

# Radiometry and Reflectance

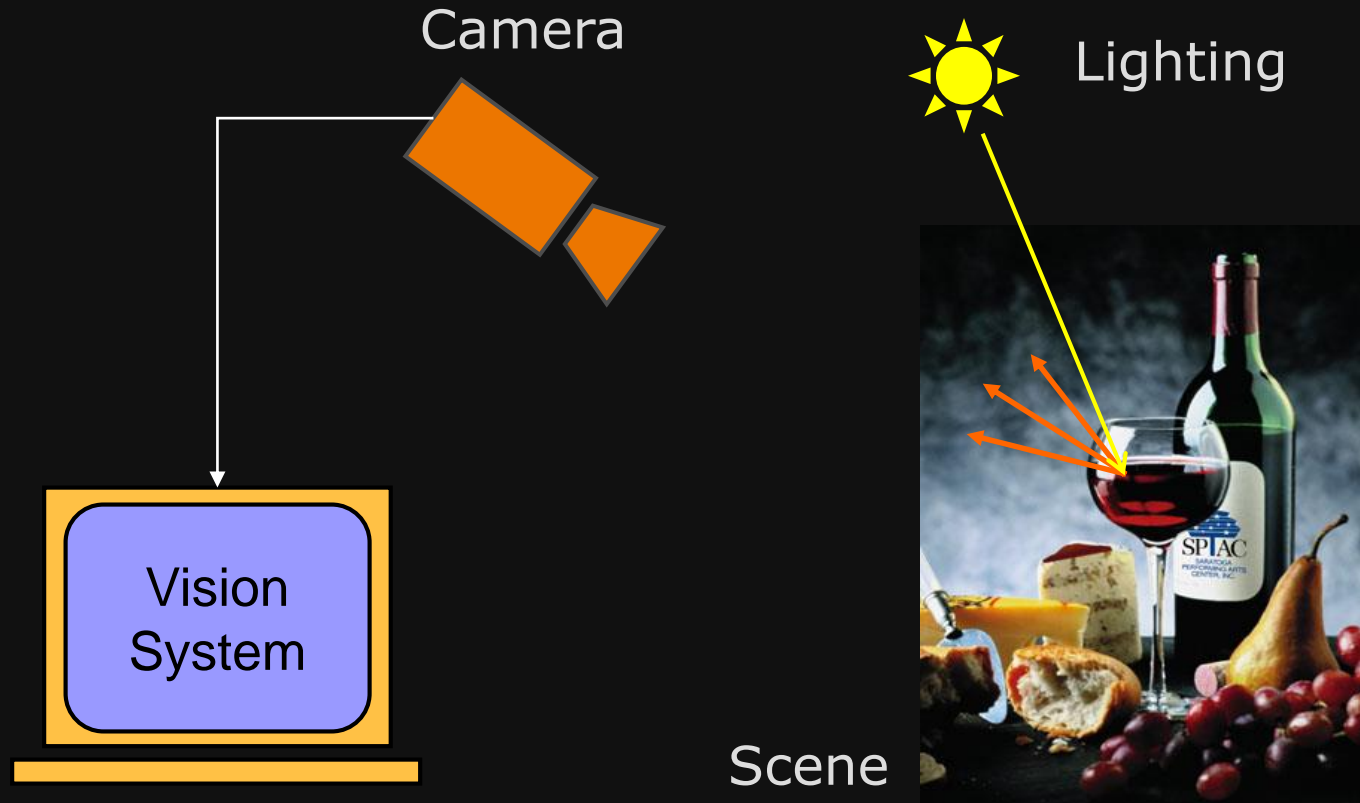
Introduction to Computational Photography:

EECS 395/495

Northwestern University

# From 2D to 3D

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We need to understand the relation between lighting, surface reflectance and image intensity.

# Radiometry and Reflectance

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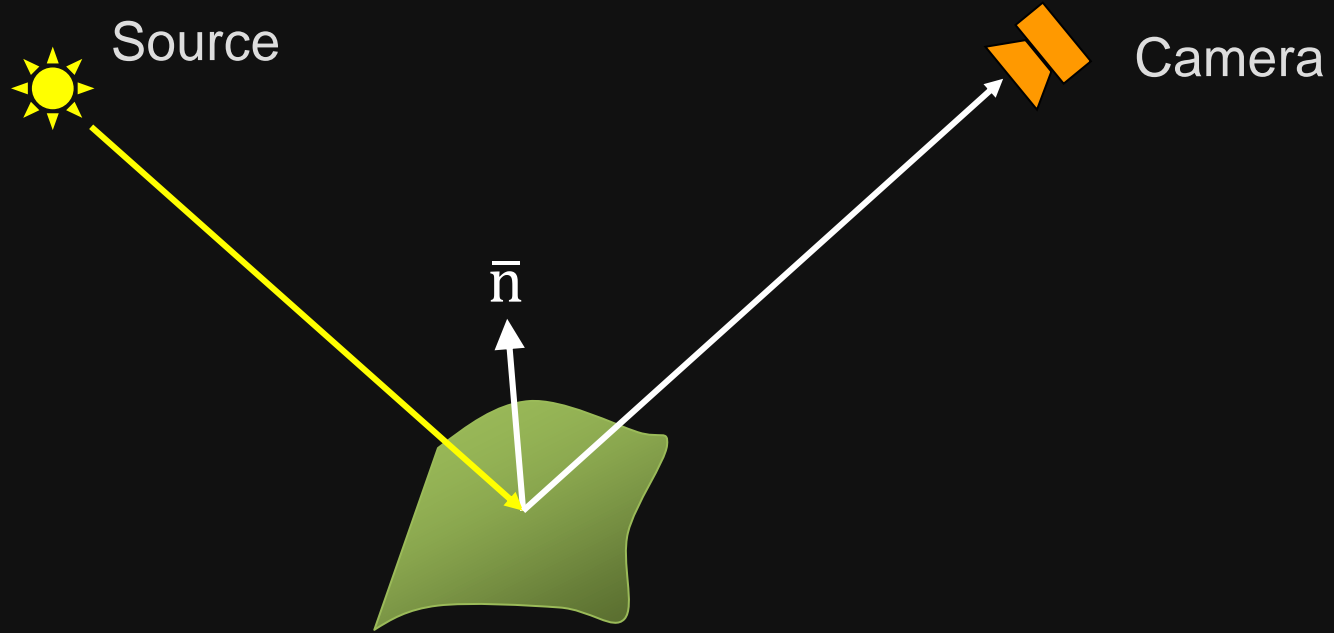
To interpret image intensities, we need to understand  
**Radiometric Concepts** and **Reflectance Properties**.

## Topics:

- (1) Image Intensity
- (2) Radiometric Concepts
- (3) Image Formation
- (4) Reflectance Models

# Image Intensity

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$$\text{Image Intensity} = f \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Illumination,} \\ \text{Surface Orientation,} \\ \text{Surface Reflectance} \end{array} \right)$$

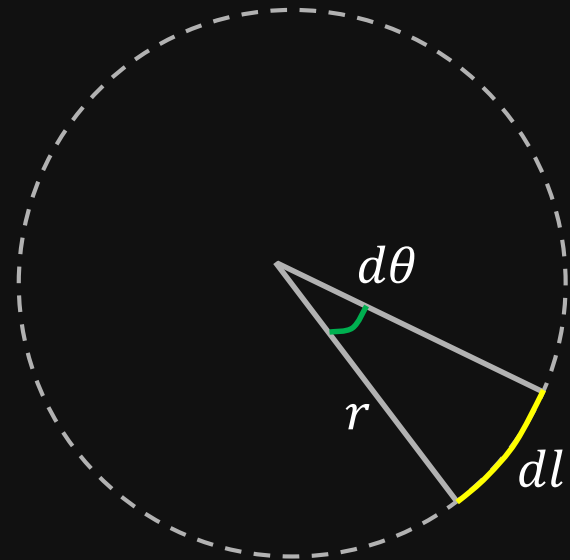
Image intensity understanding is **under-constrained!**

# Concept: Angle (2D)

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$$d\theta = \frac{dl}{r}$$

Unit: **radian** (rad)



$d\theta$  is **dimensionless**

However, **rad** is used as its unit to distinguish from other dimensionless quantities.

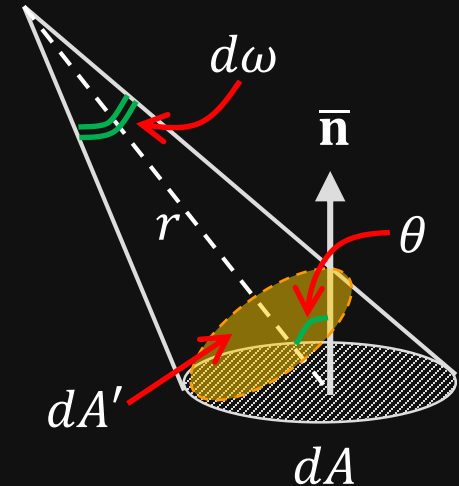
# Concept: Solid Angle (3D)

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$$d\omega = \frac{dA'}{r^2} = \frac{dA \cos \theta}{r^2}$$

Unit: **steradian** (sr)

$d\omega$  is **dimensionless**



$dA'$ : Foreshortened Area

What is the solid angle subtended by a hemisphere?  **$2\pi$**

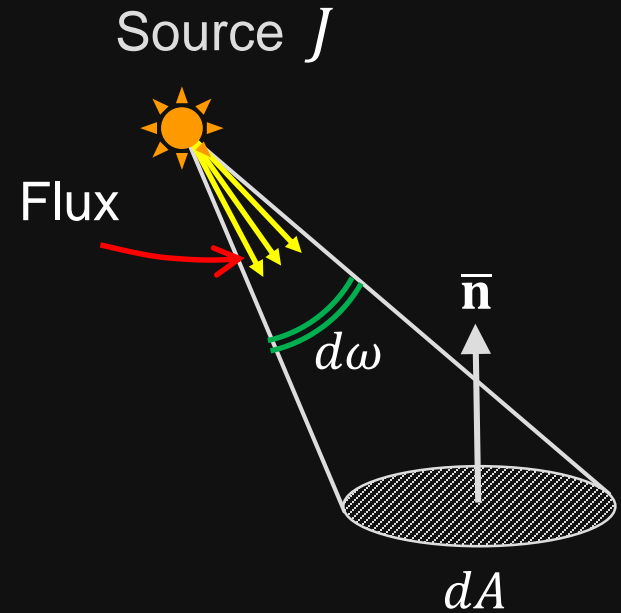
# Concept: Light Flux

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Power emitted within a solid angle

$$d\Phi$$

Unit: **watts** (W)



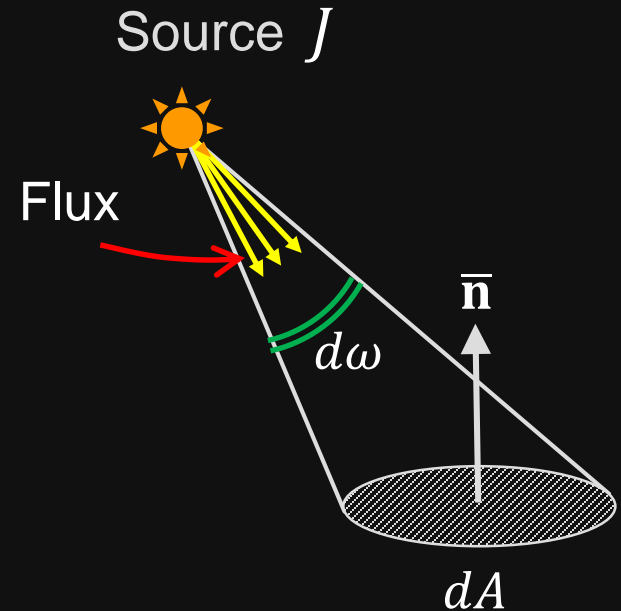
# Concept: Radiant Intensity

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Light flux emitted per unit solid angle

$$J = \frac{d\Phi}{d\omega}$$

Unit:  $\text{Wsr}^{-1}$



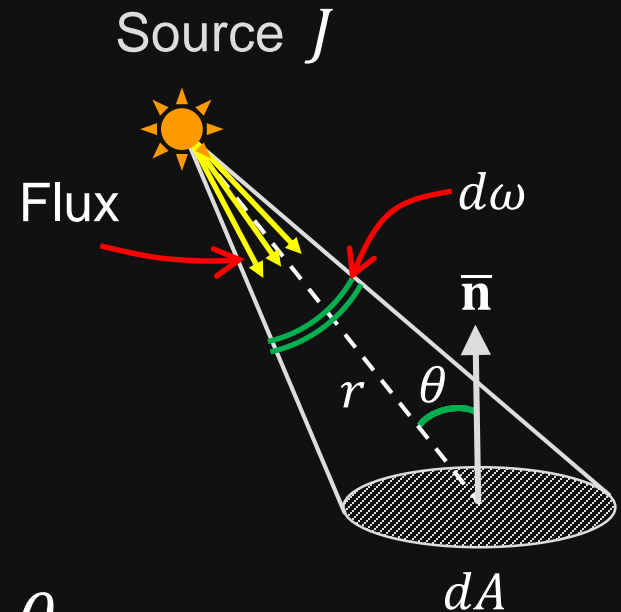


# Concept: Surface Irradiance

Light flux incident per unit surface area

$$E = \frac{d\Phi}{dA}$$

Unit:  $\text{Wm}^{-2}$



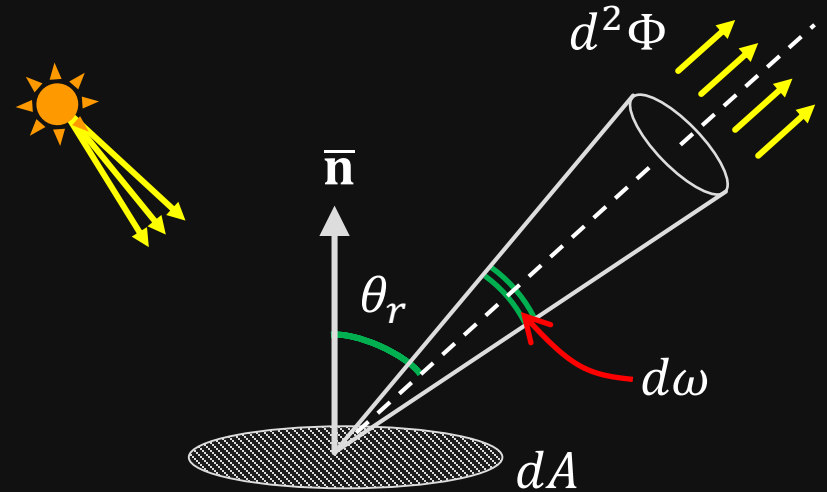
$$E = \frac{J \cdot d\omega}{dA} = \frac{J \cdot \frac{dA \cdot \cos \theta}{r^2}}{dA} = \frac{J \cos \theta}{r^2}$$

