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Chapter 3  
CSCI-396  
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<https://powcoder.com>

**Lighting and Shading**

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# Why do we need shading?

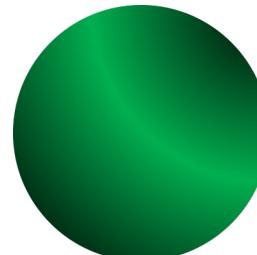
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- So far our objects look unrealistic and “flat”
- If we draw a sphere we get:

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<https://powcoder.com>

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- But we want something more like:



# Shading

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- The difference is that light-material interactions cause each point on the surface to visually have a different color or shade
  - The object itself is still one uniform color but the lighting causes it to *appear* as different shades
- Need to incorporate:
  - Light sources
  - Material of object
  - Location of viewer
  - Orientation of surface

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# Real World Lighting

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<https://powcoder.com>

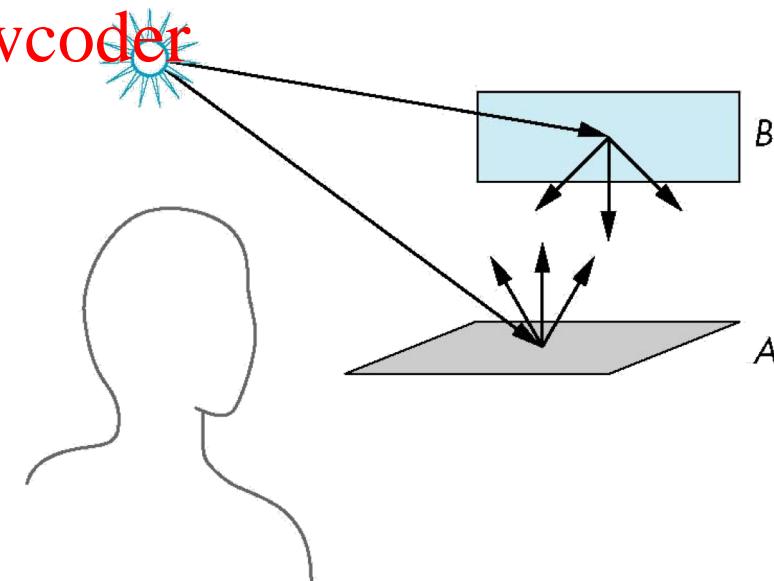
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# Real world lighting

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- Light is produced at some source and radiates outward
- Light strikes object A
  - Some of the light is scattered/reflected
  - Some is absorbed
- Some of the scattered light strikes B
  - Which scatters/absorbs it
- Some of that scattered light strikes A again...



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# Rendering Equation

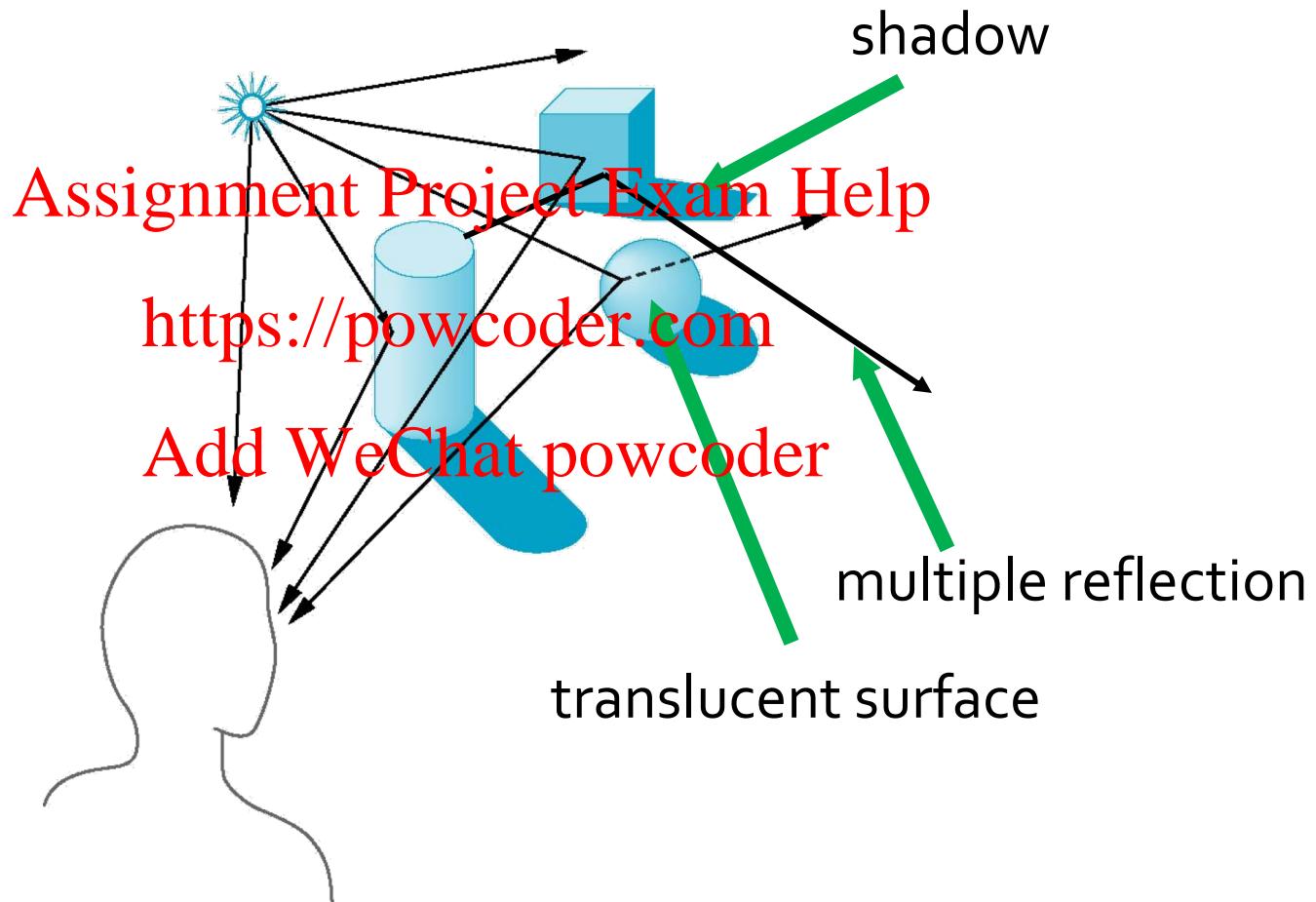
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- There is an infinite cycle of scattering and absorption of light
- It can be described by the rendering equation
  - Using integrals and limits the solution can be found <https://powcoder.com>
  - However no general solution and numerically solving it is too time intensive
  - Ray tracing is a special case for certain assumptions about the surfaces involved
- Rendering equation is global however, including:
  - Shadows
  - Multiple scattering from object to object

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# Global Effects

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# Local vs Global Rendering

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- Real-life shading requires a global calculation involving all objects and light sources simultaneously
  - Incompatible with pipeline which shades each triangle independently
- However, usually happy if things “look right” even if not perfect
  - Many techniques for approximating global effects

# Light-Material Interaction

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- When light strikes an object that light is partially absorbed (usually turns into heat) and partially scattered (reflected)
- Each color is reflected by the same amount for different surfaces
  - A red object under white light will look red since it reflects red and absorbs all other colors
- The reflected light is scattered in a manner that depends on the smoothness (at an atomic level) and orientation of the surface

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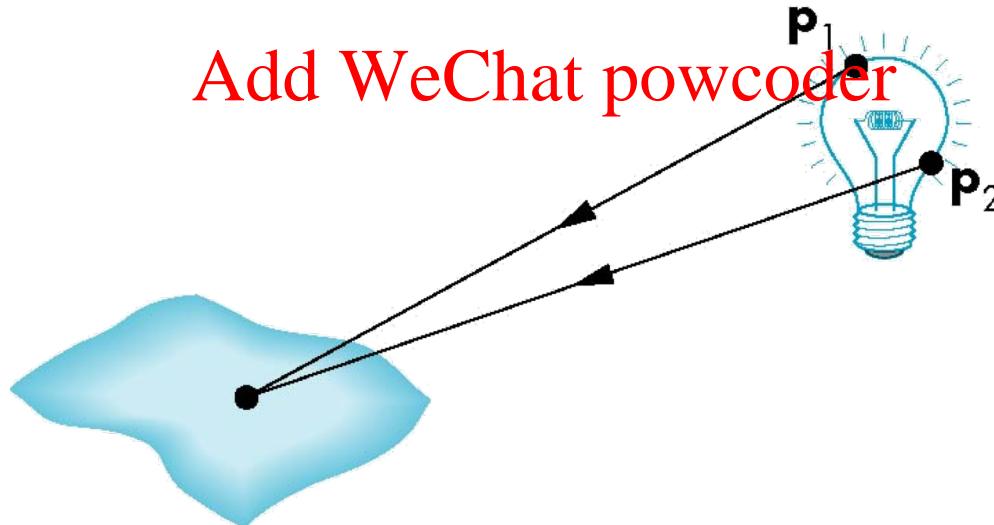
# Light Sources

