

Glare and Diffuse Sources Characterizing Glare

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3 Questions

What is
Glare?

How do we
Measure Glare?

How do we
Predict Glare?

A close-up photograph of a human eye with a light-colored iris. A black circle is superimposed over the pupil, containing the text "What is Glare?". The eye is surrounded by eyelashes and skin. The text is in a white, serif font.

What is
Glare?

Disability Glare



E Patterson / Understanding Disability Glare



Lee Sullivan / Lake Norman Media

Failure to form a retinal image due to *excessive brightness* or *low contrast*

Discomfort Glare



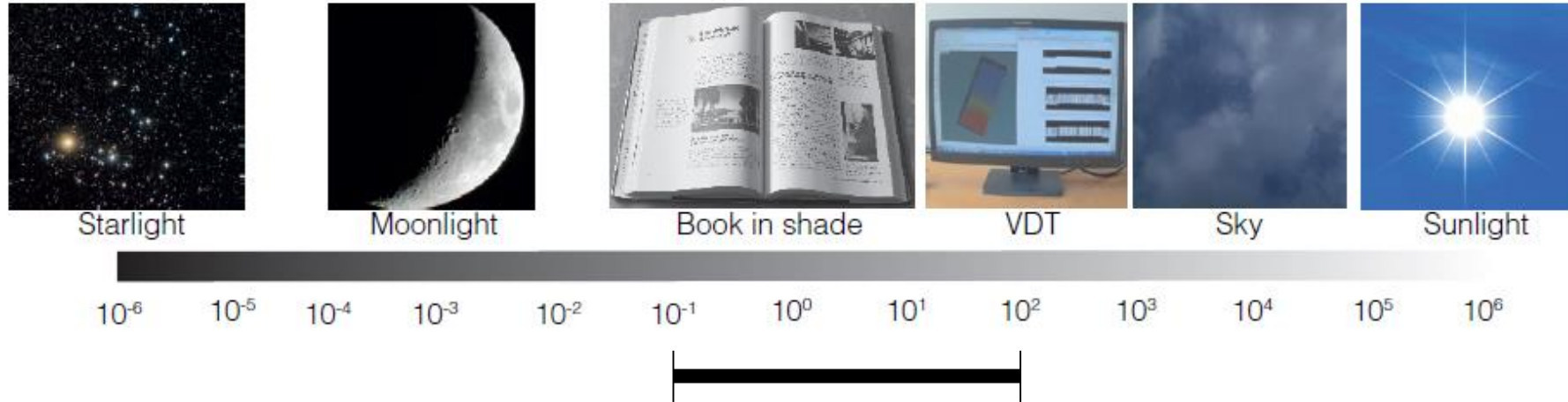
Alstan Jakubiec / Christoph Reinhart



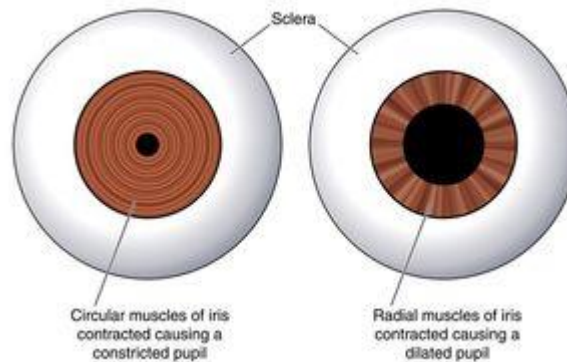
Naomi Miller / PNNL

Pain caused by object in the field of view that is brighter than the luminance to which the observer is ***adapted***

