Scalability with many lights II
(row-column sampling, visibity clustering)

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Scalability with Many VPLs

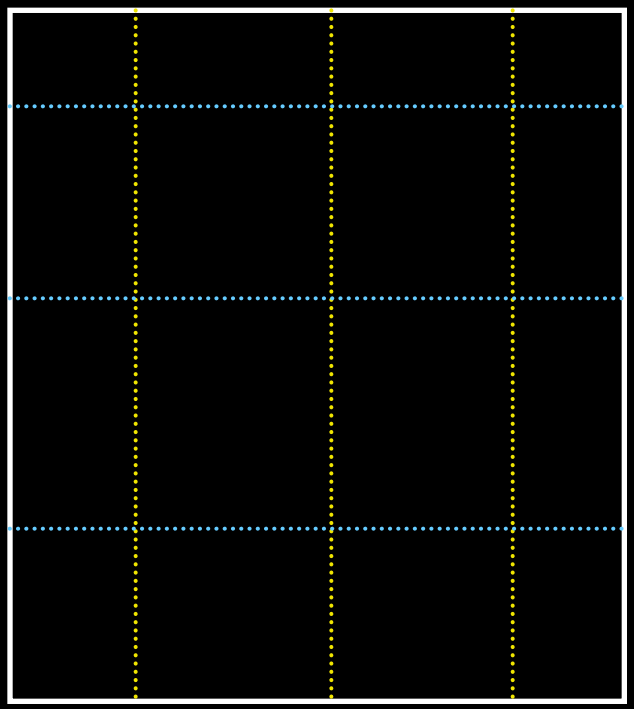
- Alternatives to lightcuts
  - Matrix row-column sampling
  - Visibility clustering
- Potential advantages
  - Shadow mapping instead of ray tracing
  - Simpler to implement
  - No bounds on BRDFs required
  - Faster in occluded environments

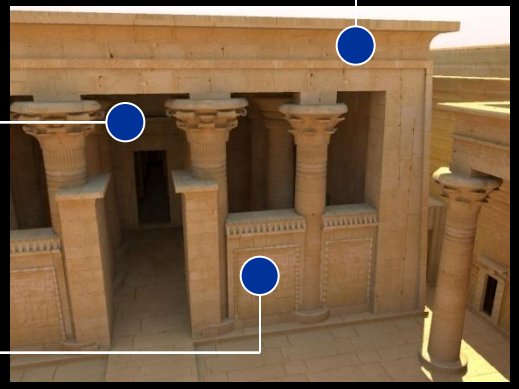
A Matrix Interpretation

Lights (100,000)

Pixels

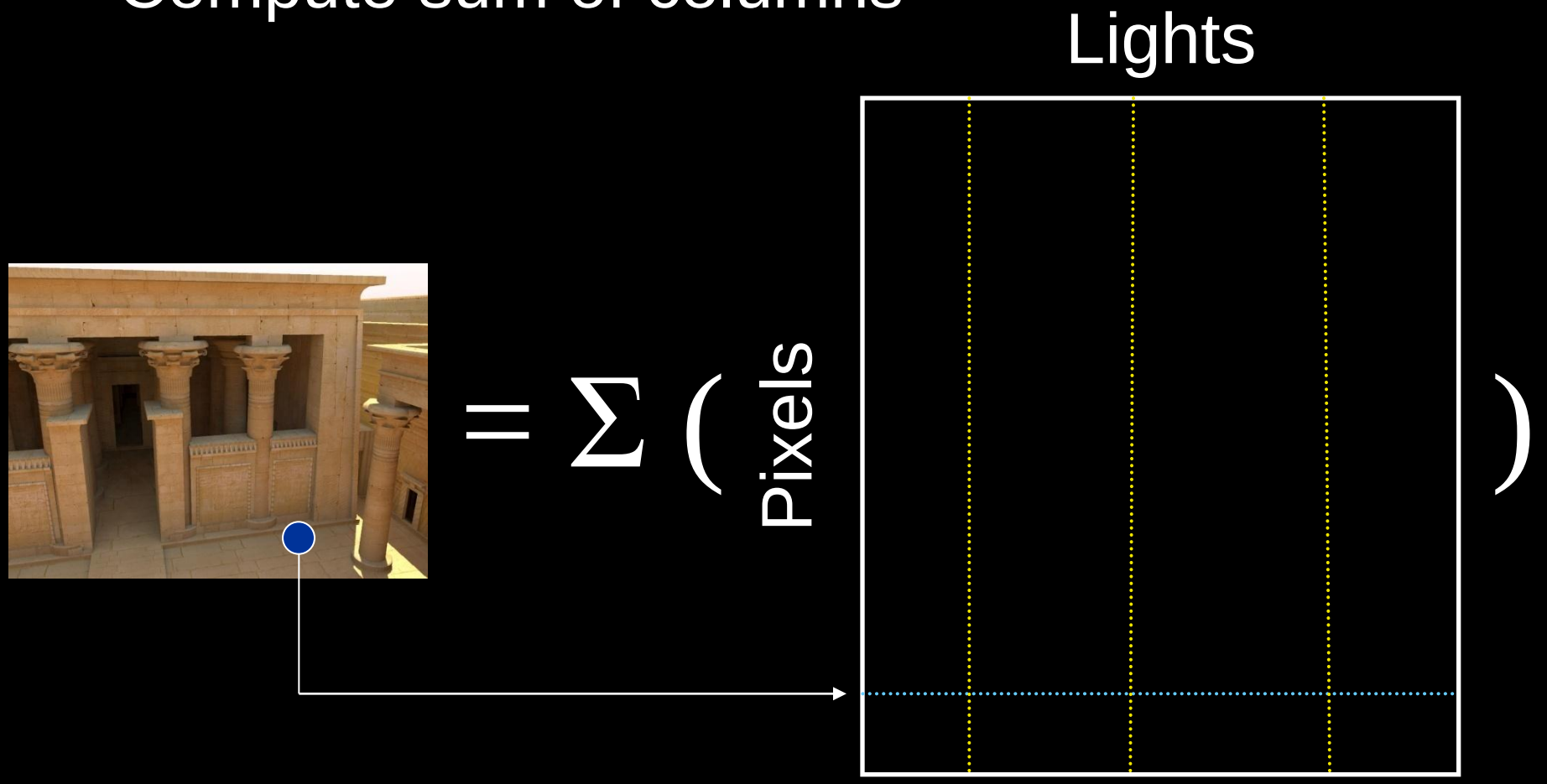
(2,000,000)





Problem Statement

- Compute sum of columns



- Note: We only have oracle A(i,j)

