



# 3D Computer Graphics

**Multimedia Techniques & Applications**

**Yu-Ting Wu**

*(with slides borrowed from Prof. Yung-Yu Chuang, Prof. Tzu-Mao Li, and Dr. I-Chao Shen)*

# Outline

- Overview
- Modeling
- Animation
- Rendering
- Film production pipeline
- Ray tracing and rasterization

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- **Overview**
- Modeling
- Animation
- Rendering
- Film production pipeline
- Ray tracing and rasterization

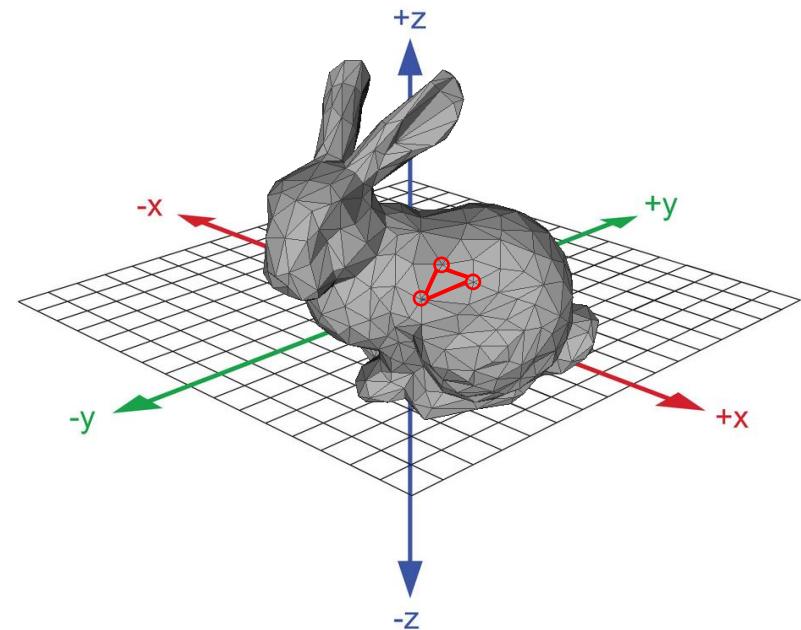
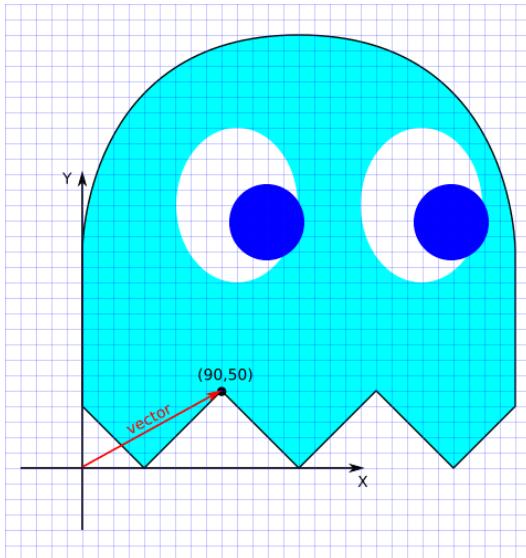
# What is Computer Graphics

- Computer graphics are pictures and films created using computers
- Computer graphics is the process of creation, storage and manipulation of models and images using data structure and algorithms



# From 2D Graphics to 3D Graphics

- We have talked about 2D vector graphics, now we will extend it to the **3D** world



2D coordinate ( $x, y$ )

2D shapes

2D transformation

3D coordinate ( $x, y, z$ )

3D shapes

3D transformation

# What Happened in Previous 20 Years

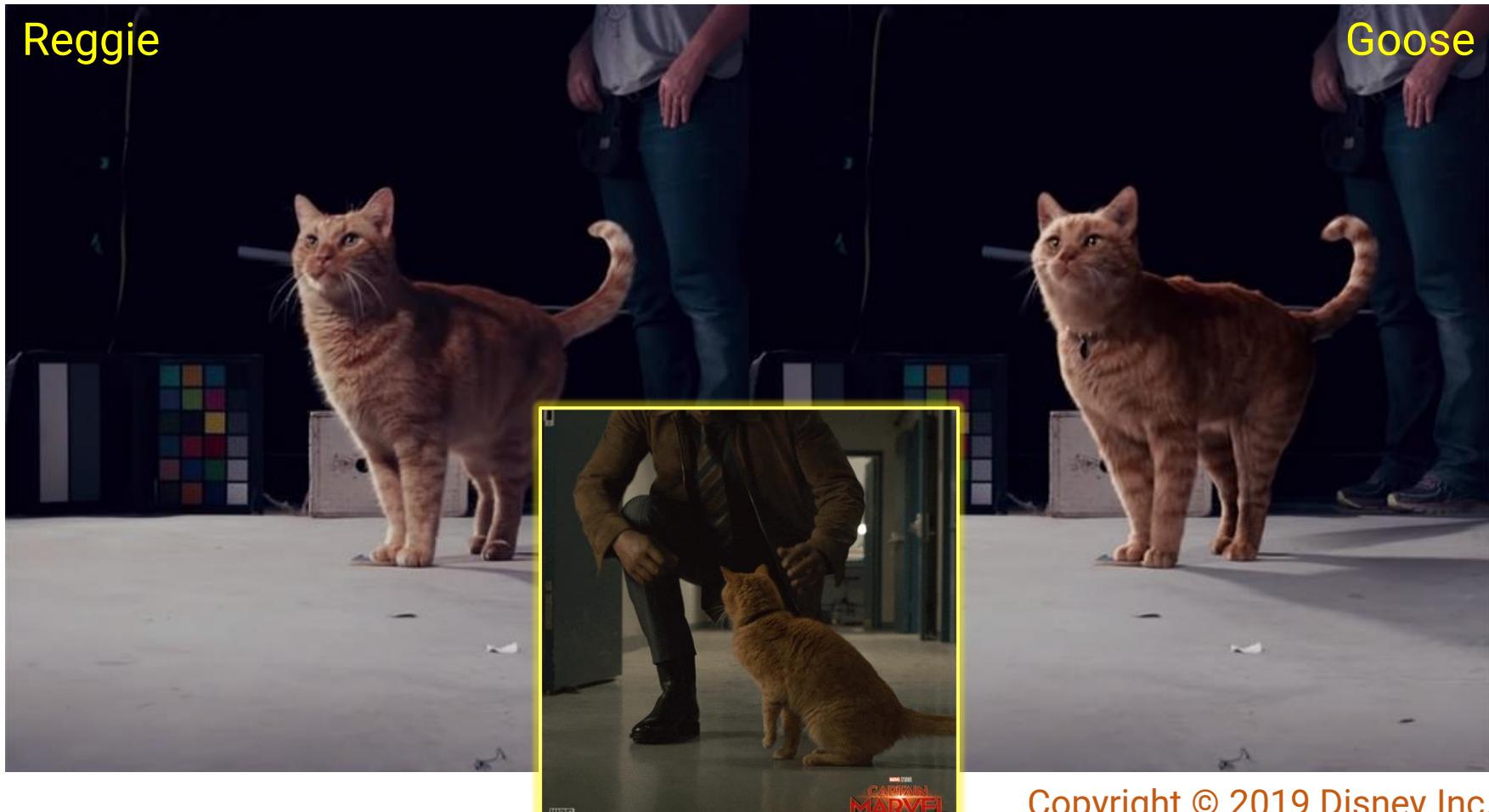


Resident Evil 3 (1999)



Resident Evil 3 Remake (2020)

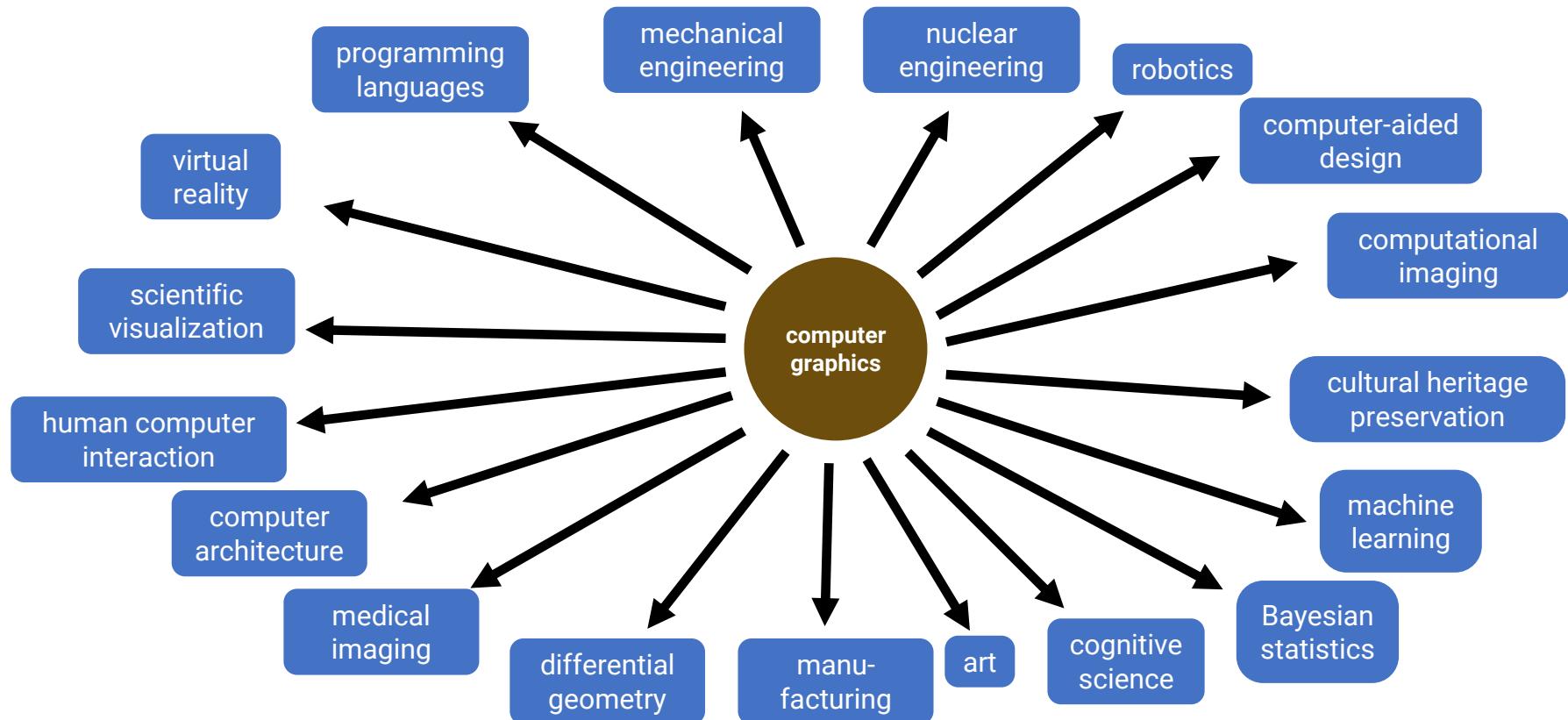
# Which Cat is Real? (Goose or Reggie)



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# Why Computer Graphics is Important

- Graphics push advances in many fields



# Applications of Computer Graphics

- Lighting and architecture design



# Applications of Computer Graphics (cont.)

- Visualization of scientific data and physical simulation



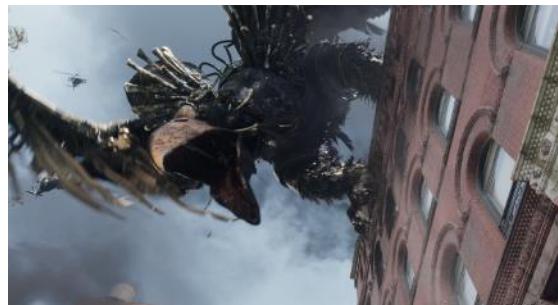
# Applications of Computer Graphics (cont.)

- Games, AR, MR, and VR



# Applications of Computer Graphics (cont.)

- Film production



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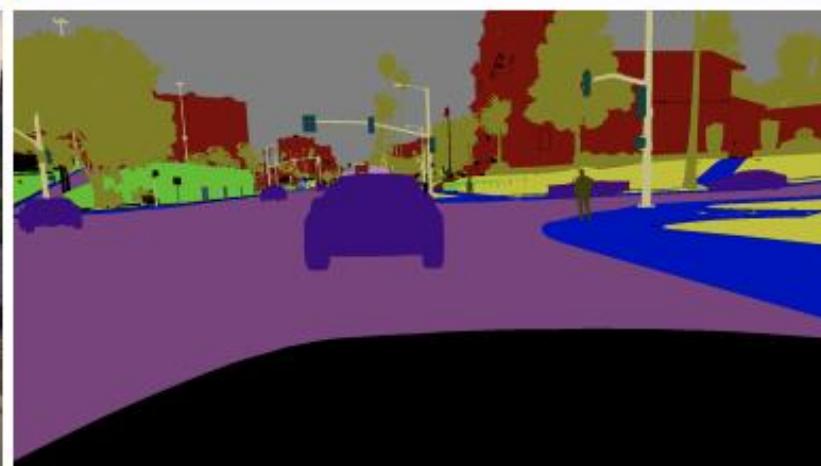
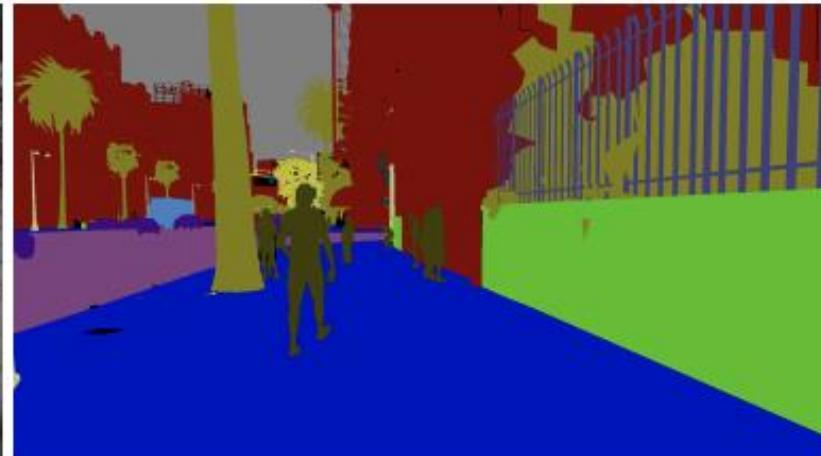
# Applications of Computer Graphics (cont.)

- Film production



# Applications of Computer Graphics (cont.)

- Training data generation for deep learning



# Description of a 3D World

- Define **geometry** of the objects (or scene)



# Description of a 3D World (cont.)

- Model **materials** of the 3D objects and simulate **lighting**



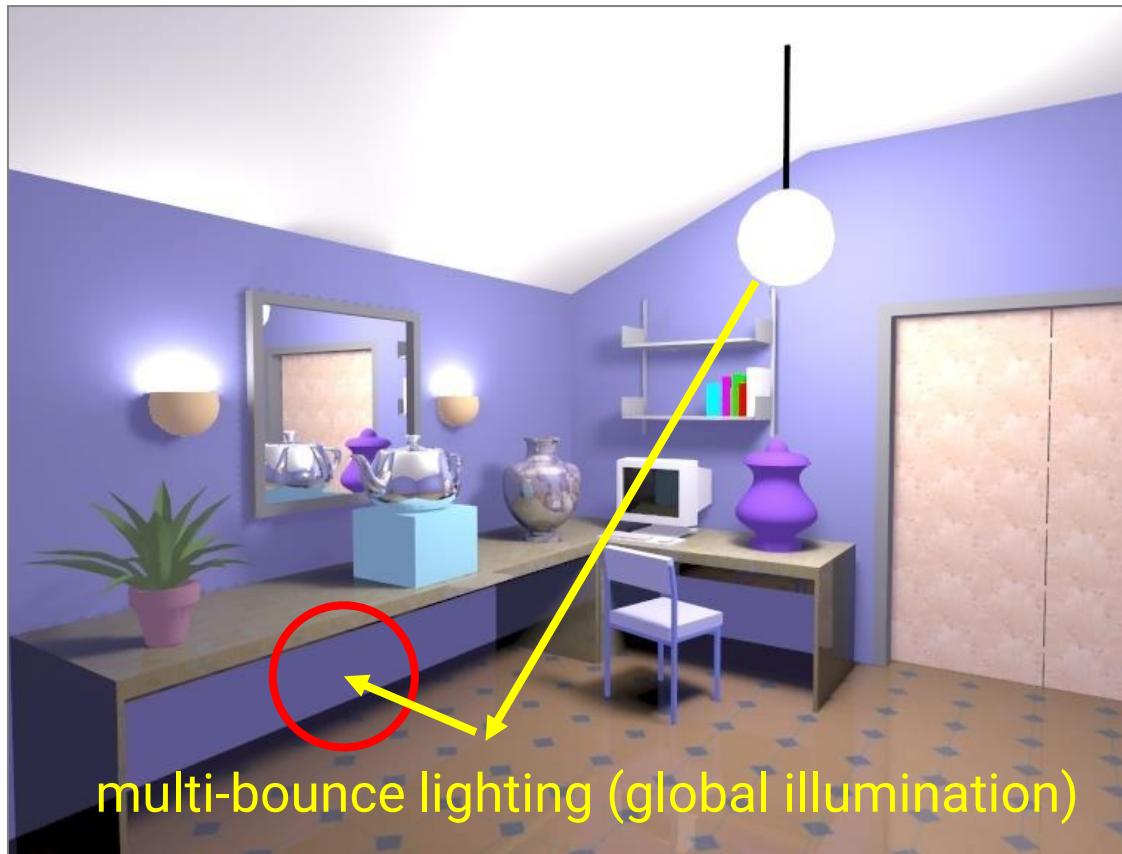
# Description of a 3D World (cont.)

