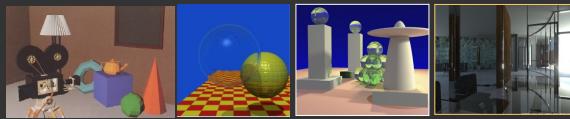


## Computer Graphics II: Rendering

CSE 168 [Spr 25], Lectures 18/19: Real-Time Rendering  
Ravi Ramamoorthi

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



1

## To Do

- Final Projects due Jun 10
- PLEASE FILL OUT SET EVALUATIONS!!
- KEEP WORKING HARD

2

## Motivation

- Today, create photorealistic computer graphics
  - Complex geometry, lighting, materials, shadows
  - Computer-generated movies/special effects (difficult or impossible to tell real from rendered...)



- CSE 168 images from rendering competition (2011)
- **But algorithms were very slow (hours to days)**

3

## Real-Time Rendering

- Goal: interactive rendering. Critical in many apps
  - Games, visualization, computer-aided design, ...
- Until 15-20 years ago, focus on complex geometry



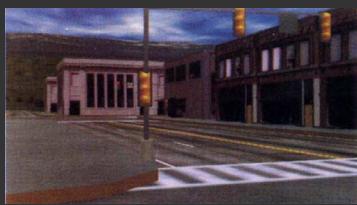
- **Chasm between interactivity, realism**

4

## Evolution of 3D graphics rendering

Interactive 3D graphics pipeline as in OpenGL

- Earliest SGI machines (Clark 82) to today
- Most of focus on more geometry, texture mapping
- Some tweaks for realism (shadow mapping, accum. buffer)



SGI Reality Engine 93  
(Kurt Akeley)

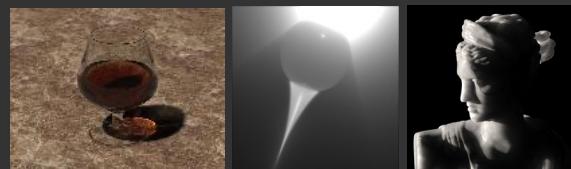
5

## Offline 3D Graphics Rendering

Ray tracing, radiosity, photon mapping

- High realism (global illum, shadows, refraction, lighting...)
- But historically very slow techniques

*“So, while you and your children’s children are waiting for ray tracing to take over the world, what do you do in the meantime?” Real-Time Rendering*

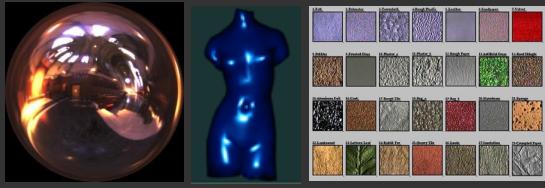


Pictures courtesy Henrik Wann Jensen

6

## New Trend: Acquired Data

- Image-Based Rendering: Real/precomputed images as input
- Also, acquire geometry, lighting, materials from real world
- Easy to obtain or precompute lots of high quality data. But how do we represent and reuse this for (real-time) rendering?



7

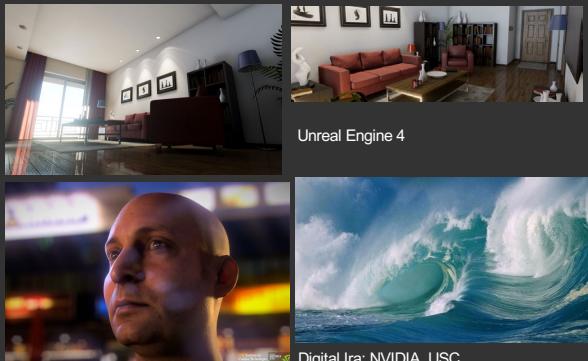
## 20 years ago

- High quality rendering: ray tracing, global illumination
  - Little change in CSE 168 syllabus, from 2003 to today
- Real-Time rendering: Interactive 3D geometry with simple texture mapping, fake shadows (OpenGL, DirectX)
- Complex environment lighting, real materials (velvet, satin, paints), soft shadows, caustics often omitted in both

▪ *Realism, interactivity at cross purposes*

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## Today: Real-Time Game Renderings



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## Today

- Vast increase in CPU power, modern instrs (SSE, Multi-Core)
  - Real-time raytracing techniques are possible (even on hardware: NVIDIA OptiX, RTX Raytracing)
- 4<sup>th</sup> generation of graphics hardware is *programmable*
  - (First 3 gens were wireframe, shaded, textured)
  - Modern NVIDIA, ATI cards allow vertex, fragment shaders
- Great deal of current work on acquiring and rendering with realistic lighting, materials... [Especially at UCSD]
- *Focus on quality of rendering, not quantity of polygons, texture*

