Head Mounted Display Optics II

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Stanford University

EE 267 Virtual Reality

Lecture 8

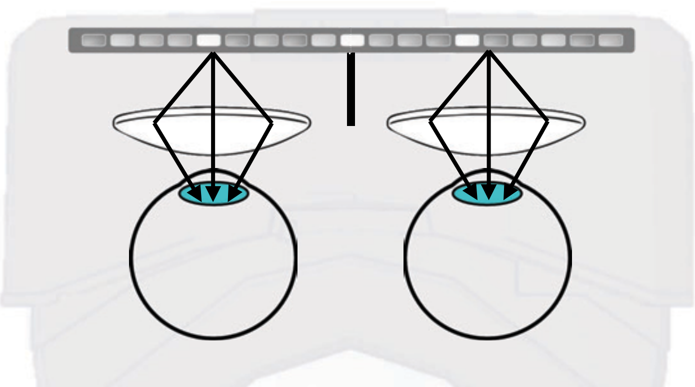
stanford.edu/class/ee267/

Lecture Overview

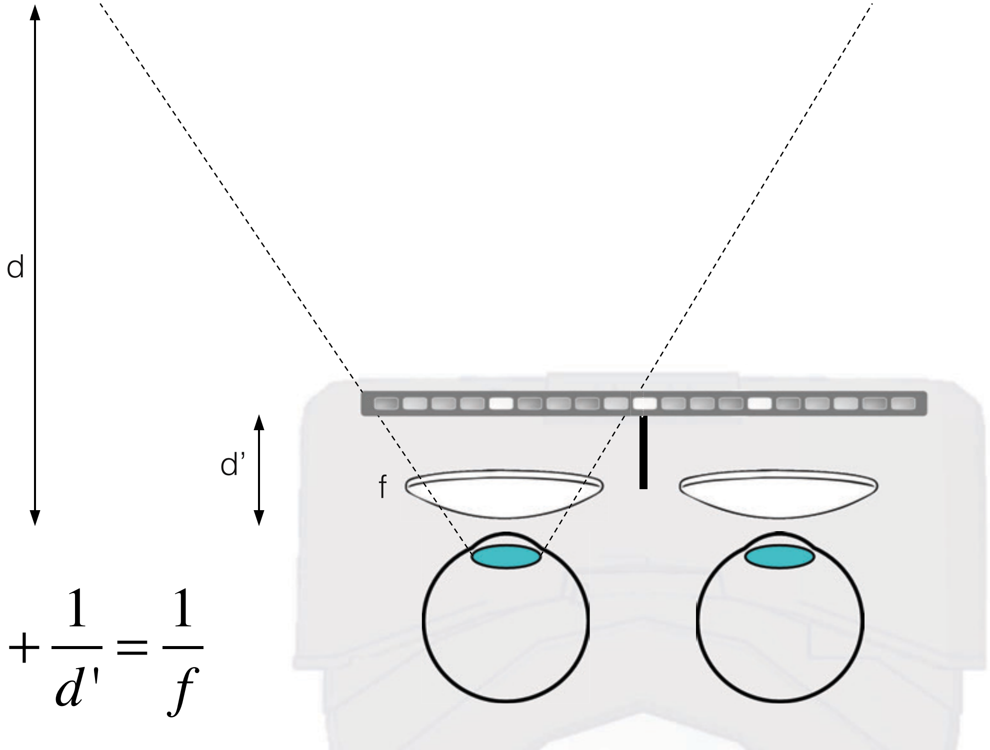
- focus cues & the vergence-accommodation conflict

- advanced optics for VR with focus cues:
  - gaze-contingent varifocal displays
  - volumetric and multi-plane displays
  - near-eye light field displays
  - holographic near-eye displays

- AR displays



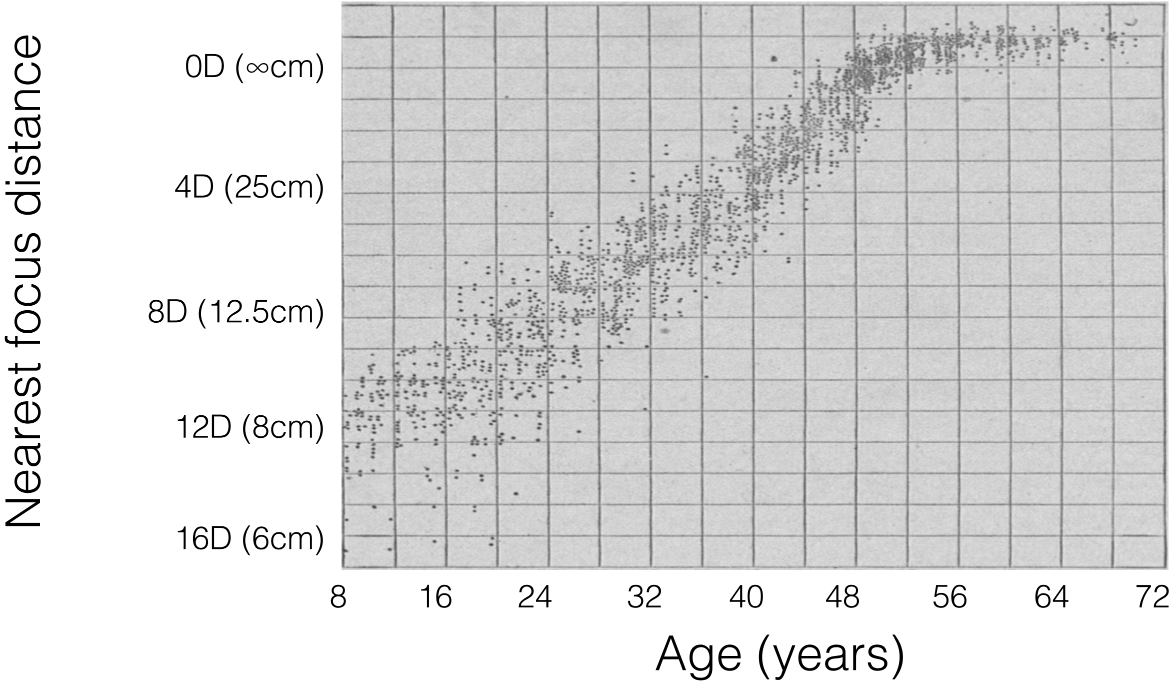
Magnified Display



$$\frac{1}{d}+\frac{1}{d'}=\frac{1}{f}$$

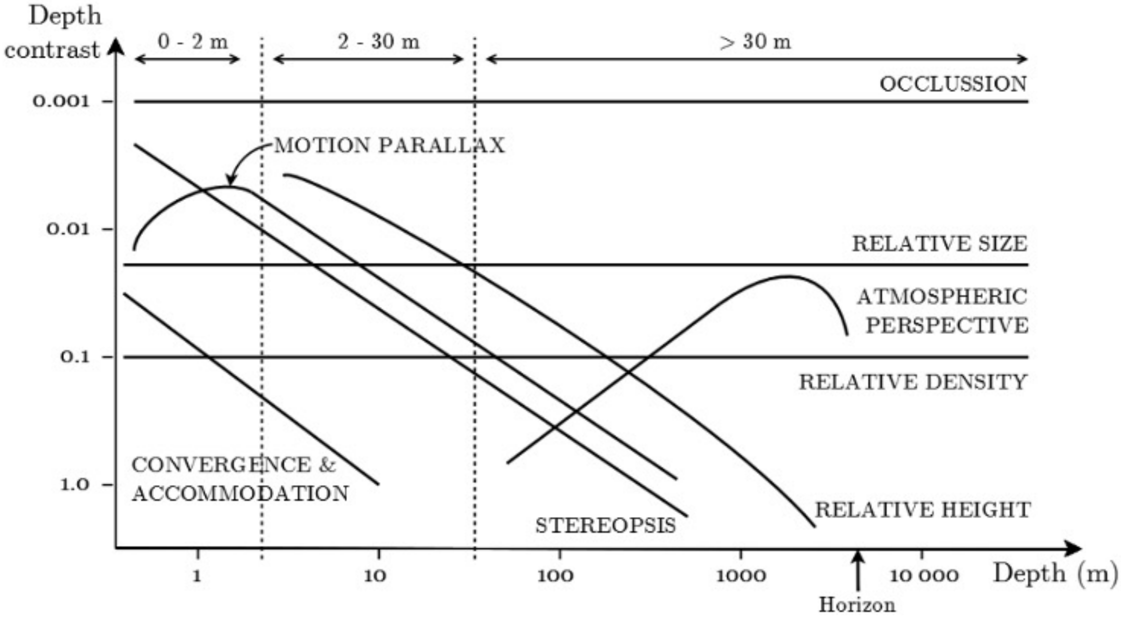
- big challenge: virtual image appears at fixed focal plane!
- no focus cues

Importance of Focus Cues Decreases with Age - Presbyopia



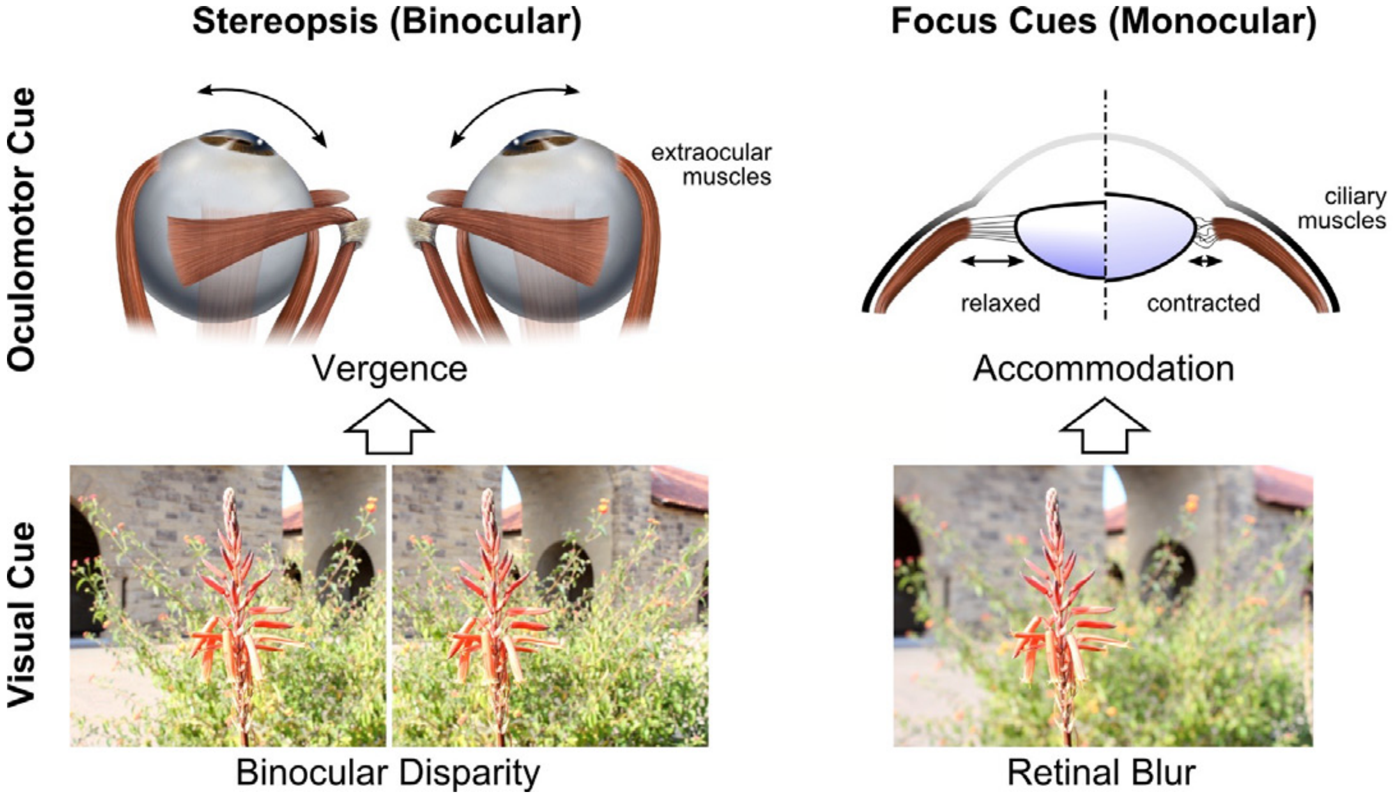
Duane, 1912

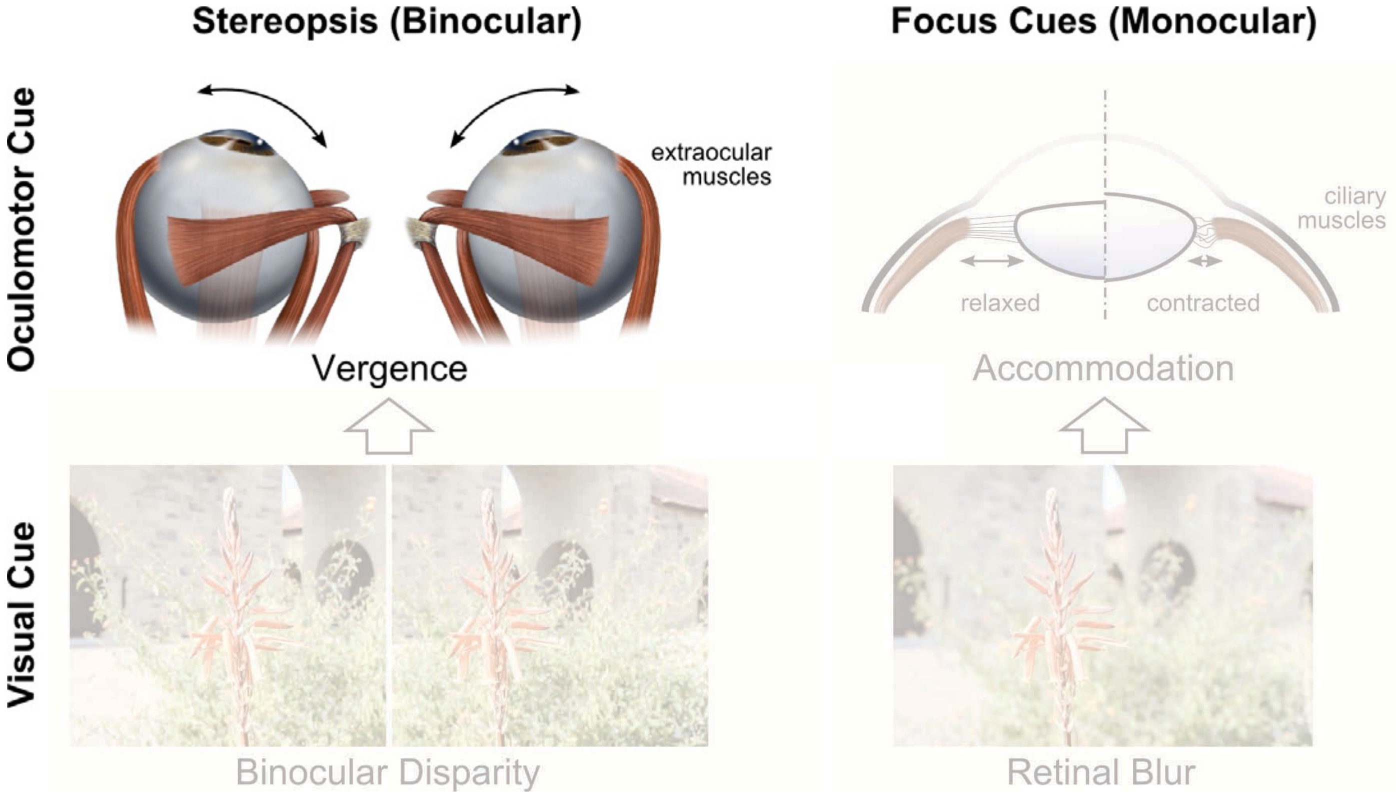
Relative Importance of Depth Cues



Cutting & Vishton, 1995

The Vergence-Accommodation Conflict (VAC)


Stereopsis (Binocular)
Focus Cues (Monocular)
Oculomotor Cue
extraocular muscles
ciliary muscles
relaxed
contracted
Vergence
Accommodation
Visual Cue
Binocular Disparity
Retinal Blur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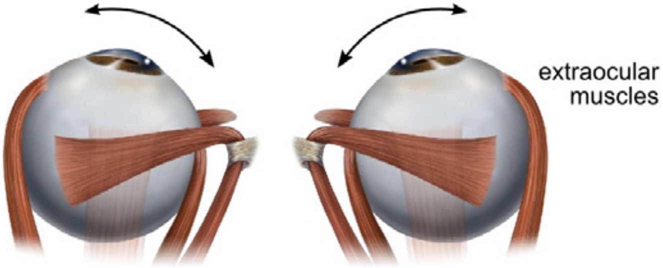
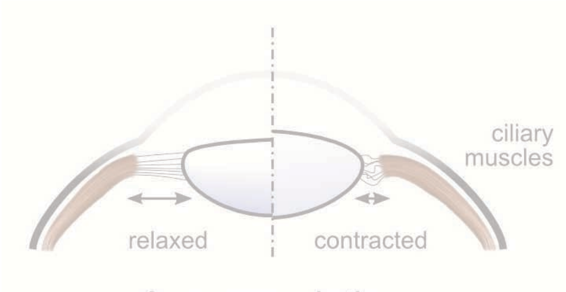
Stereopsis (Binocular)

Focus Cues (Monocular)

Oculomotor Cue



Vergence



Accommodation

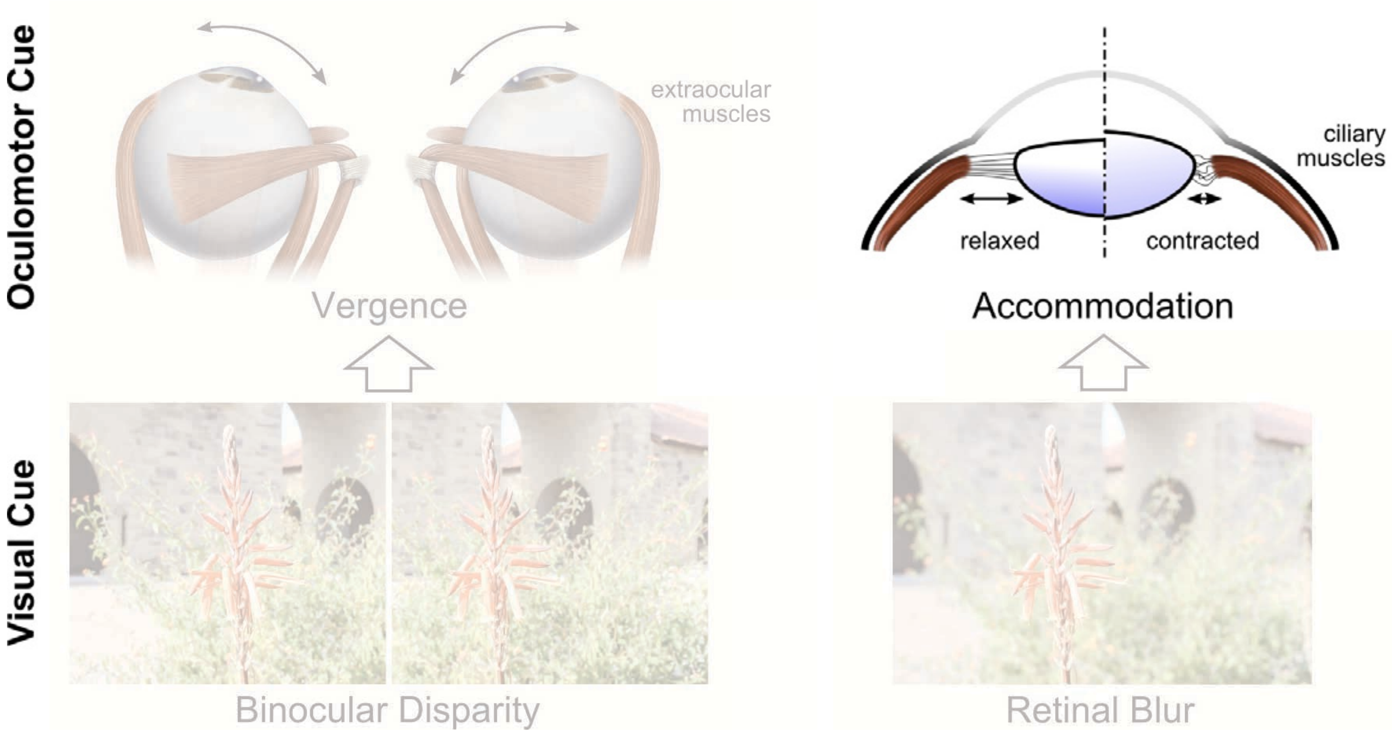
Visual Cue

Binocular Disparity

Retinal Blur

Stereopsis (Binocular)

Focus Cues (Monocular)



Oculomotor Cue

Visual Cue

extraocular muscles

Vergence

ciliary muscles

relaxed

contracted

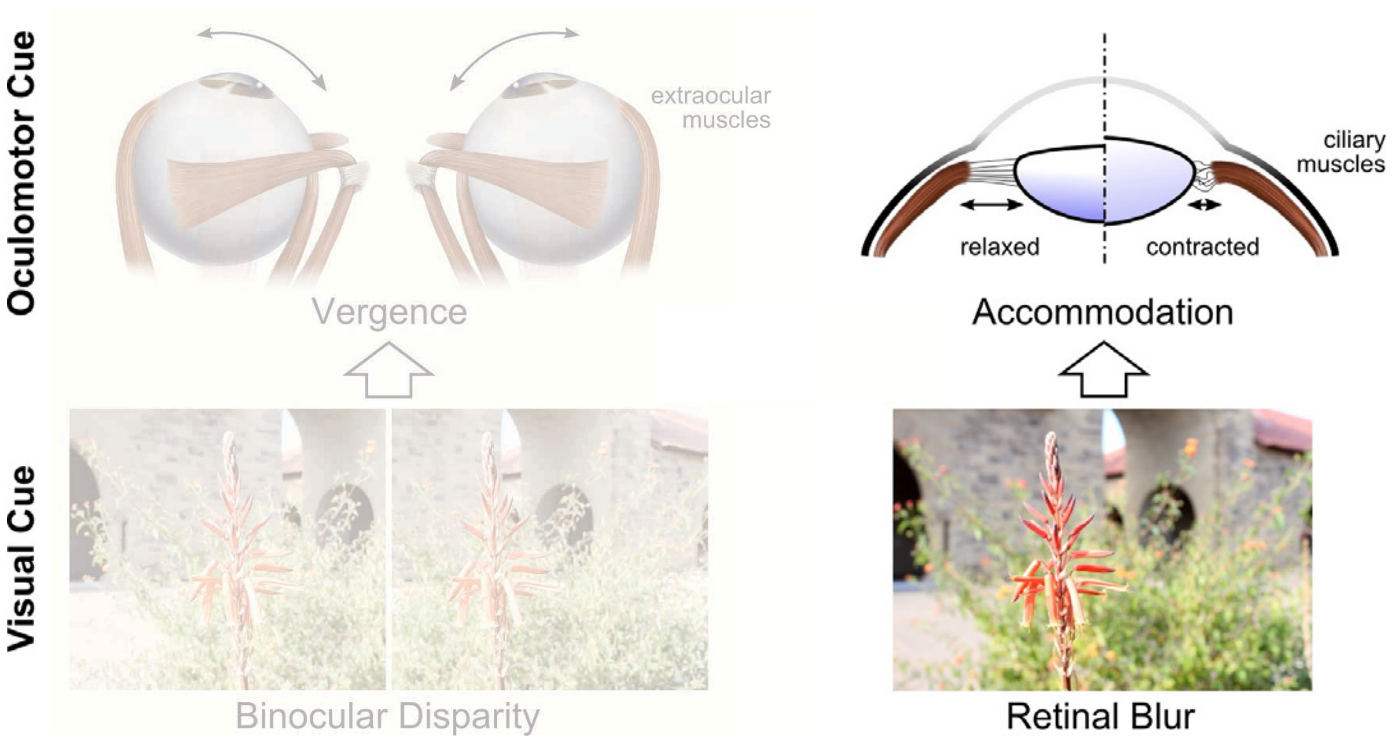
Accommodation

Binocular Disparity

Retinal Blur

Stereopsis (Binocular)

Focus Cues (Monocular)



