



# Error Analysis of Common Sampling Strategies

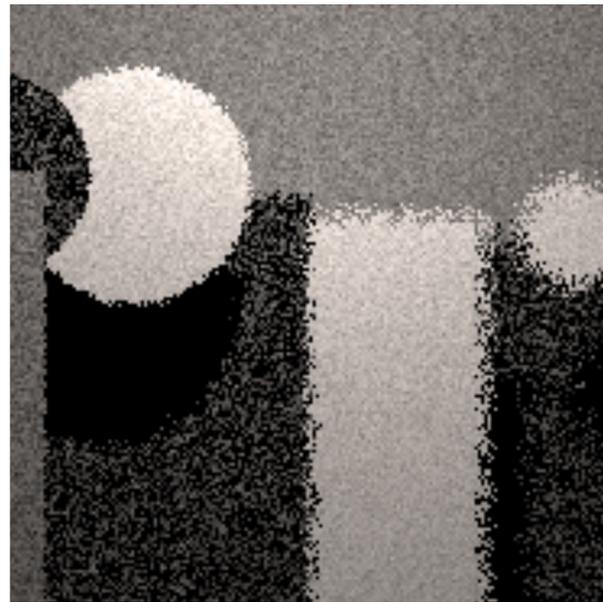
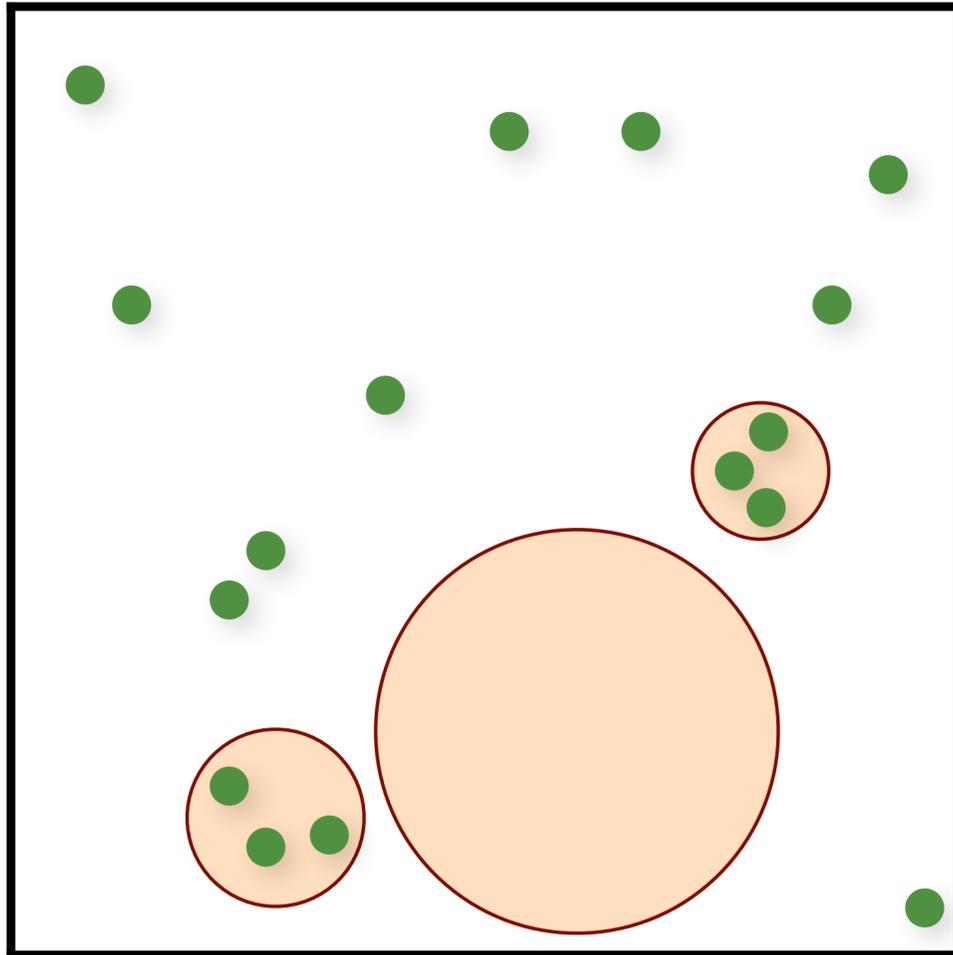
Gurprit Singh

[gsingh@mpi-inf.mpg.de](mailto:gsingh@mpi-inf.mpg.de)

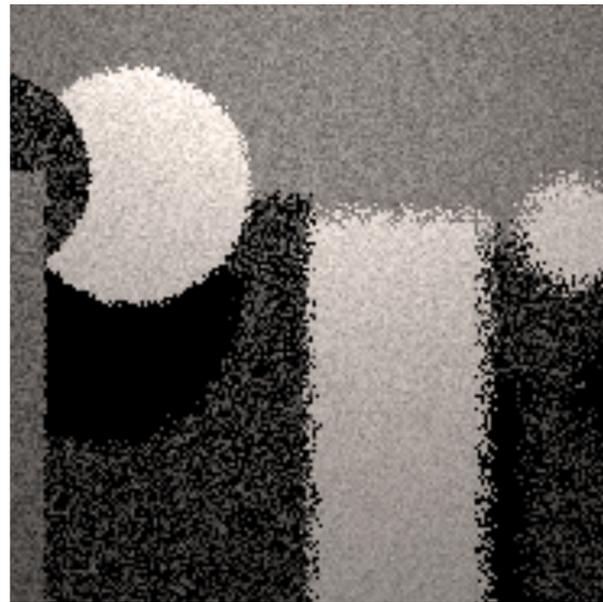
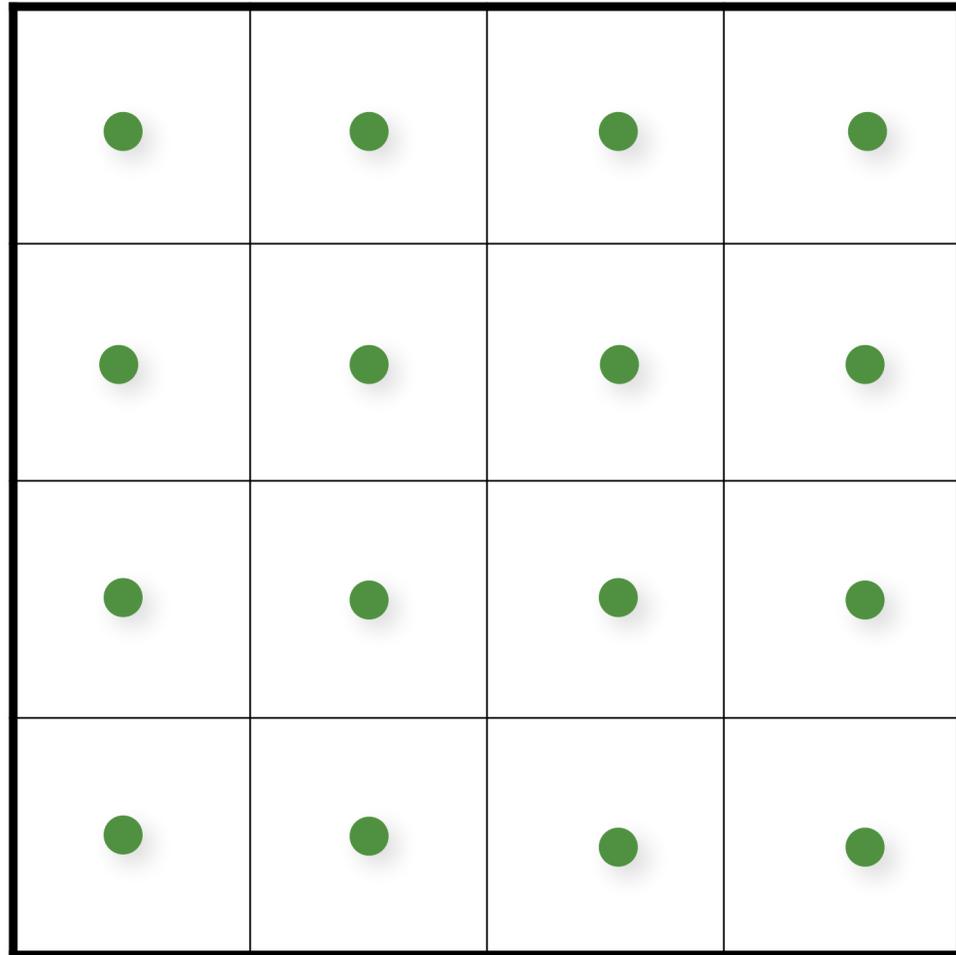
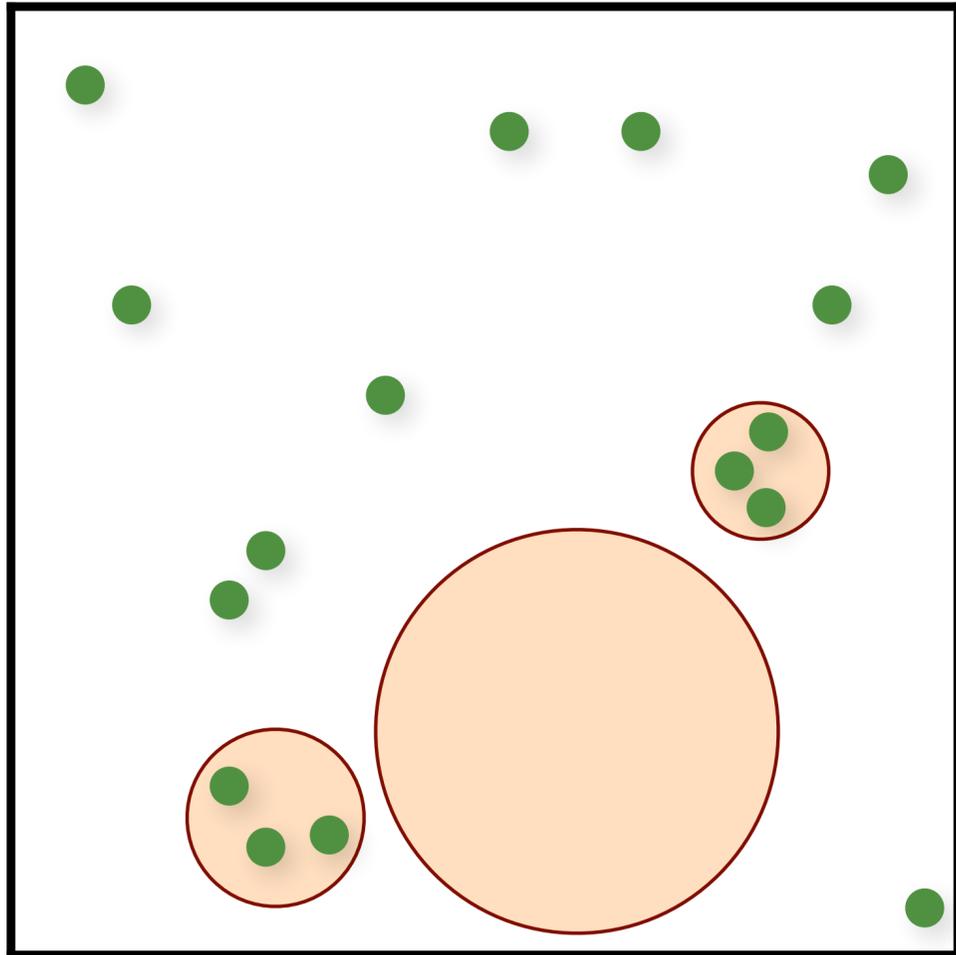


max planck institut  
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Random

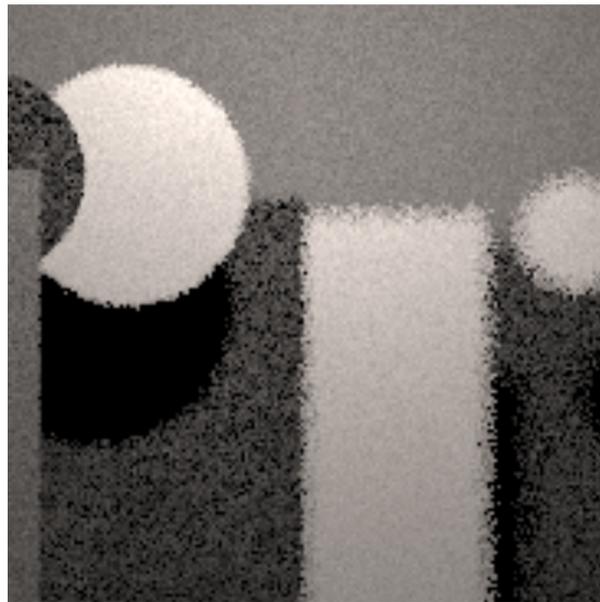
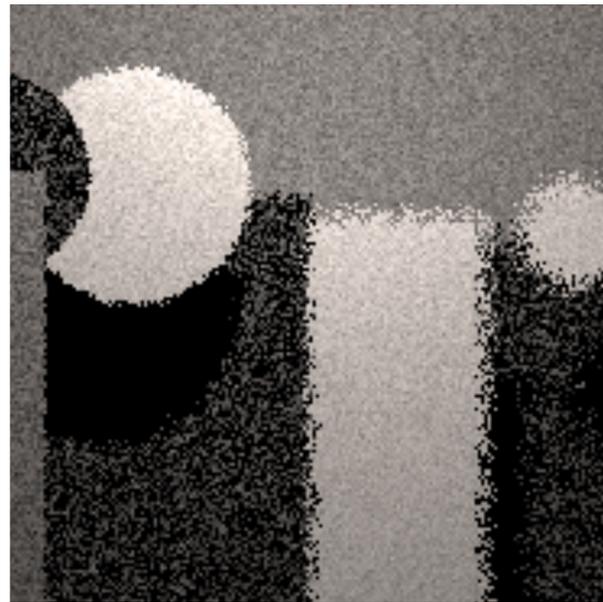
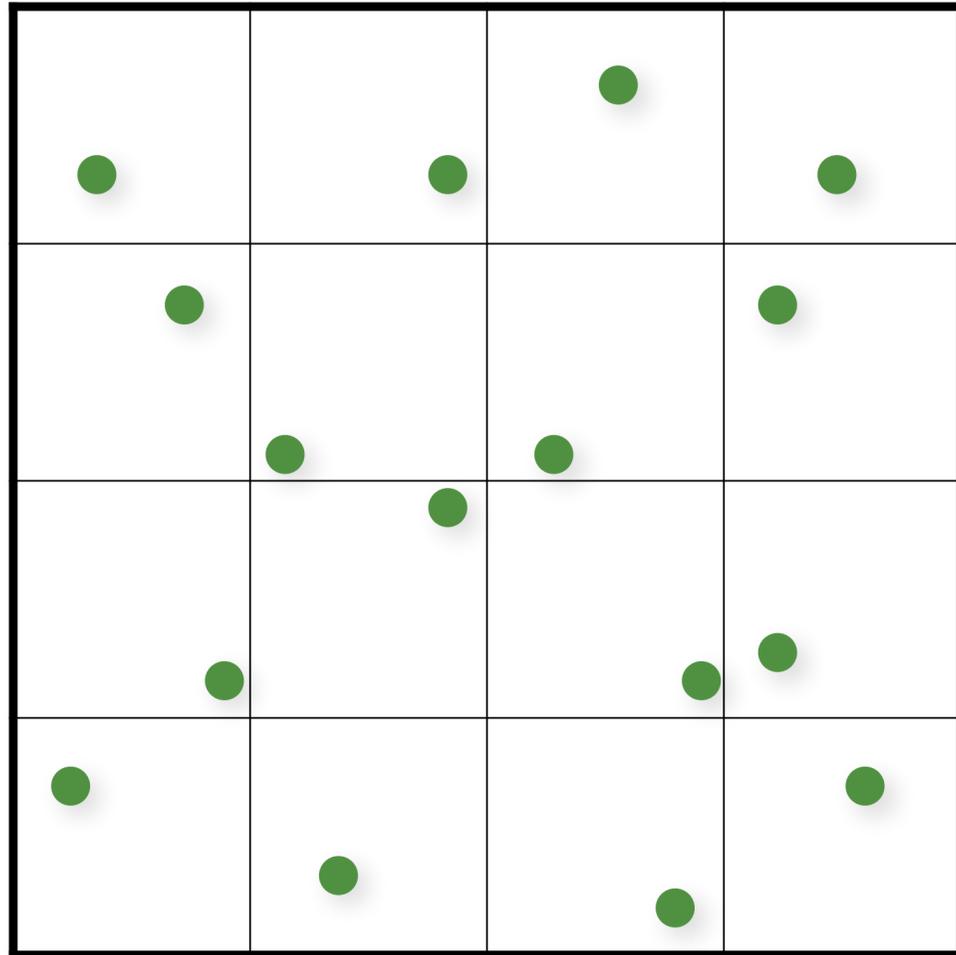
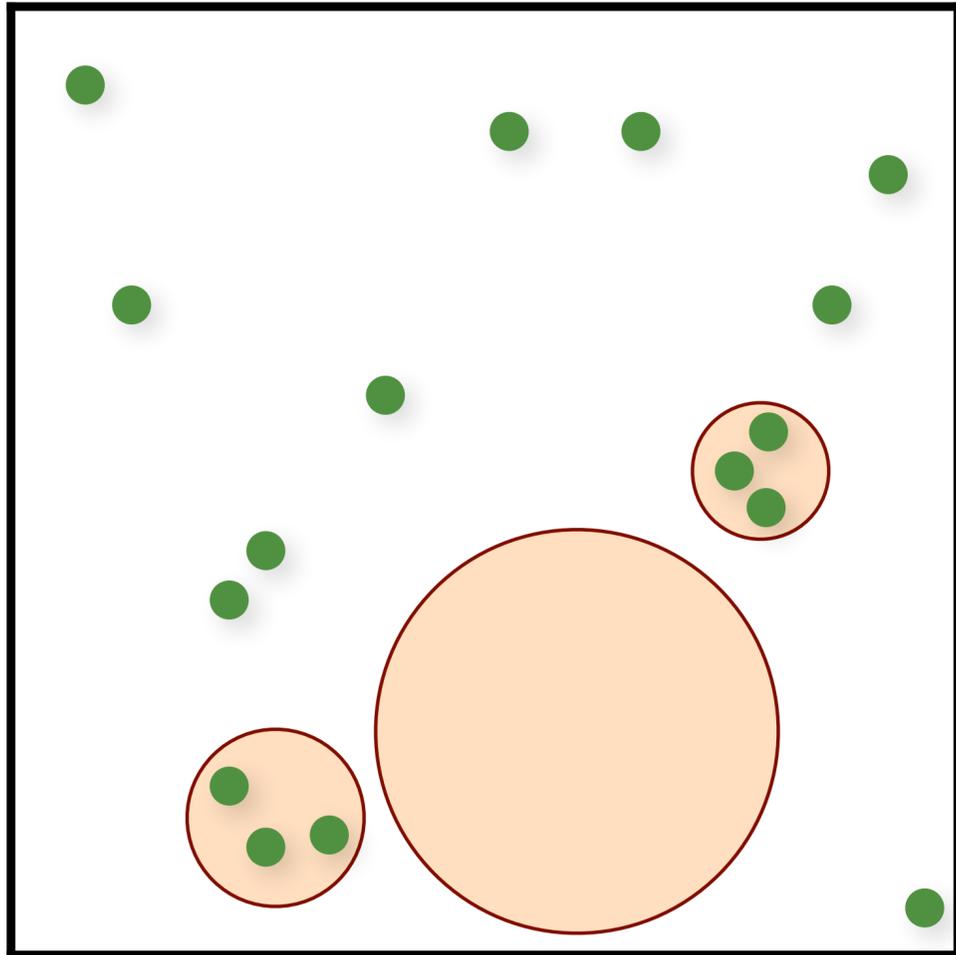


Random

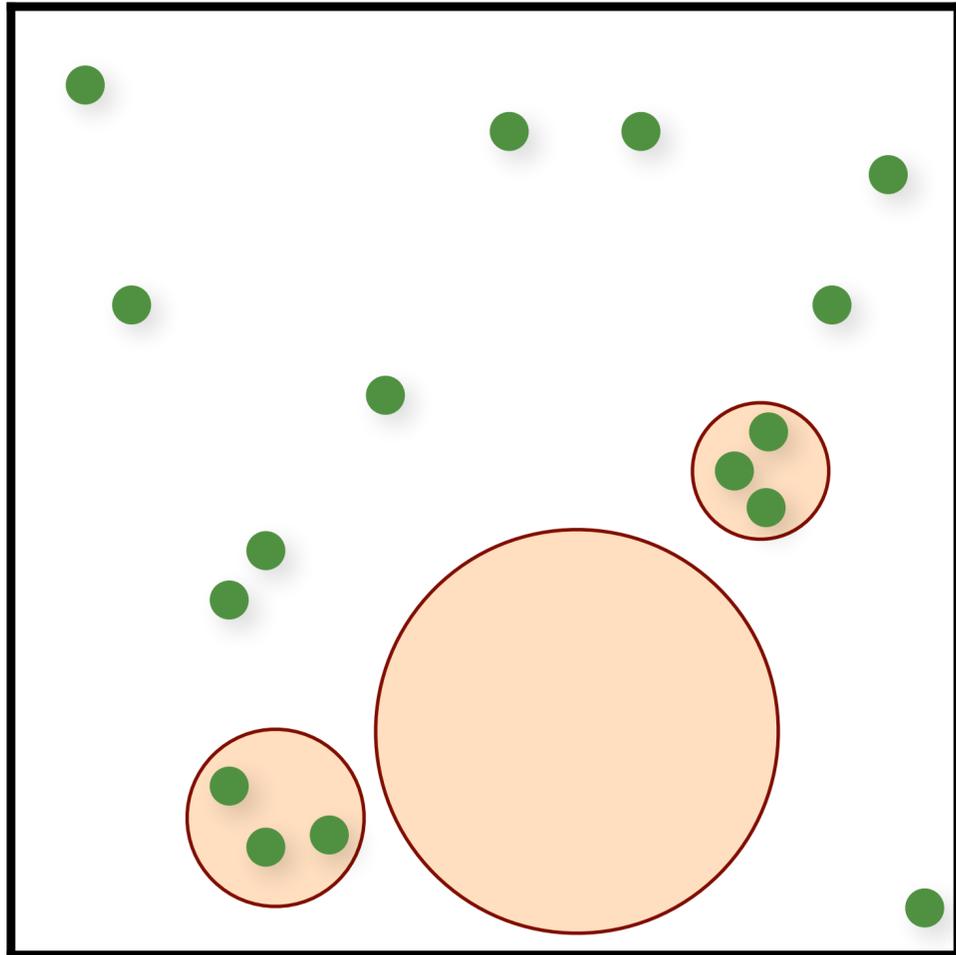


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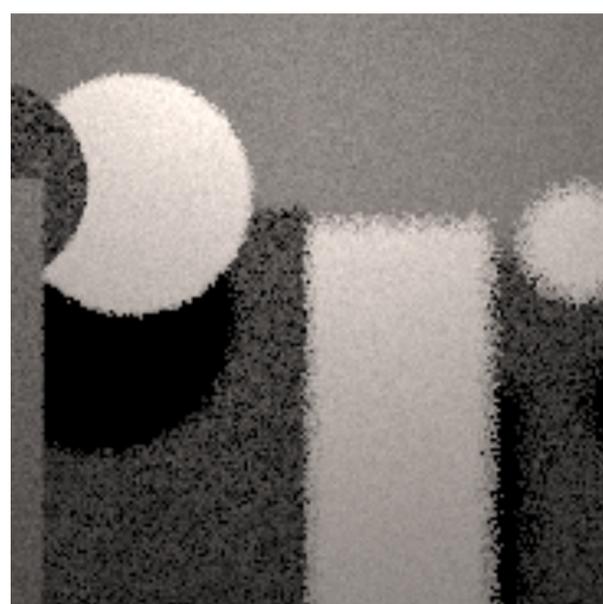
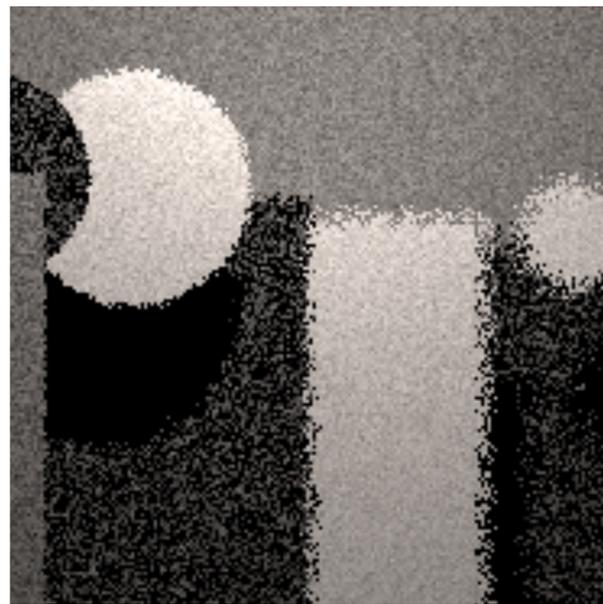
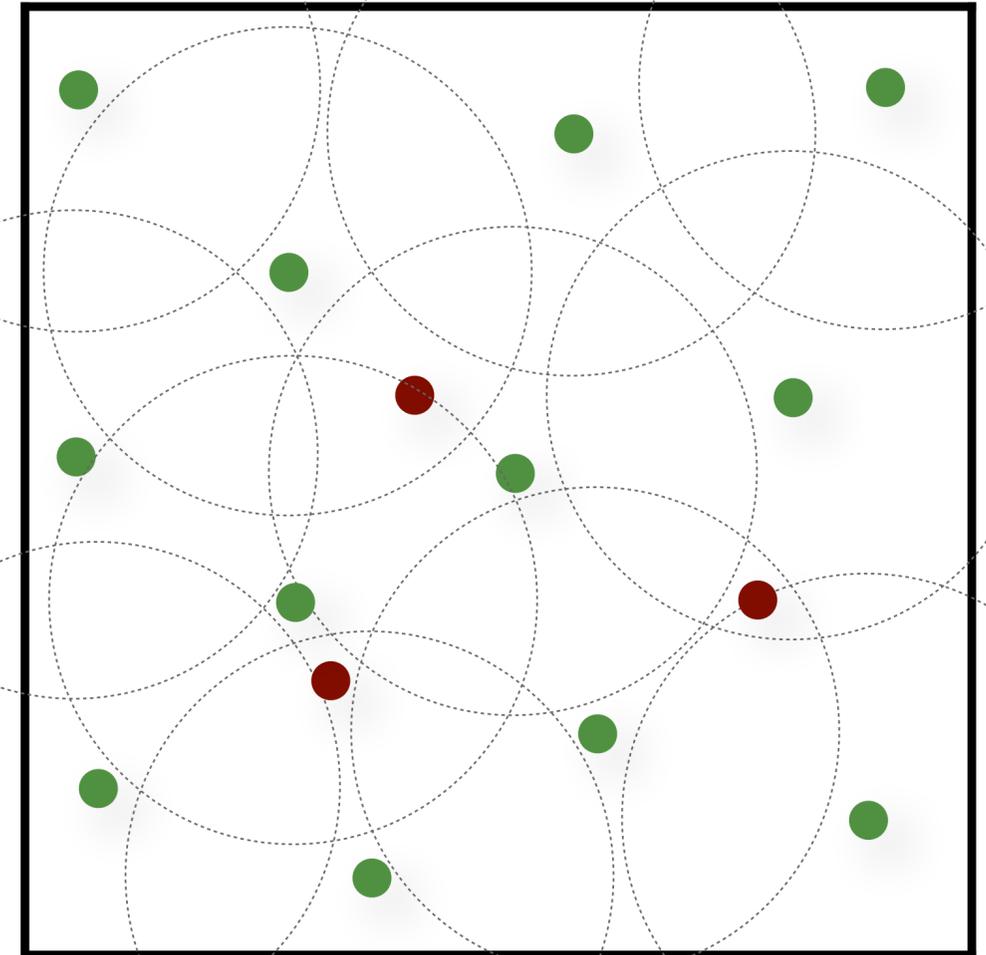
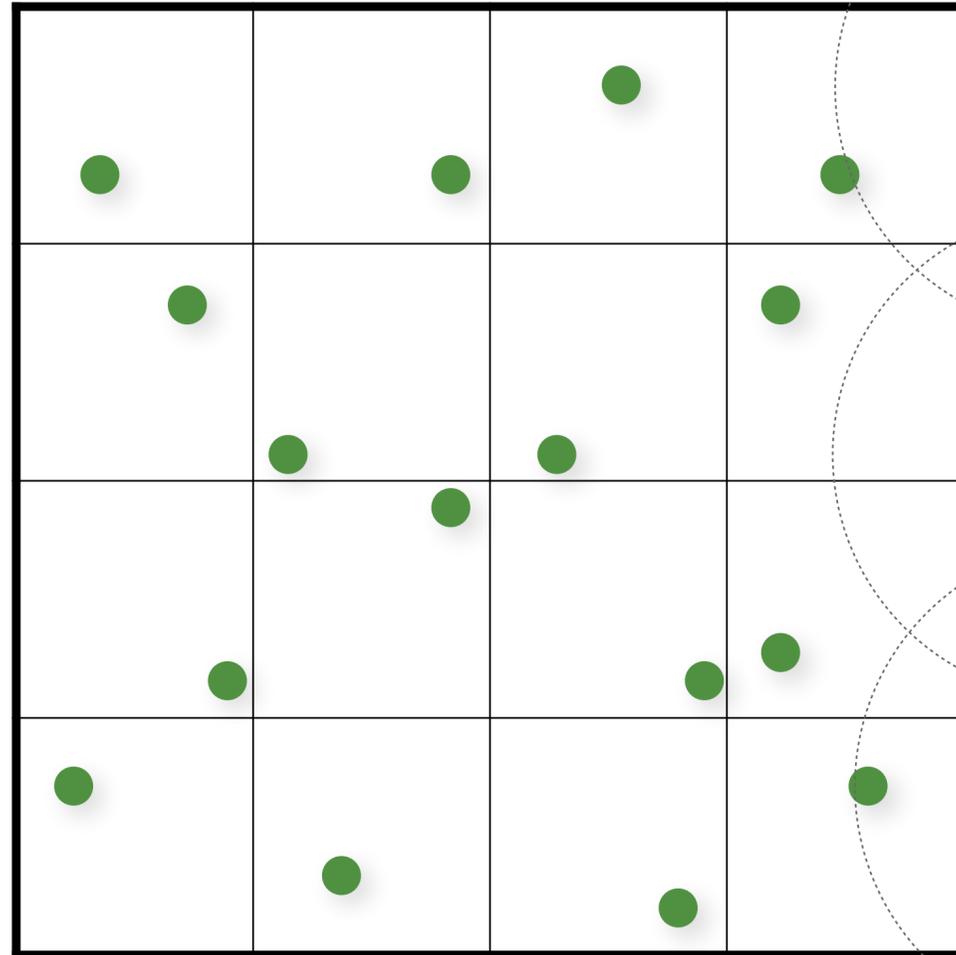
Jitter



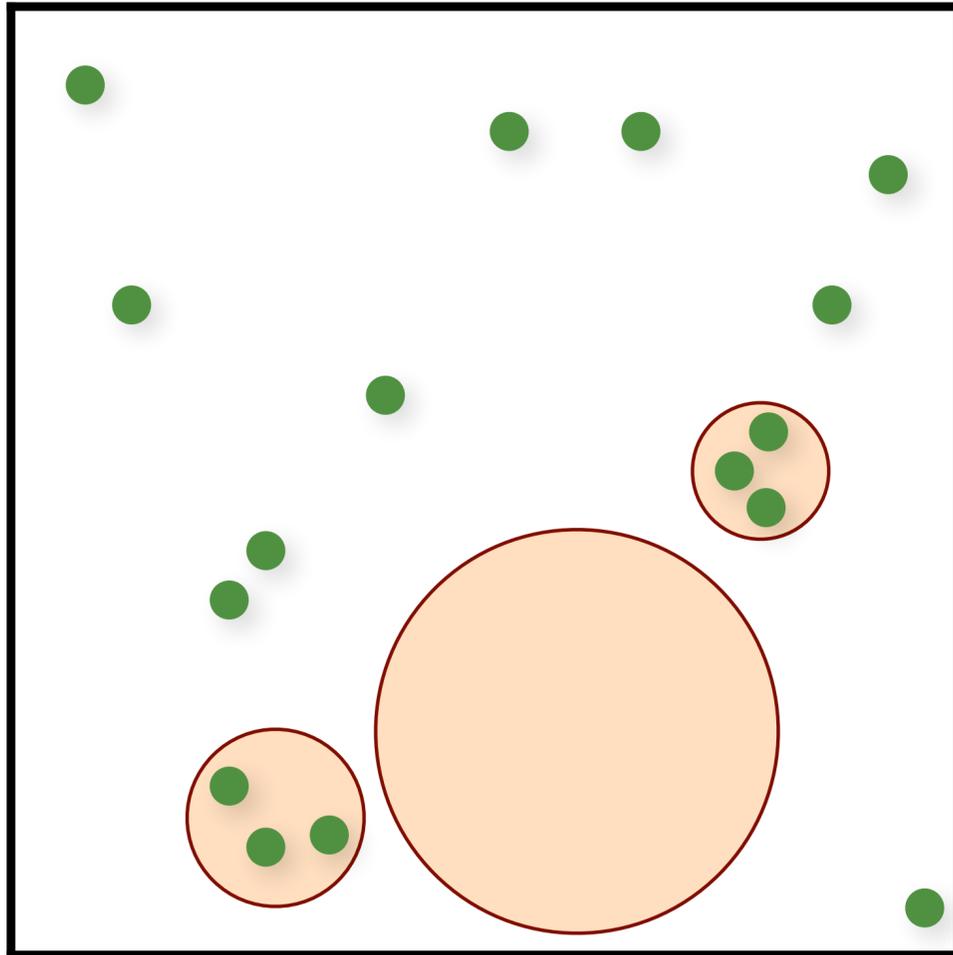
Random



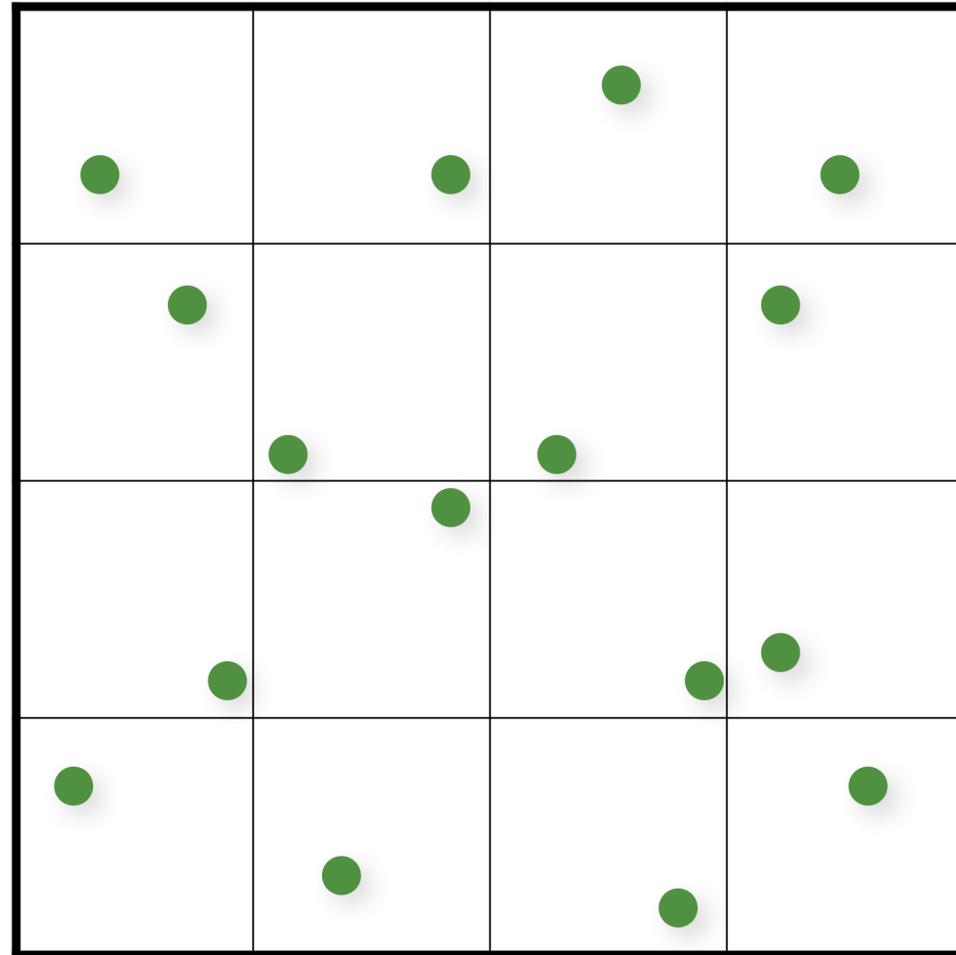
Jitter



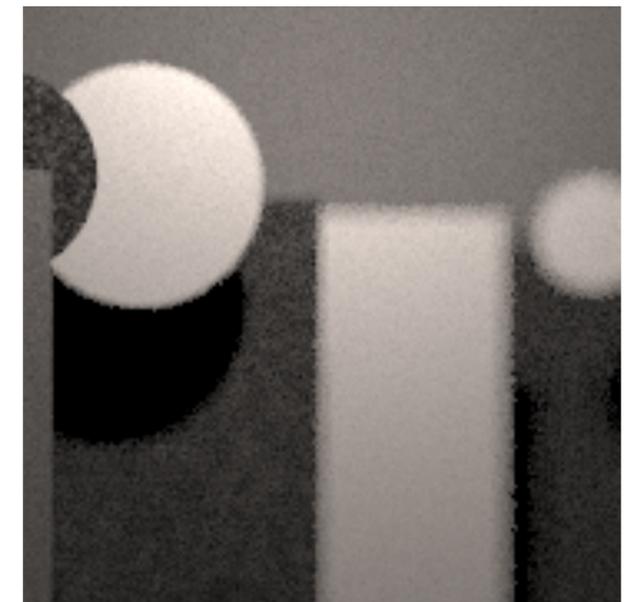
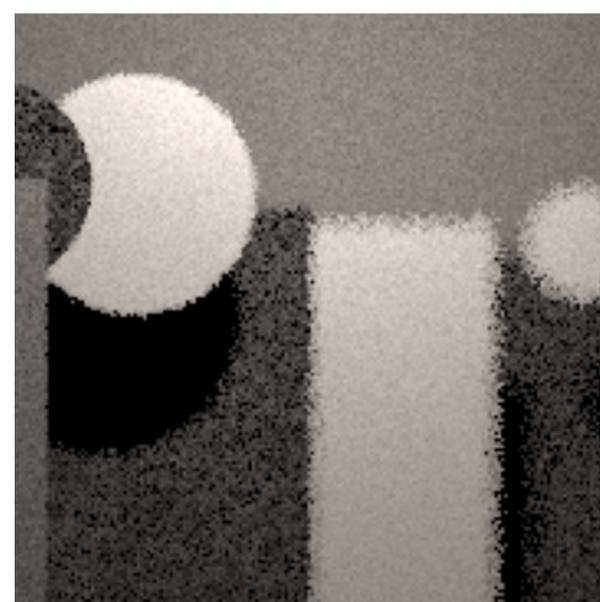
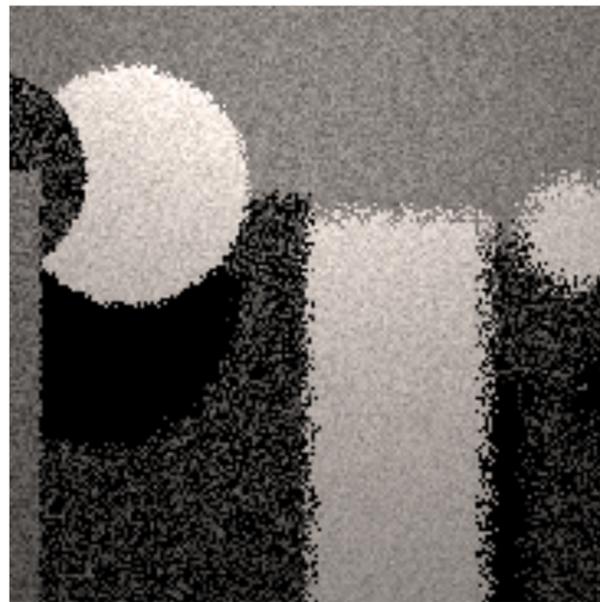
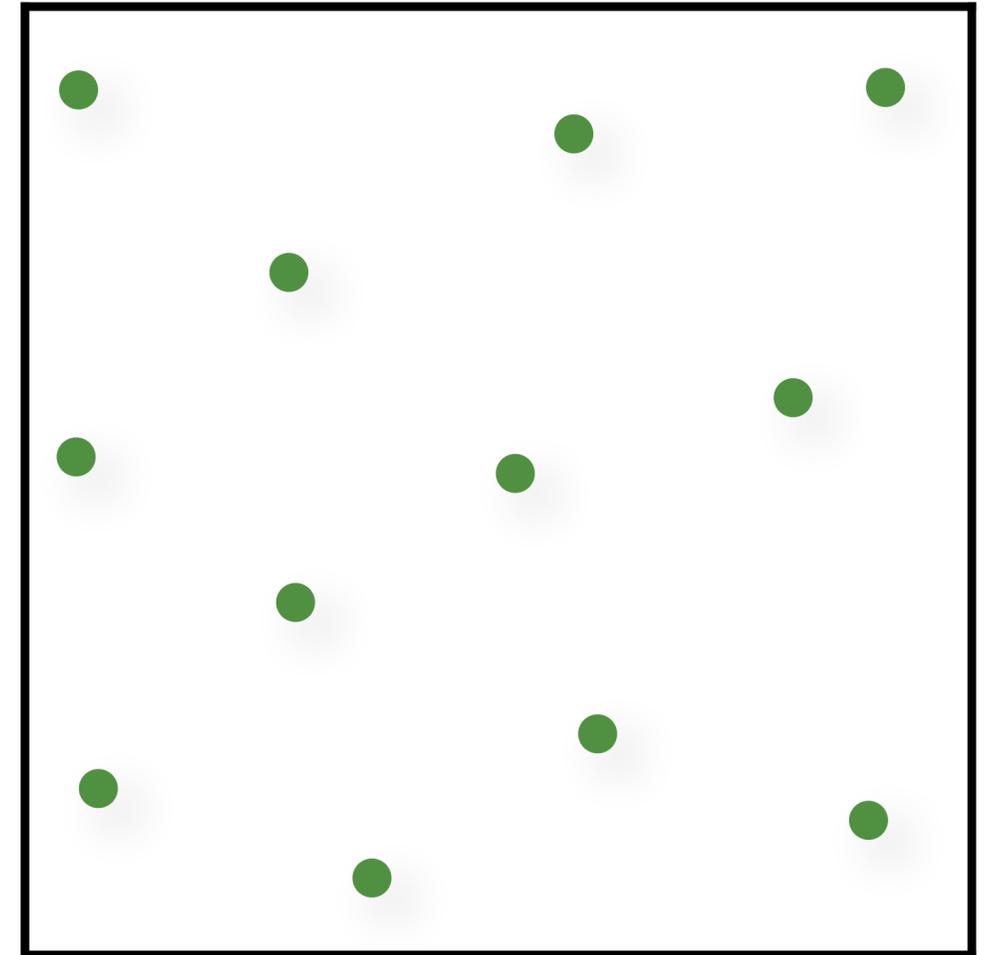
Random



Jitter



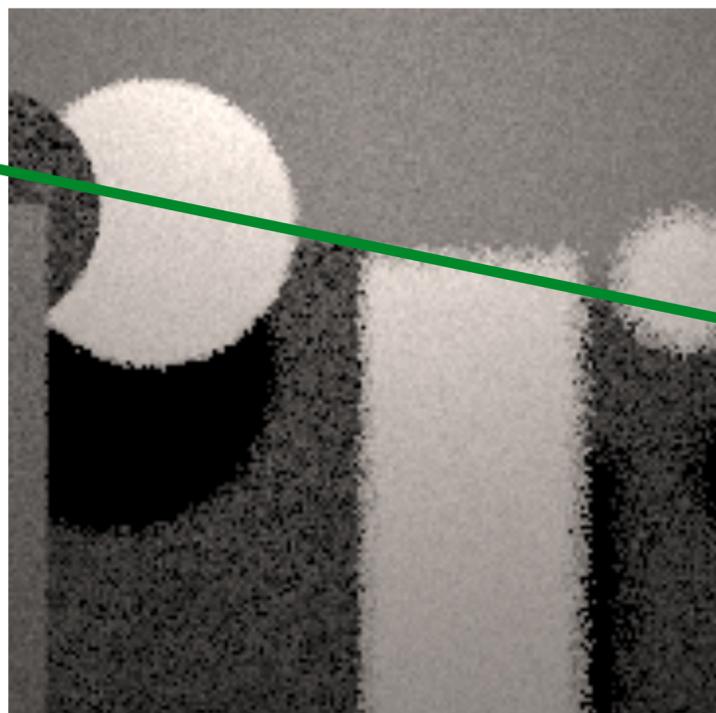
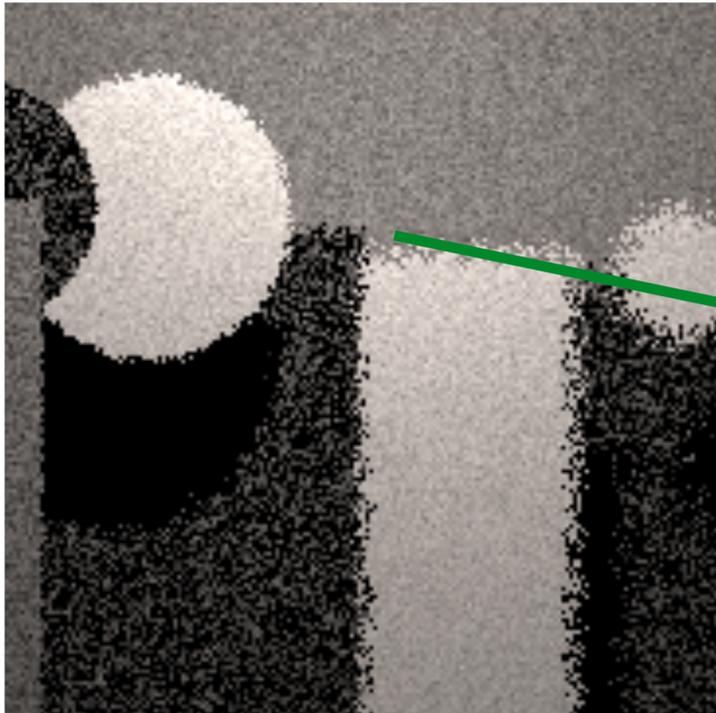
Poisson Disk



# Variance Convergence Rate of Samplers

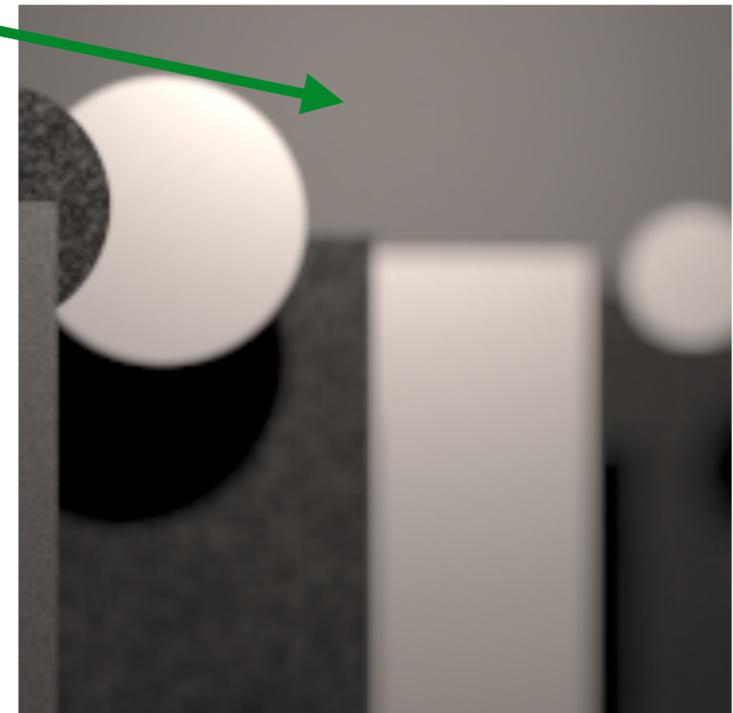
Variance

— Random



$$O(N^{-1})$$

...

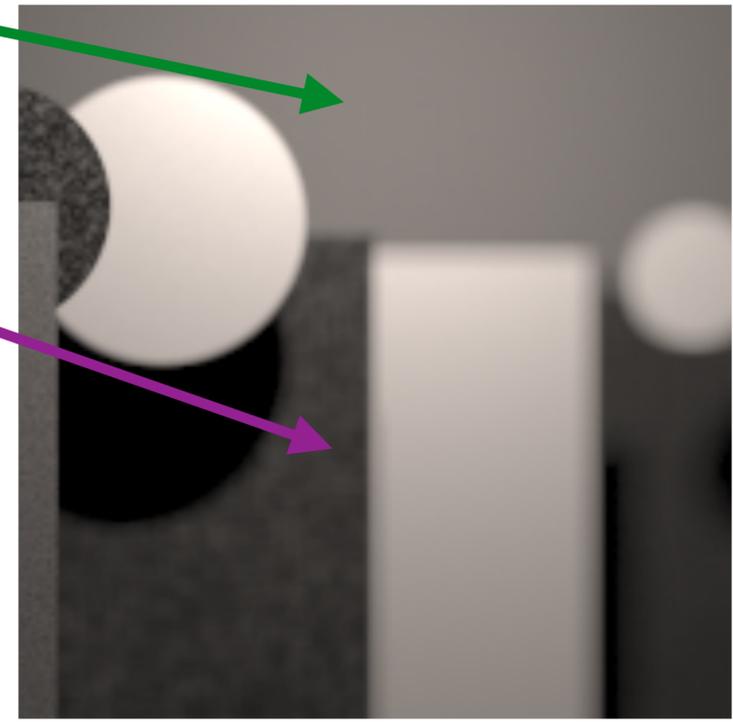
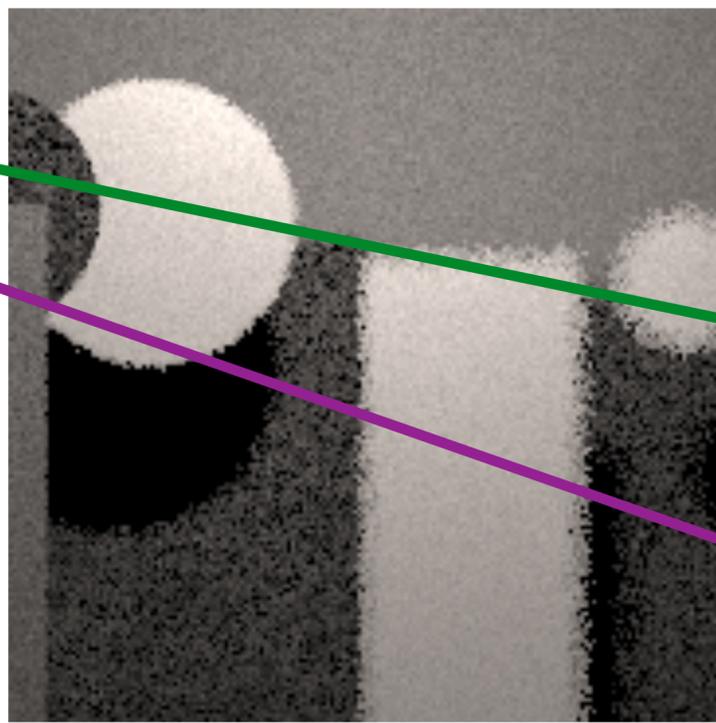
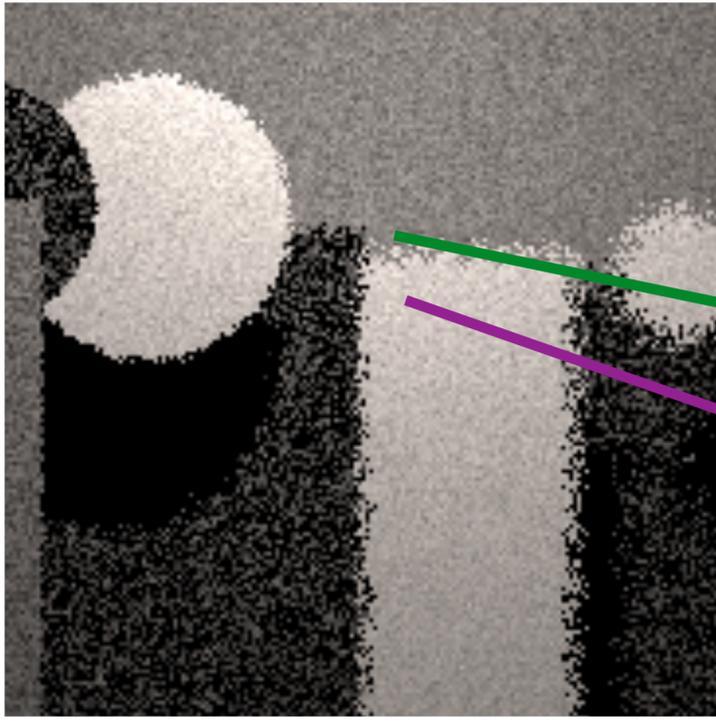


Number of Samples

# Variance Convergence Rate of Samplers

Variance

- Random
- 4D Jittered



$$O(N^{-1})$$

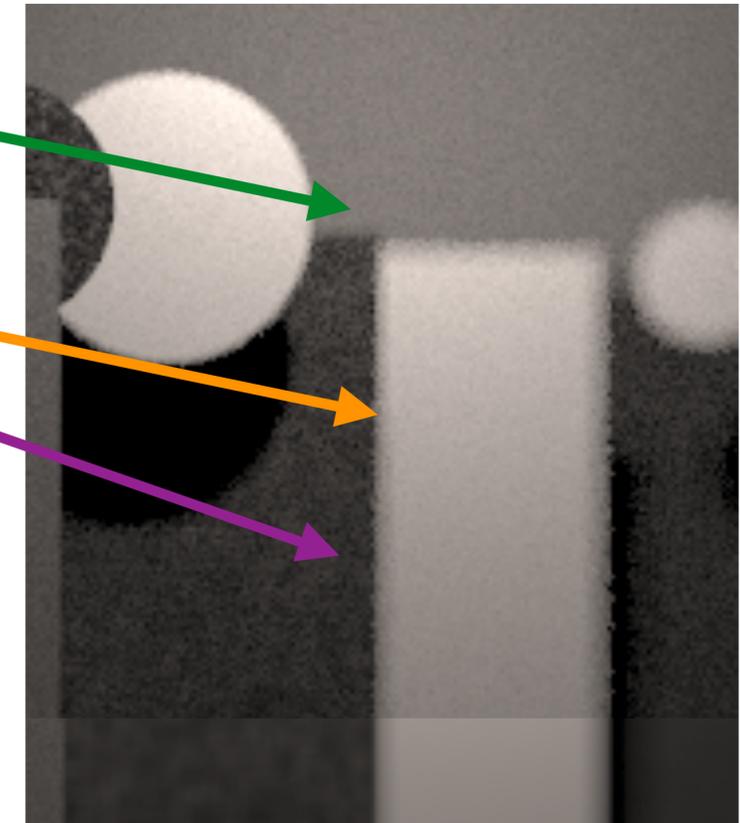
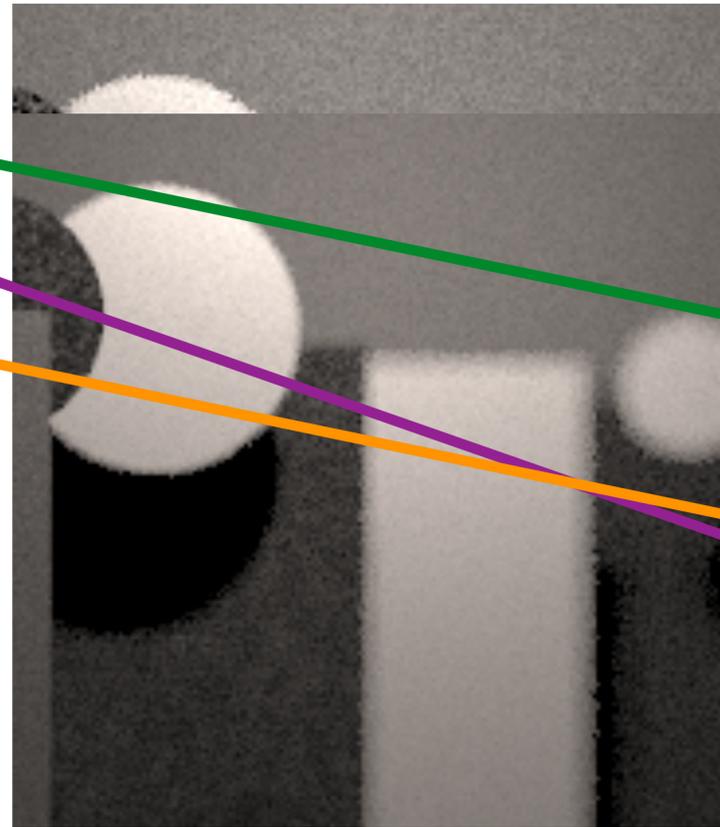
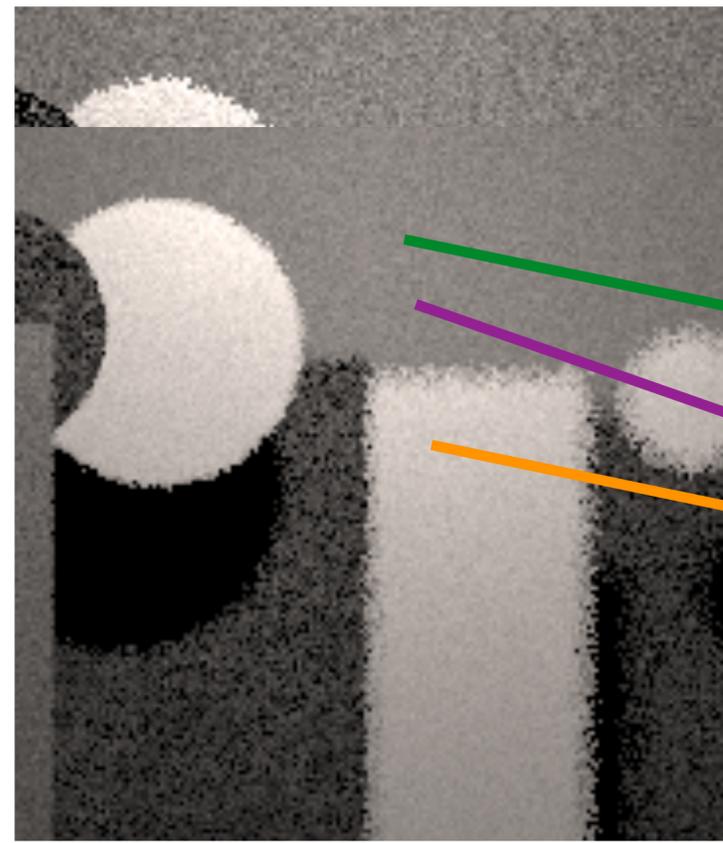
$$O(N^{-1.25})$$

