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# CS580: Ray Tracing

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(윤성의)

Course URL:

<http://sgvr.kaist.ac.kr/~sungeui/GCG/>

**KAIST**



# Class Objectives (Ch. 10)

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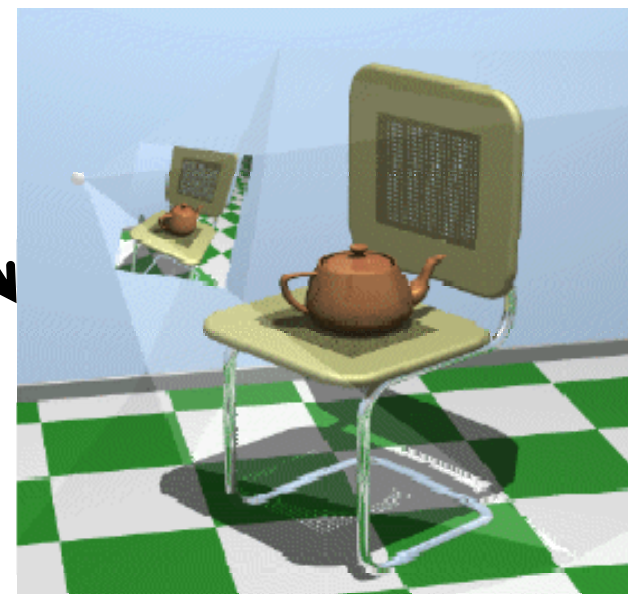
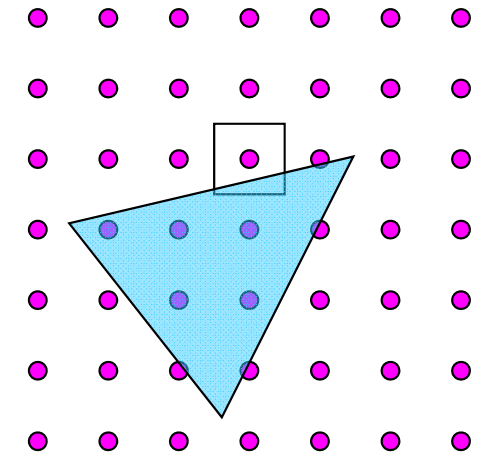
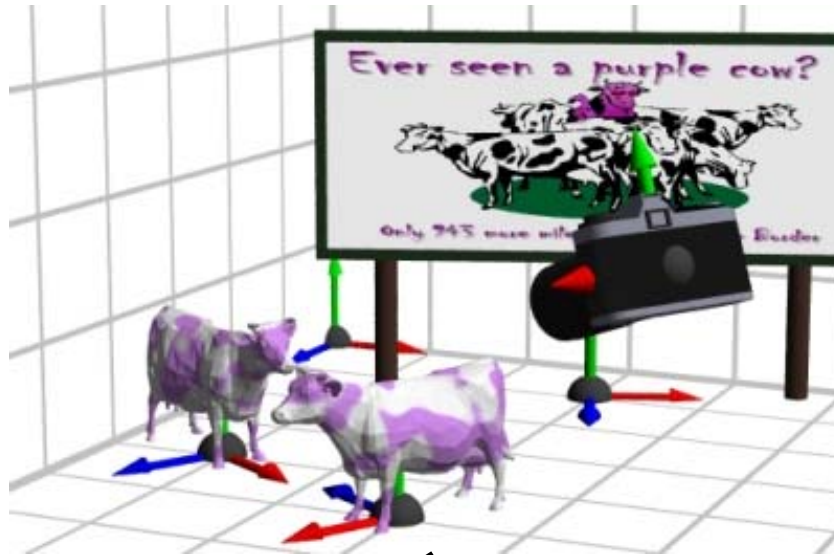
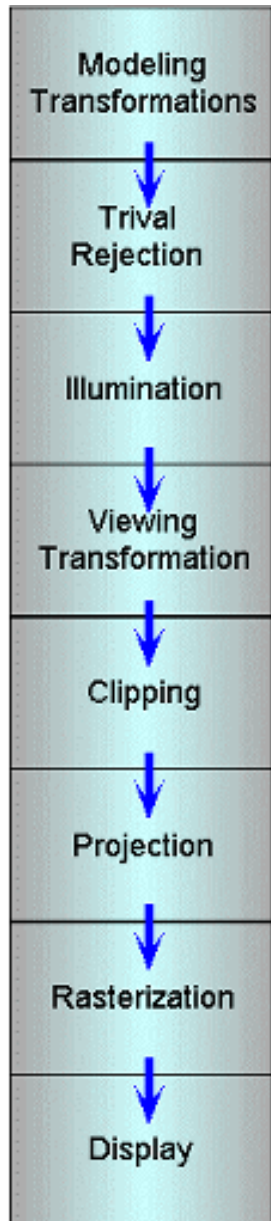
- **Understand a basic ray tracing**
- **Know its acceleration data structure and how to use it**

# Honor Code and Etiquette

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- **Collaboration encouraged, but *assignments must be your own work***
- **Cite any other's work if you use their codes**
  - **If you copy someone else's codes, you will get F**
  - **If your ones are copied, you will also get F**
- **Classroom etiquette**
  - **Help you and your peer to focus on the class**
  - **Turn off cell phones**
  - **Arrive to the class on time**
  - **Avoid private conversations**
  - **Be attentive in class**
- **Let's introduce each other**

