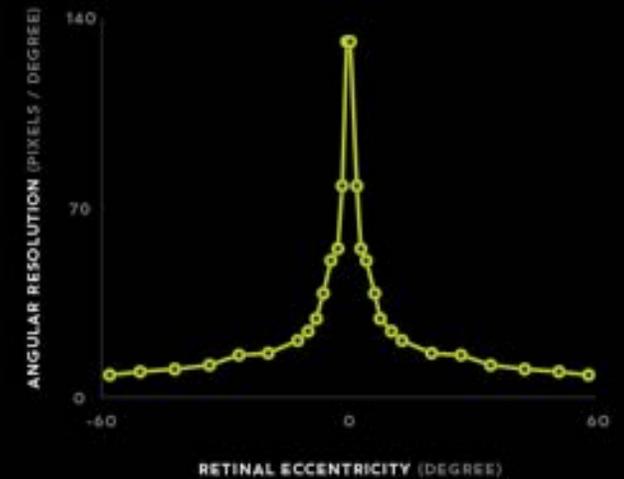
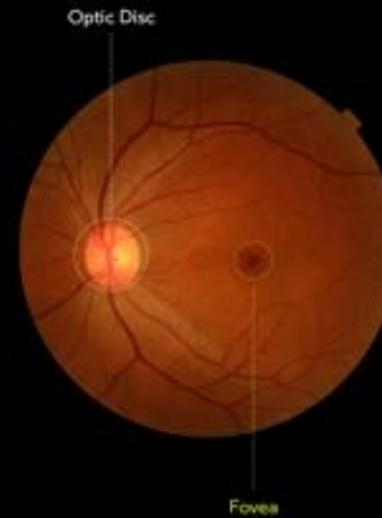
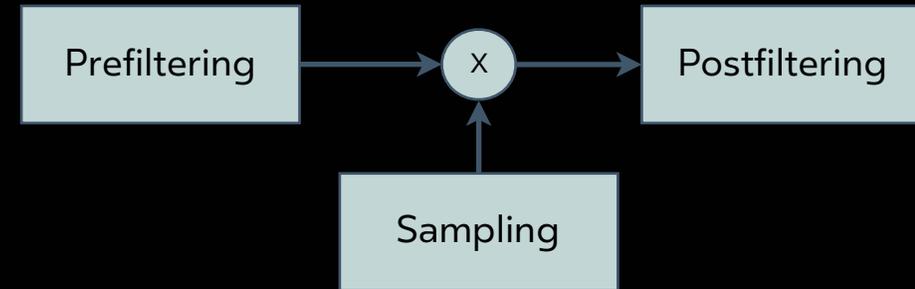
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- Signal processing
  - Prefiltering
  - Sampling
  - Postfiltering
- Perceptual imagery



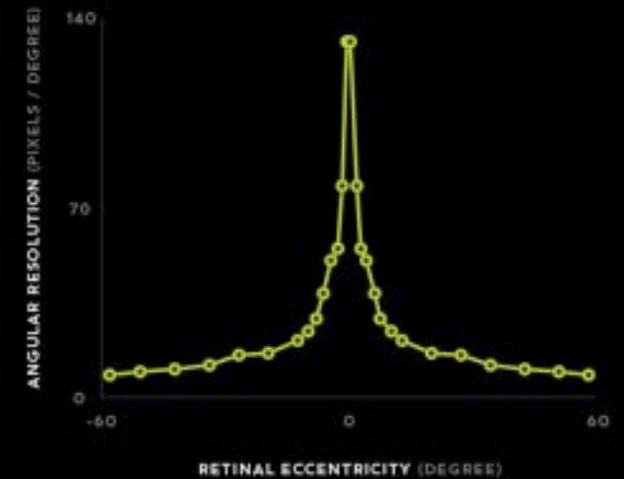
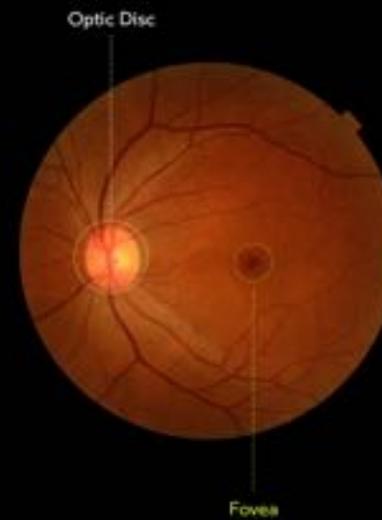
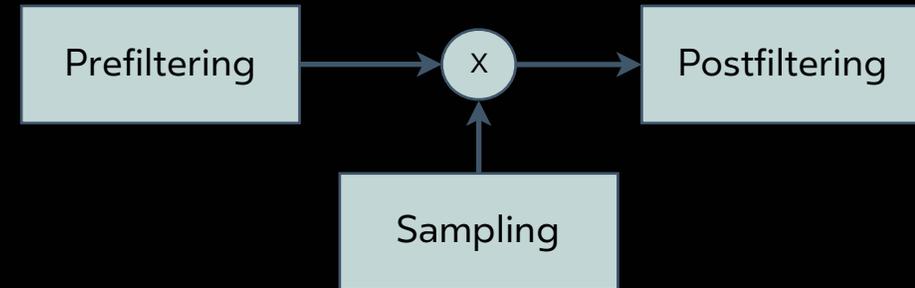
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- Signal processing
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- Perceptual imagery
  - Foveation and peripheral degradation



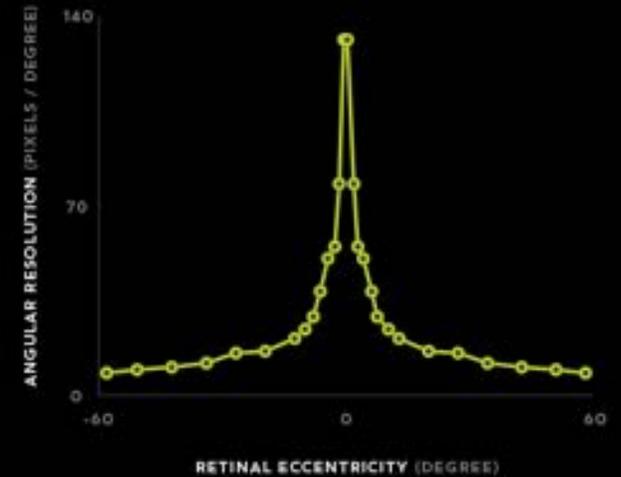
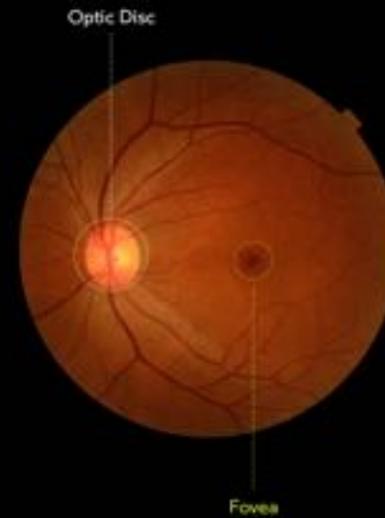
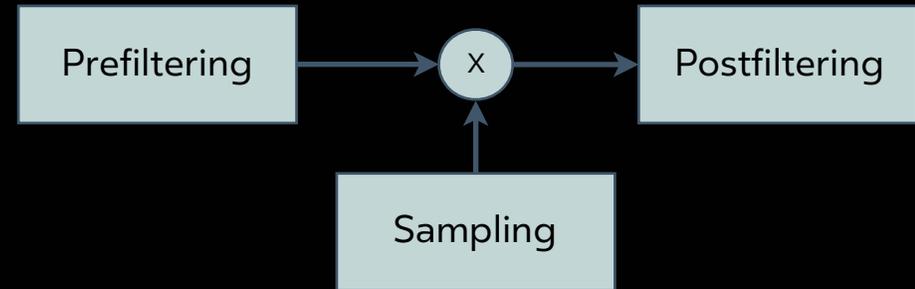
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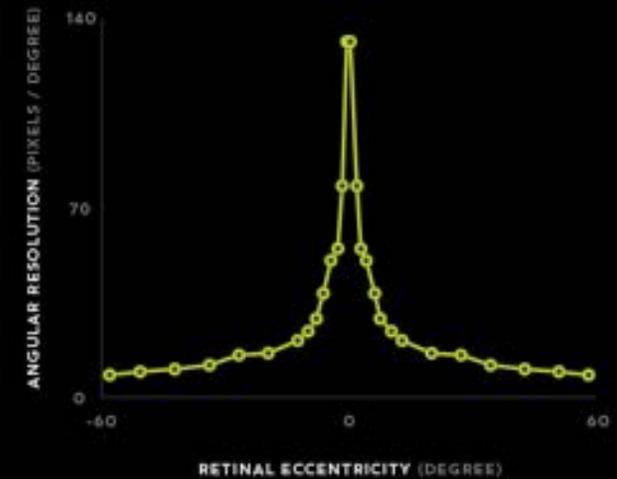
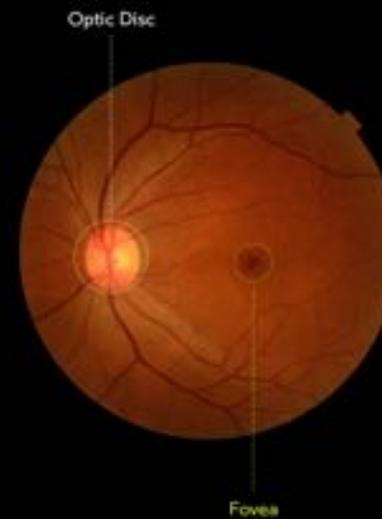
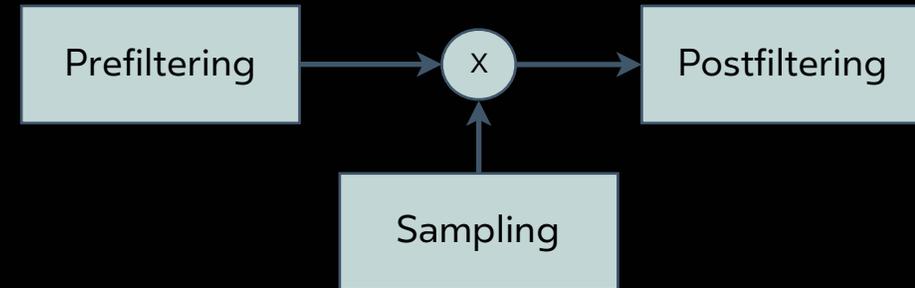
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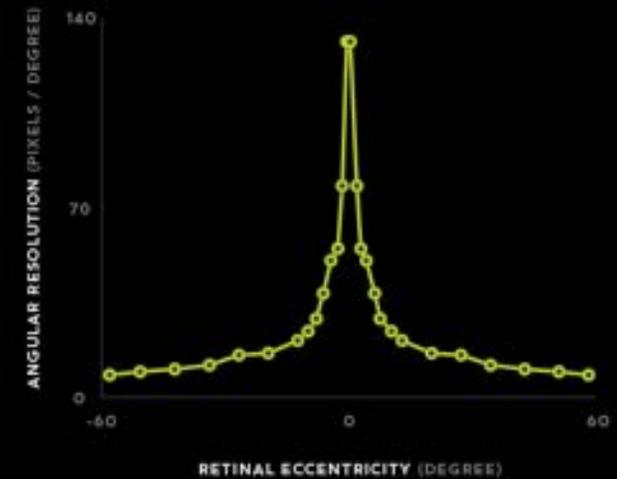
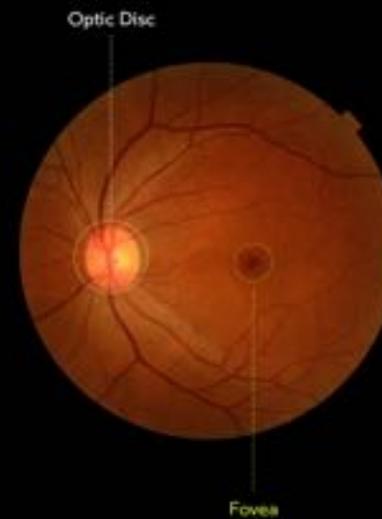
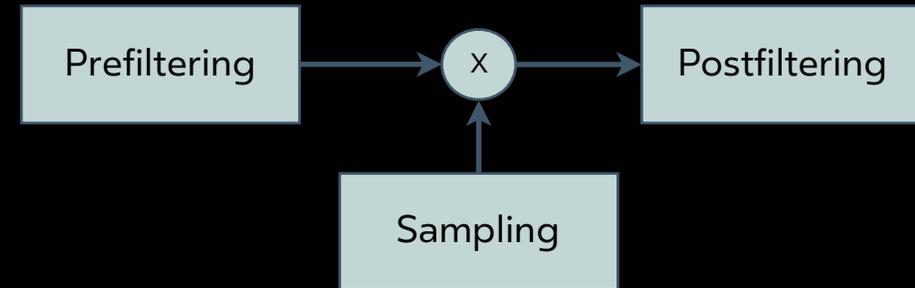
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  - Foveation and peripheral degradation
  - Saliency and attention
  - Local image consistency
  - Temporal consistency
  - High-level scene understanding



# Some Prior Art

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- Prefiltering
  - Global illumination with radiance regression functions [Ren13]
- Sampling
  - End-to-end Sampling Patterns [Leimkuehler18]
- Postfiltering
  - A machine learning approach for filtering Monte Carlo noise [Kalantari15]
  - Kernel-Predicting Convolutional Networks for Denoising Monte Carlo Renderings [Bako17]
  - Interactive Reconstruction of Monte Carlo Image Sequences using a Recurrent Denoising Autoencoder [Chaitanya17]
- Neural scene representation and rendering
  - Full CV and CG pipeline [DeepMind18]



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# Interactive Reconstruction of Monte Carlo Image Sequences Using a Recurrent Denoising Autoencoder

work done at Nvidia with Chakravarty R. Alla Chaitanya, Christoph Schied,  
Marco Salvi, Aaron Lefohn, Derek Nowrouzezahrai, Timo Aila

# Global Illumination in Movies and Games

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- Used in games
  - Precomputed lighting
  - Coarse real-time approximations
- Movies
  - Monte Carlo noisy images
  - Denoising is essential

# Real-Time Reconstruction

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# Real-Time Reconstruction

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- Limited to a few rays per pixel @1080p @30Hz
  - Never enough to render an image!

# Real-Time Reconstruction

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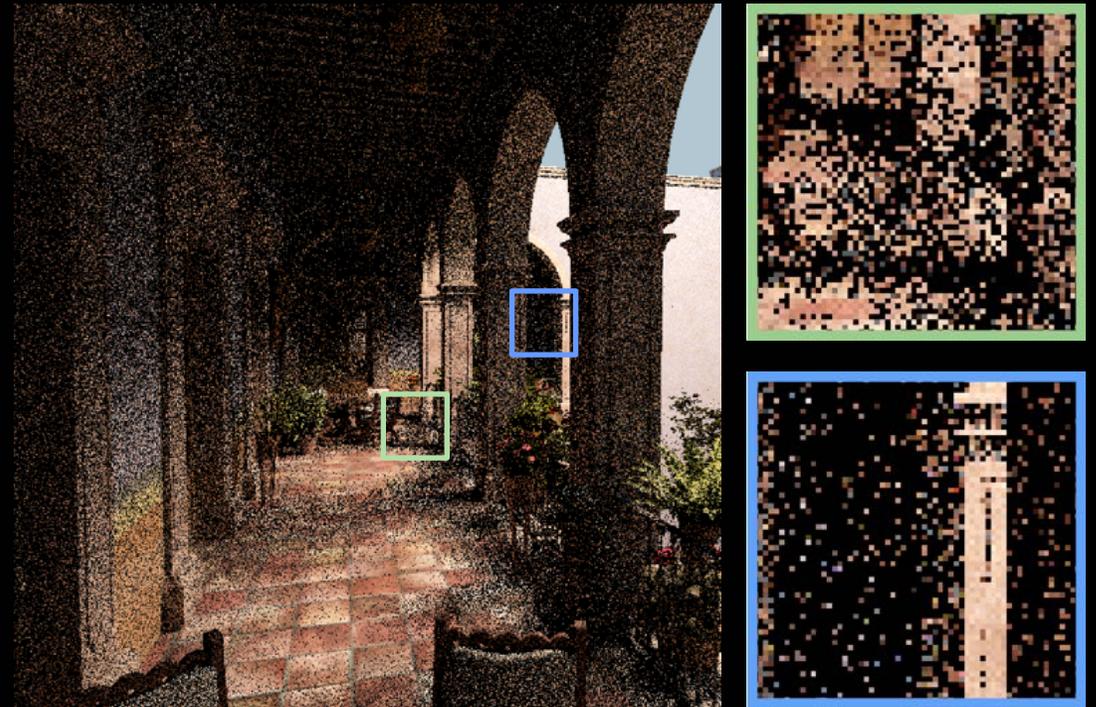
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- Deep learning approach for interactive graphics
  - Handle generic effects
    - Soft shadows
    - Diffuse and specular reflections
    - Global illumination (1 bounce)

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Noisy input



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## Neural reconstruction

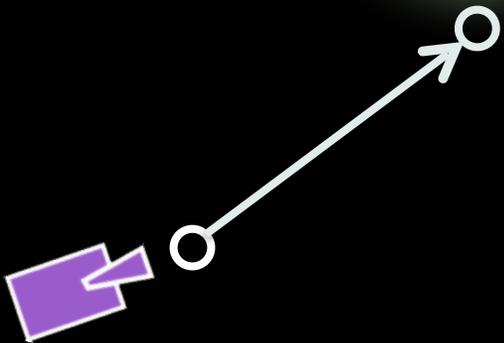


# Problem Setup: Real-Time Path Tracing

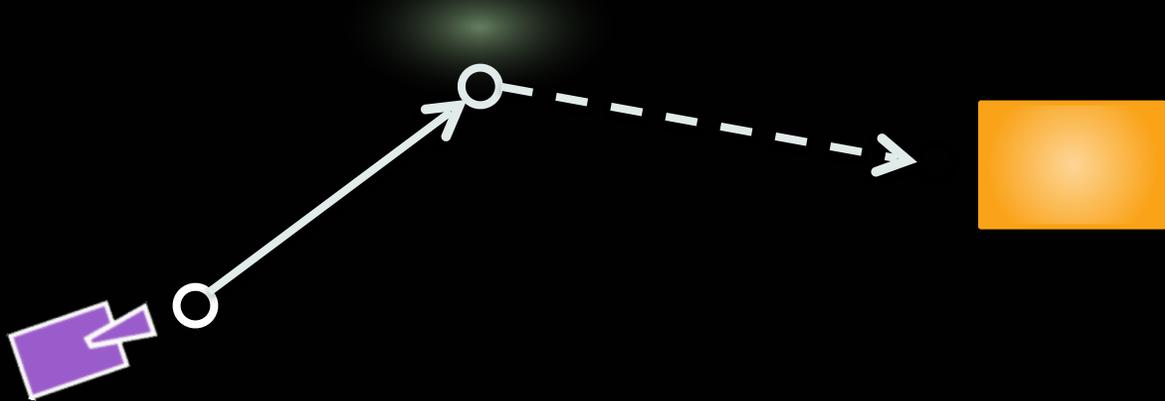
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# Problem Setup: Real-Time Path Tracing

Rasterize primary hits into a G-Buffer

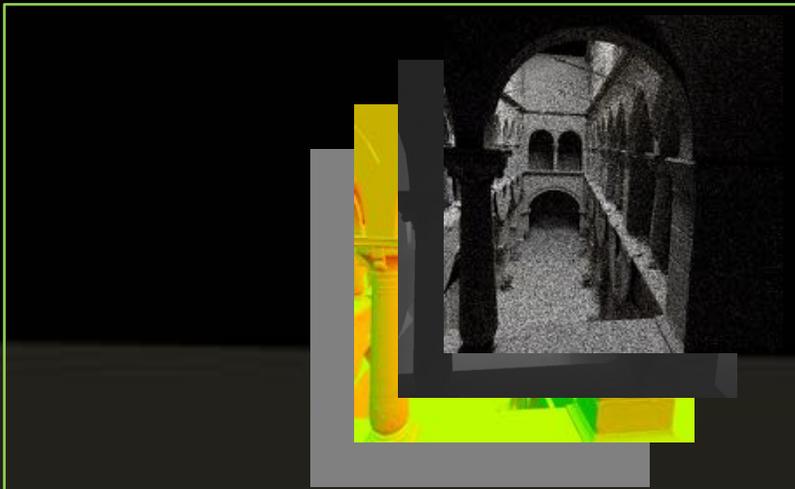


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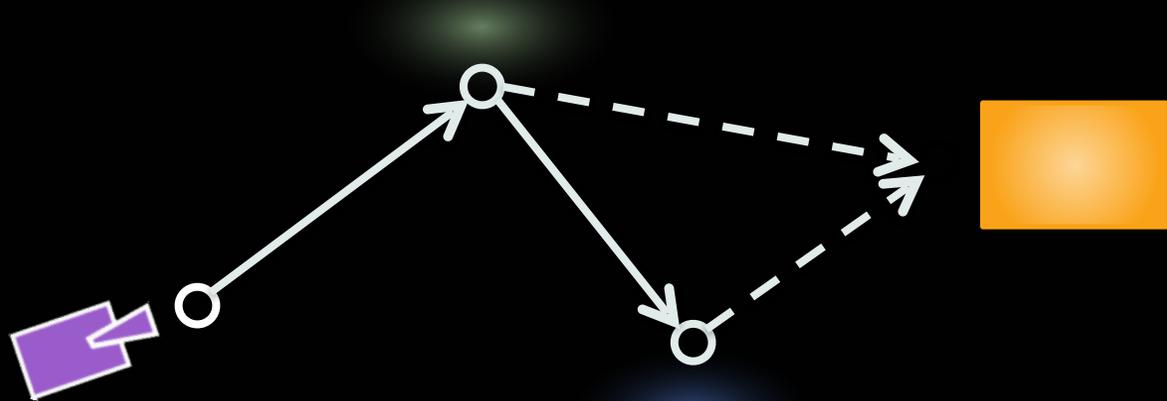


Rasterize primary hits into a G-Buffer

Path tracing from the primary hits  
1 ray for direct shadows



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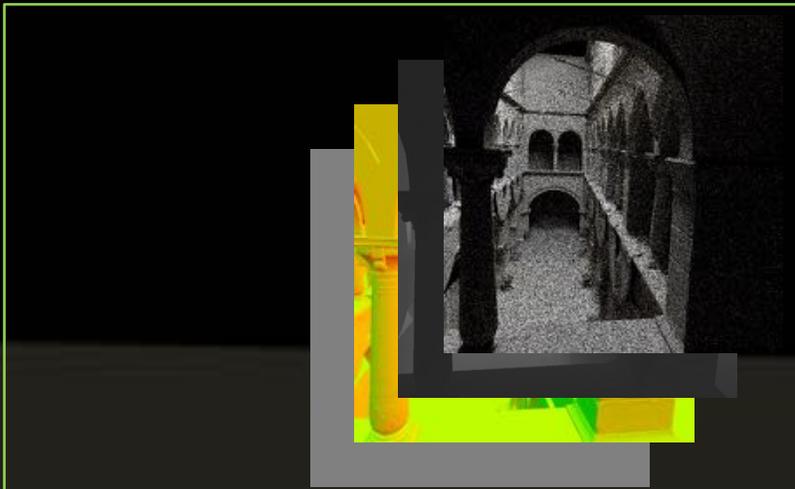


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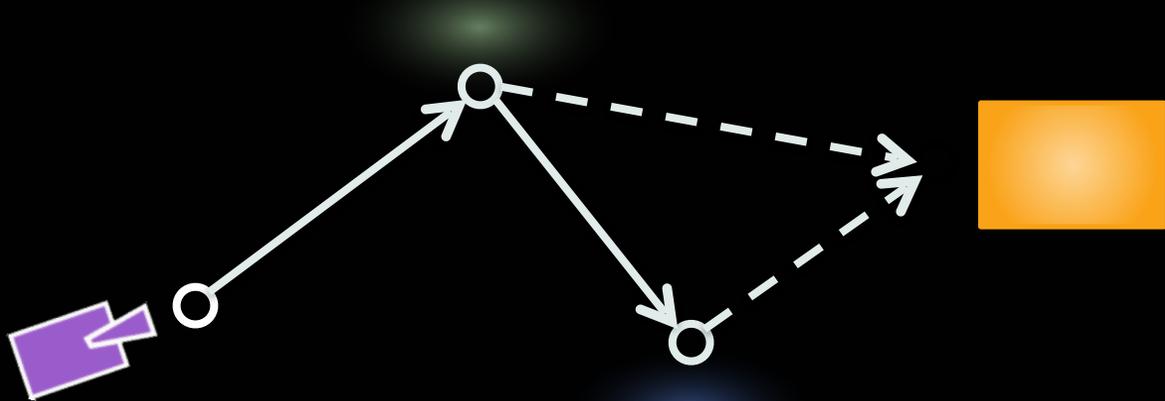
Path tracing from the primary hits

