

# CE7453: Photogrammetric Computer Vision

## Lecture 3

### Radiometry and Photometric stereo

Acknowledgements: Most of the slides in this lecture come from Ping Tan. part of the materials of the all the lecture notes are from Cyrill Stachniss, Marc Pollefe, Wolfgang Foerstner, Bernhard Wrobel, James Hays, A. Dermanis, Armin Gruen, Alper Yilmaz.

# BRDF

BRDF is a four-parameter function that describes the reelecting property of the surface material.

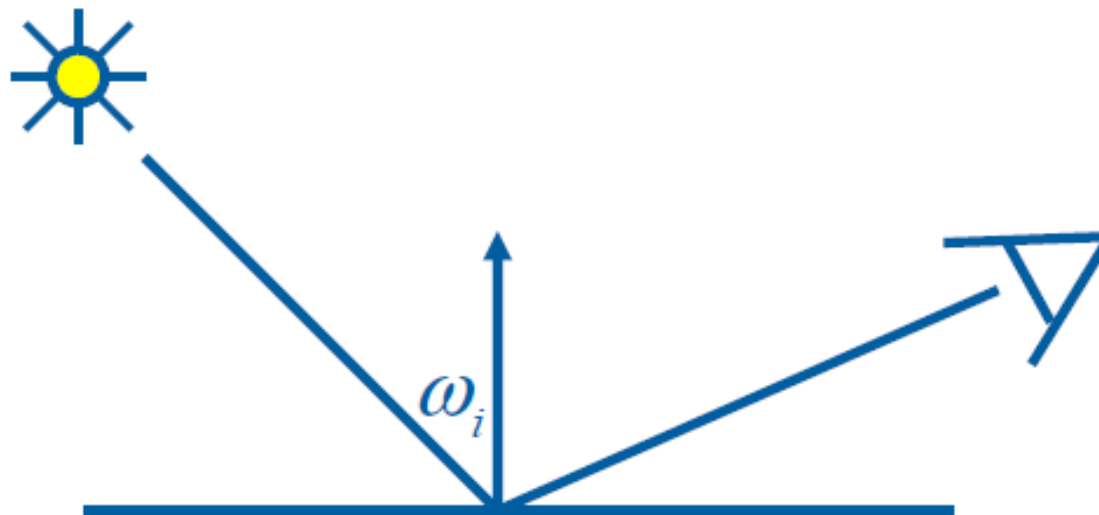
$$BRDF = \rho(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_o, \phi_o) = \frac{L_o(\theta_o, \phi_o)}{E_i(\theta_i, \phi_i)} = \frac{L_o(\theta_o, \phi_o)}{L_i(\theta_i, \phi_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega}$$

Once knowing BRDF, the intensity of the pixel received from the viewing point can be computed:

$$L_o(\theta_o, \phi_o) = \rho(\theta_i, \phi_i, \theta_o, \phi_o) L_i(\theta_i, \phi_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega$$

# Reflection Equation

Single light source



$$L_o(\theta_o, \varphi_o) = \rho_{bd}(\theta_o, \varphi_o, \theta_i, \varphi_i) L_i(\theta_i, \varphi_i) \cos \theta_i$$

Reflected Radiance  
(Output Image)

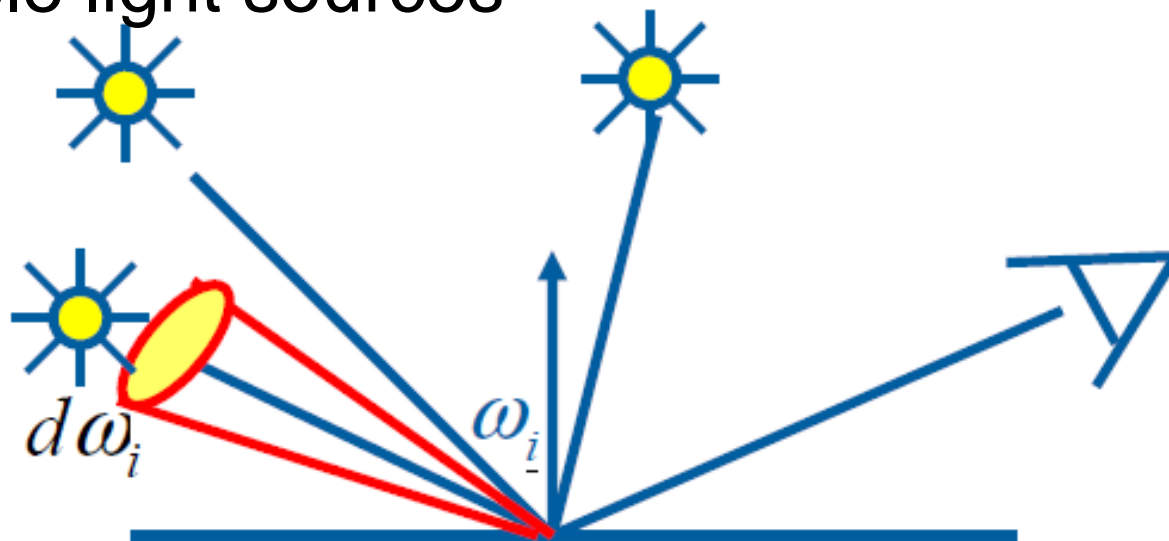
BRDF

Incident  
radiance  
(from  
light source)

Cosine of  
Incident angle

# Reflection Equation - Cont.

## Multiple light sources



Replace sum with integral

$$L_o(\theta_o, \varphi_o) = \int_{\Omega} \rho_{bd}(\theta_o, \varphi_o, \theta_i, \varphi_i) L_i(\theta_i, \varphi_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i$$

Reflected Radiance  
(Output Image)

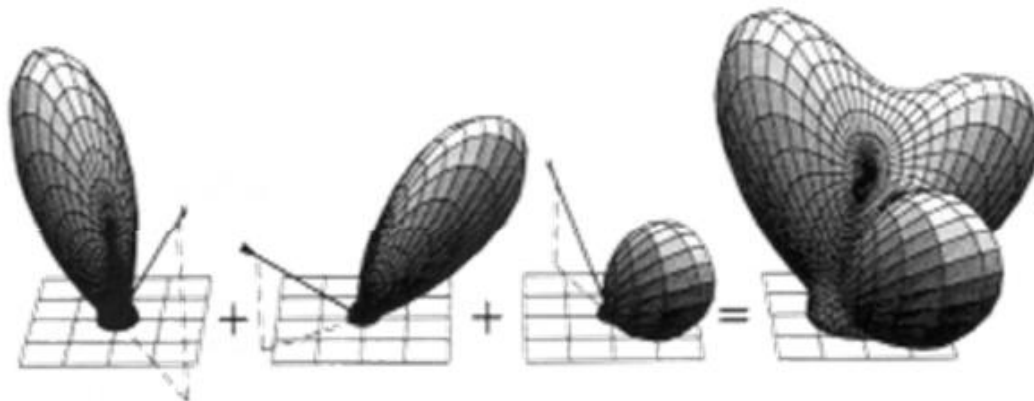
BRDF

Incident  
radiance  
(from  
light source)

Cosine of  
Incident angle

# Properties of BRDF

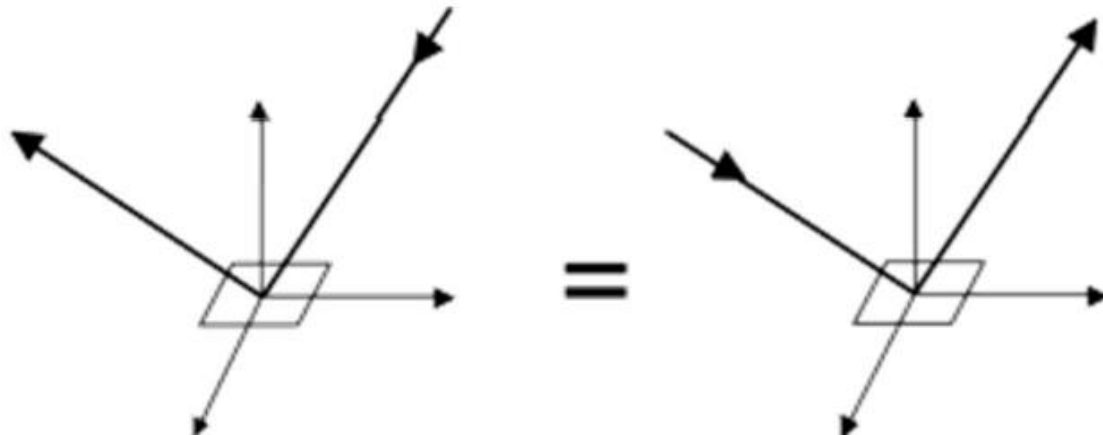
## 1. Linearity



From Sillion, Arvo, Westin, Greenberg

## 2. Reciprocity principle

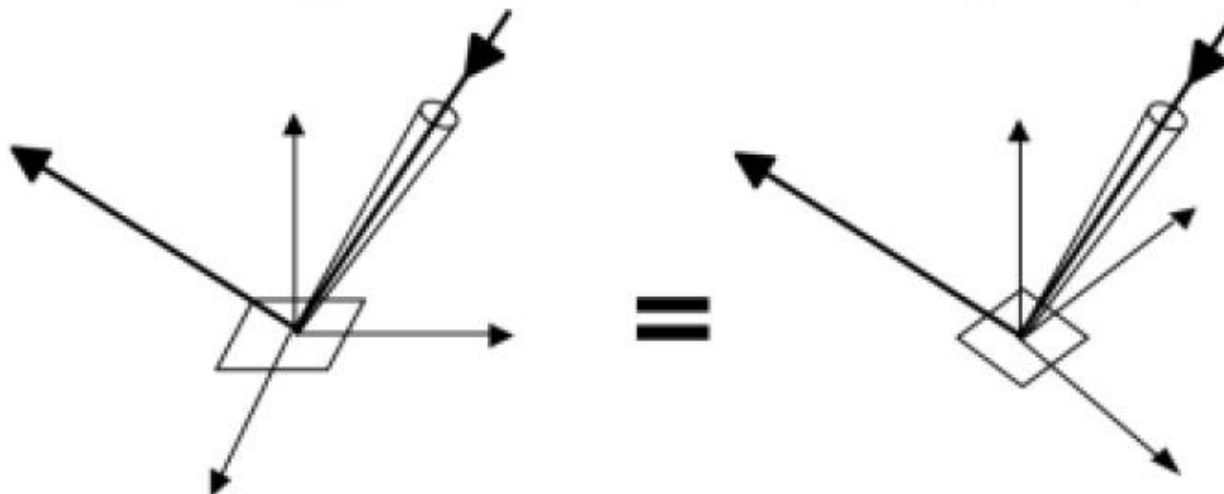
$$\rho(w_o \rightarrow w_i) = \rho(w_i \rightarrow w_o)$$



# Properties of BRDF - Cont.

## 3. Isotropic vs. anisotropic

$$\rho(\theta_o, \varphi_o, \theta_i, \varphi_i) = \rho(\theta_o, \theta_i, \varphi_o - \varphi_i)$$



## Reciprocity *and* isotropy

$$\rho(\theta_o, \theta_i, \varphi_o - \varphi_i) = \rho(\theta_o, \theta_i, \varphi_i - \varphi_o) = \rho(\theta_o, \theta_i, |\varphi_i - \varphi_o|)$$

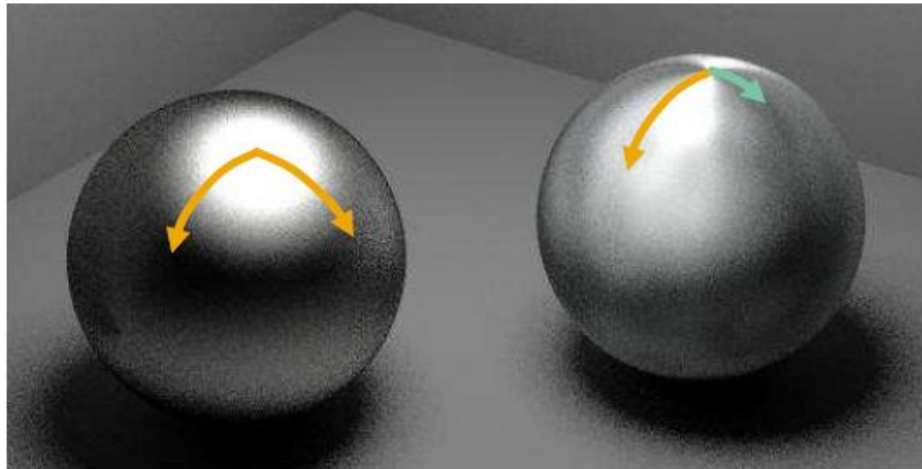
## 4. Energy conservation

# Isotropic vs Anisotropic

- Isotropic: Most materials (you can rotate light and view as a fixed pair about normal without changing reflections)
- Anisotropic: brushed metal etc. preferred tangential direction

