



# Unite Seoul 2019



# Using AR Foundation for Multi-Platform AR

**Ashley Alicea**

Evangelist, Media & Entertainment – Unity Technologies

[ashley@unity3d.com](mailto:ashley@unity3d.com)

[@avashly](#)

 unity

Unite  
Seoul  
2019

# Overview

- Defining Handheld AR
- Core Features of ARCore & ARKit
- AR Foundation Features
- Recent AR Foundation Updates
- Getting Started with AR Foundation
- Live Demo & Resources



A dark, atmospheric scene featuring two people's hands holding tablets. The tablets display a 3D augmented reality cityscape with buildings and a street. The background is a dark, starry sky with a faint cityscape visible through the glass. The text 'Handheld AR' is overlaid in large white letters.

# Handheld AR

Augmented reality powered by  
phones & tablets

# Core Features of Mobile AR SDKs



## Plane Finding

Using the sparse point cloud extraction from the SDKs to estimate and create planes



## Position Tracking

Tracking the device's position as it moves throughout the space



## Light Estimation

Estimate the current camera views ambient light value to light digital objects with real world light



# ARCore Unique Features

- Oriented Feature points  
(direction vectors for feature points)
- Cloud Anchors
- Face Tracking (computer vision)
- Instant preview
- Augmented Images



ARCore



# ARKit Unique Features



- World Maps
- Trackable Images
- Object scanning & recognition
- Face tracking (blend shapes)
- Environment Probes