1 ray for direct shadows

2 rays for indirect (sample + connect)



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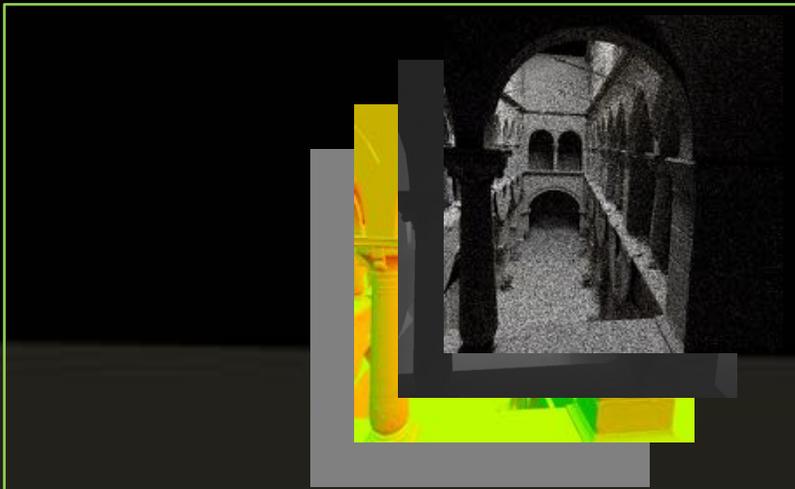
Rasterize primary hits into a G-Buffer

Path tracing from the primary hits

1 ray for direct shadows

2 rays for indirect (sample + connect)

1 direct + 1 indirect path := 1spp



## Related Work: Offline

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- Stein's unbiased risk estimate based filter [Li12]
- Denoising using feature and color [Rousselle13]

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- Denoising using feature and color [Rousselle13]
- Local regression models [Bitterli16, Moon15, Moon16]

# Related Work: Interactive

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- Frequency-space analysis of light transport [Mehta12, Mehta13, Mehta14, Yan15]

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- Frequency-space analysis of light transport [Mehta12, Mehta13, Mehta14, Yan15]
- Edge-avoiding wavelet filter [Dammertz10]
- Guided image filters [Bauszat15]
- Texture space [Munkberg16]

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- Image inpainting [Pathak16]
- Single-image super resolution [Ledig16]

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- Learning based filter for Monte Carlo denoising [Kalantari15]
- Disney offline denoiser [Bako17, Vogels18]

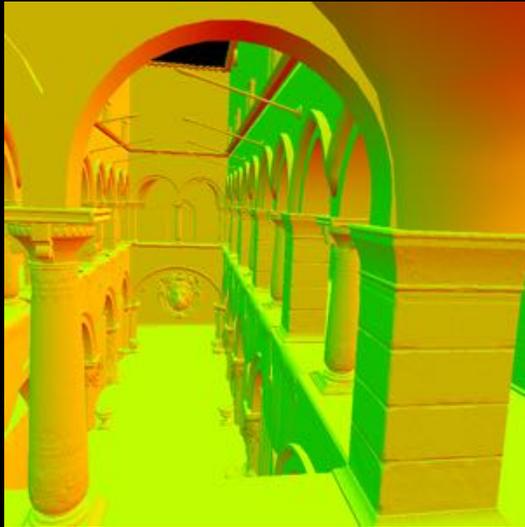
# Input Features

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- Additional features from primary visibility (G-Buffer)



Untextured  
illumination



View-space normals



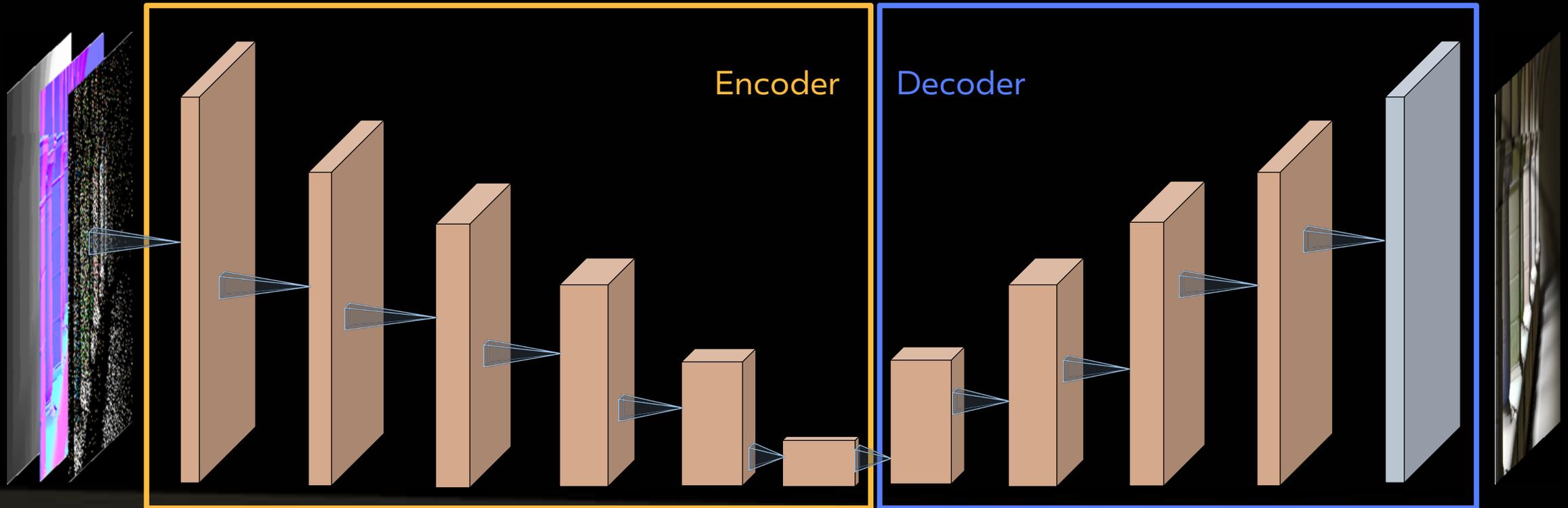
Linear depth  
and roughness

# U-Net Design

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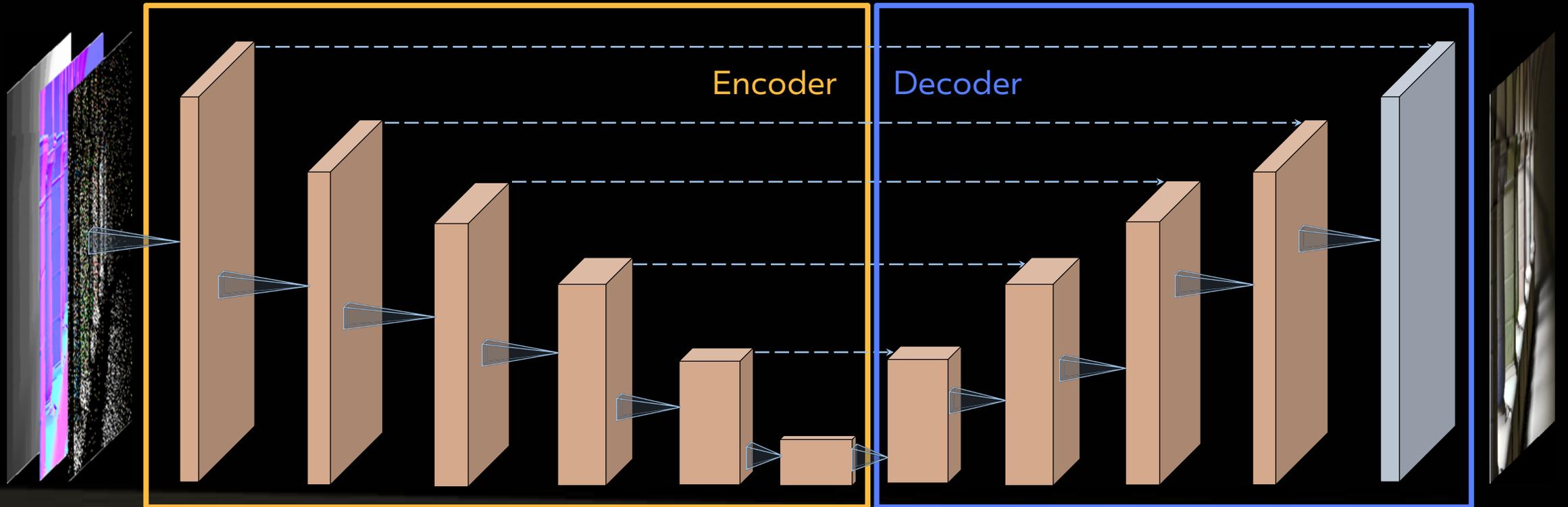
# U-Net Design

- Encoder and decoder stages of a U-Net for hierarchical representation



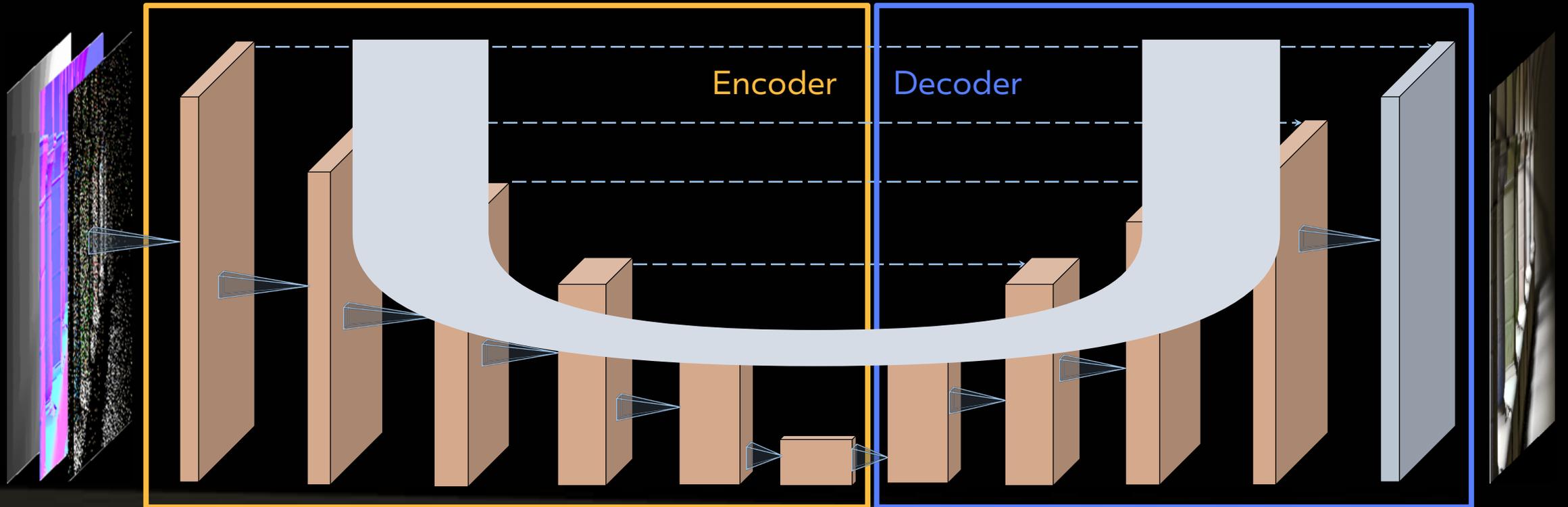
# U-Net Design

- Encoder and decoder stages of a U-Net for hierarchical representation
- Skip connections to pass high frequencies and learn residuals



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# Training sequences



Sponza Diffuse



Sponza Glossy



Classroom

# Training sequences



Sponza Diffuse

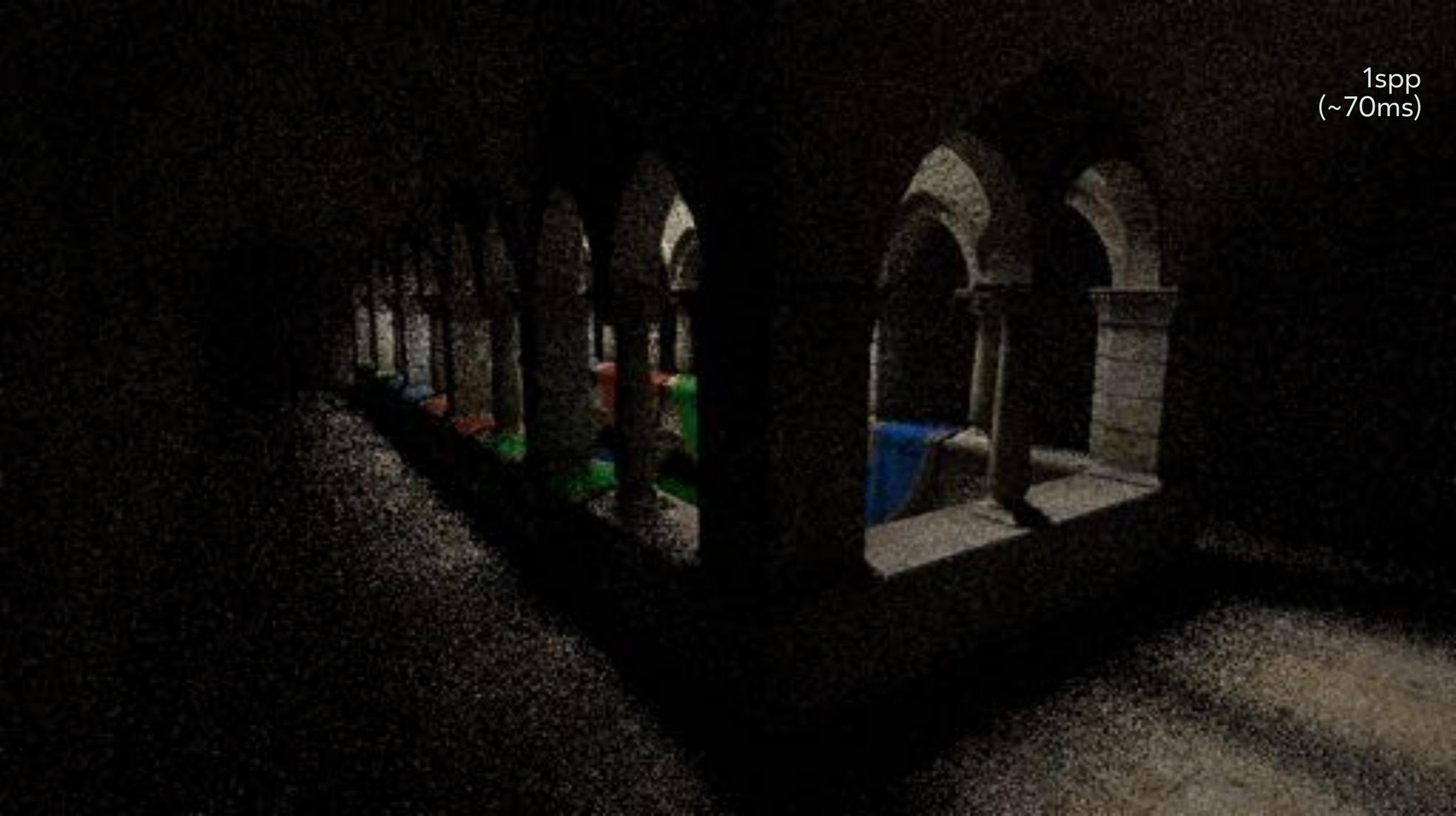


Sponza Glossy



Classroom

1spp  
(~70ms)



U-Net (1spp)  
(~70ms + ~60ms)



Reference (1024 spp)  
(~240s)



Image-to-image results

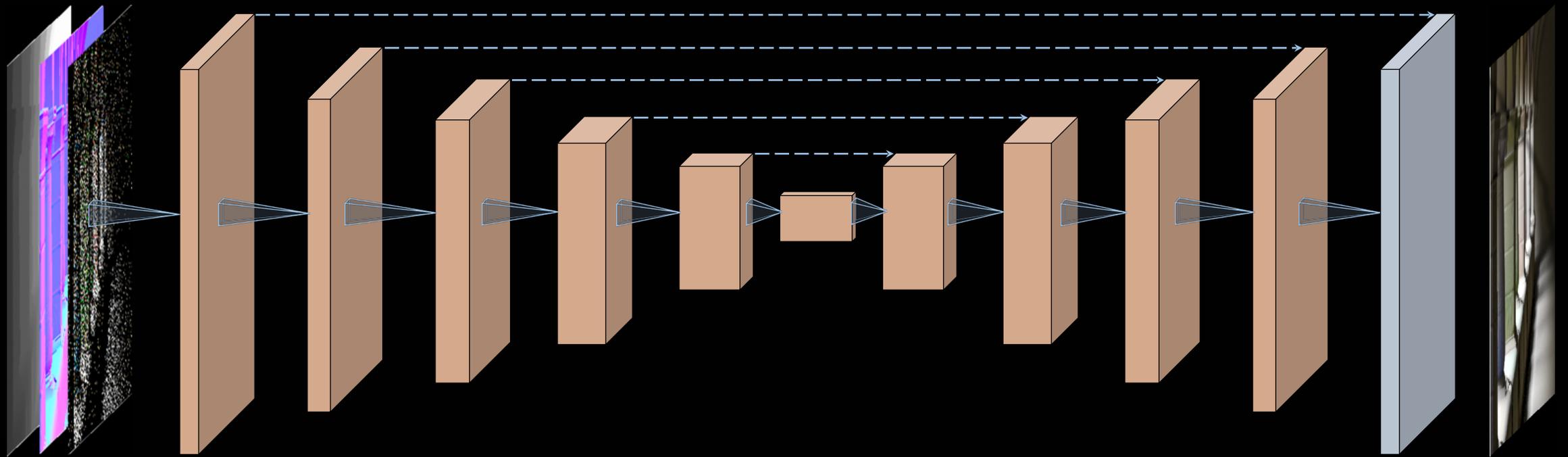


Image-to-image results



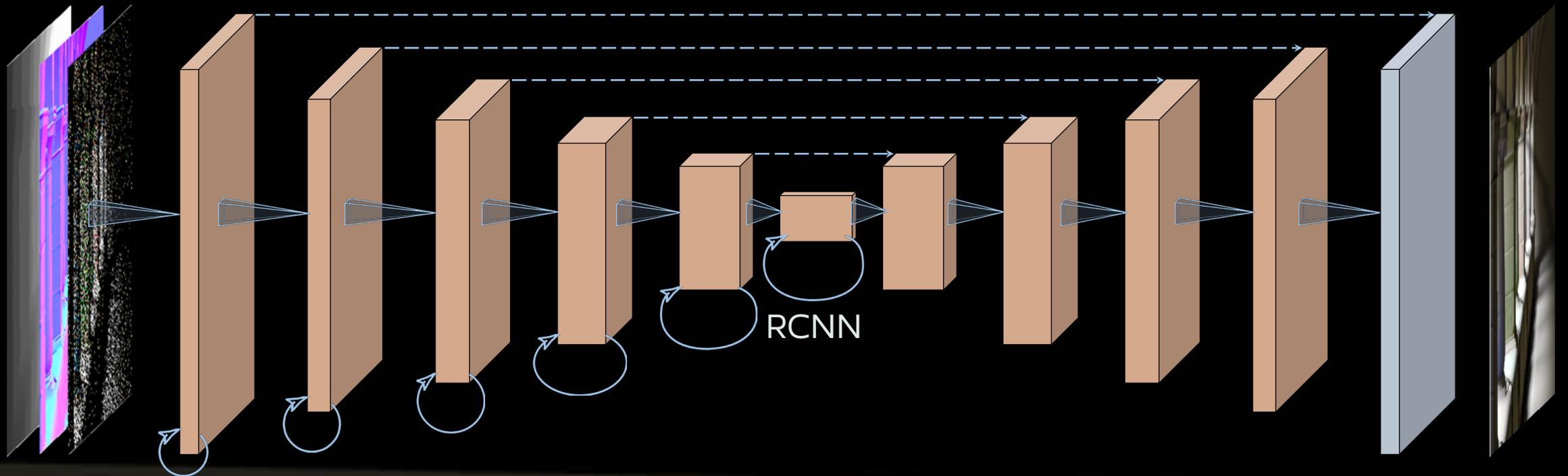
# Temporal Stability

# Recurrent U-Net



# Recurrent U-Net

- Recurrent connections retain important features at different scales over time



# Recurrent Block

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---

- Fully convolutional blocks to support arbitrary image resolution

# Recurrent Block

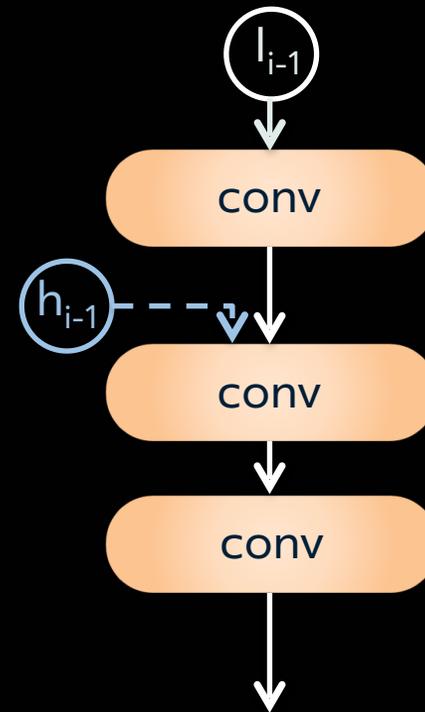
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- Fully convolutional blocks to support arbitrary image resolution
- 6 RNN blocks, one per pool layer in the encoder

# Recurrent Block

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- Design
  - 1 conv layer (3x3) for current features
  - 2 conv layers (3x3) for previous features

