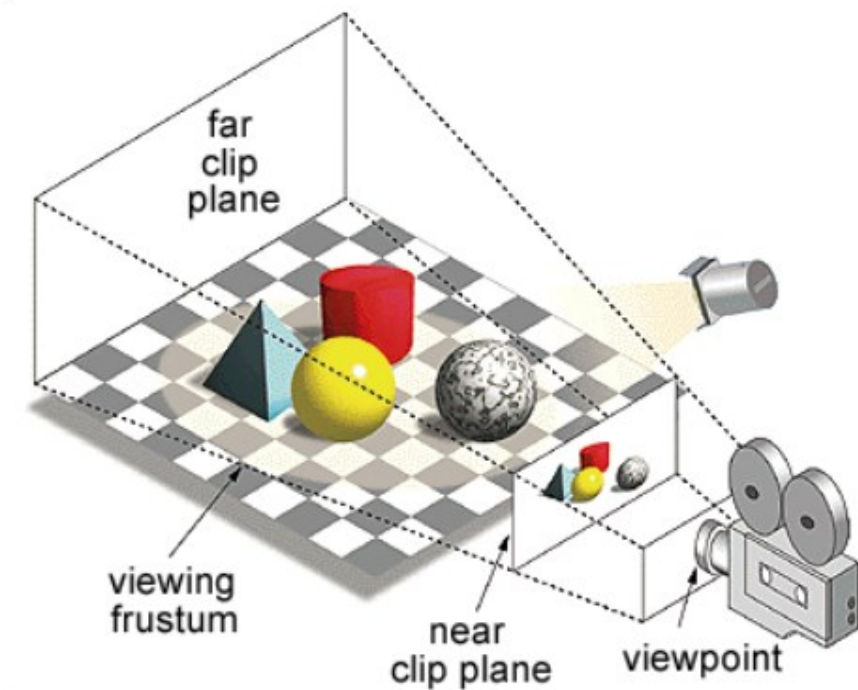


# Global Illumination II

## Path Tracing

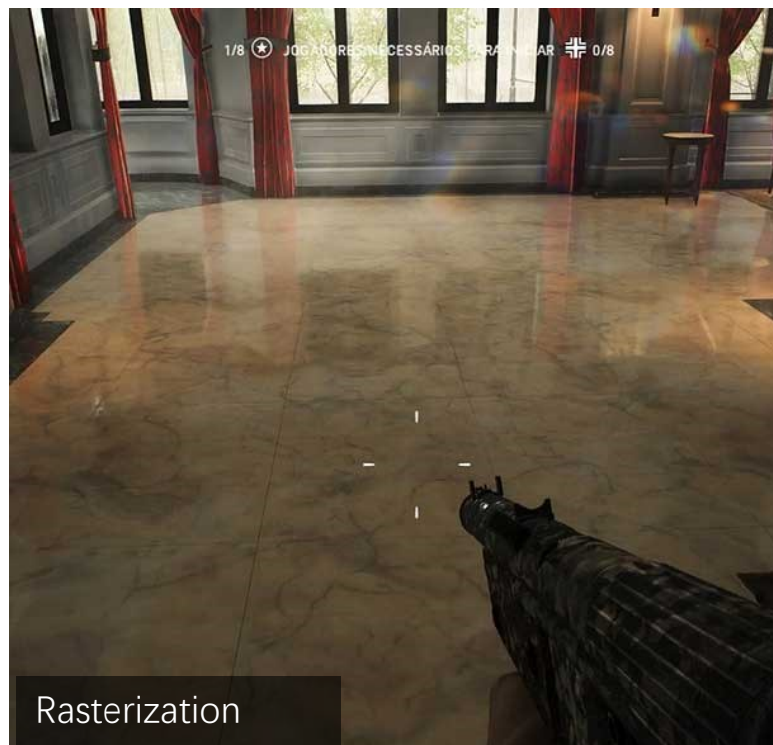
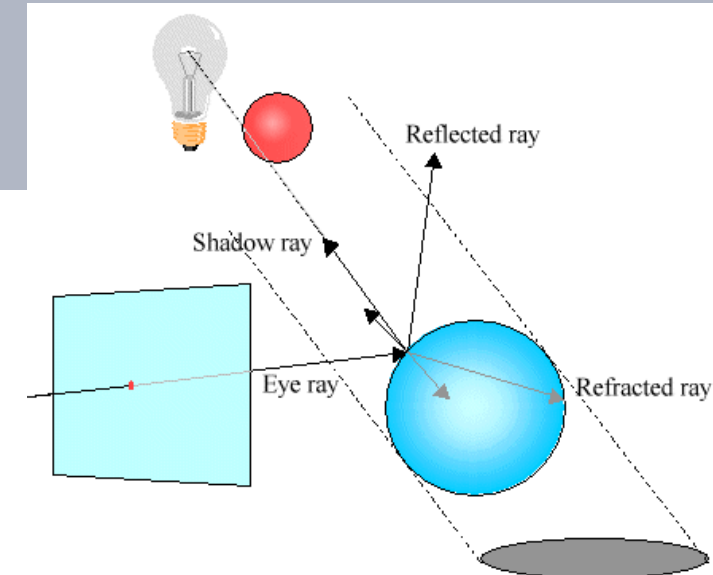
# First Question: Why?



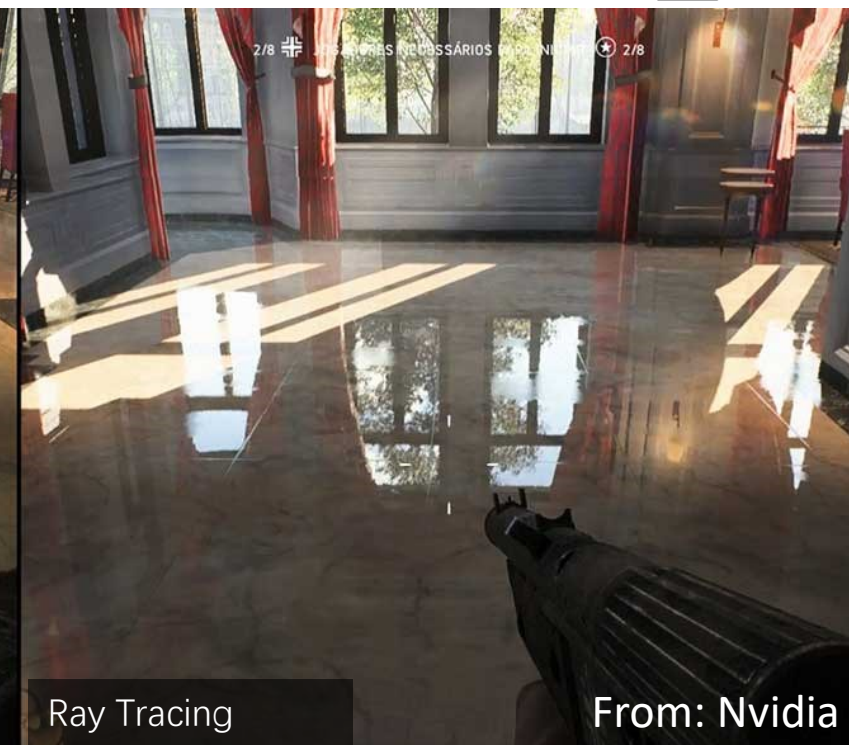
$$L = L_a + L_d + L_s$$
$$= k_a I_a + k_d \left( \frac{I}{r^2} \right) \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}) + k_s \left( \frac{I}{r^2} \right) \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{h})^p$$



Ambient + Diffuse + Specular = Phong Reflection



Rasterization



Ray Tracing

From: Nvidia

# First Question: Why?

- Can Whitted-Style Ray Tracing Produce the Glossy Effect?



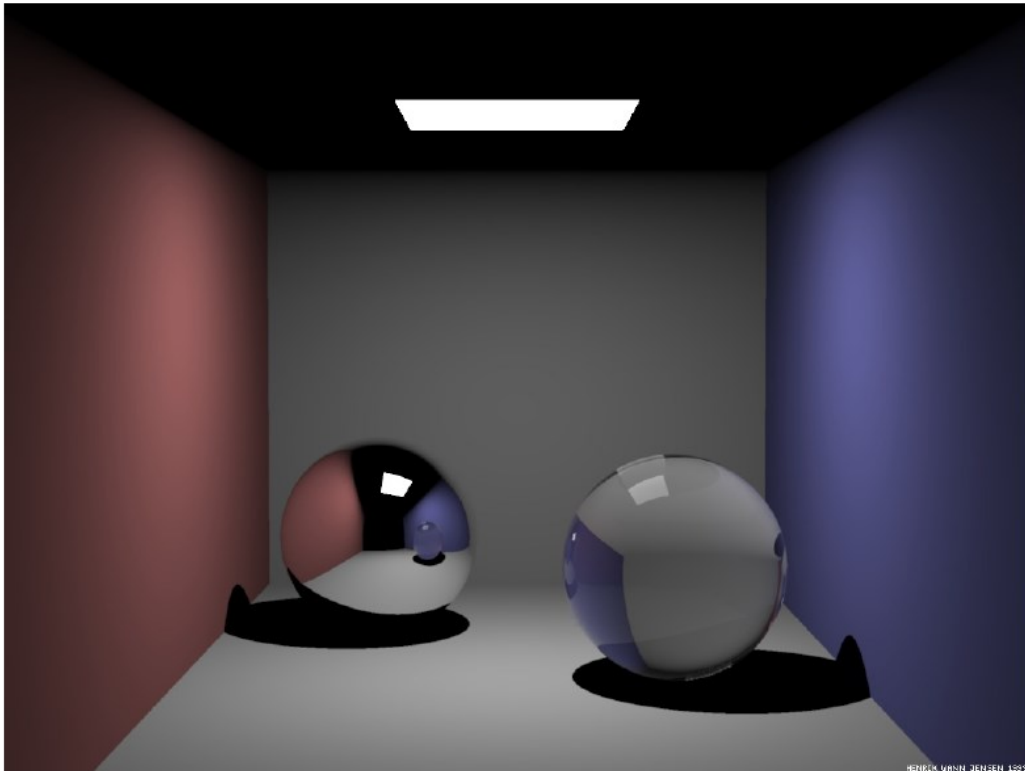
Mirror reflection



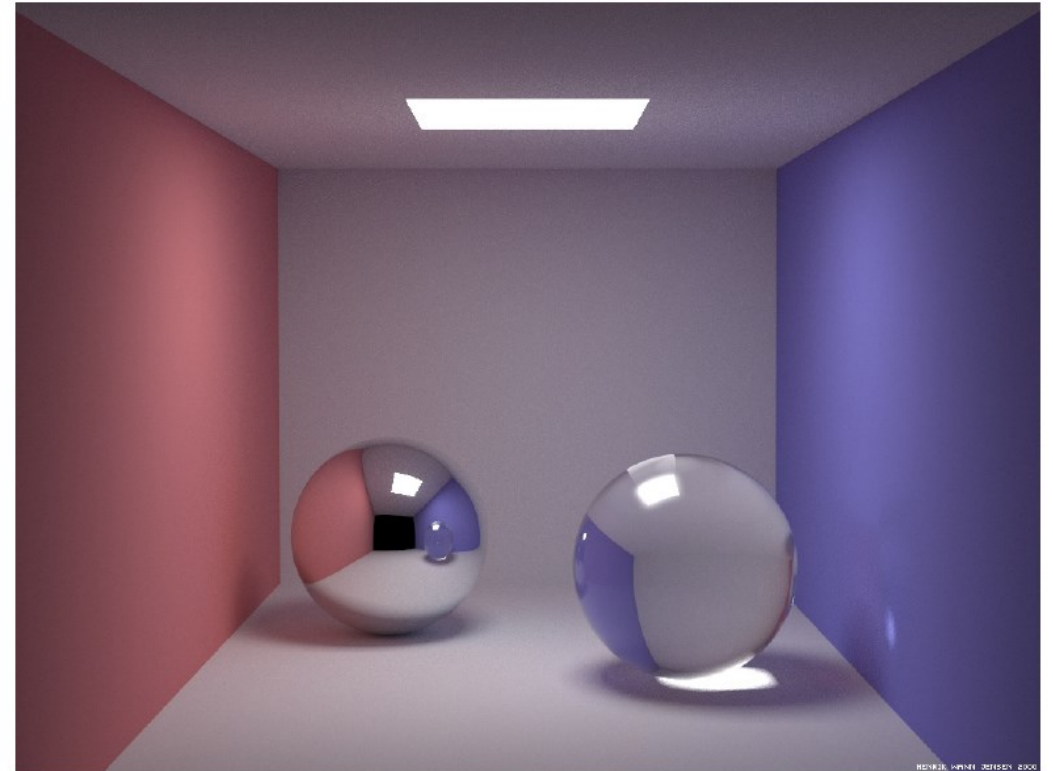
**Glossy** reflection

# First Question: Why?

- How about diffusion reflection?



