



EDAN30 Photorealistic Computer Graphics

Seminar 1

Whitted Ray Tracing

Magnus Andersson, PhD student (magnusa@cs.lth.se)

Structure of Assignments

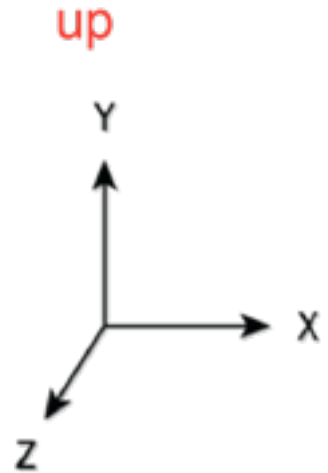
- Starting point: Ray tracer *skeleton*
- Evolved throughout the course
- Each assignment will build upon the last
 - *No (or little) "fresh" code releases in-between assignments!*
 - *I.e. You will continue to use your own code in the following assignments*

Structure of Assignments

- Starting point: Ray tracer *skeleton*
- Evolved throughout the course
- Each assignment will build upon the last
 - *No (or little) "fresh" code releases in-between assignments!*
 - *I.e. You will continue to use your own code in the following assignments*
- ***Write good code ;)***

prTracer Overview

- Written in C++
- Mac / Windows
- Right handed coordinate system
- Convenient utility classes
 - *Vector, Matrix, Point, Color, Image, ...*
- Output format
 - *OpenEXR (.exr)*



Color class

RGB Color

```
Color a = Color(1.0f, 0.0f, 0.0f);
```

```
Color b(0.3f, 0.9f, 0.4f);
```



Arithmetic operations

```
Color c, d;
```

```
d = a * b;
```

```
c = (a + b) / 2.0f;
```

```
// Component-wise multiplication
```

```
// Average of two colors
```

Vector class

Direction in 3D space

```
Vector3D w = (0.5f, 1.0f, 0.3f);
```

```
Vector3D v(1.0f, 0.7f, 1.5f);
```

Intuitive math operations (+, -, *, /, +=, etc)

```
Vector3D q = 2.0f * u - v + w;
```

```
q = v * w;
```

```
// Dot product (.dot())
```

```
q = v % w;
```

```
// Cross product (.cross())
```

```
q.normalize();
```

```
// Normalize length to 1
```

Point class

Position in 3D space

```
Point3D p = (0.5f, 1.0f, 0.3f);
```

```
Point3D q(1.0f, 0.7f, 1.5f);
```

Similar math operations (+, -, *, /, +=, etc)

```
Vector3D d = Vector(0.0f, 10.0f, -5.0f);
```

```
Point3D r = p + d;
```

```
// Point = Point + Vector
```

```
Vector3D w = r - p;
```

```
// Vector from p to r
```

Common operations

Debug printout

```
std::cout << p << std::endl; // p can be Point, Vector or Color
```

Element access

```
float x = p.x;
```

```
// Vector or Point
```

```
float r = c.r;
```

```
// Color
```


Ray class

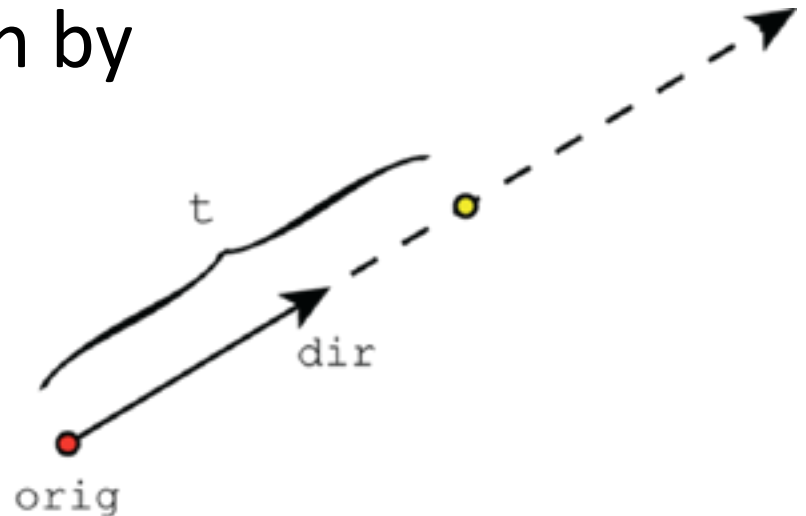
Class describing a **ray** in 3D

- Origin (*Point3D*)
- Direction (*Vector3D*)

A point along a ray is given by

Ray $r = \dots$

$\text{Point3D } p = r.\text{orig} + t * r.\text{dir};$



Scene class

Stores all objects in the 3D world

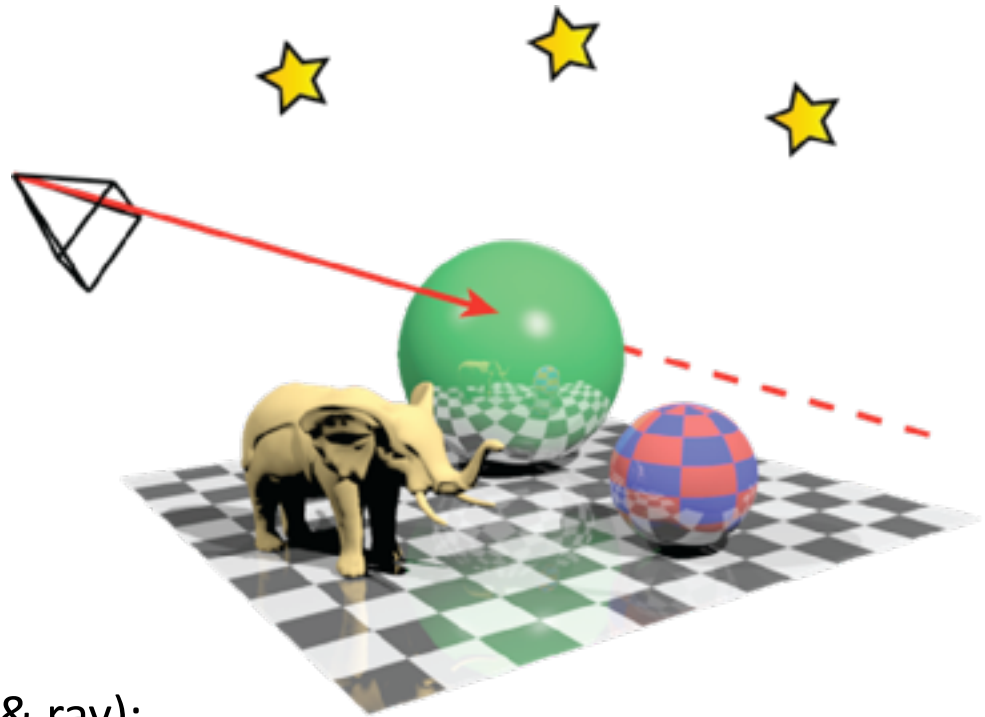
- Primitives
- Light sources
- Cameras



Scene class

Stores all objects in the 3D world

- Primitives
- Light sources
- Cameras



```
bool Scene::intersect(const Ray& ray);
```

```
bool Scene::intersect(const Ray& ray, Intersection& is);
```

Ray-Scene Intersection

Boolean test

```
bool Scene::intersect(const Ray& ray);
```

- Is *anything* hit? (Y/N)
- No intersection information
- Used for shadow rays
 - *(we'll get back to this later)*
- Faster

Ray-Scene Intersection

Closest hit test

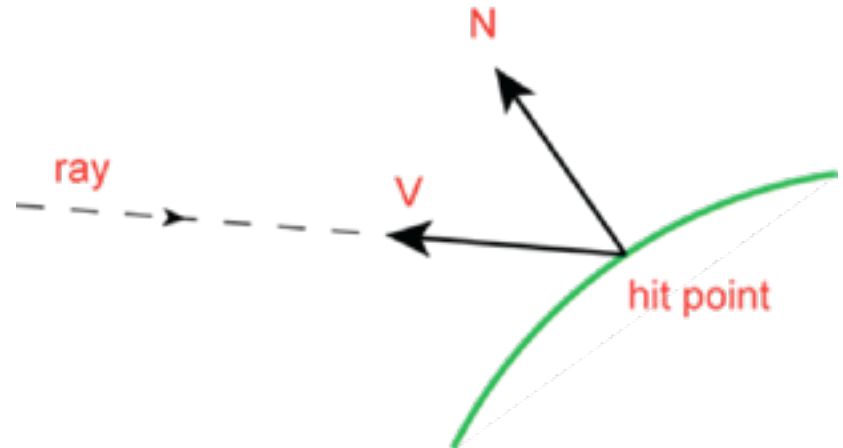
```
bool Scene::intersect(const Ray& ray, Intersection& is);
```

- Returns intersection information
- Used for shading, reflection, refraction, ...
- Slower

Intersection class

Useful information about the intersection

```
class Intersection {  
    Point3D      mPosition;      // Position of hit point  
    Vector3D     mNormal;        // Surface normal (N)  
    Vector3D     mView;         // View direction (V)  
    Material     *mMaterial;     // Material of object  
    ...  
};
```



Main function

- Build a scene
 - Create materials, objects, lights (scene::add)
- Create image buffer
- Setup camera
- Prepare scene (Scene::prepare)
- Create ray tracer object
- Perform ray tracing (Raytracer::computeImage)
- Save output image

Building a Scene

For this assignment we use the scene

```
buildSpheres(Scene &scene);    // located in main.cpp
```

You are encouraged to play around and building your own scene

- Current scene is very “*programmer art*”

Image and Camera classes

An Image is created by the line

```
Image output(512, 512);           // width x height
```

Camera is setup by

```
Camera cam;  
Point3D pos      = Point3D(22.0f, 24.0f, 26.0f);  
Point3D target   = Point3D(0.0f, 2.0f, 0.0f);  
Vector3D up      = Vector3D(0.0f, 1.0f, 0.0f);  
float fov        = 52.0f;  
cam->setLookAt(pos, target, up, fov);  
scene.add(cam);
```

Rendering a Scene

First we must call `Scene::prepare()`

- Transform to world space
- Set up `<<RayAccelerator>>`
 - In this lab this is just a list of intersectables

Create `<<Raytracer>>` object and start rendering

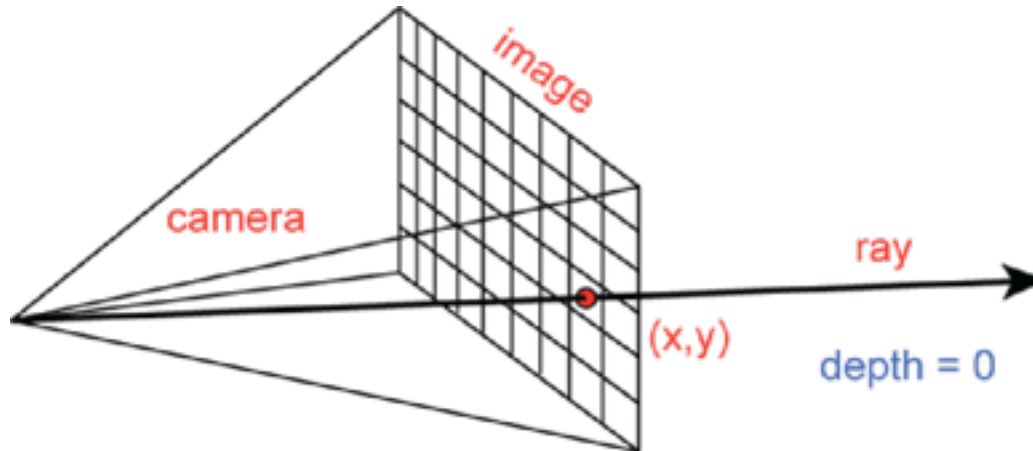
```
WhittedTracer rt(&scene, &output);  
rt.computeImage();  
output.save("output.exr");
```

Shooting eye rays

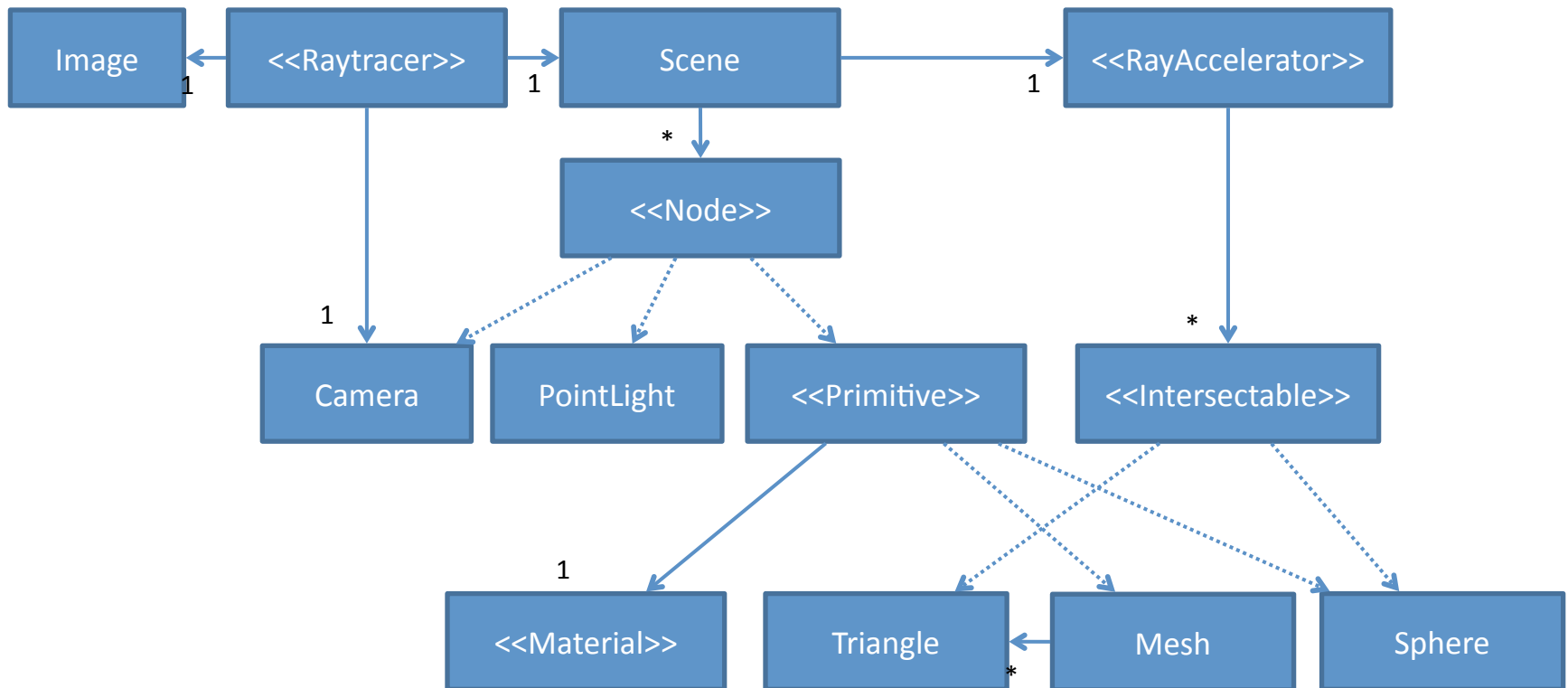
In *WhittedTracer.cpp*

computeImage() calls **tracePixel()** for each pixel (x, y) .

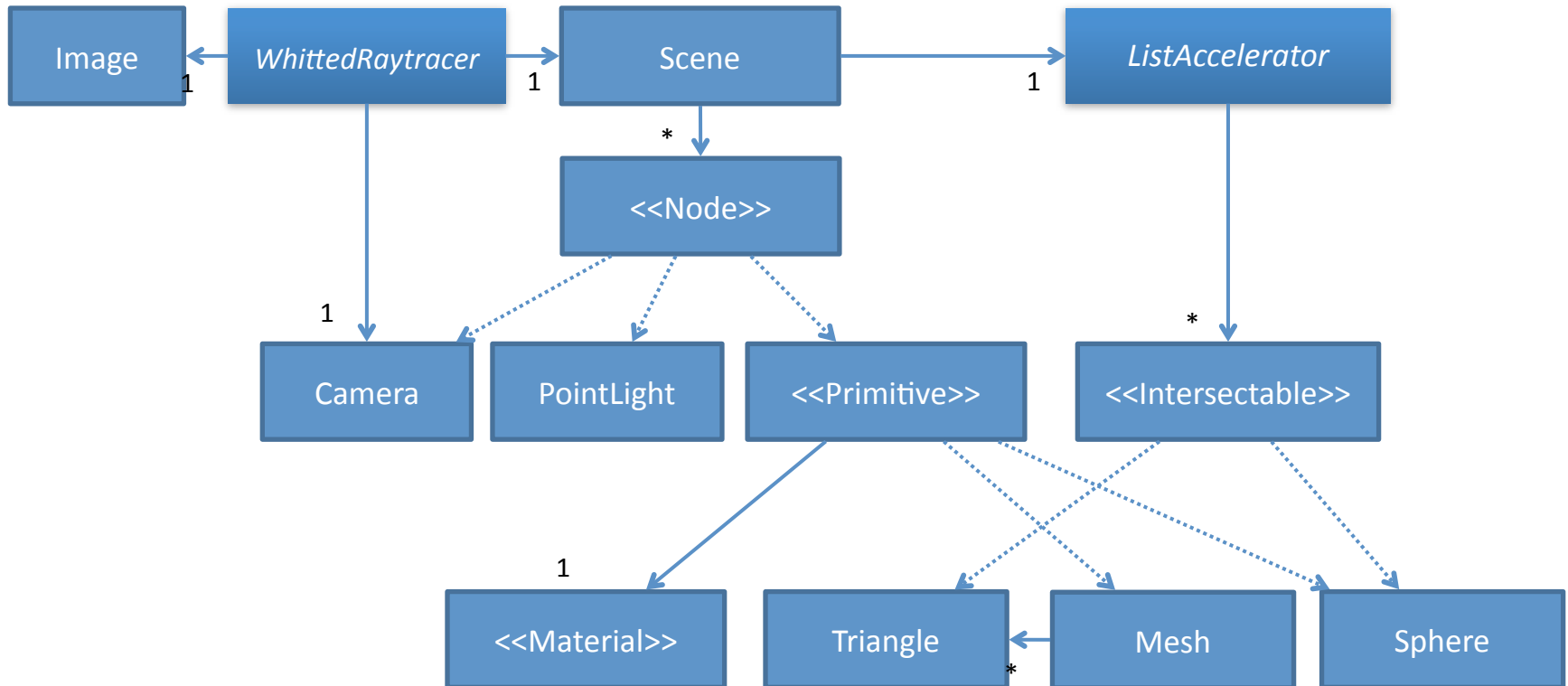
tracePixel() calls **trace()** for rays in the pixel.



prTracer Skeleton Overview



prTracer Skeleton Overview



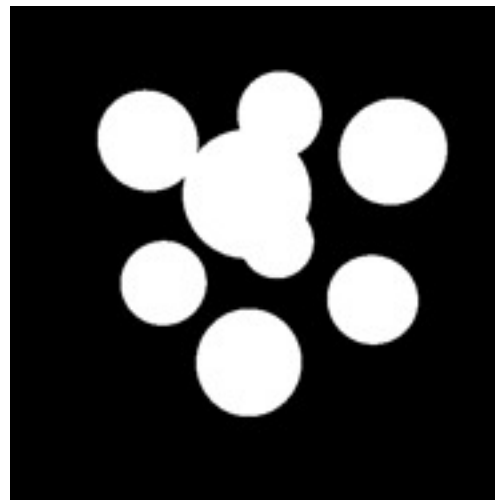
Assignment 1

- Diffuse Reflection
- Whitted ray tracing
 - Shadows
 - Reflections
 - Refractions
- Super sampling
- Blinn-Phong Shading (*Optional*)
- Ray-Triangle Intersection

