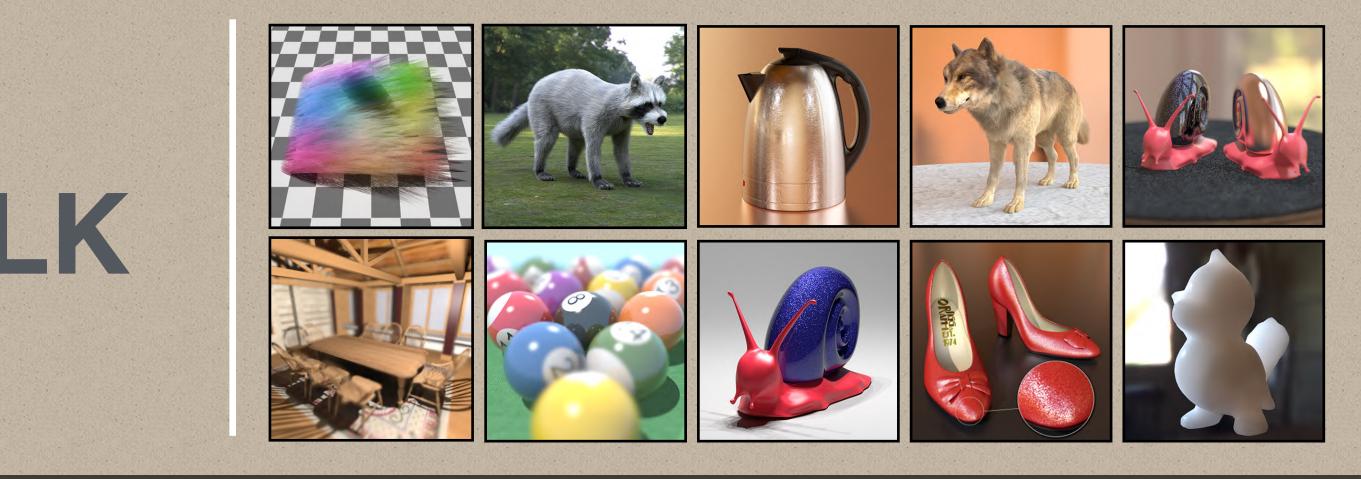
Lingqi's GRAPHICS TALK AT PEKING UNIVERSITY



Next Generation Rendering: Photorealism and Speed

Lingqi Yan (闫令琪) Assistant Professor University of California, Santa Barbara

About Me

Lingqi Yan

- Research: Rendering!



Detailed Rendering [SIG 14, 14, 16, 18]

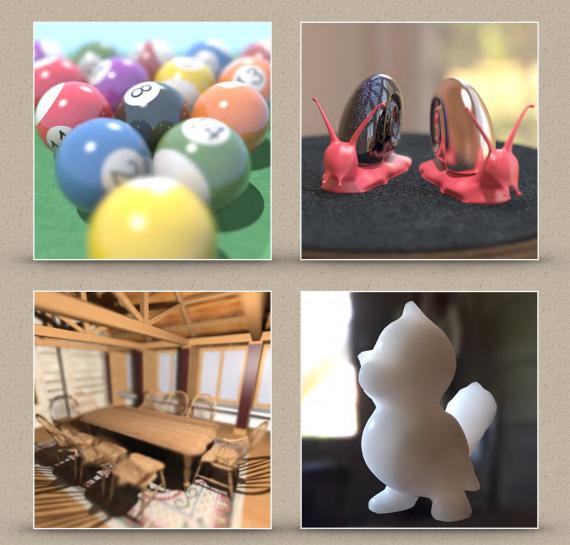




Appearance Modeling [SIG 15, 17, SIG Asia 17]

Tsinghua (B.E. 2013) — UC Berkeley (Ph.D. 2018) — UC Santa Barbara (AP)

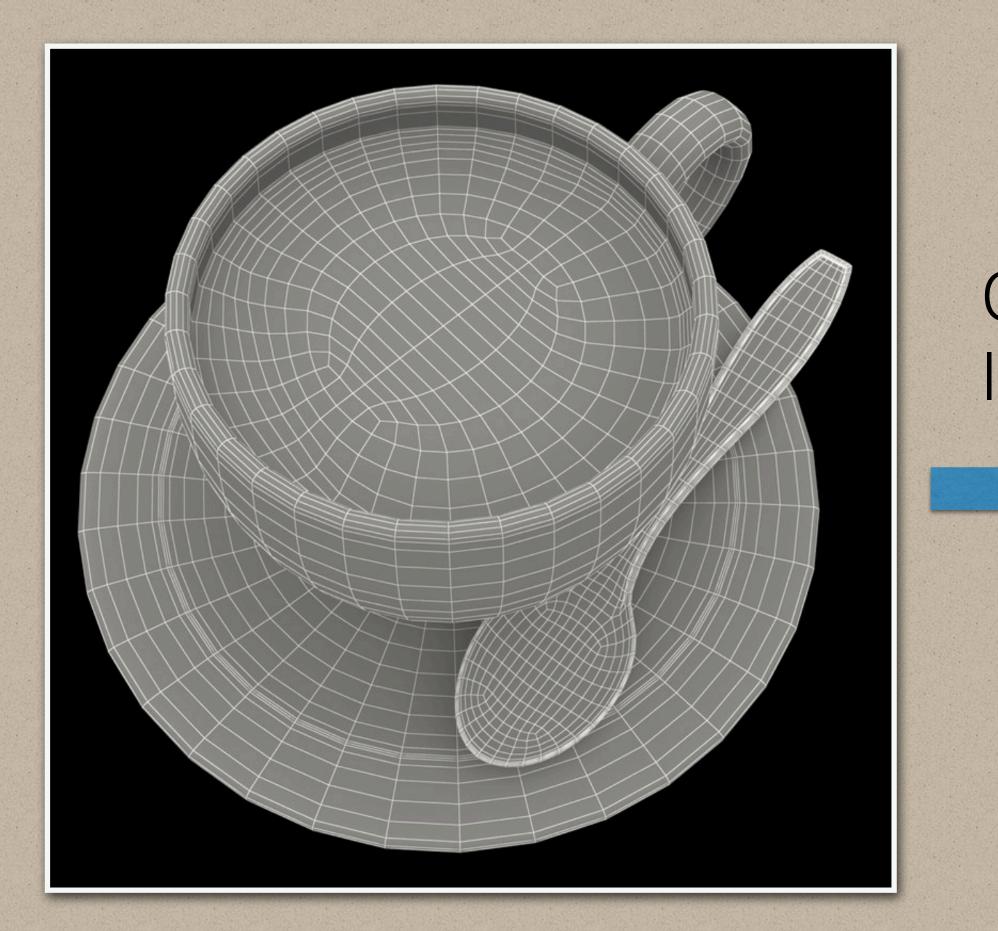




RT / off-line Light transport [SIG 15, 16, EGSR 17, PG 12]



What is Rendering?



3D scene (meshes, lights, etc.)

Calculating light -> eye



Image



video games (Super Mario Odyssey)



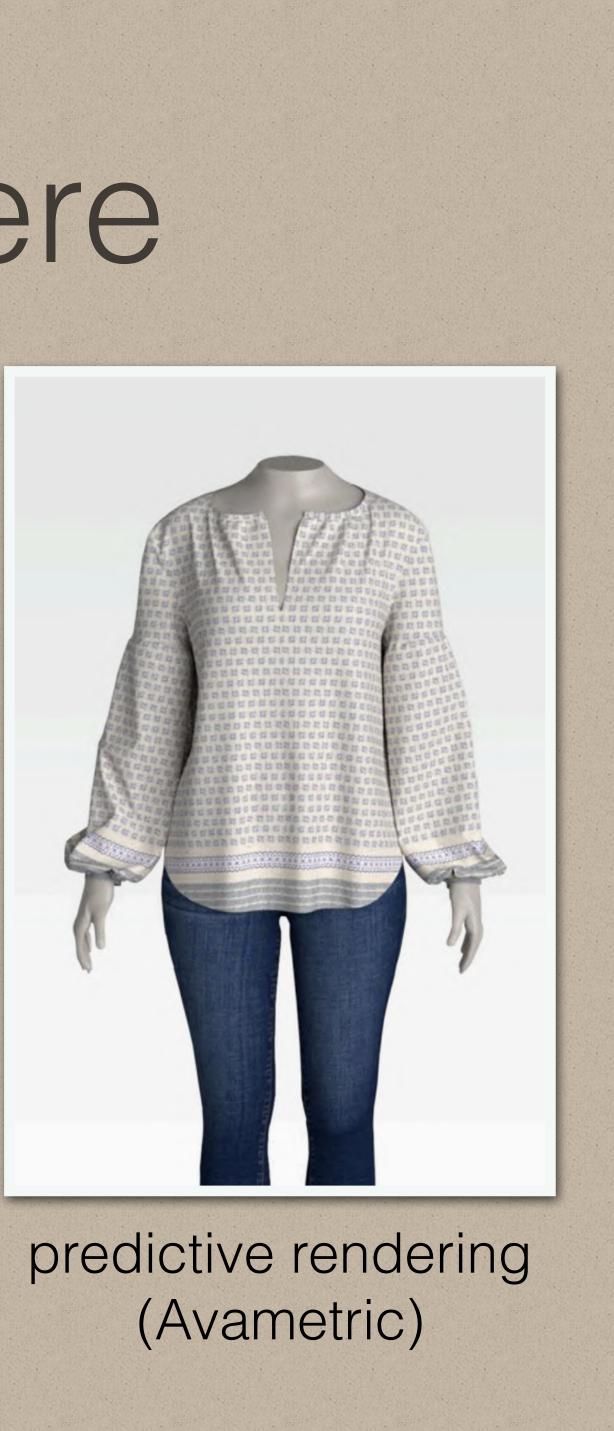
product design (Amazon Echo Dot)

animations / movies (Zootopia)



Rendering is everywhere





Part 0: State of the Art Rendering

- Light transport (will not be covered today)
 - vertex connection & merging, Metropolis, etc.
- Appearance modeling
 - Microfacet model, anisotropy
- Material capture

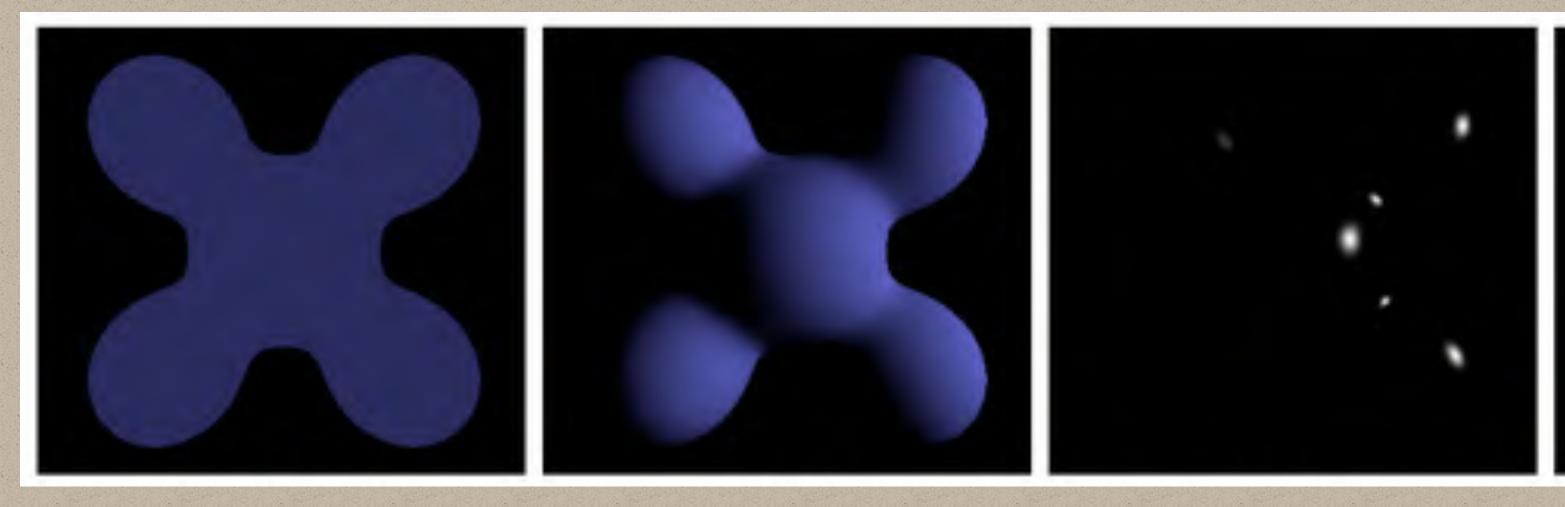
. . .

Complex materials



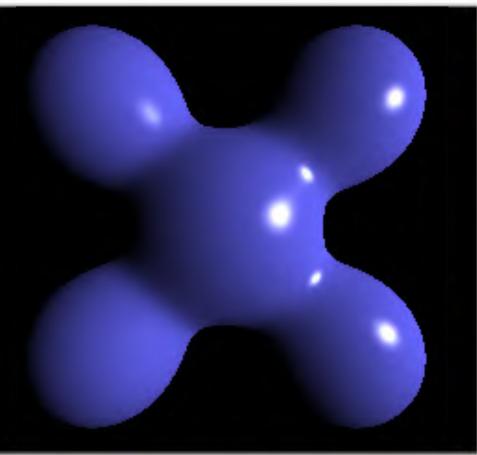
Simple Appearance Models

+



Ambient + Diffuse

 $L = L_a + L_d + L_s$ $= k_a I_a + k_d (I/r^2) \max($



Specular

Blinn-Phong Model

```
= k_a I_a + k_d \left( I/r^2 \right) \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}) + k_s \left( I/r^2 \right) \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{h})^p
```

_



More Types of Appearance



Materials: Diffuse





Materials: Plastic





Materials: Red Semi-Gloss Paint





Materials: Ford Mystic Lacquer Paint



Materials: Mirror



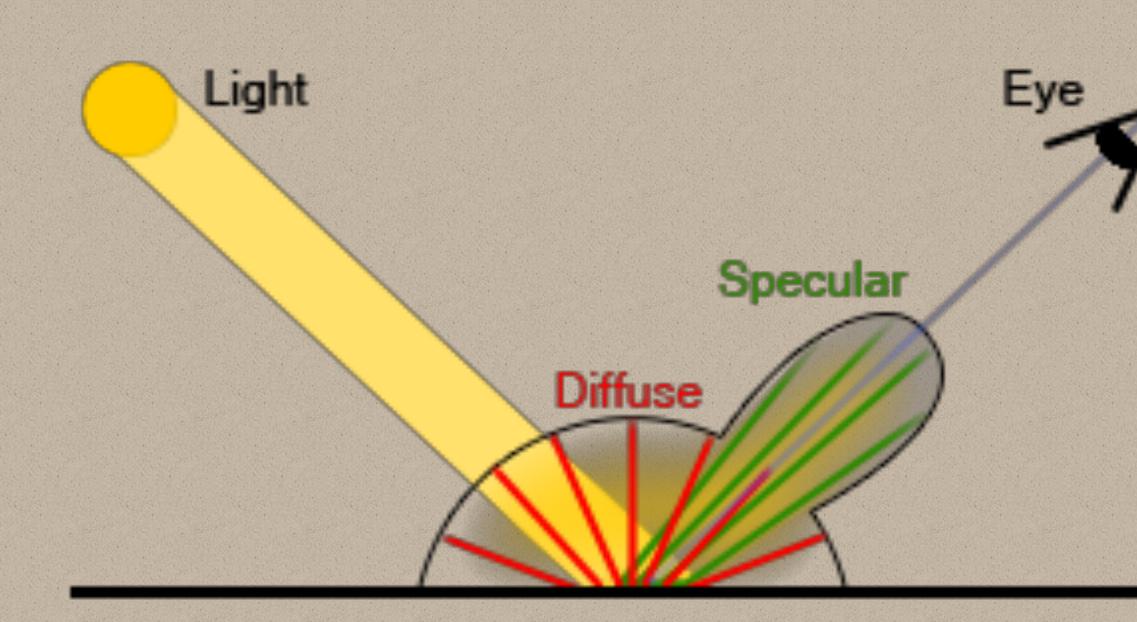


Materials: Gold



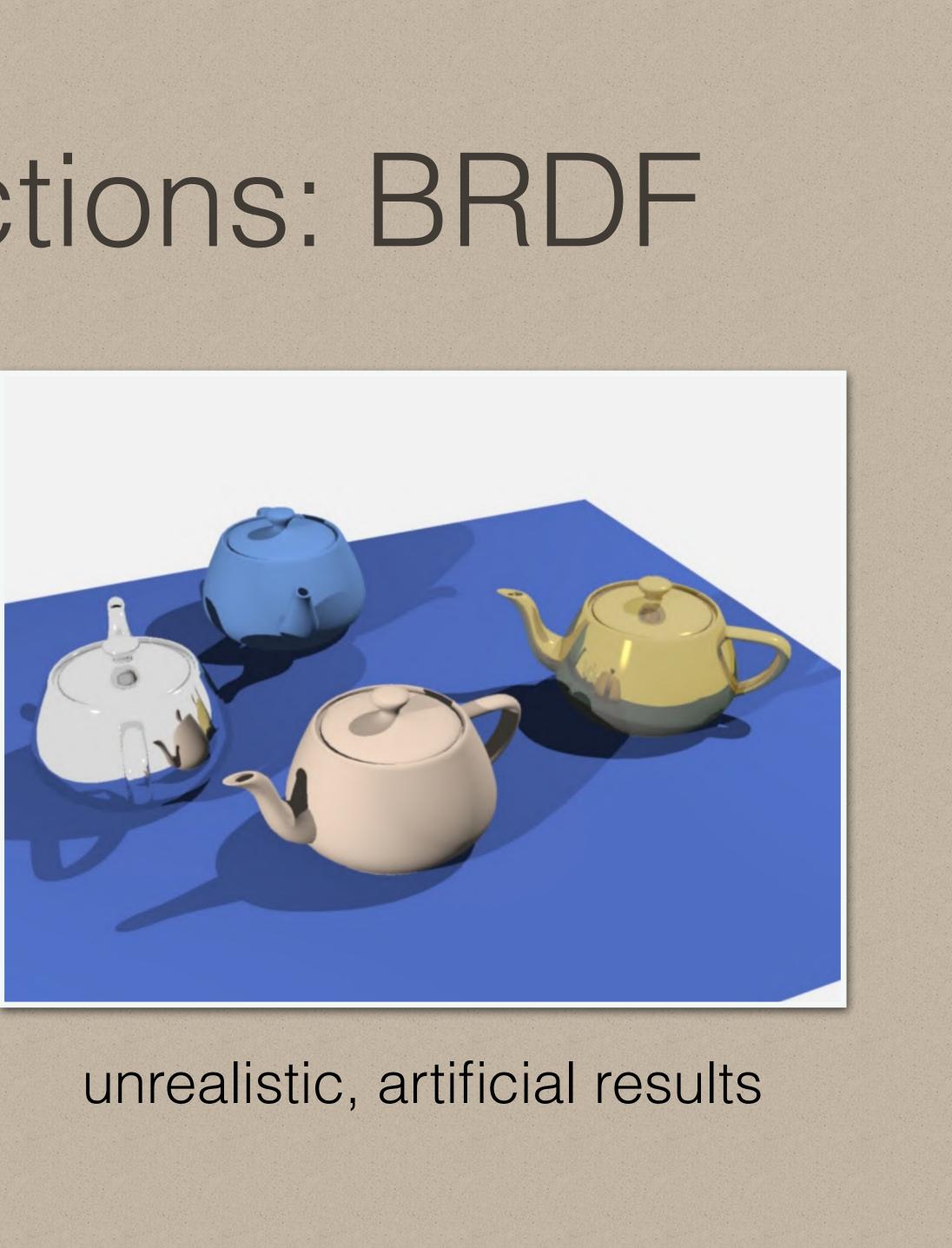


Describing Reflections: BRDF



Traditional BRDF (Phong model)

*: Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function



The Appearance of Natural Materials



[Courtesy of Prof. Henrik Wann Jensen, UCSD]



What is Material in Computer Graphics?



3D coffee mug model

Rendered

Rendered

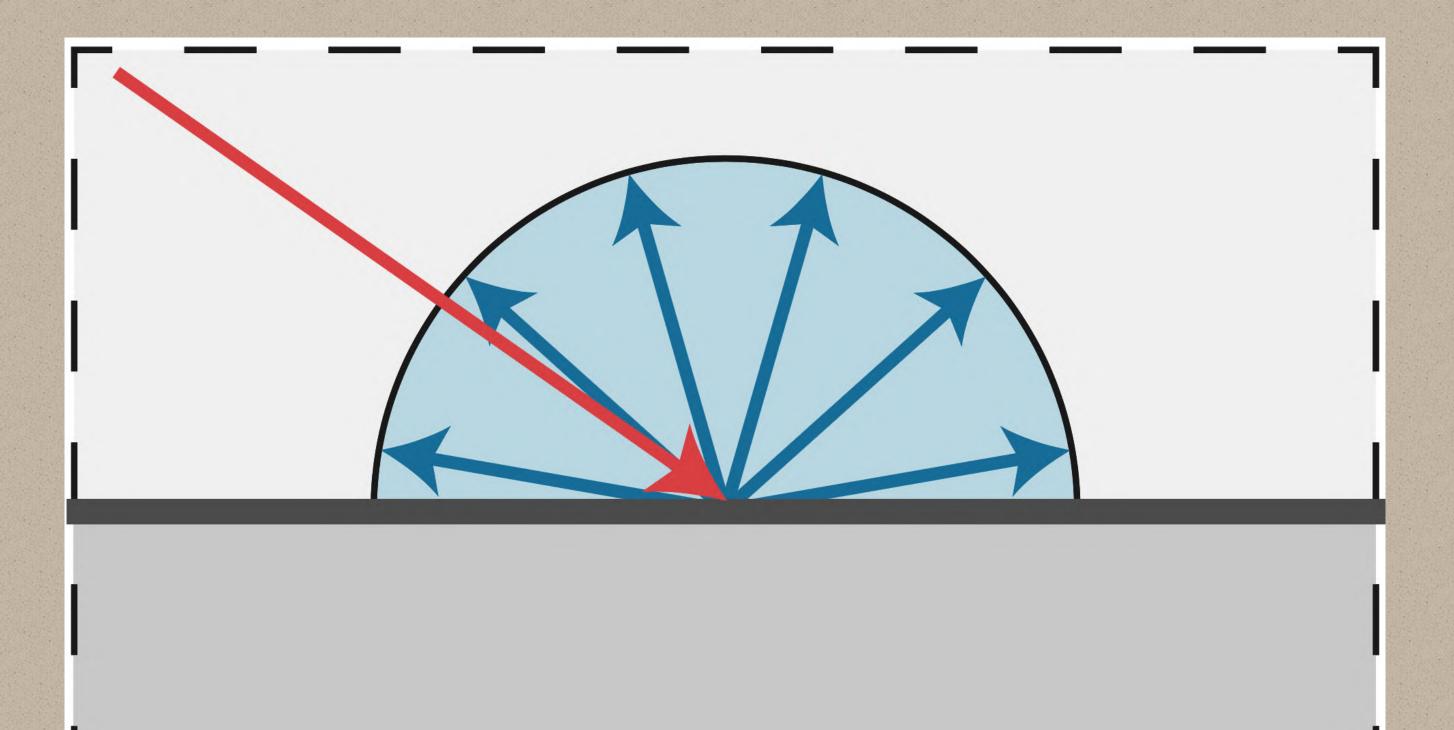
[From TurboSquid, created by artist 3dror]



Material == BRDF

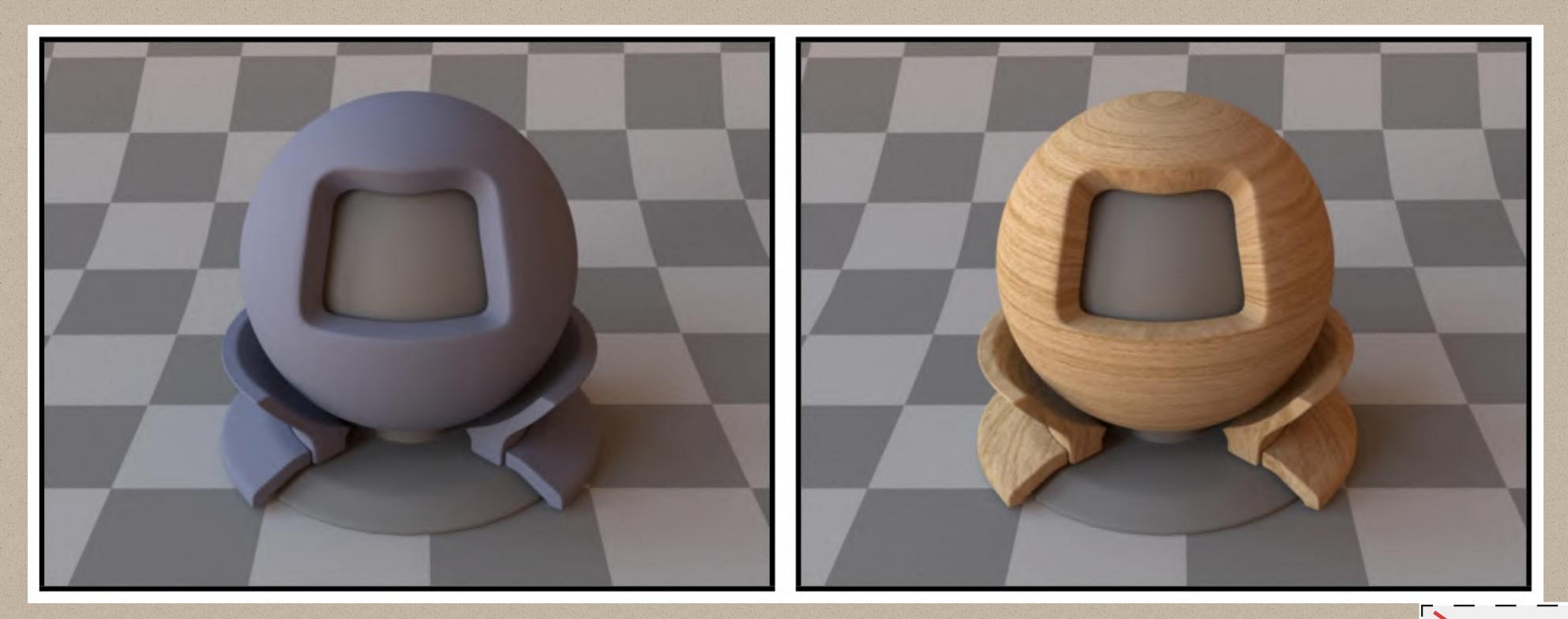


What is this material?





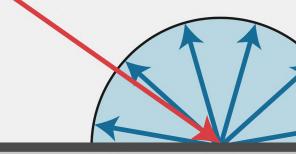
Diffuse / Lambertian Material (BRDF)



Uniform colored diffuse BRDF

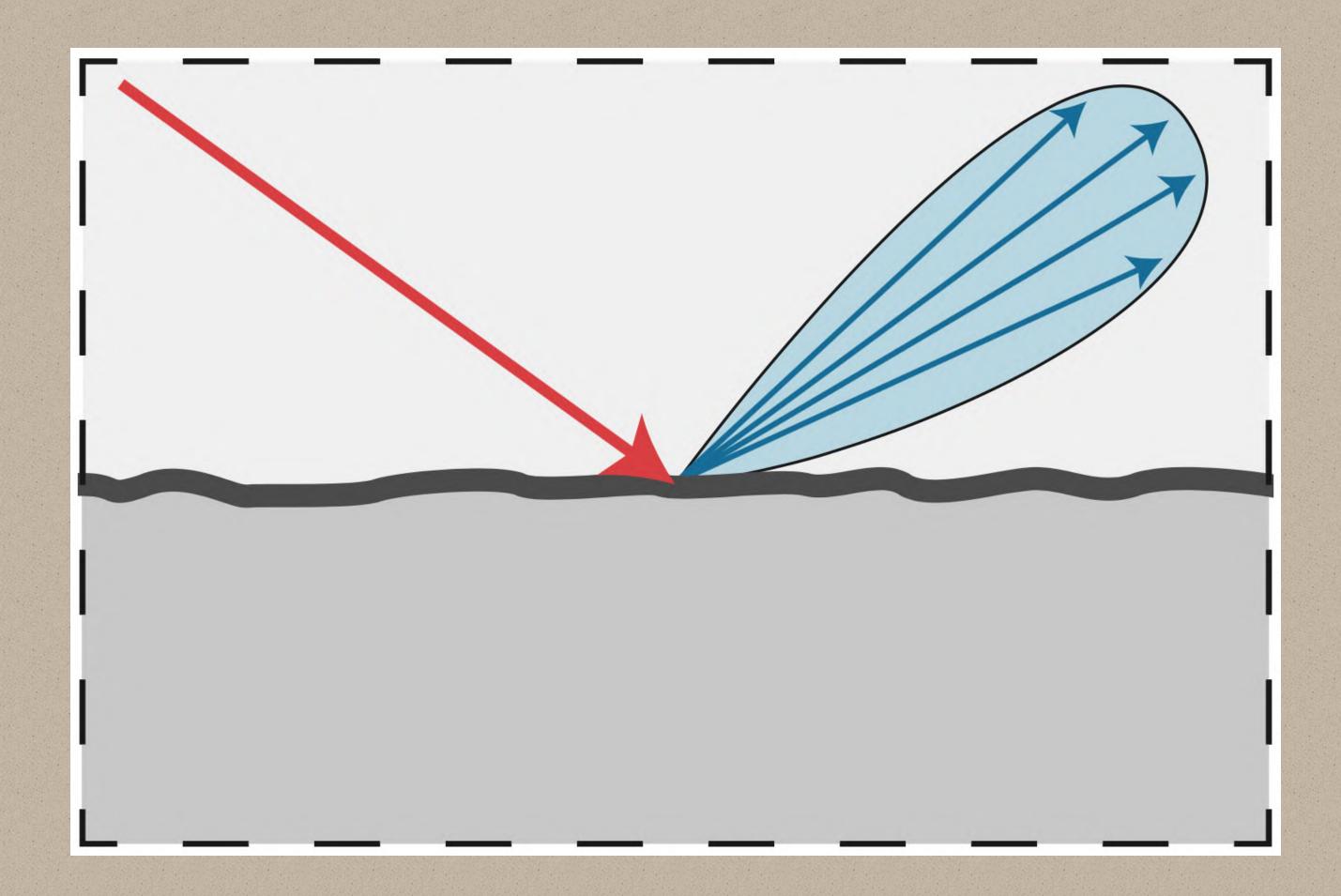
[Mitsuba renderer, Wenzel Jakob, 2010]

Textured diffuse BRDF



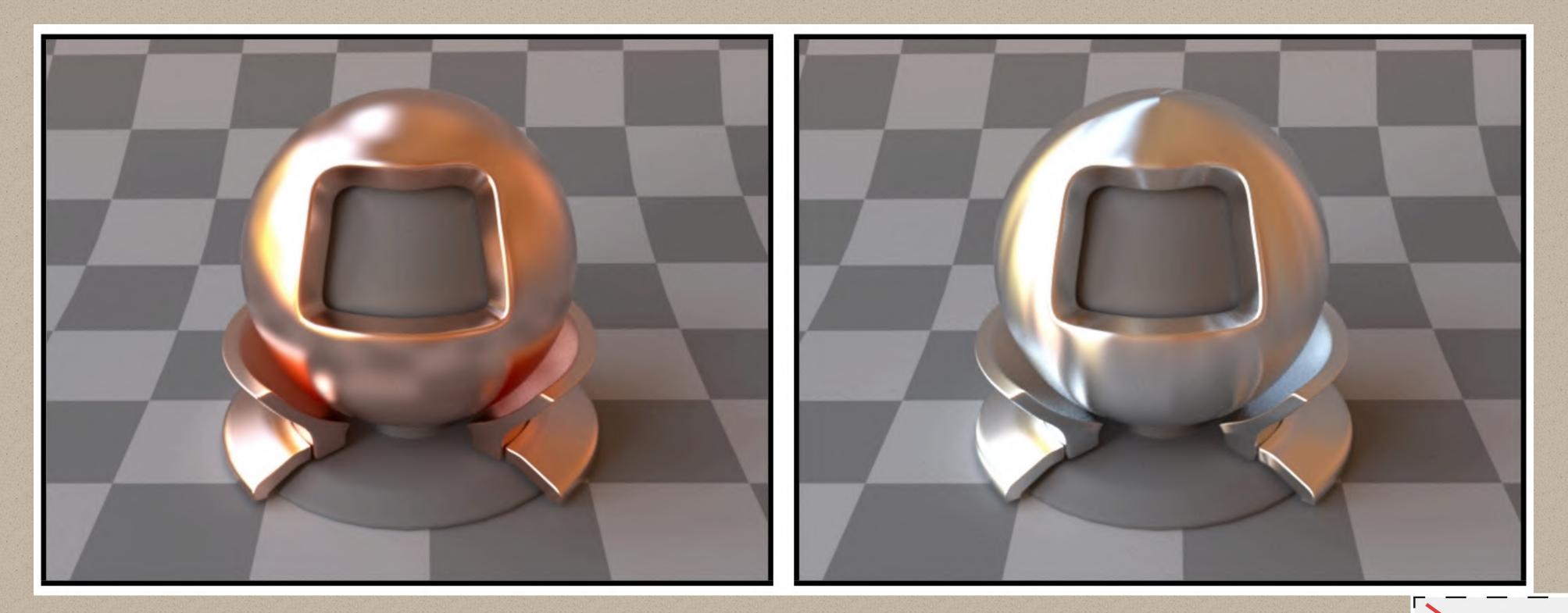


What is this material?