# The Classic Rendering Pipeline



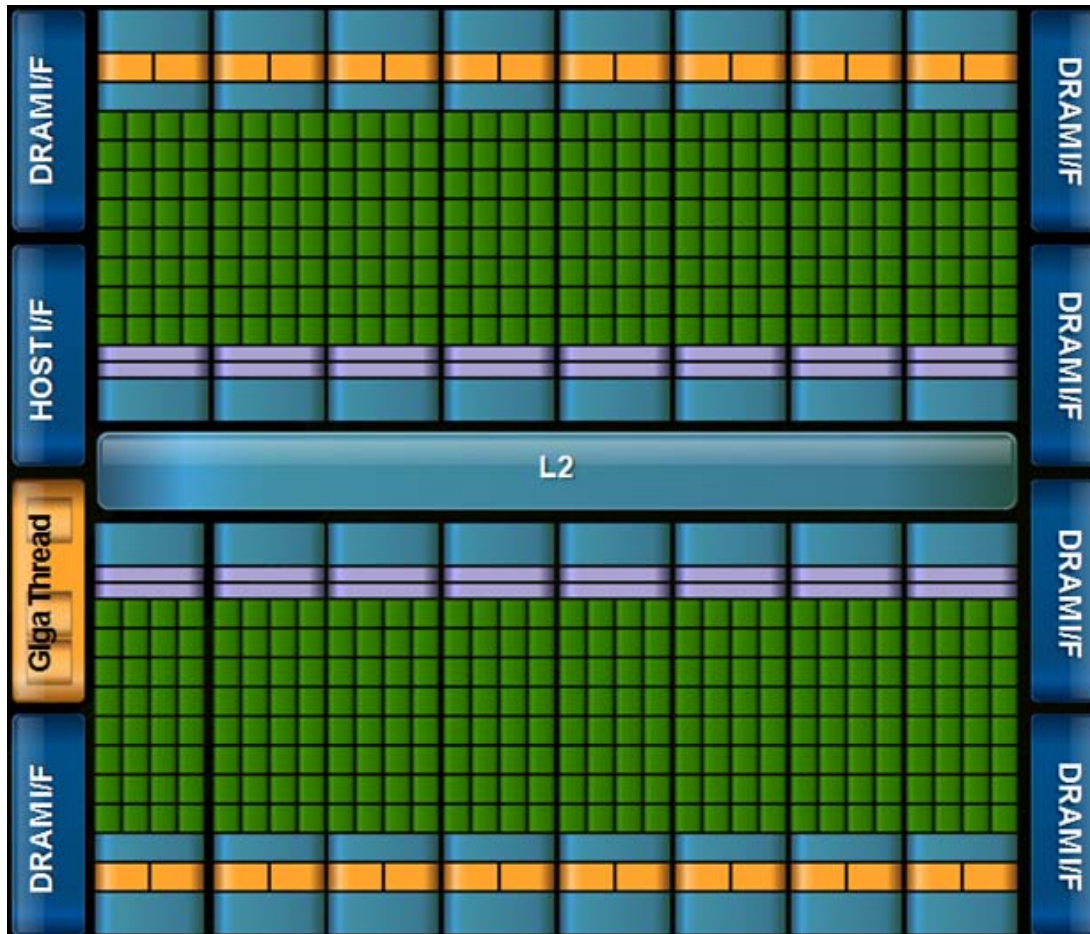
# Why we are using rasterization?

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- **Efficiency**
- **Reasonably quality**

# Fermi GPU Architecture

16 SM (streaming processors)



512 CUDA cores

Memory interfaces

# Turing Architecture, 2018

- Aims to combine shade, compute, ray tracing, and AI

**LIVE**

Architecture	Shader   Compute	Tensor Core	RT Core	Transistors	Area	Memory	Frequency
PASCAL	13 TFLOPS FP32 50 TOPS INT8	-	-	11.8 Billion	471 mm <sup>2</sup>	24 GB	10GHz
TURING	16 TFLOPS + 16 TIPS	125 TFLOPS FP16 250 TOPS INT8 500 TOPS INT4	10 Giga Rays/Sec	18.6 Billion	754 mm <sup>2</sup>	48+48	GHz

**AI**

# Where Rasterization Is

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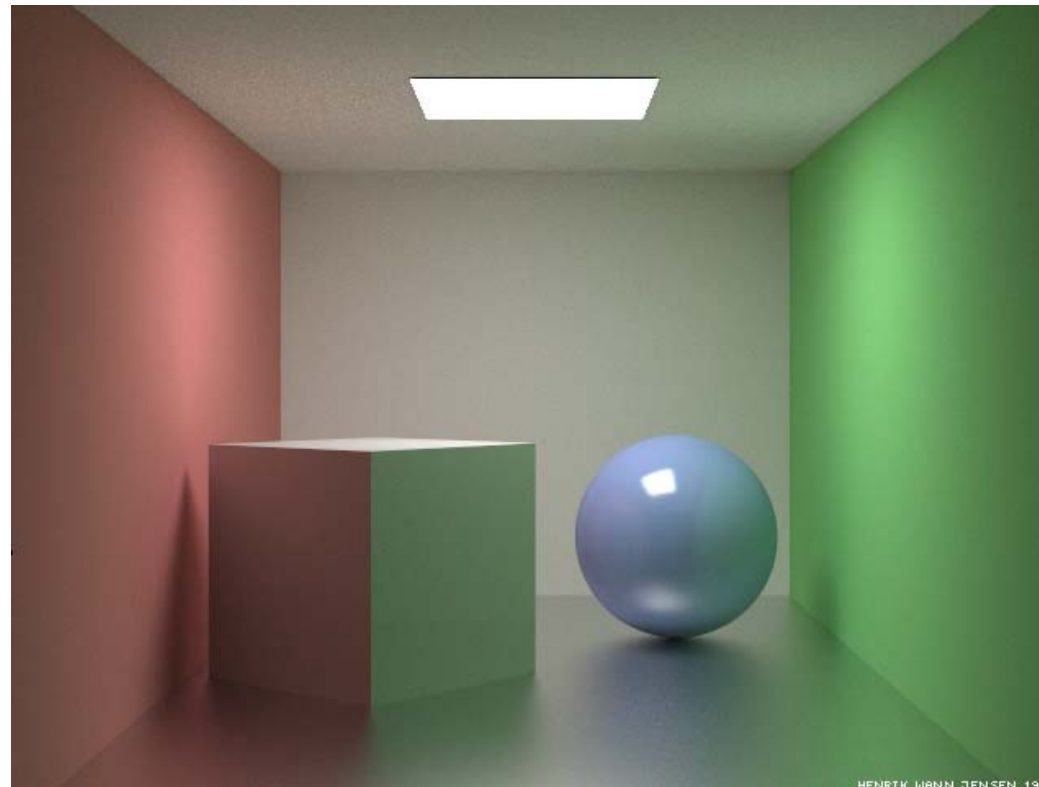
From Battlefield: Bad Company, EA Digital Illusions  
CE AB



