

# CS230 : Computer Graphics

## Lecture 3: Lighting and Shading

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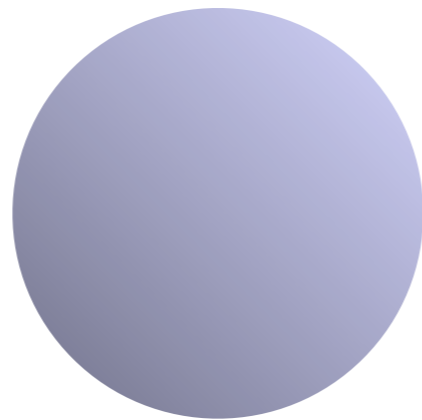
# Why we need shading

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- Suppose we build a model of a sphere using many polygons and color each the same color. We get something like



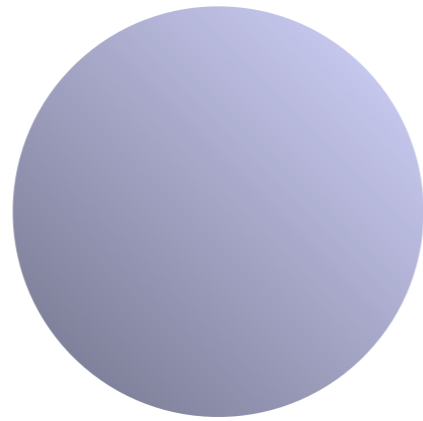
- But we want



# Shading

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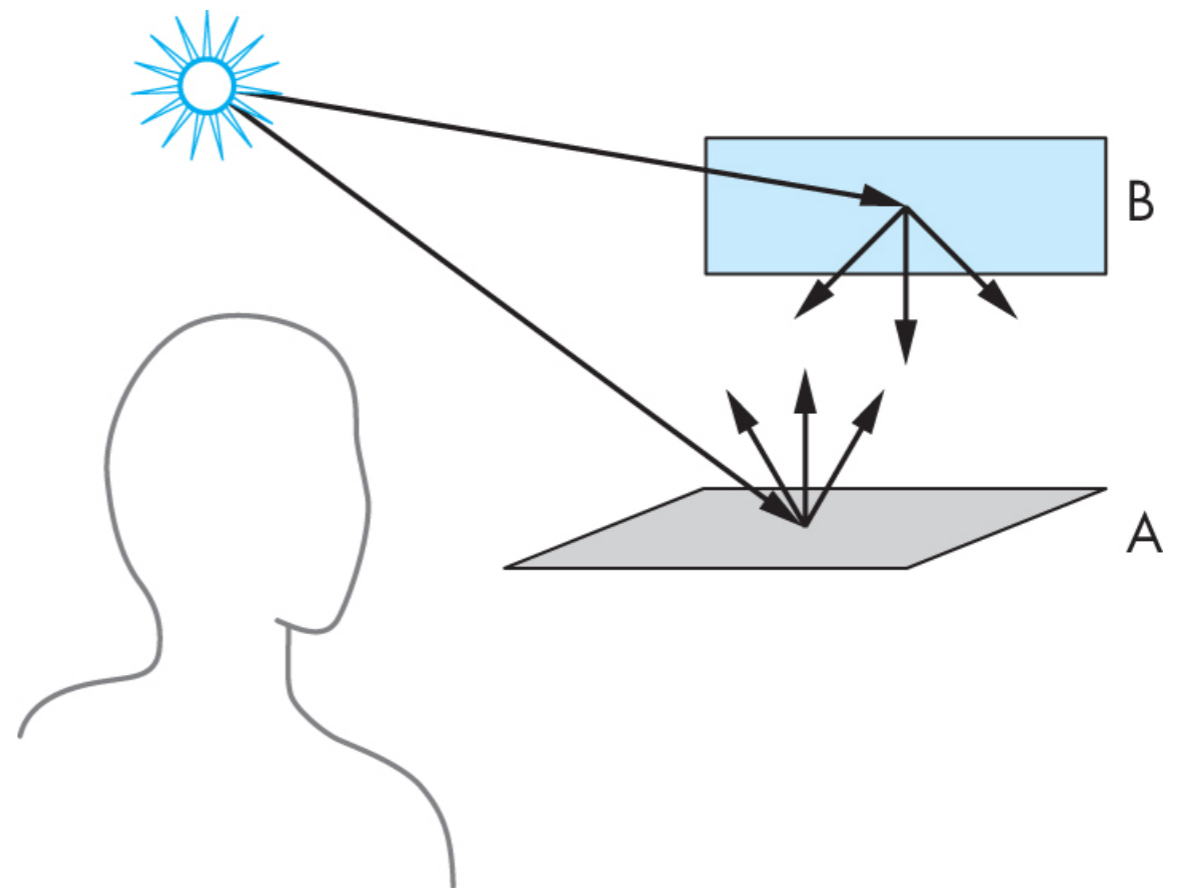
- Why does the image of a real sphere look like



- Light-material interactions cause each point to have a different color or shade
- Need to consider
  - Light sources
  - Material properties
  - Location of viewer
  - Surface orientation (normal)

# General rendering

- The most general approach is based on physics - using principles such as conservation of energy
- a surface either **emits** light (e.g., light bulb) or **reflects** light for other illumination sources, or both
- light interaction with materials is **recursive**
- the **rendering equation** is an integral equation describing the limit of this recursive process



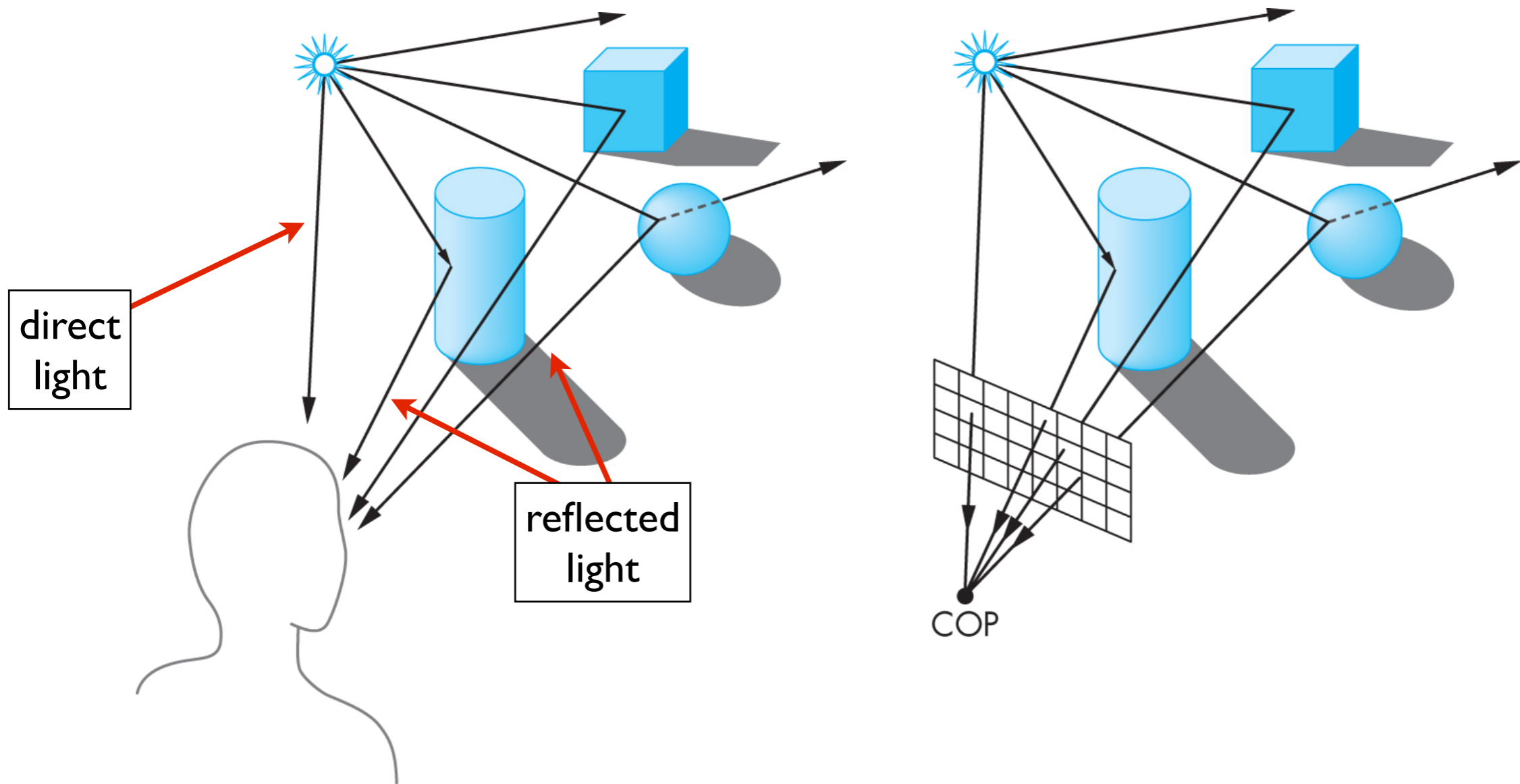
[Angel and Shreiner]

# Fast local shading models

- the rendering equation can't be solved analytically
- numerical methods aren't fast enough for real-time
- we'll use a **local** model where shade at a point is independent of other surfaces
- use **Phong reflection model**
  - shading based on local light-material interactions

some approximations to the rendering equation include **radiosity** and **ray tracing**, but they are still not as fast as the local model in the pipeline architecture

# Local shading model



[Angel and Shreiner]

**direct light** is the color of the light source

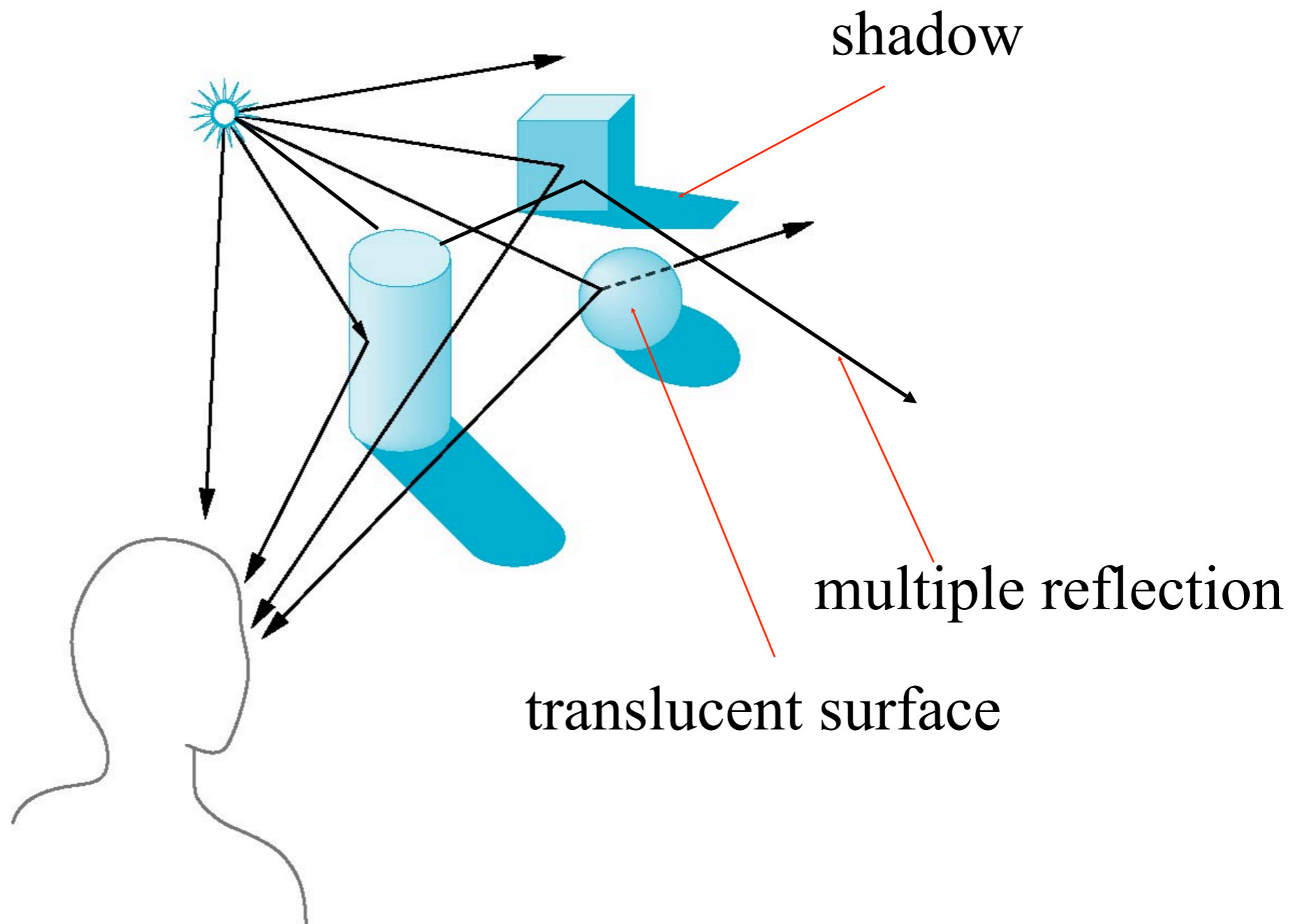
**reflected light** is the color of the light reflected from the object surface

for rendering, color of light source and reflected light determines the colors of pixels in the frame buffer

