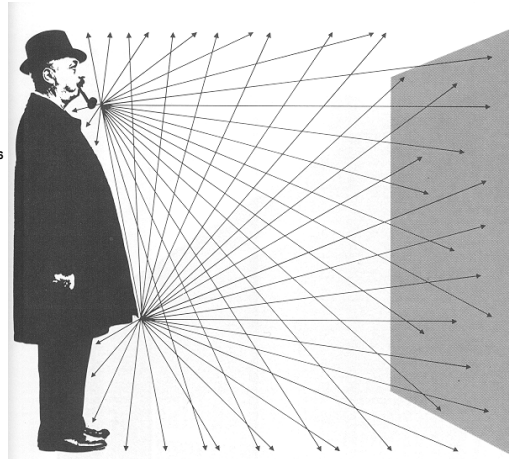
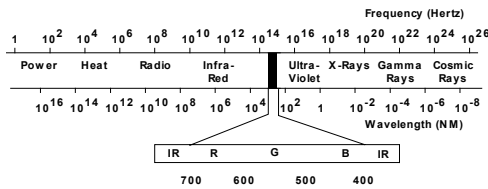


# The Light Field

Electromagnetic waves; photons

Frequency spectra  
and color



From London and Upton

Polarization

Spatial distribution

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# Radiometry

1. How is light measured?
2. How is the spatial distribution of light energy described?
3. How is reflection from a surface characterized?
4. What are the conditions for equilibrium flow of light in an environment?

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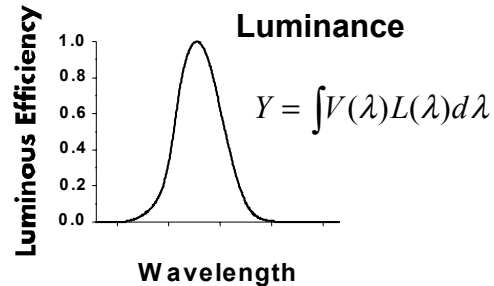
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## Radiant Energy and Power

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### Power: Watts vs. Lumens

- Energy efficiency
- Spectral efficacy



### Energy: Joules vs. Talbot

- Since the velocity of light is so fast, may typically ignore distinction between power and energy
- Exposure - Reaction rates
  - Film response
  - Skin - sunburn

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## Radiometry vs. Photometry

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- Radiance & Radiometry [Units = Watts]

*Physical measurement of electromagnetic energy.*

- Luminance & Photometry/Colorimetry [Lumen]

*Perceptual measurement of relative subjective sensation due to light of different wavelengths.*

- Brightness [Units = Brils]  $B = Y^{1/3}$

*Perceptual measurement of the relative perceived sensation of light of different intensities.*

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## Transport Theory

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Transport theory is concerned with calculating how stuff  $Q$  flows in the environment.

- Mass  $m$
- Charge  $q$
- Radiant energy  $\Phi$

Transport quantities are built around a core of basic geometric ideas. These are tricky!

The easiest way to learn transport theory is to think in terms of particles (photons).

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## Particle Density

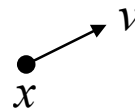
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Phase Space

Particle characterized by position and velocity

Particle densities

Ratio of number of particles to volumes (phase space)



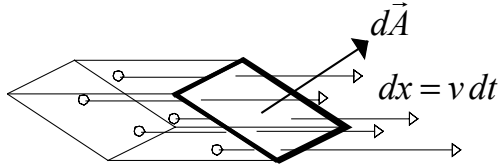
$$\boxed{d^3x} \times \boxed{d^3v} \quad n(x, v, t) = \lim_{\Delta^3x \Delta^3v \rightarrow 0} \frac{N(t)}{\Delta^3x \Delta^3v}$$
$$\mathcal{R}^3 \times \mathcal{R}^3$$

