

Photometric Stereo

Computer Vision
Fall 2019
Columbia University

Last Time: Two-View Stereo



Key Idea: use feature motion to understand shape

Today: Photometric Stereo



Key Idea: use pixel brightness to understand shape

Today: Photometric Stereo



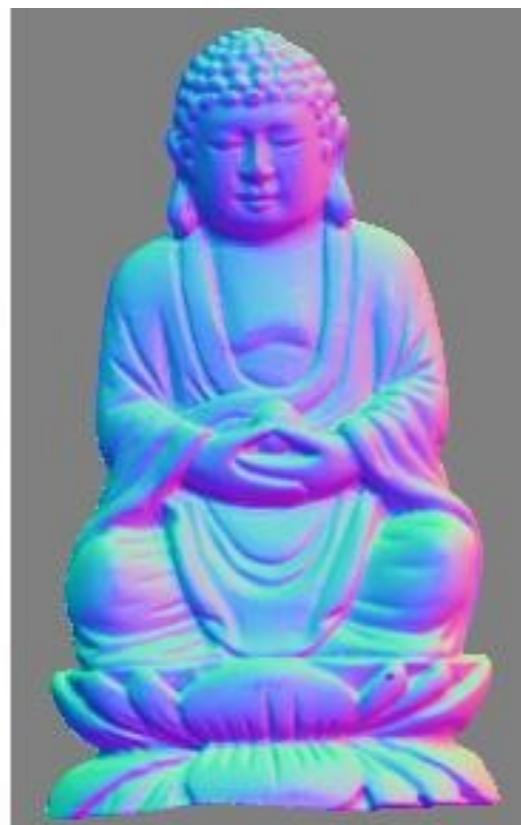
Key Idea: use pixel brightness to understand shape

Photometric Stereo

What results can you get?



Input
(1 of 12)



Normals (RGB
colormap)



Normals (vectors)



Shaded 3D
rendering

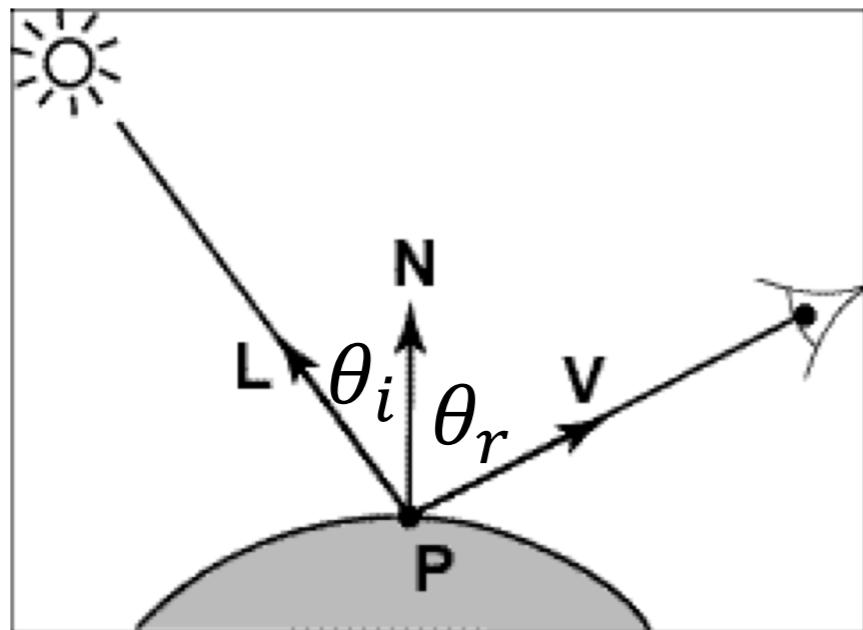


Textured 3D
rendering



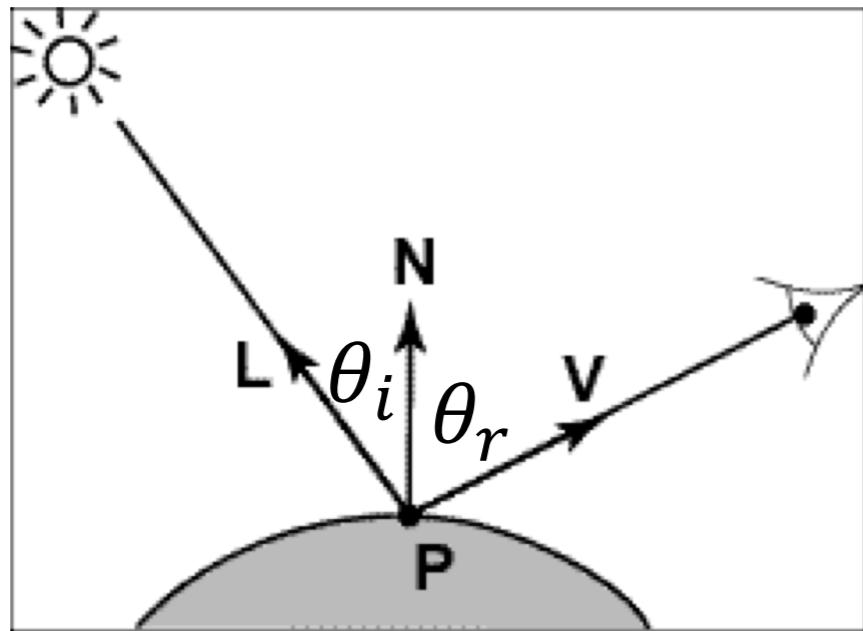
Light rays interacting with a surface

- Light of radiance L_i comes from light source at an incoming direction θ_i
- It sends out a ray of radiance L_r in the outgoing direction θ_r
- How does L_r relate to L_i ?



- **N** is surface normal
- **L** is direction of light, making θ_i with normal
- **V** is viewing direction, making θ_r with normal

Light rays interacting with a surface



- \mathbf{N} is surface normal
- \mathbf{L} is direction of light, making θ_i with normal
- \mathbf{V} is viewing direction, making θ_r with normal

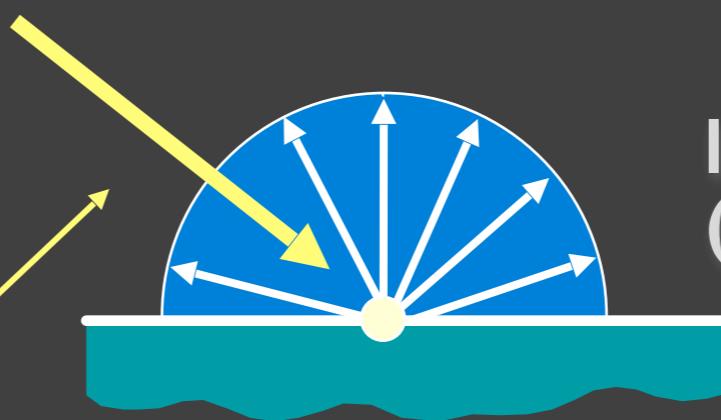
Output radiance
along \mathbf{V}

$$L_r = \rho(\theta_i, \theta_r) L_i \cos \theta_i$$

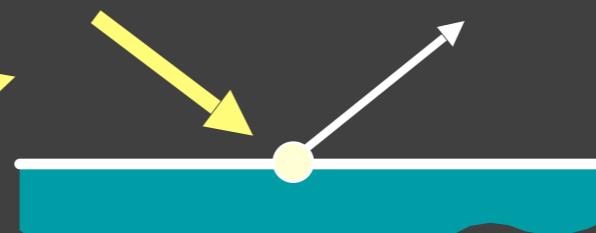
Incoming
irradiance along
 \mathbf{L}

Bi-directional reflectance function (BRDF)

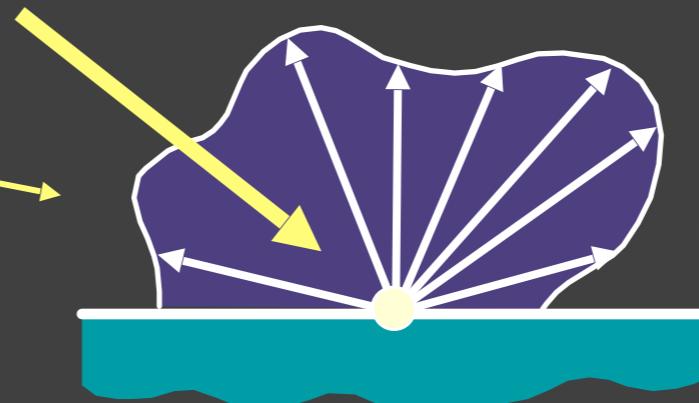
Materials - Three Forms



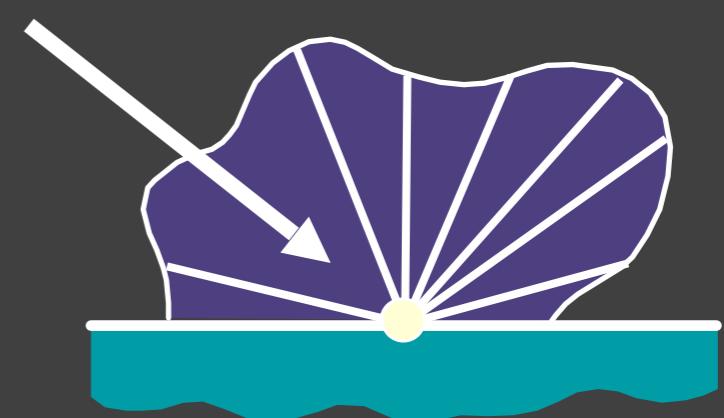
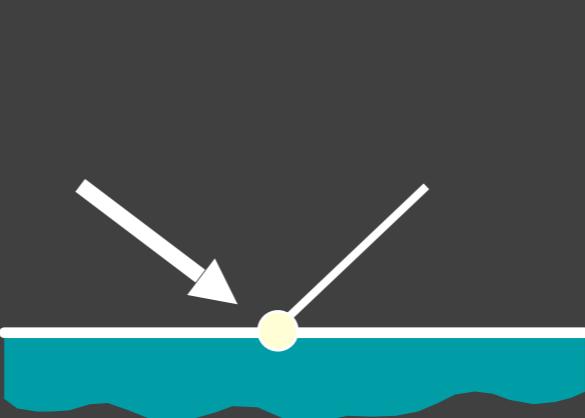
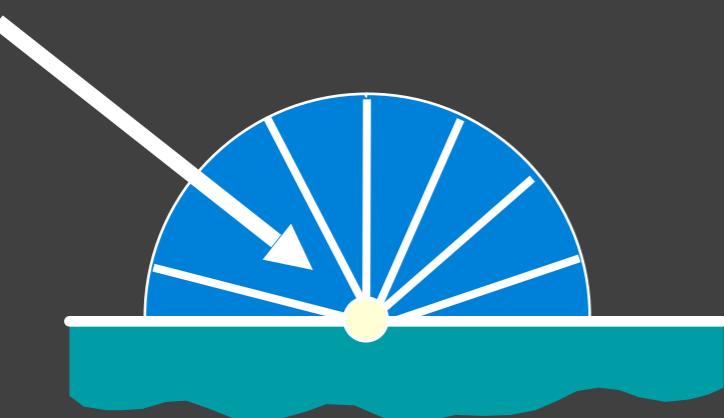
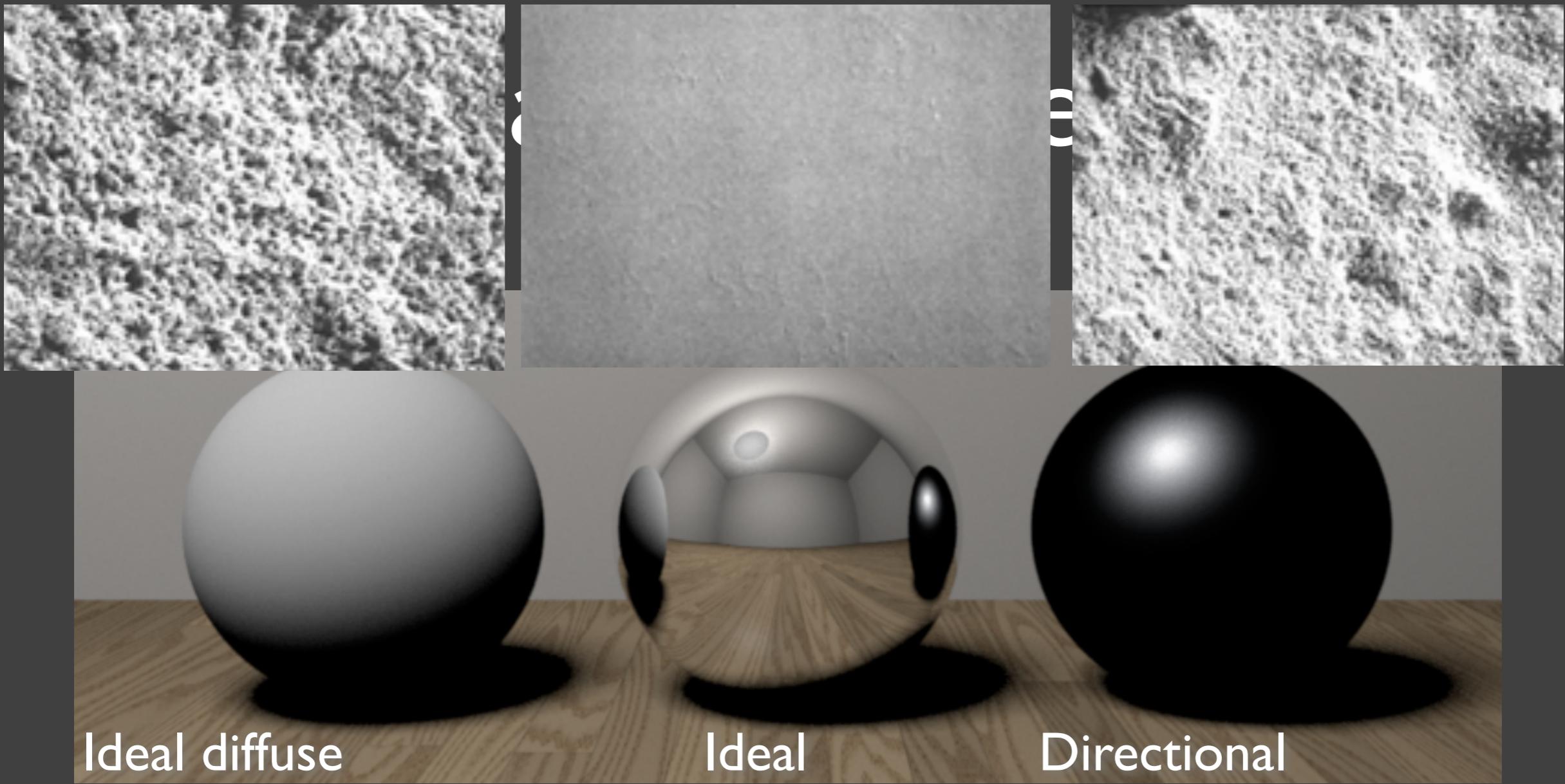
Ideal diffuse
(Lambertian)