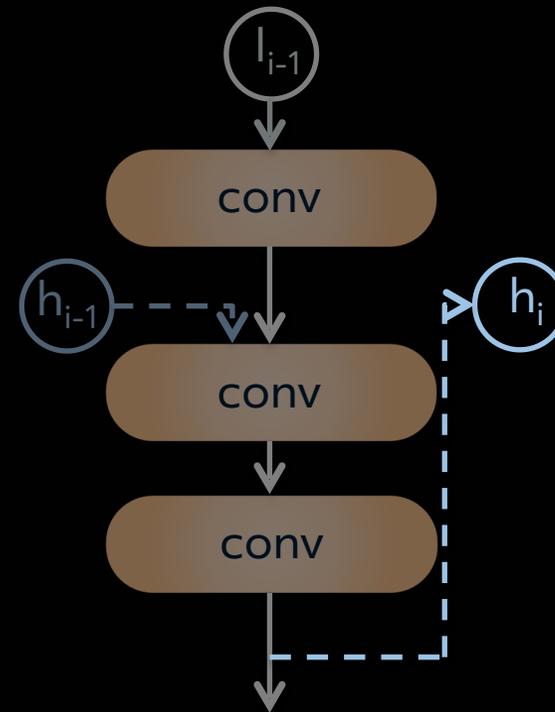
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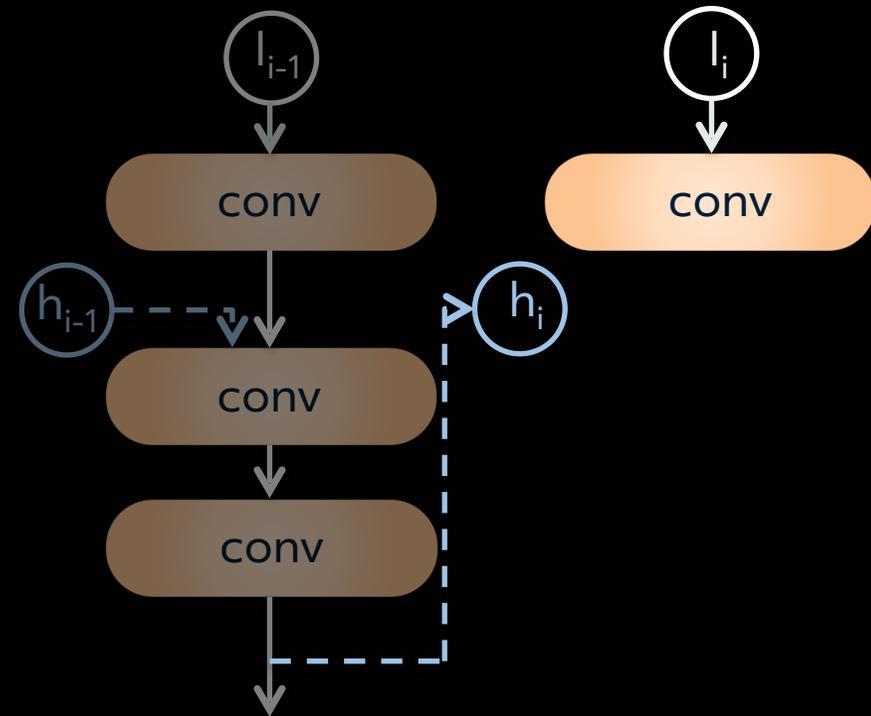
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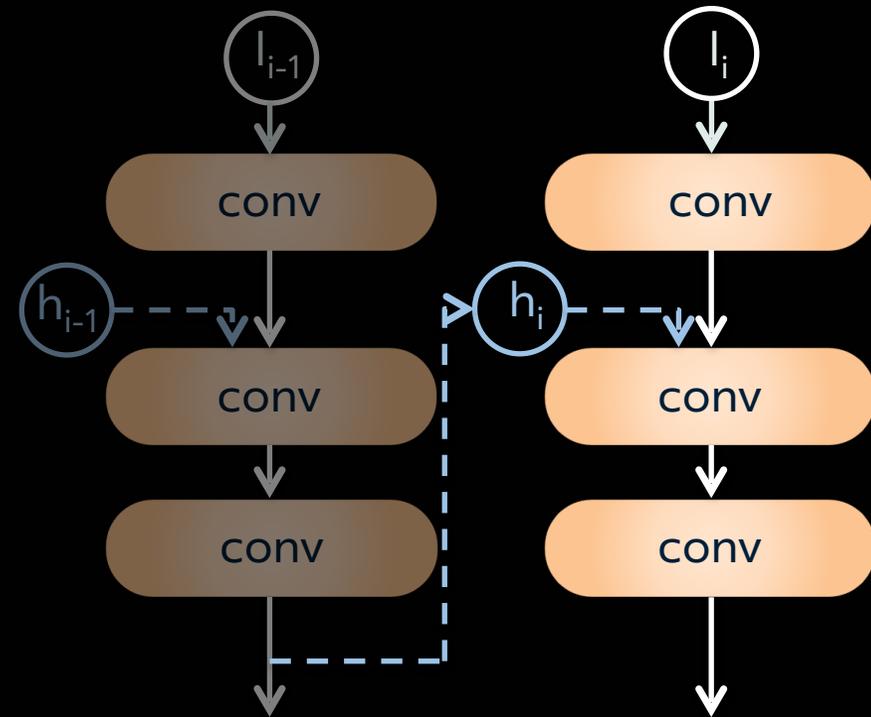
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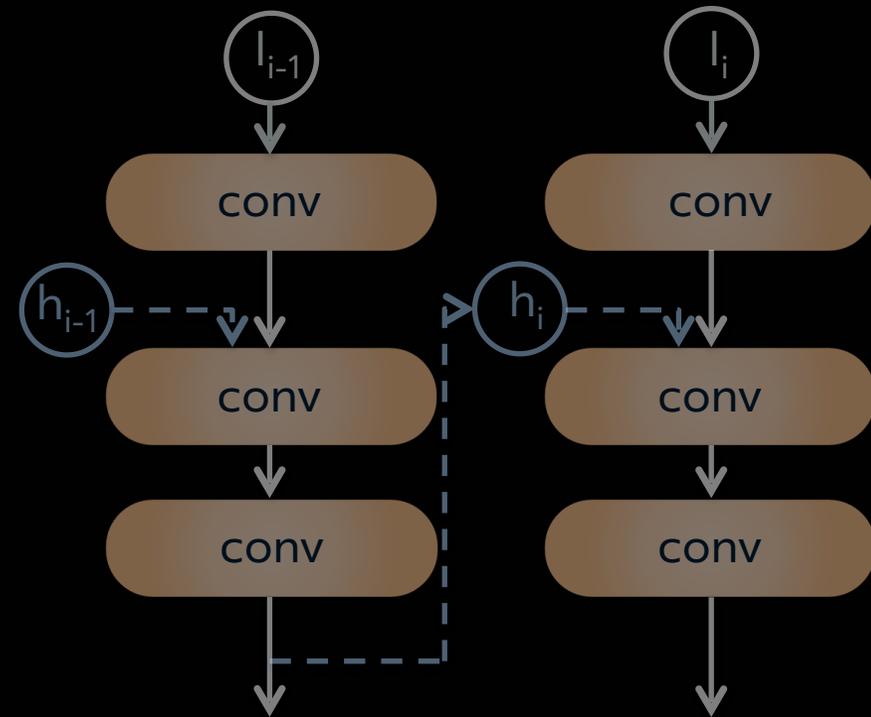
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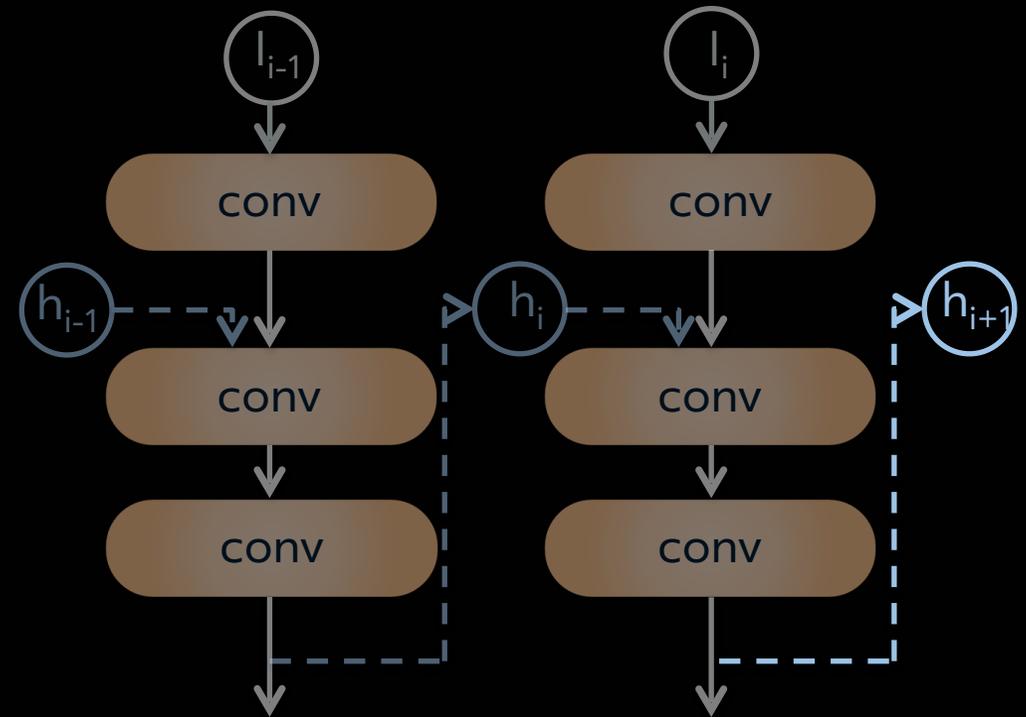
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## Recurrent Convolutional Block



# Temporal Training

---

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---

- Sequence of 7 frames

# Temporal Training

---

- Sequence of 7 frames
- Increase loss with number of frames

# Temporal Training

---

- Sequence of 7 frames
- Increase loss with number of frames
- Augmentation: Play the sequence forward/backward

# Temporal Training

---

- Sequence of 7 frames
- Increase loss with number of frames
- Augmentation: Play the sequence forward/backward
- Augmentation: Each frame can either advance or freeze the camera

# Loss Function

---

Spatial loss for more emphasis on dark regions

Temporal loss for better temporal stability

High Frequency Error Norm loss for stable edges  
[Ravishankar11]

Final training loss is a weighted combination

# Loss Function

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Spatial loss for more emphasis on dark regions

$$L_s = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N |P_i - T_i|$$

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Temporal loss for better temporal stability

$$L_t = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N \left( \left| \frac{\partial P_i}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial t} \right| \right)$$

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Final training loss is a weighted combination

$$L = w_s L_s + w_g L_g + w_t L_t$$

Recurrent U-Net  
with TAA



Recurrent U-Net



U-Net  
(image-to-image)



Recurrent U-Net  
with TAA



Recurrent U-Net



U-Net  
(image-to-image)



# Reconstruction Results

# San Miguel Results



# San Miguel Comparison Results

MC Input

AAF

EAW

SBF

Our

Reference



RMSE: 0.079

RMSE: 0.088

RMSE: 0.087

RMSE: 0.055



1 sample/pixel input

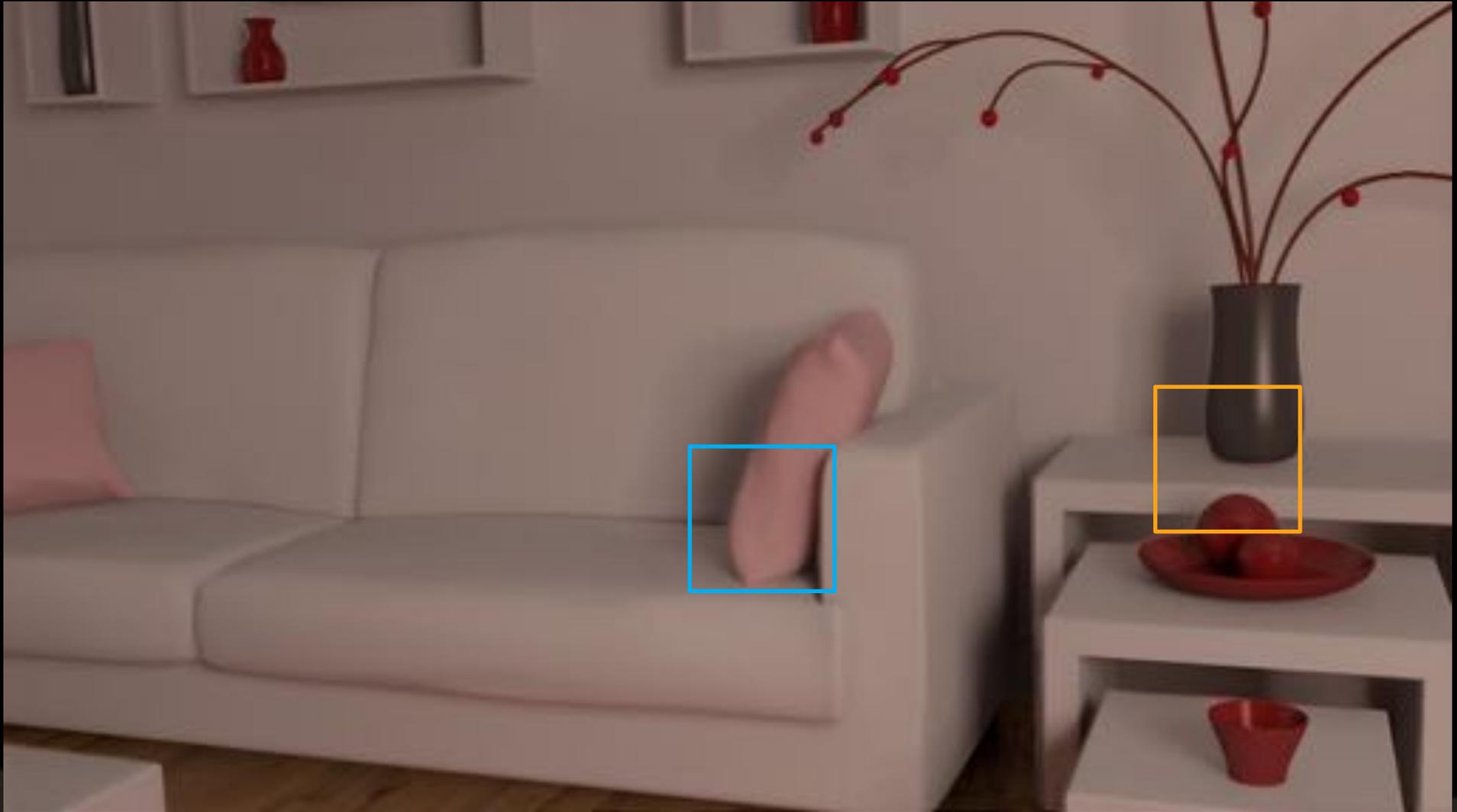


1 sample/pixel input



1 sample/pixel input

## Red Room Results

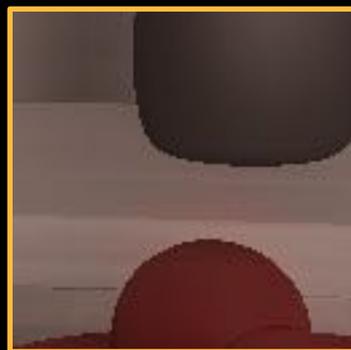


# Red Room Comparison Results

MC Input



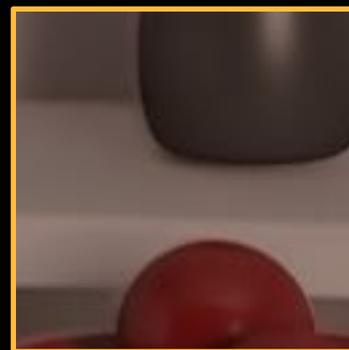
EAW



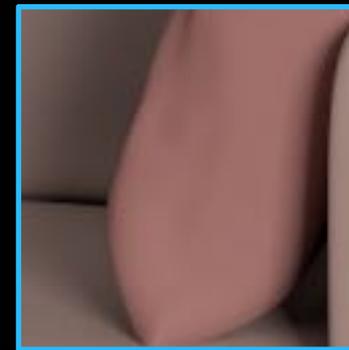
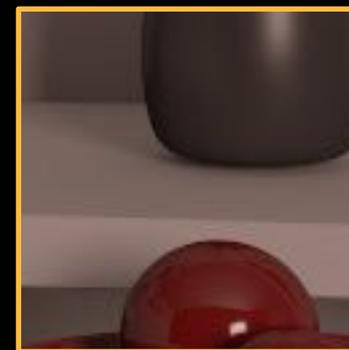
SBF



Our



Reference



RMSE: 0.041

RMSE: 0.052

RMSE: 0.029

**GENERALIZATION:  
OFFLINE 256SPP INPUT**

# Horse Room, 256spp



# Horse Room Comparisons

MC Input

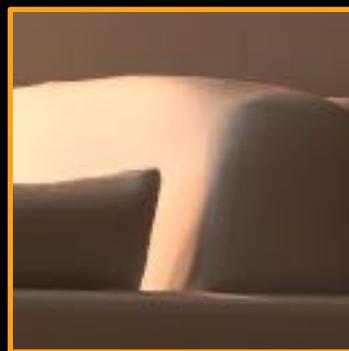
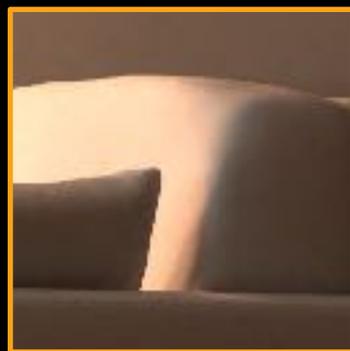
EAW

SBF

NFOR

Our

Reference



RMSE: 0.094

10.3ms

RMSE: 0.040

74.2ms

RMSE: 0.018

110s

RMSE: 0.034

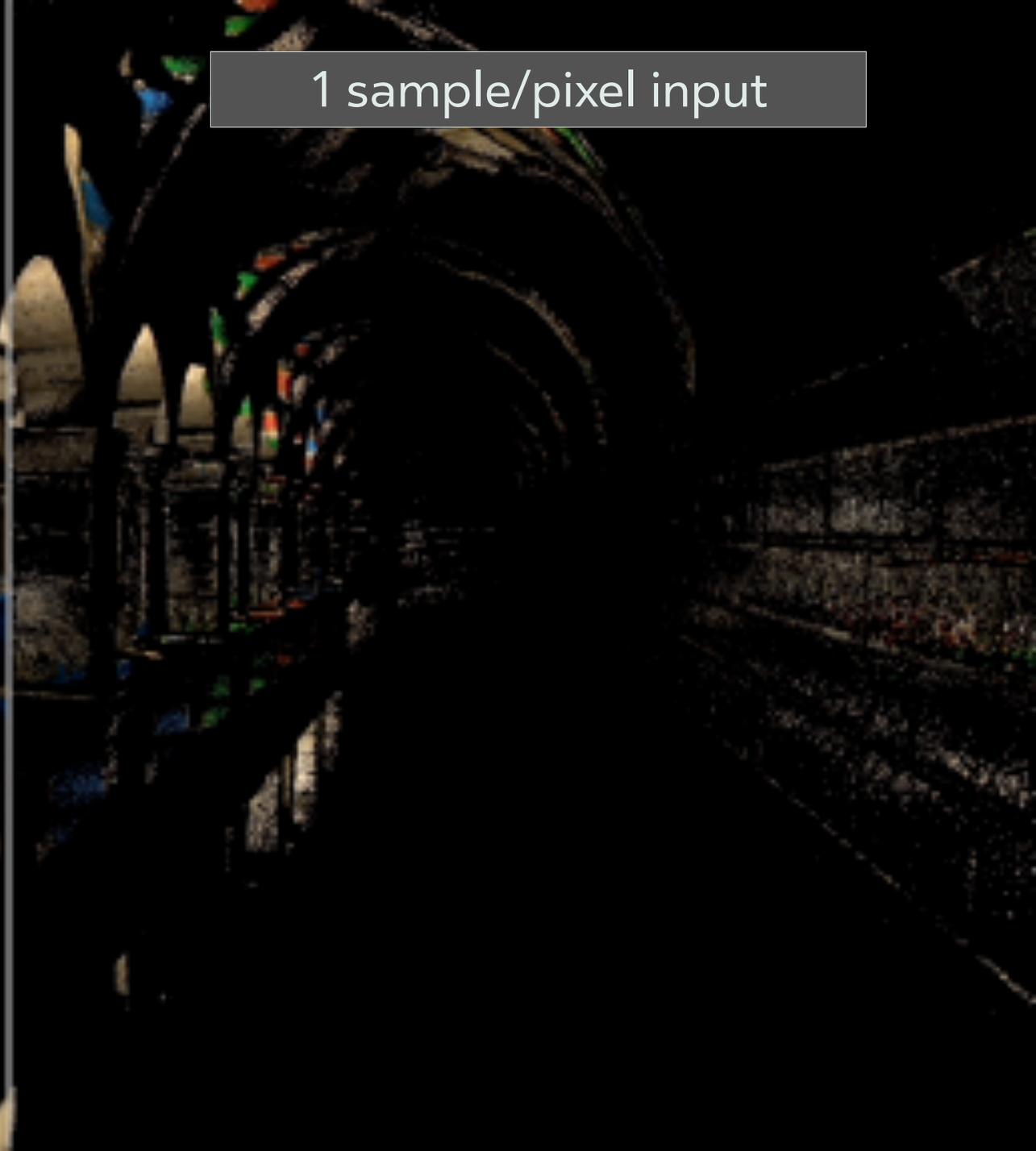
54.9ms

# GENERALIZATION: SPECULAR MATERIALS

Recurrent U-Net



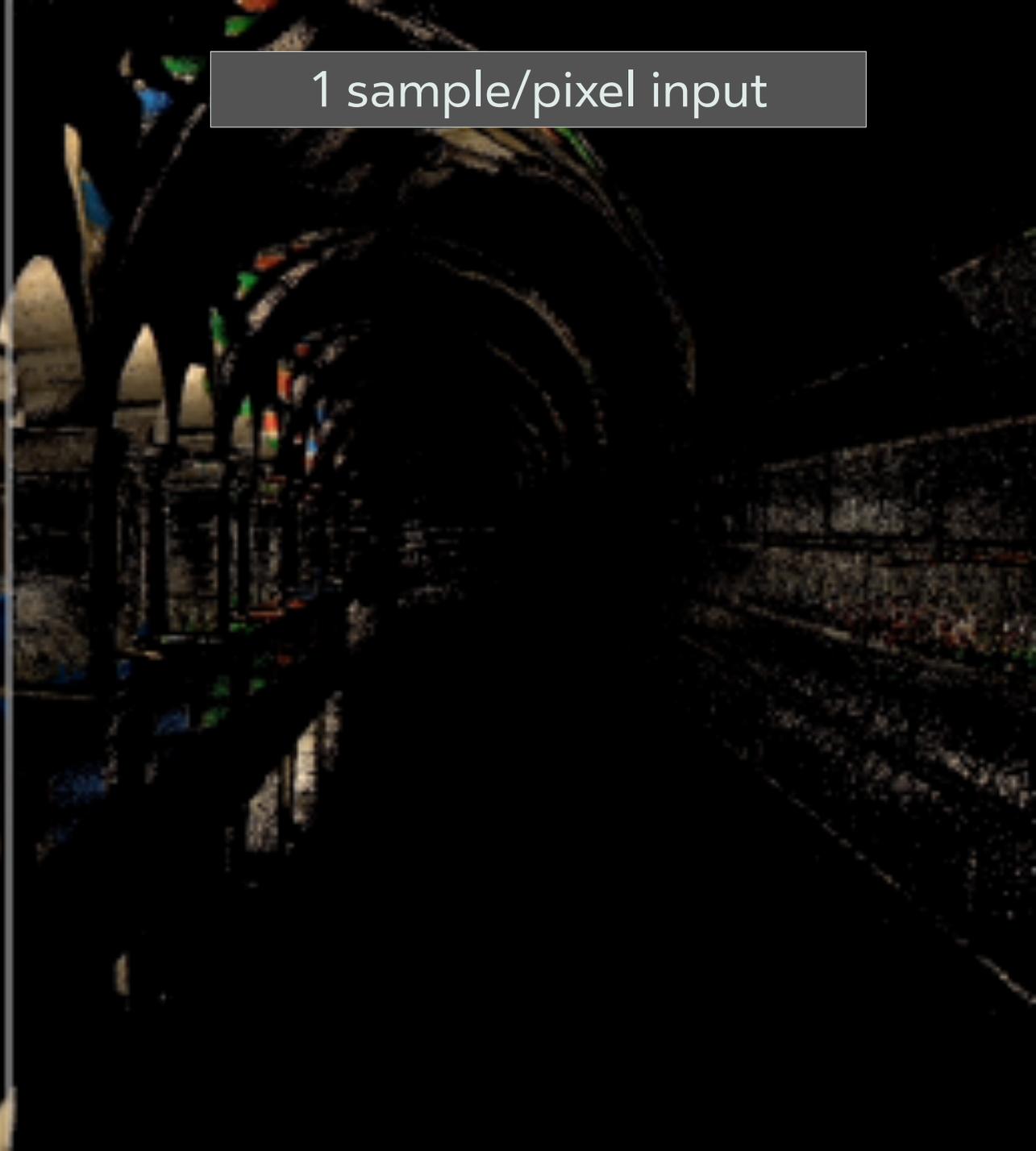
1 sample/pixel input



Recurrent U-Net



1 sample/pixel input

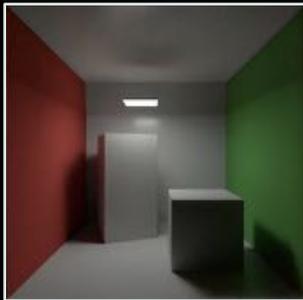


# Performance

---

- Optimized CUDA and cuDNN inference
  - Kudos to Jon Hasselgren and Jacob Munkberg
- **54.9ms** on NVIDIA Titan X (Pascal) on a 720p image
  - Volta is 3x faster, Turing is  $3 \times 3 = 9x$  faster?

