



# Lighting and Shading

Introduction to Computer Graphics  
Yu-Ting Wu

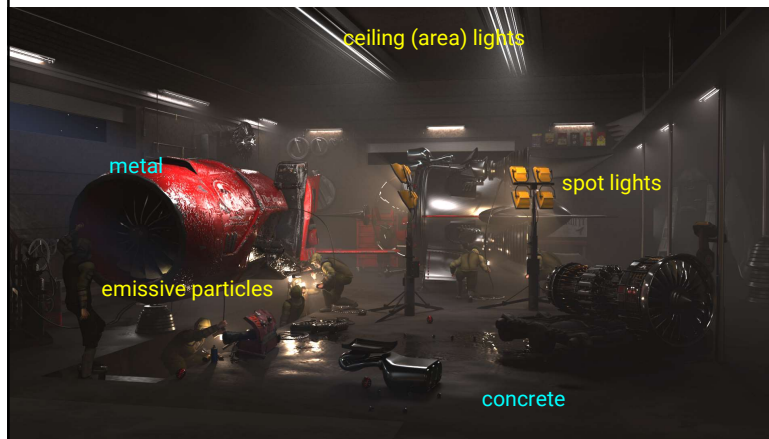
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## Recap.

- From week 2 to week 4, we introduced how a 3D shape shows up on the screen
- In the last week, we had a quick glance at the GPU graphics pipeline
- Next, we will talk about how to determine the fragment color
  - Lighting and shading
  - Texture mapping
  - Alpha blending for transparency objects

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## Shading: Materials and Lighting



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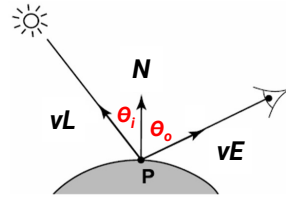
## Shading: Materials and Lighting (cont.)



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## Shading

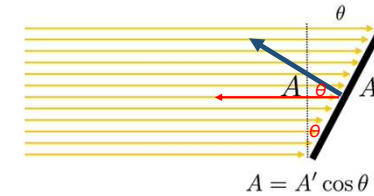
- Shading refers to the process of altering the color of an object/surface/polygon in the 3D scene
- In physically-based rendering, shading tries to approximate the **local behavior** of lights on the object's surface, based on things like
  - Surface orientation (normal)  $N$
  - Lighting direction  $vL$  (and  $\theta_i$ )
  - Viewing direction  $vE$  (and  $\theta_o$ )
  - Material properties
  - Participating media
  - etc.



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## Lambertian Cosine Law

- Illumination on an oblique surface is less than on a normal one
- Generally, illumination falls off as  $\cos\theta$



$$E = \frac{\Phi}{A'} = \frac{\Phi \cos \theta}{A}$$

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## Lights

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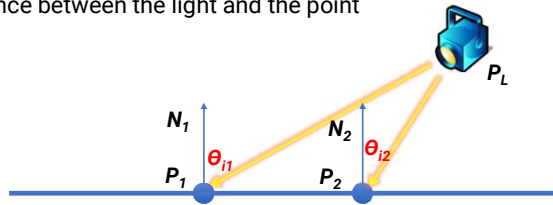
## Lights in Computer Graphics

- Point light
  - Spot light
  - Area light
- } local lights
- 
- Directional light
  - Environment light
- } distant lights

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## Local Light

- The distance between a light and a surface is **not** long enough compared to the scene scale
- The position of light needs to be considered during shading
  - Lighting direction**  $\mathbf{vL} = |\mathbf{P}_L - \mathbf{P}|$
  - Lighting attenuation** is proportional to the square of the distance between the light and the point

