

Computer Graphics I

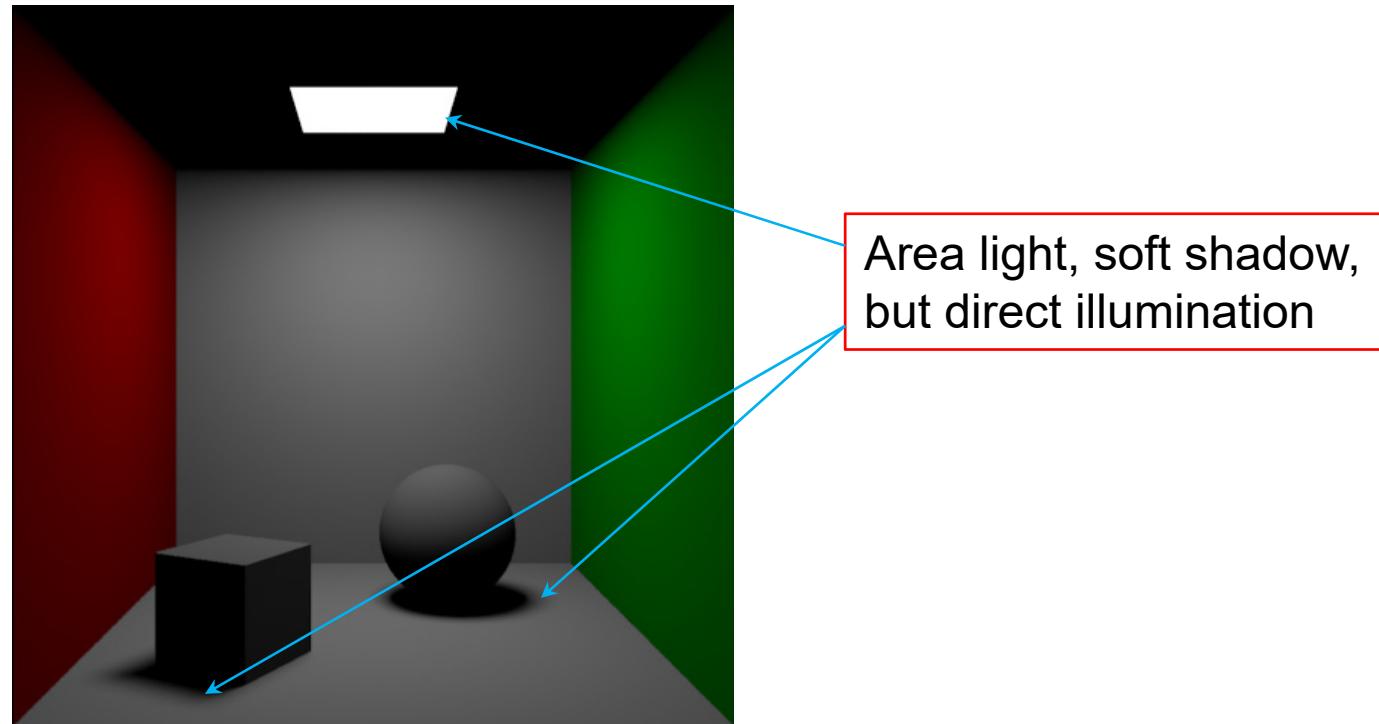
Lecture 13: Global illumination 1

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Illumination in a scene

- **Direct illumination**
 - Illumination cast on objects directly from light sources

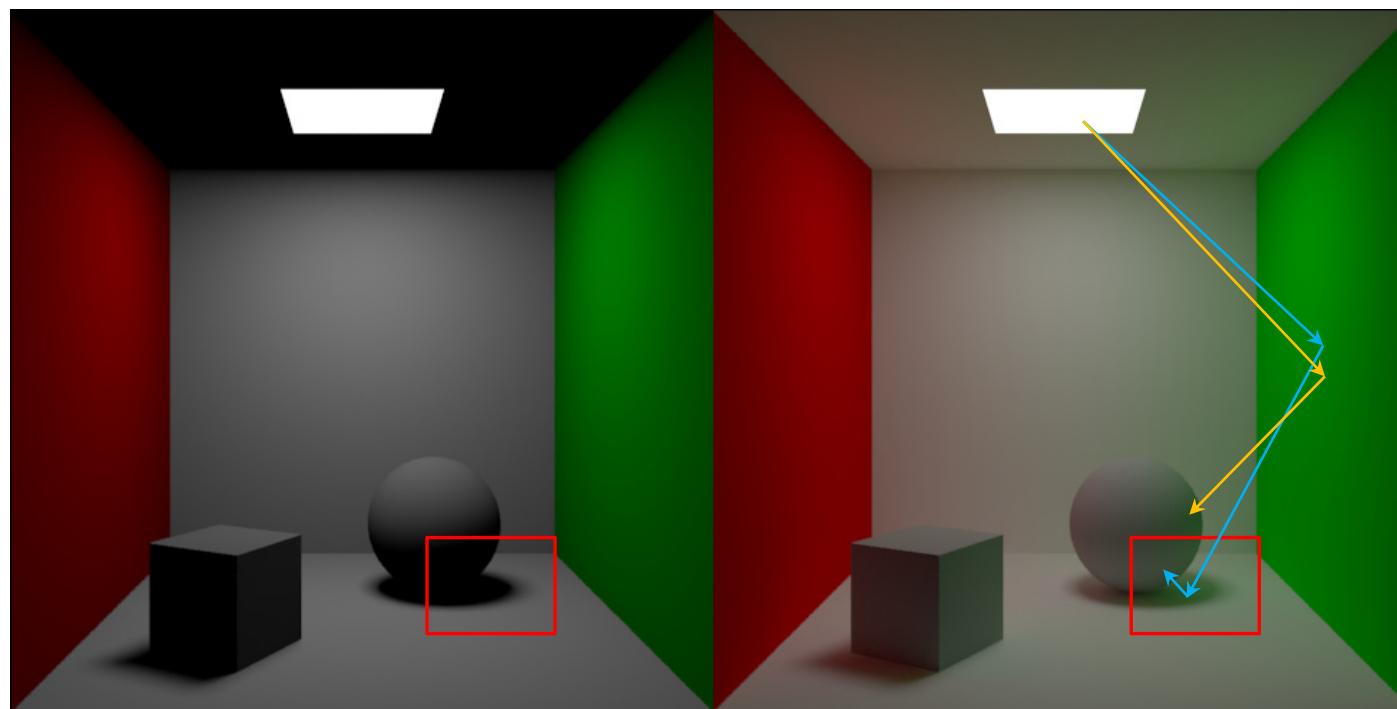


Illumination in a scene

- **Global illumination**

- Illumination cast on objects from both light sources and surface inter-reflections
- Direct illumination + indirect illumination

间接光源反射直接光源产生的光



1. Direct lighting

Direct lighting

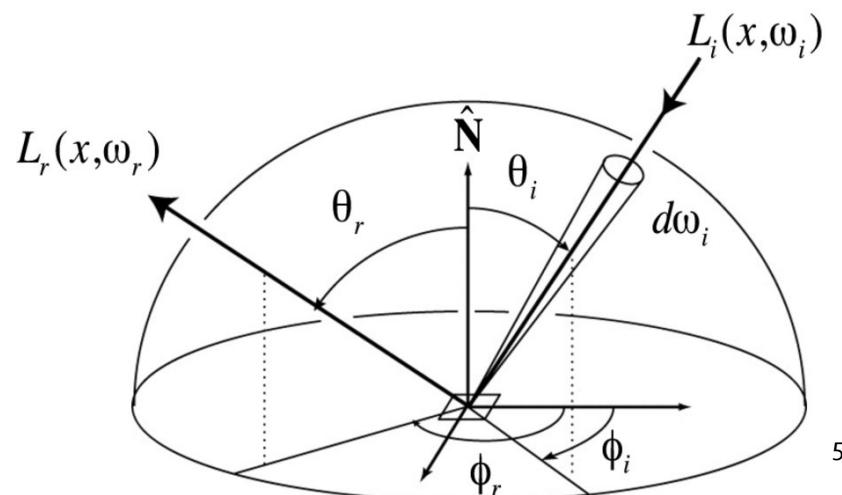
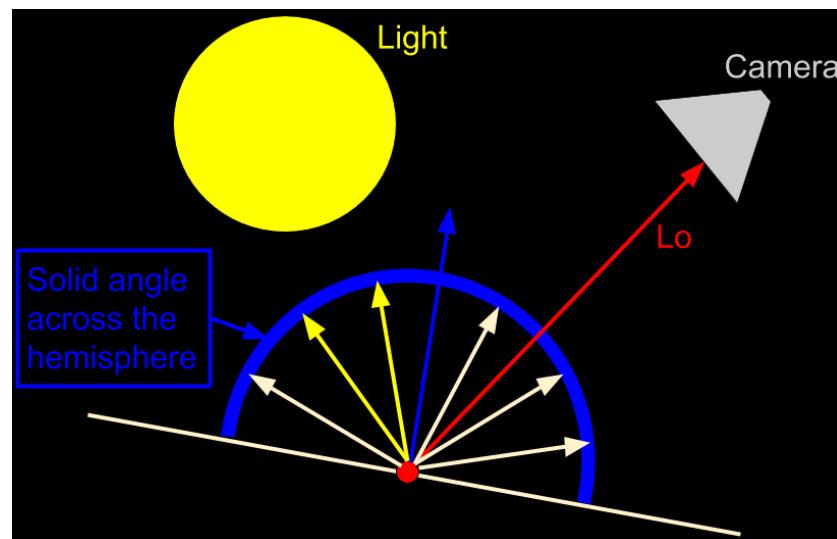
- How to determine the radiance?

- Recall the rendering equation

$$L_o(p, \omega_o) = \int_{S^2} f(p, \omega_o, \omega_i) L_d(p, \omega_i) |\cos \theta_i| d\omega_i$$

Incoming light distribution

- We need to consider direct light sources over the hemisphere



Direct lighting

- **Multiple importance sampling**
 - Assumption: proper distribution functions for f and L_d , but not for the whole product
 - Adopt a weighting scheme (reduce overall variance)

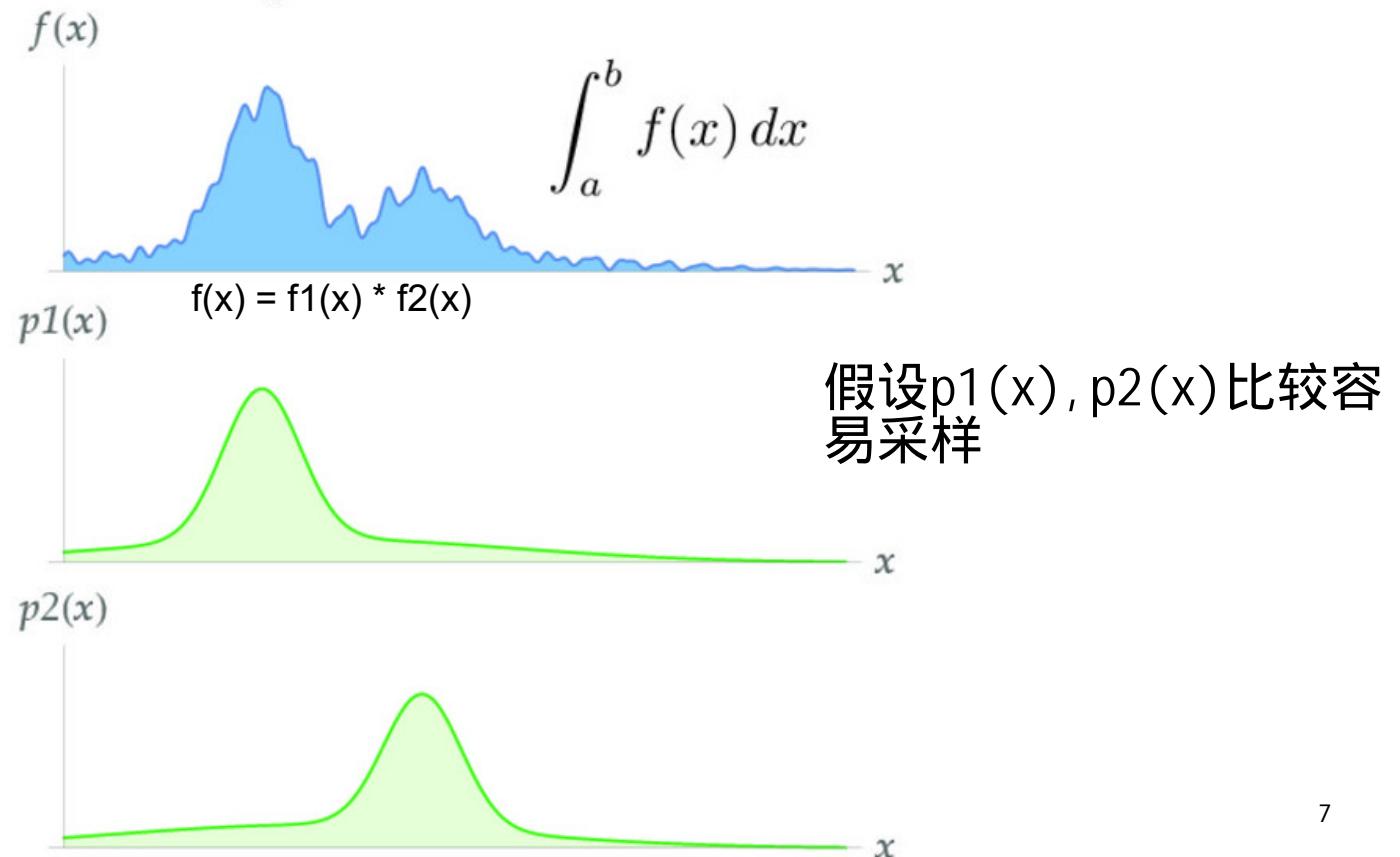
$$\frac{1}{n_f} \sum_{i=1}^{n_f} \frac{f(X_i)g(X_i)w_f(X_i)}{p_f(X_i)} + \frac{1}{n_g} \sum_{j=1}^{n_g} \frac{f(Y_j)g(Y_j)w_g(Y_j)}{p_g(Y_j)}$$

- Choice for weight
 - Balance heuristic

$$w_s(x) = \frac{n_s p_s(x)}{\sum_i n_i p_i(x)}$$

Direct lighting

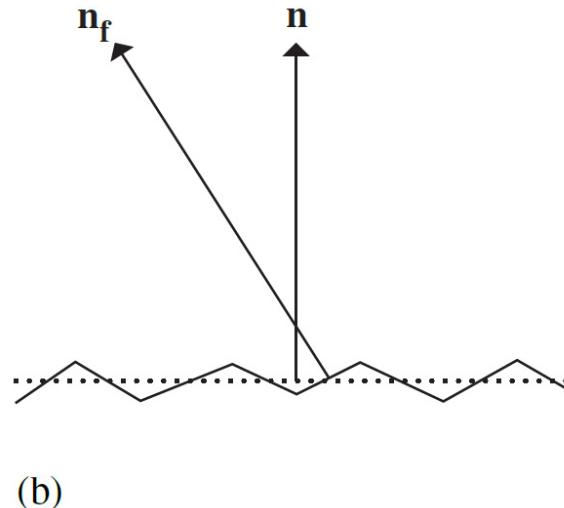
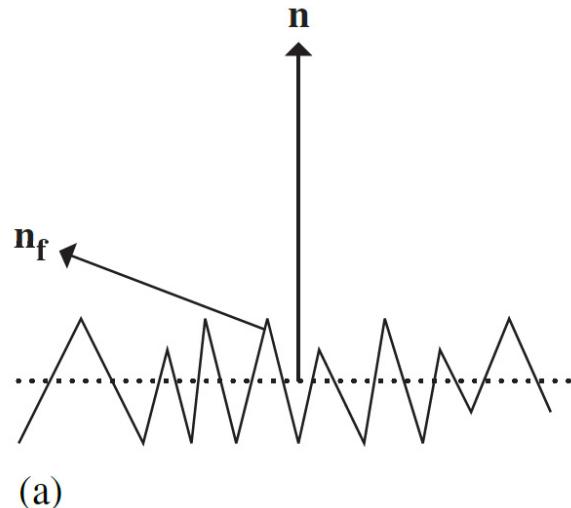
- Multiple importance sampling
 - Illustration



Microfacet models

- **Microfacets**

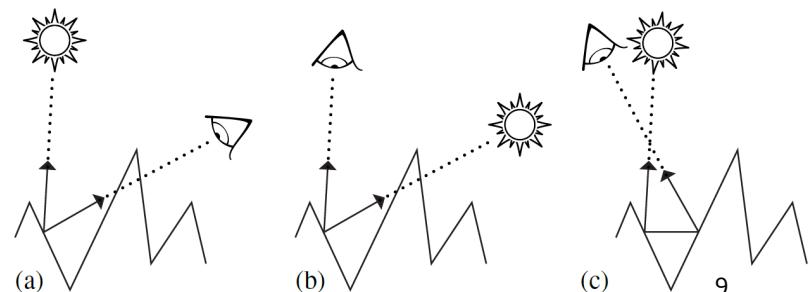
- Rough surfaces can be modeled as a collection of small microfacets
- Essentially a heightfield
 - The distribution of facets is described statistically



