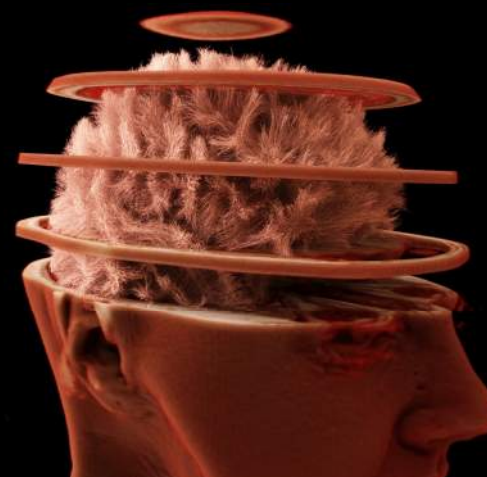
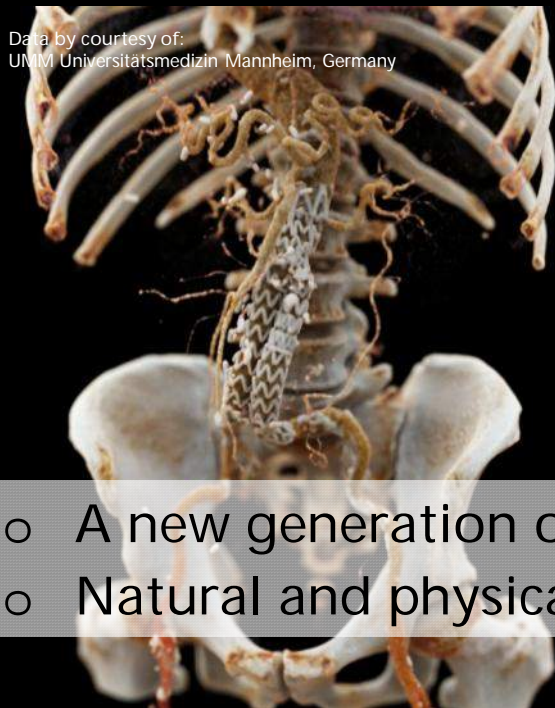




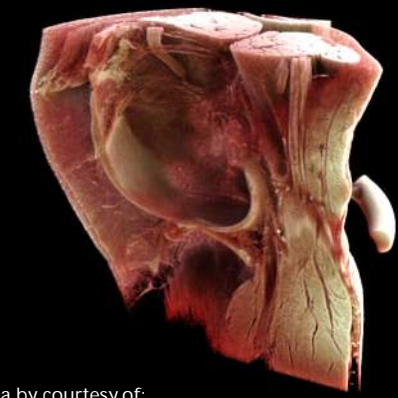
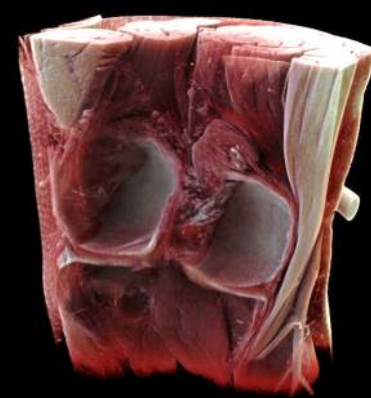
Klaus Engel - Siemens Healthcare Technology Center

# Real-Time Monte-Carlo Path Tracing of Medical Volume Data

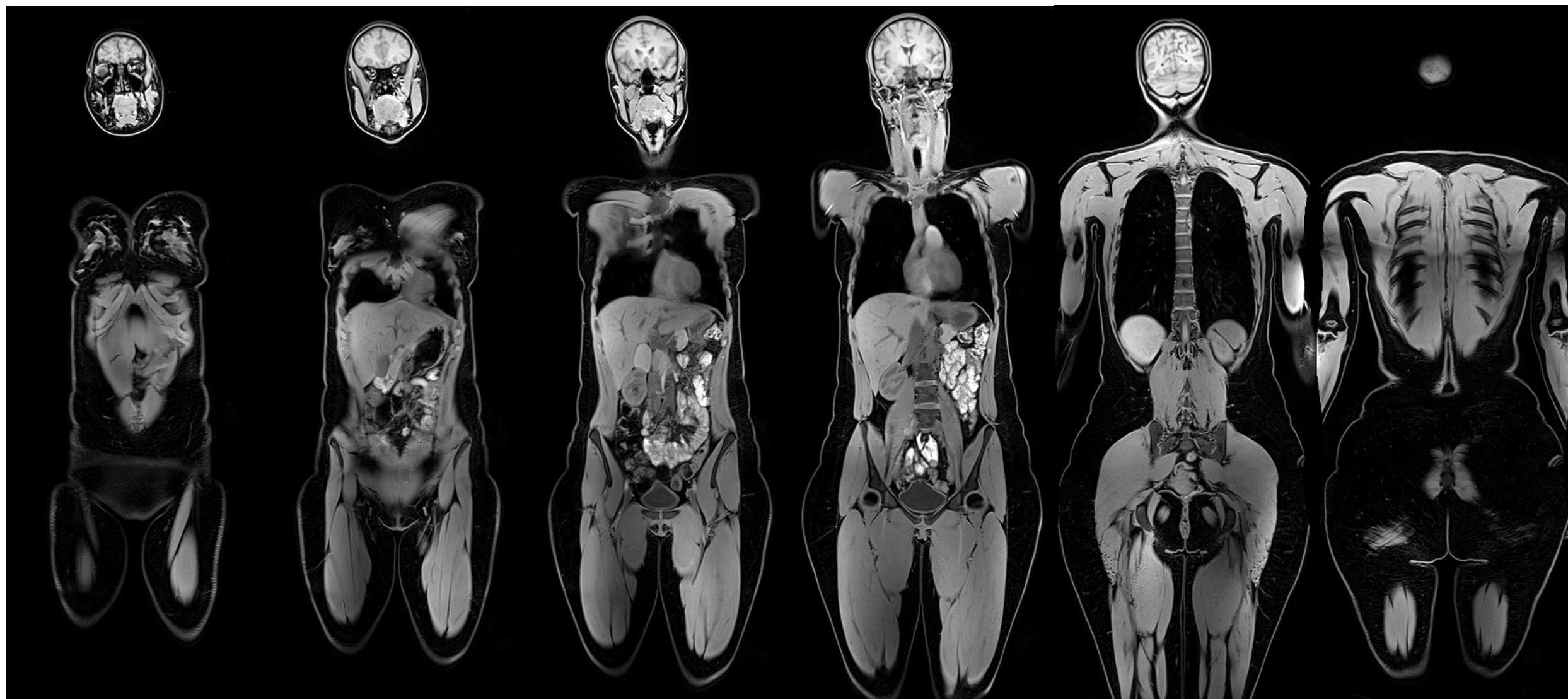
# What is Cinematic Rendering?



- A new generation of photorealistic medical visualization based on light transport
- Natural and physically more accurate presentation of medical volume data

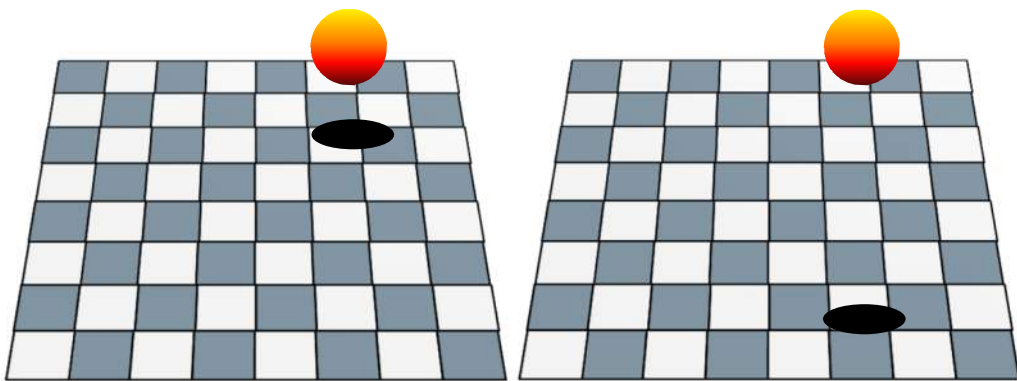


# The Radiologist's View of the World

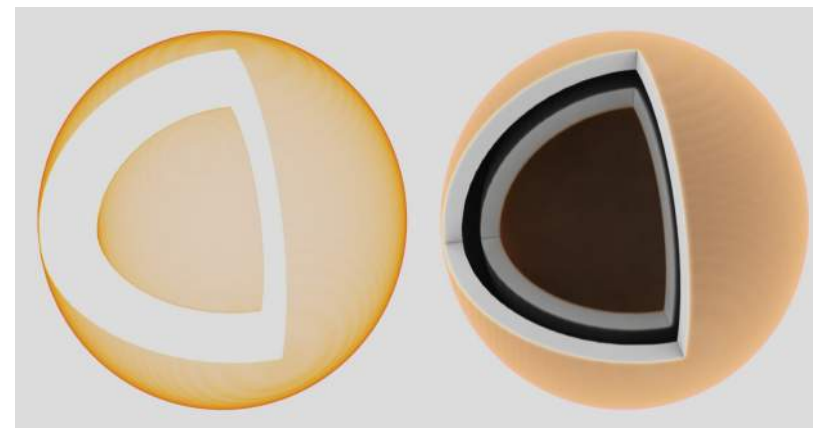


## Why do we need photorealism in medical imaging?

*Depth Perception*



*Shape Perception*



# Why do we need photorealism in medical imaging? Special Diagnostics



# Why do we need photorealism in medical imaging? Surgery Planning



# Why do we need photorealism in medical imaging? Communication



# Why do we need photorealism in medical imaging? Communication



Data by courtesy of:  
Dr. Philip Alexander Glemser,  
Working group leader Forensic Imaging,  
German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg



# Why do we need photorealism in medical imaging? Education



*Credit: Florian Voggeneder*



*Credit: Martin Hieslmair*

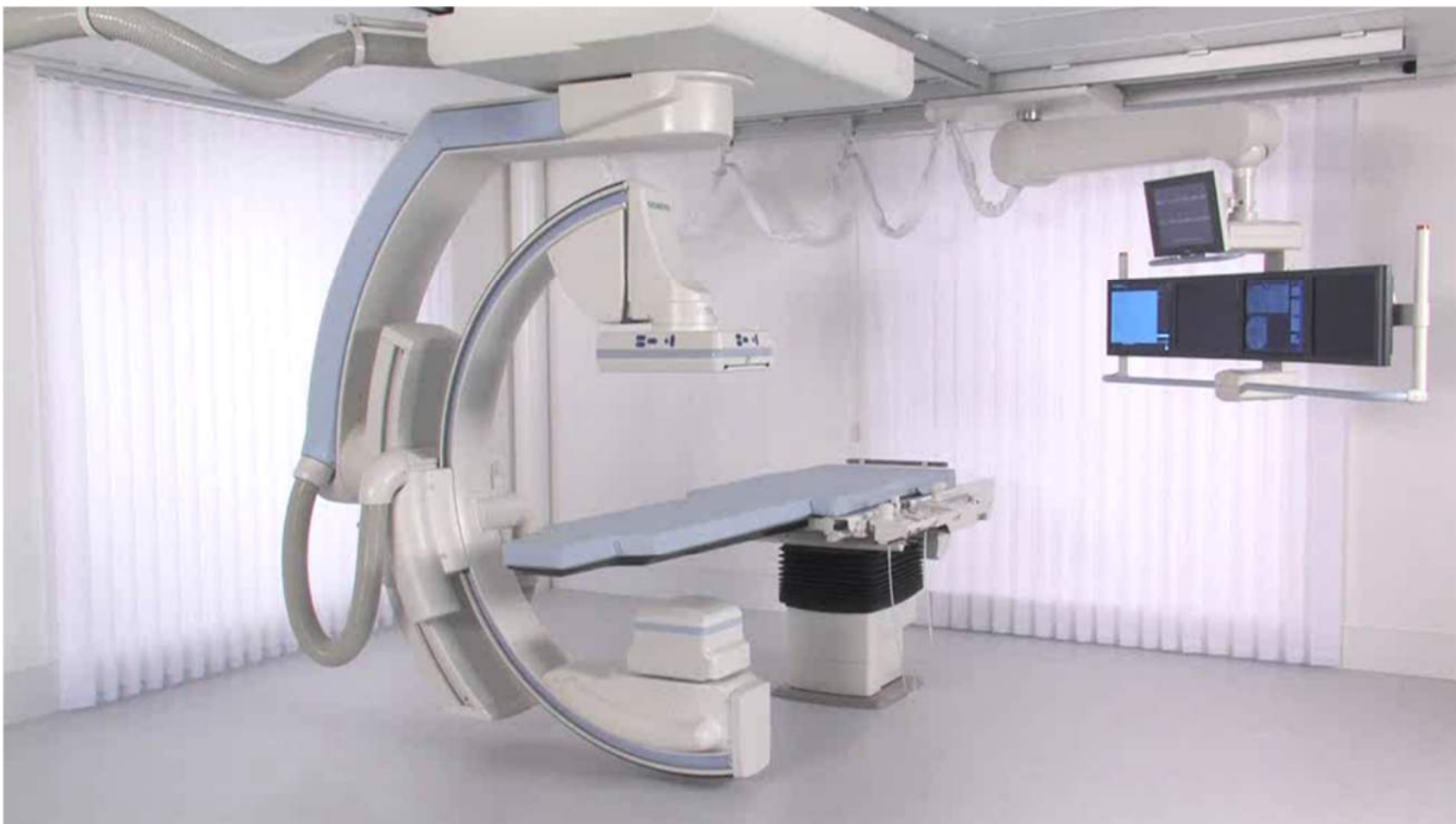


*Credit: Magdalena Leitner*

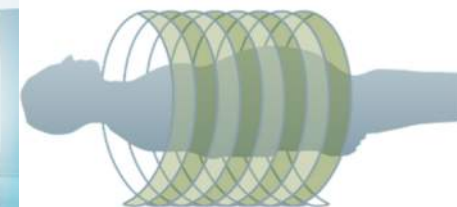
# Cinematic Rendering Video



# From X-Ray projection to 3D volume data



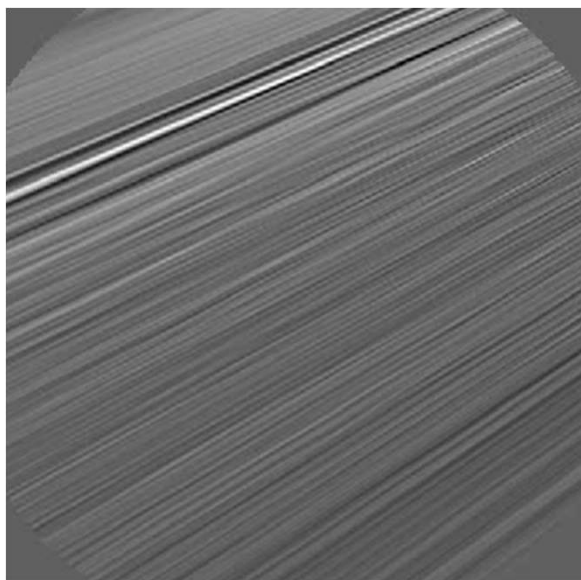
projection images (pelvis)



