
Real-Time Volume Graphics

[05] Transfer Functions



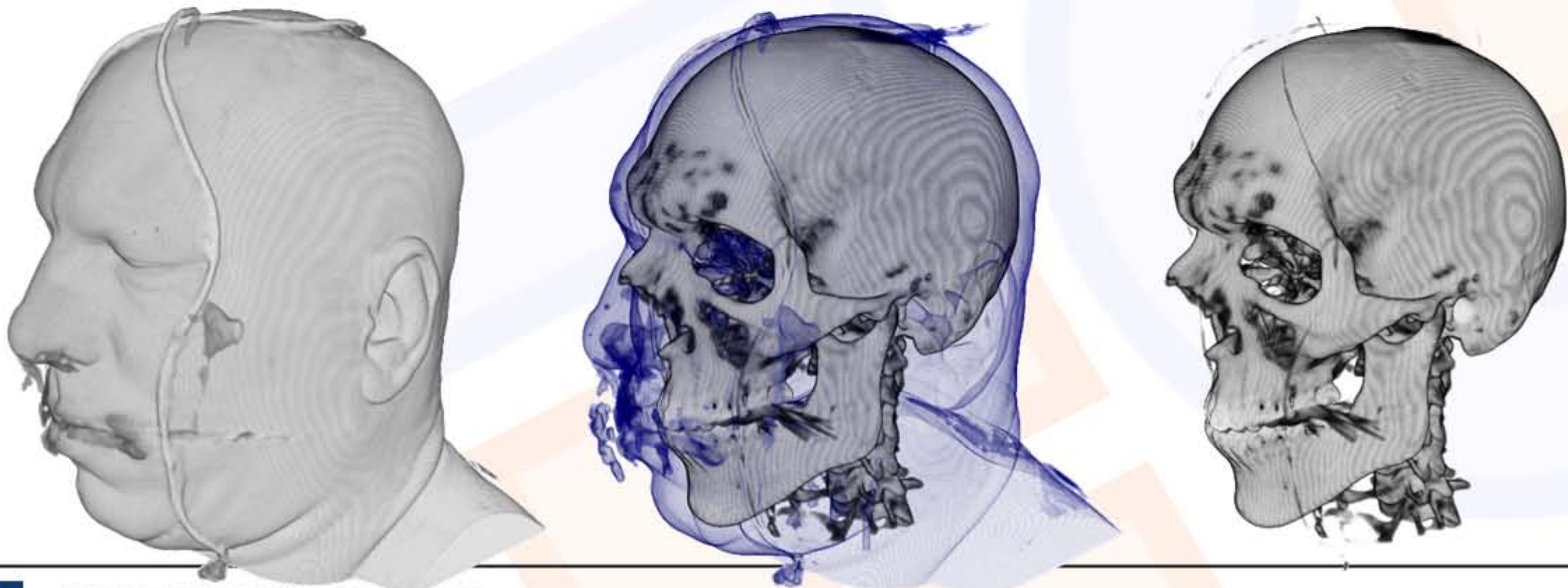
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Klaus Engel
Siemens AG, Erlangen, Germany

Eurographics 2006



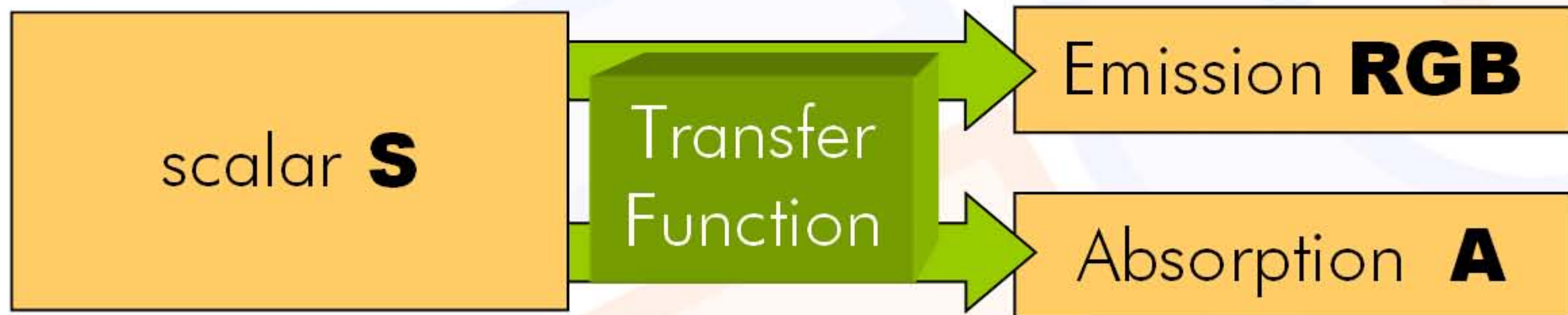
Classification

- During Classification the user defines the „Look“ of the data.
 - Which parts are transparent?
 - Which parts have which color?

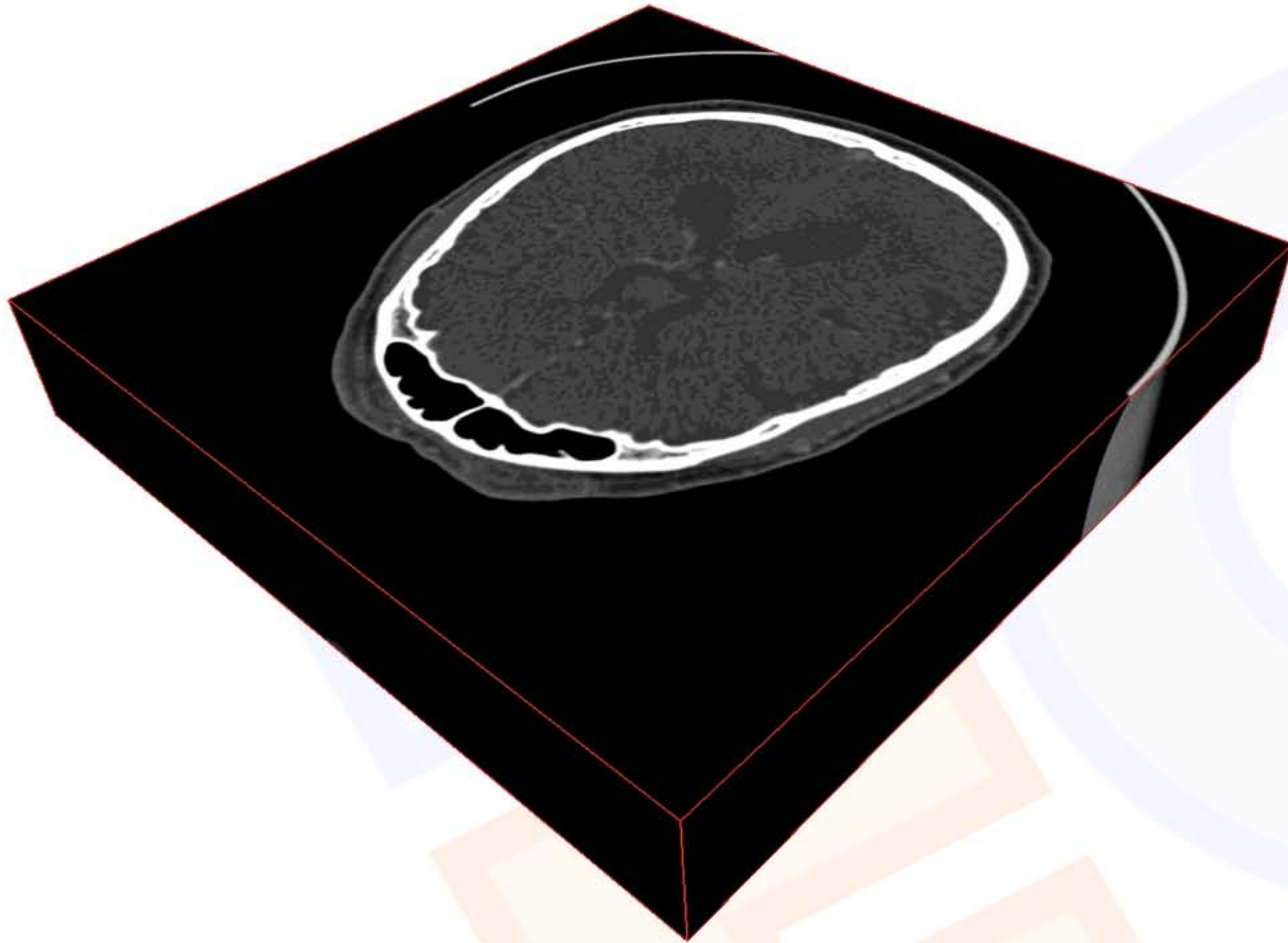


Classification

- During Classification the user defines the „*Look*“ of the data.
 - Which parts are transparent?
 - Which parts have which color?
- The user defines a *Transferfunction*.



Classification

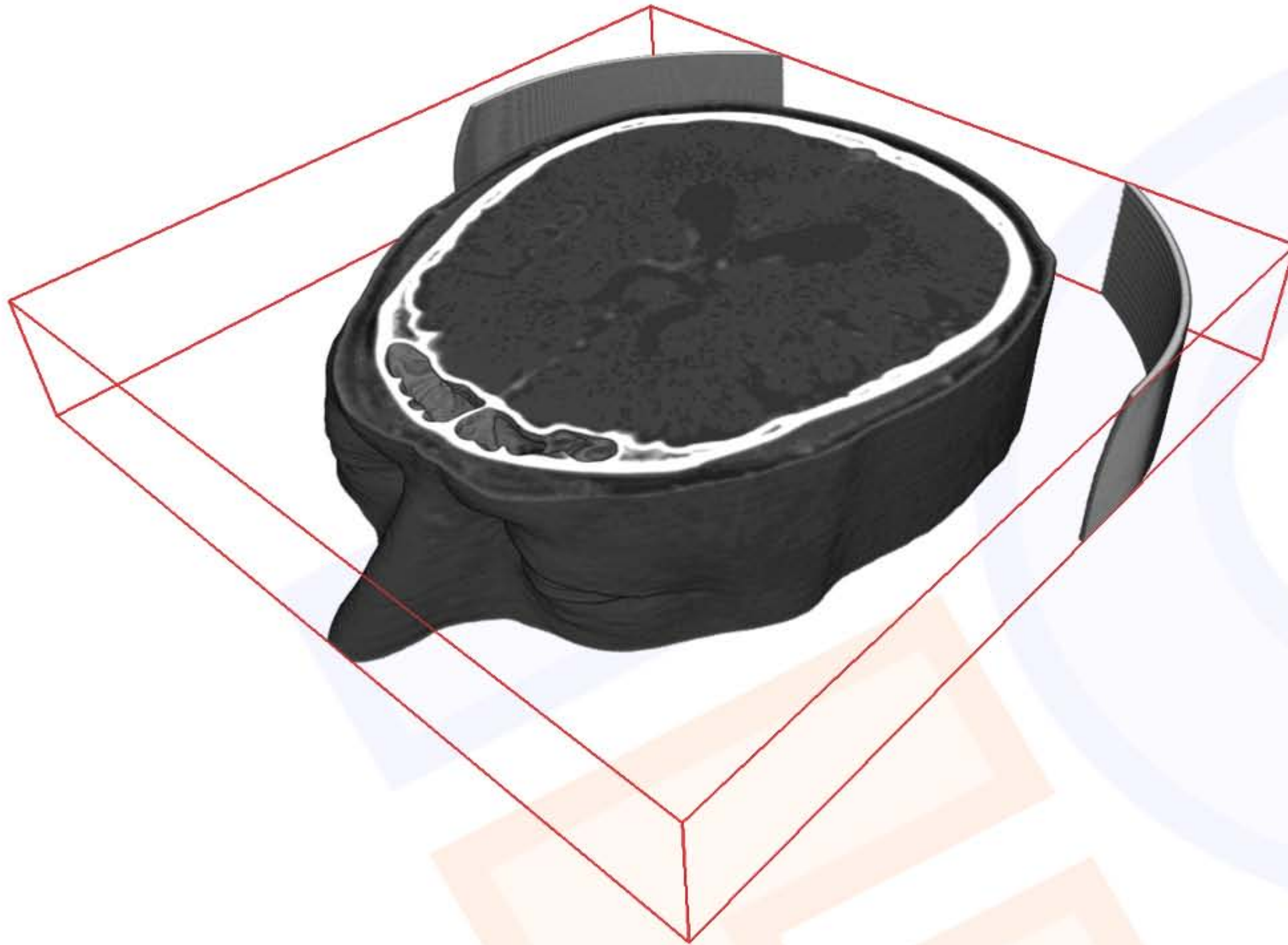


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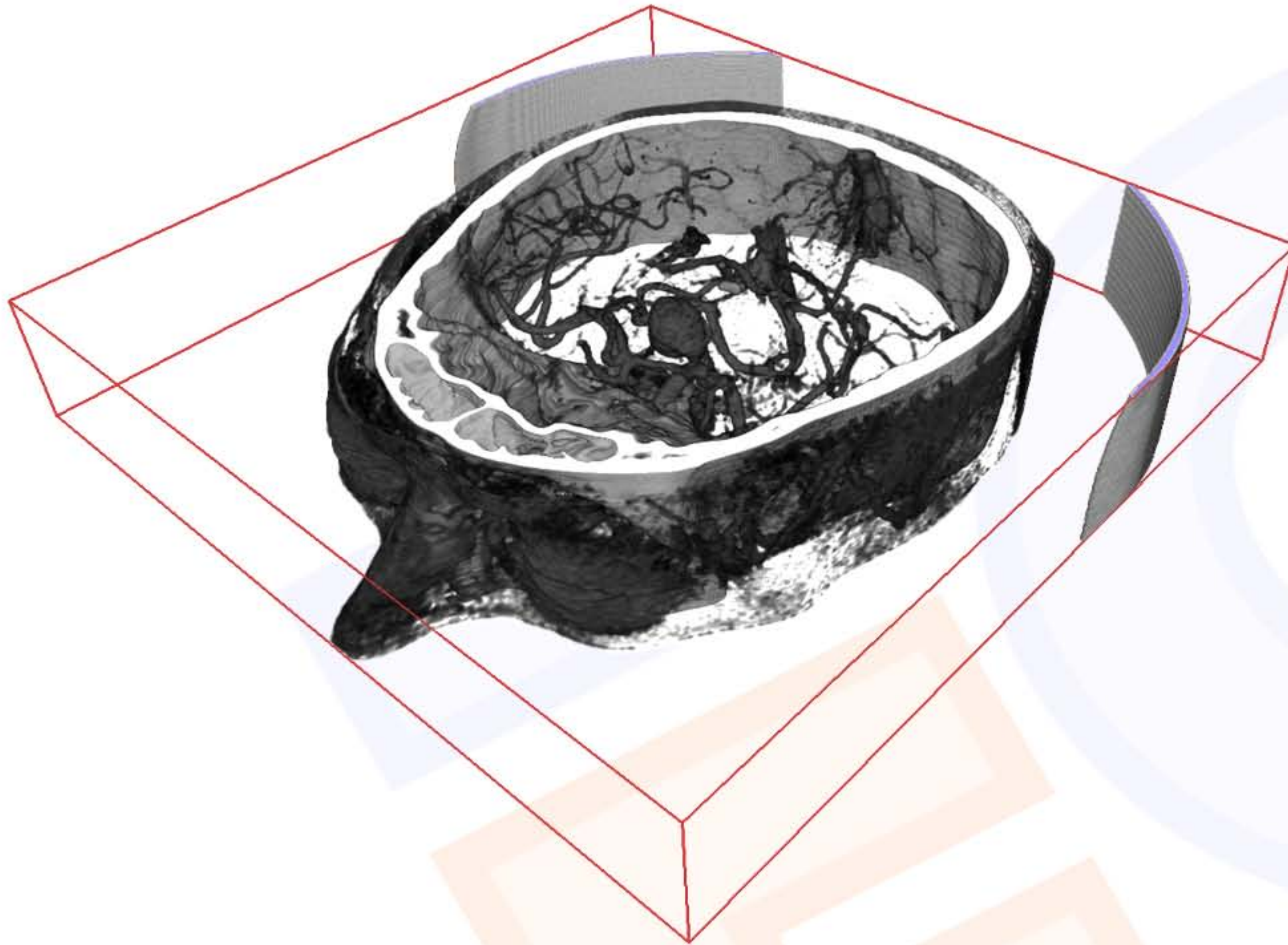


