

# BROKEN-RAY TOMOGRAPHY

Lucia Florescu

John C. Schotland

Vadim A. Markel

Departments of Radiology and Bioengineering  
University of Pennsylvania

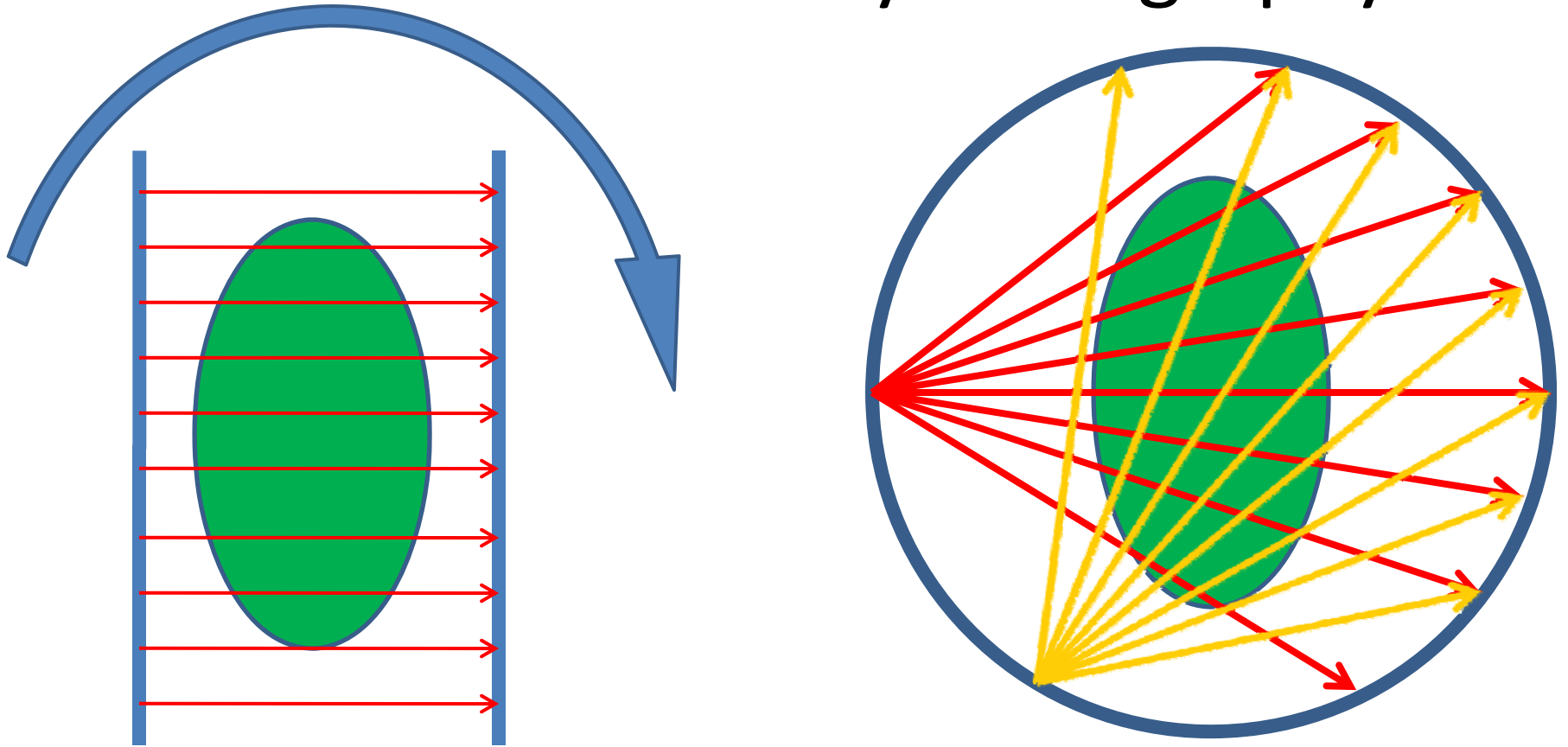
[florescu@seas.upenn.edu](mailto:florescu@seas.upenn.edu)

[schotland@seas.upenn.edu](mailto:schotland@seas.upenn.edu)

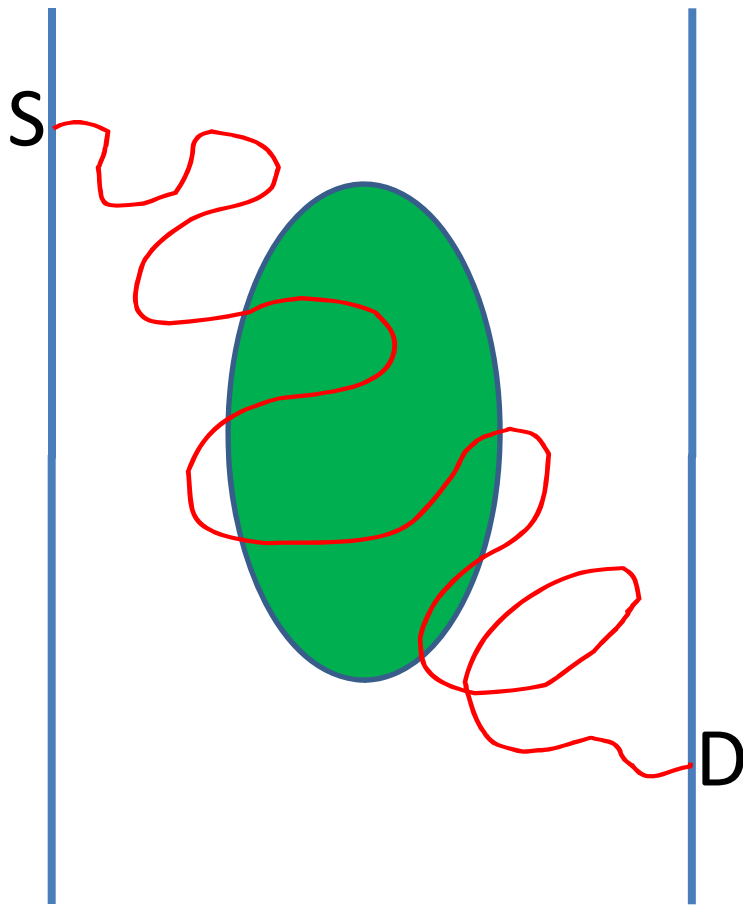
[vmarkel@mail.med.upenn.edu](mailto:vmarkel@mail.med.upenn.edu)

<http://whale.seas.upenn.edu/vmarkel/>

# Zero Scattering Regime: Conventional X-Ray Tomography

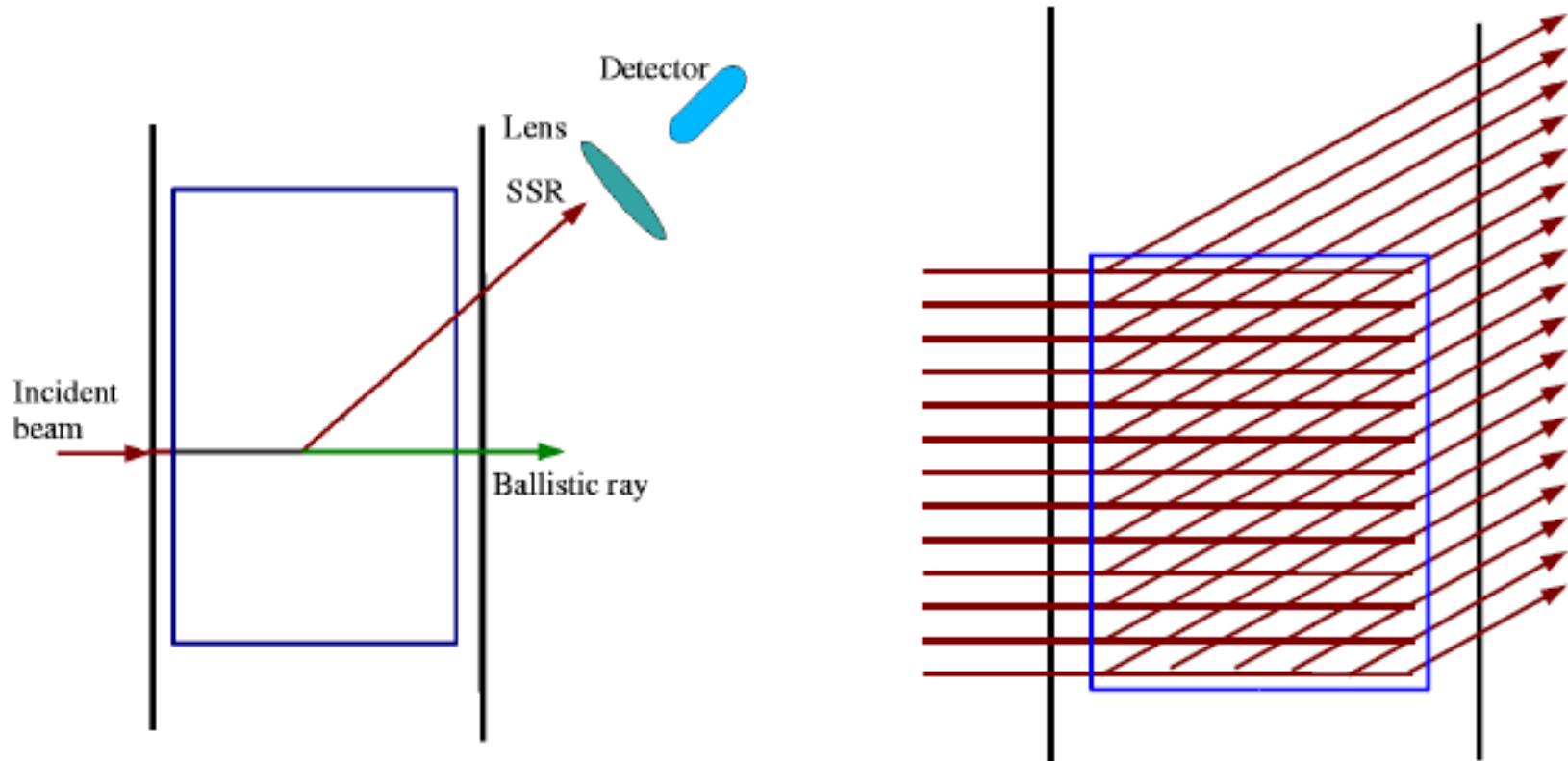


# Strong Scattering Regime: Diffuse Optical Tomography



- Many source-detector pairs
- Severely ill-posed IP
- Nonlinear IP

# Mesoscopic Scattering Regime: Single-Scattering Tomography



# SSOT And Other Modalities

	Linear IP	IP is MILDLY Ill-posed	Single projection	Reflection geometry	Nonionizing radiation	Quantitative images	Reconstruction of scattering and absorption
X-ray CT	Y (if $E=\text{const}$ )	Y	N	N	N	Y	N
DOT	N	N	Y	Y	Y	?	Y (with time or freq.)
SSOT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y (with two det. angles)

