
CS680: Rendering Equation

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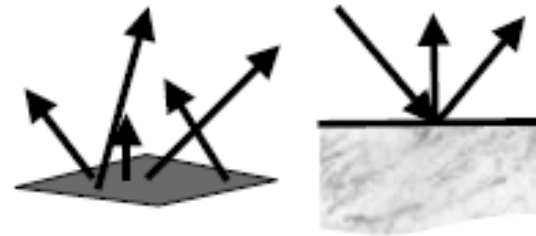
Course URL:
<http://jupiter.kaist.ac.kr/~sungeui/SGA/>

KAIST



Light and Material Interactions

- Physics of light
- Radiometry
- Material properties
- Rendering equation



From kavita's slides

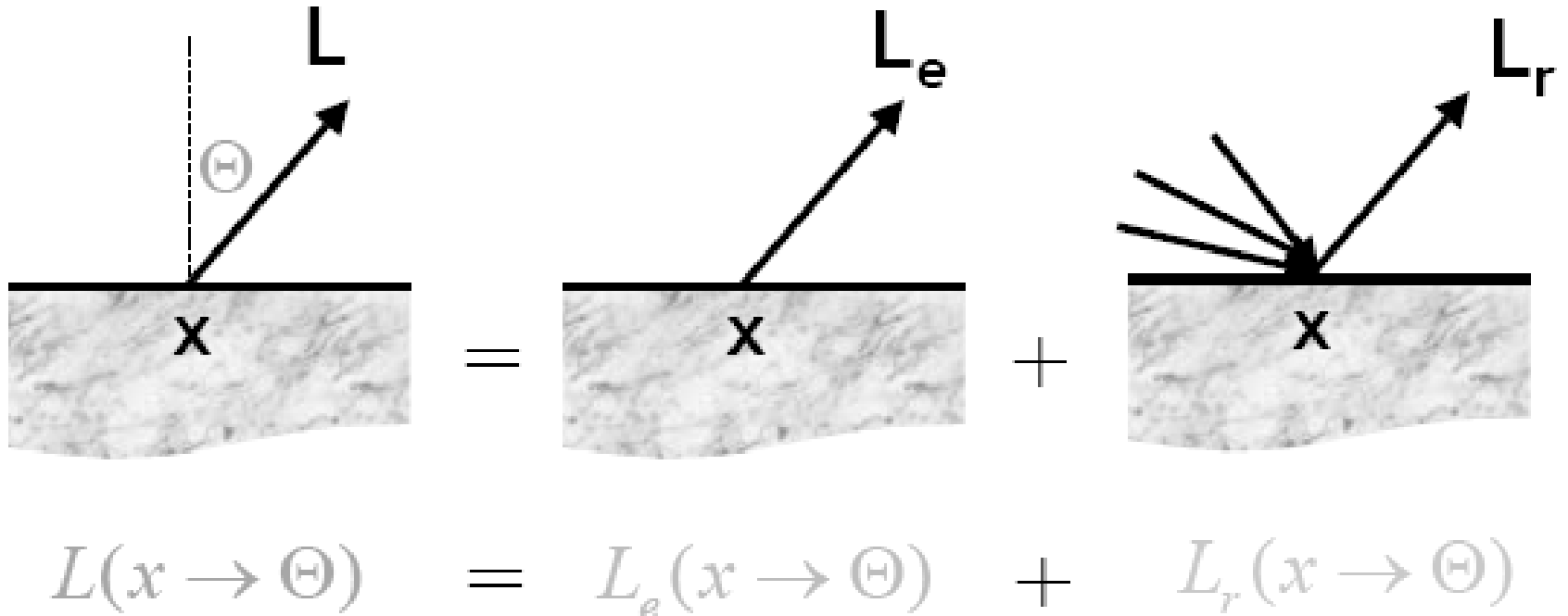
Light Transport

- **Goal**
 - Describe steady-state radiance distribution in scene
- **Assumption**
 - Geometric optics
 - Achieves steady state instantaneously

Rendering Equation

- Describes energy transport in scene
- Input
 - Light sources
 - Surface geometry
 - Reflectance characteristics of surfaces
- Output
 - Value of radiances at all surface points in all directions

Rendering Equation



The diagram illustrates the rendering equation through three stages of light transport from a point x on a surface:

- Left:** Incident light L is shown at an angle Θ relative to the surface normal.
- Middle:** Emitted light L_e is shown.
- Right:** Reflected light L_r is shown, resulting from multiple incident rays.