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Classification

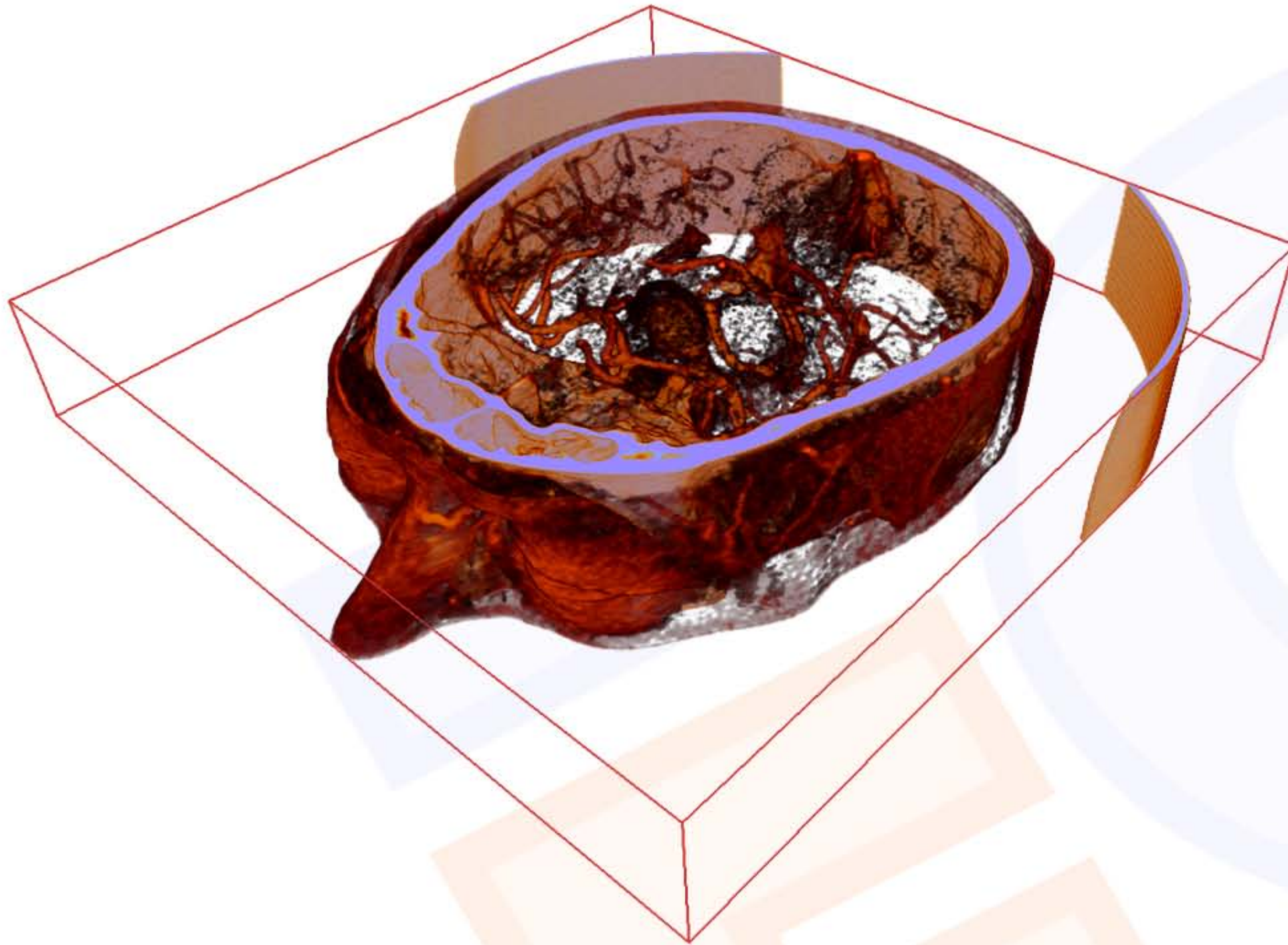


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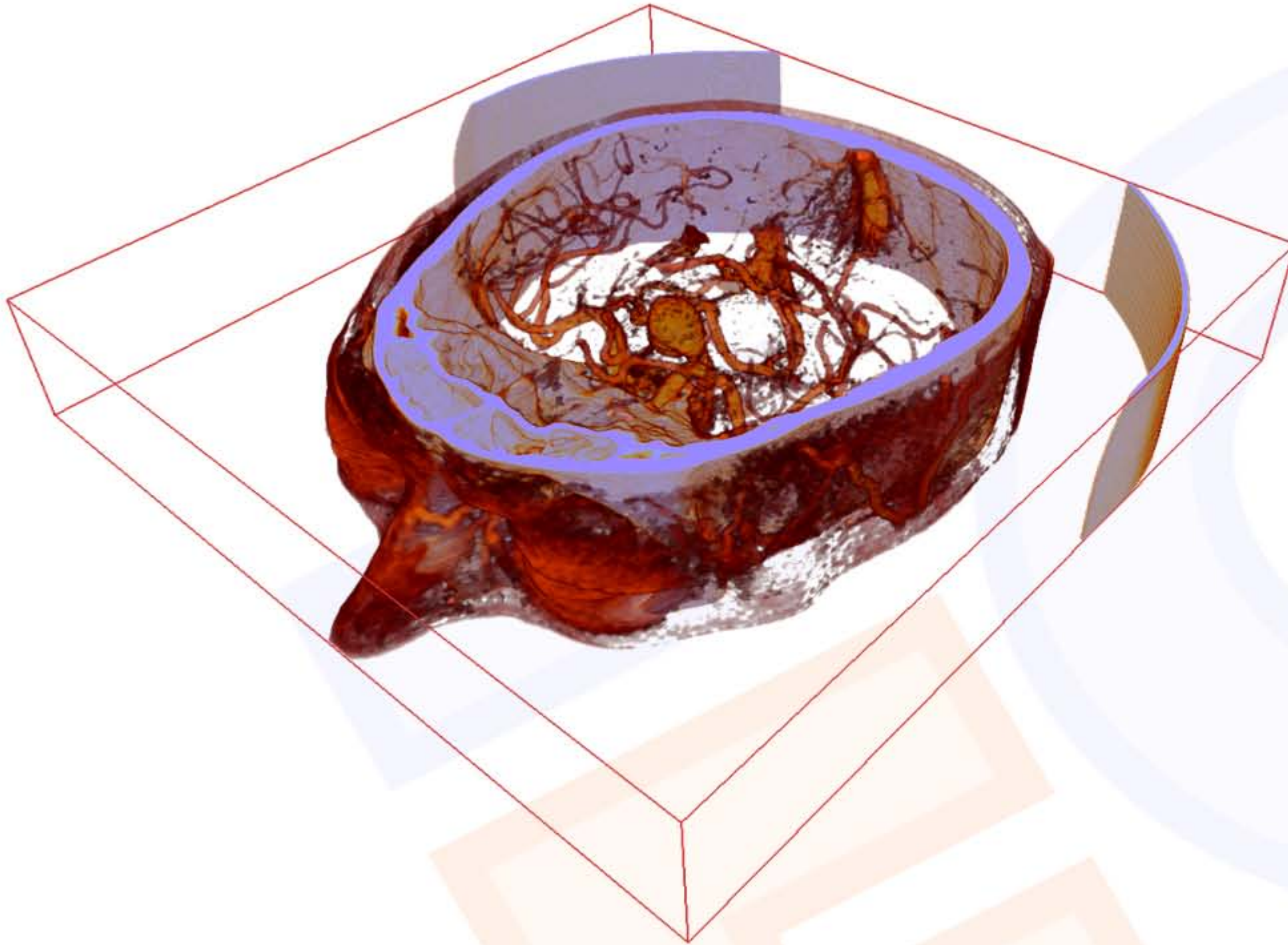


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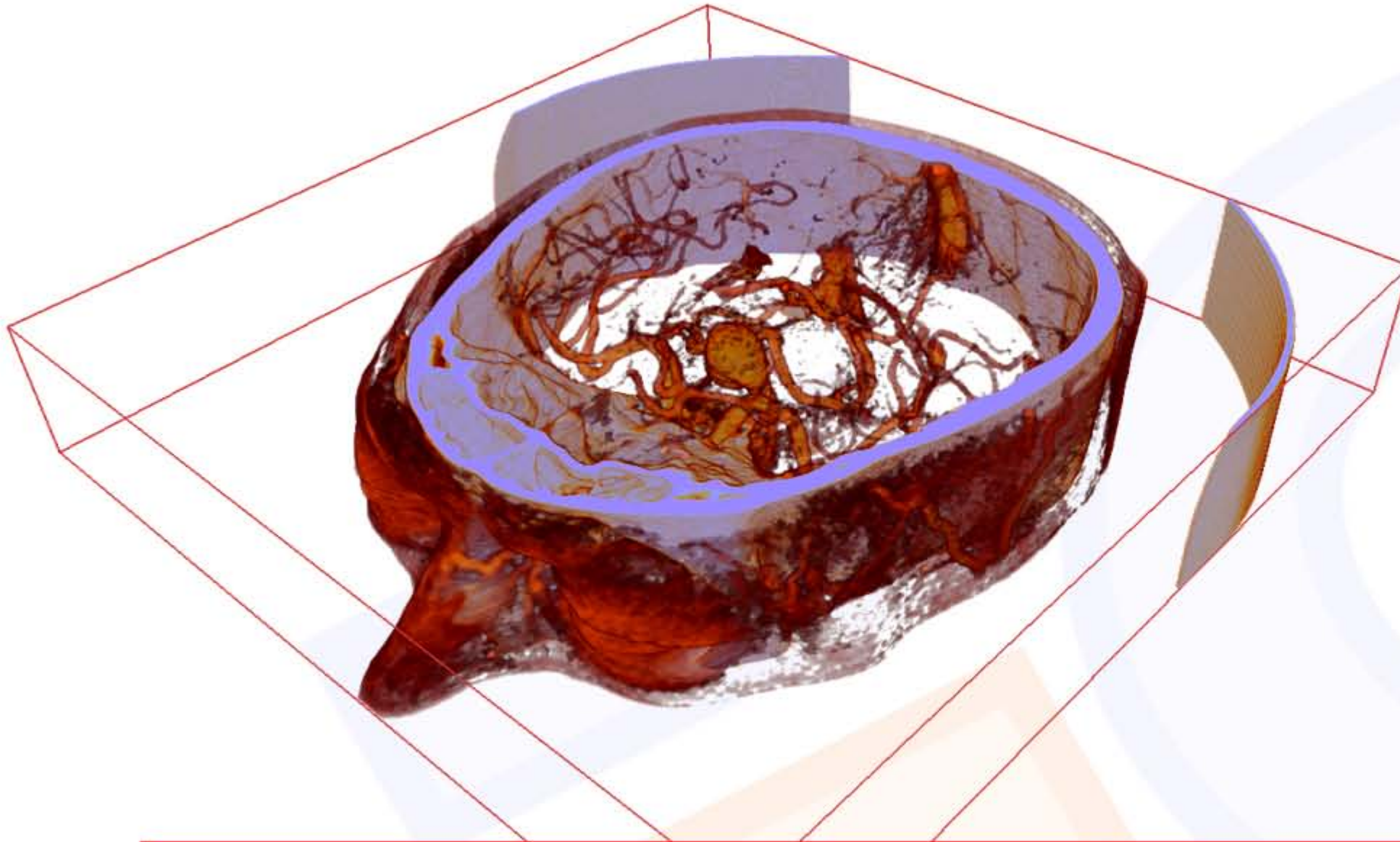


