Dartmouth CS87/287 Rendering Algorithms, Fall 2025
Reading Assignment 8

Heckbert's Notation for Improved Photon Mapping

Improved photon mapping decomposes the computation of radiance at a non-emissive diffuse surface point x into three components:

- direct illumination,

- caustics,

- remaining indirect illumination.

(a) Describe how each of these components of radiance is estimated.

(b) Express each component using Heckbert's notation. You only need to write down the path from light to x.