# Concept: Surface Radiance

Light flux emitted per unit foreshortened area per unit solid angle

$$L = \frac{d^2\Phi}{(dA \cos \theta_r) d\omega}$$

Unit:  $\text{Wm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}$



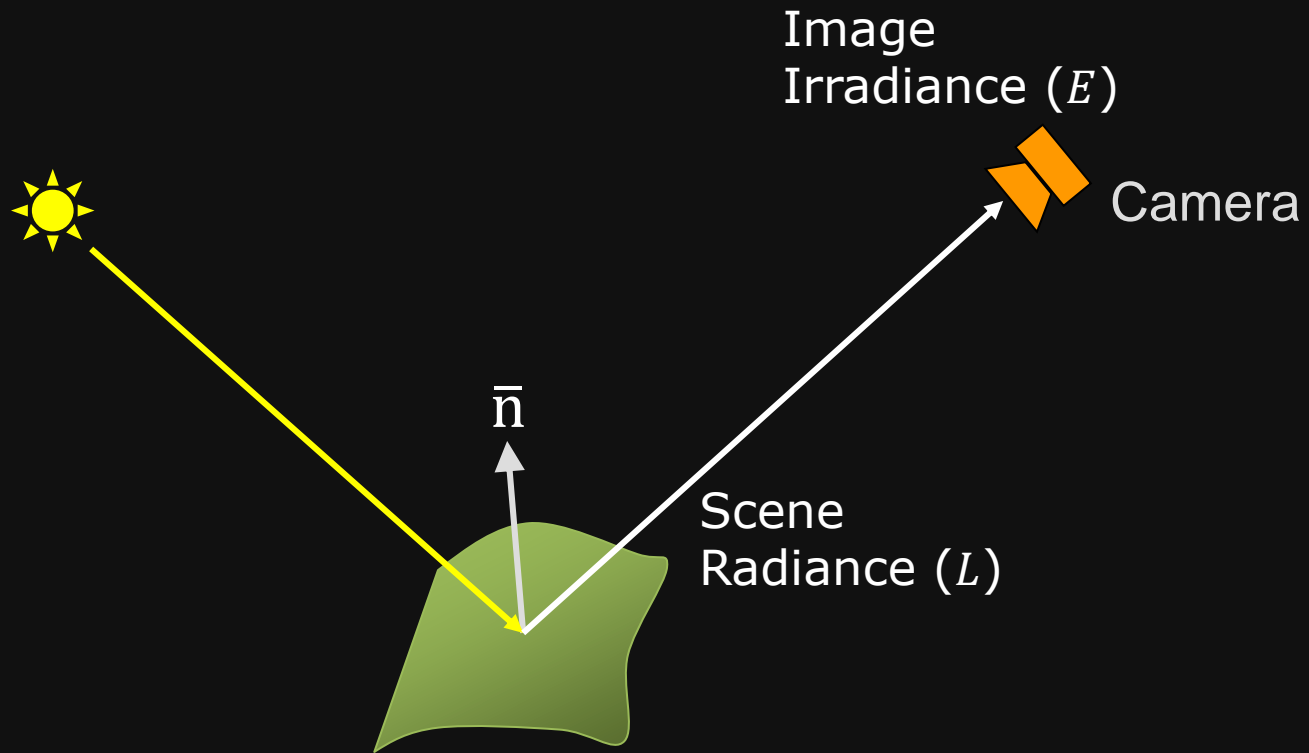
$dA \cos \theta_r$ : Foreshortened Area

## Note:

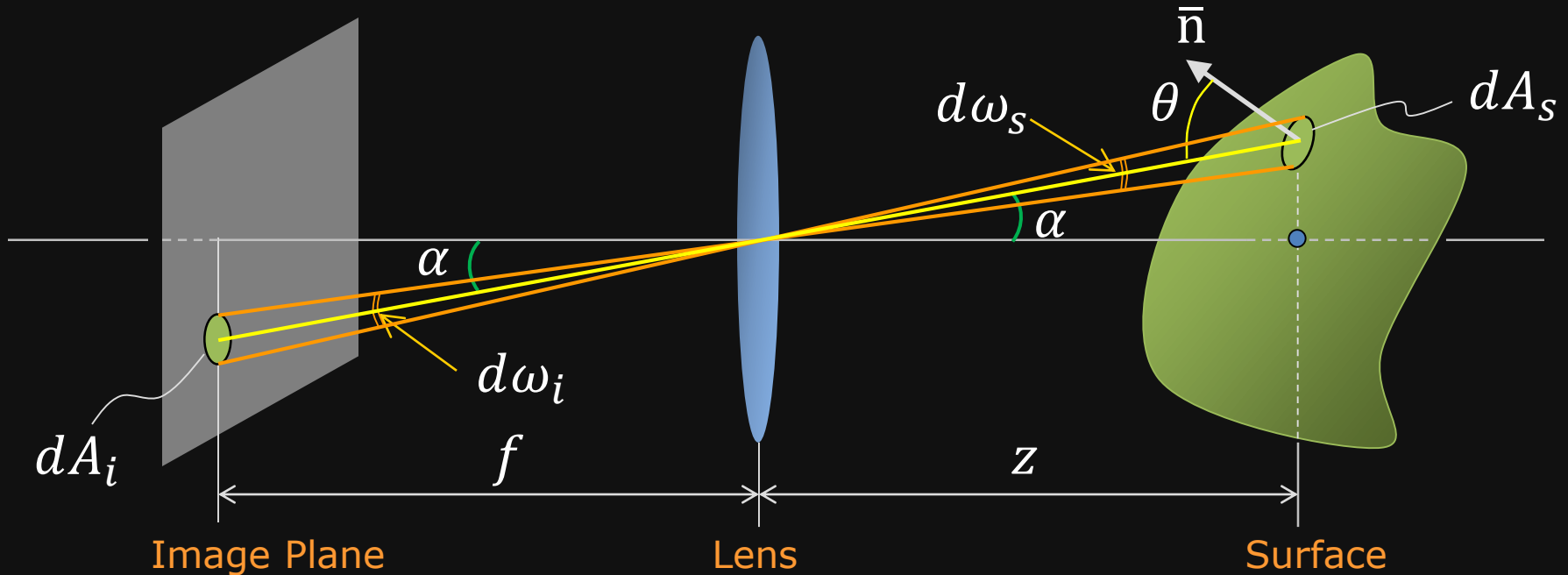
- $L$  depends on direction  $\theta_r$  :  $L(\theta_r)$
- Surface can radiate into the whole hemisphere.
- $L$  depends on reflectance properties of surface

# Scene Radiance and Image Brightness

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# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance



Solid Angles:  $d\omega_i = d\omega_s$

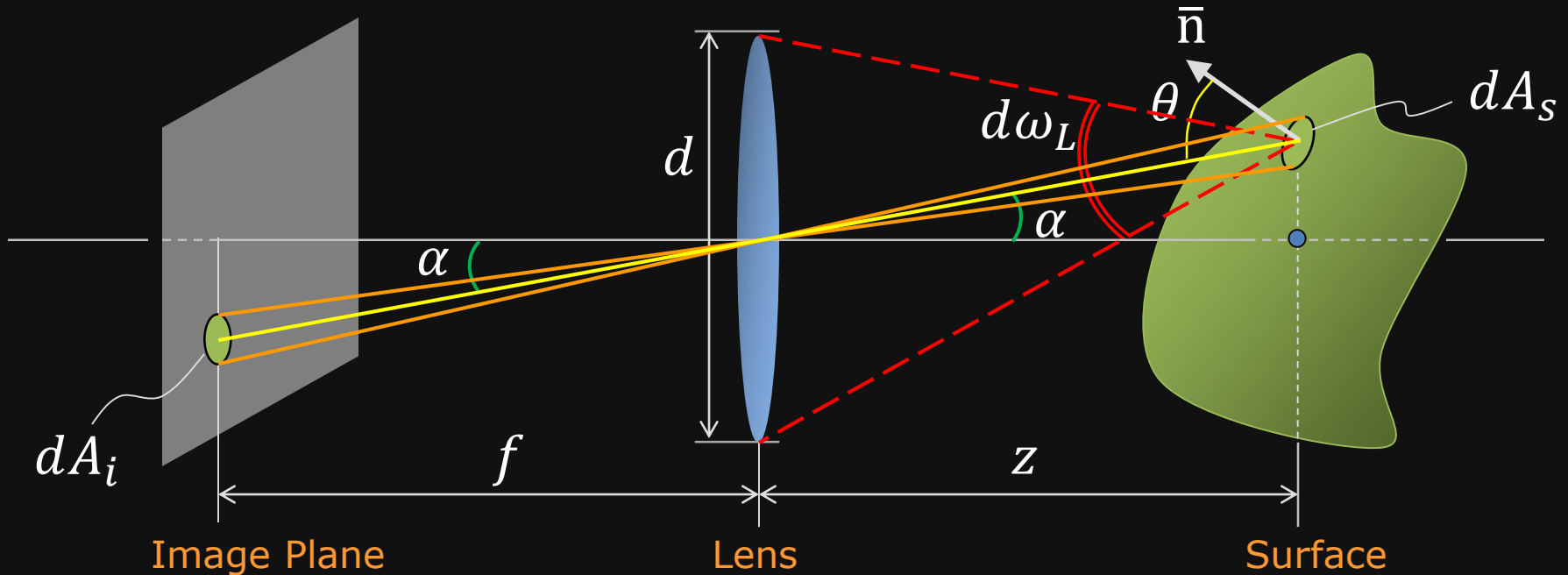
$$\frac{dA_i \cos \alpha}{(f / \cos \alpha)^2} = \frac{dA_s \cos \theta}{(z / \cos \alpha)^2}$$



$$\frac{dA_s}{dA_i} = \frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \theta} \left( \frac{z}{f} \right)^2$$

Equation (1)

# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance

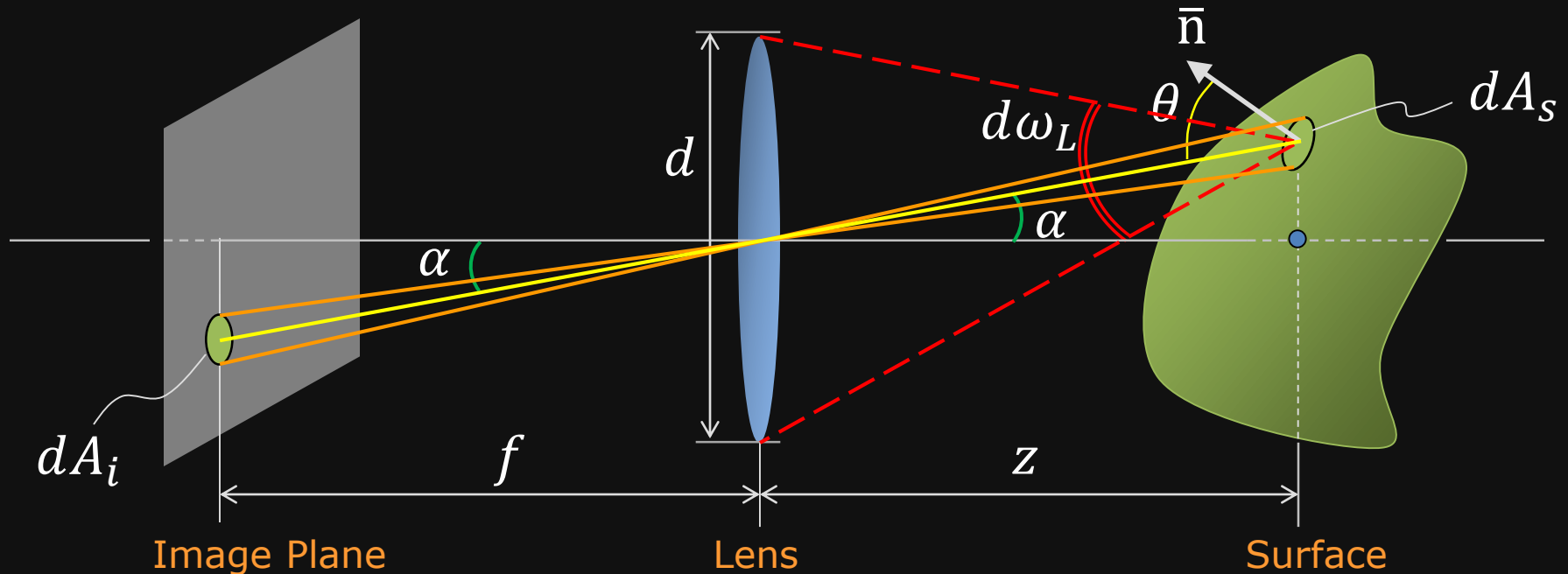


Solid Angle subtended by the lens:

$$d\omega_L = \frac{\pi d^2}{4} \frac{\cos \alpha}{(z/\cos \alpha)^2}$$

Equation (2)