Oculomotor Cue

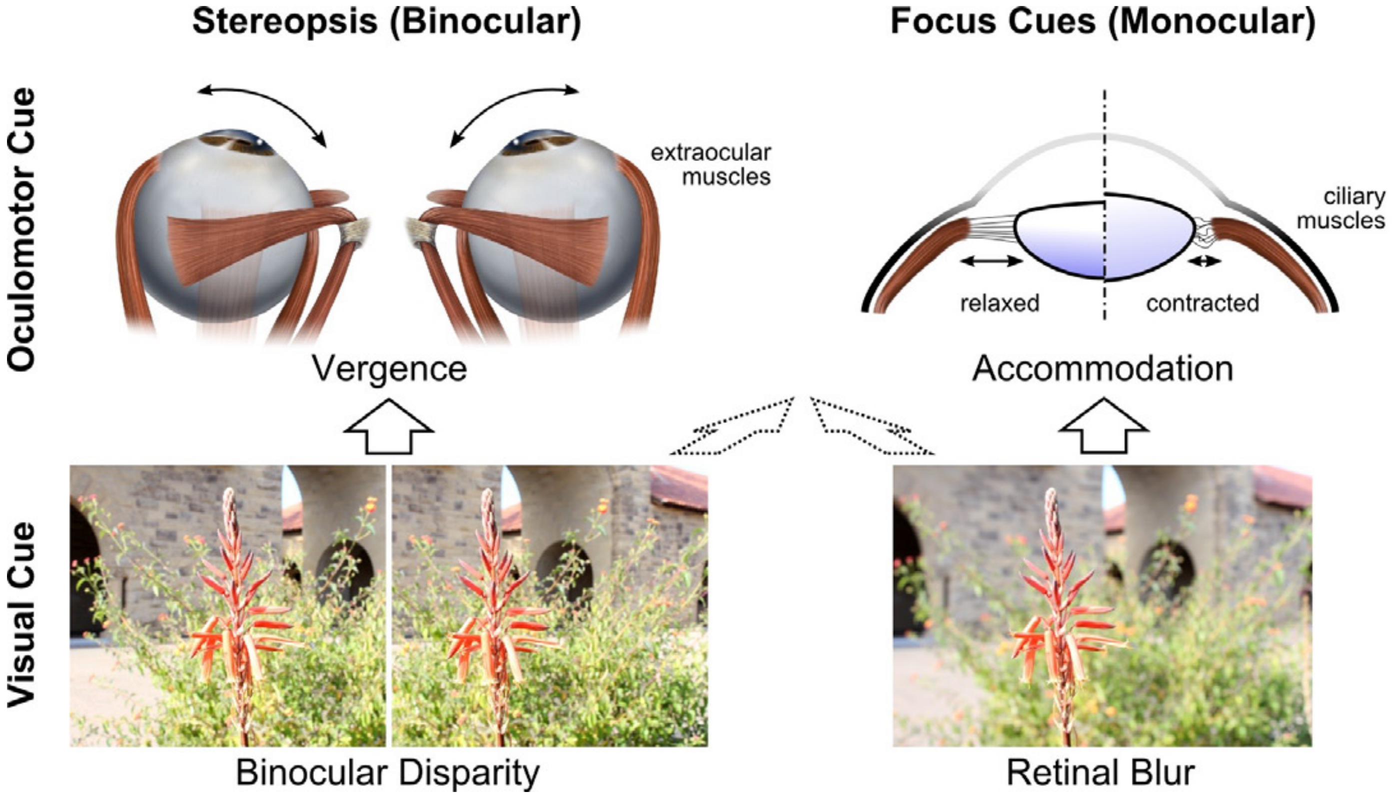
Vergence

Accommodation

Visual Cue

Binocular Disparity

Retinal Blur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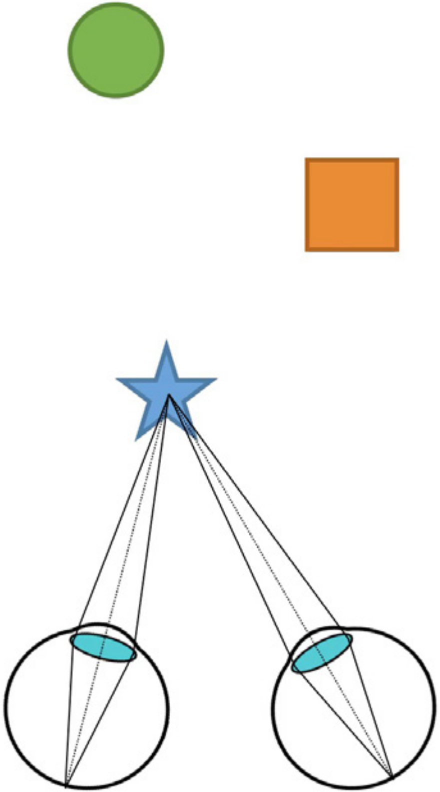
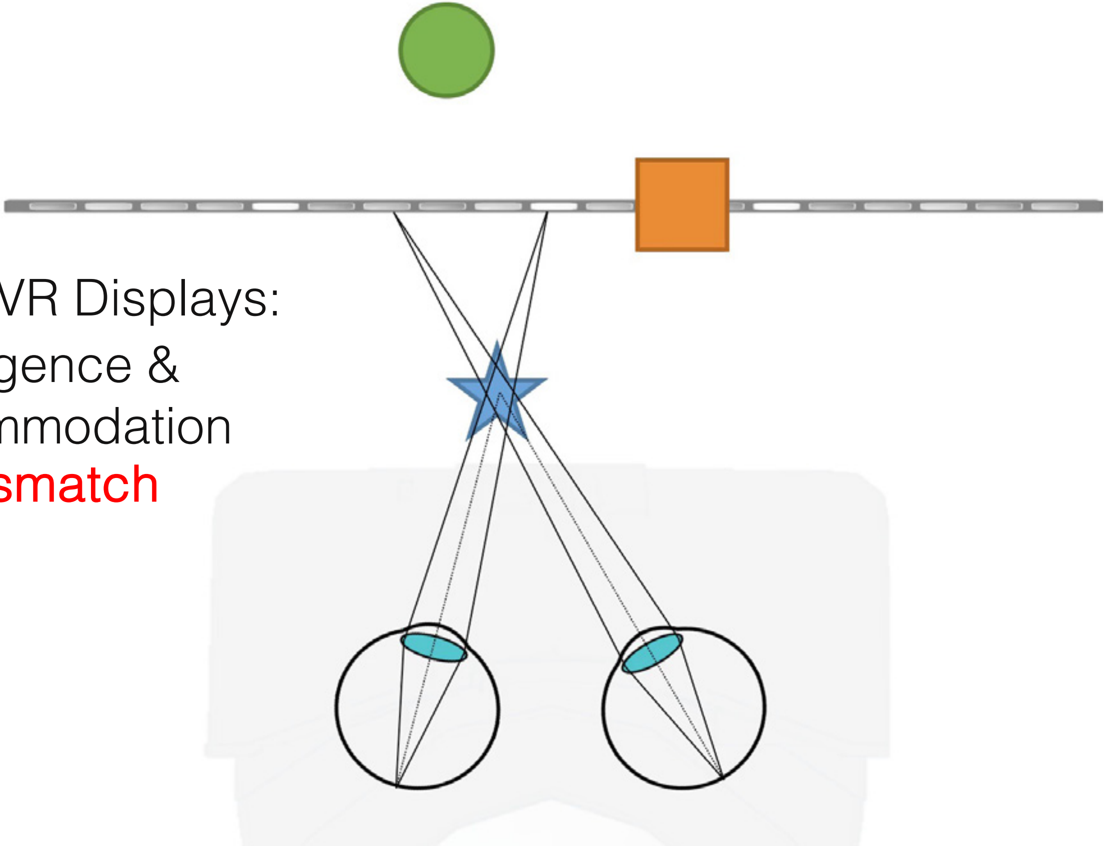


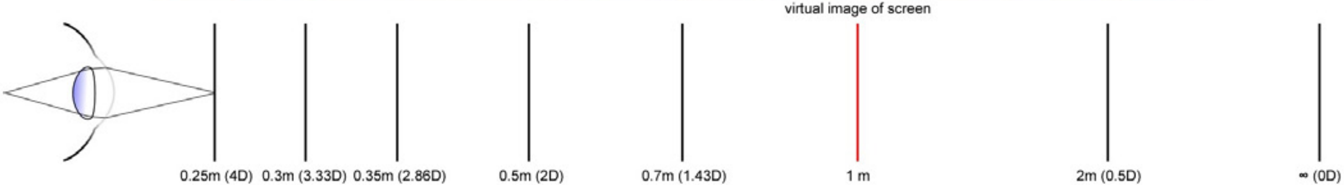
Real World:
Vergence &
Accommodation
Match!

Current VR Displays:
Vergence &
Accommodation
Mismatch



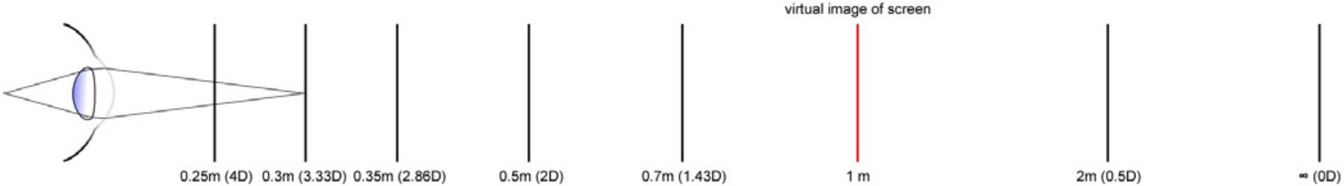
Accommodation and Retinal Blur

Conventional Display



Blur Gradient Driven Accommodation

Conventional Display



virtual image of screen

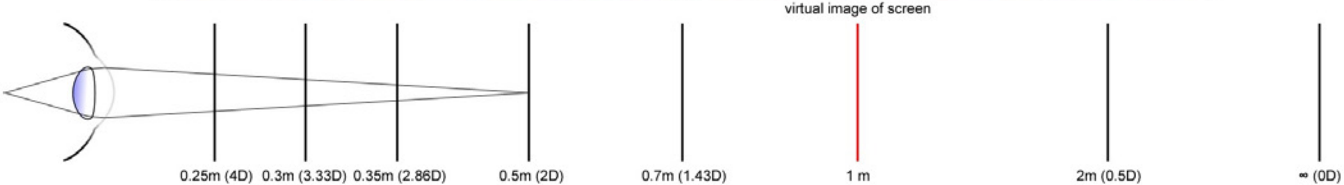
0.25m (4D) 0.3m (3.33D) 0.35m (2.86D) 0.5m (2D) 0.7m (1.43D) 1 m 2m (0.5D) ∞ (0D)

Blur Gradient Driven Accommodation

Conventional Display

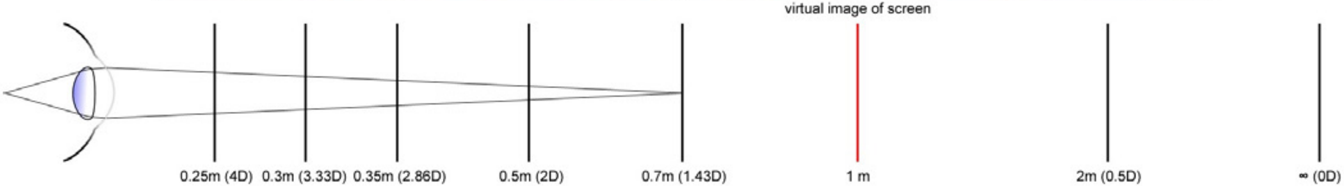
Blur Gradient Driven Accommodation

Conventional Display



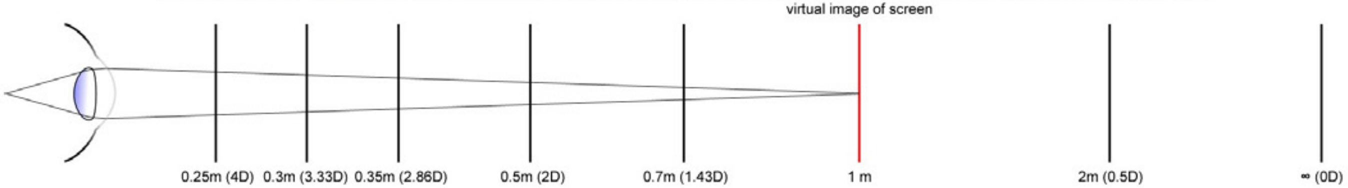
Blur Gradient Driven Accommodation

Conventional Display

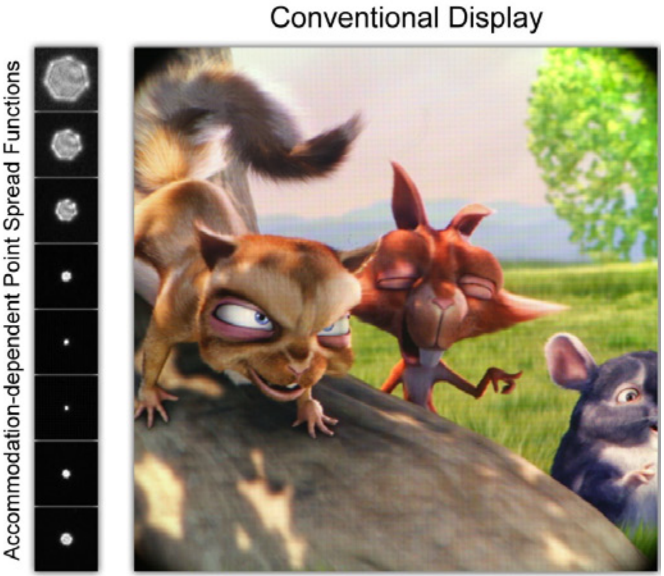


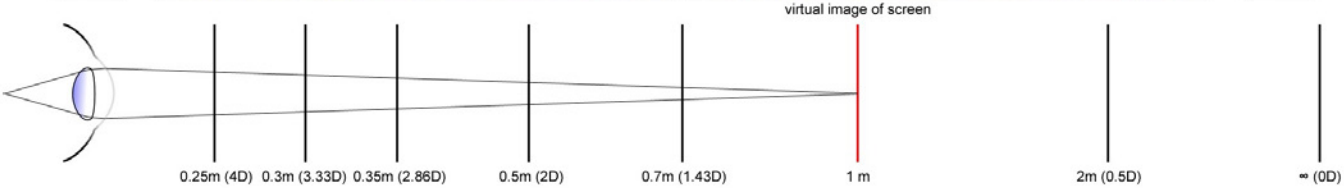
Blur Gradient Driven Accommodation

Conventional Display

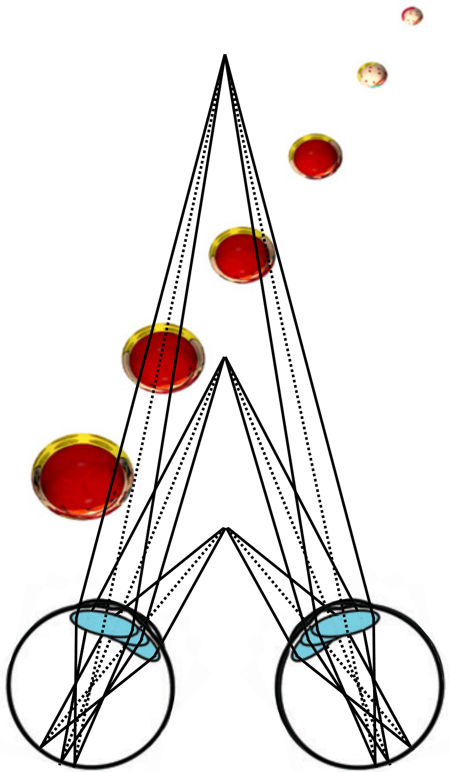


Blur Gradient Driven Accommodation



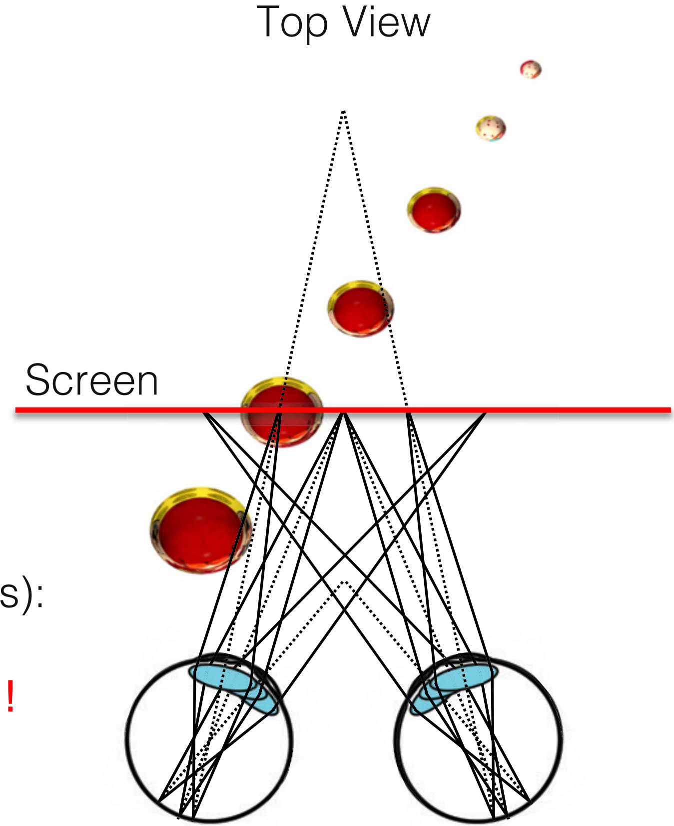


Top View



Real World:

Vergence & Accommodation Match!



Stereo Displays Today (including HMDs):

Vergence-Accommodation Mismatch!

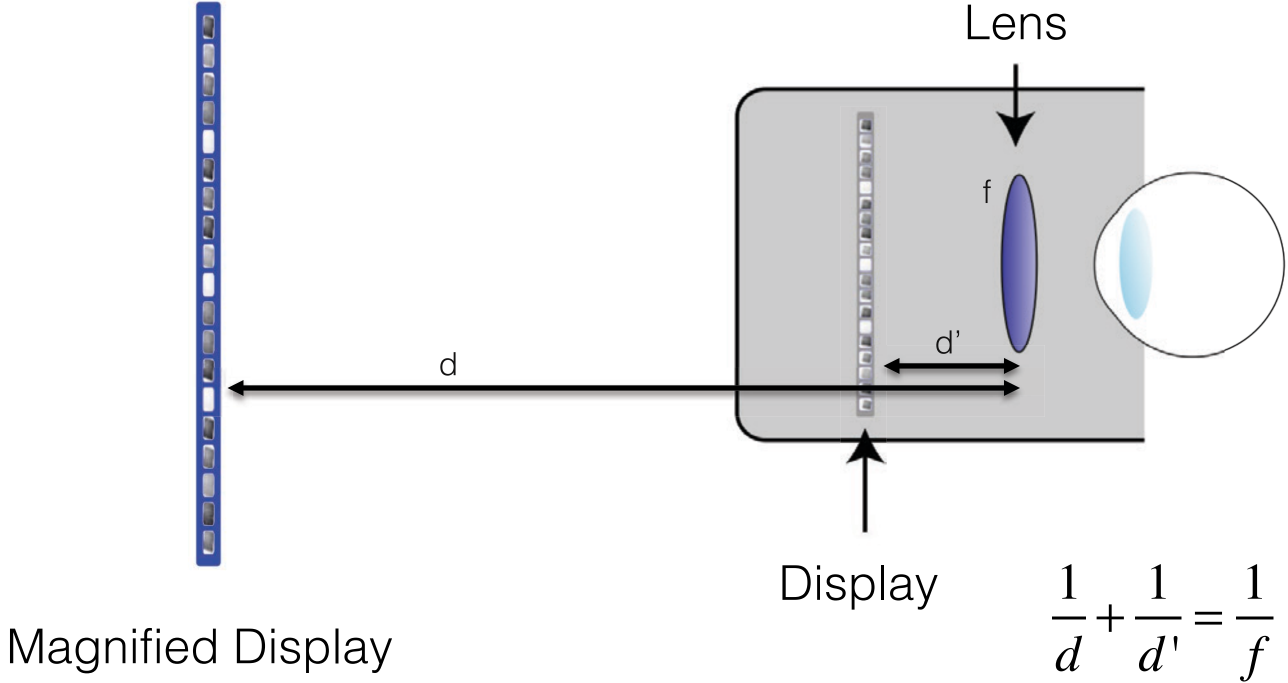
Consequences of Vergence-Accommodation Conflict

- Visual discomfort (eye tiredness & eyestrain) after ~20 minutes of stereoscopic depth judgments (Hoffman et al. 2008; Shibata et al. 2011)
- Degrades visual performance in terms of reaction times and acuity for stereoscopic vision (Hoffman et al. 2008; Konrad et al. 2016; Johnson et al. 2016)
- Short-term effects: *double vision (diplopia), reduced visual clarity*

VR Displays with Focus Cues

1. Gaze-contingent Varifocal Displays

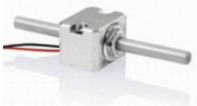
Fixed Focus Displays



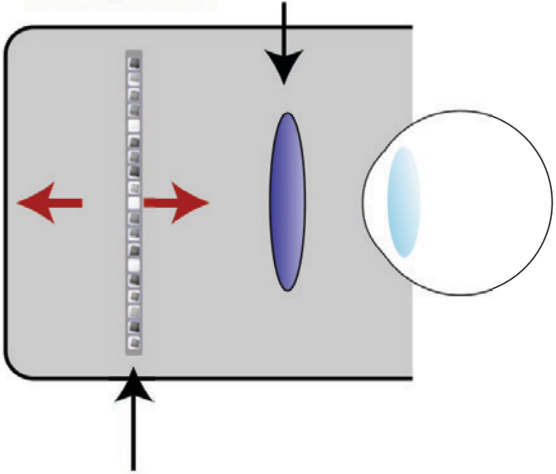
$$\frac{1}{d}+\frac{1}{d'}=\frac{1}{f}$$

Varifocal Displays

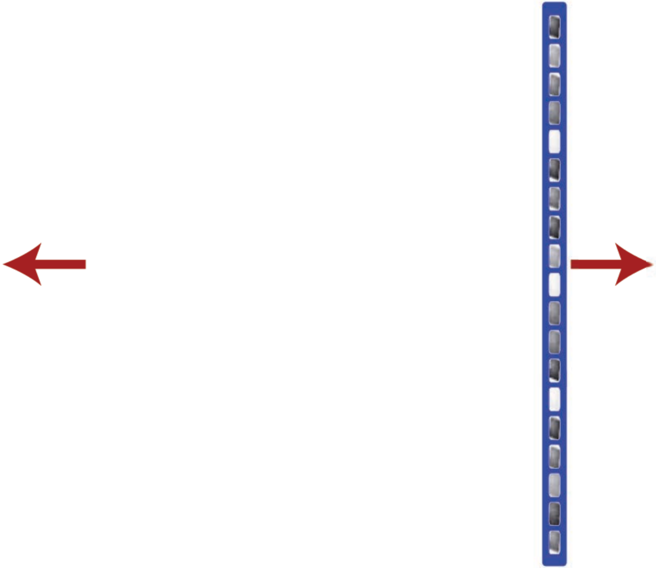
actuator → vary d'



