



# Game Design & Development

Lighting and Materials in Games  
with Case Study: Halo3

## Outline

- Motivation
- Global illumination(GI) Image
- Rendering Equation
- BRDF and related functions
- Challenges: real time GI for complex materials and complex light source
  - complex materials (dull concrete to shiny metal)
  - Area light source (sky light → expensive integral)
  - Fresnel effect (not captured in Phong model)
- Goal: better light source, GI effect, materials
- Cook-Torrance BRDF model
- Real time strategy: equation factoring into components, using different techniques



## Halo 3

- ④ Tech Info
  - Publisher: Microsoft Game Studios
  - Developer: Bungie Software
  - Genre: Sci-Fi First-Person Shooter
  - Release Date: Sep 25, 2007
- ④ Official Site
  - [www.xbox.com/en-US/games/h/halo3](http://www.xbox.com/en-US/games/h/halo3)
- ④ The first day sale:
  - \$170 million in the U.S. (a new record within 24 hours)
- ④ 14.5 million copies by 2012
- ④ Award:
  - the "Best Real Time Visuals in a Video Game" (The Visual Effects Society)
- ④ Features
  - Global illumination
  - Complex material under complex lighting
  - HDR



## Lighting Examples





## Motivation

- ④ Top priority of game graphics system
  - keeping the players immersed in the virtual environment for long periods of time
- ④ lighting and material:
  - global illumination
  - handle variety of environments
  - consistent lighting everywhere
  - render bump maps “correctly”
  - complex materials under complex lighting
  - HDR



## Concepts and Topics

- ④ Irradiance (light irradiance, surface irradiance)
- ④ Radiance
- ④ Solid angle
- ④ Reflectance equation
- ④ BRDF and its variants (BSSRDF, SVBRDF...)
  - Taxonomy of appearance
  - 2 characteristics of BRDF
  - Fresnel reflectance, Snell's Law, Schlick's approximation
  - BRDF model (acquisition, representation, implementation)
- ④ Halo 3:
  - Cook-Torrance BRDF model
  - Spherical Harmonics



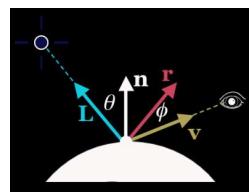
## Global illumination effects

- ④ direct illumination vs. indirect illumination
- ④ Model indirect illumination effects and complex phenomenon
  - reflection
  - refraction
  - color bleeding
  - soft shadows
  - ...
- ④ More complexity
  - Light sources
  - Materials
  - Light transport paths



## Local Illumination

- Phong model is a local illumination model (shaded color depends purely on local surface configuration)
- Other surfaces have no effect
- But in reality surfaces interact a great deal!!



$$I = I_L k_d \cos\theta + I_L k_s \cos^n \phi + I_a k_a$$



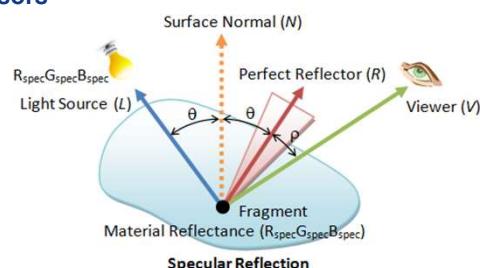
## Global Illumination

- Illumination of one object depends on others
- All light reflections and transmissions are accounted for
- E.g.: Color bleeding, Caustics
- Radiosity and ray tracing are both GI algorithms



## Lighting factors

- Light sources
- Materials
- Sensors



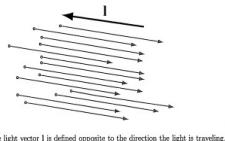
## Light Sources

- Light is variously modeled as geometric rays, electromagnetic waves, or photons (quantum particles with some wave properties).
- Regardless of how it is treated, light is **electromagnetic radiant energy**—electromagnetic energy that travels through space.
- Light sources emit light, rather than scattering or absorbing it.



## Light irradiance

- ④ A simple type of light source: **directional lights**

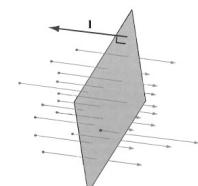


The light vector  $\mathbf{l}$  is defined opposite to the direction the light is traveling.

- ④ Two factors:

- Light direction
  - **light vector  $\mathbf{l}$ :** opposite
- The amount of illumination it emits
  - Can be quantified by measuring power through a unit area surface perpendicular to  $\mathbf{l}$ . (called **light irradiance  $E_L$** )

- Represented as an **RGB vector** with 3 values (in theory can be arbitrarily large)

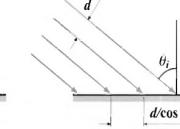
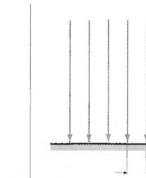
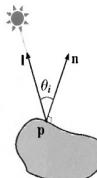


## Surface irradiance

- ④ Light irradiance  **$E_L$**  tells us how bright the light is in general

- ④ But to compute its illumination on a surface, we need to measure irradiance at a plane parallel to that surface (i.e., perpendicular to the surface normal  $\mathbf{n}$ ). called the **surface irradiance  $E$**

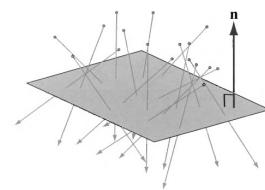
$$E = E_L \cos \theta_i \\ = E_L \max(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}, 0).$$



## Irradiance

- ④ **irradiance** in general measures light going in arbitrary directions
- ④ Definition: light energy crossing a **unit-area plane** in one second
- ④ **Irradiance** is additive for multiple light sources

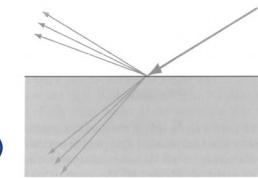
$$E = \sum_{k=1}^n E_{L_k} \cos \theta_{i_k}$$



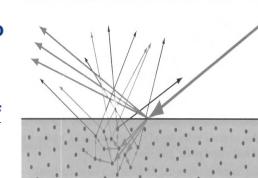
## Material

- ④ Fundamentally, all **light-matter interactions** are the result of two phenomena:

- **Scattering** (when light encounter **optical discontinuity**)
  - reflection (out of surface)
  - refraction/transmission (into surface)



- **Absorption** (inside matter)
  - Convert into another kind of energy or disappear
  - Reduce amount but not affect direction





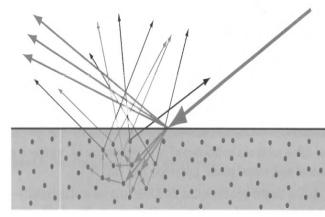
- ④ Two common terms of shading equation (for opaque object)

- Specular term

- light reflected at surface

- Diffuse term

- light transmitted, partially absorbed, finally scattered back out



- ④ To characterize the behavior of a material by a shading equation, we need to represent the amount and direction of outgoing light, based on the amount and direction of incoming light.

- Incoming illumination is measured as surface irradiance E.

- outgoing light as exitance M, which similarly to irradiance is energy per second per unit area.

- Light-matter interactions are linear: e.g.  $2 E \rightarrow 2 M$

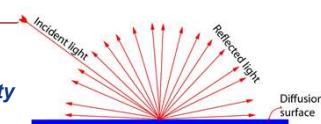
- M/E: The ratio of exitance and irradiance is a characteristic property of the material. (for non-emissive matter, the value is between [0,1].

- Different for different colors, represented as color vector, called the surface color



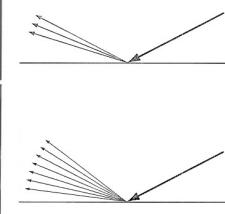
- ④ **diffuse color**

- Assume has no directionality



- ④ **specular color**

- Has significantly directionality



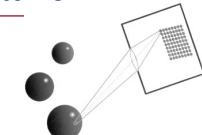
## Sensor for Real imaging systems

- ④ Sensors

- Rods/cones in eye, photodiodes in DC,...

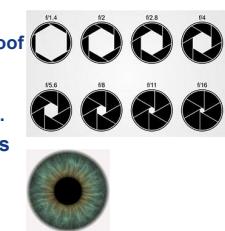
- ④ Sensors detects the irradiance value over its surface and produces a color signal.

- Irradiance sensors themselves cannot produce an image, since they average light rays from all incoming directions.



- So a full imaging system includes a light-proof enclosure with a **single small aperture (opening)** that restricts the directions from which light can enter and strike the sensors.

- A lens placed at the aperture focuses the light so that each sensor only receives light from a small set of incoming directions.





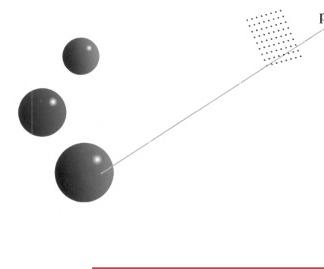
## Radiance

- ④ Rather than measuring average irradiance (the density of light flow—from all directions—per surface area), these sensors measure **average radiance**.
- ④ **Radiance ( $L$ )** is the density of light flow per area and per incoming direction.
  - can be thought of as the measure of the brightness and color of a single ray of light.
  - Like irradiance, radiance is represented as an RGB vector with theoretically unbounded values.