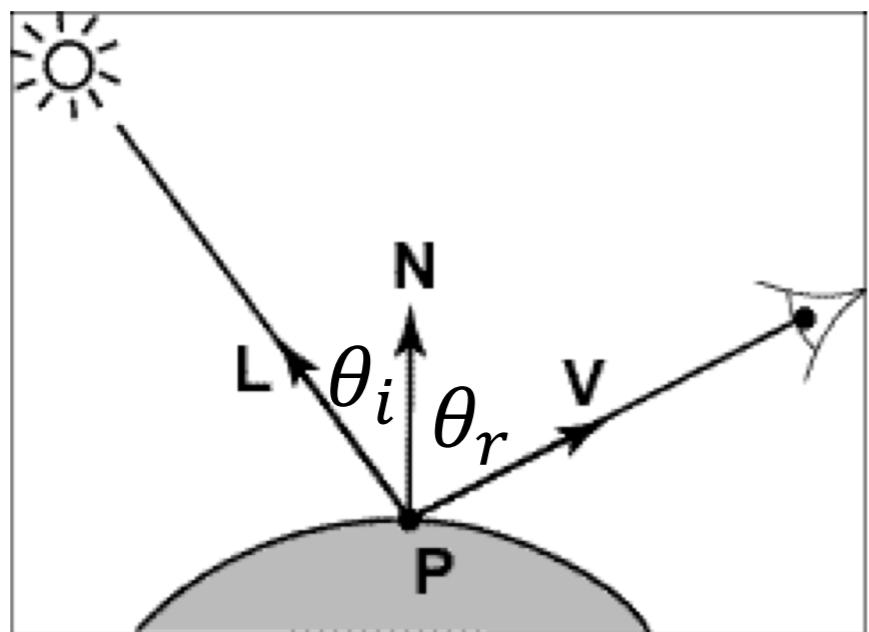
Ideal
specular



Directional
diffuse



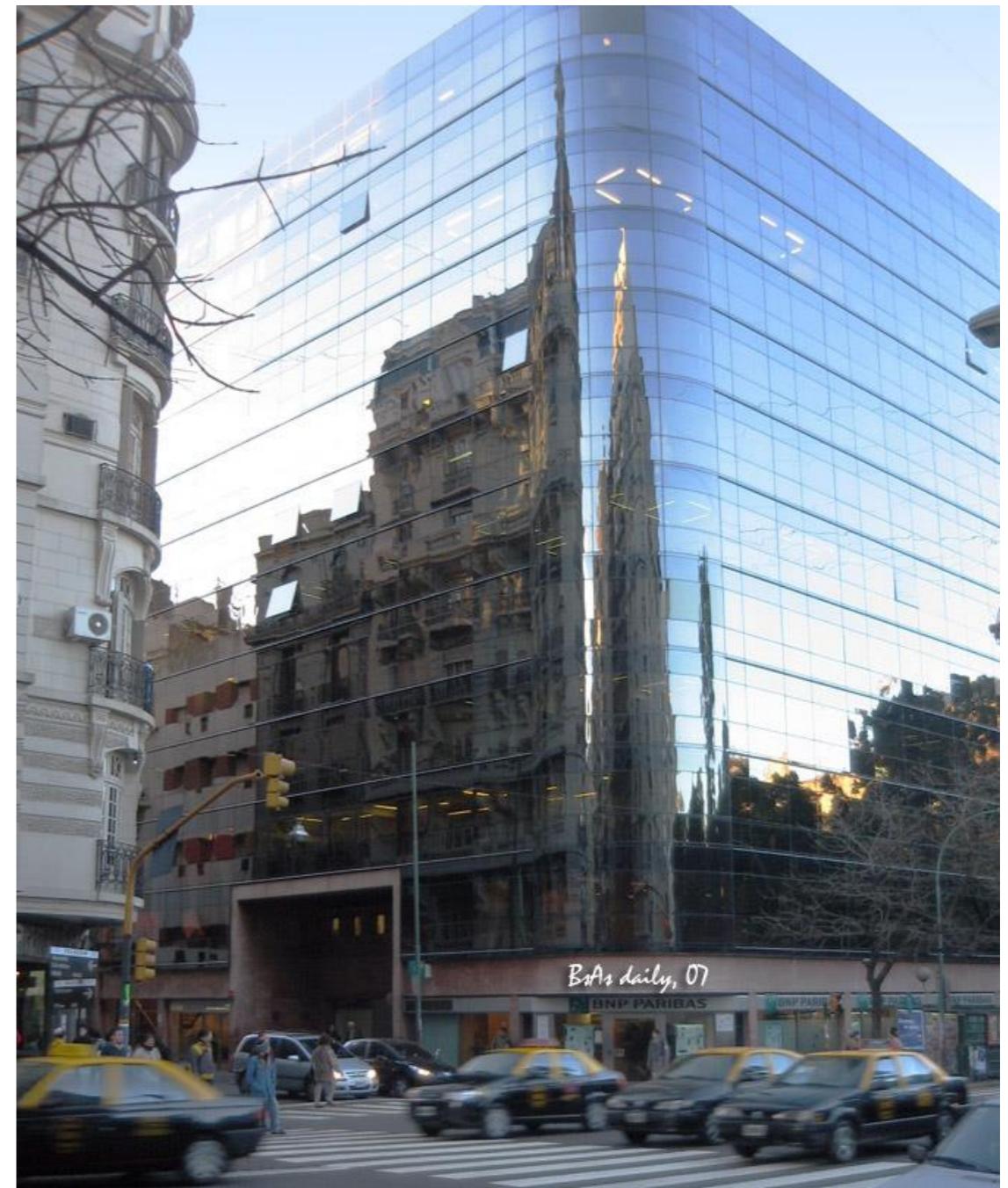
Light rays interacting with a surface



$$L_r = \rho(\theta_i, \theta_r)L_i \cos \theta_i$$

- Special case 1: Perfect mirror
 - $\rho(\theta_i, \theta_r) = 0$ unless $\theta_i = \theta_r$
- Special case 2: Matte surface
 - $\rho(\theta_i, \theta_r) = \rho_0$ (constant)

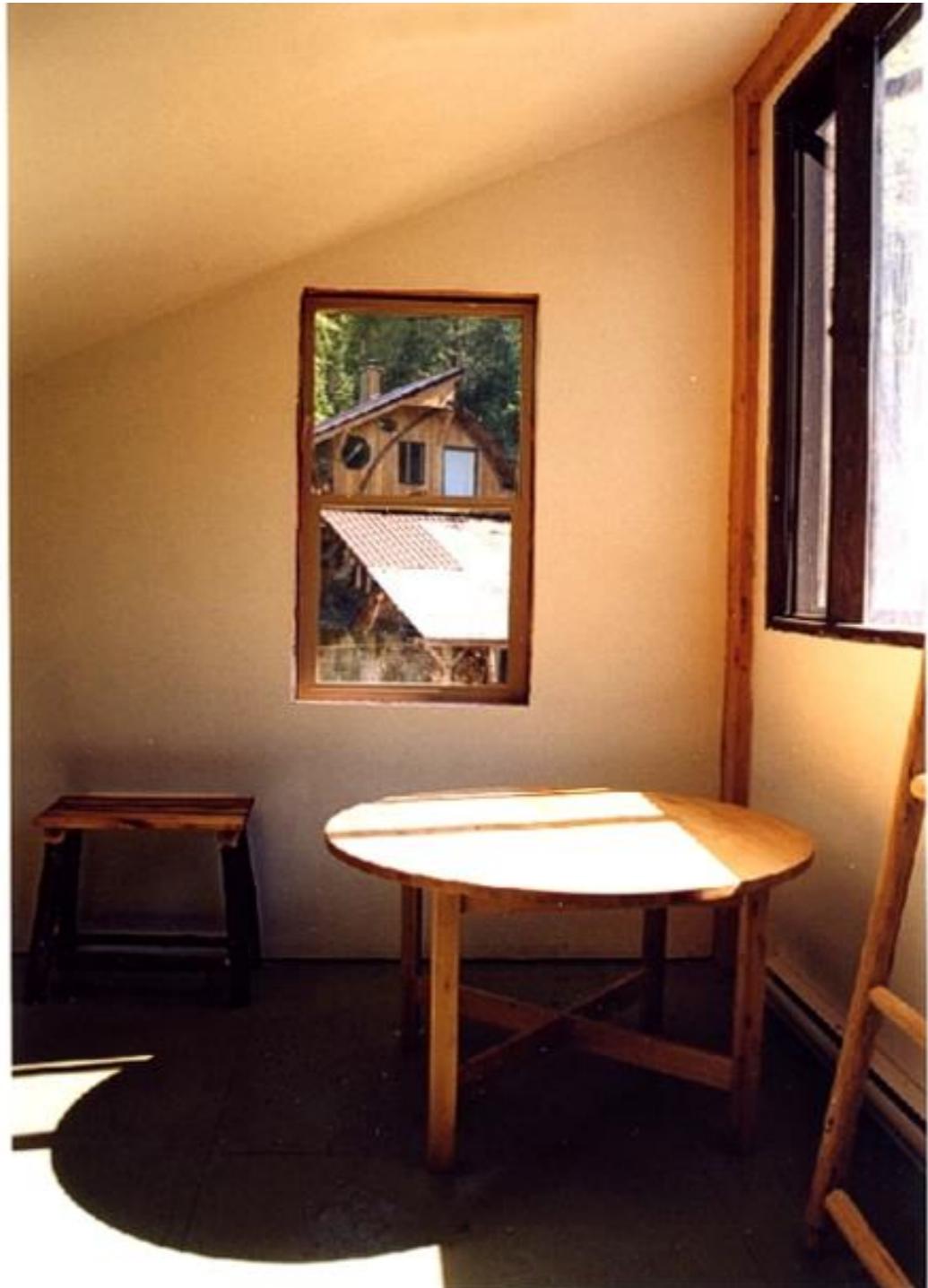
For now, ignore specular reflection



And Refraction...



And Interreflections...



Slides from Photometric Methods for 3D Modeling, Matsushita, Wilburn, Ben-Ezra

And Subsurface Scattering...



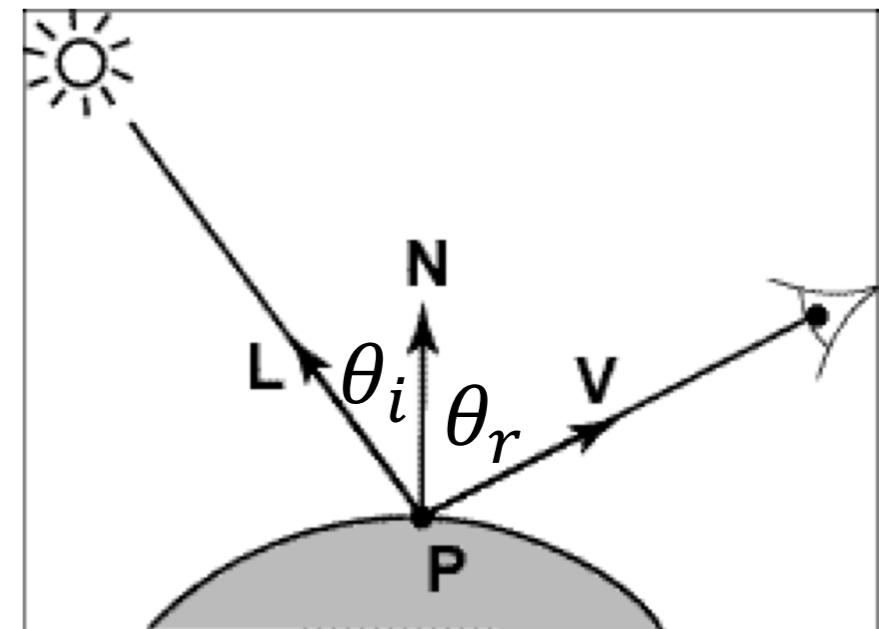
Lambertian surfaces

- For a lambertian surface:

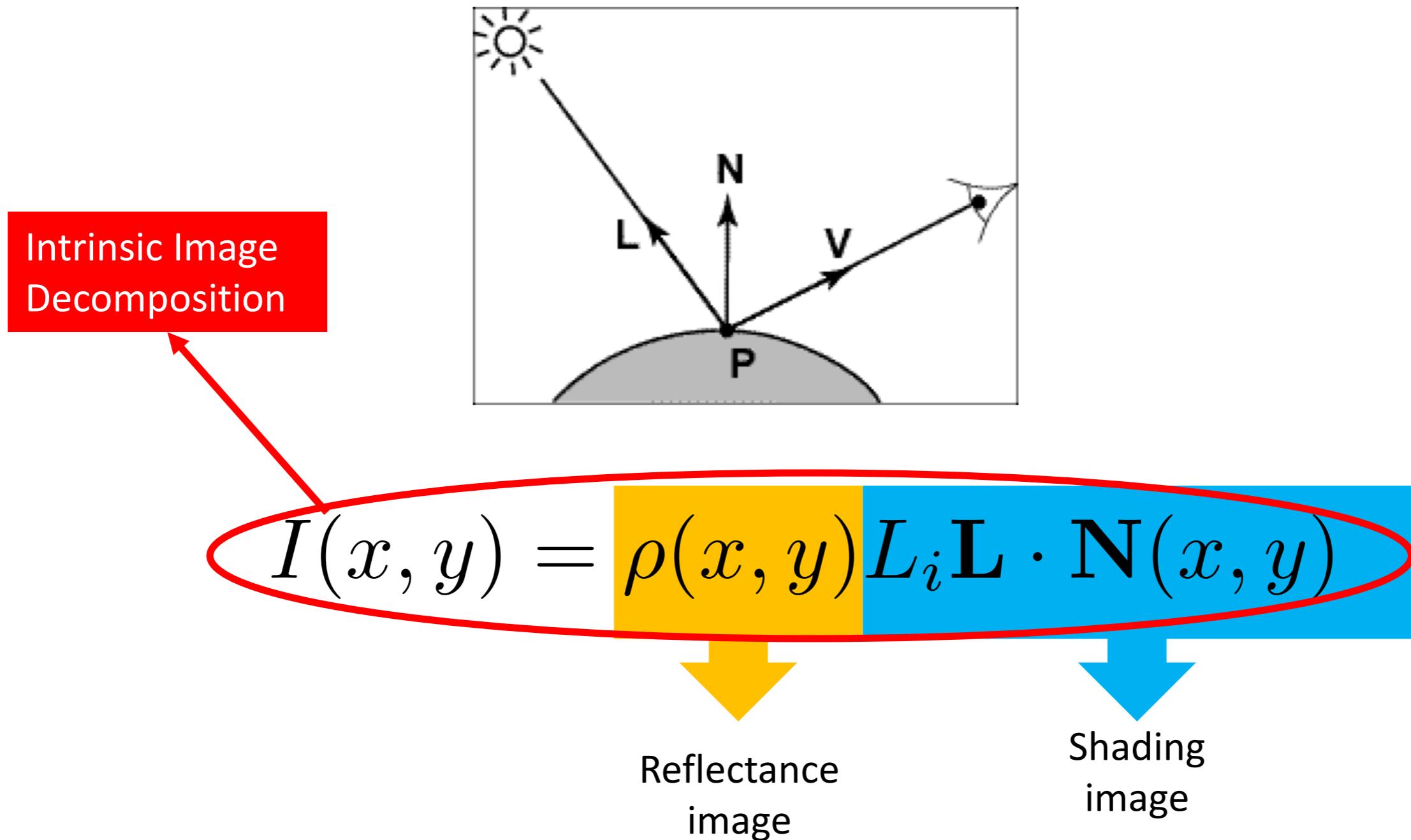
$$L_r = \rho L_i \cos \theta_i$$

$$\Rightarrow L_r = \rho L_i \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}$$