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- General/real light sources are difficult to work with because we must consider light coming from a range of points

<https://powcoder.com>

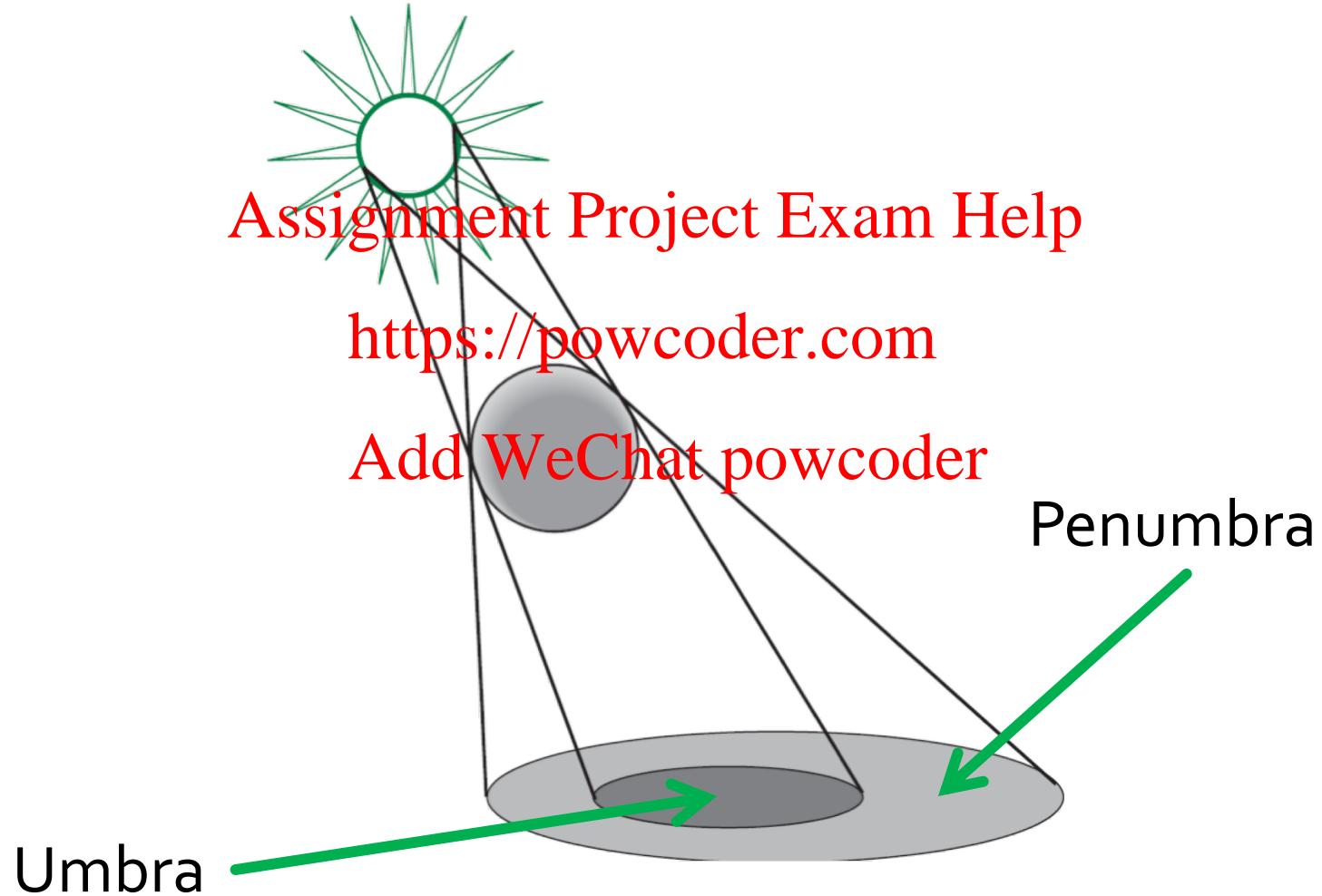
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# General Light Sources

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# Our Light Model

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<https://powcoder.com>

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# Vector Math Notes

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- Lighting models heavily use points and vectors so let's do some vector math review
- See "Scalars, Vectors, and Points" document  
<https://powcoder.com>
  - For those of you online I strongly recommend you have this handy

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# Light Sources

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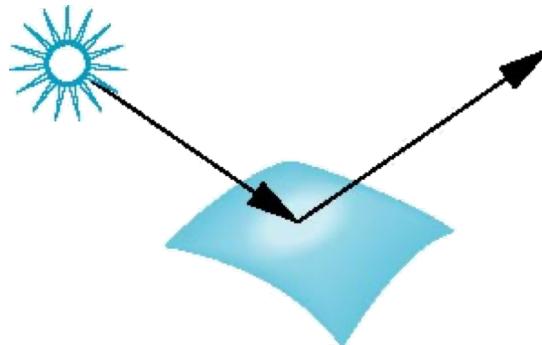
- Point source – like a light in a room
  - Has *position* and color
  - Radiates in all directions equally
  - Diminish amount based on distance
- Directional source – like the sun
  - Has *direction* and color
  - Essentially infinitely far away and bright light source
- Ambient light
  - Same amount of light everywhere in the scene
  - Used to model contribution of many sources and reflecting surfaces

# Surface Types

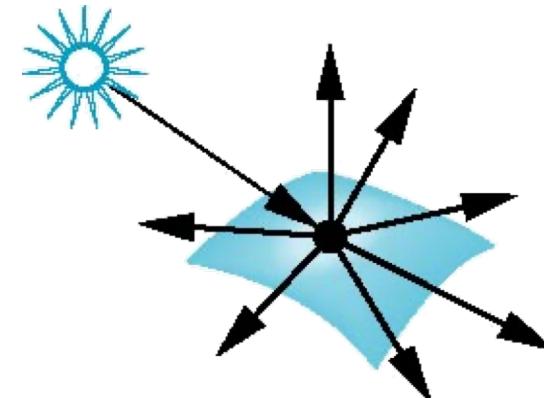
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- Smoother surfaces mean more reflected light is concentrated in direction a perfect mirror would reflect
- A very rough surface scatters light in all directions

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Smooth



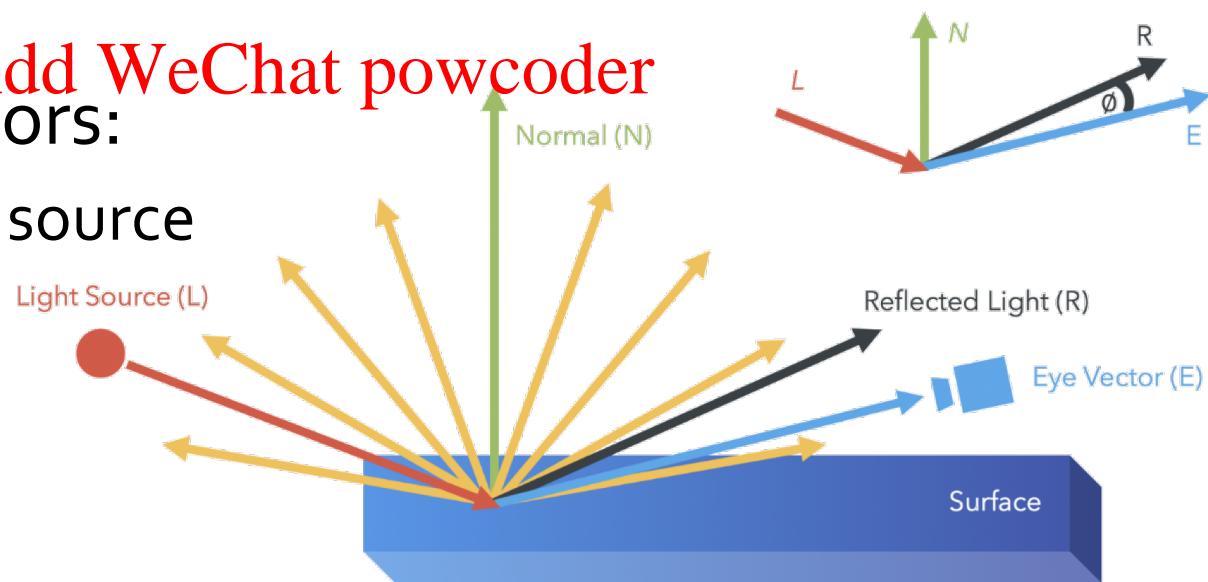
Rough

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# Phong Reflection Model

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- Very simple model that can be computed rapidly
- Has three components:
  - Diffuse
  - Specular
  - Ambient
- Uses four vectors:
  - Direction to Light source
  - Direction to Eye
  - Surface Normal
  - Ideal Reflector



