

# CS 247 – Scientific Visualization

## Lecture 14: Scalar Fields, Pt. 10; Volume Rendering, Pt. 1 [preview]

Markus Hadwiger, KAUST



# Reading Assignment #8 (until Mar 21)

Read (required):

- Real-Time Volume Graphics, Chapter 1  
*(Theoretical Background and Basic Approaches)*,  
from beginning to 1.4.4 (inclusive)
- Real-Time Volume Graphics, Chapter 4 (Transfer Functions)  
until Sec. 4.4 (inclusive)
- Look at:  
*Nelson Max, Optical Models for Direct Volume Rendering,*  
*IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 1995*  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/2945.468400>



# wrapping up the previous part...



# Bi-Linear Interpolation: Critical Points

Compute gradient (critical points are where gradient is zero vector):

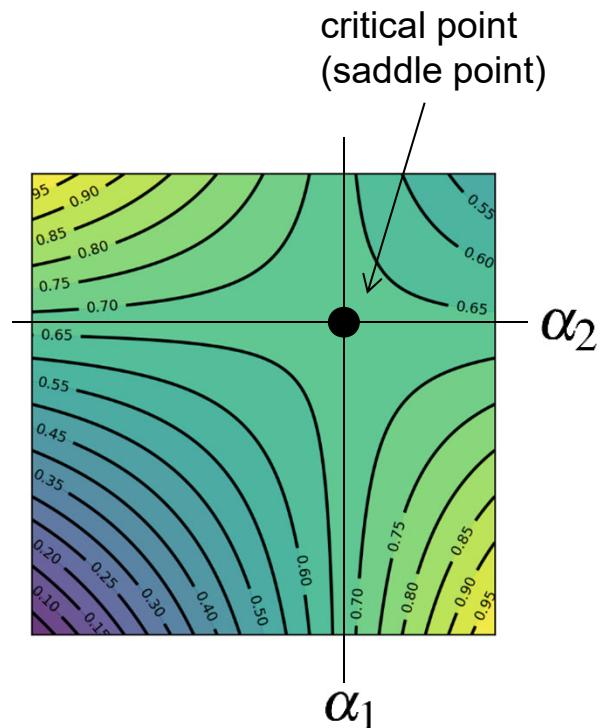
$$\frac{\partial f(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)}{\partial \alpha_1} = (v_{10} - v_{00}) + \alpha_2(v_{00} + v_{11} - v_{10} - v_{01})$$

$$\frac{\partial f(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)}{\partial \alpha_2} = (v_{01} - v_{00}) + \alpha_1(v_{00} + v_{11} - v_{10} - v_{01})$$

Where are lines of constant value / critical points?

$$\frac{\partial f(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)}{\partial \alpha_1} = 0 : \quad \alpha_2 = \frac{v_{00} - v_{10}}{v_{00} + v_{11} - v_{10} - v_{01}}$$

$$\frac{\partial f(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)}{\partial \alpha_2} = 0 : \quad \alpha_1 = \frac{v_{00} - v_{01}}{v_{00} + v_{11} - v_{10} - v_{01}}$$





# Bi-Linear Interpolation: Critical Points

Examine Hessian matrix at critical point (non-degenerate critical p.?, ...)

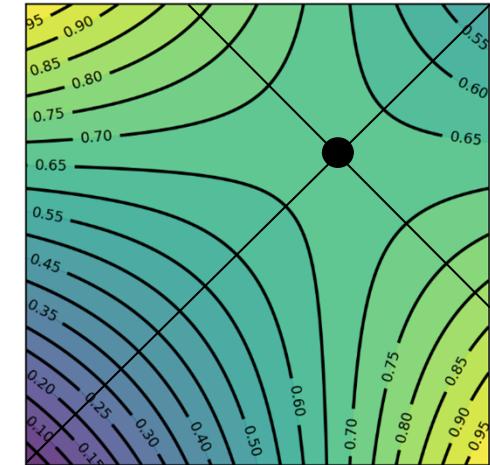
$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \alpha_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \alpha_1 \partial \alpha_2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \alpha_2 \partial \alpha_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial \alpha_2^2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a \\ a & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad a = v_{00} + v_{11} - v_{10} - v_{01}$$

Eigenvalues and eigenvectors (Hessian is symmetric: always real)

$$\lambda_1 = -a \text{ and } \lambda_2 = a$$

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(here also: principal curvature magnitudes and directions  
of this function's graph == surface embedded in 3D)





# Bi-Linear Interpolation: Critical Points

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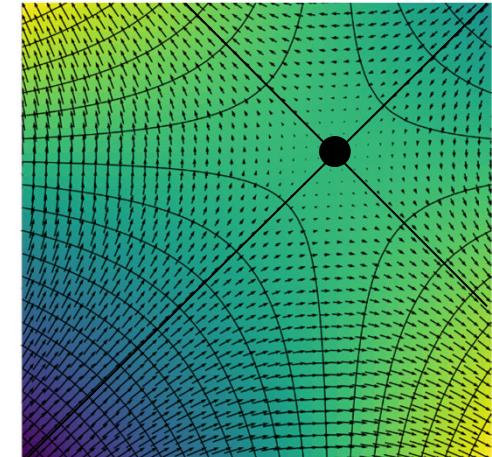
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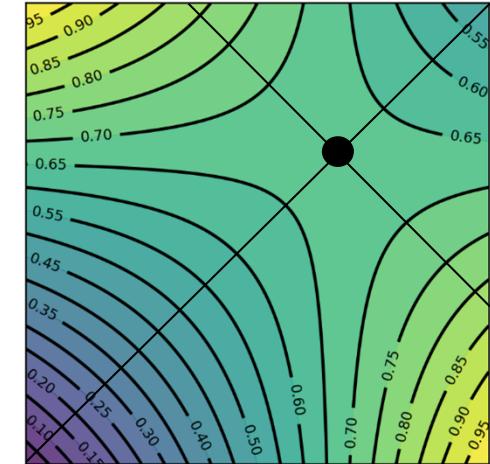
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$$\lambda_1 = -a \text{ and } \lambda_2 = a$$

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

degenerate means determinant = 0 (at least one eigenvalue = 0);  
bi-linear is simple:  $a = 0$  means degenerated to  
linear anyway: no critical point at all! (except constant function)  
(but with more than one cell: can have max or min at vertices)



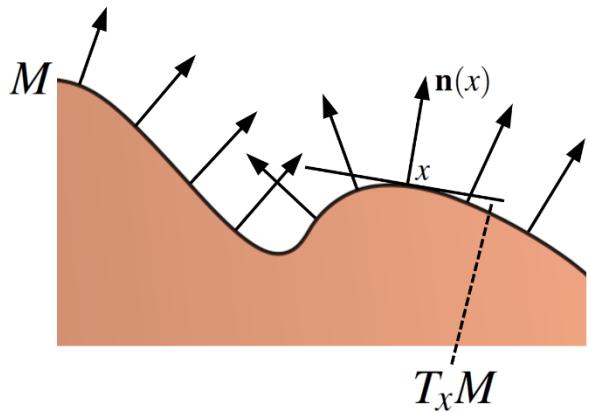


# Interlude: Curvature and Shape Operator

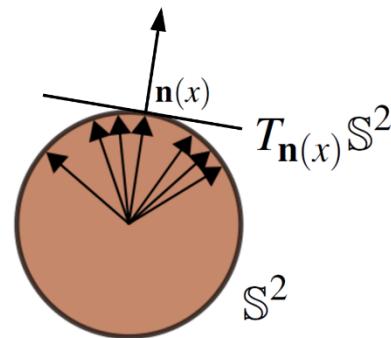
Gauss map

$$\mathbf{n}: M \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^2$$

$$x \mapsto \mathbf{n}(x)$$



Principal curvature magnitudes and directions are eigenvalues and eigenvectors of shape operator  $\mathbf{S}$



Differential of Gauss map

$$d\mathbf{n}: TM \rightarrow T\mathbb{S}^2$$

$$\mathbf{v} \mapsto d\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{v})$$

$$(d\mathbf{n})_x: T_x M \rightarrow T_{\mathbf{n}(x)} \mathbb{S}^2$$

$$\mathbf{v} \mapsto d\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{v})$$

Shape operator (Weingarten map)

$$\mathbf{S}: TM \rightarrow TM$$

$$T_{\mathbf{n}(x)} \mathbb{S}^2 \cong T_x M$$

$$\mathbf{S}_x: T_x M \rightarrow T_x M$$

$$\mathbf{v} \mapsto \mathbf{S}_x(\mathbf{v}) = d\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{v})$$

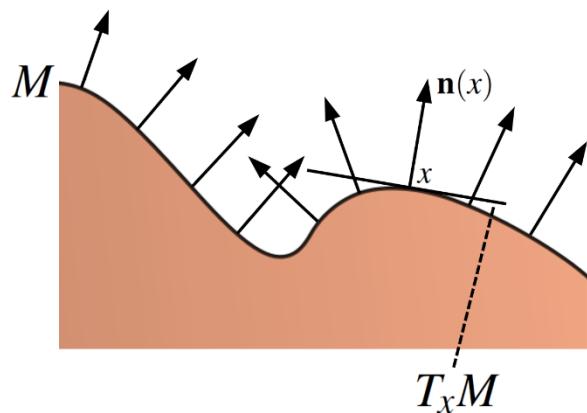


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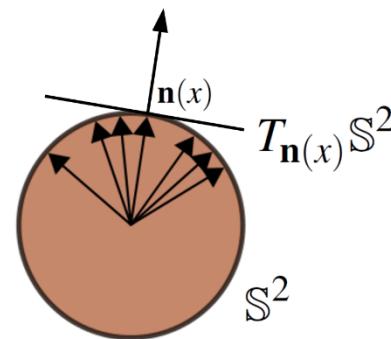
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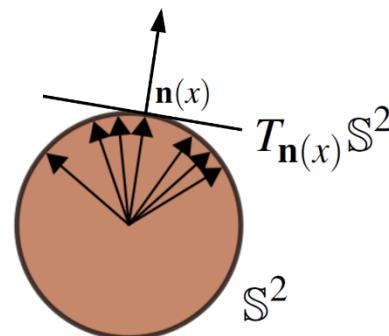
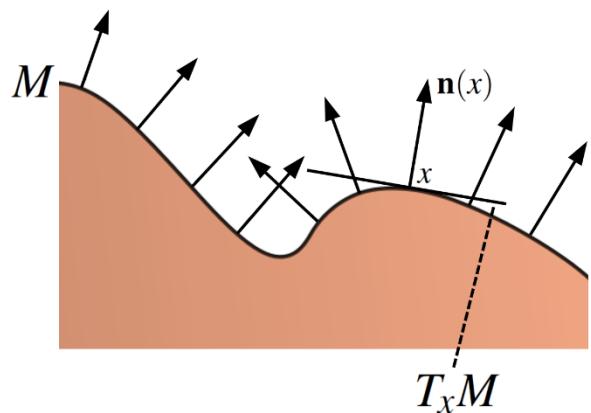


# Interlude: Curvature and Shape Operator

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Differential of Gauss map

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$$\mathbf{v} \mapsto d\mathbf{n}(\mathbf{v})$$

Shape operator (Weingarten map)

$$\mathbf{S}: TM \rightarrow TM$$

$$\mathbf{S}_x: T_x M \rightarrow T_x M$$

$$\mathbf{v} \mapsto \mathbf{S}_x(\mathbf{v}) = -\nabla_{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{n}$$

Principal curvature magnitudes and directions are eigenvalues and eigenvectors of shape operator  $\mathbf{S}$

$$T_{\mathbf{n}(x)} \mathbb{S}^2 \cong T_x M$$

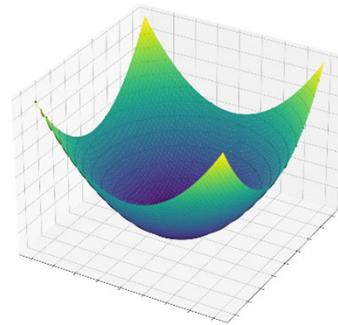
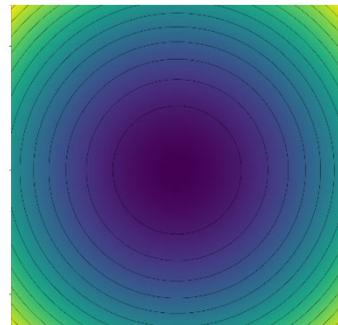


