Progressive Photon Mapping

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CM50245: Computer Animation and Games II

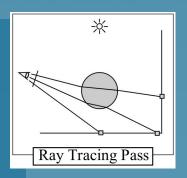
Solve the rendering equation

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$$L_o(x, \omega_o) = L_e(x, \omega_o) + \int_{\Omega} f(x, \omega_o, \omega_i) L_i(x, \omega_i) |cos\theta_i| d\omega_i$$

- Photon mapping as an approximation
- Two passes
 - 1. Ray tracing in a photon map
 - 2. Photon rendering
- $L_r(x, \omega_o) \approx \sum_{p=1}^{N} \frac{f(x, \omega_o, \omega_i)\phi_i(x_p, \omega_i)}{\pi r^2}$

Ray tracing pass 1

- Ray tracing to find visible surfaces
- Each ray includes all specular bounces
- Stop when non-specular surface is found



• Ray tracing pass 2

Struct hitPoint

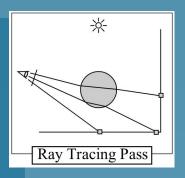
x hit position

i,j pixel location

R current radius

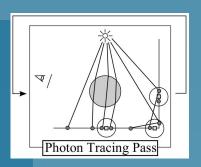
N acum photon count

au acum reflected flux



Photon tracing pass

- Accumulate photon flux in hit points
- Newly added photon improve the quality
- $d(x) = \frac{n}{\pi r^2}, \ d'(x) = \frac{n'}{\pi r^2}$



Radius reduction

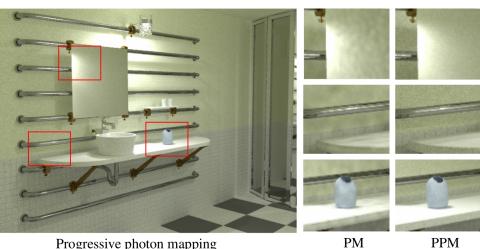
- Radius reduces with each pass to increase quality
- Compute new photons $\hat{N}(x) = N(x) + \alpha M(x)$
- New radius $\hat{R}(x) = R(x) \left(\frac{N(x) + \alpha M(x)}{N(x) + M(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$
- There has to be a gain in total number of photons

Flux correction

- Flux from new pass has to be normalized
- $\tau_N(x,\omega_o) = \sum_{p=1}^{N(x)} f(x,\omega_o,\omega_i) \phi_p'(x_p,\omega_i)$

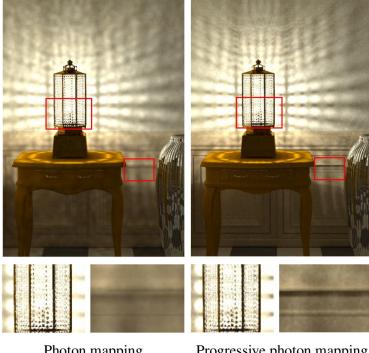
Radiance evaluation

- Sum the contribution of all photons in the hit point $L(x,\omega_o)=\frac{\tau(x,\omega_o)}{\pi R(x)^2 N_{em}}$



Progressive photon mapping

PPM



Photon mapping Progressive photon mapping