# The Broken-Ray Integral Transform

(a)  $\mu_s = \text{const}$  (and is known)

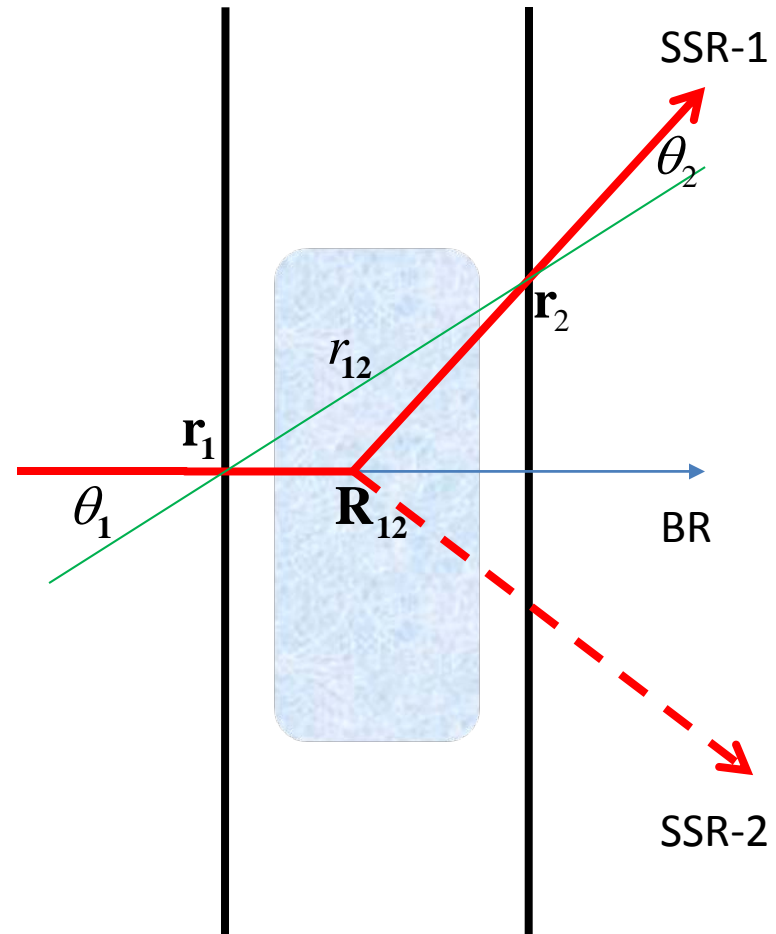
$$\int_{\text{SSR}} \mu_t[\mathbf{r}(\ell)] d\ell = \phi(\mathbf{r}_1, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_1; \mathbf{r}_2, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_2)$$

(b)  $\mu_s \neq \text{const}$  (and is unknown)

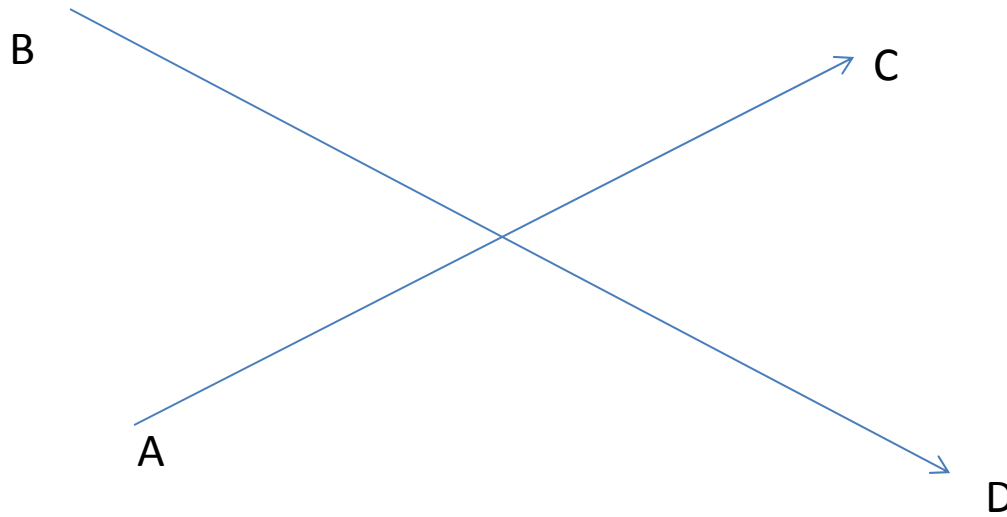
$$\int_{\text{SSR}} \mu_t[\mathbf{r}(\ell)] d\ell - \ln \left[ \frac{\mu_s(\mathbf{R}_{12})}{\langle \mu_s \rangle} \right] = \phi(\mathbf{r}_1, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_1; \mathbf{r}_2, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_2)$$

The measurable data function:

$$\phi(\mathbf{r}_1, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_1; \mathbf{r}_2, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_2) = -\ln \left[ \frac{r_{12} \sin \theta_1 \sin \theta_2}{\langle \mu_s \rangle A(\hat{\mathbf{s}}_1, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_2)} \frac{I_{\text{measured}}}{I_{\text{incident}}} \right]$$



# Broken rays: You can go two ways



1)  $A \rightarrow C$   
 $B \rightarrow D$

2)  $A \rightarrow D$   
 $B \rightarrow C$

# Outline:

- 1) Numerical test (40x40 rays per slice), full RTE forward solver, no inverse crime
- 2) Generalized filtered back-projection formula
- 3) Inverse crime simulations based on this formula (many rays)



# PART 1: Numerical simulations: Data from the RTE (no inverse crime)

- Forward model based on the RTE
- Isotropic scattering
- **FULL ACCOUNT OF MULTIPLE SCATTERING**
- **BOUNDARY CONDITIONS SATISFIED EXACTLY**
- 3D integral equation for density discretized on a rectangular grid
- Direct inversion of a well-posed square matrix
- Mathematical details on next page...

$$[\hat{\mathbf{s}} \cdot \nabla + \underbrace{\mu_a(\mathbf{r}) + \mu_s(\mathbf{r})}_{\mu_t(\mathbf{r})}] I(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}) = \mu_s(\mathbf{r}) \int \underbrace{\frac{1}{4\pi}}_{A(\hat{\mathbf{s}}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}') = \frac{1}{4\pi} = \text{const}} I(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}') d^2 \hat{\mathbf{s}}'$$

$$u(\mathbf{r}) = \int I(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}) d^2 \hat{\mathbf{s}}$$

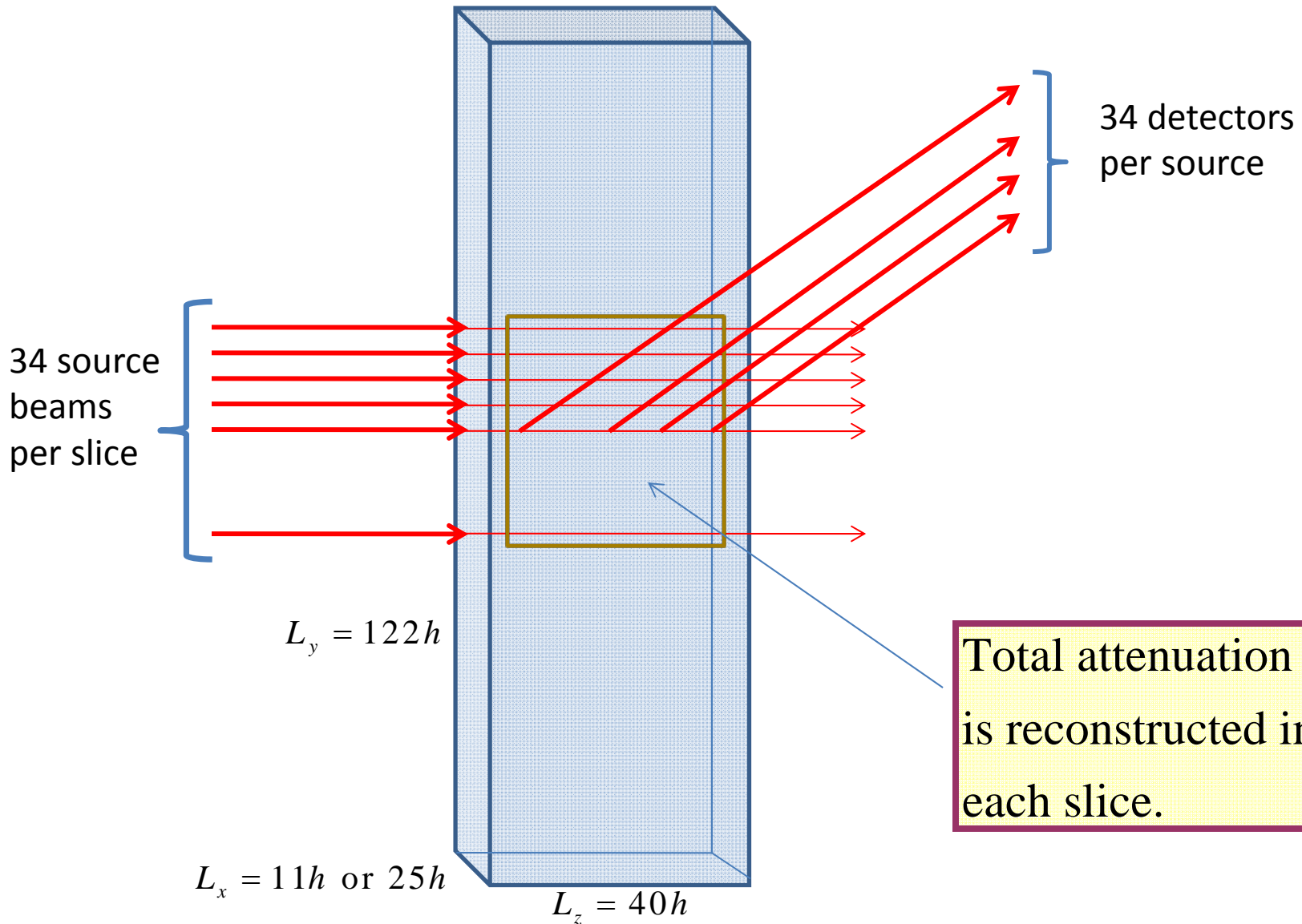
$$u(\mathbf{r}) = u_b(\mathbf{r}) + \int g_b(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\mu_s(\mathbf{r}')}{4\pi} u(\mathbf{r}') d^3 r'$$

$$I(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}) = I_b(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}) + \int G_b(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}; \mathbf{r}', \hat{\mathbf{s}}') \frac{\mu_s(\mathbf{r}')}{4\pi} u(\mathbf{r}') d^3 r' d^2 \hat{\mathbf{s}}'$$

