

A Model for Volume Lighting and Modeling

Presentation by
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Outline

- Motivation
- Review of direct volume rendering
- Theoretical contribution
- Implementation
- Results & Discussion

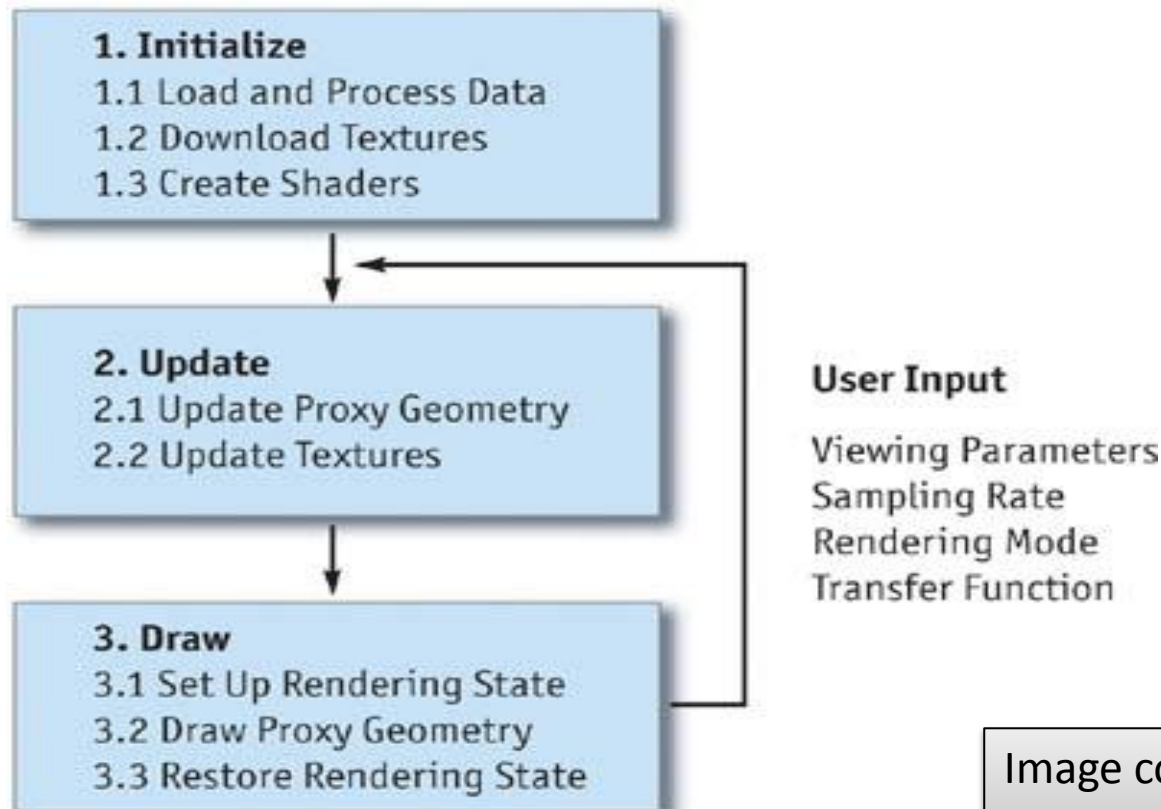
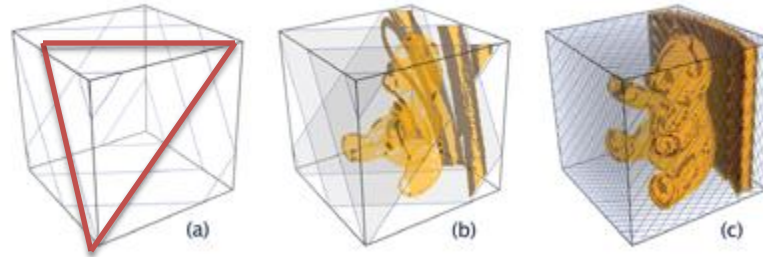
Motivation

- Gradient-based surface shading has limitations
 - Normal is not well-defined in uniform regions
 - Low-magnitude gradients are affected by noise
- Shadow computation is expensive and hence, hinders interactive rendering
- This paper tries to achieve
 - a more sophisticated shading model for direct rendering of translucent volumes while retaining interactivity

