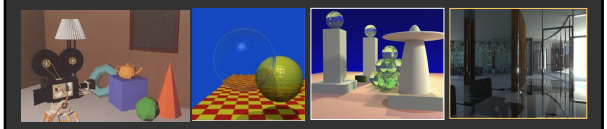
Computer Graphics II: Rendering

CSE 168 [Spr 25], Lecture 12: High Quality Rendering
Ravi Ramamoorthi

http://viscomp.ucsd.edu/classes/cse168/sp25



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To Do

- Homework 4 (importance sampling) due May 19
- These lectures cover more advanced topics
  - May be relevant for your final project
  - Or curiosity in terms of frontiers of modern rendering

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Motivation

- Rendering Equation since 86, Path Tracer in HW 3
- So, is Monte Carlo rendering solved?
- *Can it be made more efficient (90s until today)?*
  - Multiple Importance Sampling (Homework 4)
  - *Irradiance Caching takes advantage of coherence*
  - Correct sampling: Stratified, Multiple Importance, Bidirectional Path Tracing, Metropolis, VCM/UPS, …
  - Photon Mapping
  - Modern adaptive sampling, cut-based integration
  - Advanced topics (next time)
  - Denoising (next time)

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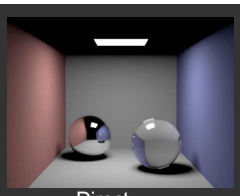
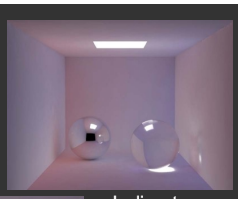
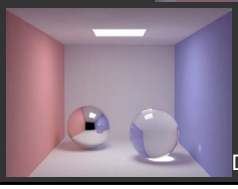
Smoothness of Indirect Lighting



Direct



Indirect



Direct + Indirect

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Irradiance Caching

- Empirically, (diffuse) interreflections low frequency
- Therefore, should be able to sample sparsely
- Irradiance caching samples irradiance at few points on surfaces, and then interpolates
- Ward, Rubinstein, Clear. SIGGRAPH 88,
  A ray tracing solution for diffuse interreflection

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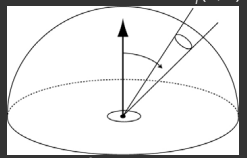
Irradiance Calculation



$$E(x) = \int L_i(x,\omega)\cos\theta \, d\omega$$

$$E(x) = \frac{\sum_i w(x_i)E_i(x_i)}{\sum_i w(x_i)} \qquad w(x) = \frac{1}{\epsilon(x)}$$

$$\epsilon(x) \le \left| \frac{\partial E}{\partial x}(x - x_0) + \frac{\partial E}{\partial \theta}(\theta - \theta_0) \right|$$

position rotation

$$\le E_0 \left(\frac{4}{\pi} \frac{||x - x_0||}{x_{avg}} + \sqrt{2 - 2\vec{N}(x) \cdot \vec{N}(x_0)} \right)$$

Derivation in Ward paper

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Algorithm Outline

- Find all samples with w(x) > q
- if (samples found)
  - interpolate
- else
  - compute new irradiance
- N.B. Subsample the image first and then fill in

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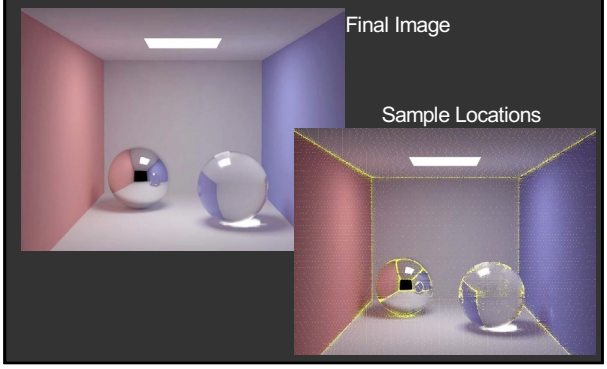
Irradiance Caching Example



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Better Sampling

- Smarter ways to Monte Carlo sample
- Long history: Stratified, Importance, Bi-Directional, Multiple Importance, Metropolis
- Good reference is Veach thesis
- We only briefly discuss a couple of strategies