Lens



Display

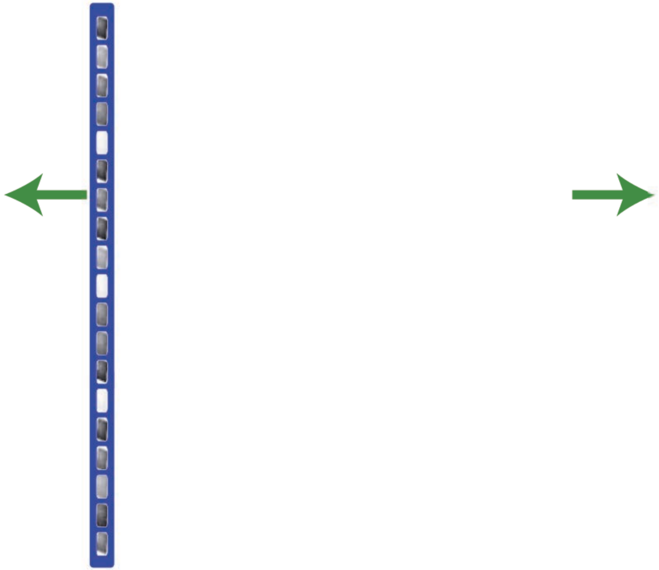


Magnified Display

$$\frac{1}{d}+\frac{1}{\boxed{d'}}=\frac{1}{f}$$

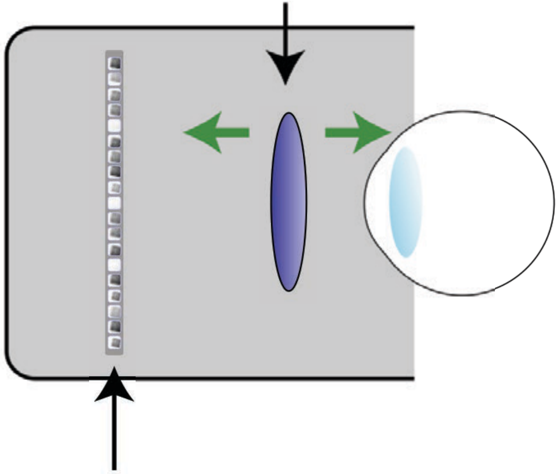
Varifocal Displays

focus-tunable
lens → vary f



Magnified Display

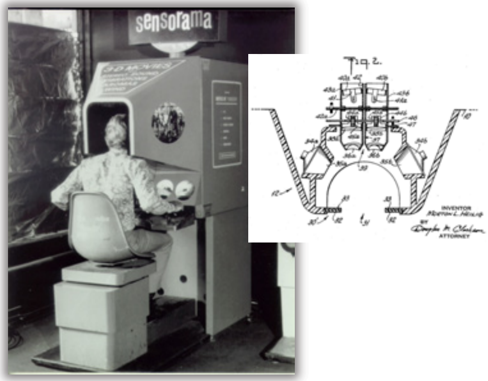
Lens



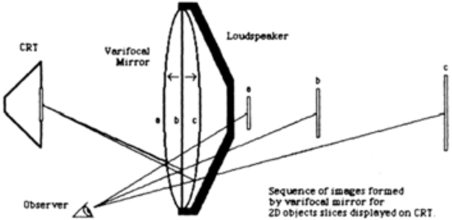
Display

$$\frac{1}{d}+\frac{1}{d'}=\frac{1}{\boxed{f}}$$

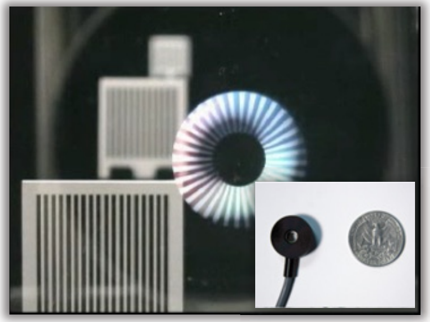
Varifocal Displays - History



manual focus adjustment
Heilig 1962

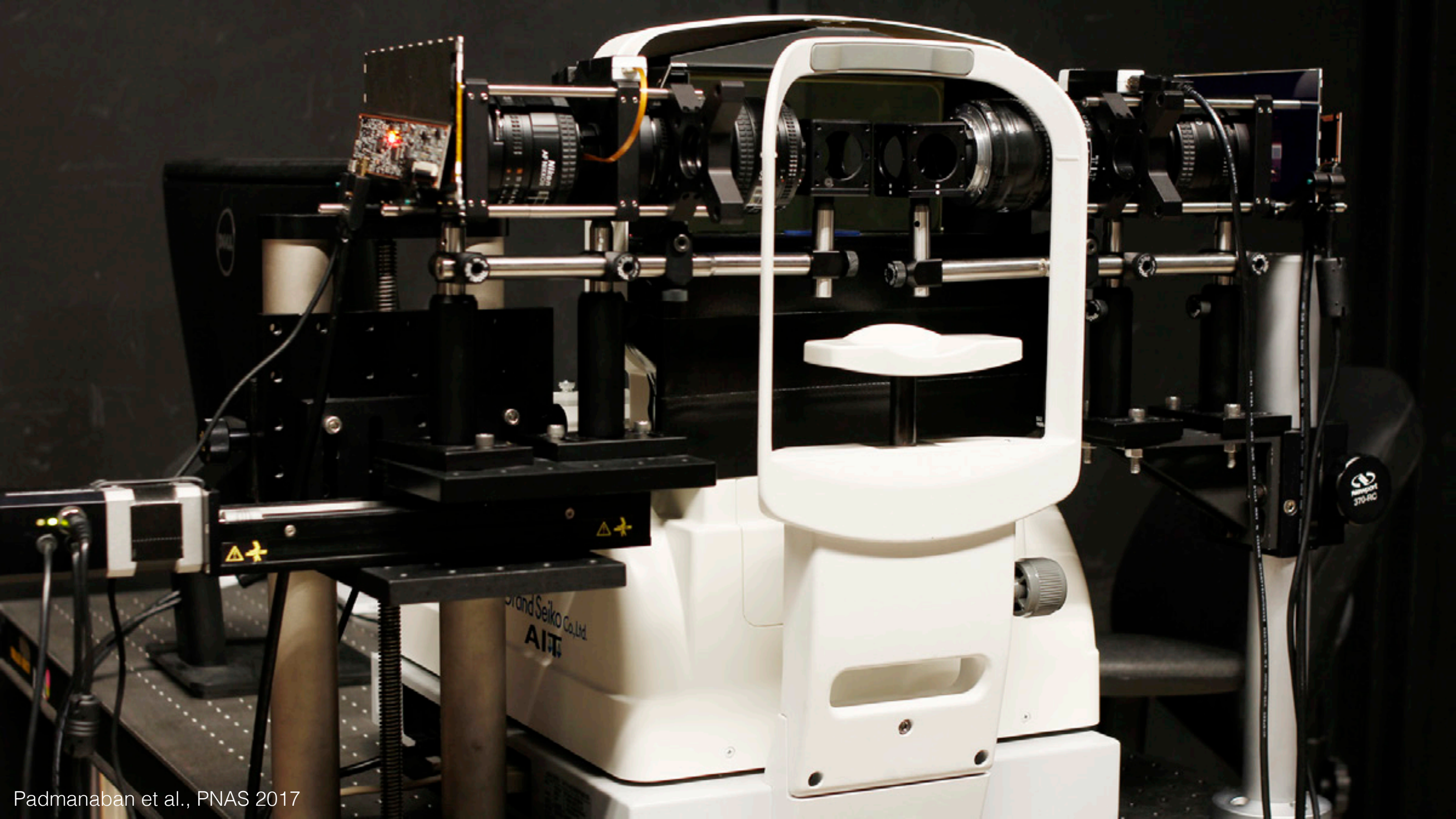


automatic focus adjustment
Mills 1984

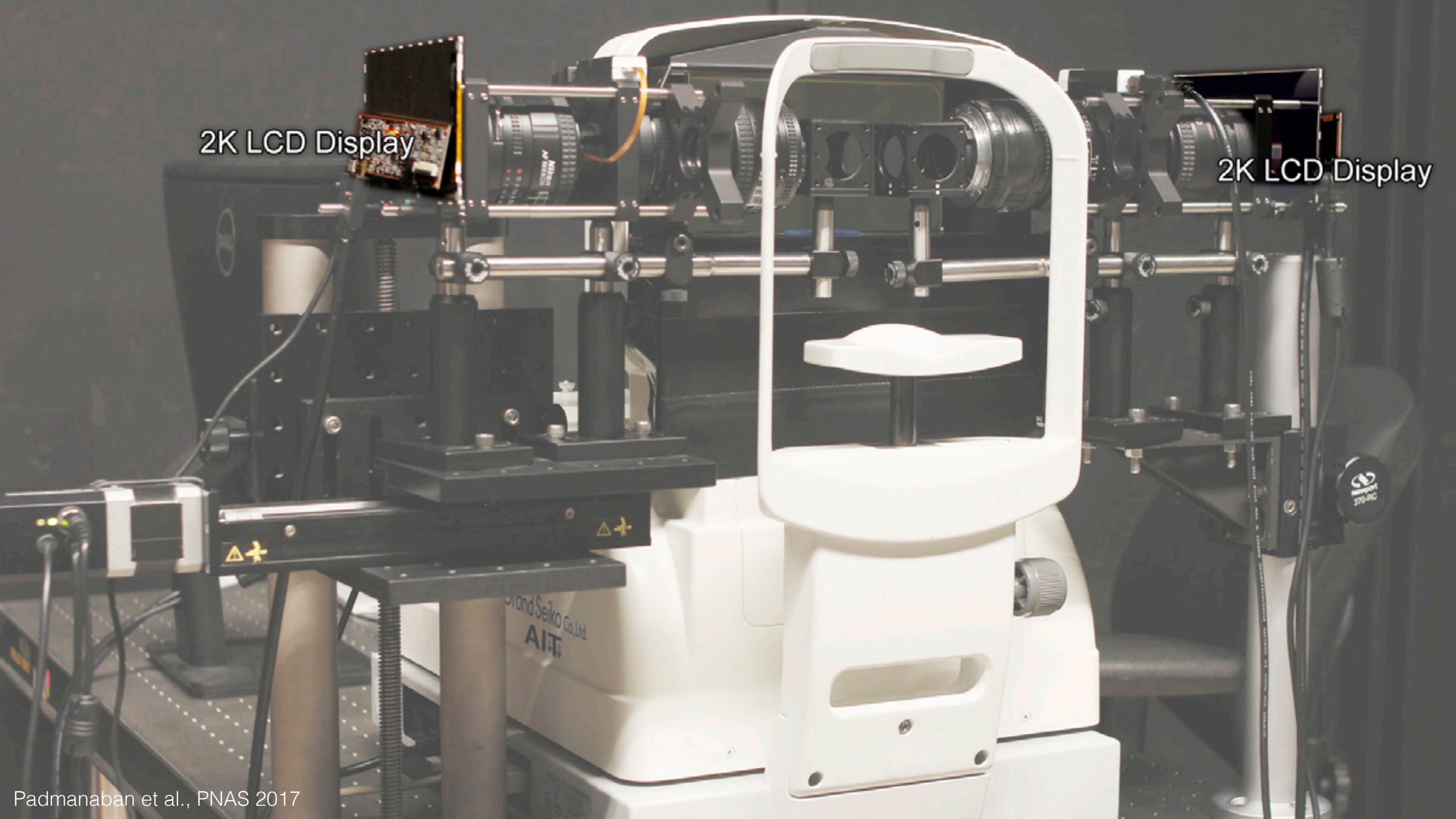


deformabe mirrors & lenses
McQuaide 2003, Liu 2008

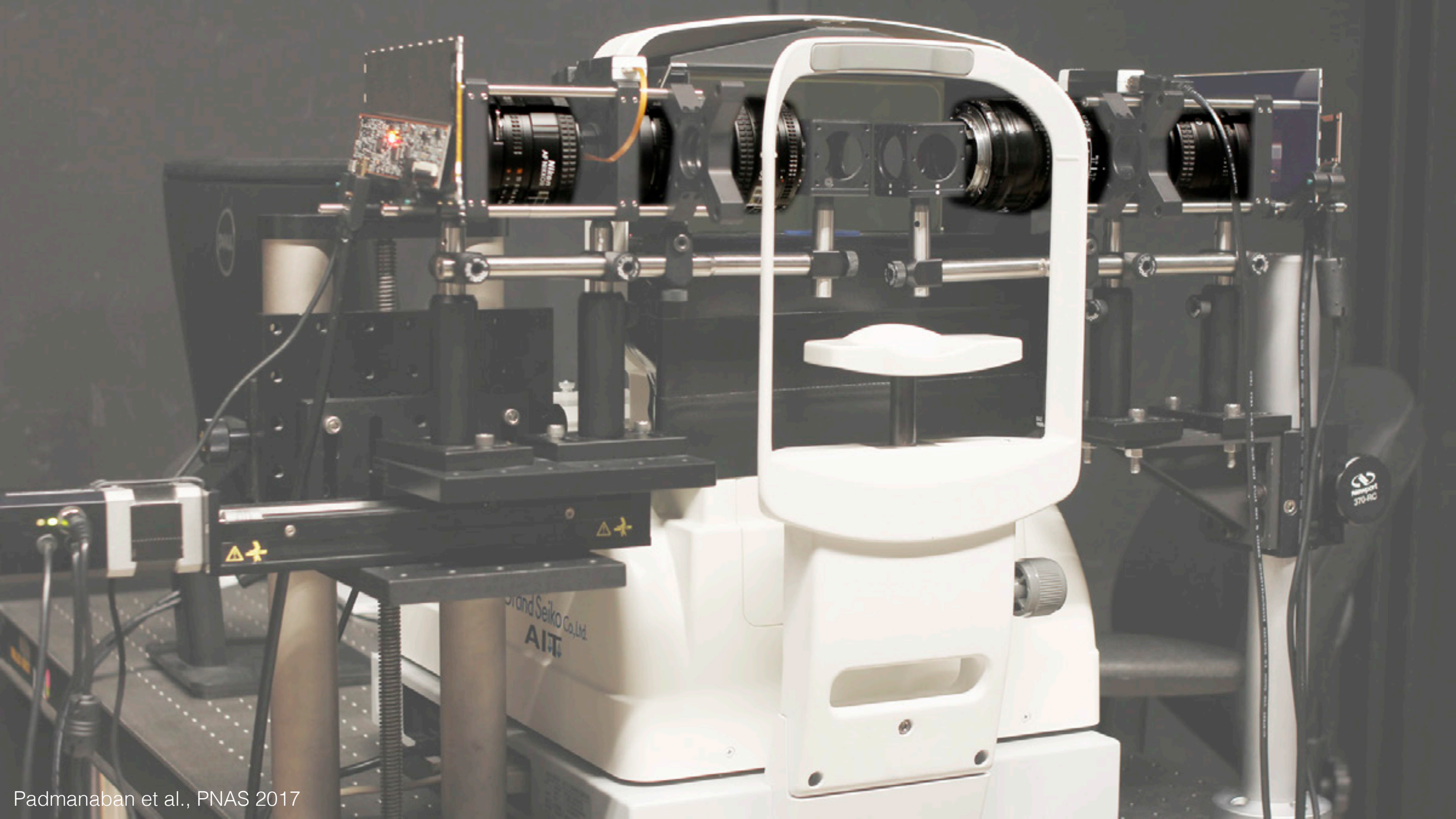
- M. Heilig “Sensorama”, 1962 (US Patent #3,050,870)
- P. Mills, H. Fuchs, S. Pizer “High-Speed Interaction On A Vibrating-Mirror 3D Display”, SPIE 0507 1984
- S. Shiwa, K. Omura, F. Kishino “Proposal for a 3-D display with accommodative compensation: 3DDAC”, JSID 1996
- S. McQuaide, E. Seibel, J. Kelly, B. Schowengerdt, T. Furness “A retinal scanning display system that produces multiple focal planes with a deformable membrane mirror”, Displays 2003
- S. Liu, D. Cheng, H. Hua “An optical see-through head mounted display with addressable focal planes”, Proc. ISMAR 2008



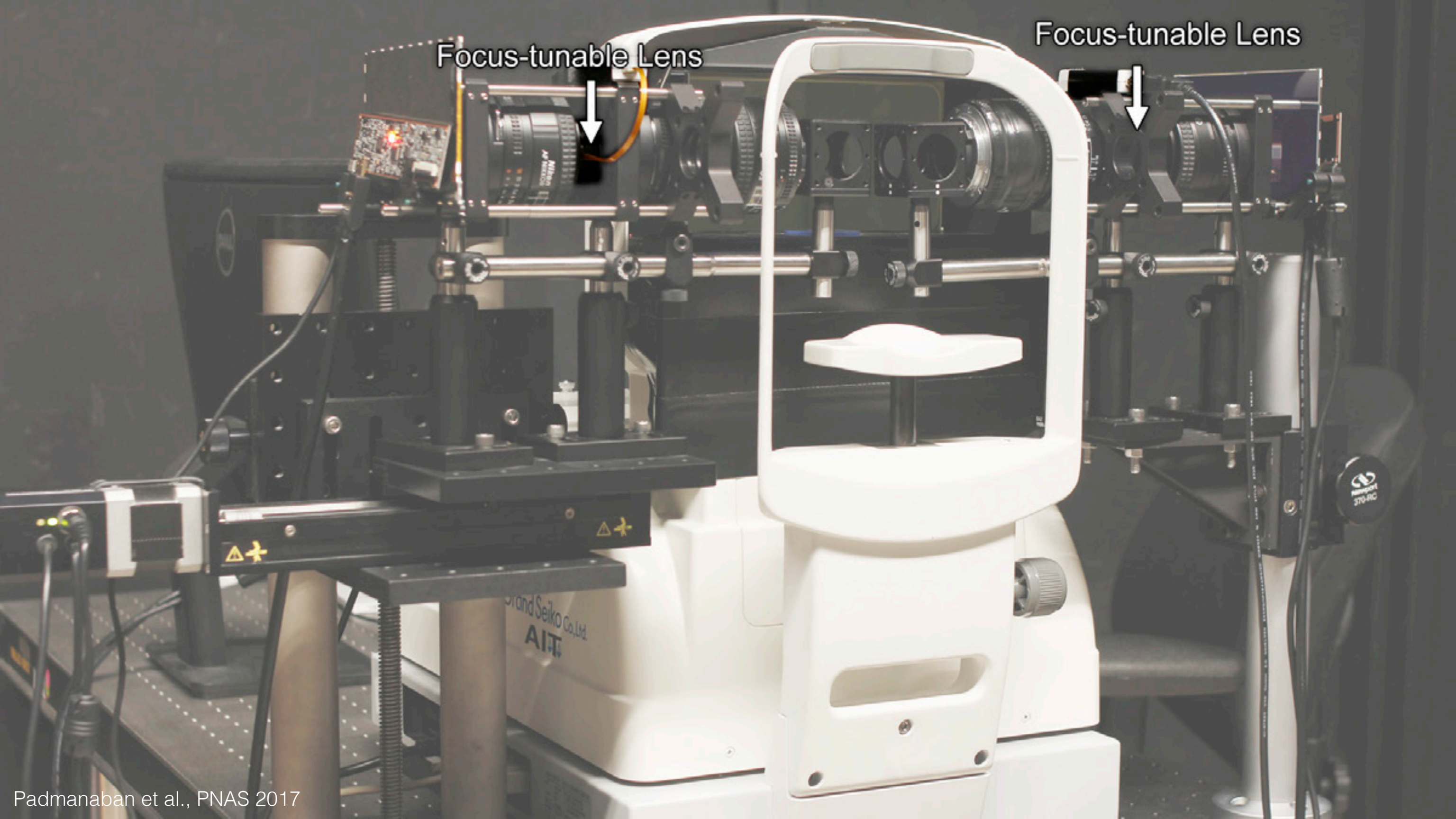
Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017



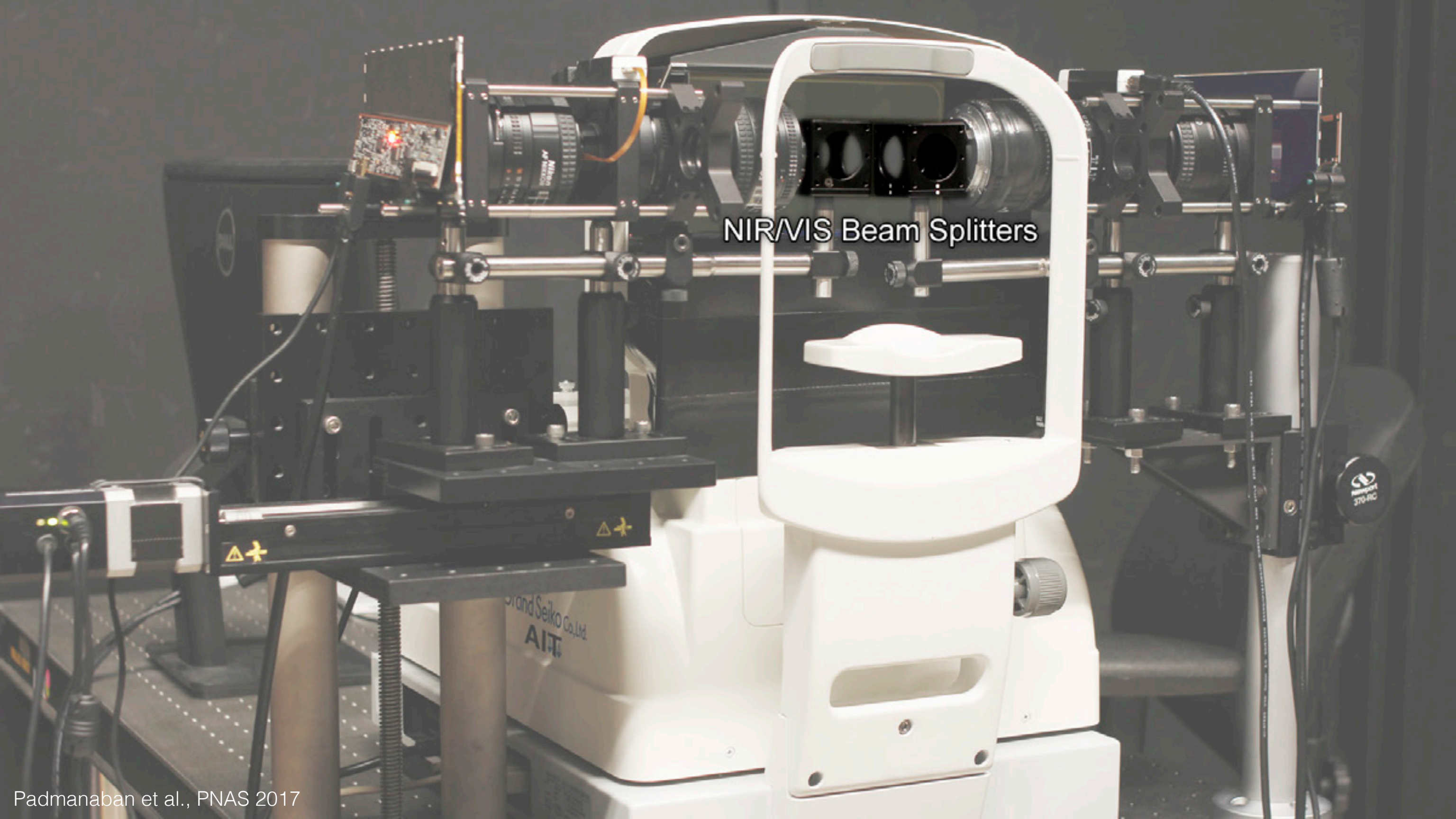
Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017



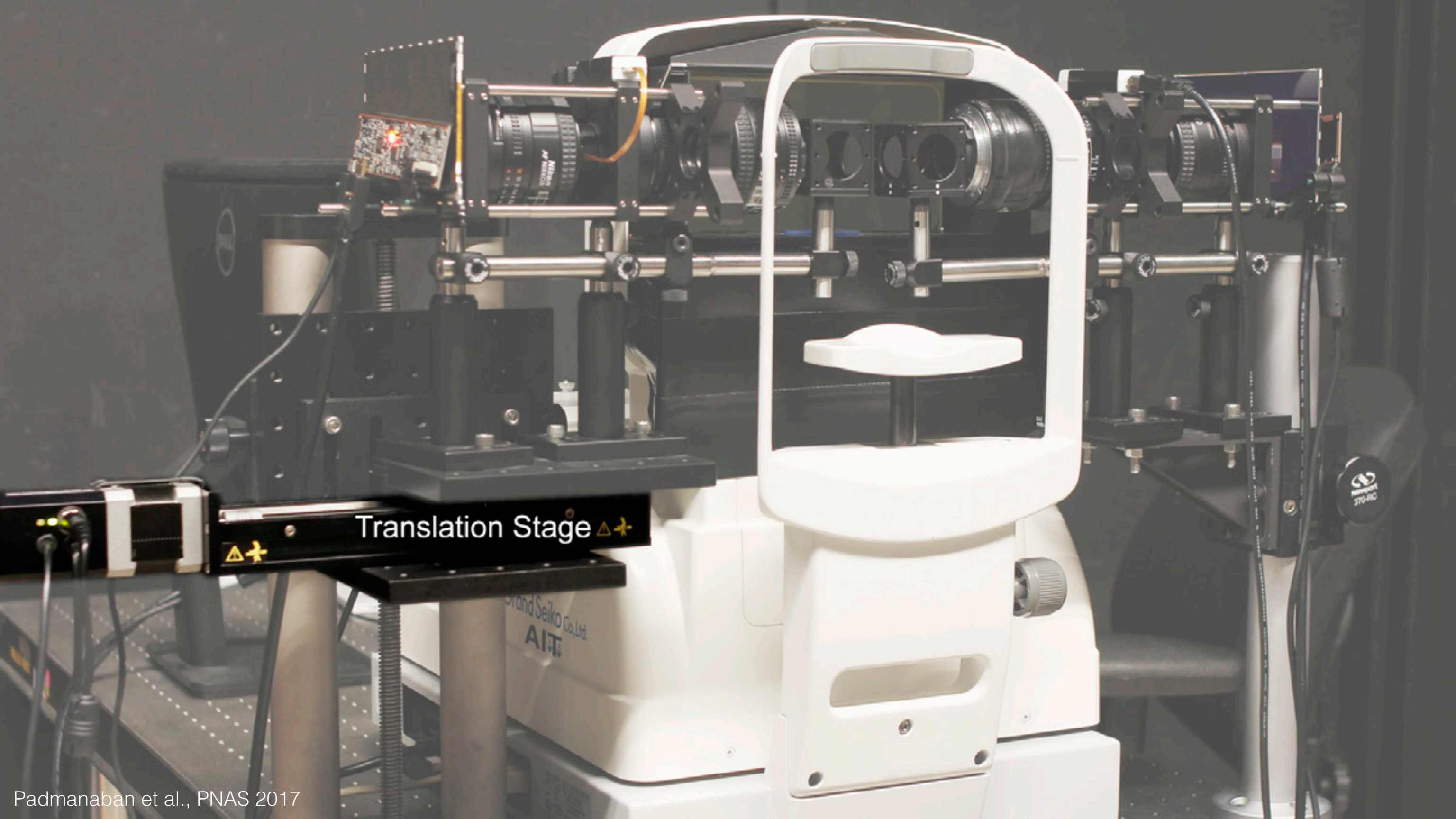
Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017



Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017



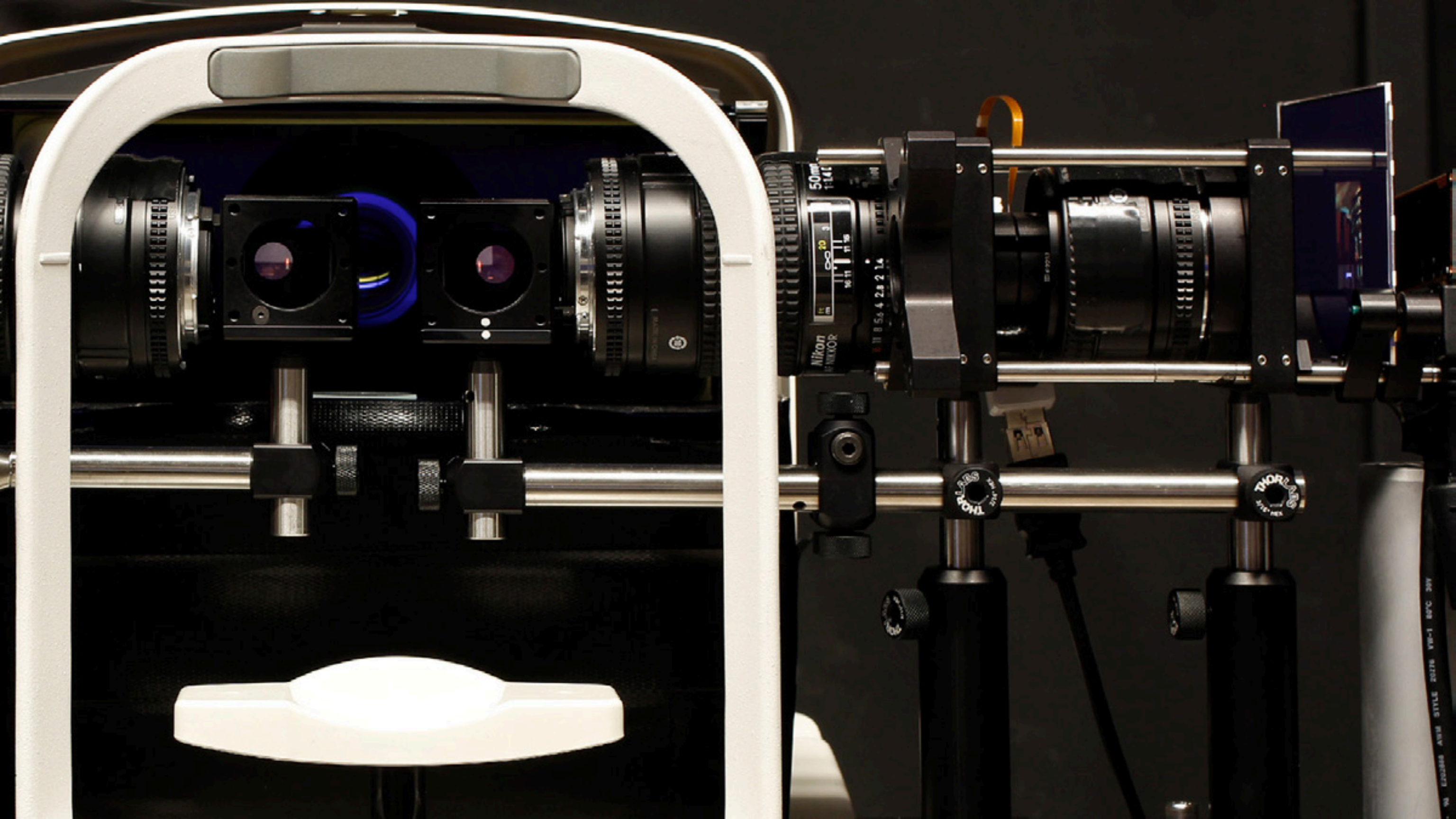
Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

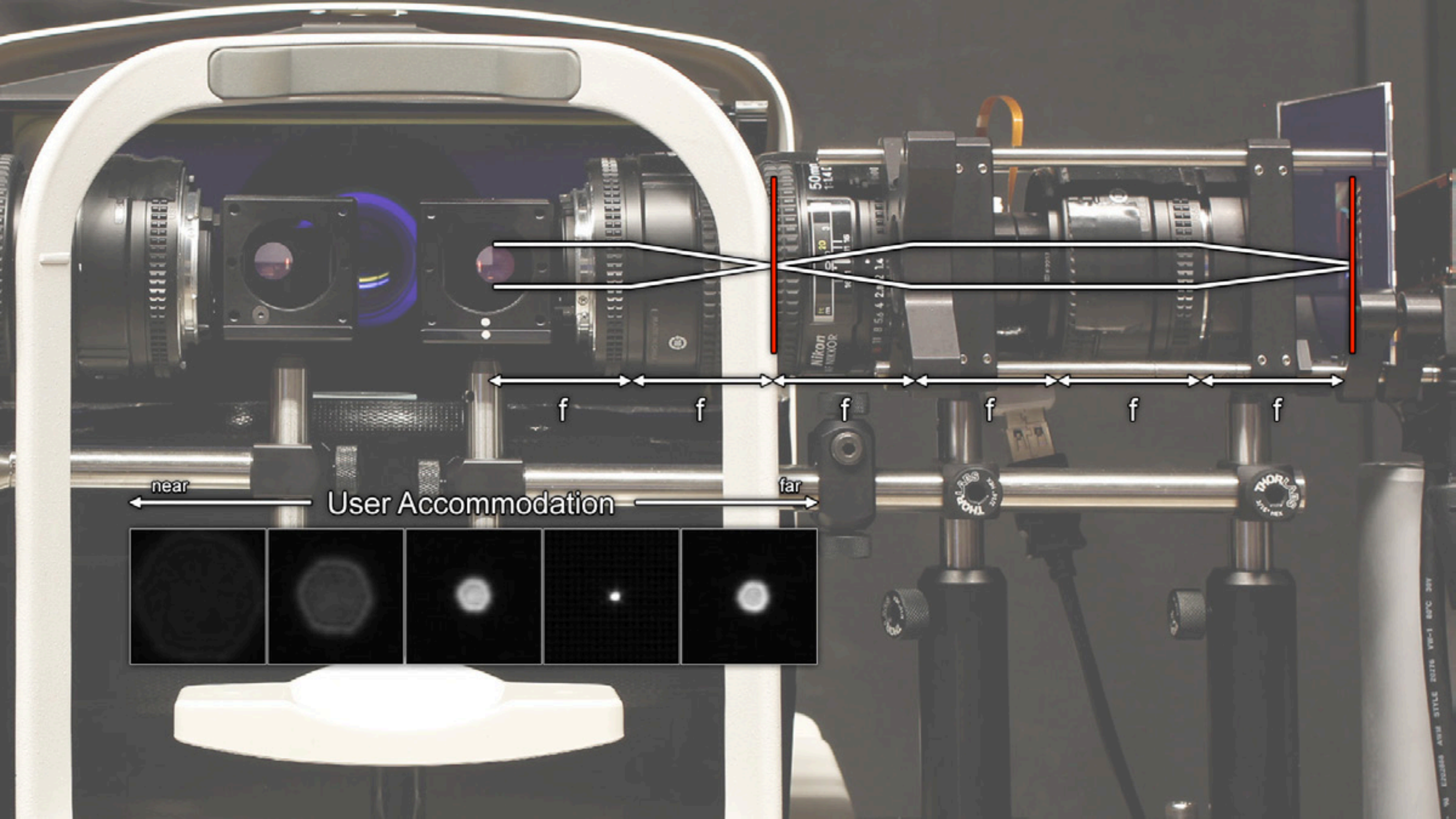


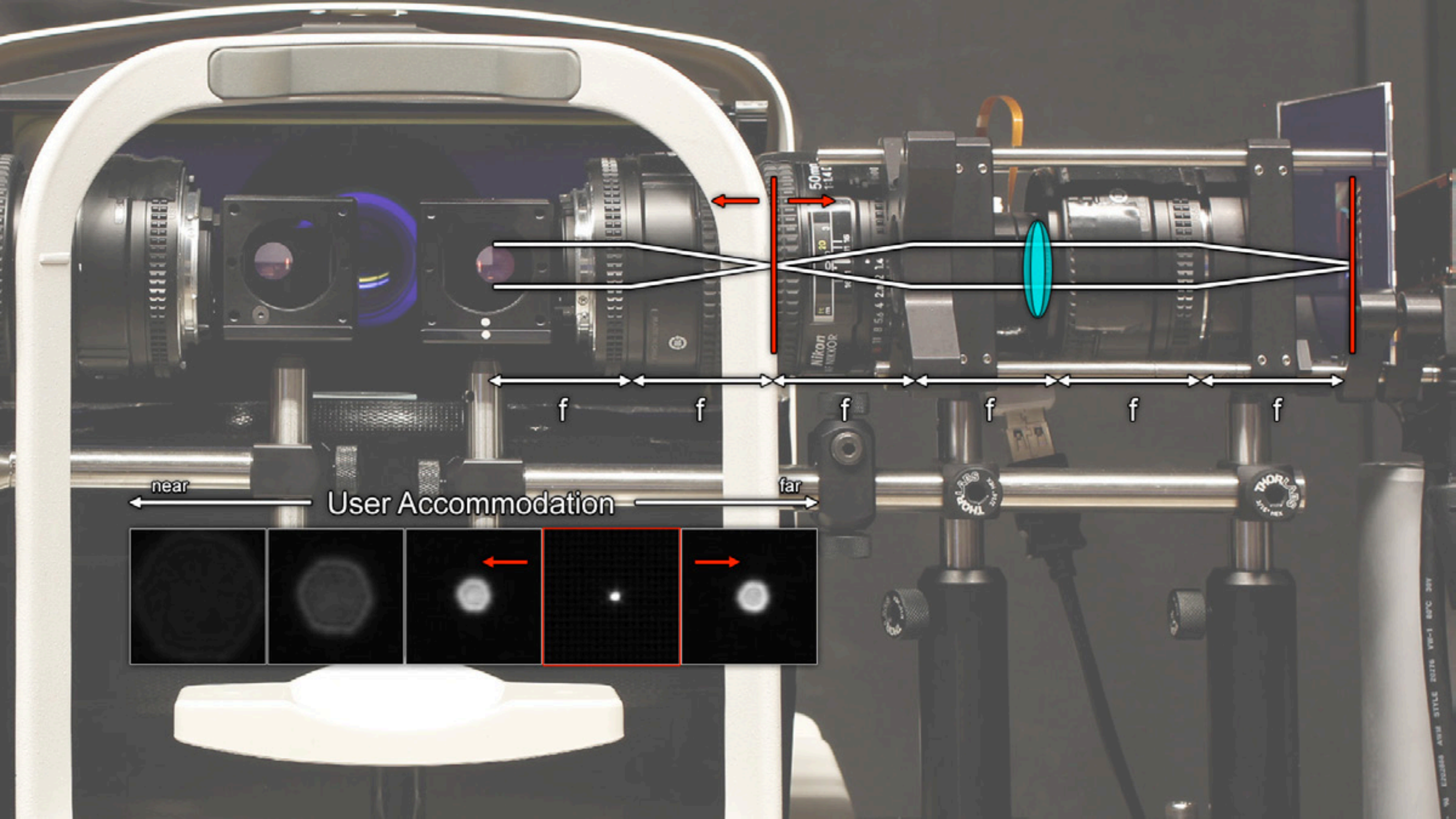
Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

