

The Case for Angular Extent X

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1

The large zoo of physical quantities

extensive), their transformation properties (i.e. whether the quantity is a scalar, vector, matrix or tensor), and whether the quantity is conserved.

Scalar [edit]

Main category: *Scalar physical quantities*

Scalar quantities					
Name	Symbol	Description	SI unit	Quantity dimension	Comments
absorbed dose rate	D	Absorbed dose received per unit of time	Gy/s	$L^2 T^{-3}$	
action	S	Momentum of particle multiplied by distance travelled	J/Hz	$M L^2 T^{-1}$	
amount of substance	n	The quantity proportional to the number of particles in a sample, with the Avogadro constant as the proportionality constant	mole (mol)	N	ISQ base quantity, extensive
angular acceleration	ω_a	Change in angular velocity per unit time	rad/s ²	T^{-2}	

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2

2

What makes a good quantity?

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \frac{m}{2} v^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{kin}} + E_{\text{pot}} \\ + E_{\text{thermal}} + \dots \\ = \text{const} \end{aligned}$$

$$G_{\text{special}} = \frac{m^2}{2} \sqrt{3}$$



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Robin Higgins, pixabay

3

3

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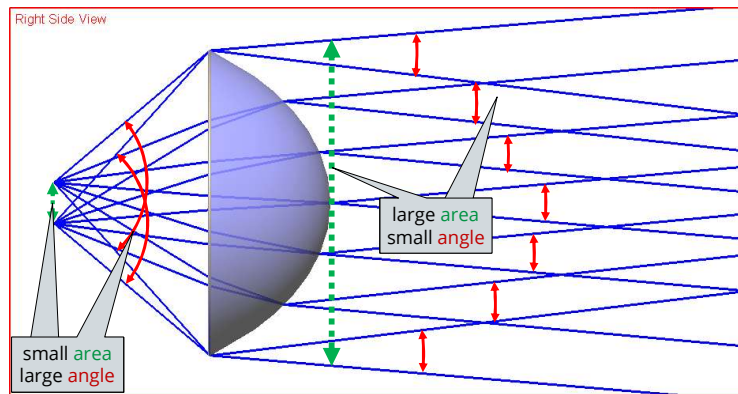
- Shortens lengthy expressions
- Features prominently in laws of Nature
- Has an intuitive name
- Unique, descriptive symbol

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4

4

Etendue U



$$\text{„Etendue“} = \text{area} \cdot \text{solid angle} = \text{const?}$$

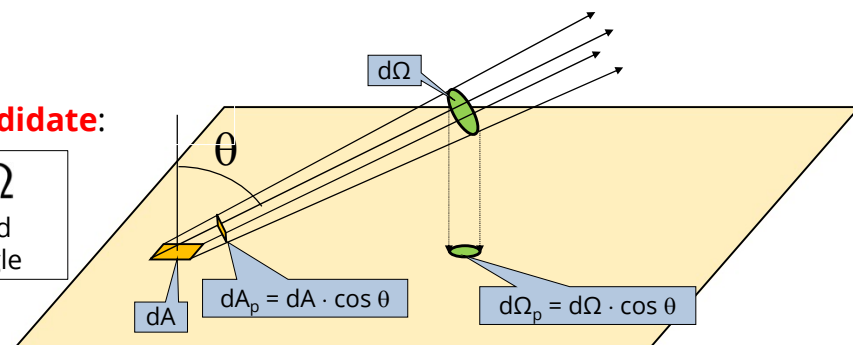
5

Infinitesimal etendue and the $\cos(\theta)$ factor

Projected small area element to Small solid angle element
 =
 Small area element to Projected small solid angle element

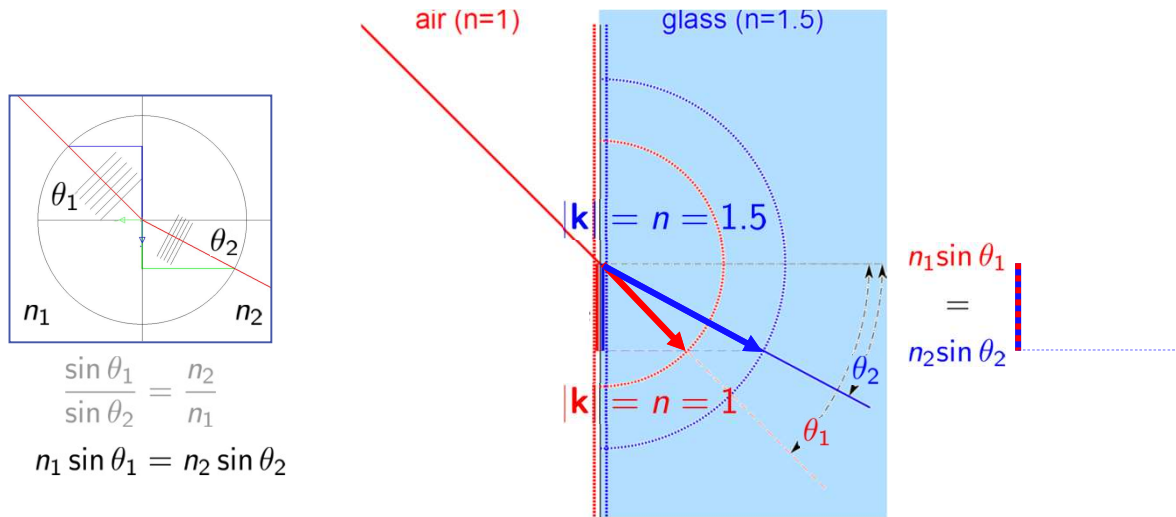
Etendue building block **candidate**:

$$dU = \underbrace{dA}_{\text{Projected area}} \cdot \underbrace{\cos \theta}_{\text{Projected solid angle}} \cdot d\Omega$$



6

What about Snell's law?



7

Infinitesimal etendue

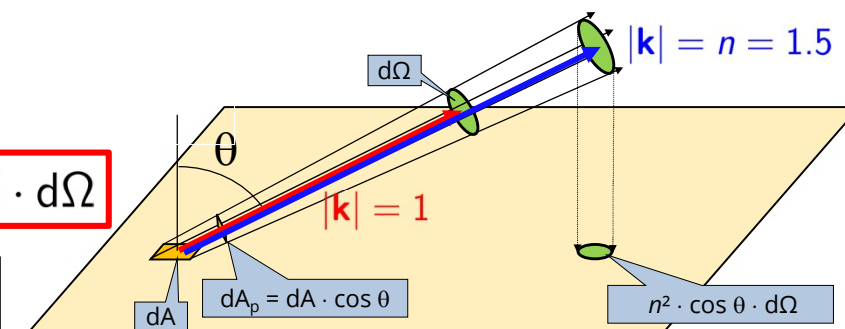
$$dX = n^2 \cdot \cos \theta \cdot d\Omega$$

$$dU = dA dX$$

Etendue building block:

$$dU = dA \cdot n^2 \cdot \cos \theta \cdot d\Omega$$

Infinitesimal
angular extent dX

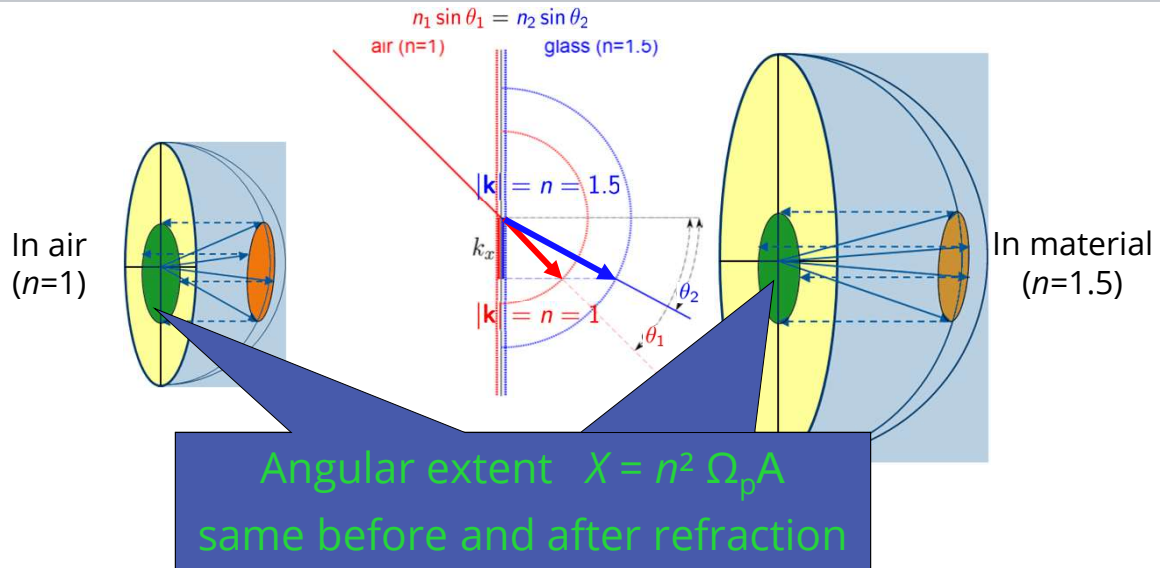


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8

8

Refraction conserves angular extent, thus étendue

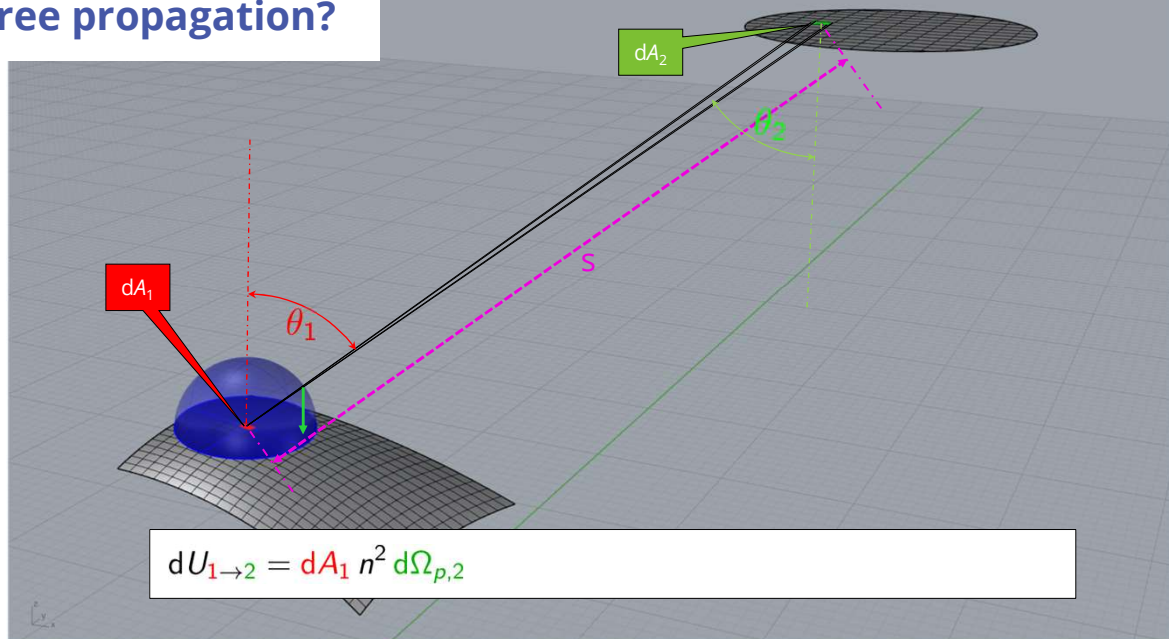


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9

9

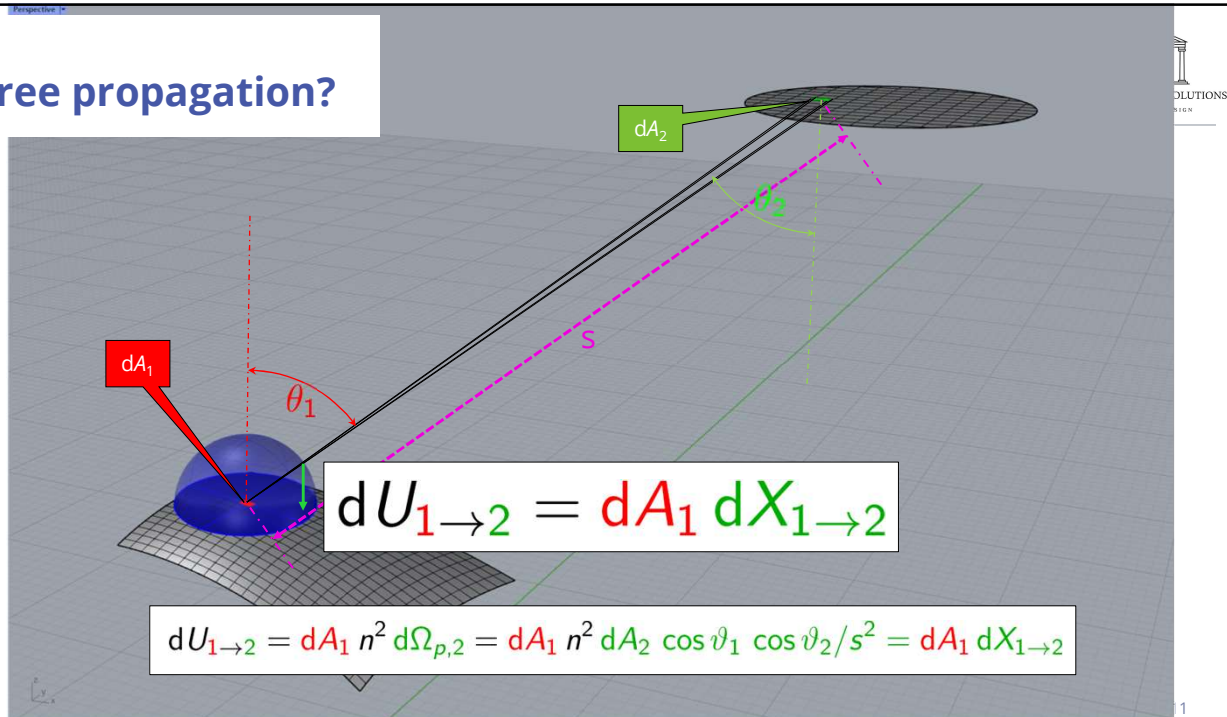
Free propagation?