Visible Range

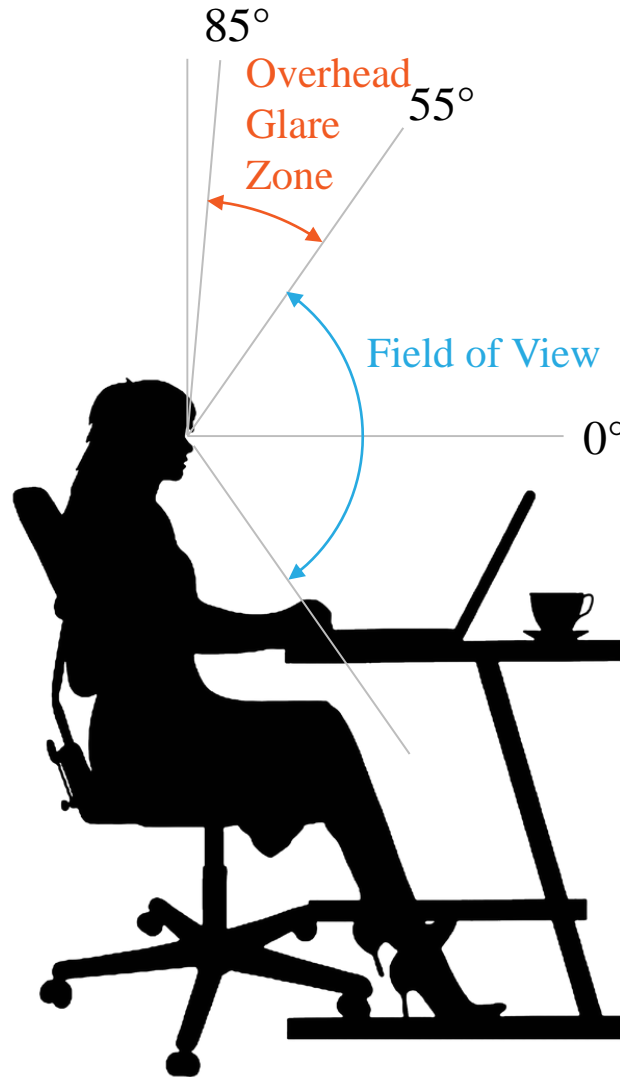


We perceive only *3 orders of magnitude* in luminance without adjusting our eyes



Rules of Thumb

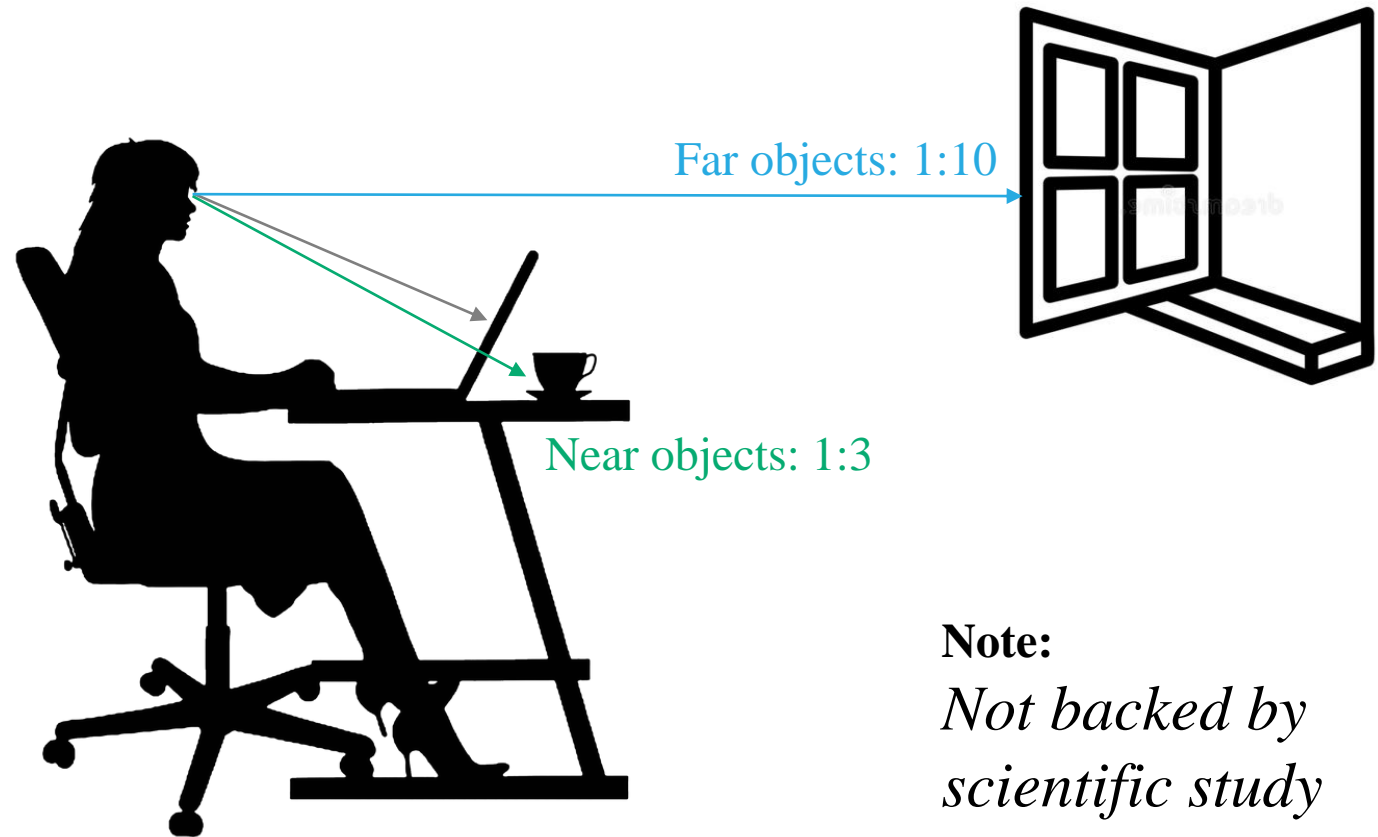
Field of View



Assumption:
Don't look up!

