
Computer Graphics

- Light Transport
BRDFs & Shading -

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Overview

- **Last time**
 - Radiance
 - Light sources
 - Rendering Equation & Formal Solutions
- **Today**
 - Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function (BRDF)
 - Reflection models
 - Projection onto spherical basis functions
 - Shading
- **Next lecture**
 - Varying (reflection) properties over object surface: texturing

Reflection Equation - Reflectance

- **Reflection equation**

$$L_o(\underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_o) = \int_{\Omega_+} f_r(\underline{\omega}_i, \underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_o) L_i(\underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_i) \cos \theta_i d\underline{\omega}_i$$

- **BRDF**

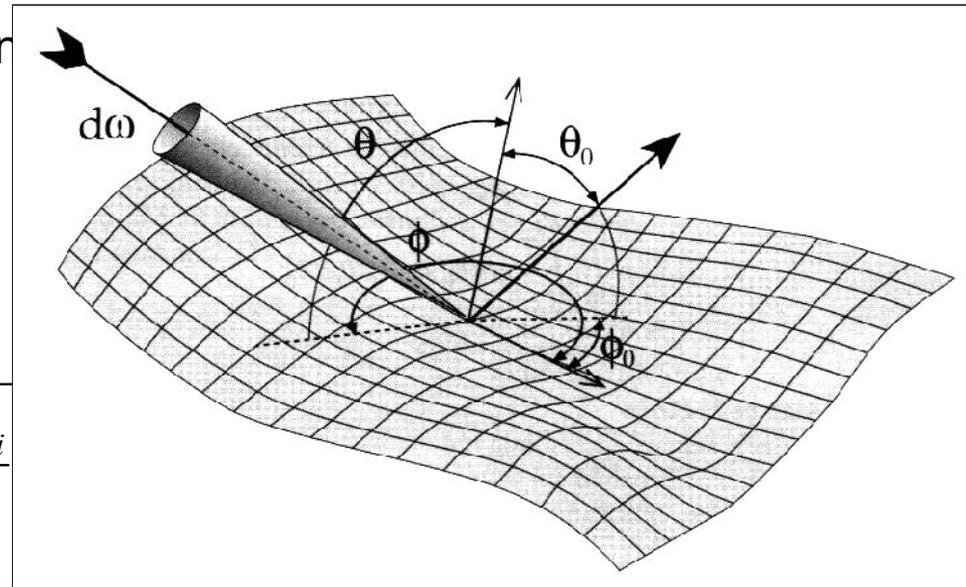
- Ratio of reflected radiance to incident irradiance

$$f_r(\omega_o, x, \omega_i) = \frac{L_o(x, \omega_o)}{dE_i(x, \omega_i)}$$

Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function

- **BRDF** describes surface reflection for light incident from direction $\omega_i(\theta_i, \phi_i)$ observed from direction $\omega_o(\theta_o, \phi_o)$
- **Bidirectional**
 - Depends on two directions and position (6 degrees of freedom (DOF))
 - Determines the density (“fraction”) of all photons hitting a surface from a specific direction ω_i to be reflected into the outgoing direction ω_o .
- **Distribution function**
 - Can be infinite, for ideal reflection
- **Unit [1/sr]**

$$\begin{aligned} f_r(\omega_o, \underline{x}, \omega_i) &= \frac{L_o(\underline{x}, \omega_o)}{dE_i(\underline{x}, \omega_i)} \\ &= \frac{L_o(\underline{x}, \omega_o)}{L_i(\underline{x}, \omega_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i} \end{aligned}$$

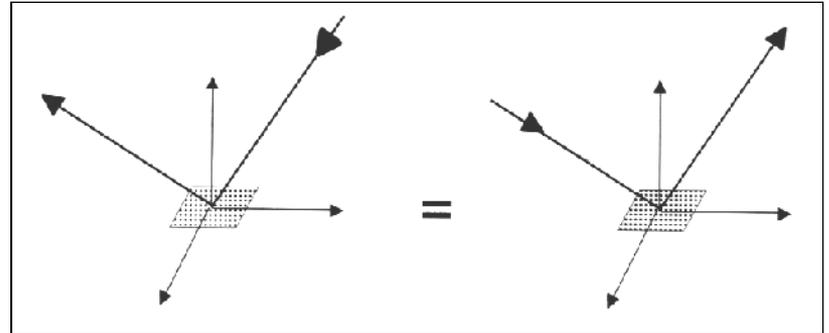


BRDF Properties

- **Helmholtz reciprocity principle**

- BRDF remains unchanged if incident and reflected directions are interchanged

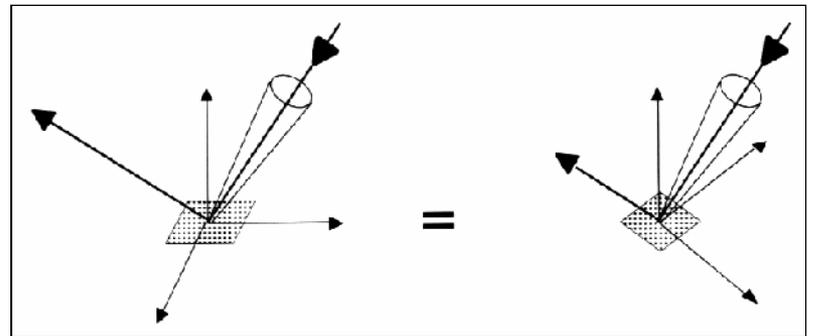
$$f_r(\omega_o, \underline{x}, \omega_i) = f_r(\omega_i, \underline{x}, \omega_o)$$



