



جامعة الملك عبد الله
للعلوم والتقنية
King Abdullah University of
Science and Technology

VCC VISUAL
COMPUTING
CENTER

Computer Graphics CS248

Ray Tracing

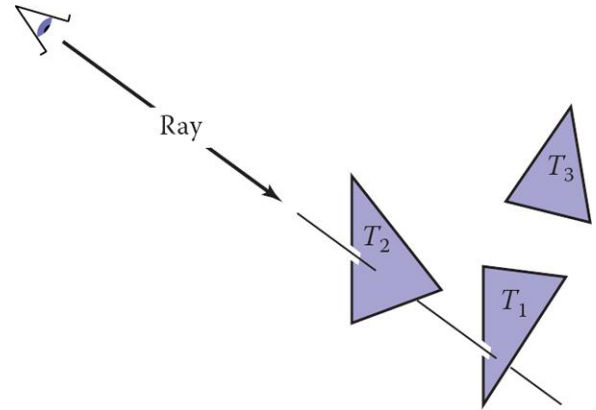
Ivan Viola

NANOVISUALIZATION GROUP

Ray Tracing

- Image-order rendering technique
- Inherently includes: perspective, shadowing, occlusion, reflection, global illumination, ...

```
for each pixel {  
  compute viewing ray  
  for each object {  
    find the intersection  
  }  
  select the closest object  
  (cast secondary rays)  
  perform shading  
}
```



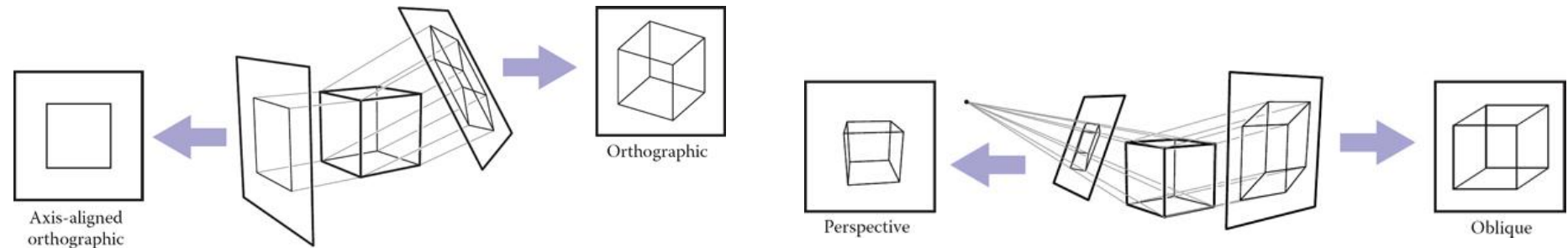
Projection

- Linear perspective
 - 3D object are projected onto an image plane
 - Straight lines in the scene become straight lines in the image



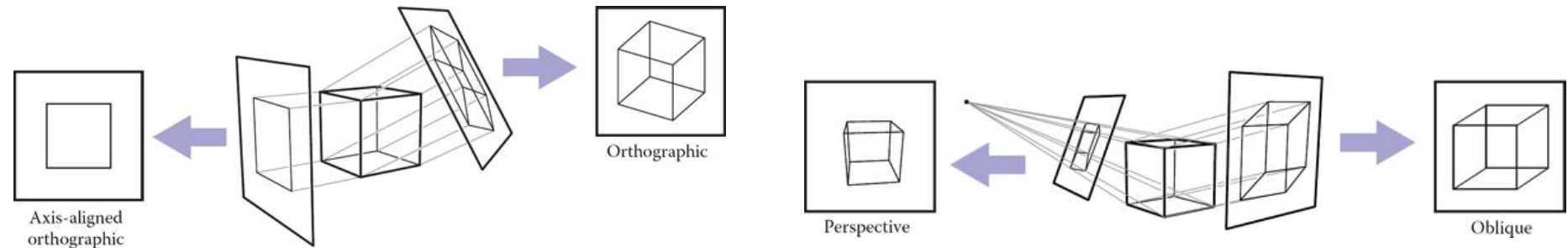
Projection (cont.)

- Parallel projection: viewing rays are parallel lines to each other
- Perspective projection: viewing rays are cast from a shared viewpoint



Projection (cont.)