Microfacet surface models are often described by a function that gives the distribution of microfacet normals \mathbf{n}_f with respect to the surface normal \mathbf{n}

Microfacet models

- **Microfacet-based BRDF**
 - Statistically modeling the scattering of light from a large collection of microfacets
 - Assumption
 - Differential area is large compared to the size of microfacets
 - Their aggregate behavior determines the scattering
 - Three effects to consider
 - Occlusion, shadow, inter-reflection
 - Simplification
 - Assume V-shaped for each
 - Ignore most of inter-reflections



Microfacet models

- **Torrance-Sparrow model (1967)**
 - One of the first microfacet models for computer graphics
 - Used for modeling metallic surfaces
 - A collection of smooth mirrored microfacets
 - A $D(\omega_h)$ that gives the probability
 - A microfacet has orientation ω_h

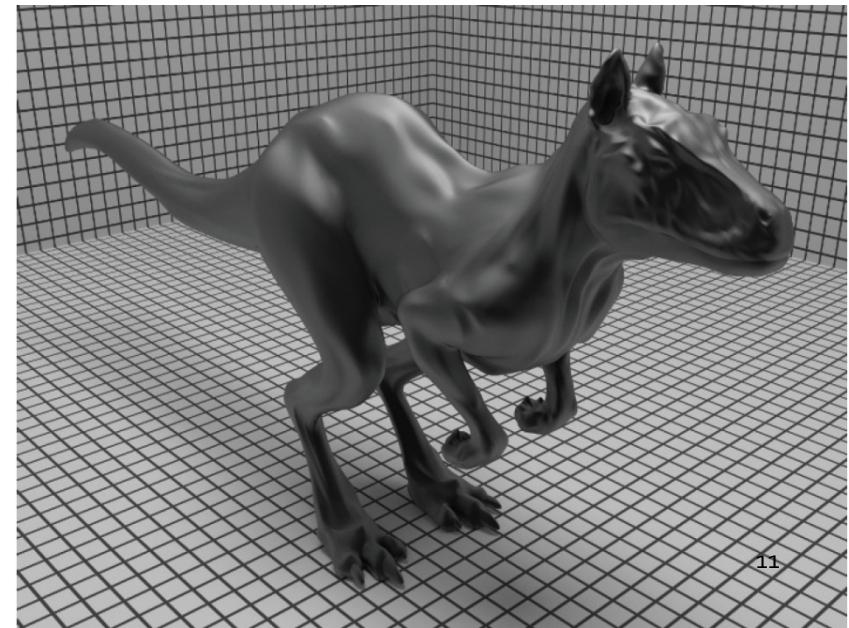
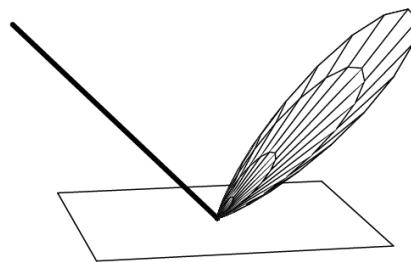
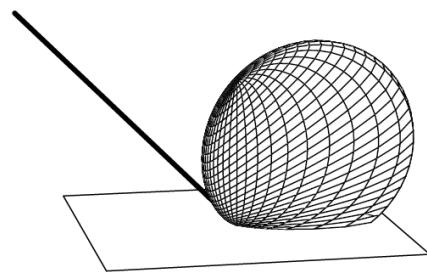
$$f_r(p, \omega_o, \omega_i) = \frac{D(\omega_h) G(\omega_o, \omega_i) F_r(\omega_o)}{4 \cos \theta_o \cos \theta_i}$$

$$G(\omega_o, \omega_i) = \min \left(1, \min \left(\frac{2(\mathbf{n} \cdot \omega_h)(\mathbf{n} \cdot \omega_o)}{\omega_o \cdot \omega_h}, \frac{2(\mathbf{n} \cdot \omega_h)(\mathbf{n} \cdot \omega_i)}{\omega_o \cdot \omega_h} \right) \right)$$

Microfacet models

- **Blinn microfacet distribution**
 - Blinn (1977) proposed a model for the distribution of microfacets
 - The normal is approximated with exponential fall-off
 - Normalized Blinn microfacet distribution is:

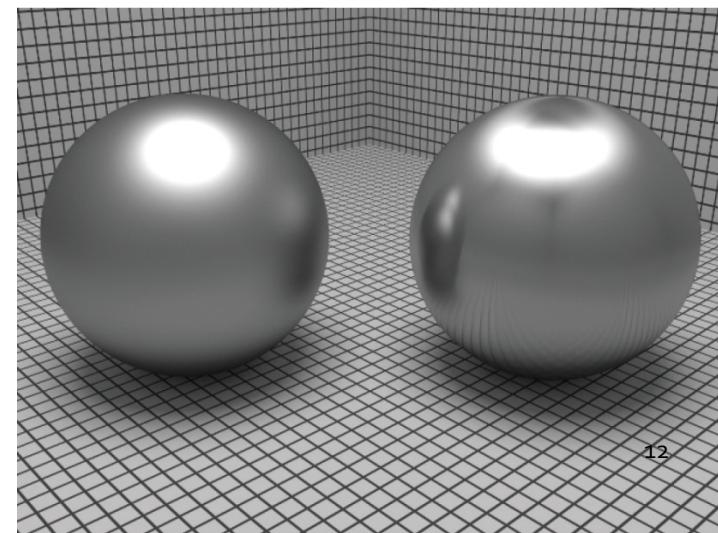
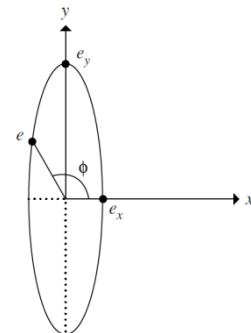
$$D(\omega_h) = \frac{e+2}{2\pi} (\omega_h \cdot n)^e$$



Microfacet models

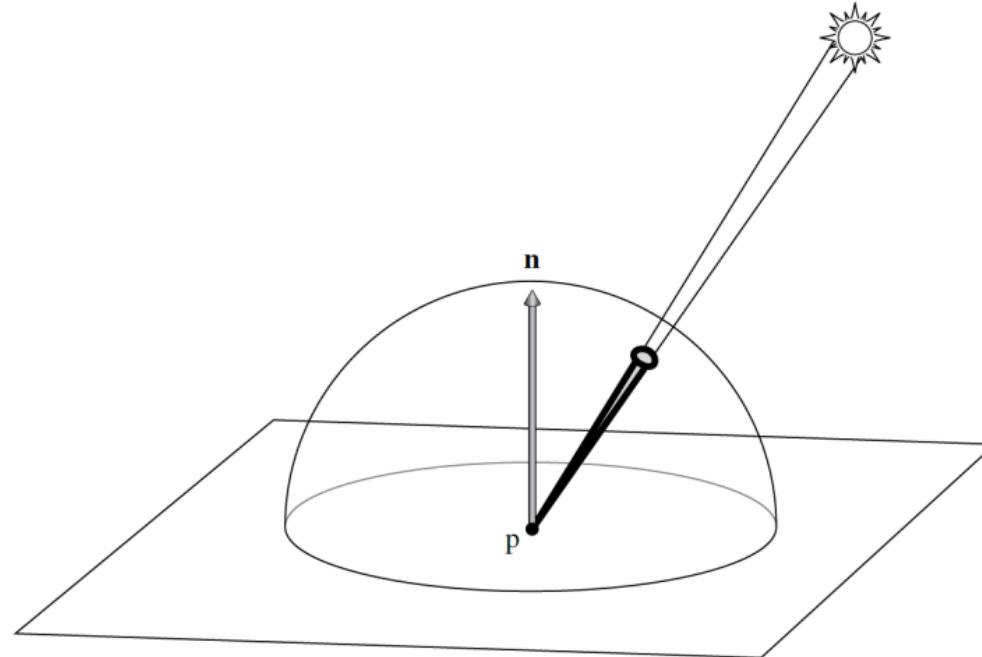
- **Anisotropic microfacet model**
 - Ashikhmin and Shirley (2000, 2002) developed a microfacet distribution function
 - To model the appearance of anisotropic surfaces
 - An anisotropic variant of Blinn's exponential fall-off microfacet distribution
 - Physically-based, with intuitive parameters

$$D(\omega_h) = \frac{\sqrt{(e_x + 2)(e_y + 2)}}{2\pi} (\omega_h \cdot n)^{e_x \cos^2 \phi + e_y \sin^2 \phi}$$



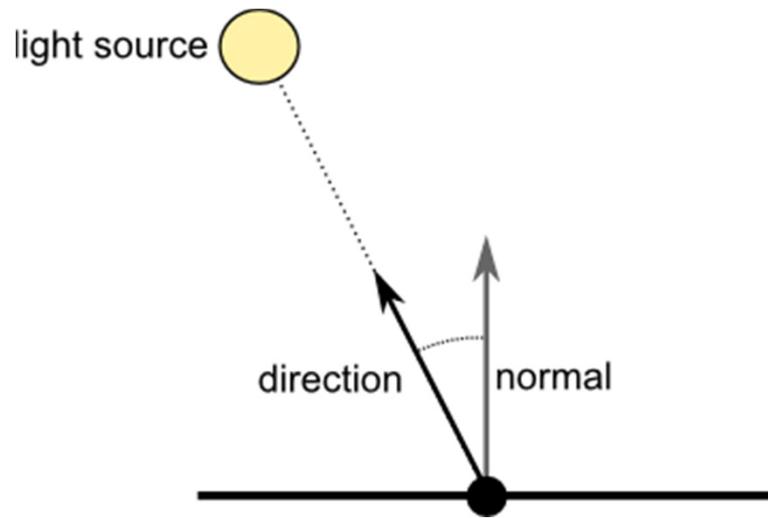
Sampling light sources

- **Lights with singularities**
 - Lights coming from extremely small ranges of solid angles
 - Point lights, directional lights etc.



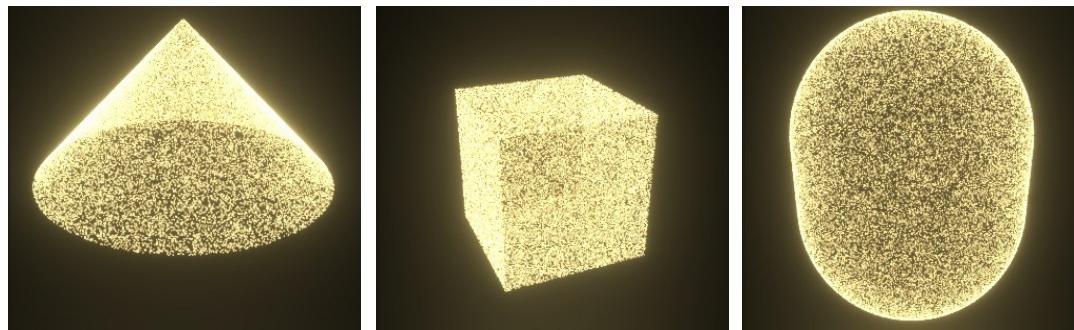
Sampling light sources

- Point lights and directional lights
 - The light distribution L_d is a delta function
 - Return samples along that specific direction



Sampling light sources

- **Area lights**
 - An emission profile attached to a shape
 - Sampling shapes
 - Sample uniformly in terms of area



- Area light sampling
 - Combine shape distribution and uniform distribution

2. Light transport equation

Light transport equation

- **Governing equation**
 - Describe the equilibrium distribution of radiance in a scene
 - Give the total reflected radiance at a point on a surface
 - In terms of
 - Emission from the surface
 - Surface BSDF(BRDF/BSSRDF)
 - Distribution of incident illumination arriving at the point
 - Numerical computation for a solution of light transport equation (LTE)

Light transport equation

- **Basic derivation**

- Energy balance

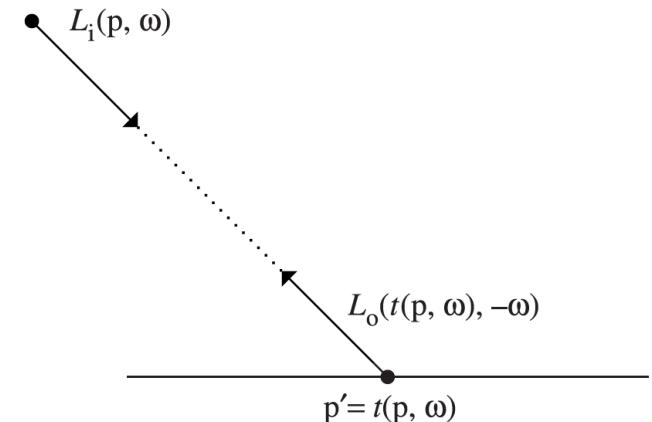
- Exitant radiance must be equal to emitted radiance + fraction of incident radiance scattered:

$$L_o(p, \omega_o) = L_e(p, \omega_o) + \int_{S^2} f(p, \omega_o, \omega_i) L_i(p, \omega_i) |\cos \theta_i| d\omega_i$$

Le: 打到的点本身发光

- Assume now: no participating media
 - Radiance is constant along rays through the scene
 - We can relate incident radiance at p to outgoing radiance from another point p'

$$L_i(p, \omega) = L_o(t(p, \omega), -\omega)$$



Light transport equation

- **Basic derivation**

- Consider the entire scene as a light field

- We can describe the field by $L(p, \omega)$

- Dropping the subscript, we obtain the LTE equation

$$L(p, \omega_0) = L_e(p, \omega_0) + \int_{S^2} f(p, \omega_0, \omega_i) L(t(p, \omega_i), -\omega_i) |\cos \theta_i| d\omega_i$$

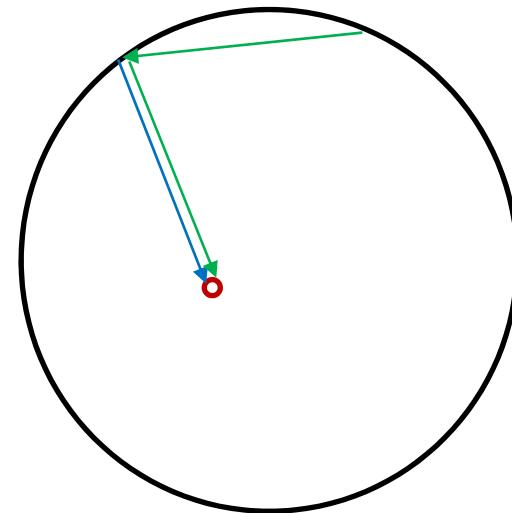
Same light field at different positions and solid angles

直到 $t(p, \omega_i)$ 为直接光源则停止递归

Light transport equation

- **Analytical solutions**

- Impossible to solve in general
- Difficulties
 - BSDF models
 - Arbitrary scene geometry
 - Intricate visibility relationships
- Possible for extremely simple settings
 - Consider the interior of a sphere with Lambertian surface



$$f(p, \omega_o, \omega_i) = c$$

- And emit constant amount of radiance in all directions

$$L(p, \omega_o) = L_e + c \int_{\mathcal{H}^2(n)} L(t(p, \omega_i), -\omega_i) |\cos \theta_i| d\omega_i$$

Light transport equation

- **Analytical solutions**

- Integrate out

$$L(p, \omega_0) = L_e + c \int_{\mathcal{H}^2(n)} L(t(p, \omega_i), -\omega_i) |\cos \theta_i| d\omega_i \quad \rightarrow \quad L = L_e + c\pi L$$

- Replace $c\pi$ with ρ_{hh} as Lambertian surface reflectance, consider successive substitution

$$L = L_e + \rho_{hh}(L_e + \rho_{hh}(L_e + \dots)) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} L_e \rho_{hh}^i \quad \text{if } \rho_{hh} < 1 \rightarrow \text{converges}$$

- Explanation of the series

- Exitant radiance = emitted radiance + light scattered by a BSDF once + light scattered twice +

- Convergence: $L = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} L_e \rho_{hh}^i = \frac{L_e}{1 - \rho_{hh}}$

Light transport equation

- **Analytical solutions**
 - Similar idea of successive substitution on

$$L(p, \omega_0) = L_e(p, \omega_0) + \int_{S^2} f(p, \omega_0, \omega_i) L_d |\cos \theta_i| d\omega_i$$

where

$$L_d = L_e(t(p, \omega_i), -\omega_i) + \int_{S^2} f(t(p, \omega_i), \omega') L(t(t(p, \omega_i), \omega'), -\omega') |\cos \theta'| d\omega'$$

