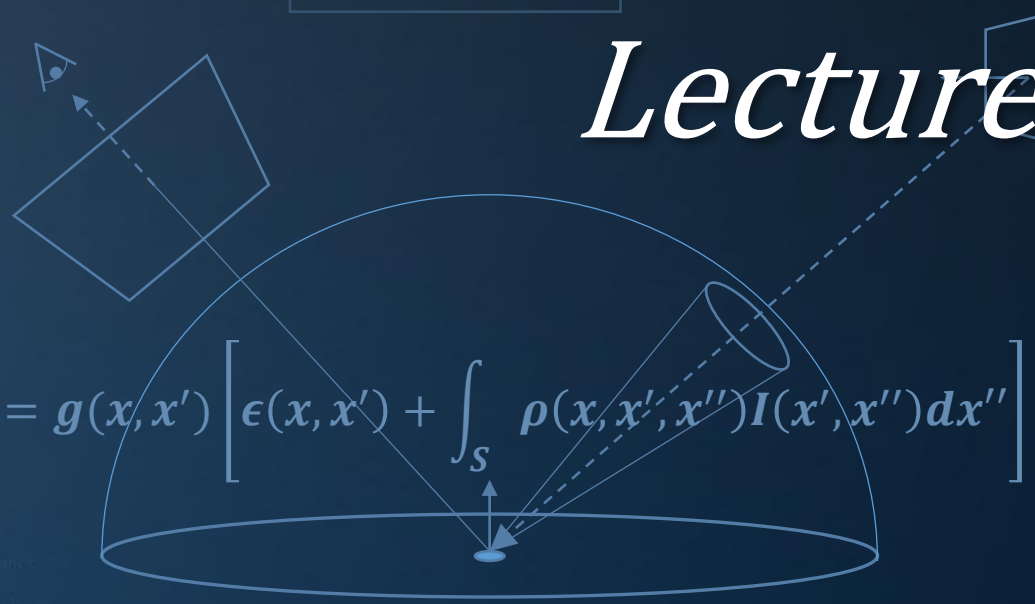
INFOMAGR – Advanced Graphics

Jacco Bikker - November 2022 - February 2023

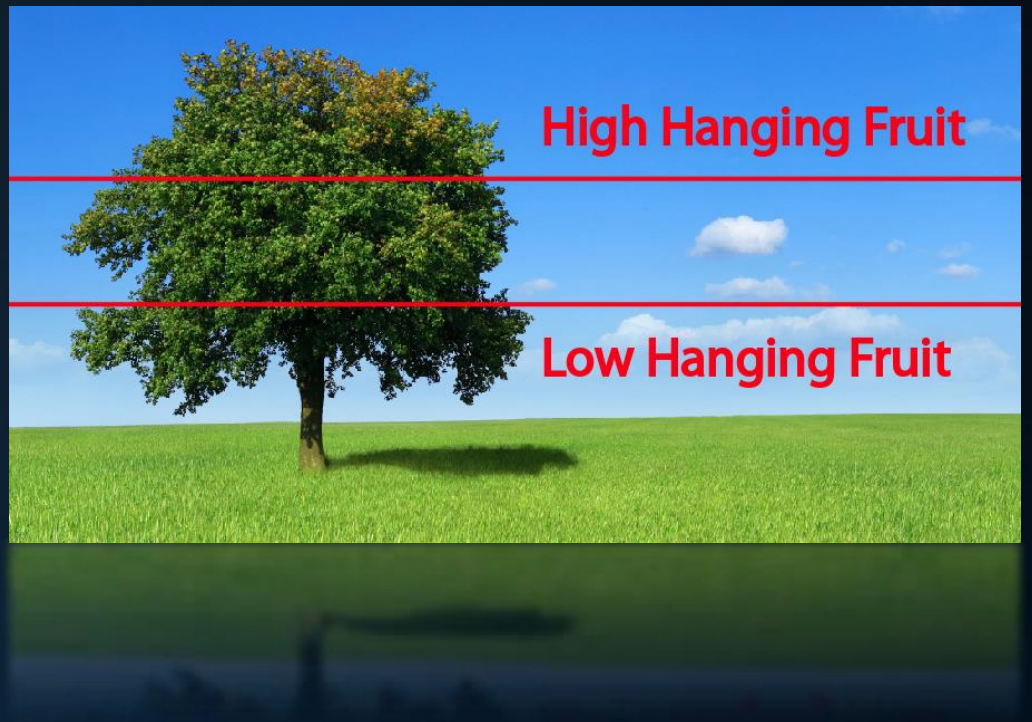


Lecture 11 - "Various"

Welcome!

Today's Agenda:

- Gamma Correction
- Depth of Field
- Skybox & IS
- Normal Maps
- Microfacets



Gamma Correction

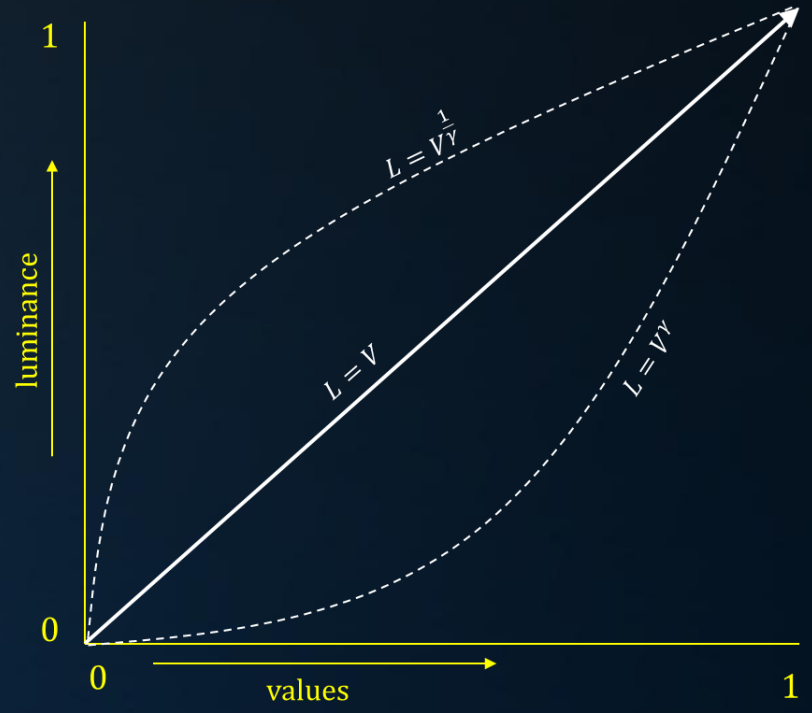
Human Eye

Digital representation of intensities is discrete: for ARGB32, we have 256 levels for red, green and blue.

The human eye is more sensitive to differences in luminance for dark shades. When encoding luminance, it is advantageous to have more detail in the lower regions, e.g.:

$$L = rgb^{\gamma} \quad \Rightarrow \quad rgb = L^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$$

For the human eye, $\gamma = 2.33$ is optimal*.



*: Ebner & Fairchild, Development and testing of a color space (IPT) with improved hue uniformity, 1998.

Gamma Correction

CRT Power Response

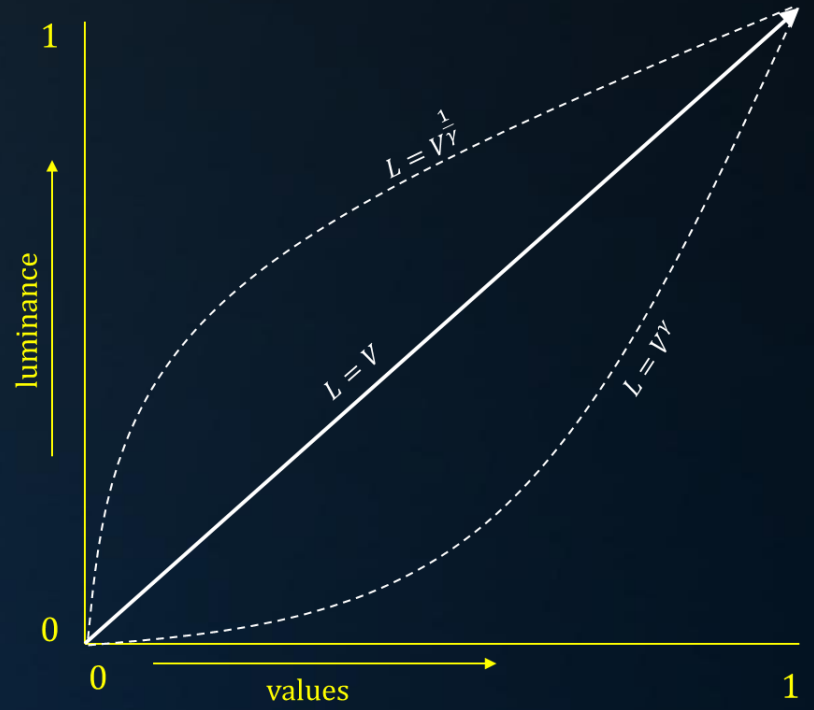
A classic CRT display converts incoming data to luminance in a non-linear way.

$$L = rgb^{\gamma} \quad \Rightarrow \quad rgb = L^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$$

For a typical monitor, $\gamma = 2.2$.

In other words:

- If we encode our luminance using $rgb = L^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$, it will appear linear on the monitor.
- At the same time, this yields a distribution that has more detail for darker shades, which suits the human eye.



Gamma Correction

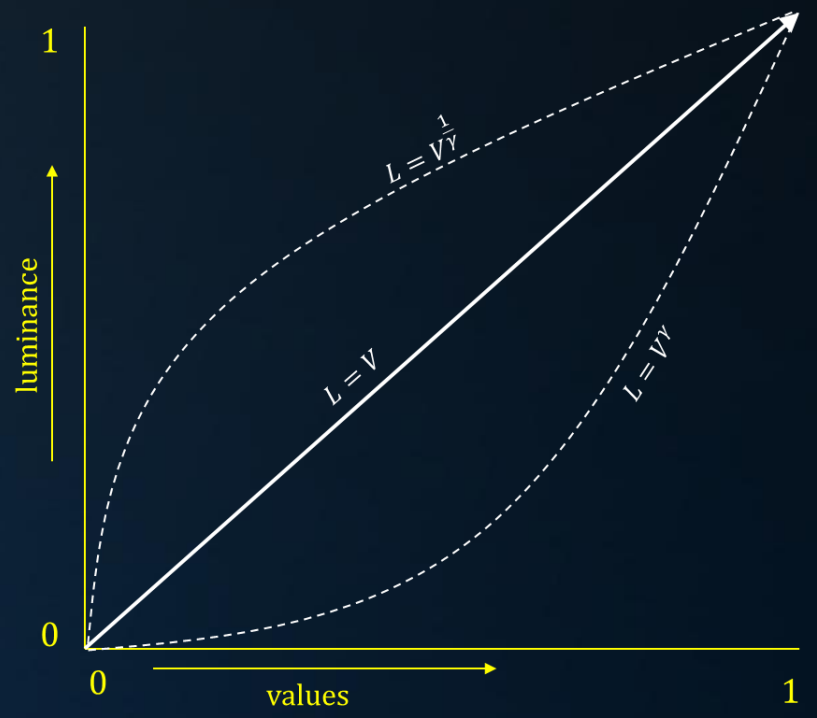
Practical Gamma Correction

To ensure linear response of the monitor to our synthesized images, we feed the monitor adjusted data:

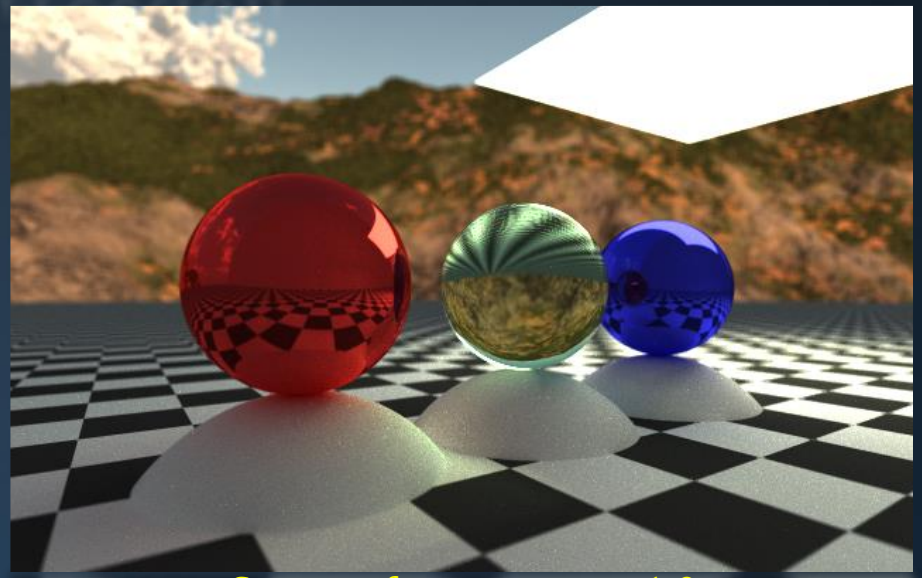
$$rgb = L^{1/2.2} \approx \sqrt{L}$$

What happens if we don't do this?

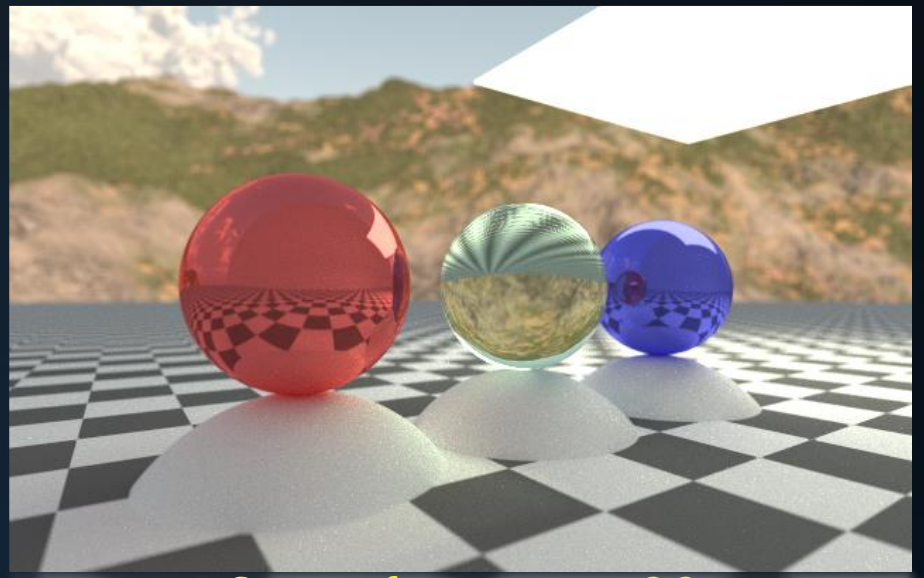
1. L will be $rgb^{2.2}$; the image will be too dark.
2. A linear gradient will become a quadratic gradient; a quadratic gradient will become a cubic gradient ➔ your lights will appear to have a very small area of influence.



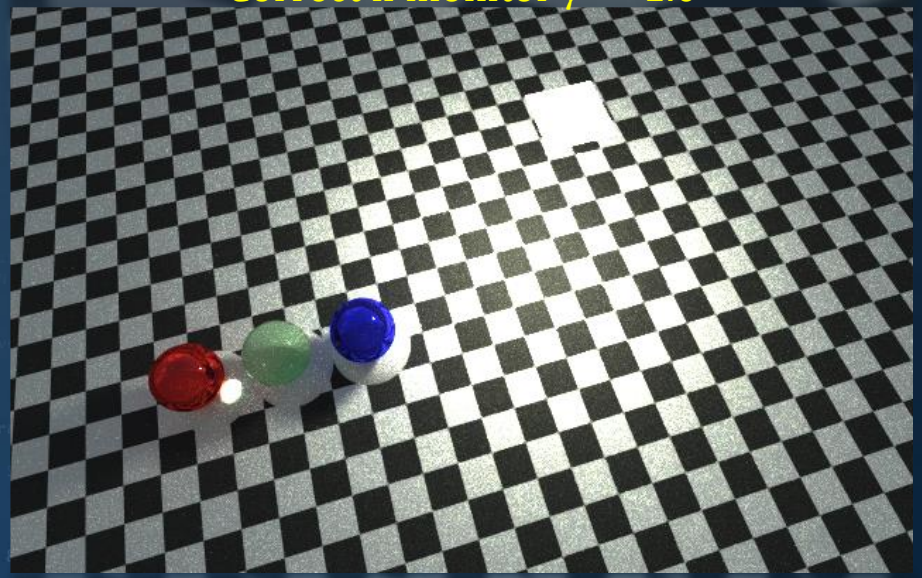
Gamma Correction

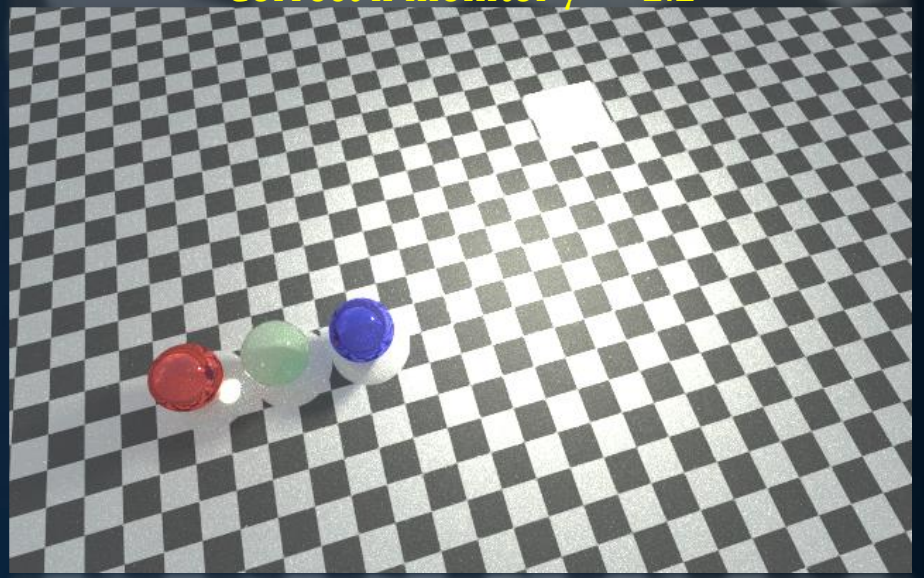


Correct if monitor $\gamma = 1.0$



Correct if monitor $\gamma = 2.2$





Gamma Correction

Legacy

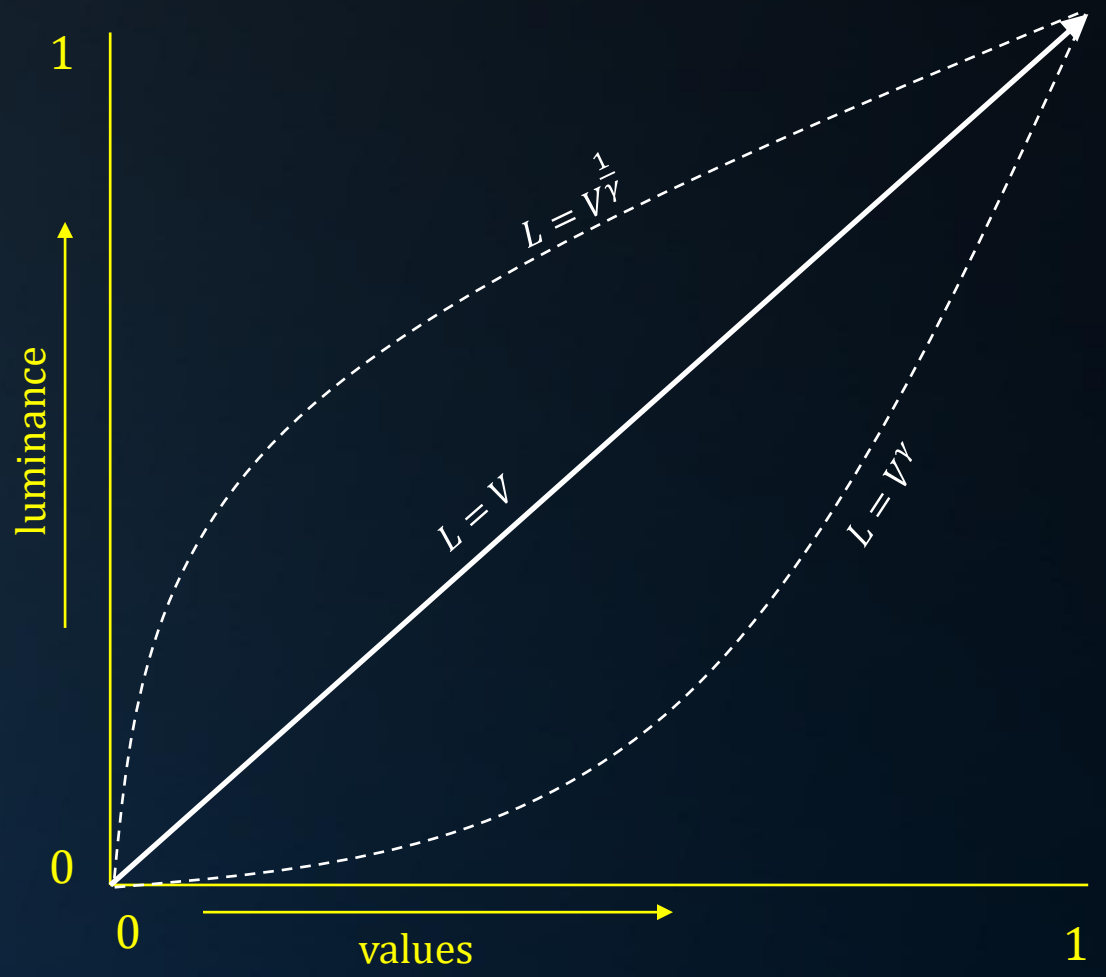
The response of a CRT is $L = V^{2.2}$; what about modern screens?