## Sensors For Rendering systems

- ④ **Rendering systems:**
  - also "measure" (compute) radiance similarly to real imaging systems.
  - However, they use a simplified and idealized model of the imaging sensor



- ④ In this model, each sensor measures a single radiance sample, rather than an average.
- ④ The radiance sample for each sensor is along a ray (the normalized view vector  $v$ ) that goes through a point representing the sensor and a shared point  $p$ , which is also the center of projection for the perspective transform



## Physical sensors vs. Renderer

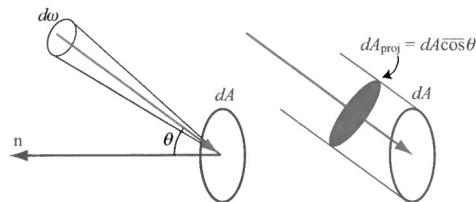
- ④ Map unlimited scene radiance  
to → limited display radiance
  - (mimic physical sensors like film or human eye)
- ④ There are important differences between physical imaging sensors and the idealized model
  - Physical sensors measure an average value of radiance over their area, over incoming directions focused by the lens, and over a time interval;
  - the evaluation of a shader equation computes radiance in a single ray at a single instant.
- ④ There are problems caused by these differences, and various solutions (such as aliasing)



## Radiance

- ④ Radiance

- a measure of light in a single ray
- the density of light flux(power) w.r.t. both area and solid angle



4. Radiance is power per unit projected area per unit solid angle.

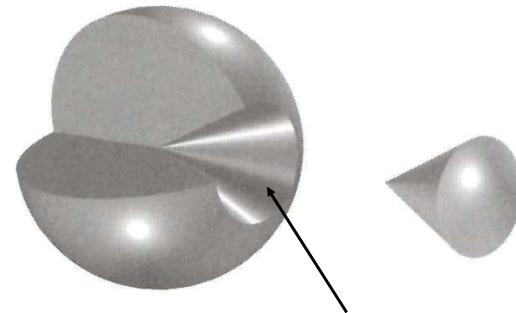
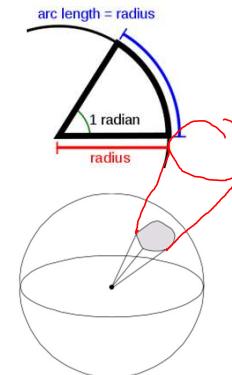
## Solid Angle

■ Angle  $\theta = \frac{l}{r}$

⇒ circle has  $2\pi$  radians

■ Solid angle  $\Omega = \frac{A}{R^2}$

⇒ sphere has  $4\pi$  steradians



从一个球面上去除1球面度立体角的圆锥



## Irradiance, Radiosity

- ④ Irradiance E is radiant power per unit area

- a measure of light incoming to a surface point from all directions
- the density of light flux w.r.t. area (perpendicular to surface normal n)

- ④ Integrate incoming radiance over hemisphere

- Projected solid angle ( $\cos \theta d\omega$ )
- Uniform illumination:  $\text{Irradiance} = \pi$
- Units:  $\text{W/m}^2$

- ④ Radiant Exitance M (radiosity)

- Power per unit area leaving surface (like irradiance)

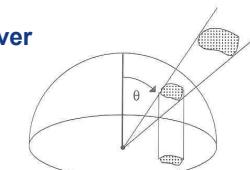


Figure 2.8: Projection of differential area



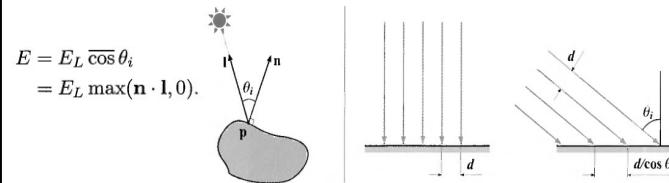
## Units

Radiometric Quantity: Units
radiant energy: joule (J)
radiant flux: watt (W)
irradiance: W/m <sup>2</sup>
radiant intensity: W/sr
radiance: W/m <sup>2</sup> -sr



## irradiance (remind)

- ④ **Surface irradiance:  $E$**
- ④ **Light irradiance:  $E_L$**

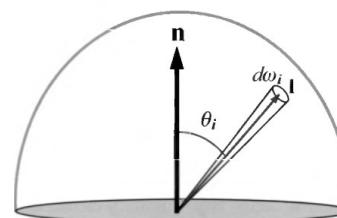


## Irradiance and Radiance

- ④ Irradiance  $E$  is the cosine-weighted integral of radiance  $L_i$  over the hemisphere above a surface point.

$$dE = L_i(\mathbf{l}) d\omega_i \cos \theta_i$$

$$E = \int_{\Omega} L_i(\mathbf{l}) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i$$



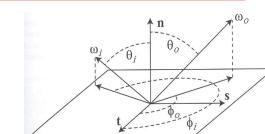
## Reflectance Equation

- ④ Radiance is the final quantity computed by the rendering process
- ④ Computing the outgoing radiance  $L_o$  in the view direction  $v$ .  $L_o$  determines the shaded pixel color.
- ④ Use the BRDF(bidirectional reflectance distribution function)

$$f(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{dL_o(\mathbf{v})}{dE(\mathbf{l})}$$

and Reflectance Equation

$$L_o(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{v}) = \int_{\Omega} f(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v}) \otimes L_i(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{l}) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i,$$

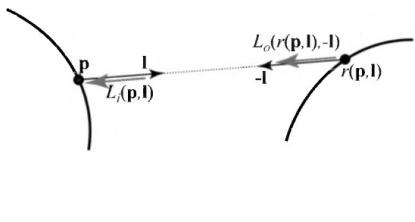




## Full GI rendering equation

- ⊕ Extend the reflectance equation
- ⊕ Consider the inter-reflections between surfaces
- ⊕ Usually, one bounce is enough for game

$$L_o(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{v}) = L_e(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{v}) + \int_{\Omega} f(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v}) \otimes L_o(r(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{l}), -\mathbf{l}) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i,$$



上海交通大学  
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY



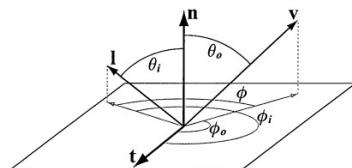
## Material: BRDF



## BRDF

- ⊕ bidirectional reflectance distribution function (BRDF)
- ⊕ The precise definition of the BRDF is the ratio between differential outgoing radiance and differential irradiance:

$$f(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{dL_o(\mathbf{v})}{dE(\mathbf{l})}$$



## for non-area light sources

- ⊕ When shading with non-area light sources such as point or directional lights, a non-differential form:

$$f(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{L_o(\mathbf{v})}{E_L \cos \theta_i}$$

- ⊕ straightforward to fit BRDF into a general shading equation with n non-area lights:

$$L_o(\mathbf{v}) = \sum_{k=1}^n f(\mathbf{l}_k, \mathbf{v}) \otimes E_{L_k} \overline{\cos} \theta_{i_k}$$

- ⊕ BRDF: a function of four scalar variables



## Variants of BRDFs

- ④ Isotropic BRDF
- ④ BSSRDF
- ④ Spatially varying BRDF (SVBRDF or SBRDF)
- ④ To handle transmission (2 BRDFs + 2 BTDFs)  $\Rightarrow$  BSDF (rarely needed)



## Taxonomy of Appearance

General scattering function ~ 14 D

$$S(x, y, z, \theta_p, \phi_p, \lambda_p, t_p; x_s, y_s, \theta_s, \phi_s, \lambda_s, t_s)$$

Ignore time dependence;  
Ignore wavelength dependence

Bidirectional Scattering Surface Reflectance Distribution Function ~ 8D

$$BSSRDF(x, y, \theta_p, \phi_p; x_s, y_s, \theta_s, \phi_s)$$

Ignore subsurface scattering

Spatially-varying Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function ~ 6D

$$SVBRDF(x, y; \theta_p, \phi_p; \theta_s, \phi_s)$$

Ignore variation across surface      Ignore dependence on light direction

Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function ~ 4D

$$BRDF(\theta_p, \phi_p; \theta_s, \phi_s)$$

Assume isotropy      Surface Light Field ~ 4D

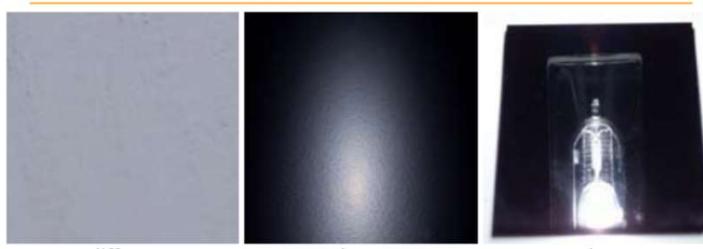
$$SLF(x, y, \theta, \phi)$$

Ignore directional dependence

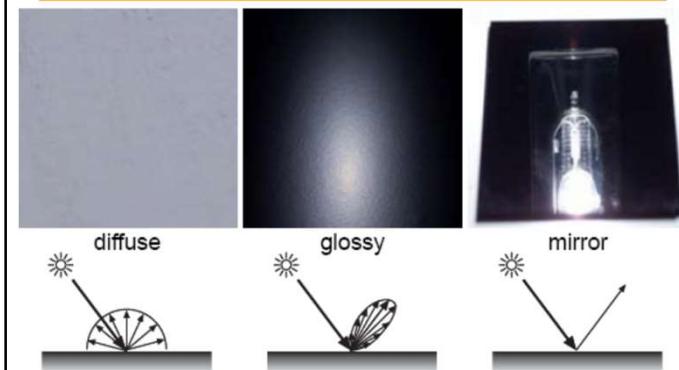
Diffuse Texture ~ 2D

$$Texture(x, y)$$

## Material Samples



## Material Samples



## Material Samples

---



anisotropic

## Material Samples

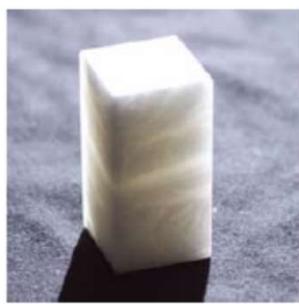
---



translucent

## Material Samples

---



translucent

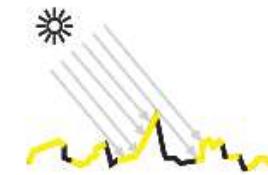


## Material Samples

---



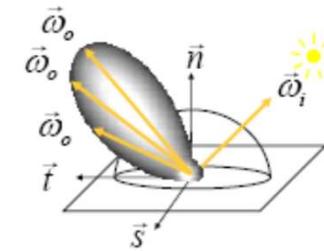
complex surface structure



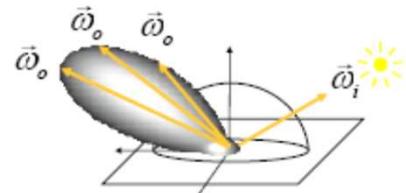
## How to describe materials?