ISOTROPIC

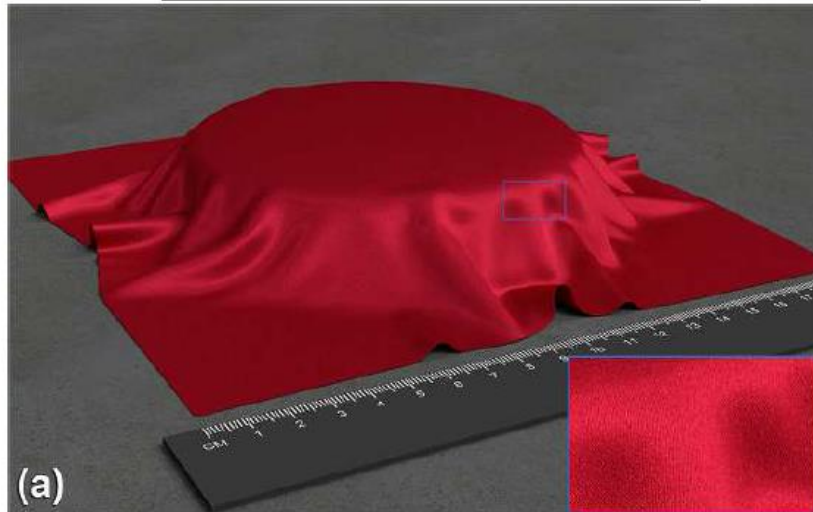
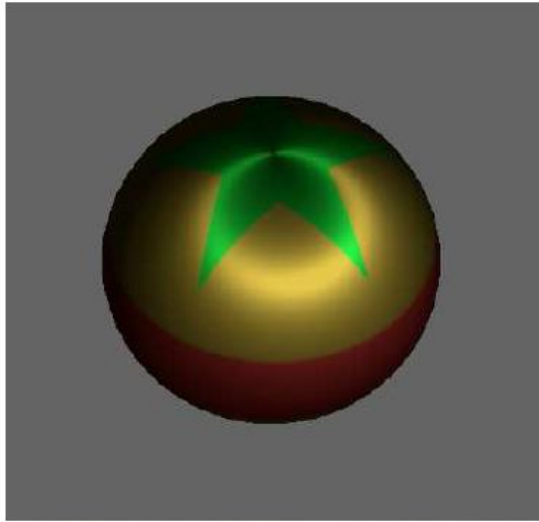
ANISOTROPIC



[Westin et al. 92]



# Examples of anisotropic material



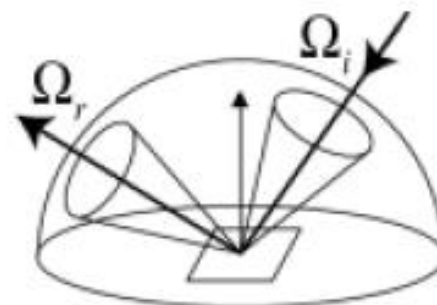


# BRDF – Cont.

## Energy Conservation

- For any incident lighting  $L_i(\omega)$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\Phi_r}{d\Phi_i} &= \frac{\int_{\Omega_r} L_r(\omega_r) \cos \theta_r d\omega_r}{\int_{\Omega_i} L_i(\omega_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i} \\ &= \frac{\int_{\Omega_r} \int_{\Omega_i} f_r(\omega_i \rightarrow \omega_r) L_i(\omega_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i \cos \theta_r d\omega_r}{\int_{\Omega_i} L_i(\omega_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i} \\ &\leq 1\end{aligned}$$



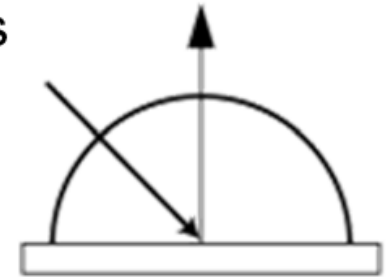
# Typical types of Reflectance

## Diffuse reflection:

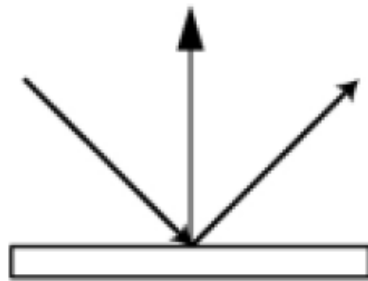
- The surface look the same from all directions (many vision algorithms depend on this!)
- Matte surfaces

## Specular reflection:

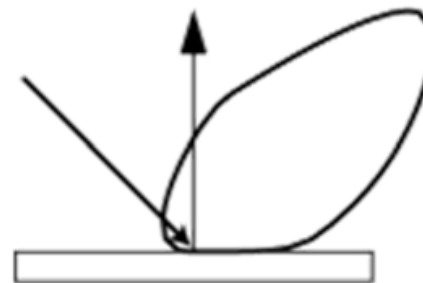
- The surface look different from different directions (causes troubles to many vision algorithms)
- Shiny surfaces



**ideal diffuse reflection**  
(e.g. walls)



**ideal specular reflection**  
(e.g. mirror)



**specular reflection (e.g. plastic, metal, porcelain)**

# Diffuse vs. Specular Reflection

Most of the real surfaces have both components



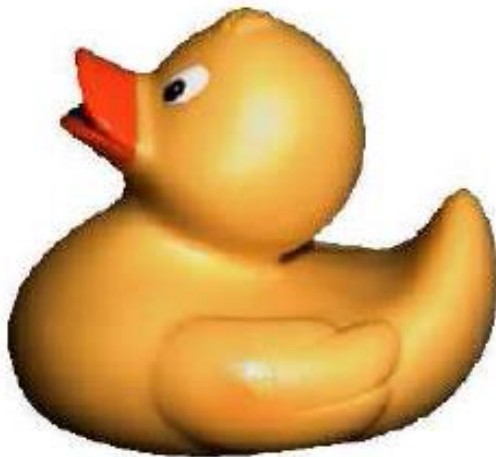
**diffuse component**



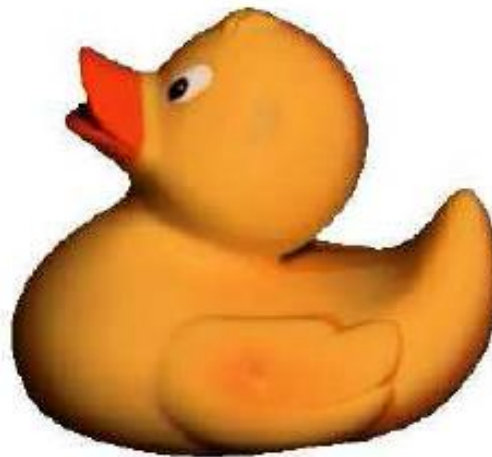
**diffuse + specular**

# Diffuse vs. Specular Reflection – Cont.

- Diffuse reflection:
  - has the same color as the object surface
  - is unpolarized
- Specular reflection:
  - has the same color as the light source
  - has the same polarization as the light source



the original image

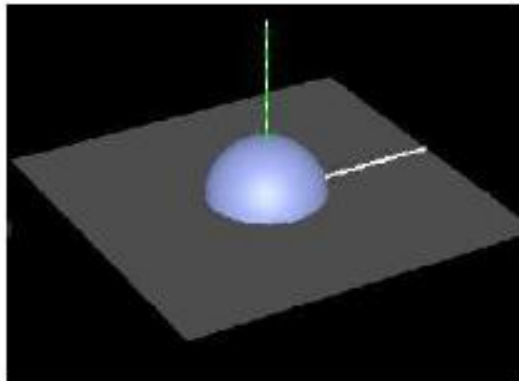


diffuse reflection

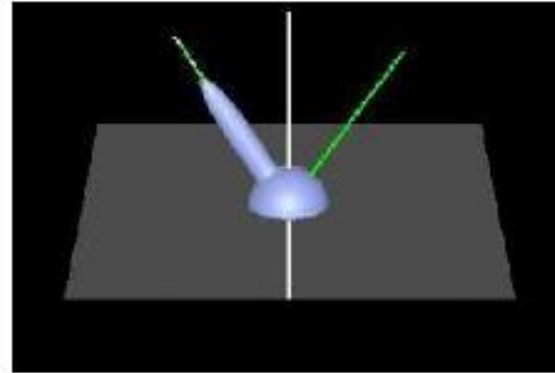


specular reflection

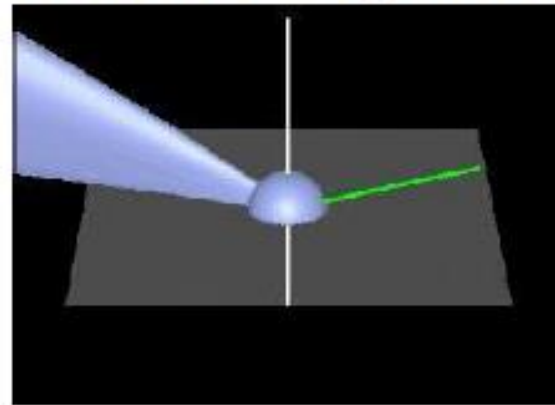
# Common BRDF Models



Lambert's Model



Torrance-Sparrow



# Lambertian Model

Empirical mathematic model for diffuse reflection

- Assume the BRDF is a constant
$$\rho(\theta_o, \varphi_o, \theta_i, \varphi_i) = \rho$$

- Observed Pixel intensity should be

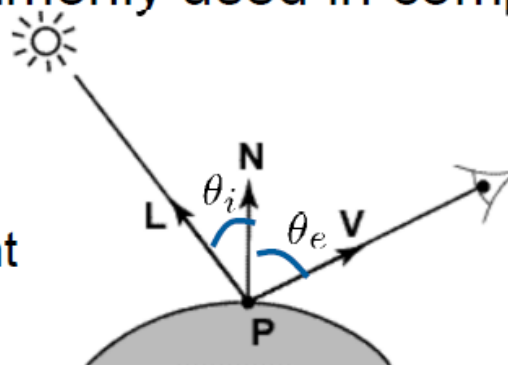
$$L_o = L_i \rho \cos \theta_i = L_i \rho (\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L})$$

Features of this model:

- Named after Johann H. Lambert
- A pixel's brightness does not depend on viewing direction
- Brightness **does** depend on direction of illumination
- This is the model most commonly used in computer vision

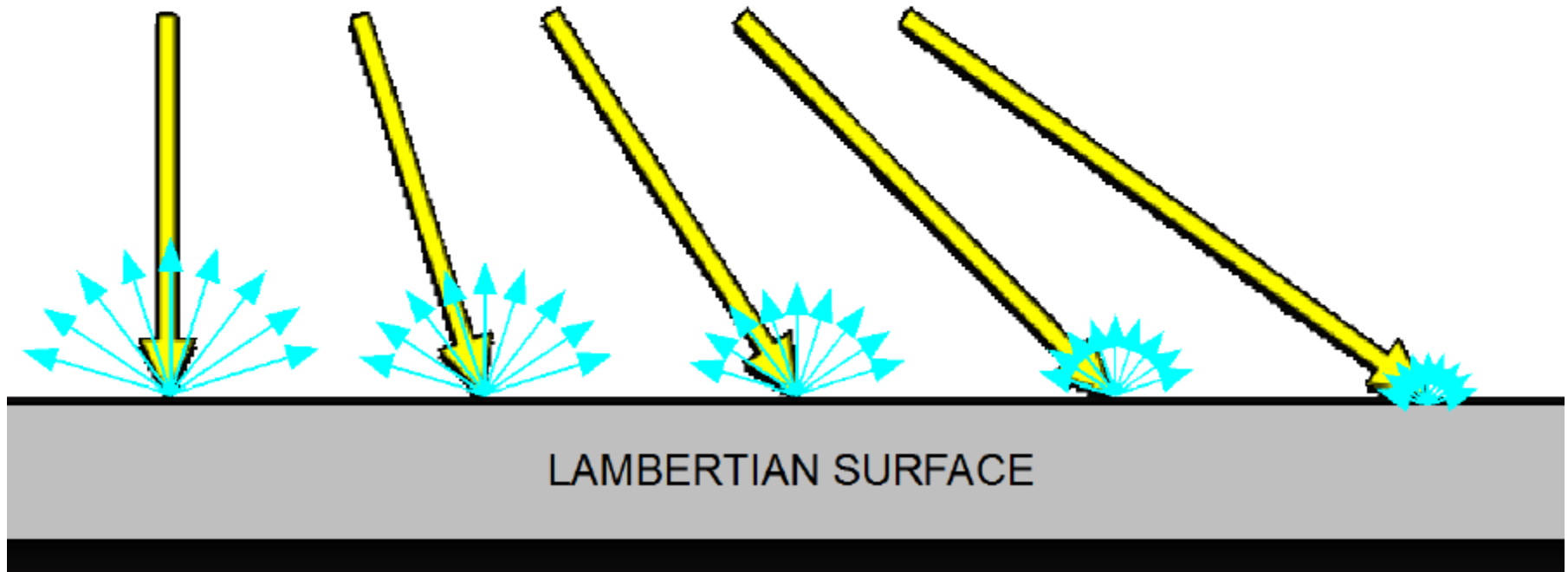
$\mathbf{N}, \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{V}$  are unit vectors