Autorefractor

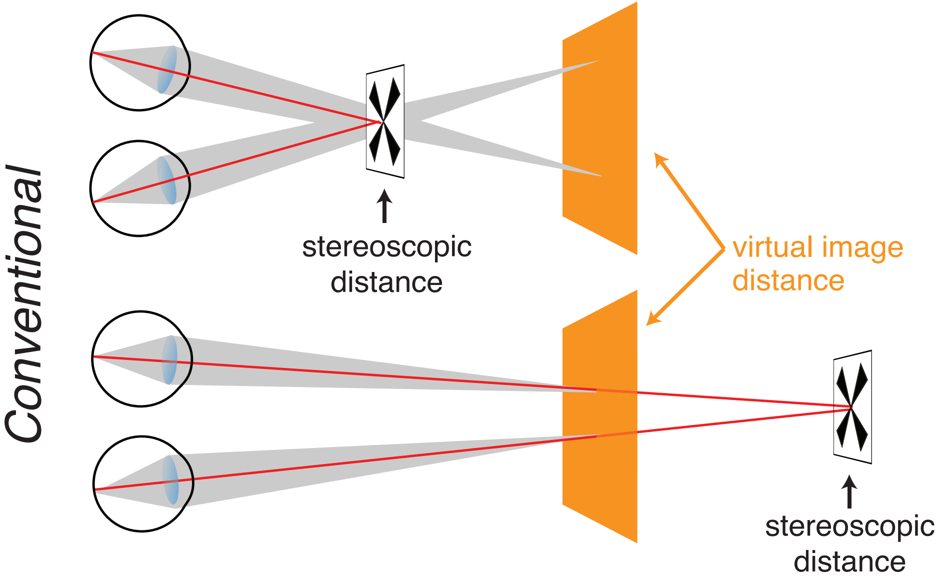
Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017


50mm 1:1.4
Nikon
AF NIKKOR
THORLABS
THORLABS


f
f
f
f
f
f
near
User Accommodation
far

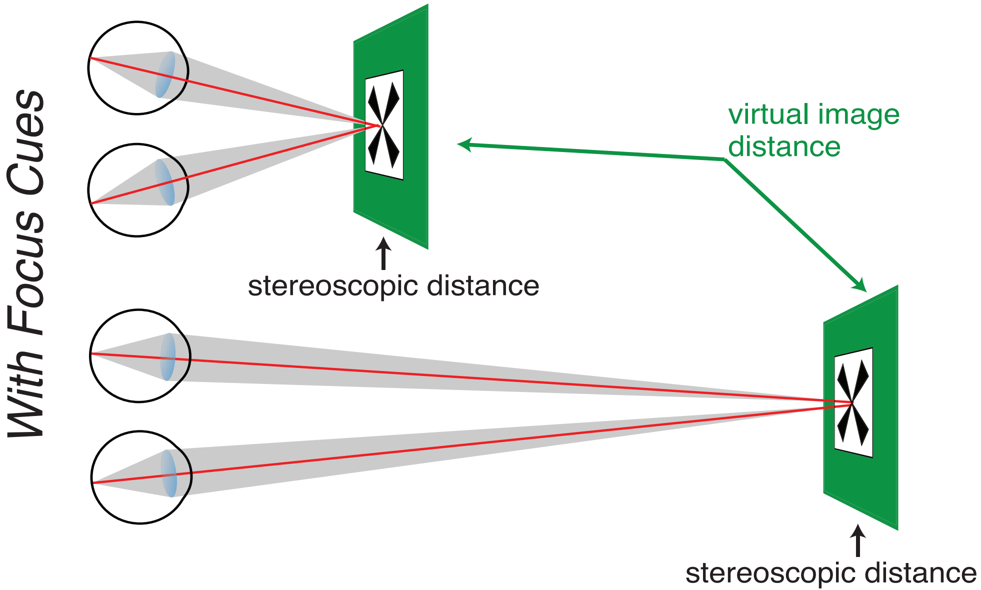

f
f
f
f
f
f
near
User Accommodation
far

Conventional Stereo / VR Display



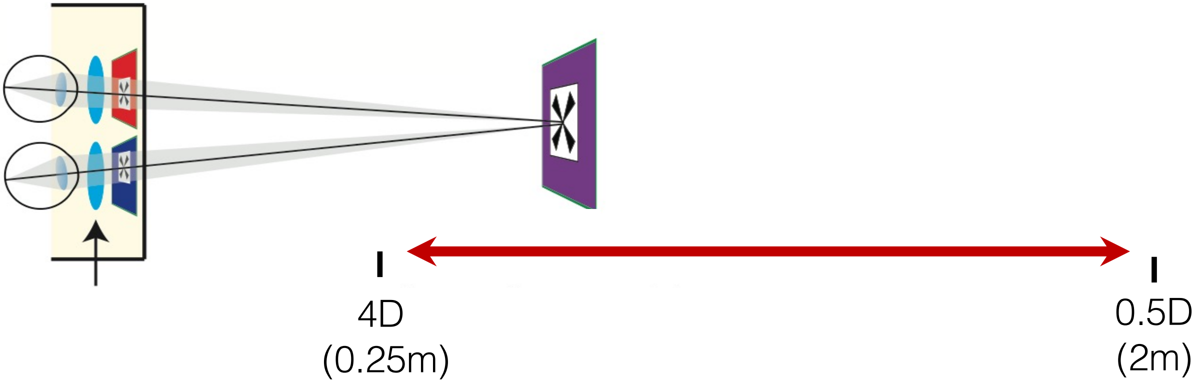
vergence
accommodation

Removing VAC with Varifocal Displays



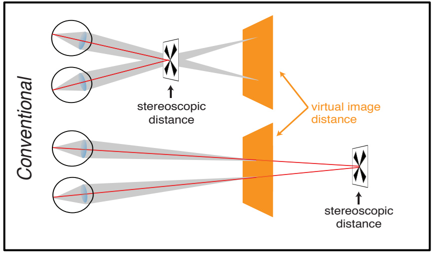
vergence
accommodation

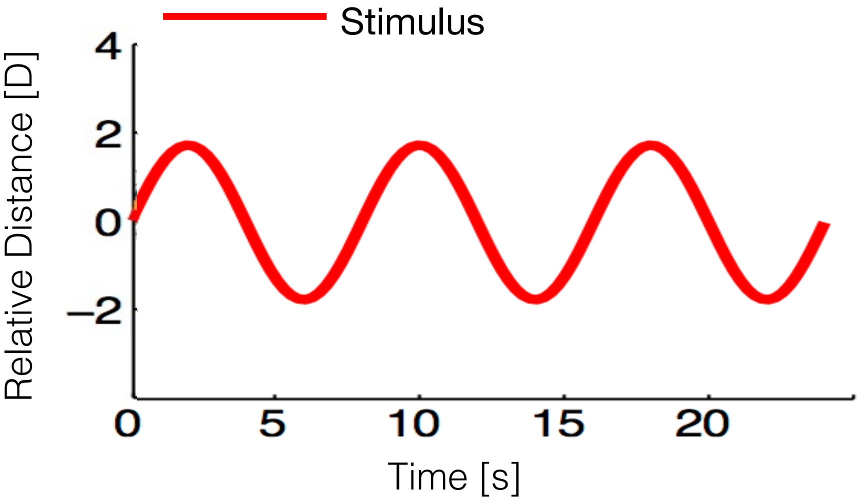
Task



Follow the target with your eyes

Accommodative Response





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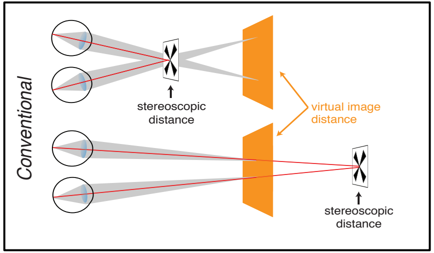
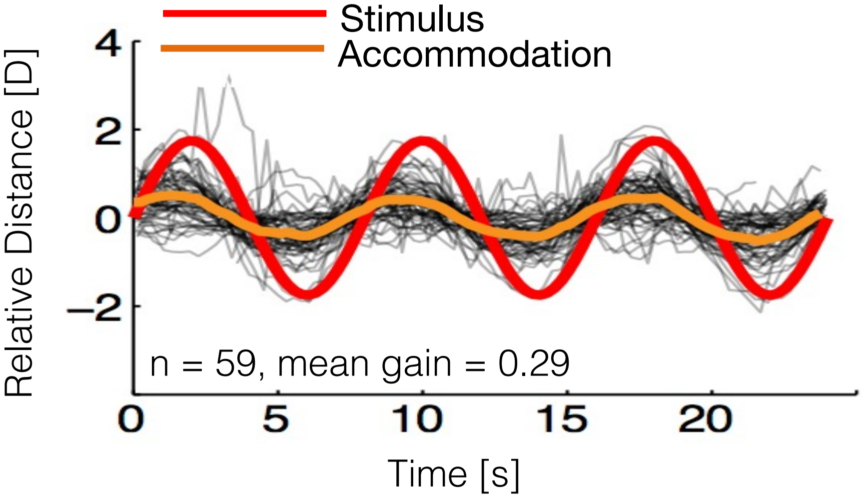
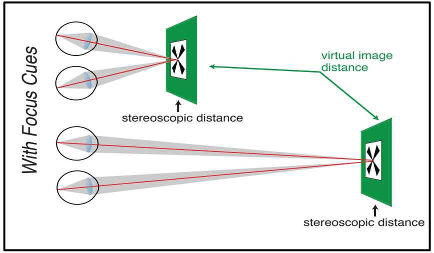
Accommodative Response

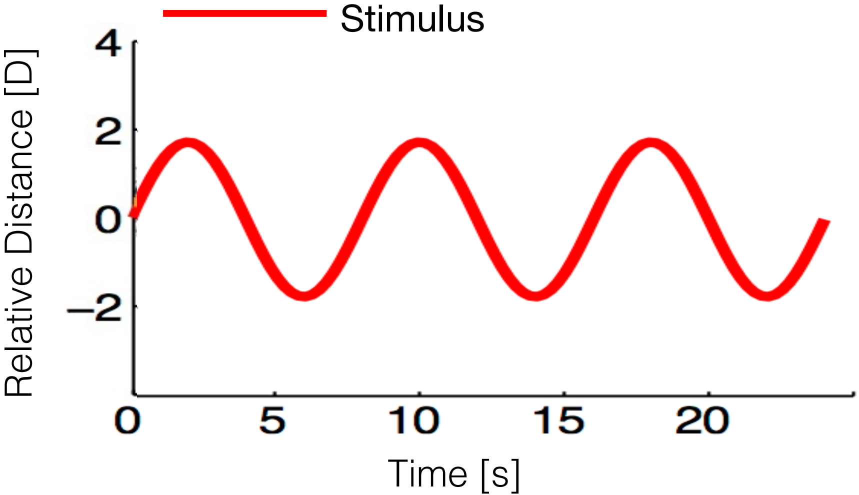




Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

Accommodative Response





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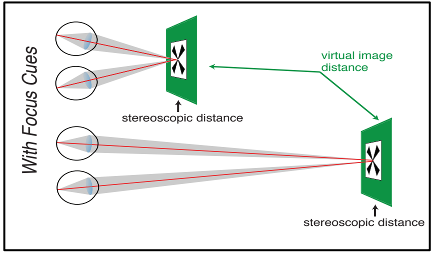
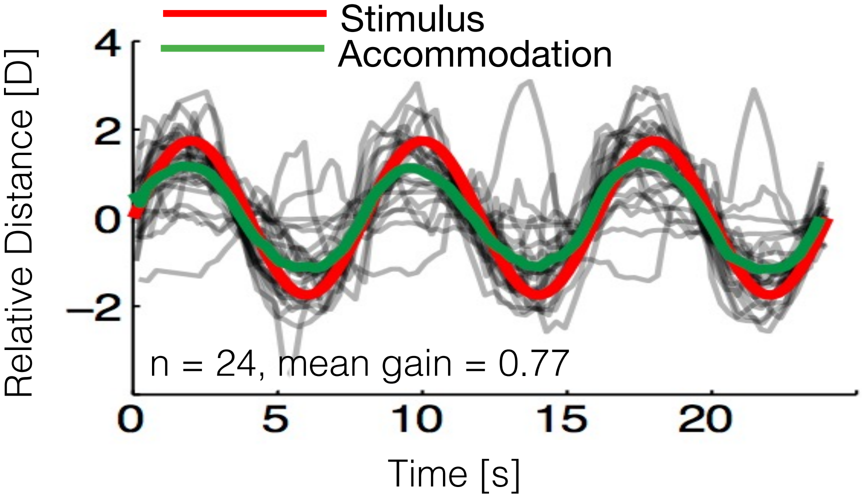
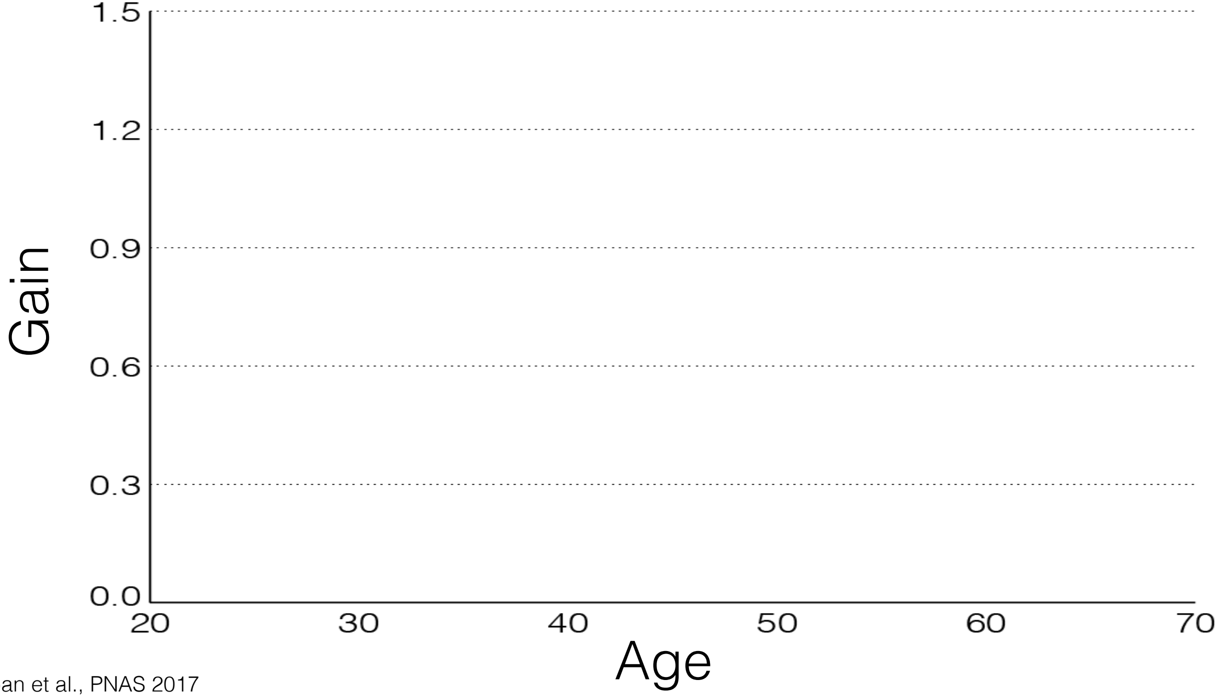
Accommodative Response





Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

Do Presbyopes Benefit from Dynamic Focus?



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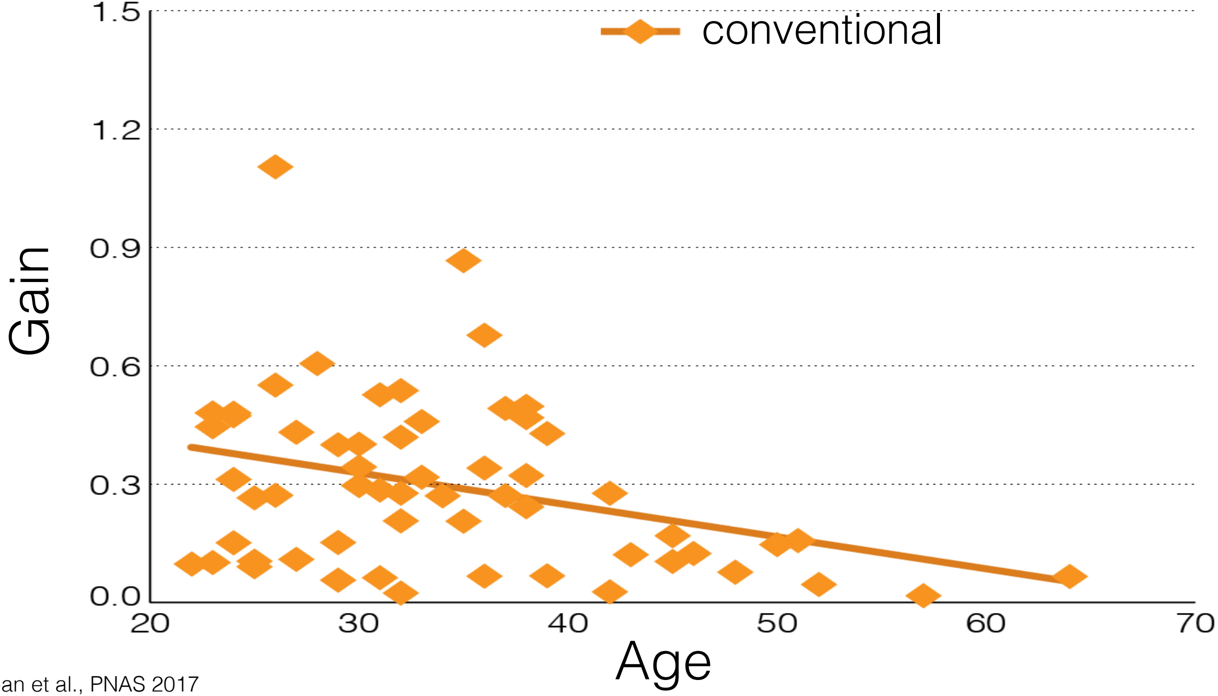

Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

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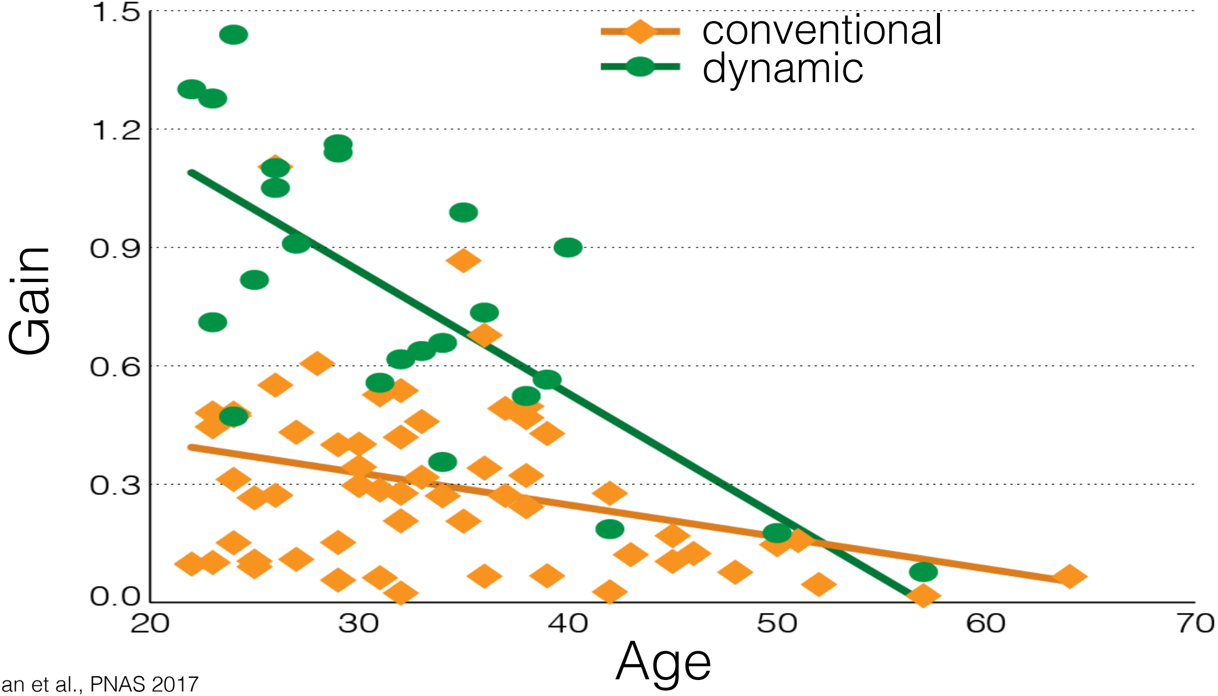

Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

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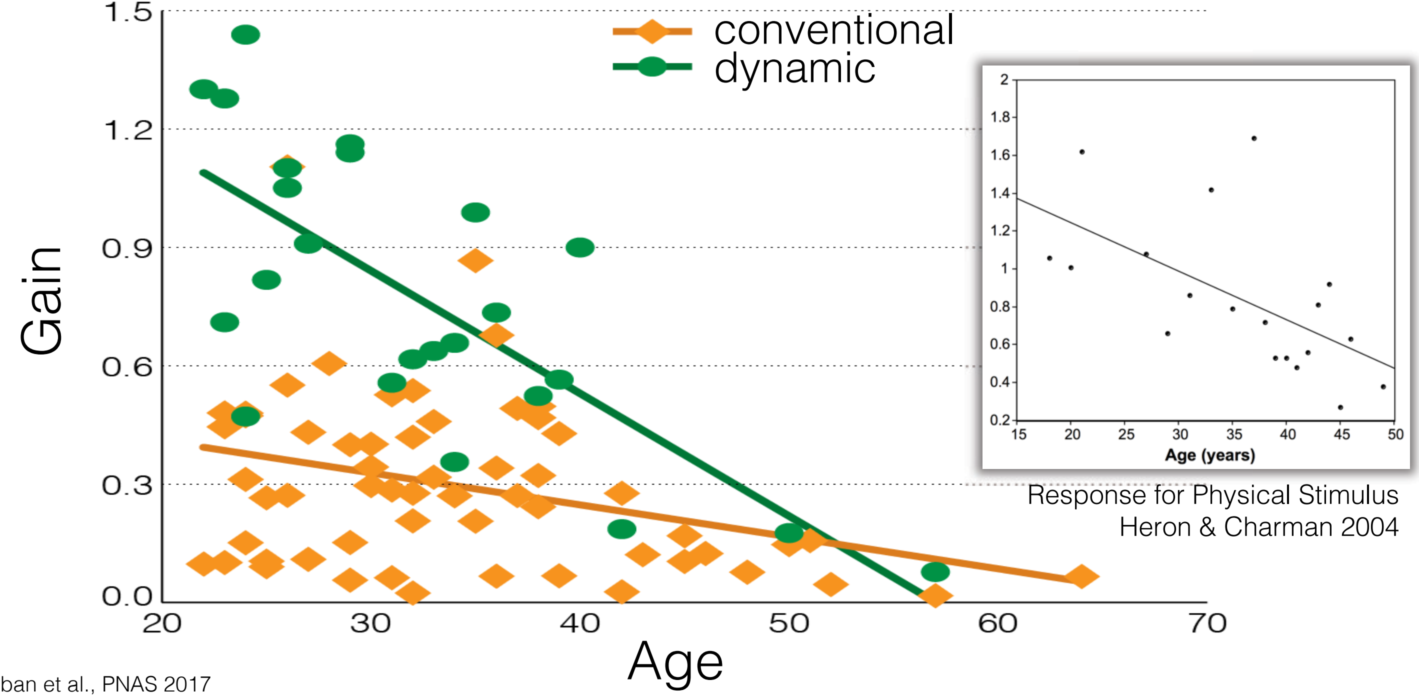
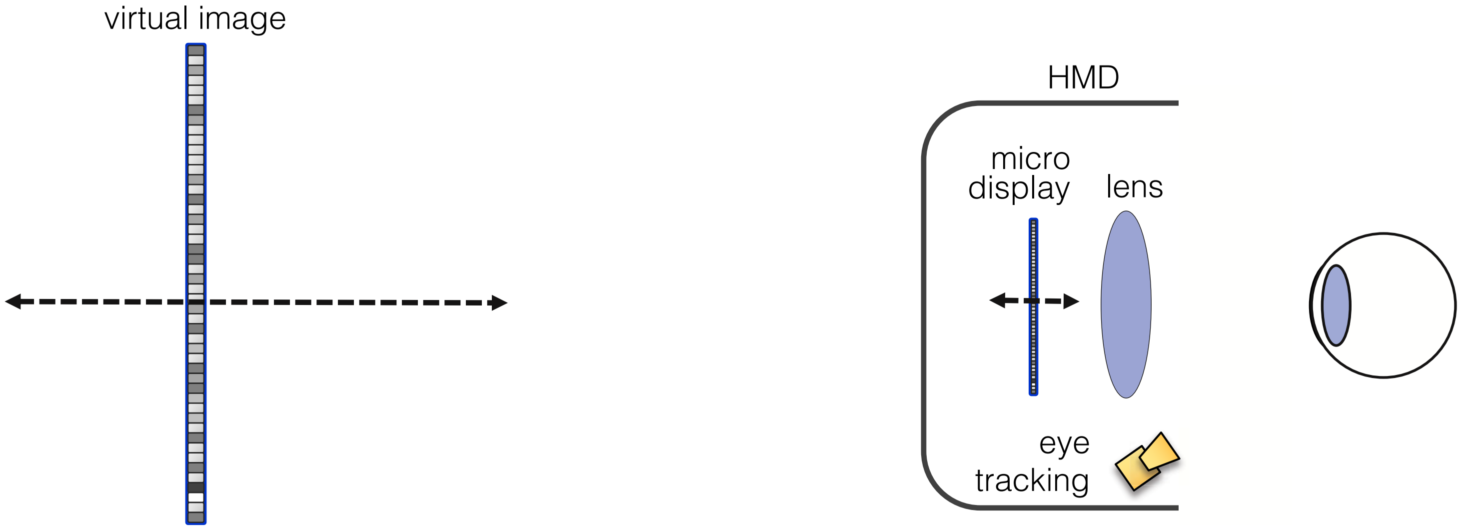


Response for Physical Stimulus
Heron & Charman 2004

Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

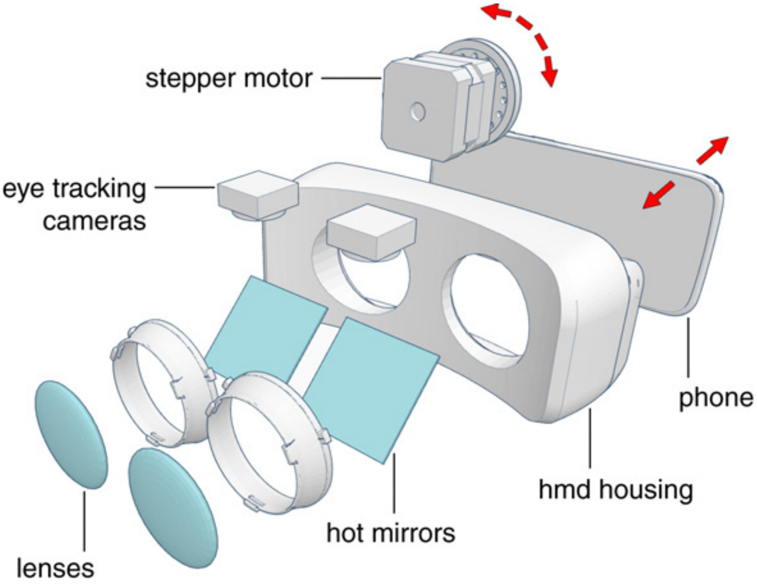
Gaze-contingent Varifocal Displays

- <u>non-presbyopes</u>: adaptive focus is <u>like real world</u>, but needs eye tracking!



Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

Gaze-contingent Varifocal Displays



Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

Gaze-contingent Varifocal Displays

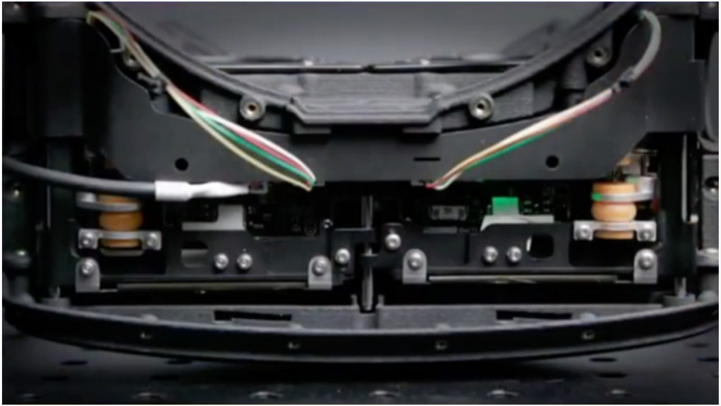
Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

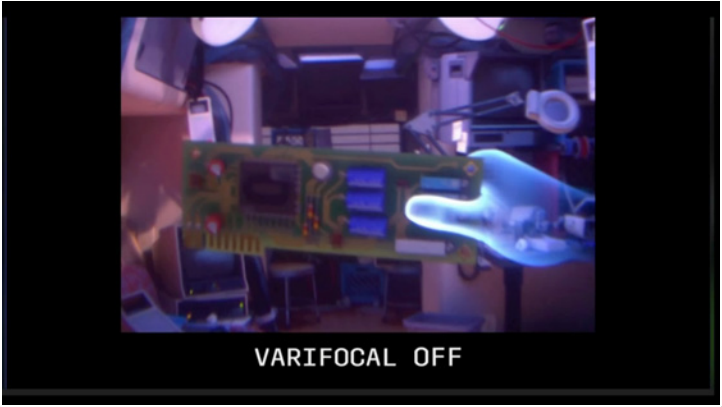
Gaze-contingent Varifocal Displays

Padmanaban et al., PNAS 2017

at ACM SIGGRAPH 2016

Oculus Half Dome Prototype

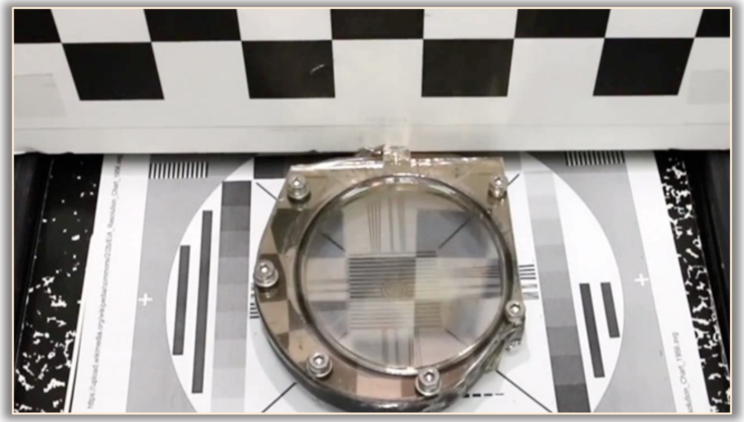




Oculus announces gaze-contingent varifocal display at F8, 05/2018

Video courtesy of Facebook/Oculus

Varifocal AR Displays



Dunn et al. “Wide Field of View Varifocal Near-Eye Display using See-through Deformable Membrane Mirrors”, IEEE TVCG 2017

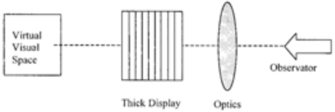
Summary

- adaptive focus drives accommodation and can also correct for refractive errors (myopia, hyperopia)
- gaze-contingent focus gives natural focus cues for non-presbyopes, but require eyes tracking
- presbyopes require fixed focal plane with correction

VR Displays with Focus Cues

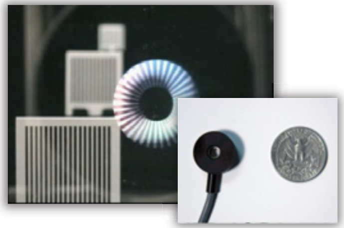
2. Multiplane Displays

Multiplane VR Displays

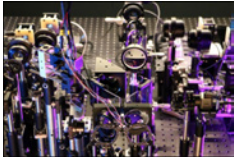


idea introduced
Rolland et al. 2000

benchtop prototype
Akeley 2004

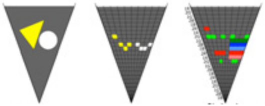


near-eye display prototype
Liu 2008, Love 2009



Mercier et al. 2017

Chang et al. 2018



Rathinavel et al. 2018

- Rolland J, Krueger M, Goon A (2000) Multifocal planes head-mounted displays. Applied Optics 39
- Akeley K, Watt S, Girshick A, Banks M (2004) A stereo display prototype with multiple focal distances. ACM Trans. Graph. (SIGGRAPH)
- Waldkirch M, Lukowicz P, Tröster G (2004) Multiple imaging technique for extending depth of focus in retinal displays. Optics Express
- Schowengerdt B, Seibel E (2006) True 3-d scanned voxel displays using single or multiple light sources. JSID
- Liu S, Cheng D, Hua H (2008) An optical see-through head mounted display with addressable focal planes in Proc. ISMAR
- Love GD et al. (2009) High-speed switchable lens enables the development of a volumetric stereoscopic display. Optics Express
- … many more ...

Challenges of Multiplane VR Displays

- when implemented with focus-tunable optics & time-multiplexing in VR: *flicker*
- when implemented with multiple optically overlaid microdisplays in VR or multiple waveguides in AR: *system complexity and calibration*
- multifocal plane displays require image focal plane decomposition – computationally expensive
- decompositions are sensitive to eye position – also need eye tracking, so why not just do varifocal?

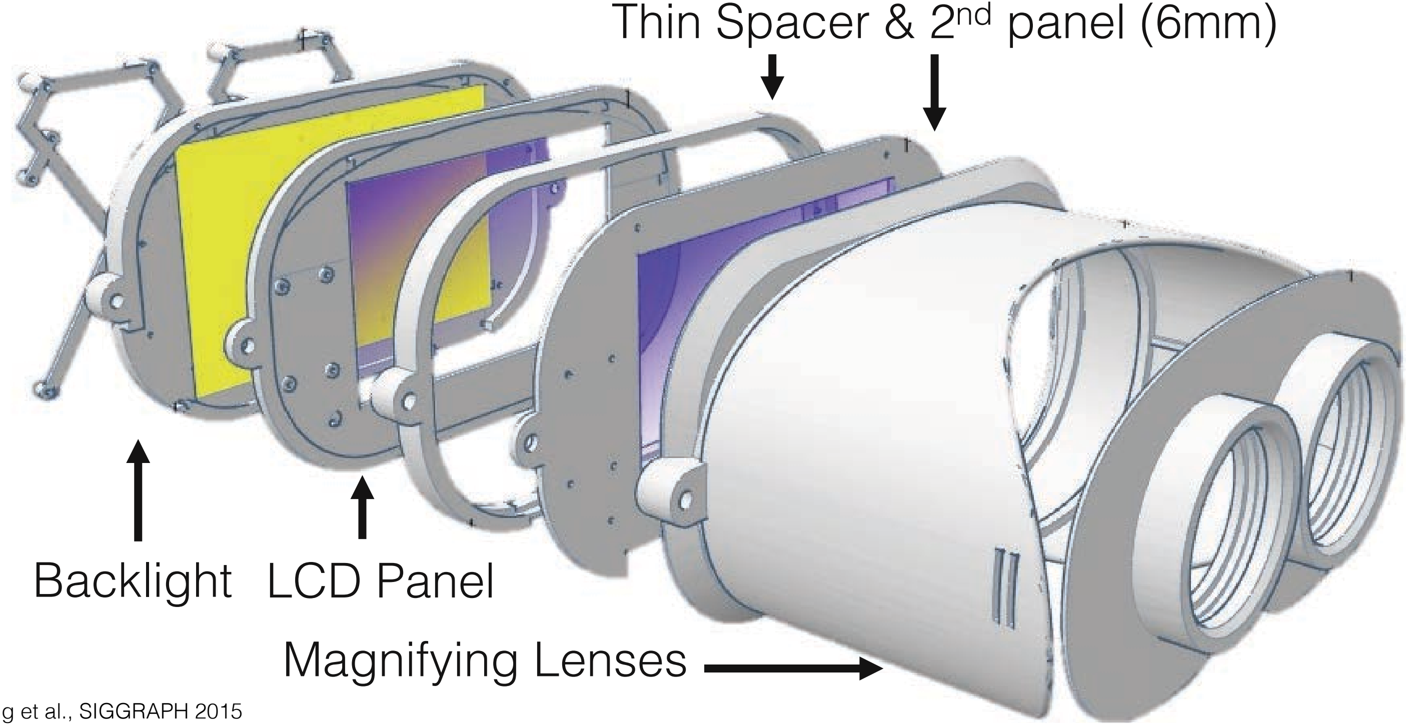
VR Displays with Focus Cues

3. Light Field Displays

Light Field Stereoscope

Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2015

Light Field Stereoscope



Thin Spacer & 2nd panel (6mm)

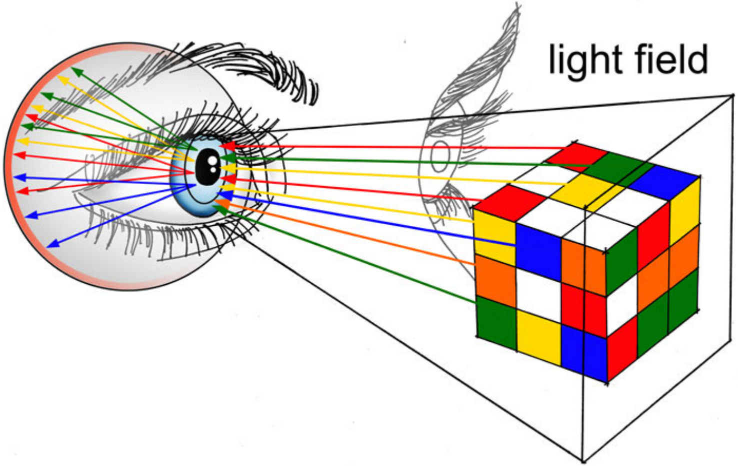
Backlight

LCD Panel

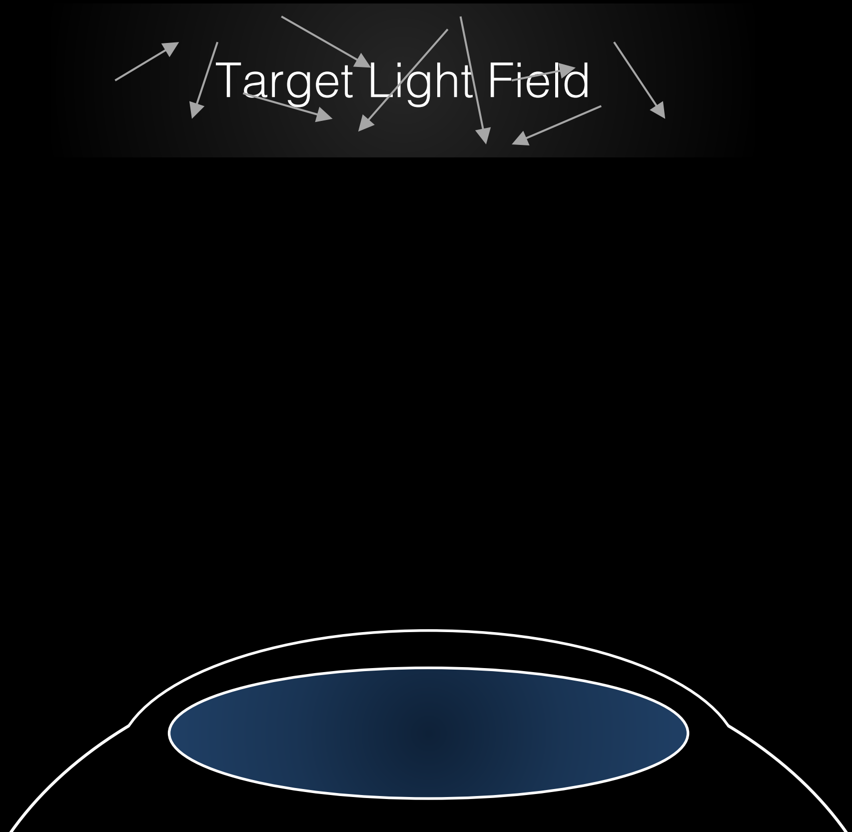
Magnifying Lenses

Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2015

Near-eye Light Field Displays

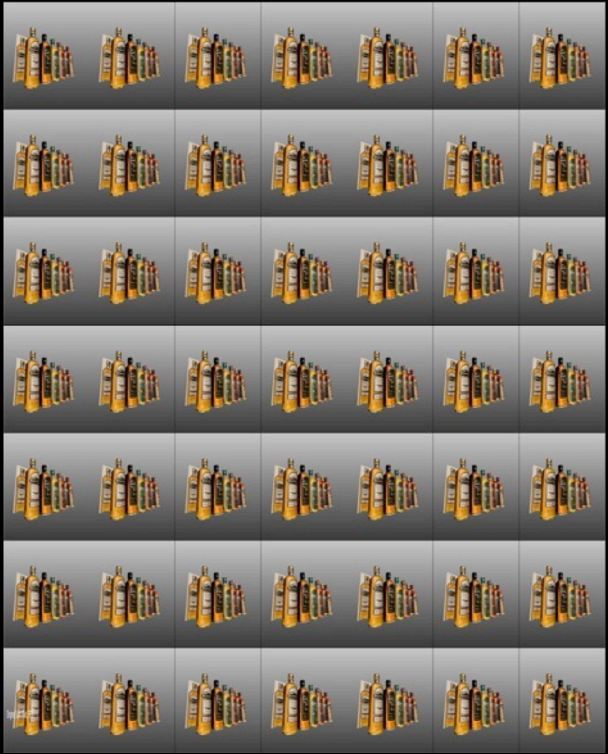


Idea: project multiple different perspectives into different parts of the pupil!

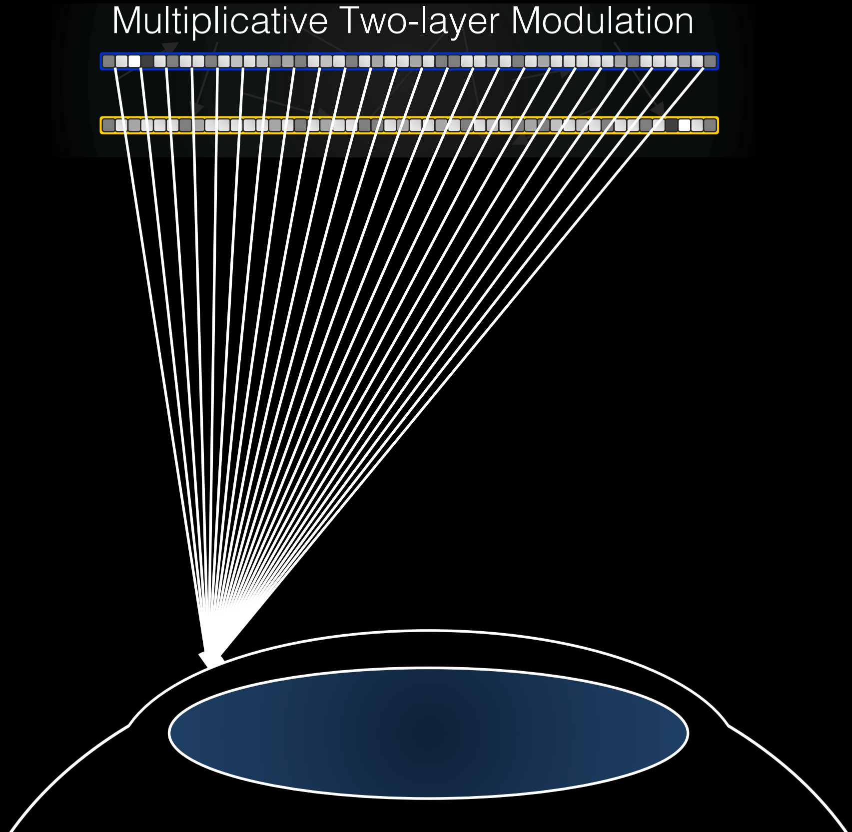


Target Light Field

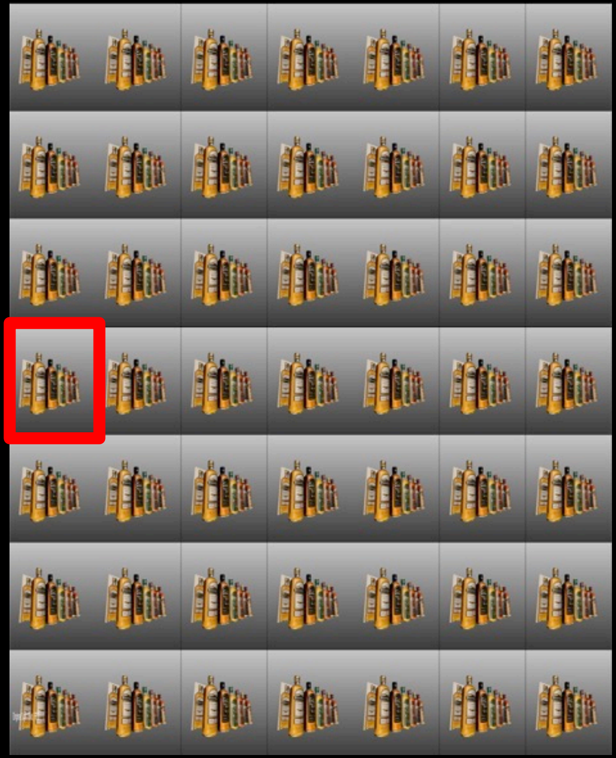
Input: 4D light field for each eye



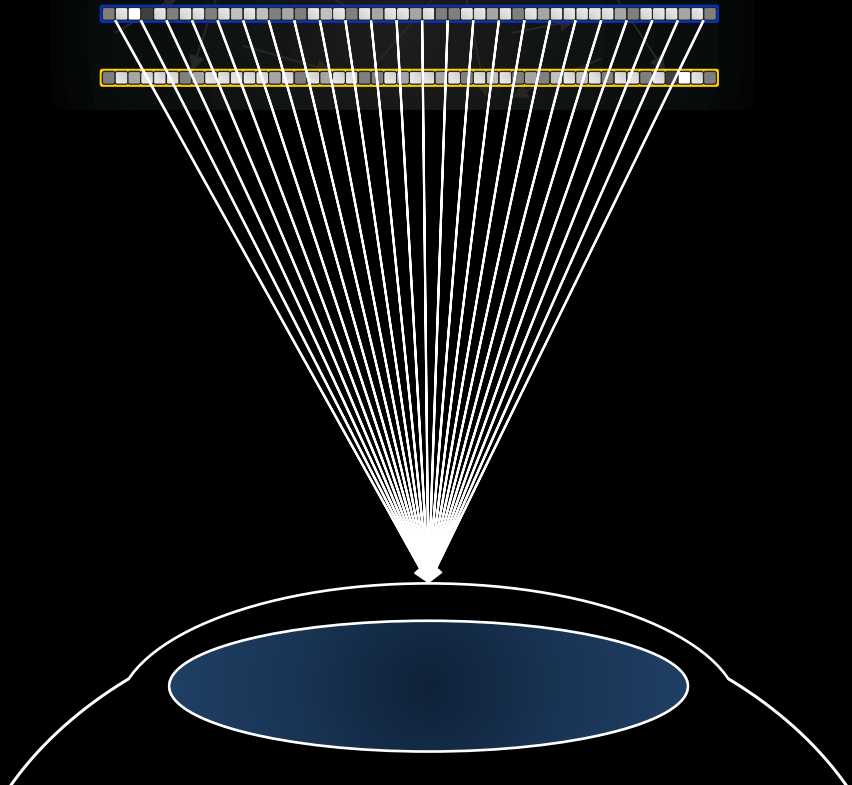
Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey


Multiplicative Two-layer Modulation

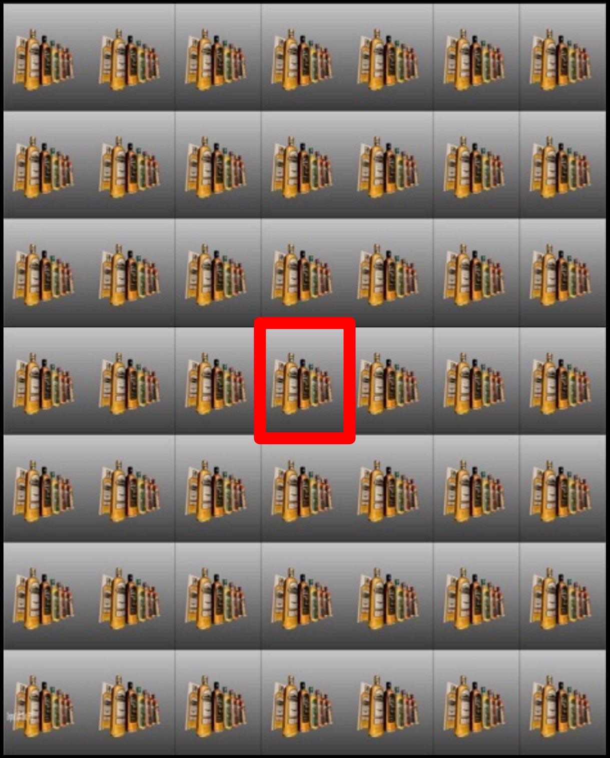
Input: 4D light field for each eye


Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey

Multiplicative Two-layer Modulation

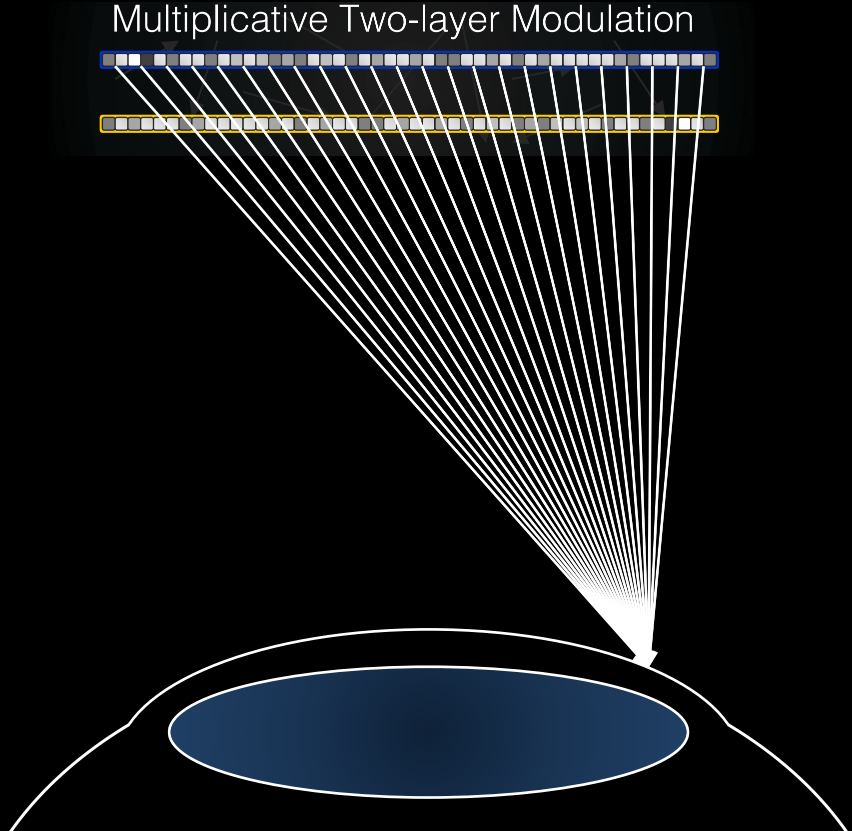


Input: 4D light field for each eye

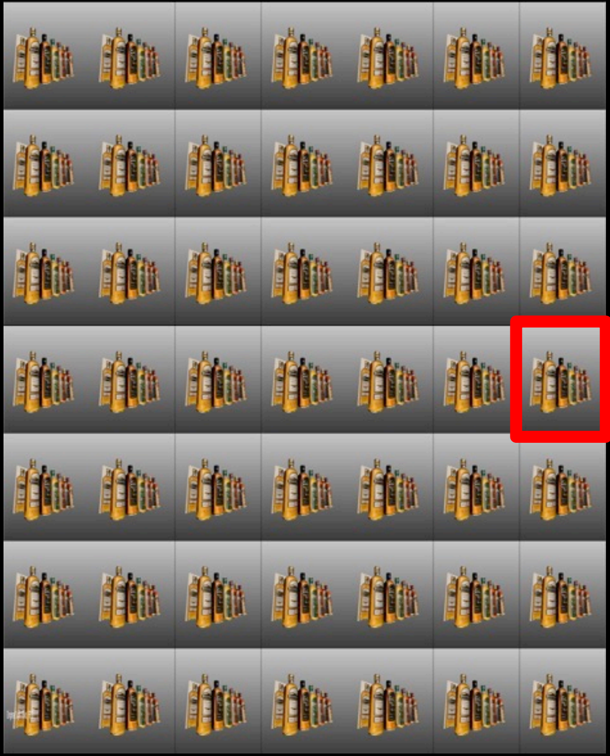


Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey

Multiplicative Two-layer Modulation

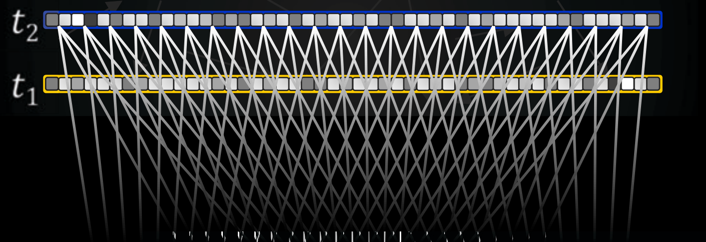


Input: 4D light field for each eye



Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey

Multiplicative Two-layer Modulation



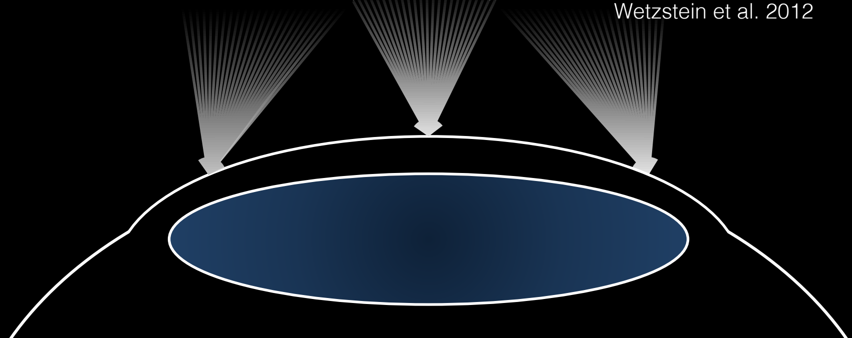
$$\underset{\{t_1,t_2\}}{minimize} \|\beta \mathbf{l} - (\phi_1 t_1) \circ (\phi_2 t_2)\|^2 \quad s.t.\ 0 \le t_1, t_2 \le 1$$

Reconstruction:

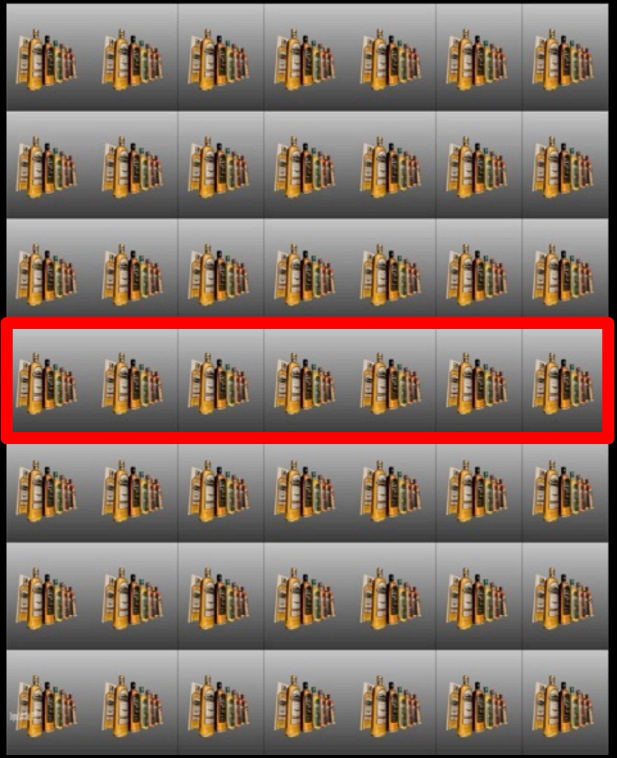
$$t_1 \leftarrow t_1 \circ \frac{\phi_1^T(\beta \mathbf{l} \circ (\phi_2 t_2))}{\phi_1^T(\tilde{\mathbf{l}} \circ (\phi_2 t_2)) + \epsilon}$$

for layer t_1

Tensor Displays, Wetzstein et al. 2012

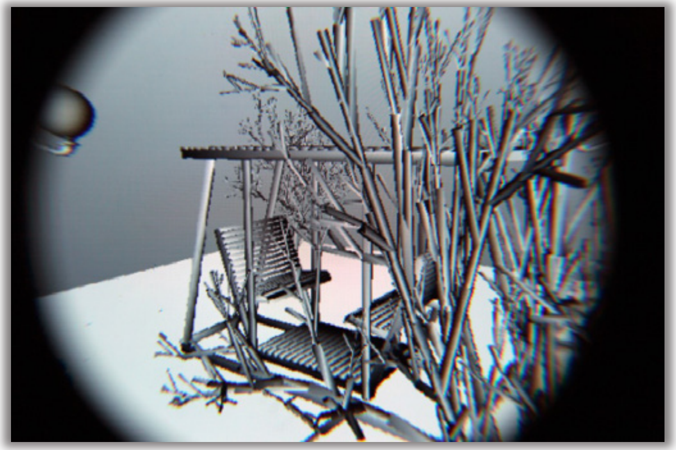


Input: 4D light field for each eye



Model Courtesy of Bushmills Irish Whiskey

Light Field Stereoscope

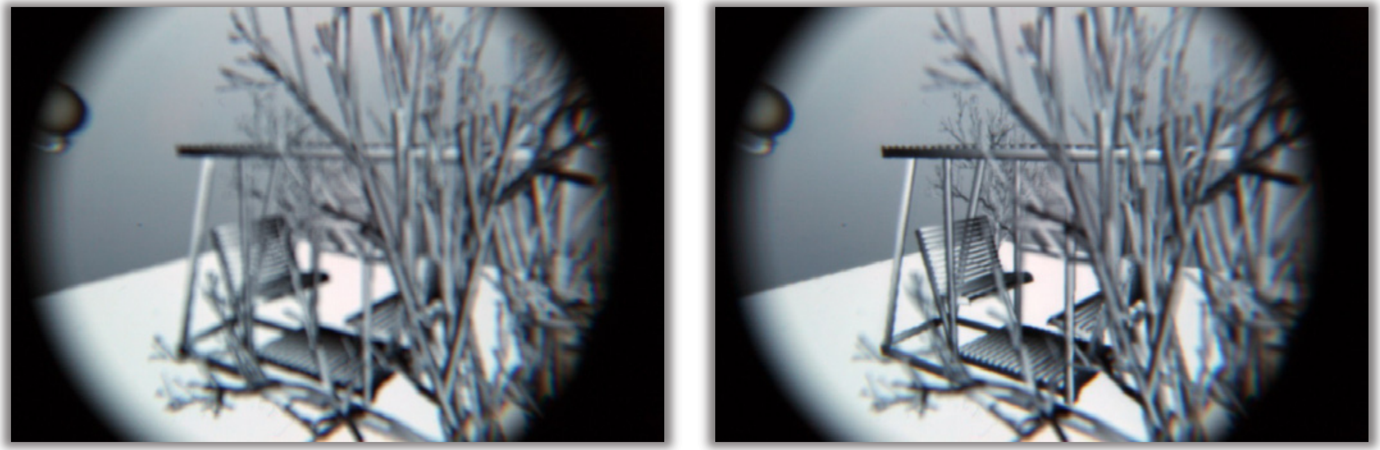


Traditional HMDs
- No Focus Cues

The Light Field HMD
Stereoscope

Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2015

Light Field Stereoscope

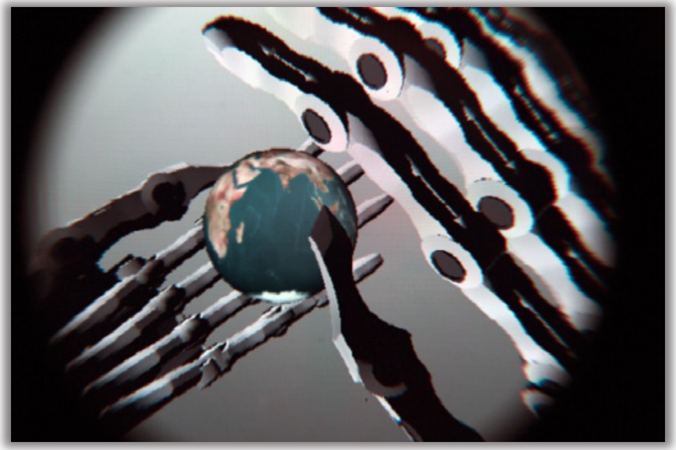


Traditional HMDs
- No Focus Cues

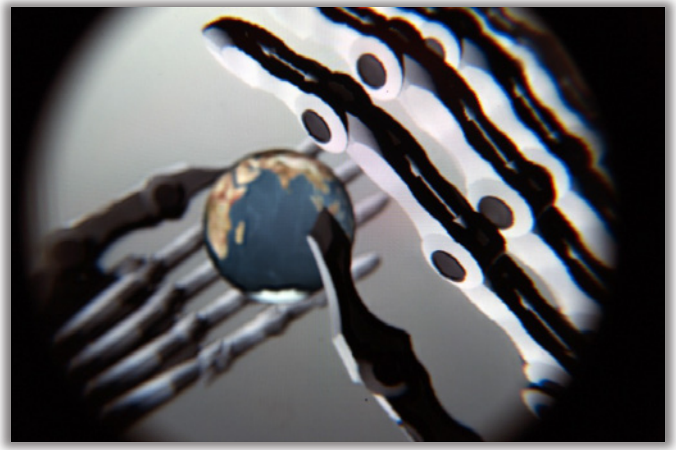
The Light Field HMD
Stereoscope

Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2015

Light Field Stereoscope



Traditional HMDs
- No Focus Cues

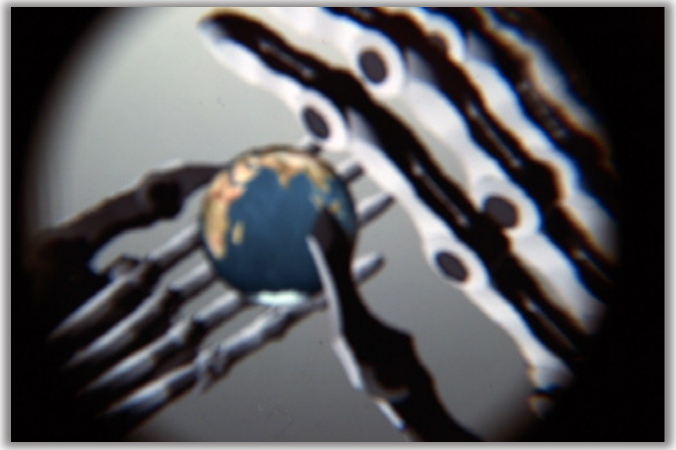


The Light Field HMD
Stereoscope

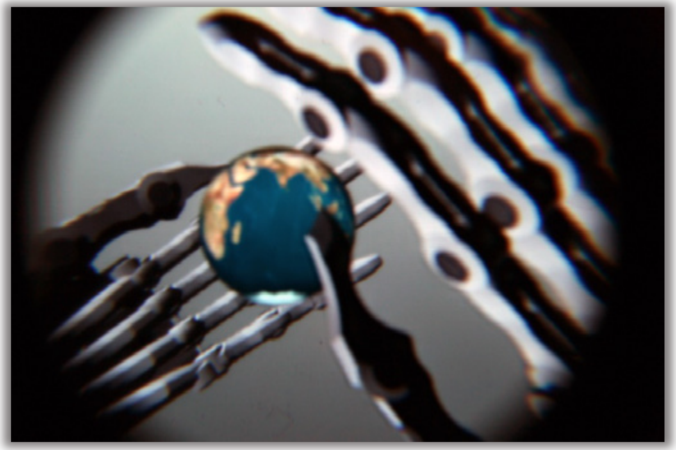
Model Courtesy of Paul H. Manning

Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2015

Light Field Stereoscope



Traditional HMDs
- No Focus Cues



The Light Field HMD
Stereoscope

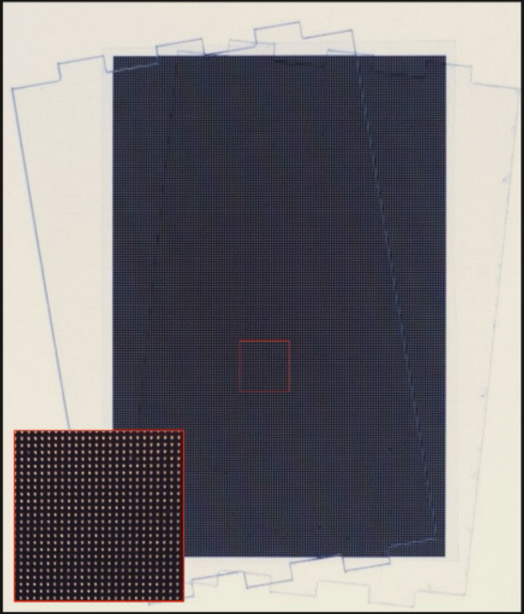
Model Courtesy of Paul H. Manning

Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2015

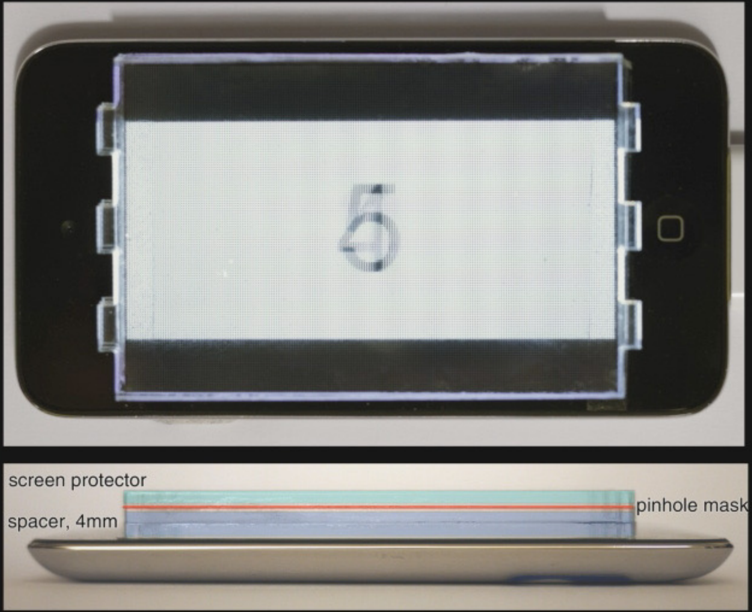
Tensor Displays

Wetzstein et al., SIGGRAPH 2012

Vision-correcting Display



printed transparency



iPod Touch prototype

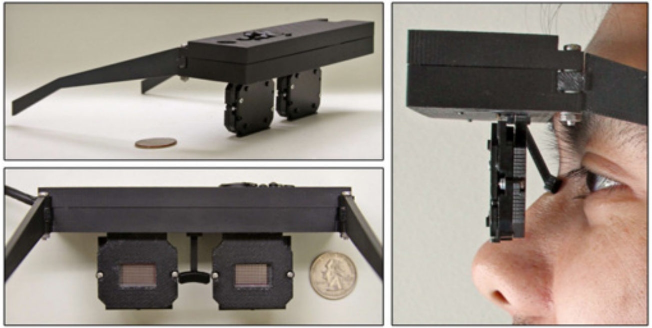
Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2014

prototype

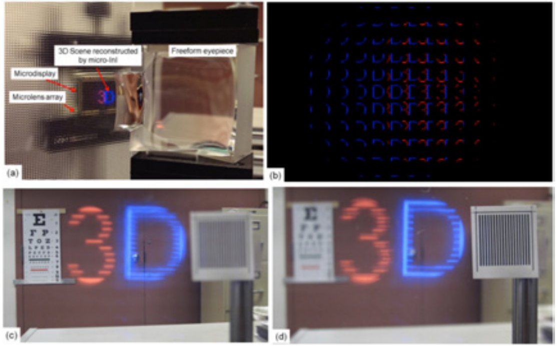
300 dpi or higher

Huang et al., SIGGRAPH 2014

Microlens-based Near-eye Light Field Displays



Thin VR version:
Lanman and Luebke, 2013



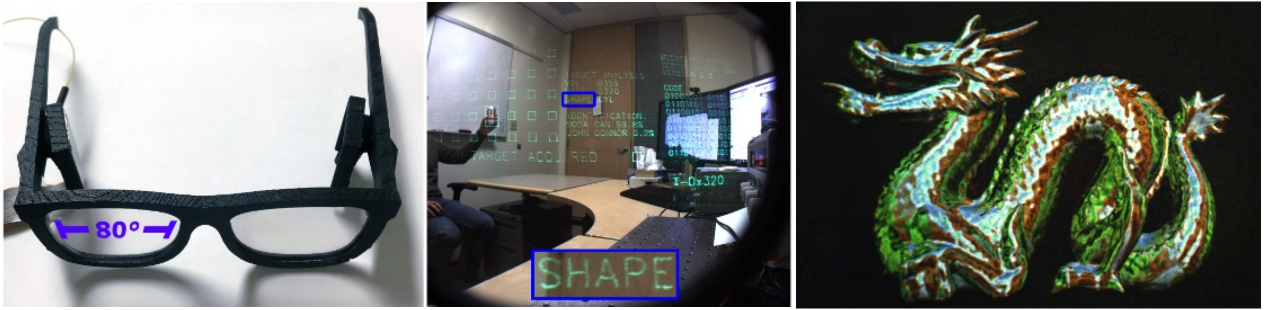
Optical see-through AR version:
Hua and Javidi, 2014

- biggest downside: usually low resolution
- limited by spatio-angular resolution tradeoff and, more fundamentally, also diffraction

4. Holographic Near-eye Displays

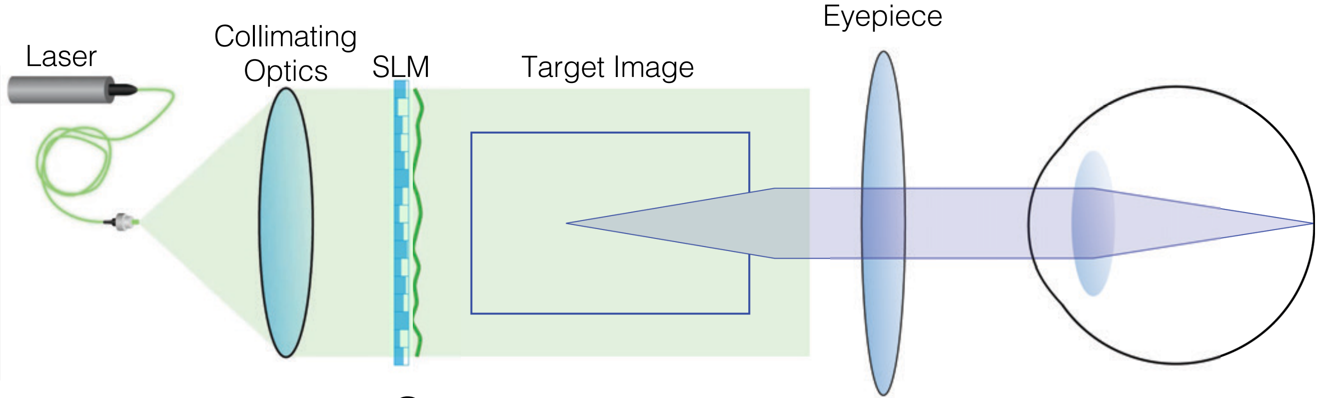
Holographic Near-eye Displays

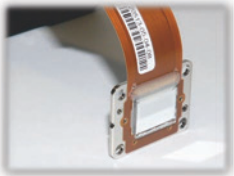
- recently great image quality demonstrated!
- limited by space-bandwidth product: either small field of view + “large-ish” eyebox or vice versa, but not both
- interference in users’ eyes may be a problem



Maimone et al., SIGGRAPH 2017

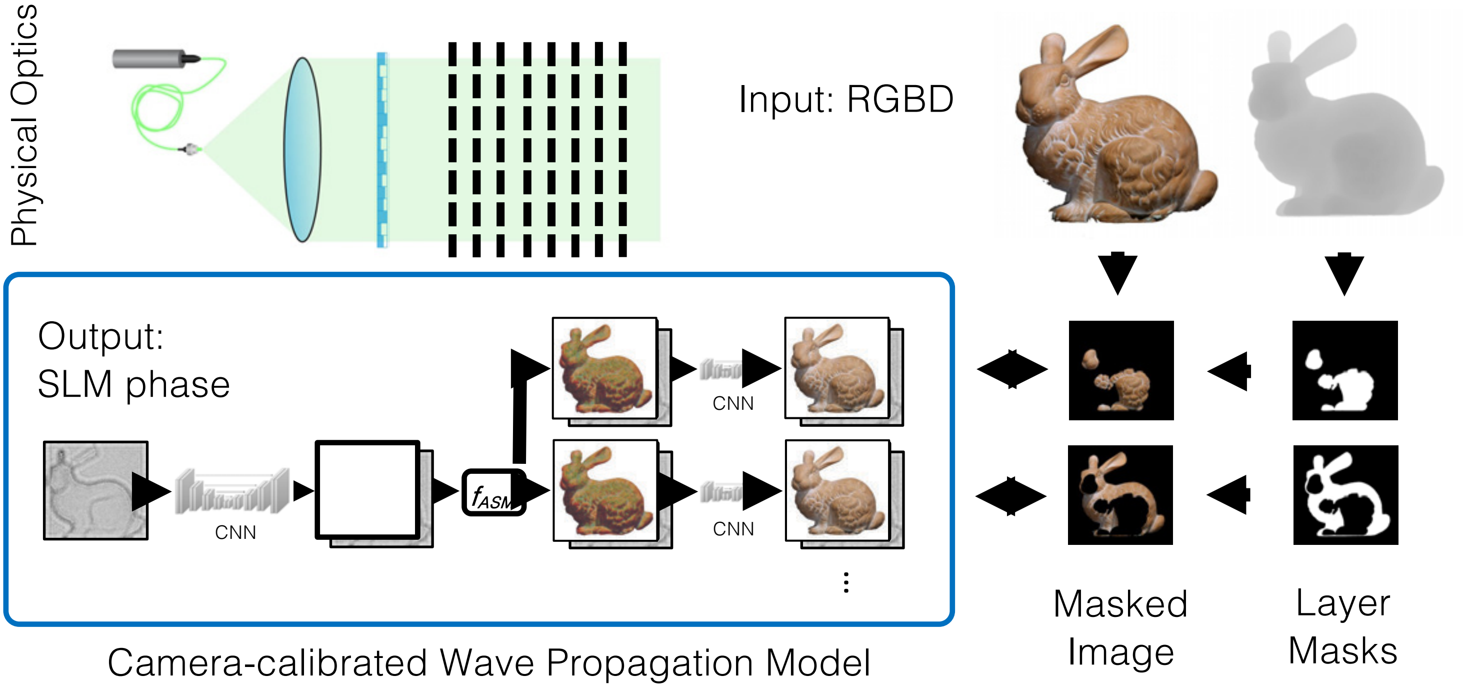
Holographic Near-eye Displays





Challenge: low image quality due to mismatch between physical optics and simulation