- **Smooth surface: isotropic BRDF**

- Reflectivity independent of rotation around surface normal
- BRDF has only 3 instead of 4 directional degrees of freedom

$$f_r(\theta_i, \underline{x}, \theta_o, \varphi_o - \varphi_i)$$



BRDF Properties

- **Characteristics**

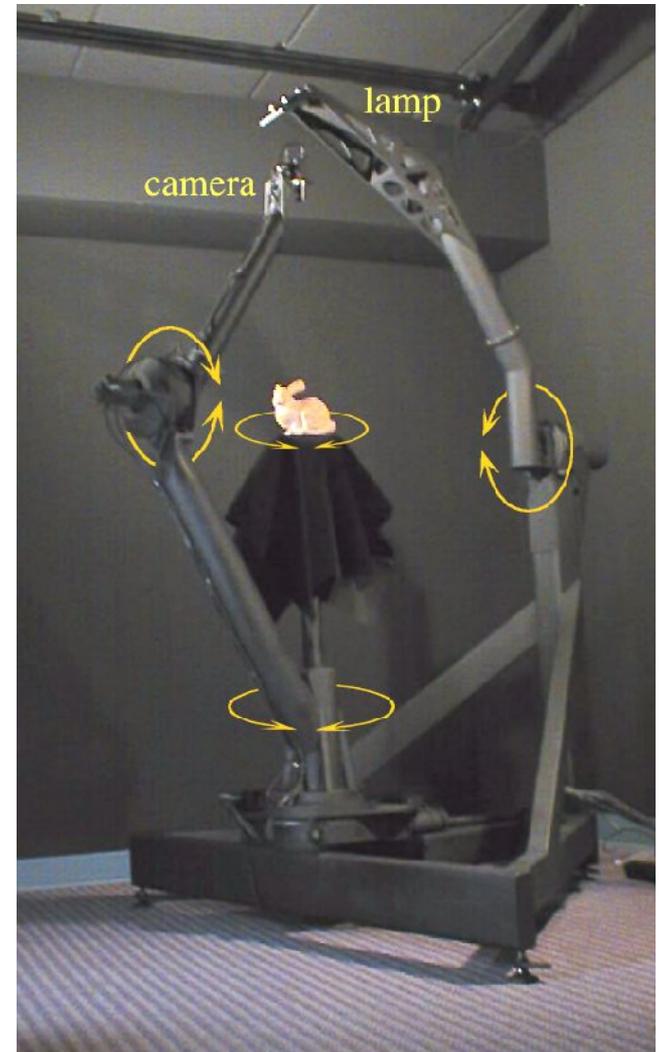
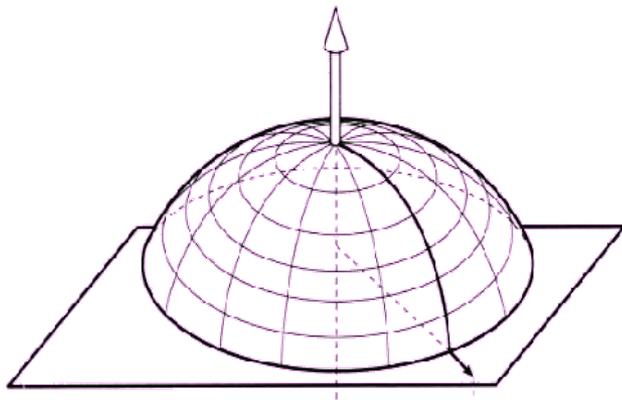
- BRDF units [sr⁻¹]
- Range of values:
 - From 0 (absorption) to ∞ (perfect reflection, δ -function)
- Energy conservation law
 - No self-emission
 - Possible absorption

$$\int_{\Omega} f_r(\underline{\omega}_o, \underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_i) \cos\theta_o d\omega_o \leq 1 \quad \forall \theta, \phi$$

- Reflection only at the point of entry ($x_i = x_o$)
 - No subsurface scattering
 - Cannot handle skin, marble, etc.

BRDF Measurement

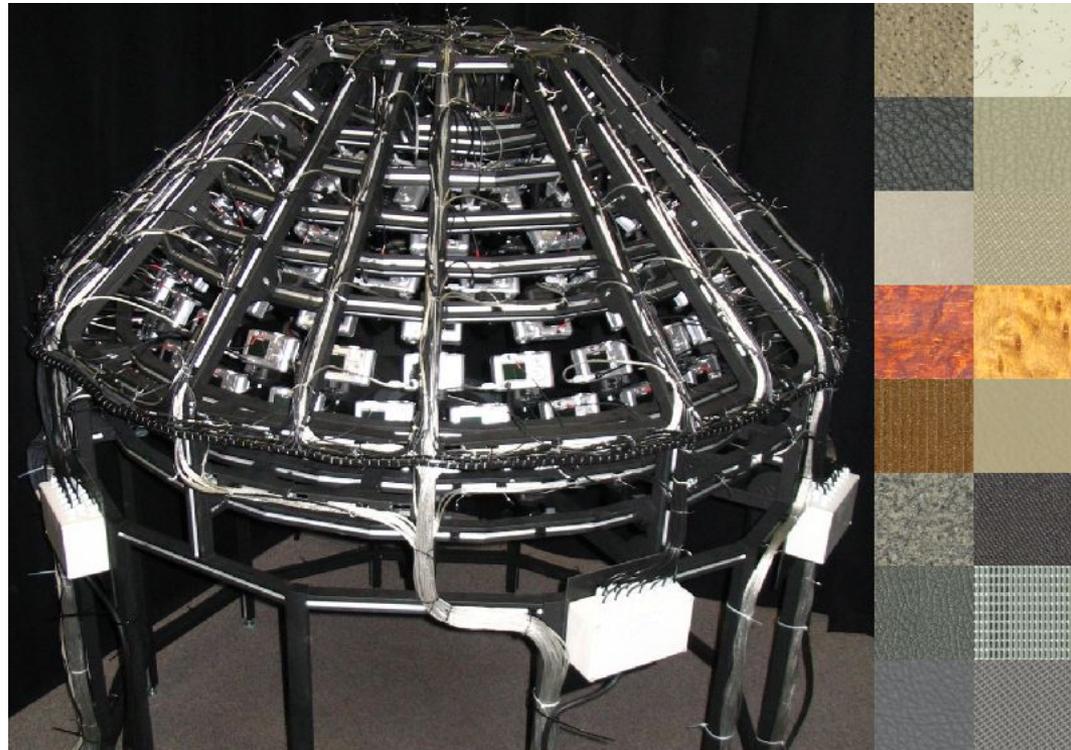
- **Gonio-Reflectometer**
- **BRDF measurement**
 - Point light source position (θ_v, φ_i)
 - Light detector position (θ_o, φ_o)
- **BRDF representation**
 - m incident direction samples
 - n outgoing direction samples
 - $m*n$ reflectance values (large!!!)