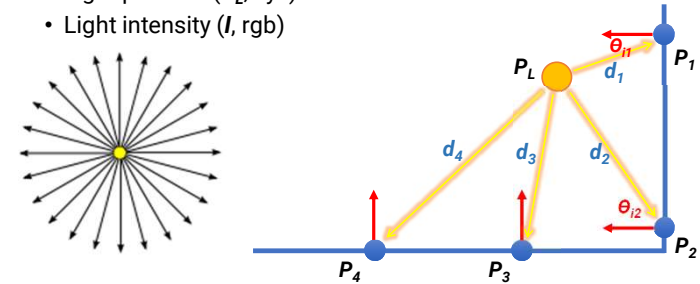


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## Point Light

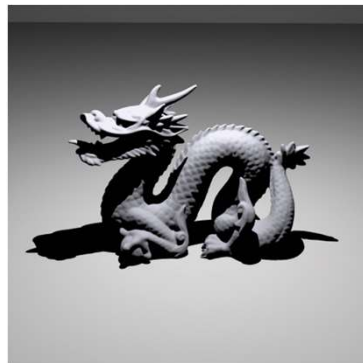
- An isotropic point light source that emits the same amount of light in all directions
- Described by
  - Light position ( $\mathbf{P}_L$ , xyz)
  - Light intensity ( $I$ , rgb)



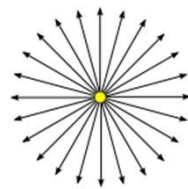
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## Point Light (cont.)



A scene illuminated by a point light

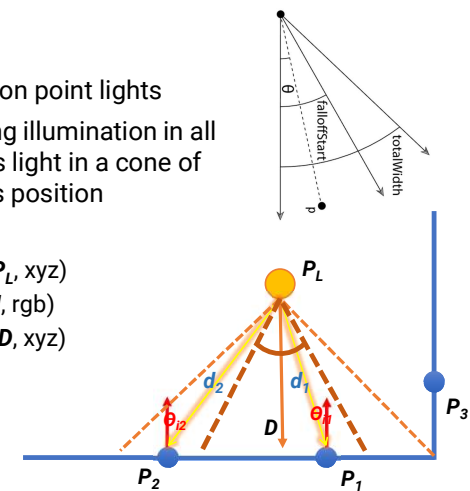


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## Spot Light

- A handy variation on point lights
- Rather than shining illumination in all directions, it emits light in a cone of directions from its position
- Described by
  - Light position ( $\mathbf{P}_L$ , xyz)
  - Light intensity ( $I$ , rgb)
  - Light direction ( $\mathbf{D}$ , xyz)
  - TotalWidth
  - FalloffStart



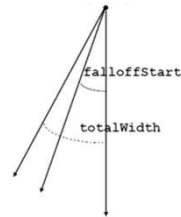
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## Spot Light (cont.)



A scene illuminated by a spot light

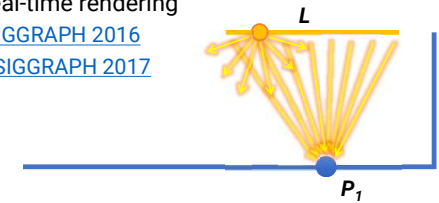


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## Area Light

- Defined by one or more **shapes** that emit light from their surface, with some directional distribution of energy at each point on the surface
- Require **integration** of lighting contribution across the light surface
  - In offline rendering, usually estimated by sampling
  - Expensive for real-time rendering
    - [Heitz et al., SIGGRAPH 2016](#)
    - [Dupuy et al., SIGGRAPH 2017](#)



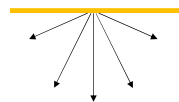
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## Area Light (cont.)



A scene illuminated by an area light

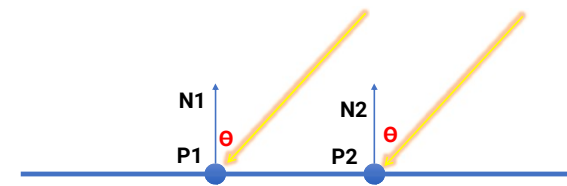


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## Distant Light

- The distance between a light and a surface is long enough compared to the scene scale and **can be ignored**
  - Lighting direction is fixed**
  - No lighting attenuation**
- Directional light (sun)** is the most common distant light