only need to consider the rays that leave the source and reach the viewer's eye

# Global Effects

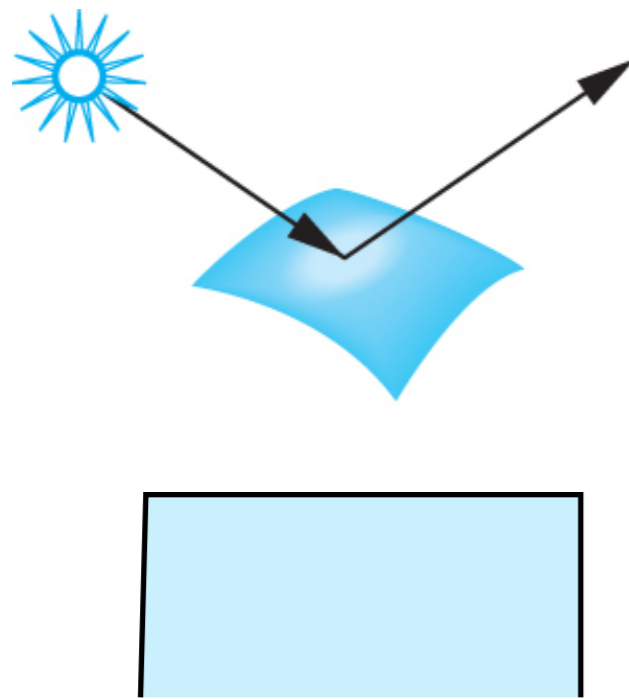
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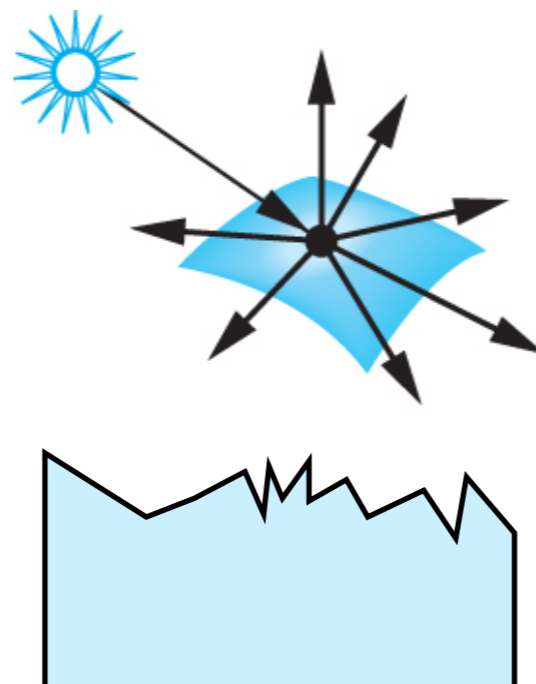
# Light-material interactions

at a surface, light is absorbed, reflected, or transmitted

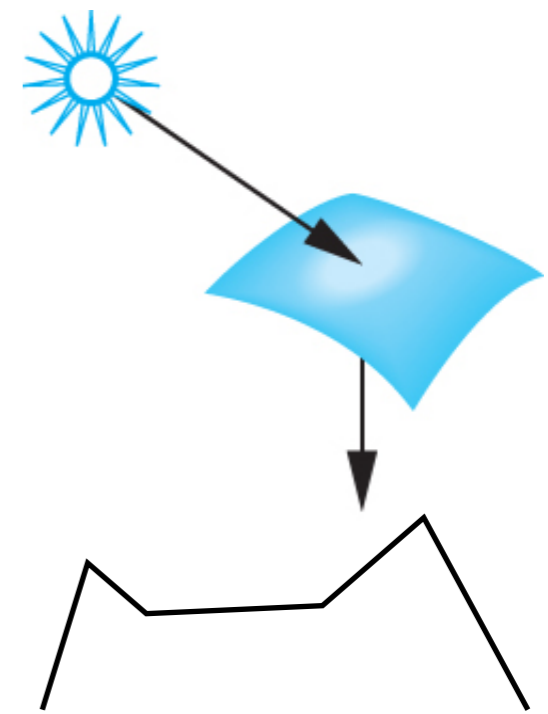
specular



diffuse



translucent



[Angel and Shreiner]

**specular:** shiny, smooth surface. light scattered in narrow range close to angle of reflection  
e.g., mirror is perfectly specular

**diffuse:** matte, rough surface. light scattered in all directions

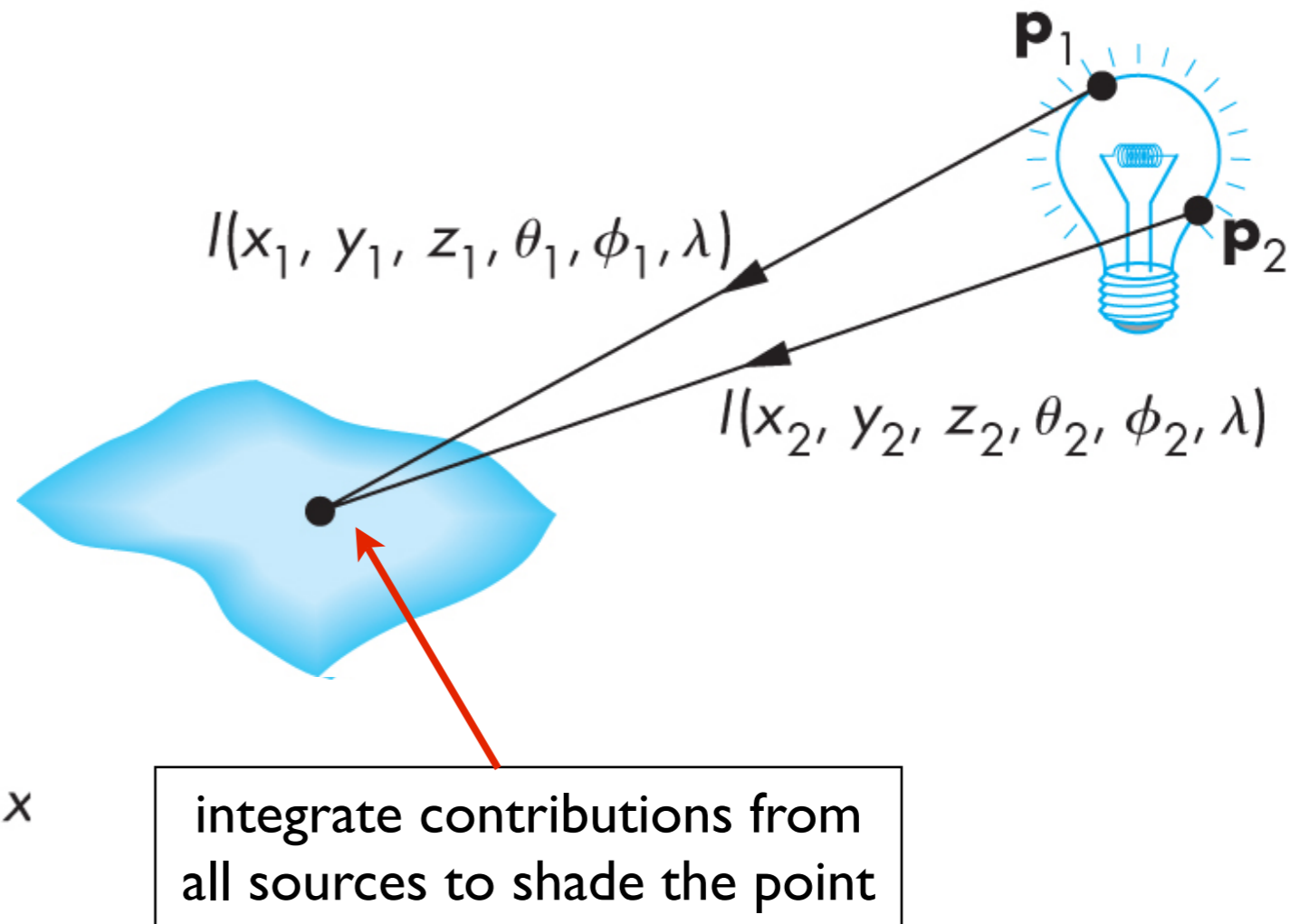
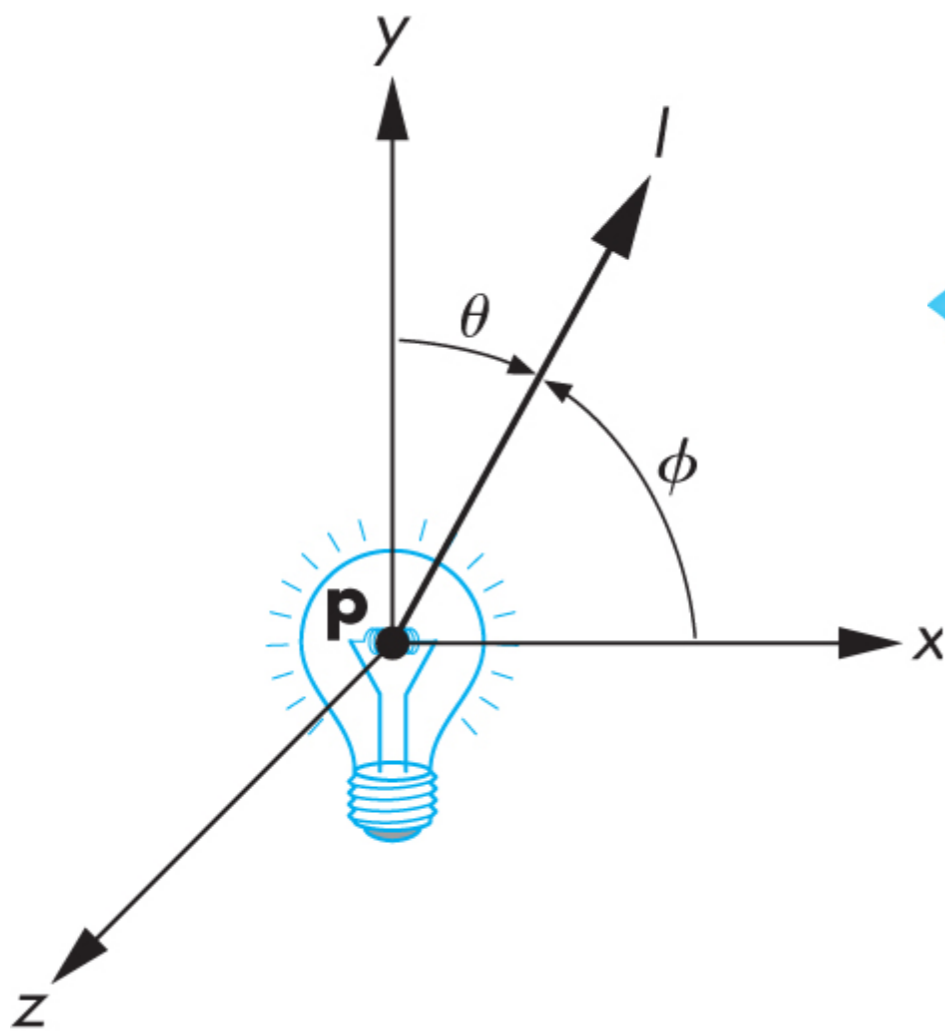
**translucent:** allows some light to pass through object. refraction: e.g., glass or water



# General light source

Illumination function:

$$l(x, y, z, \theta, \phi, \lambda)$$

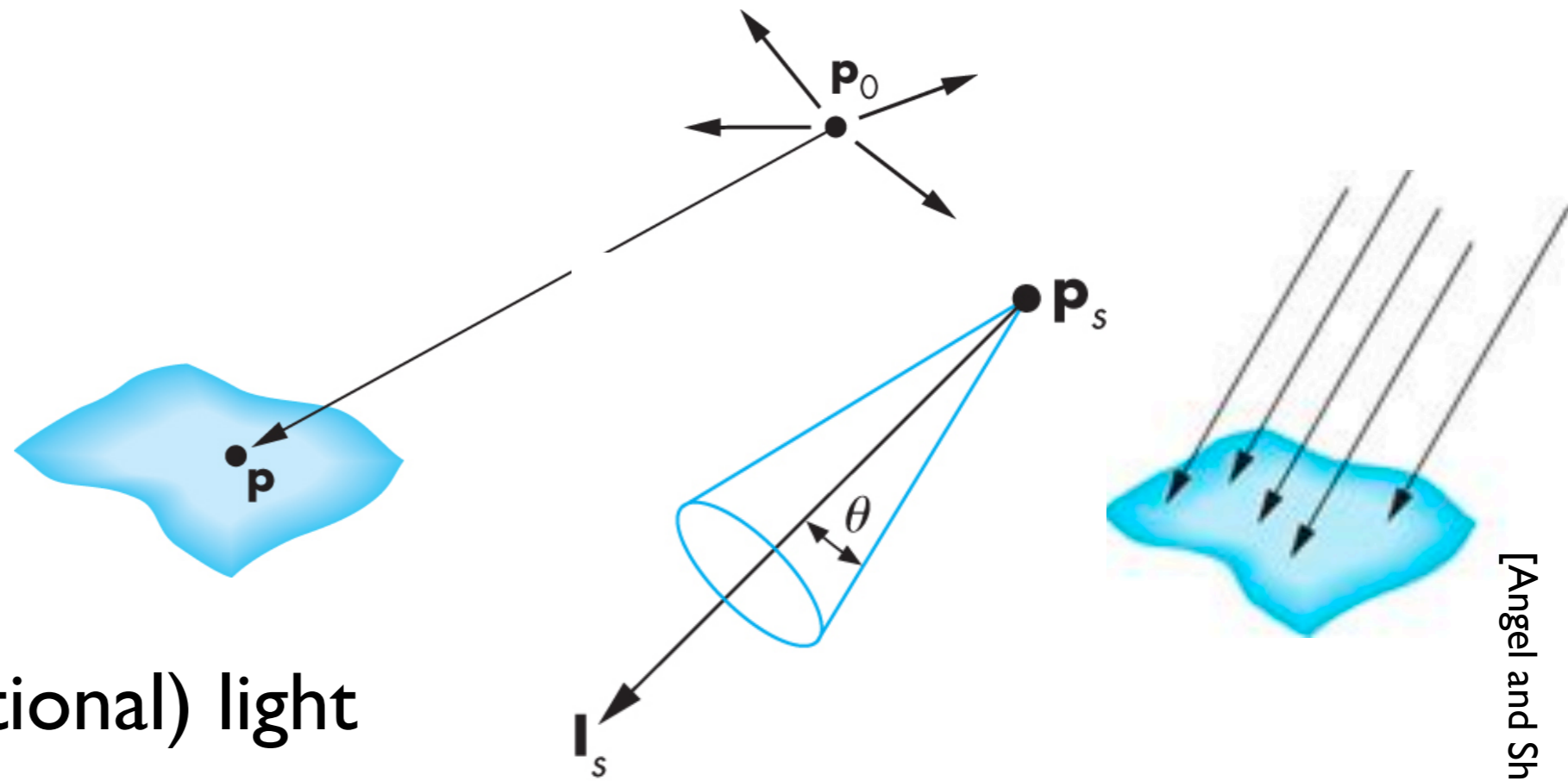


$\vec{x} = (x, y, z)$

$\vec{\omega} = \theta, \phi$

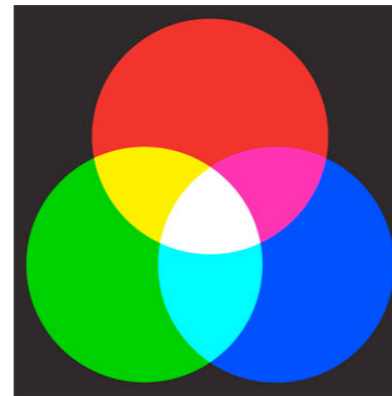
# Idealized light sources

- Ambient light
- Point light
- Spotlight
- distant (directional) light



[Angel and Shreiner]

luminance:  $\mathbf{L} = \begin{bmatrix} L_r \\ L_g \\ L_b \end{bmatrix}$



source will be described through three component intensity or **luminance**  
decompose into red, green, blue channels  
e.g., use the red component of source to calculate red component of image  
use a single scalar equations – each equation applied independently to each channel

# Ambient light source

- achieve a uniform light level
- no black shadows
- ambient light intensity at each point in the scene

$$\mathbf{L}_a = \begin{bmatrix} L_{ar} \\ L_{ag} \\ L_{ab} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$L_a$$

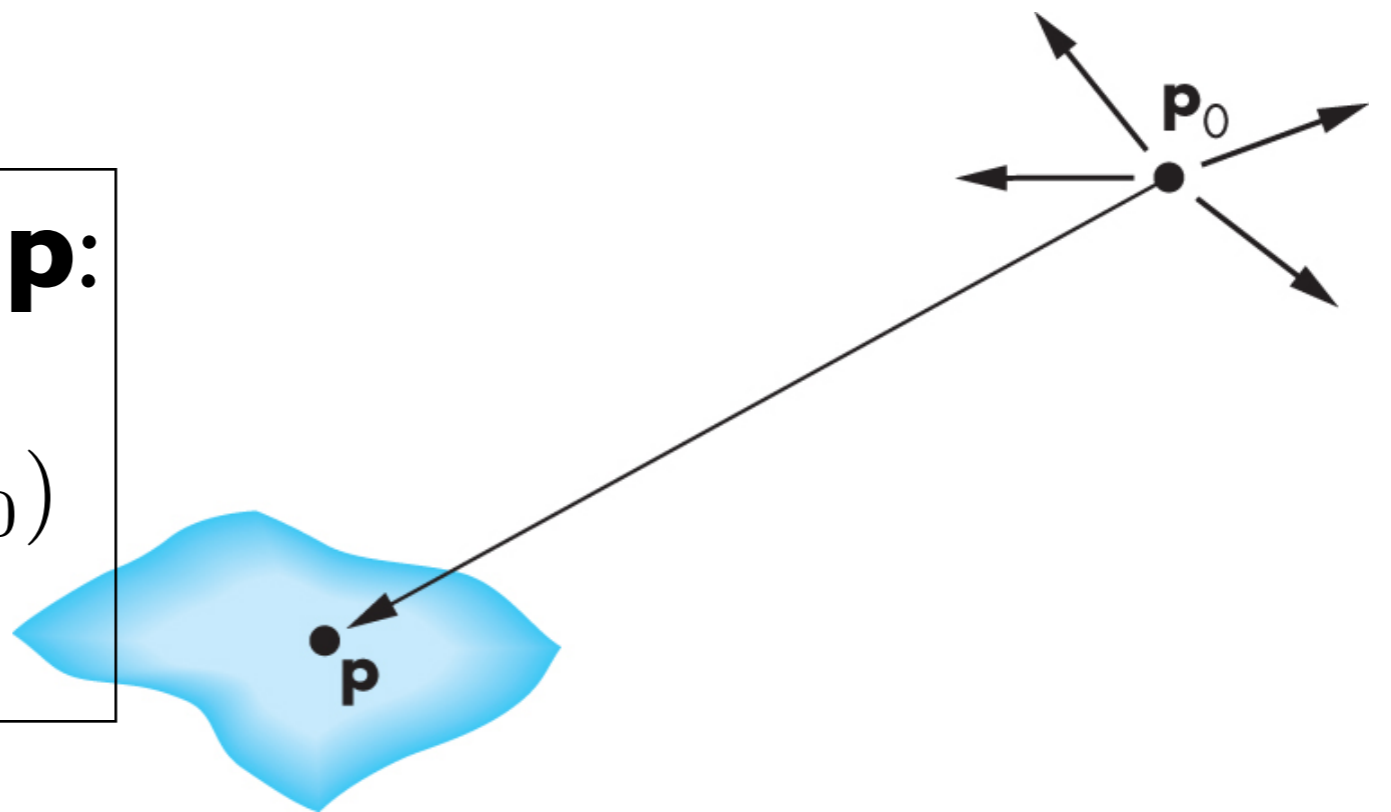
use scalar  $L_a$  to denote any component of  $\vec{L}_a$   
ambient light is the same everywhere  
but different surfaces will **reflect** it differently

# Point light source

$$\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{p}_0) = \begin{bmatrix} L_r(\mathbf{p}_0) \\ L_g(\mathbf{p}_0) \\ L_b(\mathbf{p}_0) \end{bmatrix} \quad L(\mathbf{p}_0)$$

illumination intensity at  $\mathbf{p}$ :

$$l(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_0) = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_0|^2} \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{p}_0)$$



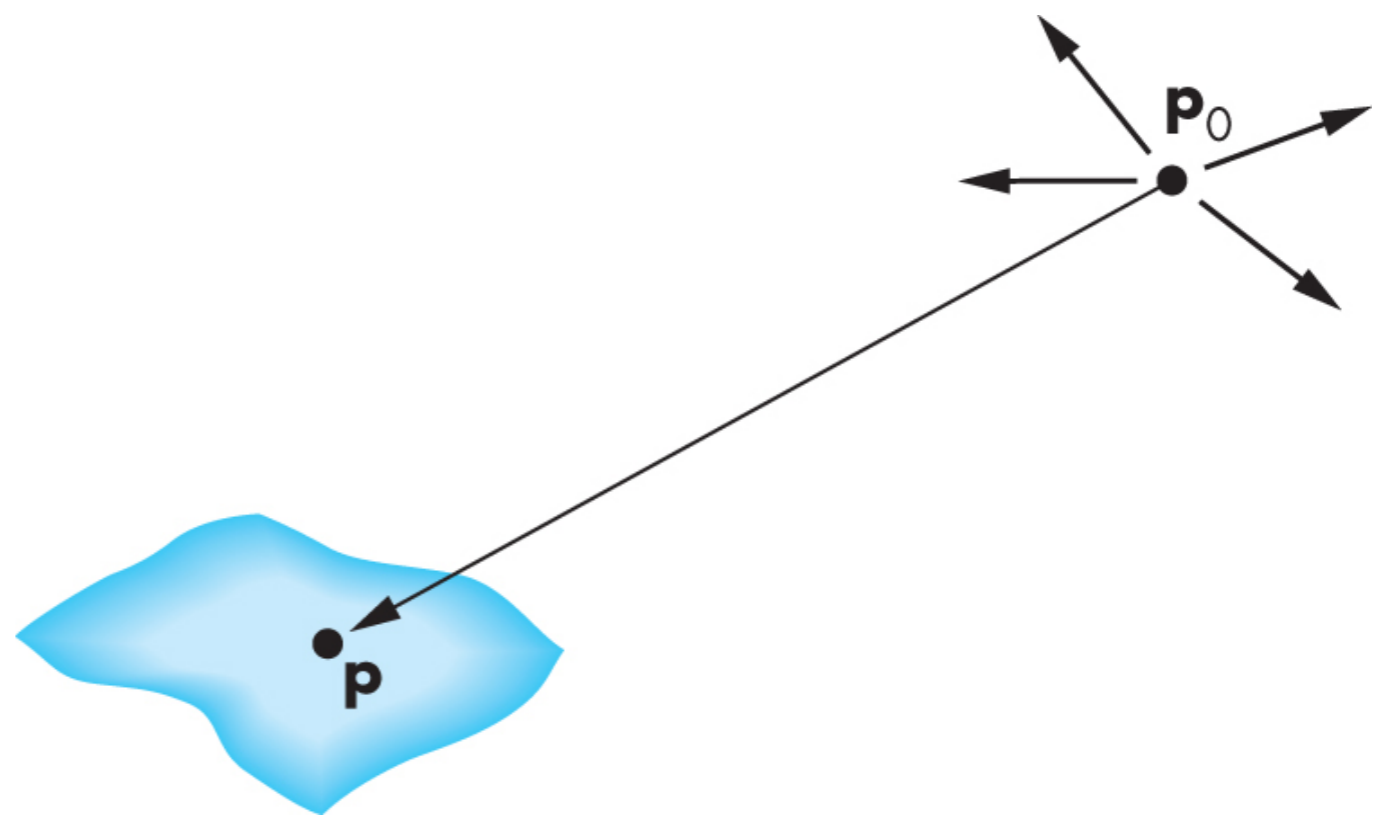
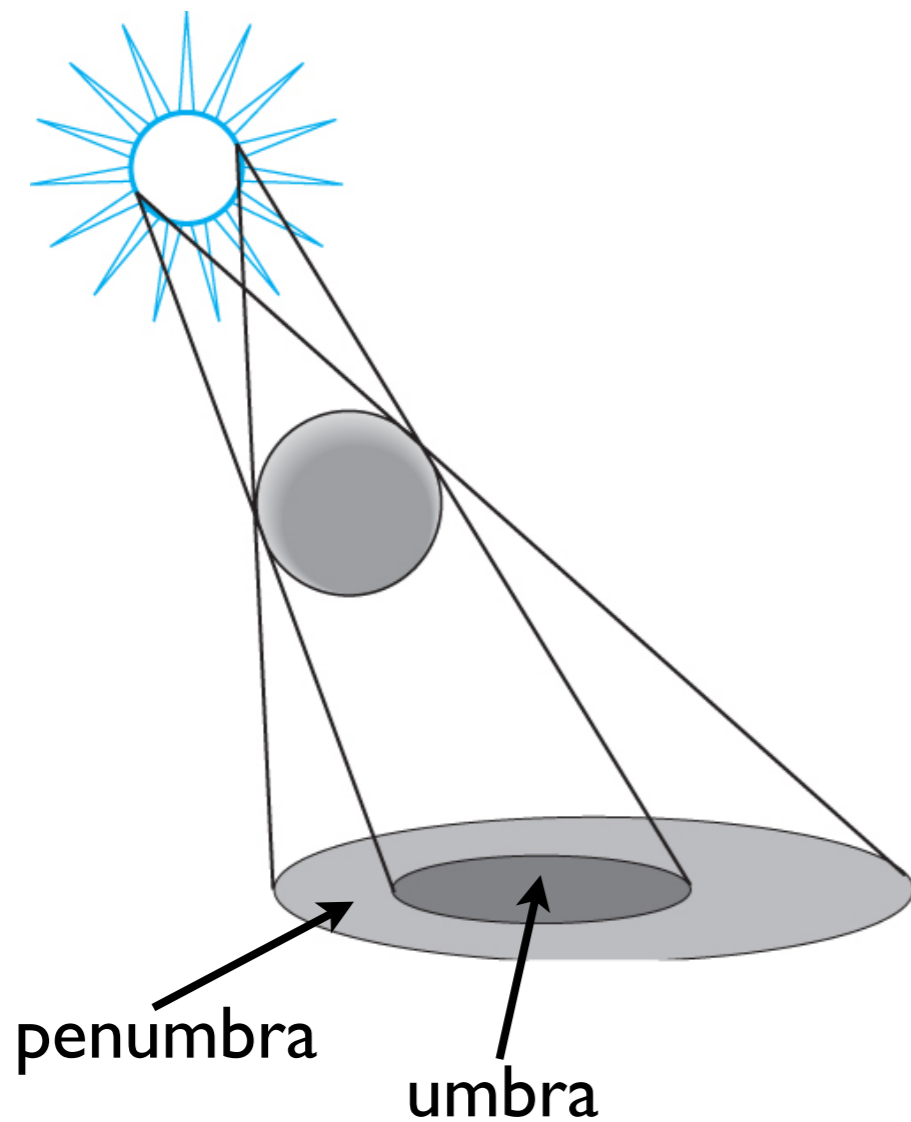
[Angel and Shreiner]