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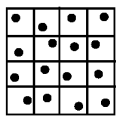
Stratified Sampling



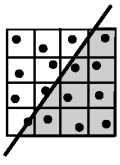
Stratified sampling like jittered sampling

Allocate samples per region

$$N = \sum_{i=1}^{m} N_i \quad F_N = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{m} N_i F_i$$

New variance

$$V[F_N] = \frac{1}{N^2}\sum_{i=1}^{m} N_i V[F_i]$$



Thus, if the variance in regions is less than the overall variance, there will be a reduction in resulting variance

For example: An edge through a pixel

$$V[F_N] = \frac{1}{N^2}\sum_{i=1}^{\sqrt{N}} V[F_j] = \frac{V[F_E]}{N^{1.5}}$$

CS348B Lecture 9 Pat Hanrahan, Spring 2002

D. Mitchell 95, Consequences of stratified sampling in graphics

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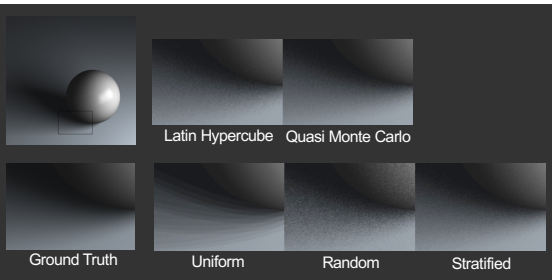
Comparison of simple patterns



16 samples for area light, 4 samples per pixel, total 64 samples

If interested, see my paper "A Theory of Monte Carlo Visibility Sampling"

Figures courtesy Tianyu Liu

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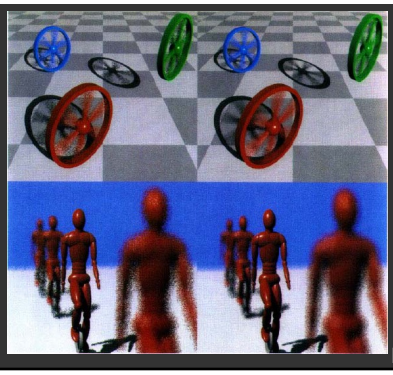
Spectrally Optimal Sampling



Mitchell 91

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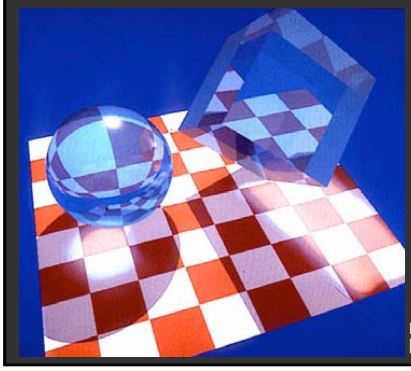
Light Ray Tracing



Backwards Ray Tracing
[Arvo 86]

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Path Tracing: From Lights

- Step 1. Choose a light ray
- Step 2. Find ray-surface intersection
- Step 3. Reflect or transmit
  u = Uniform()
  if u < reflectance(x)
  Choose new direction d ~ BRDF(O|I)
  goto Step 2
- else if u < reflectance(x)+transmittance(x)
  Choose new direction d ~ BTDF(O|I)
  goto Step 2
- else // absorption=1–reflectance-transmittance
  terminate on surface; deposit energy

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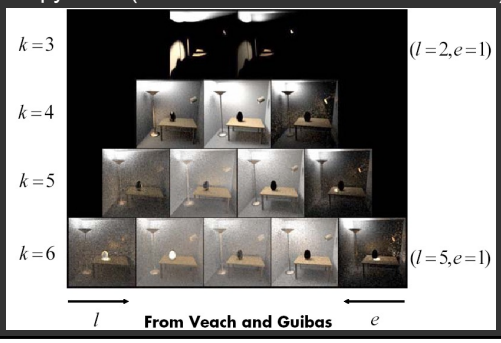
Bidirectional Path Tracing

Path pyramid (k = l + e = total number of bounces)



From Veach and Guibas

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Comparison

Bidirectional path tracing Path tracing

From Veach and Guibas

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  - *Photon Mapping*
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Why Photon Map?