- This is the mathematical base for developing rendering algorithms

Light transport equation

- The surface form
 - Light transport equation on a surface
 - Definition
 - Exitant radiance from a point p' to a point p

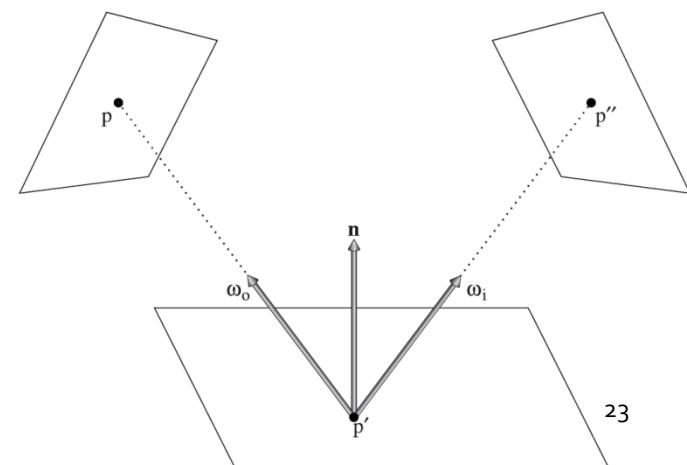
$$L(p' \rightarrow p) = L(p', \omega)$$

- If p' and p are mutually visible, and $\omega = \widehat{p - p'}$
 - BSDF at p' is

$$f(p'' \rightarrow p' \rightarrow p) = f(p', \omega_o, \omega_i)$$

where

$$\omega_i = \widehat{p'' - p'} \quad \omega_o = \widehat{p - p'}$$



Light transport equation

- **The surface form**

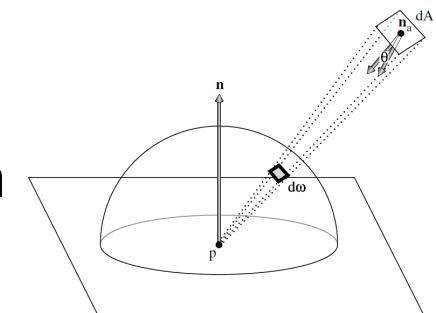
- Jacobian relating solid angle to surface area: $|\cos \theta'|/r^2$
- Geometric term
 - Jacobian term + original $|\cos \theta|$ term + binary visibility function V

$$G(p \leftrightarrow p') = V(p \leftrightarrow p') \frac{|\cos \theta| |\cos \theta'|}{\| p - p' \|^2}$$

- Substituting into the light transport equation
 - Convert to surface integral

$$L(p' \rightarrow p) = L_e(p' \rightarrow p) + \int_A f(p'' \rightarrow p' \rightarrow p) L(p'' \rightarrow p') G(p'' \leftrightarrow p') dA(p'')$$

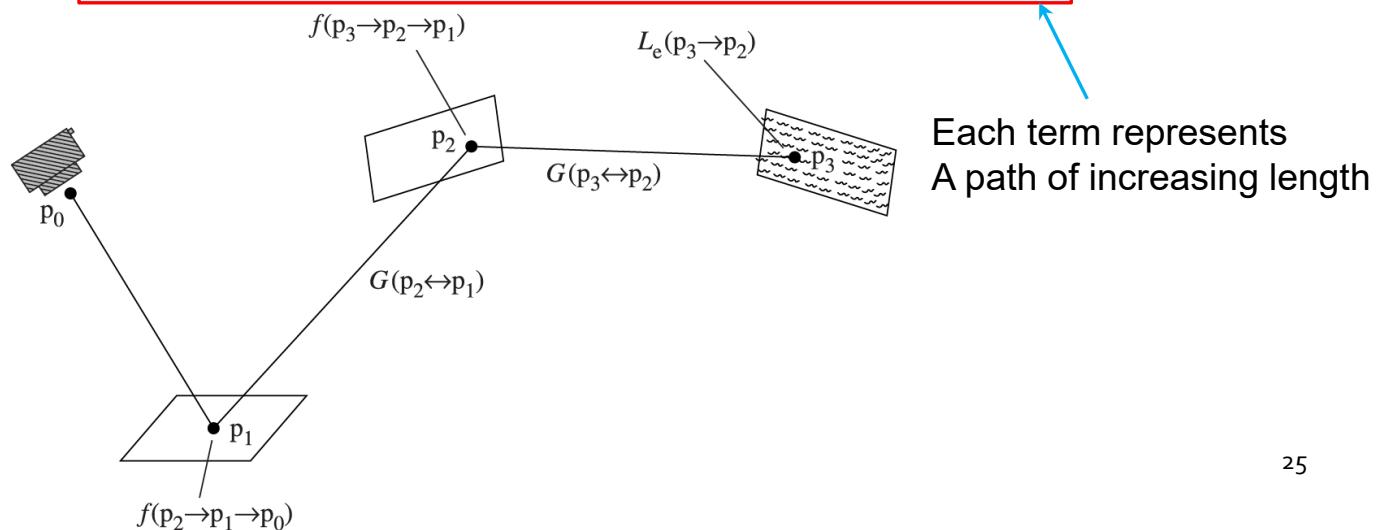
↑
All surfaces in the scene



Light transport equation

- Integral over paths
 - Expand the three-point light transport equation

$$\begin{aligned} L(p_1 \rightarrow p_0) = & L_e(p_1 \rightarrow p_0) \\ & + \int_A L_e(p_2 \rightarrow p_1) f(p_2 \rightarrow p_1 \rightarrow p_0) G(p_2 \leftrightarrow p_1) dA(p_2) \\ & + \int_A \int_A L_e(p_3 \rightarrow p_2) f(p_3 \rightarrow p_2 \rightarrow p_1) G(p_3 \leftrightarrow p_2) \\ & \quad \times f(p_2 \rightarrow p_1 \rightarrow p_0) G(p_2 \leftrightarrow p_1) dA(p_3) dA(p_2) + \dots \end{aligned}$$



Light transport equation

- **Integral over paths**
 - The infinite sum can be written compactly as

$$L(p_1 \rightarrow p_0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(\bar{p}_n) \quad \bar{p}_n = p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$$

Ray scatter path

- P is on the camera plane and p_n is on a light source

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{p}_n) &= \underbrace{\int_A \int_A \cdots \int_A}_{n-1} L_e(p_n \rightarrow p_{n-1}) \\ &\times \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} f(p_{i+1} \rightarrow p_i \rightarrow p_{i-1}) G(p_{i+1} \leftrightarrow p_i) \right) dA(p_2) \cdots dA(p_n) \end{aligned}$$

Light transport equation

- **Integral over paths**
 - Throughput of the path
 - The product of a path's BSDF and geometry terms

$$T(\bar{p}_n) = \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} f(p_{i+1} \rightarrow p_i \rightarrow p_{i-1}) G(p_{i+1} \leftrightarrow p_i)$$



$$P(\bar{p}_n) = \underbrace{\int_A \int_A \cdots \int_A}_{n-1} L_e(p_n \rightarrow p_{n-1}) T(\bar{p}_n) dA(p_2) \cdots dA(p_n)$$

Light transport equation

- **Delta distributions in the integrand**
 - The integrand will generally be integrated out
 - Reduce dimensionality
- **For example**
 - A point light source

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{p}_2) &= \int_A L_e(p_2 \rightarrow p_1) f(p_2 \rightarrow p_1 \rightarrow p_0) G(p_2 \leftrightarrow p_1) dA(p_2) \\ &= \frac{\delta(p_{\text{light}} - p_2) L_e(p_{\text{light}} \rightarrow p_1)}{p(p_{\text{light}})} f(p_2 \rightarrow p_1 \rightarrow p_0) G(p_2 \leftrightarrow p_1) \end{aligned}$$

Light transport equation

- **Partitioning the integrand**
 - We can decompose the path integral into three components

$$L(p_1 \rightarrow p_0) = P(\bar{p}_1) + P(\bar{p}_2) + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} P(\bar{p}_i)$$

- First term
 - Emitted radiance at p_1
- Second term
 - Solve with an accurate direct lighting solution
- Third term (indirect lighting)
 - Solve with faster but less accurate approach

Light transport equation

- Partitioning the integrand
 - For each term
 - Partition the light sources: small area light sources and large area light sources (sampled differently)

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{p}_n) &= \int_{A^{n-1}} (L_{e,s}(p_n \rightarrow p_{n-1}) + L_{e,l}(p_n \rightarrow p_{n-1})) T(\bar{p}_n) dA(p_2) \cdots dA(p_n) \\ &= \boxed{\int_{A^n} L_{e,s}(p_n \rightarrow p_{n-1}) T(\bar{p}_n) dA(p_2) \cdots dA(p_n)} \\ &\quad + \boxed{\int_{A^n} L_{e,l}(p_n \rightarrow p_{n-1}) T(\bar{p}_n) dA(p_2) \cdots dA(p_n)}. \end{aligned}$$

- Partition the BSDF: delta and non-delta distribution

$$\begin{aligned} P(\bar{p}_n) &= \int_{A^{n-1}} L_e(p_n \rightarrow p_{n-1}) \\ &\times \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} (f_\Delta(p_{i+1} \rightarrow p_i \rightarrow p_{i-1}) + f_{-\Delta}(p_{i+1} \rightarrow p_i \rightarrow p_{i-1})) \\ &\quad \times G(p_{i+1} \leftrightarrow p_i) dA(p_2) \cdots dA(p_n) \end{aligned}$$

3. Path tracing for global lighting

Path tracing

- **Path tracing**
 - The first general-purpose unbiased Monte-Carlo light transport algorithm (by Kajiya 1986)
 - Incrementally generate paths of scattering
 - Starting from the camera
 - Ending at light sources
- **Overview**
 - Starting from the path integral form of LTE

$$L(p_1 \rightarrow p_0) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(\bar{p}_i)$$

Path tracing

- **Two problems to solve**
 - How to turn infinite sum to finite sum?
 - Given a particular term, how to generate one or more paths to compute integral?
- **Physical fact**
 - Paths with more vertices scatter less light (conservation of energy)
 - We will always estimate the first few terms, then start to apply Russian roulette
 - Stop sampling after a finite number of terms

Path tracing

- Computing with Russian roulette sampling

- Three term estimates as

$$P(\bar{p}_1) + P(\bar{p}_2) + P(\bar{p}_3) + \frac{1}{1-q} \sum_{i=4}^{\infty} P(\bar{p}_i)$$

- Recursively apply Russian roulette sampling

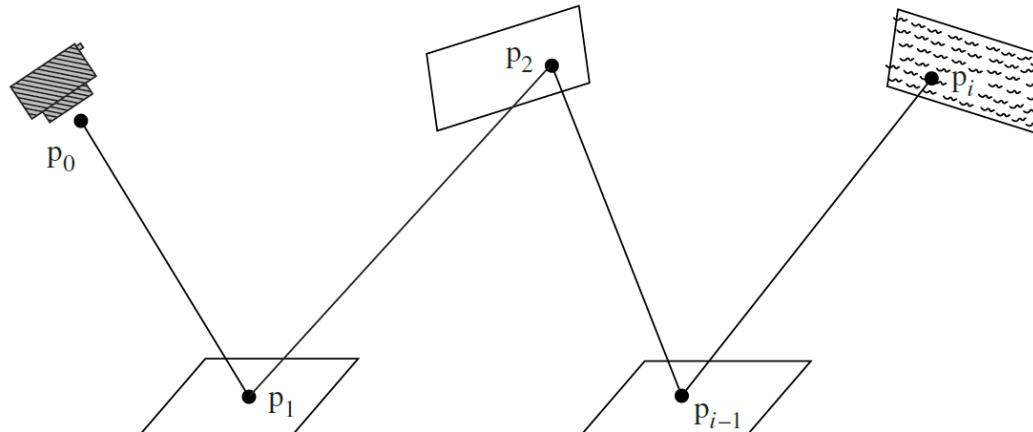
$$\frac{1}{1-q_1} \left(P(\bar{p}_1) + \frac{1}{1-q_2} \left(P(\bar{p}_2) + \frac{1}{1-q_3} \left(P(\bar{p}_3) + \cdots \right) \right) \right)$$

Path tracing

- Path sampling
 - How to evaluate each P term?
 - Look again at the form of P term

$$P(\bar{p}_n) = \underbrace{\int_A \int_A \cdots \int_A}_{n-1} L_e(p_n \rightarrow p_{n-1}) \\ \times \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} f(p_{i+1} \rightarrow p_i \rightarrow p_{i-1}) G(p_{i+1} \leftrightarrow p_i) \right) dA(p_2) \cdots dA(p_n)$$