- mechanical, chemical, electrical properties
- reflection properties
- surface roughness
- geometry/meso-structure
- **relightable** representation of appearance

## Reflection of an Opaque Surface

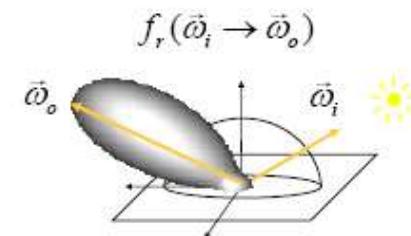


## Reflection of an Opaque Surface



## BRDF – 4D

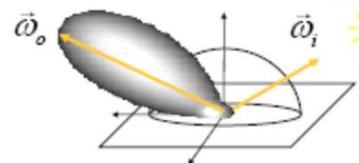
(bidirectional reflectance distribution function)



## BRDF – 4D

(bidirectional reflectance distribution function)

$$f_r(\vec{\omega}_i \rightarrow \vec{\omega}_o) = \frac{dL(\vec{\omega}_o)}{dE(\vec{\omega}_i)}$$

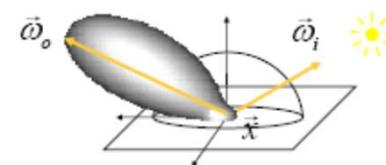


ratio of reflected radiance to incident irradiance

## Spatially Varying BRDF – 6D

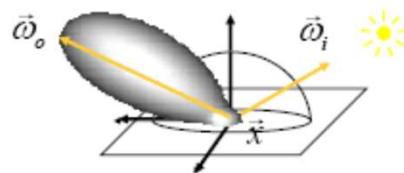
- heterogeneous materials

$$f_r(\vec{\omega}_i \rightarrow \vec{\omega}_o)$$

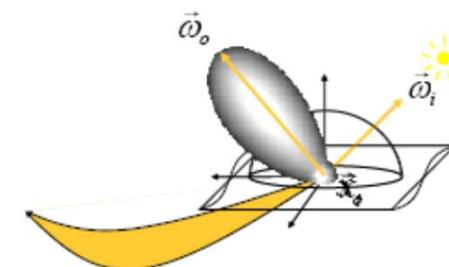


## Isotropic BRDF – 3D

- invariant with respect to rotation about the normal

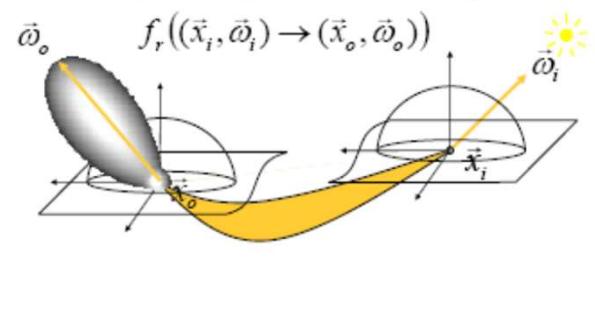


## Subsurface Scattering



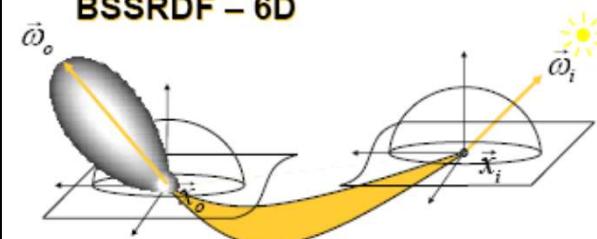
## BSSRDF – 8D

(bidirectional scattering surface reflectance distribution function)



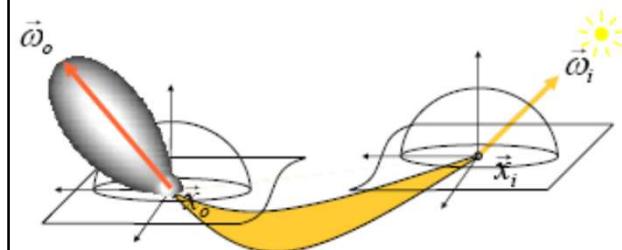
## Subsurface Scattering Homogeneous Material

### BSSRDF – 6D



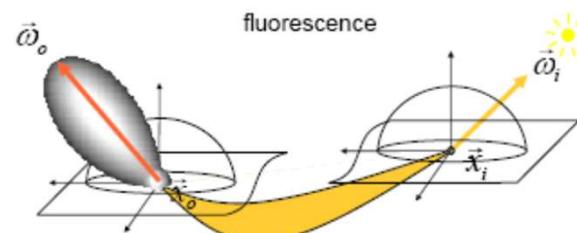
## Generalization – 9D

$$f_r(\lambda; (\vec{x}_i, \vec{\omega}_i) \rightarrow (\vec{x}_o, \vec{\omega}_o))$$



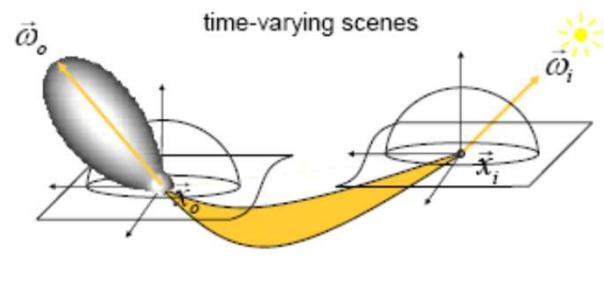
## Generalization – 10D

$$f_r((\vec{x}_i, \vec{\omega}_i, \lambda_i) \rightarrow (\vec{x}_o, \vec{\omega}_o, \lambda_o))$$



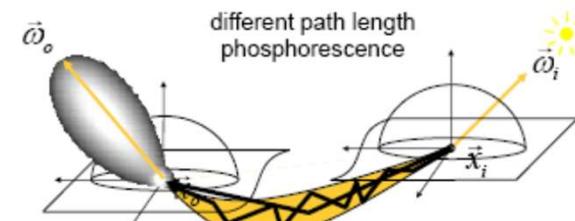
## Generalization – 11D

$$f_r(t; (\vec{x}_i, \vec{\omega}_i, \lambda_i) \rightarrow (\vec{x}_o, \vec{\omega}_o, \lambda_o))$$



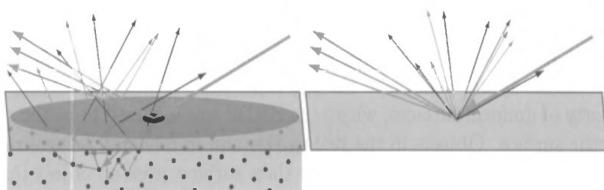
## Generalization – 12D

$$f_r((\vec{x}_i, \vec{\omega}_i, t_i, \lambda_i) \rightarrow (\vec{x}_o, \vec{\omega}_o, t_o, \lambda_o))$$



## BRDF approximation

- ④ BRDF approximation depend on
  - The surface material
  - The scale of observation



- ④ In practice, BRDF or SVBRDF is often sufficient for most surface behavior



## BRDF characteristics

- Two physics constrains:**
1. **Helmholtz reciprocity**  $f(l, v) = f(v, l)$ 
    - in practice often violate without noticeable artifacts;
    - useful tool to determine if a BRDF is physically plausible
  2. **Conservation of energy**
    - e.g. some offline ray tracing require this
    - real time rendering often not necessary for strict conservation
      - approximate energy conservation is desirable
      - otherwise might look much too bright



## Lambertian BRDF

- ④ The simplest possible BRDF: Lambertian BRDF

- Has a constant value

$$R(\mathbf{l}) = \pi f(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v})$$

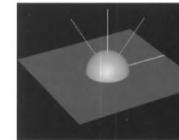
- Diffuse color  $f(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{c_{\text{diff}}}{\pi}$

- $1/\pi$  term

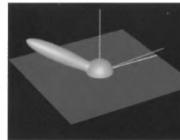
- factored into the light's radiance in real time applications
- Need to be careful when adapting academic papers  
BRDF to real-time shading equations :  
» multiply by pi before use



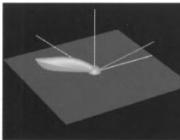
## Visualize BRDF



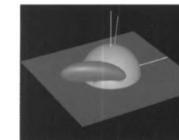
Lambertian



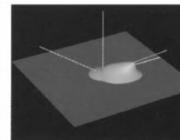
Blinn-Phong+Lam.



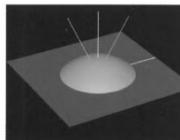
Cook-Torrance



anisotropic



retro-reflection



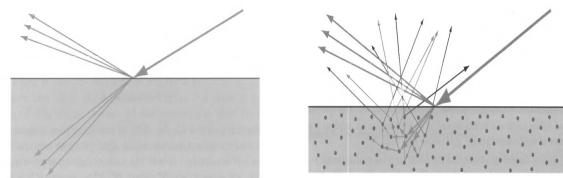
scattering



## Surface and body reflectance

- ④ Two phenomena of reflectance:

- Surface reflectance: modeled with specular BRDF terms
- Body reflectance: modeled with diffuse BRDF terms



## Surface Reflectance: Fresnel Reflectance

- ④ Fresnel equations (19<sup>th</sup> century)

- ④ Require a perfect flat plane

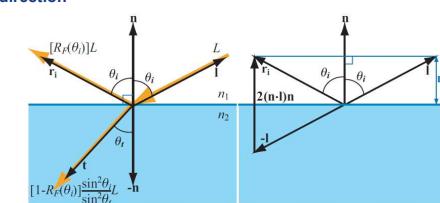
- Not possible even at atomic level (atom forms bumps)
- In practice: Surface irregularities < smallest wavelength of light spectrum (~400nm, visible light)

- ④ Scatter to two directions:

- Ideal reflection direction
- Ideal refraction direction



Augustin-Jean Fresnel  
1788-1827





## Fresnel Reflectance

- ④ **Fresnel reflectance  $R_F$** 
  - the amount of light reflected
  - depends on incoming angle
- ④ the proportion of transmitted flux to incoming flux is  $1 - R_F$
- ④ the proportion of transmitted-to-incident radiance (due to projected area and solid angle differences)

$$L_t = (1 - R_F(\theta_i)) \frac{\sin^2 \theta_i}{\sin^2 \theta_t} L_i.$$



## Snell's Law

- ④  $R_F$  and transmission angle both depend on
  - incoming angle
  - $n$ : **refractive index** (an optical property of the two substances)
- **Snell's Law:**  $n_1 \sin(\theta_i) = n_2 \sin(\theta_t)$ .