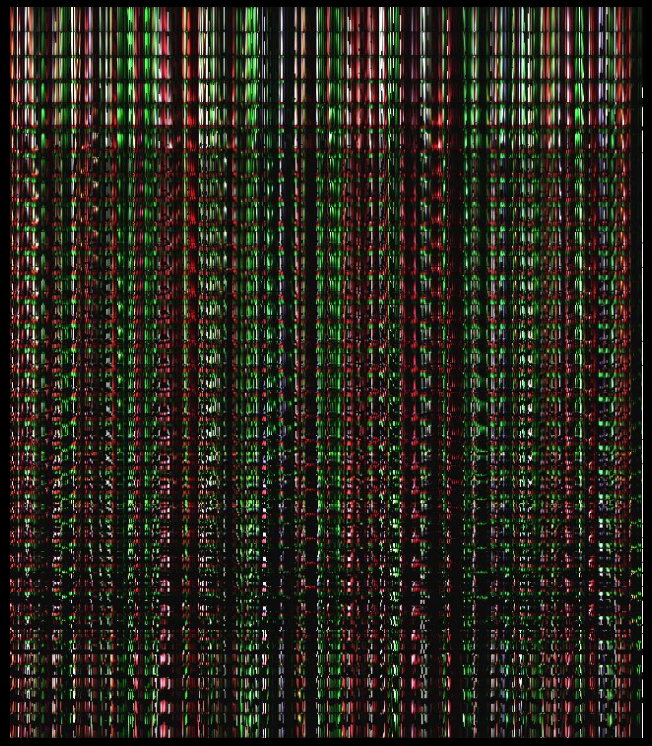
Matrix has structure

A simple scene

30 x 30 image

643 lights

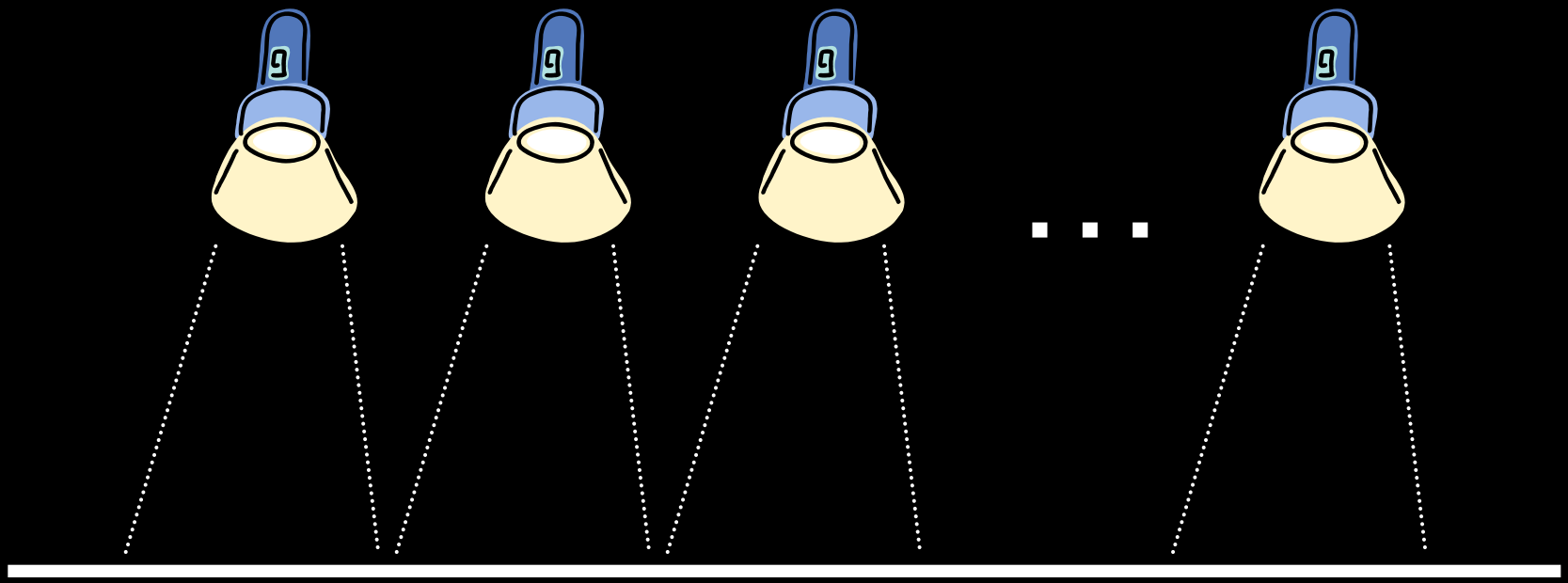
900 pixels



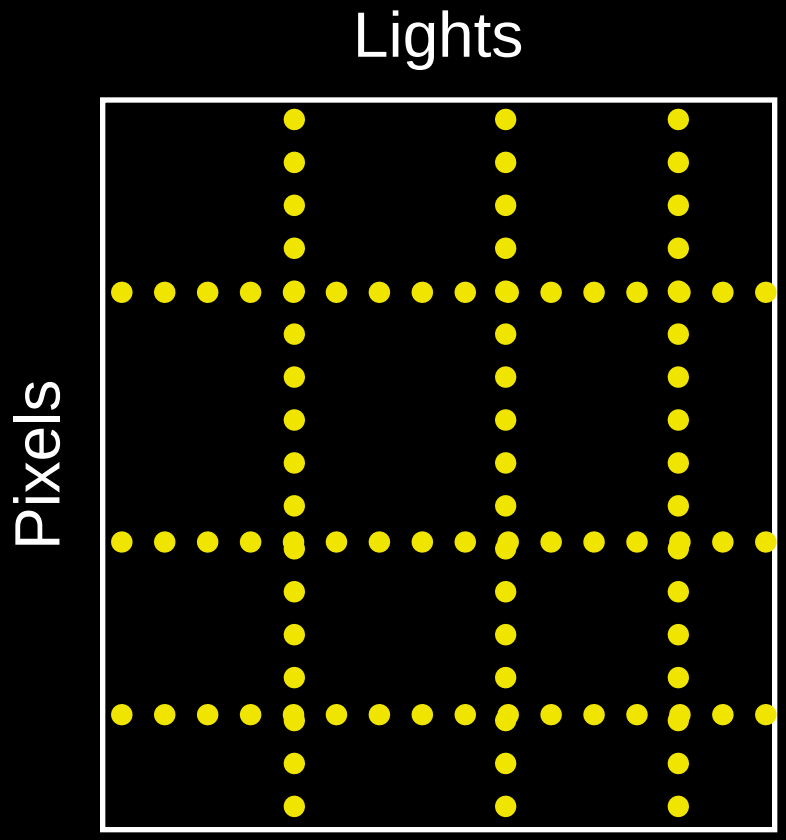
The matrix

Low Rank Assumption Violation

- Bad case: lights with very local contribution



Sampling Pattern Matters

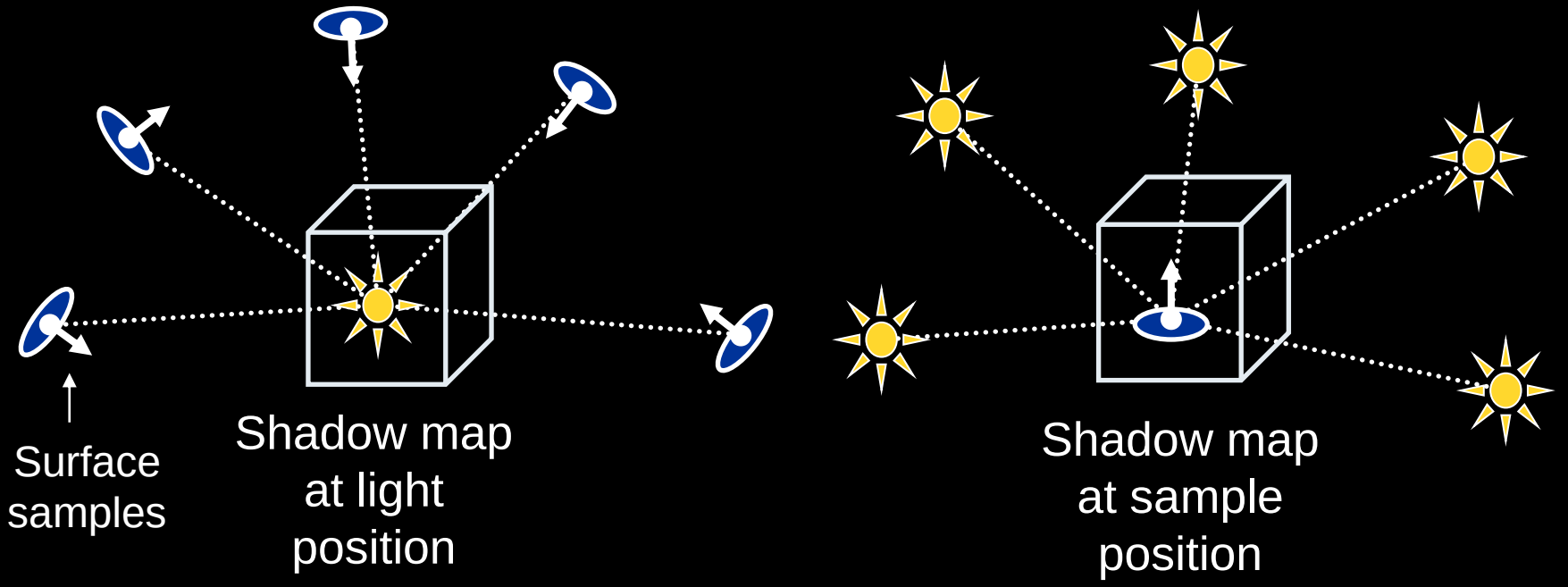