- Simulate more realistic materials and lighting phenomena



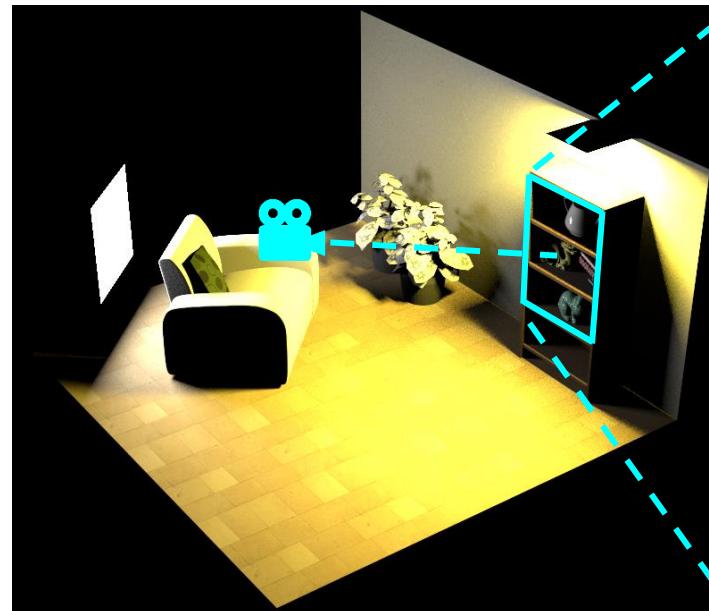
# Description of a 3D World (cont.)

- Simulate more complex **light paths**



# Generate Images from the 3D World

- Most displays are 2D, so we need to generate images from the 3D world
- Just like taking a picture with a camera in our daily lives
  - But with a **virtual camera** and a **virtual film**

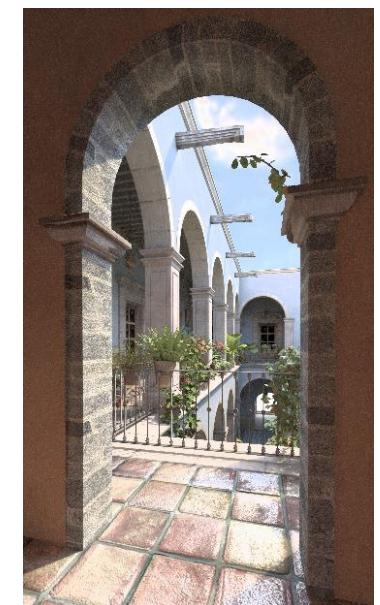
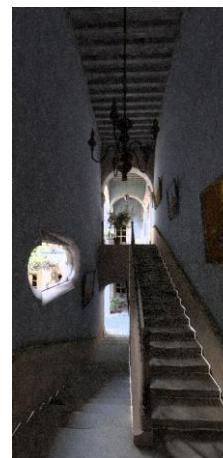
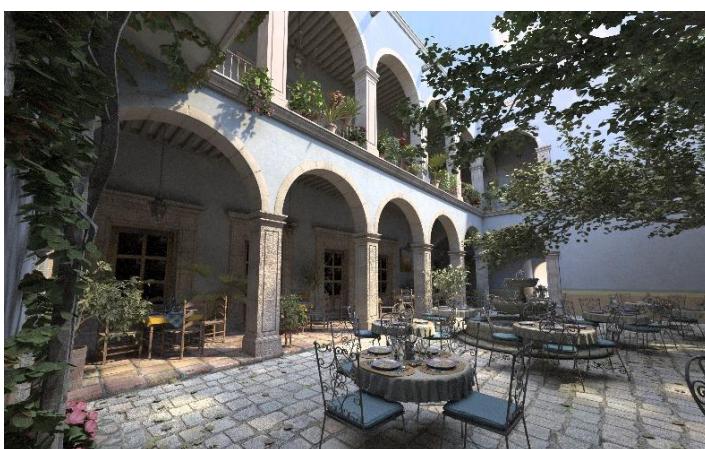


3D virtual world



rendered image

# Generate Images from the 3D World (cont.)



# Are These 3D?



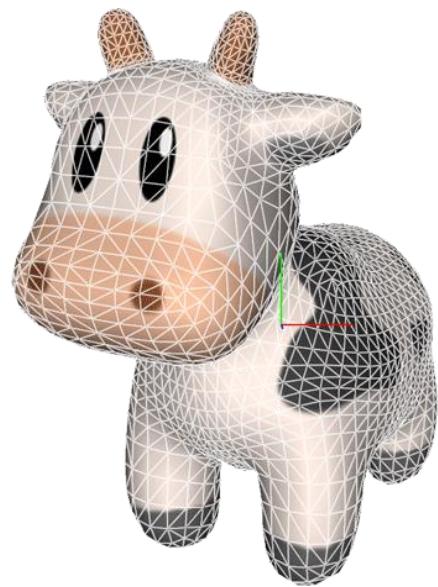
# The Differences between Relevant Fields

- Traditionally we will categorize ***computer graphics***, ***computer vision***, and ***image processing*** by their inputs and outputs:  
**outputs**

inputs	descriptions	images
descriptions		<b><i>computer graphics</i></b>
images	<b><i>computer vision</i></b>	<b><i>Image processing</i></b>

- However, the gaps are much vaguer now!

# Major Subfields of Computer Graphics



**Modeling**  
*How to create and store  
geometry objects*



**Rendering**  
*How to generate images  
of geometry objects*



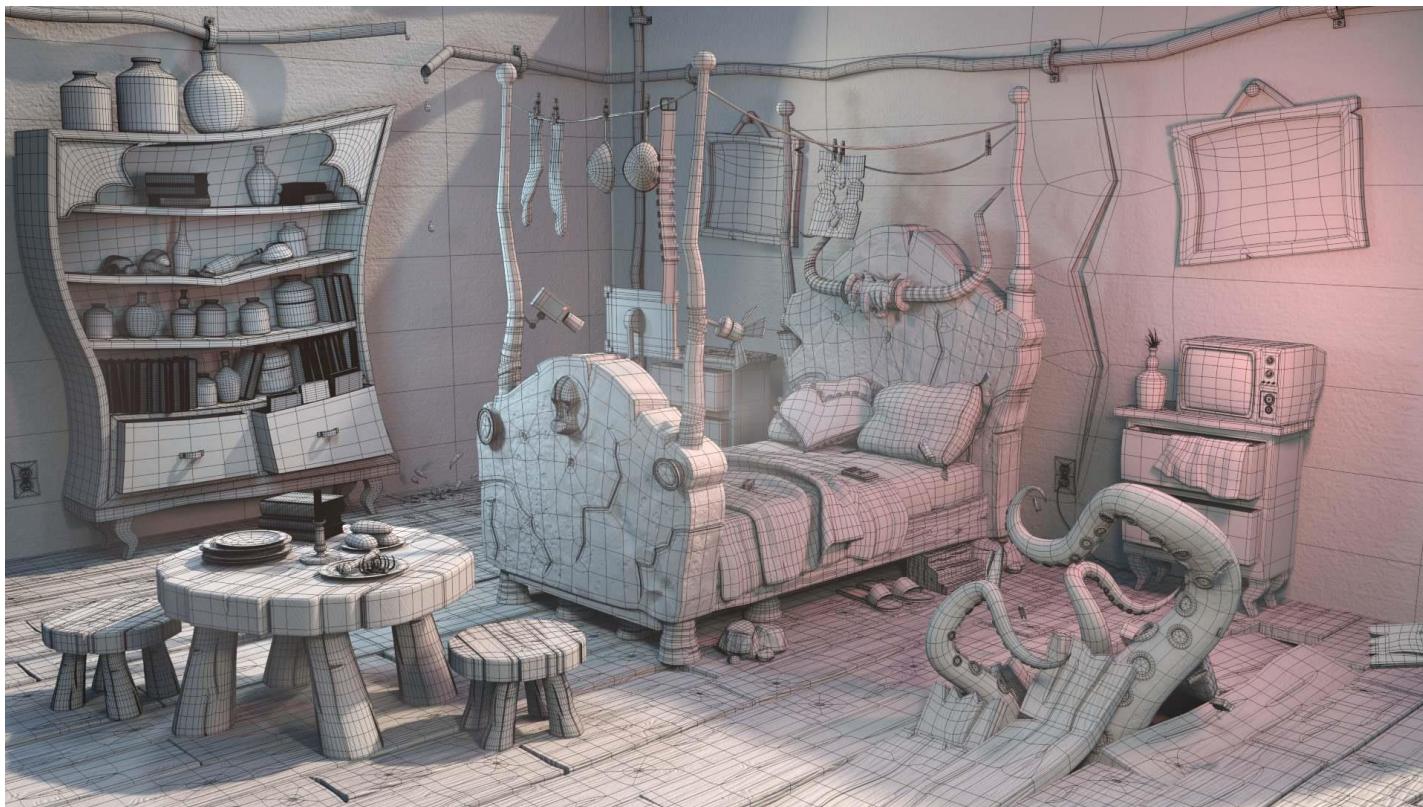
**Animation**  
*How to manipulate  
geometry objects*

# Outline

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- **Modeling**
- Animation
- Rendering
- Film production pipeline
- Ray tracing and rasterization

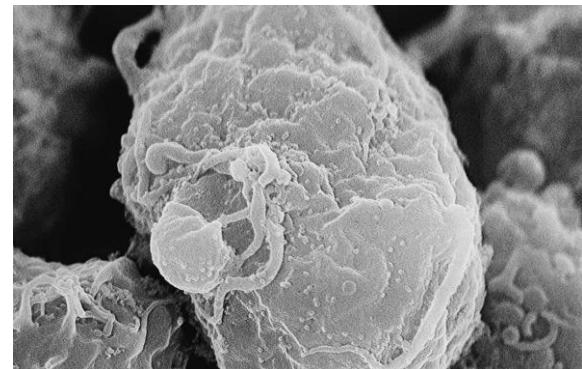
# Modeling

- Build 3D representation of the virtual world
- The process of generating “data” in computer graphics



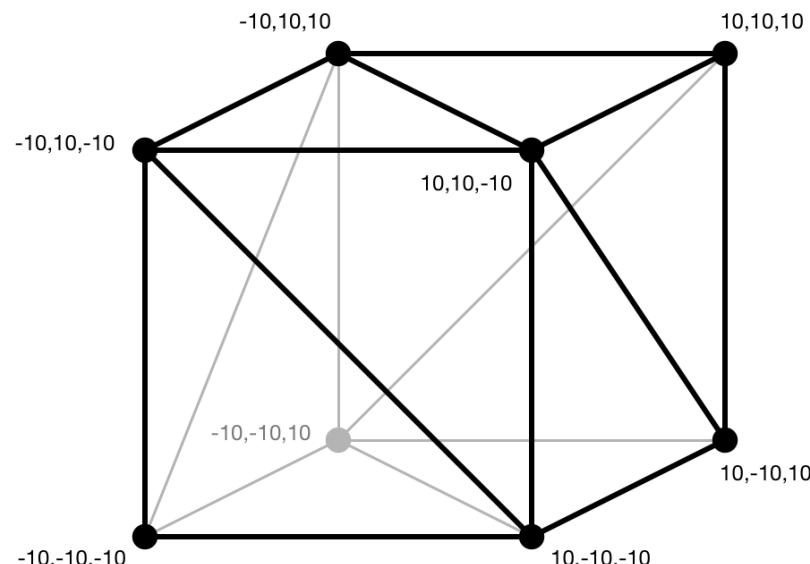
# Modeling (cont.)

- World geometries are diverse!

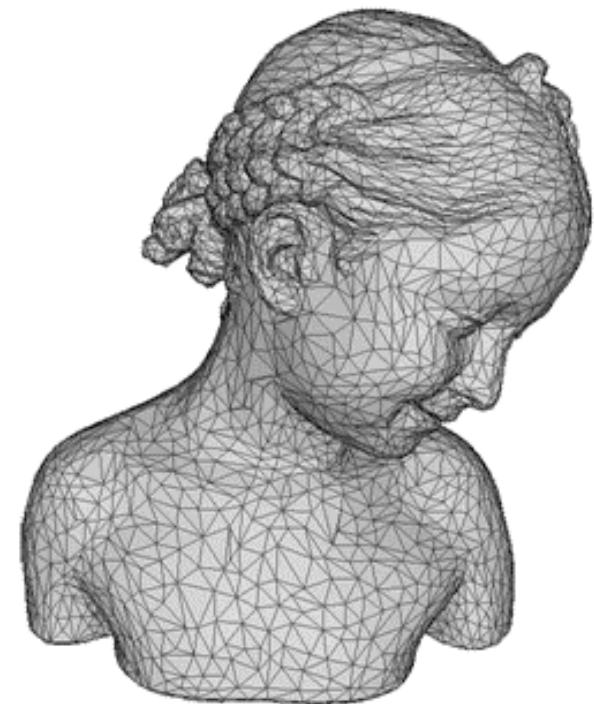


# Triangle Mesh

- The most popular way to represent the 3D geometry



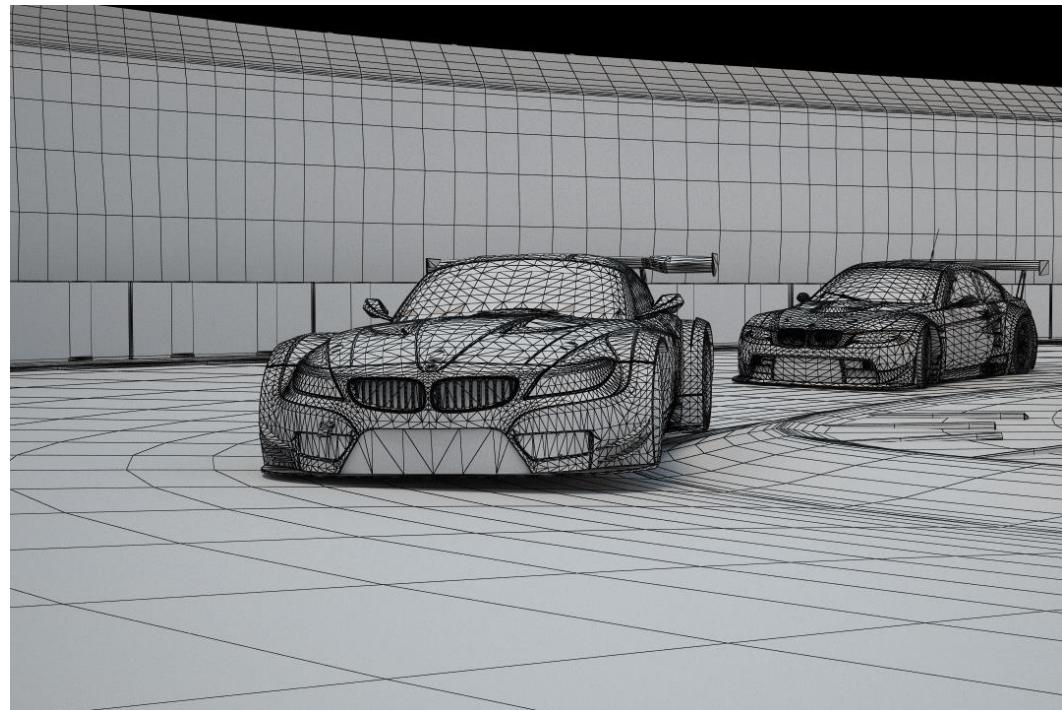
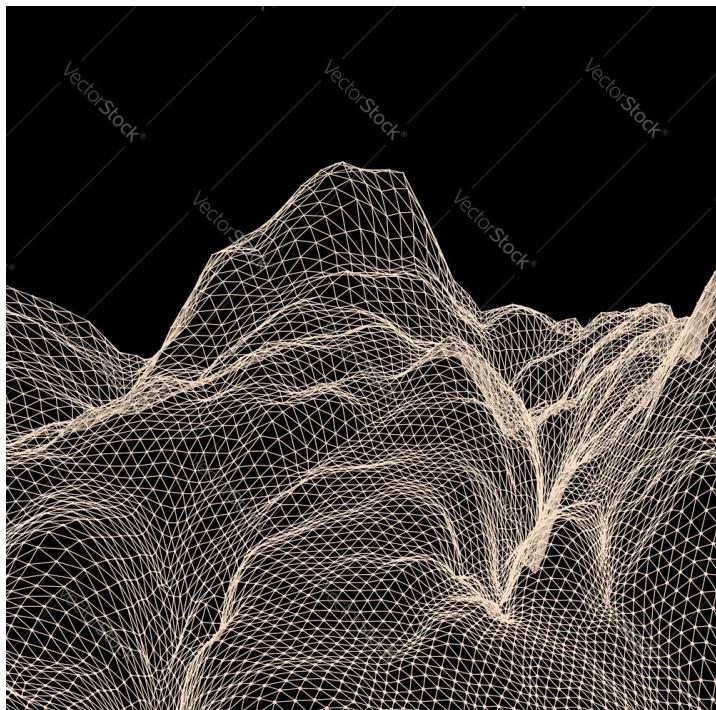
12 triangles



