

Semi-calibrated Photometric Stereo



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From Photometric Stereo under Non-uniform Light Intensities and Exposures, ECCV 2016

Photometric Stereo

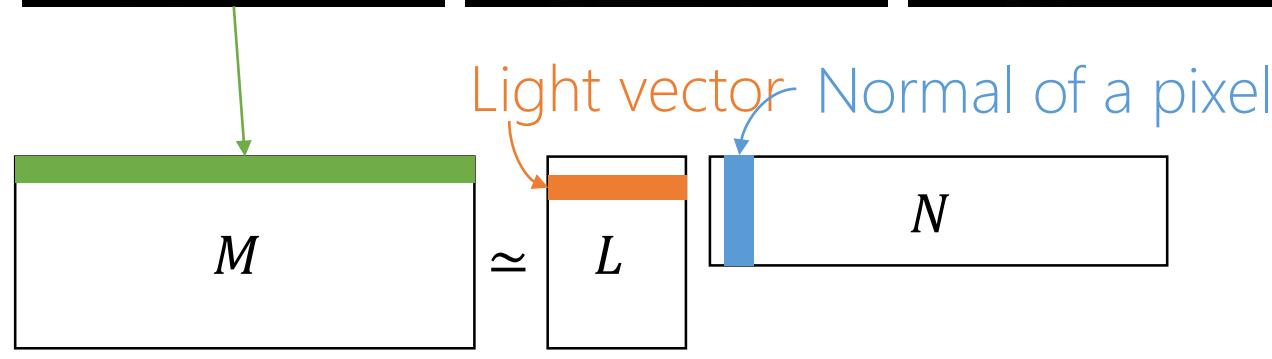


Photometric Stereo



Dense (per-pixel) surface normal

(Calibrated) Photometric Stereo



Observations Intensity-scaled Albedo-scaled
 Light Normal

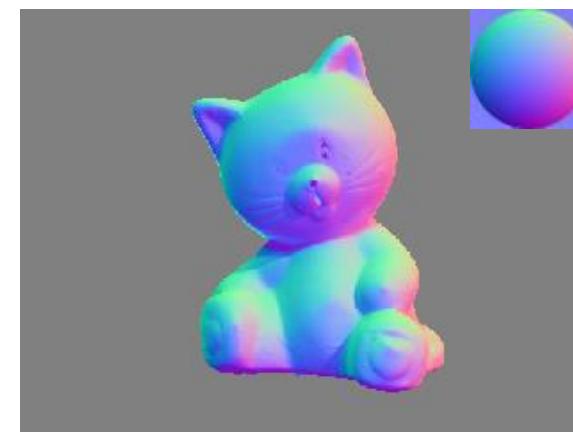
$$M \in \mathbb{R}^{f \times p}$$

$$L \in \mathbb{R}^{f \times 3}$$

$$N \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times p}$$

f : # of images, p : # of pixels

$$N = L^\dagger M \quad [\text{Woodham'80}]$$



Surface Normal

(Calibrated) Photometric Stereo

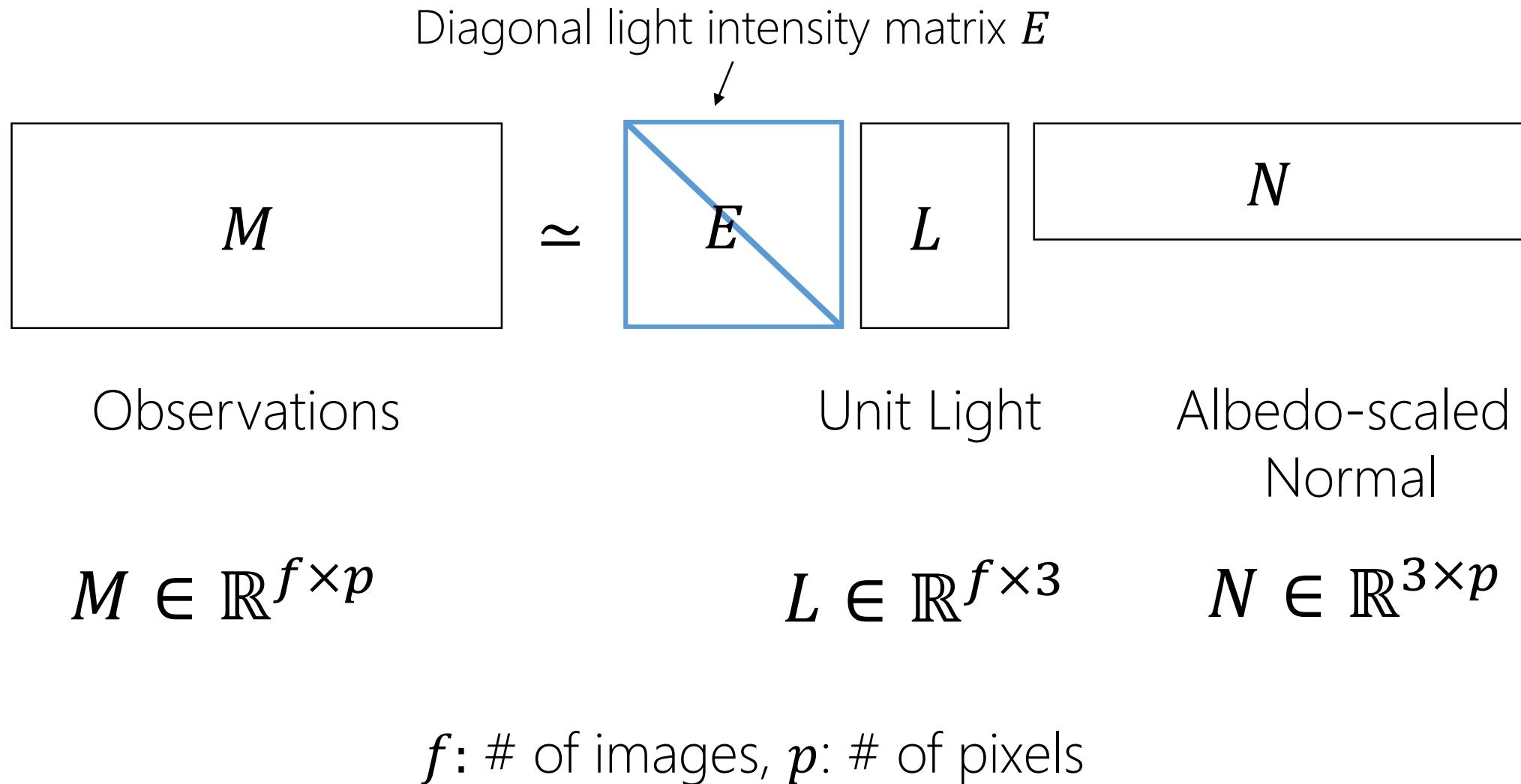
$$\begin{matrix} M \\ \simeq \\ L \end{matrix} \quad N$$