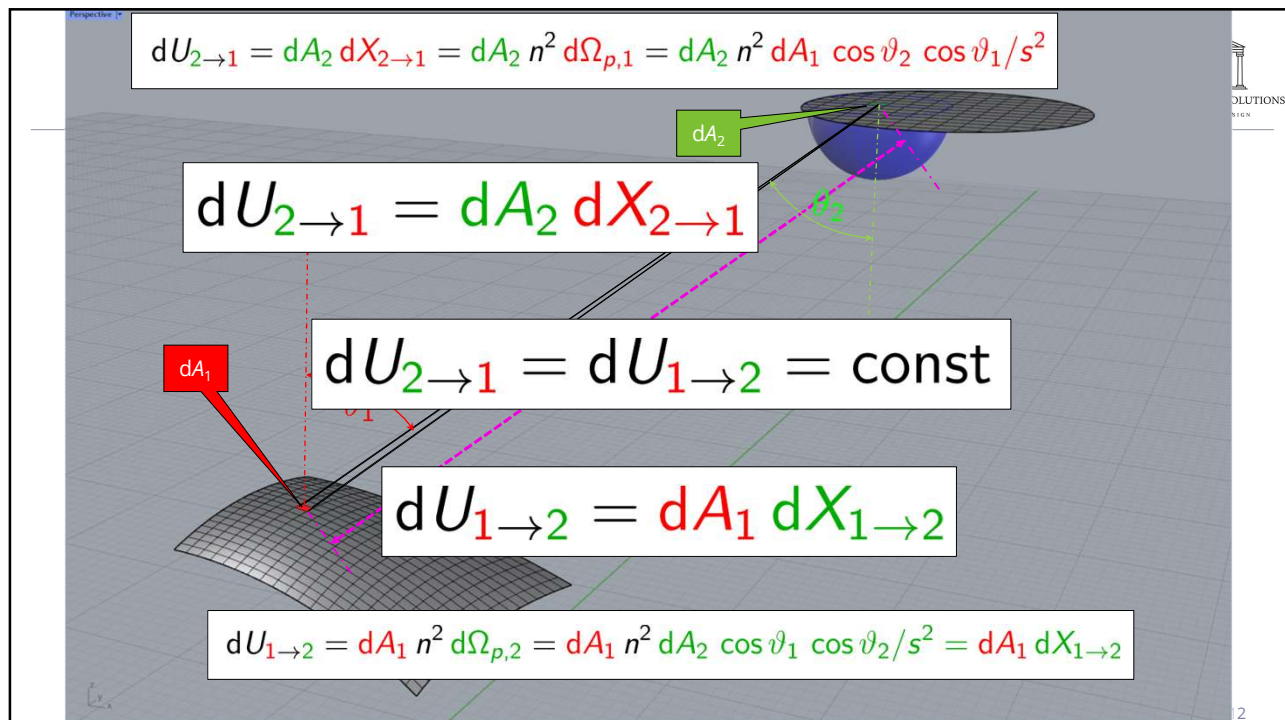
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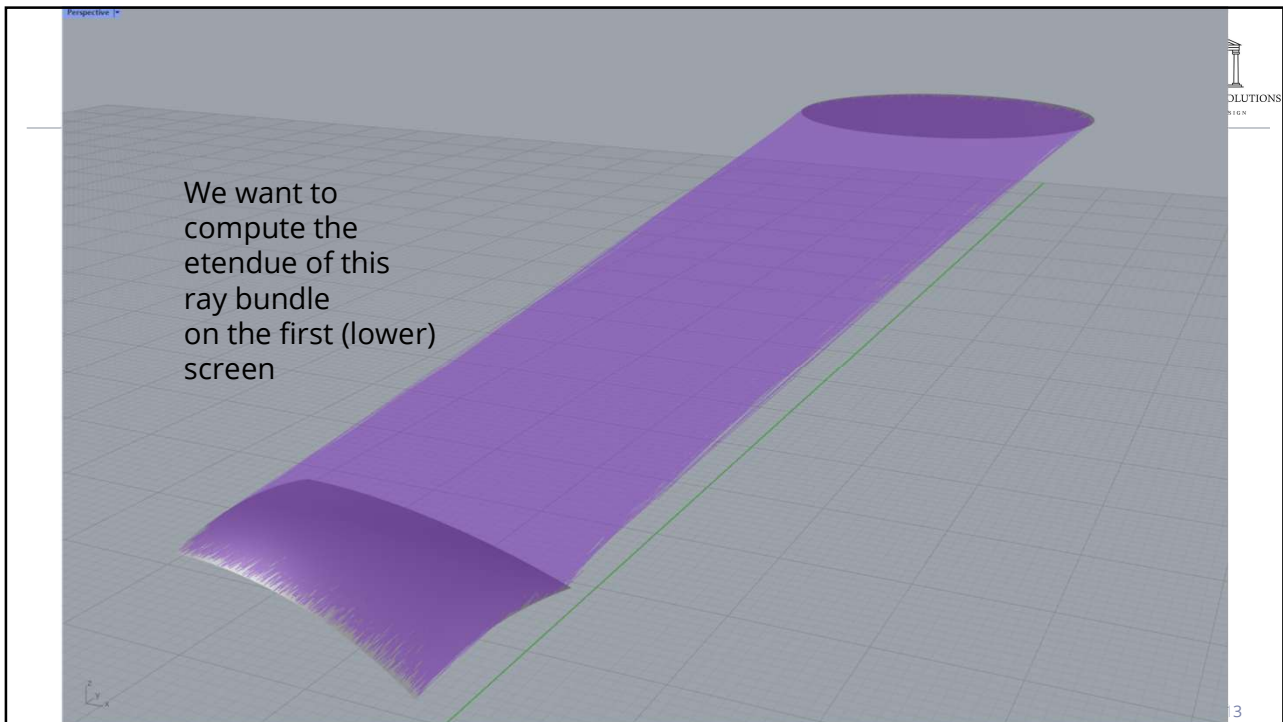
Free propagation?