(a) Whitted-Style Ray Tracing



(b) Global Illumination using Photon Maps



# First Question: Why?

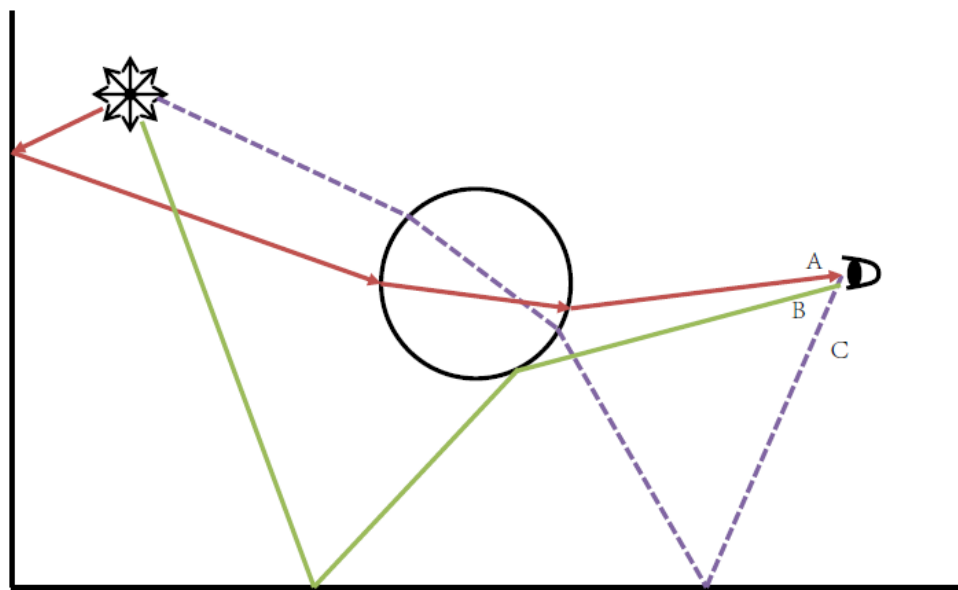
## 光路传输记法:

L (Light): 光路从光源发出

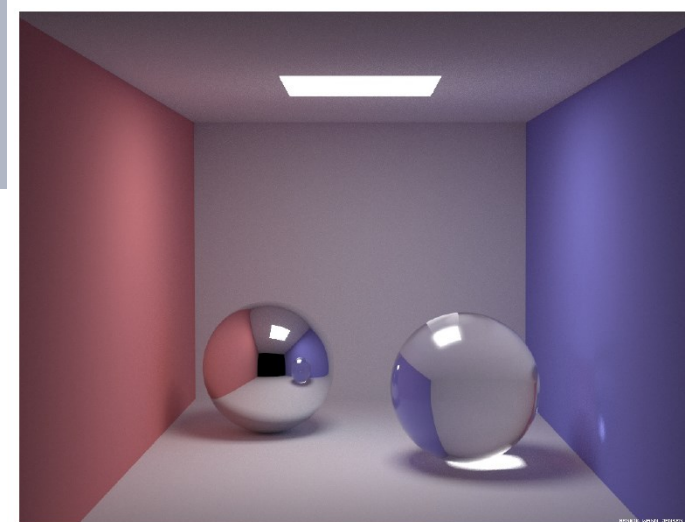
D (Diffuse): 在物体表面发生漫反射

S (Specular): 在物体表面发生镜面反射或者折射

V (Volumetric Scattering): 进入介质发生体积散射



a,b,c 三条光路, 对应记号分别为 LDSSE,LDSE,LSSDE



LDE, LSE	直接光照, 表面亮度可用传统的直接光照模型来计算, 如Phong[11], Blinn[12] 等。
L(S D)S+E	一次或多次镜面反射/折射的间接光照, 如看到的镜子中的物体。经典的光线跟踪算法可以准确计算
LS+ DE	焦散效果(Caustics), 例如玻璃杯投射在桌上的亮斑, 是典型的间接光照效果之一。
L(S D)*DDE	漫反射材质间的颜色扩散效果(Color Bleeding), 典型的间接光照效果之一。
L(S D)+DS+E	被一次或多次镜面反射的焦散或者颜色扩散效果。
L(S D)+D(S D)*E	其他的光路传输。由于经过了多次漫反射, 其光照强度的贡献往往较低, 不易被注意到。

Global Illumination = ALL!

# Second Question: What?

## Ray Tracing:

- **Whitted** Ray Tracing
- **Distribution** ray tracing:
  - **Path Tracing**, a ray tracing method based on integral transport equation and rendering equation
    - Path Tracing
    - Bidirectional Path Tracing
    - Metropolis Light Transport
    - Energy Redistribution Path Tracing
    - ...

Dallas, August 18-22

Volume 20, Number 4, 1986

THE RENDERING EQUATION

James T. Kajiya  
California Institute of Technology  
Pasadena, Ca. 91125

# Last Question: How?

- Path Tracing:
  - Radiometry (辐射度量学), a measurement system for illumination
  - **Integral** Light Transport **Equations**
    - The reflection equation
    - The rendering equation
  - **Probability** and Monte Carlo Integration
  - Algorithm

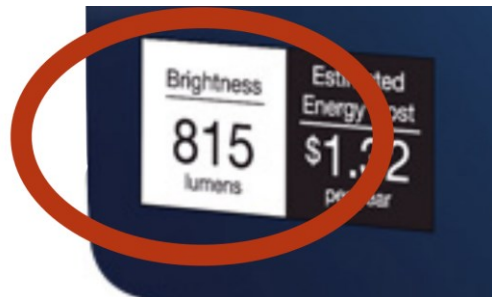
# Radiometry

- Radiant **Energy**  $Q$ , Radiant **Flux**  $\Phi$ , Radiant **Intensity**  $I(\omega) \equiv \frac{d\Phi}{d\omega}$

## SI radiometry units

V • T • E

Quantity		Unit		Dimension	Notes
Name	Symbol <sup>[nb 1]</sup>	Name	Symbol	Symbol	
Radiant energy	$Q_e$ <sup>[nb 2]</sup>	joule	J	$M \cdot L^2 \cdot T^{-2}$	Energy of electromagnetic radiation.
Radiant flux	$\Phi_e$ <sup>[nb 2]</sup>	watt	$W = J/s$	$M \cdot L^2 \cdot T^{-3}$	Radiant energy emitted, reflected, transmitted or received, per unit time. This is sometimes also called "radiant power", and called <b>luminosity</b> in Astronomy.
Radiant intensity	$I_{e,\Omega}$ <sup>[nb 5]</sup>	watt per steradian	W/sr	$M \cdot L^2 \cdot T^{-3}$	Radiant flux emitted, reflected, transmitted or received, per unit solid angle. This is a <i>directional</i> quantity.



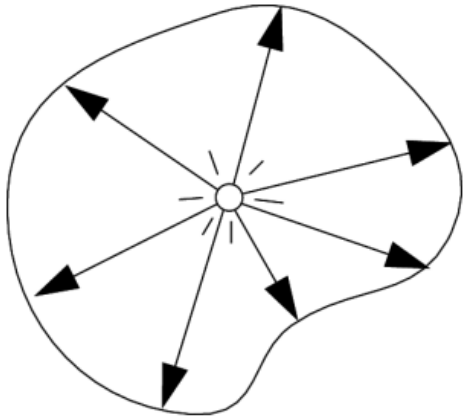
LED灯: 90 lm/W  
白炽灯: 12 lm/W

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radiant\\_intensity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radiant_intensity)



# Radiometry

- Radiant **Energy**  $Q$ , Radiant **Flux**  $\Phi$ , Radiant **Intensity**  $I(\omega) \equiv \frac{d\Phi}{d\omega}$



Radiant Flux = 815 lumens

Radiant Intensity = 815 lumens / ( $4\pi$ )



## SI radiometry units

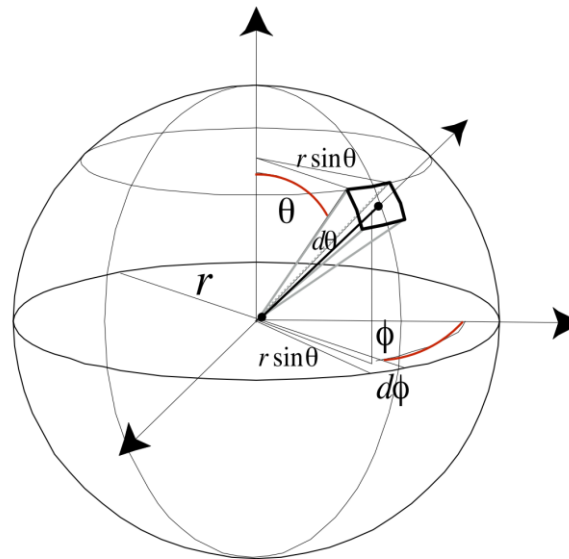
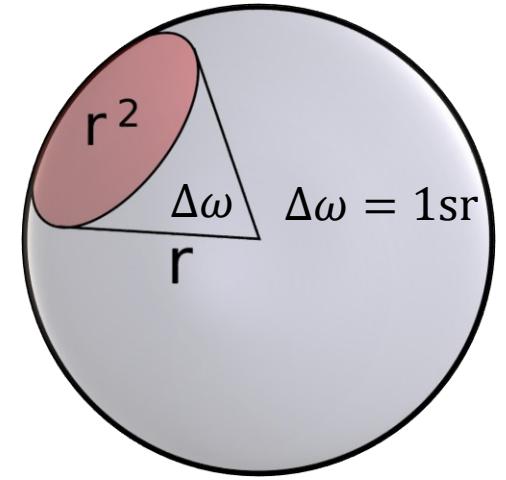
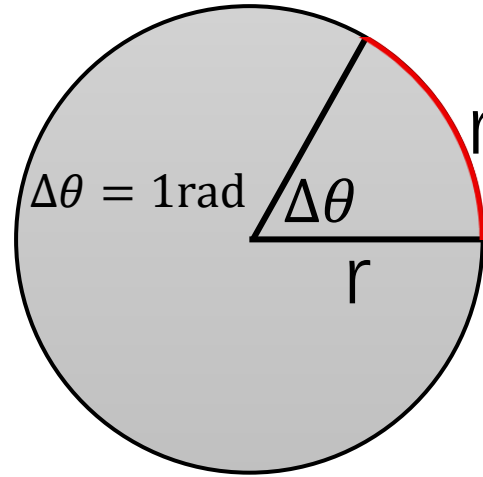
V • T • E

Quantity		Unit		Dimension	Notes
Name	Symbol <sup>[nb 1]</sup>	Name	Symbol	Symbol	
Radiant energy	$Q_e$ <sup>[nb 2]</sup>	joule	J	$M \cdot L^2 \cdot T^{-2}$	Energy of electromagnetic radiation.
Radiant flux	$\Phi_e$ <sup>[nb 2]</sup>	watt	$W = J/s$	$M \cdot L^2 \cdot T^{-3}$	Radiant energy emitted, reflected, transmitted or received, per unit time. This is sometimes also called "radiant power", and called <b>luminosity</b> in Astronomy.
Radiant intensity	$I_{e,\Omega}$ <sup>[nb 5]</sup>	watt per steradian	W/sr	$M \cdot L^2 \cdot T^{-3}$	Radiant flux emitted, reflected, transmitted or received, per unit solid angle. This is a <i>directional</i> quantity.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radiant\\_intensity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radiant_intensity)

# Radiant Intensity

- $I(\omega) \equiv \frac{d\Phi}{d\omega}$
- unit  $\text{W/sr}$ , or  $\text{cd=candela=lm/sr}$
- Power **per unit solid angle**
- Solid Angle:  $\Delta\omega = \frac{A}{r^2} \text{ sr}$
- Sphere has  $4\pi$  **steradians (球面度)**
- Along the direction of  $(\theta, \phi)$ , calculate the  $d\omega$  using  $d\theta, d\phi$   
**Hint:**  $d\omega = \frac{dA}{r^2}$

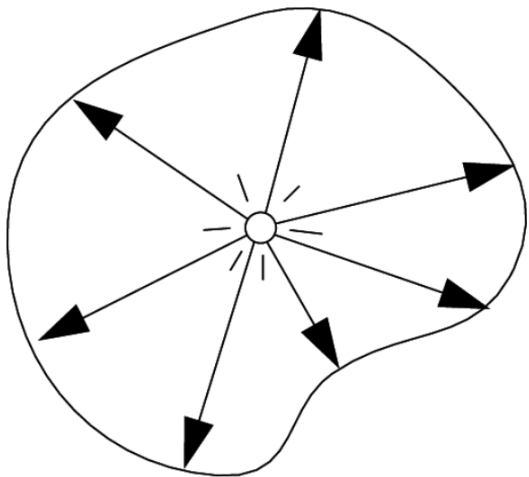


$$d\omega = \frac{dA}{r^2}$$
$$dA = (r d\theta)(r \sin\theta d\phi) = r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi$$
$$d\omega = \sin\theta d\theta d\phi$$

We can represent  $\Delta\omega$  as  $(\Delta\theta, \Delta\phi)$ , i.e., we can represent  $\omega$  as  $(\theta, \phi)$

# Radiometry

- Important Light Measurements of Interest



Light Emitted From A Source

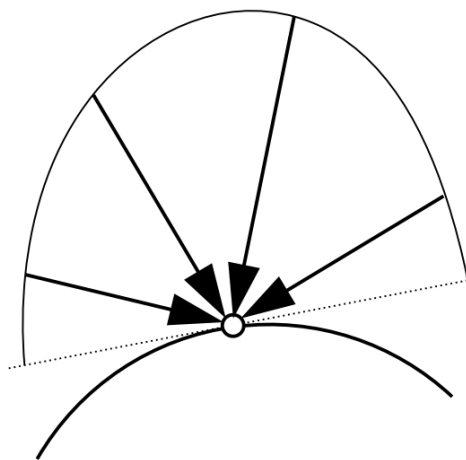
“Radiant Intensity”

$$I(\omega) = \frac{d\Phi}{d\omega}$$

power per unit solid angle

(功率角密度)

unit: W/sr or lm/sr



Light Falling On A Surface

“Irradiance”

$$E(p) = \frac{d\Phi(p)}{dA}$$

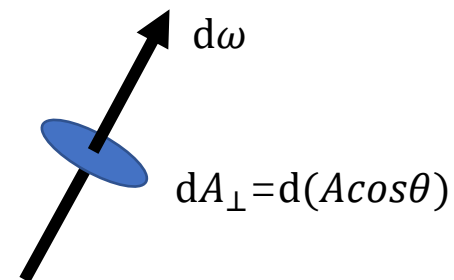
power per unit area

incident on a surface point

(功率面密度)

unit: W/m<sup>2</sup> or lm/m<sup>2</sup>

Rendering is all about radiance computation!