Typical laptop / desktop screens have a linear response, but expect applications to provide $\sqrt{L}$ data… So V is modified (in hardware, or by the driver): $V = V^2$.

$$L \Rightarrow \sqrt{L} \Rightarrow L^2$$

Not all screens take this legacy into account; especially beamers will often use $\gamma = 1$.

Gamma correct only if the hardware or video driver expects it!

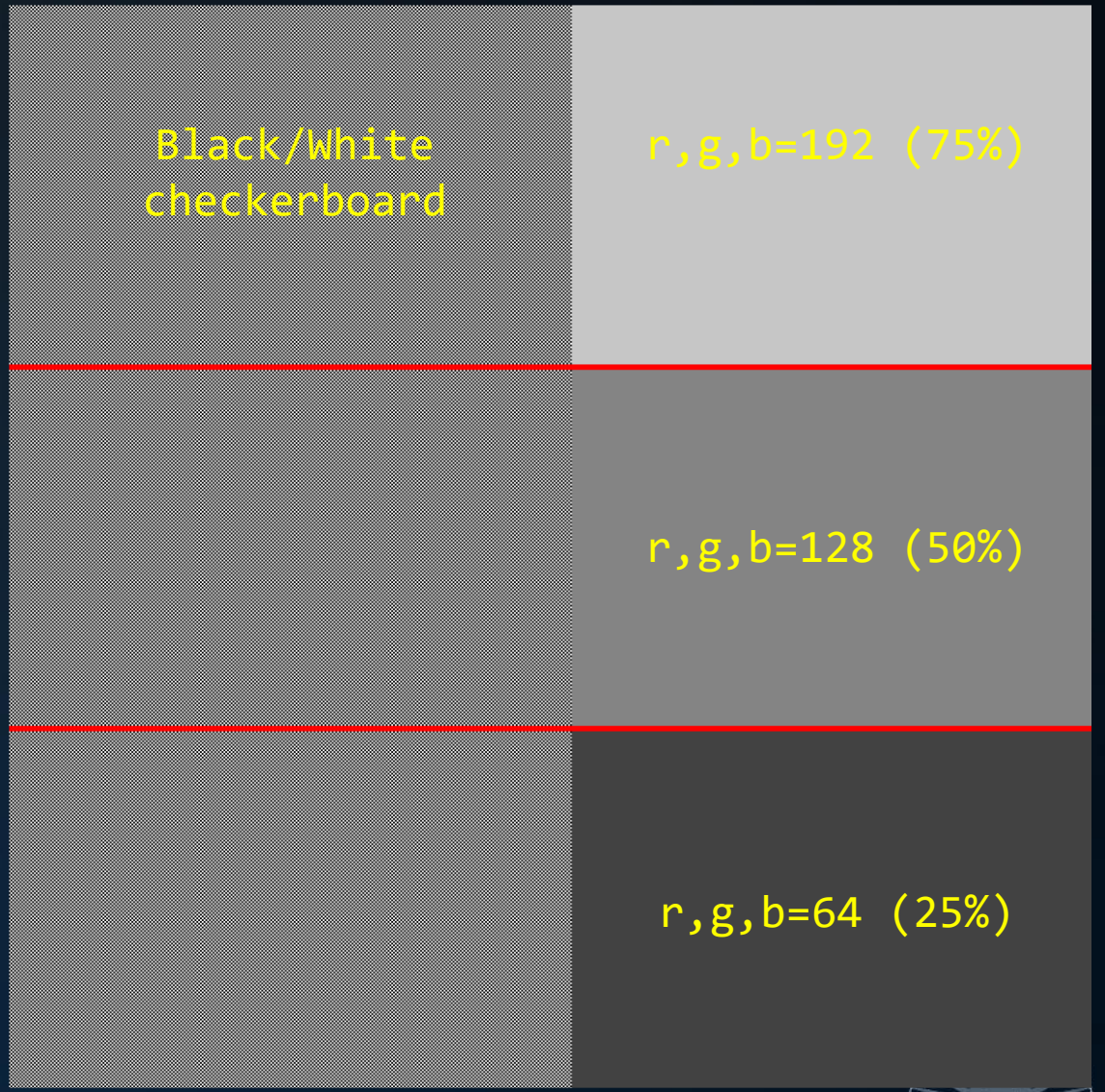


Gamma Correction

Gamma Corrected Or Not?

Open gamma.gif using the windows image previewer and zoom to the smallest level (1:1). Which bar in the right column is most similar in brightness to the right column?

	γ=1	γ=2
75%	0.75	0.56
50%	0.50	0.25
25%	0.25	0.06



Gamma Correction

Consequences

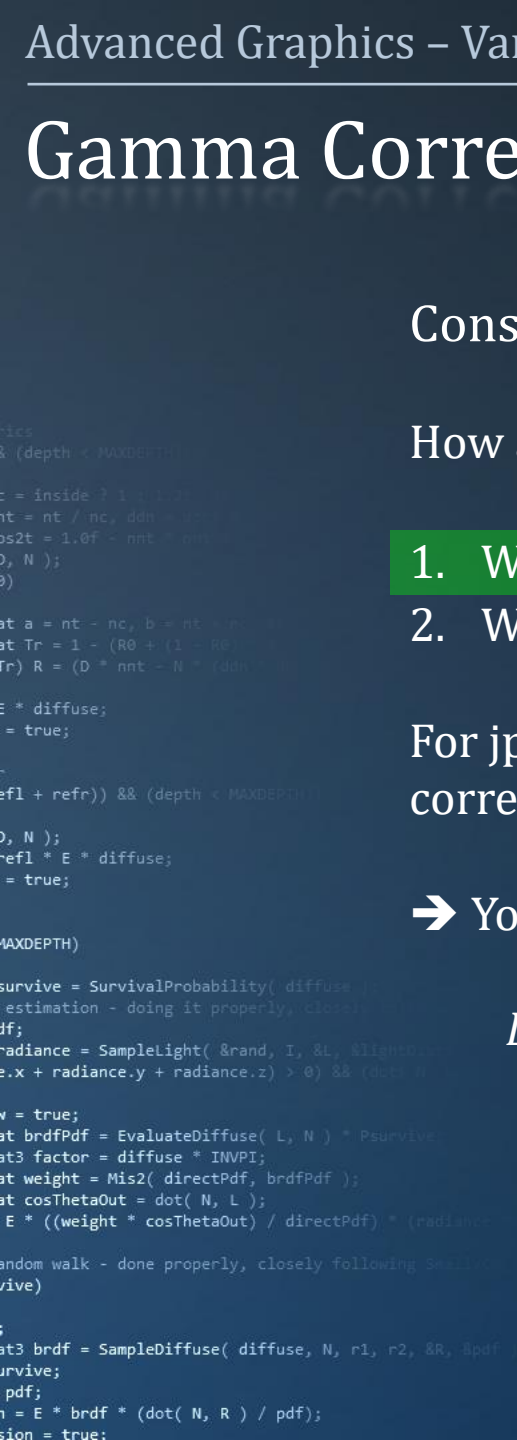
How are your digital photos / DVD movies stored?

1. With gamma correction, ready to be sent to a display device that expects $\sqrt{L}$
2. Without gamma correction, expecting the image viewer to apply $\sqrt{L}$

For jpegs and mpeg video, the answer is 1: these images are already gamma corrected.

➔ Your textures may require conversion to linear space:

$$L = rgb^2$$



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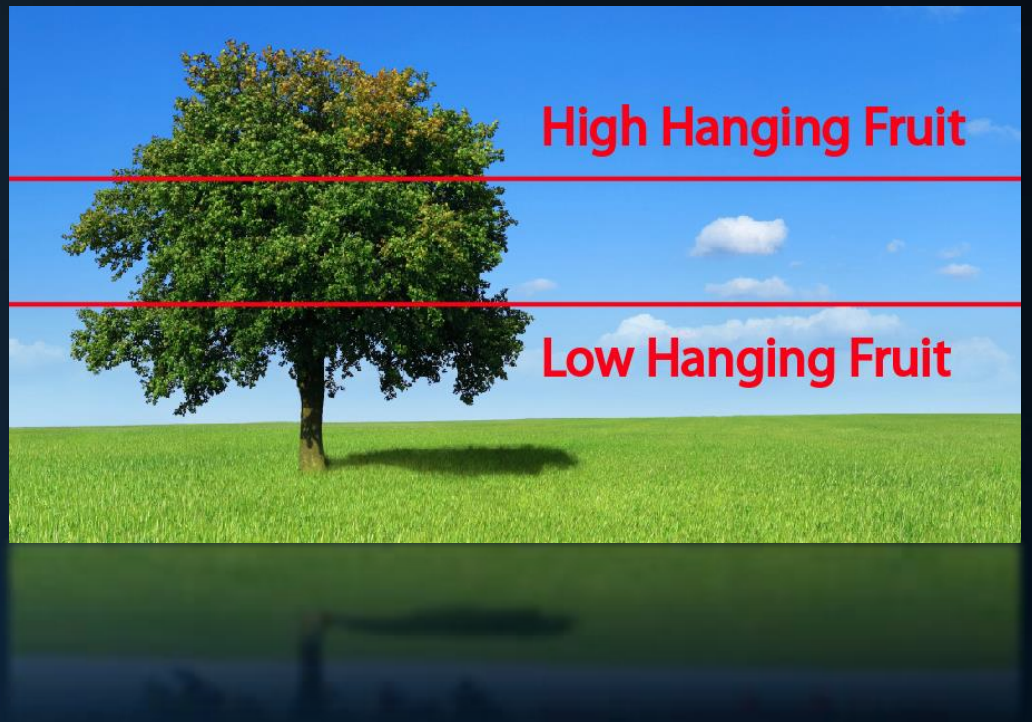
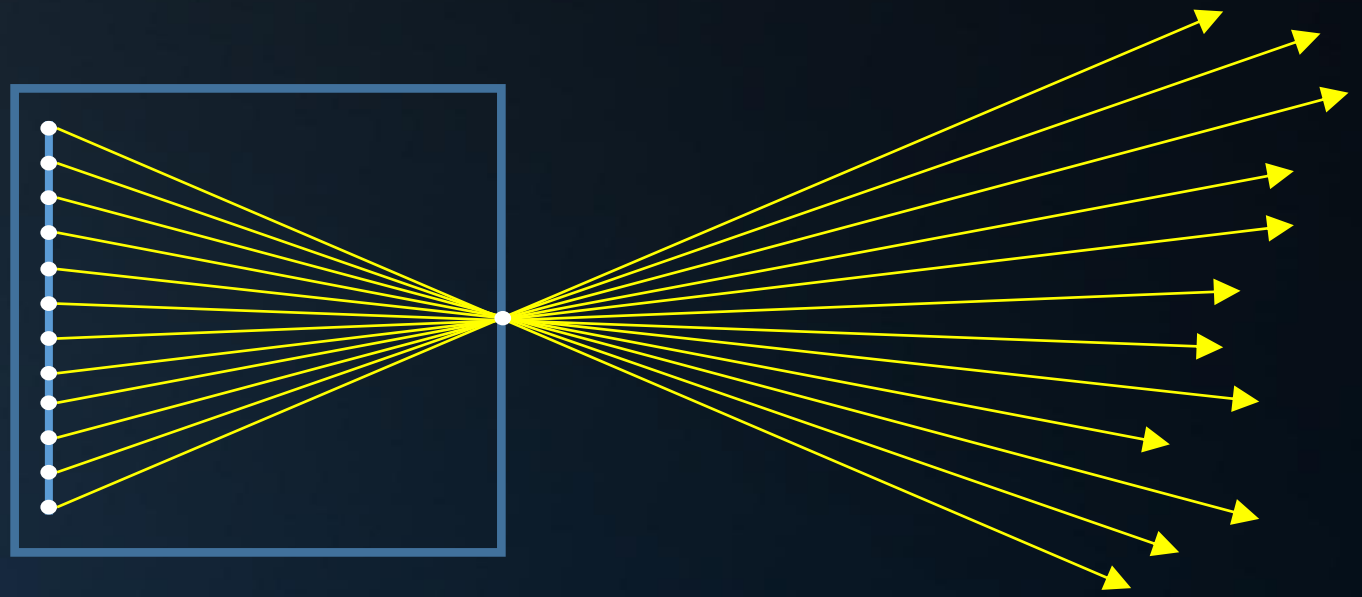
- Normal Maps
- Microfacets

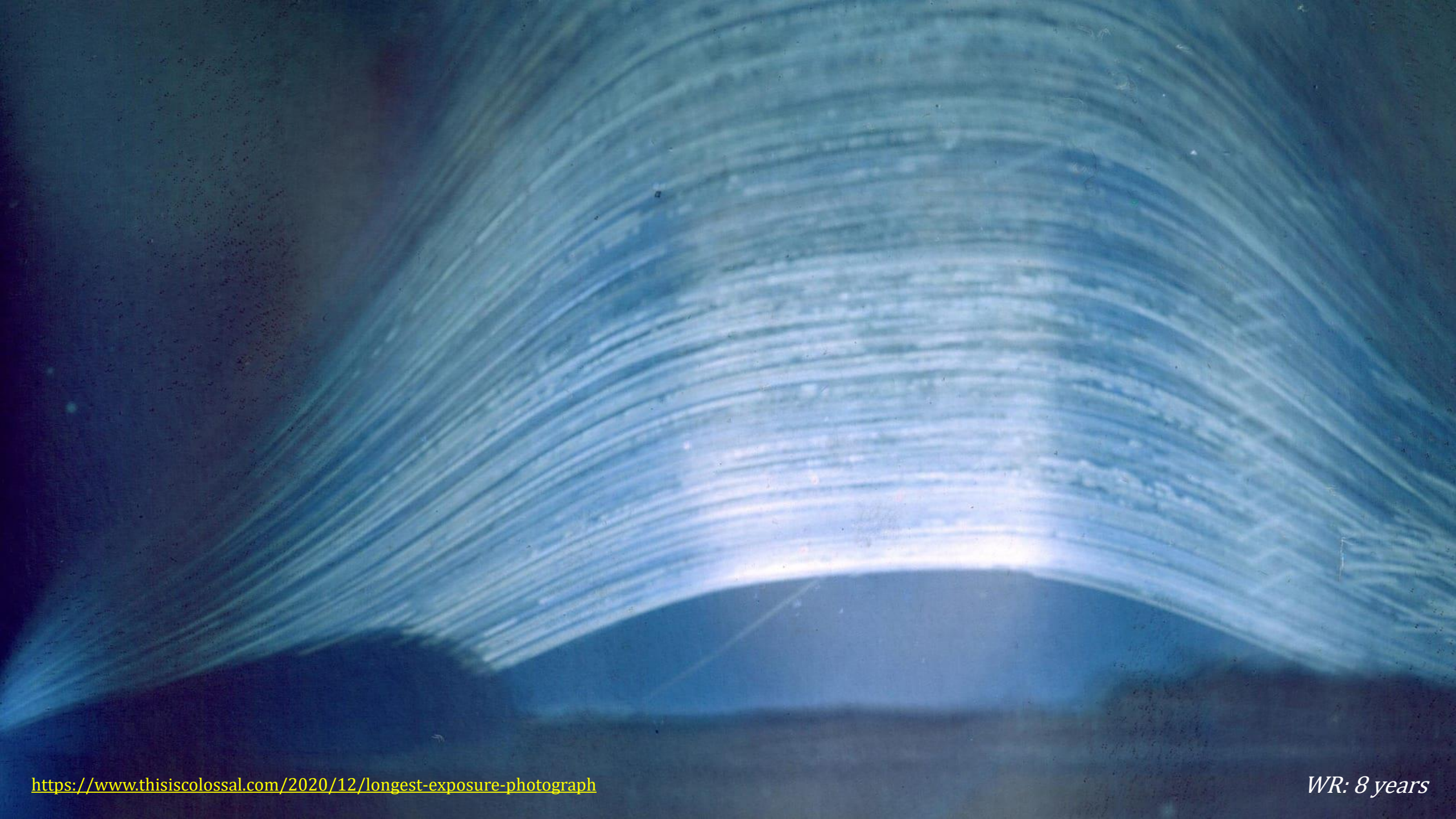


Depth of Field

Focus

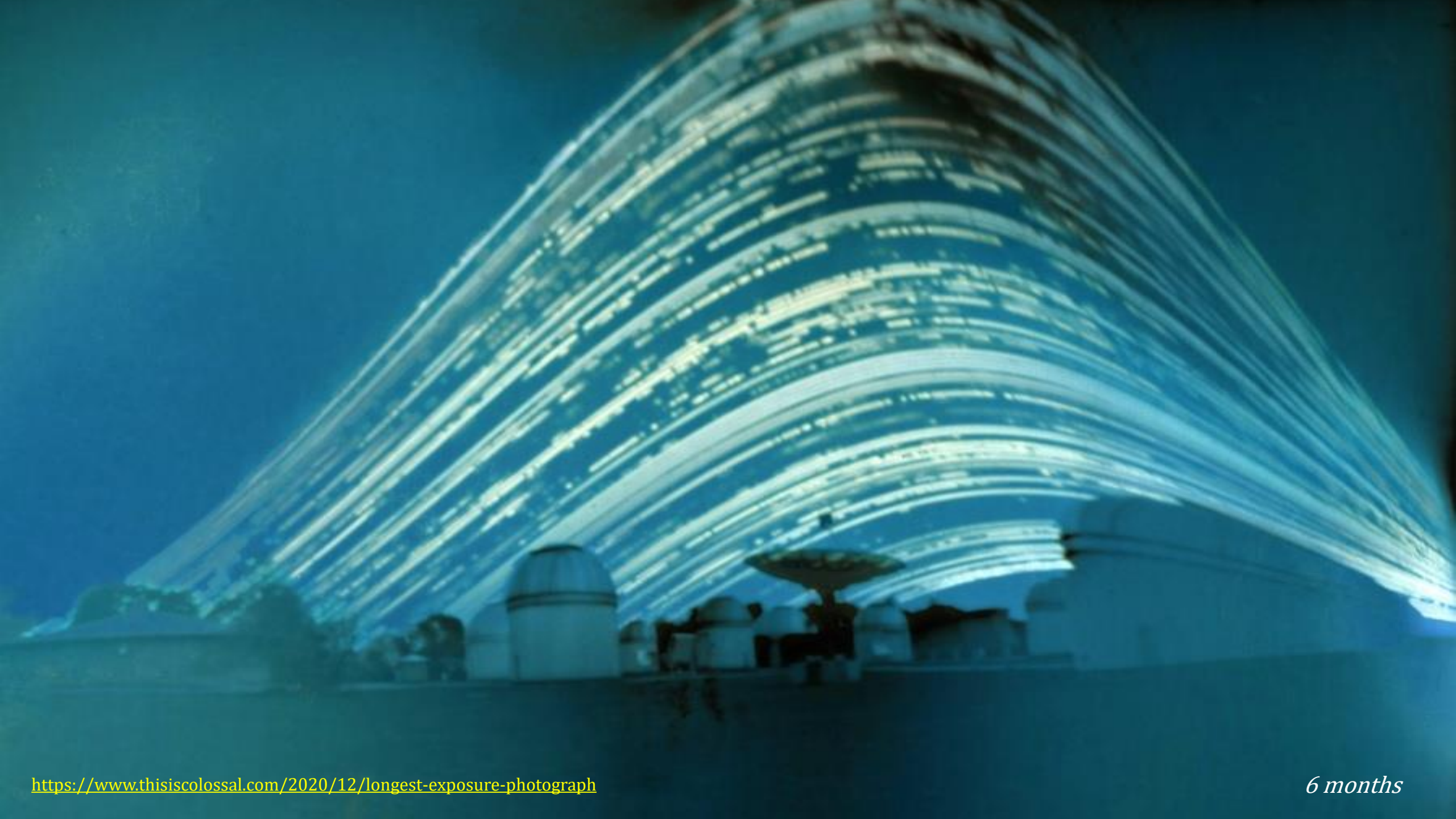
A pinhole camera ensures that each pixel receives light from a single direction.