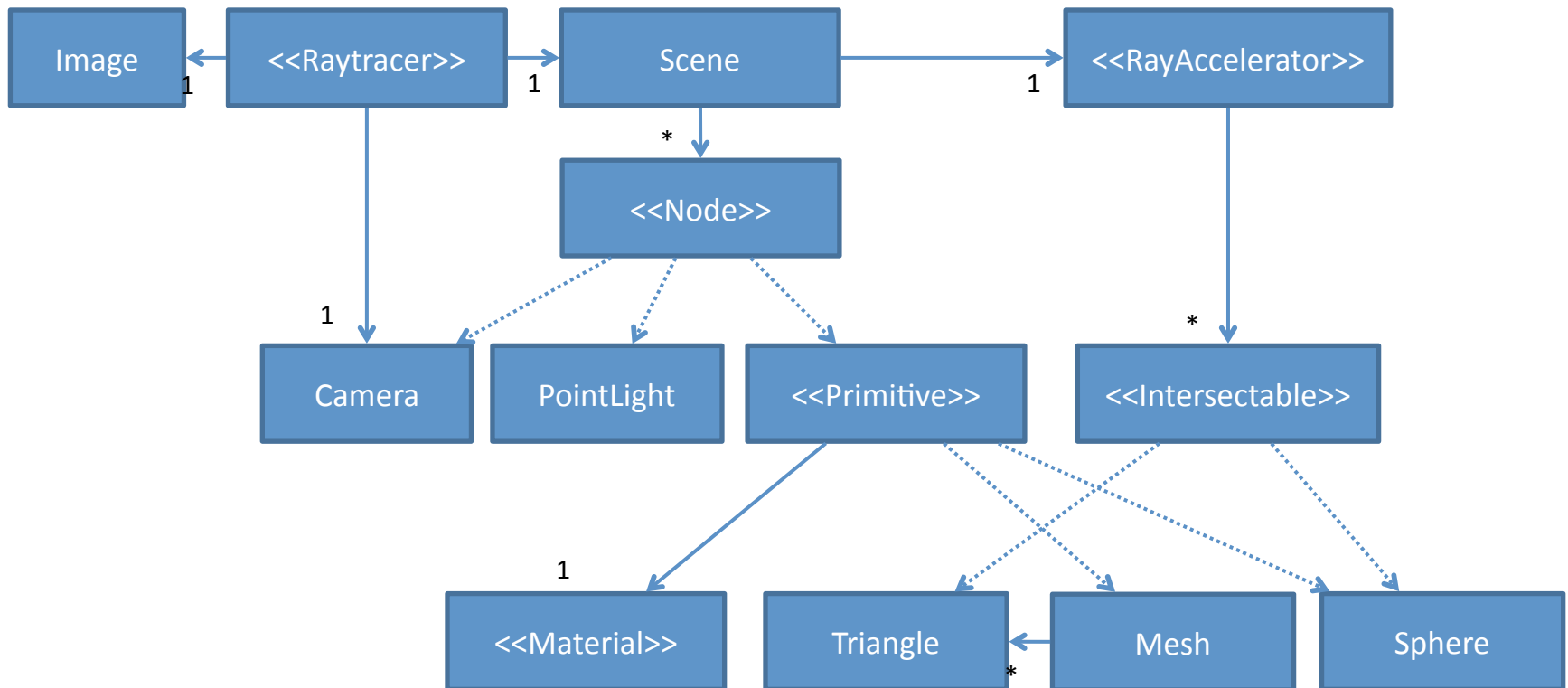
Default Implementation

prTracer embryo

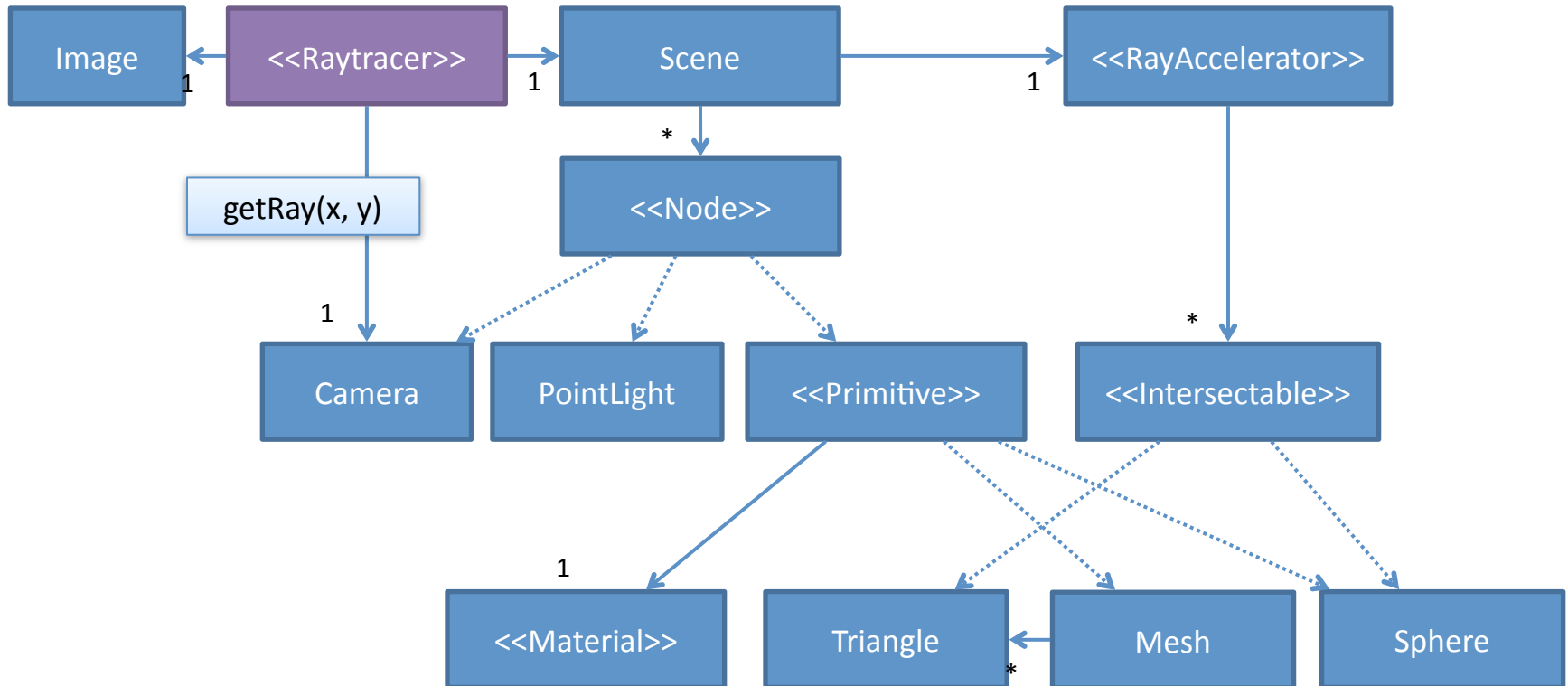
- Colors the pixel white if the ray hits anything, black otherwise
- This is what you should get when you compile and run your code for the first time



Program flow

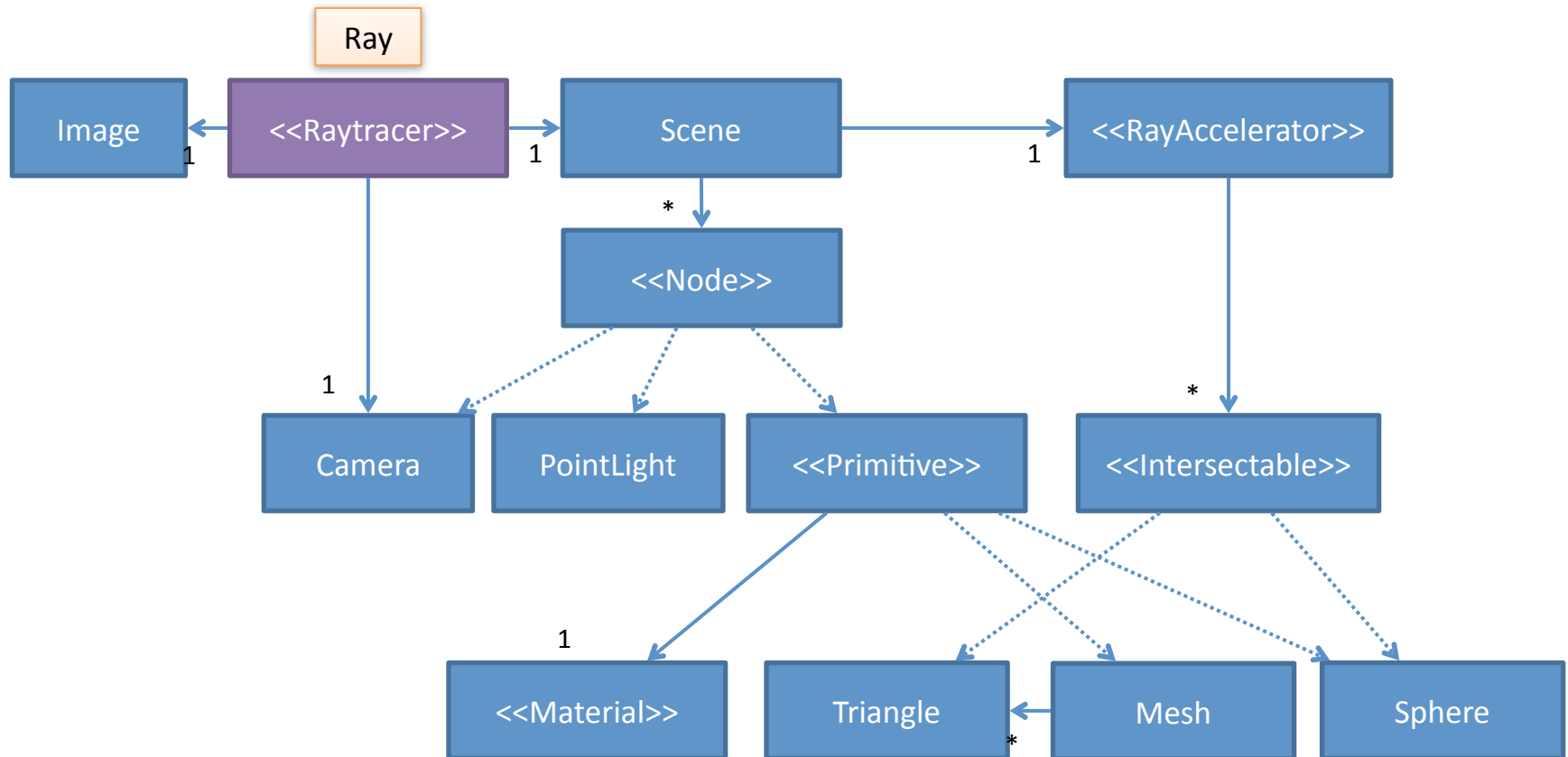


Program flow

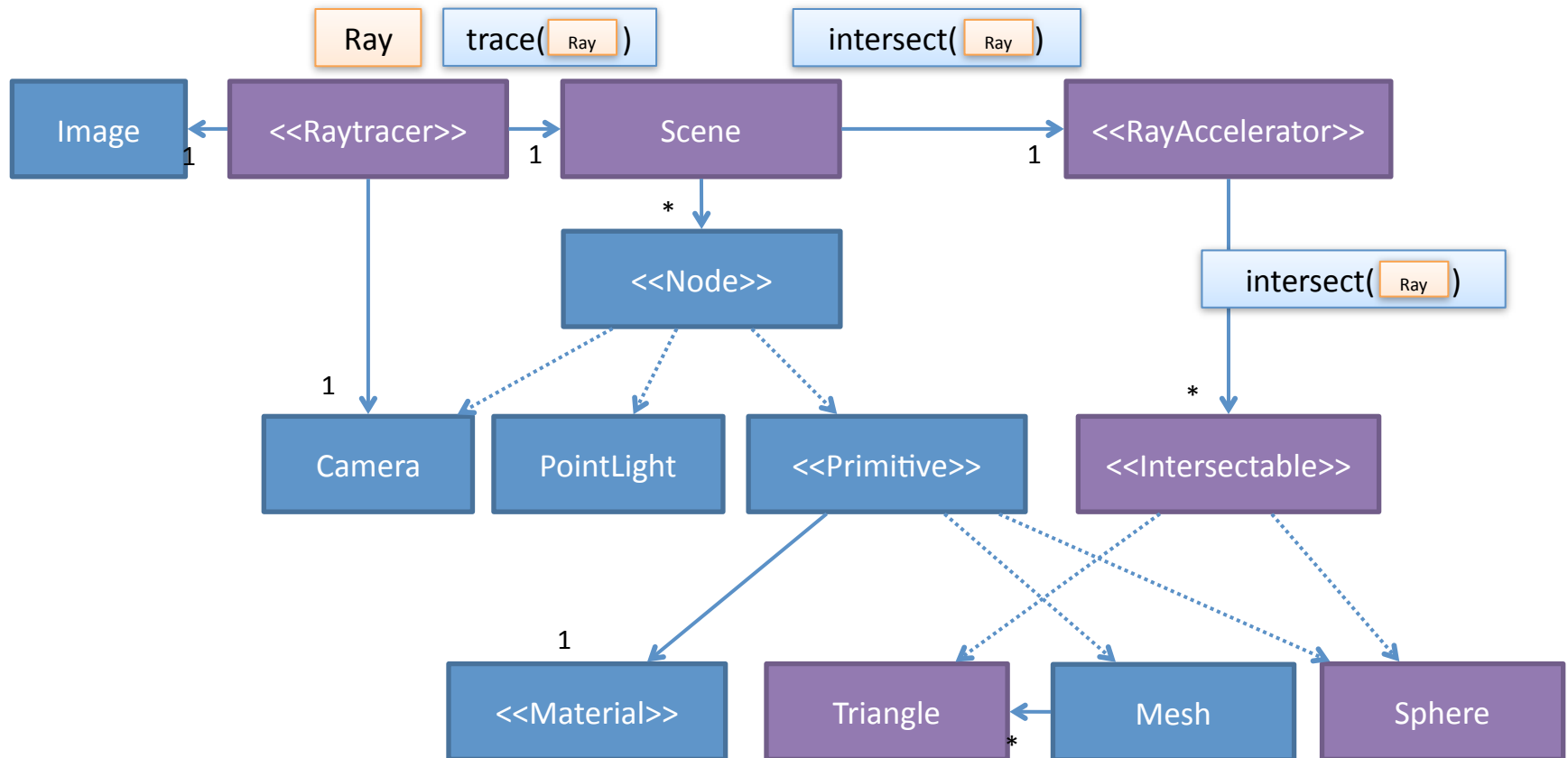


Fetch view ray from camera

Program flow

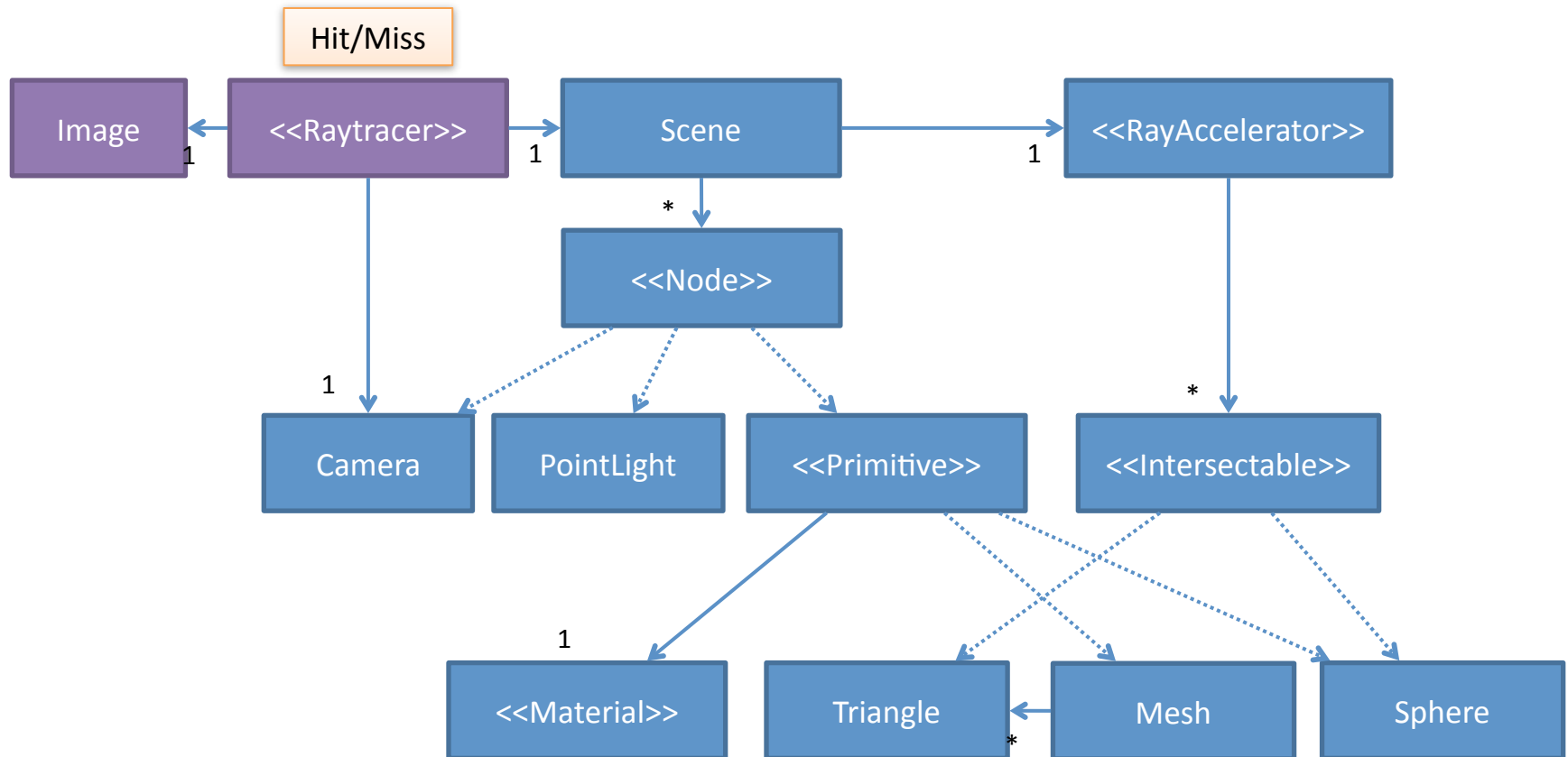


Program flow



Intersect with the scene's intersectables

Program flow



Hit = write white pixel

Miss = write black pixel

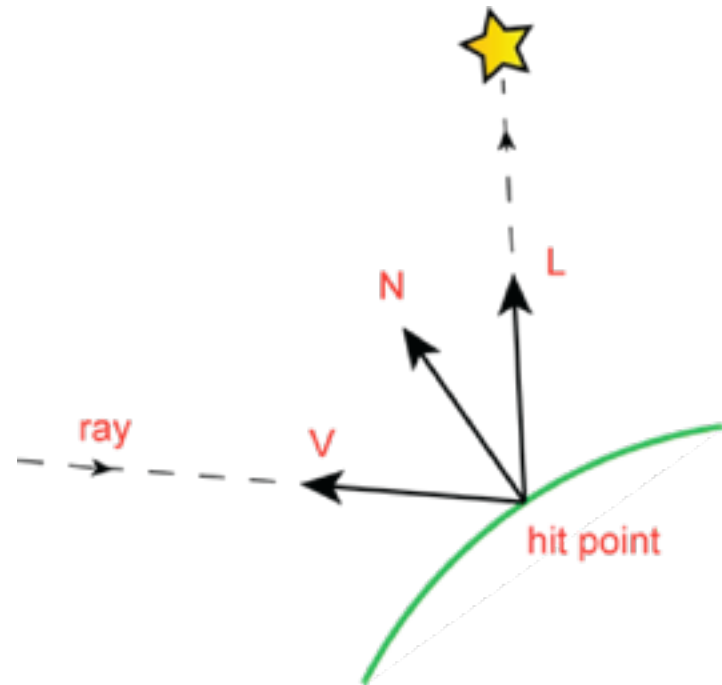
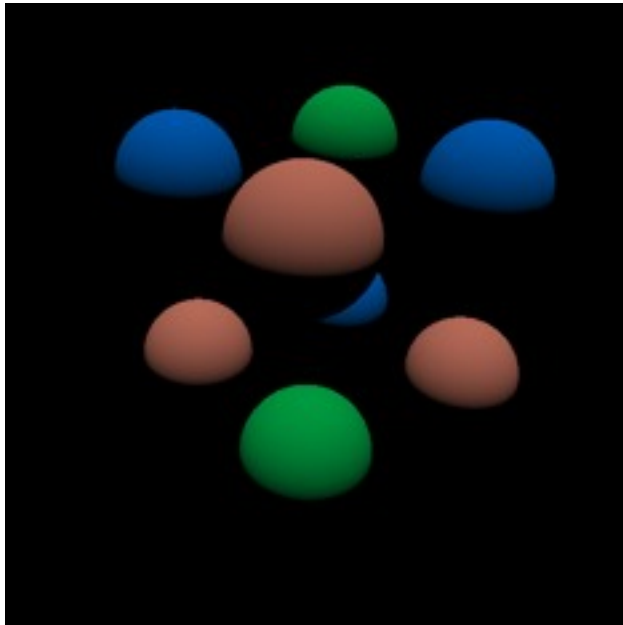
Assignment 1