Light Traveling Along A Ray

“Radiance”

$$L(p, \omega) = \frac{dI(\omega)}{d(A\cos\theta)} = \frac{dE(p)}{d\omega\cos\theta} = \frac{d^2\Phi(p)}{d\omega d(A\cos\theta)}$$

the quantity carried by a ray

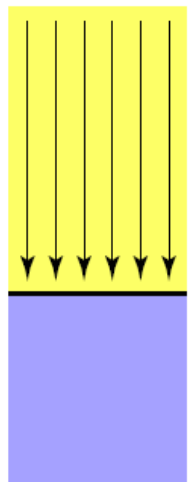
功率角密度的投影面密度

功率投影面密度的角密度

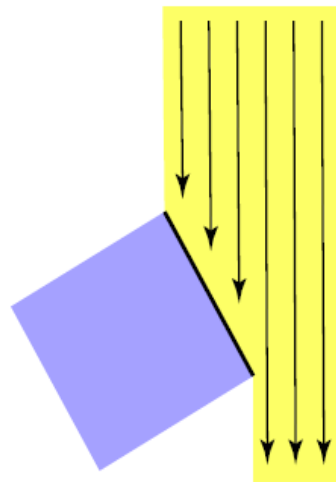
描述某场景的光分布的最基础“场量”

# Irradiance

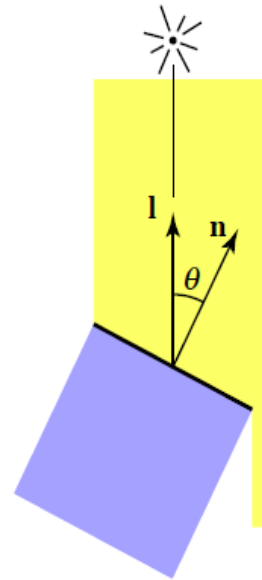
- Irradiance (辐照度)
  - The power **per unit area** incident on a surface point.
  - $E(x) \equiv \frac{d\Phi(x)}{dA}$
  - Lambert's Cosine Law
    - Irradiance at surface is proportional to cosine of angle between light direction and surface normal.



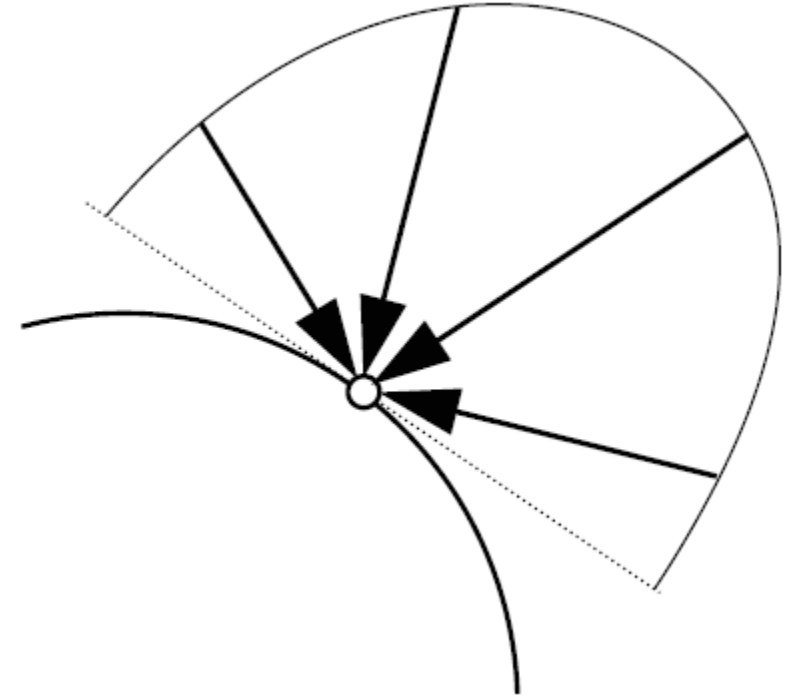
$$E = \frac{\Phi}{A}$$



$$E = \frac{\Phi}{2A}$$

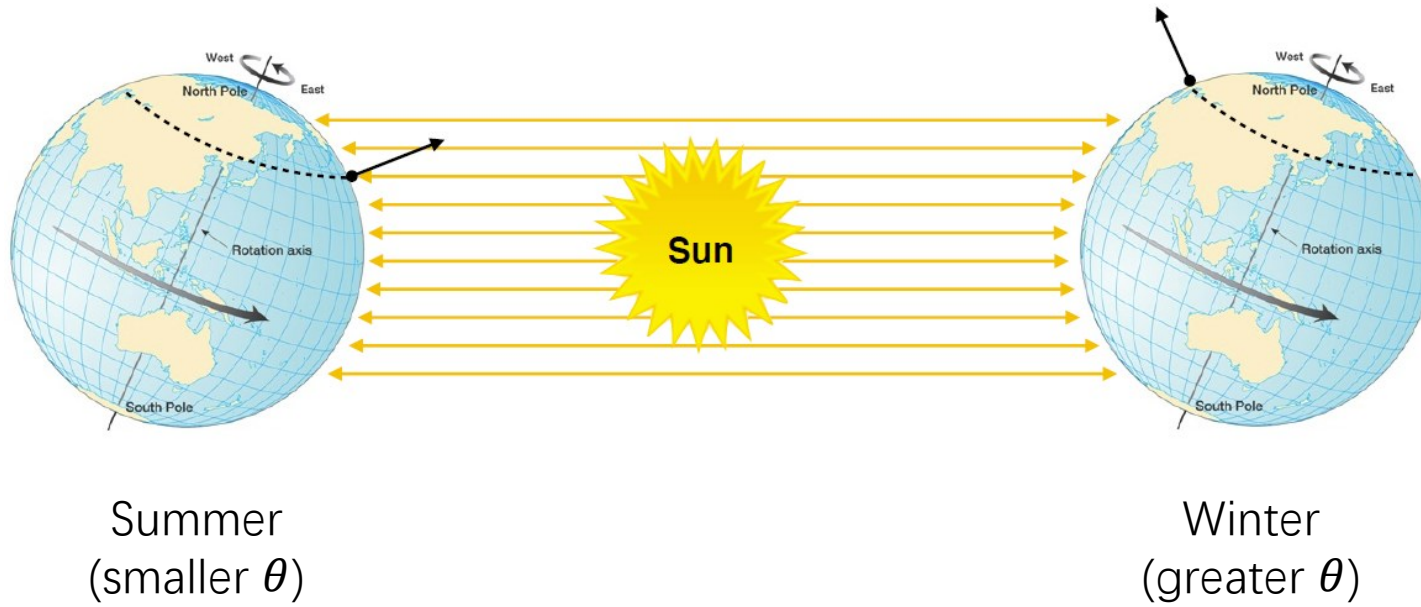


$$E = \frac{\Phi}{A} \cos \theta = \frac{\Phi}{A} (\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{n})$$



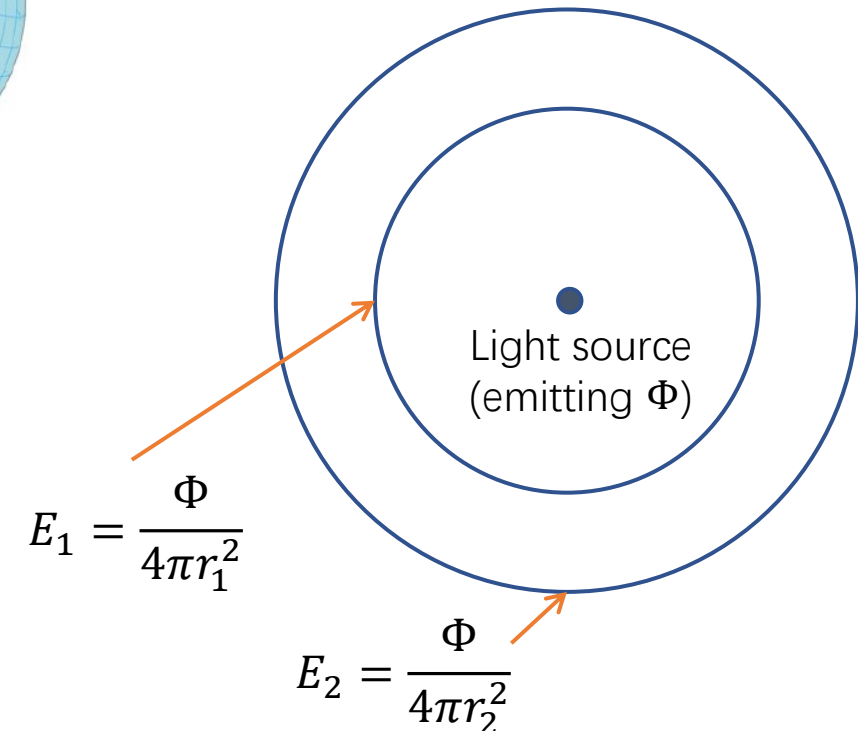
# Irradiance

- Seasons



Seasons in Northern hemisphere

- Radiant exitance (Irradiance) Falloff
  - Strength of Radiant exitance (Irradiance) decays in proportion to the squared distance



# Radiance

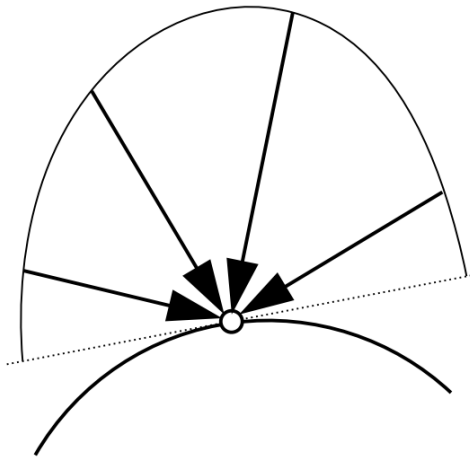
- Radiance (辐亮度, 辐射度)
  - The radiance (luminance) is the power emitted, reflected, transmitted or received by a surface, **per unit solid angle**, **per projected unit area**.
  - $L(p, \omega) \equiv \frac{d^2 \Phi(p, \omega)}{d\omega dA \cos \theta}$ 
    - $\cos \theta$  accounts for the projected surface area
  - Relation with other quantities
    - Irradiance: power **per projected unit area**  $\rightarrow$  Radiance: Irradiance **per solid angle**
    - Intensity: power **per solid angle**  $\rightarrow$  Radiance: Intensity **per projected unit area**





# Incident Radiance

- Irradiance: power **per projected unit area** → Radiance: Irradiance **per solid angle**

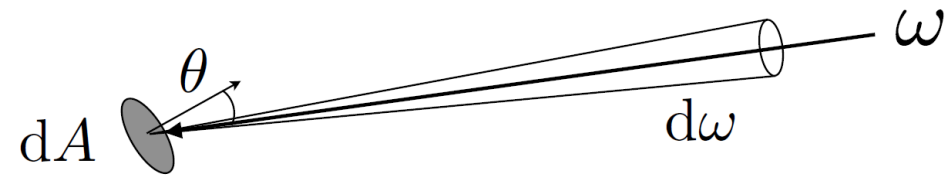


Light Falling On A Surface

“Irradiance”

$$E(p) = \frac{d\Phi(p)}{dA_{\perp}}$$

power per unit area  
incident on a surface point  
(功率面密度)  
unit:  $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$  or  $\text{lm}/\text{m}^2$



$$L_i(p, \omega) = \frac{dE(p, \omega)}{\cos \theta d\omega}$$

$$E(p) = \int_{H^2} L_i(p, \omega) \cos \theta d\omega$$

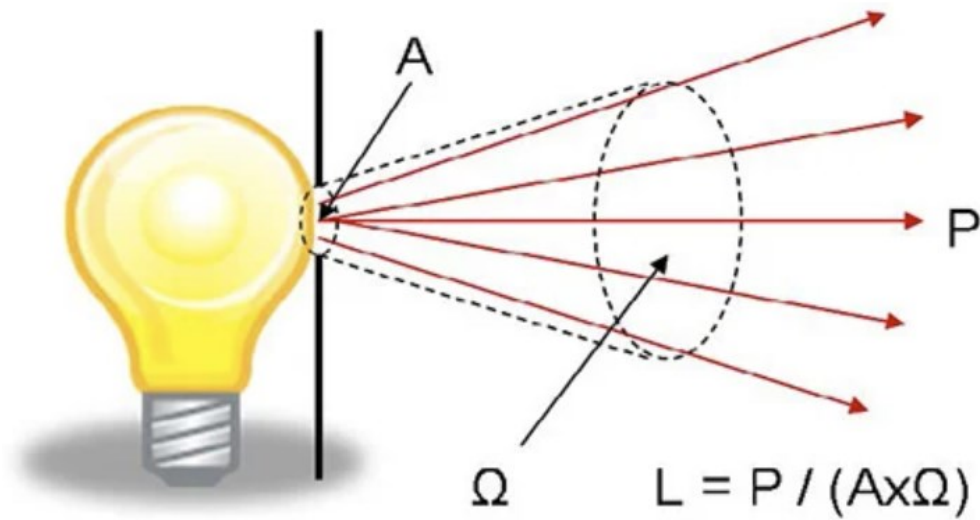
Unit hemisphere:  $H^2$

Irradiance: total power received by area  $dA$

Radiance: power received by area  $dA$  from “direction”  $d\omega$

# Exiting Radiance

- Intensity: power **per solid angle** → Radiance: Intensity **per projected unit area**



$$L(p, \omega) \equiv \frac{dI(p, \omega)}{dA \cos \theta}$$
$$I(\omega) = \int_A L_i(p, \omega) \cos \theta \, dA$$

# Radiance

- Incident radiance (入射辐亮度)

- Incident radiance is the irradiance **per unit solid angle** arriving at the surface.