RMSE



0.1

0.08

0.06

0.04

0.02

0

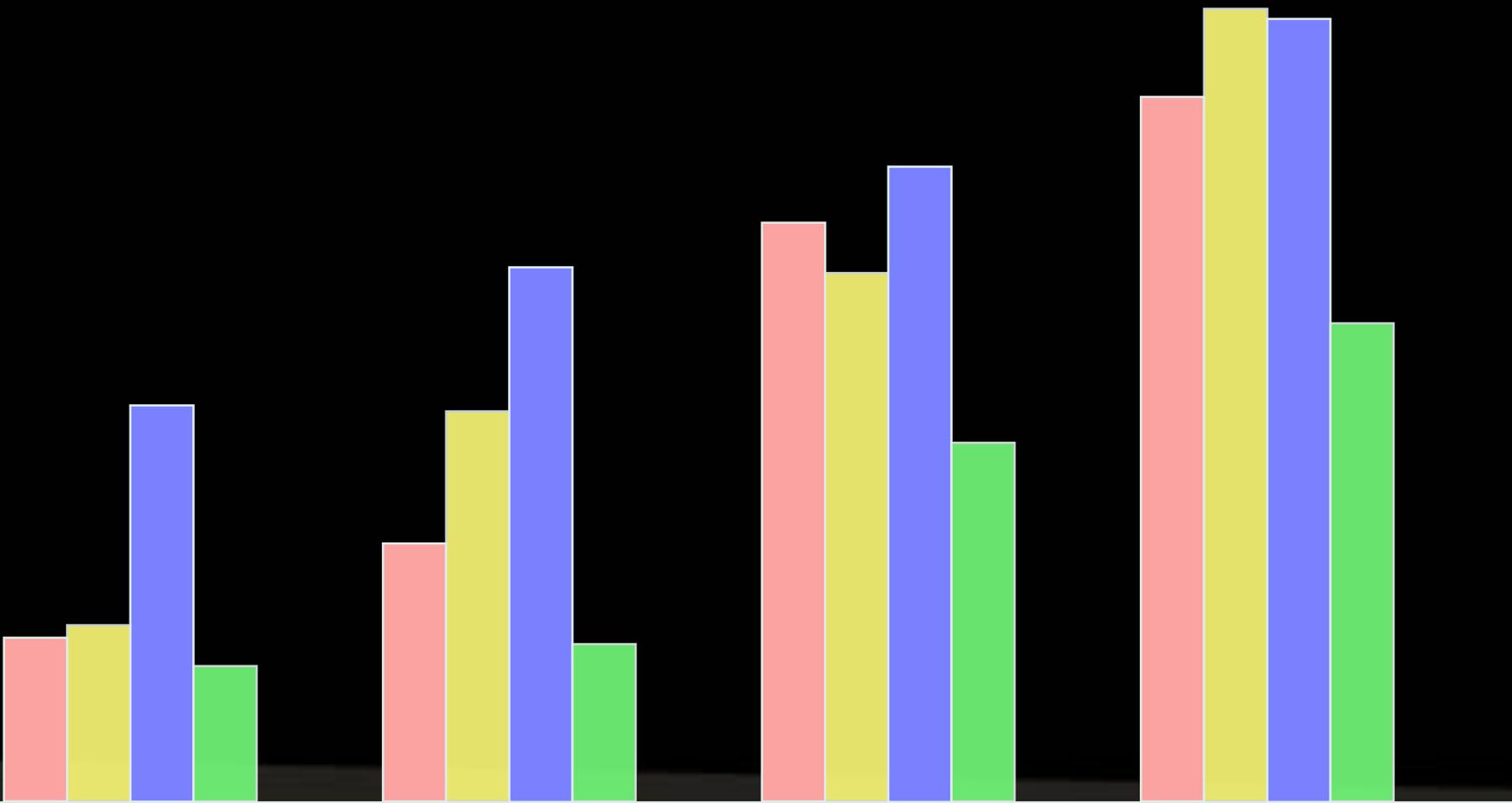


Cornell Box

Sponza

Classroom

San Miguel



# Conclusion

---

- Deep learning application to 1spp reconstruction

# Conclusion

---

- Deep learning application to 1spp reconstruction
  - Recurrent U-Net for temporal stability

# Conclusion

---

- Deep learning application to 1spp reconstruction
  - Recurrent U-Net for temporal stability
  - Interactive performance

# Conclusion

---

- Deep learning application to 1spp reconstruction
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- Follow up work

# Conclusion

---

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  - Recurrent U-Net for temporal stability
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  - Deep Adaptive Sampling for Low Sample Count Rendering [Kuznetsov18]

# Conclusion

---

- Deep learning application to 1spp reconstruction
  - Recurrent U-Net for temporal stability
  - Interactive performance
- Follow up work
  - Deep Adaptive Sampling for Low Sample Count Rendering [Kuznetsov18]
  - OptiX 5 denoiser is based on this work

# Conclusion

---

- Deep learning application to 1spp reconstruction
  - Recurrent U-Net for temporal stability
  - Interactive performance
- Follow up work
  - Deep Adaptive Sampling for Low Sample Count Rendering [Kuznetsov18]
  - OptiX 5 denoiser is based on this work
    - 19ms performance on Titan V (1080p)

# Conclusion

---

- Deep learning application to 1spp reconstruction
  - Recurrent U-Net for temporal stability
  - Interactive performance
- Follow up work
  - Deep Adaptive Sampling for Low Sample Count Rendering [Kuznetsov18]
- OptiX 5 denoiser is based on this work
  - 19ms performance on Titan V (1080p)
  - Wide adaption in interactive rendering

# Conclusion

---

- Deep learning application to 1spp reconstruction
  - Recurrent U-Net for temporal stability
  - Interactive performance
- Follow up work
  - Deep Adaptive Sampling for Low Sample Count Rendering [Kuznetsov18]
- OptiX 5 denoiser is based on this work
  - 19ms performance on Titan V (1080p)
  - Wide adaption in interactive rendering
  - Limited to image-to-image, firefly filter required

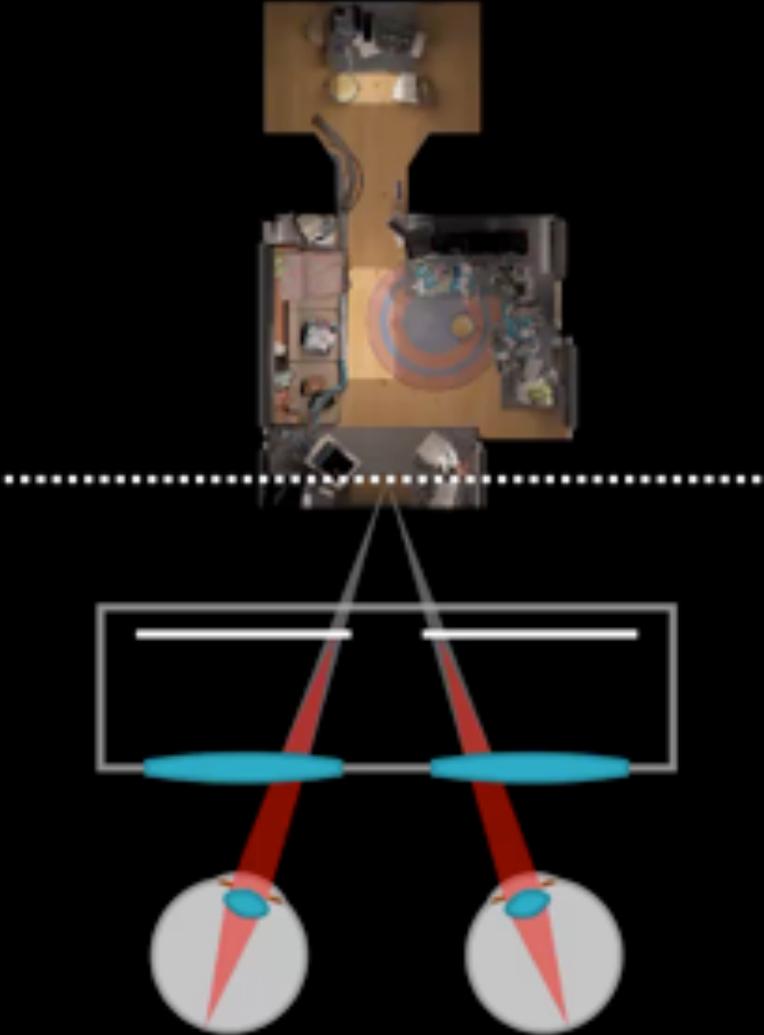


GENERATIONS / VANCOUVER  
10-18 August  
SIGGRAPH2018

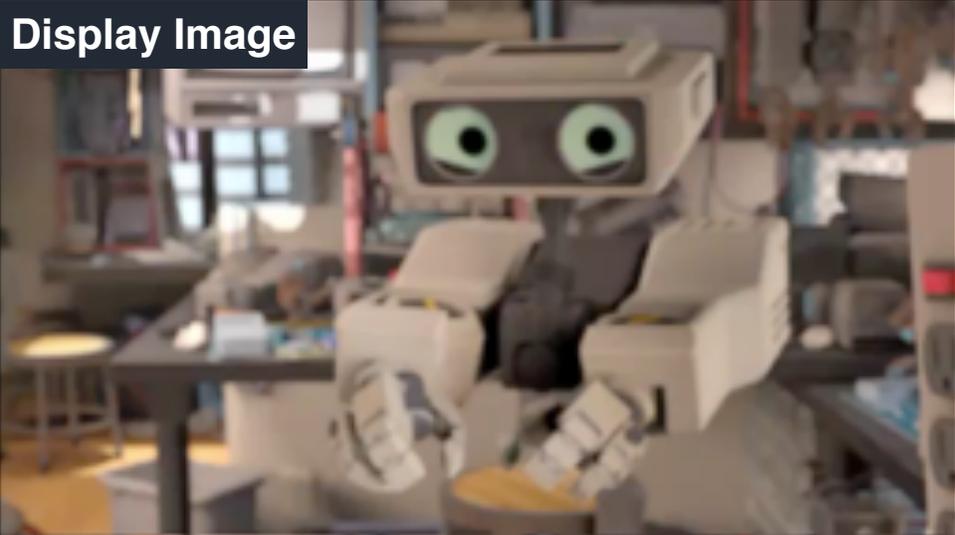
# DeepFocus

with Lei Xiao, Alex Fix, Matt Chapman, Doug Lanman  
at Facebook Reality Labs

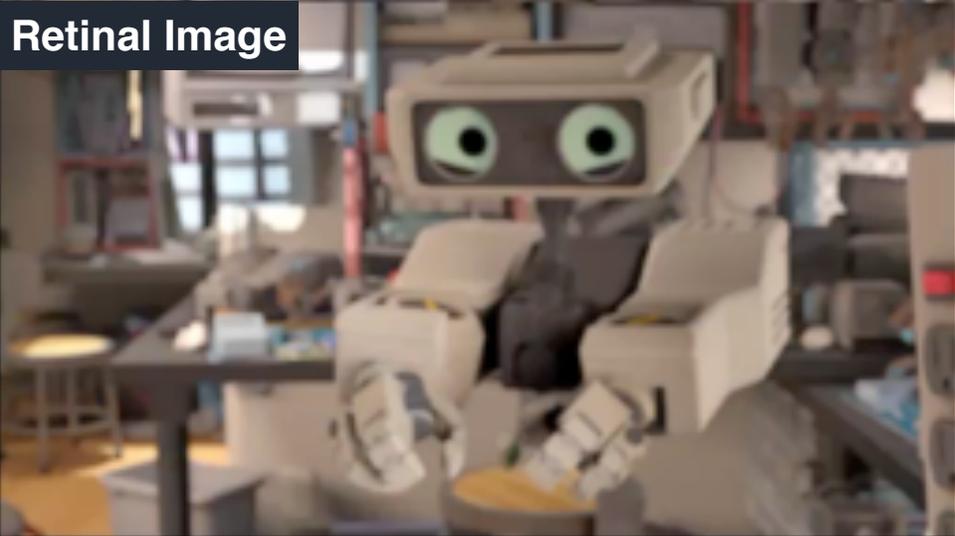
# Gaze-Contingent Varifocal Display



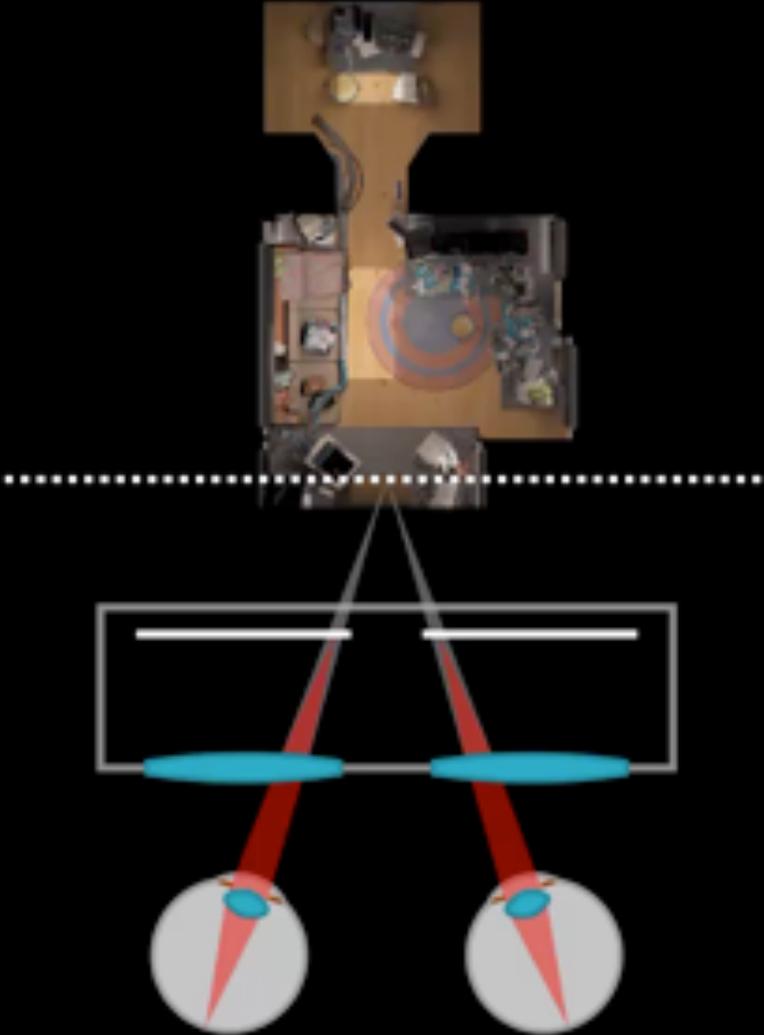
Display Image



Retinal Image



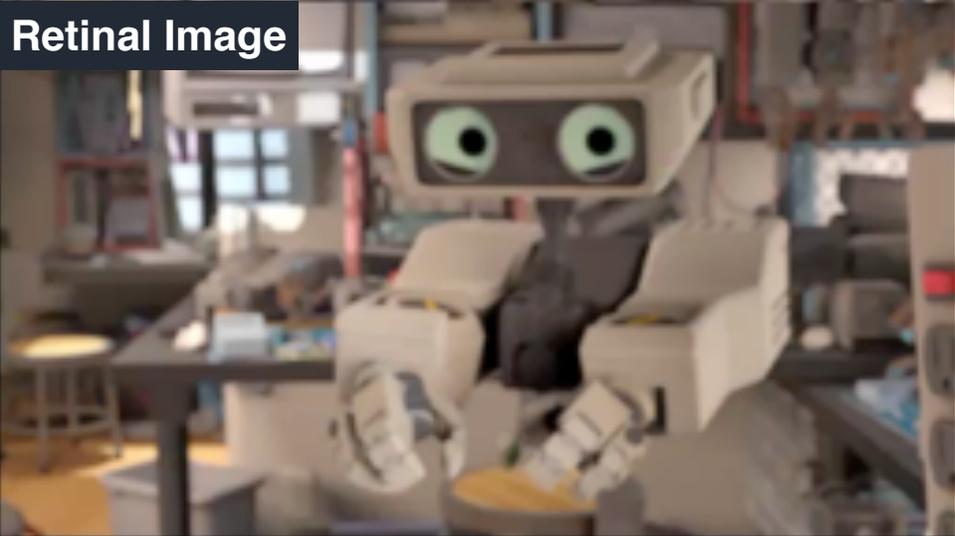
# Gaze-Contingent Varifocal Display



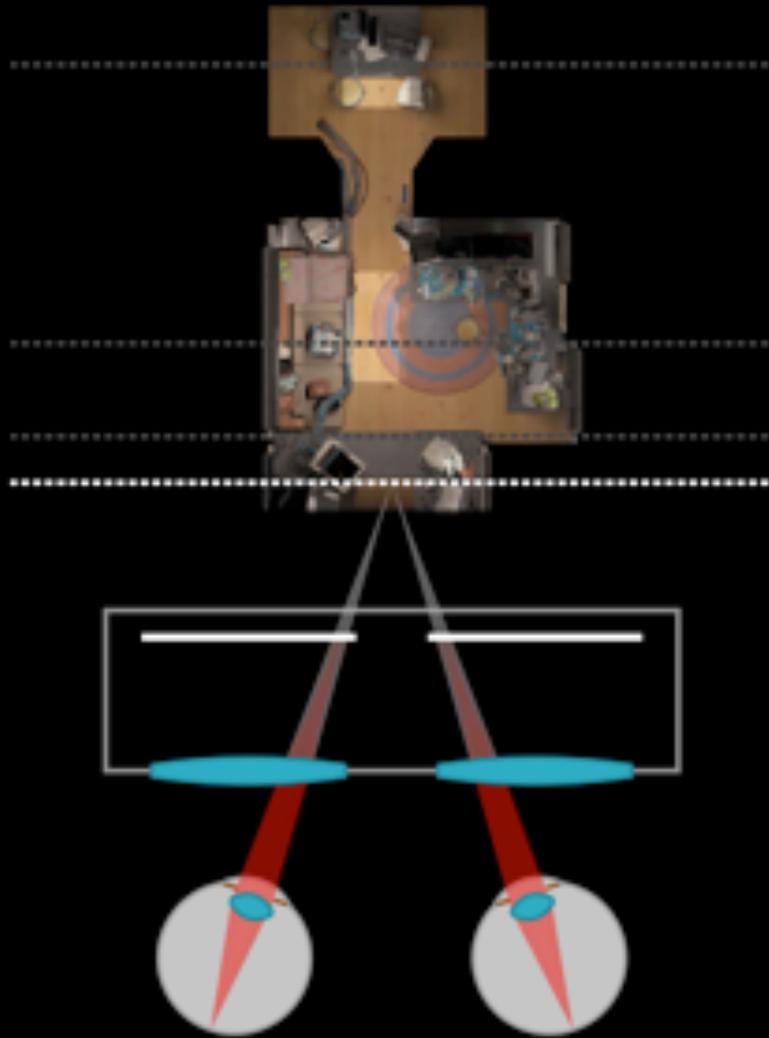
Display Image



Retinal Image



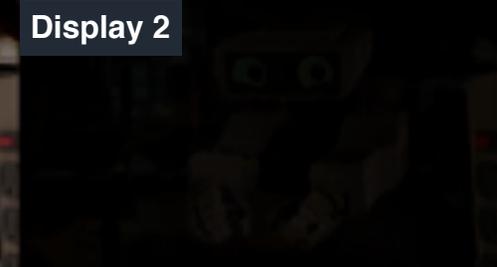
# Multifocal Display



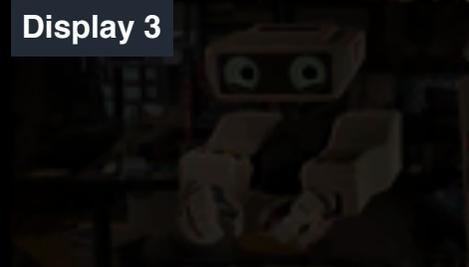
Display 1



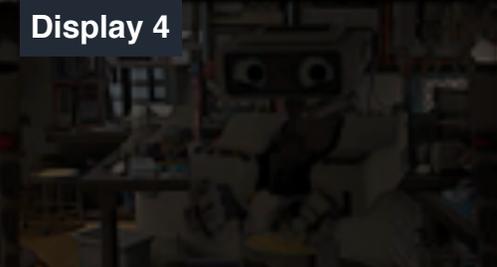
Display 2



Display 3



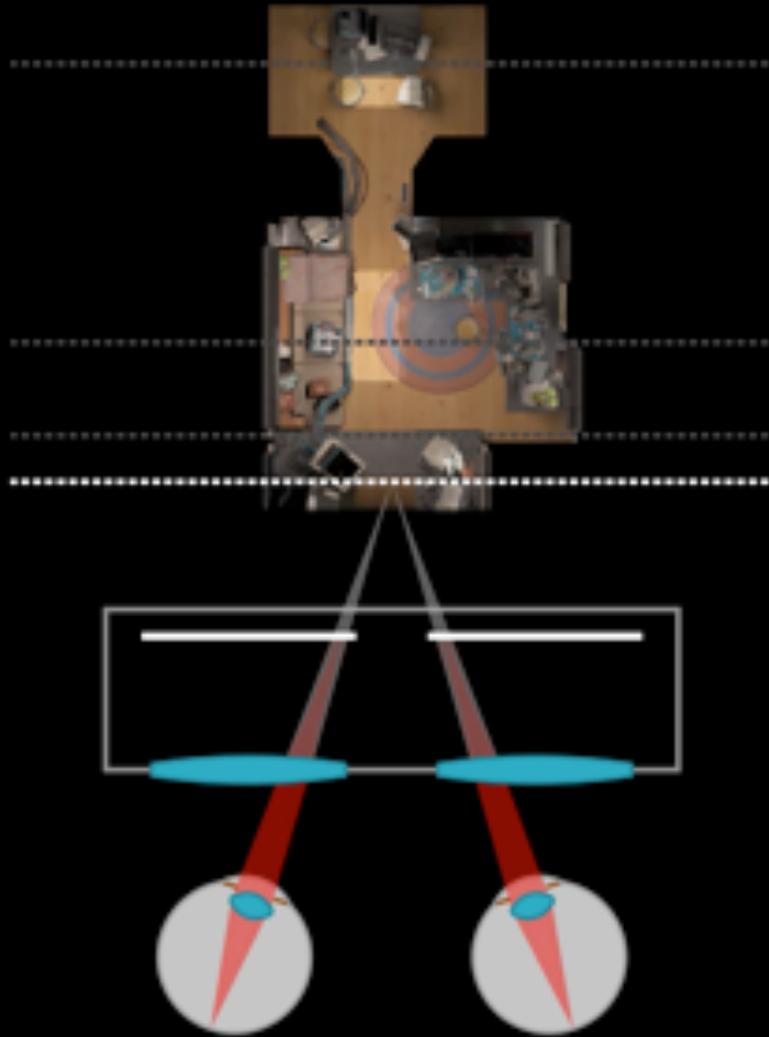
Display 4



Retinal Image



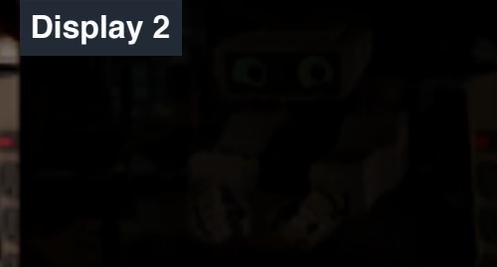
# Multifocal Display



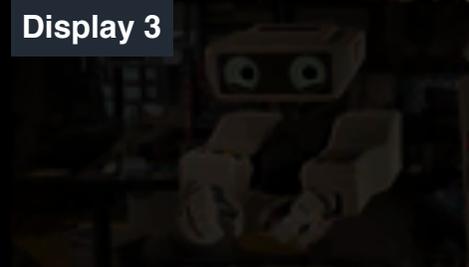
Display 1



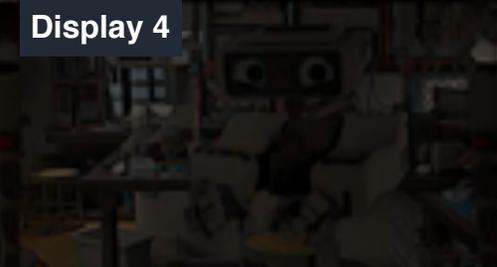
Display 2



Display 3



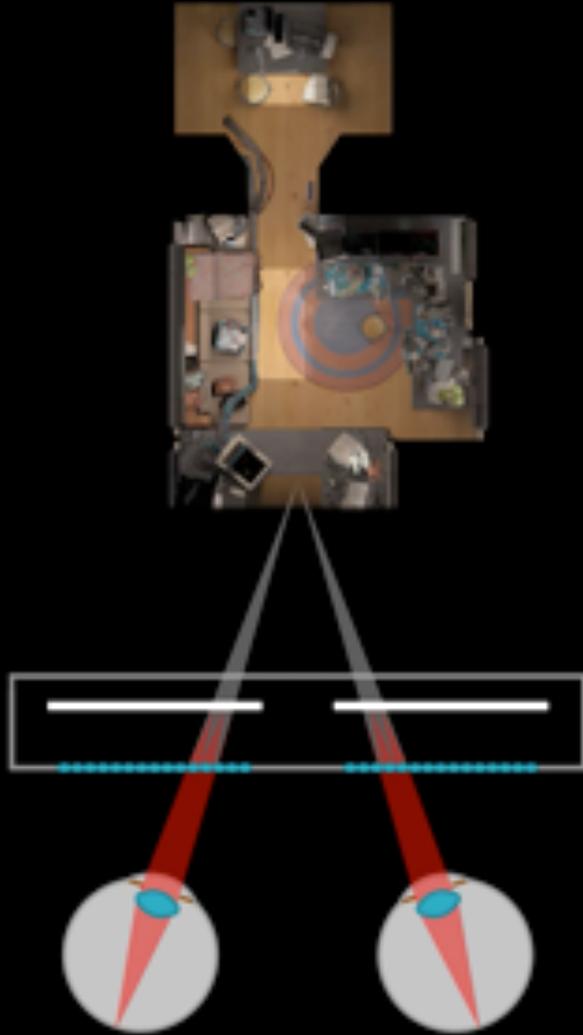
Display 4



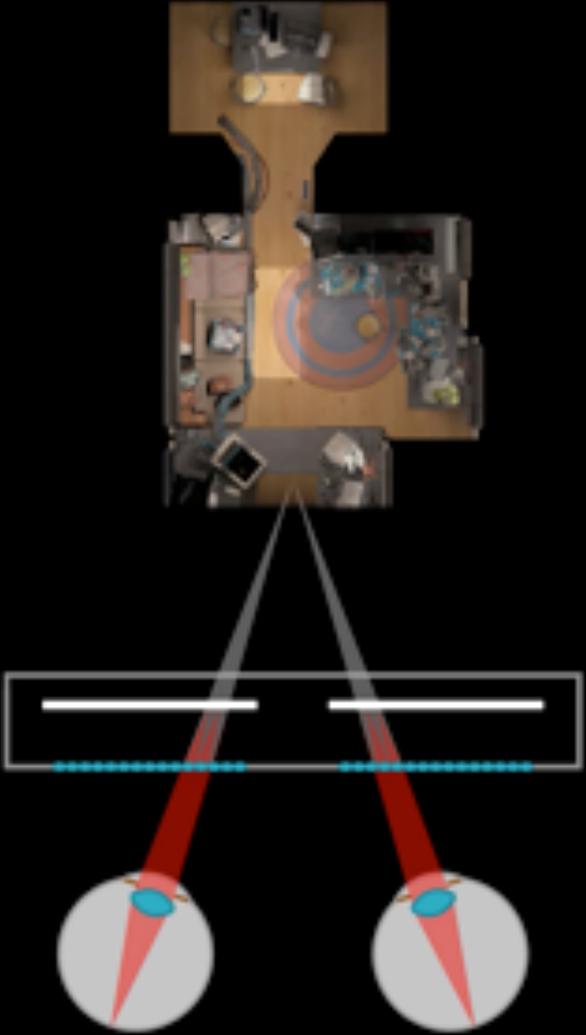
Retinal Image



# Near-Eye Light Field Display



# Near-Eye Light Field Display



Display Image



Retinal Image



# Accommodation-Supporting Displays

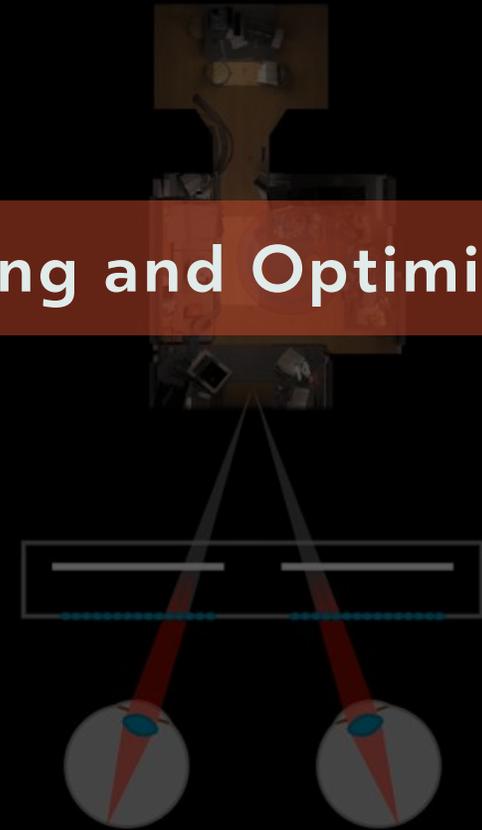
**Challenge: Real-Time Physically-Accurate Rendering and Optimization**



