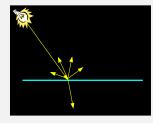
Lighting and Shading

A Bit About Light

when light strikes a surface...

- some energy is absorbed (and is converted to heat)
- some is transmitted (if not opaque)
- · the rest is reflected



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Lights and Materials

We see what we see because light bounces off things in the world and into our eyes.

The interaction of light and surfaces is essential for -

• the perception of 3D in a 2D image





realism









https://pixabay.com/illustrations/sphere-ball-plastic-round-3d-953964/ https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blender3D_MarbleExample1.jpg
https://www.maxpixel.net/Wood-Toy-Earth-Blue-Bail-Plastic-Green-587688
https://www.publicdomainpictures.net/Projet-privale-phprimage=80376&picture=plastic-easter-eggs
CPSC 424: Computer Grag https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Glass_Float_Small.JPG

A Bit About Light

light energy reaching viewer depends on...

- position and orientation of the light source(s)
- position and orientation of the eye
- position and orientation of the surface

(surface material)

- color of the surface
- reflectivity and transparency of the surface
- roughness of the surface

(light source)

- color of light produced by the light source(s)
- polarization



Types of Lighting Models

 a lighting model specifies how to determine the color (illumination) of a point in the scene

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Types of Lighting Models

- physically-based models
 - model the actual physical energy transfer in the scene
 - idea: if you use the same math as reality, it'll look good right?
 - often very computationally intensive
- non-physically-based models
 - model the appearance rather than the physics

Types of Lighting Models

- non-global illumination models
 - concentrate on direct illumination
 - direct illumination comes directly from a light source
 - can't capture effects such as shadows, inter-object reflection, refraction, fog



- global illumination models
 - consider all light in the scene, including indirect illumination
 - *indirect illumination* is light which has first bounced off at least one other object



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http://sunflow.sourceforge.net/index.php?pg=gall https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cornell_box.png

A Simple Lighting Model

- non-global illumination
 - but approximates global illumination
 - does not handle interobject reflection
- · not physically-based
- achromatic light

- two kinds of light sources
 - point light sources
 - ambient light
- model two kinds of reflection (direct illumination)
 - diffuse reflection
 - specular reflection
- no transparency
- no shadows

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Lighting

light reaching viewer =

light produced by light source

fraction of light reaching the surface

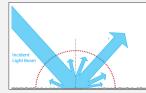
fraction of light reflected in the direction of the viewer

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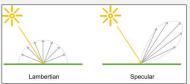
Modeling Reflection diffuse (Lambertian) reflection typical of dull matte surfaces specular reflection models bright highlights on shiny objects CPSC 424: Computer Graphics • Fall 2025

Modeling Reflection

• ...fraction of light reflected in the direction of the viewer...



incident light can be reflected in any direction what fraction is reflected in a particular direction is a property of the surface material fully described by a bidirectional reflectance distribution function (BRDF)



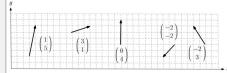
our simple lighting model approximates the BRDF with the combination of two components diffuse (Lambertian)

and specular reflection

CPSC 424: Computer Graphics • Fall 2025 https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:BSDF05_800.png https://cgithub.com/tensorflow/graphics/hotebooks/reflectance.ipynb

Math - Vectors





$$v = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

the length of v

$$|v| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

a unit vector has length 1

make a vector length 1 by normalizing

$$\frac{v}{|v|} = \begin{bmatrix} x/|v| \\ y/|v| \\ z/|v| \end{bmatrix}$$

Math - Dot Products

• the dot product of two vectors *a* and *b* is the sum of the products of each component

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_n b_n$$

 the value of the dot product is related to the angle between the vectors

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \|\mathbf{a}\| \, \|\mathbf{b}\| \cos \theta,$$

- if a and b are unit vectors, $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \cos \theta$



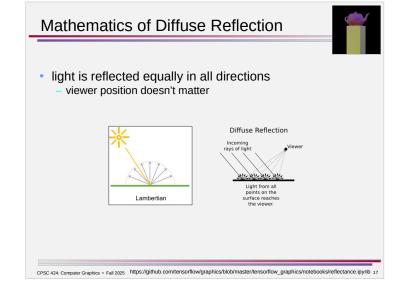
 $a \cdot b = |a||b| \cos \theta$

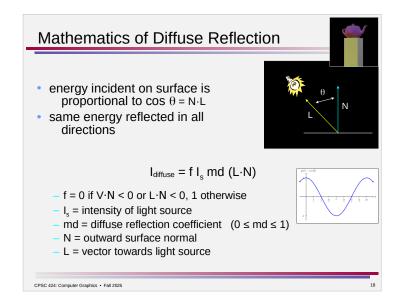
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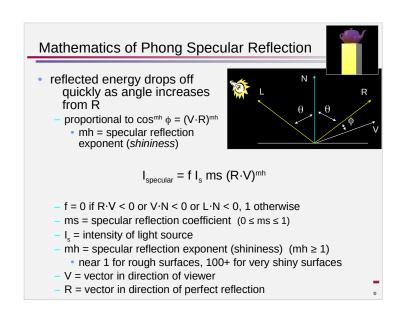
energy incident on surface depends on the orientation of the surface with respect to the light – proportional to cos θ = N·L
 h = d cos θ thus energy incident on surface is proportional to h