Observations Intensity-scaled Albedo-scaled
 Light Normal

$$M \in \mathbb{R}^{f \times p} \quad L \in \mathbb{R}^{f \times 3} \quad N \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times p}$$

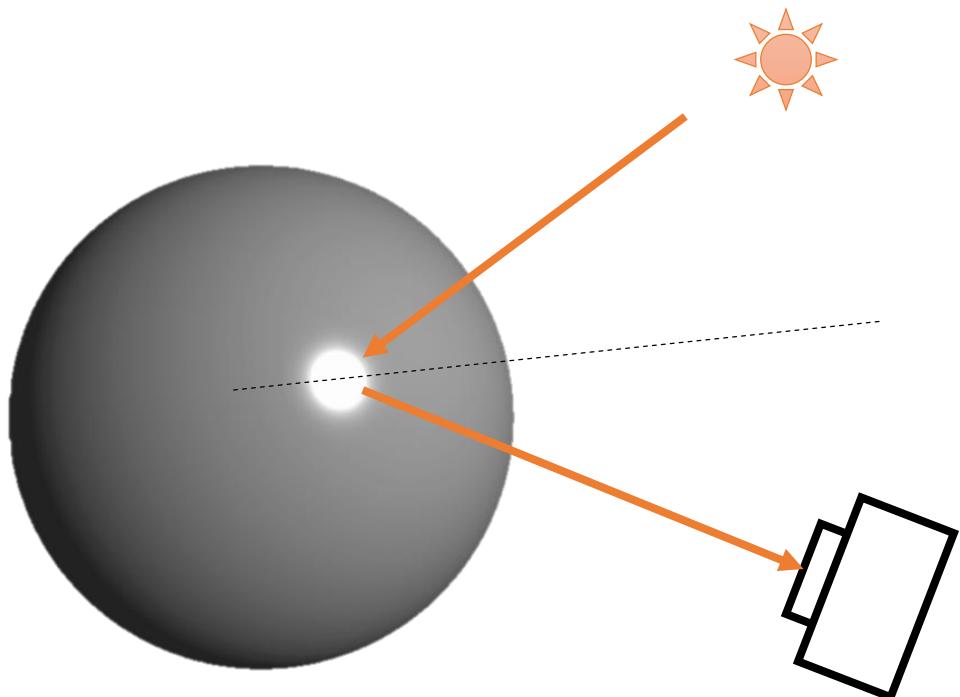
f : # of images, p : # of pixels

(Calibrated) Photometric Stereo



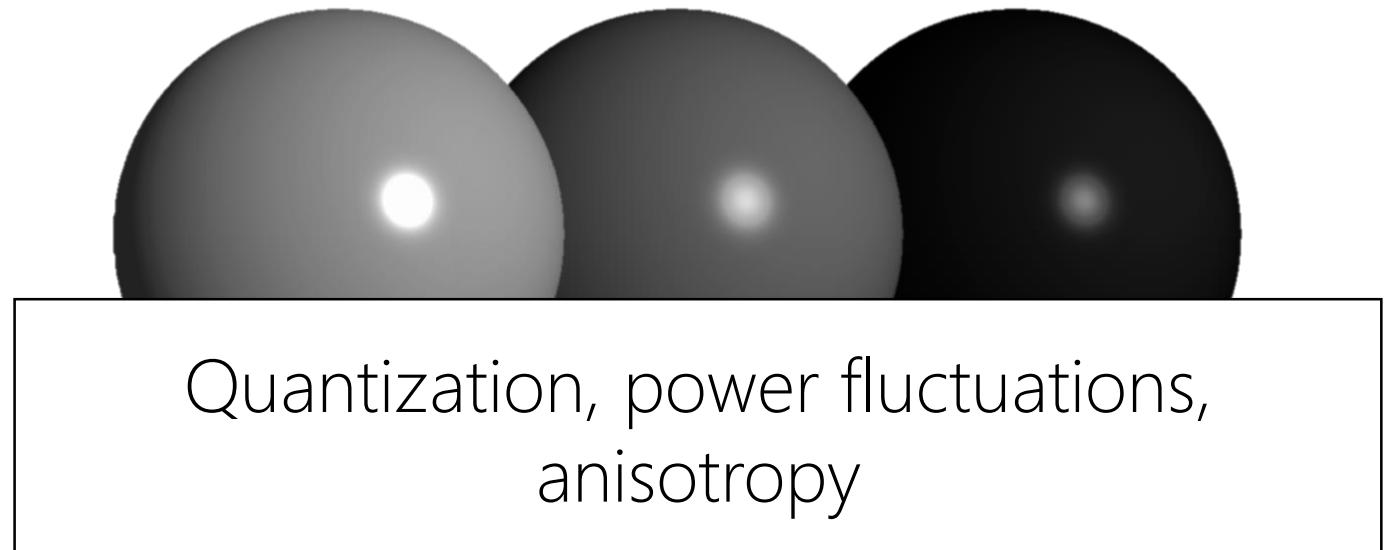
Calibration of light – Direction and Intensity