- i.e., it is the light arriving at the surface along a given ray (point on surface and incident direction).

- $L(p, \omega) = \frac{dE(p)}{d\omega \cos \theta}$  ;  $E(p) = \int_{H^2} L_i(p, \omega) \cos \theta d\omega$

- Exiting radiance (出射辐亮度)

- Exiting surface radiance is the intensity **per unit projected area** leaving the surface.

- e.g., for an area light it is the light emitted along a given ray (point on surface and exit direction).

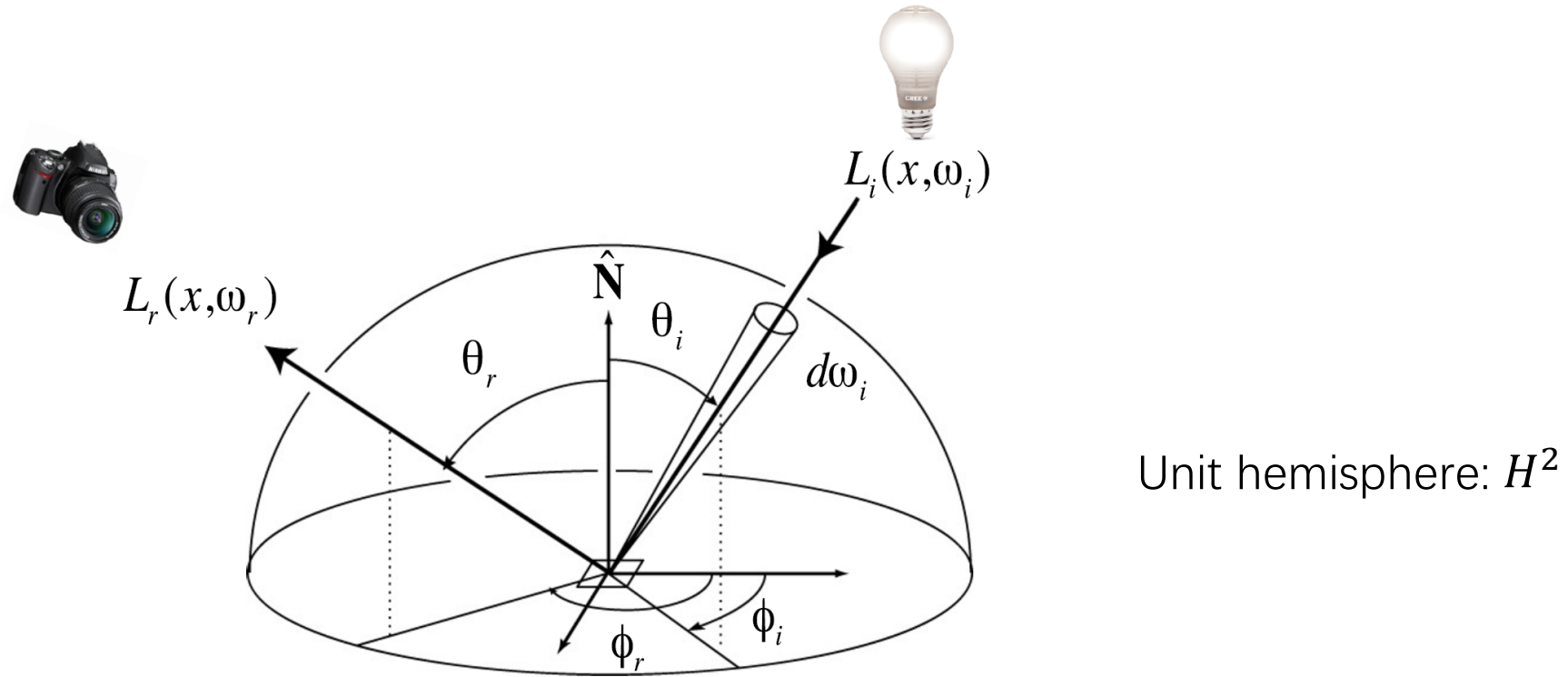
- $L(p, \omega) \equiv \frac{dI(p, \omega)}{dA \cos \theta}$  ;  $I(\omega) = \int_A L_i(p, \omega) \cos \theta dA$

# Last Question: How?

- Path Tracing:
  - Radiometry (辐射度量学), a measurement system for illumination
  - **Integral Light Transport Equations**
    - The reflection equation
    - The rendering equation
  - **Probability** and Monte Carlo Integration
  - Algorithm

# Integral Light Transport Equations

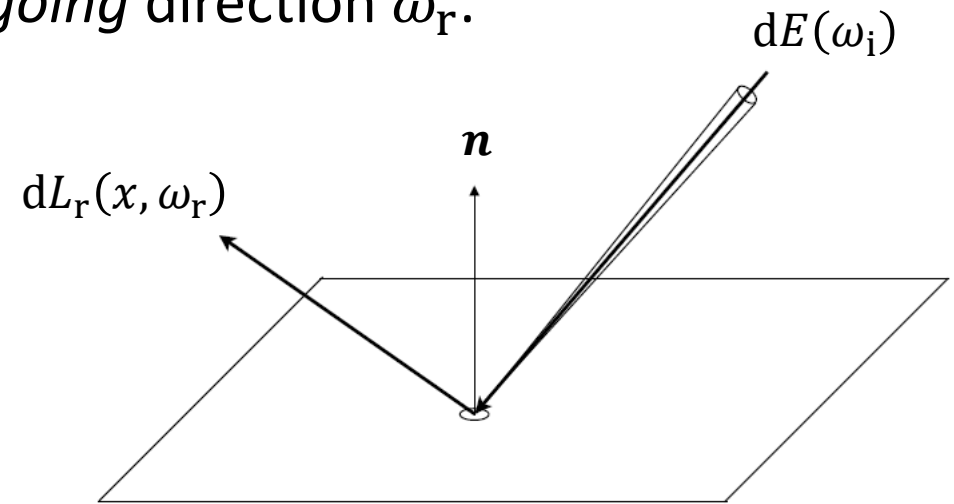
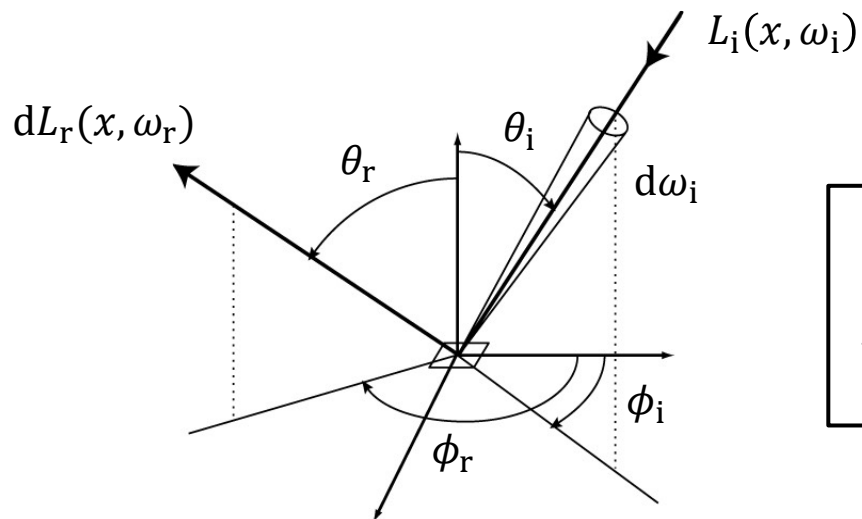
- The Reflection Equation



$$L_r(p, \omega_r) = \int_{H^2} f_r(p, \omega_i \rightarrow \omega_r) L_i(p, \omega_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i$$

# Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function

- Reflection at a Point
  - At  $dA$ , Radiance from *incoming* direction  $\omega_i$  turns into the irradiance  $dE$
  - $dE$  then become the radiance  $dL_r$  to some *outgoing* direction  $\omega_r$ .
- The Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function (BRDF, 双向反射分布函数)  
*How much light is reflected into  $\omega_r$  from  $\omega_i$*

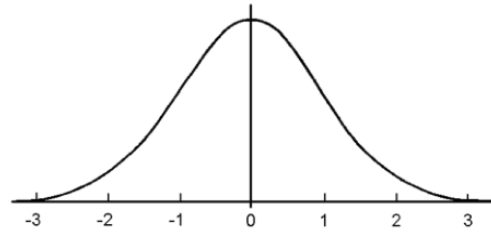


$$f_r(\omega_i \rightarrow \omega_r) = \frac{dL_r(\omega_r)}{dE_i(\omega_i)} = \frac{dL_r(\omega_r)}{L_i(\omega_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i}$$



# Review: Probabilities

- Continuous variable  $X$  and Probability density function  $p(x)$ 
  - $X \sim p(x)$
- Understanding: randomly pick an  $X \rightarrow$  more likely to be a number closer to 0 (in this case)

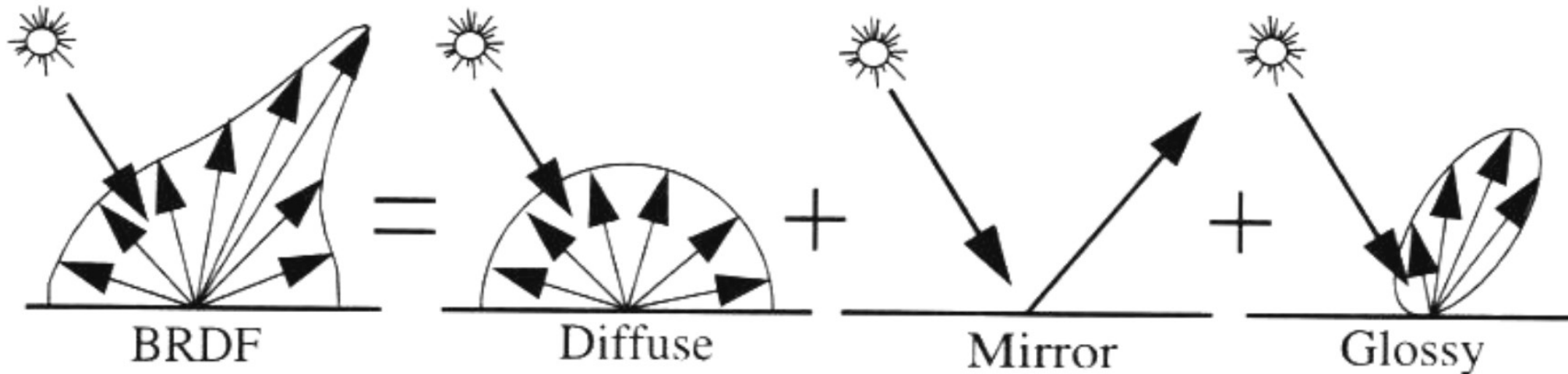


- Conditions on  $p(x)$ 
  - $p(x) \geq 0$
  - $\int p(x)dx = 1$
- Expected value of  $X$ 
  - $E(x) = \int xp(x)dx$

# Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function

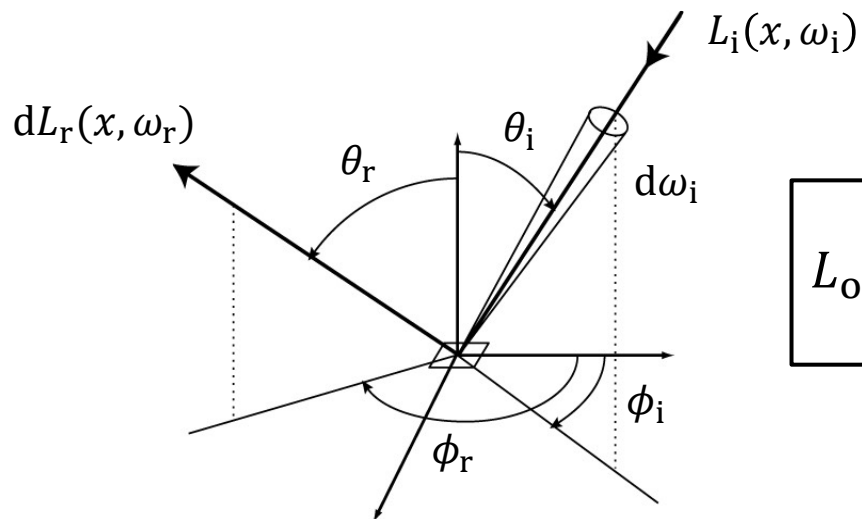
Description of visual surface appearance:

- Ideal specular reflection (Reflection law, Mirror)
- Glossy reflection (Directional diffuse, Shiny surfaces )
- Ideal diffuse reflection (Lambert's law, Matte surfaces)



# The Rendering Equation

- The reflection equation
  - $L_r(p, \omega_r) = \int_{H^2} f_r(p, \omega_i \rightarrow \omega_r) L_i(p, \omega_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i$ 
    - Reflected radiance depends on incoming radiance,
    - But incoming radiance depends on reflected radiance (at another point in the scene)
- The rendering equation (rewritten reflection equation)



$L_i$  at  $p$  coincides with  $L_o$  at some other point  
(just as the plain ray-tracing method)

emission term

$\cos \theta_i$

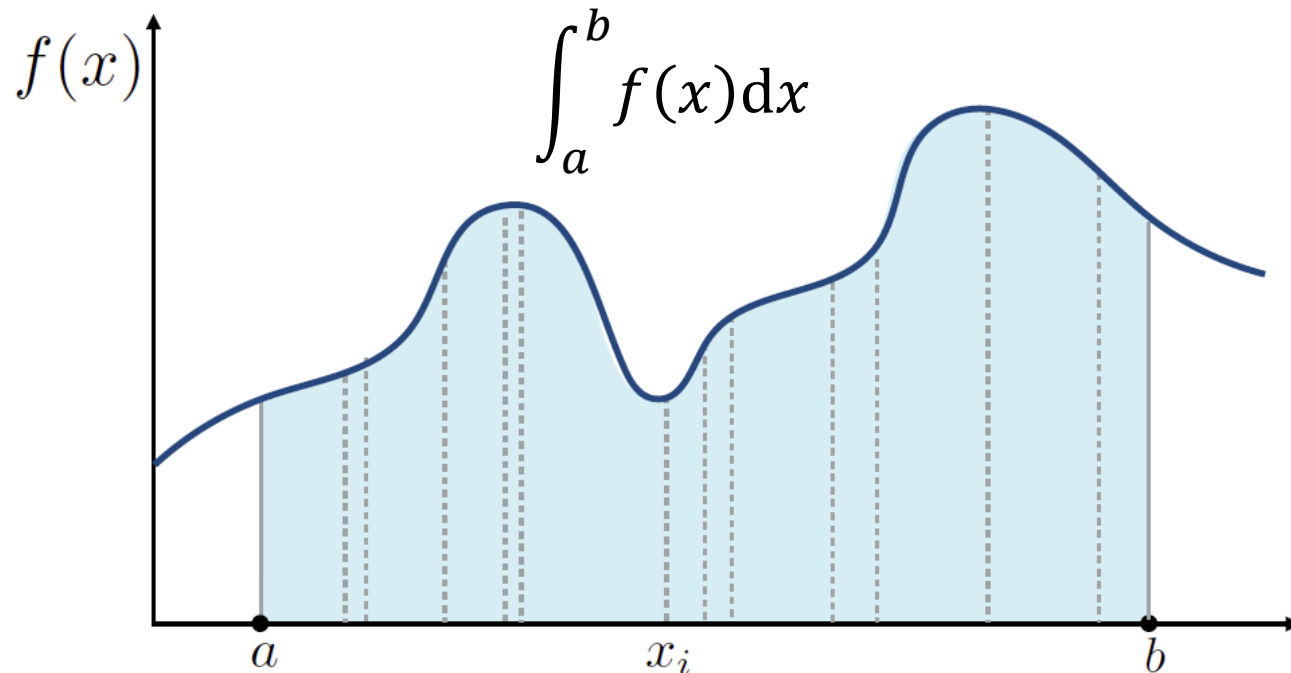
$$L_o(p, \omega_o) = L_e(p, \omega_o) + \int_{H^2} L_i(p, \omega_i) f_r(p, \omega_i, \omega_o) (\mathbf{n} \cdot \omega_i) d\omega_i$$

# Last Question: How?

- Path Tracing:
  - Radiometry (辐射度量学), a measurement system for illumination
  - Integral Light Transport Equations
    - The reflection equation
    - The rendering equation
  - **Probability and Monte Carlo Integration**
  - Algorithm

# Monte Carlo Integration

- How to numerically estimate the integral of a function?
  - Averaging random samples of the function's value.



- Definite integral

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx$$

- Random variable

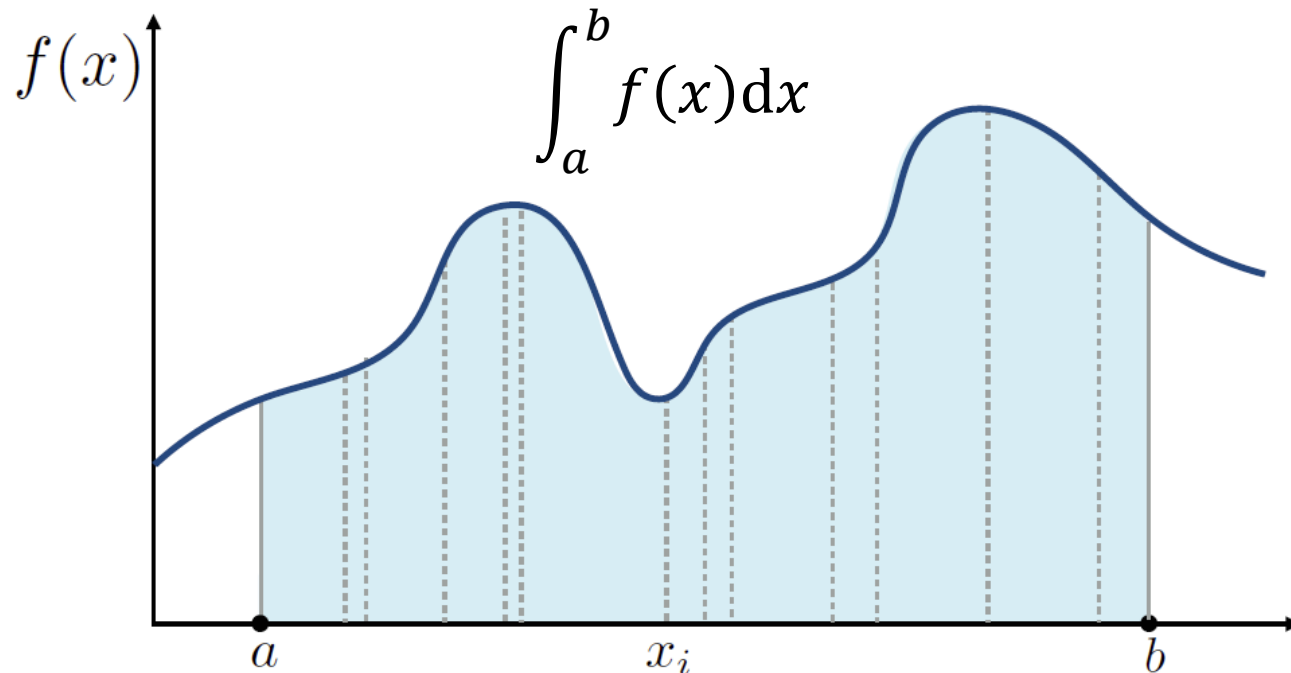
$$X_i \sim p(x)$$

- Monte Carlo estimator

$$F_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(X_i)}{p(X_i)}$$

# Monte Carlo Integration

- How to numerically estimate the integral of a function?
  - Averaging random samples of the function's value.



- Definite integral

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx$$

- Random variable

$$X_i \sim p(x) \left( = \frac{1}{b-a} \right)$$

uniform sampling

- Monte Carlo estimator

$$F_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(X_i)}{p(X_i)} \left( = \frac{b-a}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(X_i) \right)$$



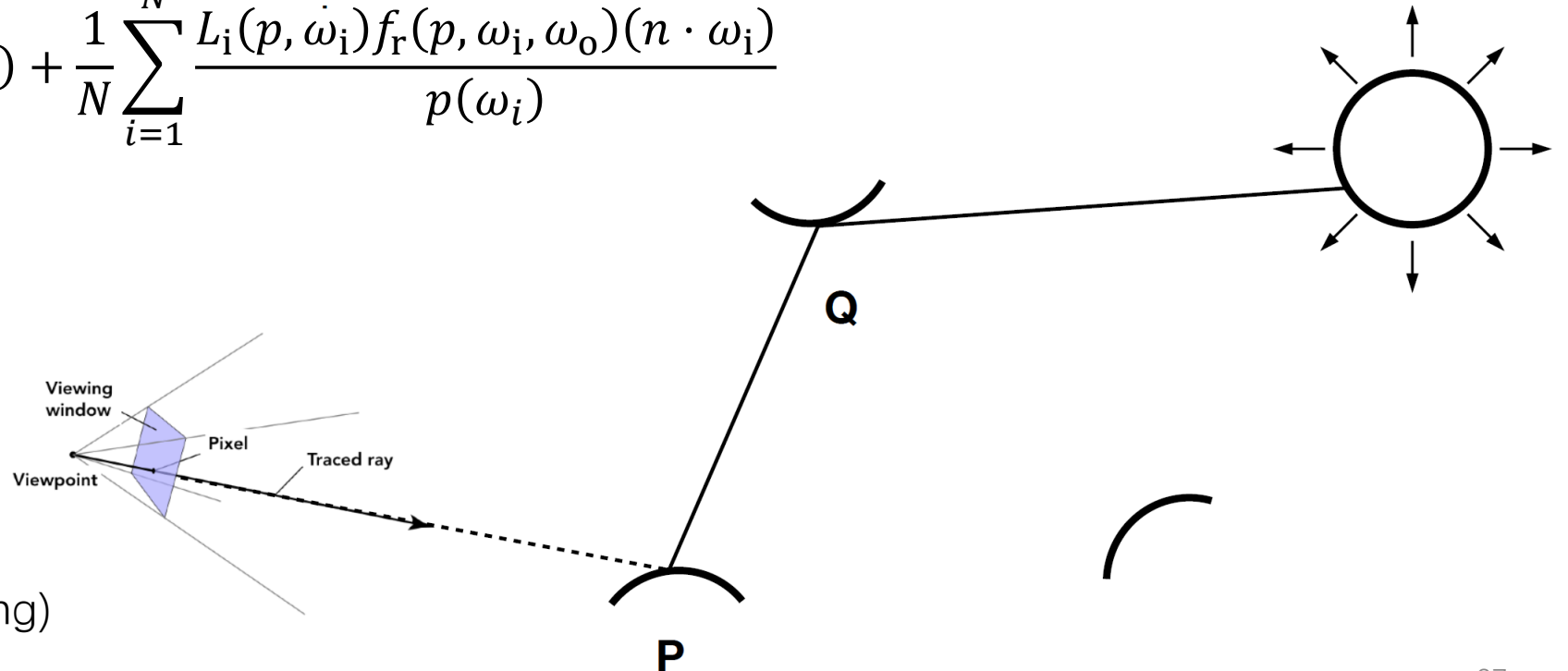
# A Simple Monte Carlo Solver

- A simple Monte Carlo solver to the rendering equation

$$L_o(p, \omega_o) = L_e(p, \omega_o) + \int_{\Omega^+} L_i(p, \omega_i) f_r(p, \omega_i, \omega_o) (n \cdot \omega_i) d\omega_i$$

→

$$L_o(p, \omega_o) = L_e(p, \omega_o) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{L_i(p, \omega_i) f_r(p, \omega_i, \omega_o) (n \cdot \omega_i)}{p(\omega_i)}$$



(Just like plain ray tracing)

# Last Question: How?

- Path Tracing:
  - Radiometry (辐射度量学), a measurement system for illumination
  - Integral Light Transport Equations
    - The reflection equation
    - The rendering equation
  - Probability and Monte Carlo Integration
  - **Algorithm**

# A Simple Monte Carlo Solver

- A simple Monte Carlo solver to the rendering equation

```
shade(p, wo)
  Randomly choose N directions  $w_i \sim \text{pdf}$ 
  Lo = 0.0
  For each  $w_i$ 
    Trace a ray  $r(p, w_i)$ 
    If ray  $r$  hit the light
      Lo += (1 / N) *  $L_i$  *  $f_r$  * cosine / pdf( $w_i$ )
    Else If ray  $r$  hit an object at  $q$ 
      Lo += (1 / N) * shade( $q, -w_i$ ) *  $f_r$  * cosine / pdf( $w_i$ )
  Return Lo
```