■ ■ ■

Number of Samples

# Variance Convergence Rate of Samplers

Variance



- Random
- 4D Jittered
- Poisson Disk

$O(N^{-1})$

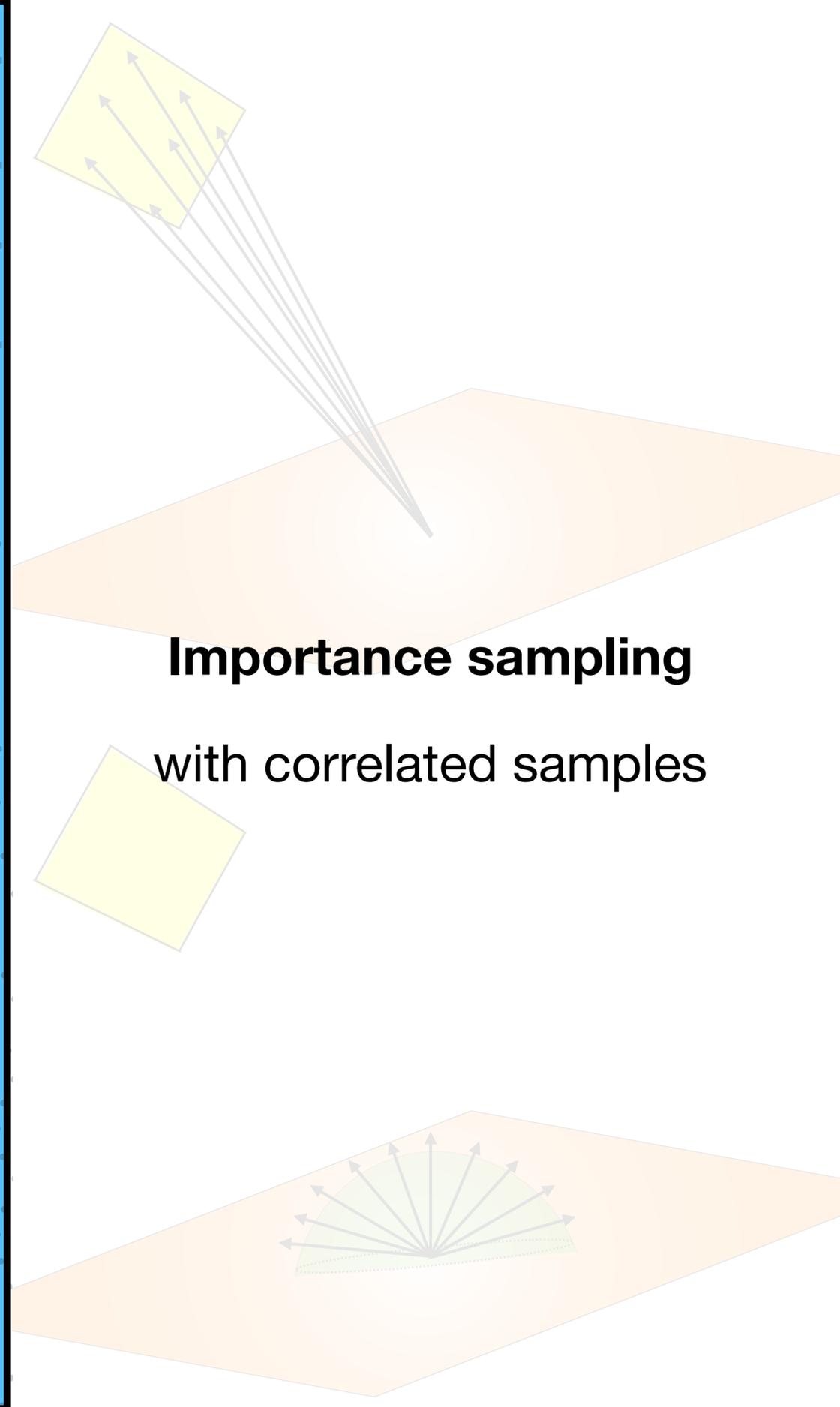
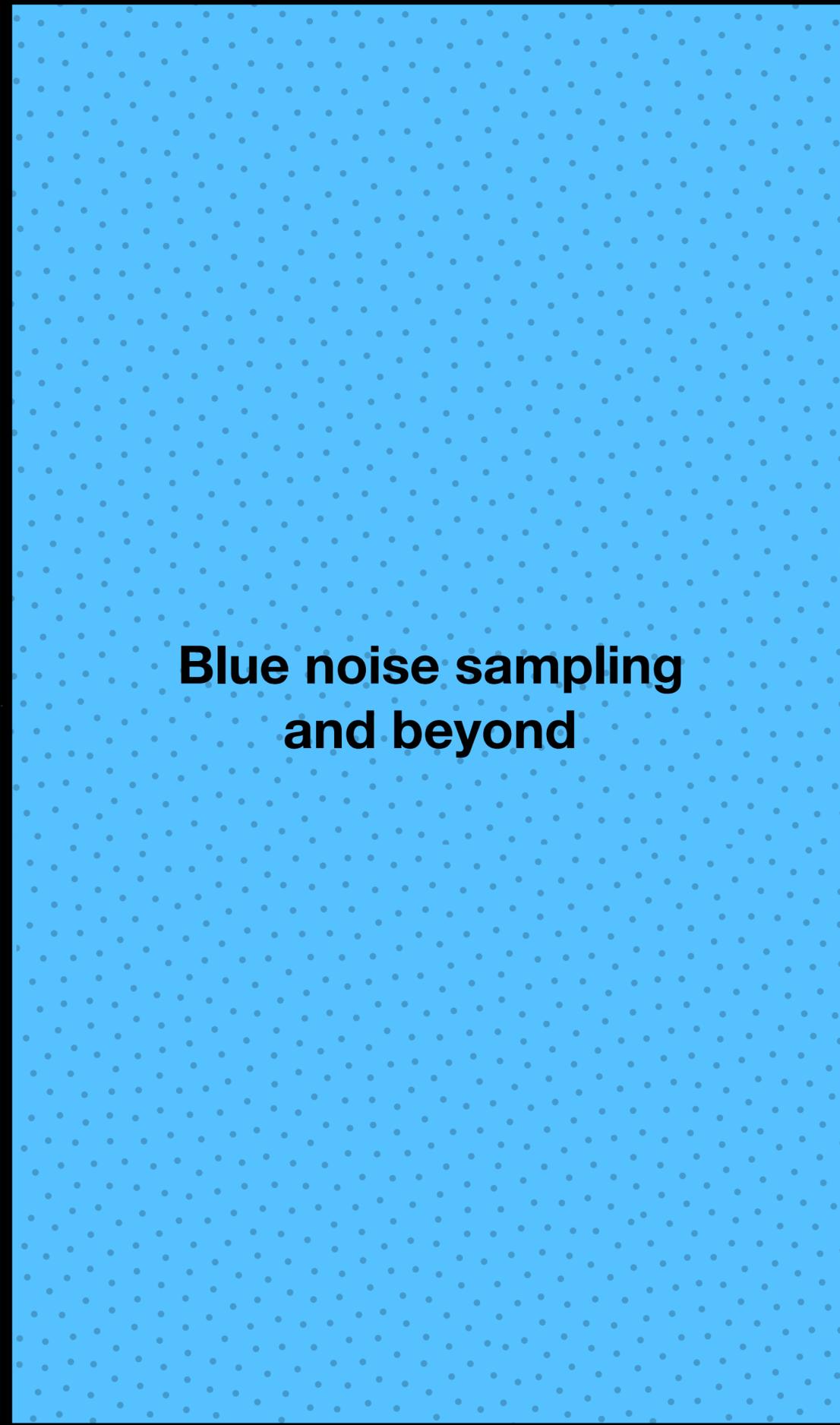
$O(N^{-1})$

$O(N^{-1.25})$

■ ■ ■

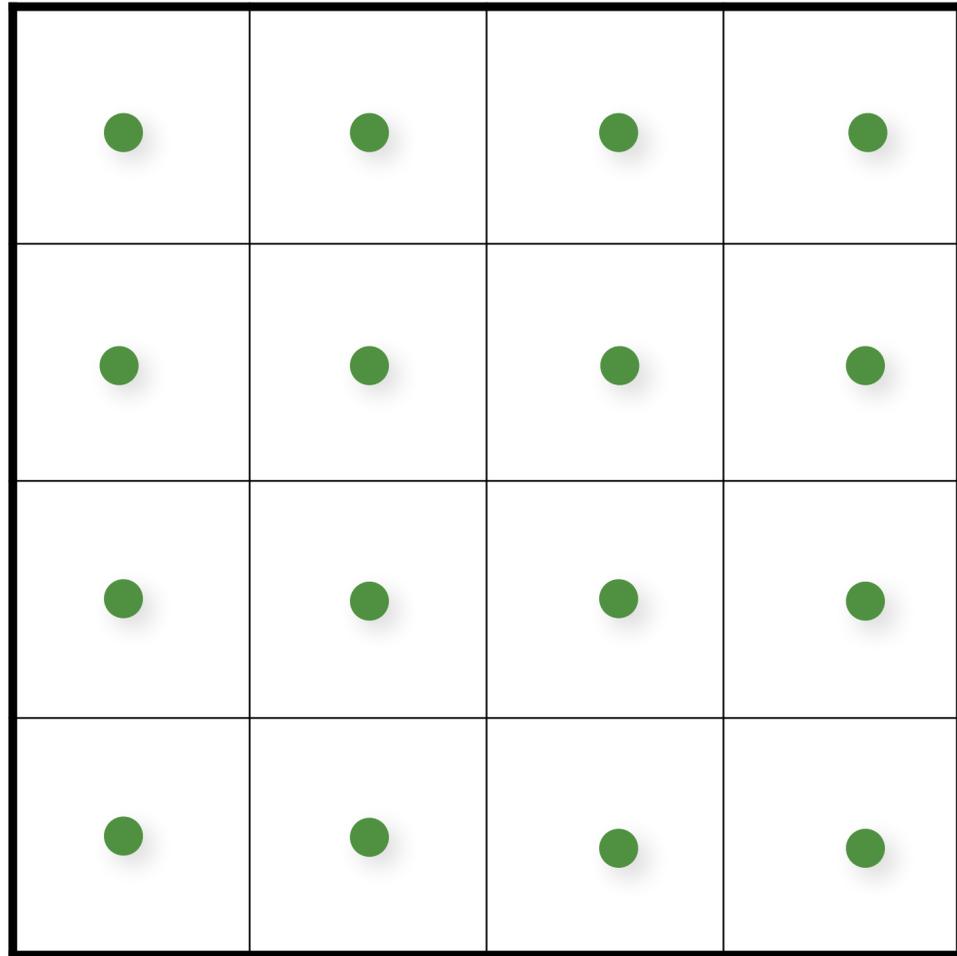
Fredo Durand [2011]  
Subr & Kautz [2013]  
Pilleboue et al. [2015]

Number of Samples

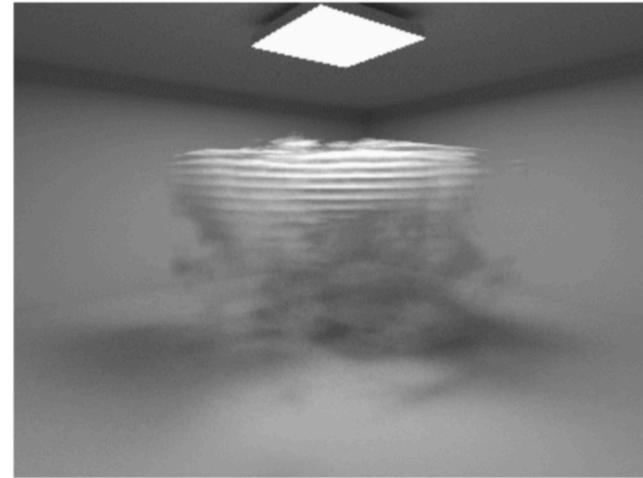


# Regular grid samples

Pauly et al. [2000]



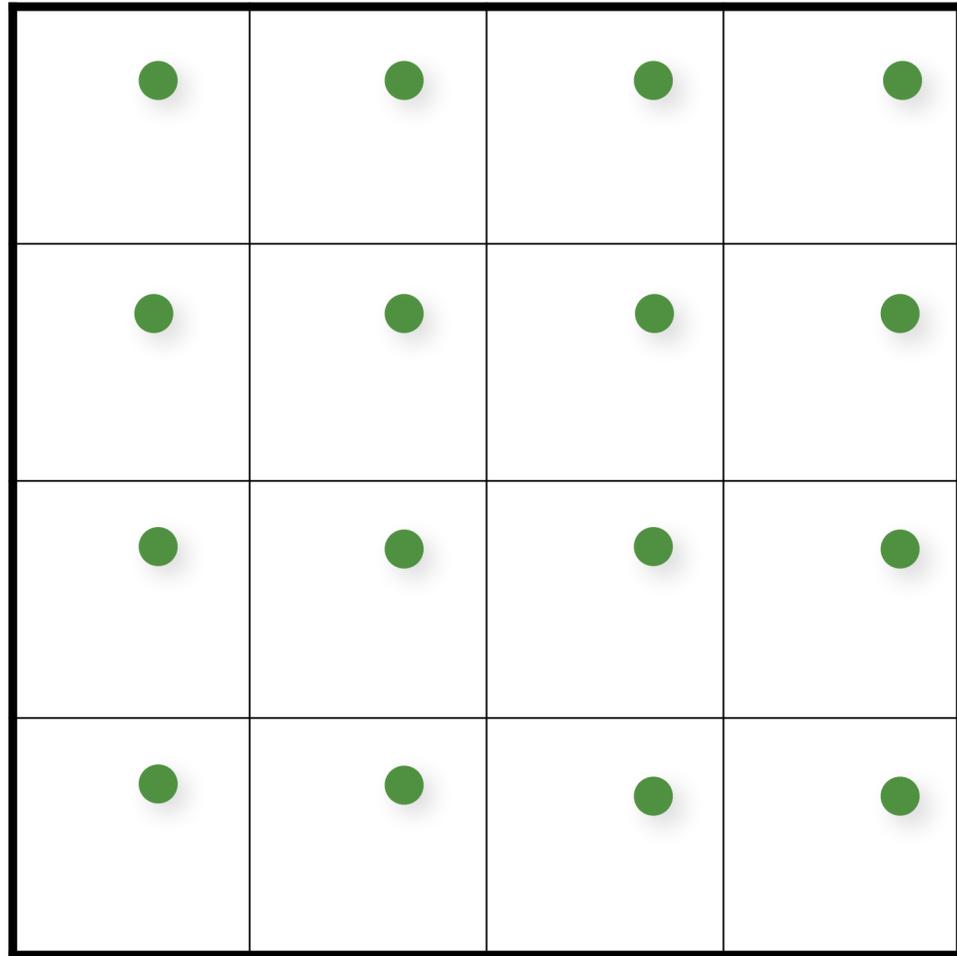
Regular grid



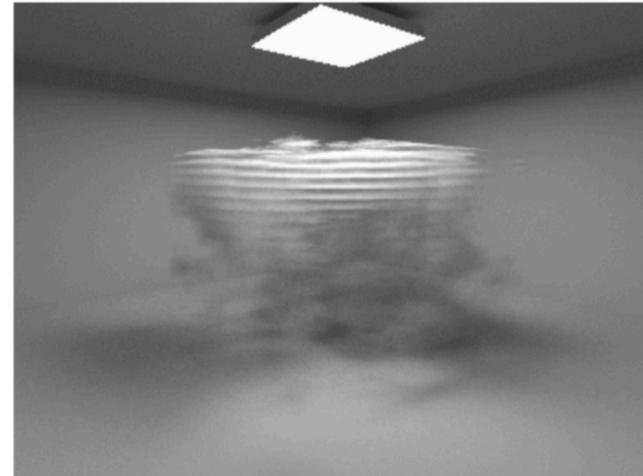
Regular

# Uniformly jittered regular grid

Pauly et al. [2000]



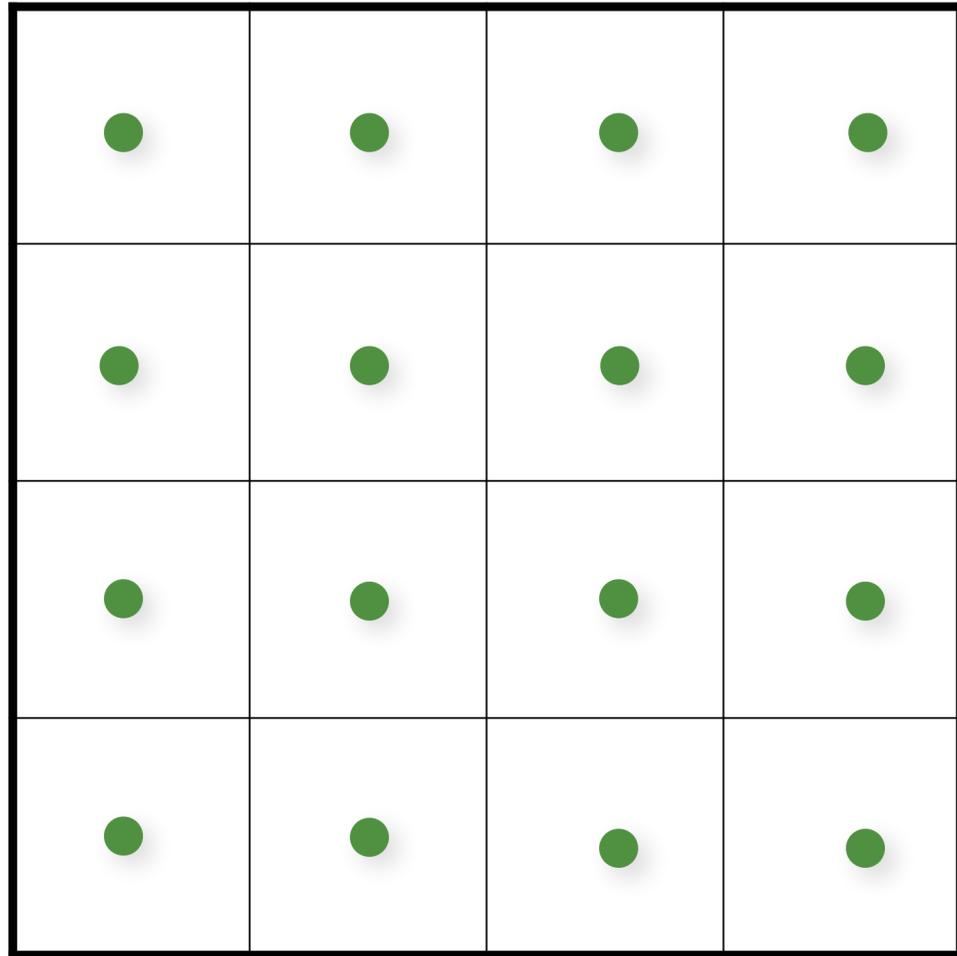
Uniform jitter



Regular

# Randomly jittered samples

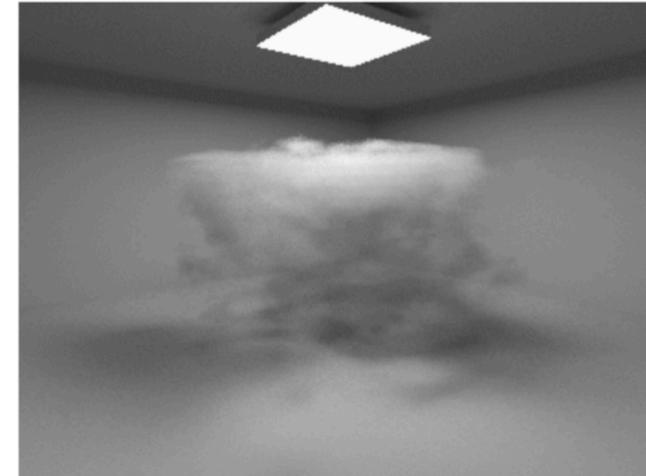
Pauly et al. [2000]



Random jitter



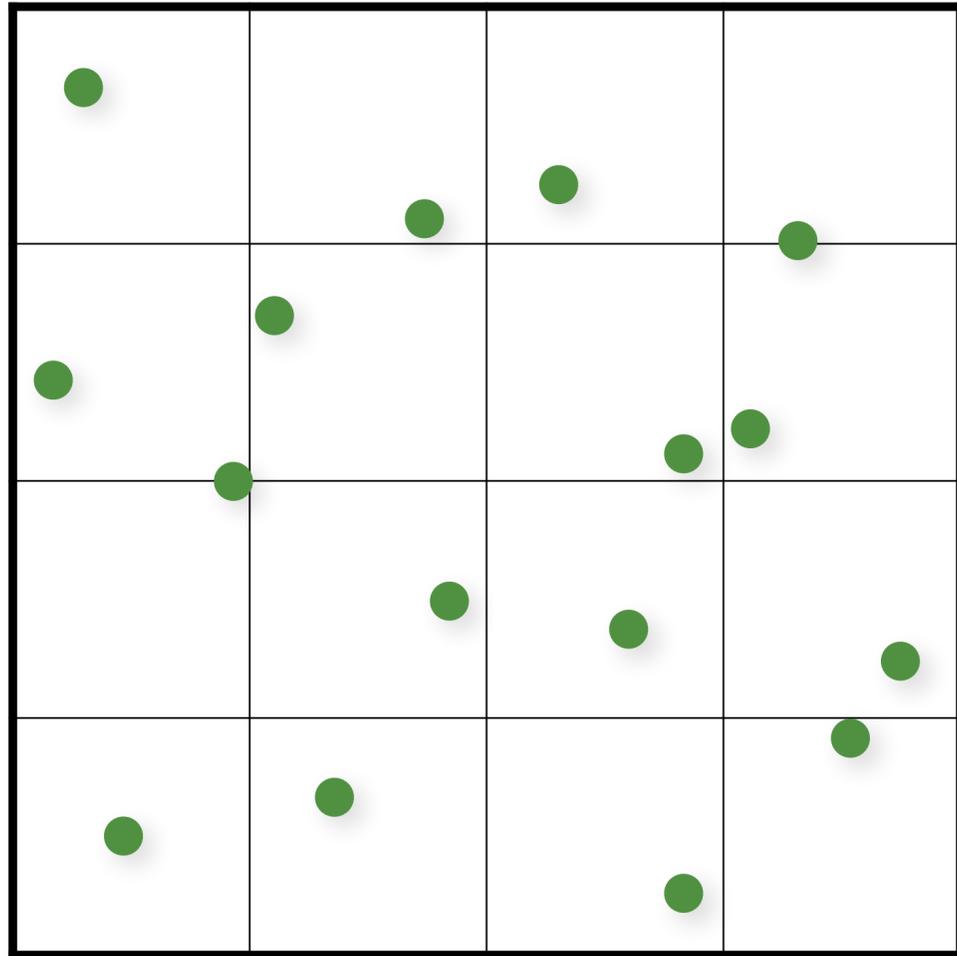
Regular



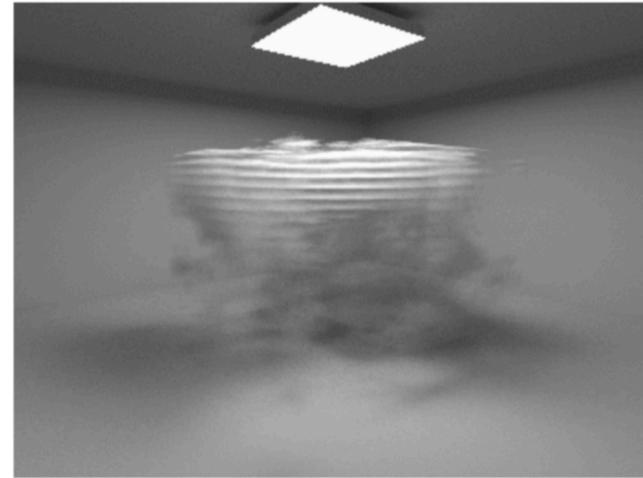
Uniform jitter

# Randomly jittered samples

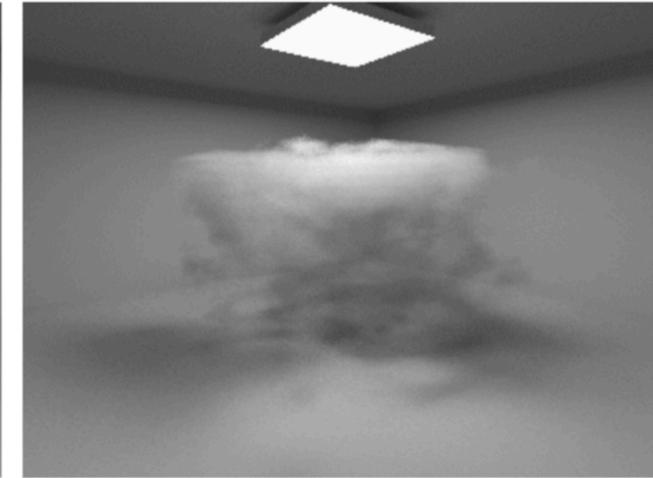
Pauly et al. [2000]



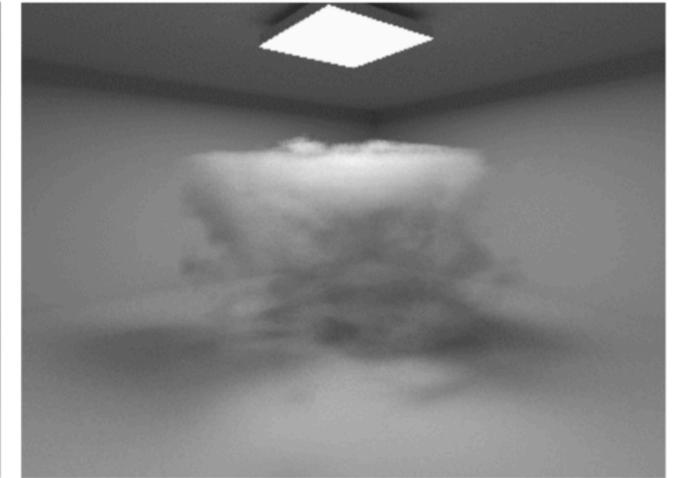
Random jitter



Regular



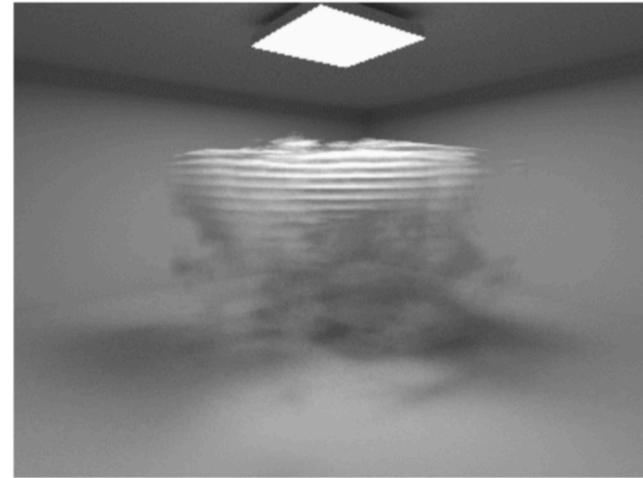
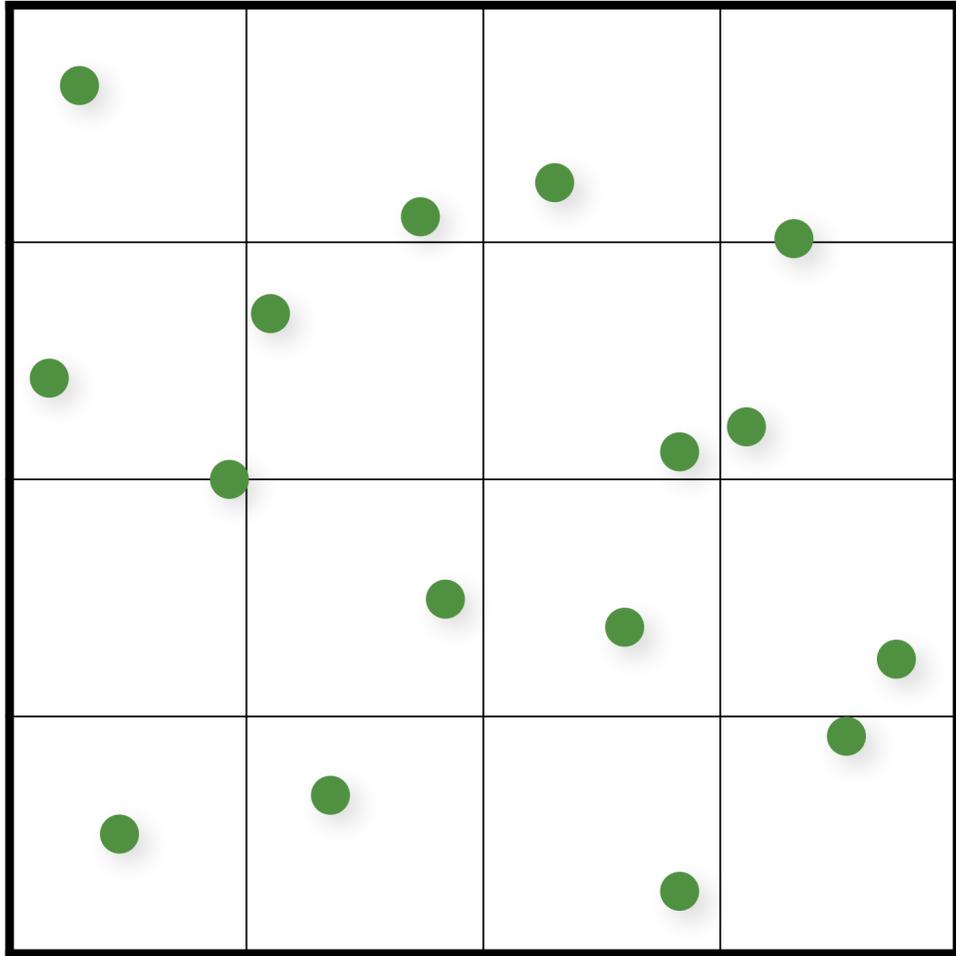
Uniform jitter



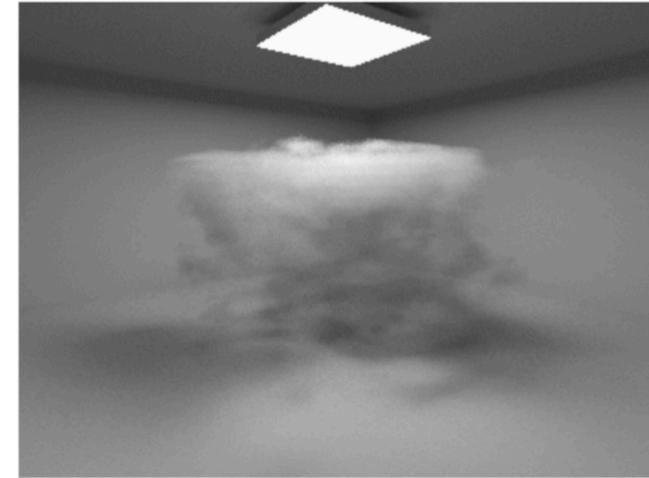
Random jitter

# Randomly jittered samples

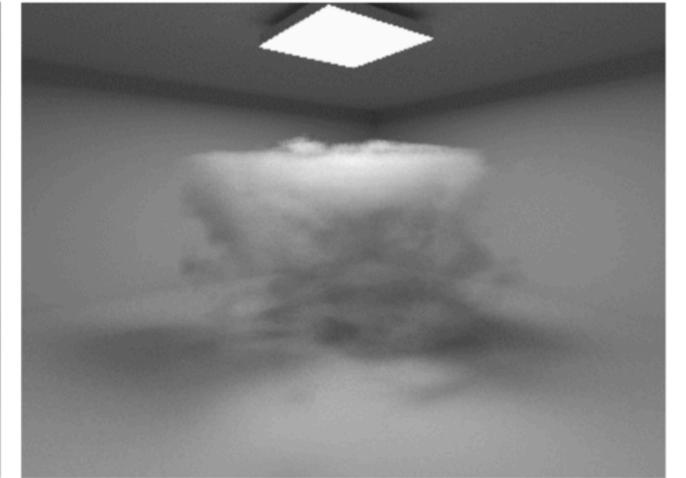
Pauly et al. [2000]



Regular

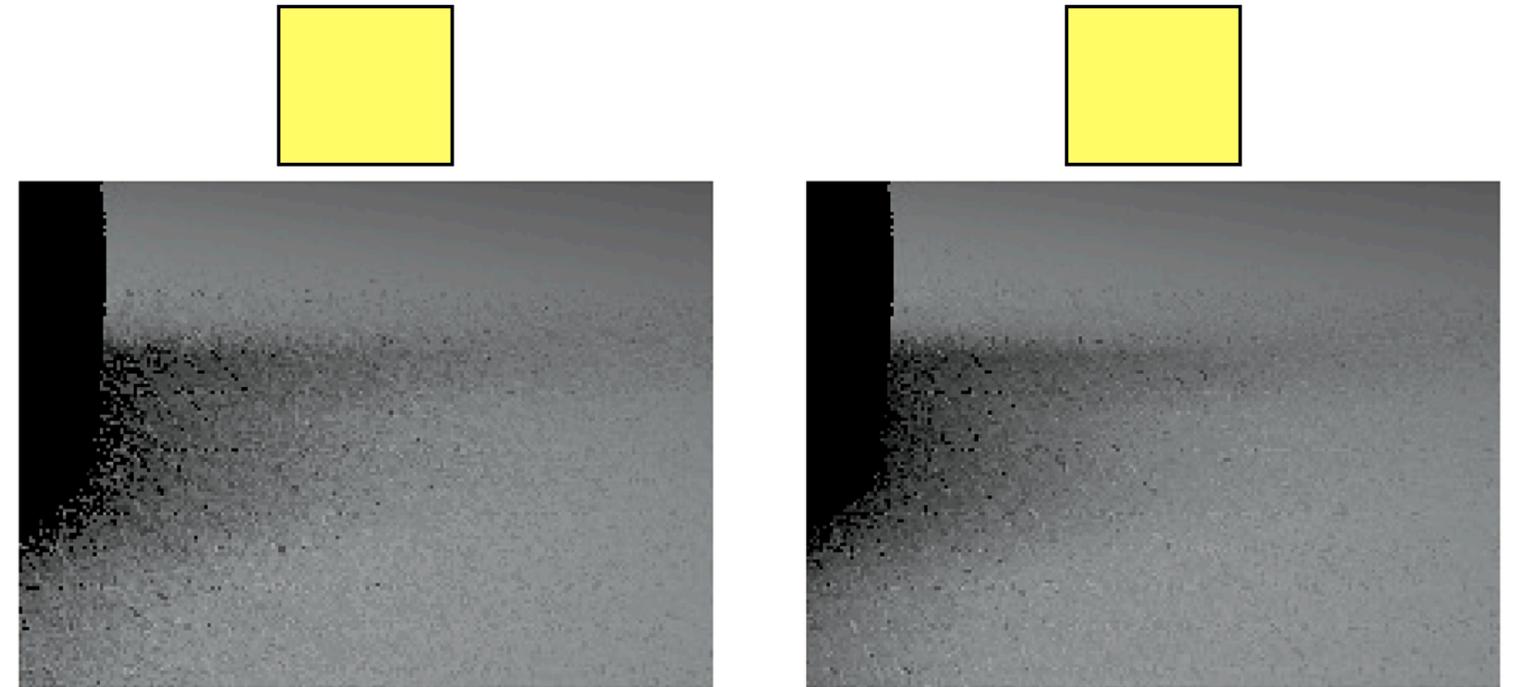


Uniform jitter



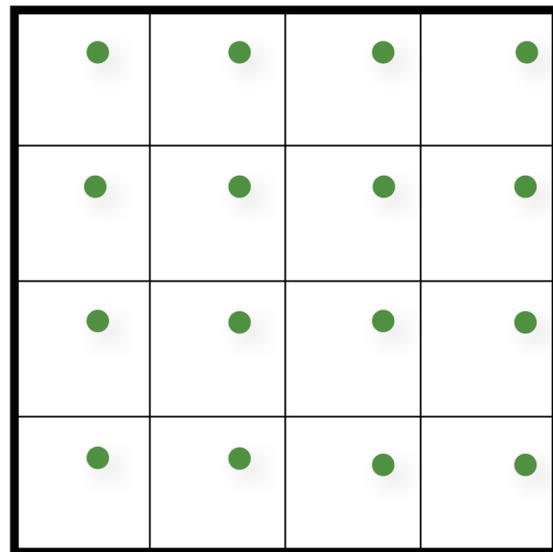
Random jitter

# Randomly jittered samples

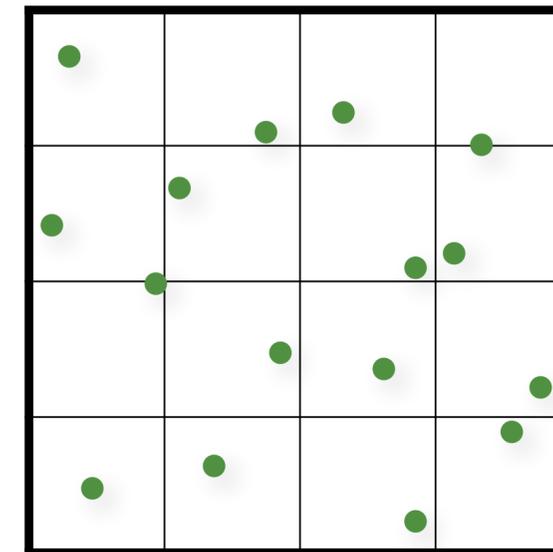


Uniform jitter  
(RMS 13.4%)

Random jitter  
(RMS 10.4%)

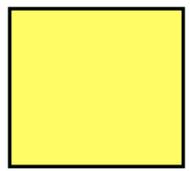


Uniform jitter



Random jitter

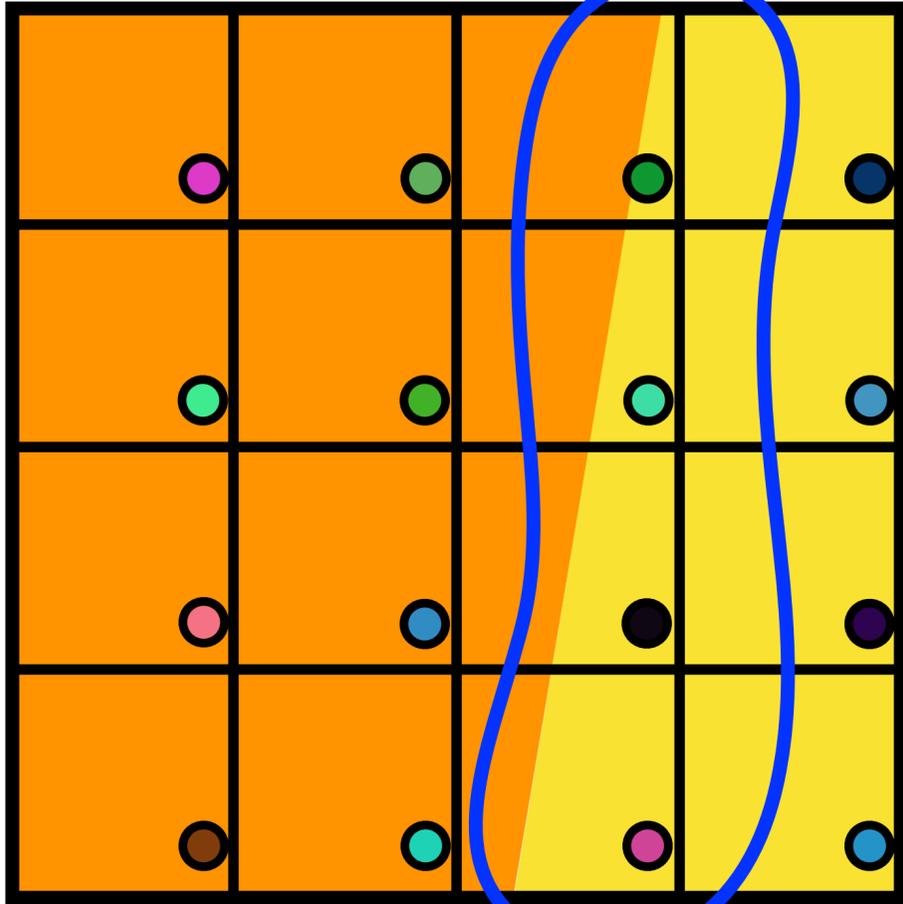
**Ramamoorthi et al.  
[2012]**



Square area light source

Uniform jitter

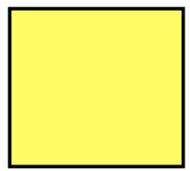
Random jitter



Canonical square domain

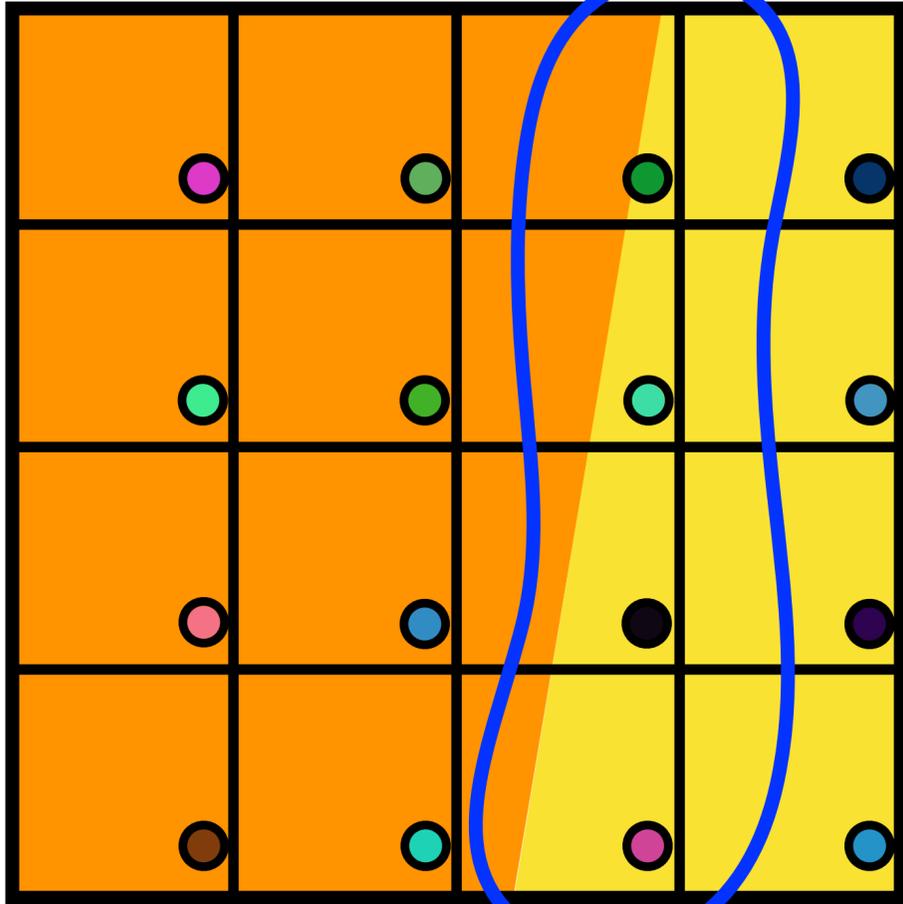
Occluded

Visible

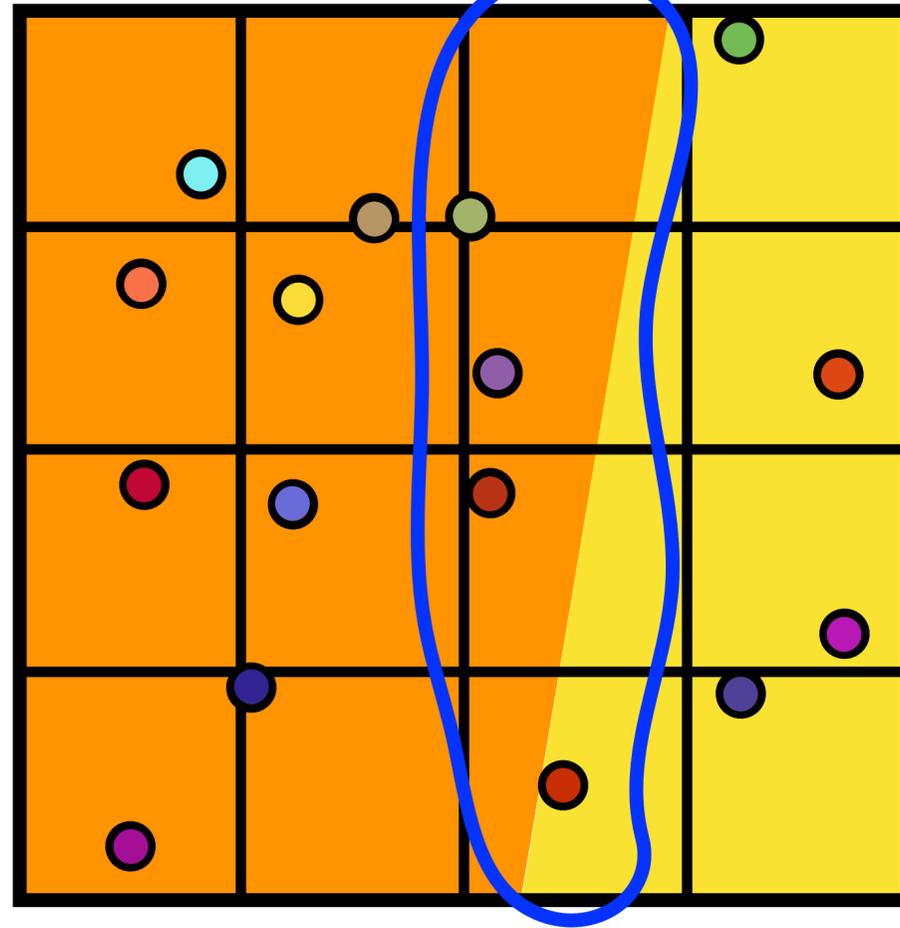


Square area light source

Uniform jitter



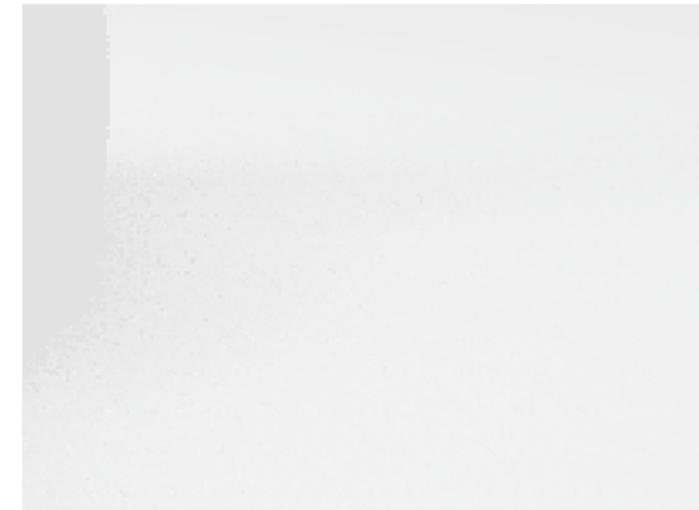
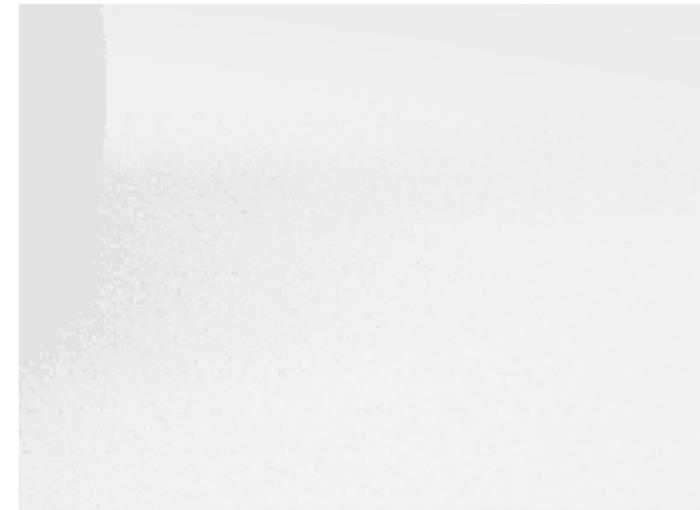
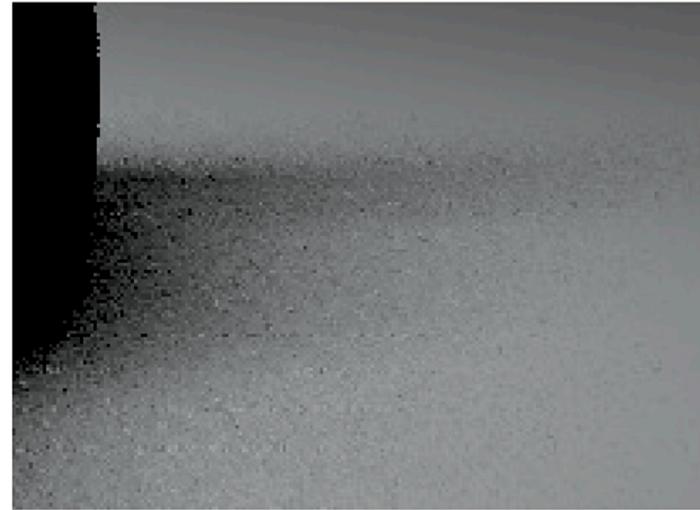
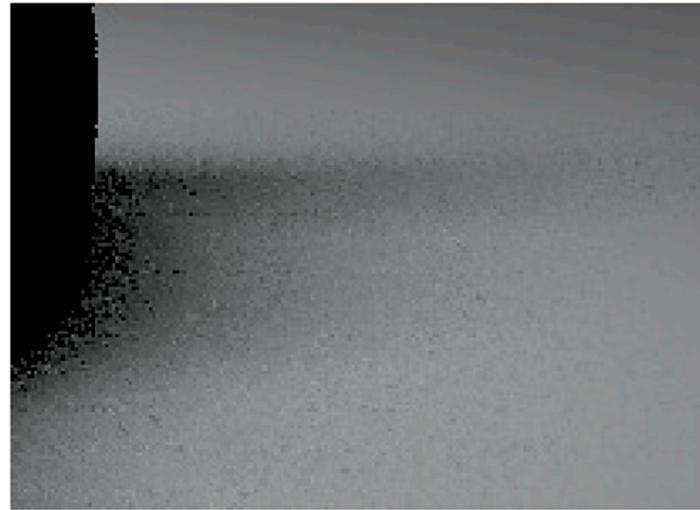
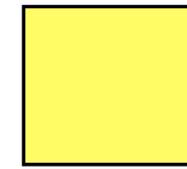
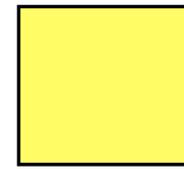
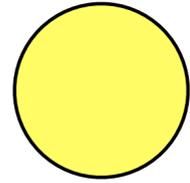
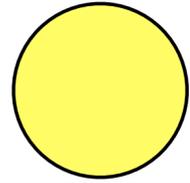
Random jitter



Canonical square domain



# Randomly jittered samples

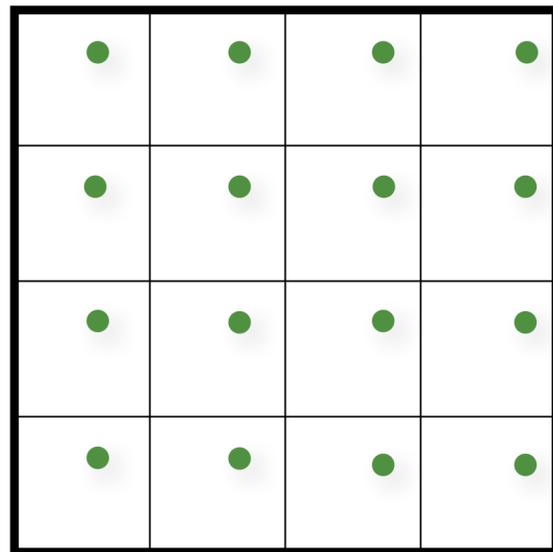


Uniform jitter  
(RMS 6.59%)

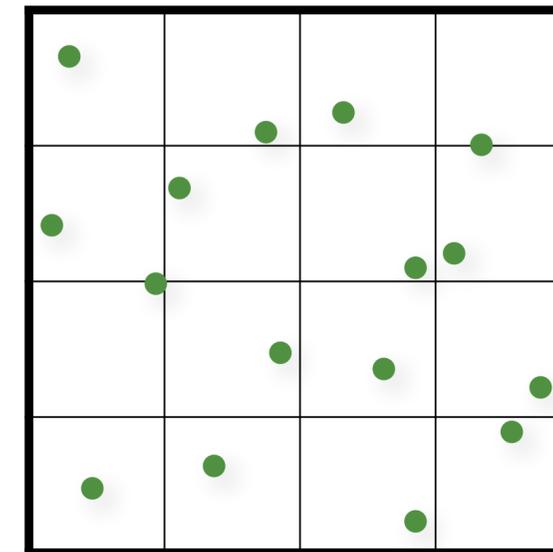
Random jitter  
(RMS 8,32%)

Uniform jitter  
(RMS 13.4%)

Random jitter  
(RMS 10.4%)



Uniform jitter

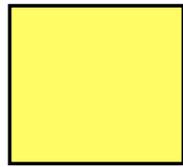


Random jitter

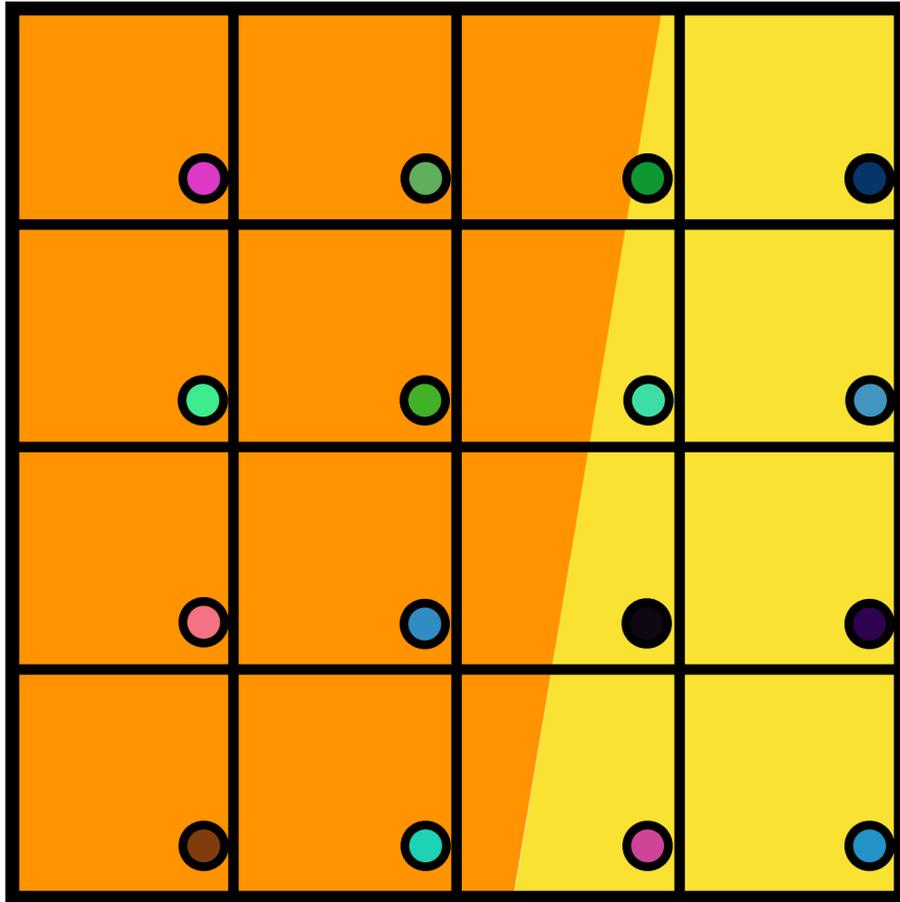
**Ramamoorthi et al.  
[2012]**

**Polar mapping** performs **better** for some samplers compared to **concentric mapping**

observed by **Andrew Kensler [2013]**



Square area light source

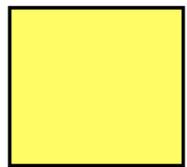


Canoncial square domain

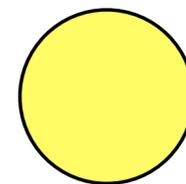
Occluded

Visible

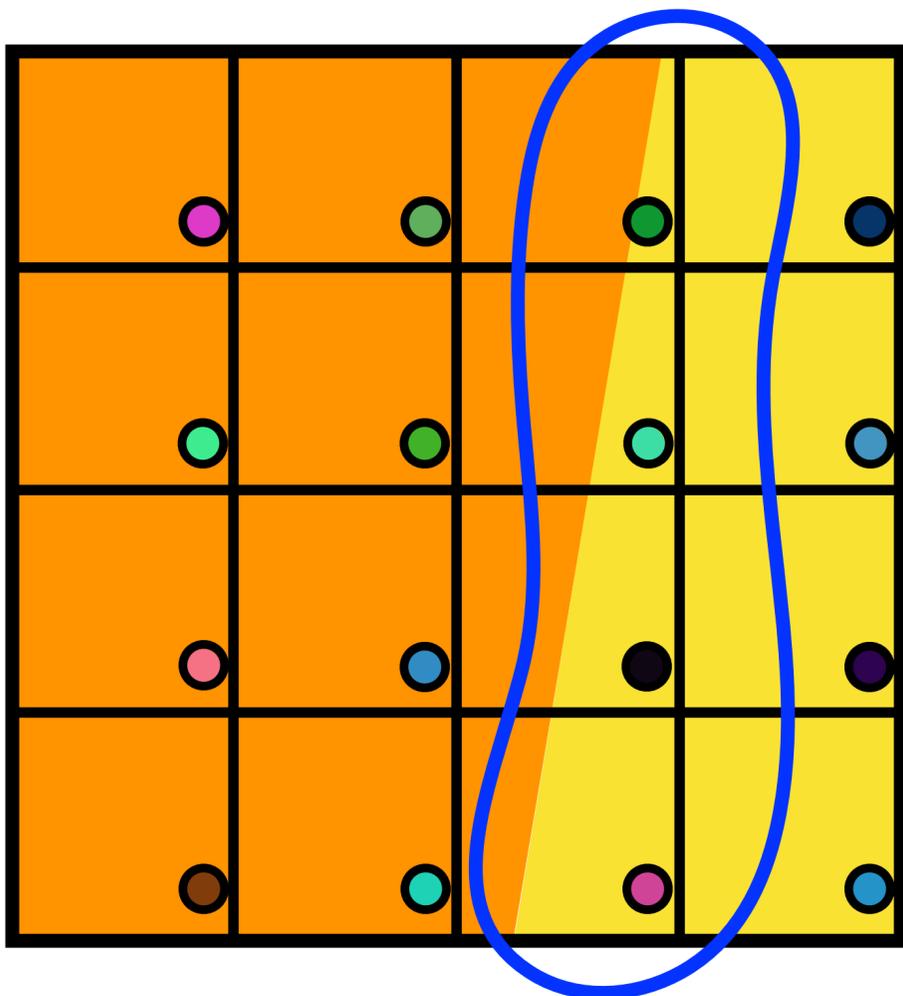
**Per Christensen [2018]**



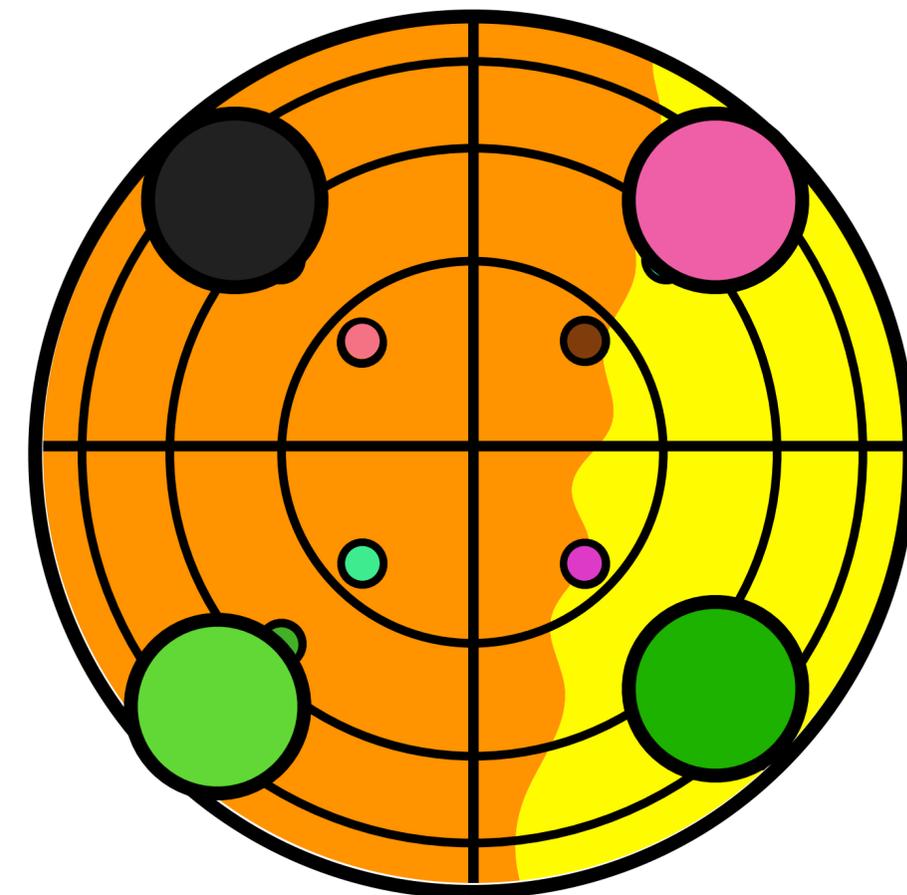
Square area light source



Disk area light source

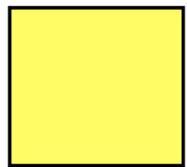


Canonical square domain

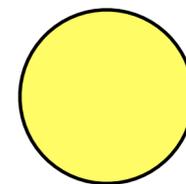


Polar mapping

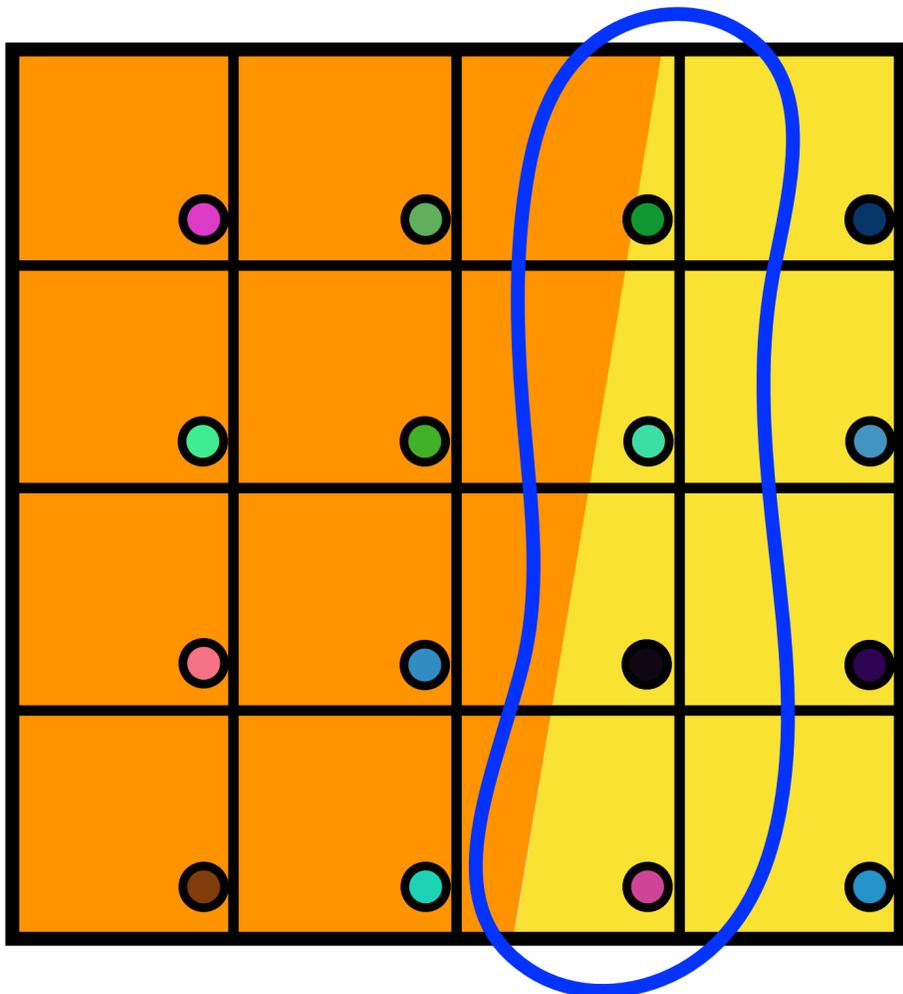
**Per Christensen [2018]**



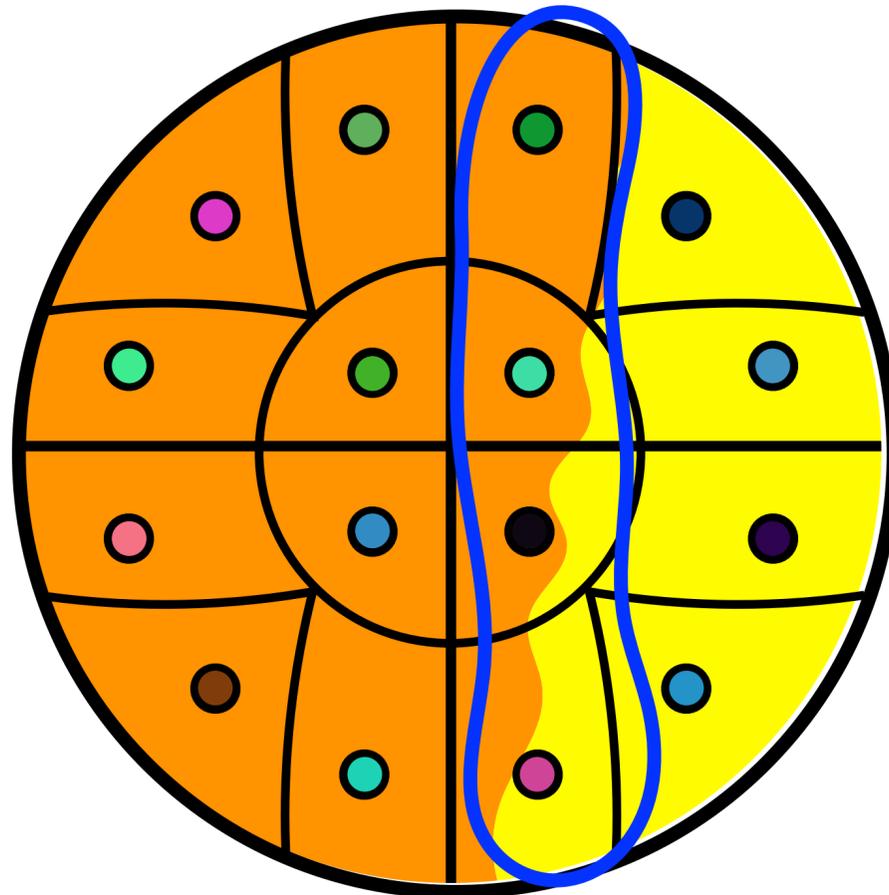
Square area light source



Disk area light source

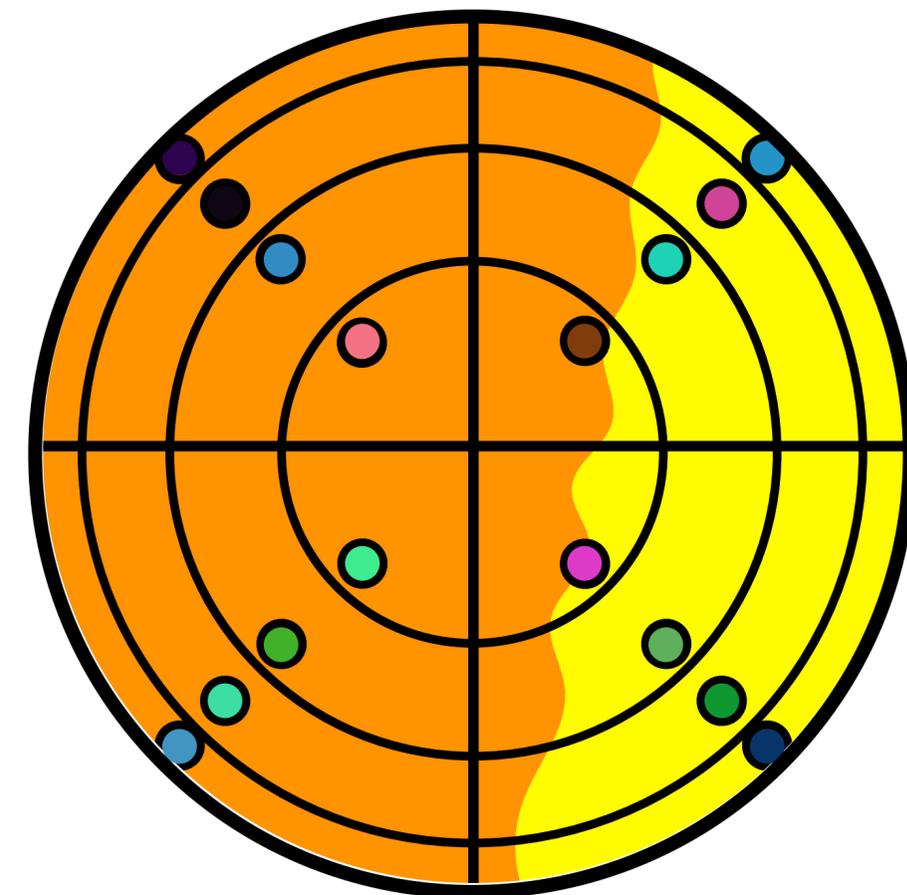


Canonical square domain



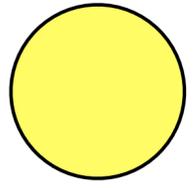
Concentric mapping

Shirley and Chiu [1997]