- Diffuse Reflection
- Whitted ray tracing
 - Shadows
 - Reflections
 - Refractions
- Super sampling
- Blinn-Phong Shading (*Optional*)
- Ray-Triangle Intersection

Diffuse Reflection

For this assignment you'll need to modify

Color WhittedTracer::trace(const Ray& ray, int depth)



Diffuse Reflection

$$L_{out}(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_{in}(x \leftarrow \Psi) f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cos(N_x, \Psi)$$

- Incoming radiance

light->getRadiance();

- BRDF

is.mMaterial.evalBRDF(is, Ψ);

- Incident angle

max(Ψ .dot(is.mNormal), 0.0f);

Diffuse Reflection

The scene has a number of light sources

```
int n = mScene->getNumberOfLights();  
PointLight *light = mScene->getLight(i);
```

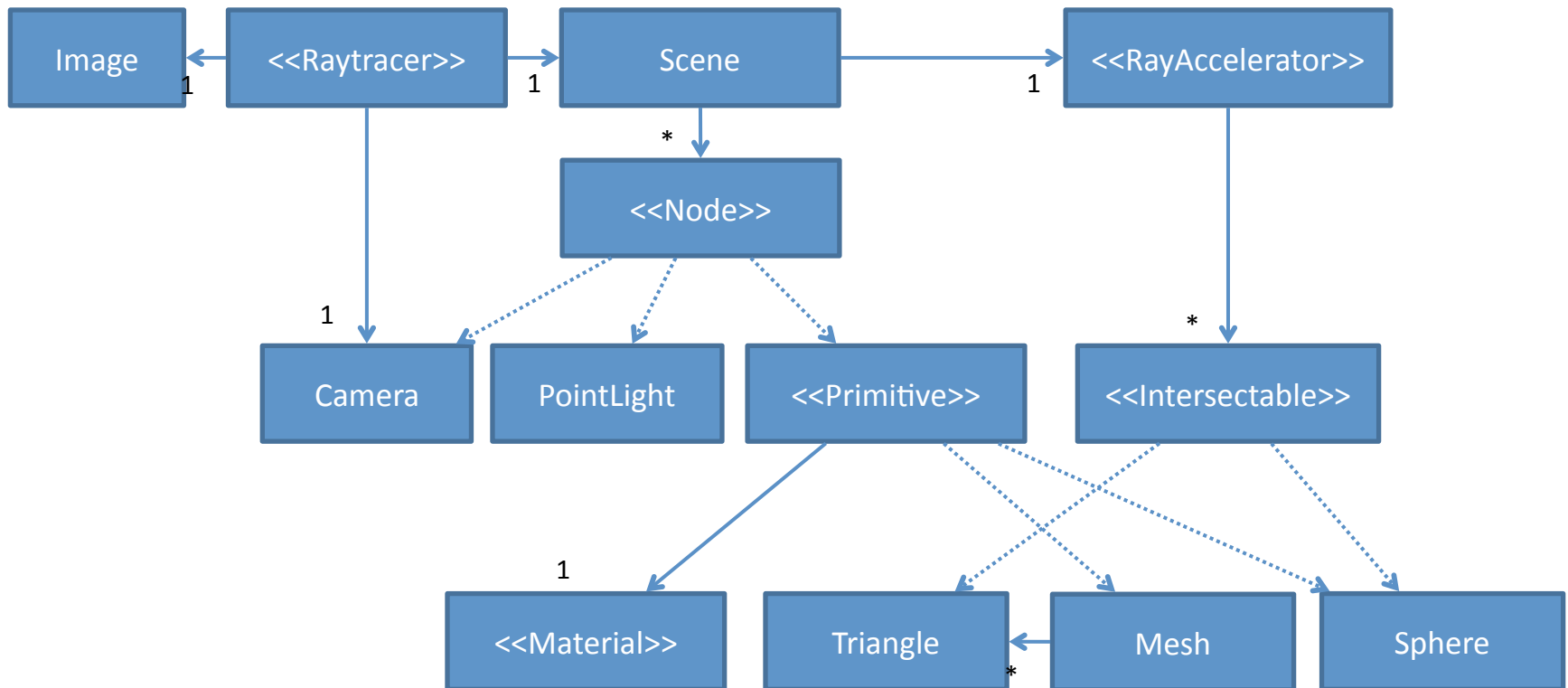
Calculating the light vector (Ψ)

```
Vector3D lightVec = light->getWorldPosition() - is.mPosition;  
lightVec.normalize();
```

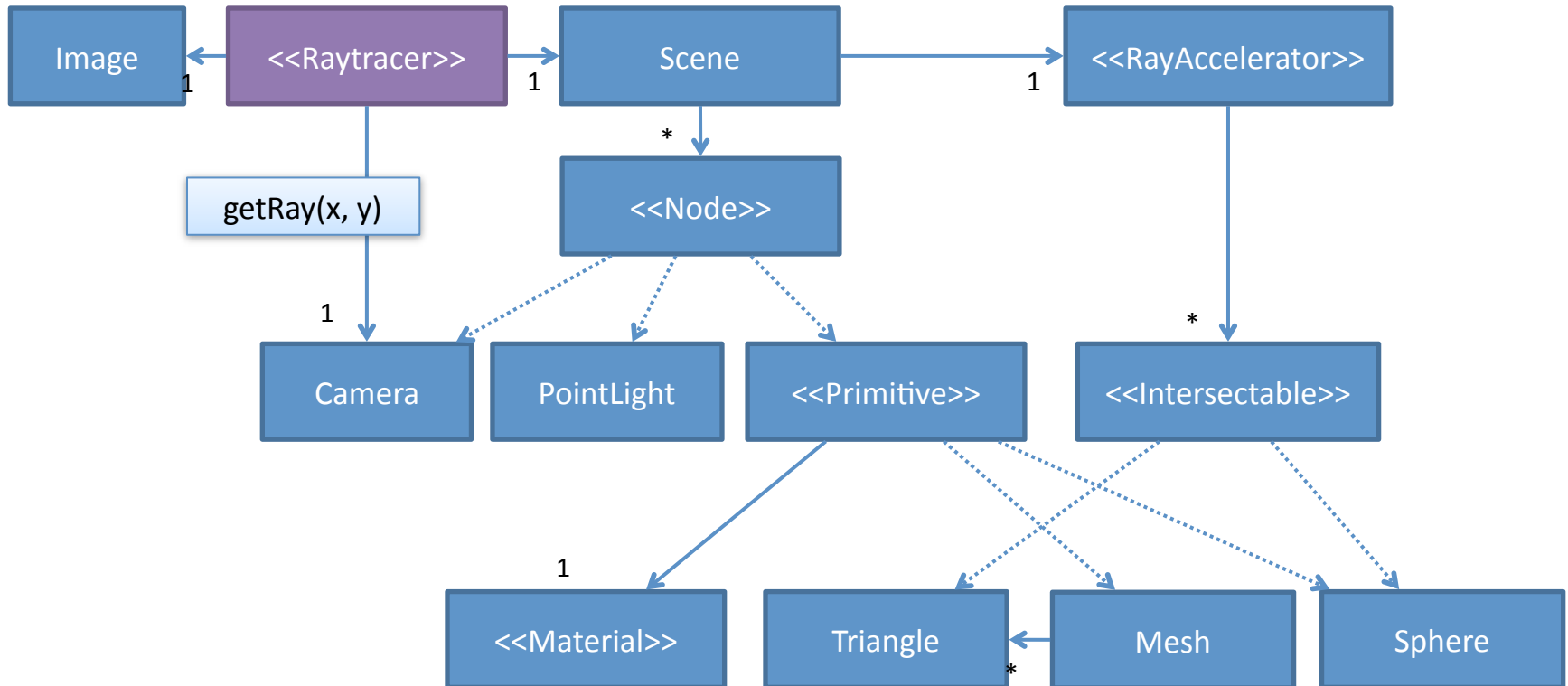
Sum the contribution to get the right result

$$L_{out}(x \rightarrow \Theta) = \sum_i^{lights} L_i(x \leftarrow \Psi_i) f_r(x, \Psi_i \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cos(N_x, \Psi_i)$$