- Orthographic projection: central viewing ray is parallel to the normal of the viewing plane
- Oblique: otherwise

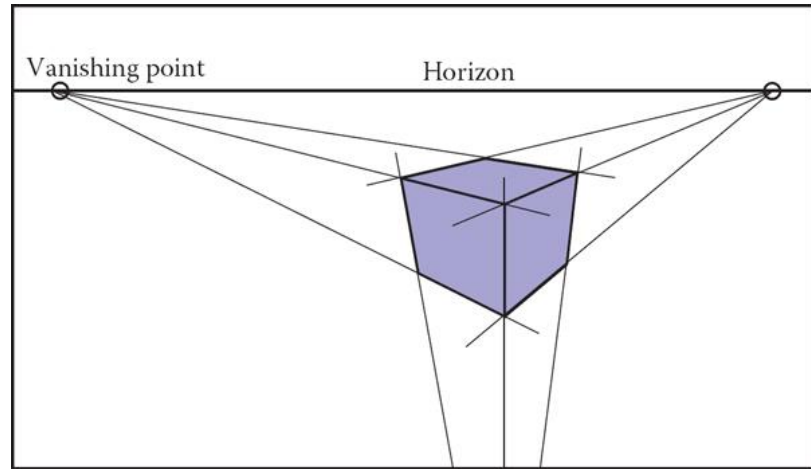


Parallel Projection

- Used in mechanical and architectural blueprints
- Parallel lines in object space correspond to parallel lines in image space
- Preserve the size and shape of planar objects that are parallel to the image plane

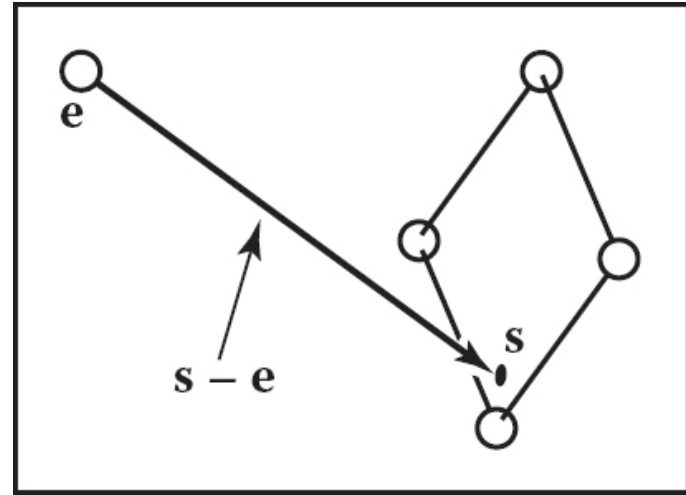
Perspective Projection

- Natural looking imagery, contains depth cues
- Three-point perspective with vanishing points and horizon line
- Vanishing point: where the parallel lines meet



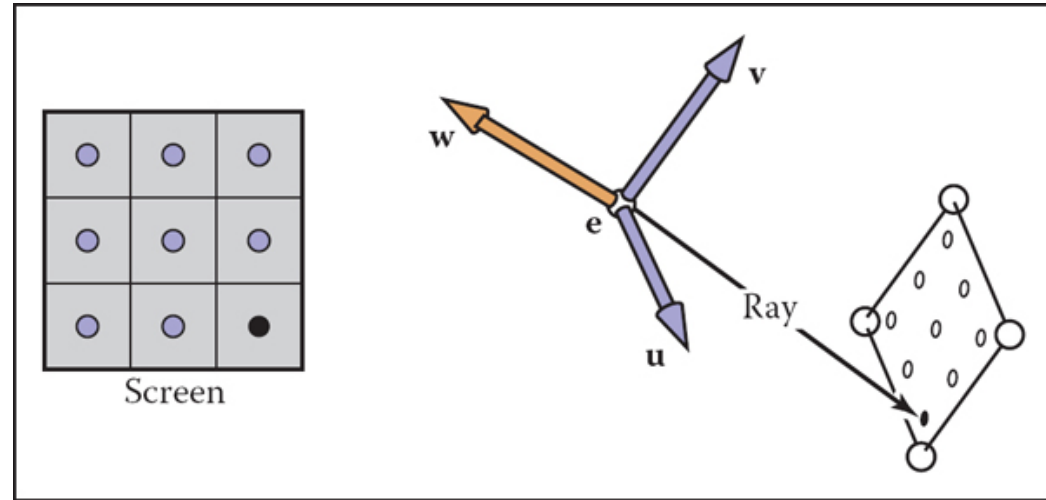
Computing Viewing Ray

- Ray is a parametric line $\mathbf{p}(t) = \mathbf{e} + t(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{e})$
- $t_1 < t_2 \Leftrightarrow |\mathbf{p}(t_1) - \mathbf{e}| < |\mathbf{p}(t_2) - \mathbf{e}|$
- $\mathbf{p}(0) = \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{p}(1) = \mathbf{s}$
- $t \in [0, \infty)$