- Direction - Easier



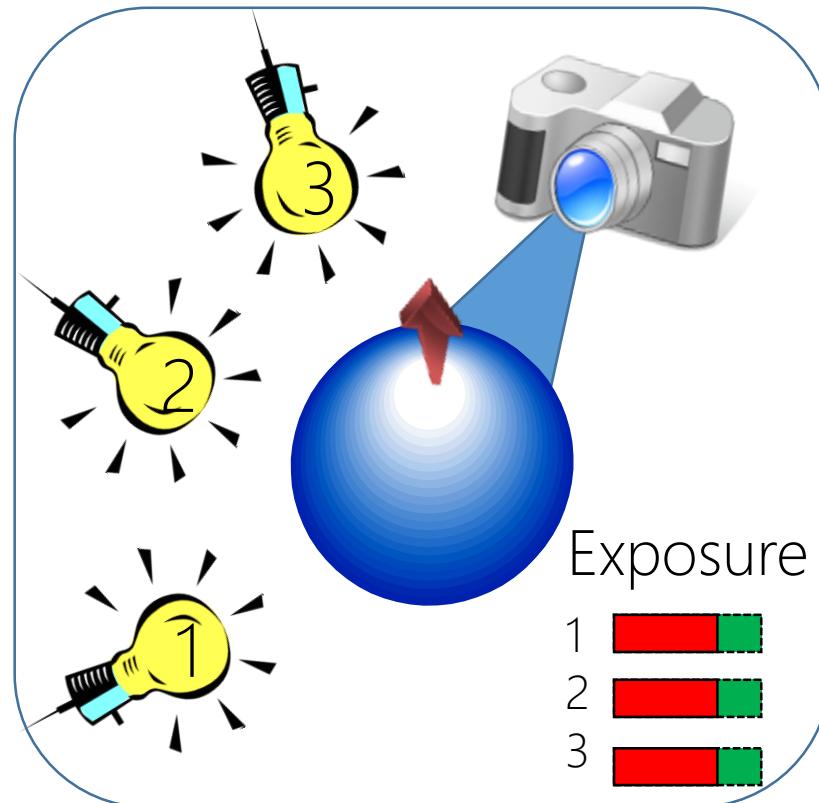
Observation of specular reflections

- Intensity - Harder

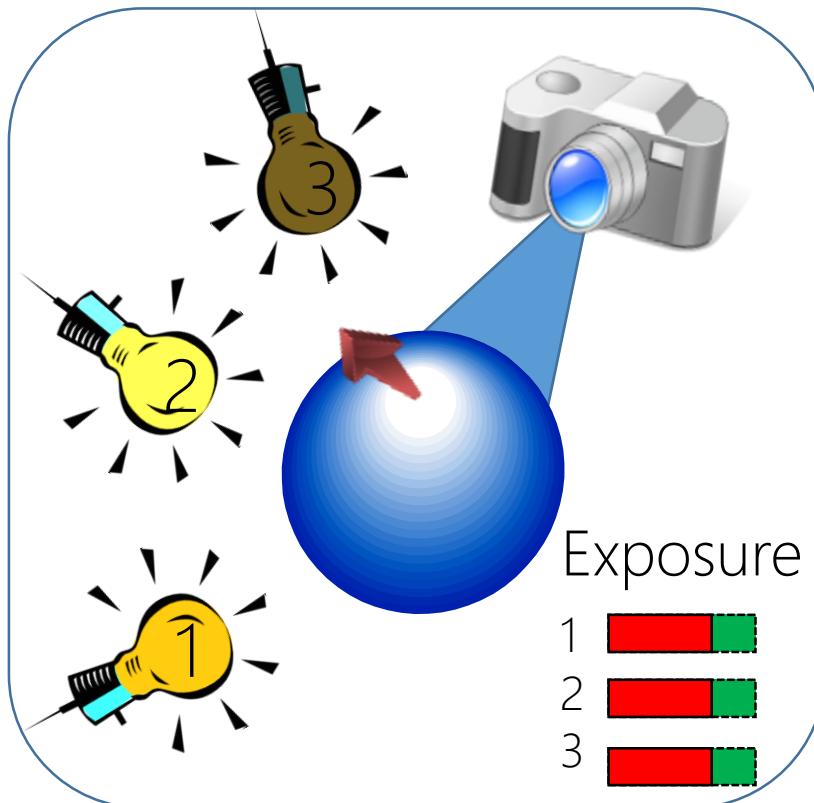


High-dynamic range imaging

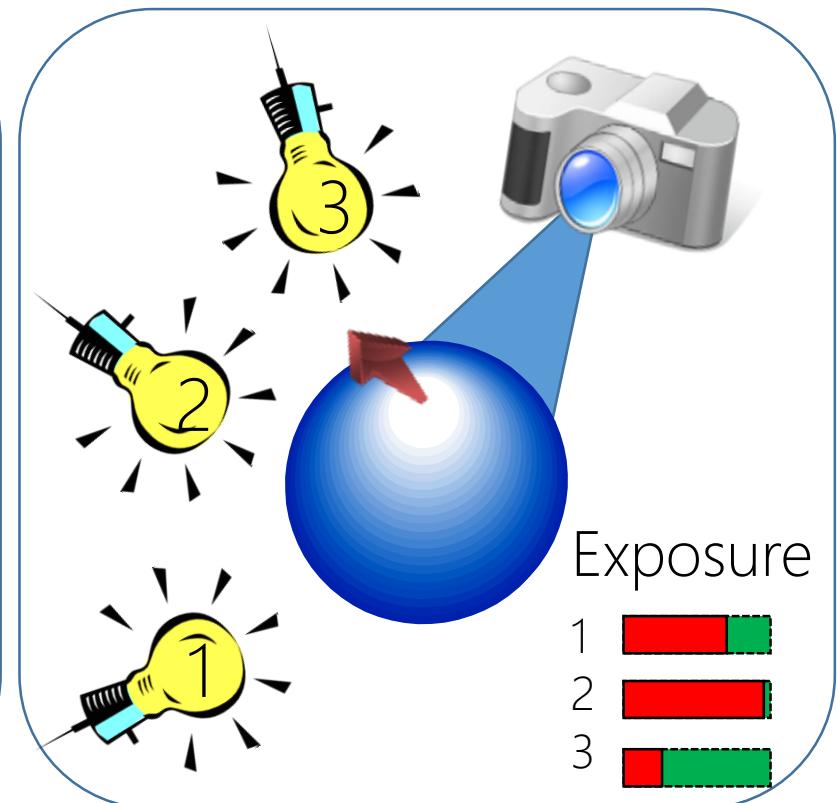