Program flow

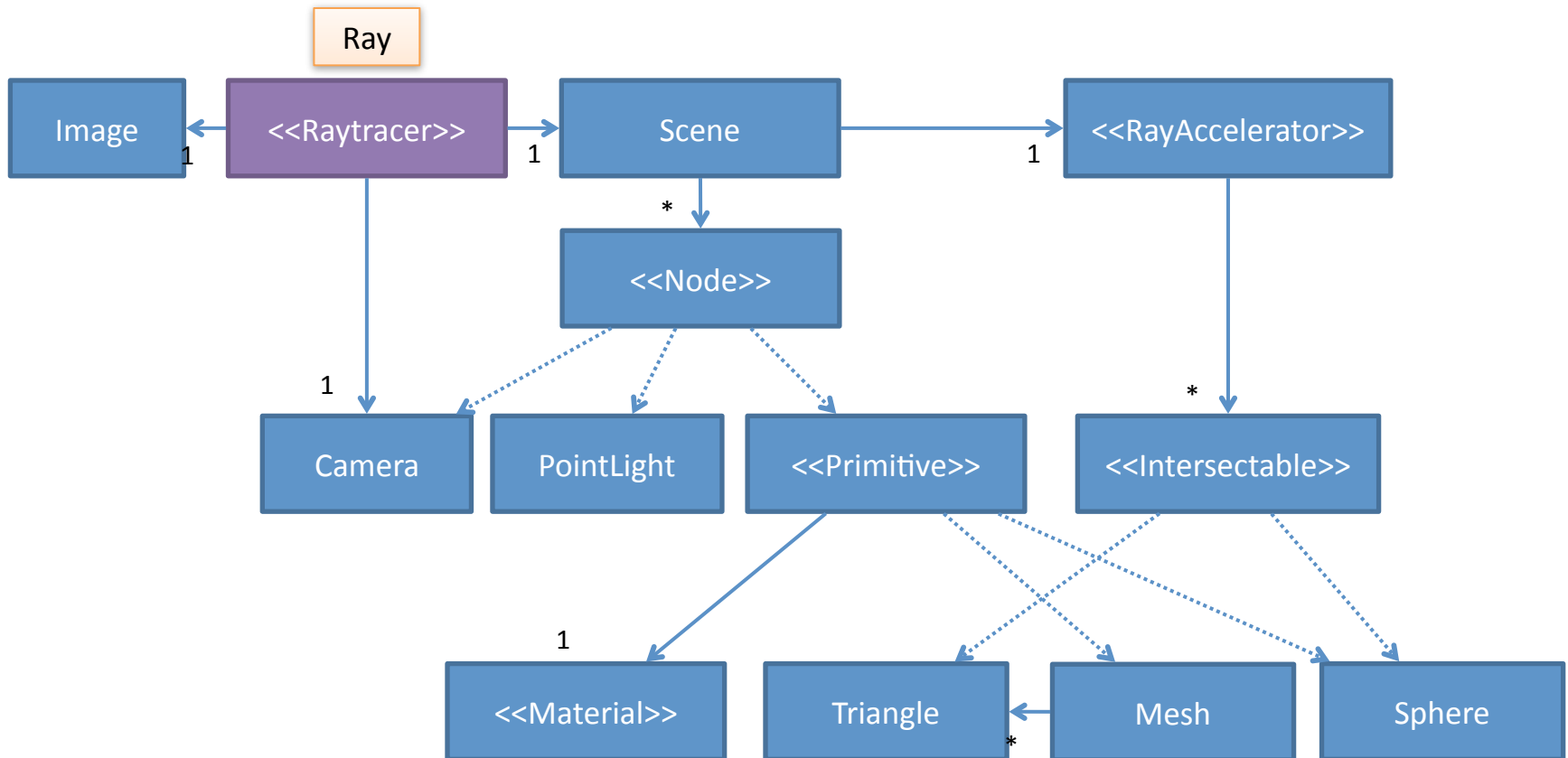


Program flow

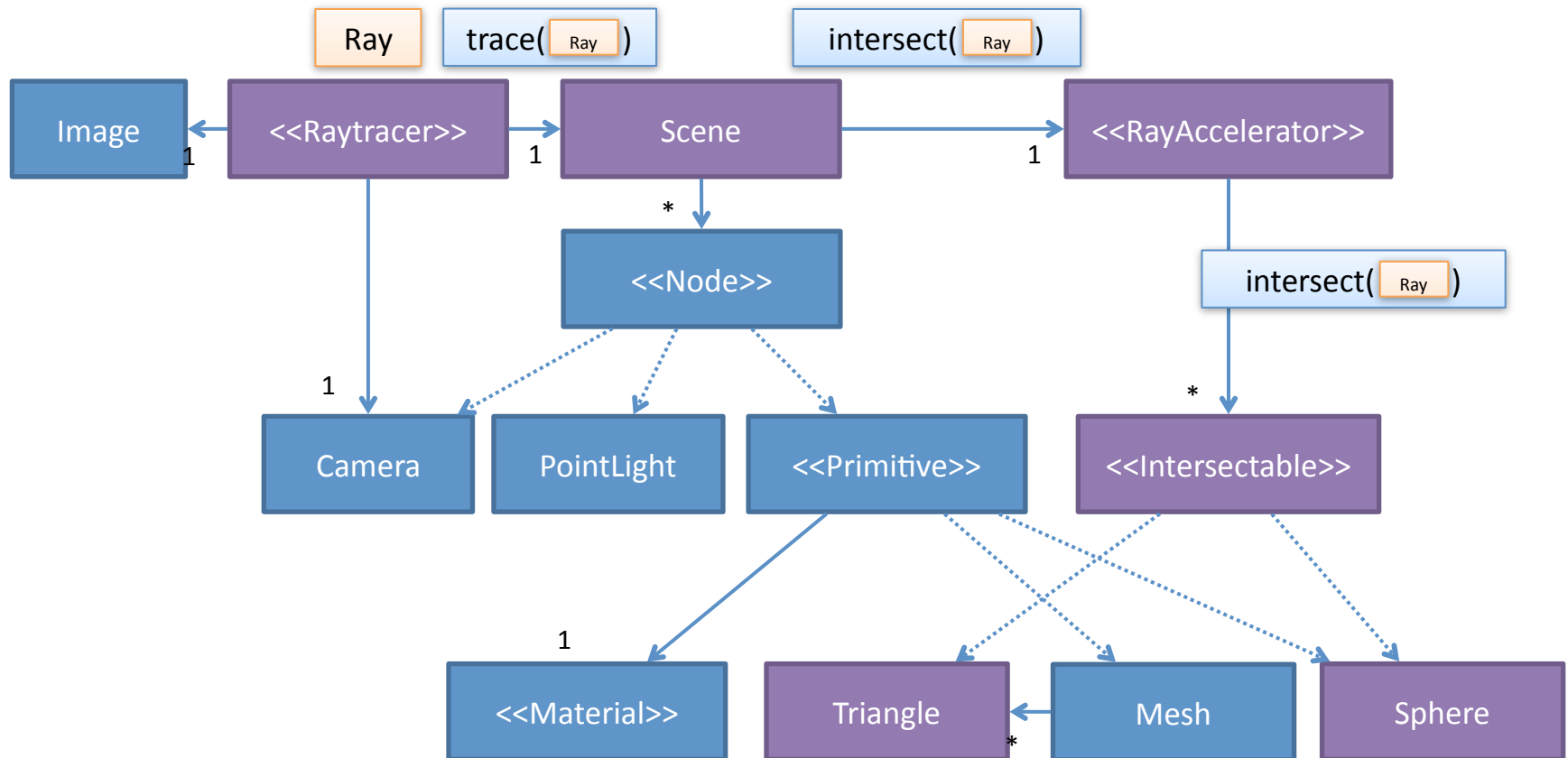


Fetch view ray from camera

Program flow

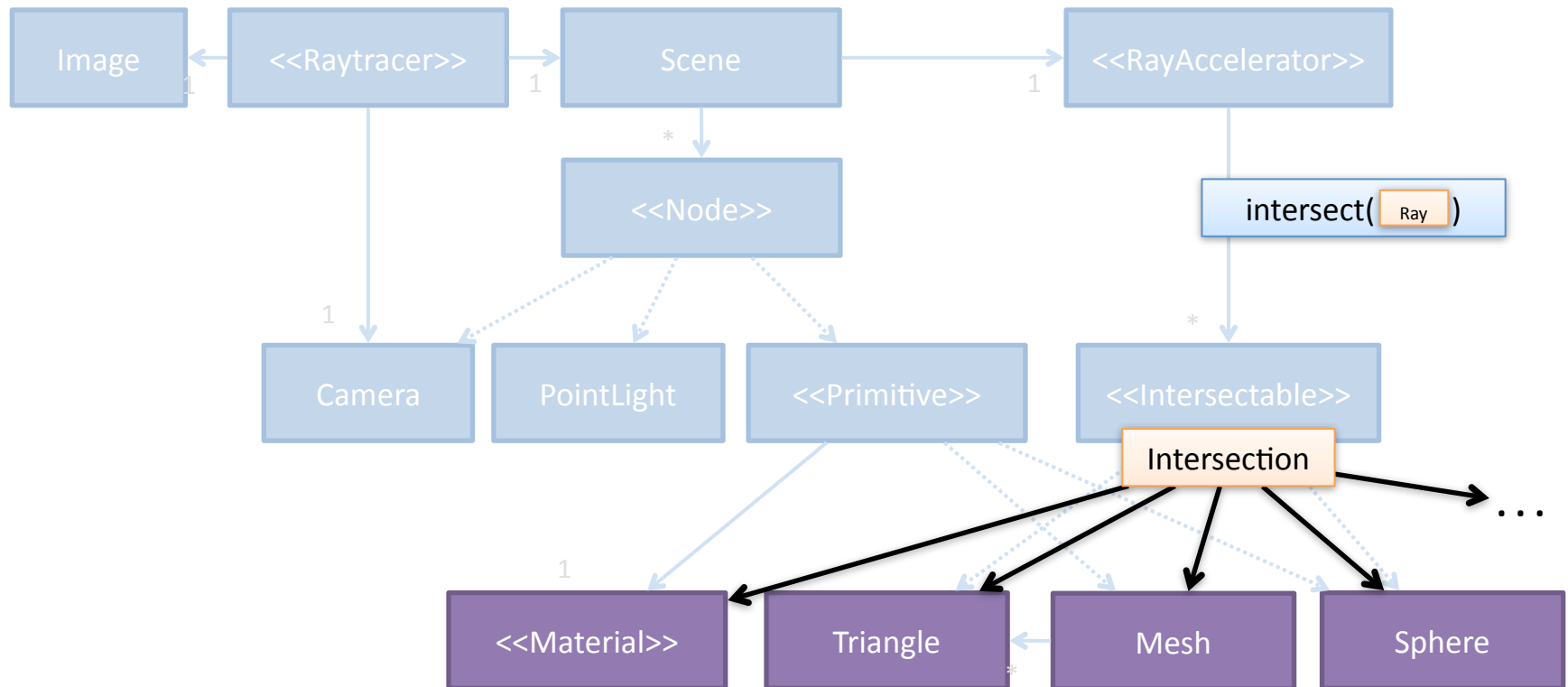


Program flow



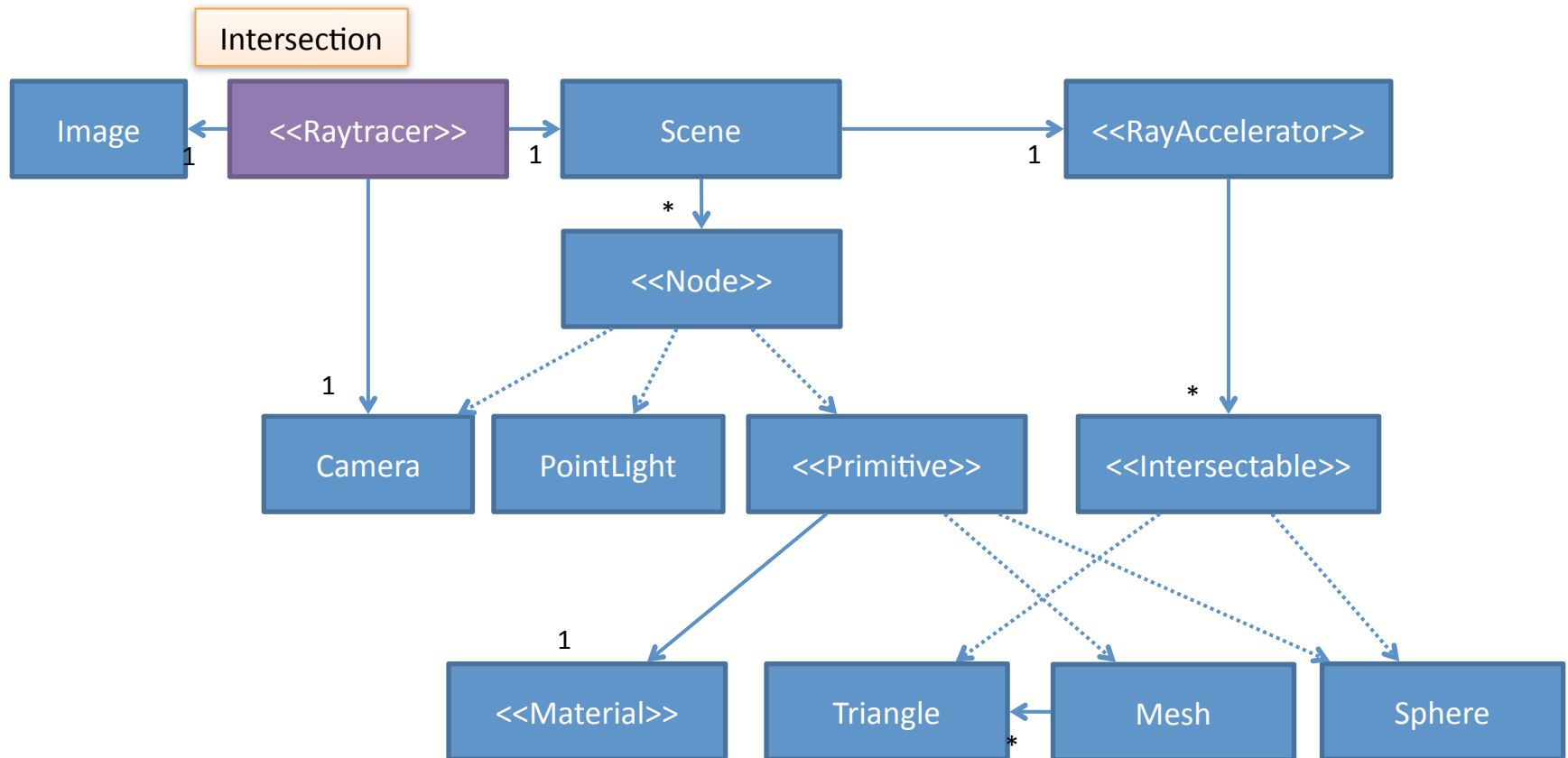
Intersect with the scene's intersectables

Program flow



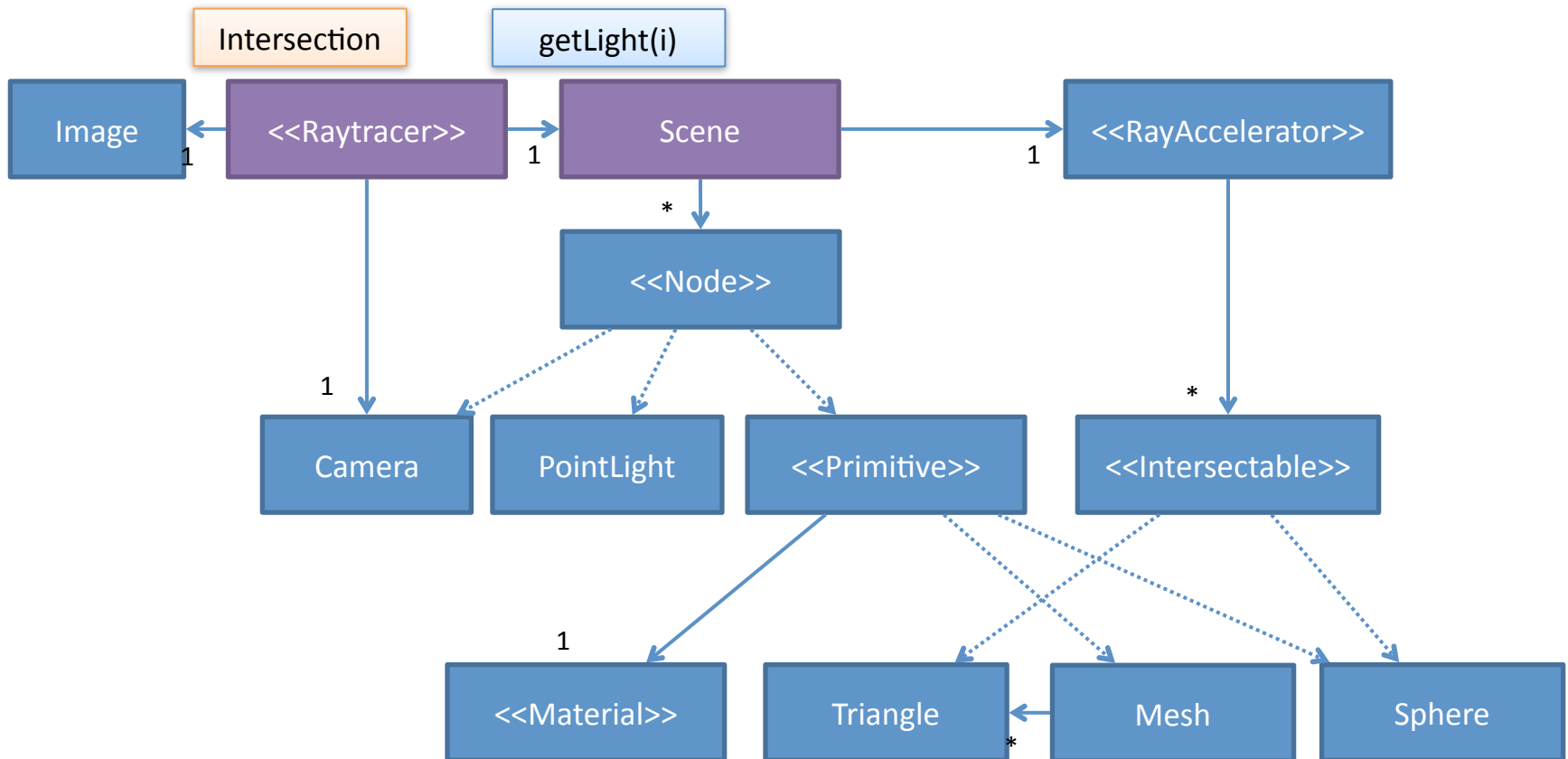
Gather hit point information

Program flow



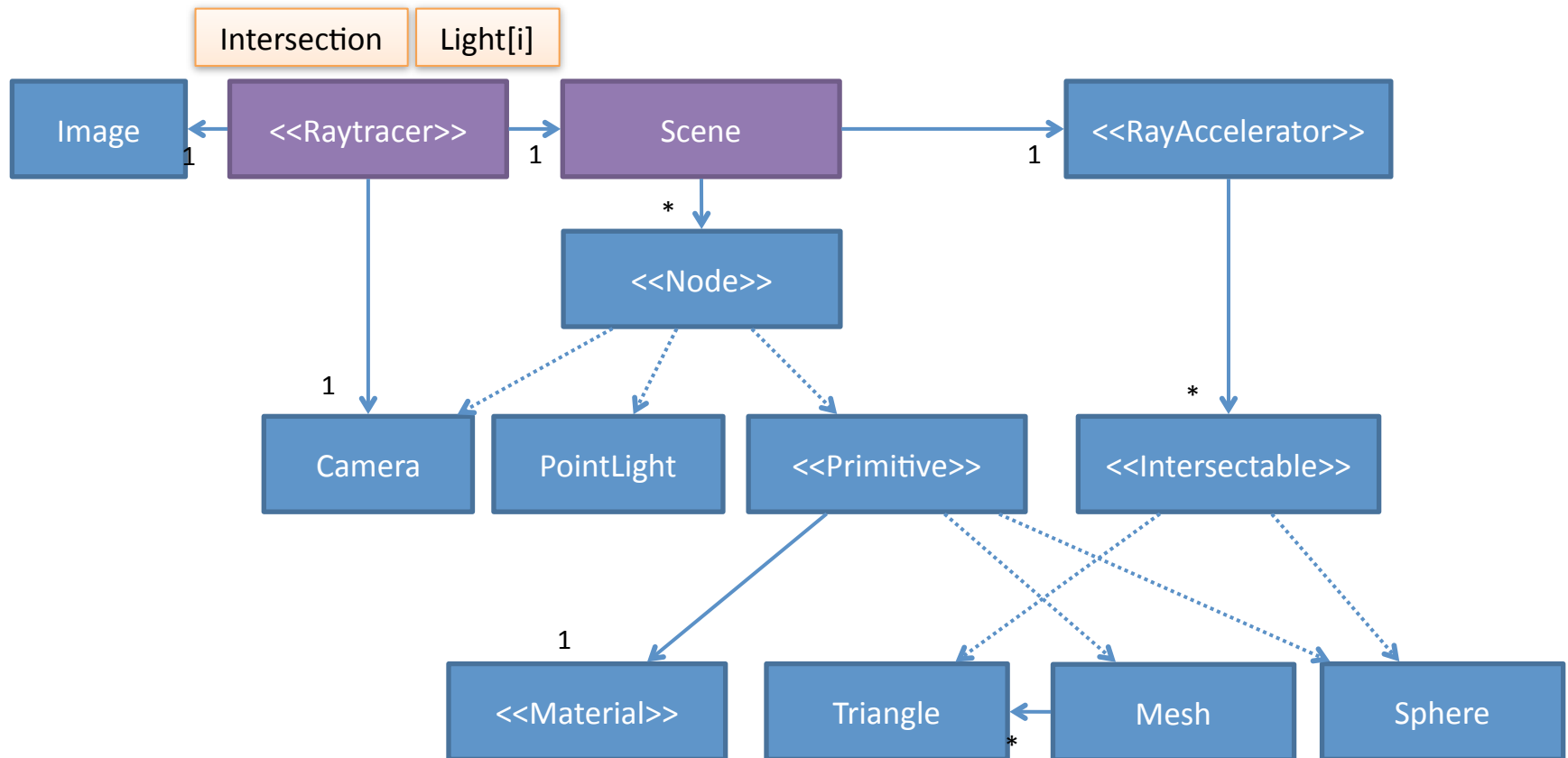
Intersect with the scene's intersectables

Program flow

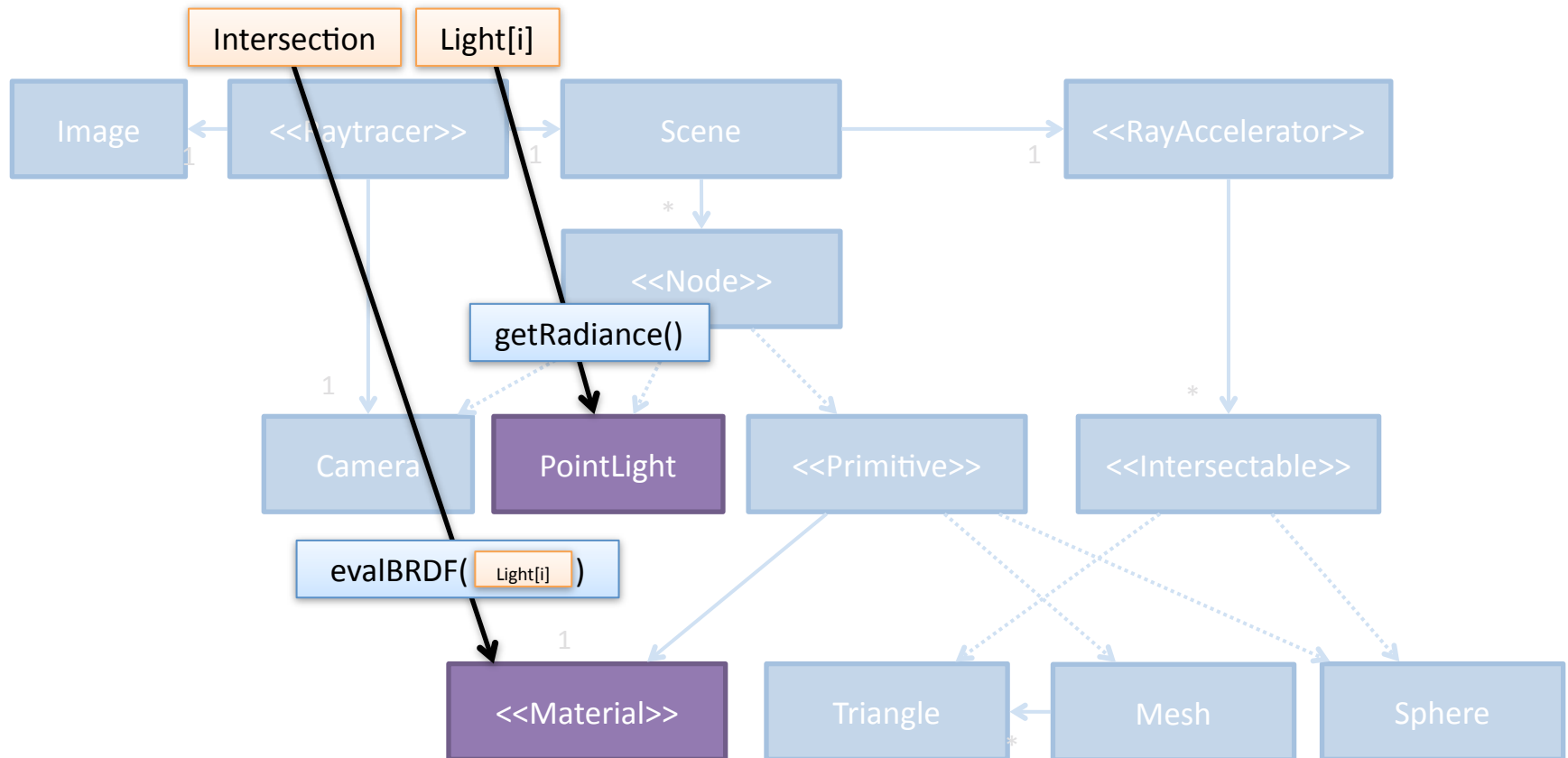


Get light *i* from the scene

Program flow

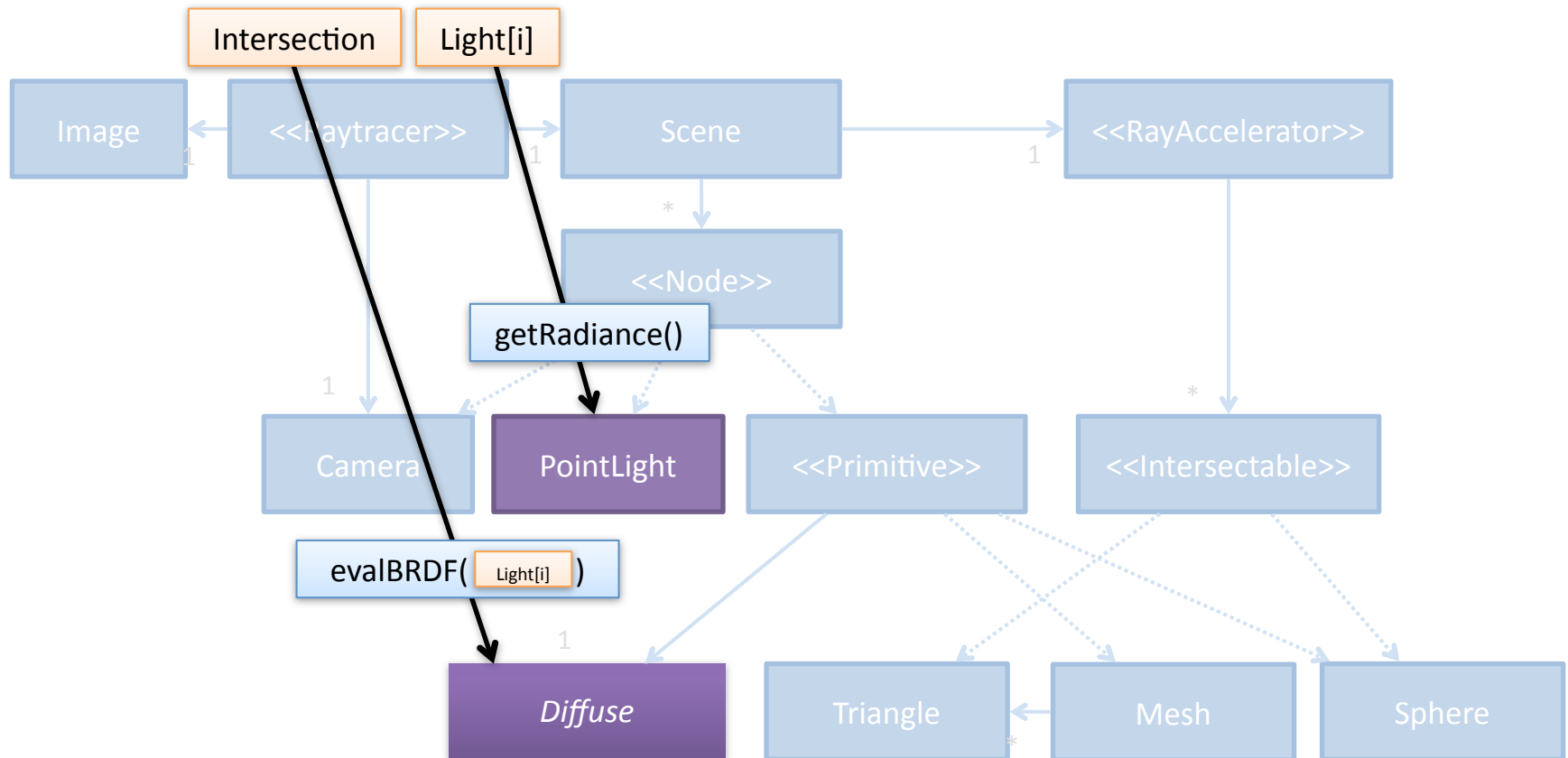


Program flow



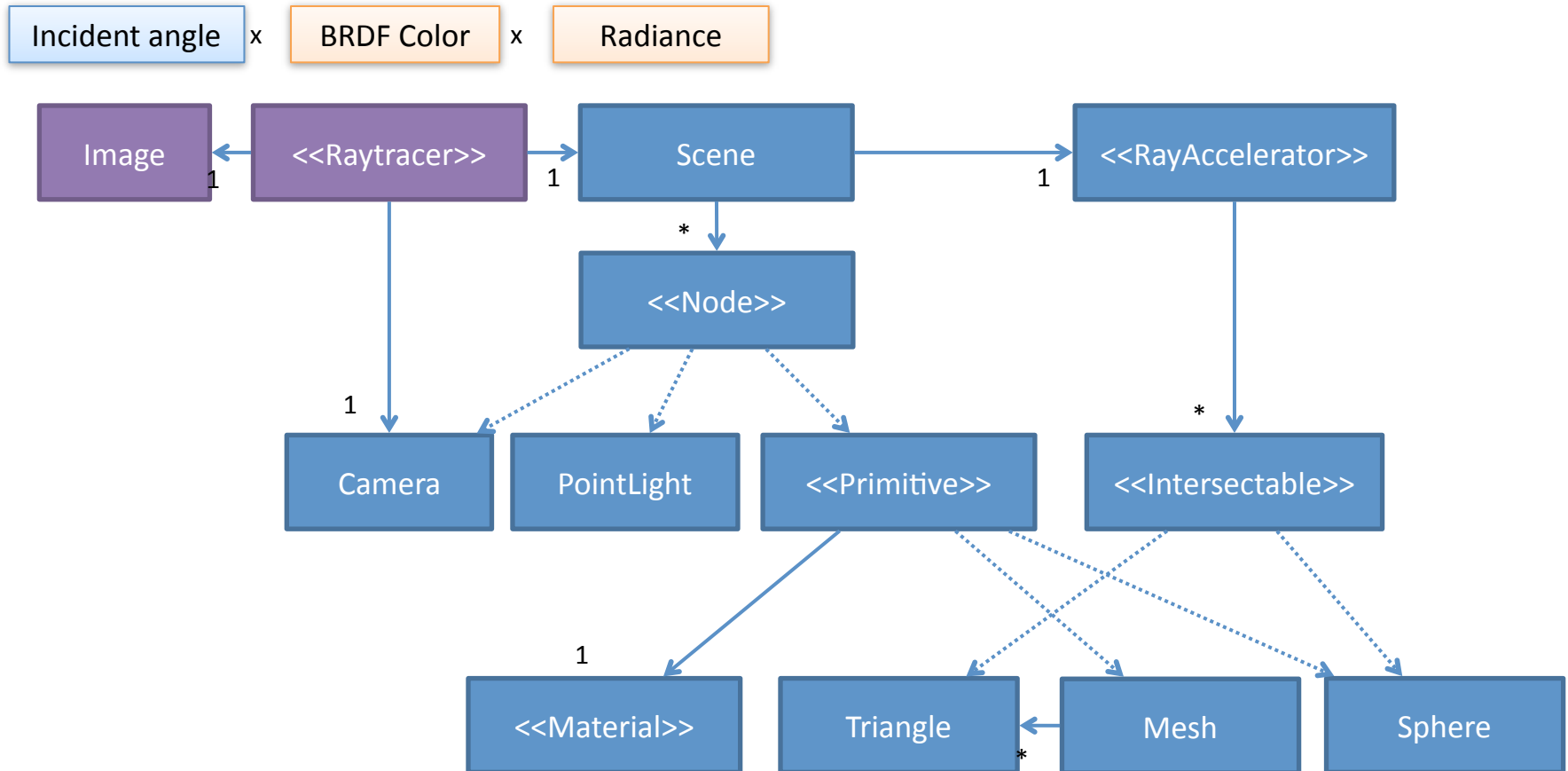
For each light, get light radiance and evaluate material BRDF