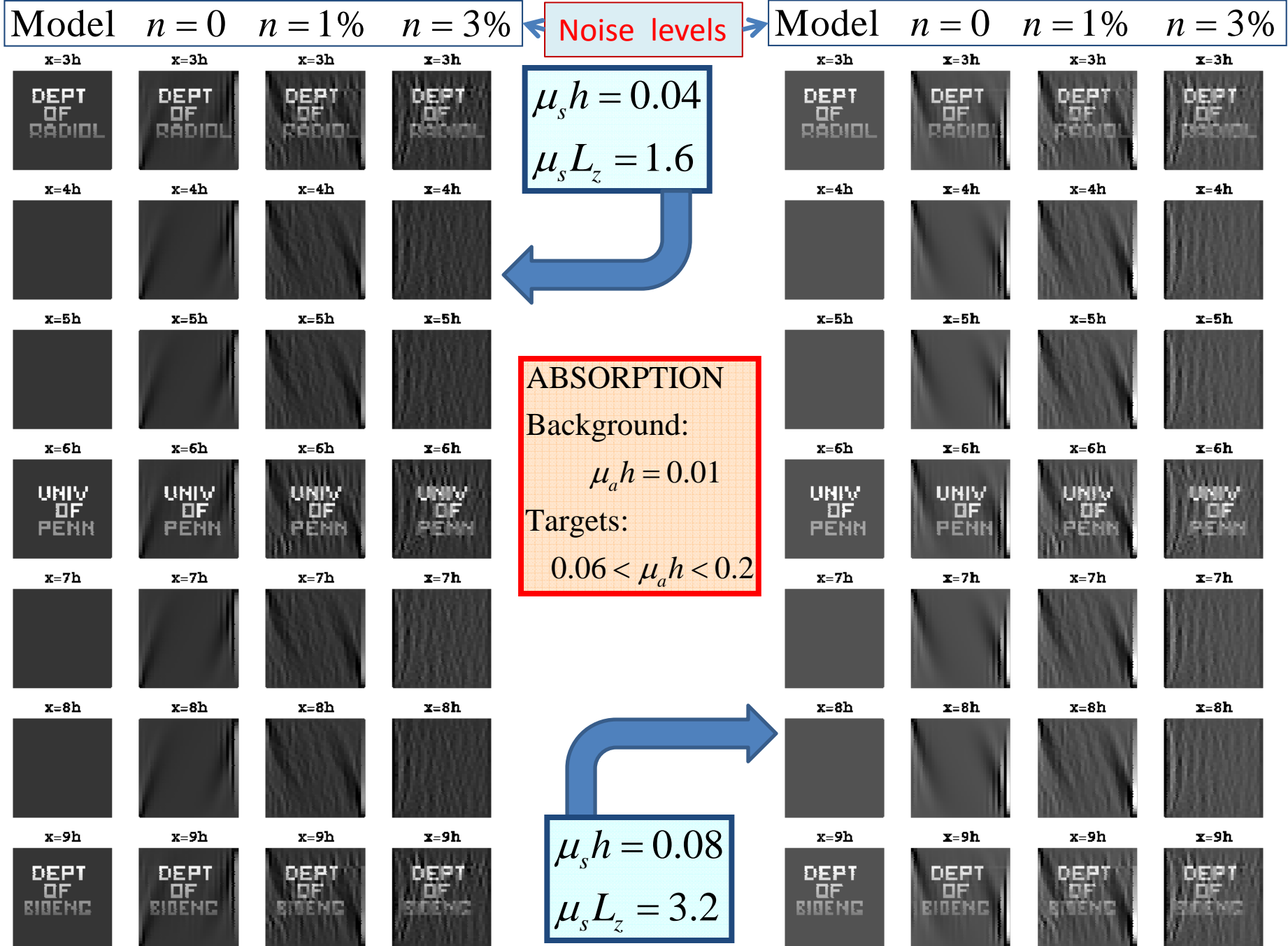
$$G_b(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}; \mathbf{r}', \hat{\mathbf{s}}') = g_b(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \delta(\hat{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') - \hat{\mathbf{s}}') \delta(\hat{\mathbf{s}} - \hat{\mathbf{s}}')$$

$$g_b(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \int G_b(\mathbf{r}, \hat{\mathbf{s}}; \mathbf{r}', \hat{\mathbf{s}}') d^2 \hat{\mathbf{s}} d^2 \hat{\mathbf{s}}' =$$

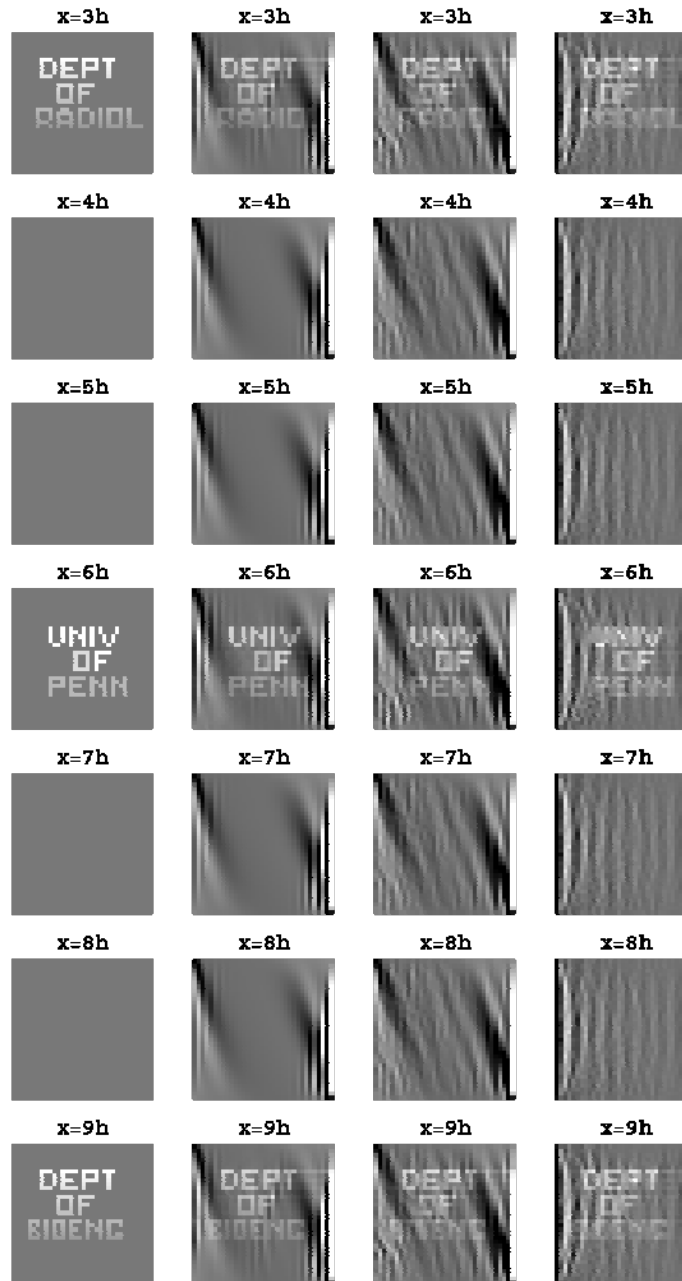
$$= \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^2} \exp \left[ - \int_0^{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \mu_t(\mathbf{r}' + \ell \hat{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')) d\ell \right]$$



Total attenuation  $\mu_t$  is reconstructed in each slice.