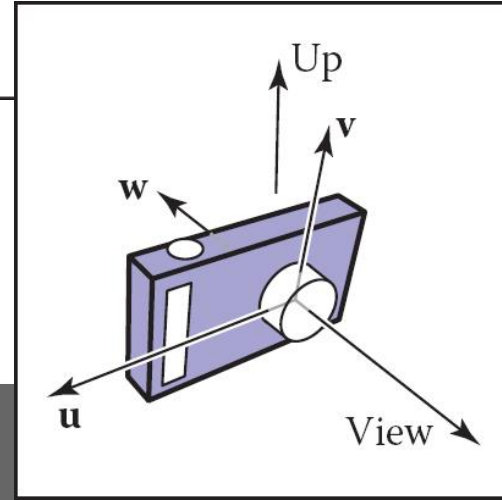
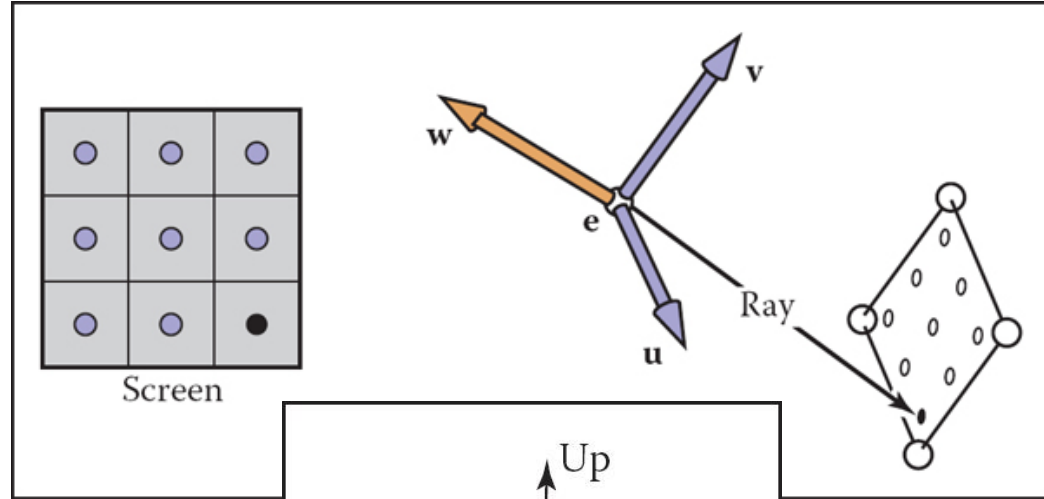
Camera Frame

- Orthonormal coordinate frame
- u, v, w are basis vectors
- Right-handed coordinate system
- y is an *up*-vector



Camera Frame (cont.)

- $w = -view$
- $u = y \times w$
- $v = w \times u$

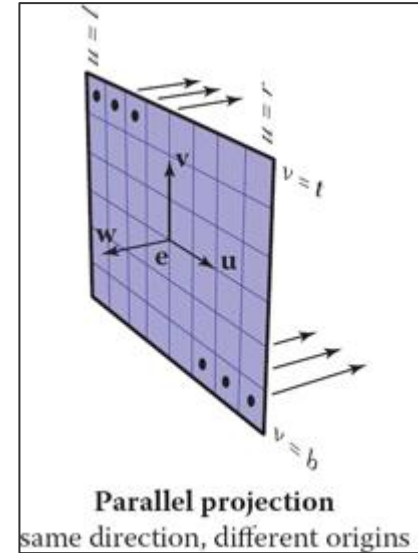


Computing Viewing Ray: Parallel

- Orthographic view direction $-w$ is parallel to the viewing plane, e is viewport center
- Left, right, top, bottom are the edge parameters of the image

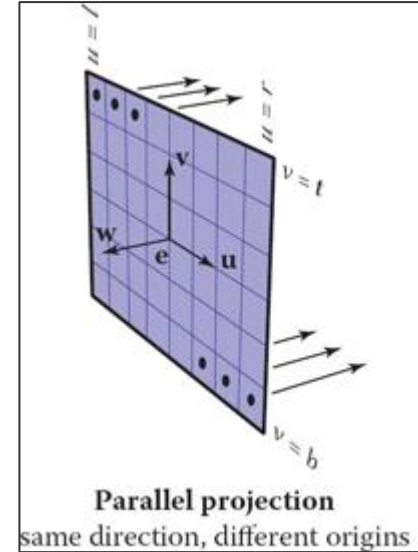
$$l < 0 < r, b < 0 < t$$

$$\text{sometimes } l = -r, b = -t$$



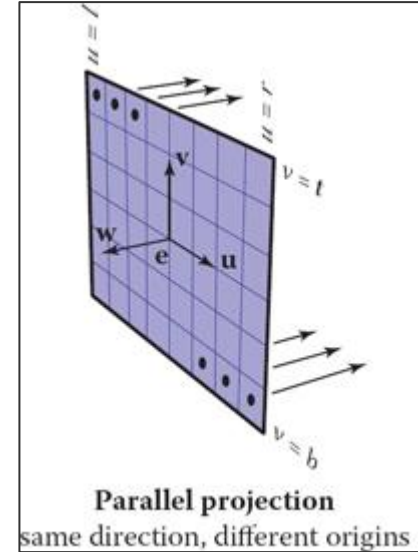
Computing Viewing Ray: Parallel (cont.)