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## Goals

- Overview of basic techniques for high-quality real-time rendering
- Survey of important concepts and ideas, but do not go into details of writing code
- Some pointers to resources, others on web
- One possibility for final project, will need to think about some ideas on your own

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## Outline

- *Motivation and Demos*
- Programmable Graphics Pipeline
- Shadow Maps
- Environment Mapping

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### High quality real-time rendering

- Photorealism, not just more polygons
- Natural lighting, materials, shadows



Interiors by architect Frank Gehry. Note rich lighting, ranging from localized sources to reflections off vast sheets of glass.

13

### High quality real-time rendering

- Photorealism, not just more polygons
- Natural lighting, materials, shadows

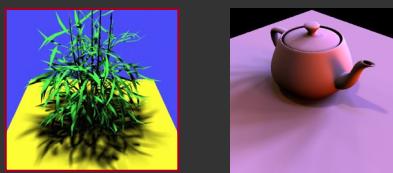


Real materials diverse and not easy to represent by simple parametric models. Want to support measured reflectance.

14

### High quality real-time rendering

- Photorealism, not just more polygons
- Natural lighting, materials, shadows



Natural lighting creates a mix of soft diffuse and hard shadows.

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### Today: Full Global Illumination



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### Applications

- Entertainment: Lighting design
- Architectural visualization
- Material design: Automobile industry
- Realistic Video games
- Electronic commerce



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### Programmable Graphics Hardware

18

## Programmable Graphics Hardware



NVIDIA a new dawn demo (may need to type URL)  
▪ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bl1\\_quVr\\_3w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bl1_quVr_3w)

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## Precomputation-Based Methods

- Static geometry
- Precomputation
- Real-Time Rendering (relight all-frequency effects)
- Involves sophisticated representations, algorithms



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## Relit Images



Ng, Ramamoorthi, Hanrahan 04

21

## Video: Real Time Relighting

22

## Spherical Harmonic Lighting



Avatar 2010, based on Ramamoorthi and Hanrahan 01, Sloan 02

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## Interactive RayTracing

### Advantages

- Very complex scenes relatively easy (hierarchical bbox)
- Complex materials and shading for free
- Easy to add global illumination, specularities etc.

### Disadvantages

- Hard to access data in memory-coherent way
- Many samples for complex lighting and materials
- Global illumination possible but expensive

Modern developments: Leverage power of modern CPUs, develop cache-aware, parallel implementations

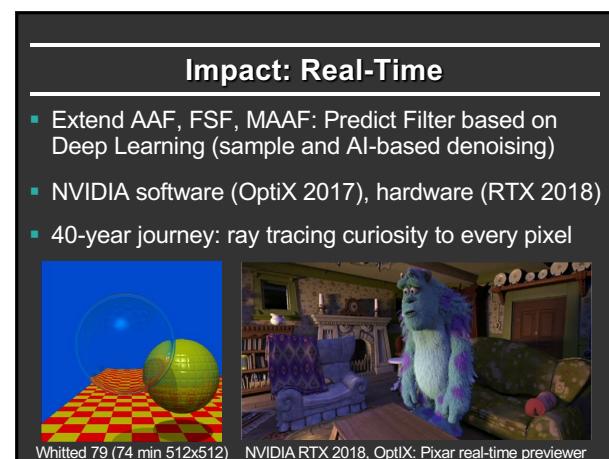
*Recent developments make real-time raytracing mainstream (NVIDIA OptiX 5 in 2017, RTX chips in 2018, denoise, DLSS)*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcP1NzB49zU>