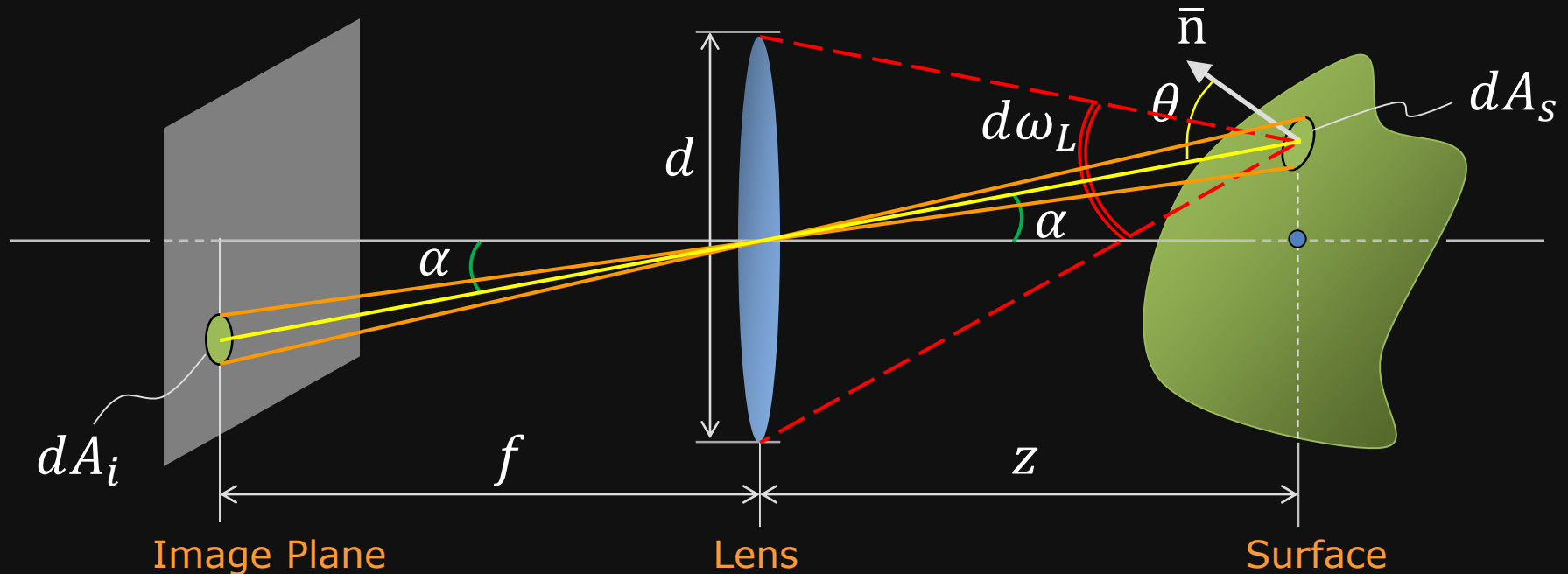
# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance



Energy Conservation:

$$\text{Flux received by lens from } dA_s = \text{Flux projected onto } dA_i$$

# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance



Scene Radiance:

Flux received by lens from  $dA_s$

$$L = \frac{d^2\Phi}{(dA_s \cos \theta) d\omega_L}$$



$$d^2\Phi = L \cdot (dA_s \cos \theta) d\omega_L$$

Equation (3)

# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance

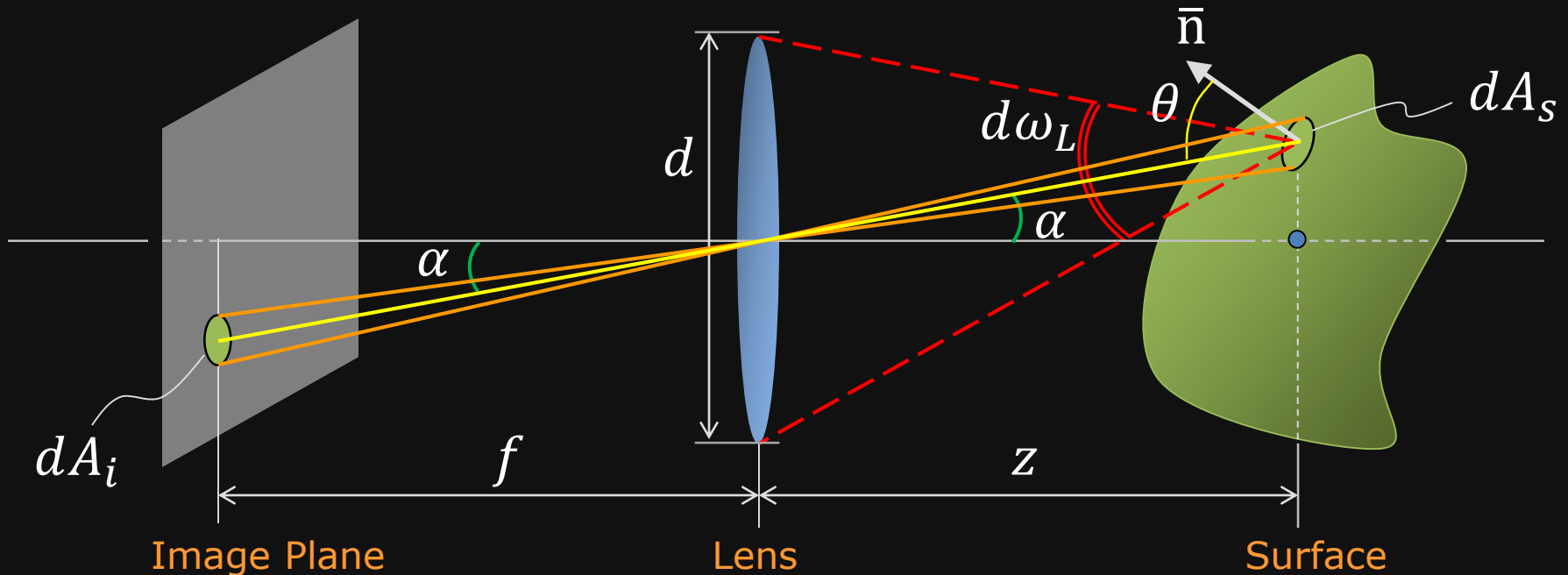


Image Irradiance:

$$E = \frac{d\Phi}{dA_i}$$



Flux projected onto  $dA_i$

$$d\Phi = E \cdot dA_i$$

Equation (4)



# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance

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Equation (1)

$$\frac{dA_s}{dA_i} = \frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \theta} \left( \frac{z}{f} \right)^2$$

Equation (2)


$$d\omega_L = \frac{\pi d^2}{4} \frac{\cos \alpha}{(z/\cos \alpha)^2}$$

Equation (3)

$$d^2\Phi = L \cdot (dA_s \cos \theta) d\omega_L$$

Equation (4)

$$d\Phi = E \cdot dA_i$$


$$E = L \frac{\pi}{4} \left( \frac{d}{f} \right)^2 \cos^4 \alpha$$

# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance

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$$E = L \frac{\pi}{4} \left( \frac{d}{f} \right)^2 \cos^4 \alpha$$

Image Irradiance

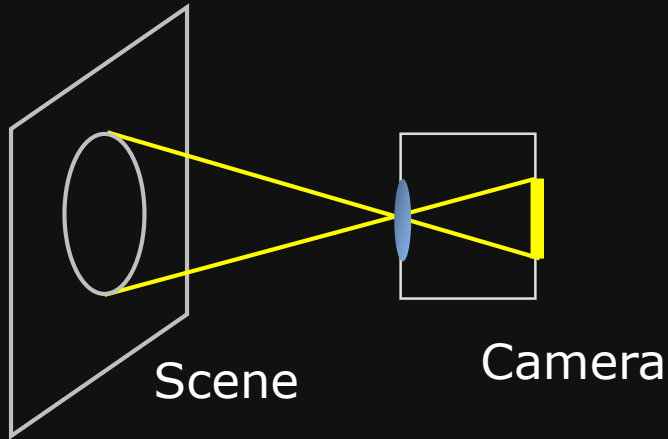
Scene Radiance

$1/(\text{F-number})^2$

- Image Irradiance is proportional to Scene Radiance
- Image brightness falls off from the image center due to the  $\cos^4 \alpha$  term.
- For small fields of view, effects of  $\cos^4 \alpha$  are small

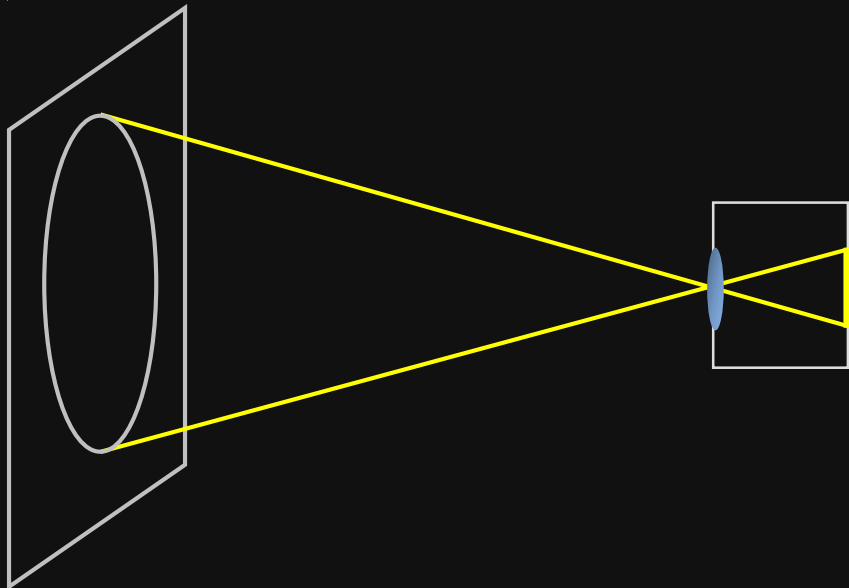
# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance

Does image brightness vary with scene depth?



$$E = L \frac{\pi}{4} \left( \frac{d}{f} \right)^2 \cos^4 \alpha$$

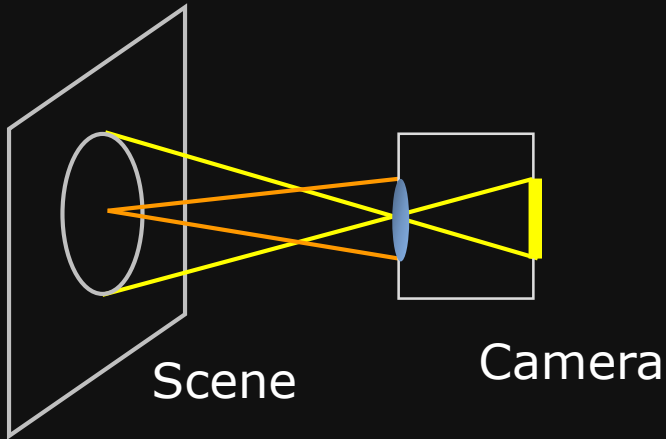
NO.



Larger the scene depth,  
larger the area of light  
accumulation.