- use scalar  $I(\vec{p}_0)$  to denote any of three components
- point sources alone aren't too realistic looking -- tend to be high contrast
- most real-world scenes have large light sources
- add ambient light to mitigate high contrast

# Point light source

Most real-world scenes have large light sources

Point light sources aren't too realistic - **add ambient light to mitigate high contrast**



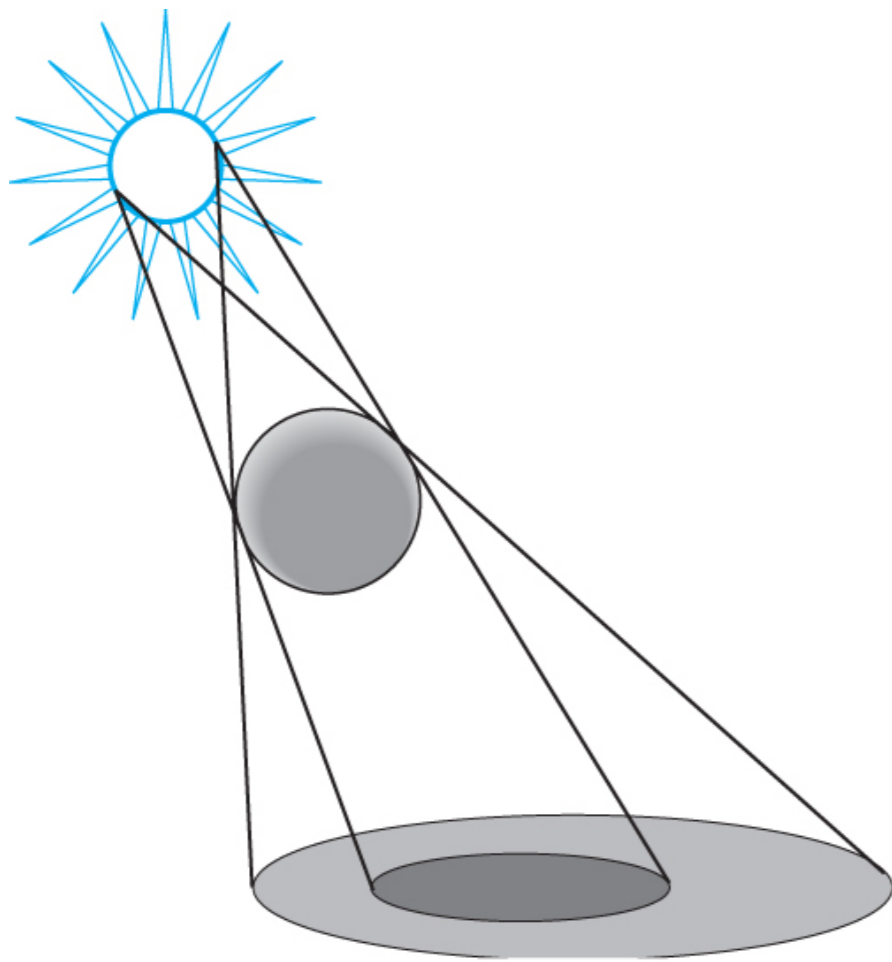
[Angel and Shreiner]

- **umbra** is fully in shadow, **penumbra** is partially in shadow

# Point light source

Most real-world scenes  
have large light sources

Point light sources aren't too realistic  
- **drop off intensity more slowly**



$$l(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_0) = \frac{1}{d^2} \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{p}_0)$$

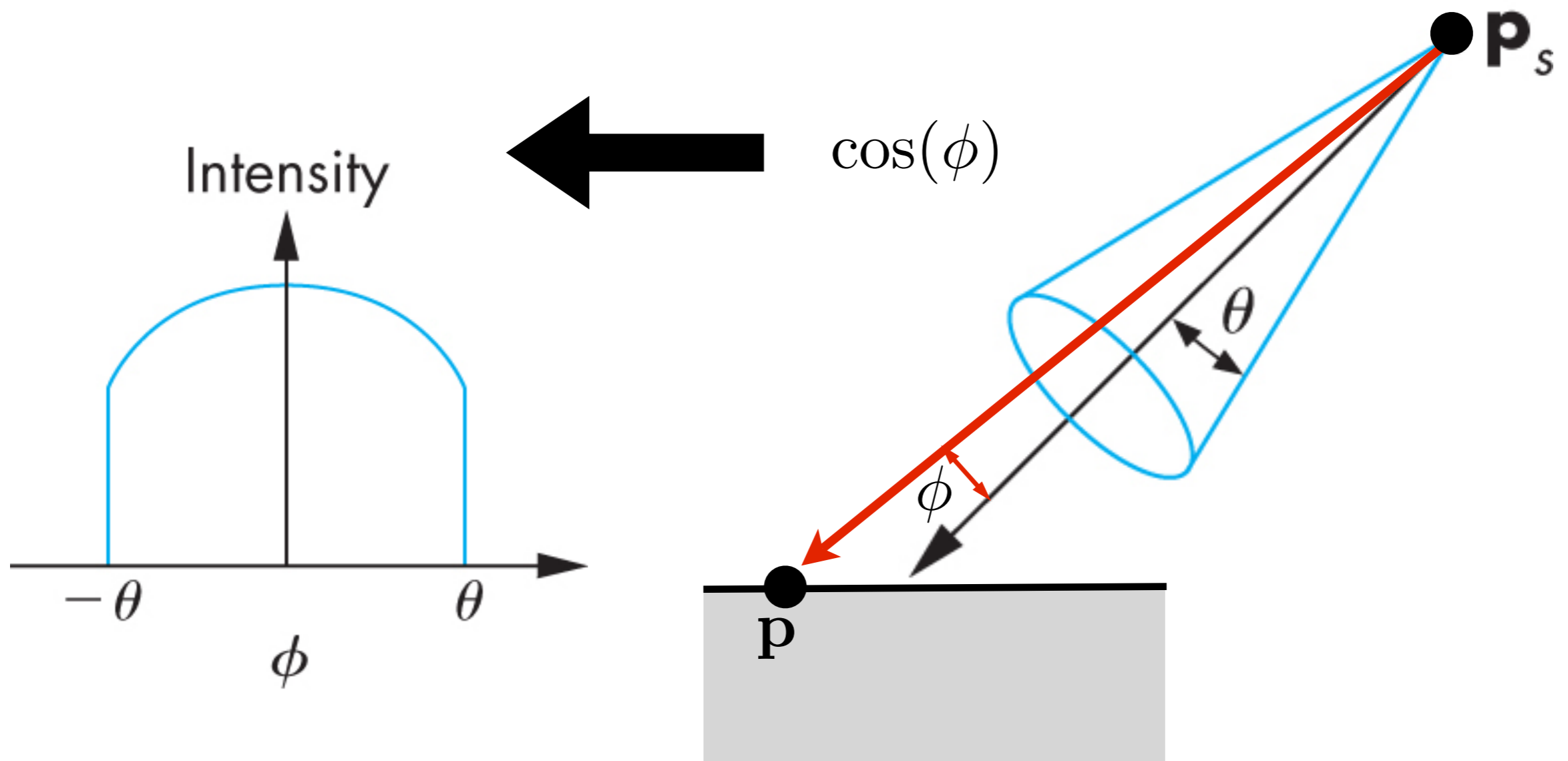


$$l(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_0) = \frac{1}{a + bd + cd^2} \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{p}_0)$$

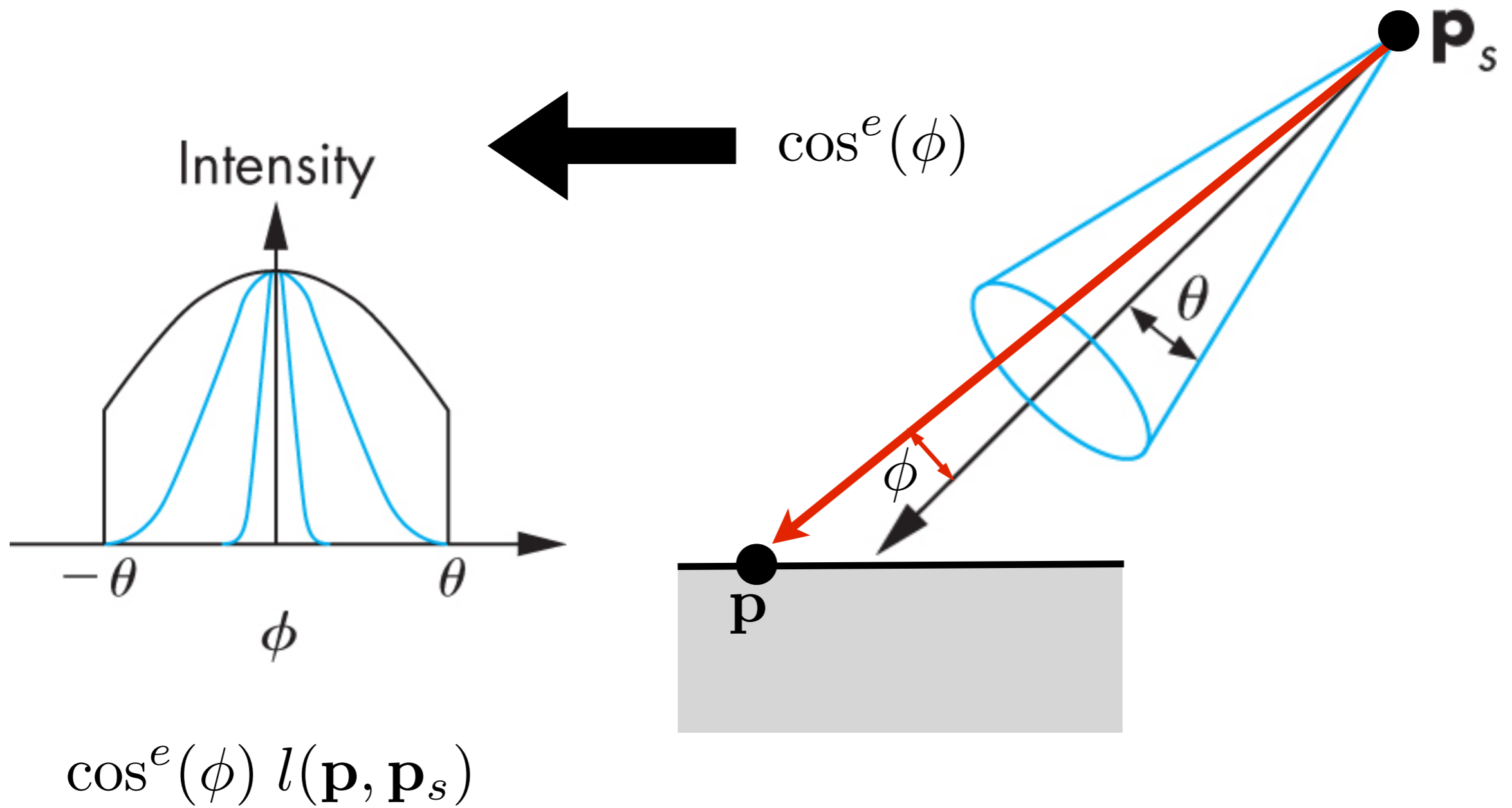
[Angel and Shreiner]

In practice, we also replace the  $1/d^2$  term by something that falls off more slowly