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**Ideal Reflector (Specular Surface)**  
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An ideal reflector has an equivalent angle of incidence and angle of reflection and the light, reflector, and normal vectors are coplanar  
<https://powcoder.com>

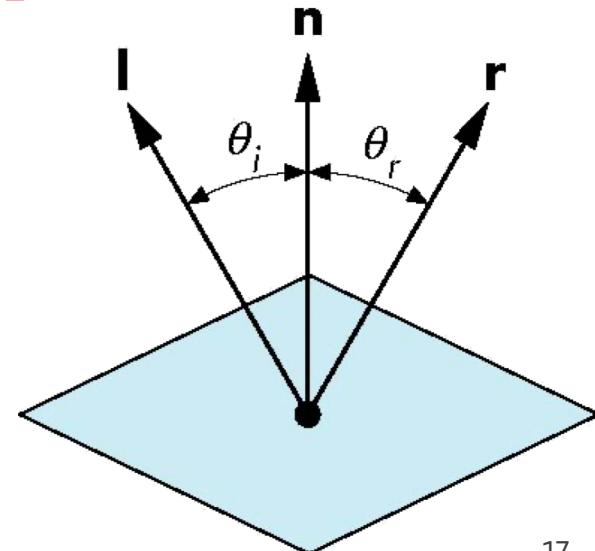
$$R = L - 2(L \cdot N)N$$

$$\theta_i = \theta_r = \cos^{-1}(L \cdot N)$$

assuming  $\|L\| = \|N\| = 1$

GLSL has `reflect(L, N)`

To compute  $R$  for us

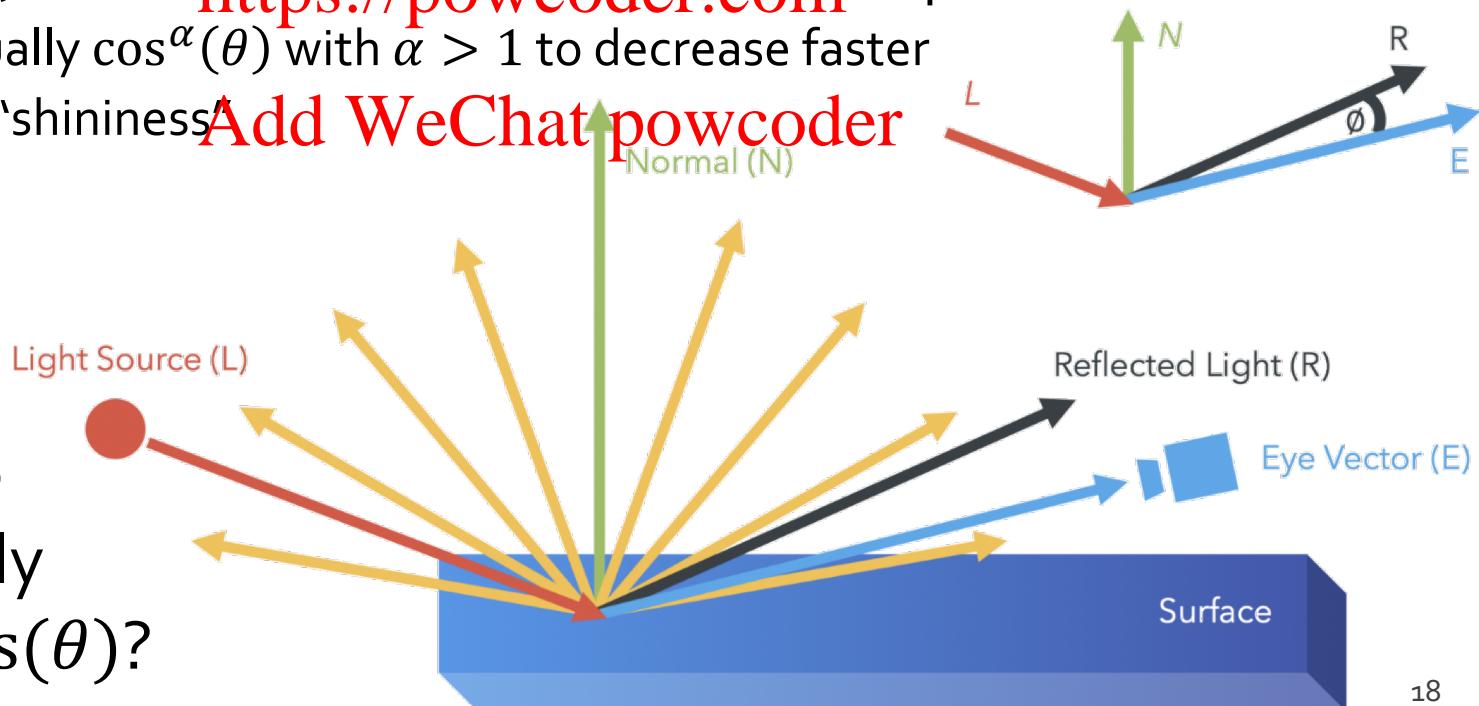


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# Phong Specular Reflection Model

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- Most objects aren't ideal reflectors (perfect mirrors)
- Phong model uses cos of angle  $\theta$  between  $E$  and  $R$ 
  - $\cos(\theta) = 1$  when  $\theta = 0$  ( $E$  and  $R$  are same direction)
  - $\cos(\theta)$  decreases when  $E$  and  $R$  further apart
    - Actually  $\cos^\alpha(\theta)$  with  $\alpha > 1$  to decrease faster
    - $\alpha$  is "shininess"



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# Phong Specular Reflection Model

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$$(R \cdot E)^\alpha$$

(assuming  $R$  and  $E$  are normalized)

- Gives a value from 0 to 1 for the proportion (percent) of <https://powcoder.com> we see\*

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- What else do we need to get the actual specular light *color* that we see?

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# Phong Specular Reflection Model

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$$(R \cdot E)^\alpha$$

(assuming  $R$  and  $E$  are normalized)

- Gives a value from 0 to 1 for the proportion (percent) of <https://powcoder.com> we see\*

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- What else do we need to get the actual specular light **color** that we see?
  - The color and intensity of the light
  - The color and reflectiveness of the material

\* Technically could be  $-1$  to  $1$  but we will simply treat negative values as  $0$

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# Phong Specular Reflection Model

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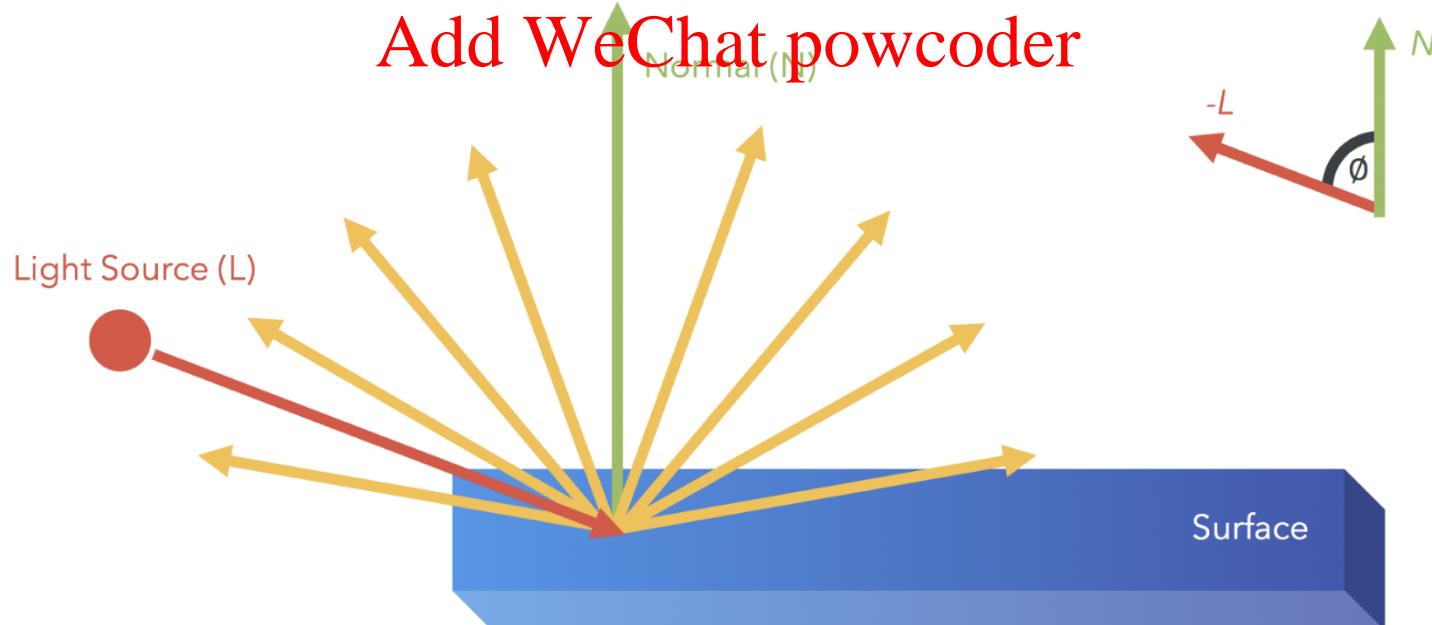
- Light (color and intensity): represented as a single color
  - Same for all objects in the scene
    - Except maybe distance incorporated
- Material (color, reflectiveness, and shininess): represented as a color plus a shininess scalar
  - Shininess: Metals: 100-200, Plastic: 5-10
  - Usually same for all vertices of entire object
- What kind and type of variable in the shader for these?
- Final equation:  $I_s K_s (R \cdot E)^\alpha$   
where  $I_s$  is specular color/intensity of light,  $K_s$  is specular material color/reflectiveness, and  $\alpha$  is shininess
  - Book uses  $C_l$  for  $I_s$ ,  $C_m$  for  $K_s$ , and  $n$  for  $\alpha$  but no one else does