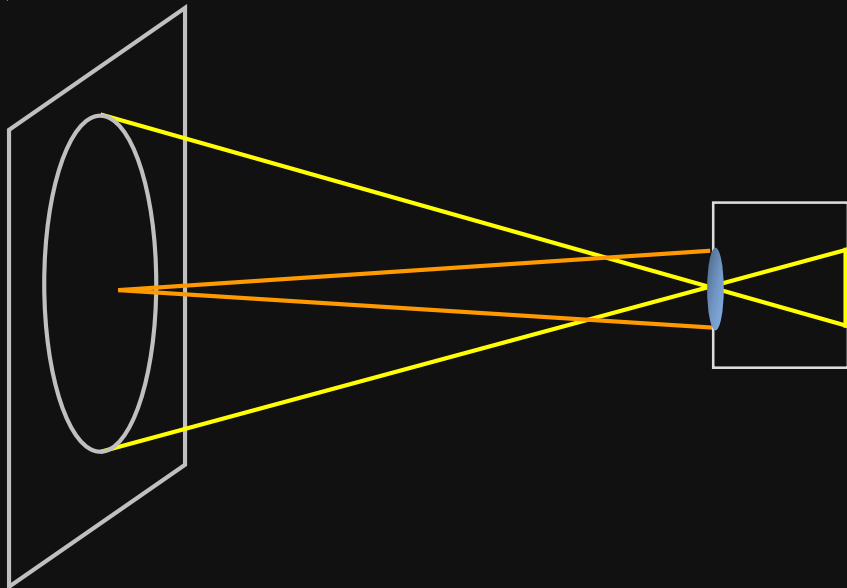
# Image Irradiance and Scene Radiance

Does image brightness vary with scene depth?



$$E = L \frac{\pi}{4} \left( \frac{d}{f} \right)^2 \cos^4 \alpha$$

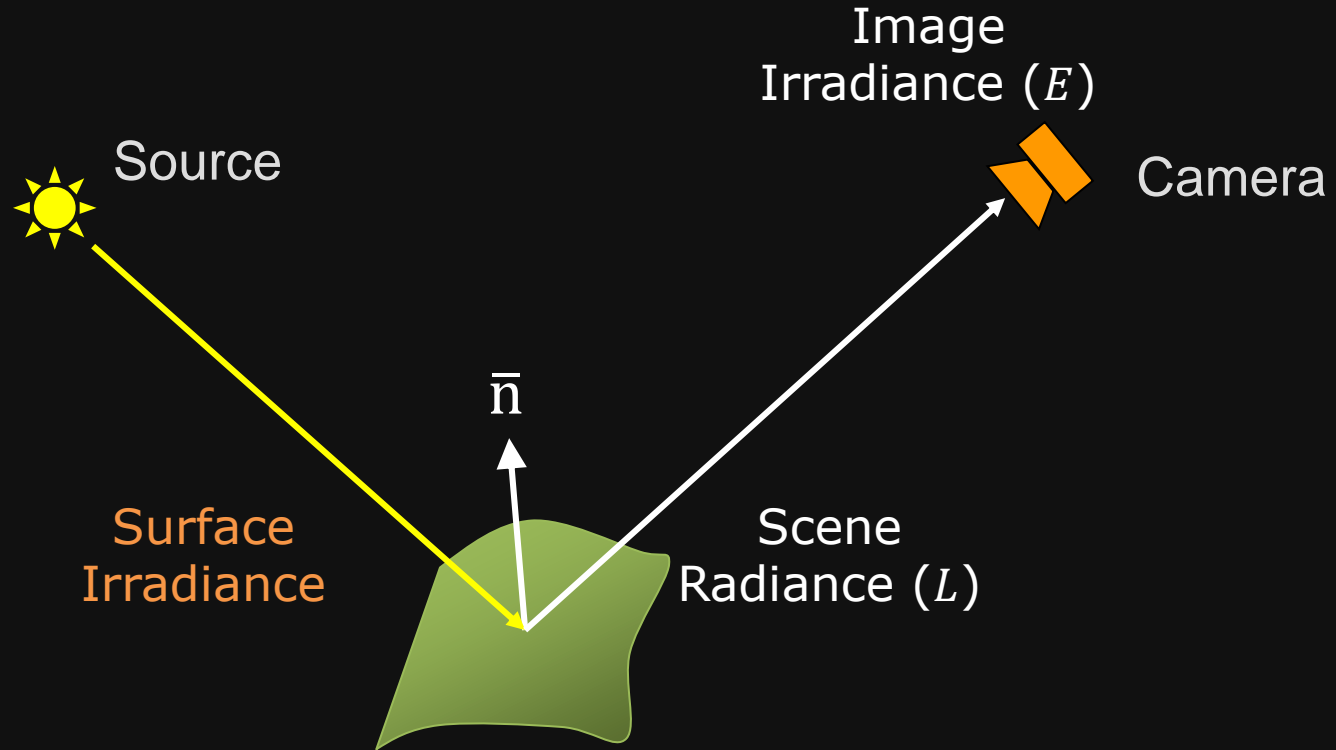
NO.



Larger the scene depth, smaller the solid angle subtended by each point onto the lens, and hence less light from each point.

# Surface Appearance

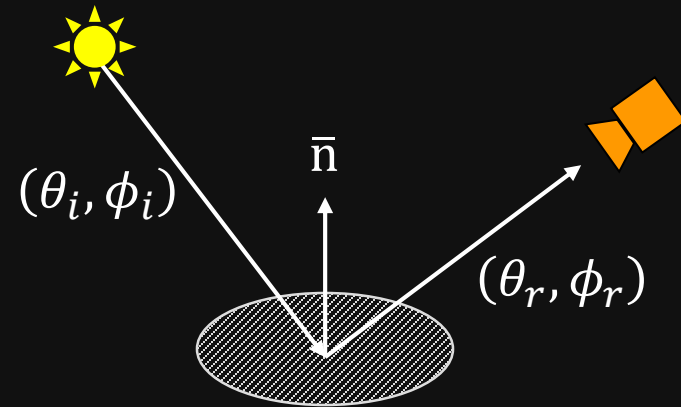
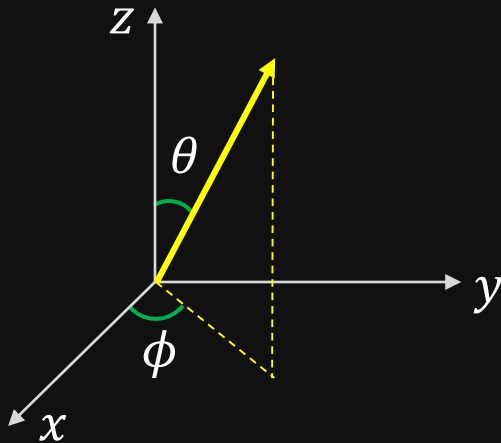
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Surface reflection depends on both the **viewing** and **illumination** directions.

# Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function (BRDF)

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$E(\theta_i, \phi_i)$  : Irradiance due to source in direction  $(\theta_i, \phi_i)$

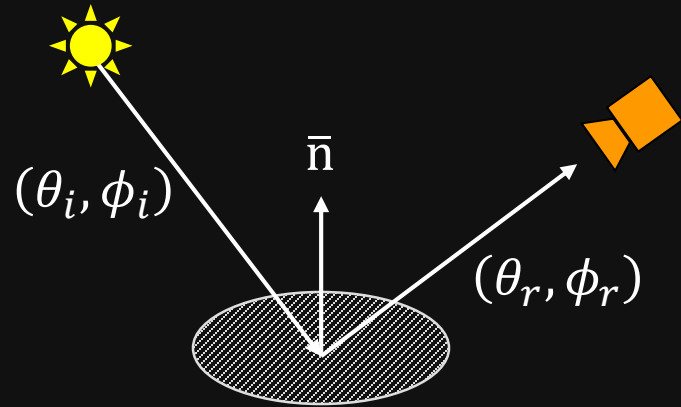
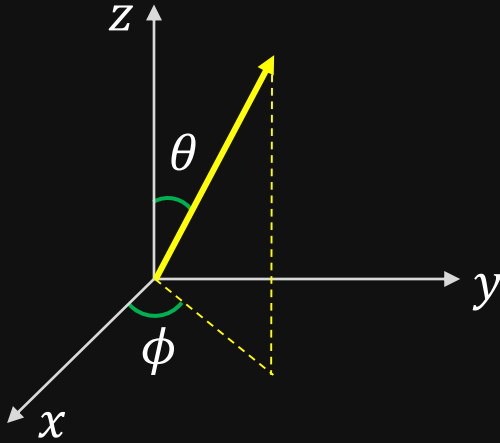
$L(\theta_r, \phi_r)$  : Radiance of surface in direction  $(\theta_r, \phi_r)$

$$\text{BRDF: } f(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_r, \phi_r) = \frac{L(\theta_r, \phi_r)}{E(\theta_i, \phi_i)}$$

Unit: 1/sr

# Properties of BRDF

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Non-Negative:

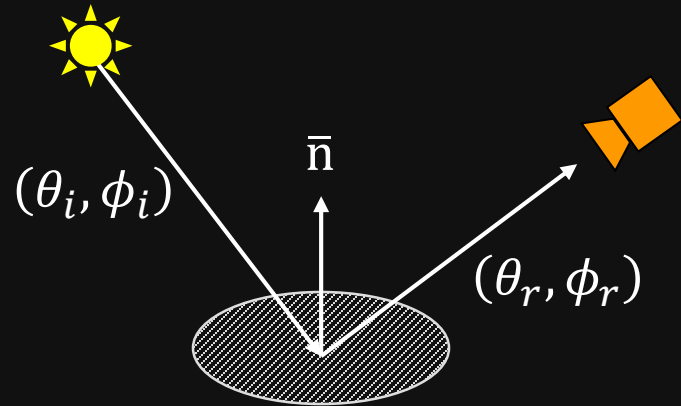
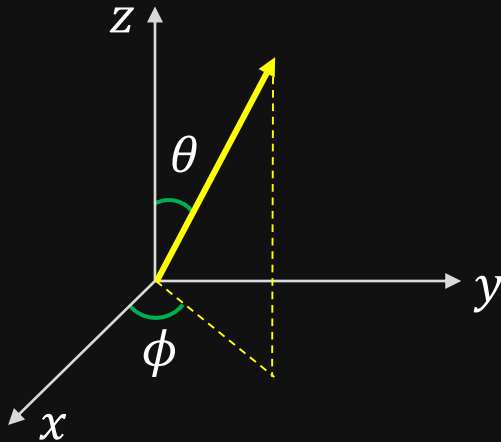
$$f(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_r, \phi_r) > 0$$

Helmholtz Reciprocity:

$$f(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_r, \phi_r) = f(\theta_r, \phi_r, \theta_i, \phi_i)$$

# BRDF for Isotropic Surfaces

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In general, BRDF is a 4-D function:  $f(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_r, \phi_r)$

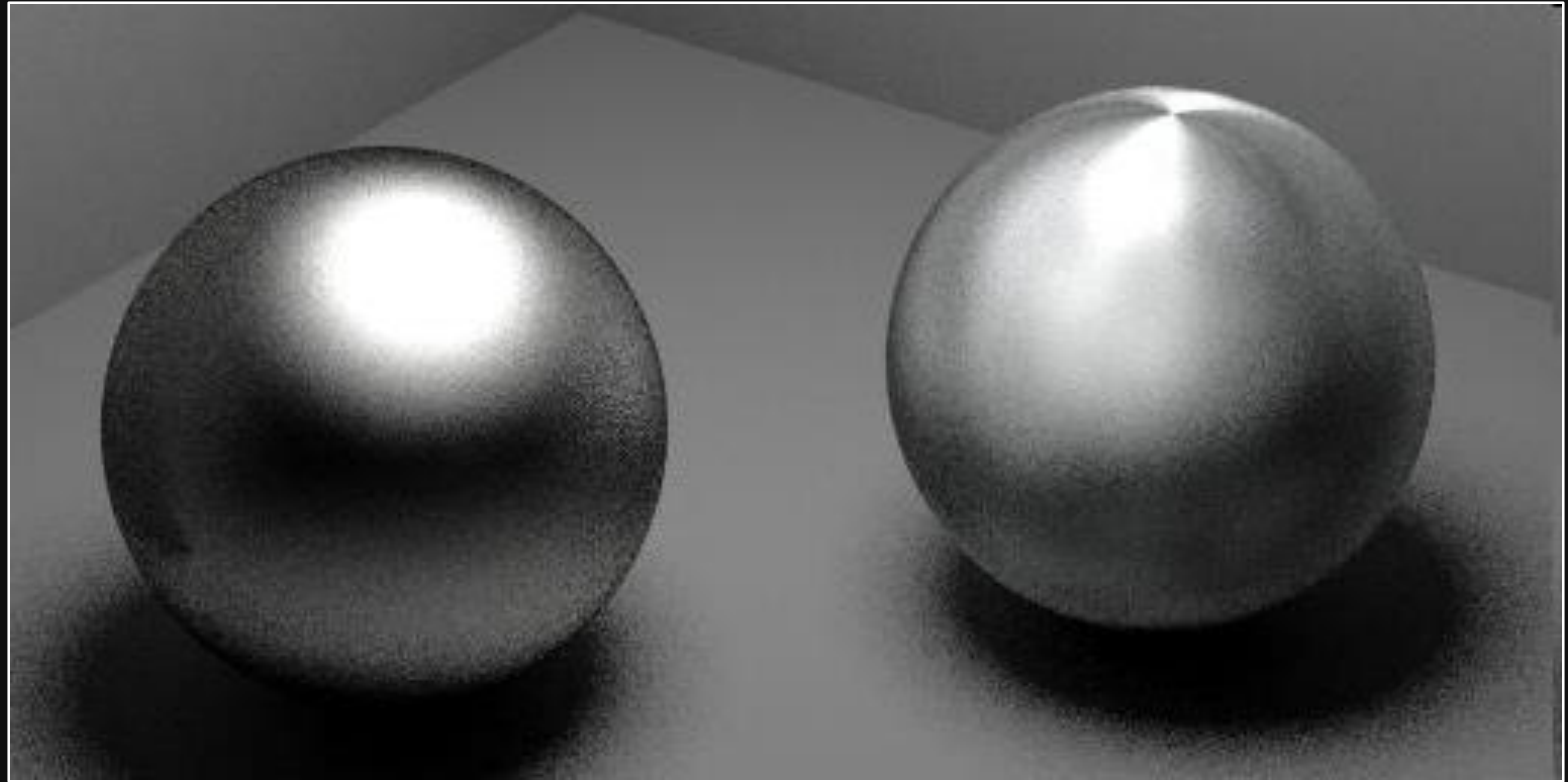
For **rotationally symmetric** reflectance (**Isotropic Surfaces**), BRDF is simplified as a 3-D function:

$$f(\theta_i, \theta_r, \phi_i - \phi_r)$$



# Isotropic BRDF and Anisotropic BRDF

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Isotropic BRDF

Anisotropic BRDF

# Isotropic BRDF and Anisotropic BRDF

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## Anisotropic BRDFs in Real World