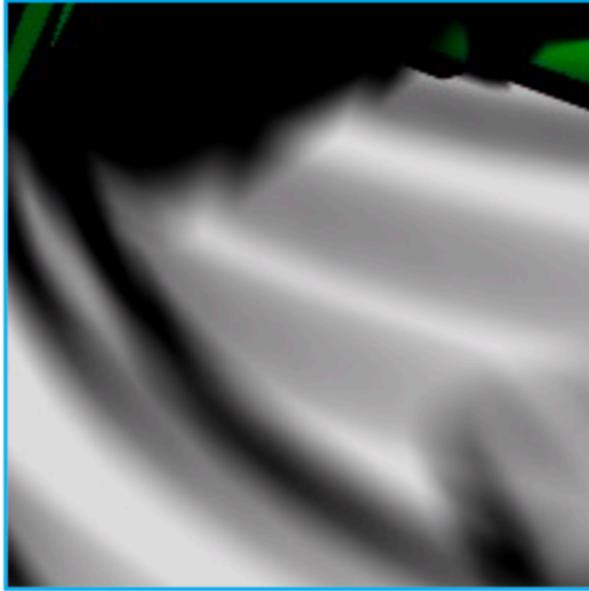
Polar mapping

**Per Christensen [2018]**

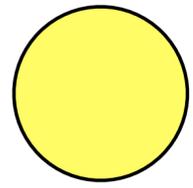


Disk area  
light source

Reference

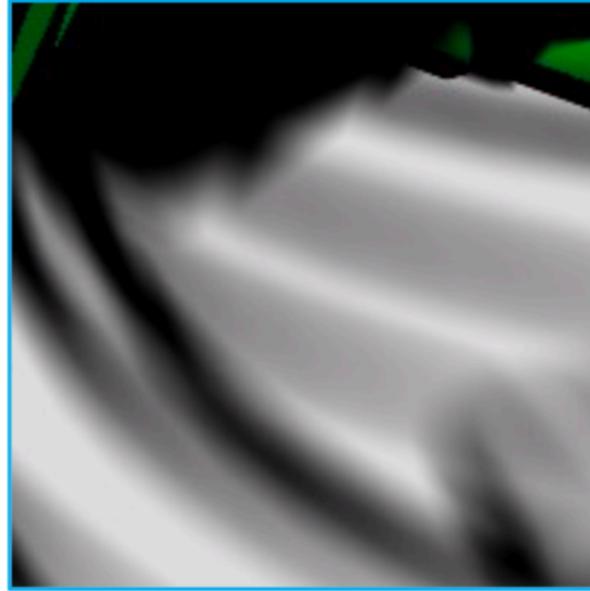


Cengiz Oztireli [2016]

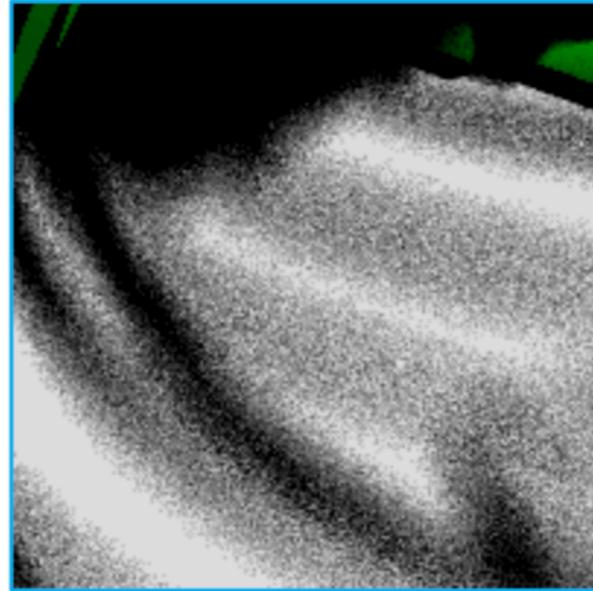


Disk area  
light source

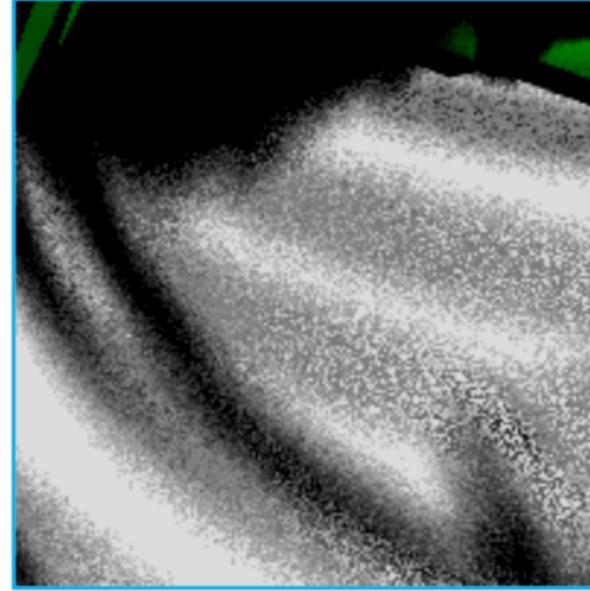
Reference



Random jitter

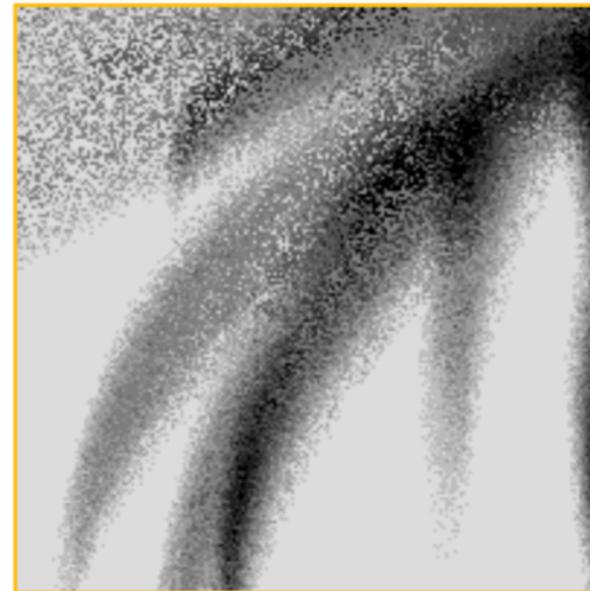
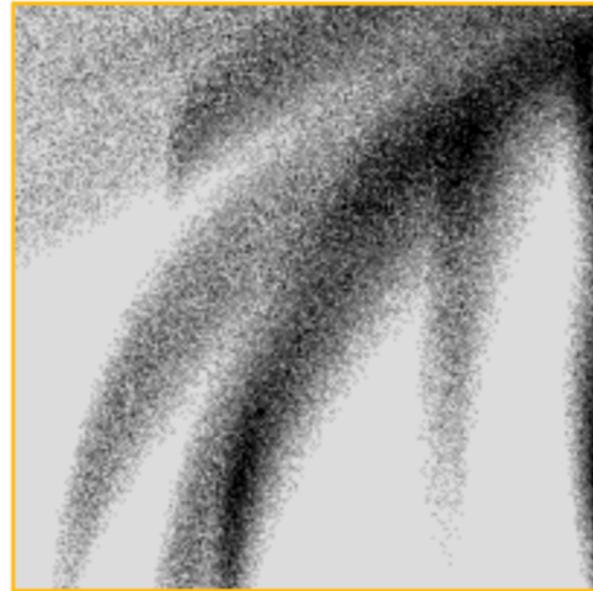


Uniform jitter



RMS 11.21%

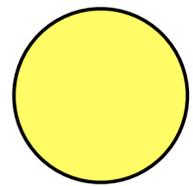
RMS 10.79%



RMS 10.92%

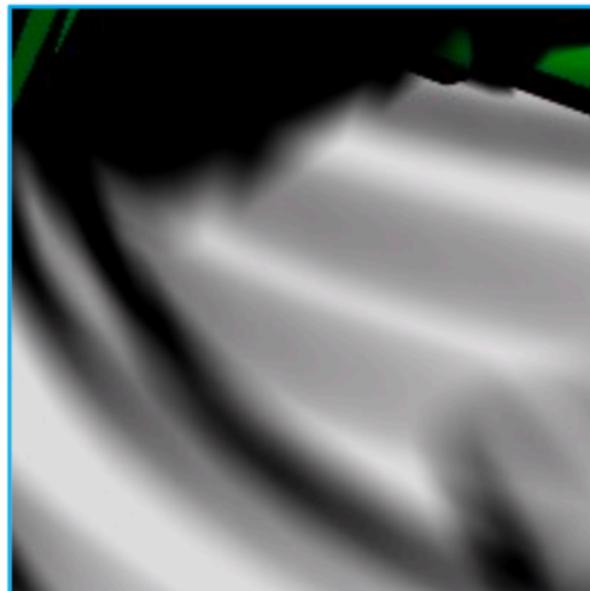
RMS 11.77%

Cengiz Oztireli [2016]

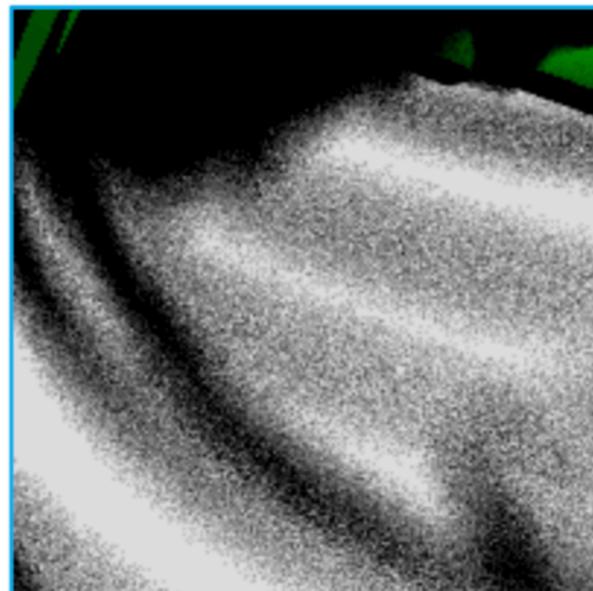


Disk area  
light source

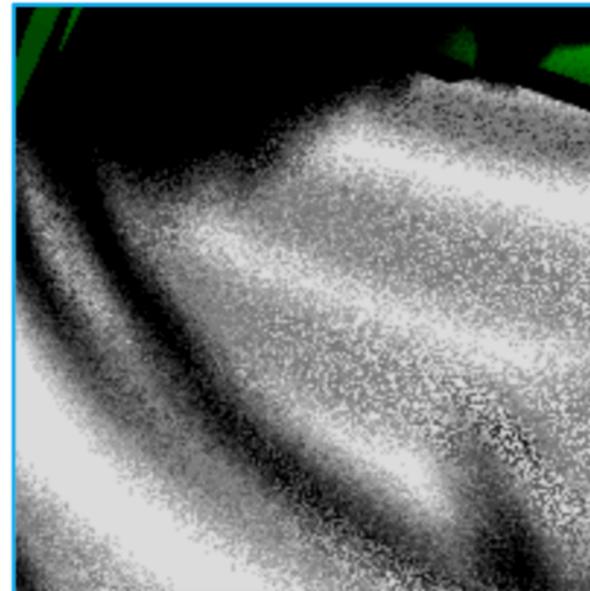
Reference



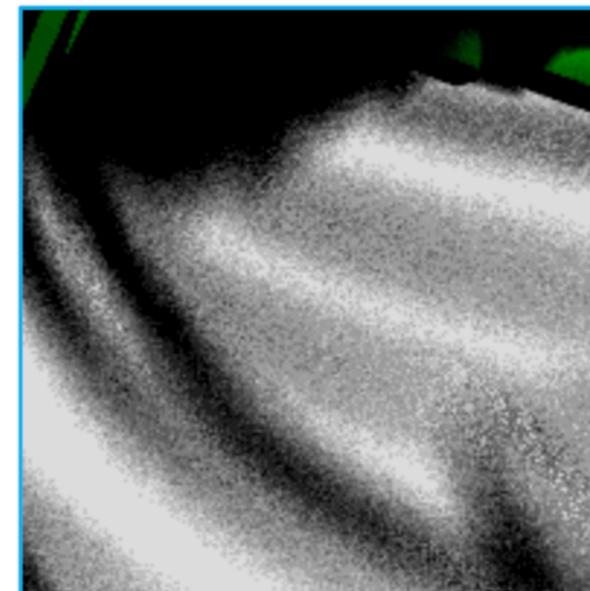
Random jitter



Uniform jitter



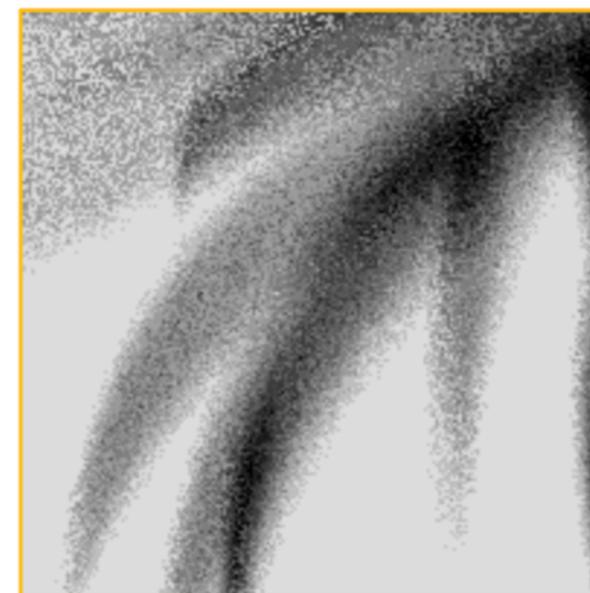
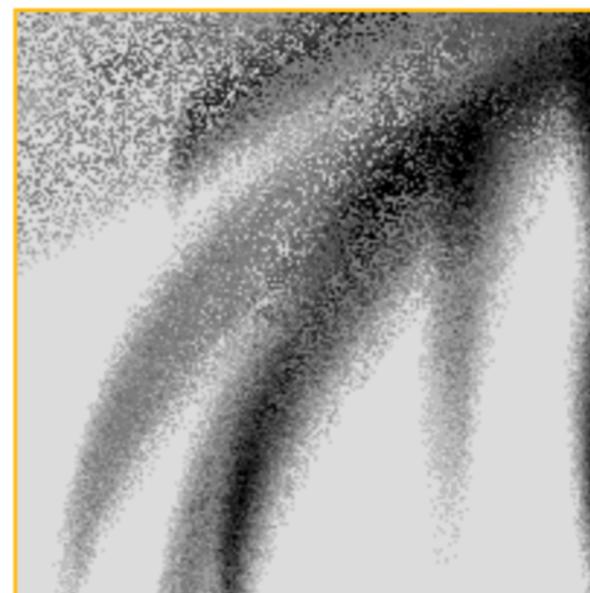
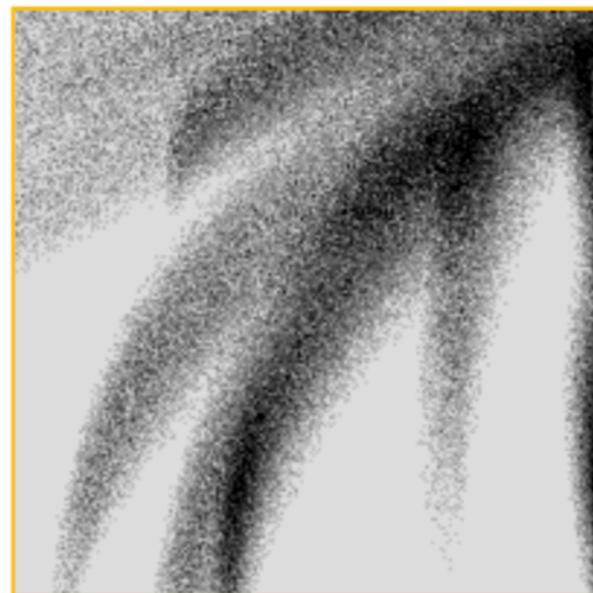
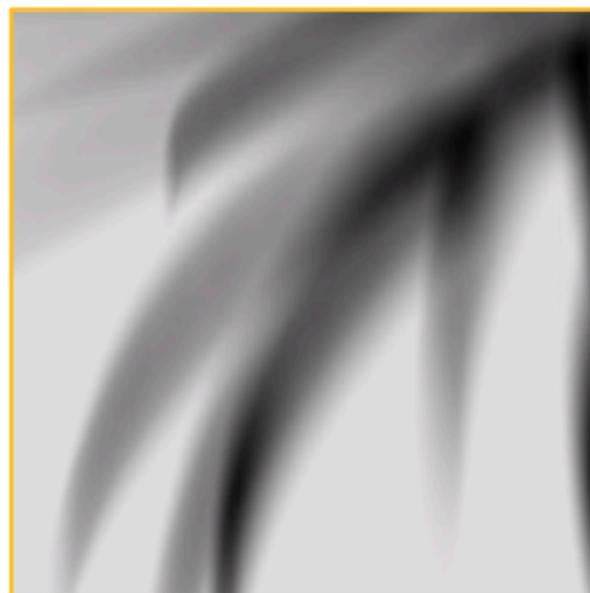
Isotropic jitter



RMS 11.21%

RMS 10.79%

RMS 8.00%



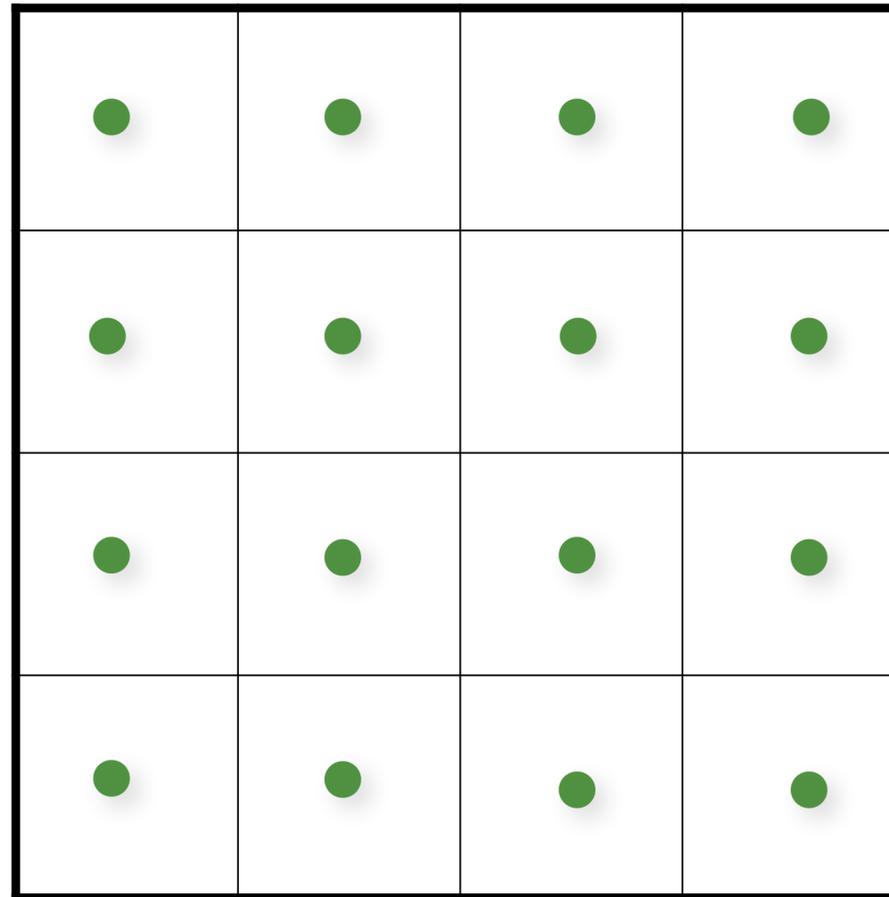
RMS 10.92%

RMS 11.77%

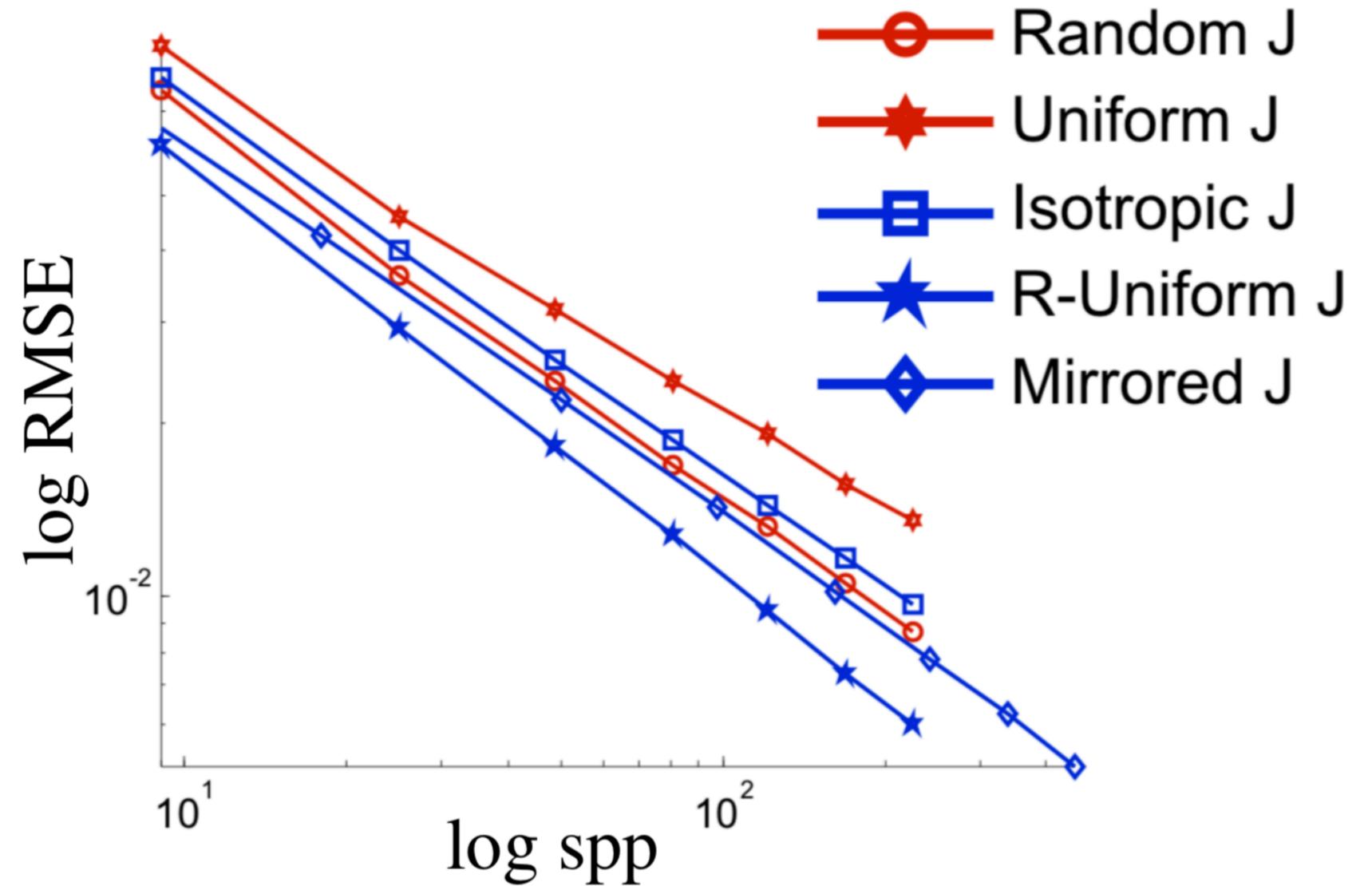
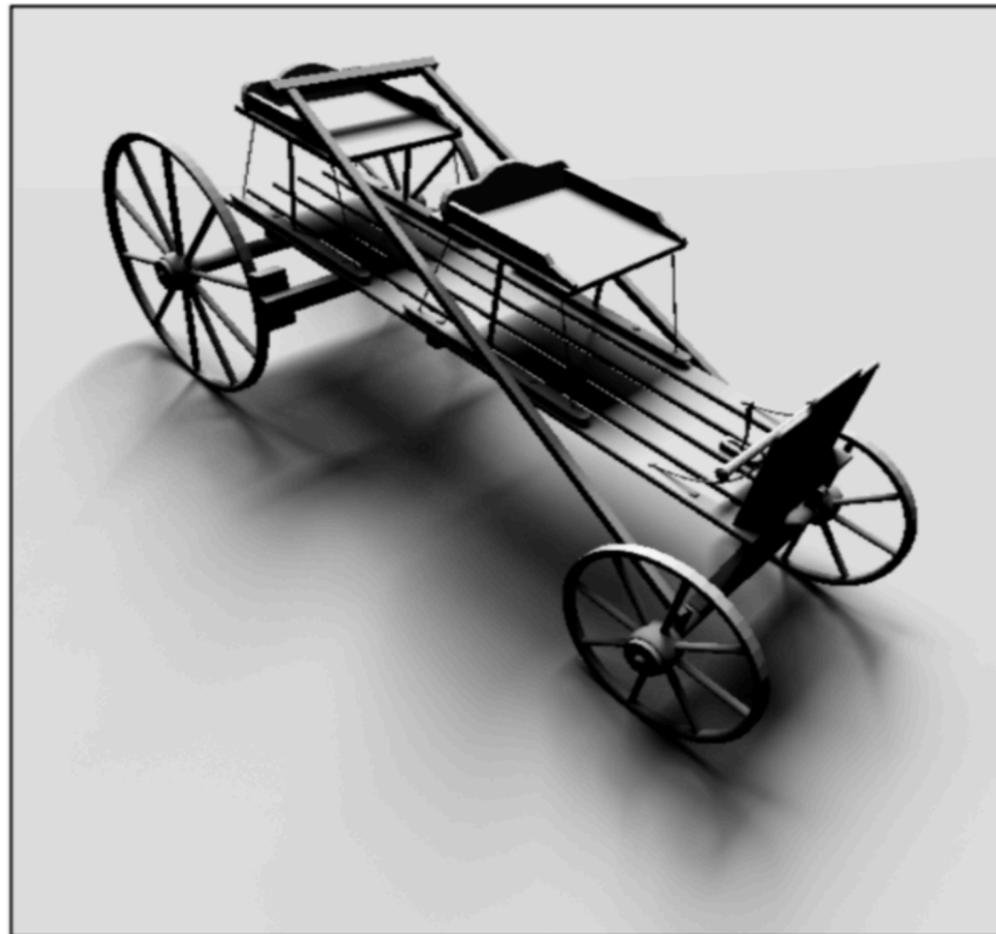
RMS 8,77%

Cengiz Oztireli [2016]

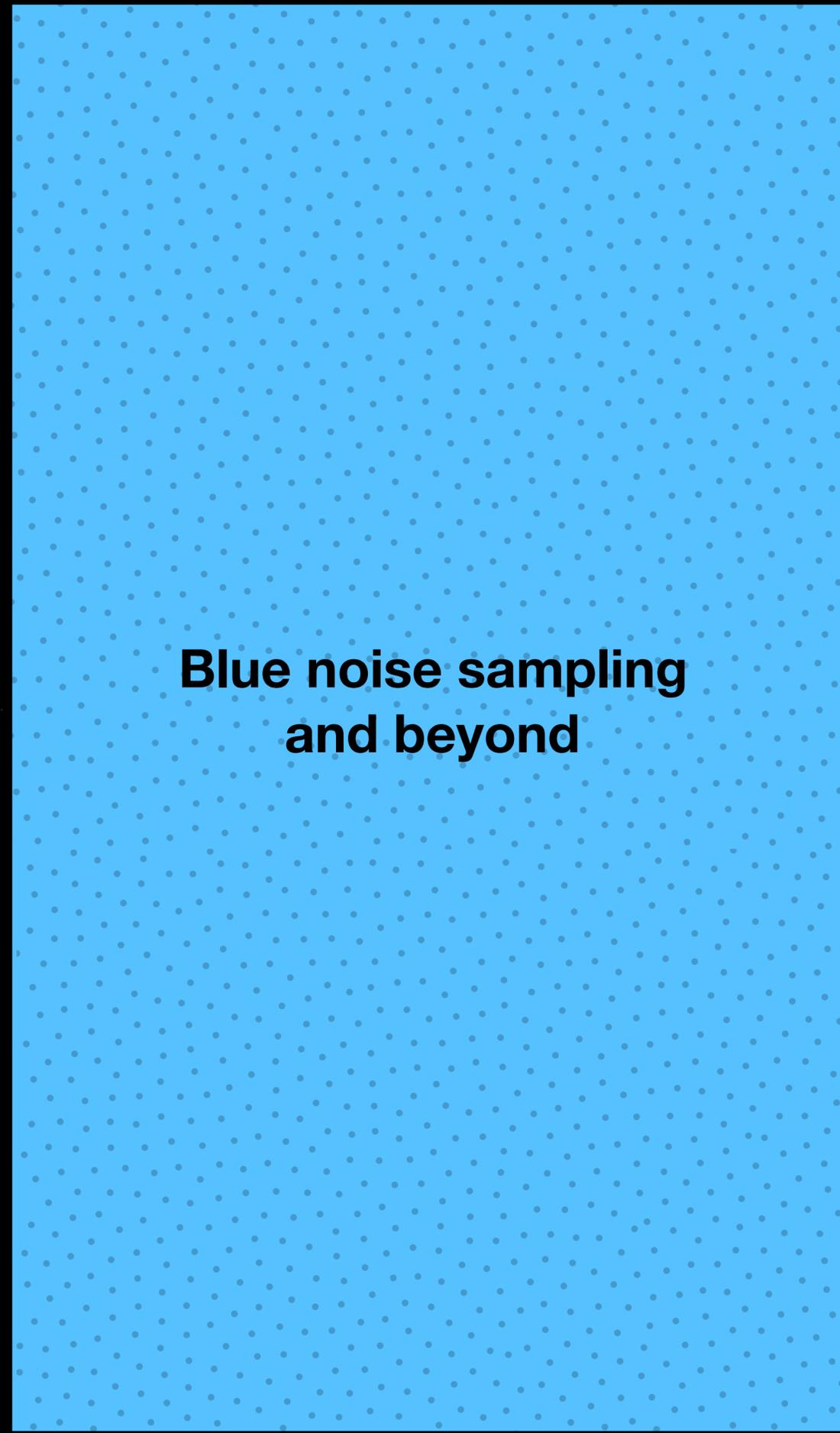
Isotropic jitter = uniform jitter + random rotation



# Rotated uniform jitter better for not too complex shadows



Cengiz Oztireli [2016]



# Fourier analysis of sample correlations

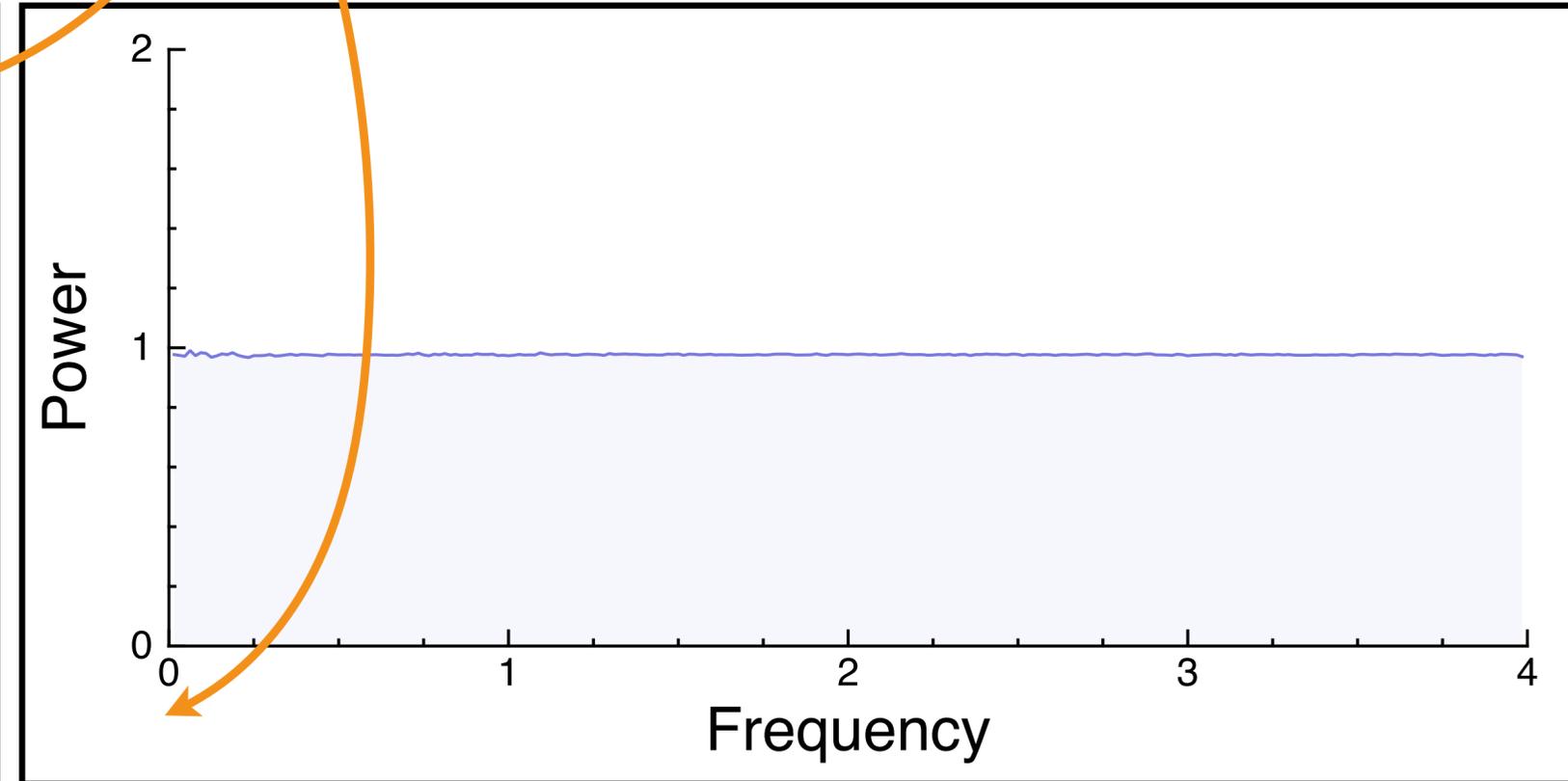
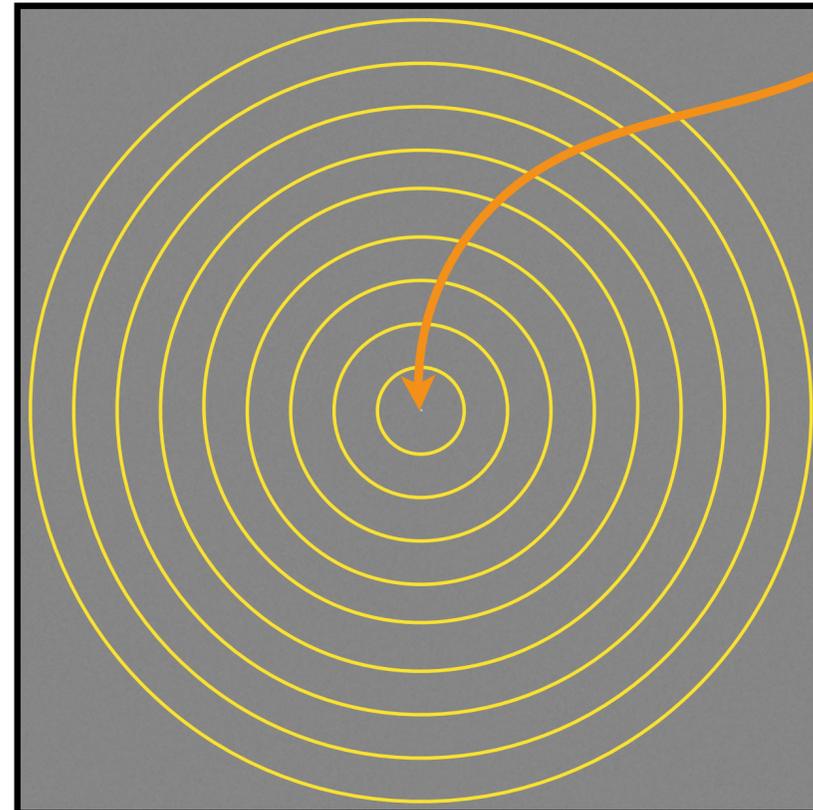
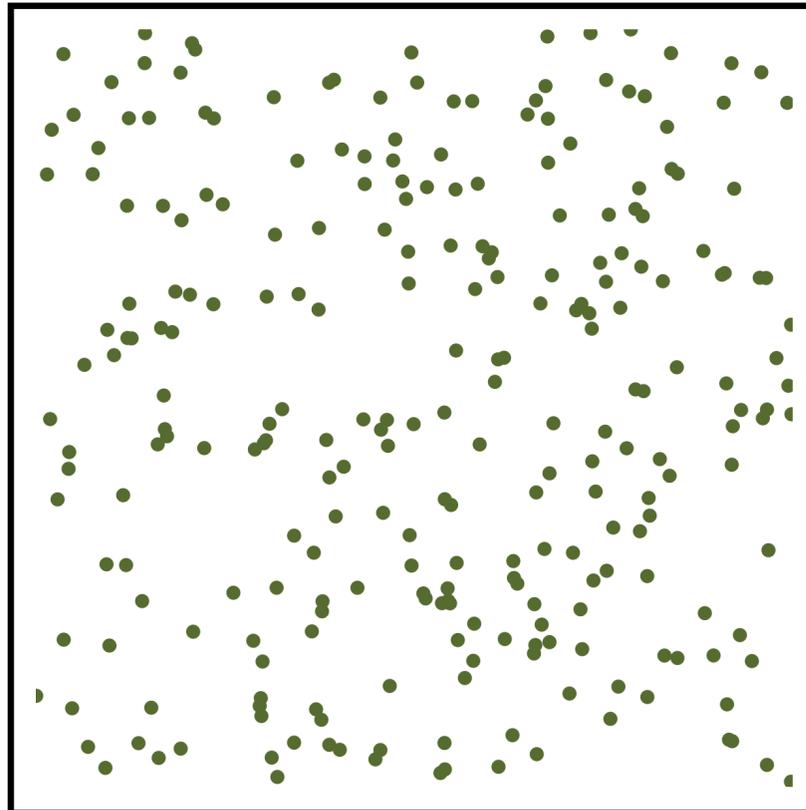
# Expected power spectrum for random samples

Samples

Expected power spectrum

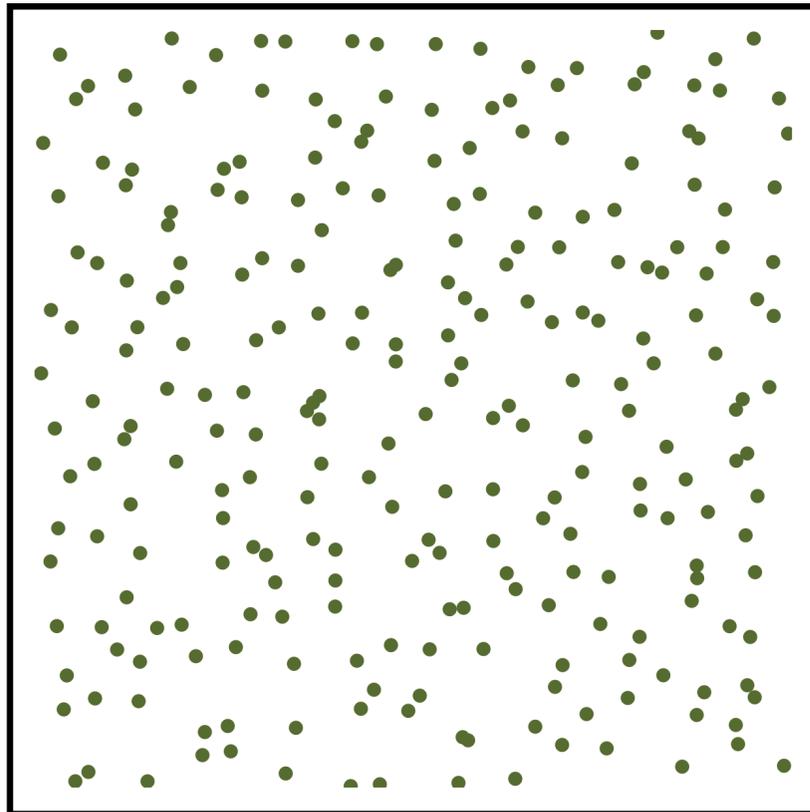
**DC Peak**

Radial mean

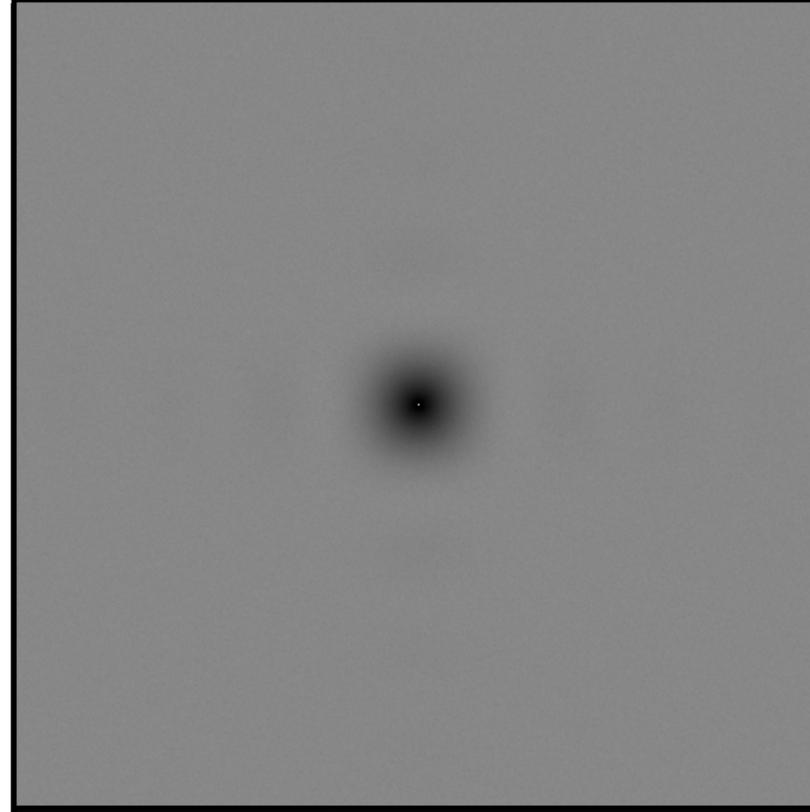


# Expected power spectrum for jittered samples

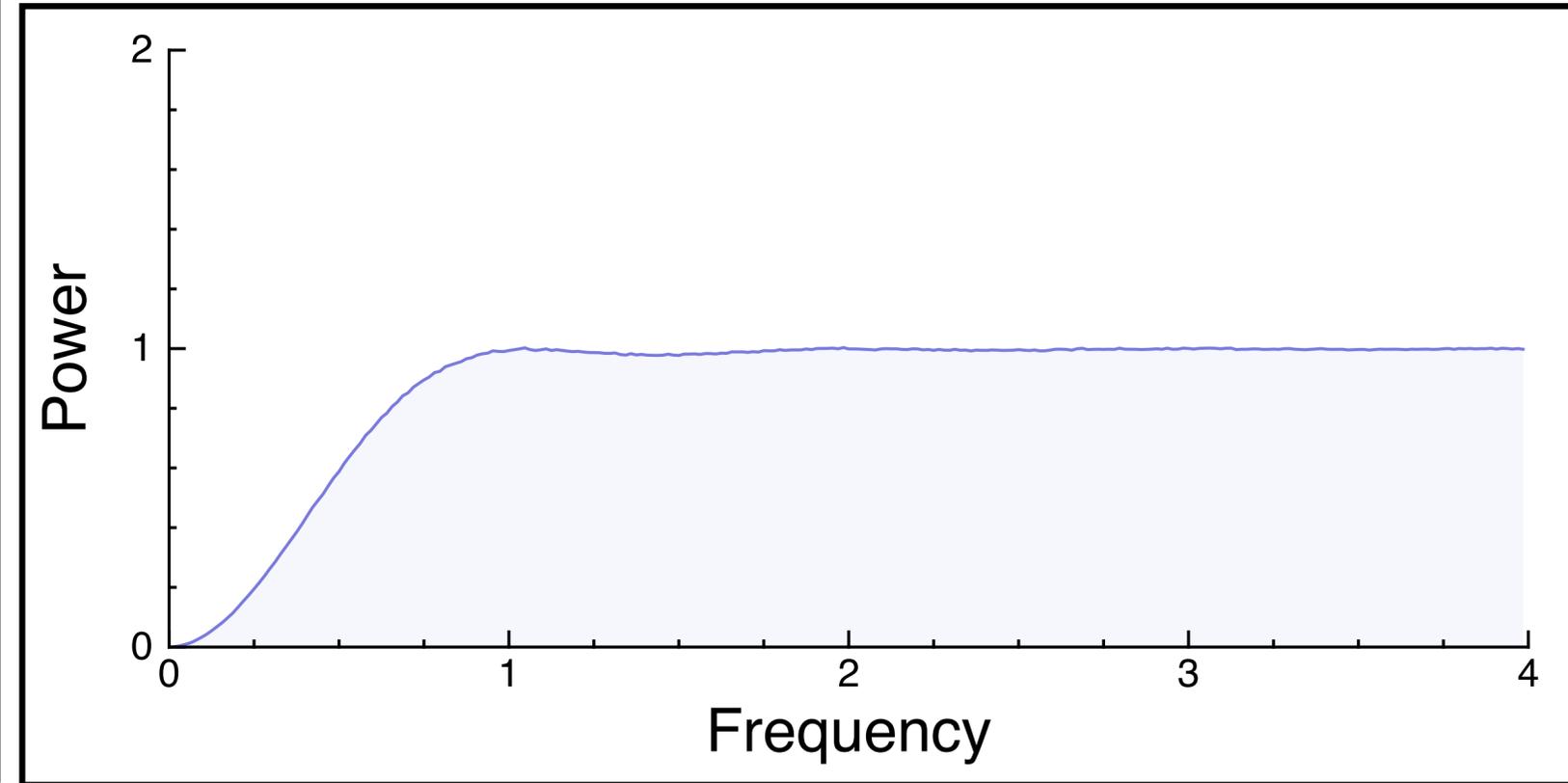
Samples



Expected power spectrum



Radial mean

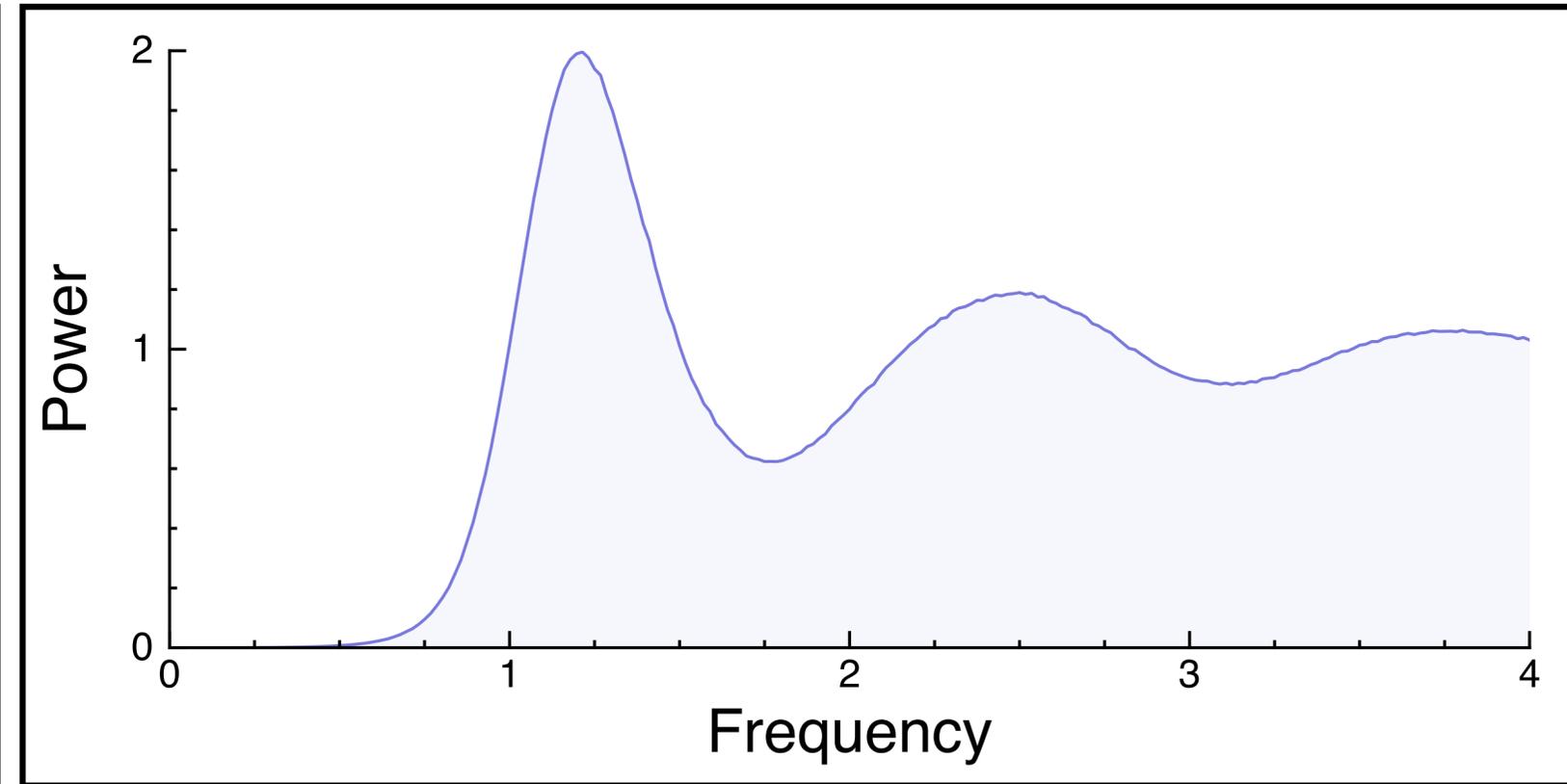
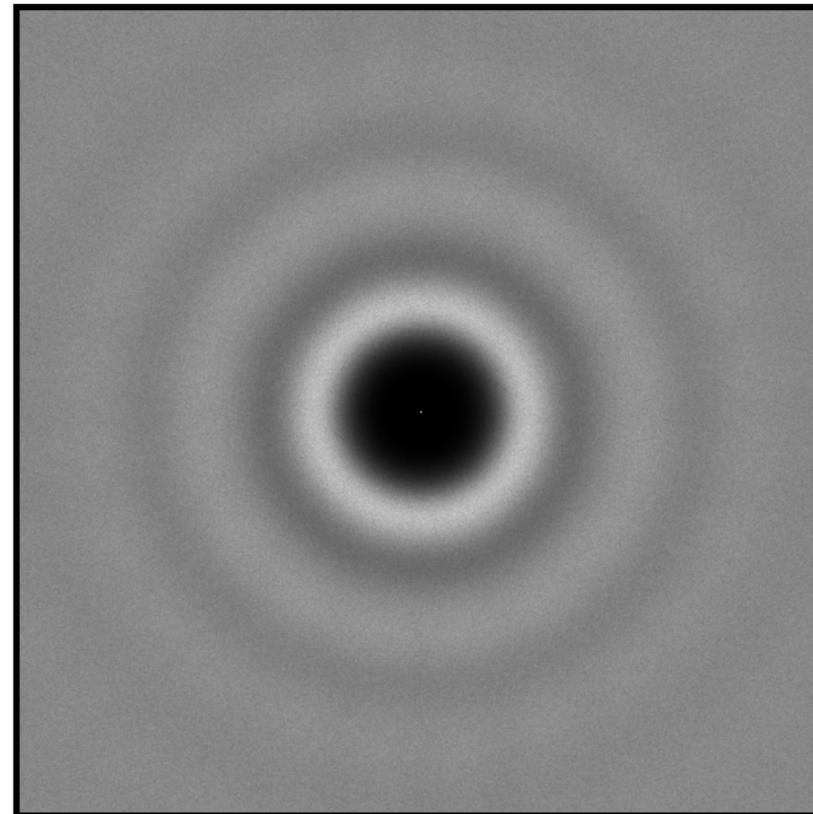
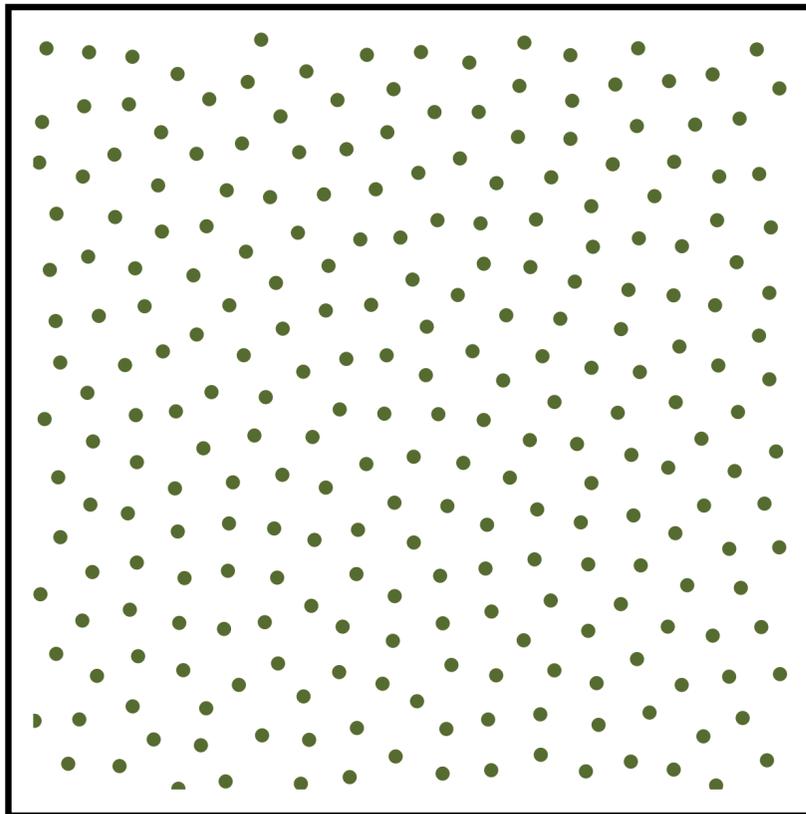


# Expected power spectrum for blue noise samples

Samples

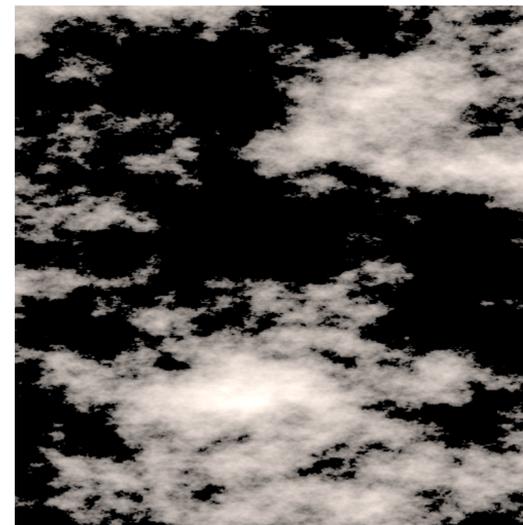
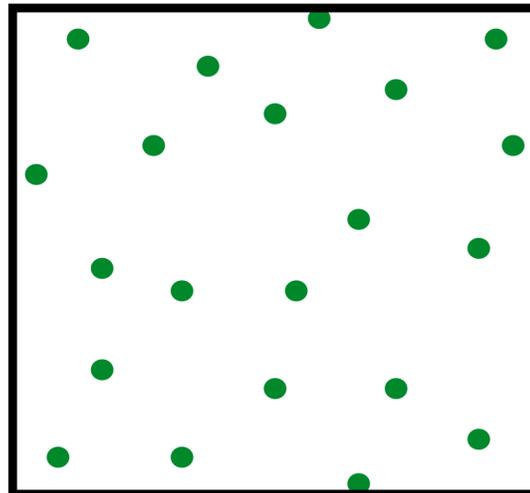
Expected power spectrum