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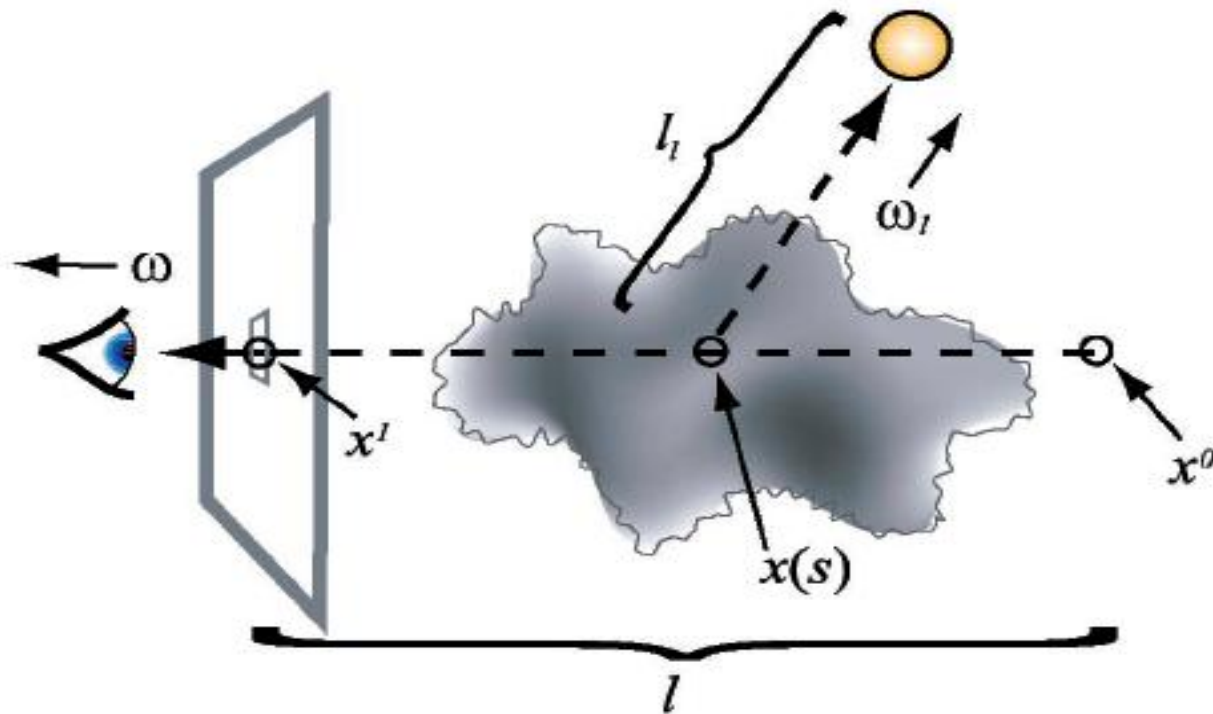
Direct volume rendering: Review



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Shading for direct volume rendering



$$\mathbf{x}(s) = \mathbf{x}_0 + s\vec{\omega}$$

Parametric form of ray

R: surface reflectivity
T: attenuation between two points
f: Blinn-Phong shading based on local gradient
L_l: Intensity of light source

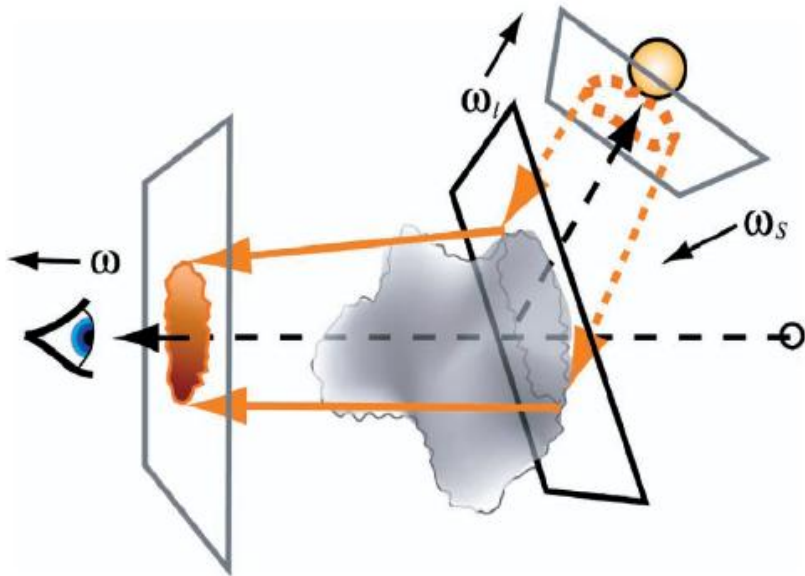
$$L(\mathbf{x}_1, \vec{\omega}) = T(0, l)L(\mathbf{x}_0, \vec{\omega}) +$$

$$\int_0^l T(s, l) R(\mathbf{x}(s)) f_s(\mathbf{x}(s)) L_l ds$$

Where:

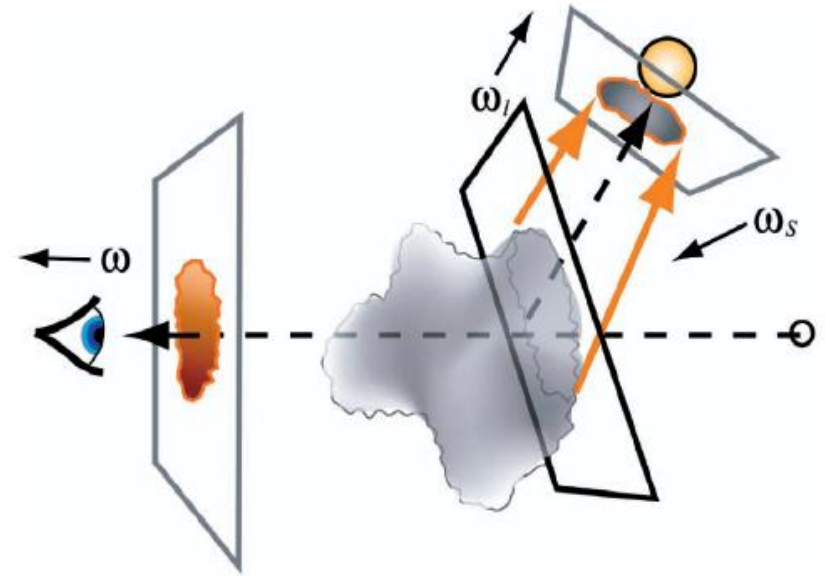
$$T(s, l) = \exp\left(-\int_s^l \tau(s') ds'\right)$$

Shading for direct volume rendering with shadow



First step:

1. Render for eye view
2. Sample light buffer



Second step:

1. Render for eye view
2. Sample light buffer

Half-angle slicing of the volume is required to ensure front-to-back rendering from the light source

Shading for direct volume rendering with shadow

$$L(\mathbf{x}_1, \vec{\omega}) = T(0, l)L(\mathbf{x}_0, \vec{\omega}) + \int_0^l T(s, l)R(\mathbf{x}(s))f_s(\mathbf{x}(s))T_l(s, l)L_l ds$$

Where:

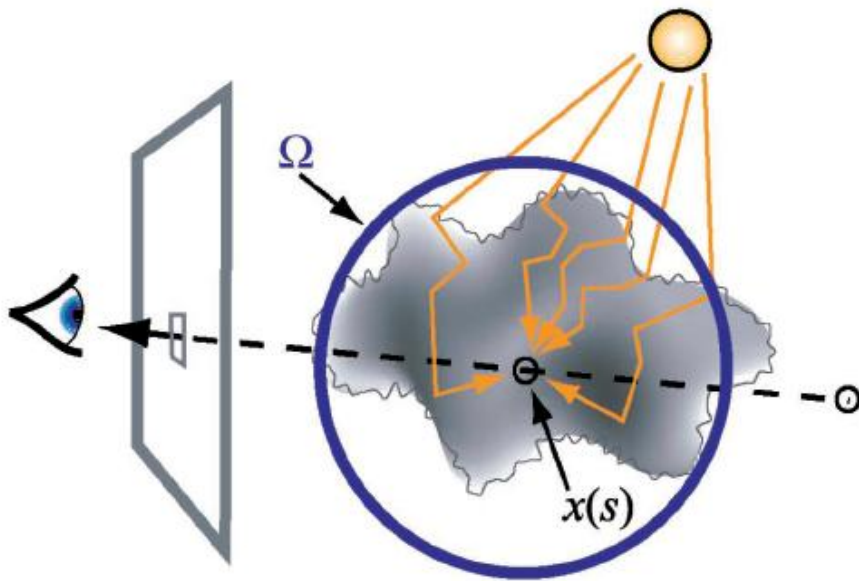
$$T_l(t, t') = \exp\left(-\int_0^{t'} \tau(\mathbf{x}(t) + \vec{\omega}_l s) ds\right)$$