$L_i, L_o$  are intensity of incoming and outgoing light



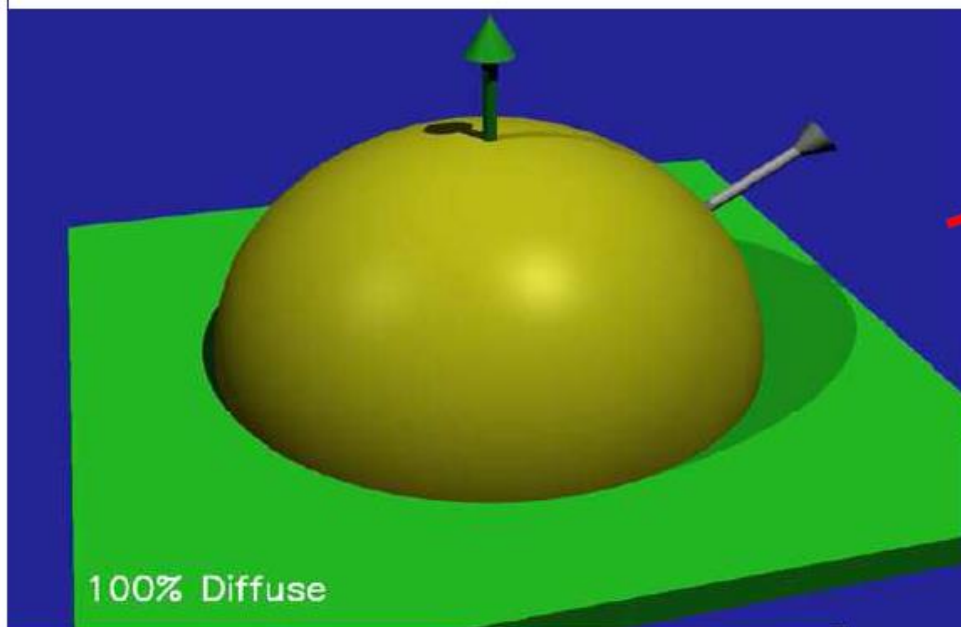
# Lambertian Model

## Lambert's Cosine Law





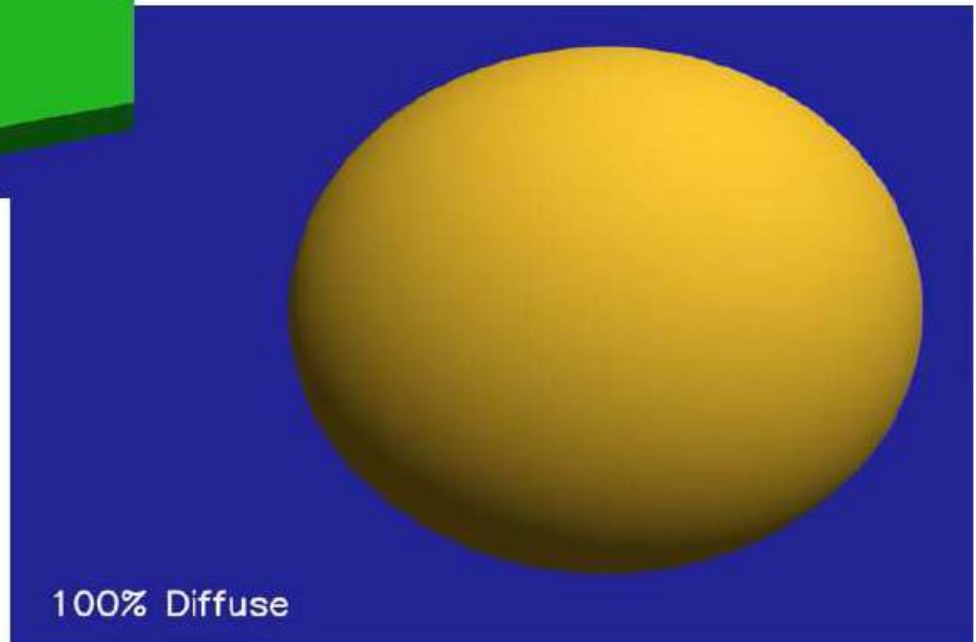
# Lambertian Model



3D plot of reflected intensity

plot a BRDF  
as a function  
of  $(\theta_o, \phi_o)$  for  
a fixed  $(\theta_i, \phi_i)$

Appearance of a  
diffuse (dull) sphere

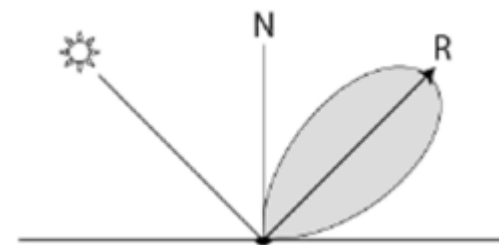


# Phong Model

- Apparently we need models for shiny surfaces – specular reflection. Phong model gives the mathematical formulation of the specular reflection.
  - Assuming light is concentrated on the “mirrored direction”
  - Intensity of light falls off by cosine law
  - Observed pixel intensity should be:

$$L_r = L_i (\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{R})^n$$

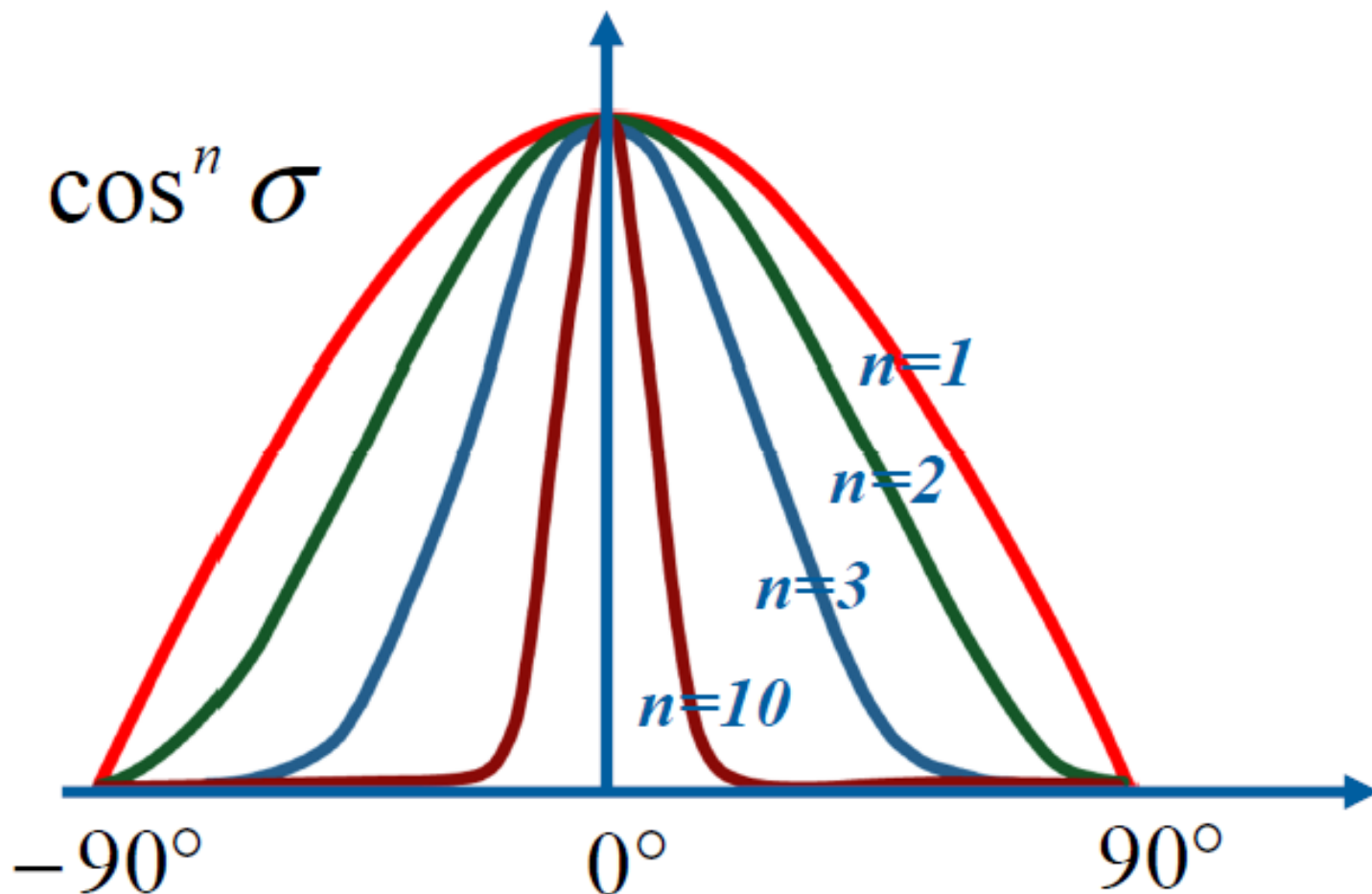
$$\mathbf{R} = 2(\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L})\mathbf{N} - \mathbf{L}$$



Named after Bui Tuong Phong

# Phong Model – Cont.

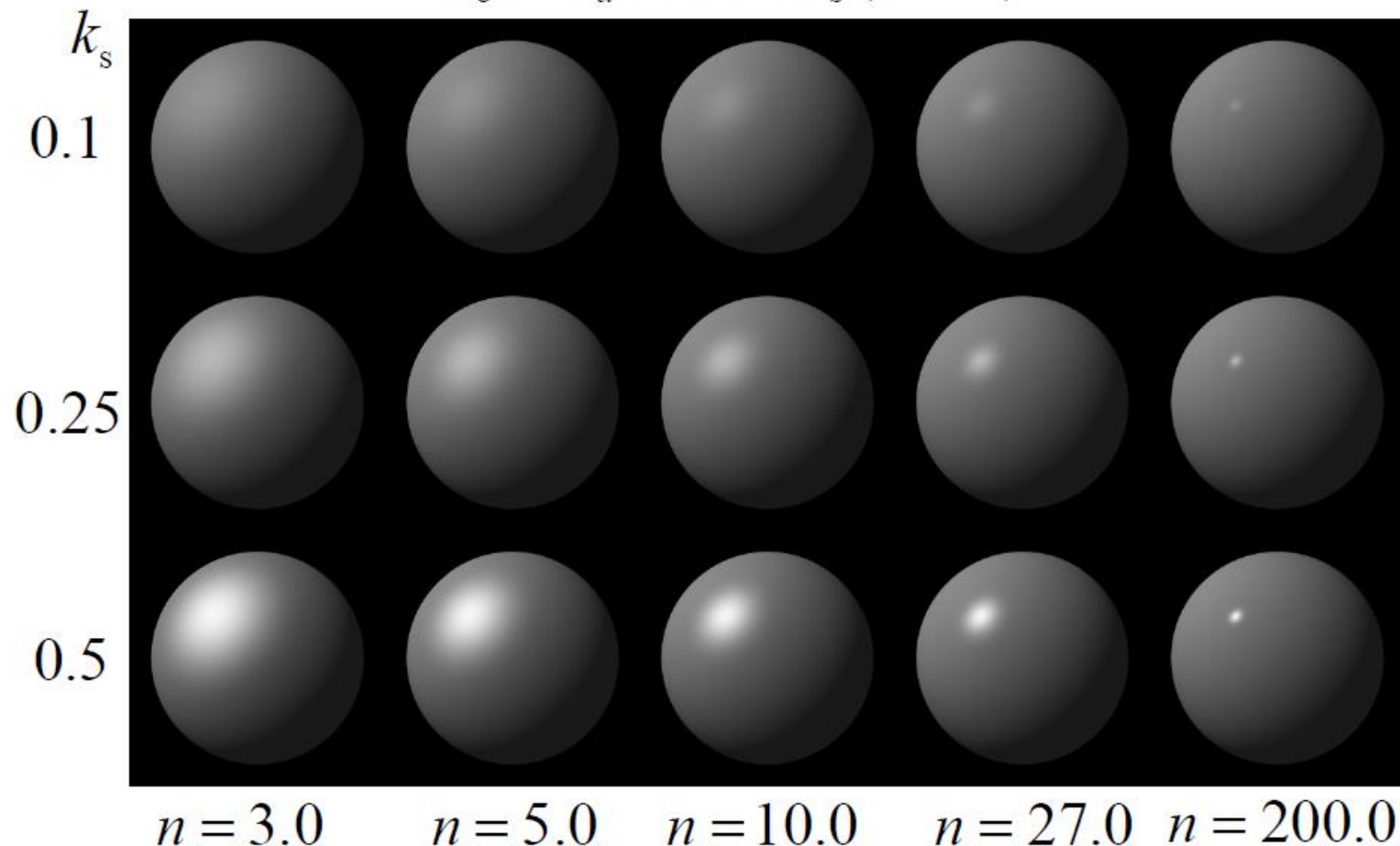
Shininess  $n$  controls the size of the highlight spot