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + L_r(x \rightarrow \Theta)$$

Rendering Equation

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_{\text{hemisphere}} L(x \leftarrow \Psi) \dots$$

Rendering Equation

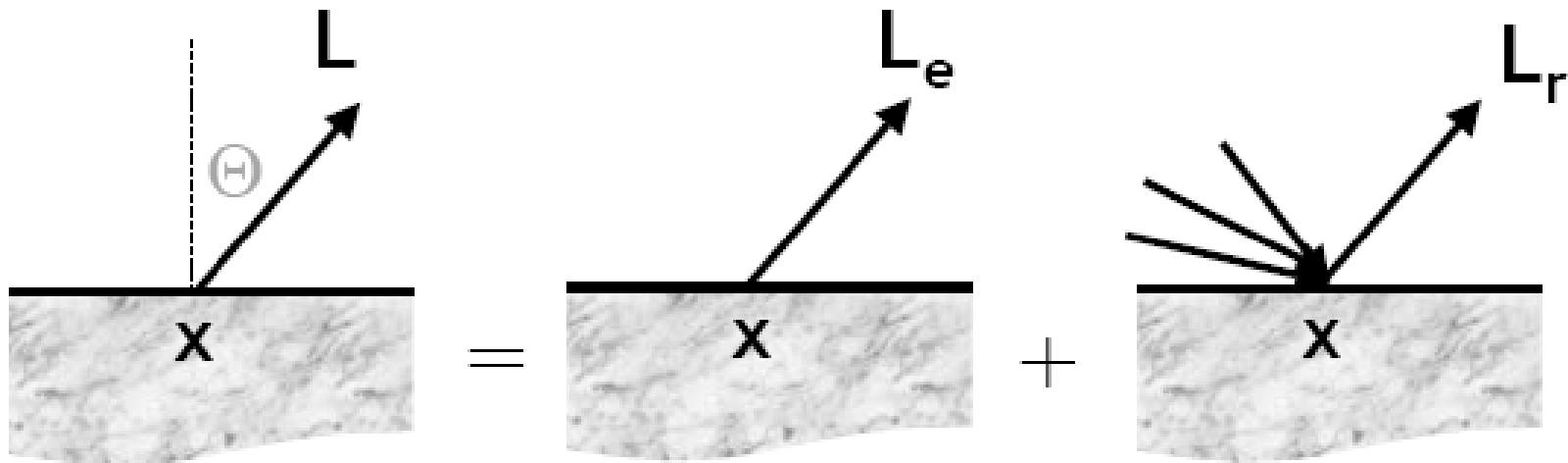
$$f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) = \frac{dL(x \rightarrow \Theta)}{dE(x \leftarrow \Psi)}$$

$$dL(x \rightarrow \Theta) = f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) dE(x \leftarrow \Psi)$$

$$dL(x \rightarrow \Theta) = f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) L(x \leftarrow \Psi) \cos(N_x, \Psi) d\omega_\Psi$$

$$L_r(x \rightarrow \Theta) = \int_{\text{hemisphere}} f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) L(x \leftarrow \Psi) \cos(N_x, \Psi) d\omega_\Psi$$

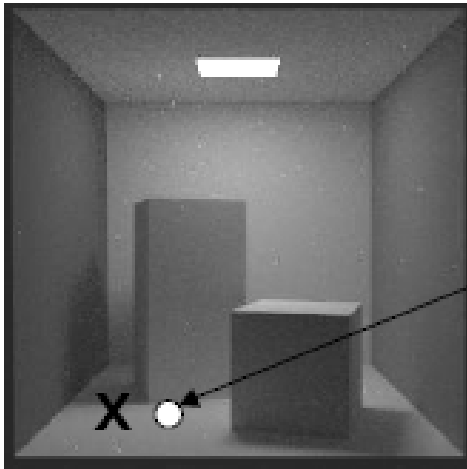
Rendering Equation



$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_{\text{hemisphere}} L(x \leftarrow \Psi) f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cos(\mathbf{N}_x, \Psi) d\omega_\Psi$$

- Applicable for each wavelength

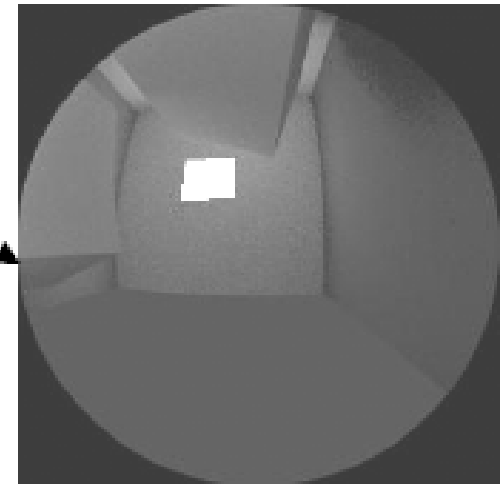
Rendering Equation



$$\underline{L(x \rightarrow \Theta)} = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) +$$