Multiple recursive (多重递归)

#rays =  $N^{\text{\#bounces}}$

100 -> 10000

10000 -> 1000000

1 -> 100

- Problem: exponential explosion

# Path Tracing

- Path-tracing solver to the rendering equation

Main difference from the simple alg.:  
Only trace **ONE** light

`shade(p, wo)`

Manually specify a probability  $P_{RR}$

Randomly select  $\kappa$  in a uniform dist. in  $[0, 1]$

**If** ( $\kappa > P_{RR}$ ) **return** 0.0;

Randomly choose ONE direction  $w_i \sim \text{pdf}(w)$

Trace a ray  $r(p, w_i)$

**If** ray  $r$  hit the light

**Return**  $L_i * f_r * \text{cosine} / \text{pdf}(w_i) / P_{RR}$

**Else If** ray  $r$  hit an object at  $q$

**Return** `shade`( $q, -w_i$ ) \*  $f_r * \text{cosine} / \text{pdf}(w_i) / P_{RR}$

Russian roulette (俄罗斯轮盘赌)

- To stop algorithm
- The light does not stop bouncing indeed
  - Directly limiting bounces is wrong

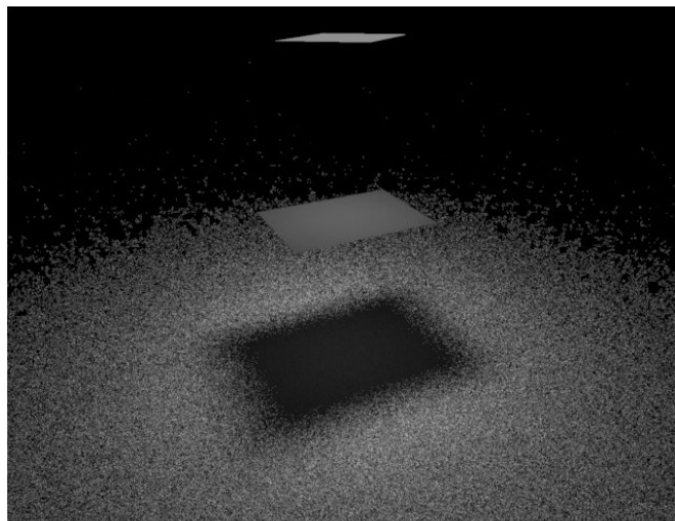
Tail-recursive (尾递归)

# Path Tracing

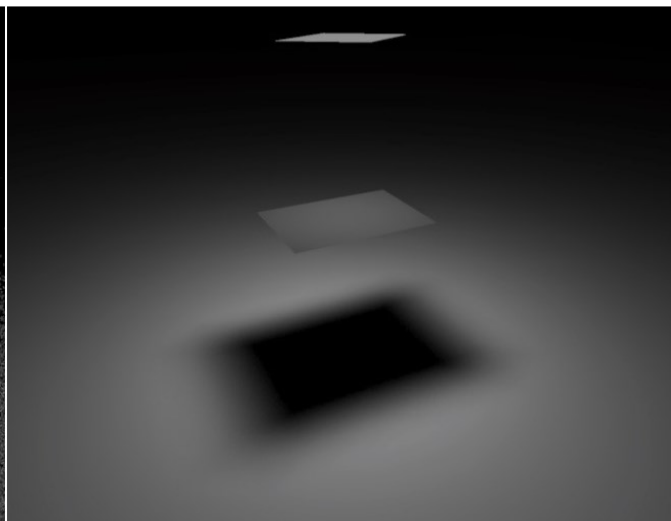
- Ray generation
  - If we sample ONE light per pixel, the result is noisy (the left image)
    - Solution: sample many lights per pixel, as anti-aliasing in ray tracing

```
ray_generation(camPos, pixel)
    Uniformly choose N sample positions within the pixel
    pixel_radiance = 0.0
    For each sample in the pixel
        Shoot a ray r(camPos, cam_to_sample)
        If ray r hit the scene at p
            pixel_radiance += 1 / N * shade(p, sample_to_cam)
    Return pixel_radiance
```

Low SPP  
(samples per pixel)



High SPP



# Cutting the Number of Bounces

- Direct illumination
  - (Zero bounce)





# Cutting the Number of Bounces

- Global illumination
  - (One bounce)





# Cutting the Number of Bounces

- Global illumination
  - (Two bounces)





# Cutting the Number of Bounces

- Global illumination
  - (Four bounces)





# Cutting the Number of Bounces

- Global illumination
  - (Eight bounces)





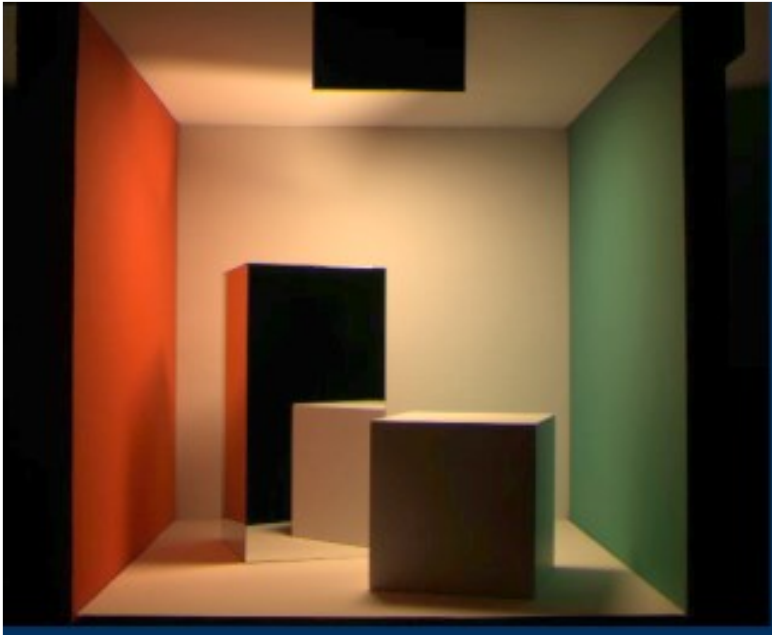
# Cutting the Number of Bounces

- Global illumination
  - (16 bounces)
- Conclusion
  - Higher brightness
  - ➔ (often means)
  - Higher accuracy



# Is Path Tracing Correct?

- Yes, almost 100% correct, a.k.a. PHOTO-REALISTIC



Photo



Path-traced global illumination

The Cornell box — <http://www.graphics.cornell.edu/online/box/compare.html>

# Advanced Topics

*BRDF,*

*Other Materials,*

*Importance Sampling,*

*Other Rendering Methods,*

# Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function

- Measurement by gonireflectometer (角反射仪)

- An image-based approach
- General pipeline

**for** each outgoing direction  $\omega_o$   
    move light to illuminate surface with a thin beam from  $\omega_o$   
**for** each incoming direction  $\omega_i$   
    move sensor to be at direction  $\omega_i$  from surface  
    measure incident radiance

- Efficiency improvement

- Isotropic surfaces reduce dimensionality from 4D to 3D
- Reciprocity reduces the number of measurements by half
- Clever optical systems...?

Isotropic:  $f_r(\theta_i, \phi_i; \theta_r, \phi_r) = f_r(\theta_i, \theta_r, \phi_r - \phi_i)$

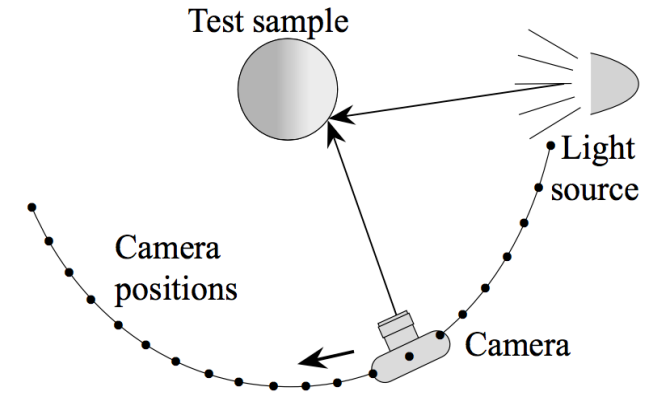
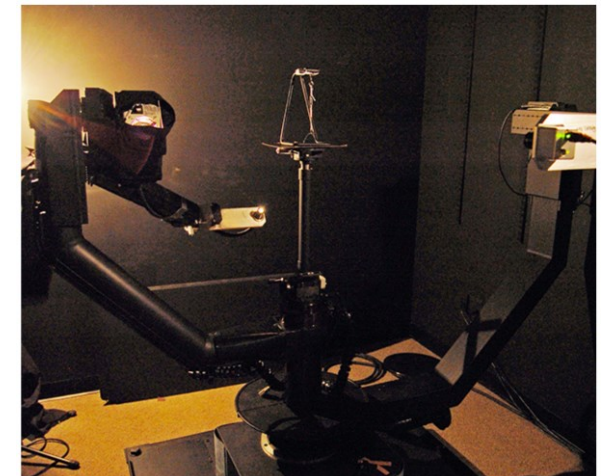


Image-Based BRDF Measurement Including Human Skin  
[Marschner et al. 1999]

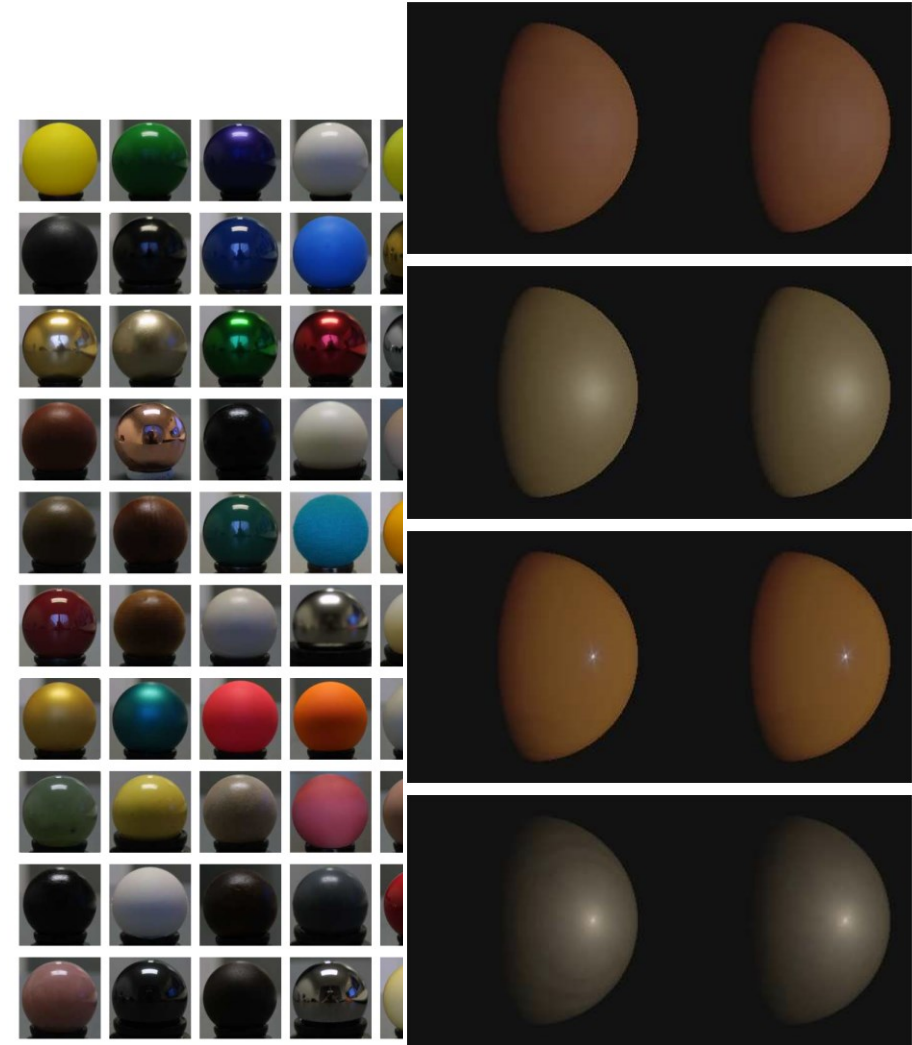


Spherical gantry at UCSD



# Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function

- Tabular representation
  - Store regularly-spaced samples in  $(\theta_i, \theta_o, |\phi_i - \phi_o|)$ 
    - Reparameterize angles to better match specularities
    - Generally need to resample measured values to table
    - Very high storage requirements
- A data-driven reflectance model [Matusik et al. 2003]
  - $\theta_i$ : 90 samples
  - $\theta_o$ : 90 samples
  - $|\phi_i - \phi_o|$ : 180 samples
  - Thus 1,458,000 samples per material
    - (per sphere in the right)



# Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function

- Snell's Law and Fresnel Term

- $n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$
- Reflectance (反射率)  $R$  depends on incident angle
  - The brightness of shadows varies as grazing angle increases (the right figures)
  - Non-linear approximation of reflectance functions [Lafortune et al. 1997]
- Accurate Fresnel term: need to consider polarization

- $R_s = \left| \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_1 - n_2 \cos \theta_2}{n_1 \cos \theta_1 + n_2 \cos \theta_2} \right|^2$