Glossy material (BRDF)

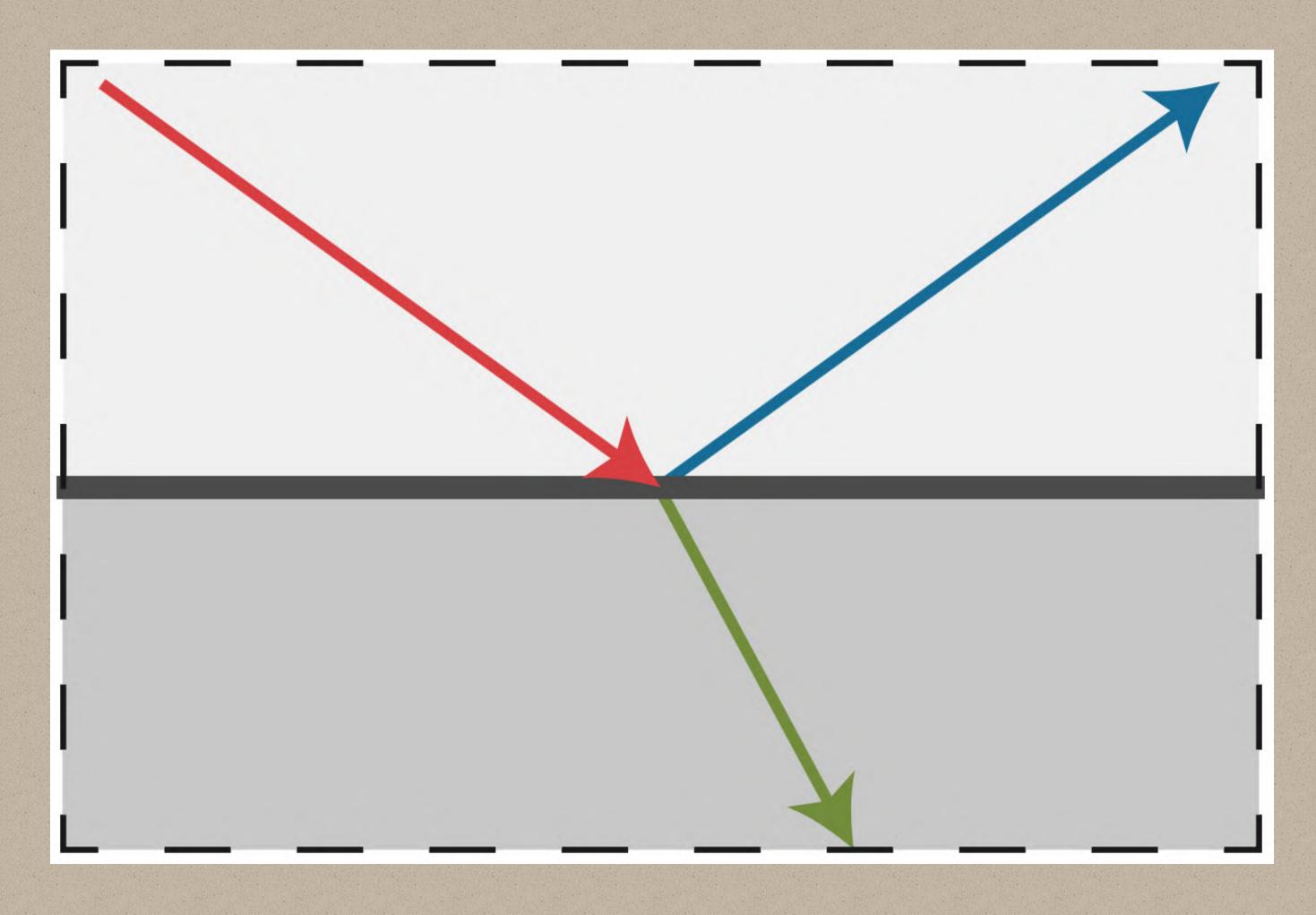




[Mitsuba renderer, Wenzel Jakob, 2010]

Aluminum

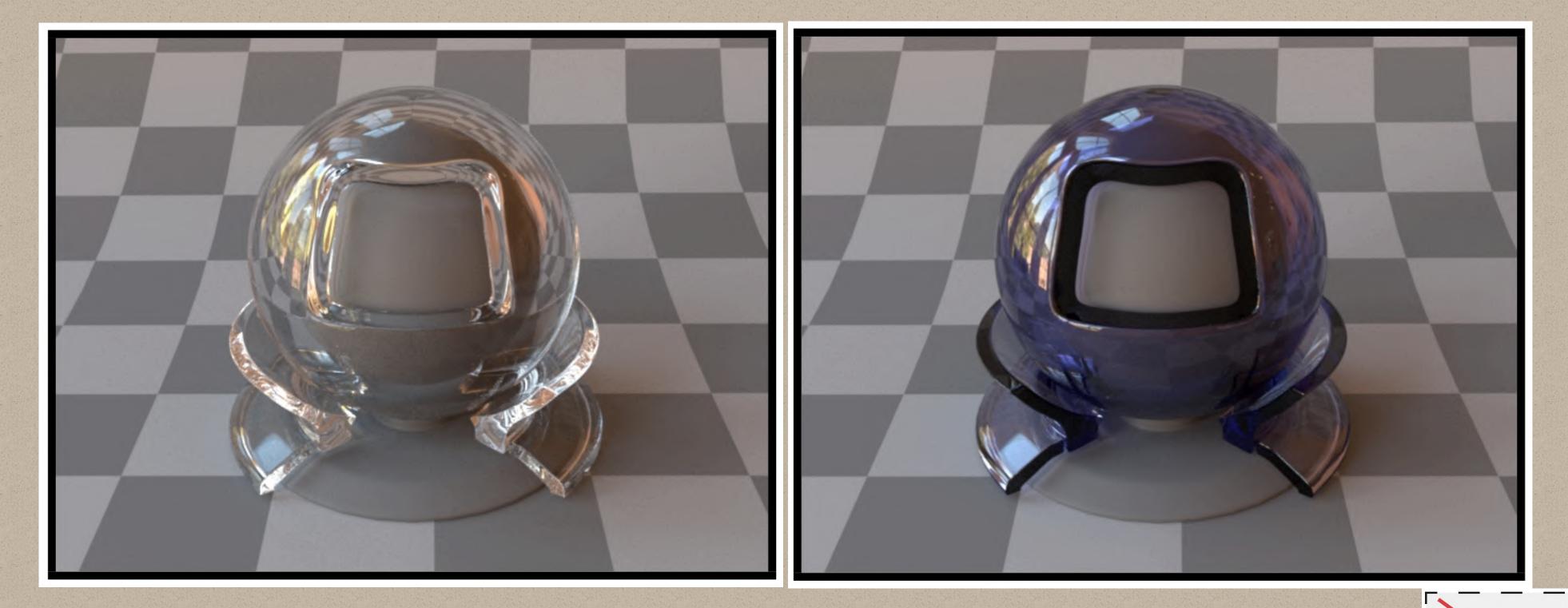








Ideal reflective / refractive material (BSDF*)



Air <-> water interface

[Mitsuba renderer, Wenzel Jakob, 2010]

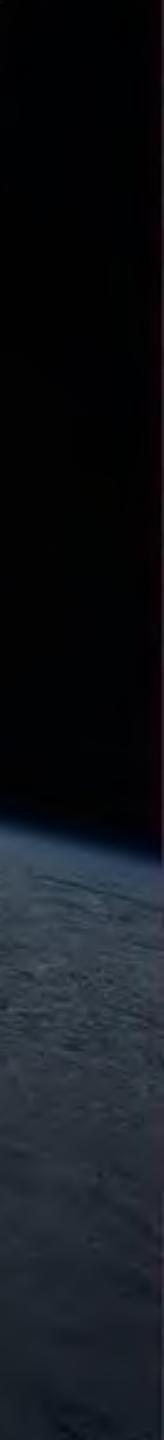
Air <-> glass interface (with absorption)



Microfacet BRDF



Microfacet model in the real world



Microfacet Theory

- Rough surface
 - * Macroscale: flat & rough
 - * Microscale: bumpy & specular
- * Individual elements of surface act like mirrors
 - * Known as Microfacets
 - * Each microfacet has its own normal

microsurface

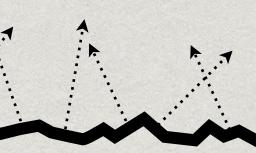




Material



Microfacet BRDF * Key: the distribution of microfacets' normals Concentrated <==> glossy • Spread <==> diffuse







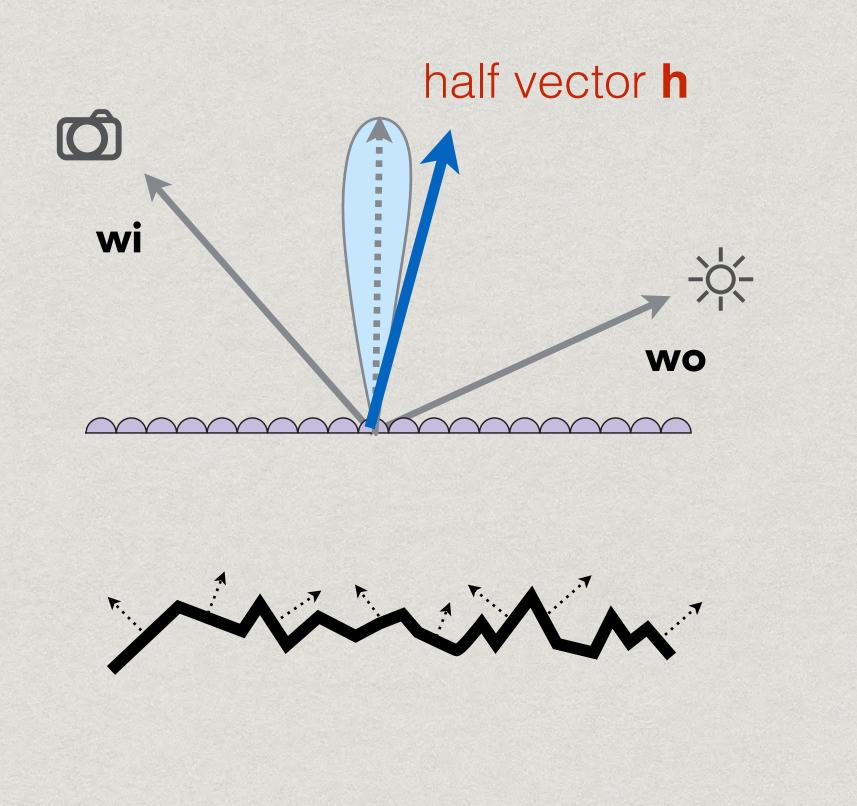


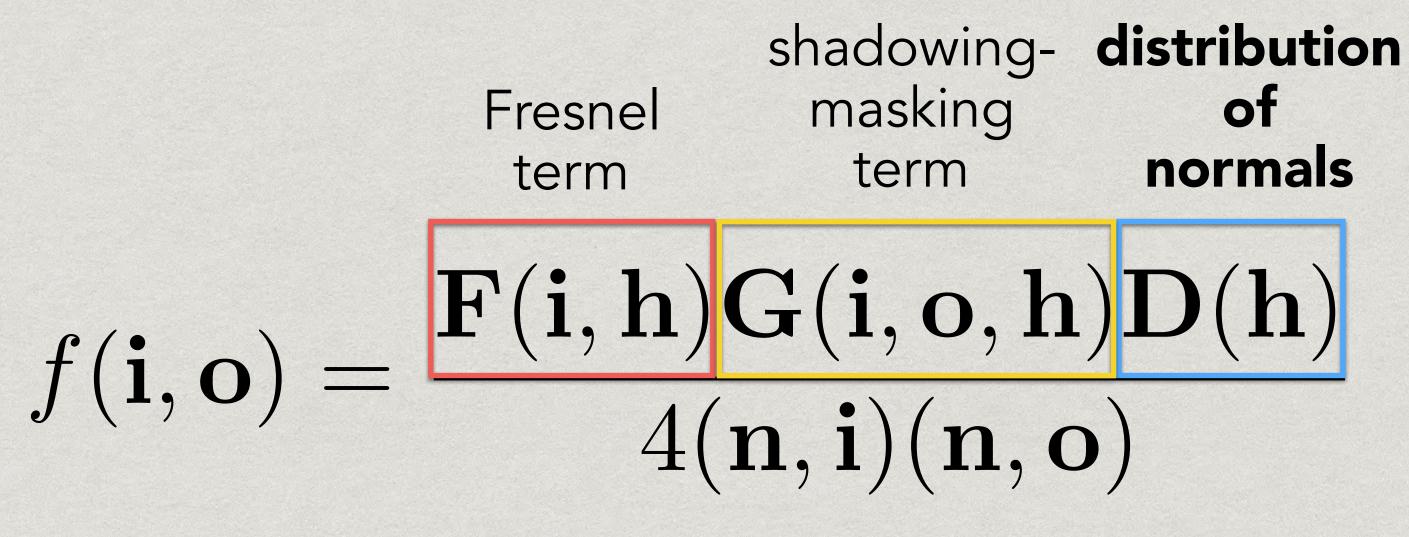




Microfacet BRDF

* What kind of microfacets reflect wi to wo? (hint: microfacets are mirrors)

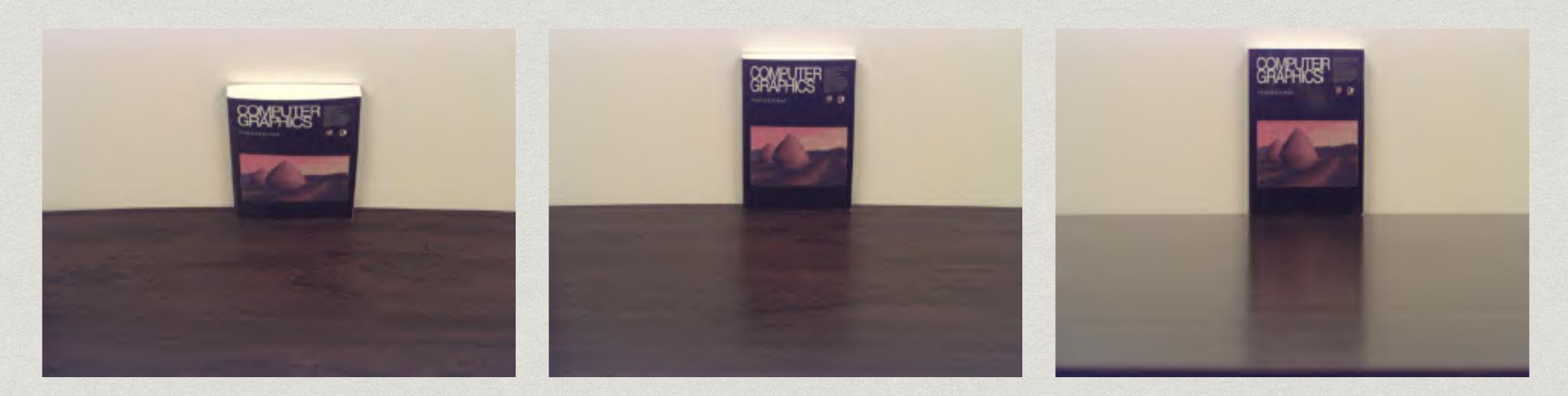






Fresnel Reflection / Term

Reflectance depends on incident angle (and polarization of light)

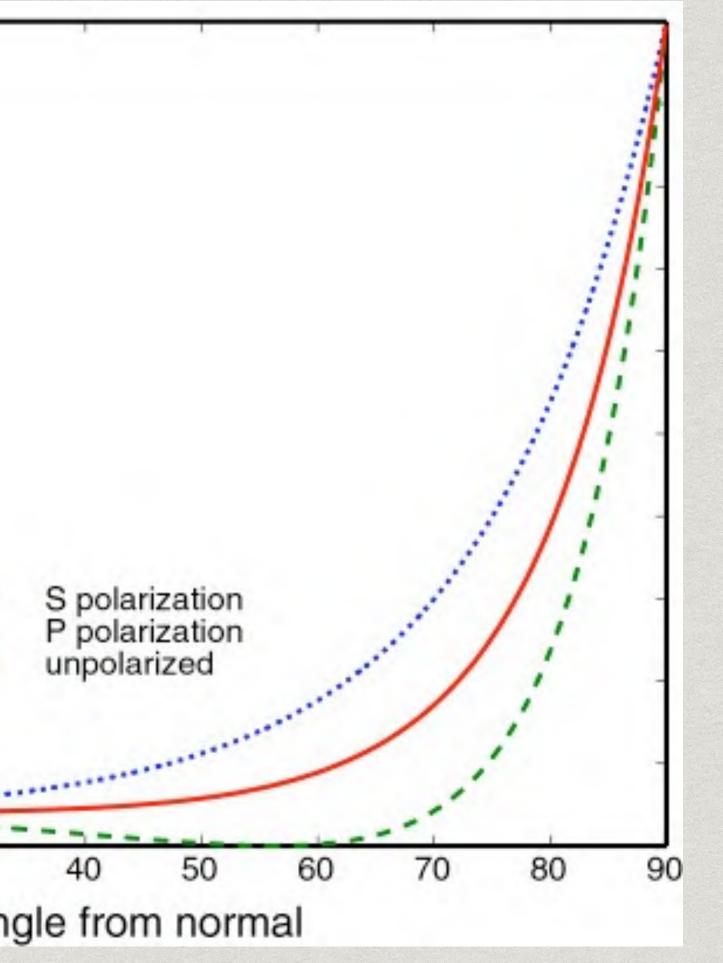


This example: reflectance increases with grazing angle

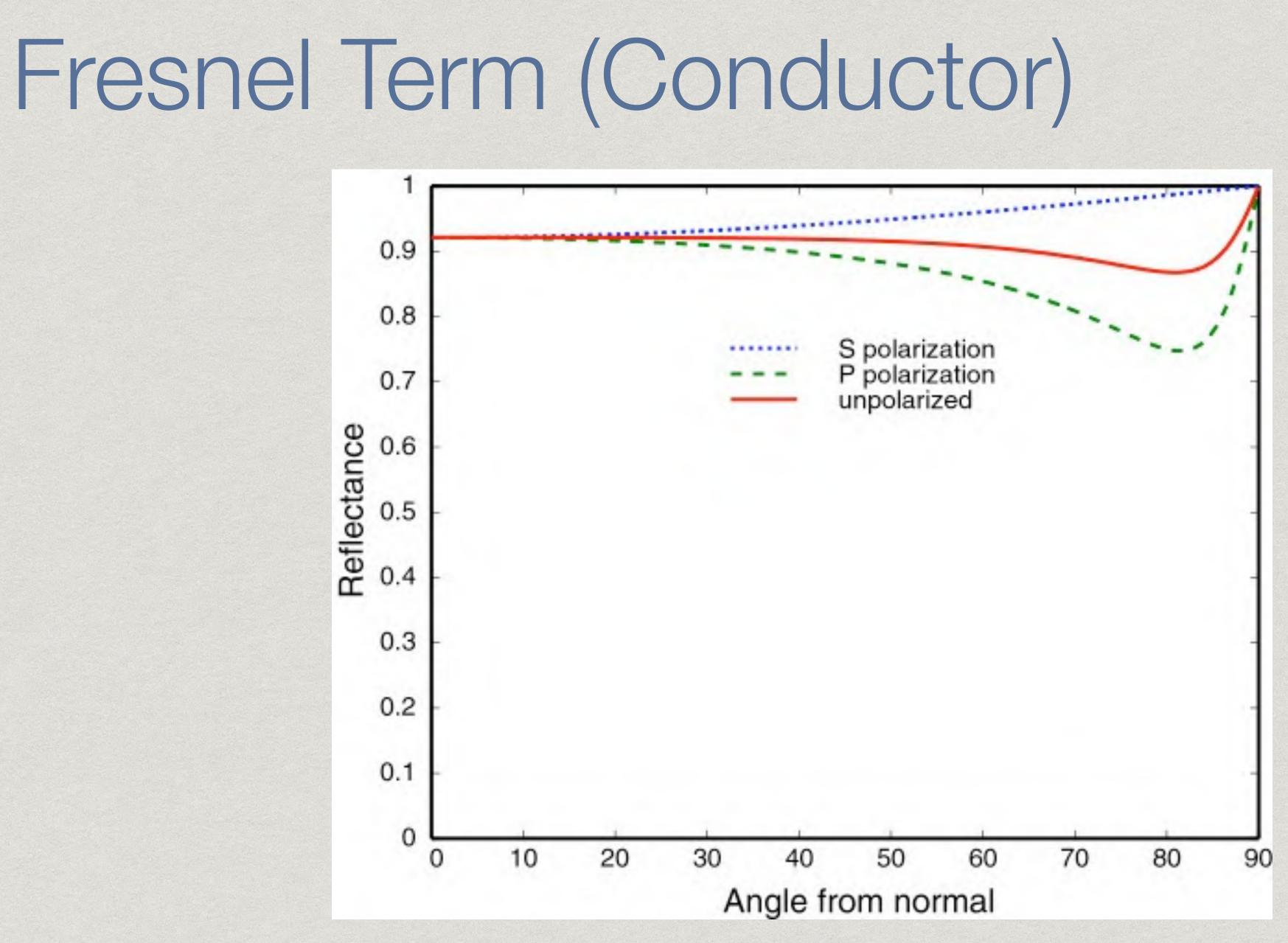


Fresnel Term (Dielectric, $\eta = 1.5$)

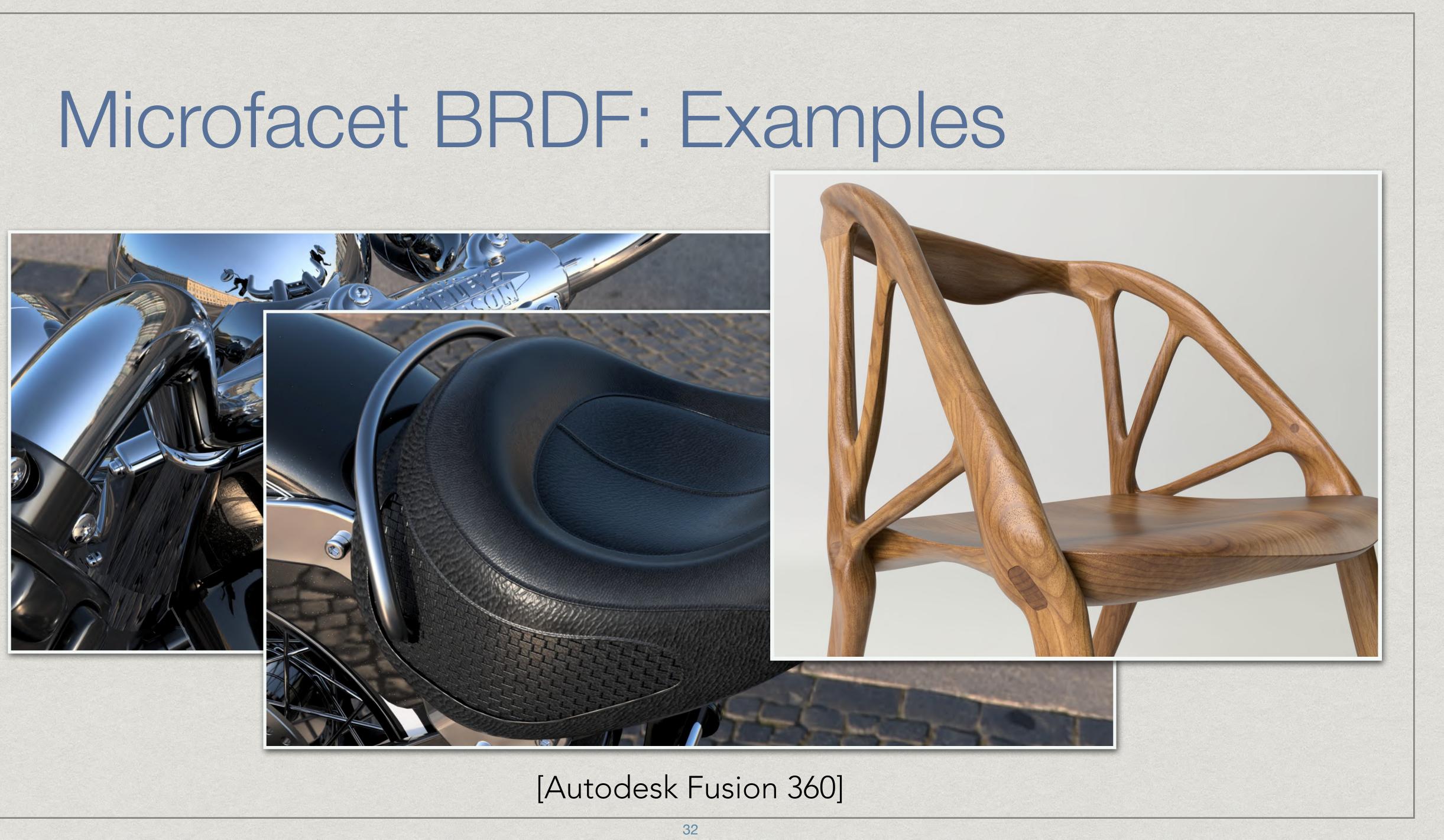
	1	—	1	1	
	0.9	-			
	0.8	-			
	0.7	-			
nce	0.6 0.5 0.4	-			
lecta	0.5	-			
Ref	0.4	-			
	0.3	-			
	0.2	-			-
	0.1	-			
	0	0	10	20	30
					Ang













Isotropic / Anisotropic Materials (BRDFs)

- So far, Point light + Metal = Round / Elliptical highlight
- * What can we see inside an elevator?



Inside an elevator

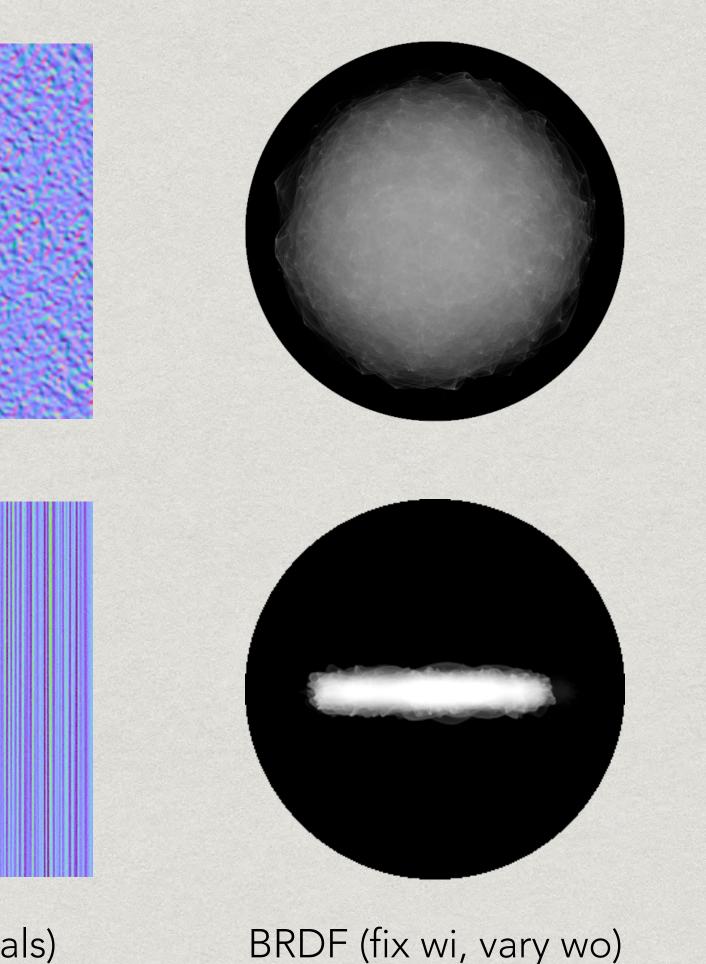


Isotropic / Anisotropic Materials (BRDFs) * Key: directionality of underlying surface

Isotropic

Anisotropic

Surface (normals)



34



Anisotropic BRDF: Brushed Metal * How is the pan brushed?