Neural Holography



Physical Optics

Input: RGBD

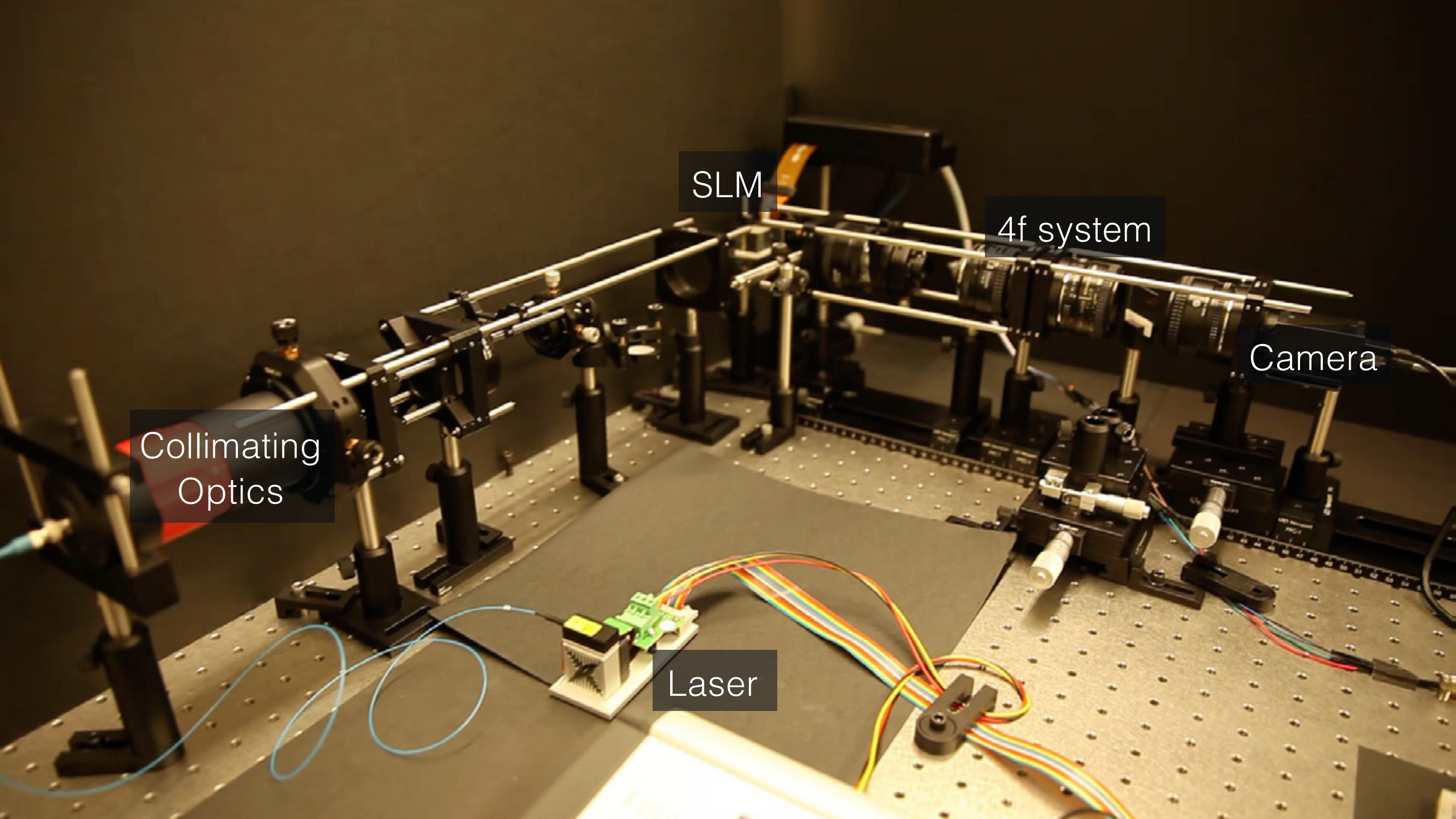
Output:
SLM phase

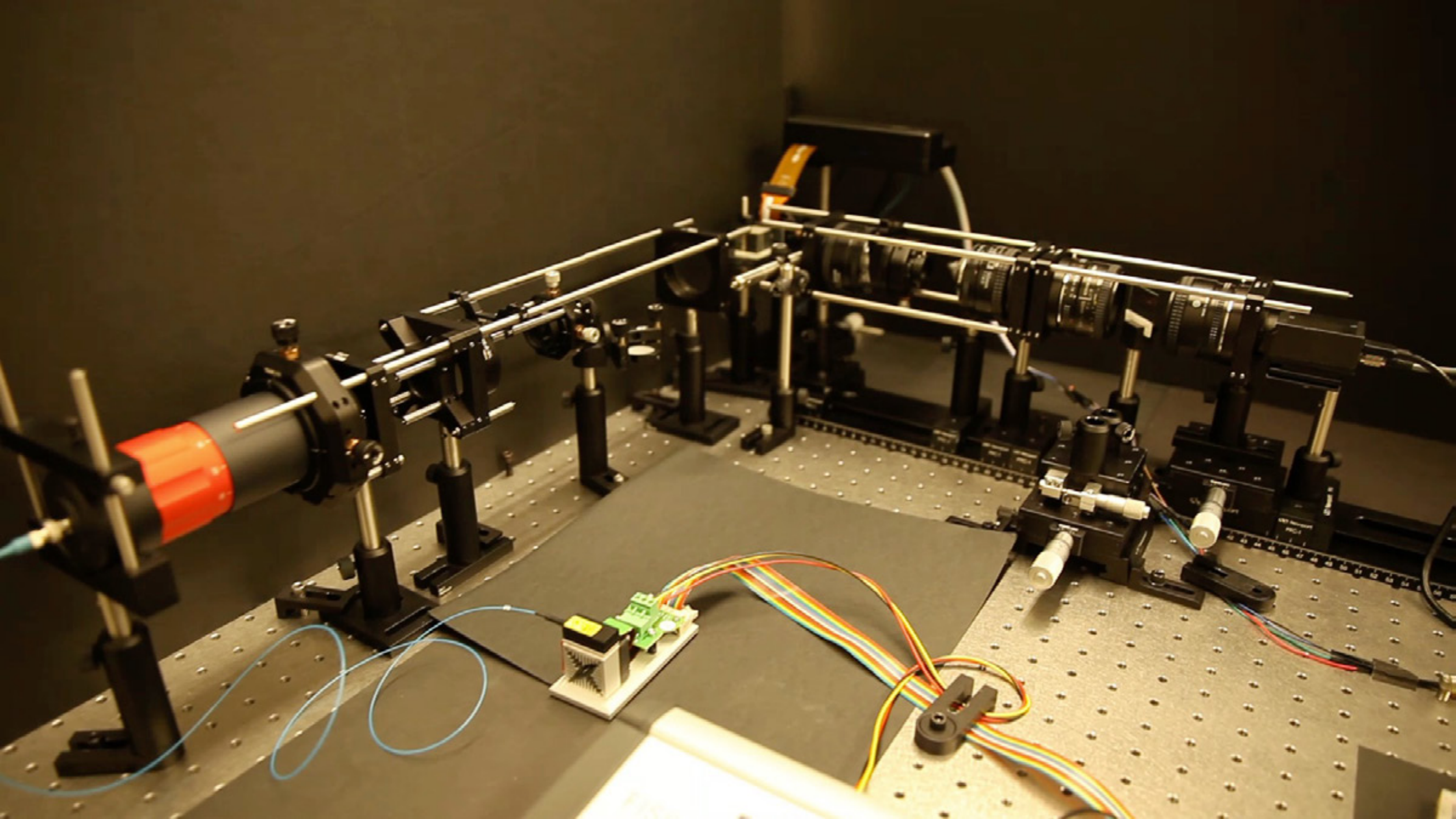
Camera-calibrated Wave Propagation Model

Masked Image

Layer Masks

[Peng et al., SIGGRAPH Asia 2020; Choi et al., SIGGRAPH ASIA 2021]


SLM
4f system
Camera
Collimating Optics
Laser



Gerchberg–Saxton

Neural Holography 2020 Results

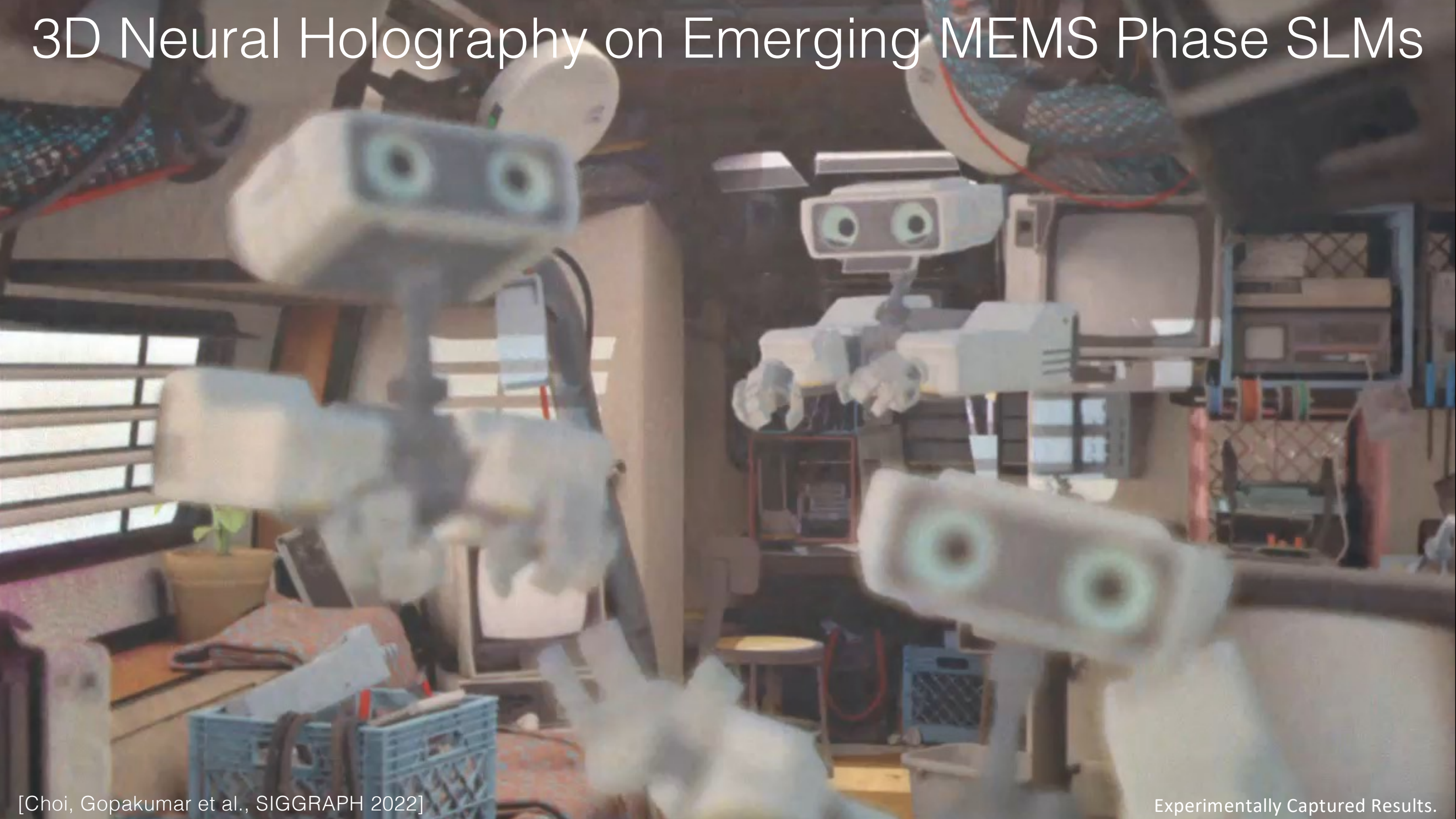
[Peng et al., SIGGRAPH & SIGGRAPH Asia 2020]

3D Neural Holography on Emerging MEMS Phase SLMs

[Choi, Gopakumar et al., SIGGRAPH 2022]

Experimentally Captured Results.

3D Neural Holography on Emerging MEMS Phase SLMs

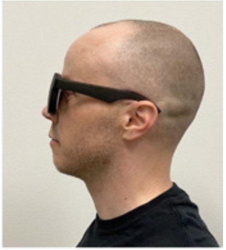


[Choi, Gopakumar et al., SIGGRAPH 2022]

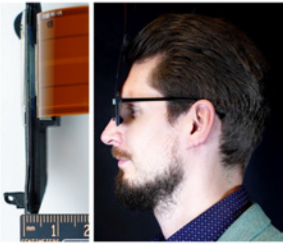
Experimentally Captured Results.

Additional Benefits of Holographic Near-eye Displays

Thin VR Display Form Factors



Maimone et al., SIGGRAPH 2020



Kim et al., SIGGRAPH 2022

Other:

- Light-efficient AR Displays
- Prescription correction (including astigmatism and higher-orders)
- Correcting optical aberrations

…

Summary of AR/VR Displays with Focus Cues

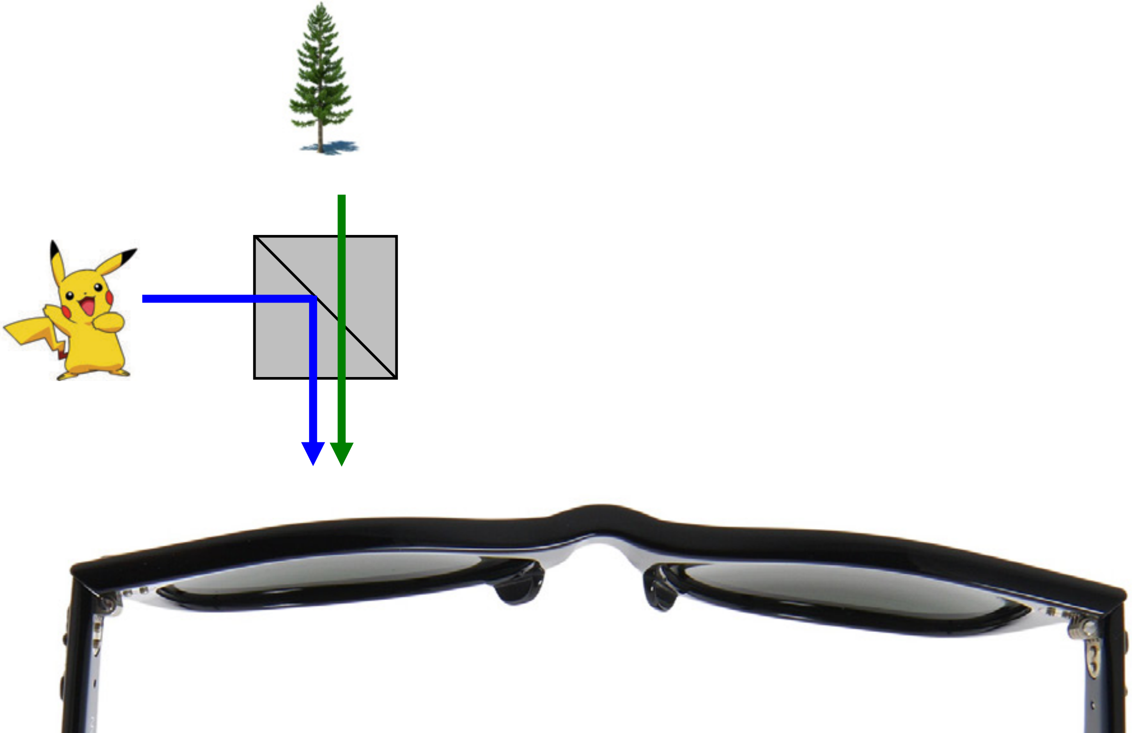
- focus cues in VR/AR are challenging
- adaptive focus can correct for refractive errors (myopia, hyperopia)
- gaze-contingent focus gives natural focus cues for non-presbyopes, but require eyes tracking
- presbyopes require fixed focal plane with correction
- multiplane displays require very high speed microdisplays or multiple optically overlaid displays
- light field and holographic displays may be “ultimate” displays in the longer-run → need to solve a few “issues” first

Overview of Optical See-through AR Displays

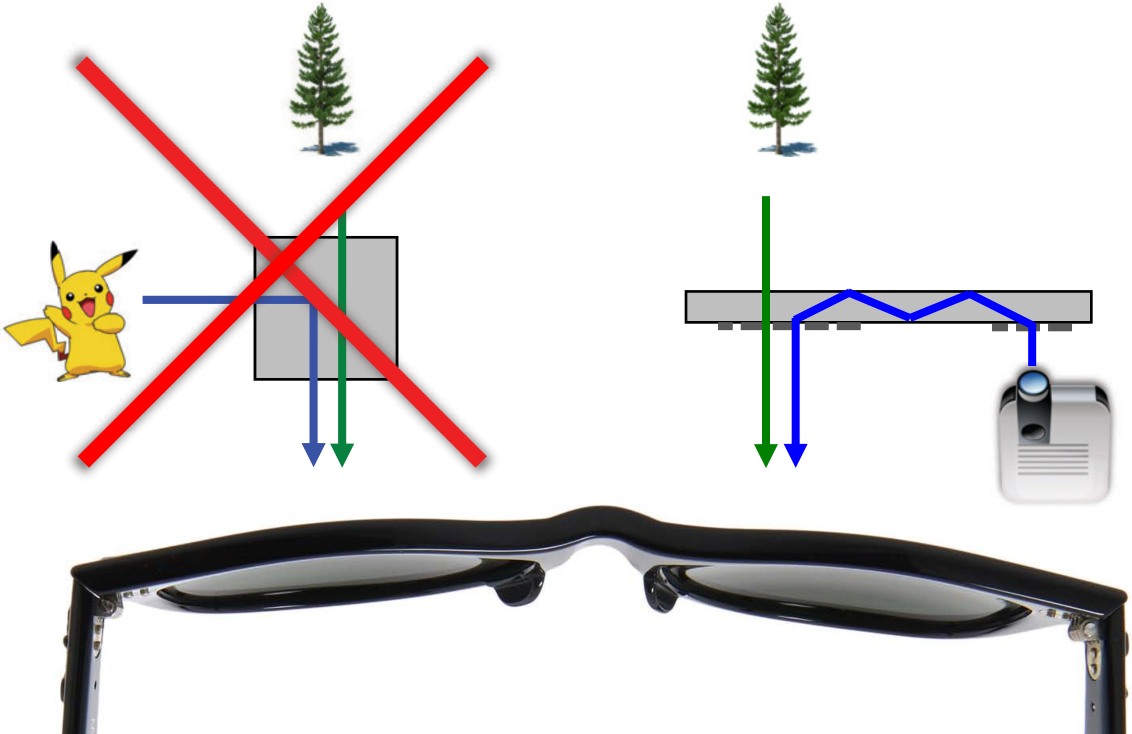
Ray Ban

Pepper’s Ghost 1862

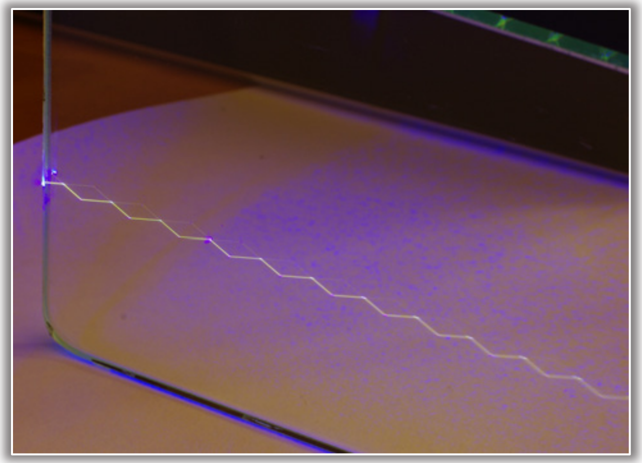
Thin Beam Combiner?

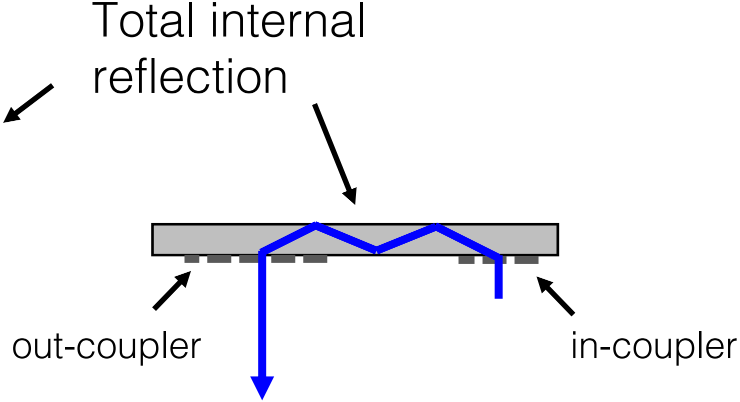


Thin Beam Combiner!



Thin Beam Combiner!





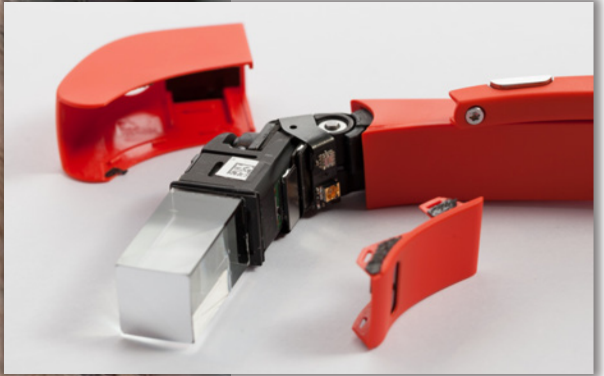
Total internal reflection

Critical angle θ_c : smallest angle of incidence that yields total reflection

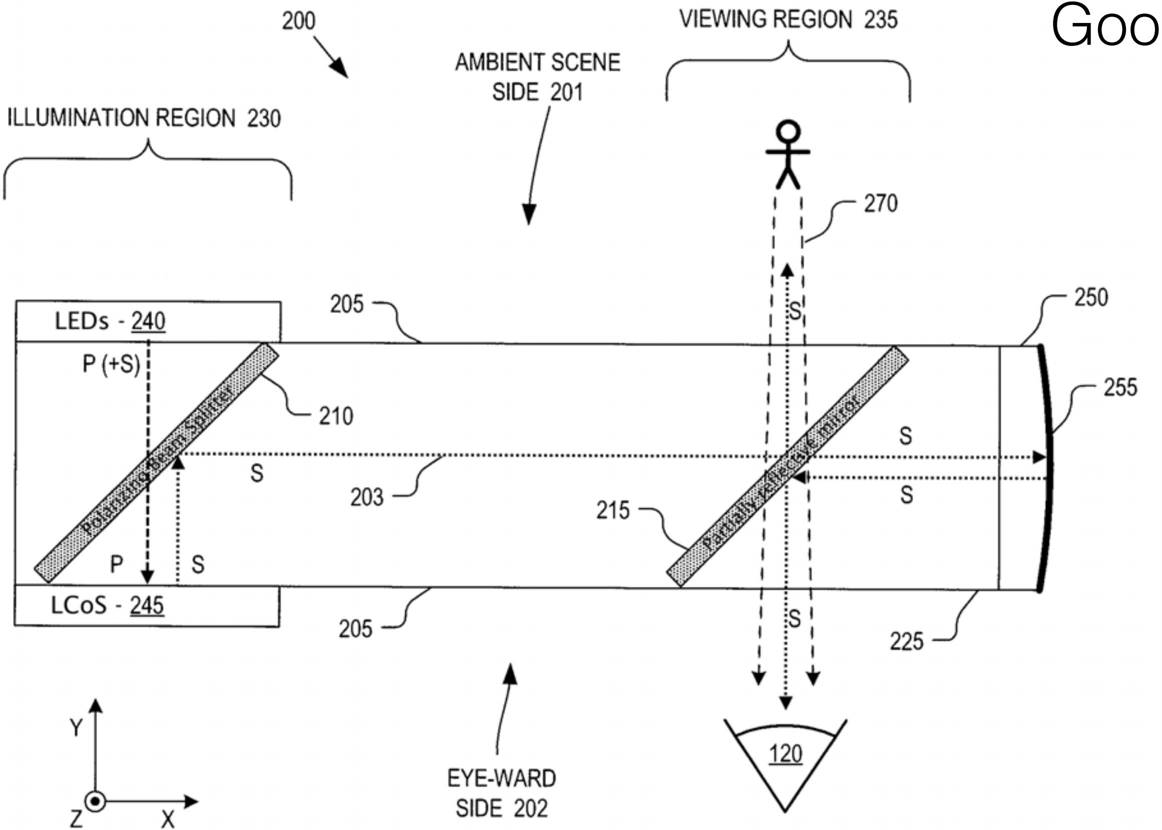
Snell's laws of refraction: $n_1 \sin\theta_1 = n_2 \sin\theta_2 \rightarrow \theta_c = \sin^{-1}({}^{n_2}/_{n_1})$

OST AR - Case Studies

Google Glass



Google Glass



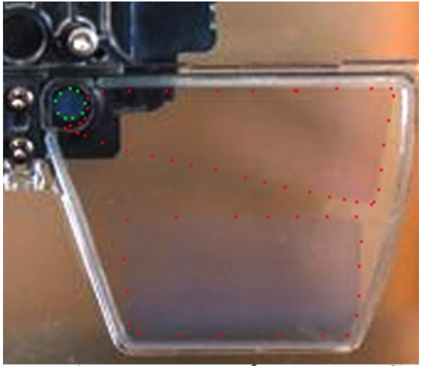
Meta 2

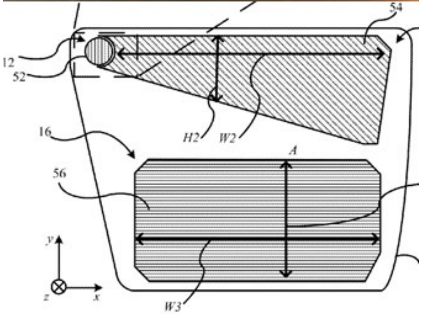
- larger field of view (90 deg) than Glass
- also larger device form factor

Microsoft HoloLens

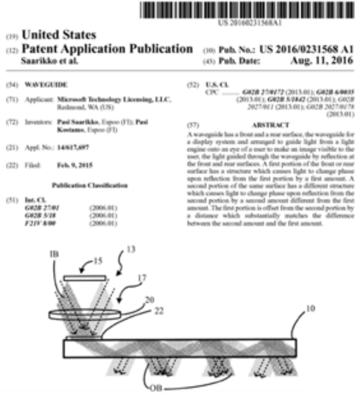
Microsoft HoloLens

- diffraction grating
- small FOV (30x17), but very good image quality





US 2016/0231568 Fig. 3B



US 20160231568A1

(19) **United States**
(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Saarikko et al.

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2016/0231568 A1**
(43) **Pub. Date: Aug. 11, 2016**

(54) **WAVEGUIDE**

(71) Applicant: **Microsoft Technology Licensing, LLC**, Redmond, WA (US)

(72) Inventors: **Pasi Saarikko**, Espoo (FI); **Pasi Kostamo**, Espoo (FI)

(21) Appl. No.: **14/617,697**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 9, 2015**

Publication Classification

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G02B 5/18 (2006.01)
F21V 8/00 (2006.01)

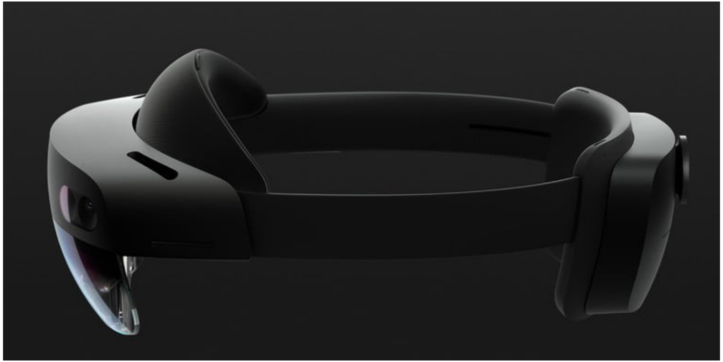
(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC *G02B 27/0172* (2013.01); *G02B 6/0035* (2013.01); *G02B 5/1842* (2013.01); *G02B 2027/011* (2013.01); *G02B 2027/0178* (2013.01)

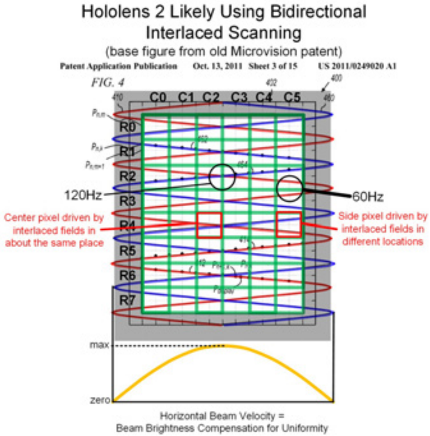
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A waveguide has a front and a rear surface, the waveguide for a display system and arranged to guide light from a light engine onto an eye of a user to make an image visible to the user, the light guided through the waveguide by reflection at the front and rear surfaces. A first portion of the front or rear surface has a structure which causes light to change phase upon reflection from the first portion by a first amount. A second portion of the same surface has a different structure which causes light to change phase upon reflection from the second portion by a second amount different from the first amount. The first portion is offset from the second portion by a distance which substantially matches the difference between the second amount and the first amount.