Light source intensities and exposures



Same light brightness
Same exposure time

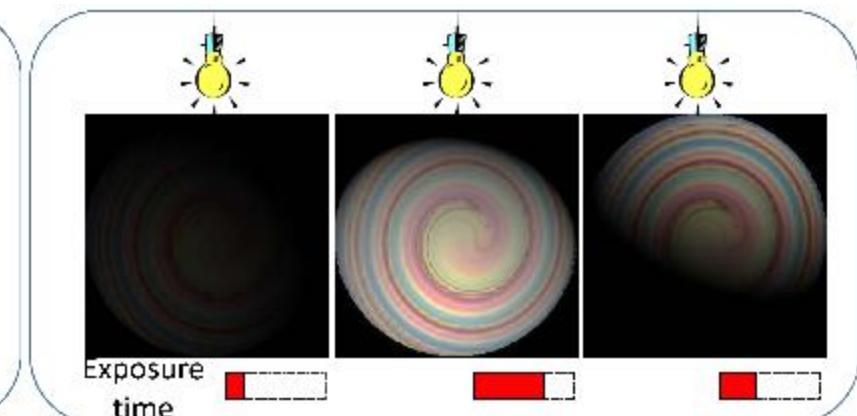
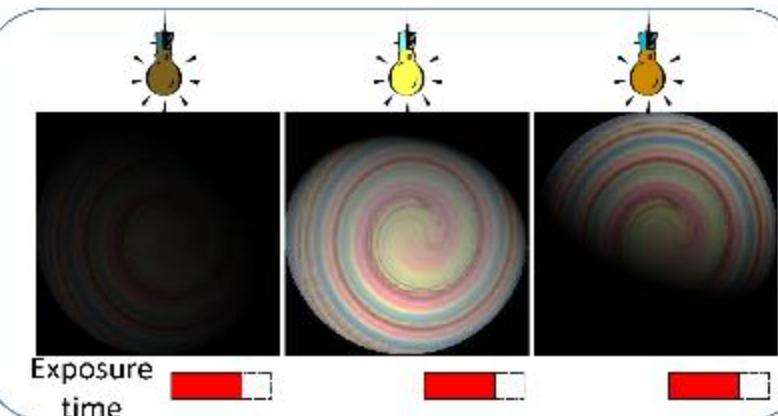
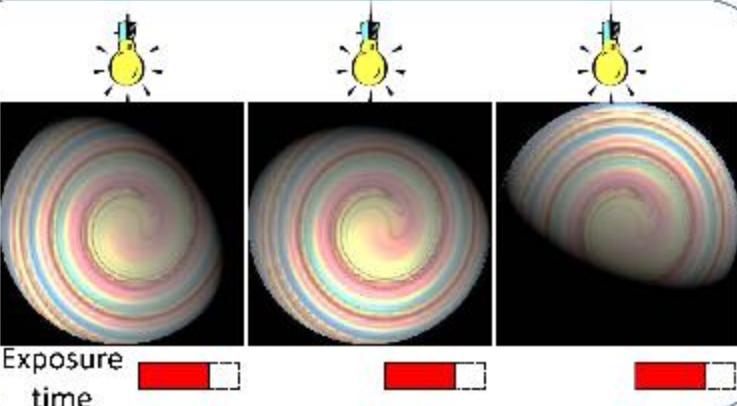