Stanford light gantry

Extension to BTFs

- **Full BRDFs needed also for entire surface areas**
 - Extension to *Bidirectional Texture Function* (BTF)
- **BTF measurement device (Bonn University)**
 - 151 digital cameras in a hemicycle arrangement
 - Simultaneously take images of a probe in the center (12x12 cm)
 - One camera flashes
 - Iterate over all cameras
 - 151 x 151 images
 - Must be compressed

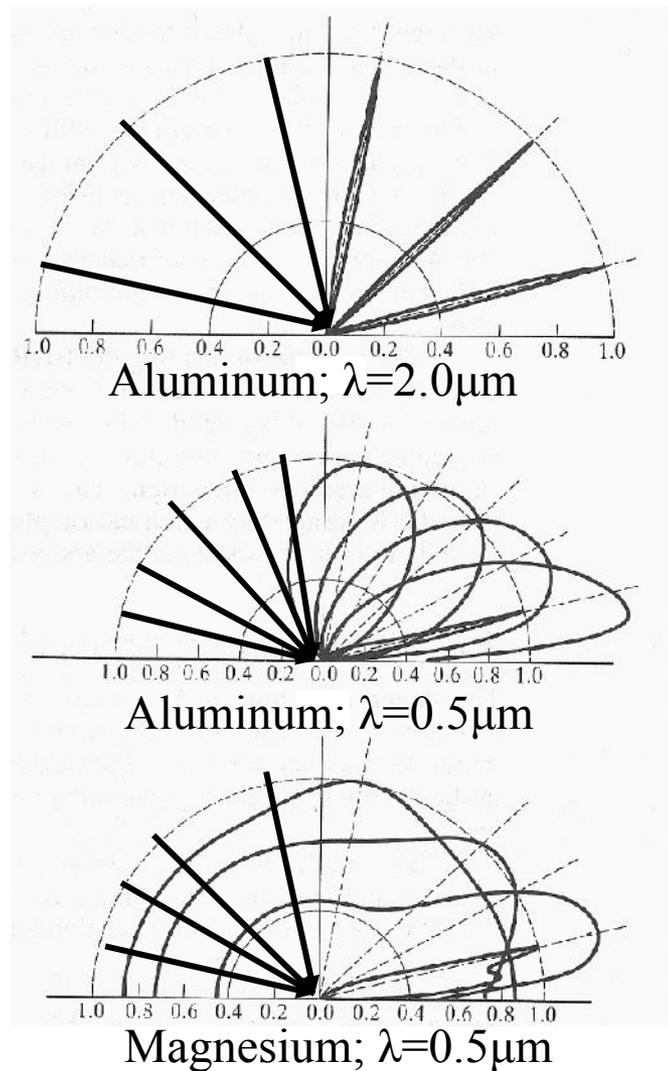
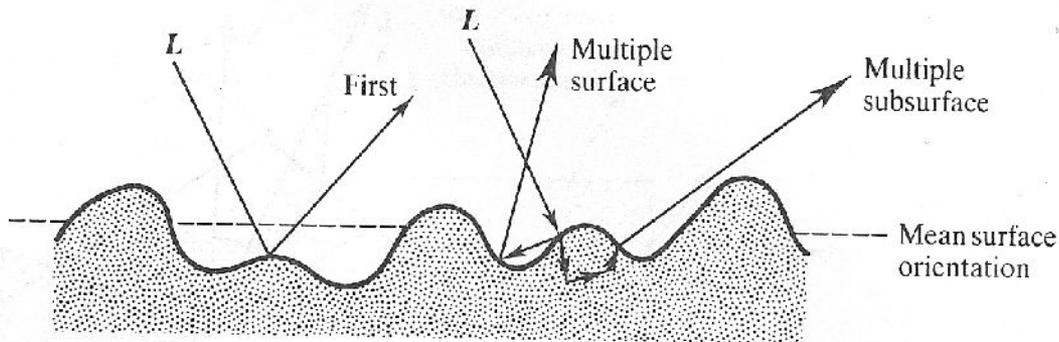


Rendering from Measured BRDF

- **Linearity, superposition principle**
 - Complex illumination: integrating light distribution against BRDF
 - Sampled BRDF: superimposed point light sources
- **Interpolation**
 - Look-up during rendering
 - Sampled BRDF must be filtered
- **BRDF Modeling**
 - Fit parameterized BRDF model to measured data
 - Continuous function
 - No interpolation
 - Fast evaluation
- **Representation in spherical harmonics basis**
 - Hierarchical basis functions on the sphere (a la Fourier)
 - Mathematically elegant filtering, illumination-BRDF integration

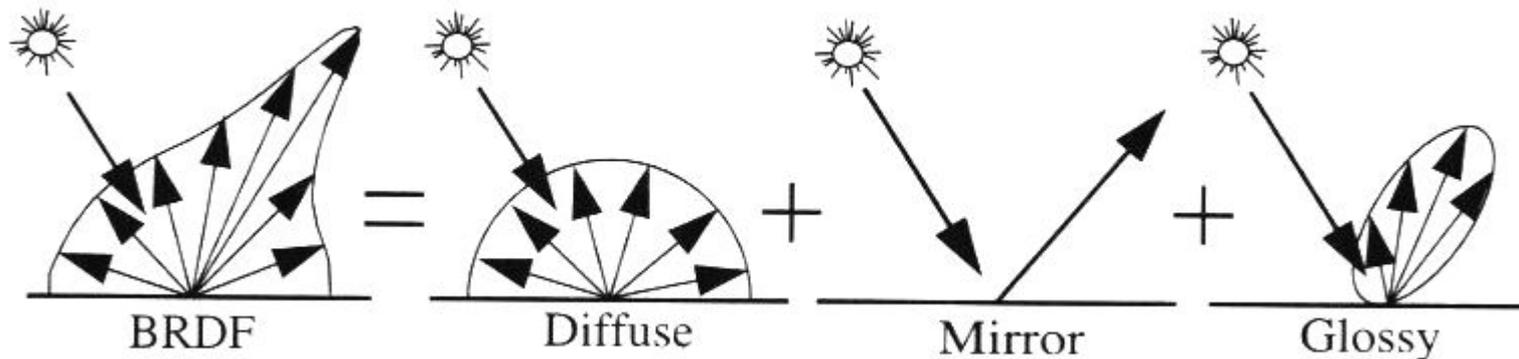
Reflectance

- **Reflectance may vary with**
 - Illumination angle
 - Viewing angle
 - Wavelength
 - (Polarization, ...)
- **Variations due to**
 - Surface micro-geometry
 - Index of refraction / dielectric constant
 - Scattering in the material
 - Absorption