New term for attenuation of light coming from light source

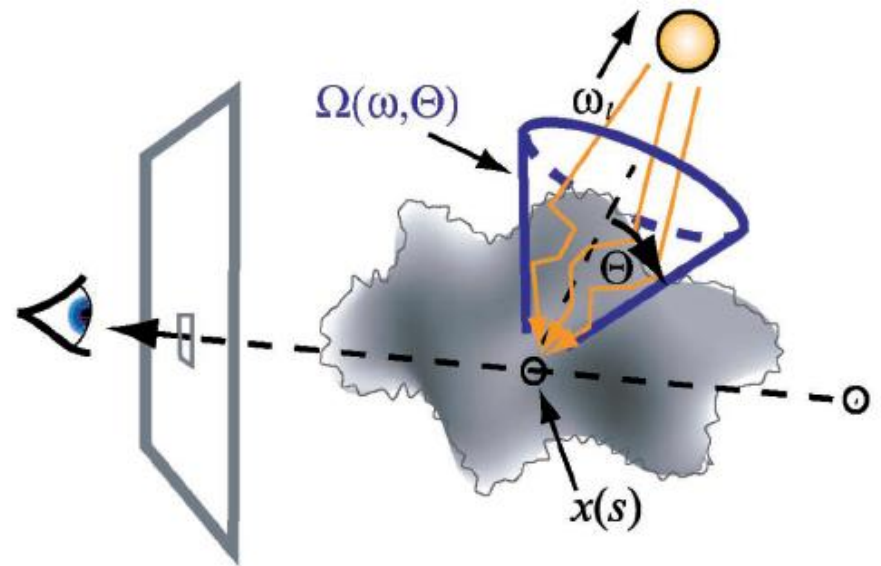
Cons:

- Computation of shadow volume is expensive and consumes high memory
- Does not account for translucency in the volume

Shading for volume rendering with indirect light contribution



Scattering is the reason for indirect lights coming from all possible directions



- Only a section of all possible directions is considered for implementation
- Model does not capture backscattering

Shading for volume rendering with indirect light contribution

$$L(\mathbf{x}_1, \omega) = T(0, l)L(\mathbf{x}_0, \omega) + \int_0^l T(0, s) * C(s) * L_l(s) ds,$$

Where:

$$C(s) = E(s)((1 - S(s)) + f_s(s)S(s))$$

$$L_l(s) = L_l * \exp\left(-\int_s^{lt} \tau(x) dx\right) * P(\Theta) +$$

$$L_l * \exp\left(-\int_s^{lt} \tau_i(x) dx\right) \mathbf{Blur}(\theta).$$

Blurred indirect light contribution

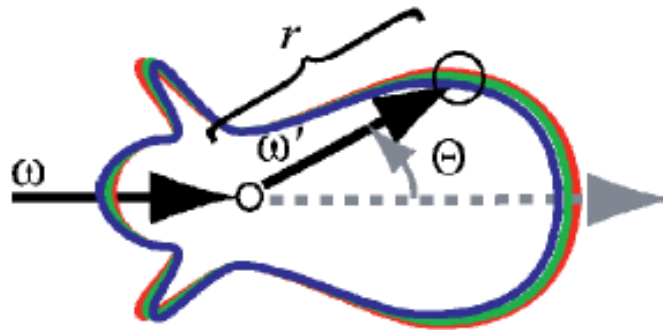
P: Phase function

Phase function driven
Direct attenuation

Indirect attenuation

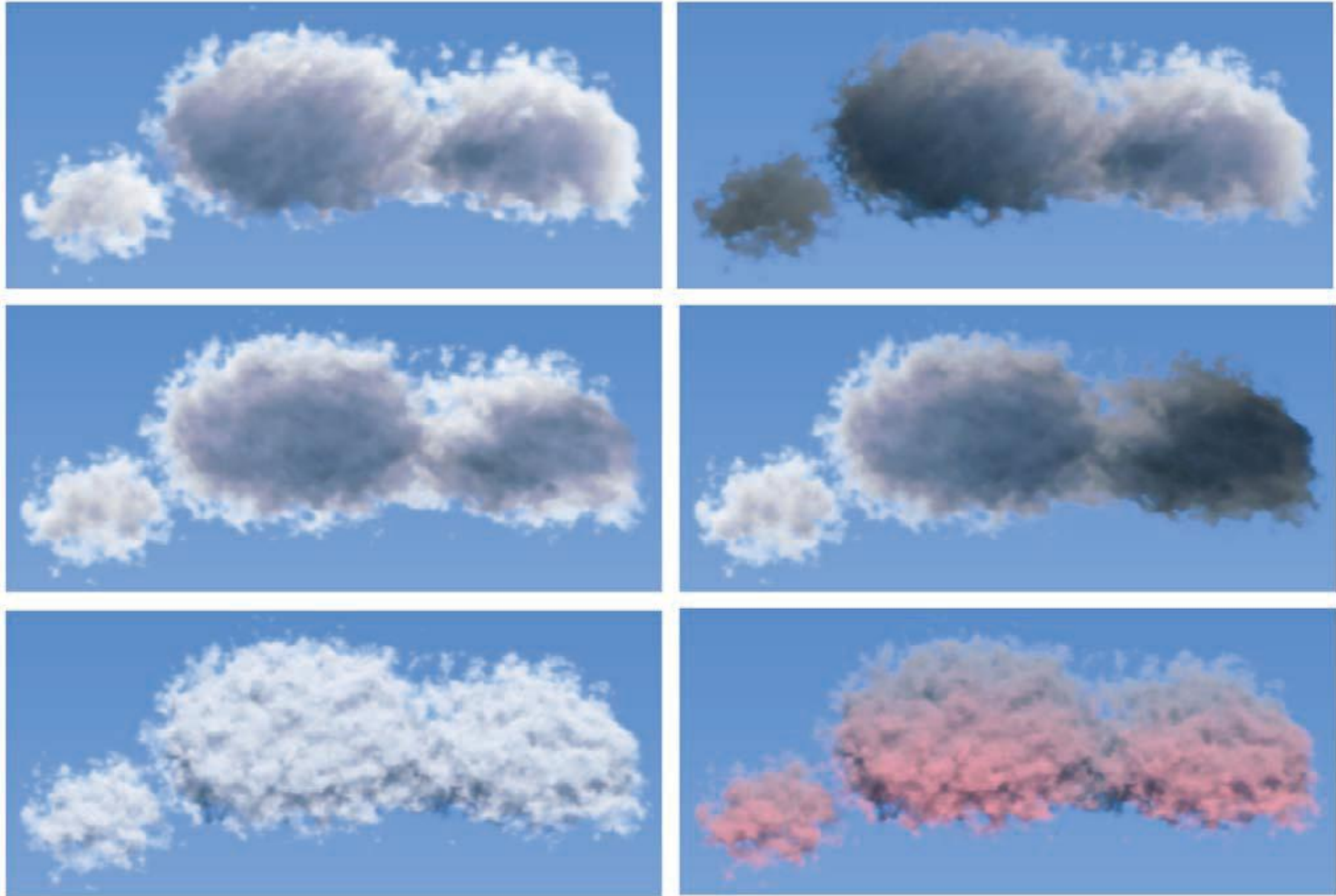
Phase Function

- Distribution of outgoing light directions due to scattering over the entire sphere of directions, given an incoming light direction
- Dependent on the cosine of the angle between the incoming and outgoing directions



Example of a symmetric phase function

Effect of phase function



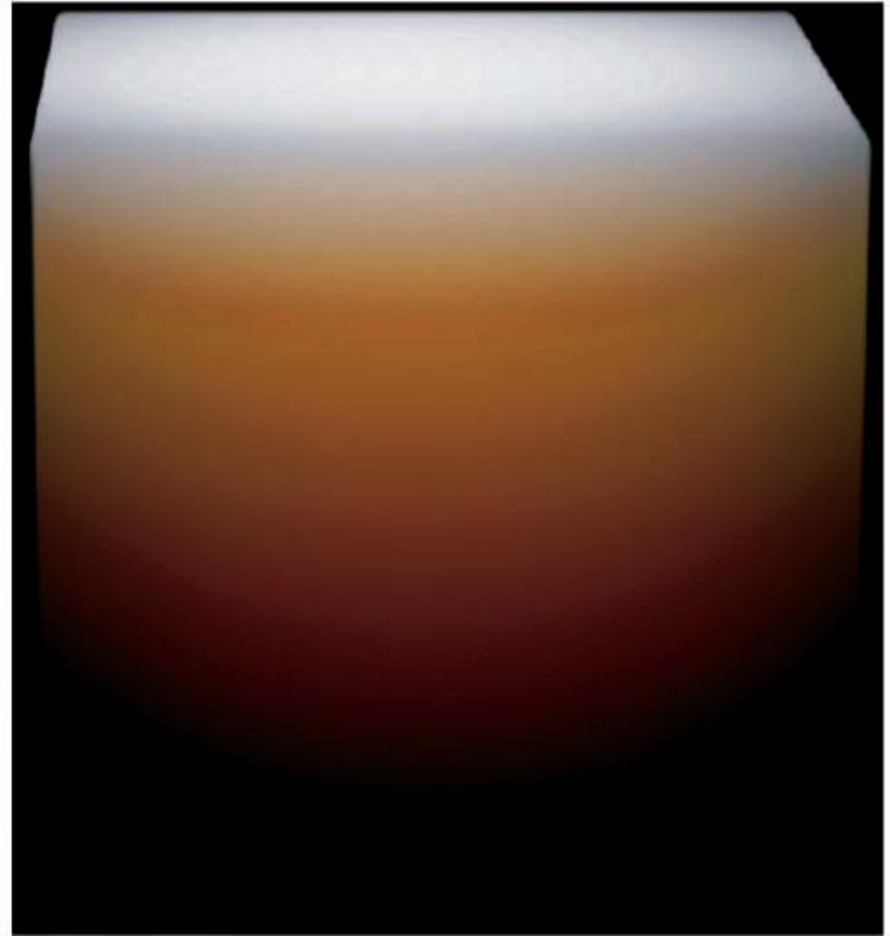
Indirect Attenuation

- Actual phenomenon
 - Diffusion of light through the volume which is a translucent medium
 - Light moves farther through the volume than it would without indirect diffusion
- How to achieve?
 - Reduce the attenuation along the light direction by randomly blurring the light in the local neighborhood