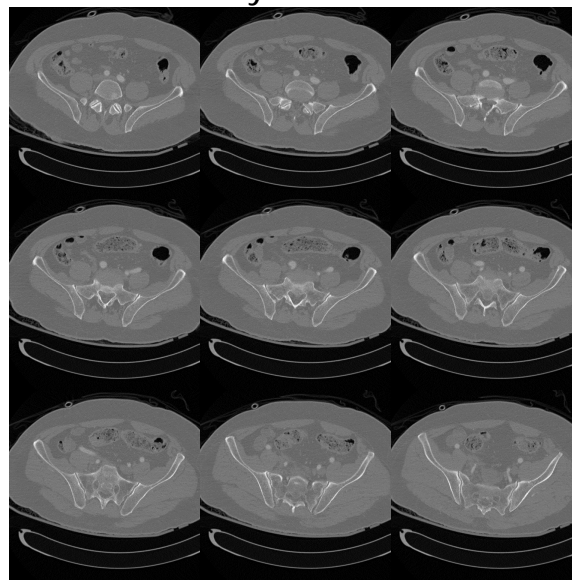
# From X-Ray projection to 3D volume data

Reconstruction: Computes a 3D X-Ray density volume from many projections

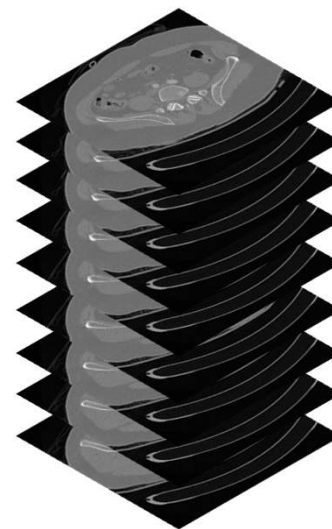
Reconstruction of  
a slice



Reconstruction of  
many slices



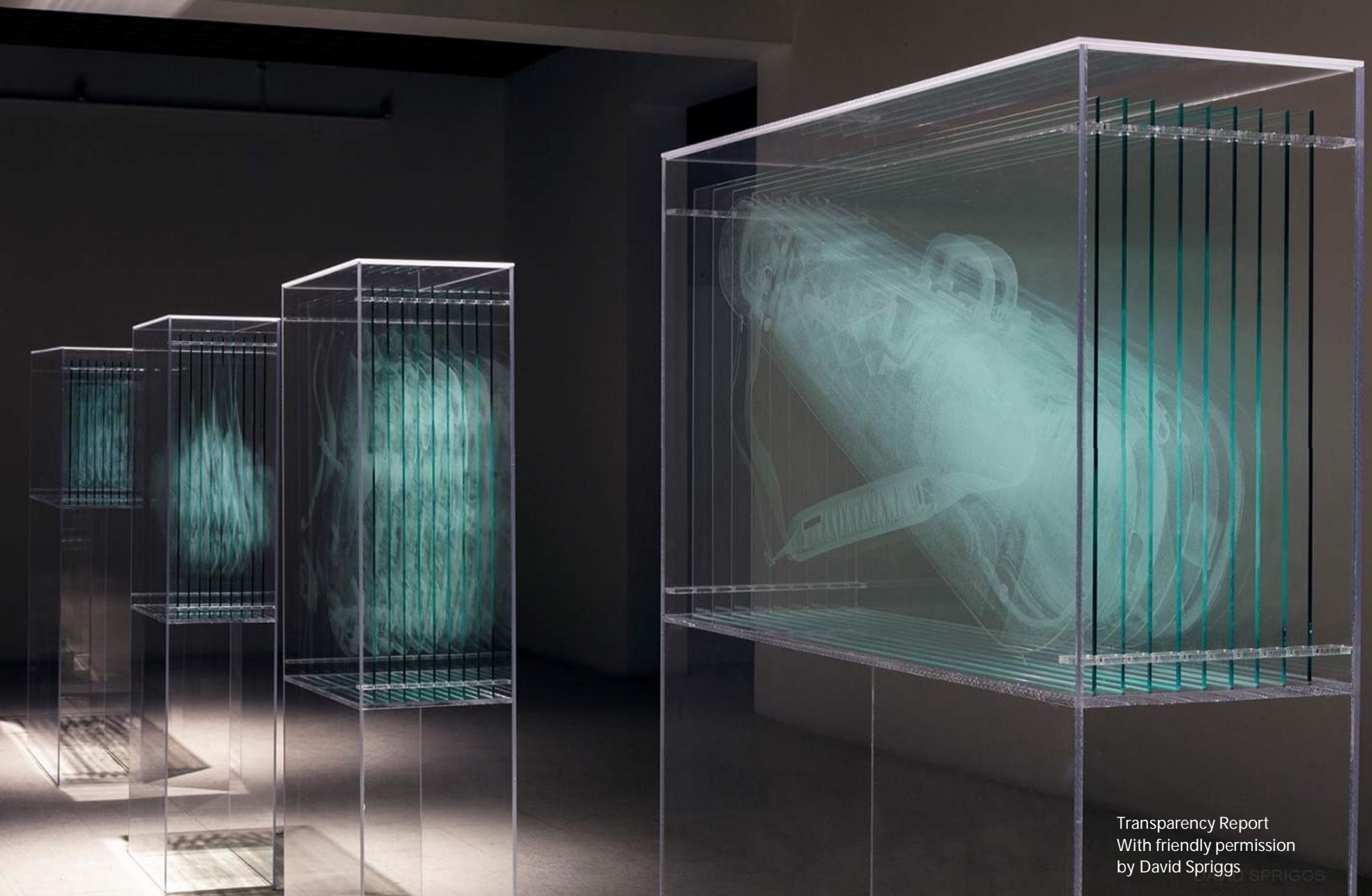
Volume



Radon-Transformation (Johann Radon, 1917)  
Hounsfield, 1971



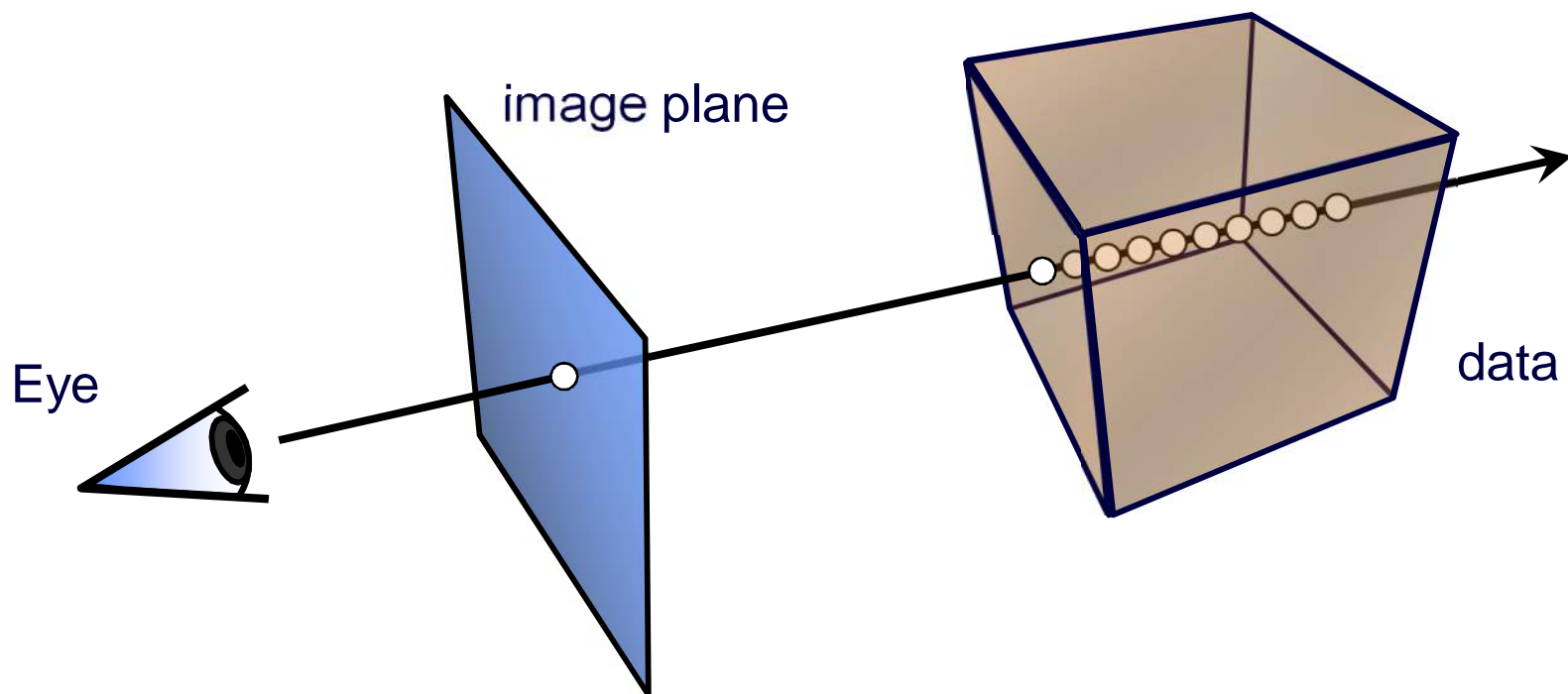
DAVID SPRIGGS



Transparency Report  
With friendly permission  
by David Spriggs

DAVID SPRIGGS

## Traditional Ray Casting

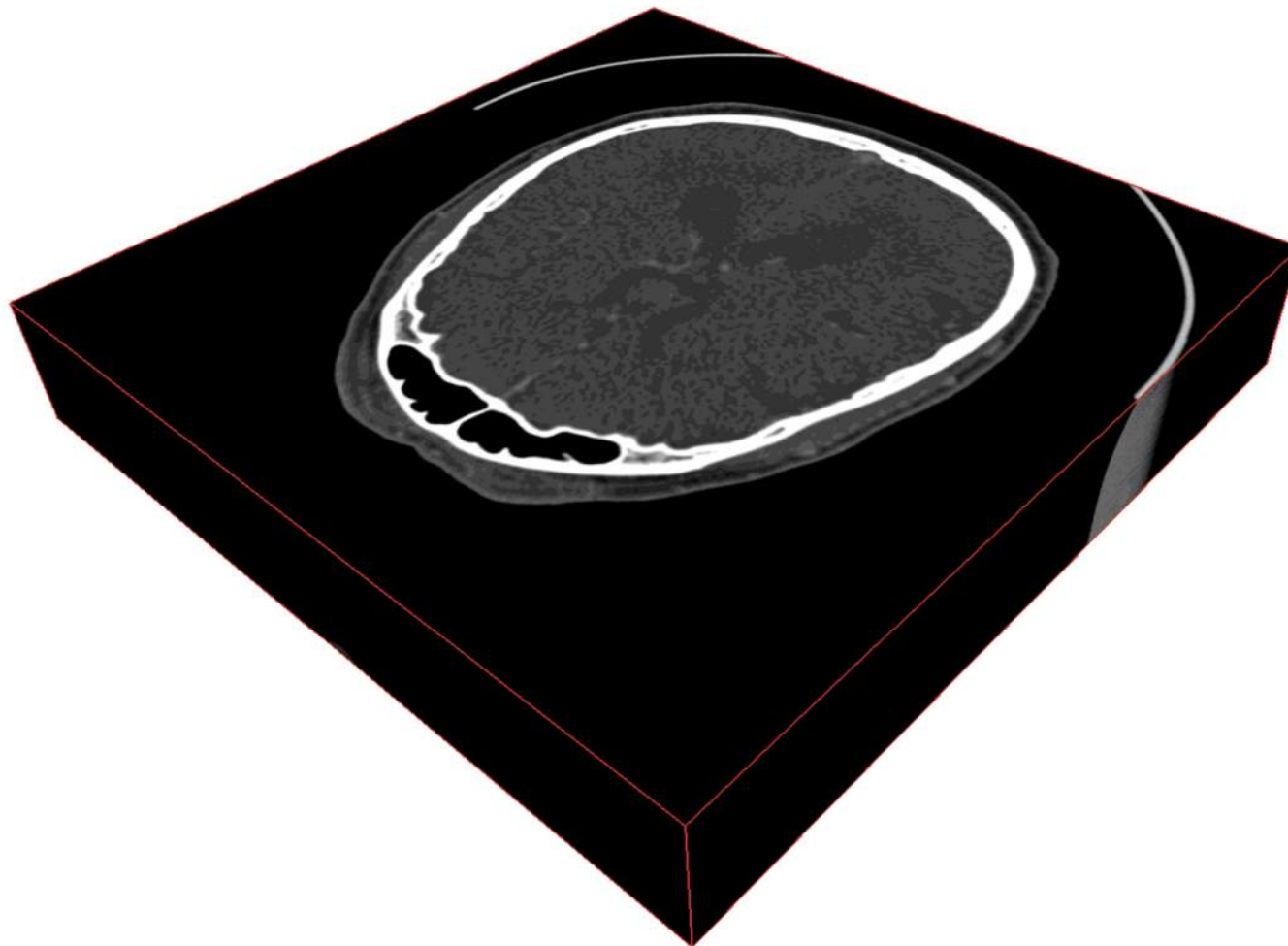


Algorithmic Steps (for each sample along the rays):

- Compute interpolated density value
- Classification: Density  $\rightarrow$  (R, G, B, alpha)
- Gradient computation, Shading, ...
- Numerical Integration (Combination of R, G, B, and alpha values)