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## Flows

Count particles crossing a surface



$$d^3x = v \cos \theta dA = (\vec{v} dt) \cdot d\vec{A}$$

$$Q(x, v) = n(x, v) d^3x = n(x, v) (\vec{v} dt) \cdot d\vec{A}$$

■ Flux [Stuff/Time] (or Rate or Flow)

$$\Phi = \frac{dQ}{dt} = n(x, v) \vec{v} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

■ Flux density [Stuff/(Time•Area)]

$$\Phi = \frac{d^2Q}{dt dA} = n(x, v) \vec{v} \cdot d\hat{A} = n(x, v) v \cos \theta$$

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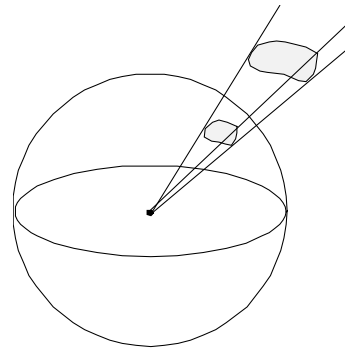
## Angles and Solid Angles

■ Angle  $\theta = \frac{\text{length}}{\text{radius}}$

⇒ circle has  $2\pi$  radians

■ Solid angle  $\Omega = \frac{\text{area}}{\text{radius}^2}$

⇒ sphere has  $4\pi$  steradians

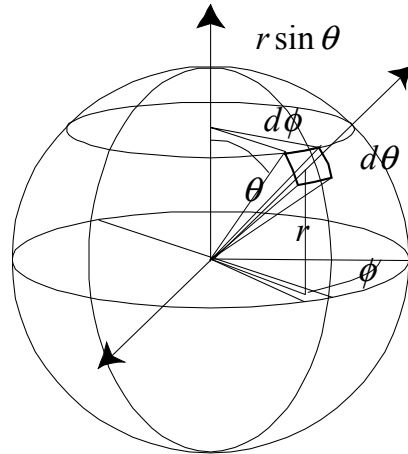


***If the area is not on the sphere, then the solid angle subtended by the area is equal to the area projected onto the unit sphere.***

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## Differential Solid Angles



$$dA = (r d\theta)(r \sin \theta d\phi) \\ = r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

$$d\omega = \frac{dA}{r^2} = \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$$

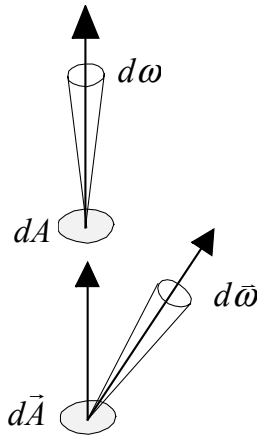
$$S = \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \sin \theta d\theta d\phi = 4\pi$$

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## Radiance and Luminance

**Definition:** The *radiance (luminance)* is the power per unit projected area perpendicular to the ray per unit solid angle in the direction of the ray.



$$d^2\Phi = L(x, \omega) d\vec{\omega} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

$$L(x, \omega) \equiv \frac{d^2\Phi}{d\vec{\omega} \cdot d\vec{A}}$$

$$\left[ \frac{W}{m^2 sr} \right] \left[ \frac{lm}{m^2 sr} = nit \right]$$

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## Environment Maps = Radiance at a Point

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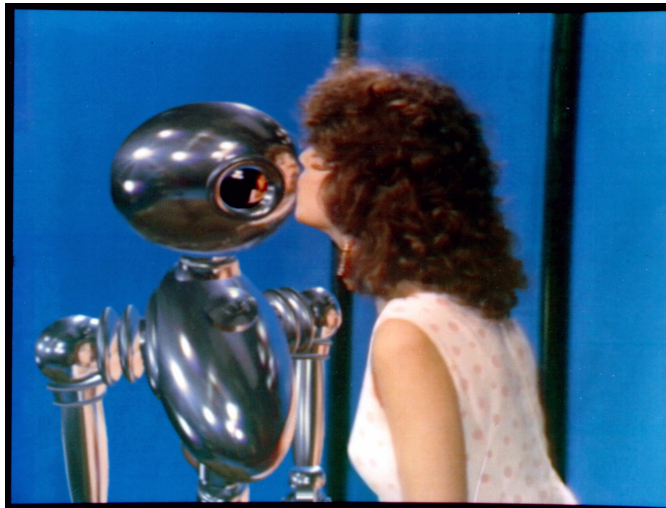
Miller and Hoffman, 1984