# General Case (2D Scalar Fields)

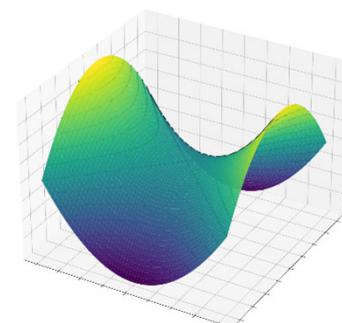
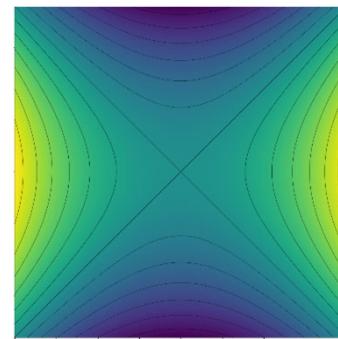
In 2D scalar fields, only *three types* of (isolated, non-degenerate) critical points

*Index* of critical point: dimension of eigenspace with negative-definite Hessian

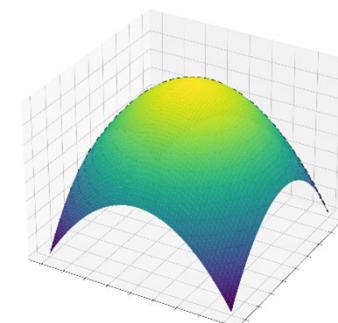
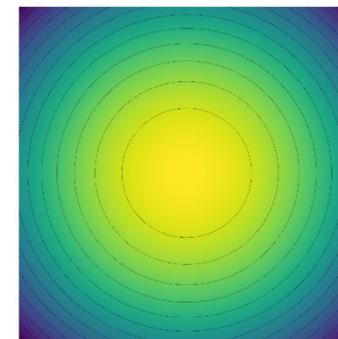
minimum  
(index 0)



saddle point  
(index 1)



maximum  
(index 2)





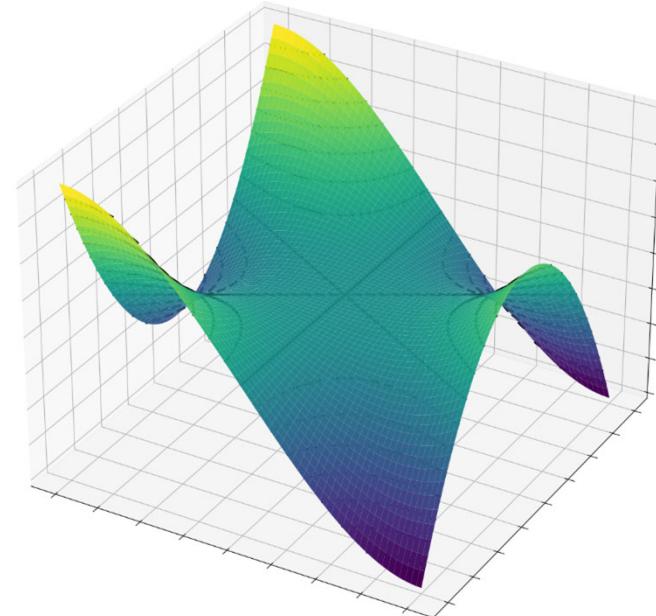
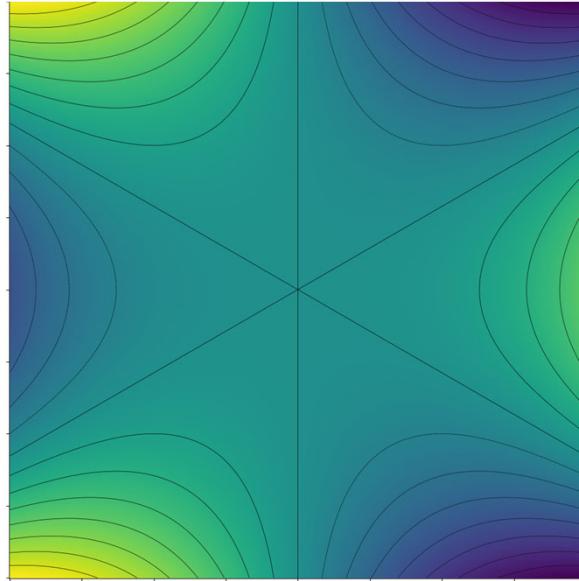
# Interesting Degenerate Critical Points?

Hessian matrix is singular (determinant = 0)

- Cannot say what happens: need higher-order derivatives, ...

Interesting example: monkey saddle  $z = x^3 - 3xy^2$  ('third-order saddle')

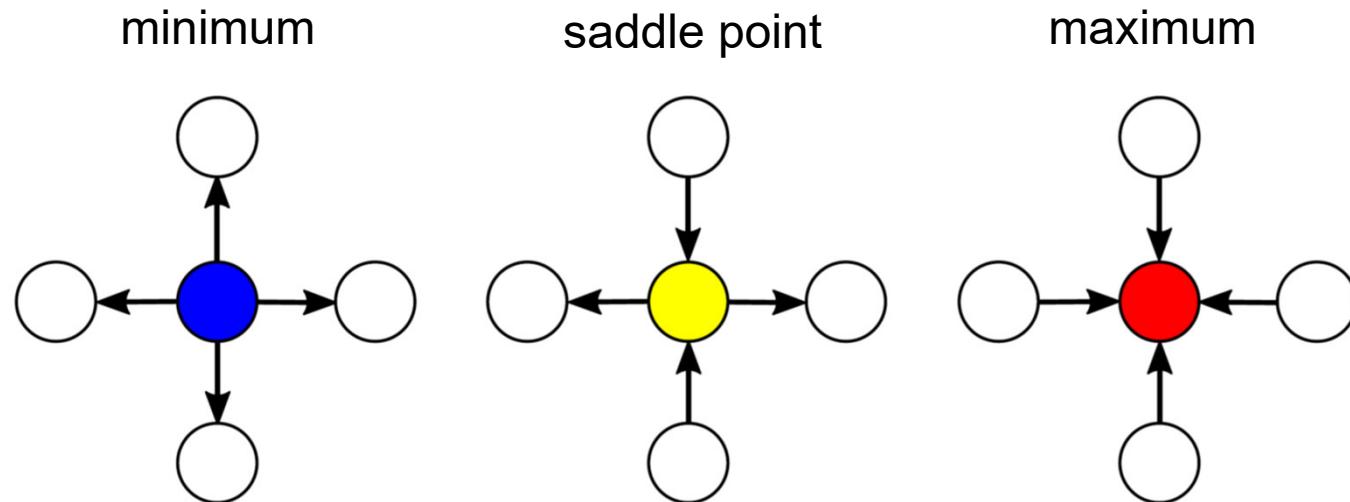
- Point (0,0) in center: Hessian = 0; Gaussian curvature = 0 (umbilical point)



# Discrete Classification of Critical Points



Combinatorial classification (looking at and comparing neighbors)  
instead of looking at derivatives  
(i.e., derivatives of the smooth function that is not known)

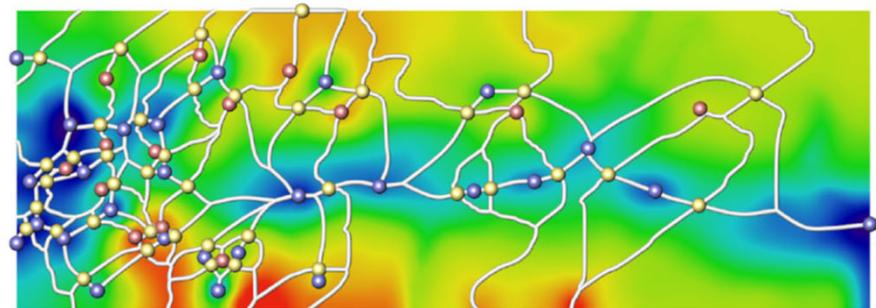
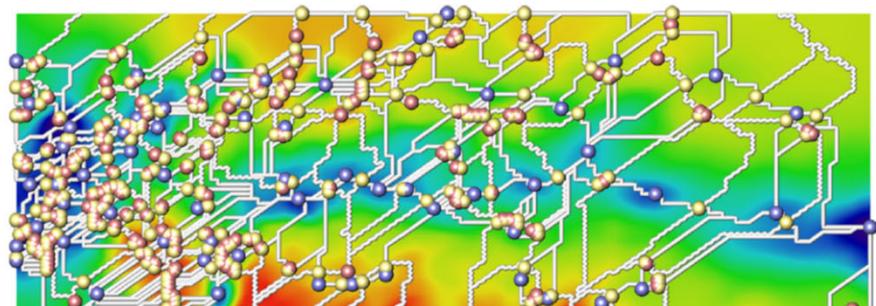
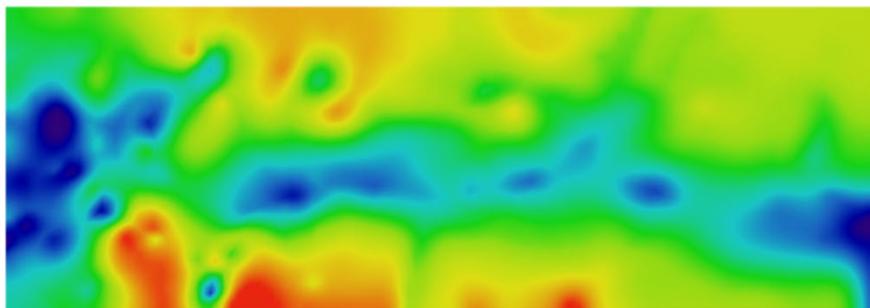
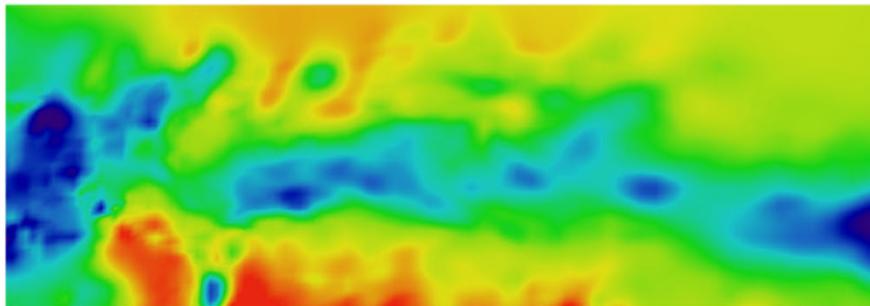


...toward scalar field topology, discrete Morse theory, Morse-Smale complex, ...