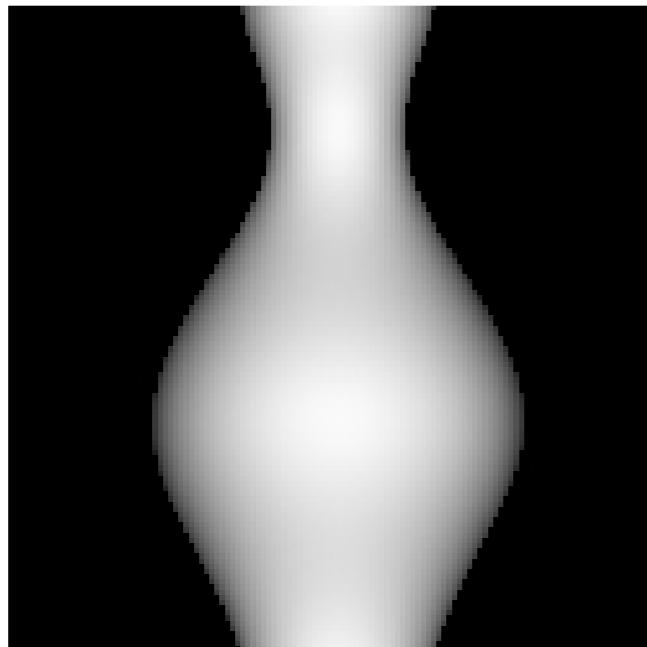
- ρ is called *albedo*
 - Think of this as paint
 - High albedo: white colored surface
 - Low albedo: black surface
 - Varies from point to point



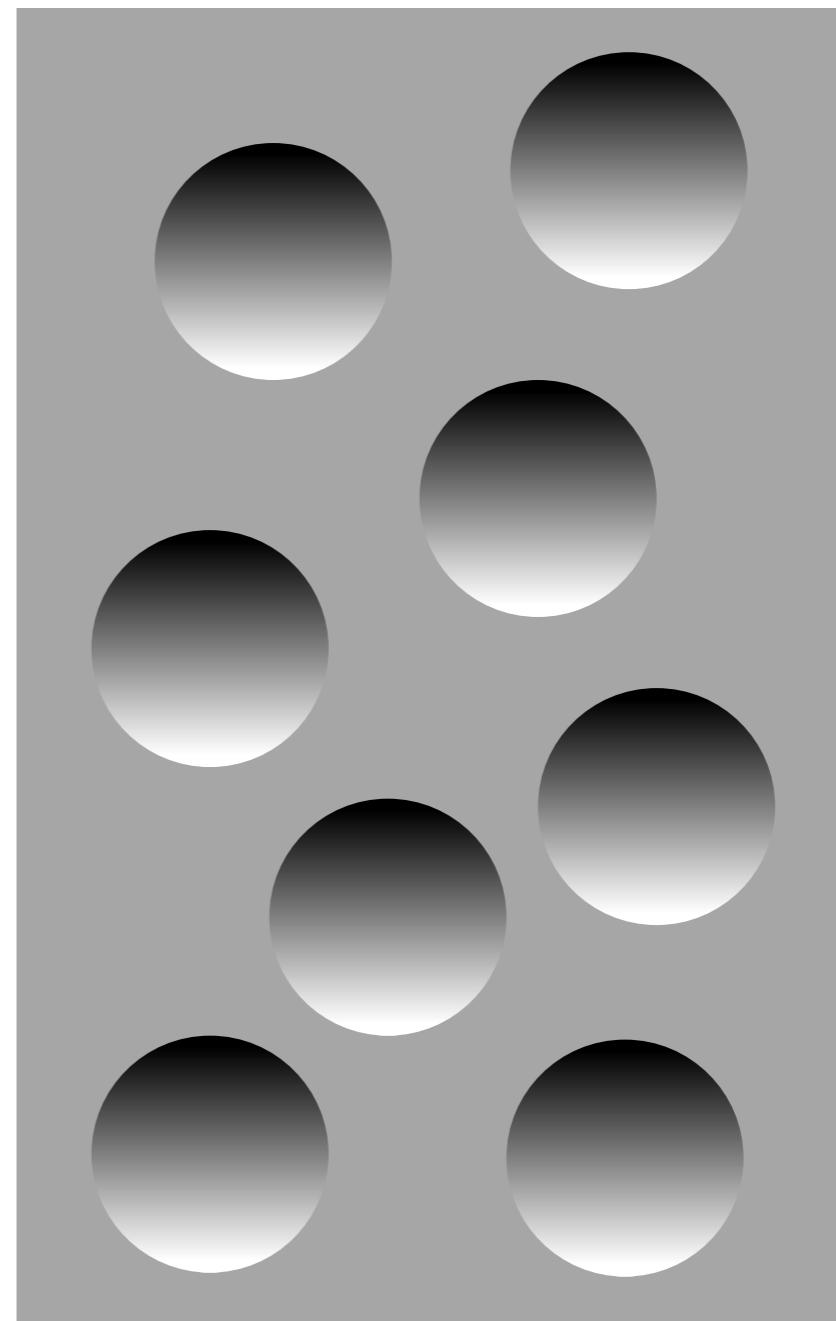
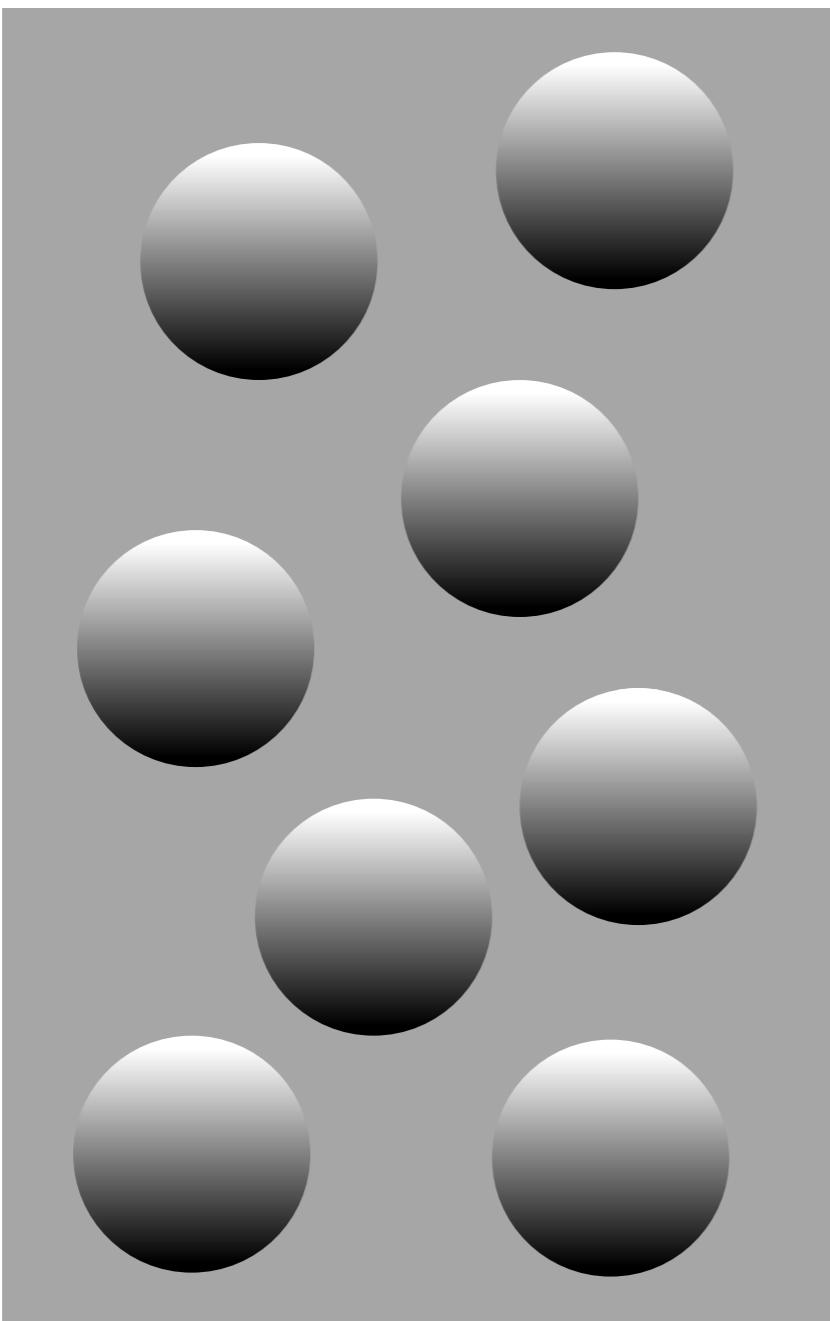
Lambertian surfaces



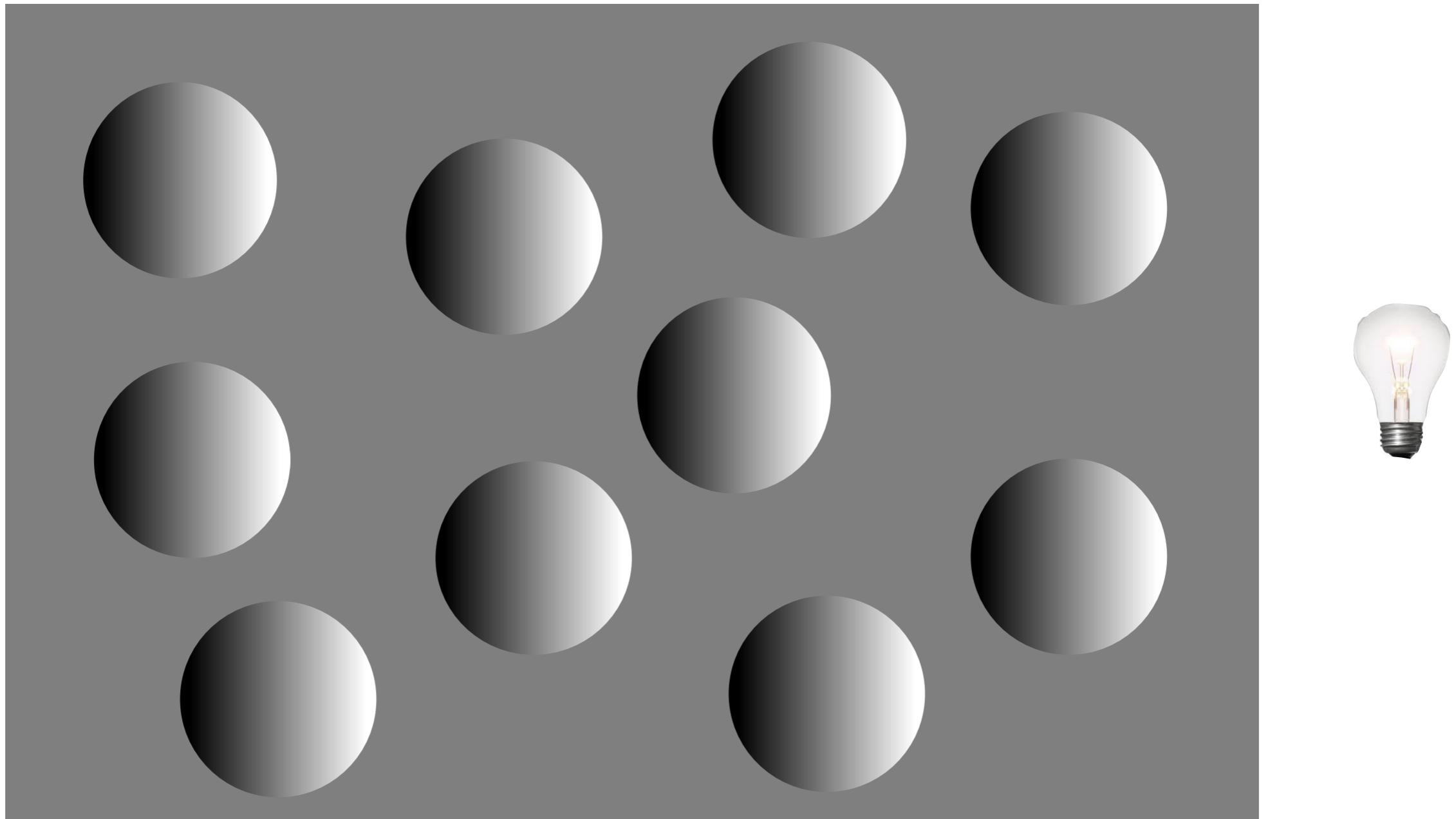
Solution 1: Recovery from a single image