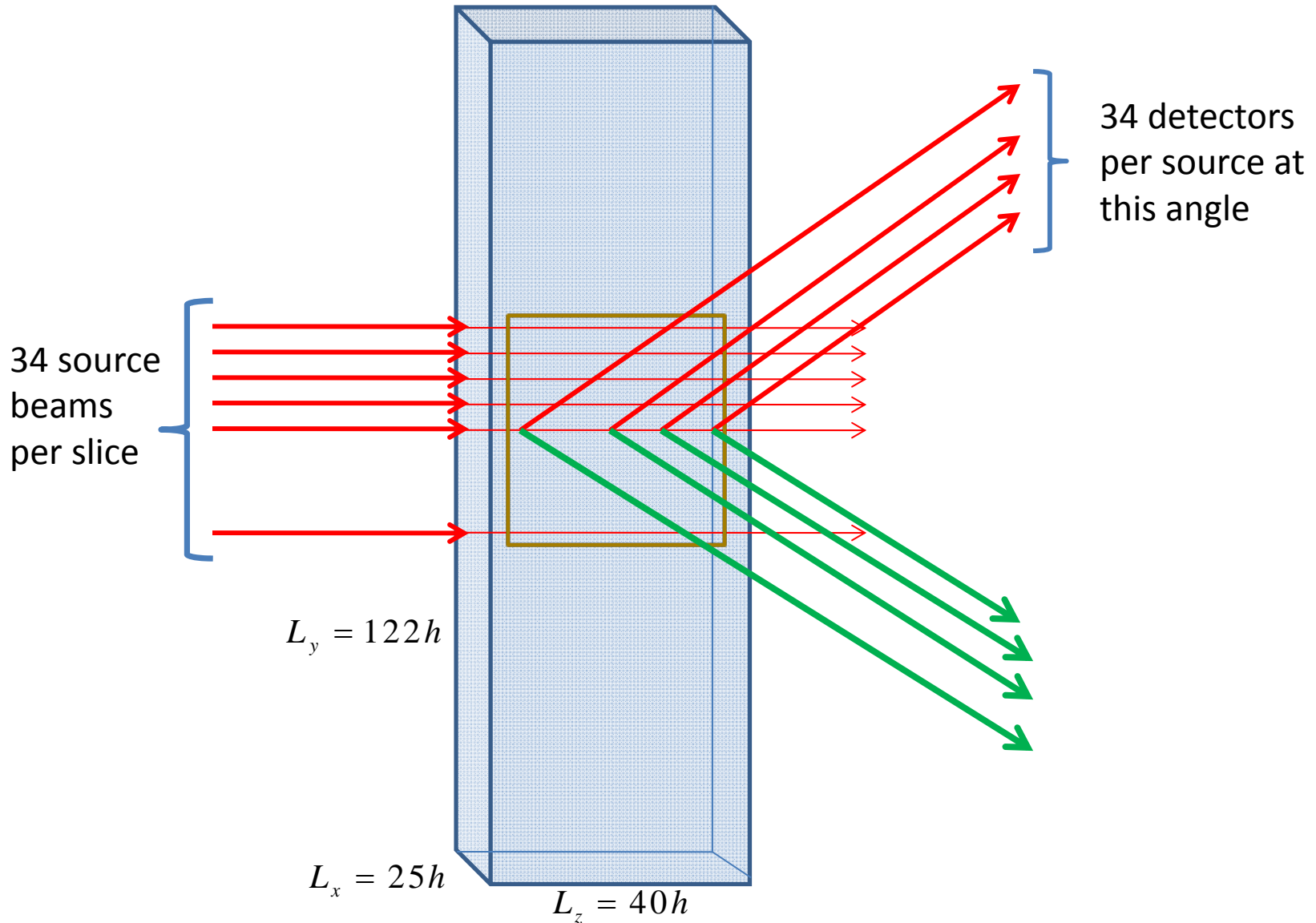


Model  $n = 0$   $n = 1\%$   $n = 3\%$



$$\mu_s = 0.16h^{-1}$$
$$\mu_s L_z = 6.4$$

Reconstruction of scattering+absorption in a thicker sample:  $L_x=25h$



# Simultaneous reconstruction of absorption and scattering

## SCATTERING

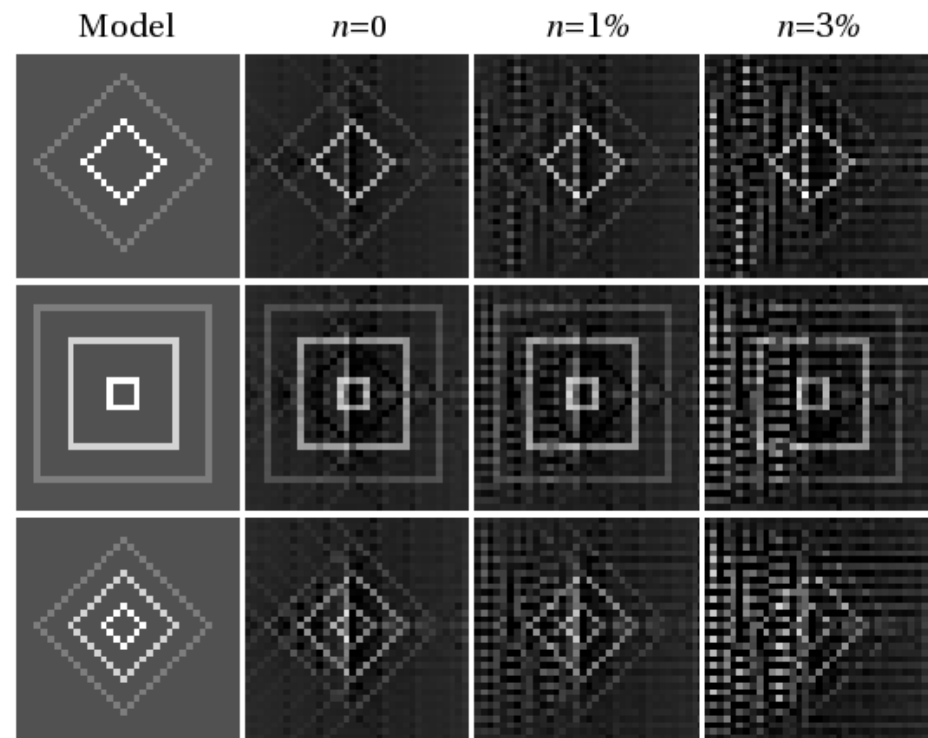
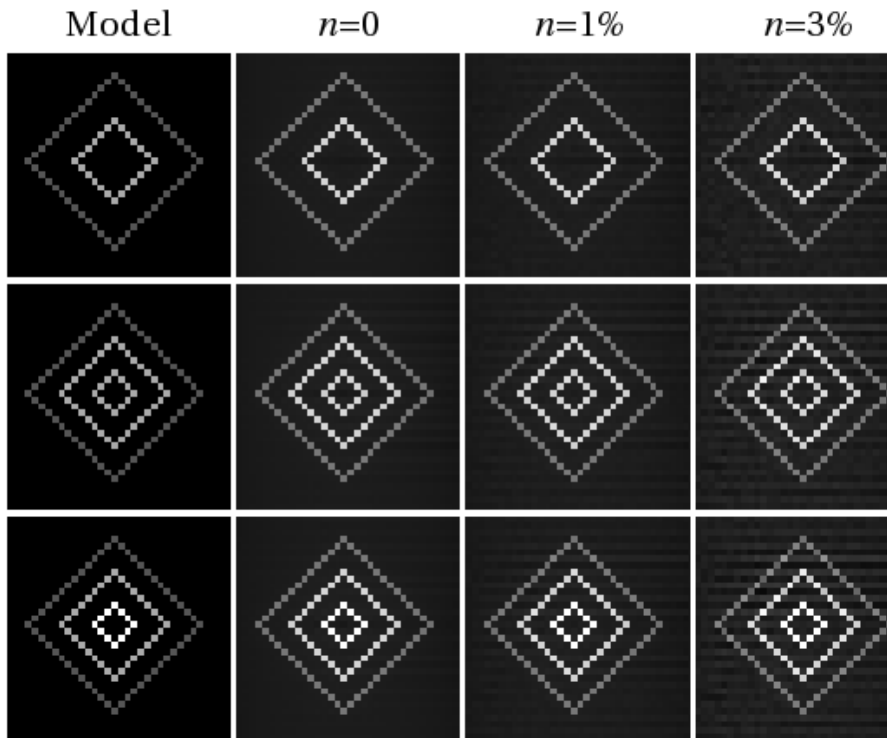
Background:  $\bar{\mu}_s L_z = 1.6$

