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# CS580: Radiosity

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(윤성의)

**Course URL:**  
**<http://sglab.kaist.ac.kr/~sungeui/GCG>**

**KAIST**



# Class Objective

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- **Understand radiosity**
  - Radiosity equation
  - Solving the equation

# 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

# Radiosity

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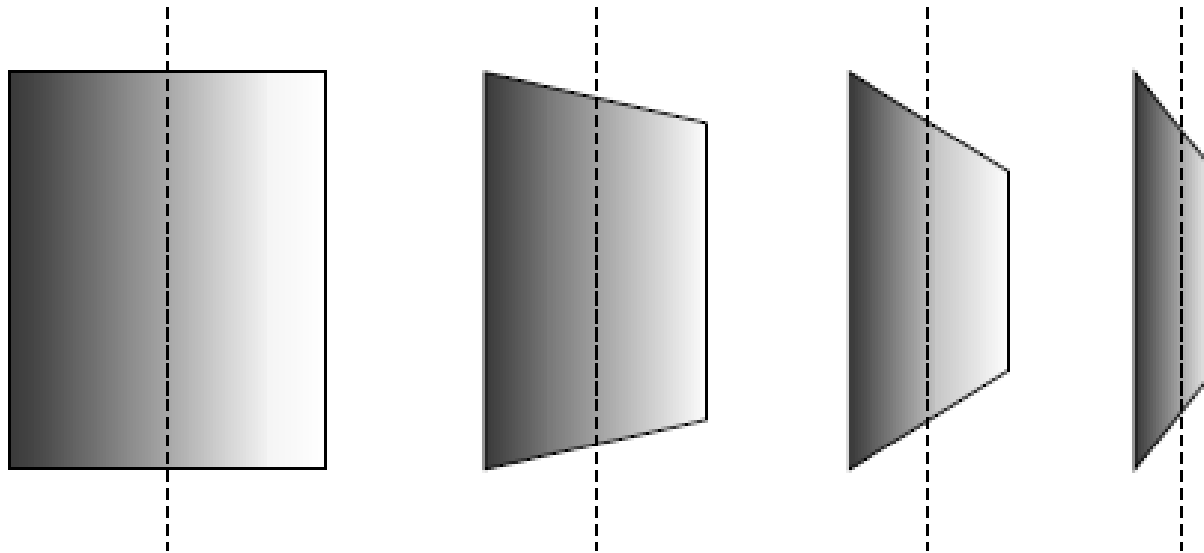
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- **Physically based method for diffuse environments**
  - Support diffuse interactions, color bleeding, indirect lighting and penumbra
  - Account for very high percentage of total energy transfer
  - Finite element method

# Key Idea #1: Diffuse Only

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From kavita's slides

- **Radiance independent of direction**
  - **Surface looks the same from any viewpoint**
  - **No specular reflection**