# Classification



Data by courtesy of:  
Universitätsklinikum Erlangen, Germany

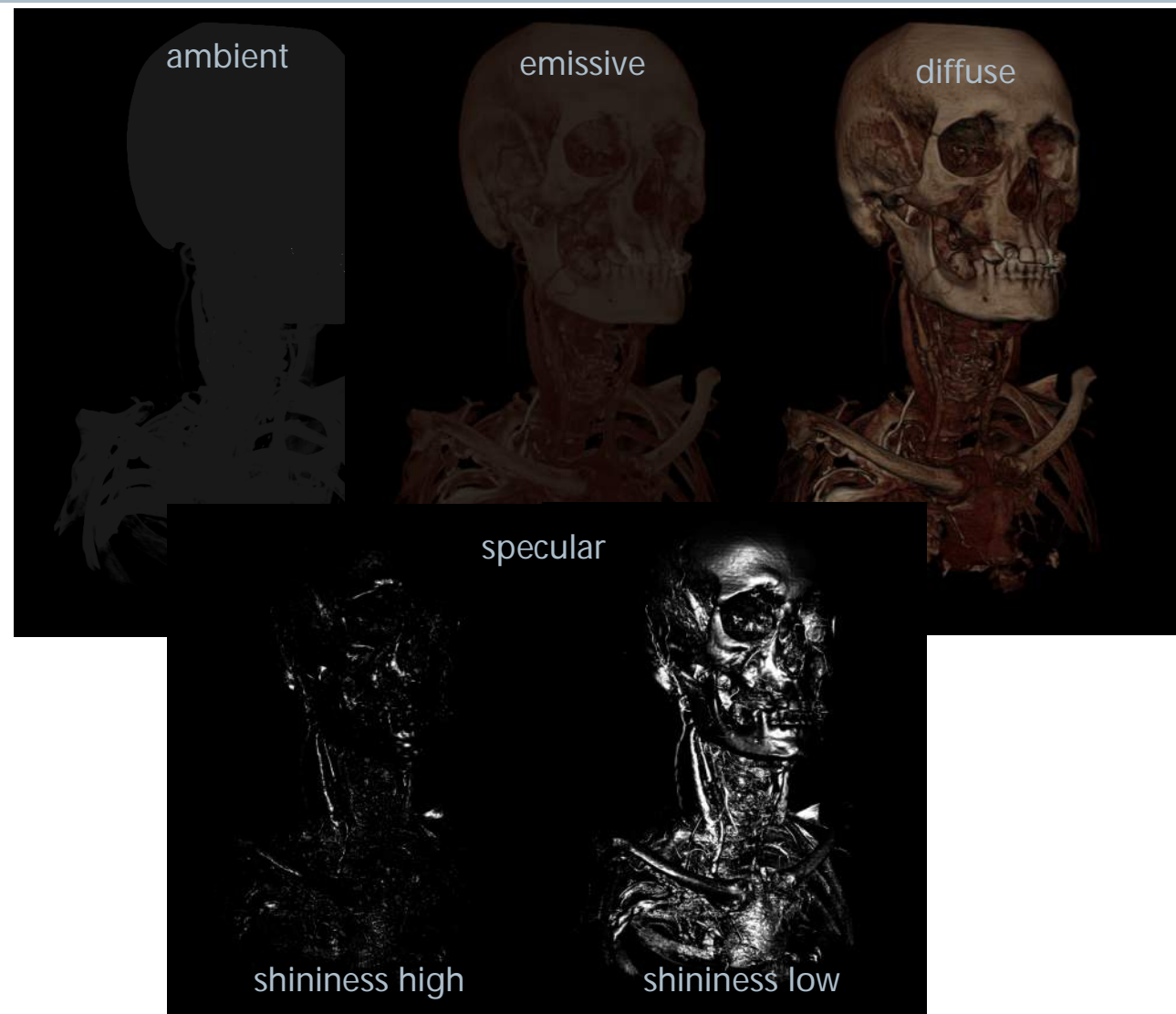
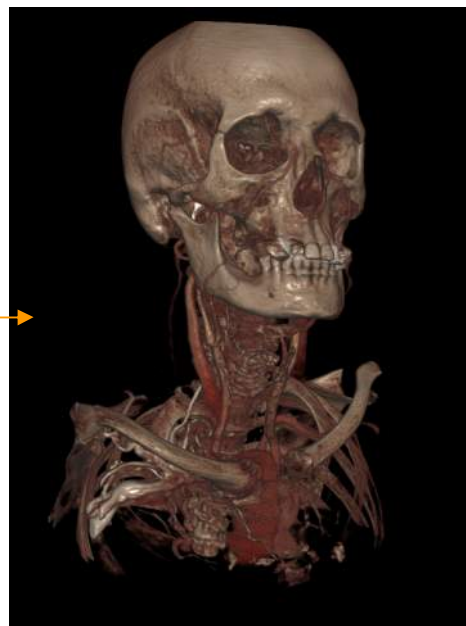
## Shading

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial z} \end{pmatrix}$$

partial derivative  
in x-direction

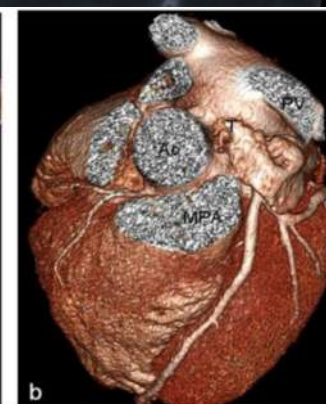
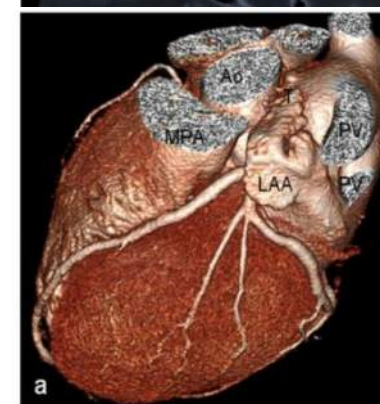
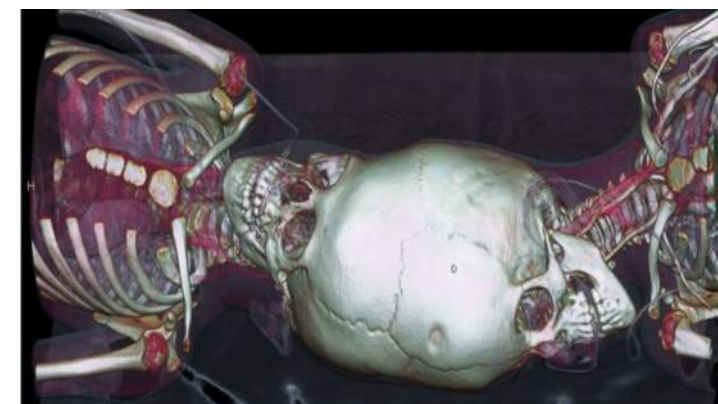
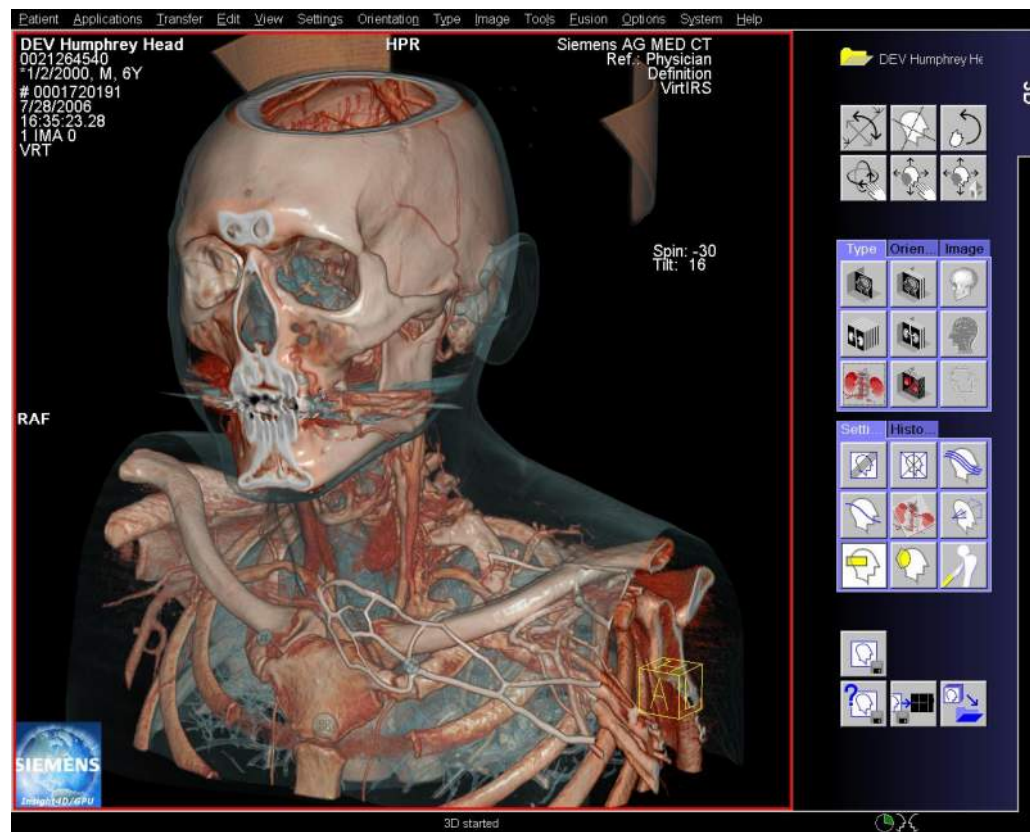
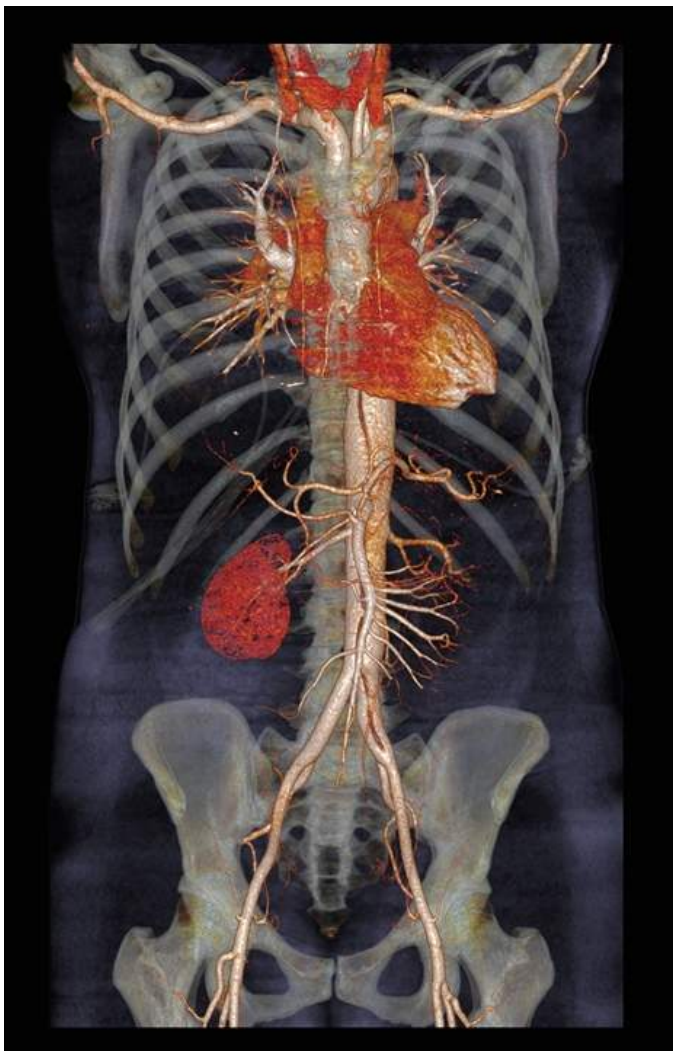
partial derivative  
in y-direction

partial derivative  
in z-direction





# Ray Casting Results



# Physics of light transport

## Geometric Optics

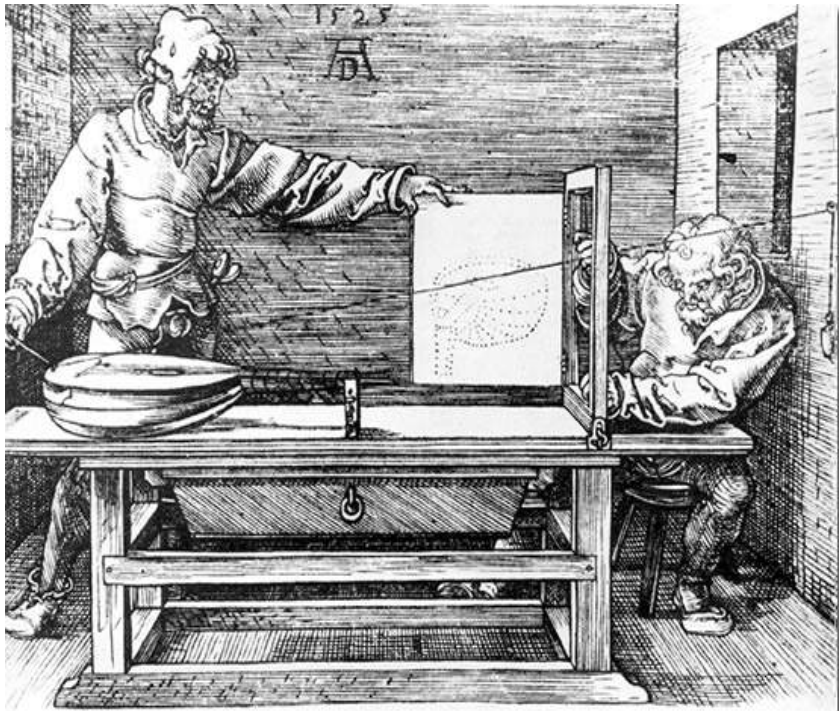


Image Source: Wikipedia

Albrecht Dürer  
„Unterweysung der Messung mit dem Zirckel un  
Richtscheyt“, 1525