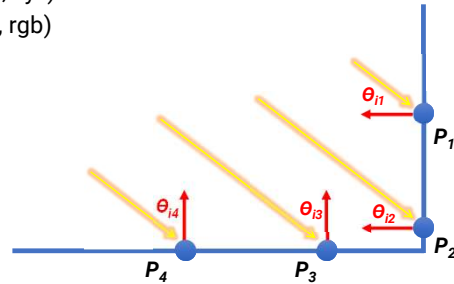


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## Directional Light

- Describes an emitter that deposits illumination from the **same direction** at every point in space
- Described by
  - Light direction ( $D$ , xyz)
  - Light radiance ( $L$ , rgb)

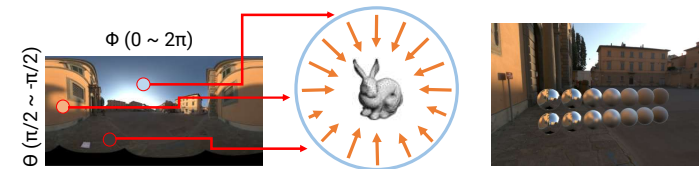


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## Environment Light

- Use a **texture** (cube map or longitude-latitude image) to represent a **spherical energy distribution**
  - Each texel maps to a spherical direction, considered as a directional light
  - The whole map illuminates the scene from a virtual sphere at an infinite distance
- Also called **image-based lighting (IBL)**



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## Environment Light (cont.)

- Widely used in digital visual effects and film production



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## Environment Light (cont.)

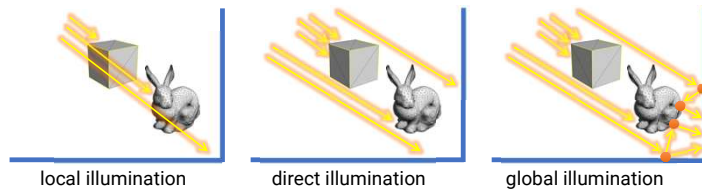


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## Local, Direct, and Global Illumination

- Direct illumination considers only the **direct** contribution of lights
- Local illumination can be considered as direct lighting **without occlusion** (all lights are fully visible, no shadows)
- Global illumination includes **multi-bounce** illumination reflected from other surfaces (need **recursive** computation!)



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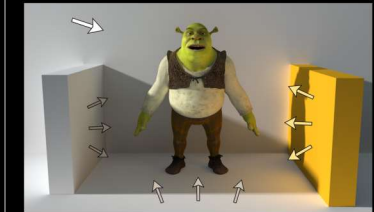
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## Local, Direct, and Global Illumination (cont.)

Direct Lighting Only



Direct + Indirect Lighting



Comparison of direct and global illumination

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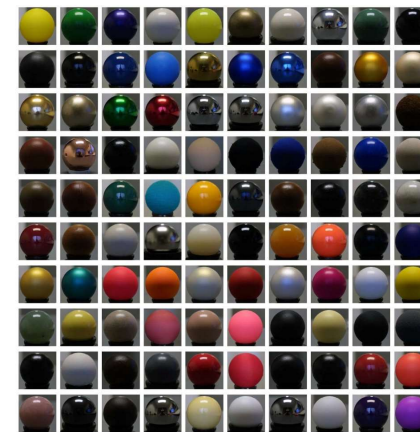
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## Materials

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## Materials



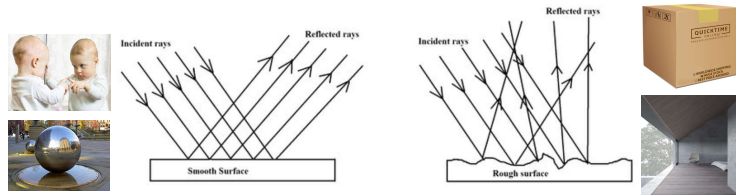
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## Materials (cont.)