- ④ Thus

$$L_t = (1 - R_F(\theta_i)) \frac{n_2^2}{n_1^2} L_i$$

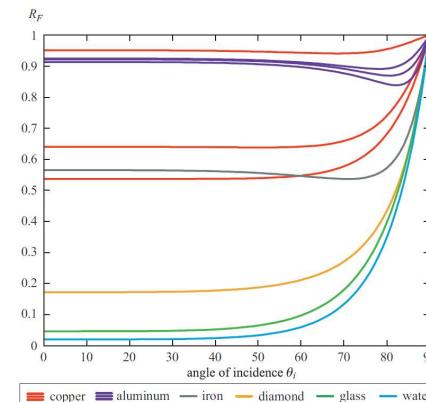


## External Reflectance

- ④ **External Reflectance:** A transition from low refractive index to higher one (e.g. air to water)
- ④ When  $\theta_i = 0^\circ$ 
  - $R_F(0^\circ)$  is a property of the substance
  - the characteristic specular color of the substance
  - **Normal incidence**
- ④ As  $\theta_i$  increase  $\rightarrow 90$  degree, the value  $R_F(\theta_i) \rightarrow 1$  for all frequencies (white)
- ④ called **Fresnel Effect** in rendering



## Fresnel Effect





## Schlick's approximation

- ④ Fresnel equations are difficult to use
- ④ A simpler approach: Schlick's approximation

$$R_F(\theta_i) \approx R_F(0^\circ) + (1 - R_F(0^\circ))(1 - \cos \theta_i)^5$$

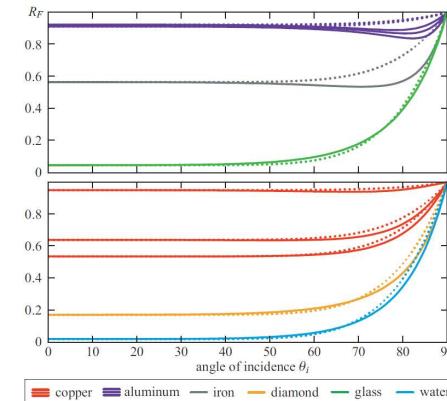
—  $R_F(0^\circ)$  is the only controlling parameter

- Easy to set and can be textured
- available for many real-world materials
- The refractive index can be used to compute it

$$R_F(0^\circ) = \left( \frac{n - 1}{n + 1} \right)^2$$



## Schlick's approximation



## Typical Fresnel Reflectance Values

- ④ Typical Fresnel Reflectance Values
  - Different types of substances have different ranges of values of  $R_F(0^\circ)$
  - Three main groups of substances:
    - Insulators (dielectrics)
    - Metals (conductors)
    - Semiconductors (between above two, rarely found in rendered scenes)



## Insulators

- ④ most commonly materials
  - Water, glass, skin, wood, hair, leather, plastic, stone, etc.
  - Usually  $R_F(0^\circ) \leq 0.05$  (Fresnel effect particularly visible)
  - Uniform in the spectrum (colorless reflectance values)
- ④ Light transmitted into Insulators:
  - further scattered or absorbed or “internal reflection”

Insulator	$R_F(0^\circ)$ (Linear)	$R_F(0^\circ)$ (sRGB)	Color
Water	0.02, 0.02, 0.02	0.15, 0.15, 0.15	[Black]
Plastic / Glass (Low)	0.03, 0.03, 0.03	0.21, 0.21, 0.21	[Black]
Plastic High	0.05, 0.05, 0.05	0.24, 0.24, 0.24	[Dark Gray]
Glass (High) / Ruby	0.08, 0.08, 0.08	0.31, 0.31, 0.31	[Medium Gray]
Diamond	0.17, 0.17, 0.17	0.45, 0.45, 0.45	[Light Gray]



## Metals

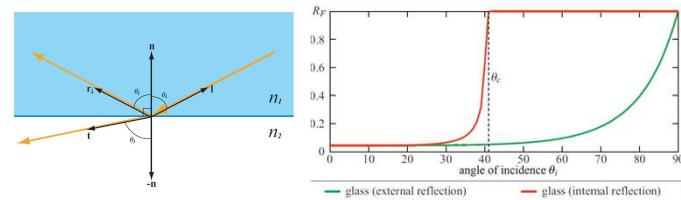
- High values of  $R_F(0^\circ)$  ( $>=0.5$ )
- Some metals have optical properties vary over the visible spectrum → colored reflectance values
- Metal immediately absorb any transmitted light:  
— no subsurface scattering or transparency !!!

Metal	$R_F(0^\circ)$ (Linear)	$R_F(0^\circ)$ (sRGB)	Color
Gold	1.00,0.71,0.29	1.00,0.86,0.57	
Silver	0.95,0.93,0.88	0.98,0.97,0.95	
Copper	0.95,0.64,0.54	0.98,0.82,0.76	
Iron	0.56,0.57,0.58	0.77,0.78,0.78	
Aluminum	0.91,0.92,0.92	0.96,0.96,0.97	

## Internal Reflection

- A transition from high refractive index to lower one (e.g. water to air)  $\sin \theta_t > \sin \theta_i$
- total internal reflection:** when  $\theta_i > \text{a critical angle}$
- Why air bubbles underwater is highly reflective ?
- Only for insulators

$$\sin \theta_c = \frac{n_2}{n_1} = \frac{1 - \sqrt{R_F(0^\circ)}}{1 + \sqrt{R_F(0^\circ)}}.$$



## Body reflectance

- Insulators must include body reflectance (metals don't present)
- Local subsurface scattering (only for insulators)
- If insulator is *homogeneous* → few internal discontinuities → transparent
  - E.g. glass, gemstones, crystals, clear liquids (water, oil, wine)
  - Partially absorb light but do not change its direction
  - Transmitted light: straight line until internal reflection and transmitted out of the object



## Heterogeneous insulator

- If *heterogeneous*
  - Most insulators (wood, stone, snow, earth, skin, opaque plastic, -- any opaque non-metal)
  - Numerous discontinuities (air bubbles, foreign particles, density variations, structural changes)
  - Cause light to scatter inside
  - Transmitted light completely absorbed or partially absorbed (remaining is re-emitted from the surface)
  - To model it use BRDF
    - Assume re-emitted from the same point where it entered
      - Called *local subsurface scattering*



## Local subsurface scattering

- ④ Most often modeled as a Lambertian diffuse term in the BRDF
- ④ Trade-off between surface and body reflectance terms
- ④ Fresnel effect implies that the trade-off changes with incoming angle
- ④ A simple way

$$f_{\text{diff}}(\mathbf{l}, \mathbf{v}) = (1 - R_F(\theta_i)) \frac{\rho}{\pi}.$$



## BRDF models

- ④ BRDF models:
  - Two groups:
    - Physical theory
    - Empirical BRDF models (simpler, more commonly used in Real time rendering)
      - Lambertian or constant BRDF
      - Phong Specular model (transformed to Phong BRDF)
      - The normalized Phong BRDFs
      - Blinn-Phong BRDF
      - ...



## BRDF acquisition and representation

- ④ BRDF acquisition and representation
  - Match to real ones
  - Or Save authoring time
- ④ Two problems:
  - Capture (using goniometers, reflectometers, image based methods)
  - Representation:
    - parametric (analytic BRDFs)
    - vs. non-parametric (basis, factorization?))



## Representations

- ④ Raw data : large, densely sampled, noise
- ④ **Analytic BRDF:** select an analytic BRDF and fit its parameters to the measured data
  - Very compact representation
  - Rendering is reasonably fast
  - Easy to edit manually
  - Not always simple to choose a BRDF and fitting (complex and time-consuming optimization process)
- ④ A weighted sum of *multiple BRDF terms*
- ④ **Basis Projections:** project BRDFs onto *orthonormal bases, such as spherical harmonics*
- ④ **Factorization:** factor the 4D function into a sum of products of lower-dimensional functions (1D or 2D → textures → GPU hardware)



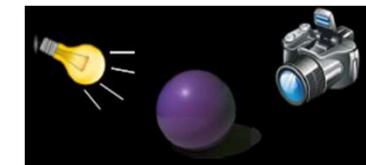
## Implementing BRDFs in a rendering system

- ④ The BRDF be evaluated as part of a shading equation
- ④ Analytic BRDF
  - Pixel shader (best quality)
  - Vertex shader (pre-evaluated subexpressions)
  - Texture reads
- ④ Projection Basis BRDF
  - Straightforward: evaluate the basis function
  - Large number of coefficients: expensive computation
  - If SVBRDF, very large number of texture reads
- ④ Factorized BRDF
  - Easier to render: relatively small number of textures read (usually 2)
  - Not suitable for measured SVBRDFs; not easy to edit



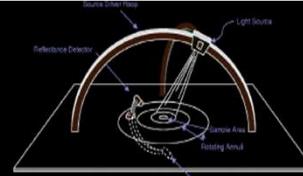
## REFLECTANCE ACQUISITION

- ④ A typical measurement setup includes
  - a light source to uniformly illuminate a large area of a surface
  - a detector to measure a small area within the illuminated region



## BRDF ACQUISITION- GONIOREFLECTOMETERS

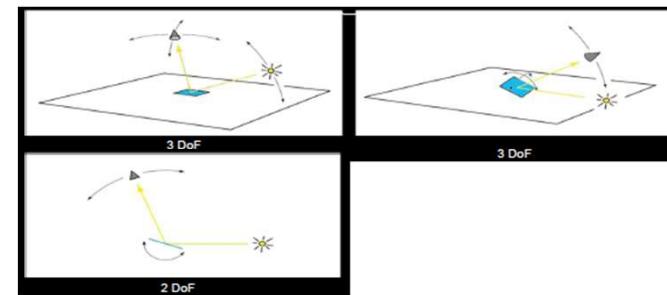
- Typically consists of:
  - a light source
  - a sample material placed on the sample holder
  - a turntable which rotates around the vertical axis
  - a detector which captures data about reflected light from the sample
- Several variations
  - Number of Degrees of Freedom
  - Moving / fixed parts
- Main drawback: only one BRDF value is measured at a time



Cornell University  
(also NIST, CURET)