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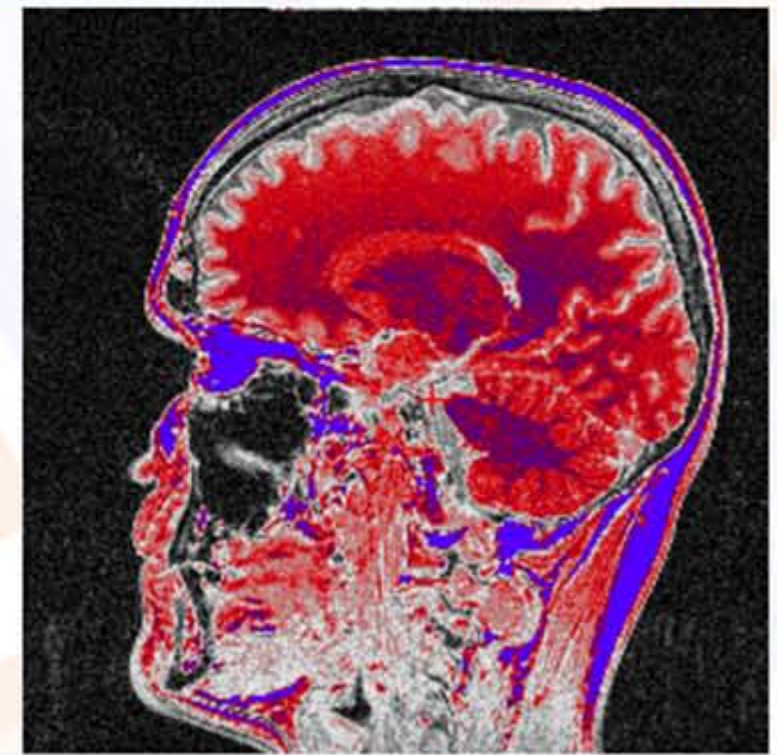
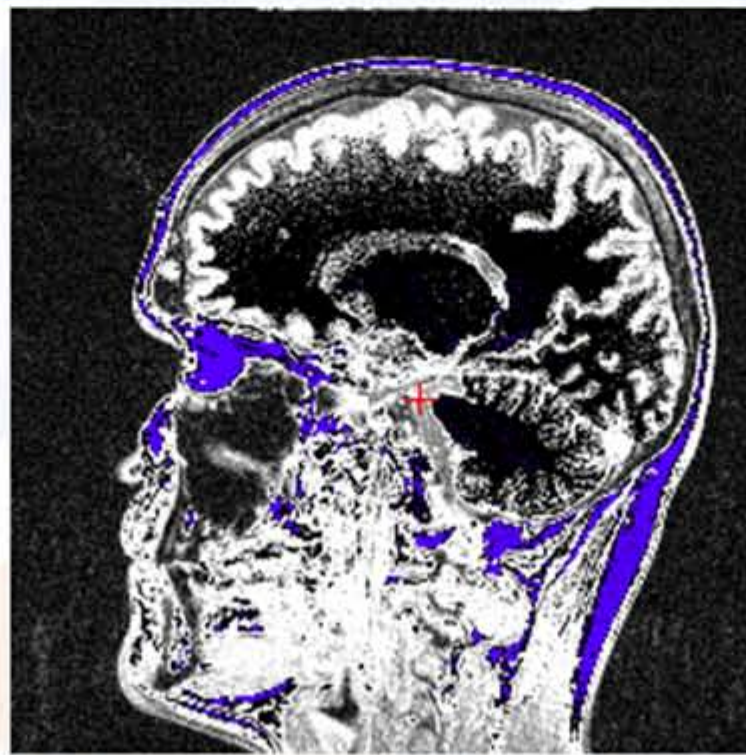
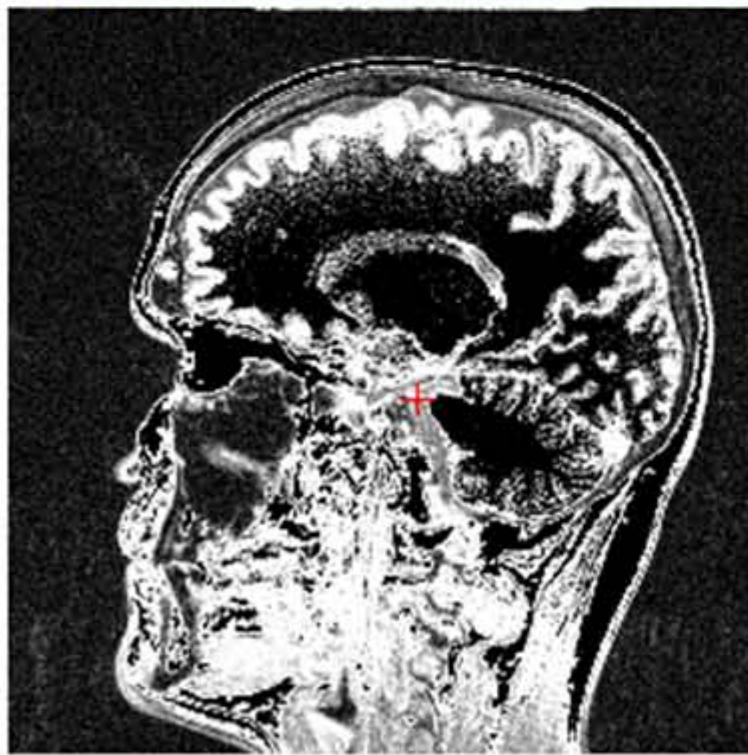
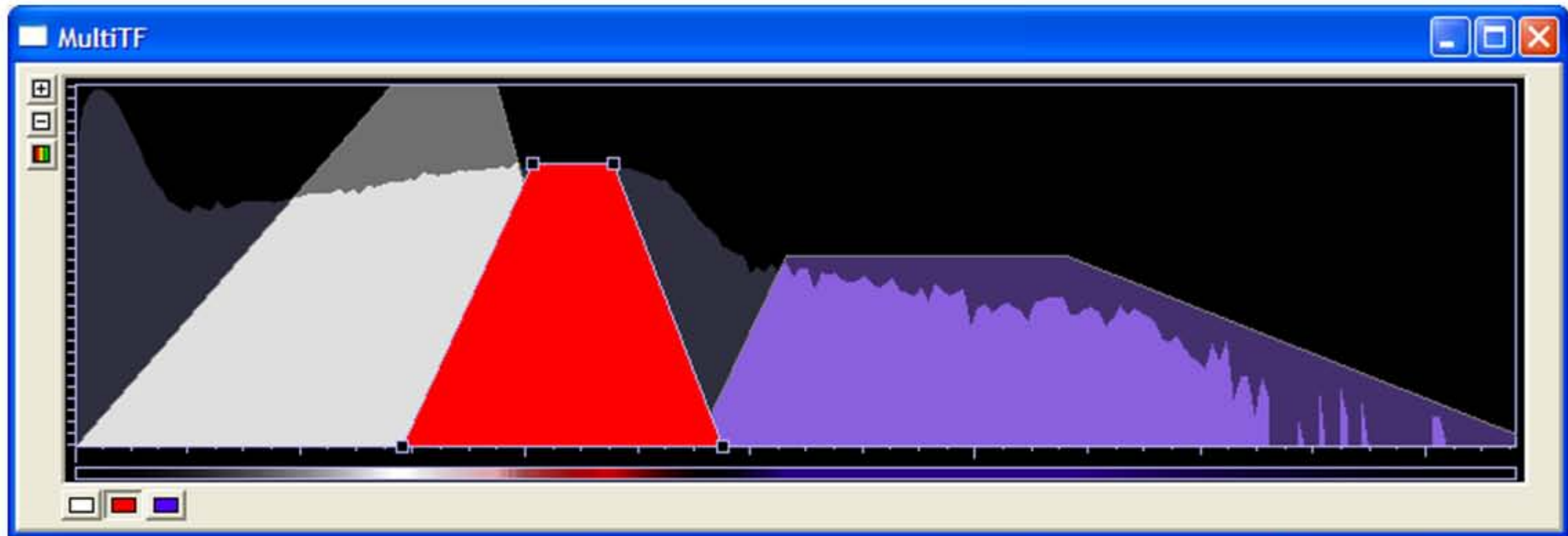
Classification



Real-Time update of the transfer function
necessary!!!



Classification



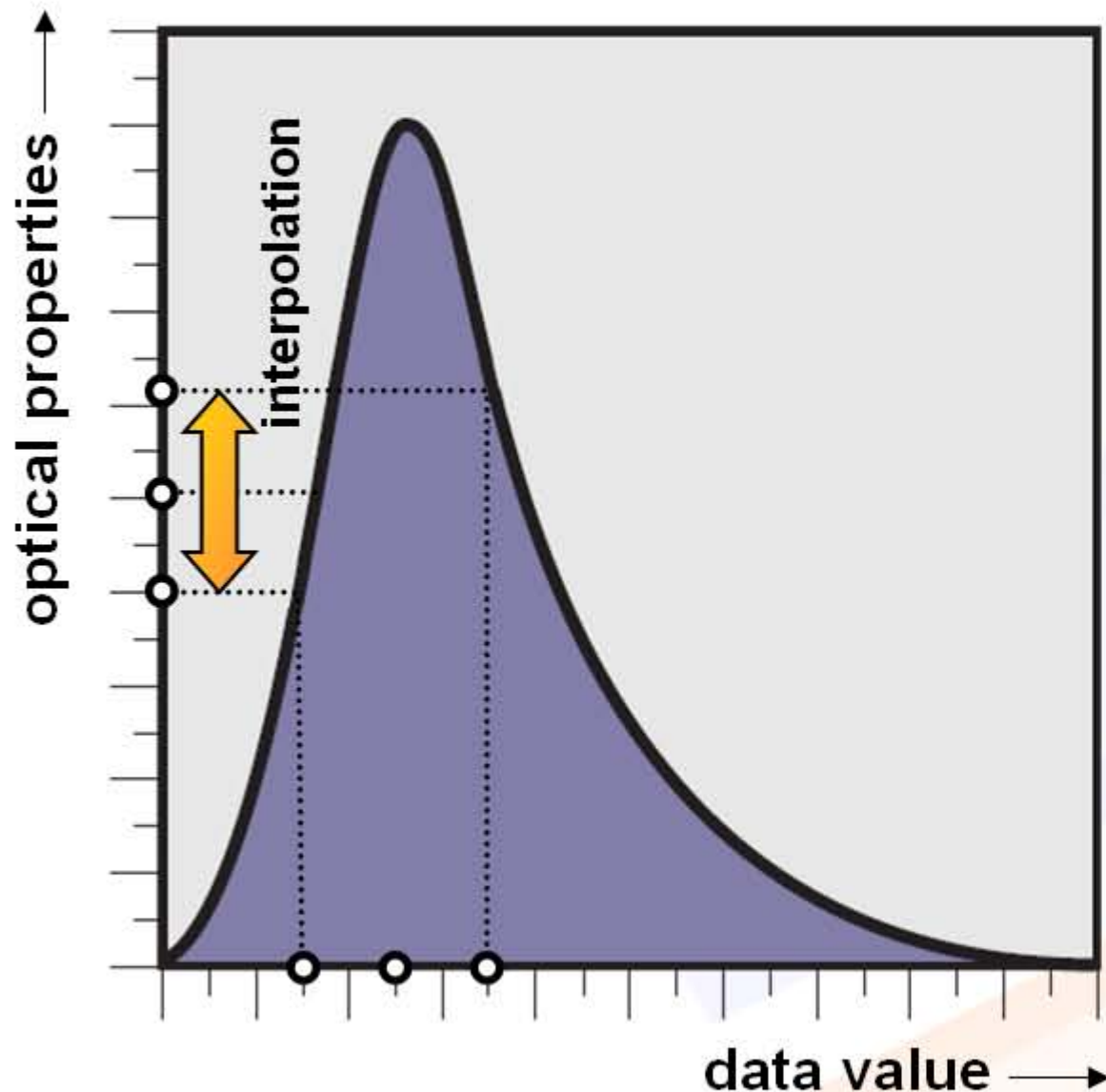
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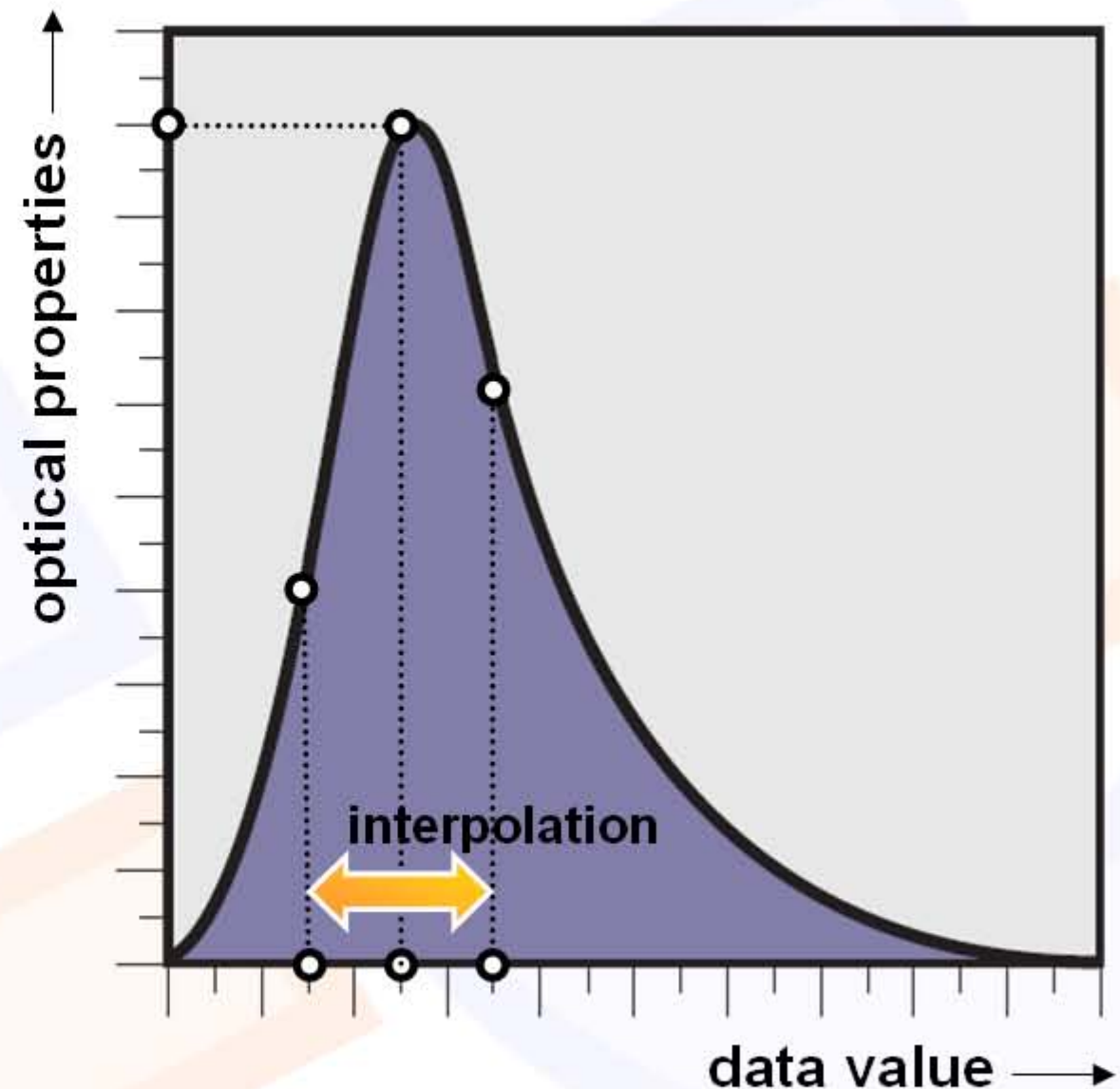


Pre- vs Post-Interpolative Classification

PRE-INTERPOLATIVE



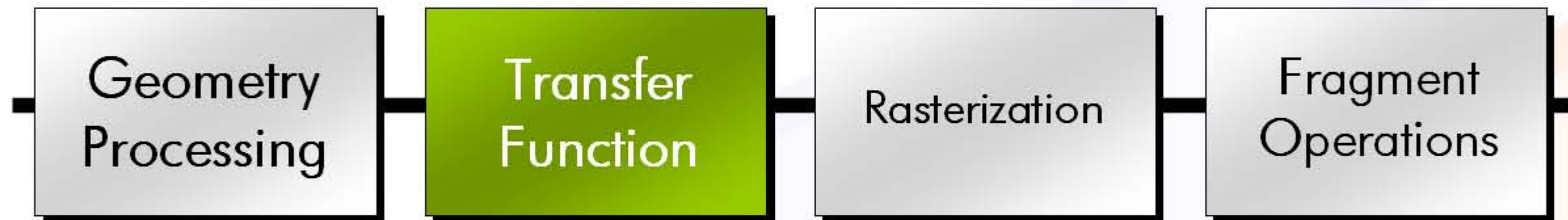
POST-INTERPOLATIVE



Pre-Classification

● Pre-Classification:

Color table is applied before interpolation.
(pre-interpolative Transferfunction)