10K triangles

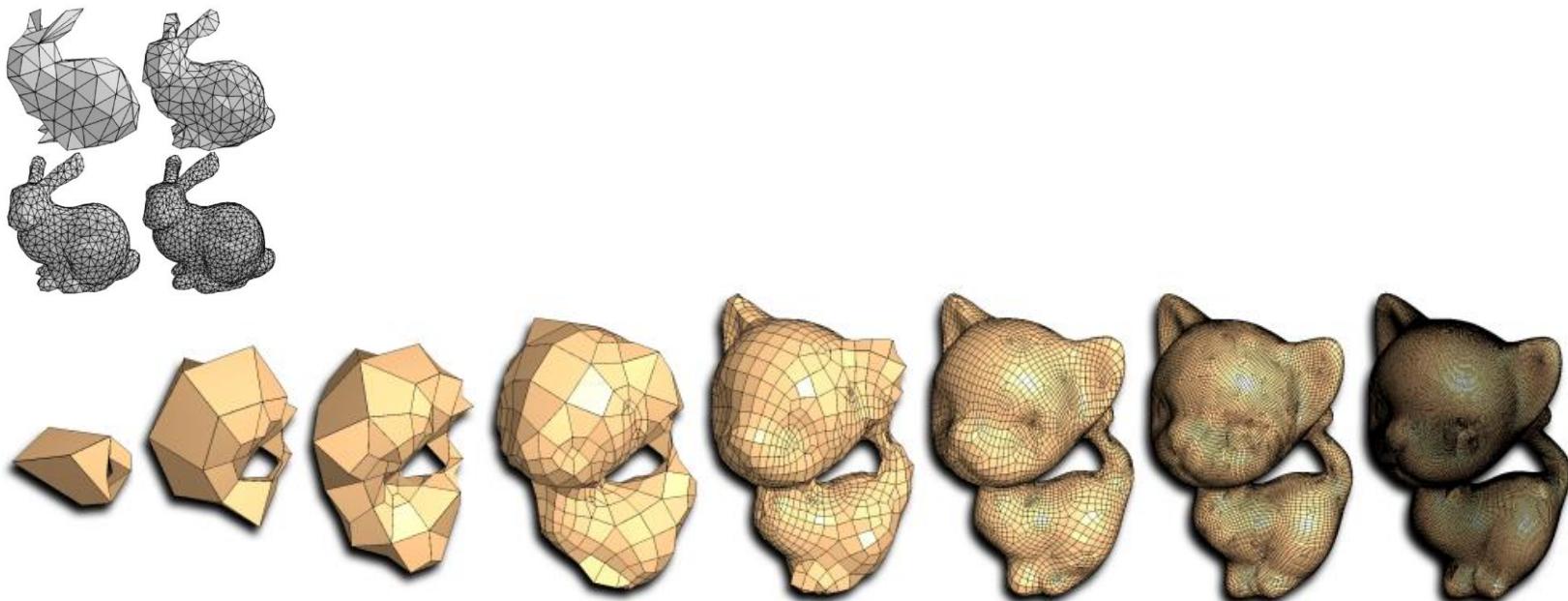
# Triangle Mesh (cont.)

- The most popular way to represent the 3D geometry
  - Most objects can be modeled by triangles
  - **All vertices of a triangle lie on the same plane**



# Triangle Mesh (cont.)

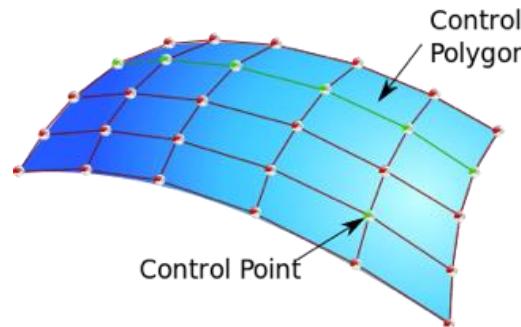
- The most popular way to represent the 3D geometry
  - Most objects can be modeled by triangles
  - All vertices of a triangle lie on the same plane
  - More triangles: more fidelity but also more expensive!



# Other Geometry Representation



curves



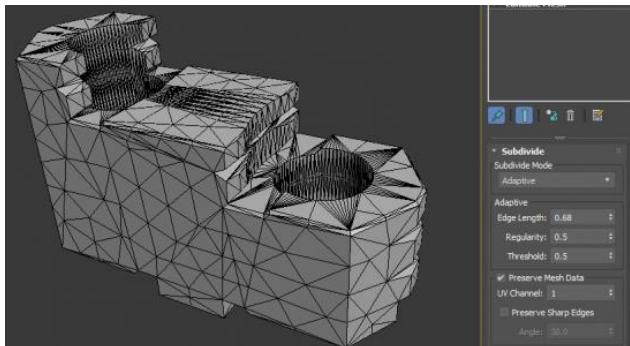
patches



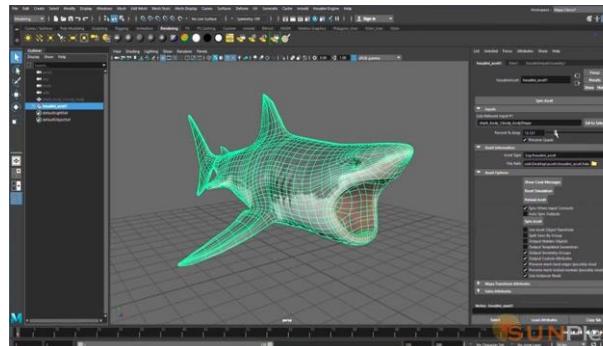
volume data

# Obtain 3D Models

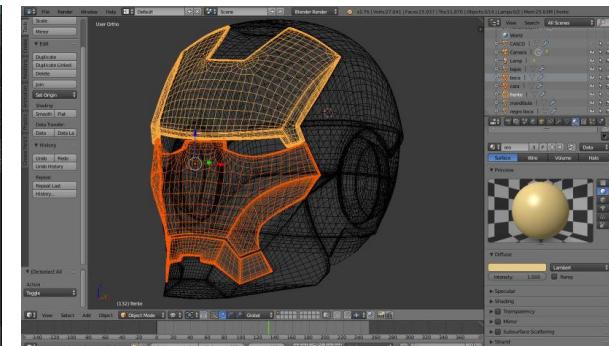
- 3D models are usually obtained by professional manipulations in 3D modeling tools
- Popular 3D editing software



 Blender



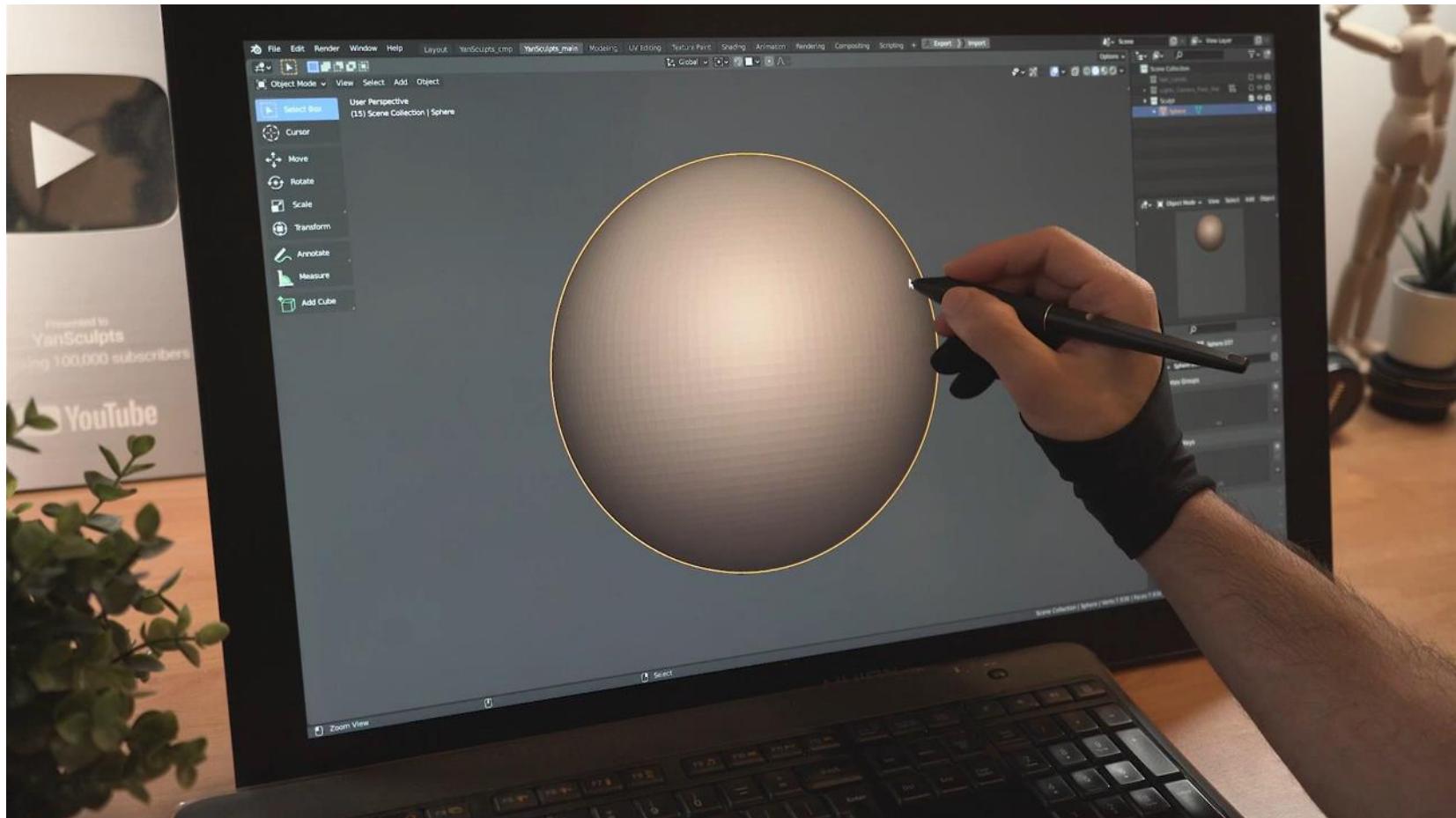
 Maya



 AUTODESK  
3DS MAX

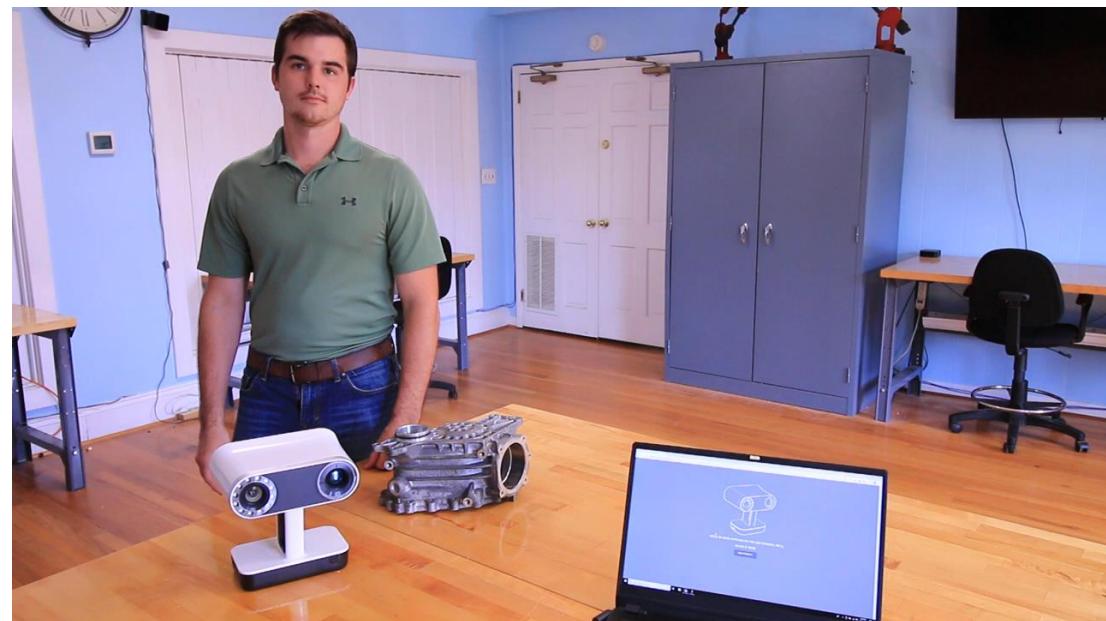
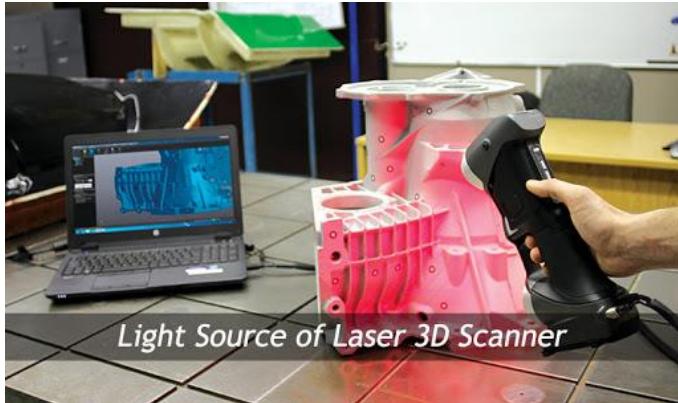
# Obtain 3D Models (cont.)