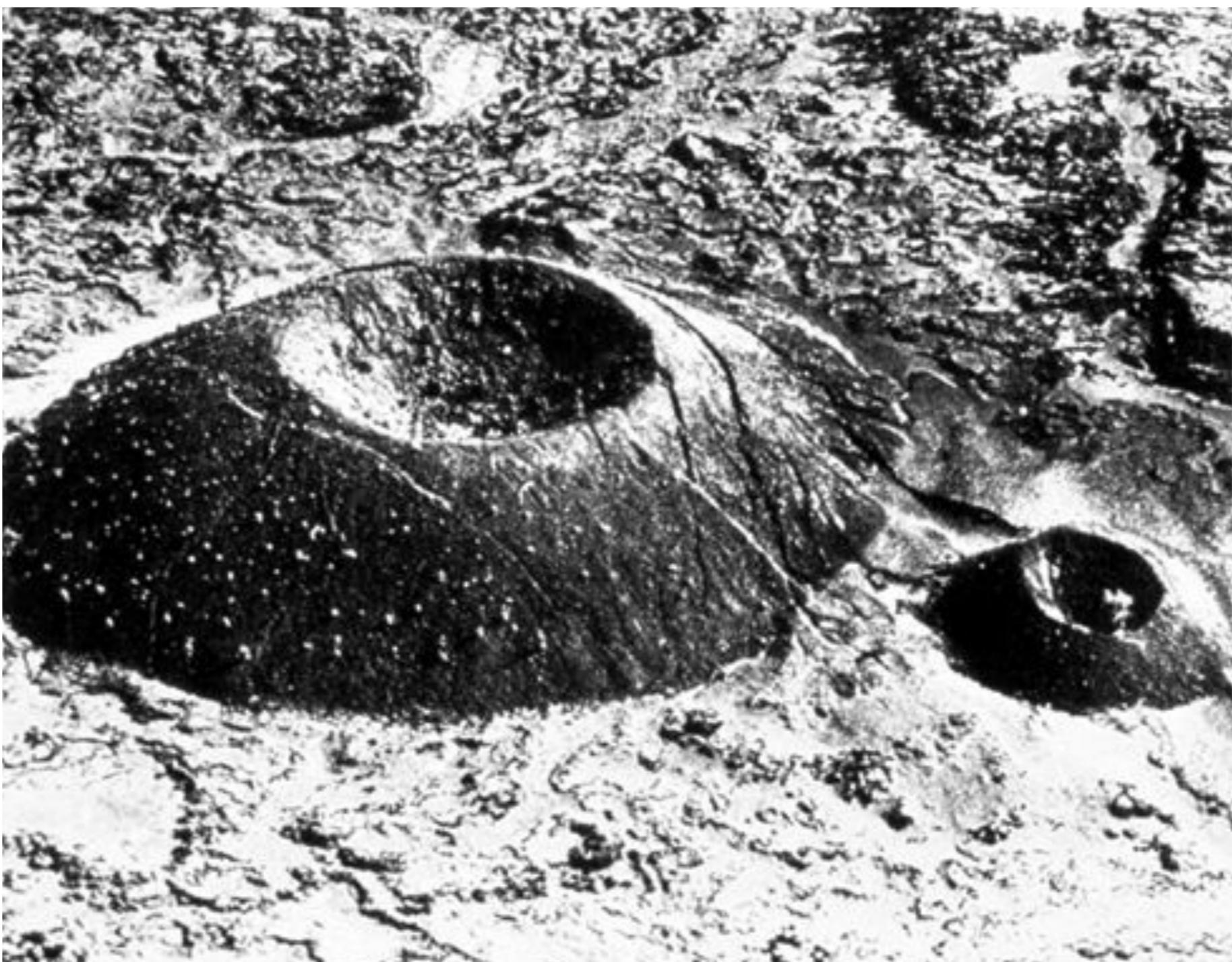
Solution 1: Recovery from a single image



Solution 1: Recovery from a single image



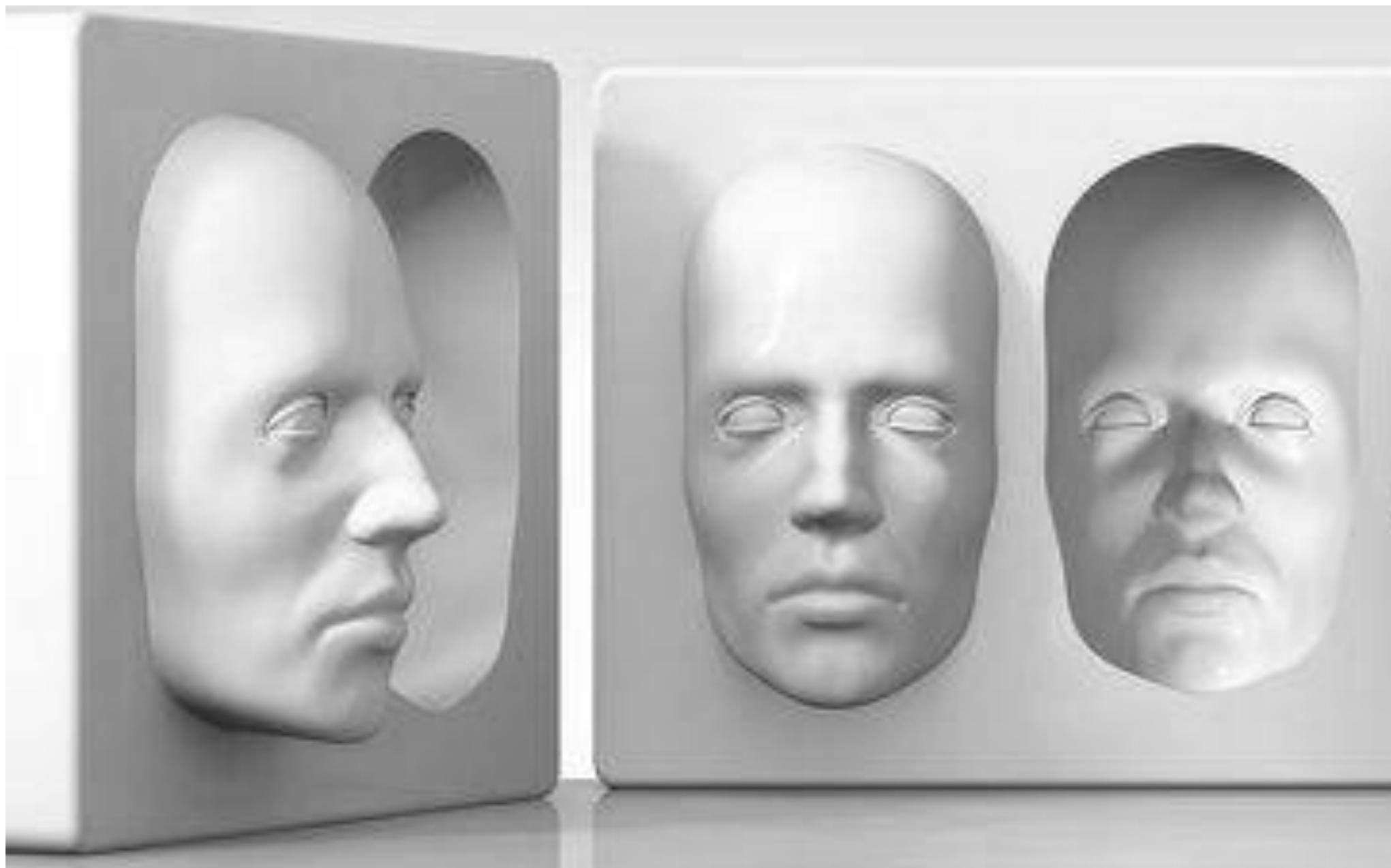
Solution 1: Recovery from a single image



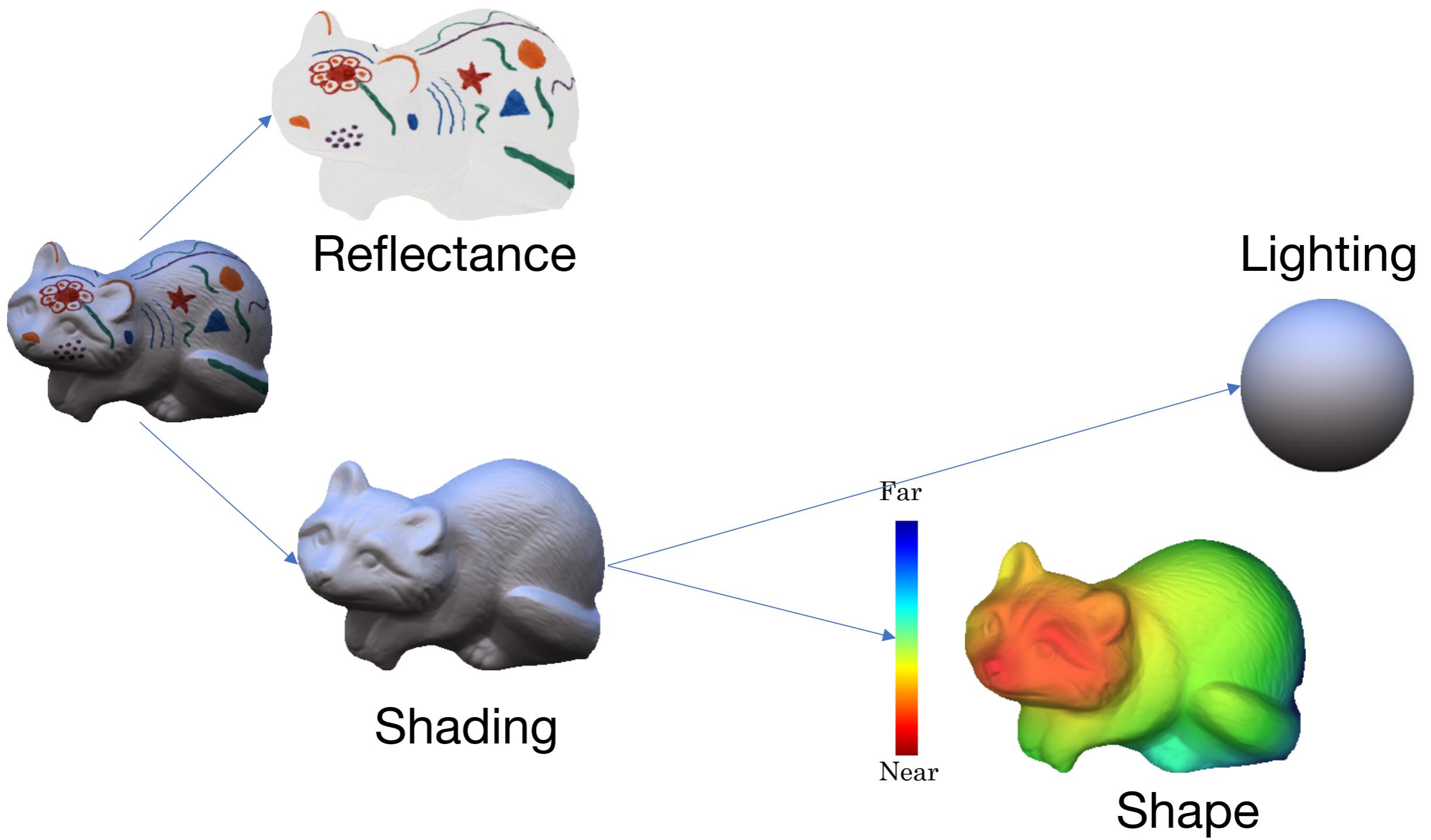
Solution 1: Recovery from a single image



Solution 1: Recovery from a single image



Solution 1: Recovery from a single image



Photometric Stereo

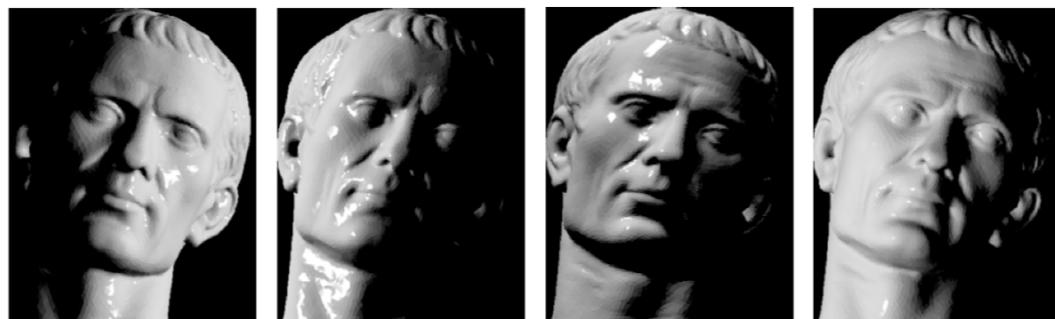


Key Idea: use pixel brightness to understand shape

Solution 2: Recovery from multiple images

$$I(x, y) = \rho(x, y)L_i \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}(x, y)$$

- Represents an equation in the albedo and normals
- Multiple images give constraints on albedo and normals
- Called *Photometric Stereo*



Photometric stereo - the math

$$I(x, y) = \rho(x, y)L_i \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}(x, y)$$

- Consider single pixel
- Assume $L_i = 1$

$$I = \rho \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}$$

$$I = \rho \mathbf{N}^T \mathbf{L}$$

- Write $\mathbf{G} = \rho \mathbf{N}$
- \mathbf{G} is a 3-vector
 - Norm of $\mathbf{G} = \rho$
 - Direction of $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{N}$

Photometric stereo - the math

$$I = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}$$

- Multiple images with different light sources but same viewing direction?

$$I_1 = \mathbf{L}_1^T \mathbf{G}$$

$$I_2 = \mathbf{L}_2^T \mathbf{G}$$

⋮
⋮
⋮

$$I_k = \mathbf{L}_k^T \mathbf{G}$$

Photometric stereo - the math

$$I_1 = \mathbf{L}_1^T \mathbf{G}$$

$$I_2 = \mathbf{L}_2^T \mathbf{G}$$

⋮
⋮

$$I_k = \mathbf{L}_k^T \mathbf{G}$$

- Assume lighting directions are known
- Each is a linear equation in \mathbf{G}
- Stack everything up into a massive linear system of equations!