https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2020/12/longest-exposure-photograph

WR: 8 years



https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2020/12/longest-exposure-photograph

6 months

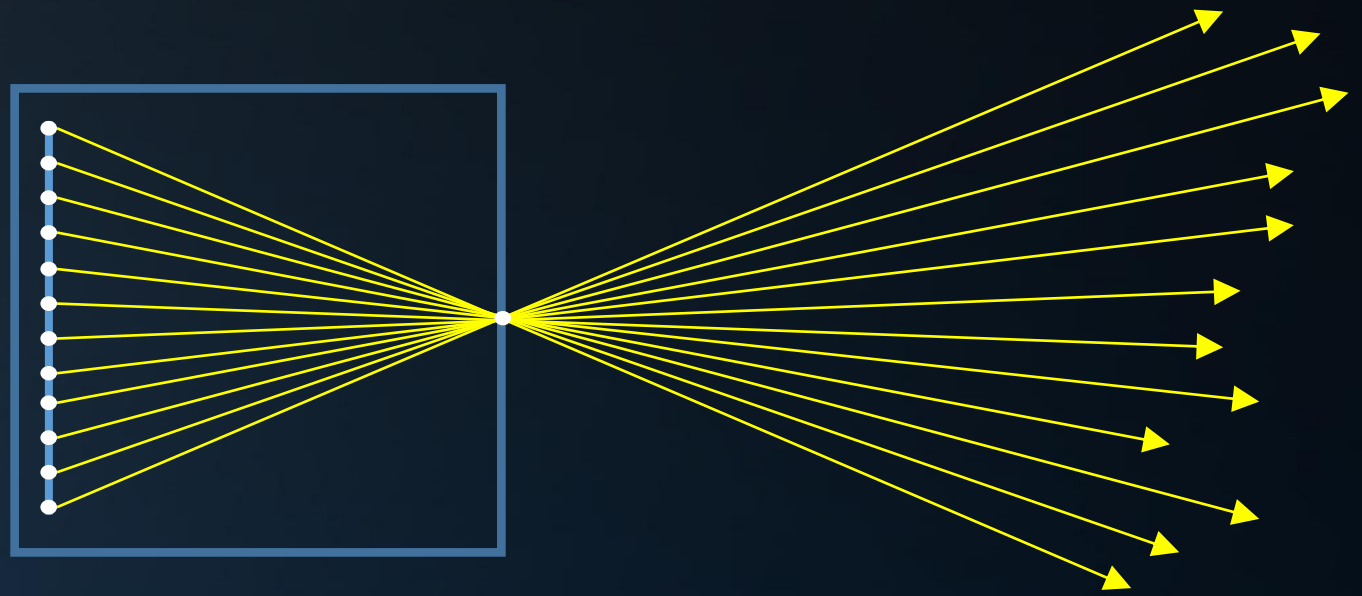
Depth of Field

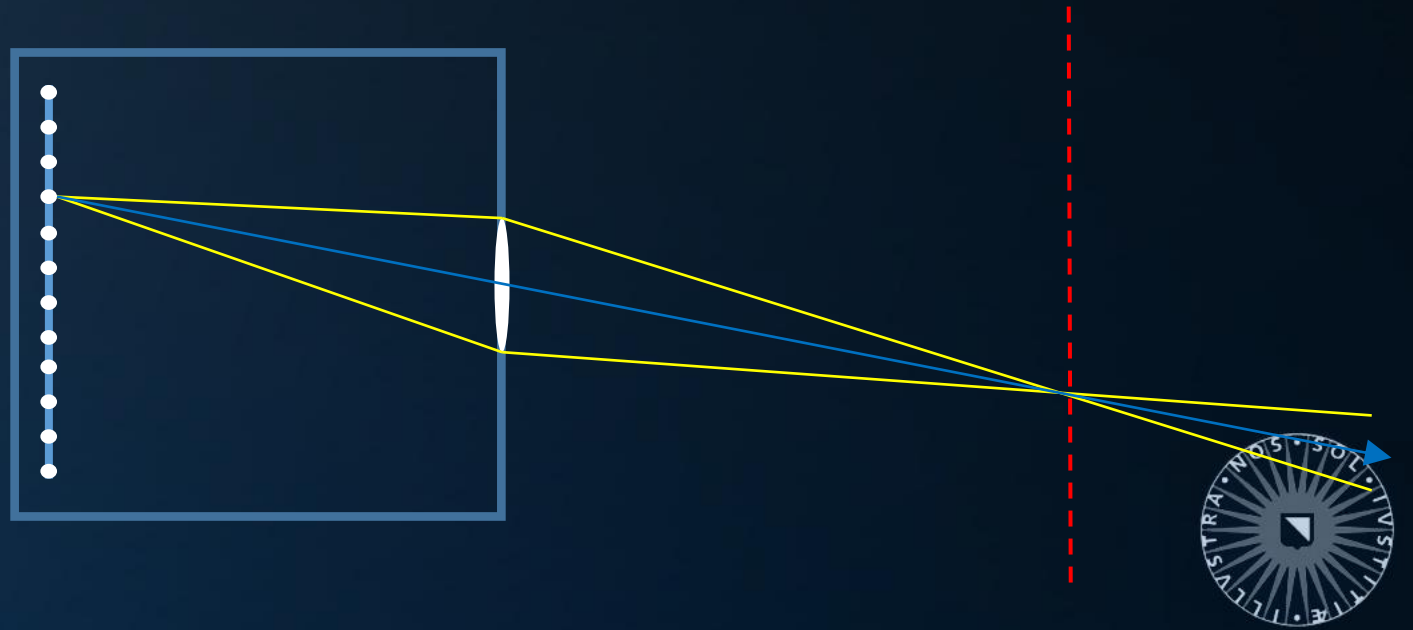
Focus

A pinhole camera ensures that each pixel receives light from a single direction.

For a true pinhole, the amount of light is zero – obviously.

Actual cameras use a lens system to direct a limited set of directions to each pixel.



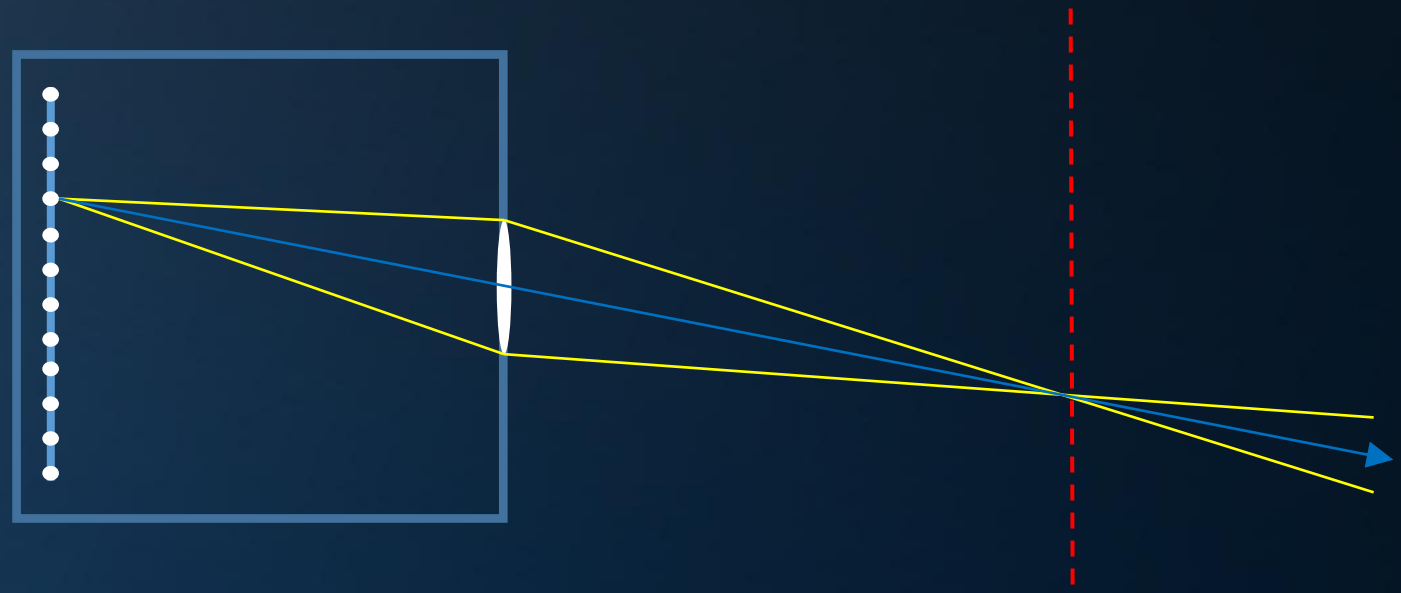


Depth of Field

Focus

Objects on the focal plane appear in focus:

Light reflected from these objects to the lens end up on a single pixel on the film.



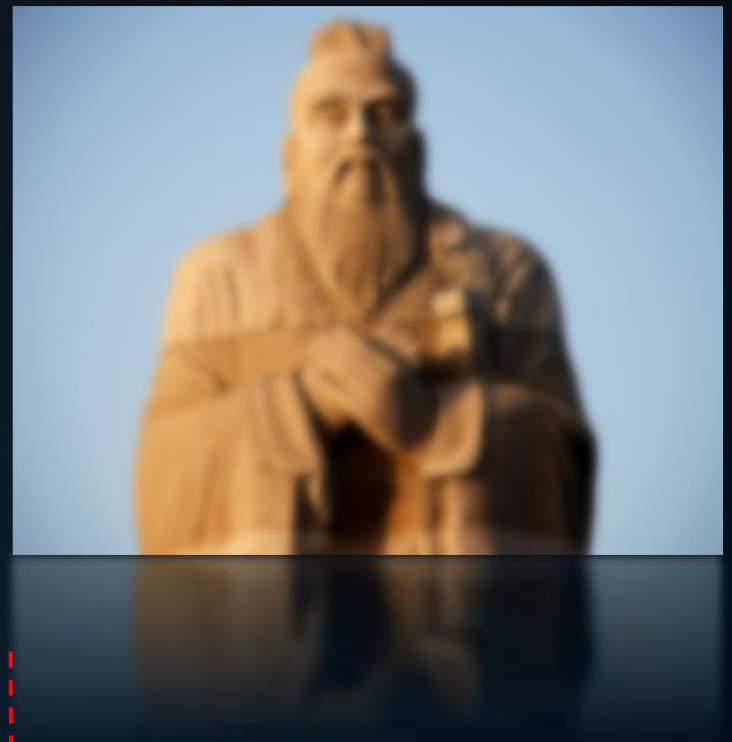
Depth of Field

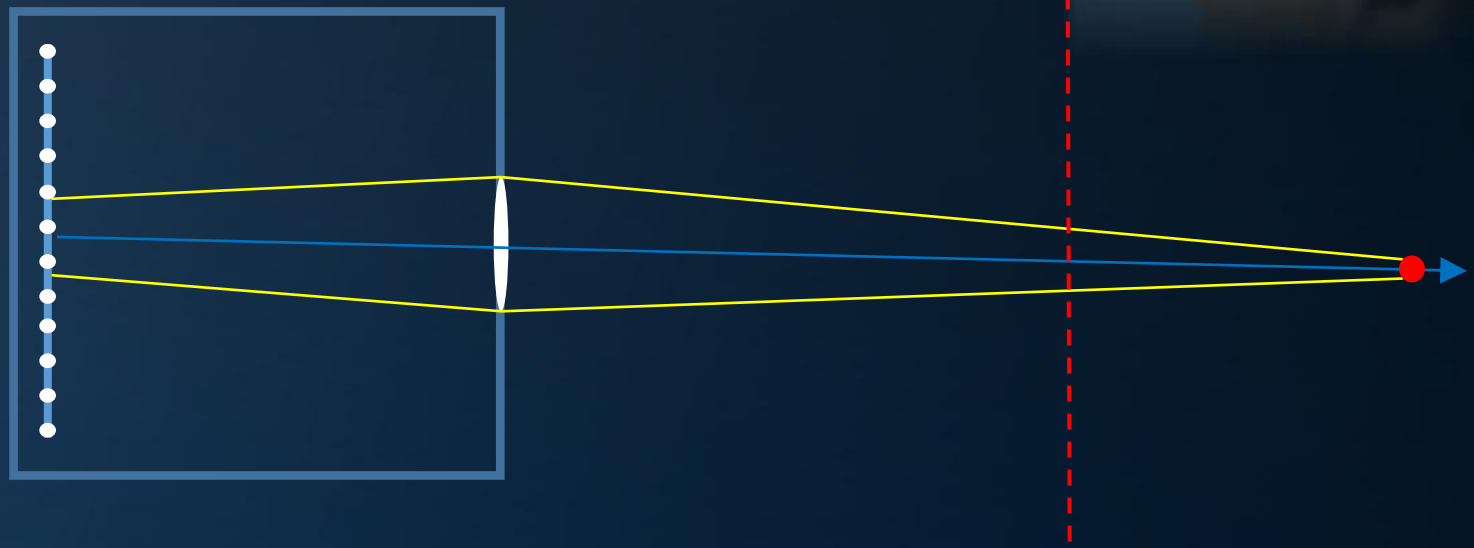
Focus

Objects beyond the focal plane appear out of focus:

Light reflected from these objects is spread out over several pixels on the film: the *Circle of Confusion (CoC)*.

Something similar happens for objects before the focal plane.



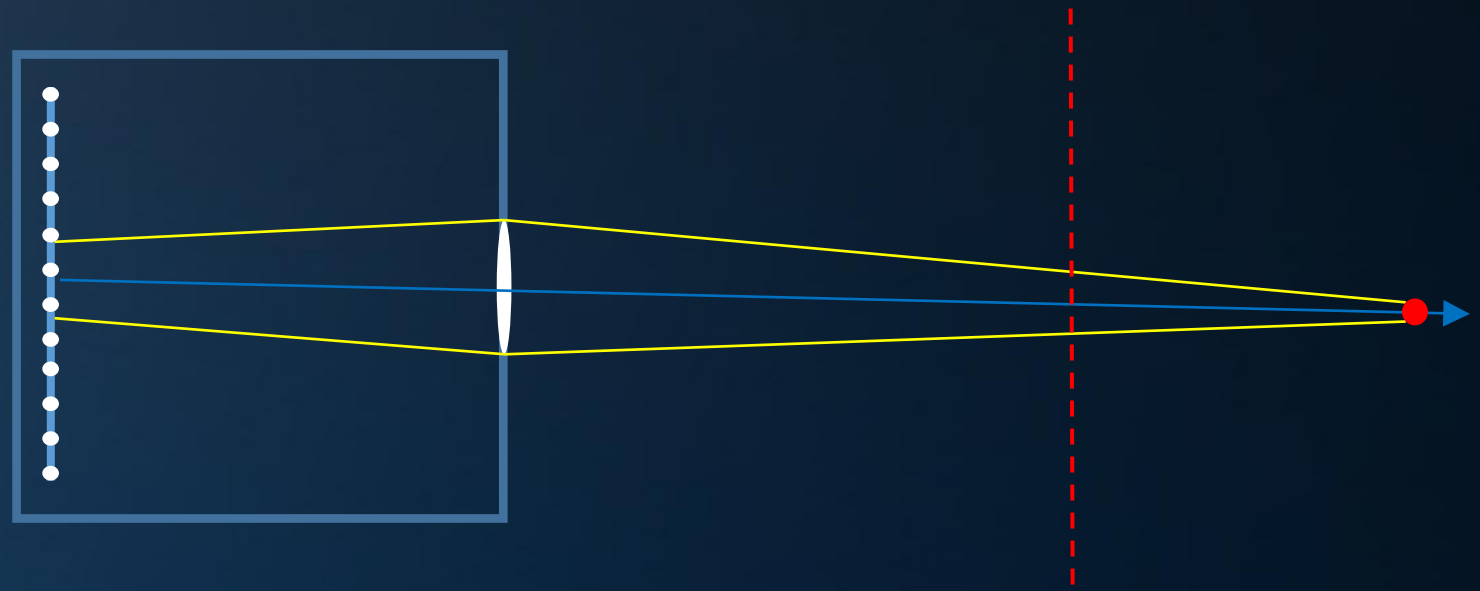


Depth of Field

Circle of Confusion

Ray tracing depth of field:

Calculate the diameter of the CoC for a distance along the primary ray, then spread out the energy over multiple pixels within a circle.



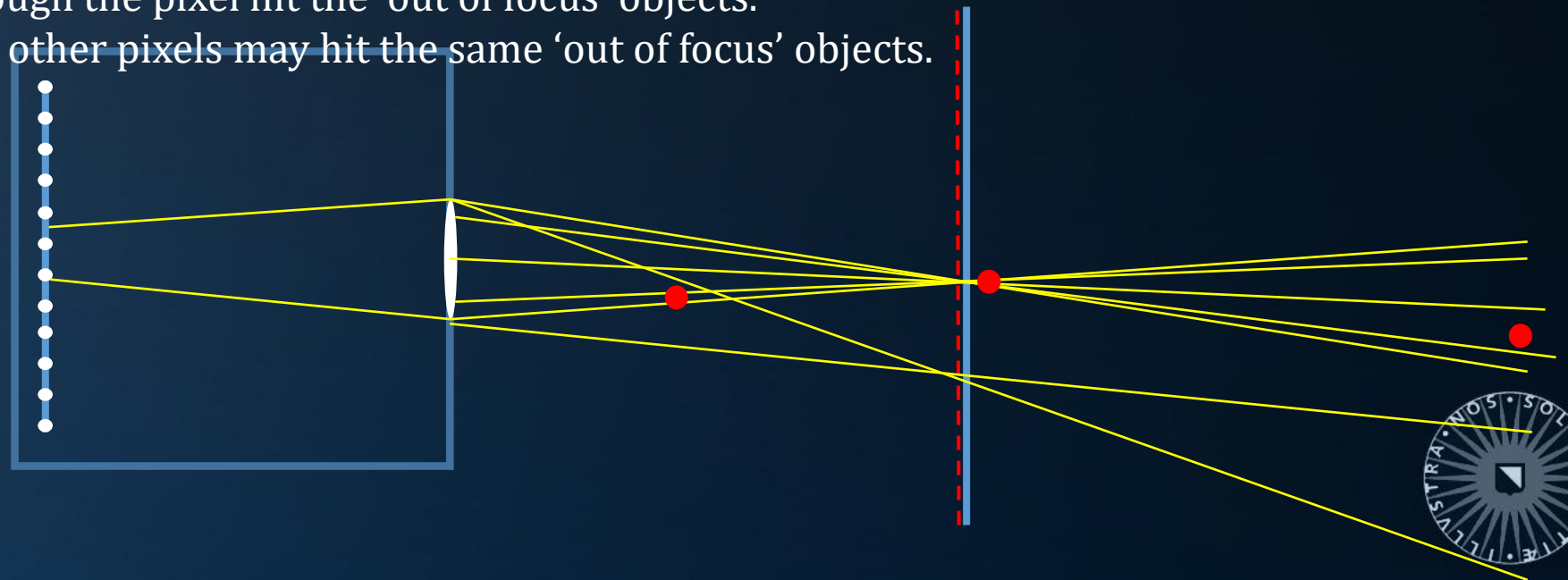
Depth of Field

Circle of Confusion

Efficient depth of field:

We place the virtual screen plane at the focal distance (from the lens).
Rays are generated on the lens, through each pixel.

- All rays through the pixel will hit the object near the focal plane;
- Few rays through the pixel hit the ‘out of focus’ objects.
- Rays through other pixels may hit the same ‘out of focus’ objects.