BRDF Modeling

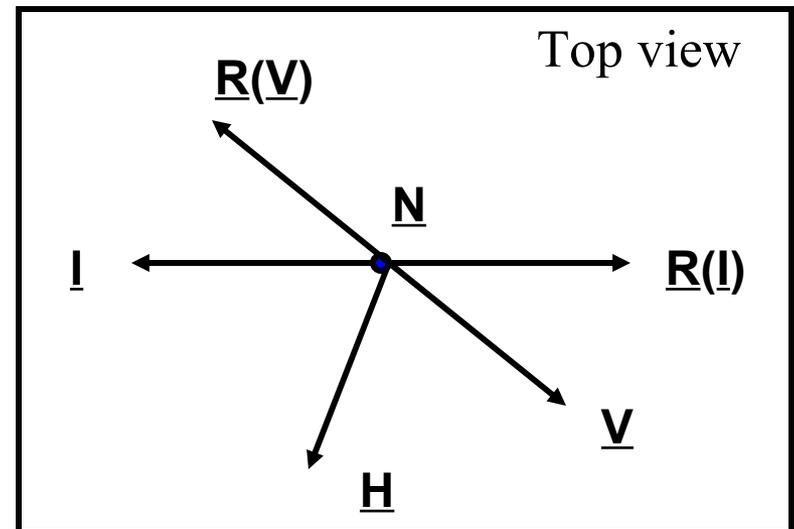
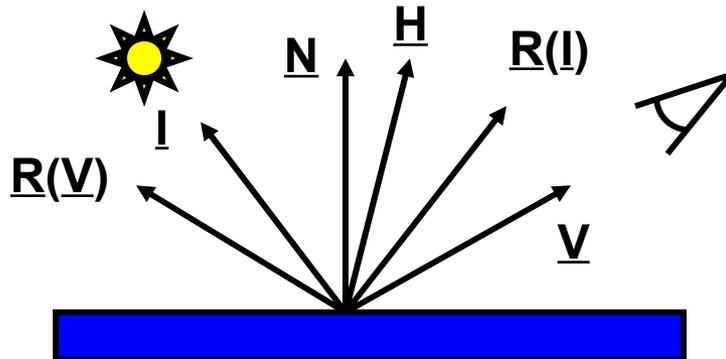
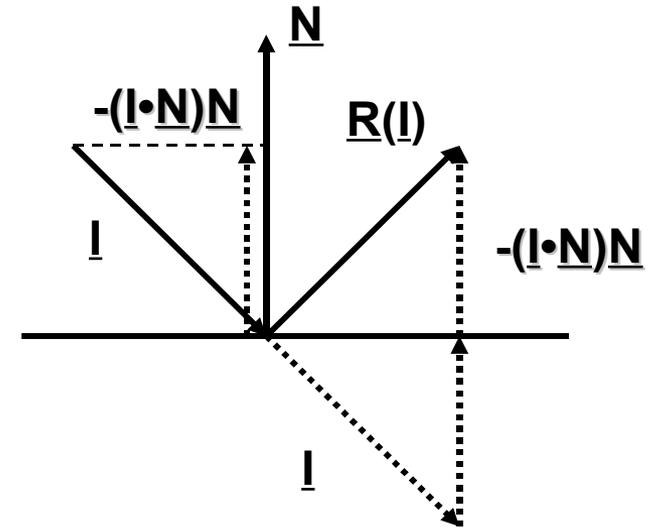
- **Phenomenological approach**
 - Description of visual surface appearance
- **Ideal specular reflection**
 - Reflection law
 - Mirror
- **Glossy reflection**
 - Directional diffuse
 - Shiny surfaces
- **Ideal diffuse reflection**
 - Lambert's law
 - Matte surfaces



Reflection Geometry

- **Direction vectors (normalize):**

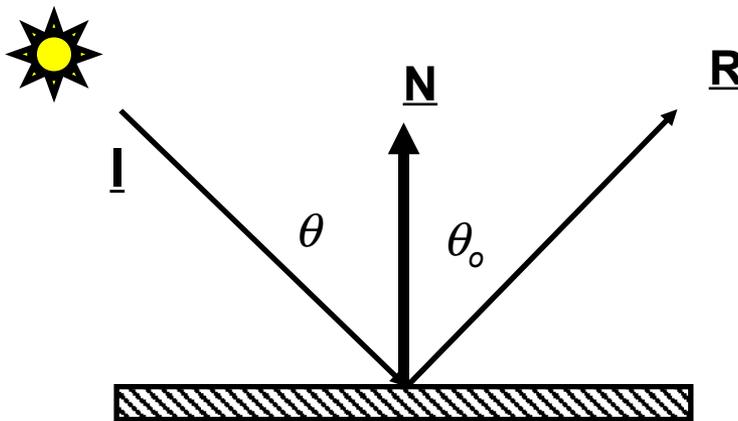
- \underline{N} : surface normal
- \underline{I} : vector to the light source
- \underline{V} : viewpoint direction vector
- \underline{H} : halfway vector
$$\underline{H} = (\underline{I} + \underline{V}) / |\underline{I} + \underline{V}|$$
- $\underline{R(I)}$: reflection vector
$$\underline{R(I)} = \underline{I} - 2(\underline{I} \cdot \underline{N})\underline{N}$$
- Tangential surface: local plane