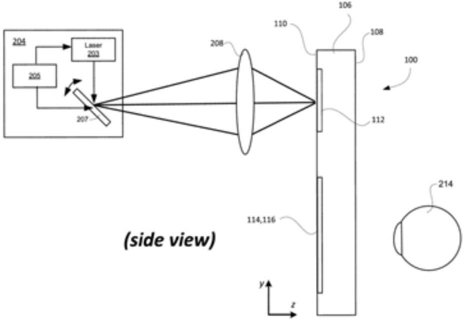
Microsoft HoloLens 2

- laser-scanned waveguide display
- claimed 2K resolution per eye (2560x1440), probably via “interlaced” scanning
- field of view: 52° diagonally (3:2 aspect, 47 pixels per visual degree)



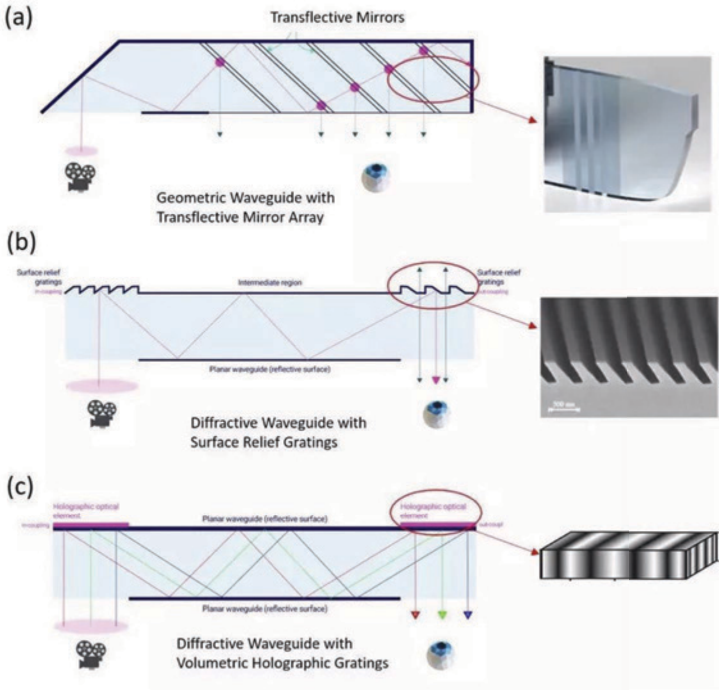


https://www.kguttag.com/2019/02/27/hololens-2-first-impressions-good-ergonomics-but-the-lbs-resolution-math-fails/



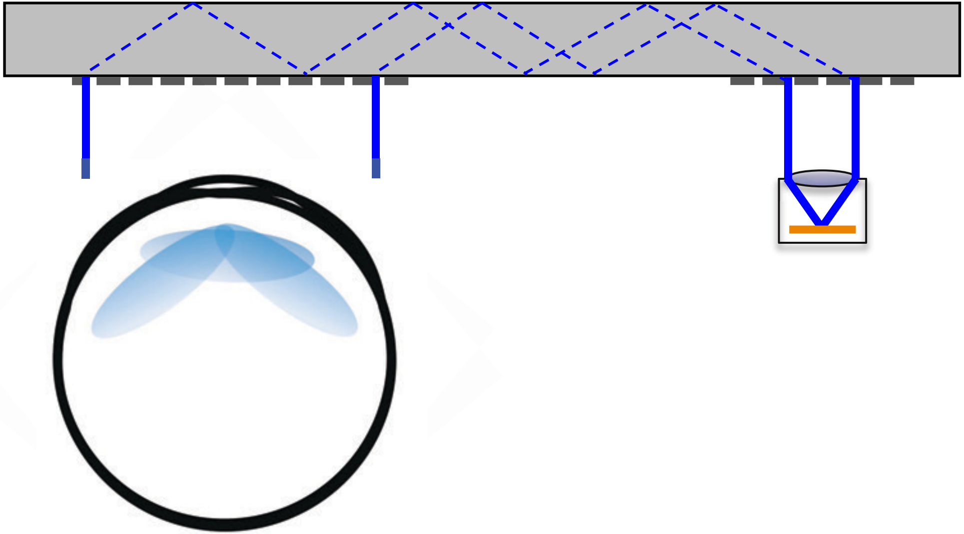
Wall et al. US 10,025,093 2018

AR Lightguides and Waveguides

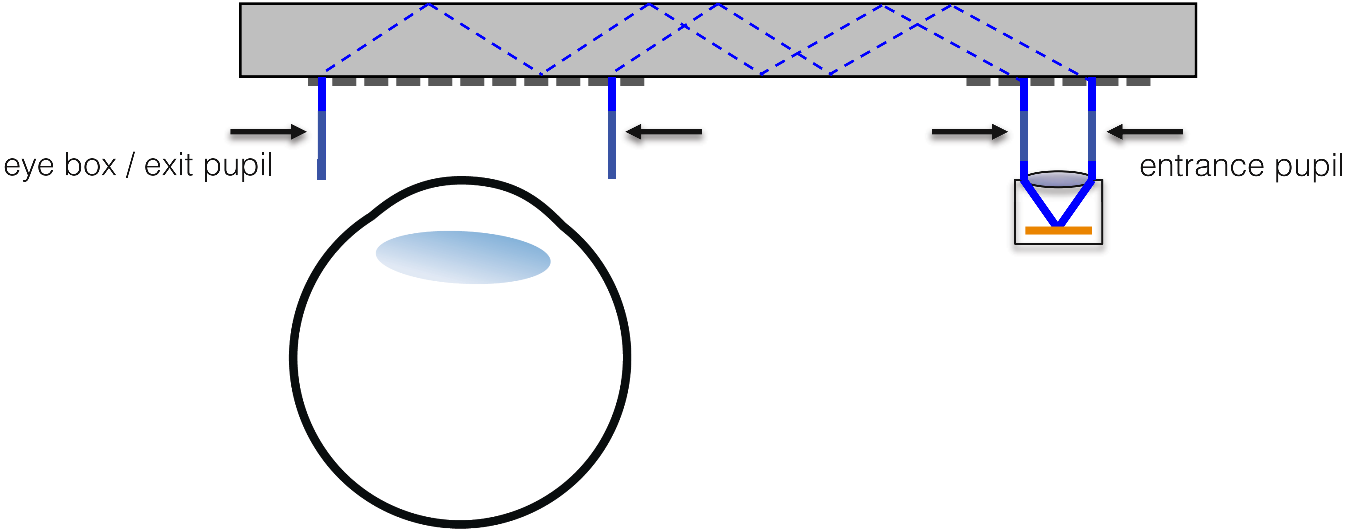


https://arvrjourney.com/understanding-waveguide-the-key-technology-for-augmented-reality-near-eye-display-part-ii-fe4bf3490fa

Challenges: Eye Box vs Field of View

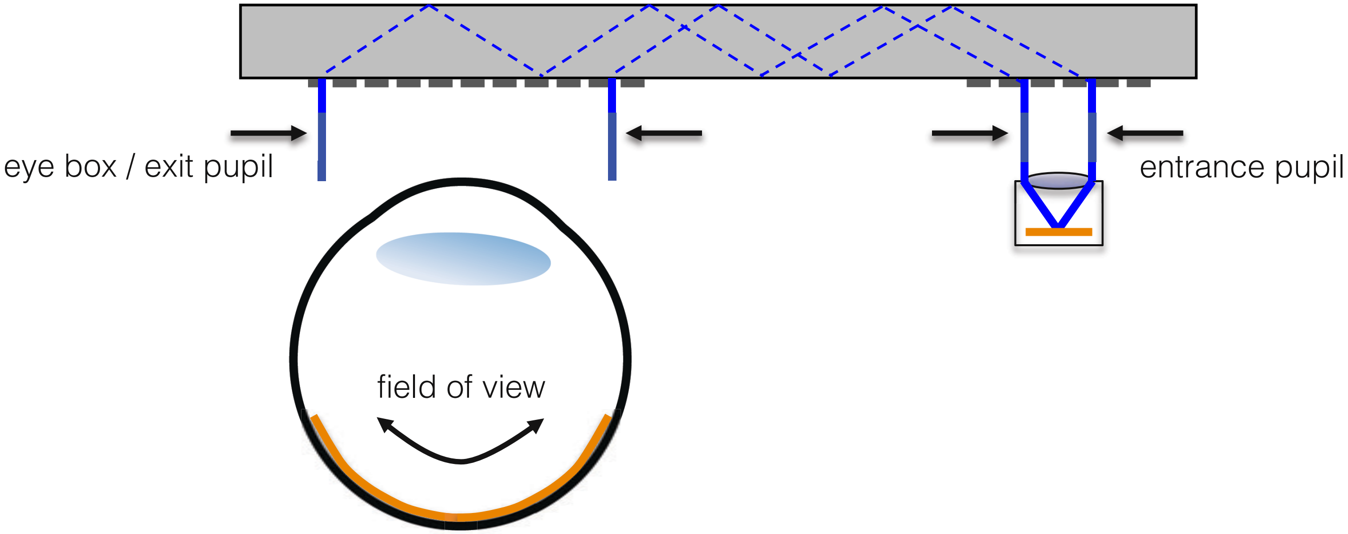


Challenges: Eye Box vs Field of View



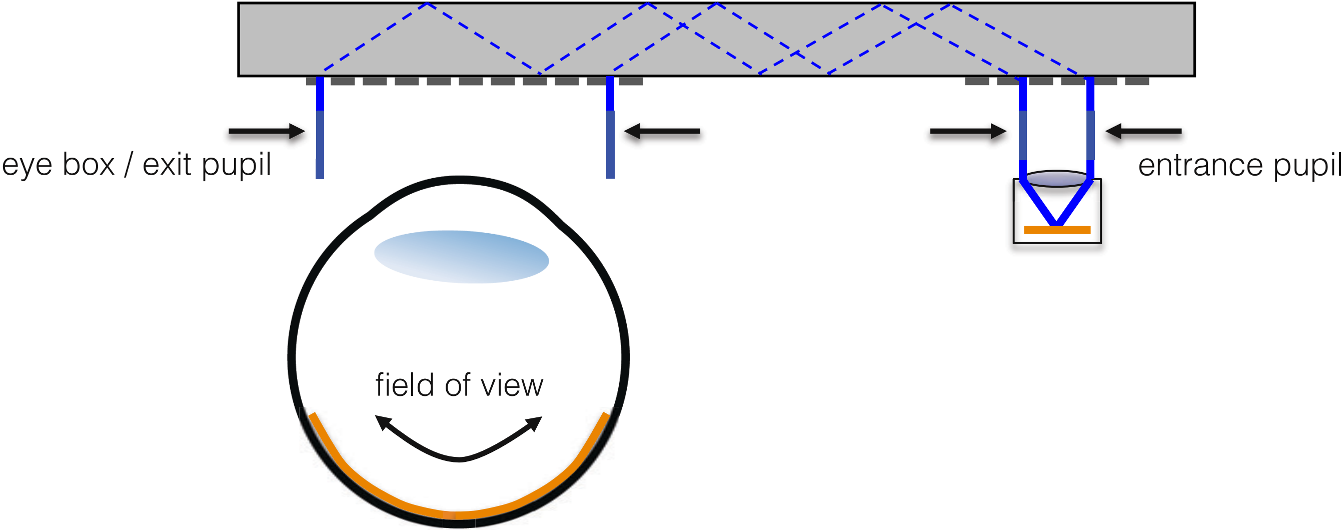
- need small entrance pupil (small device) and large exit pupil (large eye box) - pupil needs to be magnified

Challenges: Eye Box vs Field of View



- need small display (small device) but large field of view – image needs to be magnified

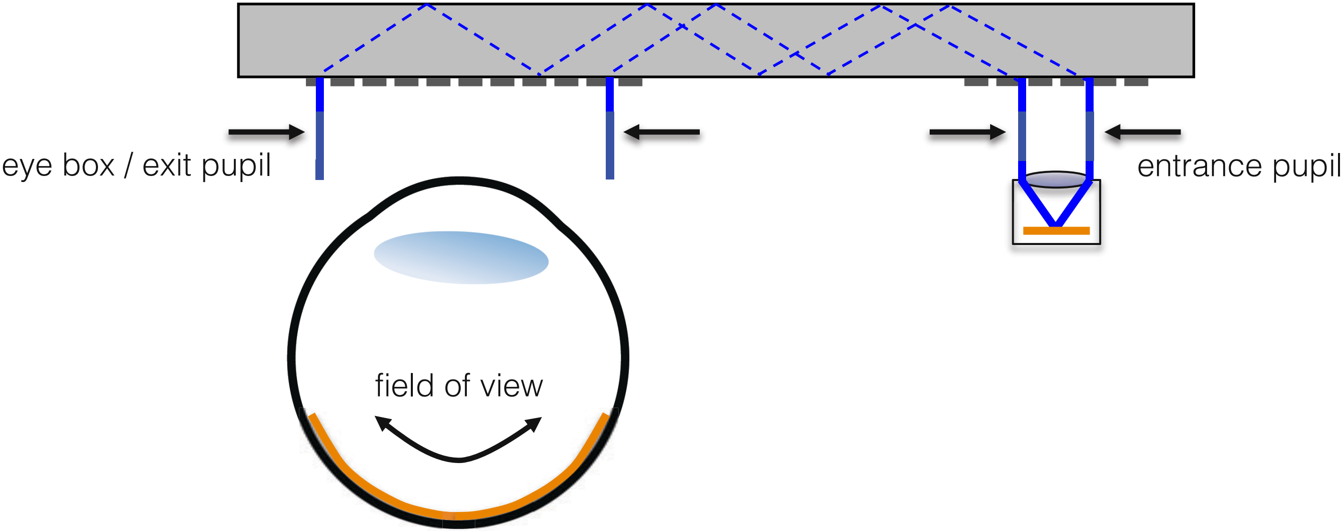
Challenges: Eye Box vs Field of View



- pupil needs to be magnified
- image needs to be magnified

➡ can't get both at the same time – etendue!

Challenges: Eye Box vs Field of View



eye box / exit pupil

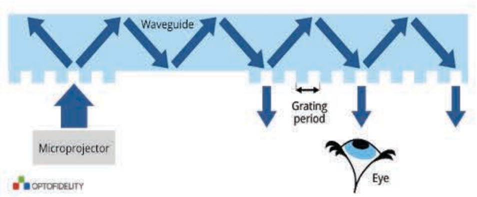
entrance pupil

field of view

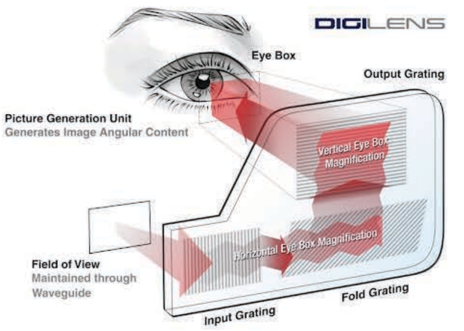
- possible solutions: exit pupil replication (loss of light), live with small FOV (not great), dynamically steer eye box (mechanically difficult), ..

Exit Pupil Expansion

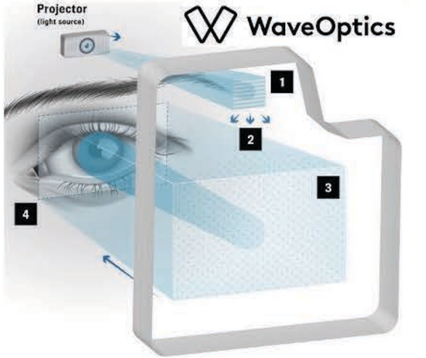
(a) 1D Pupil Expansion



(b) 2D Pupil Expansion with Turn Grating



(c) 2D Pupil Expansion with 2D Grating



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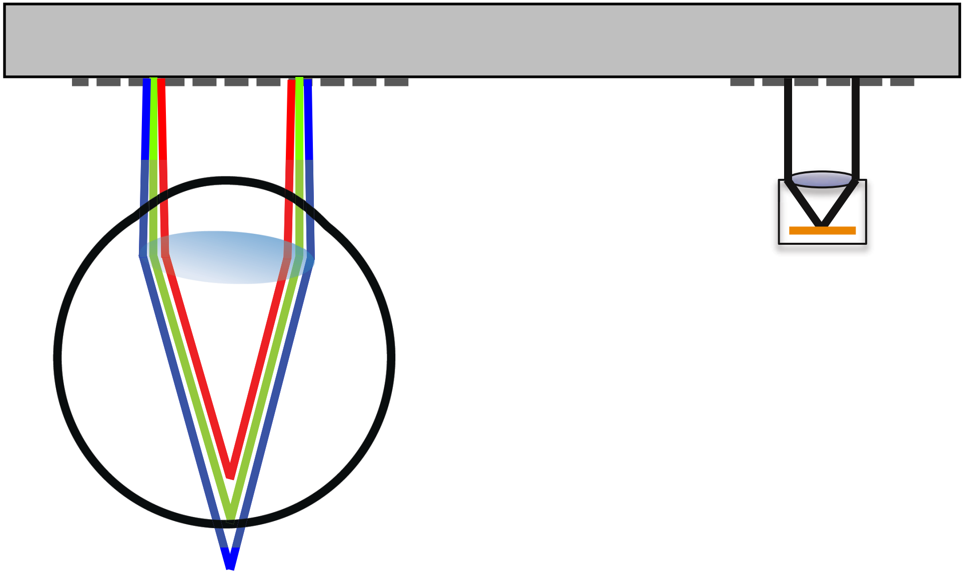
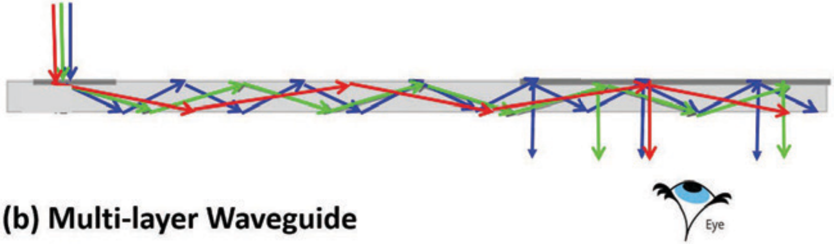
Challenges: Chromatic Aberrations



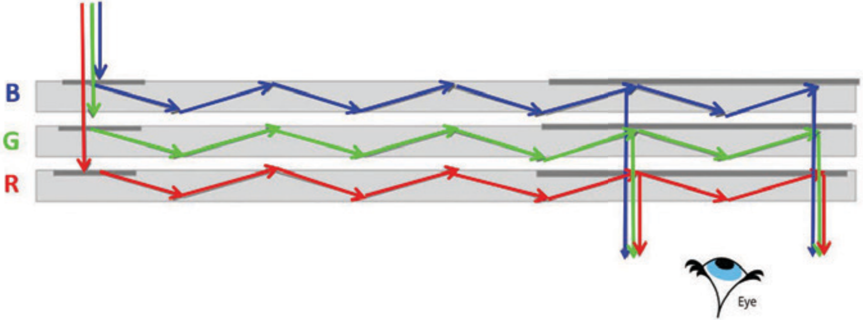
- thin grating couplers create chromatic aberrations

Challenges: Chromatic Aberrations

(a) Single-layer Waveguide



(b) Multi-layer Waveguide



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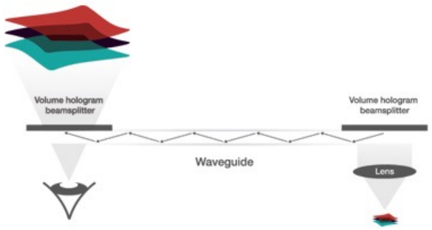
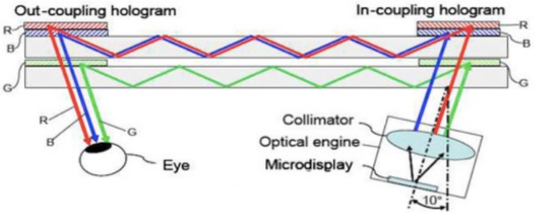
Challenges: Chromatic Aberrations

volume holographic couplers,
e.g. TruLife Optics

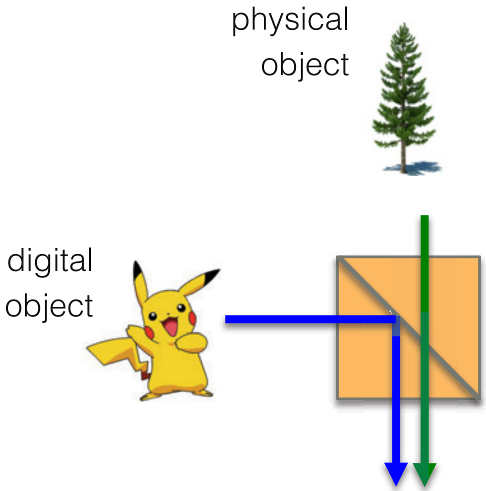


stacked waveguides



- all solutions have their own problems: ease of manufacturing, yield, robustness, cost, …

Occlusions



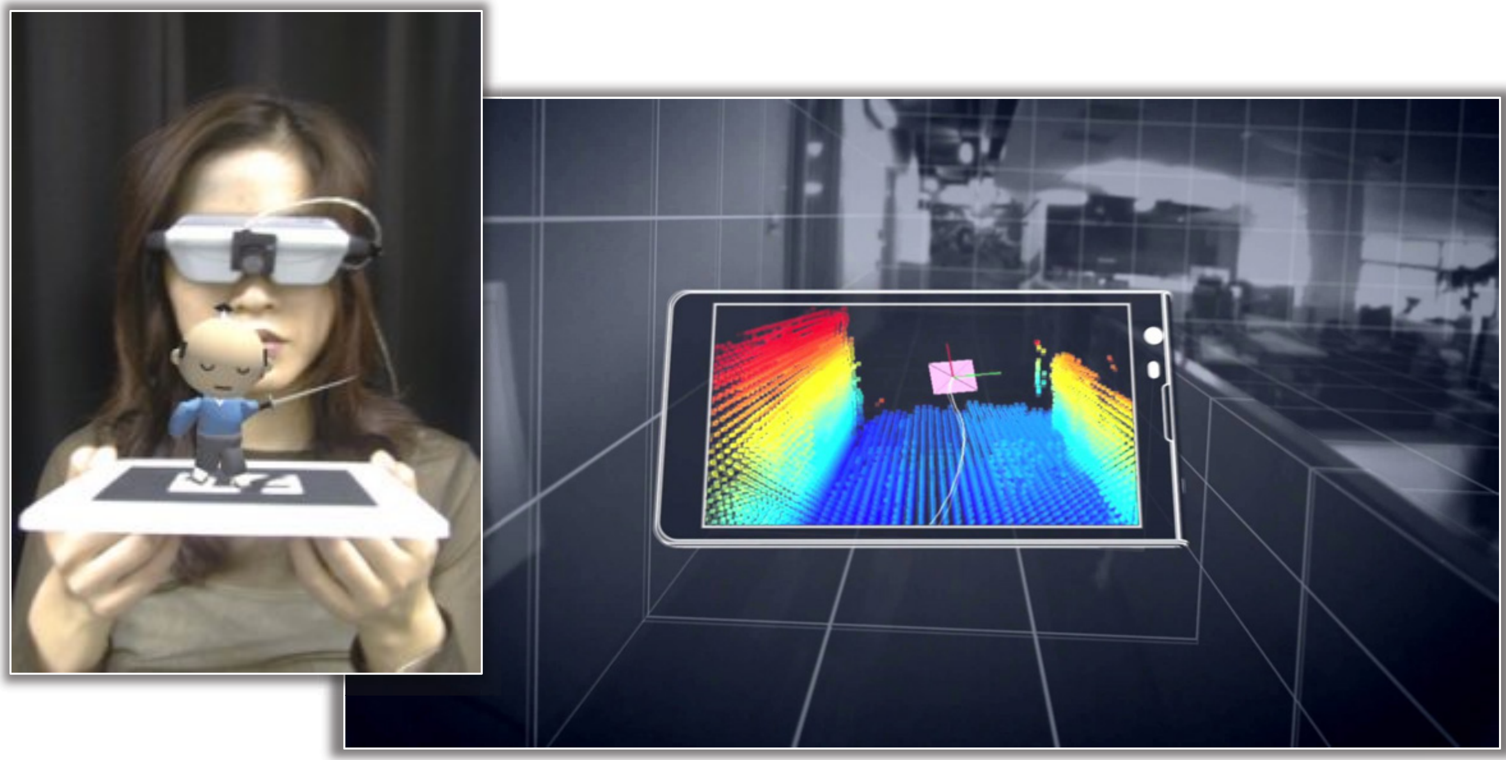
Case 1:
digital in front of physical

→ <u>difficult</u>: need
to block real light!

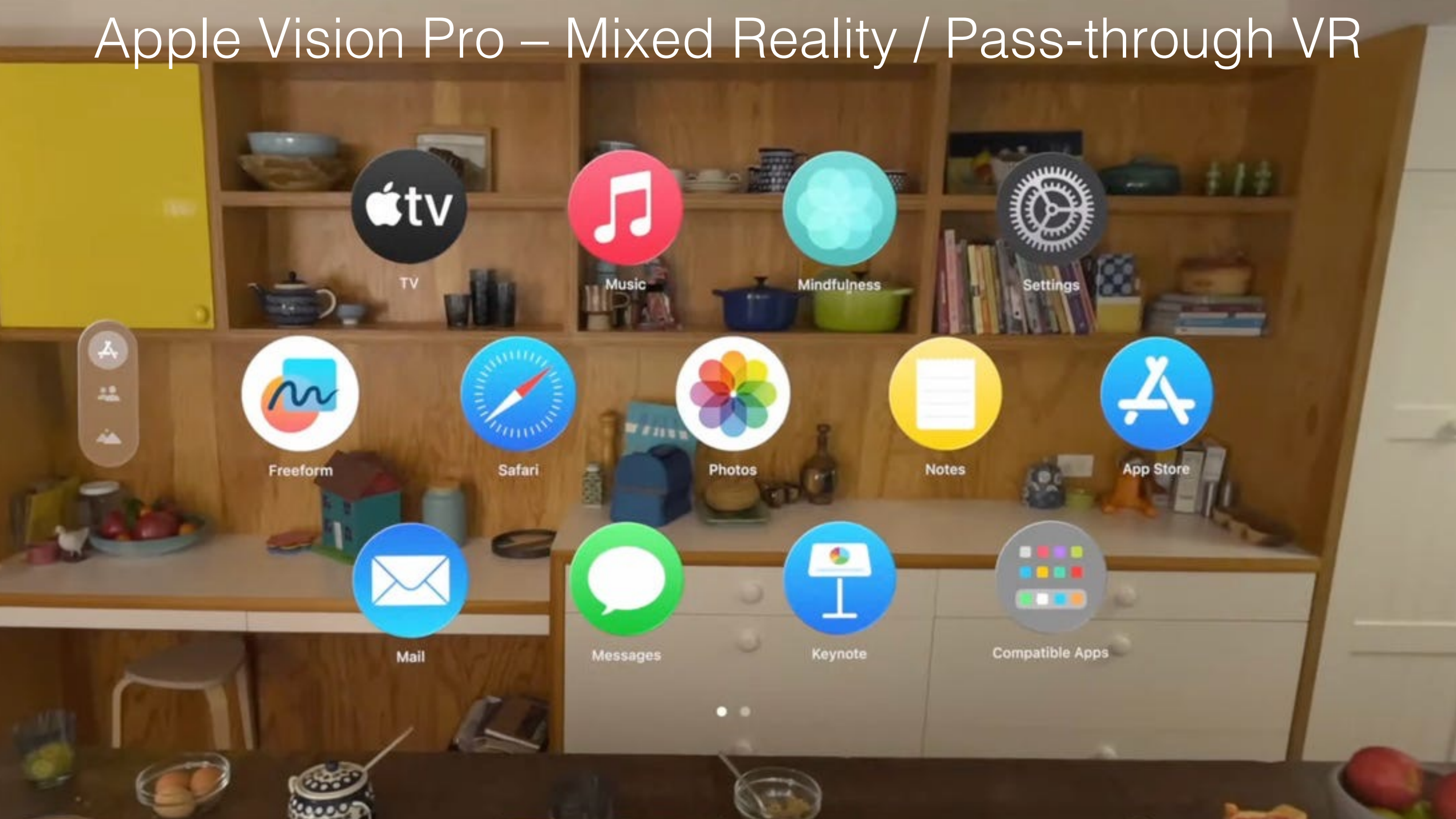
Case 2:
physical in front of digital

→ <u>easy</u>: don’t render
digital object everywhere

Video-based AR: ARCore, ARKit, ARToolKit, …



Apple Vision Pro – Mixed Reality / Pass-through VR



Next Lecture: Inertial Measurement Units I

- accelerometers, gyros, magnetometers
- sensor fusion
- head orientation tracking