# But what about other visual cues?

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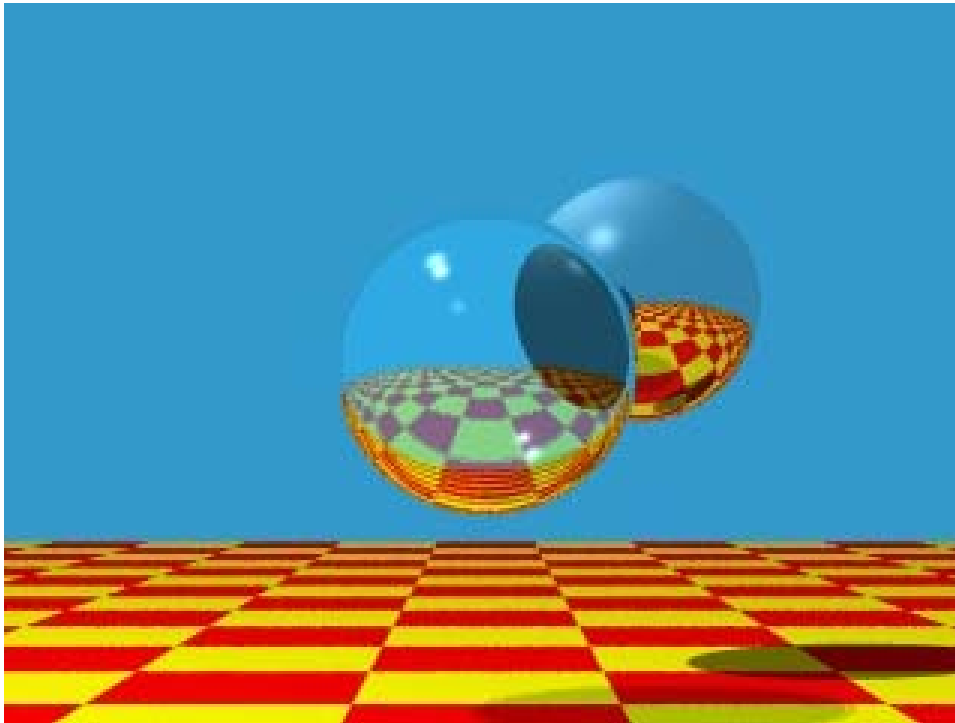
- **Lighting**
  - **Shadows**
  - **Shading: glossy, transparency**
- **Color bleeding, etc**



# Recursive Ray Casting

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- Gained popularity in when Turner Whitted (1980) recognized that *recursive* ray casting could be used for global illumination effects



# Ray Casting and Ray Tracing

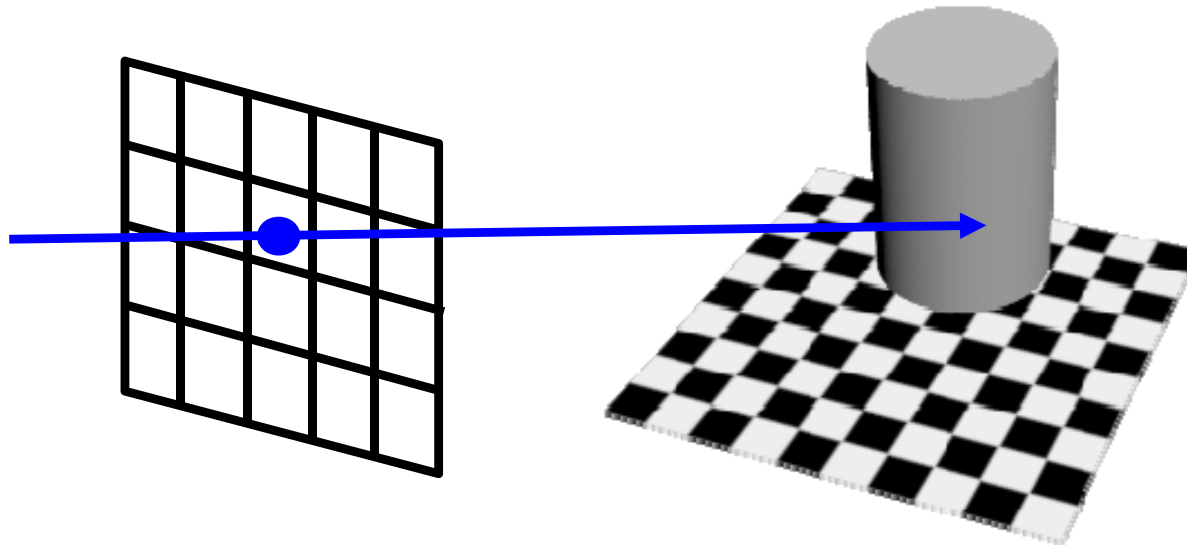
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- **Trace rays from eye into scene**
  - **Backward ray tracing**
- **Ray casting used to compute visibility at the eye**
- **Perform ray tracing for arbitrary rays needed for shading**
  - **Reflections**
  - **Refraction and transparency**
  - **Shadows**

# Basic Algorithms

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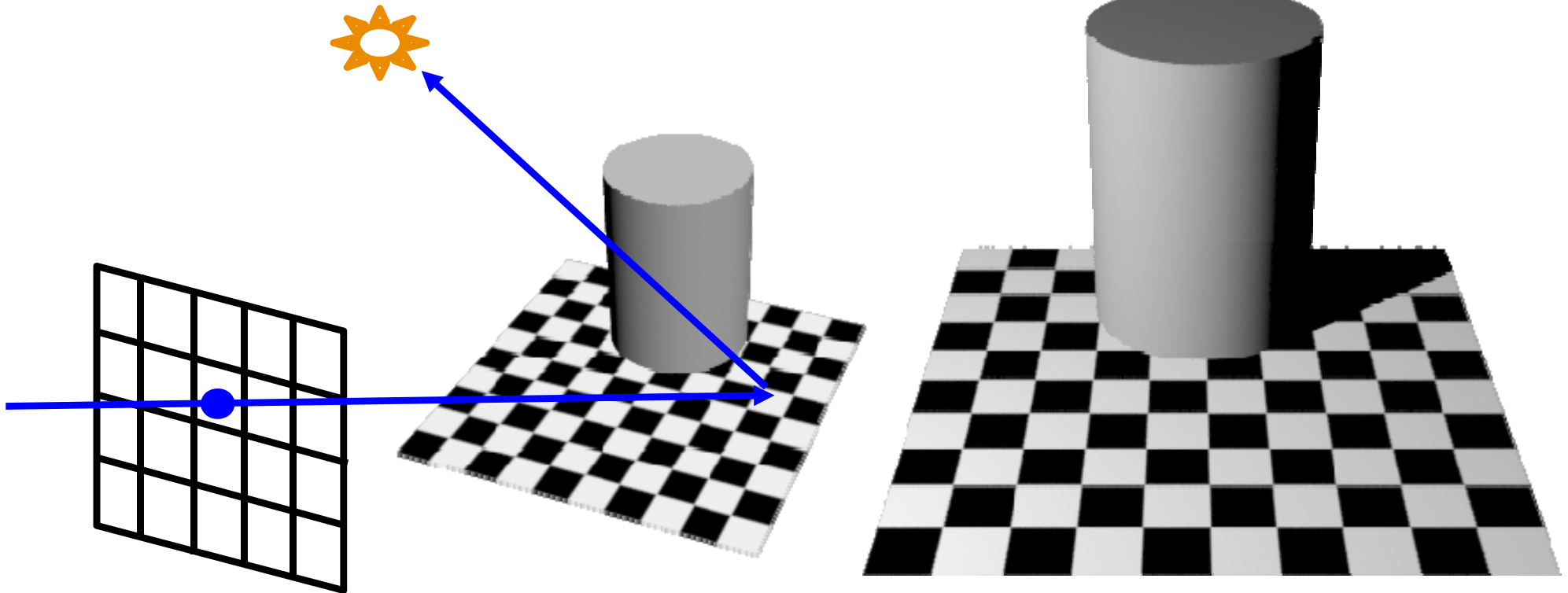
- Rays are cast from the eye point through each pixel in the image