- Image contains $n_x \times n_y$ pixels
- Pixel spacing $s_x = \frac{(r-l)}{n_x}$, $s_y = \frac{(t-b)}{n_y}$
- $u = l + (r - l) \frac{i+0.5}{n_x}$
- $v = b + (t - b) \frac{j+0.5}{n_y}$



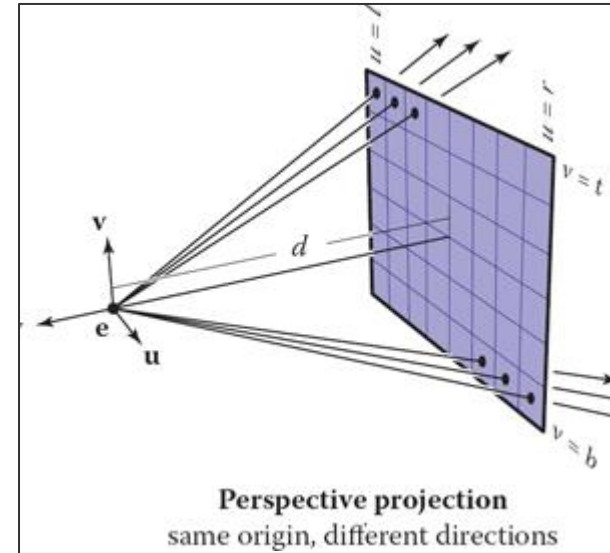
Computing Viewing Ray: Parallel (cont.)

- $r_d = -w$
- $r_o = e + uu + vv$



Computing Viewing Ray: Perspective

- Point e is eye position, distance d is image-plane distance, aka focal length
- u and v computed in the same way as in the parallel proj.
- $\mathbf{r}_d = -d\mathbf{w} + u\mathbf{u} + v\mathbf{v}$
- $\mathbf{r}_o = e$



Ray-Object Intersection: Sphere

- $\mathbf{p}(t) = \mathbf{e} + t\mathbf{d}$, $f(\mathbf{p}) = 0 \rightarrow f(\mathbf{e} + t\mathbf{d}) = 0$
- A sphere is defined through radius R and a center $\mathbf{c} = (x_c, y_c, z_c)$

$$(x - x_c)^2 + (y - y_c)^2 + (z - z_c)^2 - R^2 = 0$$

$$(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{c}) \cdot (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{c}) - R^2 = 0$$

$$(\mathbf{e} + t\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{c}) \cdot (\mathbf{e} + t\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{c}) - R^2 = 0$$

Ray-Object Intersection: Sphere

$$(d \cdot d)t^2 + 2d \cdot (e - c)t + (e - c) \cdot (e - c) - R^2 = 0$$

$$t = \frac{-d \cdot (e - c) \pm \sqrt{(d \cdot (e - c))^2 - (d \cdot d) \cdot ((e - c) \cdot (e - c) - R^2)}}{(d \cdot d)}$$

$$n = \frac{p - c}{R}$$

Ray-Object Intersection: Triangle

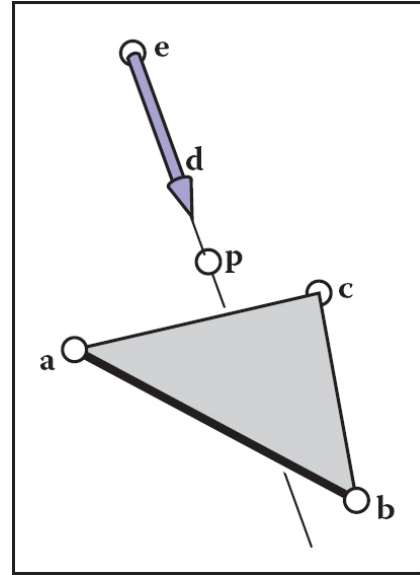
- Intersection of ray with a parametric plane

$$\mathbf{e} + t\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{a} + u\mathbf{u} + v\mathbf{v}$$

- Triangle: $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{a} + \beta(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) + \gamma(\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{a})$

- t, β, γ are unknown values

inside test: $\beta > 0, \gamma > 0, \beta + \gamma < 1$



Ray-Object Intersection: Triangle (cont.)

$$x_e + tx_d = x_a + \beta(x_b - x_a) + \gamma(x_c - x_a)$$

$$y_e + ty_d = y_a + \beta(y_b - y_a) + \gamma(y_c - y_a)$$

$$z_e + tz_d = z_a + \beta(z_b - z_a) + \gamma(z_c - z_a)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_a - x_b & x_a - x_c & x_d \\ y_a - y_b & y_a - y_c & y_d \\ z_a - z_b & z_a - z_c & z_d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta \\ \gamma \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_a - x_e \\ y_a - y_e \\ z_a - z_e \end{bmatrix}$$

Ray-Object Intersection: Triangle (cont.)