Depth of Field

Generating Primary Rays

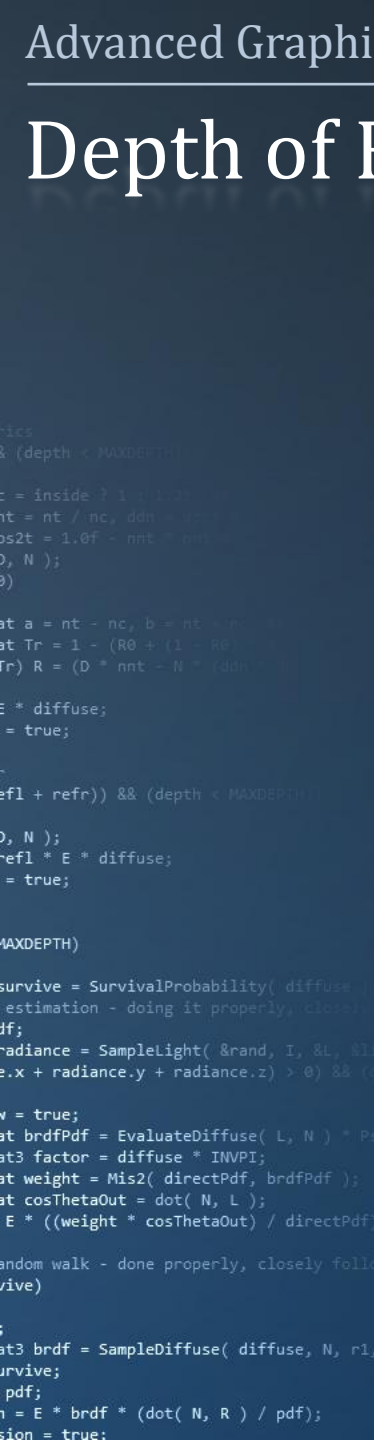
Placing the virtual screen plane at the focal distance:

Recall that a 2×2 square at distance d yielded a FOV that could be adjusted by changing d.

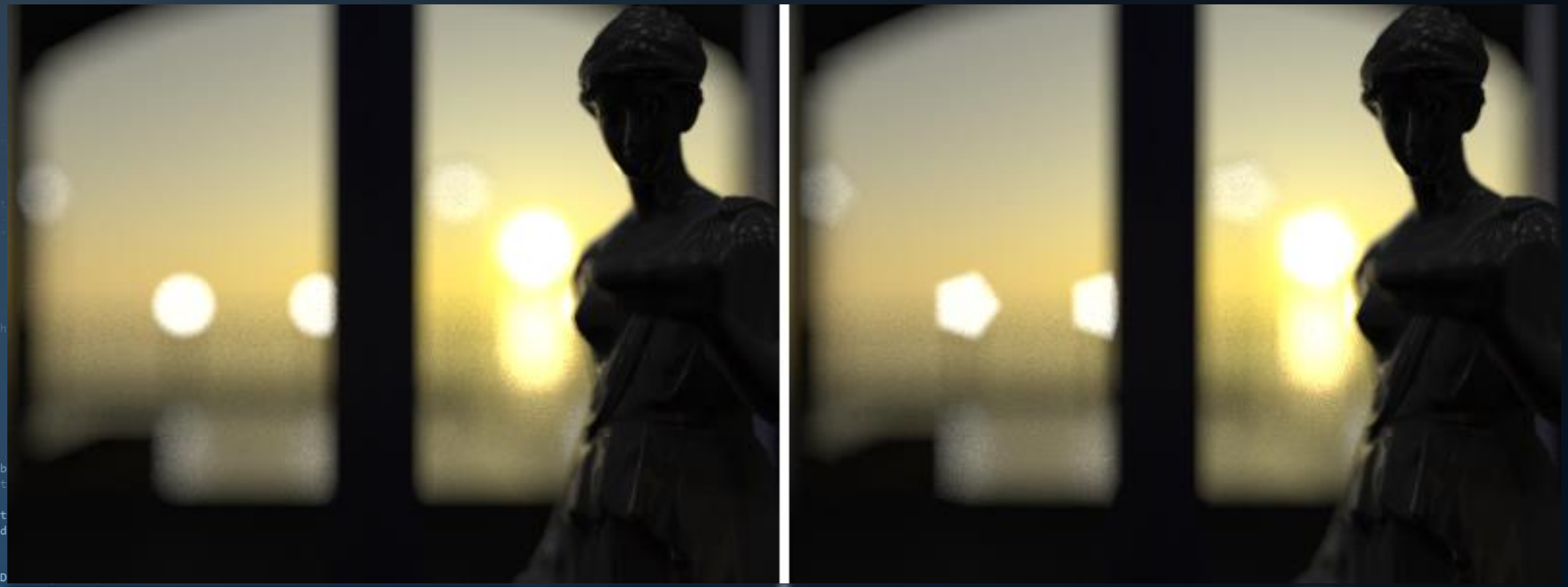
We can adjust d without changing FOV by scaling the square and d by the same factor.

Random point on the lens: generate an (ideally uniform) random point on a disc. This is non-trivial; see Global Illumination Compendium, 19a or b. Alternatively, you can use rejection sampling.

Also nice: replace the disc with a regular n-gon.



Depth of Field



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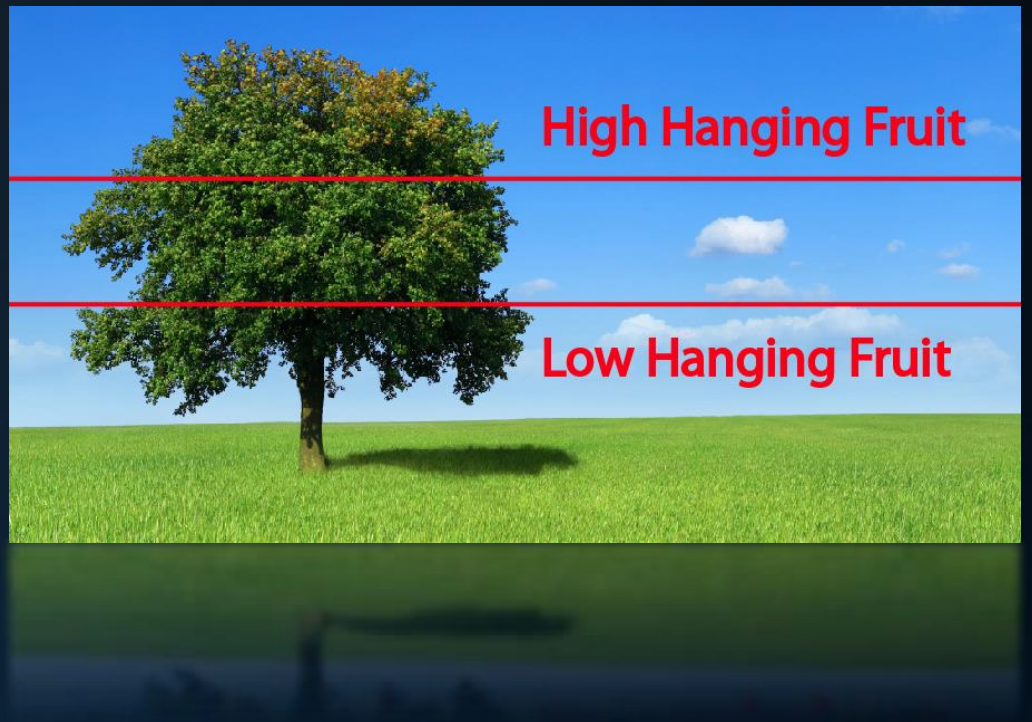
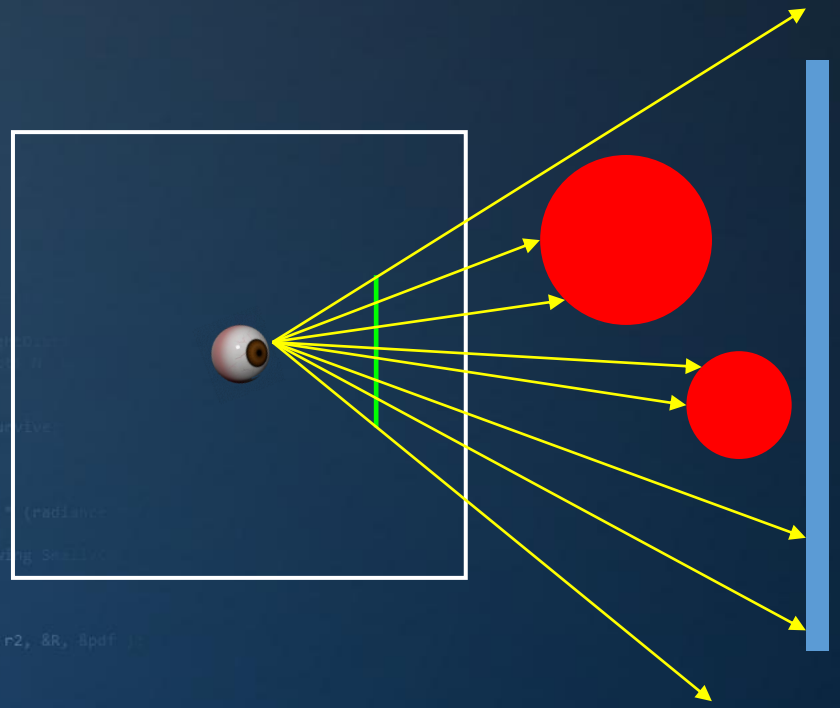
- Skybox
- Spots, IES Profiles
- Microfacets

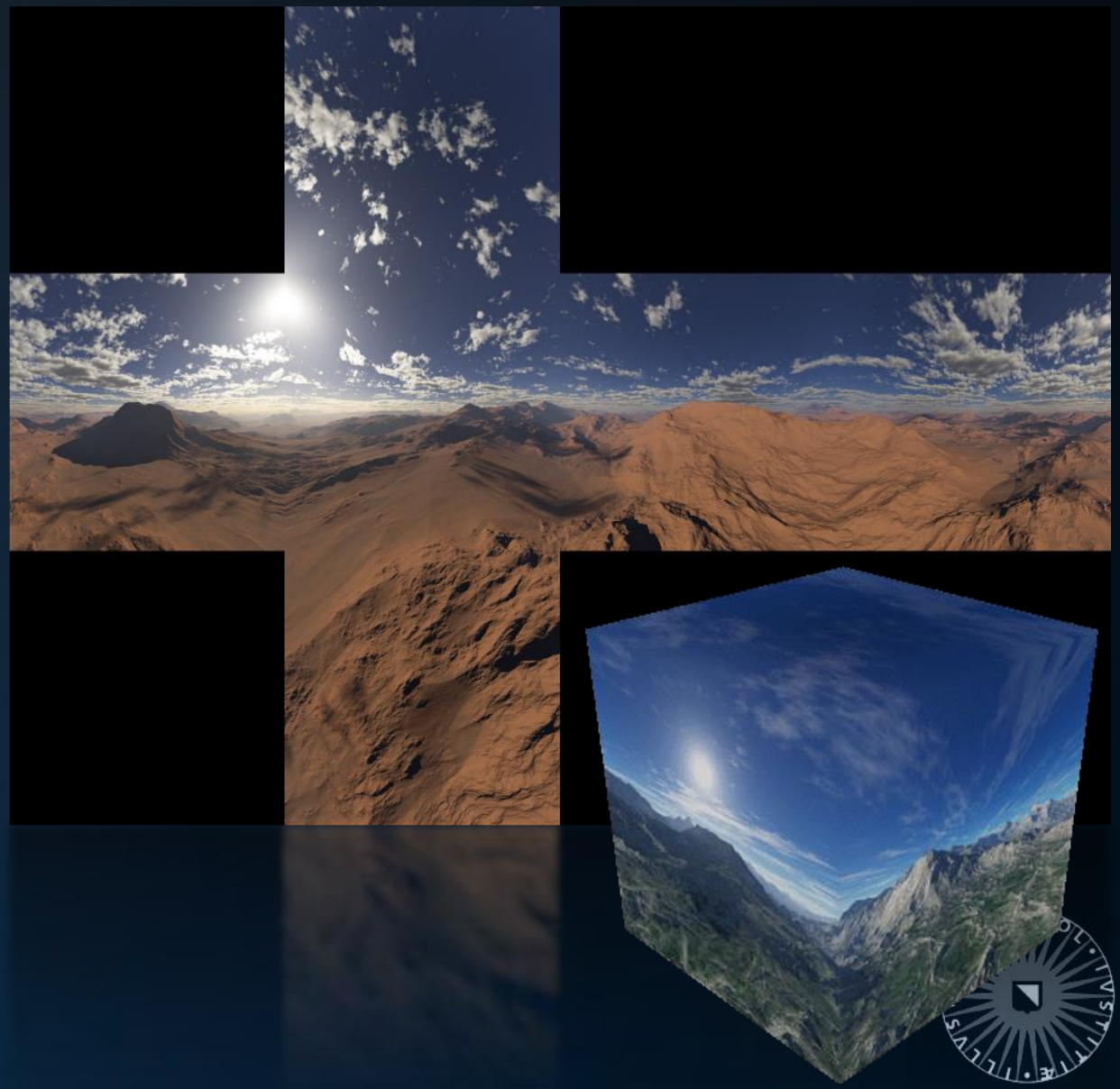


Skybox

Environment Imposter

Many games use a skybox to simulate distant geometry without actually storing this geometry.





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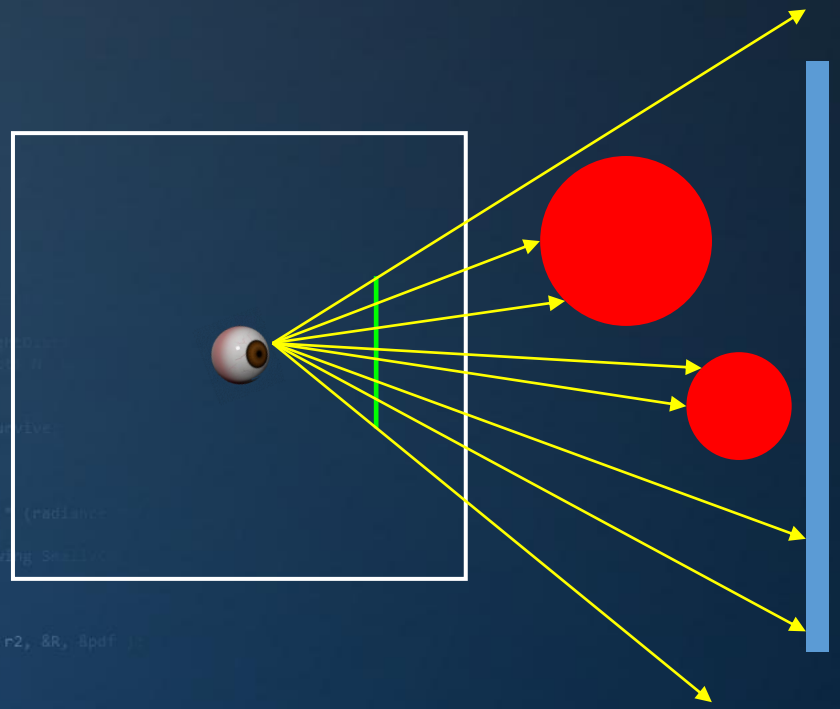
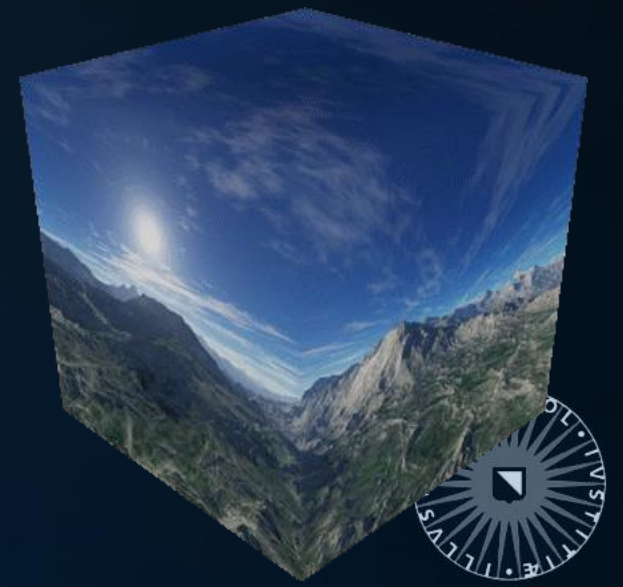


The skybox is a 1 × 1 × 1 box centered around the camera: assuming the sky is at an ‘infinite’ distance, the location of the camera inside this box is irrelevant.

Which face of the cubemap we need to use, and where it is hit by a ray is determined on ray direction alone.



Skybox

High Dynamic Range

Instead of using a skybox, we can also use an equirectangular mapping, which maps azimuth to u and elevation to v:

$$\theta = \pi(u-1), \varphi = \pi\, v;\ \ u = [0,2],\ \ v = [0,1].$$

Converting polar coordinates to a unit vector:

$$\vec{D} = \begin{pmatrix} sin(\varphi)sin(\theta) \\ cos(\varphi) \\ -sin(\varphi)cos(\theta) \end{pmatrix}$$

Reverse:

$$u, v = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + atan2(D_x, -D_z) / \pi \\ acos(D_y) / \pi \end{pmatrix}$$

Skybox

High Dynamic Range

You can find HDR panoramas on Paul Debevec's page:

http://gl.ict.usc.edu/Data/HighResProbes

Note:

A HDR skydome can be used as a light source.

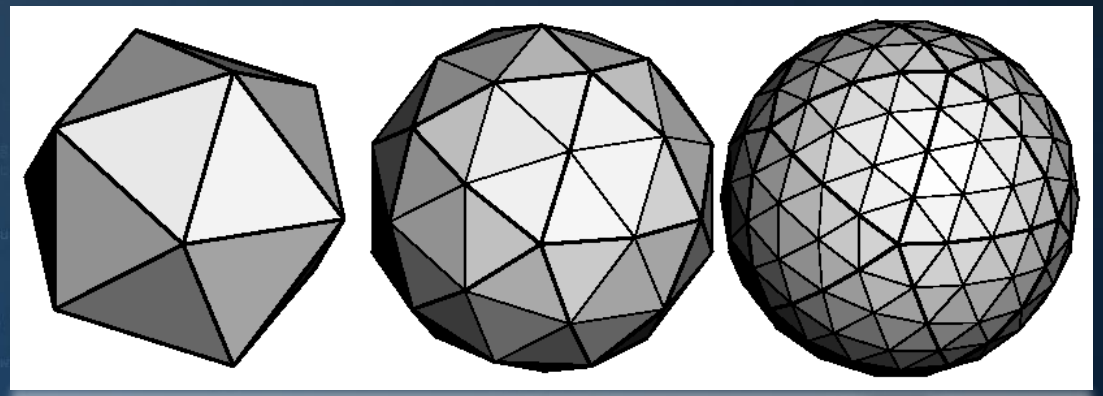
Skybox

Next Event Estimation for Skydomes

Useful trick:

Use the original skydome only for rays that stumble upon it (implicit light connections).

For next event estimation *(explicit light connections)*, use a tessellated (hemi)sphere; assign to each triangle the average skydome color for the directions it covers.



More info on how to do that efficiently: ReSTIR lecture.

BONUS:

You can now also efficiently importance-sample areas of the skydome.

