

# Hardware-Accelerated Global Illumination by Image Space Photon Mapping

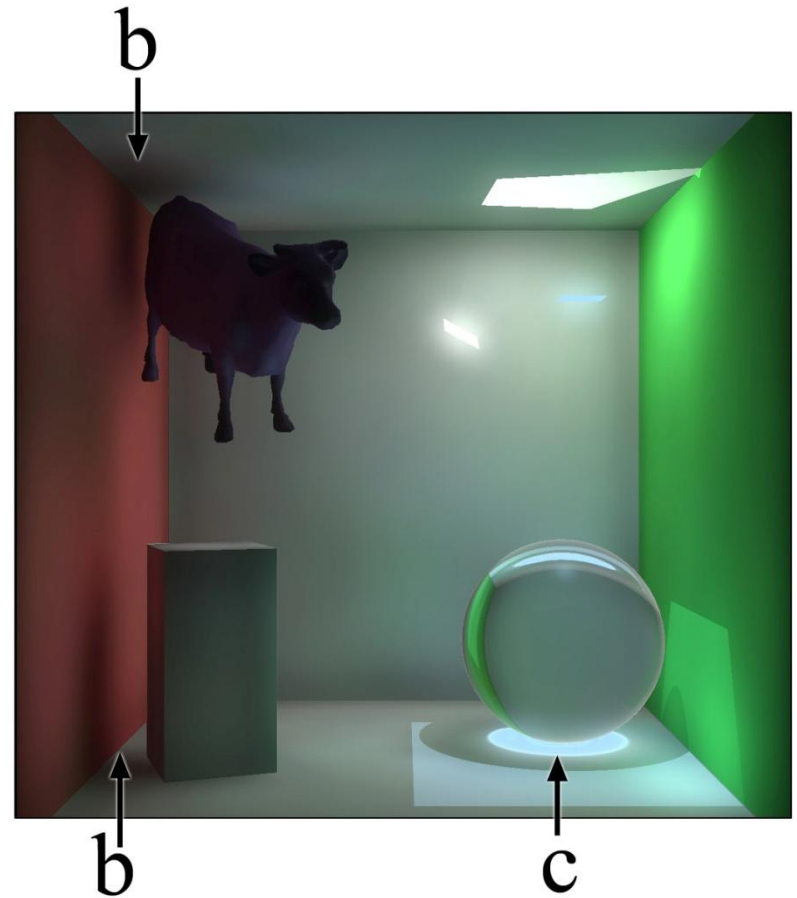
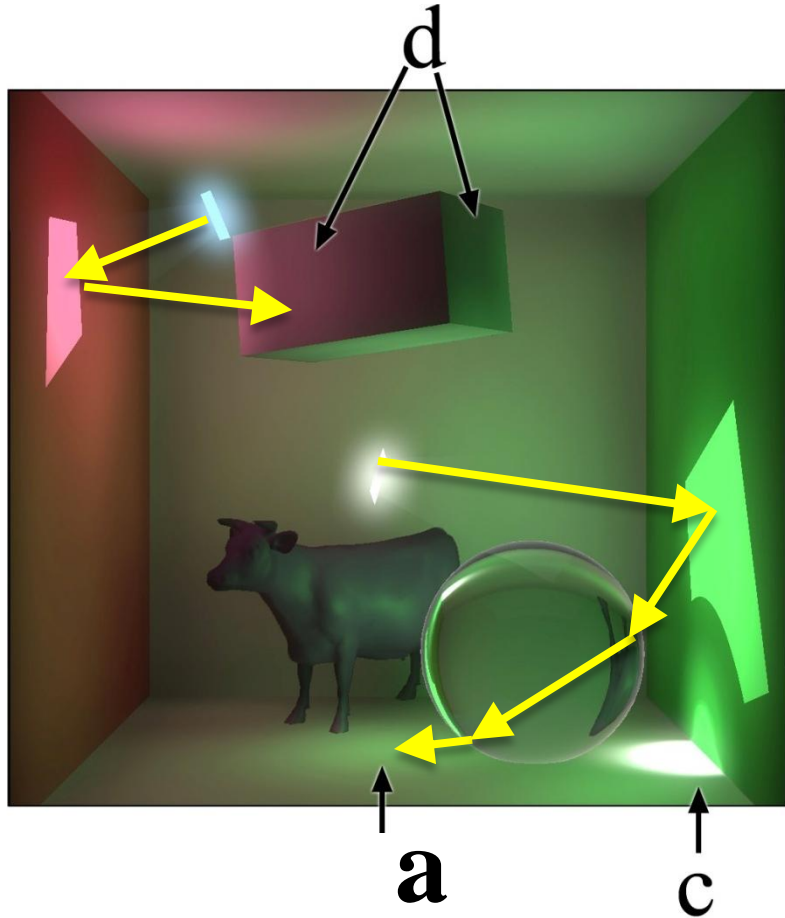
Morgan McGuire  
Williams College