Program flow



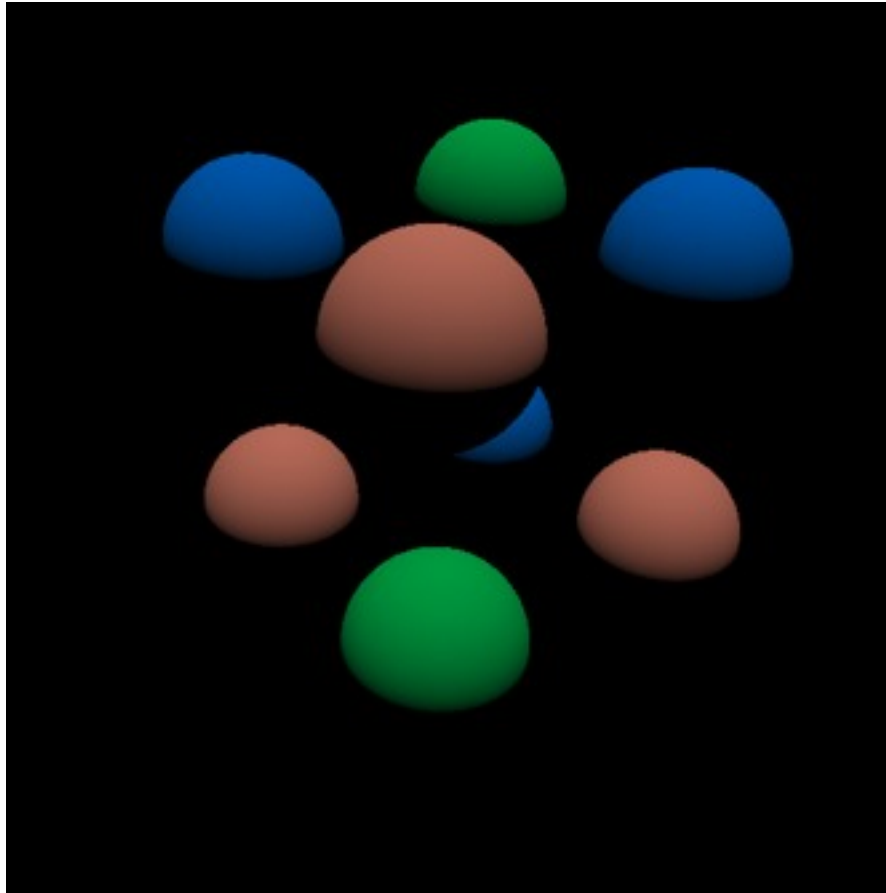
In our case the Material is Diffuse

Program flow



For each light, contribute to the final pixel color

Diffuse Reflection

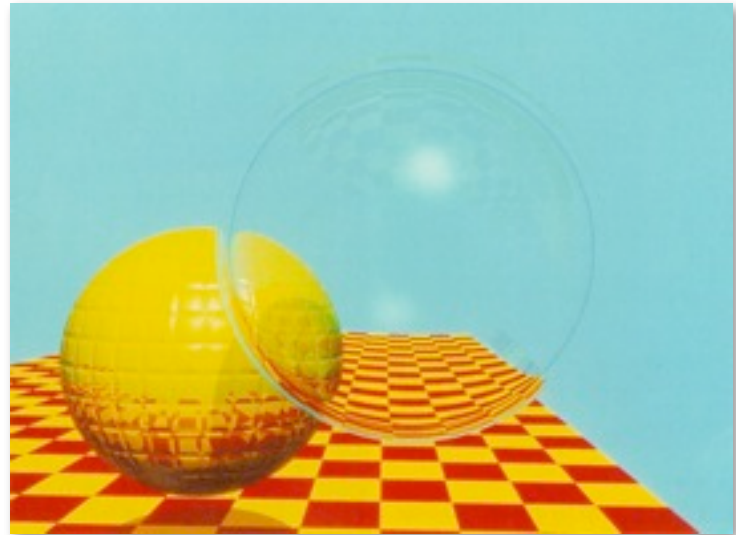
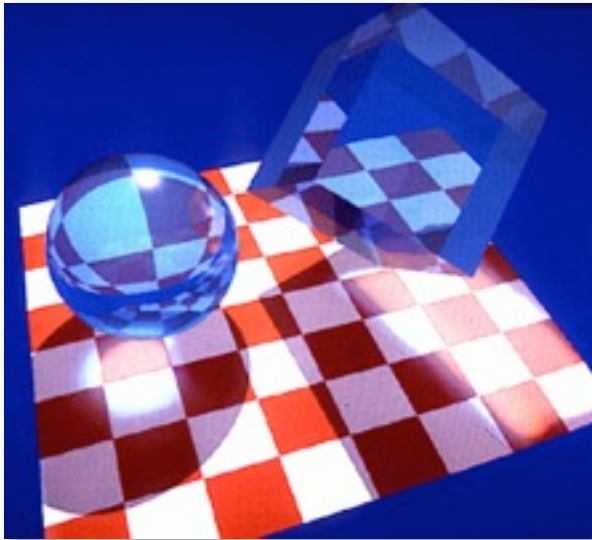


Assignment 1

- Diffuse Reflection
- Whitted ray tracing
 - Shadows
 - Reflections
 - Refractions
- Super sampling
- Blinn-Phong Shading (*Optional*)
- Ray-Triangle Intersection

Whitted Ray Tracing

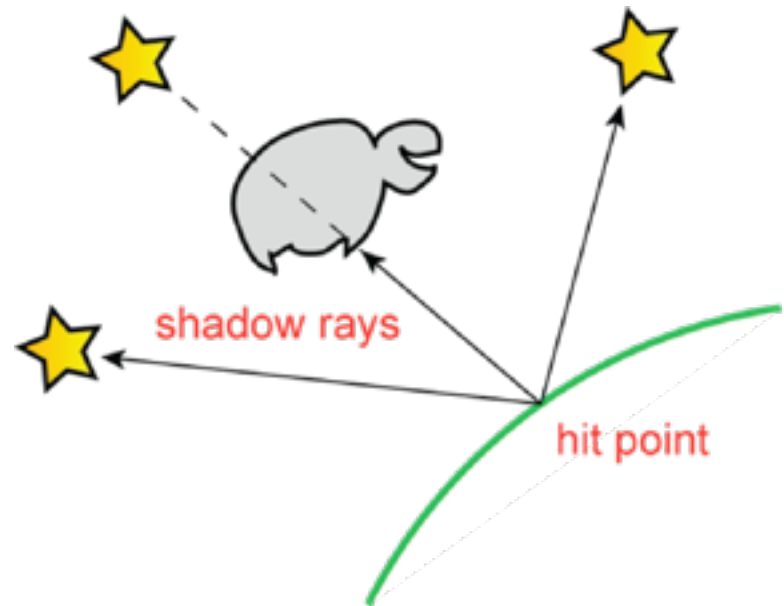
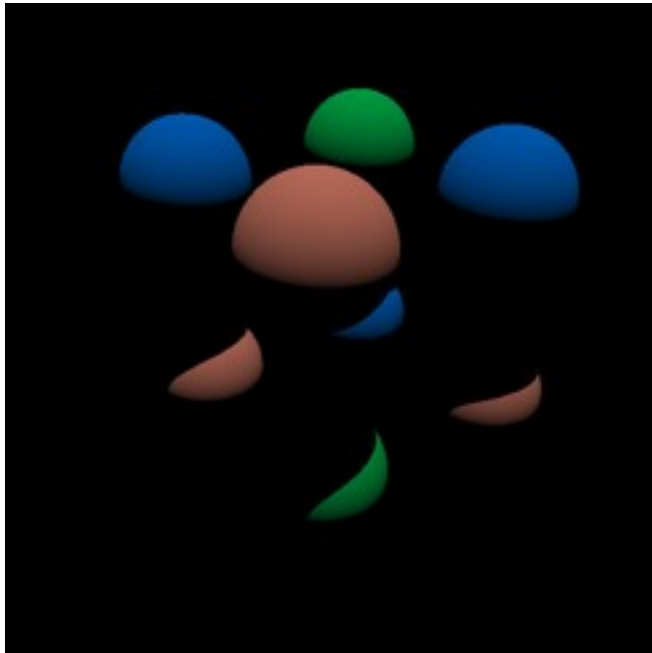
- Introduced by Turner Whitted in 1980
- Added *shadows* and recursive *reflection* and *refraction*
- **Not** physically correct!



Shadows

For this assignment you will need to modify

Color WhittedTracer::trace(const Ray& ray, int depth)



Shadows

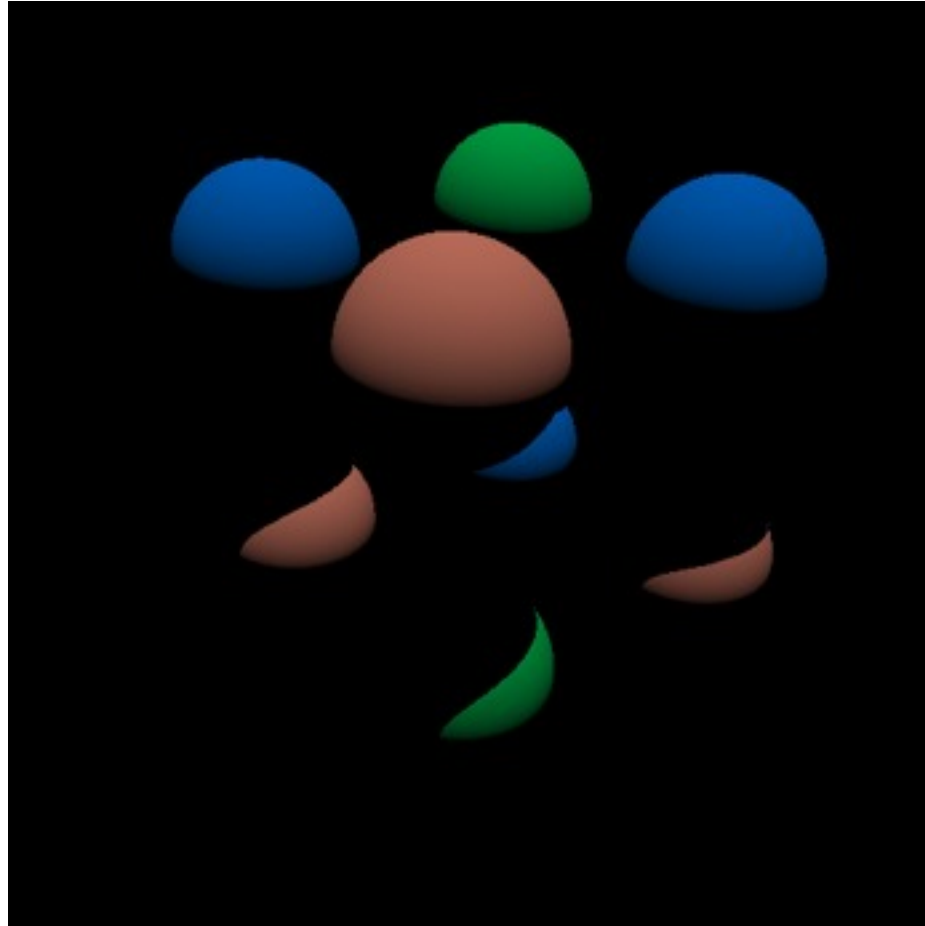
Helper function:

```
PointLight *light = mScene->getLight(i);  
Ray r = is.getShadowRay(light);
```

Returns a shadow ray:

- $r.\text{orig}$ = $\text{is.mPosition} + \textit{epsilon} * \text{is.mNormal}$
- $r.\text{dir}$ = direction of light vector
- $r.t_{\text{max}}$ = distance from hit point to light source

Shadows

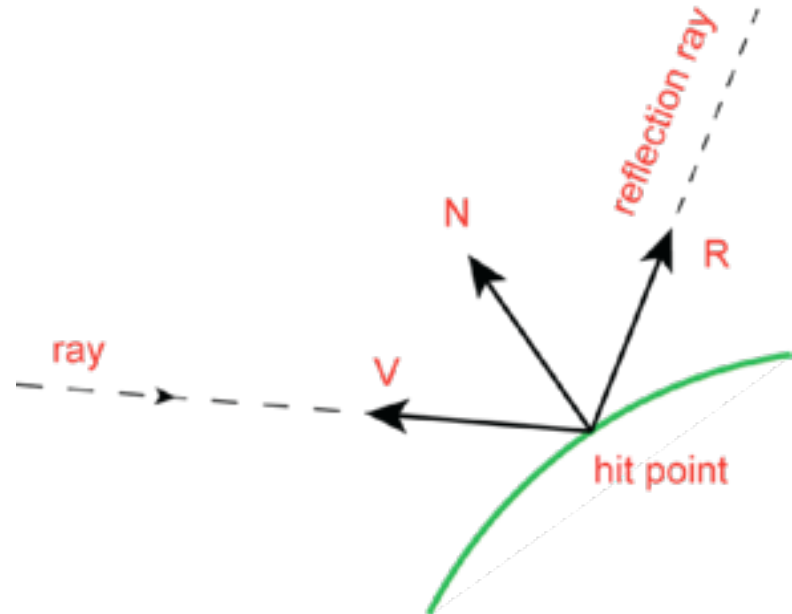
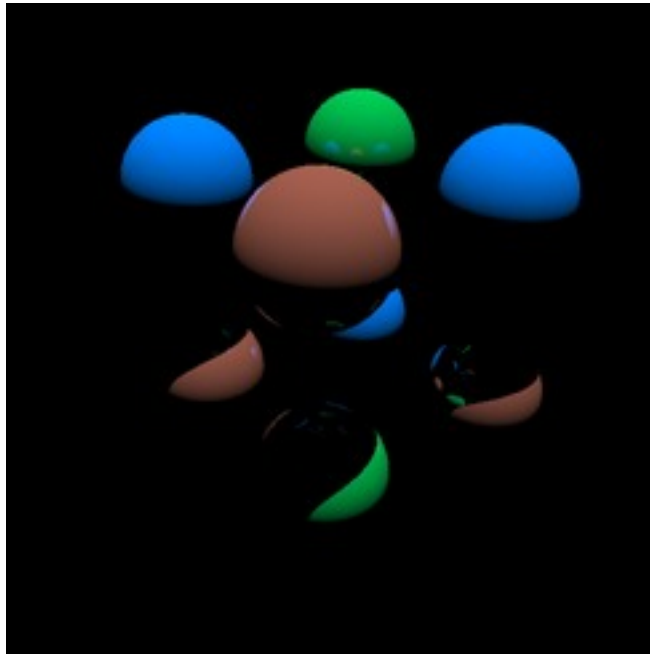


Reflection

For this assignment you will need to modify

Ray Intersection::getReflectedRay() const

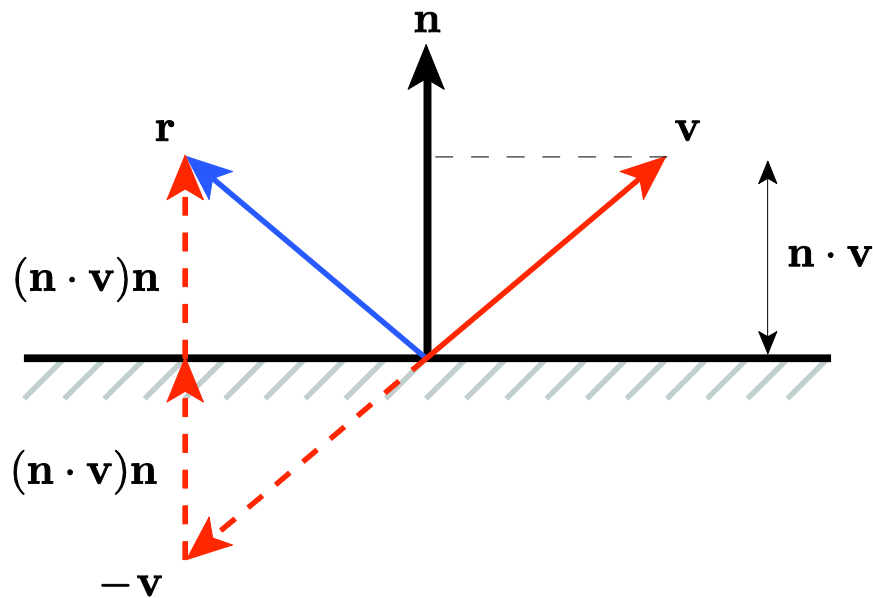
Color WhittedTracer::trace(const Ray& ray, int depth)



Reflection

First, add proper reflection code to

Ray Intersection::getReflectedRay() const

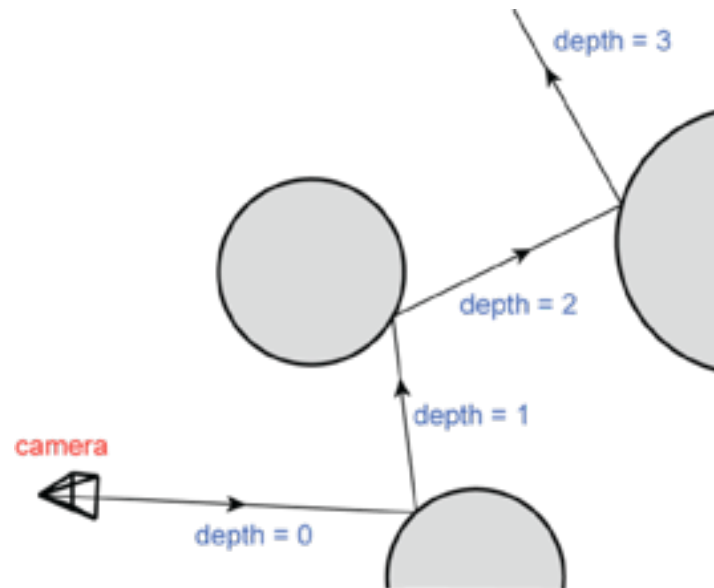


$$\mathbf{r} = 2(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v})\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{v}$$

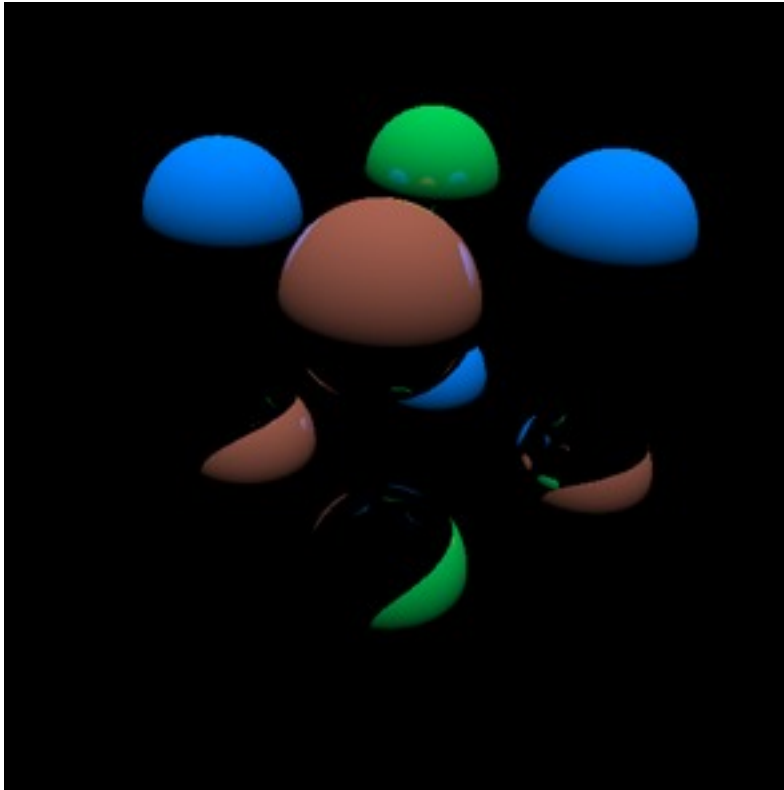
Reflection

Next, modify `Color WhittedTracer::trace(const Ray& ray, int depth)` to follow reflection rays *recursively*.

