CSE 152: Computer Vision

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Light and Shading

Credit: Derek Hoiem, UIUC

How light is recorded

Digital camera

A digital camera replaces film with a sensor array

- Each cell in the array is light-sensitive diode that converts photons to electrons
- Two common types: Charge Coupled Device (CCD) and CMOS
- http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/digital-camera.htm

Slide by Steve Seitz

Sensor Array

a b

FIGURE 2.17 (a) Continuos image projected onto a sensor array. (b) Result of image sampling and quantization.

CMOS sensor

Each sensor cell records amount of light coming in at a small range of orientations

The raster image (pixel matrix)

The raster image (pixel matrix)

0.92	0.93	0.94	0.97	0.62	0.37	0.85	0.97	0.93	0.92	0.99
0.95	0.89	0.82	0.89	0.56	0.31	0.75	0.92	0.81	0.95	0.91
0.89	0.72	0.51	0.55	0.51	0.42	0.57	0.41	0.49	0.91	0.92
0.96	0.95	0.88	0.94	0.56	0.46	0.91	0.87	0.90	0.97	0.95
0.71	0.81	0.81	0.87	0.57	0.37	0.80	0.88	0.89	0.79	0.85
0.49	0.62	0.60	0.58	0.50	0.60	0.58	0.50	0.61	0.45	0.33
0.86	0.84	0.74	0.58	0.51	0.39	0.73	0.92	0.91	0.49	0.74
0.96	0.67	0.54	0.85	0.48	0.37	0.88	0.90	0.94	0.82	0.93
0.69	0.49	0.56	0.66	0.43	0.42	0.77	0.73	0.71	0.90	0.99
0.79	0.73	0.90	0.67	0.33	0.61	0.69	0.79	0.73	0.93	0.97
0.91	0.94	0.89	0.49	0.41	0.78	0.78	0.77	0.89	0.99	0.93

Today's class: Light and Shading

- What determines a pixel's intensity?
- What can we infer about the scene from pixel intensities?

How does a pixel get its value?

How does a pixel get its value?

- Major factors
  - Illumination strength and direction
  - Surface geometry
  - Surface material
  - Nearby surfaces
  - Camera gain/exposure

Basic models of reflection

- Specular: light bounces off at the incident angle
  - E.g., mirror

- Diffuse: light scatters in all directions
  - E.g., brick, cloth, rough wood

Lambertian reflectance model

- Some light is absorbed (function of albedo ρ)
- Remaining light is scattered (diffuse reflection)
- Examples: soft cloth, concrete, matte paints

Diffuse reflection: Lambert's cosine law

Intensity does *not* depend on viewer angle.

- Amount of reflected light proportional to $\cos(\theta)$
- Visible solid angle also proportional to $\cos(\theta)$

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lambert%27s_cosine_law

Specular Reflection

- Reflected direction depends on light orientation and surface normal
  - E.g., mirrors are fully specular
  - Most surfaces can be modeled with a mixture of diffuse and specular components

Flickr, by suzysputnik

Flickr, by piratejohnny

Most surfaces have both specular and diffuse components

- Specularity = spot where specular reflection dominates (typically reflects light source)

Photo: northcountryhardwoodfloors.com

Typically, specular component is small

Intensity and Surface Orientation

Intensity depends on illumination angle because less light comes in at oblique angles.

$\rho =$ albedo

$\boldsymbol{S} =$ directional source

$\boldsymbol{N} =$ surface normal

$\mathrm{I} =$ reflected intensity

$$\boldsymbol{I}(x) = \rho(x)\big(\boldsymbol{S} \cdot \boldsymbol{N}(x)\big)$$

Slide: Forsyth

1
2

Recap

- When light hits a typical surface
  - Some light is absorbed (1-ρ)
    - More absorbed for low albedos

  - Some light is reflected diffusely
    - Independent of viewing direction

  - Some light is reflected specularly
    - Light bounces off (like a mirror), depends on viewing direction

Other possible effects

transparency

refraction

fluorescence
light source
λ_1
λ_2

phosphorescence
light source
t=1
t>1

light source
subsurface
scattering
λ

Application: photometric stereo

- Assume:
  - a set of point sources that are infinitely distant
  - a set of pictures of an object, obtained in exactly the same camera/object configuration but using different sources
  - A Lambertian object (or the specular component has been identified and removed)