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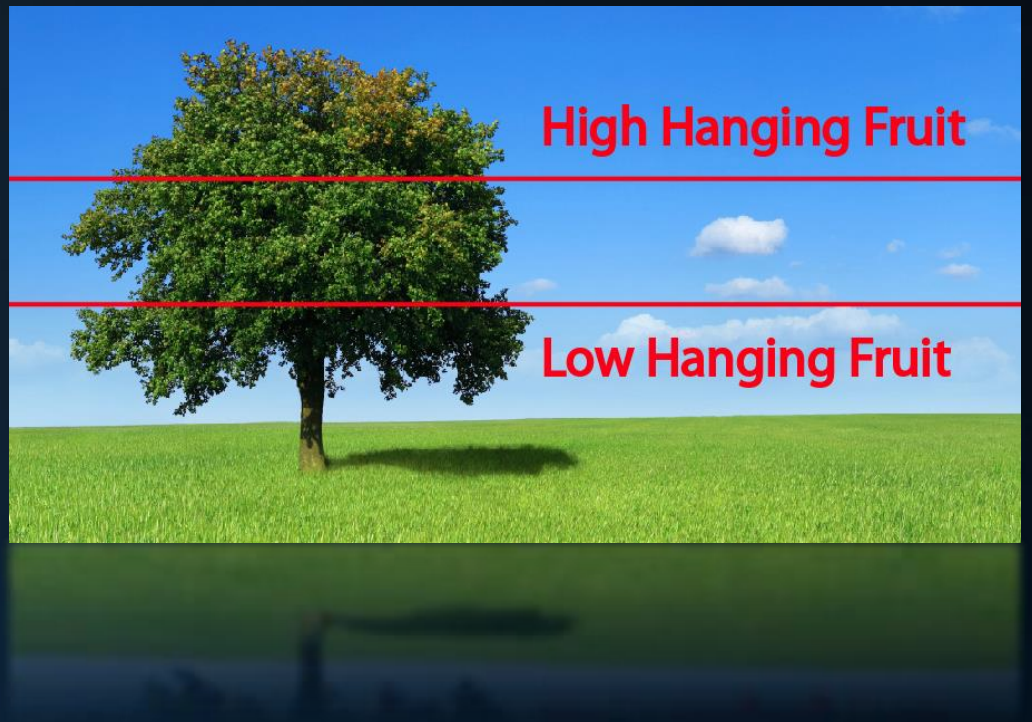
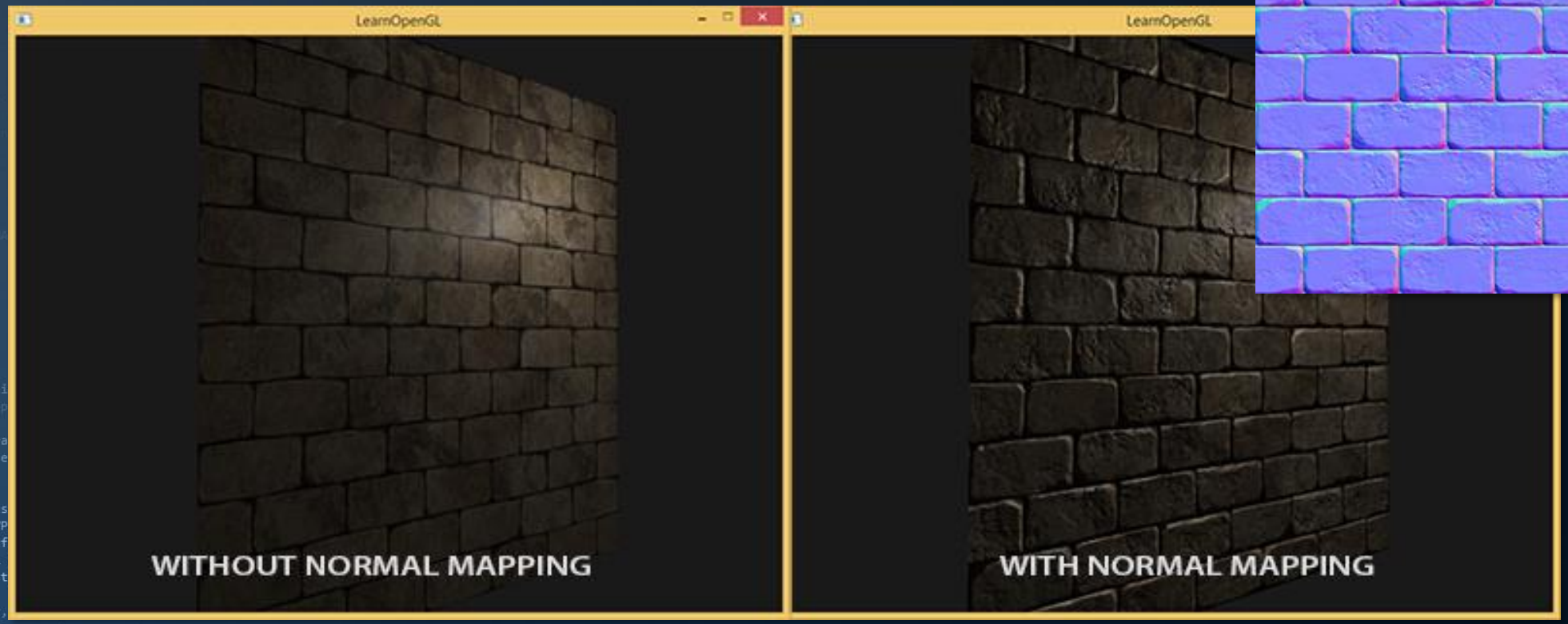
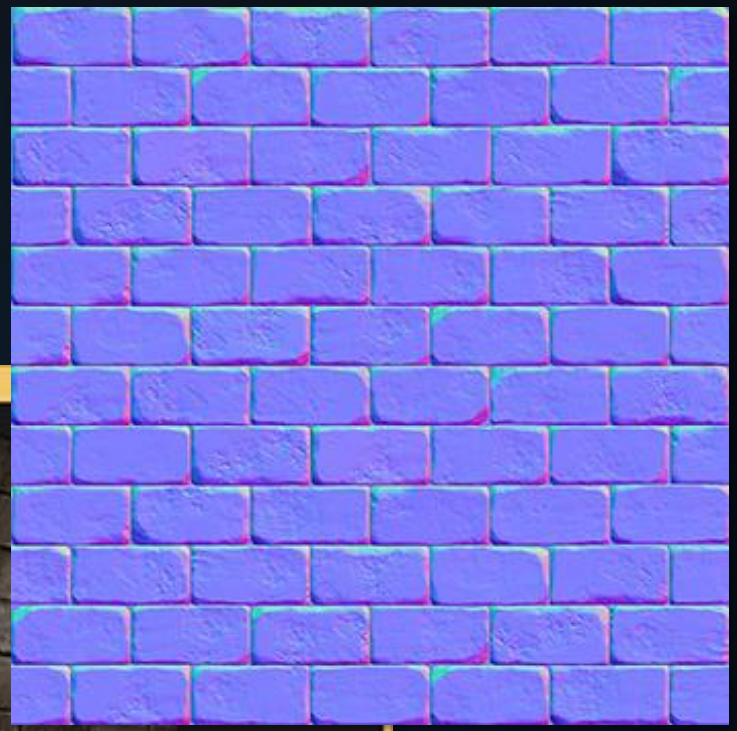


Normals

Normal Mapping

A normal map can be used to modify normals.





Normals

Normal Mapping

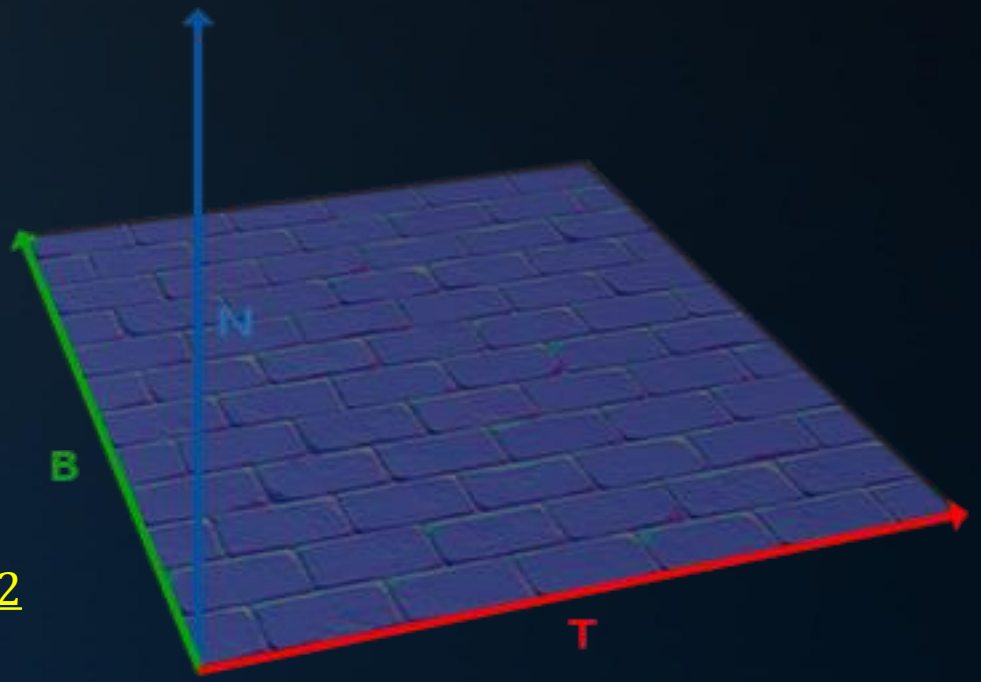
A normal map can be used to modify normals.

This is typically done in tangent space.

Problem: *the orientation of tangent space matters.*

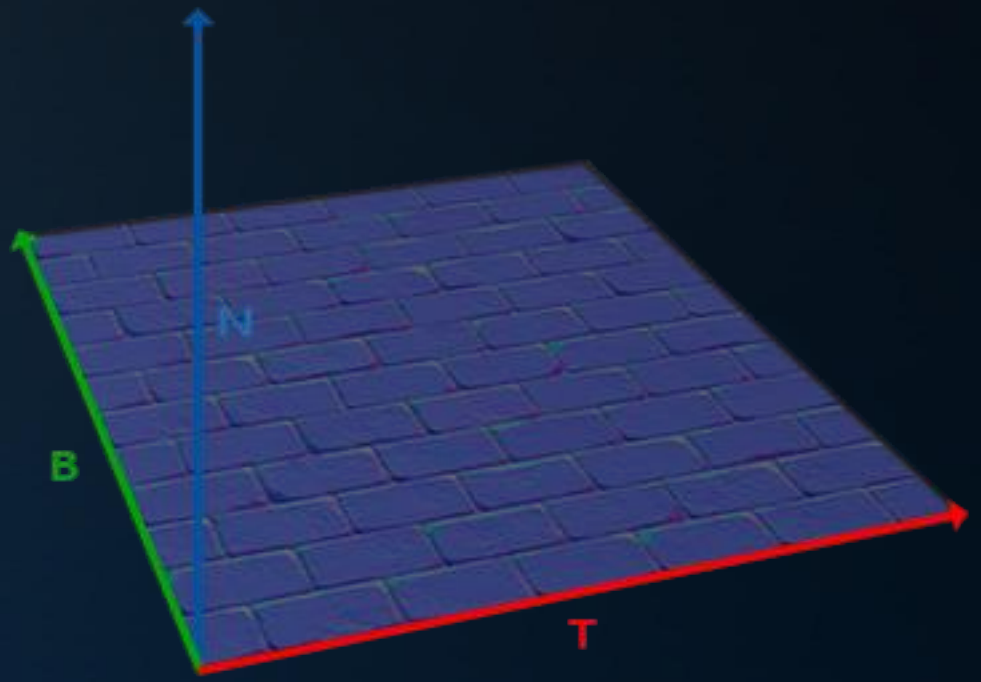
We need to align *T* and *B* with the texture, in other words: it needs to be based on the U and V vectors over the surface. This is non-trivial. For a derivation of the calculation of T and B, see:

https://gamedev.stackexchange.com/questions/68612/how-to-compute-tangent-and-bitangent-vectors



Normals

What if the normal sends you into the surface



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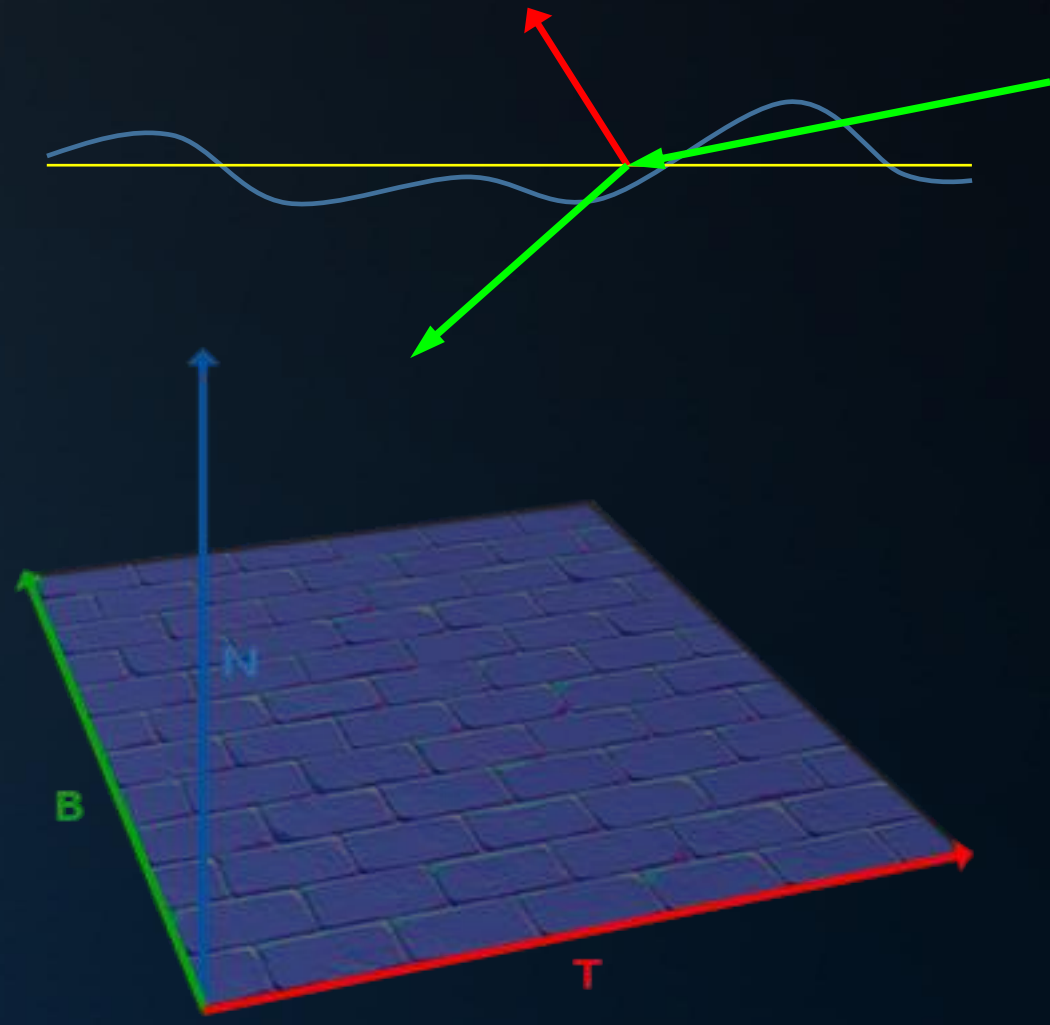

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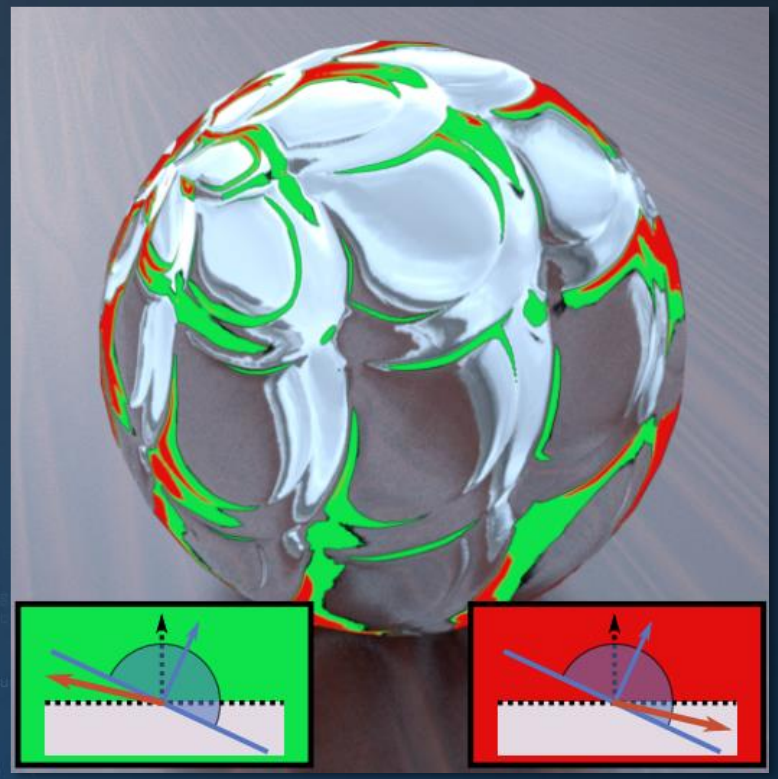

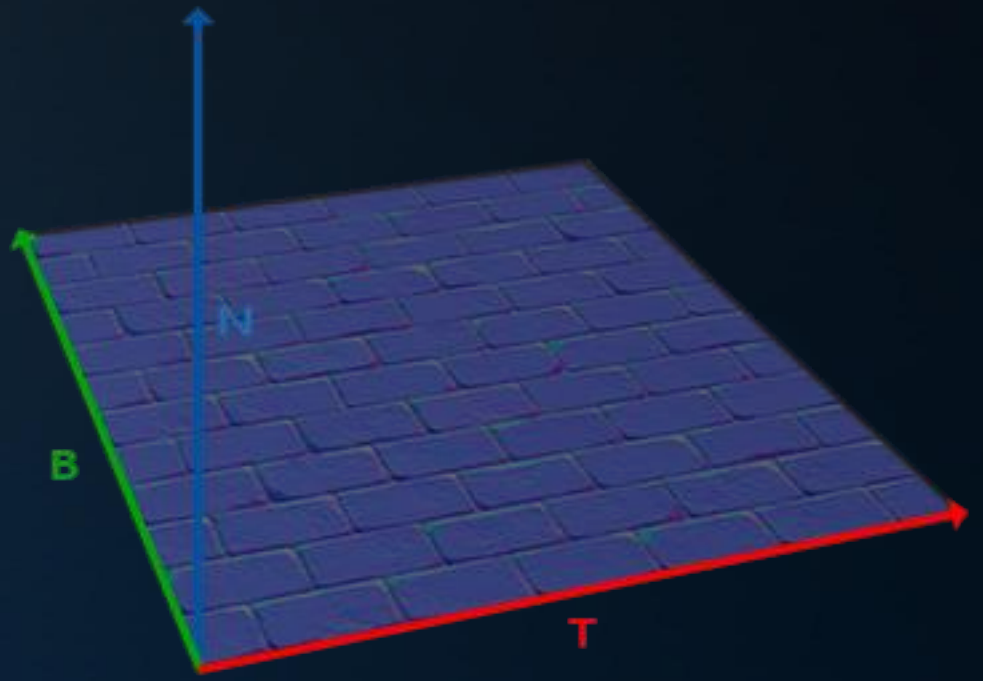

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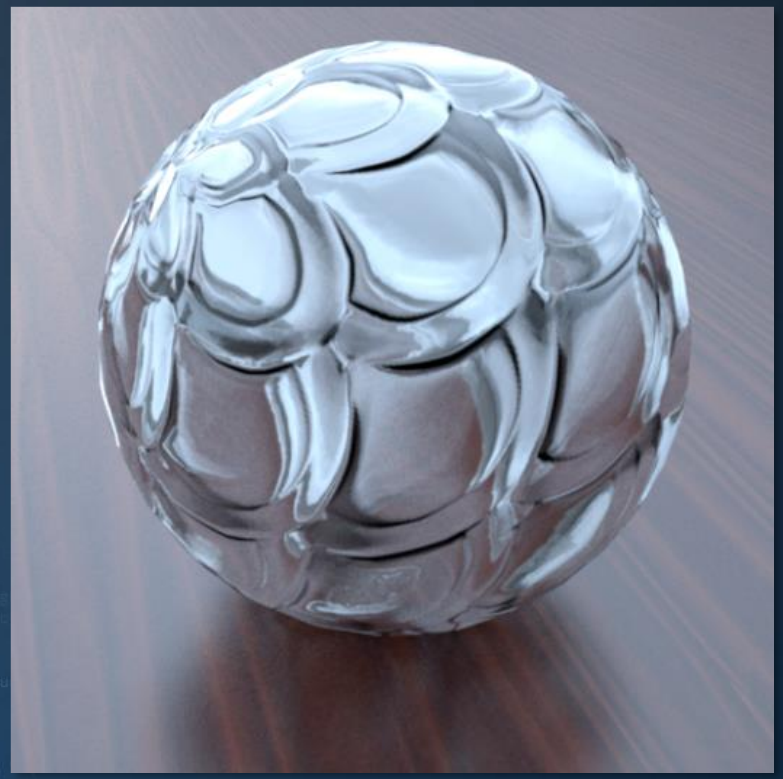
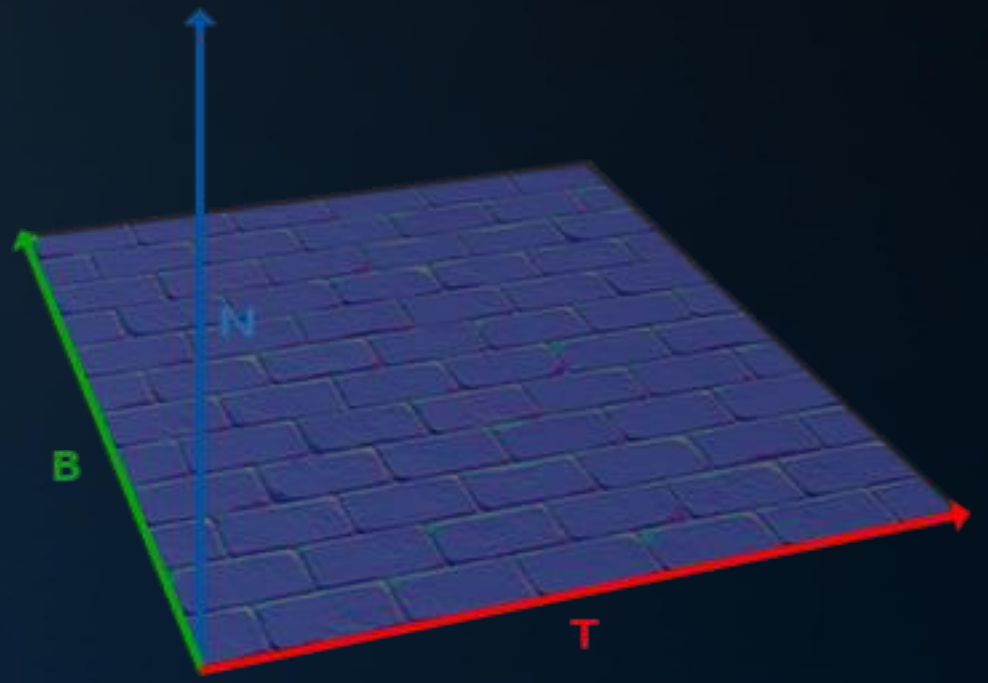
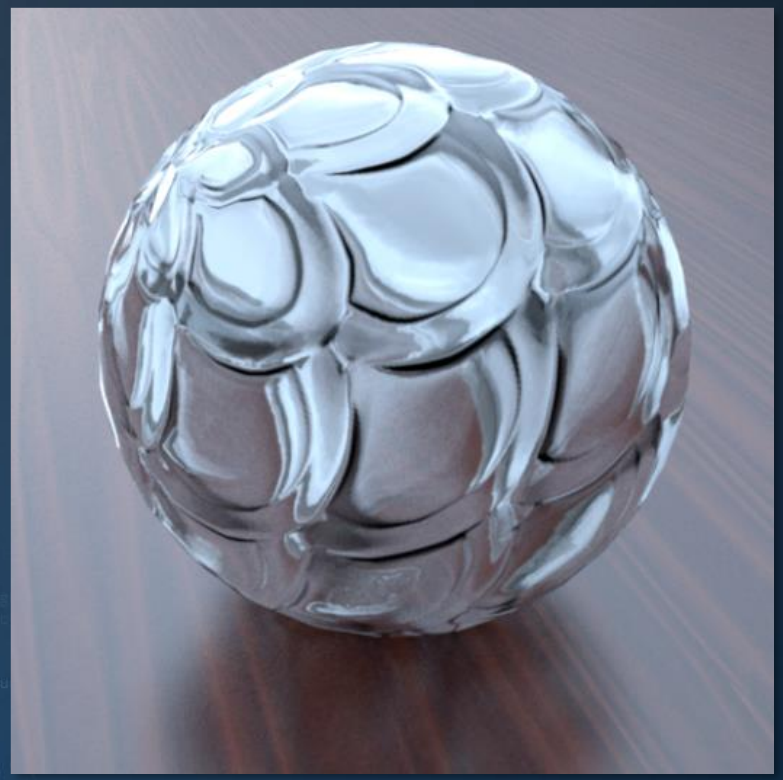




Microfacet-based Normal Mapping for Robust Monte Carlo Path Tracing. Schüssler et al., 2017.