Different light brightness
Same exposure time

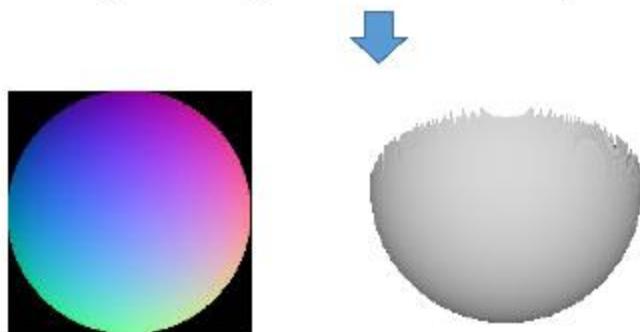


Same light brightness
Varying exposure time

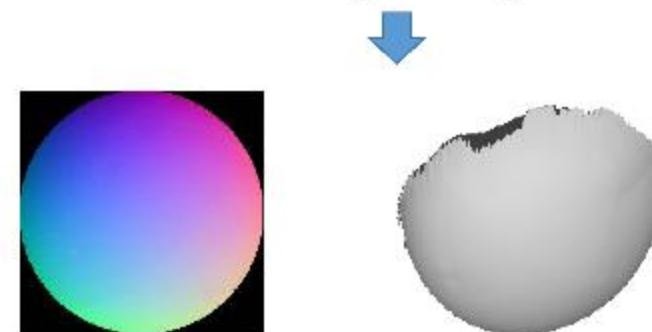
Light source intensities and exposures



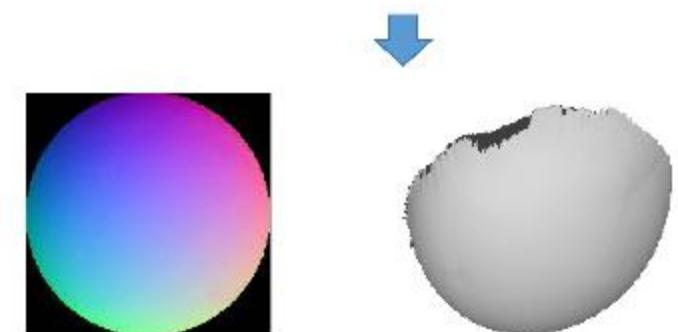
Same light brightness and exposure time



Different light brightness



Different exposure time



Semi-Calibrated Photometric Stereo

Problem: Find E and N that best satisfies $M \simeq ELN$

$$M \simeq \begin{matrix} E \\ \diagdown \\ \text{Unknown} \end{matrix} \quad L \quad \begin{matrix} N \\ \text{Unknown} \end{matrix}$$

Merits:

- Unknown and varying light source intensities
- Unknown and varying exposure times
- Compatible to conventional photometric stereo

Linear solution method

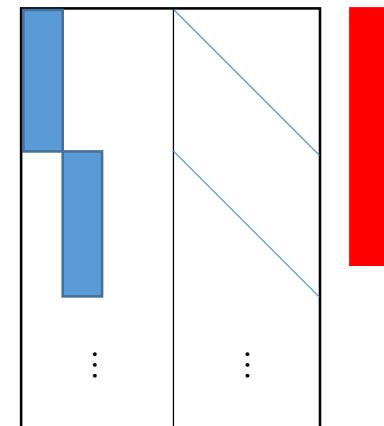
$$M \approx \begin{bmatrix} E \\ L \end{bmatrix} N$$

Problem: Find E and N that best satisfies $M \simeq ELN$

→ E invertible: $E^{-1}M - LN \simeq 0$

→ Turn it into $Ax = 0$ form

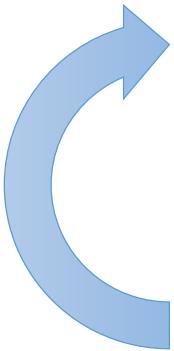
$$[-I_p \otimes L \mid [\text{diag}(m_1) \mid \dots \mid \text{diag}(m_p)]^T] \begin{bmatrix} \text{vec}(N) \\ E^{-1}1 \end{bmatrix} \simeq 0$$