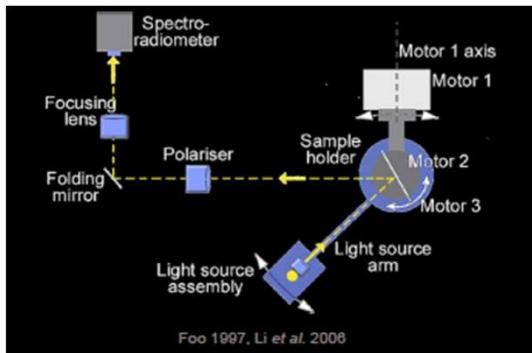


## GONIOREFLECTOMETERS - DOF





## GONIOREFLECTOMETERS (2)

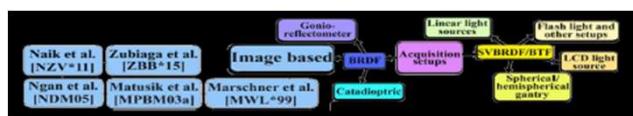


## GONIOREFLECTOMETERS (3)

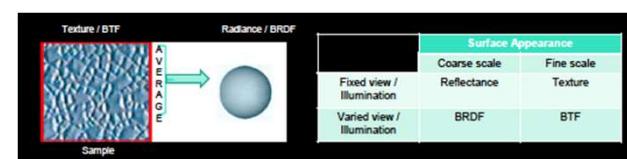


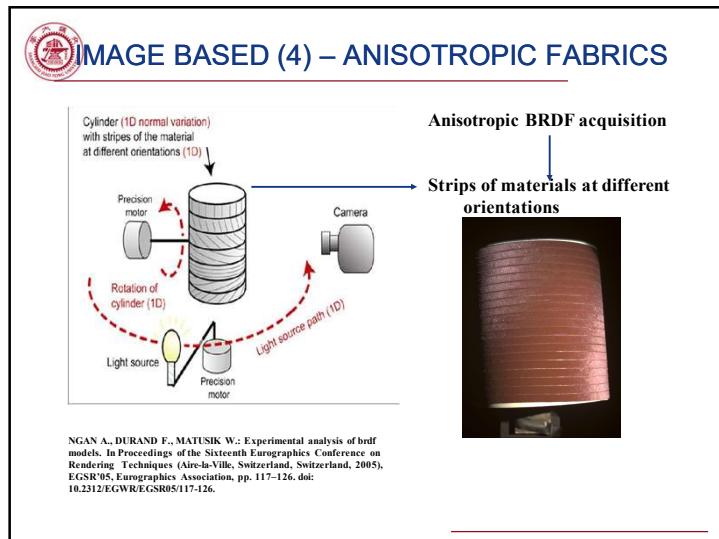
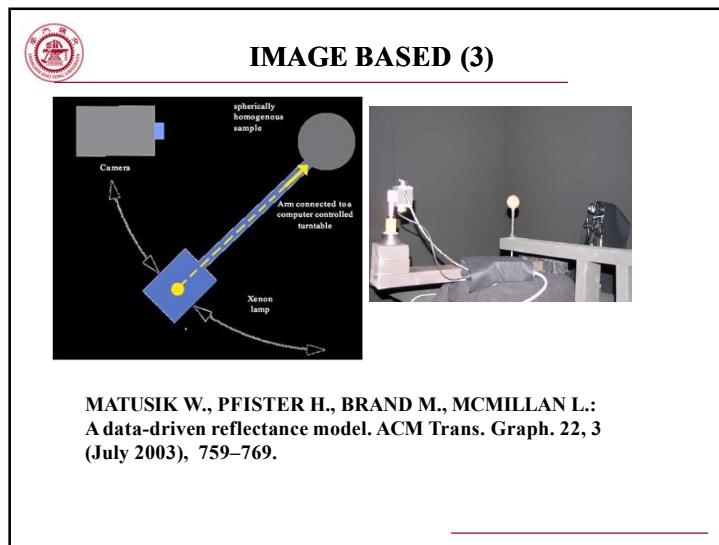
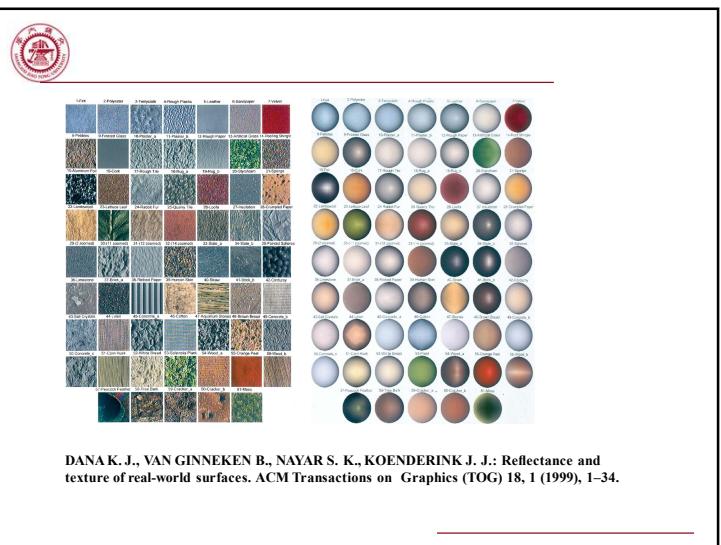
## BRDF ACQUISITION – IMAGE BASED SETUPS

- + Makes use of photographs of an object
- + Requires only general-purpose equipment
- + Lowers the cost and the time of the process
- To include the wavelength spectrum of the BRDF requires more time per measurement



## IMAGE BASED

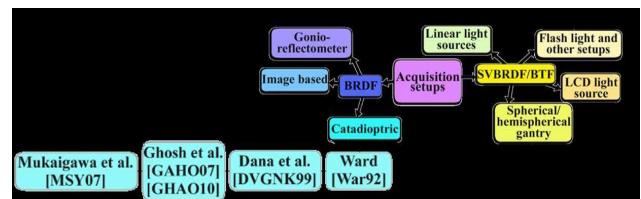




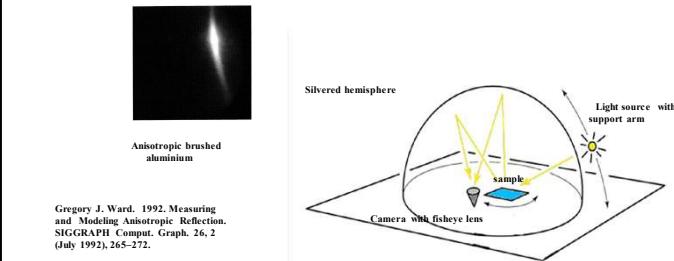


## BRDF ACQUISITION – CATAOPTRIC SETUPS

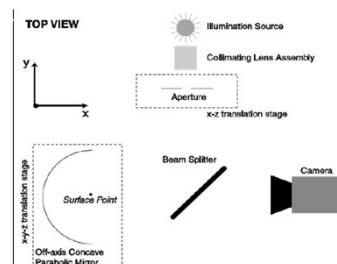
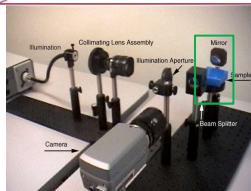
- ④ Make use of both reflected and refracted light
  - reduce aberrations
- ④ Generally they are efficient image based BRDF acquisition devices
- ④ Usually without any moving parts



## CATAOPTRIC



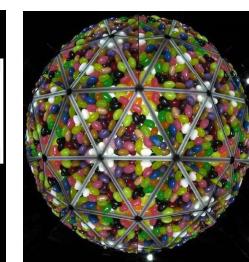
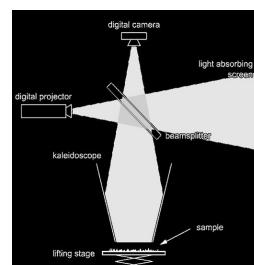
## CATAOPTRIC (2)



K. J. Dana, "BRDF/BTF measurement device," Computer Vision, 2001. ICCV 2001. Proceedings. Eighth IEEE International Conference on, Vancouver, BC, 2001, pp. 460-466 vol.2. 65



## CATAOPTRIC (3)

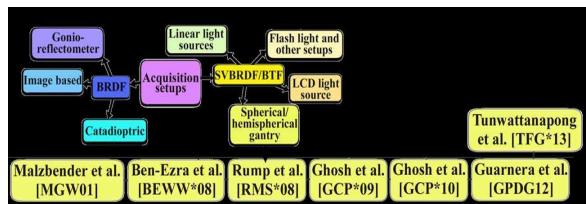


- ④ HAN J. Y., PERLIN K.: Measuring bidirectional texture reflectance with a kaleidoscope. ACM Trans. Graph. 22, 3 (July 2003), 741–748



## SVBRDF ACQUISITION - SPHERICAL AND HEMISPHERICAL GANTRY

- ④ Single viewpoint
- ④ Multiple light directions
  - Moving light source
  - Light source arrays



Malzbender et al. [MGW01] Ben-Ezra et al. [BEWW\*08] Rump et al. [RMS\*08] Ghosh et al. [GCP\*09] Ghosh et al. [GCP\*10] Guarnera et al. [GPDG12]



## SPHERICAL AND HEMISPHERICAL GANTRY



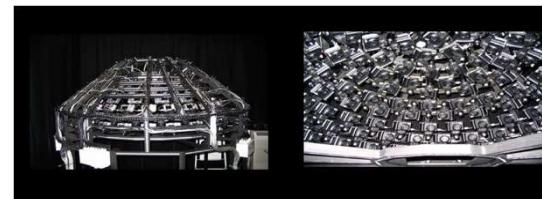
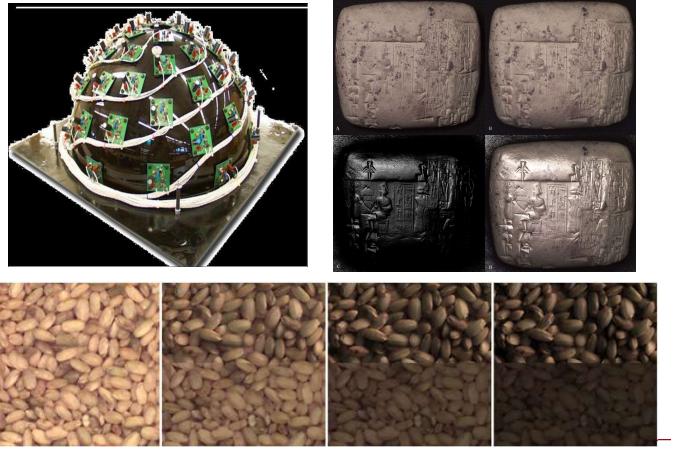
$$L(u, v; l_u, l_v) = a_0(u, v)l_u^2 + a_1(u, v)l_v^2 + a_2(u, v)l_u l_v + a_3(u, v)l_u + a_4(u, v)l_v + a_5(u, v)$$

- .  $(l_u, l_v)$  are projections of the normalized light vector into the local texture coordinate system  $(u, v)$
- .  $L$  is the resultant surface luminance at that coordinate.
- . Coefficients  $(a_0-a_5)$  are fit to the photographic data per texel and stored as a spatial map referred to as a Polynomial Texture Map

- ④ MALZBENDER T., GELB D., WOLTERS H.: Polynomial texture maps. In Proceedings of the 28th Annual Conference on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques (New York, NY, USA, 2001), SIGGRAPH '01, ACM, pp. 519–528.