## Wave Optics

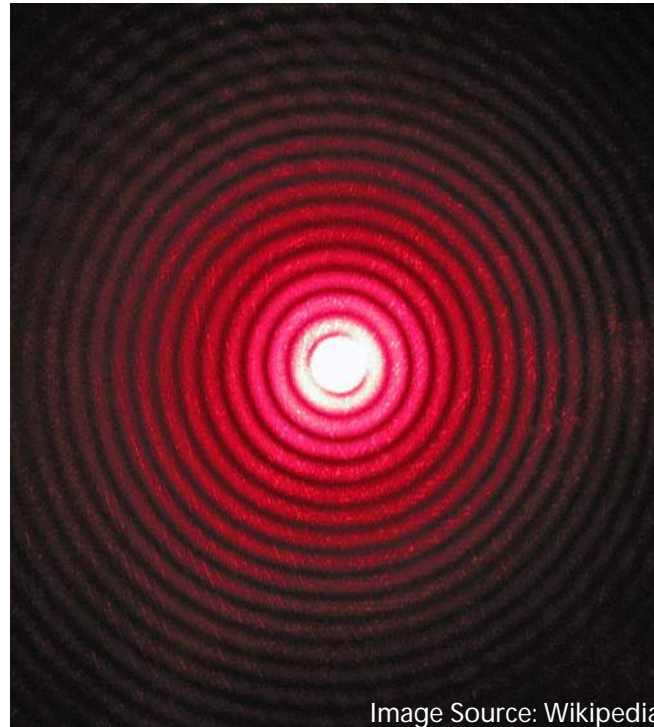


Image Source: Wikipedia

- Diffraction
- Interference
- Polarization
- Aberration

## Quantum Optics



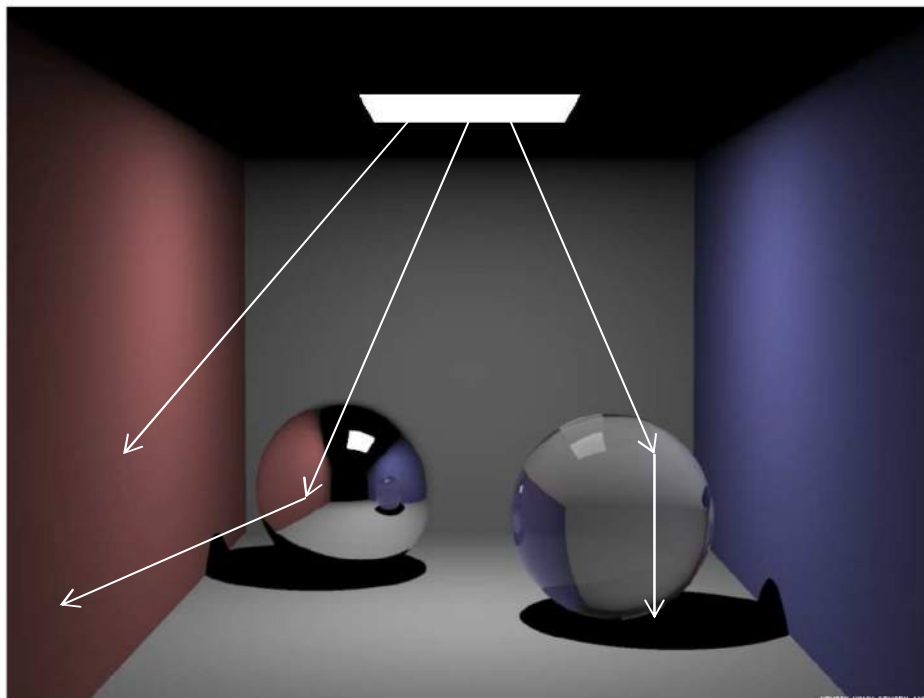
Image Source: Wikipedia

### Photoelectric Effect

- Laser
- Maser

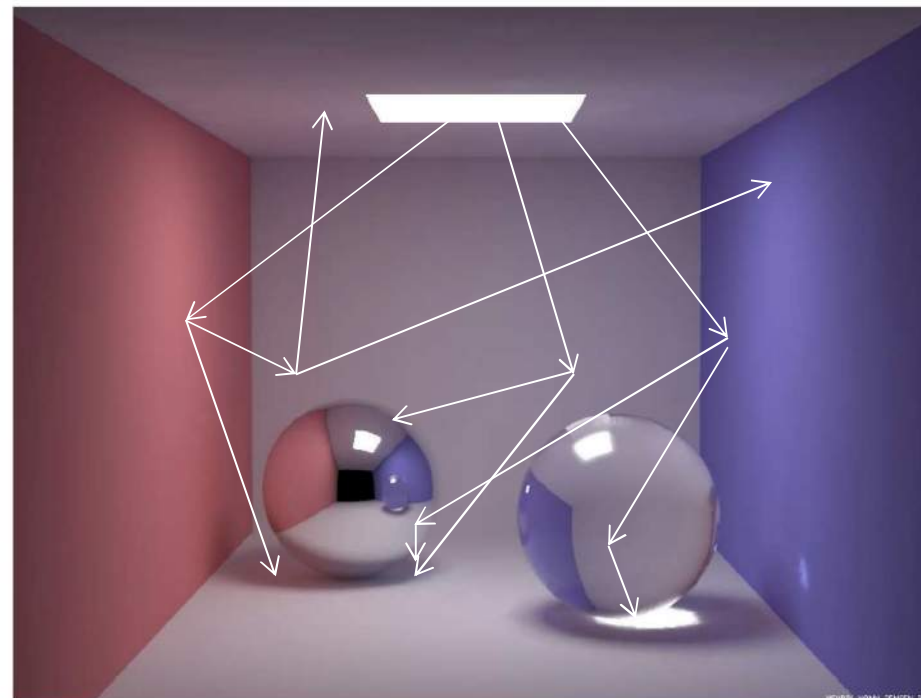
# Physics of light transport

Deterministic: Light takes a single path



Classic Ray Tracing

Probabilistic: Light can take many paths

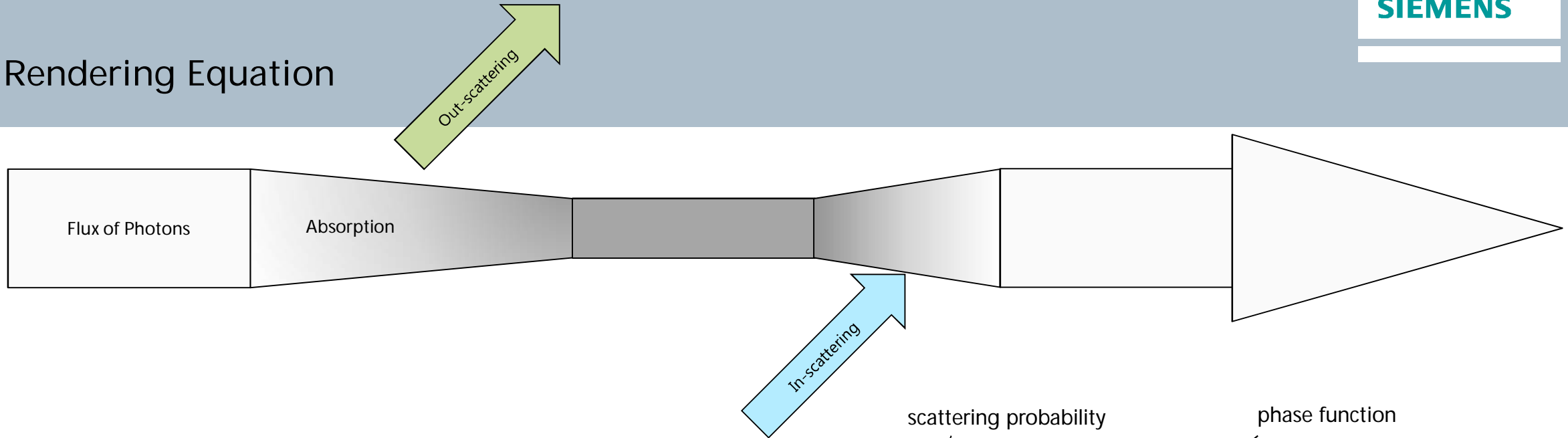


Path Tracing

Images courtesy of Henrik Wann Jensen, University of California, San Diego, USA



# Rendering Equation



Integral difficult to evaluate:

- Multi-dimensional
  - Sample/scatter positions
  - Light directions
- Non-continuous
  - Highlights
  - Occluders
  - Transfer Function

$$L(x, \omega) = \int_0^D e^{-\tau(x, x')} \sigma_S(x') \left[ \int_{\Omega_{4\pi}} p(\omega, \omega') L_i(x', \omega') d\omega' \right] dx'$$