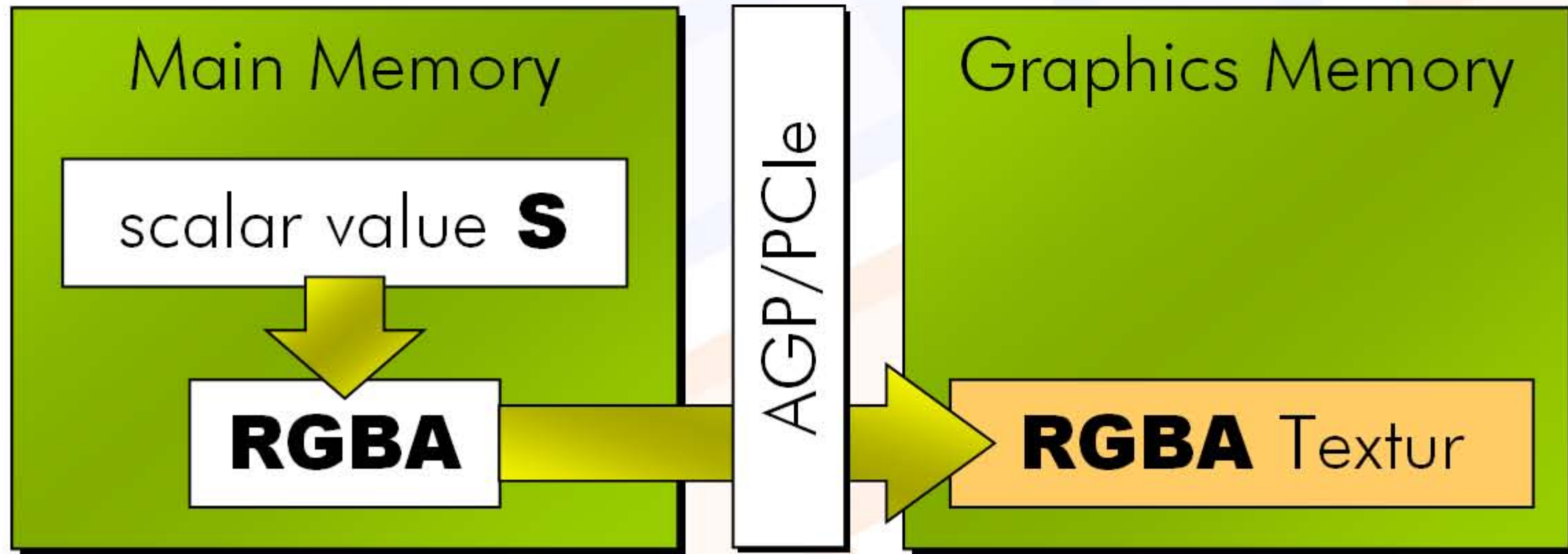


- A color value is fetched from a table
for each Voxel
- A RGBA Value is determined
for each Voxel

Possible Implementations

- The *naive* Approach:

Save Emission- and Absorption terms directly in the Texture.



Possible Implementations

- The *naive* Approach:

Save Emission- and Absorption terms directly in the Texture.

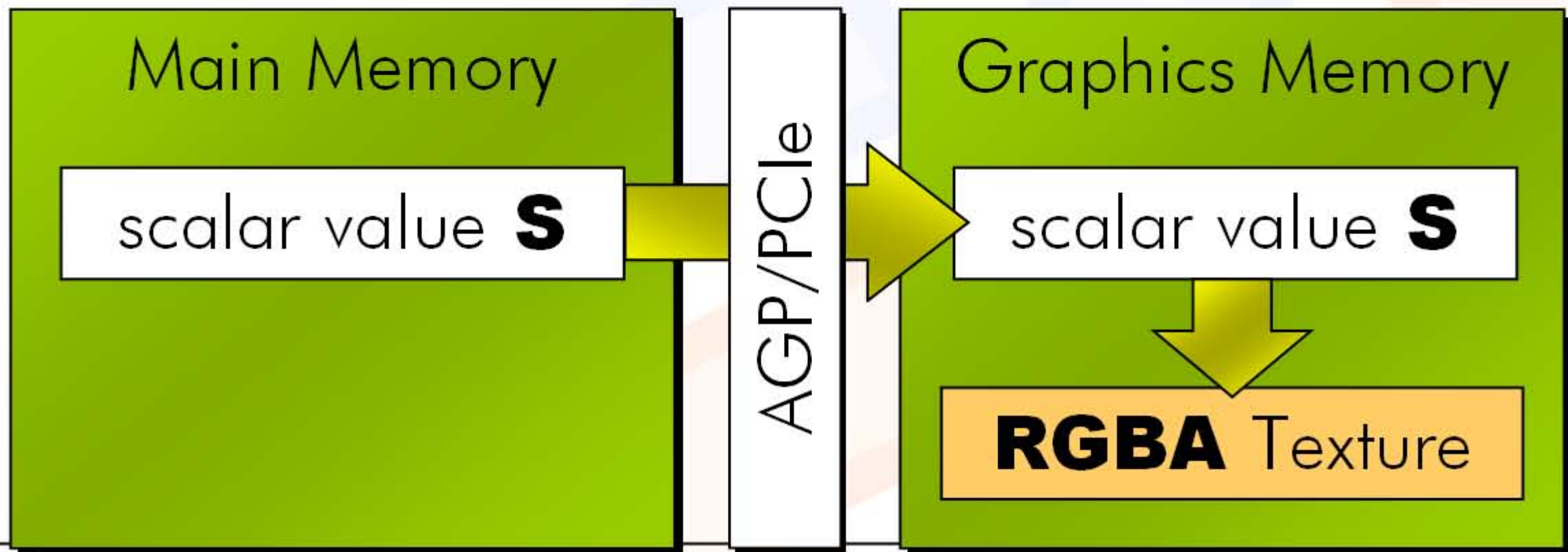
- Very high memory consumption
 - Main Memory (RGBA und scalar volumes)
 - Graphics Memory (RGBA volume)
- High Load on memory bus
RGBA Volume must be transferred.
- **Upload necessary on TF change**



Possible Implementations

- A better Approach:

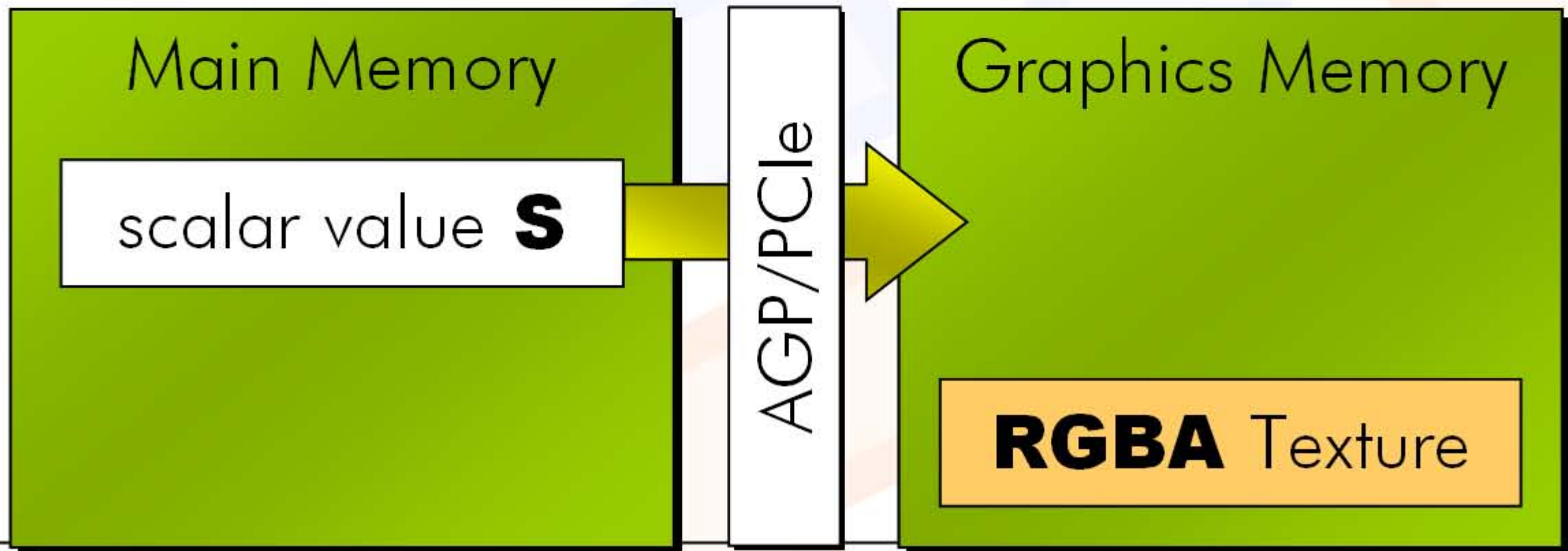
Apply color table during texture transfers from main memory to graphics card (standard OpenGL feature)



Possible Implementations

- A better Approach:

Apply color table during texture transfers from main memory to graphics card (standard OpenGL feature)



Possible Implementations

- **A better Approach:**

Apply color table during texture transfers from main memory to graphics card (standard OpenGL feature)

- High memory consumption

- Main Memory (only scalar volume)
- Graphics Memory (RGBA volume)

- Reduced load on memory bus

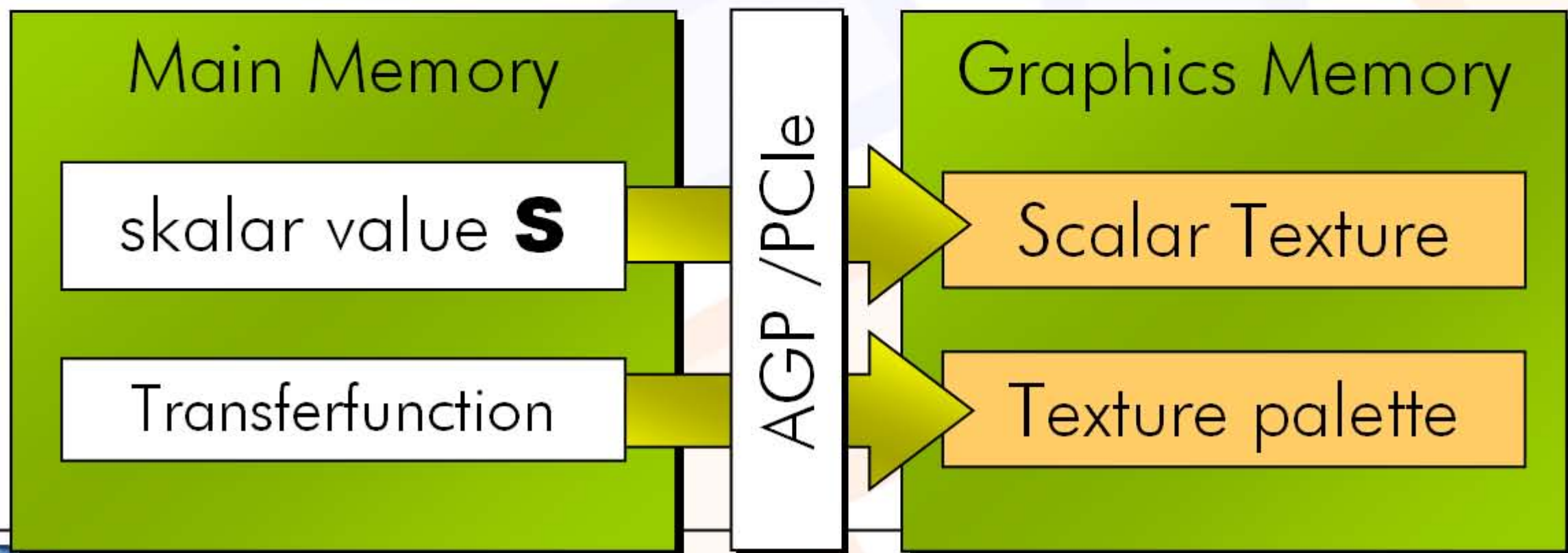
- Only the scalar volume is transferred.

- **Upload necessary on TF change**



Possible Implementations

- The best approach: Paletted Textures
Store the scalar volume together with the color table directly in graphics memory.
- Hardware-Support necessary!



Possible Implementations

- The best approach: Paletted Textures
Store the scalar volume together with the color table directly in graphics memory.
- Hardware-Support necessary!
- Low memory consumption
 - Main Memory (scalar volume can be deleted!)
 - Graphics Memory (scalar volume + TF)
- Low load on memory bus
 - Scalar volume must be transferred only once!
- Only the color table must be re-uploaded on TF change

Pre-Classification Summary

- Summary Pre-Classification

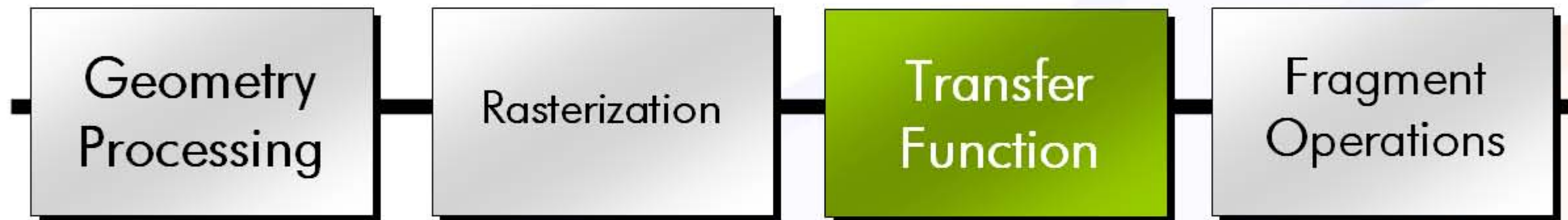
- Application of the Transferfunction before Rasterization
- One RGBA Lookup for each Voxel
- Different Implementations:
 - Texture Transfer
 - Texture Color Tables (paletted textures)
- Simple and Efficient
- Good for coloring segmented data



Post-Classification

● Post-Classification:

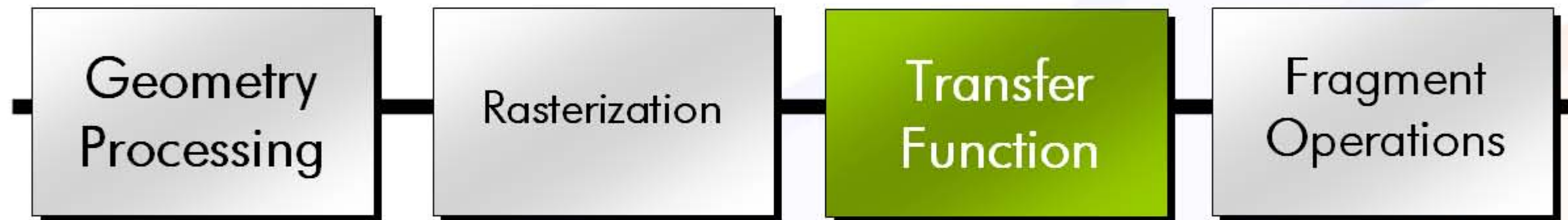
The color table is applied after Interpolation
(*post-interpolative Transferfunction*).