- Example: create a 3D character model in Blender [[Link](#)]



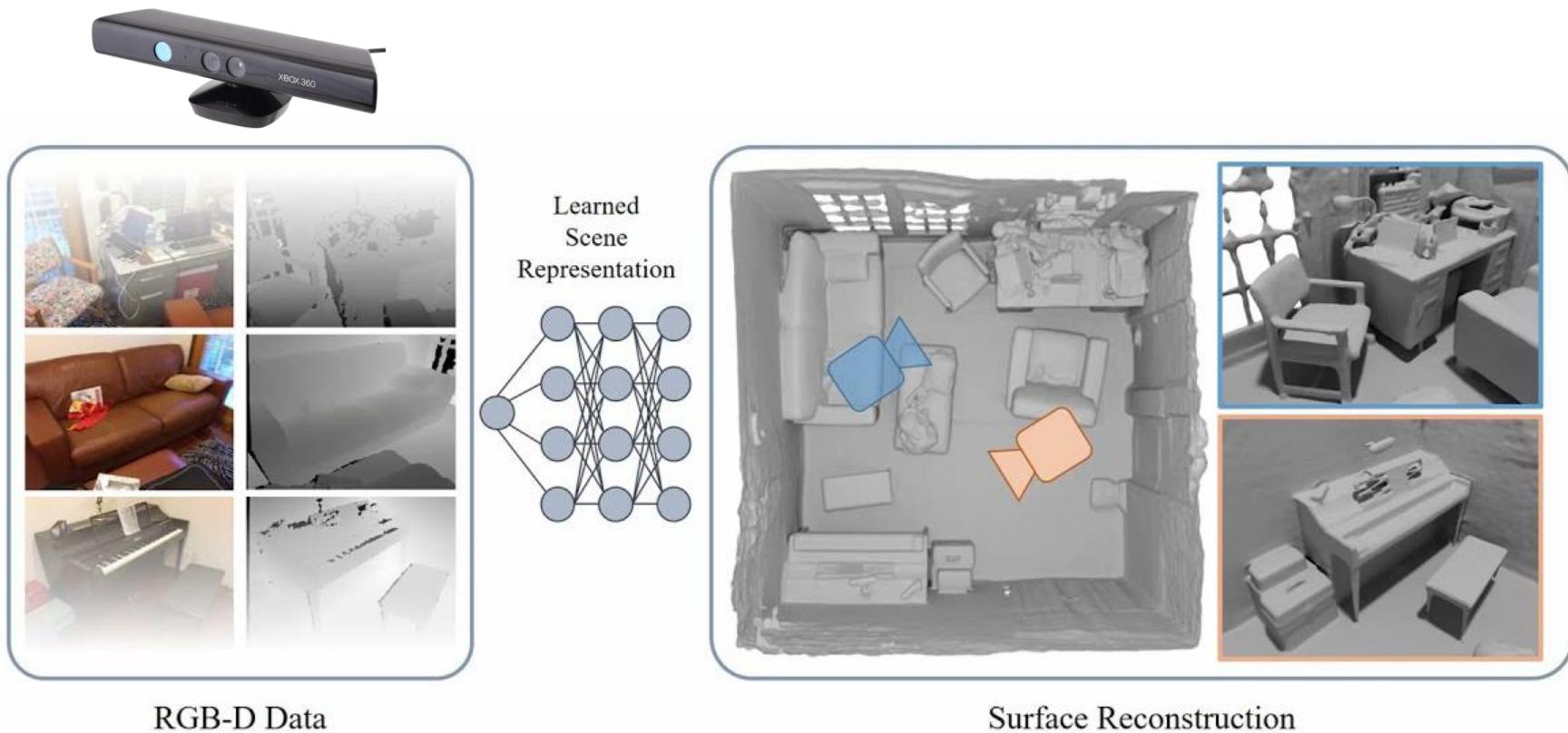
# Obtain 3D Models (cont.)

- Alternative: capture the real-world geometries with special hardware devices (cameras)



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- Alternative: capture the real-world geometries with special hardware devices (cameras)

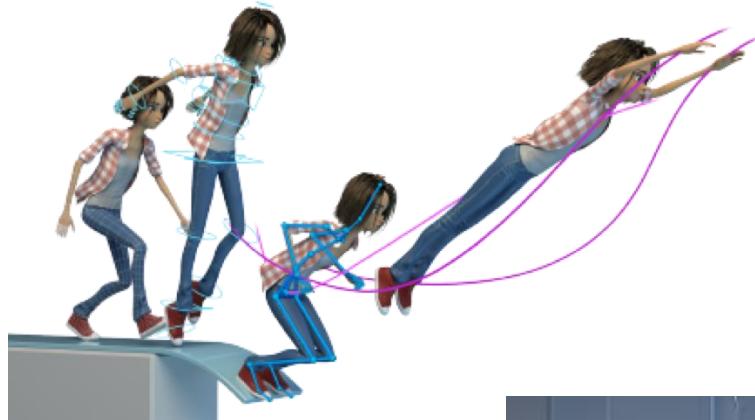


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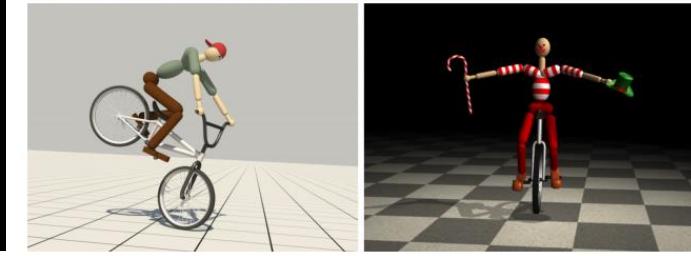
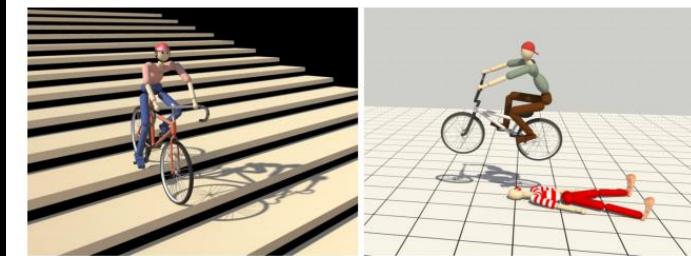
# Animation

- How do the geometry change / move over time

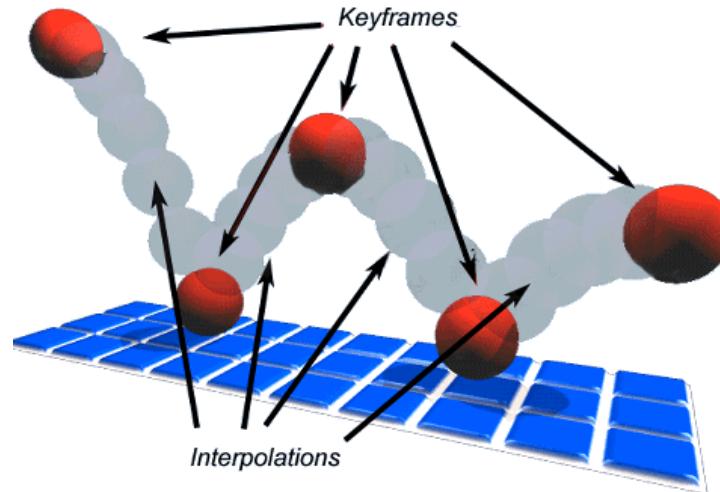


# Physically-Based Animation

T-shirt Dressing



# Making Animation: Keyframe Animation



The screenshot shows a 3D animation software interface. The top bar includes "Animation" and "Scene" tabs. The "Animation" tab has a preview window, playback controls, and a timeline from 0 to 1 second. The "Curves" editor displays a green curve for the "Position.y" property of a "Cube" object, with keyframes at approximately 0.0477, 0.2, and -0.0477. The "Scene" tab shows a 3D perspective view ("Persp") with a green cube and a camera icon. The left panel lists properties for the cube: Position.x, Position.y, Position.z, Rotation, and Scale. Buttons for "Add Property" and "Dopesheet" are also present.

# Making Animation: Keyframe Animation

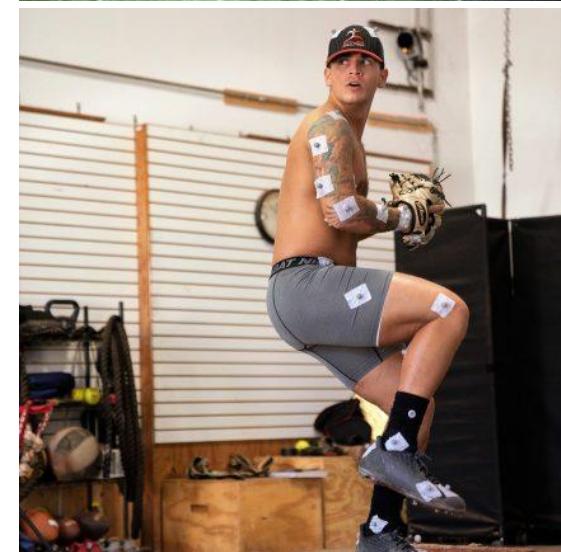
- 1 Minute example:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjJLiuFKA20>



# Capturing Motion

- Motion capture



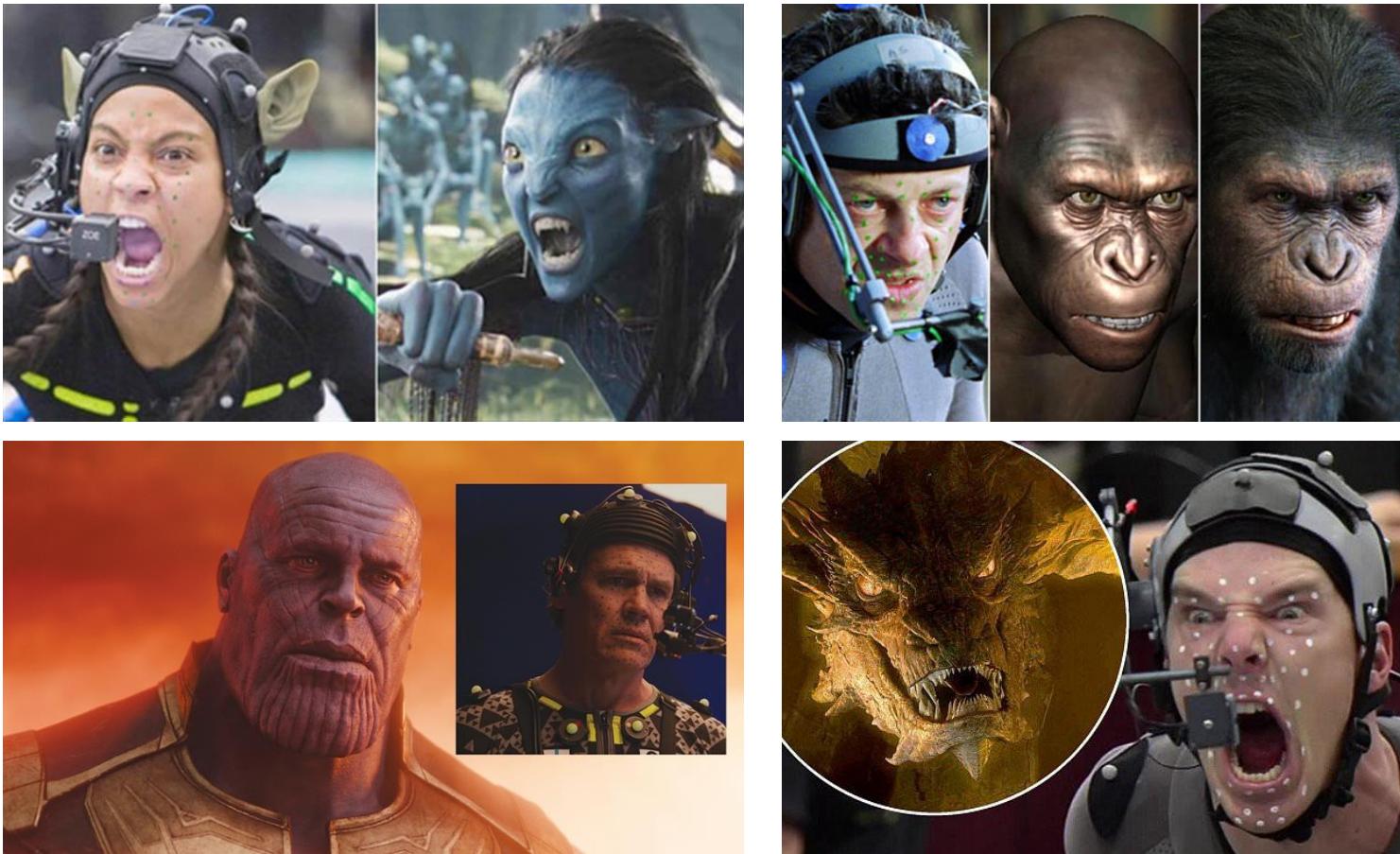
# Motion Capture (cont.)