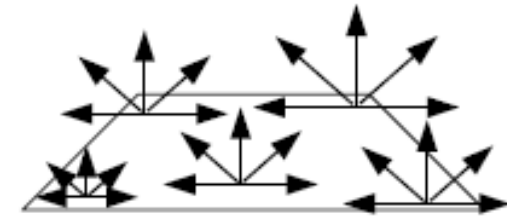
# Diffuse Surfaces

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- **Diffuse emitter**

- $L(x \rightarrow \Theta) = \text{constant over } \Theta$



- **Diffuse reflector**

- **Constant reflectivity**



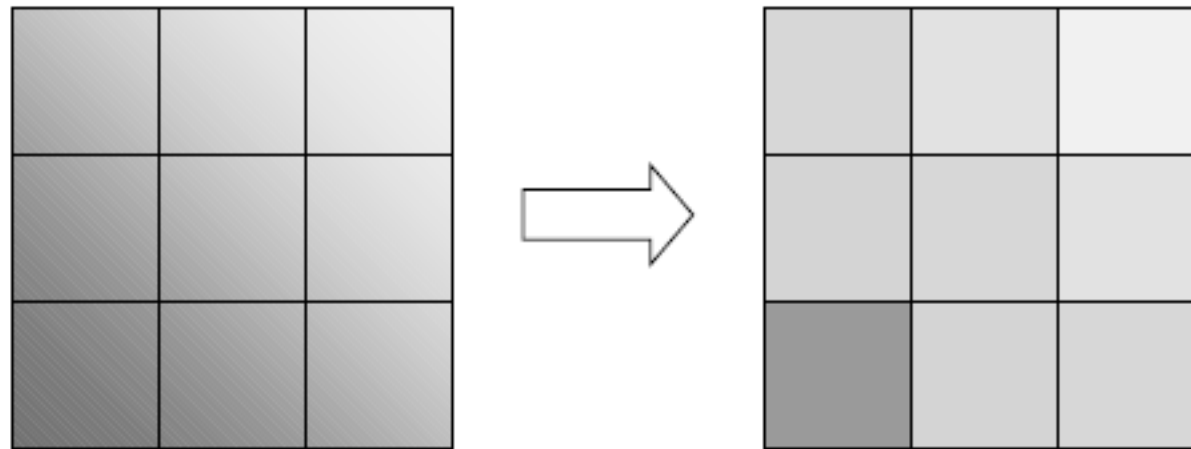
From kavita's slides

# Key Idea #2: Constant Polygons

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- Radiosity is an approximation
  - Due to discretization of scene into patches



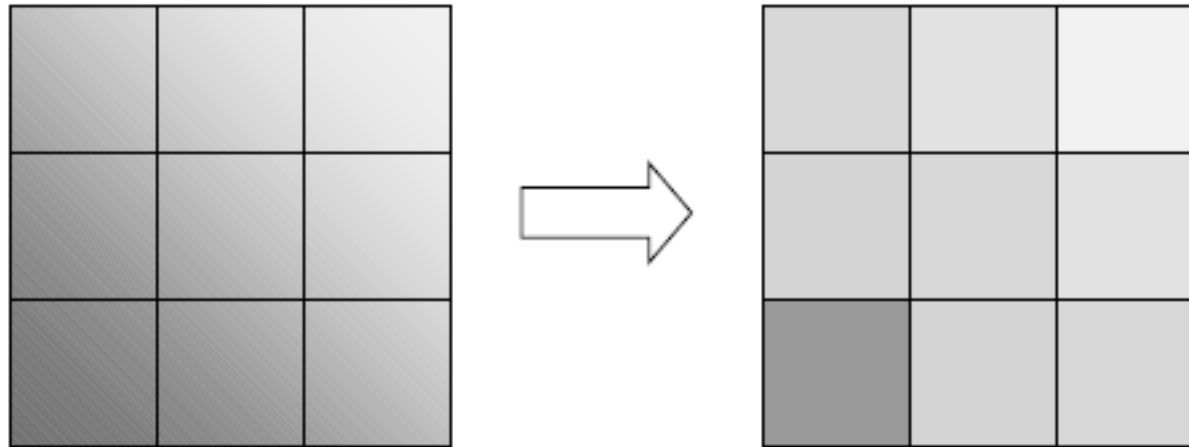
From kavita's slides

- Subdivide scene into small polygons

# Constant Radiance Approximation

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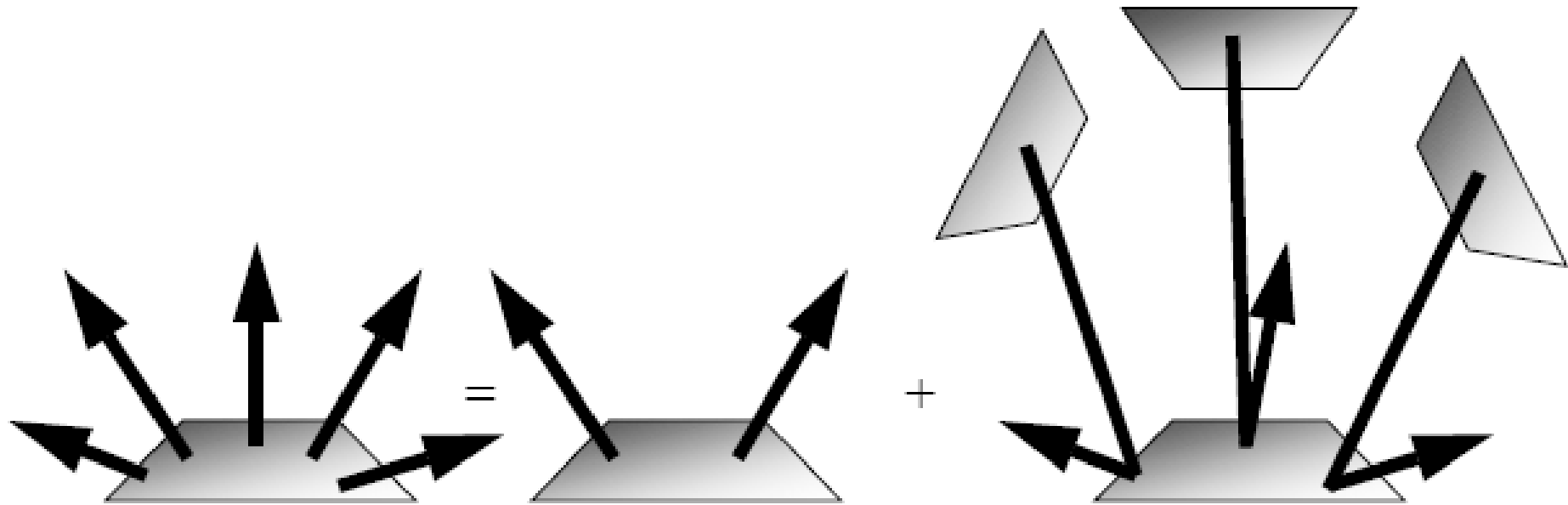
From kavita's slides