# Spotlights



# Spotlights

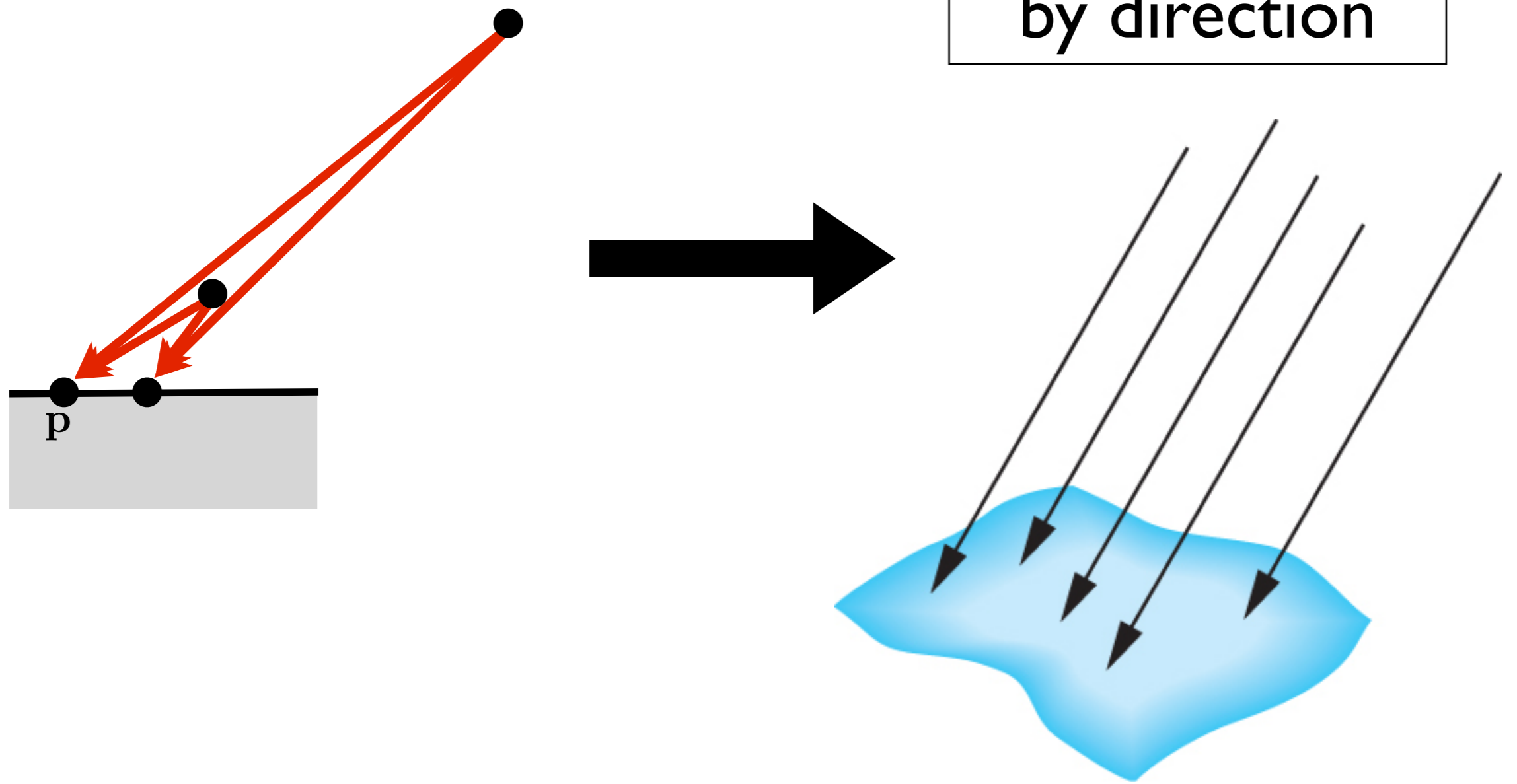


[Angel and Shreiner]

add an exponent for greater control  
final result is like point light but modified by this cone



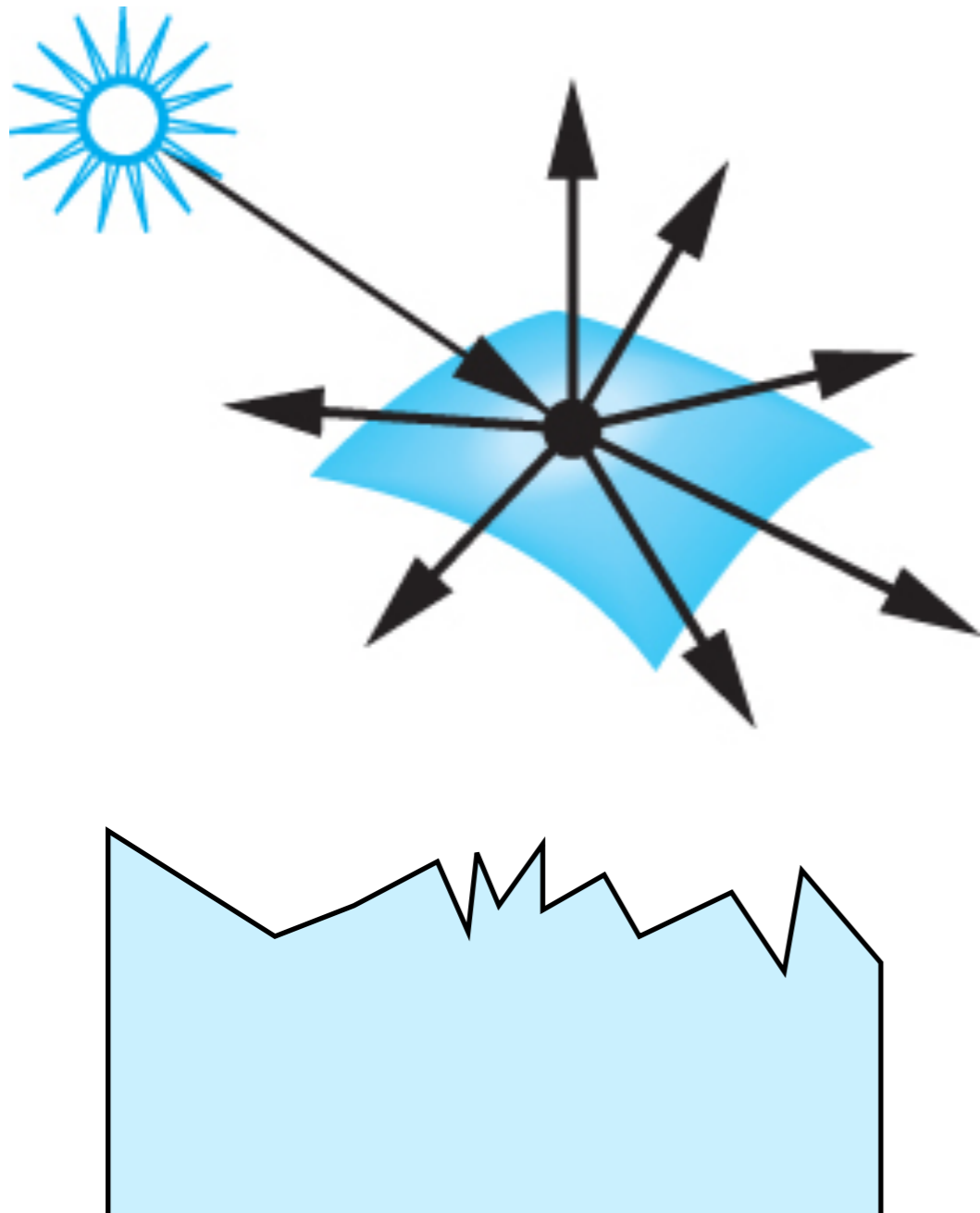
# Distant light source



[Angel and Shreiner]

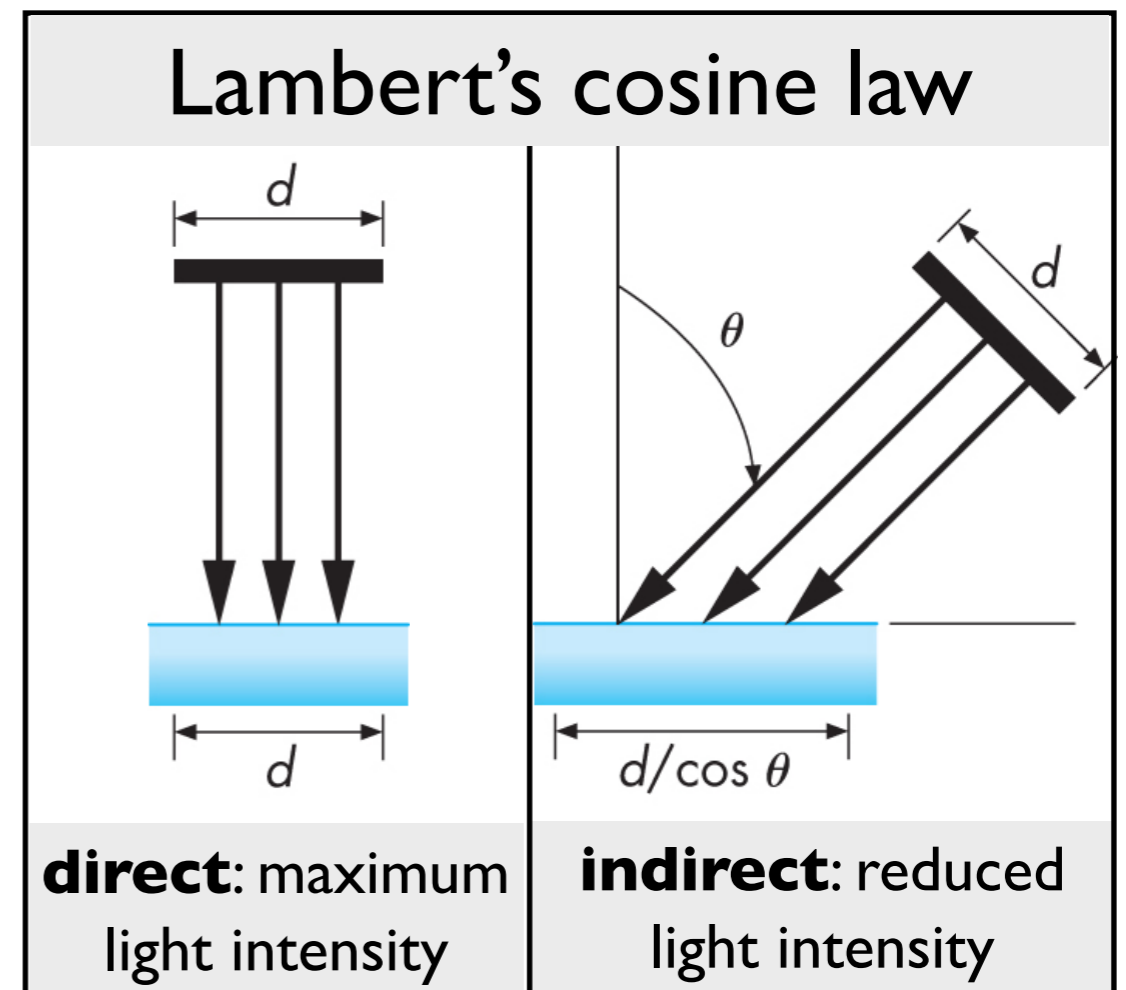
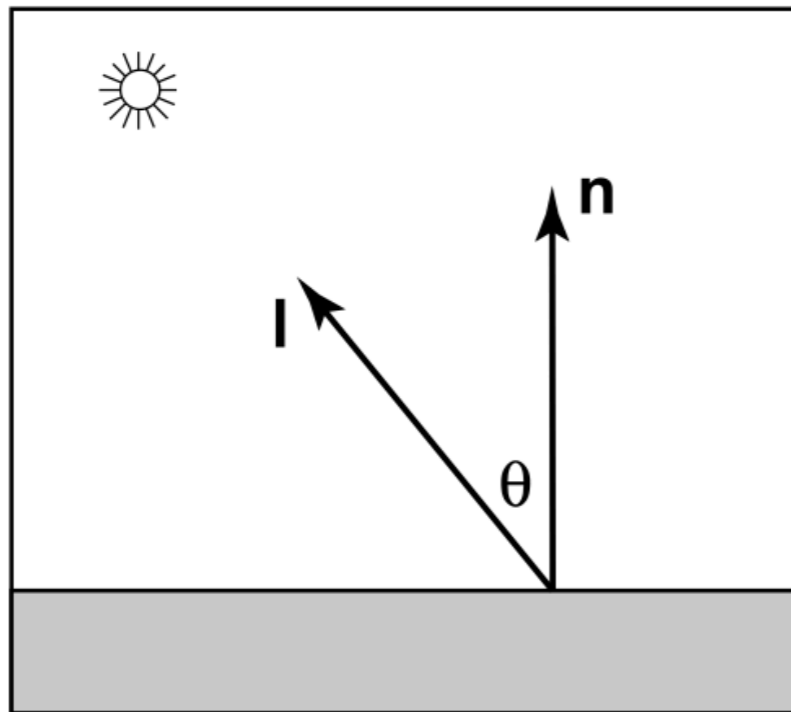
most shading calculations require direction from the surface point to the light source position  
if the light source is very far, the direction vectors don't change  
e.g., sun  
characterized by direction rather than position

# Lambertian Reflection Model



The **Lambertian reflection model** is good for **diffuse** surfaces (those with a rough surface). The bottom part of the vase could be rendered with the Lambertian reflection model, since it is matte in appearance. The top part of the vase is reflective and has specular highlights.