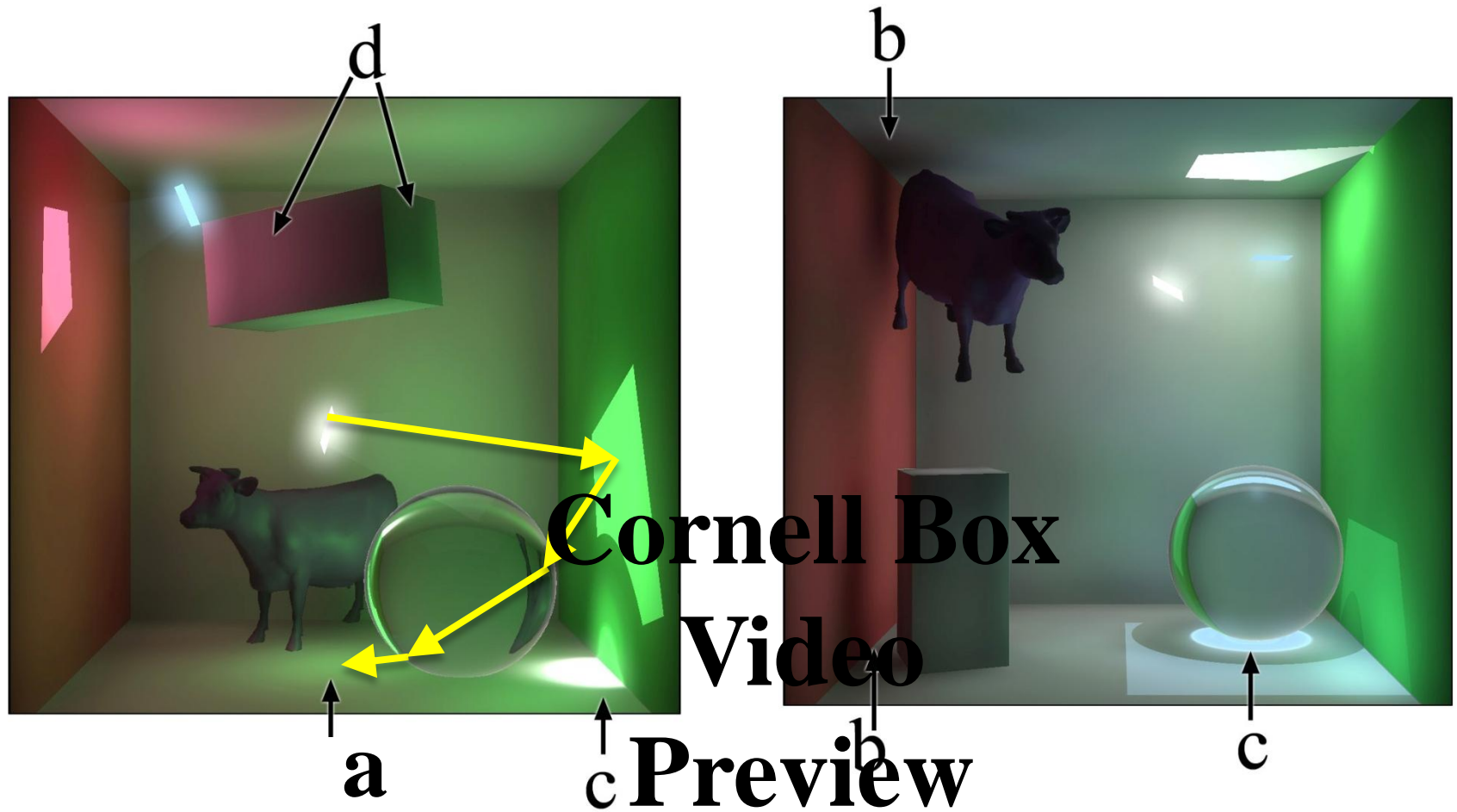
David Luebke  
NVIDIA Corporation

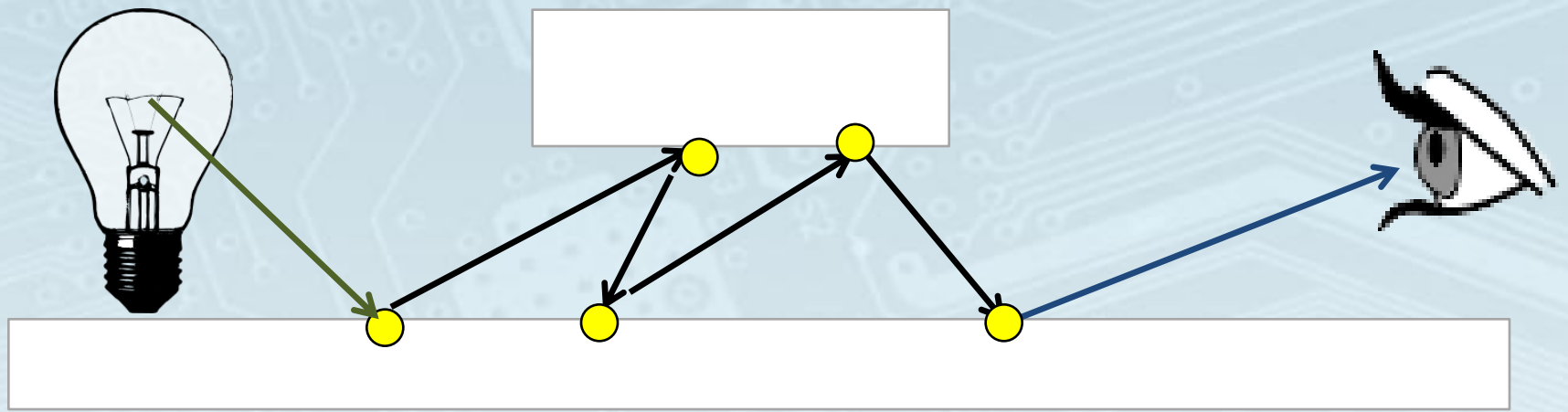


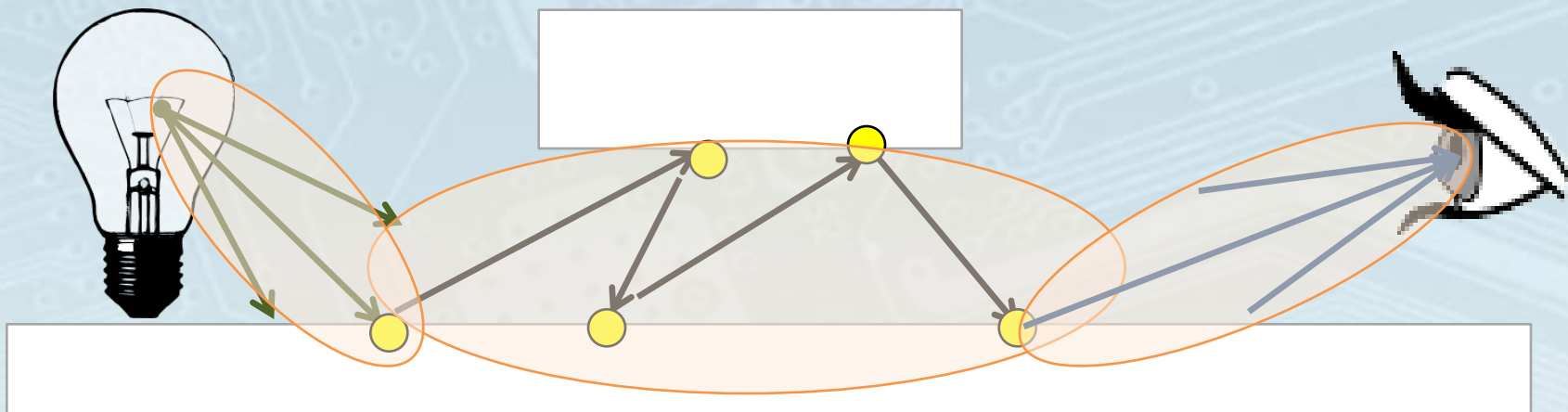
# Goal: ~~Dynamic Global Illumination~~ Global Illumination



# Goal: *Dynamic* Global Illumination

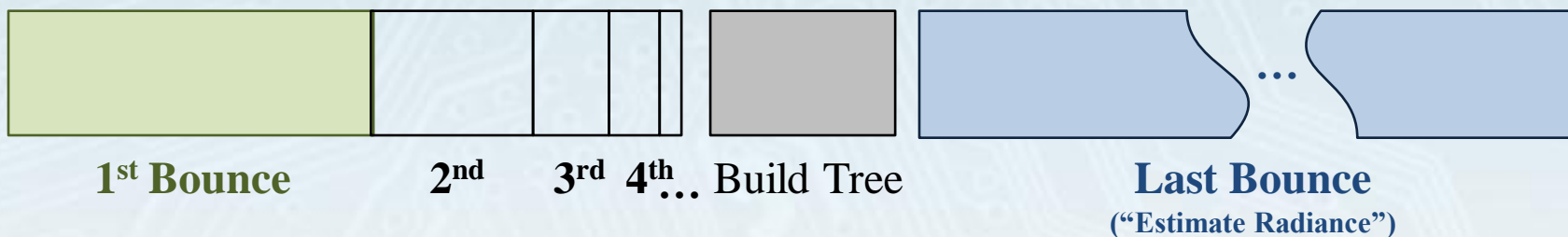




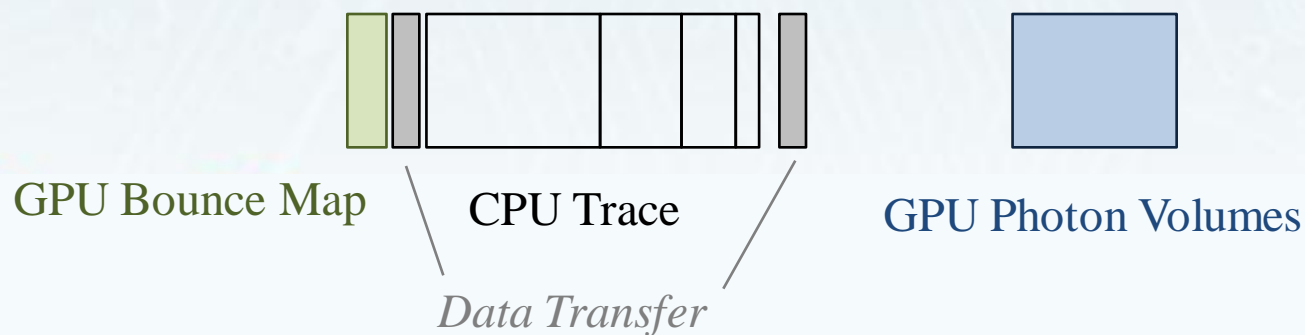


## Photon Mapping Time (seconds)

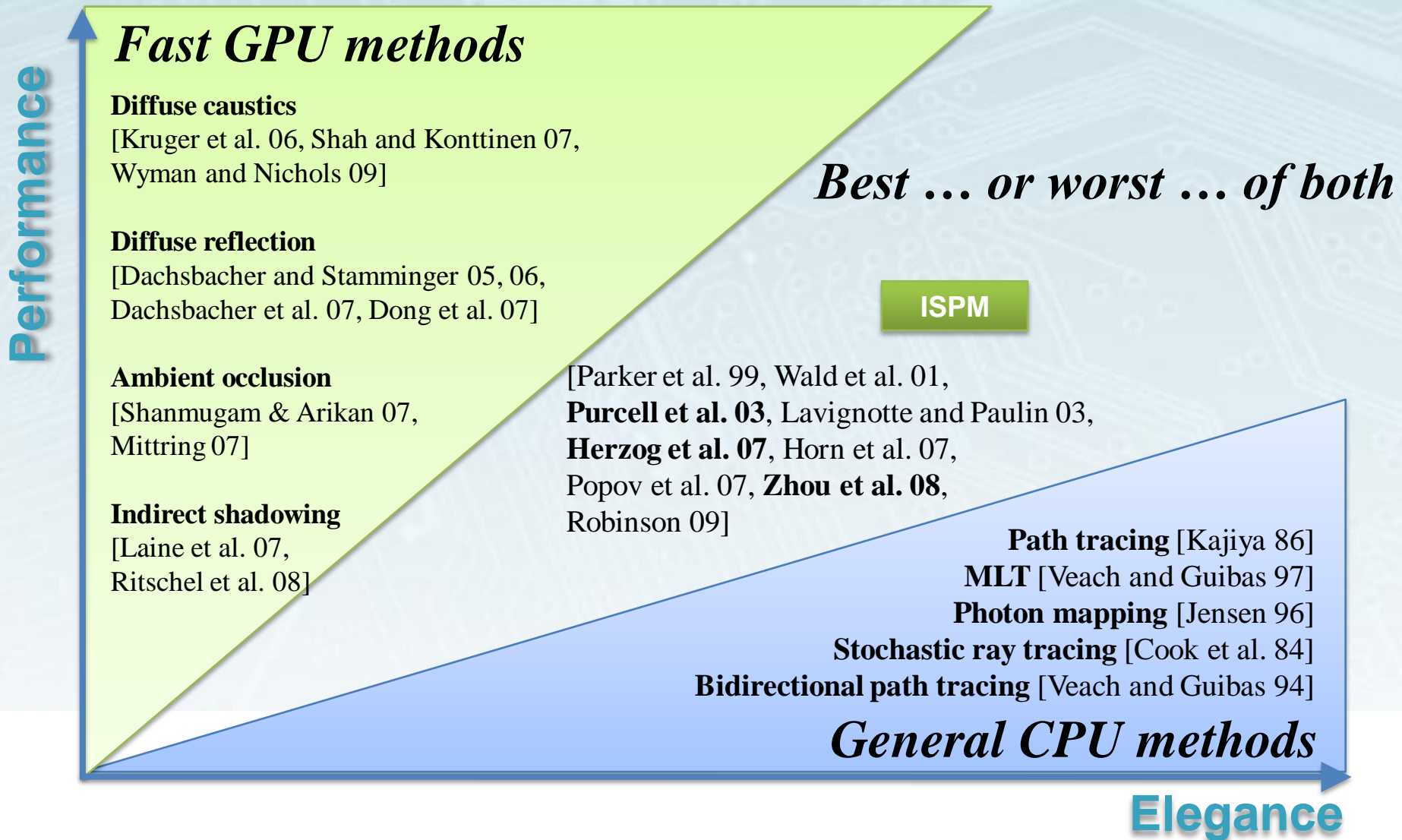
e.g., [Jensen 96, 01, Pharr and Humphreys 04]