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## Environment Maps

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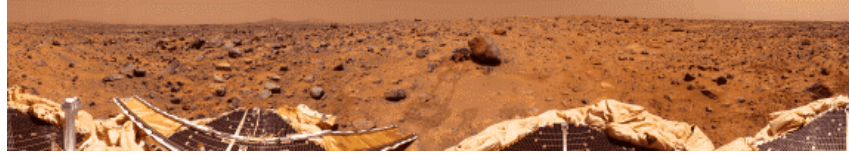


*Interface*, Chou and Williams (ca. 1985)

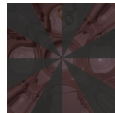
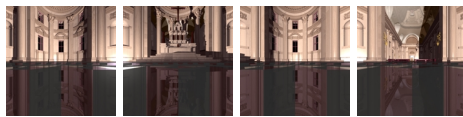
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## Environment Maps

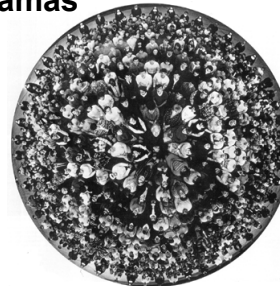


Cylindrical Panoramas



Cubical Environment Map

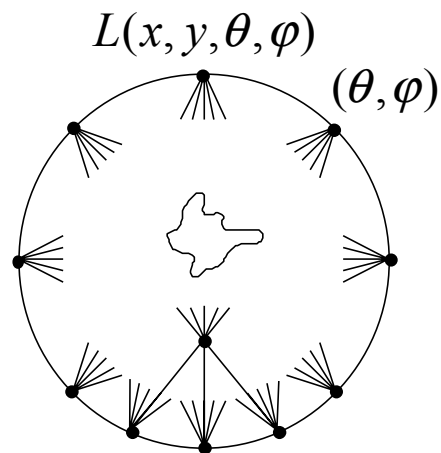
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180 degree fisheye  
Photo by R. Packo

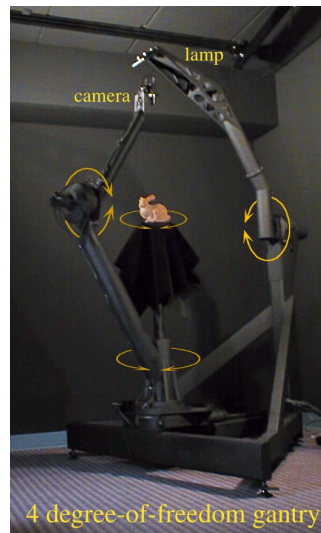
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## Spherical Light Field



Capture all the light leaving  
an object - like a hologram

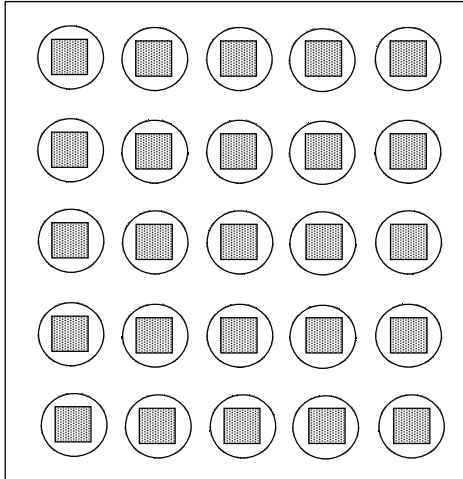
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## Two-Plane Light Field