Photometric stereo slides by Forsyth

Intensity for pixel x

Source i direction and strength

Each image is: $I_i(x) = \boldsymbol{S}_i \cdot (\rho(x)\boldsymbol{N}(x))$

albedo times 3D normal vector

So if we have enough images with known sources, we can solve for $\boldsymbol{B}(x) = \rho(x)\boldsymbol{N}(x)$

$$\boldsymbol{B}(x) = \rho(x)\boldsymbol{N}(x)$$

And the albedo (shown here) is given by:

$$\rho(x) = \sqrt{\boldsymbol{B}(x) \cdot \boldsymbol{B}(x)}$$

(the normal is a unit vector)

20
10
0
-10
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35

15
10
5
0
-5
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35

Dynamic range and camera response

- Typical scenes have a huge dynamic range
- Camera response is roughly linear in the mid range (15 to 240) but non-linear at the extremes
  - called saturation or undersaturation

Color

Light is composed of a spectrum of wavelengths

Human Luminance Sensitivity Function

Slide Credit: Efros

http://www.yorku.ca/eye/photopik.htm

Some examples of the spectra of light sources

© Stephen E. Palmer, 2002

Some examples of the reflectance spectra of surfaces

© Stephen E. Palmer, 2002

The color of objects

- Colored light arriving at the camera involves two effects
  - The color of the light source (illumination + inter-reflections)
  - The color of the surface

Slide: Forsyth

Color Sensing: Bayer Grid

Estimate RGB at each cell from neighboring values

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayer_filter

Slide by Steve Seitz

Color Image

Why RGB?

If light is a spectrum, why are images RGB?

Human color receptors

- Long (red), Medium (green), and Short (blue) cones, plus intensity rods
- Fun facts
  - "M" and "L" on the X-chromosome
    - That's why men are more likely to be color blind (see what it's like: http://www.vischeck.com/vischeck/vischeckImage.php)
  - "L" has high variation, so some women are tetrachromatic
  - Some animals have 1 (night animals), 2 (e.g., dogs), 4 (fish, birds), 5 (pigeons, some reptiles/amphibians), or even 12 (mantis shrimp) types of cones

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Color_vision

So far: light→surface→camera

- Called a local illumination model
- But much light comes from surrounding surfaces

From Koenderink slides on image texture and the flow of light

Inter-reflection is a major source of light

Inter-reflection affects the apparent color of objects

From Koenderink slides on image texture and the flow of light

Scene surfaces also cause shadows

- Shadow: reduction in intensity due to a blocked source

Shadows

Cast
Shadow
Boundary
Point
Source
Self Shadow
Boundary

Area
Source
Occluder
1
2
3
1
2
3

Models of light sources

- Distant point source
  - One illumination direction
  - E.g., sun
- Area source
  - E.g., white walls, diffuse lamps, sky
- Ambient light
  - Substitute for dealing with interreflections
- Global illumination model
  - Account for interreflections in modeled scene

What does the intensity of a pixel tell us?

im(234, 452) = 0.58

0.92	0.93	0.94	0.97	0.62	0.37	0.85	0.97	0.93	0.92	0.99
0.95	0.89	0.82	0.89	0.56	0.31	0.75	0.92	0.81	0.95	0.91
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0.79	0.73	0.90	0.67	0.33	0.61	0.69	0.79	0.73	0.93	0.97
0.91	0.94	0.89	0.49	0.41	0.78	0.78	0.77	0.89	0.99	0.93

The plight of the poor pixel

- A pixel's brightness is determined by
  - Light source (strength, direction, color)
  - Surface orientation
  - Surface material and albedo
  - Reflected light and shadows from surrounding surfaces
  - Gain on the sensor

- A pixel's brightness tells us nothing by itself

COMM

And yet we can interpret images…

- Key idea: for nearby scene points, most factors do not change much
- The information is mainly contained in *local differences* of brightness

Large Difference in Neighboring Pixels

What is this?

HONDA

What differences in intensity tell us about shape

- Changes in surface normal
- Texture
- Proximity
- Indents and bumps
- Grooves and creases

Photos Koenderink slides on image texture and the flow of light

Color constancy

- Interpret surface in terms of albedo or “true color”, rather than observed intensity
  - Humans are good at it
  - Computers are not nearly as good

Perception of Intensity

from Ted Adelson

Perception of Intensity

from Ted Adelson

Things to remember

- Important terms: diffuse/specular reflectance, albedo, umbra/penumbra

- Observed intensity depends on light sources, geometry/material of reflecting surface, surrounding objects, camera settings

- Objects cast light and shadows on each other

- Differences in intensity are primary cues for shape