## Image Space Photon Mapping (*milliseconds*)



# Global Illumination Algorithms





# Assumptions

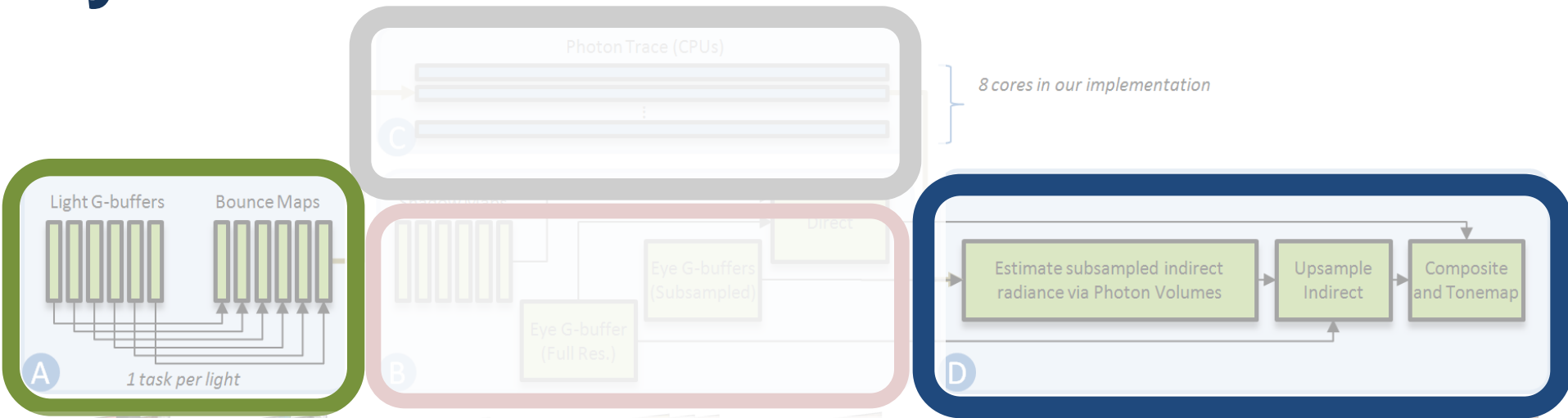
- Point light
- Pinhole camera

# Limitations

- Clipping at near plane – annoying, but ignorable/avoidable
- **4x more expensive than direct illumination** (heavy fill consumption)
- Consistent, but biased (like photon mapping)

# System

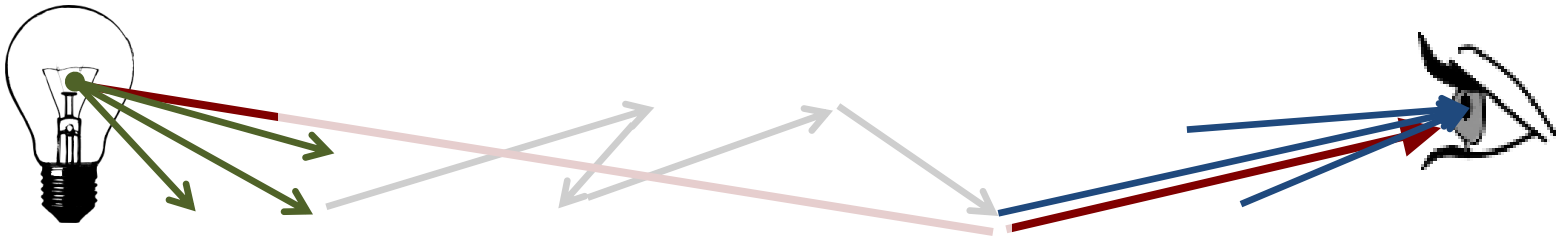
## CPU Trace



1<sup>st</sup> Bounce:  
*Bounce Map*

Direct + Shadows

Last Bounce:  
*Photon Volumes*

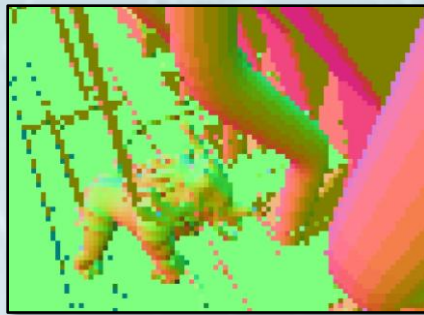




# Bounce Map



Position

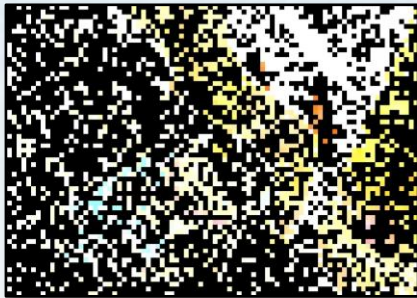


Normal

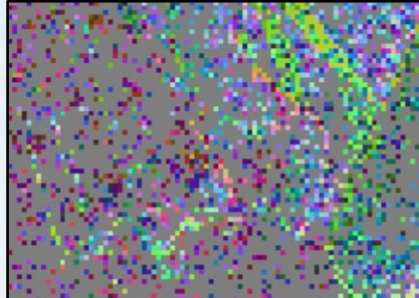


...

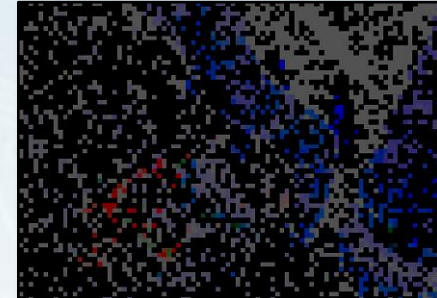
Material Parameters (BSDF)



Outgoing Power



Outgoing Direction



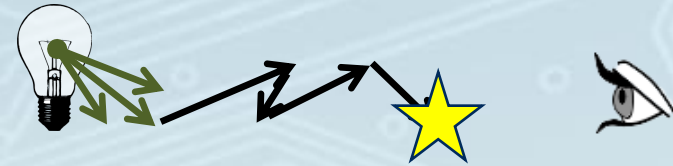
~~Refractive Index,~~  
A Priori Differential Probability