- Radiance is constant over a surface element
  - $L(x) = \text{constant over } x$



# Radiosity Equation

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Emitted radiosity = self-emitted radiosity + received & reflected radiosity

$$Radiosity_i = Radiosity_{self,i} + \sum_{j=1}^N a_{j \rightarrow i} Radiosity_j$$

# Radiosity Equation

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- Radiosity equation for each polygon  $i$

$$Radiosity_1 = Radiosity_{self,1} + \sum_{j=1}^N a_{j \rightarrow 1} Radiosity_j$$

$$Radiosity_2 = Radiosity_{self,2} + \sum_{j=1}^N a_{j \rightarrow 2} Radiosity_j$$

...

$$Radiosity_N = Radiosity_{self,N} + \sum_{j=1}^N a_{j \rightarrow N} Radiosity_j$$

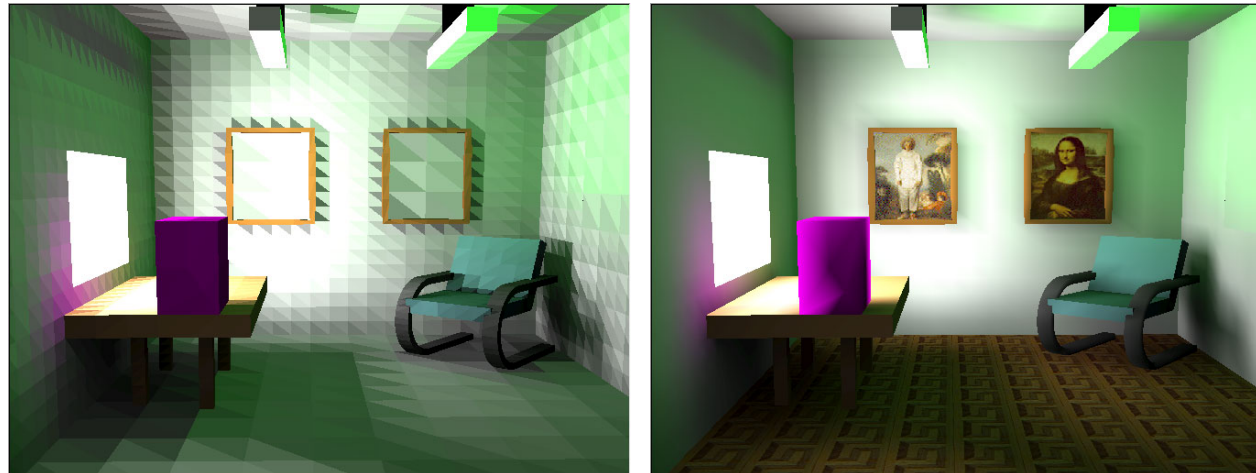
- $N$  equations;  $N$  unknown variables

# Radiosity Algorithm

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- Subdivide the scene in small polygons
- Compute a constant illumination value for each polygon
- Choose a viewpoint and display the visible polygon
  - Keep doing this process