Radial mean



# Variance in terms of power spectra

$$f(\vec{x})$$

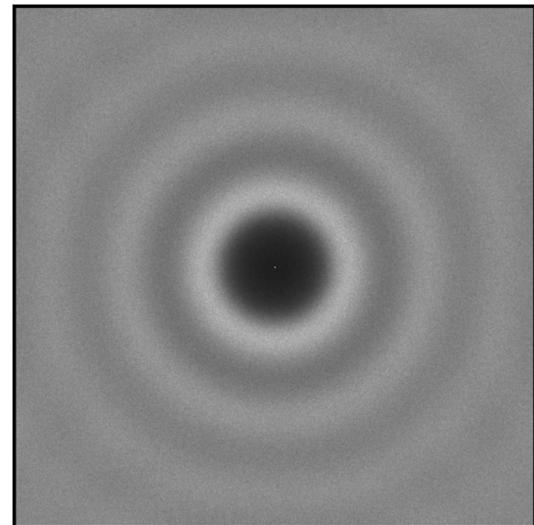


**Fredo Durand [2011]**  
**Pillebuoe et al. [2015]**

# Variance in terms of power spectra

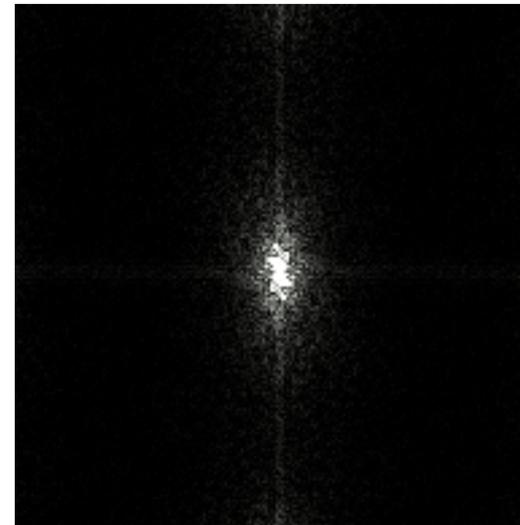
$$\text{Var}(I_N) \propto$$

Samples' expected  
power spectrum

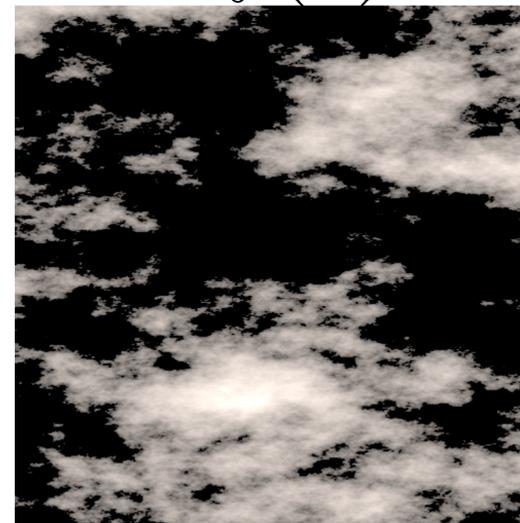
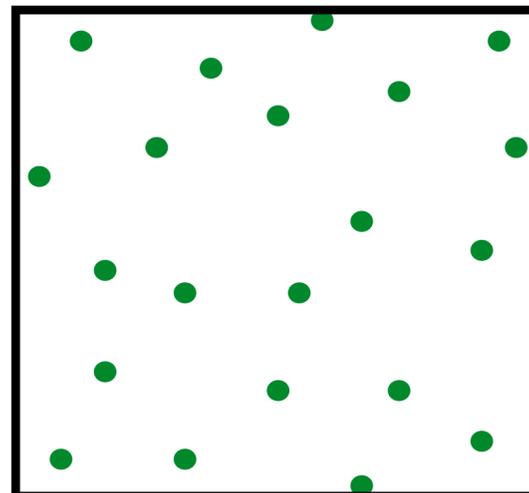


×

Integrand  
power spectrum

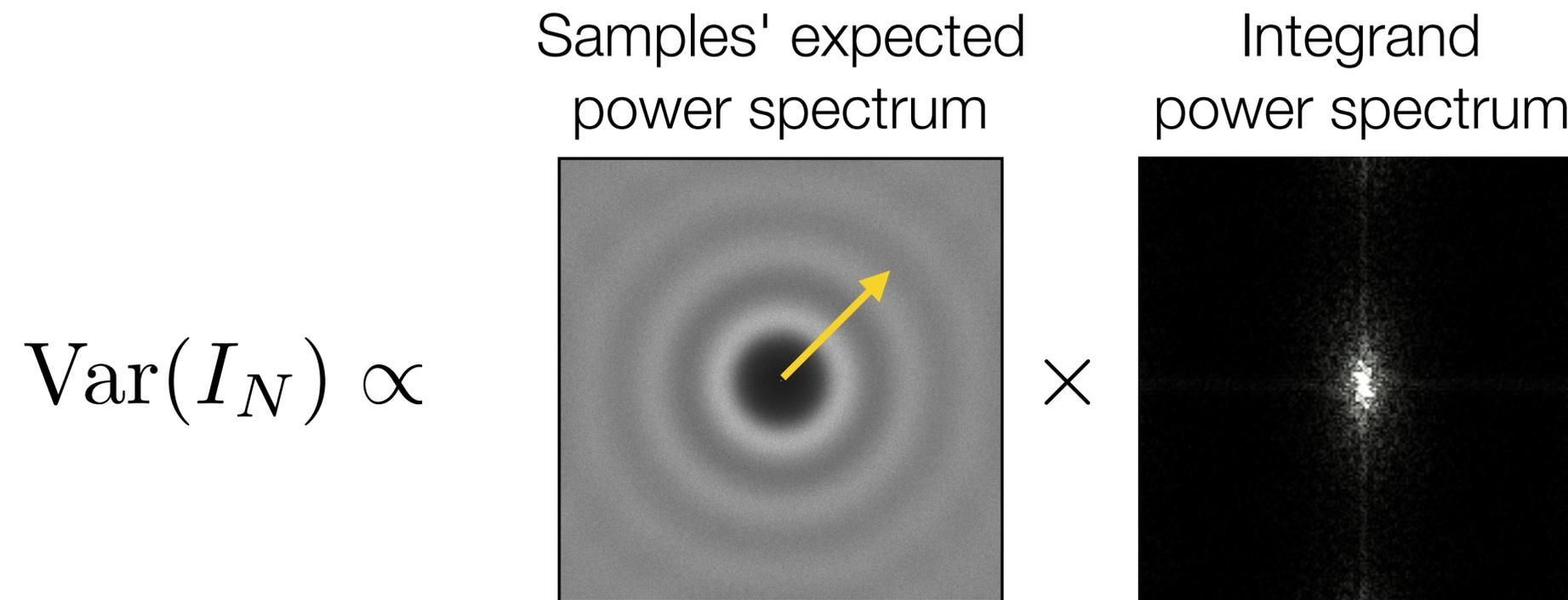


$f(\vec{x})$



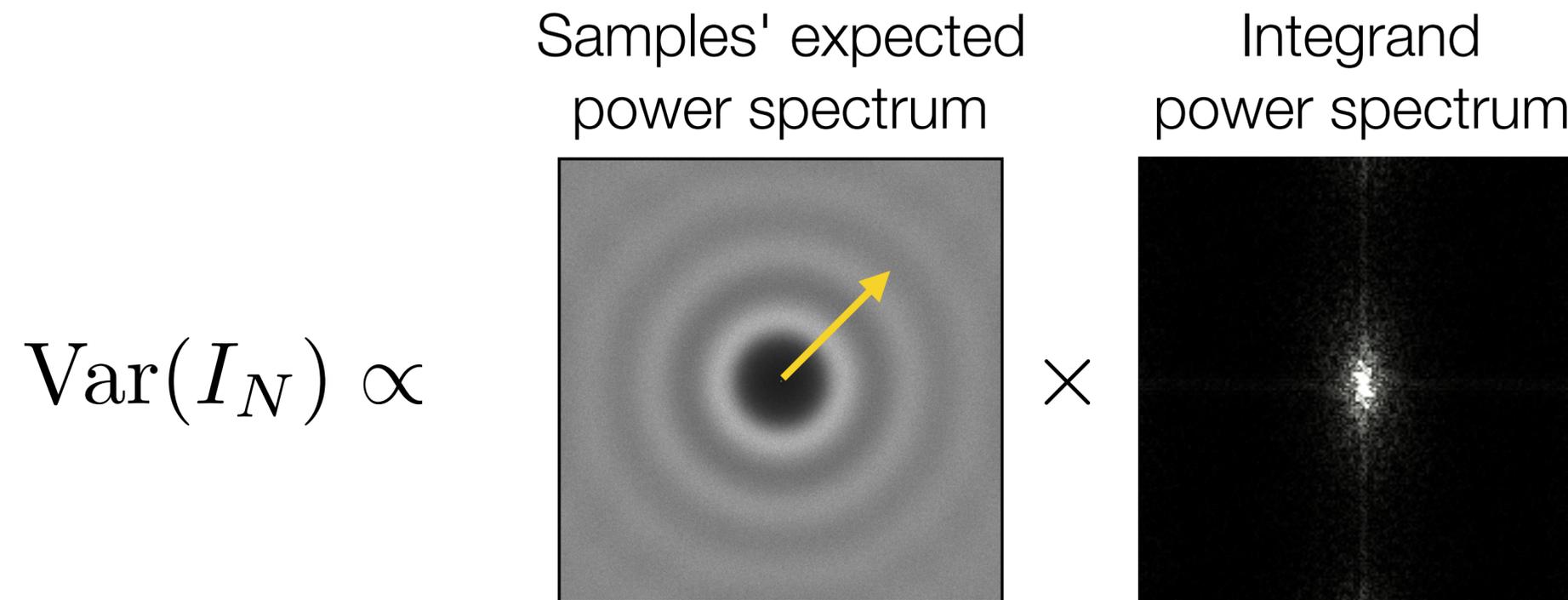
Fredo Durand [2011]  
Pillebuoe et al. [2015]

# Variance in terms of power spectra



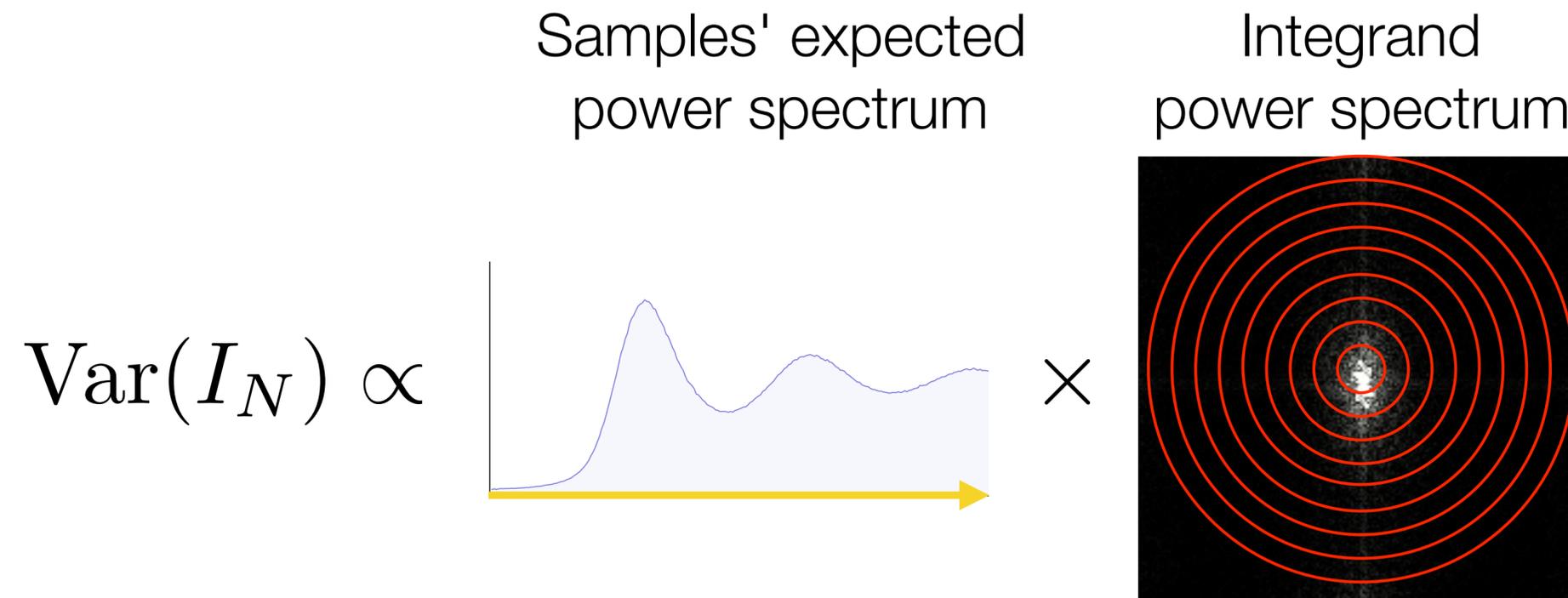
**Fredo Durand [2011]**  
**Pillebuoe et al. [2015]**

# Variance in terms of power spectra



**Fredo Durand [2011]**  
**Pillebuoe et al. [2015]**

# Variance in terms of power spectra



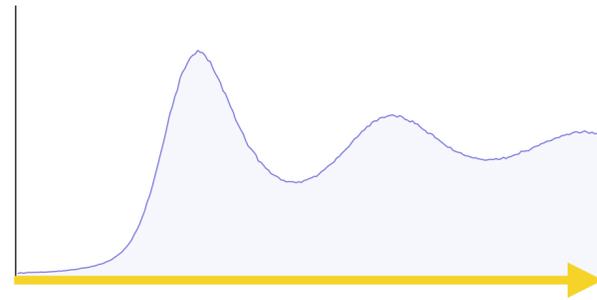
Pillebuoe et al. [2015]

# Variance in terms of power spectra

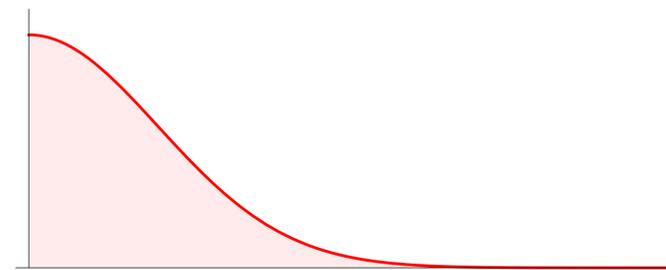
Samples' expected  
power spectrum

Integrand  
power spectrum

$$\text{Var}(I_N) \propto$$



×

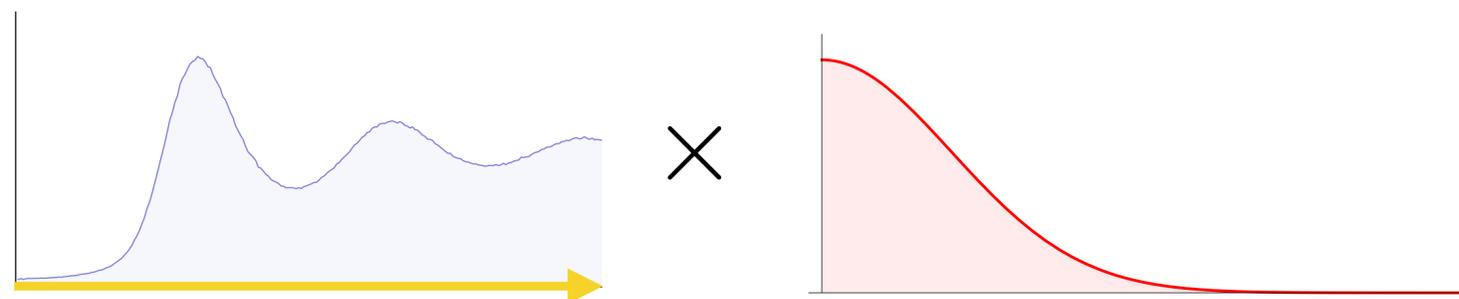


# Convergence rate depends on the low frequency region

Samples' expected  
power spectrum

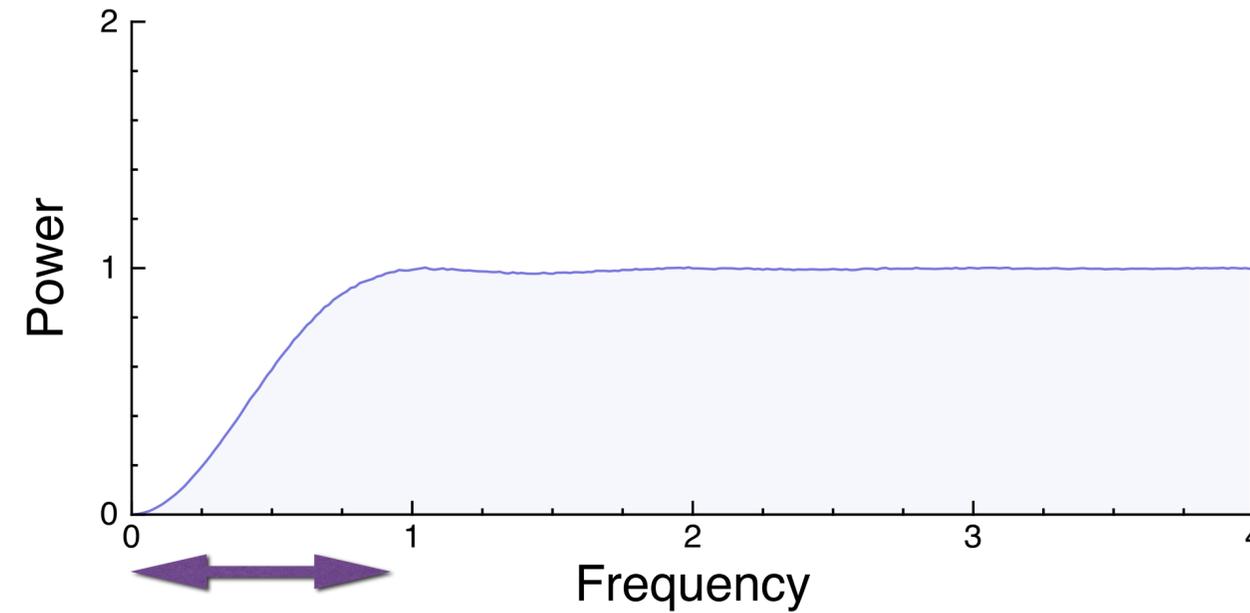
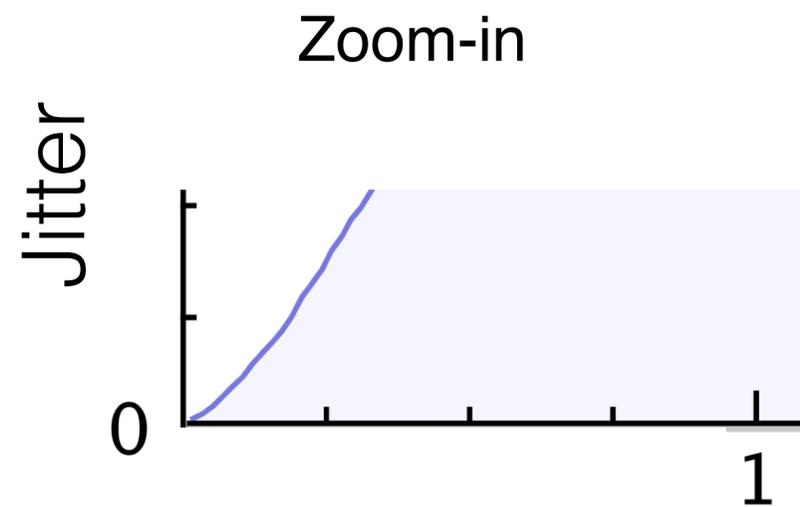
Integrand  
power spectrum

$$\text{Var}(I_N) \propto$$

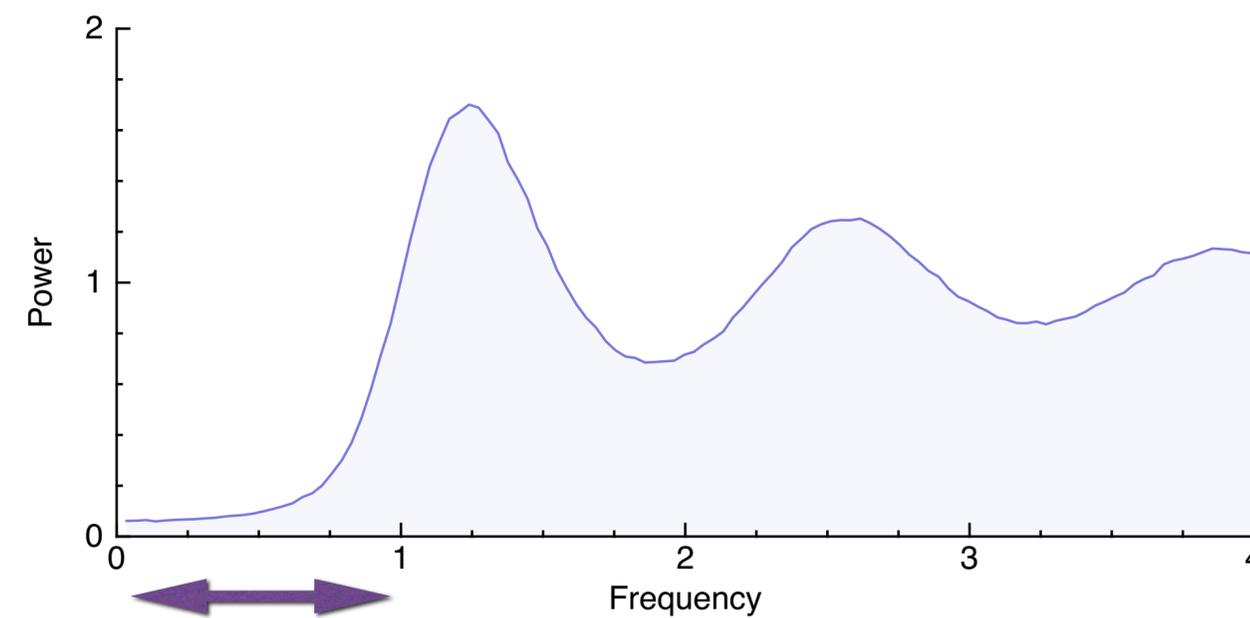
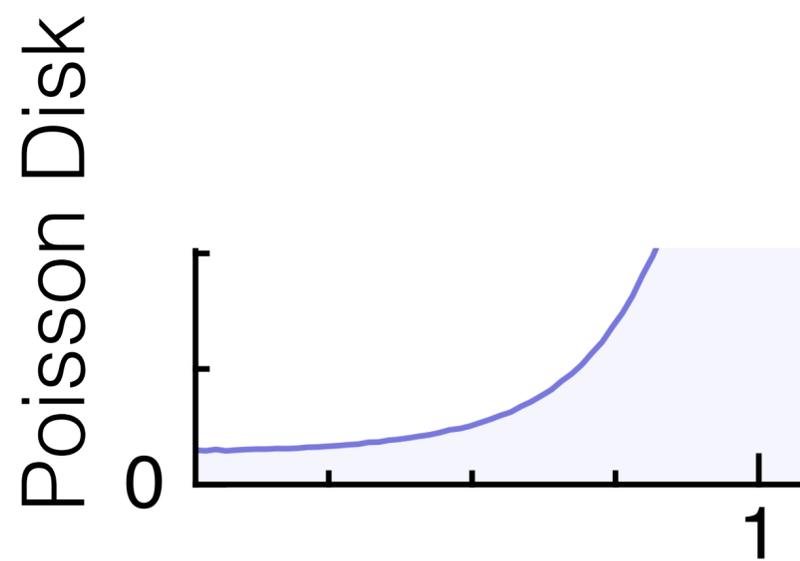


Samplers	Worst Case	Best Case
Random	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1})$	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1})$
Poisson Disk	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1})$	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1})$
Jitter	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1.5})$	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-2})$
CCVT	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1.5})$	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-3})$

# Jittered samples converges faster than Poisson Disk



$$O(N^{-1.5})$$



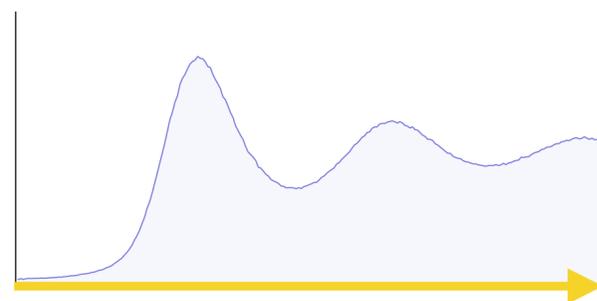
$$O(N^{-1})$$

# Convergence rate depends on the low frequency region

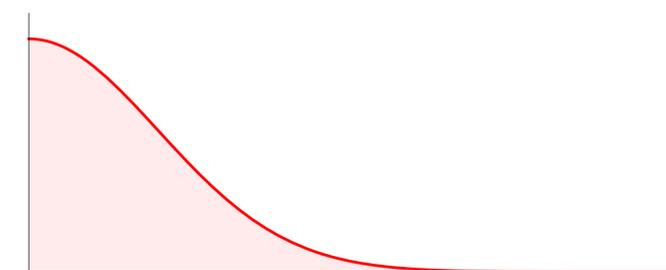
Samples' expected  
power spectrum

Integrand  
power spectrum

$$\text{Var}(I_N) \propto$$

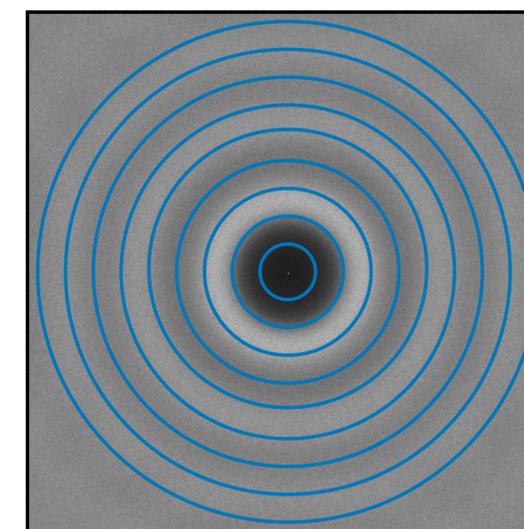


×

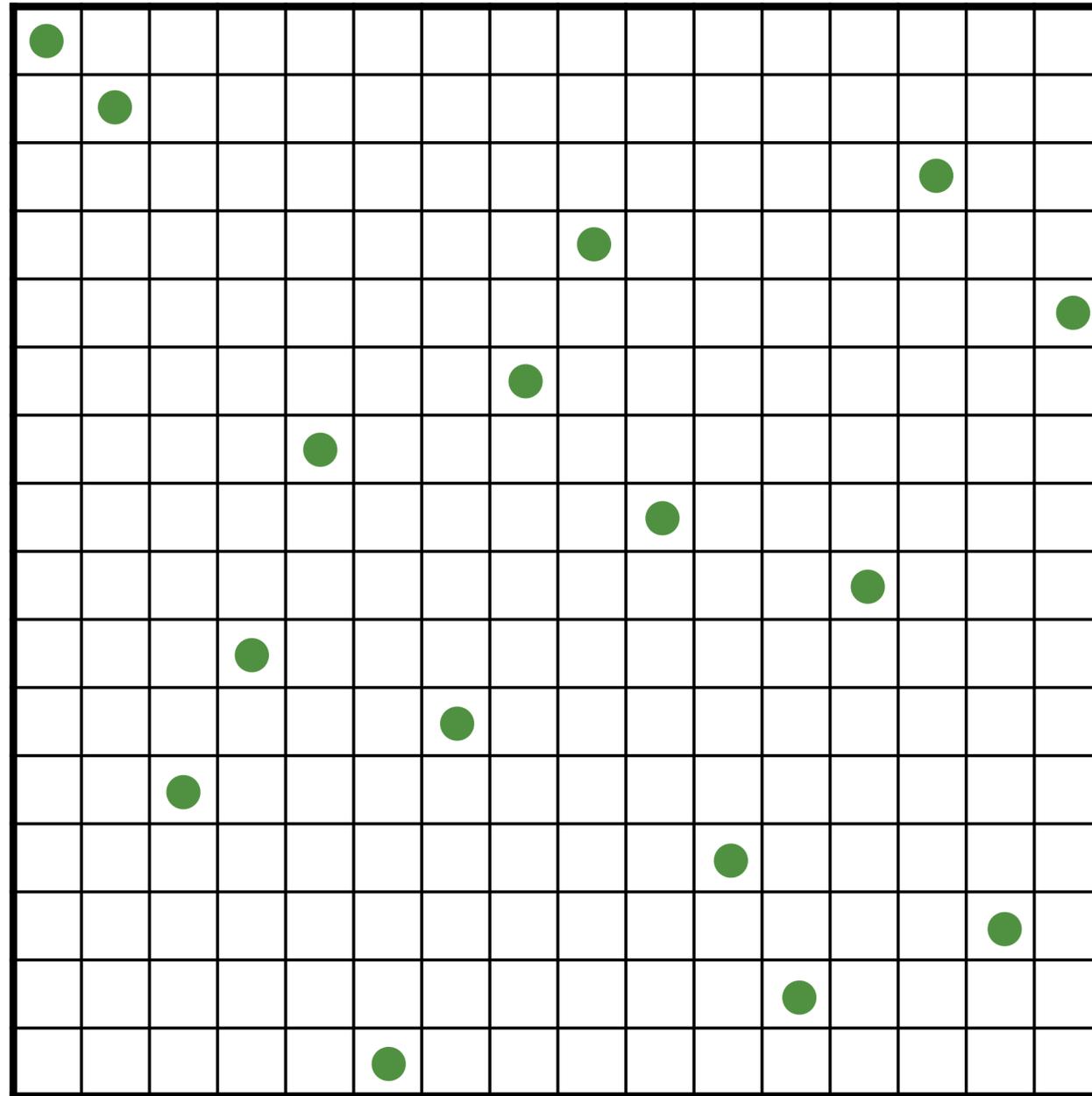


Samplers	Worst Case	Best Case
Random	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1})$	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1})$
Poisson Disk	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1})$	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1})$
Jitter	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1.5})$	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-2})$
CCVT	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-1.5})$	$\mathcal{O}(N^{-3})$

Isotropic Spectrum  
Poisson Disk

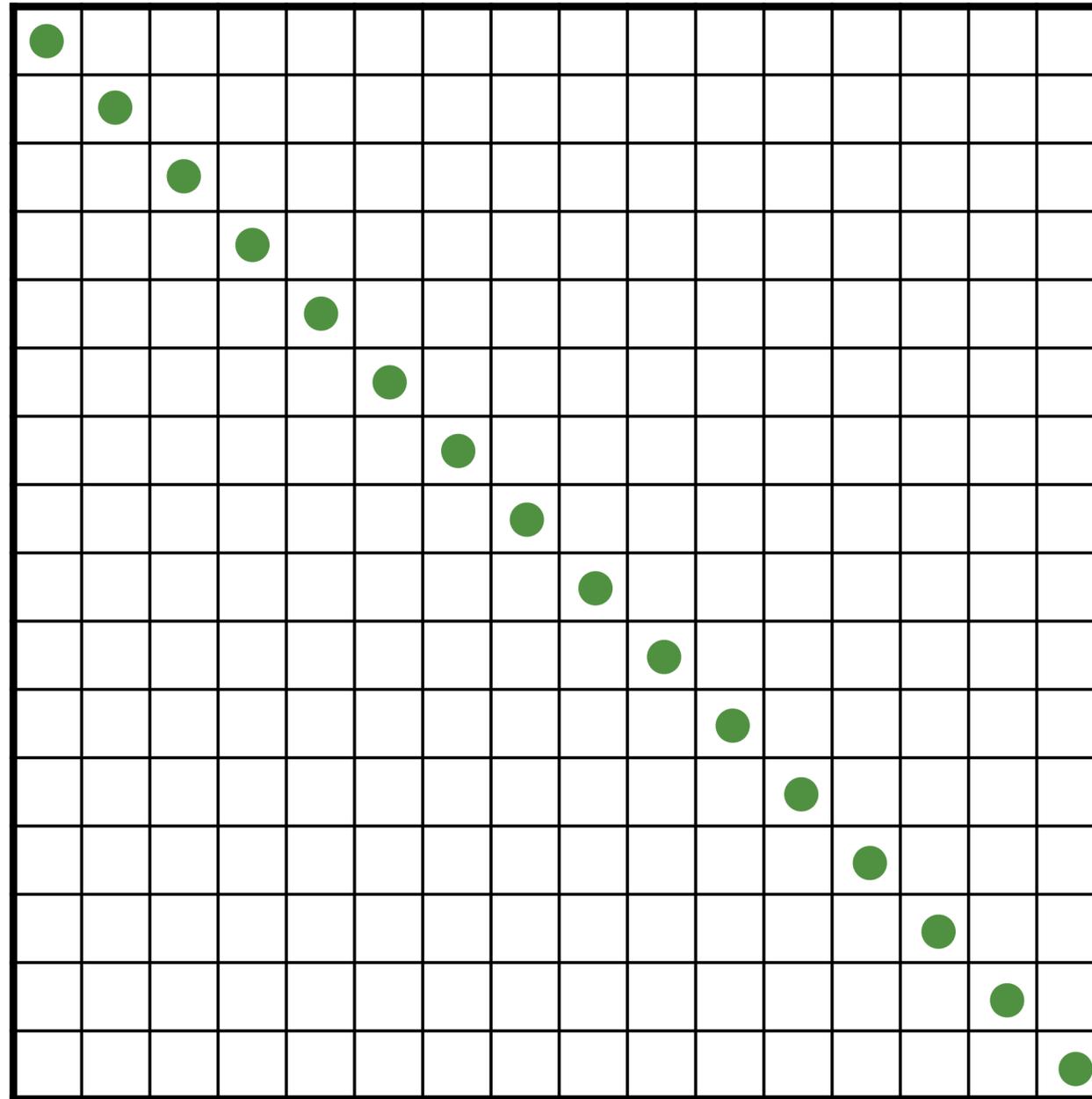


# Latin Hypercube Sampler (N-rooks)



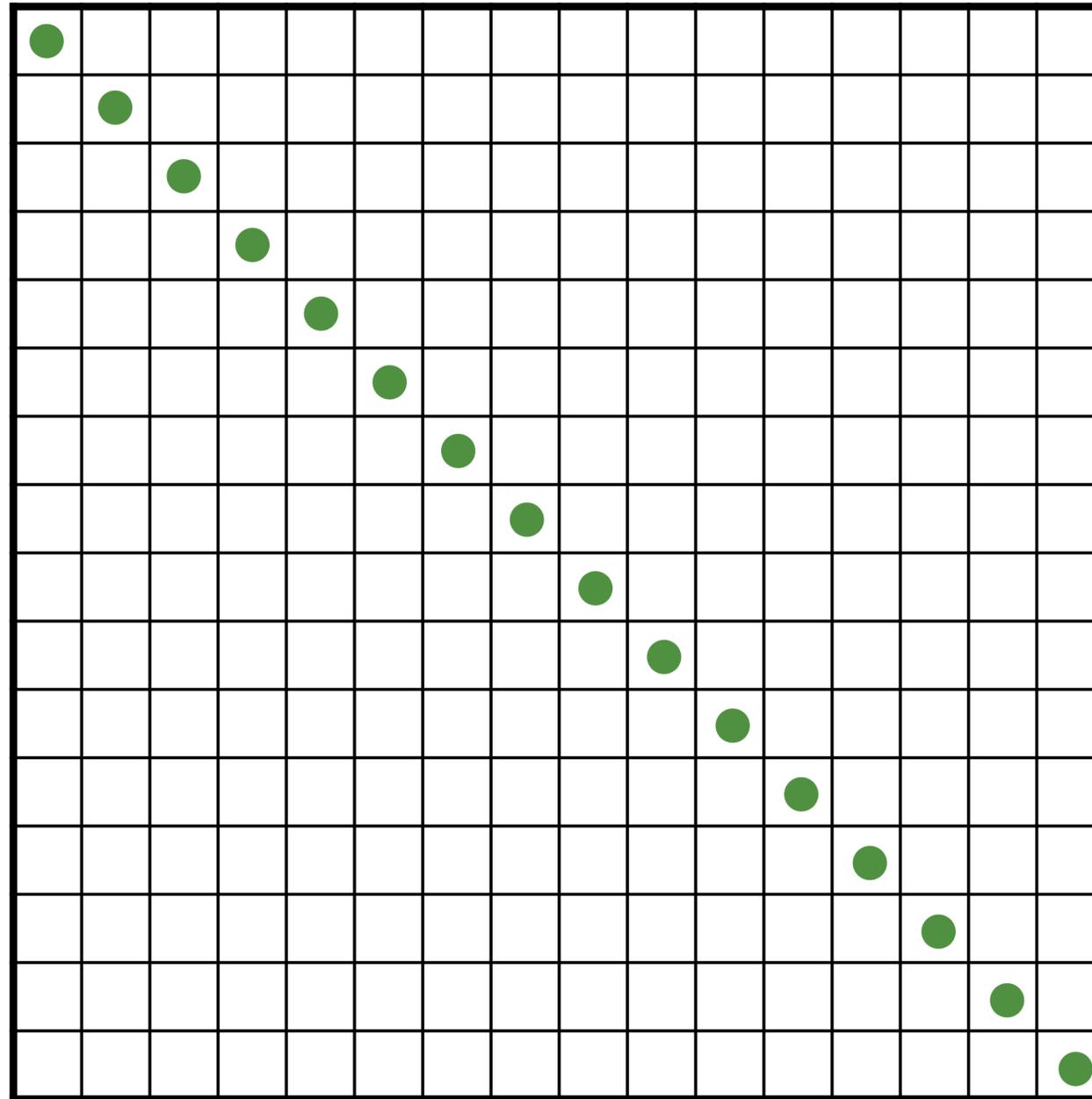
# Latin Hypercube Sampler (N-rooks)

Initialize

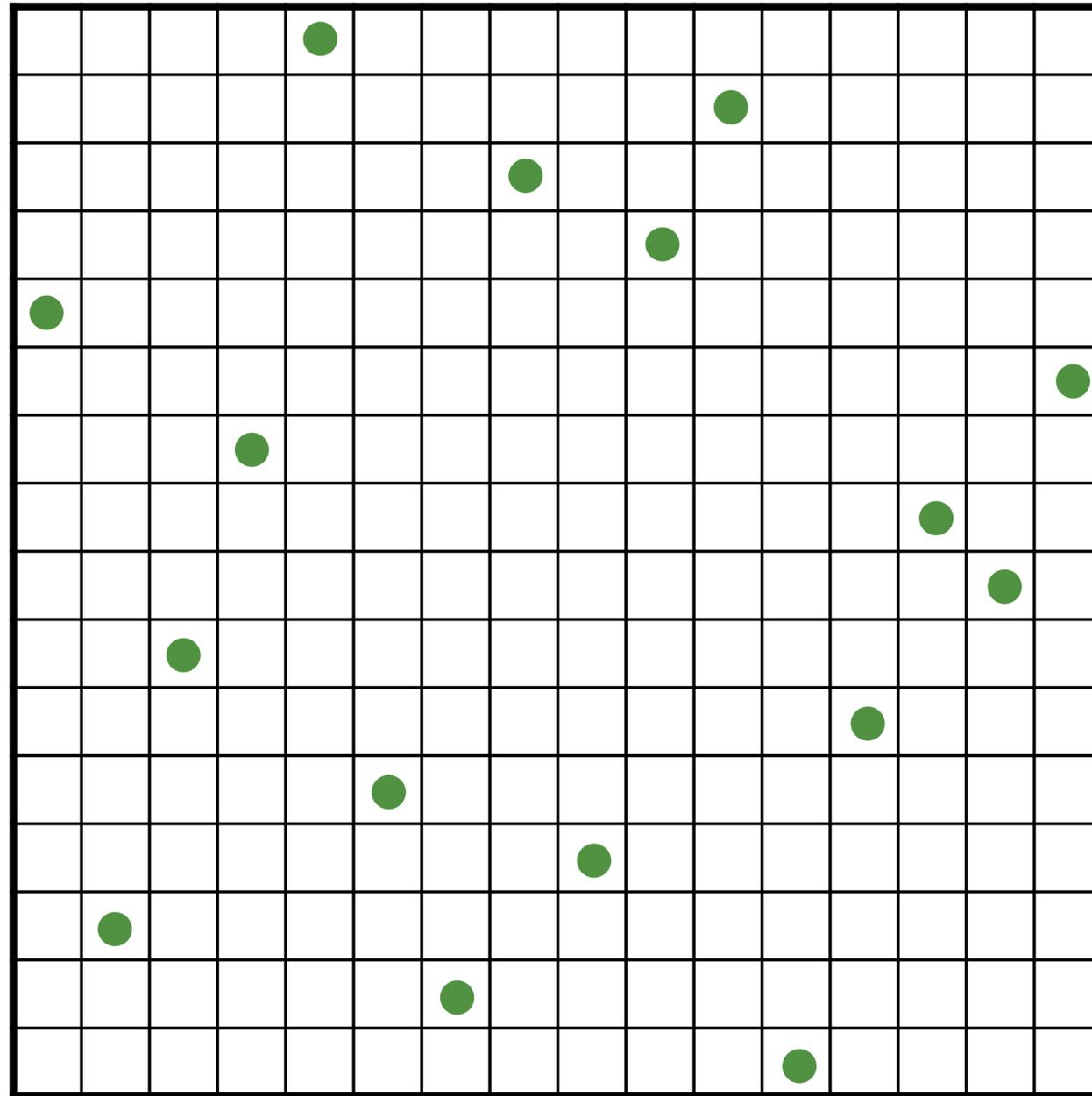


# Latin Hypercube Sampler (N-rooks)

Shuffle rows

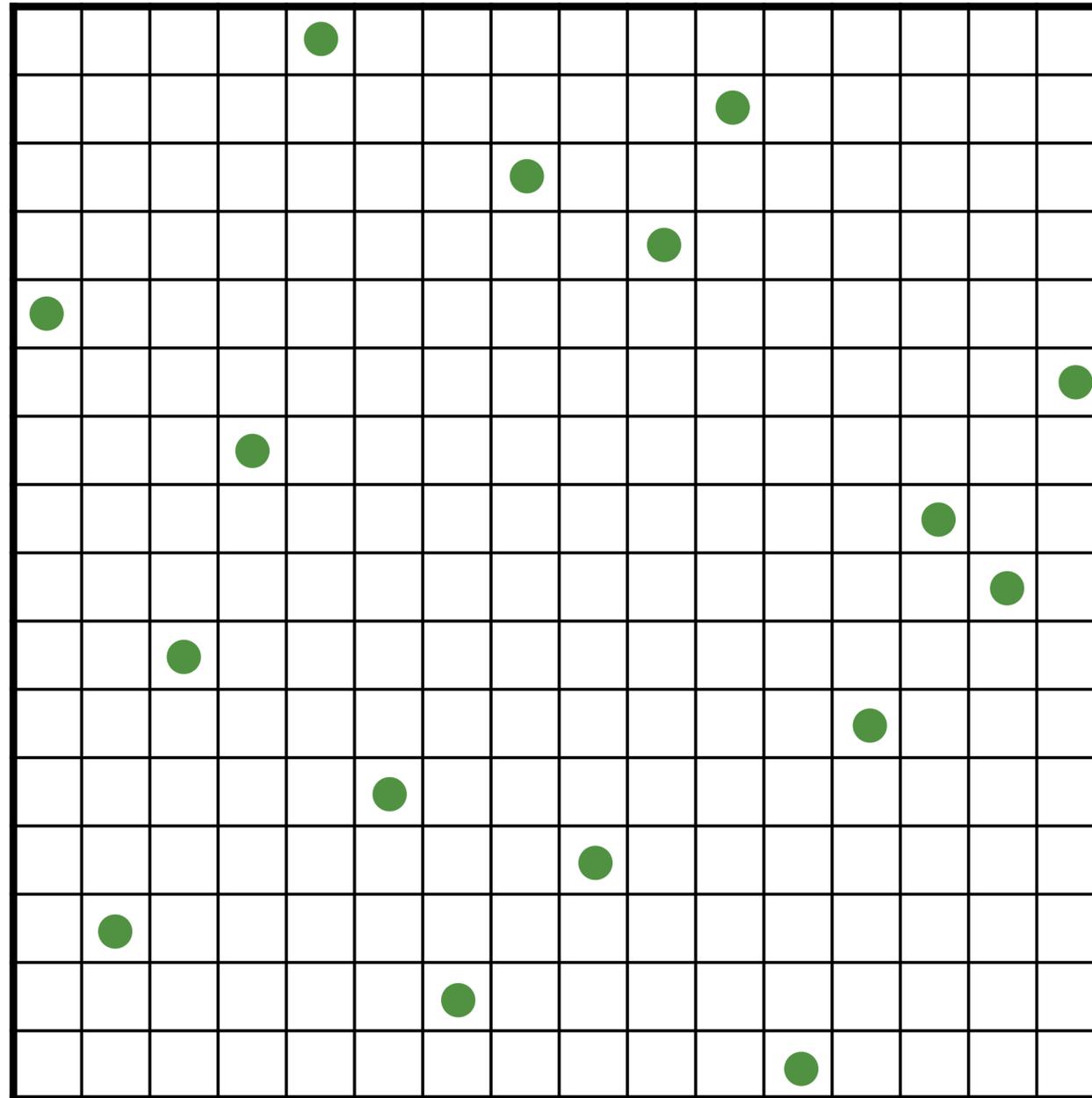


# Latin Hypercube Sampler (N-rooks)

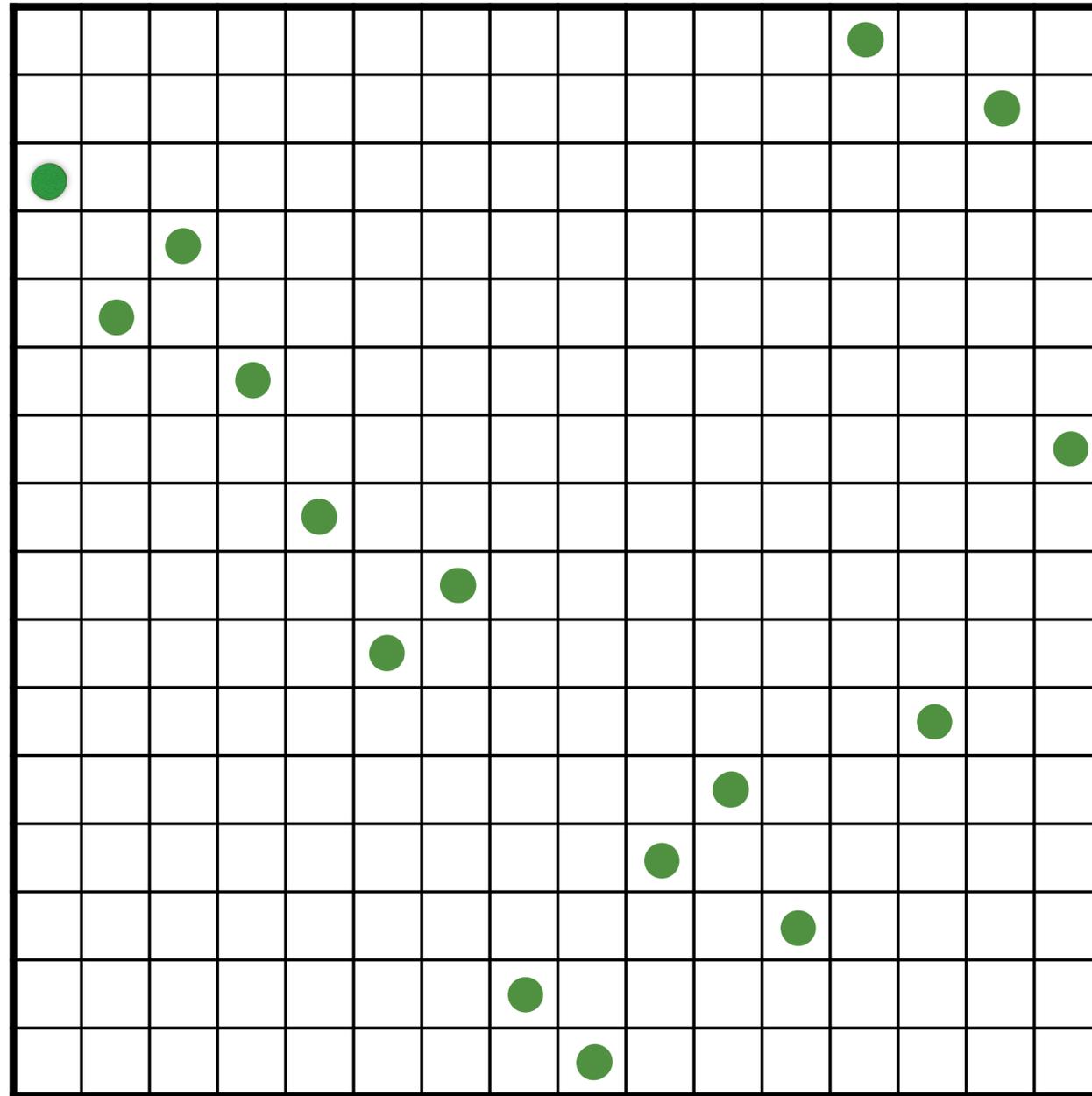


# Latin Hypercube Sampler (N-rooks)

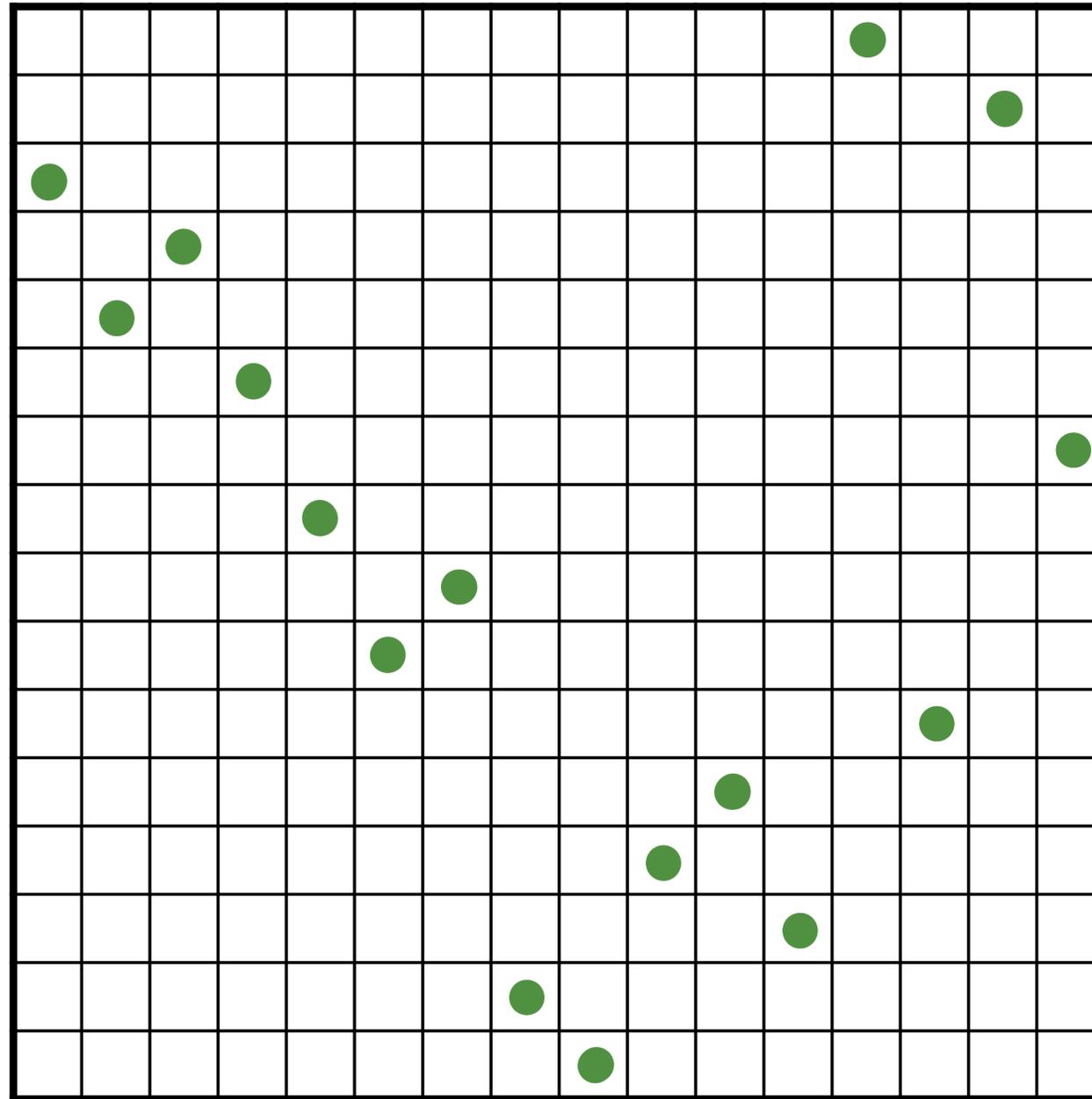
Shuffle columns



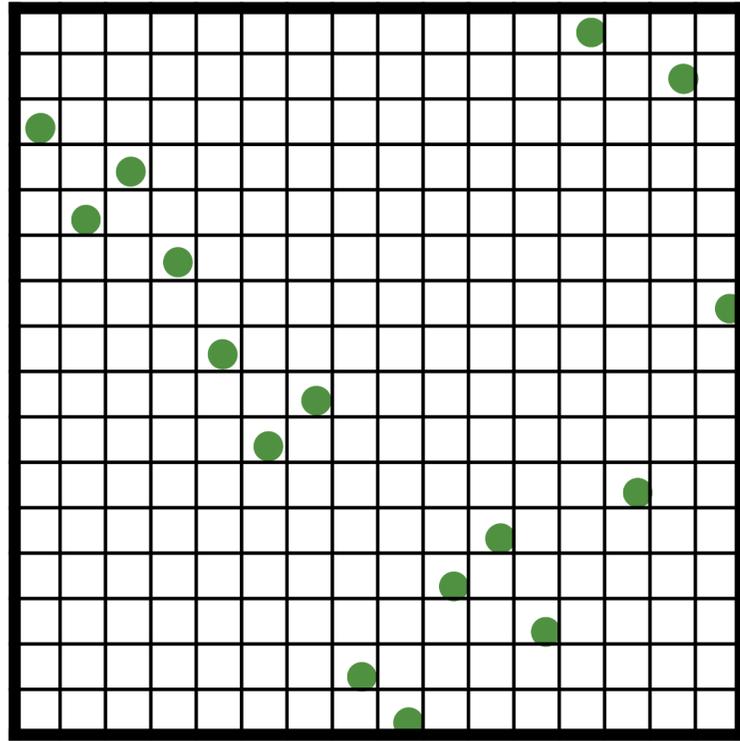
# Latin Hypercube Sampler (N-rooks)



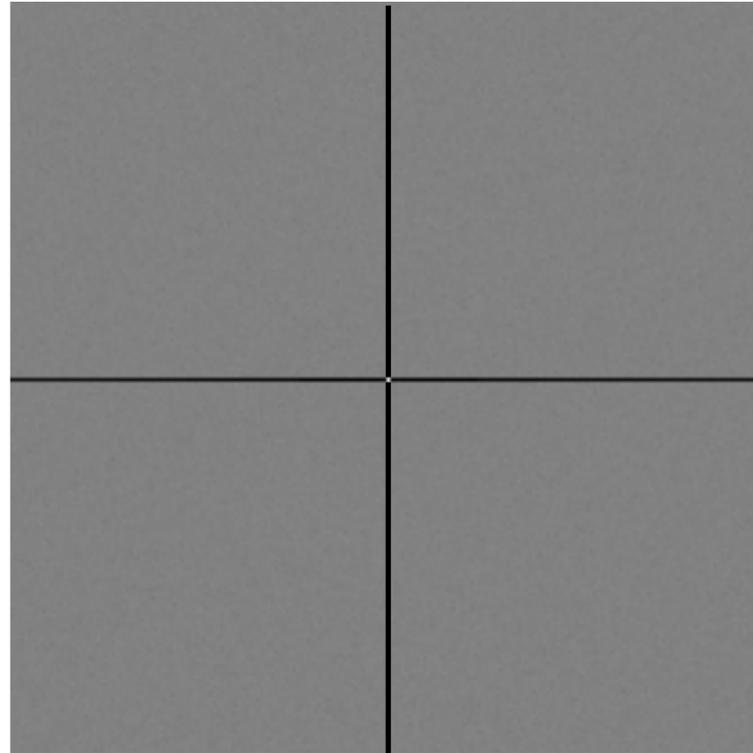
# Latin Hypercube Sampler (N-rooks)



