

# 9. Structure from Shading (SfS)

A bit of differential geometry, Estimating 3D structure using shading as a cue

# Lines and Surfaces

- A line (in 2D):  $y = mx + c$ ,  $(m, c)$  are fixed,  $x$  is a variable
- A plane (in 2D): ??

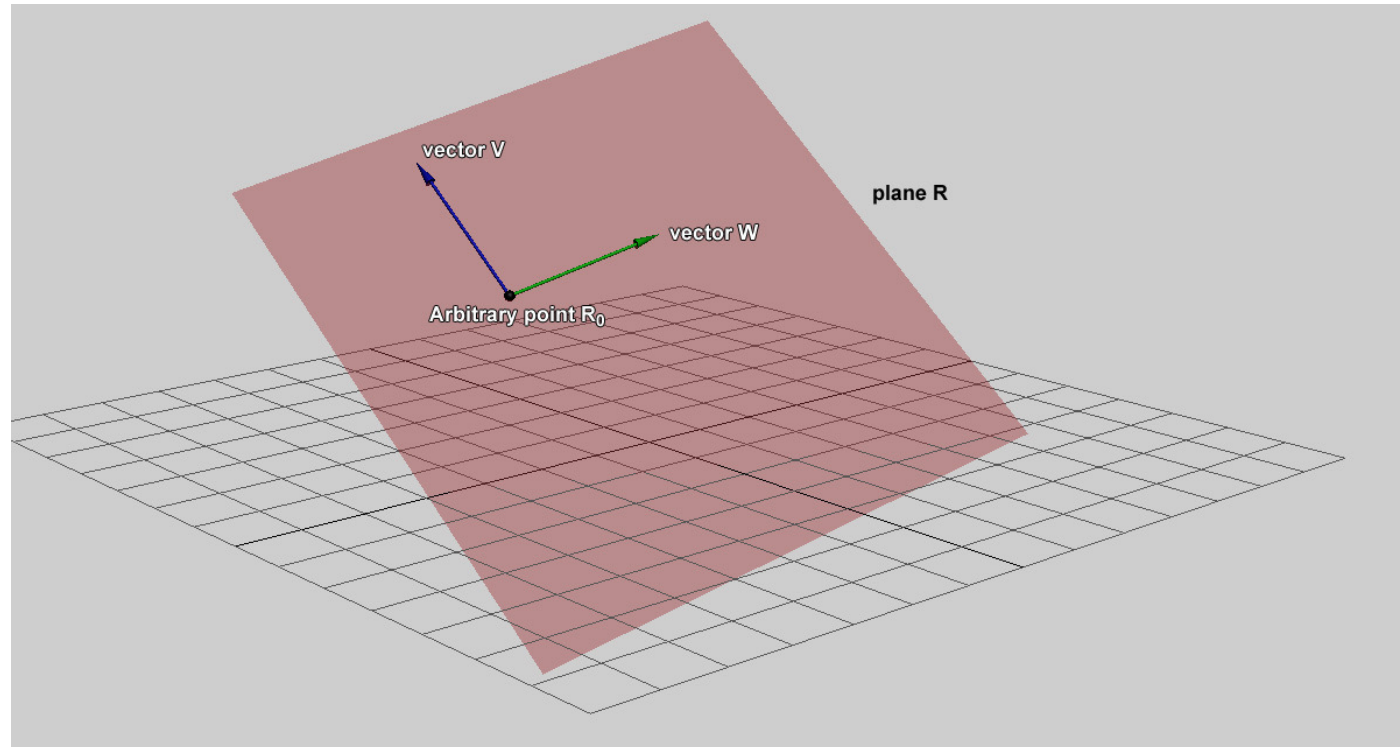
# Lines and Surfaces

- A line (in 2D):  $y = mx + c$ ,  $(m, c)$  are fixed,  $x$  is a variable
- A plane (in 2D): only canonical 2D plane exists
- You can lift this 2D plane (in 3D) and you can have several distinct planes out of it

Distinction: Distinct liftings (or transformations) will end up in unique intersection with canonical one

# Lines and Surfaces

Distinction: Distinct liftings (or transformations) will end up in unique intersection with canonical one ( $z=0$ )



# Lines and Surfaces

What did we learn?

You need only 1 parameter to express a line in 2D

Line in 3D: ??

# Lines and Surfaces

What did we learn?

You need only 1 parameter to express a line in 2D

In 3D:  $ax+by+cz+d=0$ . It is seen as an intersection of 2 planes

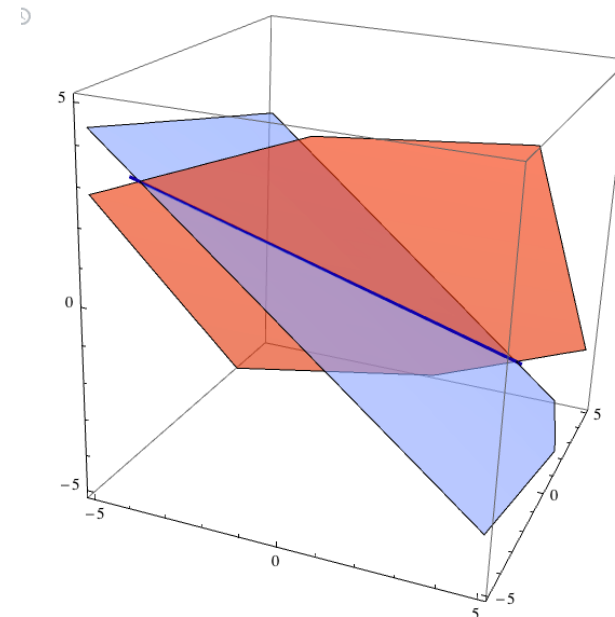
But  $x,y,z$  have a co-dependency on a common variable

$$x = x_0 + at, y = y_0 + bt, z = z_0 + ct$$

$(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ - point passing through line

$(a, b, c)$ - known

$t$ - variable



# Lines and Surfaces

What did we learn?

You need only 1 parameter to express a line in 2D (or higher)

Q: What is  $y=mx+c$  in 3D??