Targets:  $1.33\bar{\mu}_s \leq \mu_s \leq 2\bar{\mu}_s$

## ABSORPTION

Background:  $\bar{\mu}_a = 0.1\bar{\mu}_s$

Targets:  $2\bar{\mu}_a \leq \mu_a \leq 5\bar{\mu}_a$

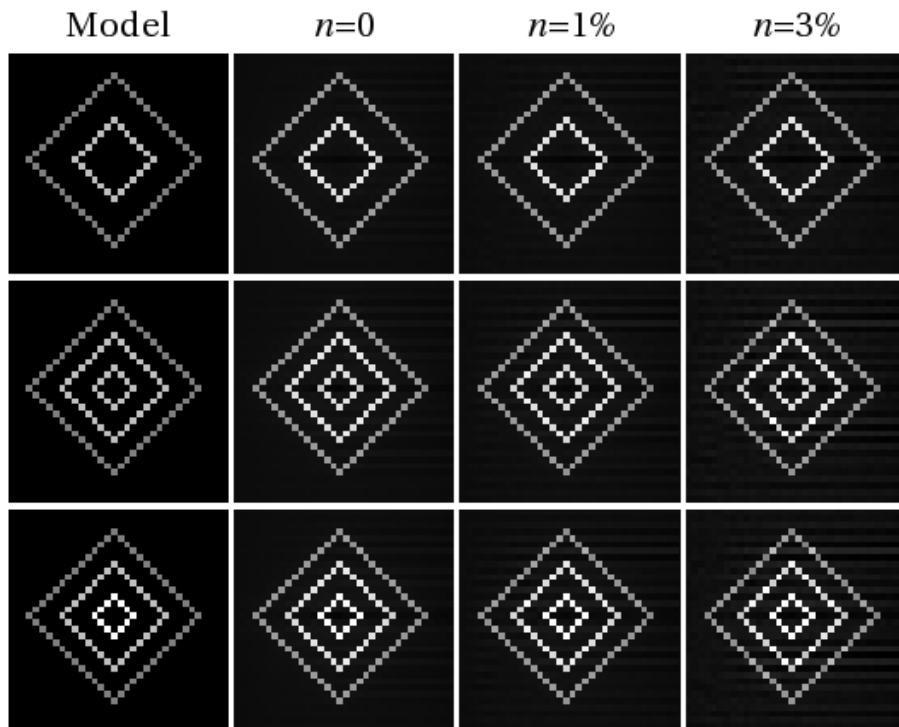


# Inhomogeneities with stronger scattering

## SCATTERING

Background:  $\bar{\mu}_s L_z = 1.6$

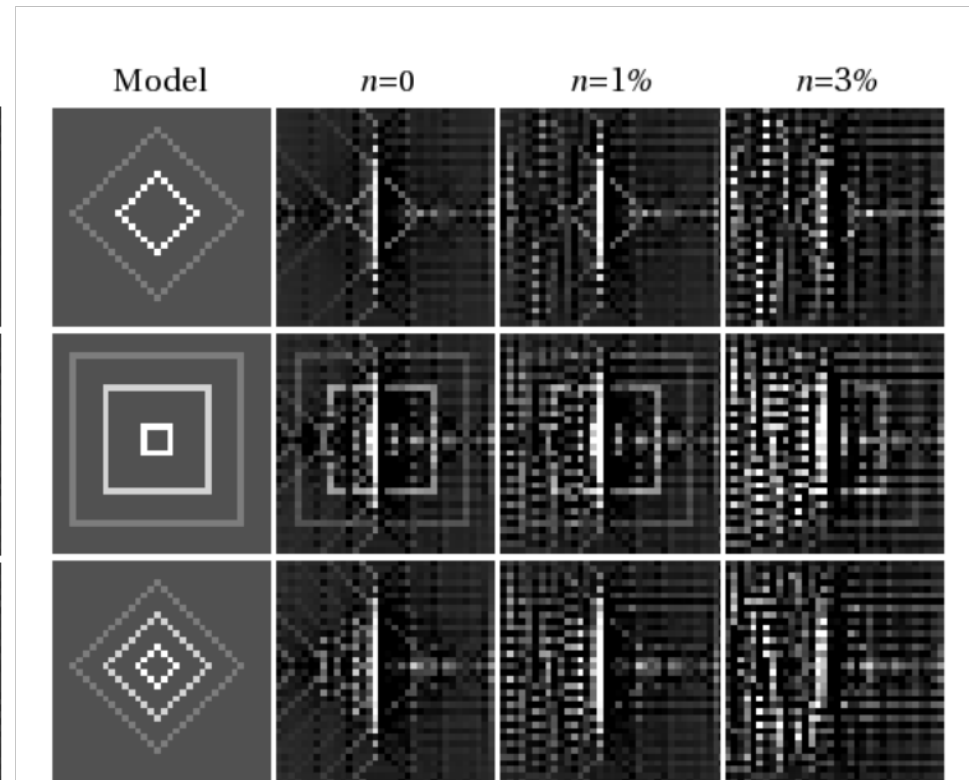
Targets:  $2\bar{\mu}_s \leq \mu_s \leq 3\bar{\mu}_s$



## ABSORPTION

Background:  $\bar{\mu}_a = 0.1\bar{\mu}_s$

Targets:  $2\bar{\mu}_a \leq \mu_a \leq 5\bar{\mu}_a$





# Stronger absorption (overall)

## SCATTERING

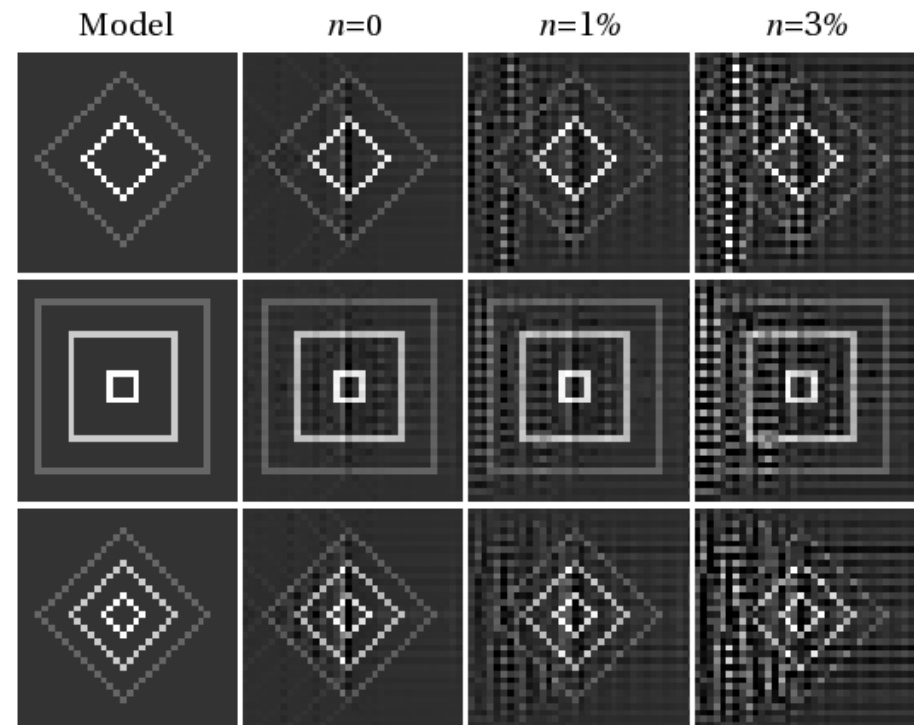
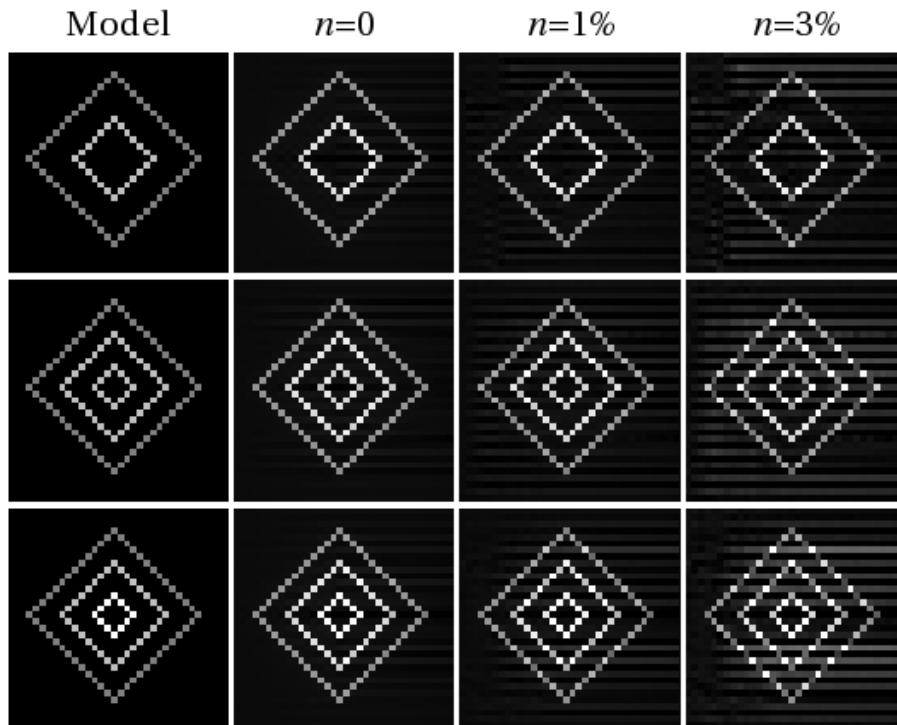
Background:  $\bar{\mu}_s L_z = 1.6$

Targets:  $2\bar{\mu}_s \leq \mu_s \leq 3\bar{\mu}_s$

## ABSORPTION

Background:  $\bar{\mu}_a = \bar{\mu}_s$

Targets:  $2\bar{\mu}_a \leq \mu_a \leq 5\bar{\mu}_a$



# Same as before, but larger optical depth

## SCATTERING

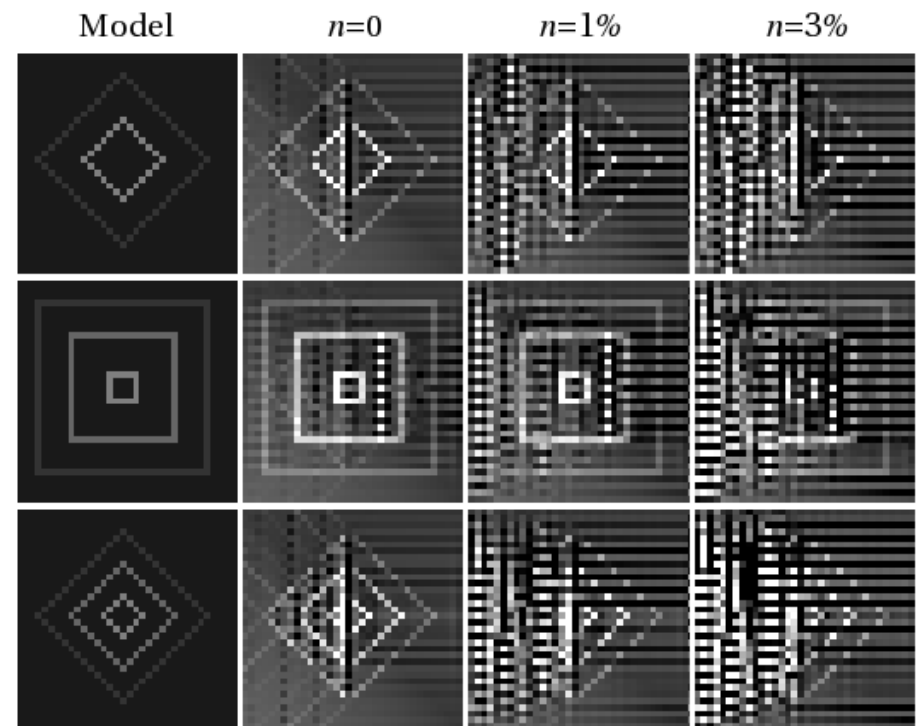
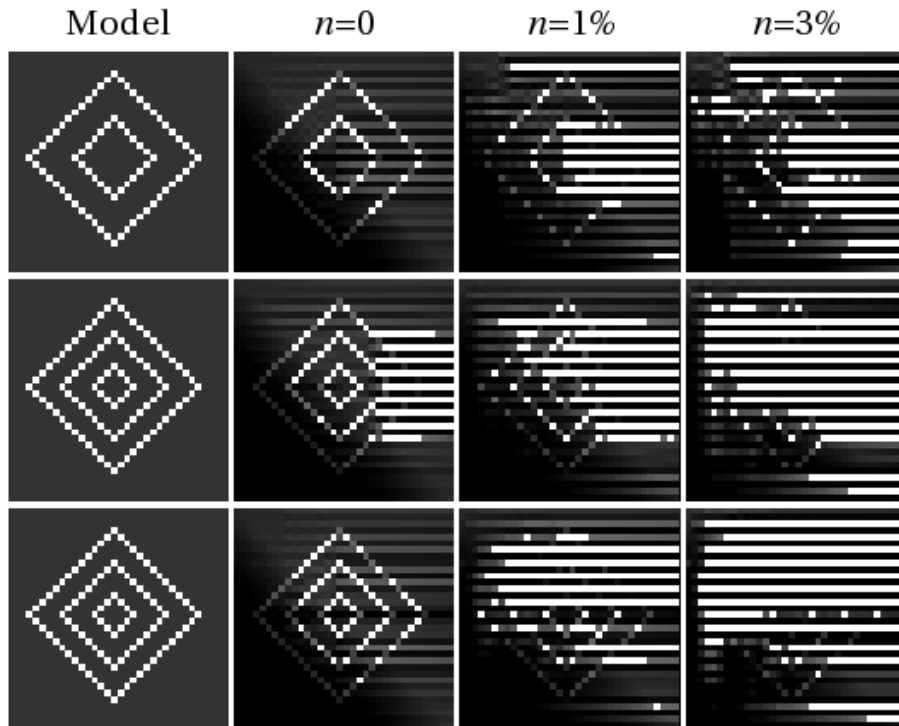
Background:  $\bar{\mu}_s L_z = 3.2$