# Shadows

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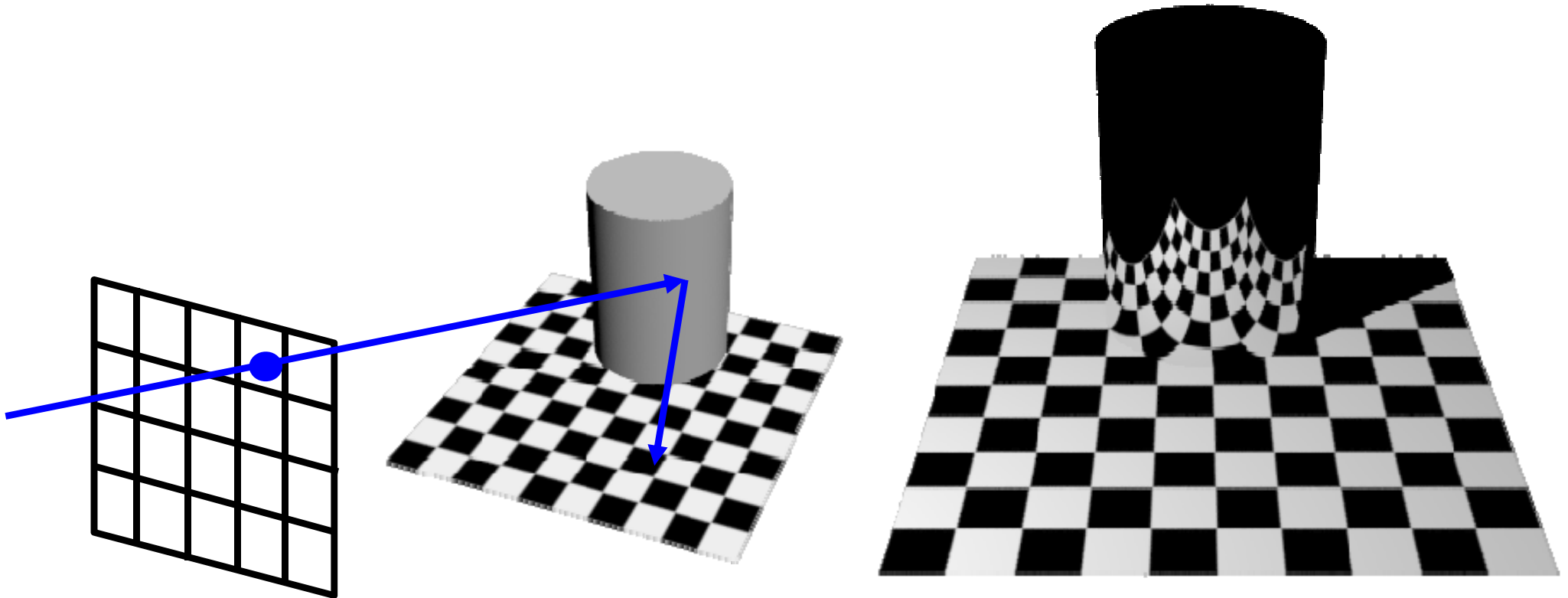
- **Cast ray from the intersection point to each light source**
  - **Shadow rays**



# Reflections

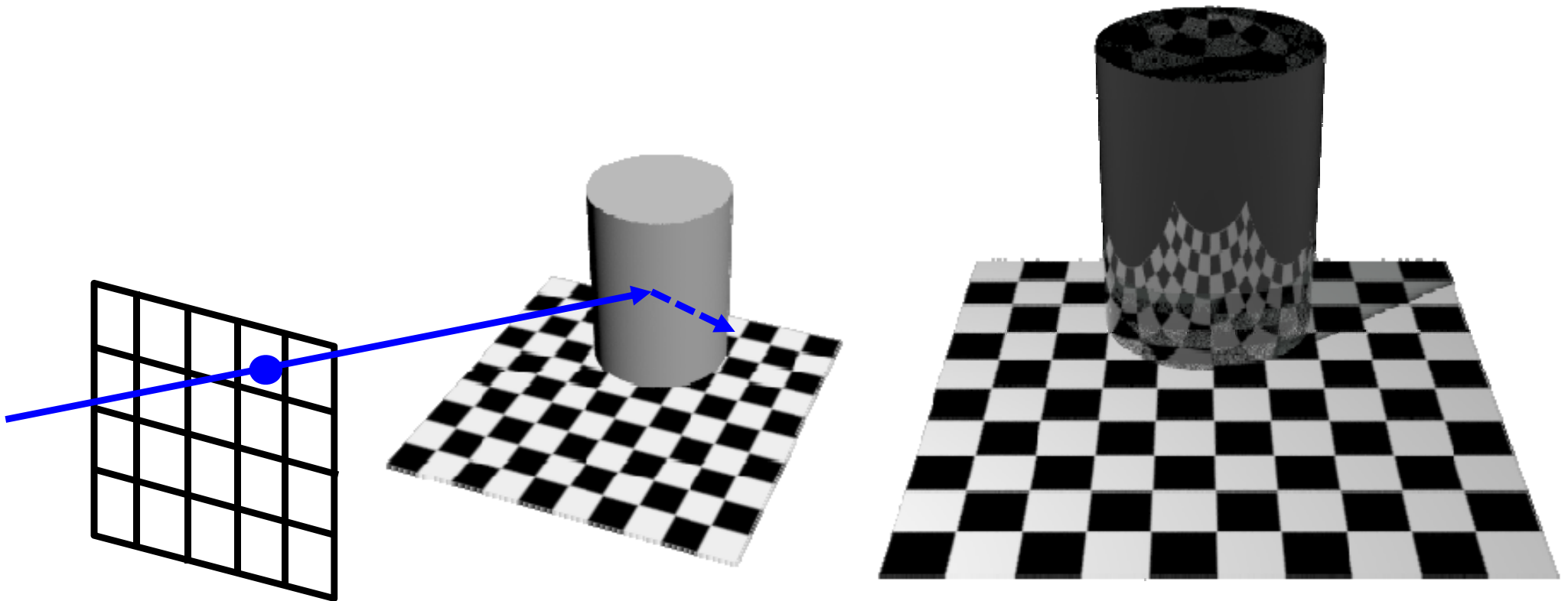
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- **If object specular, cast secondary reflected rays**