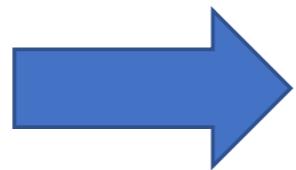
Photometric stereo - the math

$$I_1 = \mathbf{L}_1^T \mathbf{G}$$

$$I_2 = \mathbf{L}_2^T \mathbf{G}$$

⋮

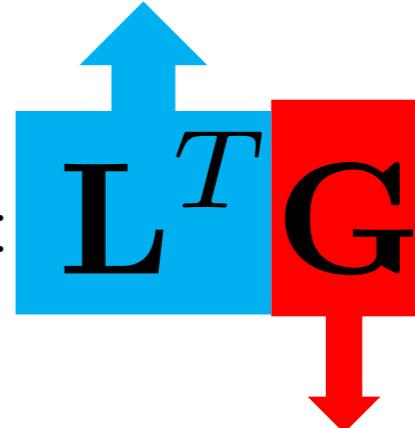
$$I_k = \mathbf{L}_k^T \mathbf{G}$$



$k \times 3$ matrix
of lighting
directions



$k \times 1$ vector
of intensities



3×1 vector of
unknowns

Photometric stereo - the math

- How do we recover G if the problem is overconstrained?
 - More than 3 lights: more than 3 images
- Least squares

$$\min_G \|I - L^T G\|^2$$

Normal equations

$$\|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}\|^2 = \mathbf{I}^T \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G} - 2\mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{I}$$

- Take derivative with respect to \mathbf{G} and set to 0

$$2\mathbf{L} \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G} - 2\mathbf{L} \mathbf{I} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{L} \mathbf{L}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{I}$$

Estimating normals and albedo from \mathbf{G}

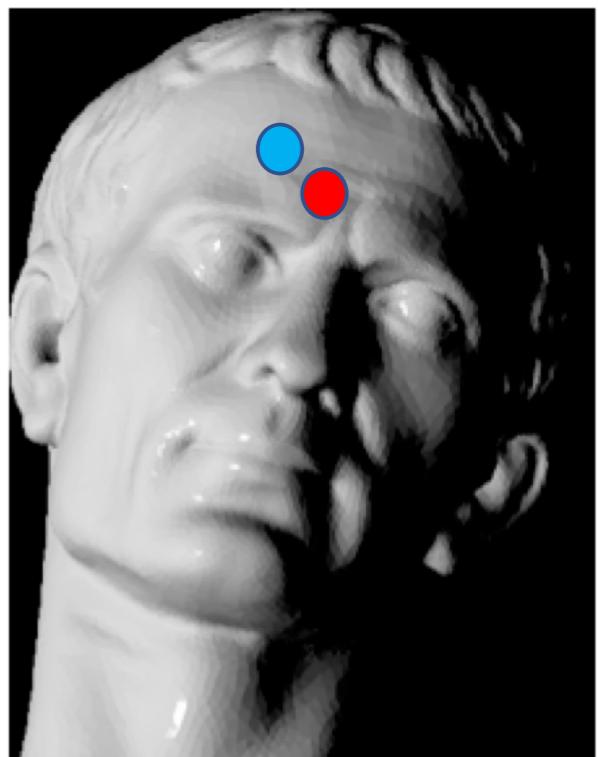
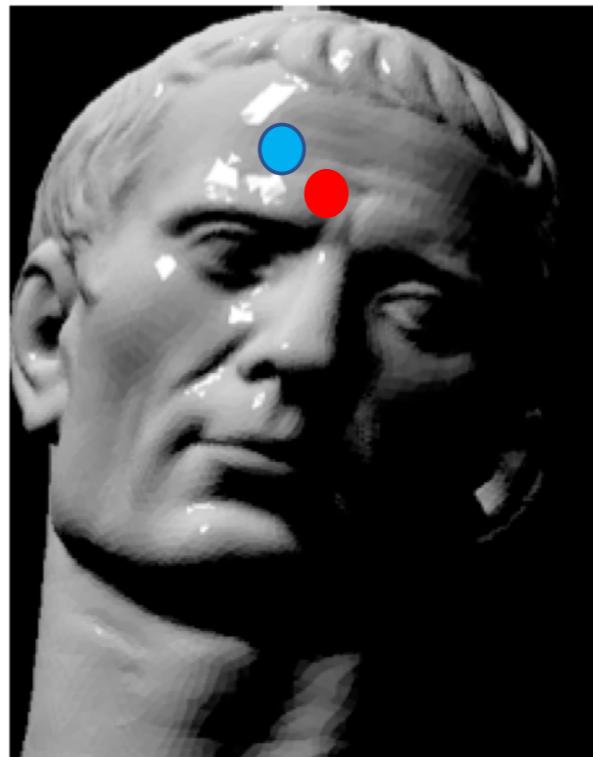
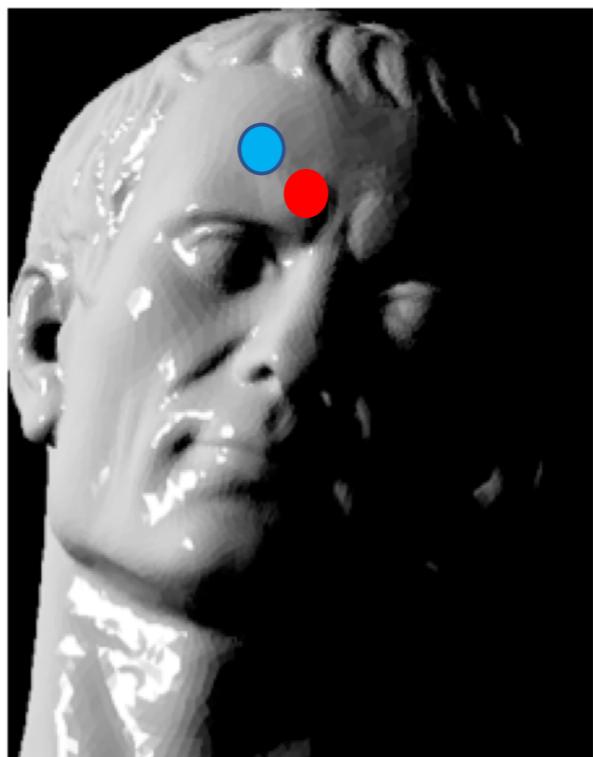
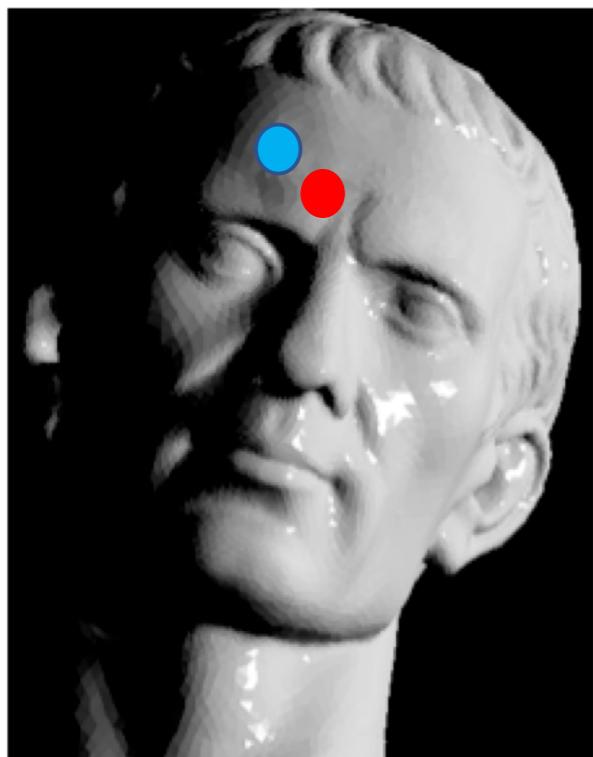
- Recall that $\mathbf{G} = \rho \mathbf{N}$

$$\|\mathbf{G}\| = \rho$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{G}}{\|\mathbf{G}\|} = \mathbf{N}$$

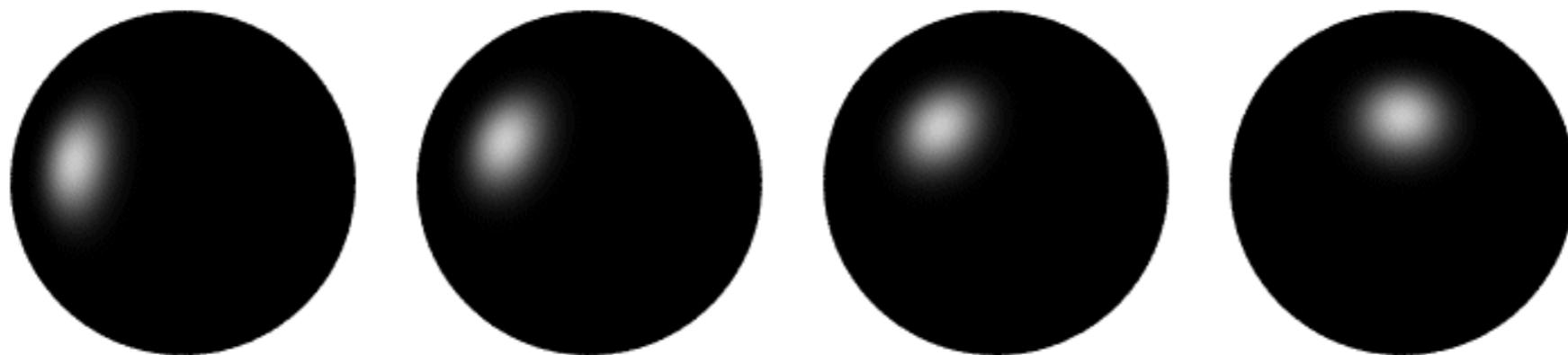
Multiple pixels

- We've looked at a single pixel till now
- How do we handle multiple pixels?
- Essentially independent equations!



Determining Light Directions

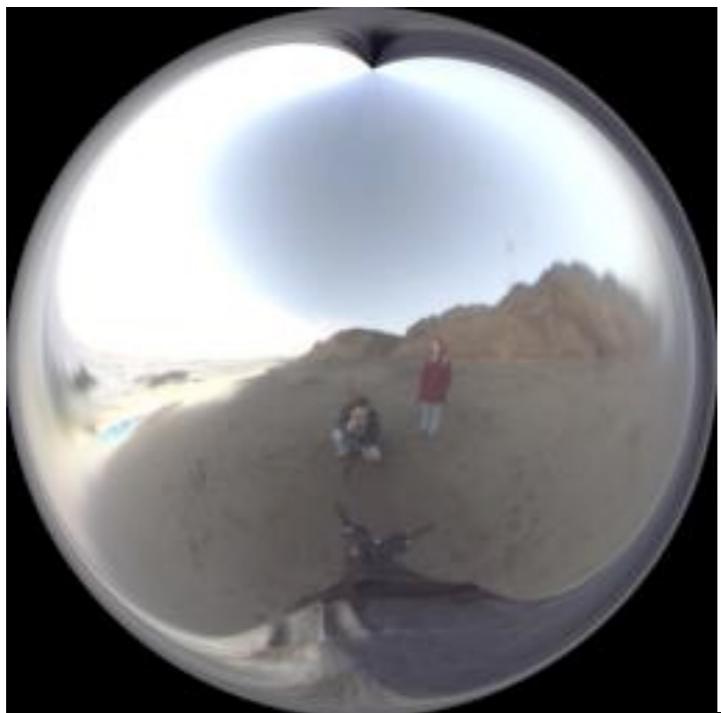
- Trick: Place a mirror ball in the scene.



- The location of the highlight is determined by the light source direction.

Real-World HDR Lighting Environments

Funston
Beach



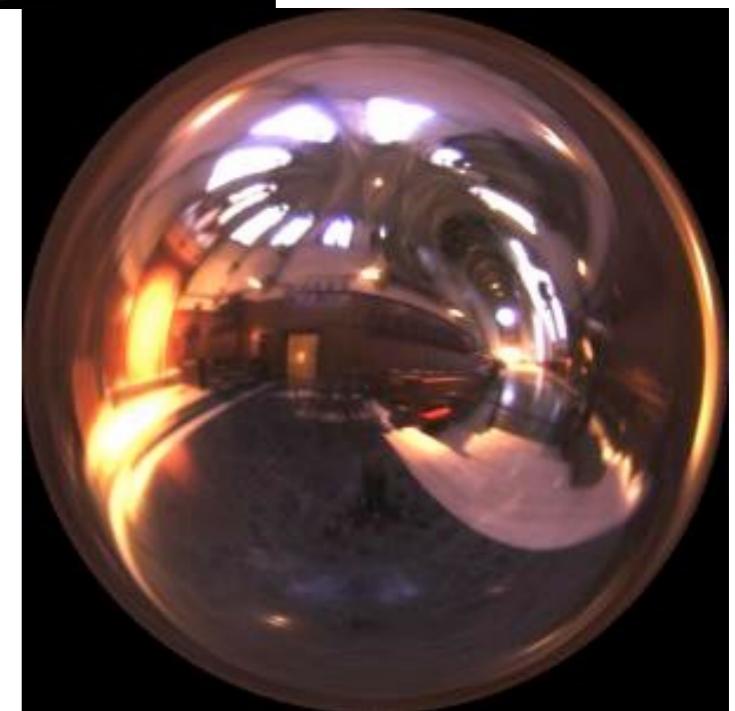
Eucalyptus
Grove



Uffizi
Gallery



Grace
Cathedral



Lighting Environments from the Light Probe Image Gallery:
<http://www.debevec.org/Probes/>