Rules of Thumb

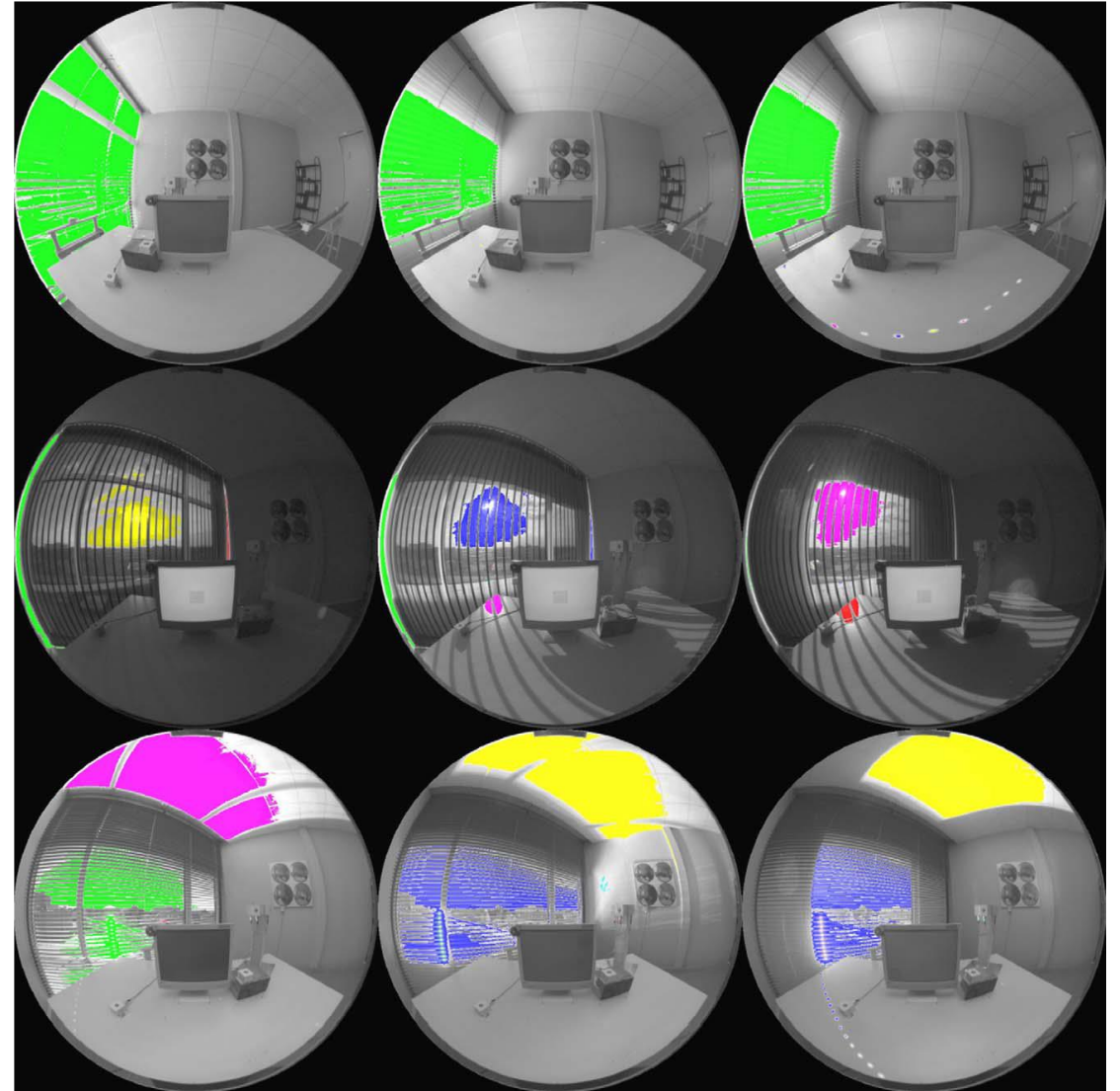
Contrast Ratio



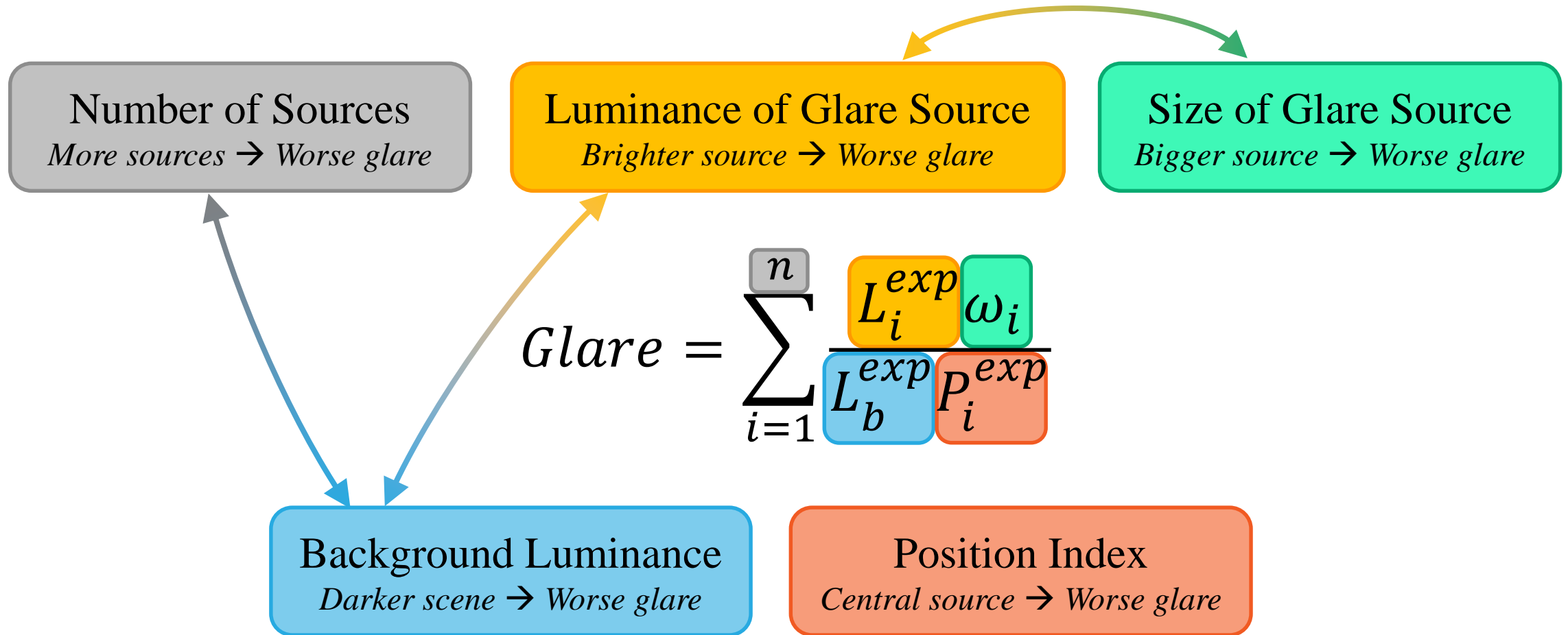
How do we
Measure
Glare?



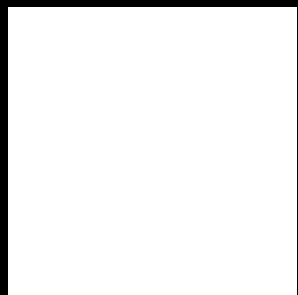
Photographing Glare



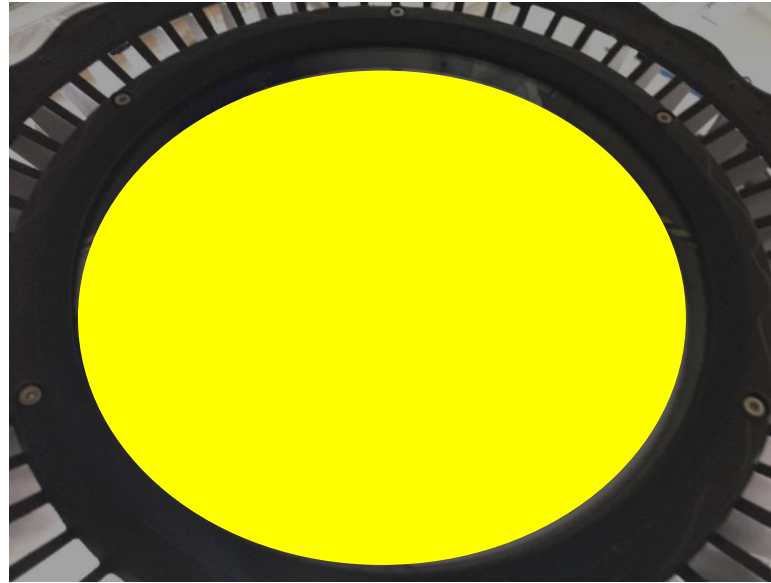
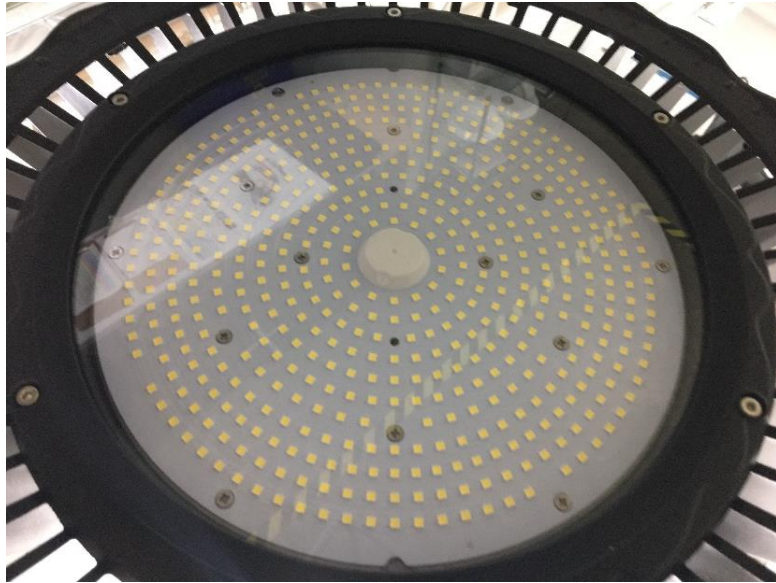
Glare Metrics