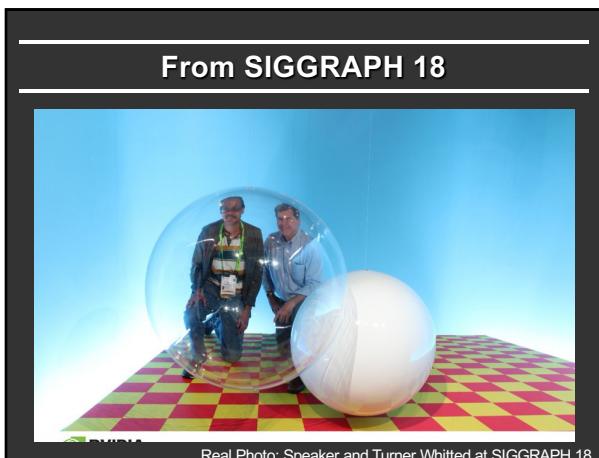
24



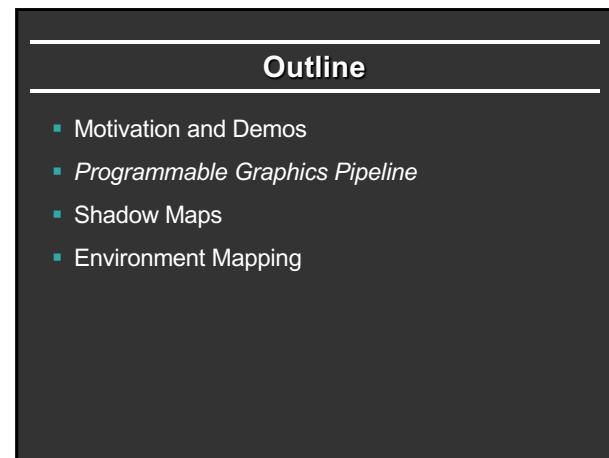
27



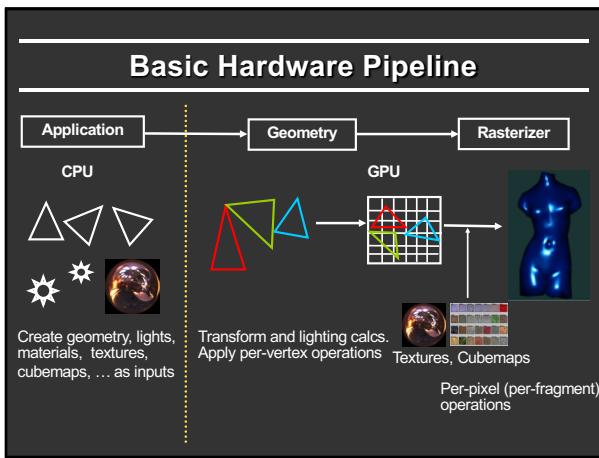
28



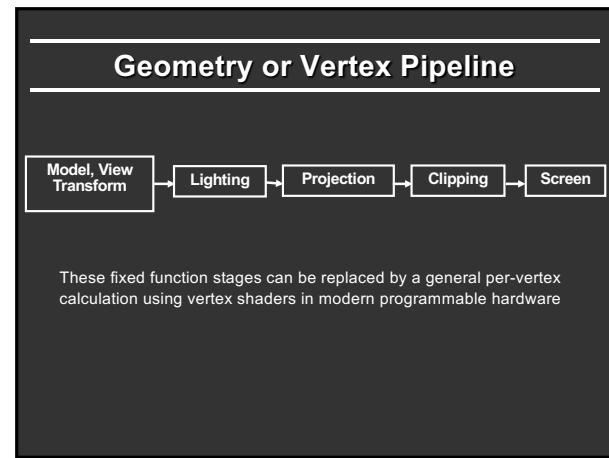
29



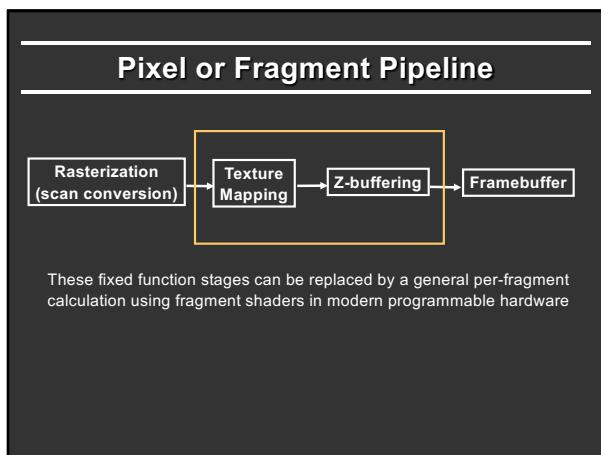
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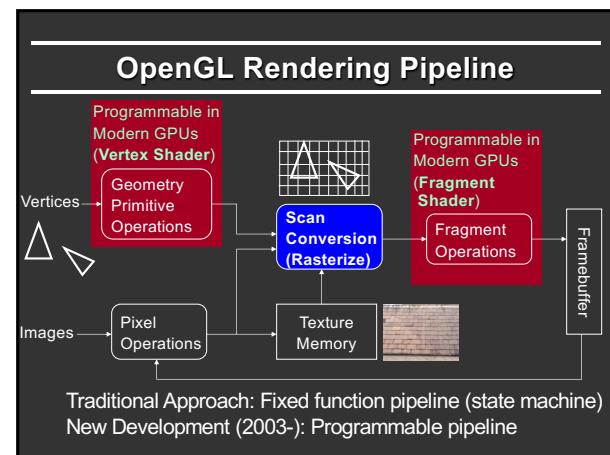
31