# What did we learn?

You need only 1 parameter to express a line in 2D

You need only 2 parameters to express a surface in 3D (or higher)



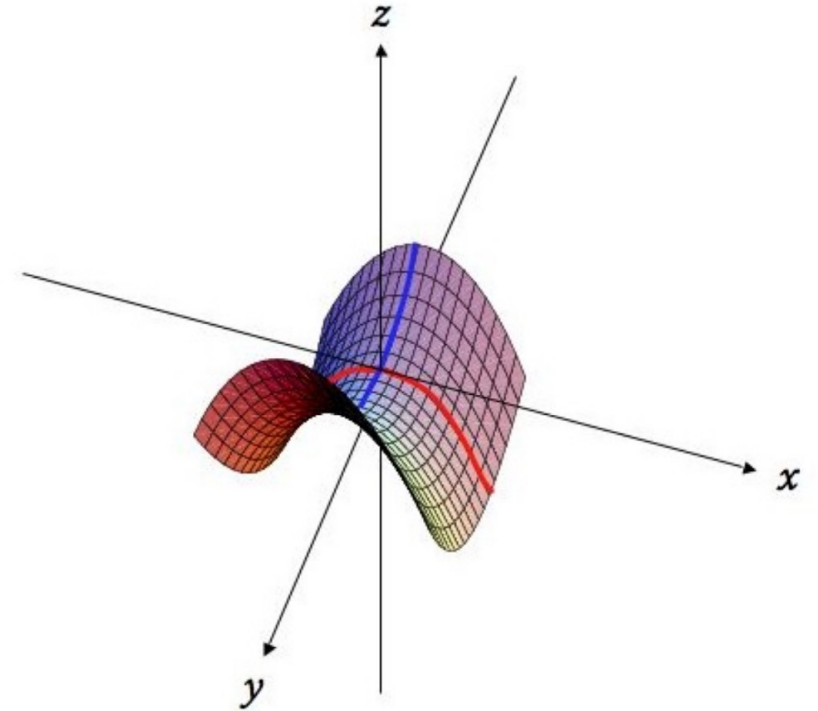
# 3D surfaces

Parametric representation:  $S(u,v) = [X(u,v), Y(u,v), Z(u,v)]$

Basically, a 2D entity embedded in 3D

Developable: can be unwrapped  
onto a sheet of paper

Non-developable: can't be unwrapped



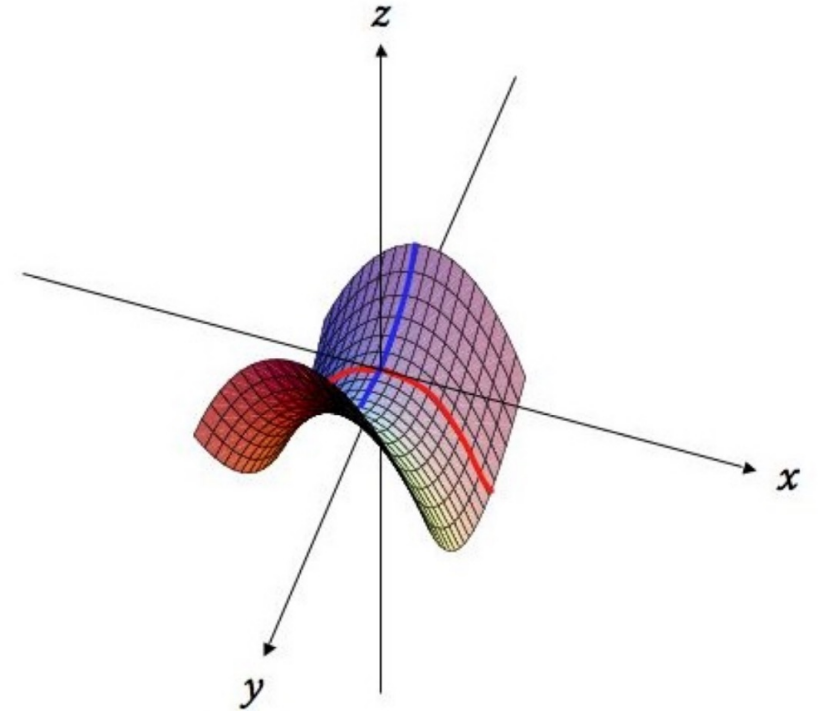
# 3D surfaces

Parametric representation:  $S(u,v) = [X(u,v), Y(u,v), Z(u,v)]$

Basically, a 2D entity embedded in 3D

Developable: can be unwrapped  
onto a sheet of paper  
(cylinder, for example)

Non-developable: can't be unwrapped  
(sphere, for example)



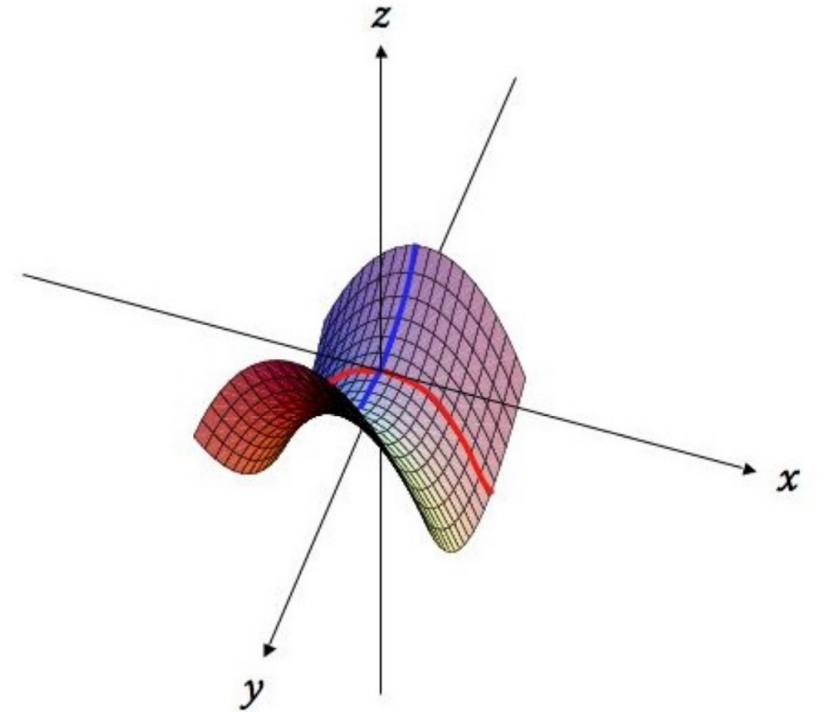
# Jacobian

Parametric representation:  $\mathbf{S}(u,v) = [X(u,v), Y(u,v), Z(u,v)]$

$$\mathbf{J}_S = \begin{pmatrix} dX(u,v)/du & dX(u,v)/dv \\ dY(u,v)/du & dY(u,v)/dv \\ dZ(u,v)/du & dZ(u,v)/dv \end{pmatrix} = [\mathbf{S}(u,v)_u \quad \mathbf{S}(u,v)_v]$$