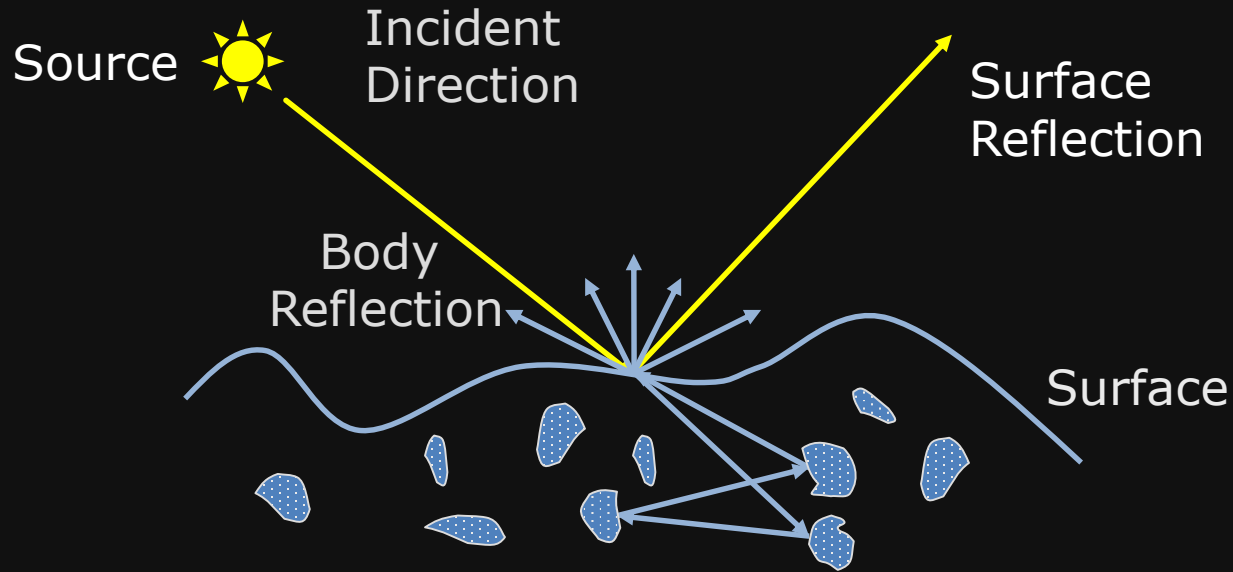


Butterfly wings



Peacock feathers

# Reflection Mechanisms



## Surface Reflection

- Specular Reflection
- Glossy Appearance
- Smooth Surfaces  
(e.g., mirror, glass)

## Body Reflection

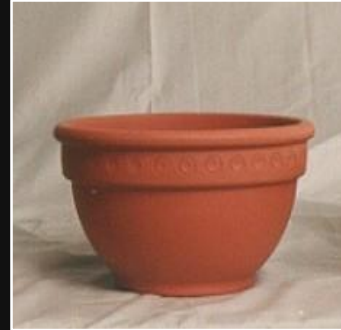
- Diffuse Reflection
- Matte Appearance
- Non-Homogeneous Medium  
(e.g., clay, paper)

$$\text{Image Intensity} = \text{Diffuse Reflection} + \text{Specular Reflection}$$

# Examples

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Body Reflection:



Surface Reflection:

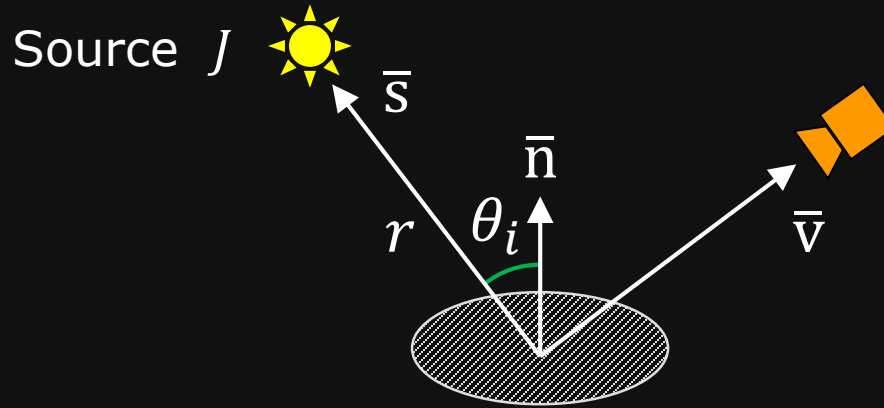


Hybrid (Body + Surface)  
Reflection:



# Diffuse Reflection: Lambertian Model

Surface appears equally bright from **ALL** directions



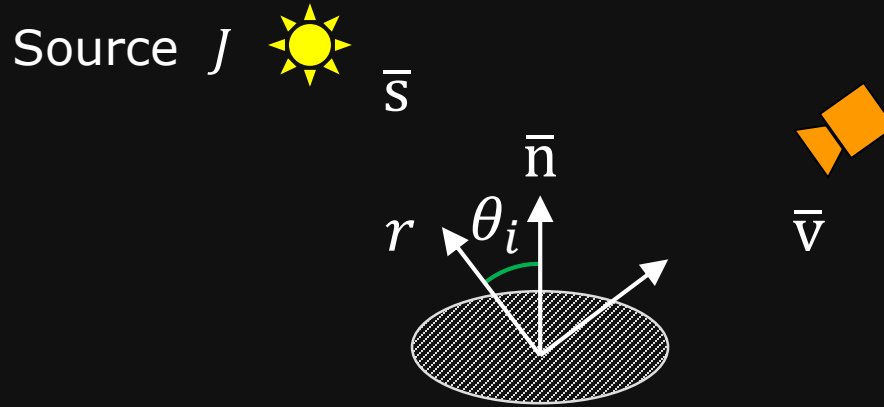
Lambertian BRDF:

$$f(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_r, \phi_r) = \frac{\rho_d}{\pi} \quad \rho_d : \text{Albedo} \\ (0 \leq \rho_d \leq 1)$$

Commonly used in Computer Vision and Graphics.

# Diffuse Reflection: Lambertian Model

Surface appears equally bright from **ALL** directions



Radiance is proportional to Irradiance

$$L = \frac{\rho_d}{\pi} E \qquad E = \frac{J \cos \theta_i}{r^2} = \frac{J}{r^2} (\bar{n} \cdot \bar{s})$$

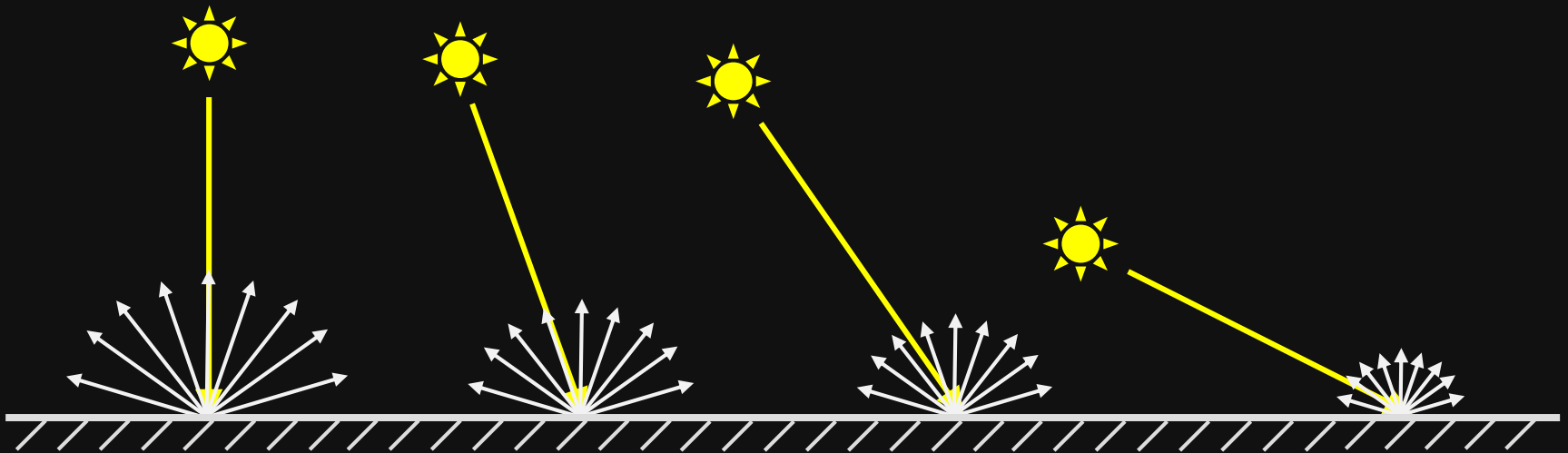
$$L = \frac{\rho_d}{\pi} \frac{J}{r^2} (\bar{n} \cdot \bar{s})$$

# Diffuse Reflection: Lambertian Model

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$L$  is independent of viewing direction!

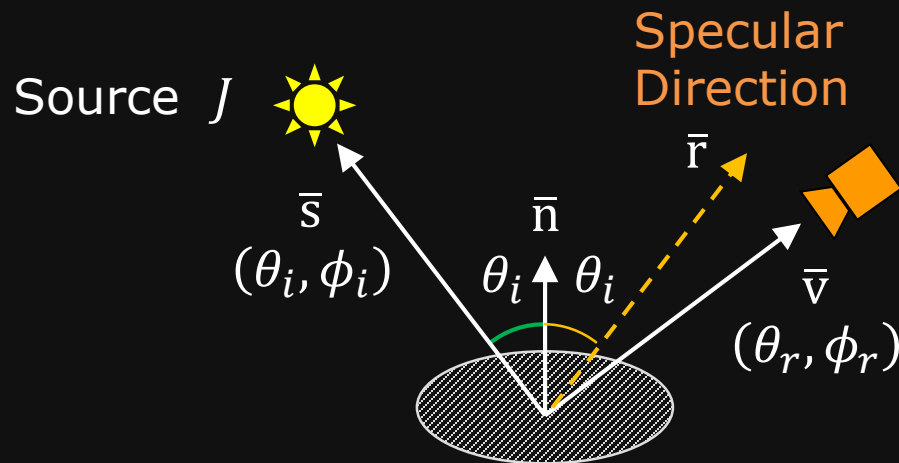
$$L = \frac{\rho_d}{\pi} \frac{J}{r^2} (\bar{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{s}})$$



Lambertian Surface

# Ideal Specular Model

Applicable to **Only Perfect Mirrors**. All incident energy is reflected in a single direction.



Mirror BRDF:

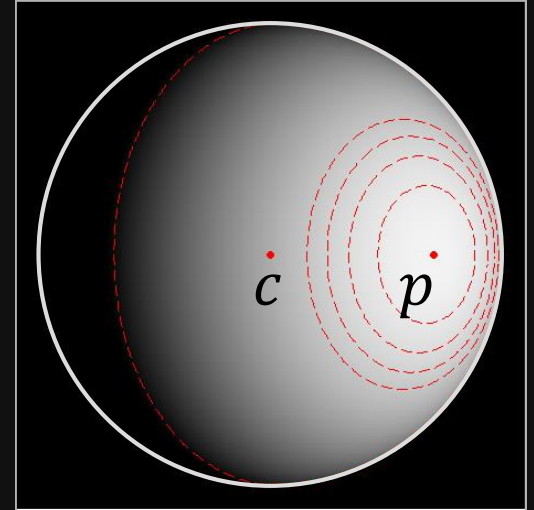
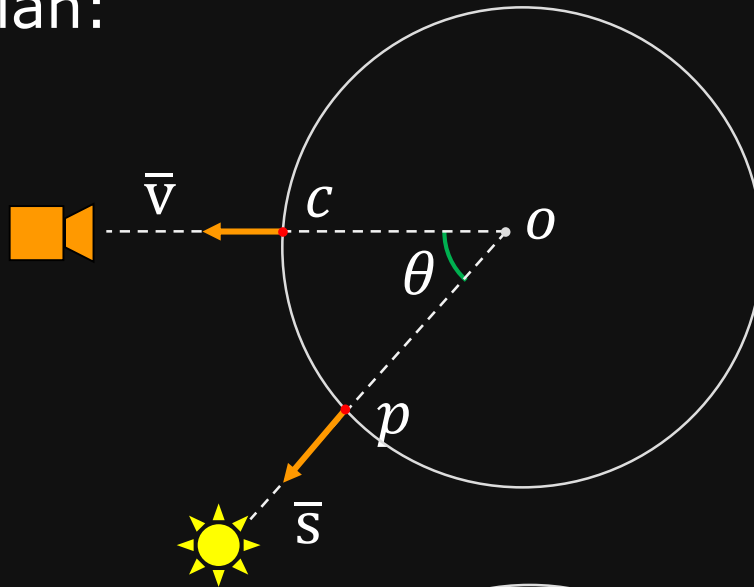
$$f(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_r, \phi_r) = \frac{\delta(\theta_i - \theta_r) \delta(\phi_i + \pi - \phi_r)}{\cos \theta_i \sin \theta_i}$$