Normals

What if the normal sends you into the surface



Microfacet-based Normal Mapping for Robust Monte Carlo Path Tracing. Schüssler et al., 2017.

3.4 Standard Practices for Preventing Artifacts

We compare our model to two techniques that are commonly used in practice to hide the black fringe artifacts of classic normal mapping. Both methods define the BRDF for incident directions below the positive shading hemisphere:

- The *flipping technique* (Figure 4 left) flips the direction of the shading normal. In this way, incident directions always lie in the positive hemisphere of the shading normal and no incident directions are undefined.
- The *switching technique* (Figure 4 right) switches to an alternative, arbitrarily chosen BRDF. We use a diffuse BRDF with albedo $\rho = 0.5$.

To complement the described techniques, we implement a technique suggested by Keller et al. [2017] that mitigates the effect of sampled directions lying below the geometric hemisphere. It works by changing the shading normal such that the reflection vector of the incident direction is always in the positive geometric hemisphere. While this does not prevent invalid directions from being sampled, it ensures that specular reflections do not go below the surface.

All of these techniques modify the BRDF in a way that further amplifies issues with energy conservation and symmetry of classic normal mapping. Further, sampling the adjoints of these techniques is problematic, because the hemisphere (flipping, [Keller et al. 2017]) or the BRDF (switching) may change depending on ω_i. When tracing from the light, we need to sample a ω_i for a given ω_o. Since the hemisphere and BRDF are not fixed before sampling ω_i, choosing a good sampling strategy for ω_i is difficult.

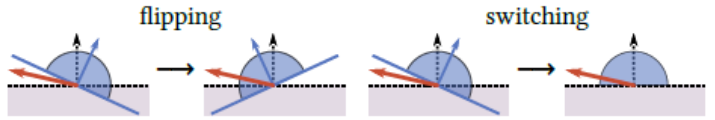


Fig. 4. Standard techniques to prevent undefined directions. *The flipping technique (left) changes the orientation of the shading normal if it is backfacing from the incident direction. The switching technique*

micro-normal ω_t := ω_t
Figure 5 shows the resu
to the V-cavity model b
asymmetric cavities.

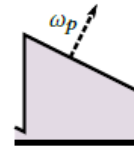


Fig. 5. Microsurface pr
pensates for the perturbe
the microsurface (ω_p and
facets) remains the geom

We have chosen this c
with minimal area that is
similar to the desired no
normal ω_p has the domi

- It satisfies the ge
of the microsurf
- The distribution
that the final ap
microsurface an
would act as a l
specular appear
face remains dis
frequencies are
to the input BRI
- This configurat
desired shading
area (in this cas
- Lastly, in this co
to half of the in
i.e. it does not in

4.2 Distribution of N

The distribution of norm
tion of the microfacets'

classic
190s

switch (3.4)
194s

flip (3.4)
192s

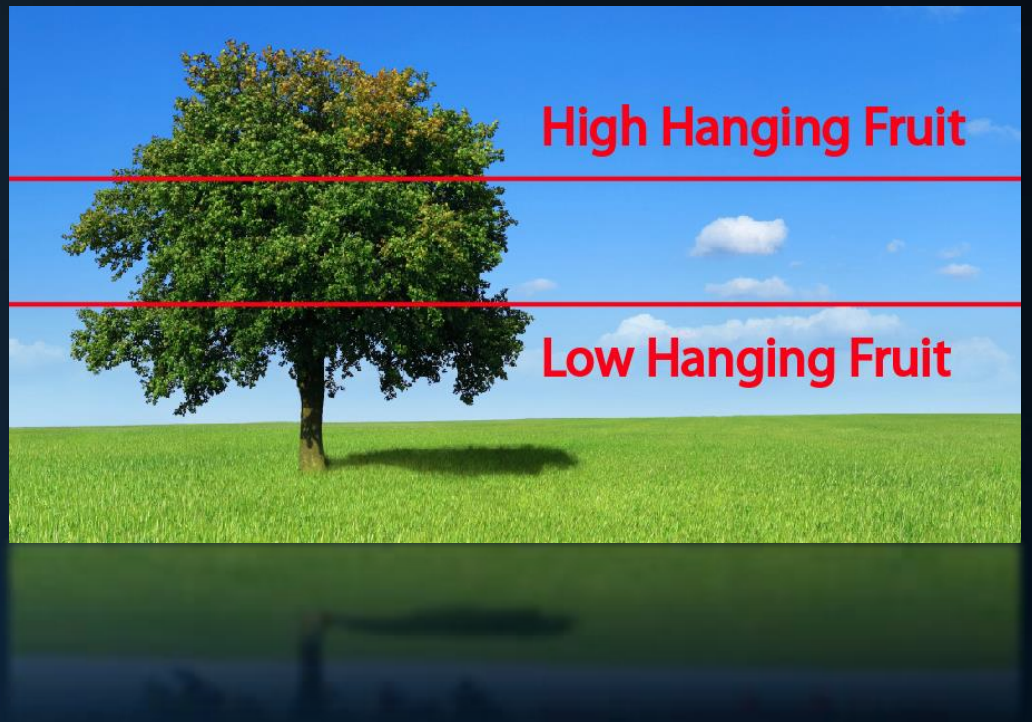
2nd-order scattering
203s using Algo. 2
202s using Eq. (23)

∞th-order scattering
211s

```
urvive;
 pdf;
 = E * brdf * (dot( N, R ) / pdf);
sion = true;
```

Today's Agenda:

- Gamma Correction
- Depth of Field
- Skybox & IS
- Normal Maps
- Microfacets



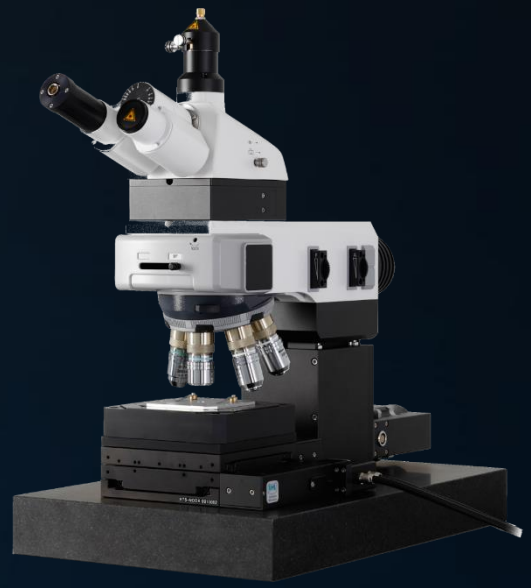
Microfacet

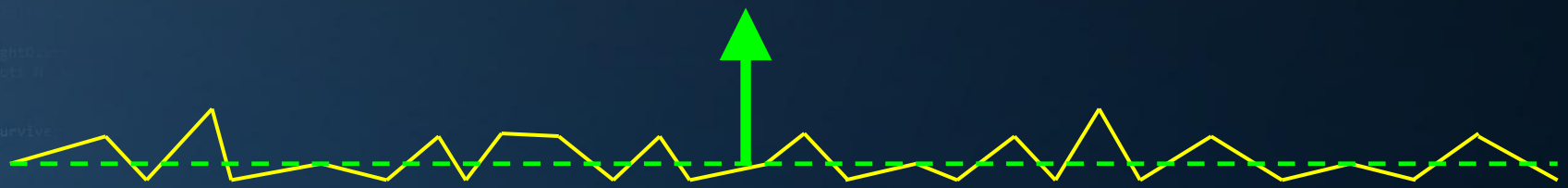
BRDFs Without Issues

We have two BRDFs without problems:

1. The Lambertian BRDF
2. The pure specular BRDF

These are physically plausible and can be sampled. The PDF is also clear.



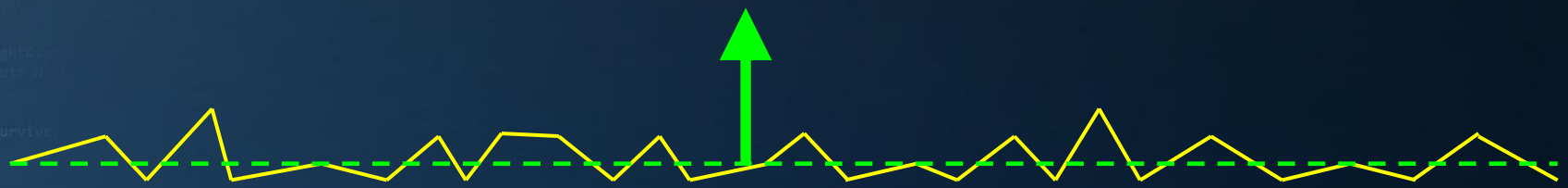


Microfacet

Microfacet BRDFs*

We can simulate a broad range of materials if we assume:
at a microscopic level, the material consists of tiny specular fragments.

- If the fragment orientations are chaotic, the material appears diffuse.
- If the fragment orientations are all the same, the material appears specular.
- Different but similar orientations yield glossy materials.



*: Torrance & Sparrow, Theory for Off-Specular Reflection from Roughened Surfaces. 1967.

Microfacet

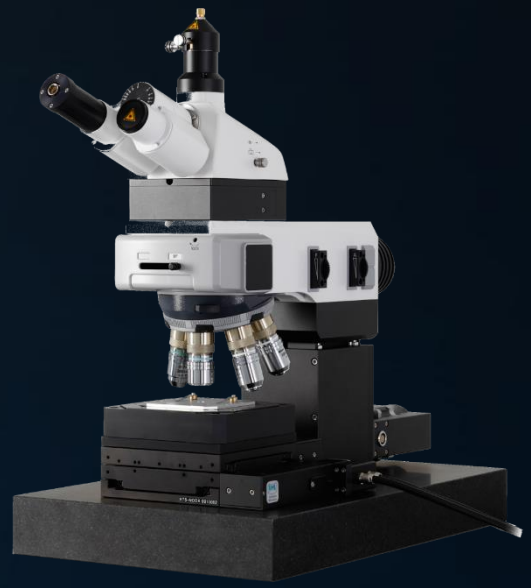
Microfacet BRDFs*

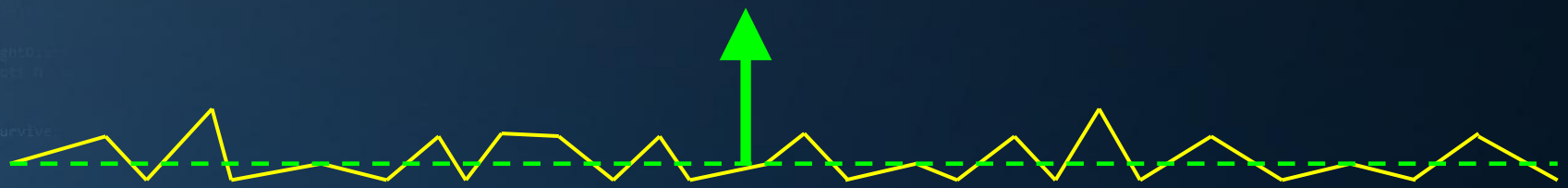
The Microfacet BRDF:

$$f_r(\vec{L},\vec{V}) = \frac{F(\vec{L},\vec{V})G(\vec{L},\vec{V},\vec{H})D(\vec{H})}{4(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{L})(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{V})}$$

Ingredients:

1. Normal distribution D
2. Geometry term G
3. Fresnel term F
4. Normalization





Microfacet

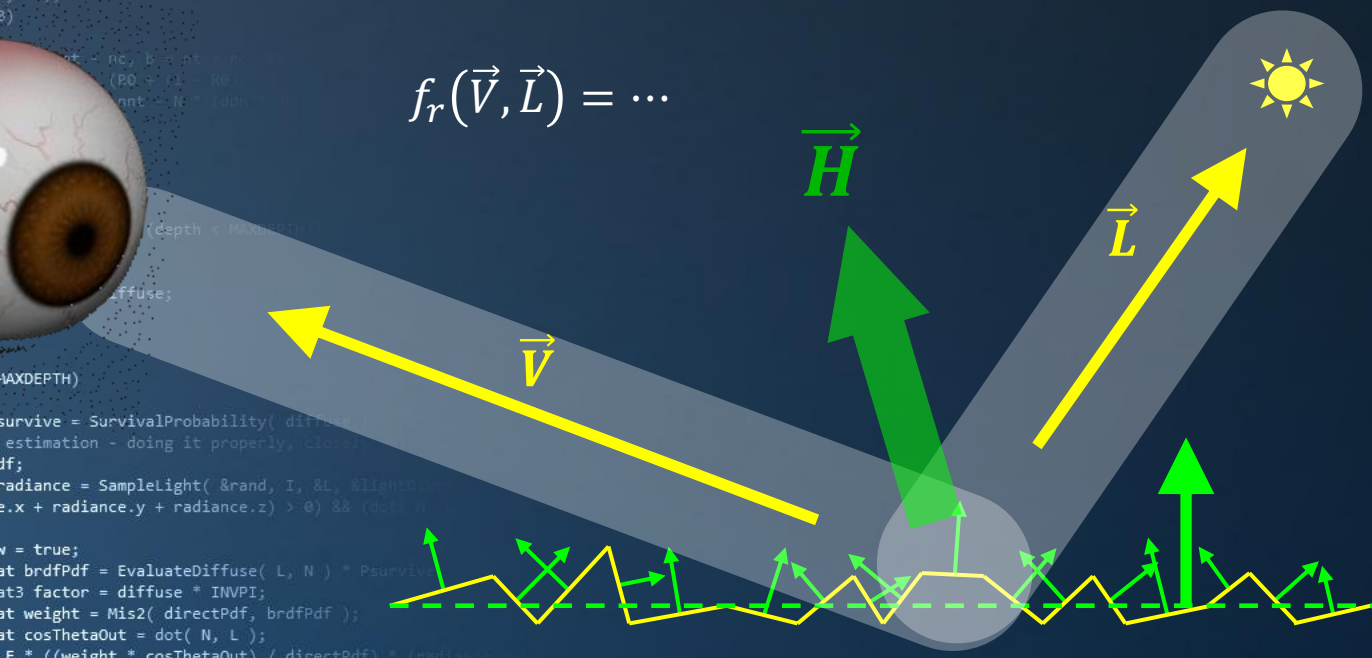
$$f_r(x, \theta_i, \theta_o) = \frac{L_o(x, \theta_o)}{L_i(x, \theta_i) \cos \theta_i}$$

Normal Distribution

Microfacet BRDF, ingredient 1: $D(\vec{H})$ ➔ the *normal distribution function.*

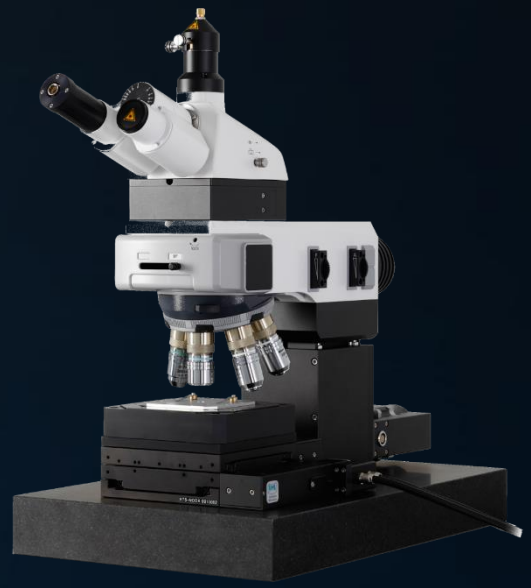
Parameter $\vec{H}$: the halfway vector:

$f_r(\vec{V}, \vec{L}) = \cdots$



A microfacet that reflects $\vec{L}$ towards $\vec{V}$ must have a normal halfway $\vec{V}$ and $\vec{L}$:

```
H = normalize(V + L).
```



Microfacet

Normal Distribution

Intuitive choices for D:

$D(\vec{H}) = C$: microfacet normals are equally distributed ➔ diffuse material.

$D(\vec{H}) = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \infty, for \vec{H} = (0,0,1) \\ 0, otherwise \end{matrix} \right\}$: all microfacet normals are (0,0,1) ➔ pure specular.

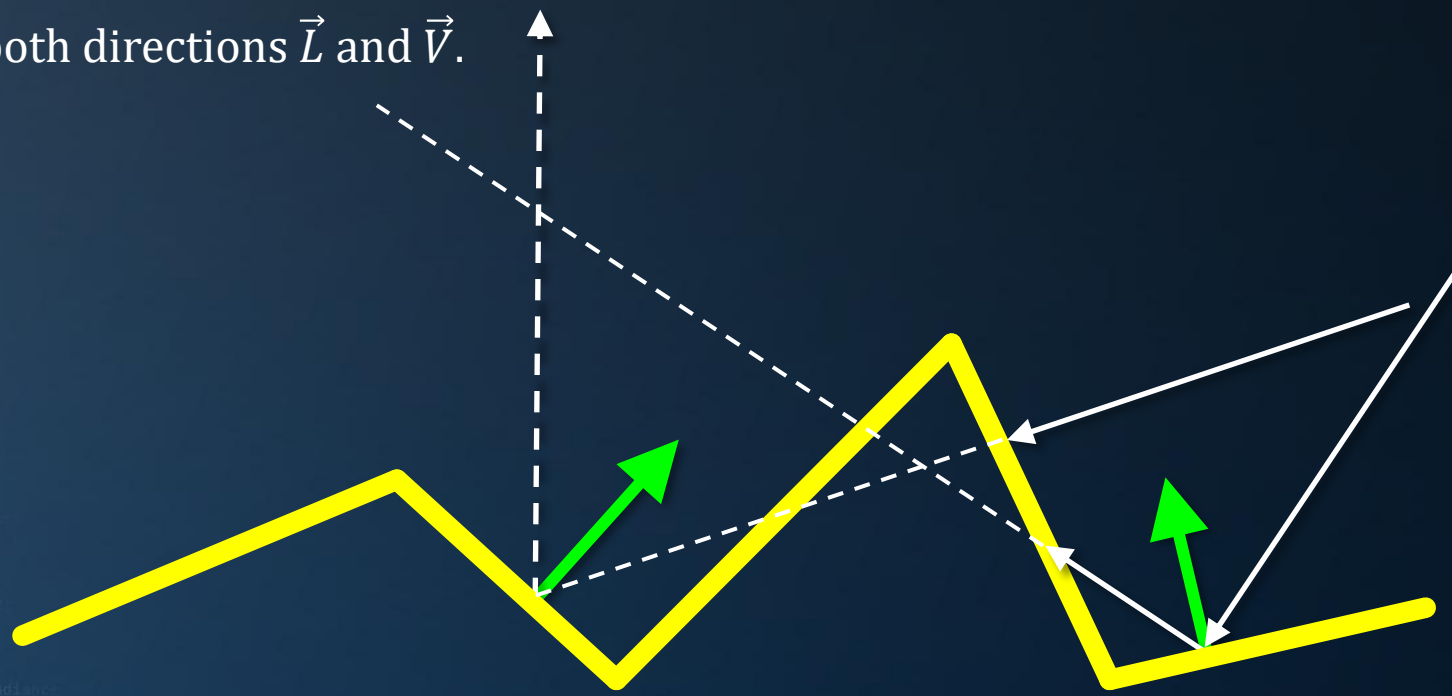
Good practical choice for D: the Blinn-Phong distribution;

$$D(\vec{H}) = \frac{\alpha + 2}{2\pi} \underline{(\vec{N} \cdot \vec{H})^{\alpha}}$$

Microfacet

Geometry Term

Microfacet BRDF, ingredient 2: $G(\vec{V}, \vec{L}, \vec{H})$ ➔ the *geometry term.*
It describes what fraction of a microsurface with normal $\vec{H}$ is visible in both directions $\vec{L}$ and $\vec{V}$.