- Highly related to surface types
- The **smoother** a surface, the more reflected light is concentrated in the direction a **perfect mirror** would reflect the light

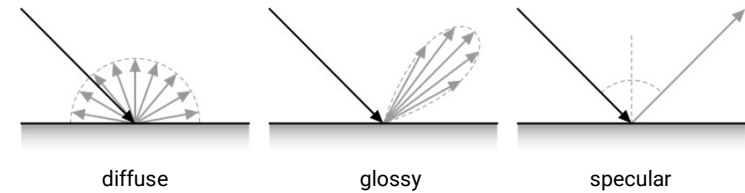


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## Materials (cont.)

- Highly related to surface types
- The **smoother** a surface, the more reflected light is concentrated in the direction a **perfect mirror** would reflect the light

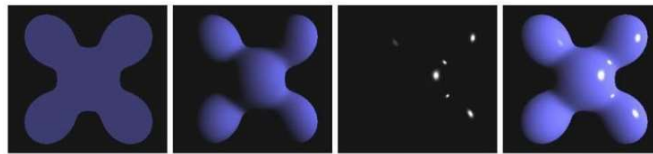


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## Phong Lighting Model

- **Diffuse reflection**
  - Light goes everywhere; colored by object color
- **Specular reflection**
  - Happens only near mirror configuration; usually white
- **Ambient reflection**
  - Constant accounted for global illumination (cheap hack)



ambient

diffuse

specular

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## Ambient Shading

- Add constant color to account for disregarded illumination and fill black shadows



Flat Ambient

No Ambient

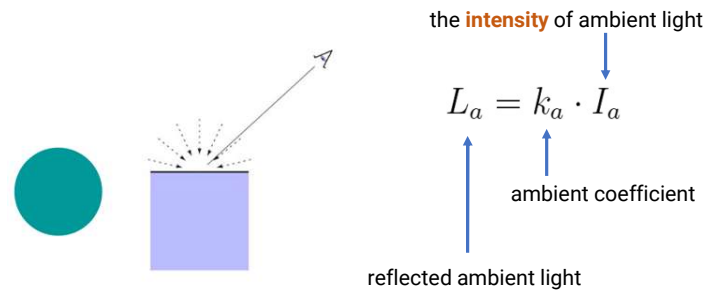
True Ambient

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## Ambient Shading (cont.)

- Add constant color to account for disregarded illumination and fill black shadows

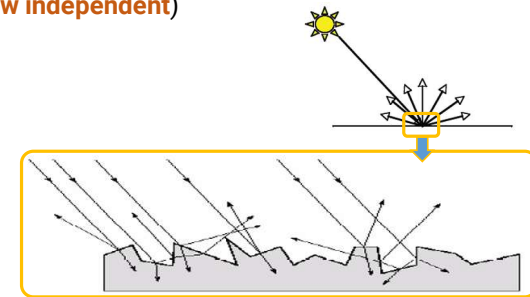


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## Diffuse Shading

- Assume light reflects **equally in all directions**
  - The surface is rough with lots of tiny microfacets
- Therefore, the surface looks the same color from all views (**view independent**)

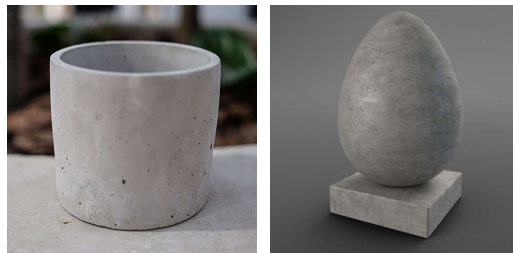


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## Diffuse Shading (cont.)