Effect of indirect attenuation



Photograph



Volume rendering

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Implementation

- Set-up:
 - Texture coordinates needed while slicing the volume
 - 3D texture co-ordinates for volume data
 - 2D texture co-ordinates for projection of vertices on to light buffer
 - 3D texture coordinate to represent view direction from eye to vertex
 - 3D texture coordinate to represent view direction from light to vertex (if light is at finite distance)

Implementation

- Pass 1: Observer Update

- Render a slice from observer's point of view

- Render target - eye buffer
 - Bound texture – light buffer

- Total light intensity at a fragment

- $I' = (L_i + S().L_d) I_0$
 - I' : total RGB intensity at current sample
 - I_0 : original light color
 - L_i : indirect RGB light intensity from current light buffer
 - L_d : direct achromatic light intensity from current light buffer
 - S : Phase function, if applicable

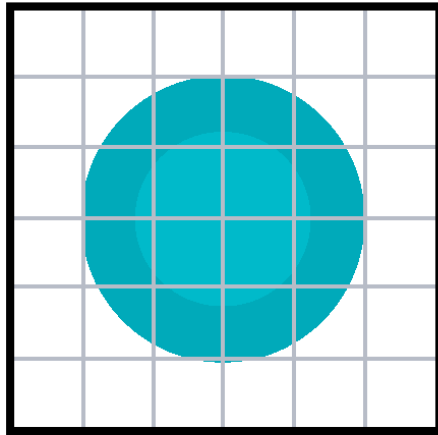
Implementation

- Pass 2: Light Update
 - Same slice is rendered from light's point of view
 - Render target – next light buffer
 - Bound texture – current light buffer
 - To imitate scattering, current sample location is perturbed to obtain at least 4 neighboring sample locations
 - Next light buffer replaces the current one
 - The technique is known as ***ping pong blending***

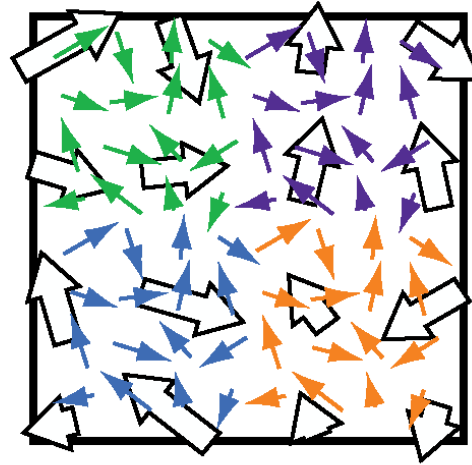


Volume Perturbation

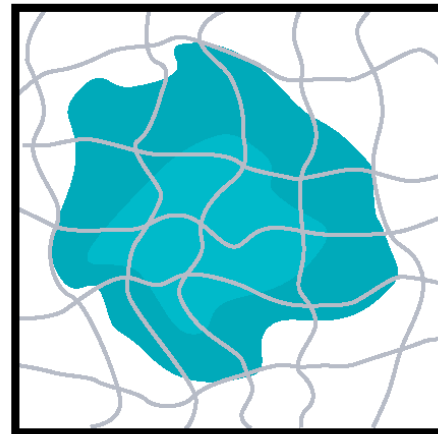
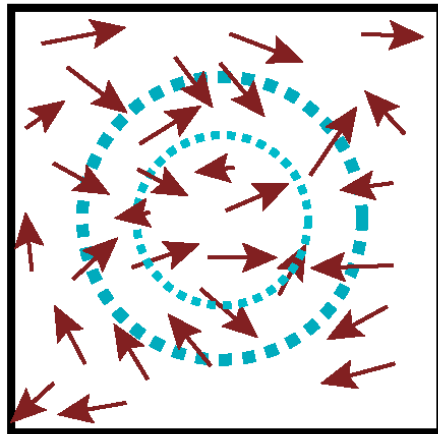
Input
Light buffer



(a)