# Run a CPU Trace

# Compute Direct Illumination on the GPU

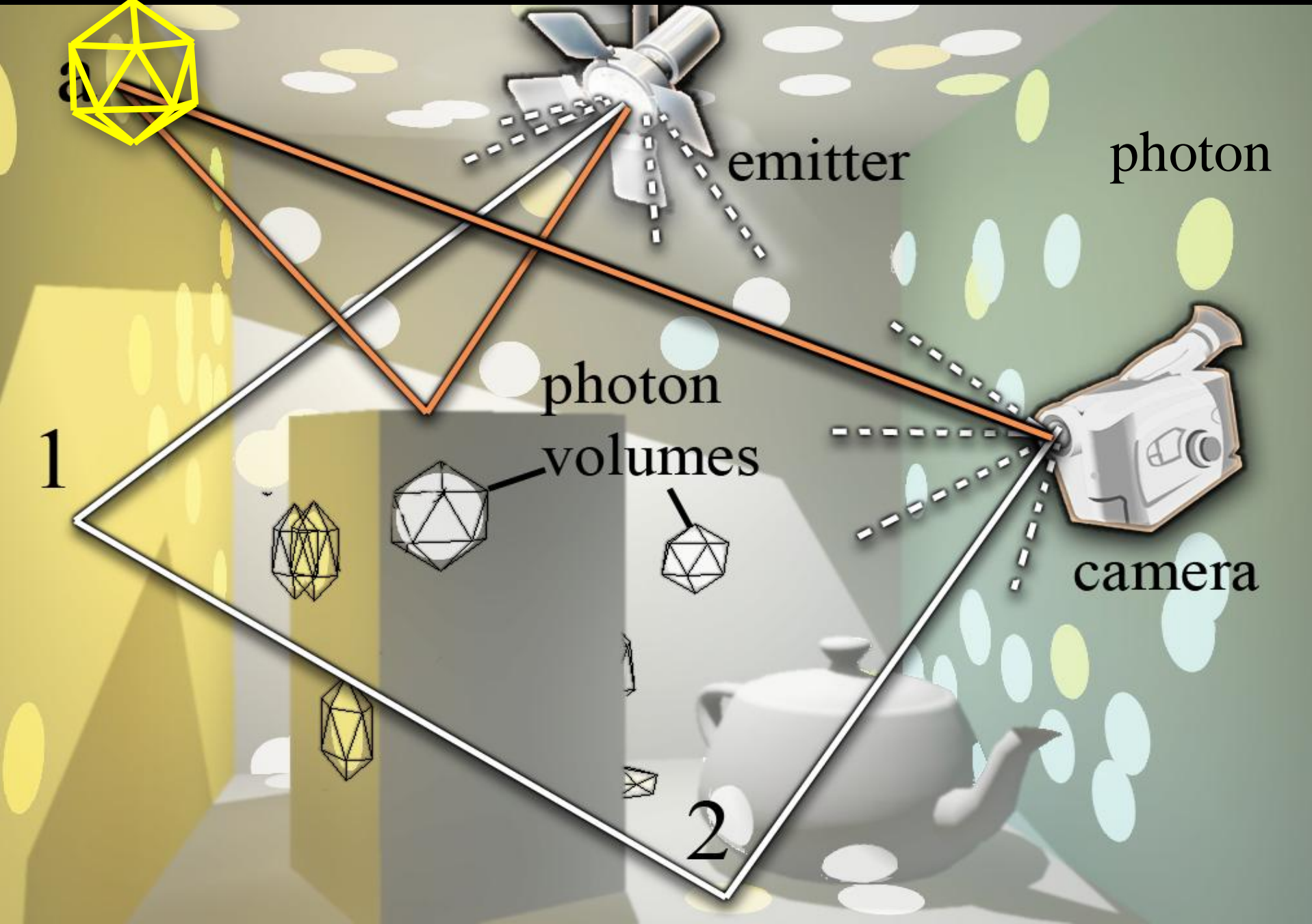


# Radiance Estimate

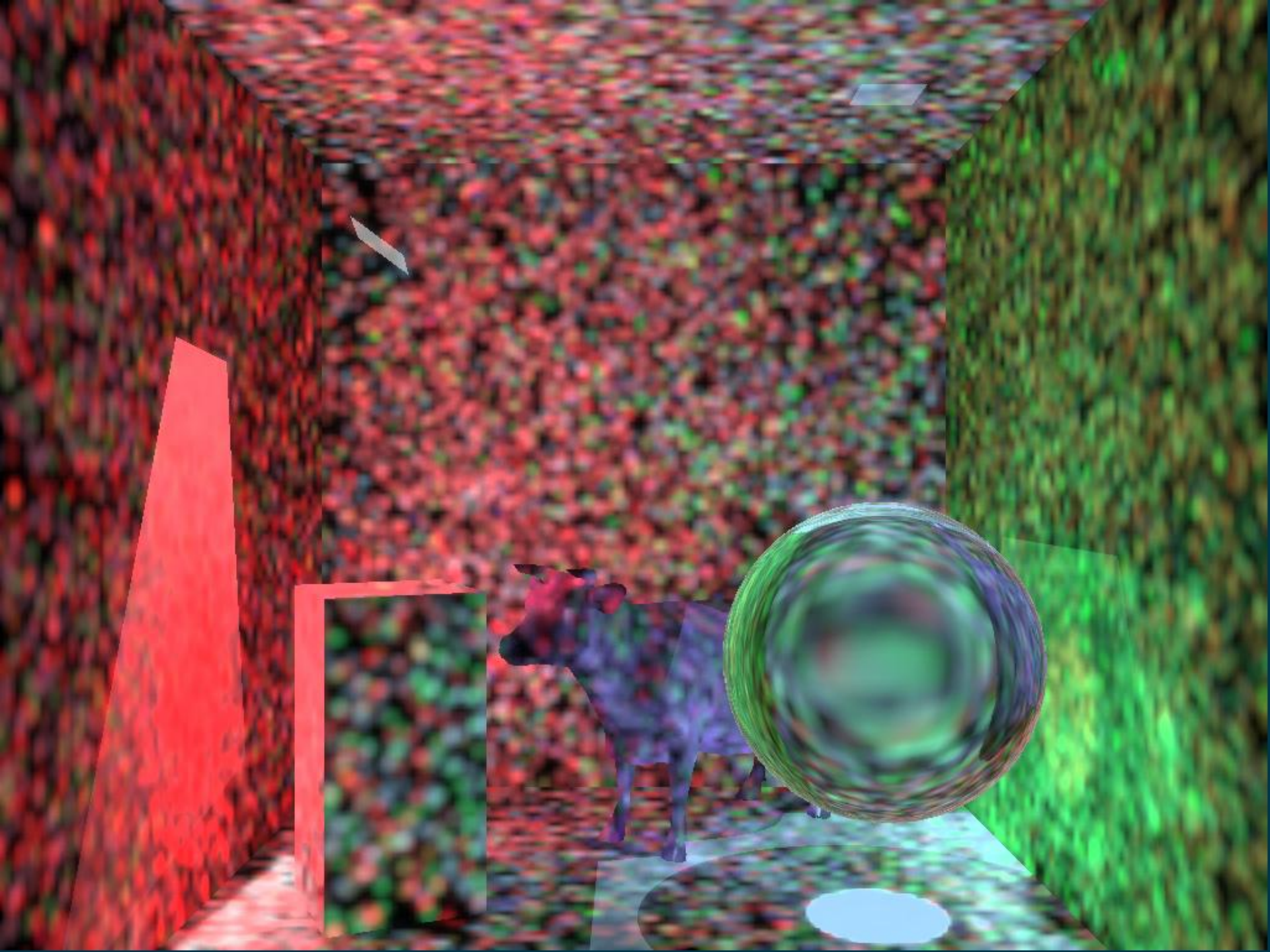


- Traditional photon mapping: *gather*
  - Per pixel
  - $k$ -NN search in  $k$ -d tree
  - World-space (3D)
- Image-space photon mapping: *scatter*
  - Per photon
  - Hardware rasterization using photon volumes
  - Image space (2D)

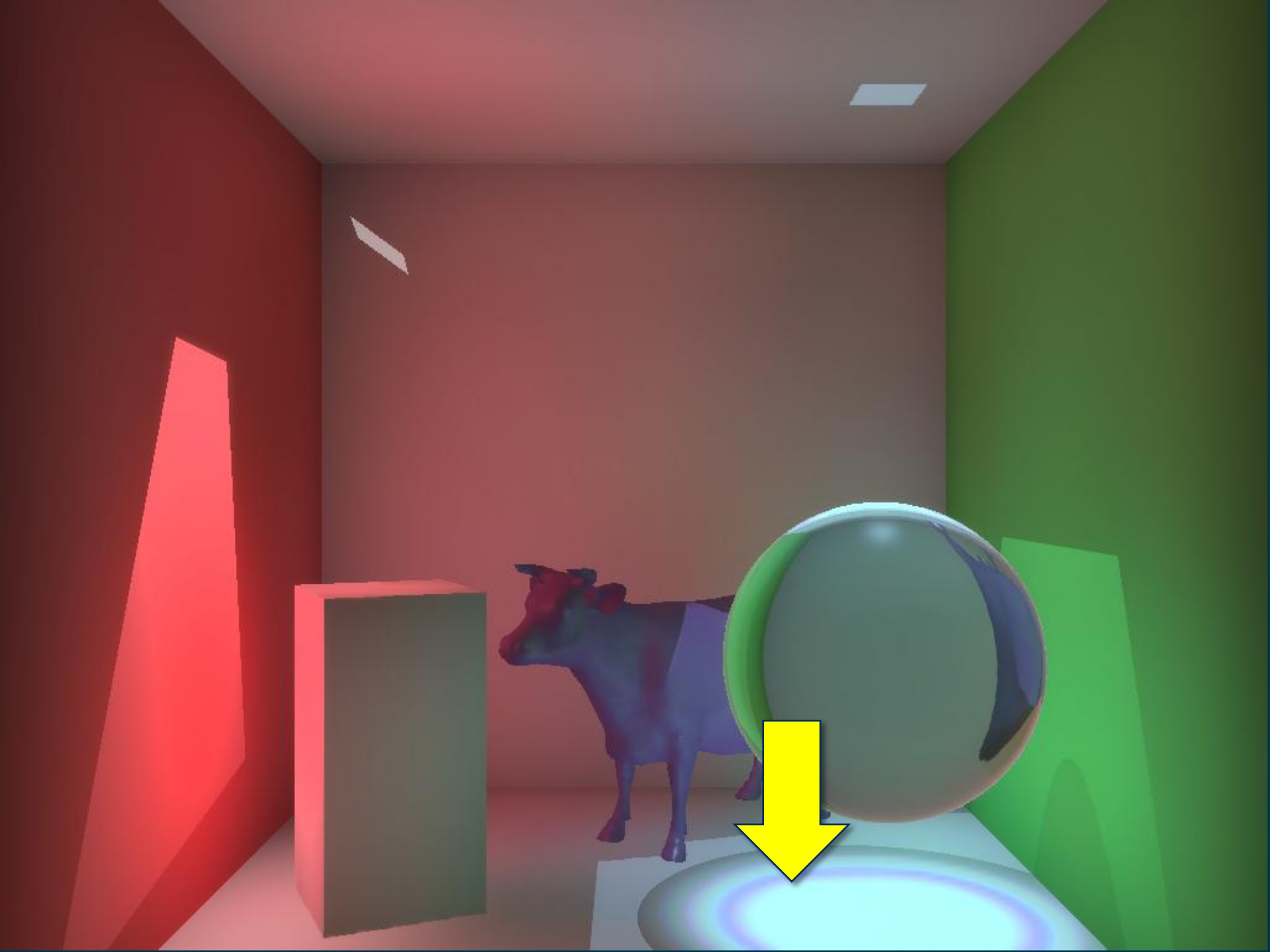


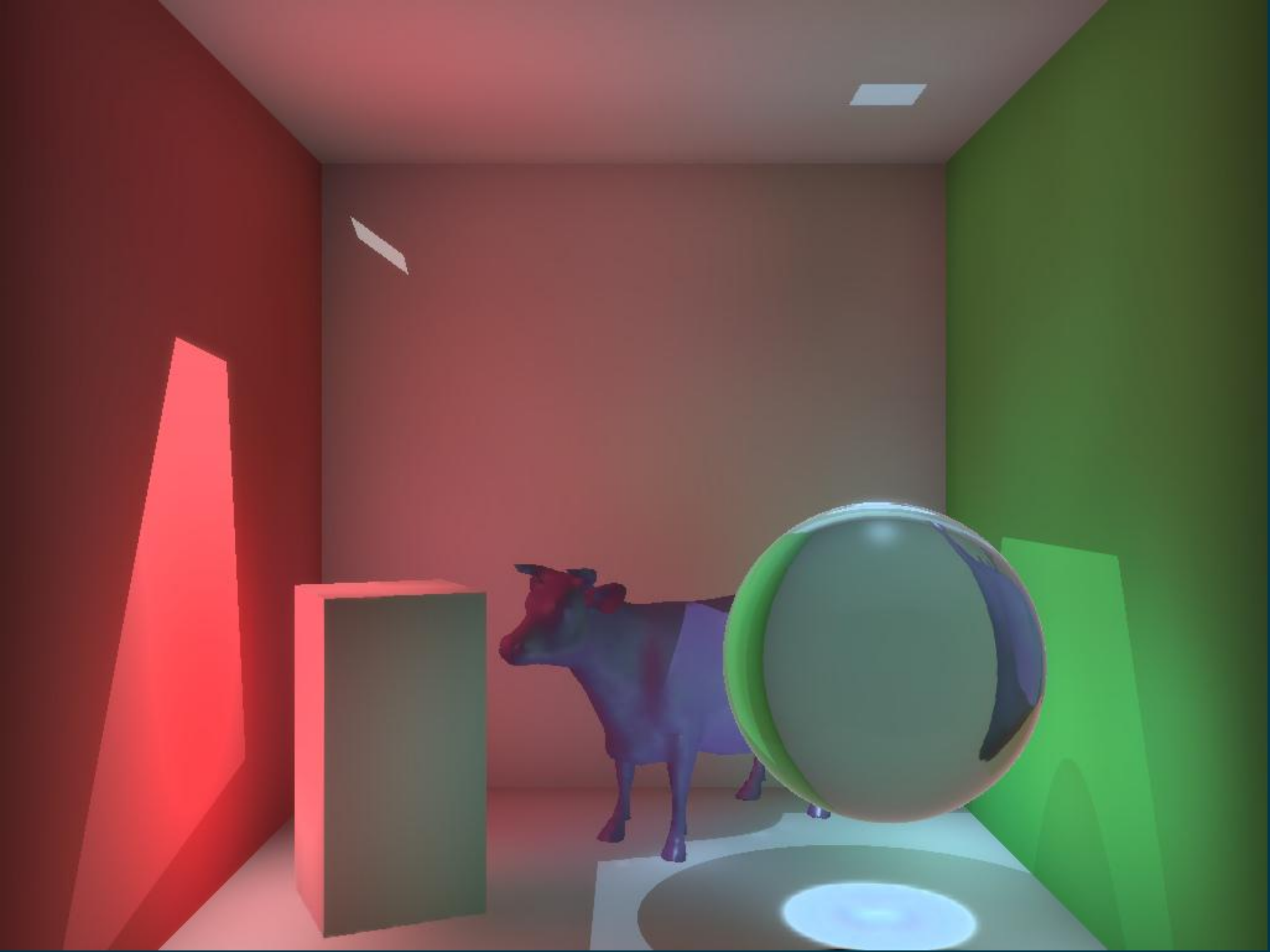












# Photon Volumes

- Invoke an illumination contribution on all pixels for which a photon might be a valid estimate of incident radiance
- *Not virtual point lights (a.k.a. instant radiosity)*
- *Not 2D splatting*