# Example: Scalar Field Simplification

Topology-based smoothing of 2D scalar fields, Weinkauf et al., 2010





# Example: Differential Topology

## Morse theory

- Morse function: scalar function where all critical points are non-degenerate and have different critical value

Topological invariant: Euler characteristic  $\chi(M)$  of manifold  $M$

(for 2-manifold mesh:  $\chi(M) = V - E + F$  )

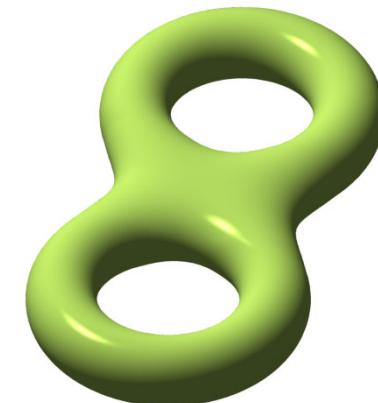
$$\chi = 2 - 2g \quad (\text{orientable})$$



genus  $g = 0$   
Euler characteristic  $\chi = 2$



genus  $g = 1$   
Euler characteristic  $\chi = 0$



genus  $g = 2$   
Euler characteristic  $\chi = -2$



# Example: Differential Topology

## Morse theory

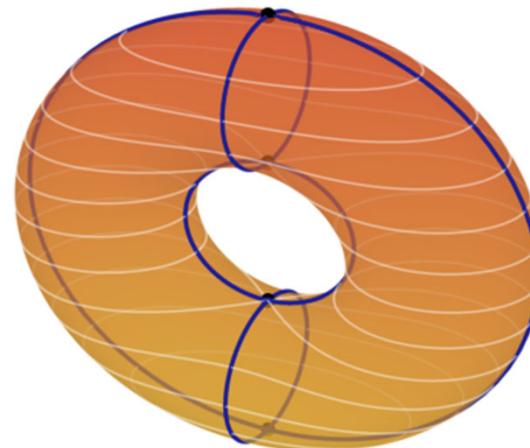
- Morse function: scalar function where all critical points are non-degenerate and have different critical value

Topological invariant: Euler characteristic  $\chi(M)$  of manifold  $M$

$$\chi(M) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i m_i$$

$m_i$ : number of critical points with index  $i$

$n$ : dimensionality of  $M$



$$\text{genus } g(M) = 1$$

$$\text{Euler characteristic } \chi(M) = 0 \quad (= 1 - 2 + 1)$$

scalar function on torus is height function  $f(x,y,z) = z$ :

1 min, 1 max, 2 saddles

critical points are where

$$df(x,y,z) = 0$$

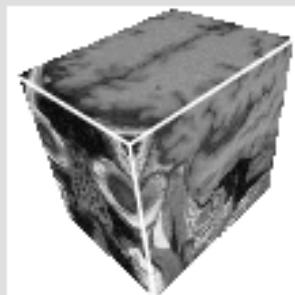
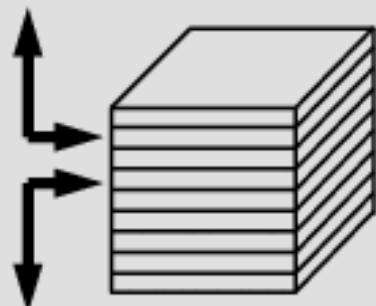
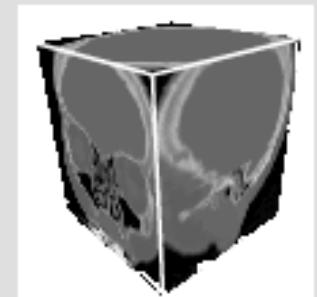
(tangent plane horizontal)



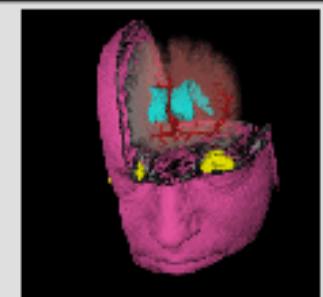
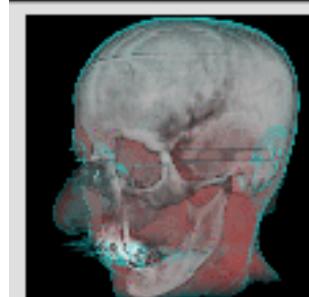
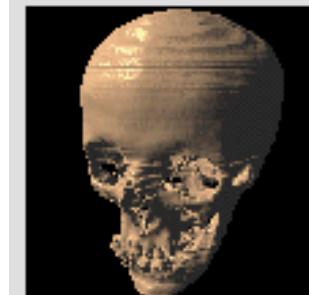
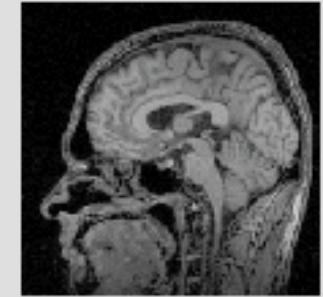
# Volume Visualization



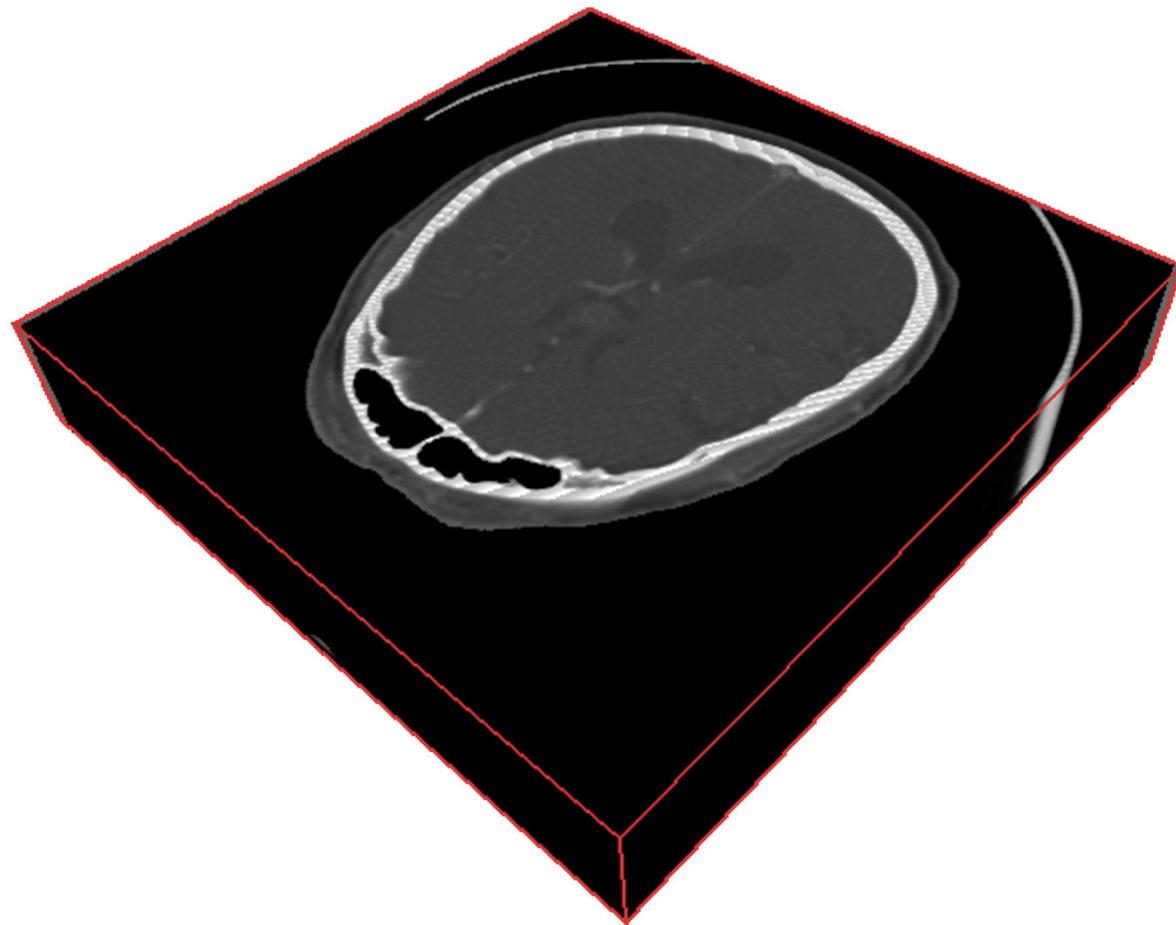
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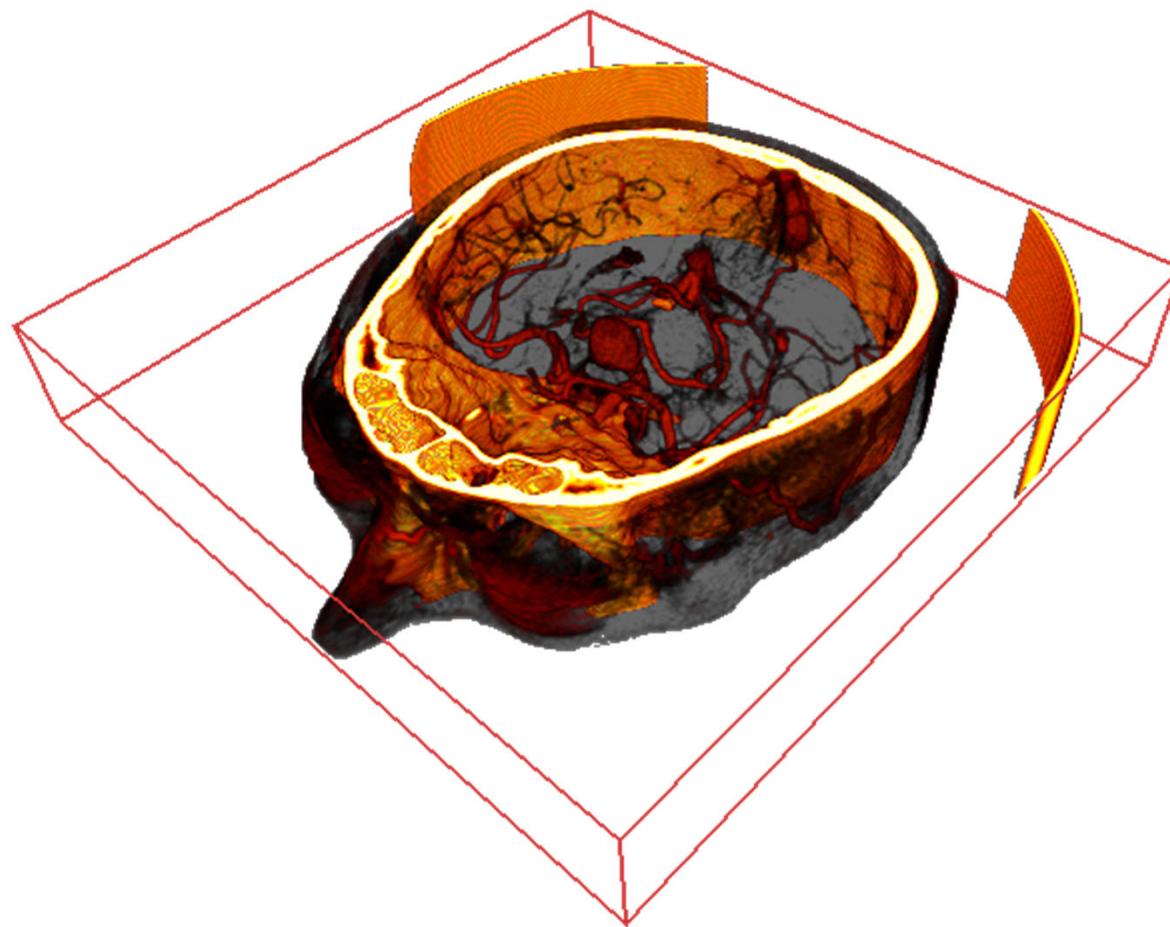
- 2D visualization  
slice images  
(or multi-planar  
reformatting MPR)
- *Indirect*  
3D visualization  
isosurfaces  
(or surface-shaded  
display: SSD)
- *Direct*  
3D visualization  
(direct volume  
rendering: DVR)