Gaze-Contingent Varifocal Display



Multifocal Display



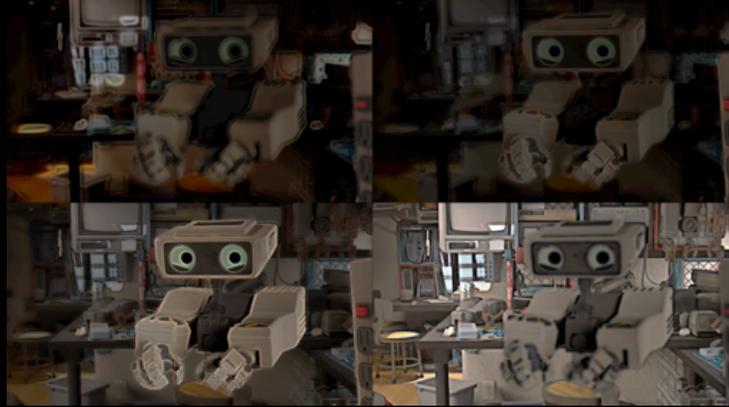
Near-Eye Light Field Display

# OUTPUT



**Varifocal HMDs**

Defocus Blur



**Multifocal HMDs**

Multilayer Decompositions



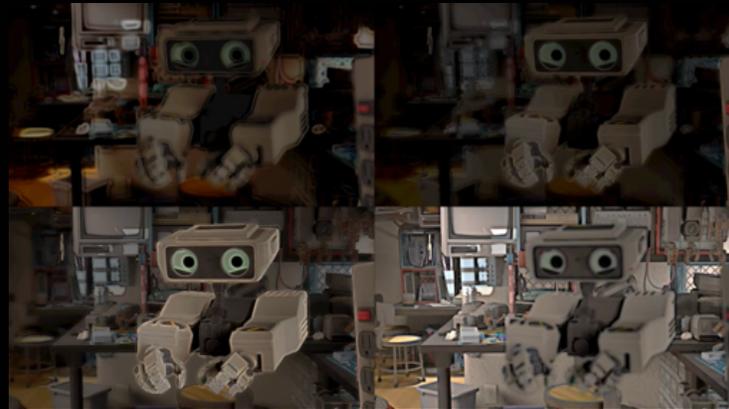
**Light Field HMDs**

Multiview Imagery

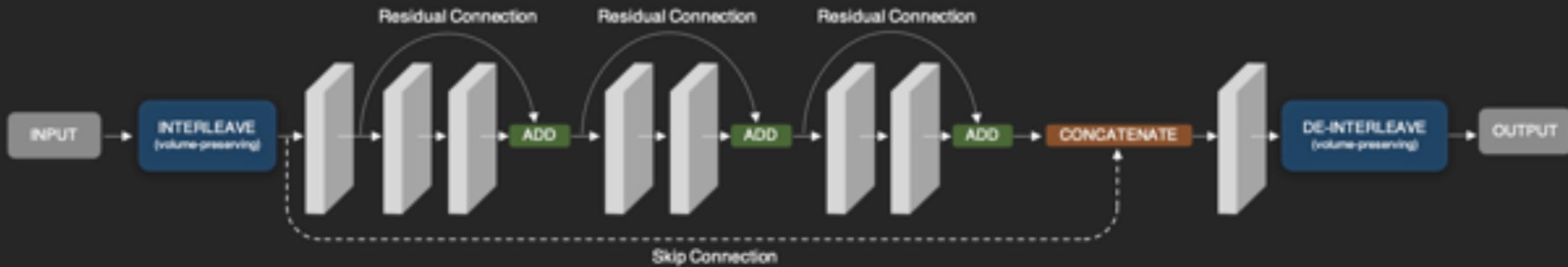
# INPUT



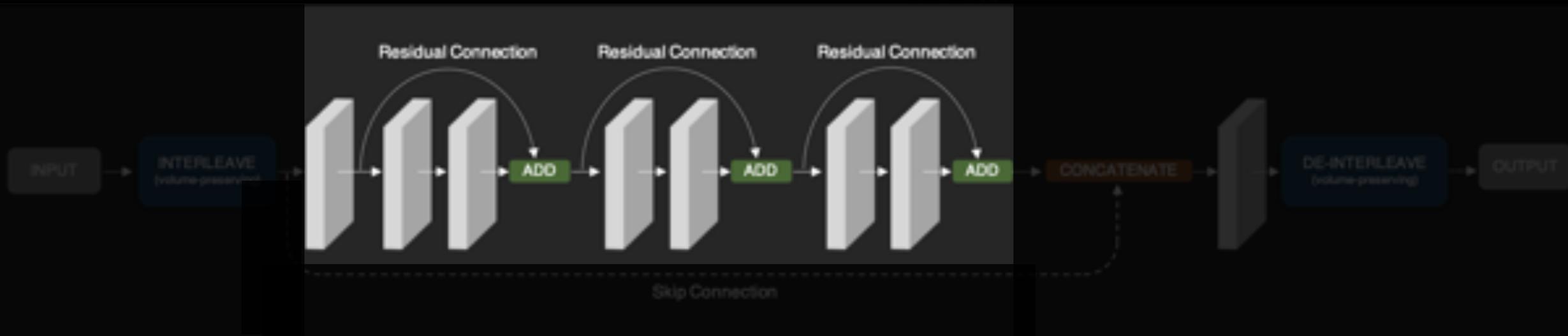
# OUTPUT



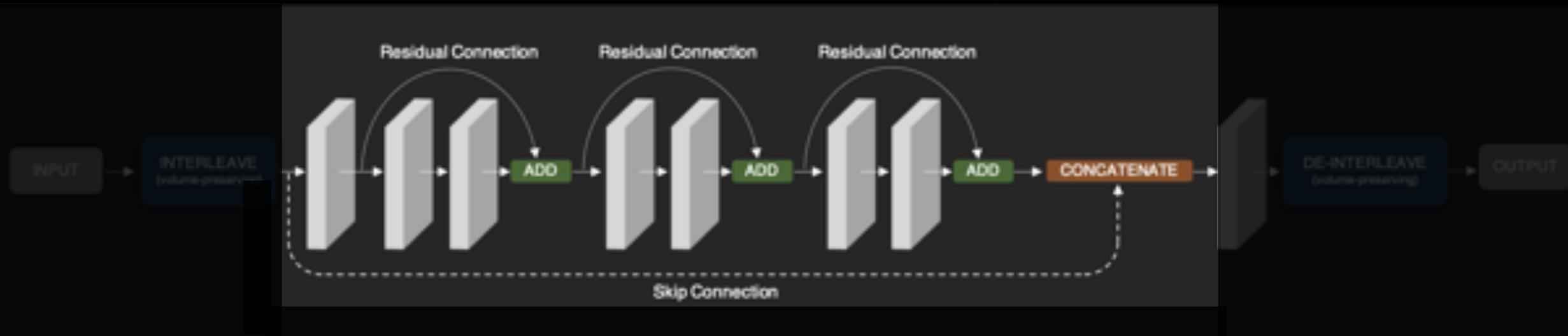
# DeepFocus Network



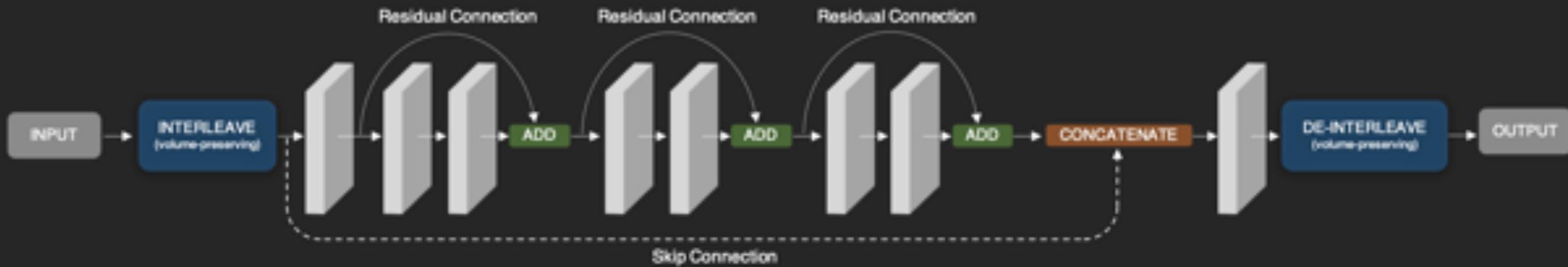
# DeepFocus Network



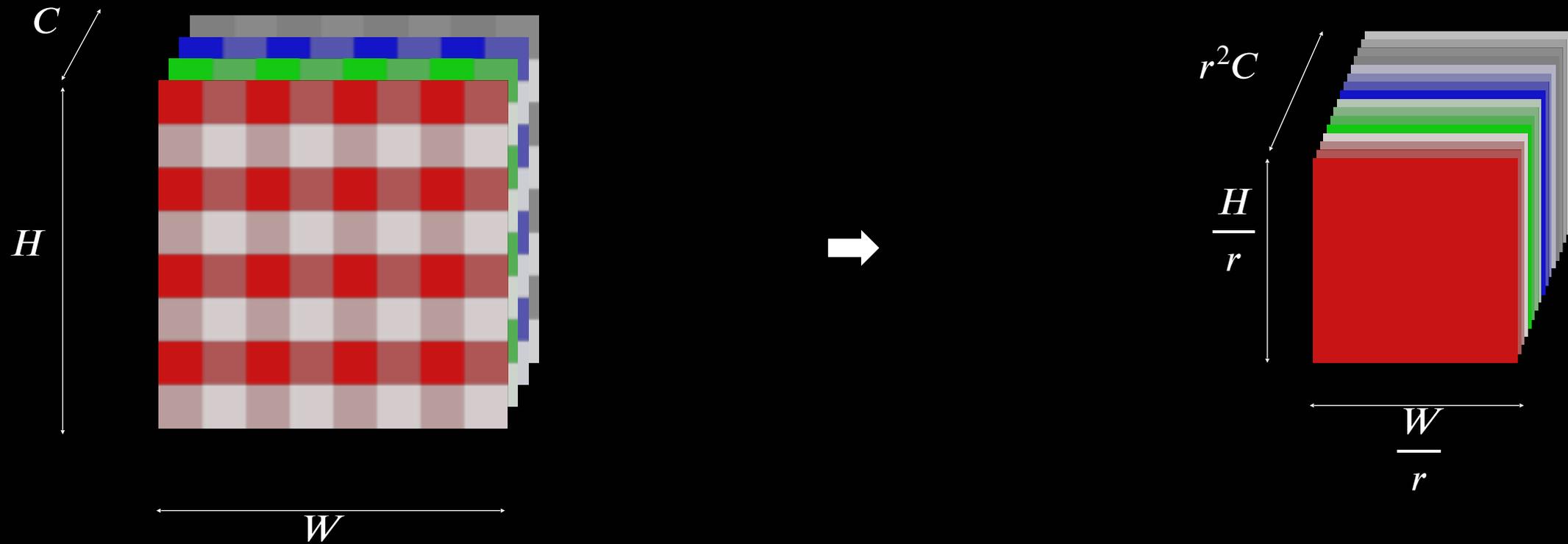
# DeepFocus Network



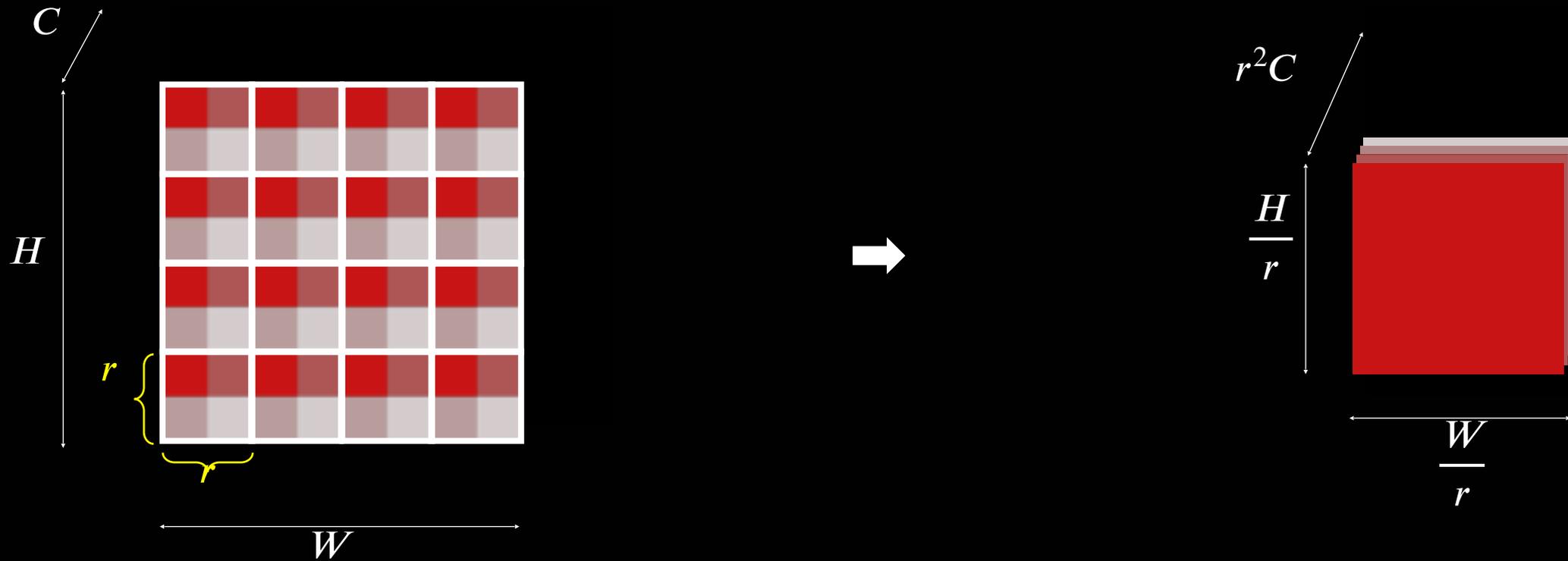
# DeepFocus Network



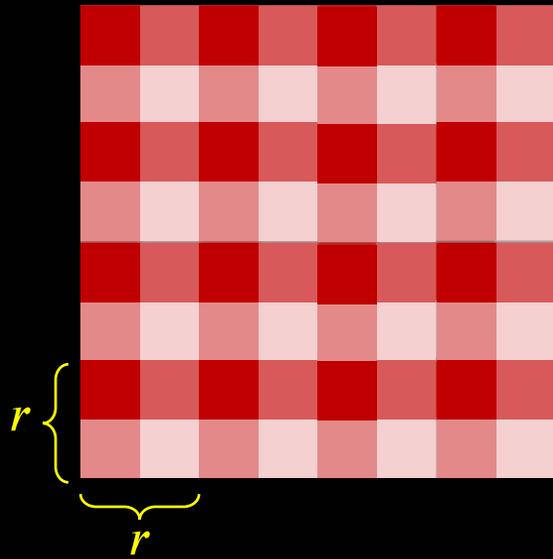
# Volume-Preserving Interleaving Layer



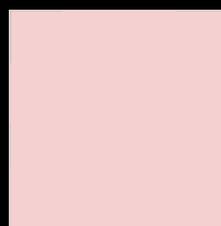
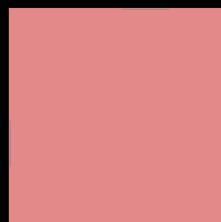
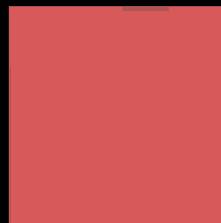
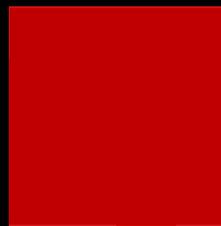
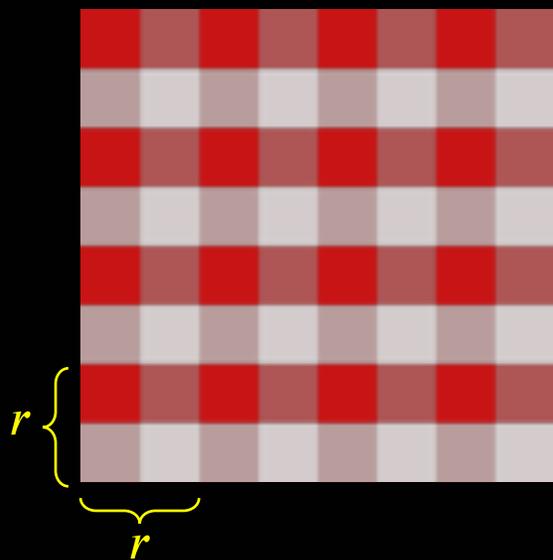
# Volume-Preserving Interleaving Layer



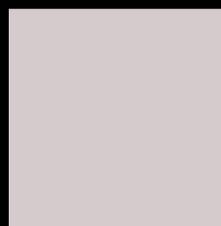
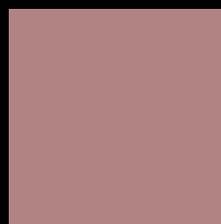
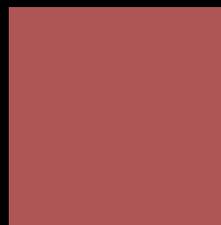
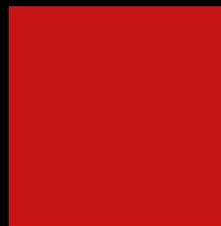
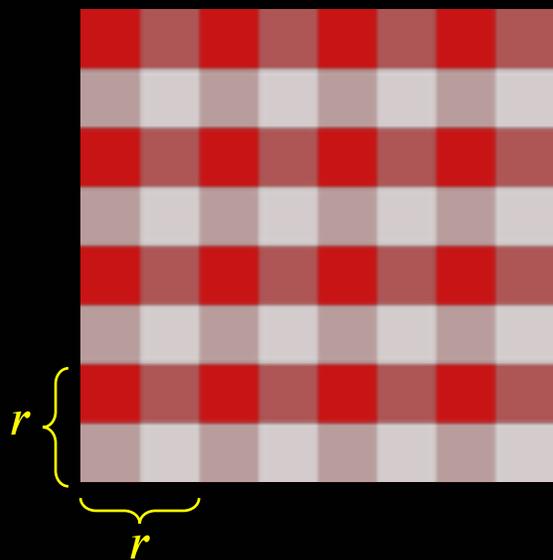
# Volume-Preserving Interleaving Layer



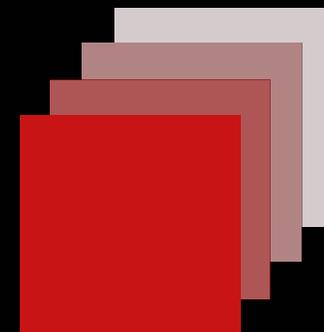
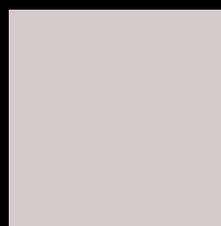
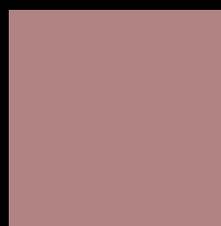
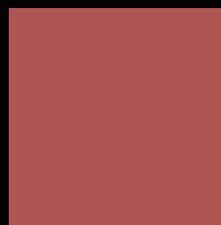
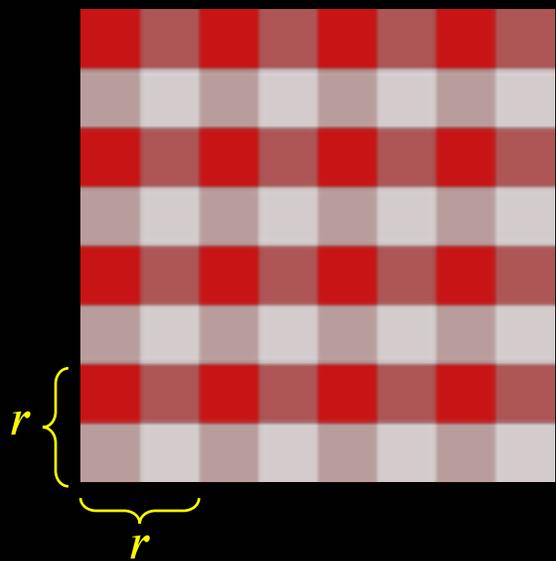
# Volume-Preserving Interleaving Layer



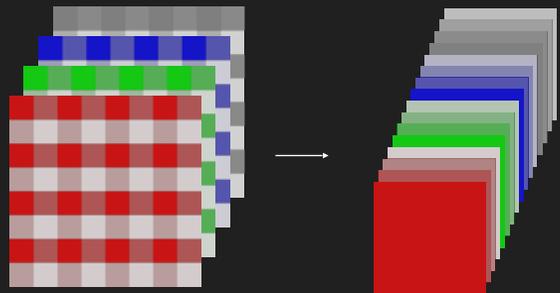
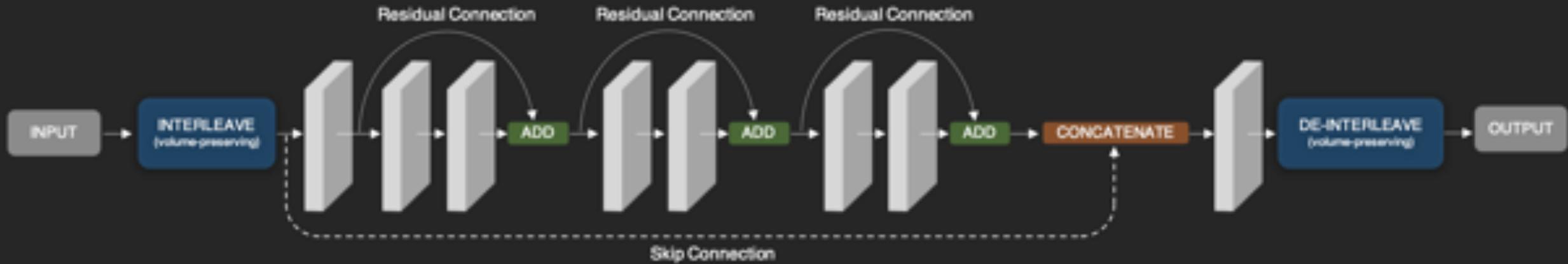
# Volume-Preserving Interleaving Layer