# Anisotropic Sampling Power Spectra

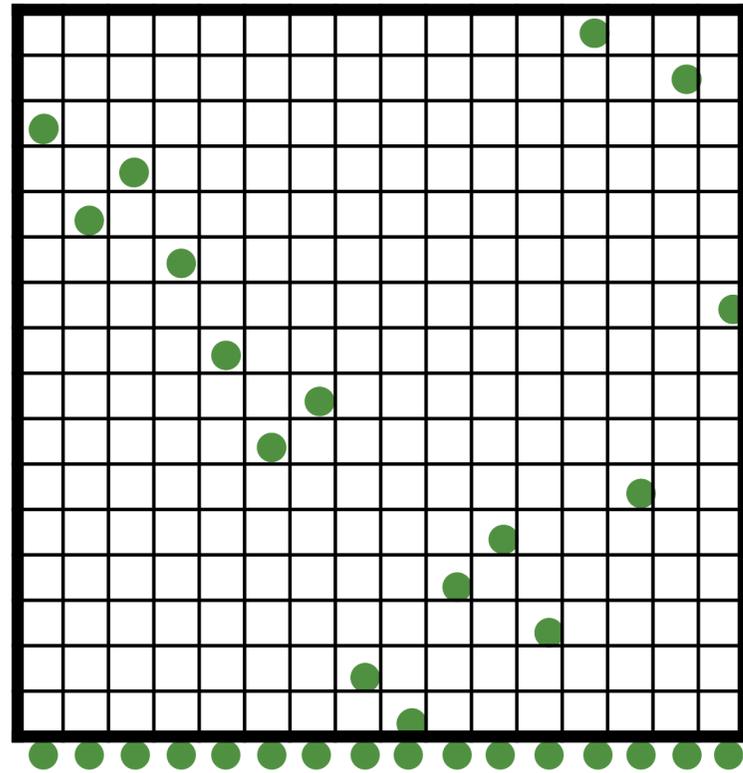


N-rooks /  
Latin Hypercube

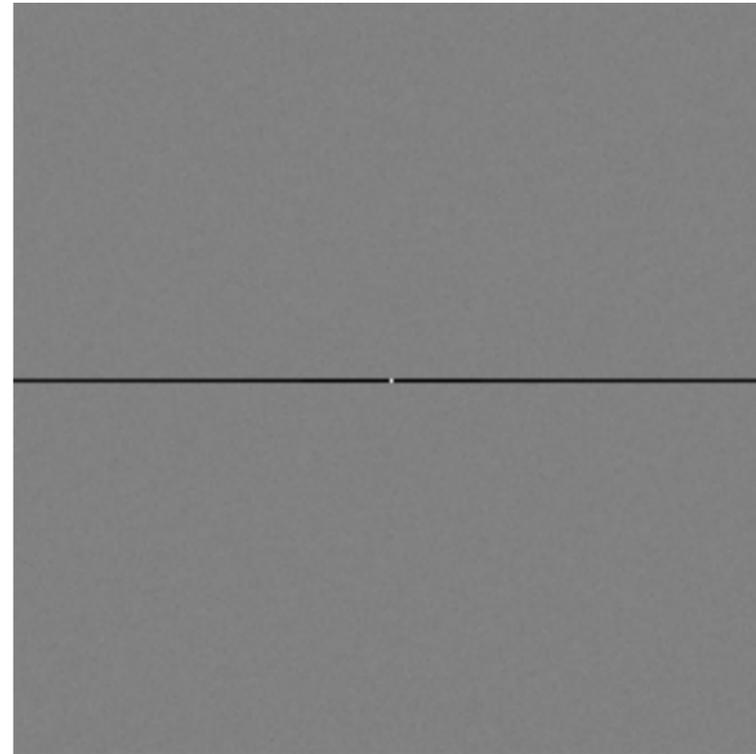


N-rooks  
Spectrum

# Anisotropic Sampling Power Spectra

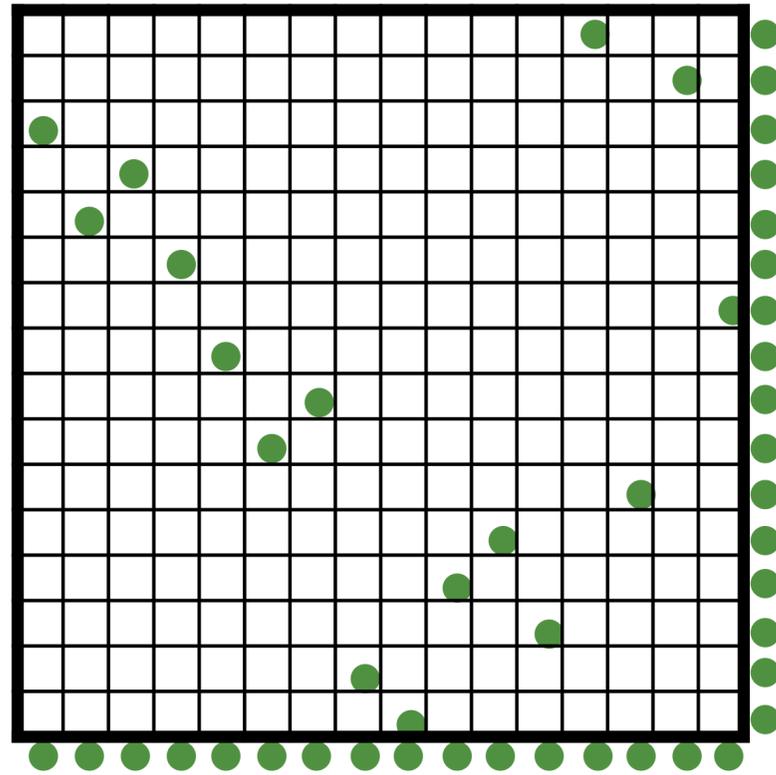


N-rooks /  
Latin Hypercube

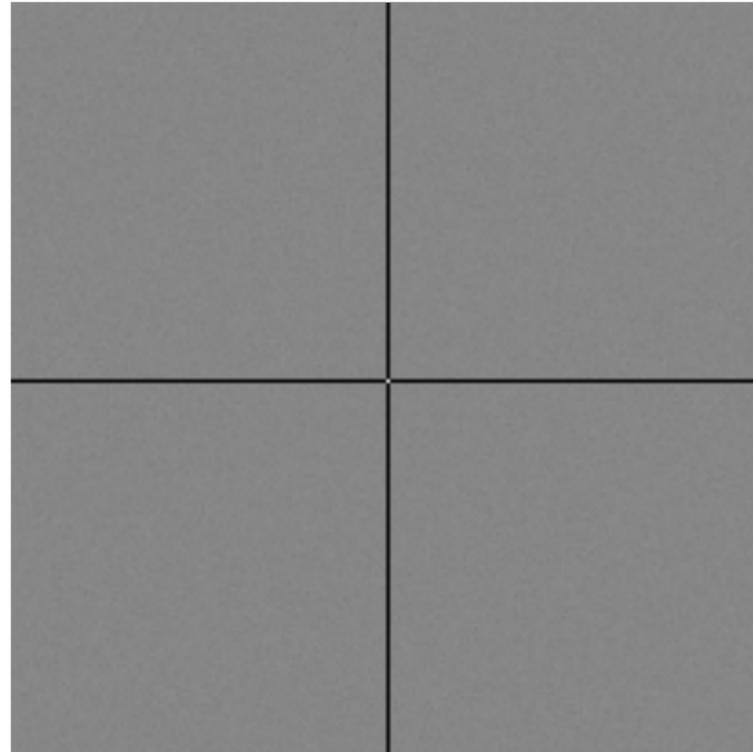


Spectrum

# Anisotropic Sampling Power Spectra

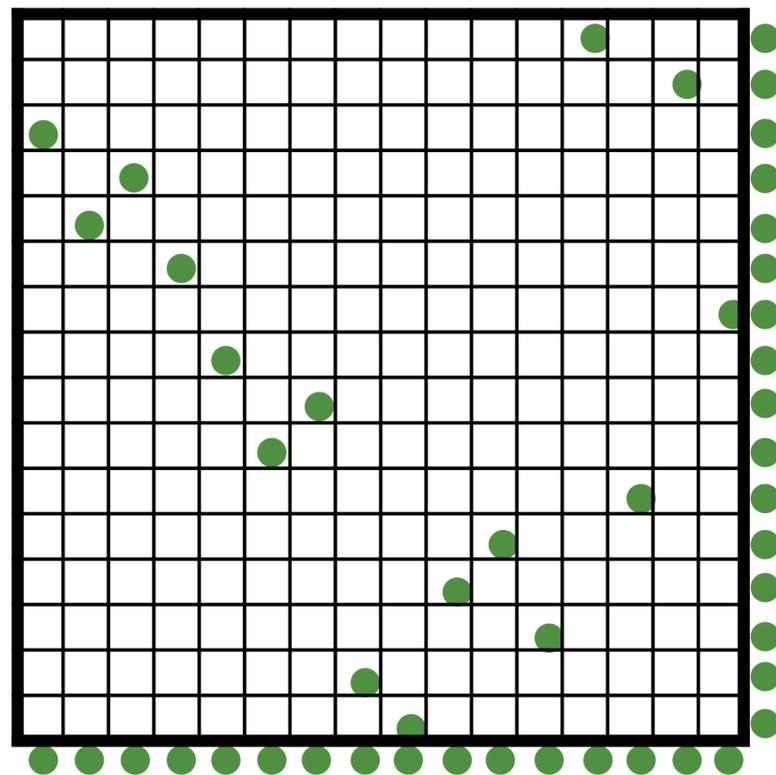


N-rooks /  
Latin Hypercube

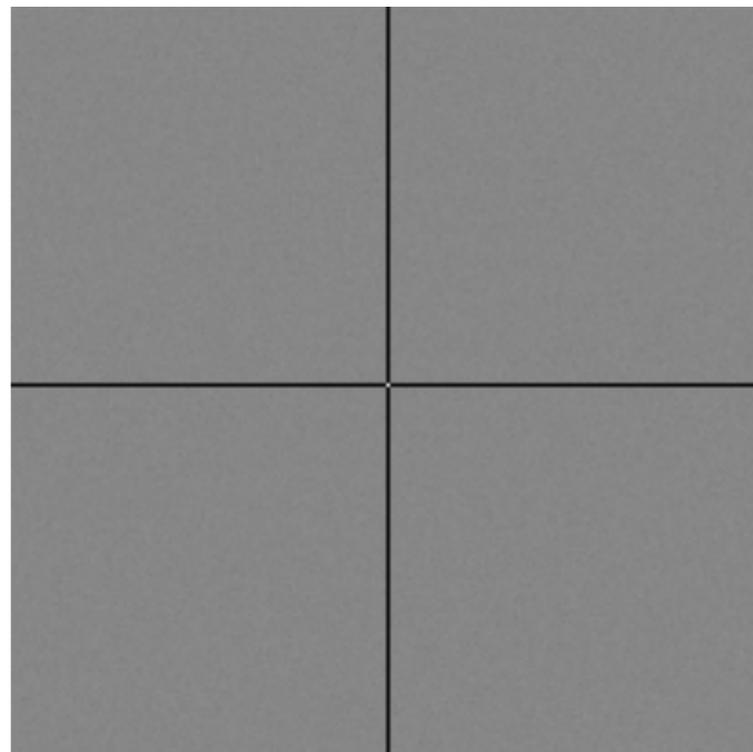


N-rooks  
Spectrum

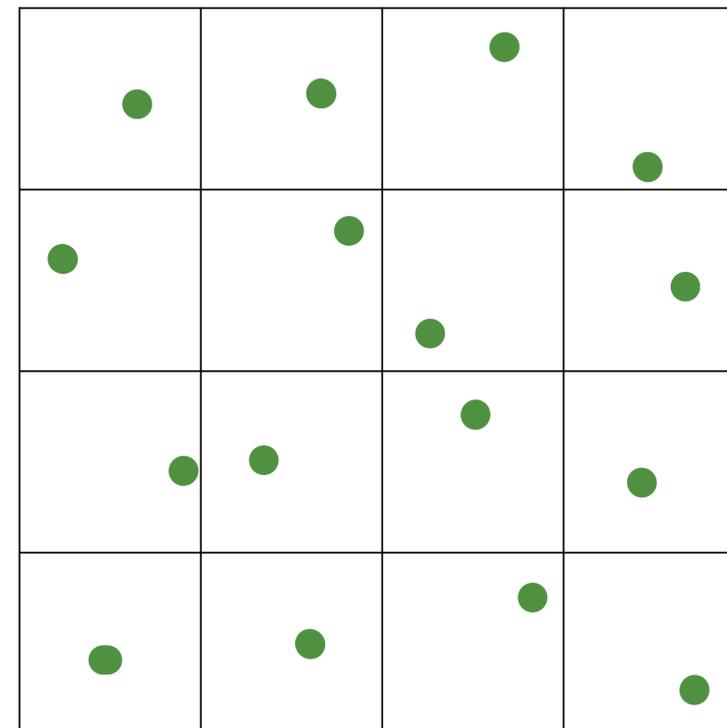
# Anisotropic Sampling Power Spectra



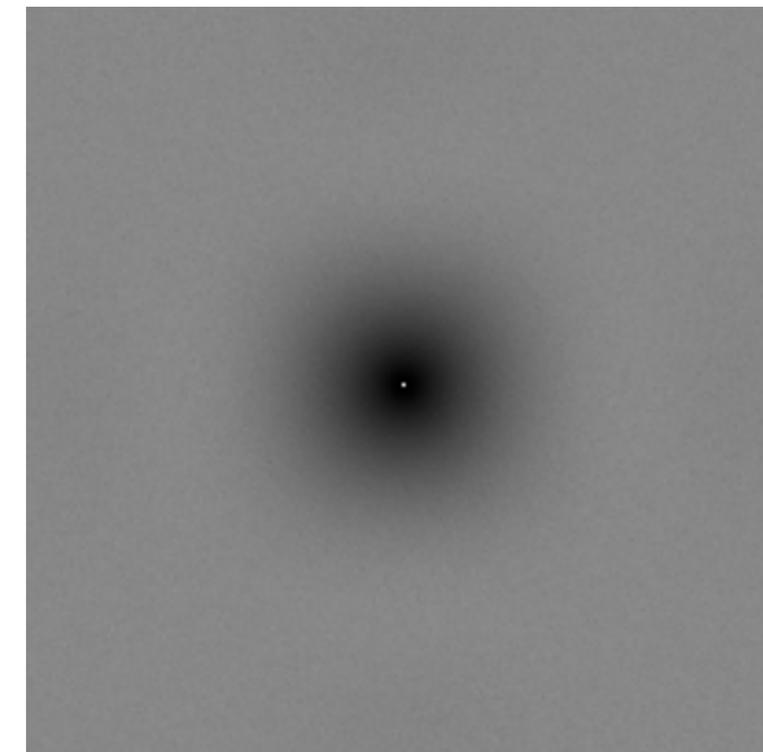
N-rooks /  
Latin Hypercube



N-rooks  
Spectrum

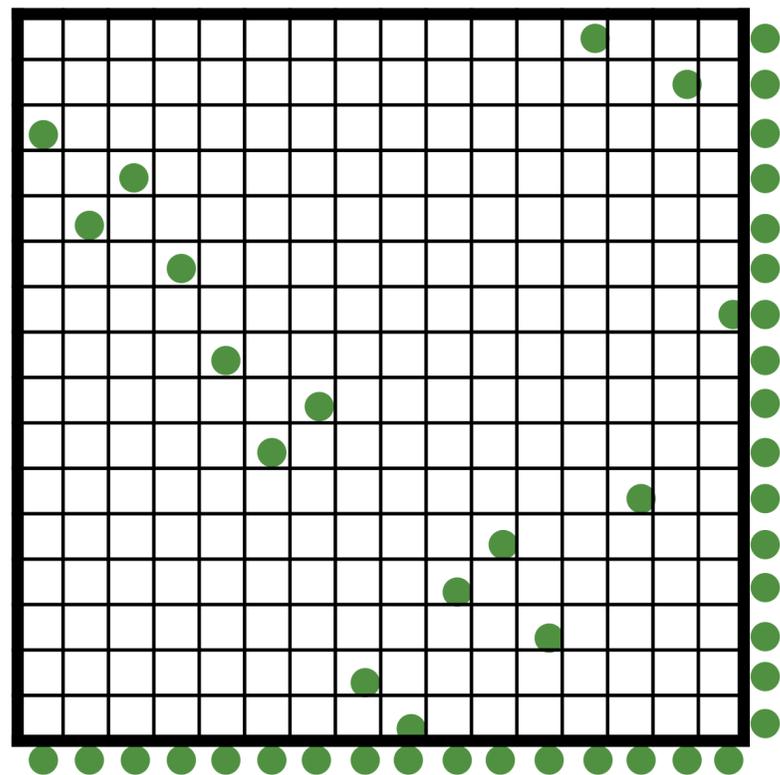


Jitter

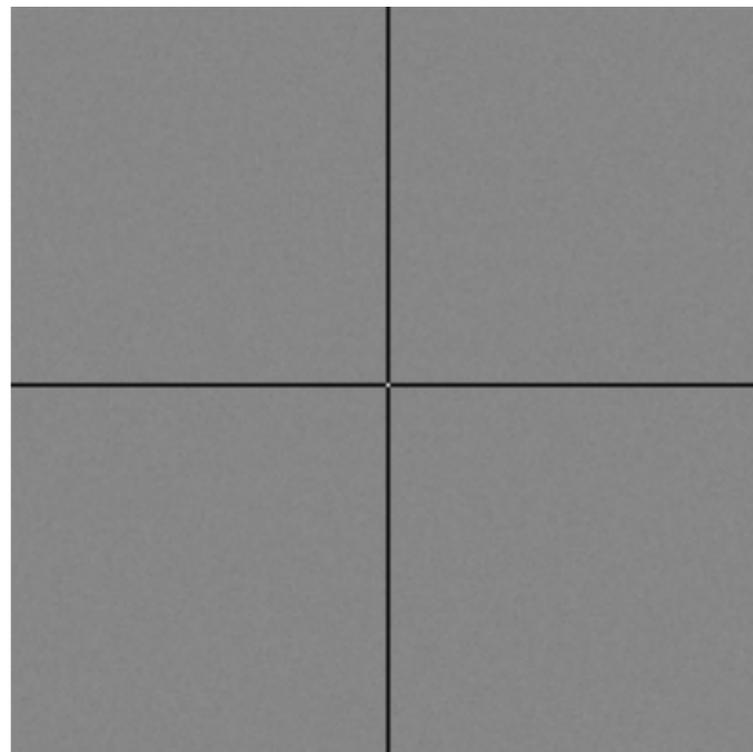


Jitter  
Spectrum

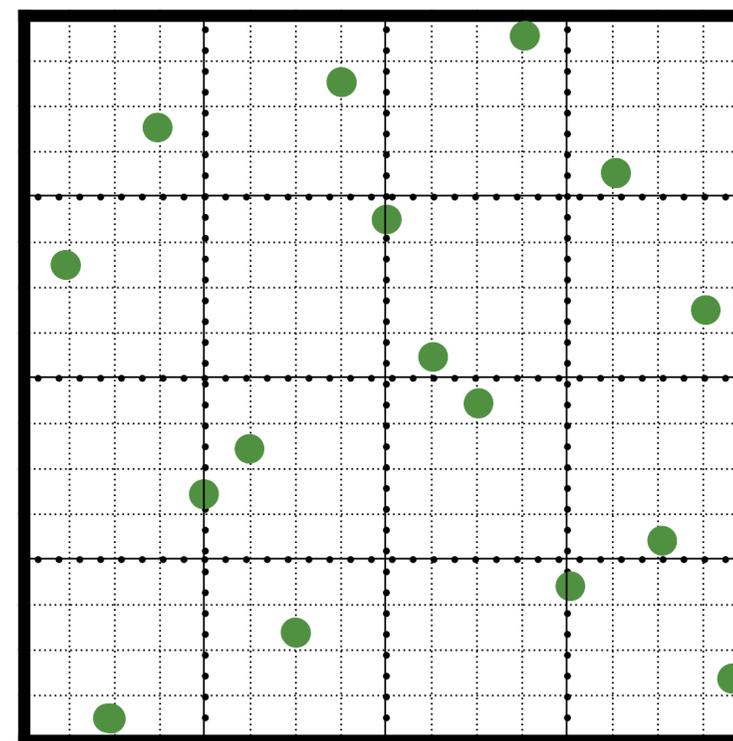
# Anisotropic Sampling Power Spectra



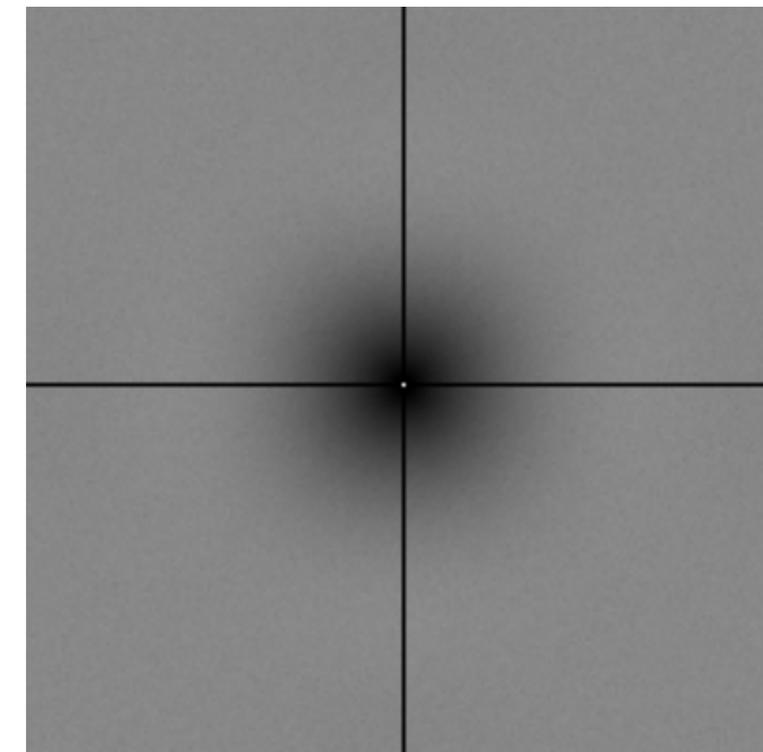
N-rooks /  
Latin Hypercube



N-rooks  
Spectrum



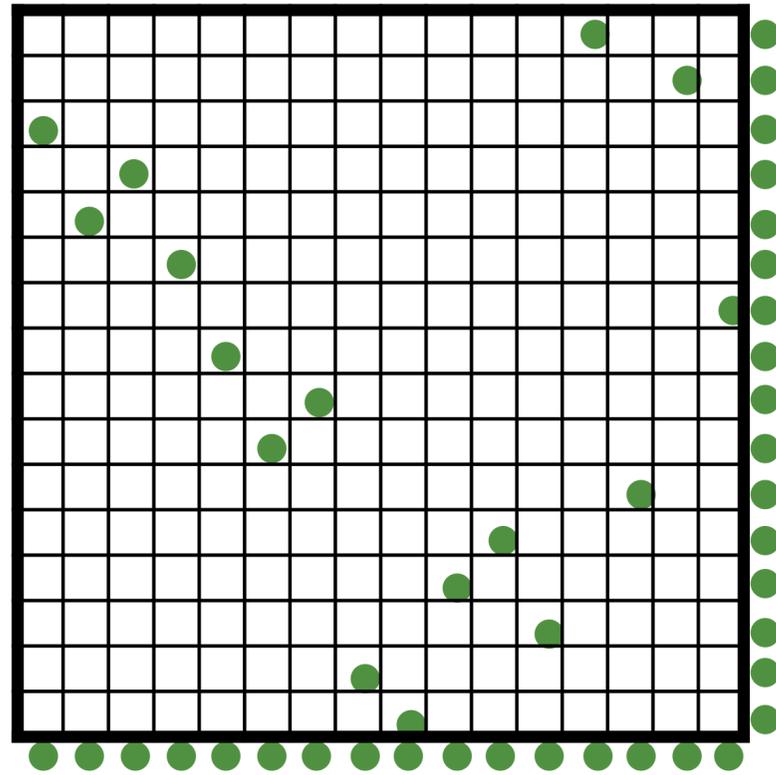
Multi-Jitter



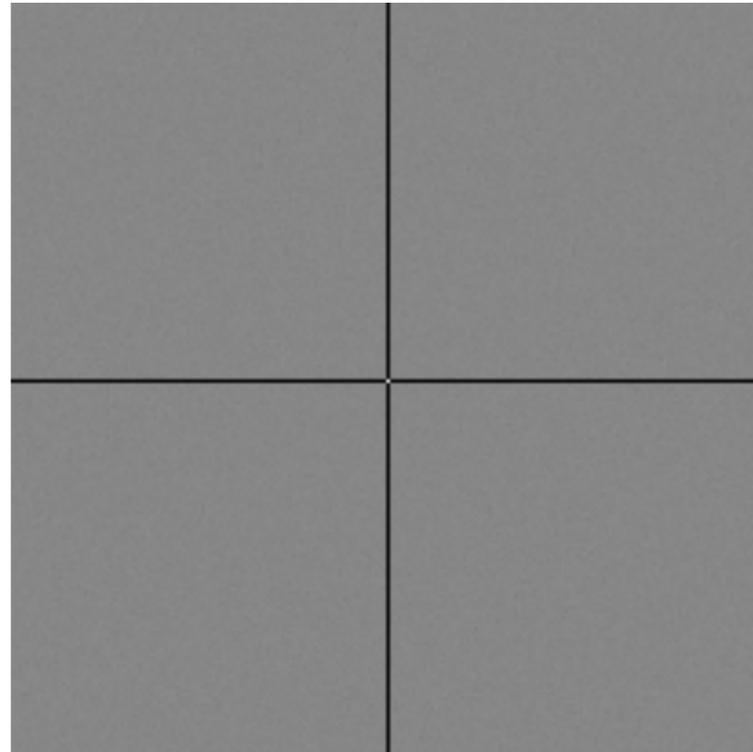
Multi-Jitter  
Spectrum

Chiu et al. [1993]

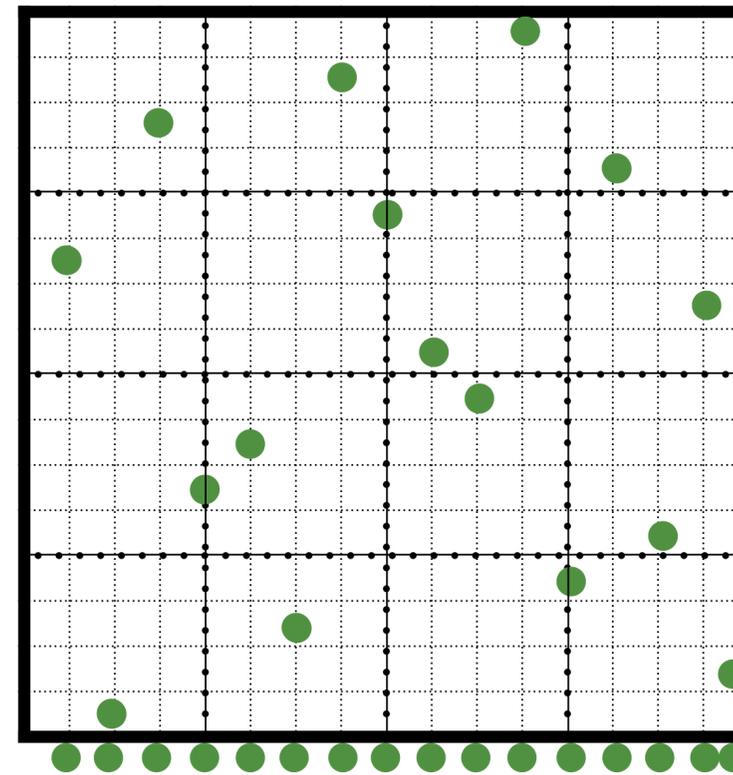
# Anisotropic Sampling Power Spectra



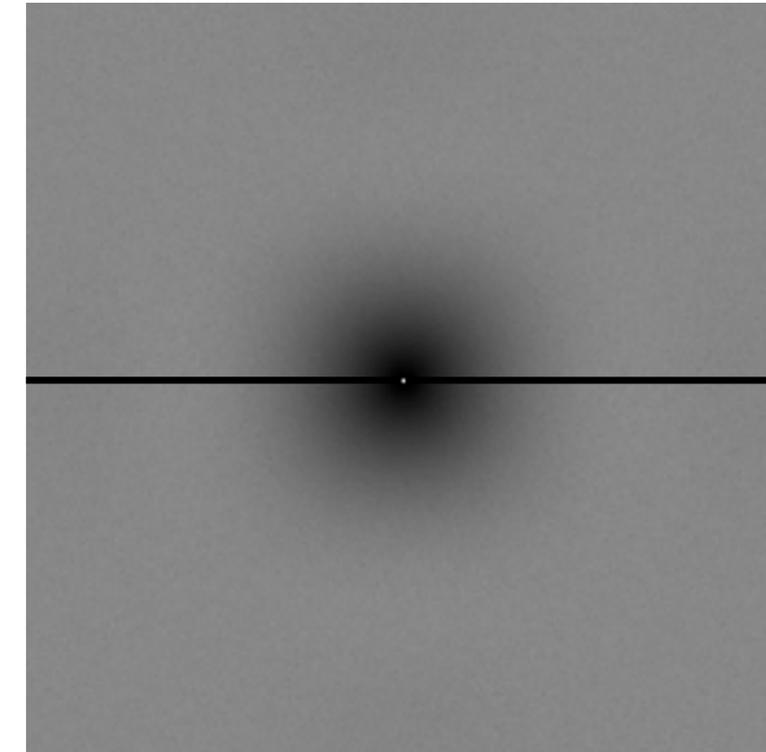
N-rooks /  
Latin Hypercube



N-rooks  
Spectrum



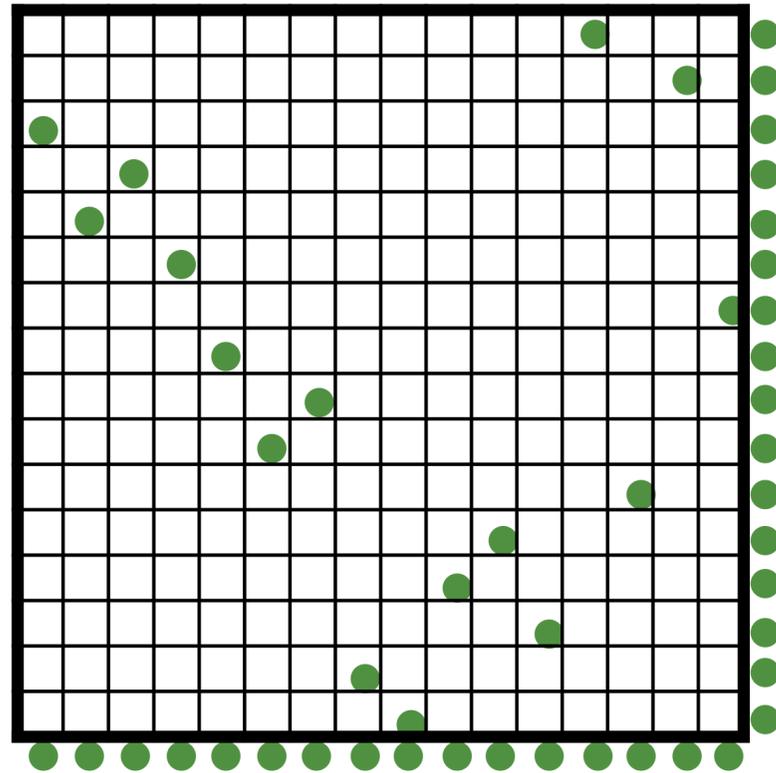
Multi-jitter



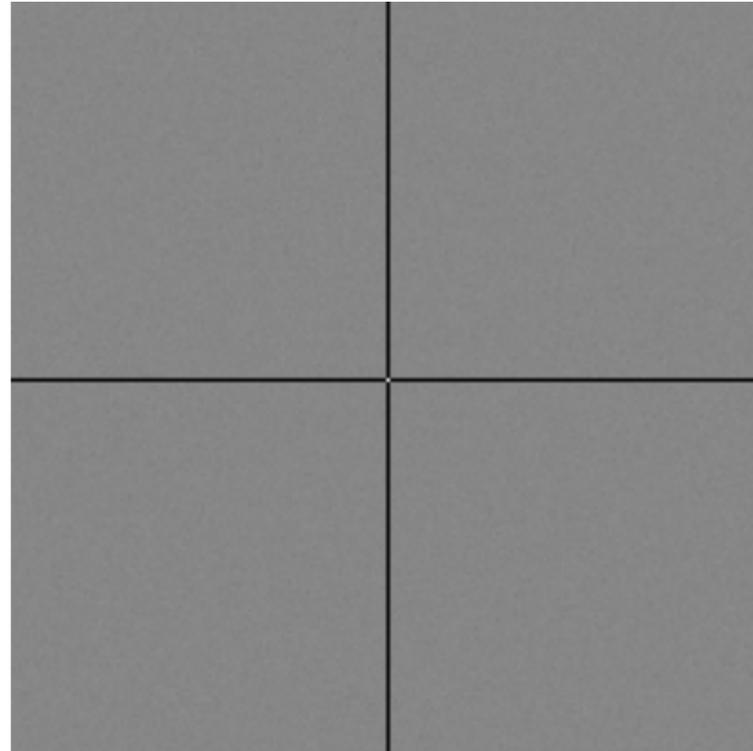
Multi-Jitter  
Spectrum

Chiu et al. [1993]

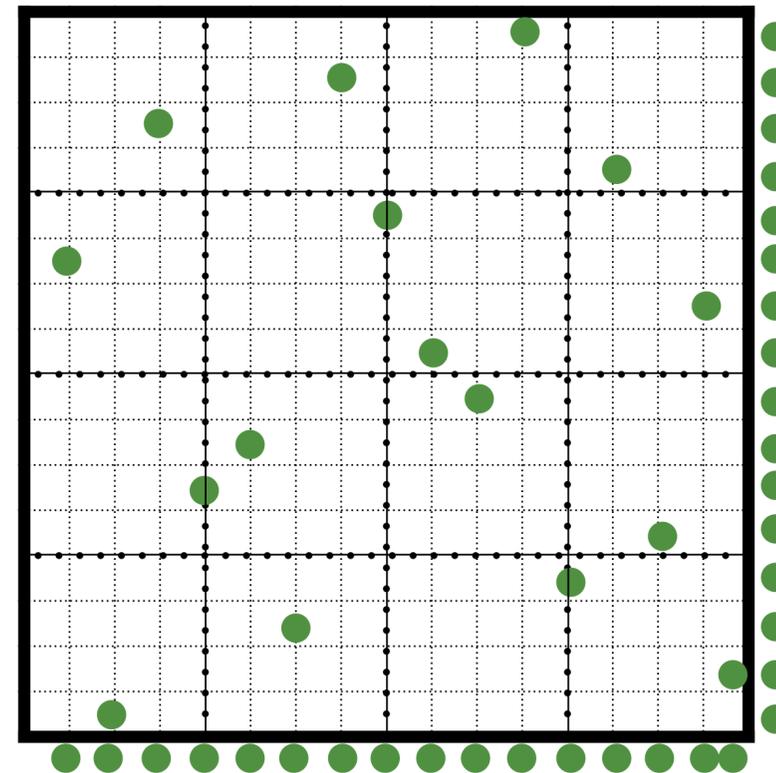
# Anisotropic Sampling Power Spectra



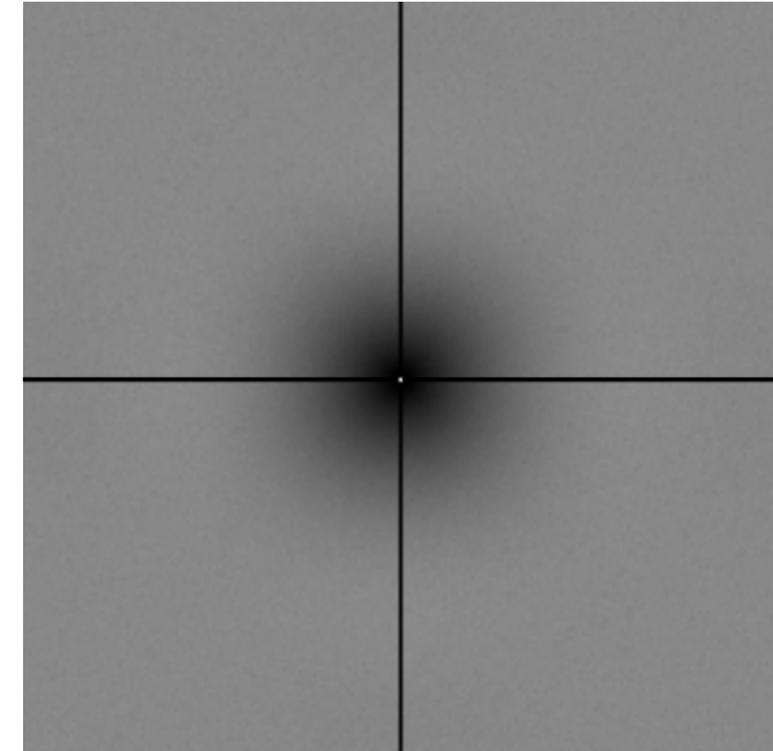
N-rooks /  
Latin Hypercube



N-rooks  
Spectrum



Multi-jitter

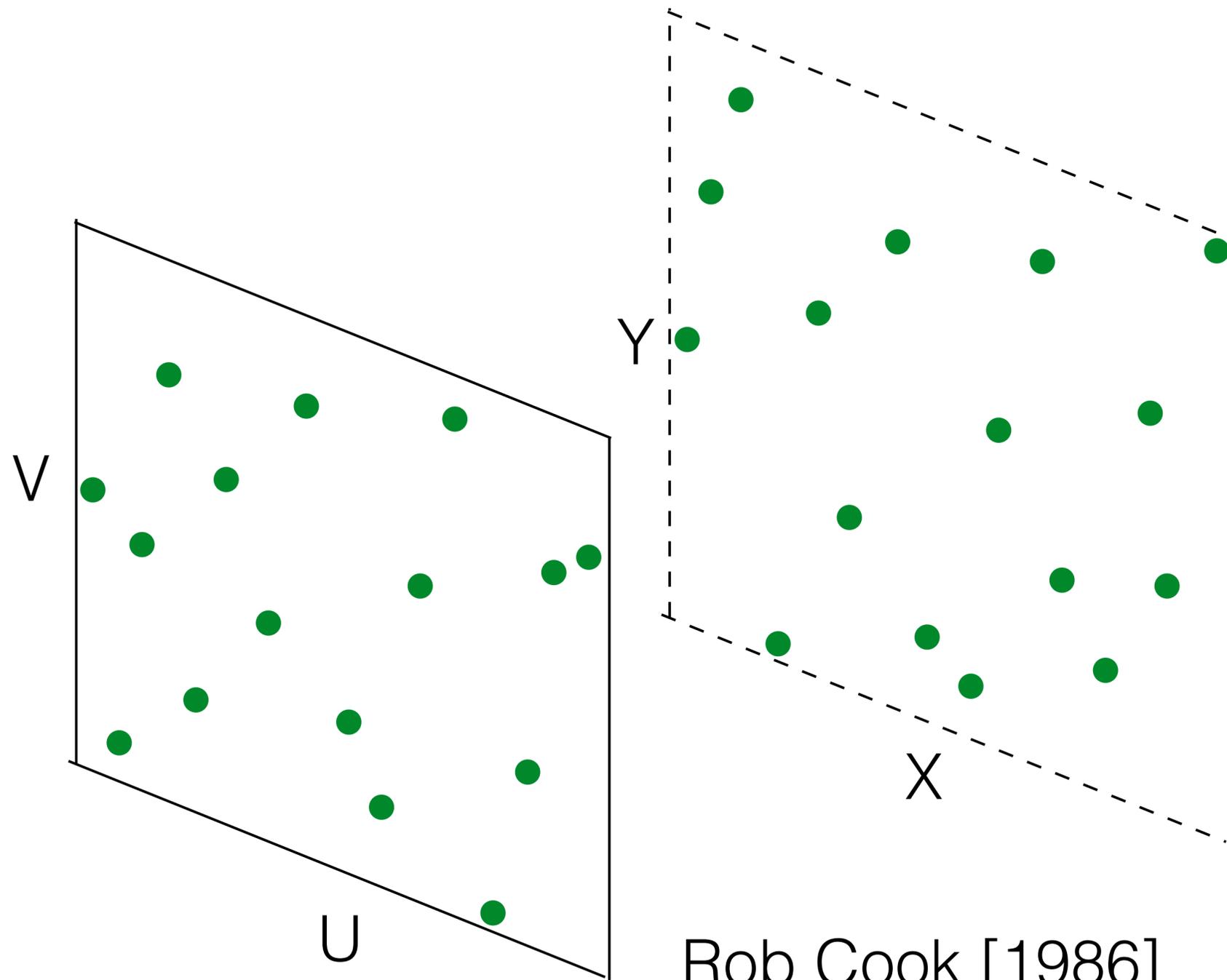


Multi-Jitter  
Spectrum

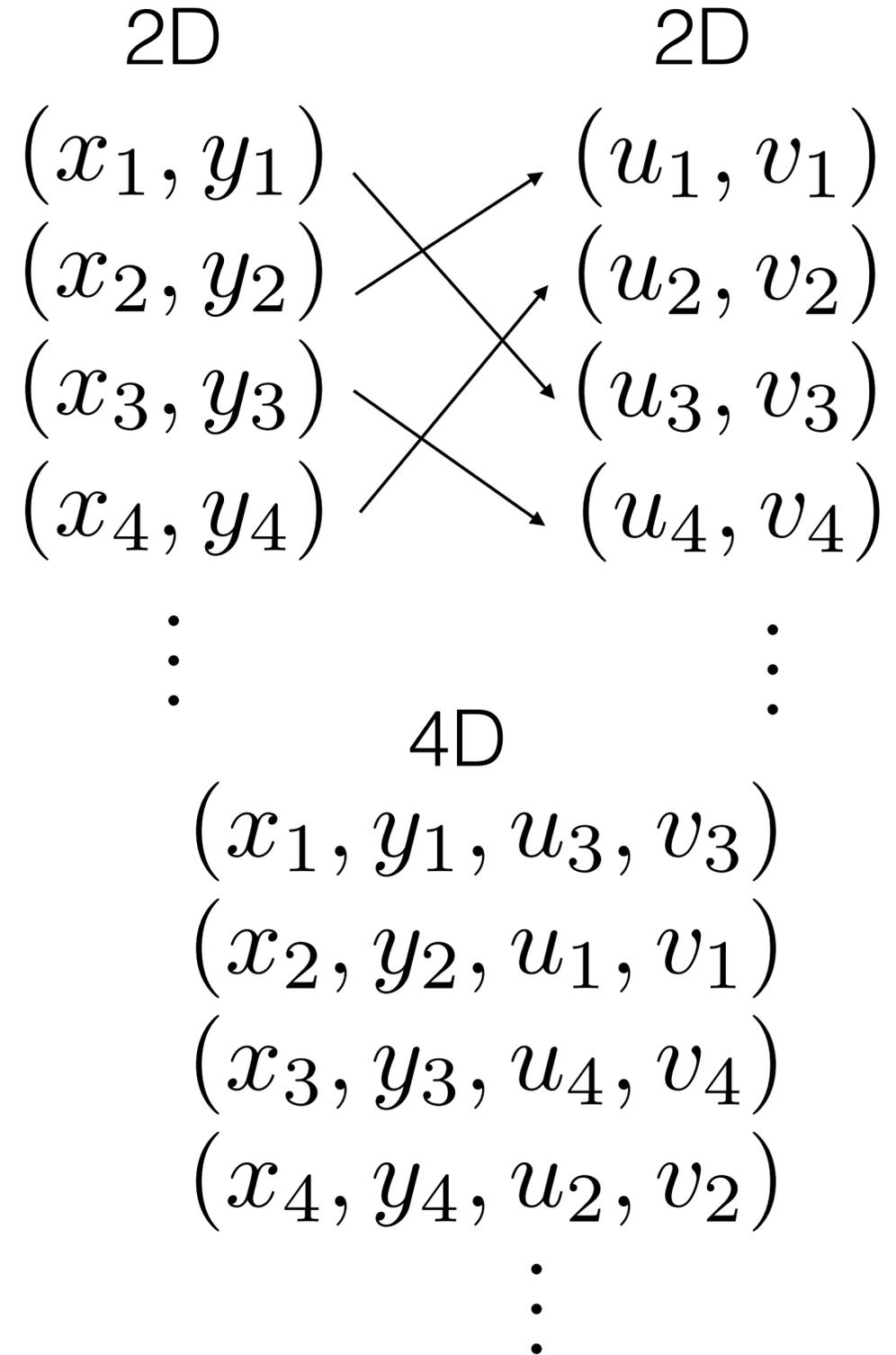
Chiu et al. [1993]

# Sampling in Higher Dimensions

# 4D Sampling

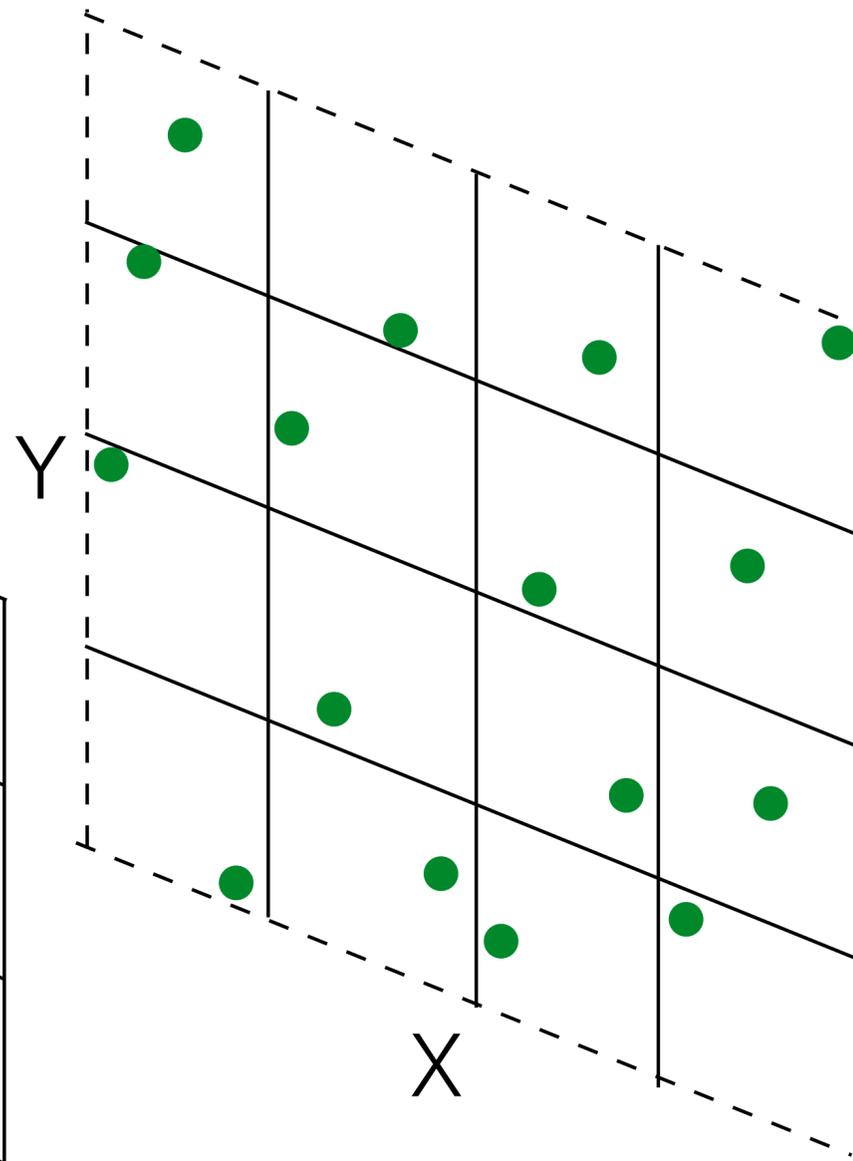
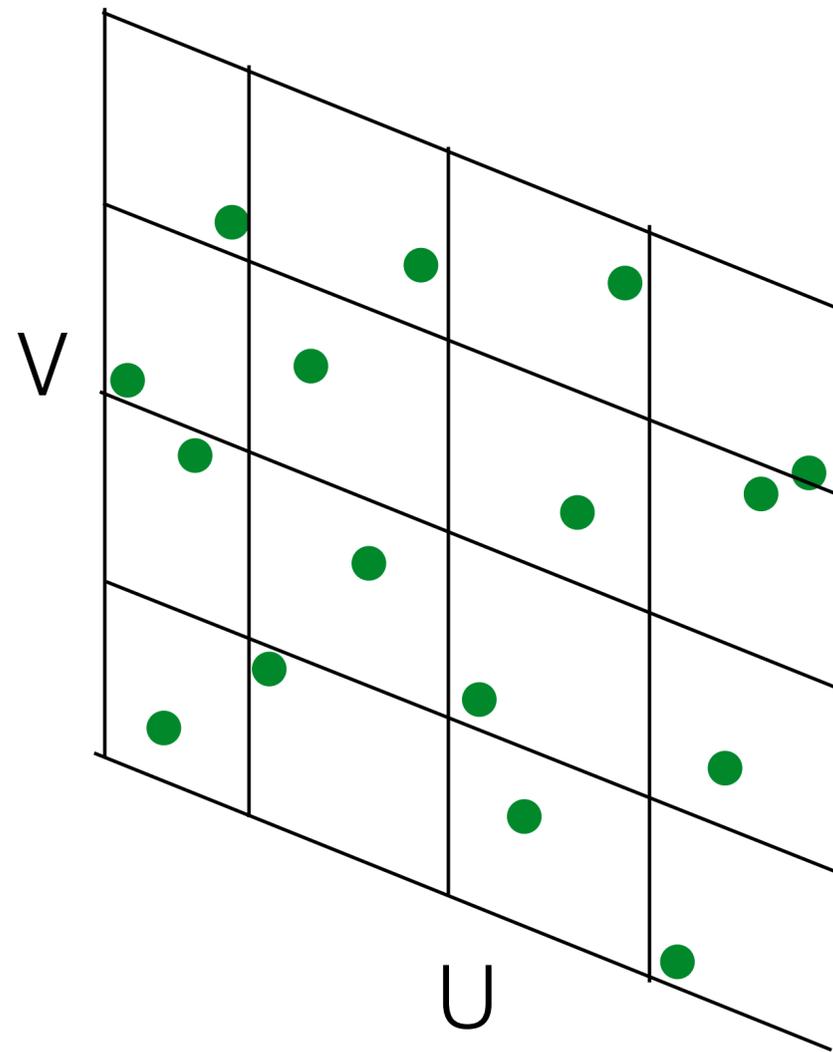


Rob Cook [1986]

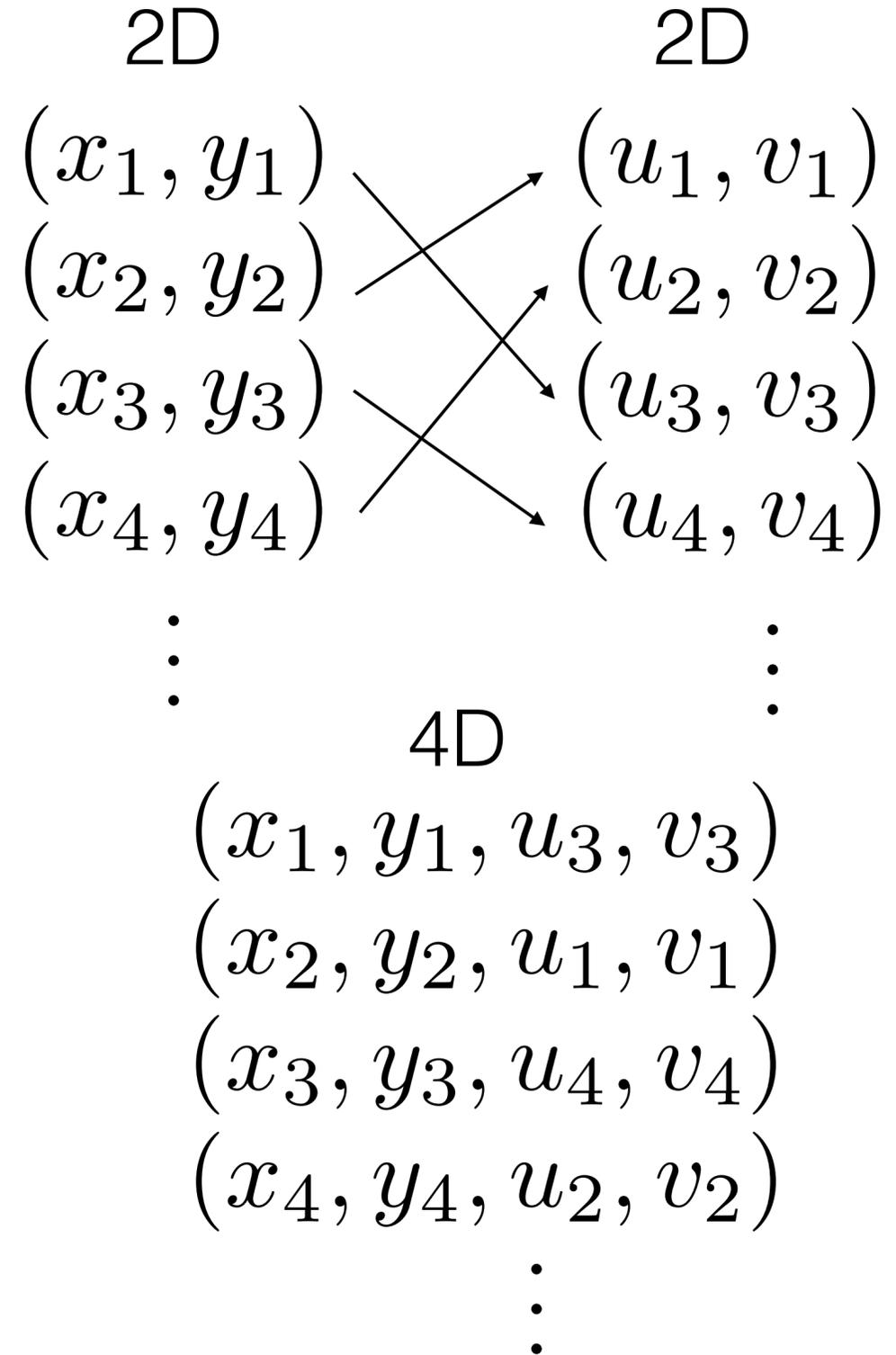


# 4D Sampling

Uncorrelated  
Jitter

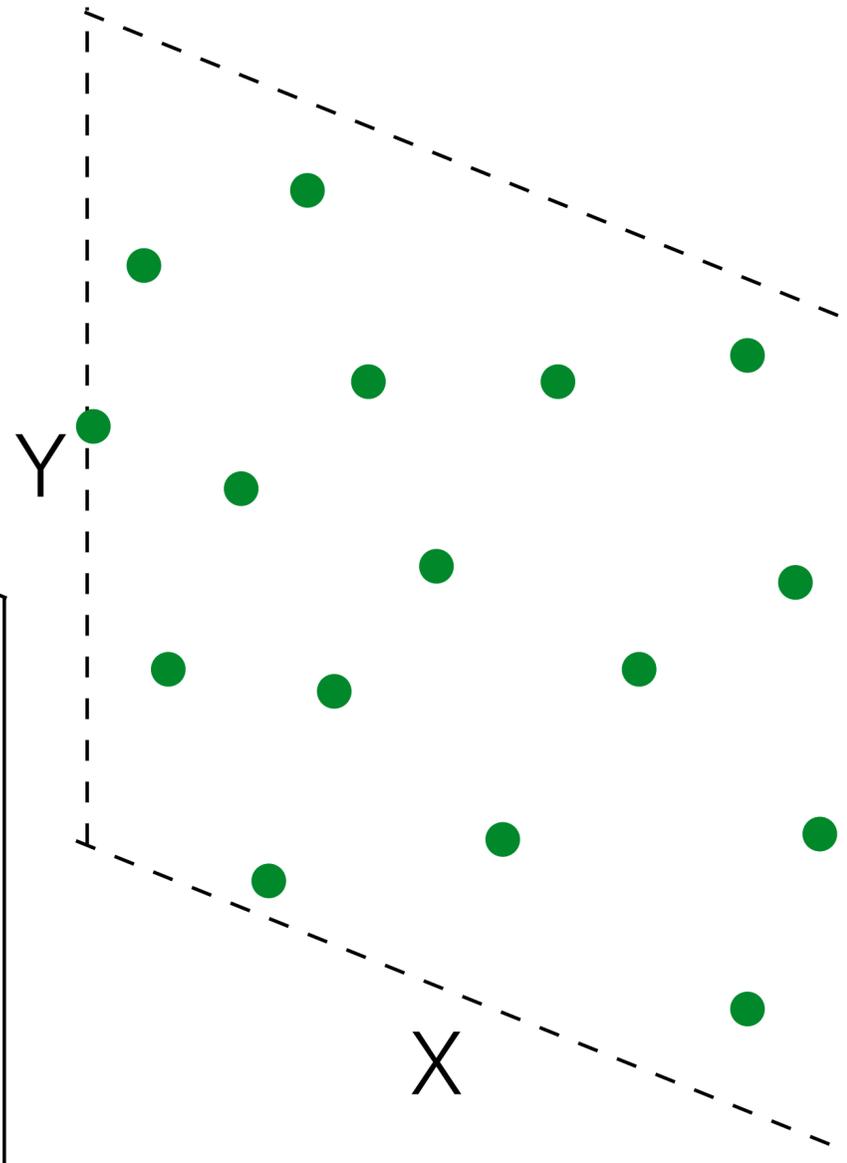
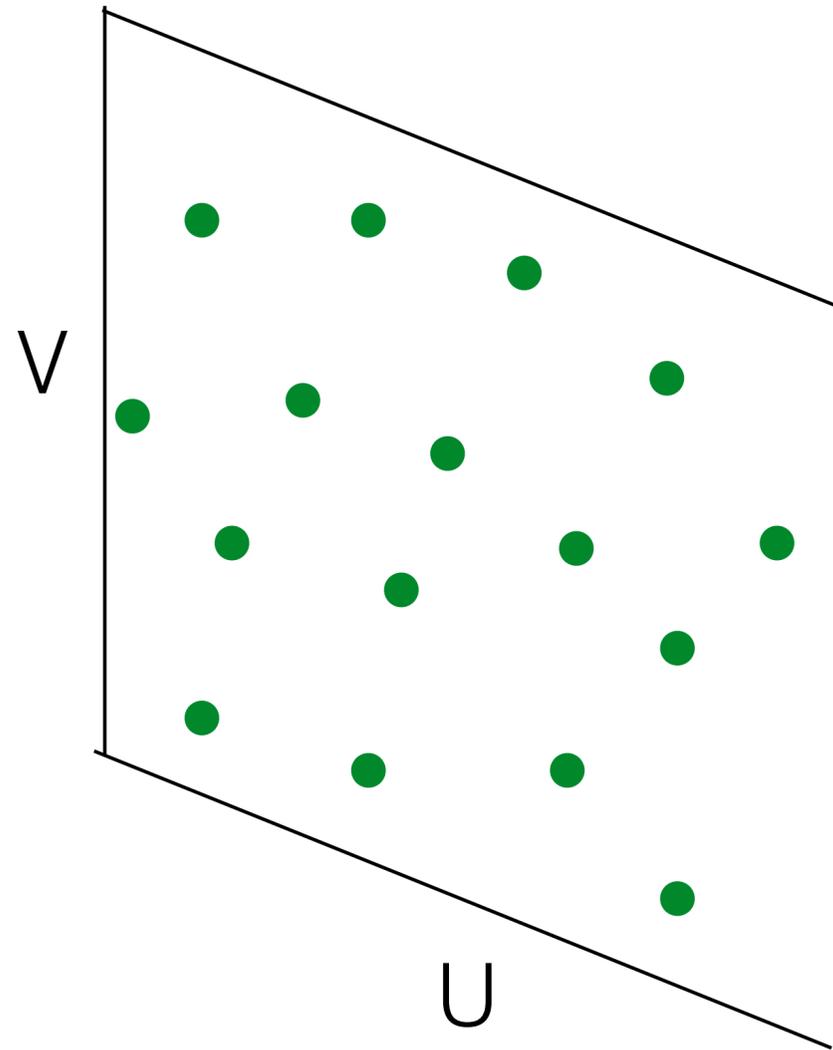


Rob Cook [1986]

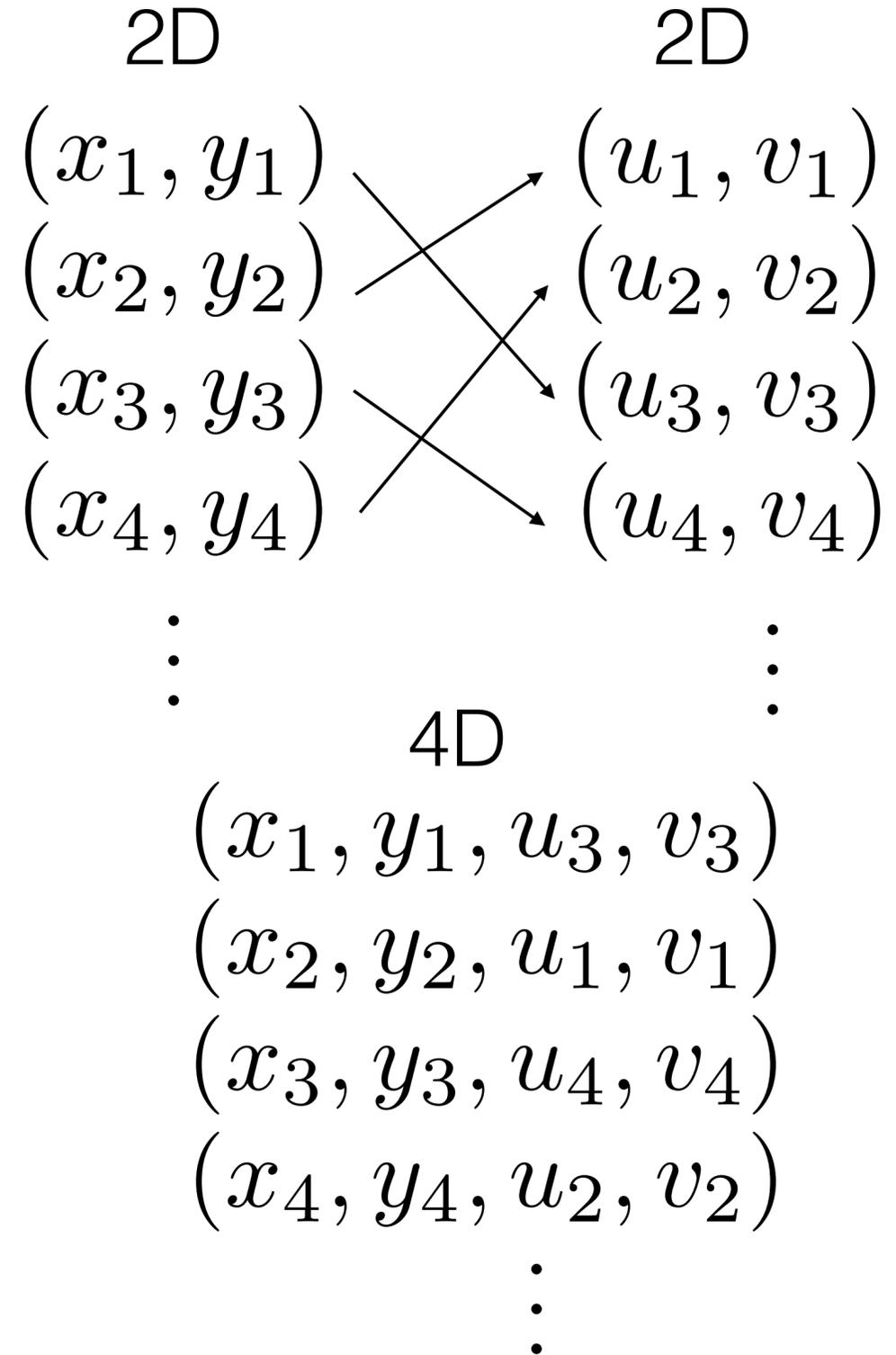


# 4D Sampling

Uncorrelated  
Poisson Disk

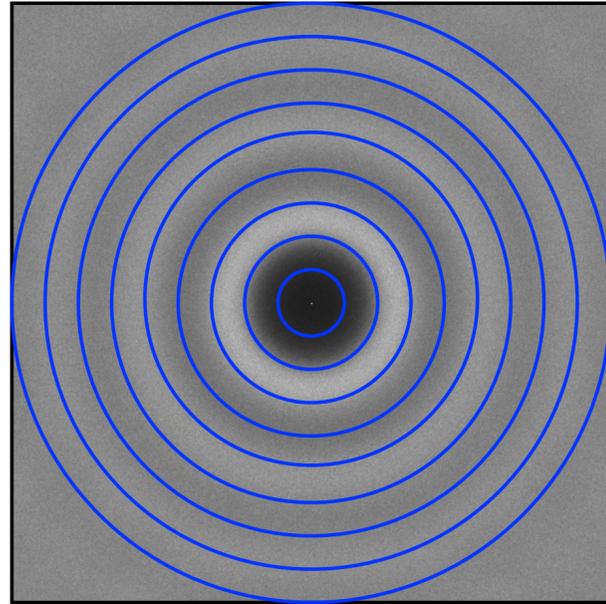


Rob Cook [1986]