- Some visual effects like caustics hard with standard path tracing from eye
- May usually miss light source altogether
- Instead, store "photons" from light in kd-tree
- Look-up into this as needed
- Combines tracing from light source, and eye
- Similar to bidirectional path tracing, but compute photon map only once for all eye rays
- *Global Illumination using Photon Maps H. Jensen. Rendering Techniques (EGSR 1996), pp 21-30.* (Also book: *Realistic Image Synthesis using Photon Mapping*)

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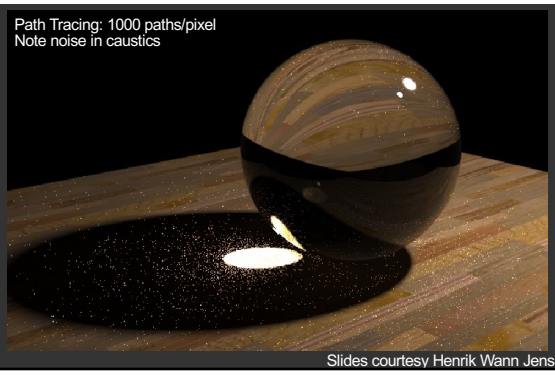
Caustics



Slides courtesy Henrik Wann Jensen

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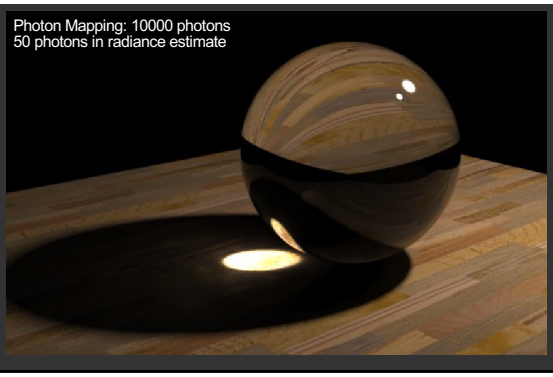
Caustics



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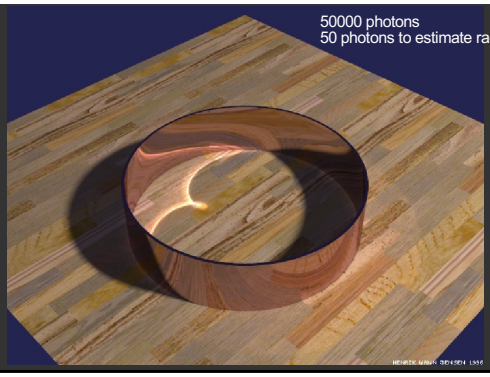
Reflections Inside a Metal Ring



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Caustics on Glossy Surfaces

340000 photons, 100 photons in radiance estimate

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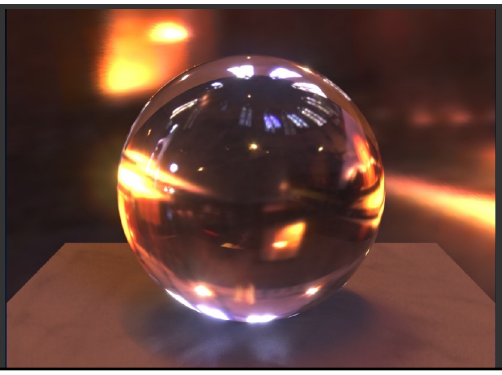
HDR Environment Illumination



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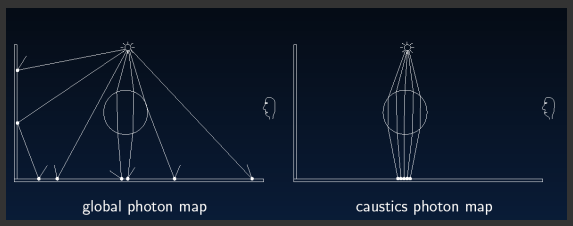
Global Illumination