Targets:  $2\bar{\mu}_s \leq \mu_s \leq 3\bar{\mu}_s$

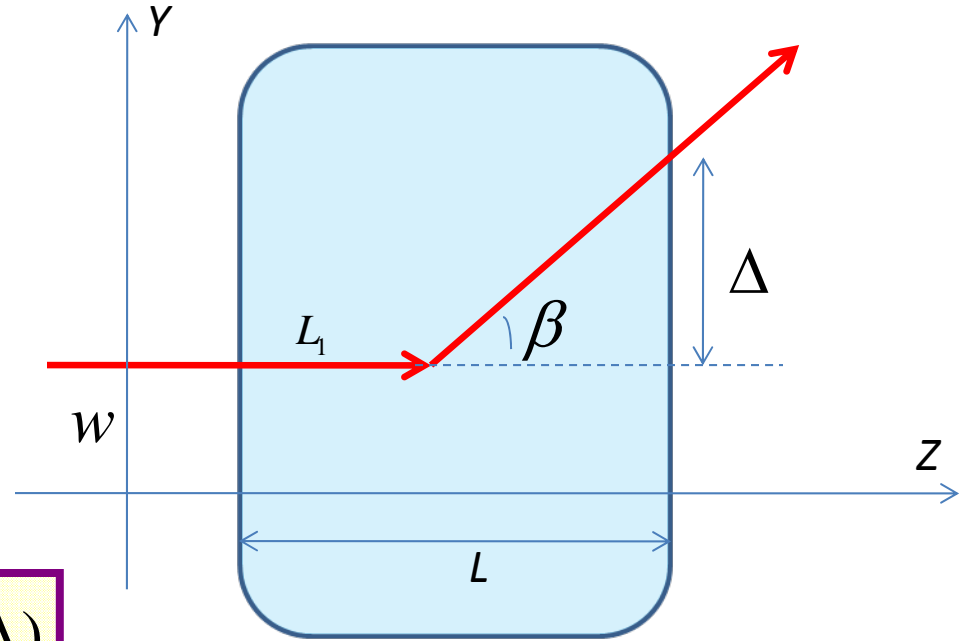
## ABSORPTION

Background:  $\bar{\mu}_a = \bar{\mu}_s$

Targets:  $2\bar{\mu}_a \leq \mu_a \leq 5\bar{\mu}_a$



# PART 2: FBF derivation



$$\int_{\text{SSR}(w, \Delta)} \mu_t[\mathbf{r}(\ell)] d\ell = \phi(w, \Delta)$$

$$\mathbf{r} = (y, z)$$

$$y(\ell) = w + \eta(\Delta, \ell)$$

$$z(\ell) = \zeta(\Delta, \ell)$$

$$\eta(\Delta, \ell) = \begin{cases} 0, & \ell < L_1(\Delta) \\ \ell - L_1(\Delta), & L_1(\Delta) < \ell < L_1(\Delta) + L_2(\Delta) \end{cases}$$

$$\zeta(\Delta, \ell) = \begin{cases} \ell, & \ell < L_1(\Delta) \\ L_1(\Delta) + [\ell - L_1(\Delta)] \cos(\beta), & L_1(\Delta) < \ell < L_1(\Delta) + L_2(\Delta) \end{cases}$$

$$L_1(\Delta) = L - \Delta \operatorname{ctg}(\beta) \quad , \quad L_2(\Delta) = \Delta / \sin(\beta)$$

The ray length (within the medium):  $L_1(\Delta) + L_2(\Delta)$

# Fourier slice theorem

$$\tilde{\phi}(k, \Delta) = \int_0^{L_1(\Delta)+L_2(\Delta)} e^{ik\eta(\Delta, \ell)} \tilde{\mu}_t[k, \zeta(\Delta, \ell)] d\ell$$

$$\tilde{\phi}(k, \Delta) = \int_0^{L_1(\Delta)} \tilde{\mu}_t(k, \ell) d\ell + \frac{e^{ikL_1(\Delta) \operatorname{tg} \beta}}{\cos \beta} \int_{L_1(\Delta)}^L \tilde{\mu}_t(k, \ell) e^{-ik\ell \operatorname{tg} \beta} d\ell$$

Define new variables:  $q = k \operatorname{tg} \beta$  ;  $c = \cos \beta$

$$f(z) = \tilde{\mu}_t(q \operatorname{ctg} \beta, z) ;$$

$$F(z) = \tilde{\phi}[q \operatorname{ctg} \beta, (L - z) \operatorname{tg} \beta]$$

$$\int_0^z f(\ell) d\ell + \frac{1}{c} e^{iqz} \int_z^L e^{-iq\ell} f(\ell) d\ell = F(z)$$

$$c = \cos \beta, \quad 0 < z < L$$

The inverse solution:

$$f_i(z) = -\kappa \left[ G(z) - i\kappa q e^{-i\kappa q z} \int_0^z e^{i\kappa q \ell} G(\ell) d\ell \right]$$

$$\kappa = \frac{c}{1-c}; \quad G(z) = \left( \frac{d}{dz} - iq \right) F(z)$$

# Putting everything together...

$$\tilde{\mu}_t(k, z) = \sigma \left\{ H(k, z) - ik\sigma e^{-ik\sigma z} \int_0^z e^{i\sigma k l} H(k, l) dl \right\}$$

$$\sigma = \operatorname{ctg} \left( \frac{\beta}{2} \right);$$

$$H(k, z) = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \Delta} + ik \right) \tilde{\phi}(k, \Delta) \Big|_{\Delta=(L-z)\operatorname{tg} \beta}$$

# The real-space inversion formula

$$\mu_t(y, z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{\mu}_t(k, z) e^{-iky} \frac{dk}{2\pi}$$

$$\mu_t(y, z) = \sigma \left\{ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \Delta} - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) \phi(y, \Delta) + \tau \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [\phi(y + \sigma z, L \operatorname{tg} \beta) - \phi(y, \Delta)] \right. \\ \left. - (1 + \tau) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int_{\Delta}^{L \operatorname{tg} \beta} \phi(y + \tau(\ell - \Delta), \ell) d\ell \right\} \Bigg|_{\Delta=(L-z) \operatorname{tg} \beta}$$

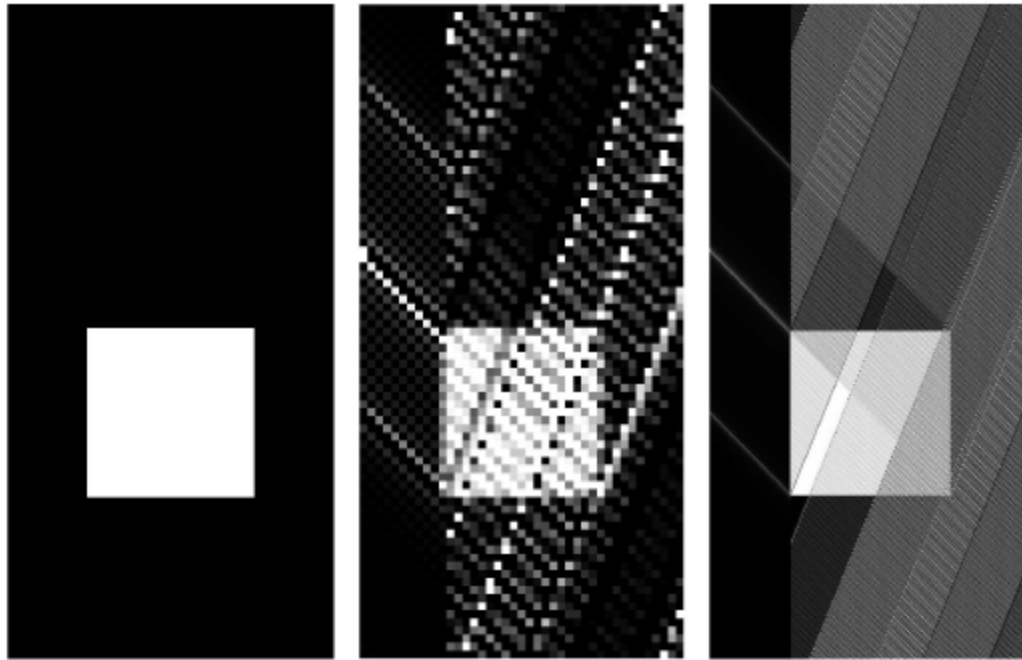
$$\sigma = \operatorname{ctg} \left( \frac{\beta}{2} \right) ; \quad \tau = \operatorname{ctg} \left( \frac{\beta}{2} \right) / \operatorname{tg}(\beta)$$