Post-Classification

● Post-Classification:

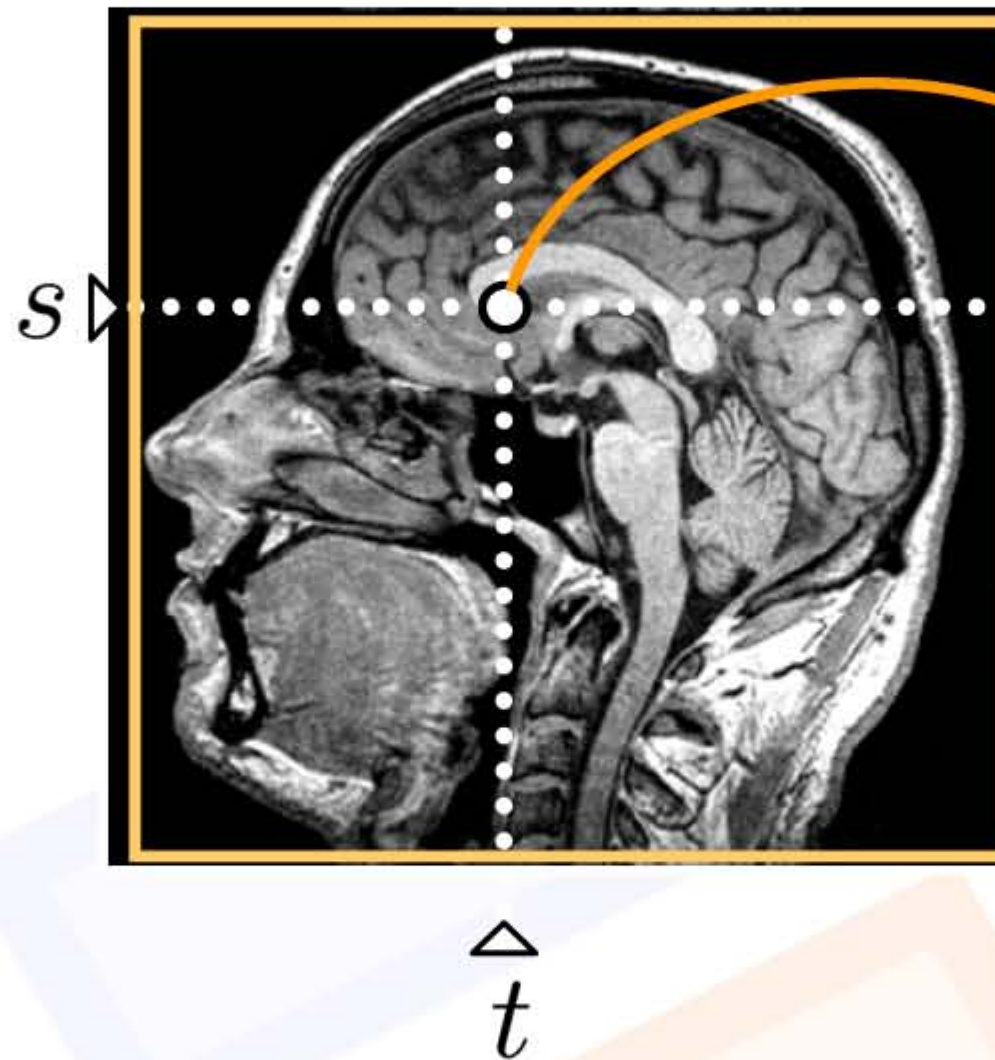
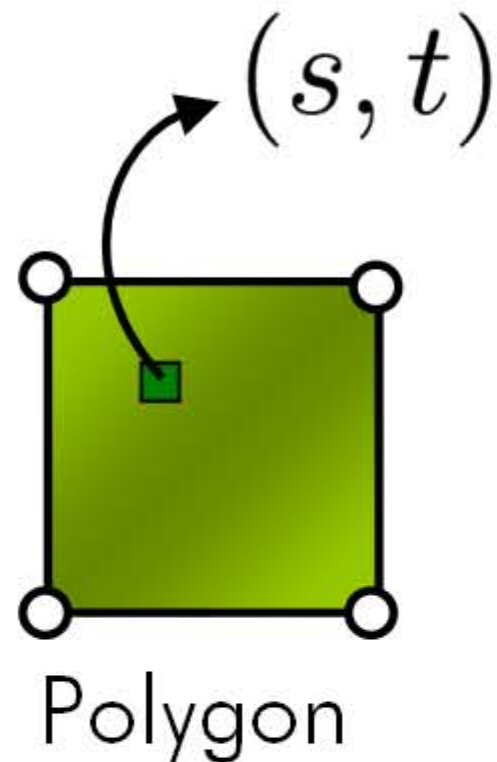
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- A color is fetched from the color table
for each Fragment

Post-Classification

Texture 0 = Scalar field



R=G=B=A=
Scalar field S



RGBA

$= T(S)$

Texture 1 = Transferfunction [Emission RGB, Absorption A]



\triangle
R



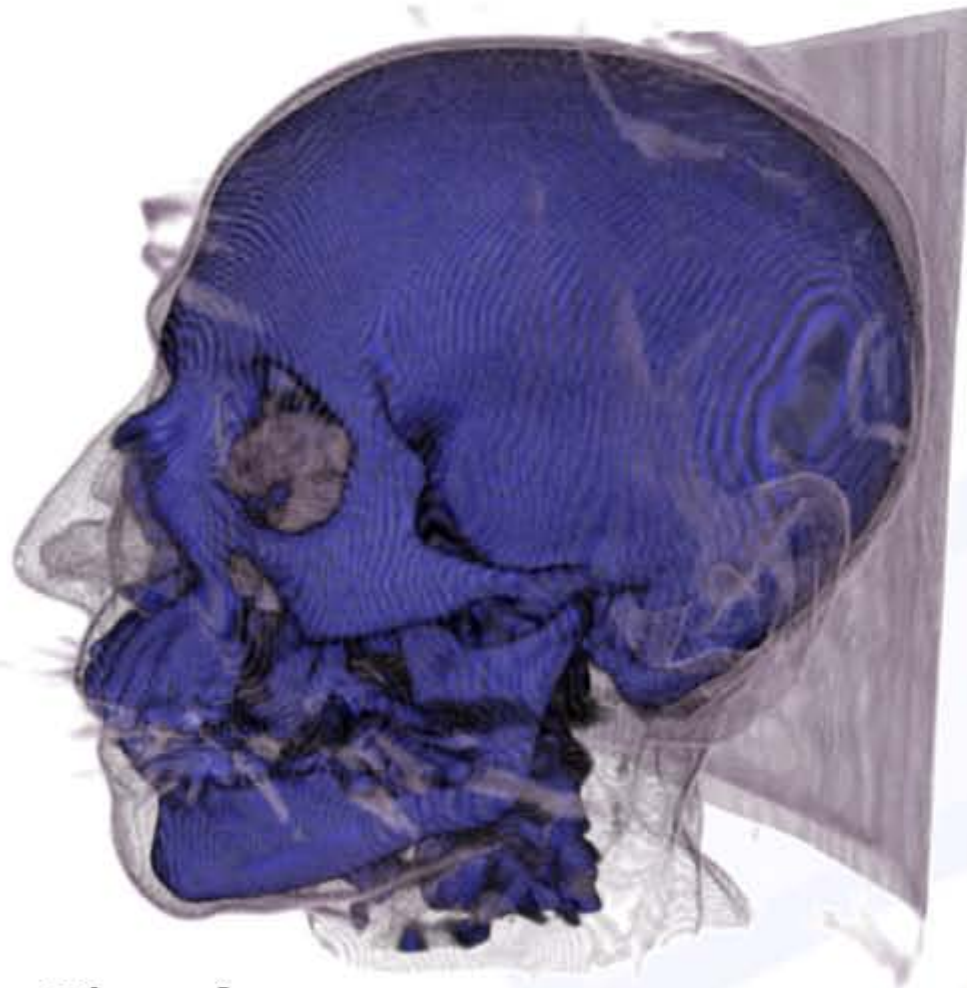
CG Implementation

```
//fragment program for post-classification
//using 3D textures
float4 main (float3 texUV : TEXCOORD0,
             uniform sampler3D volume_texture,
             uniform sampler1D transfer_function) :
    COLOR
{
    float index = tex3D(volume_texture, texUV);
    float4 result = tex1D(transfer_function, index);
    return result;
}
```