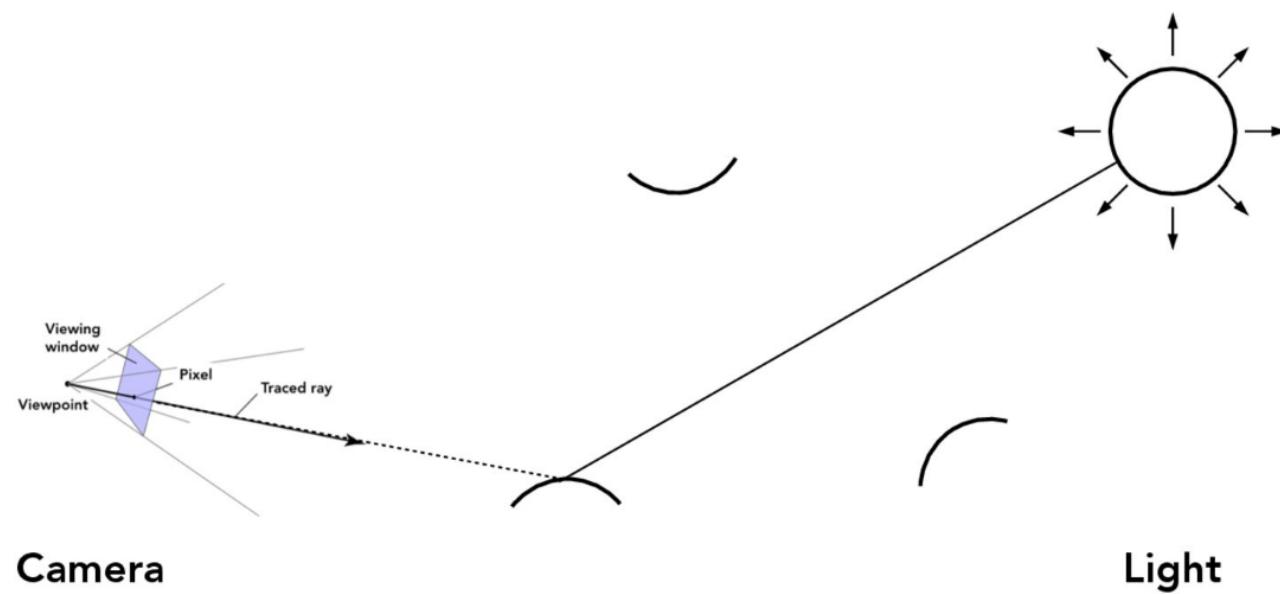
- Sample surface areas



Path tracing

- Implementation
 - Light path

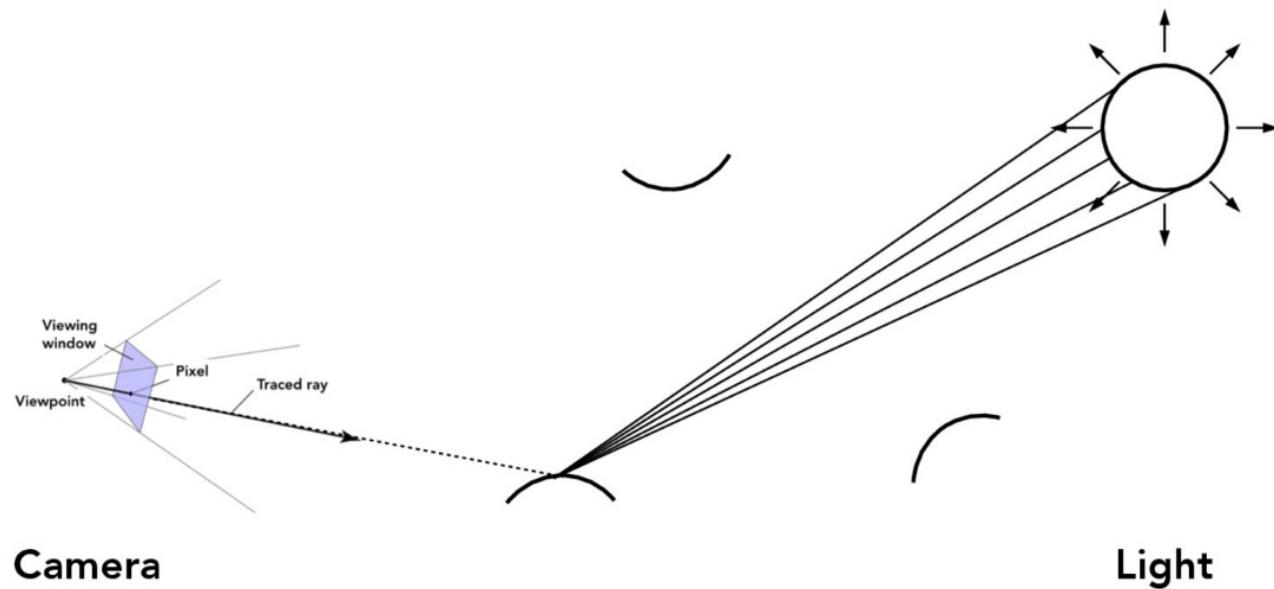
1-Bounce Path Connecting Ray to Light



Path tracing

- Implementation
 - Light path

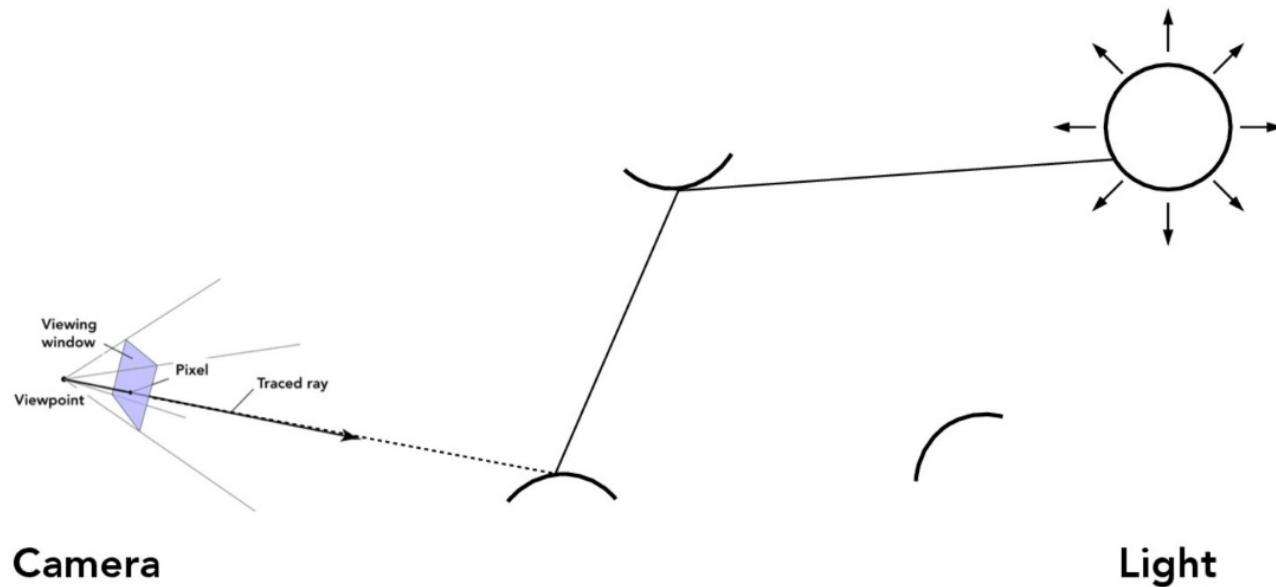
1-Bounce Paths Connecting Ray to Light



Path tracing

- Implementation
 - Light path

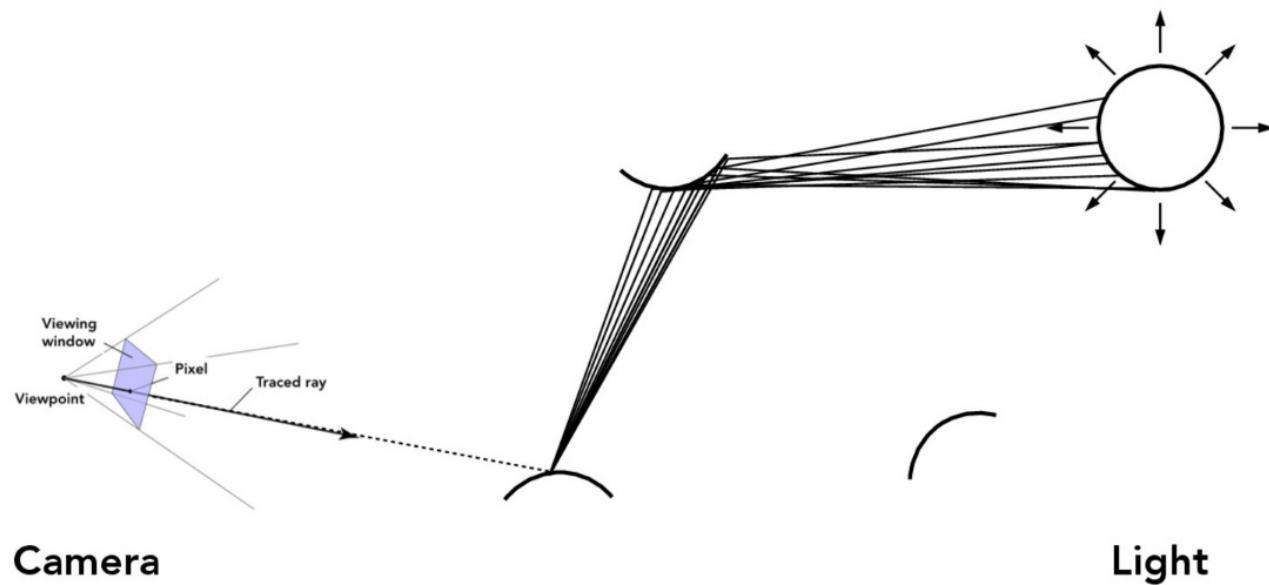
2-Bounce Path Connecting Ray to Light



Path tracing

- Implementation
 - Light path

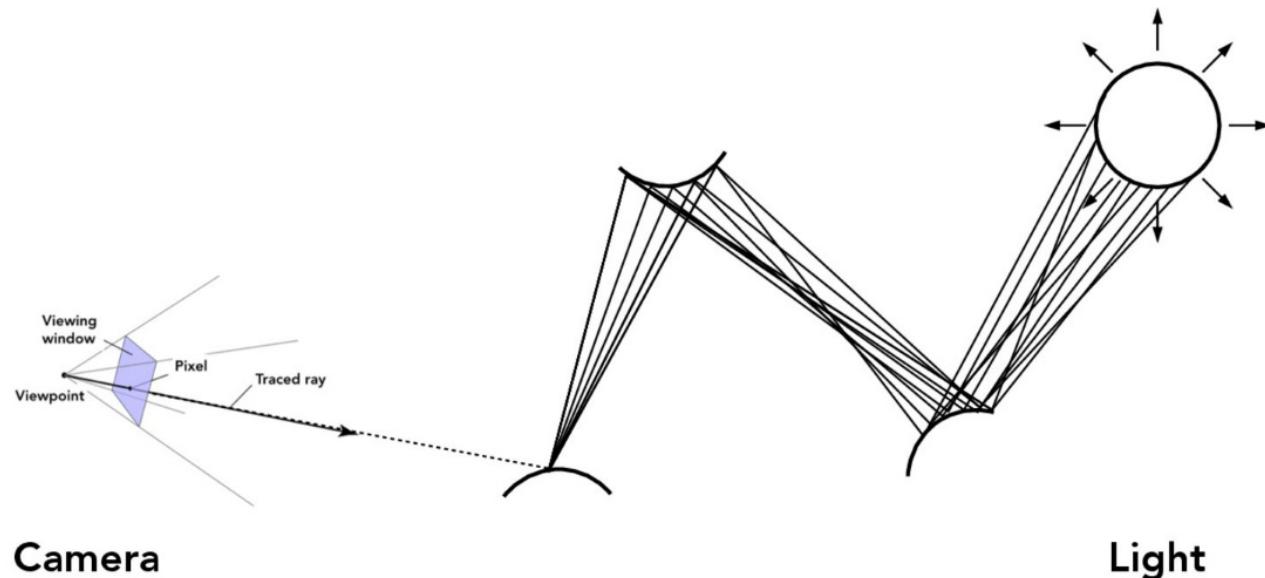
2-Bounce Paths Connecting Ray to Light



Path tracing

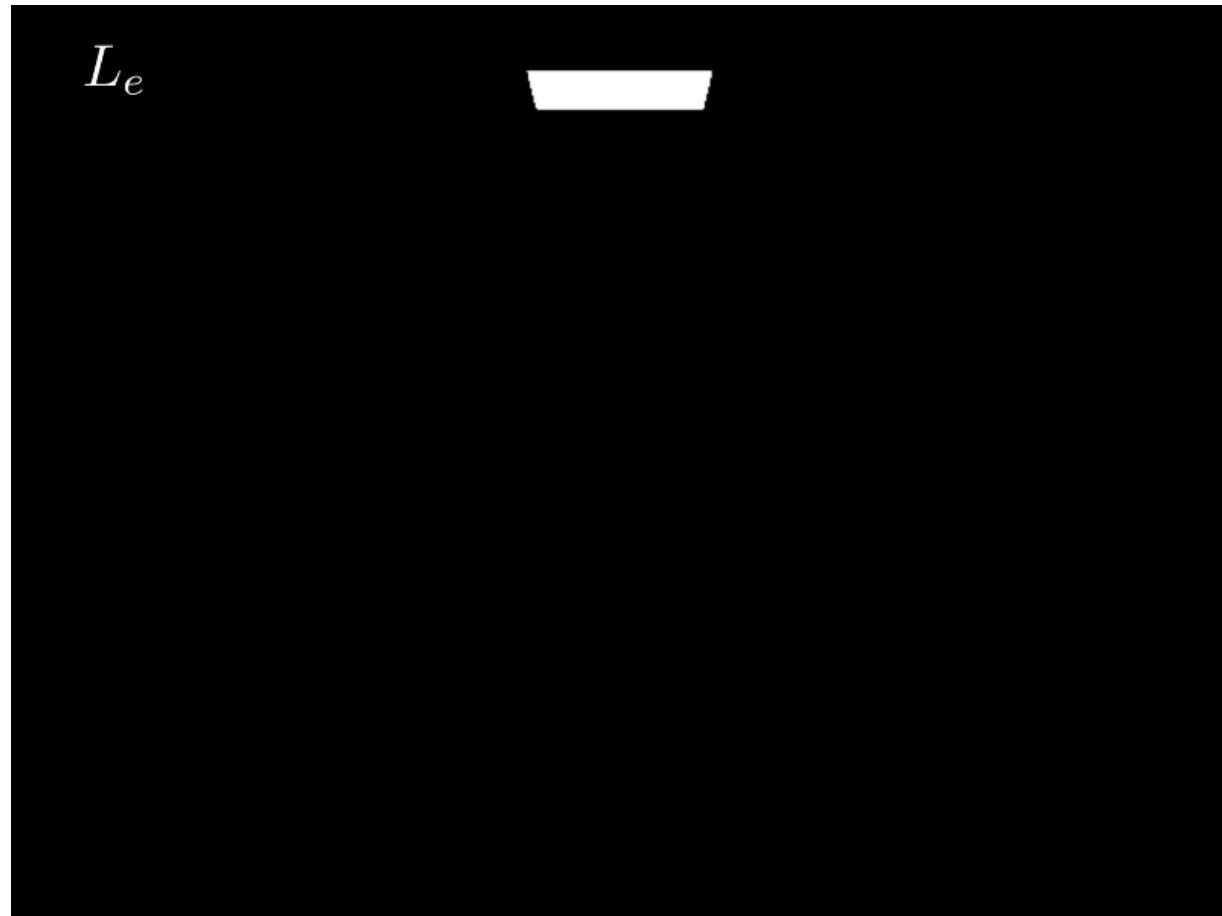
- Implementation
 - Light path

3-Bounce Paths Connecting Ray to Light



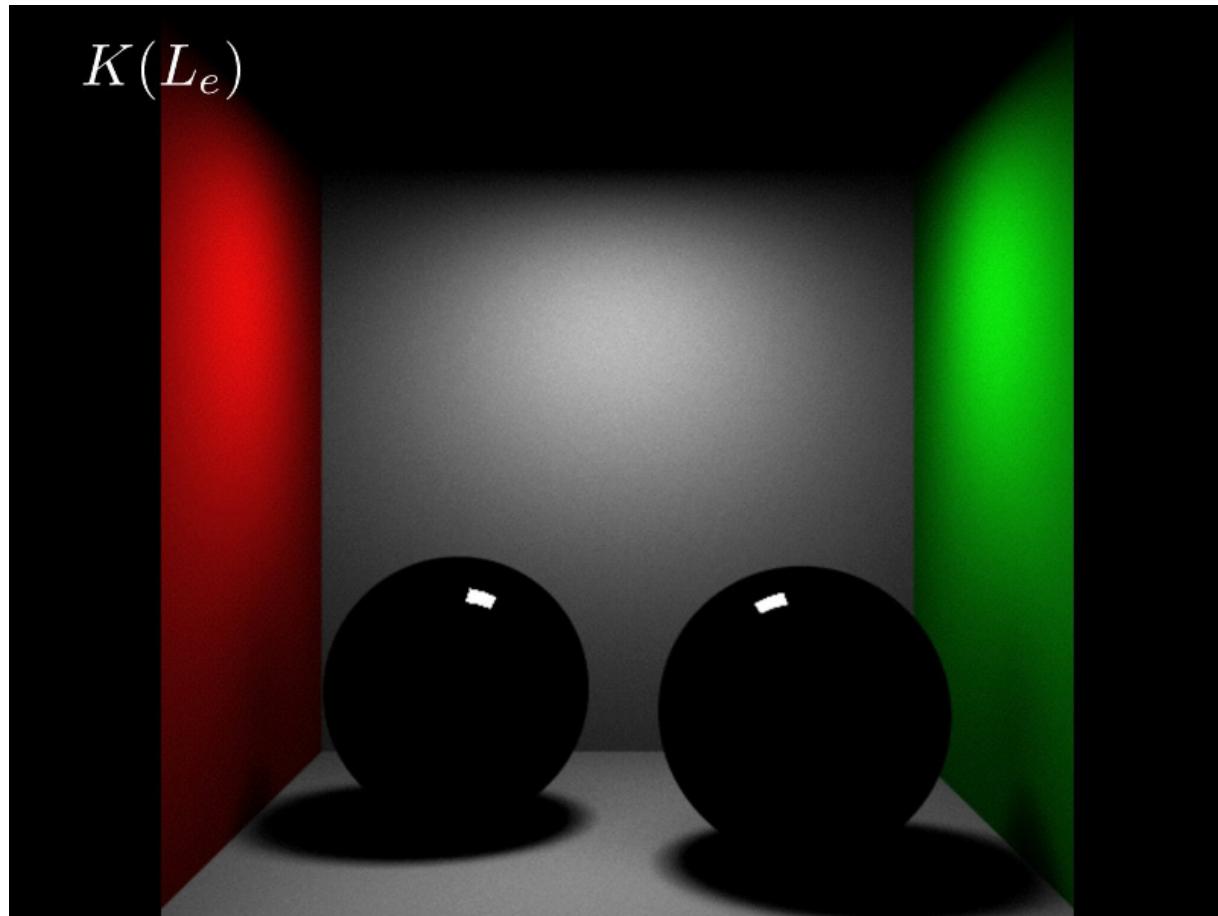
Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