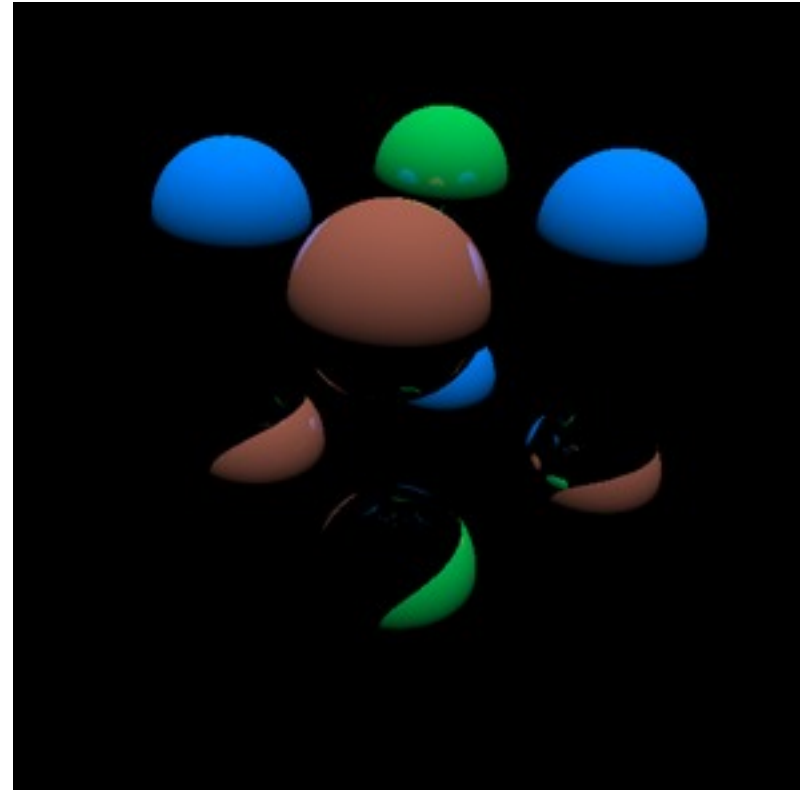
- Use fixed recursion depth (2 or 3 to start with)



Reflection



1 Bounce



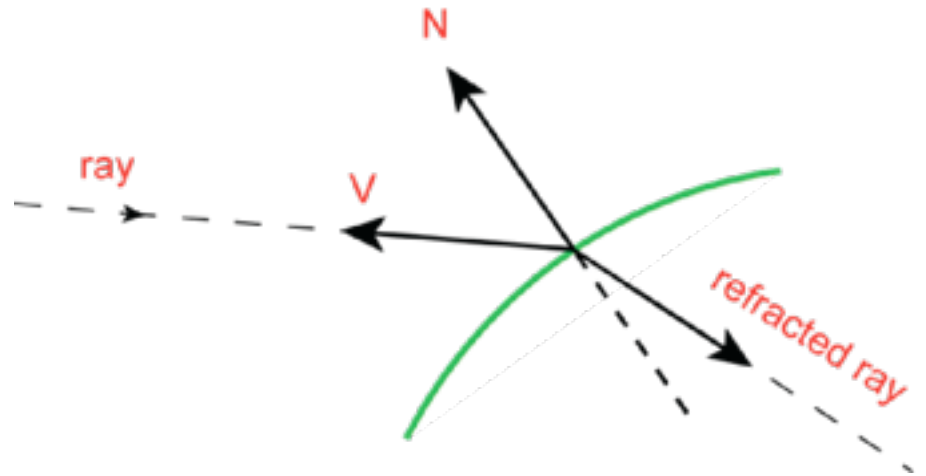
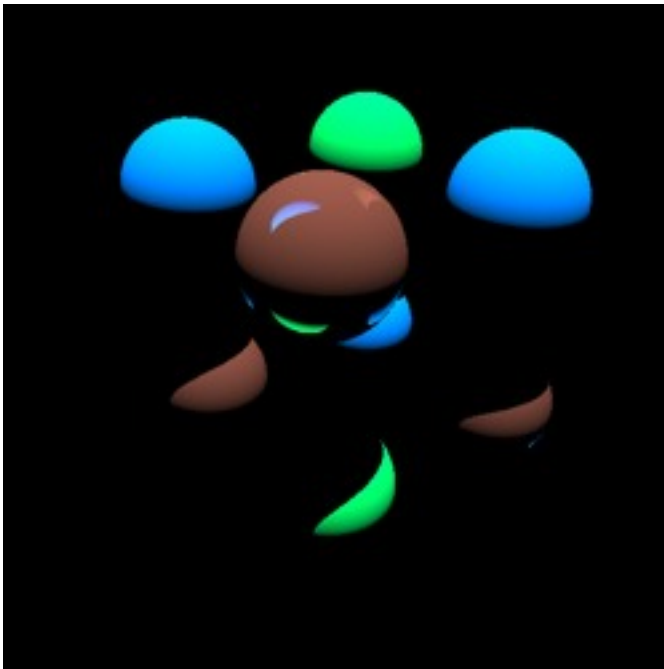
2 Bounces

Refraction

For this assignment you will need to modify

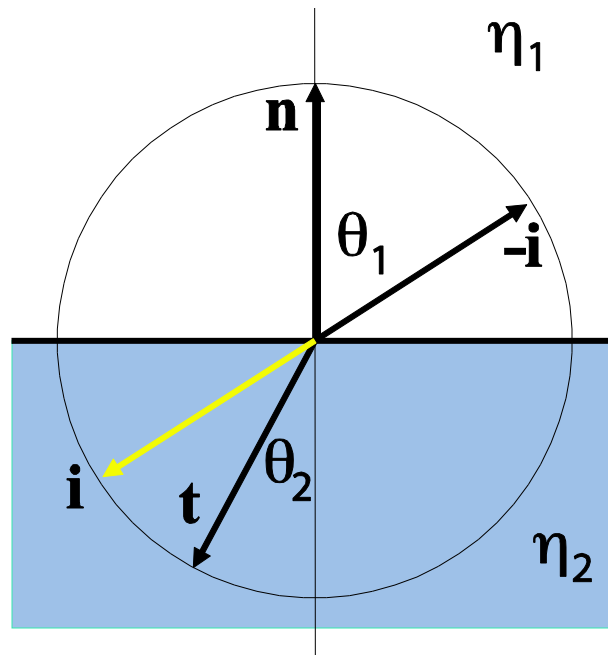
`Ray Intersection::getRefractedRay() const`

`Color WhittedTracer::trace(const Ray& ray, int depth)`



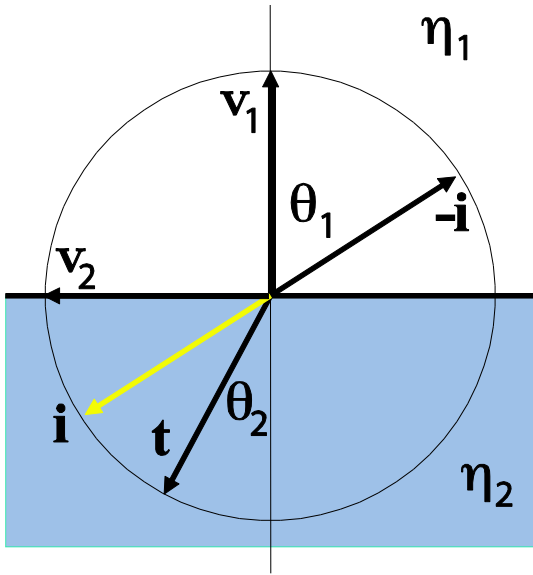
Refraction

Modify `Ray Intersection::getRefractedRay()` const to properly calculate the refraction vector t



Refraction

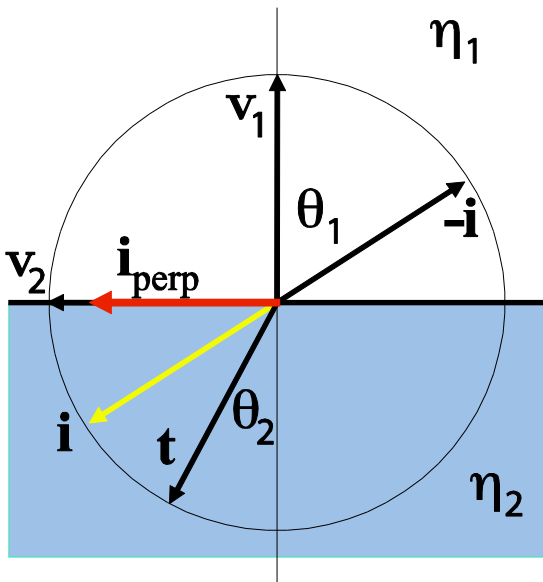
Find vectors in the refraction plane to express t with:



$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{n}$$

$$\mathbf{i}_{\text{perp}} = \mathbf{i} + \cos \Theta_1 \mathbf{n}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{i}_{\text{perp}}}{\|\mathbf{i}_{\text{perp}}\|}$$



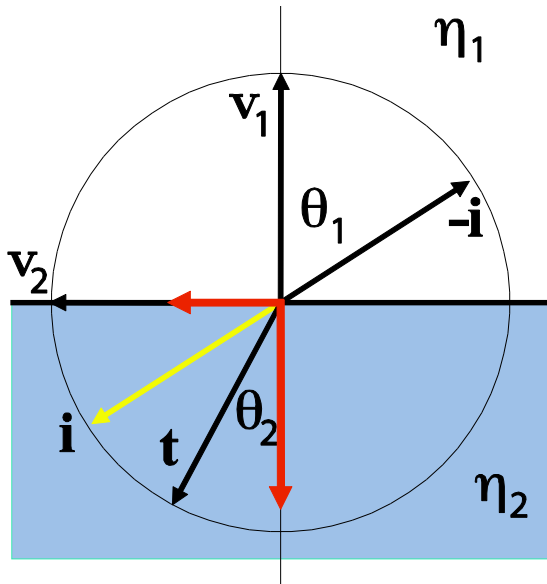
Refraction

Snell's law:

$$\frac{\sin \Theta_2}{\sin \Theta_1} = \frac{\eta_1}{\eta_2} = \eta$$

We now know enough to solve t with

$$t = -\sin \Theta_2 v_1 - \cos \Theta_2 v_2$$



Refraction

$$\mathbf{t} = -\sin \Theta_2 \mathbf{v}_1 - \cos \Theta_2 \mathbf{v}_2$$

Simplification!

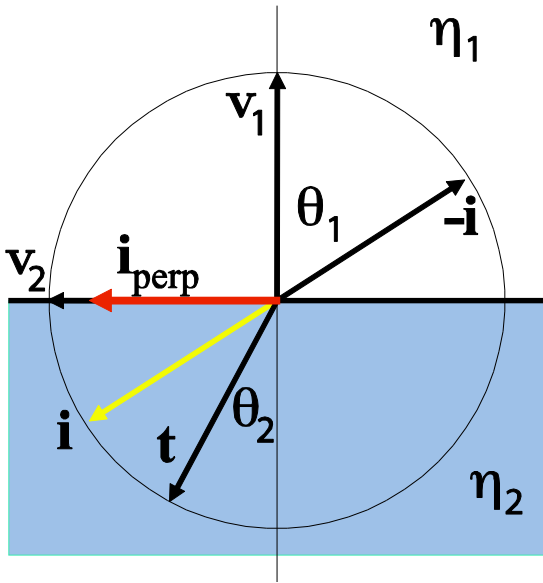
$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{i}_{\text{perp}}}{\|\mathbf{i}_{\text{perp}}\|}$$

$$\mathbf{i}_{\text{perp}} = \mathbf{i} + \cos \Theta_1 \mathbf{n}$$

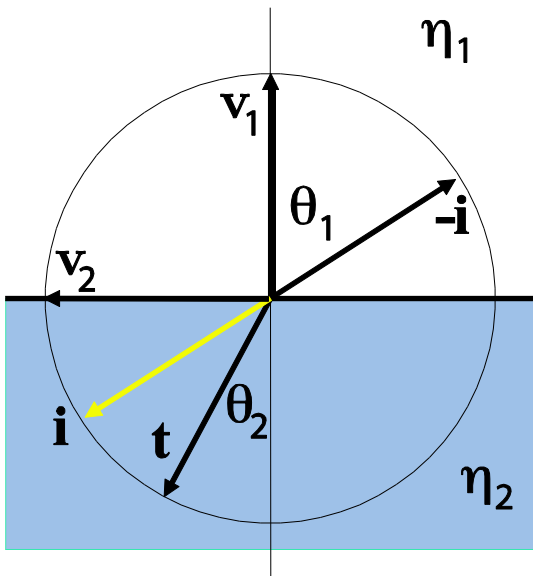
$$\|\mathbf{i}_{\text{perp}}\| = \sin \Theta_1$$

=>

$$\mathbf{t} = \sin \Theta_2 \frac{\mathbf{i} - \cos \Theta_1 \mathbf{n}}{\sin \Theta_1} - \cos \Theta_2 \mathbf{n}$$



Refraction



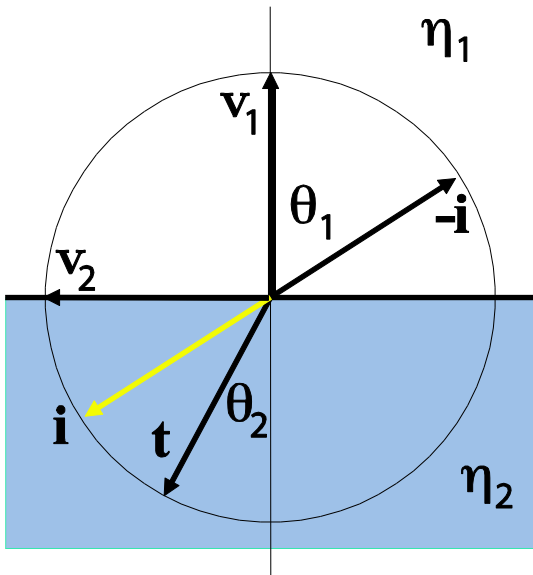
$$\mathbf{t} = \sin \Theta_2 \frac{\mathbf{i} - \cos \Theta_1 \mathbf{n}}{\sin \Theta_1} - \cos \Theta_2 \mathbf{n}$$

$$\frac{\sin \Theta_2}{\sin \Theta_1} = \frac{\eta_1}{\eta_2} = \eta$$

\Rightarrow

$$\mathbf{t} = \eta \mathbf{i} + (\eta \cos \Theta_1 - \cos \Theta_2) \mathbf{n}$$

Refraction



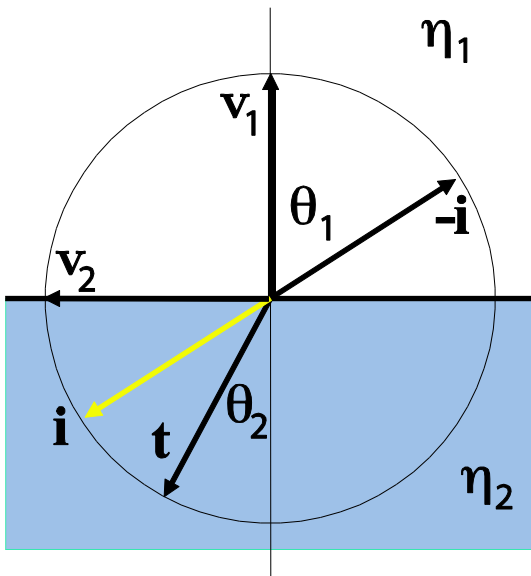
$$\mathbf{t} = \eta \mathbf{i} + (\eta \cos \Theta_1 - \cos \Theta_2) \mathbf{n}$$

$$\cos \Theta_2 = \sqrt{1 - \eta^2 (1 - \cos \Theta_1)^2}$$

$$\cos \Theta_1 = -\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

Refraction

Finally...



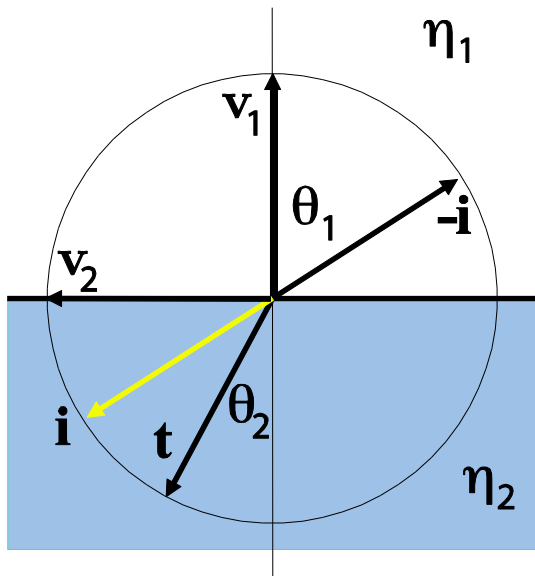
$$\mathbf{r} = -\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

$$c = 1 - \eta^2(1 - r^2)$$

$$\mathbf{t} = \eta \mathbf{i} + (\eta r - \sqrt{c}) \mathbf{n}$$

Refraction

Finally...



$$\mathbf{r} = -\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

$$c = 1 - \eta^2(1 - r^2)$$

$$\mathbf{t} = \eta \mathbf{i} + (\eta r - \sqrt{c}) \mathbf{n}$$

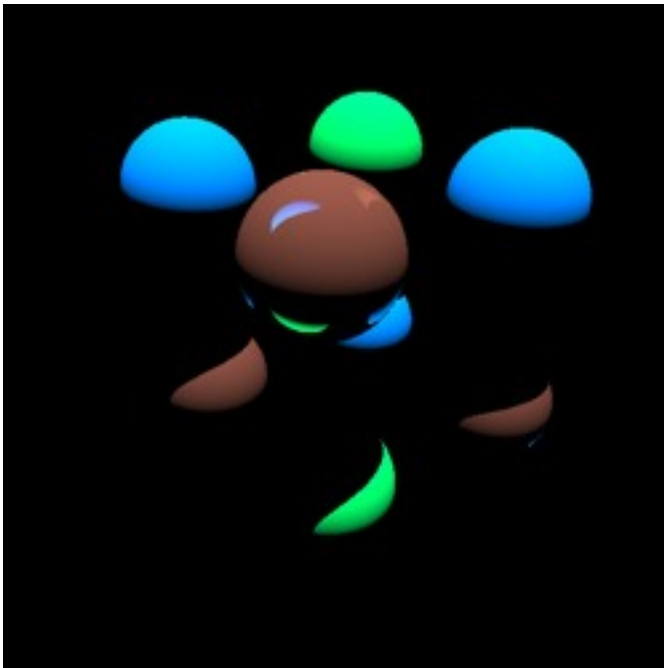
We can't solve for $c < 0$

– Total internal reflection!