- Assume light reflects **equally in all directions**
  - The surface is rough with lots of tiny microfacets
- Therefore, the surface looks the same color from all views (**view independent**)

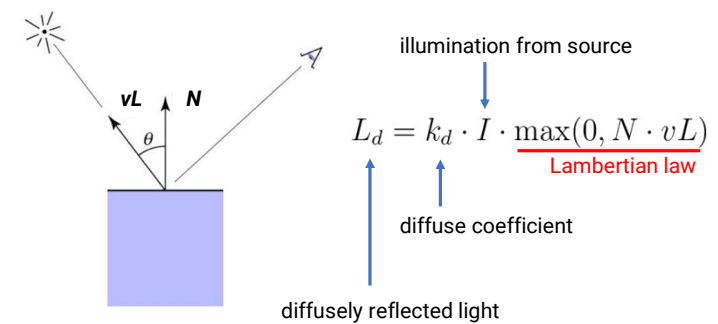


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## Diffuse Shading (cont.)

- Applies to diffuse or matte surface

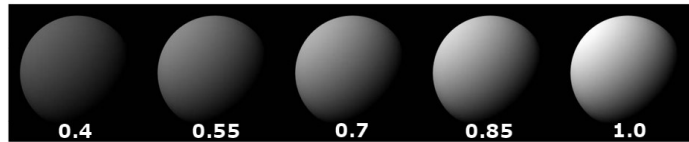


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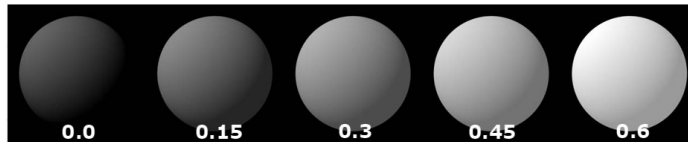
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## Diffuse Shading (cont.)



diffuse-reflection model with different  $k_d$



ambient and diffuse-reflection model with different  $k_a$

$$I_a = 1.0 \quad k_d = 0.4$$

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## Diffuse Shading (cont.)

- For color objects, apply the formula for each color channel separately
- Light can also be non-white

Example:

**white light:** (0.9, 0.9, 0.9)

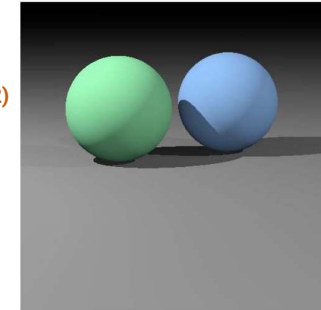
**yellow light:** (0.8, 0.8, 0.2)

$$L_d = k_d \cdot I \cdot \max(0, N \cdot vL)$$

Example:

**green ball:** (0.2, 0.7, 0.2)

**blue ball:** (0.2, 0.2, 0.7)



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## Specular Shading

- Some surfaces have highlights, mirror-like reflection
- **View direction dependent**
- Especially obvious for smooth shiny surfaces

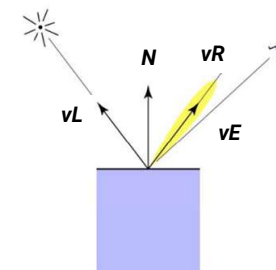


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## Specular Shading (cont.)

- **Phong specular model [1975]**



$$vR = vL + 2((N \cdot vL)N - vL)$$

$$= 2(N \cdot vL)N - vL$$

perfectly reflected direction

(you can find the proof [here](#))

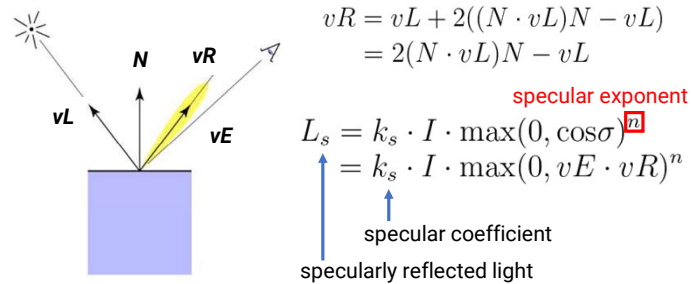
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## Specular Shading (cont.)