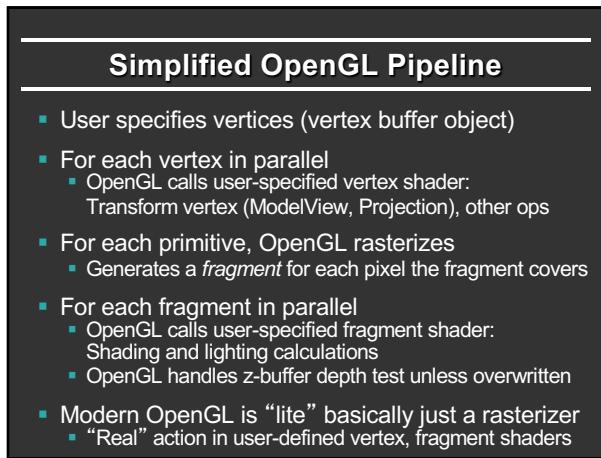
32



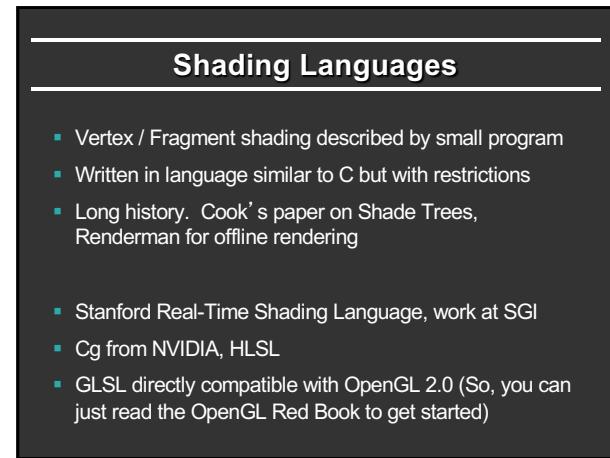
33



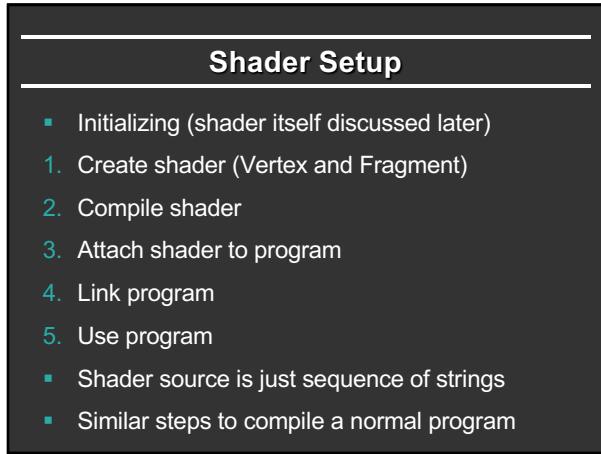
34



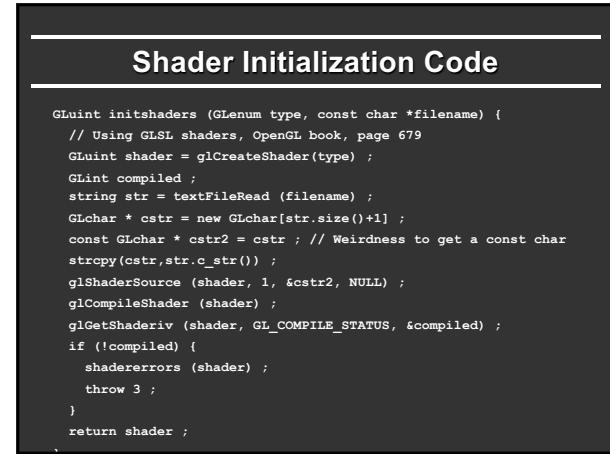
35



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## Linking Shader Program

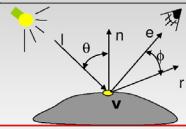
```
GLuint initprogram (GLuint vertexshader, GLuint fragmentshader)
{
    GLuint program = glCreateProgram() ;
    GLint linked ;
    glAttachShader(program, vertexshader) ;
    glAttachShader(program, fragmentshader) ;
    glLinkProgram(program) ;
    glGetProgramiv(program, GL_LINK_STATUS, &linked) ;
    if (linked) glUseProgram(program) ;
    else {
        programerrors(program) ;
        throw 4 ;
    }
    return program ;
}
```