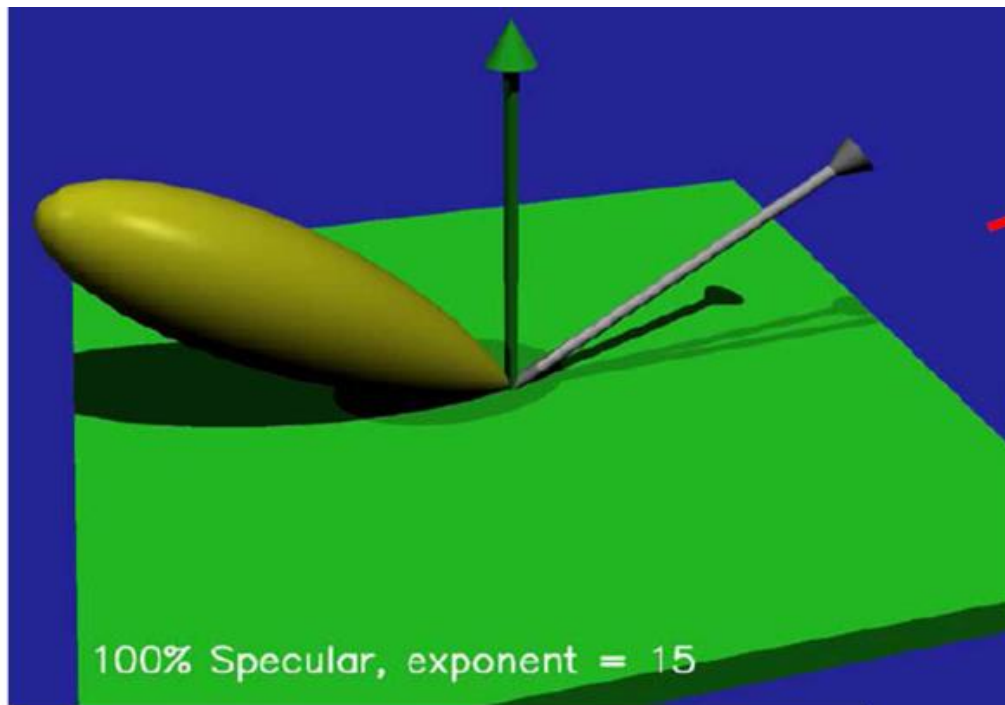
# Phong Model – Cont.

Linear combination of Lambert's model and Phong Model

$$L_o = k_d \mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L} + k_s (\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{R})^n$$



# Phong Model – Cont.



3D plot of reflected intensity

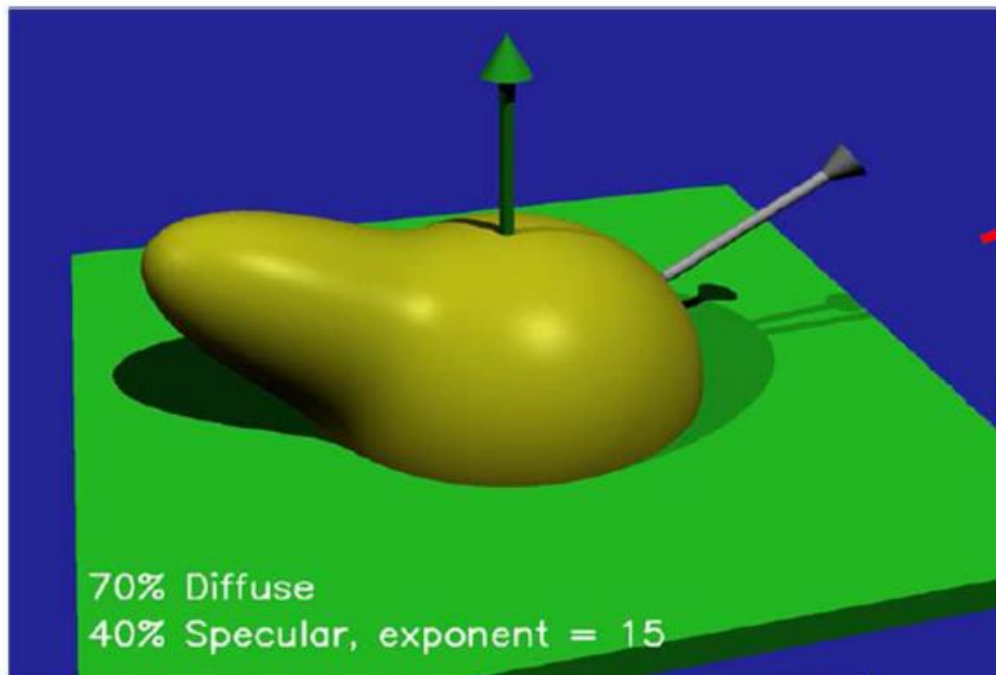
$$n = 15$$

plot a BRDF  
as a function  
of  $(\theta_o, \phi_o)$  for  
a fixed  $(\theta_i, \phi_i)$

Appearance of a  
specular sphere

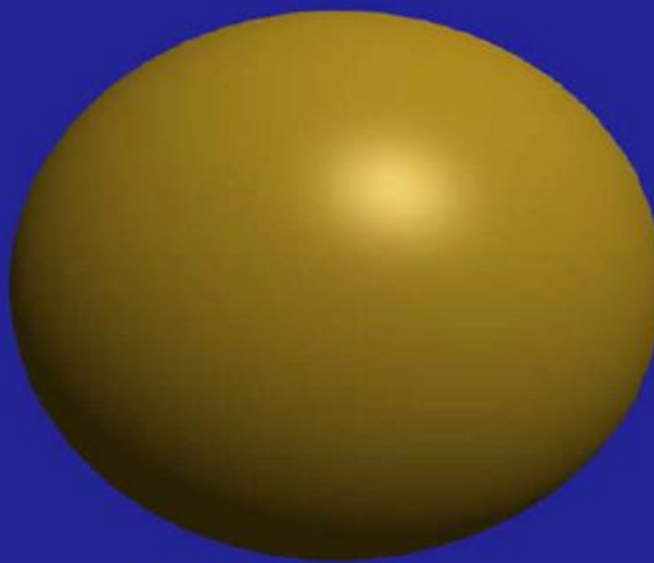
100% Specular, exponent = 15

# Phong Model – Cont.



plot a BRDF  
as a function  
of  $(\theta_o, \phi_o)$  for  
a fixed  $(\theta_i, \phi_i)$

$$\begin{aligned}k_d &= 0.7 \\k_s &= 0.4 \\n &= 15\end{aligned}$$



70% Diffuse  
40% Specular, exponent = 15

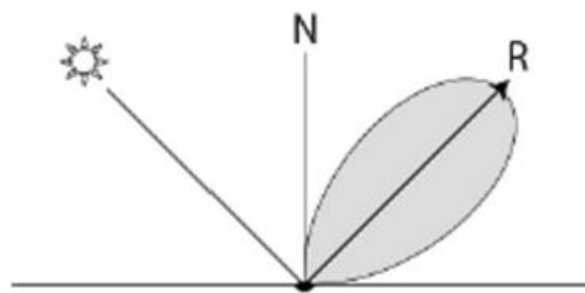
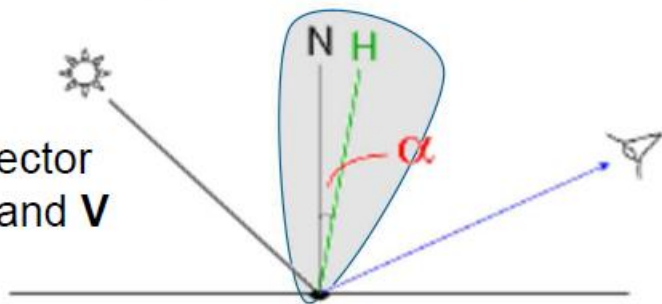
# Blinn-Phong Model

Formulation similar to Phong model, observed intensity falls off by cosine law

$$L_r = L_i (\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{H})^{n_s}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = (\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{V}) / 2$$

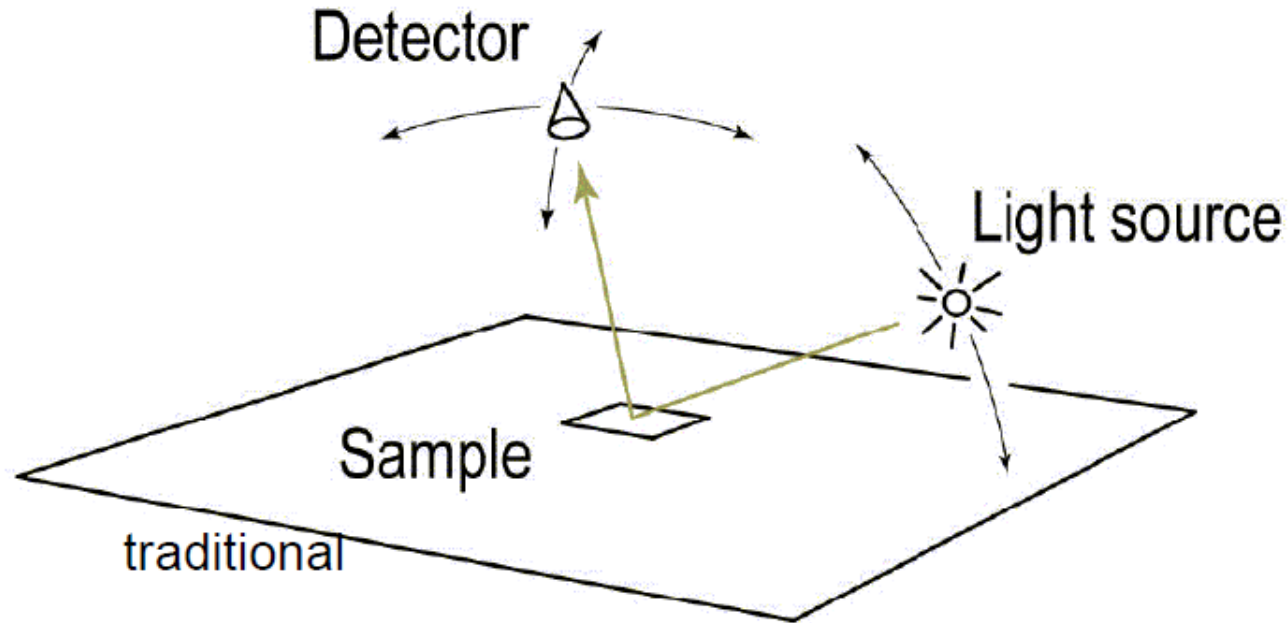
$\mathbf{H}$  is the bisector  
between  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$