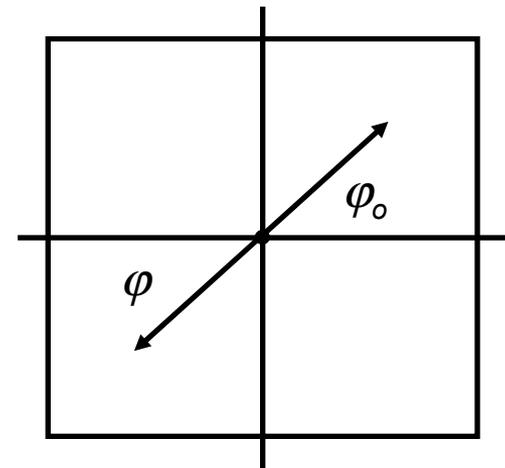
Ideal Specular Reflection

- Angle of reflectance equal to angle of incidence
- Reflected vector in a plane with incident ray and surface normal vector

$$\underline{\mathbf{R}} + (-\underline{\mathbf{I}}) = 2 \cos\theta \underline{\mathbf{N}} = -2(\underline{\mathbf{I}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{N}}) \underline{\mathbf{N}}$$
$$\underline{\mathbf{R}}(\underline{\mathbf{I}}) = \underline{\mathbf{I}} - 2(\underline{\mathbf{I}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{N}}) \underline{\mathbf{N}}$$



$$\theta = \theta_0$$



$$\varphi = \varphi_0 + 180^\circ$$

Ideal Specular Reflection

- **Dirac Delta function $\delta(x)$**

- $\delta(x)$: zero everywhere except at $x=0$
- Unit integral iff integration domain contains zero (zero otherwise)

- **Specular Reflection:**

- All light is ideally reflected

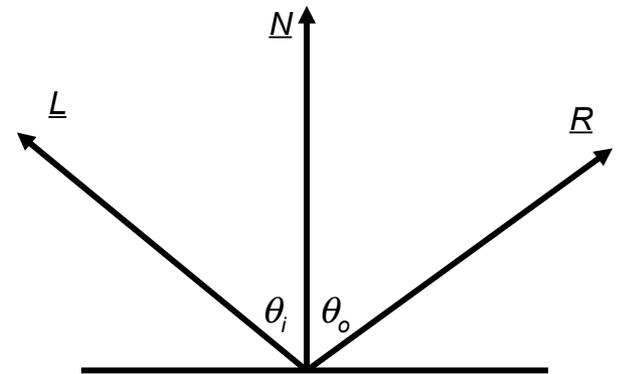
$$f_{r,m}(\omega_o, x, \omega_i) = \rho_s(\theta_i) \cdot \frac{\delta(\cos\theta_i - \cos\theta_o)}{\cos\theta_i} \cdot \delta(\varphi_i - \varphi_o \pm \pi)$$

$$L_o(x, \omega_o) = \int_{\Omega_+} f_{r,m}(\omega_o, x, \omega_i) L_i(\theta_i, \varphi_i) \cos\theta_i d\omega_i = \rho_s(\theta_o) L_i(\theta_o, \varphi_o \pm \pi)$$

- **Specular reflectance ρ_s**

- Ratio of reflected radiance in specular direction versus incoming radiance
- Dimensionless quantity between 0 and 1

$$\rho_s(\theta_i) = \frac{L_o(\theta_o)}{L_i(\theta_i)}$$



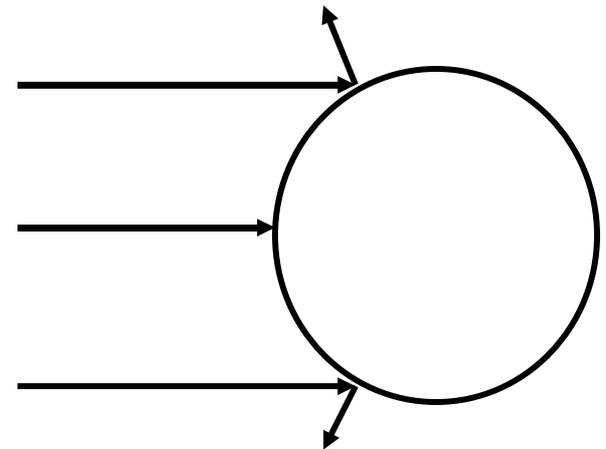
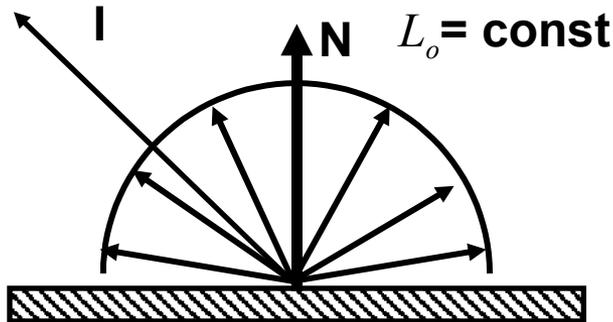
Diffuse Reflection

- Light equally likely to be reflected in any output direction (independent of input direction)
- Constant BRDF

$$f_{r,d}(\underline{\omega}_o, \underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_i) = k_d = \text{const}$$

$$L_o(\underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_o) = \int_{\Omega} k_d L_i(\underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i = k_d \int_{\Omega} L_i(\underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_i) \cos \theta_i d\omega_i = k_d E$$

– k_d : diffuse coefficient, material property [1/sr]



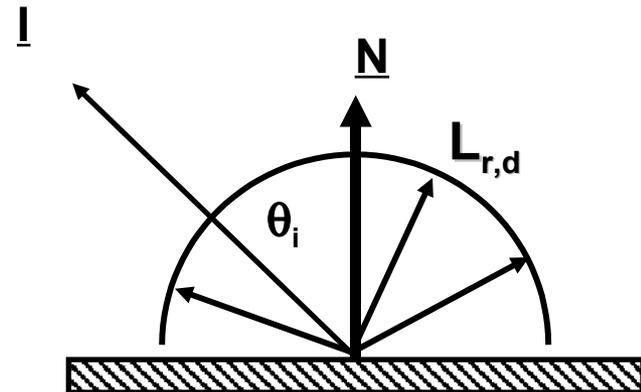
Lambertian Diffuse Reflection

- **Radiosity** $B = \int_{\Omega} L_o(\underline{x}, \underline{\omega}_o) \cos\theta_o d\omega_o = L_o \int_{\Omega} \cos\theta_o d\omega_o = \pi L_o$

- **Diffuse Reflectance** $\rho_d = \frac{B}{E} = \pi k_d$

- **Lambert's Cosine Law** $B = \rho_d E = \rho_d E_i \cos\theta_i$

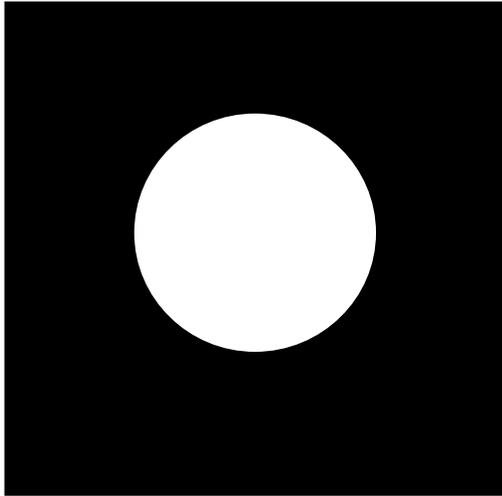
- **For each light source**
 - $L_{r,d} = k_d L_i \cos\theta_i = k_d L_i (\underline{I} \cdot \underline{N})$