[VRay renderer]



Anisotropic BRDF: Nylon

[Westin et al. 1992]



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ALC: NO

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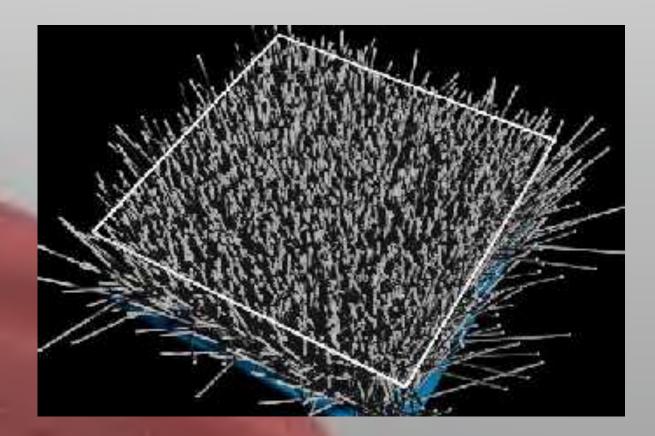
1

41

-

Anisotropic BRDF: Velvet





[Westin et al. 1992]



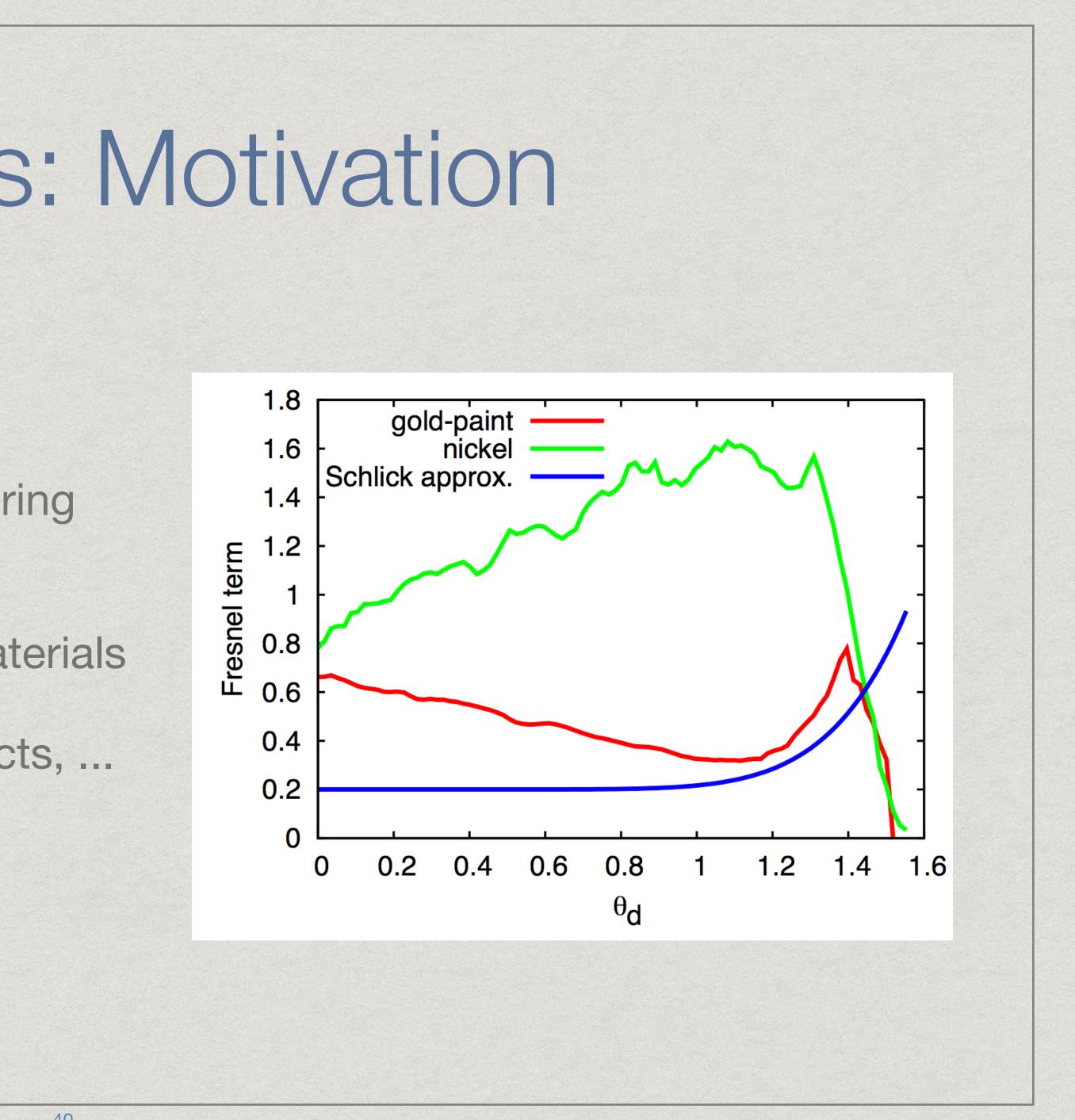


Material Capture (BRDF measurement)



Measuring BRDFs: Motivation

- * Avoid need to develop / derive models
 - Automatically includes all of the scattering effects present
- * Can accurately render with real-world materials
 - * Useful for product design, special effects, ...
- * Theory vs. practice:



Measuring BRDFs: gonioreflectometer



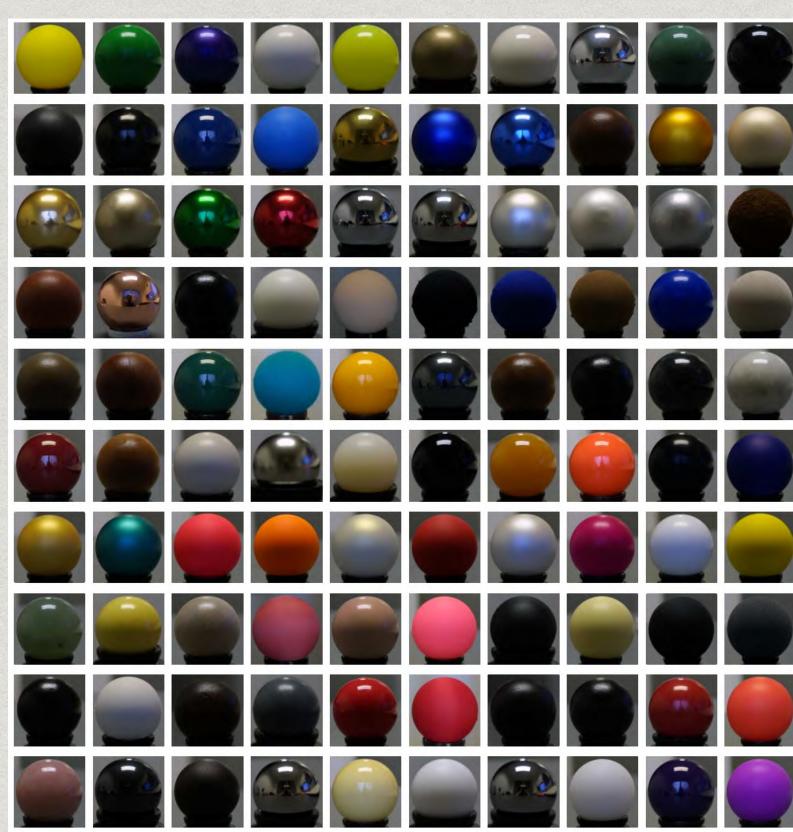
Spherical gantry at UC San Diego



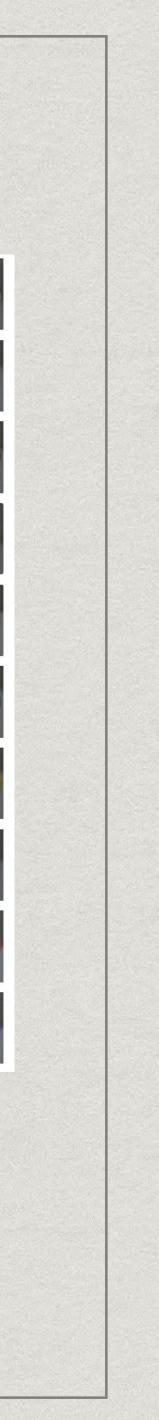
Tabular Representation

$(\theta_i, \theta_o, |\phi_i - \phi_o|)$

- Store regularly-spaced samples in
 - * Better: reparameterize angles to better match specularities
- * Generally need to resample measured values to table
- * Very high storage requirements



MERL BRDF Database [Matusik et al. 2004] 90*90*180 measurements



Advanced materials

- * Participating media
- * Translucent material (BSSRDF)
- * Cloth

*

. . .

- * Granular material
- * Procedural appearance





Participating Media



Participating Media: Fog

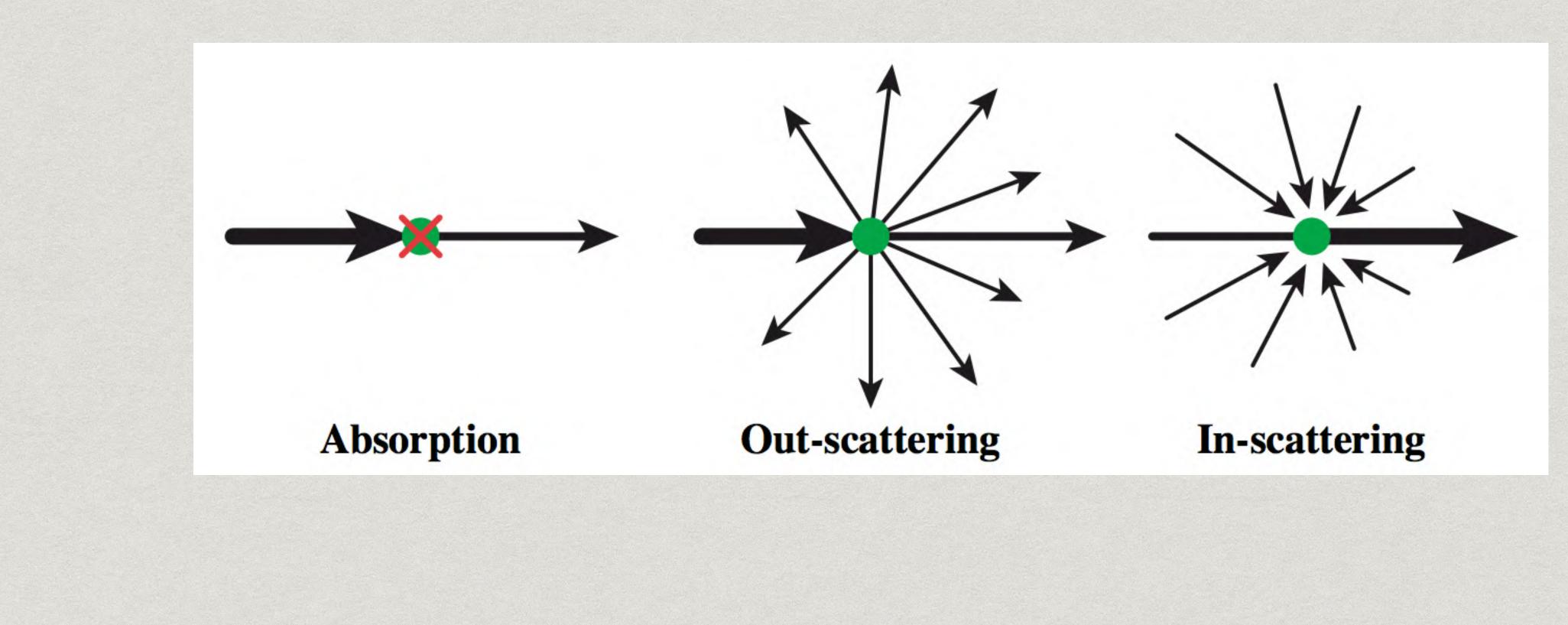
Participating Media: Cloud





Participating Media

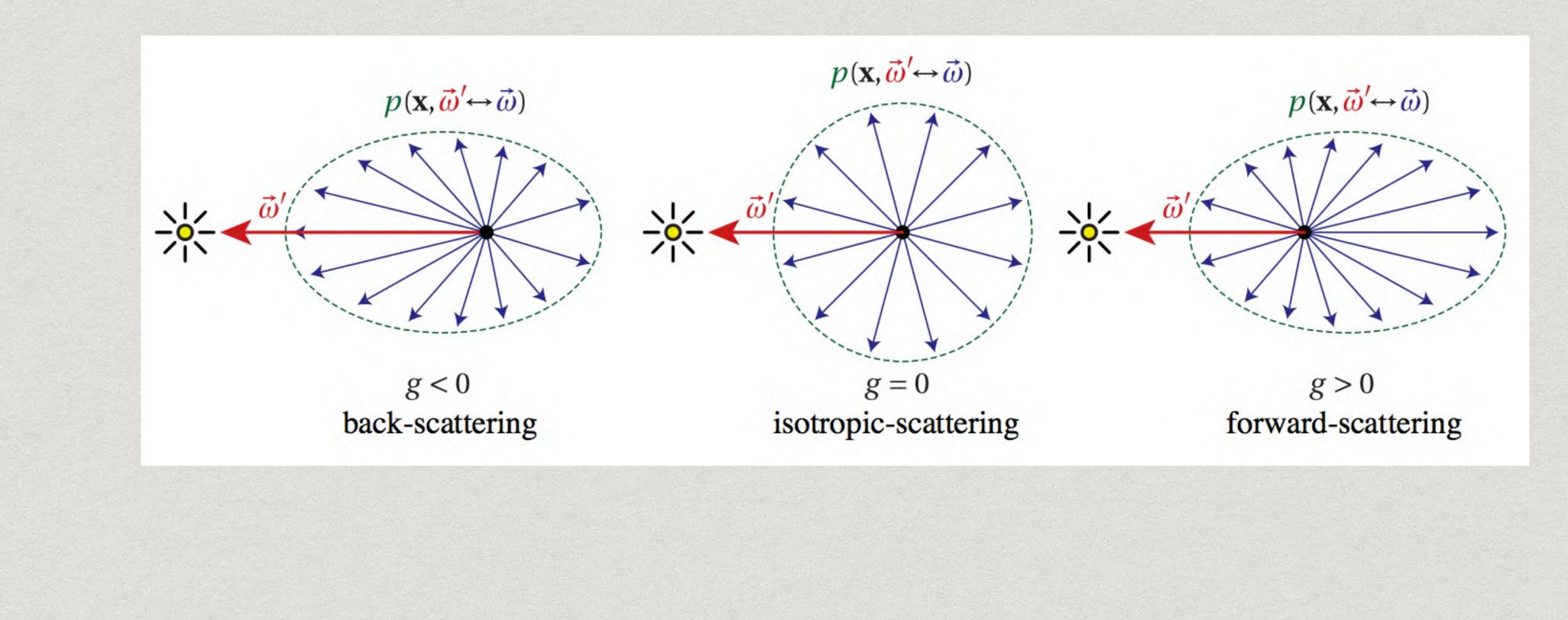
At any point as light travels through a participating medium, it can be (partially) absorbed and scattered.





Participating Media

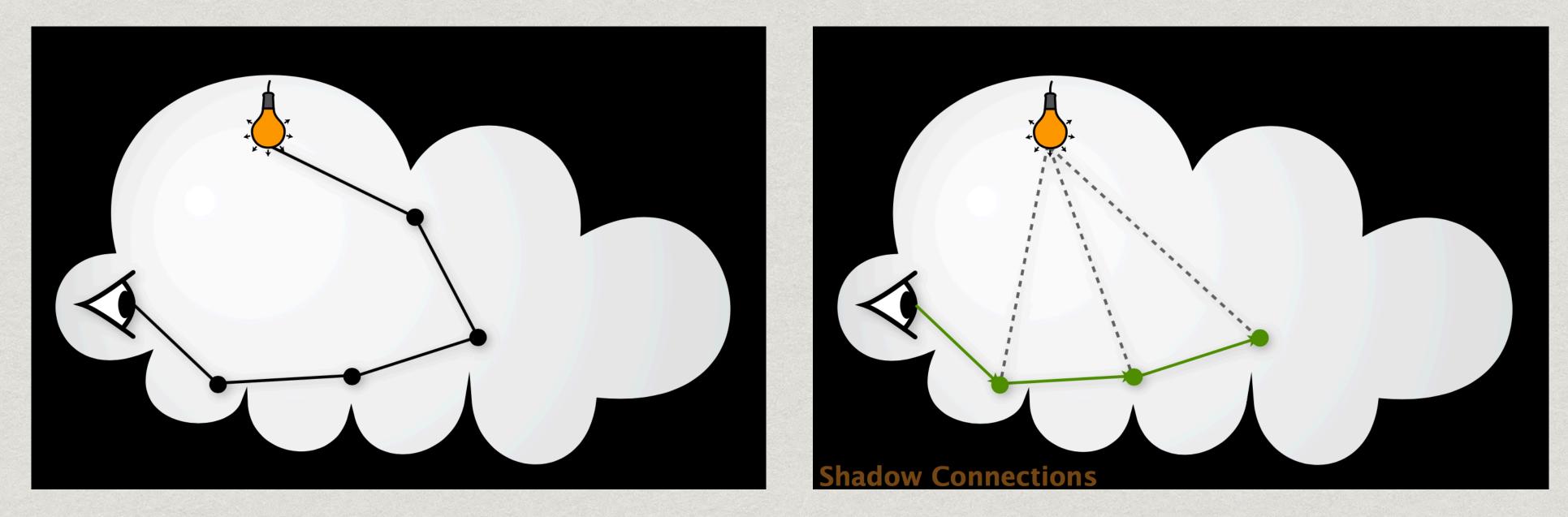
Use Phase Function to describe the angular distribution of light scattering at any point x within participating media.





Participating Media: Rendering

- Randomly choose a direction to bounce
- Randomly choose a distance to go straight
- At each 'shading point', connect to the light



[Derek Nowrouzezahrai]



Participating Media: Application

[Big Hero 6, 2014 Disney]



Participating Media: Application

[Assassin's Creed Syndicate. 2015 Ubisoft]



Participating Media: Demo

Stomakhin et al. 2014]



Translucent Material (a specific participating medium)



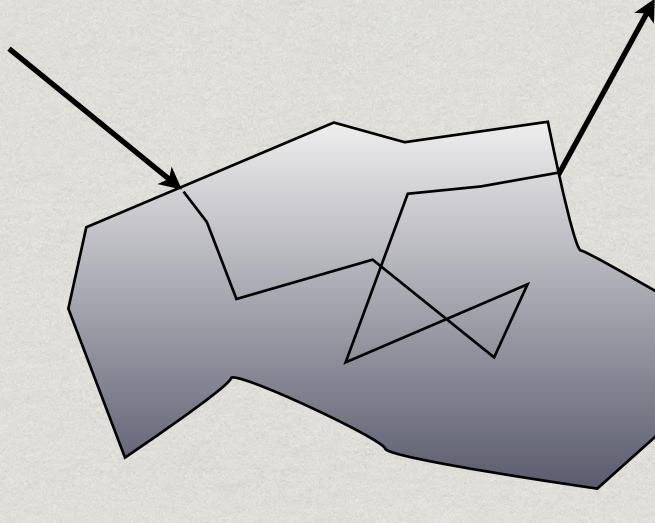
Translucent Material: Jade

Translucent Material: Jellyfish

Subsurface Scattering

*Visual characteristics of many surfaces caused by light exiting at different points than it enters

*Violates a fundamental assumption of the BRDF



*Different from transparent



[Jensen et al 2001]



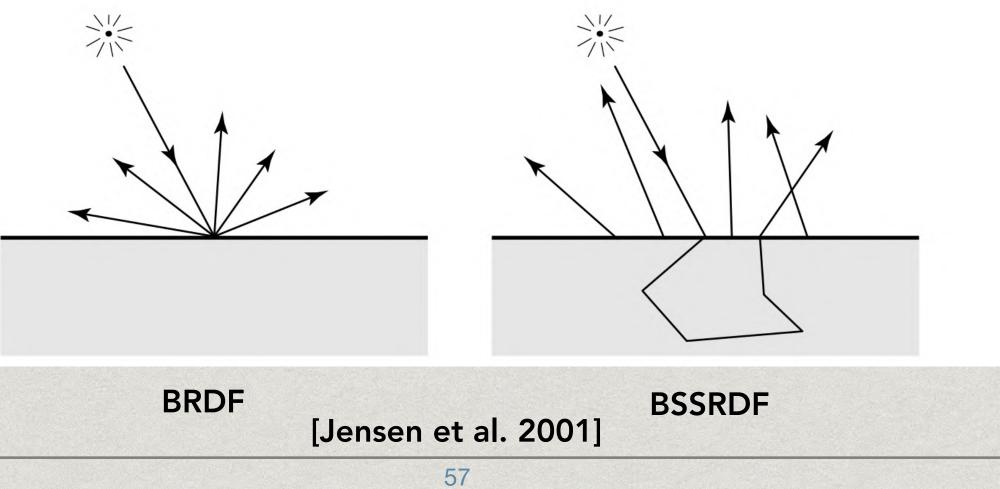
[Donner et al 2008]



Scattering Functions

due to incident differential irradiance at another point:

on the surface and all directions (!) $L(x_o, \omega_o) = \iint_{\Lambda} \iint_{H^2} S(x_i, \omega)$



BSSRDF: generalization of BRDF; exitant radiance at one point

 $S(x_i, \omega_i, x_o, \omega_o)$

Generalization of rendering equation: integrating over all points

$$(\omega_i, x_o, \omega_o) L_i(x_i, \omega_i) \cos \theta_i \, \mathrm{d}\omega_i \, \mathrm{d}A$$







[Jensen et al. 2001]



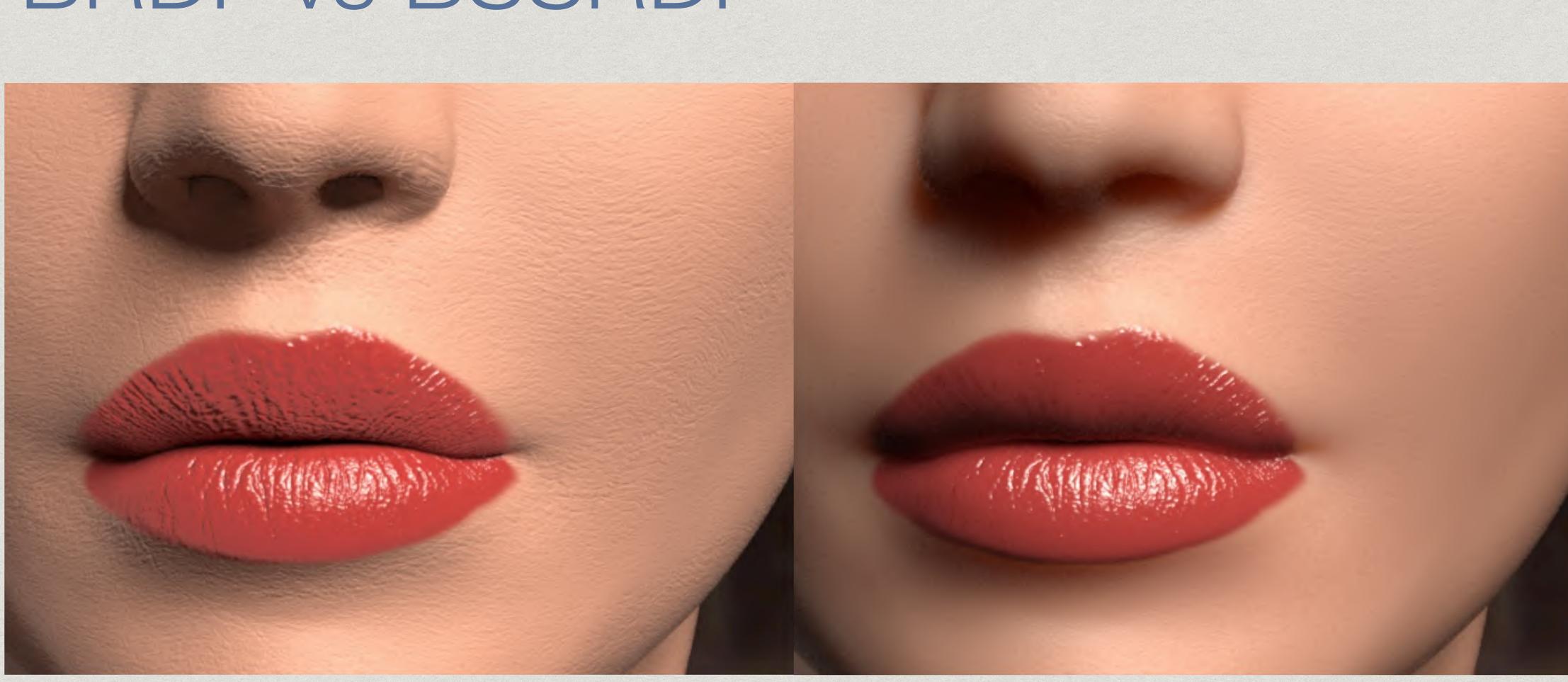
BSSRDF



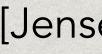
[Jensen et al. 2001]



BRDF vs BSSRDF



BRDF



BSSRDF

[Jensen et al. 2001]



BSSRDF: Application



[Artist: Teruyuki and Yuka]



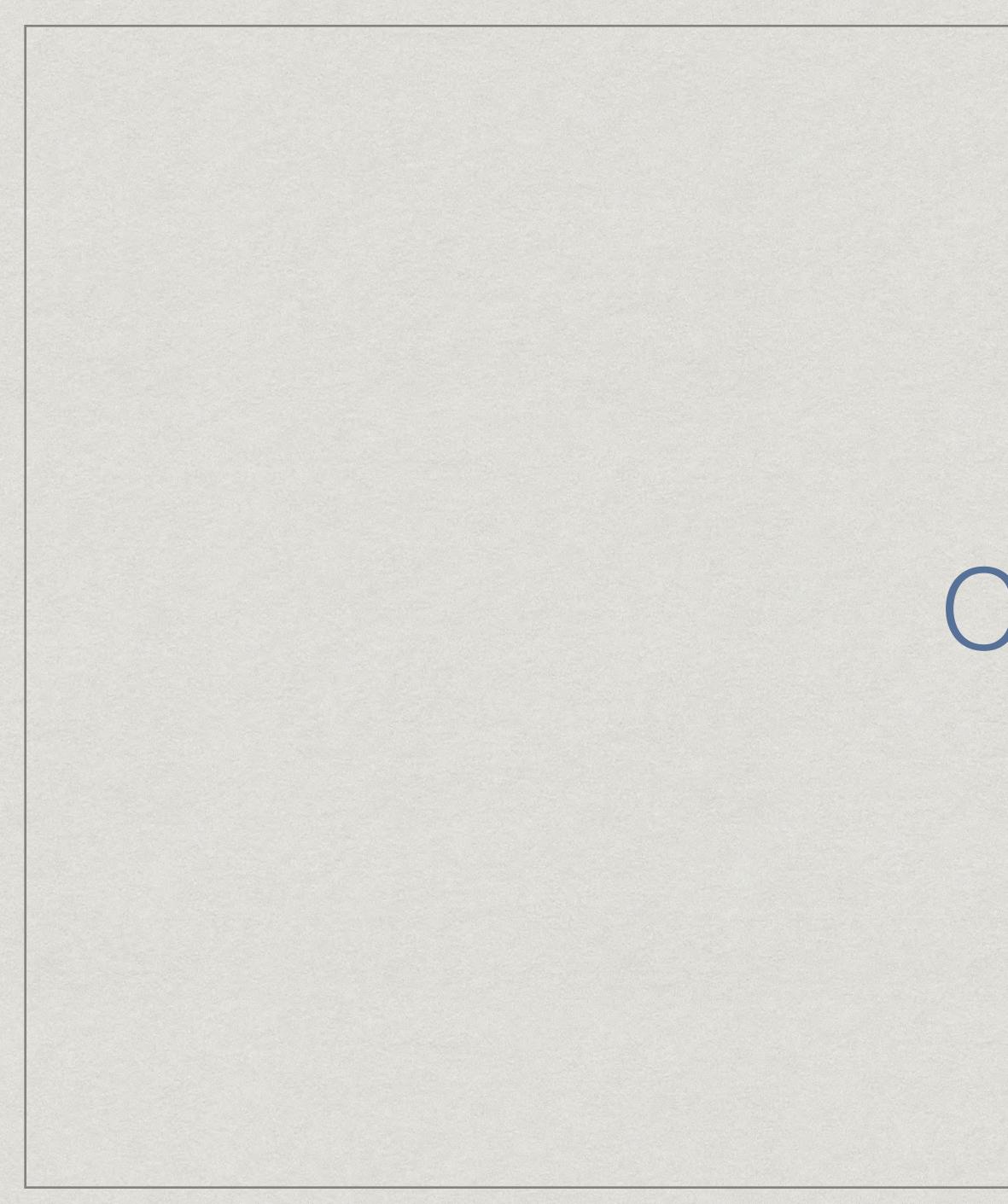
[Artist: Hyun Kyung]

https://cgelves.com/10-most-realistic-human-3d-models-that-will-wow-you/



[Artist: Dan Roarty]





Cloth

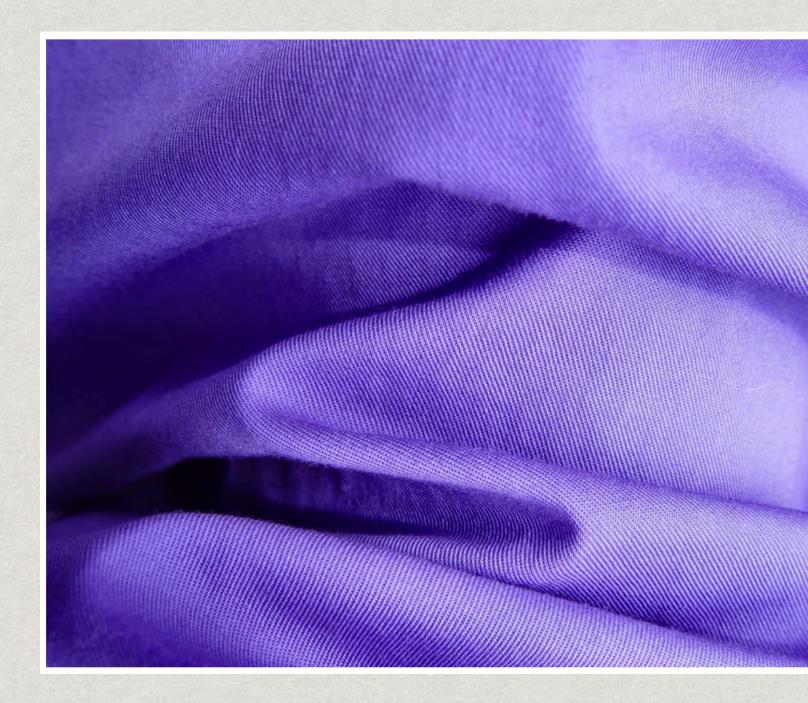


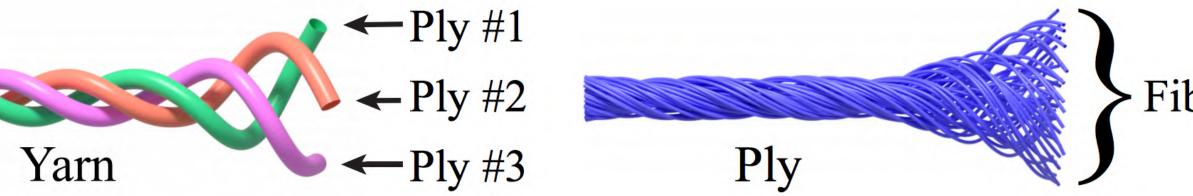
Cloth

* A collection of twisted fibers!