# Refractions

- If object transparent, cast secondary refracted rays



# An Improved Illumination Model [Whitted 80]

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- **Phong illumination model**

$$I_r = \sum_{j=1}^{\text{numLights}} (k_a^j I_a^j + k_d^j I_d^j (\hat{N} \cdot \hat{L}_j) + k_s^j I_s^j (\hat{V} \cdot \hat{R})^{n_s})$$

- **Whitted model**

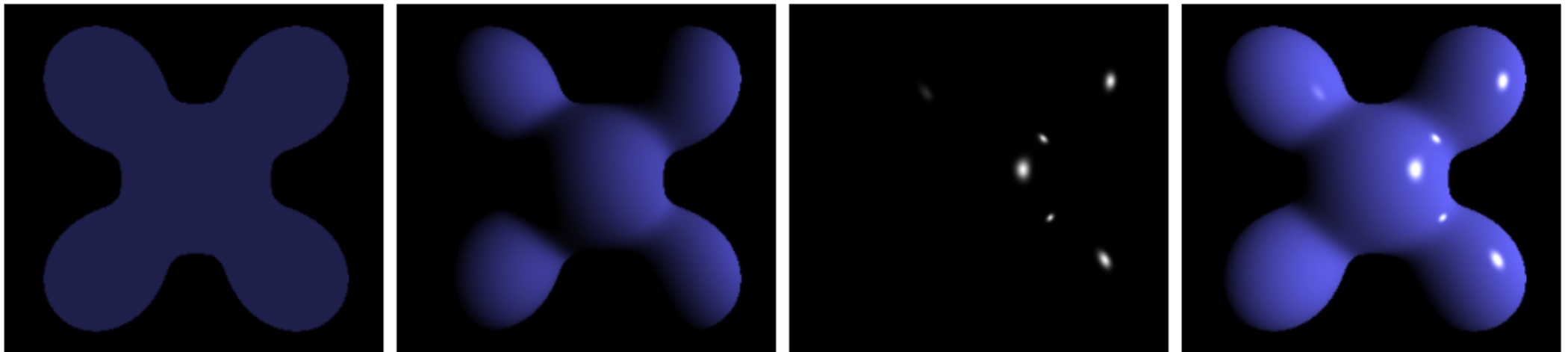
$$I_r = \sum_{j=1}^{\text{numLights}} (k_a^j I_a^j + k_d^j I_d^j (\hat{N} \cdot \hat{L}_j)) + k_s S + k_t T$$

- **S and T are intensity of light from reflection and transmission rays**
- **Ks and Kt are specular and transmission coefficient**



# OpenGL's Illumination Model

$$I_r = \sum_{j=1}^{\text{numLights}} (k_a^j I_a^j + k_d^j I_d^j \max((\hat{N} \cdot \hat{L}_j), 0) + k_s^j I_s^j \max((\hat{V} \cdot \hat{R})^{n_s}, 0))$$



Ambient + Diffuse + Specular = Phong Reflection

From Wikipedia

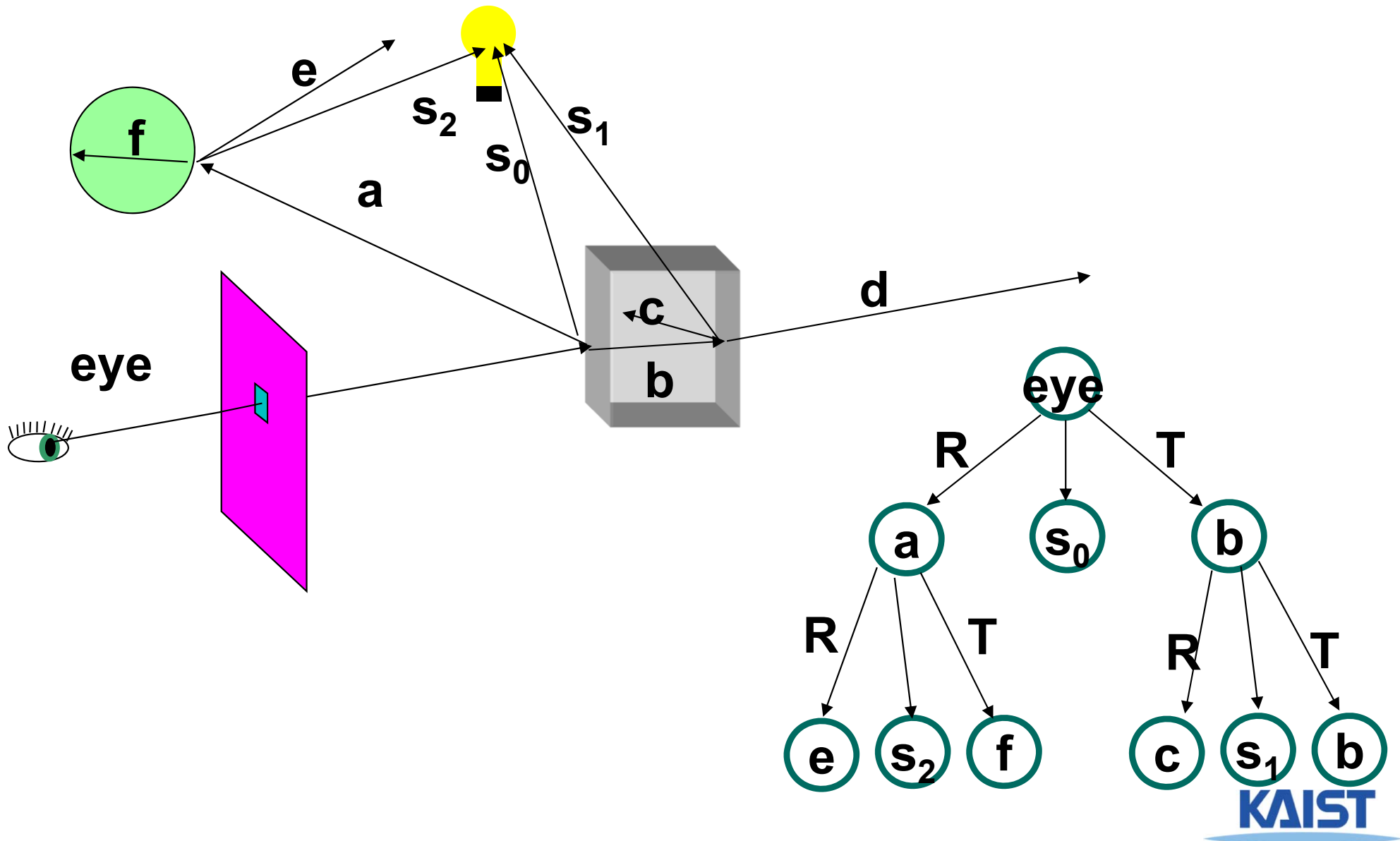
Details are available at Ch. 8 Illumination and Shading

