

# CS-184: Computer Graphics

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## Lecture #12: Radiometry

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## Administrative

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- **Reminder #1 : Midterm in two weeks**
  - There will be TA sessions for review
  - See test from last year and study guide
  - Prepare your “cheat sheet”
- **Reminder #2 : Assignment #3 out soon**

# Today

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- Radiometry: measuring light
  - Local Illumination and Raytracing were discussed in an *ad hoc* fashion
  - Proper discussion requires proper units
  - Not just pretty pictures... but correct pictures

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## Matching Reality

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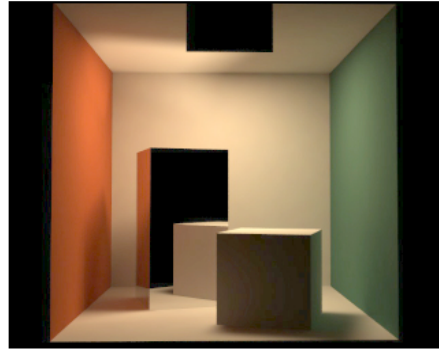
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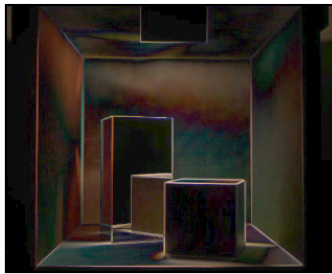
# Matching Reality



Photo



Rendered



Cornell Box Comparison  
Cornell Program of Computer Graphics

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## Units

- Light energy
  - Really power not energy is what we measure
  - Joules / second ( J/s ) = Watts ( W )
- Spectral energy density
  - power per unit spectrum interval
  - Watts / nano-meter ( W/nm )
  - Properly done as function over spectrum
  - Often just sampled for RGB
- Often we assume people know we're talking about S.E.D. and just say E...

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# Irradiance

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- Total light striking surface from all directions
  - Only meaningful w.r.t. a surface
  - Power per square meter ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ )
  - Really S.E.D. per square meter ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2/\text{nm}$ )
  - Not all directions sum the same because of foreshortening

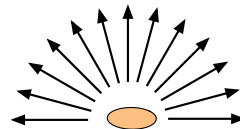


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# Radiant Exitance

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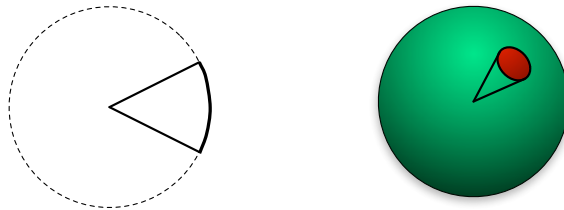
- Total light *leaving* surface over all directions
  - Only meaningful w.r.t. a surface
  - Power per square meter ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ )
  - Really S.E.D. per square meter ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2/\text{nm}$ )
  - Also called Radiosity
  - Sum over all directions  $\Rightarrow$  same in all directions



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# Solid Angles

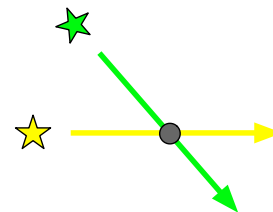
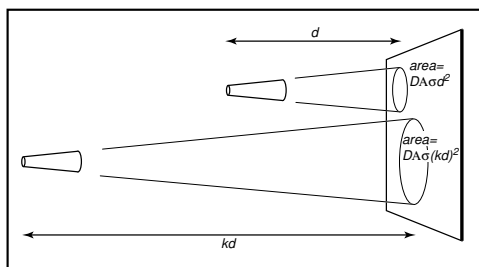
- Regular angles measured in *radians*
  - Measured by arc-length on unit circle  $[0..2\pi]$
- Solid angles measured in *steradians*
  - Measured by area on unit sphere  $[0..4\pi]$
  - Not necessarily little round pieces...



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# Radiance

- Light energy passing through a point in space in a given direction
  - Energy per steradian per square meter ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2 / \text{sr}$ )
  - S.E.D. per steradian per square meter ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2 / \text{sr} / \text{nm}$ )
- Constant along straight lines in free space

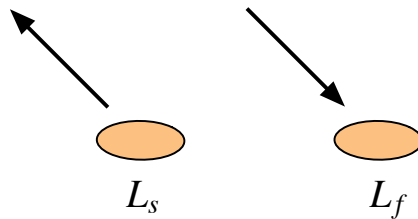


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# Radiance

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- Near surfaces, differentiate between
  - Radiance from the surface ( surface radiance )
  - Radiance from other things ( field radiance )