# Results

**All at 1920 x 1080**

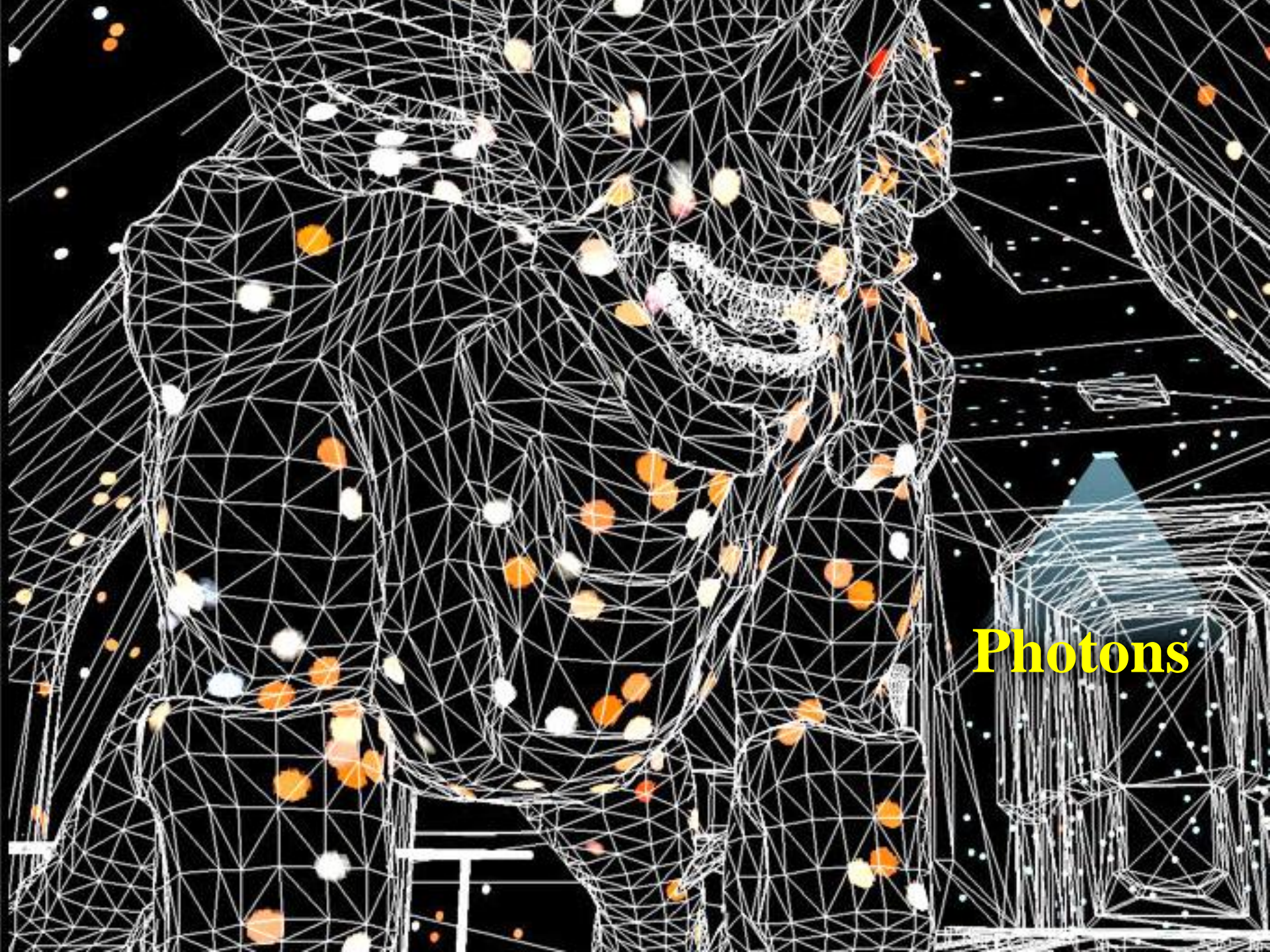
**No LOD**

**Lit from scratch every frame**



**Direct Only**





**Photons**





**Indirect**





**Direct +  
Indirect**



A close-up of a grotesque, horned creature with a bloody mouth and sharp teeth, set against a background of stone architecture and a distant building.

**Direct +  
Ambient**



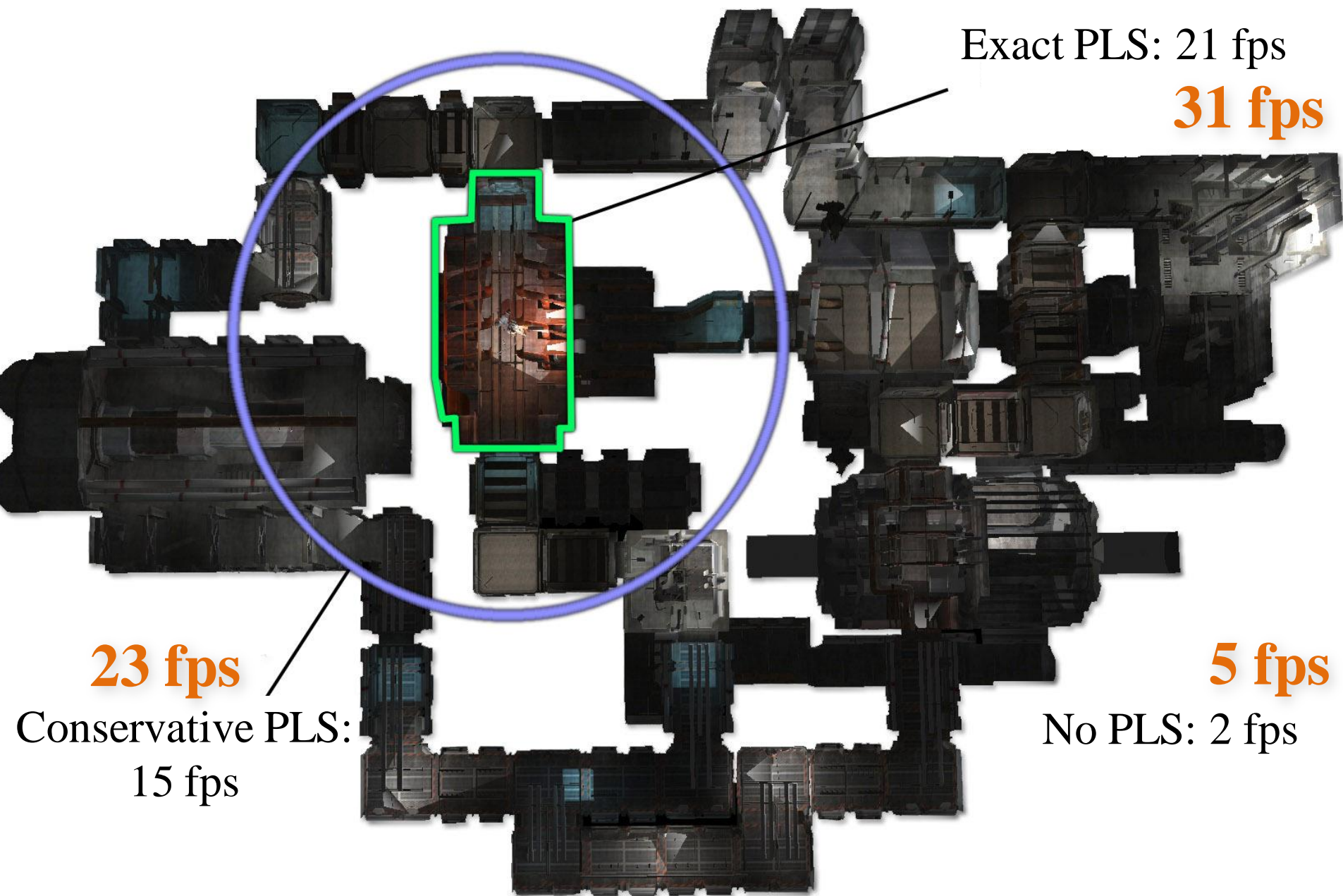


**Direct +  
Indirect**

Nexus Corp.