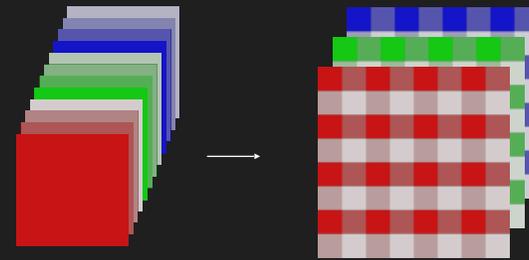
# Volume-Preserving Interleaving Layer



# DeepFocus Network



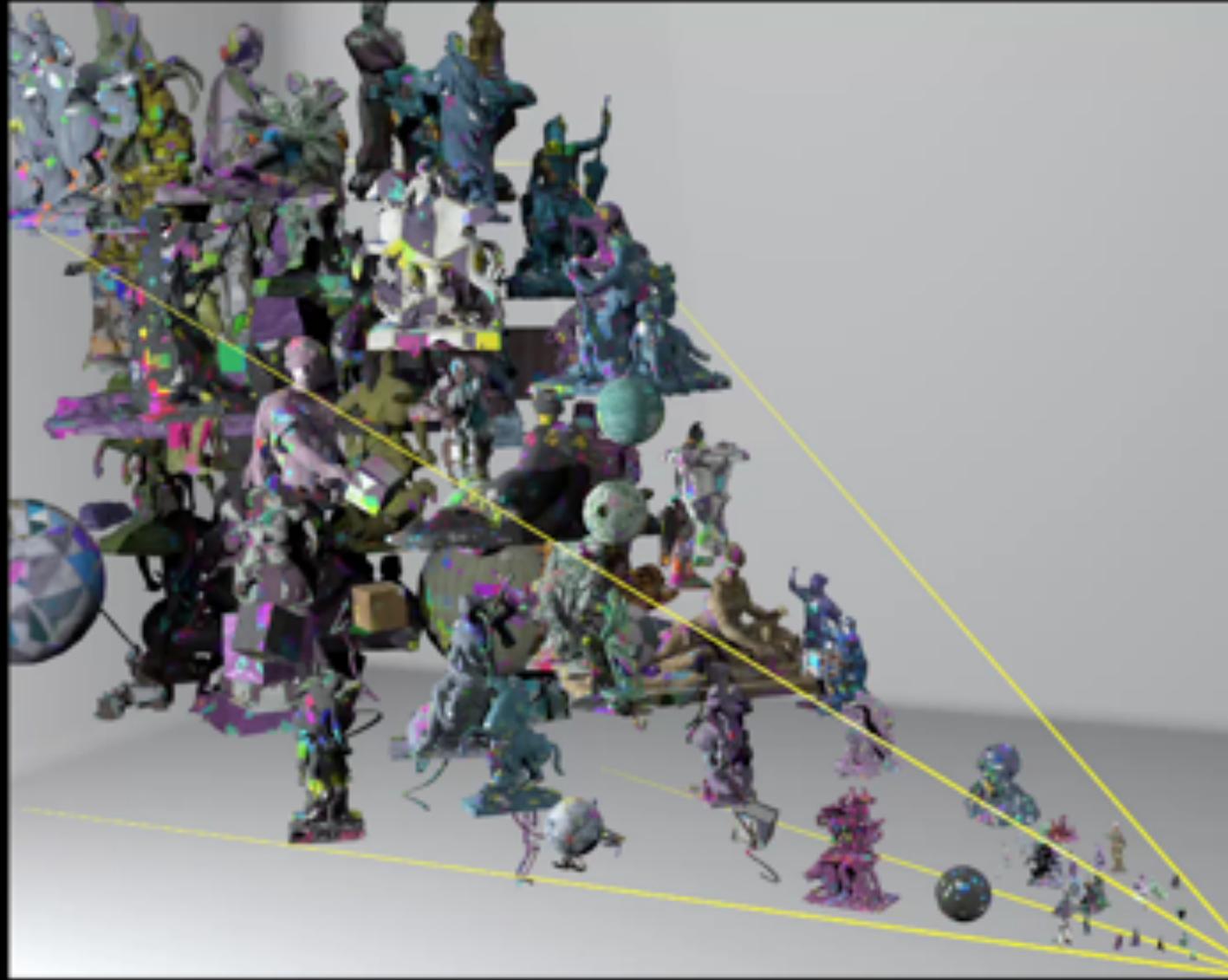
Volume-Preserving Interleaving



Output

Volume-Preserving De-Interleaving

# Training Dataset: Path-Traced Random 3D Scenes

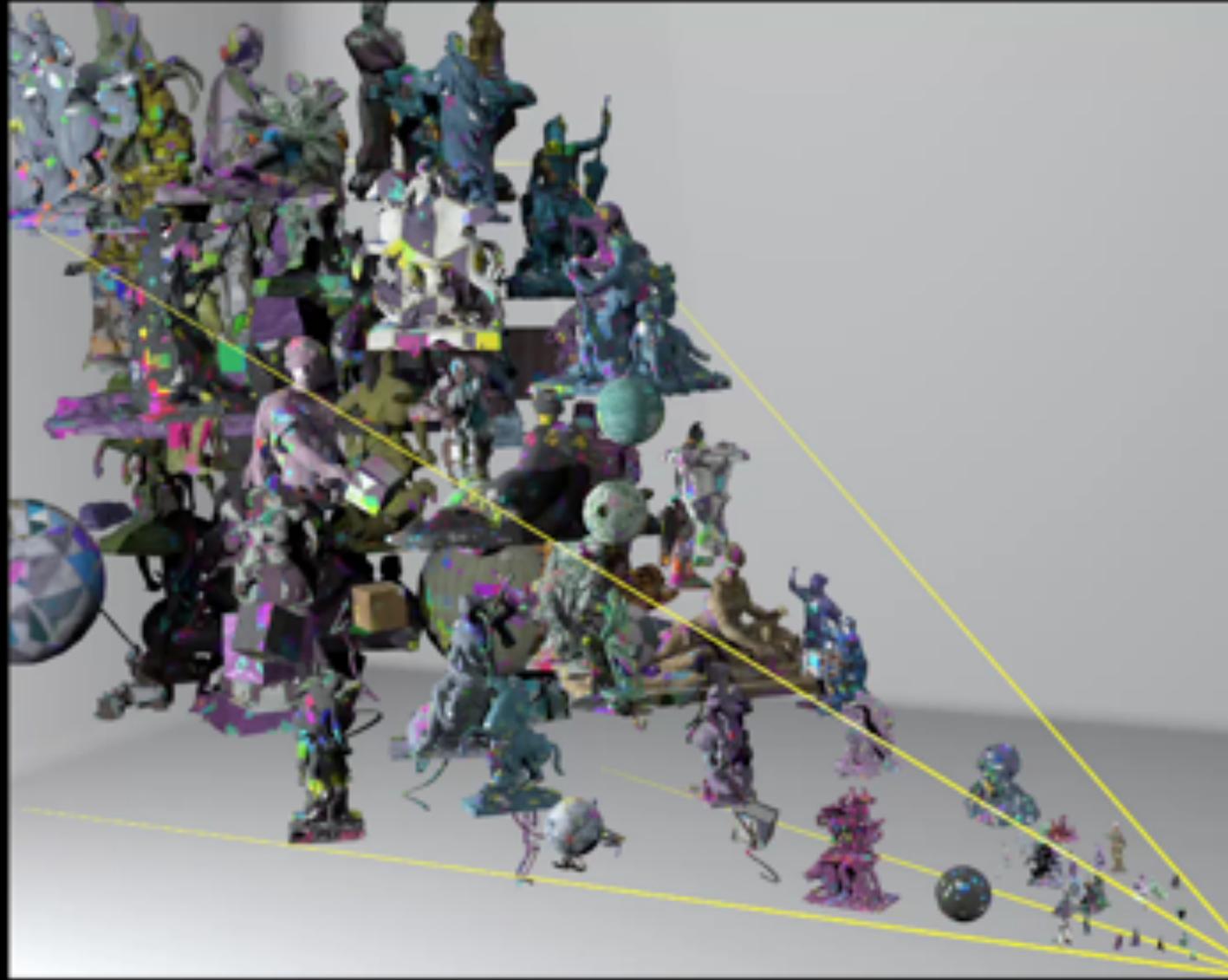


Random 3D scenes



RGB-D

# Training Dataset: Path-Traced Random 3D Scenes



Random 3D scenes

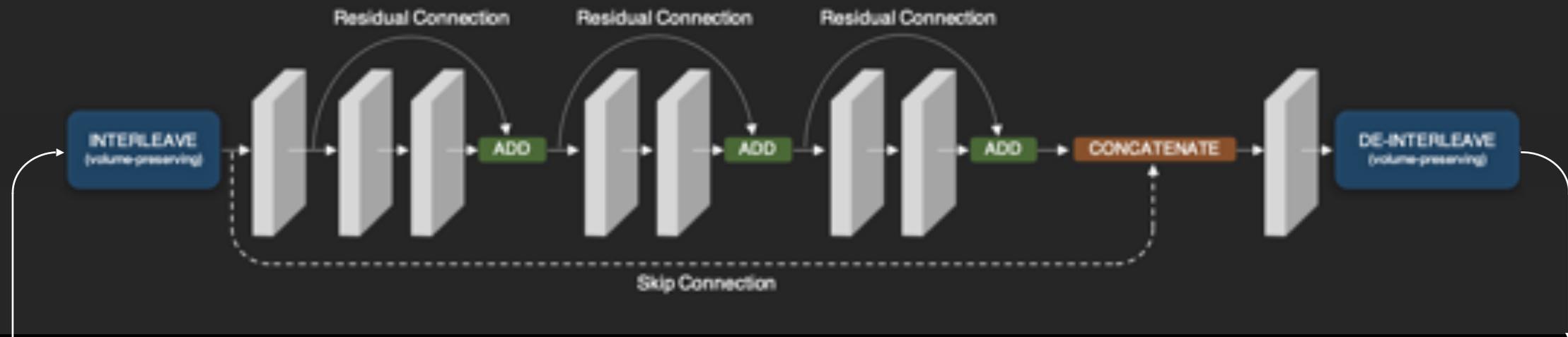


RGB-D

# Application #1: Varifocal HMDs

Inferring Gaze-Contingent Defocus Blur from RGB-D

# DeepFocus: Gaze-Contingent Defocus Blur from RGB-D



INPUT



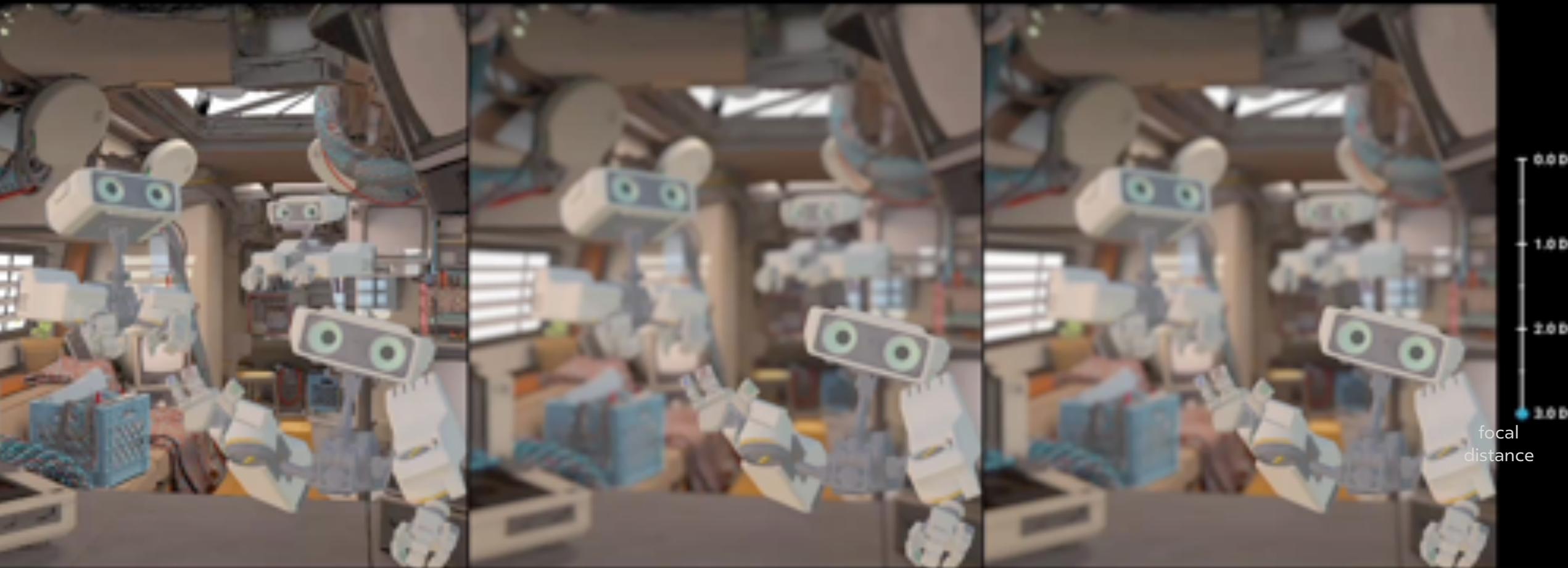
RGB, Depth, CoC Map

9.8ms, 1024x1024

OUTPUT



Gaze-Contingent Defocus Blur

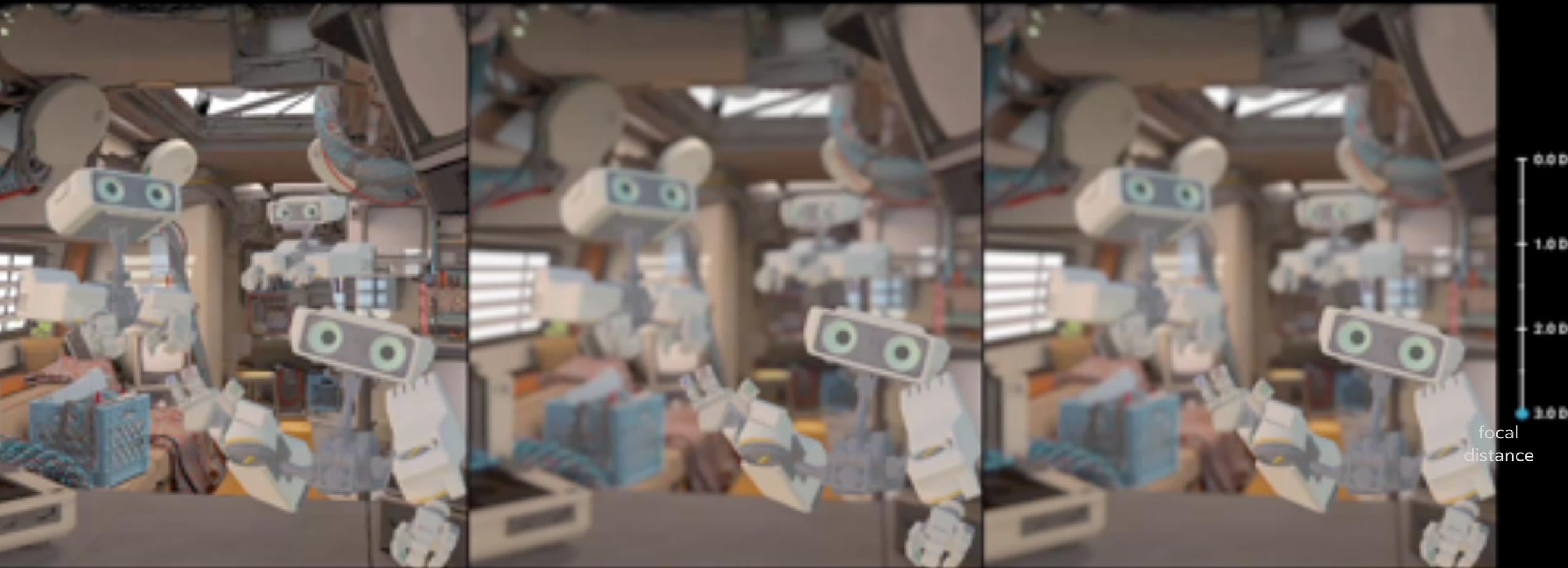


Input RGB

DeepFocus

Ground truth



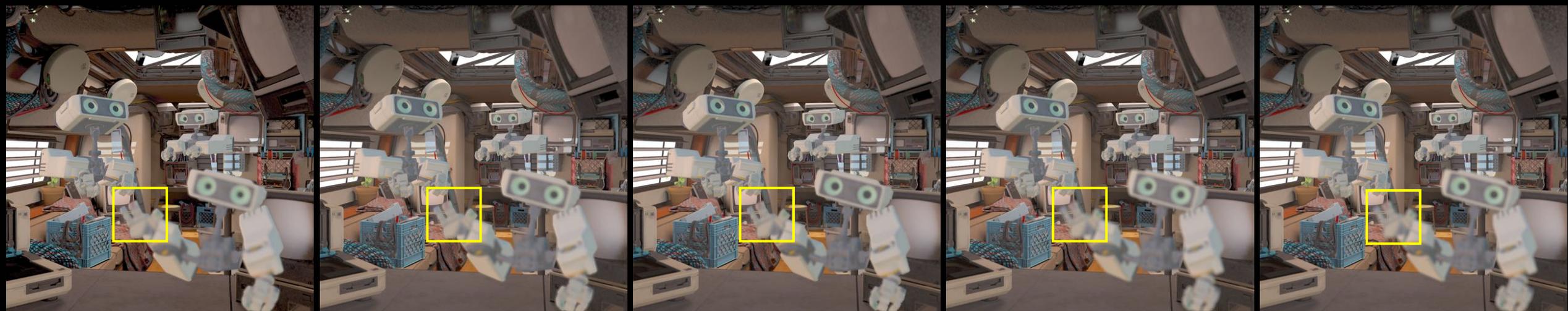


Input RGB

DeepFocus

Ground truth

0.0  
1.0  
2.0  
3.0  
focal distance



Unity  
25.3dB

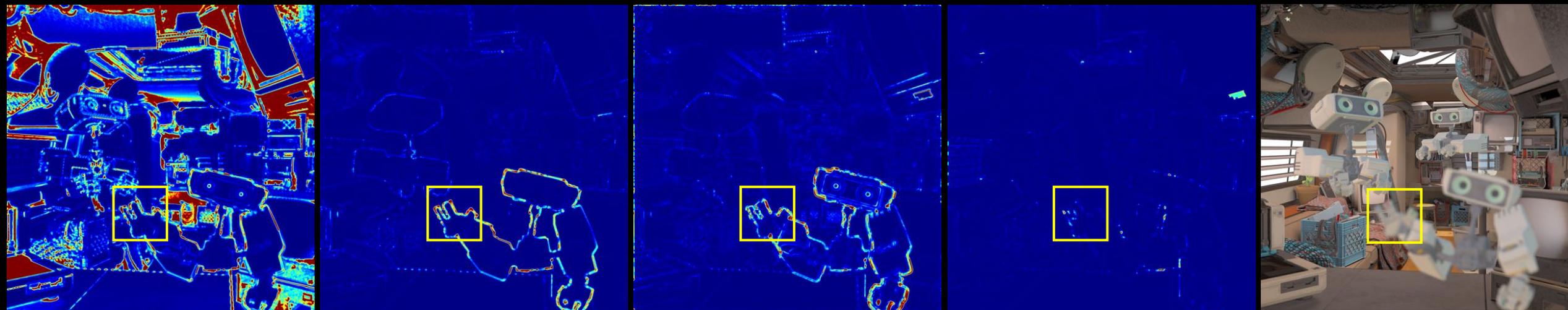
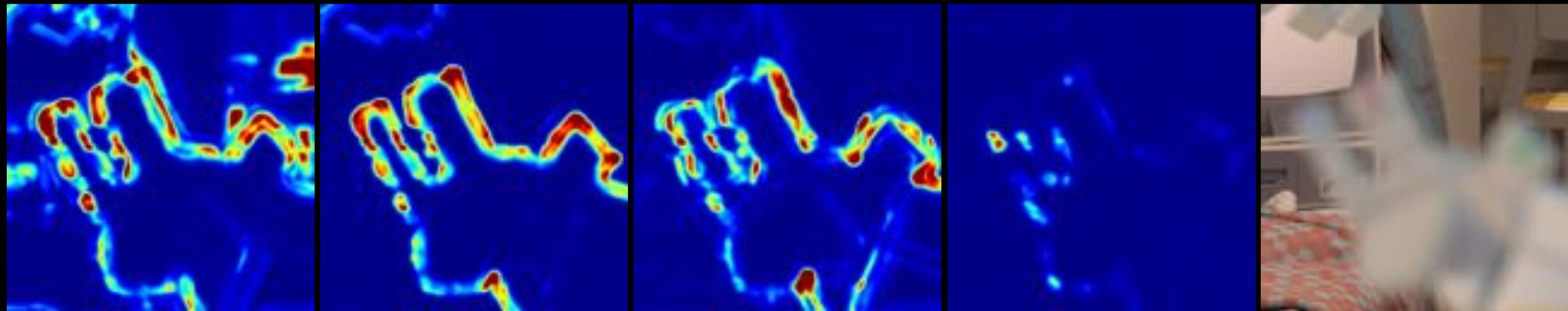
Nuke  
40.1dB

