## AI Art at Christie's Sells for \$432,500



### **Photometric Stereo**

Computer Vision Fall 2018 Columbia University

### Last Time: Two-View Stereo







Key Idea: use feature motion to understand shape

## Today: Photometric Stereo





Key Idea: use pixel brightness to understand shape

## Today: Photometric Stereo







Key Idea: use pixel brightness to understand shape



As the surface tilts away from the light source the same light energy is spread over a larger area, making the surface darker

### Photometric Stereo

#### What results can you get?



Input (1 of 12)

Normals (RGB colormap)

Normals (vectors)

Shaded 3D rendering

Textured 3D rendering



## Modeling Image Formation



#### Now we need to reason about:

- How light interacts with the scene
- How a pixel value is related to light energy in the world

Track a "ray" of light all the way from light source to the sensor

# Light rays interacting with a surface

- Light of radiance  $L_i$  comes from light source at an incoming direction  $\theta_i$
- It sends out a ray of radiance  $L_r$  in the outgoing direction  $\theta_r$
- How does  $L_r$  relate to  $L_i$  ?



- **N** is surface normal
- L is direction of light, making  $\theta_i$  with normal
- V is viewing direction, making  $\theta_r$  with normal

## Light rays interacting with a surface



- **N** is surface normal
- L is direction of light, making  $\theta_i$  with normal
- V is viewing direction, making  $\theta_r$  with normal

Output radiance  
along V 
$$L_{r} = \rho(\theta_{i}, \theta_{r}) L_{i} \cos \theta_{i}$$
 Incoming  
irradiance along  
Bi-directional reflectance function (BRDF)





## Ideal Diffuse Reflection

- Characteristic of multiple scattering materials
- An idealization but reasonable for matte surfaces
- Basis of most radiosity methods



## Ideal Specular Reflection

- Calculated from Fresnel's equations
- Exact for polished surfaces
- Basis of early ray-tracing methods



# Light rays interacting with a surface



$$L_r = \rho(\theta_i, \theta_r) L_i \cos \theta_i$$

- Special case 1: Perfect mirror
  - $\rho(\theta_i, \theta_r) = 0$  unless  $\theta_i = \theta_r$
- Special case 2: Matte surface
  - $\rho(\theta_i, \theta_r) = \rho_0$  (constant)

#### For now, ignore specular reflection



Slides from Photometric Methods for 3D Modeling, Matsushita, Wilburn, Ben-Ezra

#### And Refraction...



Slides from Photometric Methods for 3D Modeling, Matsushita, Wilburn, Ben-Ezra

#### And Interreflections...



Slides from Photometric Methods for 3D Modeling, Matsushita, Wilburn, Ben-Ezra

#### And Subsurface Scattering...



Slides from Photometric Methods for 3D Modeling, Matsushita, Wilburn, Ben-Ezra

### Lambertian surfaces

• For a lambertian surface:

$$L_r = \rho L_i \cos \theta_i$$

$$\Rightarrow L_r = \rho L_i \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}$$

- $\rho$  is called *albedo* 
  - Think of this as paint
  - High albedo: white colored surface
  - Low albedo: black surface
  - Varies from point to point



### Lambertian surfaces

- Assume the light is directional: all rays from light source are parallel
  - Equivalent to a light source infinitely far away
- All pixels get light from the same direction L and of the same intensity L<sub>i</sub>



### Lambertian surfaces



## Reconstructing Lambertian surfaces $I(x,y) = \rho(x,y)L_i\mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}(x,y)$

- Equation is a constraint on albedo and normals
- Can we solve for albedo and normals?















- Step 1: Intrinsic image decomposition
  - Reflectance image  $\rho(x, y)$
  - Shading image  $L_i \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}(x, y)$
  - Decomposition relies on priors or reflectance image
- What kind of priors?
  - Reflectance image captures the "paint" on an object surface
  - Surfaces tend to be of uniform color with sharp edges when color changes



- Step 2: Decompose shading image into illumination and normals
  - $L_i \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}(x, y)$
  - Called Shape-From-Shading
  - Relies on priors on shape: shapes are smooth



### Photometric Stereo







Key Idea: use pixel brightness to understand shape

### Solution 2: Recovery from multiple images $I(x,y) = \rho(x,y)L_i\mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}(x,y)$

- Represents an equation in the albedo and normals
- Multiple images give constraints on albedo and normals
- Called Photometric Stereo



Image credit: Wikipedia

#### Photometric stereo - the math

$$I(x,y) = \rho(x,y)L_i\mathbf{L}\cdot\mathbf{N}(x,y)$$

Consider single pixel

• Assume 
$$L_i = 1$$
  
 $I = 
ho \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{N}$   
 $I = 
ho \mathbf{N}^T \mathbf{L}$ 

- Write  $\mathbf{G} = \rho \mathbf{N}$
- G is a 3-vector
  - Norm of **G** =  $\rho$
  - Direction of G = N

### Photometric stereo - the math

- Consider single pixel
- Assume  $L_i = 1$

$$I = \rho \mathbf{N}^T \mathbf{L}$$

- Write  $\mathbf{G}=
  ho\mathbf{N}$
- G is a 3-vector
  - Norm of **G** =  $\rho$
  - Direction of G = N

$$I = \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{L} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}$$

# Photometric stereo - the math $I = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}$

 Multiple images with different light sources but same viewing direction?

$$I_1 = \mathbf{L}_1^T \mathbf{G}$$
$$I_2 = \mathbf{L}_2^T \mathbf{G}$$
$$\vdots$$
$$I_k = \mathbf{L}_k^T \mathbf{G}$$
## Photometric stereo - the math $I_1 = \mathbf{L}_1^T \mathbf{G}$ $I_2 = \mathbf{L}_2^T \mathbf{G}$ .

$$I_k = \mathbf{L}_k^T \mathbf{G}$$

- Assume lighting directions are known
- Each is a linear equation in G
- Stack everything up into a massive linear system of equations!