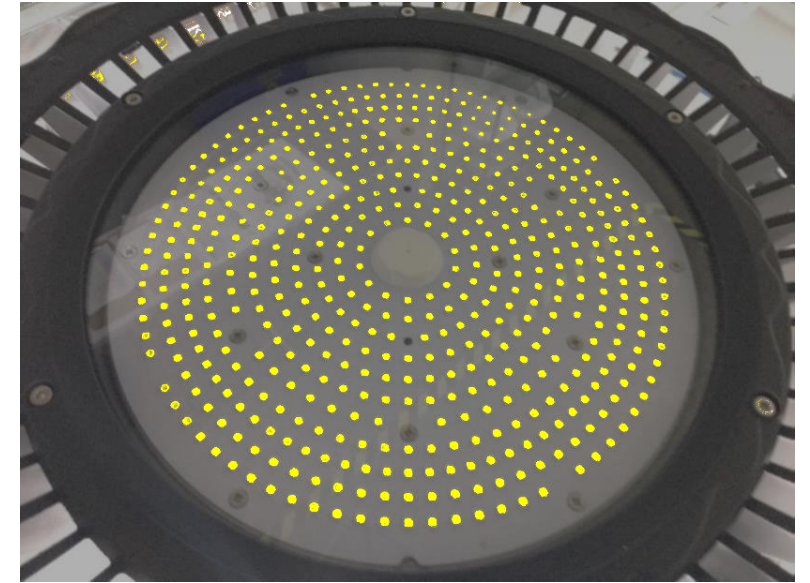
Luminance vs Contrast



How Big is the Light Source?



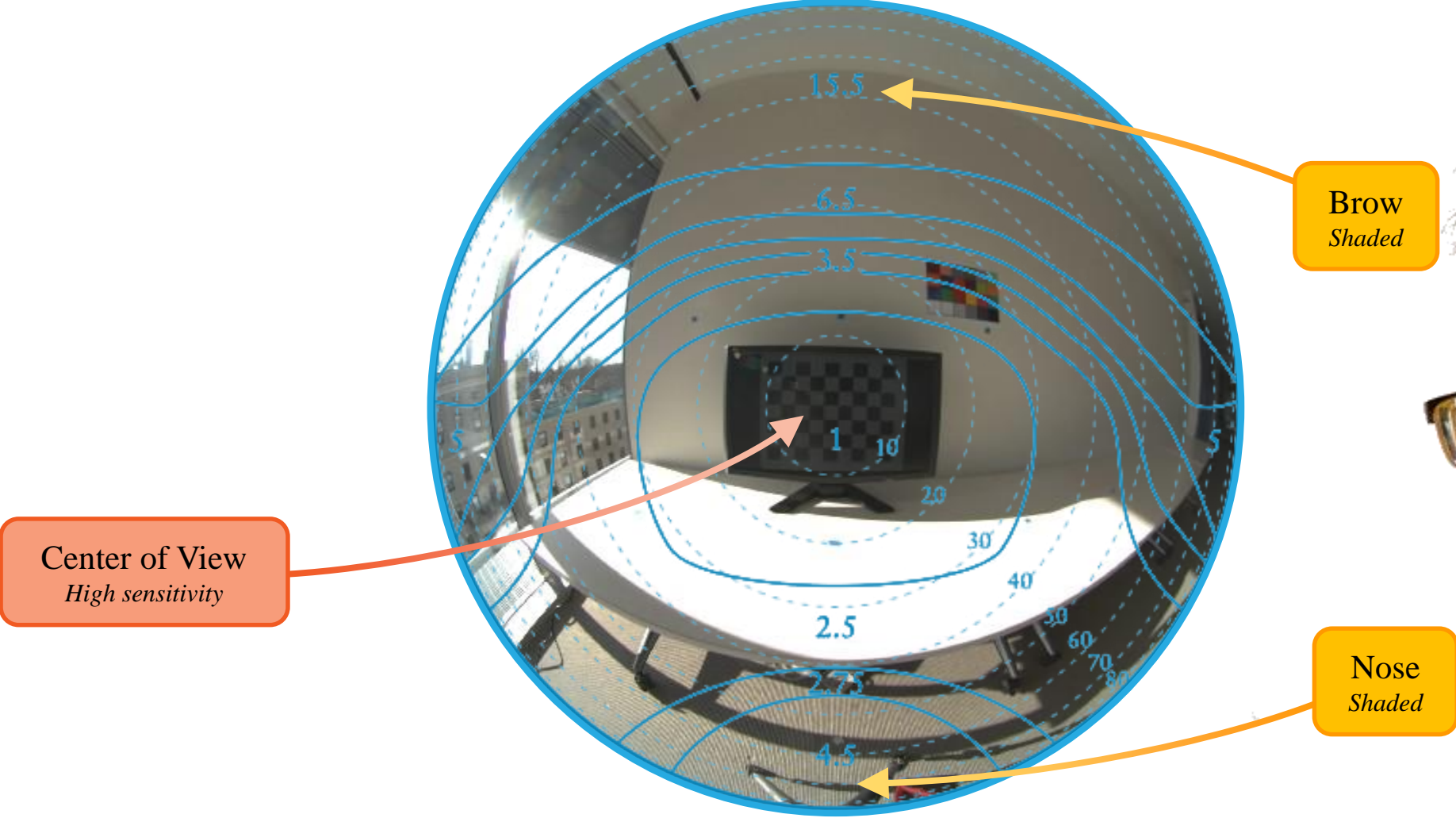
Large solid angle
25-30,000 cd/m²



Small solid angles
1.5 million cd/m²

CIE JTC7 provides an approach for calculating “effective” luminous area

Position Index



Glare Metrics

Visual Comfort Probability

$$VCP = 279 - 110 \times \log_{10} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{0.5L_i(20.4\omega_i + 1.53\omega_i^{0.2} - 0.075)}{E_{avg}^{10.44} P_i} \right)^{n^{-0.0914}} \right)$$

$$Glare = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{L_i^{exp} \omega_i}{L_b^{exp} P_i^{exp}}$$