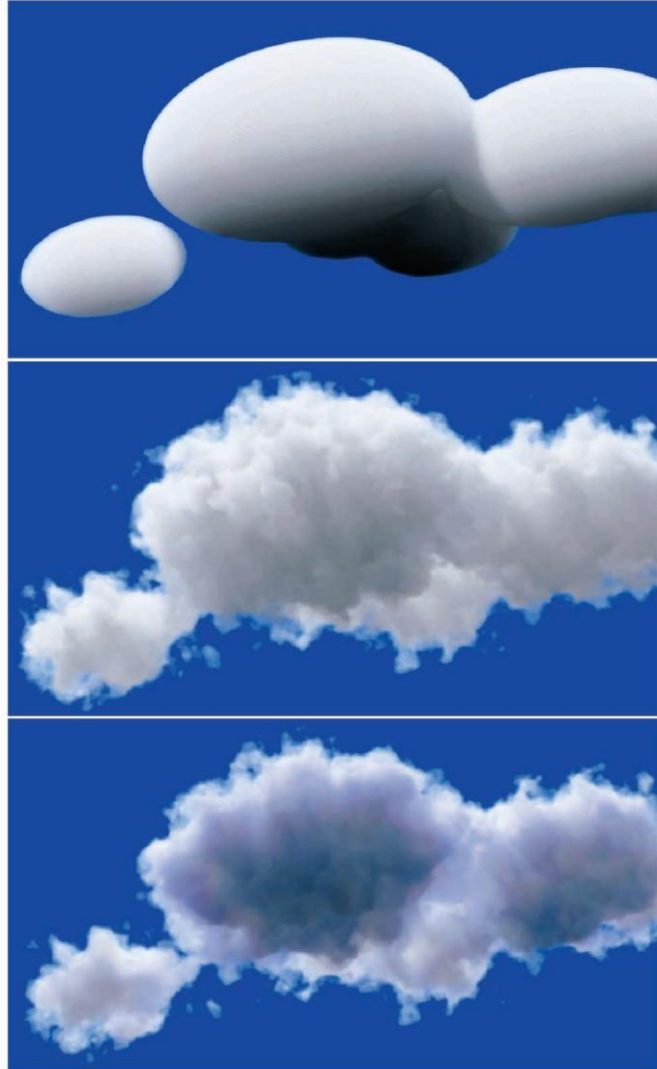


(b)