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# Lambert Diffuse Reflection Model

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- Lambertian surfaces are perfectly diffuse
  - Light is scattered equally in all directions
- Amount of light reflected is proportional to the vertical component of incoming light
  - Called *cosine emission law*

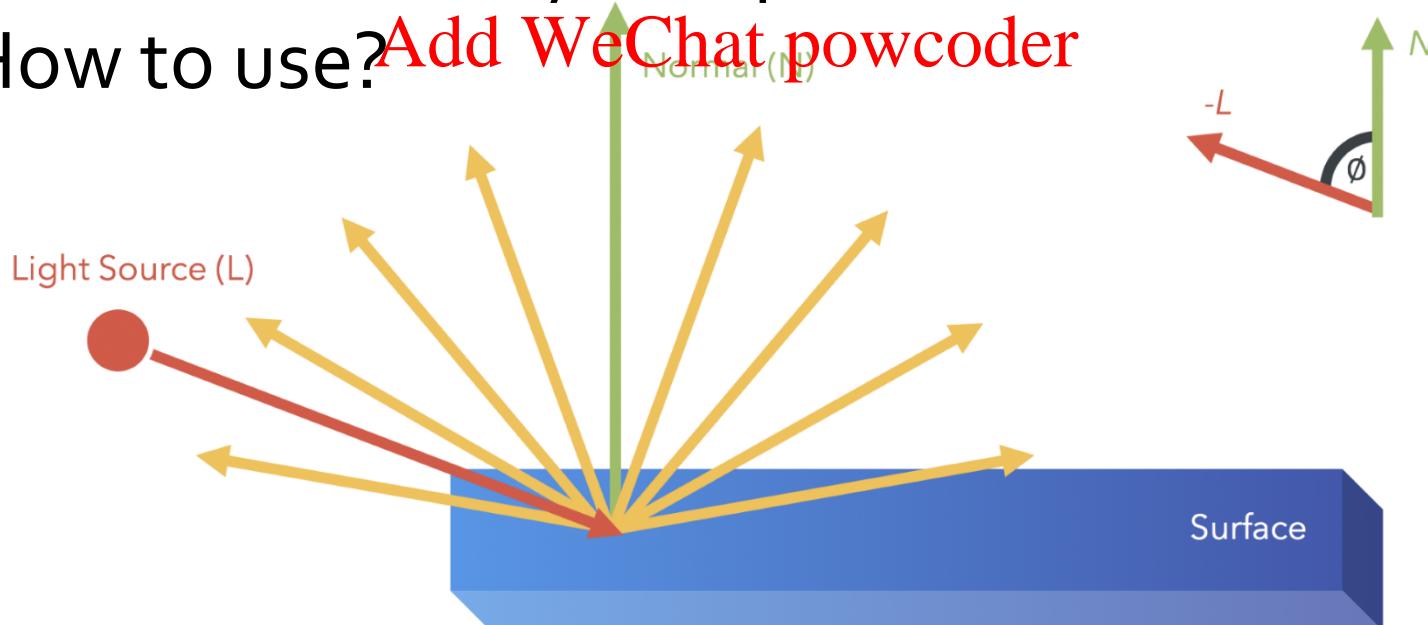


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# Lambert Diffuse Reflection Model

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- Proportion of reflected light is  $\cos(\theta)$ 
  - Another value from 0 to 1 but this time angle  $\theta$  is between  $-L$  and  $N$  and no shininess factor
- How to efficiently compute?
- How to use?



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# Lambert Diffuse Reflection Model

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- Final diffuse equation:

$$I_d = K_d \cdot \text{dot}(L, N)$$

where  $I_d$  is diffuse color/intensity of light,  $K_d$  is diffuse material color/reflectiveness

- Again the book uses  $C_l$  for  $I_d$ ,  $C_m$  for  $K_d$ ...

# Combination: Specular and Diffuse

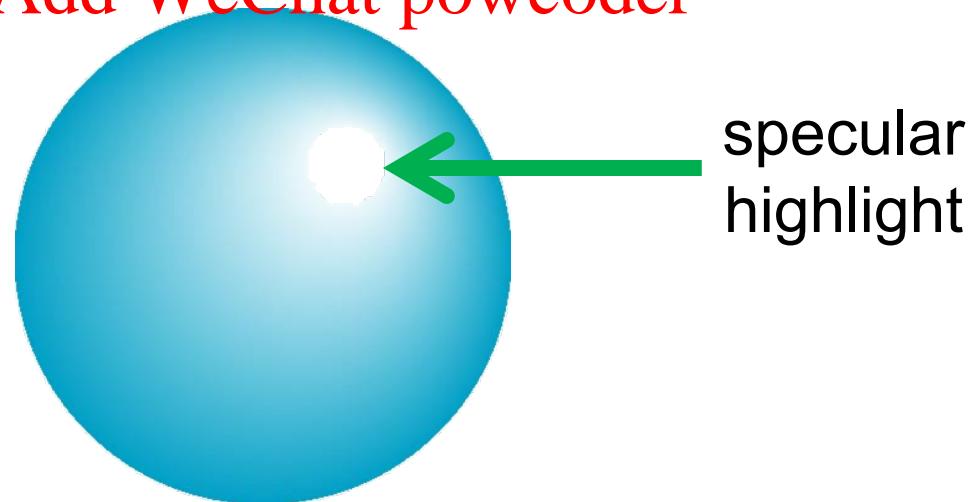
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- Most surfaces are neither perfectly specular or diffuse
- Smooth surfaces show specular highlights due to incoming light being reflected in directions concentrated close to the direction of a perfect reflection

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<https://powcoder.com>

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specular  
highlight

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# Combination : Specular and Diffuse

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- Simply add the two results together
  - This can result in having more than 100% red, green, and/or blue color – think “blinding light”
    - GLSL will automatically fix colors but “clamping” all values to the 0 to 1 range
      - Clamp means if < 0 makes it 0 and if > 1 makes it 1
- Combination equation:
$$I_d K_d (-L \cdot N) + I_s K_s (R \cdot E)^\alpha$$
with  $R = \text{reflect}(L, N)$  and normalized  $L, N, E$  vectors