# Some Examples

$$I_r = \sum_{j=1}^{\text{numLights}} (k_a^j I_a^j + k_d^j I_d^j \max((\hat{N} \cdot \hat{L}_j), 0) + k_s^j I_s^j \max((\hat{V} \cdot \hat{R}), 0)^n)$$

Phong	$P_{\text{ambient}}$	$P_{\text{diffuse}}$	$P_{\text{specular}}$	$P_{\text{total}}$
$\phi_i = 60^\circ$				
$\phi_i = 25^\circ$				
$\phi_i = 0^\circ$				

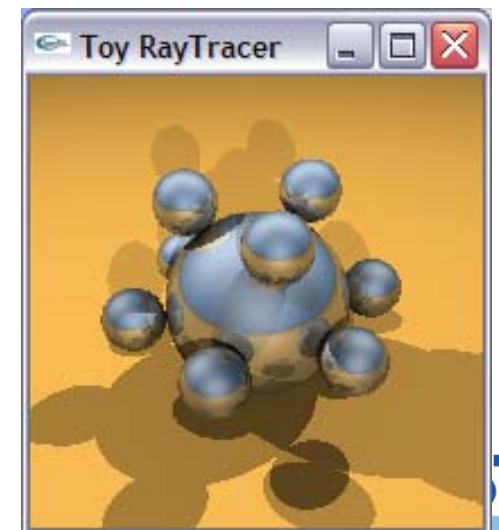
# Ray Tree



# Acceleration Methods for Ray Tracing

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- **Rendering time for a ray tracer depends on the number of ray intersection tests per pixel**
  - The number of pixels X the number of primitives in the scene
- **Early efforts focused on accelerating the ray-object intersection tests**
  - Ray-triangle intersection tests
- **More advanced methods required to make ray tracing practical**
  - Bounding volume hierarchies
  - Spatial subdivision (e.g., kd-trees)

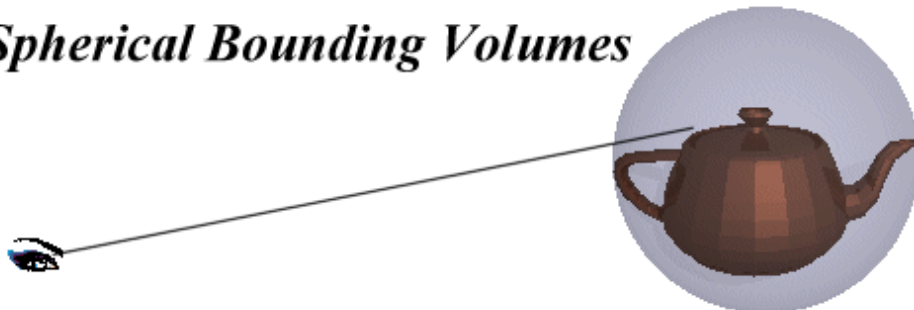


# Bounding Volumes

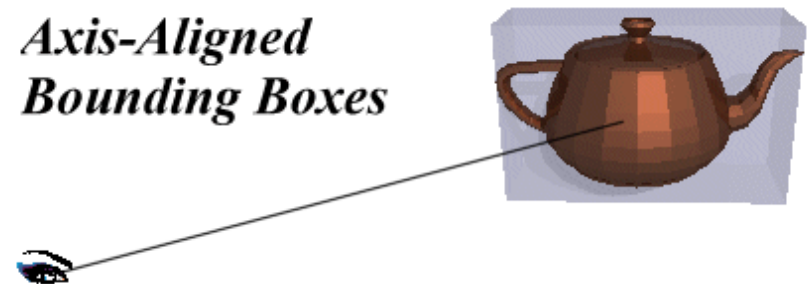
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- **Enclose complex objects within a simple-to-intersect objects**
  - If the ray does not intersect the simple object then its contents can be ignored
  - The likelihood that it will strike the object depends on how tightly the volume surrounds the object.
- **Spheres are simple, but not tight**
- **Axis-aligned bounding boxes often better**
  - Can use nested or hierarchical bounding volumes

*Spherical Bounding Volumes*



*Axis-Aligned Bounding Boxes*

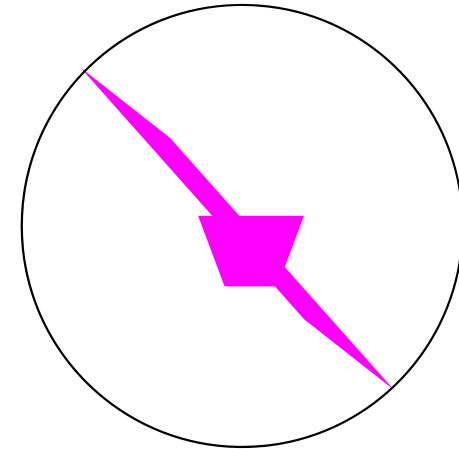


# Bounding Volumes

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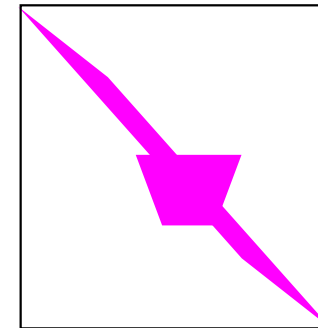
- **Sphere [Whitted80]**