# Performance @ 1920 x 1080, 30 lights



# Performance Details

1: Scene	2: Figure	3: Polygons	4: Static Polys	5: Dynamic Polys	6: Dynamic Objects	7: Emitters	8: Emitted Photons	9: Indirect Photons	10: Resolution	11: Subsampling	12: Total Photon Hits	13: Stored Photons	14: GPU Direct + Shadow Maps + Mirror + Transparency (ms)	15: GPU Bounce Maps (ms)	16: All CPU <-> GPU Copies (ms)	17: CPU Trace (ms)	18: GPU Radiance Estimate (ms)	19: Direct Only FPS	20: Full Global FPS
Ironworks (Car)	1	161,612	141,492	20,120	20	2	8,448	1	1920x1080	4x4	7,162	3,450	14.2	0.1	6.2	17.2	8.1	121.8	26.5
		161,612	141,492	20,120	20	2	8,448	3	1920x1080	4x4	8,846	5,134	14.2	0.1	6.3	24.8	10.2	121.8	20.6
Ironworks (Water)	8	121,962	66,734	55,228	1	1	26,896	1	1920x1080	4x4	37,806	18,852	8.9	0.1	13.5	49	8.2	159.9	13.4
		121,962	66,734	55,228	1	1	40,000	1	1920x1080	2x2	56,689	28,273	9	0.1	19.7	72.7	16.9	159.9	8.7
NS2 (Cargo Bay PVS) (Cargo Bay PVS) (Circled PVS) (Full Map)	13	73,081	58,319	14,762	1	4	20,356	3	1920x1080	6x6	12,228	7,143	12.5	0.1	8	21.6	9.6	138.9	21.4
		73,081	58,319	14,762	1	4	20,356	1	1920x1080	6x6	10,004	4,919	12.6	0.1	7.6	16.1	8.8	138.9	26.7
		404,773	257,153	147,620	10	4	20,356	3	1920x1080	6x6	12,578	7,489	17.2	0.1	8.3	29.9	21.0	95.7	15.2
		1,190,405	880,403	310,002	21	30	95,948	3	1920x1080	6x6	97,982	61,000	150.2	0.7	67	284.4	14.5	6.5	2.0
Glass Sphere	11	8,034	4,022	4,012	2	5	26,640	2	512x512	6x6	19,343	10,941	2.2	0.6	9.8	8.9	3.8	199.0	38.8
		8,034	4,022	4,012	2	5	137,780	3	512x512	3x3	108,569	66,447	2.5	0.8	36.1	31.0	21.4	199.0	10.3
		8,034	4,022	4,012	2	5	18,000	2	1920x1080	6x6	12,935	7,319	9.0	0.3	7.6	4.0	11.3	163.0	34.1
Objects in Box	6	19,642	9,826	9,816	3	2	27,620	3	1920x1080	8x8	58,965	37,433	8.2	0.1	16.6	22.8	40.1	177.6	11.8
		19,642	9,826	9,816	3	2	27,620	2	1920x1080	10x10	52,047	30,515	8.3	0.1	16.1	17.2	23.2	177.6	15.8
Sponza Atrium	11	67,414	66,934	480	1	1	13,688	1	1920x1600	4x4	23,244	11,308	8.8	0.1	8.4	56.7	12.9	195.2	11.9
		67,414	66,934	480	1	1	6,240	1	1920x1080	4x4	10,573	5,136	8.8	0.1	5.4	28.2	7.2	195.2	22.4
Glass Bunny	7	277,814	138,912	138,902	1	1	29,928	2	1920x1080	6x6	55,139	32,767	9.8	0.1	15.1	45.4	35.3	137.0	9.6
		277,814	138,912	138,902	1	1	29,928	2	1920x1080	16x16	55,139	32,767	9.4	0.1	15.1	45.3	10.1		12.8
Caustic Ring	11	812	412	400	1	1	101,124	1	512x384	1x1	27,917	5,020	1.4	0.1	21.3	6.4	3.4	200	28
		812	412	400	1	1	324,900	1	512x384	1x1	89,919	16,030	1.4	0.3	63.5	20.1	9.6	200	10.9
		812	412	400	1	1	101,124	1	1920x1080	1x1	27917	5020	7.6	0.1	22.1	7.3	14.3	197.5	24.3

Key:

Bold: Corresponds to a figure

Highlight: Changed from first row

Highlight: Bottleneck





# Trace-bound

139k polys  
36k photons  
16 fps

**Trace: 25 ms**



# Fill-bound

176k polys

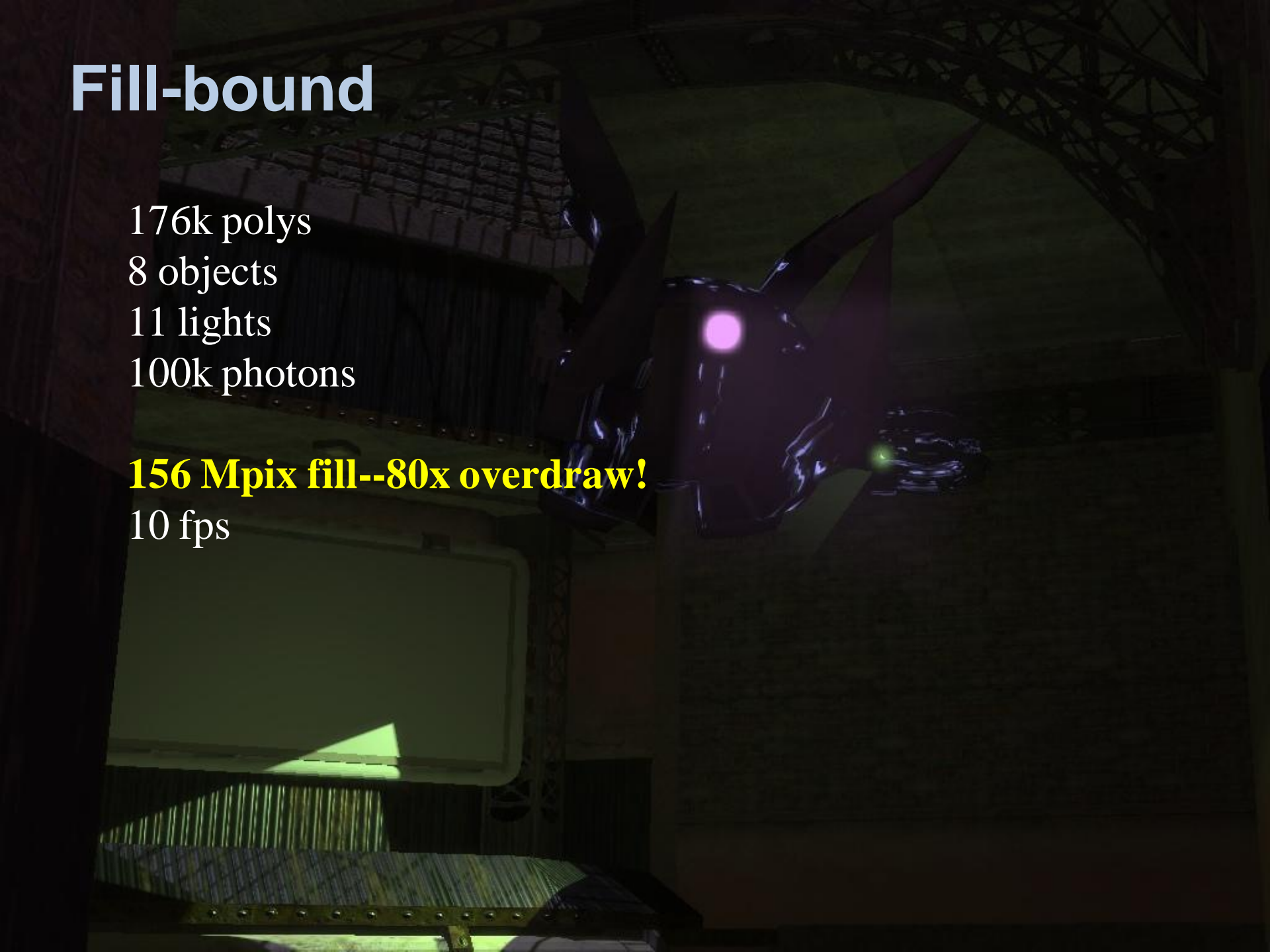
8 objects

11 lights

100k photons

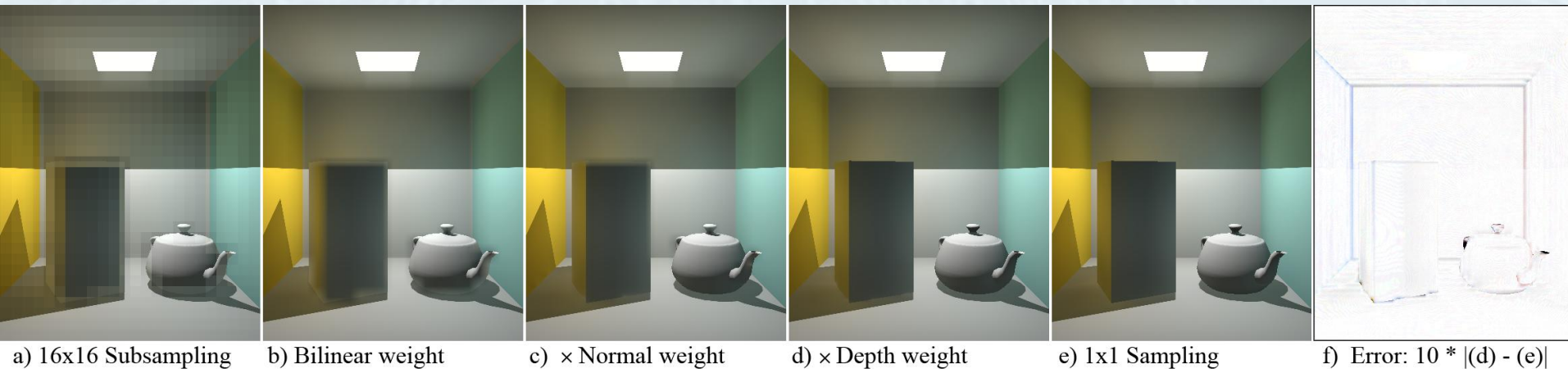
**156 Mpix fill--80x overdraw!**

10 fps



# Subsampling

- Joint-bilateral upsampling on normal and depth
- Subsample *incident* radiance, *not* pixel color (no diffuse surface assumption)