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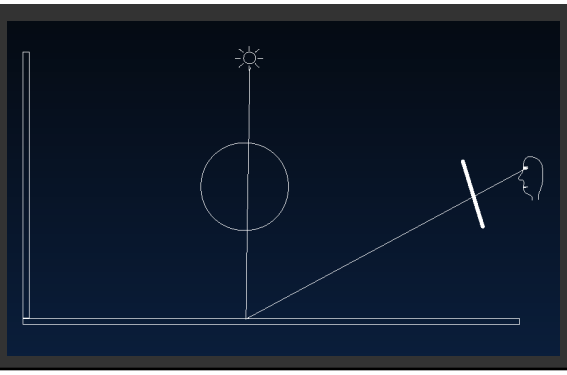
Direct Illumination



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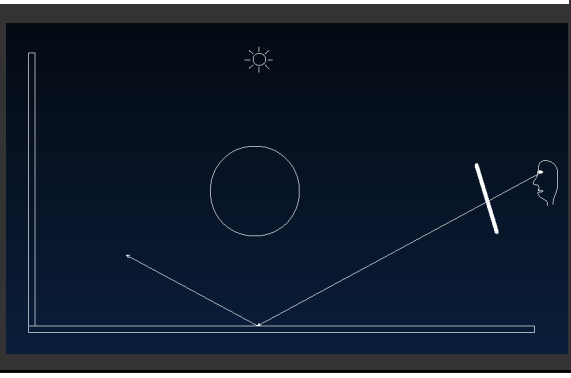
Specular Reflection



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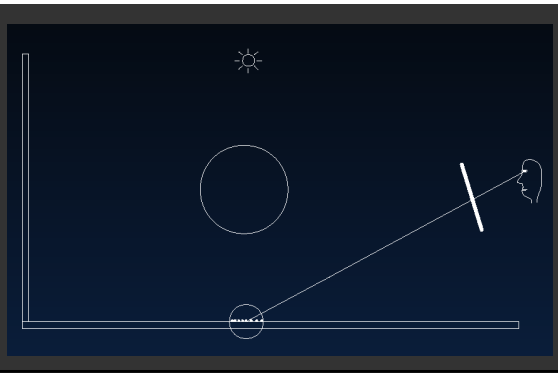

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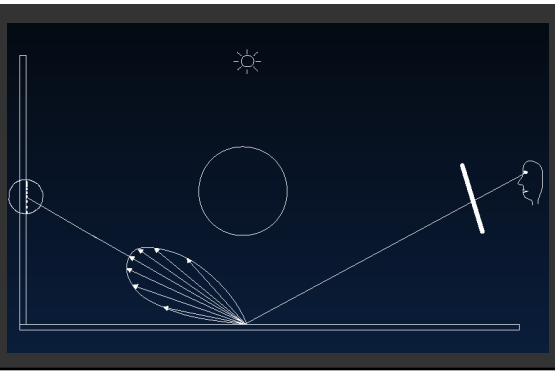
Indirect Illumination



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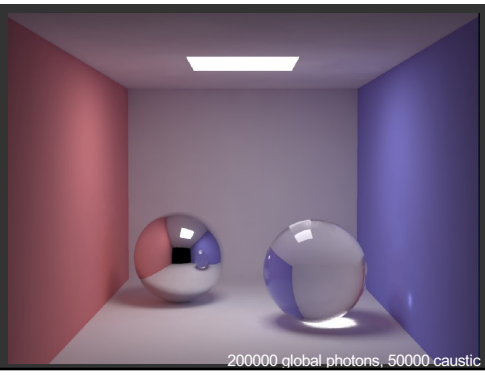
Cornell Box



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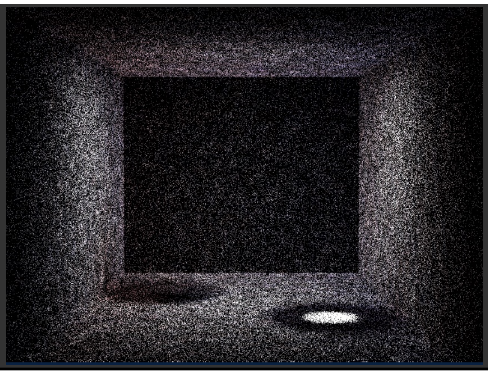
Box: Global Photons