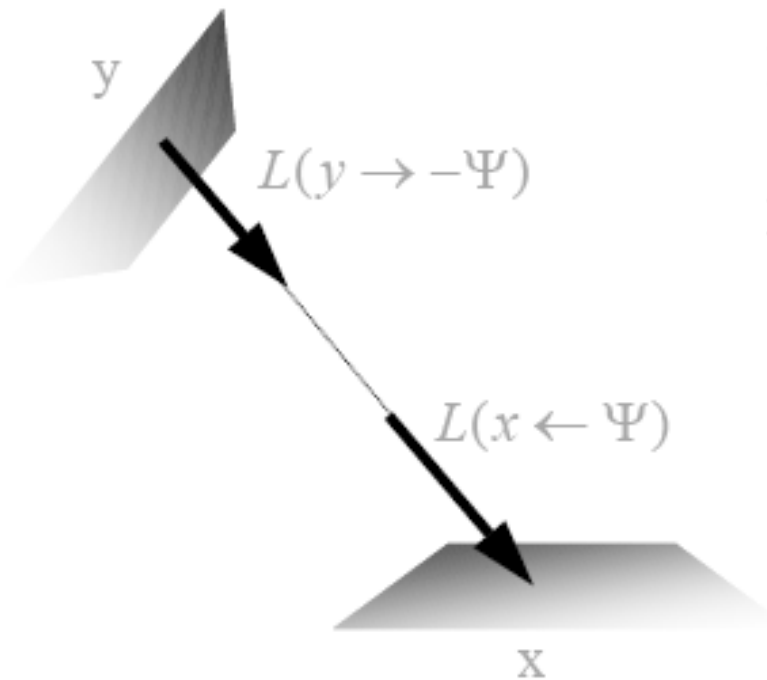
$$\int_{\text{hemisphere}} L(x \leftarrow \Psi) f_r(x, \Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cos(\mathbf{N}_x, \Psi) d\omega_\Psi$$

incoming radiance



Rendering Equation: Area Formulation

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_{\Omega_x} f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cdot L(x \leftarrow \Psi) \cdot \cos \theta_x \cdot d\omega_\Psi$$



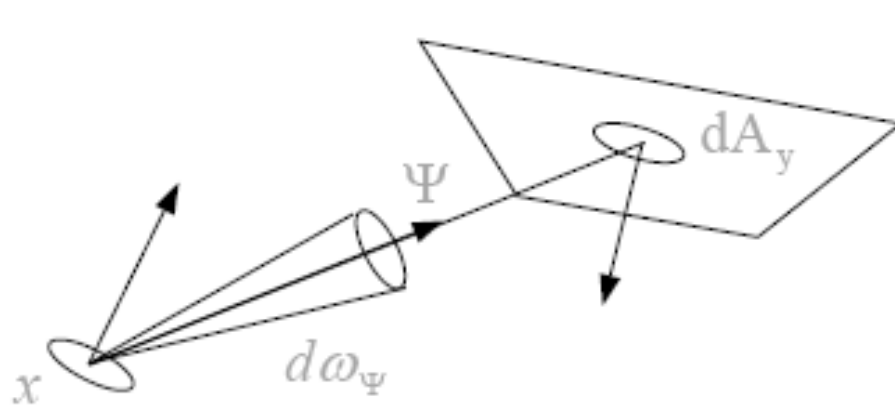
Ray-casting function: what is the nearest visible surface point seen from x in direction Ψ ?

$$y = vp(x, \Psi)$$

$$L(x \leftarrow \Psi) = L(vp(x, \Psi) \rightarrow -\Psi)$$

Rendering Equation

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_{\Omega_x} f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cdot L(x \leftarrow \Psi) \cdot \cos \theta_x \cdot d\omega_\Psi$$



$$y = vp(x, \Psi)$$

$$L(x \leftarrow \Psi) = L(vp(x, \Psi) \rightarrow -\Psi)$$

$$d\omega_\Psi = \frac{dA_y \cos \theta_y}{r_{xy}^2}$$

Rendering Equation: Visible Surfaces

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_{\Omega_x} f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cdot L(x \leftarrow \Psi) \cdot \cos \theta_x \cdot d\omega_\Psi$$