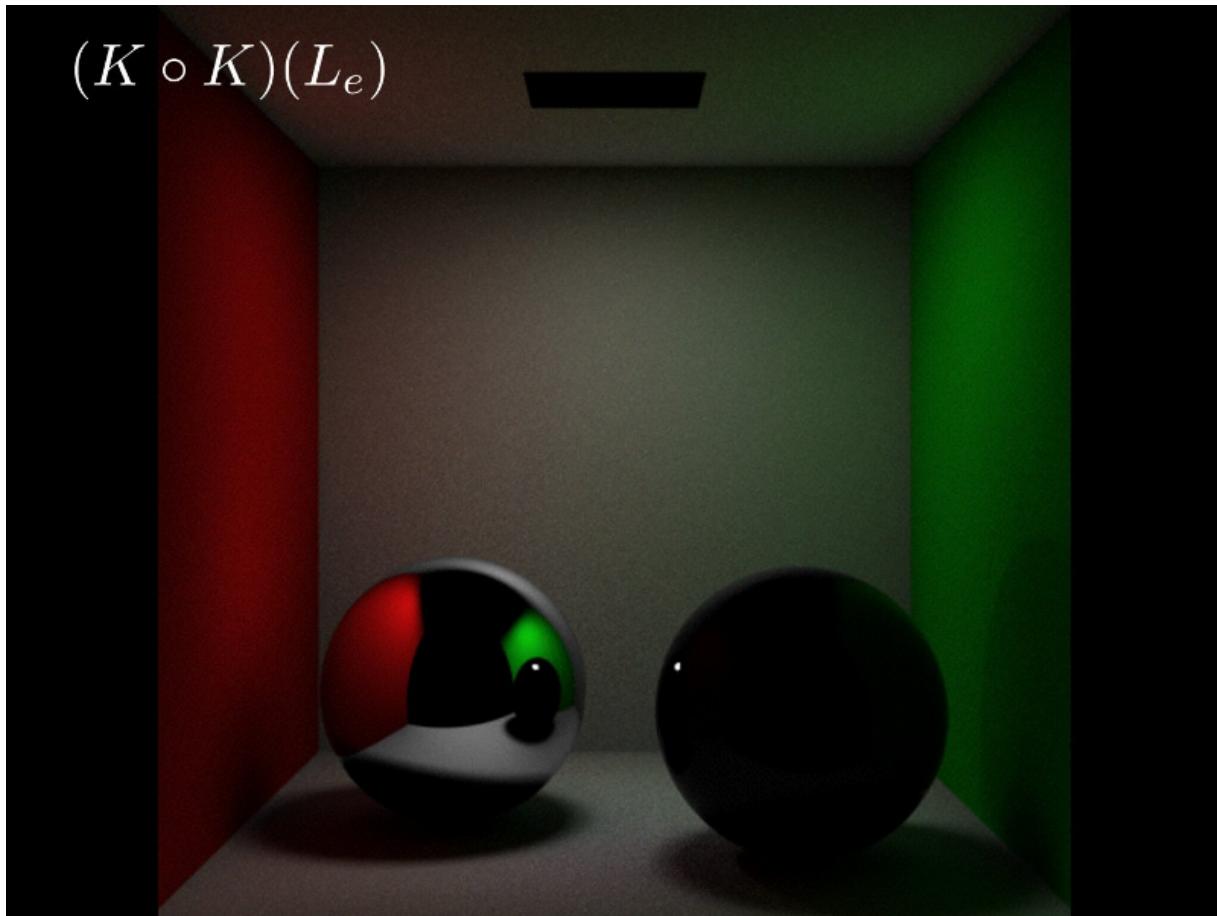
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- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



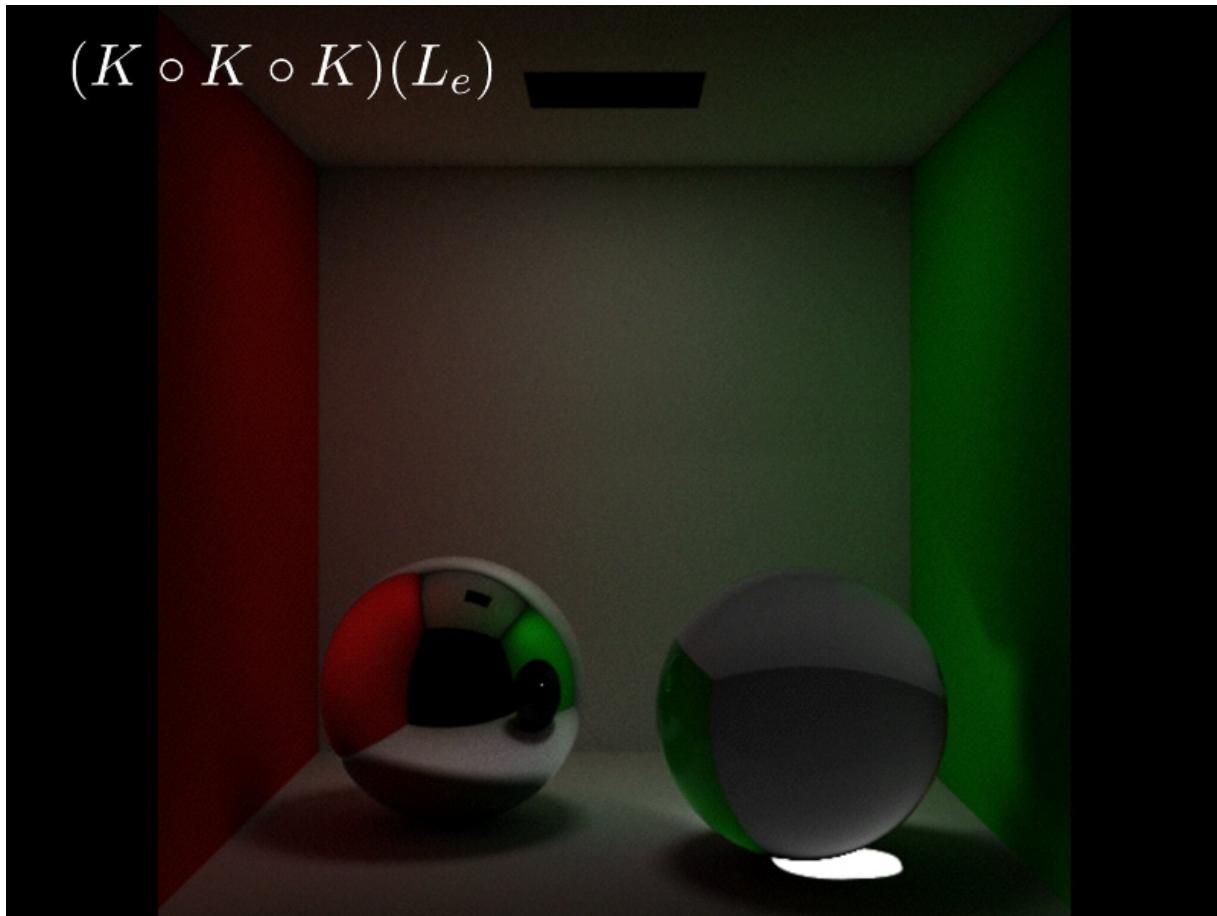
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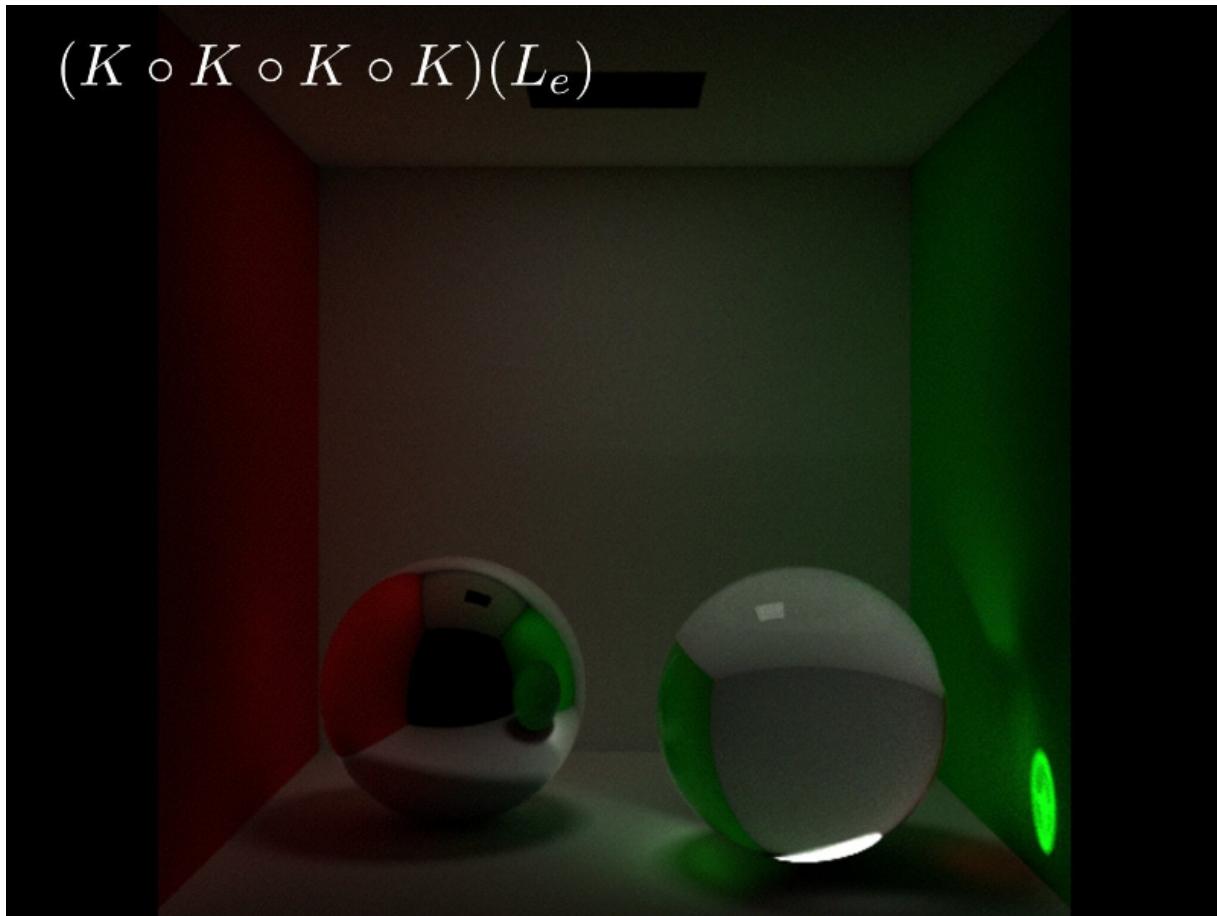
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- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



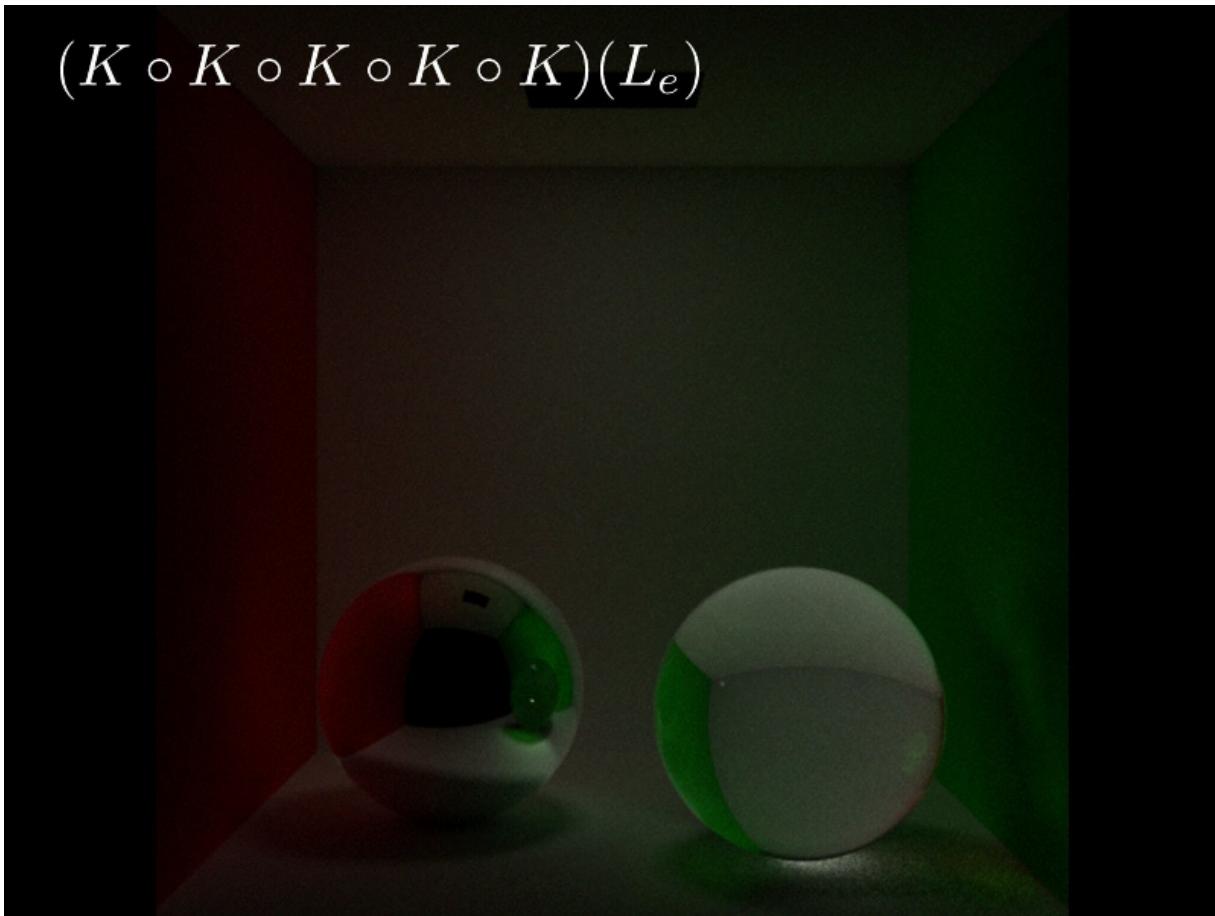
Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



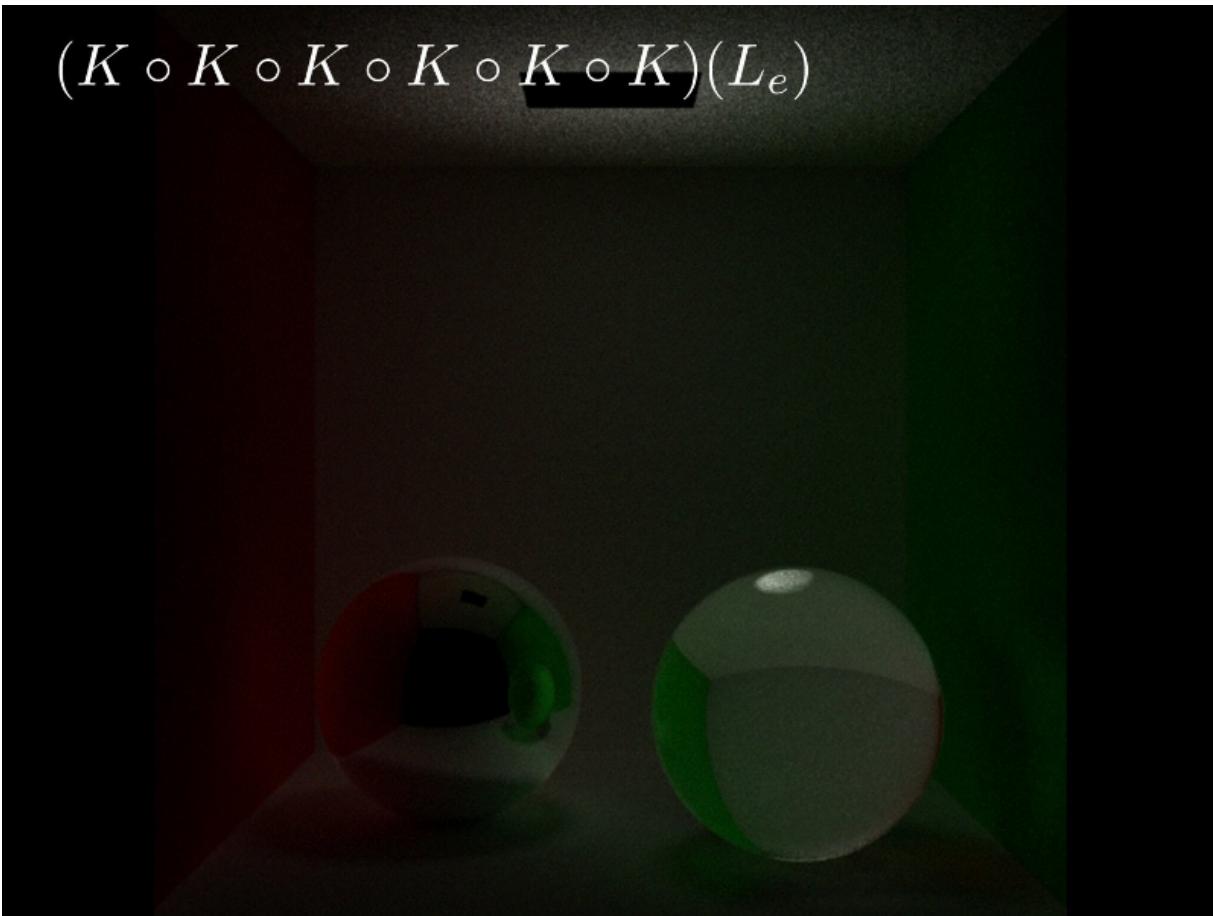
Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