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## Phong Shader: Vertex

**This Shader Does**

- Gives eye space location for v
- Transform Surface Normal
- Transform Vertex Location



```
varying vec3 N;
varying vec3 v;

void main(void)
{
    v = vec3(gl_ModelViewMatrix * gl_Vertex);
    N = normalize(gl_NormalMatrix * gl_Normal);
    Created For Use Within Frag Shader
    gl_Position = gl_ModelViewProjectionMatrix * gl_Vertex;
} (Update OpenGL Built-in Variable for Vertex Position)
```

Cliff Lindsay web.cs.wpi.edu/~rich/courses/imgd4000-d09/lectures/gpu.pdf

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## Phong Shader: Fragment

```
varying vec3 N;
varying vec3 v;
Passed in From VS

void main (void)
{
    // we are in Eye Coordinates, so EyePos is (0,0,0)
    vec3 L = normalize(gl_LightSource[0].position.xyz - v);
    vec3 E = normalize(-v);
    vec3 R = normalize(-reflect(L,N));

    //calculate Ambient Term:
    vec4 lamb = gl_FrontLightProduct[0].ambient;

    //calculate Diffuse Term:
    vec4 ldiff = gl_FrontLightProduct[0].diffuse * max(dot(N,L), 0.0);

    // calculate Specular Term:
    vec4 lspec = gl_FrontLightProduct[0].specular
        * pow(max(dot(R,E),0.0), gl_FrontMaterial.shininess);

    // write Total Color:
    gl_FragColor = gl_FrontLightModelProduct.sceneColor + lamb + ldiff + lspec;
}
```

Cliff Lindsay web.cs.wpi.edu/~rich/courses/imgd4000-d09/lectures/gpu.pdf

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## Fragment Shader Compute Lighting

```
vec4 ComputeLight (const in vec3 direction, const in vec4 lightcolor, const in vec3 normal, const in vec3 halfvec, const in vec4 mydiffuse, const in vec4 myspecular, const in float myshininess) {

    float nDotL = dot(normal, direction) ;
    vec4 lambert = mydiffuse * lightcolor * max (nDotL, 0.0) ;

    float nDotH = dot(normal, halfvec) ;
    vec4 phong = myspecular * lightcolor * pow (max (nDotH, 0.0) , myshininess) ;

    vec4 retval = lambert + phong ;
    return retval ;
}
```

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## Outline

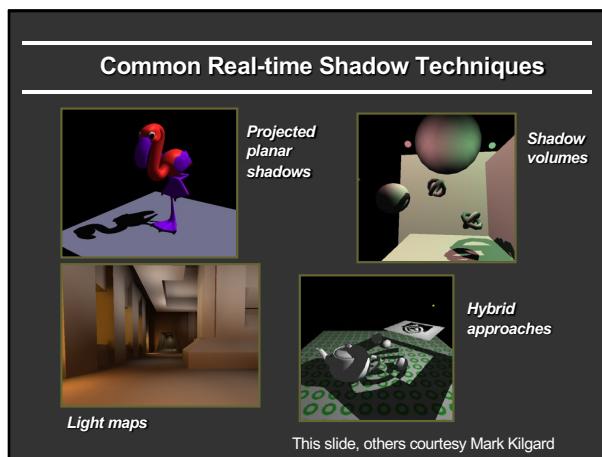
- Motivation and Demos
- Programmable Graphics Pipeline
- *Shadow Maps*
- Environment Mapping

## Shadow and Environment Maps

- Basic methods to add realism to interactive rendering
- Shadow maps: image-based way hard shadows
  - Very old technique. Originally Williams 78
  - Many recent (and older) extensions
  - Widely used even in software rendering (RenderMan)
  - Simple alternative to raytracing for shadows
- Environment maps: image-based complex lighting
  - Again, very old technique. Blinn and Newell 76
  - Huge amount of recent work (some covered in course)
- Together, give most of realistic effects we want
  - **But cannot be easily combined!!**
  - See Annen 08 [real-time all-frequency shadows dynamic scenes] for one approach: convolution soft shadows