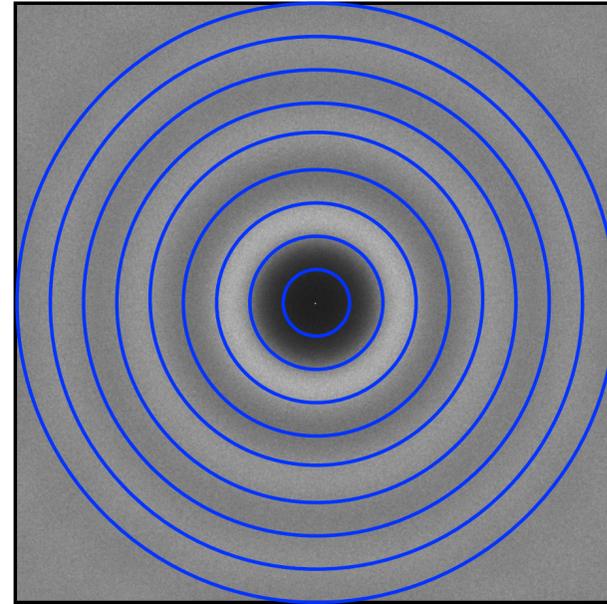


# 4D Sampling Spectra along Projections

Poisson Disk Spectra

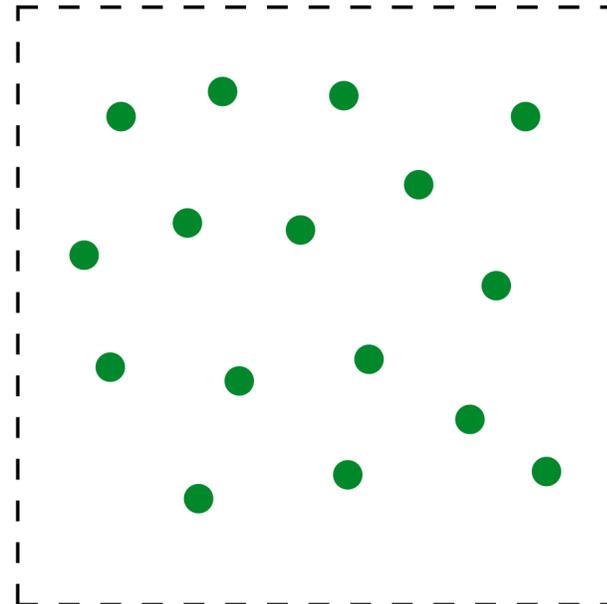
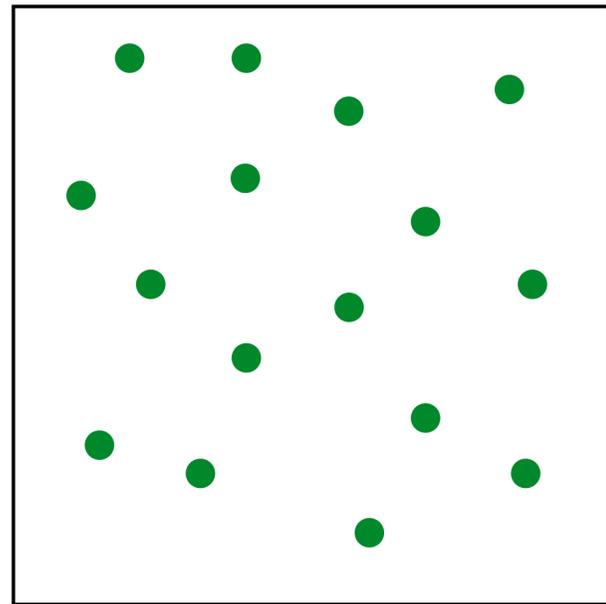


UV



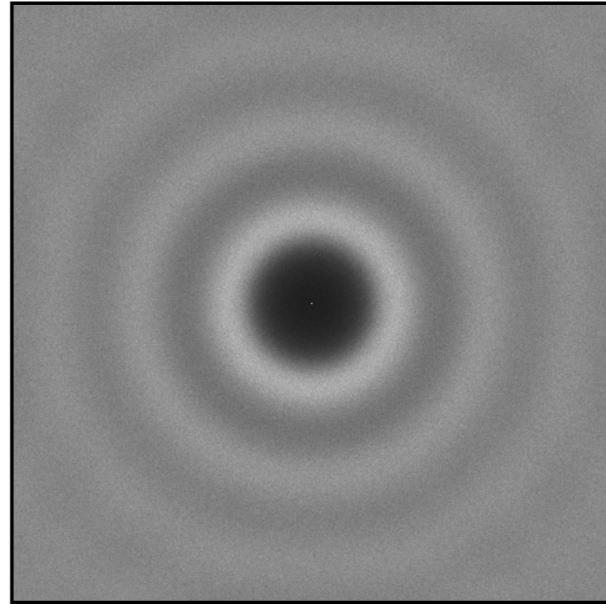
XY

Poisson Disk Samples

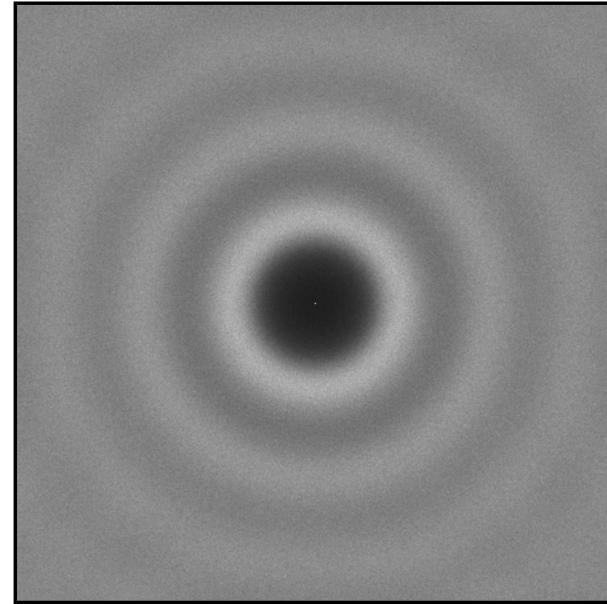


# 4D Sampling Spectra along Projections

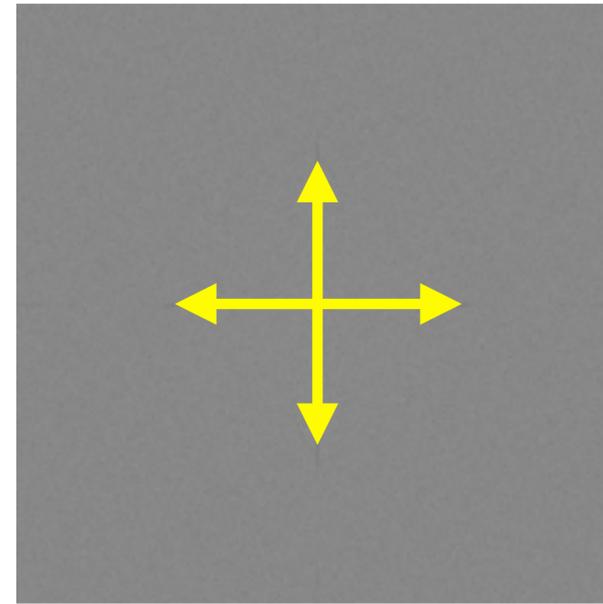
Poisson Disk  
Spectra



UV

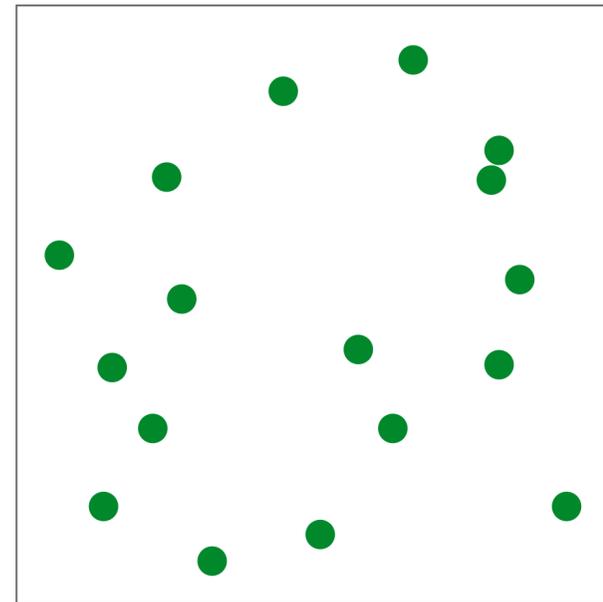
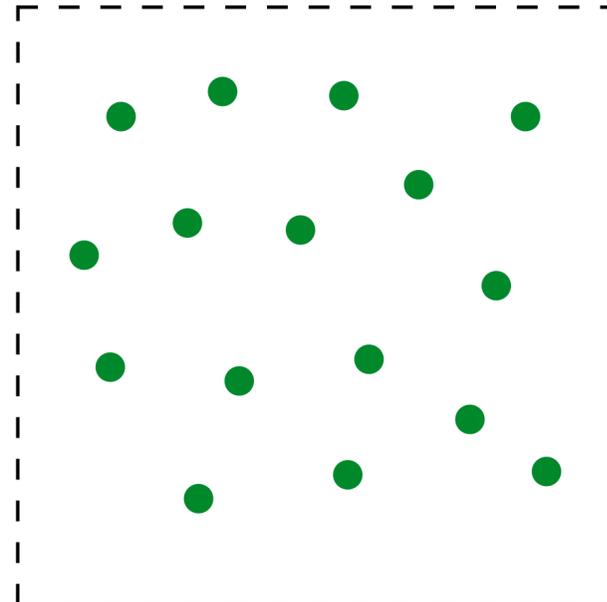
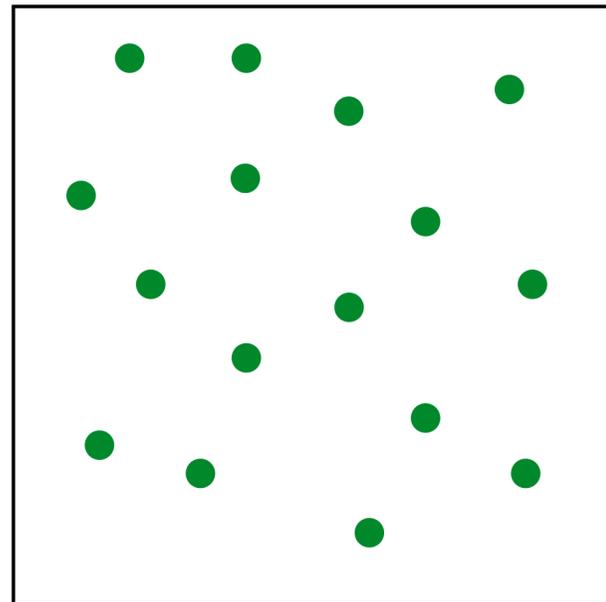


XY



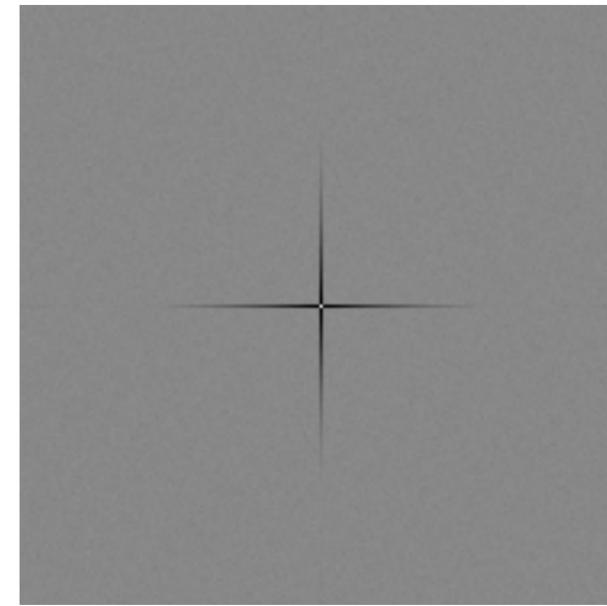
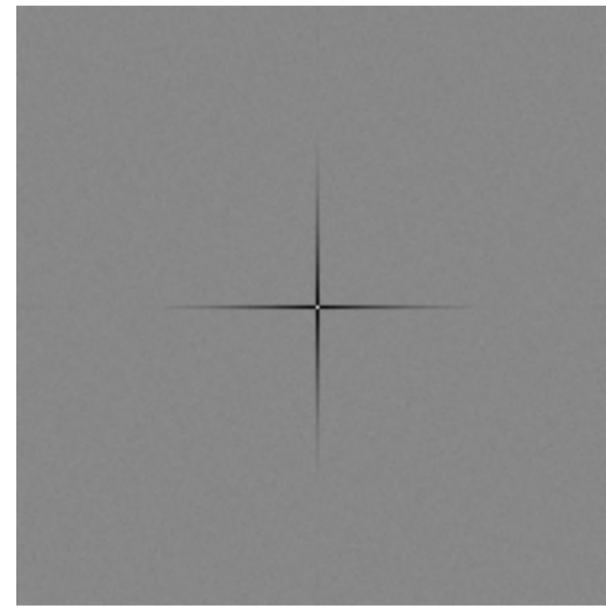
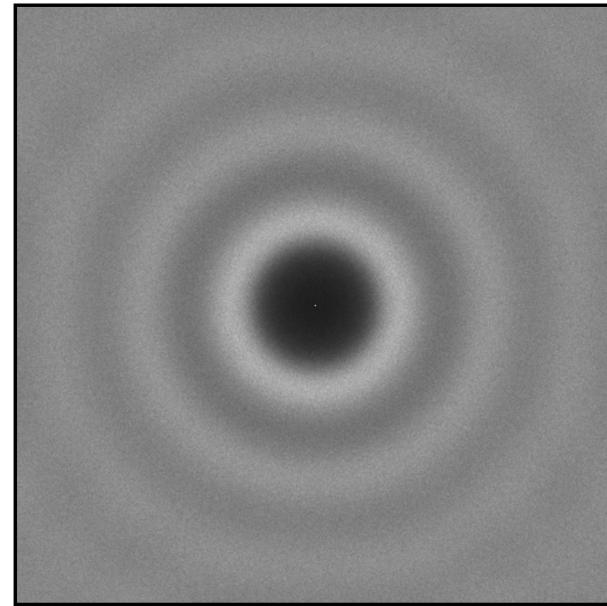
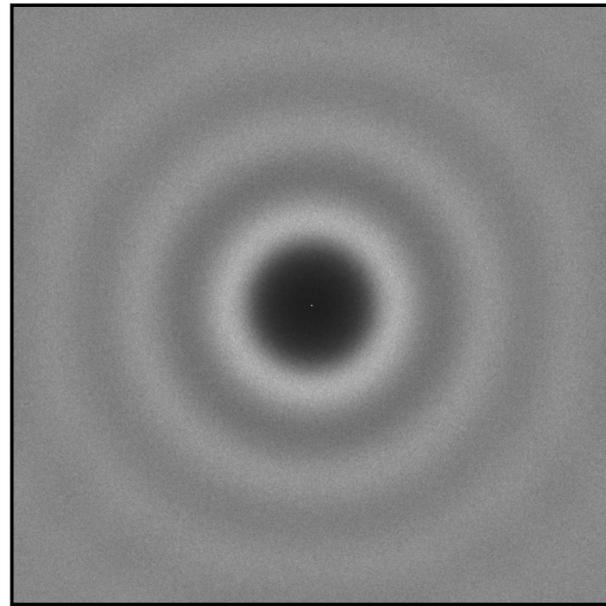
XU

Poisson Disk  
Samples



# 4D Sampling Spectra along Projections

Poisson Disk  
Spectra



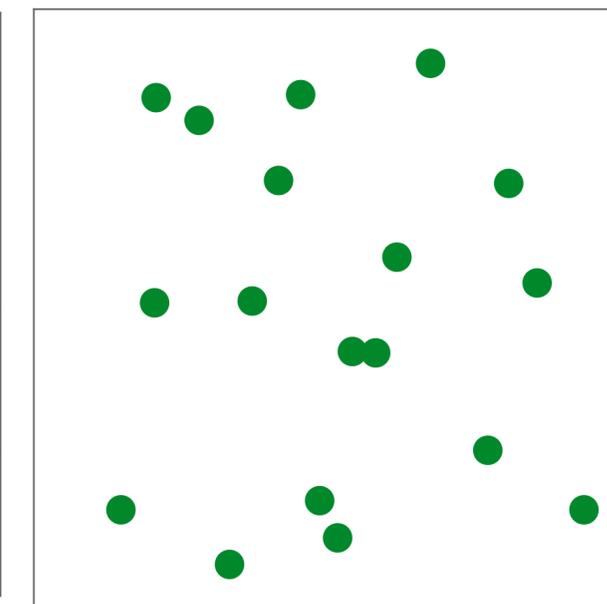
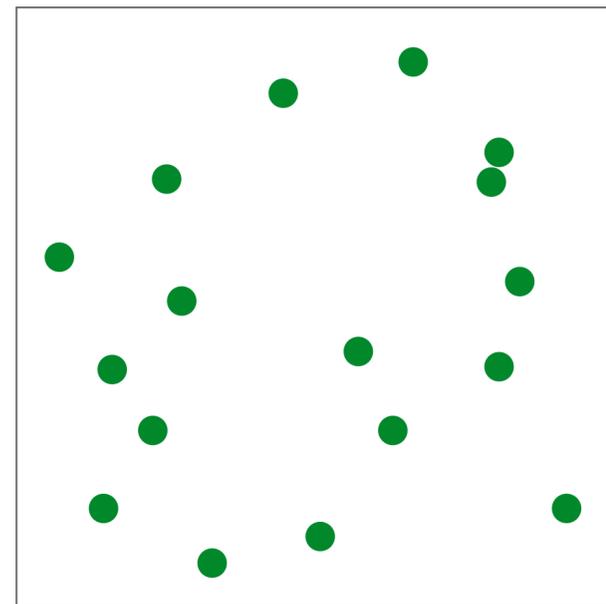
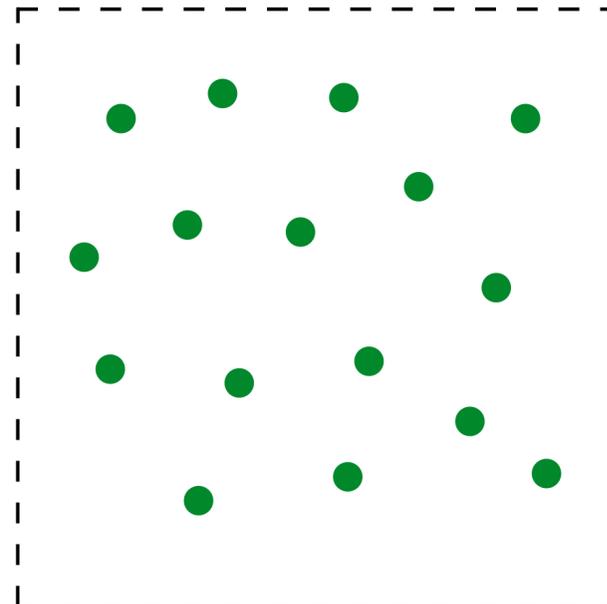
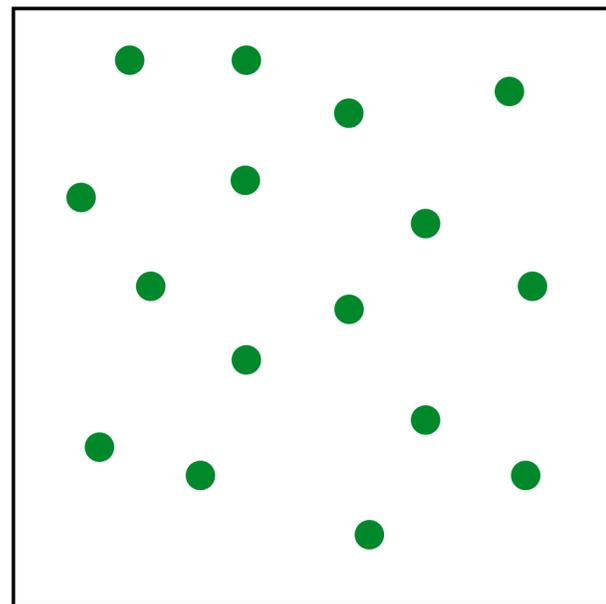
UV

XY

XU

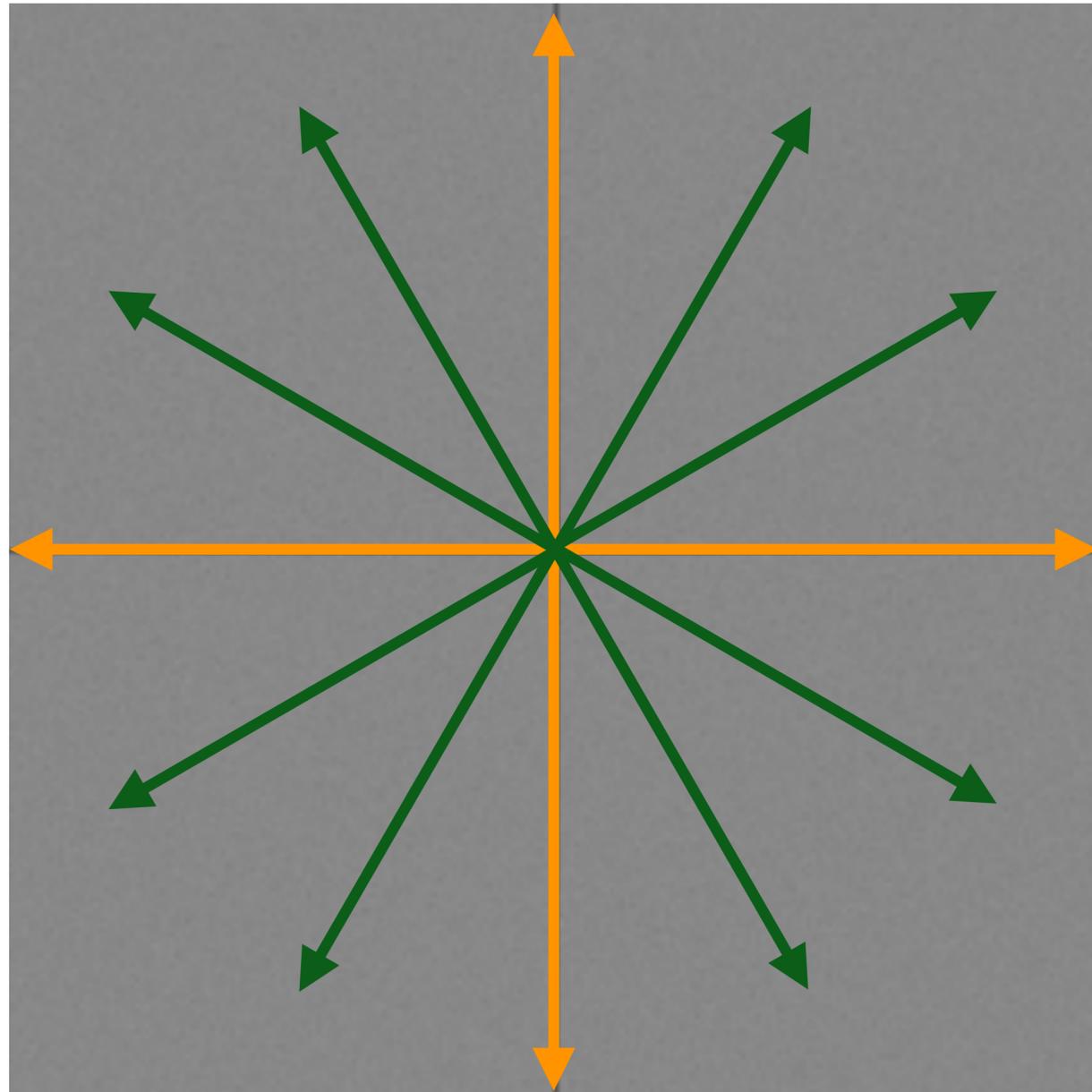
YV

Poisson Disk  
Samples

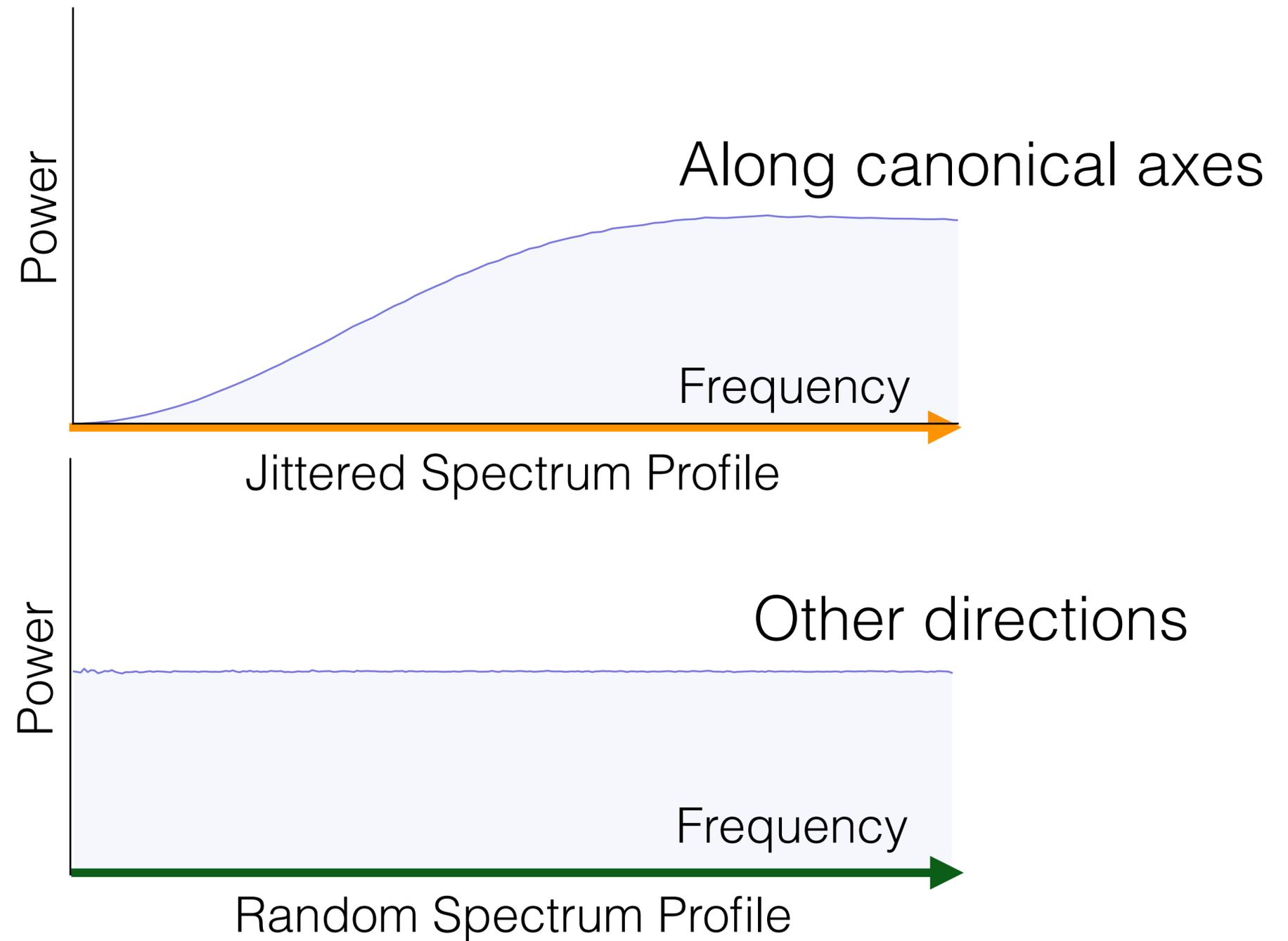


# Convergence Analysis for Anisotropic Sampling Spectra

## Power Spectrum

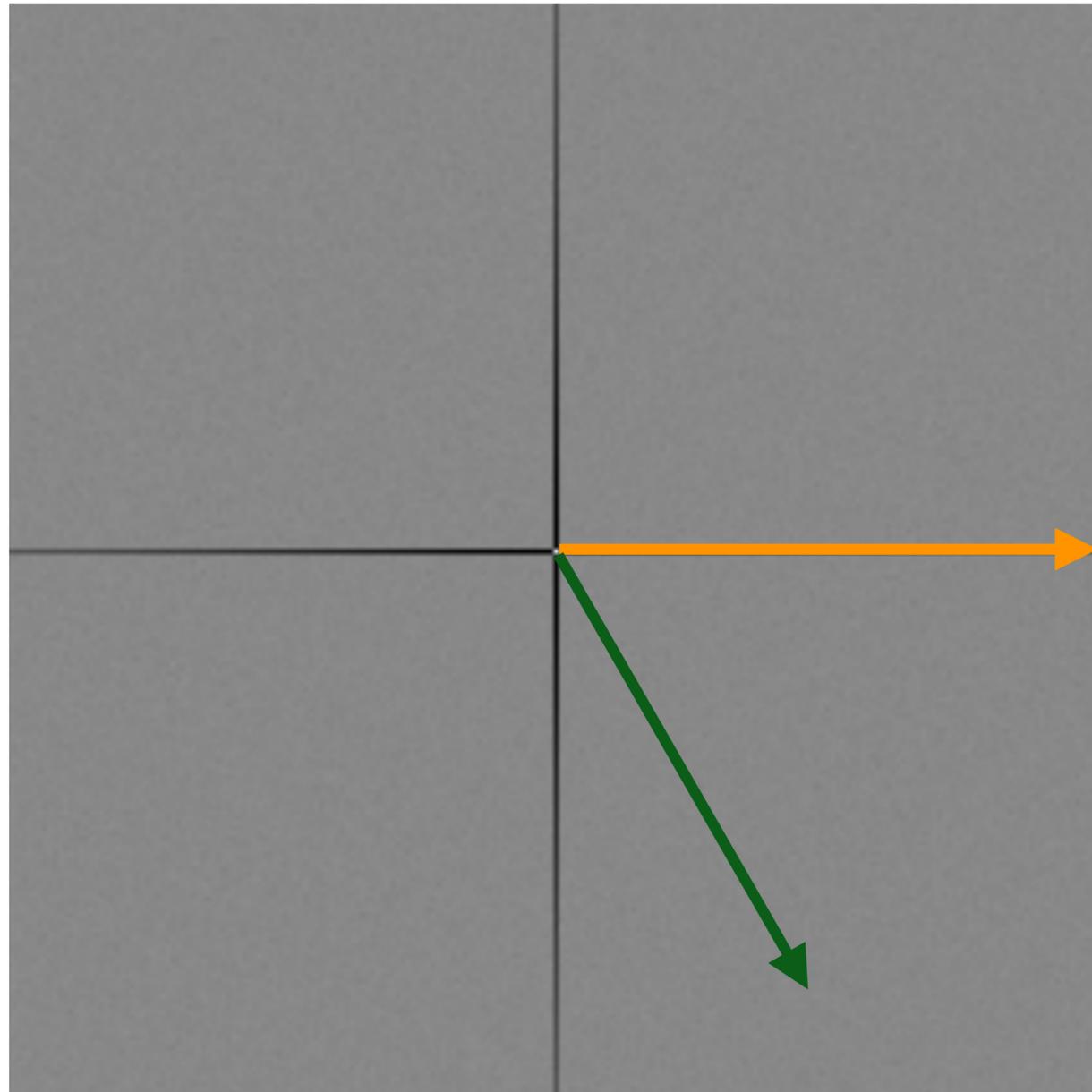


## Radial Power Spectrum

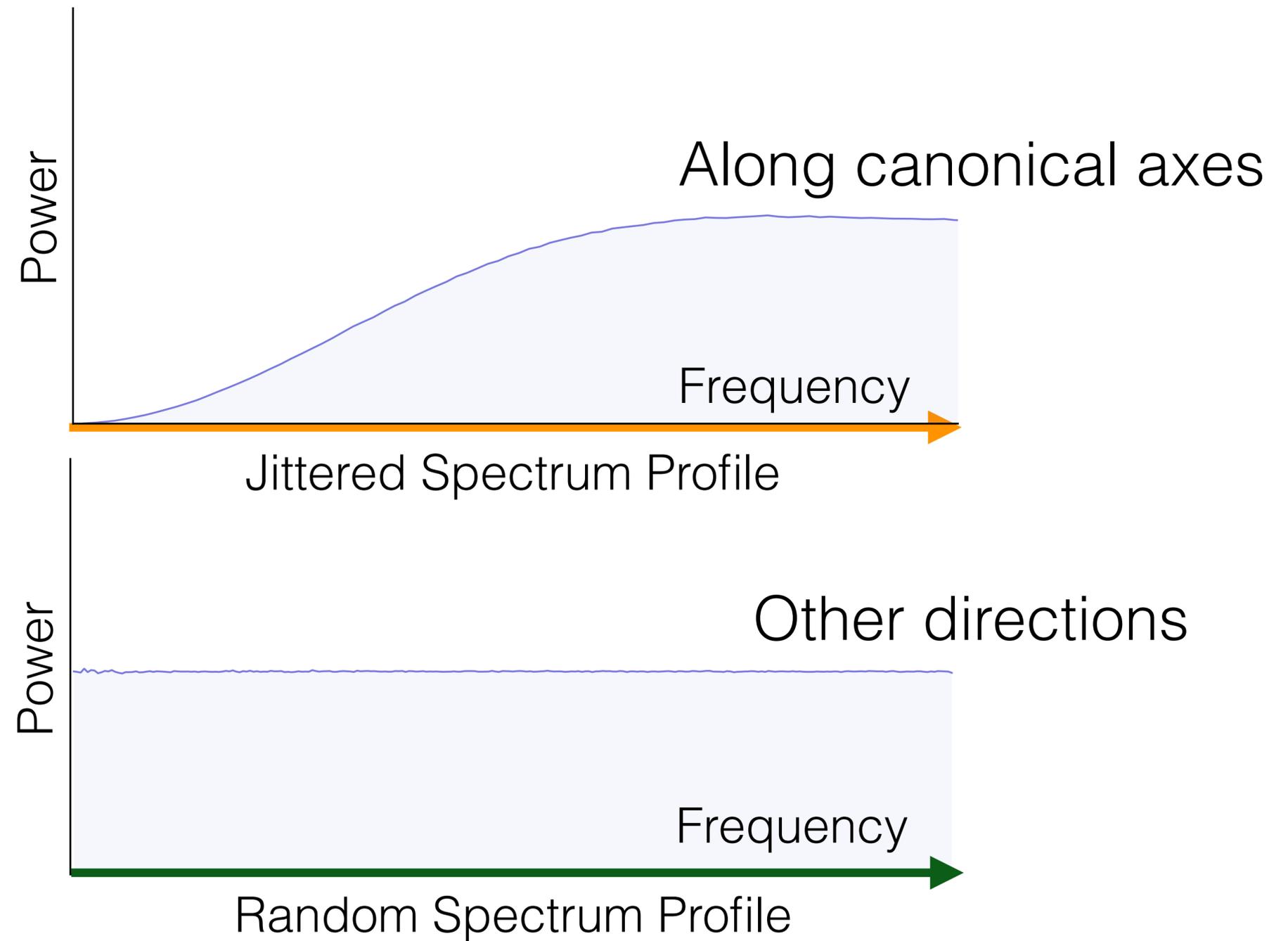


# Convergence Analysis for Anisotropic Sampling Spectra

Power Spectrum



Radial Power Spectrum



# Variance due to N-rooks Sampler

$$\text{Var}(I_N) = \sum_{\Omega} \langle \mathcal{P}_{S_N}(\nu) \rangle \times \mathcal{P}_f(\nu) = \sum_{\Omega} \dots$$

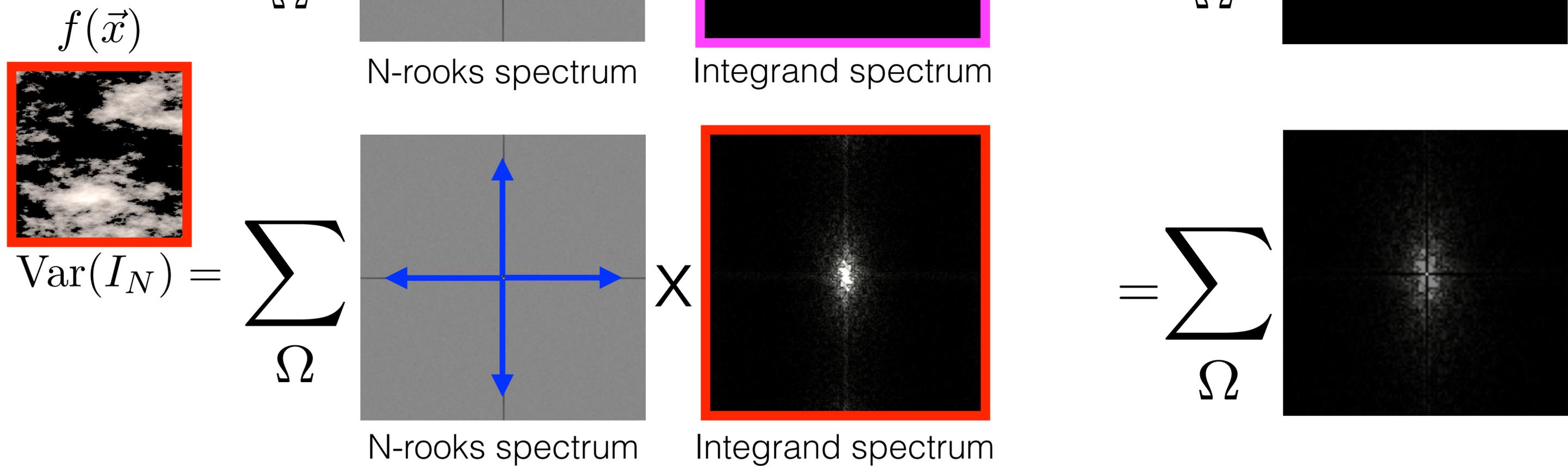
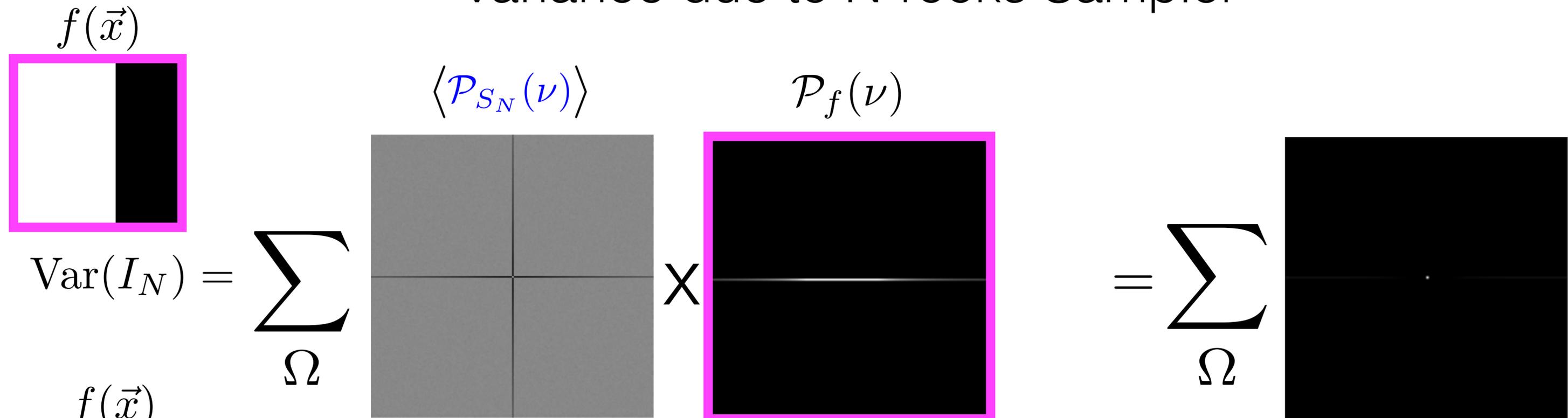
$f(\vec{x})$

$\langle \mathcal{P}_{S_N}(\nu) \rangle$   
 N-rooks spectrum

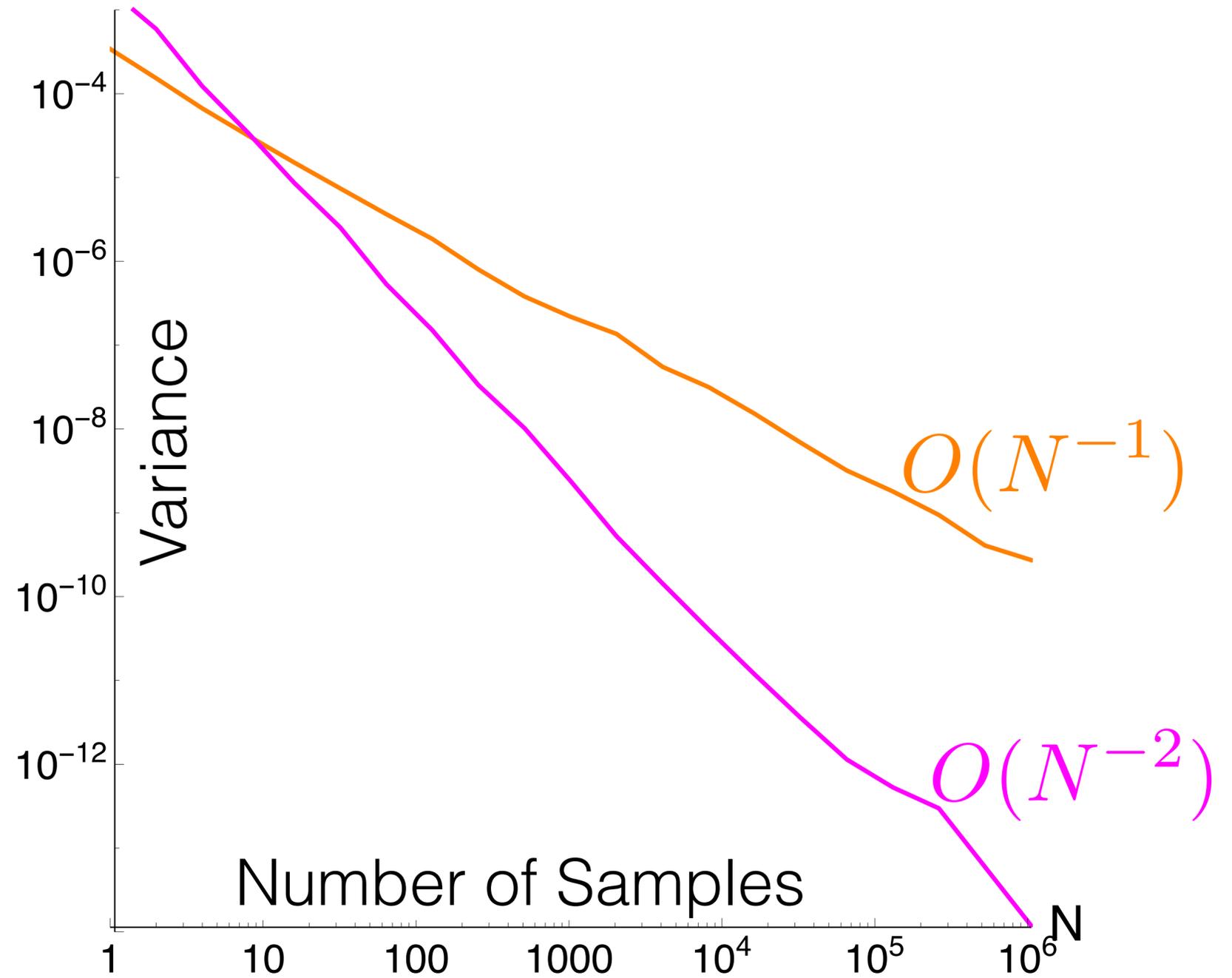
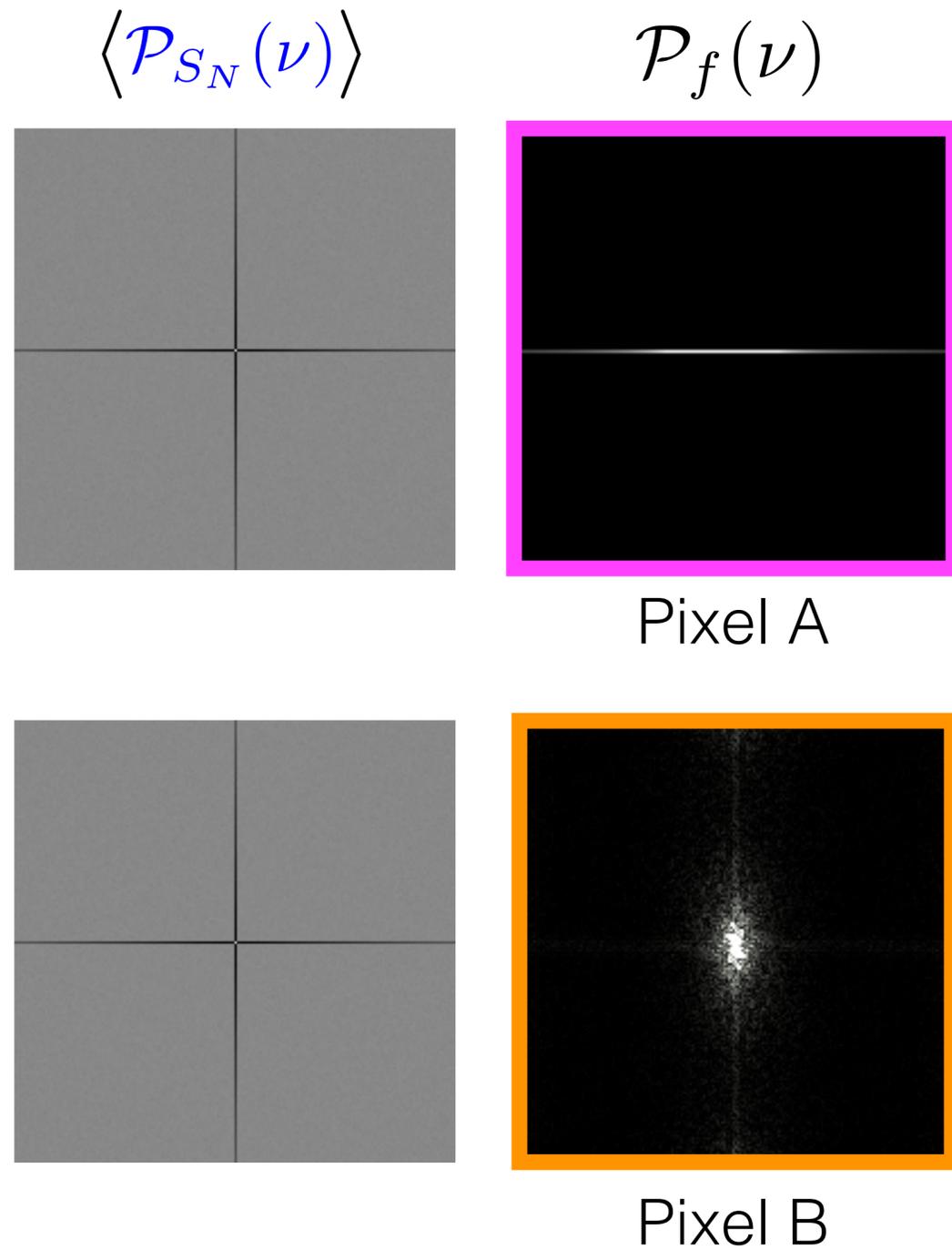
$\mathcal{P}_f(\nu)$   
 Integrand spectrum