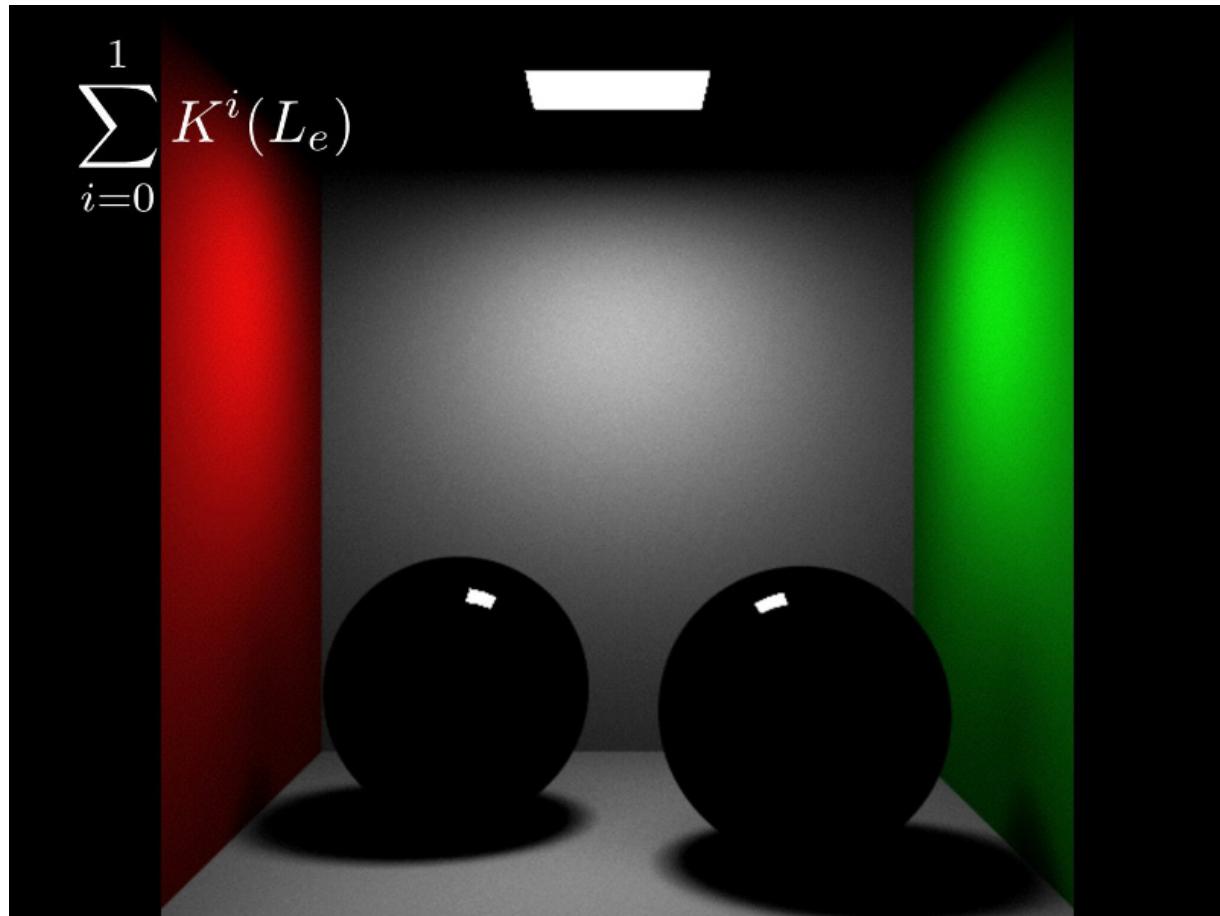
Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)

$$\sum_{i=0}^0 K^i(L_e)$$

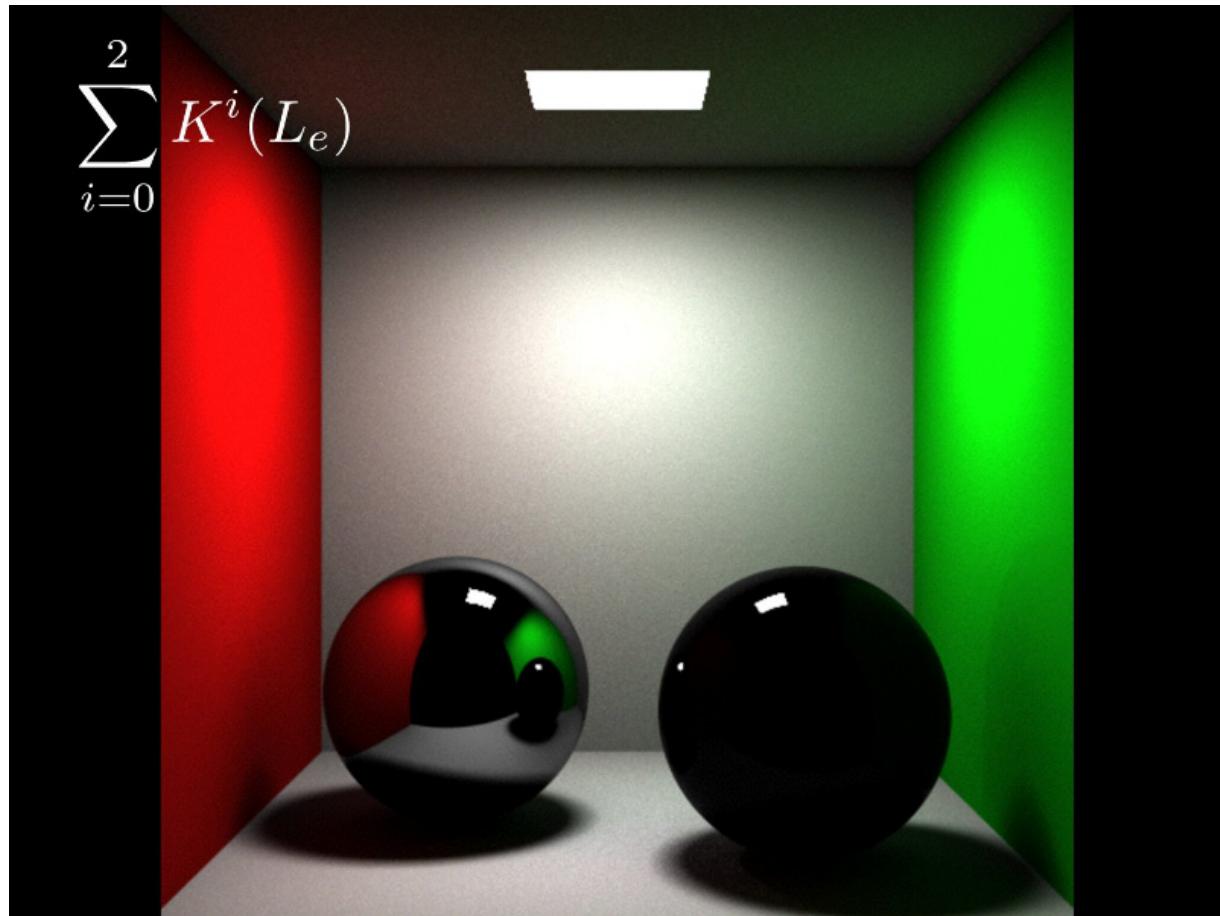

Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



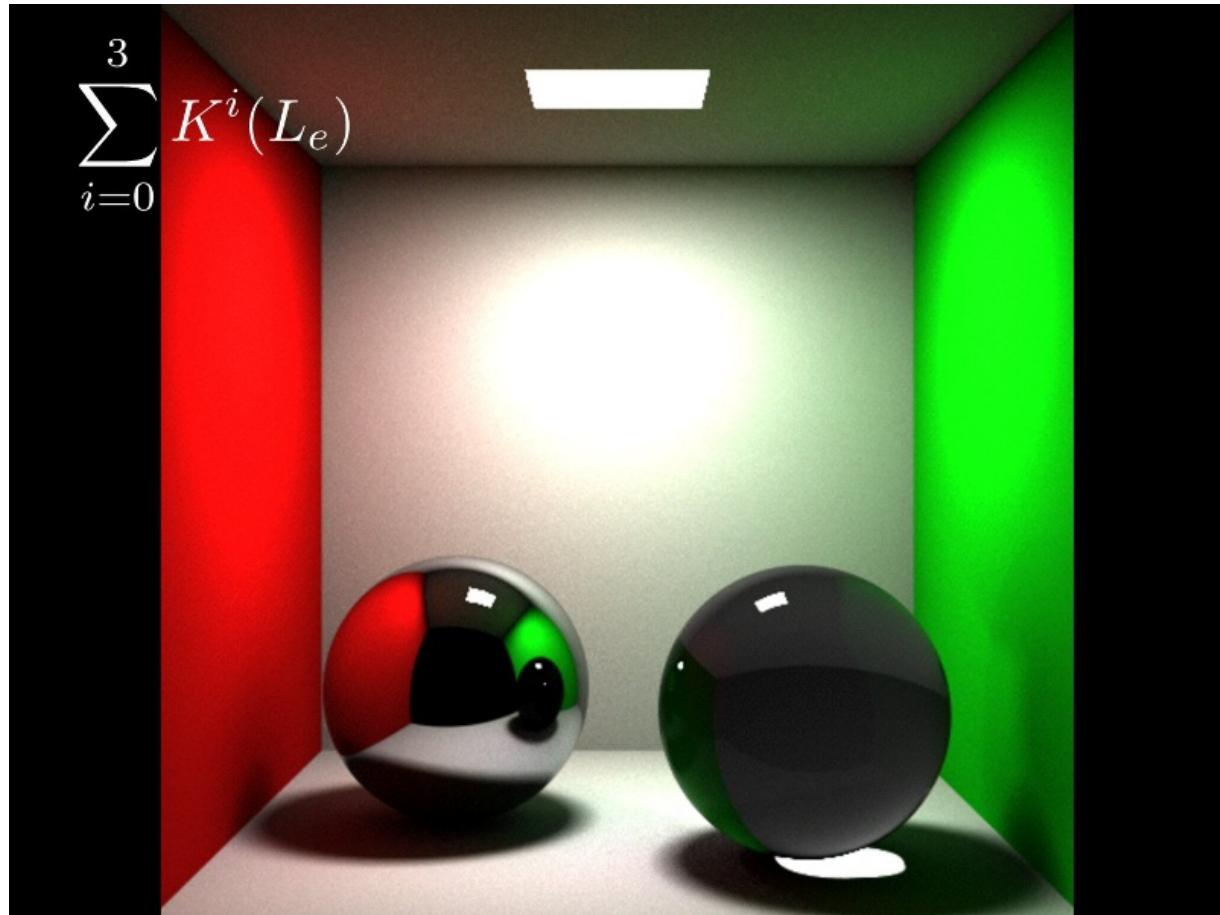
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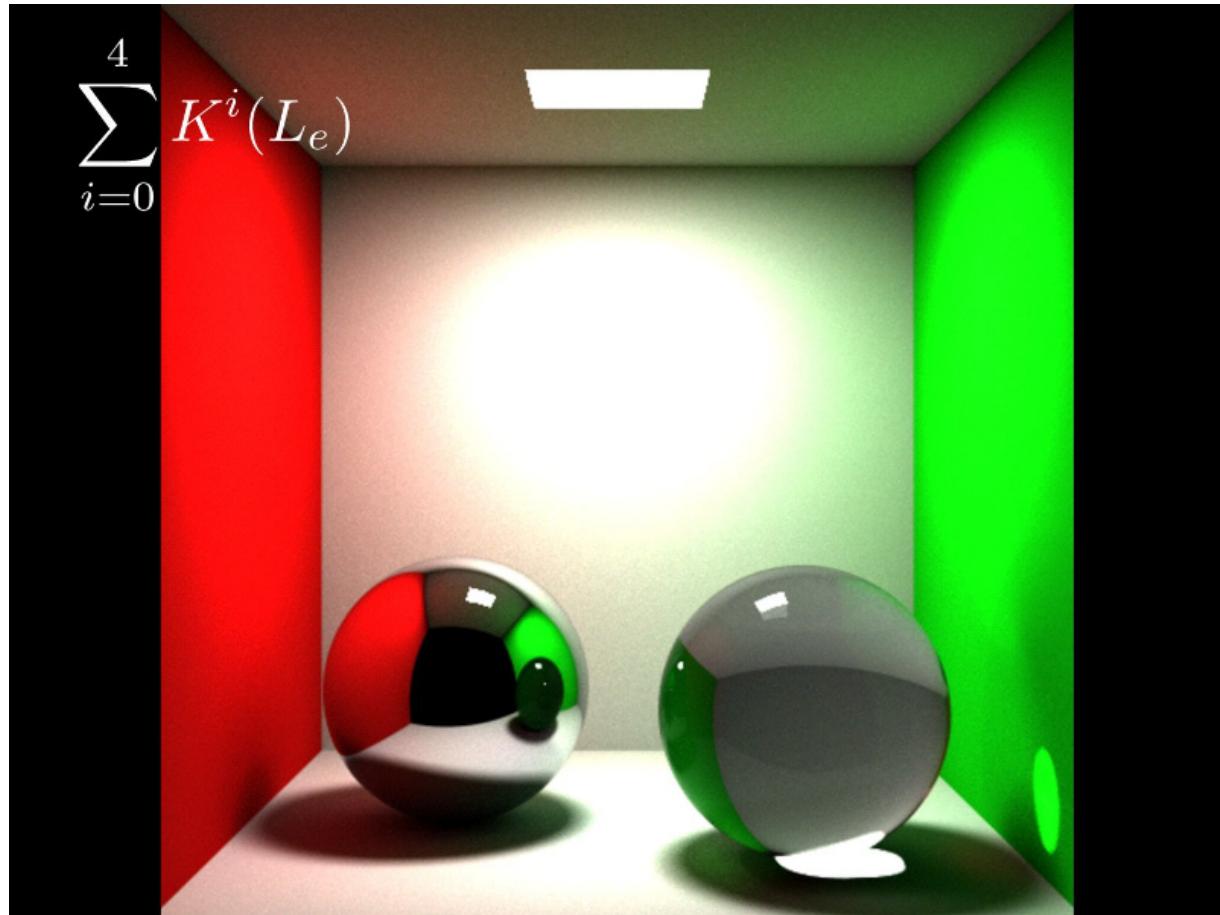
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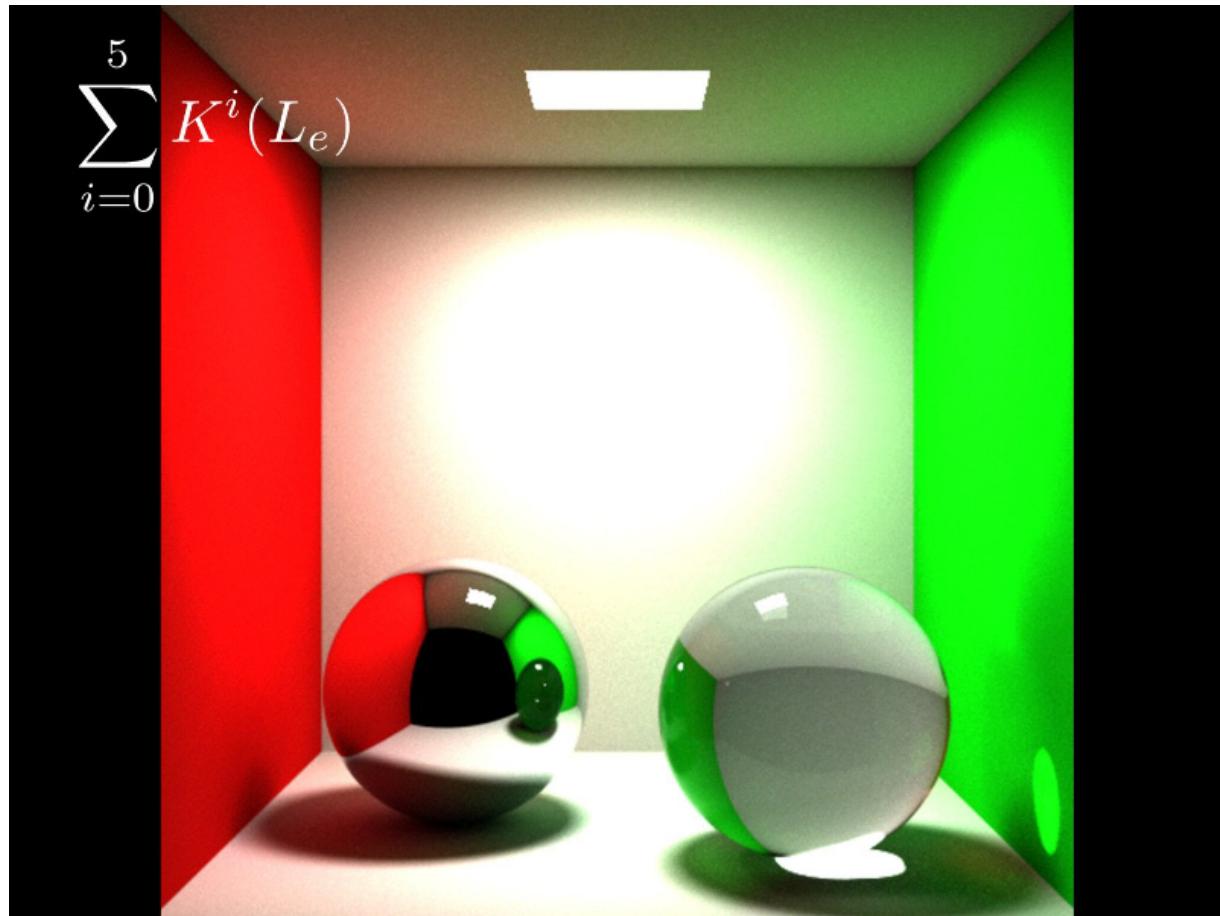
Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