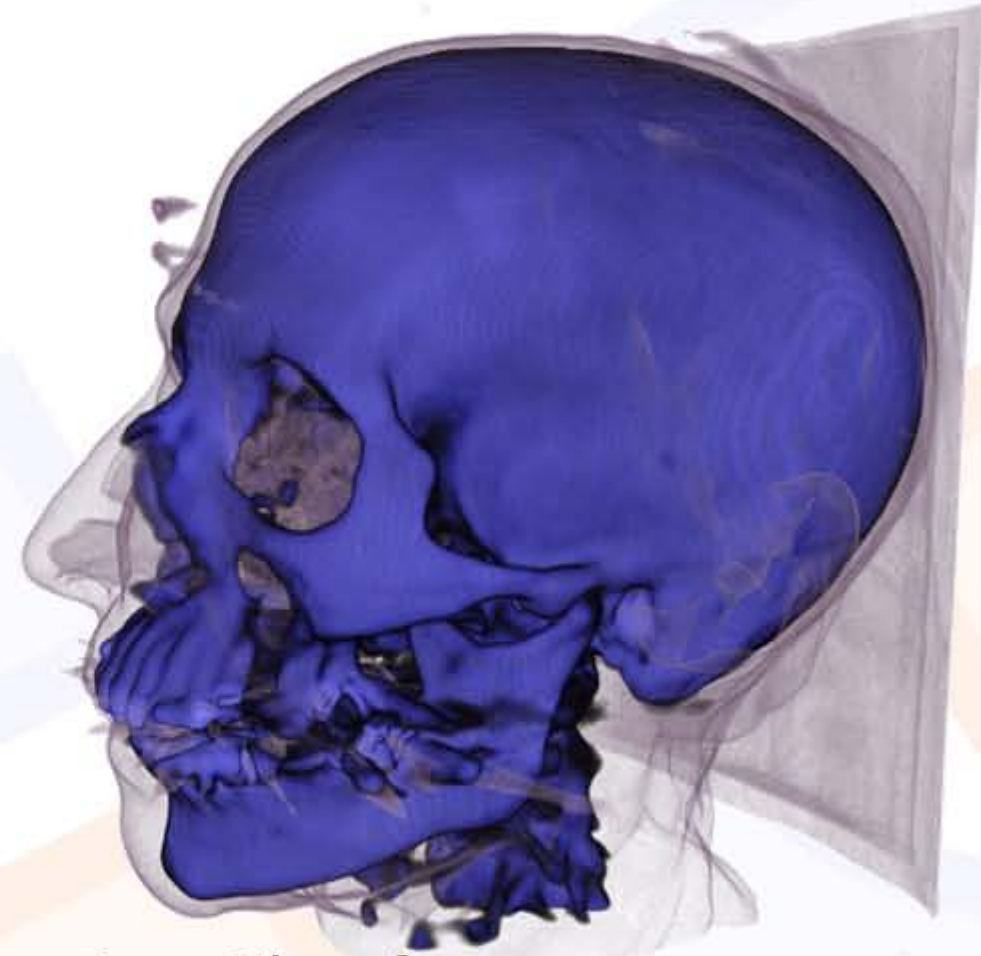


Quality: Pre- vs. Post-Classification

- Comparison of image quality



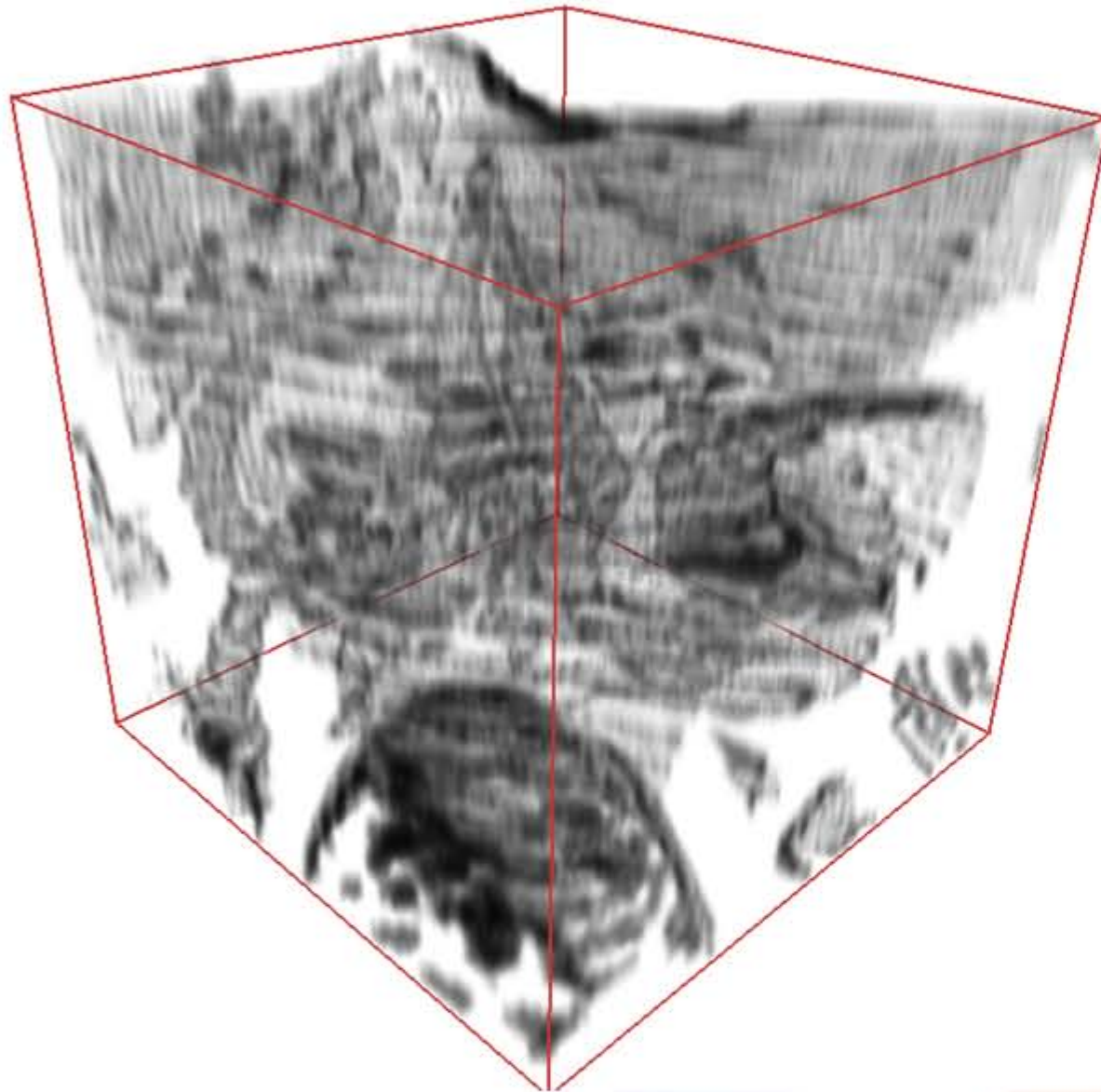
Pre-Classification



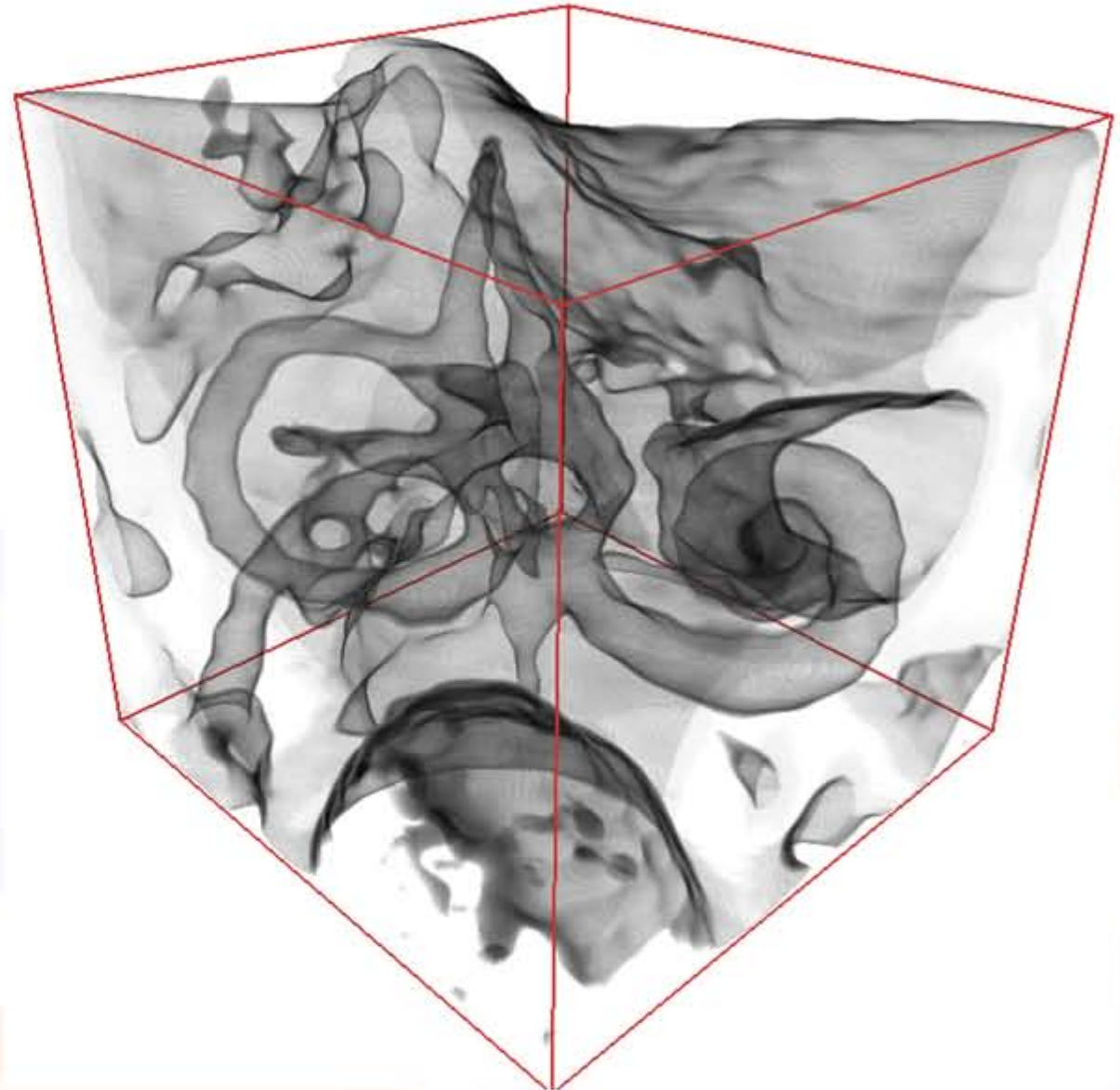
Post-Classification

Same TF, same Resolution, same Sampling Rate

Quality



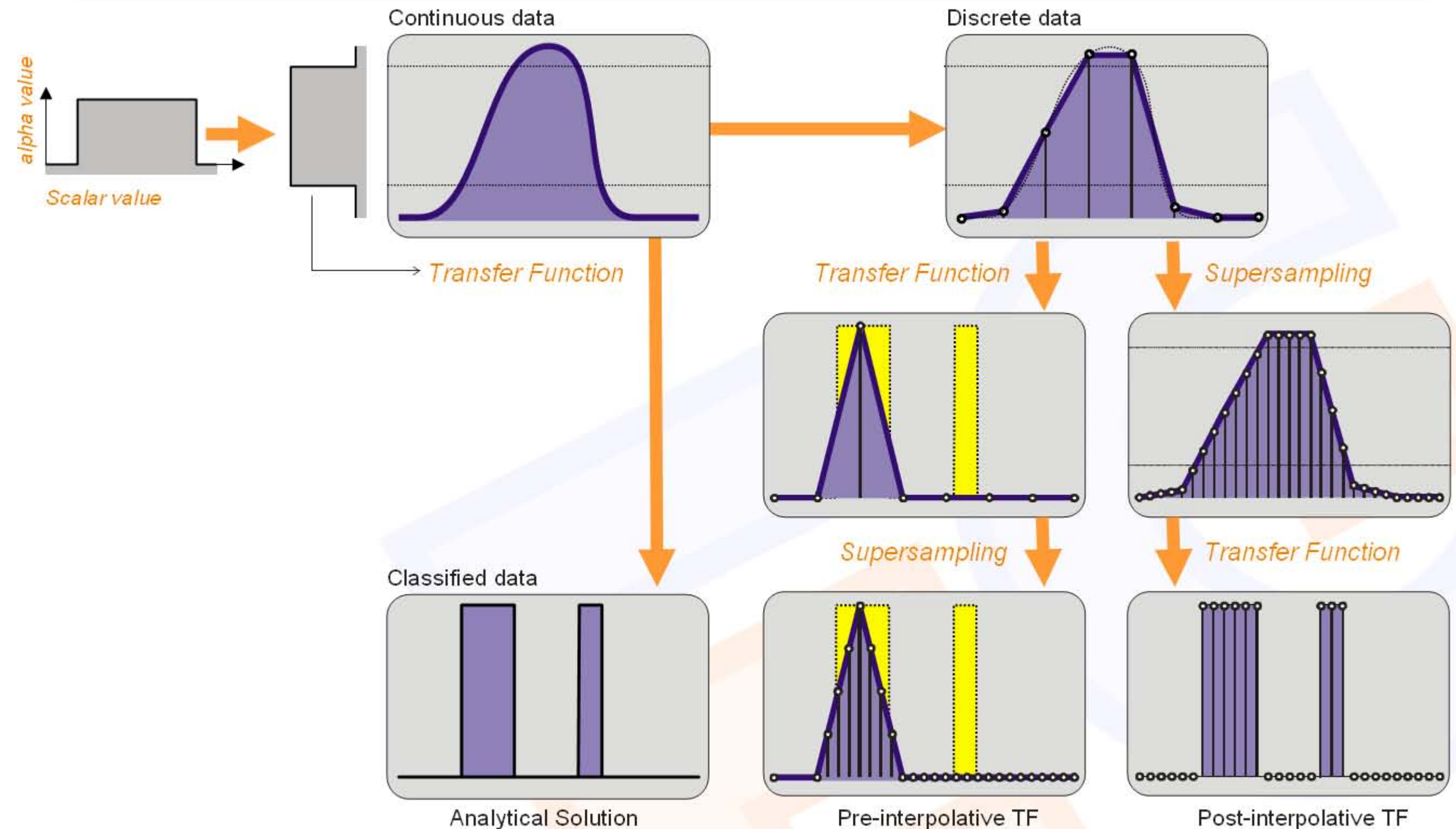
Pre-Classification



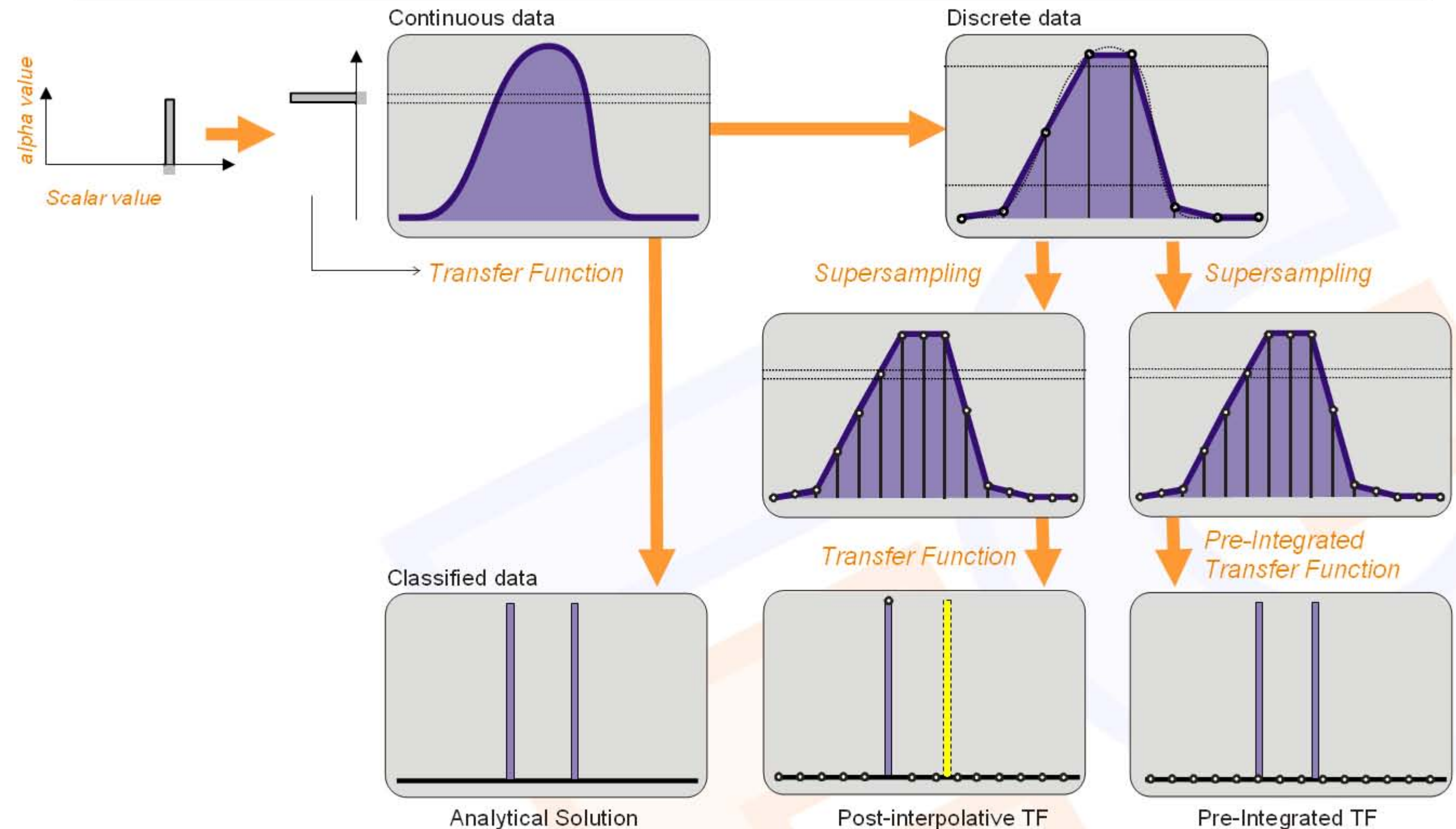