Daylight Glare Probability

$$DGP = 5.87 \times 10^{-5} E_v + 0.0918 \times \log_{10} \left(1 + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{L_i^2 \omega_i}{E_v^{1.87} P_i^2} \right) + 0.16$$

For large diffuse sources
Sky

For small bright sources
Sun

CIE Glare Index

$$CGI = 8 \times \log_{10} 2 \frac{1 + E_d/500}{E_d + E_i} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{L_i^2 \omega_i}{P_i^2}$$

Unified Glare Rating

$$UGR = 8 \times \log_{10} \frac{0.25}{L_b} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{L_i^2 \omega_i}{P_i^2}$$

For in between sources
Electric lights

Daylight Glare Index

$$DGI = 10 \times \log_{10} 0.48 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{L_i^{1.6} \Omega_i^{0.8}}{L_b + 0.07 \omega_i^{0.5} L_i}$$

Glare Metrics

	DGP	DGI	UGR	VCP	CGI
Imperceptible	<0.35	<18	<13	80 – 100	<13
Perceptible	0.35 – 0.40	18 – 24	13 – 22	60 – 80	13 – 22
Disturbing	0.40 – 0.45	24 – 31	22 – 28	40 – 60	22 – 28
Intolerable	>0.45	>31	>28	<40	>28
	For Daylight		For Electric Light		

Unified Glare Rating Limit

	UGR		UGR-L
Imperceptible	<13		
Perceptible	13 – 22	Technical drawing	16
		Offices	19
		Reception areas	22
Disturbing	22 – 28	Archives, stairs and lifts	25
		Corridors and passageways	28
Intolerable	>28		

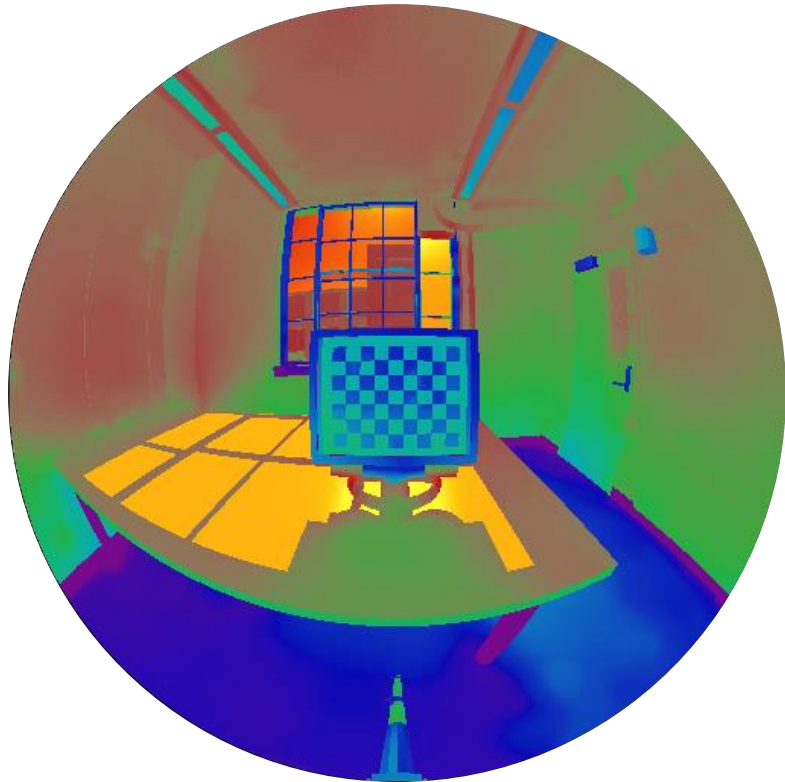
The image consists of a 10x10 grid of 100 small square panels. Each panel shows a scene with a table and chairs, viewed from a high angle. The scene is rendered in grayscale. The panels are arranged in a grid, and the text "How do we Predict Glare?" is overlaid on the grid. The text is in a white, serif font, centered horizontally and vertically. The background of the grid is a dark, almost black color, which makes the white text stand out. The grid itself is composed of small, square panels, each showing a different view or lighting condition of the scene. The overall effect is a dense, repetitive pattern of the scene, illustrating the concept of glare prediction.

How do we *Predict* Glare?

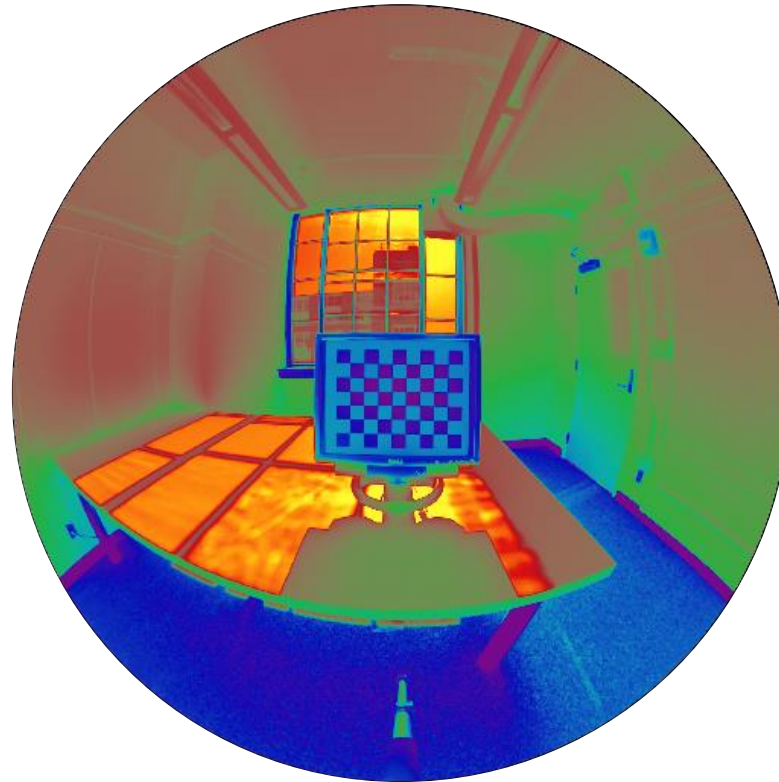
Simulation

Simulations can match reality with extreme closeness ...