Cramer's rule: $x = \frac{D_x}{D}$

$$\beta = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} x_a - x_e & x_a - x_c & x_d \\ y_a - y_e & y_a - y_c & y_d \\ z_a - z_e & z_a - z_c & z_d \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} x_a - x_b & x_a - x_c & x_d \\ y_a - y_b & y_a - y_c & y_d \\ z_a - z_b & z_a - z_c & z_d \end{vmatrix}}$$

Ray-Object Intersection: Triangle (cont.)

```
bool raytri (ray r, vec3 a, vec3 b, vec3 c, int t0, int t1){  
    compute t  
    if (t < t0) or (t > t1) return false  
    compute gamma  
    if (gamma < 0) or (gamma > 1) return false  
    compute beta  
    if (beta < 0) or (beta > 1- gamma) return false  
    return true  
}
```



Ray-Object Intersection: Polygon

Planar polygon defined through vertices $p_1 \dots p_m$

$$(p - p_1) \cdot n = 0, p = e + td$$

$$t = \frac{(p_1 - e) \cdot n}{d \cdot n}$$

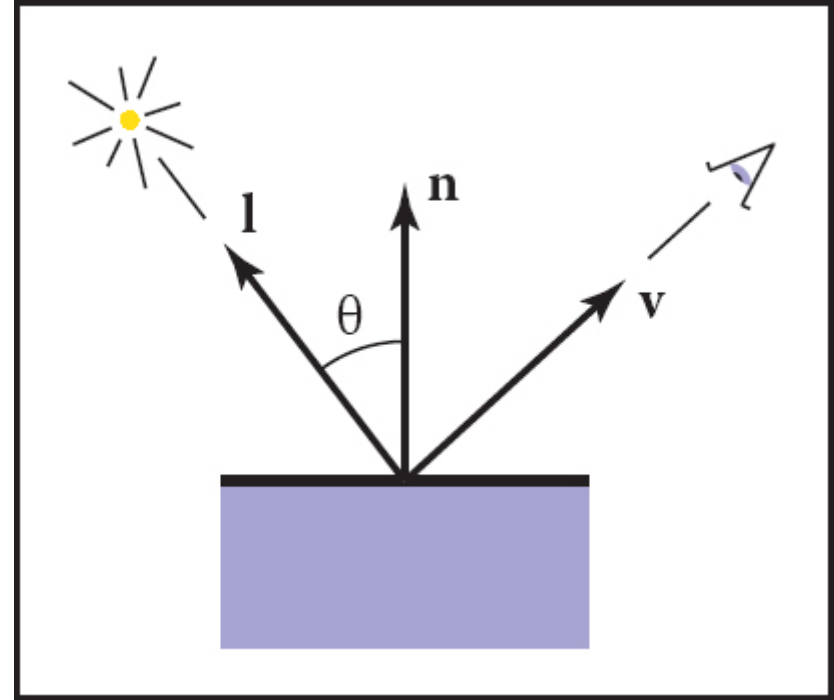
- Project polygon and p onto xy -plane
- Cast ray from p within plane and calculate number of intersections with edges of polygon
- Odd number of intersections, p is inside



Shading: Lambertian Illumination

- Assuming point light
- Proportional to cosine of light \mathbf{l} and normal \mathbf{n} vectors

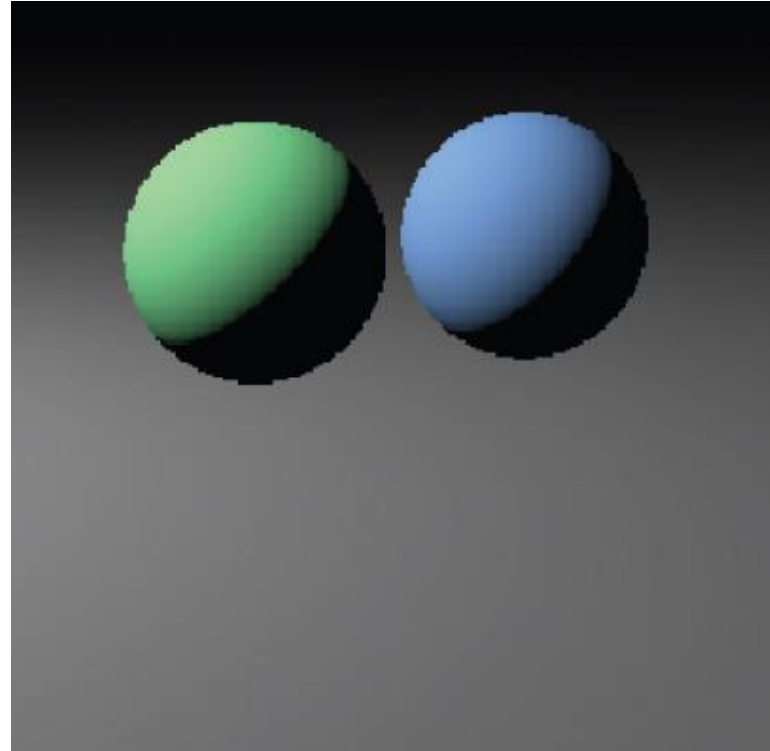
$$L = k_d \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l})$$



Shading: Lambertian Illumination (cont.)