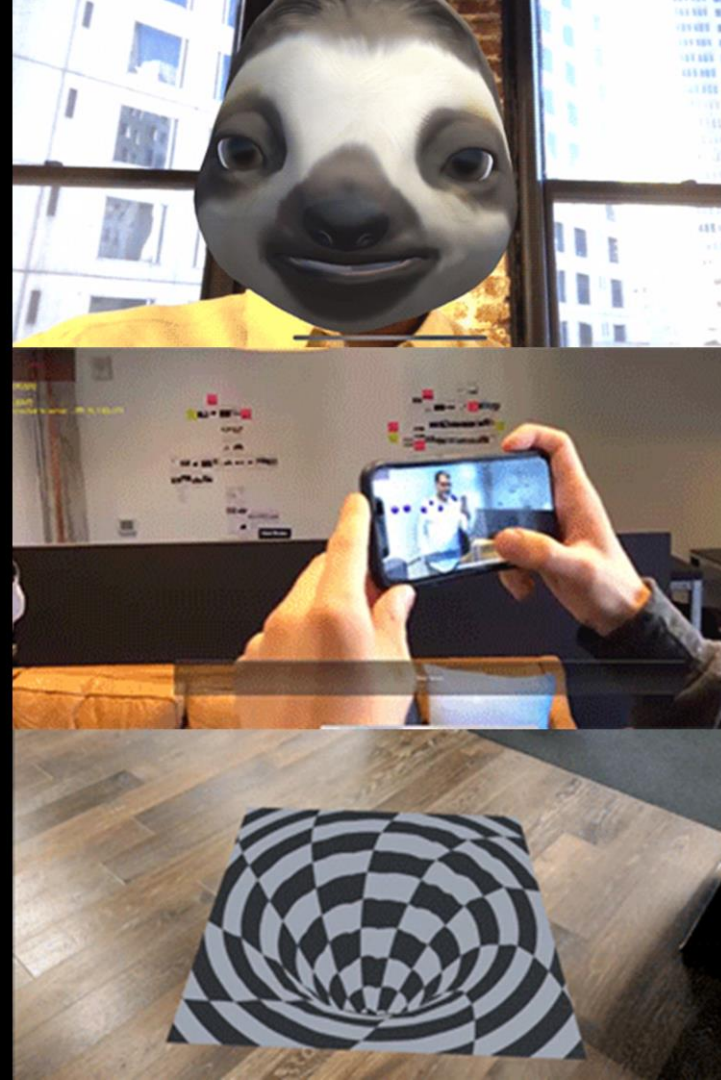
# AR Foundation

For ARCore & ARKit

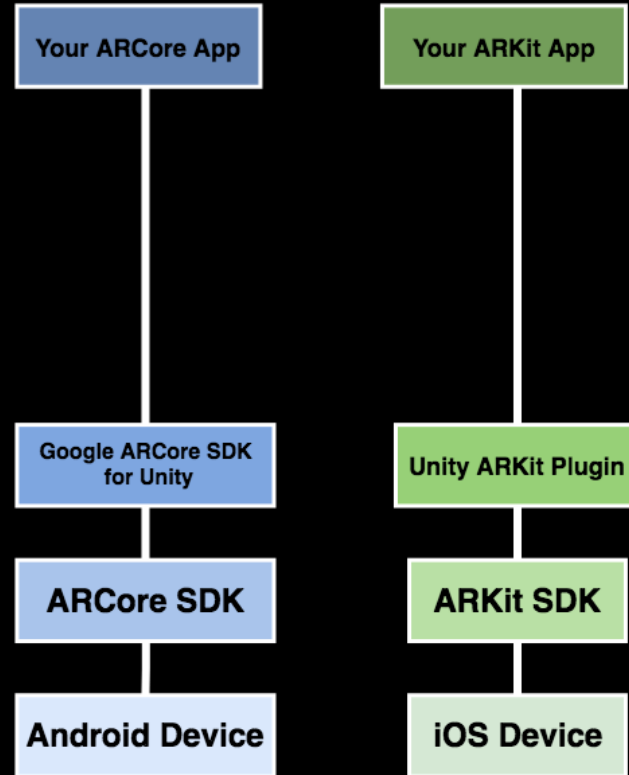


# What is AR Foundation?

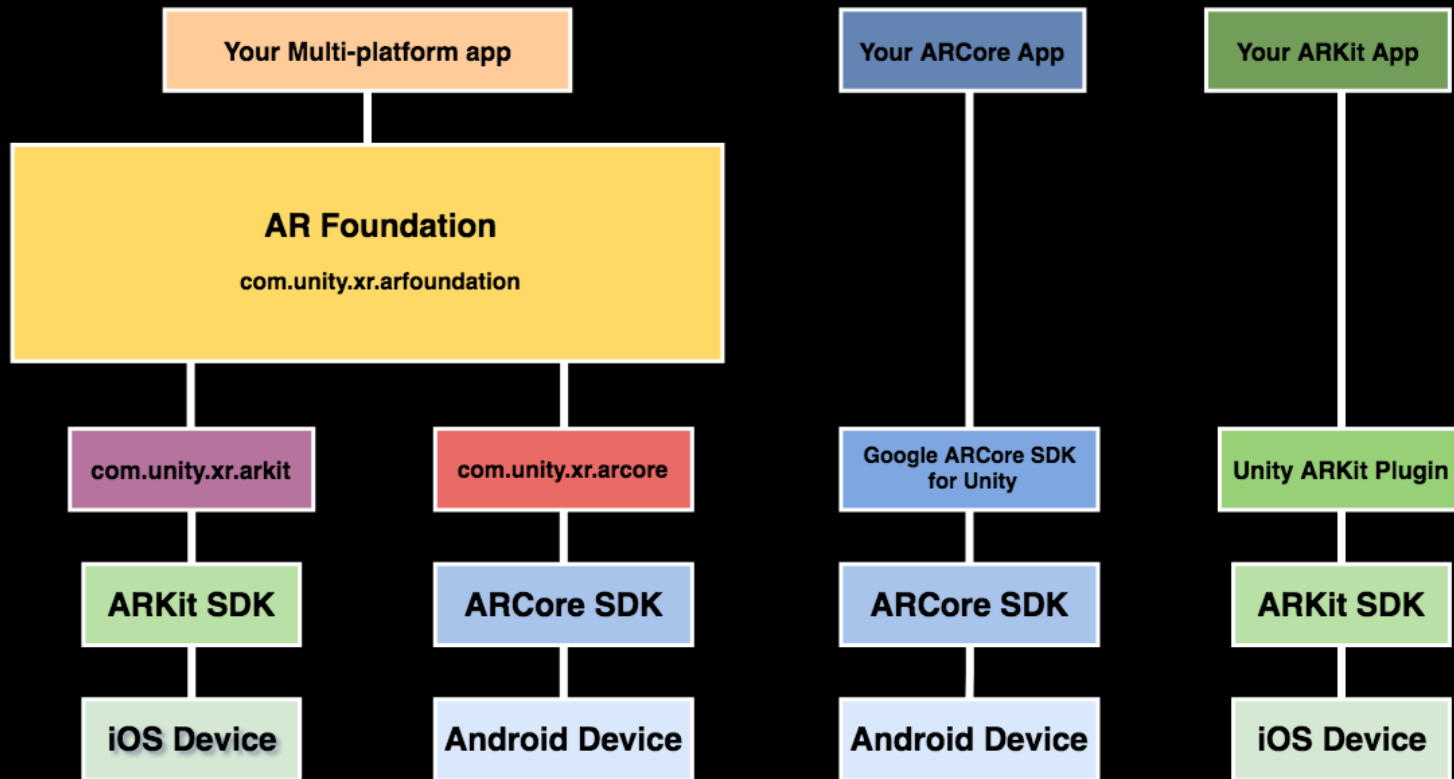
- Multi-platform API for ARCore & ARKit apps
- Uses core functionality shared between both platforms
- Develop your app once & deploy to both devices