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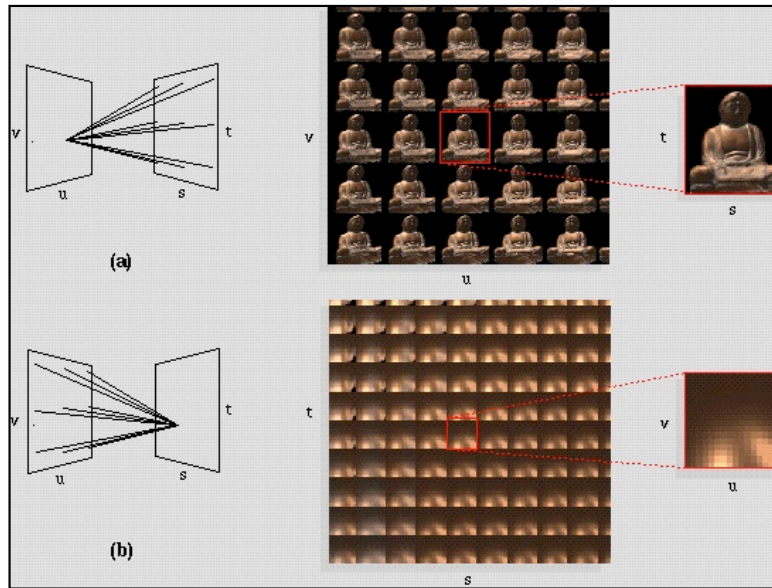
# Light Fields

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- The radiance at every point in space, direction, and frequency: 6D function
- Collapse frequency to RGB, and assume free space: 4D function
- Sample and record it over some volume

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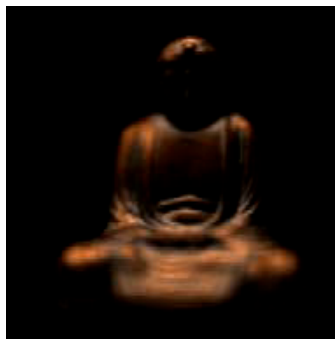
# Light Fields



Levoy and Hanrahan, SIGGRAPH 1996

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# Light Fields



Levoy and Hanrahan, SIGGRAPH 1996

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# Light Fields



Michelangelo's *Statue of Night*  
From the Digital Michelangelo Project

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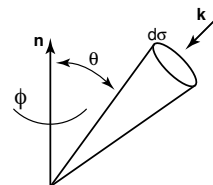
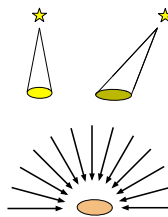
## Computing Irradiance

- Integrate incoming radiance (field radiance) over all direction

- Take into account foreshortening

$$H = \int_{\Omega} L_f(\mathbf{k}) \cos(\theta) d\sigma$$

$$H = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} L_f(\theta, \phi) \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) d\theta d\phi$$

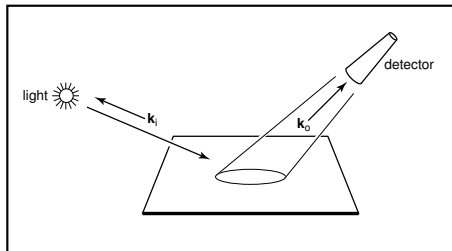


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# Revisiting The BRDF

- How much light from direction A goes out in direction B
- Now we can talk about units:
  - BRDF is ratio of foreshortened field radiance to surface radiance



$$\rho(\theta_i, \theta_o) = \frac{L_s(\theta_o)}{L_f(\theta_i) \cos(\angle \hat{\mathbf{n}} \theta)}$$

We left out frequency dependence here...

Also note for perfect Lambertian reflector with constant BRDF  $\rho = 1/\pi$

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# The Rendering Equation

- Total light going out in some direction is given by an integral over all incoming directions:

$$L_s(\mathbf{k}_o) = \int_{\Omega} \rho(\mathbf{k}_o, \mathbf{k}_i) L_f(\mathbf{k}_i) \cos(\theta) d\sigma$$

- Note, this is recursive ( my  $L_f$  is another's  $L_s$  )

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# The Rendering Equation

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- We can rewrite explicitly in terms of  $L_s$

$$L_s(\mathbf{k}_o) = \int_{\Omega} \rho(\mathbf{k}_o, \mathbf{k}_i) L_f(\mathbf{k}_i) \cos(\theta_i) d\sigma$$

$$L_s(\mathbf{k}_o, \mathbf{x}) = \int_S \frac{\rho(\mathbf{k}_o, \mathbf{k}_i) L_s(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}') \cos(\theta_i) \cos(\angle \hat{\mathbf{n}}'(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')) \delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')}{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2} d\mathbf{x}'$$

Consider what ray tracing was doing....

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## Light Paths

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- Many paths from light to eye
- Characterize by the types of bounces
  - Begin at light
  - End at eye
  - “Specular” bounces
  - “Diffuse” bounces



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# Light Paths

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- Describe paths using strings
  - LDE, LDSE, LSE, *etc.*
- Describe types of paths with regular expressions
  - $L\{D|S\}^*E$  ← Visible paths
  - $L\{D|S\}S^*E$  ← Standard raytracing
  - $L\{D|S\}E$  ← Local illumination
  - $LD^*E$  ← Radiosity method  
(have not talked about yet)