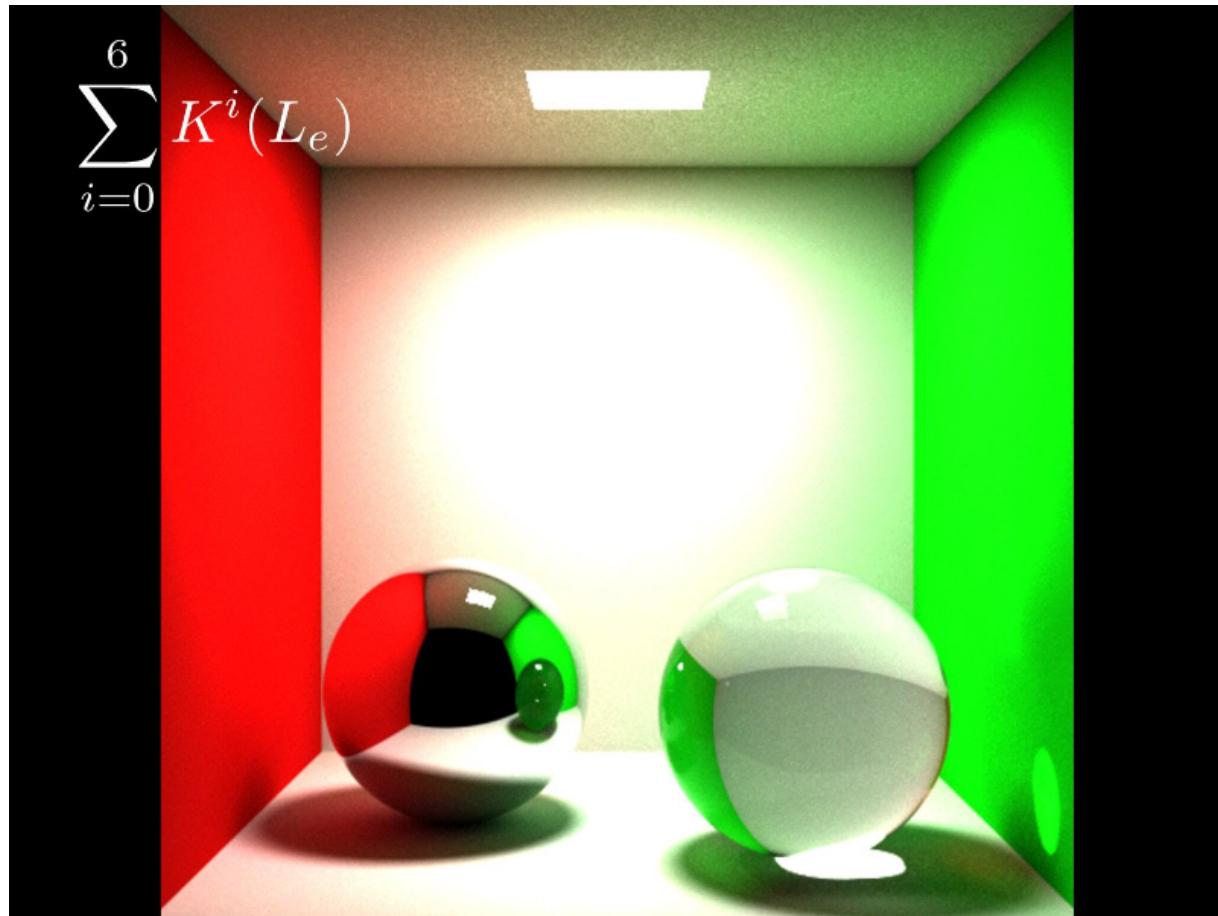
Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



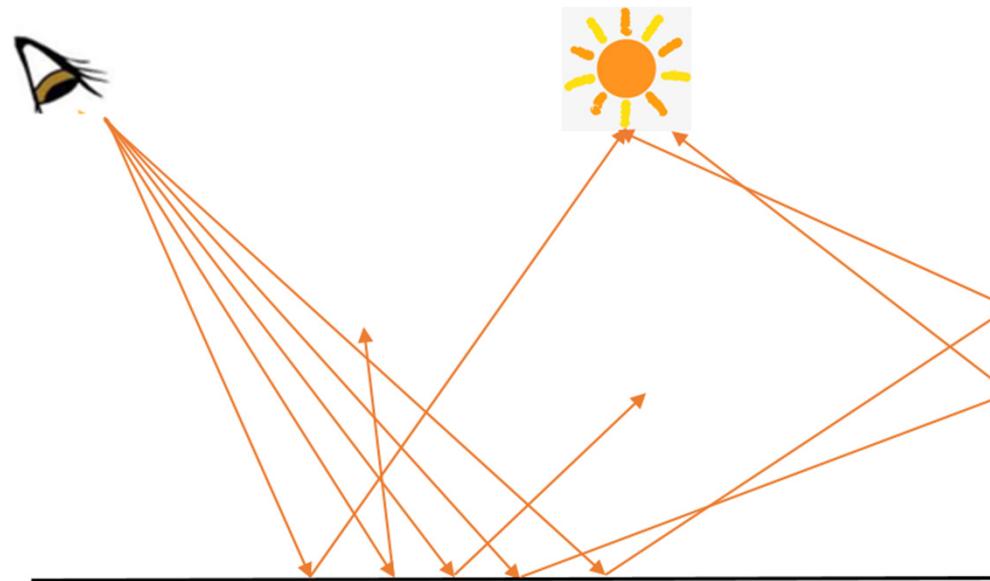
Path tracing

- Path integral of LTE ($K=P$)



Path tracing

- **Approximation**
 - Instead of shooting multiple rays per intersection, we shoot only one ray
 - Instead of shooting only a few rays per pixel, we should large amount of rays per pixel



Path tracing

- Different sample per pixel ray



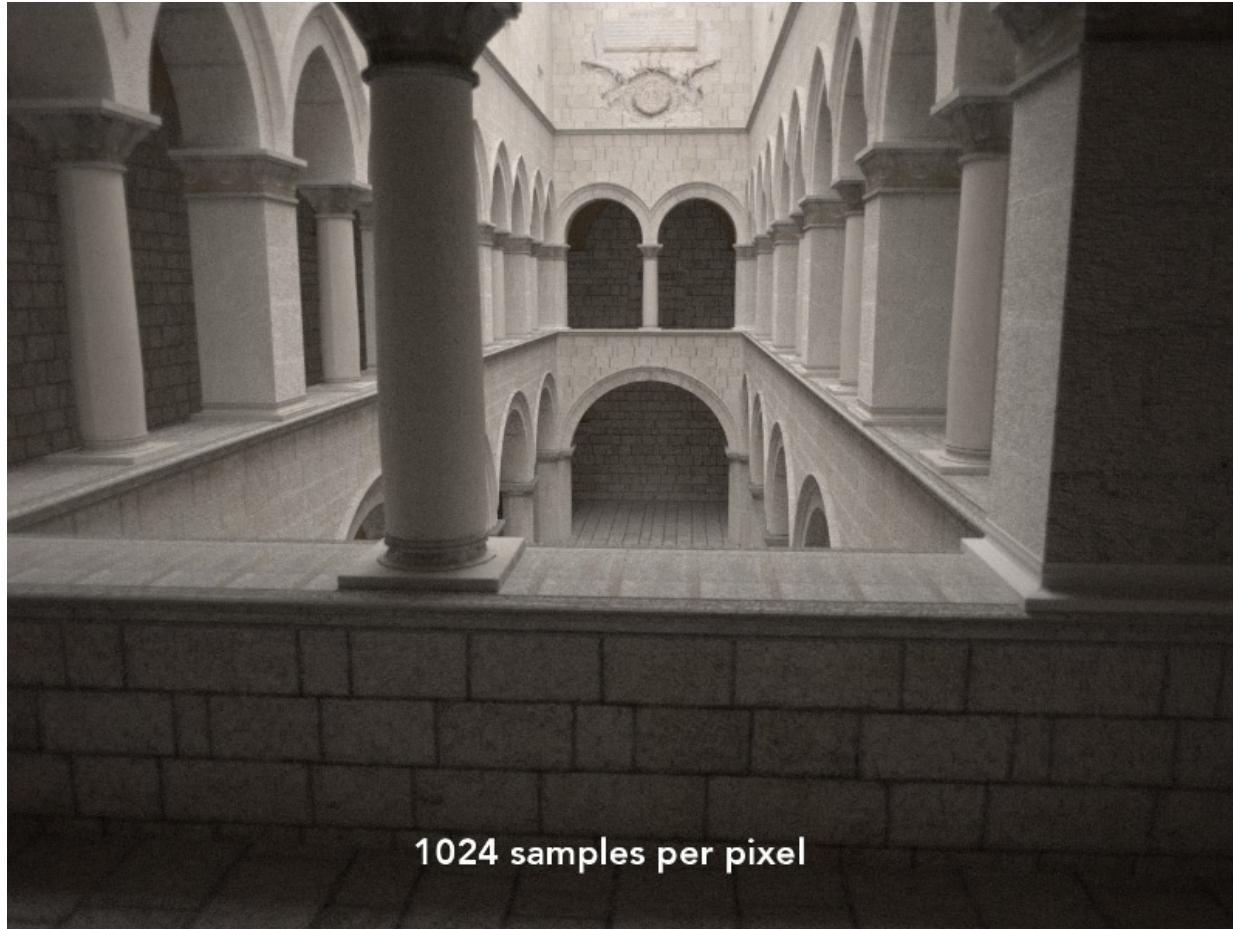
Path tracing

- Different sample per pixel ray



Path tracing

- Different sample per pixel ray



Path tracing

- Different path length (bounce number)



Path tracing

- Different path length (bounce number)



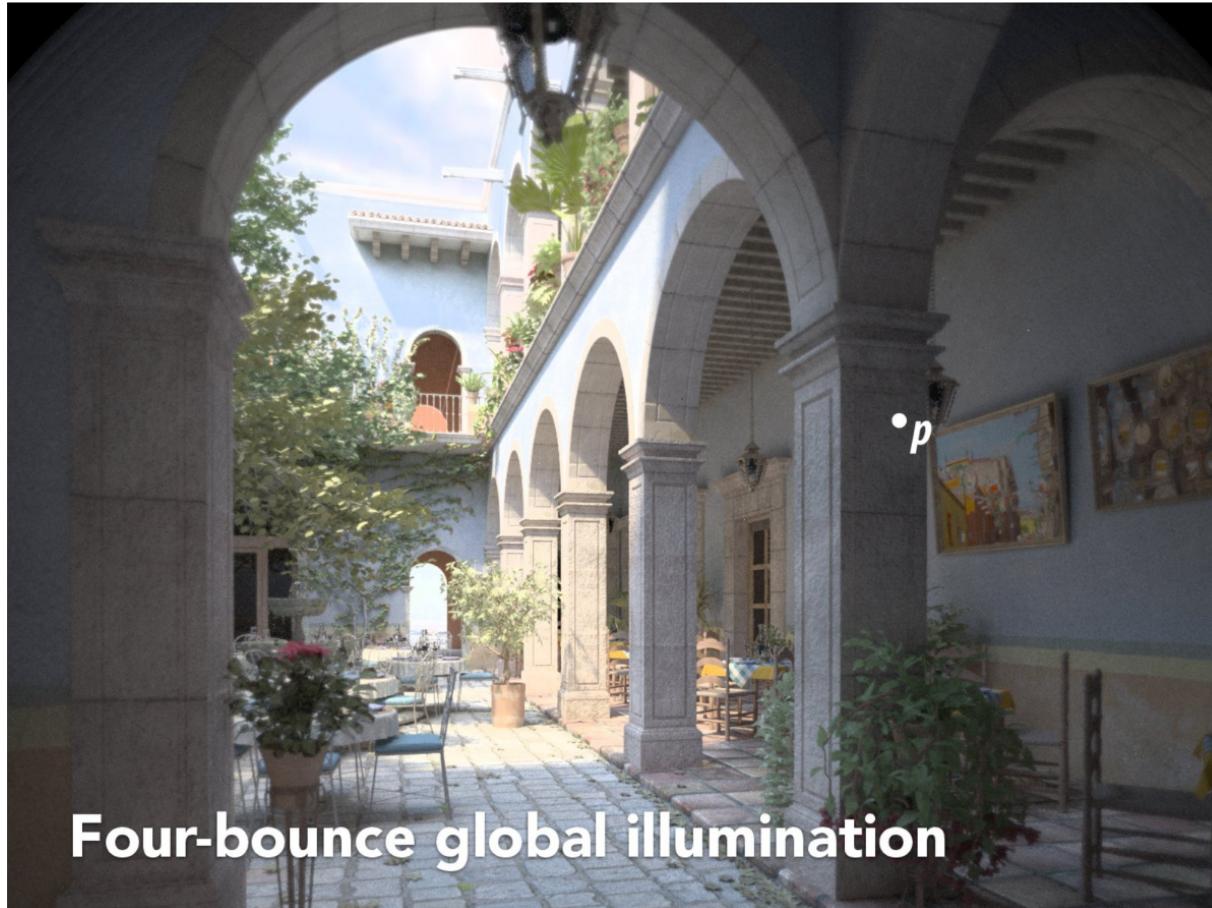
Path tracing

- Different path length (bounce number)



Path tracing

- Different path length (bounce number)



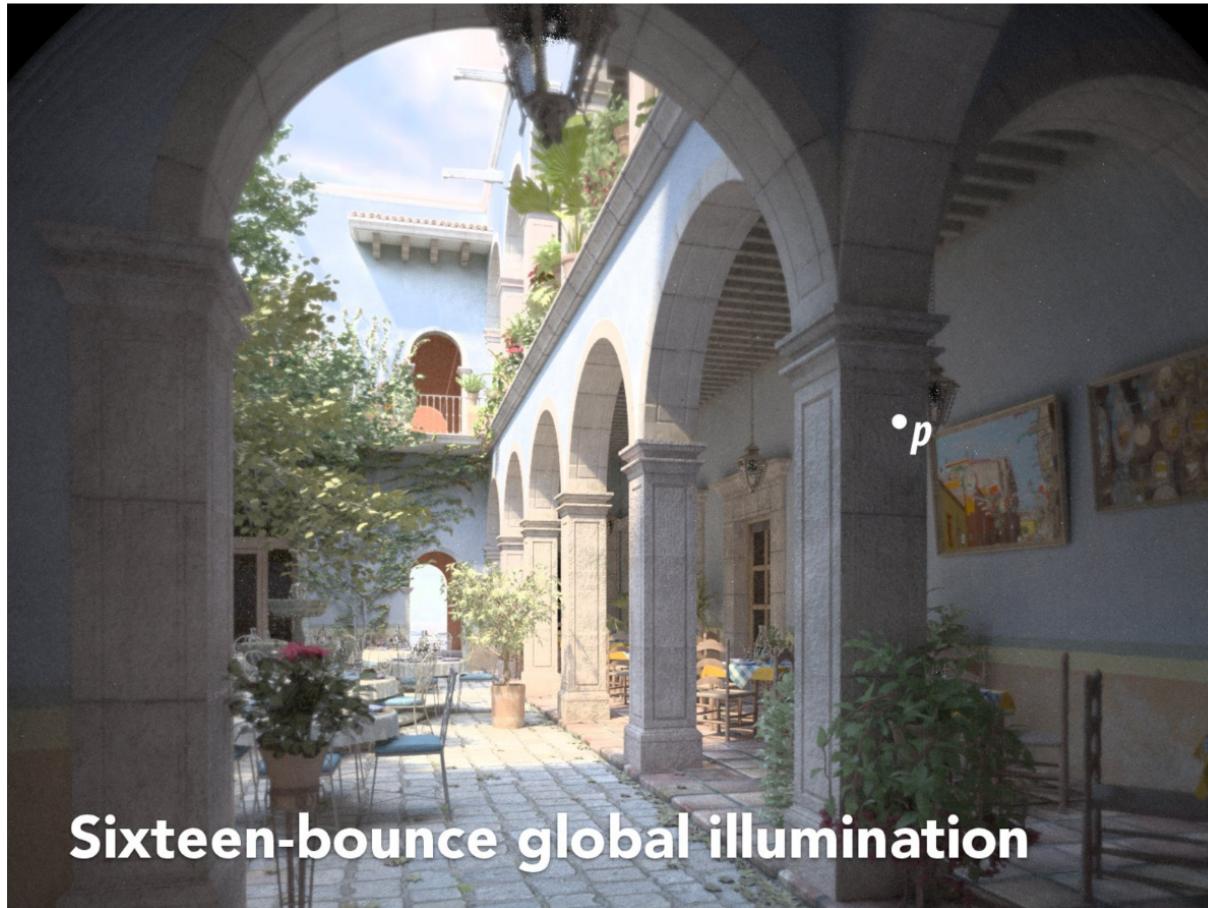
Path tracing

- Different path length (bounce number)