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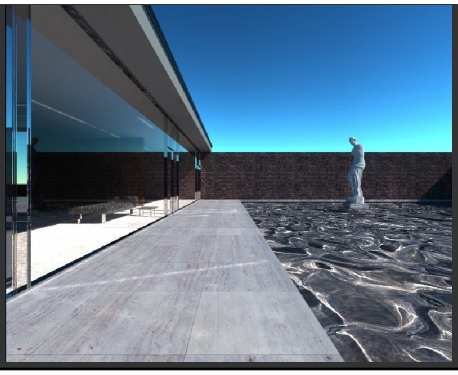
Mies House: Swimming Pool



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Lightcuts

- Efficient, accurate complex illumination

Environment map lighting & indirect
Time 111s

Textured area lights & indirect
Time 98s

(640x480, Anti-aliased, Glossy materials)

From Walter et al. SIGGRAPH 05

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Complex Lighting

- Simulate complex illumination using point lights
  - Area lights
  - HDR environment maps
  - Sun & sky light
  - Indirect illumination
- Unifies illumination
  - Enables tradeoffs between components

Area lights + Sun/sky + Indirect

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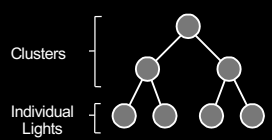
Key Concepts

- Light Cluster
- Light Tree
  - Binary tree of lights and clusters



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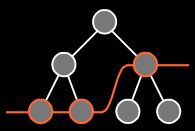
Key Concepts

- Light Cluster
- Light Tree
- A Cut
  - A set of nodes that partitions the lights into clusters



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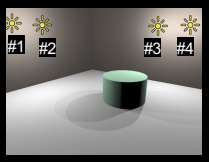
Simple Example



Light Tree

Representative Light

Clusters

Individual Lights

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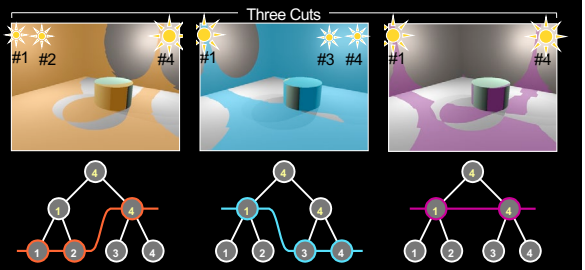
Three Example Cuts



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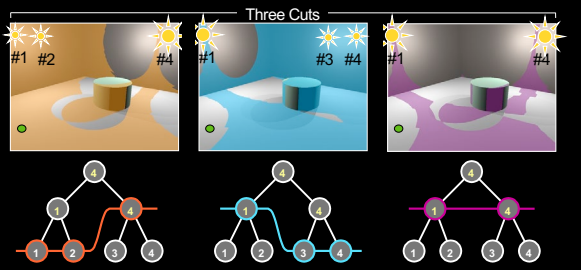

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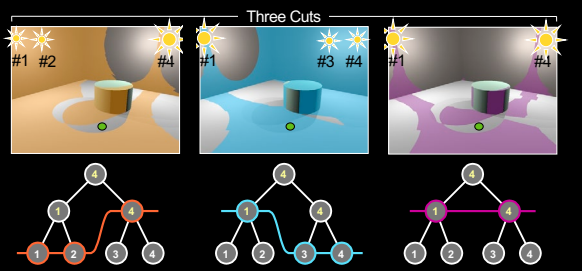

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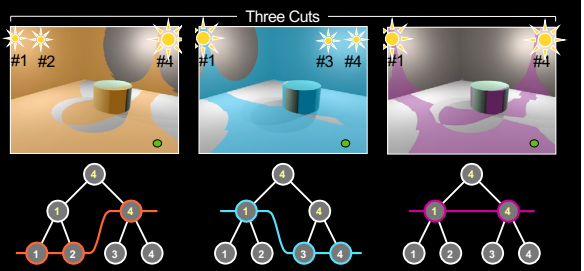

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Tableau, 630K polygons, 13000 lights, (EnvMap+Indirect)
Avg. shadow rays per eye ray 17 (**0.13%**)
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NVIDIA ReSTIR RTX DI
Bitterli et al. 20 Spatiotemporal reservoir resampling
Real-Time Direct Lighting from millions of lights
BRING IT!
METROPOLITAN

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