* Two levels of twist

• Woven or knitted



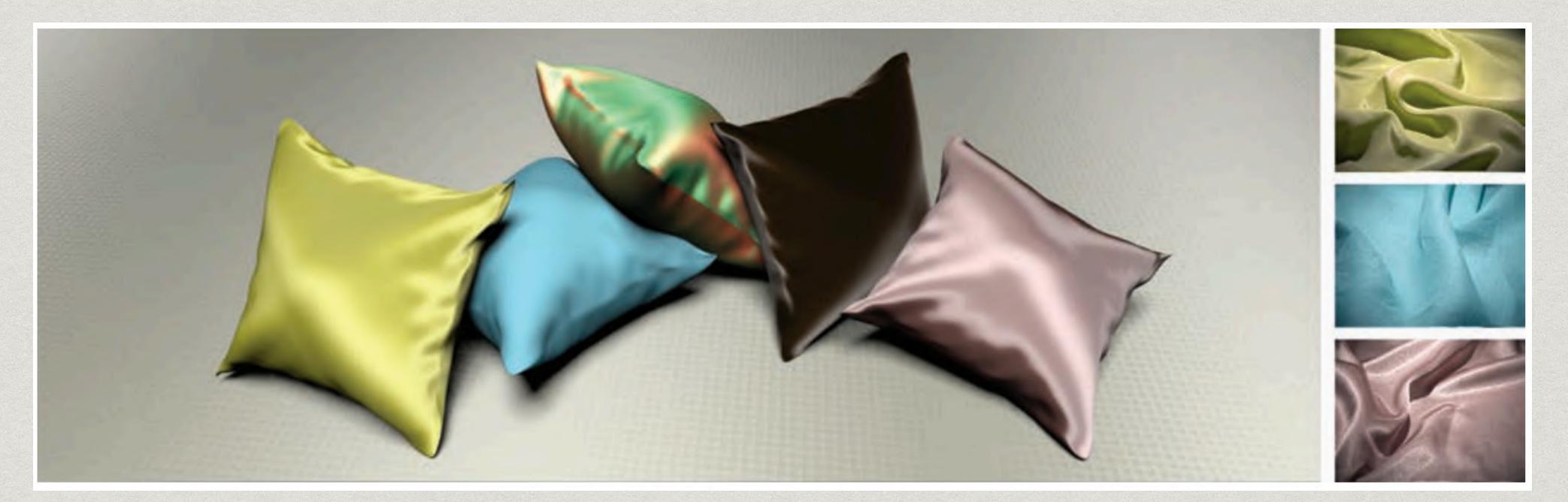


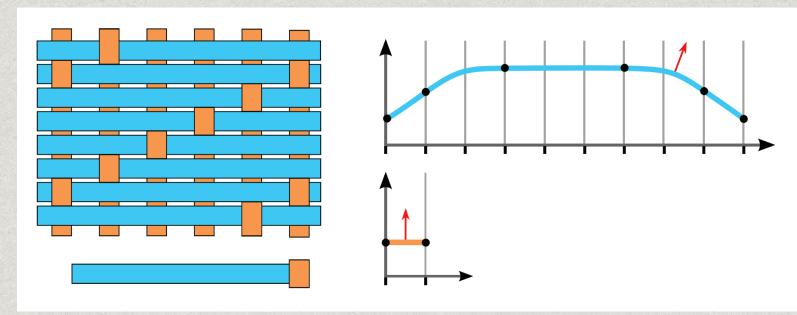




Cloth: Render as Surface

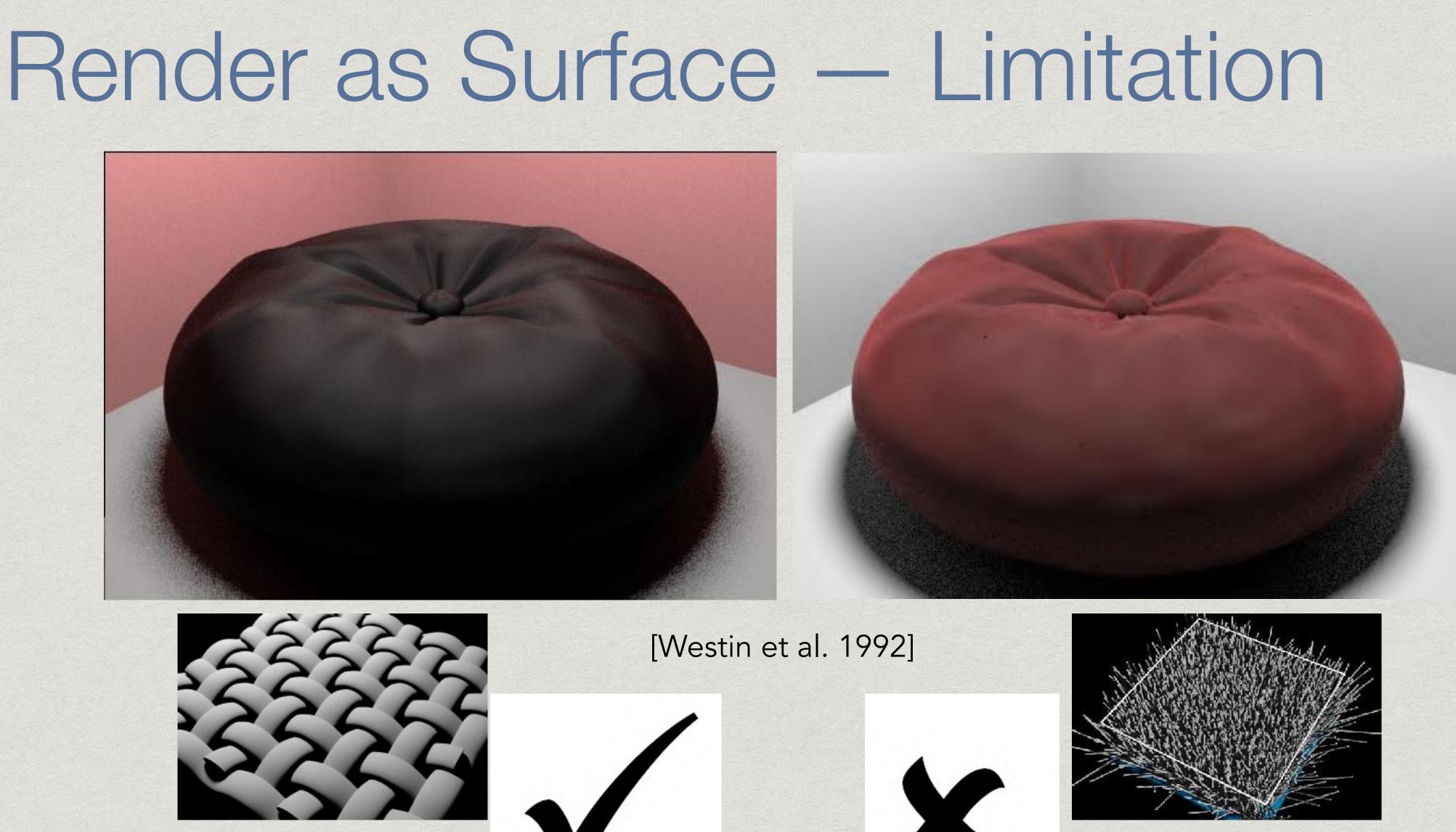
- Given the weaving pattern, calculate the overall behavior
- Render using a BRDF

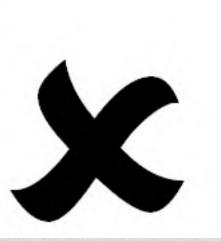




[Sadeghi et al. 2013]









Cloth: Render as Participating Media

- Properties of individual fibers & their distribution -> scattering parameters
- Render as a participating medium



[Jakob et al. 2010]

[Schroder et al. 2011]



Cloth: Render as Actual Fibers

• Render every fiber explicitly!



[Kai Schroder]



Cloth: Application

[The BFG. 2016 Disney]



Granular Material



Granular Material

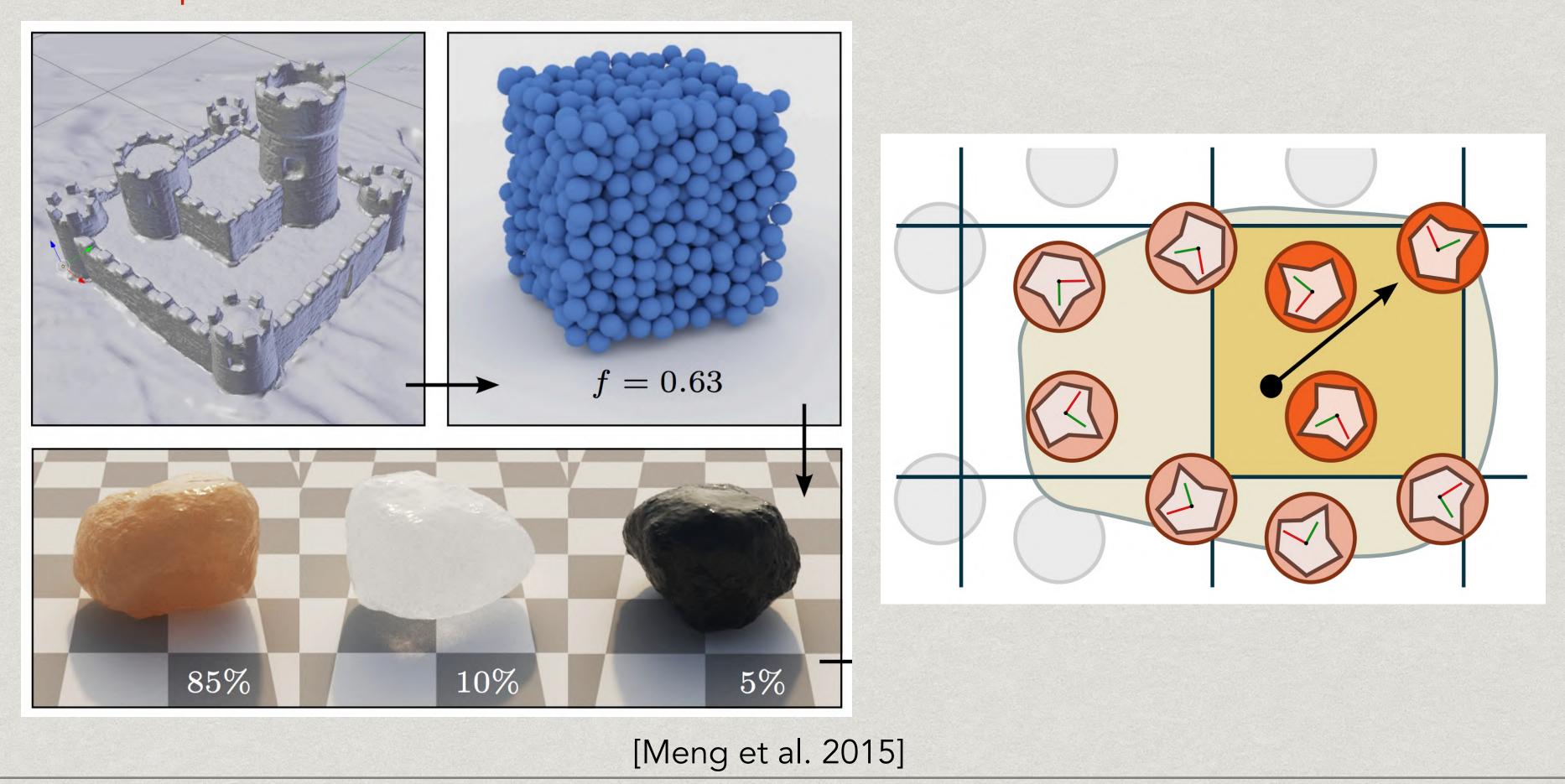
What is granular material?



[Meng et al. 2015]



Granular Material Can we avoid explicit modeling of all granules? - Yes with procedural definition.





Granular Material



Granular Material: Application



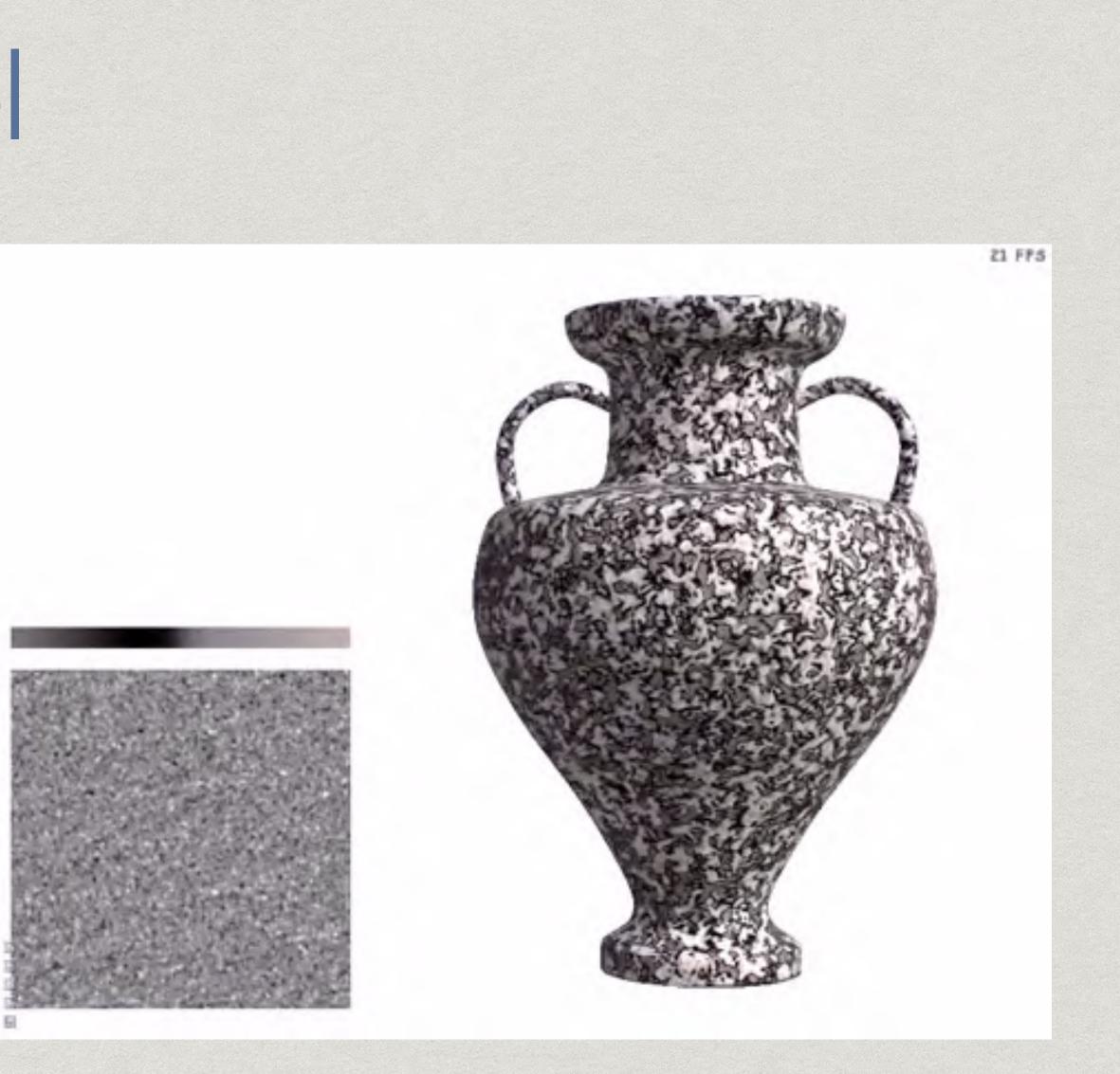


Procedural Material



Can we define details without textures?

> - Yes! Compute a noise function on the fly.

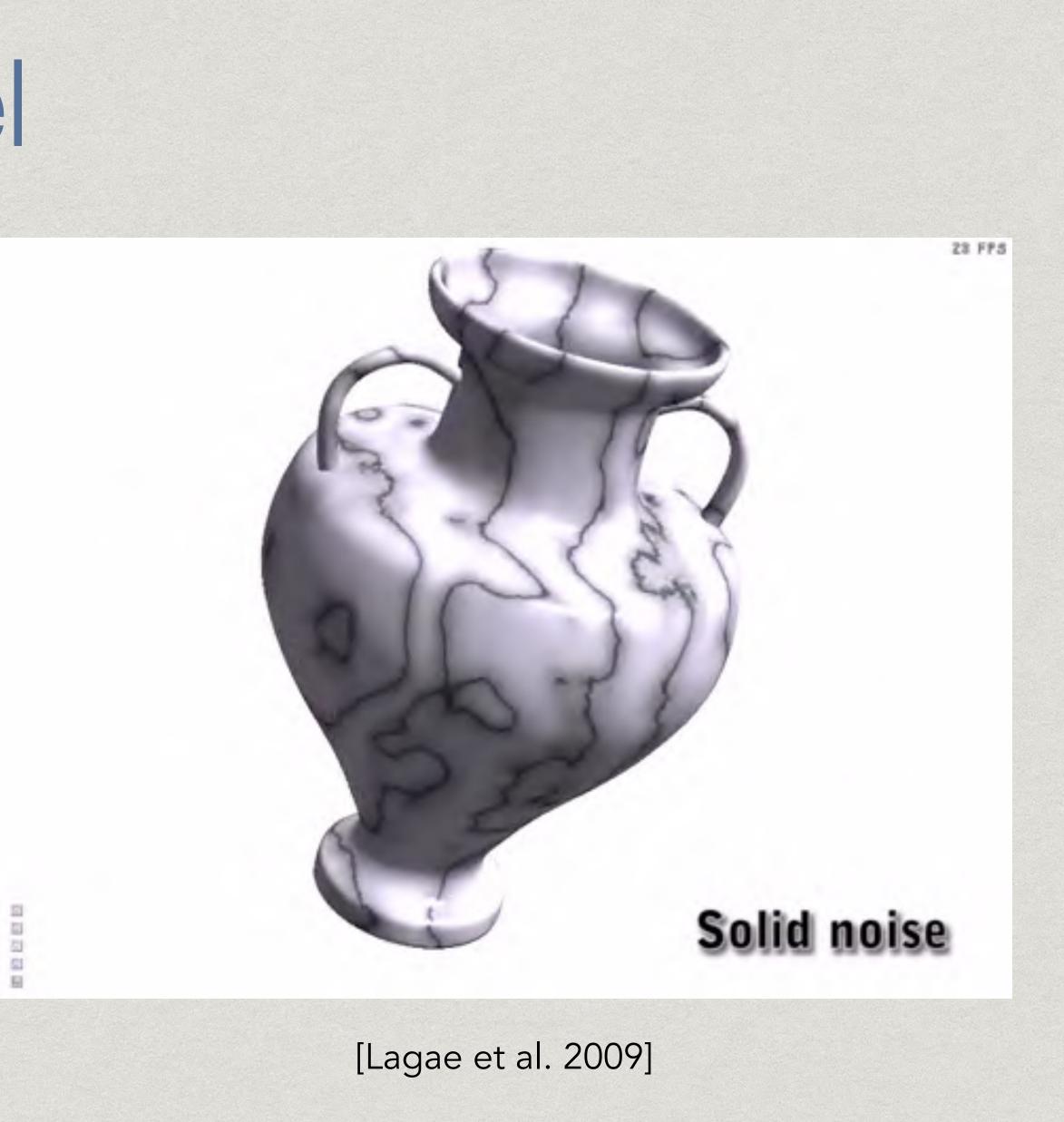


[Lagae et al. 2009]



Can we define details without textures?

- Yes! Compute a noise function on the fly.
- 3D noise ->
 internal structure
 if cut or broken



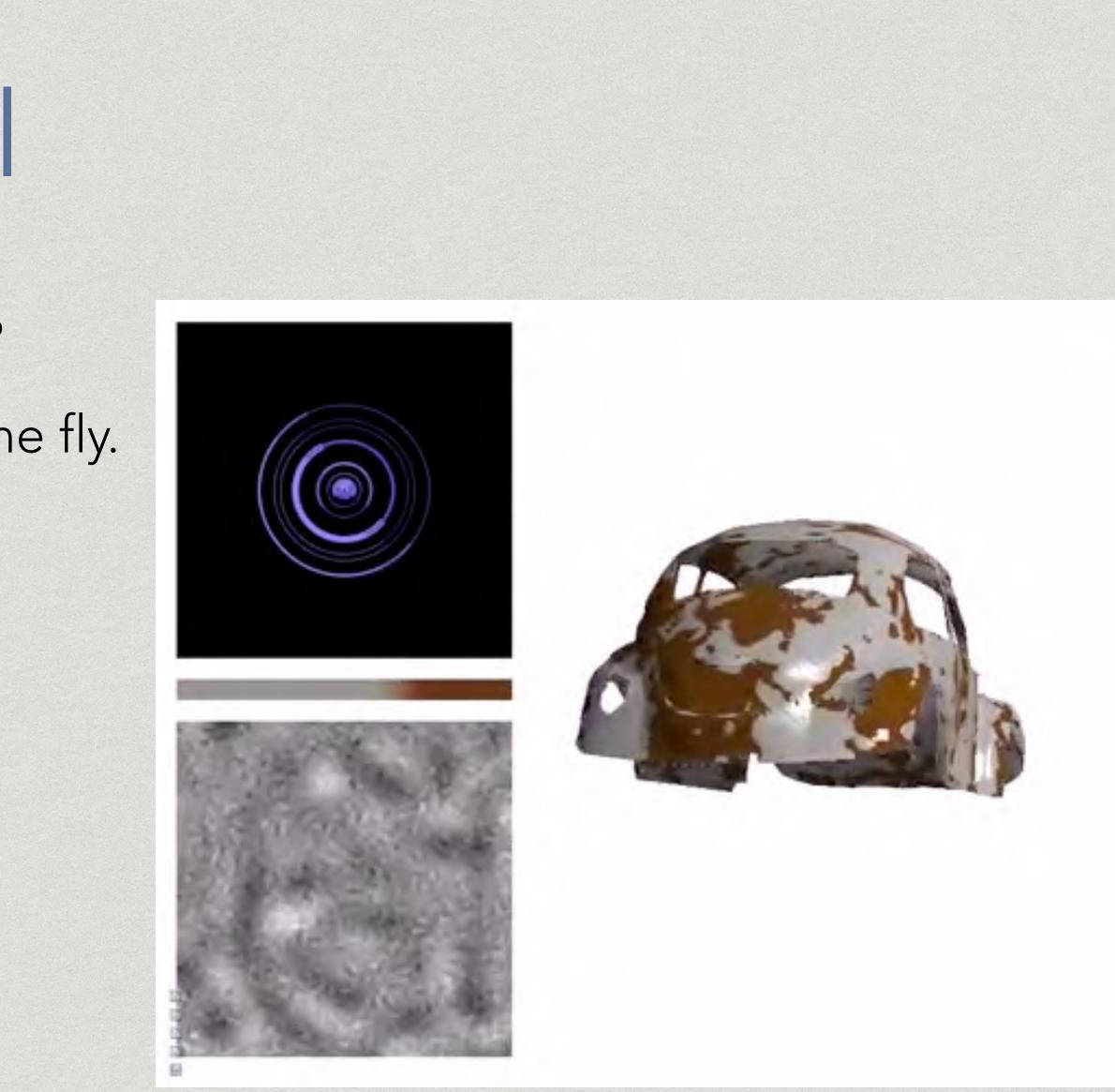


Can we define details without textures?

- Yes! Compute a noise function on the fly.
- Thresholding
 (noise -> binary noise)

Example:

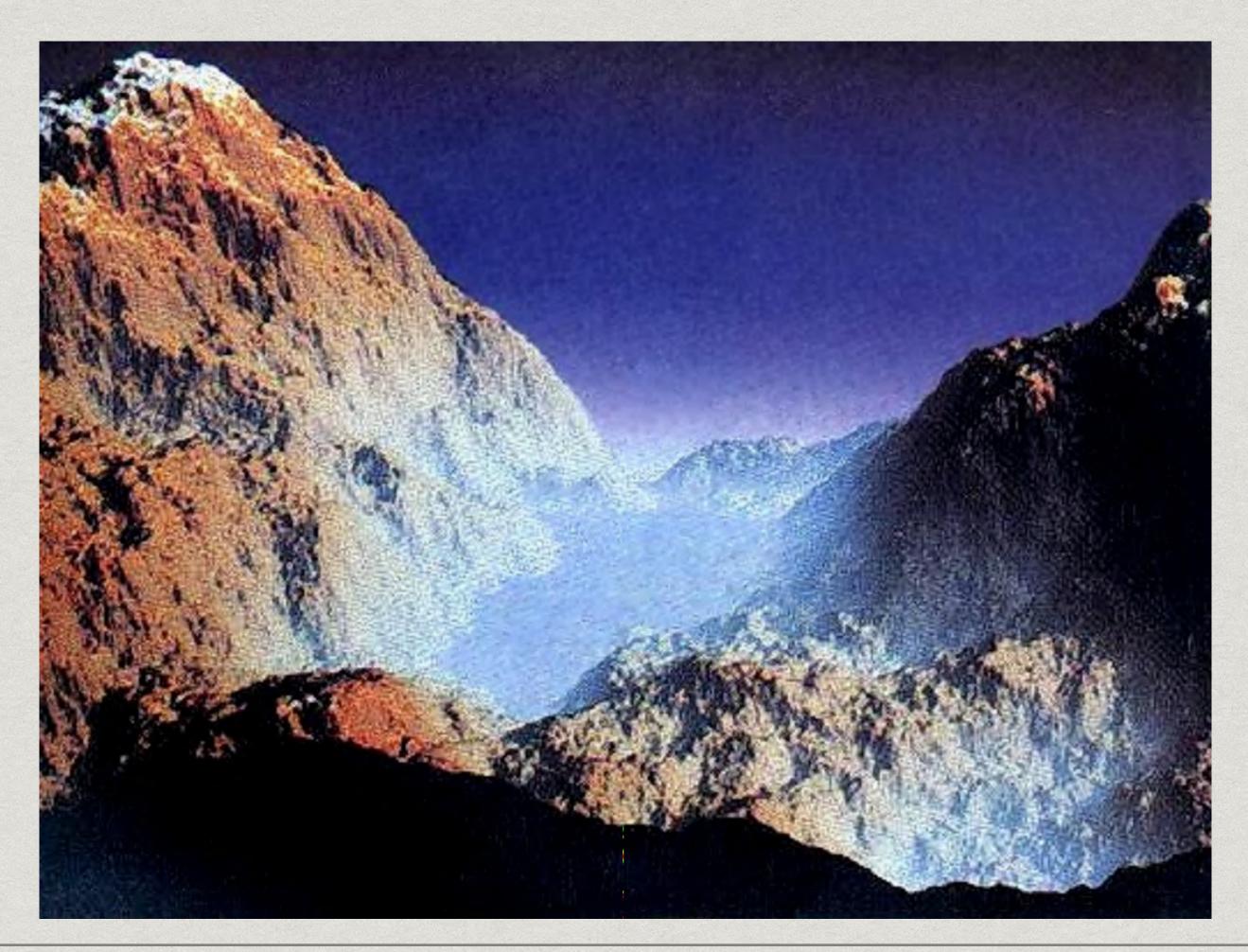
if noise(x, y, z) > threshold:
 reflectance = 1
else:
 reflectance = 0



[Lagae et al. 2009]



Complex noise functions can be very powerful.

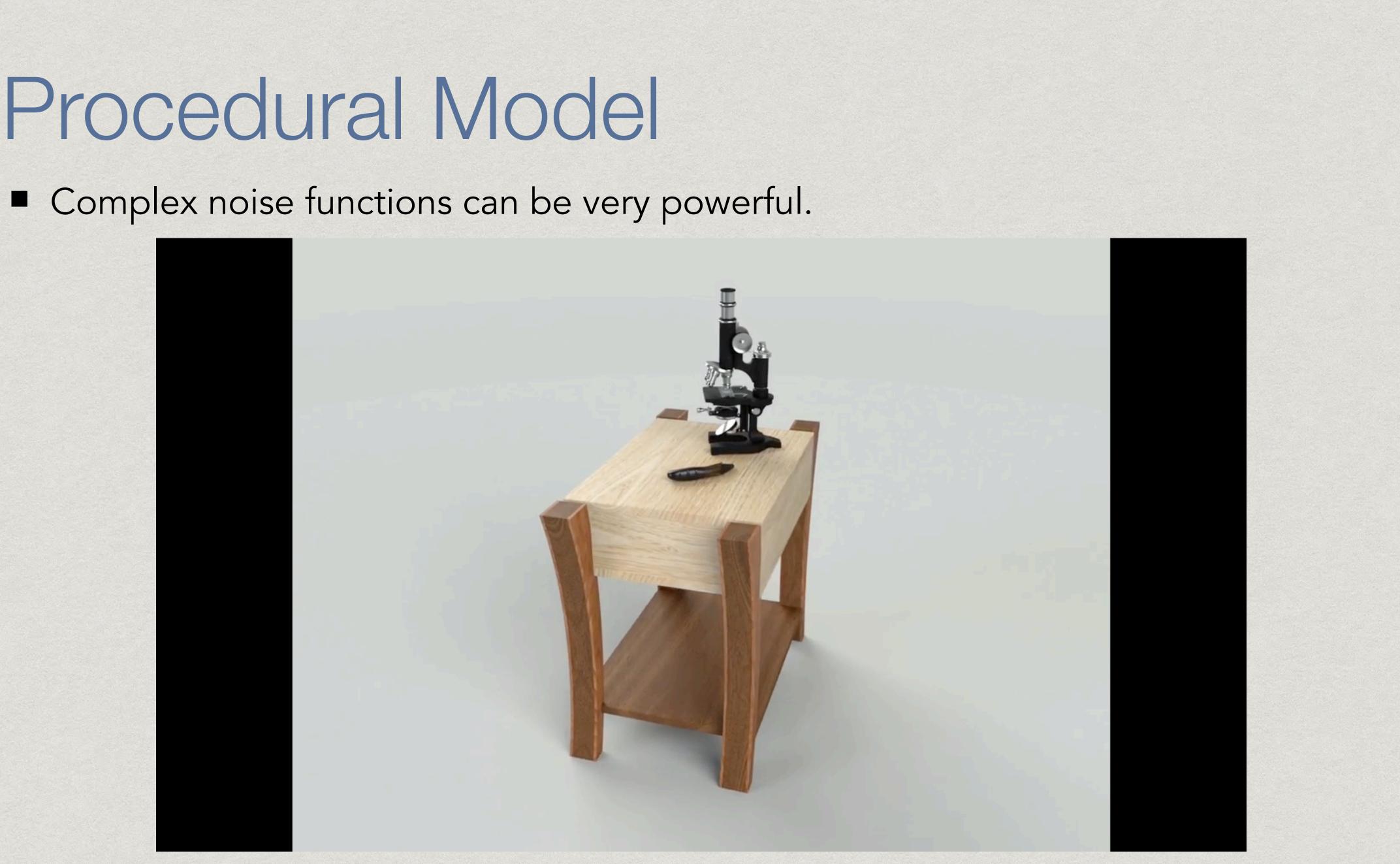




Complex noise functions can be very powerful.









Complex noise functions can be very powerful.





Beyond State of the Art

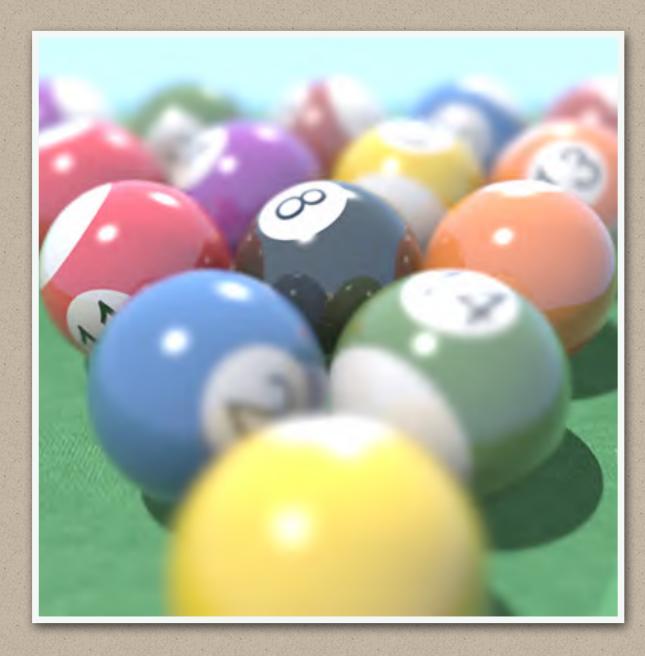
 Next generation rendering / my research - High level goal: realism and speed







appearance modeling



real-time ray tracing



Part I: Detailed Rendering





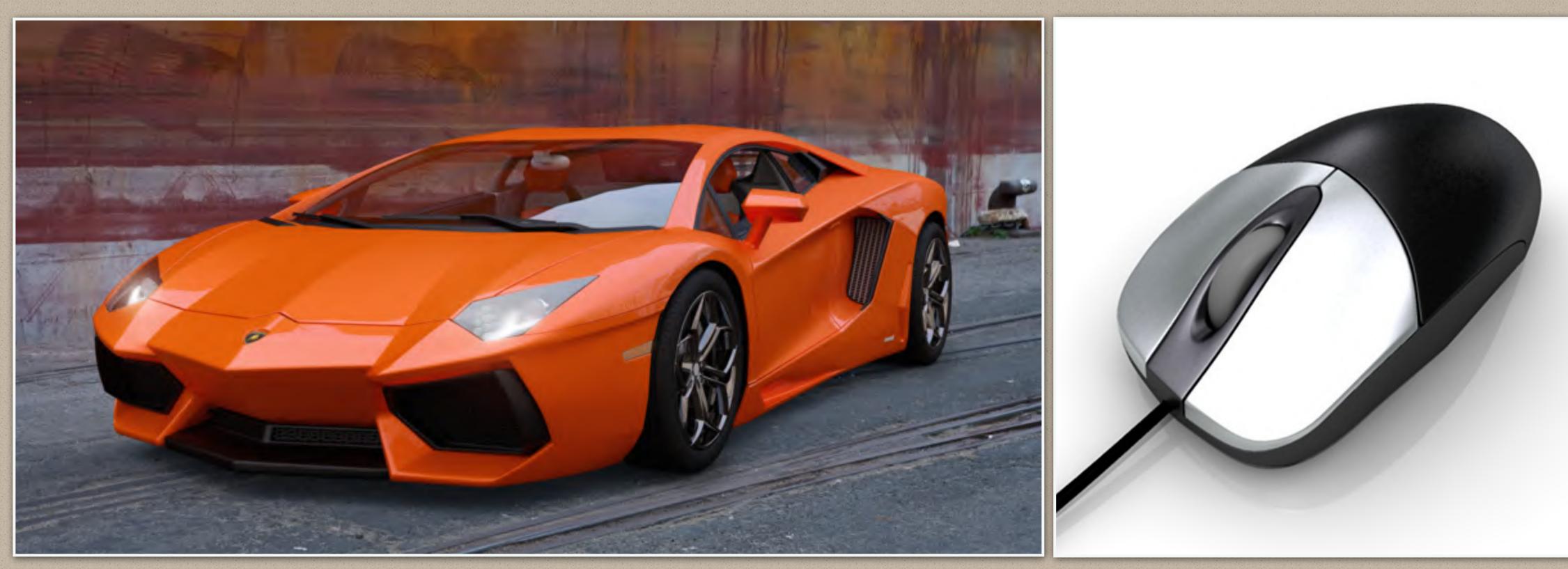
detailed rendering



appearance modeling

real-time ray tracing





Car rendered in NVIDIA Iray

Rendering is powerful today

Mouse rendered in Autodesk 3DS Max



Real world is more complicated



Real photograph of a car

Real video of a mouse





Why details?

traditional model

Why details?