### Phong specular model [1975]

- Fall off gradually from the perfect reflection direction

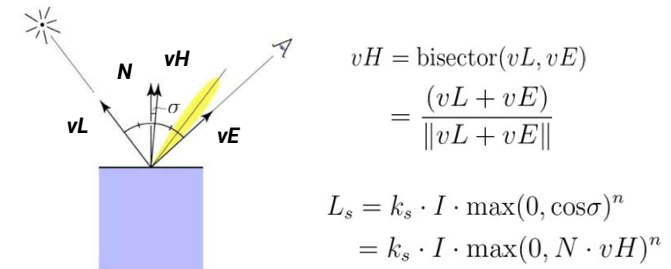


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## Phong specular Variant: Blinn-Phong

- Rather than computing reflection directly, just compare to normal bisection property
- One can prove  $\cos^n(\sigma) = \cos^{4n}(\alpha)$

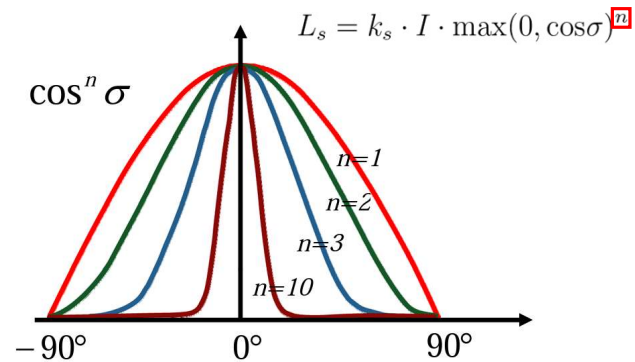


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## Specular Shading (cont.)

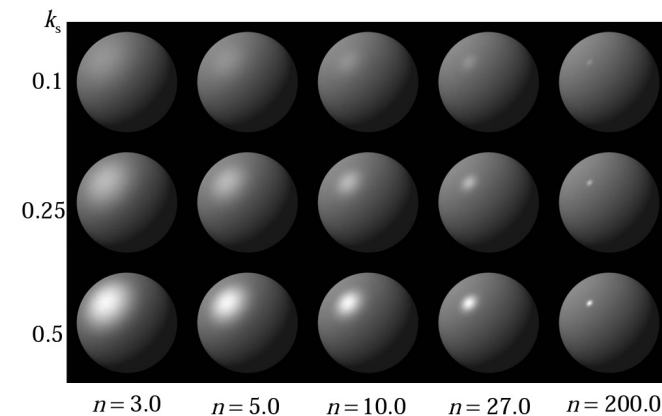
- Increase  $n$  narrows the lobe



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## Specular Shading (cont.)



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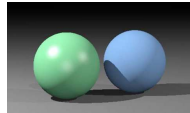
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## Complete Phong Lighting Model

- Compute the contribution from a light to a point by including **ambient**, **diffuse**, and **specular** components

$$L = L_a + L_d + L_s$$

$$= k_a \cdot I_a + I(k_d \cdot \max(0, N \cdot vL) + k_s \cdot \max(0, N \cdot vH)^n)$$



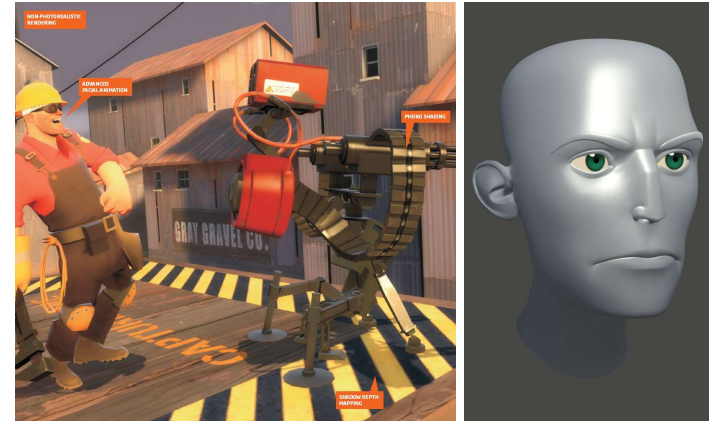
- If there are  $s$  lights, just sum over all the lights because the lighting is **linear**

$$L = k_a \cdot I_a + \sum_i (I_i(k_d \cdot \max(0, N \cdot vL_i) + k_s \cdot \max(0, N \cdot vH_i)^n))$$