- Assuming point light
- Proportional to cosine of light \mathbf{l} and normal \mathbf{n} vectors

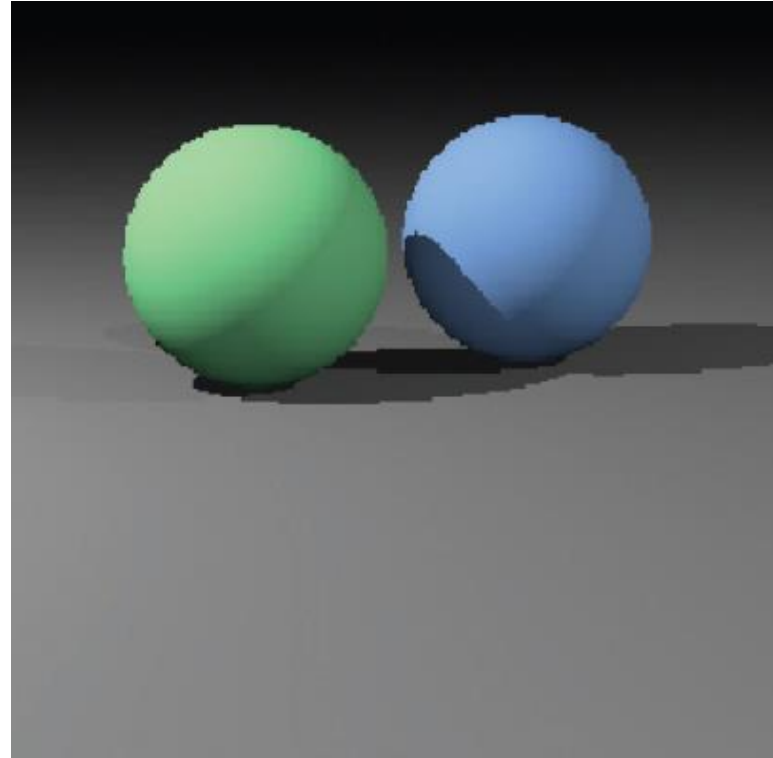
$$L = k_d \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l})$$



Shading: Lambertian Illumination (cont.)

- Assuming point light
- Proportional to cosine of light \mathbf{l} and normal \mathbf{n} vectors

$$L = k_d \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l})$$

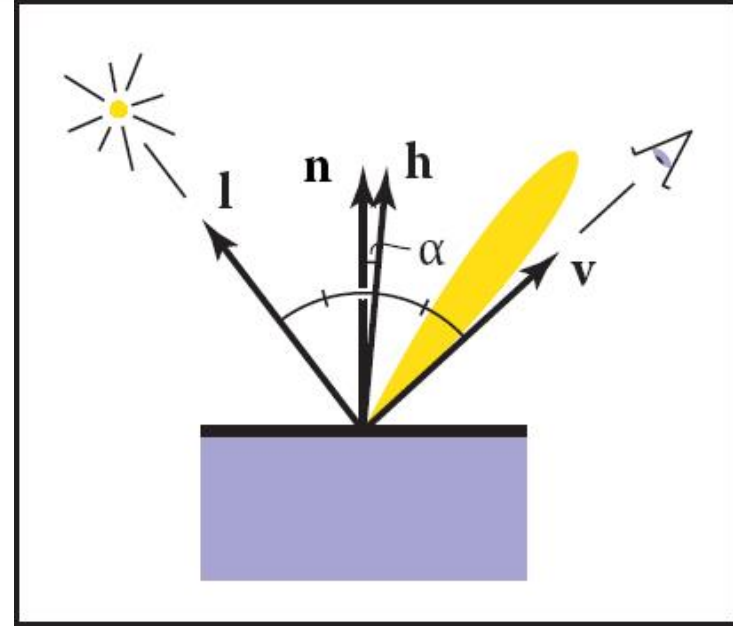


Shading: Blinn-Phong Illumination

- Adding view-dependent specular component
- If view \mathbf{v} and light \mathbf{l} vectors are symmetric wrt. normal \mathbf{n} vectors

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

$$L = k_d \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}) + k_s \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{h})^p$$