Coordinate transform



$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_{\substack{y \text{ on} \\ \text{all surfaces}}} f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cdot L(y \rightarrow -\Psi) \cos \theta_x \cdot \frac{\cos \theta_y}{r_{xy}^2} \cdot dA_y$$



$$y = vp(x, \Psi)$$

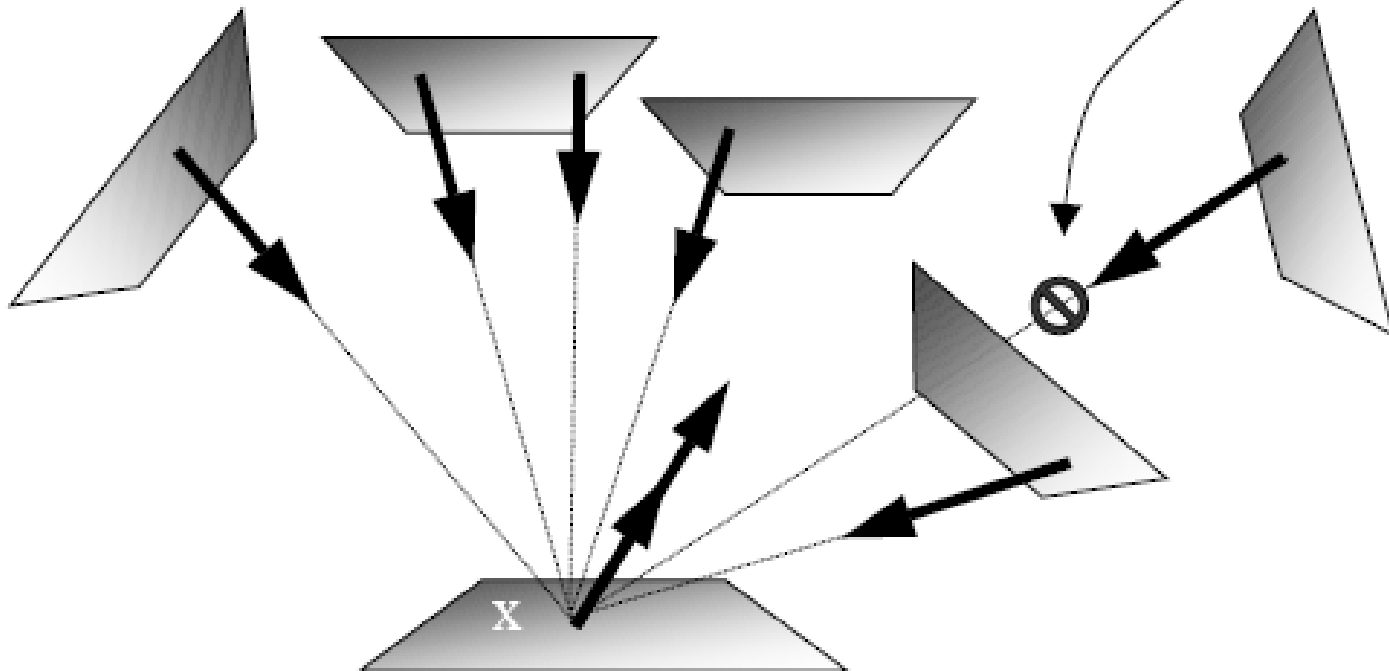


Integration domain = visible surface points y

- Integration domain extended to ALL surface points by including visibility function

Rendering Equation: All Surfaces

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(\dots) + \int_A f_r(\dots) \cdot L(y \rightarrow -\Psi) \cdot \frac{\cos \theta_x \cdot \cos \theta_y}{r_{xy}^2} \cdot V(x, y) dA_y$$



Two Forms of the Rendering Equation

- Hemisphere integration

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_{\Omega_x} f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cdot L(x \leftarrow \Psi) \cdot \cos \theta_x \cdot d\omega_\Psi$$

- Area integration

$$L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = L_e(x \rightarrow \Theta) + \int_A f_r(\Psi \leftrightarrow \Theta) \cdot L(y \rightarrow -\Psi) \cdot \frac{\cos \theta_x \cdot \cos \theta_y}{r_{xy}^2} \cdot V(x, y) \cdot dA_y$$

Summary

- **Geometric optics**
- **Radiometry**
- **Rendering equation**
 - **Mathematical formulation that global illumination algorithms must solve**

Next Time

- Monte Carlo ray tracing