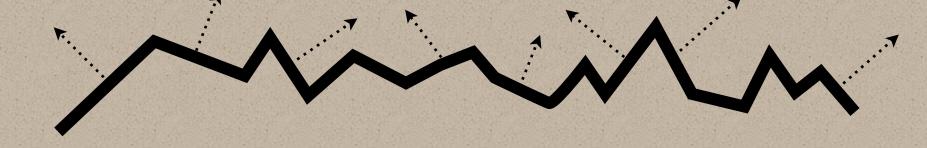


our model

Why details?

our model

Normal Distribution: ideal vs. real



Surface = Specular microfacets + **Random** normals

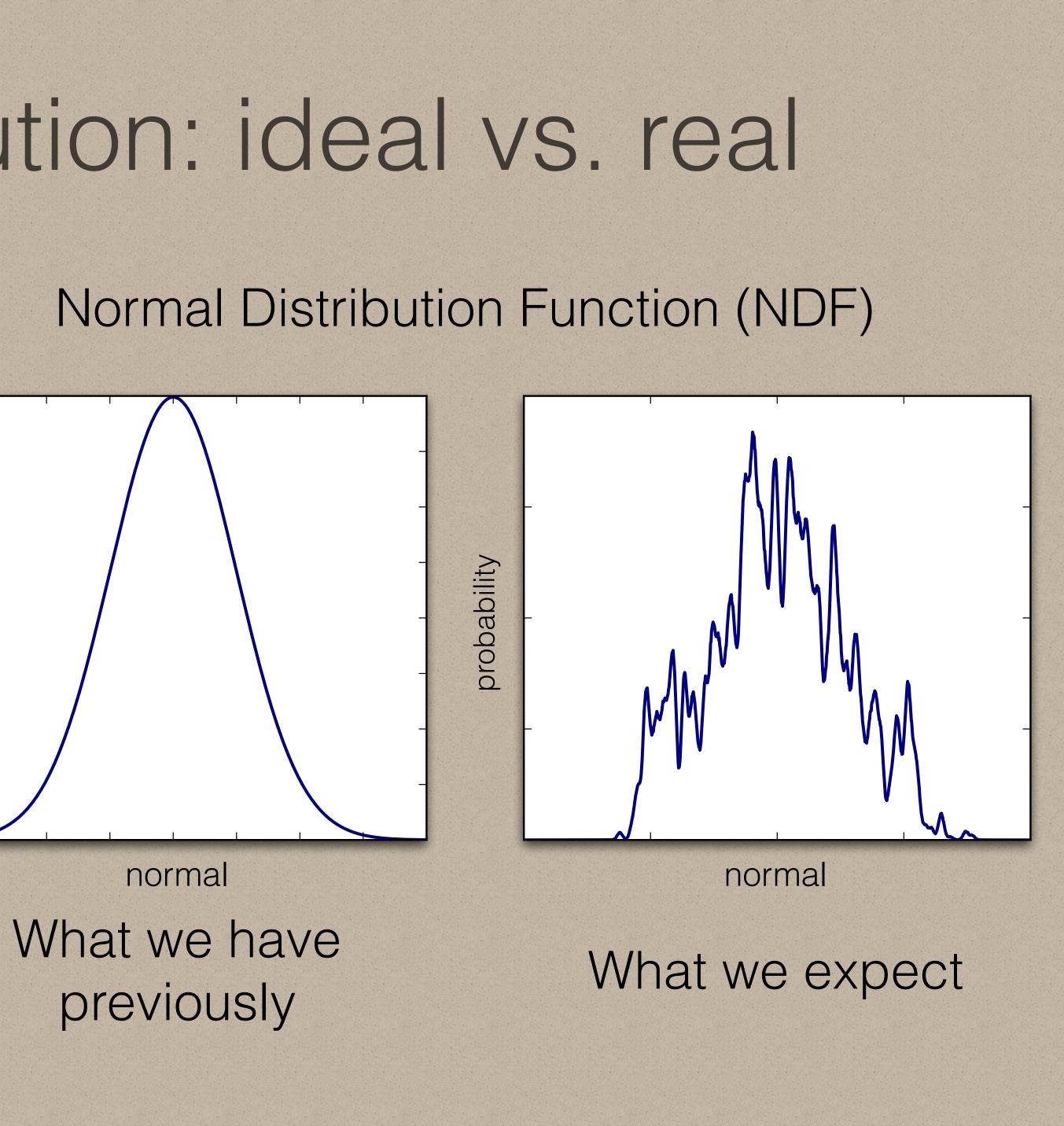


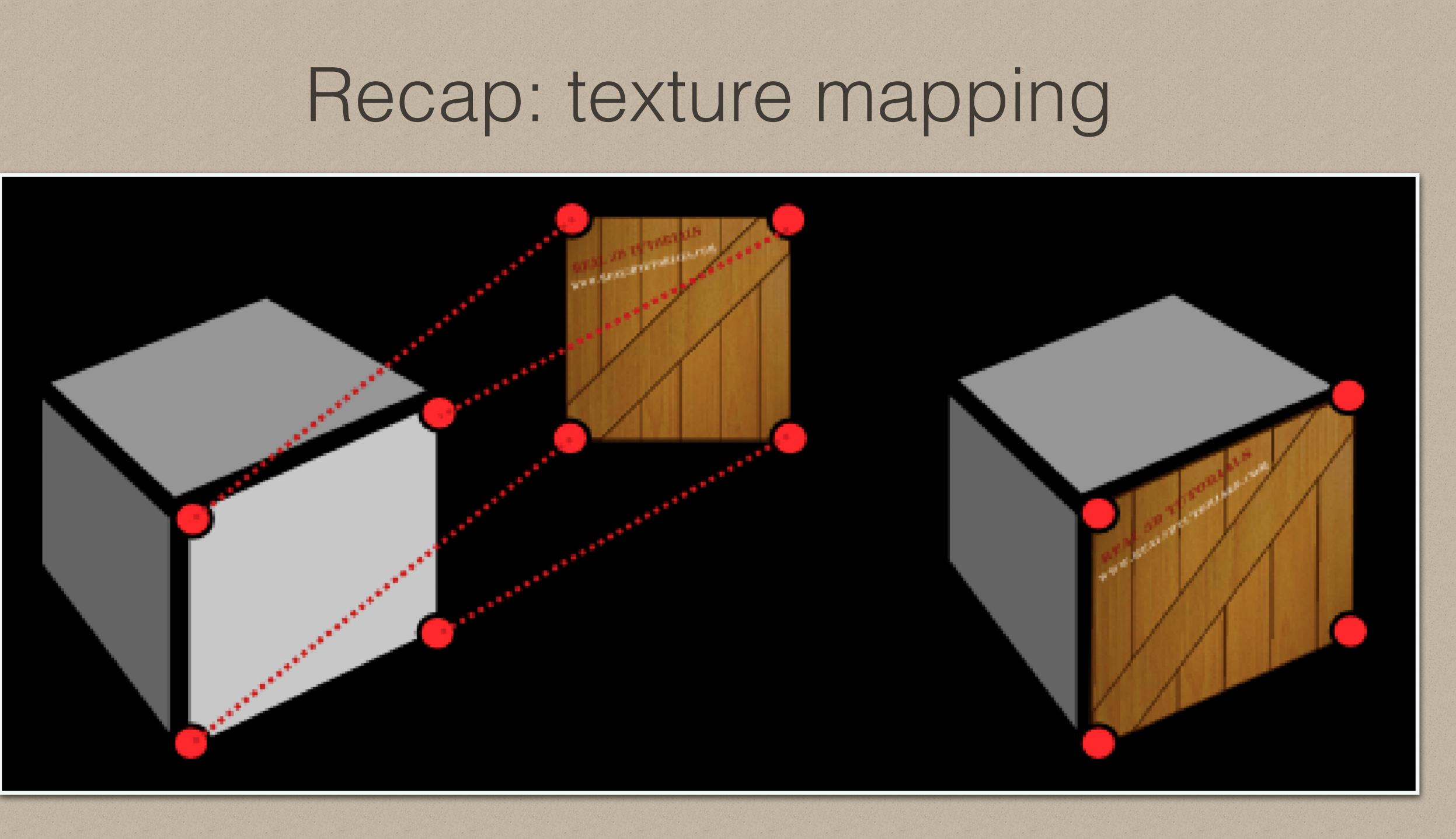
probability

smooth

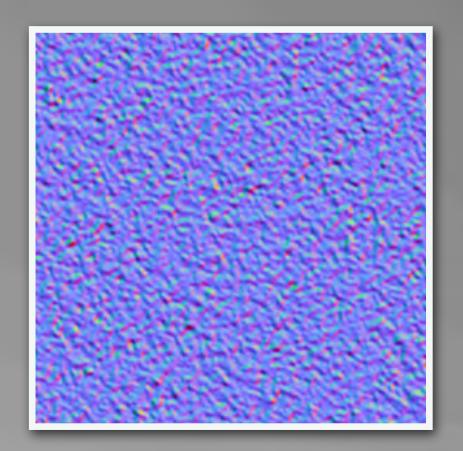
60

expect



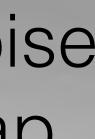


Define the details



isotropic noise normal map

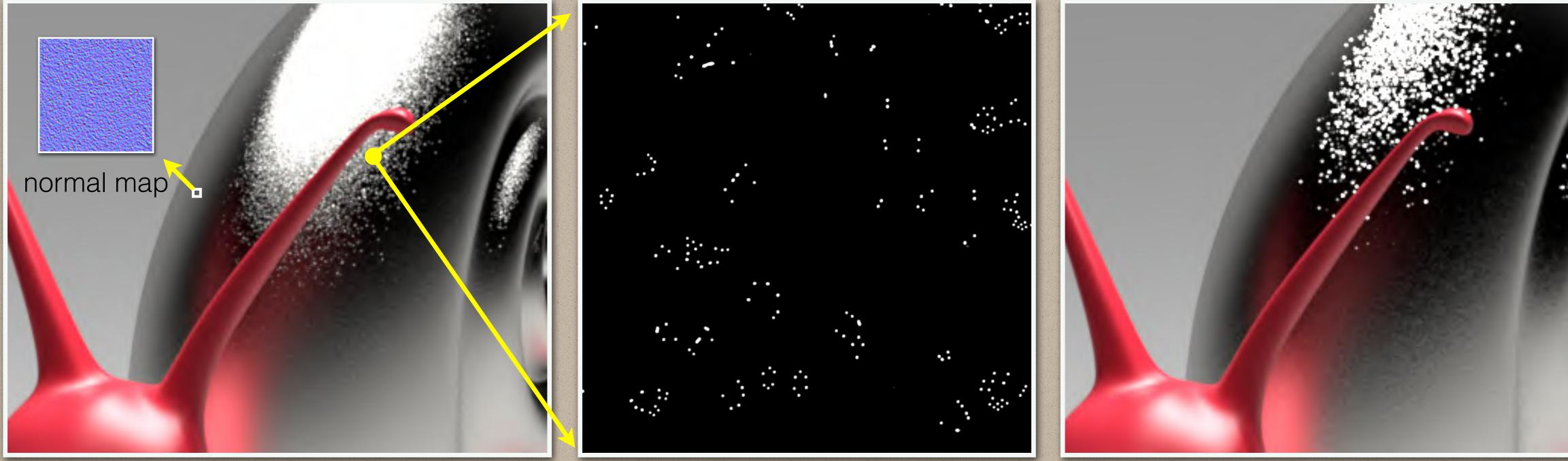
Normal map resolution: ≈ 200K x 200K





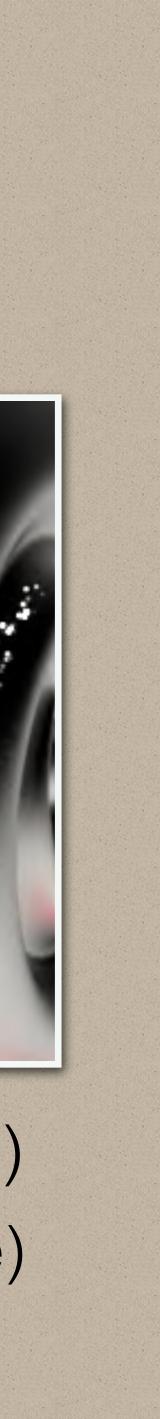


Rendering? Too difficult!



our result

zoom of a single pixel naive sampling (2 hours) $(\gg 21.3 \text{ days to converge})$



Difficult ray sampling problem

camera



miss



lightsource

miss





Solution: BRDF over a pixel

camera ()

light source

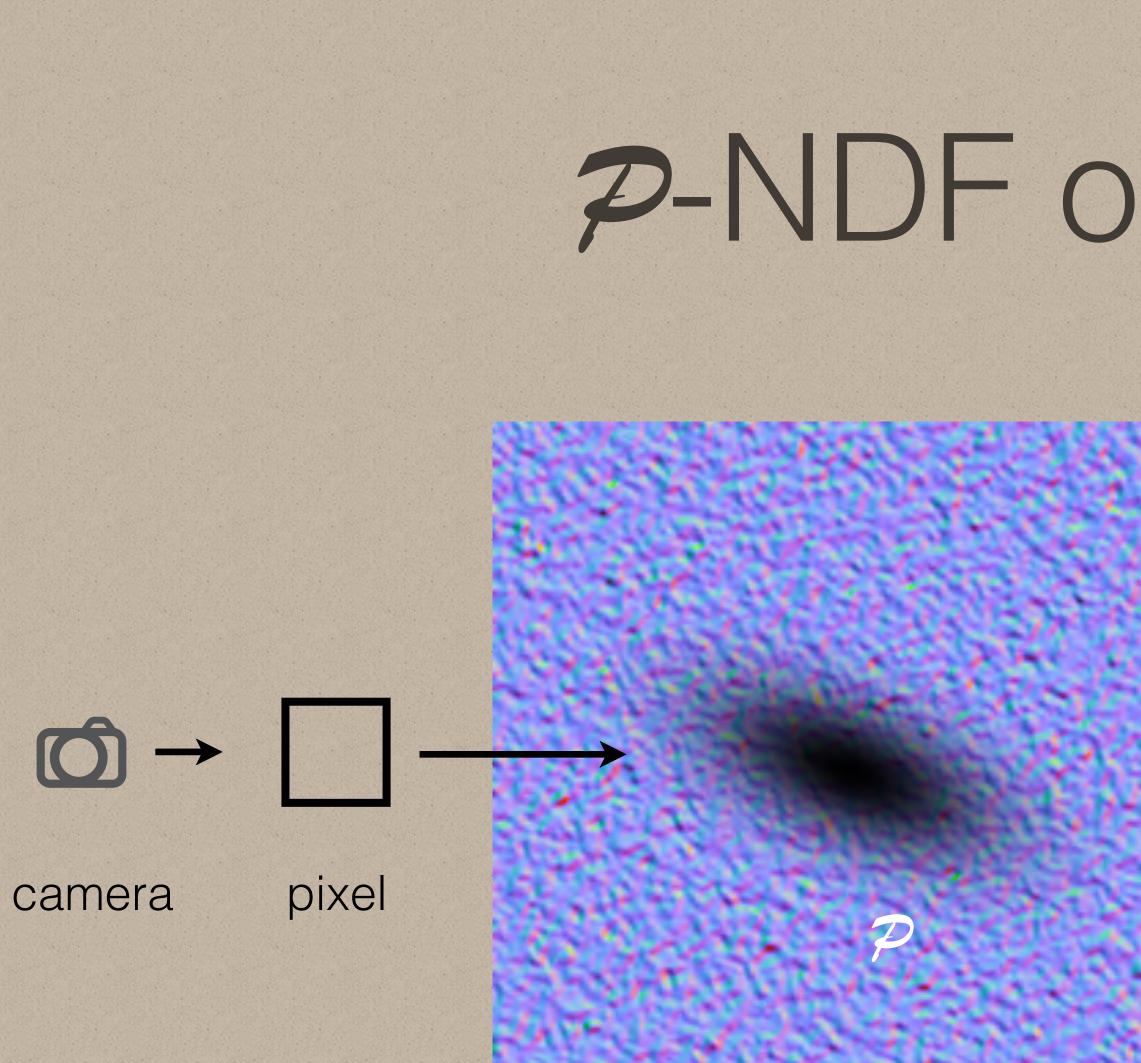




patch P

 $\gamma \gamma \gamma \gamma \gamma \gamma \gamma$





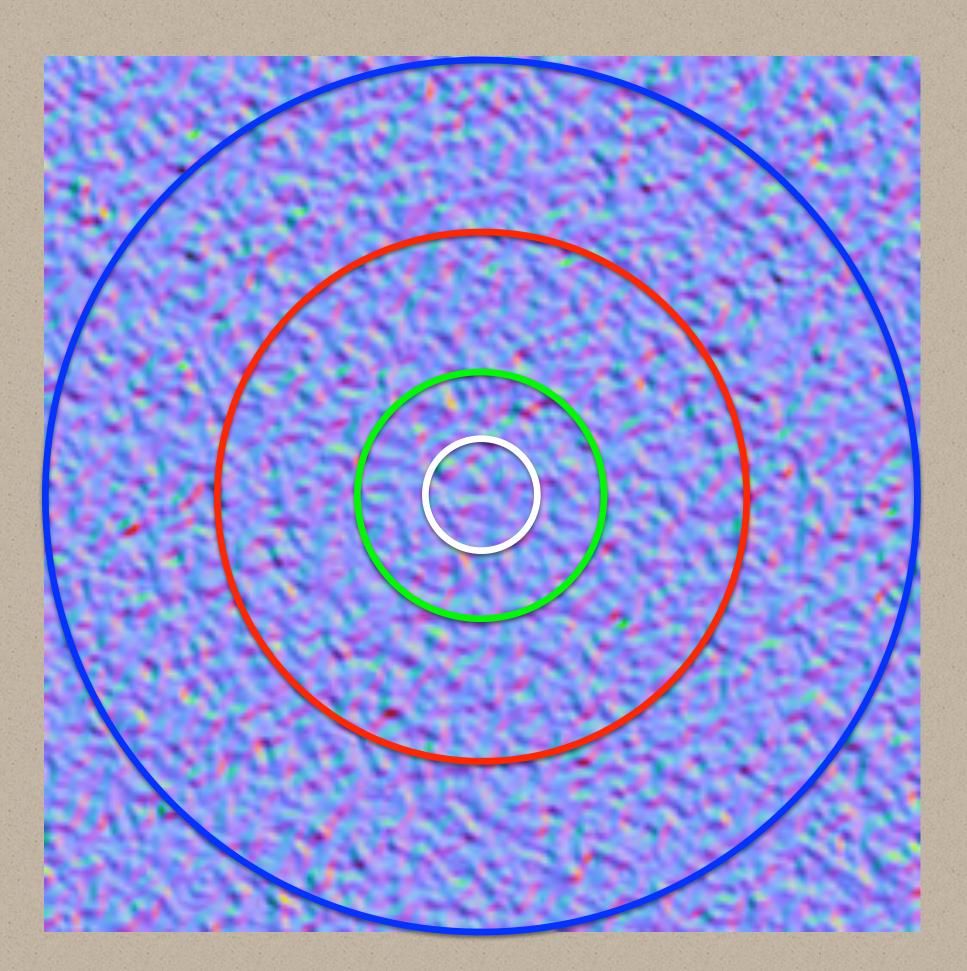
normal-mapped surface

P-NDF over a pixel

P-NDF: distribution of normals over P



P-NDFs have sharp features

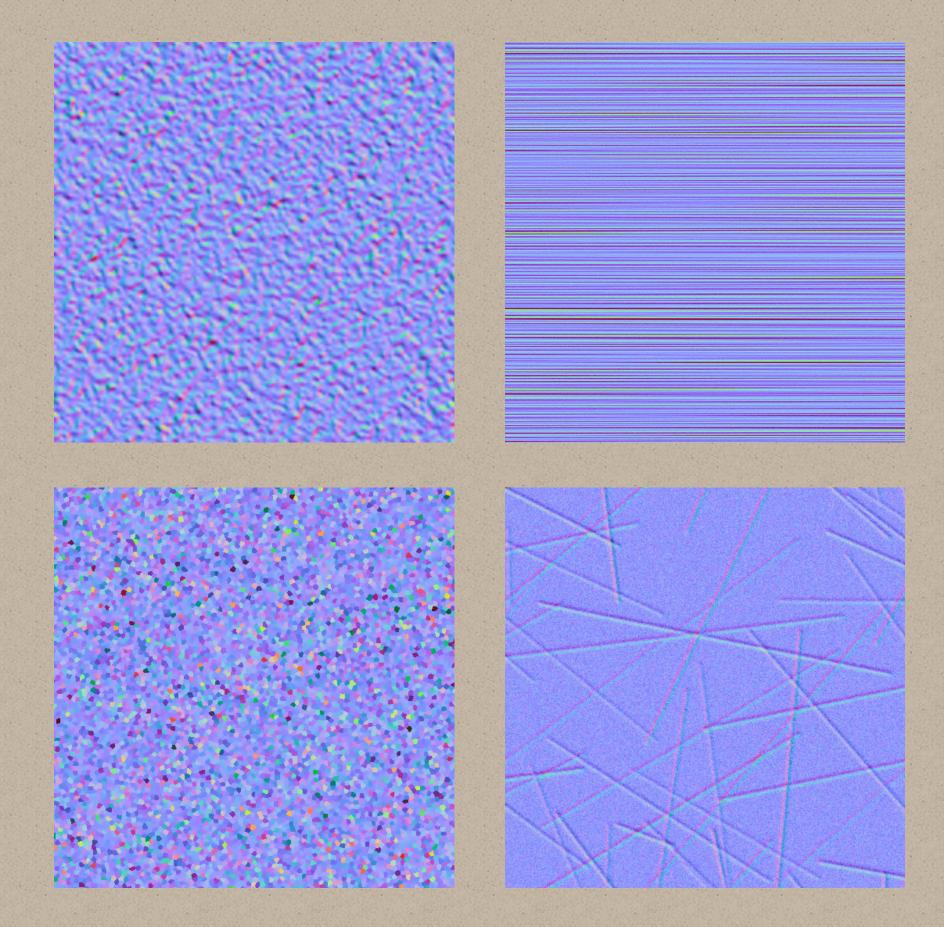


normal map

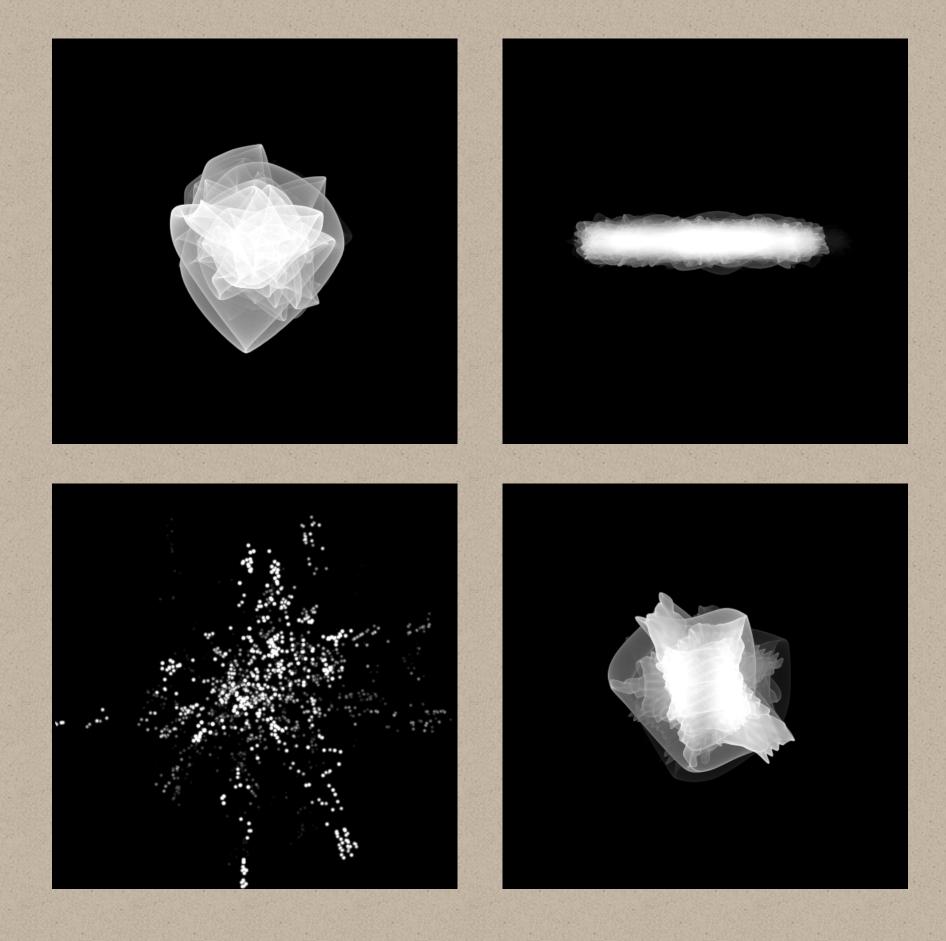




P-NDF shapes



normal maps



P-NDFs



Converting P-NDF to BRDF

microfacet BRDF $f_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{o}) = \frac{\mathbf{F} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{D}_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{h})}{4\cos\theta_{\mathbf{i}}\cos\theta_{\mathbf{o}}}$

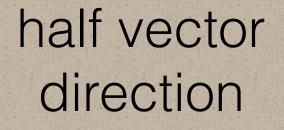


P-NDF evaluation with perfect specularity

$D(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{G_p(u)\delta(n(u) - s)du}{\left\|n'(u_i)\right\|} = \sum_{i} \frac{G_p(u_i)}{\left\|n'(u_i)\right\|}, \text{ can be}$

P-NDF

Pixel's coverage



sum over the roots of n(u) = s





Better way: Intrinsic roughness

 $D(s) = \int_{-1}^{1} G_r(s - s') \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G_p(u)\delta(n(u) - s')duds'$

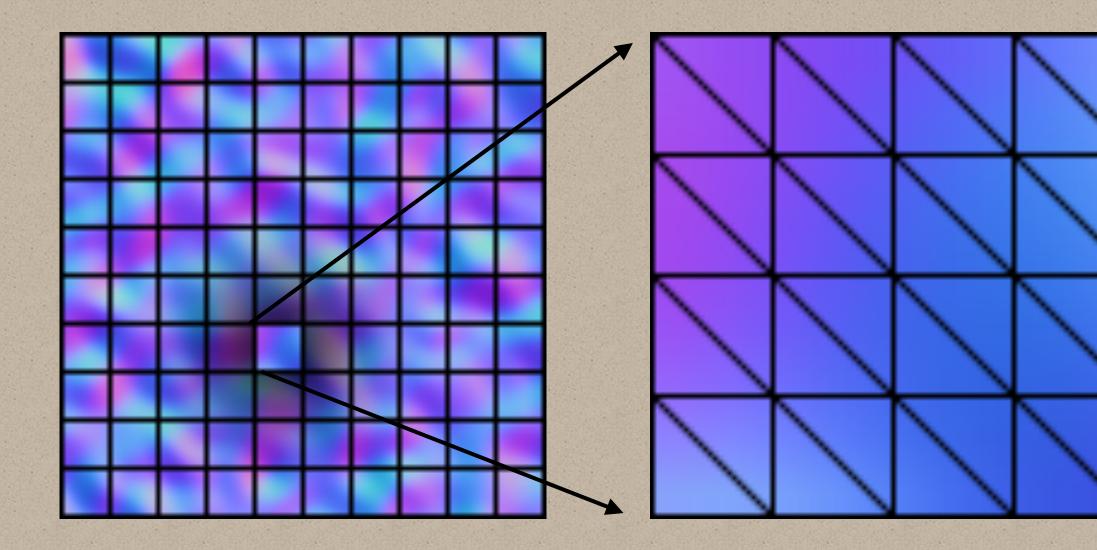
roughness kernel (sigma = 0.001 radians)

 $= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G_p(u) G_r(n(u) - s) \,\mathrm{d}u$

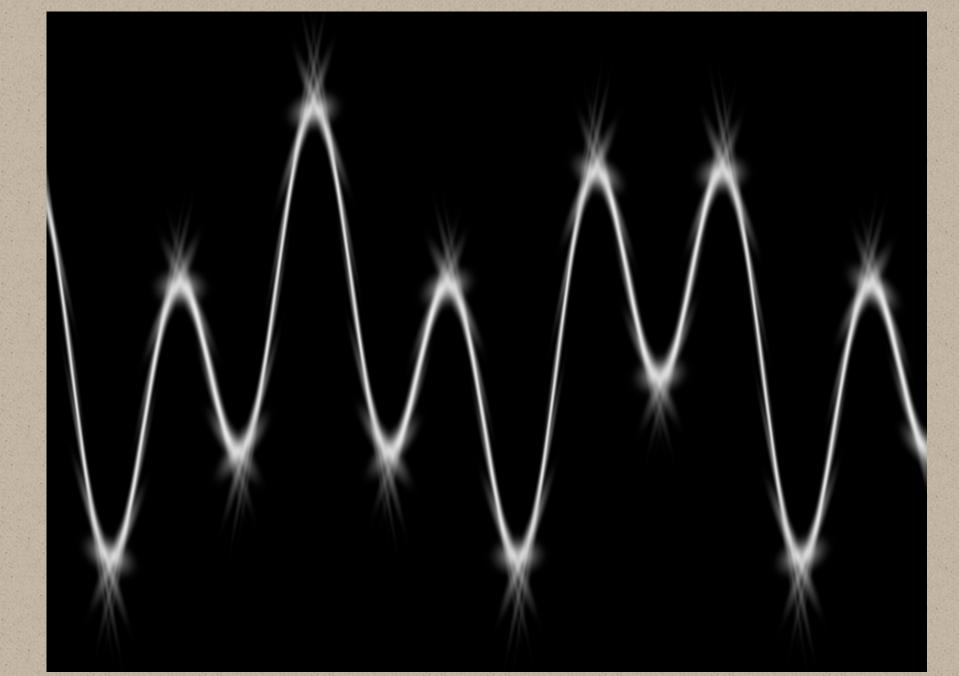
perfectly specular NDF



Two different solutions to NDFs

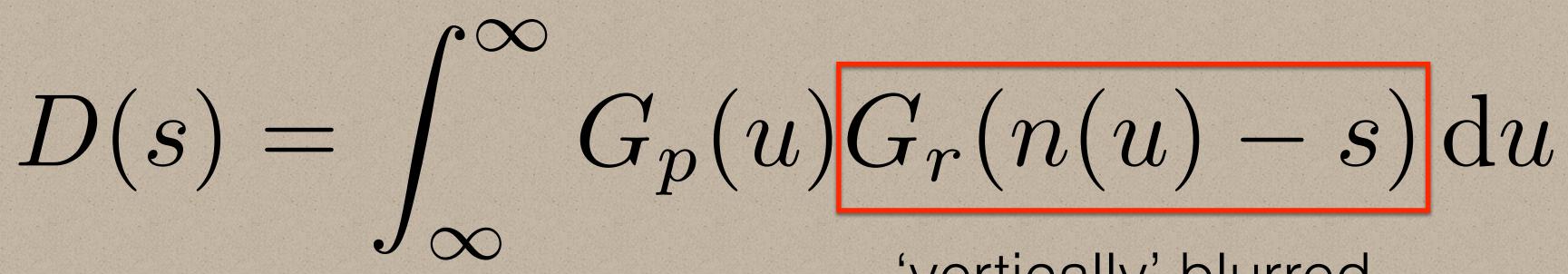


Yan et al. [2014]