From Donald Fong's slides

# Radiosity Result

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# Theatre Scene

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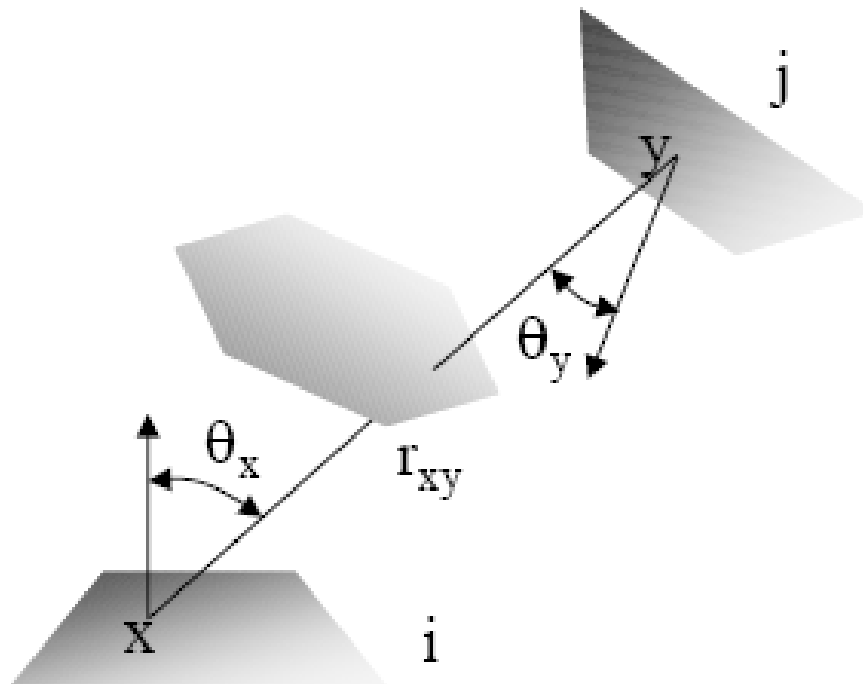
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# Compute Form Factors

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$$F(j \rightarrow i) = \frac{1}{A_j} \int_{A_i} \int_{A_j} \frac{\cos \theta_x \cdot \cos \theta_y}{\pi \cdot r_{xy}^2} \cdot V(x, y) \cdot dA_y \cdot dA_x$$



# Radiosity Equation

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- Radiosity for each polygon  $i$

$$\forall i: B_i = B_{e,i} + \rho_i \sum_{j=1}^N B_j F(i \rightarrow j)$$

- Linear system
  - $B_i$  : radiosity of patch  $i$  (unknown)
  - $B_{e,i}$  : emission of patch  $i$  (known)
  - $\rho_i$  : reflectivity of patch  $i$  (known)
  - $F(i \rightarrow j)$ : form-factor (coefficients of matrix)

# Linear System of Radiosity Equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 - \rho_1 F_{1 \rightarrow 1} & -\rho_1 F_{1 \rightarrow 2} & \dots & -\rho_1 F_{1 \rightarrow n} \\ -\rho_2 F_{2 \rightarrow 1} & 1 - \rho_2 F_{2 \rightarrow 2} & \dots & -\rho_2 F_{2 \rightarrow n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ -\rho_n F_{n \rightarrow 1} & -\rho_n F_{n \rightarrow 2} & \dots & 1 - \rho_n F_{n \rightarrow n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \\ \dots \\ B_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} B_{e,1} \\ B_{e,2} \\ \dots \\ B_{e,n} \end{bmatrix}$$

known
↓
known

unknown



# How to Solve Linear System

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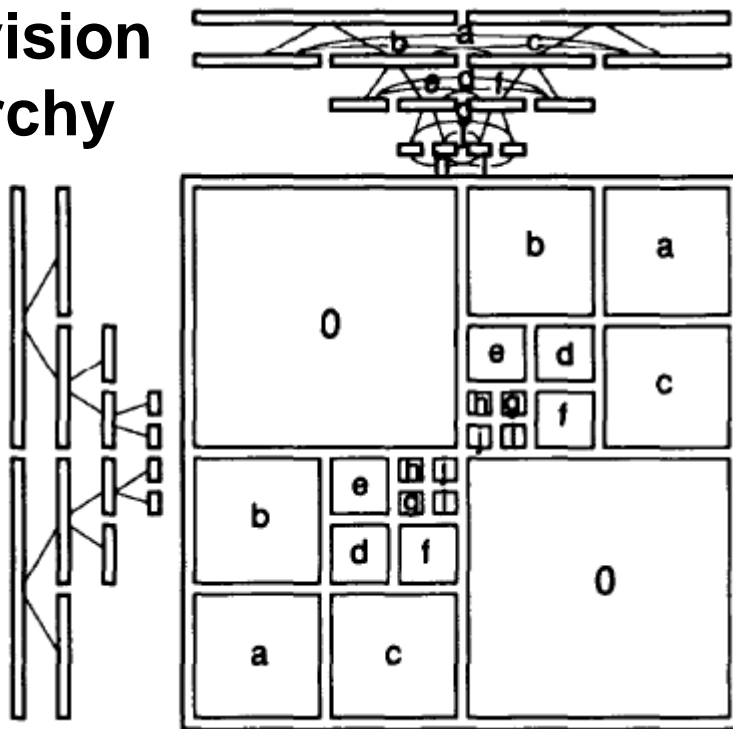
- **Matrix inversion**
  - Takes  $O(n^3)$
- **Gather methods**
  - Jacobi iteration
  - Gauss-Seidel
- **Shooting**
  - Southwell iteration