- Return reflection ray instead

Refraction

By now your scene probably looks better than mine...



To get this result I changed to the following in the buildSpheres-function:

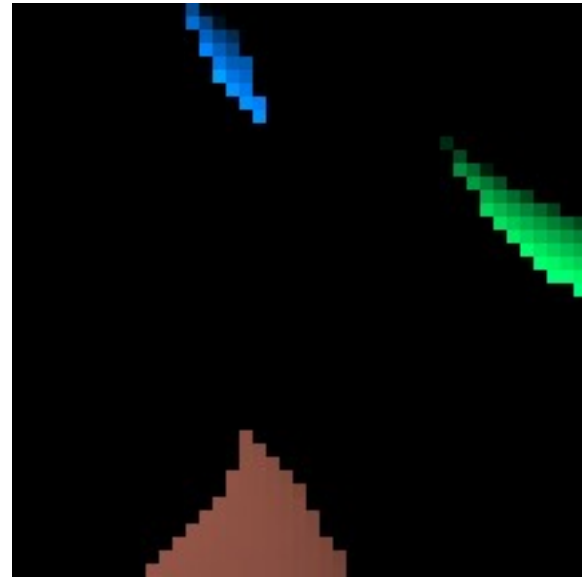
```
material[0]->setReflectivity(0.0f);  
material[1]->setReflectivity(0.0f);  
material[2]->setReflectivity(0.0f);  
  
material[0]->setTransparency(0.0f);  
material[1]->setTransparency(0.9f);  
material[2]->setTransparency(0.0f);  
  
material[0]->setIndexOfRefraction(1.0f);  
material[1]->setIndexOfRefraction(1.5f);  
material[2]->setIndexOfRefraction(1.0f);
```

Assignment 1

- Diffuse Reflection
- Whitted ray tracing
 - Shadows
 - Reflections
 - Refractions
- Super sampling
- Blinn-Phong Shading (*Optional*)
- Ray-Triangle Intersection

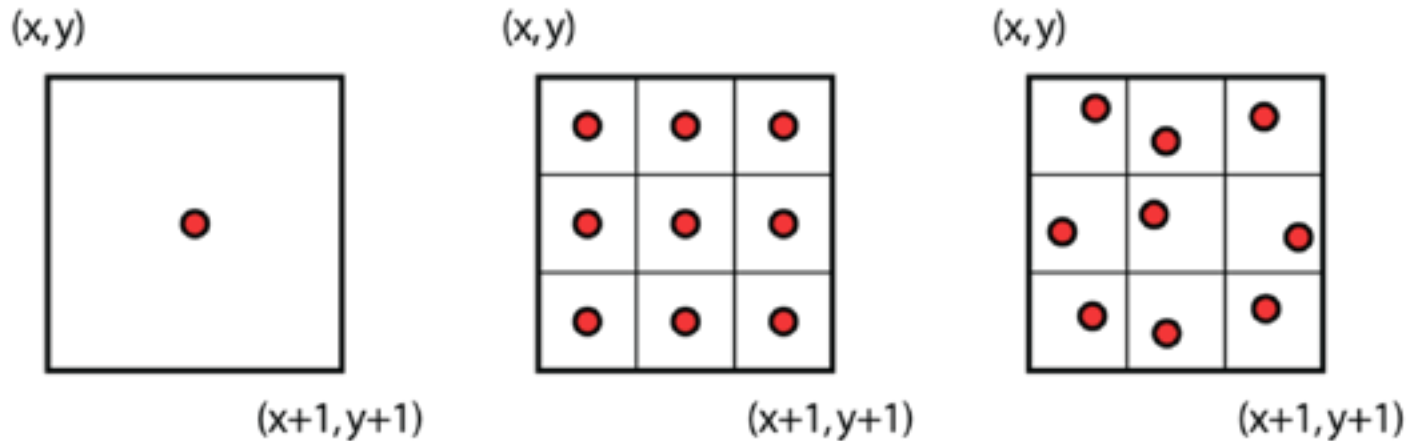
Super Sampling

The images look very jagged so far when we zoom in...



Super Sampling

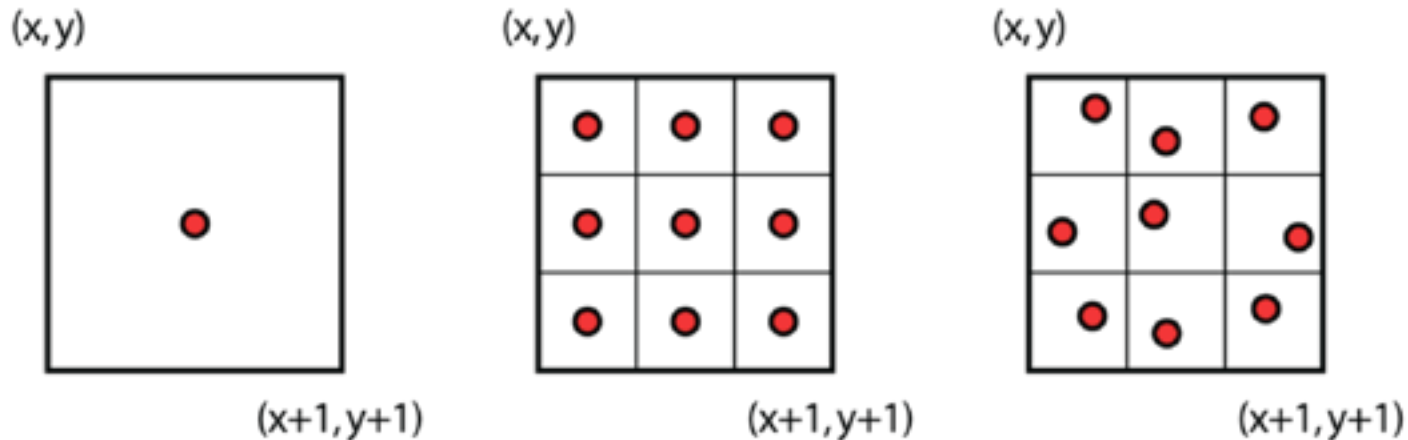
It's because we only use 1 sample/pixel



Instead use NxN stratified samples

Super Sampling

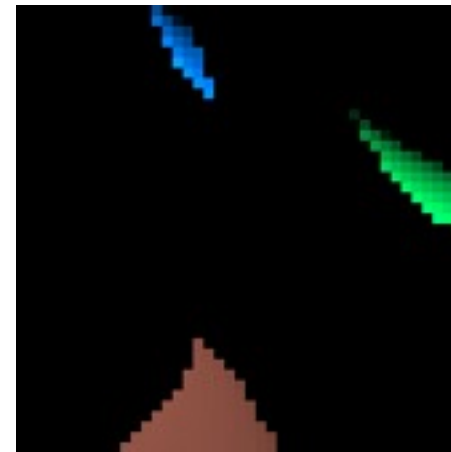
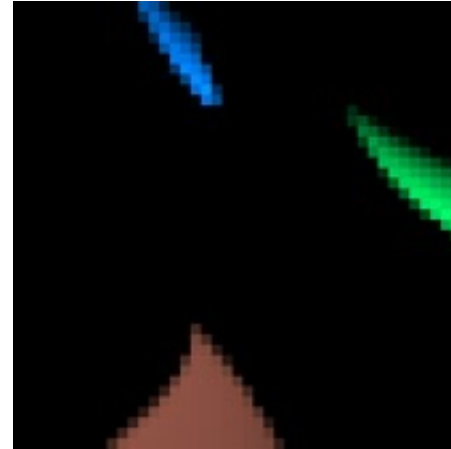
It's because we only use 1 sample/pixel



Instead use NxN stratified samples

Hint: `uniform()` returns a random value $[0, 1)$

Super Sampling

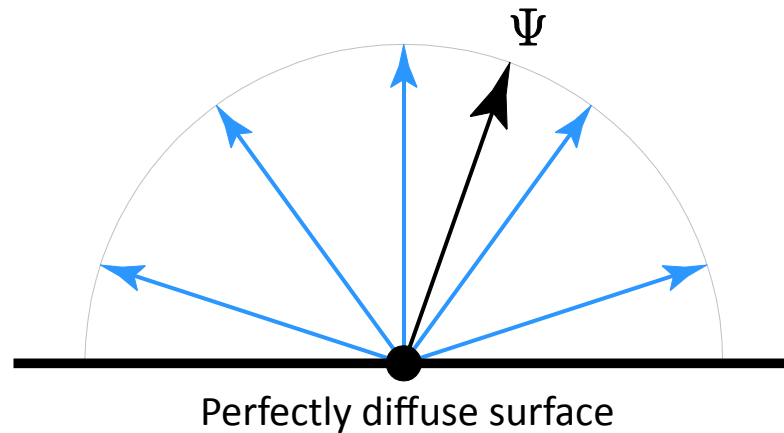


Assignment 1

- Diffuse Reflection
- Whitted ray tracing
 - Shadows
 - Reflections
 - Refractions
- Super sampling
- Blinn-Phong Shading (*Optional*)
- Ray-Triangle Intersection

Diffuse Reflection

Until now we considered a simple BRDF

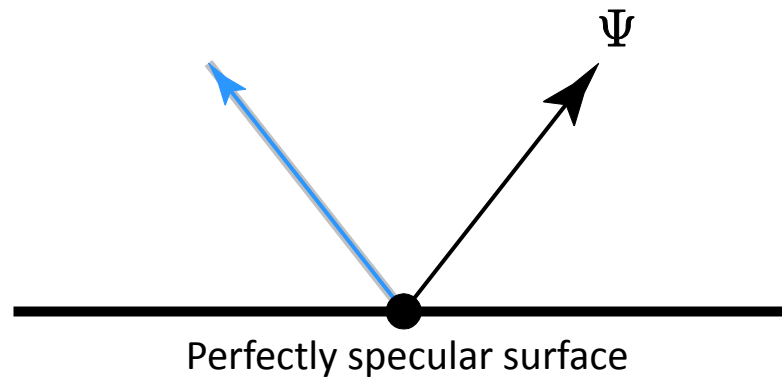


Light is reflected equally in all directions

– *BRDF is constant* = k_d

Specular Reflection

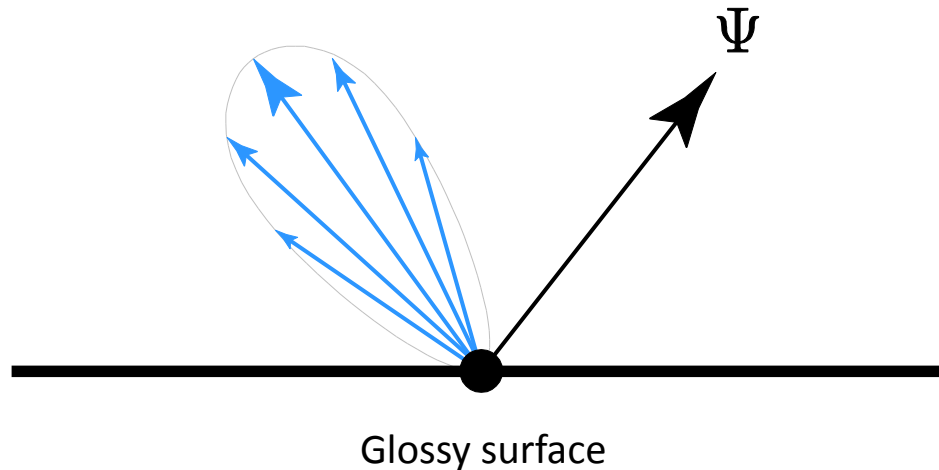
The Whitted tracer has perfectly specular surfaces (perfect mirrors)



Light is reflected in the exact reflection direction only.

Specular Reflection in BRDF

Now we add another glossy specular reflection



Recall

$$L_{out}(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_{in}(x \leftarrow \Psi) f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cos(N_x, \Psi)$$

- Incoming radiance

light->getRadiance();

- BRDF

is.mMaterial.evalBRDF(is, Ψ);

- Incident angle

max(Ψ .dot(is.mNormal), 0.0f);

Recall

$$L_{out}(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_{in}(x \leftarrow \Psi) f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cos(N_x, \Psi)$$

- Incoming radiance

`light->getRadiance();`

- BRDF

`is.mMaterial.evalBRDF(is, Ψ);`

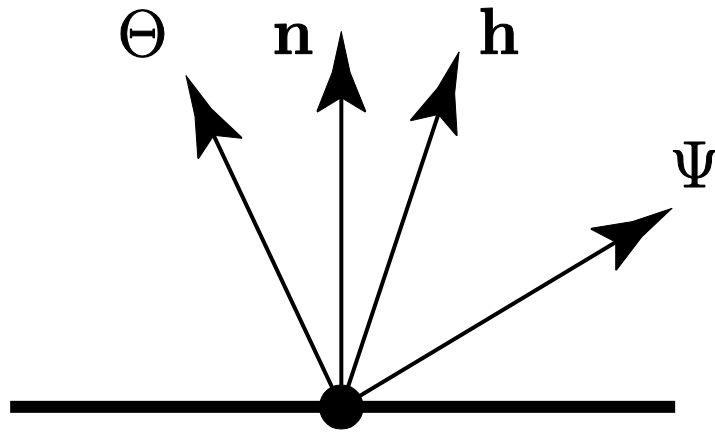
- Incident angle

`max(Ψ .dot(is.mNormal), 0.0f);`

Add new sub-class of <<Material>>

Implement your own `evalBRDF`-function

Blinn-Phong Shading (optional)



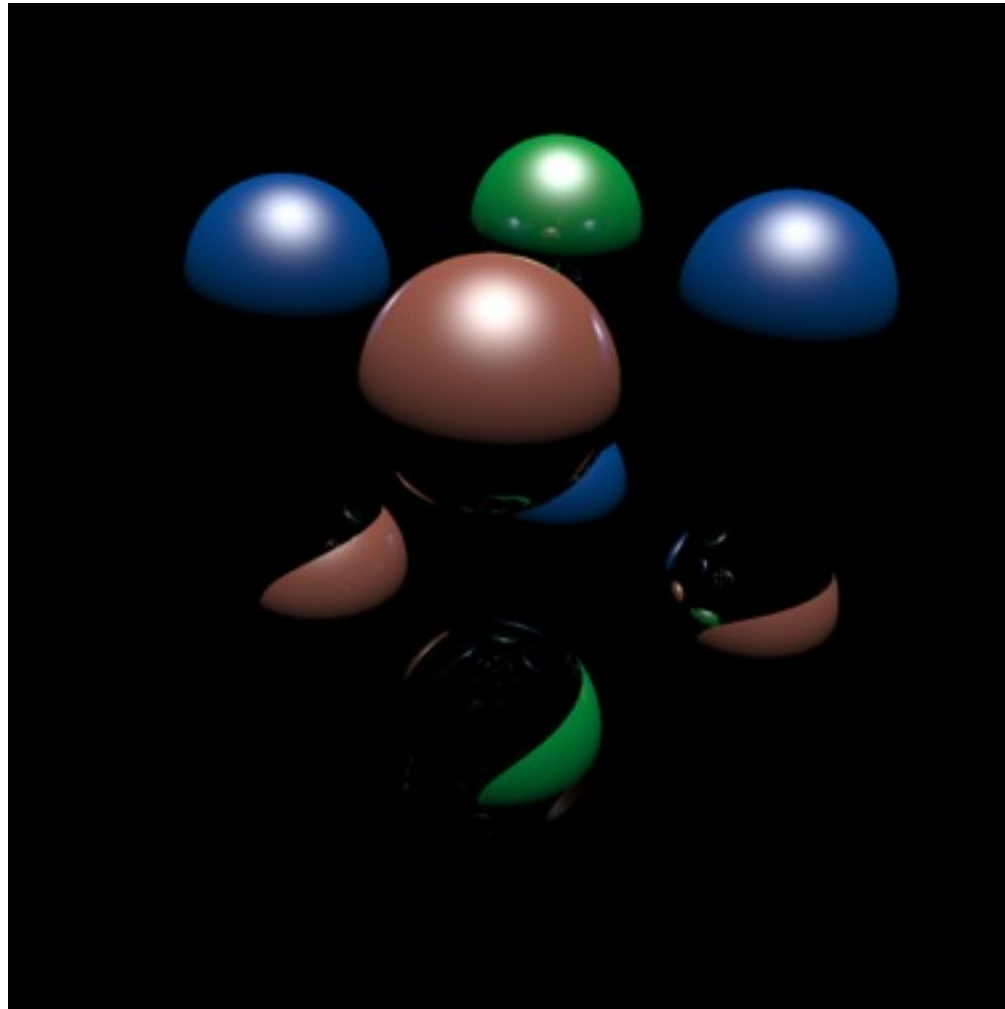
$$\mathbf{h} = \frac{\Psi + \Theta}{|\Psi + \Theta|}$$

Diffuse component = k_d

Specular component = $k_s(\mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{n})^s$

Result = Specular component + Diffuse Component

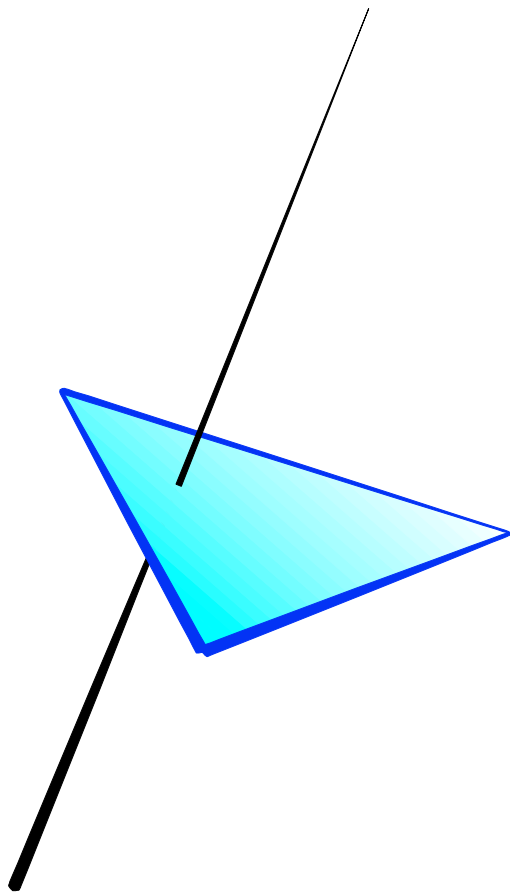
Blinn-Phong Shading (optional)



