# LED Technology for Improved Application Efficacy

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### Source efficacy



DOE BTO Lighting R&D Program, "2019 Lighting R&D Opportunities" Operating conditions: 35 A/cm<sup>2</sup>, 25 °C, 3000K warm white / 5700K cool white



Tracked pc-LEDs at fixed operating conditions

### ~140 lm/W to ~180 lm/W

Useful progress metric for LED technology, but...

- Operating conditions vary widely
- Luminous flux is not always the most important metric

#### State-of-the-art pc-LEDs at actual operating conditions

### <100 lm/W to >210 lm/W

Each of these LEDs is optimized for system efficacy in their respective application

# Breadth of SSL applications requires wide range of LED capabilities

Differentiation in luminance, spectrum, radiation profile, package size





# High luminance sources are a key element of directional lighting

Luminance  $L_v = d^2 \phi / (dS d\Omega \cos \theta)$ 

Luminous flux from a given source area within a given solid angle

#### Lower source efficiency ...

due to droop (epi/die/phosphor) and package design

#### ... but higher optical delivery efficiency

through better optical control in secondary optics



Next step in optical delivery efficiency: <u>dynamic</u> directional lighting

Dynamic light distributions for automotive headlighting

# Beam shaping with LED arrays

#### Currently on the road

Discrete LED module of 3 rows of 84 high-luminance LEDs Close coupled precollimation optics to create homogeneous headlighting



#### Towards digital headlighting

Densely-packed array eliminating need for precollimation

Enables higher pixel count with more functionality







# Dynamic light distributions in general illumination



**Configurable spaces** Shop windows and floors Open plan offices Exhibition spaces Scene setting Hospitality Human centric lighting Multi-purpose rooms **Functionality and performance** Adjust to occupants / activity / traffic Improved uniformity Reduced glare

# Example: area lighting

#### LED technology enables excellent illuminance uniformity

- IES RP-20-98 recommends <15:1-20:1 max/min
- 3:1 max/min is considered very good
- State of the art LED fixtures can achieve <2:1 max/min with optimal positioning



#### ... but results vary in practical applications

- Retrofit with existing poles
- Physical space constraints
- Availability of desired fixture
- Installation difficulties
- Budget



### Improved delivery and intensity efficiency with pixelated LED sources



Modeled illuminance on plane receiver using example lens with 5x5 array of LED elements Lens design can be optimized to achieve desired balance between beam angle, spatial resolution and optical efficiency

#### Key benefits

- ➢ Reduce # optics SKUs
- > Flexible commissioning adjusting to local conditions (luminaire spacing, obstacles)
- Create high resolution map for advanced controls

### Digital directional lighting: from automotive to illumination applications

**Automotive** Application characteristics High pixel count Contrast over efficacy Color quality: cool white, color discrimination Narrow beam Glare reduction by beam pixelation Single application

**Illumination** Application characteristics

Medium pixel count

Efficacy over contrast

Color quality: full CCT range, high color fidelity, color tuning

Wide beam

Glare reduction by luminance uniformity

Scalable in area and flux

**Illumination** Required technology elements



High luminance mini-LED device architecture optimized for efficacy



Phosphor integration technology



Scalable optical designs: Refractive and lightguide optics Sparse clusters of densely packed mini-LEDs



Spectrum-engineered LEDs can increase or reduce melanopic spectral content vs. broadband reference spectra

# Efficacy of high melanopic lighting solutions

Higher m/p ratio does not equal higher melanopic efficacy

#### **Application efficacy metric**

Melanopic equivalent daylight luminous efficacy

= Luminous efficacy \* m/p

At 6500K	m/p	η <sub>v</sub> (lm/W)	η <sup>D65</sup> <sub>v,m</sub> (lm/W)
CRI80	0.86	175	150
CR190	0.97	152	147
Full spectrum CRI95	1.00	~120	~120
Cyan-enhanced CRI80	1.09	~130	~142



M-EDI targets are more efficiently realized with royal-blue pumped pc-LEDs (fixed or tunable CCT)

# Efficacy of low melanopic lighting solutions

Optimizing for 3 quantities: luminous flux ( $\uparrow$ ), melanopic flux ( $\downarrow$ ), input power ( $\downarrow$ )

#### Application efficacy metric / figure of merit

Power conversion efficiency \* (photopic spectral weighting)<sup>a</sup> / (melanopic spectral weighting)<sup>b</sup>

= PCE \*  $p^a / m^b$ 

a=1, b=1: equal weighting

a=2, b=1: luminous efficacy \* p/m

At 2700K	m/p	η <sub>v</sub> (lm/W)	FOM a=1	FOM a=2
CRI80	0.43	161	1.12	374
CRI90	0.46	135	1.00	292
Low melanopic	0.32	123	1.33	383



Violet-pumped low melanopic LEDs can be an efficient solution depending on prioritization of key parameters

### Integral lighting design for maximum application efficacy Combining multiple light distributions and spectra

#### **Example design targets**

- Vertical melanopic equivalent daylight illuminance of 500 lx early in the day
- Horizontal illuminance of 1000 lx on task surfaces







Diffuse blue-rich light

- High CCT (10,000K) diffuse low luminance source with batwing distribution
- Limit peak intensity setting to time window with maximum circadian efficacy

#### **Directional white light**

- Neutral CCT (4000K) directional source
- Tailor light distribution to space layout (task surfaces, corridors)
- Dynamically adapt light distribution to occupancy and daylight

# Ultimate freedom in lighting design

Vision: light any surface from **any angle** with **any intensity** and **any spectrum** 

Paradigm change in lighting design

From: selecting and positioning fixed building blocks to create a single lighting distribution

To: developing algorithms to create an infinite number of lighting distributions depending on application needs – no energy wasted!



Digitally controlled pixelated LED sources can help realize this vision

Requires collaborative effort in LED device development, electronics integration, optics, control development and lighting design