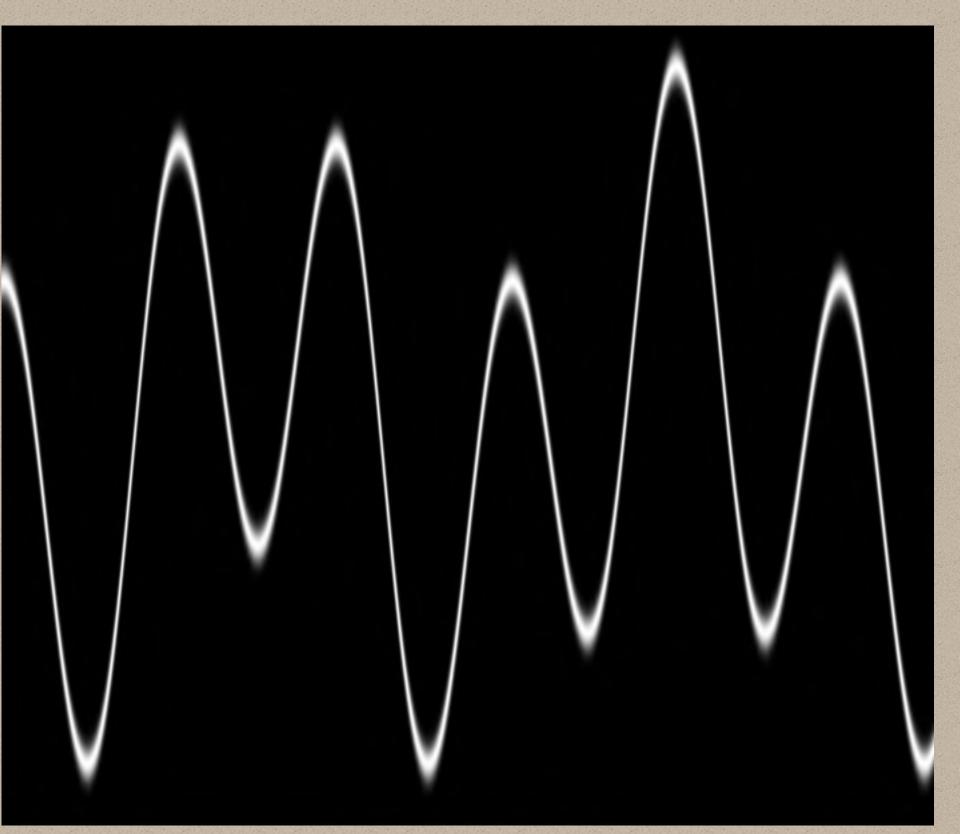
Yan et al. [2016] (100x faster)





position-normal distribution

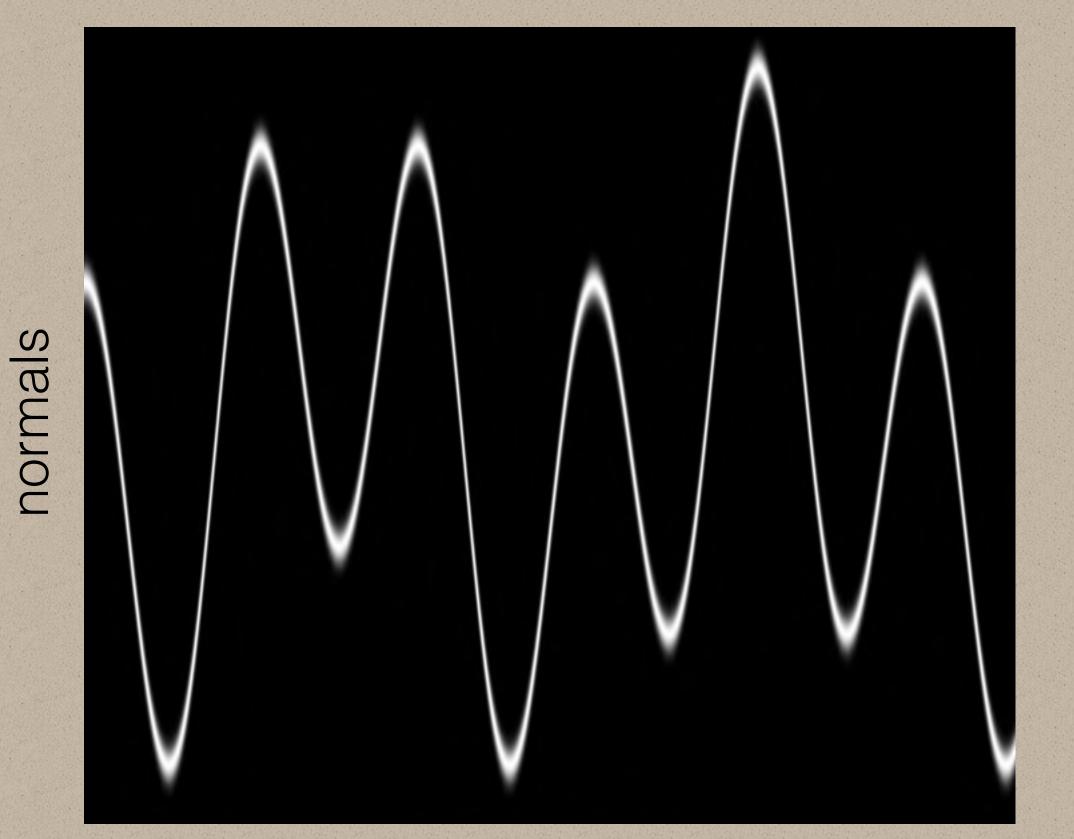
'vertically' blurred graph of normal map



positions



Approximating position-normal distribution



positions

position-normal distribution



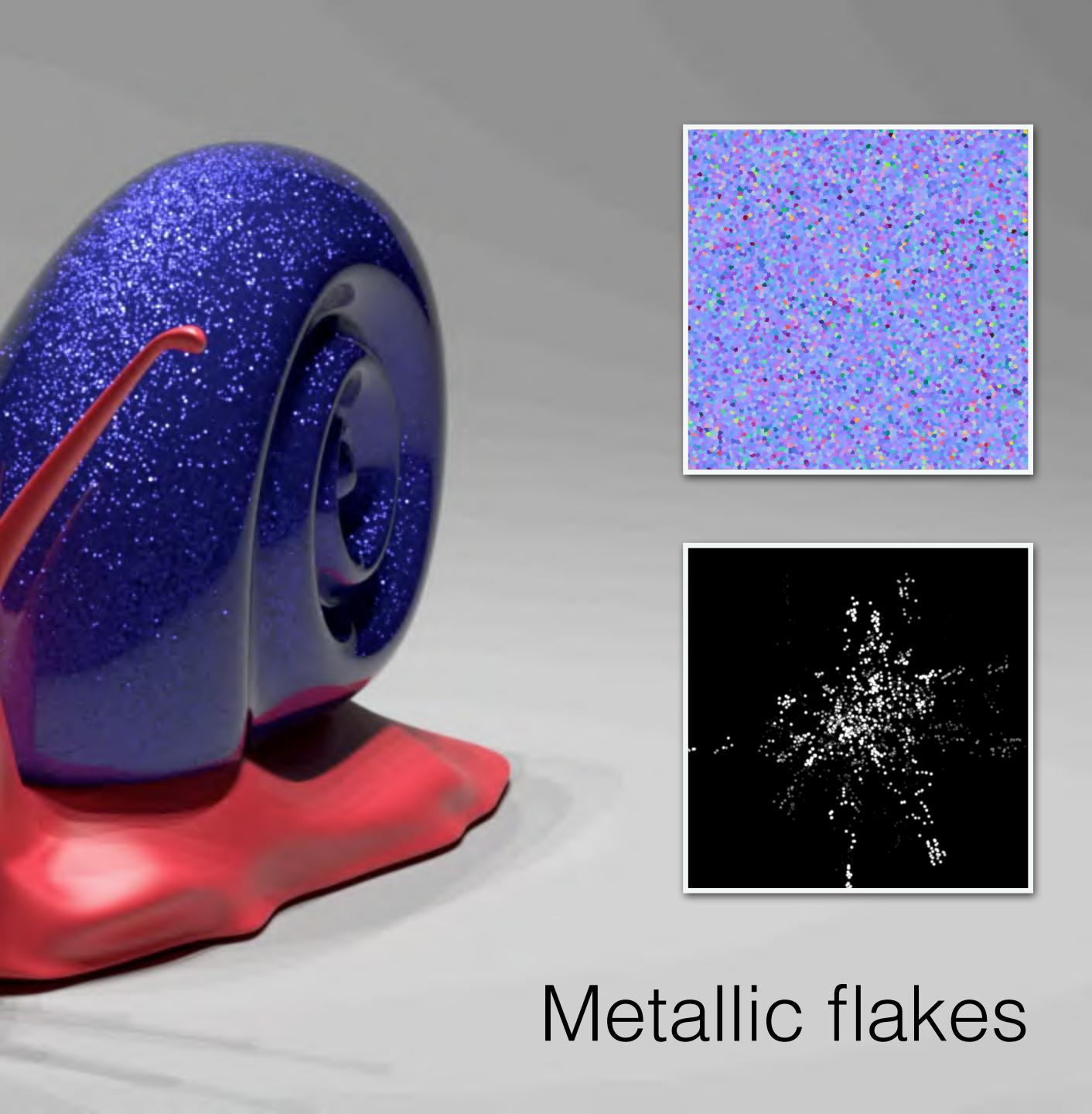
positions

approx using 160 flat elements (axis-aligned Gaussians)

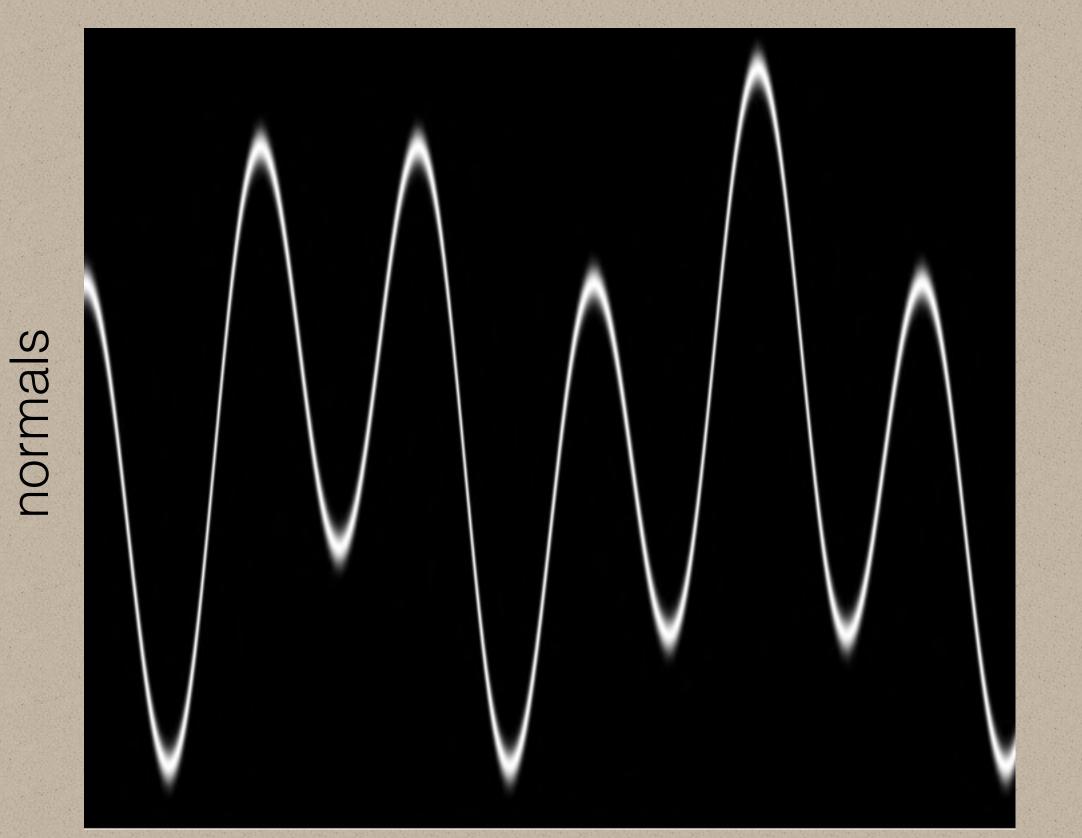


Application using flat elements

SIGGRAPH 2014 technical paper trailer

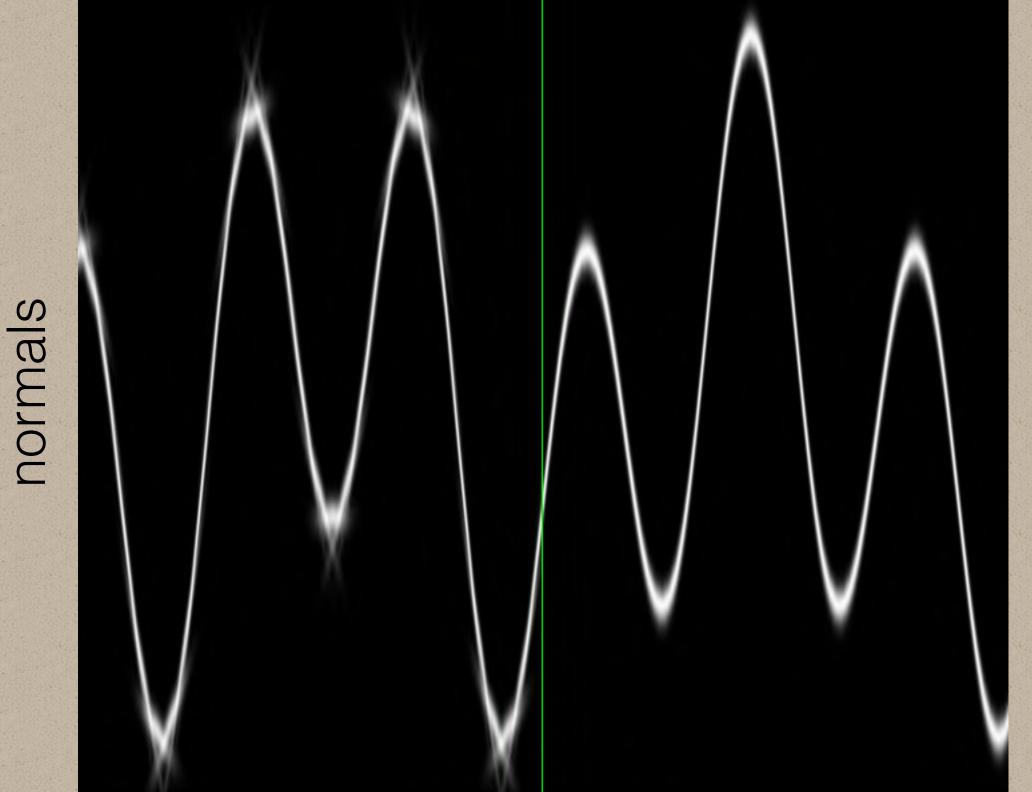


Approximating position-normal distribution



'vertically' blurred normal map

positions



positions

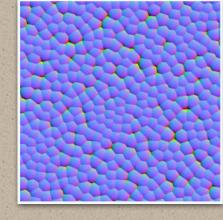
approx using 80/160 curved elements (arbitrary Gaussians)



P-NDF evaluation cont. $D(s) = \int_{\infty}^{\infty} G_p(u) G_r(n(u) - s) \, \mathrm{d}u$ position-normal distribution $= \sum_{i=1}^{m} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{G_p(u)G_i(u,s) \,\mathrm{d}u}{1 \mathrm{D} \ \mathrm{ID} \ \mathrm{slice} \ \mathrm{of} \ \mathrm{2D}}$

2D 2D slice of 4D

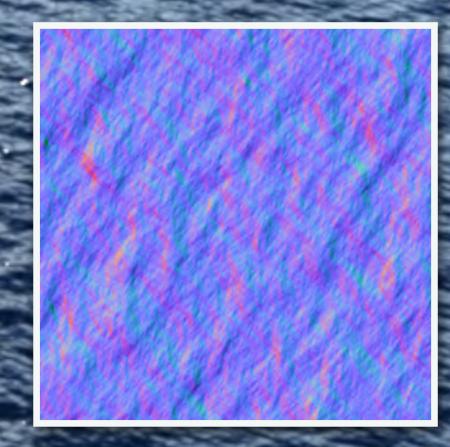








Application using curved elements

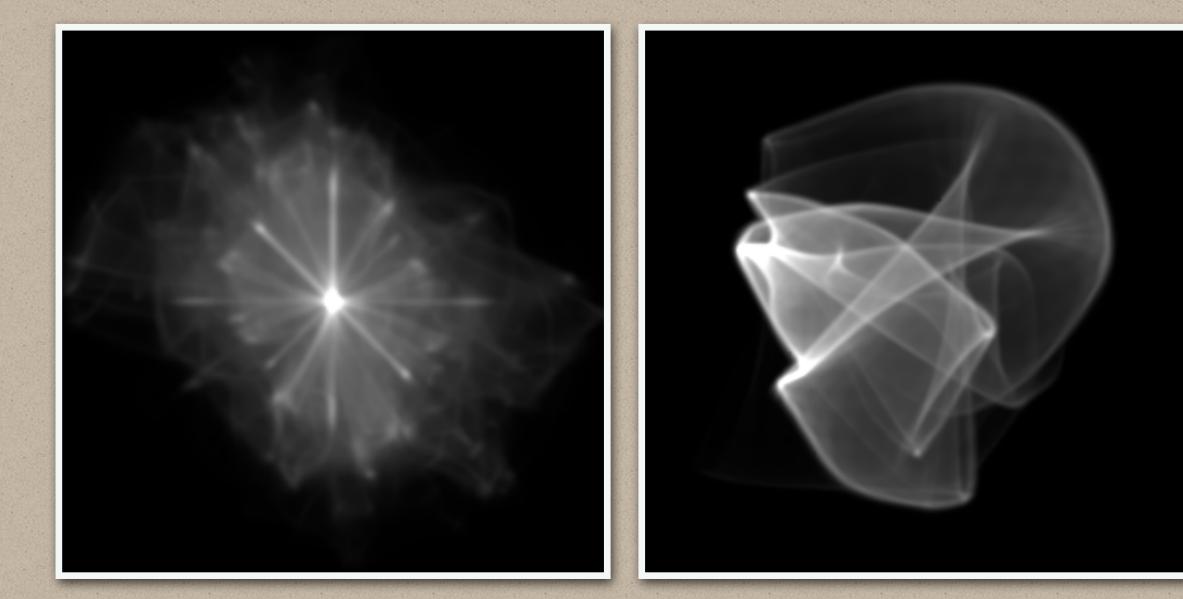




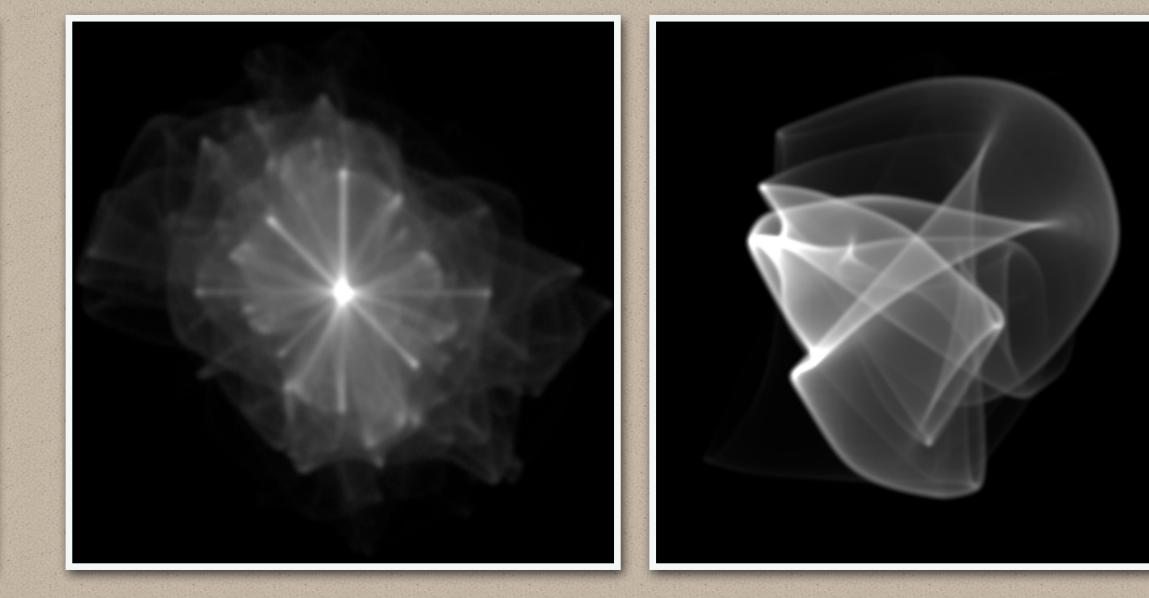
Ocean waves



Ground truth *P*-NDF comparison

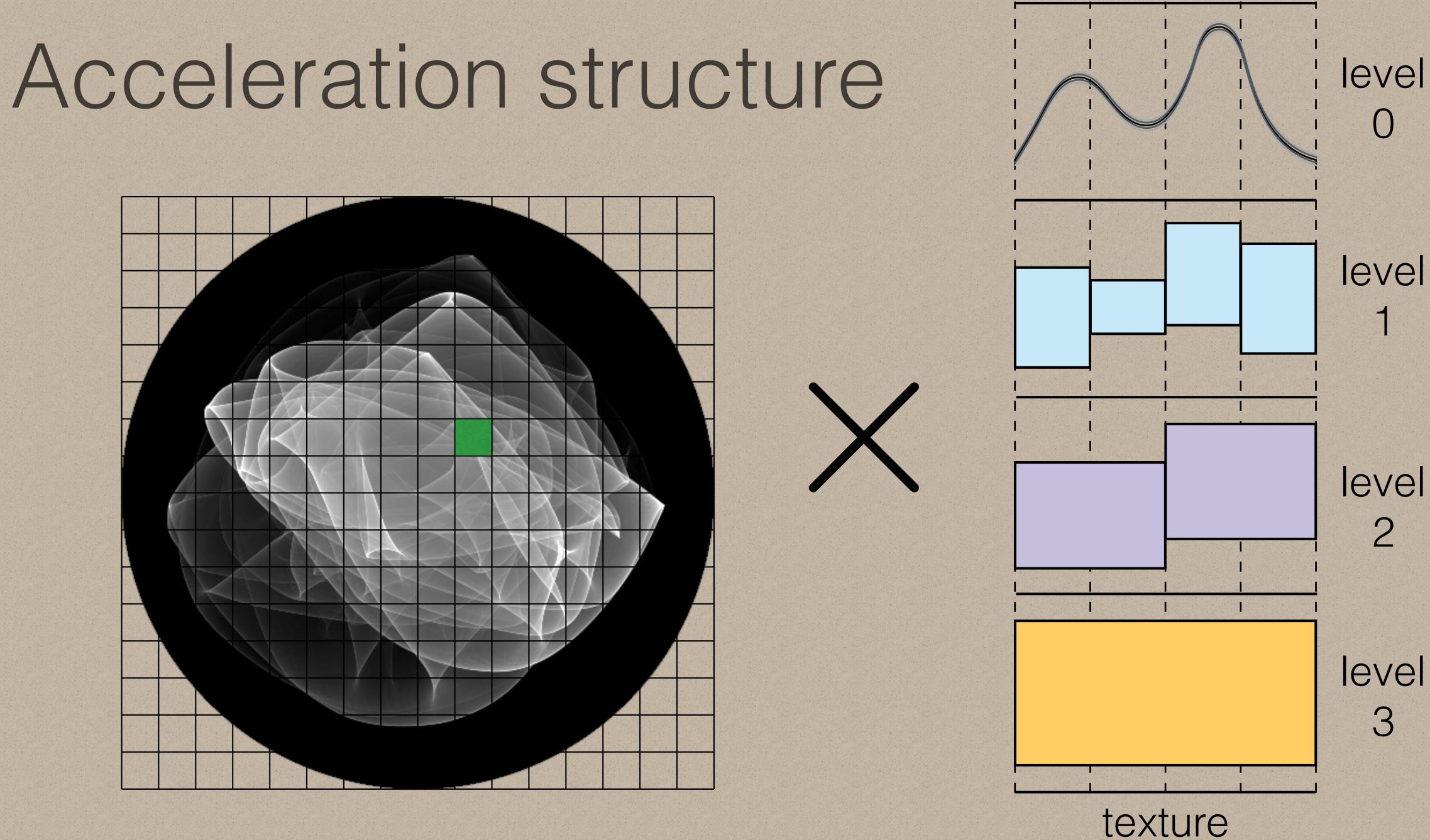


our method (point-wise evaluation)



binning (histogram) 100 million samples

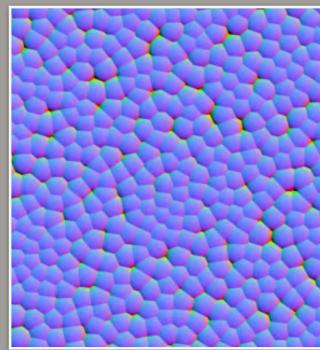






Blender

brushed metal

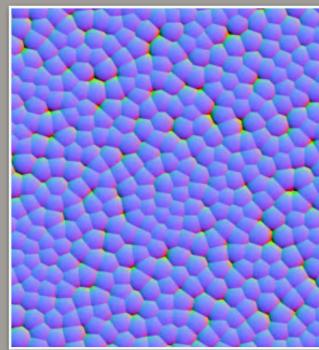


ellipsoid bumps

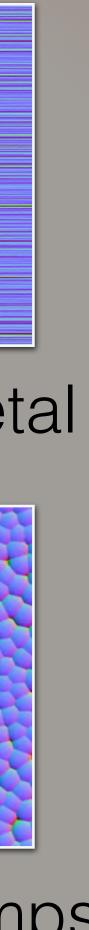


Blender: Zoom

brushed metal



ellipsoid bumps



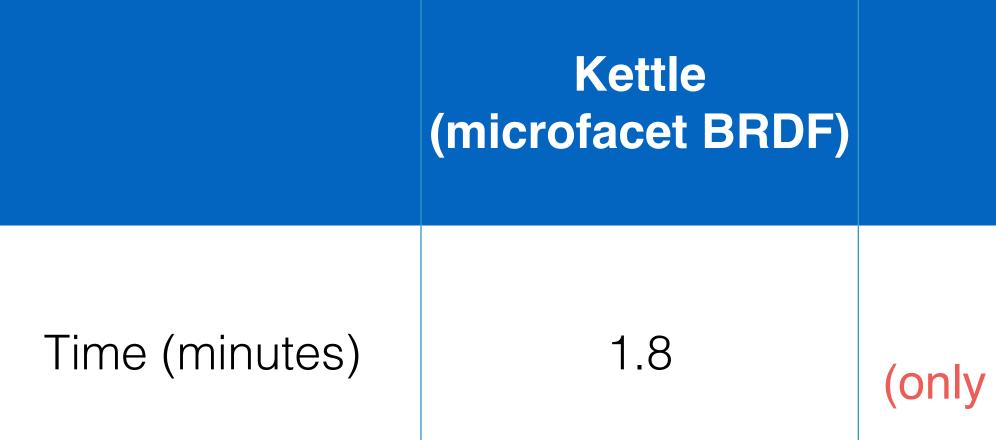
Car (metallic paint + scratches)



flakes



Frame Render Times (Yan et al. [2016])



C++, Mitsuba, 36-core Amazon EC2 machine

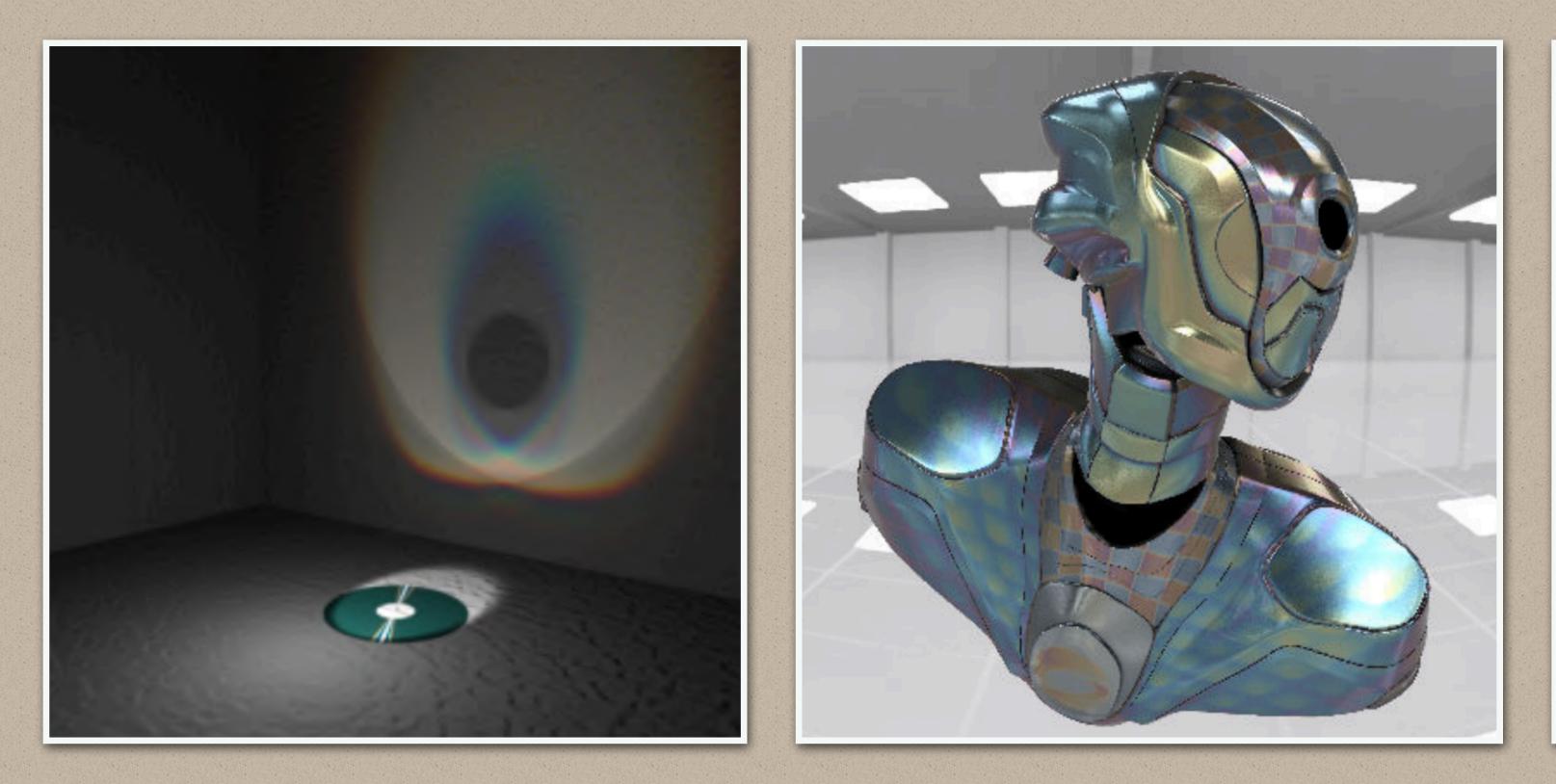
Kettle	Car door	Sofa & floor
2.6 1.4x slower!)	6.8	7.6