radiance at distance x

scattering probability

phase function

all directions

$$\tau(x, x') = \int_x^{x'} \sigma_t(t) dt$$

extinction coefficients

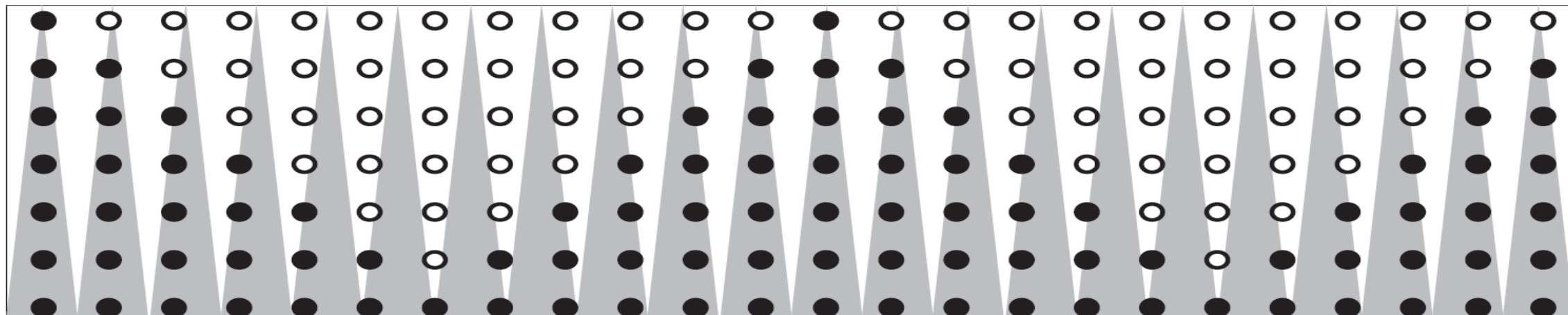
In-scattering

extinction

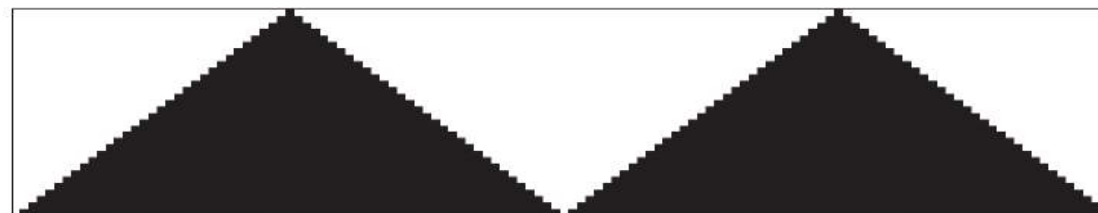
optical depth

# Monte-Carlo Integration

Signal



1 sample  
per pixel



16 samples  
per pixel

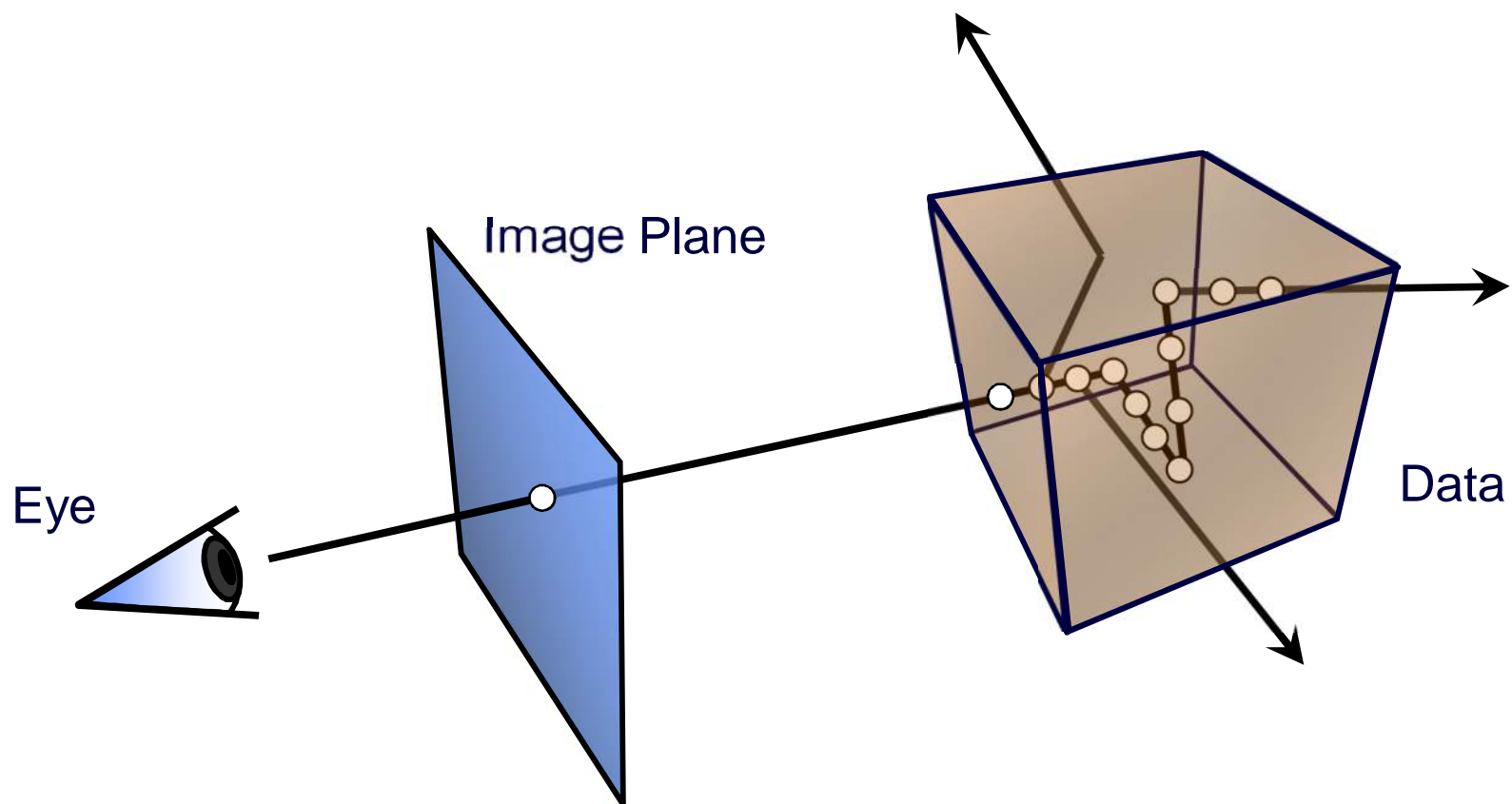


Riemann



Monte-Carlo

# Volumetric Monte-Carlo Path Tracing



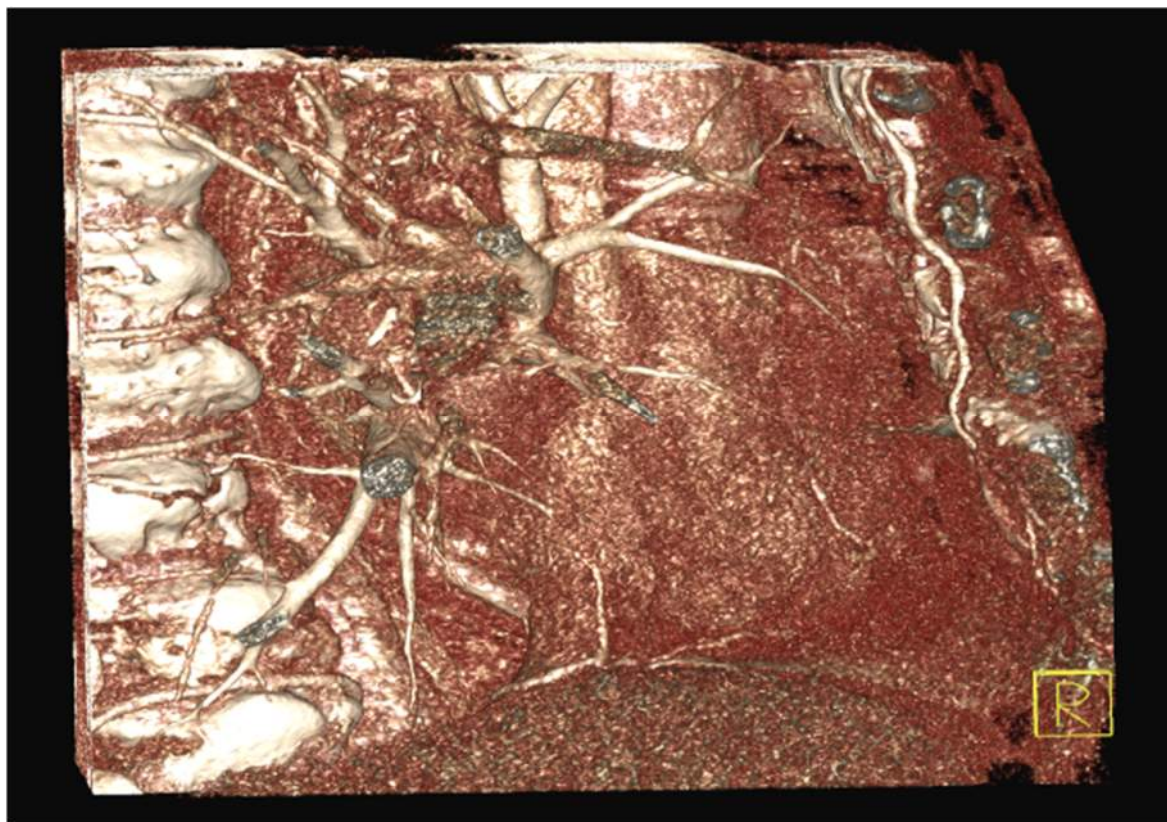
## Ray Casting vs Path Tracing



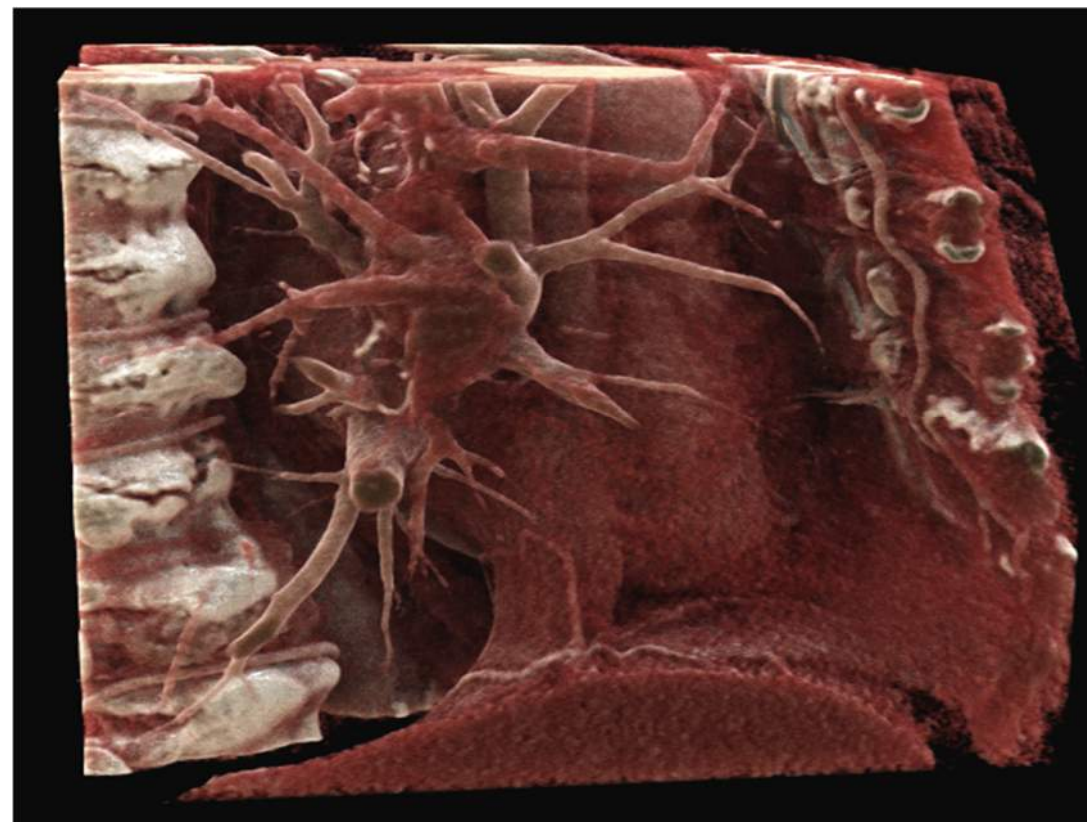


## How Light Interaction is Modeled in Renderers

Traditional Rendering (single scattering)



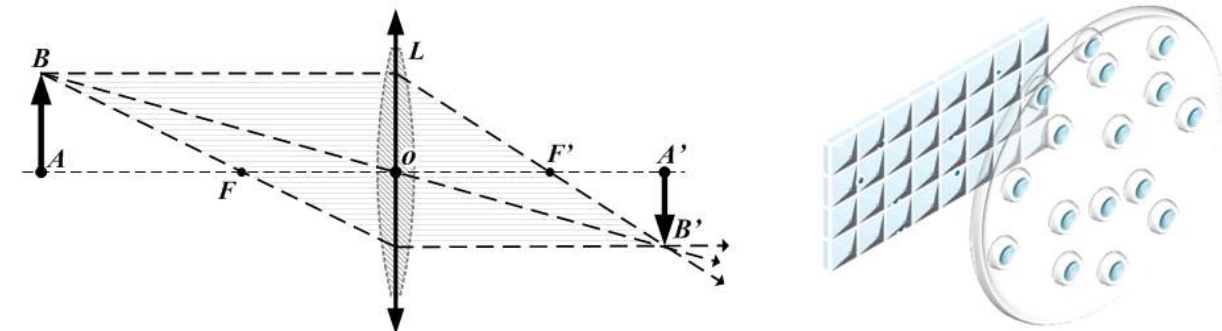
Cinematic Rendering (multi scattering)



Improving visualization of noisy (low-dose) CT data using Cinematic Rendering

# Camera Model

## Thin Lens camera with aperture



### Aperture control



Pinhole camera

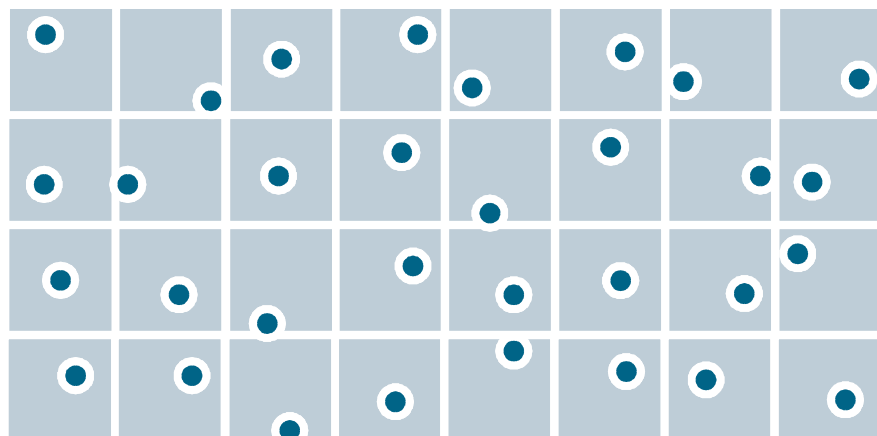


Camera with aperture  
Focal plane on coronaries

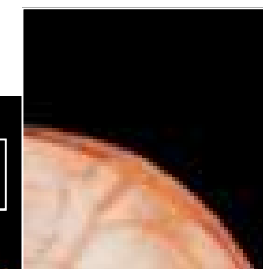
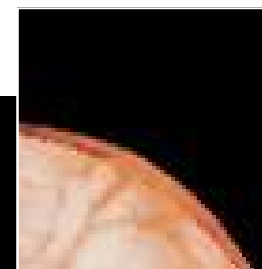


Camera with aperture  
Focal plane on heart center

## Stratified sampling of the detector pixels



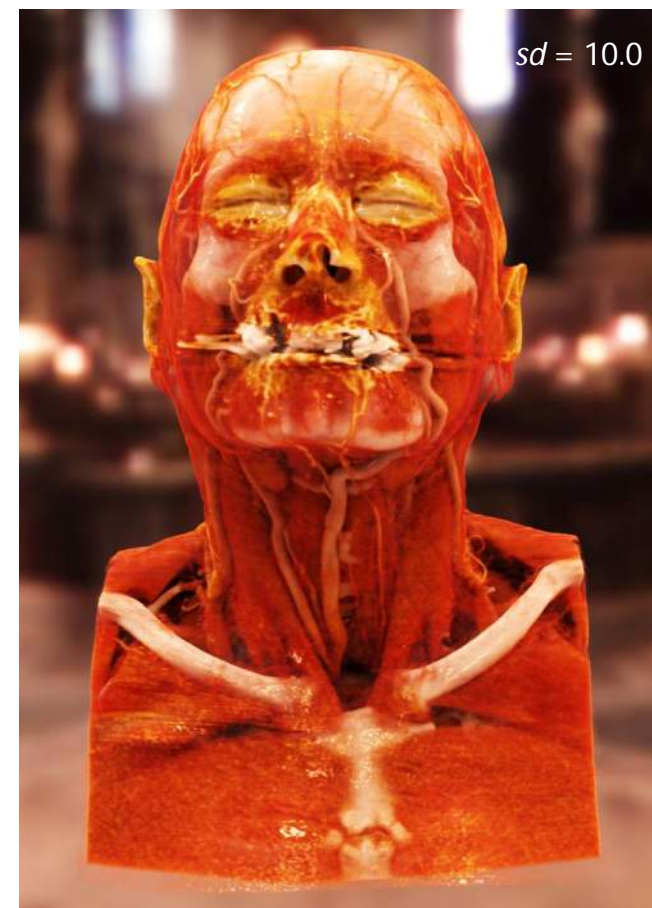
### Anti-aliasing



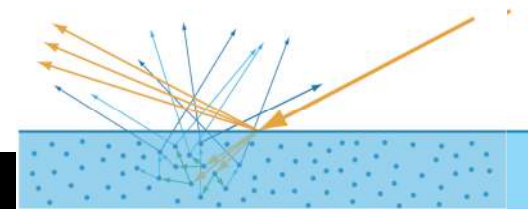
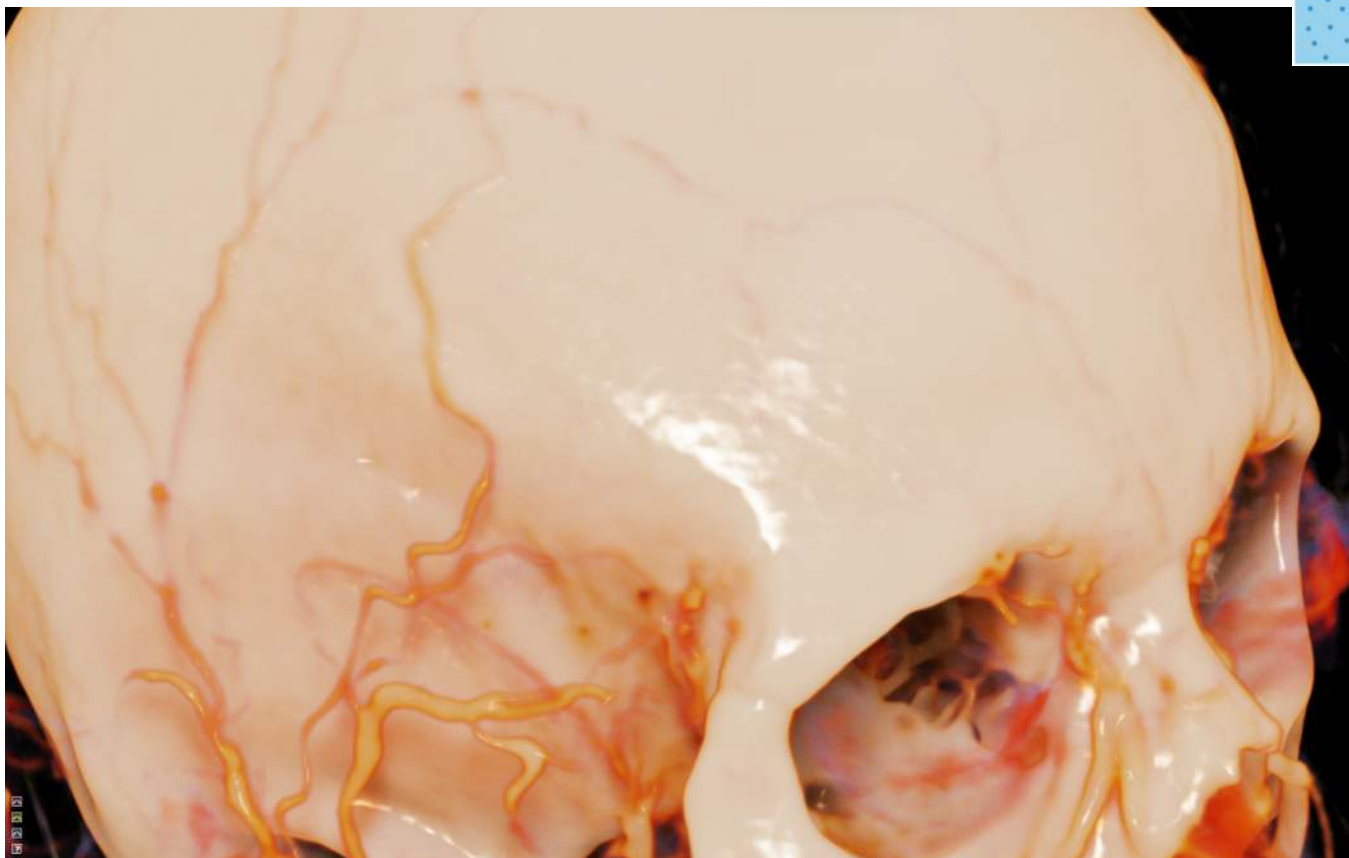
# Hybrid Scattering

Switch stochastically between surface and volumetric scattering (Kroes 2012)

$$P_{BRDF} = \alpha_x \cdot (1 - e^{-sd \cdot |\nabla s(x)|}) \quad h(x, \omega_i, \omega_o) = \begin{cases} h_{BRDF}(x, \omega_i, \omega_o), & \text{if } P_{brdf} > \psi \\ h_{HG}(x, \omega_i, \omega_o), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