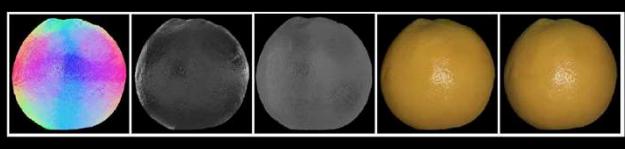
## SPHERICAL AND HEMISPHERICAL GANTRY





## SPHERICAL AND HEMISPHERICAL GANTRY

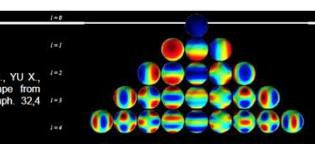
2<sup>nd</sup> order Spherical gradient illumination



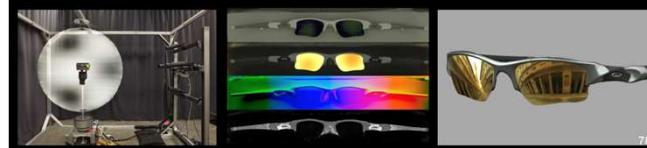
GHOOSH A., CHEN T., PEERS P., WILSON C. A., DEBEVEC P.: Estimating specular roughness and anisotropy from second order spherical gradient illumination. In Proceedings of the Twentieth Eurographics Conference on Rendering (Aire-la-Ville, Switzerland, Switzerland, 2009). EGSR09, Eurographics Association, pp. 1161–1170.



## SPHERICAL AND HEMISPHERICAL GANTRY



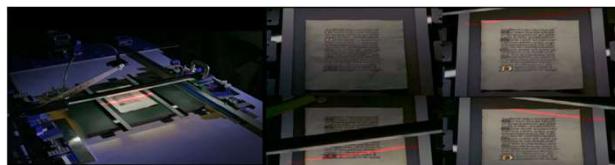
TUNWATTANAPONG B., FYFFE G., GRAHAM P., BUSCH J., YU X., GHOSH A., DEBEVEC P.: Acquiring reflectance and shape from continuous spherical harmonic illumination. ACM Trans. Graph. 32, 4 (July 2013), 109:1–109:12.



78



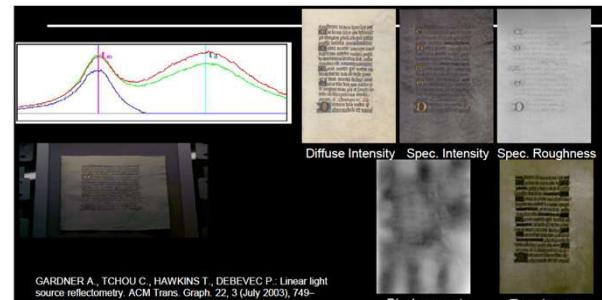
## LINEAR LIGHT SOURCE



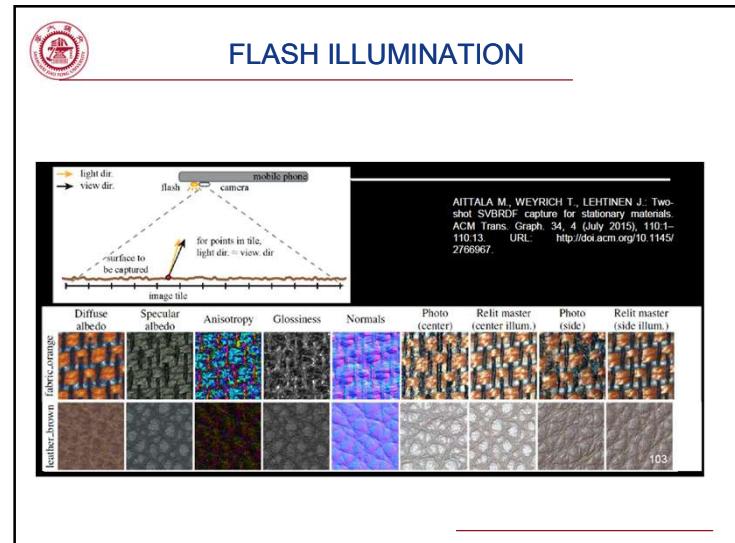
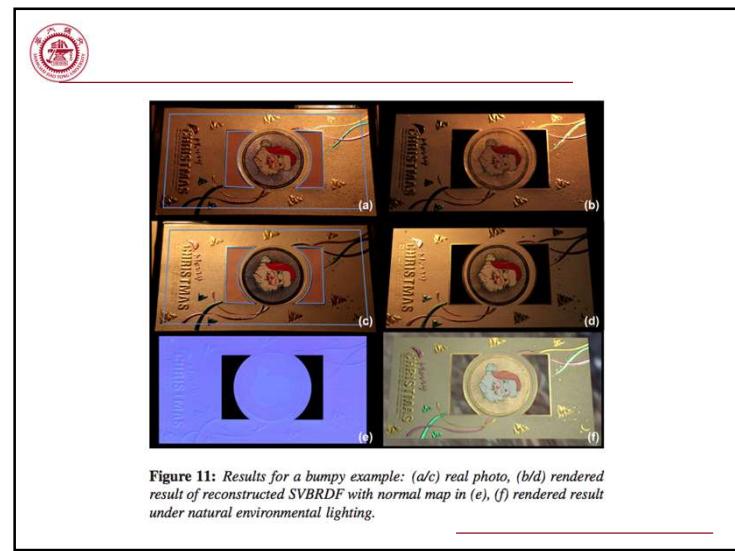
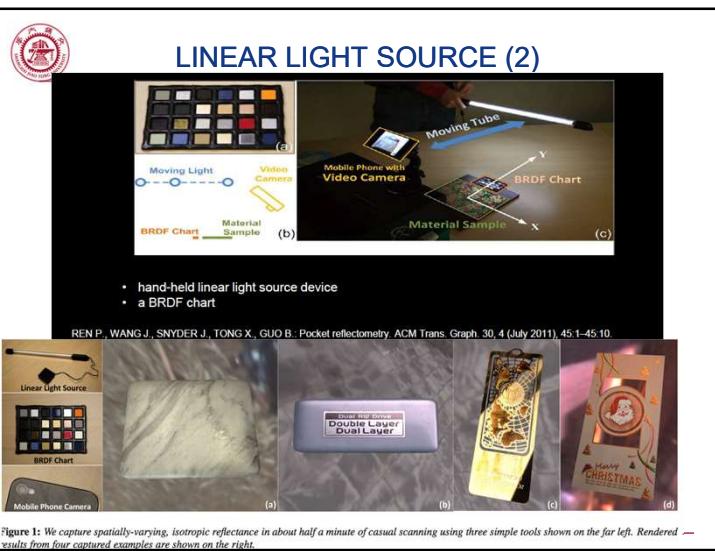
GARDNER A., TCHOU C., HAWKINS T., DEBEVEC P.: Linear light source reflectometry. ACM Trans. Graph. 22, 3 (July 2003), 749–758. URL: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/882262.882342>

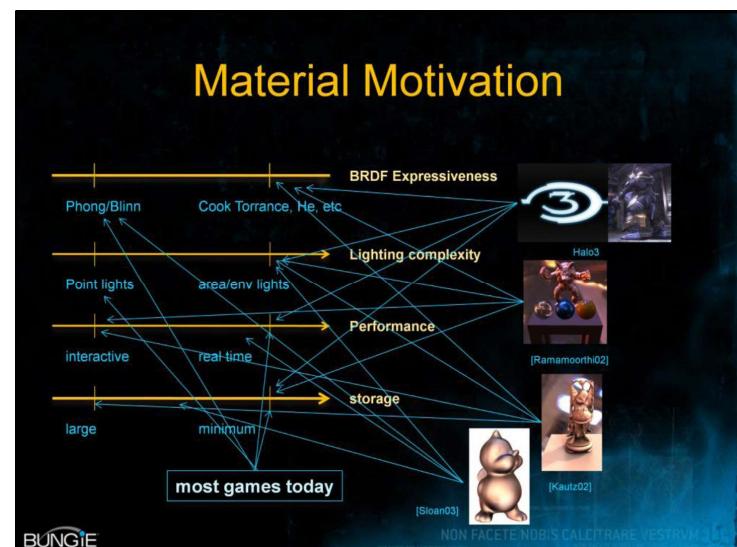
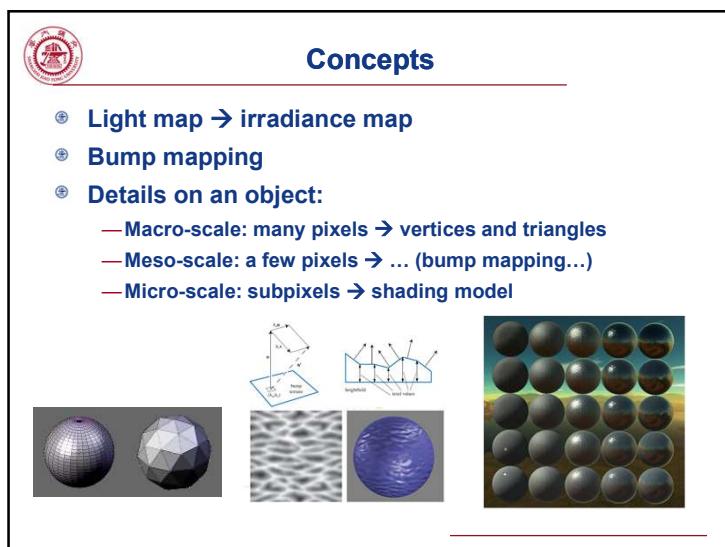


## LINEAR LIGHT SOURCE



GARDNER A., TCHOU C., HAWKINS T., DEBEVEC P.: Linear light source reflectometry. ACM Trans. Graph. 22, 3 (July 2003), 749–758. URL: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/882262.882342>.







## Definitions

- ④ Radiance
  - $L(\omega)$ : density of light energy through a given point in a given direction.
- ④ Irradiance
  - $I$ : incident radiance integrated over the hemisphere of the surface normal with the cosine lobe.
- ④ BRDF
  - $f(V, L)$ : Bidirectional reflectance distribution function.
- ④ Fresnel
  - $F$ : Predicts ratio of reflected and transmitted light when light travels between different mediums.
  - $F_0$ : Reflectance at near normal incident angle.