Geometry Term

Microfacet BRDF, ingredient 2: $G(\vec{V}, \vec{L}, \vec{H})$ ➔ the *geometry term.*
It describes what fraction of a microsurface with normal $\vec{H}$ is visible in both directions $\vec{L}$ and $\vec{V}$.

Microfacet

Geometry Term

Intuitive choice for G:

$G(\vec{V}, \vec{L}, \vec{H}) = 1$: no occlusion.

Good practical choice for G*:

$$G(\vec{V}, \vec{L}, \vec{H}) = \min\left(1, \min\left(\frac{2(\vec{N} \cdot \vec{H})(\vec{N} \cdot \vec{V})}{\vec{V} \cdot \vec{H}}, \frac{2(\vec{N} \cdot \vec{H})(\vec{N} \cdot \vec{L})}{\vec{V} \cdot \vec{H}}\right)\right)$$

*: Physically Based Rendering, page 455

Microfacet

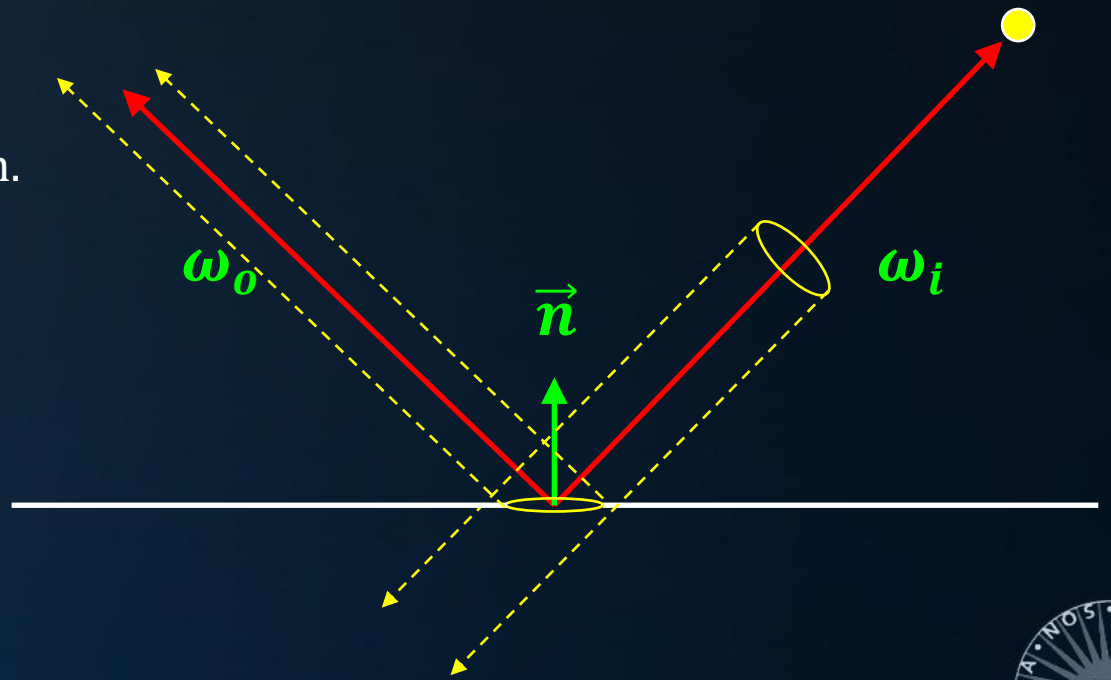
Fresnel Term

Microfacet BRDF, ingredient 3: $F(\vec{L}, \vec{H})$ ➔ the *Fresnel term.*

So far, we assumed that the light reflected by a specular surface is only modulated by the material color.

This is not true for dielectrics: here we use the Fresnel equations to determine reflection.

In nature, Fresnel does not just apply to dielectrics.



Microfacet

Fresnel Term

Iron is specular, but reflectivity differs depending on incident angle.

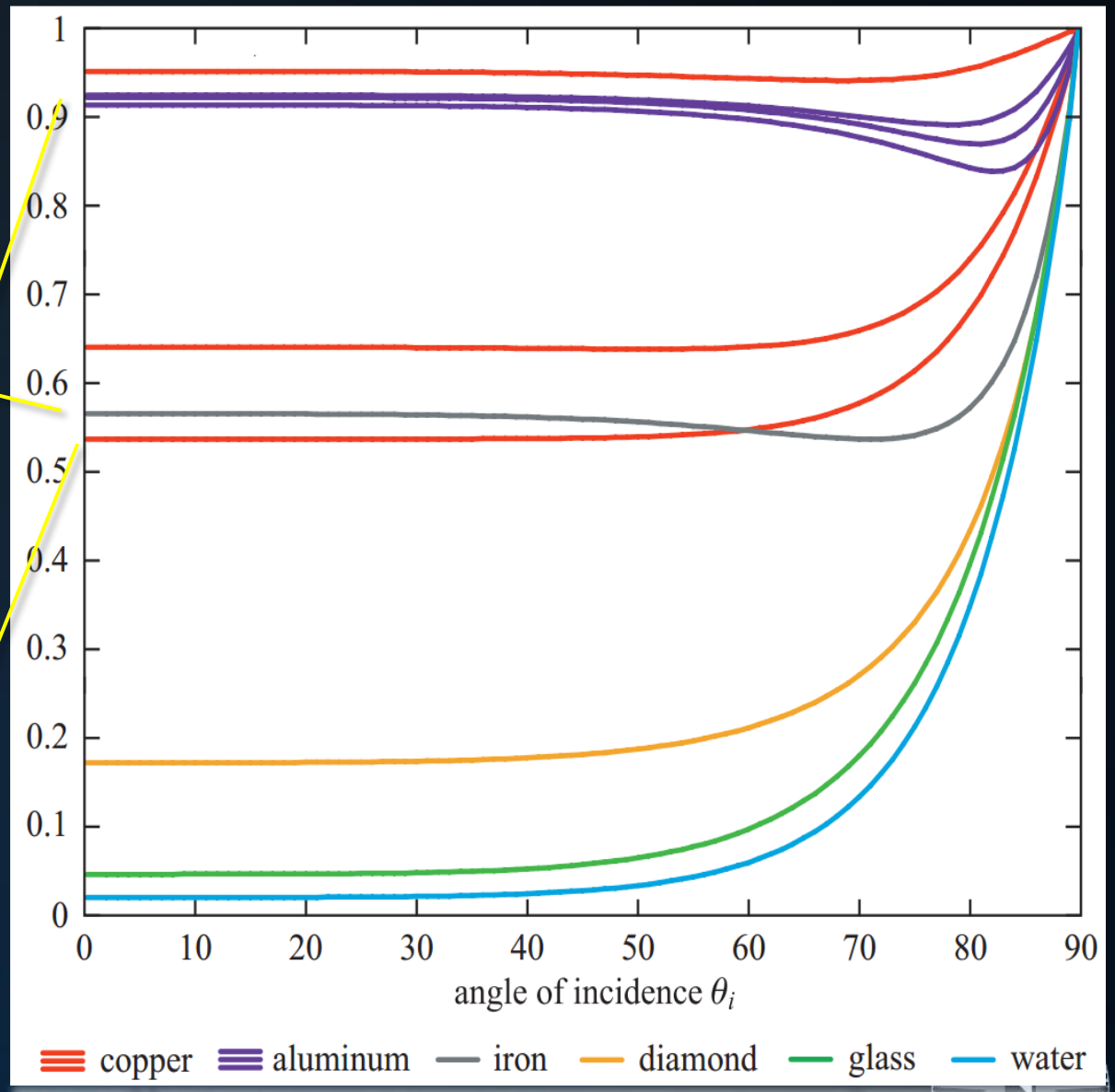
Aluminum is even more interesting: reflectivity depends on wavelength. The three lines in the graph:

Top: blue, middle: green, bottom: red.

Copper takes this to extremes: at grazing angles, it appears white. The lines in the graph:

Top: red, middle: green, bottom: blue.

(hence its reddish appearance)



From "Real-time Rendering, 3rd edition, A. K. Peters.

Microfacet

Fresnel Term

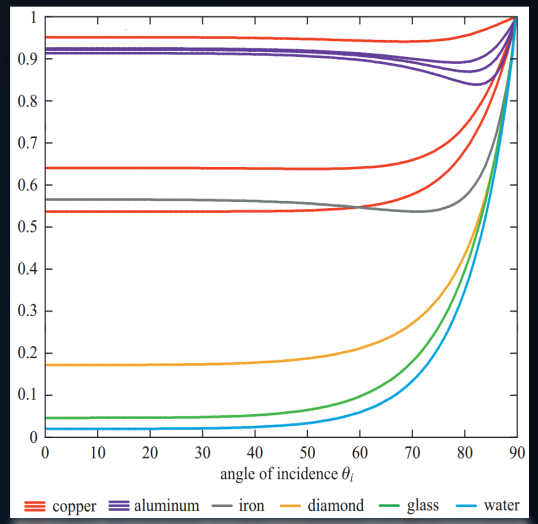
For Fresnel, we use Schlick's approximation:

$$F_r = k_{specular} + (1 - k_{specular})(1 - (\vec{L} \cdot \vec{H}))^5$$

Note that this is calculated per color channel ($k_{specular}$ is an rgb triplet).

Values for $k_{specular}$ for various materials:

Iron	0.56, 0.57, 0.58
Copper	0.95, 0.64, 0.54
Gold	1.00, 0.71, 0.29
Aluminum	0.91, 0.92, 0.92
Silver	0.95, 0.93, 0.88



Microfacet

Bringing it All Together

The Microfacet BRDF:

$$f_r(\vec{L},\vec{V}) = \frac{F(\vec{L},\vec{V})G(\vec{L},\vec{V},\vec{H})D(\vec{H})}{4(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{L})(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{V})}$$

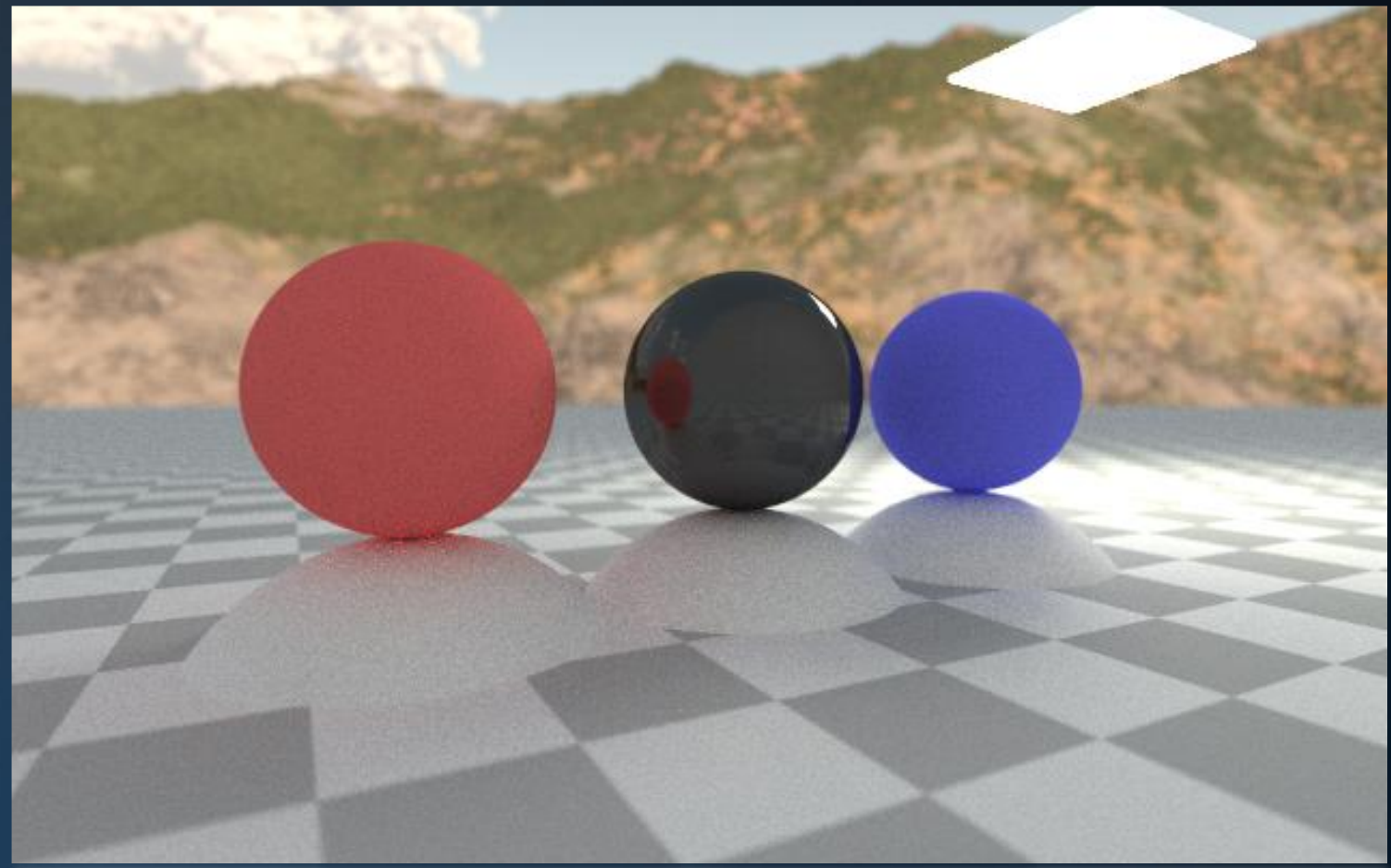
$$D(\vec{H}) = \frac{\alpha+2}{2\pi}(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{H})^{\alpha}$$

$$G(\vec{V},\vec{L},\vec{H}) = \min\left(1, \min\left(\frac{2(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{H})(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{V})}{\vec{V}\cdot\vec{H}}, \frac{2(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{H})(\vec{N}\cdot\vec{L})}{\vec{V}\cdot\vec{H}}\right)\right)$$

For a full derivation of the denominator of the BRDF, see Physically Based Rendering, section 8.4.2.

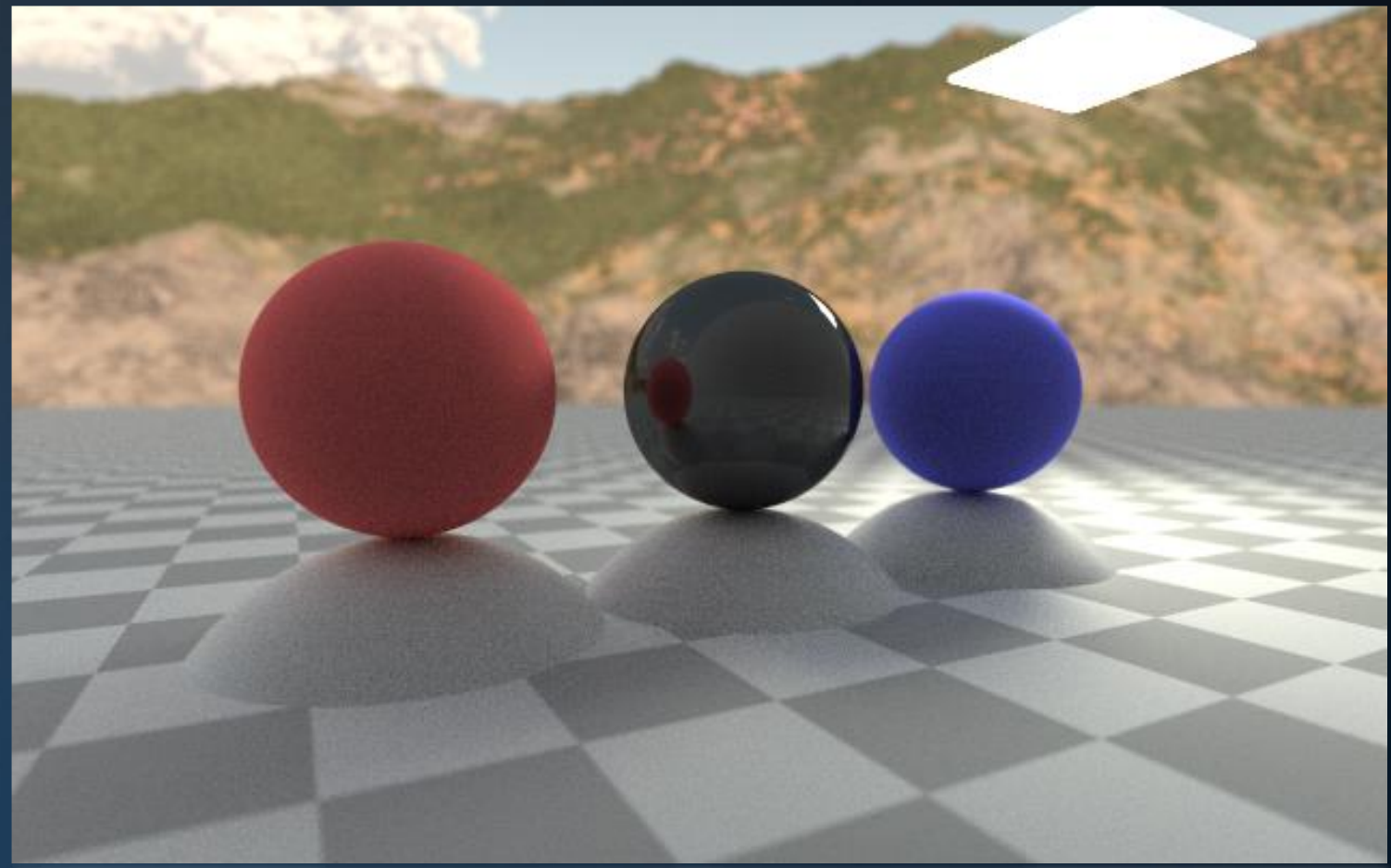
$$F_r = k_{specular} + (1 - k_{specular})(1 - (\vec{L}\cdot\vec{H}))^5$$