# AR Foundation



# AR Foundation



# AR Foundation: Today

- Preview package
- Supports core functionalities of ARCore / ARKit
- Camera Image APIs
- Preview support for LWRP 4.8.0
- AR Foundation Samples project available to reference



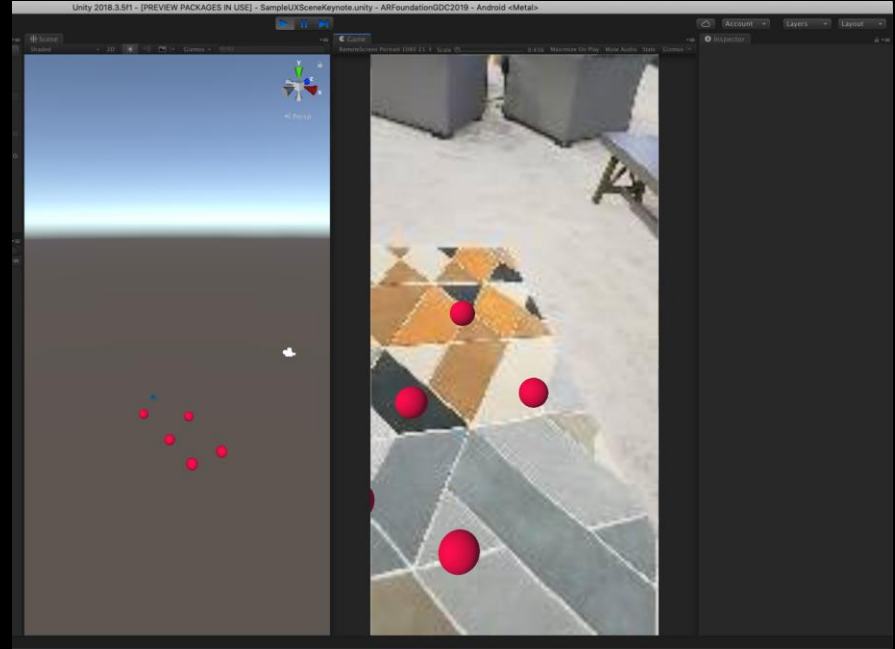
# AR Foundation: Today

Supported Features	ARFoundation	Google ARCore SDK for Unity	Unity ARKit Plugin
Plane Detection (Horizontal and Vertical)	✓	✓	✓
Feature Point Detection	✓	✓ + Oriented Feature Points	✓
Light Estimation	✓	✓ + Color Correction	✓ + Color Temperature
Hit Testing (Feature point and Plane raycasting)	✓	✓	✓
AR Anchors	✓	✓	✓
Image Tracking	coming soon	✓	✓ + Image Tracking
3D Object Recognition	coming soon		✓
Environment Probes	coming soon		✓
World Maps	✓		✓
Face Tracking (Anchor, Mesh, Blendshapes)	✓ - ARKit	✓	✓ iPhone X + Variants Only
Cloud Anchors	coming soon	✓	
Remoting	in preview	✓ - Instant Preview	✓ - ARKit Remote
Simulation	in preview		
MLRP support (+ Shader Graph*)	4.8.0 supported	coming soon	coming soon
Camera Image API	✓		



# AR Foundation: Tomorrow

- Feature parity with ARCore 1.7 & ARKit 2.0
- Wearable support
- AR Remote (with session recording & playback)
- Simulation