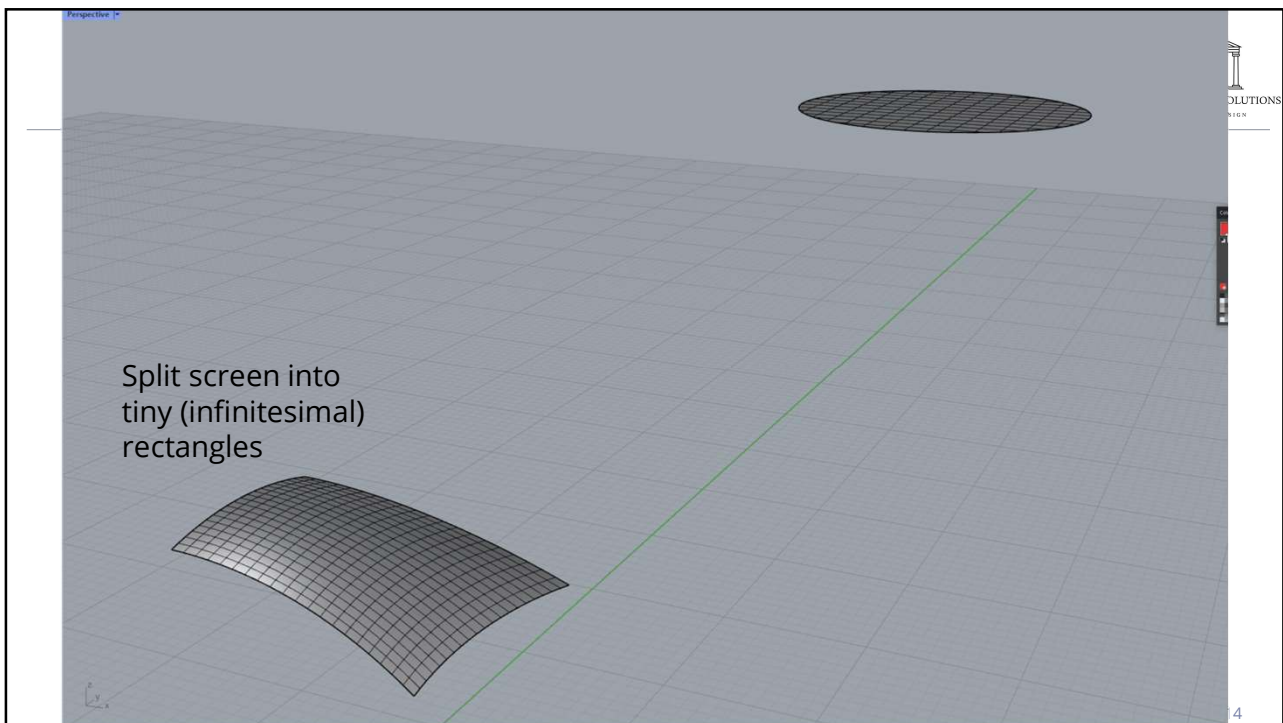
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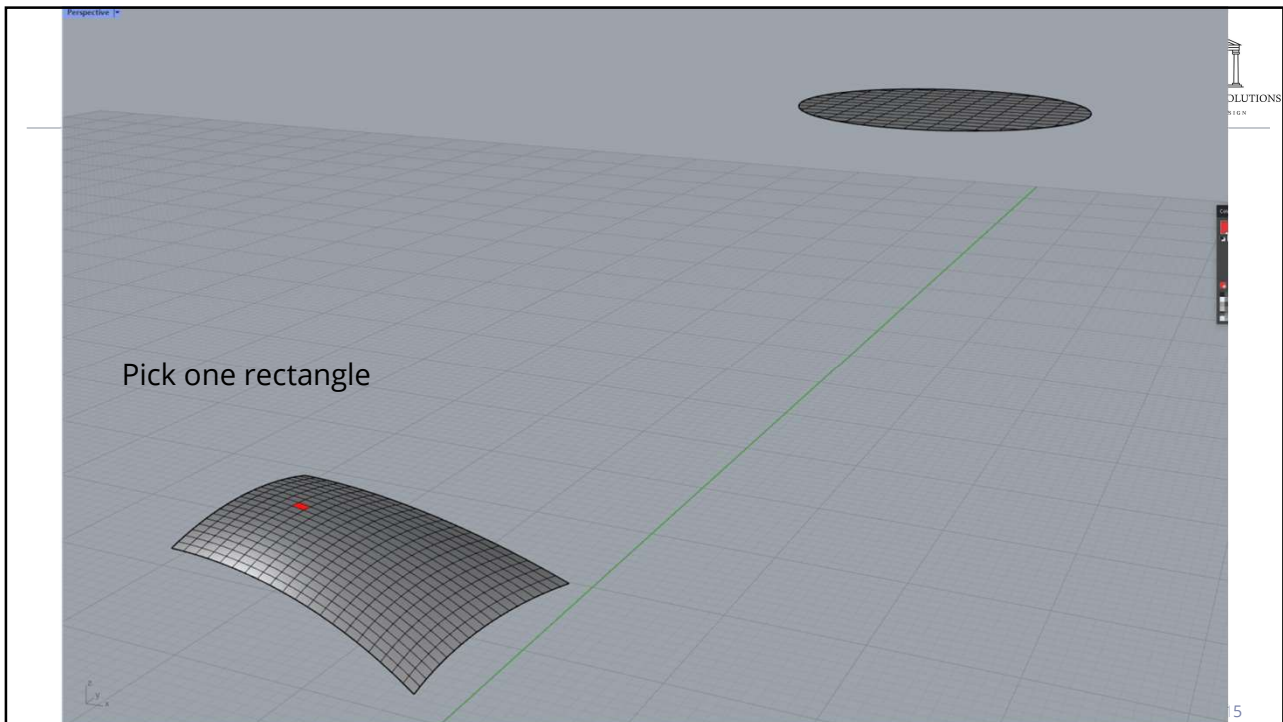
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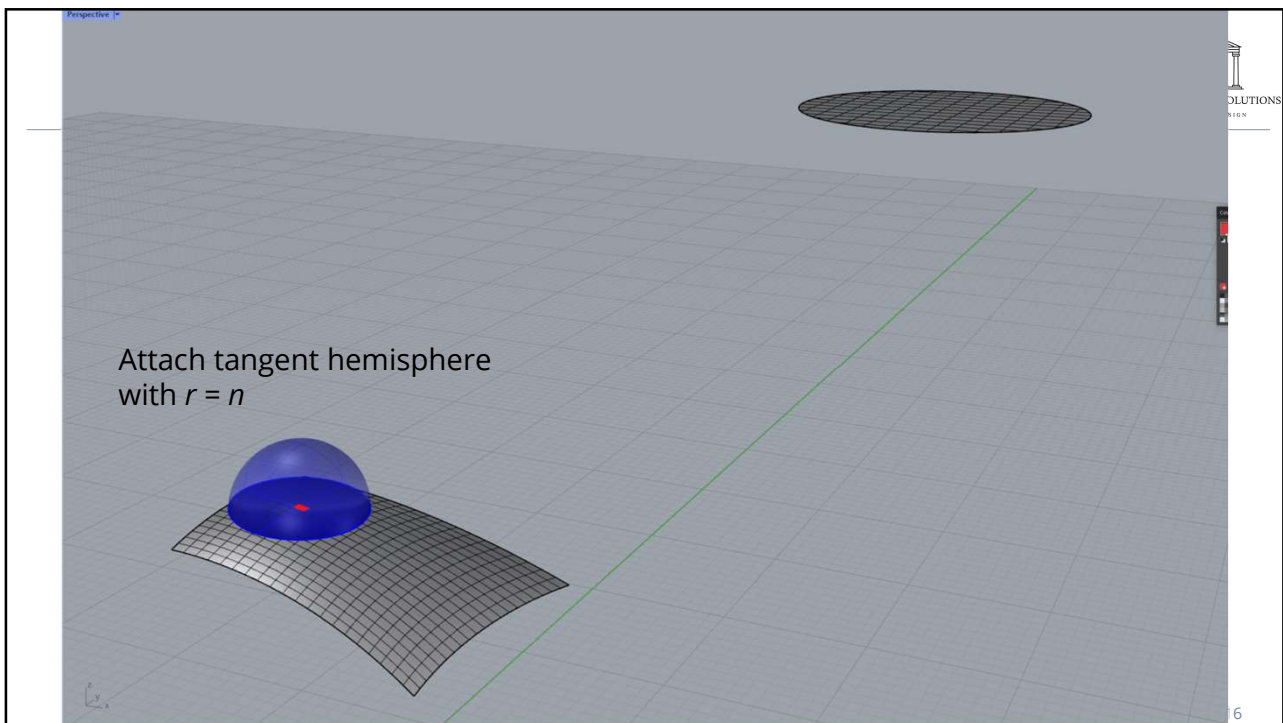