# Ambient Light

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- Ambient light is the result of multiple interactions between (large) light sources and the objects in the environment
  - This is a “hack” to overcome limitations of the pipeline architecture of OpenGL
- Still have a light color/intensity and material color/reflectiveness but no scaling
- Final ambient equation:

$$I_a K_a$$

# Phong Reflection Model – Complete

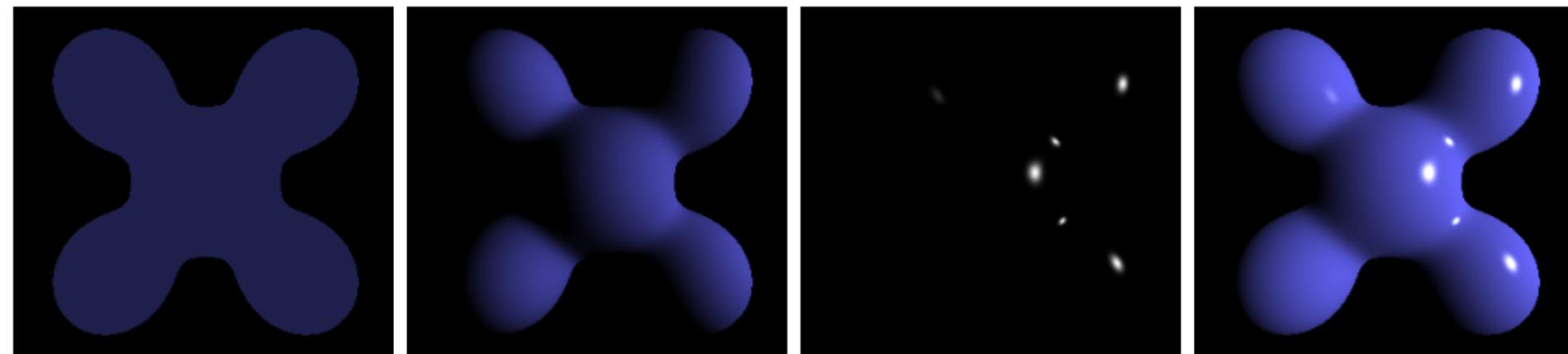
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- Phong Reflection Model using the specular, diffuse, and ambient components
- Final equation:

$$I_a K_a + I_d K_d (-L \cdot N) + I_s K_s (R \cdot E)^\alpha$$

$R = \text{reflect}(L, N)$

$L$ ,  $N$ , and  $E$  are normalized



Ambient

+

Diffuse

+

Specular

= Phong Reflection

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# Light and Material Parameters

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- $I_a, I_d, I_s$  – light color/intensity
  - Determined by the type of light we want
  - Most lights we have in the world are (off-)white
    - Sometimes a bit bluer or yellower (warmer)
  - In many cases we will simply use pure, bright, white for all 3 of these
- $K_a, K_d, K_s, \alpha$  – material color/reflectance and shininess
  - Determined by the material of the object we want
  - Typically:
    - $K_d$  will be adjusted the most based on color of object
    - $K_a$  is dark version of  $K_d$  (low amount of ambient)
    - $K_s$  is a shade of white/gray (regardless of actual object color)

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# Phong Reflection Model Vectors

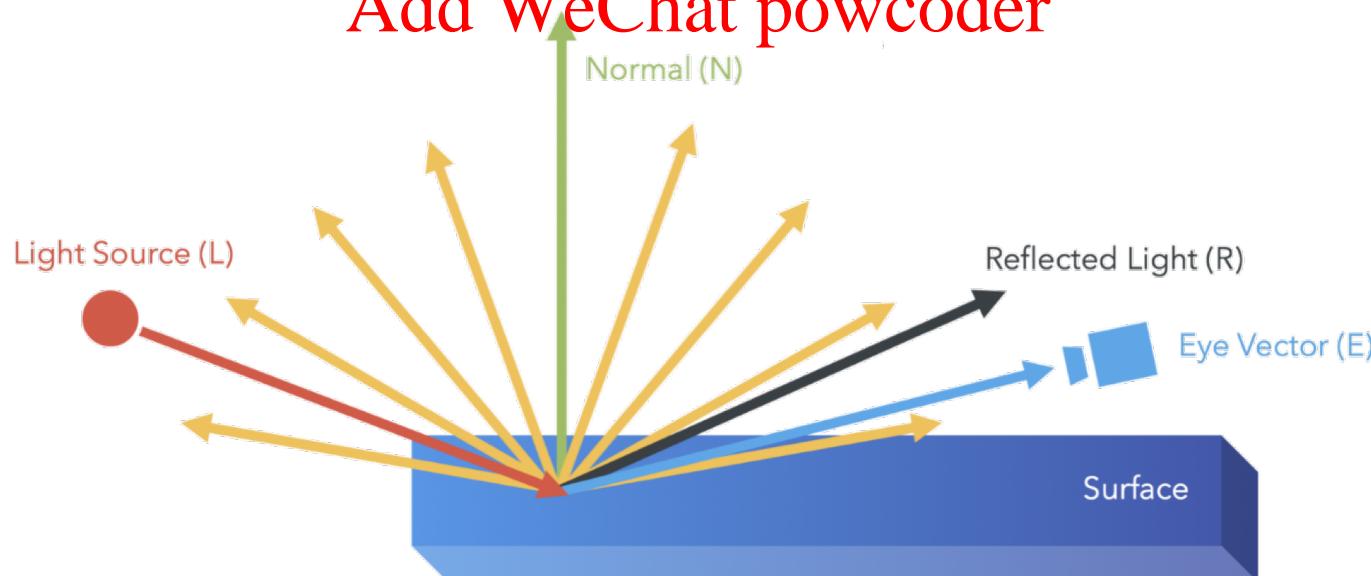
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$$I_a K_a + I_d K_d (-L \cdot N) + I_s K_s (R \cdot E)^\alpha$$

$R = \text{reflect}(L, N)$

- Need to get  $L$ ,  $N$ , and  $E$  vectors  
<https://powcoder.com>
- Also need to normalize them but that is easy

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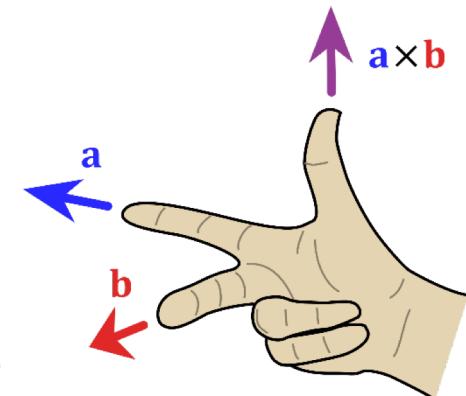
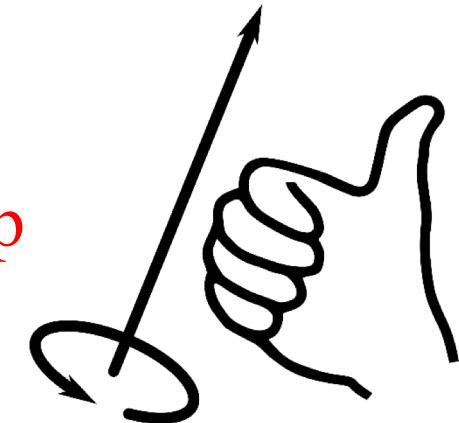


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# Normal Vector

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- The “normal vector” is perpendicular to a surface
  - Frequently just called *the normal*
- Determined by the right-hand-rule
  - Have the fingers of your right hand follow the vertices around a triangle  
your thumb is the normal
    - Counter-clockwise around triangle
  - Mathematically this is the cross product of two vectors



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# Normal Vector

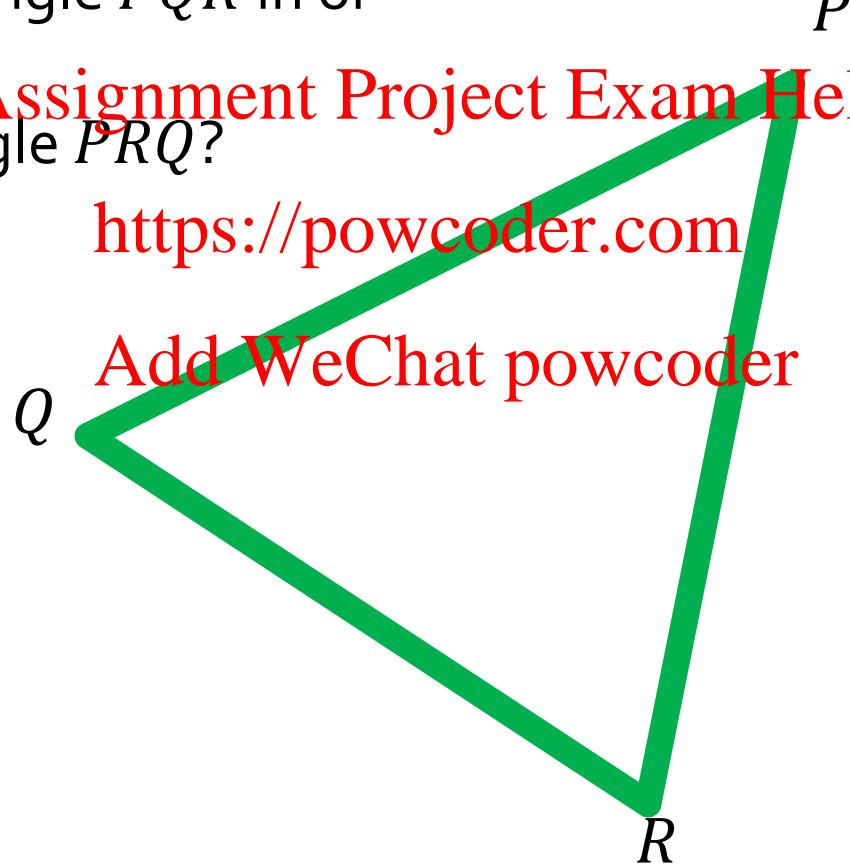
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Using the right-hand rule, is the normal of the triangle  $PQR$  in or out of the screen?