# Multi-bounce Video



# Diffuse Interreflection Video





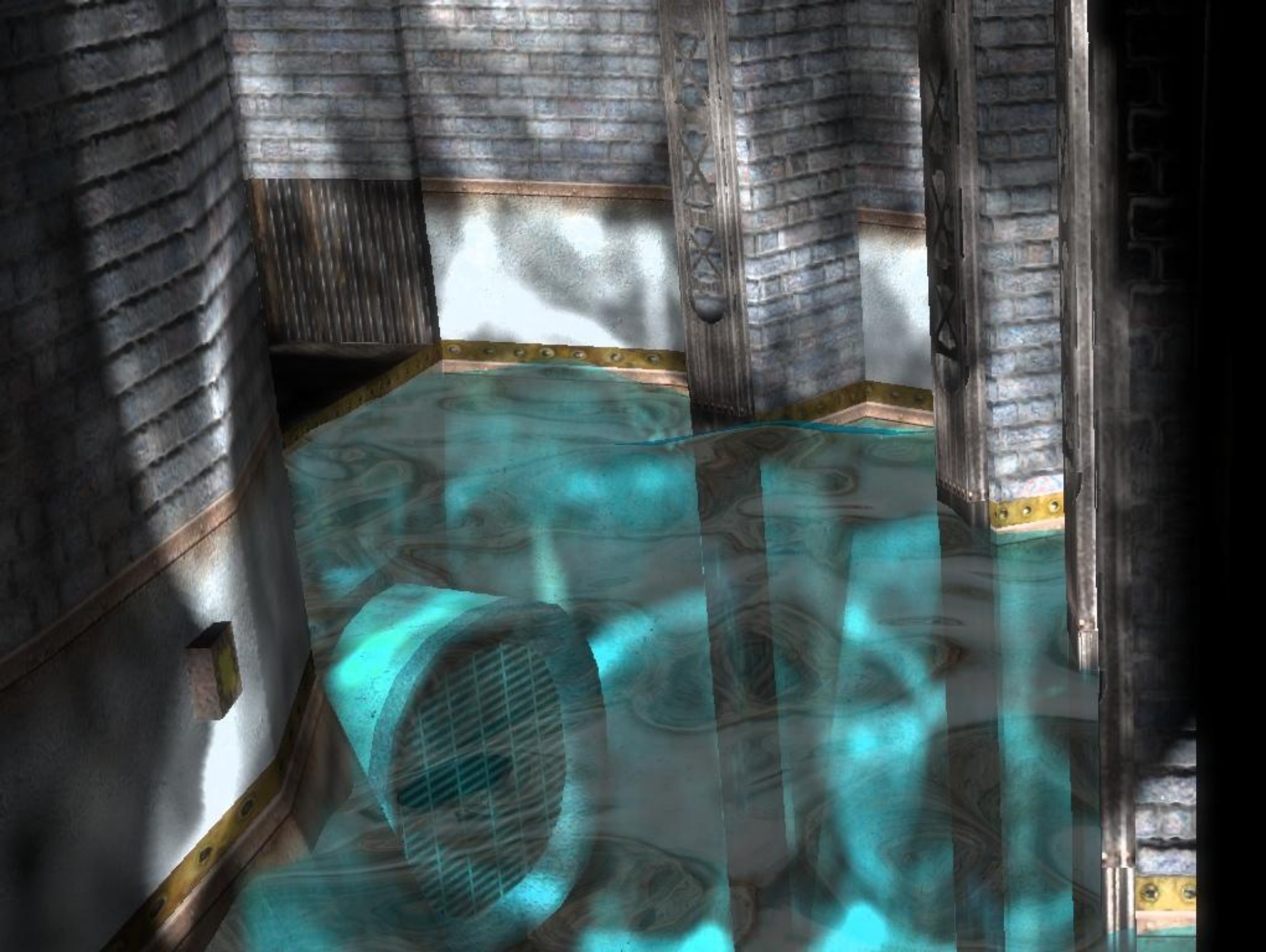
# Caustics Video





# Game Demo Video





# ISPM Properties

- **General** physically-based method
  - Caustics, color bleeding, contact shadows, etc.
- As **fast** as *single*-phenomenon GPU algorithms
  - 1M poly scenes 1920x1080 @ 30 fps
  - ...but lower quality for *that* phenomenon
- **Simple** implementation
  - ~600 statements in GLSL and C++



# Thank You!

Download our source code

- ISPM: <http://graphics.cs.williams.edu>
- G3D: <http://g3d-cpp.sf.net>

- Onos and NS Theme from *Natural Selection 2* by Unknown Worlds Entertainment
- Nexus 6 from *Tremulous*
- Bunny from The Stanford 3D Scanning Repository
- Ironworks from *Quake Live* by id Software
- Sponza Atrium by Marko Dabrovic
- Special thanks to Evan Hart, Qi Mo, Kefei Lei, Daniel Fast, Eric Enderton, and anonymous HPG09 reviewers