- $R_p = \left| \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_2 - n_2 \cos \theta_1}{n_1 \cos \theta_2 + n_2 \cos \theta_1} \right|^2$

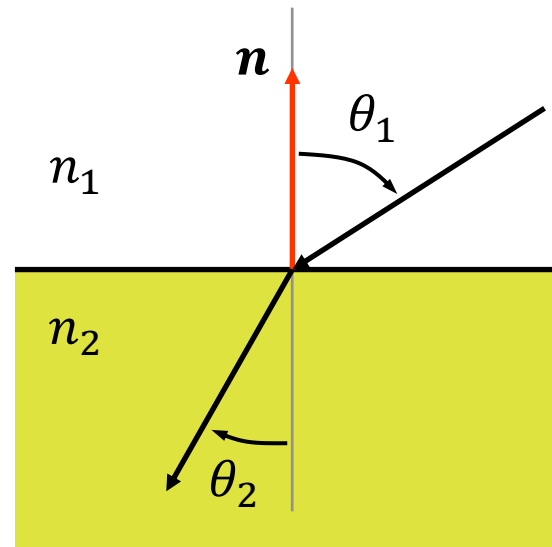
- $R_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{2} (R_s + R_p)$

- Approximate: Schlick's approximation

- $R_0 = \left( \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \right)^2$

- $R(\theta_1) = R_0 + (1 - R_0)(1 - \cos \theta_1)^5$

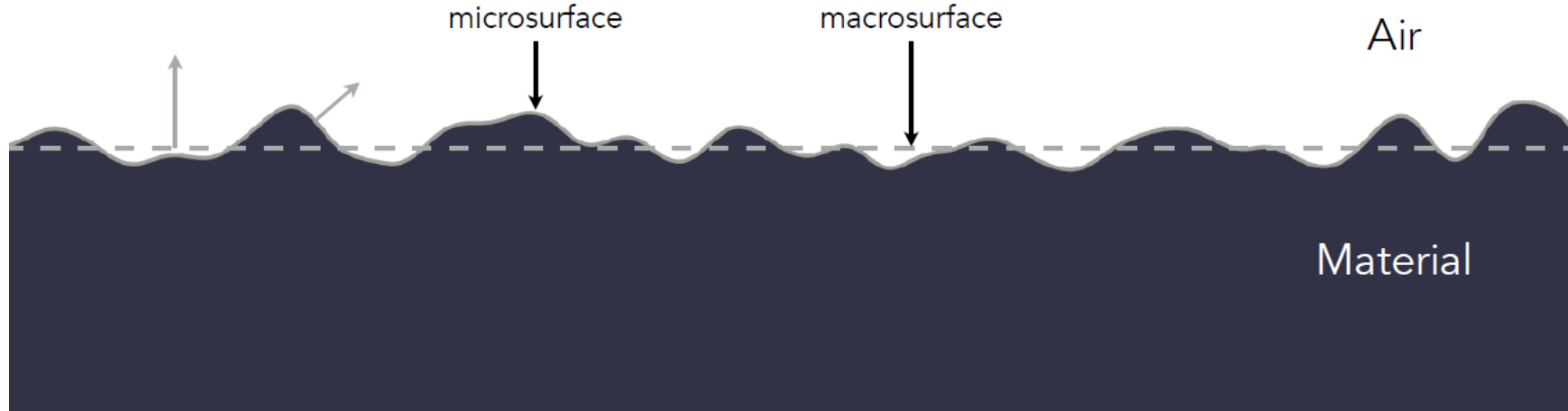
$$\theta_1 \rightarrow 0, R \rightarrow \left( \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \right)^2; \quad \theta_1 \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}, R \rightarrow 1;$$



# Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function

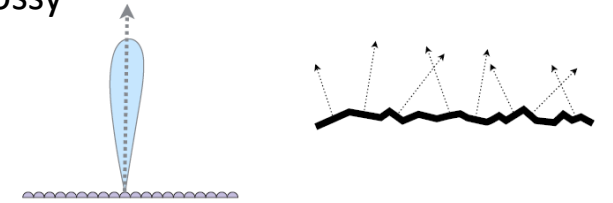
- Microfacet Model (微表面模型)

- Rough surface
  - Macroscale: flat & rough
  - Microscale: bumpy & **specular**
- Individual elements of surface act like **mirrors**
  - Known as Microfacets
  - Each microfacet has its own normal

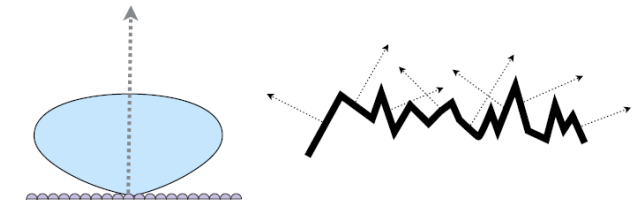


- Microfacet BRDF

- Key: the distribution of microfacets' normal
  - Concentrated → glossy



- Spread → diffuse



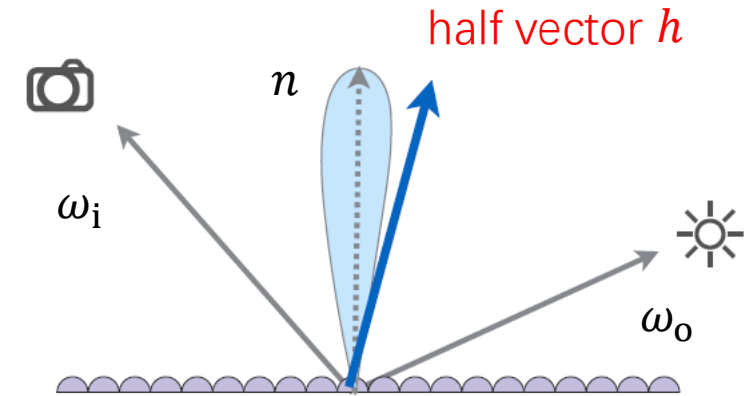
# Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function



Fresnel term shadowing-masking term distribution of normals

$$f(\omega_i, \omega_o) = \frac{F(\omega_i, h) G(\omega_i, \omega_o, h) D(h)}{4(n \cdot \omega_i)(n \cdot \omega_o)}$$

- Microfacet BRDF
  - Key: the distribution of microfacets' normal



[Autodesk Fusion 360]  
How to acquire these images?  
(explained in the follows)



# Advanced Appearance Modeling

- Non-surface models

- Participating media
- Hair / fur / fiber (BCSDF)
- Granular material



[Yan et al. 2015]



[Yan et al. 2014, 2016]

- Surface models

- Translucent material (BSSRDF)
- Cloth
- Detailed material (non-statistical BRDF)



[Meng et al. 2015]

# Accelerating Path Tracer

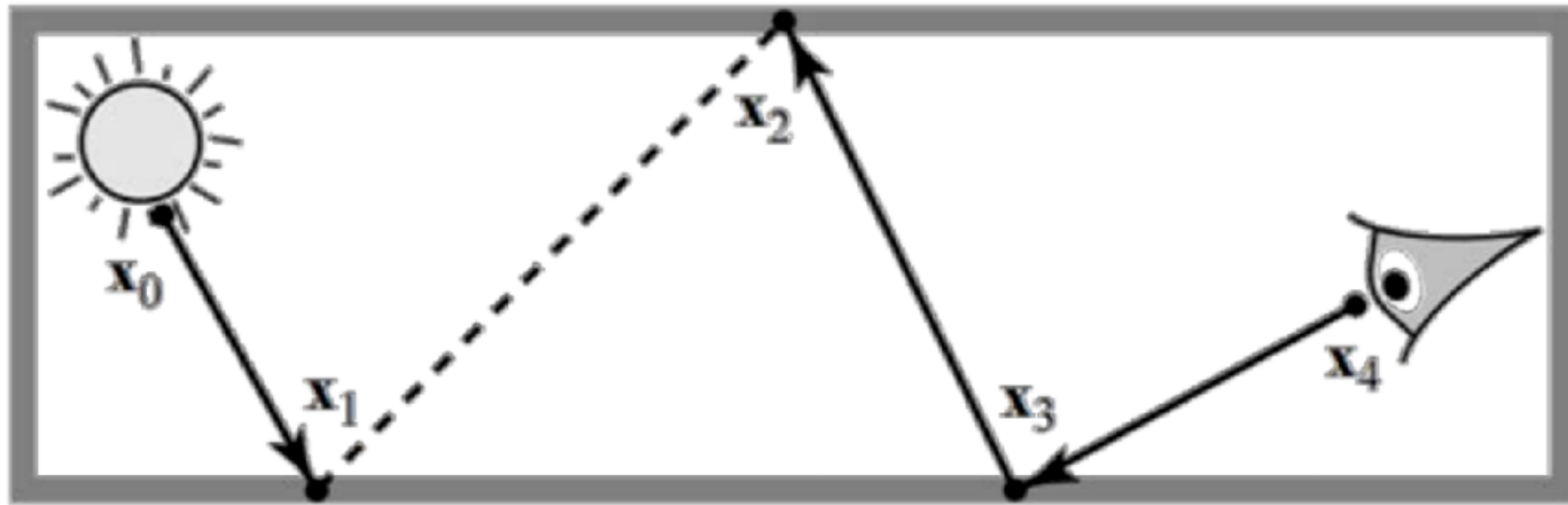
- $L_o(p, \omega_o) = L_e(p, \omega_o) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{L_i(p, \omega_i) f_r(p, \omega_i, \omega_o) (n \cdot \omega_i)}{p(\omega_i)}$ 
  - How to choose  $p(\omega_i)$ ?
  - Is there any sampling more efficient than uniform one?
- Importance sampling (重要性采样)
  - Recall:  $F_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(X_i)}{p(X_i)}$
  - $E[F_N] = \int_a^b \frac{f(x)}{p(x)} p(x) dx = \int_a^b f(x) dx$
  - What if  $\frac{f(x)}{p(x)} \equiv \lambda$ ?
    - $F_N = \lambda$
    - It suggests us to
      - sample more points where  $f(x)$  is large.
- Idea: the following expectations are equivalent
  - $E[f(X)] = \int f(x) p(x) dx$ 
    - $X \sim p(x)$
  - $E\left[\frac{p(X)}{q(X)} f(X)\right] = \int f(x) \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} q(x) dx$ 
    - $X \sim q(x)$

# Advanced Light Transport

- Unbiased light transport methods
  - Bidirectional path tracing (BDPT)
  - Metropolis light transport (MLT)
- Biased light transport methods
  - Photon mapping
  - Vertex connection and merging (VCM)
  - Instant radiosity (VPL / many light methods)

# Bidirectional path tracing (BDPT), unbiased

- Traces sub-paths from both the camera and the light
- Connects the endpoints from both sub-paths



[Veach 1997]



# Bidirectional path tracing (BDPT), unbiased

- Traces sub-paths from both the camera and the light
- Connects the endpoints from both sub-paths



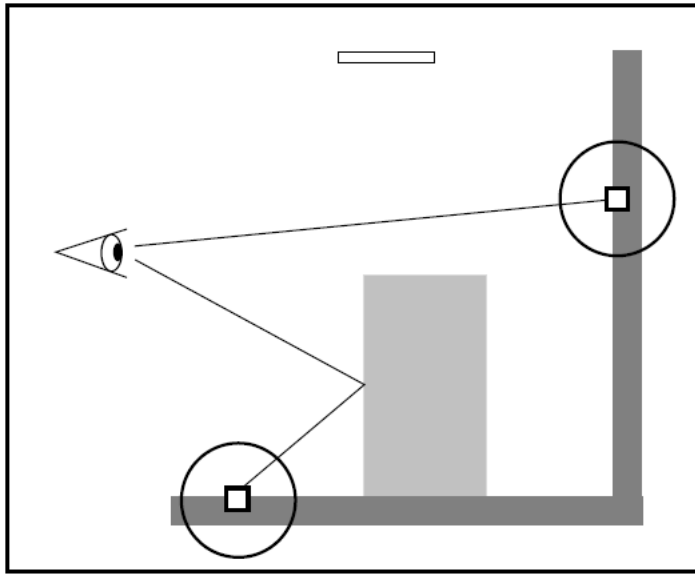
(a) Path tracer, 32 samples/pixel



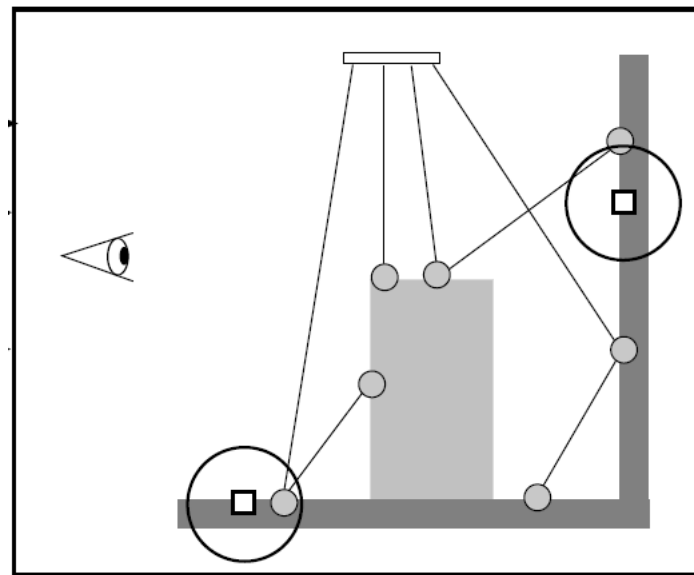
(b) Bidirectional path tracer, 32 samples/pixel