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What about triangle  $PRQ$ ?

<https://powcoder.com>

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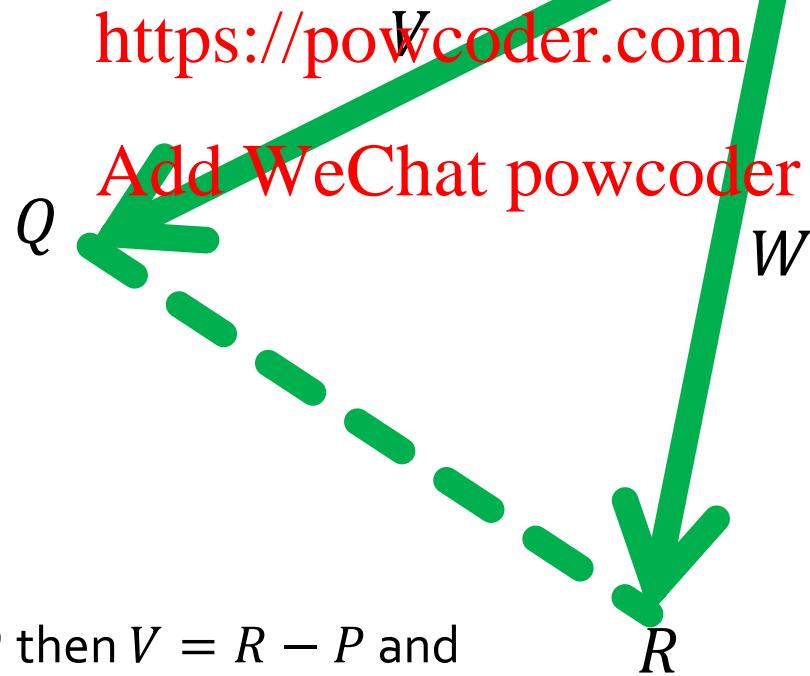
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## Normal Vector

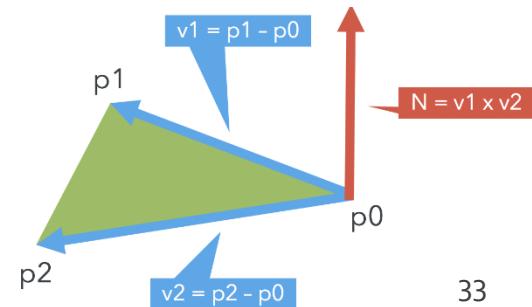
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To do this mathematically, need to get  
the vectors  $V = Q - P$  and  $W = R - P$   
and then take the cross product:  $V \times W$

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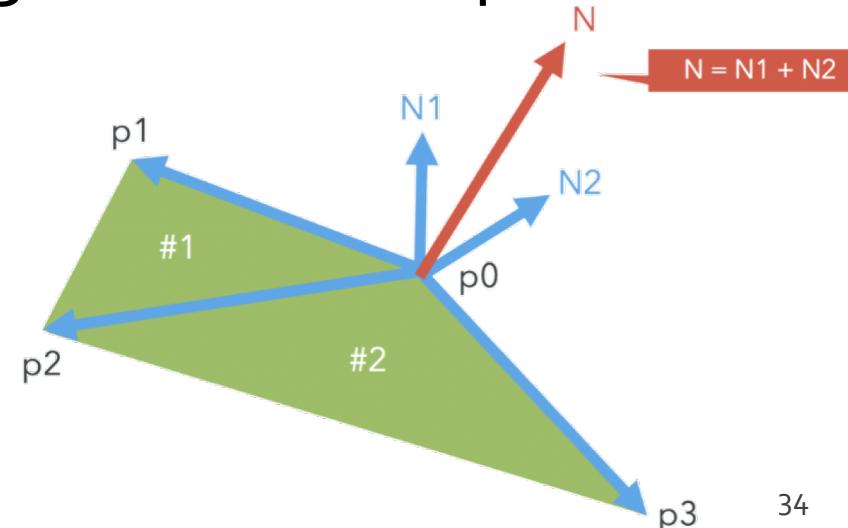
If doing triangle  $PRQ$  then  $V = R - P$  and  
 $W = Q - P$  instead and normal would flip



# Normal Vector

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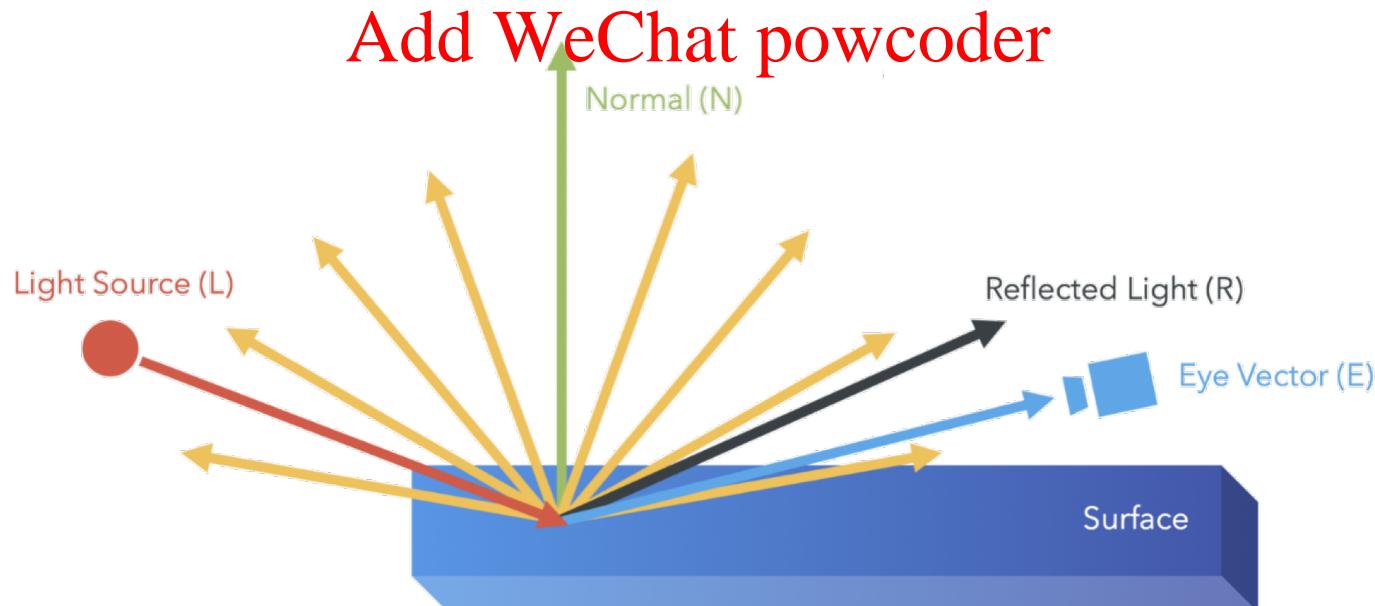
- That allows us to compute the normal of a triangle, but our vertex shader works on vertices and we can only point attributes to vertices
- For vertices we take the sum (on average) of the normals of all triangles that share that vertex
- Since the normal for a single vertex is dependent on many vertices, where must this be computed? What kind and type of shader variable?