Point-to-point visibility: Ray-tracing

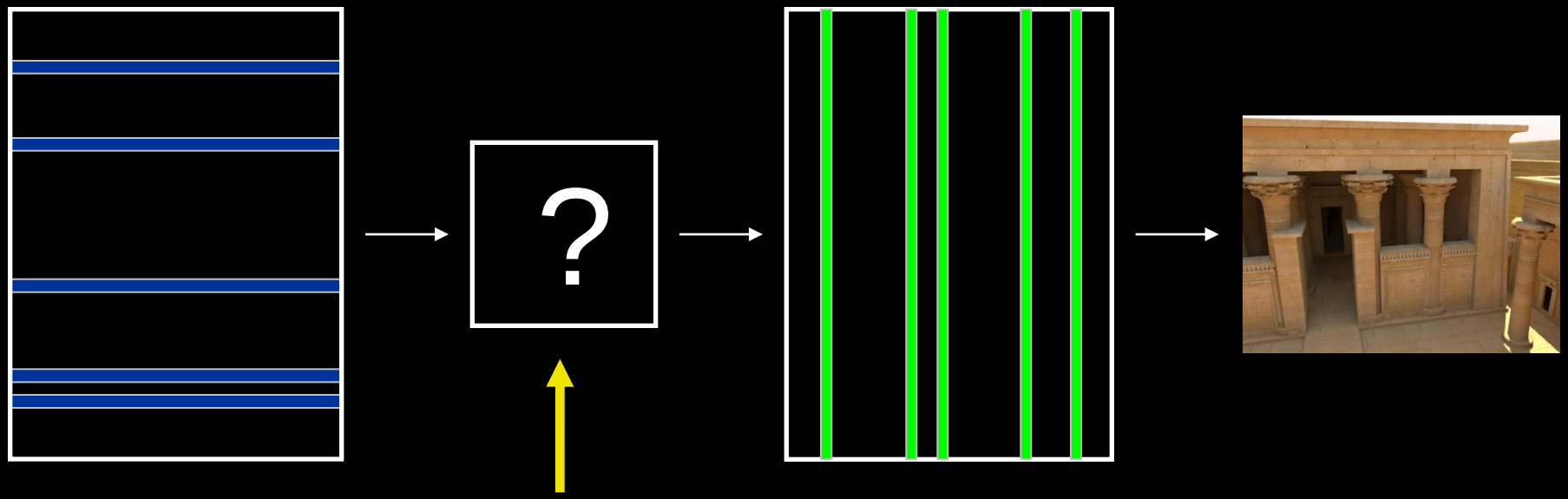
Point-to-many-points visibility: Shadow-mapping

Row-Column Shadow Duality

- Columns: Regular Shadow Mapping
- Rows: Also Shadow Mapping!



Exploration and Exploitation



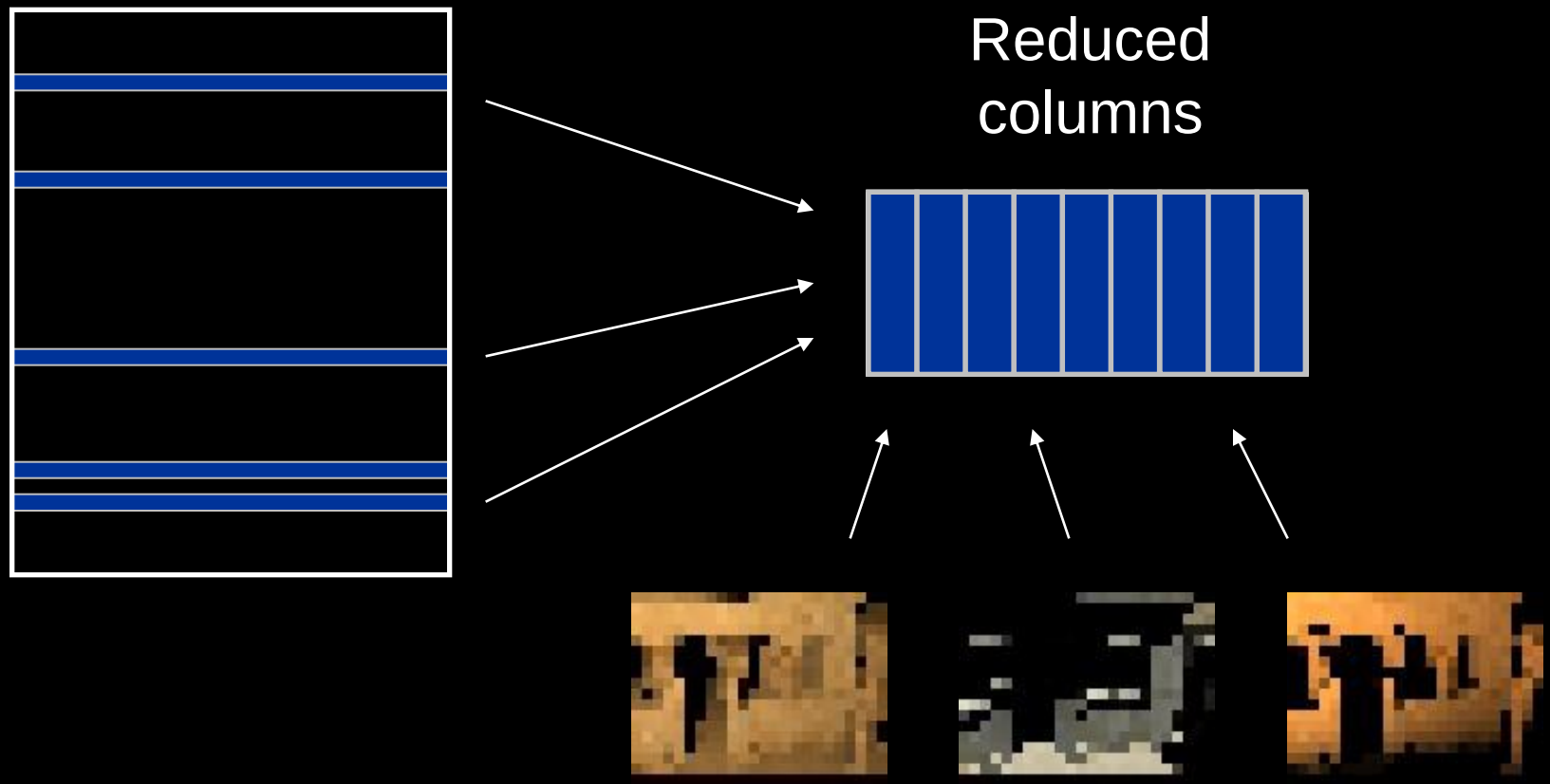
compute rows (explore)

how to choose columns and weights?