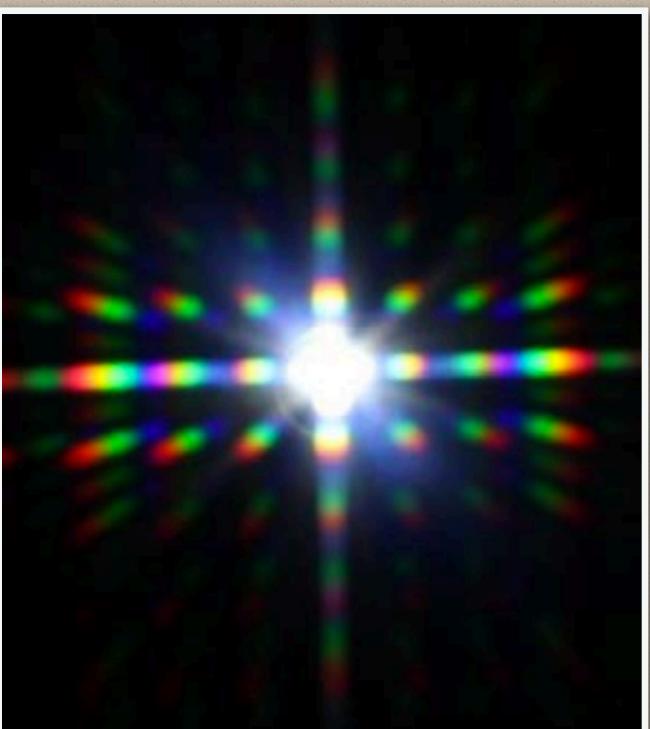
Rise of the Tomb Raider 2016 video game by Square Enix



Recent Trend: Wave Optics



compact disk (CD) [Cuypers 11]

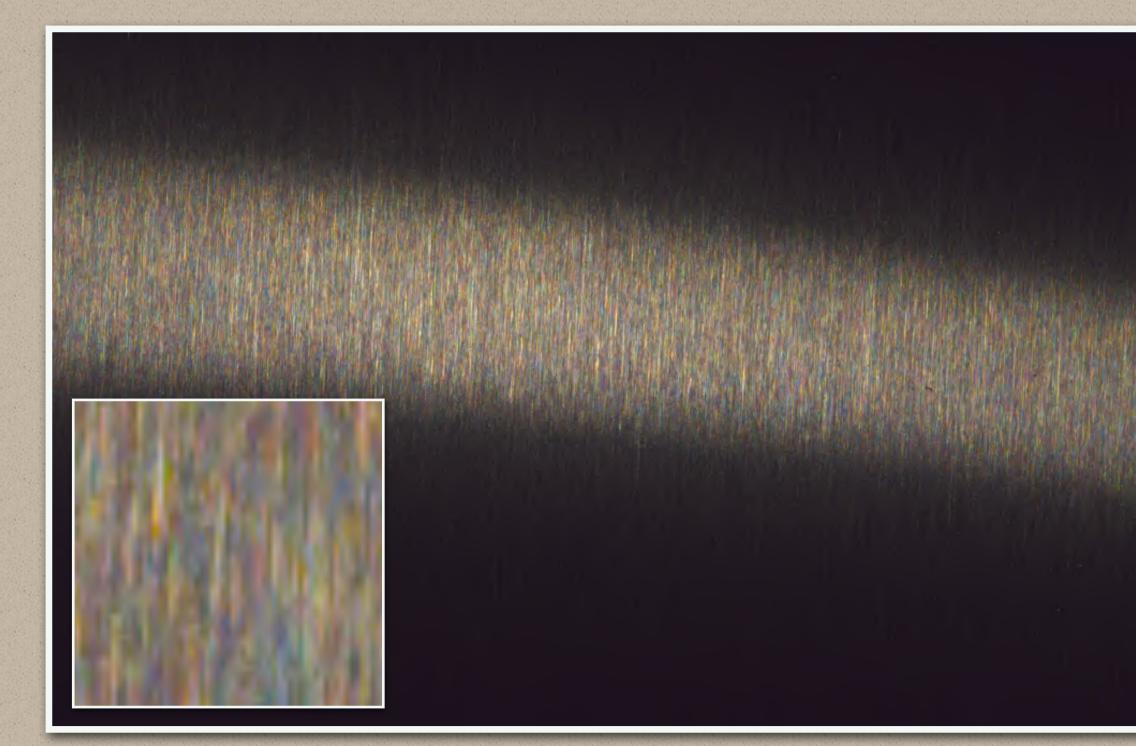


metallic film [Laurent 17]

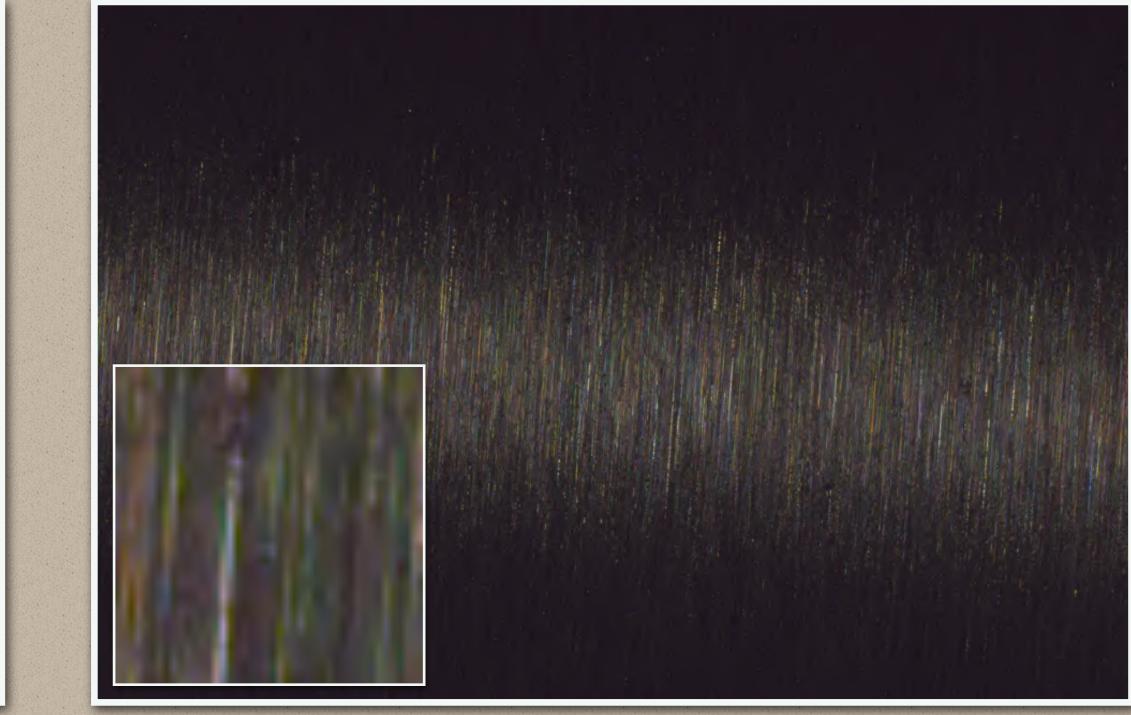
phone screen [Toisoul 17]



Observations



photos of scratched metal





Observations

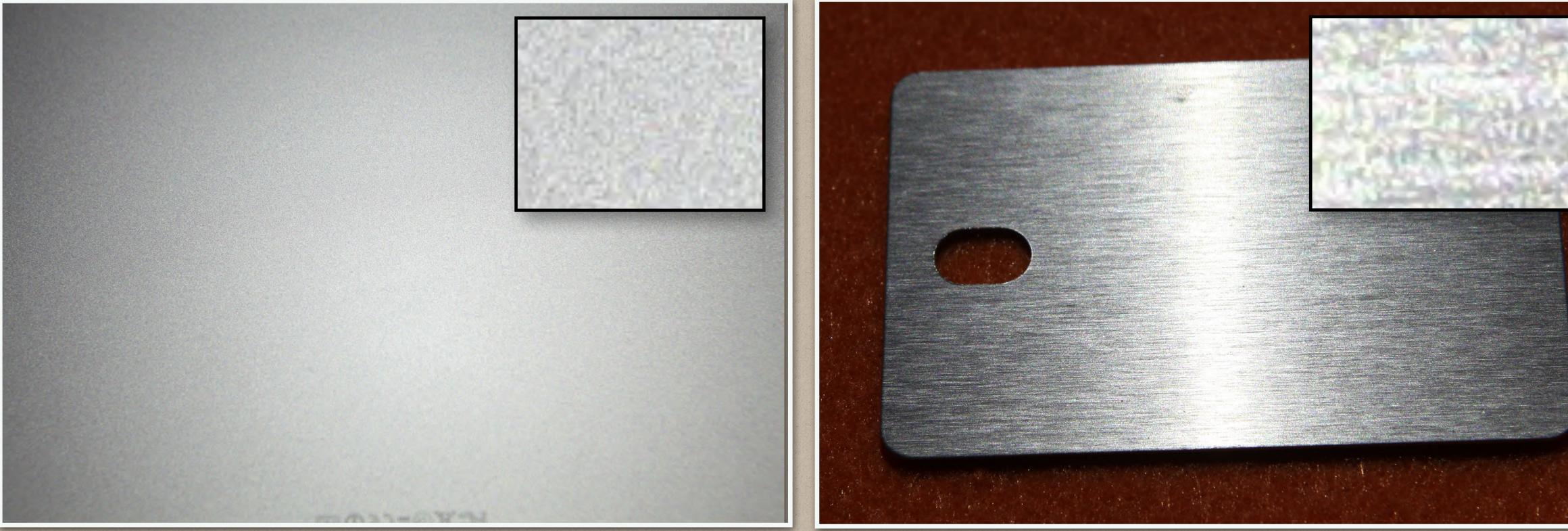


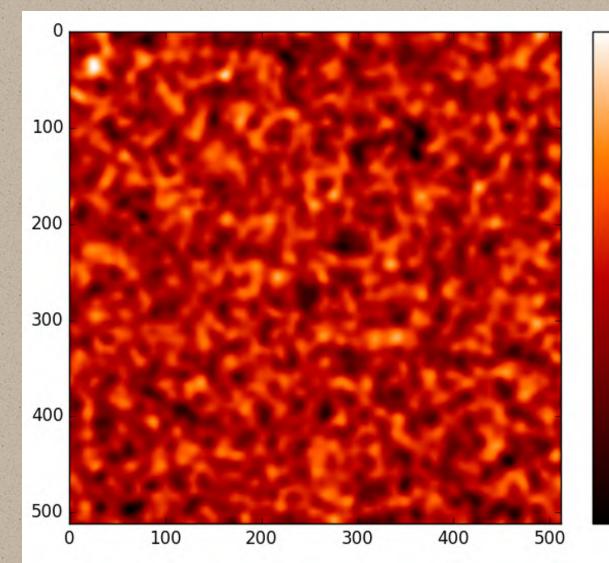
photo of a Macbook

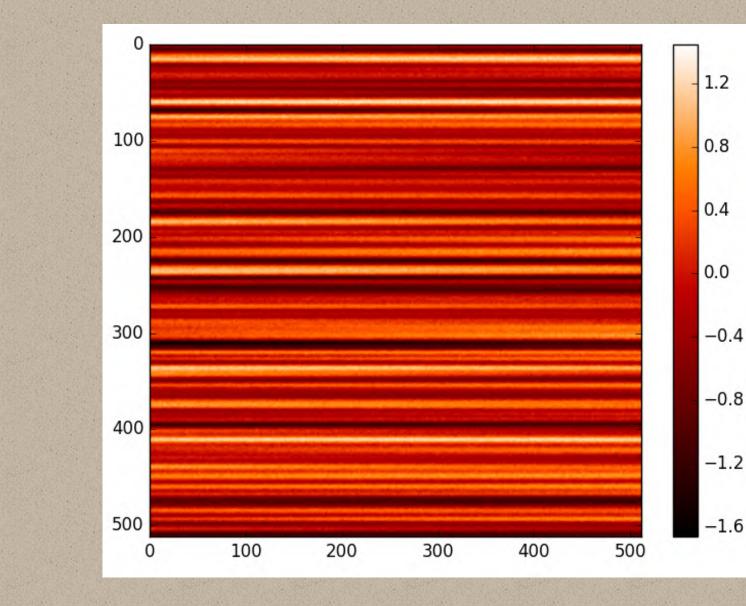
photo of an aluminum patch



Latest Work on Wave Optics (accepted)



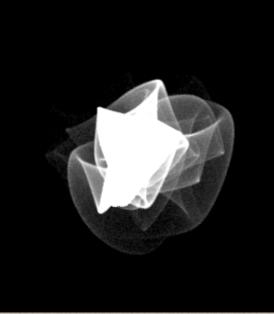




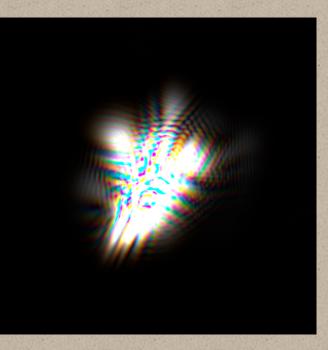


isotropic





geometric



wave

1.00

0.75

0.50

0.25

0.00

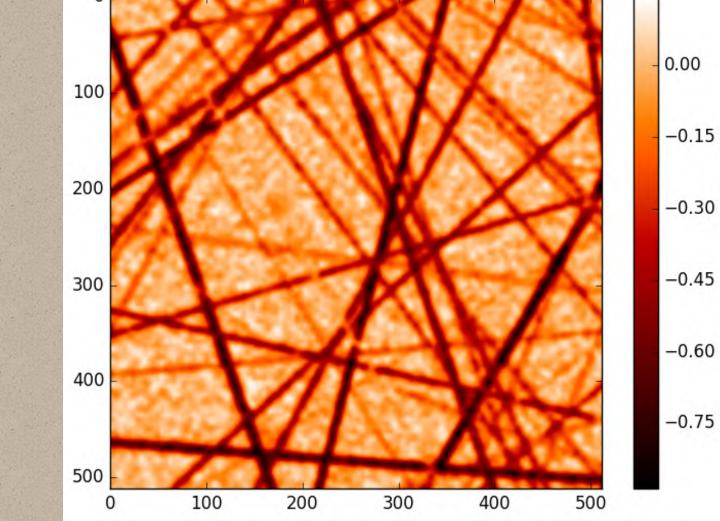
-0.25

-0.50

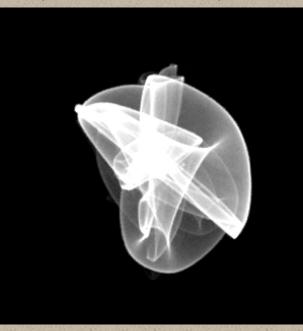
-0.75

-1.00

geometric



scratched

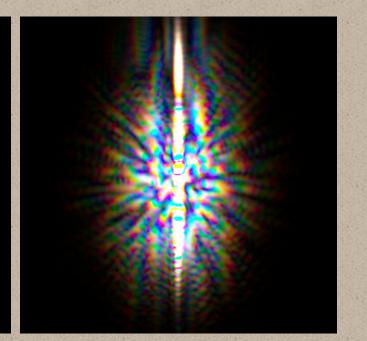




geometric

wave

brushed



wave





Rendered using wave optics

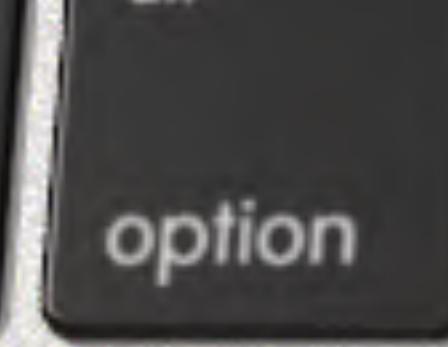












command

ሔ



Wave optics



Part II: Detailed Appearance Modeling





detailed rendering

detailed appearance modeling



real-time ray tracing



The Appearance of Natural Materials







Hair Reflectance Models

• Actively developing



[Marschner 03]



[d'Eon 11]

[Chiang 16]



Fur Reflectance — As Human Hair Cannot represent diffusive and saturated appearance



Rendered as human hair [Marschner 03]



Rendered as animal fur [Yan 15]



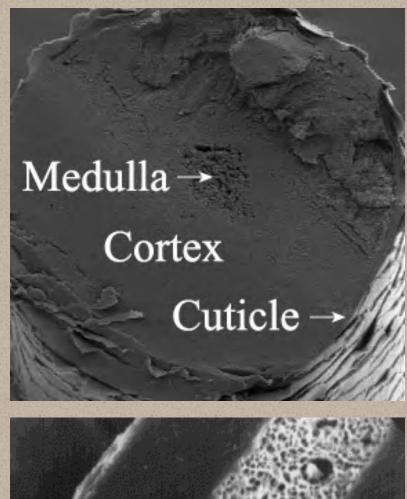
Main Difference — Medulla

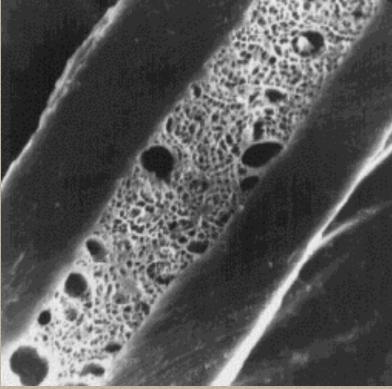
.................

Cortex - Contains pigments - Absorbs light

Medulla - Complex structure - Scatters light

Cuticle





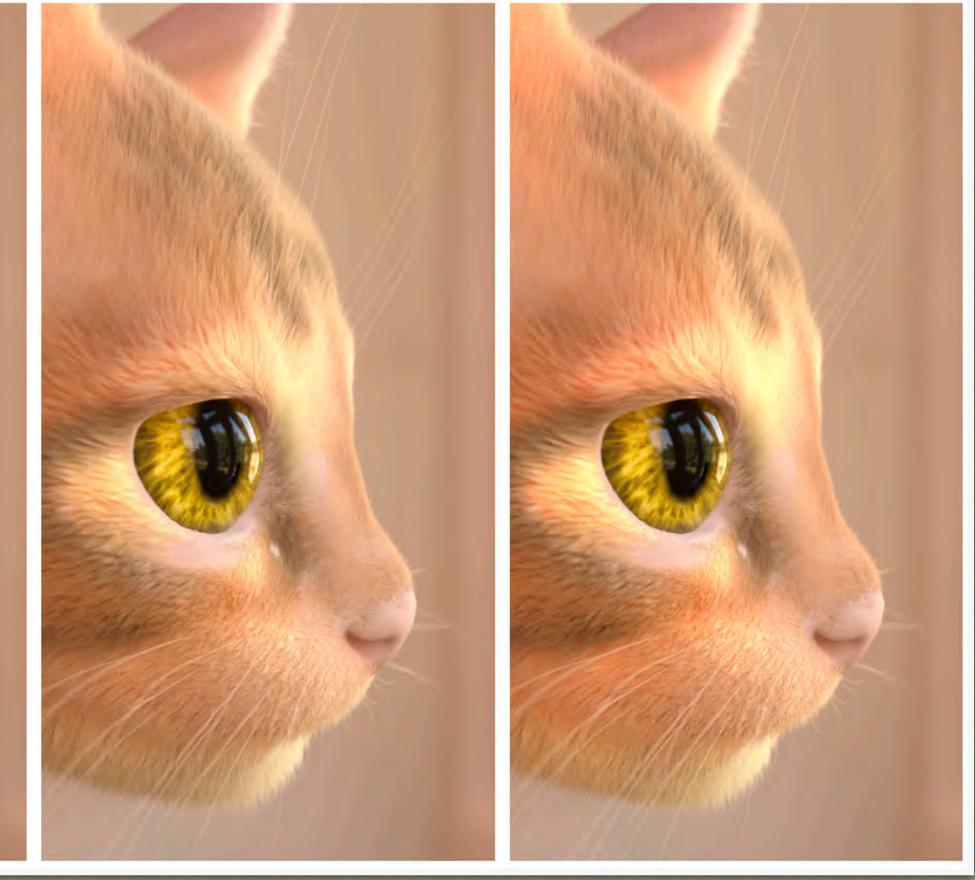
Microscopic images (Top: human, Bottom: Cougar)



Importance of Medulla



Increasing medulla size





Hair Reflectance Model Glass-like cylinder 3 types of light intera

cortex (absorbs)

cuticle

[Marschner 03]

3 types of light interactions: **R**, **TT**, **TRT** (R: reflection, T: transmission)

R

TRT



Fur Reflectance Model [Yan 15, 17]

Cortex (absorbs)[≮]

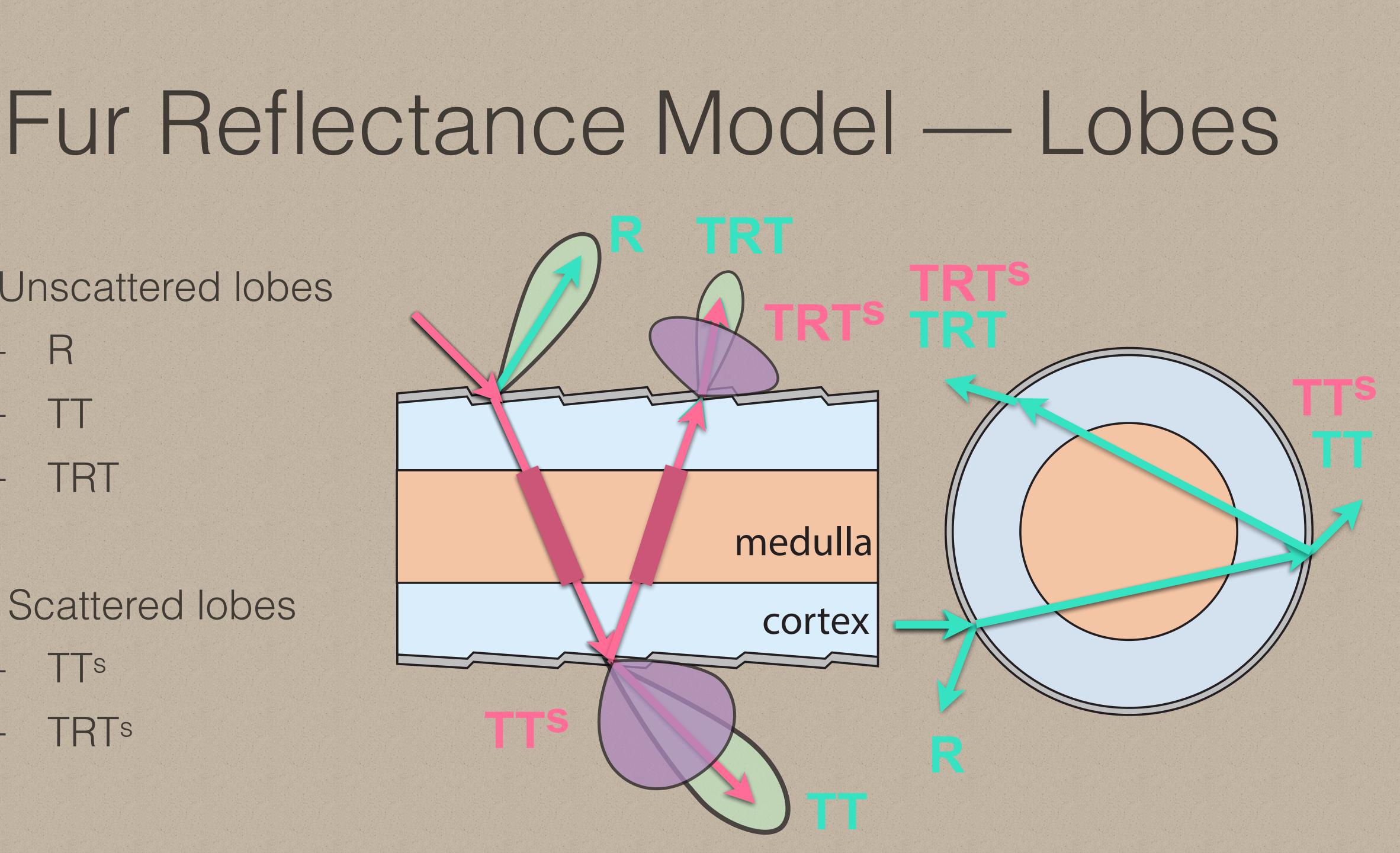
Hair model [Marschner 03]

Cortex (absorbs) Medulla (scatters)

Double cylinder model [Yan 15, 17]



- Unscattered lobes R -- TRT
- Scattered lobes S TRTs -



Visualizing Lobes



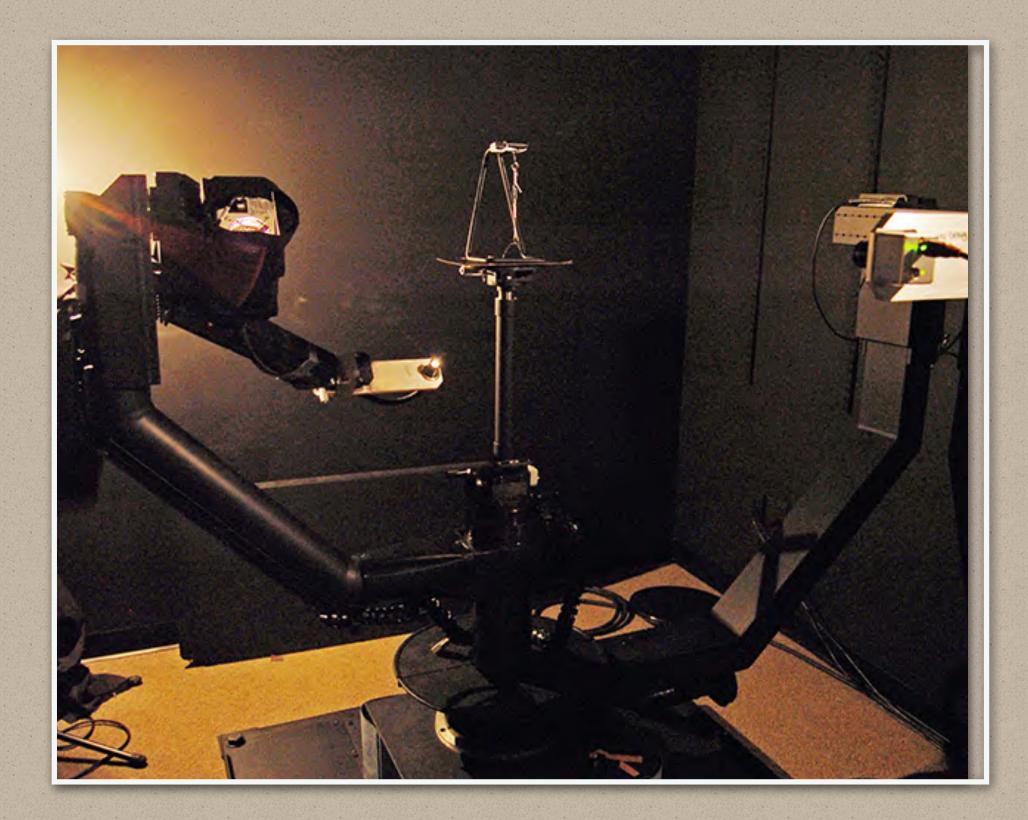
All

R

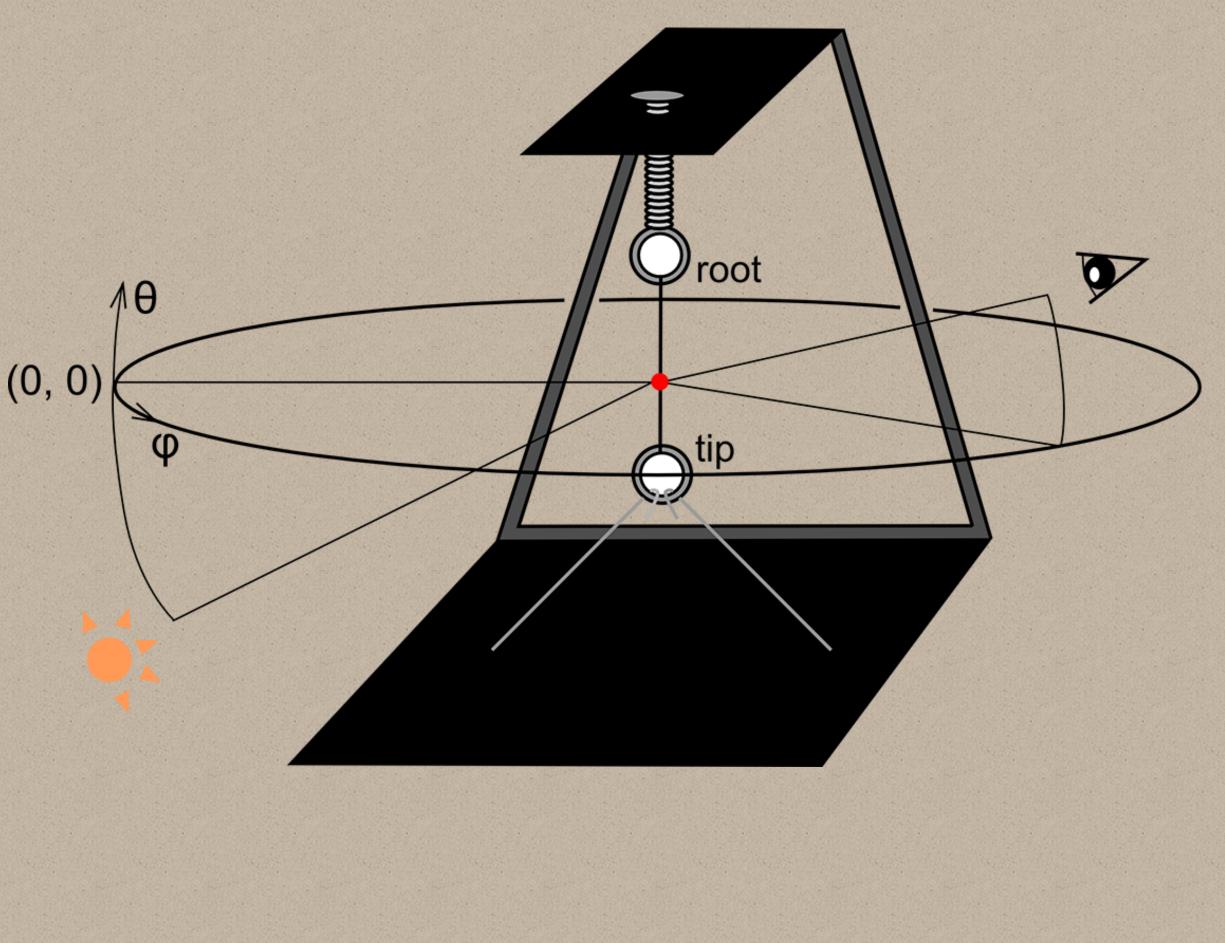


TT TRT TTS TRTS





Measurement — Spherical Gantry

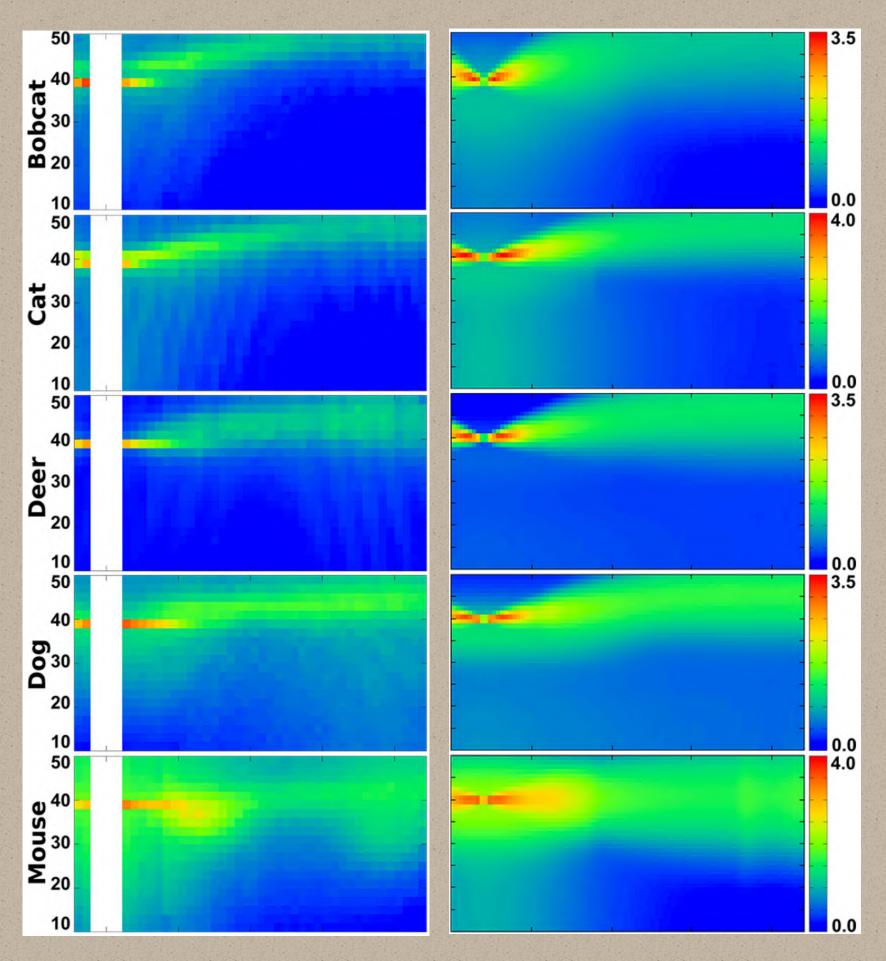




Validation

Measured

Ours



Ours Measured 50 3.5 40 30 20 10 0.0 50 3.5 u 40 30 20 10 50 0.0 4.0 K 40 30 20 10 50 0.0 3.5 **yoqbuiuds** 10 50 0.0 5.0 u⁴⁰ 30 H 20

45 0 180 135 90 45 0

 θ 10 ϕ 180 135 90



600,000 fur fibers 1024 samples / pixel 36.9 min / frame



SIGGRAPH 2017 technical paper trailer [Yan et al. 15, 17]

260,000 fur fibers 1024 samples / pixel 14.1 min / frame

[Yan et al.17]





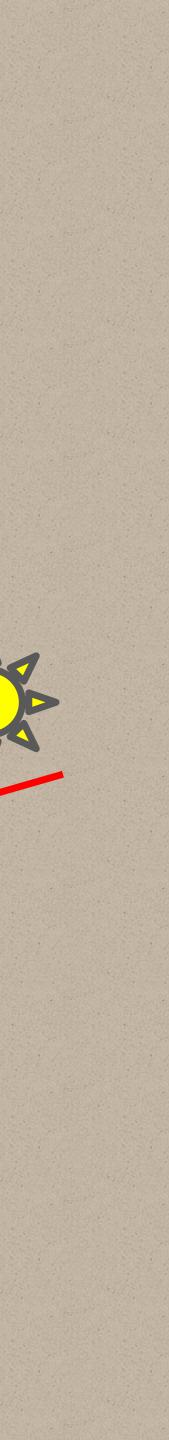
War for the Planet of the Apes, 2017 movie

2018 Oscar Nominee for Best Visual Effects



Further speed up [Yan 17]

- Render using ray tracing
 - Simulating light bouncing multiple times light -> fur fiber #1 -> fur fiber #2 -> ... -> fur fiber #100 -> ... -> eye
 - Slow
- Can we avoid tracing multiple bounces?