Perturbed
Light buffer

Volume Perturbation Effect

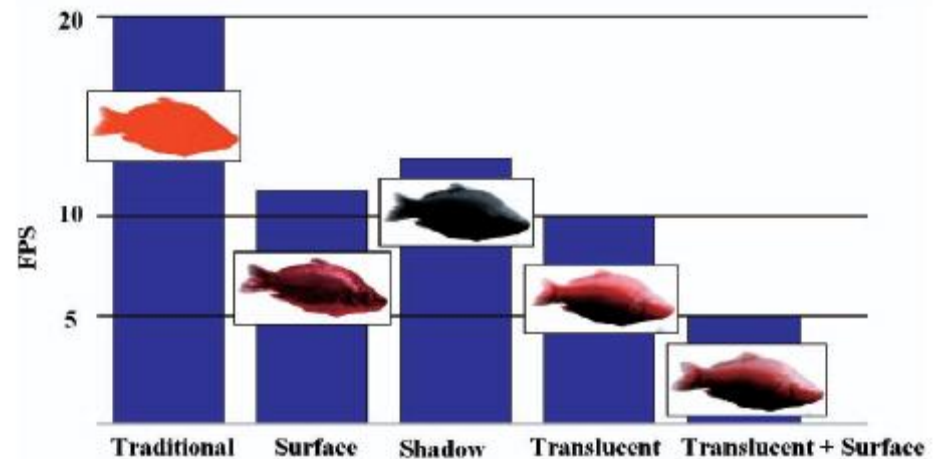


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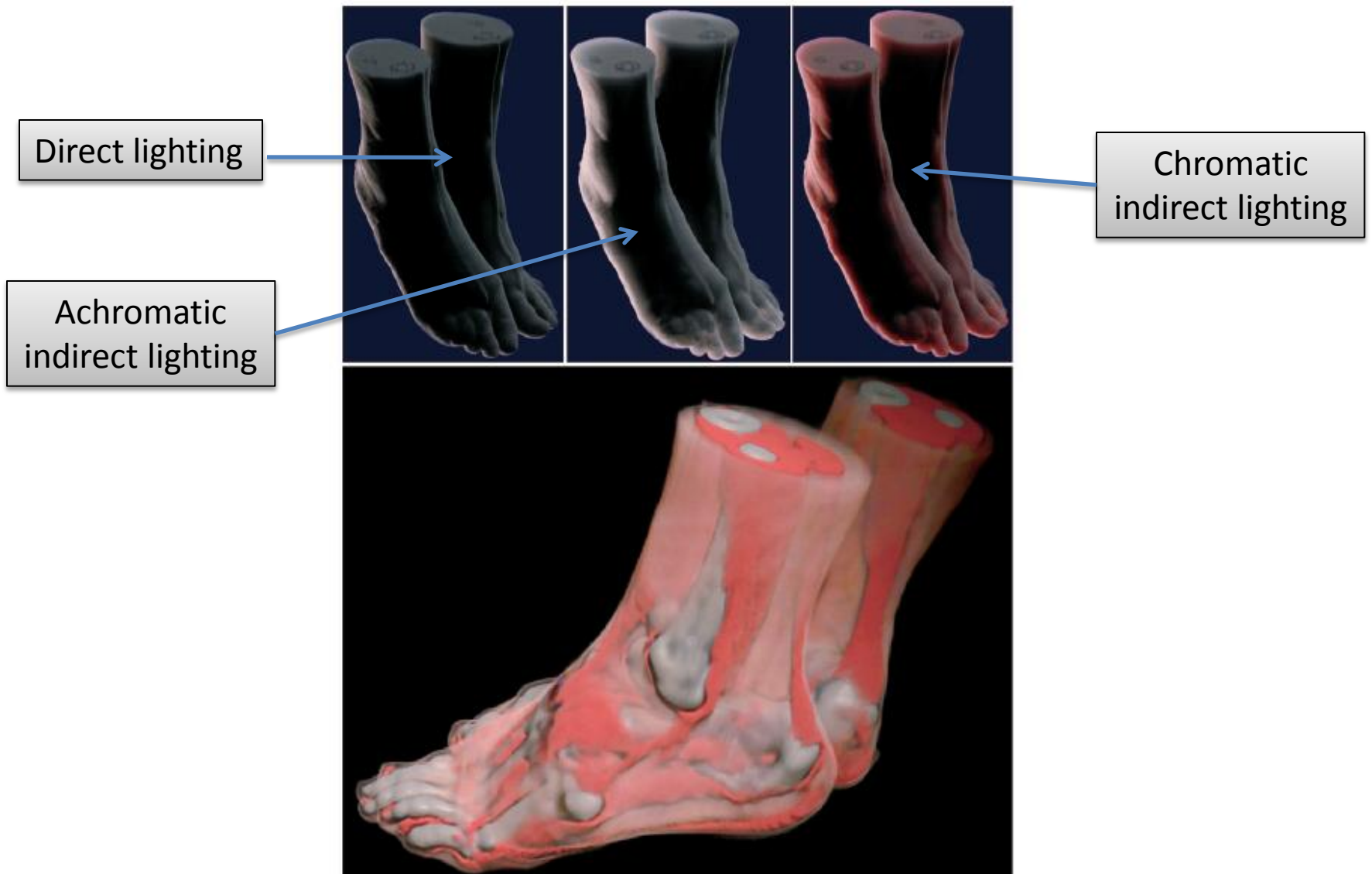
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Results

- Author's implementation on
 - NVIDIA GeForce 3
 - ATI/Radeon 8500/9500
- Render-to-texture extension used as primary technique
- Frame rate: 50-60% slower than volume rendering with no shading at all
- Detailed report of timing not present in the paper though

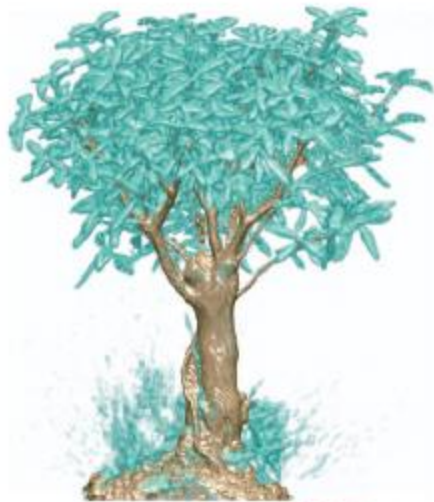


Results



Results

Surface shading



Direct lighting



Direct + Indirect
lighting



Direct + Indirect
Lighting,
Surface shaded leaves



Discussion

- Trade-off between accuracy and speed
 - More accurate software-based approaches cannot provide interactivity
- This method computes and stores light transport in image spaces
 - Compared to previous methods which stored light information in 3D volume textures
- If you are interested in GPU-based shading for ray casting, this VIS'08 tutorial may be useful:
 - <http://www.voreen.org/240-Vis08-Tutorial.html>