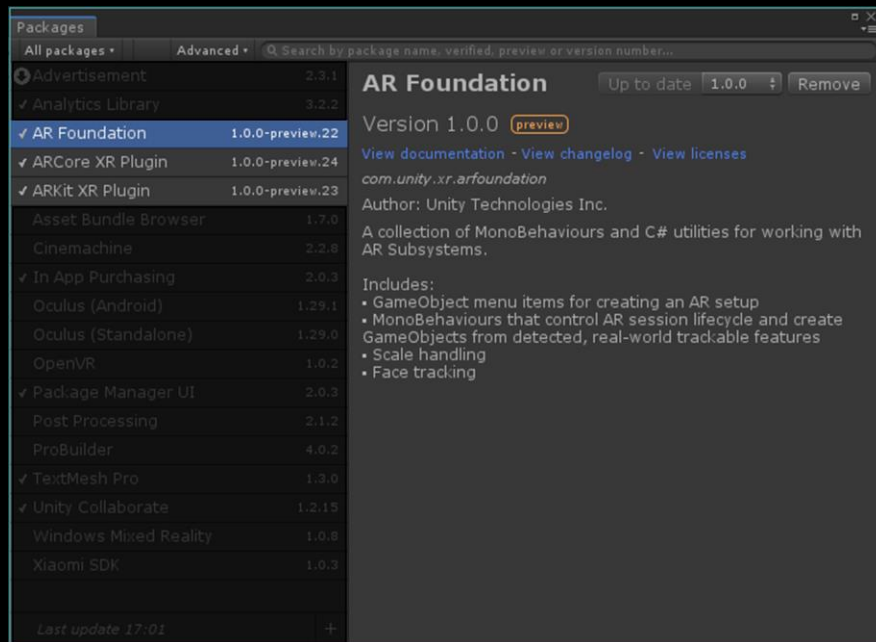


# Where to Get AR Foundation

Available now in Unity 2018.1+  
via the Package Manager!

Be sure to download:

- AR Foundation
- ARCore XR Plugin
- ARKit XR Plugin



# Live Demo



# Shader Graph

## 'Toon' Light Estimation

- PBR Shader Graph auto receives Light Data
  - Light Data:
    - Directional Light
    - Additional Lights
    - Ambient Light
    - Shadows
  - Light Estimation applies to Light Data
    - Directional Light Color & Intensity



# Shader Graph

## 'Toon' Light Estimation

- Default Result: Too Dark
- Shader Graph Additions:
  - Custom Light Nodes
  - Combine Light Node Data with Albedo Map
  - Multiply Influence Amount by 0.5 (Shadows & Light Falloff still visible)
  - Output through Emission
  - [github.com/PauloPatez/ShaderGraph\\_LightNodes](https://github.com/PauloPatez/ShaderGraph_LightNodes)



No Light Estimation



With Light Estimation





# Shader Graph

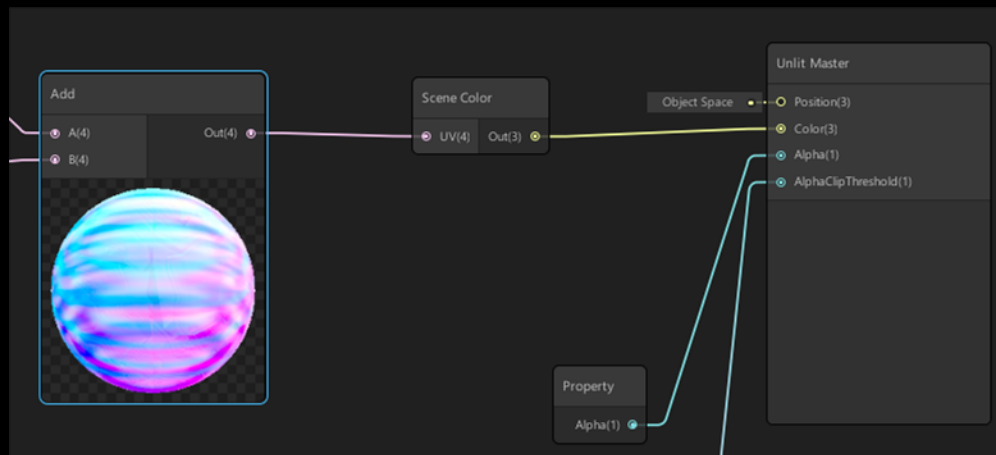
## AR Refraction

- LWRP Asset: Opaque Texture
  - Texture of everything drawn in Opaque Pass
  - Used for GrabPass-like Effects
- AR Refraction
  - Camera Feed Texture and Opaque Objects are both included in Opaque Texture
  - Can use Opaque Texture for AR Camera Effects