- Example: motion capture in game production



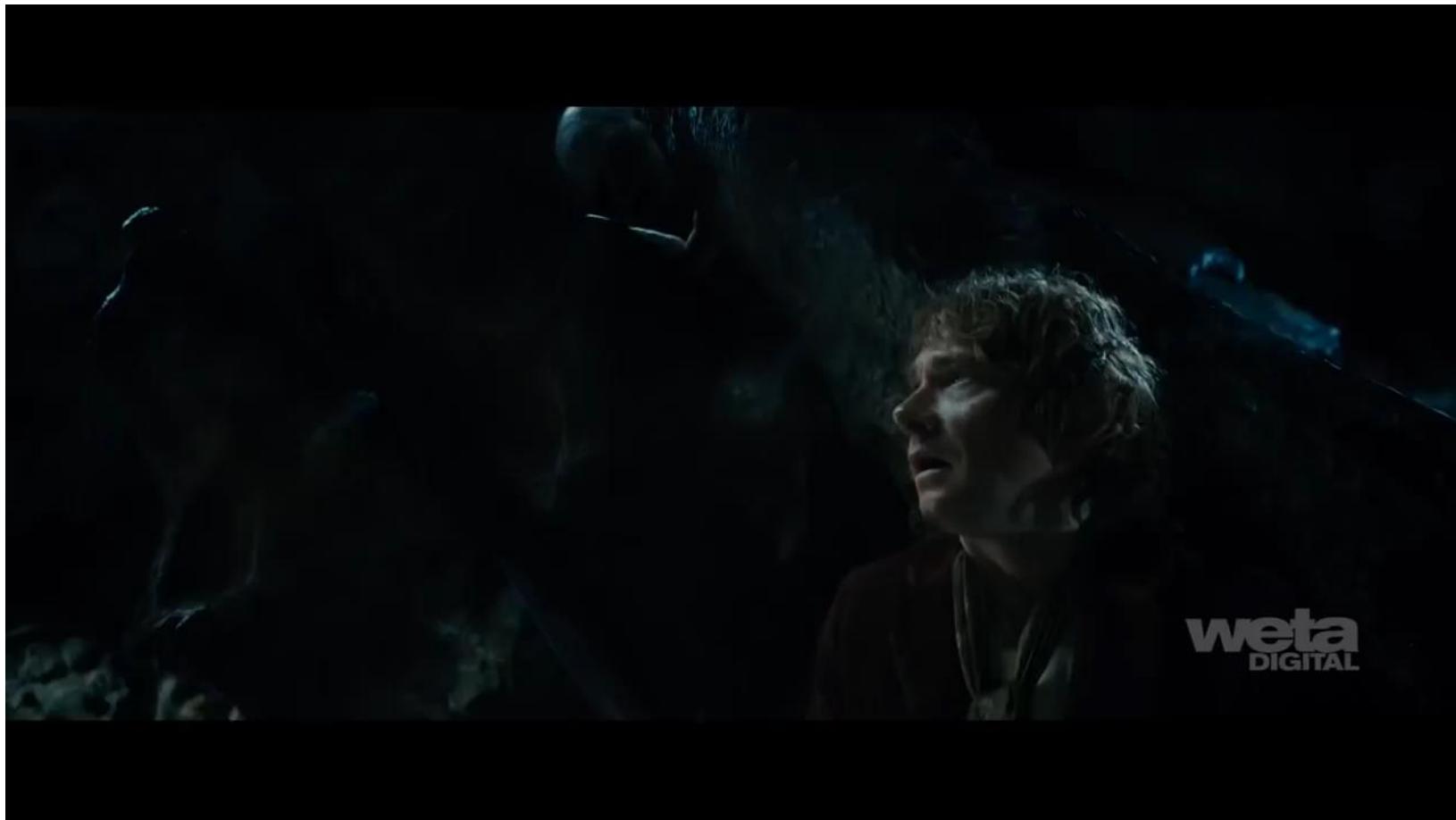
# Facial Animation Capture

- Facial capture



# Facial Animation Capture (cont.)

- Example: facial capture in movie production

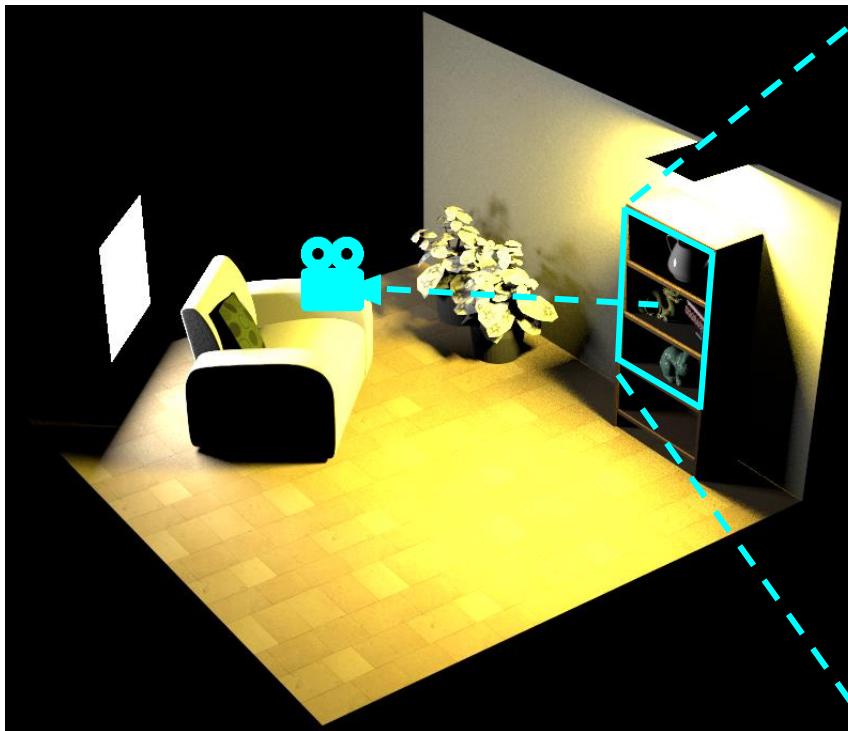


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# Rendering

- How do we model appearance and perceive things



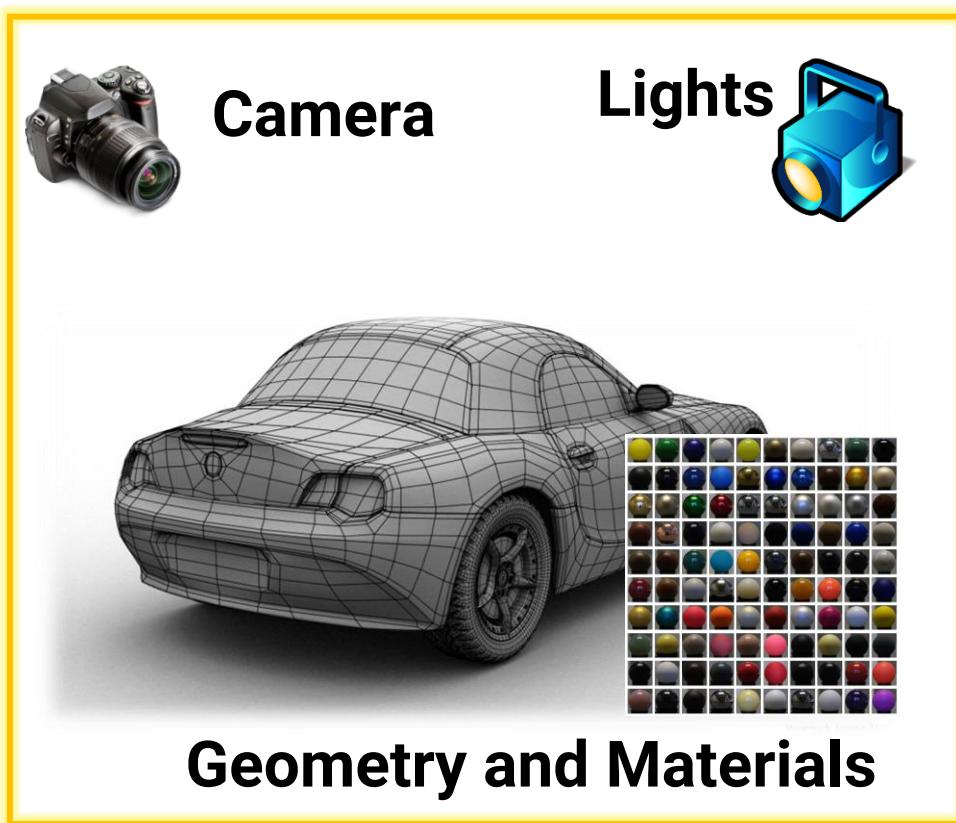
3D virtual world



rendered image

# Rendering (cont.)

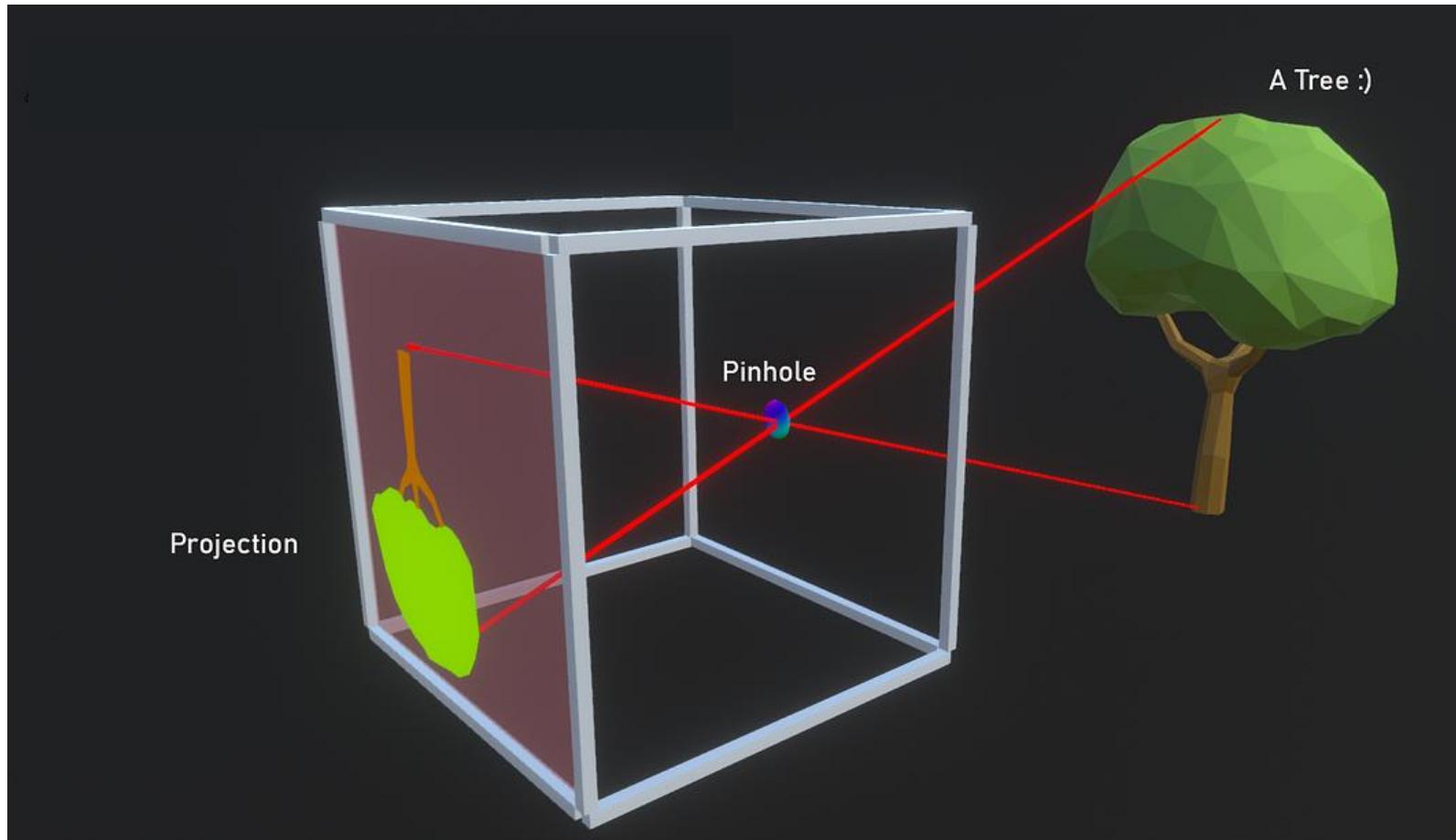
- Generate a 2D image from a 3D world description



output: 2D synthetic image

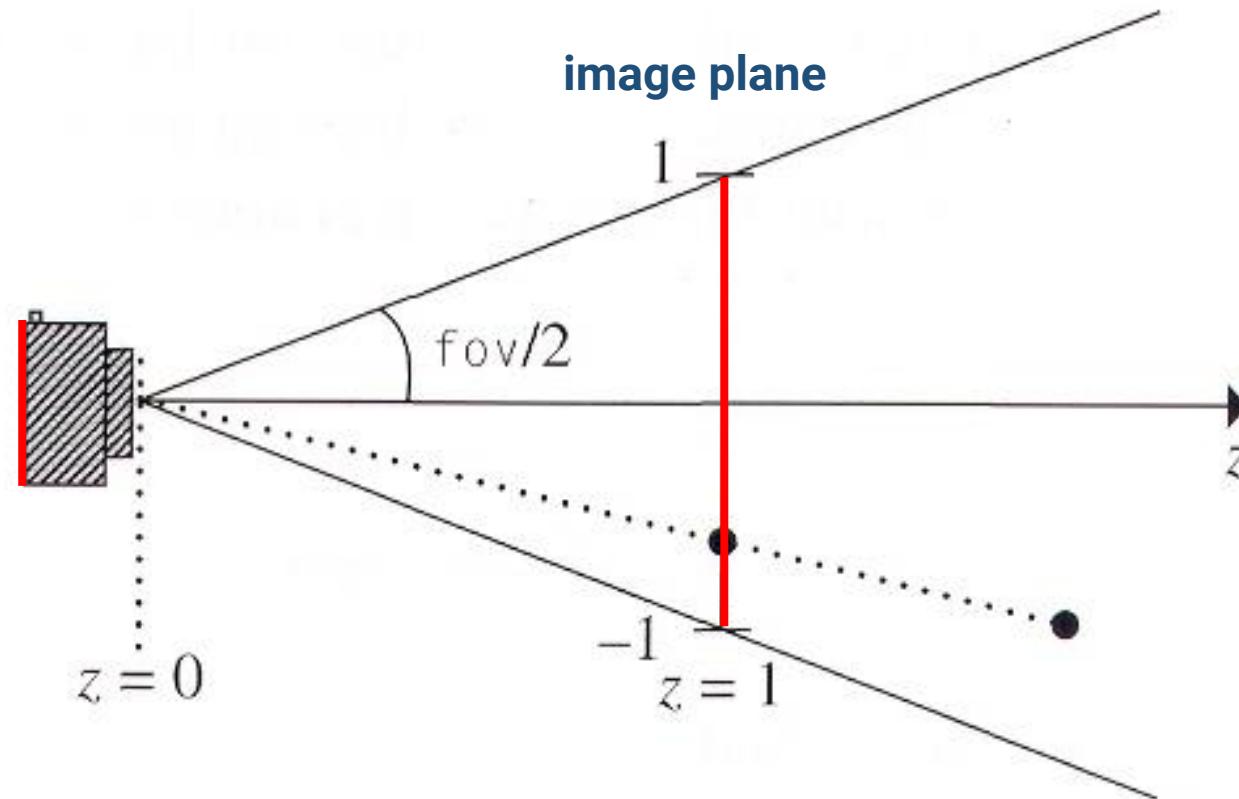
# Rendering (cont.)

- Rendering with **perspective pinhole camera**



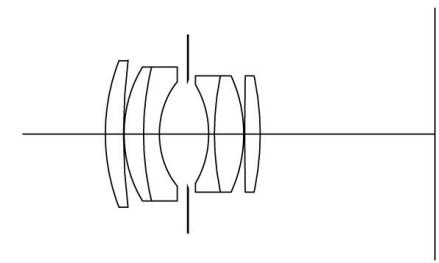
# Rendering (cont.)

- **Perspective pinhole camera** in graphics
  - The image plane is put in front of the pinhole to avoid an up-side-down image



# Rendering (cont.)

- Lens camera for simulating depth of field



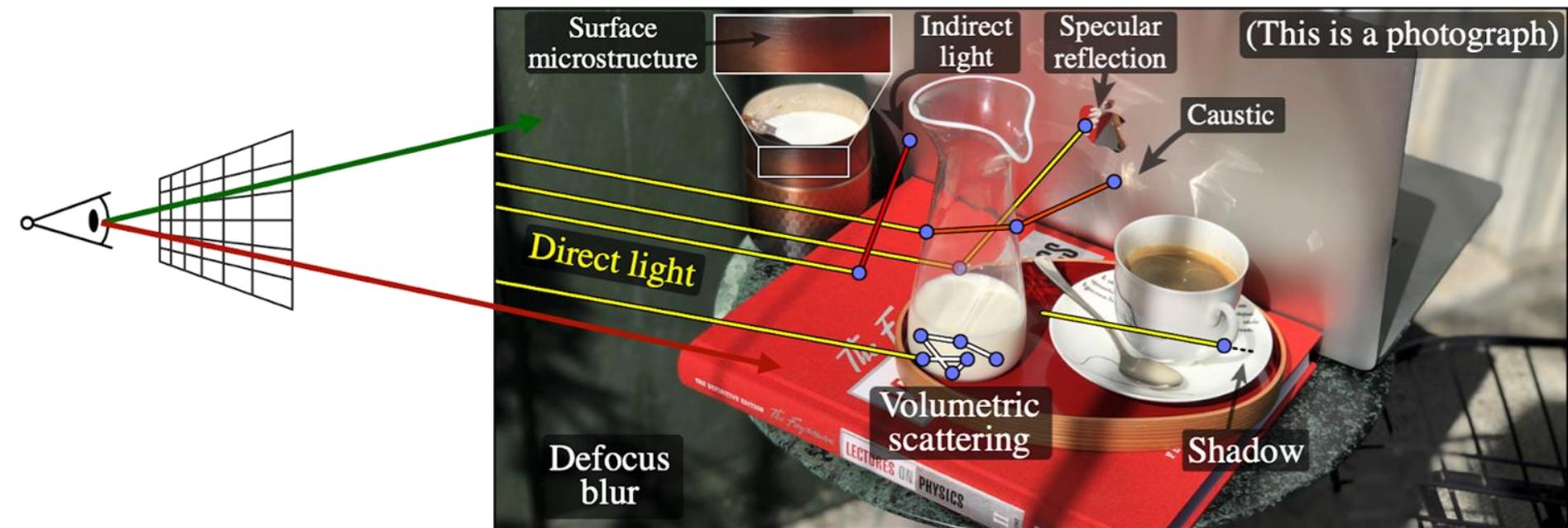
# Rendering (cont.)