# Lambertian Reflection Model

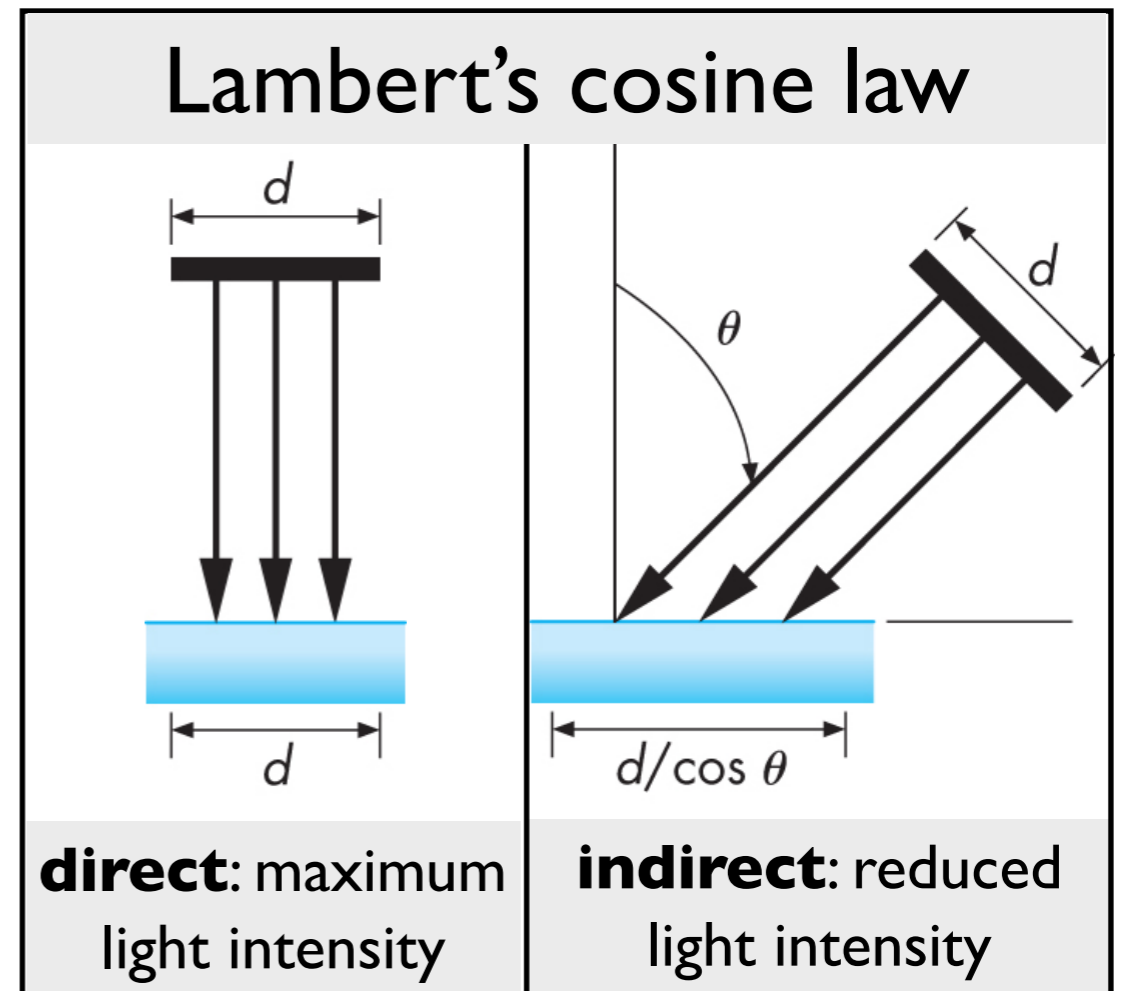
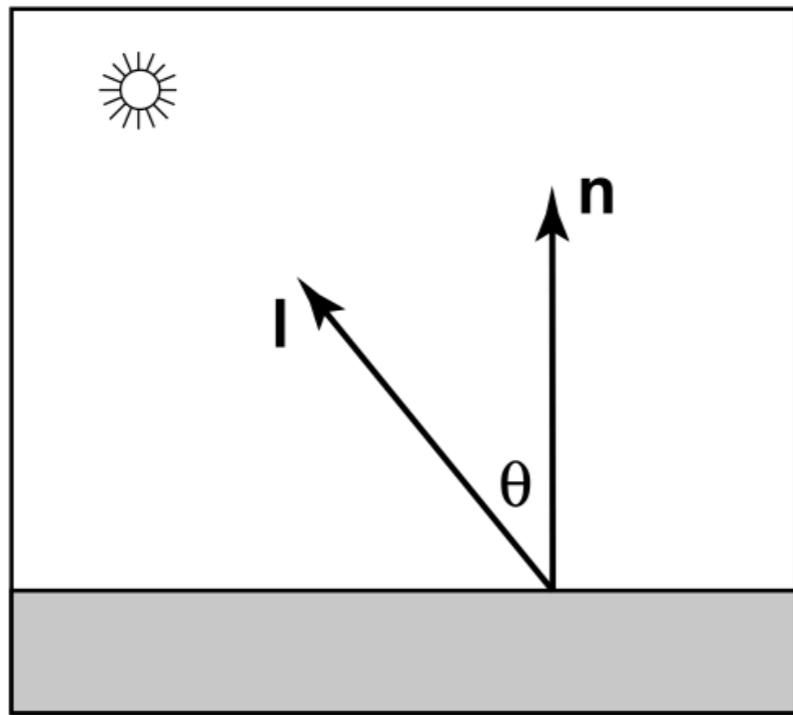


$$I \propto \cos \theta$$

color intensity

Lambert's cosine law says that the color intensity should be proportional to the cosine of the angle between  $l$  and  $n$ . The light source with length  $d$  has a certain amount of light energy associated with it. If the light is tilted relative to the surface, the same amount of light energy shines on **more** surface area. Therefore, the intensity of the light is **less** per unit surface area.

# Lambertian Reflection Model

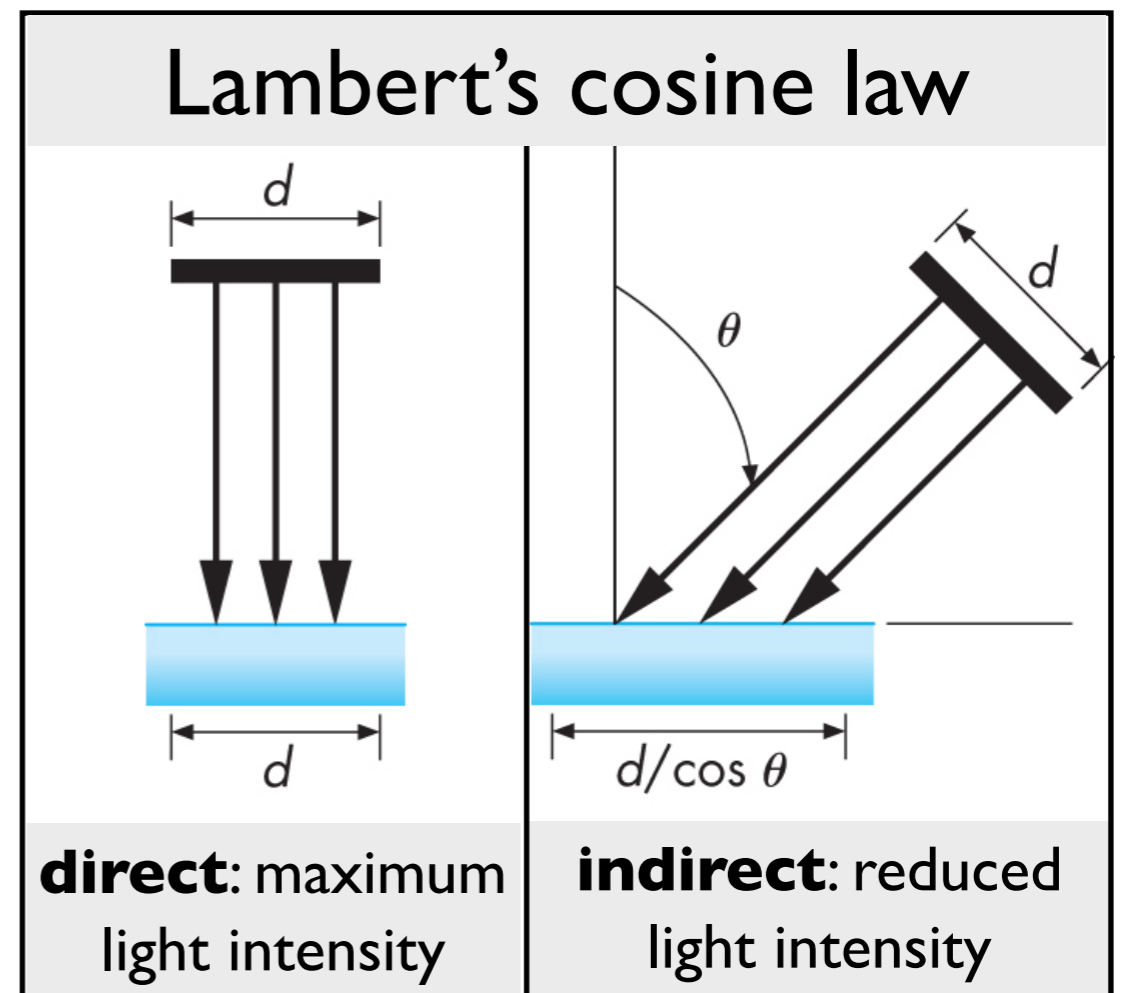
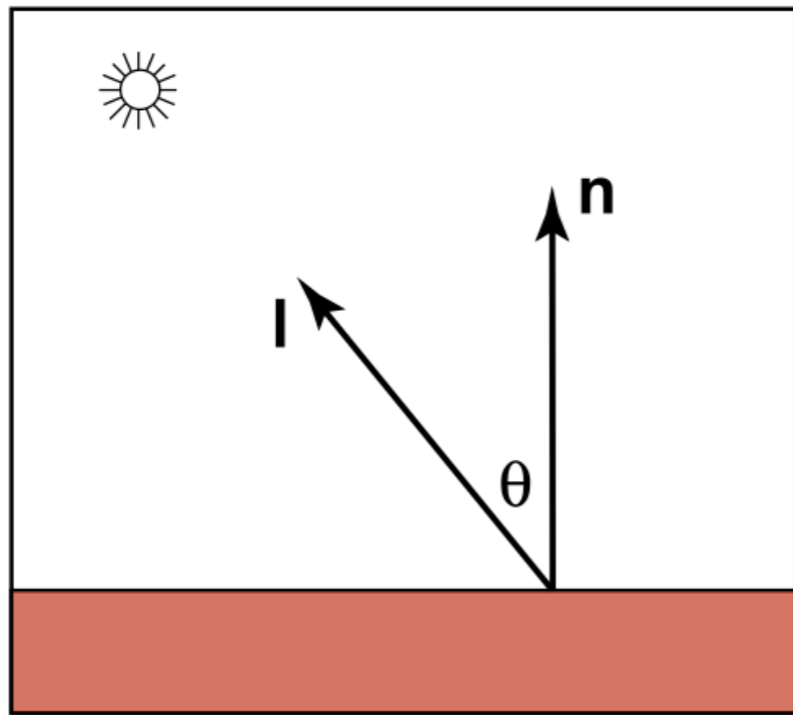


$$I \propto \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}$$

color intensity

$$\cos \theta = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}$$

# Lambertian Reflection Model



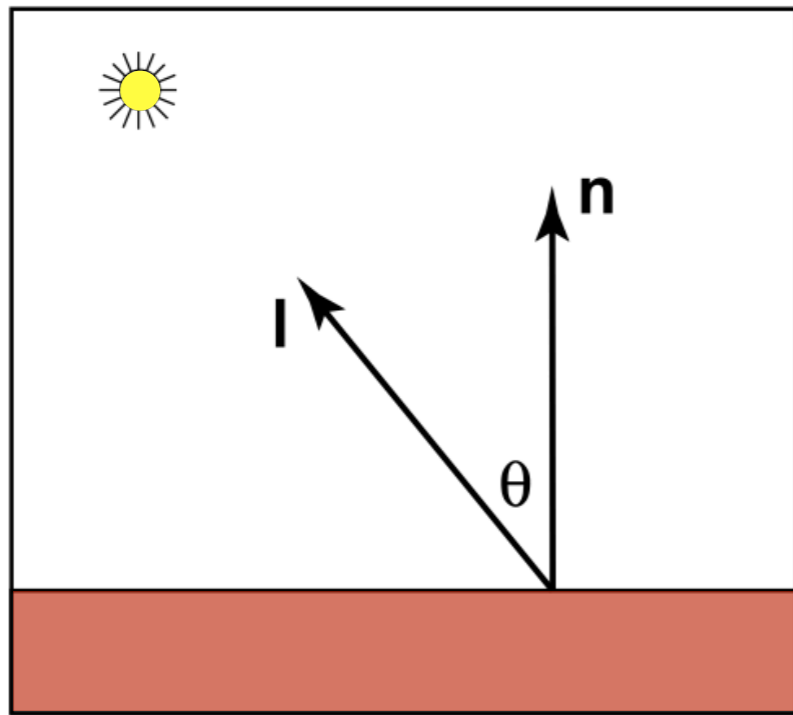
$$I \propto R_n \cdot l$$

color intensity

reflectance

the color intensity is also going to be proportional to the reflectance of the object in that color channel