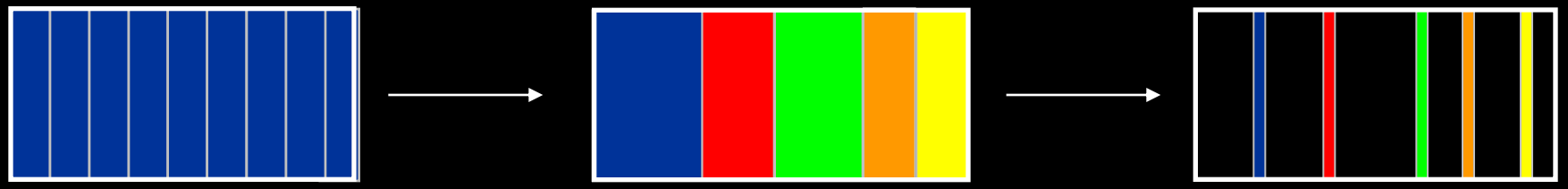
compute columns (exploit)

weighted sum

Reduced Matrix



Clustering Approach



Reduced columns

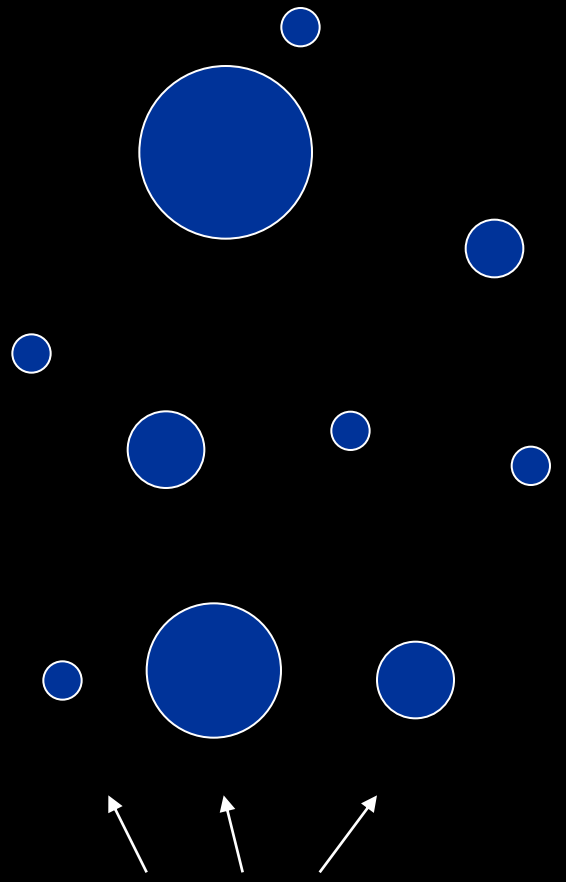
Choose k clusters

Choose representative columns

Visualizing the Reduced Columns

Reduced columns: vectors in high-dimensional space

visualize as …



radius = norm

The Clustering Metric

- Minimize: $\sum_{p=1,\ldots,k} cost(C_p)$

total cost of all clusters

- where: $cost(C) = \sum_{i,j \in C} w_i \; w_j \; \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2$

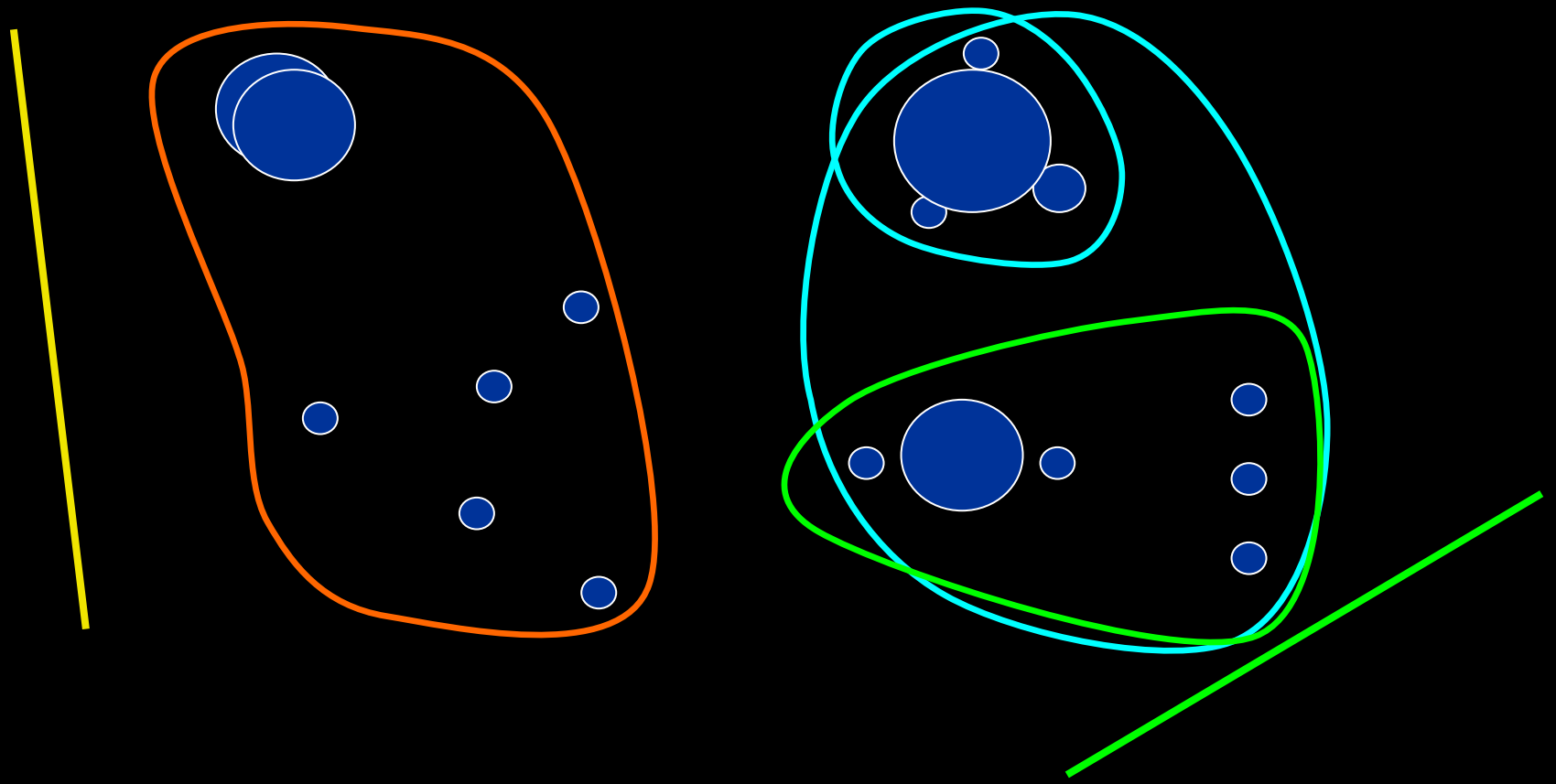
cost of a cluster

sum over all pairs in it

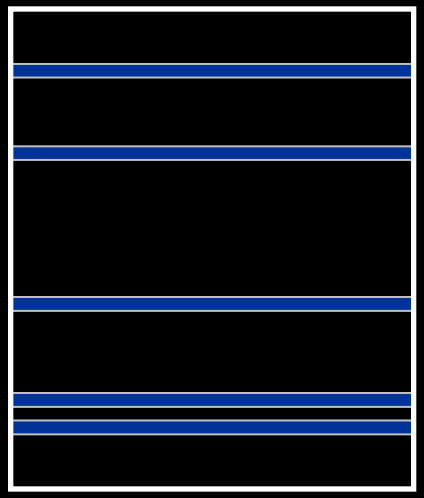
norms of the reduced columns

squared distance between normalized reduced columns

Clustering by Divide & Conquer

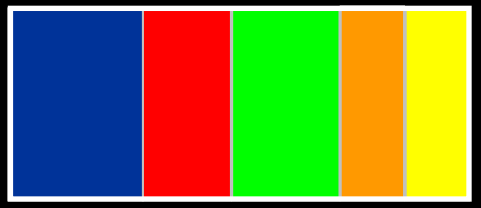


Full Algorithm

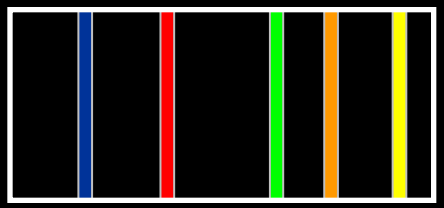


Compute rows
(GPU)