## Halo 3

- ④ how the Equation can be factored into separate components, which can each be rendered in real time using different techniques,
- ④ how the parts are combined together in the end for final shading
- ④ BRDF for Cook-Torrence reflectance model

$$f(V, L) = k_d R_d + k_s F R_m(V, L)$$

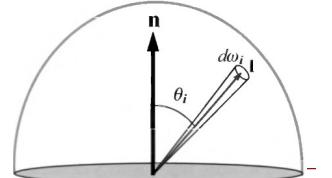
- ④ Plugging the BRDF into rendering equation

$$I(V) = k_d R_d \int \cos(\theta) \ell(\omega) d\omega + k_s \int F R_m(V, L) \cos(\theta) \ell(\omega) d\omega$$



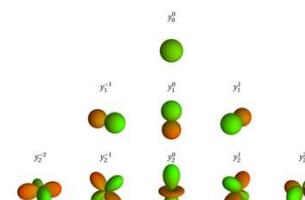
## Arbitrary light sources

- ④ Both the diffuse and specular components in Equation involve an integral that is expensive to compute directly in real time.
- ④ However, if the light sources are point lights only, the integral becomes a sum of ( $N.L$ ) terms for diffuse illumination.
- ④ the restriction of point light sources (and direct illumination only) is one of the main reasons that many games look unrealistic
- ④ To handle arbitrary light sources
  - need to find a way to evaluate the integrals in equation efficiently
  - turn to spherical harmonics



## Spherical Harmonics

- ④ Spherical harmonics (SH) basis over the sphere
  - analogous to the Fourier basis over the line or the circle
- ④ for Lambertian surfaces, a small number of spherical harmonics terms are sufficient to approximate the original lighting to high accuracy





## Harmonic Functions?

- ④ Solutions of Laplace equation

- Divergence of gradient = 0

$$\Delta f = \frac{df^2}{dx^2} + \frac{df^2}{dy^2} + \frac{df^2}{dz^2}$$



- Potential theory: fluids, e&m, gravity

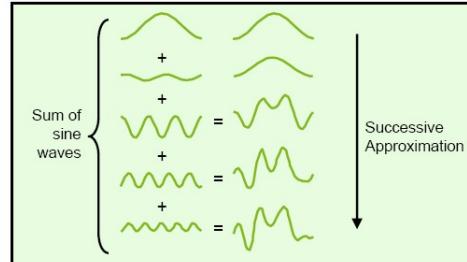
- ④ Fourier basis is solution on unit circle

- ④ Spherical Harmonics are solution on the sphere

- Also eigenfunctions of Angular Momentum operators in Quantum Chemistry/Physics

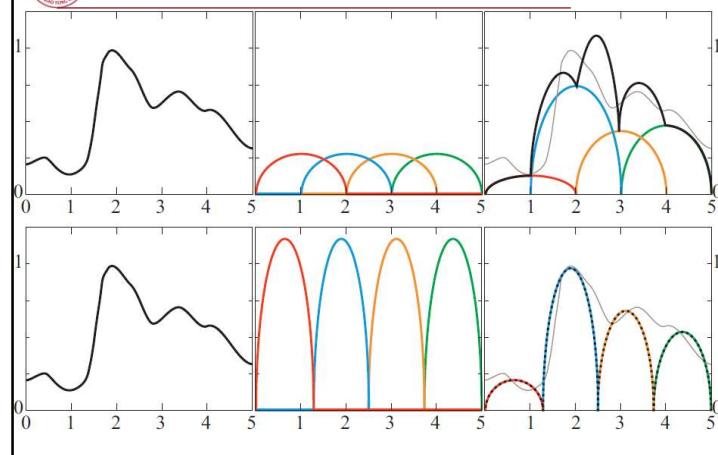


## Fourier Theory



- ④ it is possible to represent any 1D signal as a sum of appropriately scaled and shifted sine waves

- ④ Spherical harmonics are the same idea on a sphere!



## Concepts

- ④ **Basis functions:** weighted and summed

- ④ **Orthogonal set of basis functions**

- ④ **Inner product of two functions**  $\langle f_i(x), f_j(x) \rangle \equiv \int f_i(x) f_j(x) dx,$

- ④ **inner product of SH functions**  $\langle f_i(\mathbf{n}), f_j(\mathbf{n}) \rangle \equiv \int_{\Theta} f_i(\mathbf{n}) f_j(\mathbf{n}) d\omega,$

- ④ **Orthonormal set**

$$\langle f_i(), f_j() \rangle = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{where } i \neq j, \\ 1, & \text{where } i = j. \end{cases}$$

- ④ **Basis projection**

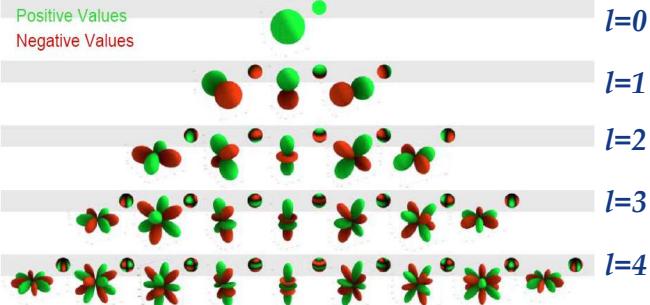
$$k_j = \langle f_{\text{target}}(), f_j() \rangle,$$

$$f_{\text{target}}() \approx \sum_{j=1}^n k_j f_j().$$



## Spherical Harmonic Basis

- ④ The first 5 frequency bands of SH basis



## SH in Halo3

- ④ Chose spherical harmonics basis for Halo3 lighting and material methods:

- SH is suitable for approximating smooth changing signals using a small number of coefficients which makes it ideal for lighting, transfer and material purposes;
- SH can be rotated easily in a shader;
- there are a number of algorithms such as PRT(Precomputed Radiance Transfer) that are compatible with the SH representation which use in game.



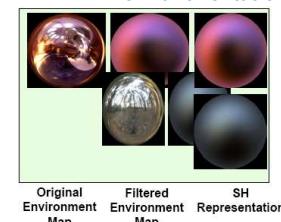
## Spherical Harmonics Irradiance Environment Maps

- ④ **Spherical Harmonics Irradiance Environment Maps,**
  - encode the **irradiance distribution function (IDF)** as a vector of SH coefficients
  - Un-shadowed diffuse transfer can then be computed in a shader using a quadratic polynomial approximation.
  - for shadowed transfer and inter-reflections, the **Pre-computed Radiance Transfer (PRT) method** pre-computes the transfer function as a SH vector, which is then combined with incoming lighting using a SH dot product.
- ④ **Glossy materials are also possible in the SH representation**
  - although none of the previous methods can meet the stringent performance and storage requirements of a real time game



## Spherical Projection: Storage and Computation

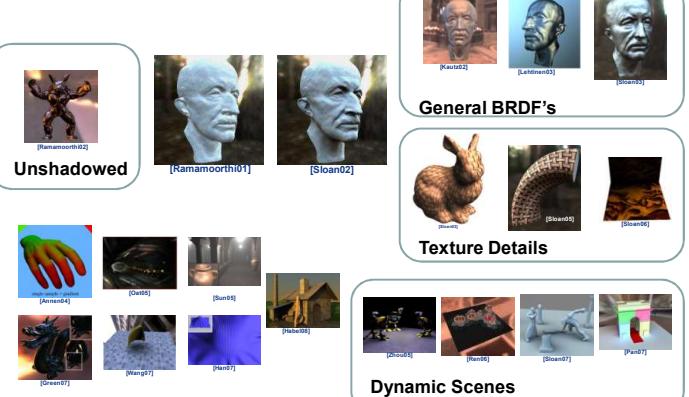
- ④ Projecting an environment map into 3rd order SH effectively gives you the irradiance distribution function
  - not only a storage win, but a preprocessing win too
    - SH projection is much faster than convolving an environment map with a cosine kernel for all possible normal orientations



[Ramamoorthi]



### SH for Interactive Graphics



- Unshadowed:** [Ramamoorthi02], [Ramamoorthi01], [Sloan02]
- General BRDF's:** [Kaufmann02], [Lambrecht03], [Sloan03]
- Texture Details:** [Bunnell04], [Sloan05], [Sloan06]
- Dynamic Scenes:** [Narain04], [Oettli05], [Sun05], [Haines05], [Wang07], [Huang07], [Sloan07], [Pandit07]



### SH Irradiance Env Map

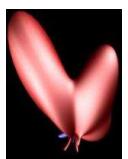


$$L_{lm} = \iint_{\theta, \phi} L(\theta, \phi) Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi) \sin(\theta) d\theta d\phi$$

diff solid angle  
distant radiance at given direction



### SH Irradiance Env Map



$E(n) = n^t M n$

- Irradiance distribution as SH vector.
- <3% error with just 9 terms
- Evaluate normal to get irradiance.
- Only represent a single point in space.
- Only for infinite lighting environment.
- What about local lighting?

