



# 2/3” - Cameras Challenging the Latitude of FILM

Peter Centen

R&D Cameras

Thomson Grass Valley

Digital Cinema Summit at 2008 NAB Show  
April 12-13, 2008





# Agenda

- Thanks
- Some free advice
  - MTF, Aliasing, Sampling
- Being Challenged
- Conclusion



# Thanks

- A man with vision and purpose who challenged and pushed for many years resulted in:

– CineAlta

**Ray Thorpe** .....

**thanks**

But most of all VIPER





# MTF, SAMPLING, ALIASING

- **BASICS 4k scanning:**
  - 2kx4kx3 colors = **24 Mpixels**
  - Is there a **business case** to support 't
- **Bayer** might give you what you want, but telling people that 8Mpix gives 4k-scanning is just violating the laws of physics (Nyquist)
  - Accept that 8Mpix is just Full HDTV res. and accept that 4k is just up sampled 2k
- The **pseudo Bayer** pattern in diagonal stripes are even worse because of the diagonal asymmetry in the pattern
- Genesis did the correct thing -(from a aliasing point of view)- using **column color filters**
  - The sample grid for R,G and B is the same
  - NOTE: If one calls 8Mpix Bayer 4k-scanning then they are entitled to 6k
- Its for the above reasons that **2/3" will perform** well in comparison with the 35mm 8Mpix-12Mpix, the only exception is depth of field
  - NOTE: Shallow depth of field is like having a blur filter in the optical path and yes these images can be upres. to 4k but the sharpness is not there.





# Being Challenged

- **Imagers** behave
  - Graceful near black but have a
    - *hard clip for highlights*
- **Film** continues to respond to changing light intensity even where it concerns highlights
- **The challenge**
  - increase the latitude of imagers to come closer to or beyond film



# Acknowledgement

## CMOS-Imager and the Images shot

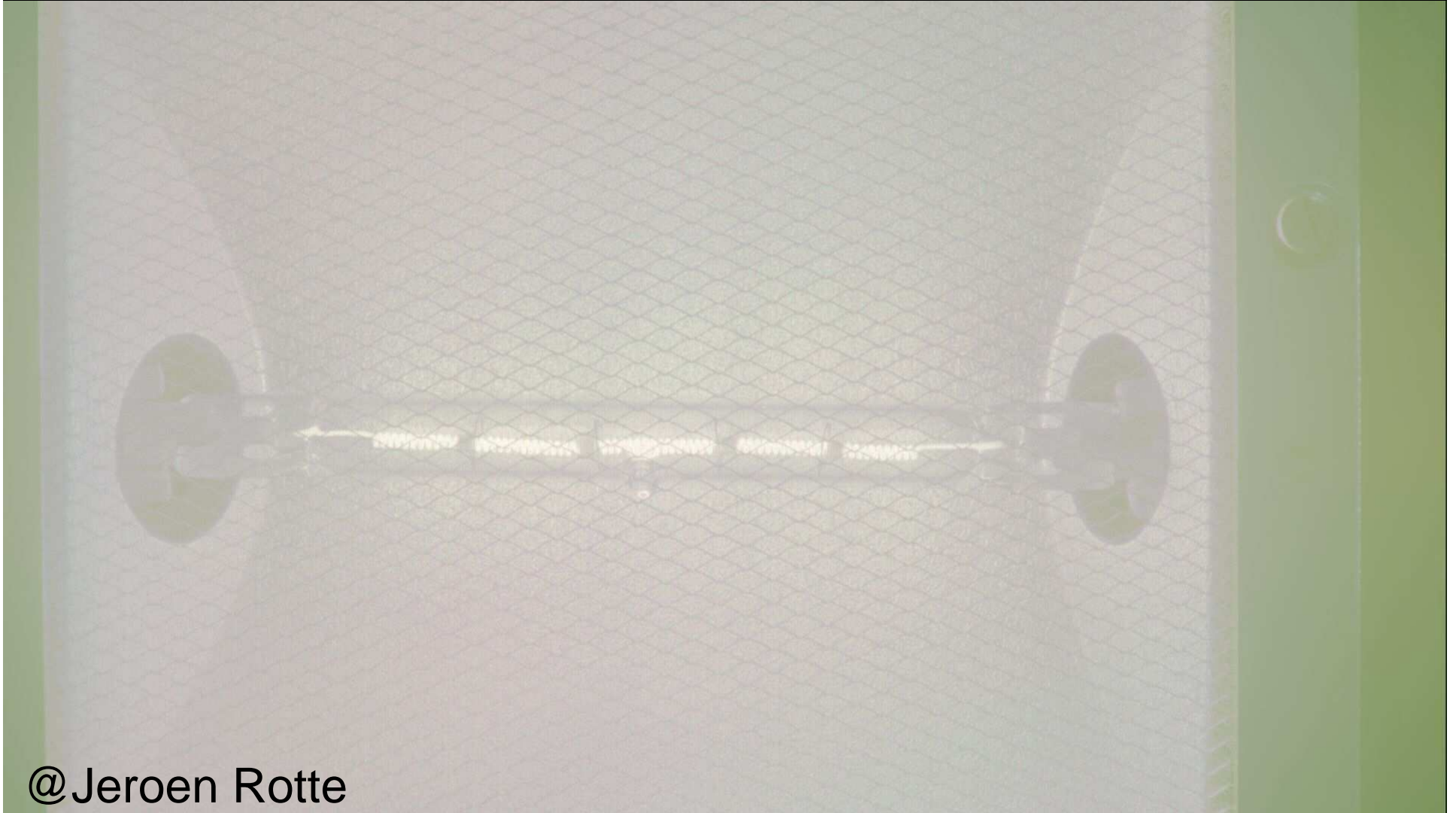
- **Thomson** Grass Valley, R&D Cameras
  - Peter Centen, Jeroen Rotte
- **Thomson** Silicon Components
  - Steffen Lehr, Sabine Roth