Mirrored Sphere





Canon
REMOTE SWITCH
RS-80N3

Extreme HDR Image Series



1 sec
f/4



1/4 sec
f/4



1/30 sec
f/4



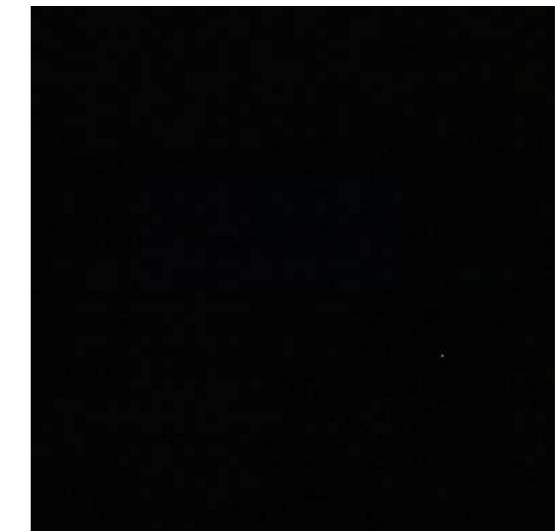
1/30 sec
f/16



1/250 sec
f/16



1/1000 sec
f/16



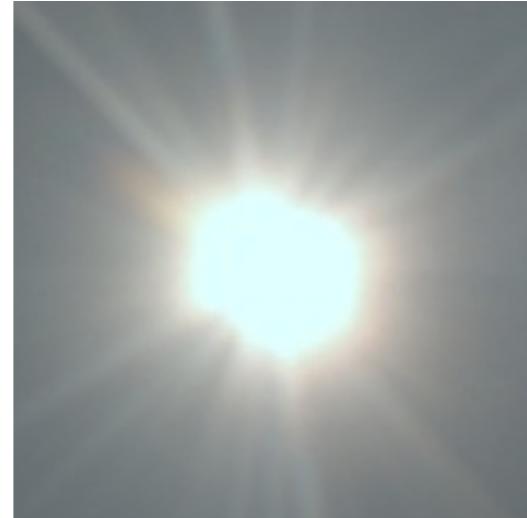
1/8000 sec f/16

Extreme HDR Image Series

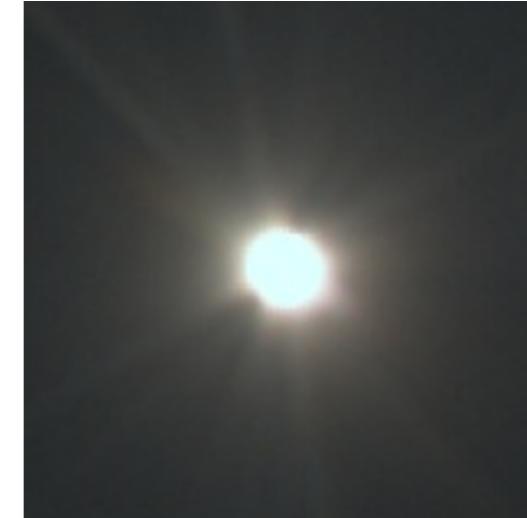
sun closeup



1 sec
 $f/4$



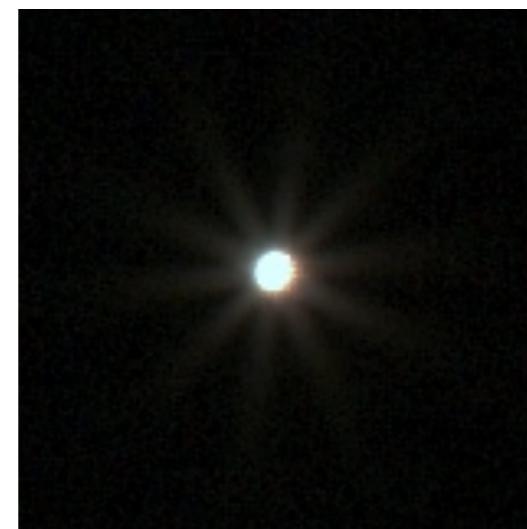
1/4 sec
 $f/4$



1/30 sec
 $f/4$



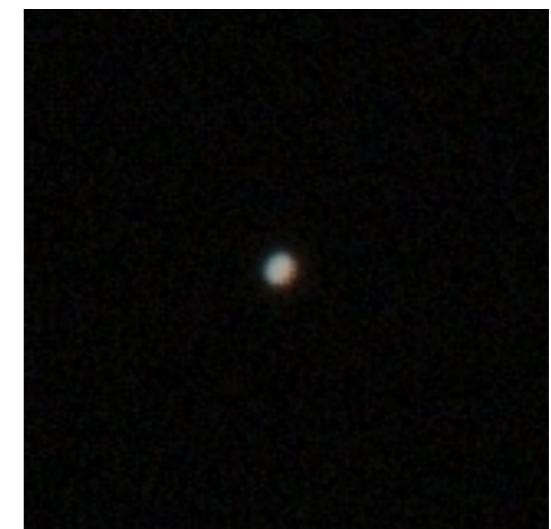
1/30 sec
 $f/16$



1/250 sec
 $f/16$



1/1000 sec
 $f/16$



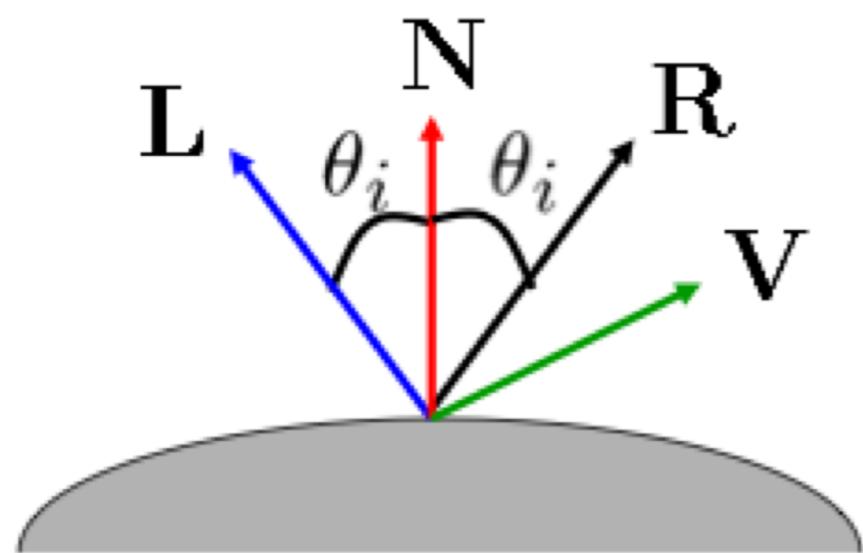
1/8000 sec $f/16$
only image that does not
saturate!

HDRI Sky Probe



Determining Light Directions

- For a perfect mirror, the light is reflected across N:



$$I_e = \begin{cases} I_i & \text{if } \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{R} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Photometric Stereo



Input
(1 of 12)

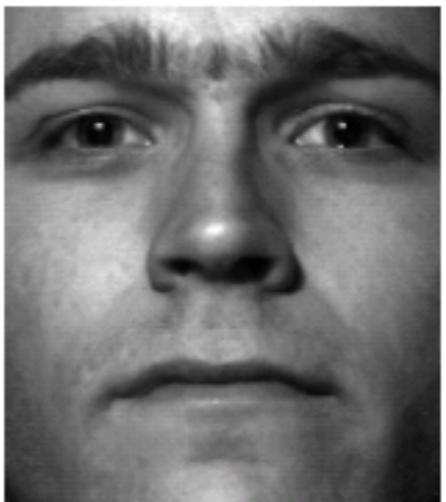
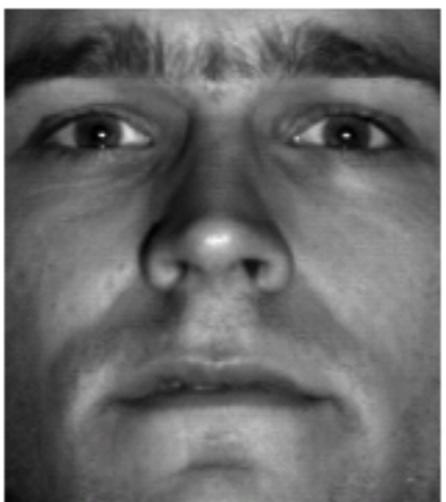
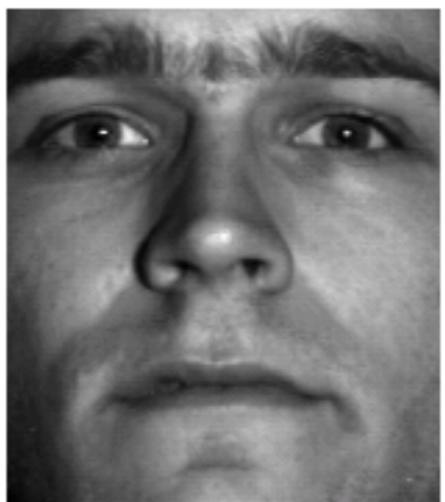
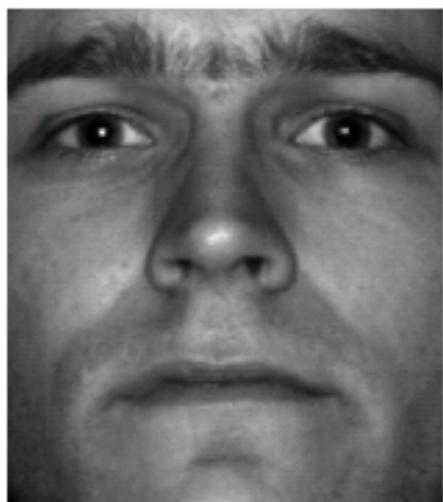
Normals (RGB
colormap)

Normals (vectors)

Shaded 3D
rendering

Textured 3D
rendering

Results



from Athos Georghiades

Unknown Lighting

Surface normals Light directions

$$I = kN \cdot \ell L$$

Diffuse
albedo

Light
intensity

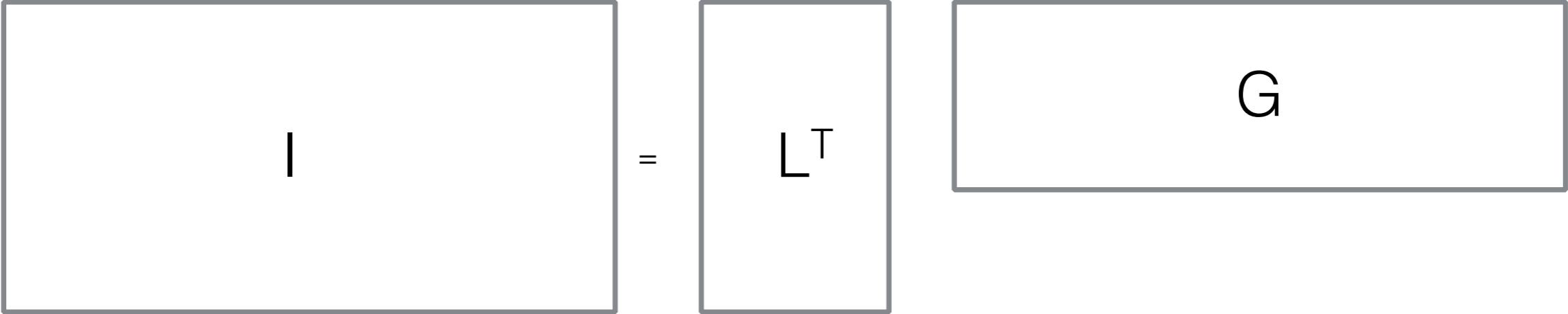
Unknown Lighting

Surface normals, scaled
by albedo

Light directions, scaled
by intensity

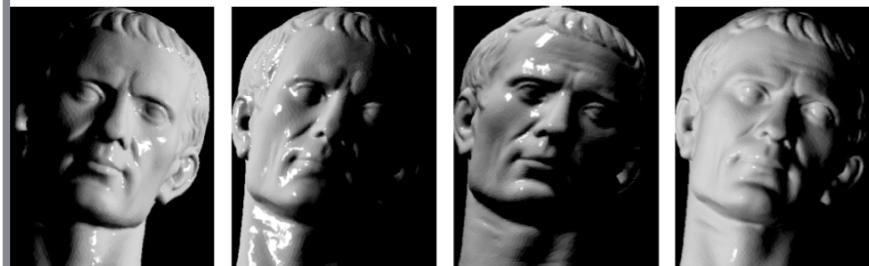
$$I = N \cdot L$$


Unknown Lighting

$$\begin{matrix} p = \# \text{ pixels} \\ n = \# \text{ images} \end{matrix} \quad I = L^T G$$


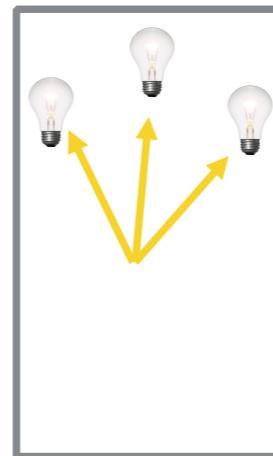
Unknown Lighting

Measurements
(one image per row)



I

Light directions
(scaled by intensity)



L^T

Surface normals
(scaled by albedo)



G

Both L and G are now unknown!
This is a matrix factorization problem.

Unknown Lighting

$$\begin{matrix} & j \\ I & \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} i \\ L \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} l_{ix} & l_{iy} & l_{iz} \\ * \\ \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} & j \\ G & (3 \times p) \\ n_{jx} \\ n_{jy} \\ n_{jz} \end{matrix}$$

I ($n \times p$) L ($n \times 3$)

There's hope: We know that I is rank 3

Unknown Lighting

Use the SVD to decompose I :

$$I = U \Sigma V^T$$

SVD gives the best rank-3 approximation of a matrix.

Unknown Lighting

Use the SVD to decompose I :

$$I = U \Sigma V^T$$

SVD gives the best rank-3 approximation of a matrix.
What do we do with Σ ?

Unknown Lighting

Use the SVD to decompose \mathbf{I} :

$$\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{U}\sqrt{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}$$

Can we just do that?

Unknown Lighting

Use the SVD to decompose I :

$$I = U\sqrt{\Sigma} A A^{-1} \sqrt{\Sigma} V$$

Can we just do that? ...almost.

The decomposition is unique up to an invertible $3 \times 3 A$.

Unknown Lighting

Use the SVD to decompose I :

$$I = U\sqrt{\Sigma} A A^{-1} \sqrt{\Sigma} V$$

Can we just do that? ...almost. $L = U\sqrt{\Sigma}A, G = A^{-1}\sqrt{\Sigma}V$

The decomposition is unique up to an invertible $3 \times 3 A$.