$$\simeq 0$$

Alternating minimization method

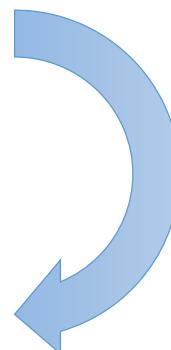
Fix E and solve for N

$$\{N^{(t+1)}\} = \arg \min_N \|M - E^{(t)}LN\|_F^2$$

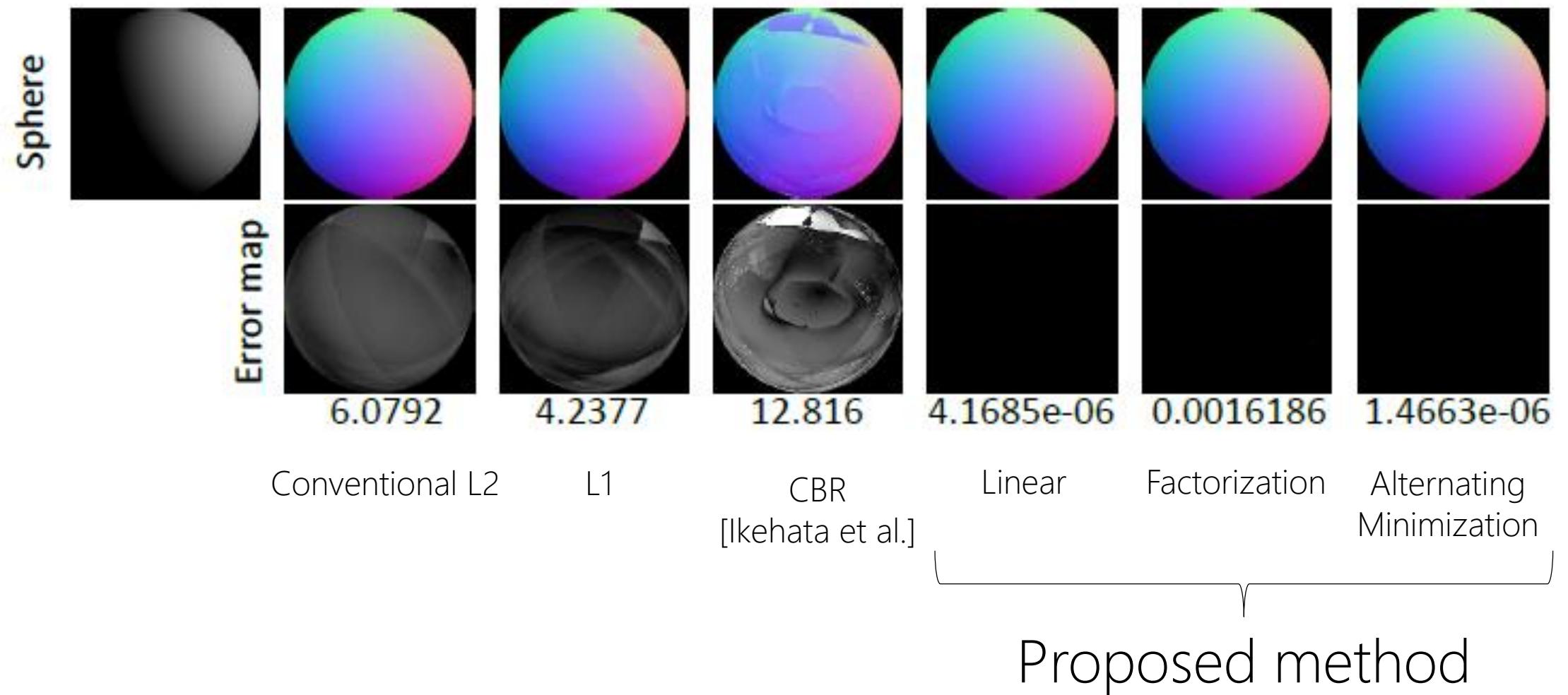


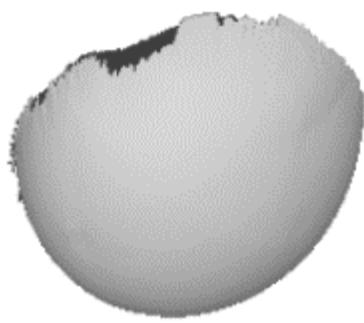
Fix N and solve for E

$$\{E^{(t+1)}\} = \arg \min_E \|M - ELN^{(t)}\|_F^2$$

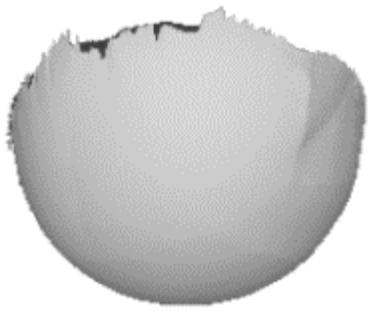


Experiment – synthetic scene

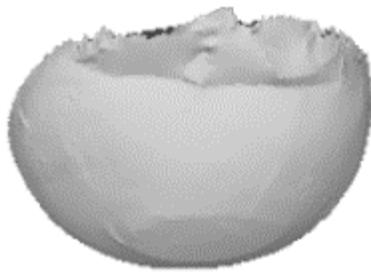




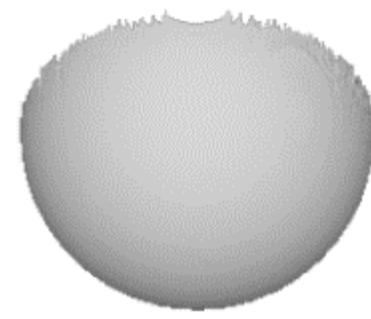
Conventional L2



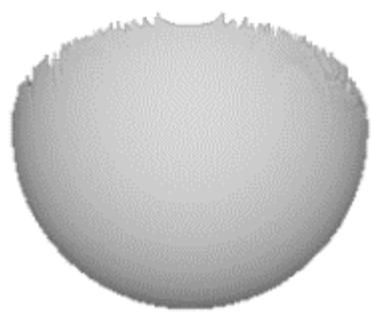
L1



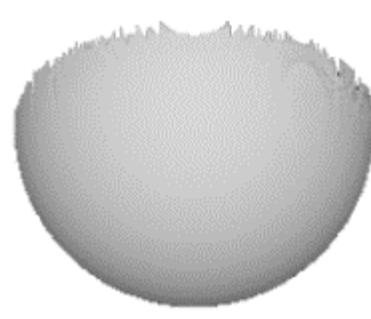
CBR
[Ikehata et al.]