# PART 3: Inverse-crime simulations

Reconstruction using the Fourier-space formula

$$\beta = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

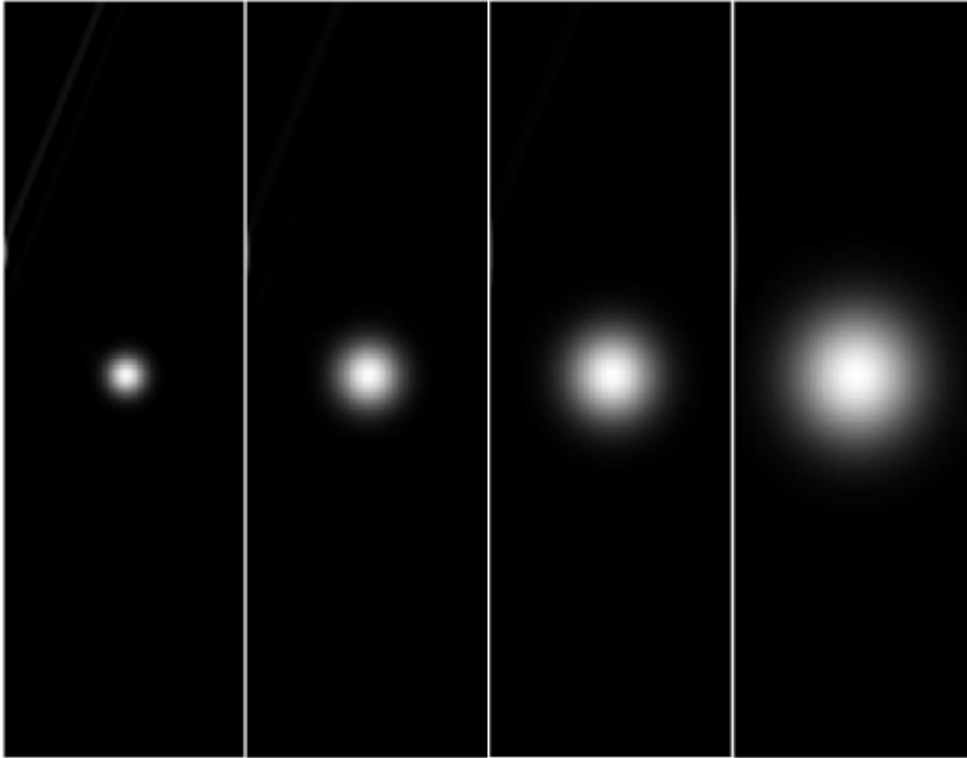


Model

$L/h=40$

$L/h=400$

# Reconstruction of a Gaussian



$$\beta = \frac{\pi}{4}$$
$$\frac{h}{L} = \frac{0.3}{40}$$

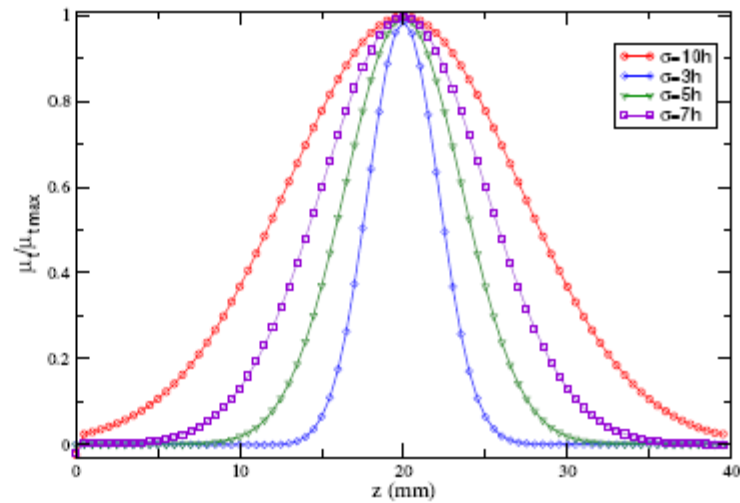
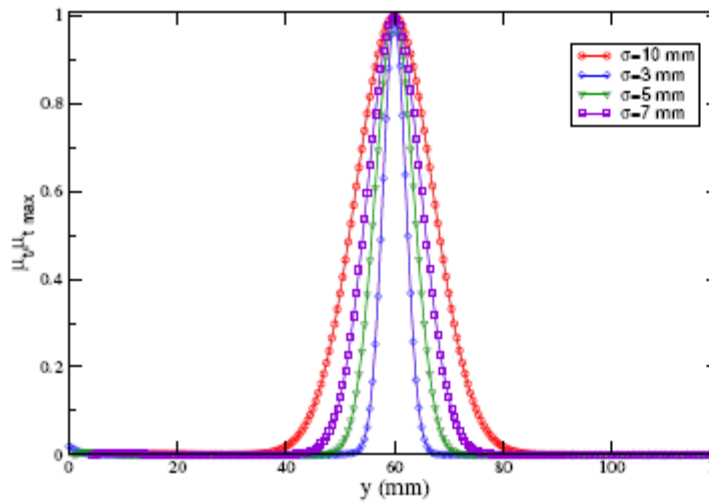
$$\frac{w}{L} = \frac{3}{40}$$

$$\frac{w}{L} = \frac{5}{40}$$

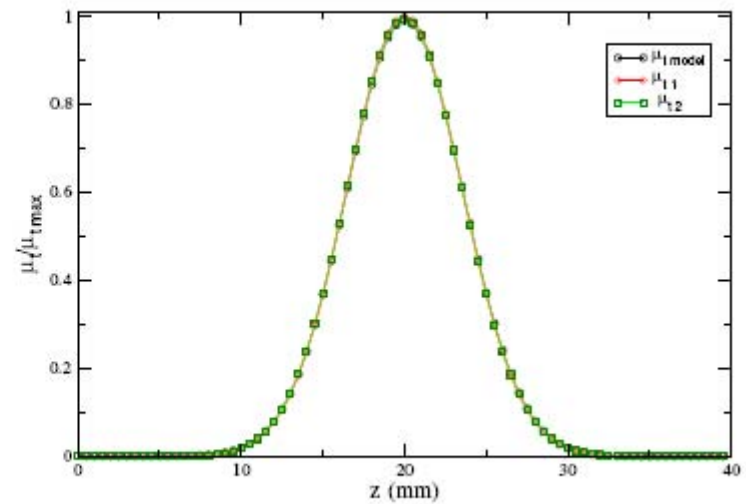
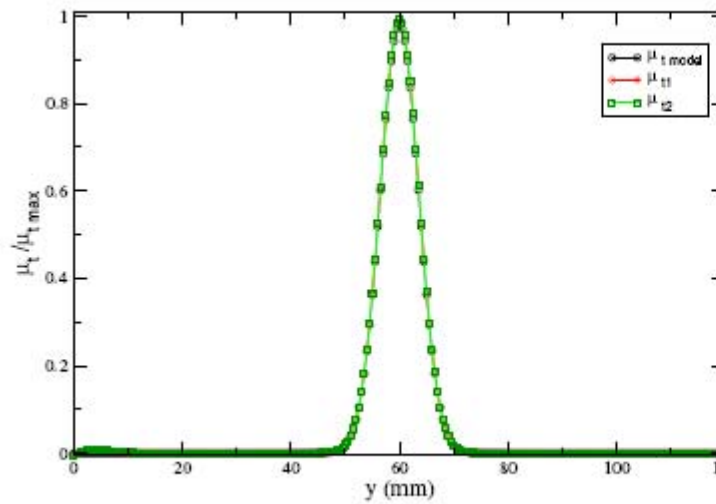
$$\frac{w}{L} = \frac{7}{40}$$

$$\frac{w}{L} = \frac{10}{40}$$

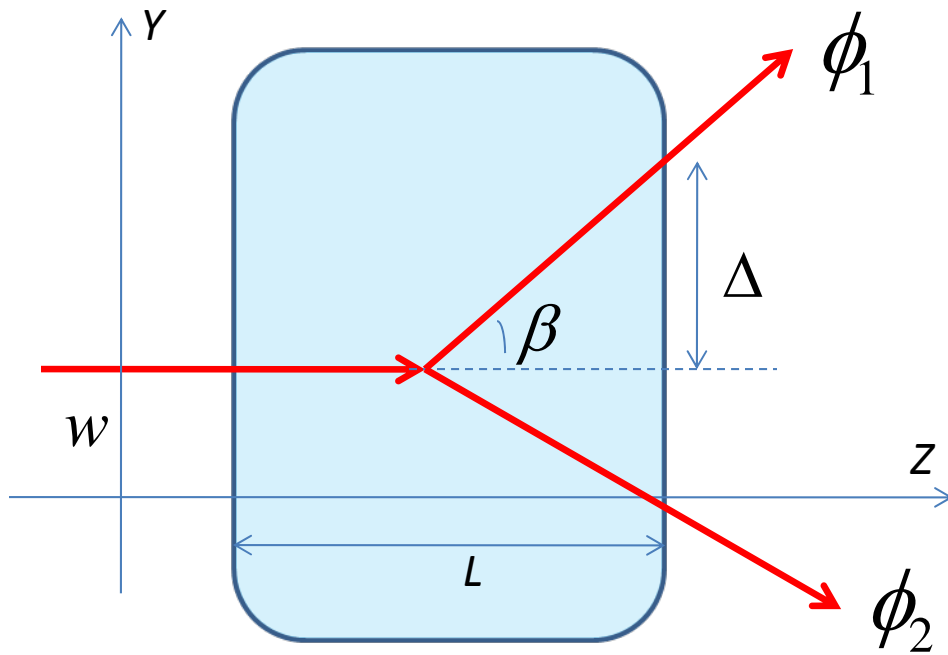
# Profiles of the reconstruction of a Gaussian



# Real-space formula (for Gaussians)



# Simultaneous reconstruction of absorption and scattering



(b)  $\mu_s \neq \text{const}$  (and is unknown)

$$\int_{\text{SSR}} \mu_t[\mathbf{r}(\ell)] d\ell - \ln \left[ \frac{\mu_s(\mathbf{R}_{12})}{\langle \mu_s \rangle} \right] = \phi(\mathbf{r}_1, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_1; \mathbf{r}_2, \hat{\mathbf{s}}_2)$$

$$\phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2$$

# Fourier-space image reconstruction formula for two rays

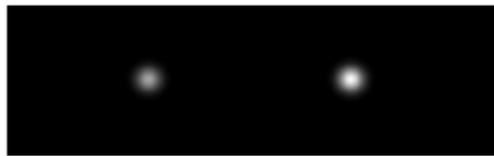
$$\tilde{\mu}_t(k, z) = \frac{\sin \beta}{2} \left( ik - \frac{1}{ik} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \Delta^2} \right) \tilde{\phi}(k, \Delta) \Big|_{\Delta=(L-z)\text{tg}\beta}$$

$\mu_t$  $\mu_s$  $\mu_a$ 

Model,  
 $w=7L/40$



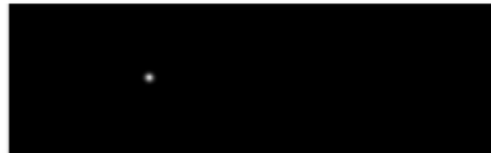
Rec.