Post-Classification



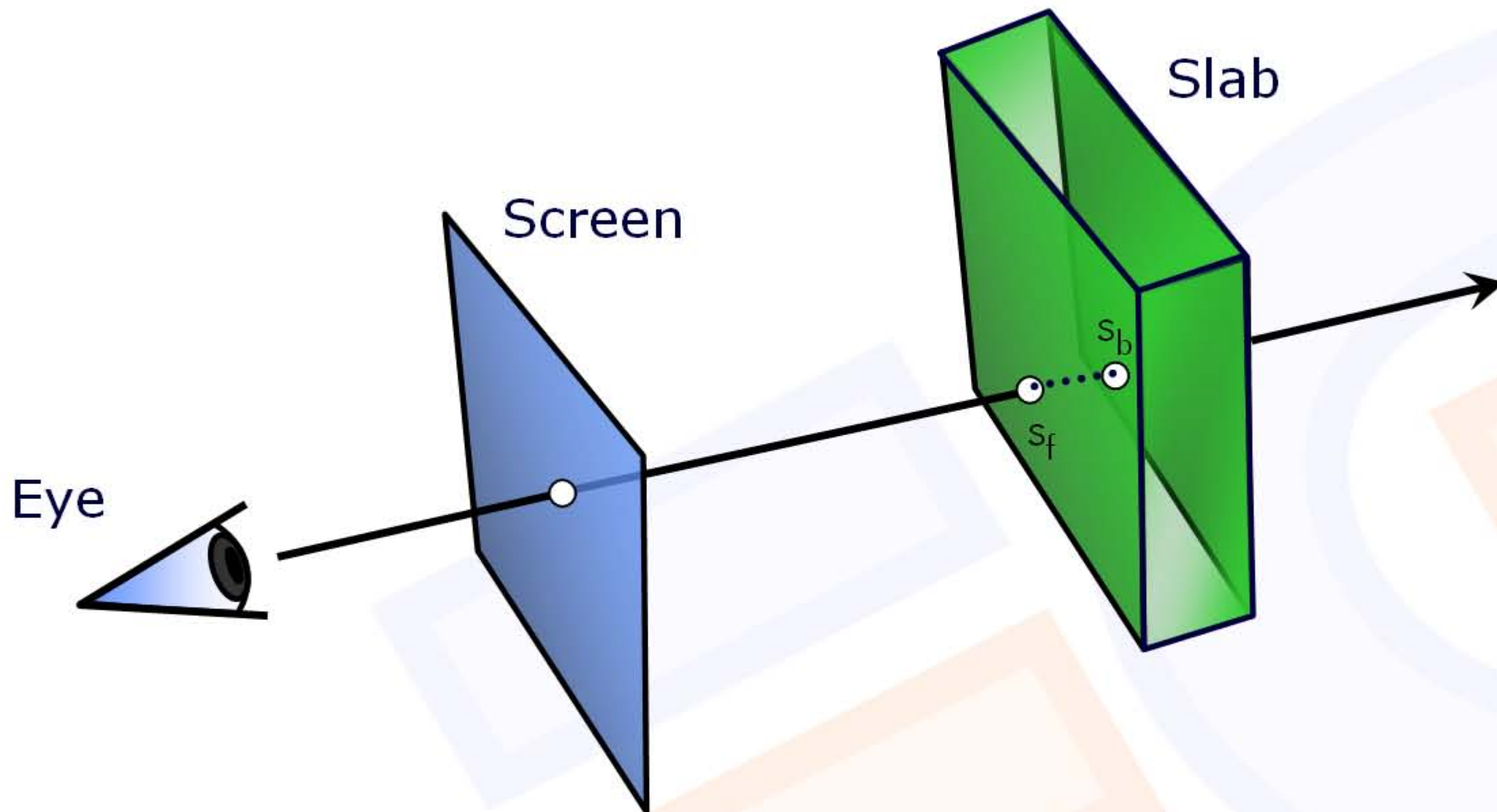
Pre- vs Post-Classification



Post- vs Pre-Integrated Classification



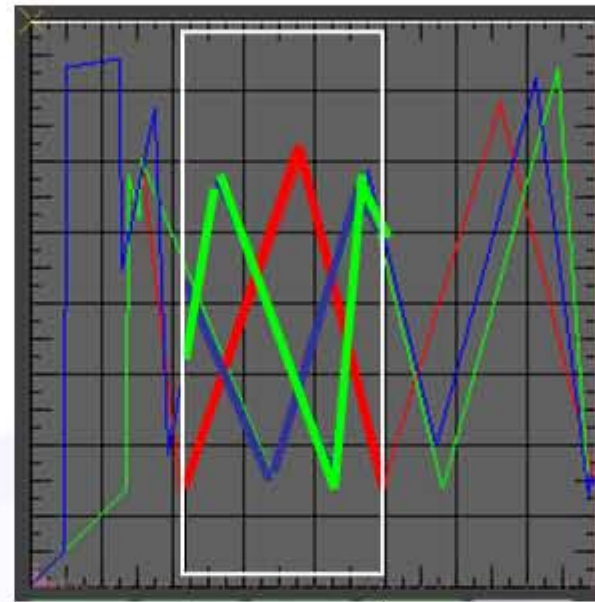
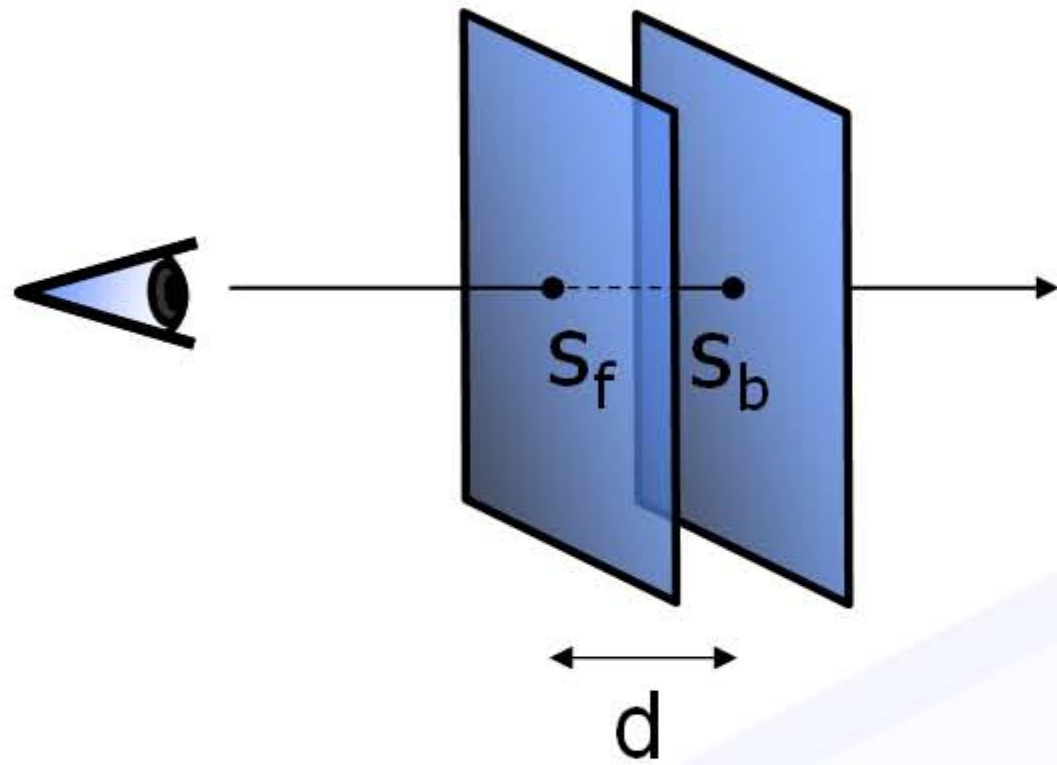
Classification Artifacts / Pre-integration



Pre-Integrated Classification

front
slice back
slice

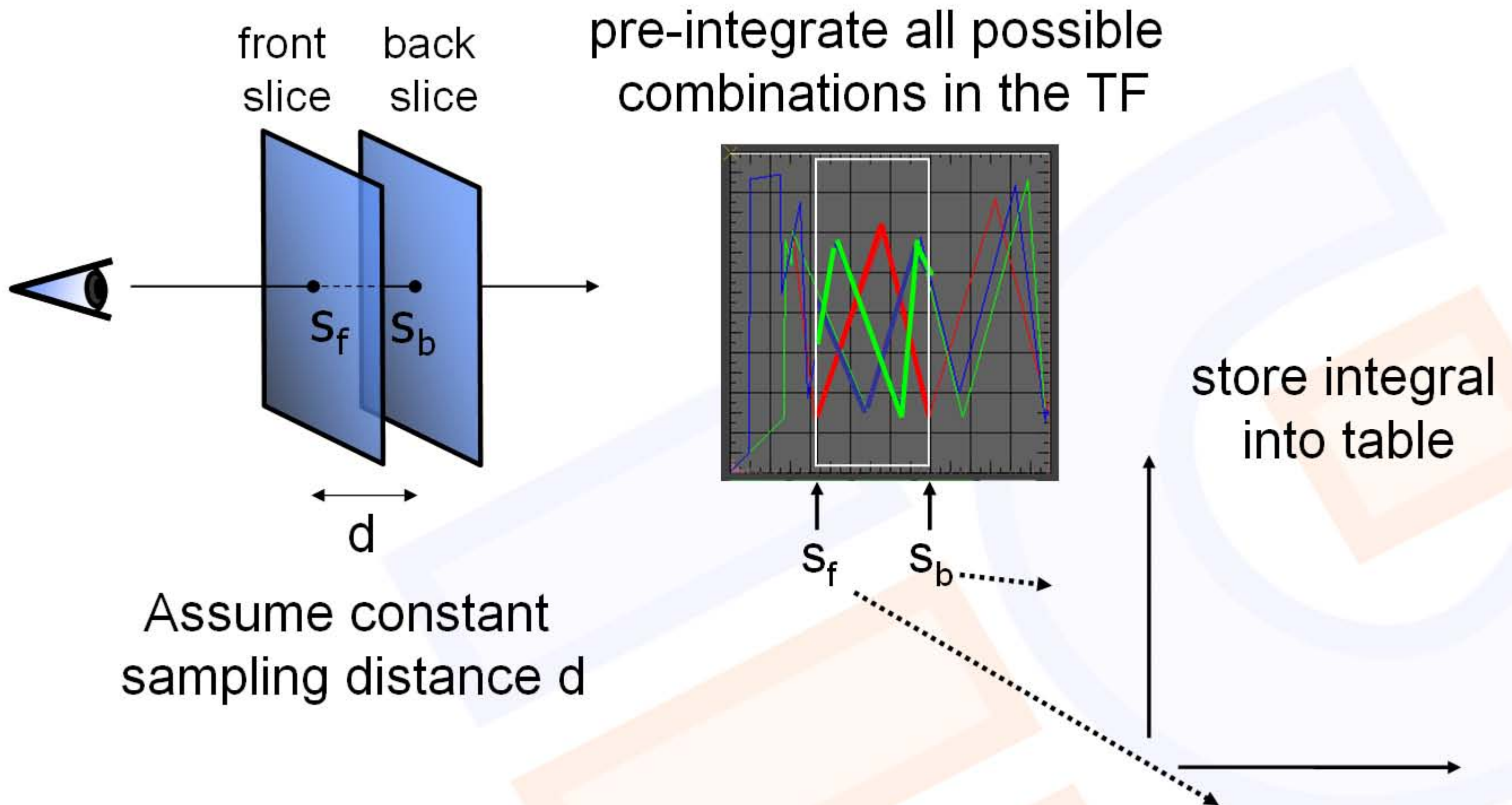
pre-integrate all possible
combinations in the TF