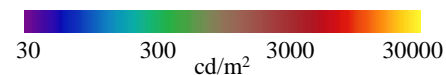
... and now many software products let you do this



Simulation



HDR Photograph



Radiance

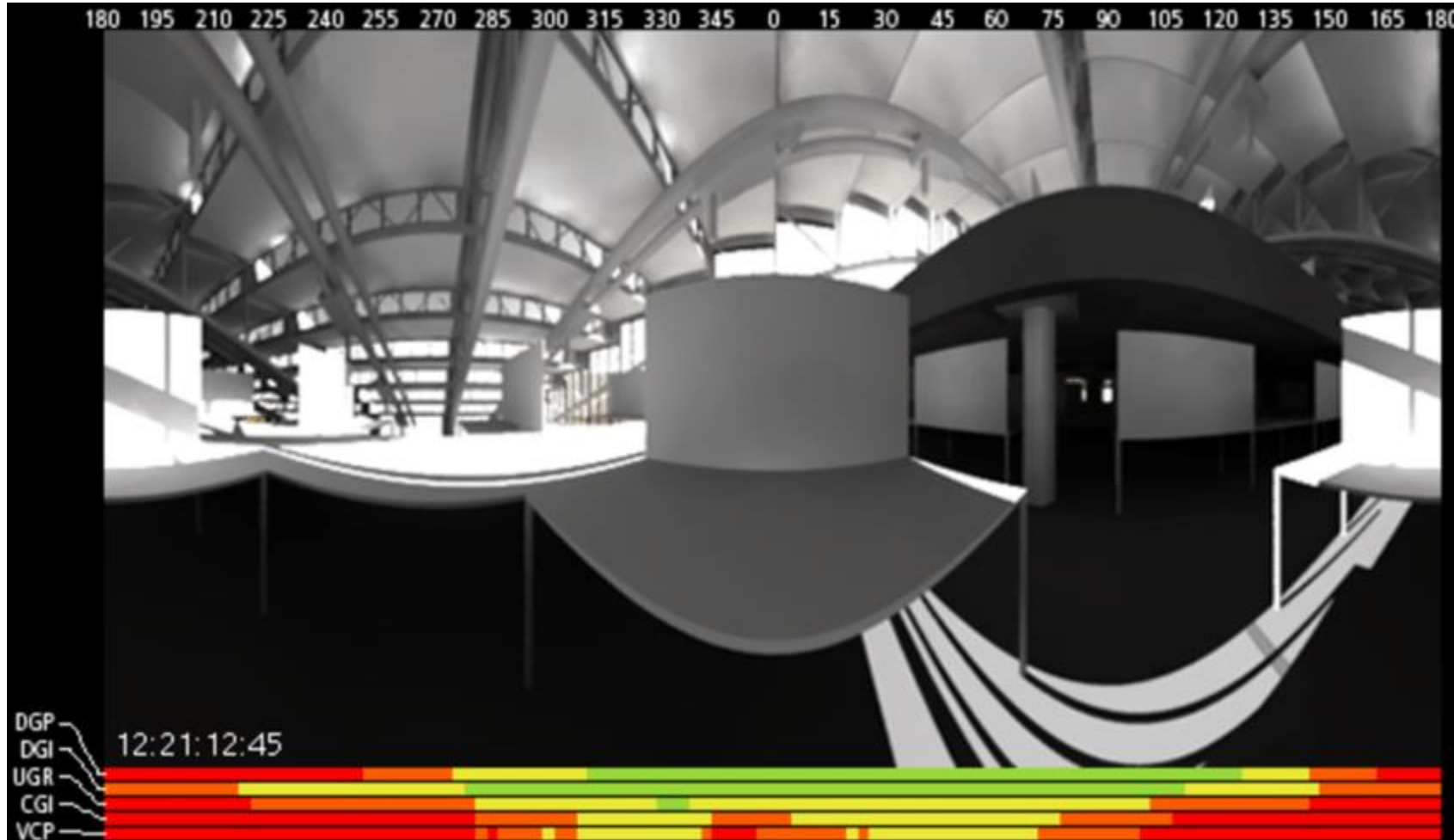
DIALux



Ladybug
Tools

SOLEMMA

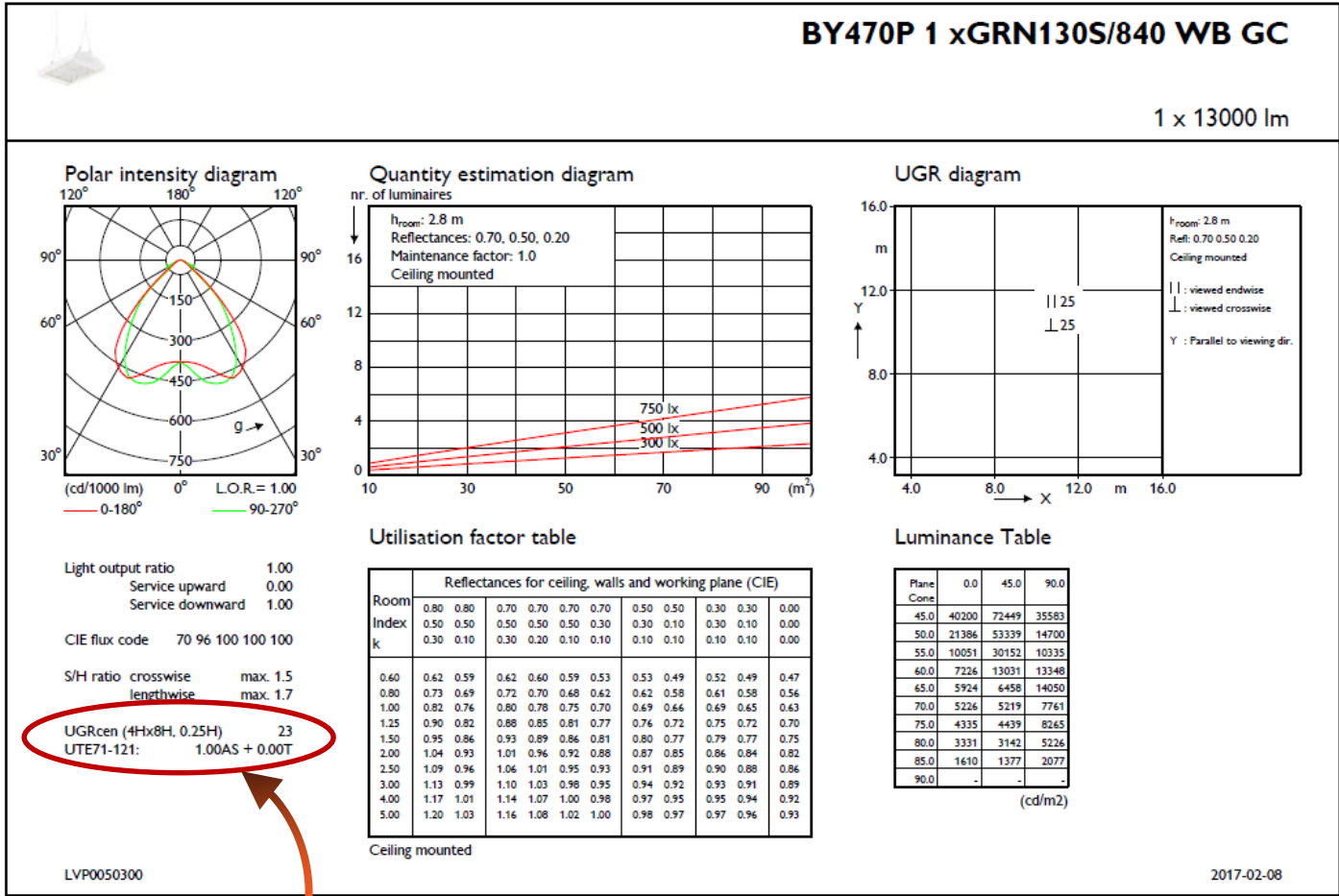
360° Glare