$\mathbf{S}_u, \mathbf{S}_v$ : are tangent vectors

$\mathbf{S}_u \times \mathbf{S}_v$ : Normal vector



# What do Jacobians tell?

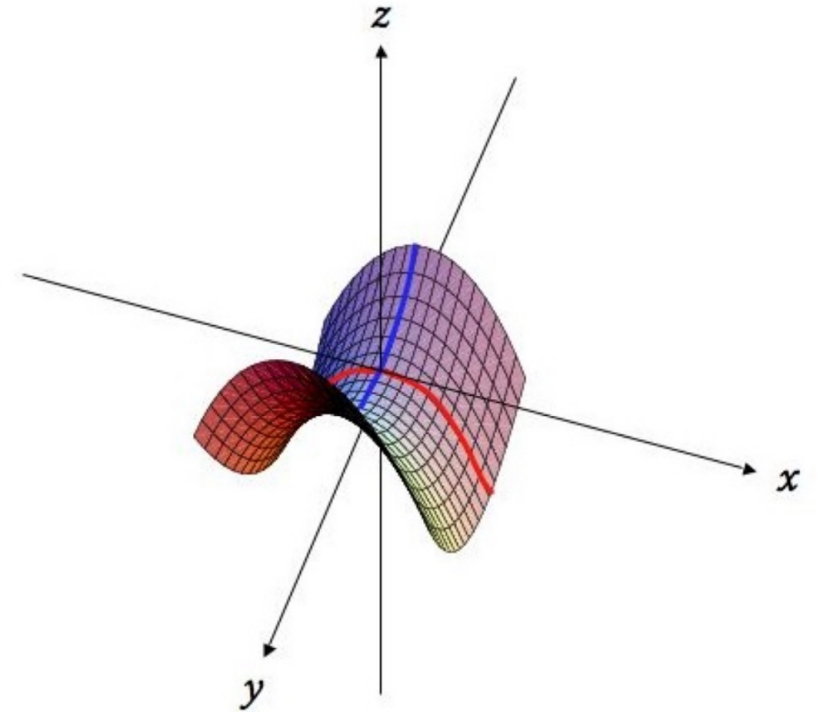
How the space is transforming in the neighborhood of a point:

How much breakage is expected at a point locally while unwarping

Basically, it tells us what is the transformation

Can be used to measure lengths, areas, angles

-> look into  $\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}$



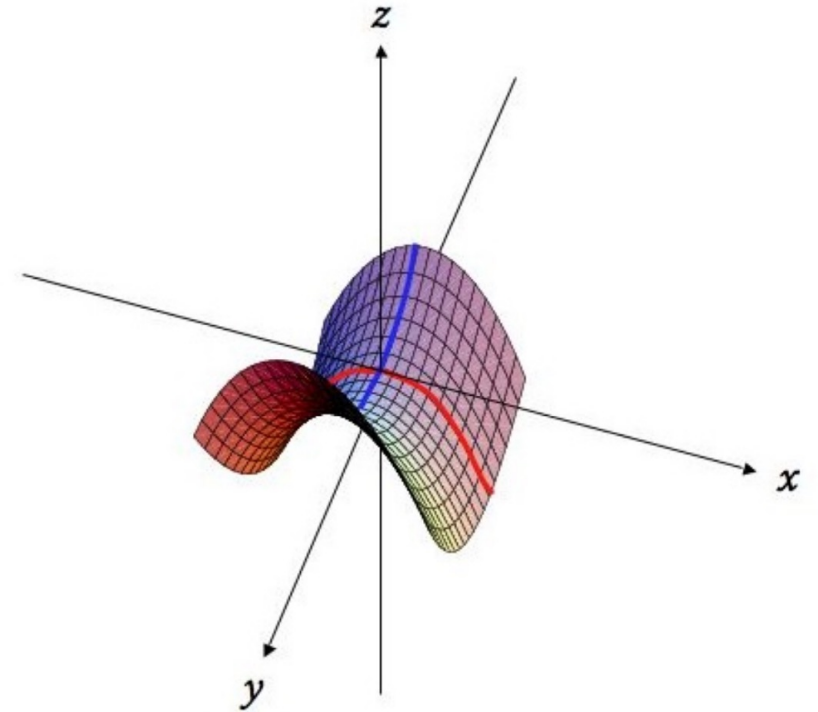
# Measuring lengths, angles, areas

$\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}$  : also known as metric tensor

Tells you how near-Euclidean the space is, around a point

$$ds^2 = [du \ dv] \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} [du \ dv]^T$$

If  $\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} = \mathbf{I}$ , what does it mean?



# Measuring lengths, angles, areas

$\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J}$  : also known as metric tensor

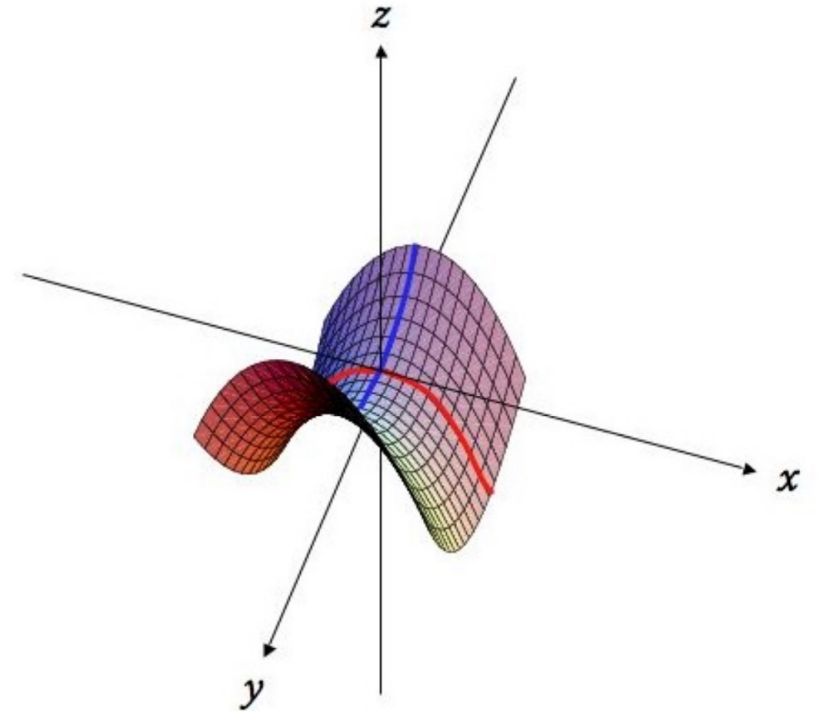
Tells you how near-Euclidean the space is, around a point

$$ds^2 = [du \ dv] \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} [du \ dv]^T$$