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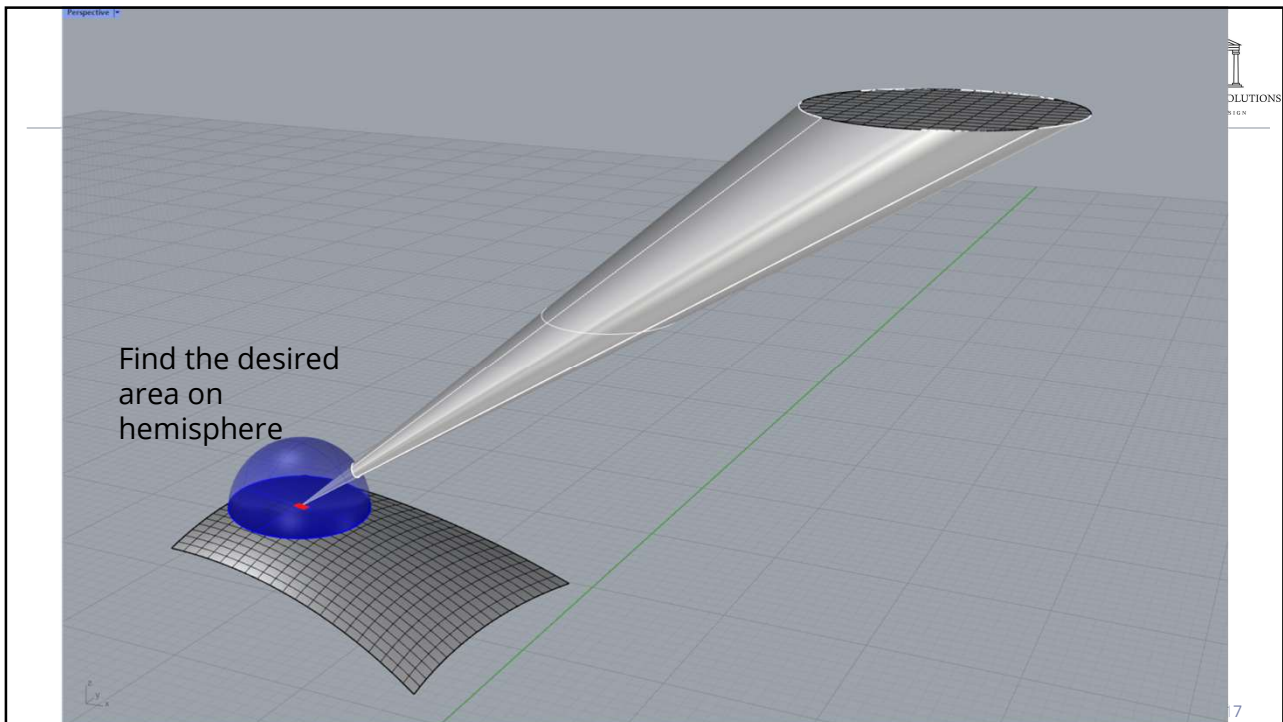
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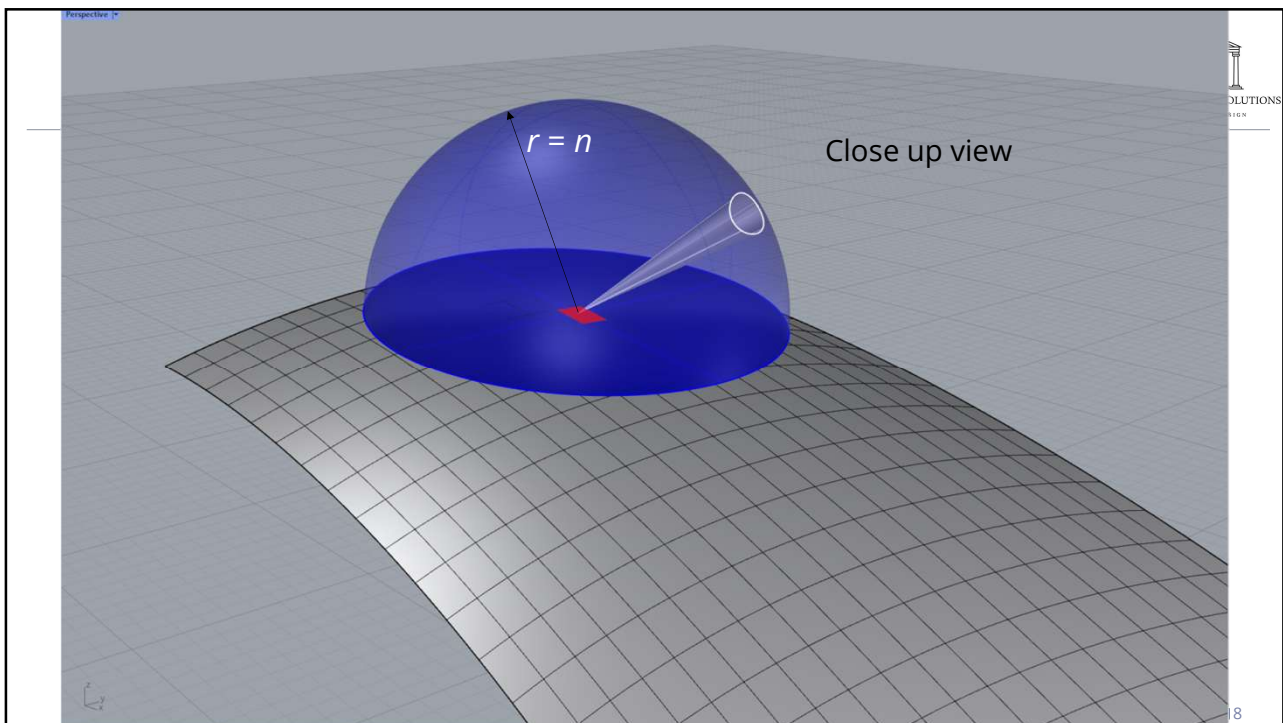
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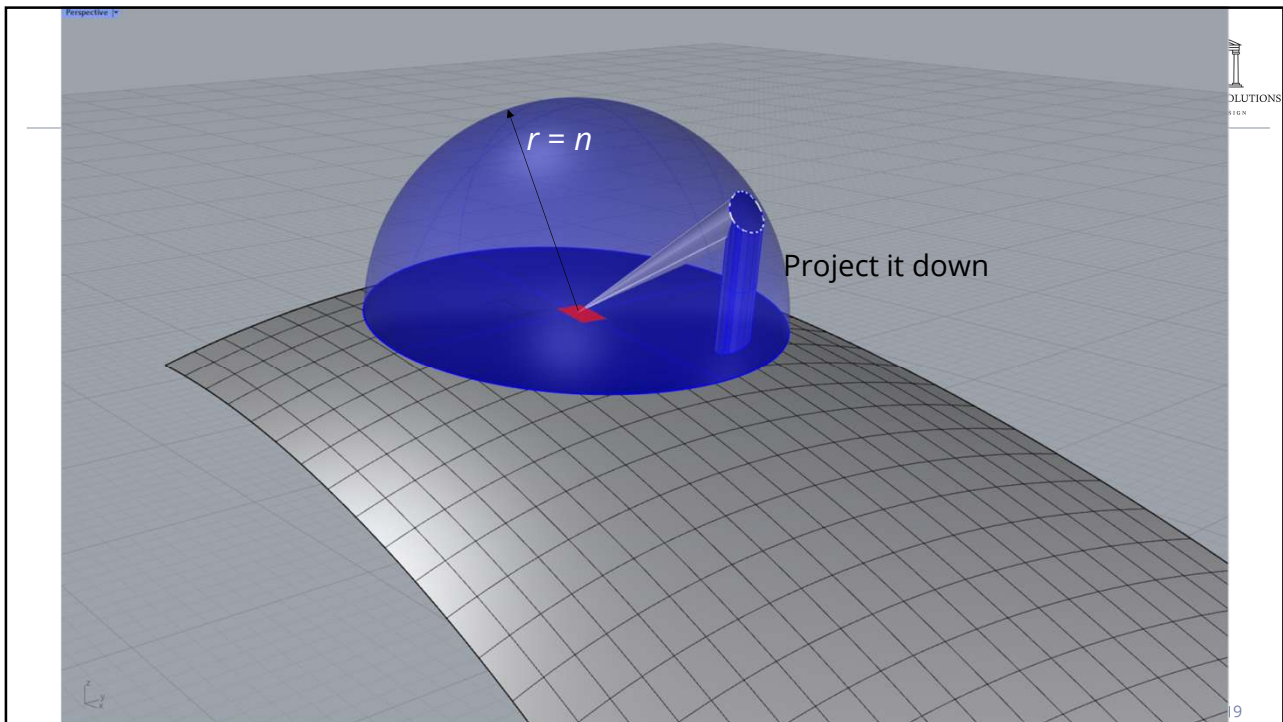