# Lambertian Reflection Model

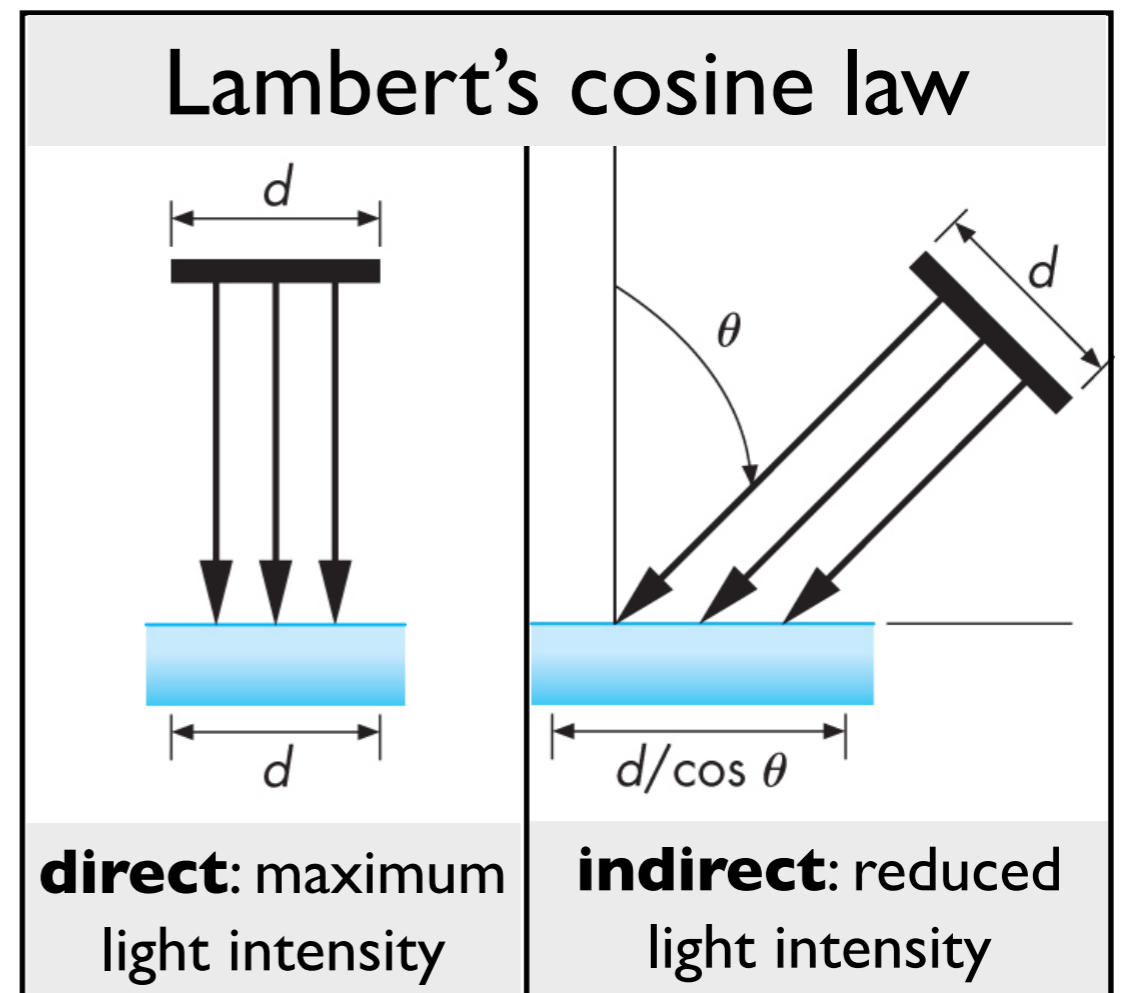


illumination

$$I = LR_n \cdot l$$

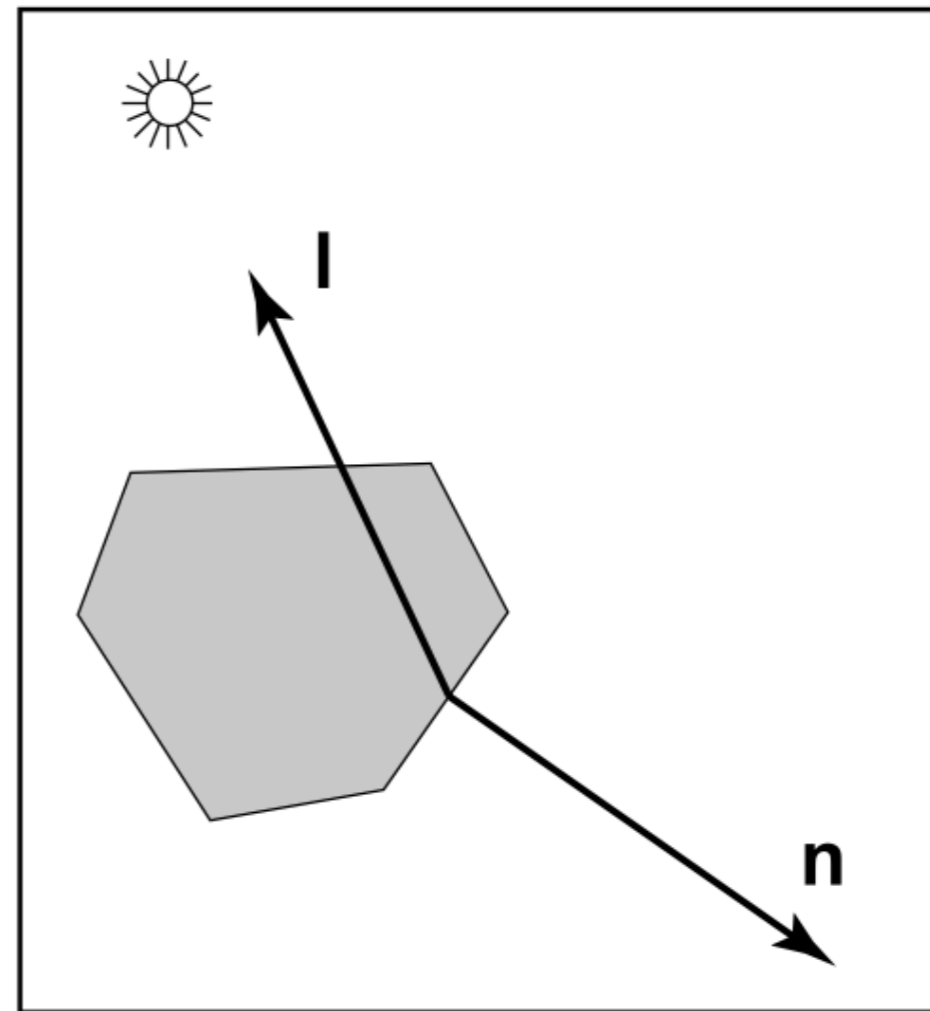
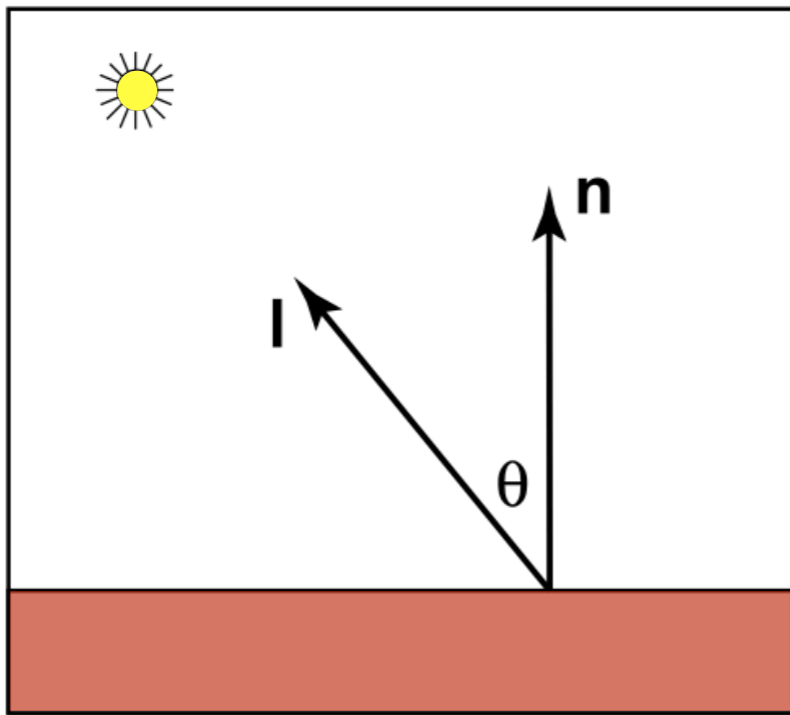
color intensity

reflectance



and it will be proportional to the light intensity

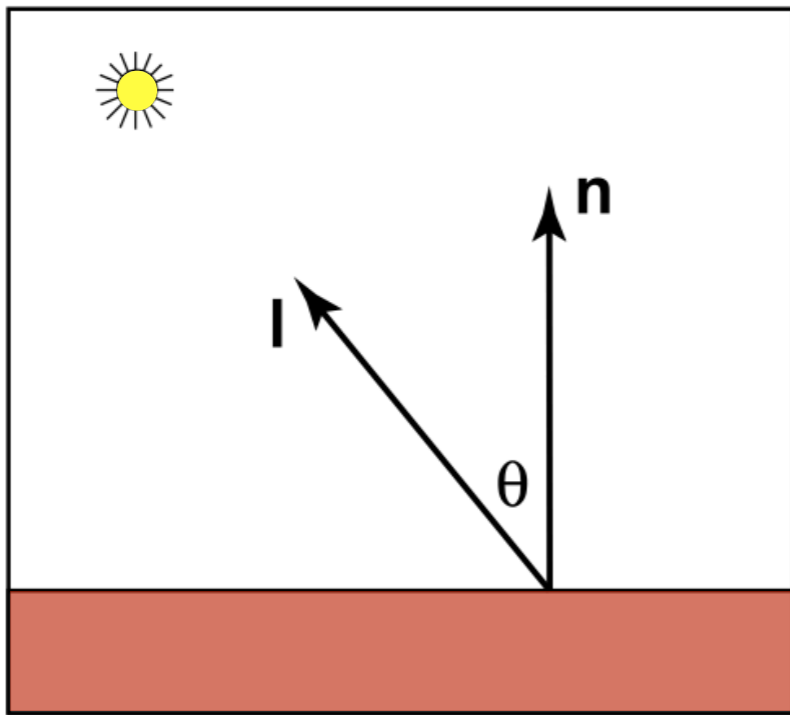
# Lambertian Reflection Model



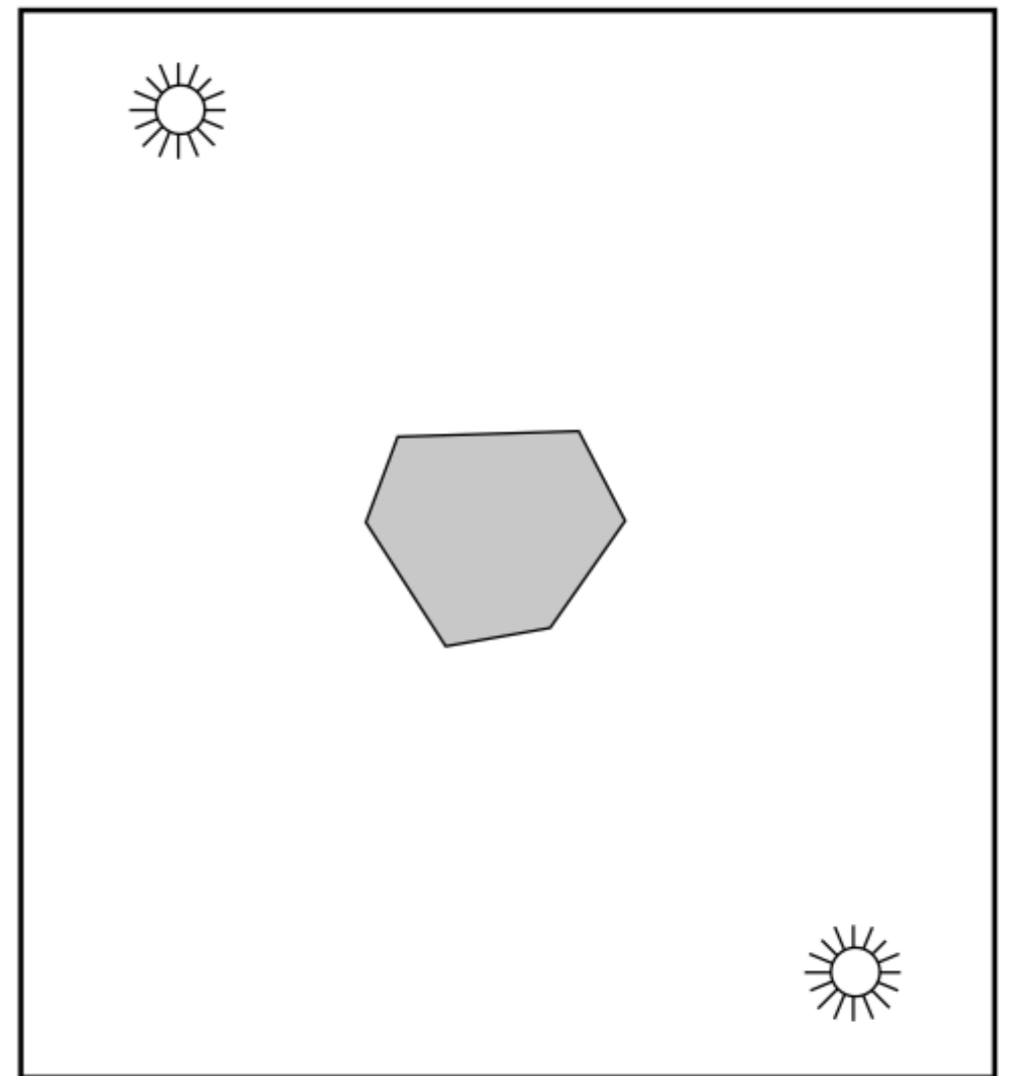
$$I = LR \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l})$$

the cosine is negative if the angle is more than 90 degrees. In this case, the face points away from the light. If we don't modify the formula we'll get a negative intensity. We can put in the max to ensure that if the face points away, it won't be lit by the light.