Lambertian Objects

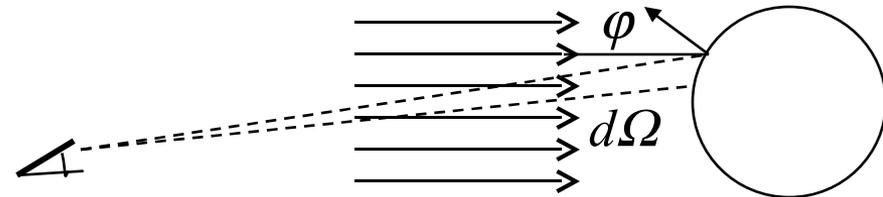
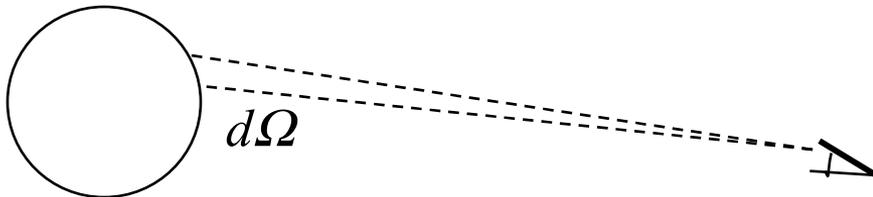
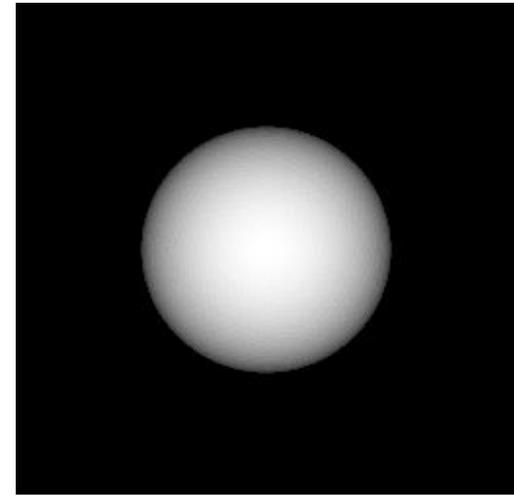
Self-Luminous
spherical Lambertian Light
Source

$$\Phi_0 \propto L_0 \cdot d\Omega$$



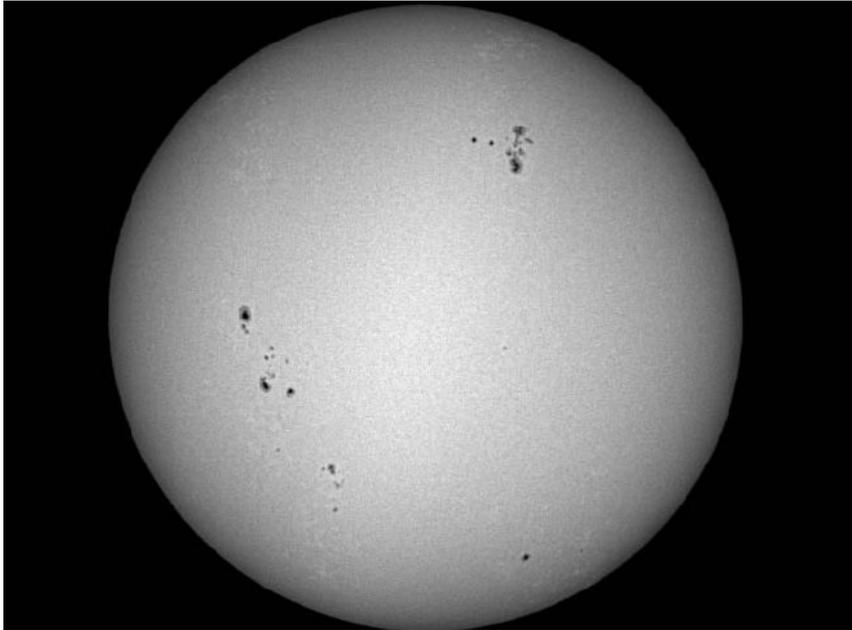
Eye-light illuminated
Spherical Lambertian Reflector

$$\Phi_1 \propto L_0 \cdot \cos \varphi \cdot d\Omega$$



Lambertian Objects II

The Sun



- Absorption in photosphere
- Path length through photosphere longer from the Sun's rim

The Moon



- Surface covered with fine dust
- Dust on TV visible best from slanted viewing angle

⇒ Neither the Sun nor the Moon are Lambertian

“Diffuse” Reflection

- **Theoretical explanation**
 - Multiple scattering
- **Experimental realization**
 - Pressed magnesium oxide powder
 - Almost never valid at high angles of incidence