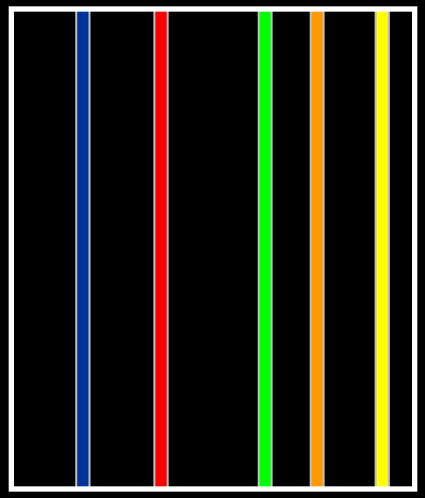
Assemble rows into
reduced matrix



Cluster reduced
columns



Choose
representatives

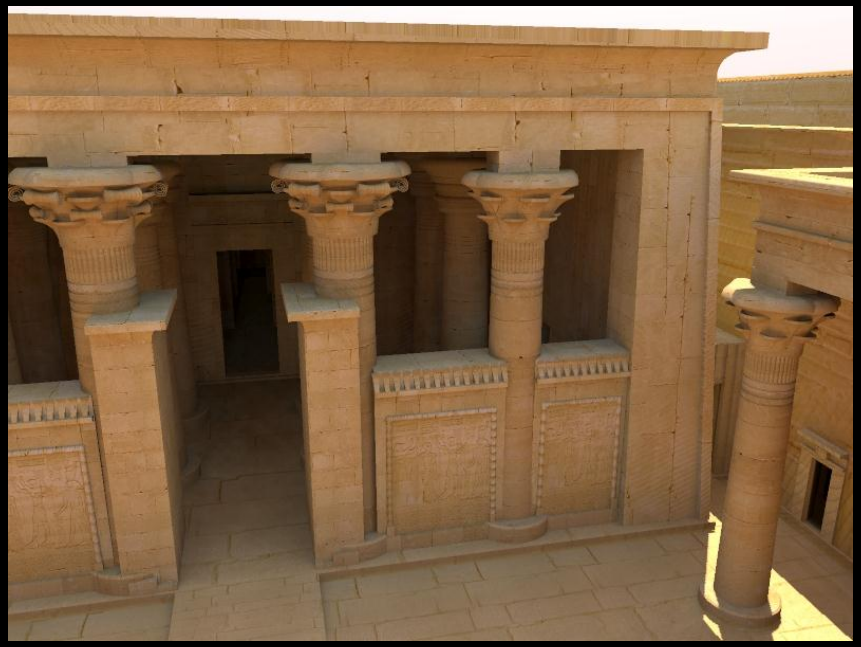


Compute columns
(GPU)

Weighted sum

Results: Temple

- 2.1m polygons
- Mostly indirect & sky illumination
- Indirect shadows



Our result: 16.9 sec
(300 rows + 900 columns)

Reference: 20 min
(using all 100k lights)

Results: Trees and Bunny

- Complex incoherent geometry
- Low rank, not low frequency

Our result: 2.9 sec
(100 rows + 200 columns)

Our result: 3.8 sec
(100 rows + 200 columns)

Results: Grand Central

- 1.5m polygons
- Point lights between stone blocks

Our result: 24.2 sec
(588 rows + 1176 columns)

Reference: 44 min
(using all 100k lights)

Advantage: Adaptive Stratification

Our result

(432 rows + 864 columns)

Importance sampling

(Using 1455 lights)