Unknown Lighting

Use the SVD to decompose \mathbf{I} :

$$\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{U}\sqrt{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \sqrt{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}$$

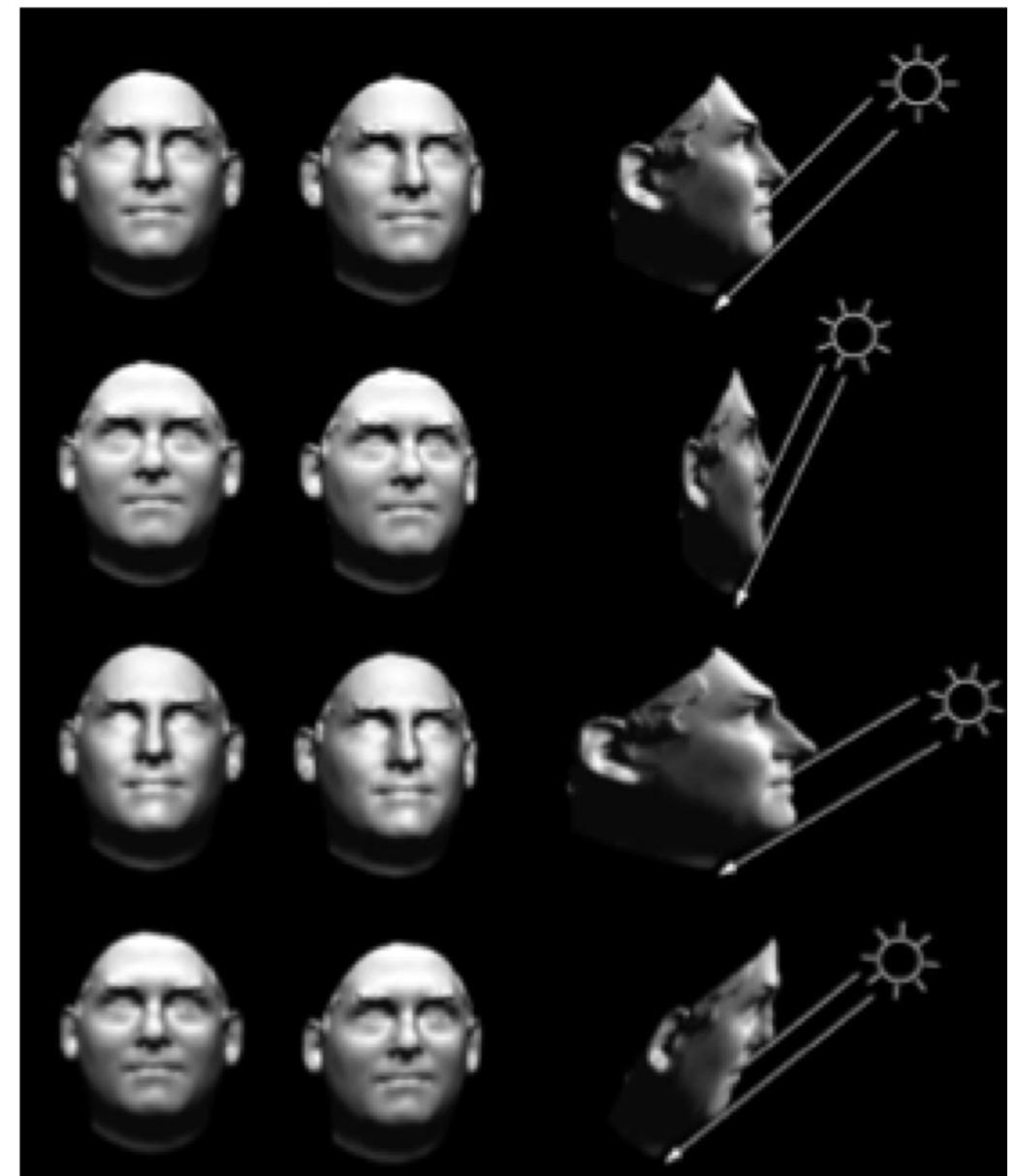
$$L = U\sqrt{\Sigma}A, G = A^{-1}\sqrt{\Sigma}V$$

You can find A if you know

- 6 points with the same reflectance, or
- 6 lights with the same intensity.

Unknown Lighting: Ambiguities

- Multiple combinations of lighting and geometry can produce the same sets of images.
- Add assumptions or prior knowledge about geometry or lighting, etc. to limit the ambiguity.



[Belhumeur et al.'97]

Cookie

Paint



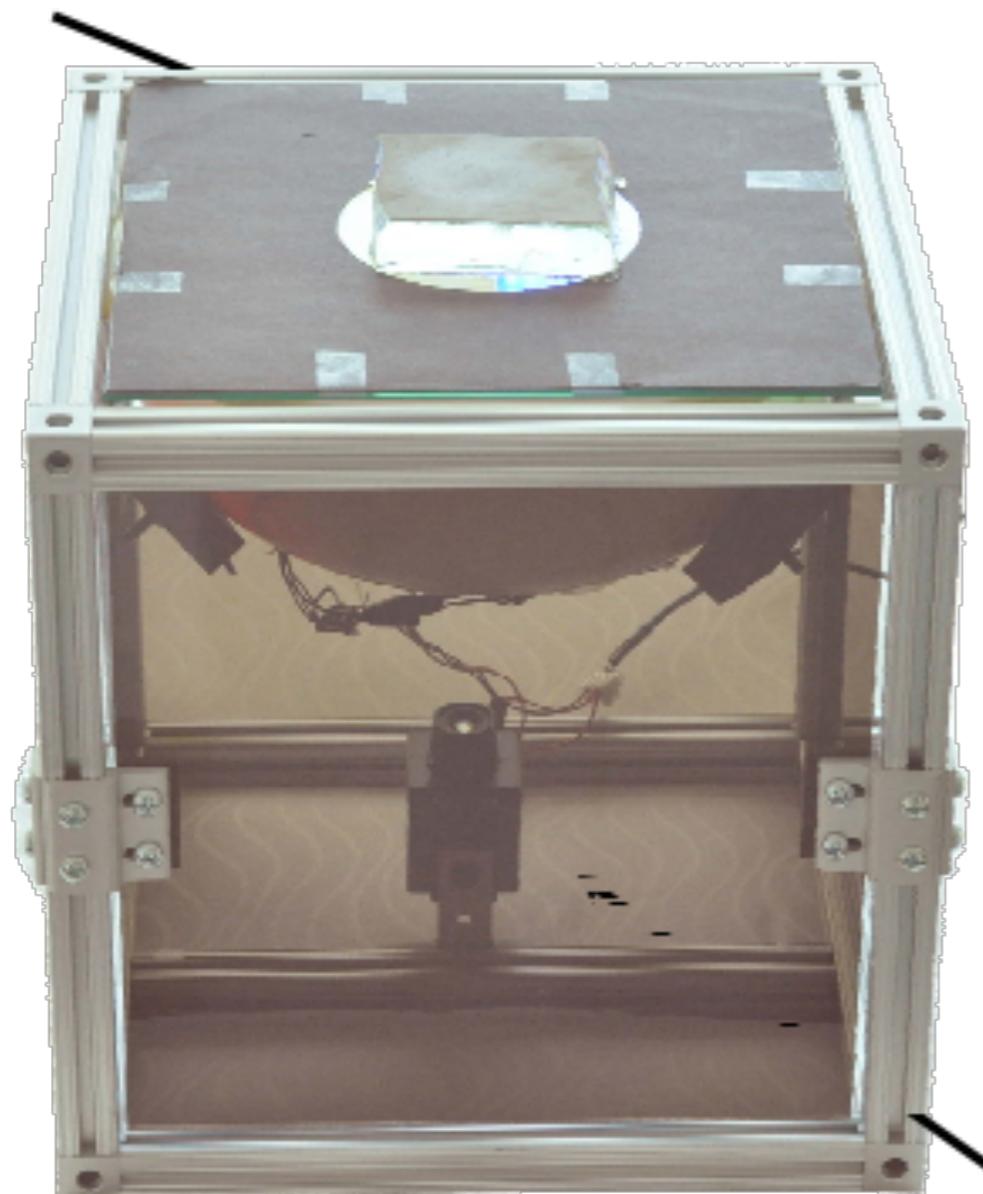
Clear Elastomer

Johnson and Adelson, 2009

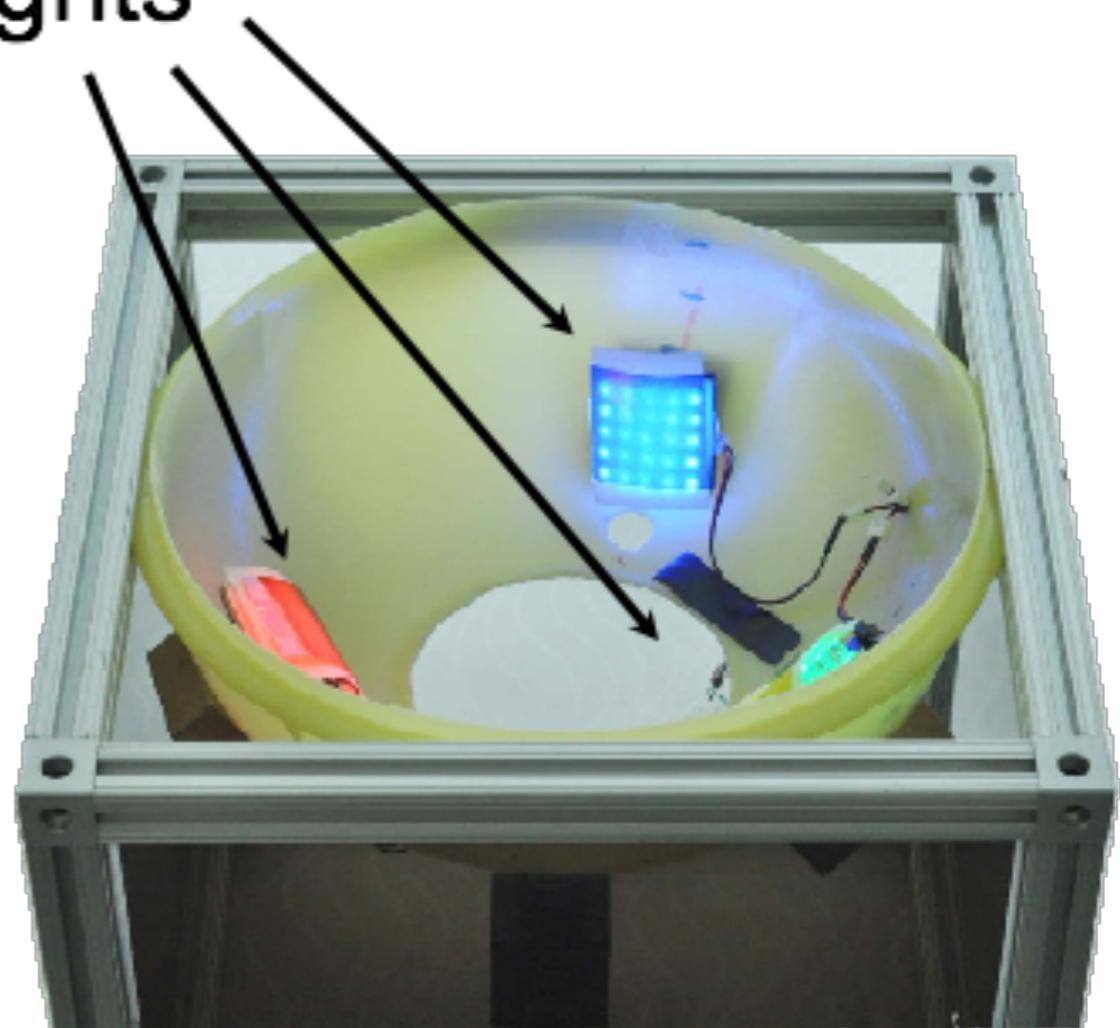


Lights, camera, action

Sensor



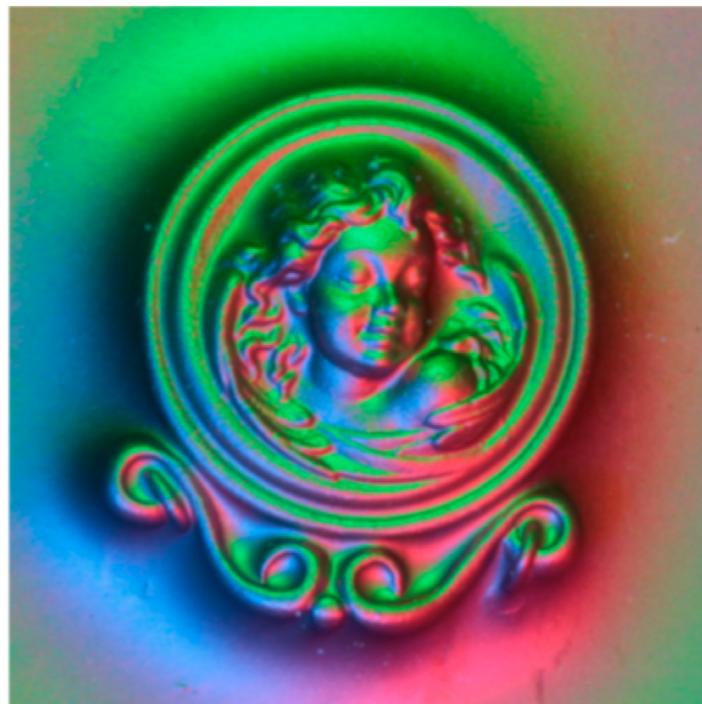
Lights



Camera



(a)



(b)

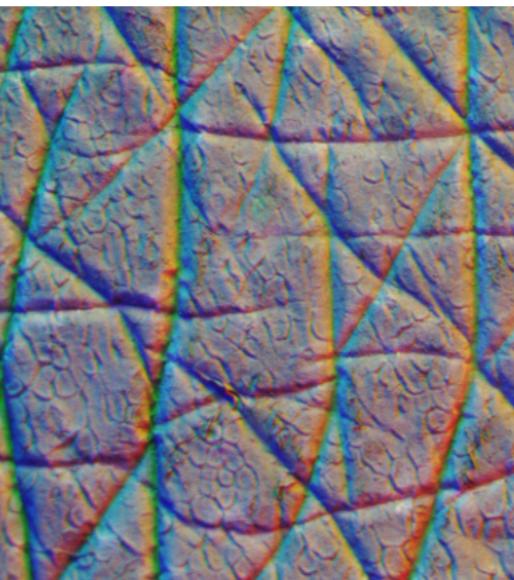
Figure 2. (a) This decorative pin consists of a glass bas-relief portrait mounted in a shiny gold setting. (b) The RGB image provided by the retrographic sensor. The pin is pressed into the elastomer skin, and colored lights illuminate it from three directions.