$\Omega$

# Variance due to N-rooks Sampler

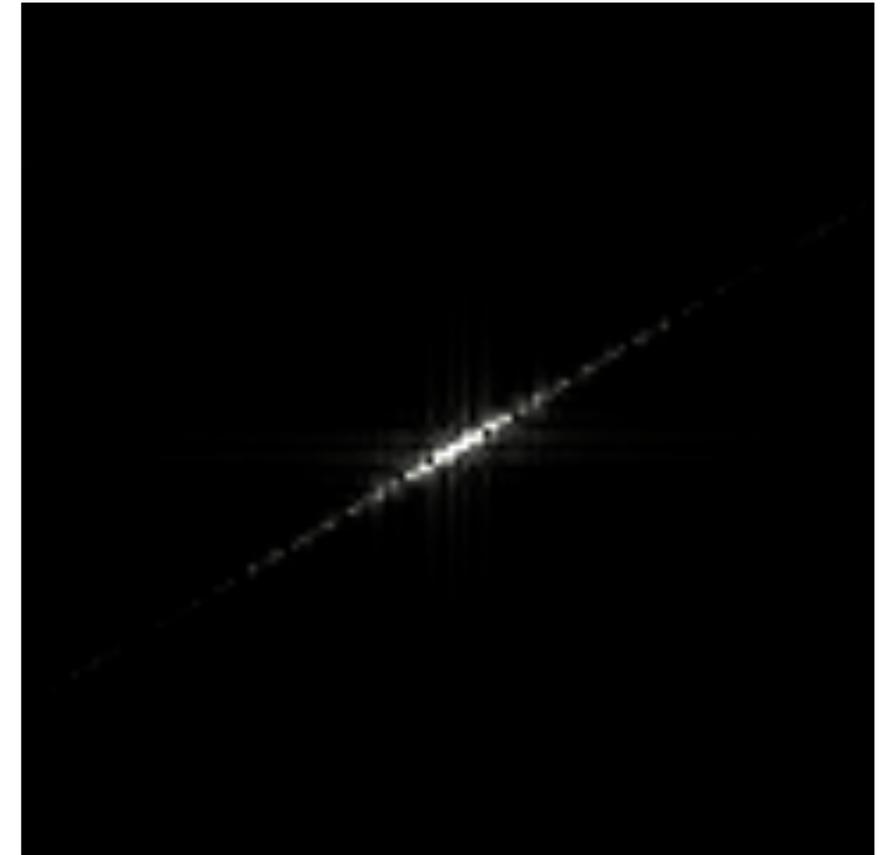


# Variance Convergence of Latin Hypercube (N-rooks)



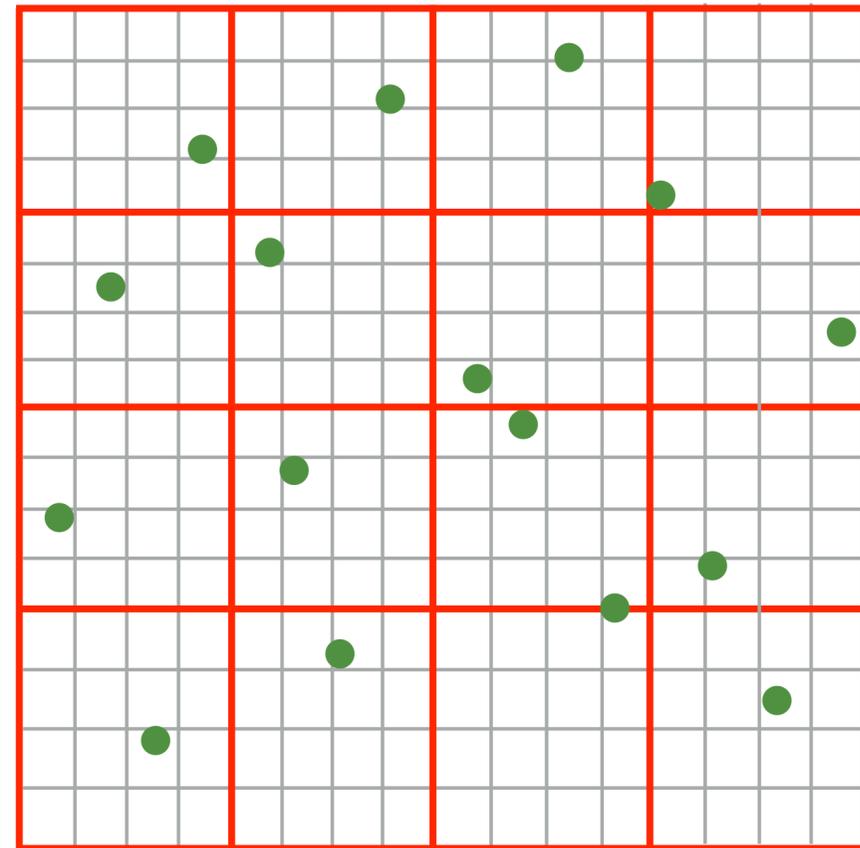
# Non-Axis Aligned Integrand Spectra

$$\mathcal{P}_f(\nu)$$



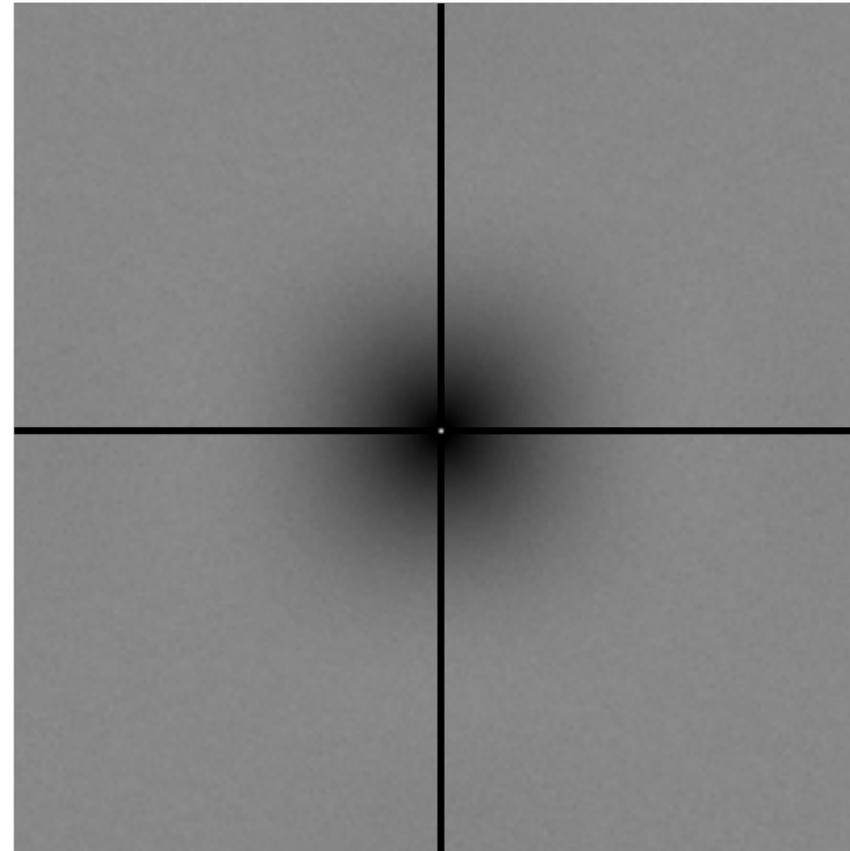
Integrand Spectrum

# Non-Axis Aligned Integrand Spectra



Multi-jittered Samples

$$\langle \mathcal{P}_{S_N}(\nu) \rangle$$



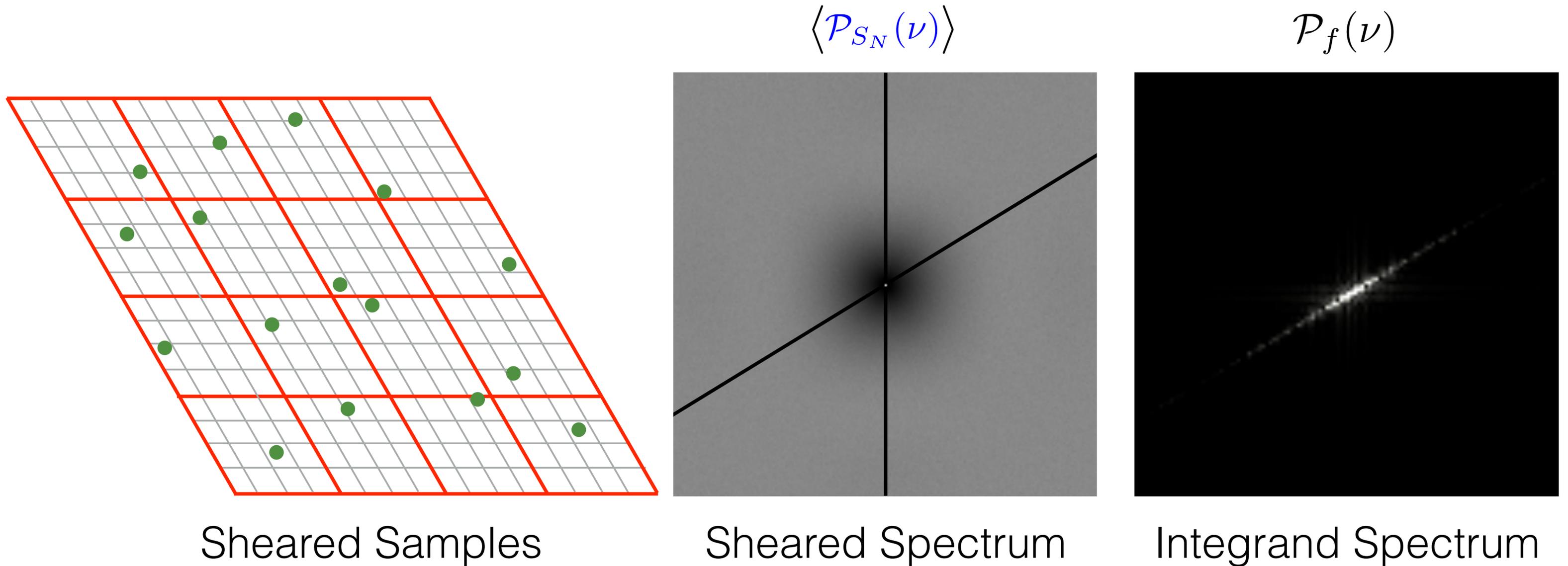
Sampling Spectrum

$$\mathcal{P}_f(\nu)$$



Integrand Spectrum

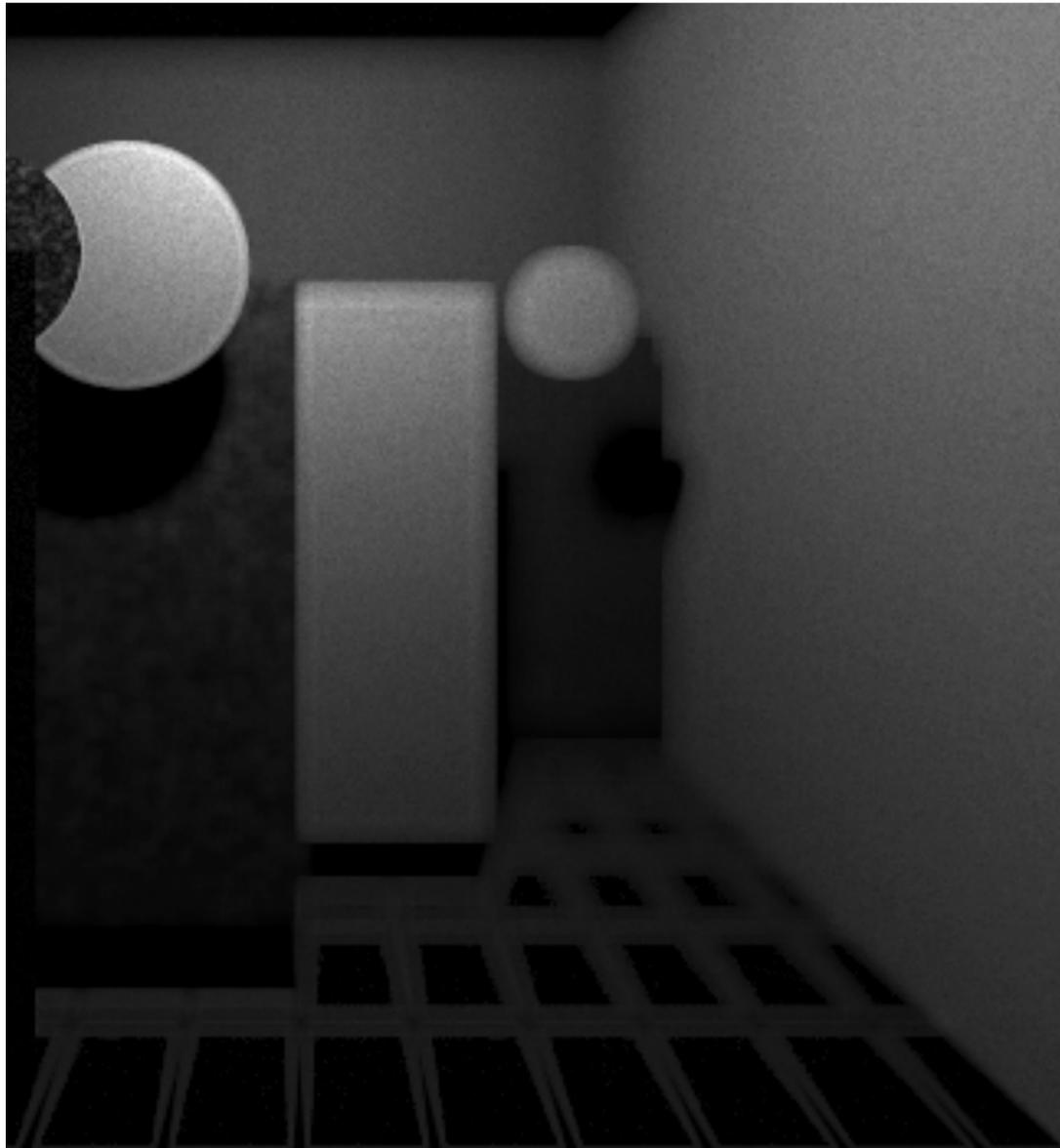
# Shearing Multi-Jittered Samples



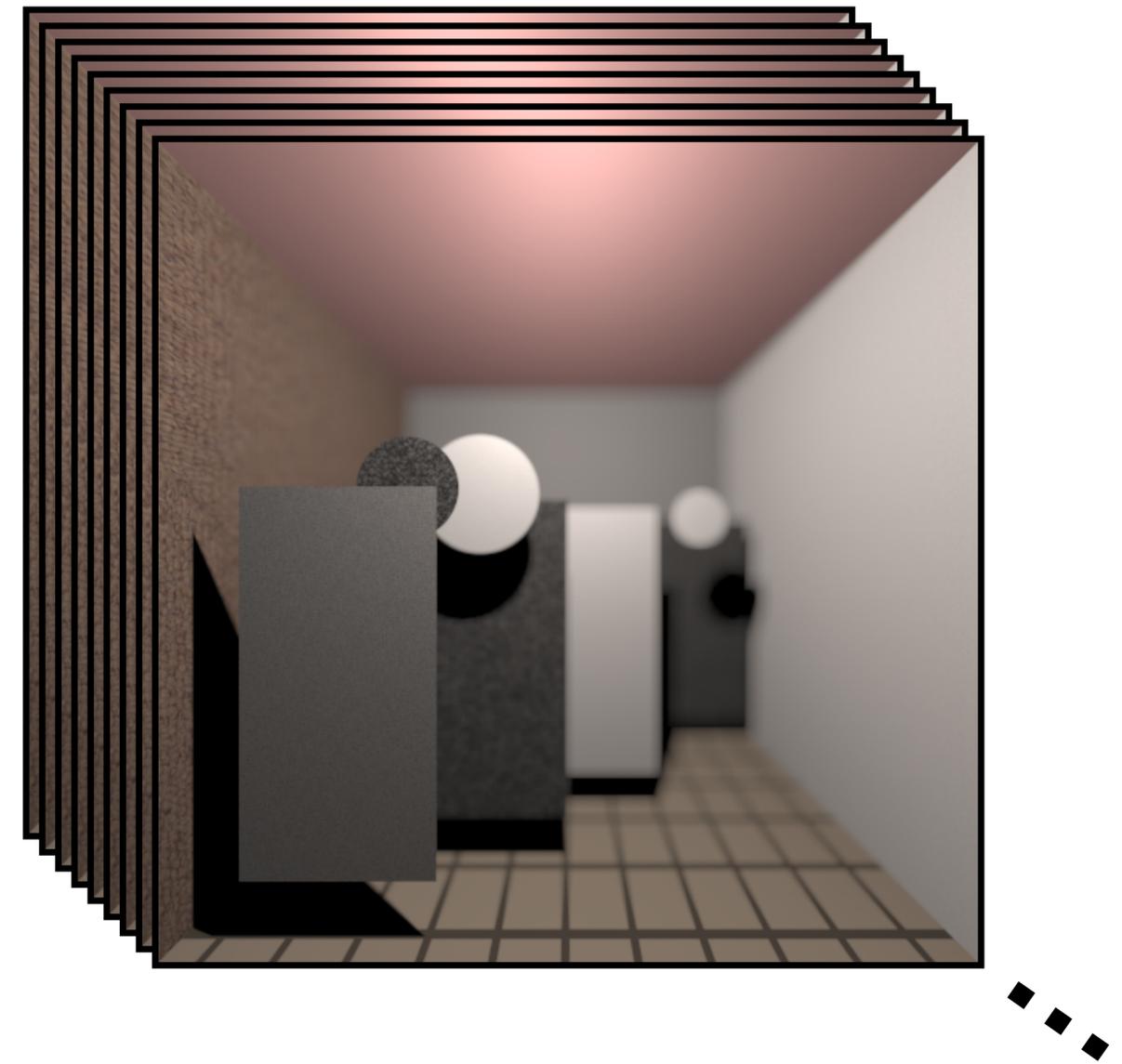
# Variance Heatmap

With Original Samples

Uncorrelated Multi-jittered



Multiple images

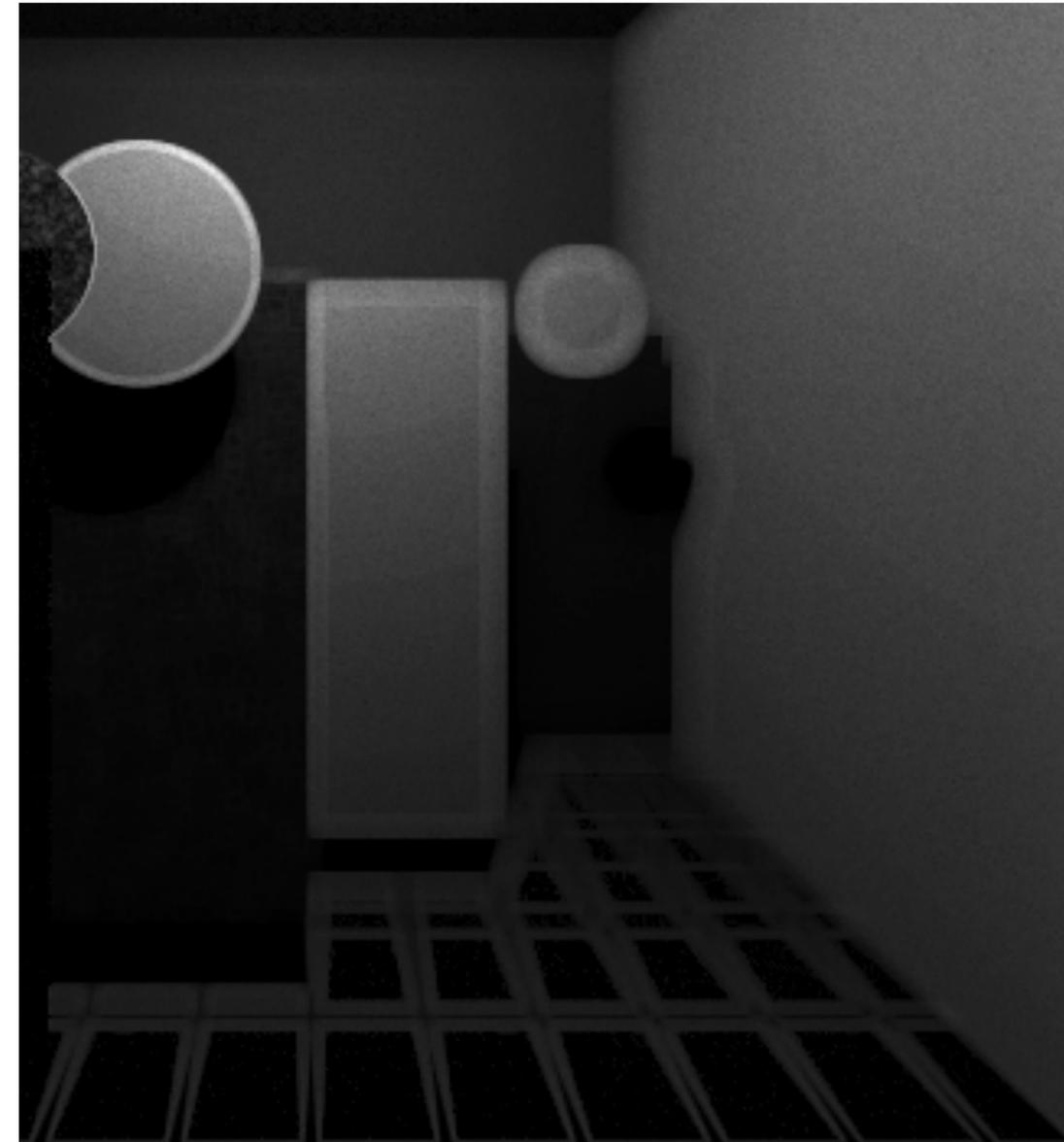
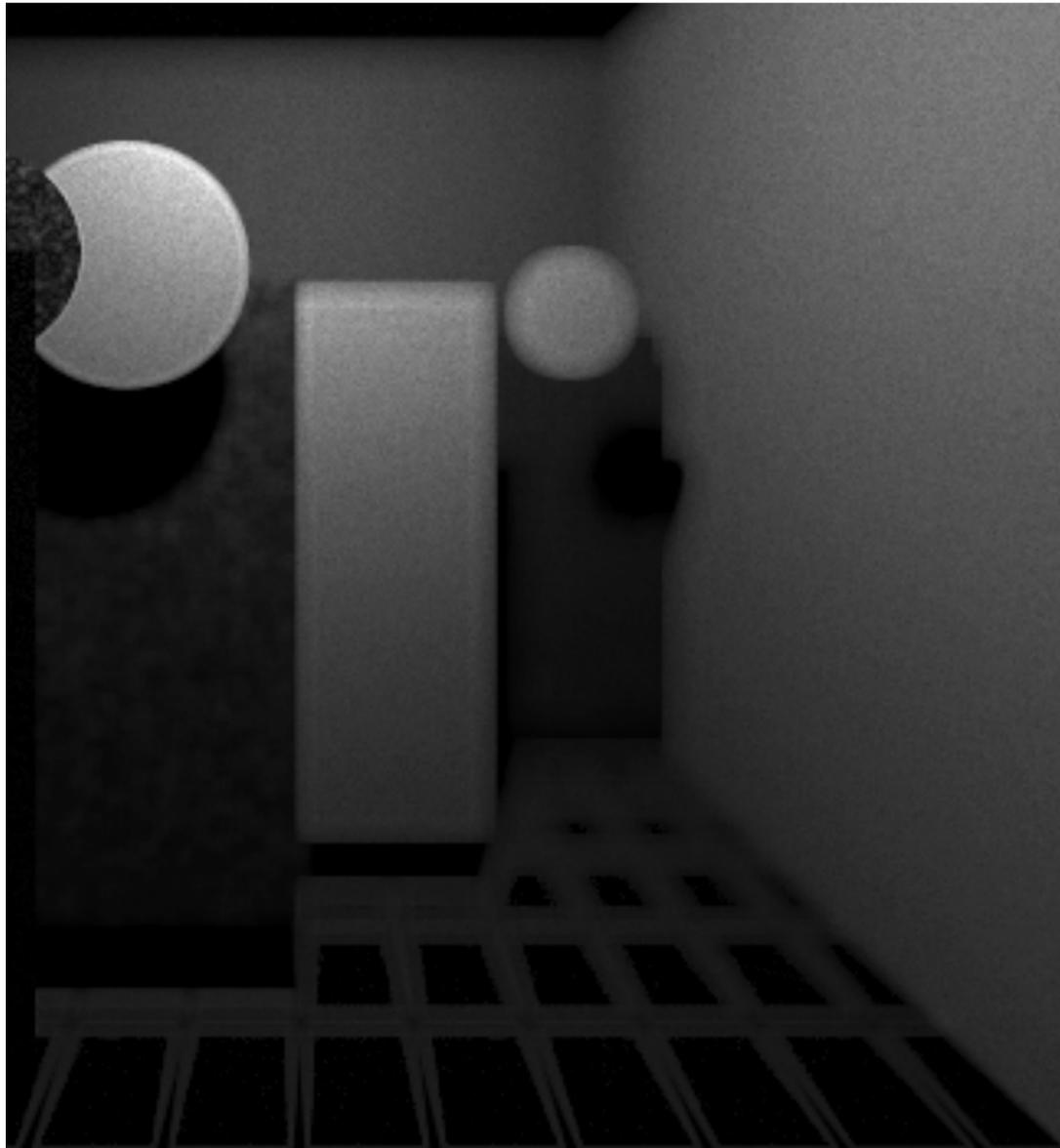


# Variance Heatmap

With Original Samples

With Sheared Samples

Uncorrelated Multi-jittered



# So far...

Blue noise samplers can have better convergence compared to stratified samples

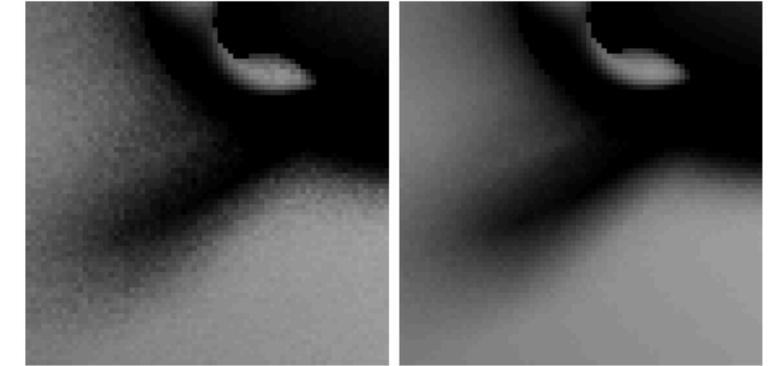
Denser stratification can lead to anisotropic spectra which improves convergence

# What properties we desire in a sampler?

Progressivity



(Ahmed et al. [2017], Christensen et al. [2018])



non-progressive

progressive

High speed (millions of samples per second)



Extension to dimensions beyond 2D



(Spoke dart throwing, Mitchell [2018])

# Low-Discrepancy Sampling

**Deterministic** sets of points specially crafted to be evenly distributed (have low discrepancy).

Entire field of study called Quasi-Monte Carlo (QMC)

# The Van der Corput Sequence

Radical Inverse  $\Phi_b$  in base 2  
Subsequent points “fall into  
biggest holes”

$k$	Base 2	$\Phi_b$
1	1	.1 = 1/2
2	10	.01 = 1/4
3	11	.11 = 3/4
4	100	.001 = 1/8
5	101	.101 = 5/8
6	110	.011 = 3/8
7	111	.111 = 7/8
...		



# Halton and Hammersley Points

**Halton:** Radical inverse with different base for each dimension:

$$\vec{x}_k = (\Phi_2(k), \Phi_3(k), \Phi_5(k), \dots, \Phi_{p_n}(k))$$

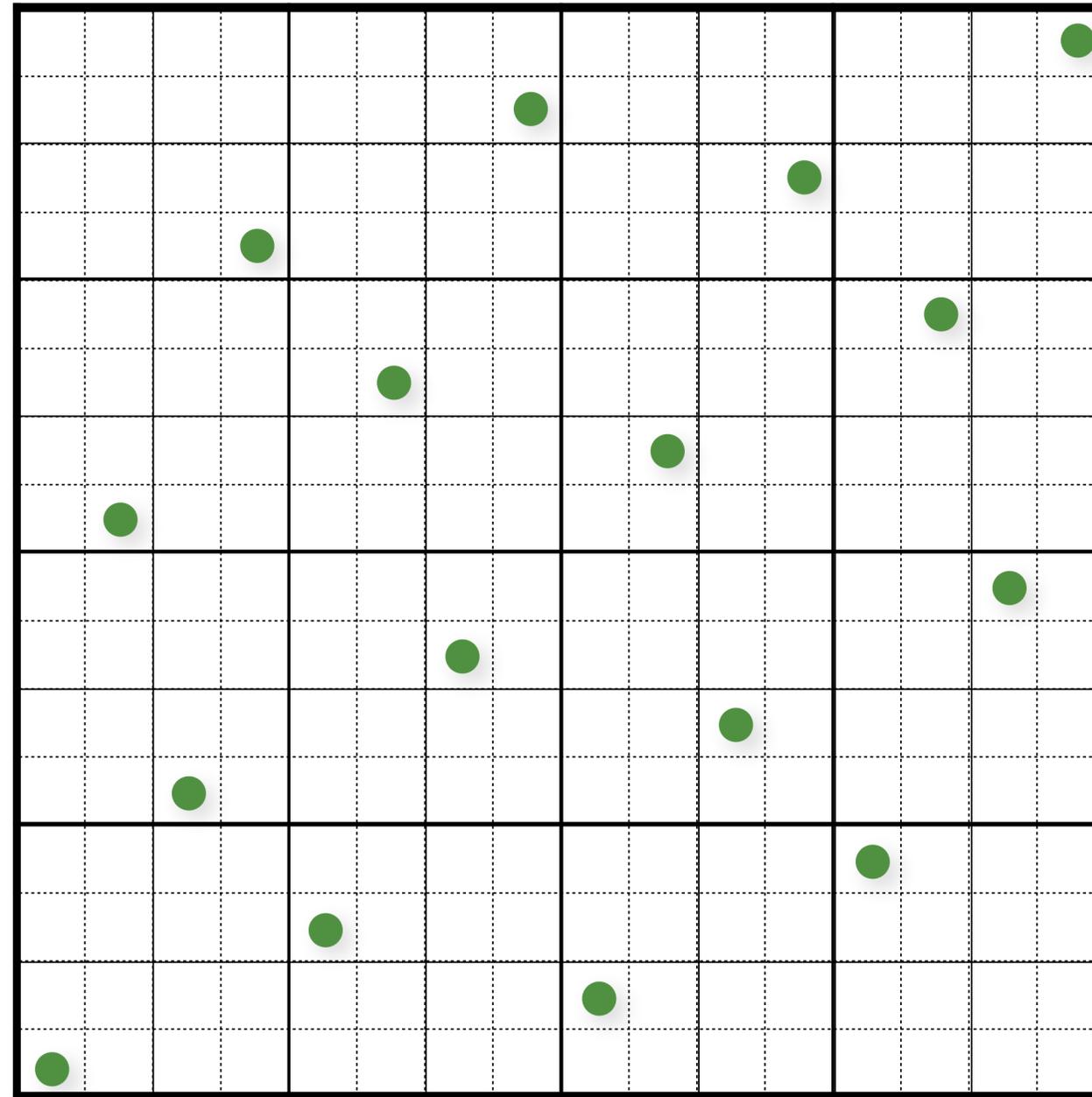
- The bases should all be relatively prime.
- Incremental/progressive generation of samples

**Hammersley:** Same as Halton, but first dimension is  $k/N$ :

$$\vec{x}_k = (k/N, \Phi_2(k), \Phi_3(k), \Phi_5(k), \dots, \Phi_{p_n}(k))$$

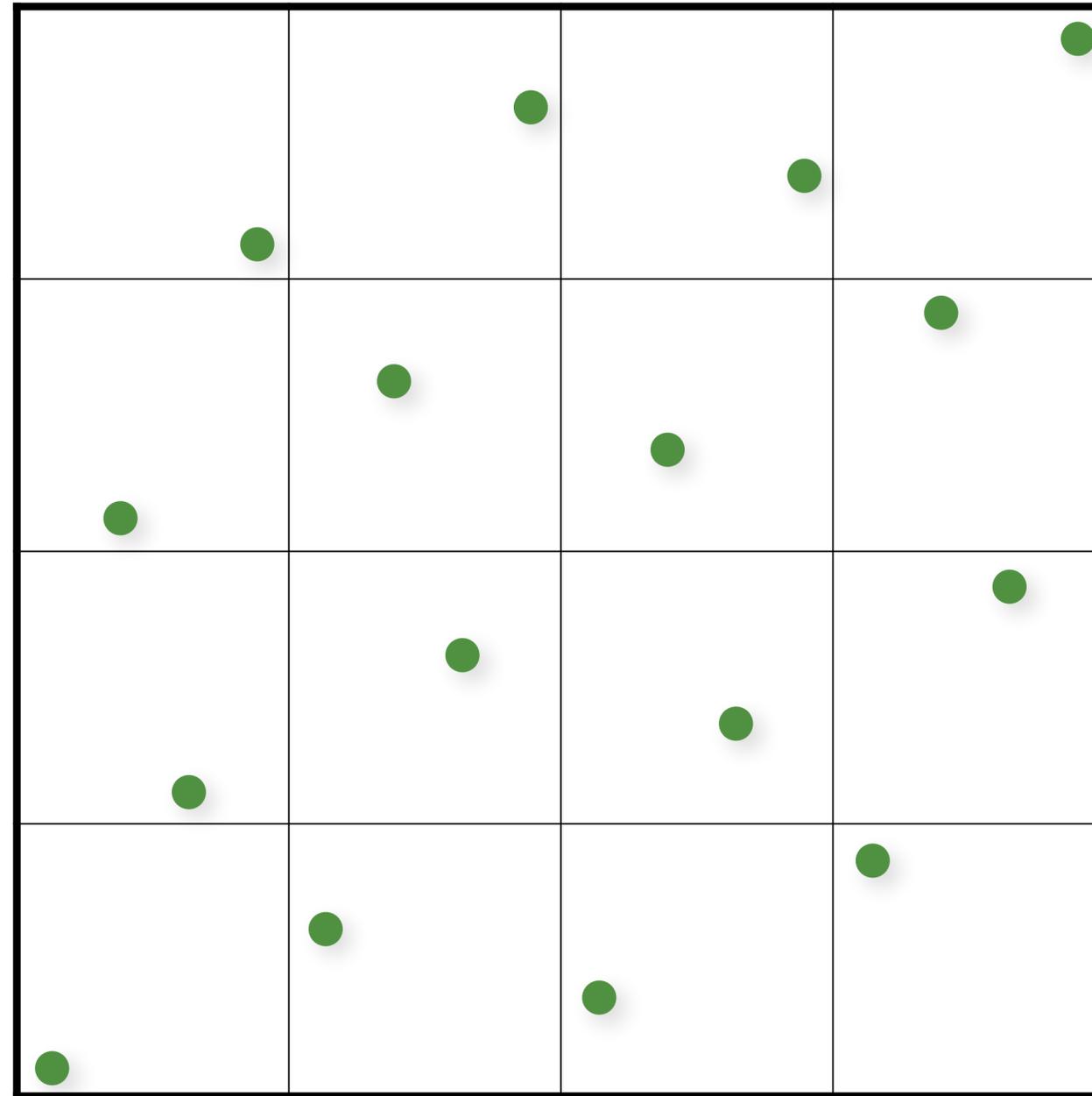
- Not incremental, need to know sample count,  $N$ , in advance

# The Hammersley Sequence



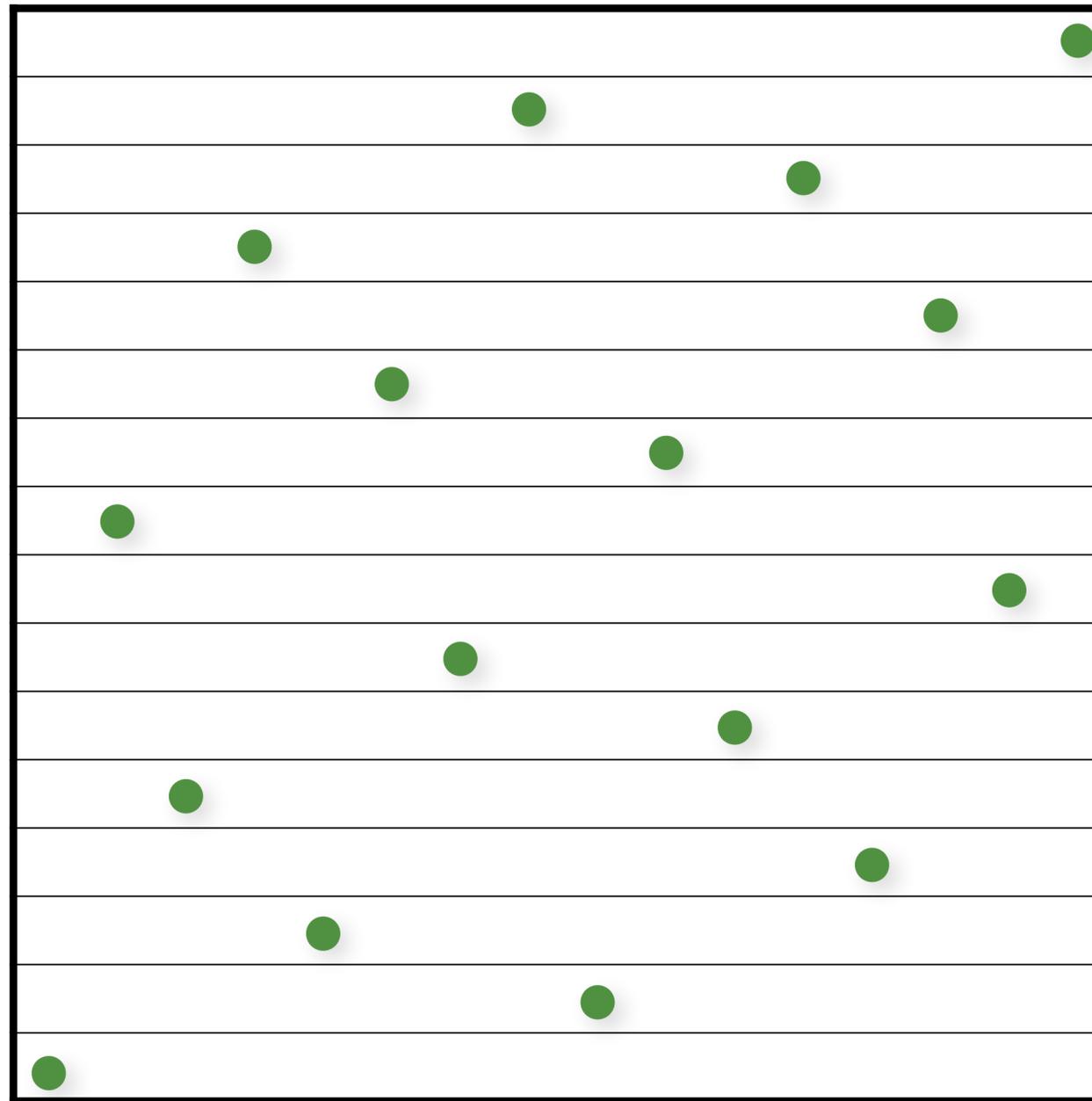
1 sample in each "elementary interval"

# The Hammersley Sequence



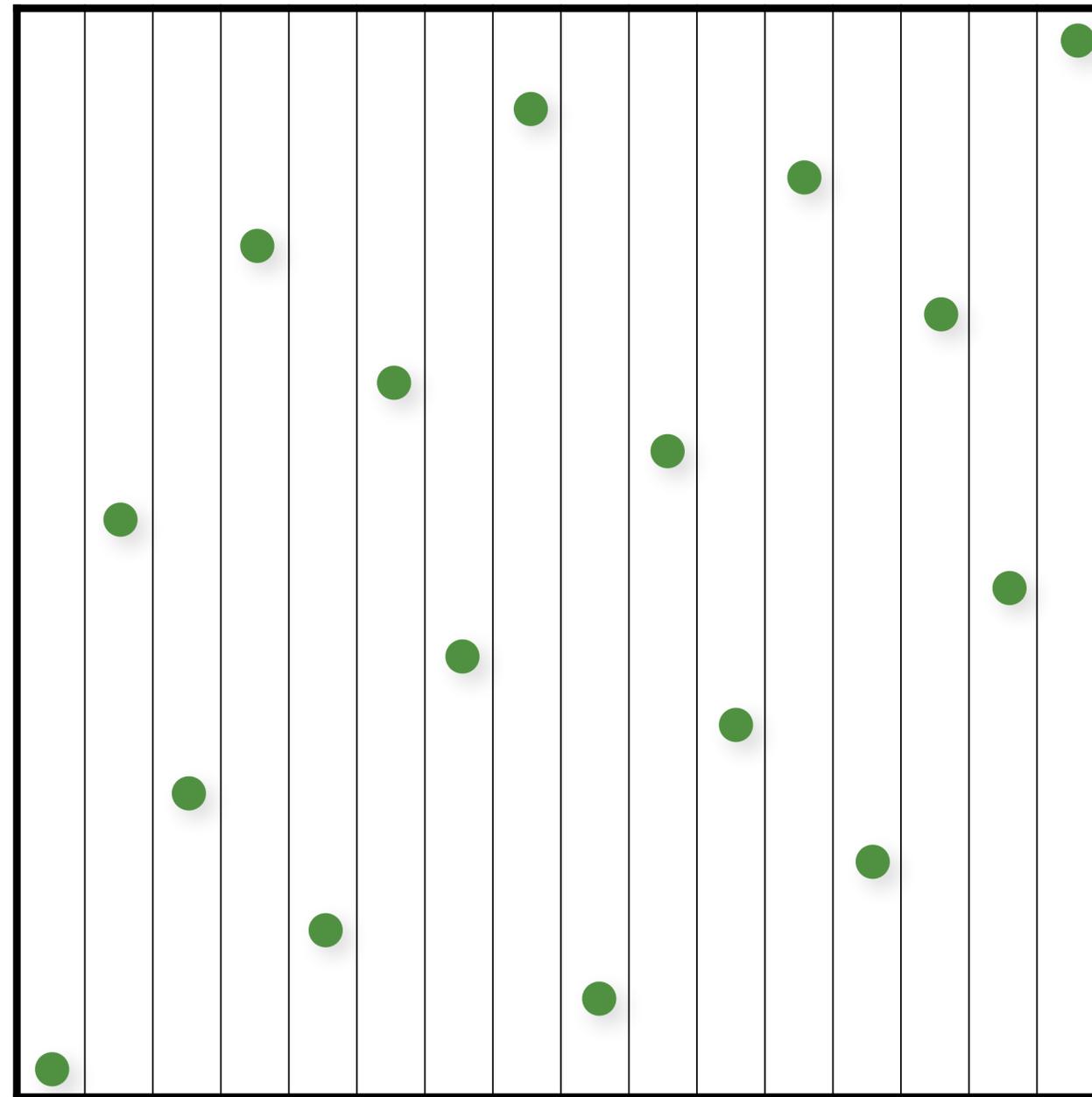
1 sample in each "elementary interval"

# The Hammersley Sequence



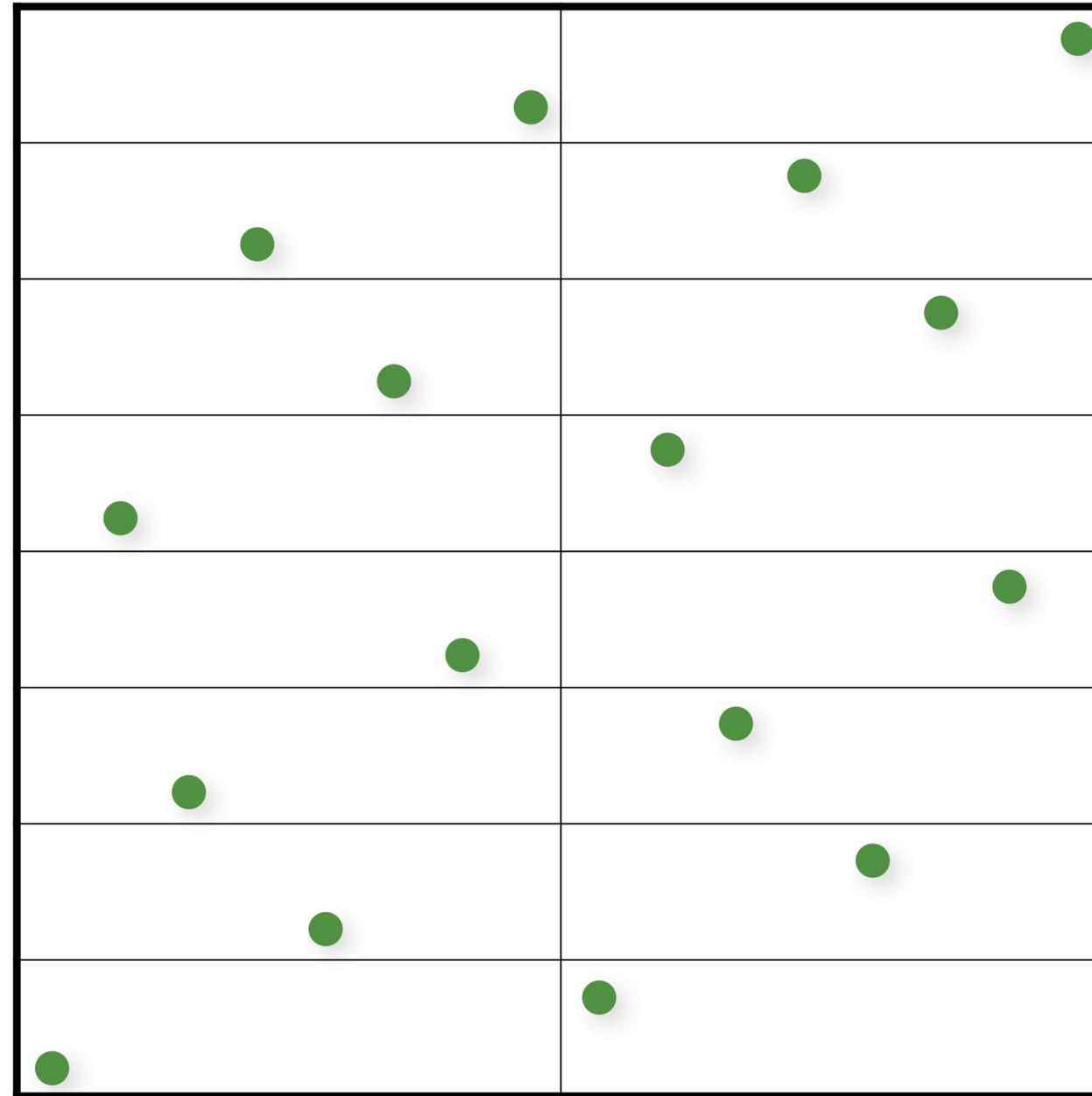
1 sample in each "elementary interval"

# The Hammersley Sequence



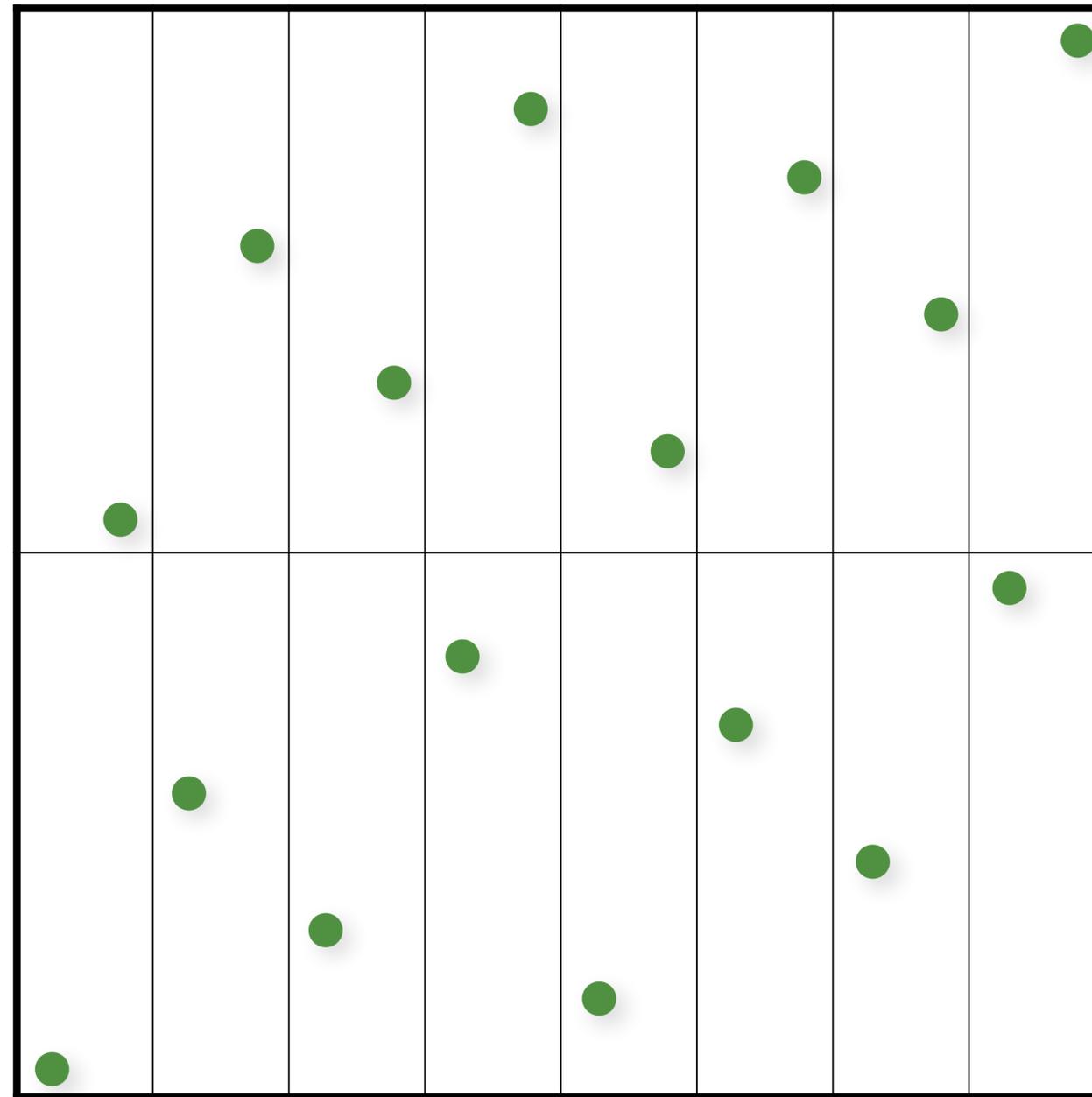
1 sample in each "elementary interval"

# The Hammersley Sequence



1 sample in each "elementary interval"

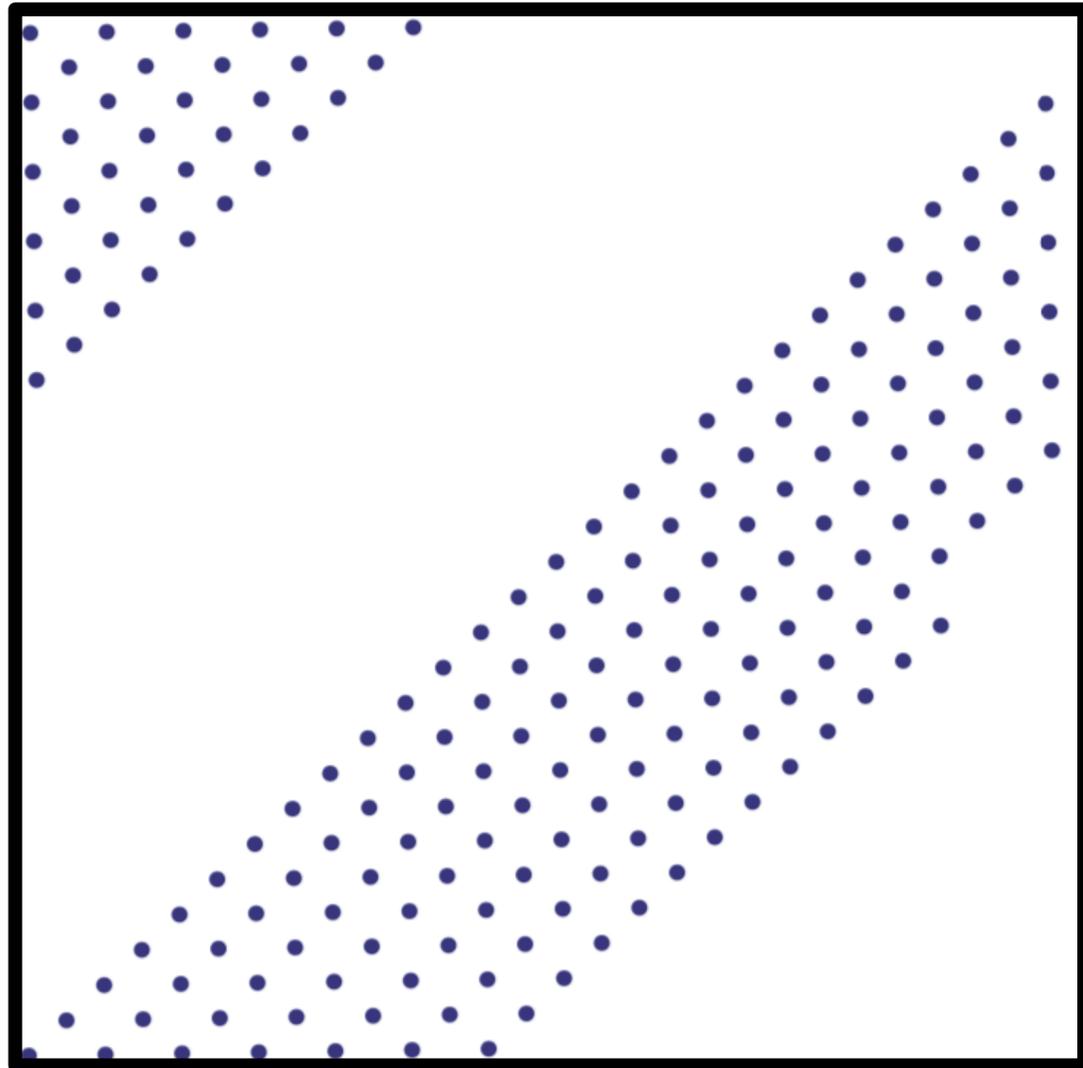
# The Hammersley Sequence



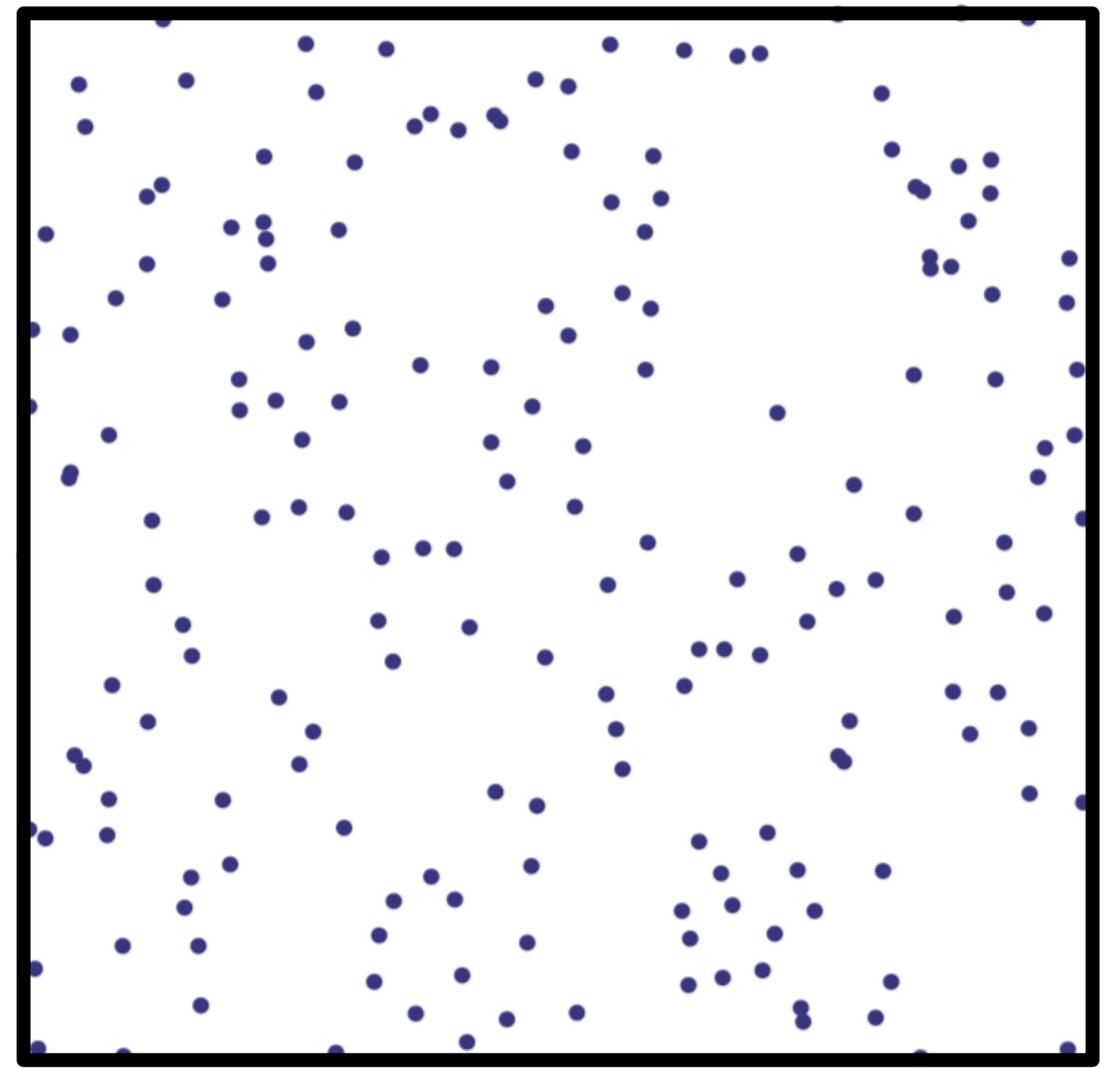
1 sample in each "elementary interval"

# Why do we need to scramble?

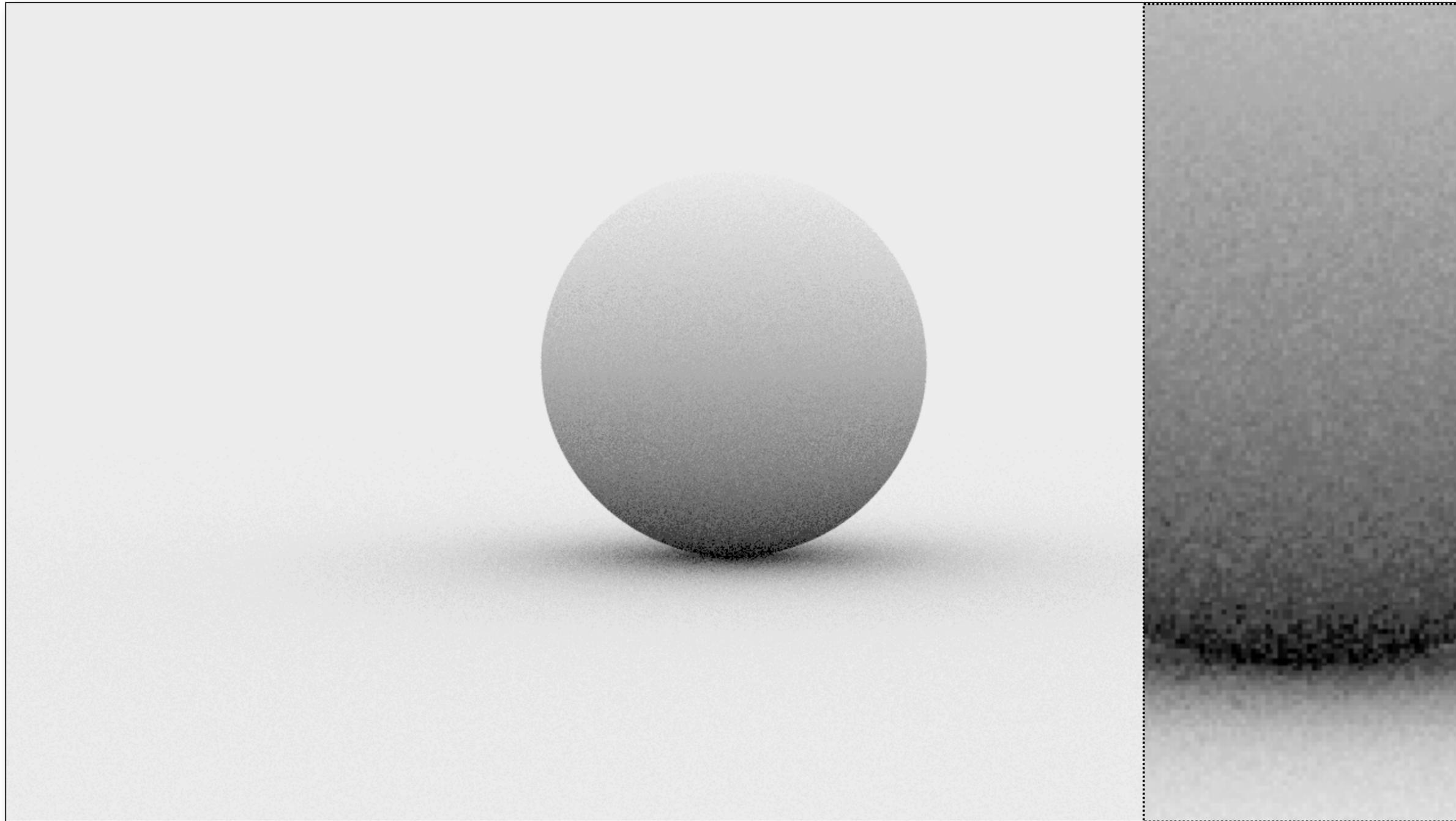
Halton Projection (29, 31)



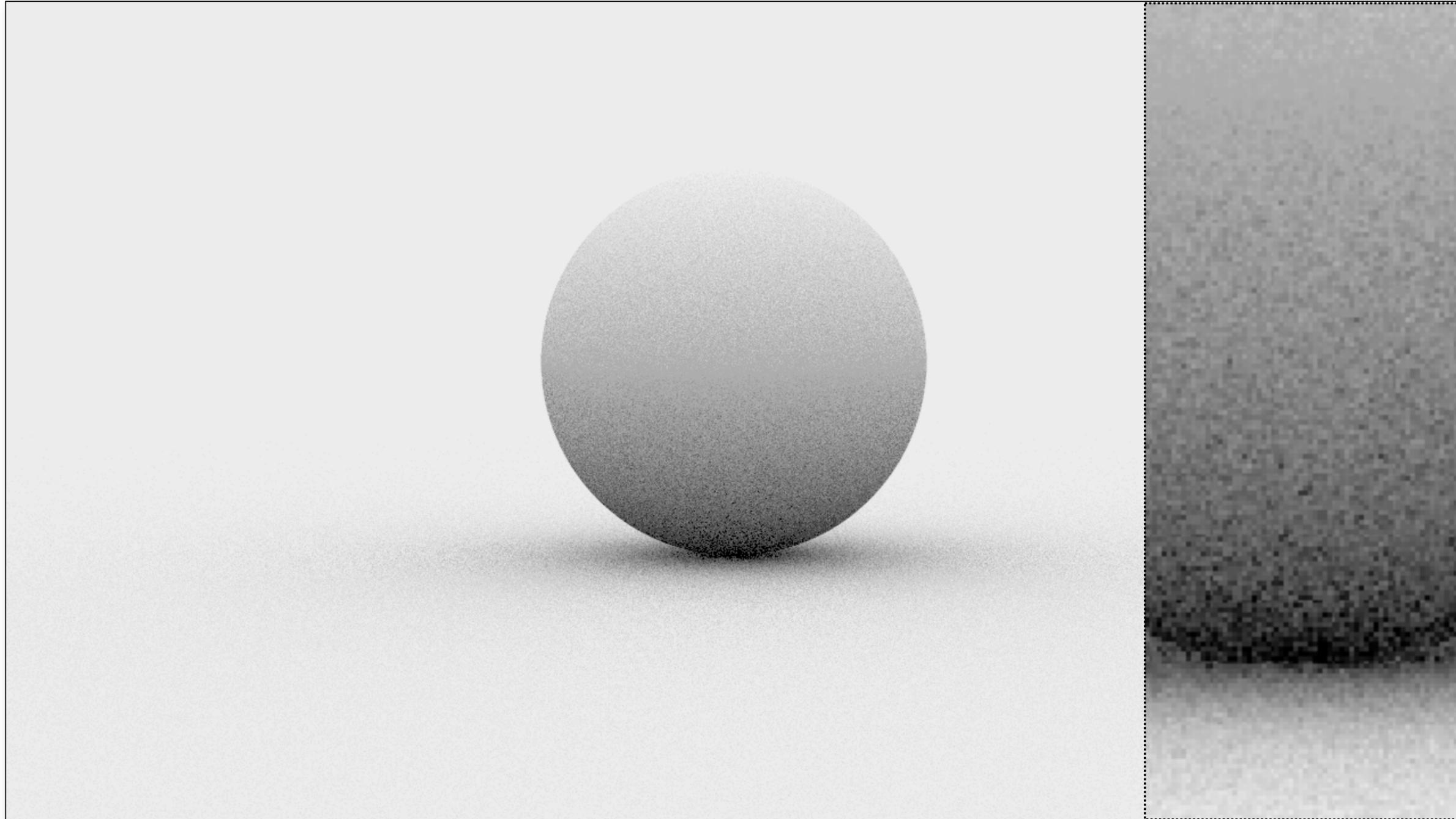
Scrambled Halton Projection (29, 31)



# Scrambled Low-Discrepancy Sampling



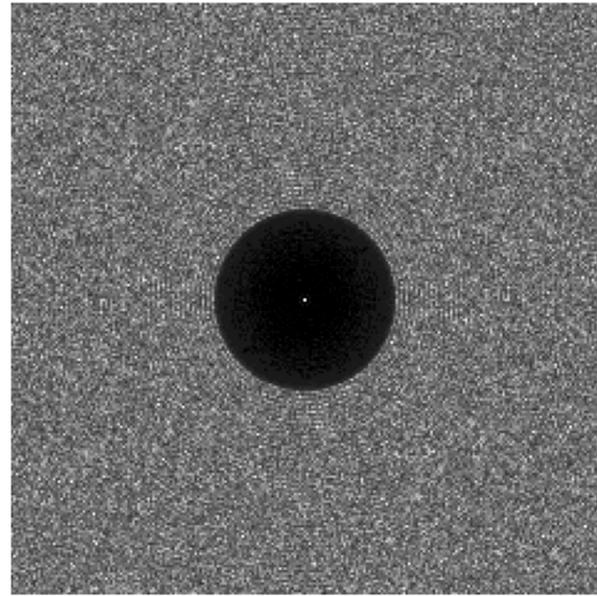
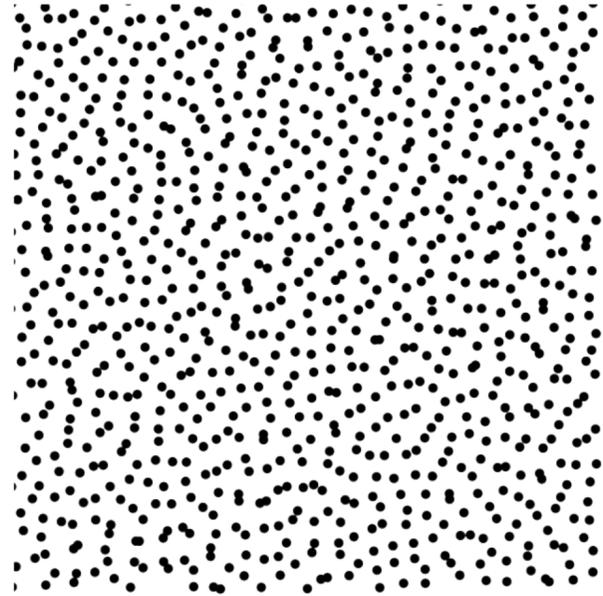
# Monte Carlo (16 jittered samples)



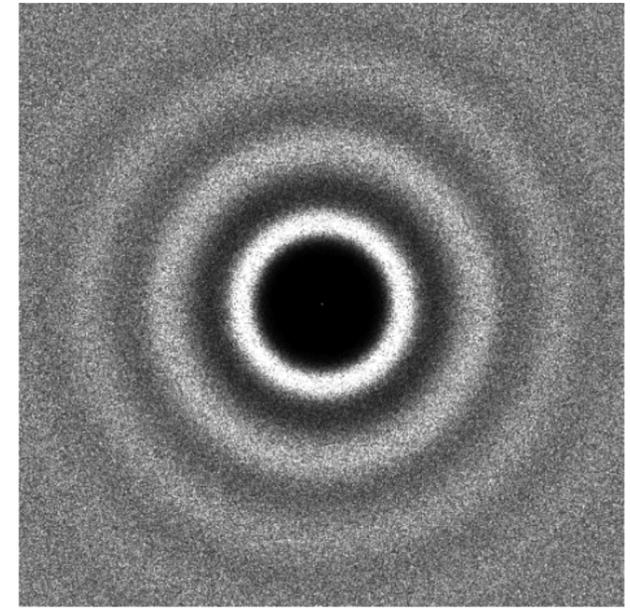
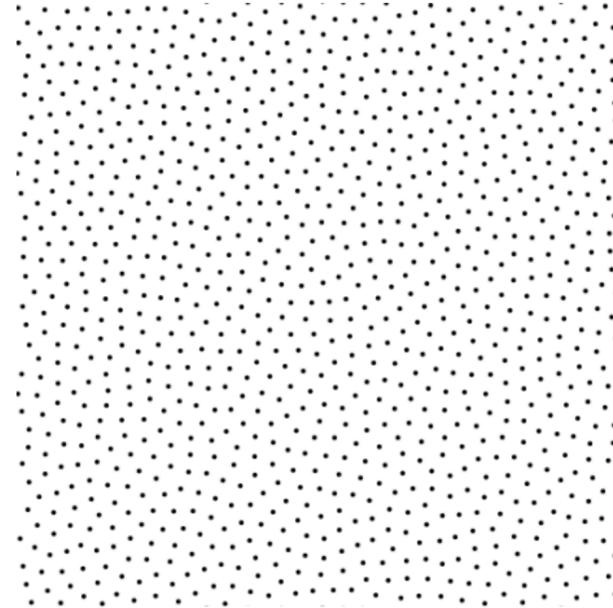
Can we combine blue noise properties with low discrepancy?