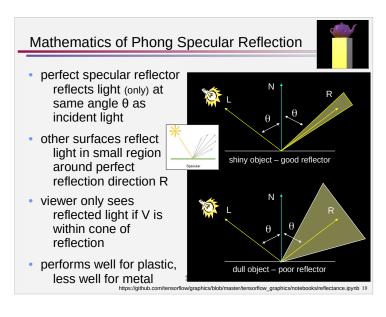
with a little geometry, can show that the angle between N and L is also $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

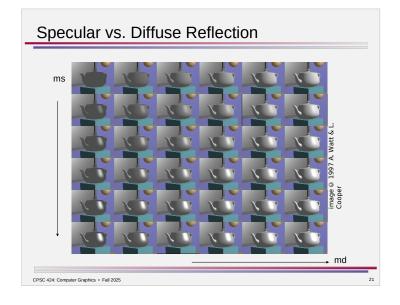
Mathematics of Reflection – Geometric Ingredients N – outward pointing surface normal V – vector from point to viewer's eye L – vector from point to the light source surface normal is a vector perpendicular to the surface all are unit vectors (length 1)

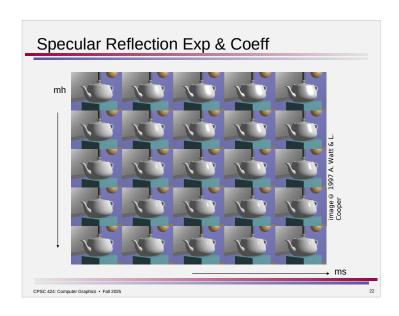












"background" light in scene approximates indirect illumination CPSC 424: Computer Graphics - Fall 2025 24

Notes

- constant diffuse reflection coefficient md is an approximation
 - actually depends on light color, incident angle, surface properties
- constant specular reflection coefficient ms is an approximation
 - actually depends on light color, incident angle, surface properties
 - for opaque materials, value is nearly constant for all angles
 - for transparent materials, value rises sharply to 1 for angles near 90 degrees

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Mathematics of Ambient Light

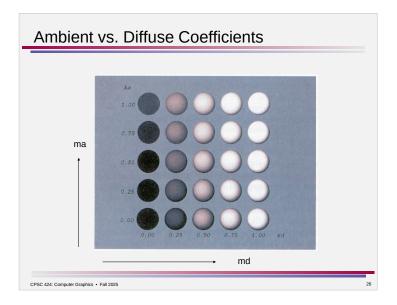
- has no (direct) source comes from all directions
 - incident light energy is the same for all surfaces in all directions
- reflected uniformly in all directions (diffuse model)
 - independent of viewer position

$$I_{ambient} = ma I_a$$

 I_a = intensity of ambient light "source" ma = ambient reflection coefficient (0 \leq ma \leq 1)

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Putting It All Together

- factors based on geometry of scene
 - N, L, V
 - R
- · factors based on the surface material
 - ma, md, ms, mh
- factors based on the light source
 - _ |_a, |_s

$$I\!=\!maI_{a}\!+\!\sum_{all\,lights}\left[md\:I_{s}max\left|0,(N\!\cdot\!L)\right|\!+\!ms\:I_{s}max\left|0,(R\!\cdot\!V)\right|^{mh}\right]$$

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Putting It All Together

term	energy leaving light source	fraction of energy received at surface	fraction of energy leaving surface in direction of viewer	total
ambient light	l _a	1	ma	ma I _a
diffuse reflection	l _s	max(0, N·L)	md 0 if V⋅N < 0	md I_s max(0,N·L) 0 if V·N < 0
specular reflection	l _s	1 0 if L·N < 0	ms max(0, R·V) ^{mh} 0 if V·N < 0	ms I_s max $(0,R\cdot V)^{mh}$ 0 if $V\cdot N < 0$ or $L\cdot N < 0$

$$I\!=\!maI_{a}\!+\!\sum_{\mathit{all\,lights}}\!\left[\!md\,I_{s}max\left[0,(N\!\cdot\!L)\right]\!+\!ms\,I_{s}\,max\left[0,(R\!\cdot\!V)\right]^{mh}\right]$$