# Light Vector

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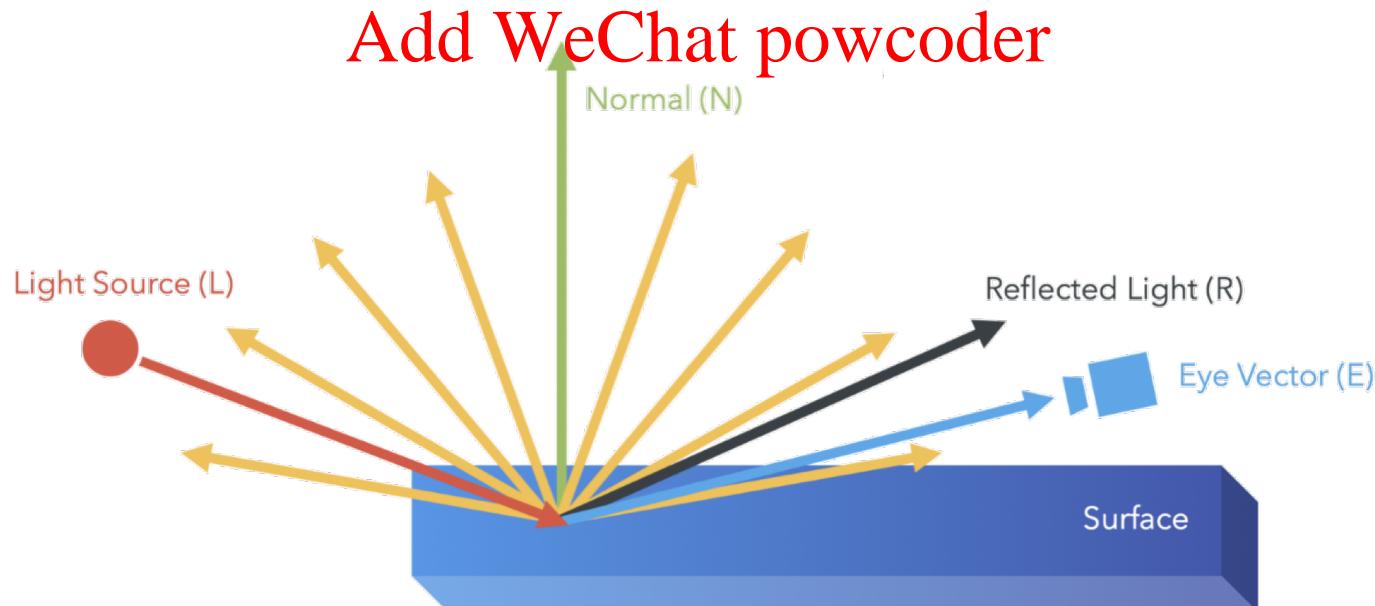
- $L$  is the direction light is travelling when it reaches the vertex/surface
  - Point light: point  $P$  with light at  $P_L$  has  $L = P - P_L$
  - Directional light:  $L$  is direction of light source
    - No work needed!



# Eye Vector

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- $E$  is the direction from the vertex/surface to the eye (i.e. the viewer/camera)
  - OpenGL camera is always at  $0,0,0$  thus if we are at point  $P$  then  $E = \langle 0,0,0 \rangle - P = -P$



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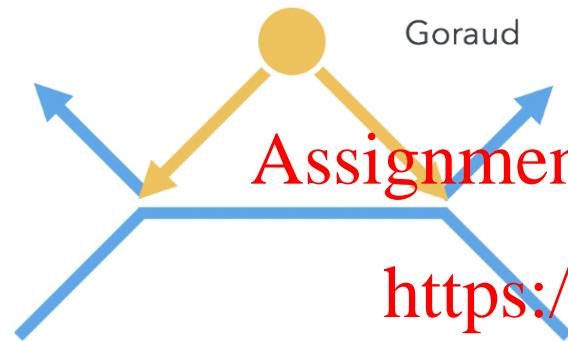
# Bringing it All Together

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$$I_a K_a + I_d K_d (-L \cdot N) + I_s K_s (R \cdot E)^\alpha$$
$$R = \text{reflect}(L, N) \quad L = P - P_L \quad E = -P$$

- Uniforms: <https://powcoder.com>
  - $I_a, I_d, I_s$  – lighting properties (each a `vec3`)
  - $K_a, K_d, K_s$  – material properties (each a `vec3`)
  - $\alpha$  – material shininess (`float`)
  - $P_L$  – position of light (`vec3`)
    - For flexibility can use a `vec4` with `w` as 1 for a point source and 0 for a directional source and then adjust  $L$  based on that
- Attributes:
  - $P$  – vertex position (`vec4` with `w` as 1)
  - $N$  – vertex normal (`vec3`)

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**Which Fragment Gets What Code?**  
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Vertex Shader

Computes the final color for the vertex using the vertex normal. Then, it passes the calculated color to the fragment shader in a varying variable.

Varying Color

Fragment Shader

Assigns the color for the fragment using the interpolated varying color.

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<https://powcoder.com>



Passes the vertex normal to the fragment shader in a varying variable.

Varying Normal

Computes the final color for the fragment using the respective interpolated normal.

# Which Fragment Gets What Code?

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- Flat:
  - Each triangle is a single, solid, color – lighting is applied per *triangle* (if at all)
  - Can be computed in JS or vertex shader
- Gouraud: <https://powcoder.com>
  - Calculate colors/lighting for each vertex in ***vertex shader*** and let them interpolate across the polygons
- Phong:
  - Calculate vectors in the vertex shader and let them interpolate across the polygon
  - Calculate the actual color/lighting per-fragment in the ***fragment shader***
- What do you think are the advantages/disadvantages of each?

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# Which Fragment Gets What Code?

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- Flat:
  - Fastest
  - Each polygon is noticeable
- Gouraud: <https://powcoder.com>
  - Fastest
  - Specular highlights look bad, otherwise lighting is okay
- Phong:
  - Slowest
  - Usually highest quality but can lose sharpness of corners
    - Since vectors are interpolated across the shape and the normal along edges are angled

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# Bending of Light in Phong Model

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How to fix this situation?

# Bending of Light in Phong Model

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- Can duplicate every vertex and have vertices with the same position but a different normal
  - For any object that we want “smooth” surfaces this won’t be necessary (and actually counterproductive)
  - For sharp object we need to do this – this means limited ability reuse vertices in IBOs / triangle strips

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## Let's Start Programming!

### Diffuse (Lambertian) Only at First

$$I_d K_d (-L \cdot N)$$
$$L = P - P_L$$

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- Uniforms:
  - $I_d$  – diffuse lighting (vec3) – name uLightDiffuse
  - $K_d$  – diffuse material (vec3) – name uMaterialDiffuse
  - $P_L$  – position of light (vec4) – name uLight
    - w=1 for a point source and 0 for a directional source
- Attributes:
  - $P$  – vertex position (vec4, w=1) – named aPosition and P
  - $N$  – vertex normal (vec3) – named aNormal
- Use Phong Shading: vectors are computed in vertex shader and sent to the fragment shader where all other calculations are done
  - Need to be normalized in the fragment shader

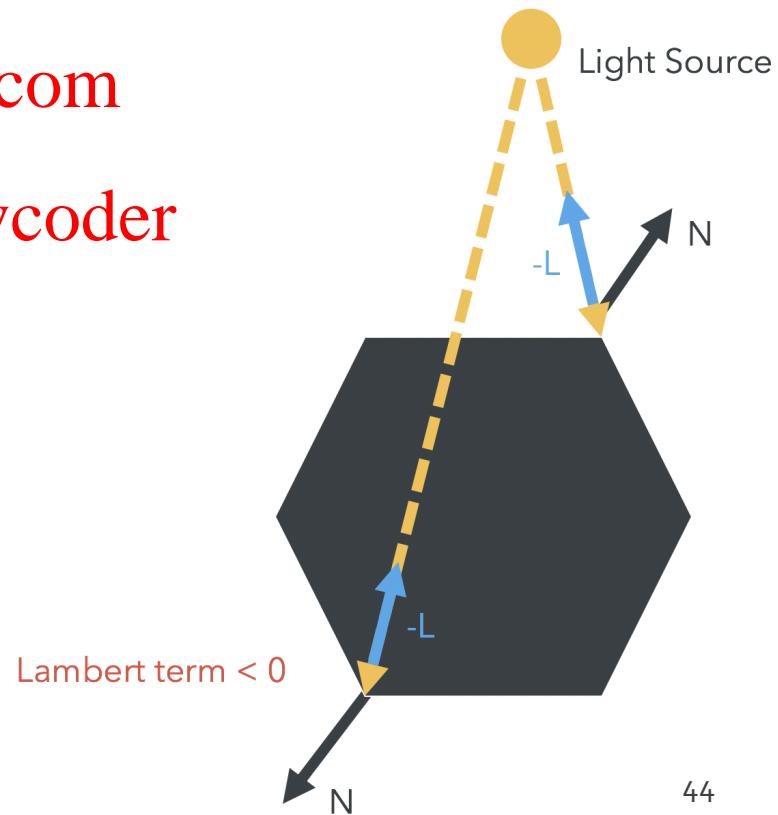
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# Negative Light?

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- Technically our current model can produce the diffuse coefficient from -1 to 1
  - Only 0 to 1 makes sense <https://powcoder.com>
  - If less than 0 just set to 0

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# Let's Start Programming!