# Multi-Resolution Approach

- A Rapid Hierarchical Radiosity Algorithm, Hanrahan, et al, SIGGRAPH 1991

Subdivision hierarchy



- Refine triangles only if doing so improves the foam factor accuracy above a threshold

Block diagram of the form factor matrix

# Hybrid and Multipass Methods

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- **Ray tracing**
  - Good for specular and refractive indirect illumination
  - View-dependent
- **Radiosity**
  - Good for diffuse
  - Allows interactive rendering
  - Does not scale well for massive models
- **Hybrid methods**
  - Combine both of them in a way

# Instant Radiosity

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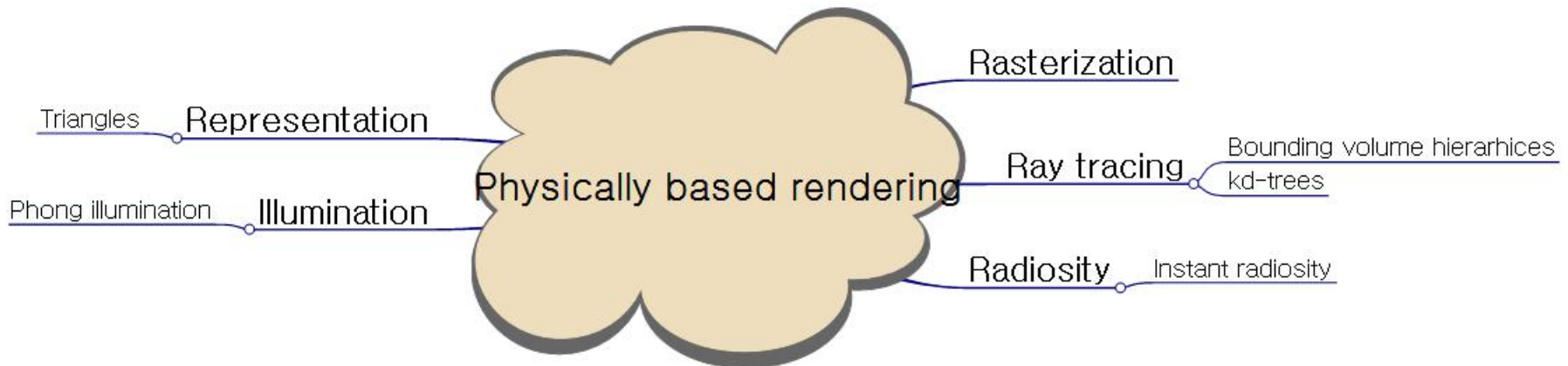
- Use the concept of Radiosity
- Map its functions to those of classic rendering pipeline
  - Utilize fast GPU
- Additional concepts
  - Virtual point lights
  - Shadow maps
- Micro-Rendering for Scalable, Parallel Final Gathering (Video)
  - *Tobias Ritschel, Thomas Engelhardt, Thorsten Grosch, Hans-Peter Seidel, Jan Kautz, Carsten Dachsbacher*
  - ACM Trans. Graph. 28(5) (Proc. SIGGRAPH Asia 2009), 2009.

# Class Objectives were:

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- Understand radiosity
  - Radiosity equation
  - Solving the equation



# 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 typical questions
  - 3 for questions with thoughts
  - 4 for questions that surprised me

# Homework

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

## **Example:**

**Title: XXX XXXX XXXX**

**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.**



# Next Time

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- Radiometry