Equal time comparison

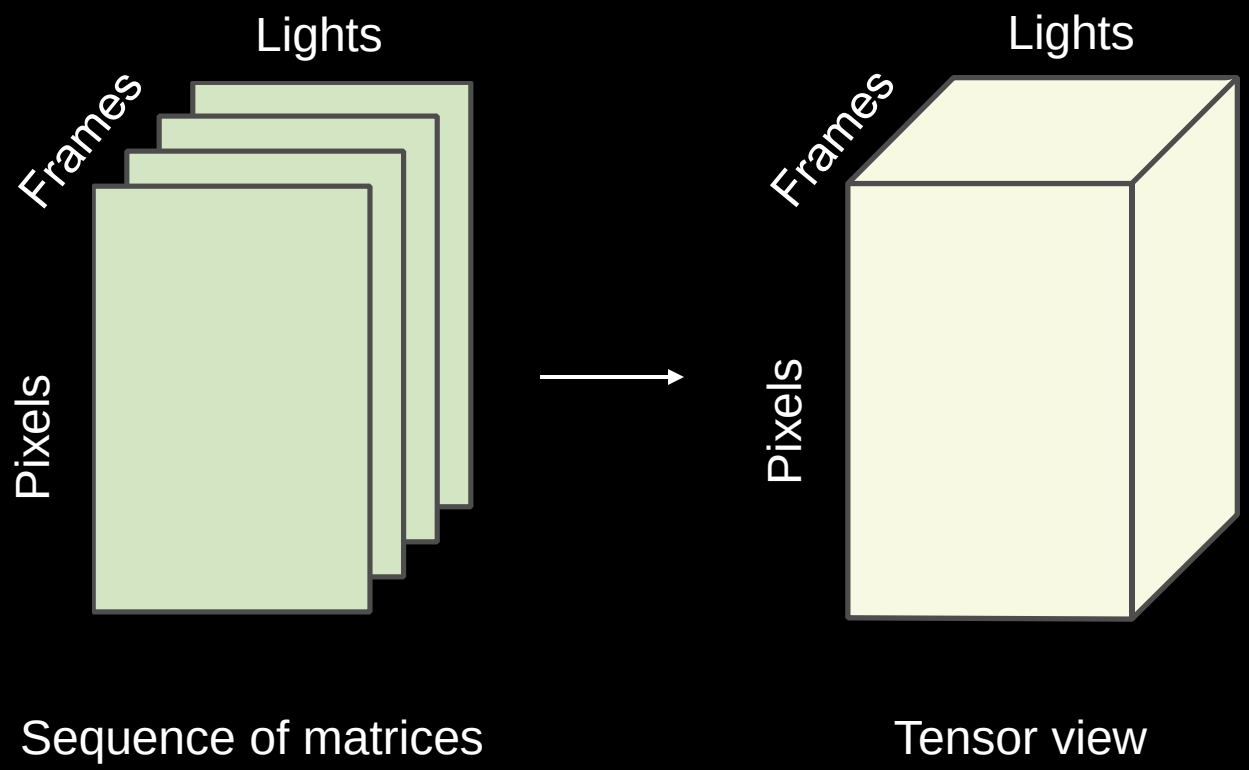
Advantage: Adaptive Stratification

Our result

Importance sampling

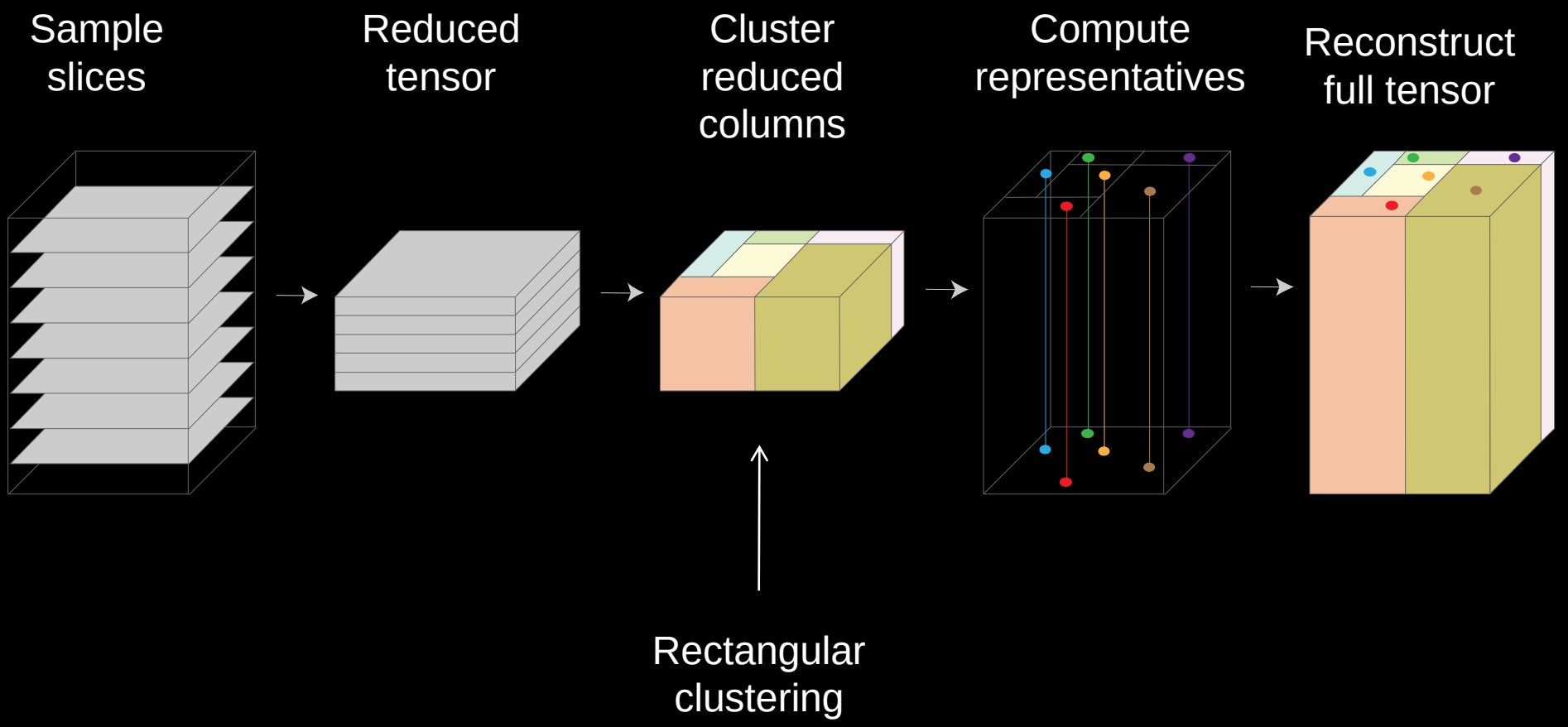
Equal time comparison:
5x difference from reference

Animations: Tensor Extension



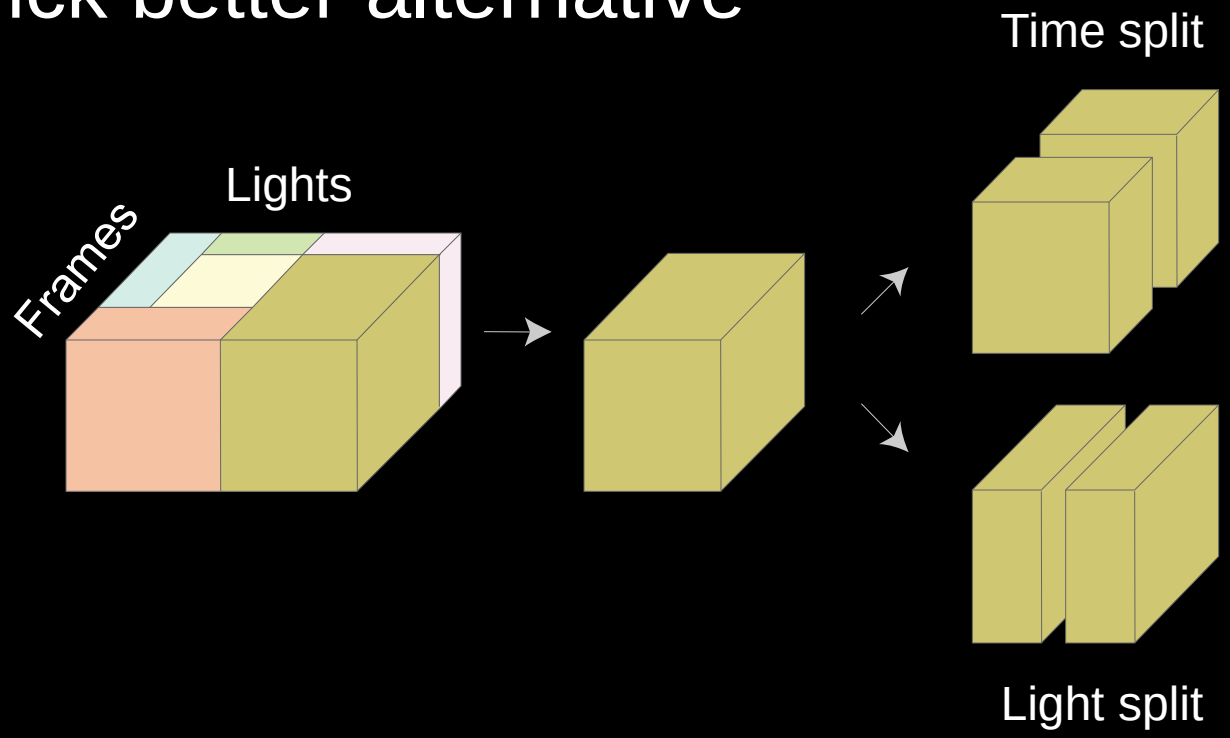
- Size of tensor in our results: 307,200 x 65,536 x 40

Tensor Extension - Overview



Splitting a cluster

- Pick cluster with highest cost
- Try splitting in time
- Try splitting in lights
- Pick better alternative



Results - Iris

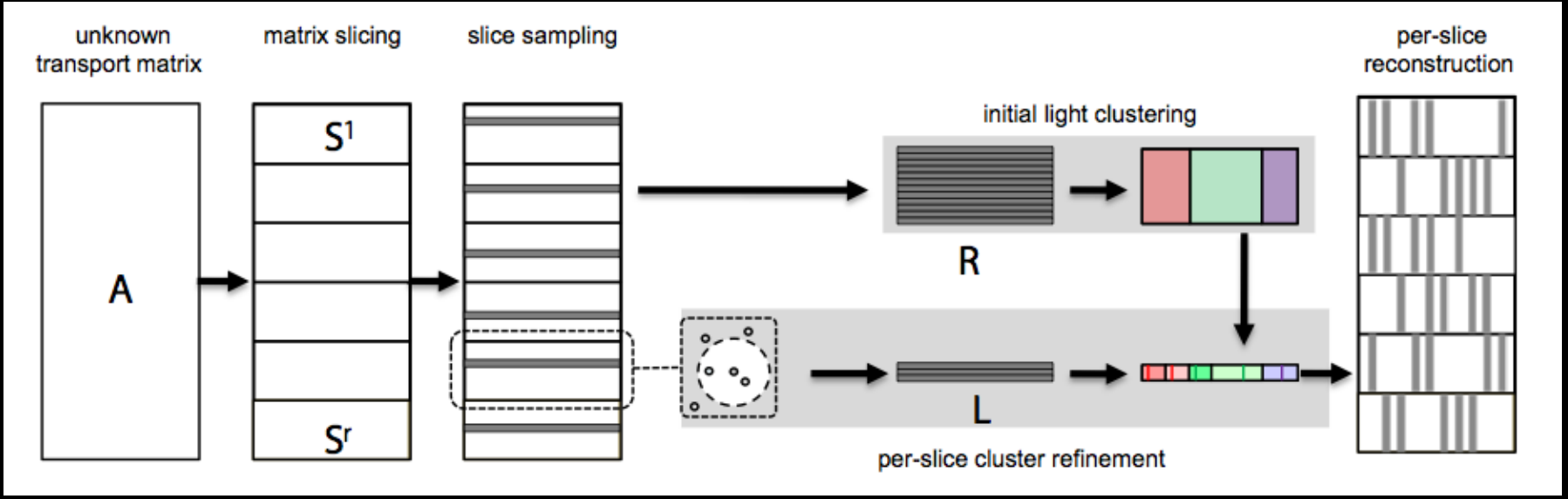
- 51k triangles, 65,536 lights
- Deforming objects, high-frequency shadows
- 6.9 sec / frame (brute-force: 2 min / frame)