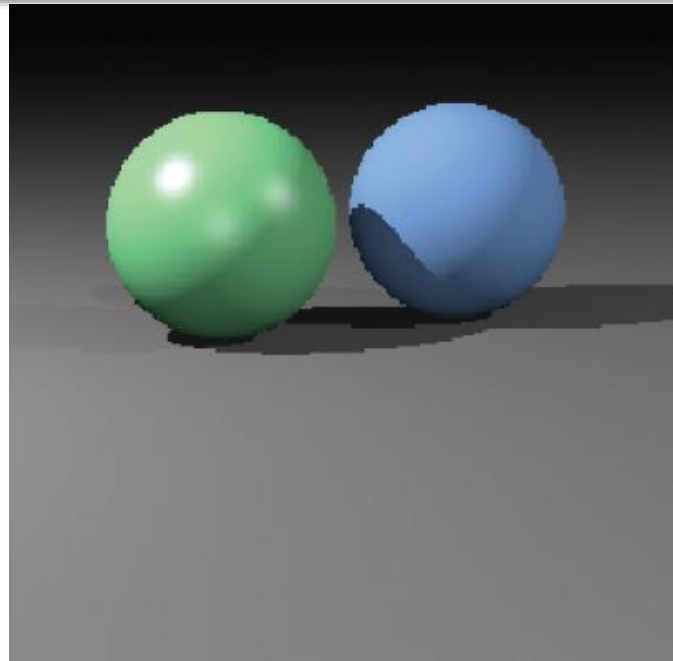


Shading: Blinn-Phong Illumination (cont.)

- Adding view-dependent specular component
- If view \mathbf{v} and light \mathbf{l} vectors are symmetric wrt. normal \mathbf{n} vectors

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

$$L = k_d \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}) + k_s \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{h})^p$$



Shading: Ambient Illumination

- Adding constant minimal illumination from the environment

$$L = k_a \cdot I_a + k_d \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}) + k_s \cdot I \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{h})^p$$

$$k_a + k_d + k_s = 1$$

- Ambient occlusion: I_a illumination dependent on the concavity or convexity of the area near surface point

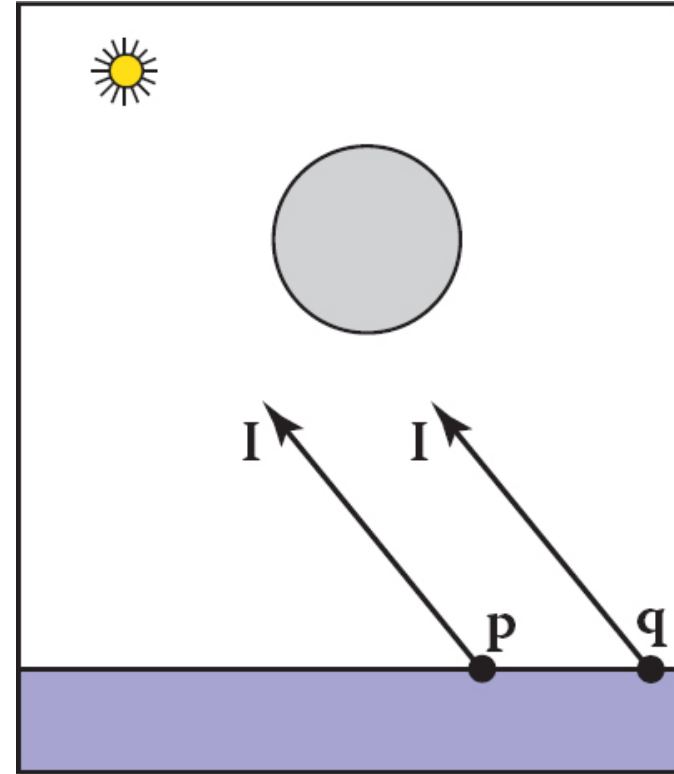
Shading: Multiple Light Sources

- Lights can be superpositioned through their additive property

$$L = k_a \cdot I_a + \sum_{i=1}^N [k_d \cdot I_i \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}_i) + k_s \cdot I_i \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{h}_i)^p]$$

Shadows

- Shadow ray l_i from point p might intersect another surface geometry. If so, point p is in shadow and should not be illuminated by the i -th light source
- Intersection geometry vs. $p + tl_i, t \in [\varepsilon, d_i)$