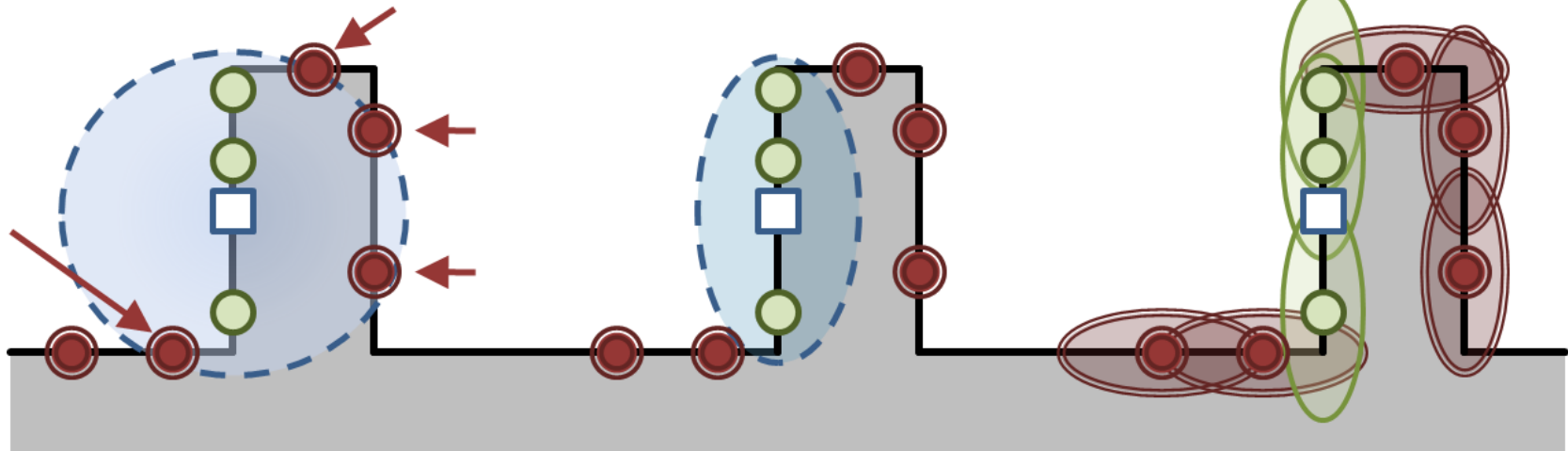


## Problems

## Heuristic Solutions

Jensen

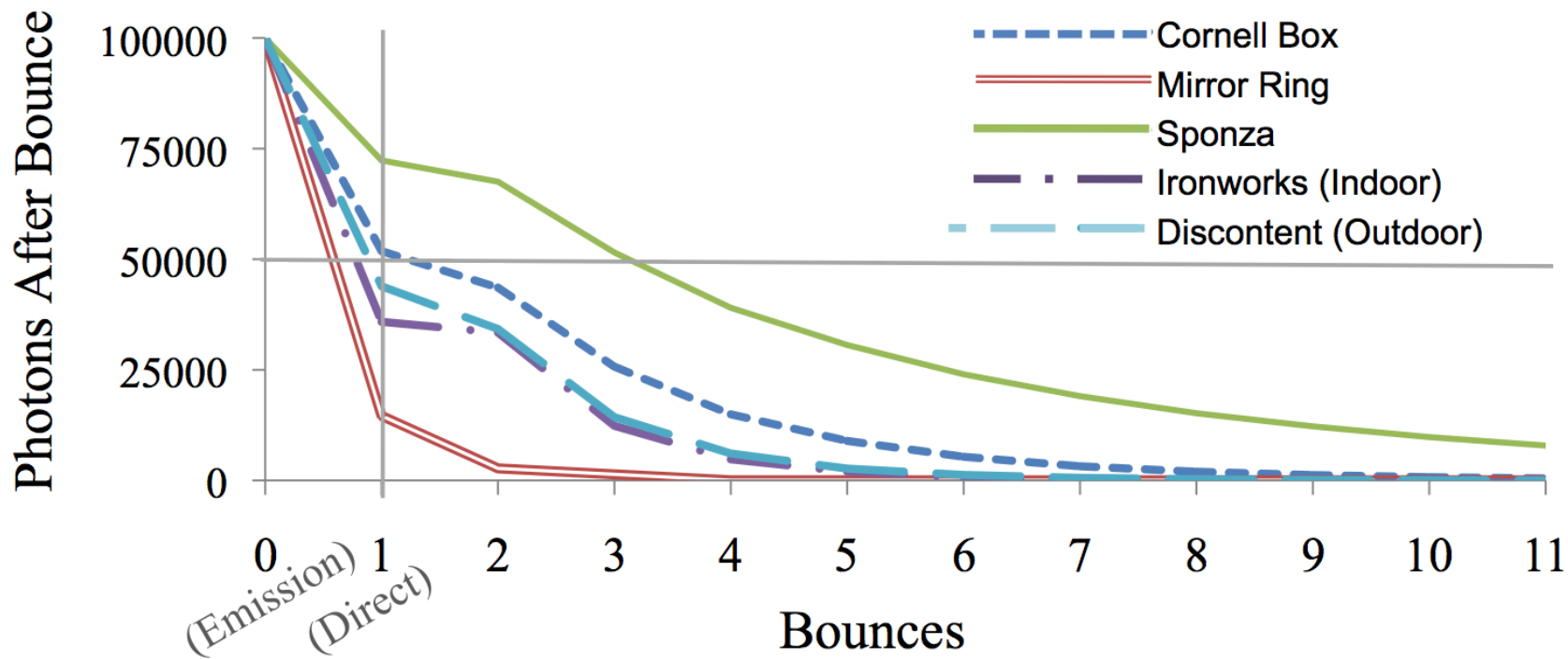
ISPM



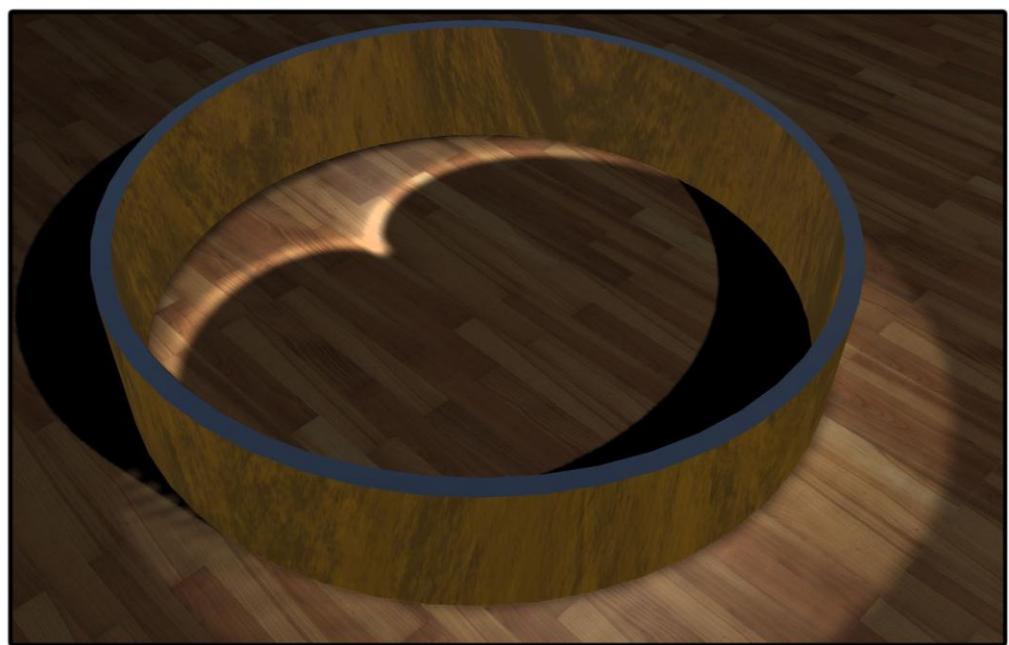
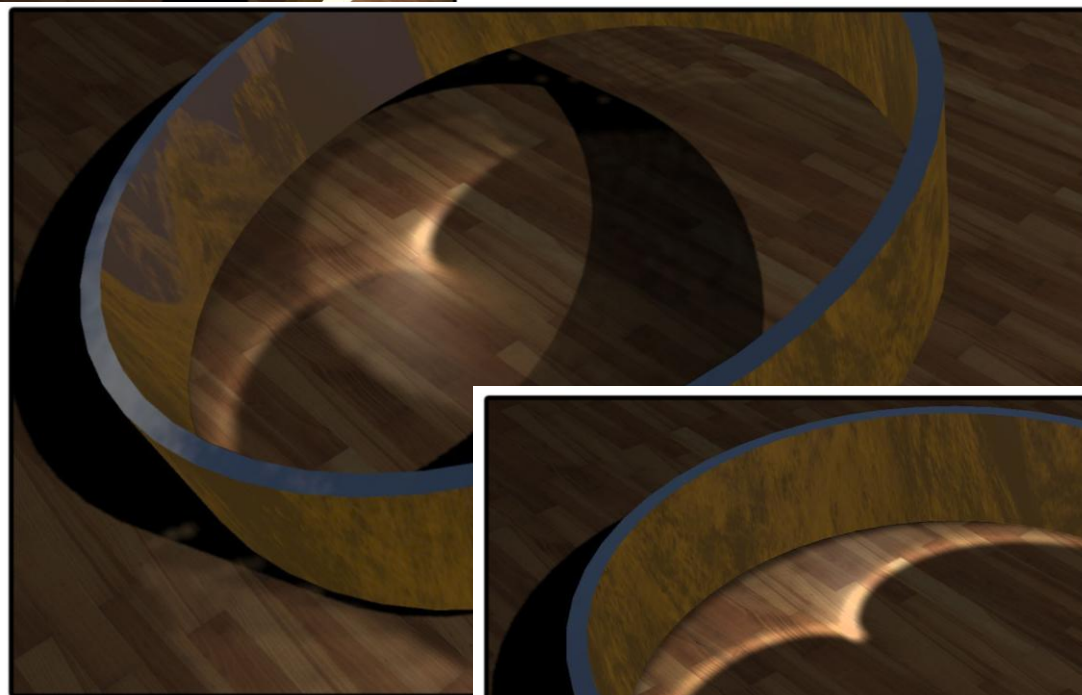
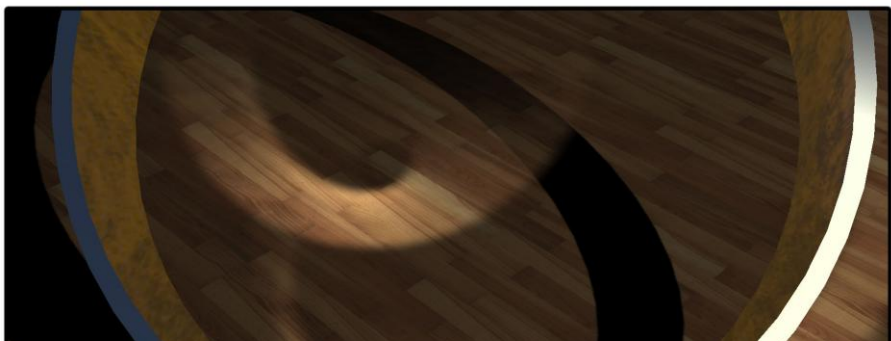
- ➔ Sources of error
- Surface point to be shaded
- ⊙ Gather kernel extent

Photons and scatter kernels:

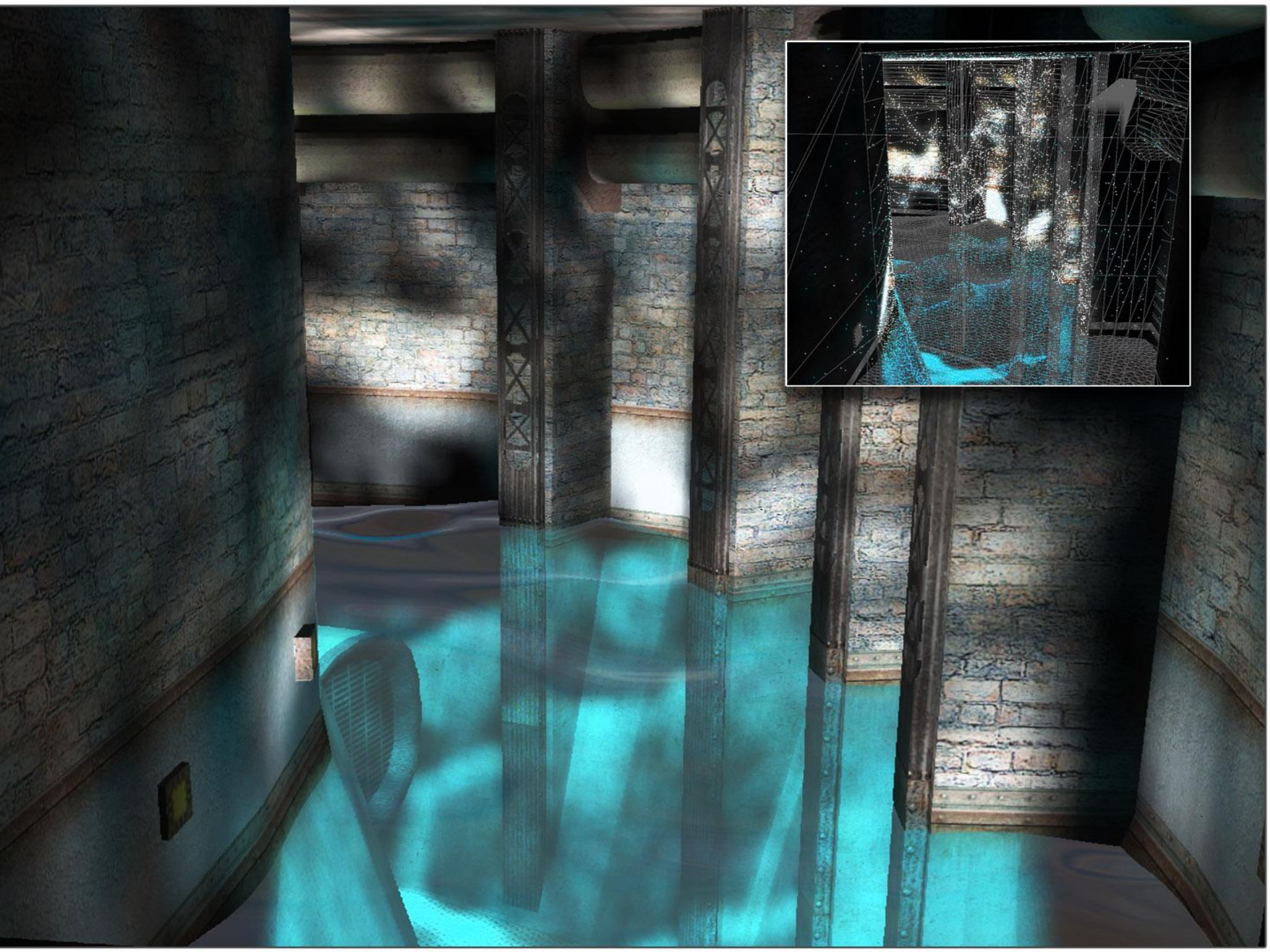
- Good estimator
- Poor estimator











# Radiance Estimate

$$L_o(\vec{s}, \vec{\omega}_o) = \int f(\vec{x}, \vec{\omega}_i, \vec{\omega}_o) * L_i(\vec{s}, \vec{\omega}_i) * \max(0, \vec{\omega}_i \cdot \vec{n}) d\vec{\omega}_i$$

---

$$\Delta L_o(\vec{s}, \vec{\omega}_o) = f(\vec{s}, \vec{\omega}_i, \vec{\omega}_o) * \Phi_i * \max(0, \vec{\omega}_i \cdot \vec{n}) * \kappa(\vec{x} - \vec{s}, \vec{n}_p)$$

**RT r =**  $\kappa(\vec{x} - \vec{s}, \vec{n}_p) = \text{texture1D}(\text{gaussian}, t)$   
**rho)**

$$t = \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{s}|}{r_{xy}} \left( 1 - \left| \frac{(\vec{x} - \vec{s})}{|\vec{x} - \vec{s}|} \cdot \vec{n}_p \right| \frac{r_{xy} - r_z}{r_z} \right)$$





# Future Work

- Tracing on GPU
- Fill rate
- Shaping photon volume
- Game-specific optimizations and analysis
  - *The Cornell box is harder to render than Natural Selection 2!*