## Measurement of the Transfercurve

- **Thomson** Research and Innovation  
Signal Acquisition and Processing
  - Andreas Hille, Wolfgang Endress



# Experimental: Shot with the son of Viper



@Jeroen Rotte



1 cd/m<sup>2</sup>

500 cd/m<sup>2</sup>

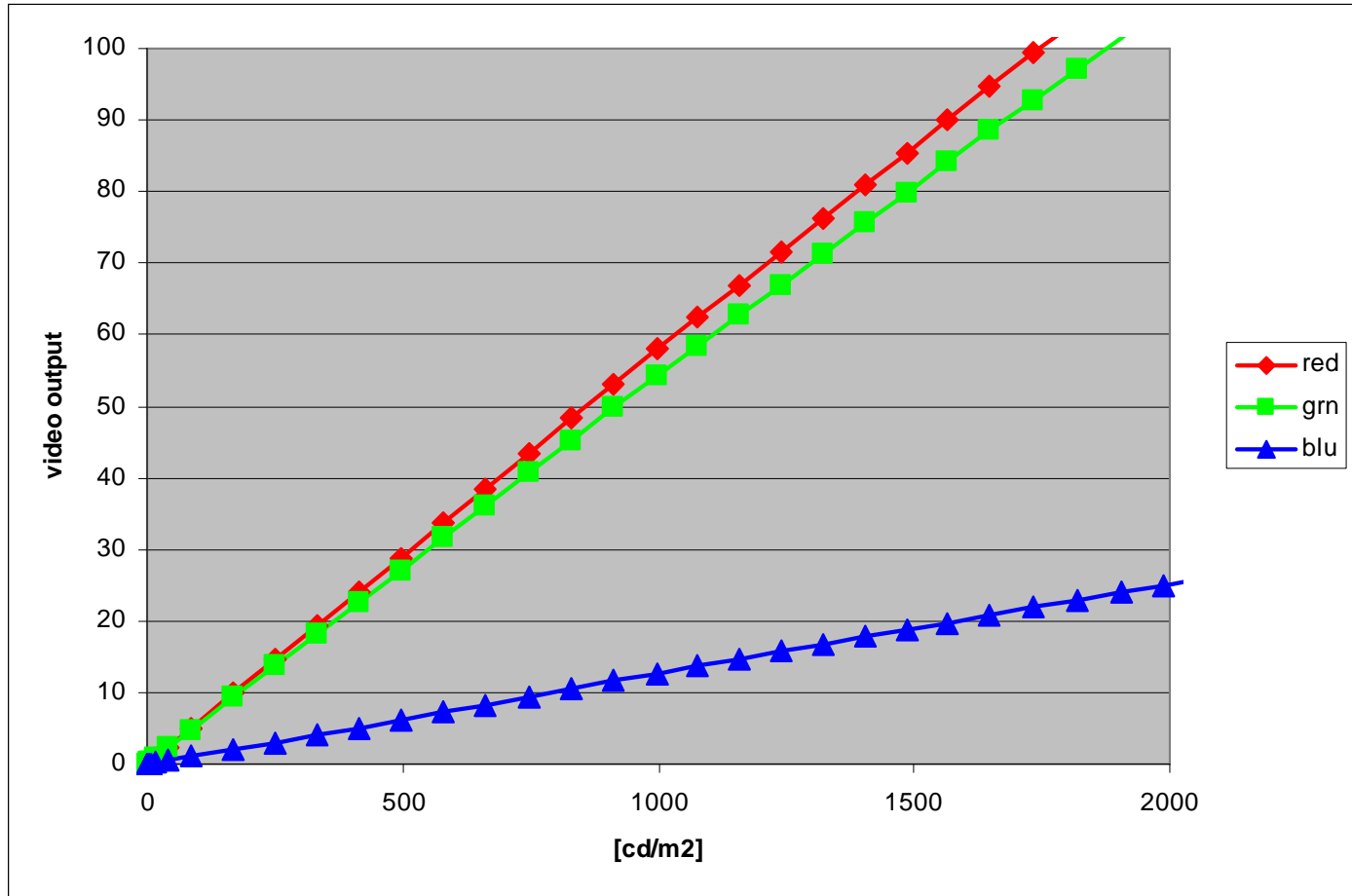
1,000,000 cd/m<sup>2</sup>





# Transfercurve 1

Linear scale →

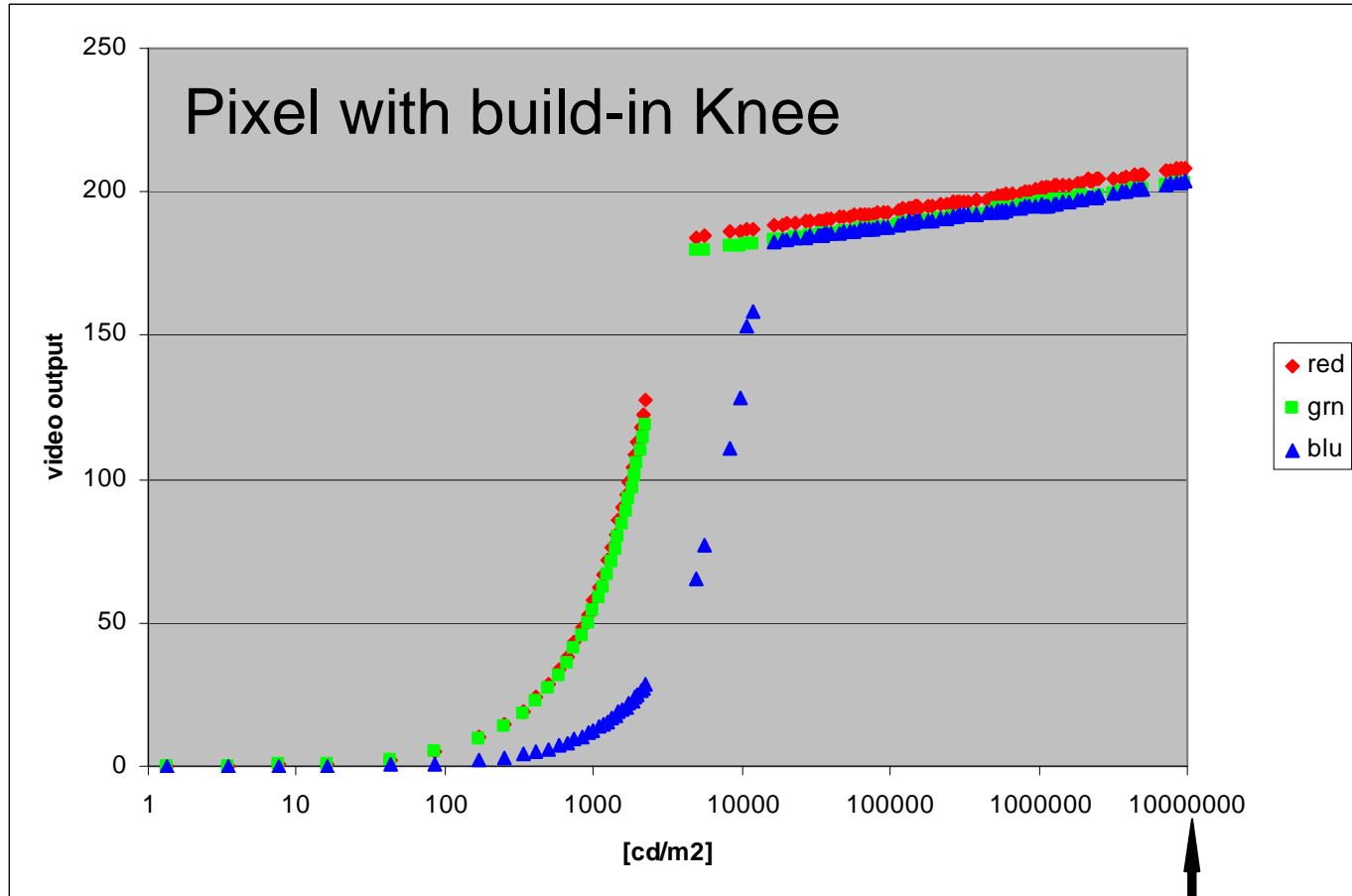


Linear scale →



# Transfercurve 2

Linear scale →



Log scale →

10M cd/m<sup>2</sup>

Normal Exp.

XHDR



NORM.



VF

Wide open lens

XHDR



NORM.



VF





# Conclusion

- In discussing 35mm single imager cameras or full HDTV cameras with 3x2/3"-imagers or 4k or 2k
  - When you like RED, GENESIS, ORIGIN, D20, F23, VIPER, FILM, use it .....**there is no arguing against emotions**
  - But you will find out that upres. 2/3" from a full HDTV camera performs just as well as Bayer with 4k on a row
  - In the end the proof of the pudding is in the eating...
  - Continuation of development and usage by customers depends on the underlying **business case** ... for both
- The **hard-clip** in imagers is **removed**
  - Is it useful?
  - How to map the signal levels?