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## Some Results with Phong Lighting Model



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## Material File Format

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## Material Template Library

- A material template library (\*.mtl) file defines the materials of a \*.obj model

```

# Unit-volume cube with the same texture coordinates on each face.
# Created by Morgan McGuire and released into the Public Domain on
# July 16, 2011.
# http://graphics.cs.williams.edu/data
mtllib default.mtl

v -0.5 0.5 -0.5
v 0.5 0.5 0.5
v 0.5 0.5 -0.5
v -0.5 -0.5 -0.5
v -0.5 -0.5 0.5
v 0.5 -0.5 0.5
v 0.5 -0.5 -0.5

vt 0 1
vt 0 0
vt 1 0
vt 1 1

vn 0 1 0
vn -1 0 0
vn 0 0 -1
vn 0 0 1
vn 0 -1 0

```

specify material file

```

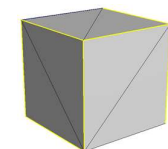
g cube
usemtl default

f 8/4/4 6 7/3/3 6 6/2/2 6
f 8/4/4 6 6/2/2 6 5/1/1 6
f 8/4/4 5 4/3/3 5 3/2/2 5
f 8/4/4 5 3/2/2 5 7/1/1 5
f 6/4/4 4 2/3/3 4 1/2/2 4
f 6/4/4 4 1/2/2 4 5/1/1 4
f 5/4/3 1 1/3/3 4 4/2/2 3
f 5/4/3 4 4/2/2 3 8/1/1 3
f 7/4/2 3 3/3/2 2/2/2 2
f 7/4/2 2 2/2/2 2 6/1/2 2
f 3/4/1 4 4/3/1 1/2/1 1
f 3/4/1 1 1/2/1 2/1/1 1

```

declare a new group (submesh) called "cube" that use "default" material

these faces are in the "cube" group and use the "default" material

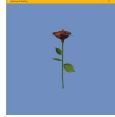


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## Material Template Library (cont.)

- A model can have multiple groups (sub-meshes)
- The faces in the same group have the same material properties



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## Material Template Library (cont.)

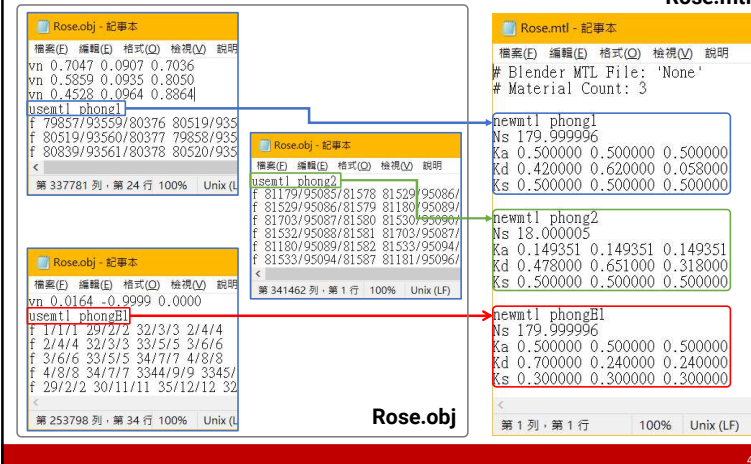
- The material template library (\*.mtl) used by a Wavefront OBJ (\*.obj) file describes material properties using
  - Phong lighting model (Ka, Kd, Ks, Ns)
  - Texture maps (mapKa, mapKd, mapKs, mapNs ...)
  - Transparency (d, Tr, Ni)
  - ... etc

- You can refer to the wiki page for more information  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wavefront\\_.obj\\_file](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wavefront_.obj_file)

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## Material Template Library (cont.)

Rose.mtl



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Any Questions?

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