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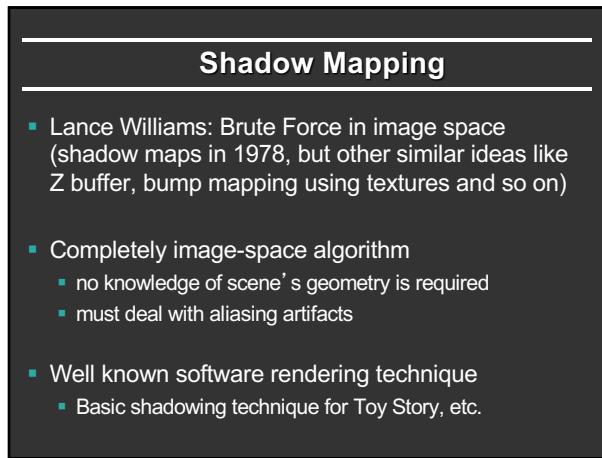
45

## Problems

Mostly tricks with lots of limitations

- Projected planar shadows  
works well only on flat surfaces
- Stenciled shadow volumes  
determining the shadow volume is hard work
- Light maps  
totally unsuited for dynamic shadows
- In general, hard to get everything shadowing everything

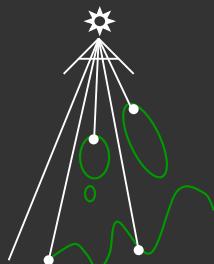
46



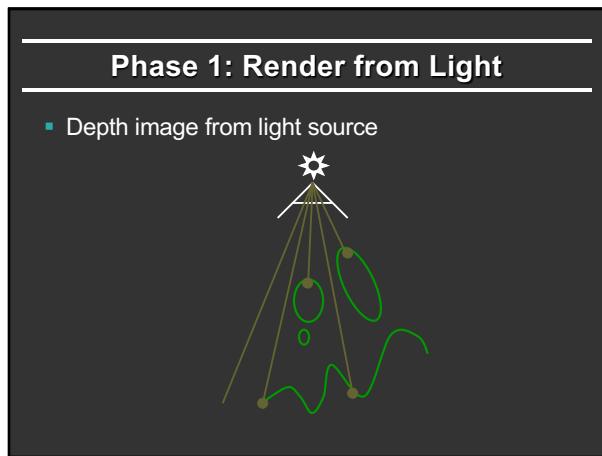
47

## Phase 1: Render from Light

- Depth image from light source



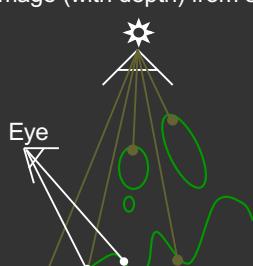
48



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## Phase 2: Render from Eye

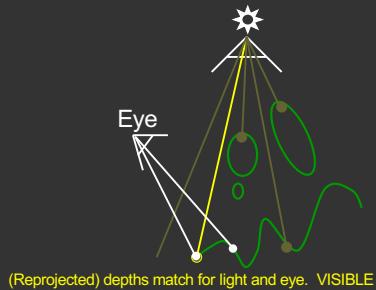
- Standard image (with depth) from eye



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### Phase 2+: Project to light for shadows

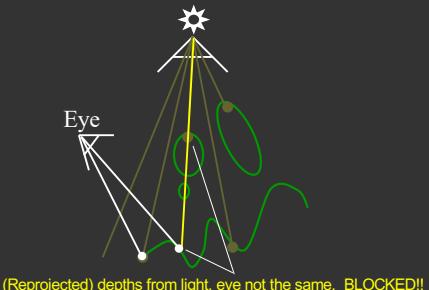
- Project visible points in eye view back to light source



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### Phase 2+: Project to light for shadows

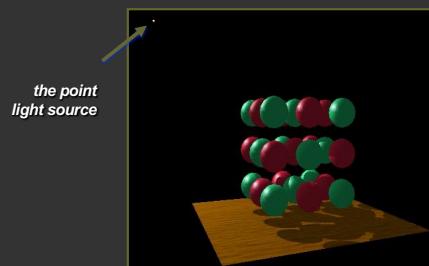
- Project visible points in eye view back to light source



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### Visualizing Shadow Mapping