The computation of  $\mathbf{H}$  is faster than  $\mathbf{R}$



# Measuring BRDF



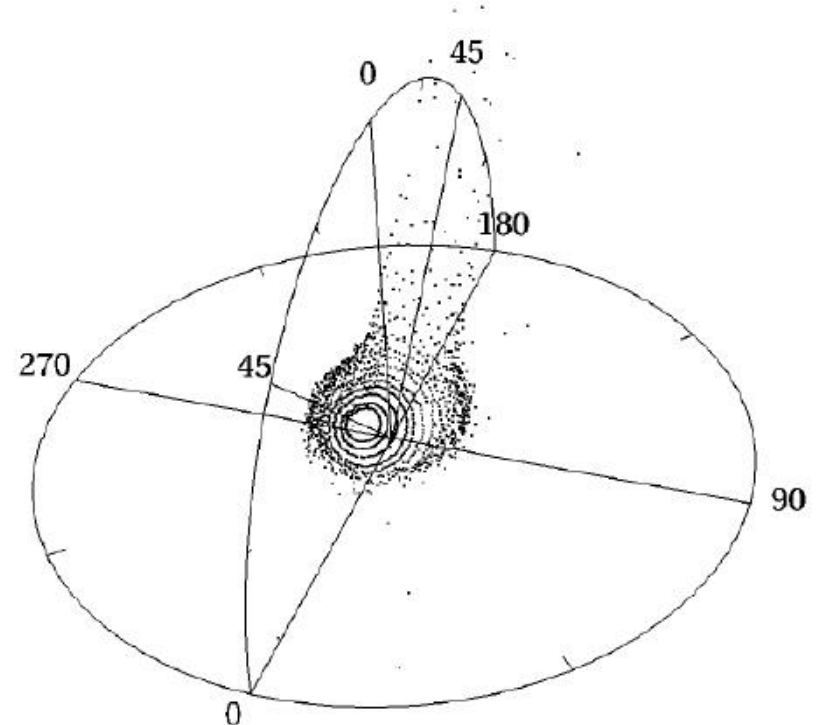
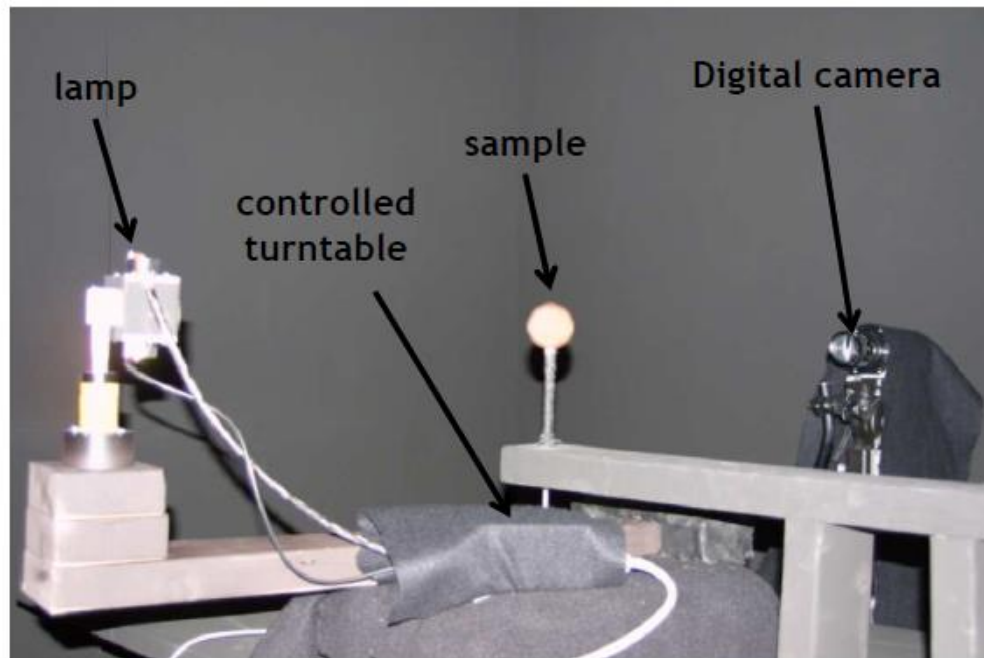
- Capture the BRDF by moving a camera + light source
- Need careful control of illumination, environment

# Representation of Measured Data

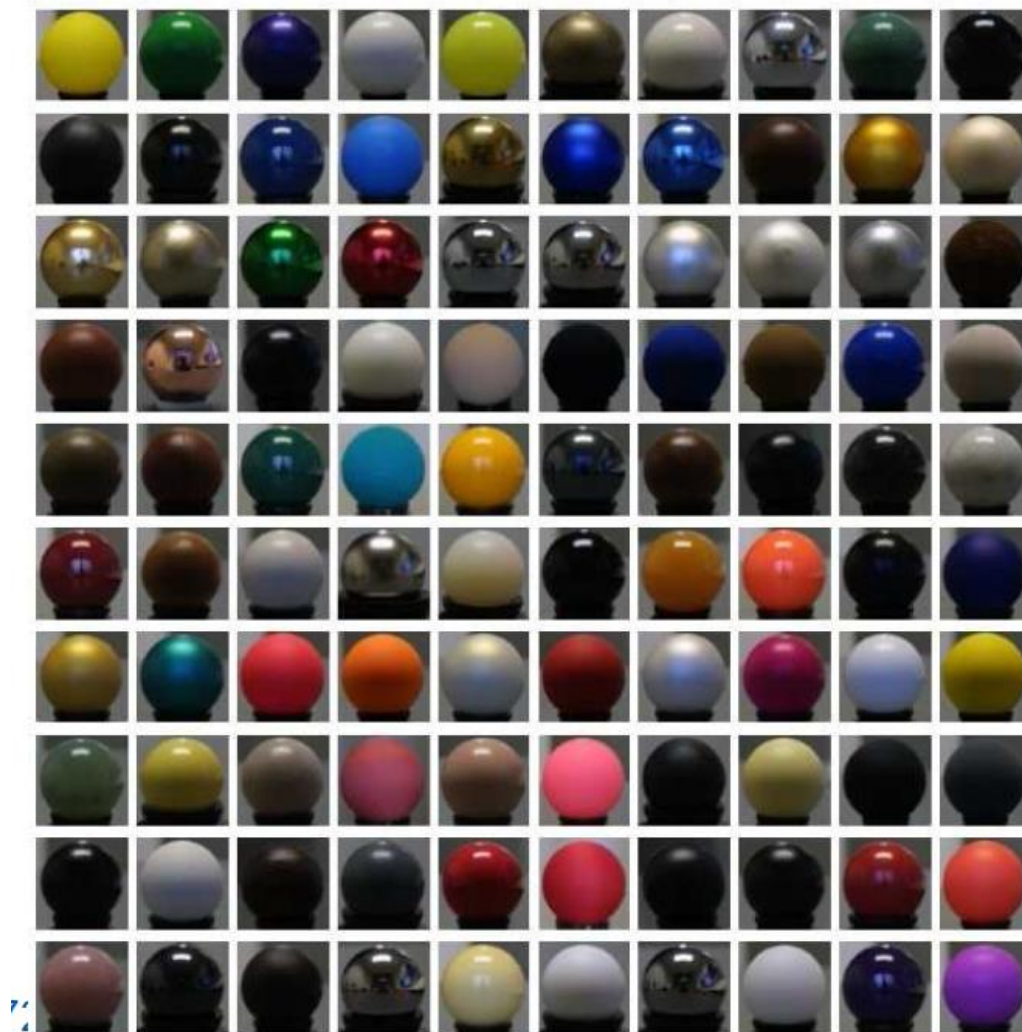
- Measure-then-fit analytic models
  - Fitting can reduce noise but also is limited by the model
  - Non-obvious error metric for fitting – often biased to specular which has large values
  - Difficult optimization – nonlinear; depends on initial guess
- Tabulated BRDF
  - 4D table
  - Not editable

# Acquisition

- A spherically homogeneous sample of the material can make the acquisition simpler



# Acquisition – Cont.



130 materials  
were scanned;  
100 of them  
shown here

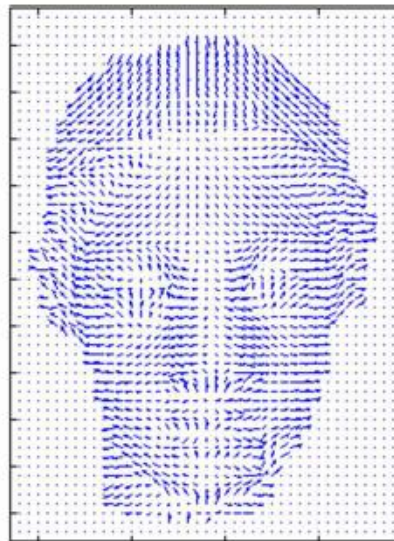
MERL BRDF  
database, freely  
available online

# Photometric stereo

- Input: Images with
  - Fixed view & changing lighting
- Goal:
  - Recover surface (normal map)



→  
Photometric  
stereo

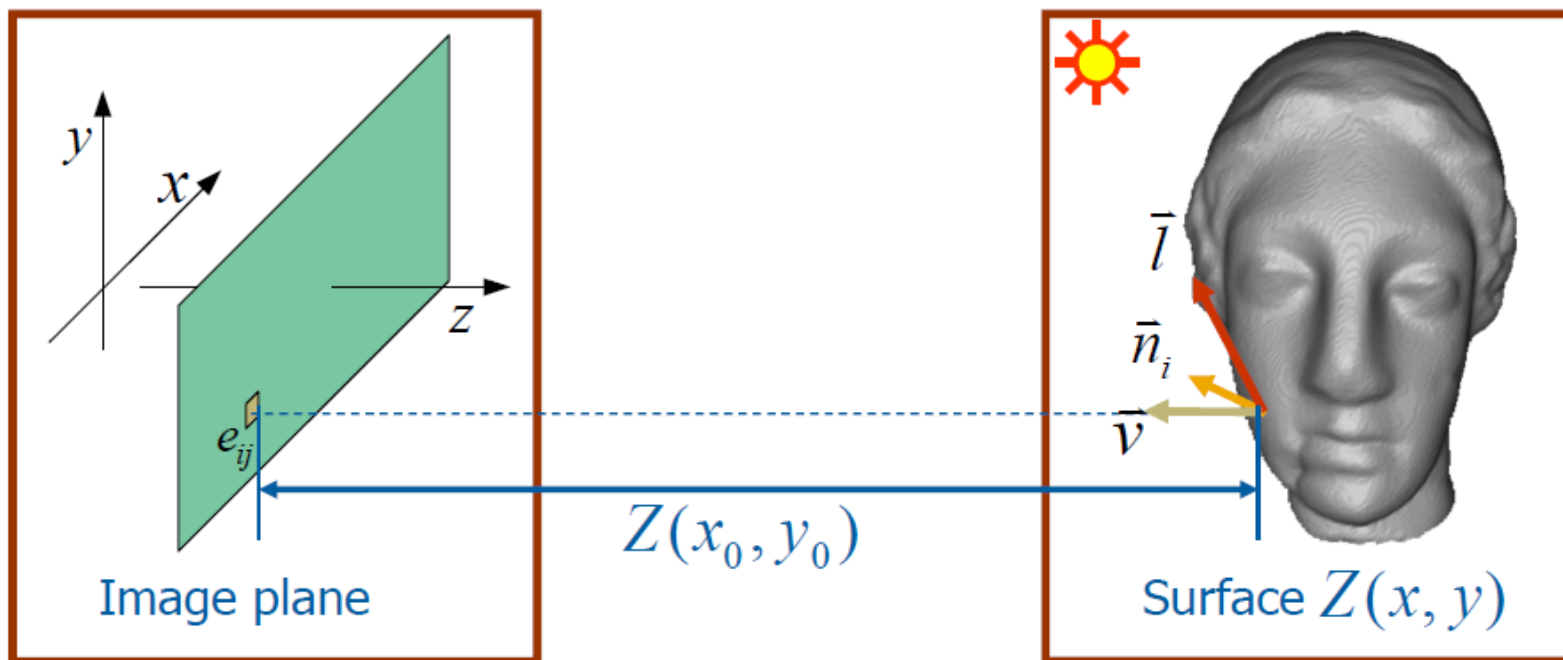


→  
Integration



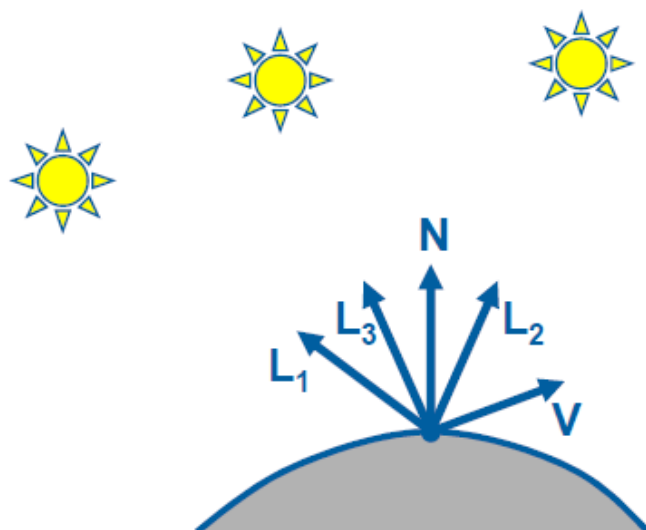


# Assumptions



- Lambert's reflectance model
- Camera centered coordinate system
- Orthographic camera ( $\vec{v}$  is the same for all pixels)
- Directional illumination ( $\vec{l}$  is the same for all pixels)

# Mathematic Formulation



$$I_1 = k_d \mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L}_1$$

$$I_2 = k_d \mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L}_2$$

$$I_3 = k_d \mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L}_3$$



Can write this as a matrix equation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix} = k_d \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L}_1^T \\ \mathbf{L}_2^T \\ \mathbf{L}_3^T \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{N}$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{I} \quad k_d = \|\mathbf{G}\| \quad \mathbf{N} = \frac{1}{k_d} \mathbf{G}$$