Nalbach et al. 2017  
37.0dB

DeepFocus  
45.6dB

Ground truth  
63

0.6 **SSIM** 1.0



Unity  
0.887

Nuke  
0.993

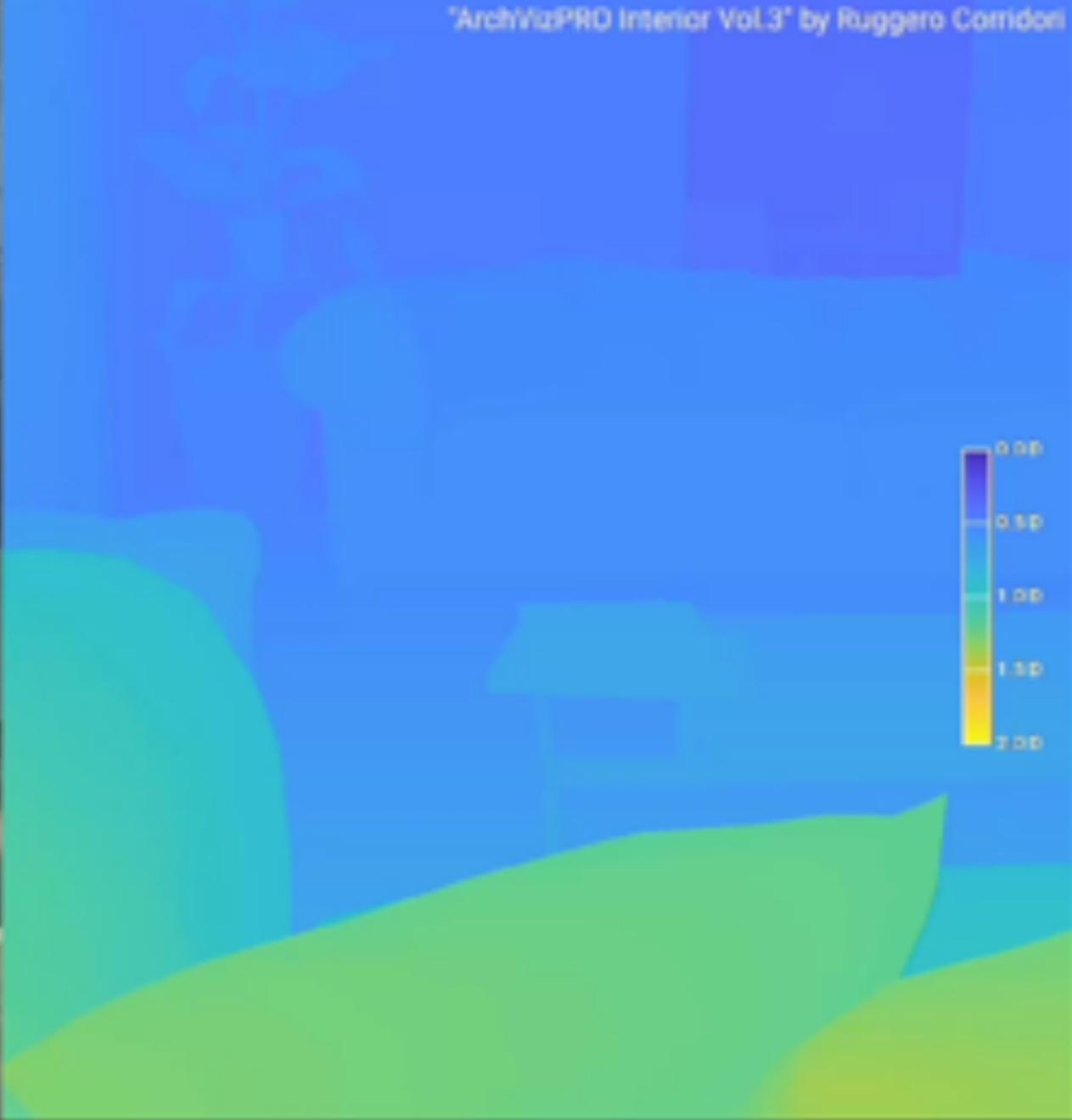
Nalbach et al. 2017  
0.989

DeepFocus  
0.999

Ground truth  
64



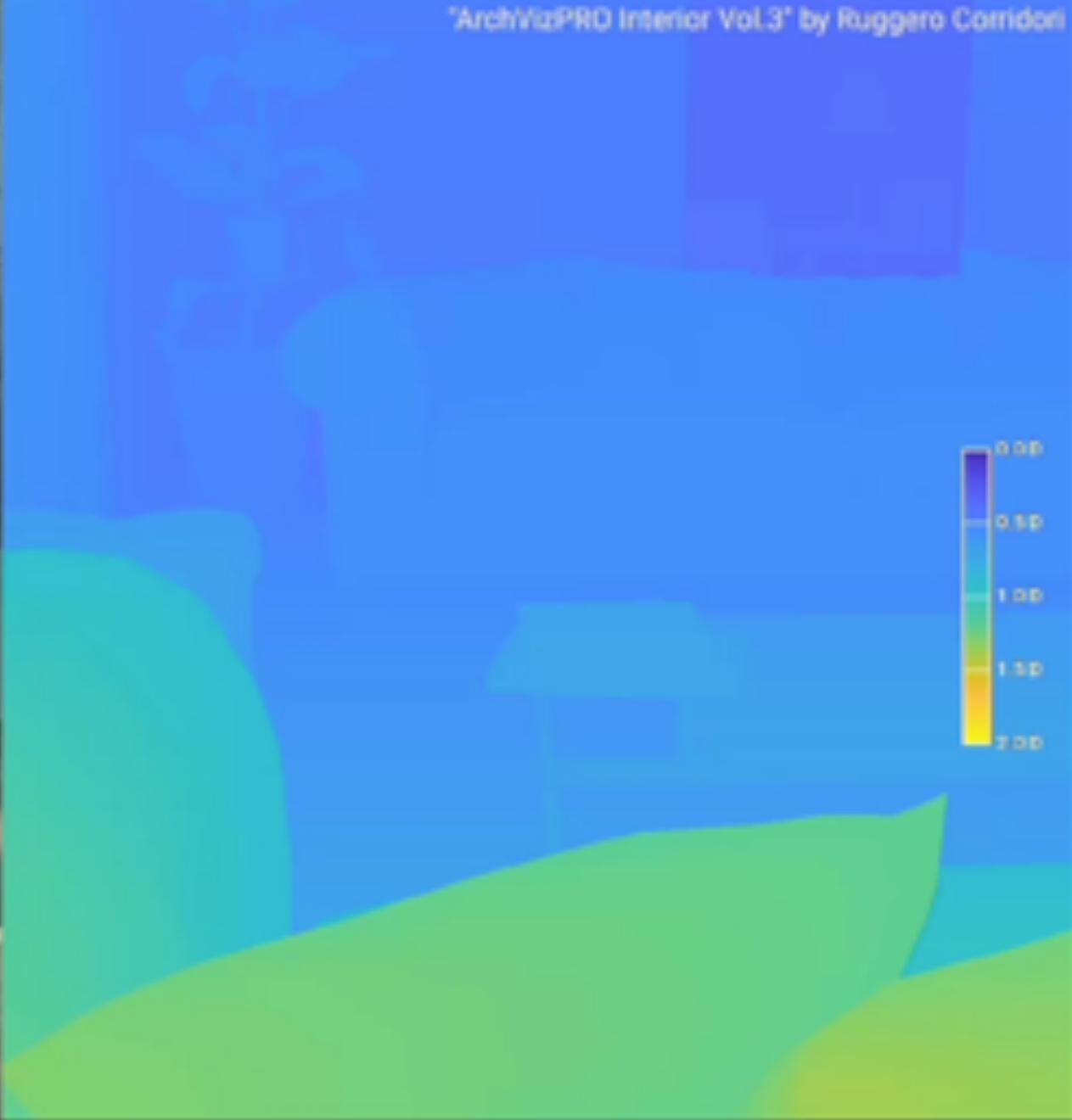
Input Color Image



Input Depth Map



Input Color Image

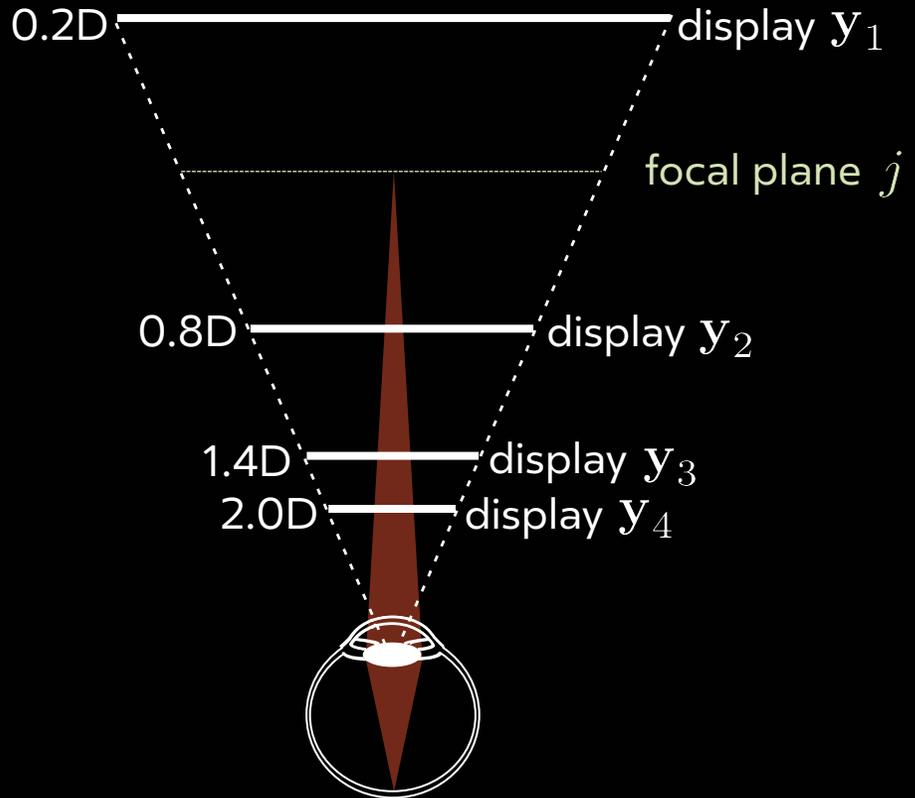


Input Depth Map

## **Application #2: Multifocal HMDs**

Inferring Focal Stack and Multilayer Decomposition

# Multifocal Displays

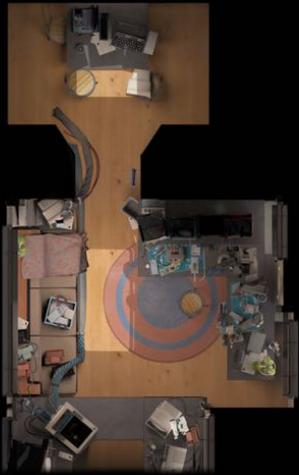


Retinal Image                      Display Image

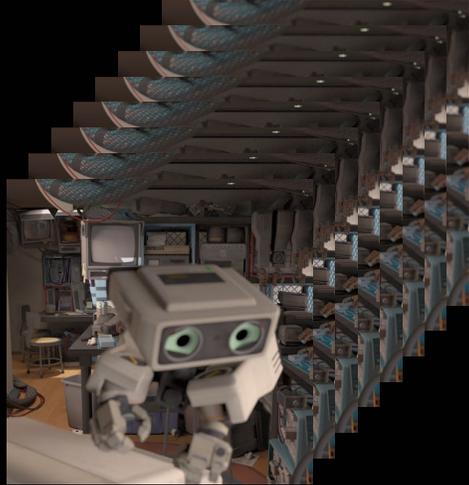
$$\mathbf{z}_j = \sum_{i=1}^4 \underbrace{\mathbf{k}_{ij}}_{\text{Kernel}} * \underbrace{\mathbf{y}_i}$$

Kernel

# Multifocal Displays



3D scene

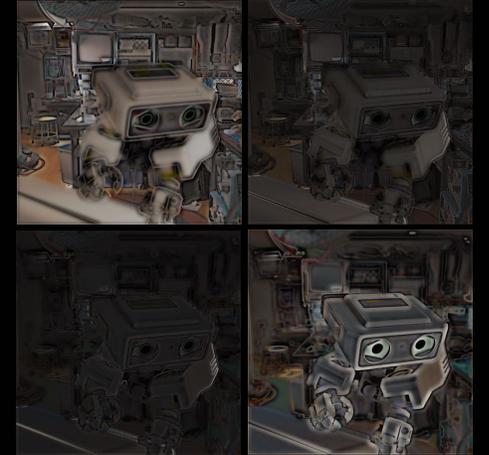


Render Dense Focal Stacks



$$\mathbf{y}_i = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{y}_i} \sum_{j=1}^N \left\| \mathbf{z}_j - \sum_{i=1}^M \mathbf{k}_{ij} * \mathbf{y}_i \right\|_2^2,$$
$$s.t. \quad 0 \leq \mathbf{y}_i \leq 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, M$$

Solve Iterative Optimization



Optimized Multilayers

[Narain et al. 2015, Mercier et al. 2017]

# Multifocal Displays



3D scene



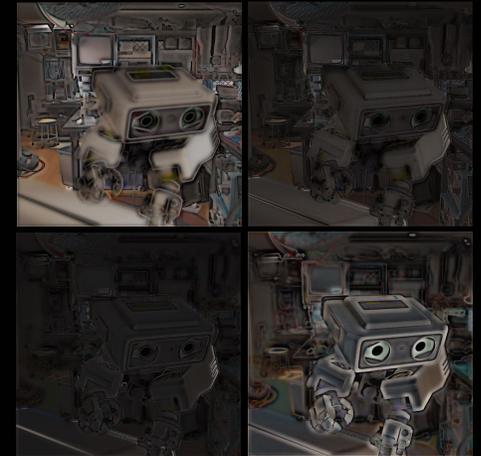
Render Dense Focal Stacks

**COMPUTATIONALLY EXPENSIVE**

$$\min_{\mathbf{y}} \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^M y_i$$

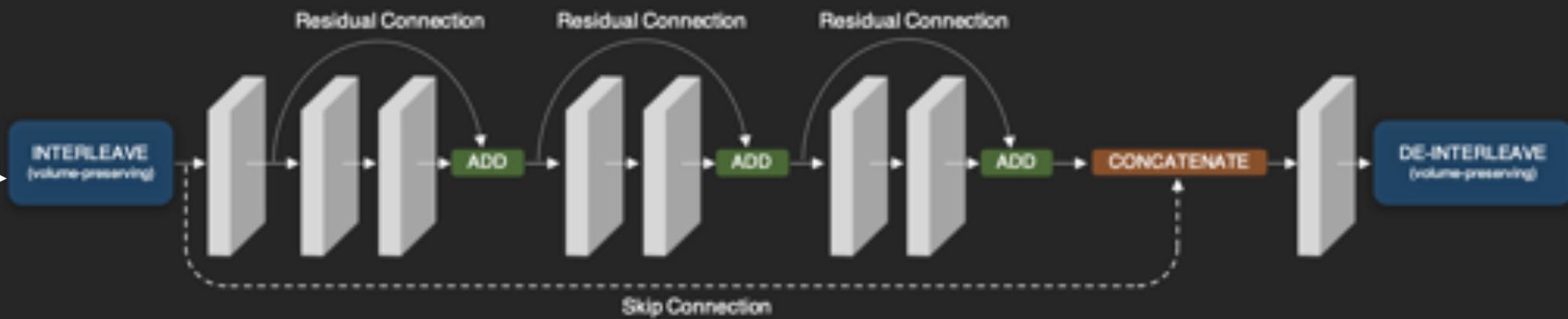
*s.t.*  $0 \leq y_i \leq 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, M$

Solve Iterative Optimization

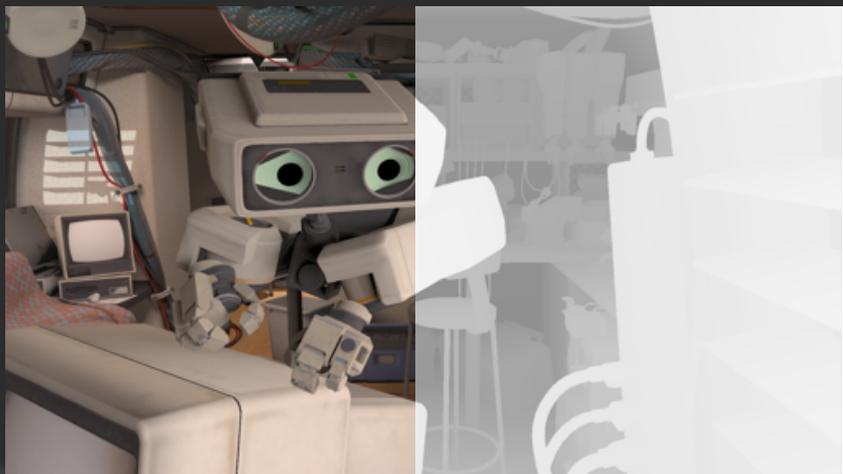


Optimized Multilayers

[Narain et al. 2015, Mercier et al. 2017]



INPUT



RGB and Depth

10.0ms, 1024x1024

OUTPUT



Multilayer Decomposition



Akeley et al. [2004]

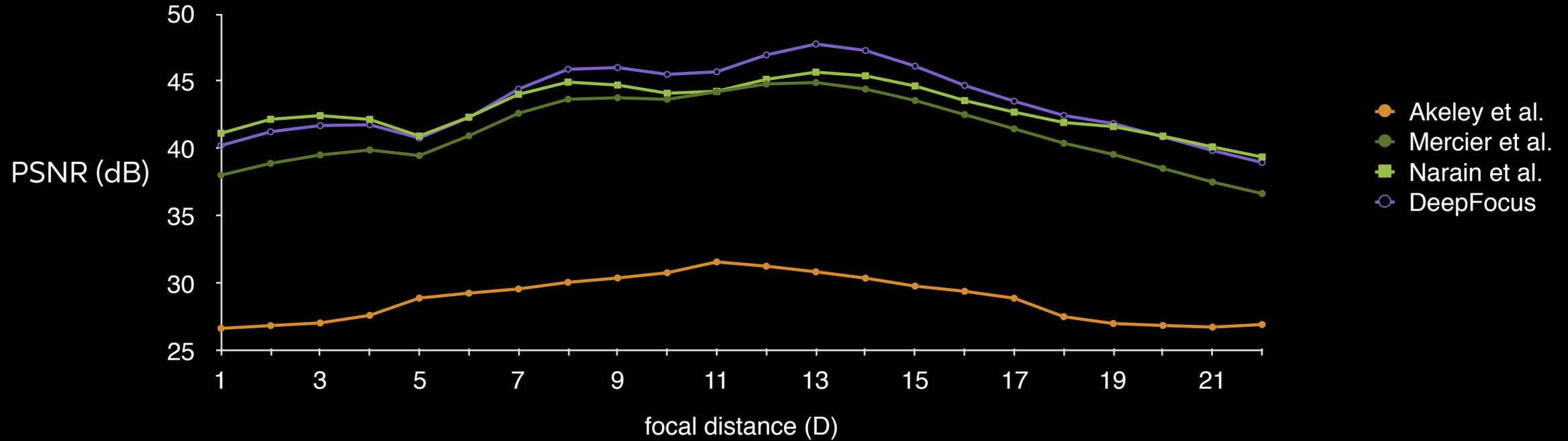
DeepFocus



Akeley et al. [2004]

DeepFocus

# DeepFocus: Multilayer Decomposition from Dense Focal Stacks



# Application #3: Light Field HMDs

Inferring Multiple Viewpoints

# Near-Eye Light Field Displays



**Input Light Field**  
81 RGB-D Images



**Simulated Retinal Image**

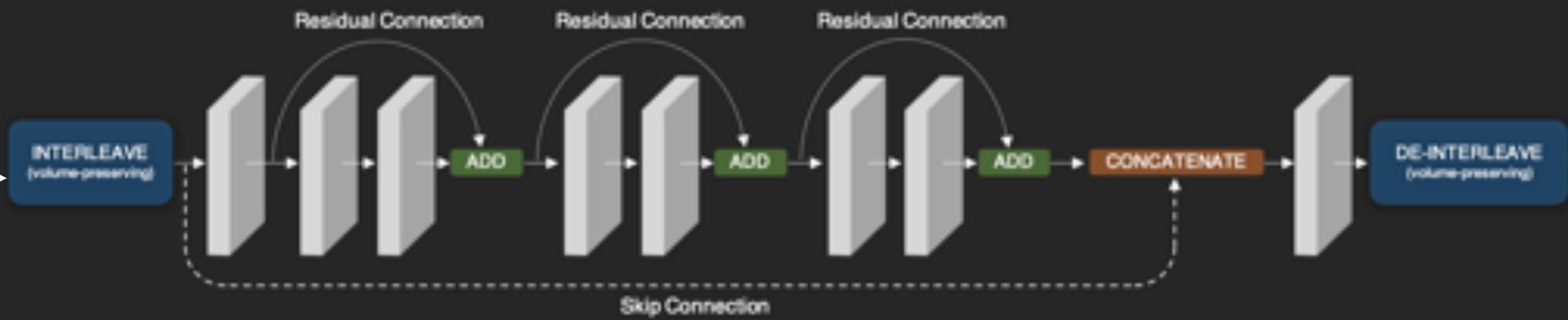
# Near-Eye Light Field Displays



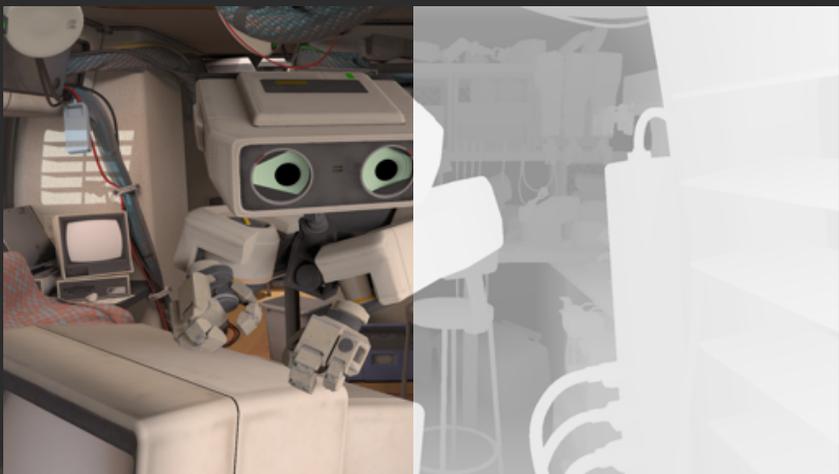
**Input Light Field**  
81 RGB-D Images



**Simulated Retinal Image**



## INPUT



Sparse RGB and Depth

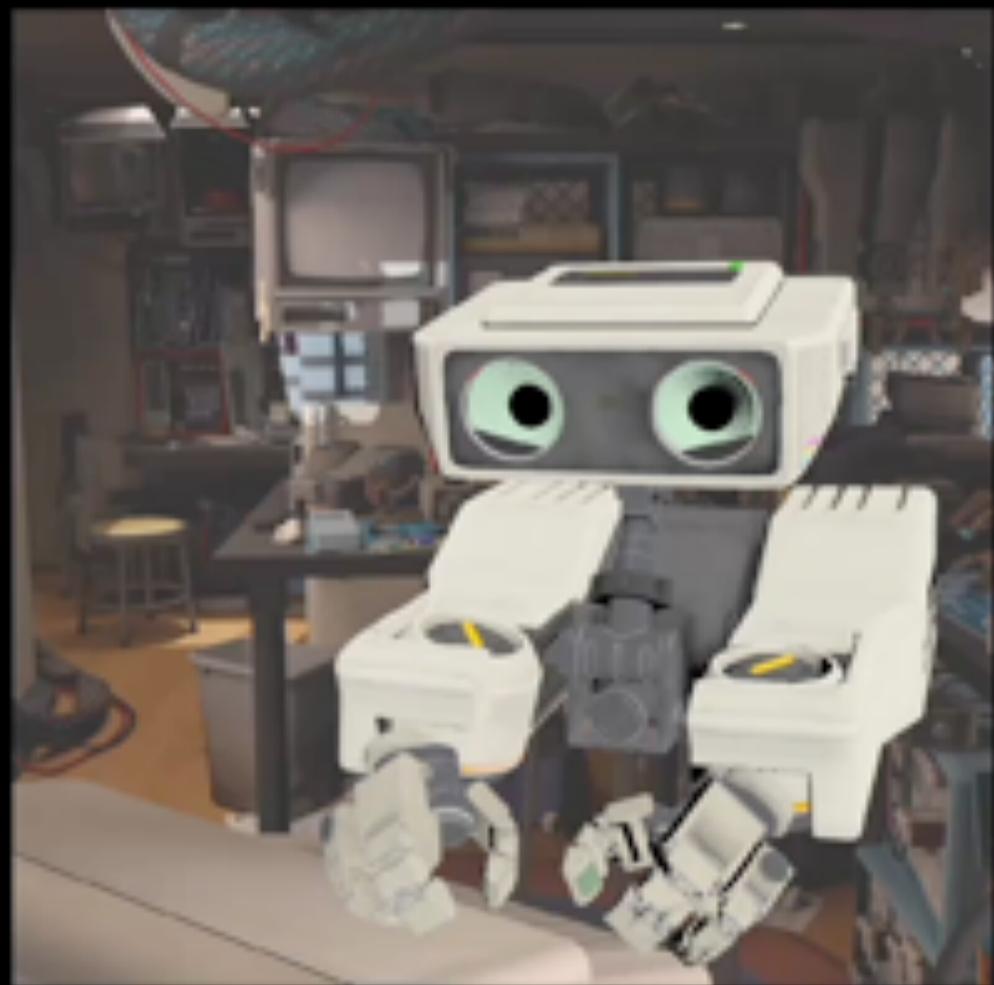
19.7ms, 81x512x512

## OUTPUT



Multiview Imagery

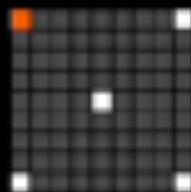
View Interpolation from 5 RGB-D Images



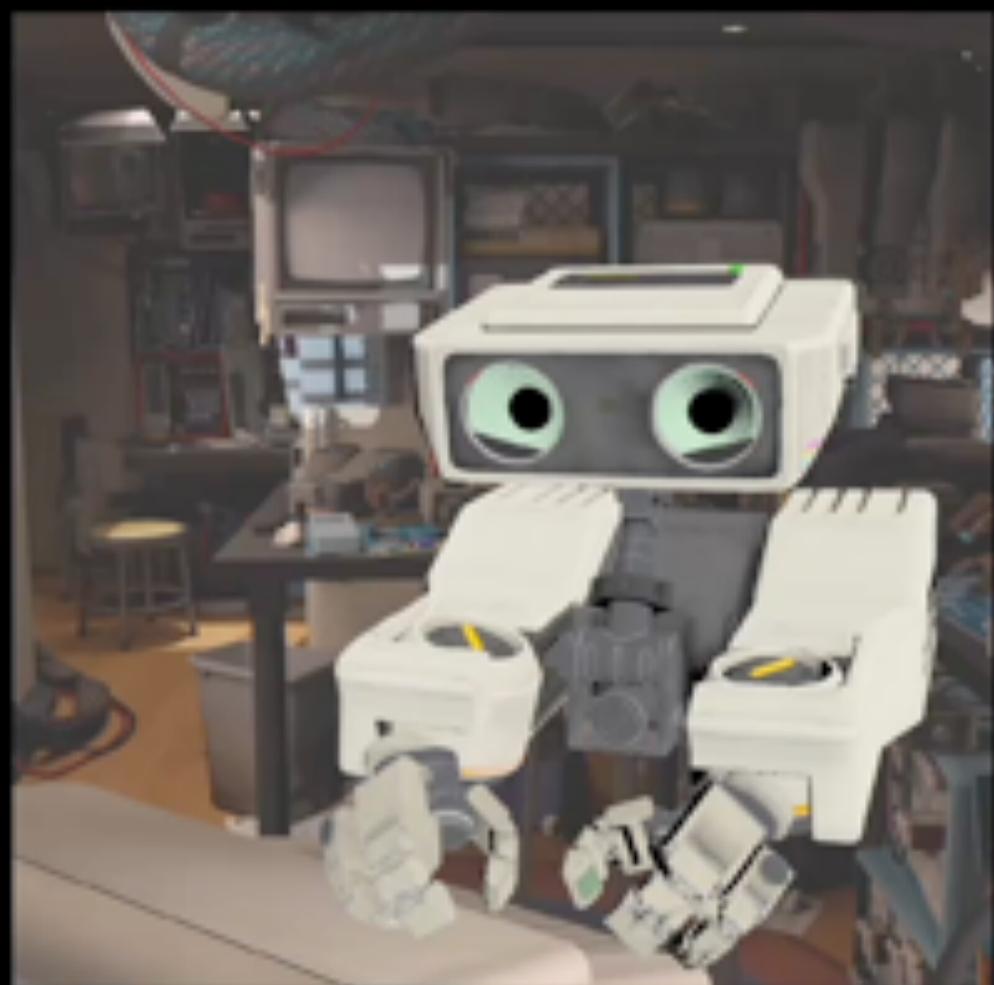
Target RGB Image



Inferred RGB Image



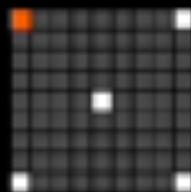
View Interpolation from 5 RGB-D Images



Target RGB Image



Inferred RGB Image





## Limitations and Conclusion

# RGB-D Limitations



Input RGB



Input Depth

# RGB-D Limitations

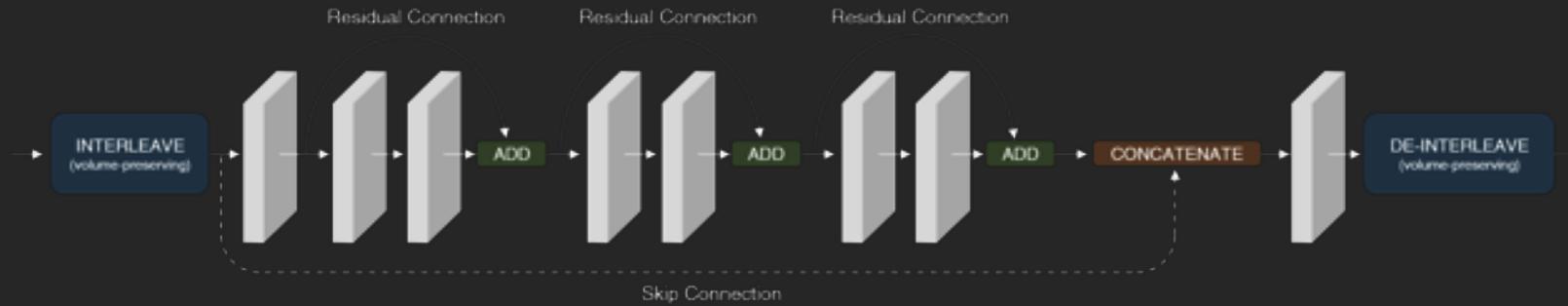
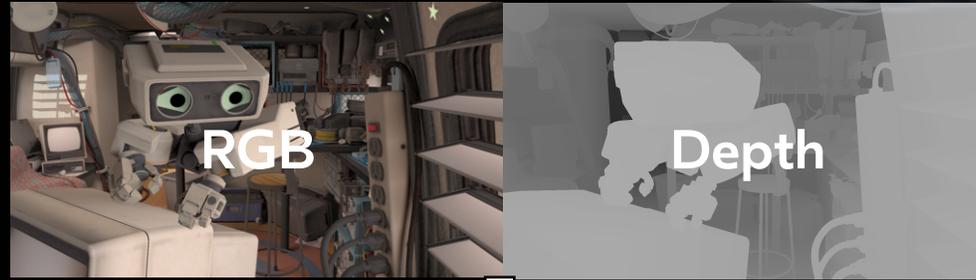