If  $\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} = \mathbf{I}$ ,

lengths, angles areas are preserved

Locally, the surface transforms rigidly



# Measuring lengths, angles, areas

Consider a cylindrical surface

$$x = \rho \cos \varphi$$

$$y = \rho \sin \varphi$$

$$z = z$$

Consider  $\rho = 1$

$$\mathbf{J} = ?$$

$$, \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} = \mathbf{I}$$

# Measuring lengths, angles, areas

Consider a spherical surface

$$x = \rho \sin \varphi \cos \theta;$$

$$y = \rho \sin \varphi \sin \theta;$$

$$z = \rho \cos \varphi.$$

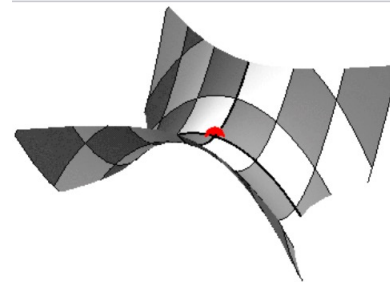
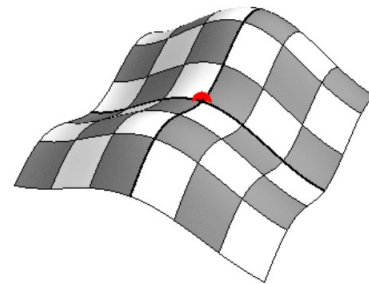
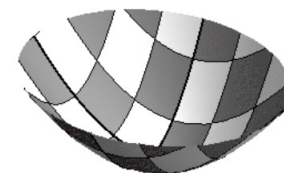
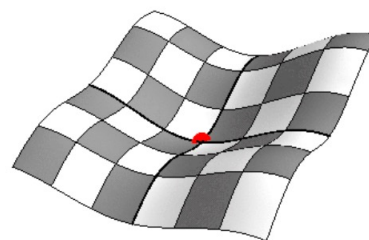
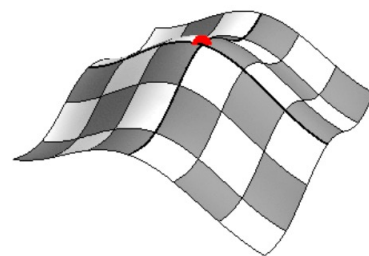
$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} \rho \cos \varphi \cos \theta & -\rho \sin \varphi \sin \theta \\ \rho \cos \varphi \sin \theta & \rho \sin \varphi \cos \theta \\ -\rho \sin \varphi & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{J} = \quad ?$$



# What do Jacobians tell?

What if you don't slide?

How to differentiate between these?



# Hessians

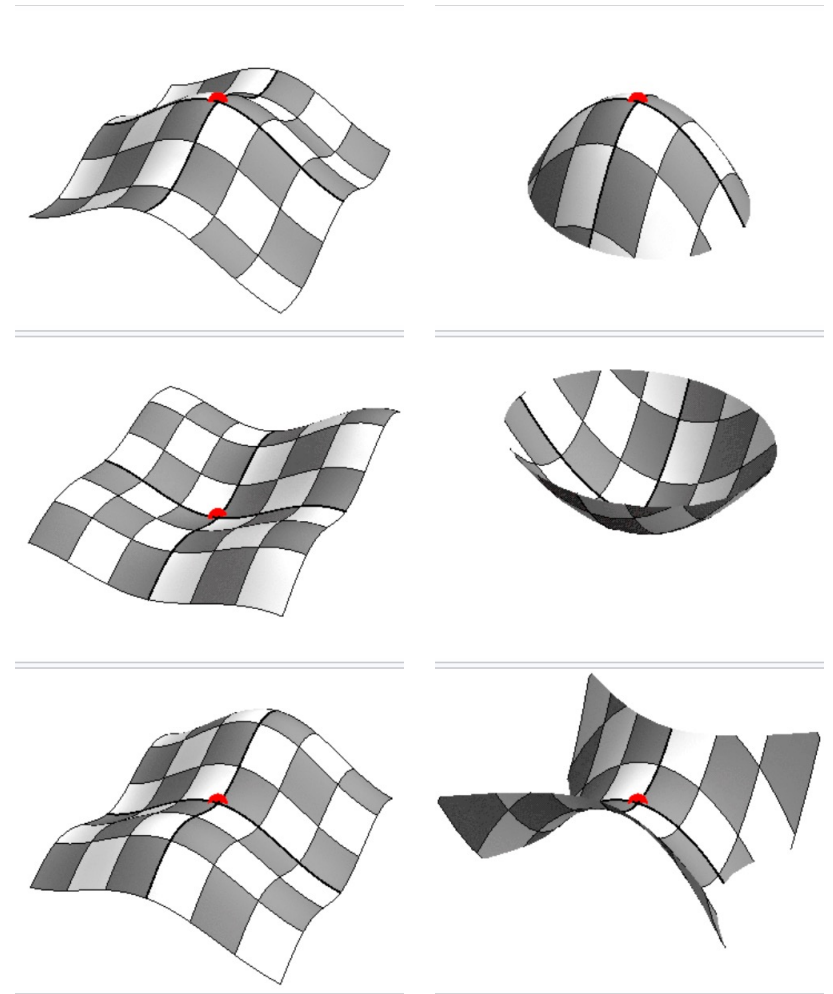
$$\mathbf{S}(u,v) = [X(u,v), Y(u,v), Z(u,v)]$$

$$\mathbf{J}_S = [\mathbf{S}(u,v)_u \quad \mathbf{S}(u,v)_v]$$

$$\mathbf{H}_u = [\mathbf{S}(u,v)_{uu} \quad \mathbf{S}(u,v)_{vu}]$$

$$\mathbf{H}_v = [\mathbf{S}(u,v)_{vu} \quad \mathbf{S}(u,v)_{vv}]$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{J}_S)$$



# Hessians

It tells you if you are dropped on the surface (you might remain stable), what happens if you are pushed into some direction

It tells you how quickly a surface deviates from its tangent plane in a local neighborhood