# Shader Graph Refraction

- Scene Color Node
  - If Transparent Shader, accesses Opaque Texture
  - Pass in Screen Position UV
  - Output as RGB Color
- Terraformer's Refraction
  - Combine Scrolling UV Texture with Terraformer's Normal Map
  - Apply to Opaque Texture, using Scene Color Node

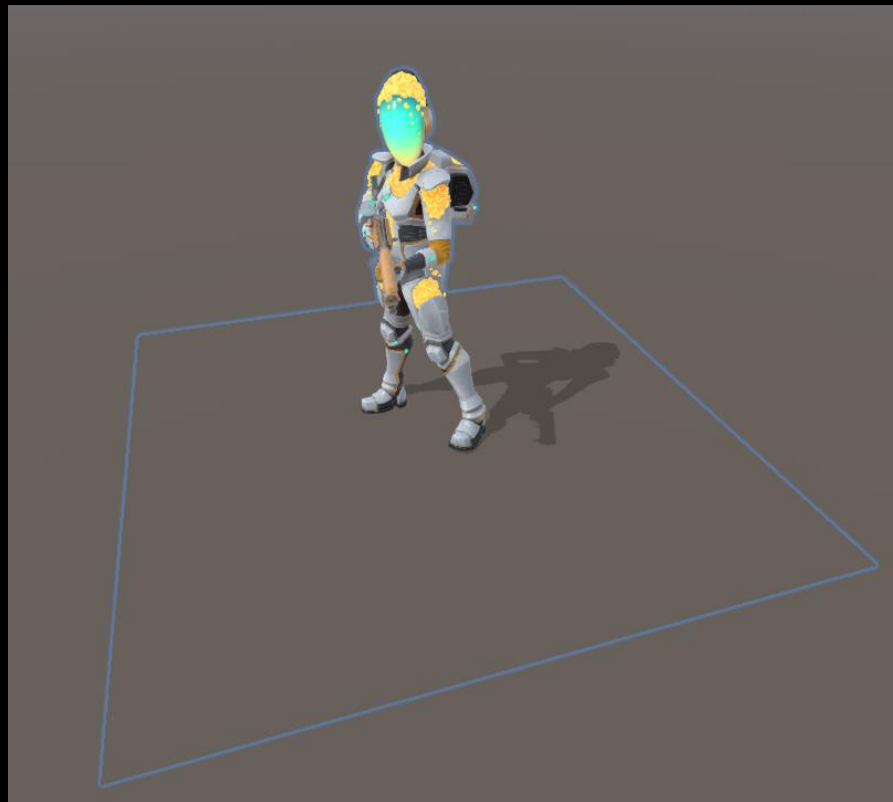


# AR Shadow Plane

- Custom Shader for a Quad
  - Placed at base of AR Prefab.
- Shader Structure:
  - Render as Transparent
  - Include new LWRP Shader Libraries:
    - [Lighting.hlsl](#) & [Shadows.hlsl](#)

Fragment Shader:

```
half shadowColor = MainLightRealtimeShadow(input.shadowCoord);  
  
return shadowColor;
```



# Demo - Plant Placement

- Detecting feature points or a plane
- Overlap sphere at possible placement point
- All plants have a collider
- Plants have blob shadows
- Use similar shaders to Terraformer



# Resources

- **AR Foundation Samples**

- [github.com/Unity-Technologies/arfoundation-samples](https://github.com/Unity-Technologies/arfoundation-samples)

- **AR Foundation Manual:**

- [bit.ly/ARFdocs](https://bit.ly/ARFdocs)

- **Unity for Mobile AR Solutions:**

- [unity.com/solutions/mobile-ar](https://unity.com/solutions/mobile-ar)



# Thank you!

## Questions?

**Ashley Alicea**

Evangelist, Media & Entertainment - Unity Technologies

[ashley@unity3d.com](mailto:ashley@unity3d.com)

[@avashly](#)