Viewer receives light only when  $\bar{v} = \bar{r}$

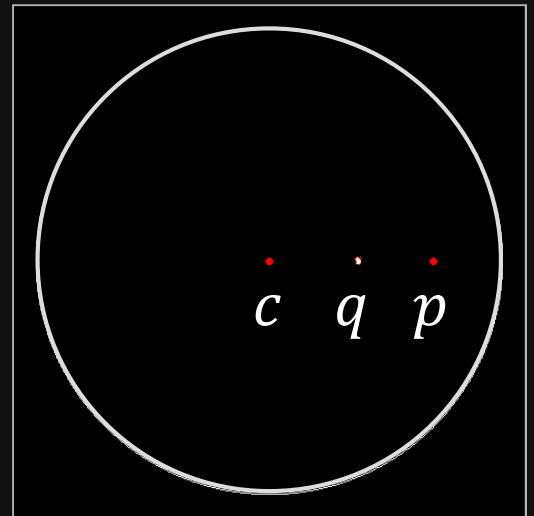
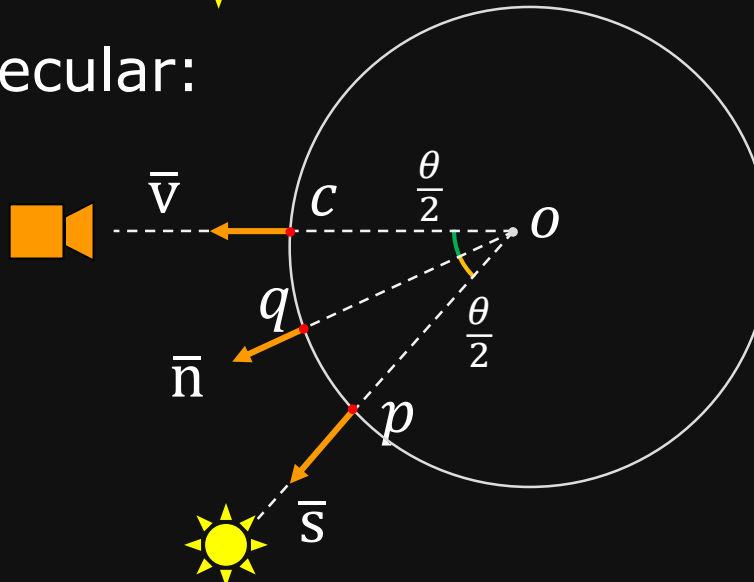


# Examples

Lambertian:

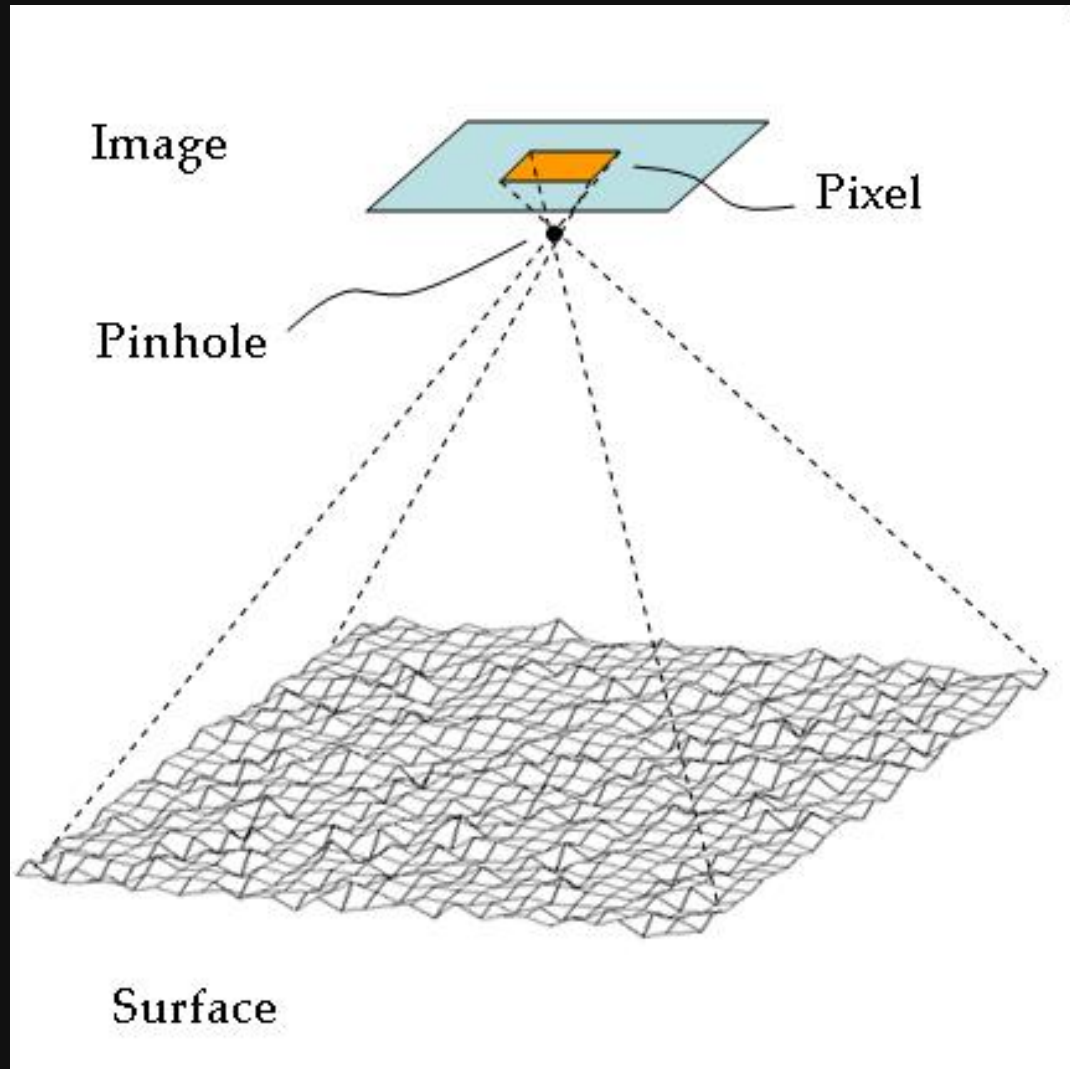


Ideal Specular:



# Surface Roughness

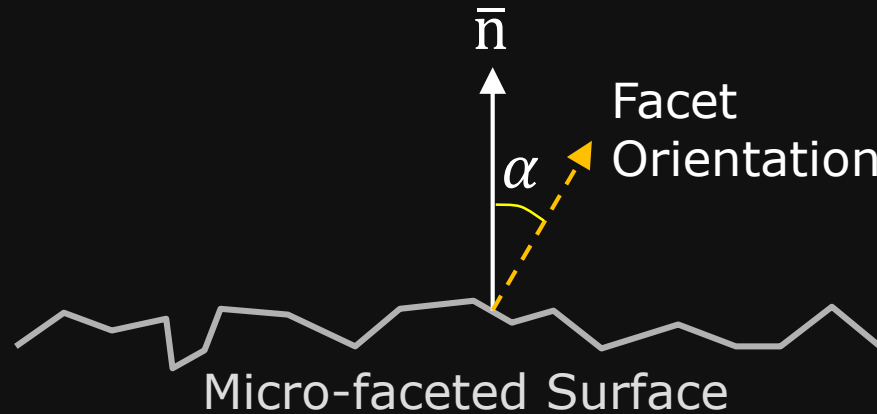
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# Modeling Surface Roughness

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## Micro-facet Structure for Rough Surfaces



$\bar{n}$ : Mean Orientation

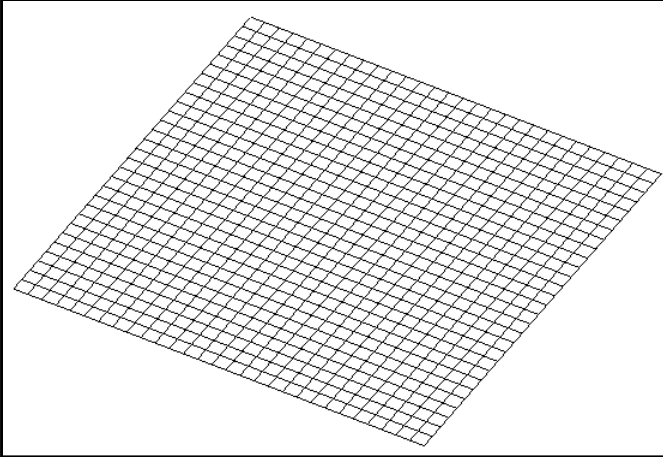
## Gaussian Micro-facet Model:

$$p(\alpha, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{\alpha^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

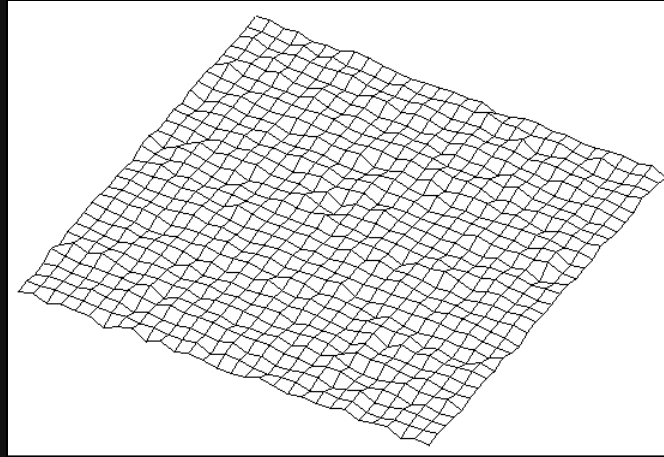
where  $\sigma$ : Roughness Parameter

# Rough Surfaces

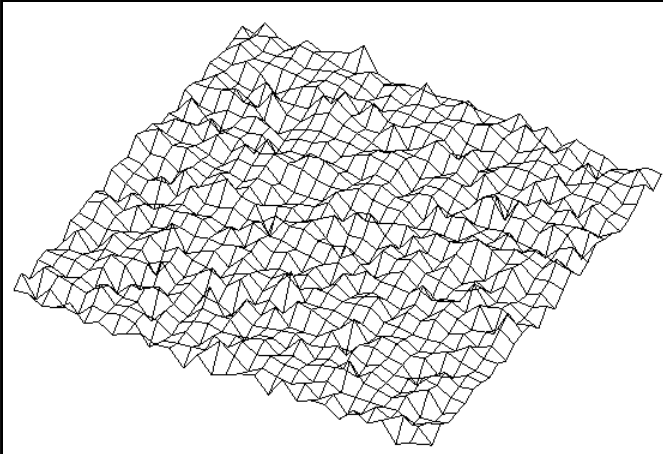
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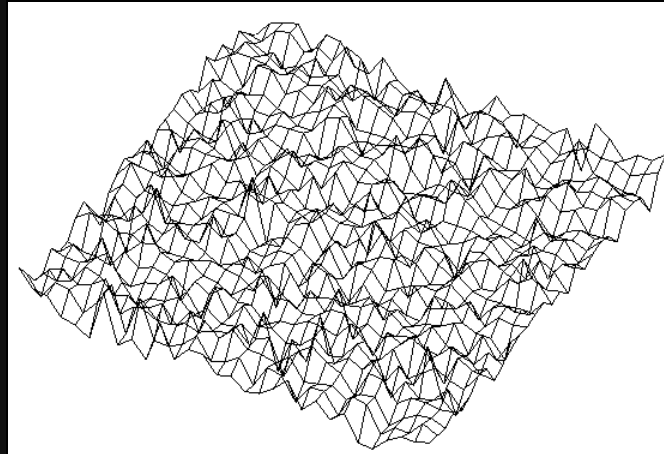
$$\sigma = 0$$



$$\sigma = 0.1$$



$$\sigma = 0.3$$



$$\sigma = 0.6$$

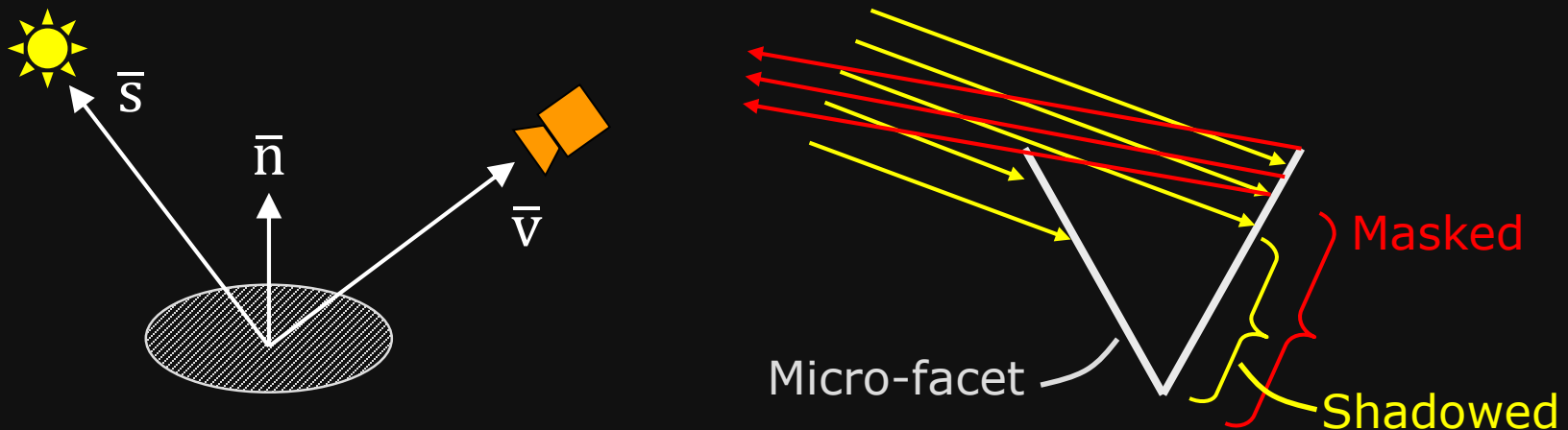
# Specular Reflection of Rough Surfaces

Torrance-Sparrow BRDF Model:

$$f(\bar{s}, \bar{v}) = \frac{\rho_s}{(\bar{n} \cdot \bar{s})(\bar{n} \cdot \bar{v})} p(\alpha, \sigma) G(\bar{s}, \bar{n}, \bar{v})$$