- Cheap to compute
- Cheap test
- Potentially very bad fit



- **Axis-Aligned Bounding Box**

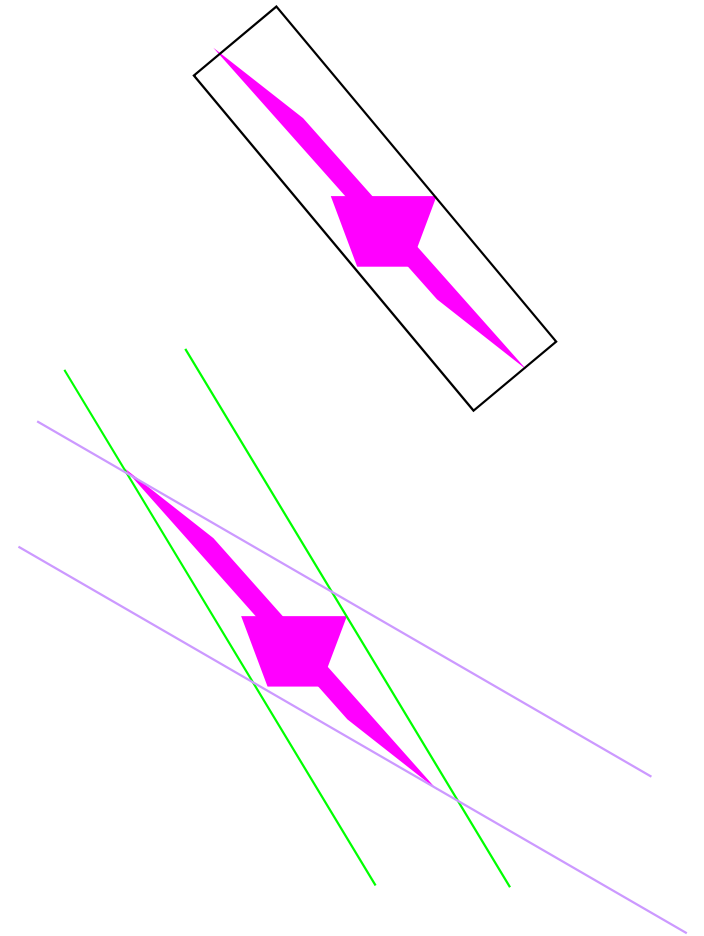
- Very cheap to compute
- Cheap test
- Tighter than sphere



# Bounding Volumes

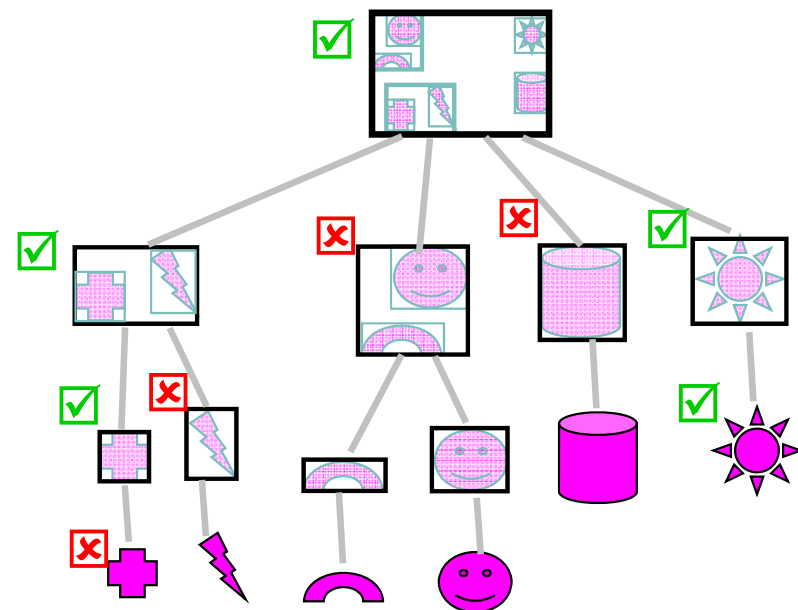
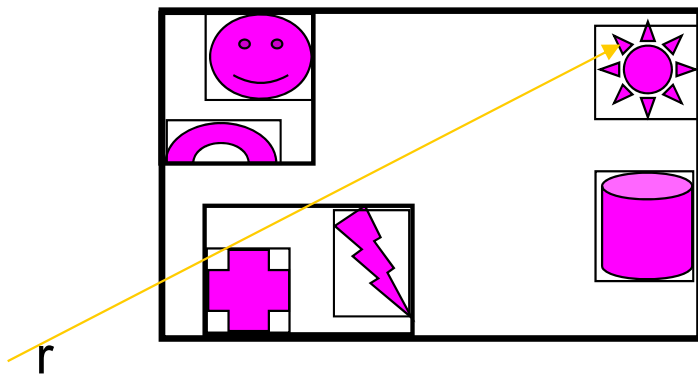
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- **Oriented Bounding Box**
  - Fairly cheap to compute
  - Fairly Cheap test
  - Generally fairly tight
- **Slabs / K-dops**
  - More expensive to compute
  - Fairly cheap test
  - Can be tighter than OBB



# Bounding Volume Hierarchy (BVH)

- Organize bounding volumes as a tree
  - Choose a partitioning plane and distribute triangles into left and right nodes
- Each ray starts with the scene BV and traverses down through the hierarchy





# Test-Of-Time 2006 Award

## High-Performance Graphics 2015

Los Angeles, August 7-9, 2015

Home

Full Program

CFP

Registration

Accommodations

Venue

Submissions

Organization



## RT-DEFORM: Interactive Ray Tracing of Dynamic Scenes using BVHs

Christian Lauterbach, [Sung-eui Yoon](#),  
David Tuft, Dinesh Manocha

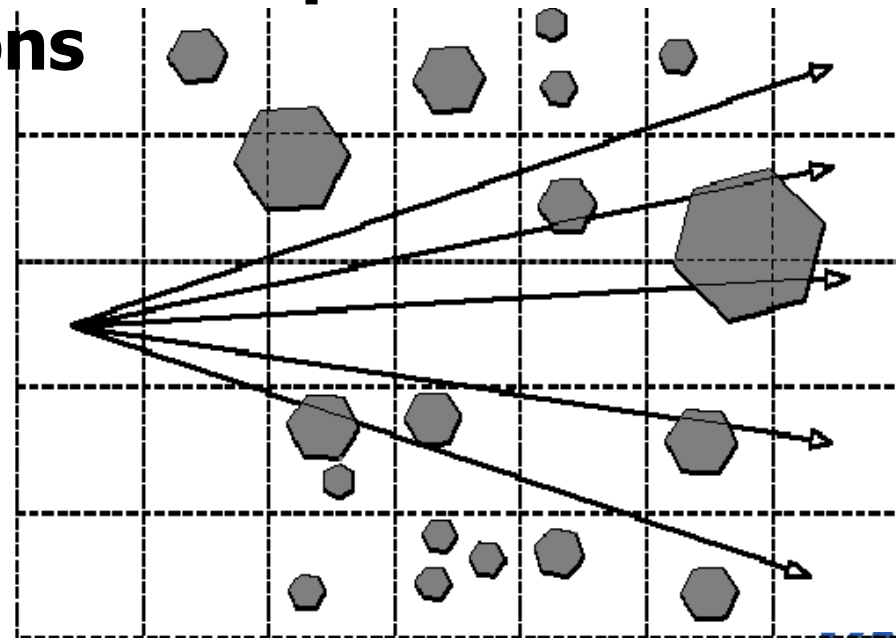
IEEE Interactive Ray Tracing, 2006



# Spatial Subdivision

**Idea: Divide space in to subregions**

- **Place objects within a subregion into a list**
- **Only traverse the lists of subregions that the ray passes through**
- **“Mailboxing” used to avoid multiple test with objects in multiple regions**
- **Many types**
  - Regular grid
  - Octree
  - BSP tree
  - kd-tree