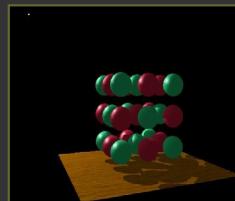
- A fairly complex scene with shadows



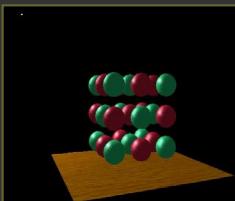
53

### Visualizing Shadow Mapping

- Compare with and without shadows



with shadows

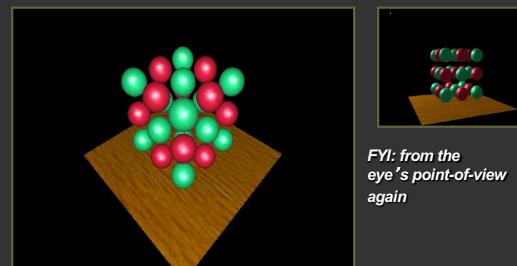


without shadows

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### Visualizing Shadow Mapping

- The scene from the light's point-of-view

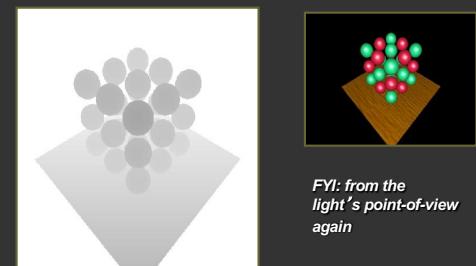


FYI: from the  
eye's point-of-view  
again

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### Visualizing Shadow Mapping

- The depth buffer from the light's point-of-view

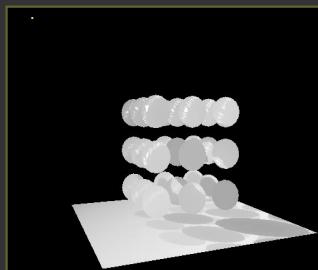


FYI: from the  
light's point-of-view  
again

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## Visualizing Shadow Mapping

- Projecting the depth map onto the eye's view



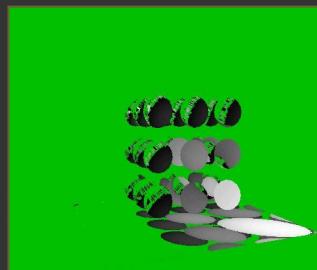
FYI: depth map for light's point-of-view again

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## Visualizing Shadow Mapping

- Comparing light distance to light depth map

Green is where the light planar distance and the light depth map are approximately equal



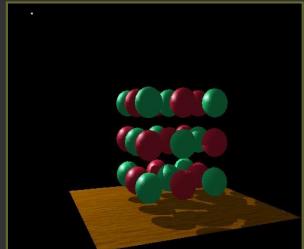
Non-green is where shadows should be

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## Visualizing Shadow Mapping

- Scene with shadows

Notice how specular highlights never appear in shadows



Notice how curved surfaces cast shadows on each other

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## Hardware Shadow Map Filtering

### “Percentage Closer” filtering

- Normal texture filtering just averages color components
- Averaging depth values does NOT work
- Solution [Reeves, SIGGRAPH 87]
  - Hardware performs comparison for each sample
  - Then, averages results of comparisons
- Provides anti-aliasing at shadow map edges
  - Not soft shadows in the umbra/penumbra sense

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## Hardware Shadow Map Filtering

`GL_NEAREST`: blocky



`GL_LINEAR`: antialiased edges



Low shadow map resolution used to heighten filtering artifacts

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## Problems with shadow maps

- Hard shadows (point lights only)
- Quality depends on shadow map resolution (general problem with image-based techniques)
- Involves equality comparison of floating point depth values means issues of scale, bias, tolerance

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## Reflection Maps



Blinn and Newell, 1976

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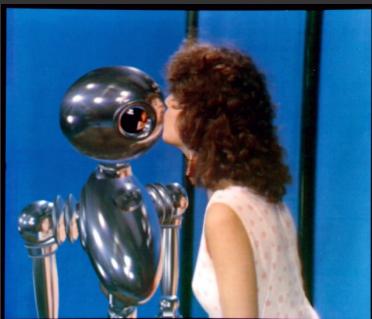
## Environment Maps



Miller and Hoffman, 1984

64

## Environment Maps



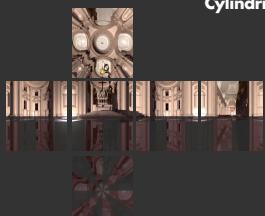
Interface, Chou and Williams (ca. 1985)

