

Ray Tracing

2021年8月3日 20:09

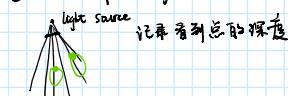
§ 0 Shadows

— how to draw shadows using rasterization.

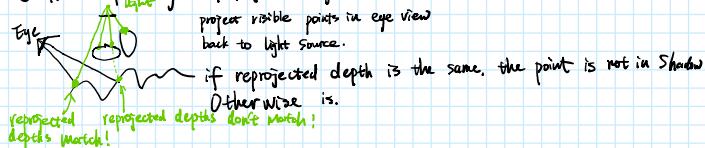
→ Shadow Mapping

Key idea:
the points NOT in shadow must be seen by the light and by the camera.

① Render from Light:



② Render from Eye & Project to light



只适合单光源或多光源，P. 能够 hard shadows

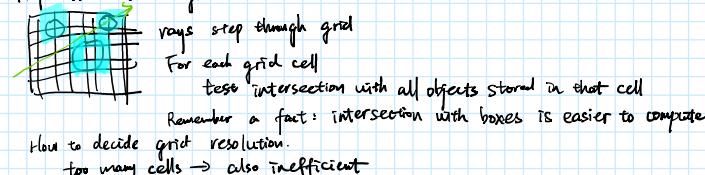
- Hard shadows
- Quality depends on shadow map resolution.
- Involves comparison of floating point depth.

Soft shadow: 光源有一定大小。

§ 1 Whitted Style Ray Tracing-

1. Grid

Preprocess - build grid



How to decide grid resolution.

too many cells → also inefficient

Heuristic

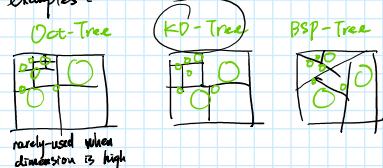
$$\# \text{ cells} = C \times \# \text{ objs}$$
$$C \approx 2^7 \text{ in 3D}$$

grids work well on large collection of objects
it works bad when objects are loosely distributed in a large area.

2. Spatial Partitions

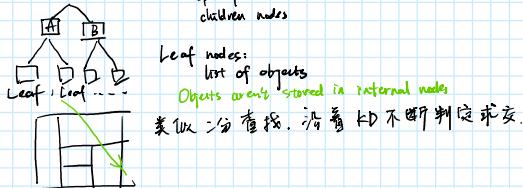
improve efficiency on grids.

examples:



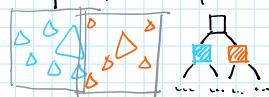
KD-Tree preprocessing

Data structure:
Internal nodes:
split axis: x, y, or z
split position:
children nodes



KD-Tree problem: hard to decide whether triangles have intersection with boxes
some objects may appear in multiple boxes, low efficiency

3. Object Partition & Bounding Volume Hierarchy (BVH)



at least 1 object can only appear in one box
(Bounding boxes can interfere with each other)

How to subdivide a node:

- ① choose longest axis in node
- ② Split node at location of median object

§ Radiometry

Measurement for illumination.

Accurately measure spatial properties of light
→ Radiant flux, intensity, irradiance, radiance

Measurement for illumination.

Accurately measure spatial properties of light
 → Radiant flux, intensity, irradiance, radiance

1. Radiant Energy and Flux (Power)

Energy: E

$$\text{Flux: } \Phi = \frac{dE}{dt} \quad (\text{lm, lumen})$$

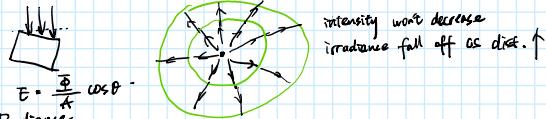
2. Radiant Intensity = power per unit solid angle.

$$I(w) = \frac{d\Phi(w)}{dw} \quad (\frac{\text{lm}}{\text{sr}} = \text{cd} = \text{candela})$$

3. Irradiance

power per unit area.

$$E(x) = \frac{d\Phi(x)}{dA} \quad (\frac{\text{lm}}{\text{m}^2} = \text{lx})$$



4. Radiance

distribution of light

radiance is associated with a ray
rendering is all about computing radiance

light traveling along a ray
power per unit solid angle per projected area

$$dA \xrightarrow{w} \frac{d\Phi}{dw}$$

$$L(p,w) = \frac{d^2\Phi(p,w)}{dw dA \cos\theta}$$

$$[\frac{\text{cd}}{\text{m}^2} = \frac{\text{lm}}{\text{sr} \cdot \text{m}^2} = \text{vcd}]$$

5. Incident Radiance

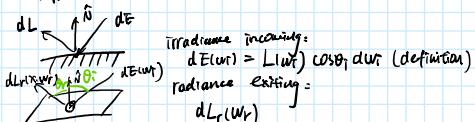
$$dA \xrightarrow{w} L(p,w) = \frac{dE(p)}{dw \cos\theta} \quad \text{radiance per unit solid angle arriving at the surface.}$$

Exiting Radiance

$$L(p,w) = \frac{dI(p,w)}{dA \cos\theta}$$

6. BRDF

Reflection at a Point



$$\text{BRDF: } f_r(w_i \rightarrow w_r) = \frac{dL_r(w_r)}{dE_i(w_i)} = \frac{dL_r(w_r)}{L(w_i) \cos\theta_i dw_i} [\frac{1}{\text{sr}}]$$

⇒ Reflection Equation:

$$L_r(p,w_r) = \int_{H^2} f_r(p, w_i \rightarrow w_r) L_i(p, w_i) \cos\theta_i dw_i$$

Note that $L_i(p, w_i)$ can be some kind of reflected radiance from other points
 ⇒ Recursive.