■ Imperceptible ■ Perceptible ■ Disturbing ■ Intolerable

Lesson:
*Your view direction,
the room shape, and
its furniture and
finishes matter!*

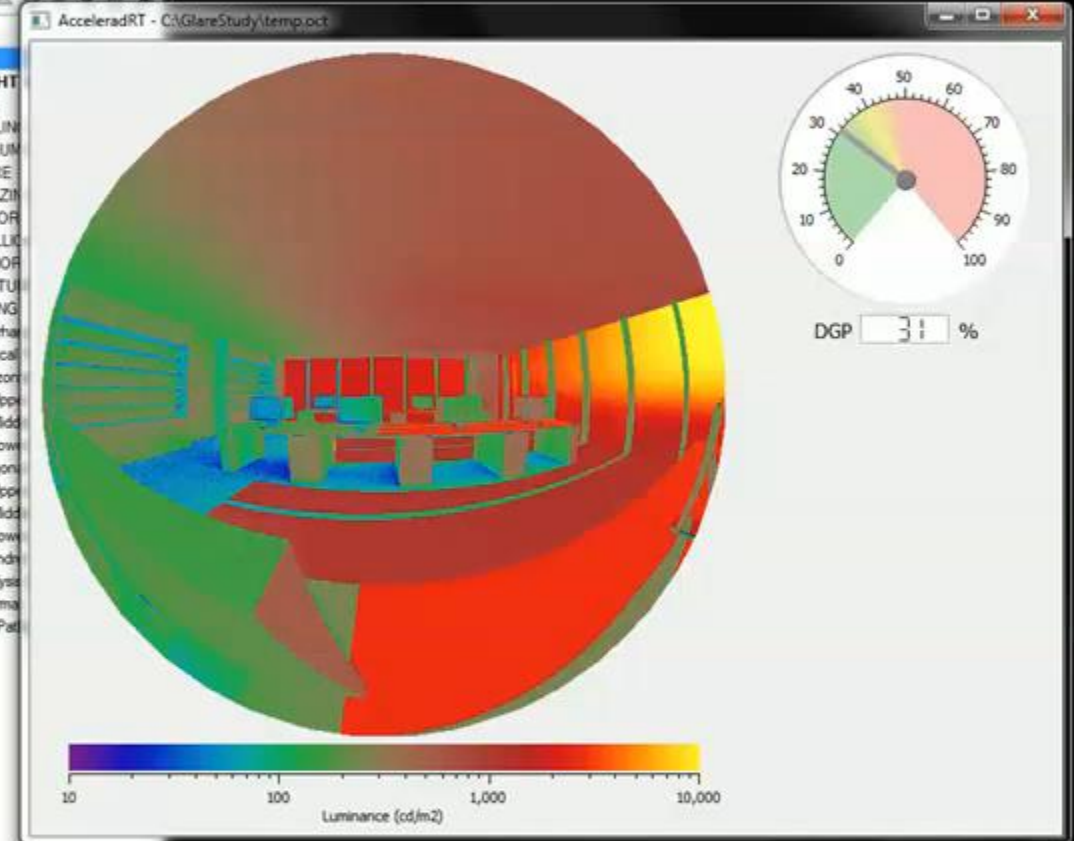
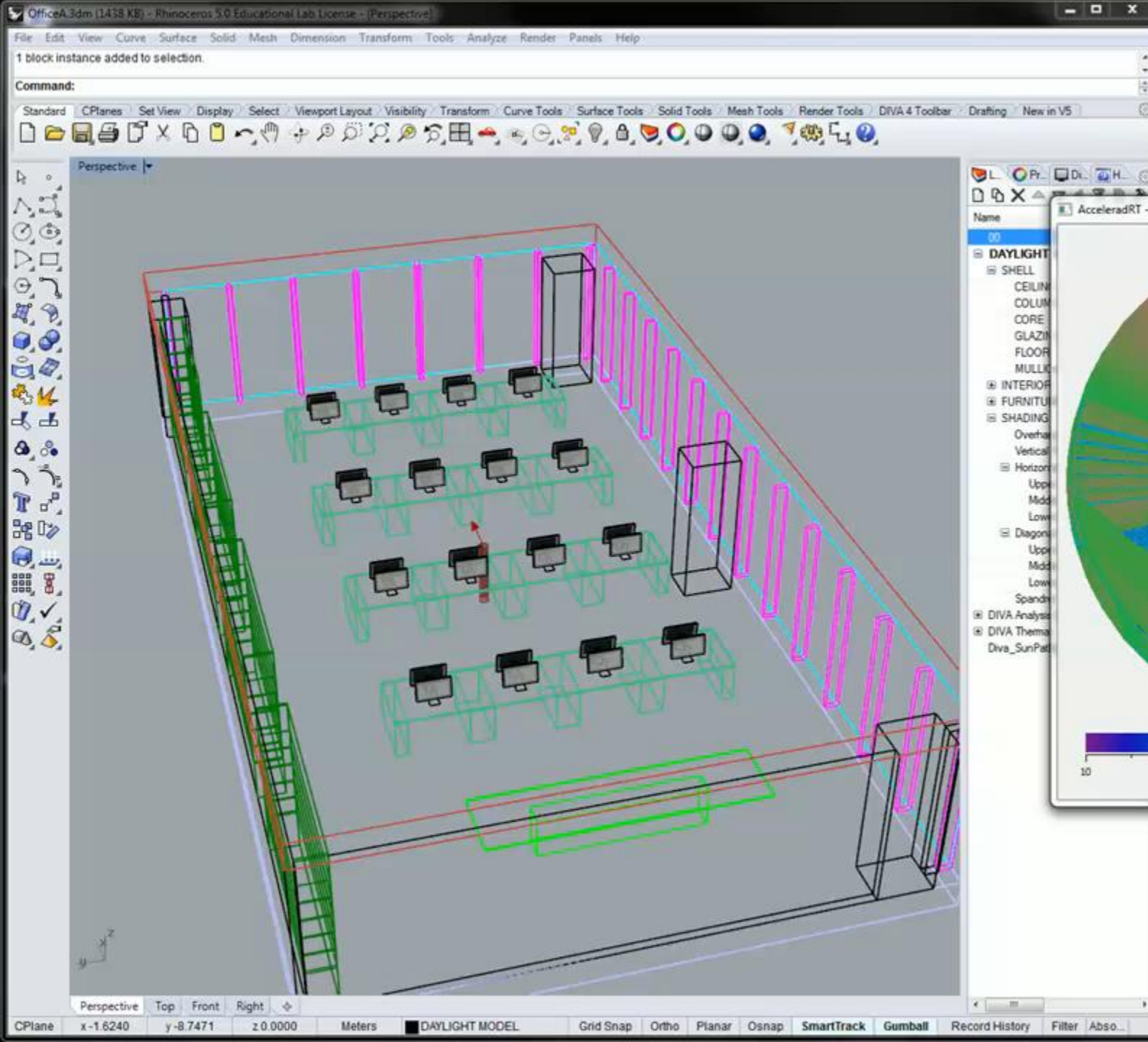
Reported Luminaire “Glare”