# Low-Discrepancy Blue Noise

Step spectrum

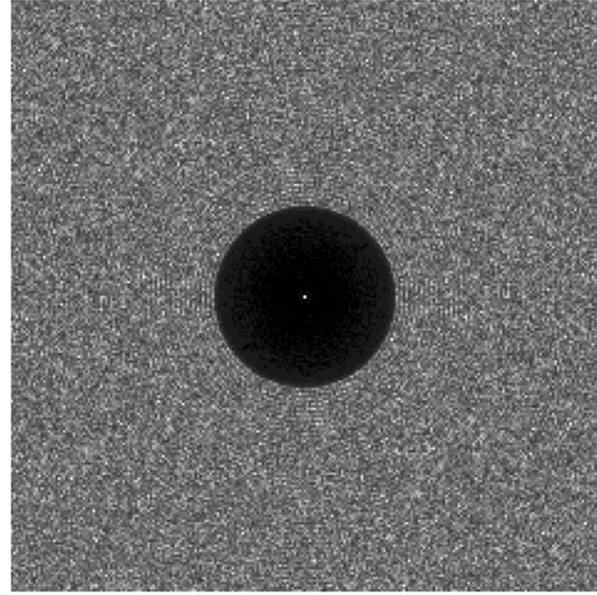
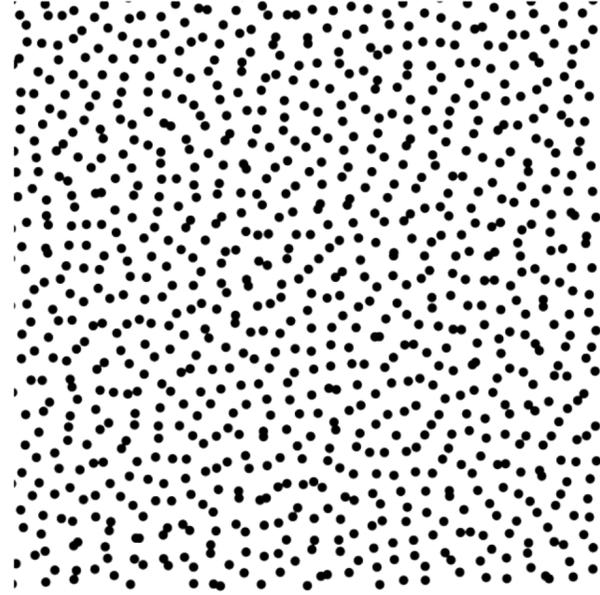


BNOT spectrum

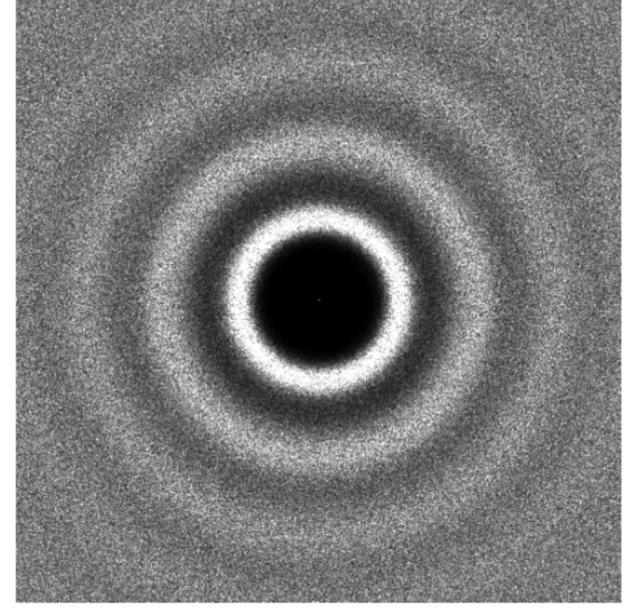
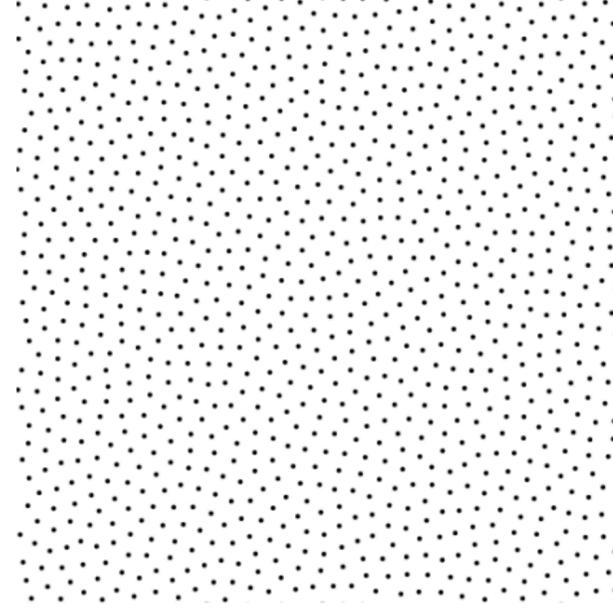


# Low-Discrepancy Blue Noise

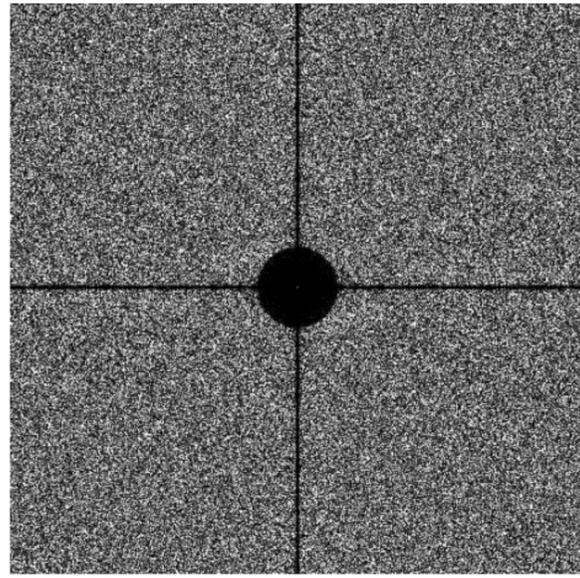
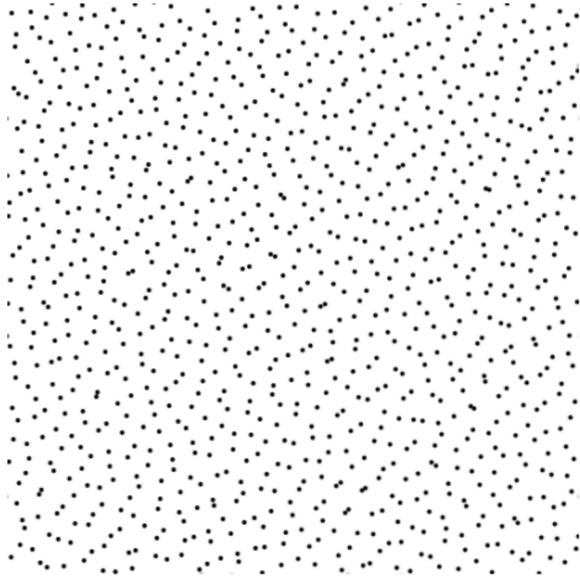
Step spectrum



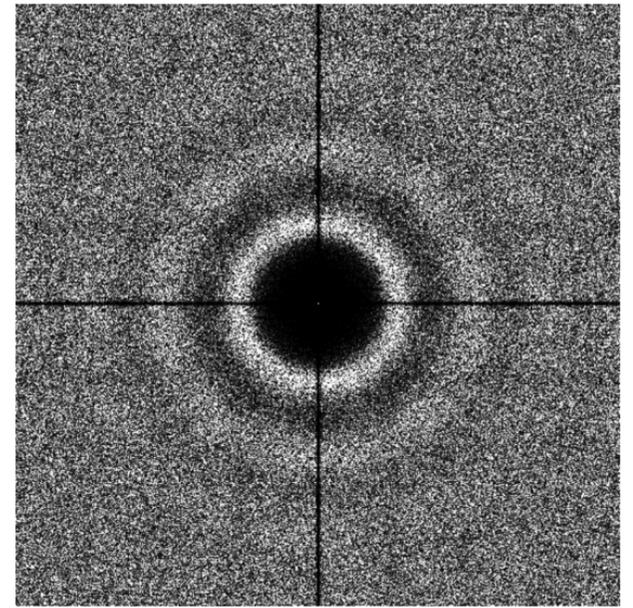
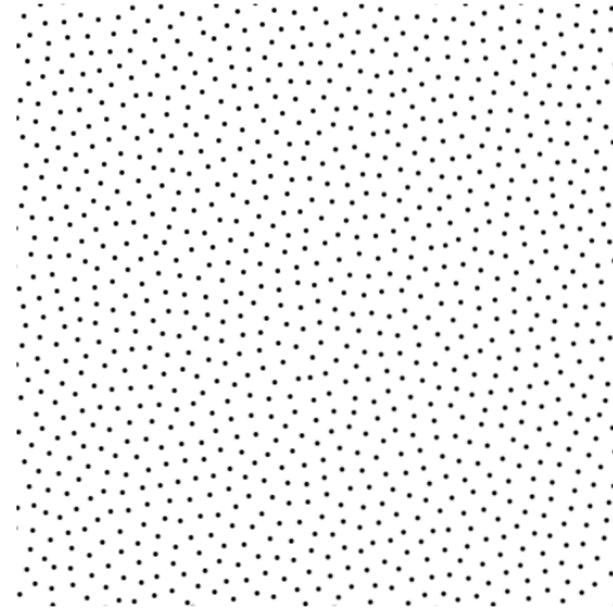
BNOT spectrum



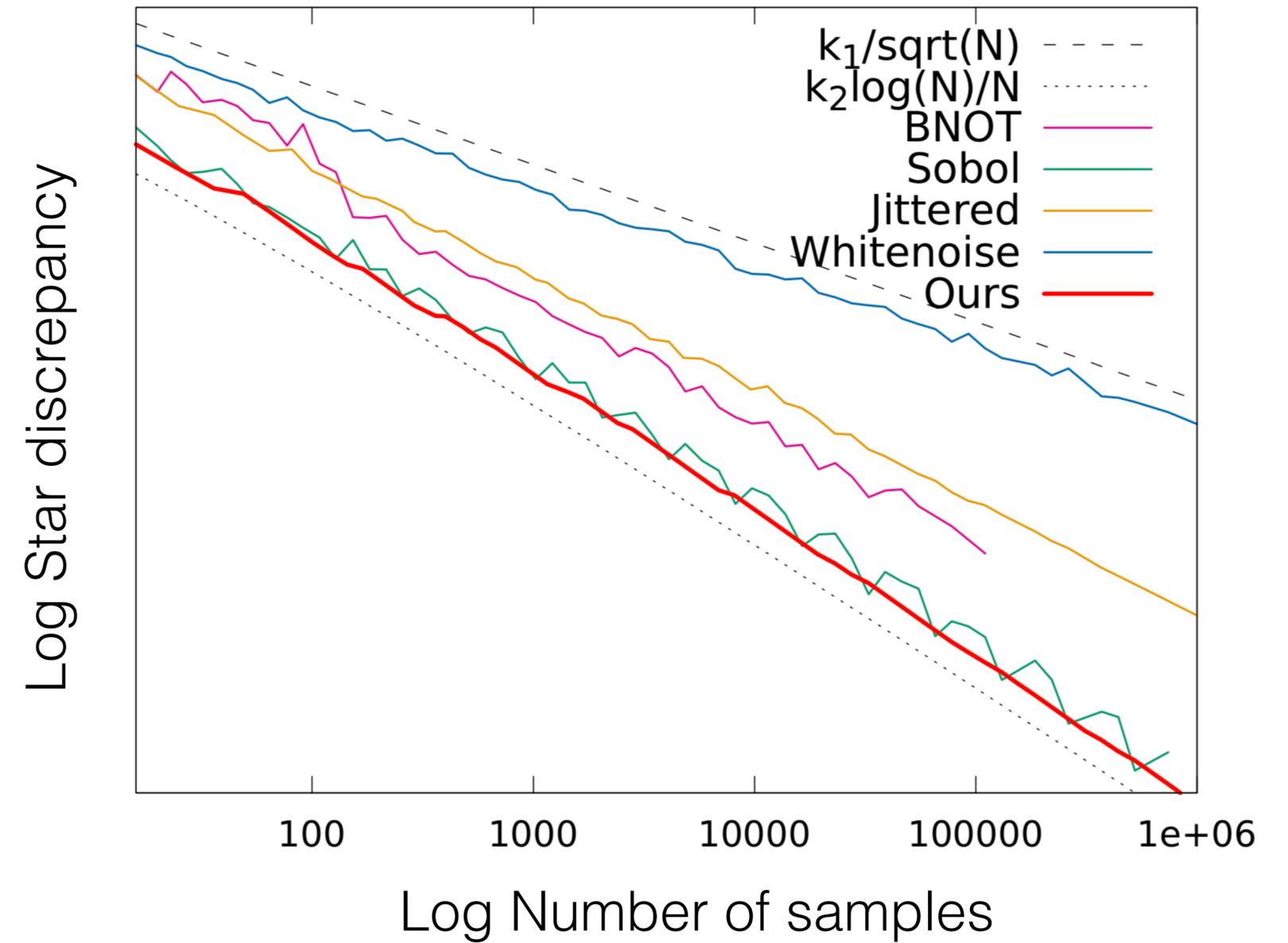
LDBN Step



LDBN BNOT

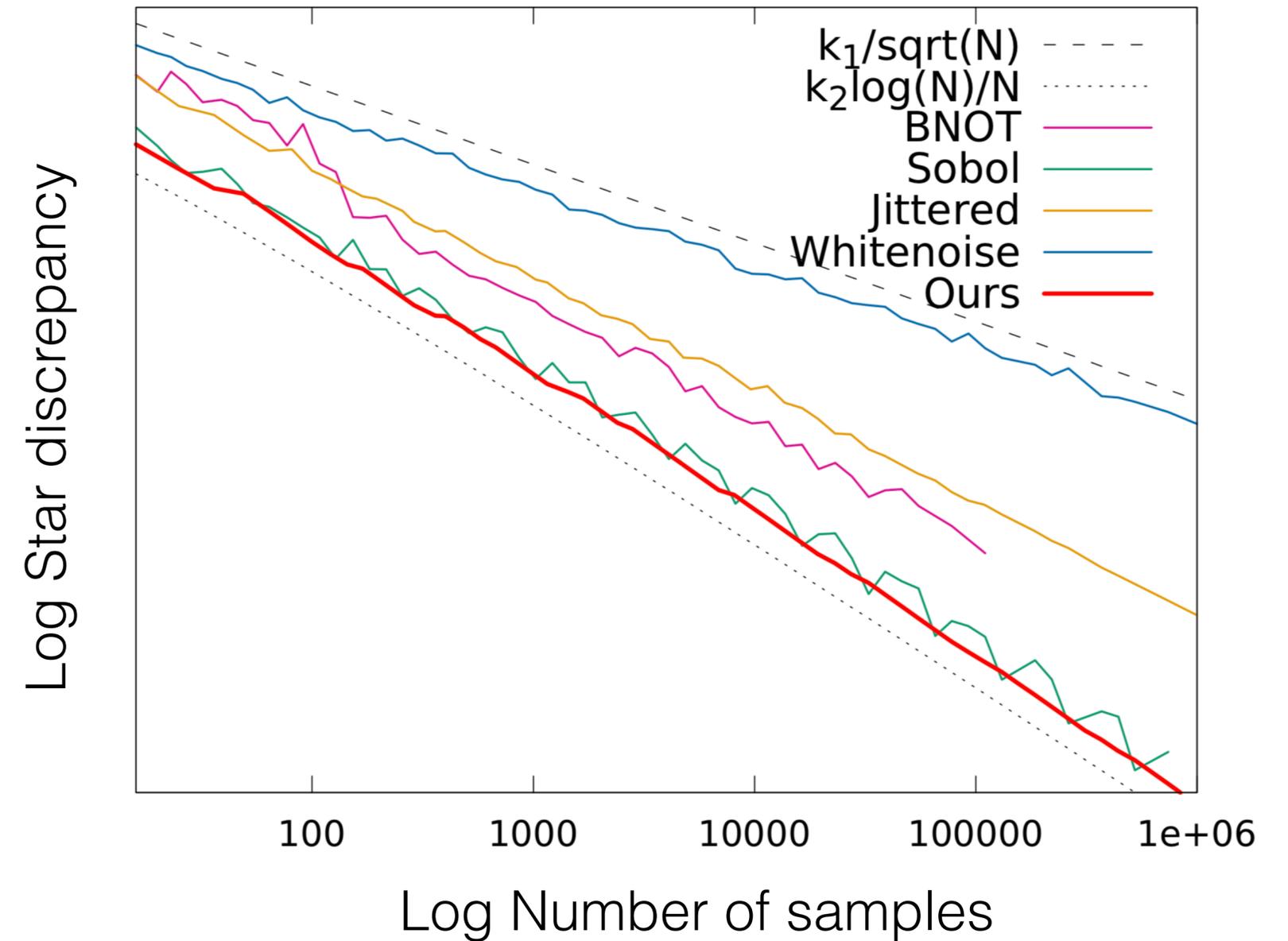
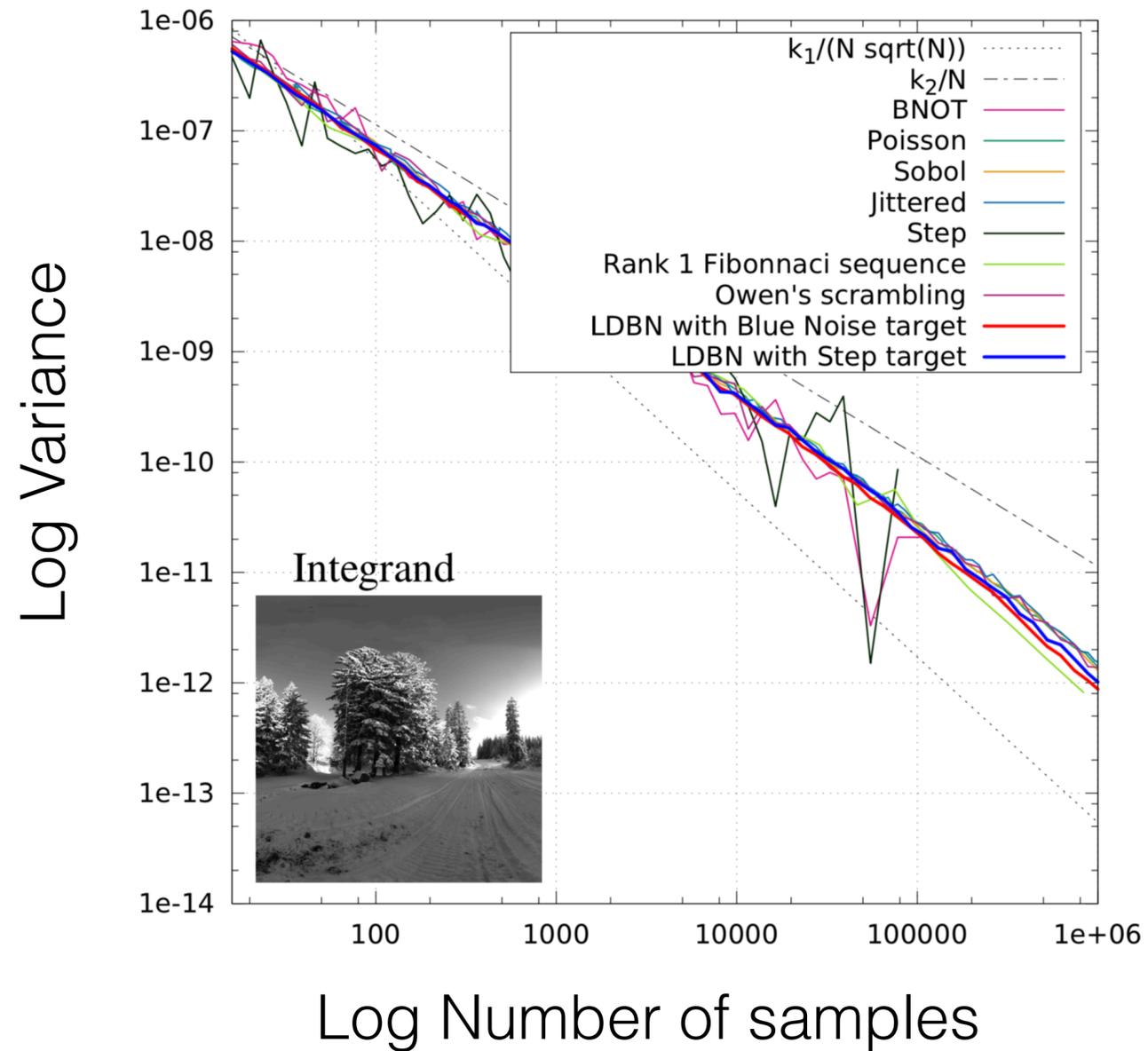


# Low-Discrepancy Blue Noise



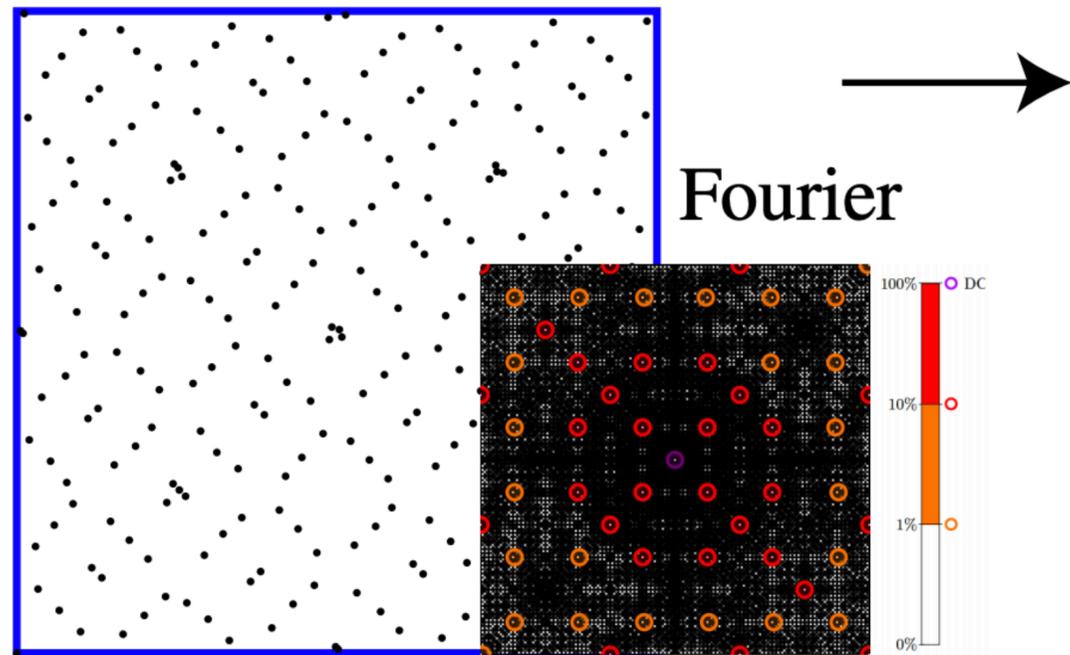
Ahmed et al. [2016]

# Low-Discrepancy Blue Noise



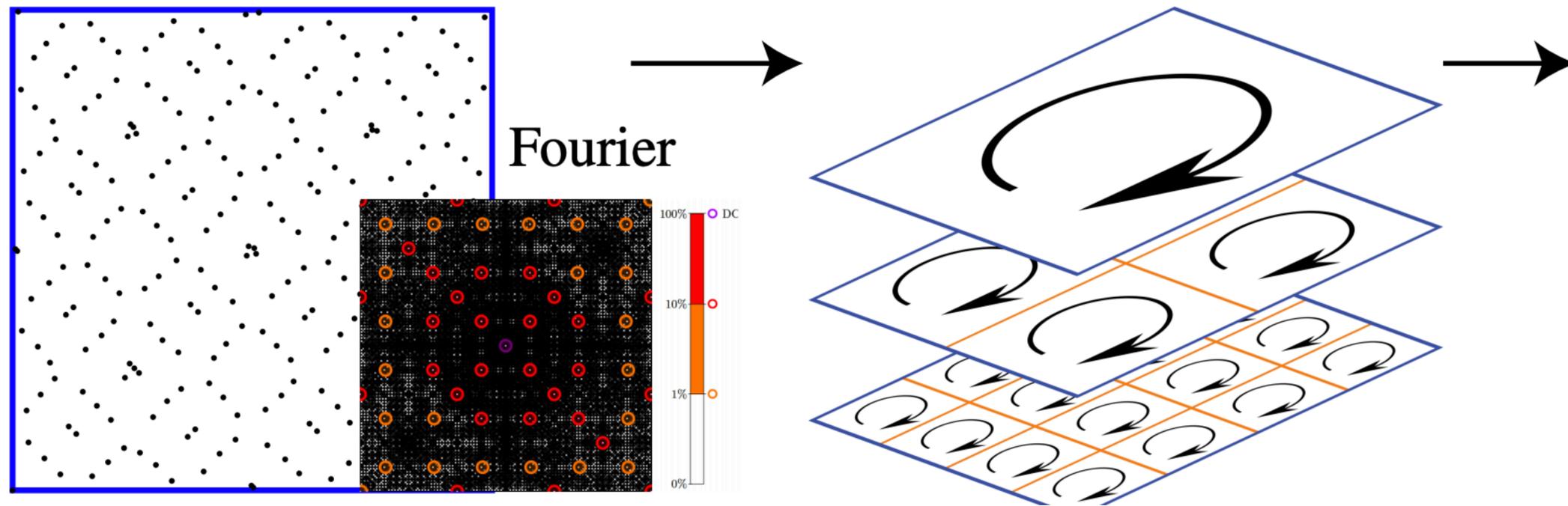
Ahmed et al. [2016]

# Low-Discrepancy Blue Noise 2D-Projections



Sobol

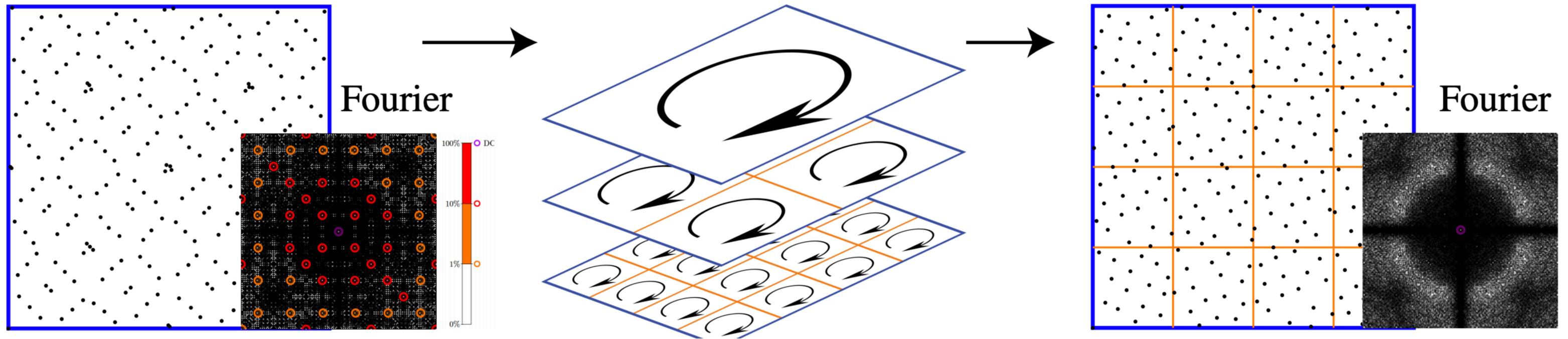
# Low-Discrepancy Blue Noise 2D-Projections



Sobol

Special scrambling

# Low-Discrepancy Blue Noise 2D-Projections



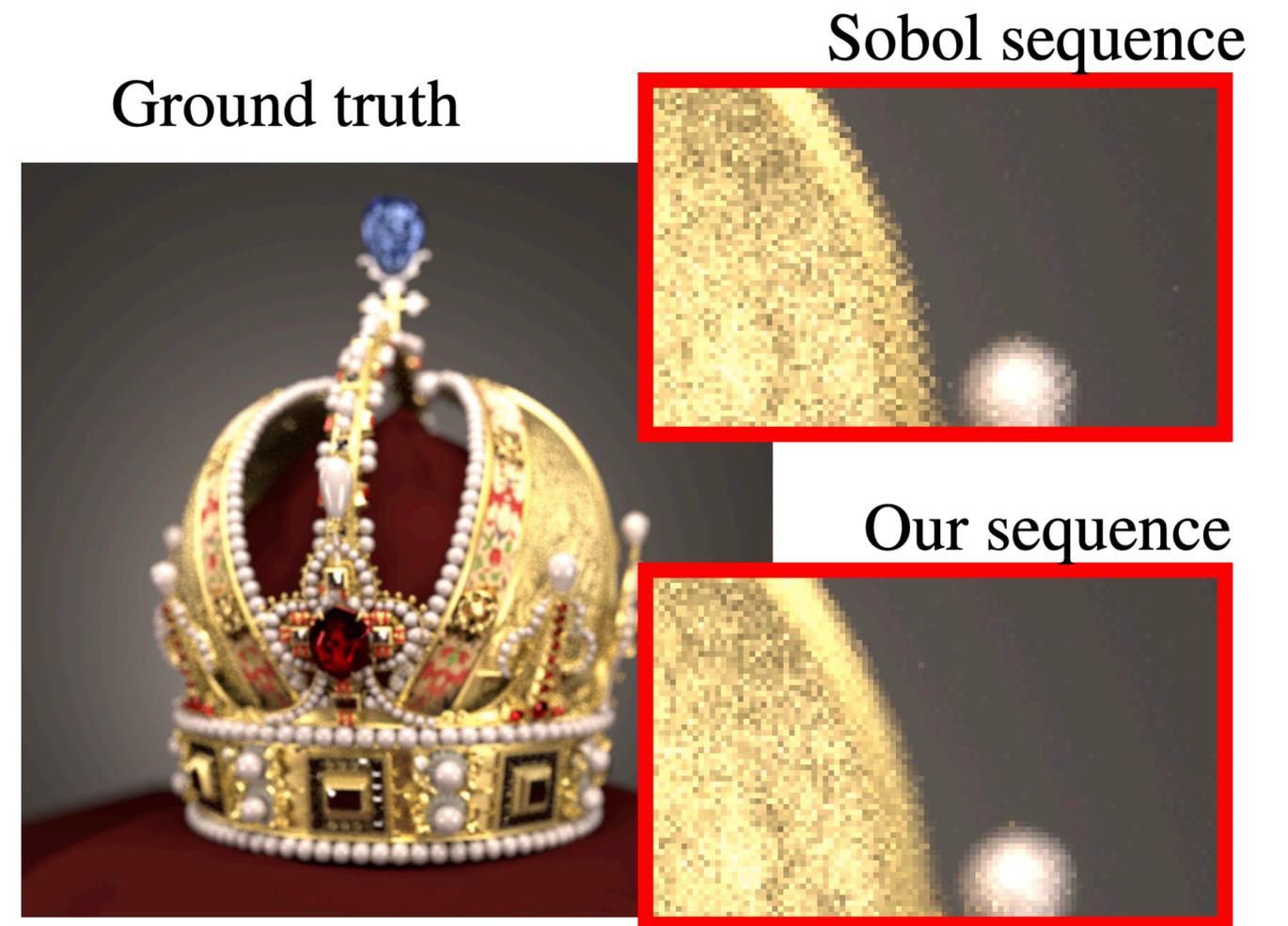
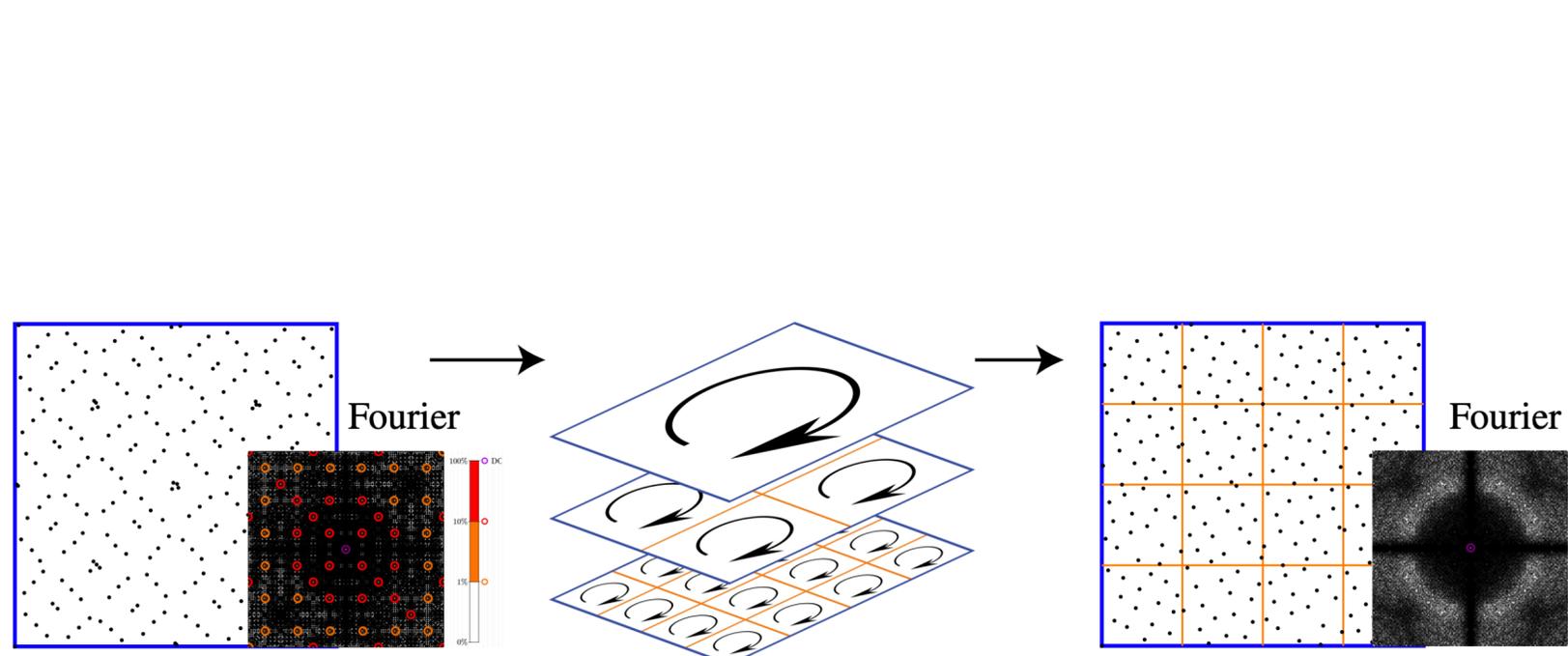
Sobol

Special scrambling

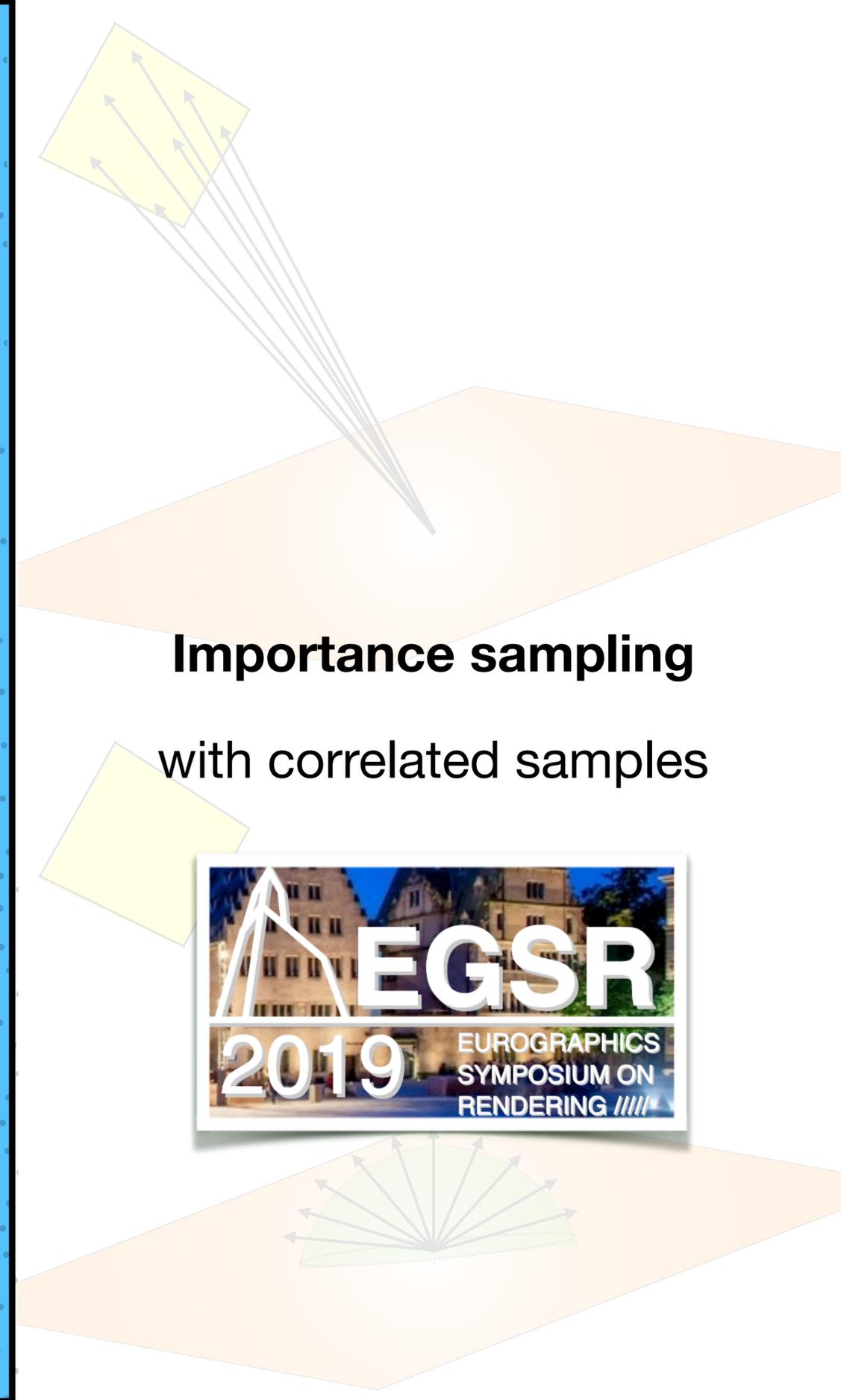
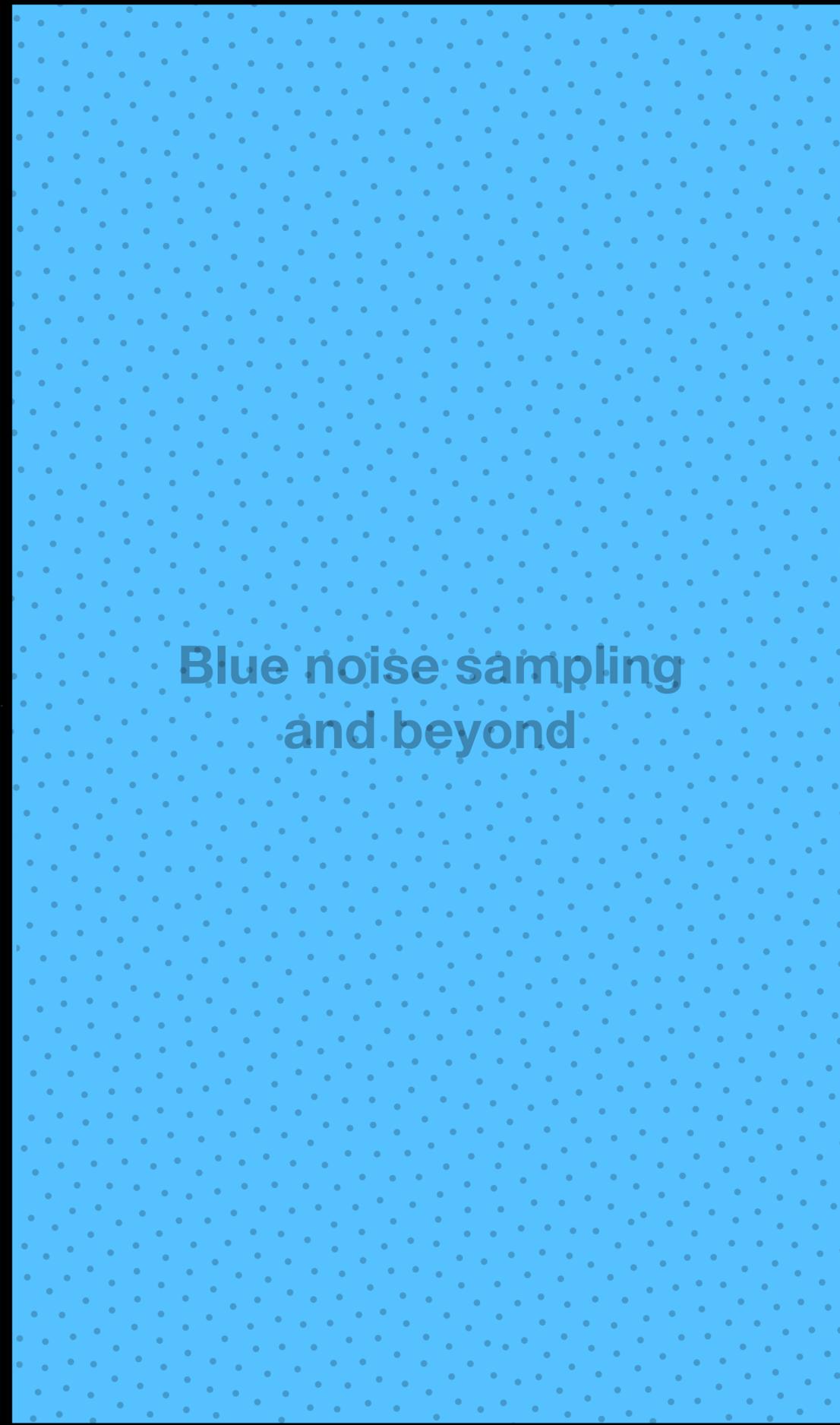
Blue noise characteristics

Perrier et al. [2018]

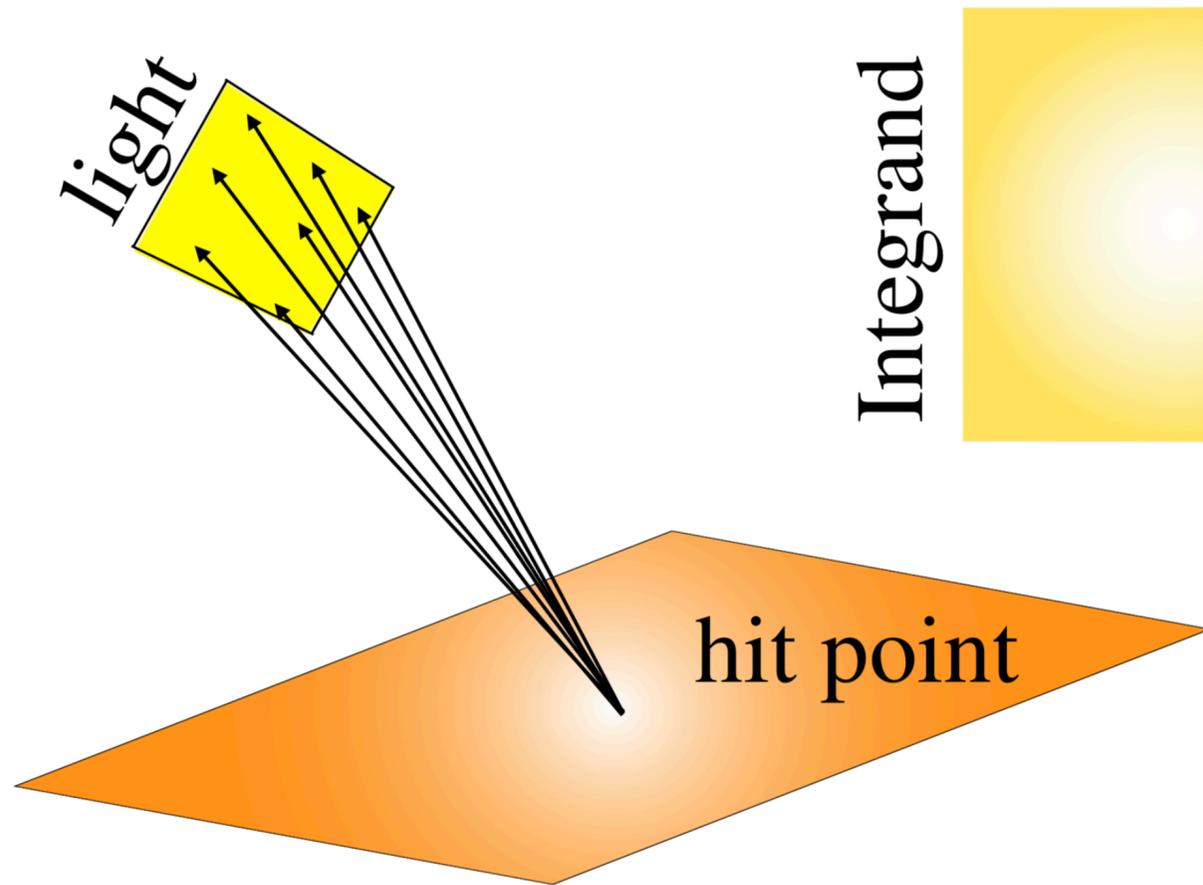
# Low-Discrepancy Blue Noise 2D Sobol Projection



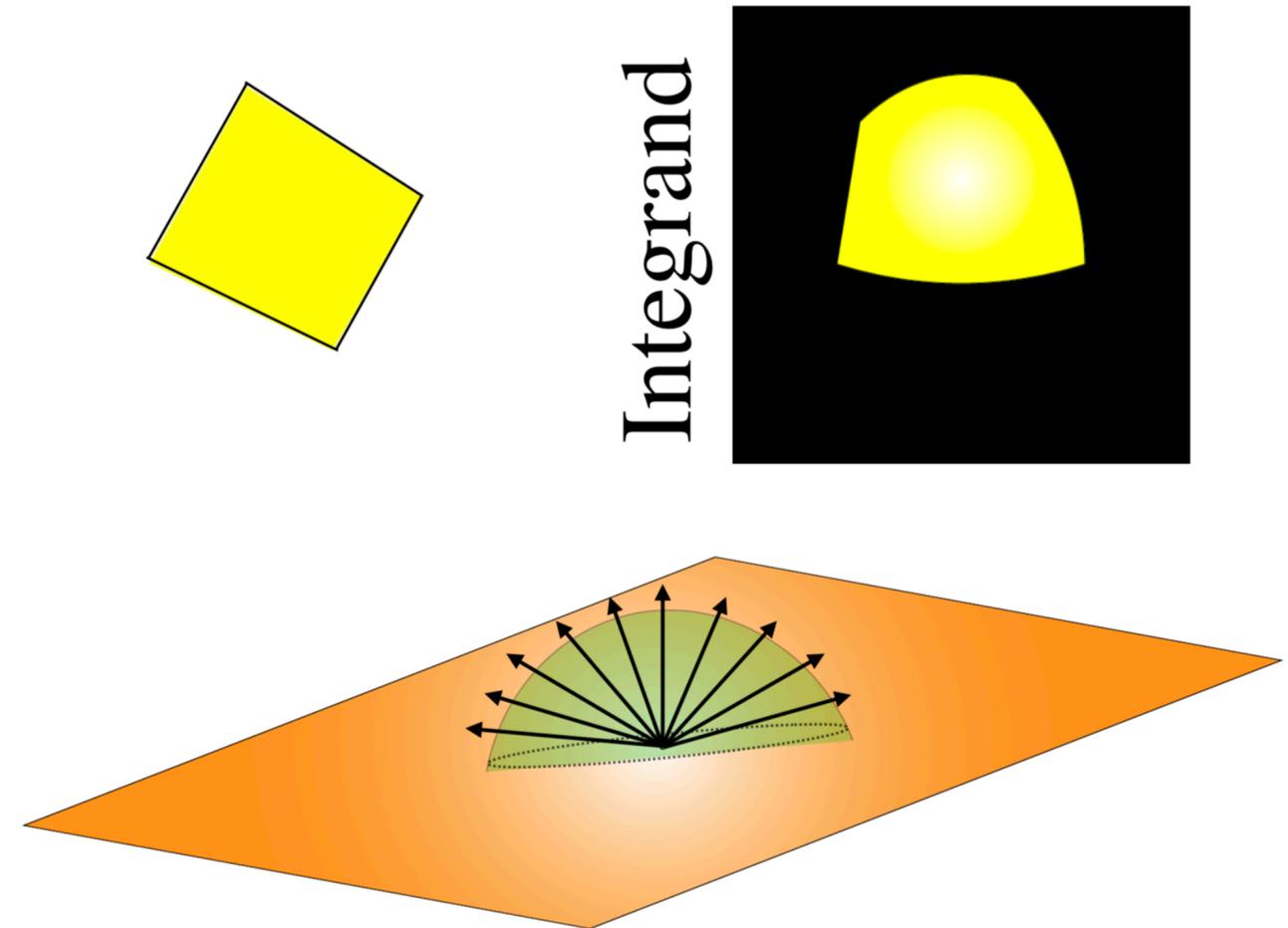
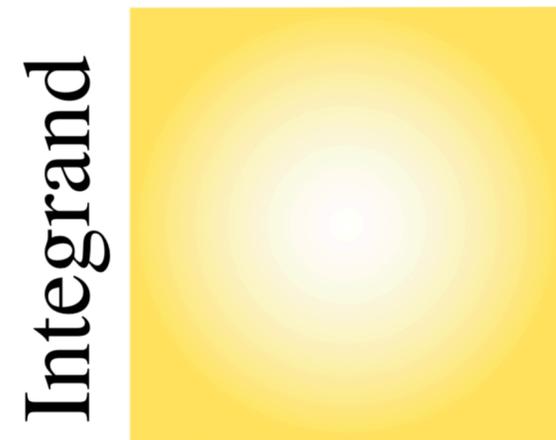
Perrier et al. [2018]



# Light IS vs BSDF IS

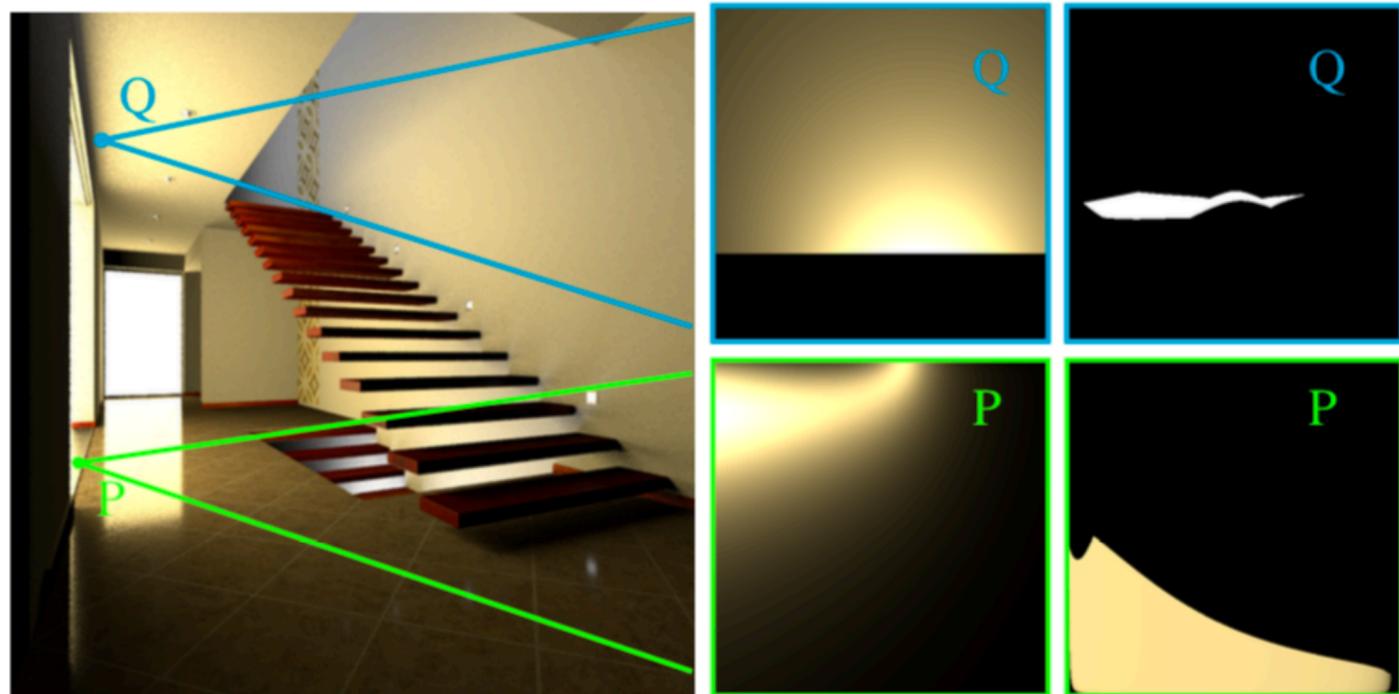


Light Importance Sampling



BSDF Importance Sampling

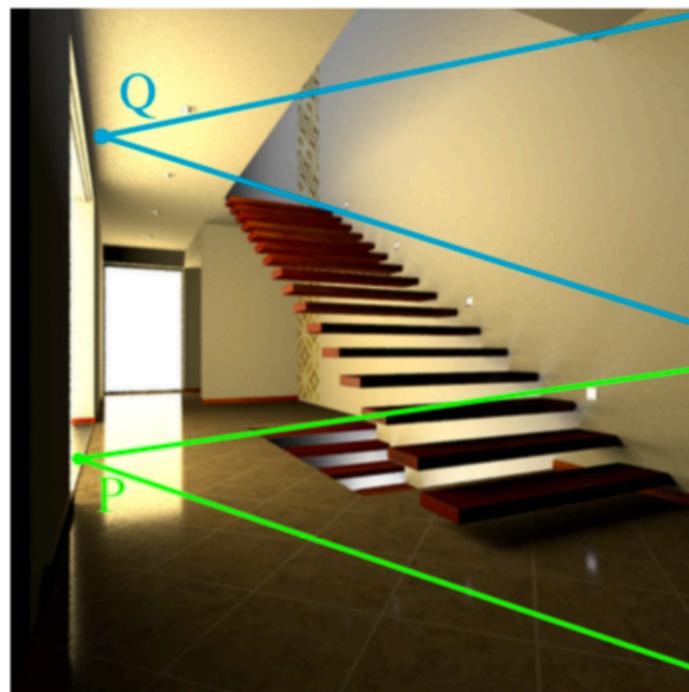
# Scene illuminated by area direct lighting



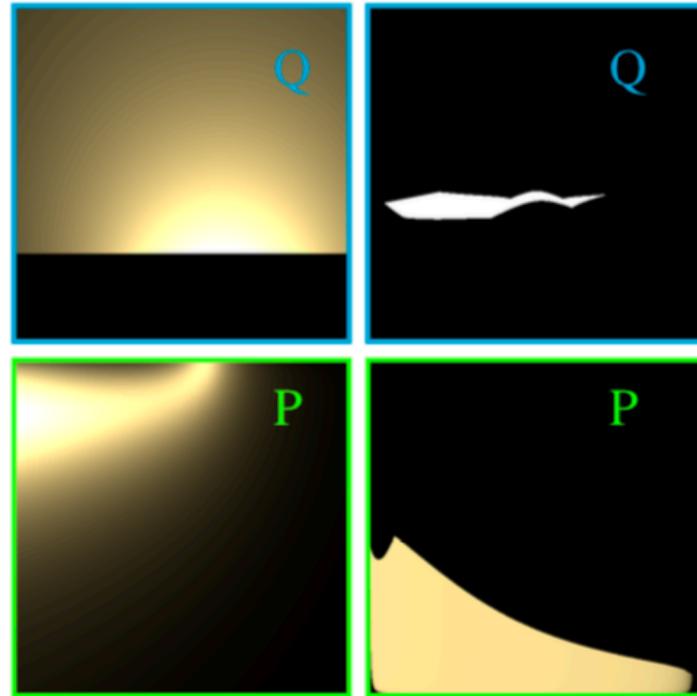
Reference

Underlying  
pixel functions

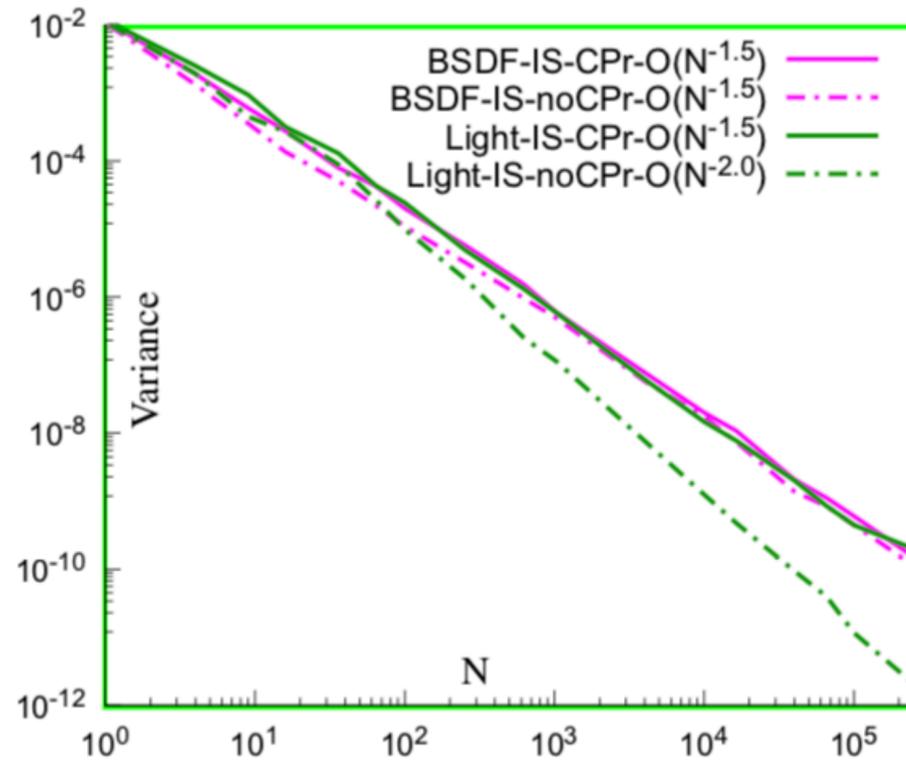
# Unoccluded pixels' convergence benefit from Light IS



Reference

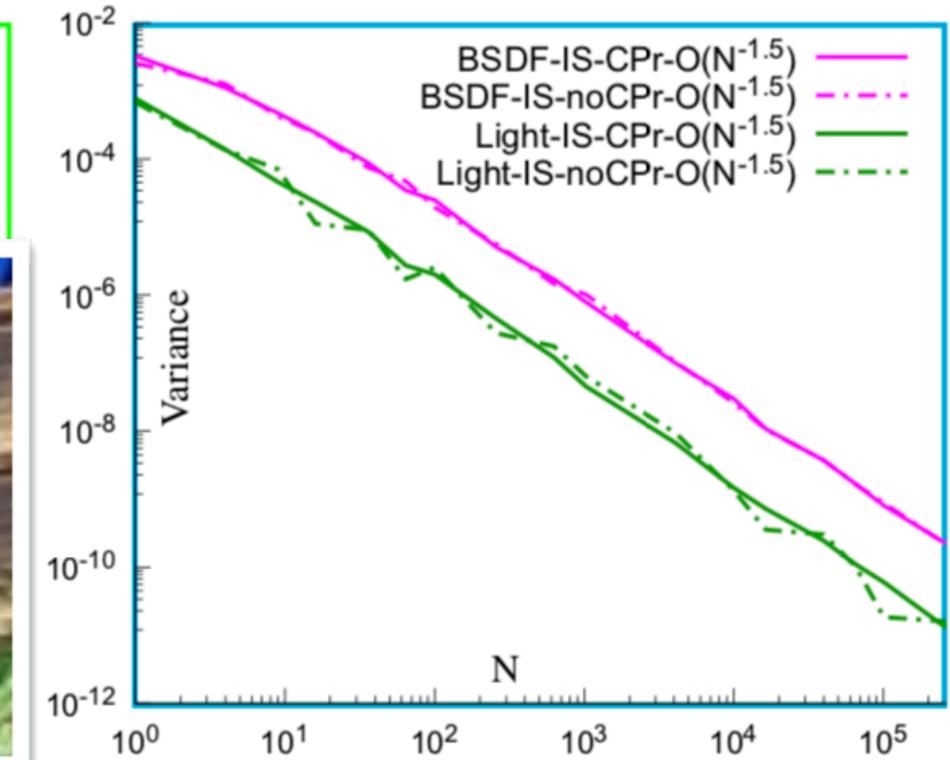
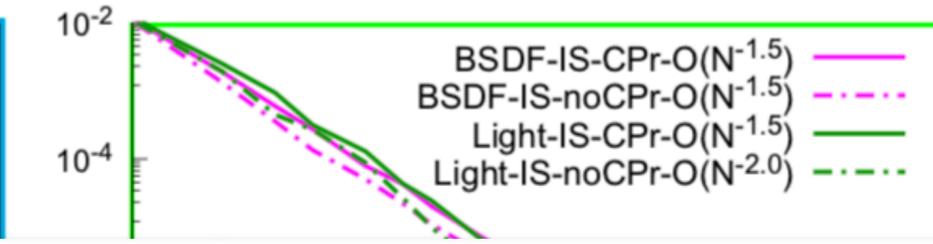
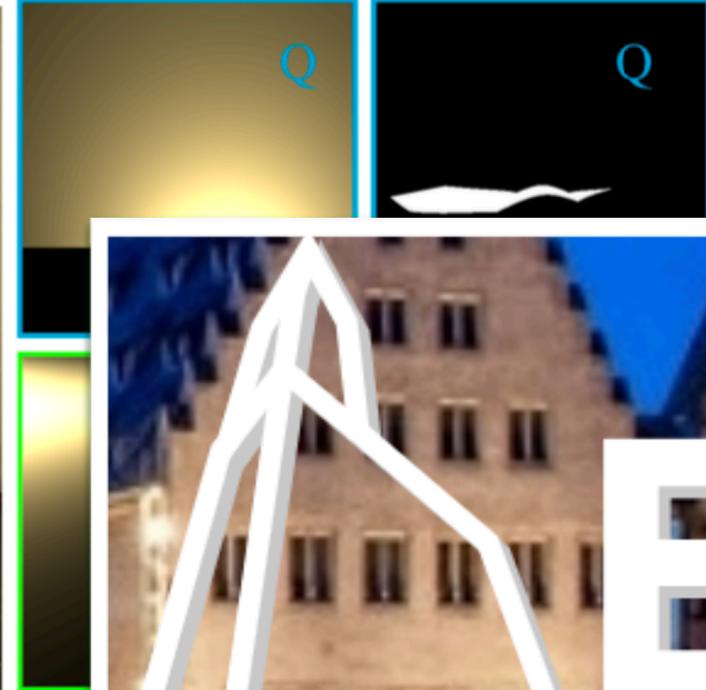
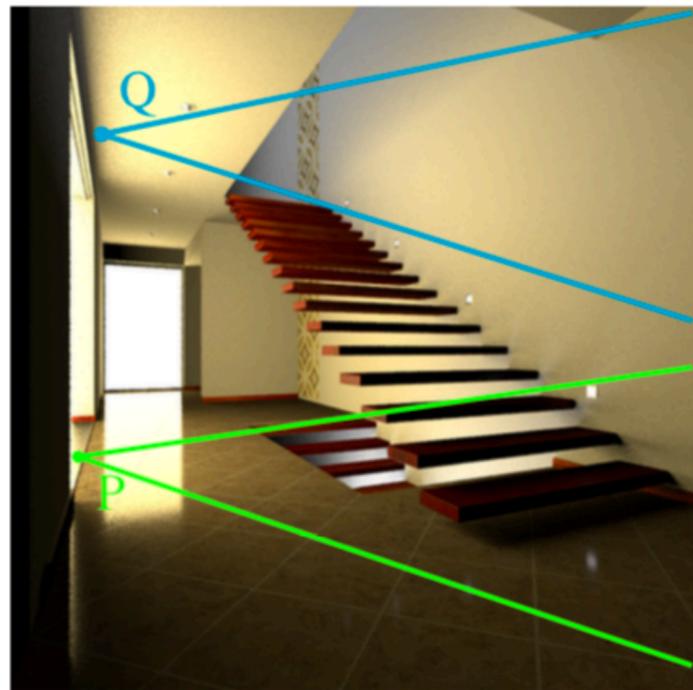


Underlying  
pixel functions



Pixel P

# Occluded pixels (no improvement in convergence)



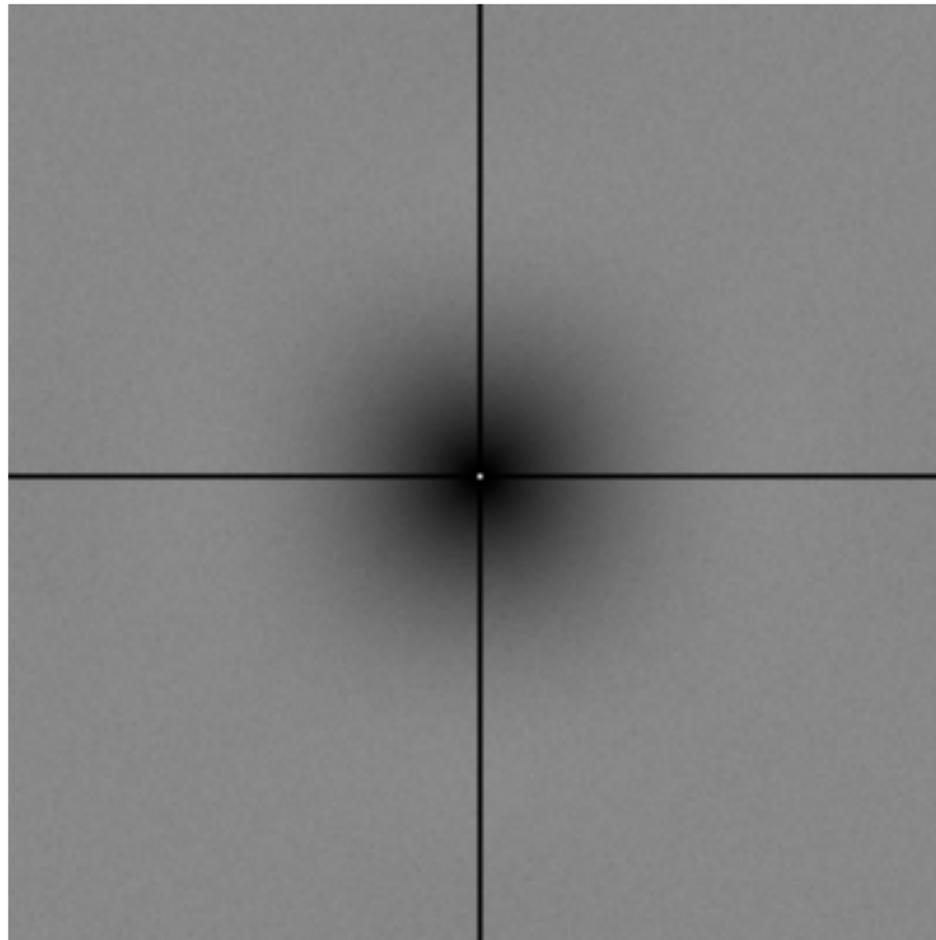
Reference

Pixel Q

Singh et al. [2019]

# Futuristic sampling target spectrum

Multi-jittered



Future design



**Singh and Jarosz [2017]**

# Future research directions

Direct link between spatial and Fourier statistics needs further investigation

Progressive samplers in higher dimensions

Adapting sample correlations w.r.t. the underlying integrand in high dimensions

# Acknowledgments



Some slides borrowed from Wojciech Jarosz and Kartic Subr

All the anonymous reviewers who helped shape this survey paper into its final form