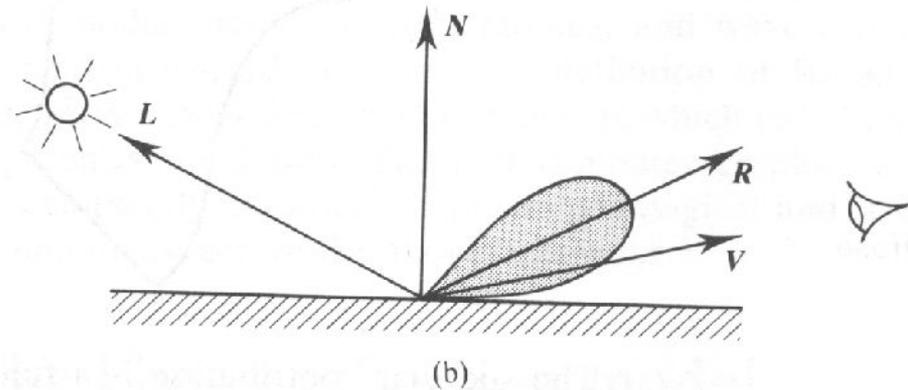
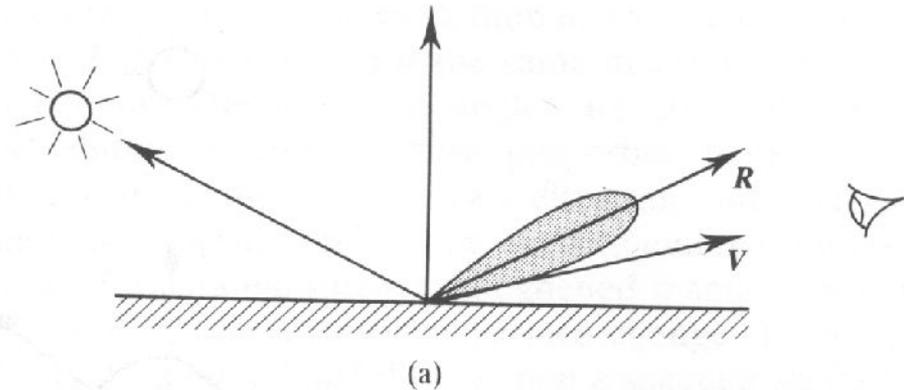
Paint manufacturers attempt to create ideal diffuse paints

Glossy Reflection



Glossy Reflection

- **Due to surface roughness**
- **Empirical models**
 - Phong
 - Blinn-Phong
- **Physical models**
 - Blinn
 - Cook & Torrance



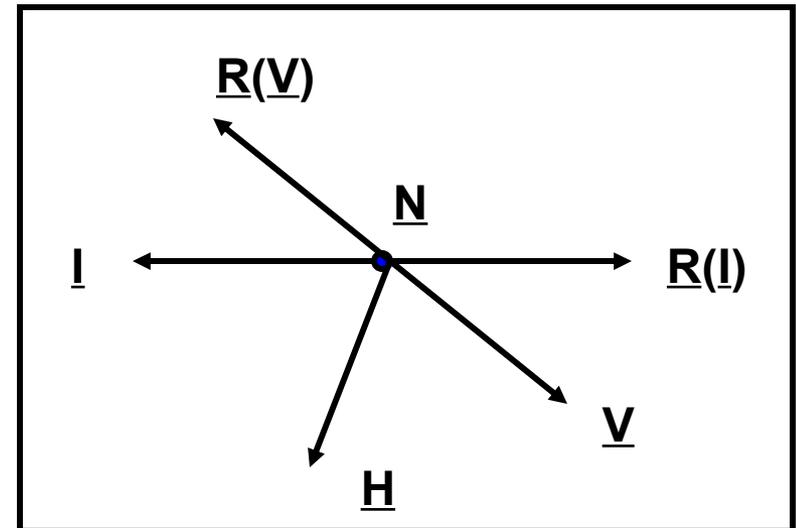
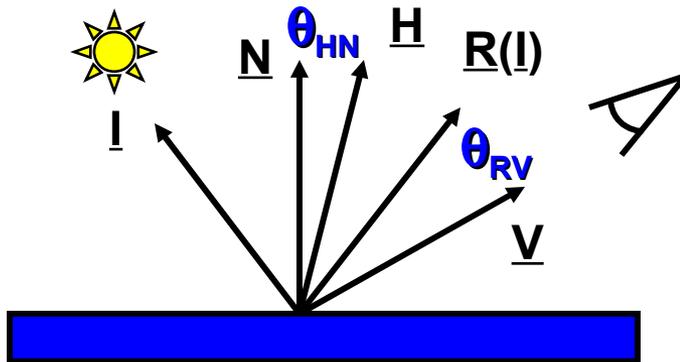
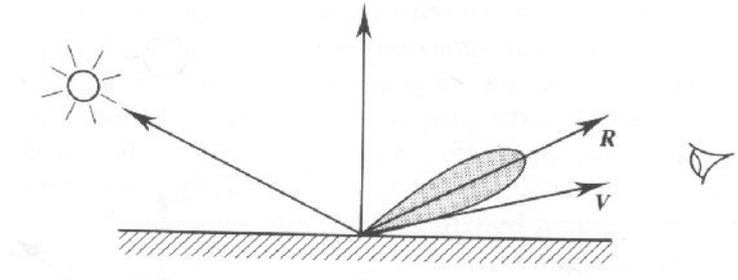
Phong Reflection Model

- **Cosine power lobe**

$$f_r(\omega_o, x, \omega_i) = k_s (\underline{R}(\underline{I}) \cdot \underline{V})^{k_e}$$