Note:
This is not what the occupant experiences

UGR = 23

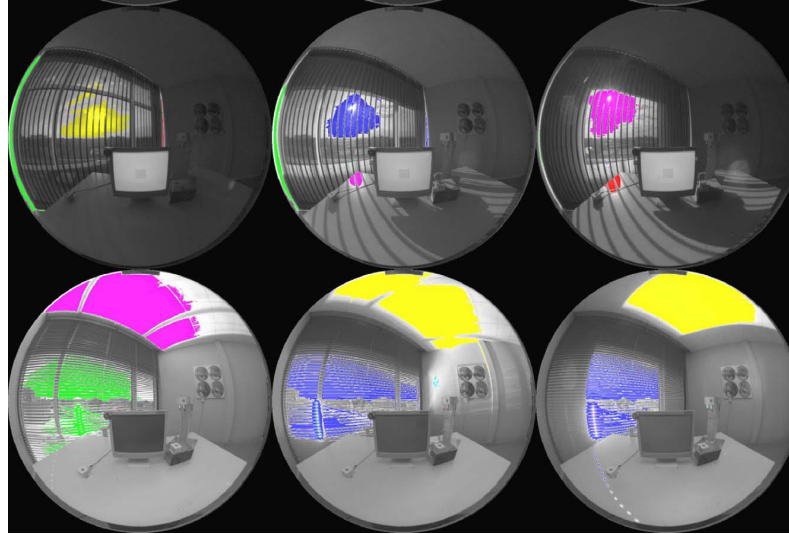
Accelerad



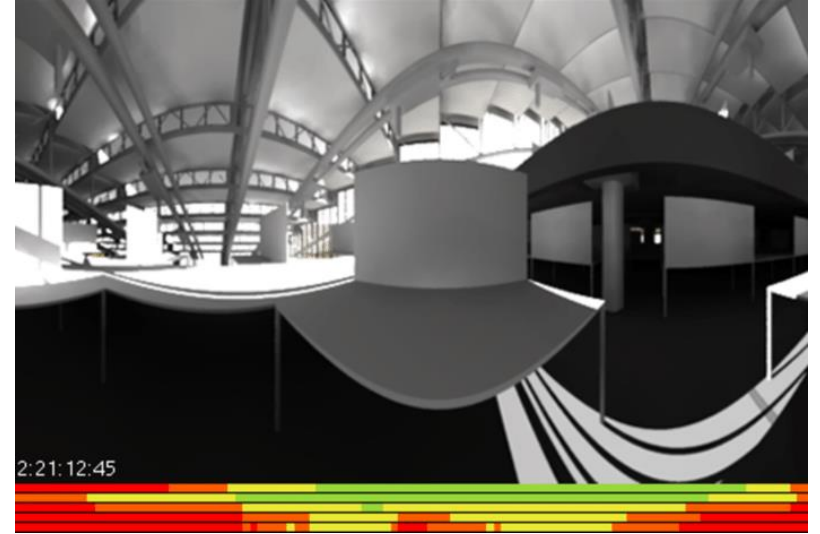
In Summary



Glare happens when there is *too much luminance* for the eye to (comfortably) handle



We can measure glare using *photography* or *simulation* – but existing metrics are imperfect



Glare measurement must account for the *luminaire*, the *room*, and the *viewer*

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