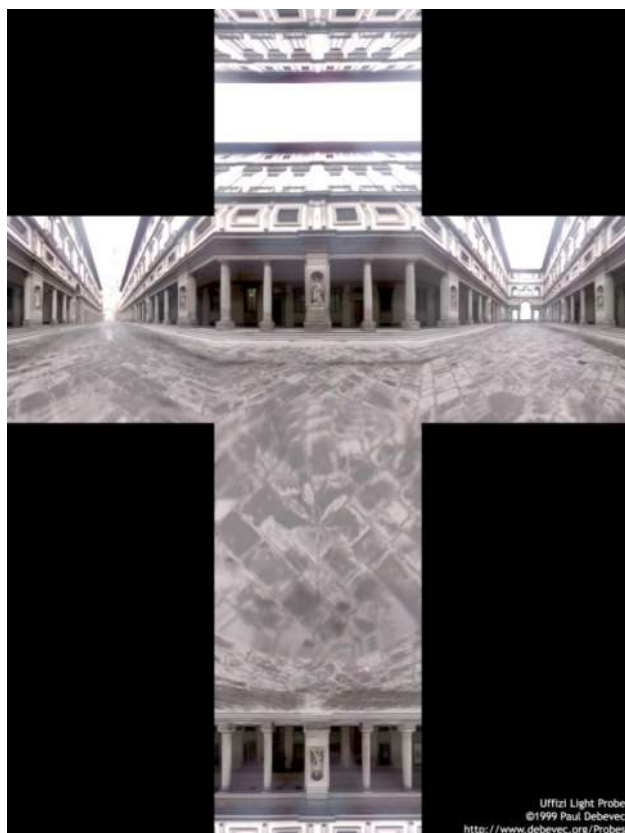


# Subsurface scattering



Real-Time Rendering, 3rd edition

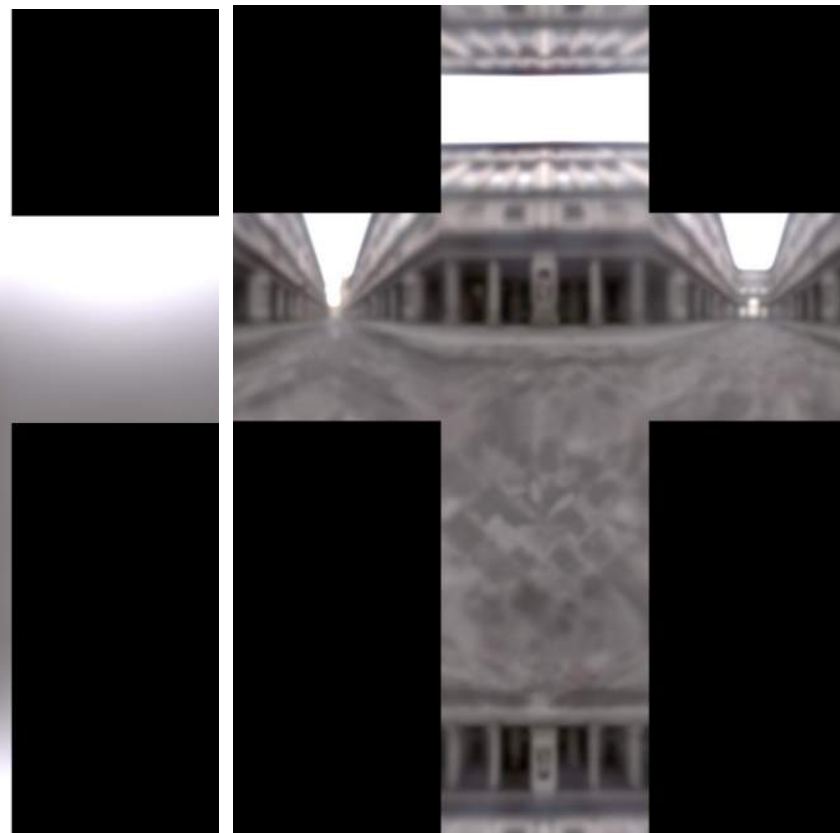
# Image-based Lighting



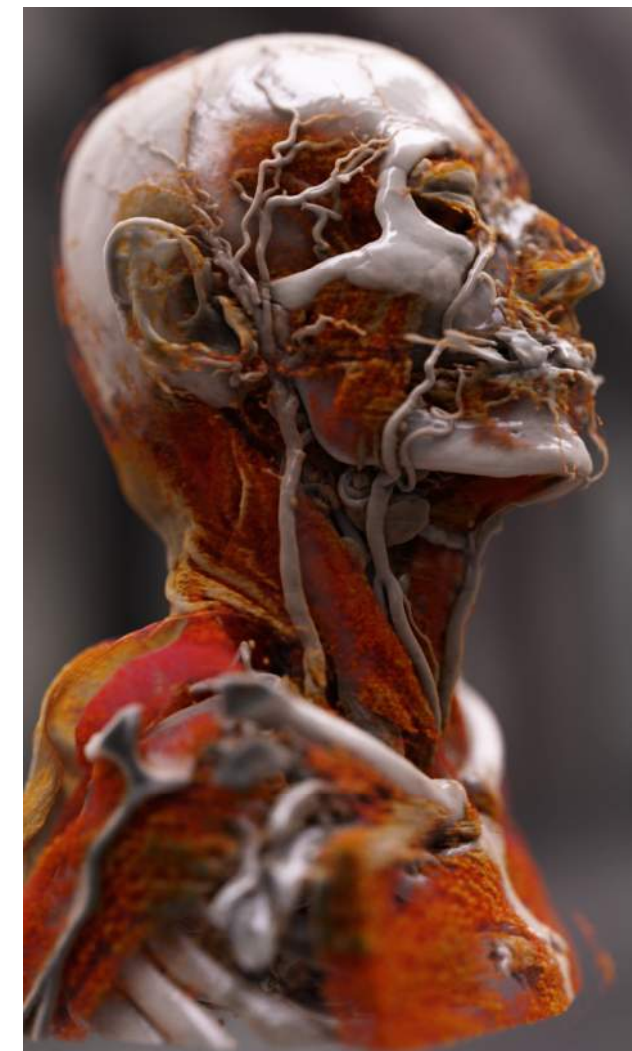
unfiltered



irradiance



reflective

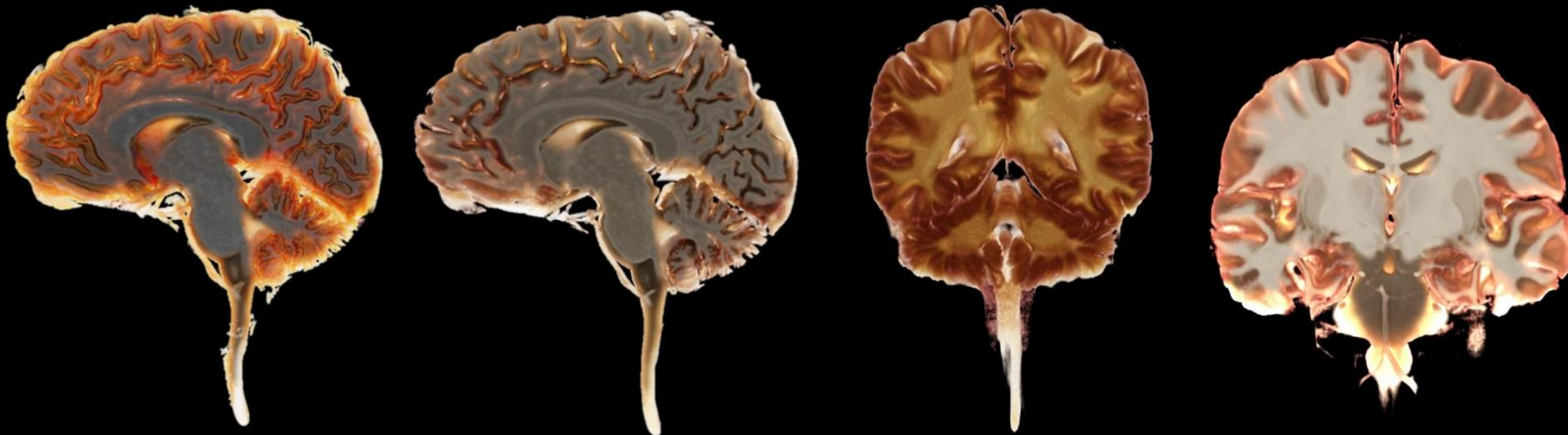


## Light Design: Internal Light Sources

functional imaging showing metabolic activity using a positron-emitting radionuclide (tracer)



## Light Design: Back Lighting



MR data courtesy of:  
Max Planck Institute, Leipzig, Germany

## Tone Mapping

Global operators:

- Exposure function

$$L_{display}(x, y) := 1 - \exp(-L_{in}(x, y) * exposure)$$

- Reinhard's global operator

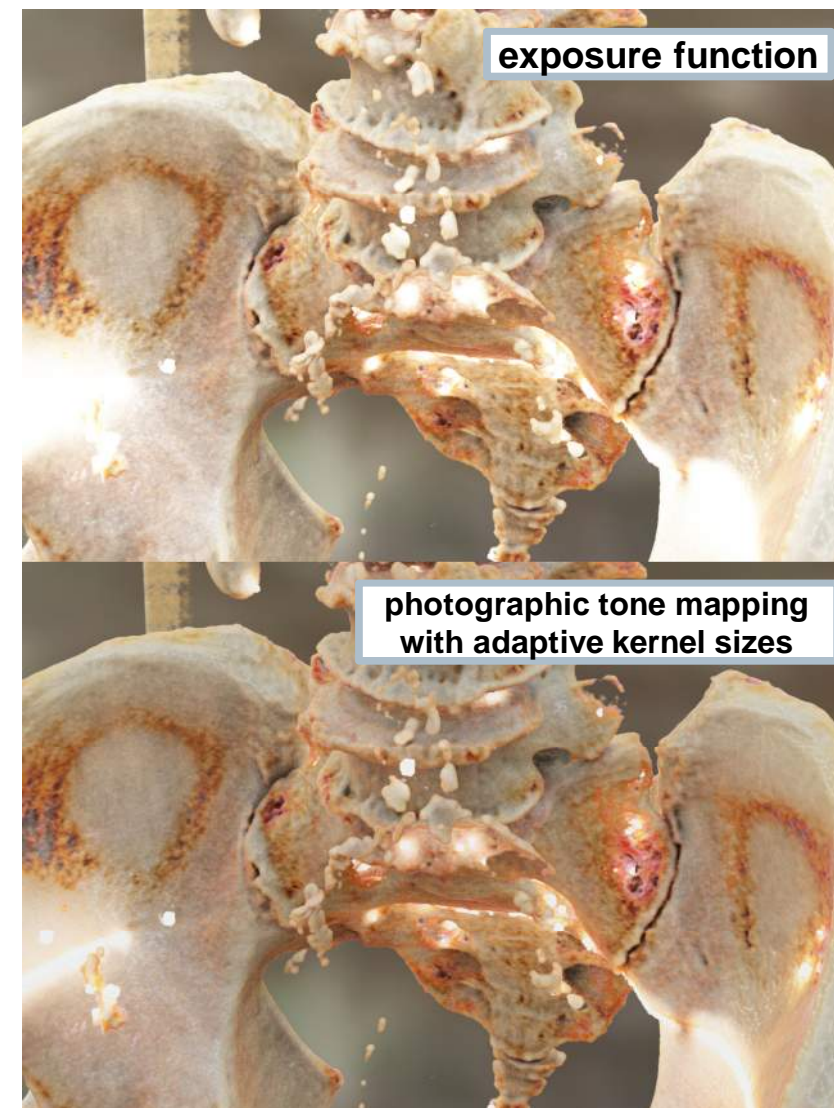
$$L_{display}(x, y) := \frac{L_{in}(x, y)}{1 + L_{in}(x, y)}$$

- Filmic tone mapping: Uncharted 2 operator

$$L_{display}(x, y) := whitescale * \left( \frac{L(x, y) * (A * L(x, y) + C * B) + D * E}{L(x, y) * (A * L(x, y) + B) + D * F} - \frac{E}{F} \right)$$

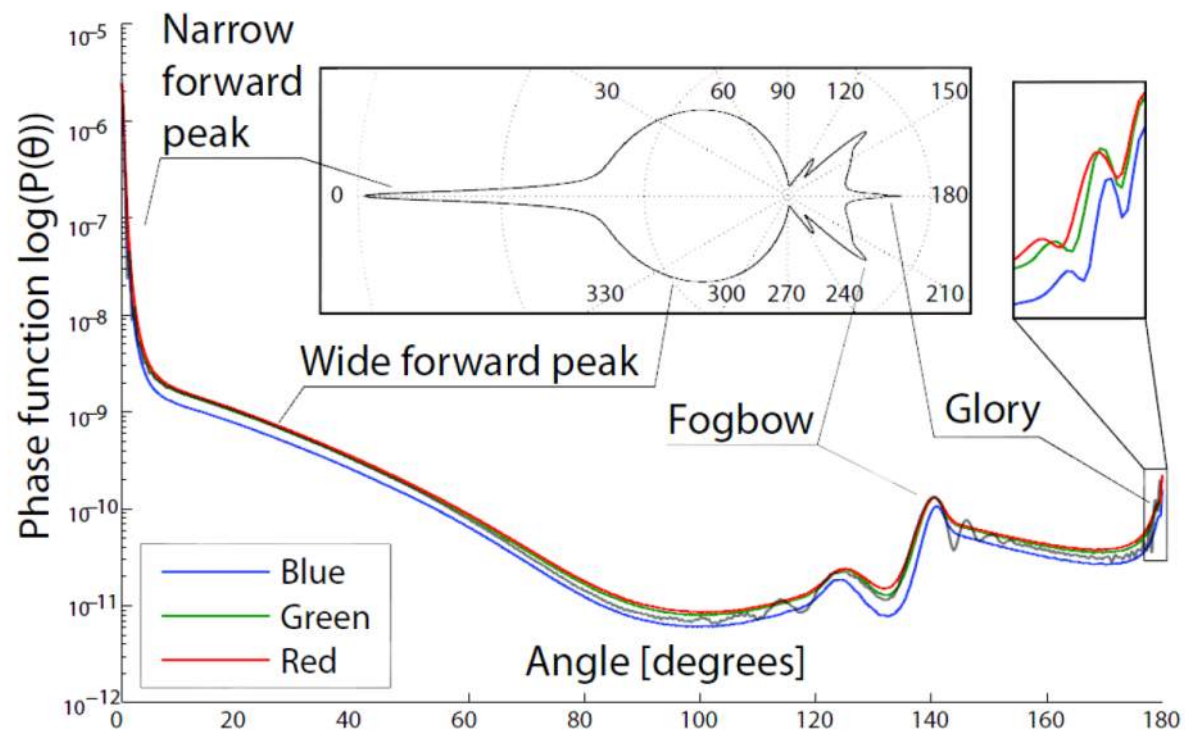
Local operators:

For example: E. Reinhard, M. Stark, P. Shirley and J. Ferwerda,  
*Photographic Tone Reproduction for Digital Images, SIGGRAPH '02*



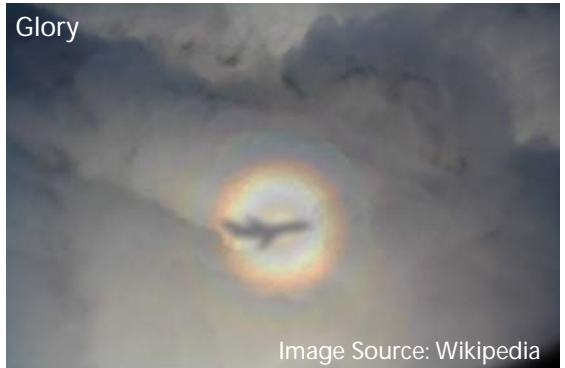
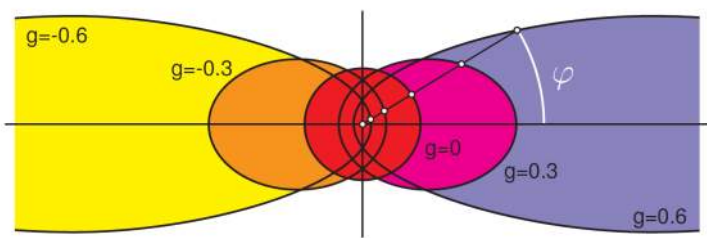