## Photometric stereo - the math



## Photometric stereo - the math

- What is the minimum value of k to allow recovery of G?
- How do we recover G if the problem is overconstrained?

## Photometric stereo - the math

- How do we recover G if the problem is overconstrained?
  - More than 3 lights: more than 3 images
- Least squares

$$\min_{\mathbf{G}} \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}\|^2$$

Solved using normal equations

$$\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{L}\mathbf{I}$$

## Normal equations

## $\|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}\|^2 = \mathbf{I}^T \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G} - 2\mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{I}$

• Take derivative with respect to **G** and set to 0

# $2\mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^T\mathbf{G} - 2\mathbf{L}\mathbf{I} = 0$ $\Rightarrow \mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{L}\mathbf{I}$

## Estimating normals and albedo from **G**

• Recall that  $\mathbf{G} = \rho \mathbf{N}$ 

 $\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{G}\| &= \rho \\ \mathbf{G} \\ \|\mathbf{G}\| &= \mathbf{N} \end{aligned}$ 

## Multiple pixels

- We've looked at a single pixel till now
- How do we handle multiple pixels?
- Essentially independent equations!



## Multiple pixels: matrix form

• Note that all pixels share the same set of lights

 $\mathbf{I}^{(1)} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}^{(1)}$  $\mathbf{I}^{(2)} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}^{(2)}$ 

```
\mathbf{I}^{(n)} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}^{(n)}
```

## Multiple pixels: matrix form

Can stack these into columns of a matrix

 $\mathbf{I}^{(1)} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}^{(1)}$  $\mathbf{I}^{(2)} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}^{(2)}$ 

$$\mathbf{I}^{(n)} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}^{(n)}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}^{(1)} & \mathbf{I}^{(2)} & \cdots & \mathbf{I}^{(n)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{L}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}^{(1)} & \mathbf{G}^{(2)} & \cdots & \mathbf{G}^{(n)} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{G}$$

## Multiple pixels: matrix form $\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{G}$



## Determining Light Directions

• Trick: Place a mirror ball in the scene.



• The location of the highlight is determined by the light source direction.

#### Real-World HDR Lighting Environments

Funston Beach



Eucalyptus Grove





Grace Cathedral



Lighting Environments from the Light Probe Image Gallery: http://www.debevec.org/Probes/

Uffizi

Gallery

## **Mirrored Sphere**







## **Extreme HDR Image Series**



1 sec f/4



1/4 sec f/4



1/30 sec f/4



1/30 sec f/16



1/250 sec f/16



1/1000 sec f/16



1/8000 sec f/16

## **Extreme HDR Image Series** sun closeup



## HDRI Sky Probe



© Kavita Bala, Computer Science, Cornell University

## Determining Light Directions

#### • For a perfect mirror, the light is reflected across N:



$$I_{e} = \begin{cases} I_{i} & \text{if } \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{R} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## Determining Light Directions



$$L = 2(N \cdot R)N - R$$

## Photometric Stereo

What results can you get?



Input (1 of 12) Normals (RGB colormap)

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## Results





#### from Athos Georghiades

Surface normals

Light directions



Surface normals, scaled by albedo

Light directions, scaled by intensity

 $I = N \cdot L$ 

p = # pixels





Both L and G are now unknown! This is a matrix factorization problem.





There's hope: We know that I is rank 3

Use the SVD to decompose I:



SVD gives the best rank-3 approximation of a matrix.

Use the SVD to decompose I:



SVD gives the best rank-3 approximation of a matrix. What do we do with  $\Sigma$ ?

Use the SVD to decompose I:



Can we just do that?

Use the SVD to decompose I:



Can we just do that? ...almost.

The decomposition is unique up to an invertible 3x3 A.

Use the SVD to decompose I:



Can we just do that? ...almost.  $L = U\sqrt{\Sigma}A, G = A^{-1}\sqrt{\Sigma}V$ 

The decomposition is unique up to an invertible 3x3 A.

Use the SVD to decompose I:



$$L = U\sqrt{\Sigma}A, G = A^{-1}\sqrt{\Sigma}V$$

You can find A if you know

- 6 points with the same reflectance, or
- 6 lights with the same intensity.

## Unknown Lighting: Ambiguities

- Multiple combinations of lighting and geometry can produce the same sets of images.
- Add assumptions or prior knowledge about geometry or lighting, etc. to limit the ambiguity.



[Belhumeur et al.'97]



## Clear Elastomer

Johnson and Adelson, 2009



## Lights, camera, action



Camera


Figure 2. (a) This decorative pin consists of a glass bas-relief portrait mounted in a shiny gold setting. (b) The RGB image provided by the retrographic sensor. The pin is pressed into the elastomer skin, and colored lights illuminate it from three directions.







**Figure 7:** Comparison with the high-resolution result from the original retrographic sensor. (a) Rendering of the high-resolution \$20 bill example from the original retrographic sensor with a close-up view. (b) Rendering of the captured geometry using our method.



**Figure 9:** Example geometry measured with the bench and portable configurations. Outer image: rendering under direct lighting. Inset: macro photograph of original sample. Scale shown in upper left. Color images are shown for context and are to similar, but not exact scale.