(a) bench configuration



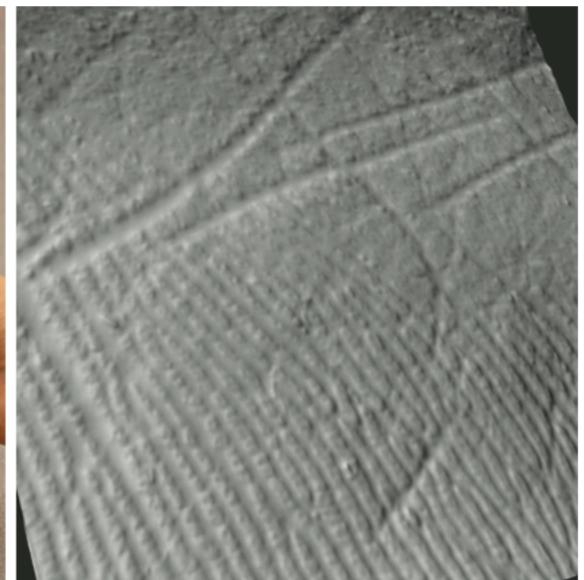
(b) captured



(c) reconstruction



(d) portable configuration



(e) reconstruction

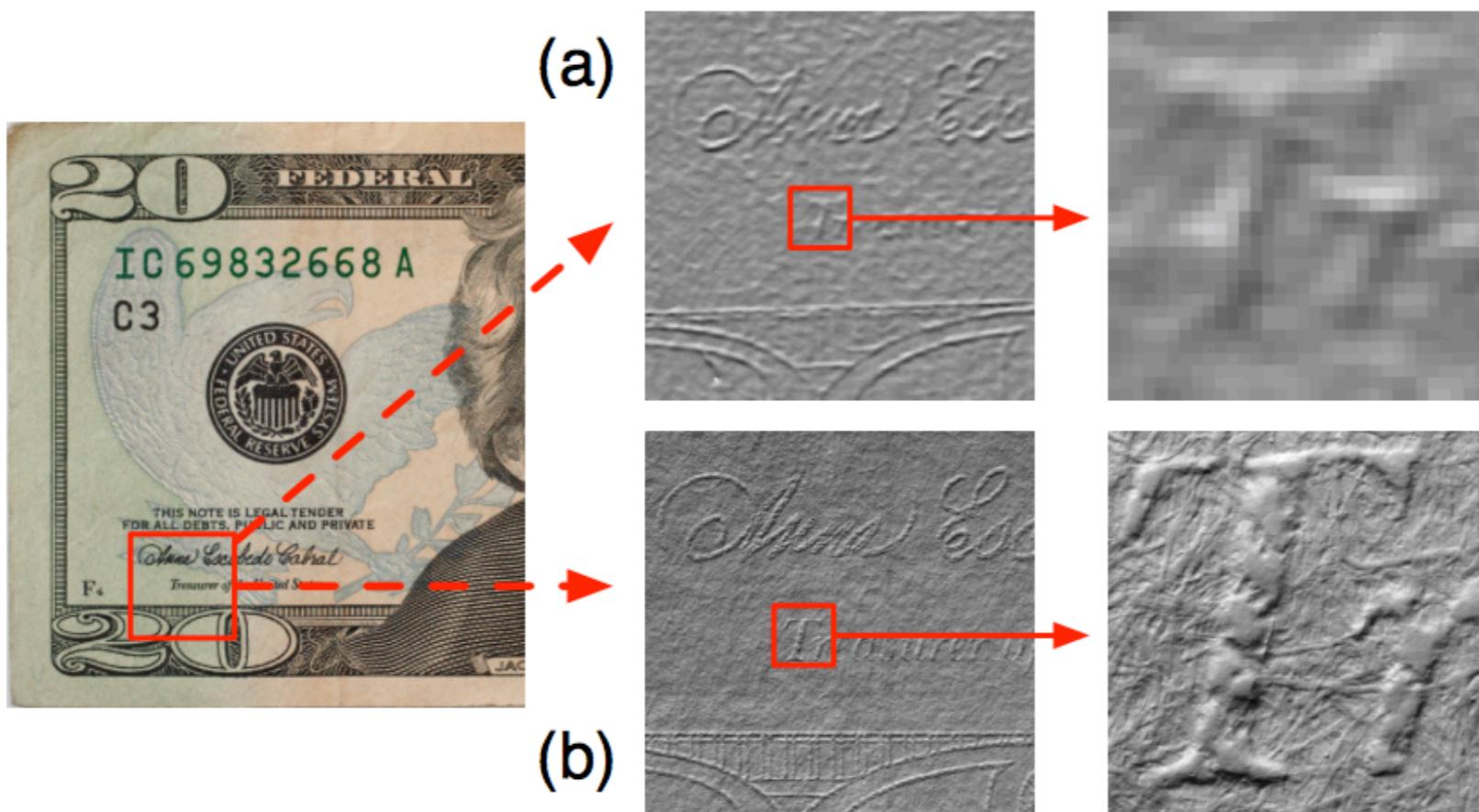
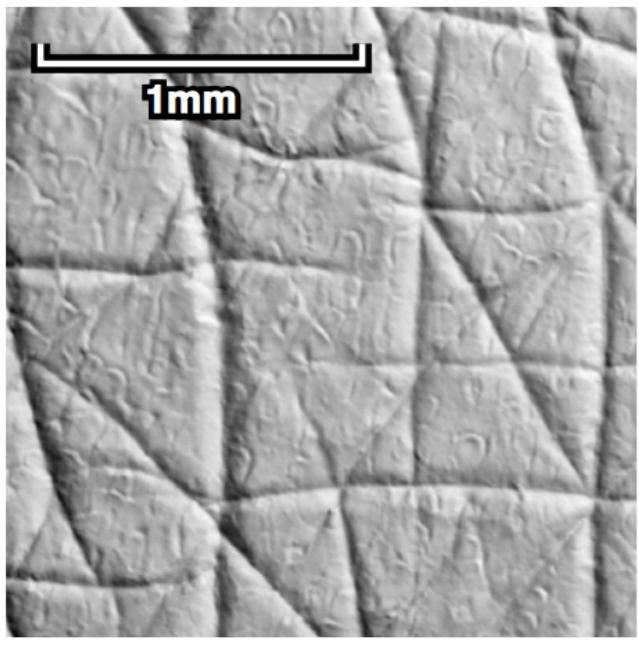
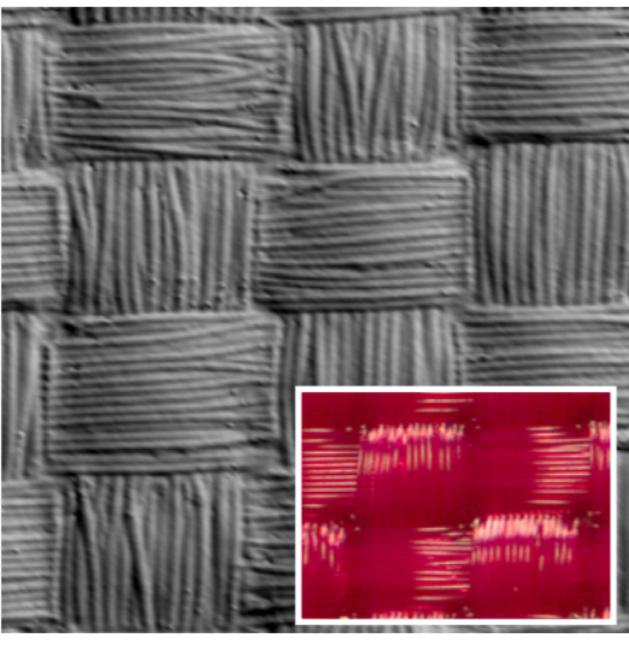


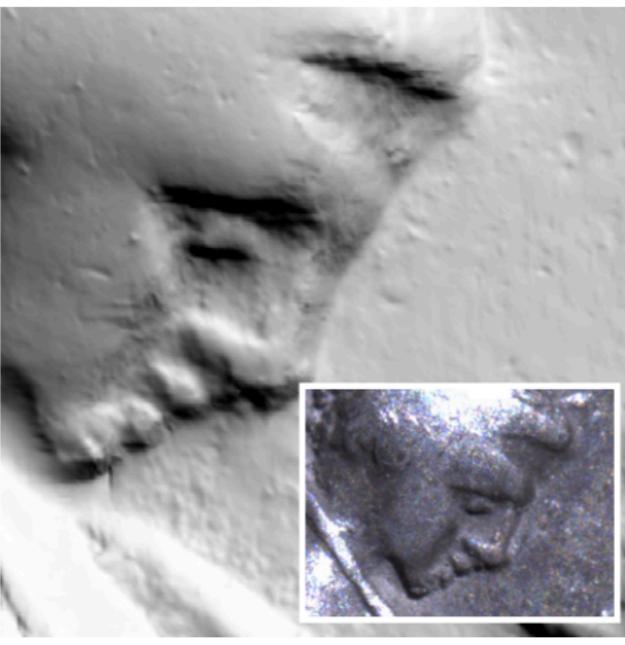
Figure 7: Comparison with the high-resolution result from the original retrographic sensor. (a) Rendering of the high-resolution \$20 bill example from the original retrographic sensor with a close-up view. (b) Rendering of the captured geometry using our method.



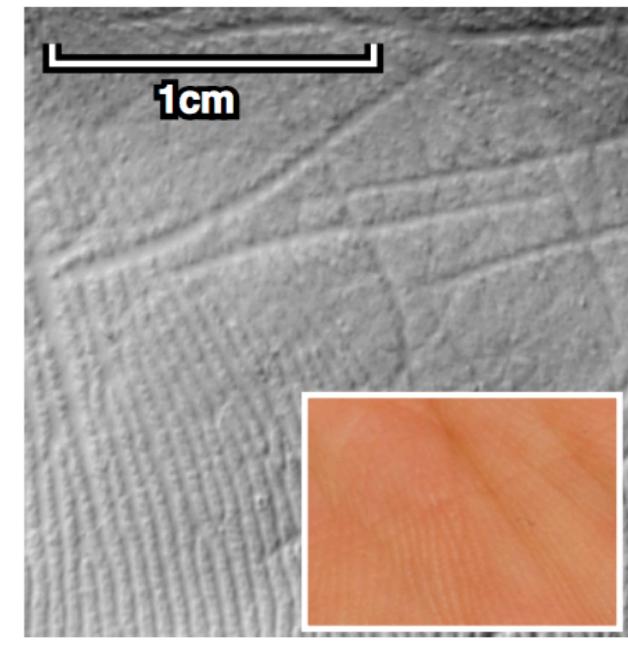
human skin



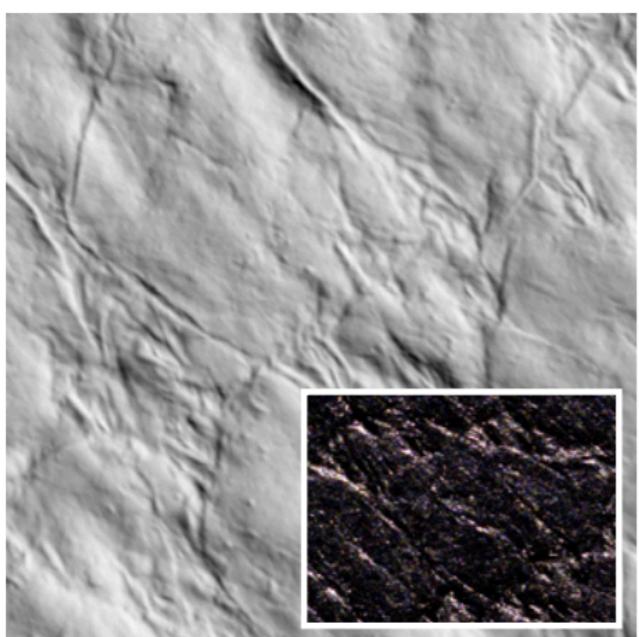
nylon fabric



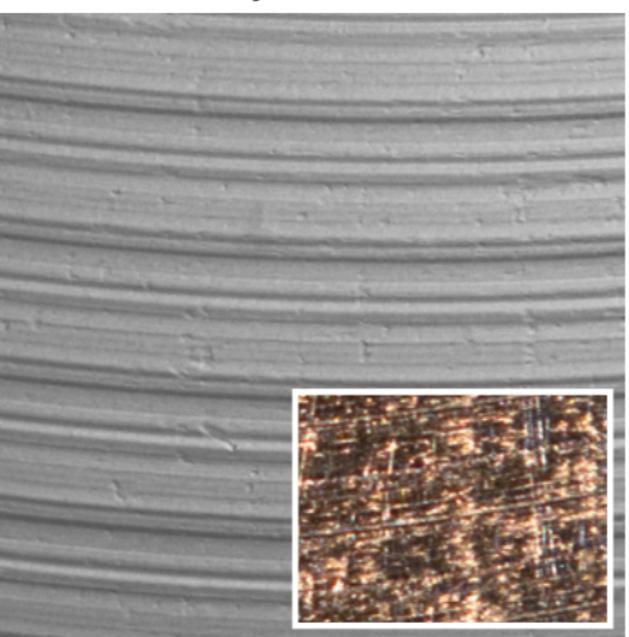
Greek coin



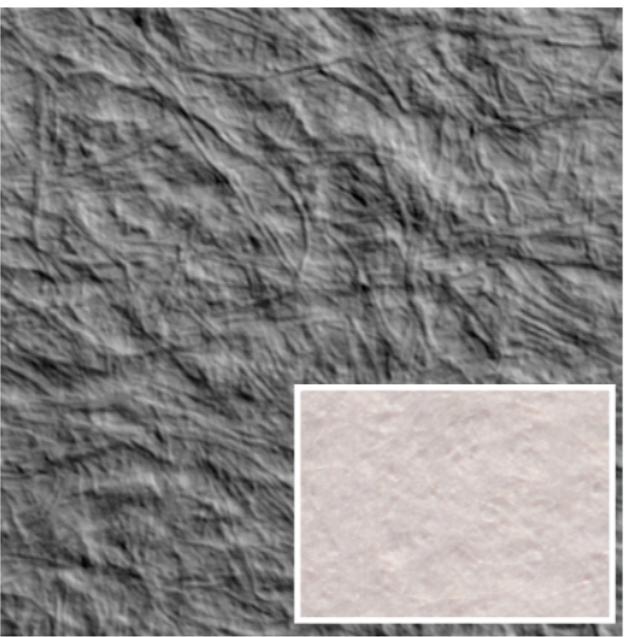
human skin



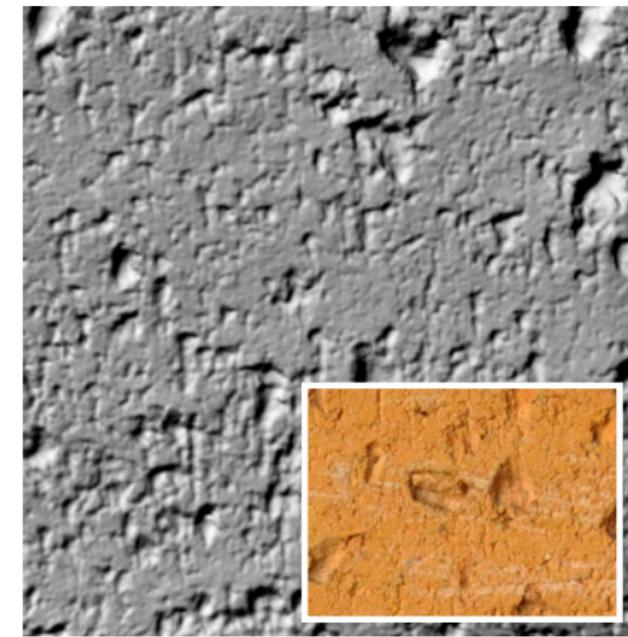
leather



vertically milled metal



paper



brick

(a) *bench configuration*

(b) *portable configuration*

Figure 9: Example geometry measured with the bench and portable configurations. Outer image: rendering under direct lighting. Inset: macro photograph of original sample. Scale shown in upper left. Color images are shown for context and are to similar, but not exact scale.