# Record the lighting directions

- Trick: place a shiny sphere in the scene

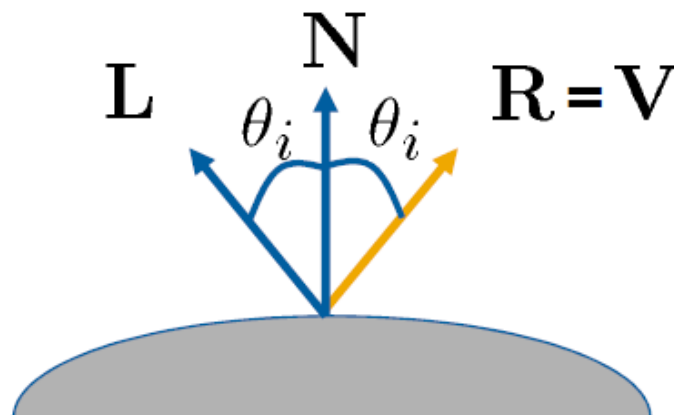


- the location of the highlight tells what light direction is

# Recall Specular reflection

- For a perfect mirror, light is reflected about  $\mathbf{N}$

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



- Highlight can be seen at a pixel where  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{R}$ 
  - then  $\mathbf{L}$  can be computed with normal  $\mathbf{N}$  at that pixel
$$\mathbf{L} = 2(\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{R})\mathbf{N} - \mathbf{R}$$
- How to get normal direction  $\mathbf{N}$ ?
  - normal of each point on a sphere can be determined

# Dealing with Shadows

- This formulation does not consider shadows

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

- Pixel in shadows have zero intensity  $I = 0$
- A precise formulation is nonlinear:

$$I = \max(0, k\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L})$$

- A simple trick is:

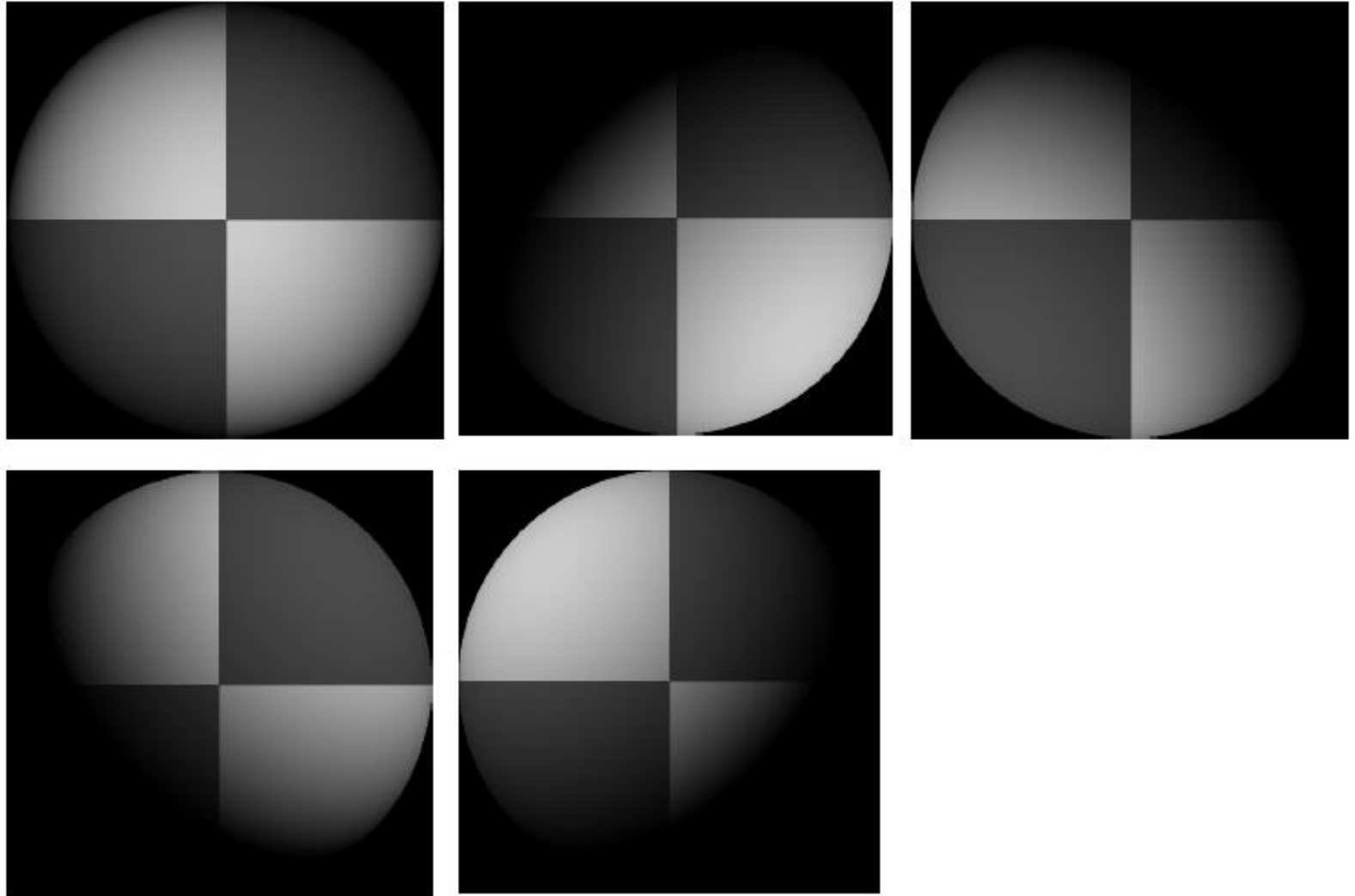
$$I^2 = k\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L} \quad \begin{bmatrix} I_1^2 \\ \vdots \\ I_n^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \mathbf{L}_1 \\ \vdots \\ I_n \mathbf{L}_n \end{bmatrix} k_d \mathbf{N}$$

- Essentially, each equation is given a weight
- Larger weights are given to brighter pixels
- Shadowed pixels are given weight of 0

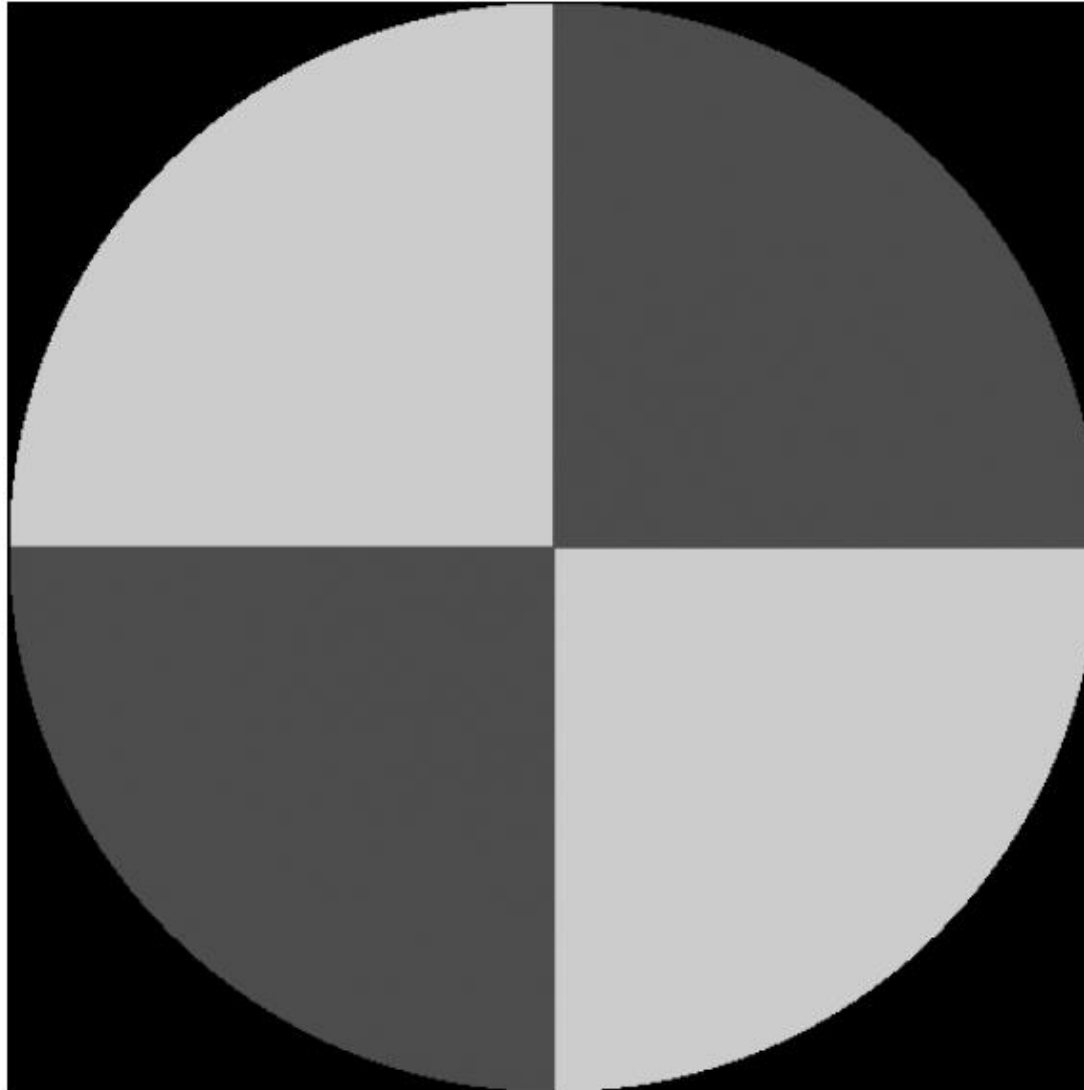
# Dealing with Shadows – Cont.

- Take lots of pictures and discard pixels that are too dark (10% of the darkest pixels)
- Similarly we can discard pixels that are too bright (specular reflections)

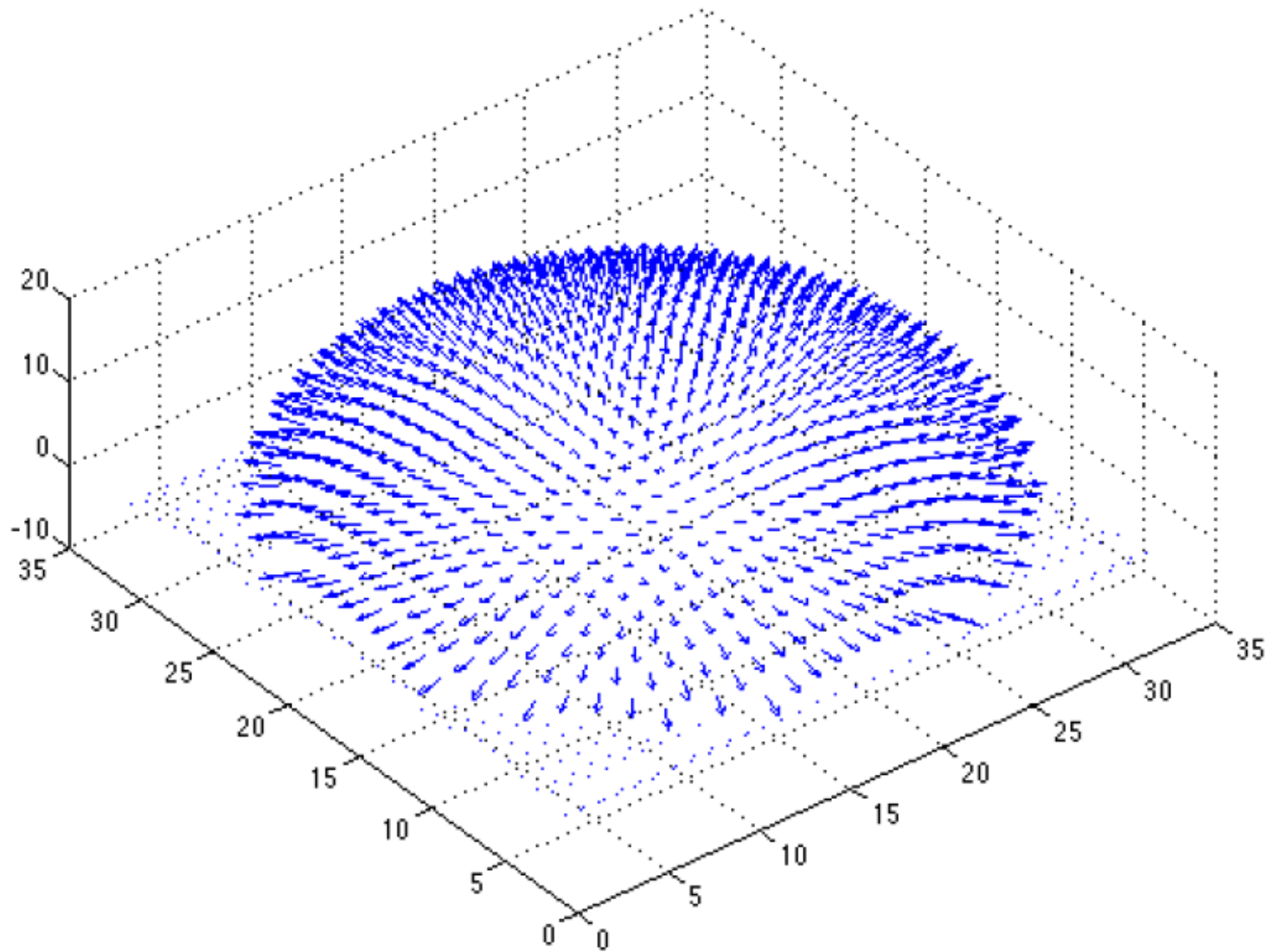
# Example Figures



# Recovered reflectance ( $K_d$ )



# Recovered normal field





# Depth from Normals (Method I)

- Recall the surface is written as

$$(x, y, f(x, y))$$

- This means the normal has the form:

$$N(x, y) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{f_x^2 + f_y^2 + 1}} \right) \begin{pmatrix} -f_x \\ -f_y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- If we write the known normal  $\mathbf{n}$  as

$$\mathbf{n}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} n_1(x, y) \\ n_2(x, y) \\ n_3(x, y) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Then we obtain values for the partial derivatives of the surface:

$$f_x(x, y) = n_1(x, y) / n_3(x, y)$$

$$f_y(x, y) = n_2(x, y) / n_3(x, y)$$

# Depth from Normals I – Cont.

- We can now recover the surface height at any point by integration along some path, e.g.

$$f(x, y) = \int_0^x f_x(s, y) ds + \int_0^y f_y(x, t) dt + c$$

- Recall that mixed second partials are equal --- this gives us a **check**. We must have:

$$\frac{\partial f_x(s, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial f_y(s, y)}{\partial x}$$

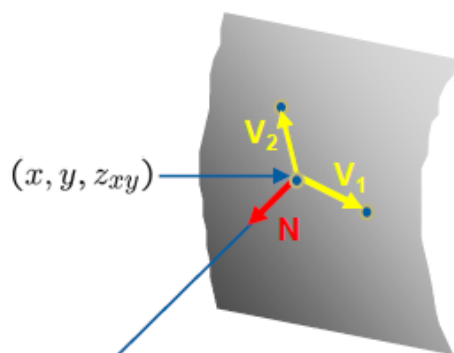
(or they should be similar, at least)

- Due to imaging and estimation noise, this almost never happens.
- This method never works on real data



# Depth from Normals (Method II)

The tangent vector  $\mathbf{V}_1$  is perpendicular to  $\mathbf{N}$

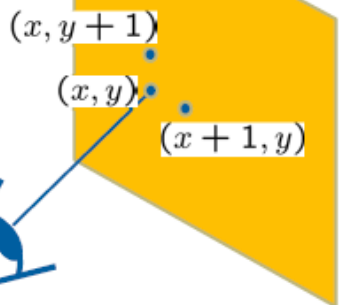


$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V}_1 &= (x+1, y, z_{x+1,y}) - (x, y, z_{xy}) \\ &= (1, 0, z_{x+1,y} - z_{xy}) \end{aligned}$$

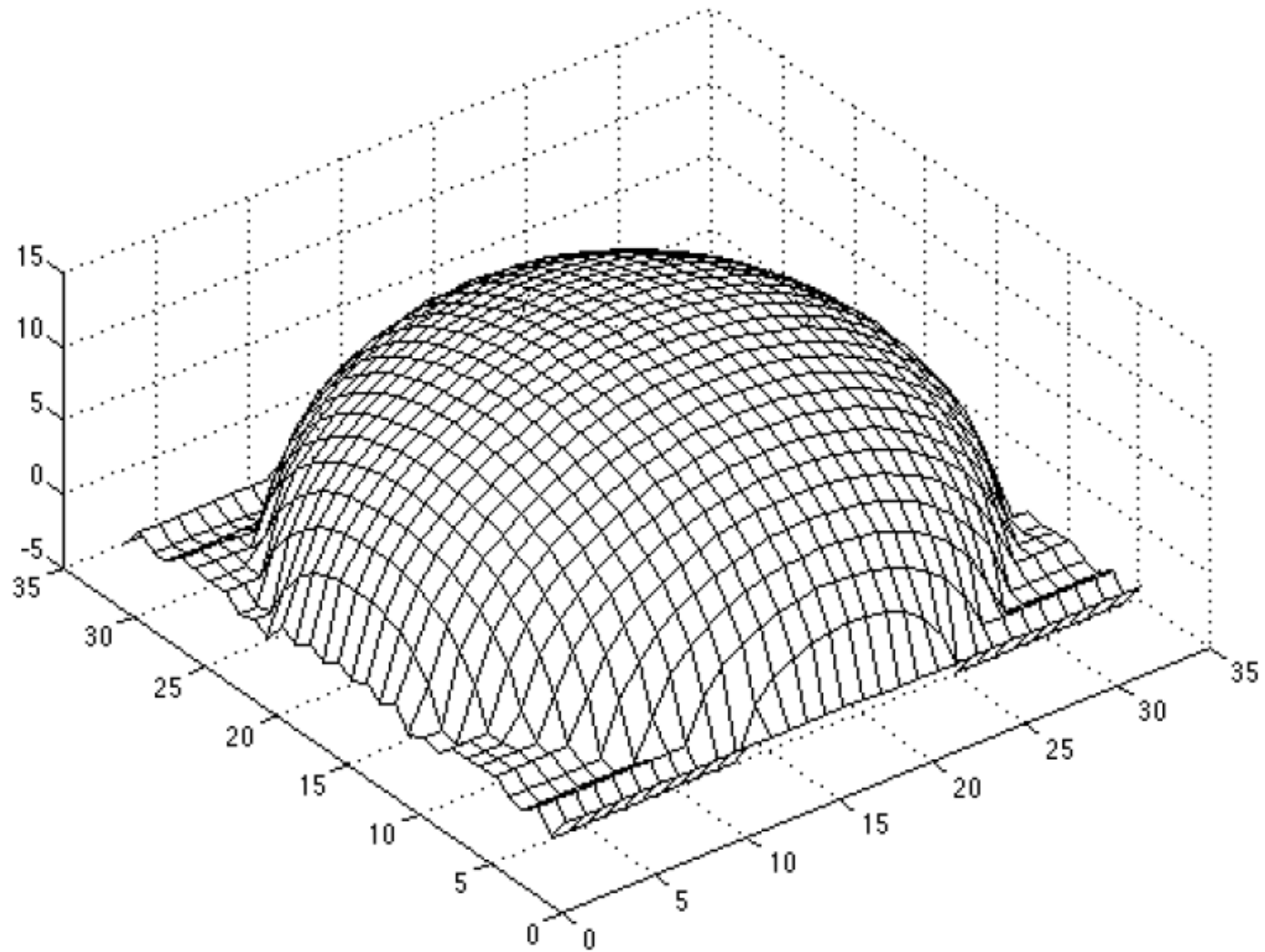
$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{V}_1 \\ &= (n_x, n_y, n_z) \cdot (1, 0, z_{x+1,y} - z_{xy}) \\ &= n_x + n_z(z_{x+1,y} - z_{xy}) \end{aligned}$$

Get a similar equation for  $\mathbf{V}_2$

- Each normal gives us two linear constraints on  $z$
- compute  $z$  values by solving a matrix equation



# Surface Recovered



# Limitations for Lambertian Photometric Stereo

- Cannot handle shiny, semi-translucent objects.
- Shadows, multiple reflections
- Camera and lights have to be distant
- Light Calibration requirements
  - measure light source detections, intensities
  - Camera response function.

# Example-based Photometric Stereo



Aaron Hertzmann  
University of Toronto

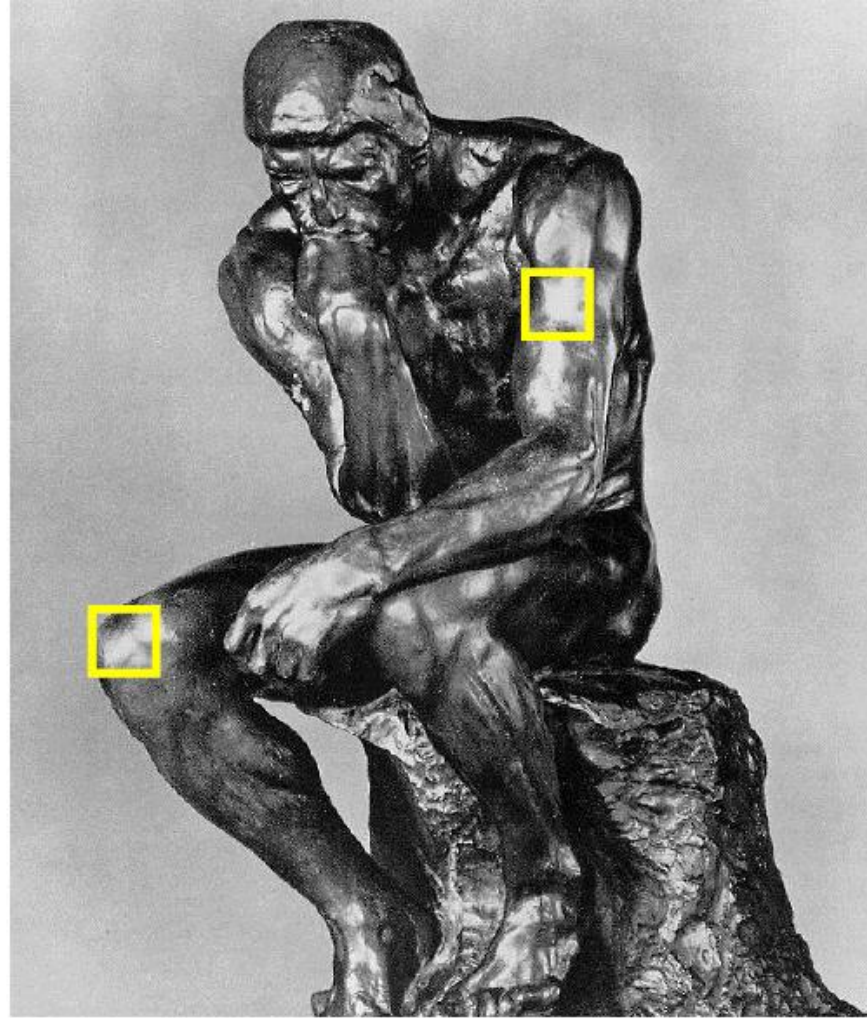


Steven M. Seitz  
University of Washington



# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.