- Simulation of motion blur



# Physically-Based Rendering (PBR)

- Uses **physics** and **math** to simulate the interaction between matter and lights
- **Realism** is the primary goal

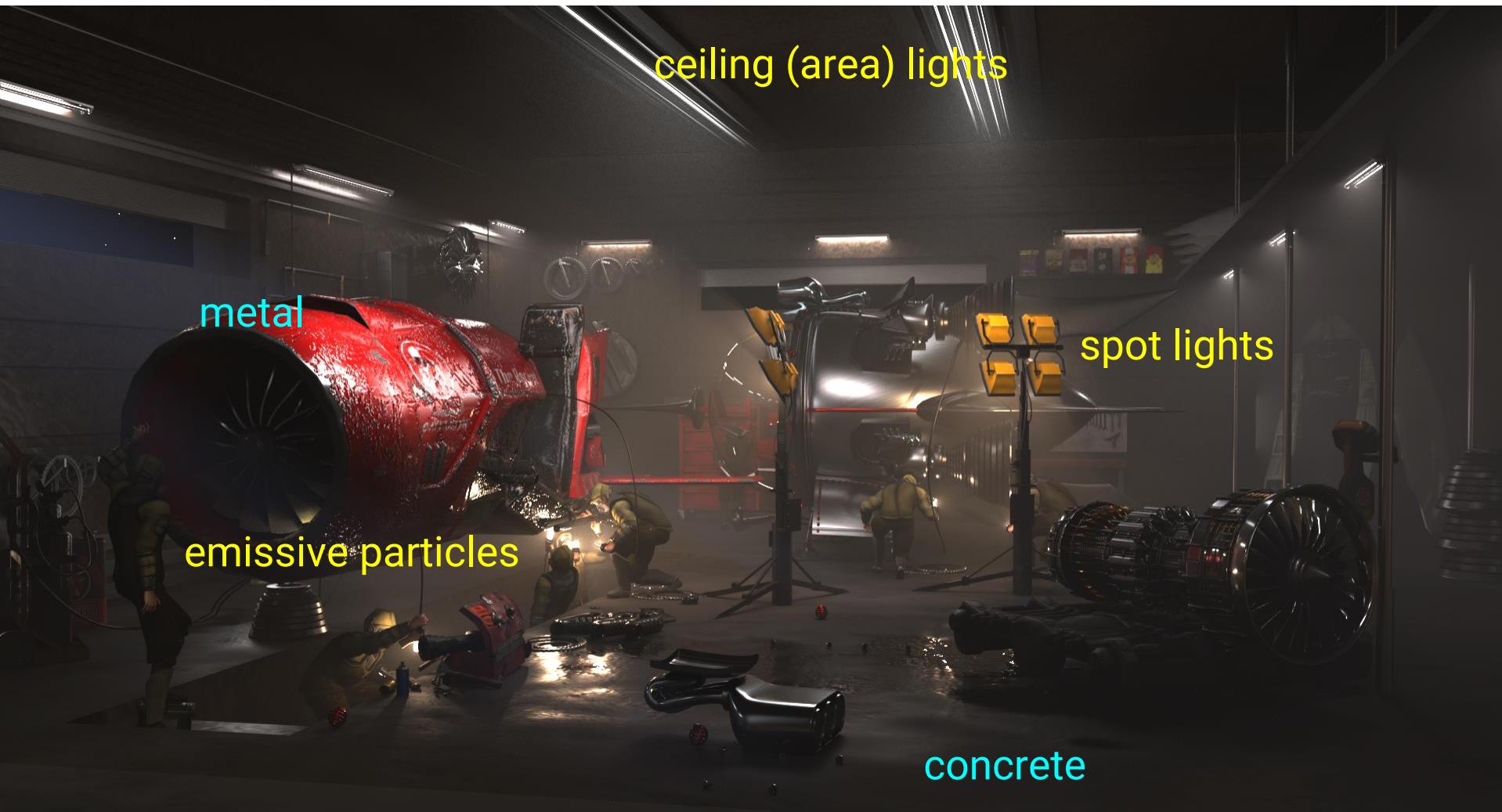


# Non-Photo-Realistic Rendering (NPR)

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# Shading: Materials and Lighting

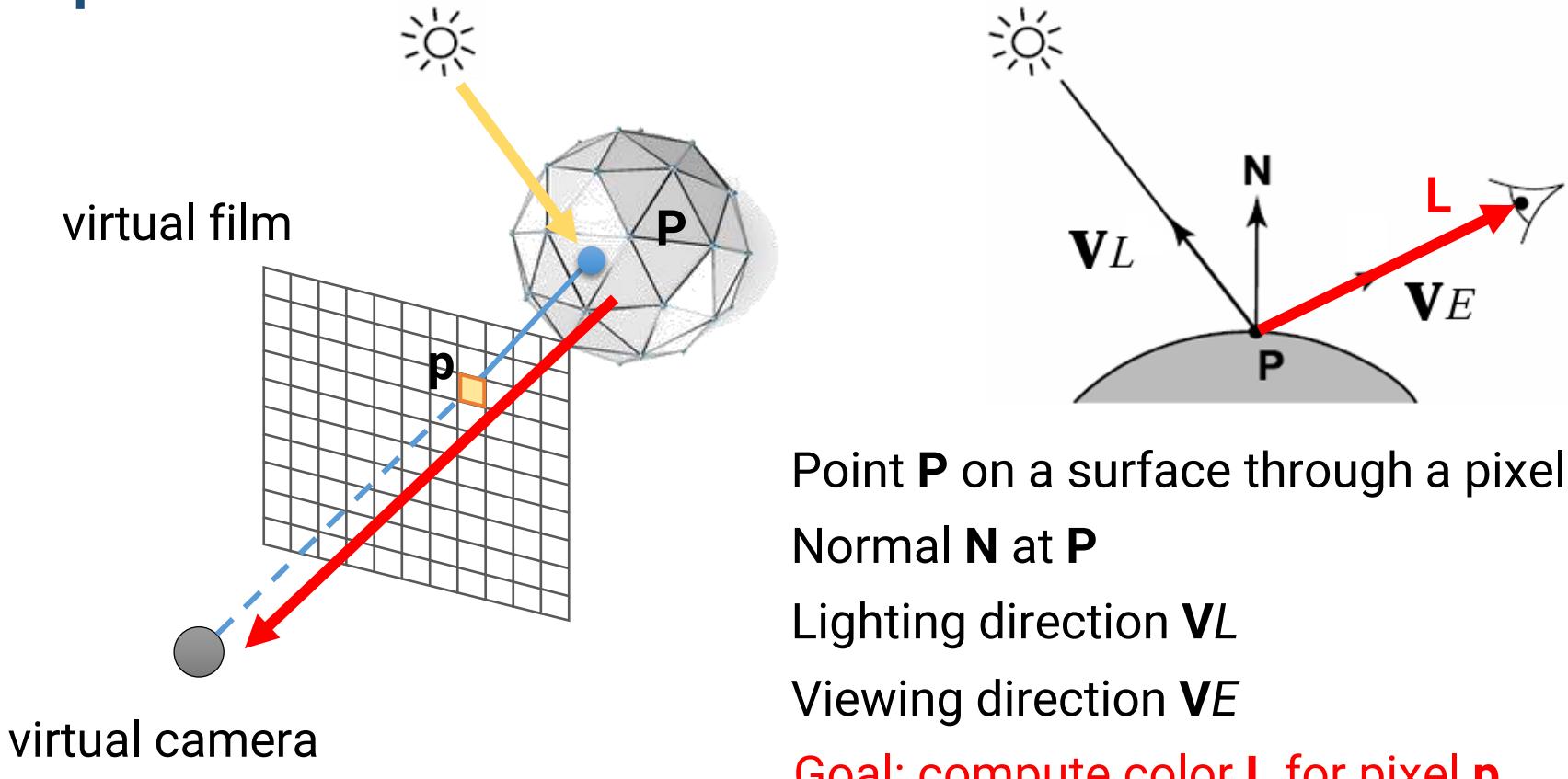


# Shading: Materials and Lighting (cont.)



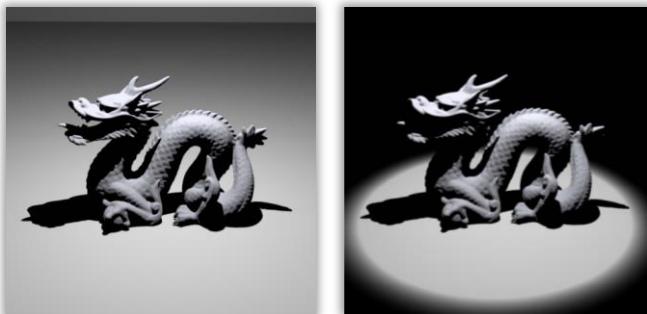
# Shading

- Simulate the **interaction** between a **light** and a **surface point**

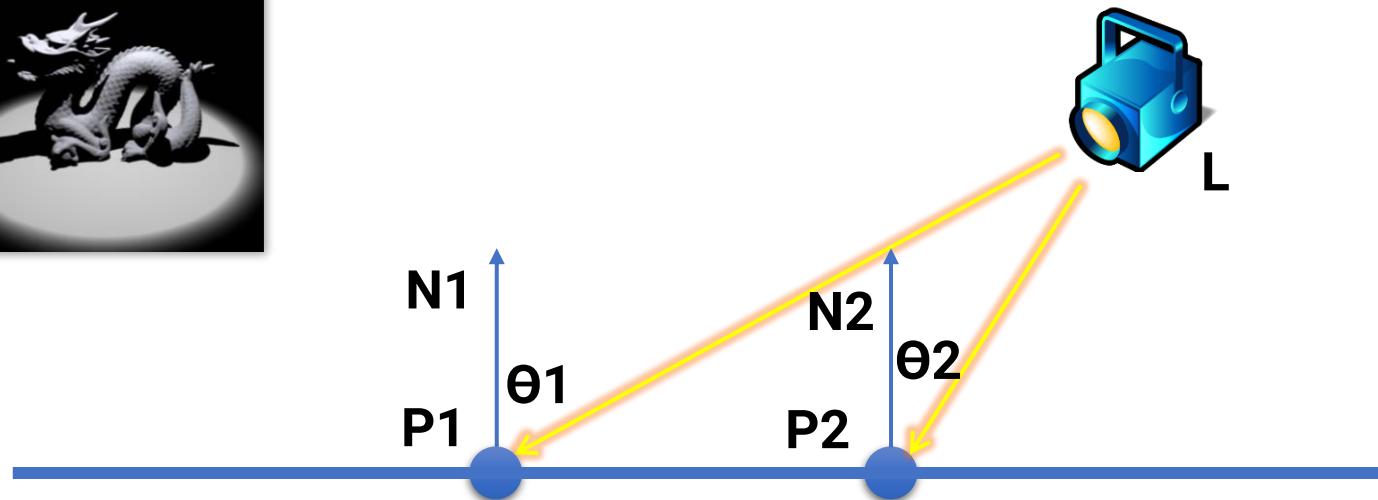


# Local Lights

- The distance between a light and a surface is **NOT** long enough compared to the scene scale
- The position of a light need to be taken into account during shading
  - **Lighting direction =  $|L - P|$**

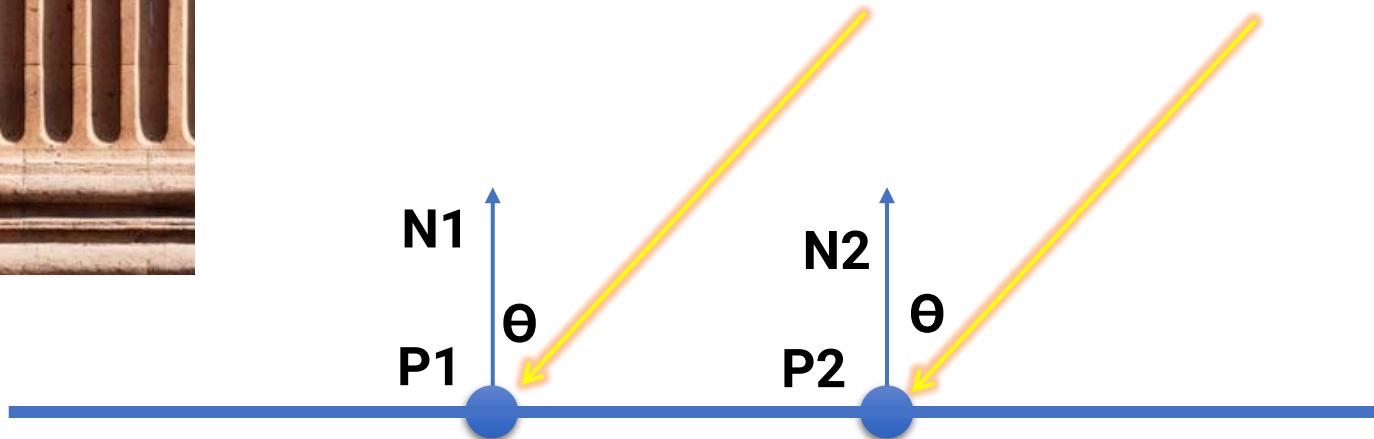
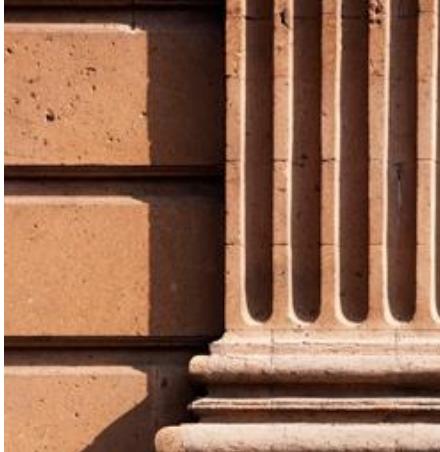


point/spot light



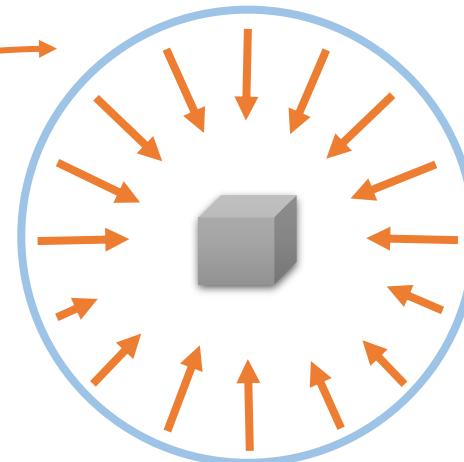
# Distant Lights

- The distance between a light and a surface is long enough compared to the scene scale and **can be ignored**
  - **Lighting direction** is **fixed**
- **Directional light (sun)** is the most common distant light



# Environment Light

- Environment light illuminates the scene from a **virtual sphere at infinite distance**
- The spherical energy distribution is usually represented with longitude-latitude images
- Also called **image-based lighting (IBL)**



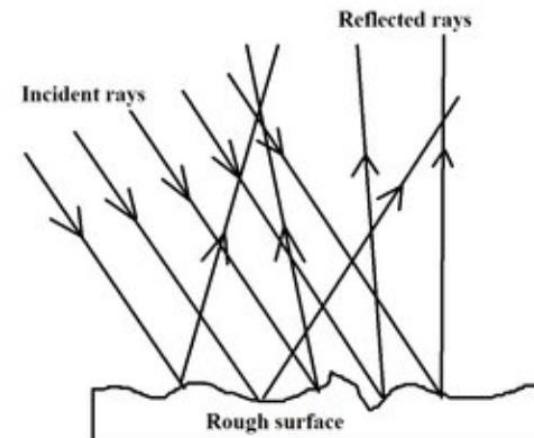
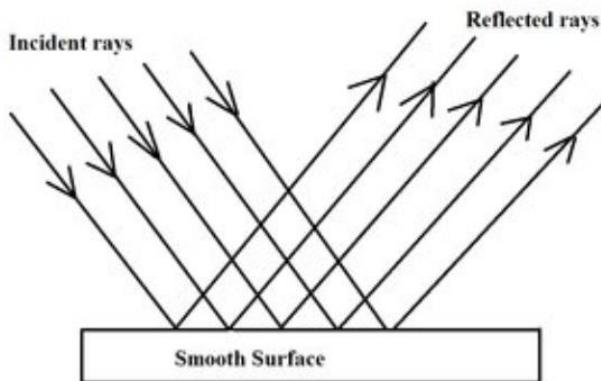
# Environment Light (cont.)

- Widely used in digital visual effects and film production



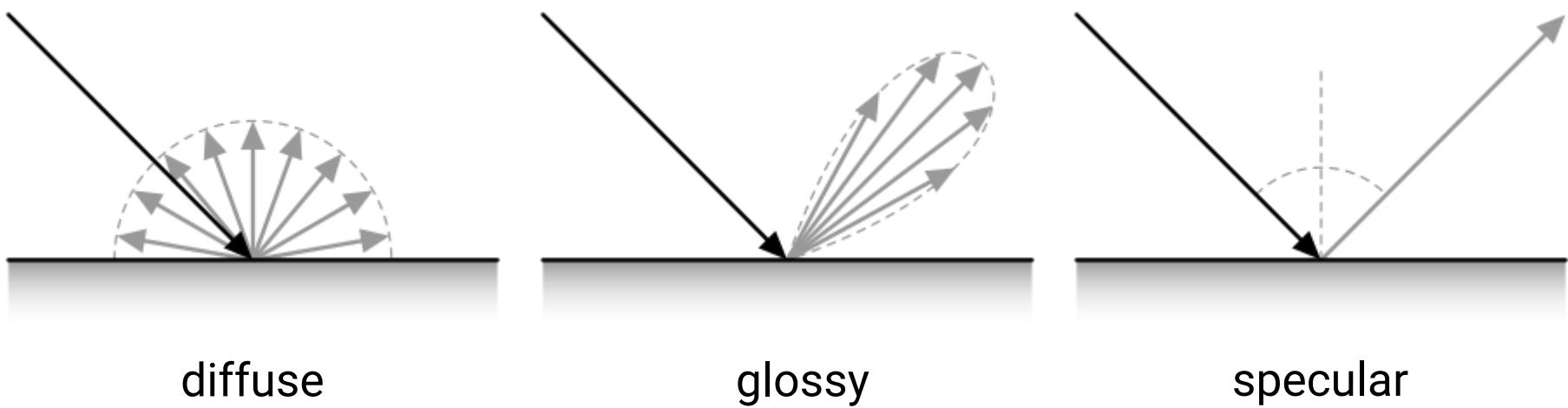
# Materials

- Highly related to surface types
- The **smoother** a surface, the more reflected light is concentrated in the direction a **perfect mirror** would reflect the light



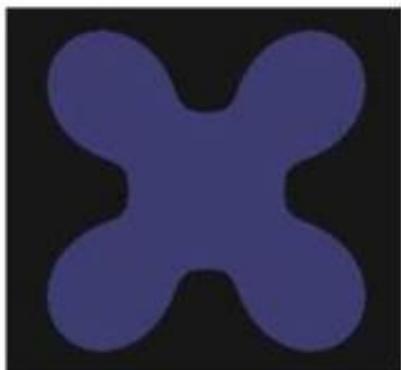
# Materials (cont.)