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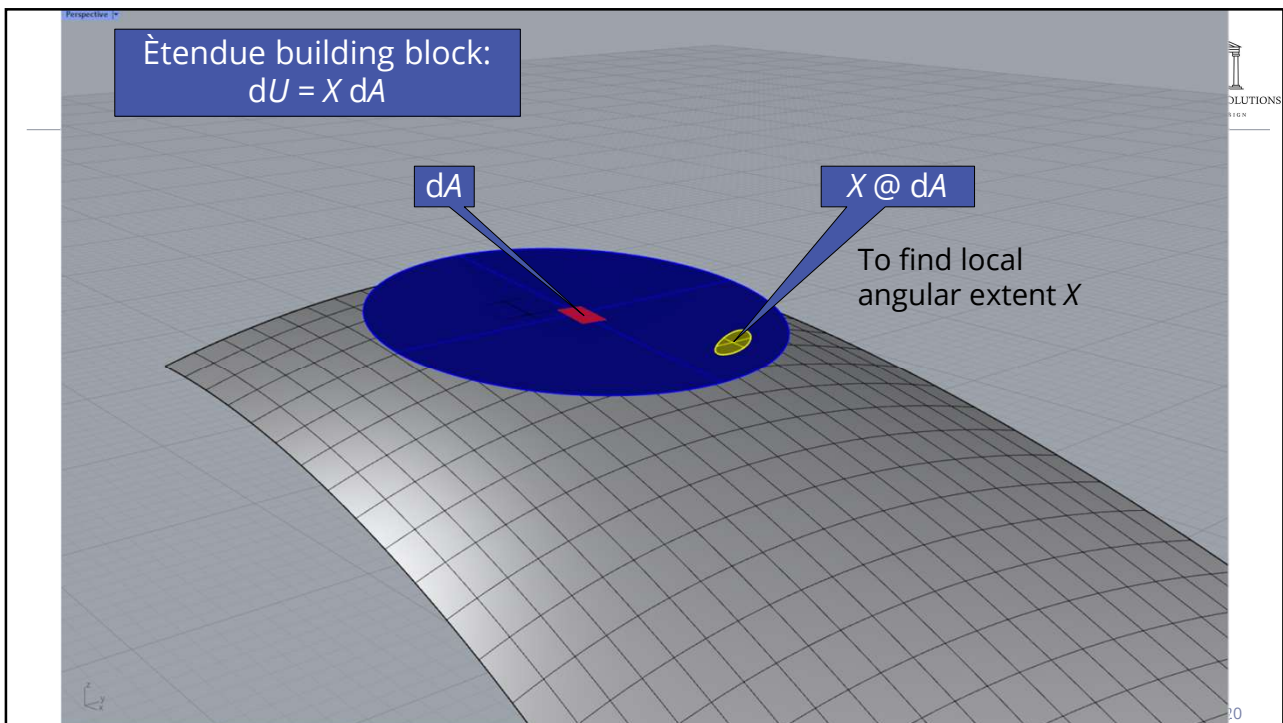
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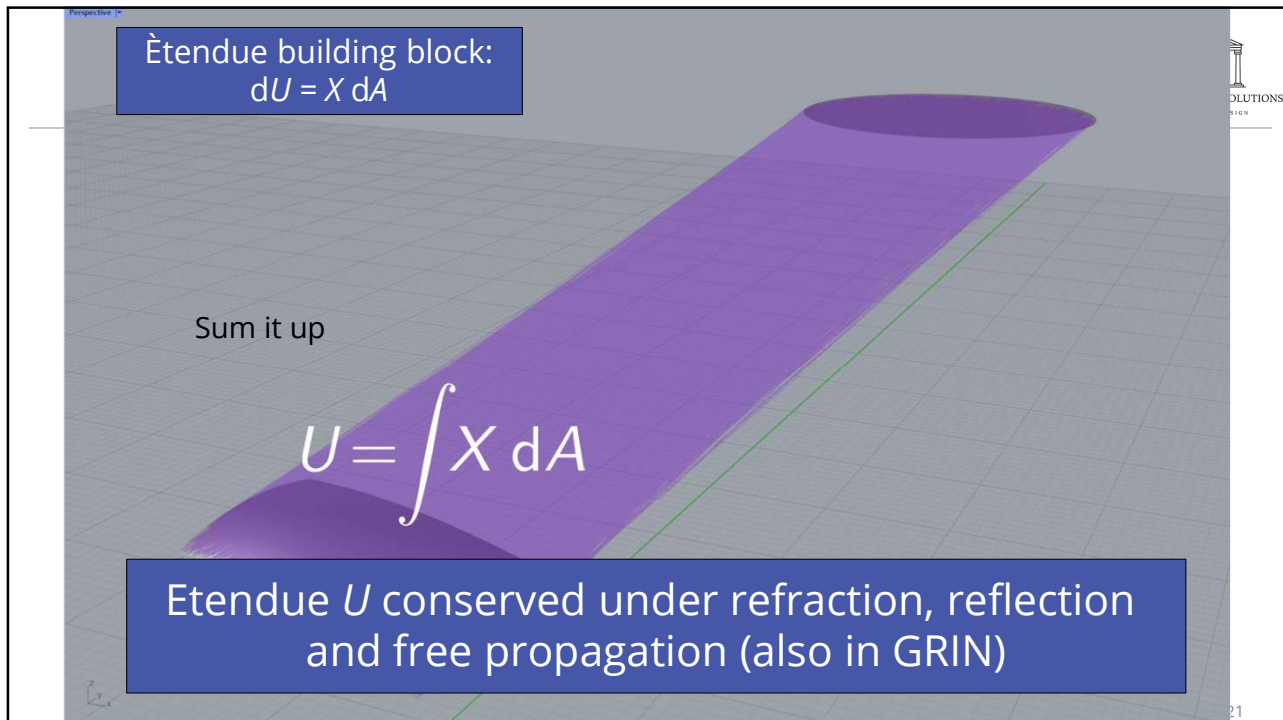
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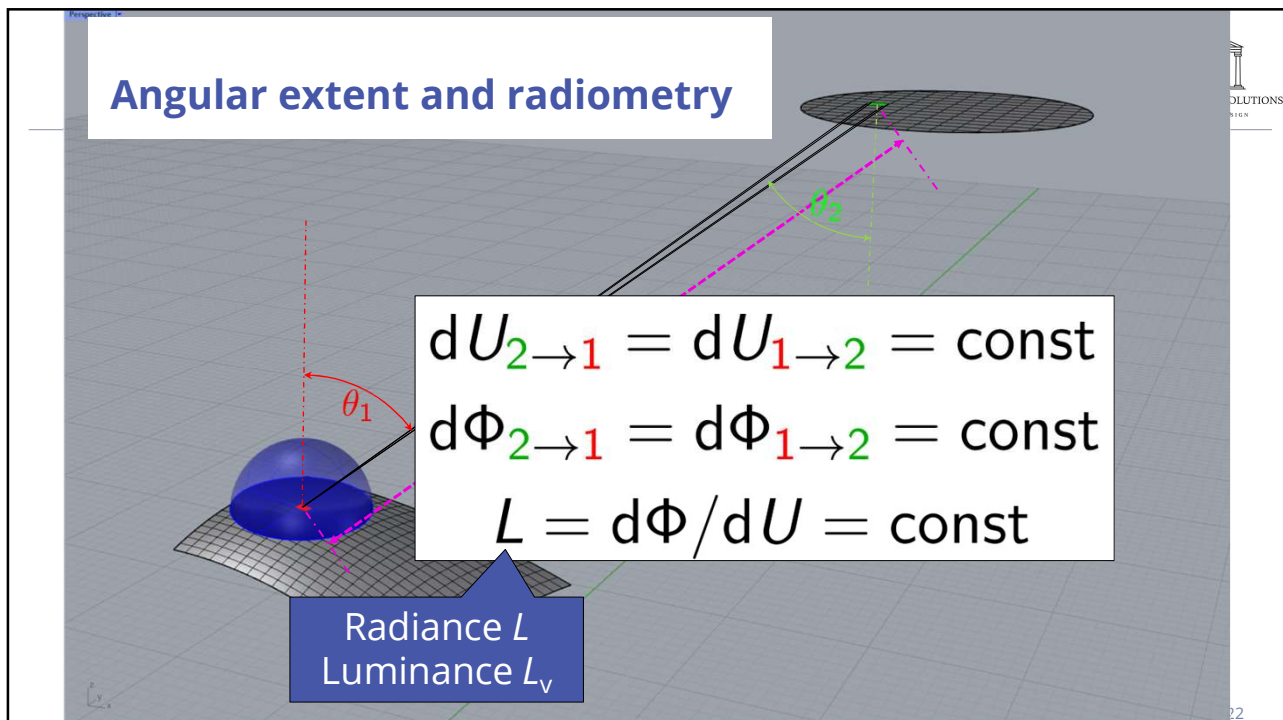
19