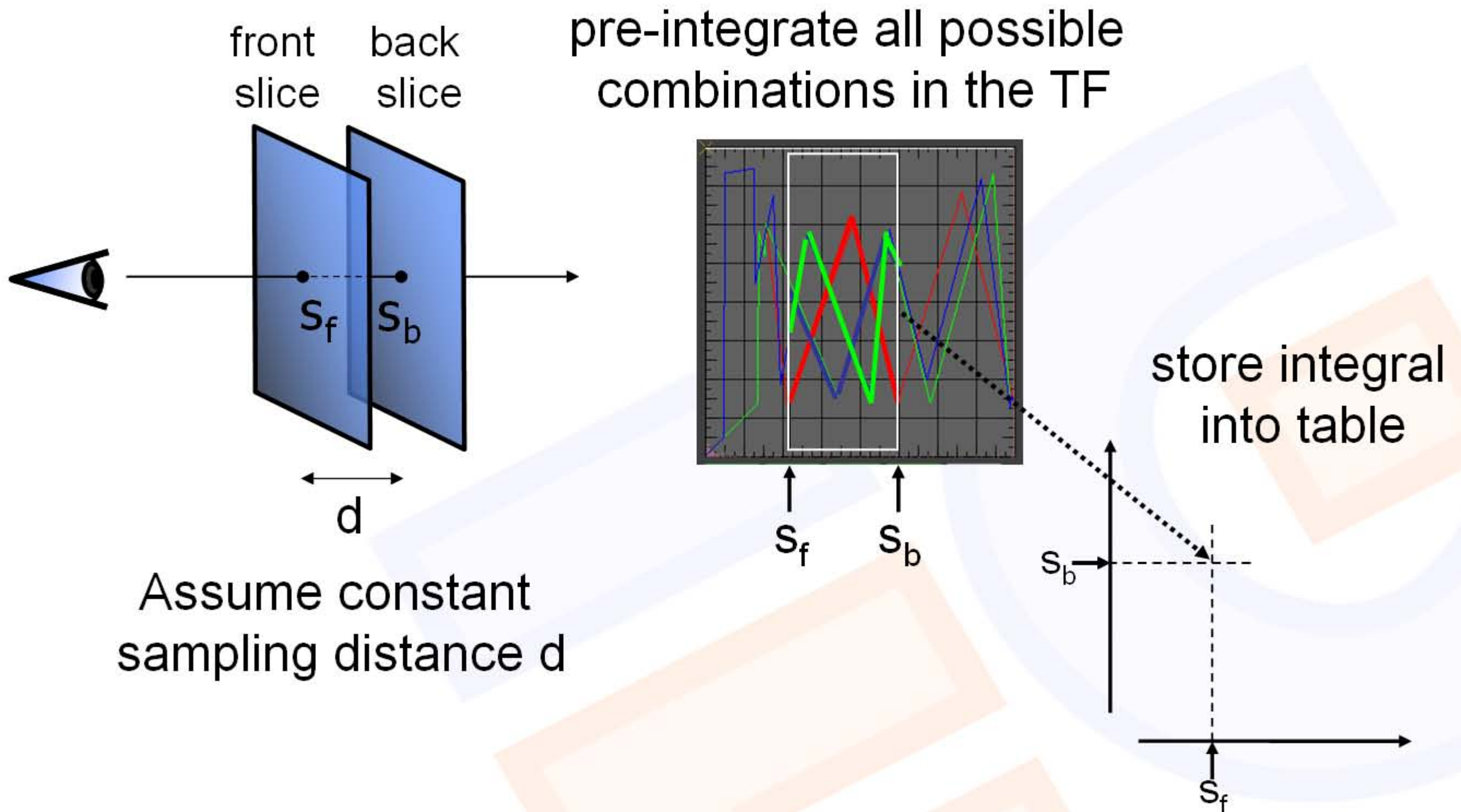
S_f S_b

Assume constant
sampling distance d

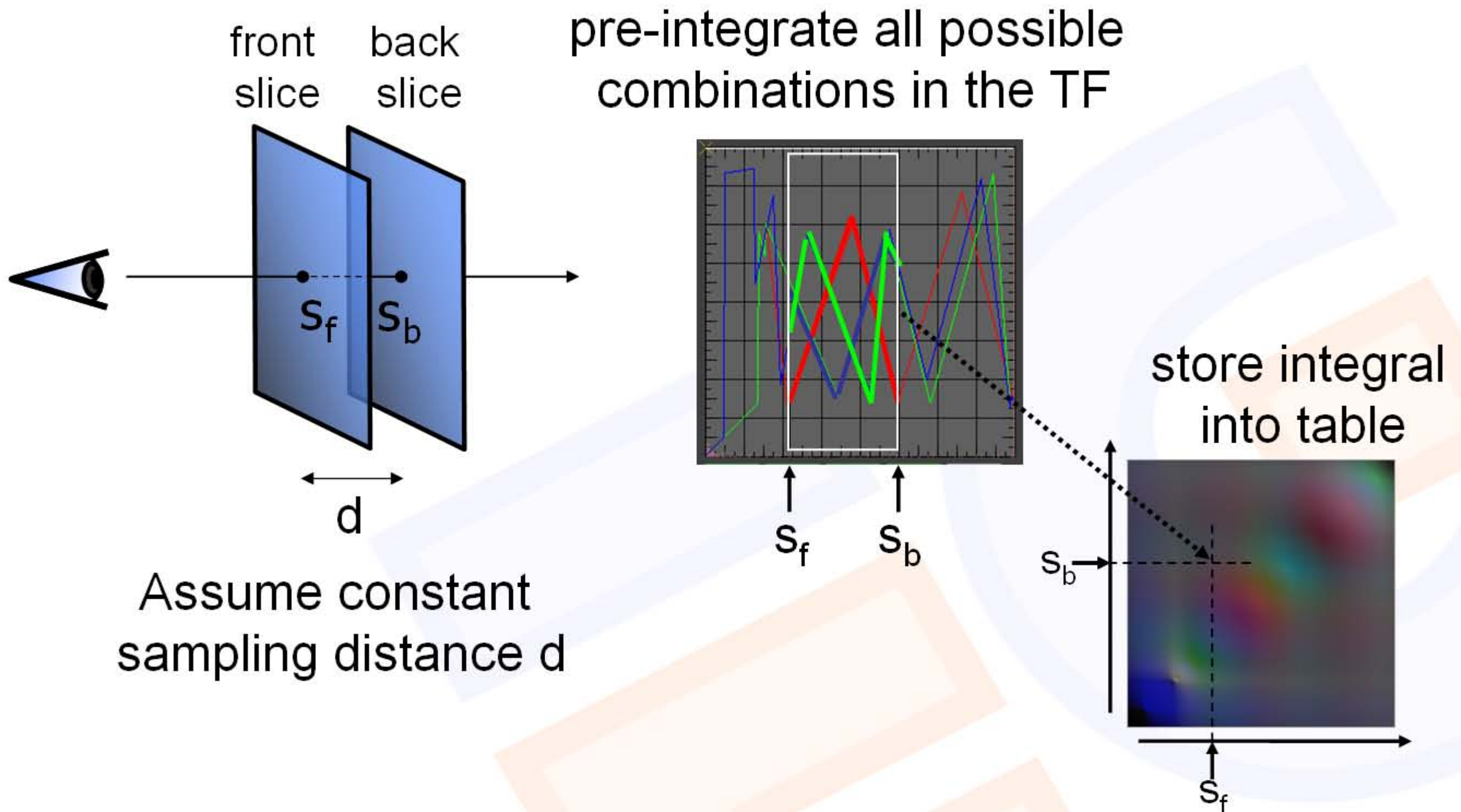
Pre-Integrated Classification



Pre-Integrated Classification



Pre-Integrated Classification



Classification Artifacts / Pre-integration

```
struct v2f_simple {
    float4 Hposition : POSITION;
    float3 TexCoord0 : TEXCOORD0;
    float3 TexCoord1 : TEXCOORD1;
    float4 Color0 : COLOR0;
};

float4 main(v2f_simple IN,
            uniform sampler3D Volume,
            uniform sampler2D TransferFunction,
            uniform sampler2D PreIntegrationTable) : COLOR
{
    float4 lookup;
    //sample front scalar
    lookup.x = tex3D(Volume, IN.TexCoord0.xyz).x;
    //sample back scalar
    lookup.y = tex3D(Volume, IN.TexCoord1.xyz).x;

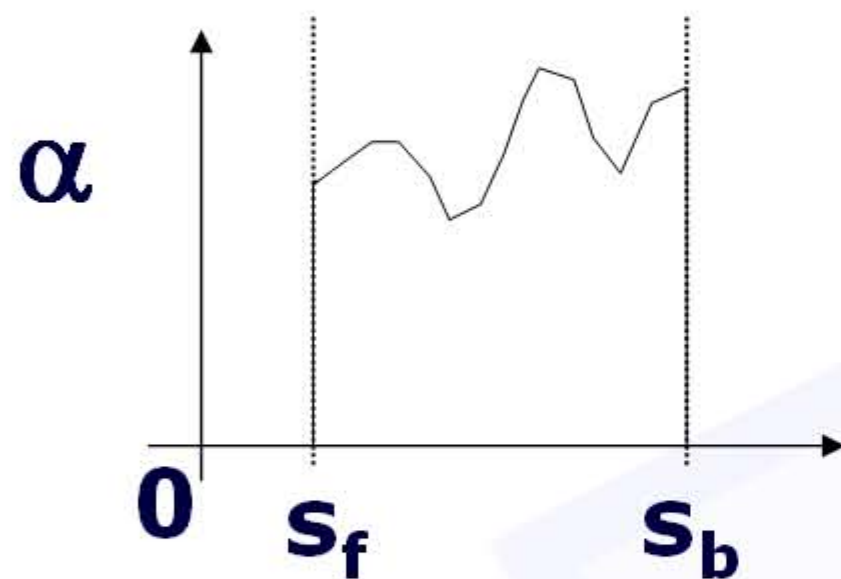
    //lookup and return pre-integrated value
    return tex2D(PreIntegrationTable, lookup.yx);
}
```

Cg Fragment Program



Pre-Integrated Classification

- Fast re-computation of the pre-integration table when transfer function changes
 - Use Integral functions

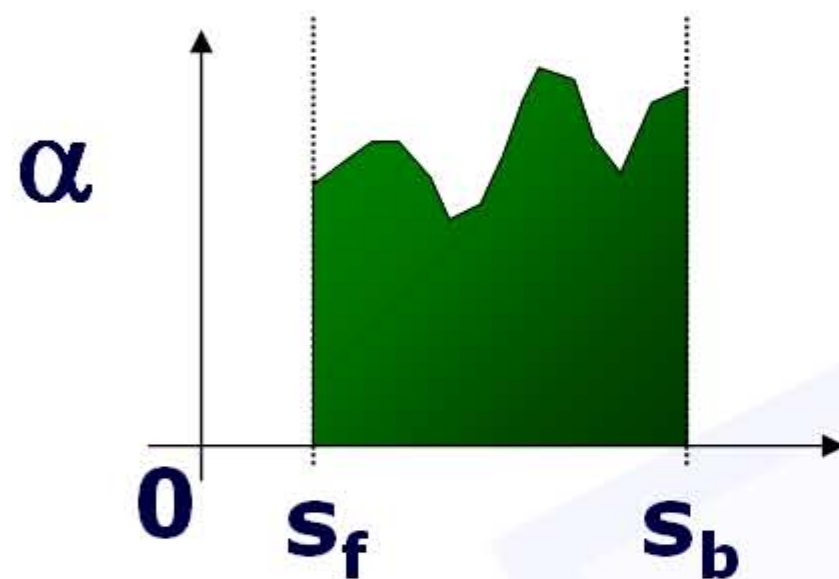


- Hardware-Accelerated Computation: Roettger, Ertl. A Two-Step Approach for Interactive Pre-Integrated Volume Rendering of Unstructured Grids. In *Proc. VolVis '02*



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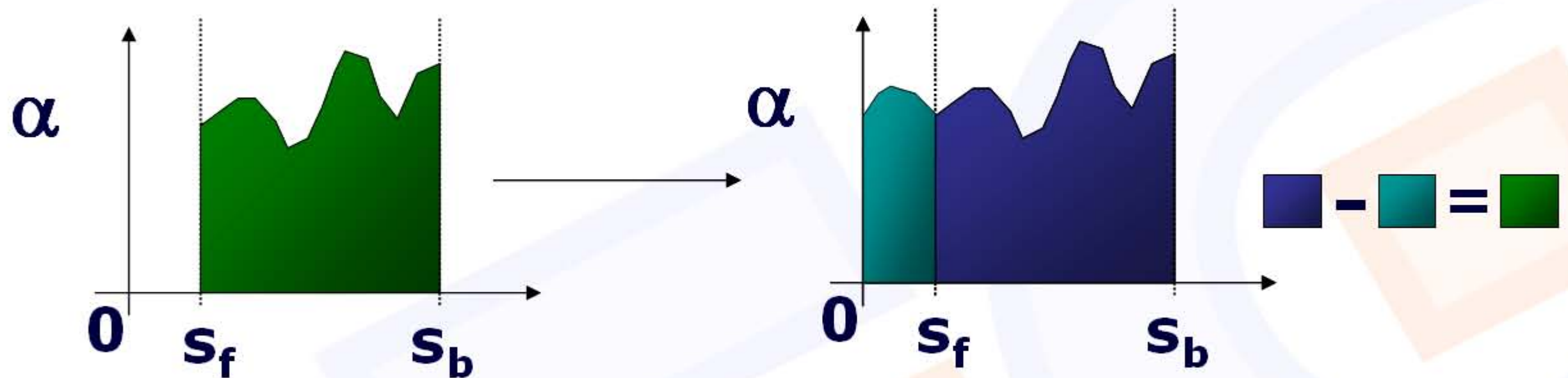


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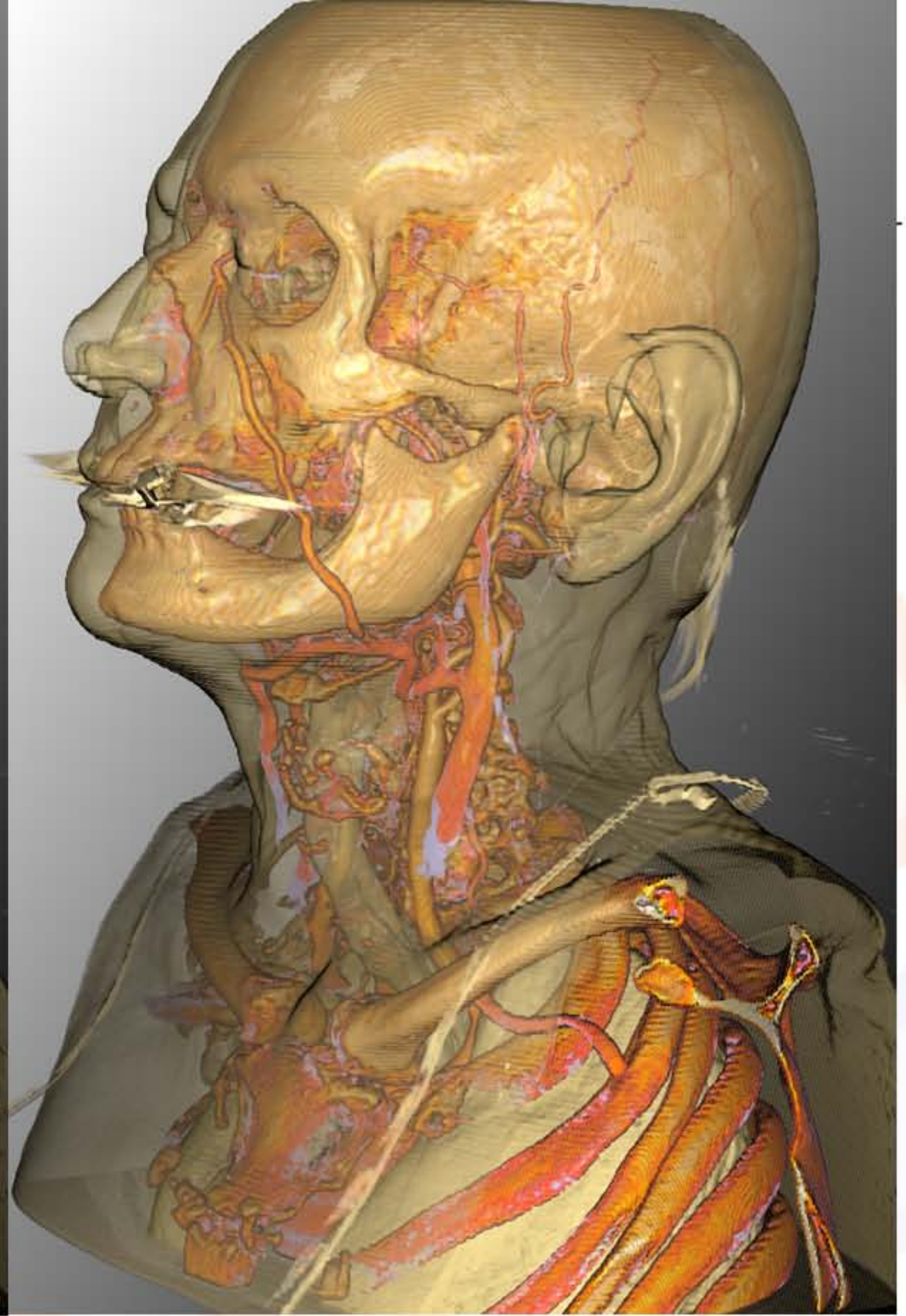
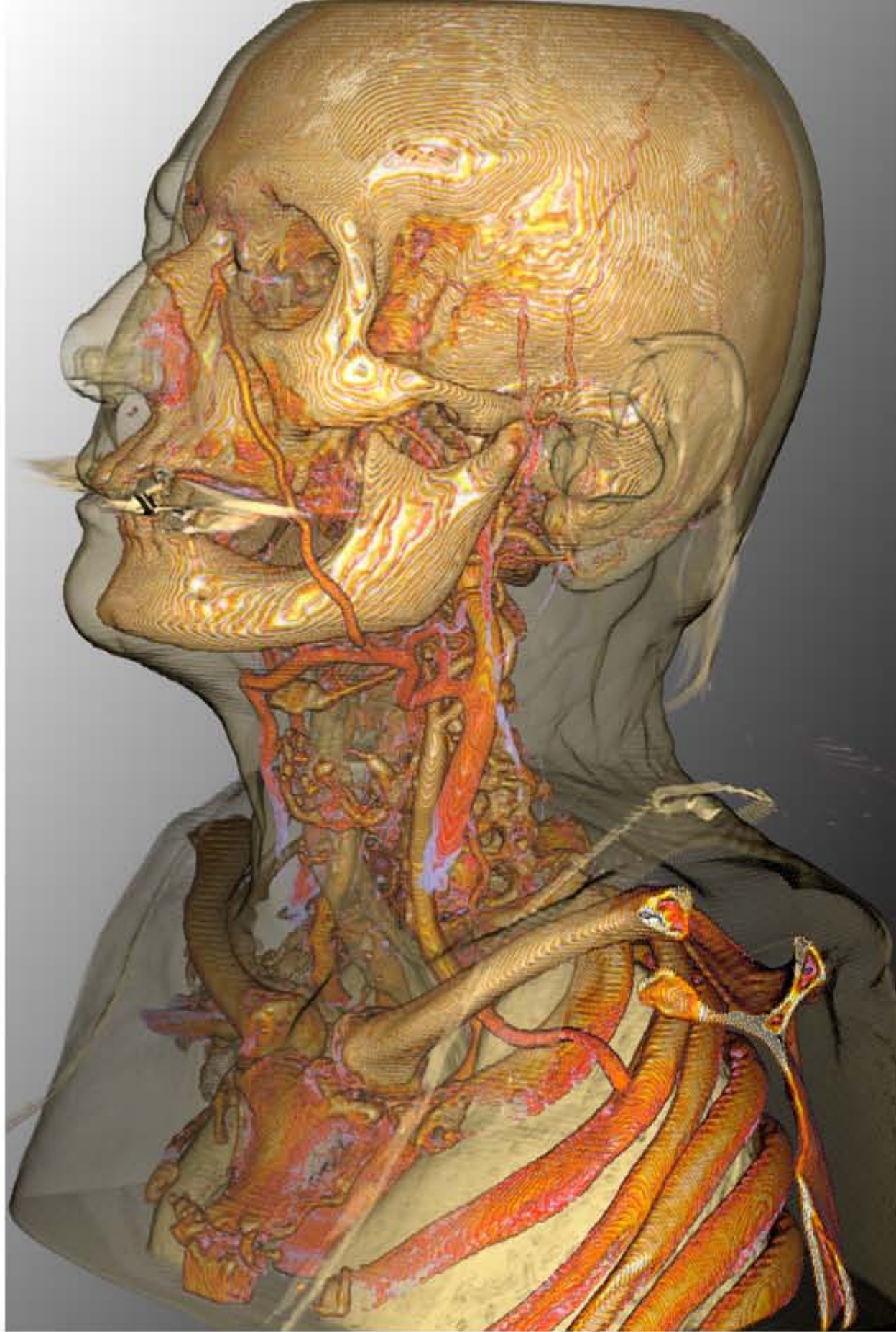


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When to use which Classification

- Pre-Interpolative Classification
 - If the graphics hardware does not support fragment shaders
 - For simple segmented volume data visualization
- Post-Interpolative Classification
 - If the transfer function is “smooth”
 - For good quality and good performance (especially when slicing)
- Pre-Integrated Classification
 - If the transfer function contains high frequencies
 - For best quality