# Phase Functions

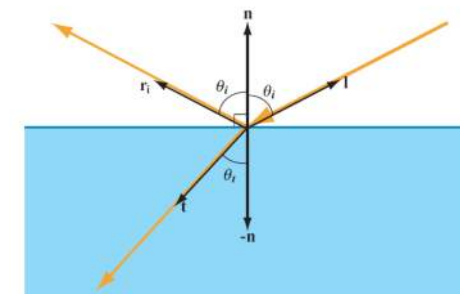
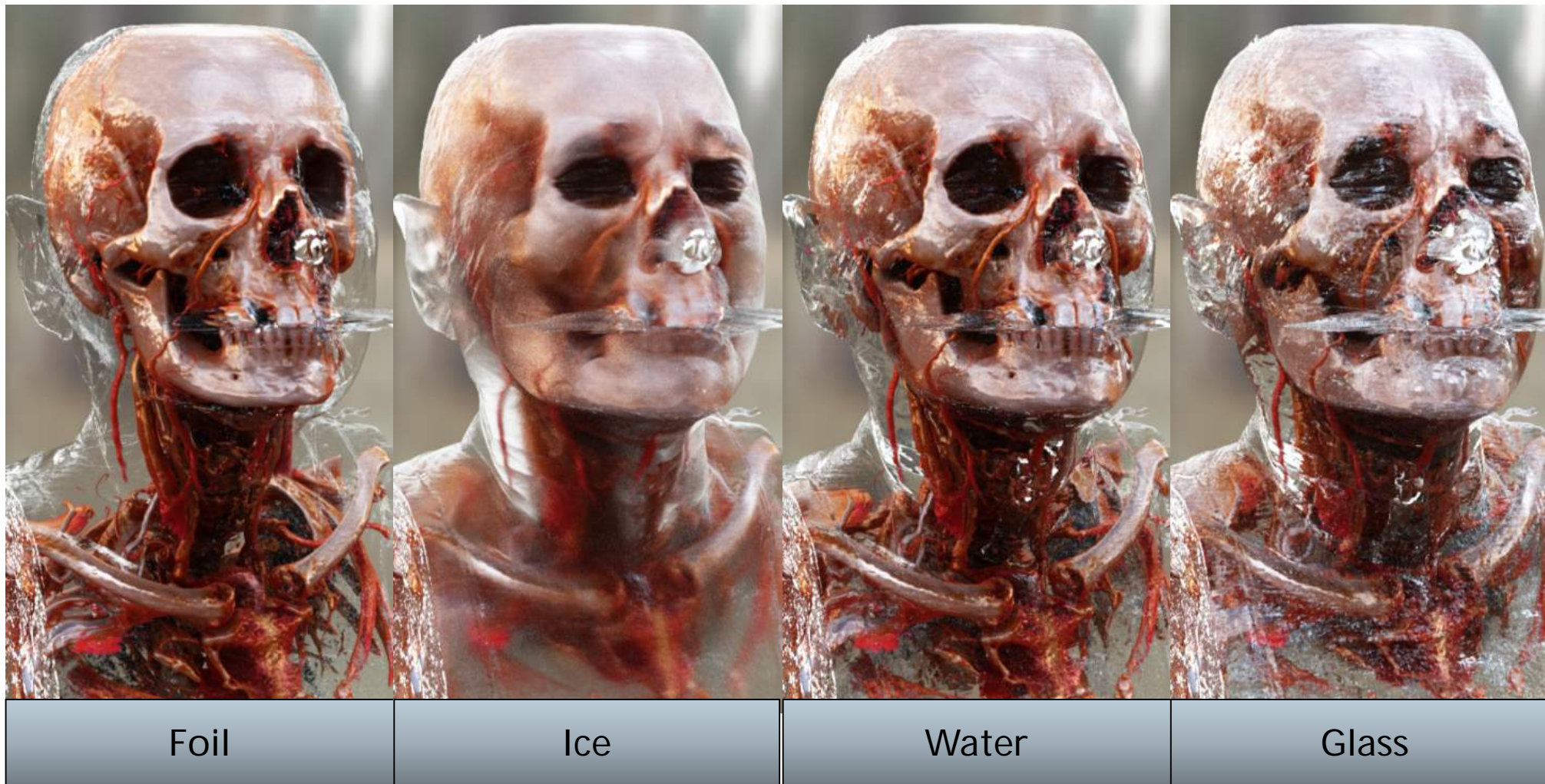


Heney-Greenstein:

$$G(\varphi, g) = \frac{1 - g^2}{(1 + g^2 - 2g \cos \varphi)^{3/2}}$$



## Transparent hulls



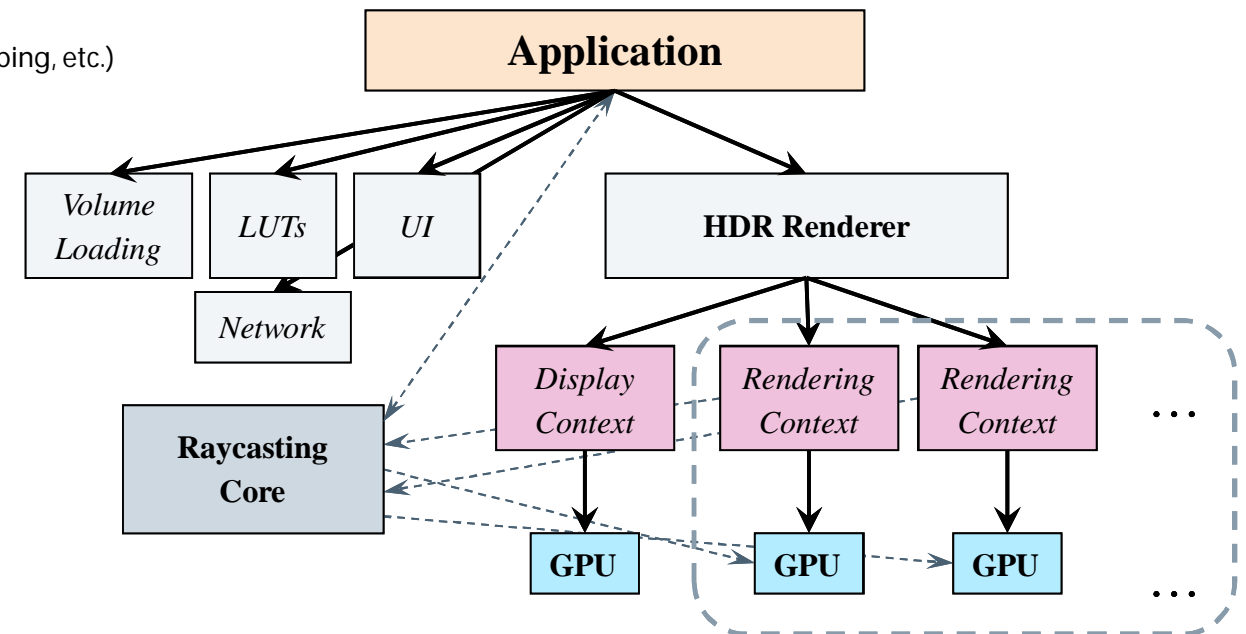
Real-Time Rendering, 3rd edition

Schlick approximation

# Implementation

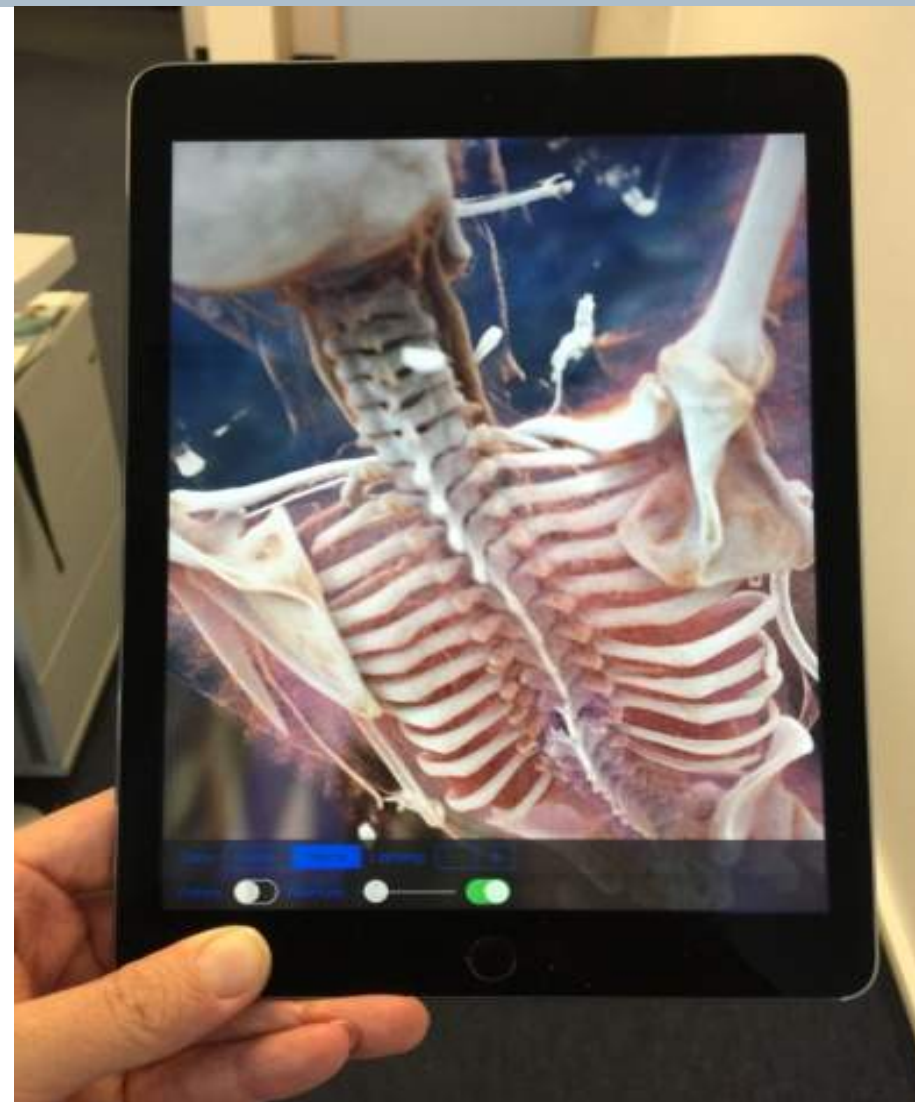
## Scalable architecture leveraging distributed multi-GPU OpenGL rendering

- *Rendering Context*
  - Manages the resources and rendering algorithms for a single GPU in a rendering node
- *Raycasting Core*
  - Rendering core component, GLSL shader
- *Display Context*
  - Manages the rendering results of local Rendering Contexts (GPU-to-GPU memory transfer (NV\_copy\_image), compositing, rescaling, tone-mapping, etc.)
  - May share a GPU with a *Rendering Context* or run on dedicated low-power GPU
  - Image capture and video streaming for remote viewing applications
  - GPU-based compositing and tone-mapping, fast image capture using NVIDIA Inband Frame Readback (IFR) with 4:2:0 chroma subsampling
  - Very low latency/bandwidth streaming for remote interaction applications

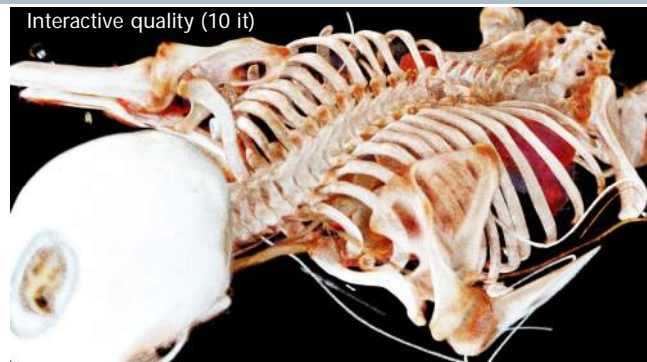


## Mobile Cinematic Rendering

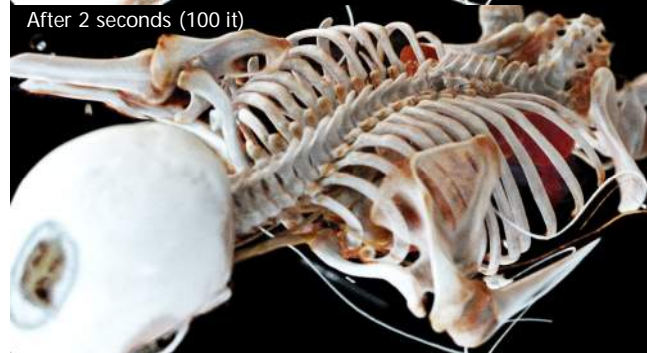
- Cloud-based Rendering Server, iOS client
- iOS native renderer (iPad Air 2/iPhone6)
- Android native renderer (Tegra K1)
- iWatch from cloud or iPhone (30 fps)



# Computational Load (GTX 980, data: 512x512x1699@16bit, 1920x1080)



total rays:	20.736.000
total paths:	14.024.580
total scatter events:	41.064.594
total absorption events:	6.278.458
total light lookups:	34.397.030
total gradients:	27.230.231
total sample events:	1.687.624.300
total classification events:	1.503.524.423



total rays:	207.360.000
total paths:	138.562.408
total scatter events:	442.808.953
total absorption events:	85.142.516
total light lookups:	365.000.004
total gradients:	224.830.809
total sample events:	16.769.200.328
total classification events:	15.213.027.095



total rays:	1.036.800.000
total paths:	689.463.816
total scatter events:	2.189.449.922
total absorption events:	419.597.242
total light lookups:	1.805.740.978
total gradients:	1.130.386.976
total sample events:	84.105.247.524
total classification events:	76.286.984.974



total rays:	20.736.000
total paths:	17.975.530
total scatter events:	54.965.441
total absorption events:	10.318.989
total light lookups:	24.426.885
total gradients:	44.807.988
total sample events:	943.121.939
total classification events:	653.538.011



total rays:	207.360.000
total paths:	173.973.381
total scatter events:	563.696.623
total absorption events:	111.945.658
total light lookups:	313.506.260
total gradients:	384.046.705
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total classification events:	8.287.325.606