Model,  
 $w=3L/40$



Rec.

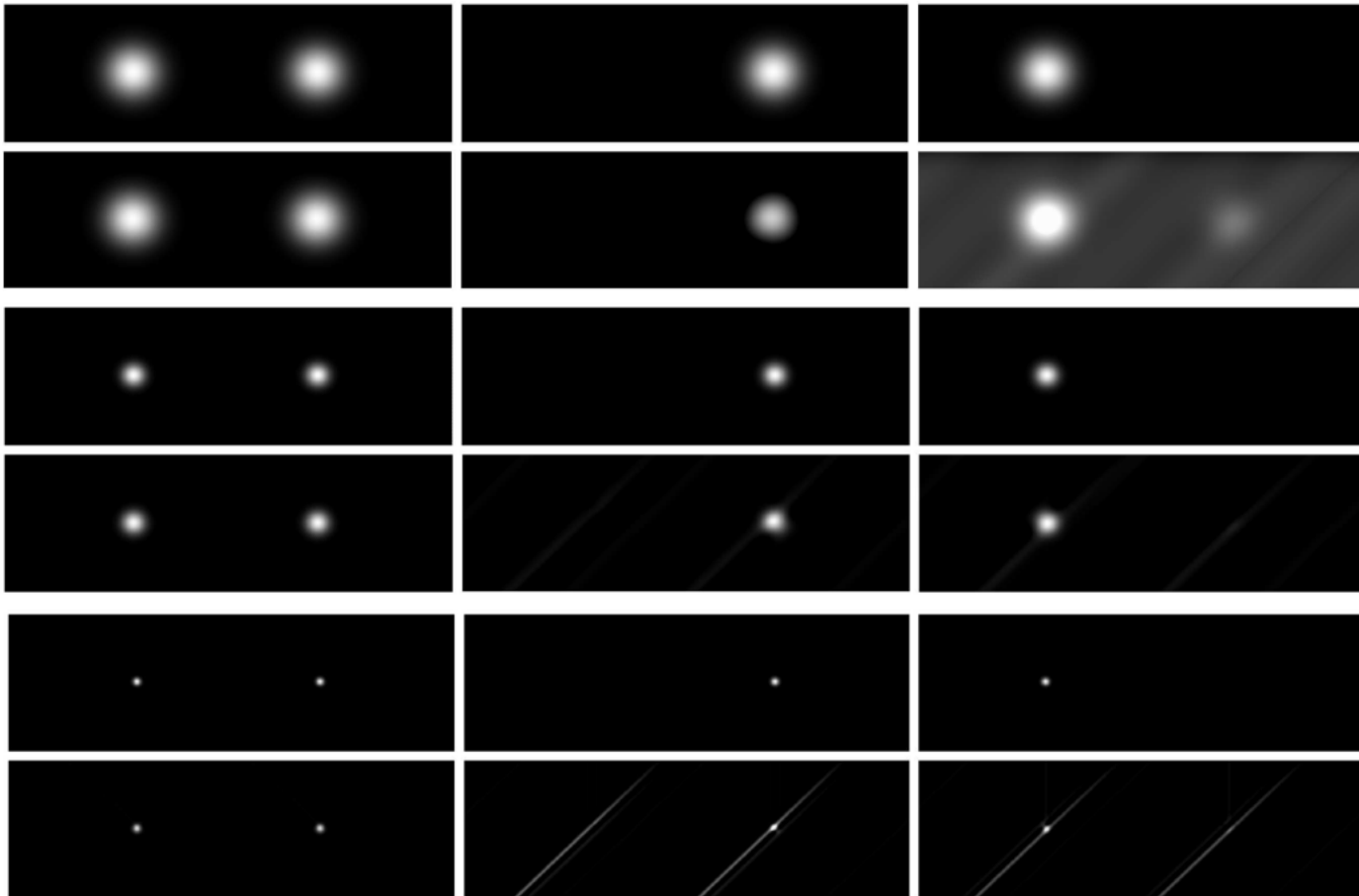


Model,  
 $w=1L/40$



Rec.

$$\frac{\bar{\mu}_s}{\bar{\mu}_a} = \frac{4}{3} ; \delta\mu_{a,s} = \bar{\mu}_{a,s} \exp\left[-\frac{(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{a,s})^2}{w^2}\right] ; \frac{h}{L} = \frac{0.3}{40}$$



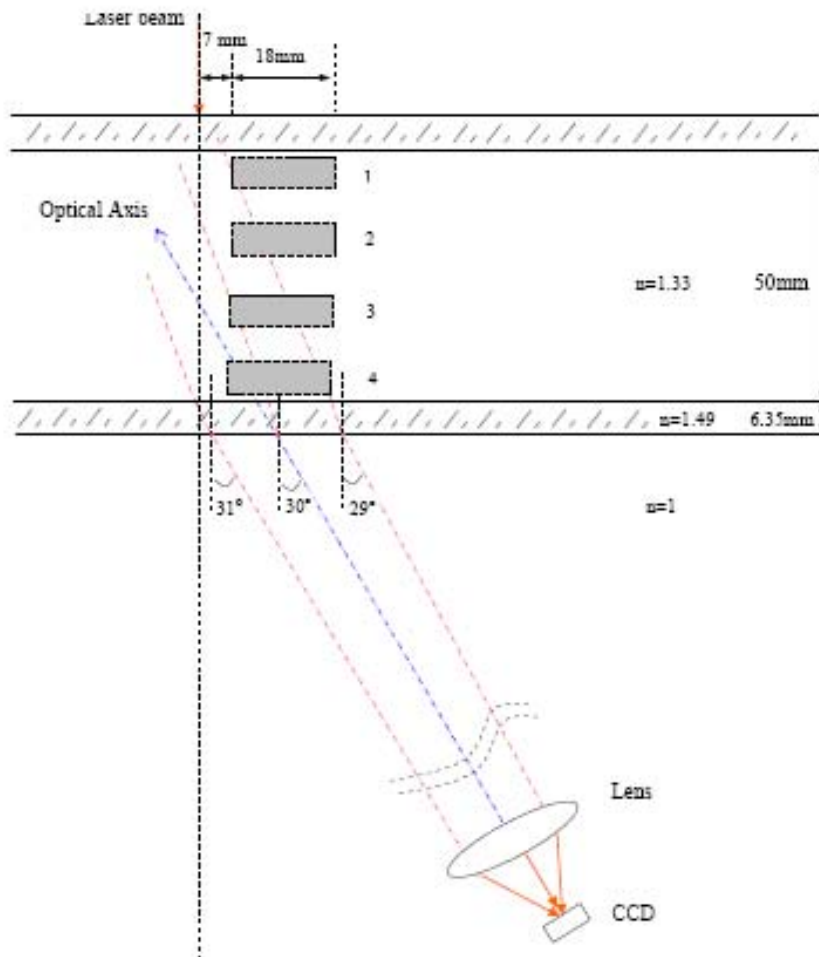
Same as above but for  $\frac{\bar{\mu}_s}{\bar{\mu}_a} = 1$

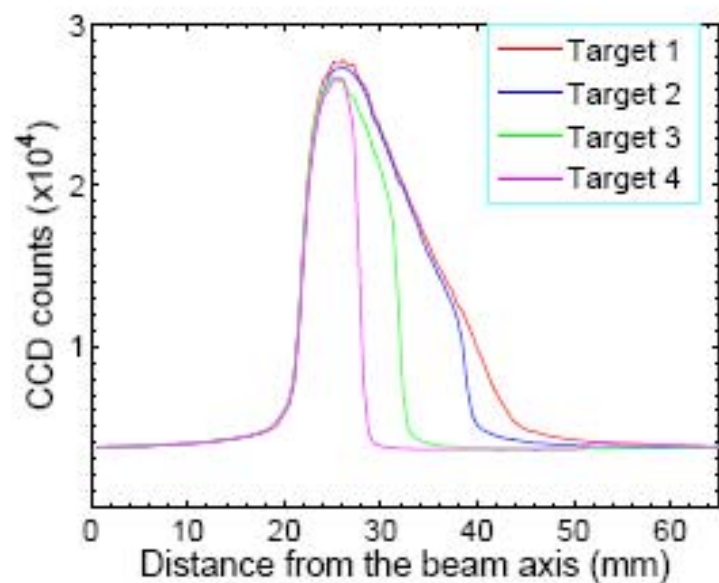


# SUMMARY

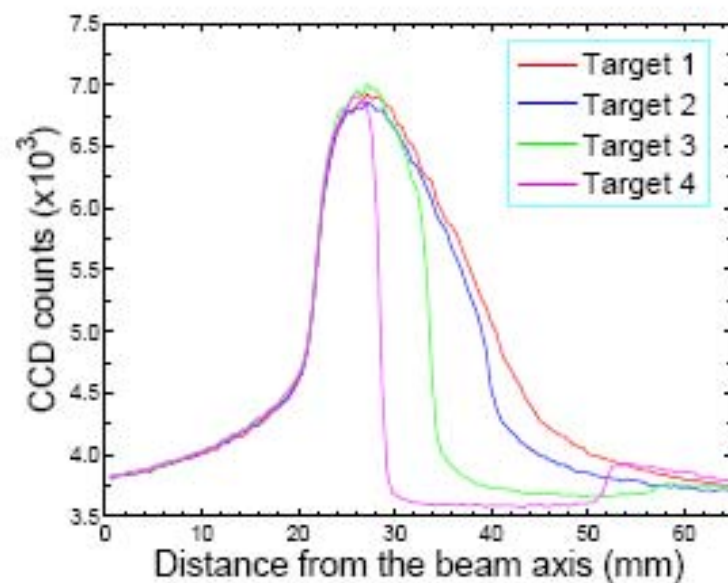
- SSOT allows accurate quantitative reconstruction of the attenuation function.
- With additional measurements, scattering and absorption can be reconstructed separately
- Ill-posedness of the inverse problem is very mild.
- Tomographic imaging is feasible up to about six scattering lengths, with the noise-to-signal level of about 3% or less.

# Preliminary Experiment





(a)



(b)

Figure 6: Experimental measurements of the specific intensity as a function of the exit position on the slab surface for intralipid concentrations 0.02% (a) and 0.04% (b).