Results - Temple

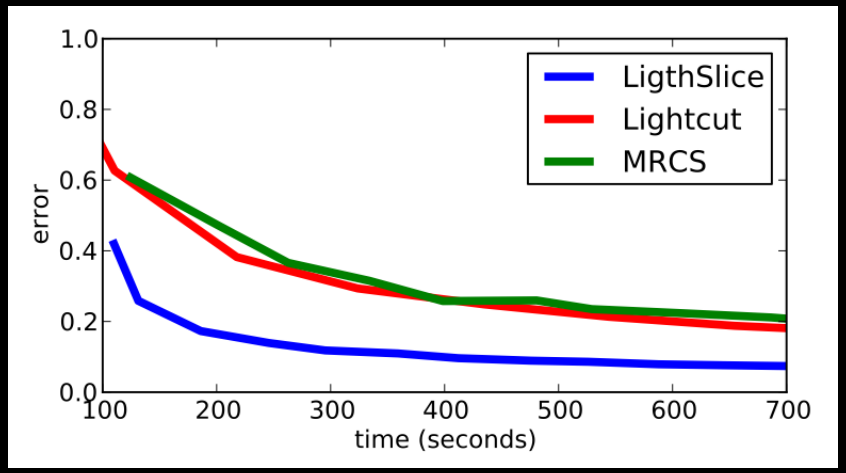
- 2.1m triangles, 65,536 lights
- Sun & sky lighting, moving sun
- Multiple indirect light bounces
- 26 sec / frame (brute-force: 33.5 min / frame)

LightSlice [Ou and Pellacini 2011]

- Compute initial clustering
- Refine it differently in different “slices”
- Use neighboring slices to get more rows

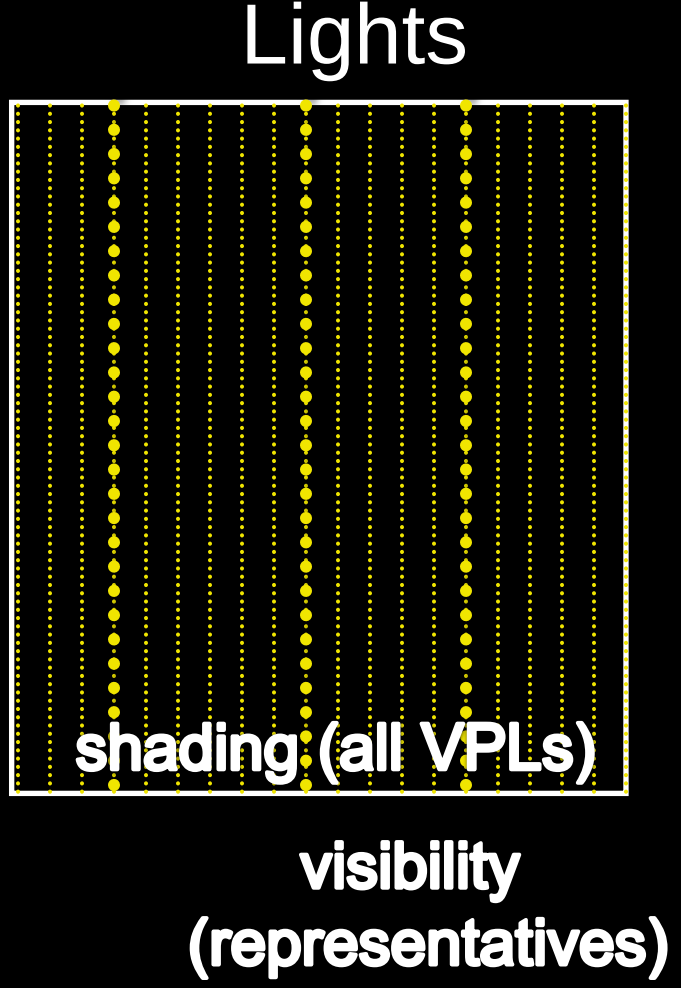


LightSlice: Results



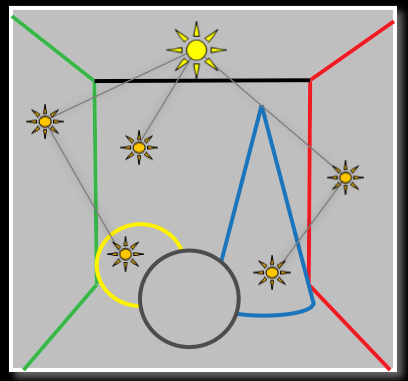
Visibility Clustering [Davidovič et al 2010]

- Separate shading from visibility
- Cluster only visibility
- Shade from all VPLs