# Photon Mapping, biased

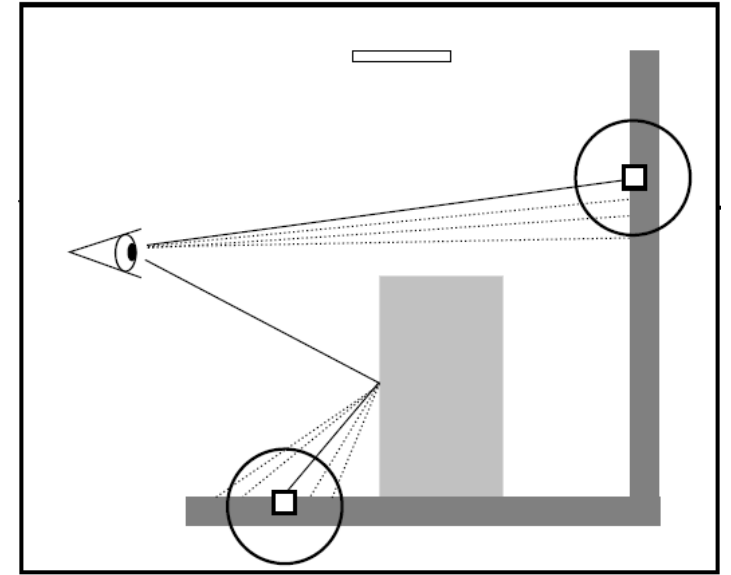
- Stage 1 — photon tracing
- Stage 2 — photon collection (final gathering)



Eye Pass



Photon Pass



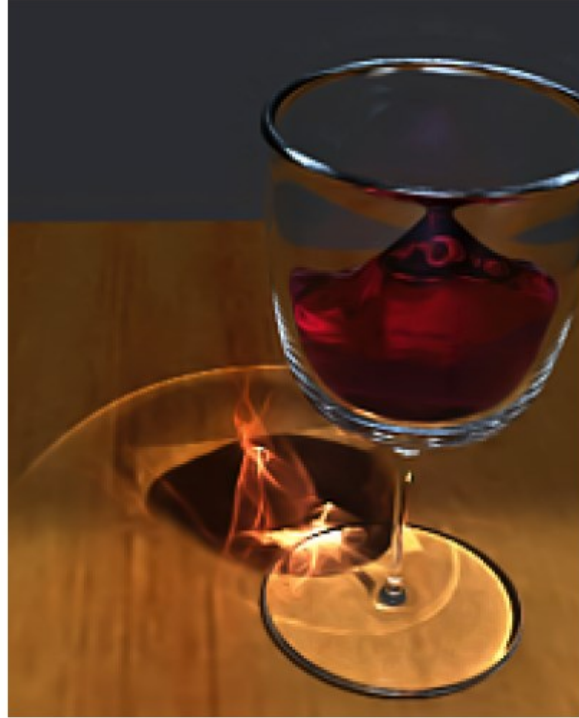
Distributed Ray Tracing Pass

# Photon Mapping, biased

- Very good at handling Specular-Diffuse-Specular (SDS) paths and generating **caustics**



(a) 聚光灯



(b) 平行光



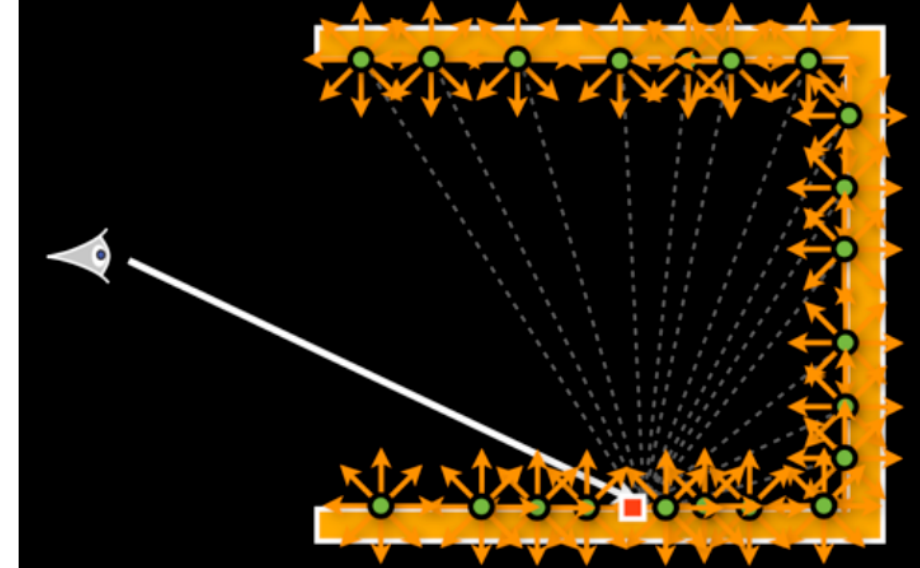
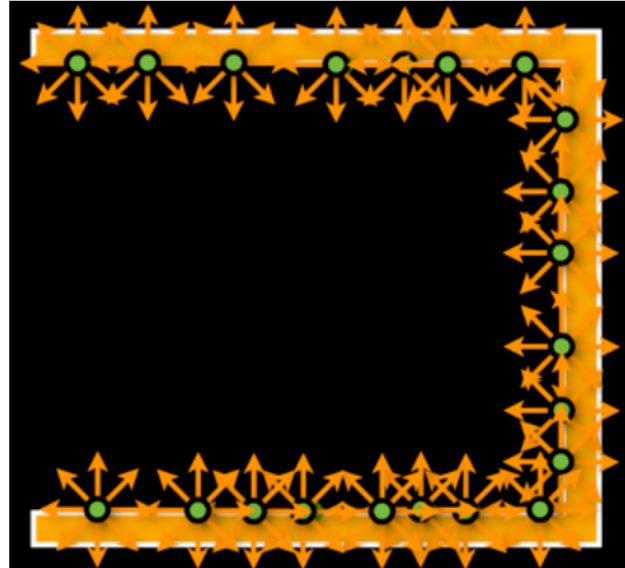
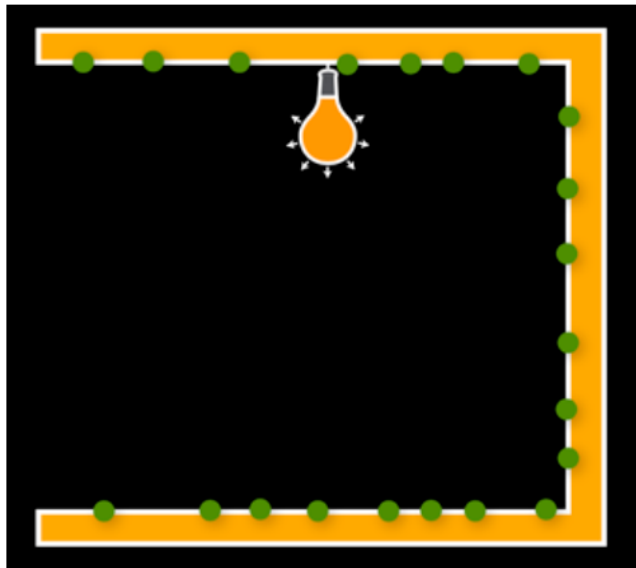
(c) 面光源

# Instant Radiosity

Sometimes also called many-light approaches

Key idea: Lit surfaces can be treated as light sources

- Pros: fast and usually gives good results on diffuse scenes
- Cons: difficult to handle reflection/refraction/glossy...



[image  
courtesy of  
Derek N.]



# Instant Radiosity

- $B_i$  (Radiosity/ Radiant exitance, unit  $W/m^2$  )

$$B_i = E_i + \rho_i \sum_j B_j F_{ji}$$

- $F_{ji}$ , Form Factor,  $\frac{\text{flux from face j to face i}}{\text{flux of face j}}$

$$F_{ji} = \frac{1}{A_i} \int_{x \in s_i} \int_{x' \in s_j} \frac{1}{\pi} G(x', x) dA(x') dA(x)$$

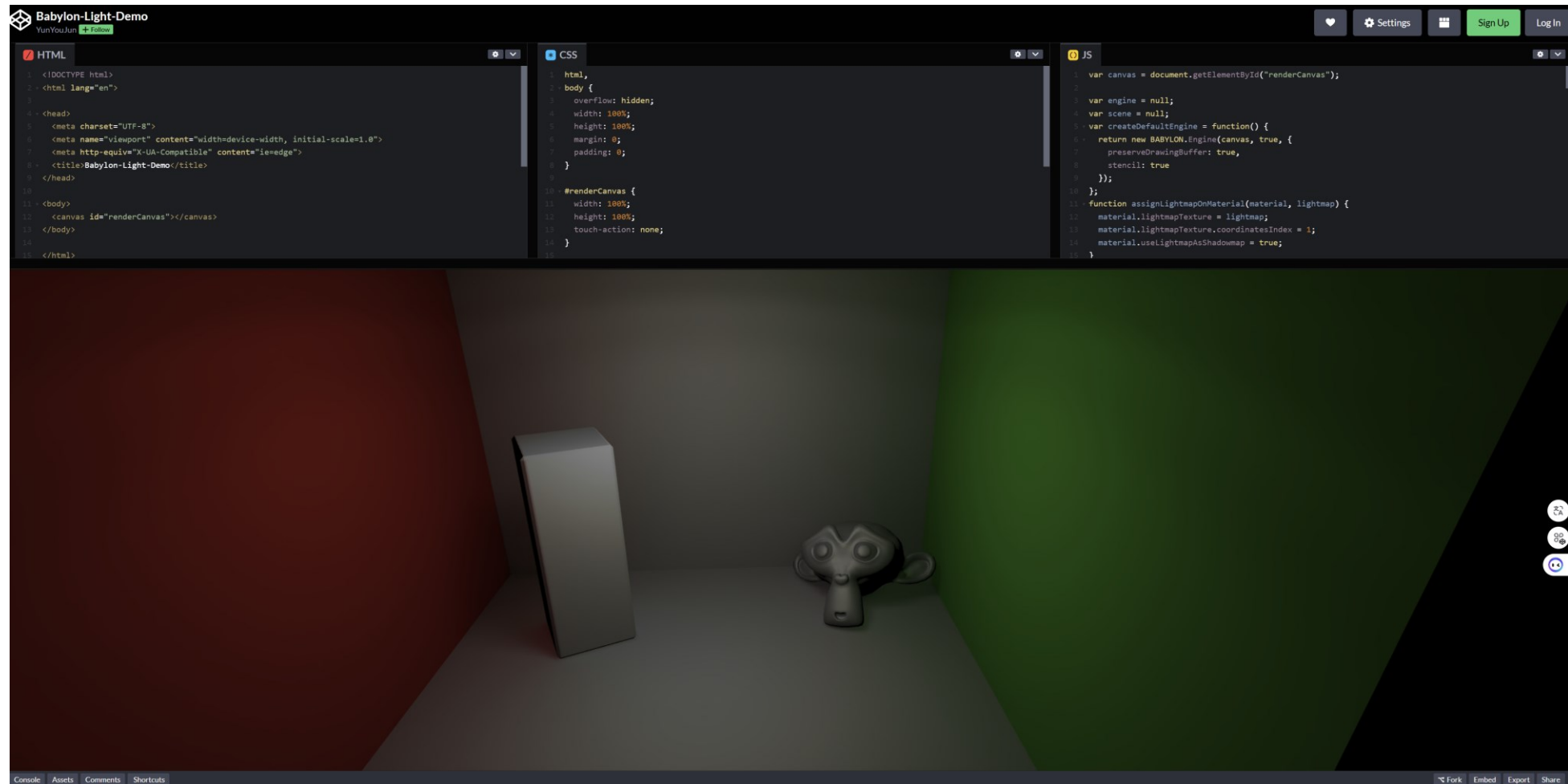
$$G(x', x) = \frac{\cos \theta \cos \theta'}{\|x' - x\|^2} v(x', x) \quad v(x', x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{i j are visible to each other} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- $\rho_i$ , Reflectivity of face i  
a parameter
- $$\begin{bmatrix} 1 - \rho_1 F_{11} & -\rho_1 F_{12} & \cdots & -\rho_1 F_{1N} \\ -\rho_2 F_{21} & 1 - \rho_2 F_{22} & \cdots & -\rho_2 F_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -\rho_N F_{N1} & -\rho_N F_{N2} & \cdots & 1 - \rho_N F_{NN} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \\ \vdots \\ B_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \\ \vdots \\ E_N \end{bmatrix}$$

# Instant Radiosity

[Babylon-Light-Demo](#)

<https://codepen.io/YunYouJun/pen/VwYMKMy>



# Conclusion

- Path Tracing
  - **Why?** Ray tracing Fails to support glossy/diffuse reflection/soft shadows...
  - **What?** A ray-tracing method following rendering equations
  - **How?** Monte Carlo Path Tracing
- Advanced Topics
  - *Advanced Appearances*
  - *Importance Sampling*
  - *Other Rendering Methods*