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2D Array of Cameras



2D Array of Images

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## Properties of Radiance

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1. **Fundamental field quantity that characterizes the distribution of light in an environment.**  
-> All other quantities are derived from it.
2. **Radiance invariant along a ray.**  
-> Radiance is what is propagated in a ray tracer
3. **Response of a sensor proportional to radiance.**  
-> Image is a 2D set of rays

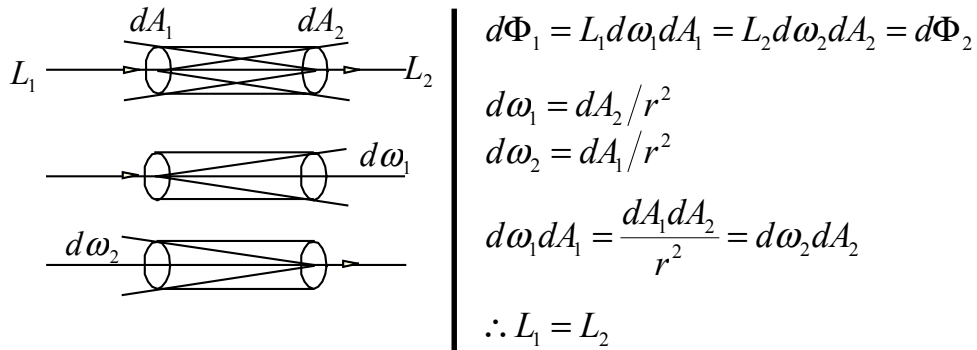
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## Radiance: 1st Law

The radiance in the direction of a light ray remains constant as the ray propagates.



*L* is the numeric quantity that should be associated with rays in ray tracers.

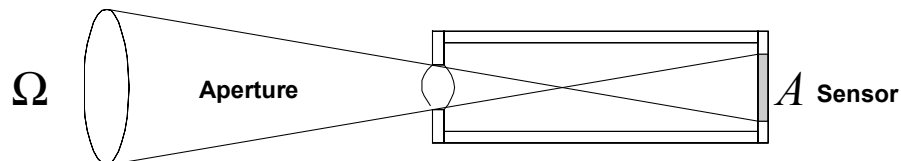
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## Radiance: 2nd Law

The response of a sensor is proportional to the radiance of the surface visible to the sensor.

*L* is what should be computed and displayed.



$$R = \iint_{A \Omega} L \cos \theta d\omega dA = L \iint_{A \Omega} \cos \theta d\omega dA = LT$$

Throughput  $T = \iint_{A \Omega} \cos \theta d\omega dA$

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## Throughput

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Throughput:  $T = \iint_{A \Omega} d^2 T = \iint_{A \Omega} d\vec{\omega} \cdot d\vec{A}$

Properties:

1. Throughput measures or counts the number of lines or rays in beam of light.
2. Throughput is conserved in an optical system; that is, throughput is unchanged under the laws of geometric optics (straight lines, reflection, refraction, mirages).

Radiance = energy [conserved] / throughput [conserved]

$$L(x, \omega) \equiv \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\vec{\omega} \cdot d\vec{A}} \quad \text{[Conserved]}$$

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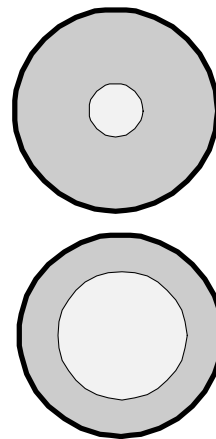
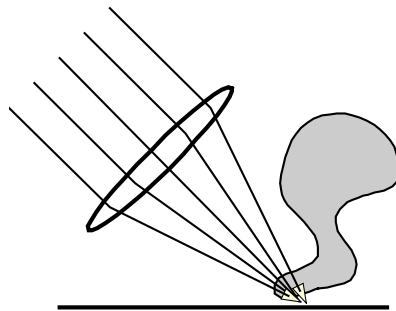
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## Quiz 1

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Does radiance increase under a magnifying glass?

**NO!!**



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## Quiz 2

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Does the brightness that a wall appears to the eye depend on the distance of the viewer to the wall?

**NO!!**