# Direct Volume Rendering



# Direct Volume Rendering

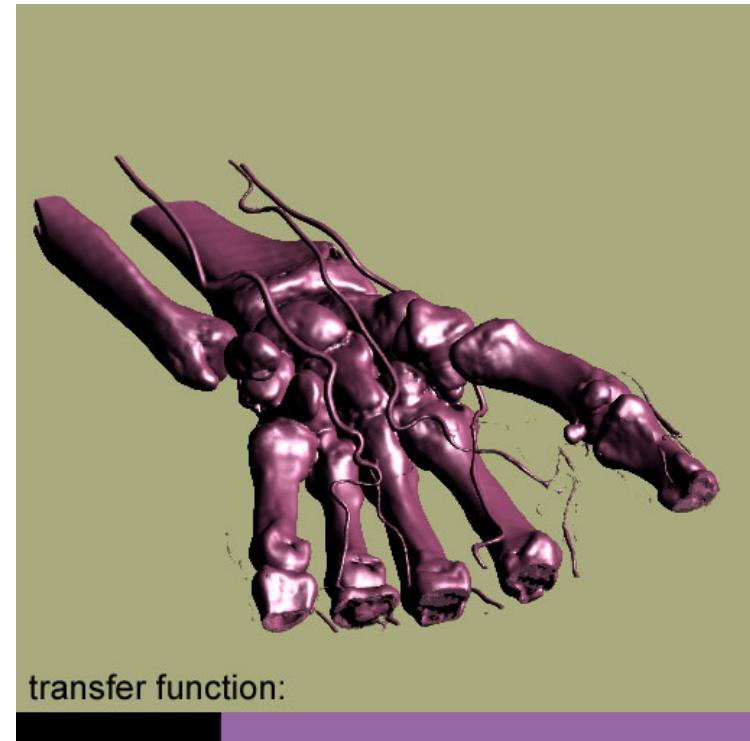
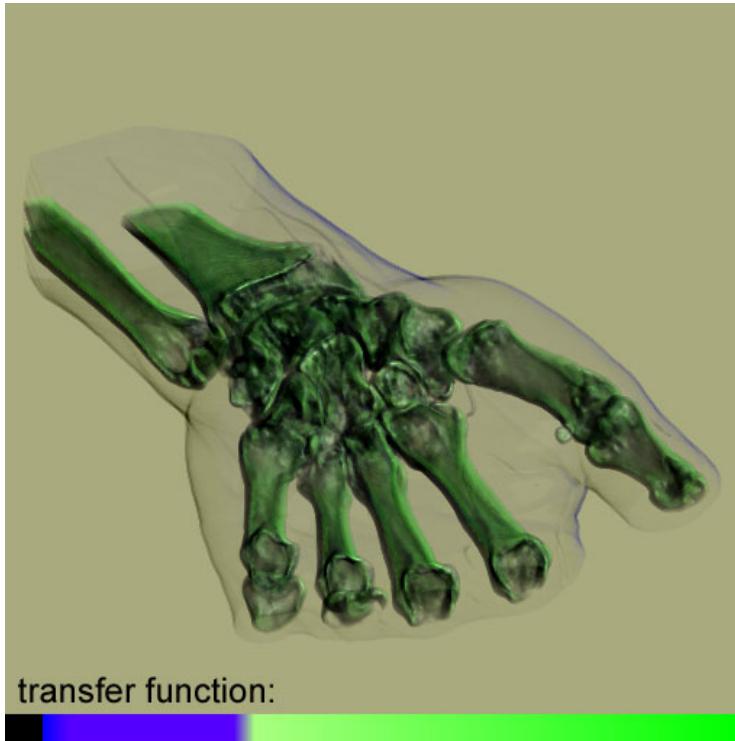


# Transparent Volumes vs. Isosurfaces



The *transfer function* assigns *optical properties* to data

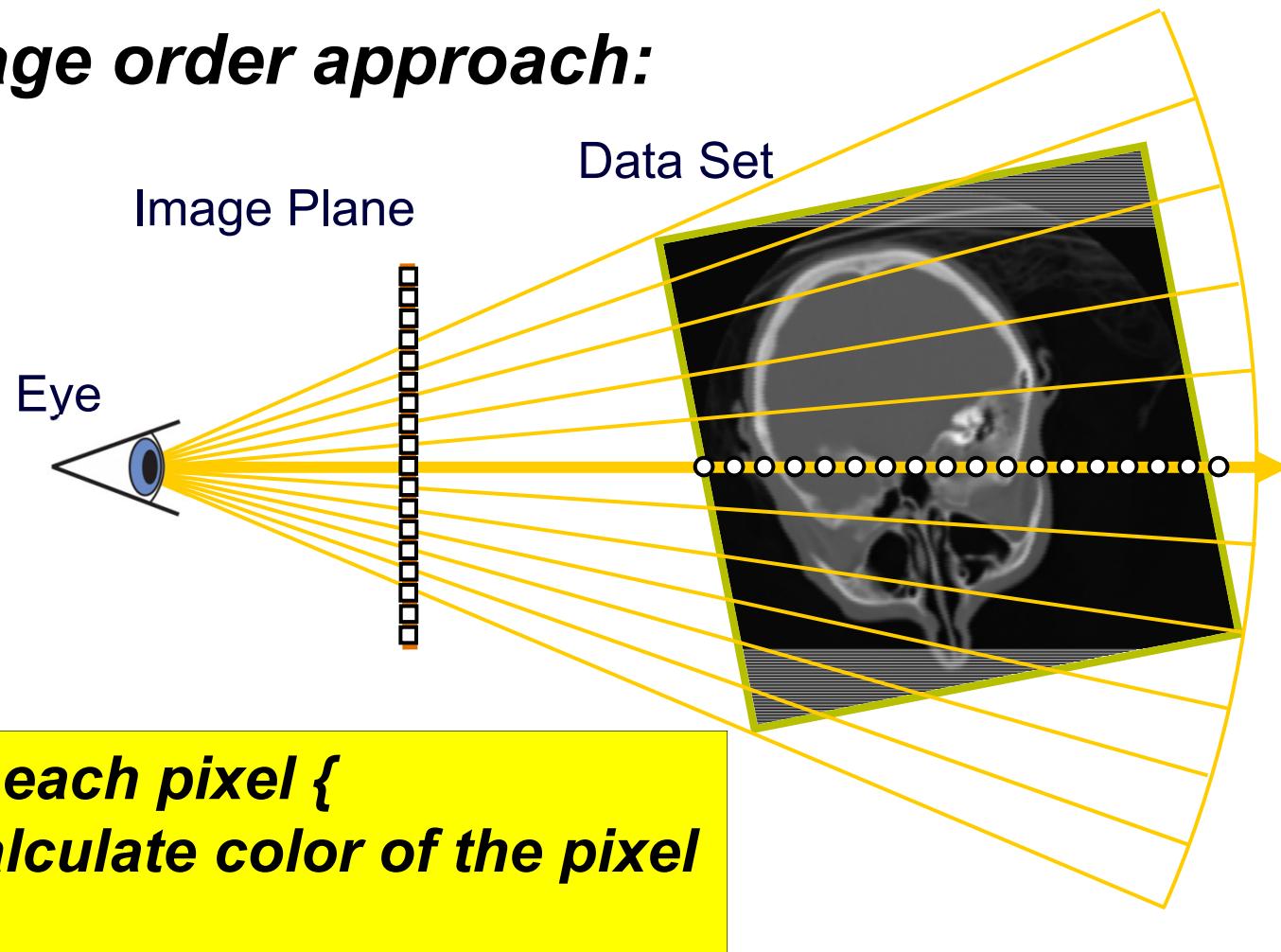
- Translucent volumes
- But also: isosurface rendering using step function as transfer function



# Direct Volume Rendering



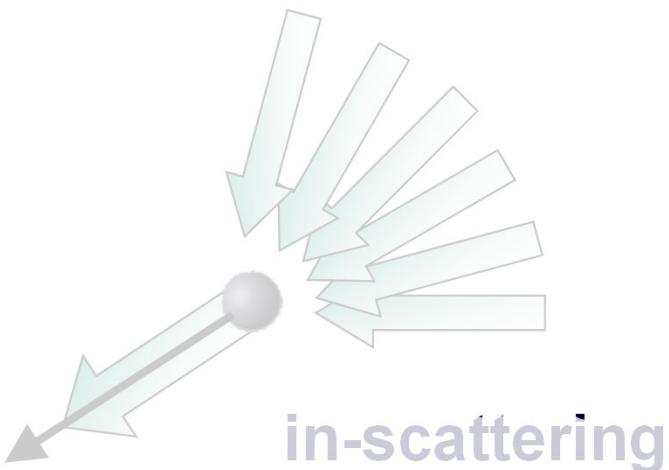
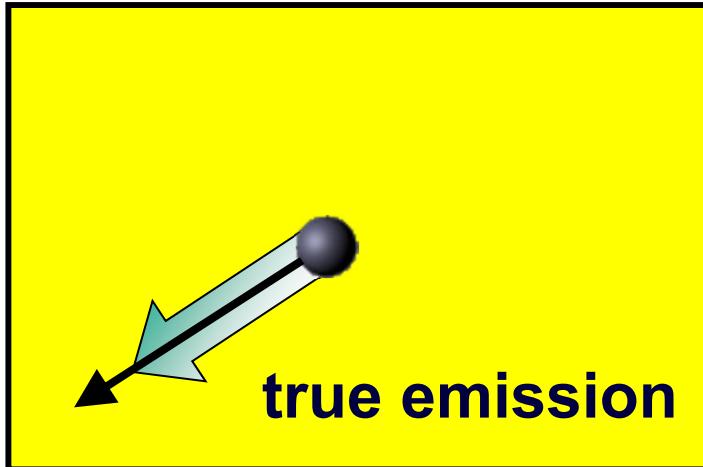
***Image order approach:***



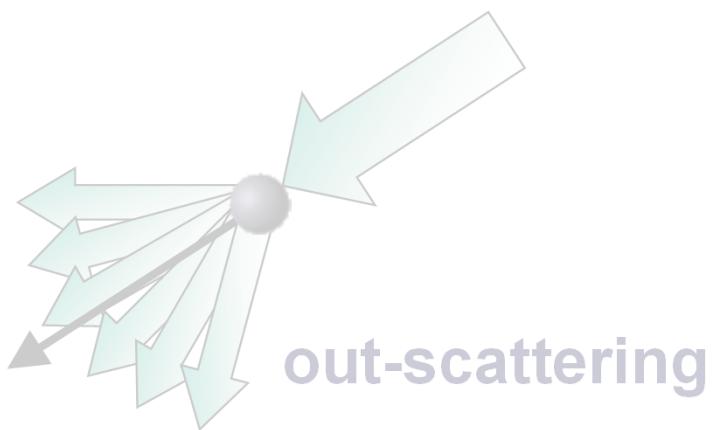
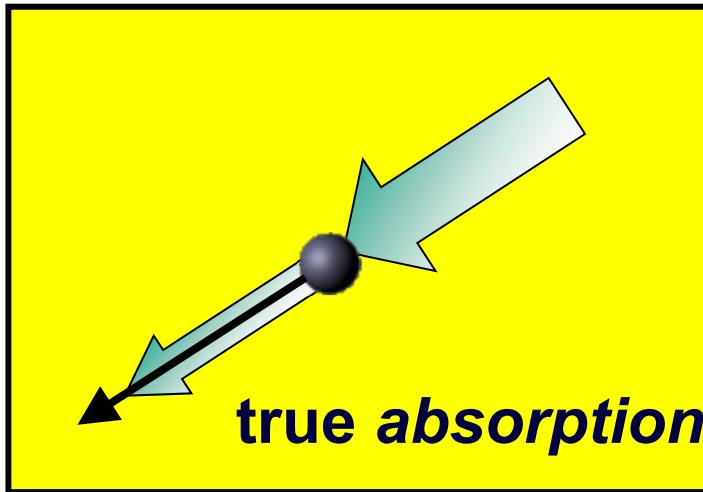
# Physical Model of Radiative Transfer



*Increase*



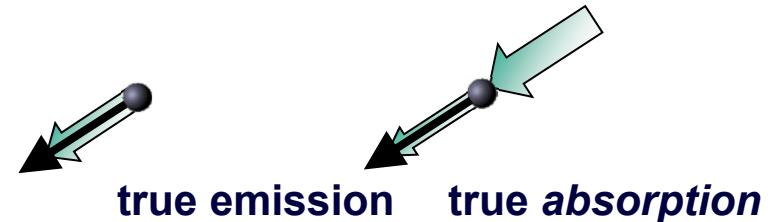
*Decrease*



# Volume Rendering Integral



Volume rendering integral  
for *Emission Absorption* model



$$I(s) = I(s_0) e^{-\tau(s_0, s)} + \int_{s_0}^s q(\tilde{s}) e^{-\tau(\tilde{s}, s)} d\tilde{s}$$

Numerical solutions:

**Back-to-front compositing**

$$C'_i = C_i + (1 - A_i)C'_{i-1}$$

**Front-to-back compositing**

$$C'_i = C'_{i+1} + (1 - A'_{i+1})C_i$$

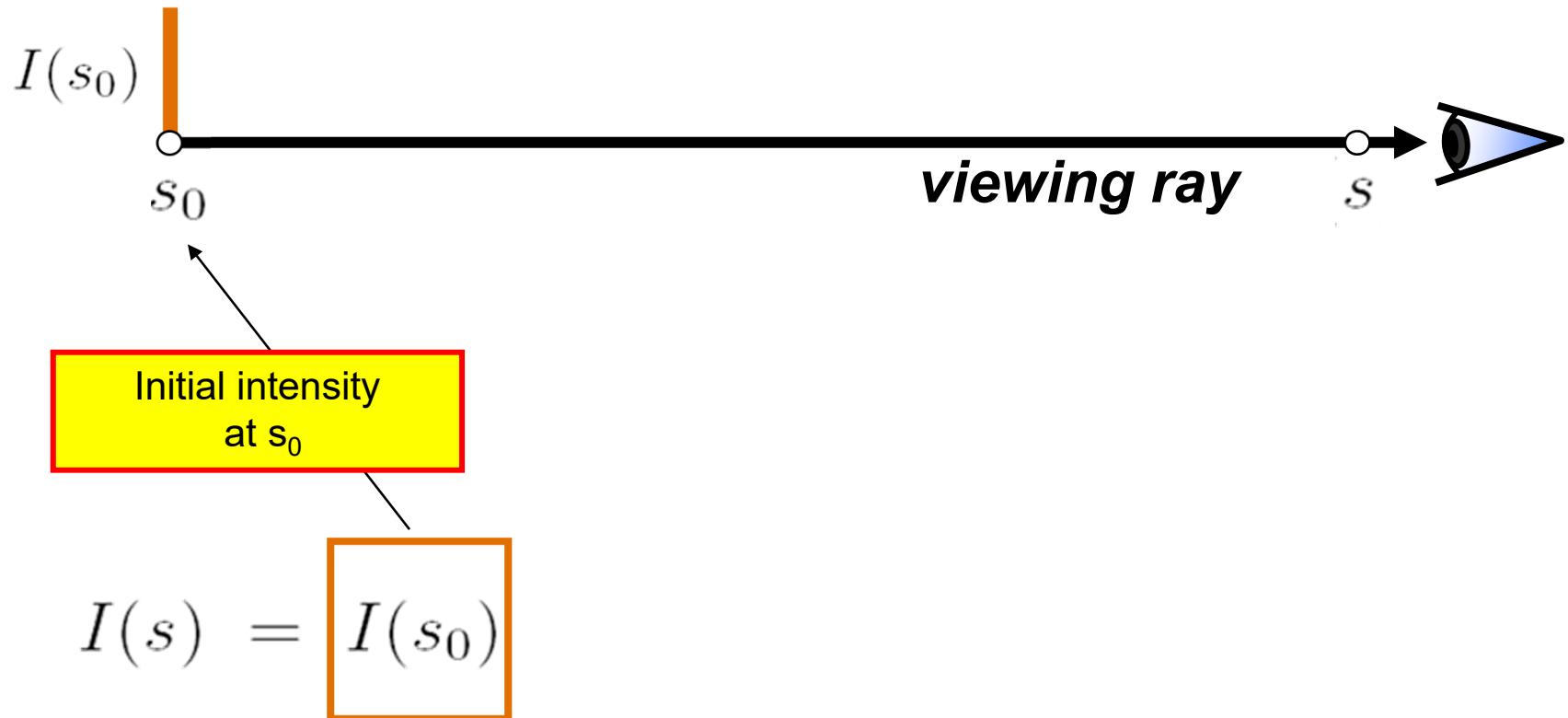
$$A'_i = A'_{i+1} + (1 - A'_{i+1})A_i$$

# Volume Rendering Integral



How do we determine the radiant energy along the ray?

**Physical model:** emission and absorption, no scattering

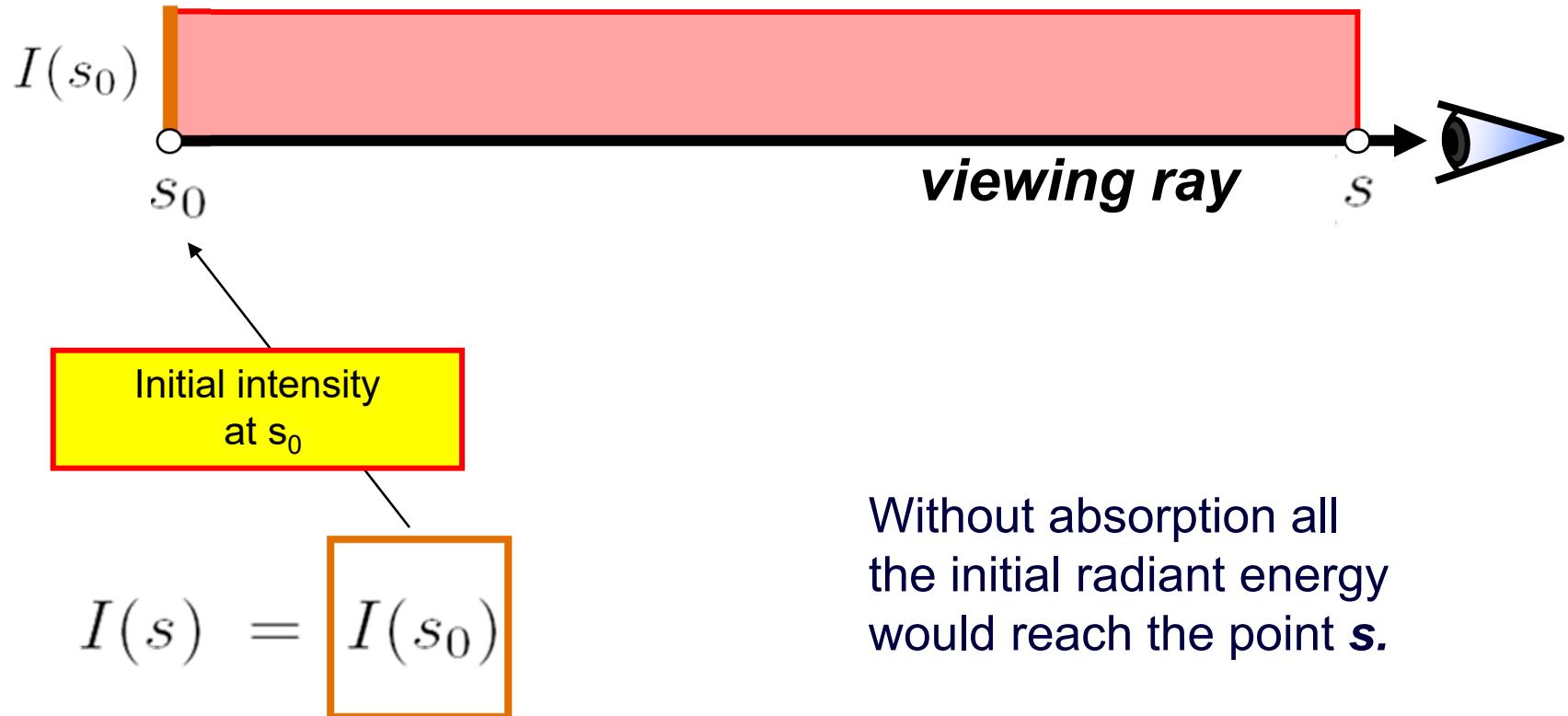


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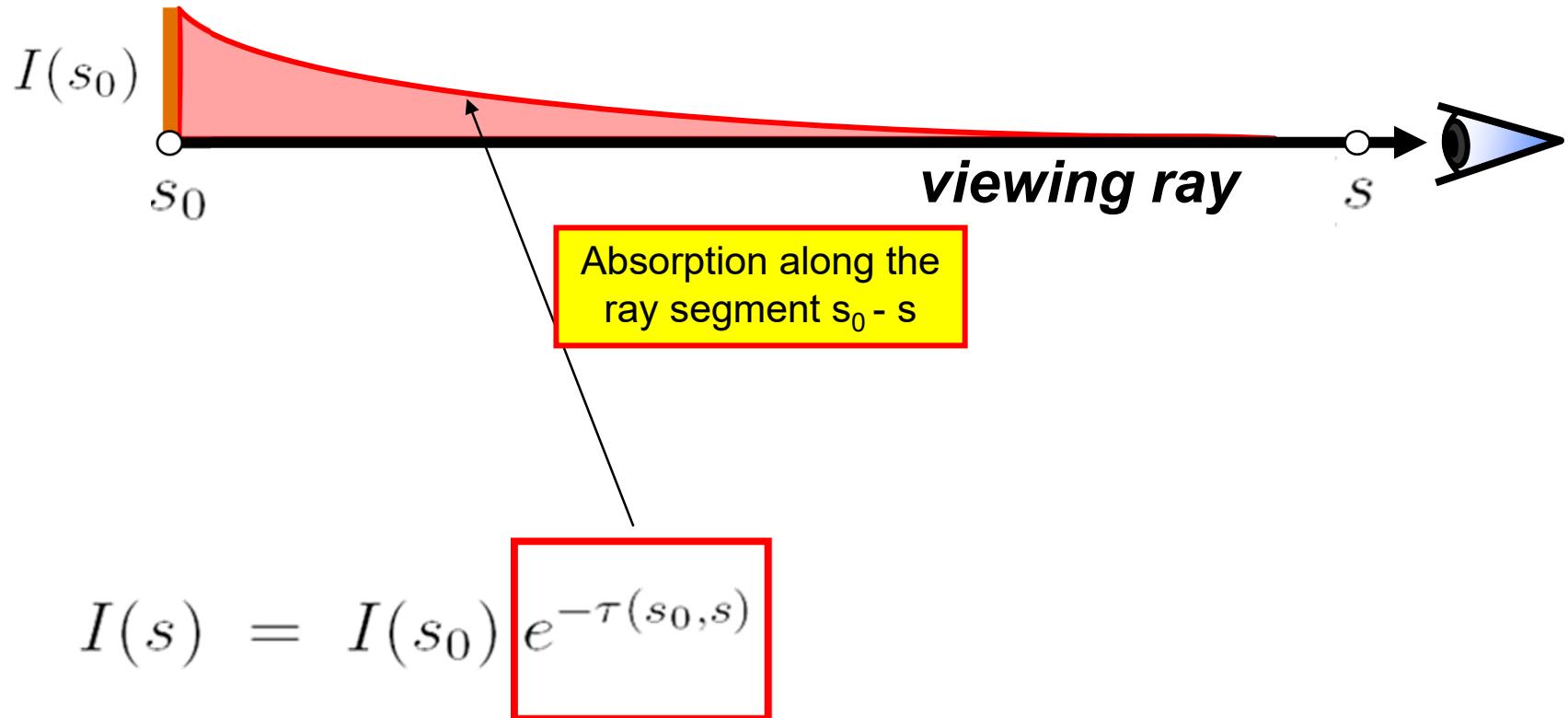


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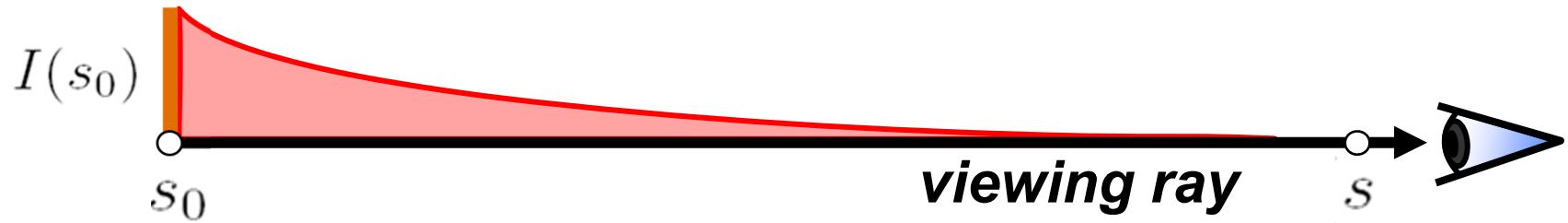


# Volume Rendering Integral



How do we determine the radiant energy along the ray?