7. Rendering Equation:

$$L_o(p,w_o) = L_e(p,w_o) + \int_Q [f_r(p, w_i \rightarrow w_o) L_i(p, w_i) \cos\theta_i dw_i] \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{自发光} \\ \text{反射光} \end{array}$$

8. Linear Operator Equation

$$L = E + K_L \quad \text{用算符表示}$$

$$L(w) = e(w) + \int_{C(w)} K(w, v) f(v) dv \quad \boxed{\text{kernel of equation}}$$

$$\Rightarrow L = (I + K + K^2 + \dots) E$$

$$L = E + KE + K^2E + K^3E + \dots$$

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

direct direct One bounce Two bounces
 来源 直接 反射 散射
 灯光 照明 在表面上

9. Probability

$$X \sim p(x)$$

$$Y = f(x)$$

$$E[Y] = E[f(x)] = \int f(x) p(x) dx$$

§ Monte Carlo and Path Integration

1. Monte Carlo Integration: Solve integration problem

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx$$

Random Variable $X \sim p(x)$
 estimator = $F_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(x_i)}{p(x_i)}$

... the result of $\frac{1}{N} \sum f(x_i)$ is the best?

Random Variable $X_i \sim p(x)$
 estimator = $F_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(x_i)}{p(x_i)}$

what kind of $p(x)$ is the best?

2. Path tracing

a simple Monte Carlo Solution

shade(p, w_i)

Randomly choose N directions $w_i \sim p(w)$

$L_o = 0.0$

For each w_i

Trace a ray $r(p, w_i)$

If ray r hit the light

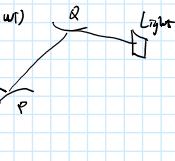
$$L_o += (1/N) * L_r * f_r * \cos \theta / \text{pdf}(w_i)$$

Else if ray r hit an object g

$$L_o += (1/N) * \text{shade}(g, -w_i) * f_r * \cos \theta / \text{pdf}(w_i)$$

recursing:

Return L_o



Problem 1: too many rays!

rays = $N \cdot \# \text{ bounces}$

→ sample times in Monte-Carlo

Solution: $N=1$ how to solve the noisy problem?

Path Tracing

3. Ray Generation

ray_generation(camPos, pixel) =

Uniformly choose N sample positions within the pixel

pixel_radiance = 0.0

For each sample:

shoot a ray $r(\text{camPos}, \text{cam_to_sample})$

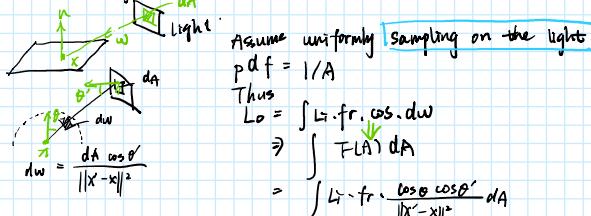
If ray hit the scene at P

$$\text{pixel_radiance} += \frac{1}{N} * \text{shade}(P, \text{sample_to_cam})$$

Return pixel_radiance

4. Sampling the Light

when light is small, it's hard to reach the light (for rays)



Assume uniformly Sampling on the light

$$\text{pdf} = 1/A$$

Thus

$$L_o = \int L_r \cdot f_r \cdot \cos \theta \cdot d\omega$$

$$\Rightarrow \int T(A) dA$$

$$= \int L_r \cdot f_r \cdot \frac{\cos \theta \cos \theta'}{|x - x'|^2} dA$$

Thus, Radiance has 2 parts

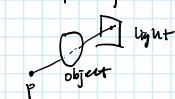
① light source (direct, sample on light, no need for RR)

② other reflections

$$L_{-dir} = L_{-i} * f_r * \cos \theta * \cos \theta' / |x - p|^2 / \text{pdf_light}$$

$$= \frac{1}{A} \text{ when sampling uniformly}$$

light is blocked.



5. What's next?

- Photon mapping

- Metropolis light transport

- VCM / UBP

b. How to sample any function $f(x)$? (Uniformly distribute on the hemisphere)

What's best pdf for Monte Carlo integration

How to generate low discrepancy random numbers?

Pixel reconstruction filter

Is radiance of a pixel the color? (gamma correction, curves, color space)

Cube? Polygon?