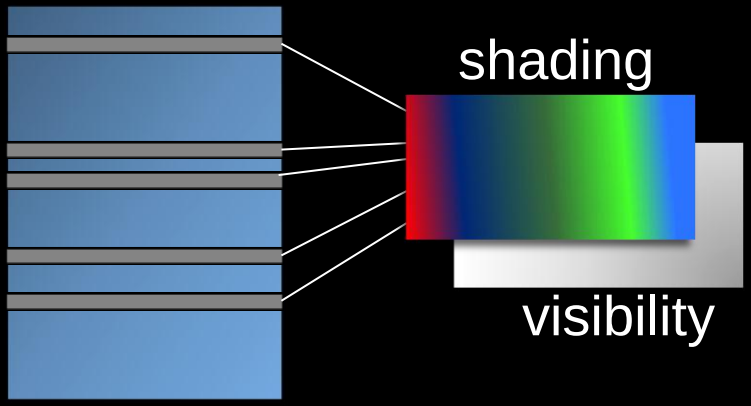
Visibility Clustering Overview

VPL tracing

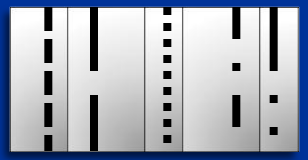


Row sampling

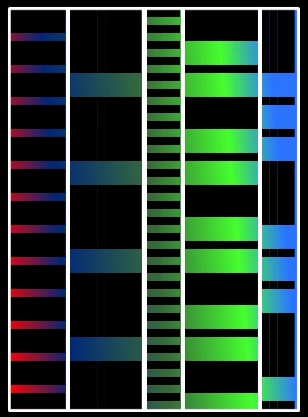
Reduced matrix



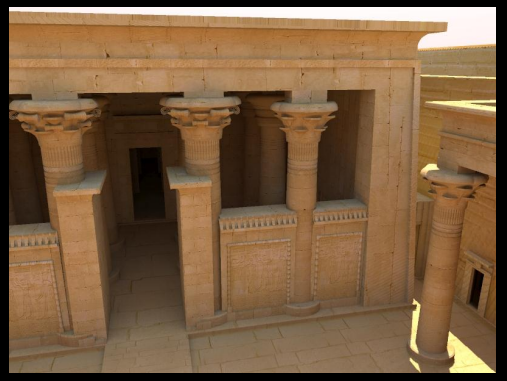
Visibility clustering



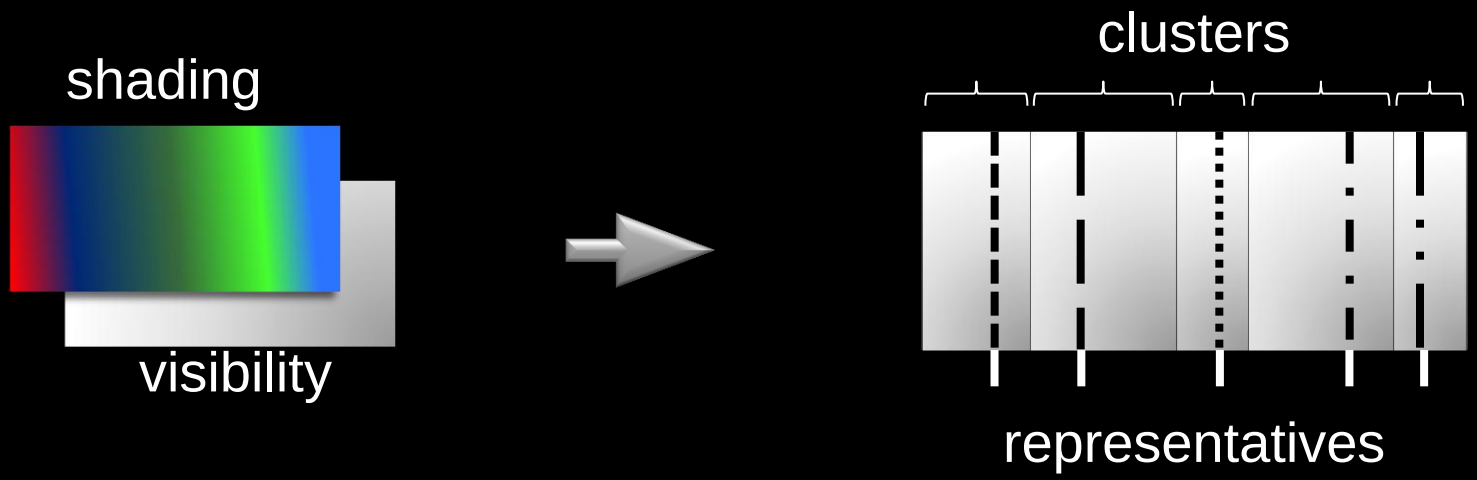
Render lights with reps' visibility



Result



Visibility clustering



- Clustering algorithm
  - Divide & conquer (top-down splitting)
  - Modified clustering cost
    - L2 error of reduced matrix due to visibility approximation

Visibility clustering result

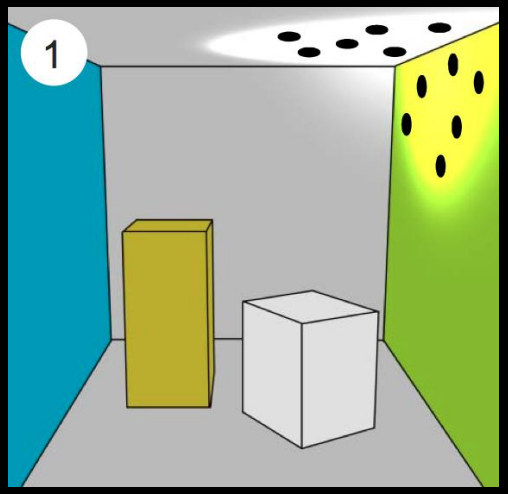
Matrix row-column sampling

10k shadow maps
10k shading lights

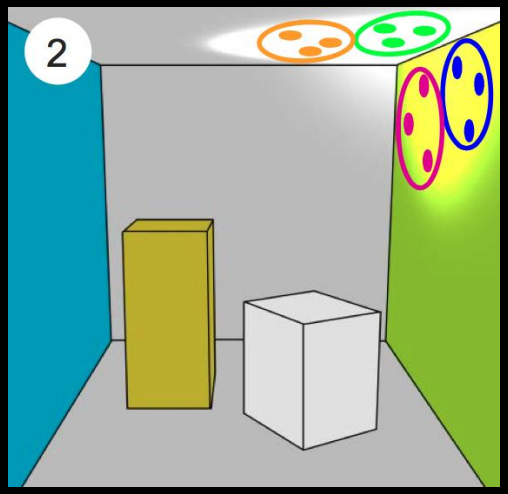
Our visibility clustering

5k shadow maps
200k shading lights

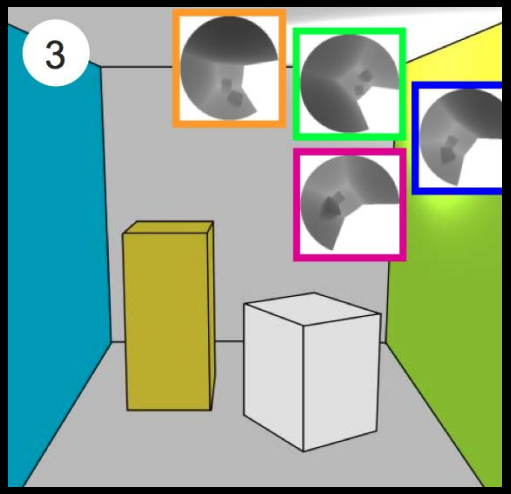
Clustered Visibility [Dong et al 2009]



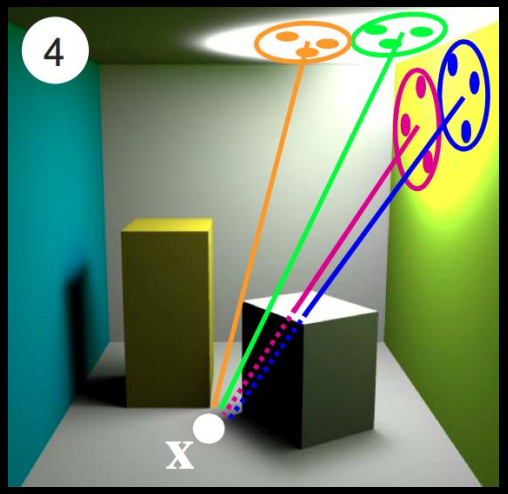
Trace VPLs



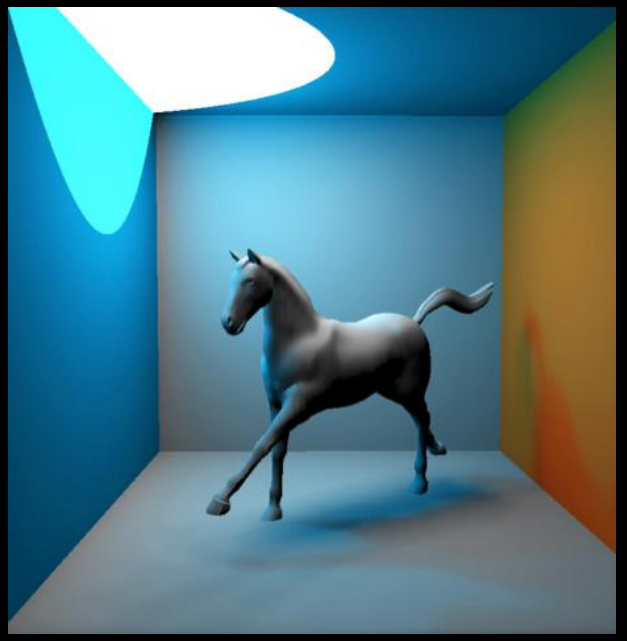
K-means clustering



Soft shadow maps



Compute full shading



Real-time diffuse indirect illumination

Conclusion

- Row-column sampling algorithms
  - Handle large numbers of VPLs
  - Alternatives to lightcuts
- Open Problems
  - How many rows + columns?
    - Pick automatically
  - Row / column alternation
  - Progressive algorithm:
    - stop when user likes the image