**Physical model:** emission and absorption, no scattering



**Optical depth  $\tau$**   
**Absorption  $\kappa$**

$$I(s) = I(s_0) e^{-\tau(s_0, s)}$$

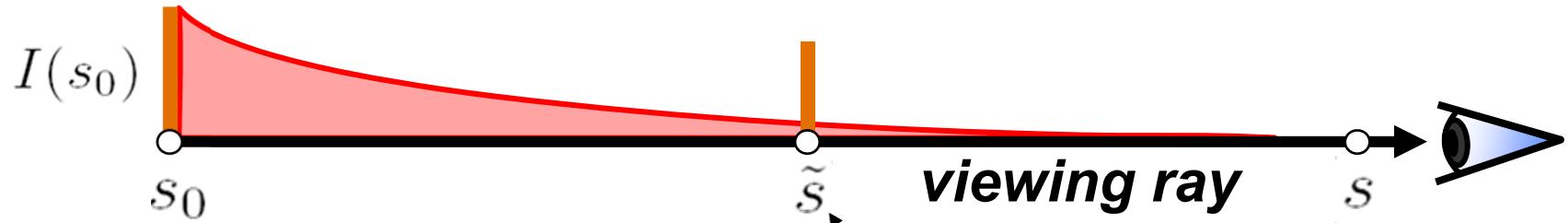
$$\tau(s_1, s_2) = \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \kappa(s) ds.$$

# Volume Rendering Integral



**How do we determine the radiant energy along the ray?**

**Physical model:** emission and absorption, no scattering



One point  $\tilde{s}$  along the viewing ray emits additional radiant energy.

$$I(s) = I(s_0) e^{-\tau(s_0, s)} +$$

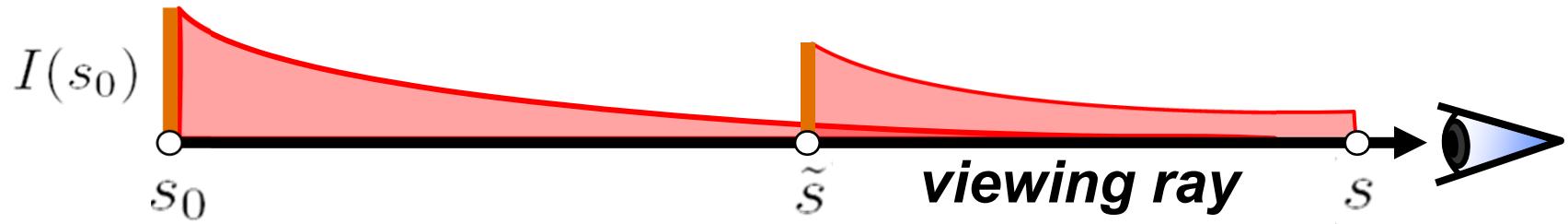
$$q(\tilde{s})$$

# Volume Rendering Integral



**How do we determine the radiant energy along the ray?**

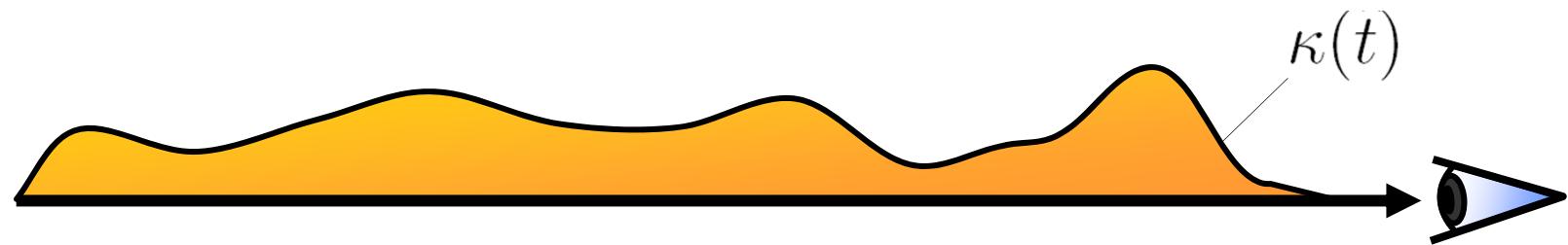
**Physical model:** emission and absorption, no scattering



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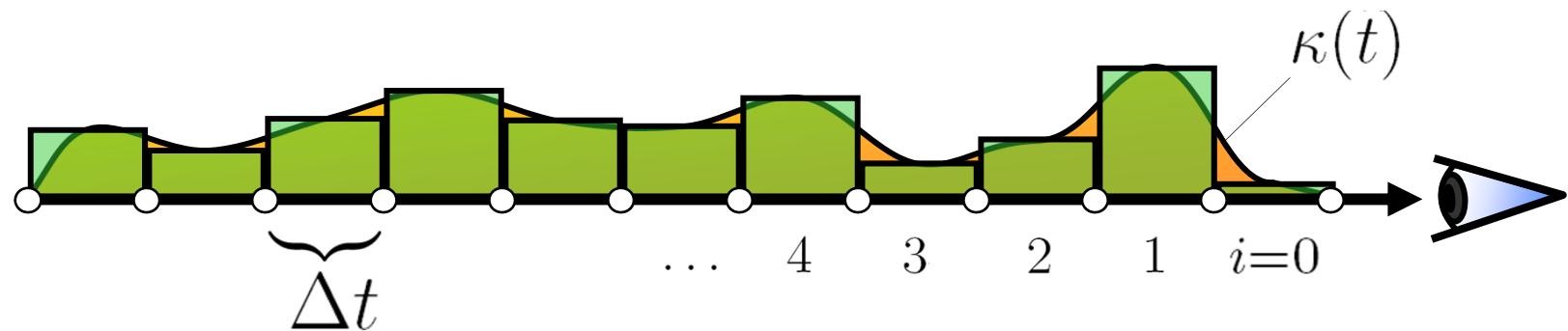
$$I(s) = I(s_0) e^{-\tau(s_0,s)} + \int_{s_0}^s q(\tilde{s}) e^{-\tau(\tilde{s},s)} d\tilde{s}$$

# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution



$$\textbf{\textit{Optical depth:}} \tau(0, t) = \int_0^t \kappa(\hat{t}) d\hat{t}$$

# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution

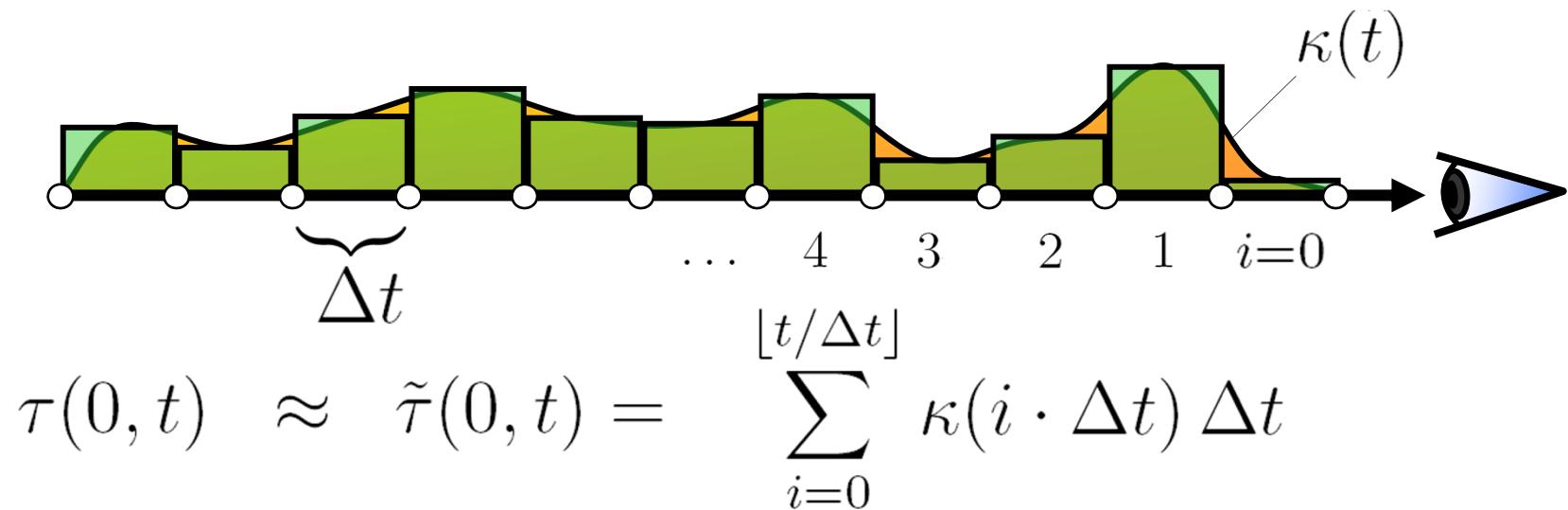


$$\textbf{Optical depth: } \tau(0, t) = \int_0^t \kappa(\hat{t}) d\hat{t}$$

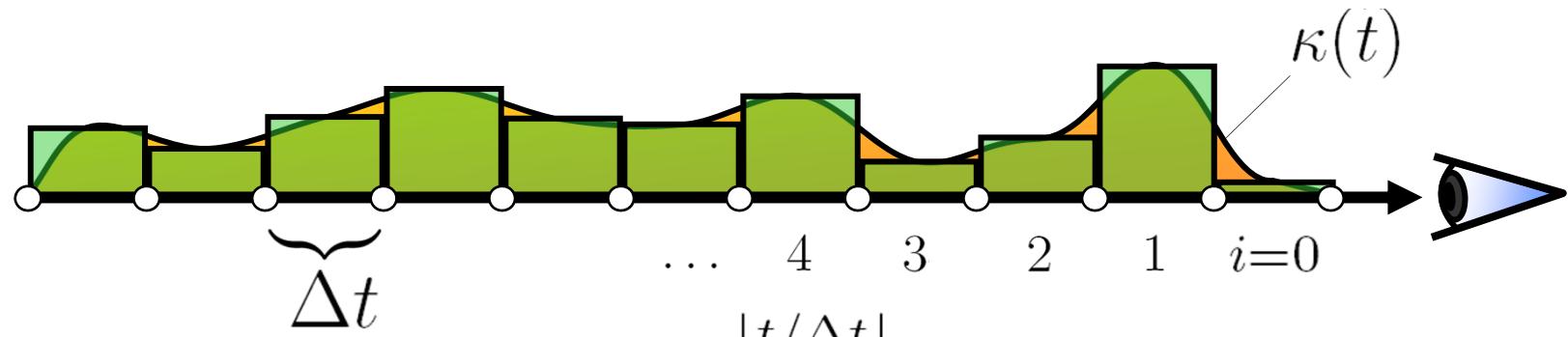
**Approximate Integral by Riemann sum:**

$$\tau(0, t) \approx \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor t/\Delta t \rfloor} \kappa(i \cdot \Delta t) \Delta t$$

# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution



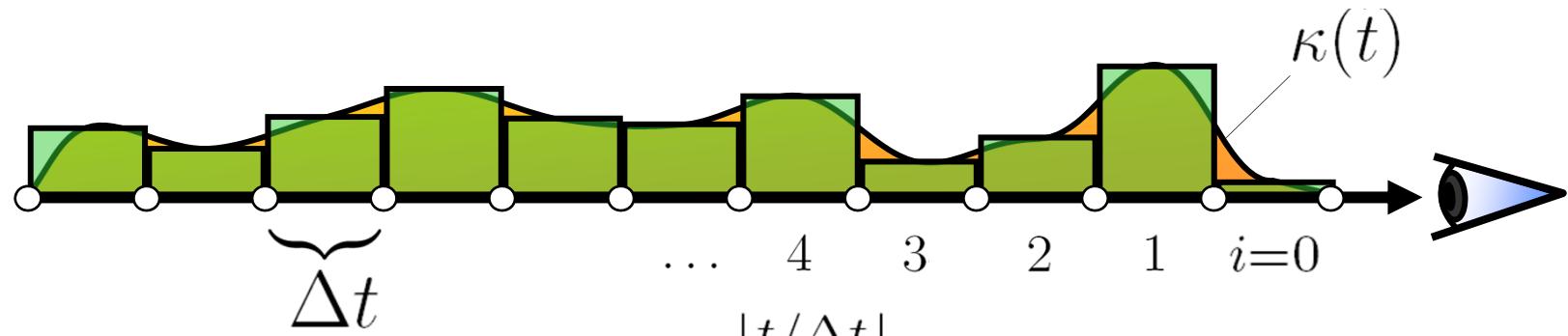
# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution



$$\tau(0, t) \approx \tilde{\tau}(0, t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor t/\Delta t \rfloor} \kappa(i \cdot \Delta t) \Delta t$$

$$e^{-\tilde{\tau}(0,t)} = e^{-\sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor t/\Delta t \rfloor} \kappa(i \cdot \Delta t) \Delta t}$$