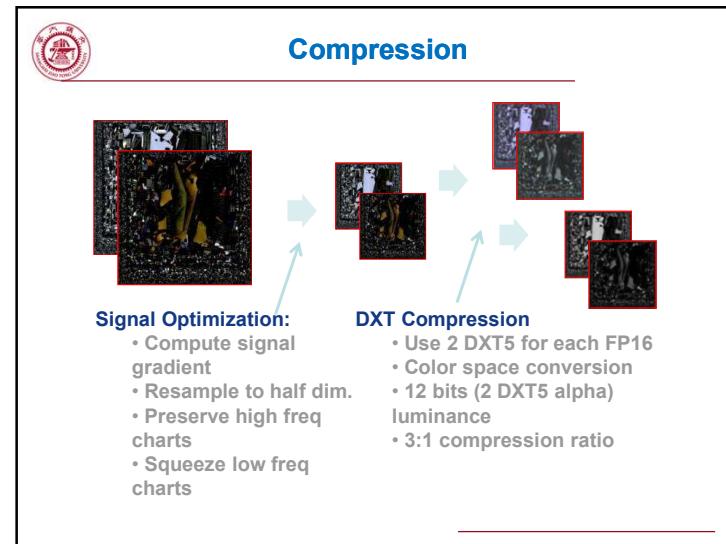
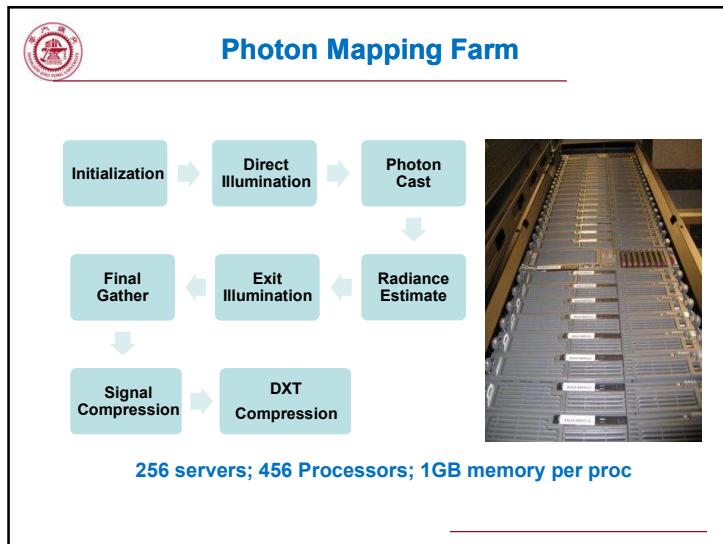
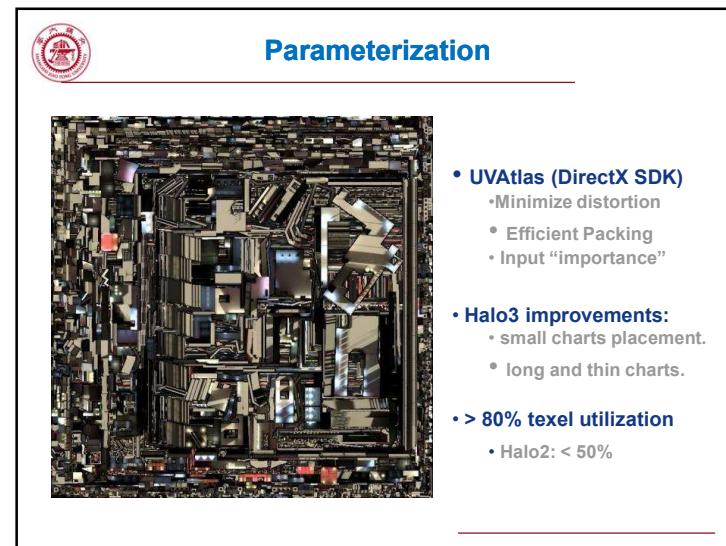
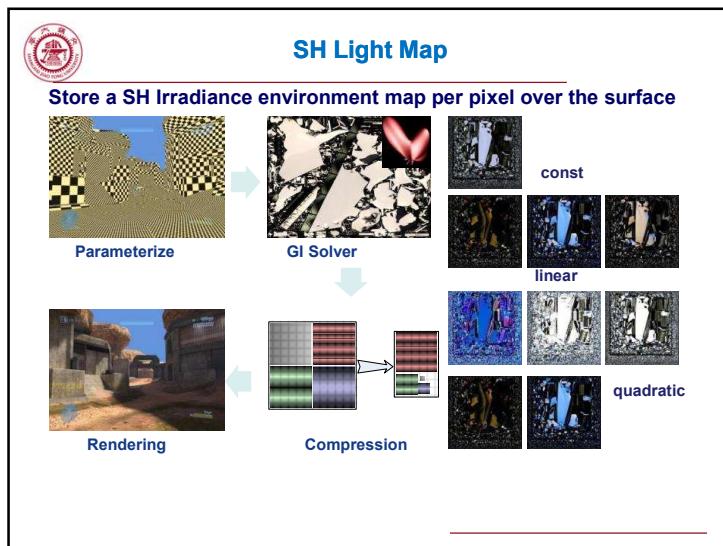


### Irradiance Volumes



[Greger 98] [ATI 05]

- Spatially divide volume into cells.
- Irradiance volume per cell.
- Interpolate between samples.





## Scene Rendering



## Object Lighting



## Lighting Examples

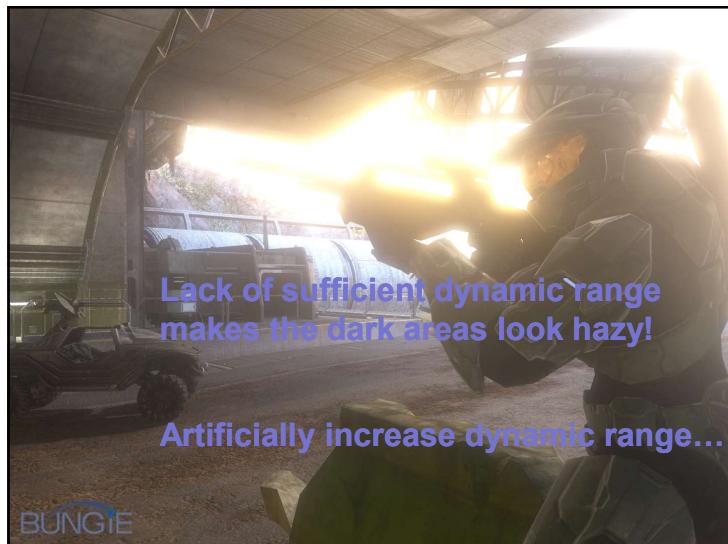


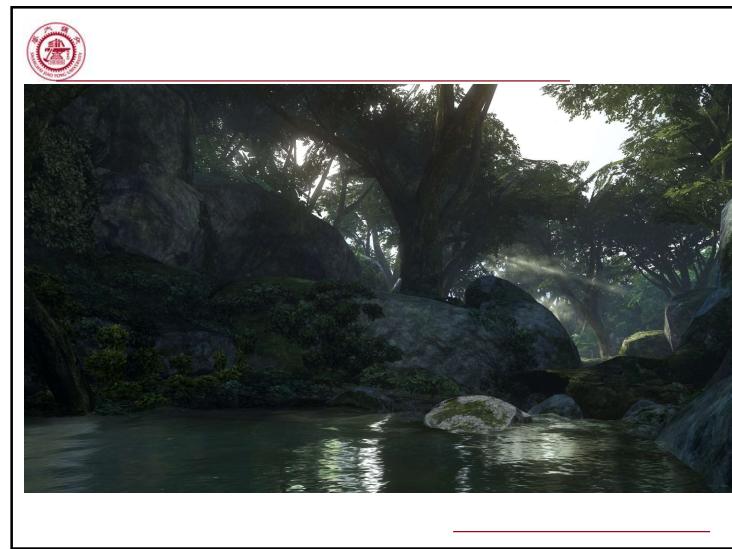
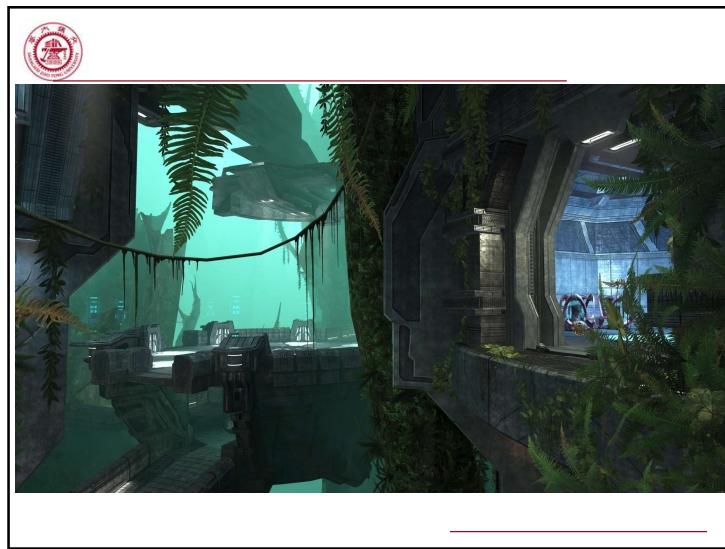
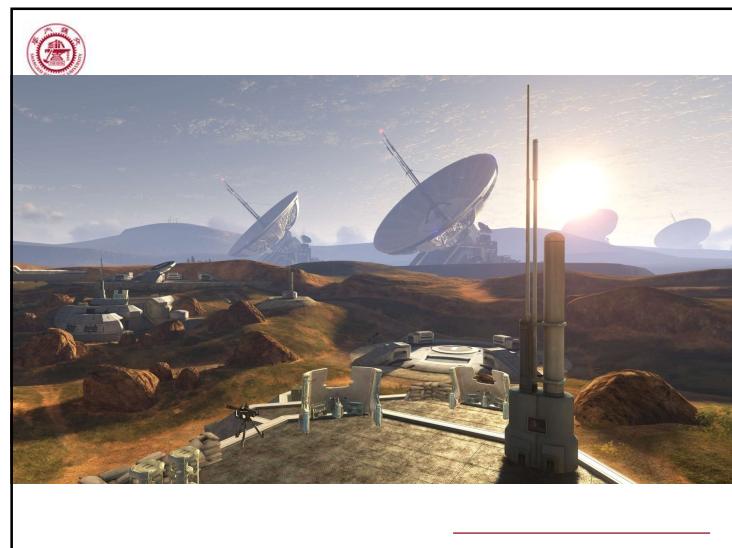
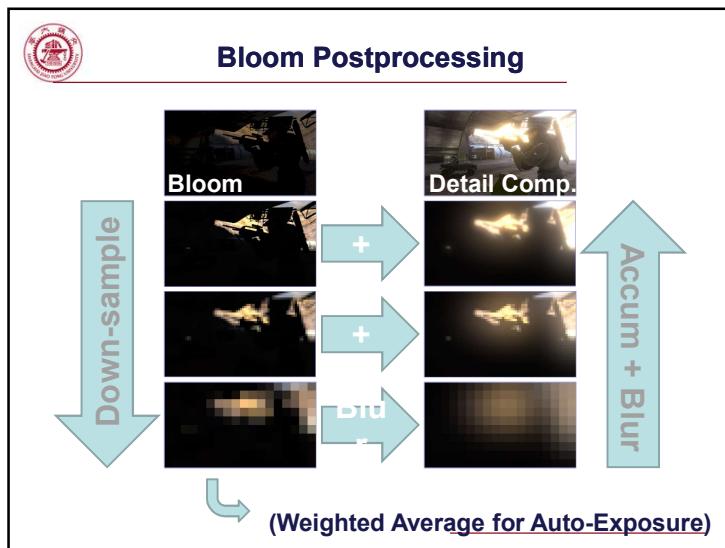
## Lighting Examples





## Lighting Examples







## Readings

- ④ Chen, Hao, and Xinguo Liu. "Lighting and material of Halo 3." In *ACM SIGGRAPH 2008 Games*, pp. 1-22. ACM, 2008.
- ④ Kautz, Jan, John Snyder, and Peter-Pike J. Sloan. "Fast Arbitrary BRDF Shading for Low-Frequency Lighting Using Spherical Harmonics." *Rendering Techniques* 2 (2002): 291-296.
- ④ Chapter 7-8: Tomas Akenine-Möller, Eric Haines, and Naty Hoffman, *Real Time Rendering*, A.K. Peters Ltd., 3rd edition, ISBN 978-1-56881-424-7, 2008.
- ④ Siggraph 2017 Course notes on Material Acquisition and Representation for Virtual Reality