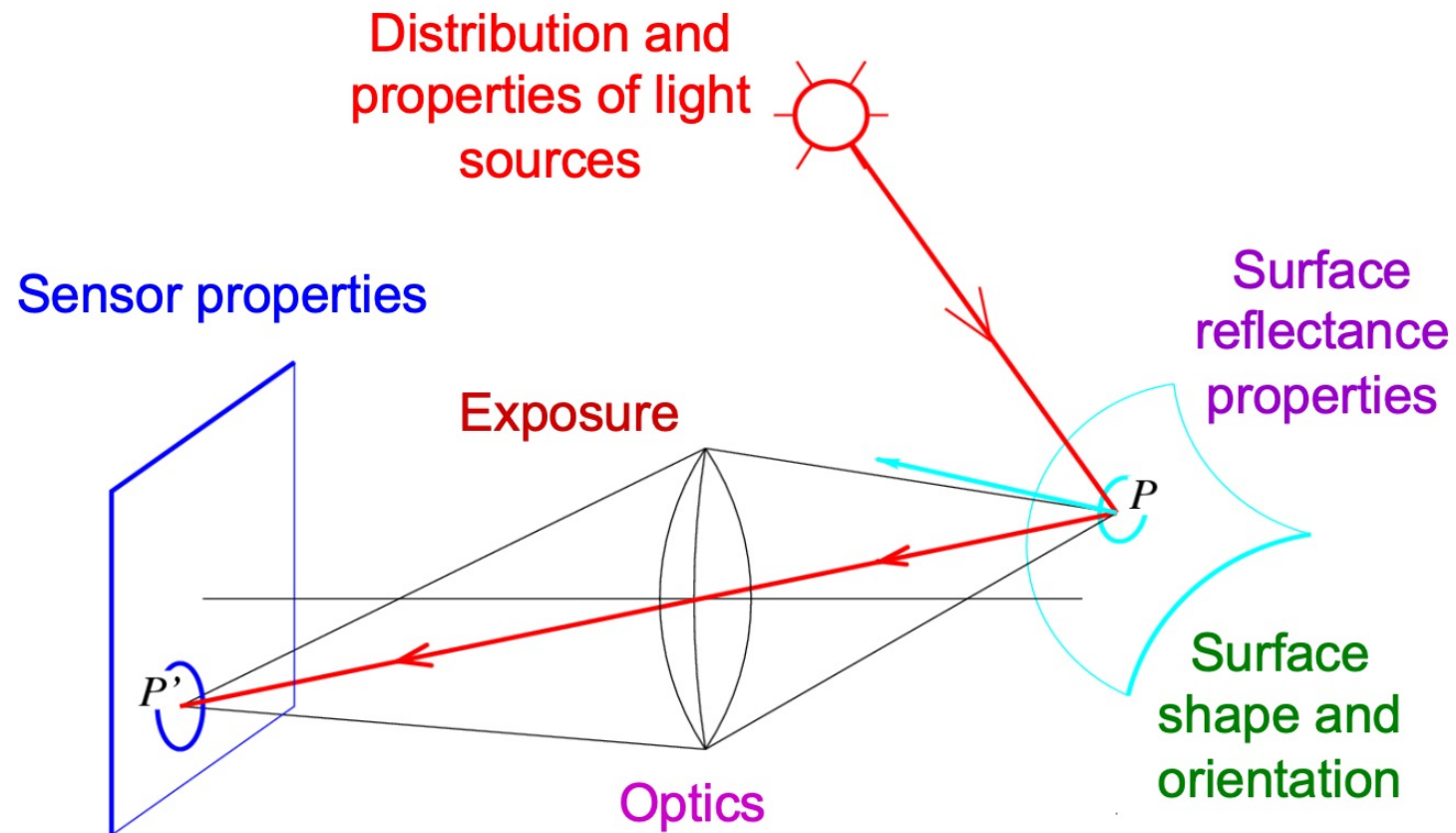
# Shape from Shading (SfS)

Light falling on surfaces gives an indication of relative depths

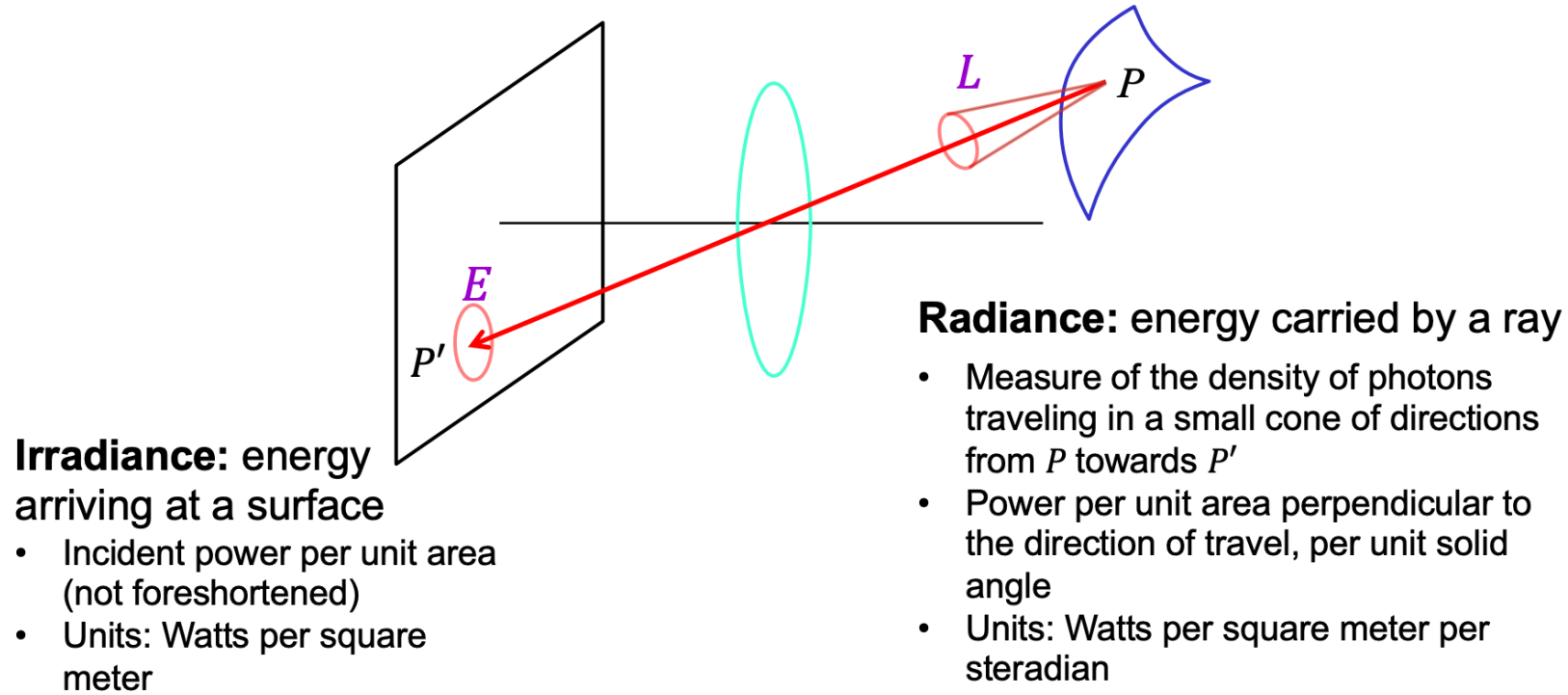


# Shape from Shading (SfS)

What impacts pixel brightness?