## Add Ambient Lighting

$$I_a K_a + I_d K_d (-L \cdot N)$$

$$L = P_L - P$$

- Uniforms: <https://powcoder.com>
  - $I_a, I_d$  – lighting properties (each a `vec3`)
  - $K_a, K_d$  – material properties (each a `vec3`)
  - $P_L$  – position of light (`vec3`)
- Attributes:
  - $P$  – vertex position (`vec4, w=1`) – named `aPosition` and `P`
  - $N$  – vertex normal (`vec3`)

# Let's Start Programming!

## Add Specular Lighting

$$I_a K_a + I_d K_d (-L \cdot N) + I_s K_s (R \cdot E)^\alpha$$
$$R = \text{reflect}(L, N) \quad L = P - P_L \quad E = -P$$

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- Uniforms:
  - $I_a, I_d, I_s$  – lighting properties (each a `vec3`)
  - $K_a, K_d, K_s$  – material properties (each a `vec3`)
  - $\alpha$  – material shininess (`float`) – name `uMaterialShininess`
  - $P_L$  – position of light (`vec3`)
- Attributes:
  - $P$  – vertex position (`vec4` with `w` as 1)
  - $N$  – vertex normal (`vec3`)
- Note:  $R$  vector is computed in fragment shader

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# Light Position Controls

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- Currently the position of the light is fixed in the `init()` function
  - Add three number boxes to control the position of the light
  - Add event handlers for them
  - Add default values in `init()`

# Light Position or Light Direction

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- With a very simple piece of code we can support both light direction and light position
  - Our `vec4` for the light will use  $w=1$  meaning it is a point light and  $w=0$  meaning it is a directional light
    - This matches with the definitions on your sheet,  $w=0$  means a vector, i.e. a direction
- Previously we had  $L = P - P_L$  to compute the light direction from a point light (i.e. if  $w=1$ ), if  $w=0$  what should we do instead?

# Light Position or Light Direction

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- Previously we had  $L = P - P_L$  to compute the light direction from a point light (i.e. if  $w=1$ ), if  $w=0$  what should we do instead?

$$L = uLight.xyz$$

- Add this to the shaders and add a checkbox to the HTML to control if light is a point or direction

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# Attenuation of Light

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- In the real world amount of light is proportional to the square of the distance to the light source:

$$I \sim \frac{1}{d^2}$$

- However real world lights also have point sources
- Use the following to reduce effects of a point light source:

$$a + bd + cd^2$$

- This is applied to the diffuse and specular terms
- Why not the ambient term?
- Add this into the shaders where  $d$  is the distance between the position and the light and  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are constants given by the user (need some more HTML controls)

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# Attenuation of Light

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- When using real-world values of 0,0,1 for the attenuation coefficients  $a, b, c$  how far away can you get before the light is gone?

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# Attenuation of Light

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- When using real-world values of 0,0,1 for the attenuation coefficients  $a, b, c$  how far away can you get before the light is gone?
- We need a much stronger light
  - The color `vec3(1.0, 1.0, 1.0)` represents the strongest white light your *monitor* can produce
    - Can your monitor light up a room or the outdoors?
  - We can have light that has values greater than 1.0!
    - Monitor:  $50 - 300 \text{ cd/m}^2$
    - Office Space:  $1500 \text{ cd/m}^2$
    - Sun:  $1.6 \times 10^9 \text{ cd/m}^2$

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# Problem: Light Bending

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- Using “smooth” shading since the normals are smoothly interpolated between the vertices
  - This is typically what we want as it allows up to using less faces to render a smooth surface
- However, legitimate sharp edges have an unrealistic bending of light
  - We can accomplish flat shading in 3 ways:
    - Duplicate our vertices, each with a different normal
      - Bad due to duplicated vertices (this is the current solution in demo)
    - Tell OpenGL to use flat shading
      - Very tricky to get right but is possible
    - Compute the normals in the fragment shader:
      - Use the derivative of the position to get two tangents to the surface
      - Use cross product to get normal from tangents

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# Modified Phong Model

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- The specular term in the Phong model is problematic because it requires the calculation of a new reflection vector and view vector for each vertex
- Blinn suggested an approximation using the halfway vector that is more efficient

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# The Halfway Vector

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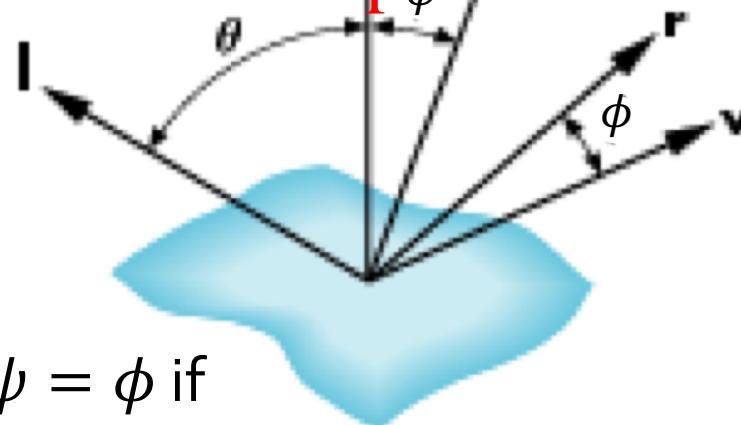
**h** is unit vector halfway between **l** and **v**

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$$\mathbf{h} = \frac{\mathbf{l} + \mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{l} + \mathbf{v}\|}$$

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Note that  $2\psi = \phi$  if  
vectors are coplanar

# Using the halfway vector

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- Replace  $(\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{r})^\alpha$  with  $(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{h})^\beta$
- Have to choose a new  $\beta$  that gives us the same results as the old  $\alpha$  (if  $\beta$  is given the same value as  $\alpha$  the specular highlights will be smaller)  
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- Resulting model is known as the modified Phong or Phong-Blinn lighting model



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# Vertex Normals

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- Lets write `calc_normal(verts, inds)` which calculates the normals for each vertex
- Process:
  - Start with all normals as  $<0,0,0>$
  - Calculate the normal of each triangle and add this to each vertex's normal
  - Normalize all normals

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# Using Normals

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- Start with the unlit-cube example
  - Draws a solid-colored cube using an element array and a triangle-strip
    - Color can be changed by user
    - Also includes a tetrahedron function for element array triangle-strip tetrahedron <https://powcoder.com>
  - Has all features of rotating-cube-perspective
  - Includes the full `calc_normals` function
- After we have all vertices and indices we get the array of normals with `calc_normals`
- Each vertex will have a normal associated with it
  - How do we associate a new value with each vertex?
  - How does the vertex shader give its value to the fragment shader?

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# Add Ambient Lighting

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- We just need a new parameter for  $k_a$ 
  - Make a new range or number input:
    - Initial value of 0.2
    - Goes from 0.0 to 1.0 with a step of 0.05 and
    - Has a label of `<i>k<sub>a</sub></i>`
  - Add a listener for it in the JS code that will send the value of  $k_a$  to the fragment shader when changed
- For the moment the light and object material colors will be the same for all of ambient, diffuse, and specular lighting

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# Light Movement

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- Should the light move with the box or not? Depends on the situation!
  - What I am rotating/scaling/translateing? Just the box or the entire world including the light?
- Model-view only applies to box:  
`L = light_src;  
if (light_src.w == 1.0) L -= model_view*vPos;  
L = normalize(L);`
- Model-view applies to entire world:  
`L = model_view*light_src;  
if (light_src.w == 1.0) L -= model_view*vPos;  
L = normalize(L);`
- We could embed this in an if with a uniform bool

- Some starting points:
  - What happens when you put a point light inside the box?
  - What happens when you translate/scale the box with a direction vs point light?
  - Can you create unrealistic views with light going where it shouldn't? Add WeChat powcoder
  - How does the distance of a point light source effect the lighting of the cube?
  - Can your material color and light color both be bright but the box still be black?
  - What amount of shininess is actually making a difference?

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# Fixing Problems

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- A few problems:
  - Light “bends” around sharp edges due to interpolation of normal across face  
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  - Light intensity doesn’t diminish with distance realistically
  - Specular light isn’t as pronounced as it maybe should be

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# Flat Shading

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- Check out flat shading in the latest code
- Compare effects of flat shading on diffuse vs. specular lighting
  - Explain

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# Other Additions

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- Many systems:
  - Allow the material color to be different for specular, diffuse, and ambient light
    - We did fix the material color of specular to the light color but otherwise they are the same
  - Allow light color/brightness to be different for specular, diffuse, and ambient light
    - Would fix some issues we are having with brightness and ambient light with the current setup

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Nonphotorealistic Shading  
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- Sometimes the goal is to not look real!
  - Maybe we want to be like a cartoon
- We can add a black outline by finding locations where the surface normal is perpendicular to the viewer direction
- We can “posterize” our shading by lighting up areas higher than a specific value and leaving things the same that are below that