$$- L_{r,s} = L_i k_s \cos^{k_e} \theta_{RV}$$

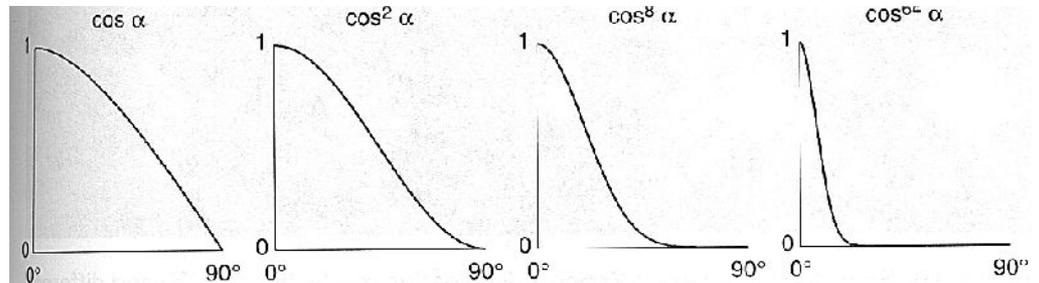
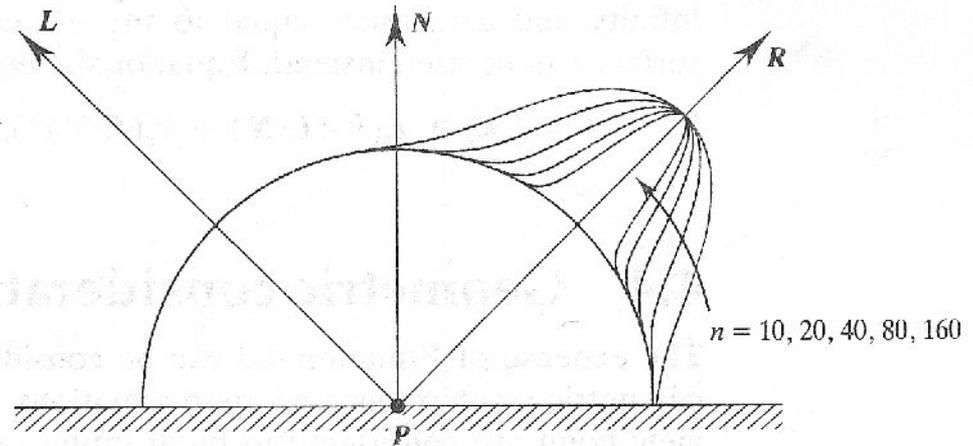
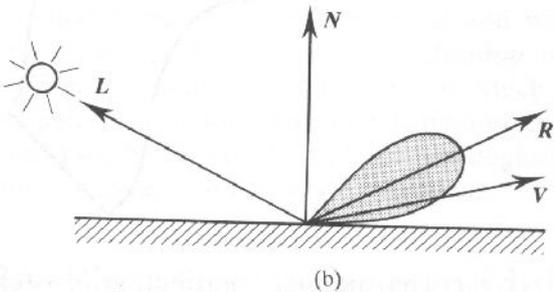
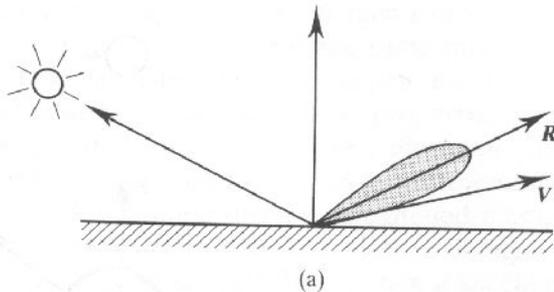
- **Dot product & power**
- **Not energy conserving/reciprocal**
- **Plastic-like appearance**



Phong Exponent k_e

$$f_r(\omega_o, x, \omega_i) = k_s (\underline{R(I)} \cdot \underline{V})^{k_e}$$

- **Determines size of highlight**

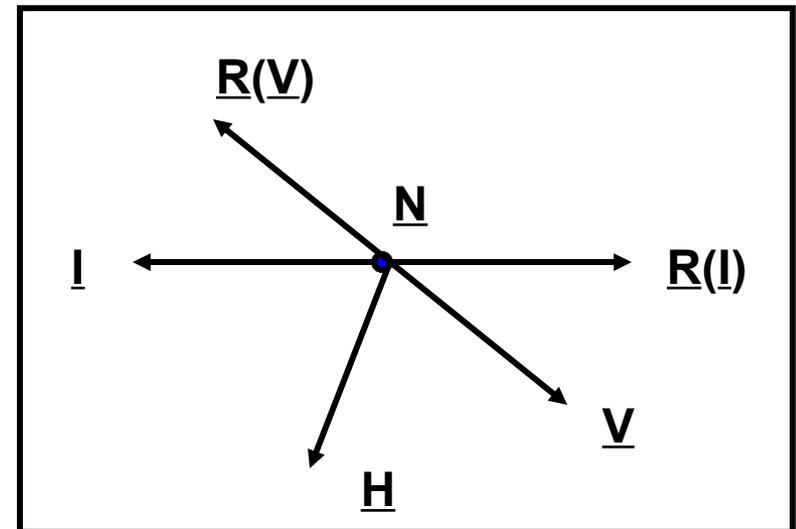
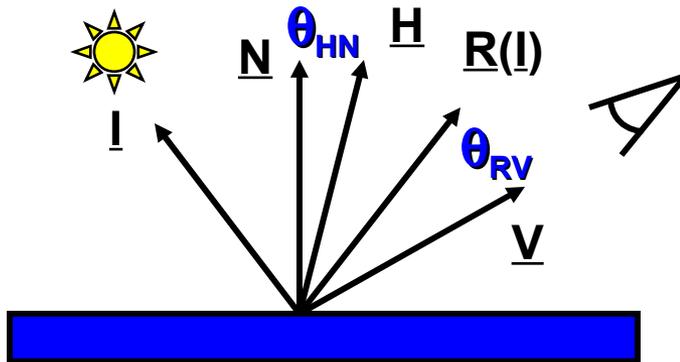
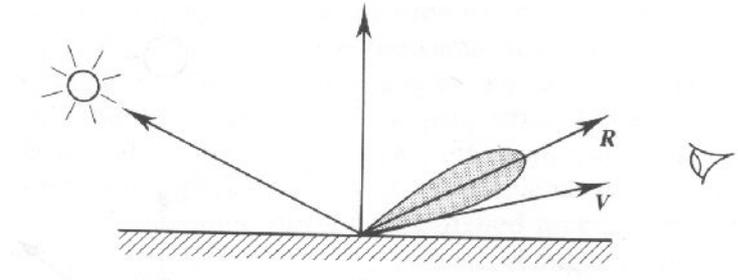


Blinn-Phong Reflection Model

- **Blinn-Phong reflection model**

$$f_r(\omega_o, x, \omega_i) = k_s (H \cdot N)^{k_e}$$

- $L_{r,s} = L_i k_s \cos^{k_e} \theta_{HN}$
- $\theta_{RV} \Rightarrow \theta_{HN}$
- Light source, viewer far away
- \underline{I} , \underline{R} constant: \underline{H} constant
- θ_{HN} less expensive to compute



Phong Illumination Model

- **Extended light sources: l point light sources**

$$L_r = k_a L_{i,a} + k_d \sum_l L_l (I_l \cdot N) + k_s \sum_l L_l (R(I_l) \cdot V)^{k_e} \quad (\text{Phong})$$

$$L_r = k_a L_{i,a} + k_d \sum_l L_l (I_l \cdot N) + k_s \sum_l L_l (H_l \cdot N)^{k_e} \quad (\text{Blinn})$$

- **Color of specular reflection equal to light source**
- **Heuristic model**
 - Contradicts physics
 - Purely local illumination
 - Only direct light from the light sources
 - No further reflection on other surfaces
 - Constant ambient term
- **Often: light sources & viewer assumed to be far away**