20



21



22

Radiance constant along rays



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24

24

Angular extent and radiometry

$$L = \frac{d\Phi}{dU} \Rightarrow \Phi = \int L dU = \int L dX dA$$

25

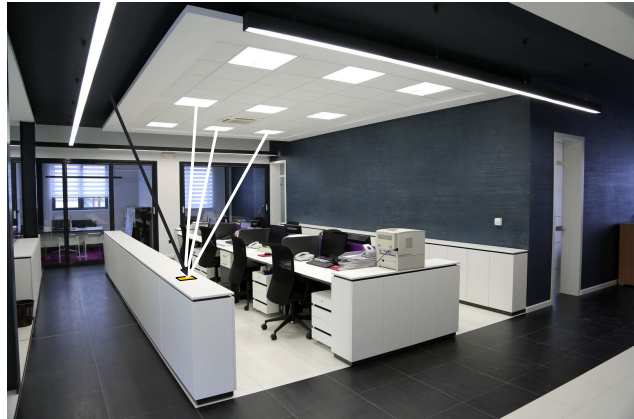
25

Illuminance

Flux per area, no matter from where:
a function of location (x, y)

$$E = \frac{d\Phi}{dA} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \Phi = \int E dA$$

Radiometric:	
Name	Irradiance
Symbol	E
Physical unit	W/m ²
Photometric:	
Name	Illuminance
Symbol	E_v
Physical unit	Lux (lx = lm/m ²)