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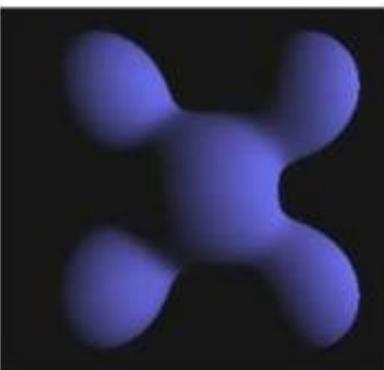


# Phong Lighting Model

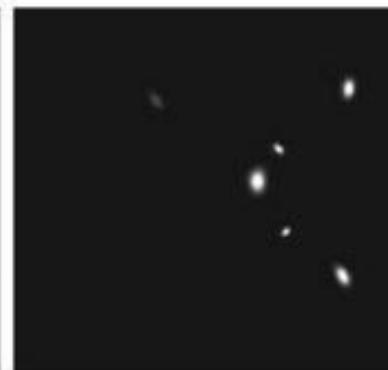
- **Diffuse reflection**
  - Light goes everywhere; colored by object color
- **Specular reflection**
  - Happens only near mirror configuration; usually white
- **Ambient reflection**
  - Constant accounted for global illumination (cheap hack)



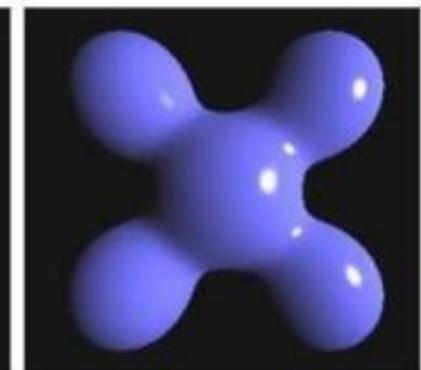
ambient



diffuse

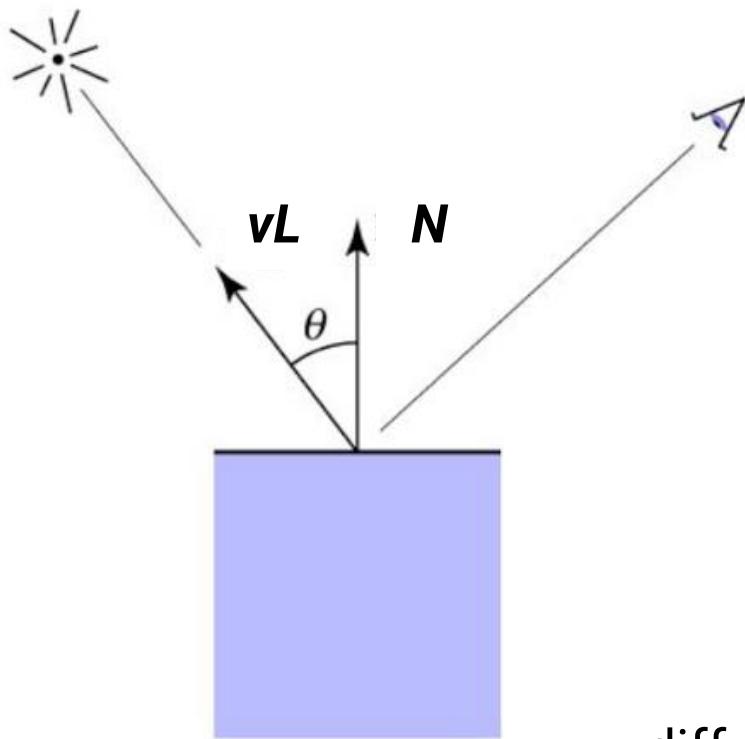


specular



# Diffuse Shading (cont.)

- Applies to diffuse or matte surface



illumination from source

$$L_d = k_d \cdot I \cdot \max(0, N \cdot vL)$$

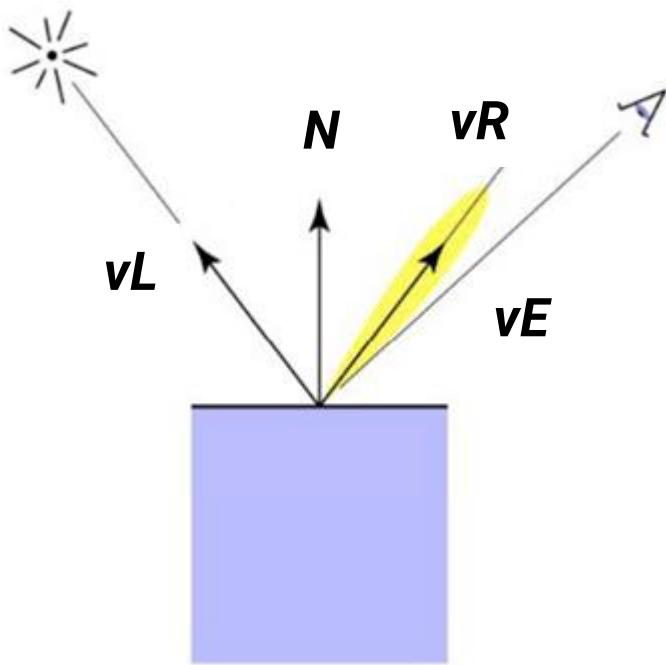
Lambertian law

diffuse coefficient

diffusely reflected light

# Specular Shading (cont.)

- **Phong specular model [1975]**
  - Fall off gradually from the perfect reflection direction



$$\begin{aligned} vR &= vL + 2((N \cdot vL)N - vL) \\ &= 2(N \cdot vL)N - vL \end{aligned}$$

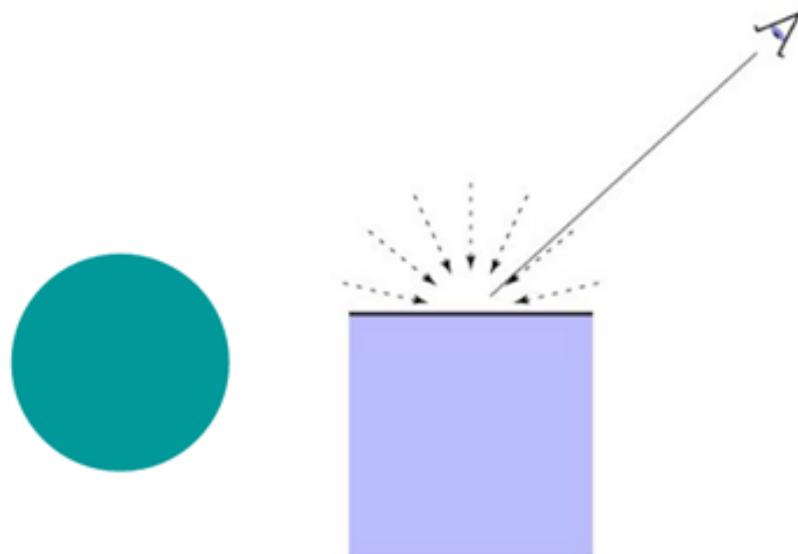
$$\begin{aligned} L_s &= k_s \cdot I \cdot \max(0, \cos\sigma)^n \\ &= k_s \cdot I \cdot \max(0, vE \cdot vR)^n \end{aligned}$$

↑  
specular coefficient  
specularly reflected light

specular exponent

# Ambient Shading

- Add constant color to account for disregarded illumination and fill black shadows



the **intensity** of ambient light

$$L_a = k_a \cdot I_a$$

ambient coefficient

reflected ambient light

# Complete Phong Lighting Model

- Compute the contribution from a light to a point by including **ambient**, **diffuse**, and **specular** components

$$L = L_a + L_d + L_s$$

- Consider the RGB channels for color

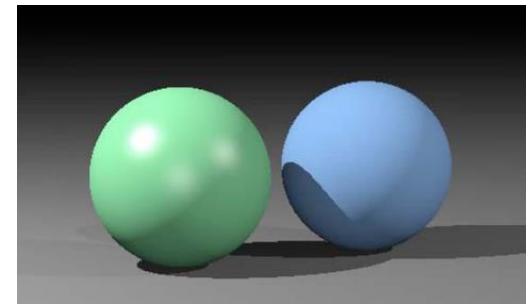
white light: (0.9, 0.9, 0.9)

yellow light: (0.8, 0.8, 0.2)

$$L_d = \boxed{k_d} \cdot \boxed{I} \cdot \max(0, N \cdot v L)$$

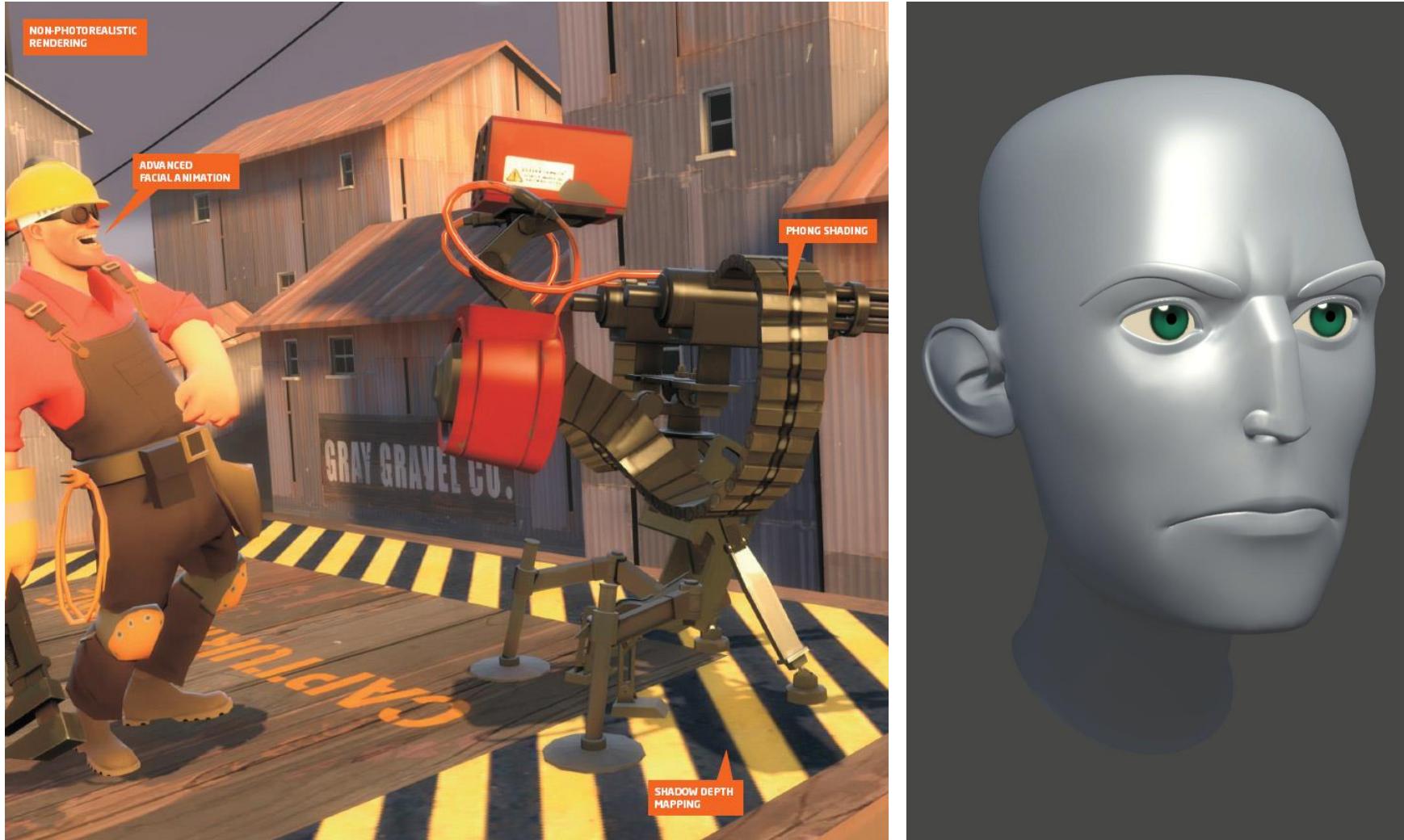
green ball: (0.2, 0.7, 0.2)

blue ball: (0.2, 0.2, 0.7)



- If there are multiple lights, just sum over all the lights because the lighting is **linear**

# Some Results with Phong Lighting Model



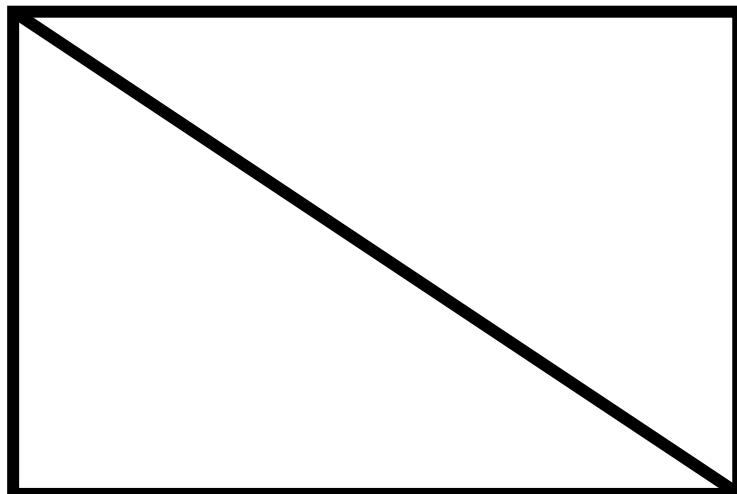
# Texture

- Consider the following cases
  - Do we need (or can we) to finely subdivide the object?



# Textures

- Can be used to represent **spatially-varying** data
- Can **decouple** materials from the geometry



Geometry: two triangles

Material:  $Kd(1, 1, 1)$

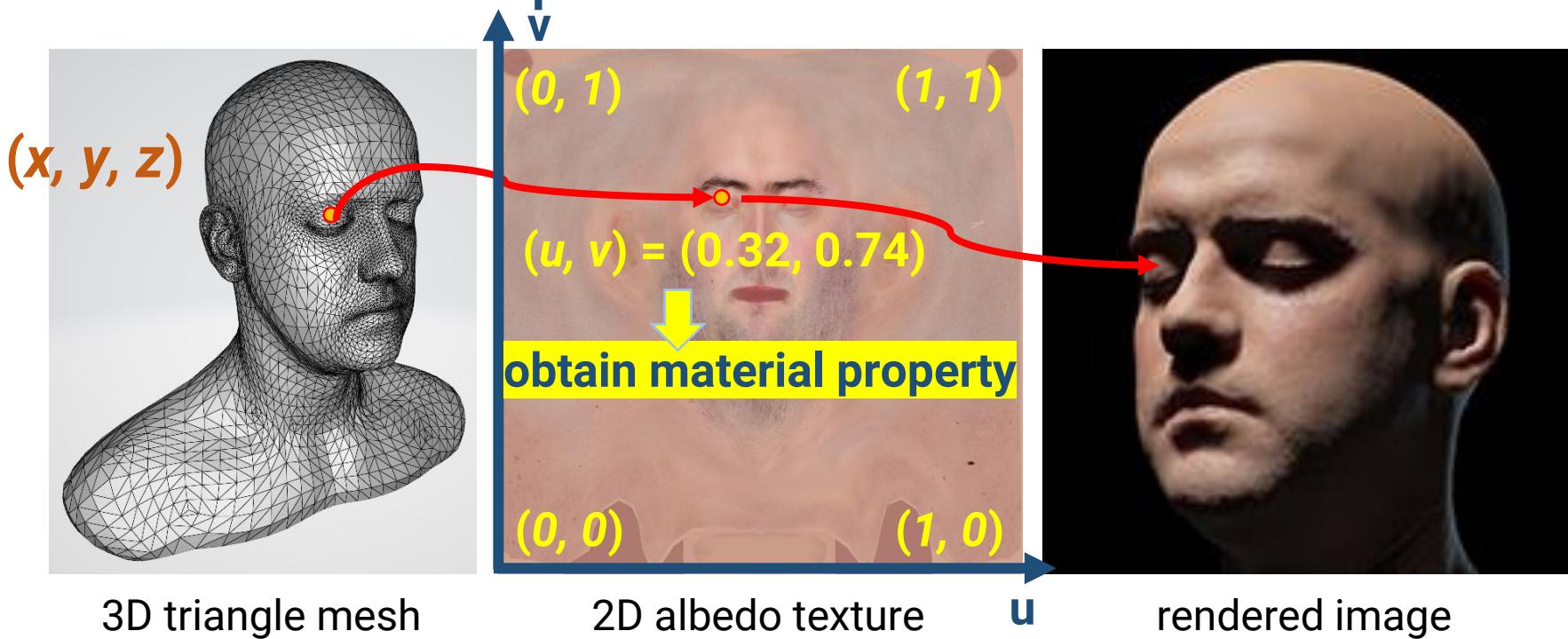
2D image texture



**complex appearance**

# Texture Coordinate

- A coordinate to look up the texture
- The way to map a point on an **arbitrary 3D surface** to a pixel (texel) on an **image** texture
  - Need **surface parameterization**