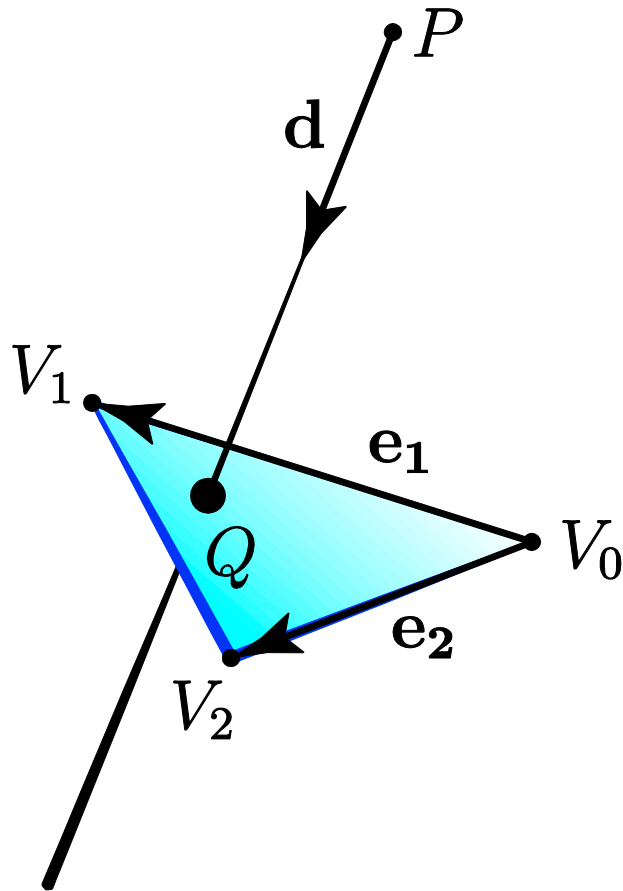
Assignment 1

- Diffuse Reflection
- Whitted ray tracing
 - Shadows
 - Reflections
 - Refractions
- Super sampling
- Blinn-Phong Shading (*Optional*)
- Ray-Triangle Intersection

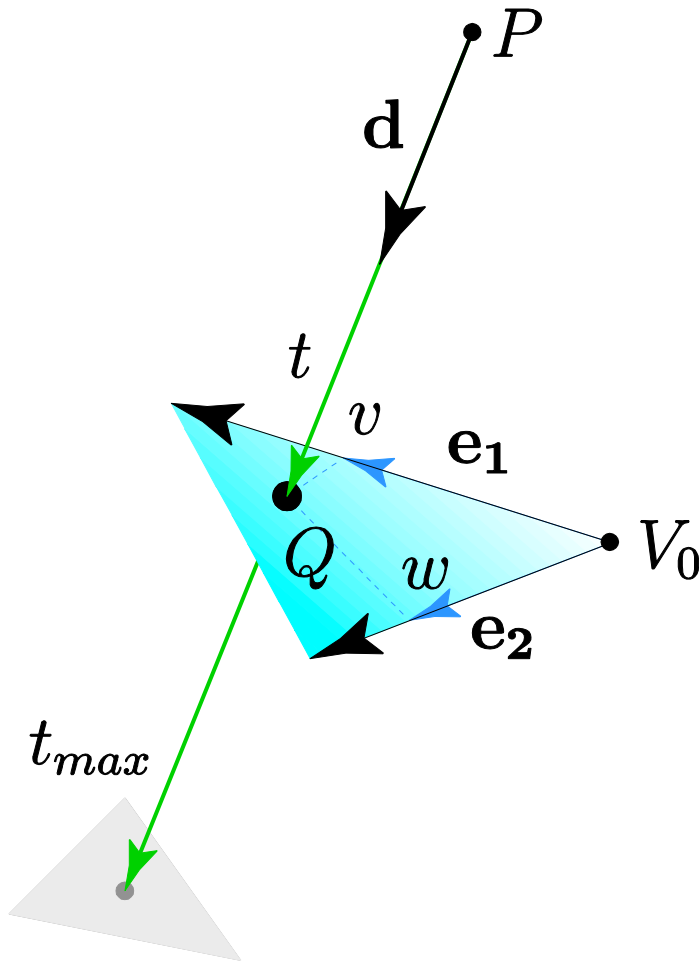
Ray-Triangle Intersection



Ray-Triangle Intersection



Ray-Triangle Intersection



Q is inside the triangle if

$$Q = V_0 + v\mathbf{e}_1 + w\mathbf{e}_2$$

$$v \geq 0$$

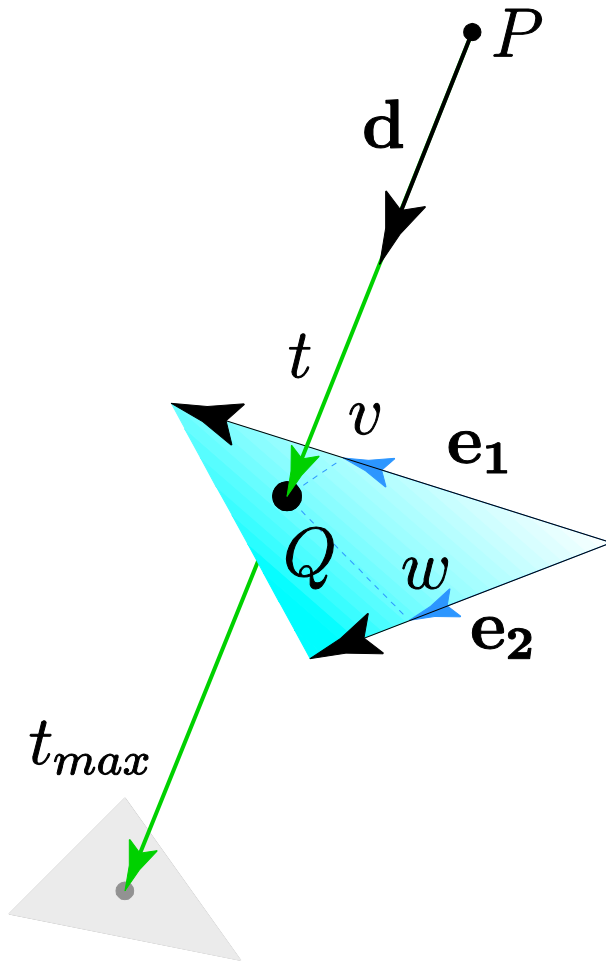
$$w \geq 0$$

$$v + w \leq 1$$

Must also make sure that

$$t_{min} < t < t_{max}$$

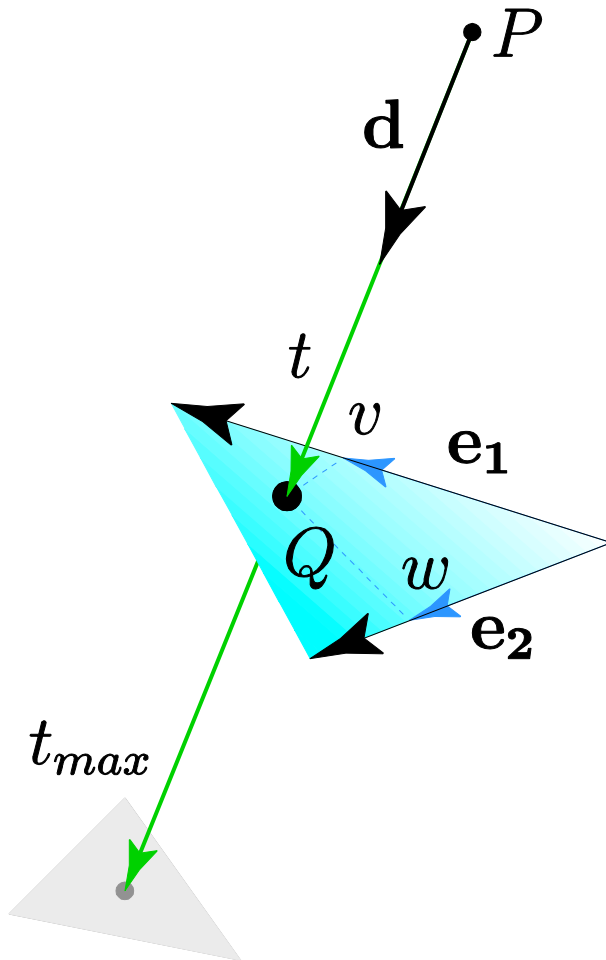
Ray-Triangle Intersection



Substitute Q with ray and solve for v , w and t

$$P + t\mathbf{d} = V_0 + v\mathbf{e}_1 + w\mathbf{e}_2$$

Ray-Triangle Intersection



Gather v , w and t to one side

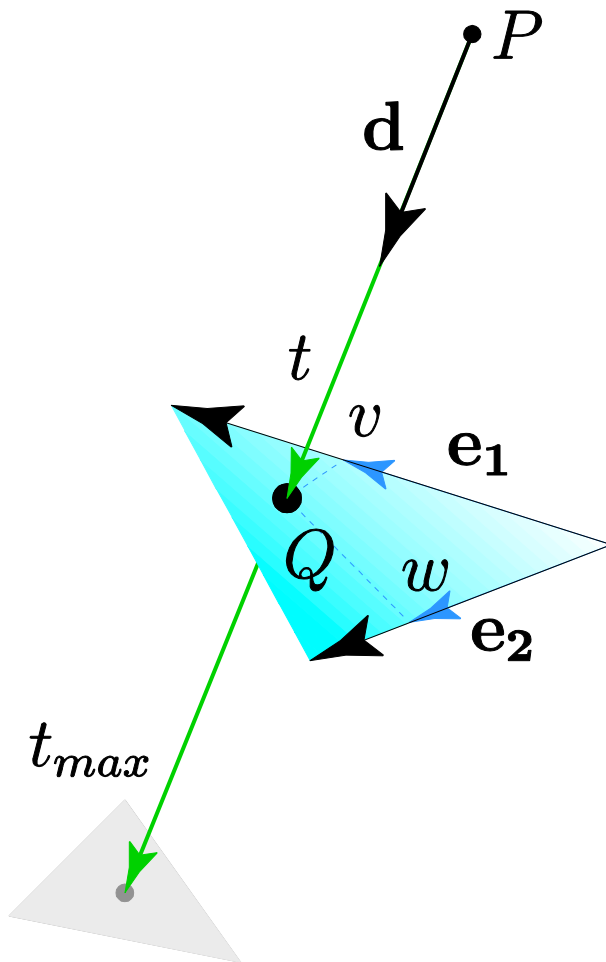
$$\begin{aligned} P + t\mathbf{d} &= V_0 + v\mathbf{e}_1 + w\mathbf{e}_2 \\ \Rightarrow \\ -t\mathbf{d} + v\mathbf{e}_1 + w\mathbf{e}_2 &= P - V_0 \\ \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -d^x & e_1^x & e_2^x \\ -d^y & e_1^y & e_2^y \\ -d^z & e_1^z & e_2^z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} = P - V_0 = \mathbf{r}$$

Neat, a 3x3 system!

Solve with Cramer's Rule

Ray-Triangle Intersection



Start by calculating the denominator s , which is the determinant of the 3x3 matrix

$$s = -\mathbf{d} \cdot (\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2)$$

Next we solve for v , w , t

$$\begin{aligned} t &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{r} & \mathbf{e}_1 & \mathbf{e}_2 \end{pmatrix} / s \\ v &= \det \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{d} & \mathbf{r} & \mathbf{e}_2 \end{pmatrix} / s \\ w &= \det \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{d} & \mathbf{e}_1 & \mathbf{r} \end{pmatrix} / s \end{aligned}$$

But wait! We can optimize all this by:

- Using scalar triple product magic
- Removing common sub expressions

Ray-Triangle Intersection

Common sub expressions

$$\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2$$
$$\mathbf{q} = -\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{r}$$

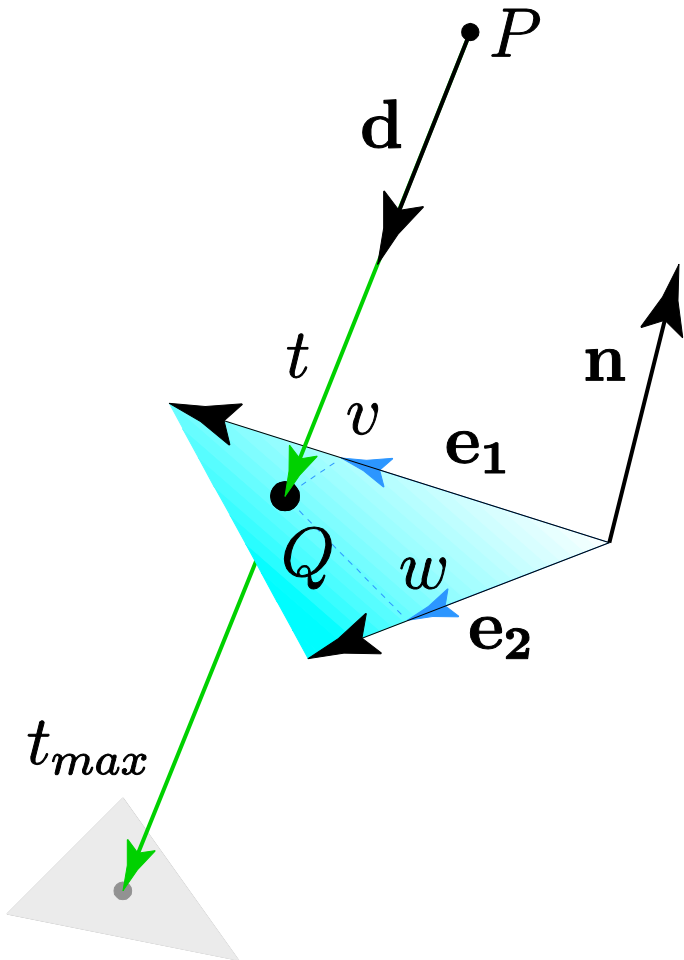
Optimized expressions

$$s = -\mathbf{d} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

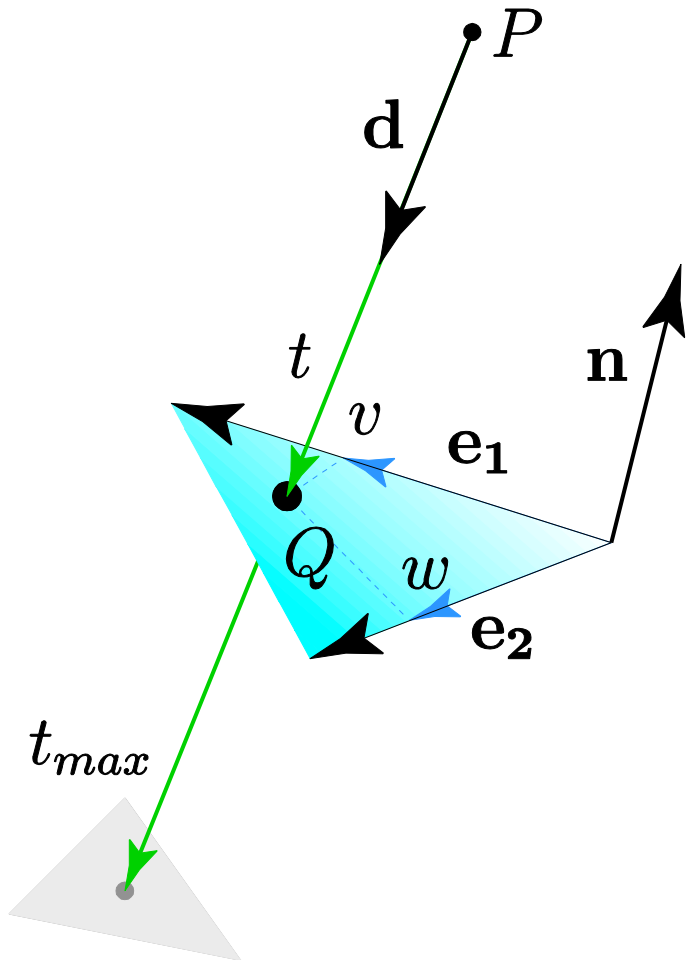
$$t = \frac{\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{n}}{s}$$

$$v = \frac{\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{e}_2}{s}$$

$$w = \frac{-\mathbf{e}_1 \cdot \mathbf{q}}{s}$$



Ray-Triangle Intersection



Putting it all together

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_0$$

$$\mathbf{e}_2 = \mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{v}_0$$

Determinant/facing

$$\mathbf{n} = \text{CROSS}(\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2)$$

$$s = \text{DOT}(-\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{n})$$

if ($|s| < \text{epsilon}$) return **NO INTERSECTION**

$$s_inv = 1 / s$$

t

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{v}_0$$

$$t = \text{DOT}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{n}) * s_inv$$

if ($t \leq t_{min} \mid \mid t \geq t_{max}$) return **NO INTERSECTION**

v

$$\mathbf{q} = \text{CROSS}(-\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{r})$$

$$v = \text{DOT}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{e}_2) * s_inv$$

w

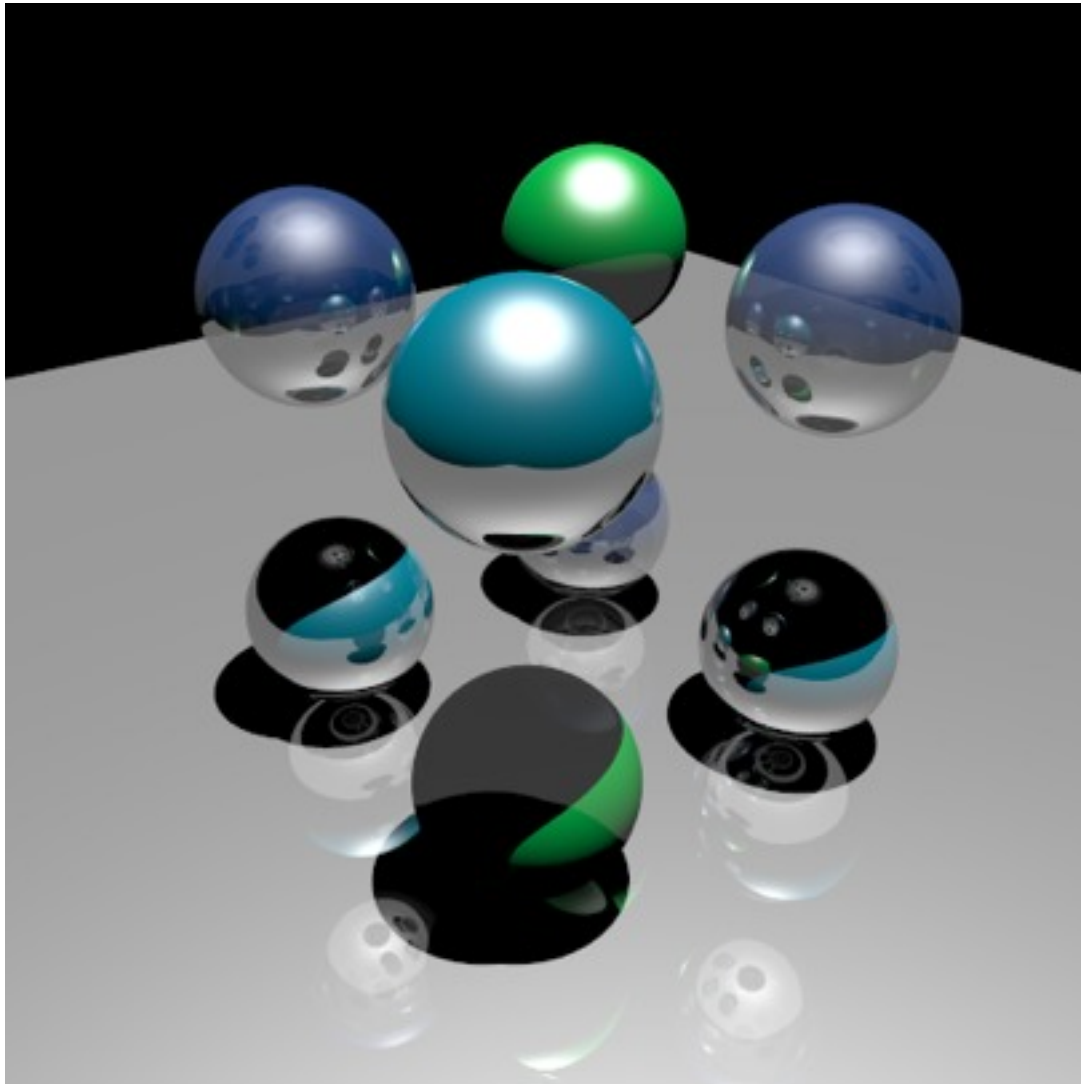
if ($v < 0$) return **NO_INTERSECTION**

$$w = \text{DOT}(-\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{q}) * s_inv$$

if ($w < 0 \mid \mid v + w > 1$) return **NO INTERSECTION**

(This can be optimized further by pushing the division to the end of the function...)

Finally...



Running on the Lab Machines

Debugging the code:

- Run in debug mode
- Use breakpoints and look at variables
- Still not working? The forum is a good place to find answers and ask questions

Hot tip:

- Debug mode is slow, Release is fast!

That is all.

The first assignment is out now!

We'll be active on the forum, so be sure to check in if you have any comments or questions!

Fin