Microfacet



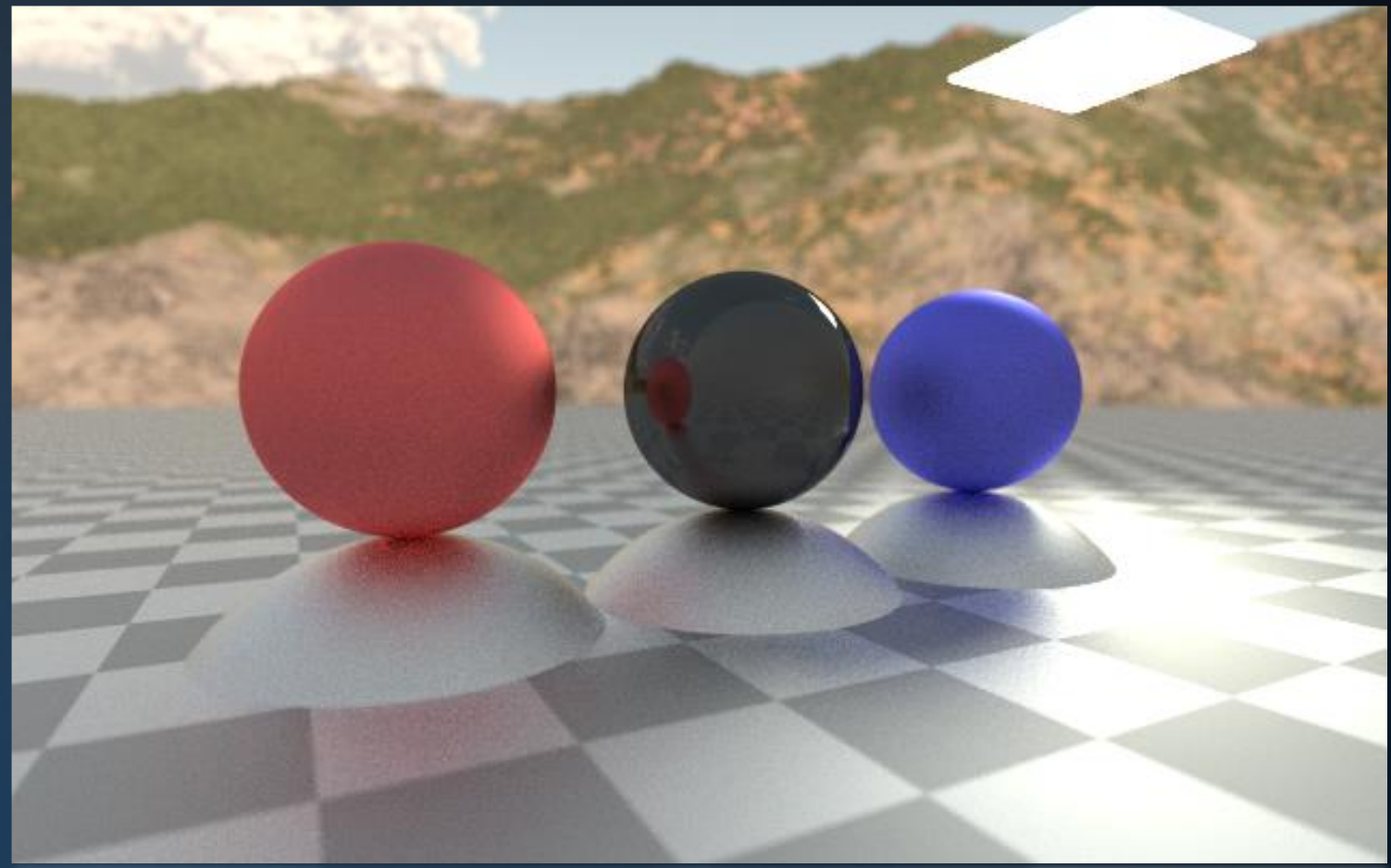
Lambertian BRDF

Microfacet



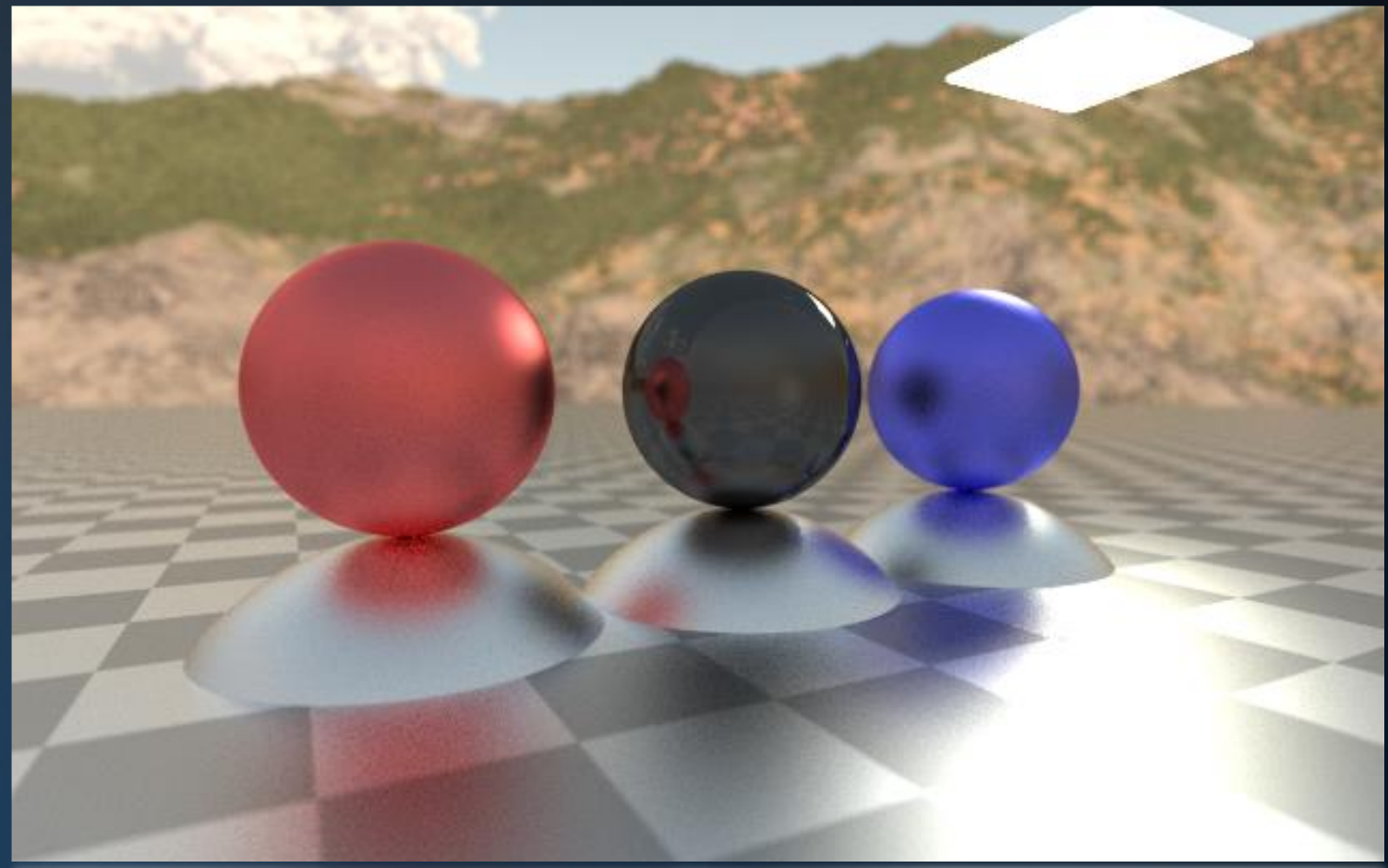
Blinn-Phong Microfacet BRDF, α=1

Microfacet



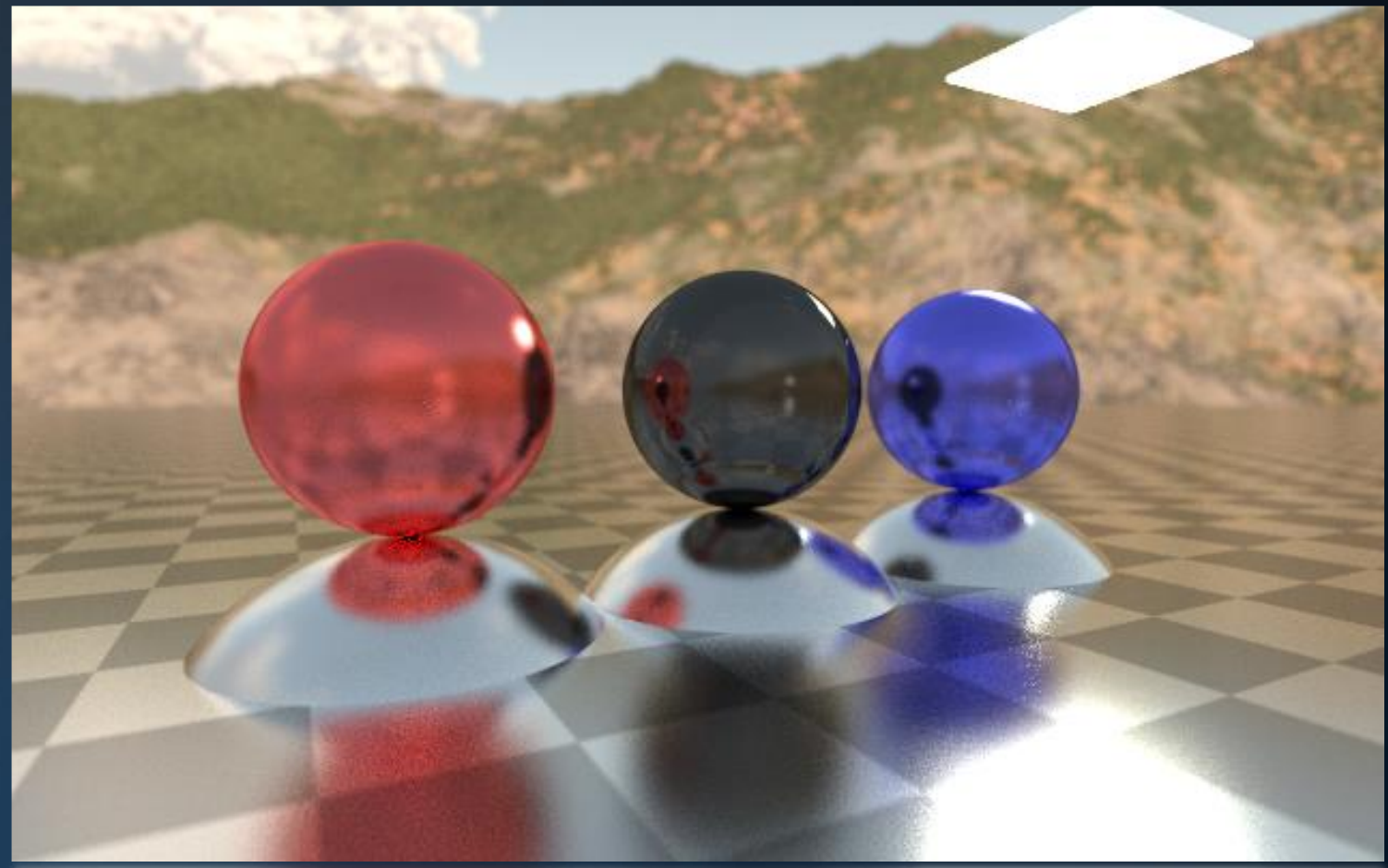
Blinn-Phong Microfacet BRDF, α=10

Microfacet



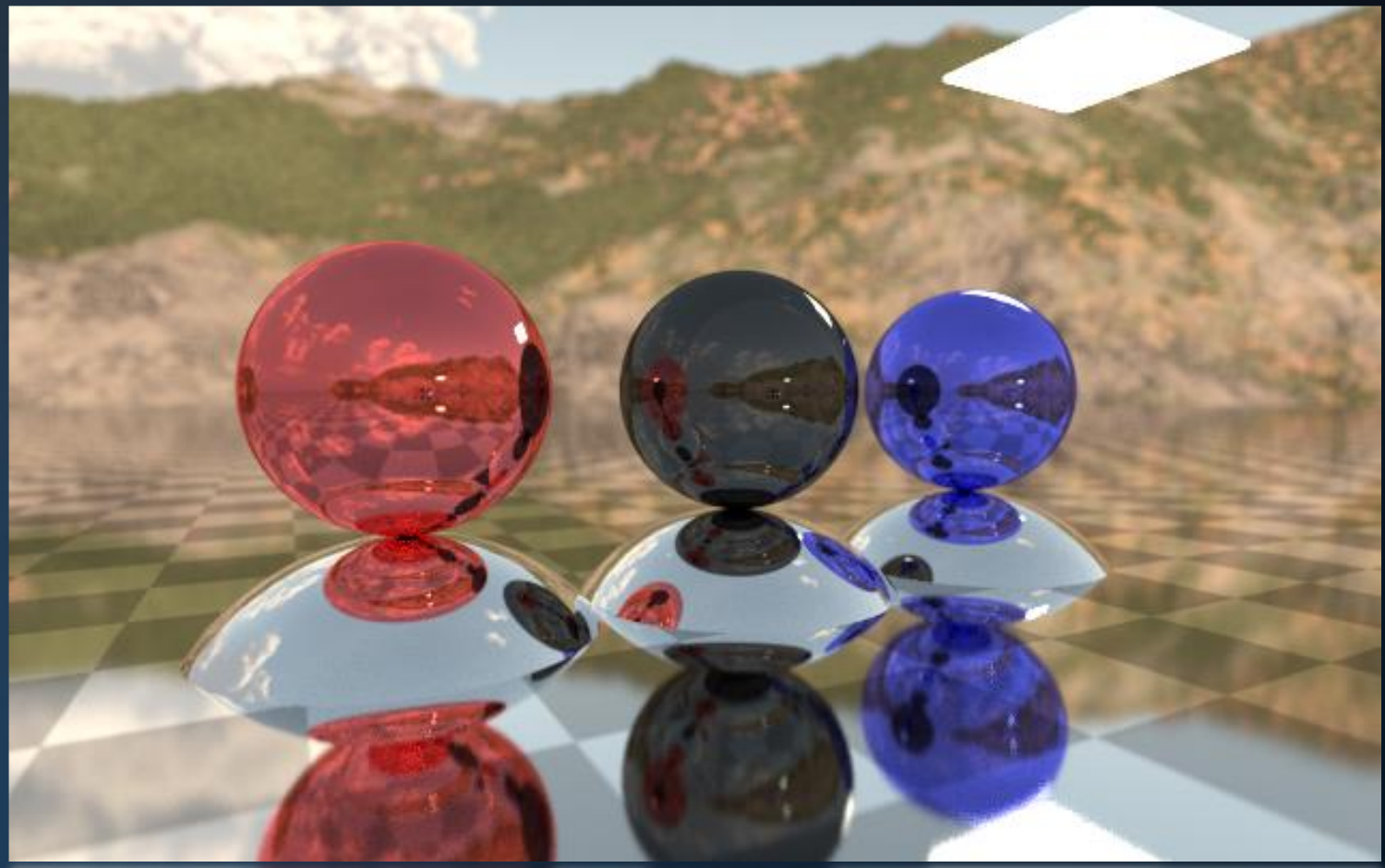
Blinn-Phong Microfacet BRDF, α=50

Microfacet



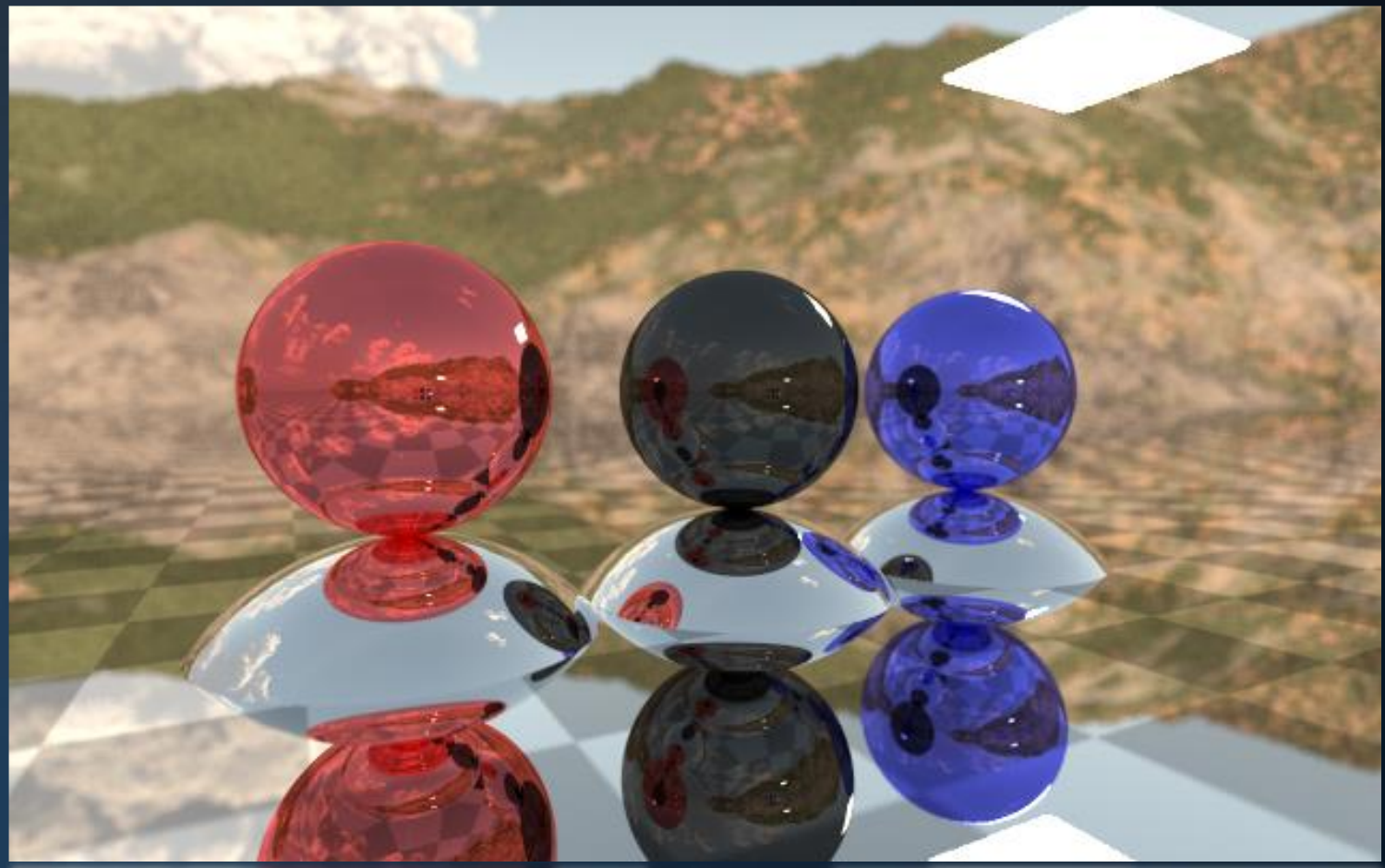
Blinn-Phong Microfacet BRDF, α=500

Microfacet



Blinn-Phong Microfacet BRDF, α=50000

Microfacet



Specular BRDF

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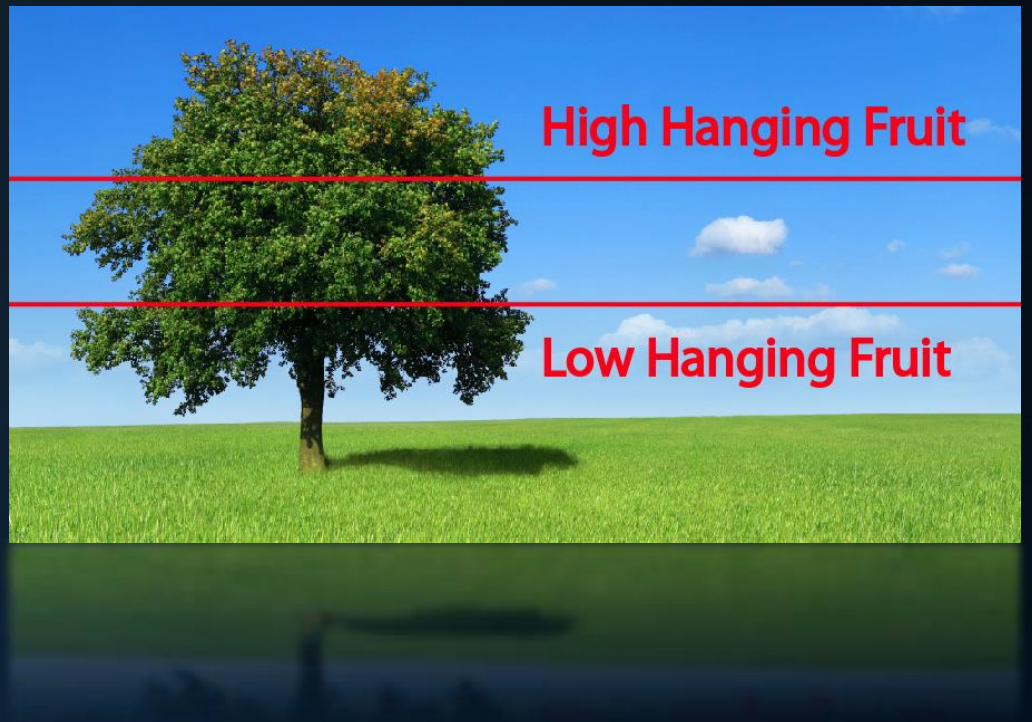

INFOMAGR – Advanced Graphics

Jacco Bikker - November 2022 - February 2023

END of “Various”

next: Assignment 2 deadline, then: Christmas Break