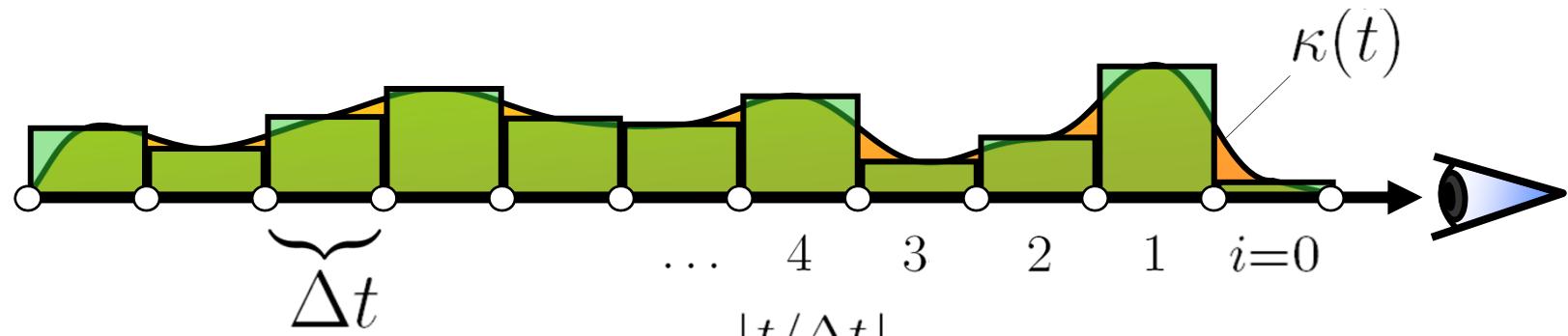
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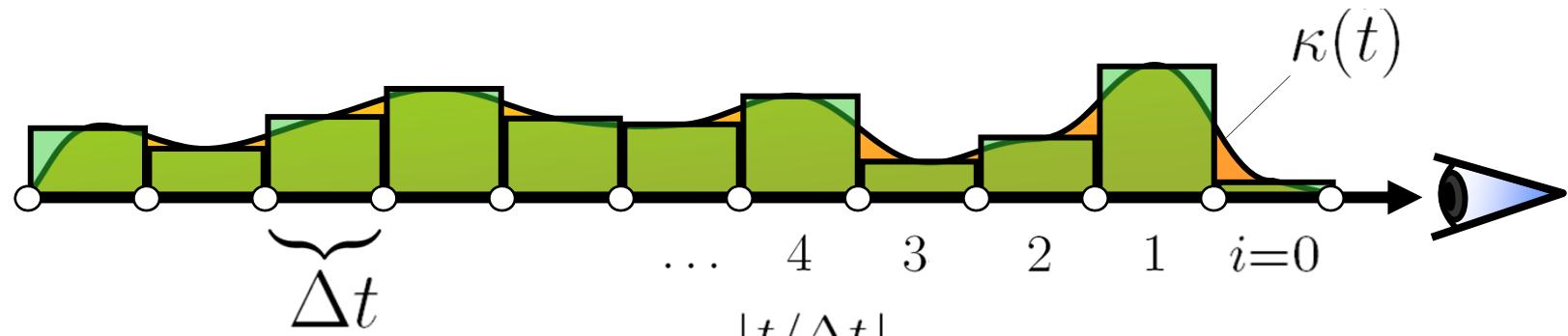
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Now we introduce *opacity*:

$$A_i = 1 - e^{-\kappa(i \cdot \Delta t) \Delta t}$$

# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution



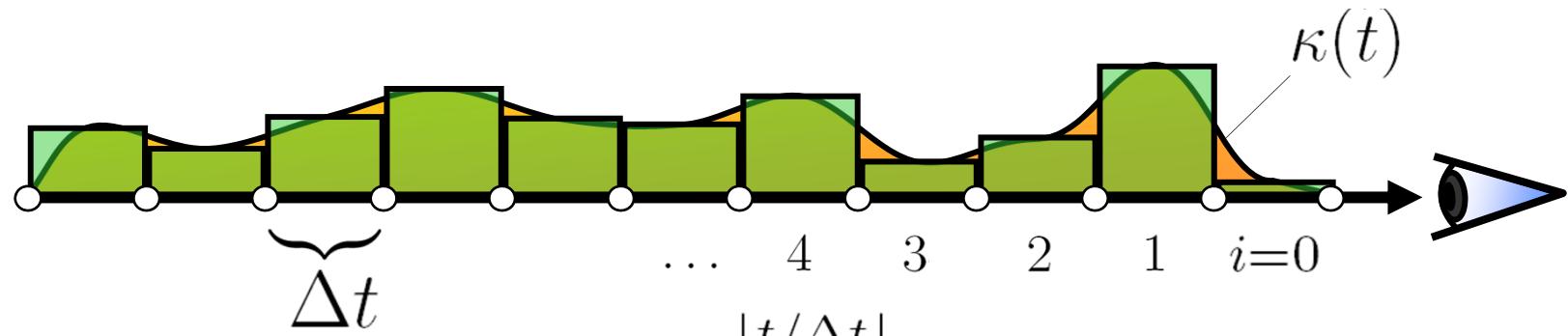
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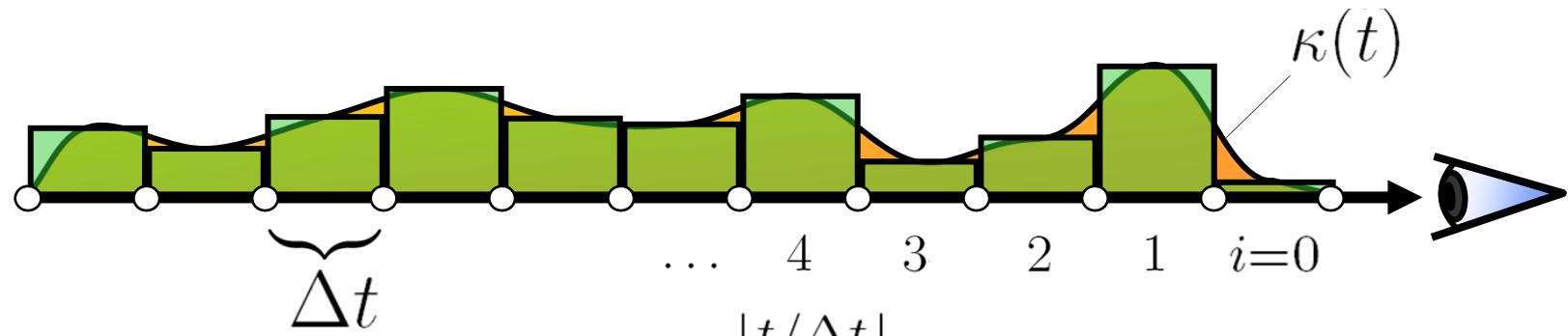
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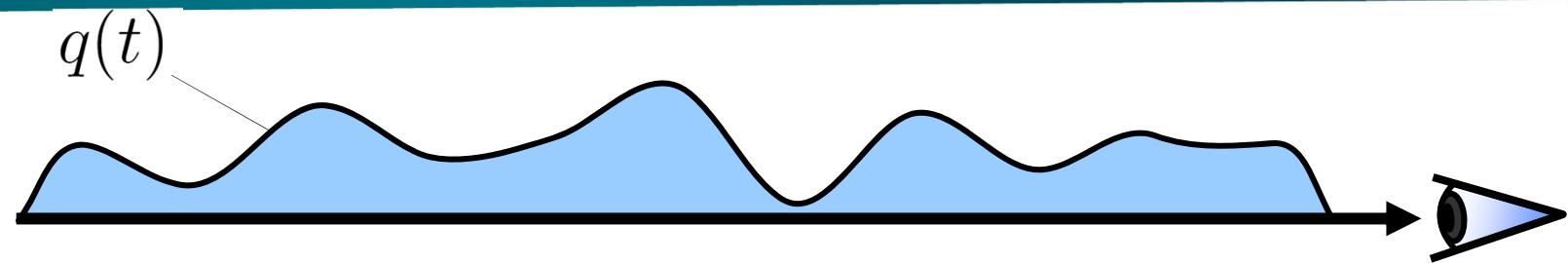
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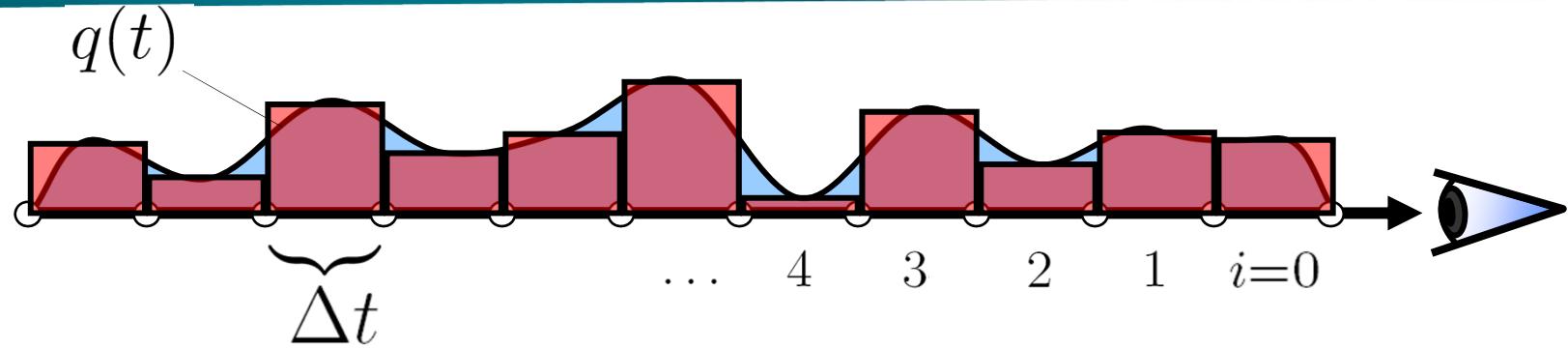
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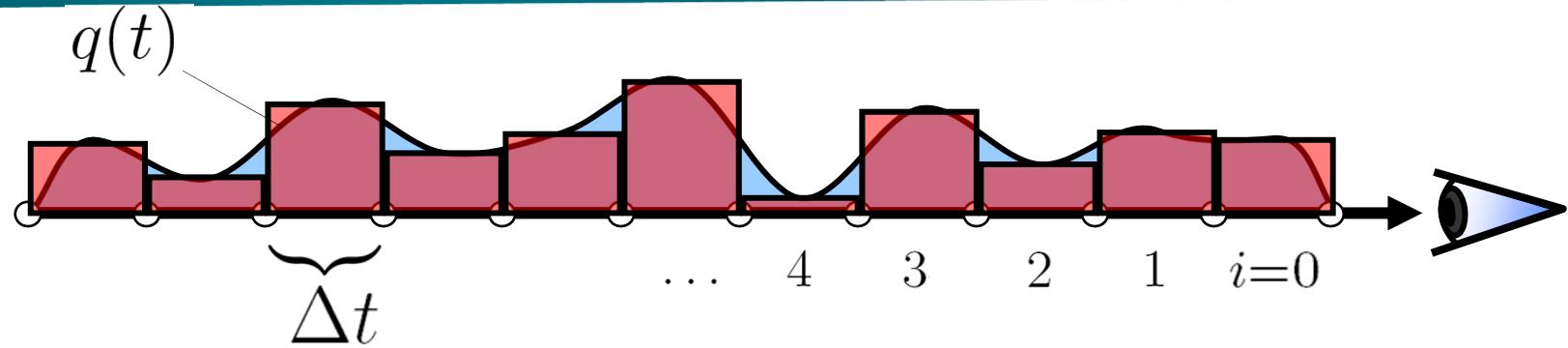
# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution



$$e^{-\tilde{\tau}(0,t)} = \prod_{i=0}^{\lfloor t/\Delta t \rfloor} (1 - A_i)$$

$$q(t) \approx C_i = c(i \cdot \Delta t) \Delta t$$

# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution

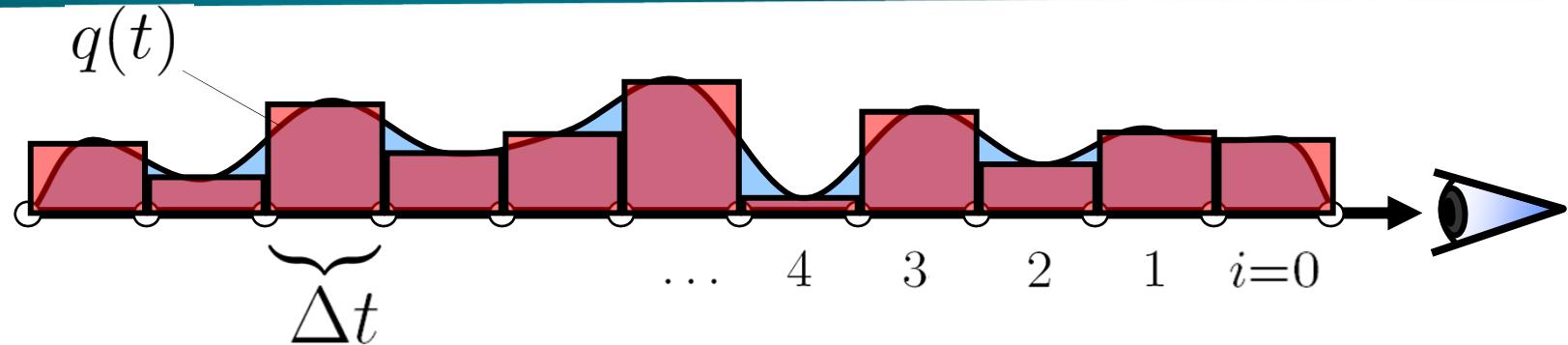


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$$\tilde{C} = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor T/\Delta t \rfloor} C_i e^{-\tilde{\tau}(0,t)}$$

# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution

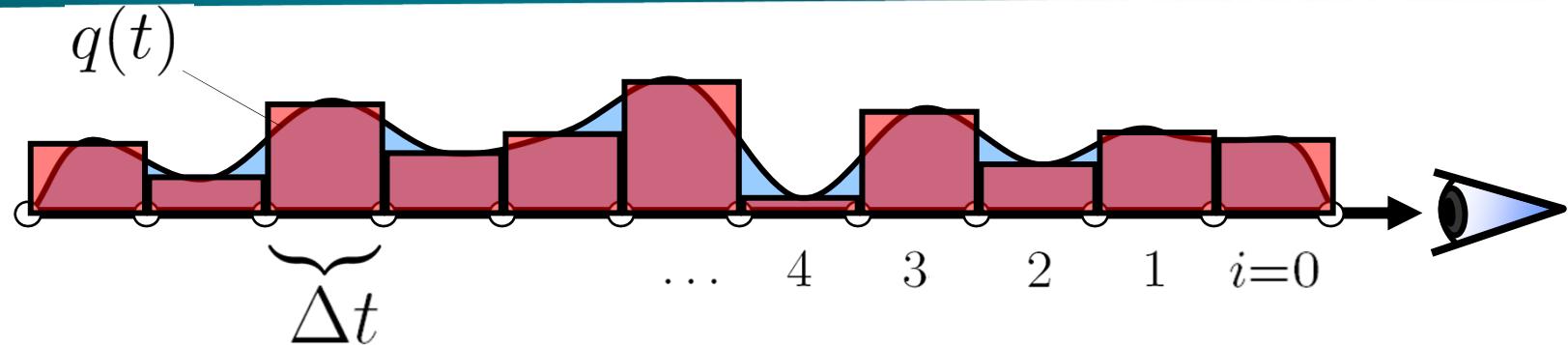


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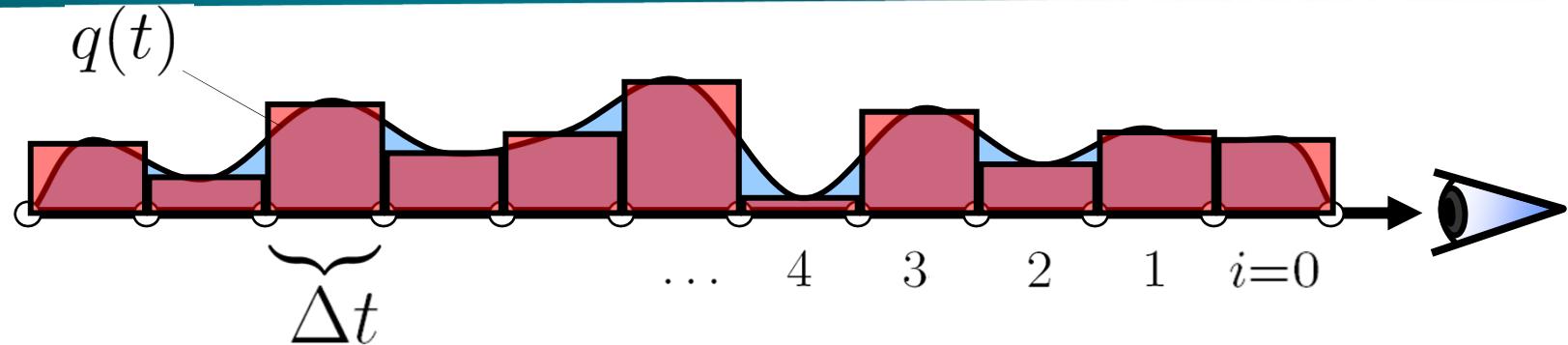


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# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution



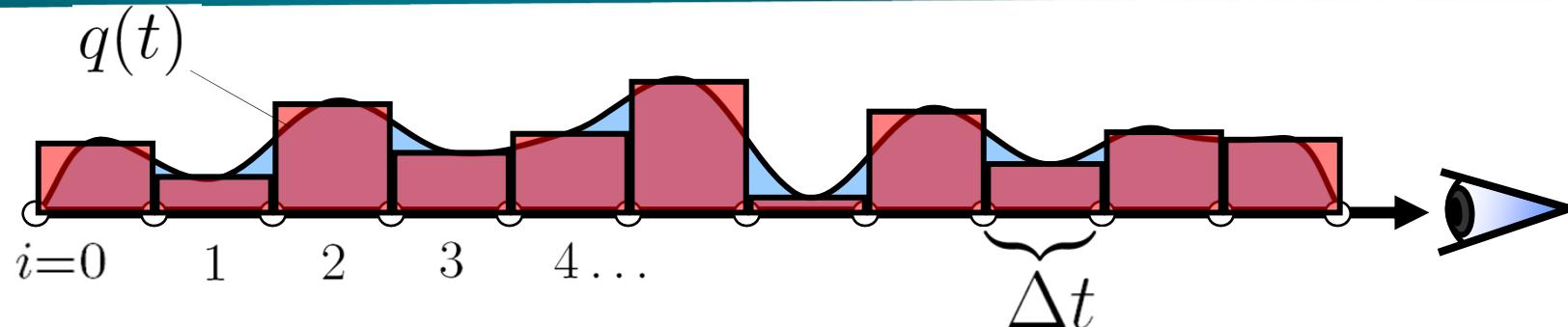
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*can be computed recursively/iteratively!*

# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution



*Note: we just changed the convention from  $i=0$  is at the front of the volume (previous slides) to  $i=0$  is at the back of the volume !*

can be computed recursively/iteratively:

$$C'_i = C_i + (1 - A_i)C'_{i-1}$$

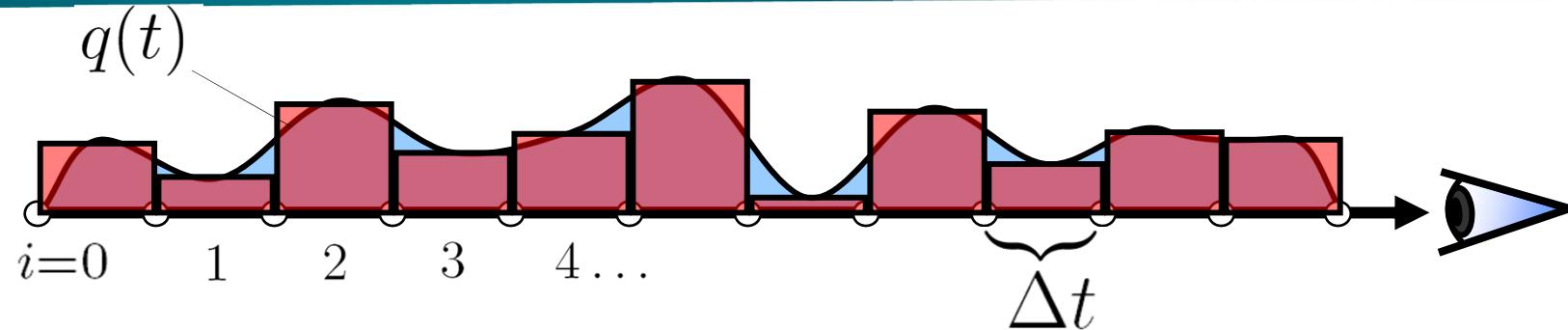
Radiant energy  
observed at position  $i$

Radiant energy  
emitted at position  $i$

Absorption at  
position  $i$

Radiant energy  
observed at position  $i-1$

# Volume Rendering Integral: Numerical Solution



**Back-to-front  
compositing**

$$C'_i = C_i + (1 - A_i)C'_{i-1}$$

Iterate from  $i=0$  (back) to  $i=\max$  (front):  $i$  increases

**Front-to-back  
compositing**

$$C'_i = C'_{i+1} + (1 - A'_{i+1})C_i$$

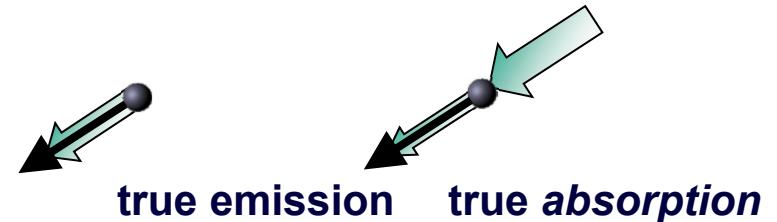
$$A'_i = A'_{i+1} + (1 - A'_{i+1})A_i$$

Iterate from  $i=\max$  (front) to  $i=0$  (back) :  $i$  decreases

# Volume Rendering Integral Summary



Volume rendering integral  
for *Emission Absorption* model



$$I(s) = I(s_0) e^{-\tau(s_0, s)} + \int_{s_0}^s q(\tilde{s}) e^{-\tau(\tilde{s}, s)} d\tilde{s}$$

Numerical solutions:

**Back-to-front compositing**

$$C'_i = C_i + (1 - A_i)C'_{i-1}$$

**Front-to-back compositing**

$$C'_i = C'_{i+1} + (1 - A'_{i+1})C_i$$

$$A'_i = A'_{i+1} + (1 - A'_{i+1})A_i$$



# Opacity Correction

Simple compositing only works as far as the opacity values are correct... and they depend on the sample distance!

$$T_i = e^{- \int_{s_i}^{s_i + \Delta x} \kappa \, ds} \approx e^{-\kappa(s_i) \Delta x} \quad \tilde{T} = T^{\left(\frac{\Delta \tilde{x}}{\Delta x}\right)}$$

Opacity correction formula:

$$A_i = 1 - e^{-\kappa(s_i) \Delta x}$$

$$\tilde{A}_i = 1 - (1 - A_i)^{\left(\frac{\Delta \tilde{x}}{\Delta x}\right)}$$

Beware that usually this is done *for each different scalar value* (every transfer function entry), not actually at spatial positions/intervals *i*



# Associated Colors

Associated (or “opacity-weighted” colors) are often used in compositing equations

Every color is *pre-multiplied* by its corresponding opacity

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{A} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} * \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{G} * \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{B} * \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A} \end{bmatrix}$$

Our compositing equations assume associated colors!

Important:

After opacity-correction, all associated colors must be updated!



# Associated Colors in Volume Rendering

(Standard) emission-absorption optical model

- Only one kind of particle: the same particles that absorb light, emit light
- Aha! Therefore lower absorption means lower emission as well

Light observed from (in front of) segment i:

$$\frac{q_i}{\kappa_i} \left(1 - e^{-\kappa_i \Delta t}\right)$$

$$\lim_{\kappa \rightarrow 0} (1 - e^{-\kappa \Delta t}) / \kappa = \Delta t$$

$$\lim_{\kappa \rightarrow \infty} (1 - e^{-\kappa \Delta t}) / \kappa = 0$$

$$= C_i A_i \quad A_i := 1 - e^{-\kappa_i \Delta t}$$

$$q_i := C_i \kappa_i$$

# Thank you.

Thanks for material

- Helwig Hauser
- Eduard Gröller
- Daniel Weiskopf
- Torsten Möller
- Ronny Peikert
- Philipp Muigg
- Christof Rezk-Salama