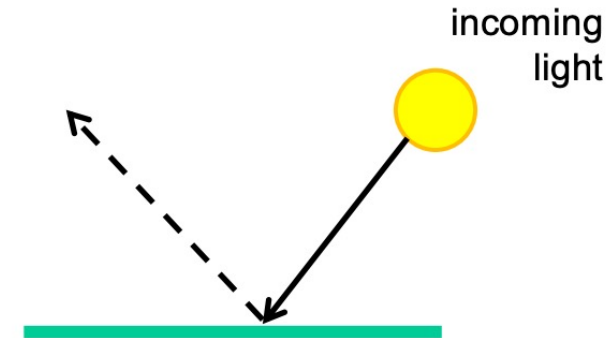
# Pixel Brightness



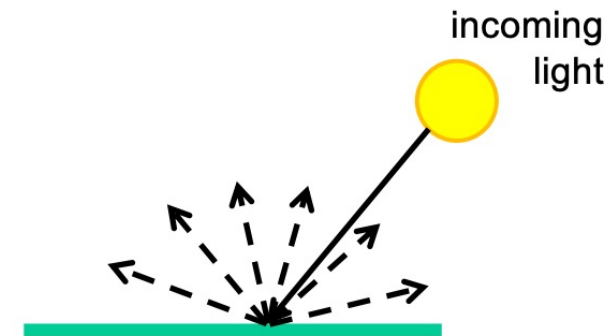
$E$  and  $L$  are linearly related.  $E = a L$  ( $a$  depends on lens area, focal length and angle between viewing ray and optical axis)

# Reflection models

- **Specular reflection:** light is reflected about the surface normal



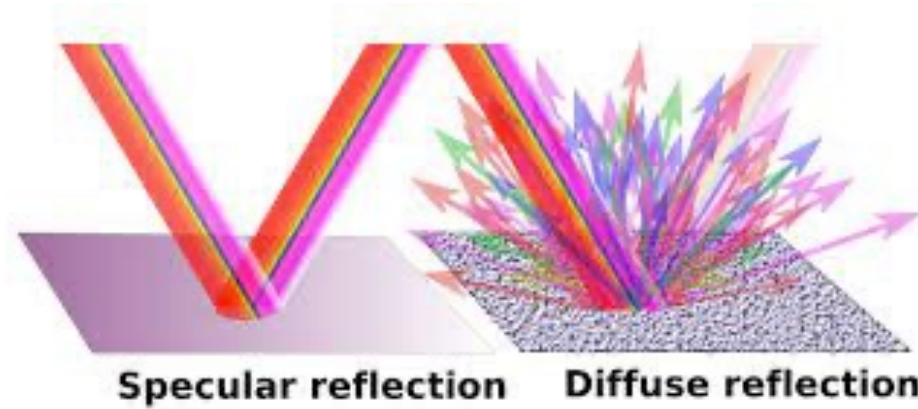
- **Diffuse reflection:** light scatters equally in all directions



Slide from D. Hoiem



# Reflection models





# Bidirectional reflectance distribution function (BRDF)

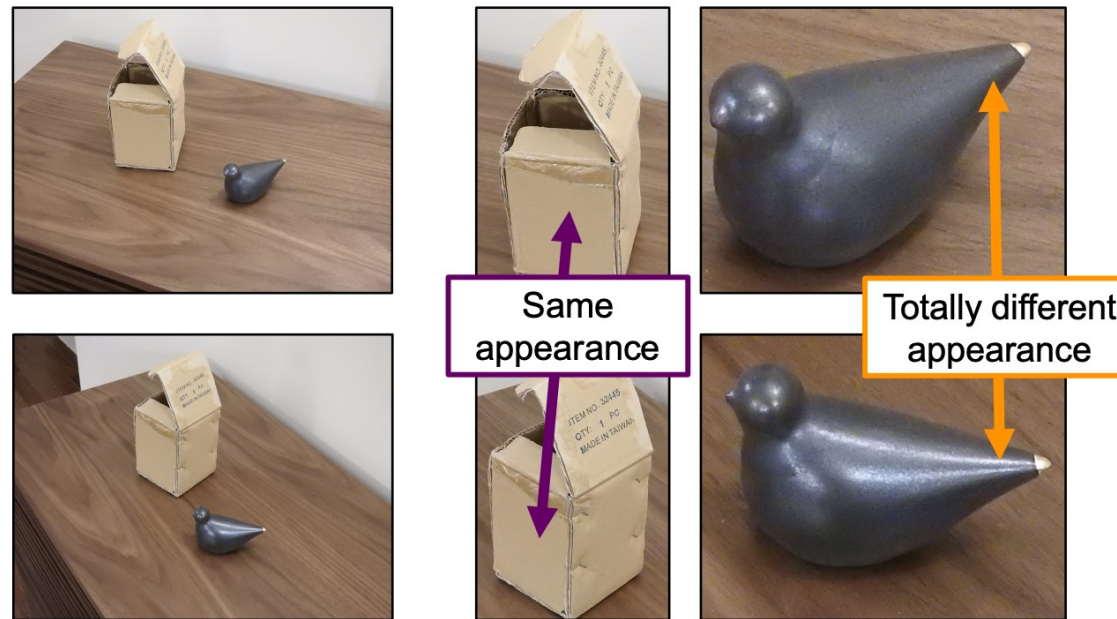
Ratio of the radiance in the emitted direction to irradiance in the incident direction

It tells how bright a surface appears when viewed from one direction when light falls on it from another

# Bidirectional reflectance distribution function (BRDF)

On specular surfaces, it changes with light source position

On diffused surfaces, it doesn't

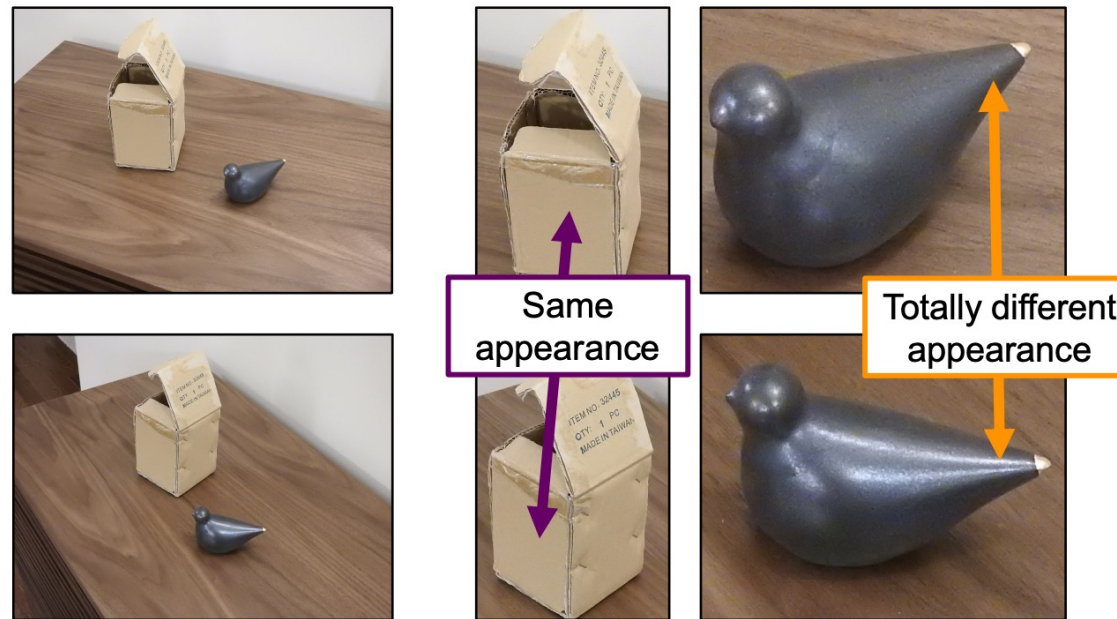


Source: [J. Johnson and D. Fouhey](#)