## Shinny Areas

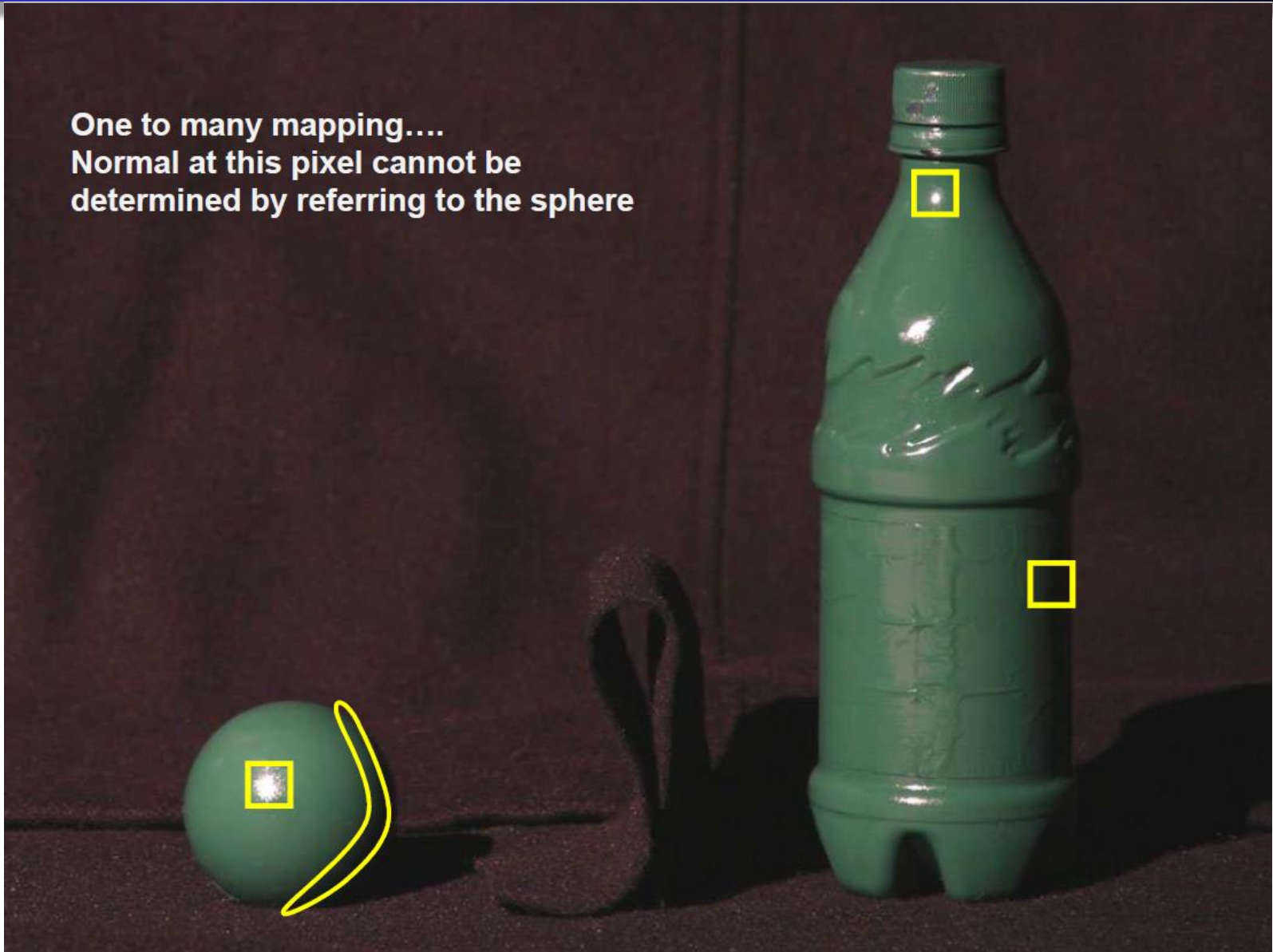


**“Orientation consistency”: points of similar orientation have similar intensity**



# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.

One to many mapping....  
Normal at this pixel cannot be  
determined by referring to the sphere



# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.

Let's get multiple images....



# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.



# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.

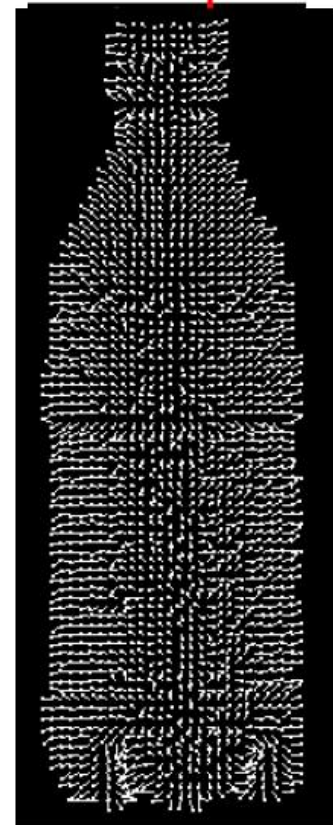
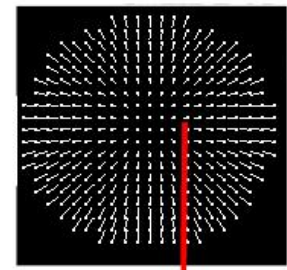
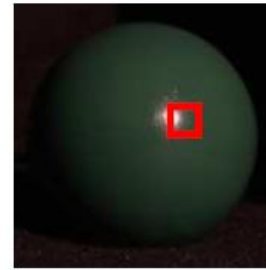




# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.



# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.

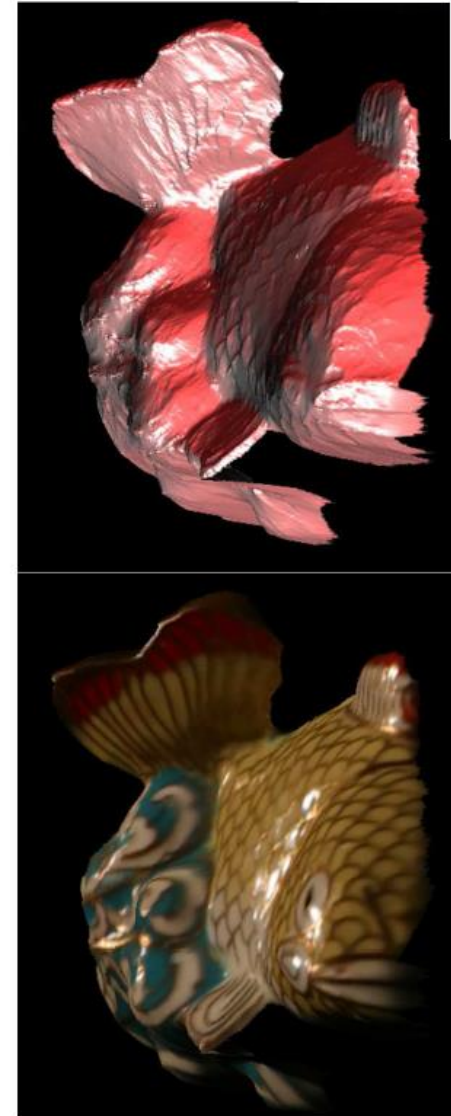
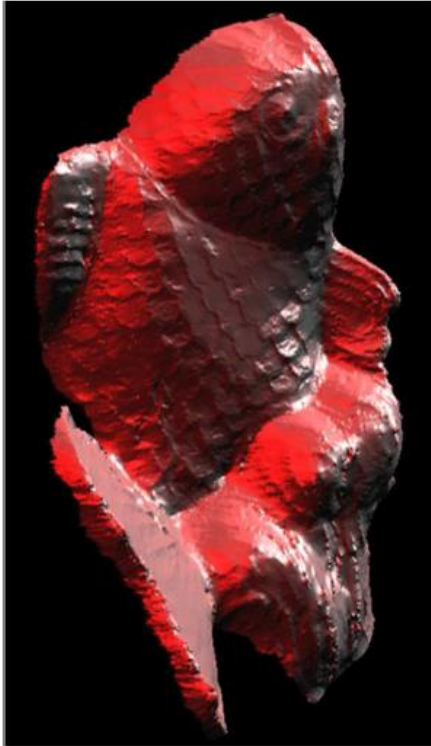


# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.

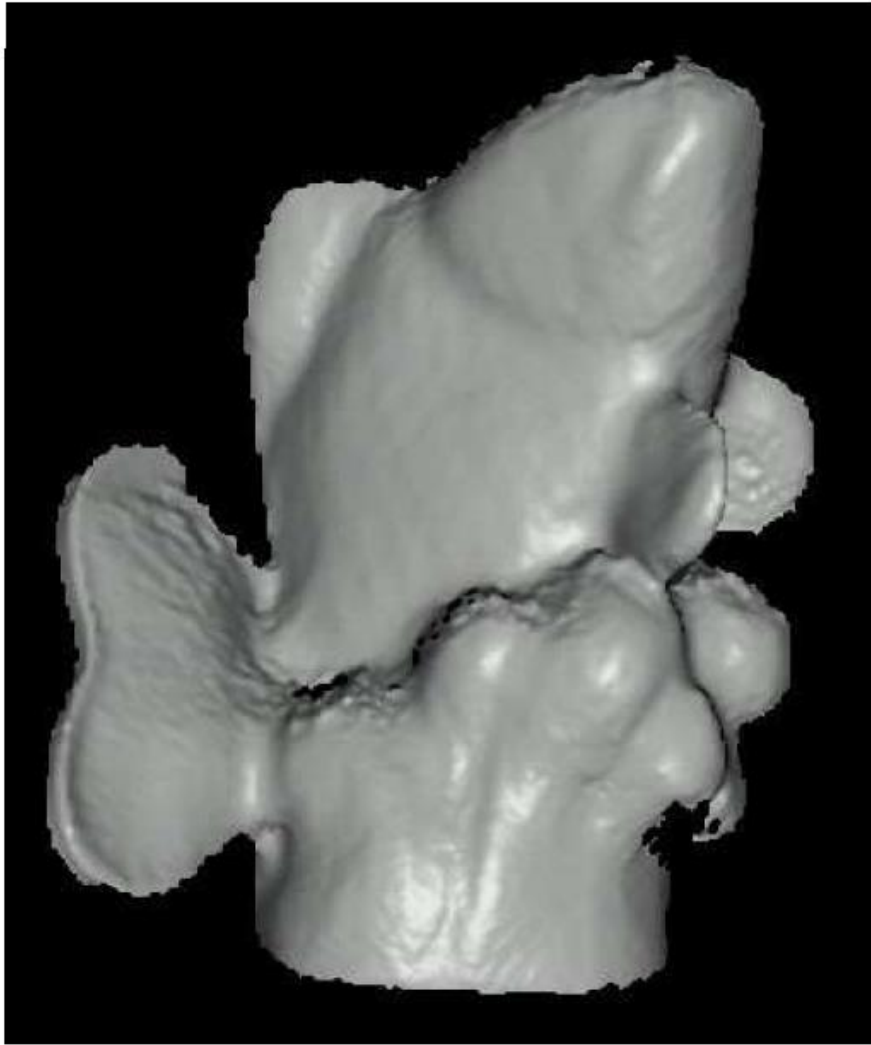




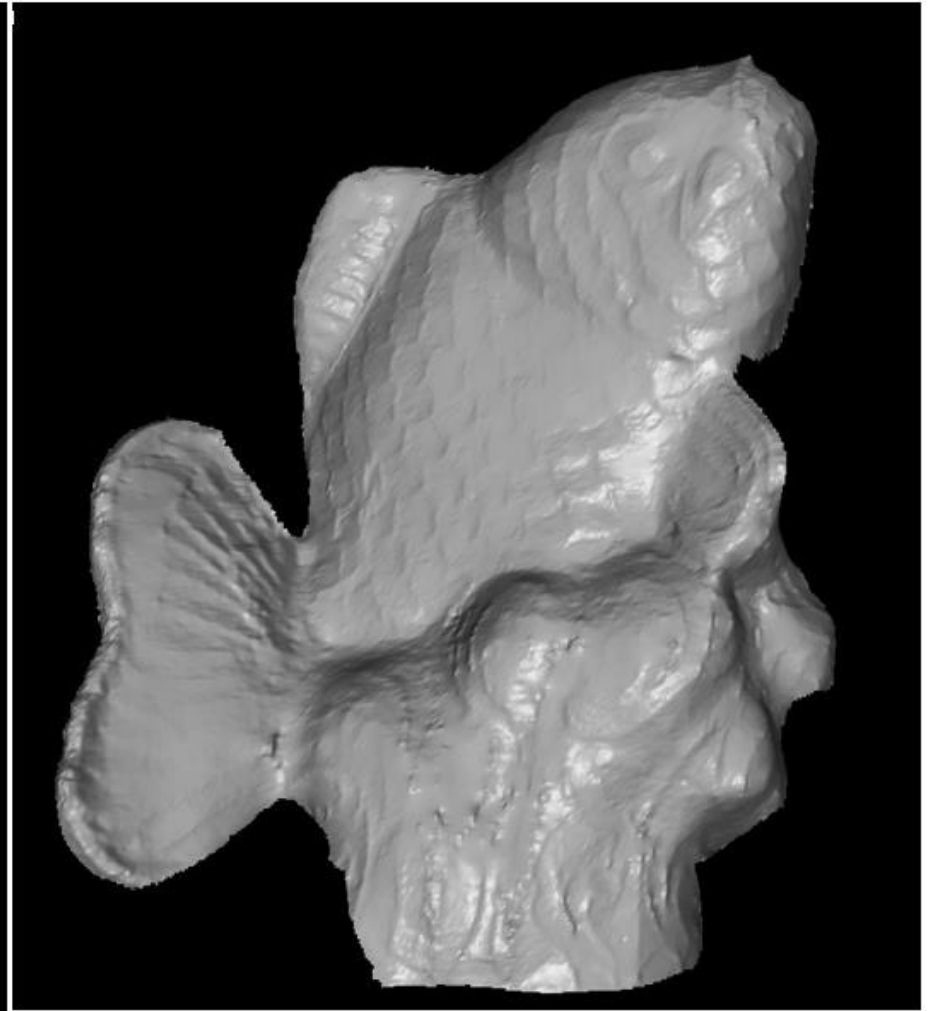
# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.



# Example-based Photometric Stereo – Cont.



**laser scan**



**photometric stereo**

# Next Class - Features

Questions?