65

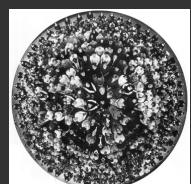
## Environment Maps



Cylindrical Panoramas



Cubical Environment Map

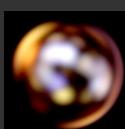


180 degree fisheye  
Photo by R. Packo

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## Reflectance Maps

- Reflectance Maps (Index by N)
- Horn, 1977
- Irradiance (N) and Phong (R) Reflection Maps
- Miller and Hoffman, 1984



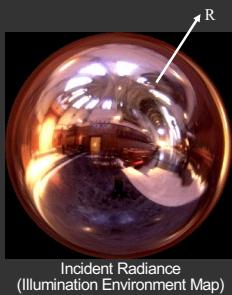
Mirror Sphere

Chrome Sphere

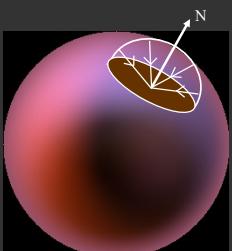
Matte Sphere

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## Irradiance Environment Maps



Incident Radiance  
(Illumination Environment Map)



Irradiance Environment Map

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## Assumptions

- Diffuse surfaces
- Distant illumination
- No shadowing, interreflection

Hence, Irradiance a function of surface normal

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## Diffuse Reflection

$$B = \rho E$$

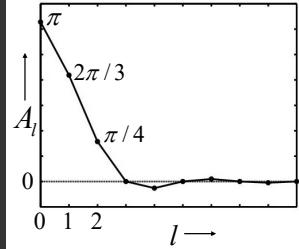
Radiosity (image intensity)      Reflectance (albedo/texture)      Irradiance (incoming light)

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## Analytic Irradiance Formula

Lambertian surface acts like low-pass filter

$$E_{lm} = A_l L_{lm}$$



Ramamoorthi and Hanrahan 01  
Basri and Jacobs 01

$$A_l = 2\pi \frac{(-1)^{\frac{l-1}{2}}}{(l+2)(l-1)} \left[ \frac{l!}{2^l \left(\frac{l}{2}\right)!} \right] \quad l \text{ even}$$

71

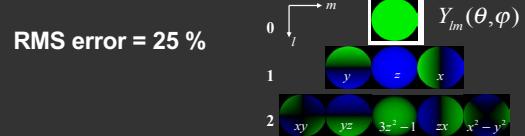
## 9 Parameter Approximation

Exact image



Order 0  
1 term

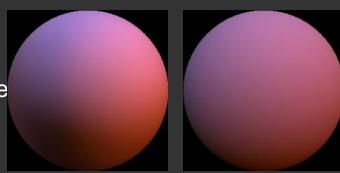
RMS error = 25 %



72

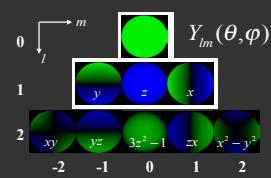
## 9 Parameter Approximation

Exact image



Order 1  
4 terms

RMS Error = 8%



73

## 9 Parameter Approximation

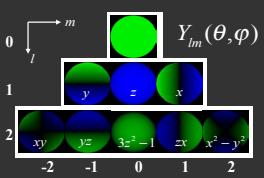
Exact image



Order 2  
9 terms

RMS Error = 1%

For any illumination, average error < 3% [Basri Jacobs 01]



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## Real-Time Rendering

$$E(n) = n^t M n$$

Simple procedural rendering method (no textures)

- Requires only matrix-vector multiply and dot-product
- In software or NVIDIA vertex programming hardware

Widely used in Games (AMPED for Microsoft Xbox), Movies (Pixar, Framestore CFC, ...)

```
surface float1 irradmat (matrix4 M, float3 y) {
    float4 n = {y, 1};
    return dot(n, M*n);
}
```

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## Environment Map Summary

- Very popular for interactive rendering
- Extensions handle complex materials
- Shadows with precomputed transfer
- But cannot directly combine with shadow maps
- Limited to distant lighting assumption

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## Resources

- OpenGL red book (latest includes GLSL)
- Web tutorials: <http://www.lighthouse3d.com/tutorials/>
- Older books: OpenGL Shading Language book (Rost), The Cg Tutorial, ...
- <http://www.realtimerendering.com>
  - Real-Time Rendering by Möller and Haines
- Debevec <http://www.debevec.org/ReflectionMapping/>
  - Links to Miller and Hoffman original, Haeberli/Segal
- <http://www.cs.ucsd.edu/~ravir/papers/envmap>
  - Also papers by Heidrich, Cabral, ...
- Lots of information available on web...
- Look at resources from CSE 274 website (Wi Fa 15)

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