# Bidirectional reflectance distribution function (BRDF)

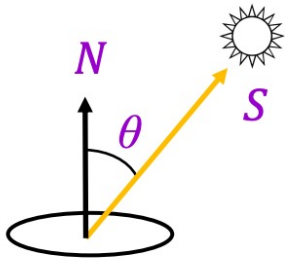
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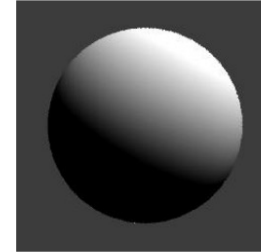


Source: [J. Johnson and D. Fouhey](#)

# Lambert's Law on Diffused Surfaces



$$\begin{aligned} I &= \rho (S \cdot N) \\ &= \rho \|S\| \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$



$I$ : reflected intensity (technically: *radiosity*, or total power leaving the surface per unit area)

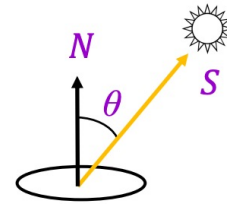
$\rho$ : albedo (fraction of incident irradiance reflected by the surface)

$S$ : direction of light source (magnitude proportional to intensity of the source)

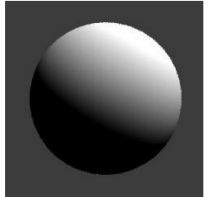
$N$ : unit surface normal

# Shape from Shading (SfS)

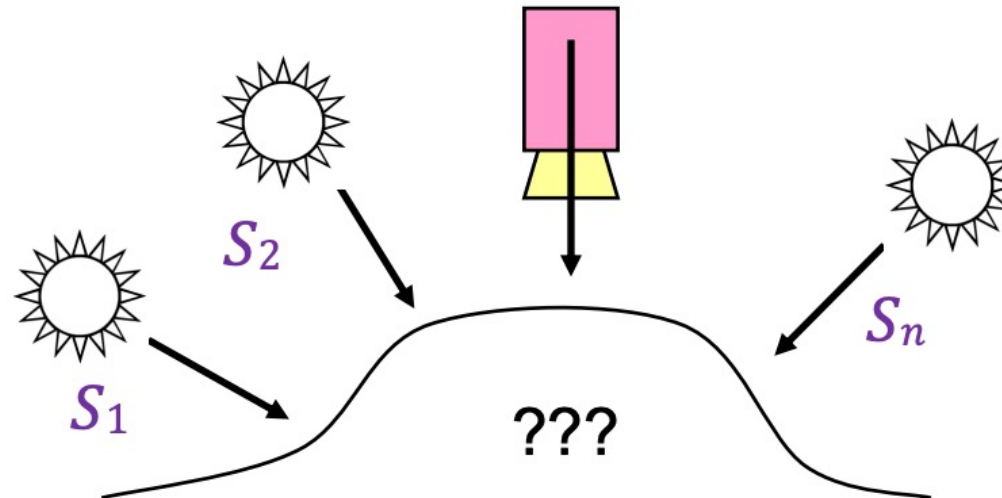
Given  $I$ , can we recover  $N$ ,  $S$ ?



$$I = \rho (S \cdot N) \\ = \rho \|S\| \cos \theta$$

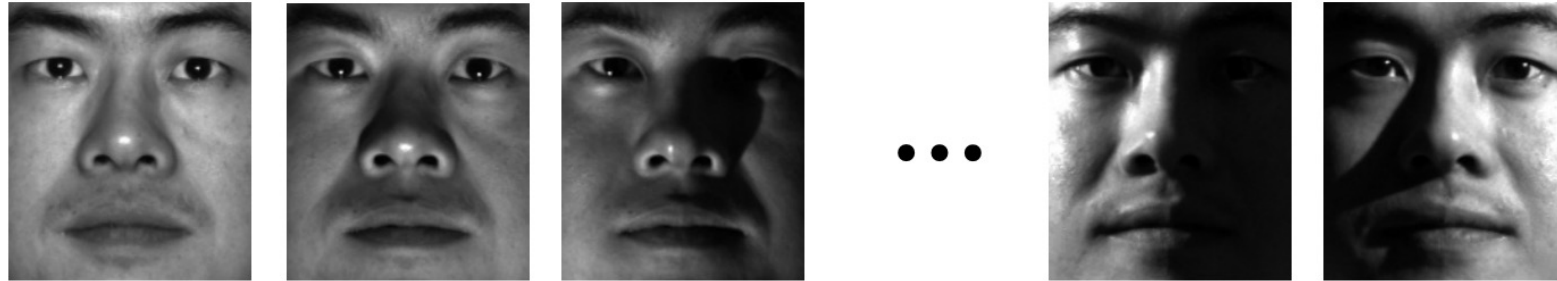


SfS: Take multiple images by moving light source to recover normals



# Shape from Shading (SfS)

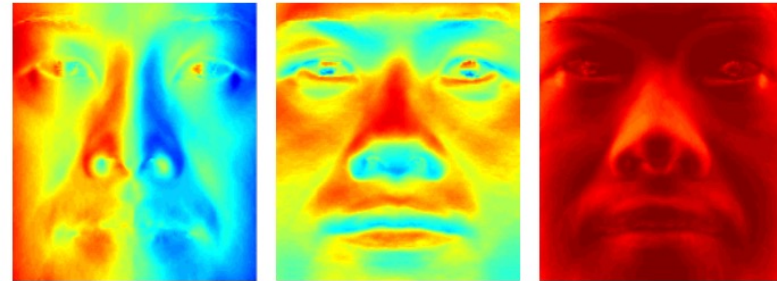
Input



Recovered  
albedo



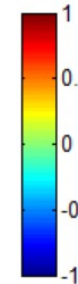
Recovered normal field



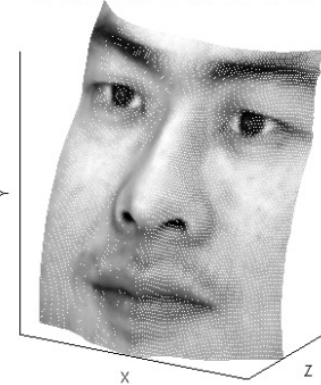
$x$

$y$

$z$



Recovered  
surface model



# Shape from Shading (SfS)

Assume orthographic projection:  $Z = f(x,y)$

What is normal?