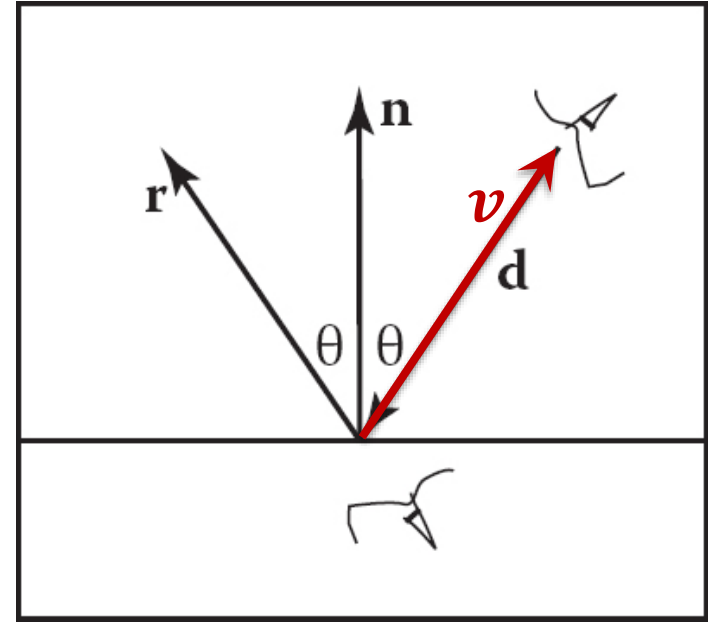
Reflection

- Ideal specular (mirror) reflection casts secondary ray \mathbf{r}

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

- Illumination of surface affected by reflection and illumination of the secondary ray

$$L = L + k_r L_r(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{r})$$



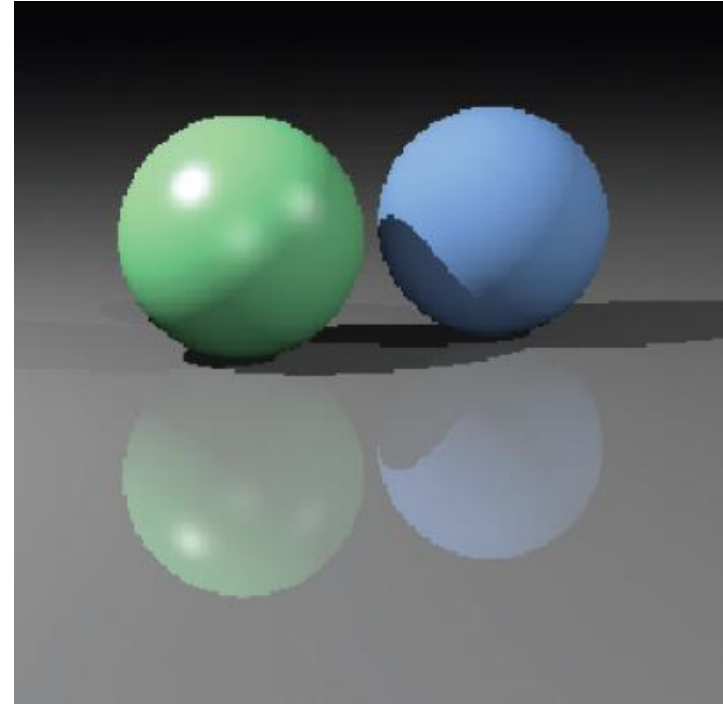
Reflection

- Ideal specular (mirror) reflection casts secondary ray r

$$r = 2(v \cdot n)n - v$$

- Illumination of surface affected by reflection and illumination of the secondary ray

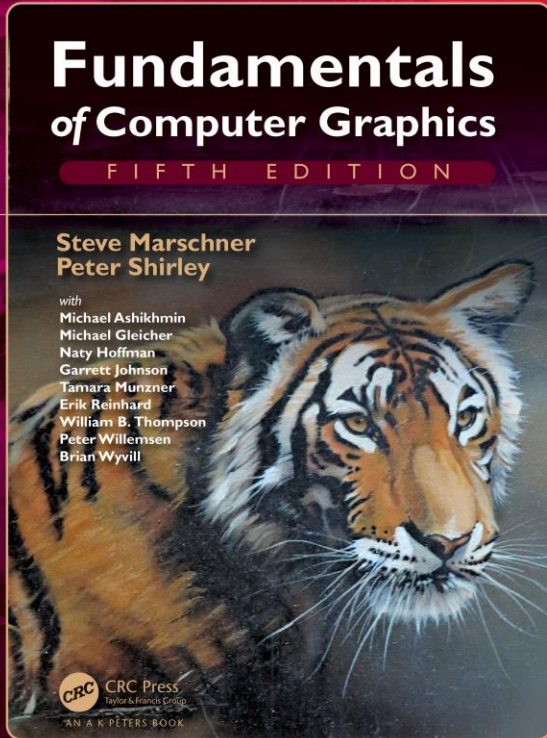
$$L = L + k_r L_r(p, r)$$



Ray Tracing in Hardware



Credits



Fundamentals of Computer Graphics, 5th Edition

by Peter Shirley, Steve Marschner

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<https://learning.oreilly.com/library/view/fundamentals-of-computer/9781000426359/>