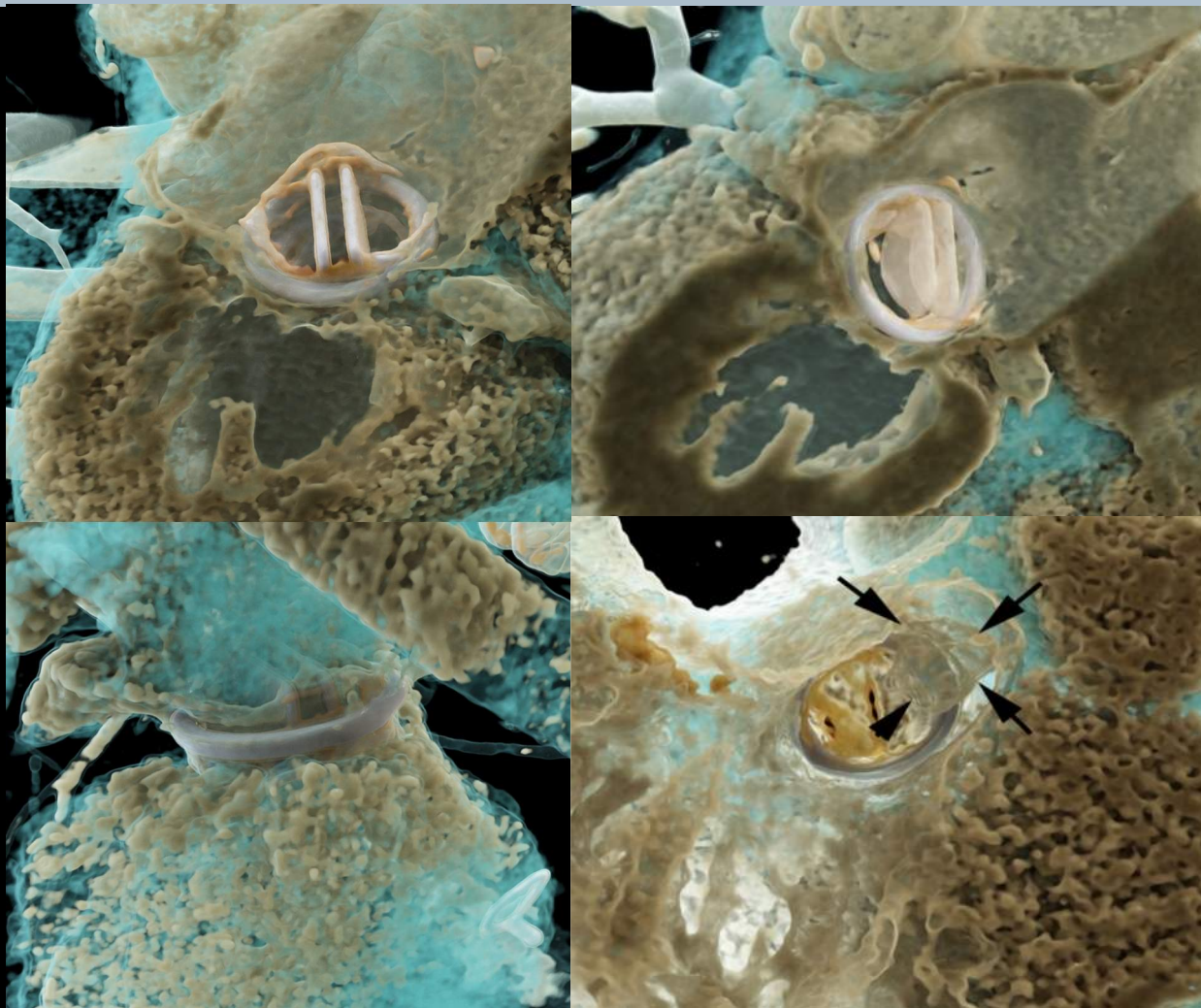
total rays:	1.036.800.000
total paths:	862.863.830
total scatter events:	2.786.035.042
total absorption events:	556.145.086
total light lookups:	1.549.583.536
total gradients:	1.896.305.376
total sample events:	53.563.338.027
total classification events:	41.148.705.771

## Application: CT Heart



Data by courtesy of:  
Hospital do Coração, São Paulo, Brazil

# Application: Artificial Heart Valve



## Application: Gout visualization by urate detection using Dual-Source CT



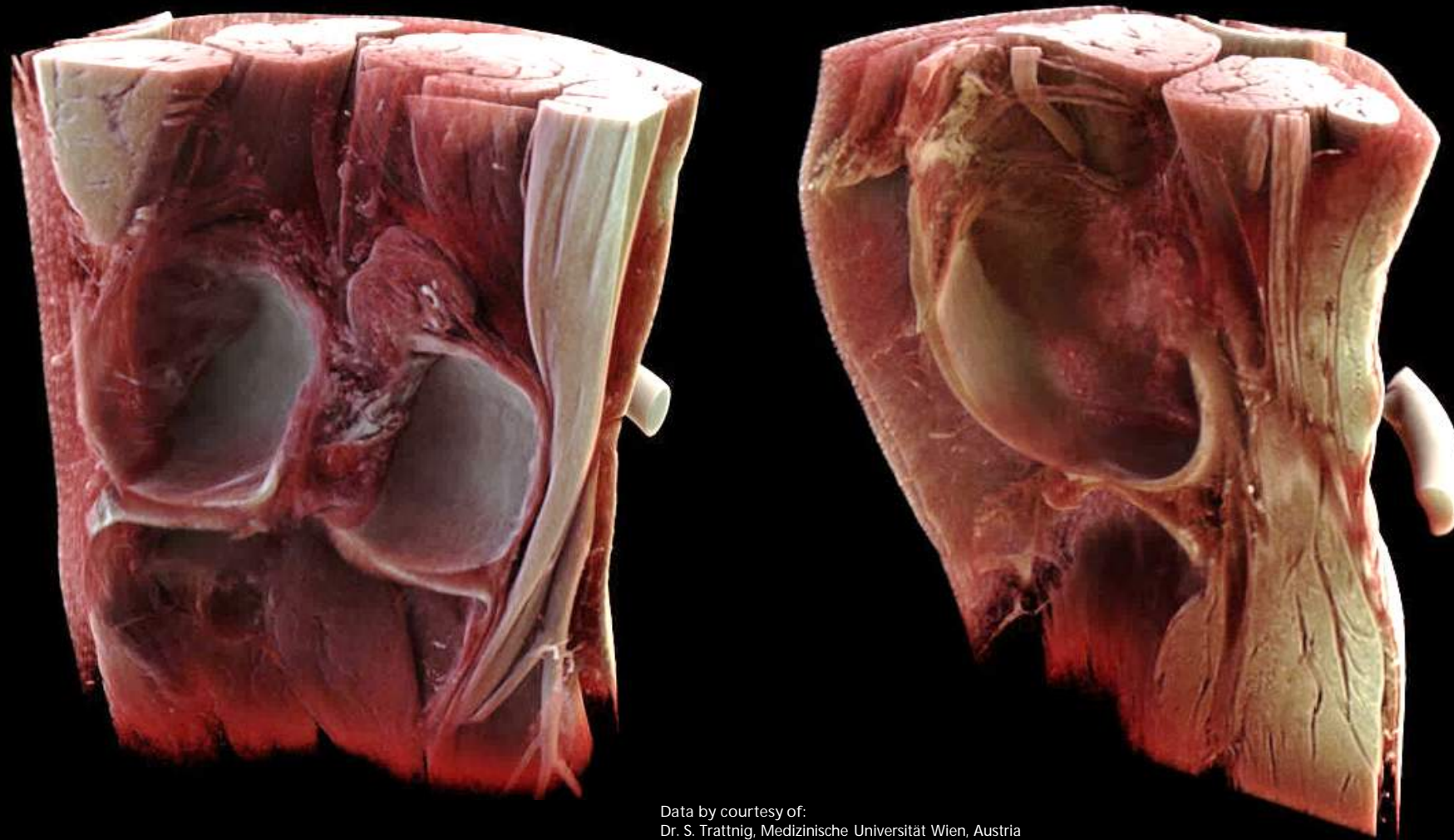


## Application: Cinematic Rendering of CT Vascular Head



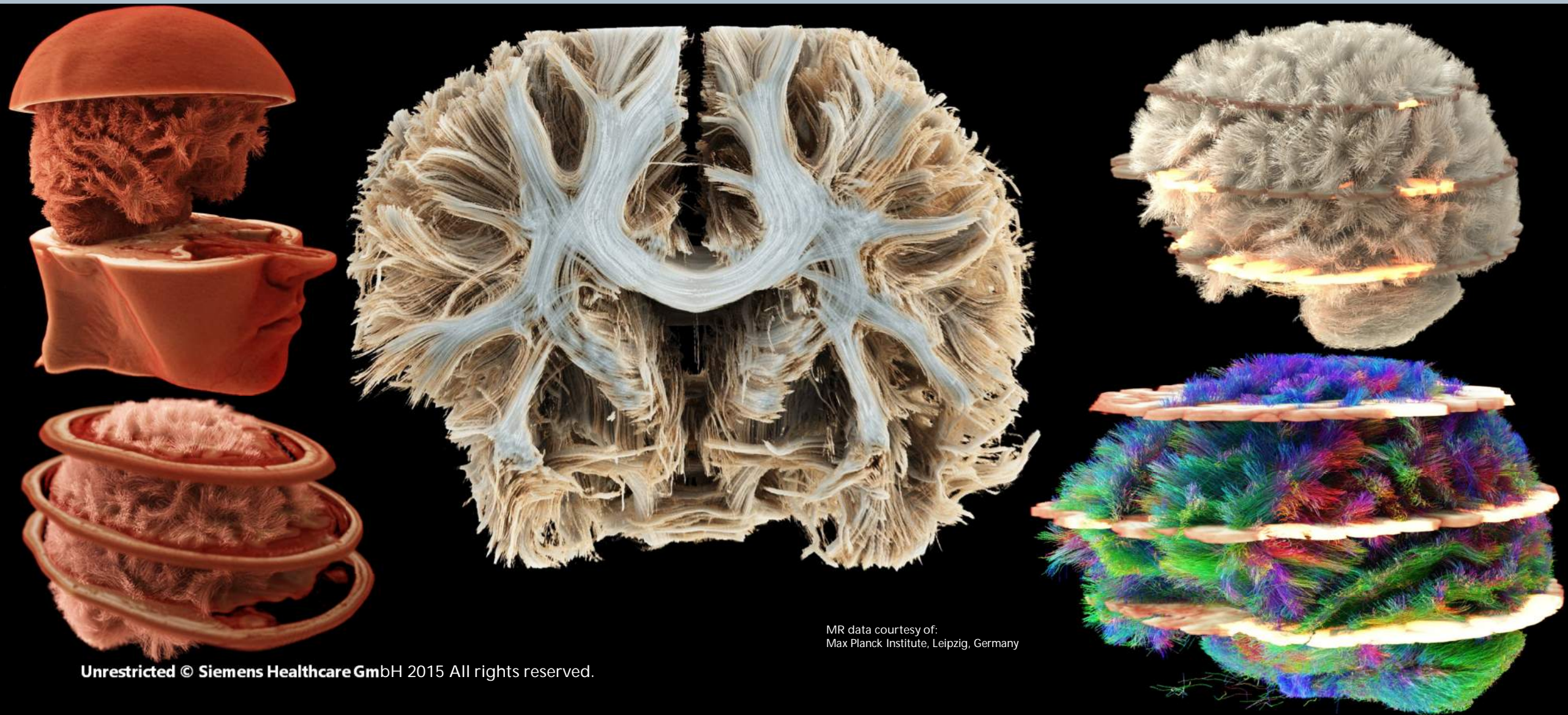
Courtesy of Israelitisches Krankenhaus, Hamburg, Germany

## Application: Magnetom 7T Knee



Data by courtesy of:  
Dr. S. Trattnig, Medizinische Universität Wien, Austria

# Application: MR brain with DTI Fibers



MR data courtesy of:  
Max Planck Institute, Leipzig, Germany

## Application: Cinematic Rendering of MR 7T Brain





Data by courtesy of:  
Dr. Philip Alexander Glemser,  
Working group leader Forensic Imaging,  
German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg



Data by courtesy of:  
Dr. Philip Alexander Glemser,  
Working group leader Forensic Imaging,  
German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg

## Deep Space 8k, Ars Electronica Center, Linz, Austria



- Museum of the future: Intersection of arts, technology, society
- 16x9 meters wall and floor projections, 8192x4320 pixels each, >70 MP active stereo, 120 Hz
- 8 Christie Boxer 4k30 Mirage: 30,000 lumen, 3DLP, 4K projector at 120Hz, 4096x2160 px, shutter glasses
- 2 XI-MACHINES, each with four NVIDIA Quadro M6000, NVIDIA Mosaic technology





Credit: Magdalena Leitner



Credit: Florian Voggeneder



Prof. Dr. Franz Fellner  
Director of Radiology at Linz General Hospital  
„Anatomy of the Dead → Anatomy of the Living“

Credit: Florian Voggeneder

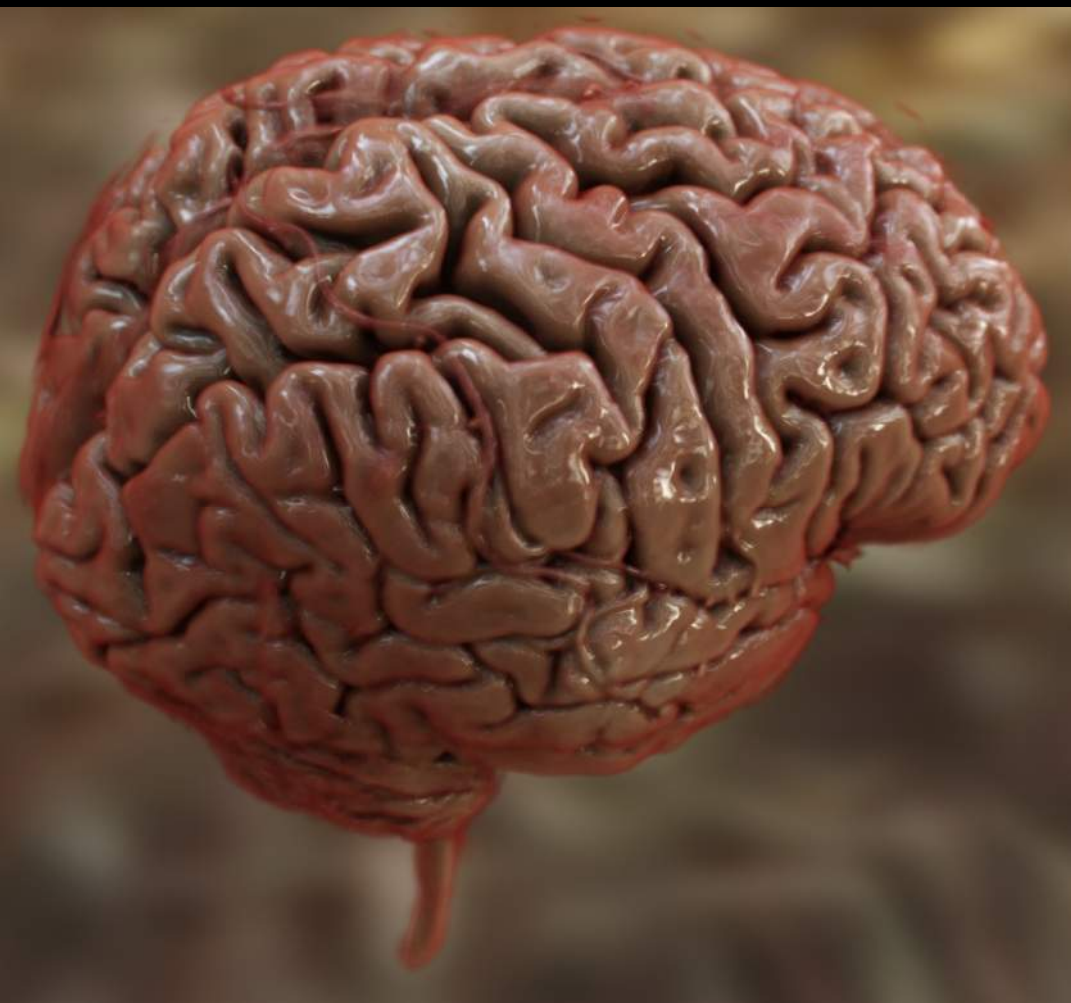


## Conclusions

- Siemens is pioneering the use of NVIDIA GPUs to bring heavy computationally dependent ray/path tracing to medical visualization
- Applications in special diagnostics, surgery planning, communication and education
- Photorealistic/Hyperrealistic images lead to democratization of medical imaging



Thank you for your Attention! Questions?



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Siemens Healthcare GmbH  
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Medical Imaging Tech

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91058 Erlangen, Germany

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Fax: +49 9131 7-33190

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E-mail: [engel.klaus@siemens.com](mailto:engel.klaus@siemens.com)

Big **THANKS** to all contributing colleagues at  
Siemens Medical Imaging Tech in Erlangen and Princeton!