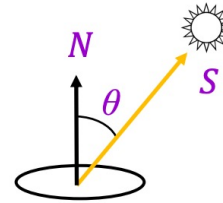
# Shape from Shading (SfS)

Assume orthographic projection:  $Z = f(x,y)$

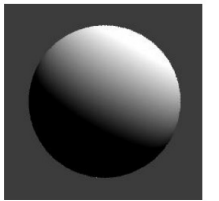
$$N = [f_x; f_y; 1] / \sqrt{1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2}$$

Knowns:  $I$  and  $S$

Unknowns:  $N$  and albedo



$$I = \rho (S \cdot N) \\ = \rho \|S\| \cos \theta$$





# Shape from Shading (SfS)

- **Known:** source vectors  $S_j$  and pixel values  $I_j(x, y)$
- **Unknown:** surface normal  $N(x, y)$  and albedo  $\rho(x, y)$
- Assume that the response function of the camera is a linear scaling by a factor of  $k$
- Lambert's law:

$$\begin{aligned} I_j(x, y) &= k \rho(x, y) (N(x, y) \cdot S_j) \\ &= (\rho(x, y) N(x, y)) \cdot (k S_j) \\ &= g(x, y) \cdot V_j \end{aligned}$$

# Shape from Shading (SfS)

- For each pixel, set up a linear system:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{bmatrix} V_1^T \\ V_2^T \\ \vdots \\ V_n^T \end{bmatrix} & g(x, y) = & \begin{bmatrix} I_1(x, y) \\ I_2(x, y) \\ \vdots \\ I_n(x, y) \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{array}{c} n \times 3 \\ \text{known} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ 3 \times 1 \\ \text{unknown} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} n \times 1 \\ \text{known} \end{array} \end{array}$$

- Obtain least-squares solution for  $g(x, y)$ , which we defined as  $\rho(x, y)N(x, y)$
- Since  $N(x, y)$  is the *unit* normal,  $\rho(x, y)$  is given by the magnitude of  $g(x, y)$
- Finally,  $N(x, y) = \frac{1}{\rho(x, y)} g(x, y)$

# Shape from Shading (SfS)

$$N = [f_x; f_y; 1] / \sqrt{1 + f_x^2 + f_y^2}$$

Write the estimated vector  $g$  as

$$g(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} g_1(x, y) \\ g_2(x, y) \\ g_3(x, y) \end{bmatrix}$$

Then we obtain values for the partial derivatives of the surface:

$$f_x(x, y) = \frac{g_1(x, y)}{g_3(x, y)}$$

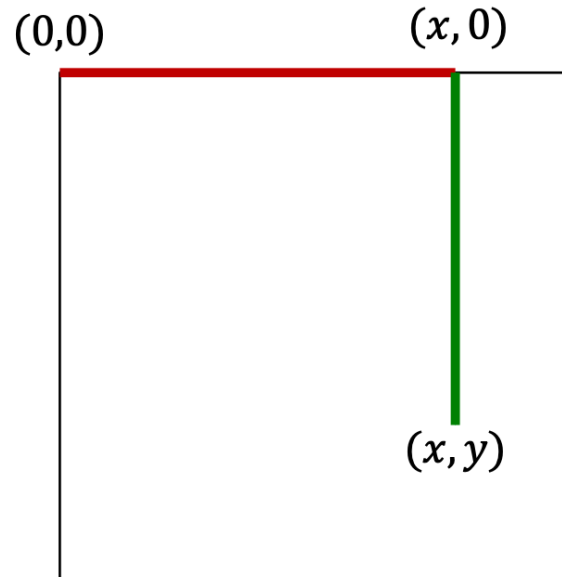
$$f_y(x, y) = \frac{g_2(x, y)}{g_3(x, y)}$$

# Recovering surfaces from normals

We can now recover the surface height at any point by integration along some path, e.g.

$$f(x, y) = \int_0^x f_x(s, 0) ds + \int_0^y f_y(x, t) dt + C$$

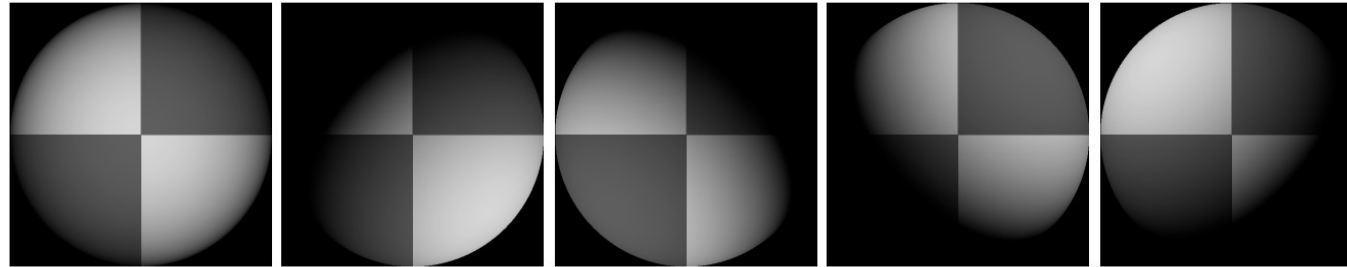
For robustness, it is better to take integrals over many different paths and average the results



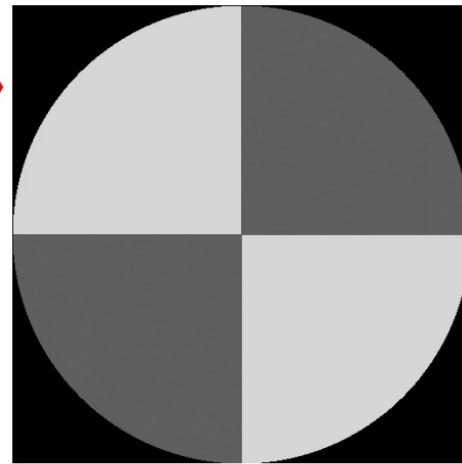
Enforce:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{g_1(x, y)}{g_3(x, y)} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{g_2(x, y)}{g_3(x, y)} \right)$$

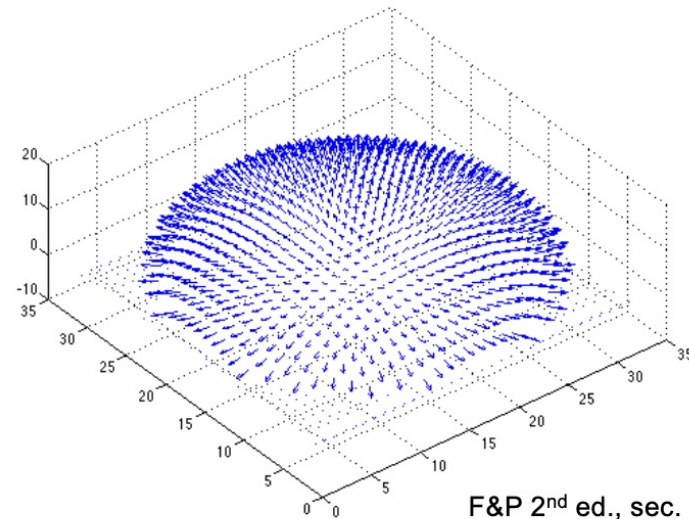
# SfS



Recovered albedo



Recovered normal field



F&P 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., sec. 2.2.4