Motivation



world's fuzziest bunny



easy to render (approximately)

Very similar!



Between Physical Systems

- Use a Neural Network
 - 2 hidden layers
 - 10 nodes per layer
 - fully connected
 - tanh activation

fur fibers' properties

. . .

• thickness of cuticle • size of medulla scattering coeff absorption coeff

Neural Network

clouds' properties

• density

scattering coeff

absorption coeff







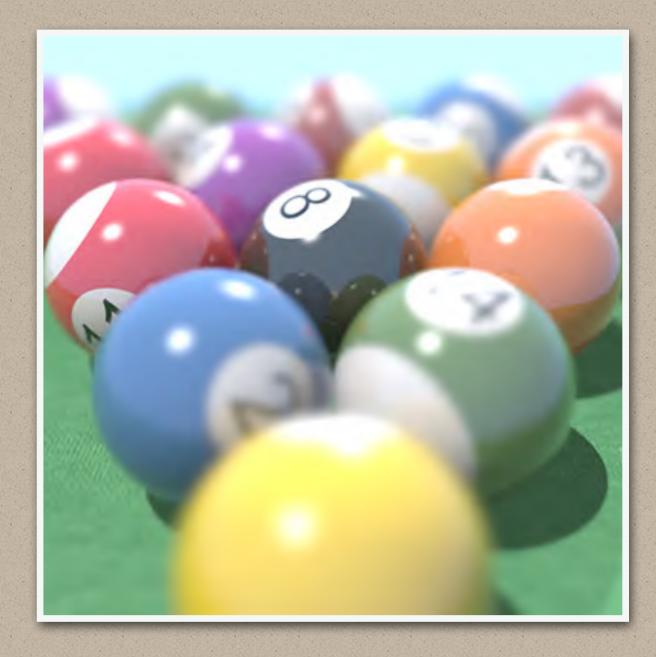
Part III: Real-time Ray Tracing





detailed rendering

detailed appearance modeling



real-time ray tracing



Motivation: Ray Tracing vs. Rasterization

Ray tracing: slow / noisy



Toyota 2000GT, from TurboSquid (source for professional 3D models)

• Rasterization: fast, less realistic



Buggy, from PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds (PC game)





Car interactively rendered using NVIDIA OptiX

Interactive Ray Tracing on GPU

Pixar's real-time previewer



Real-Time Ray Tracing (RTRT)

"Ray tracing is the future and ever will be."



- The real-time industry



Real-Time Ray Tracing (RTRT) is finally there?

- NVIDIA announced GeForce RTX series (Turing architecture) recently
 - Opening a \$250 billion market

TURING OPENS \$250B VISUAL EFFECTS INDUSTRY



DCC



FILM & TELE



Real-Time Ray Tracing (RTRT) is finally there? • What does RTX do?

Impressive demos of RTRT



Star Wars Reflections

RTX Demo



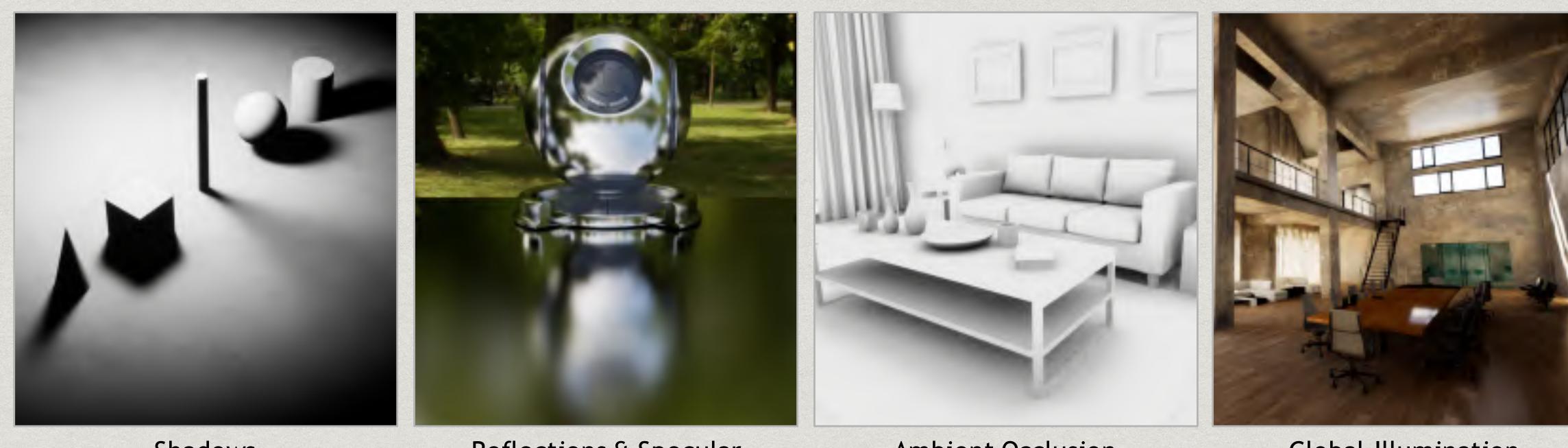
Porsche 70 Trailer

SOL

Rosewood Bangkok



Real-Time Ray Tracing (RTRT) is finally there? What does RTX actually do? Advanced ray traced effects



Shadows

Reflections & Specular

Ambient Occlusion

Global Illumination



Real-Time Ray Tracing (RTRT) is getting there

What does RTX really do?

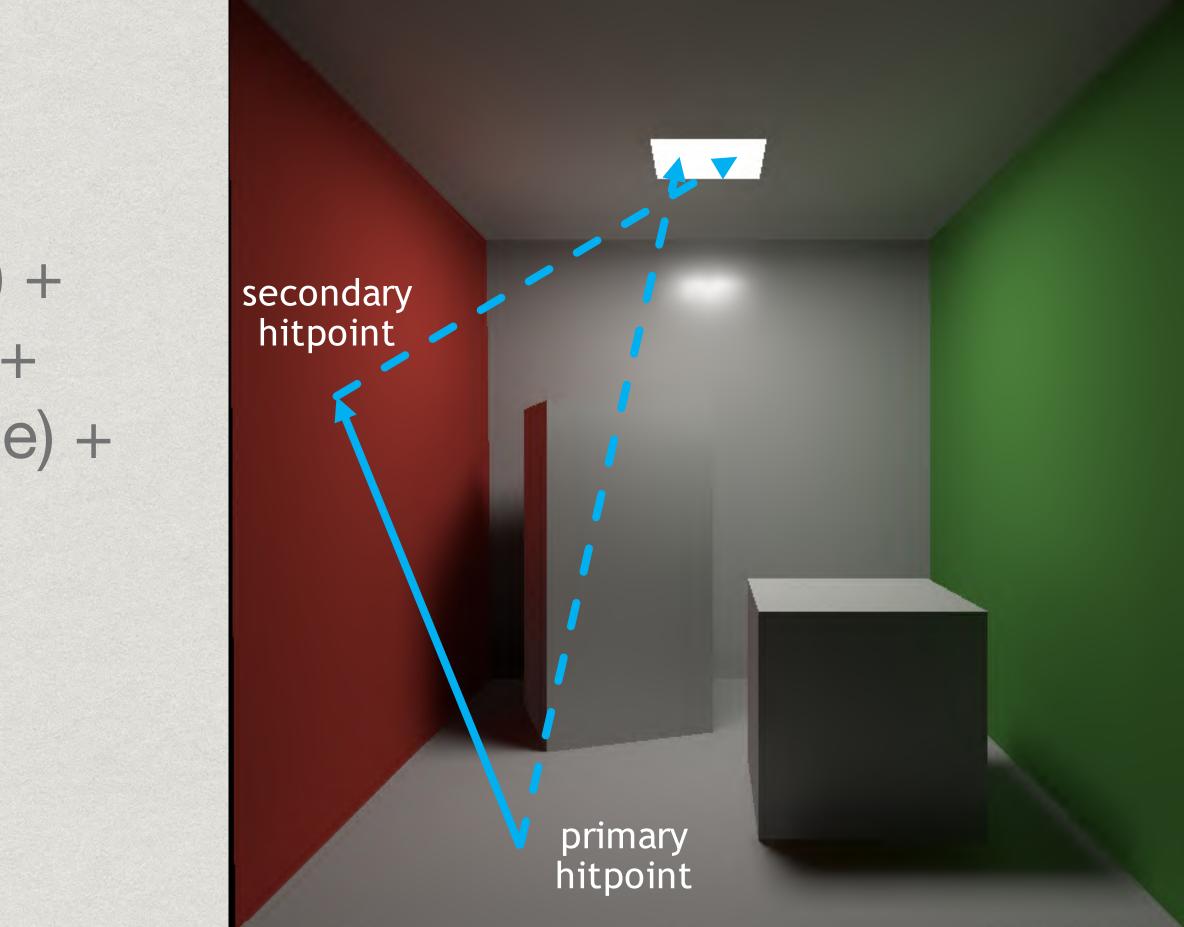
10 Giga rays per second == 1 sample per pixel

(for real time applications)



Real-Time Ray Tracing (RTRT) is getting there

1 SPP == 1 rasterization (primary) + 1 ray (primary visibility) + 1 ray (secondary bounce) + 1 ray (secondary vis.)





Real-Time Ray Tracing (RTRT) is getting there

1 SPP = Extremely noisy results

- Key technology
 - Denoising



Fun image on Twitter



State of the art denoising solution to RTRT



Before we proceed...

- Goals (with 1 SPP)
 - Quality (no overblur, no artifacts, keep all details...)
 - Speed (< 2 ms to denoise one frame)
- Mission impossible
 - Sheared filtering series (SF, AAF, FSF, MAAF, ...)
 - Other offline filtering methods (IPP, BM3D, APR, ...)
 - Deep learning series (CNN, Autoencoder, ...)

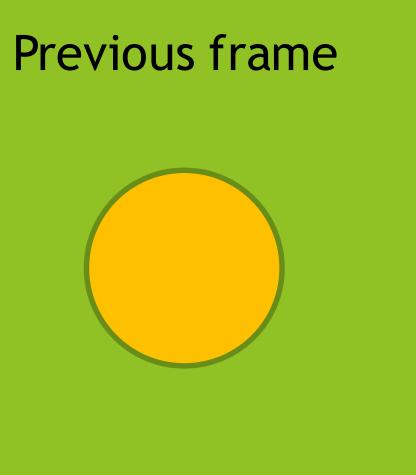
acts, keep all details...)

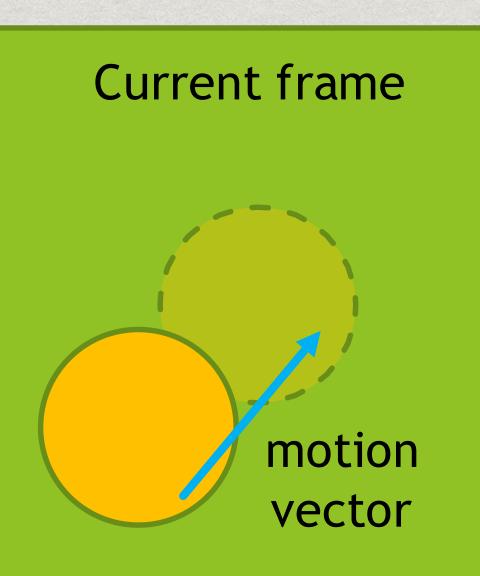
AAF, FSF, MAAF, ...) Is (IPP, BM3D, APR, ...) Autoencoder, ...)



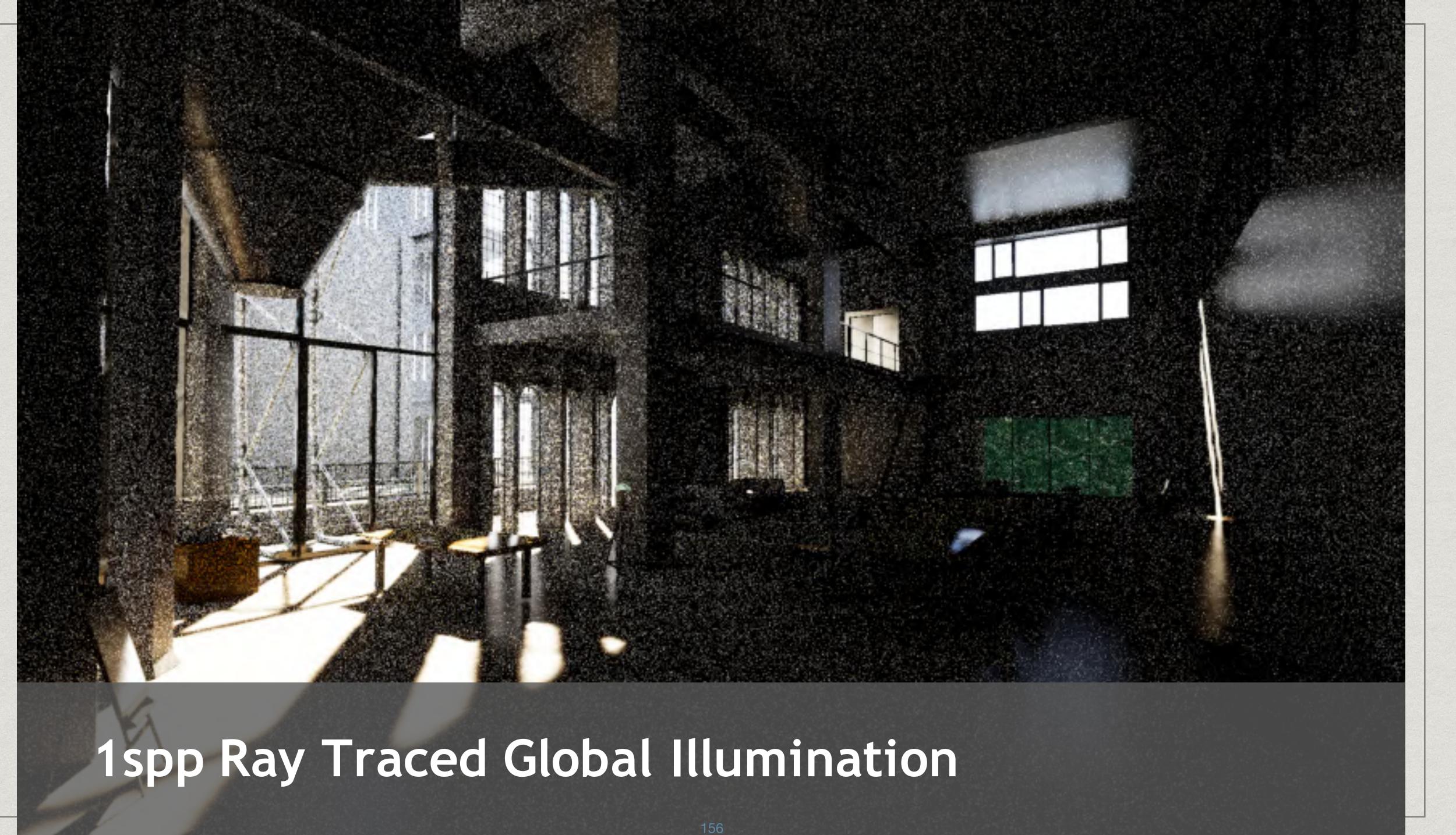
State of the art denoising solution to RTRT

- 3 most important ideas
 - Temporal!
 - Temporal!!
 - Temporal!!!
- Key idea
 - Suppose the previous frame is denoised and reuse it
 - Use motion vectors to find previous locations
 - Essentially increased SPP
 - Spatial? Small cross-bilateral filter







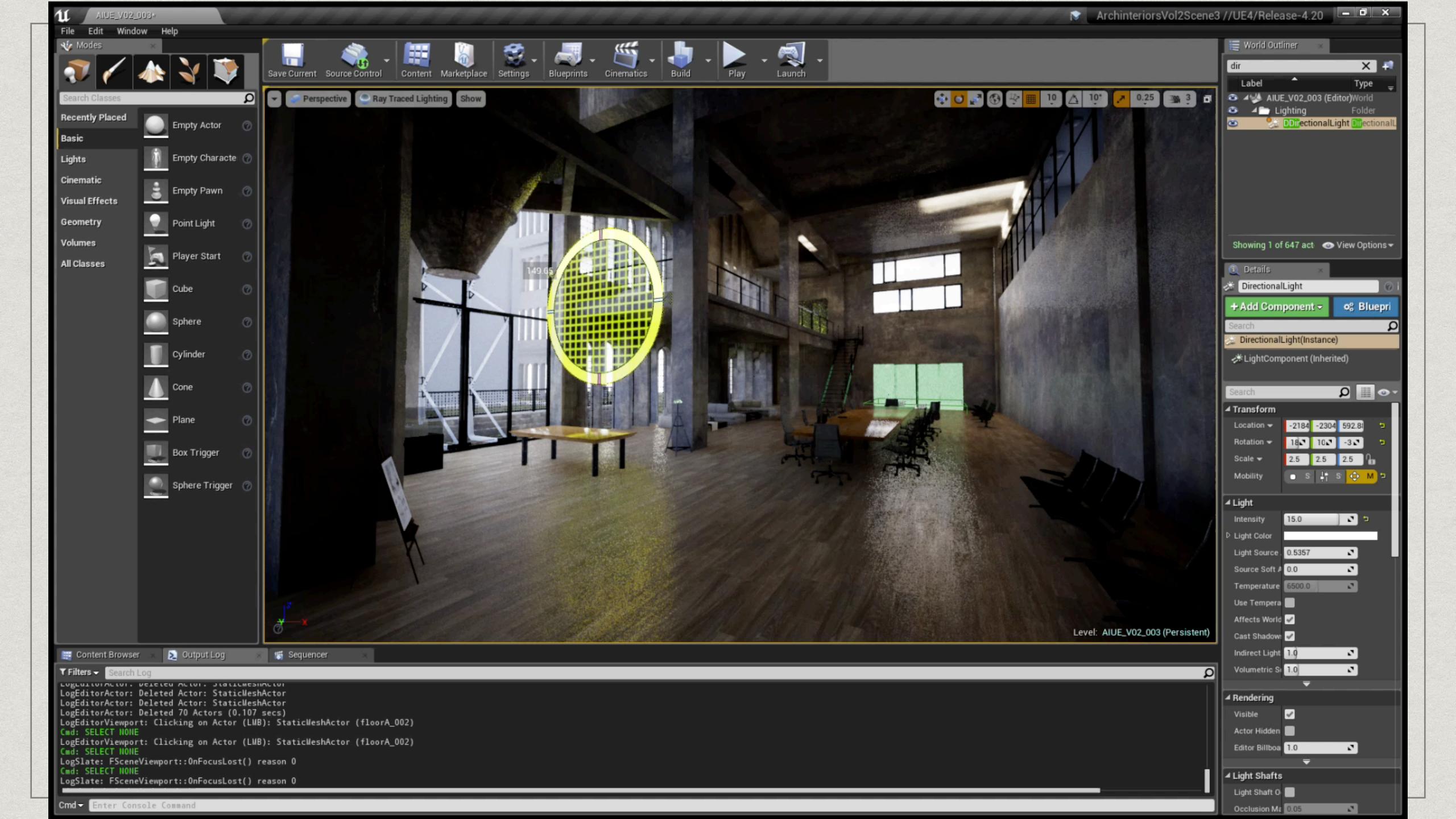


1spp Ray Traced Global Illumination + Denoising









Known issues of temporal denoising

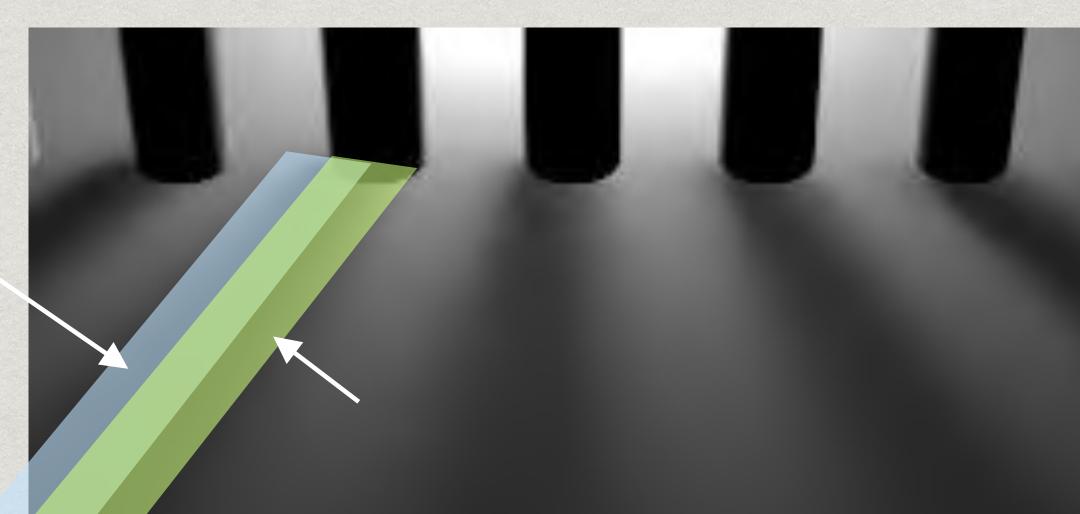
Occlusion





Known issues of temporal denoising

Lagging



detached/lagging shadows





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Select an object to view details.





- Challenges in rendering
 - Better realism
 - Further speed up
 - What else?



- Detailed rendering from volumetric microstructures
 - Glints and halo from snow
 - Visible dust in 'god ray'





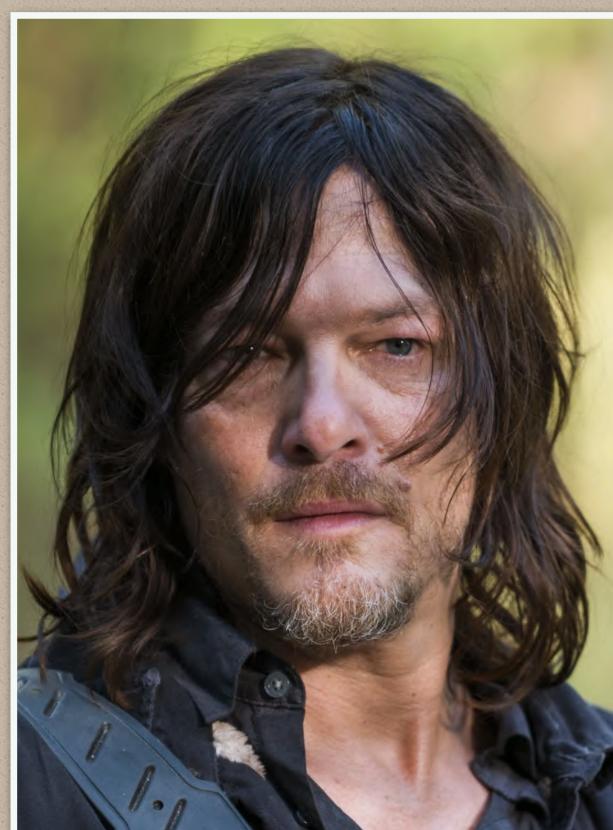


Future Research Directions More complex appearance modeling - Ultimate goal: indistinguishable from real photos



Norman Reedus in *Death Stranding* (PS4 game releasing soon, CG)





Norman Reedus in The Walking Dead (TV series, real photo)



- Realistic rendering is in need
 - Accurate synthetic data
 - 3D repository



Golden Gate Bridge

Golden Gate Bridge (rainy / snowy)





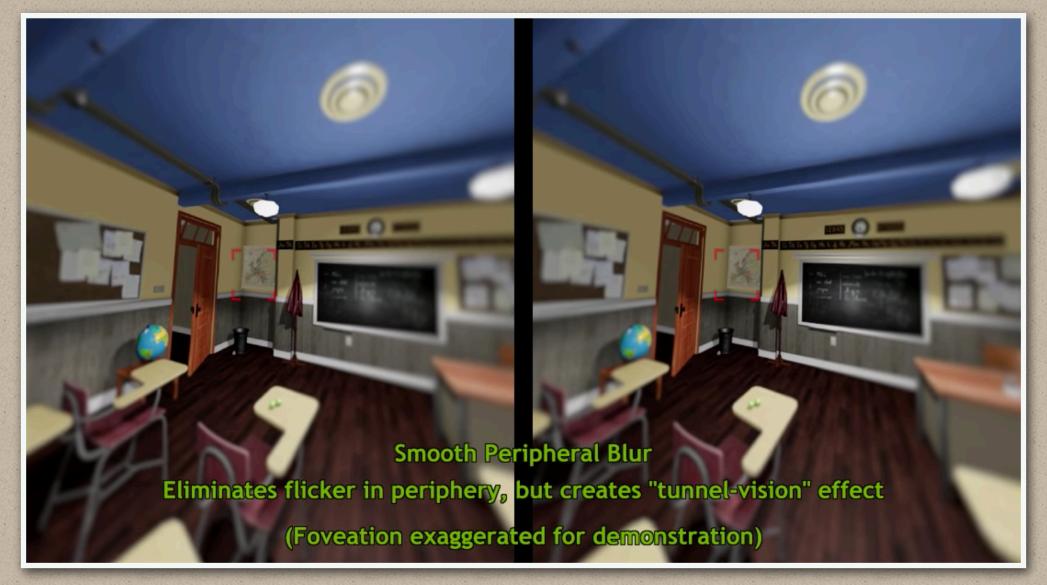
Self-Driving Cars



Future Research Directions Virtual Reality (VR) / Augmented Reality (AR) VR = Equipment + CG (CG: Computer Graphics) AR = CV + VR (CV: Computer Vision)



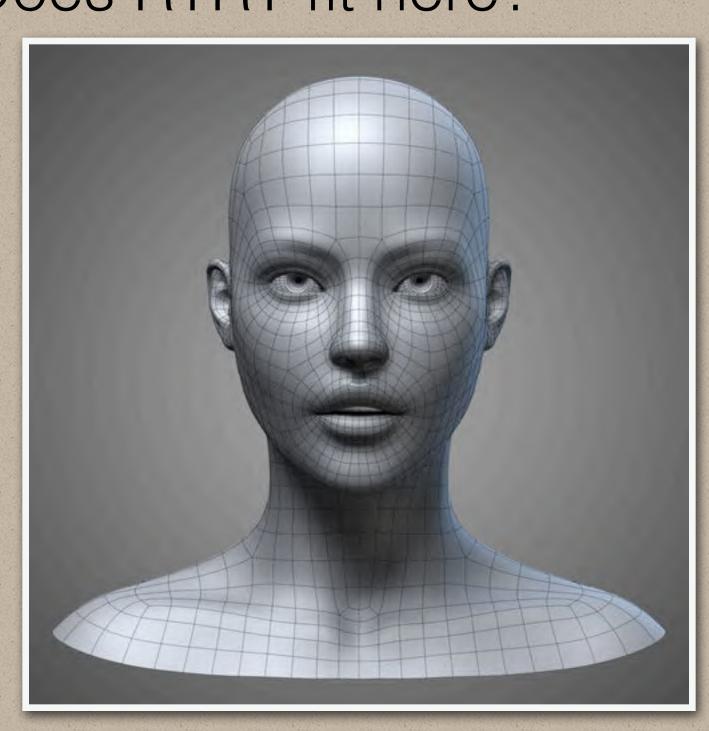
Oculus Rift (VR equipment)



foveated rendering by NVIDIA



Future Research Directions Exploiting Machine Learning for Computer Graphics Differentiable rendering + Computer Vision Does RTRT fit here?



Human bust model from CGTrader (source for professional 3D models)



Saya, Computer Generated Imagery (CGI)



 Inter-operability with other communities A black-box RTRT renderer (unlike Mitsuba & PBRT)

• Think about this

import renderpy as rp



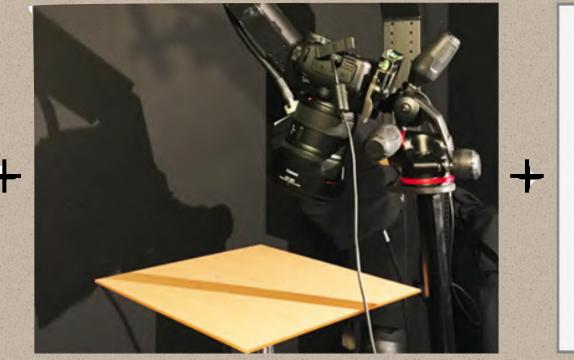
def __init__(self):

super(Net, self).__init__() self.conv1 = nn.Conv2d(1, 6, 5)# Create a real time rendering layer # with 10ms maximum running time # and use recurrent autoencoder to denoise self.rt1 = rp.asTorchLayer(scene, budget=10, denoising='RAE')



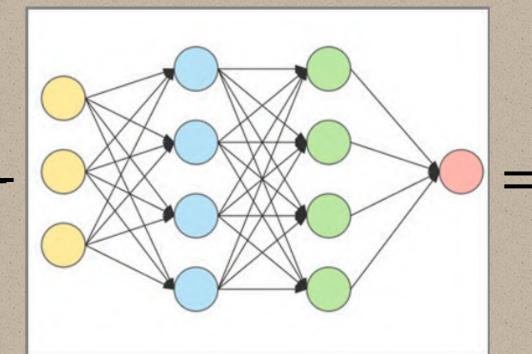
My "rendering equation"





RT / offline light transport Appearance Modeling







VR / AR

Machine Learning Ultimate Realism