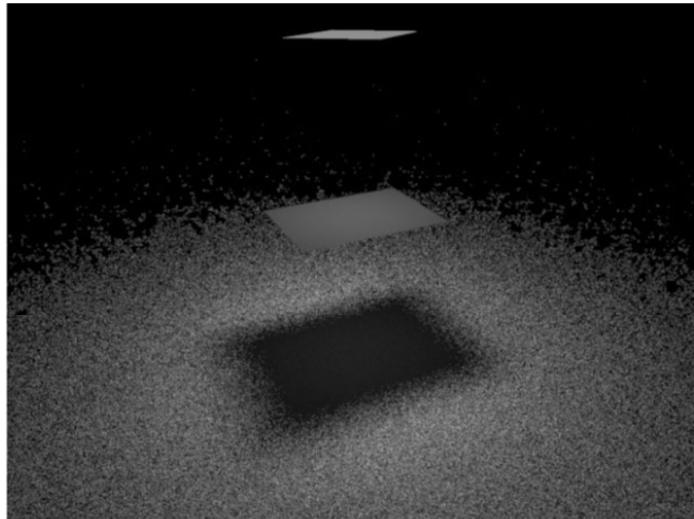
Path tracing

- Different path length (bounce number)

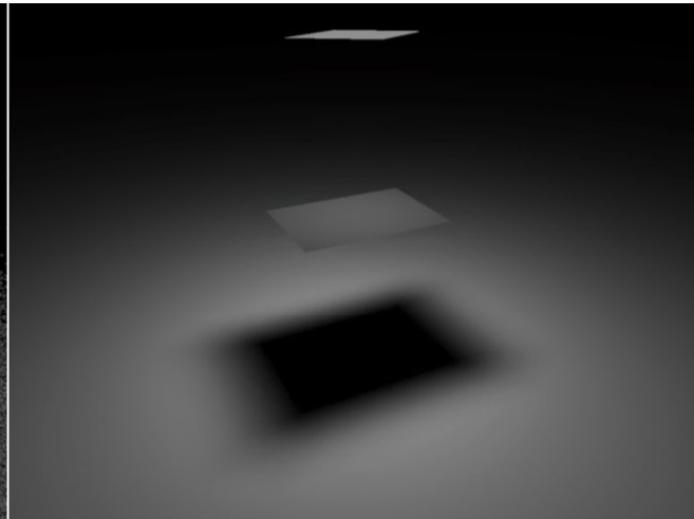


Path tracing

- Solid angle v.s. light area sampling



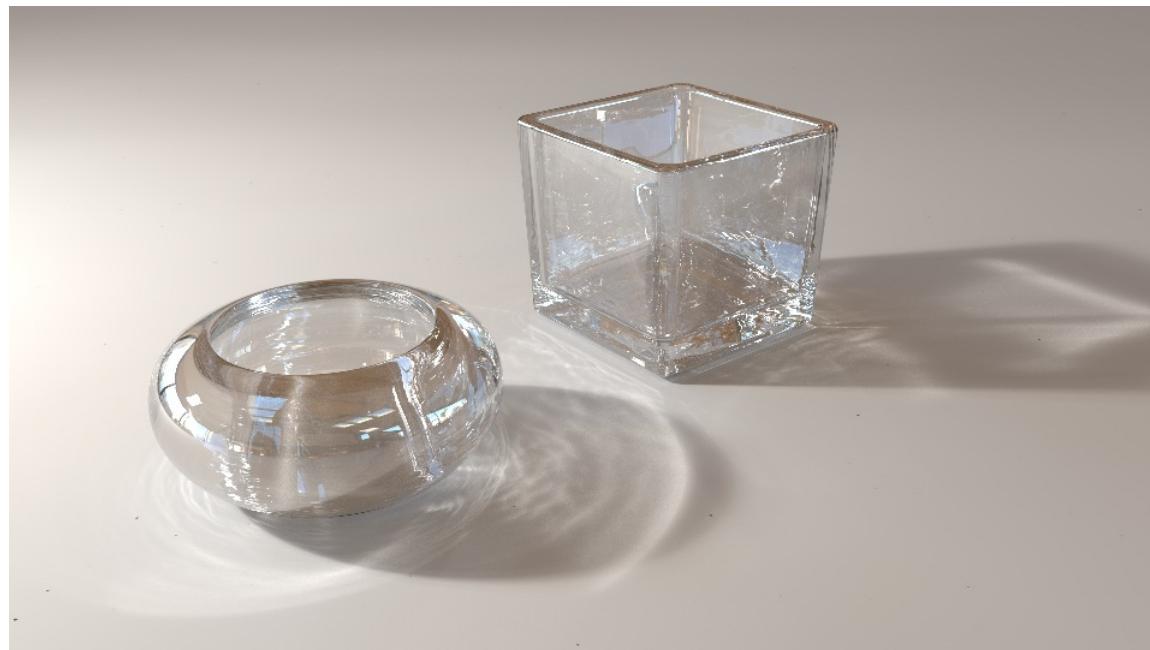
Solid angle sampling



Light area sampling

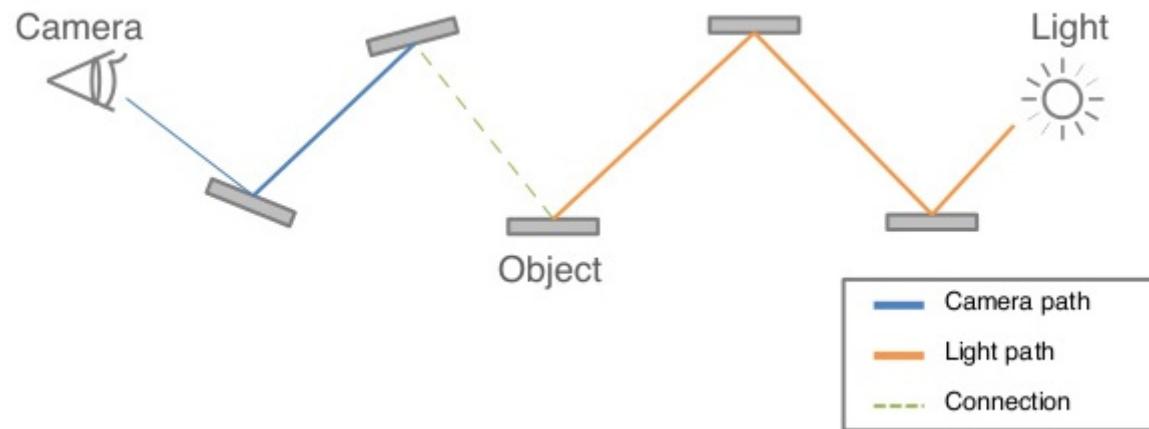
Bidirectional path tracing

- **Problem for path tracing**
 - Exhibit high variance for particular lighting conditions
 - For light with limited area but with strong intensity
 - For example, caustics



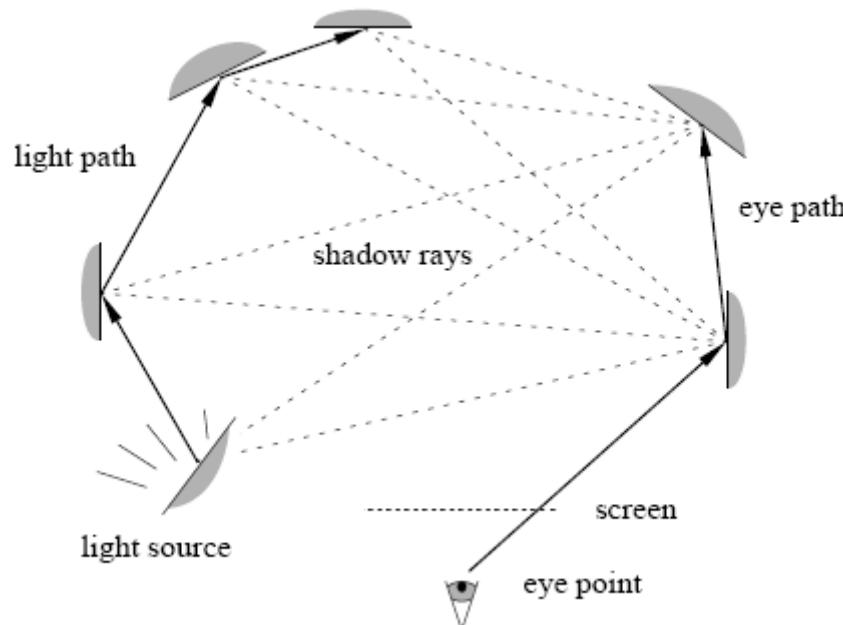
Bidirectional path tracing

- **Basic principle**
 - Constructing paths
 - From both camera and light sources
 - Two paths are connected in the middle with visibility ray



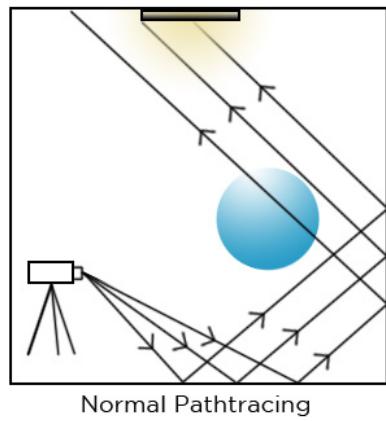
Bidirectional path tracing

- For each vertex on camera path
 - Check visibility for each vertex on light path
 - Render each sampled path with BSDF

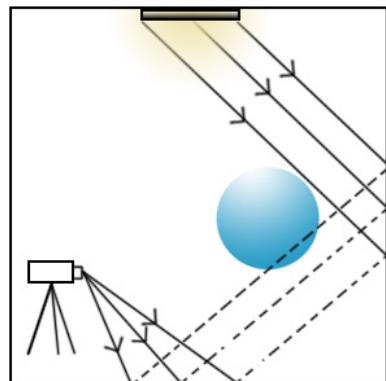


Bidirectional path tracing

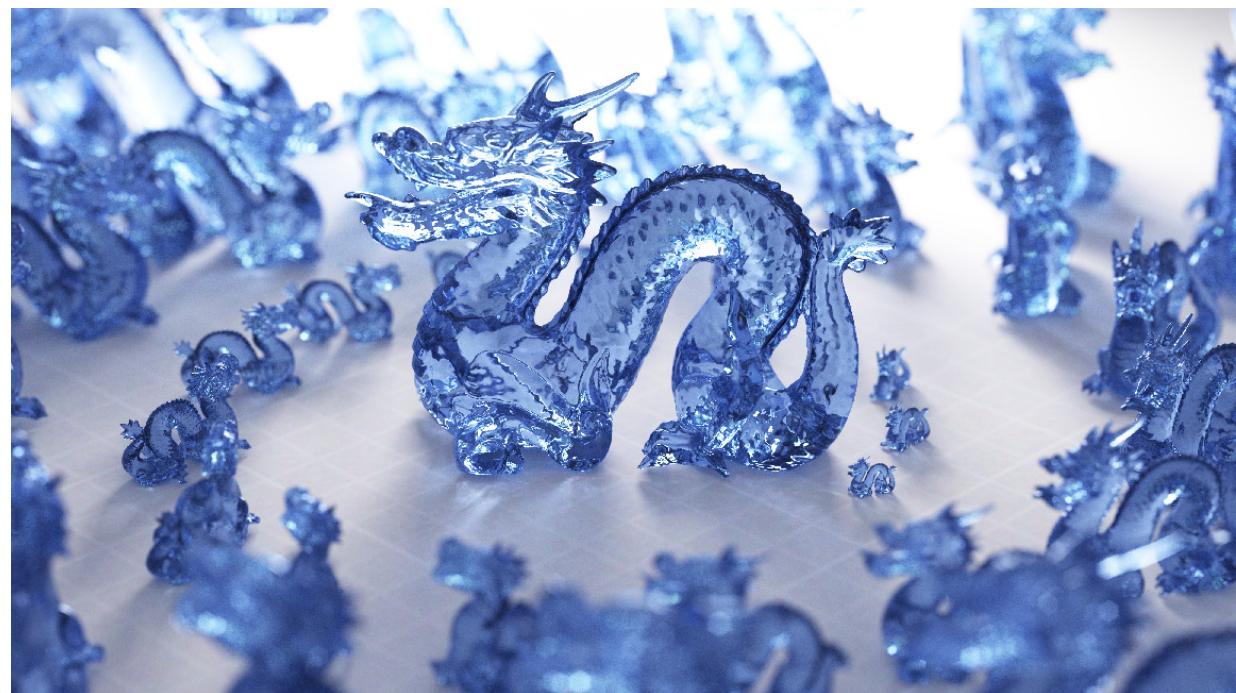
- Rendering



Normal Pathtracing



Bidirectional pathtracing



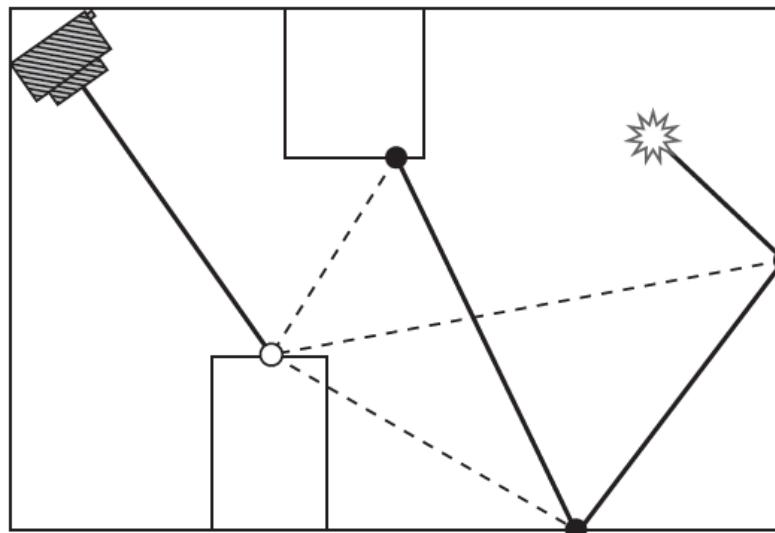
4. Instant global illumination

Instant global illumination

- **Problem for (bidirectional) path tracing**
 - A cost requiring tens to thousands of samples in each pixel for non-noisy image
 - Undesirable computational cost
- **Basic idea**
 - Follow a small number of light-carrying paths starting from the light source
 - Construct point light source (virtual light sources) when the paths intersect surfaces in the scene
 - These point sources approximate the indirect radiance distribution

Instant global illumination

- **Virtual light sources**
 - Point light source by light path intersection with surface
 - Indirection illumination
 - Connection to bi-directional path tracing
 - Camera path: one segment
 - Light path: multiple segments



Instant global illumination

- **Handling close point**
 - G term may become very large

$$G(p \leftrightarrow p') = V(p \leftrightarrow p') \frac{|\cos \theta| |\cos \theta'|}{\| p - p' \|^2}$$

- Bright splotches in the image



Instant global illumination

- **Handling close point**

- Reply on identity

$$a = \min(a, b) + \max(a - b, 0)$$

- Rewrite reflectance integral

$$\int_A f(p, p') G(p \leftrightarrow p') dA$$

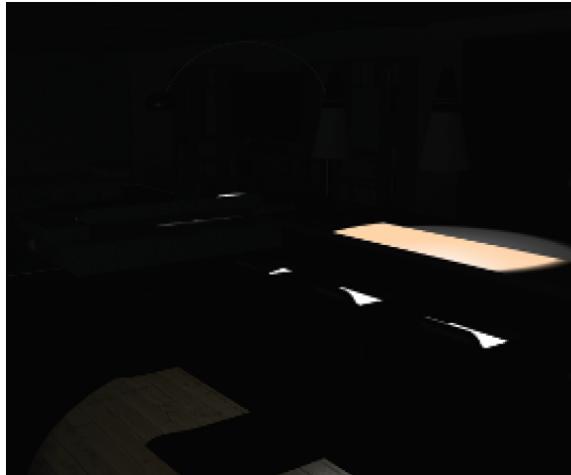


$$\int_A f(p, p') \min(G(p_i \leftrightarrow p_1), G_{\text{limit}}) dA$$

$$+ \int_A f(p, p') \max(G(p_i \leftrightarrow p_1) - G_{\text{limit}}, 0) dA$$

Instant global illumination

- Rendering with virtual light sources



Direct illumination only



Using 4 virtual lights



Using 64 virtual lights

Next lecture: Global illumination 2