Linear



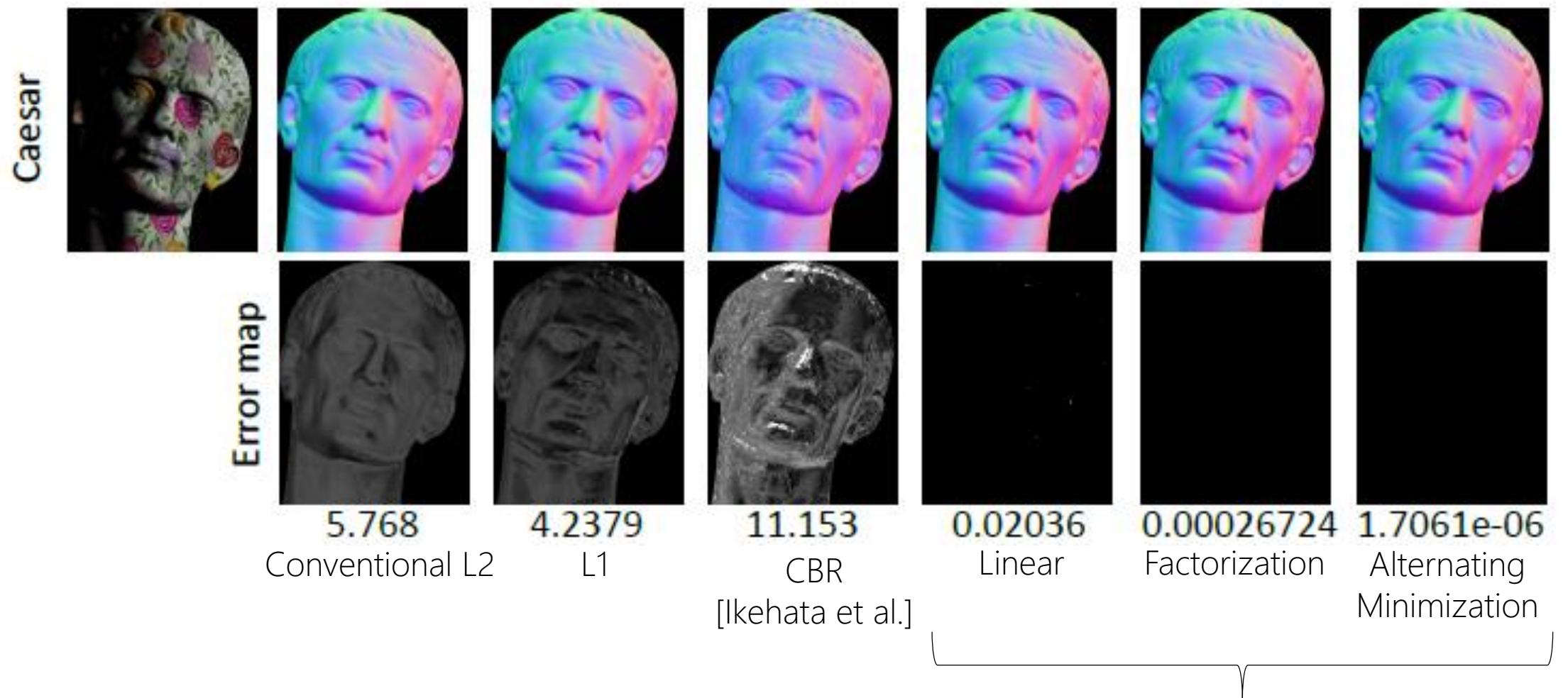
Factorization



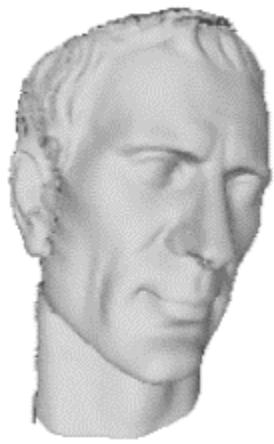
Alternating
Minimization

Proposed method

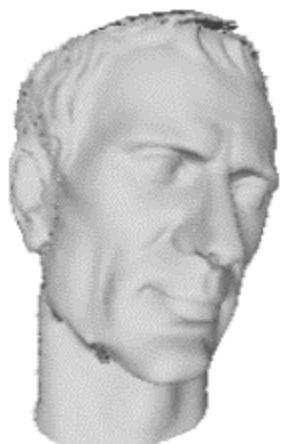
Experiment – synthetic scene



Proposed method



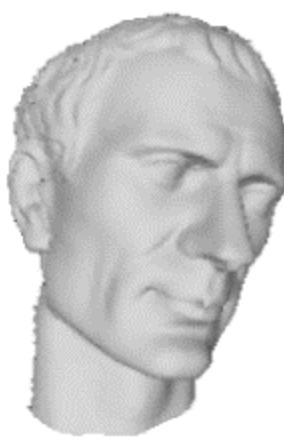
Conventional L2



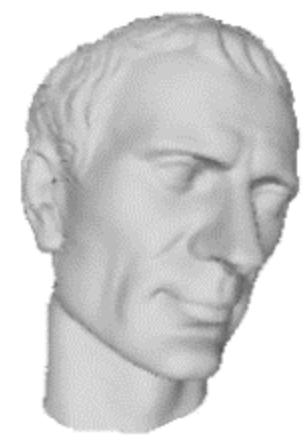
L1



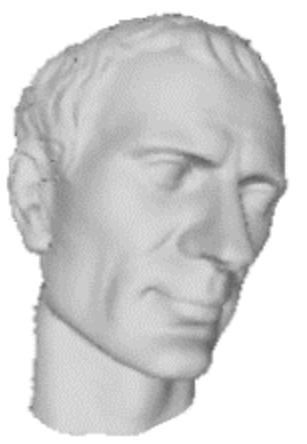
CBR
[Ikehata et al.]



Linear



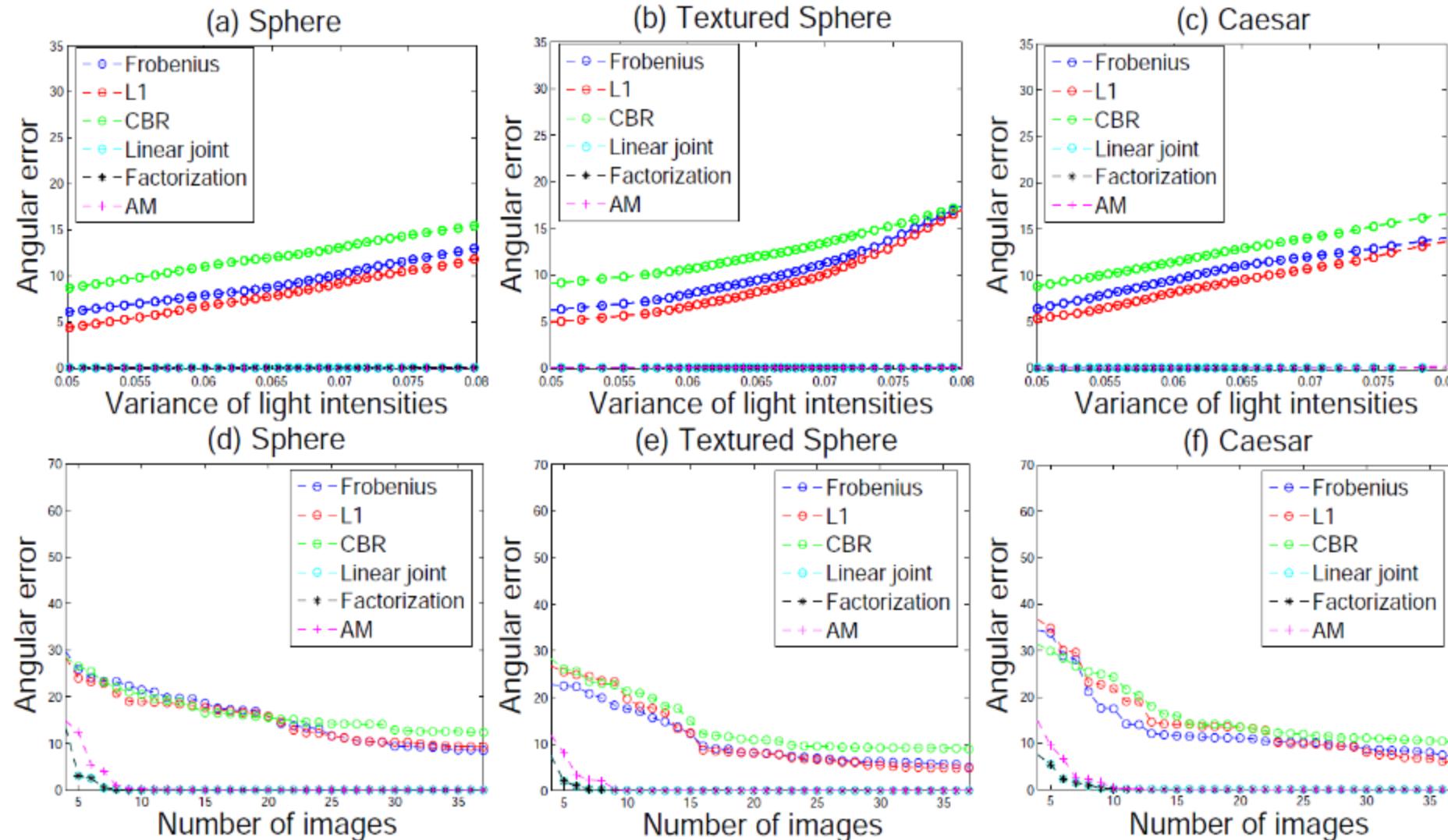
Factorization



Alternating
Minimization

Proposed method

Quantitative evaluation



Experiment – real data

Input



Conventional L2



L1



CBR
[Ikehata et al.]



Linear



Factorization



Alternating
Minimization

Proposed method

Experiment – real data

Input



Conventional L2

L1

CBR
[Ikehata et al.]

Linear

Factorization

Alternating
Minimization

Proposed method

Summary – Semi-calibrated photometric stereo

- Light ``intensity'' calibration is not easy, while ``direction'' calibration is manageable
- Applicable to conventional photometric stereo settings
 - Without careful intensity calibration
 - With auto-exposure → reduced noise