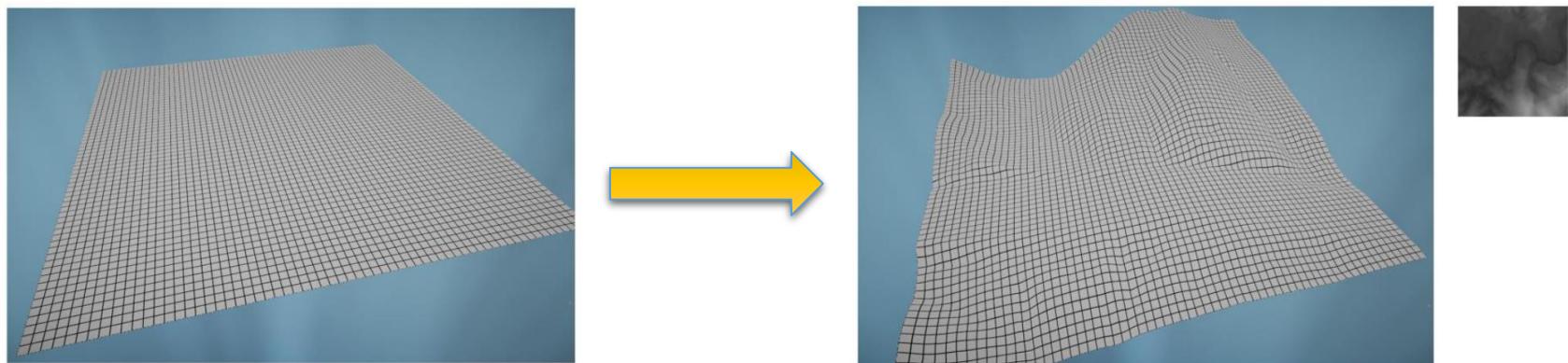


# Texture Coordinate (cont.)

- A coordinate to look up the texture
- The way to map a point on an **arbitrary 3D surface** to a pixel (texel) on an **image** texture
  - Need **surface parameterization**
  - Usually produced by 3D artists



# More Texture Types



# Outline

- Overview
- Modeling
- Animation
- Rendering
- **Film production pipeline**
- Ray tracing and rasterization

# Animation Production Pipeline



story



text treatment



Storyboard



voice

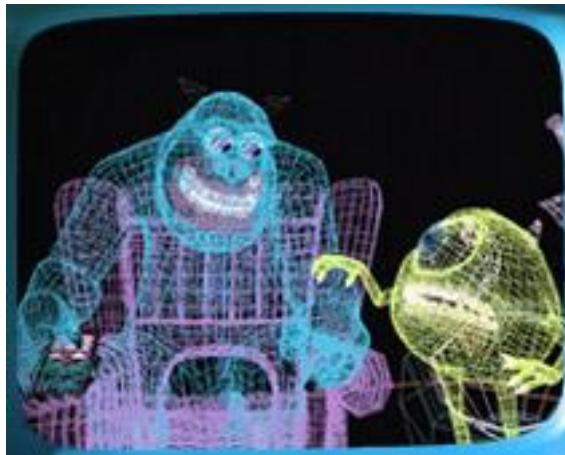


storyreel



look and feel

# Animation Production Pipeline (cont.)



modeling / articulation



layout



animation



shading / lighting



rendering



final touch

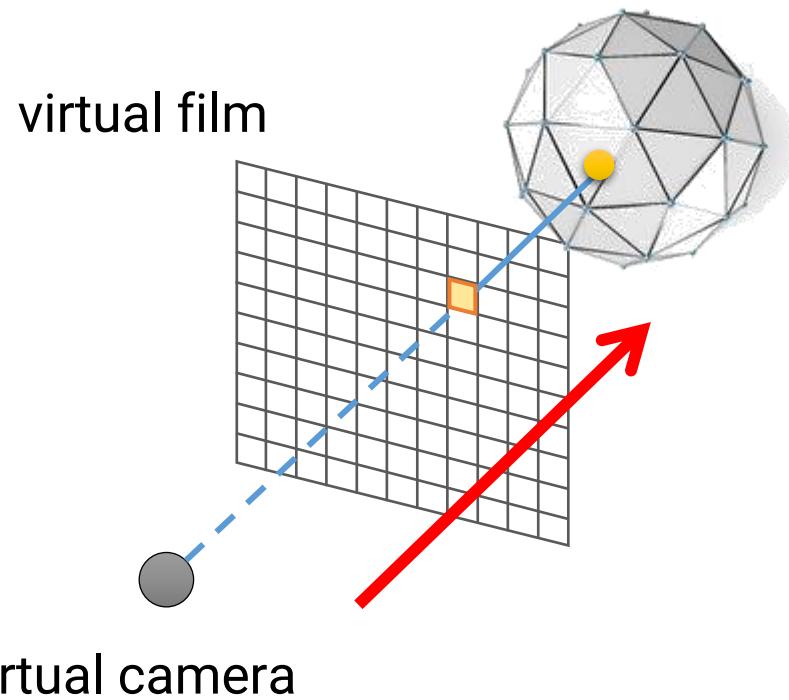
# Animation Production Pipeline

# Outline

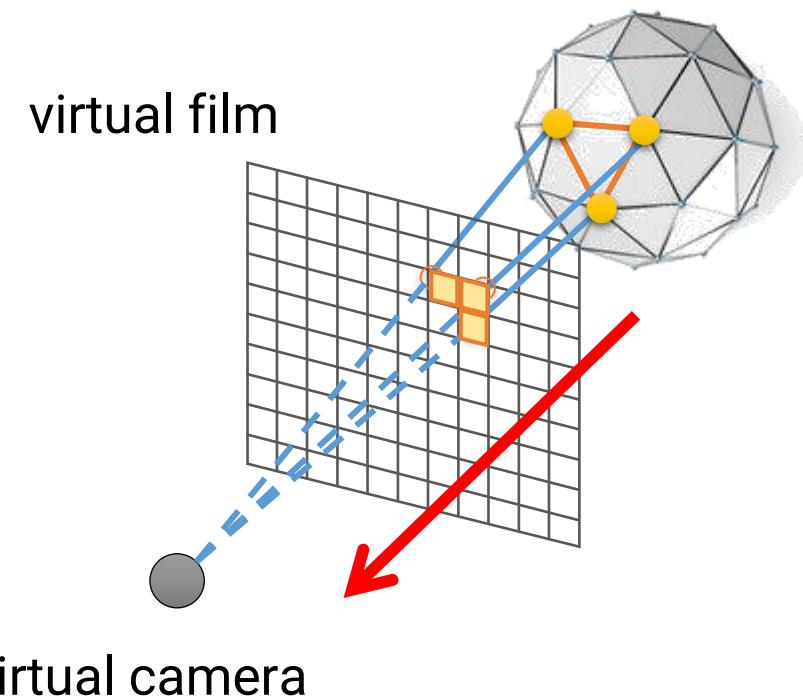
- Overview
- Modeling
- Animation
- Rendering
- Film production pipeline
- **Ray tracing and rasterization**

# Bring Triangles into Pixels

## Ray Tracing

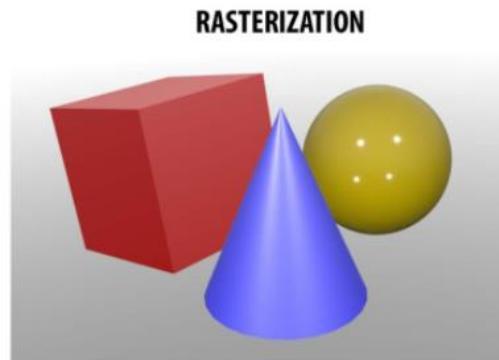
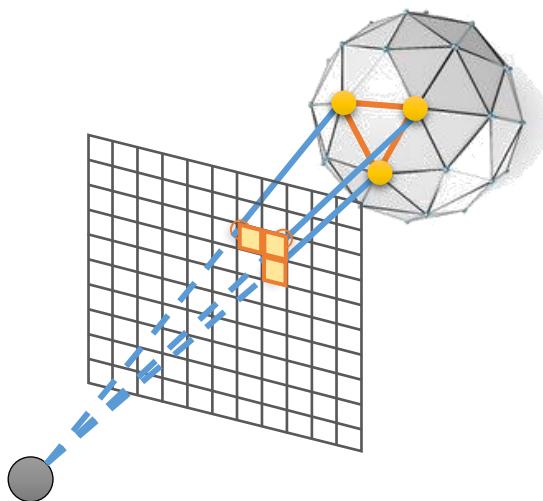


## Rasterization



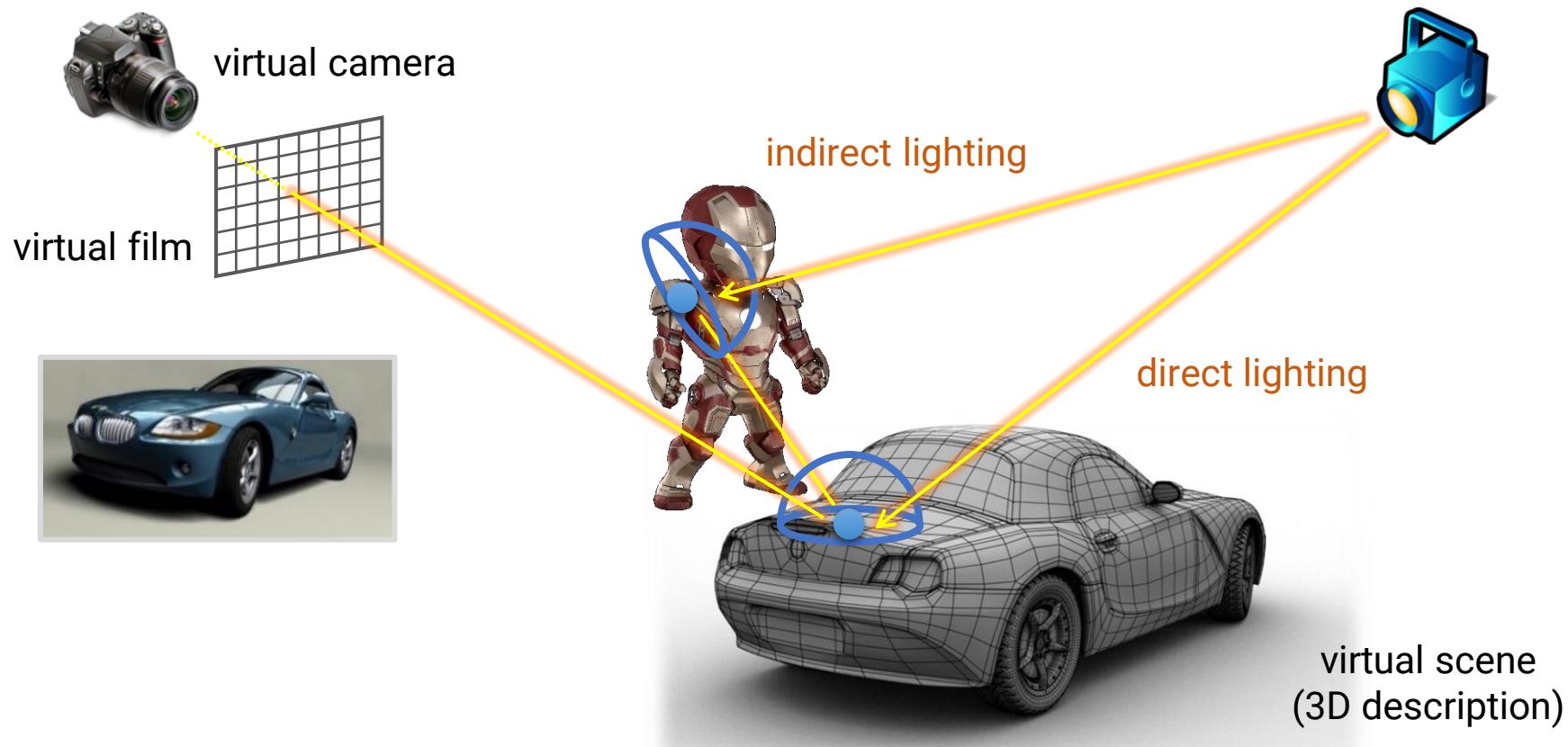
# Rasterization

- Rasterization is **more friendly to hardware** and usually has higher parallelism
- But it is more difficult to simulate effects such as reflection, refraction, shadows, and global illumination
  - Need specialized algorithms



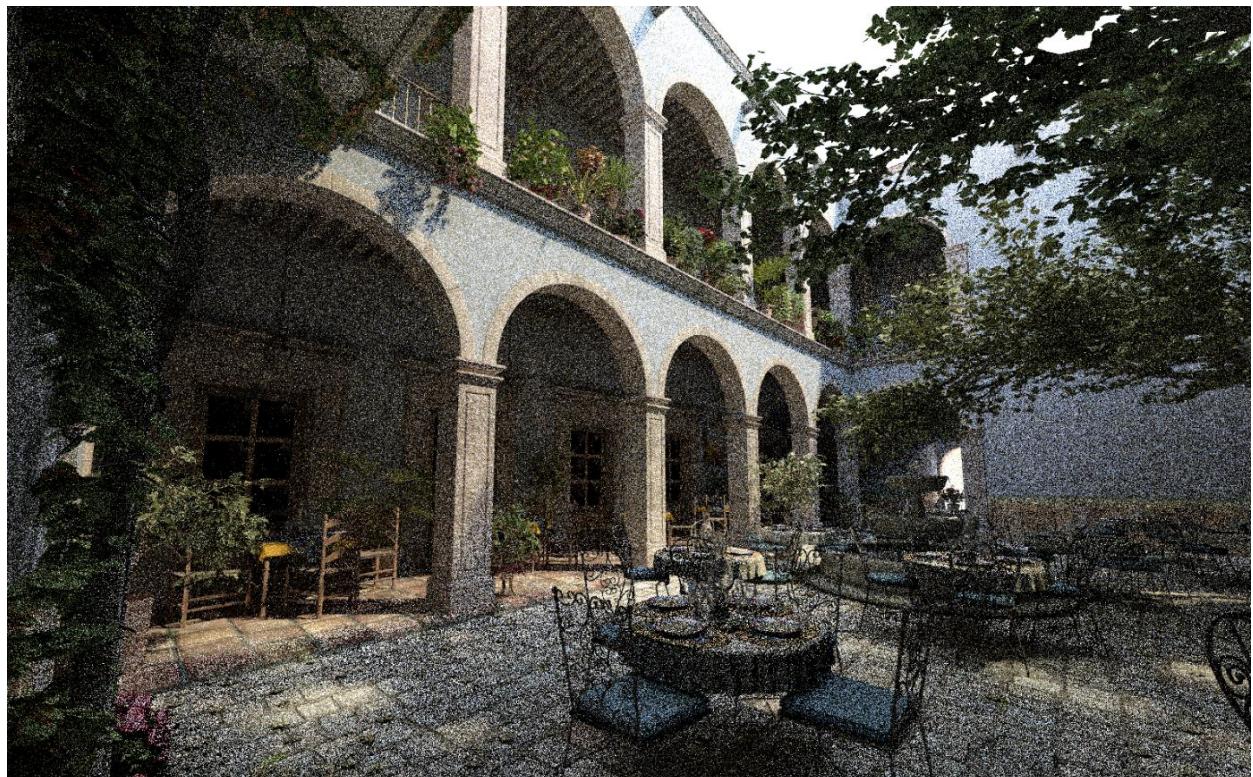
# Ray Tracing

- Ray tracing is more general for simulating a wide variety of light transport paths



# Ray Tracing

- However, its simulator usually has a **slow convergence rate** and produces lots of **noise** when the samples are not enough



# Real-Time Ray Tracing

- FIRST DAY: A Star Wars short film made with UE5



# Real-Time v.s. Offline Graphics



1999



2020



1999



2019



real-time

offline