# Ray Tracing with kd-tree or BVHs

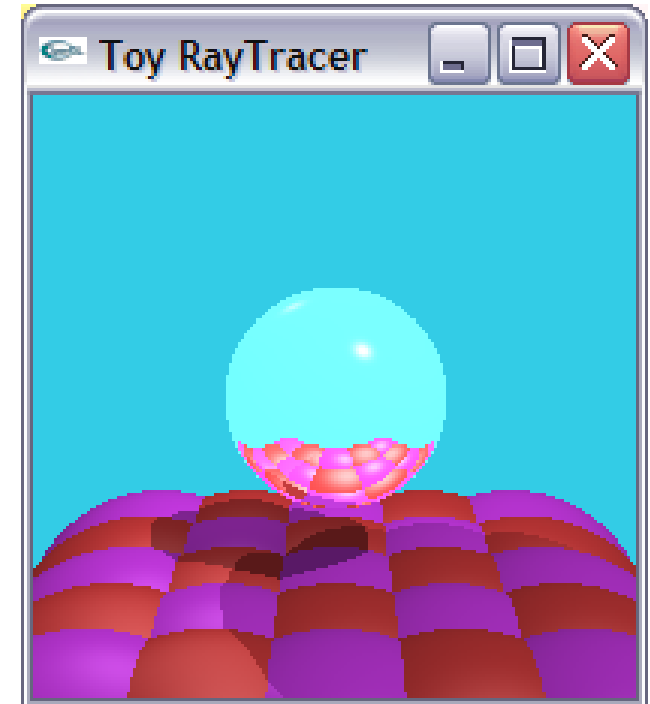
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- **Goal: find closest hit with scene**
- **Traverse tree front to back (starting from root)**
- **At each node:**
  - **If leaf: intersect with triangles**
  - **If inner: traverse deeper**

# Classic Ray Tracing

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- **Gathering approach**
  - From lights, reflected, and refracted directions
- **Pros of ray tracing**
  - Simple and improved realism over the rendering pipeline
- **Cons:**
  - Simple light model, material, and light propagation
  - Not a complete solution
  - Hard to accelerate with special-purpose H/W



# History

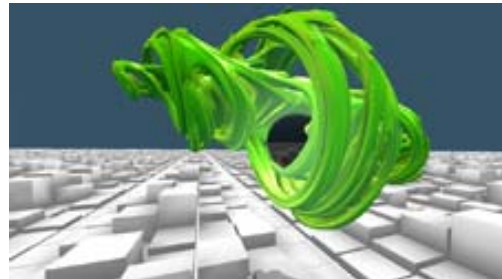
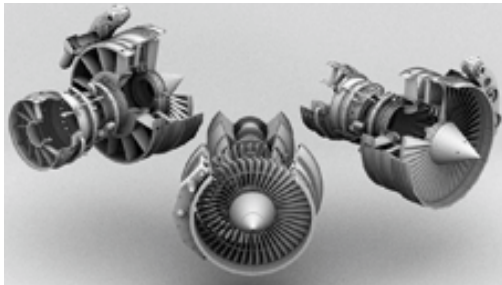
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- **Problems with classic ray tracing**
  - **Not realistic**
  - **View-dependent**
- **Radiosity (1984)**
  - **Global illumination in diffuse scenes**
- **Monte Carlo ray tracing (1986)**
  - **Global illumination for any environment**

# Interactive Ray Tracing Kernels

- **OptiX, Nvidia**

- **Utilize GPU computing architectures and CUDA**



- **Embree, Intel**

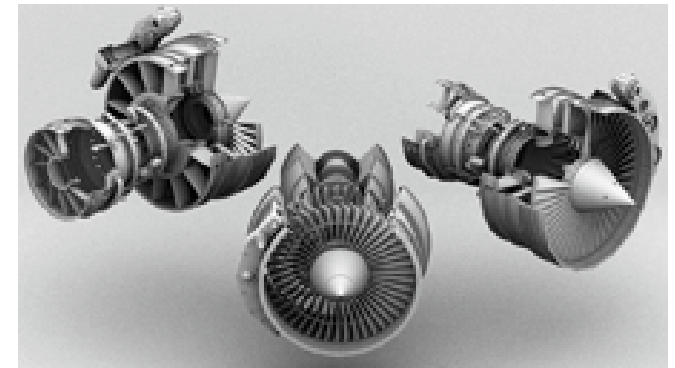
- **Utilize CPUs (multi-threaded and SIMD)**



# PA1

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- **Get to know OptiX or Embree**
  - **Download, and compile either one of those two methods**
  - **Or just use precompiled ones**
  - **Try out a few scenes**
  - **Upload images of those scenes in KLMS**
- **Deadline**
  - **11:59pm on 3/12**
- **Note**
  - **Easy one, but start early**



# Homework

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- **Go over the next lecture slides before the class**
- **Watch 2 paper (or videos) and submit your summaries every Tue. class**
  - **Just one paragraph for each summary**

## **Example:**

**Title: XXX XXXX XXXX, Conf: XXX, Year: XXX**

**Abstract: this video is about accelerating the performance of ray tracing. To achieve its goal, they design a new technique for reordering rays, since by doing so, they can improve the ray coherence and thus improve the overall performance.**



# Any Questions?

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- **Come up with one question on what we have discussed in the class and submit at the end of the class**
  - **1 for already answered questions**
  - **2 for questions that have some thoughts or surprise me**
- **Write a question more than 3 times before the mid-term exam**
  - **Online submission is available at the course webpage**

# Class Objectives were:

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- **Understand a basic ray tracing**
- **Know its acceleration data structure and how to use it**

# Next Time

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- **Radiosity**