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26

26

Irradiance from angular extent

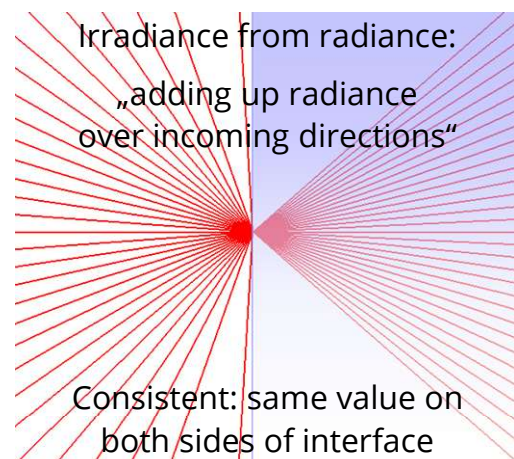
$$\Phi = \int E dA \quad \text{from irradiance definition}$$

$$\Phi = \int \int L dX dA \quad \text{from radiance definition}$$

$$\Phi = \int \int L n^2 \cos \theta d\Omega dA$$

$$\Phi = \int \int L n^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi dA$$

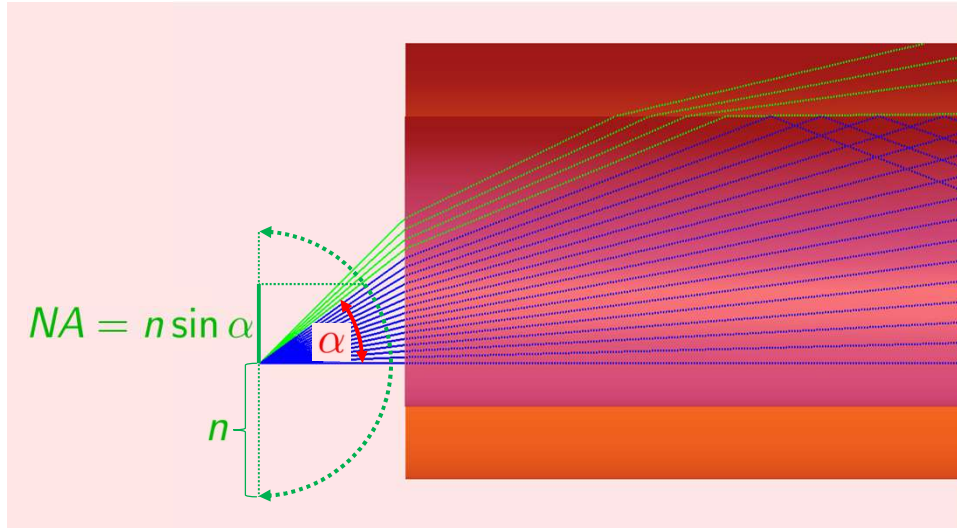
$$E = \int L dX = \int L n^2 \cos \theta d\Omega = \int L n^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi$$



27

27

From angle to numerical aperture...

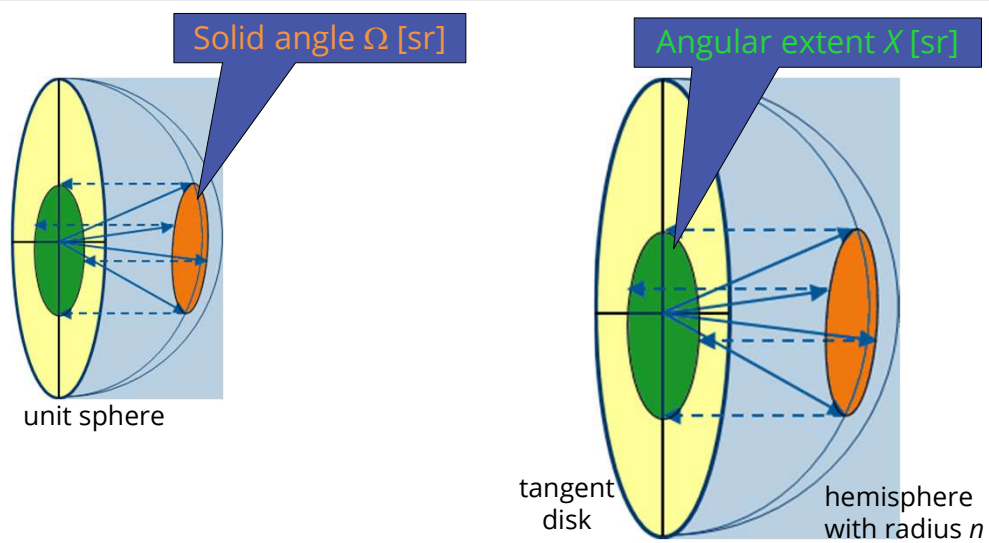


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28

28

From solid angle to angular extent



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29

29

When things are simple...

Constant angular extent everywhere on planar aperture
(e.g. target for spotlight)



$$U = A \cdot X$$

telecentric cone: $U = A \cdot (n \sin \alpha)^2 \pi$

odd-shaped directions: $U = A \cdot n^2 \int \cos \theta d\Omega$

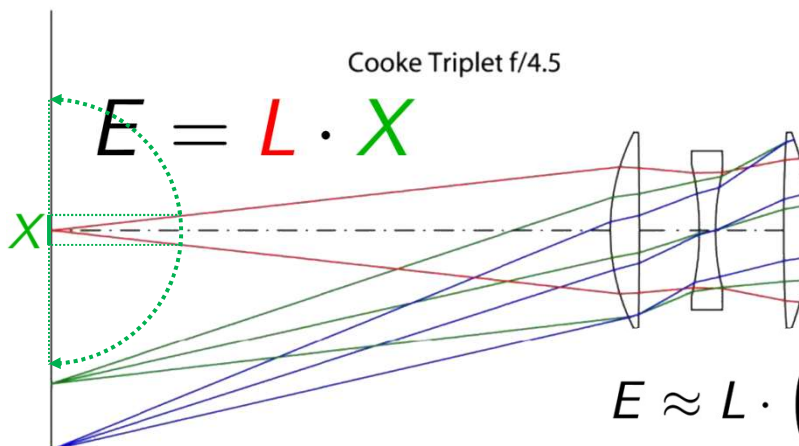
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When things are simple...

Constant radiance (e.g. sensor irradiance from diffuse object)

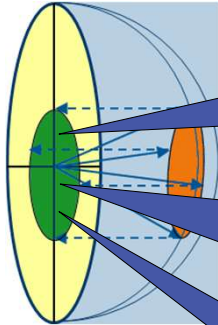


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31

31

The Case for Angular extent X



Features prominently
in etendue and radiometry
relations

"Angular extent"
An intuitive name
Related to
but different from
"Solid angle"

"X":
Otherwise unused symbol
sounding like "extent"

$$dX = n^2 \cos \theta d\Omega$$

$$X = \int n^2 \cos \theta d\Omega$$

Shortens expressions
considerably