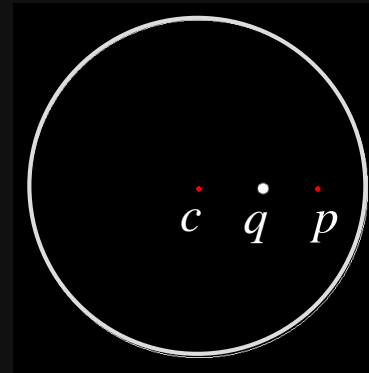
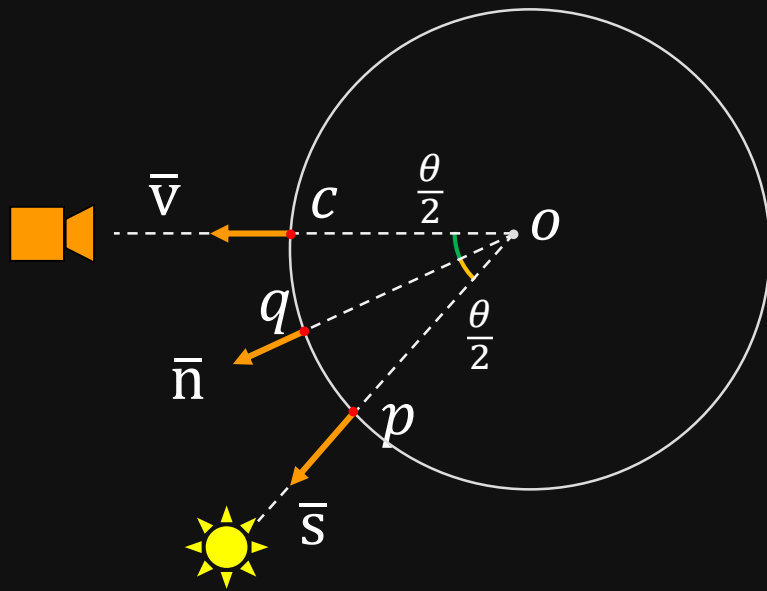
where  $p(\alpha, \sigma)$ : surface roughness

$G(\bar{s}, \bar{n}, \bar{v})$ : geometric factor (masking, shadowing)

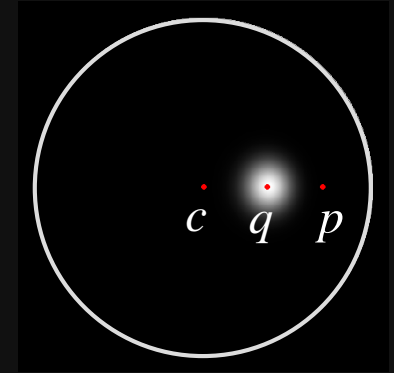


When  $\sigma = 0$ , it is the Perfect Mirror model.

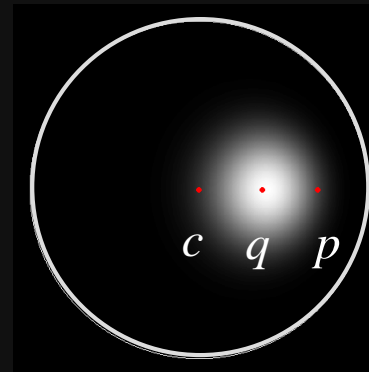
# Specular Reflection of Rough Surfaces



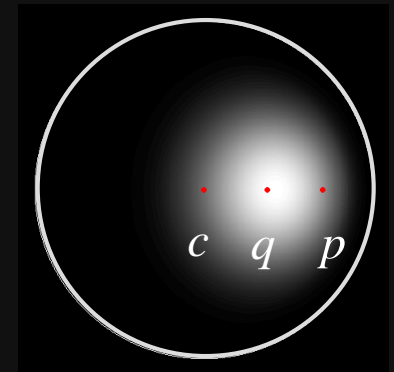
$\sigma = 0$   
(Mirror)



$\sigma = 0.1$



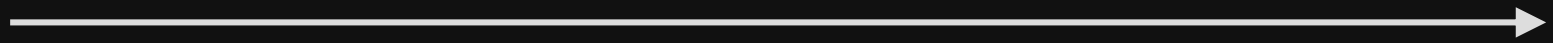
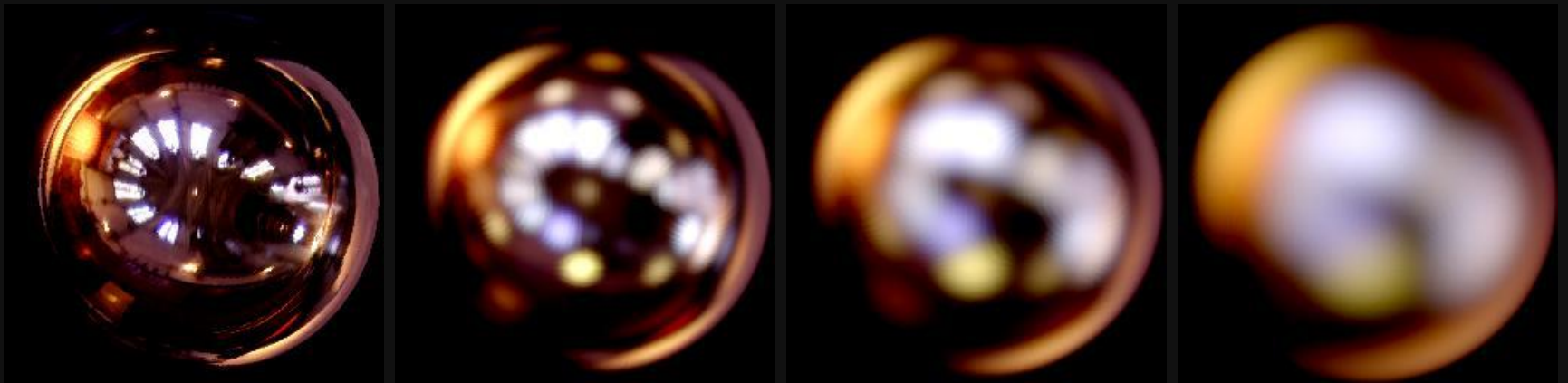
$\sigma = 0.3$



$\sigma = 0.6$

# Specular Reflection of Rough Surfaces

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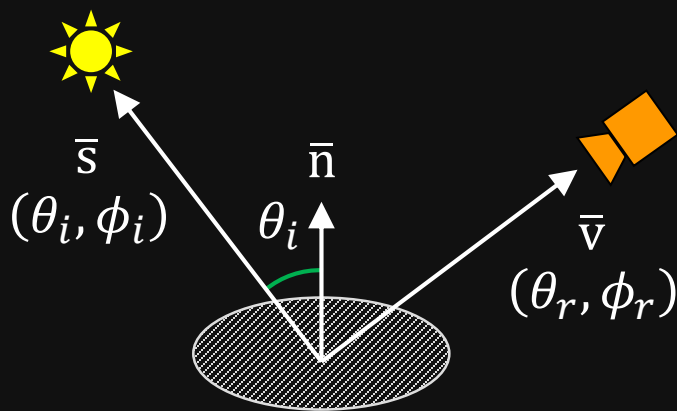


Roughness

# Diffuse Reflection of Rough Surfaces

Oren-Nayar BRDF Model:

$$f(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_r, \phi_r) = \frac{\rho_d}{\pi} (A + B \cdot \max(0, \cos(\phi_r - \phi_i)) \cdot \sin \alpha \cdot \tan \beta)$$



$$A = 1 - \frac{\sigma^2}{2(\sigma^2 + 0.33)}$$

$$\alpha = \max(\theta_i, \theta_r)$$

$$B = \frac{0.45\sigma^2}{(\sigma^2 + 0.09)}$$

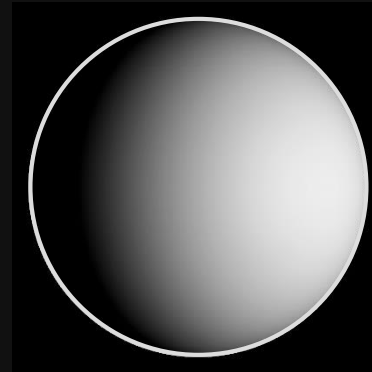
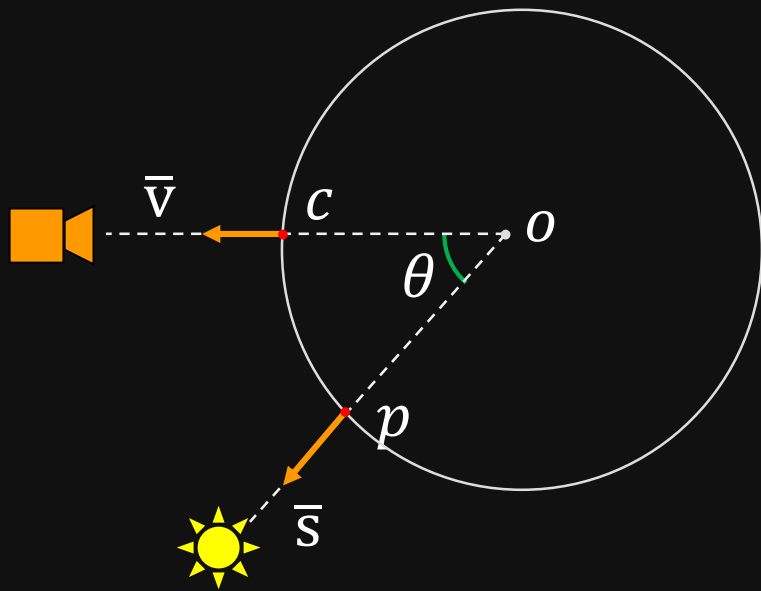
$$\beta = \min(\theta_i, \theta_r)$$

$\sigma$  - surface roughness

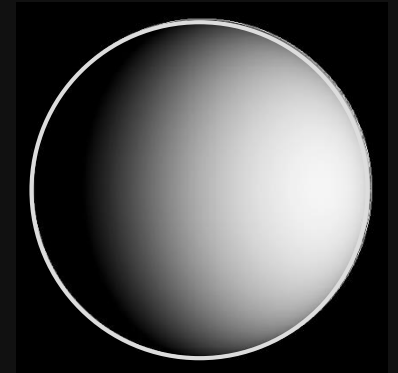
When  $\sigma = 0$ , it is the Lambertian model.



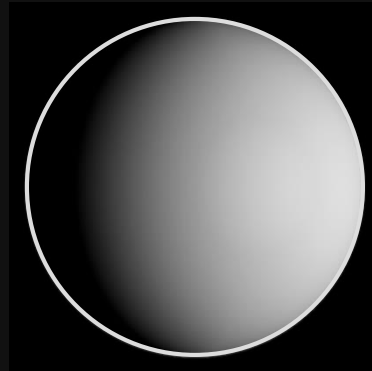
# Diffuse Reflection of Rough Surfaces



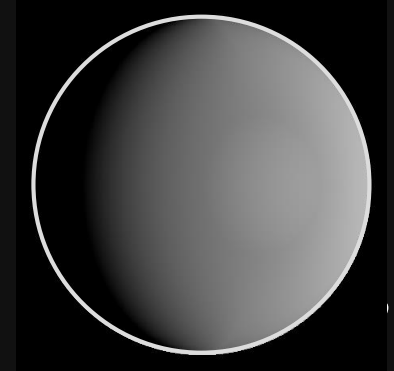
$\sigma = 0$   
(Lambertian)



