5.3.4 Summary to: Optical Components

Light Sources

Hot bodies (tungsten filaments) in light bulbs and plasma discharge in fluorescent tubes

- Inefficient light bulbs still dominates when this lecture course started (2010)
- LEDs have taken over when this hyperscript was finalized (2019)
- Mot included above is the Laser.
 - You must learn about the Laser somewhere else

Processing light

with, for example, conventional lenses, mirrors and prism, anti-reflection coatings

- Even simple light processors like lenses (and the rest from above) might be extremely complex materials engineering products today. Just look at the picture of a (by now (2019) outdated lens for microelectronic lithography-
- Polarizers, diffraction gratings and filters add another layer of complexity.
 - The list goes on, with, e.g. phase shifters and whatever is needed for doing holgraphy or...
 - Laser "beam forming", modulation, fultr-high speed detection, ...