DeepFocus (near focus)



Ground Truth (near focus)

# Conclusion



## DeepFocus

9.8ms, 1024x1024



### Varifocal HMDs

Defocus Blur

10.0ms, 1024x1024



### Multifocal HMDs

Multilayer Decompositions

19.7ms, 81x512x512



### Light Field HMDs

Multiview Imagery



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# Outlook

# Machine Learning: Challenges

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- Easy to get to 80%, very hard to get to 95%
- Not a silver bullet!
  - Inversion is hard
  - Validation/coverage is hard
    - Worst case accuracy?
  - Hyperparameters!
    - Keep your experiments organized
    - Needs more compute

# Machine Learning: Applications

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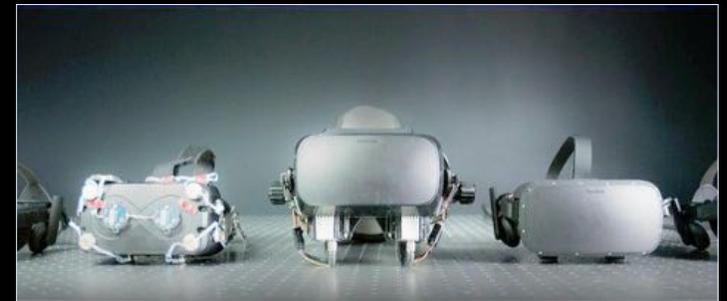
- New framework for rendering
  - Approximation
  - Compression
  - Learning distribution
- Closest to human perception
  
- Differentiable programming as a generic optimization framework for existing methods, e.g. see [Li18]

# Thank You!

## facebook Reality Labs

Opportunities in Redmond, WA:

- Research Scientist, Machine Learning and Graphics
- Research Scientist, Materials and Multiscale Appearance
- Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Graphics
- Graphics Compression Lead
- Cloud Streaming Network Engineer
- **PhD 2019 Internships**



Graphics team at Facebook Reality Labs is seeking researchers and engineers for next generation graphics for virtual and augmented reality: ray tracing, metaverse ecosystem, perceptual rendering, and machine learning.

Contact me ([anton.kaplanyan@oculus.com](mailto:anton.kaplanyan@oculus.com)) or Nicole Doyle ([nicole.doyle@oculus.com](mailto:nicole.doyle@oculus.com)) if you are interested.

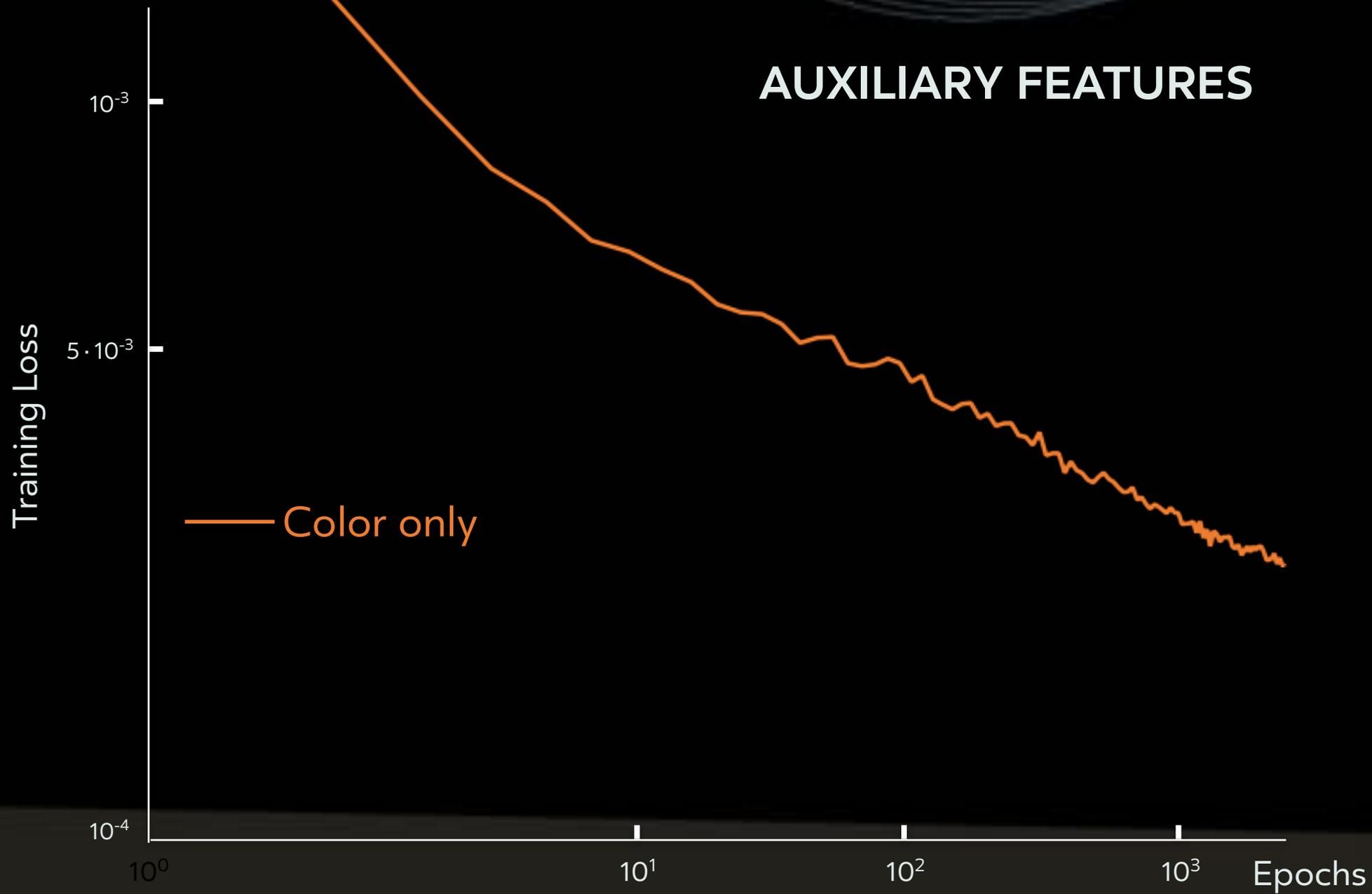


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**Backup Slides**

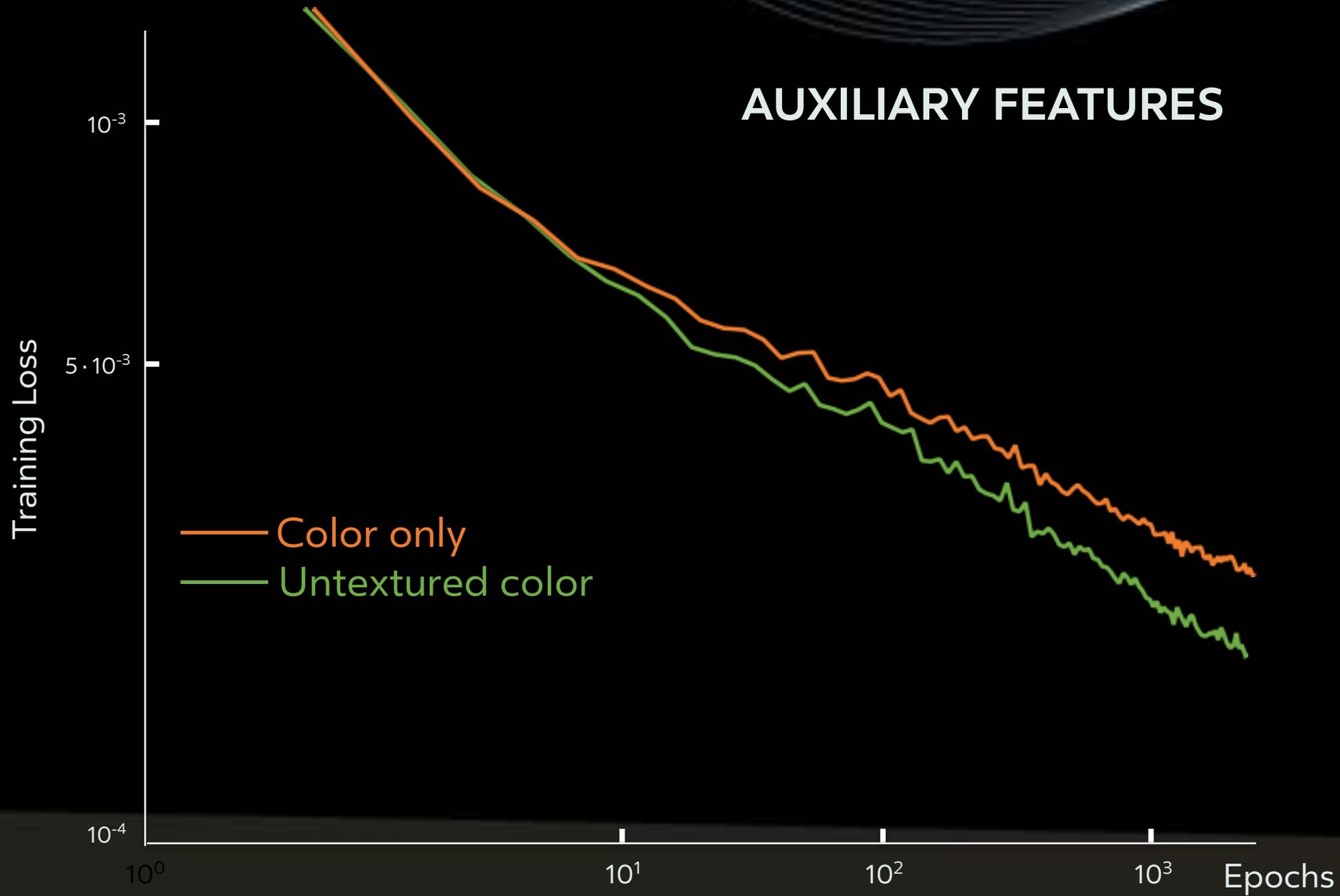
# AUXILIARY FEATURES

# AUXILIARY FEATURES

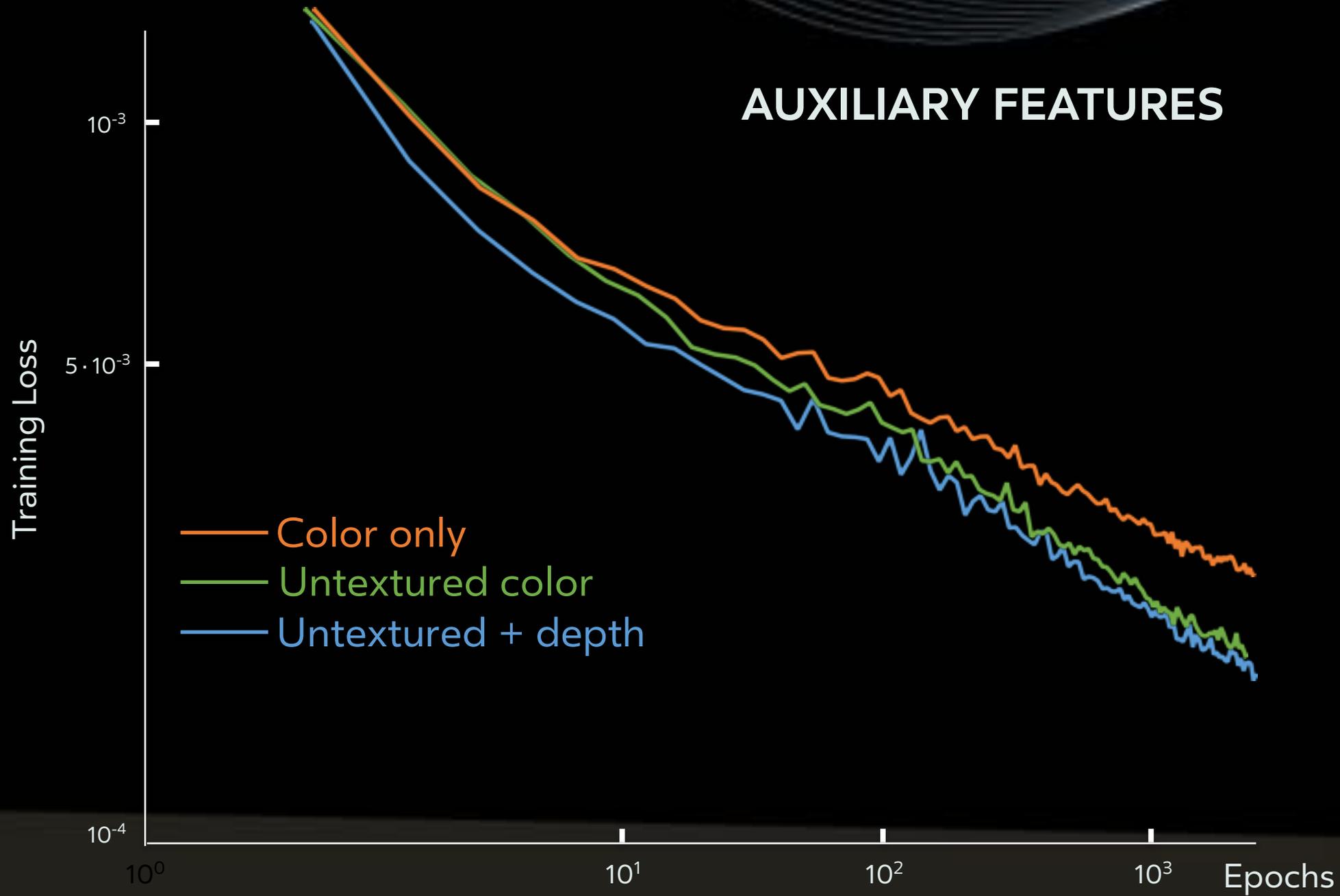


— Color only

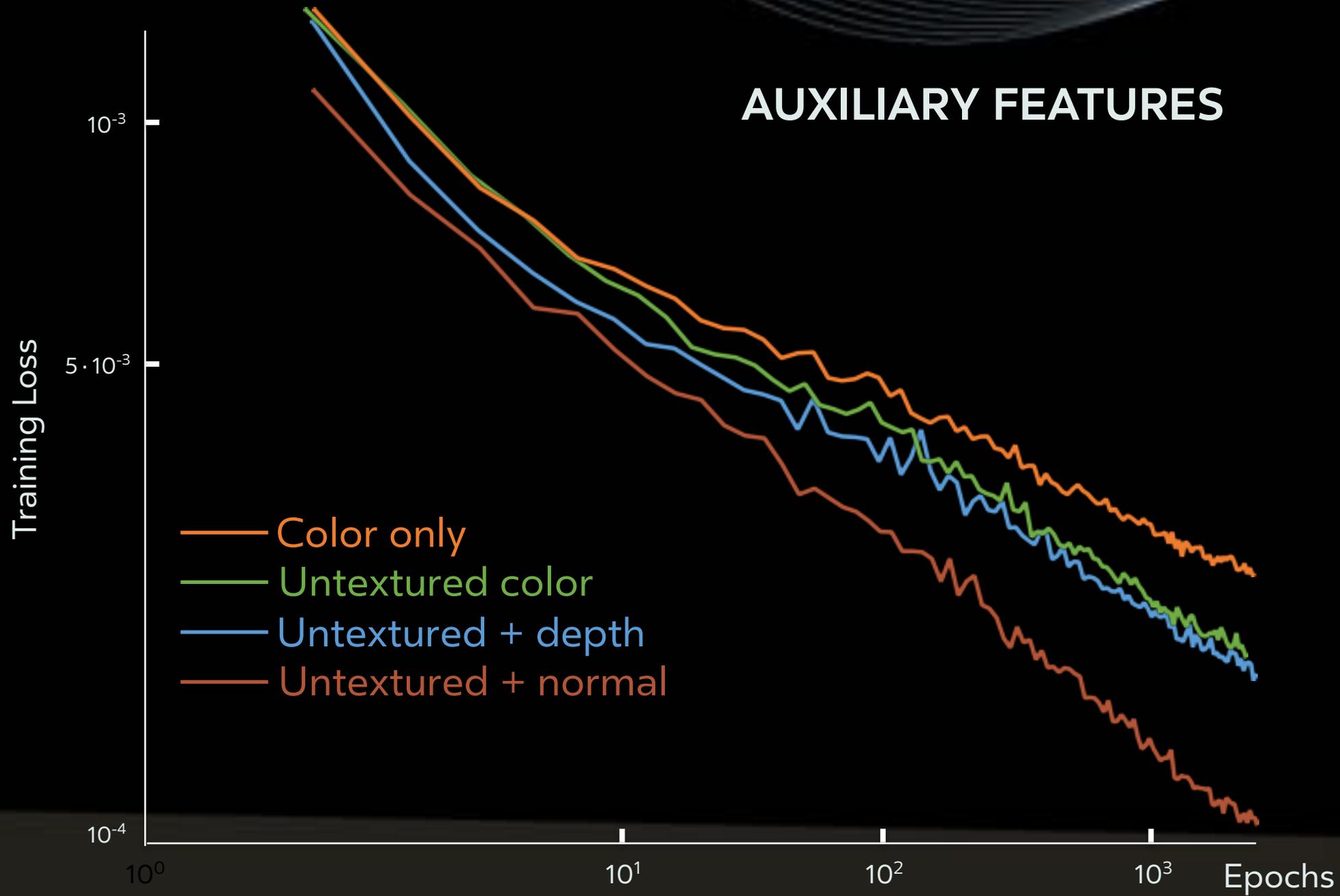
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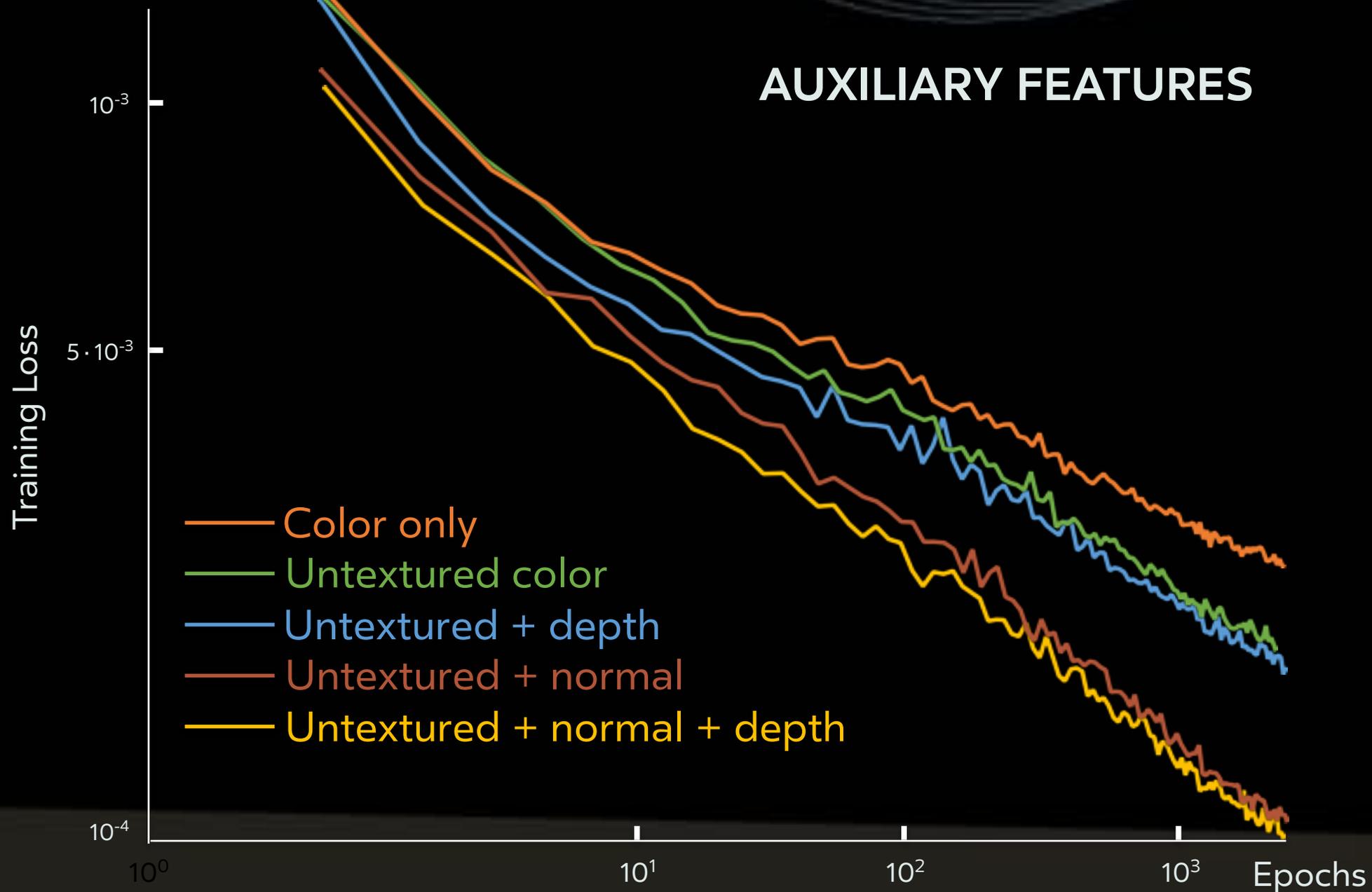
# AUXILIARY FEATURES



# AUXILIARY FEATURES



# AUXILIARY FEATURES



# AUXILIARY FEATURES