$\sigma = 0.1$



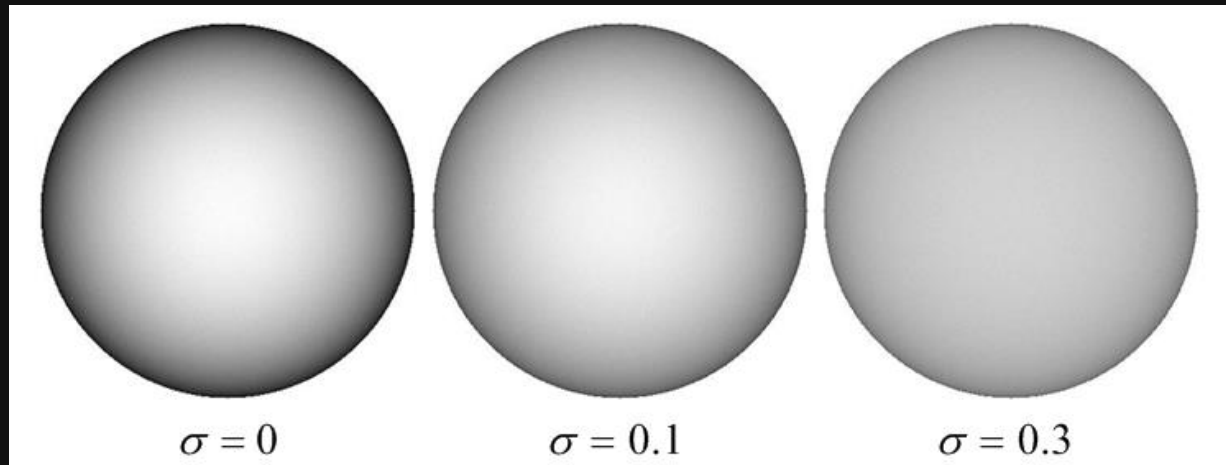
$\sigma = 0.3$



$\sigma = 0.6$

# Diffuse Reflection of Rough Surfaces

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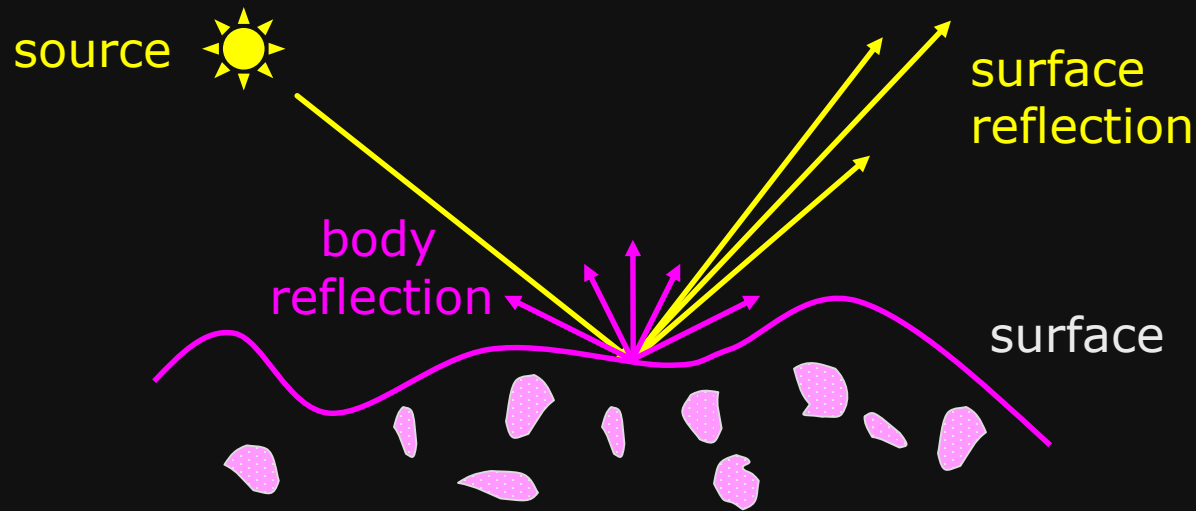
→  
Roughness



Full Moon

# Color Reflectance Model

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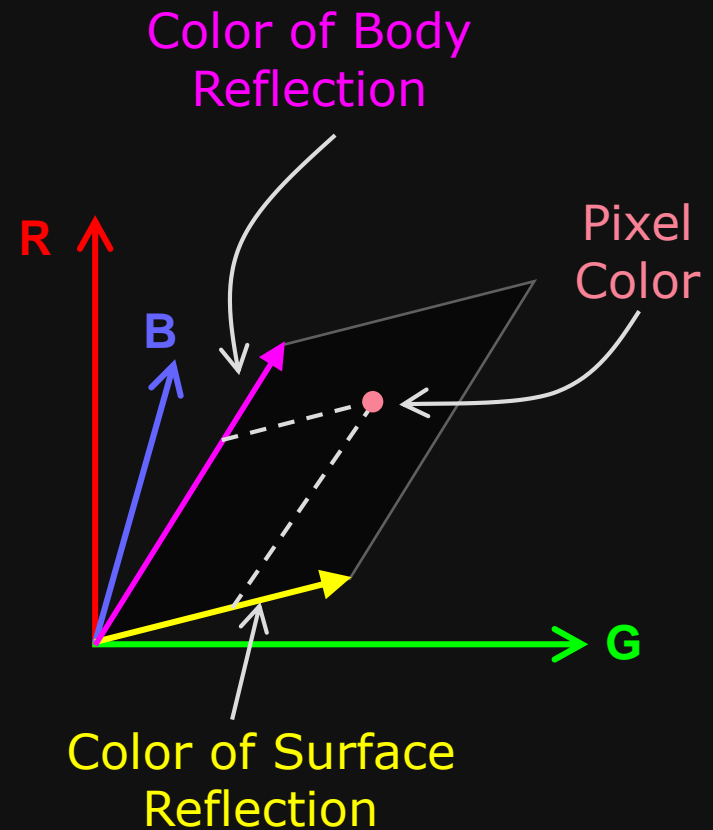
- Color of body (diffuse) reflection  
= color of object  $\times$  color of illumination
- Color of surface (specular) reflection  
= color of illumination

# Color Reflectance: Dichromatic Model

Pixel color is a linear combination of the color of body reflection and the color of surface reflection.

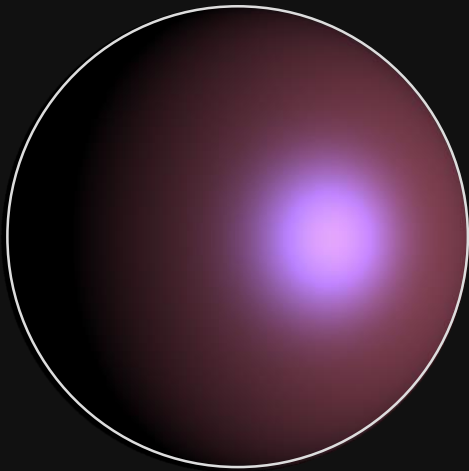
$$\begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix} = m_b \begin{bmatrix} R_b \\ G_b \\ B_b \end{bmatrix} + m_s \begin{bmatrix} R_s \\ G_s \\ B_s \end{bmatrix}$$

↑                      ↑  
Color of Body      Color of  
Reflection          Surface  
                         Reflection

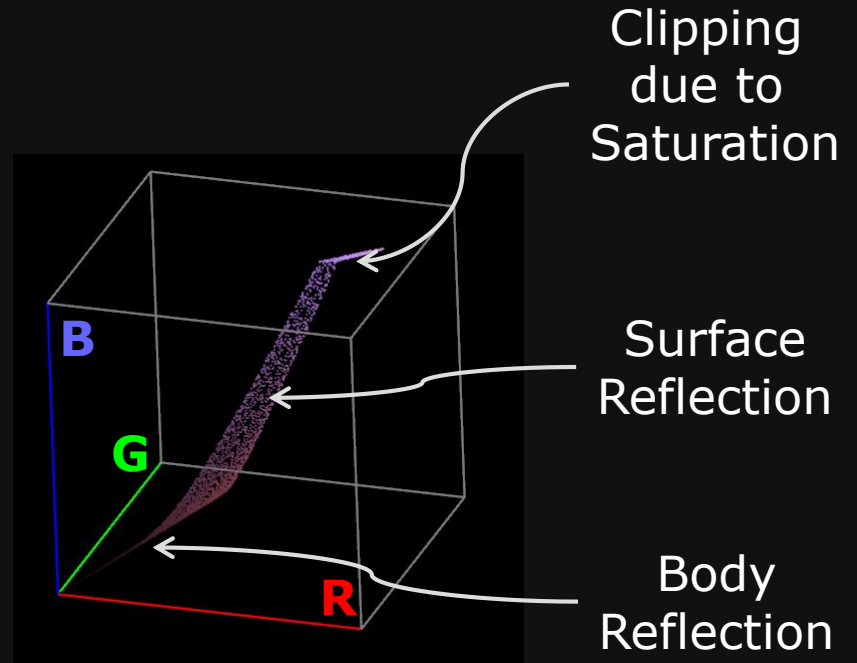


# Color Reflectance: Dichromatic Model

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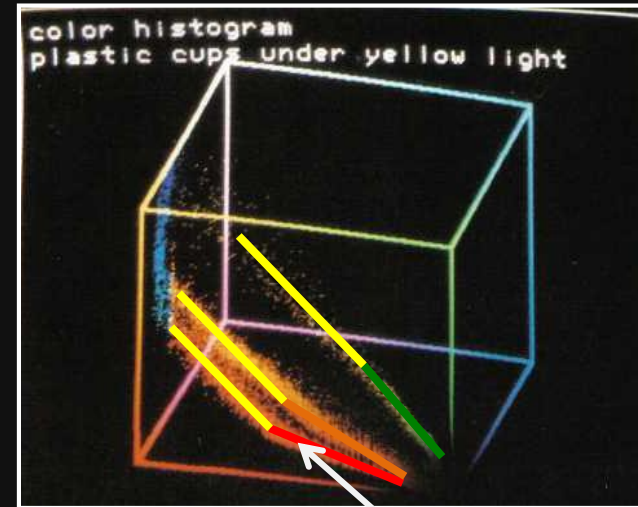
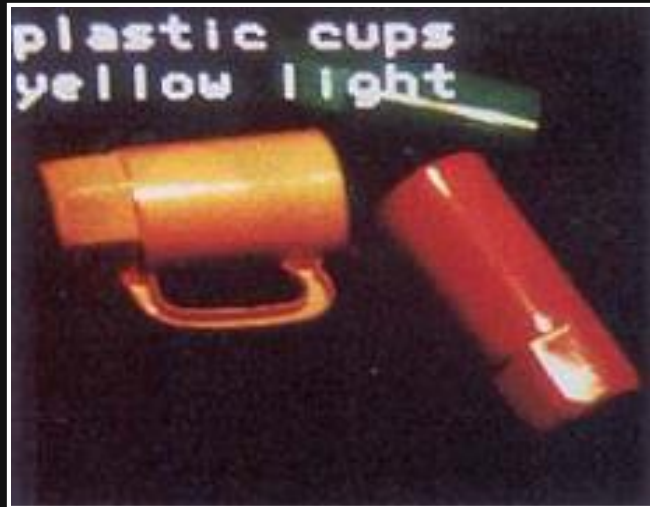


Illumination Color:

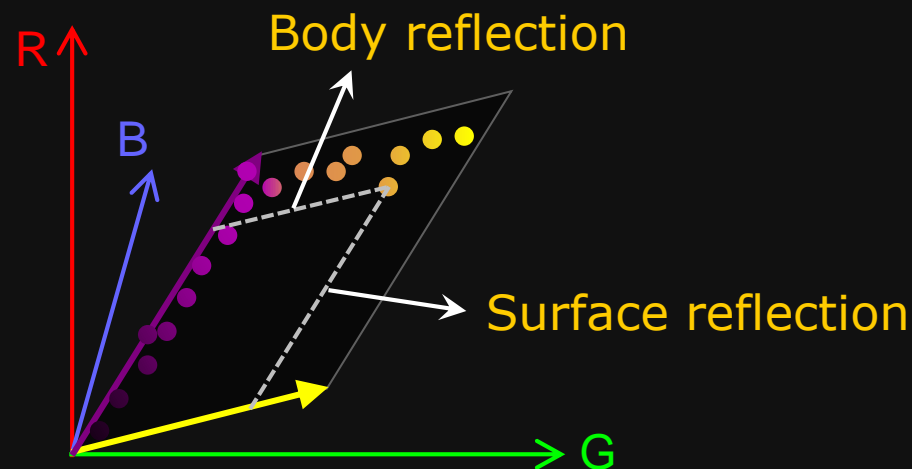


Color Histogram

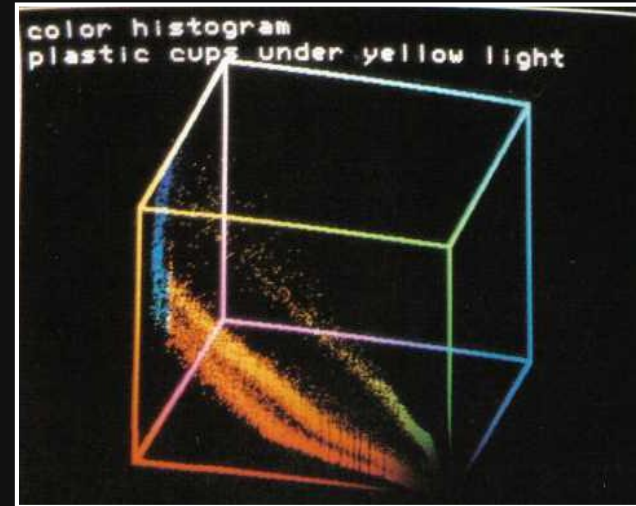
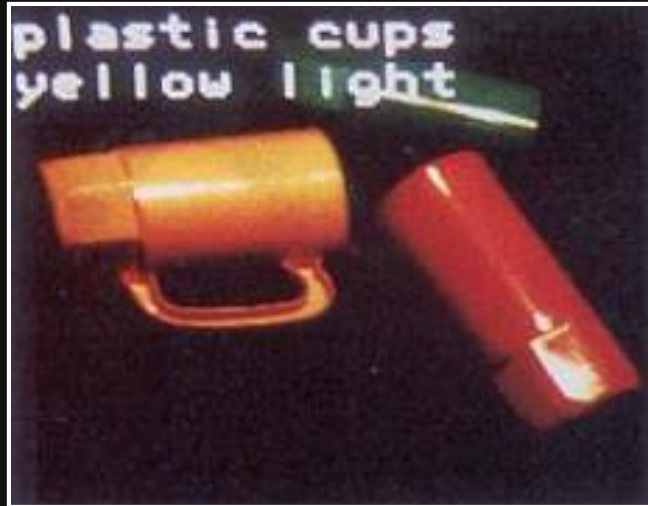
# Separating Body and Surface Reflection



"Skewed-T"



# Separating Body and Surface Reflection



# References

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