# Lambertian Reflection Model



$$I = LR|\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}|$$



two-sided lighting

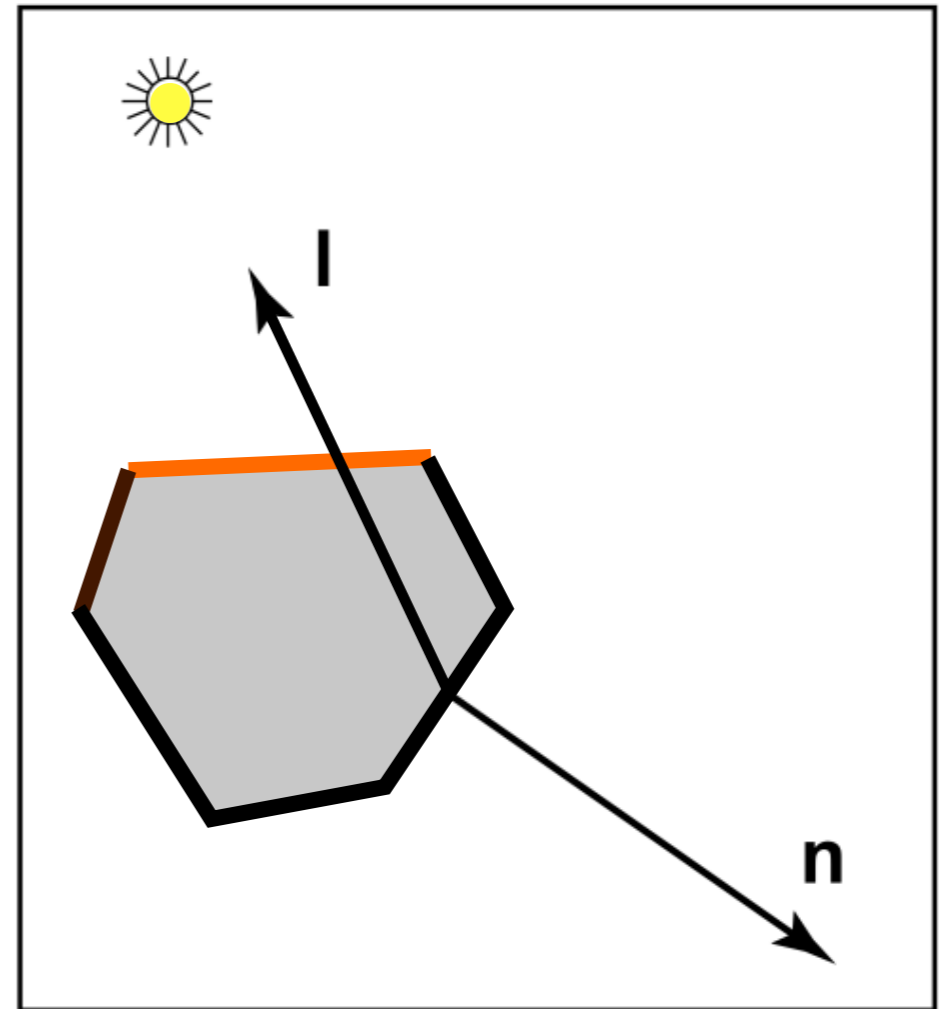
An alternative is to take the absolute value. This is equivalent to having another light on the other side of the object exactly opposite the first.



# Ambient Reflection

$$I = LR \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l})$$

Surfaces facing away from the light will be totally **black**

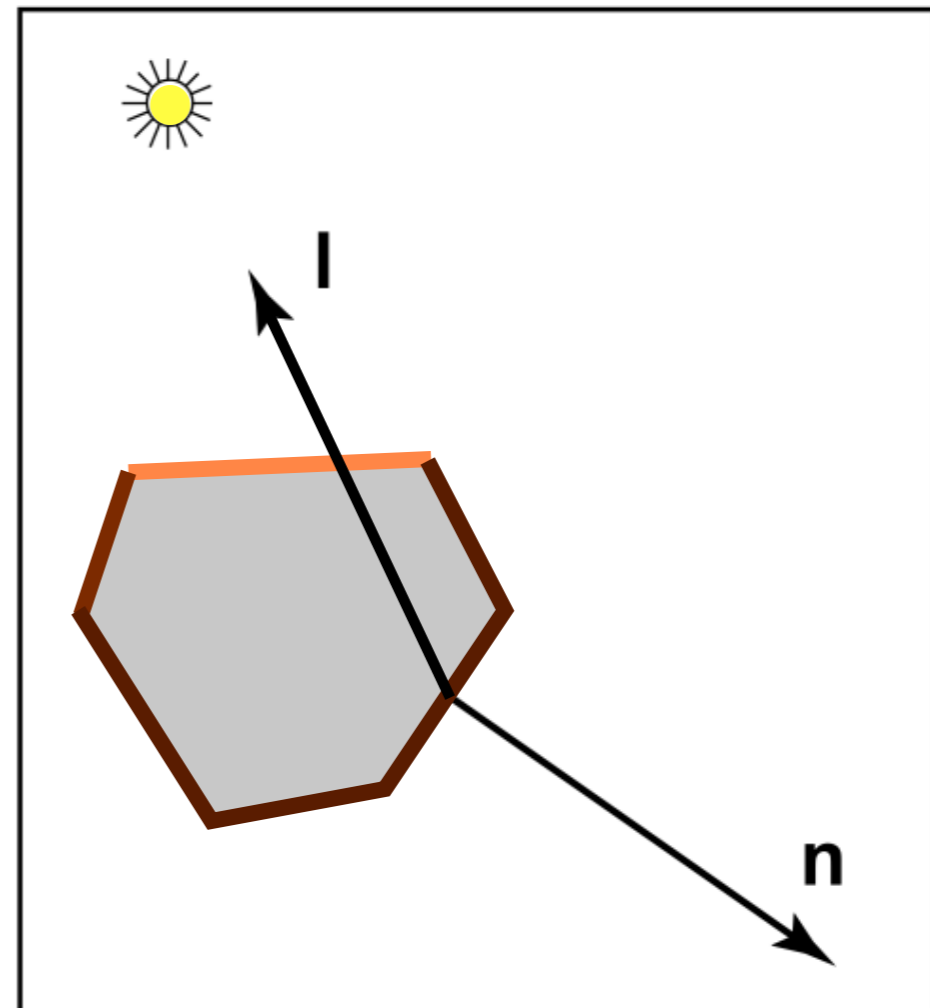


Problem: surfaces facing away from the light will be totally black.

# Ambient Reflection

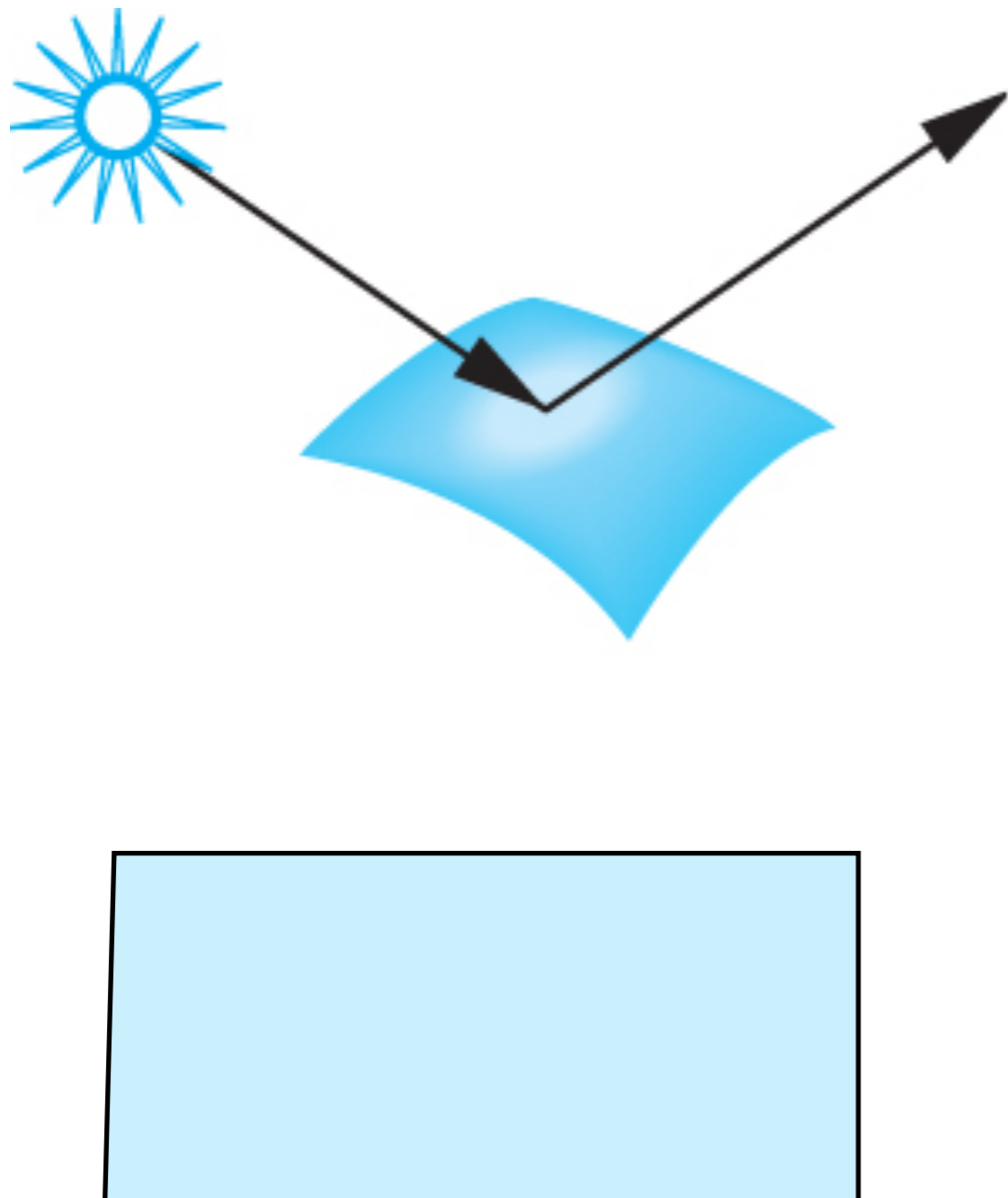
$$I = L_a R_a + L_d R_d \max(0, \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l})$$

All surfaces get same amount of ambient light



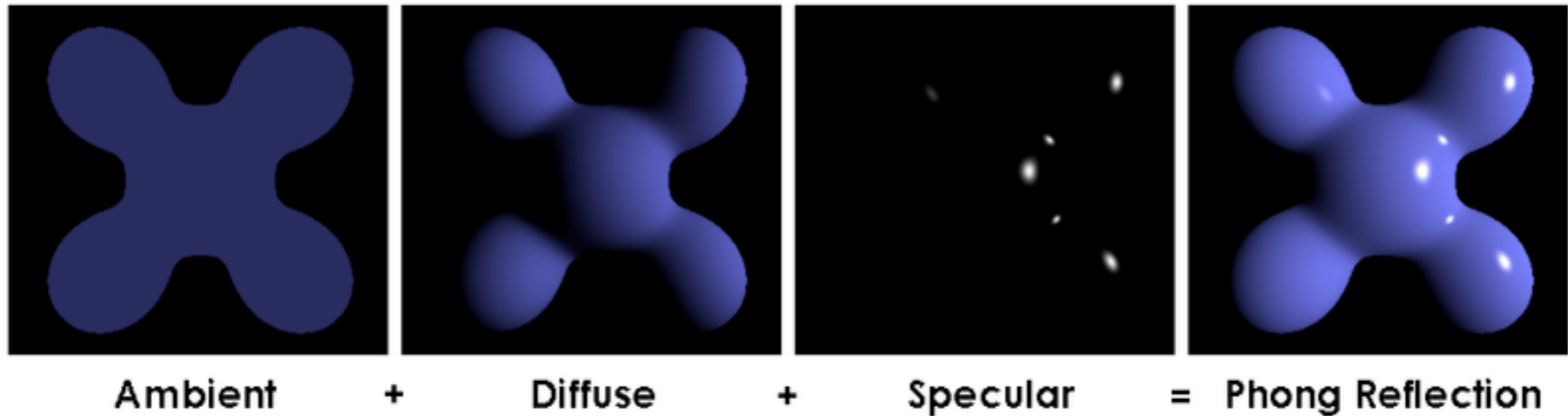
Problem: surfaces facing away from the light will be totally black – ambient light mitigates this by adding some light everywhere

# Phong Reflection Model



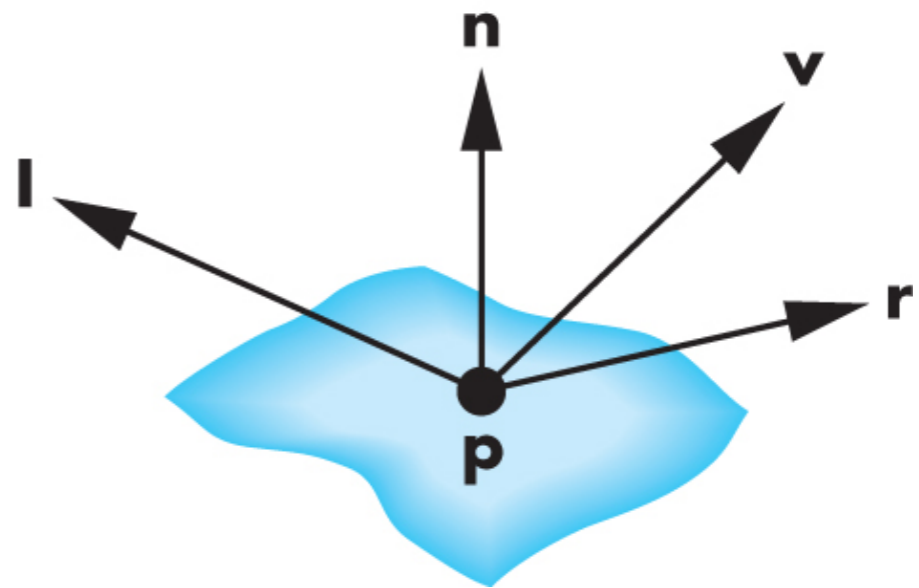
The **Phong reflection model** combines the Ambient and Lambertian reflections with a **specular** reflection to capture highlights such as the white highlight seen on the shiny part of the vase  
The highlight is a reflection of the light and it is the color of the light.

# Phong Reflection Model



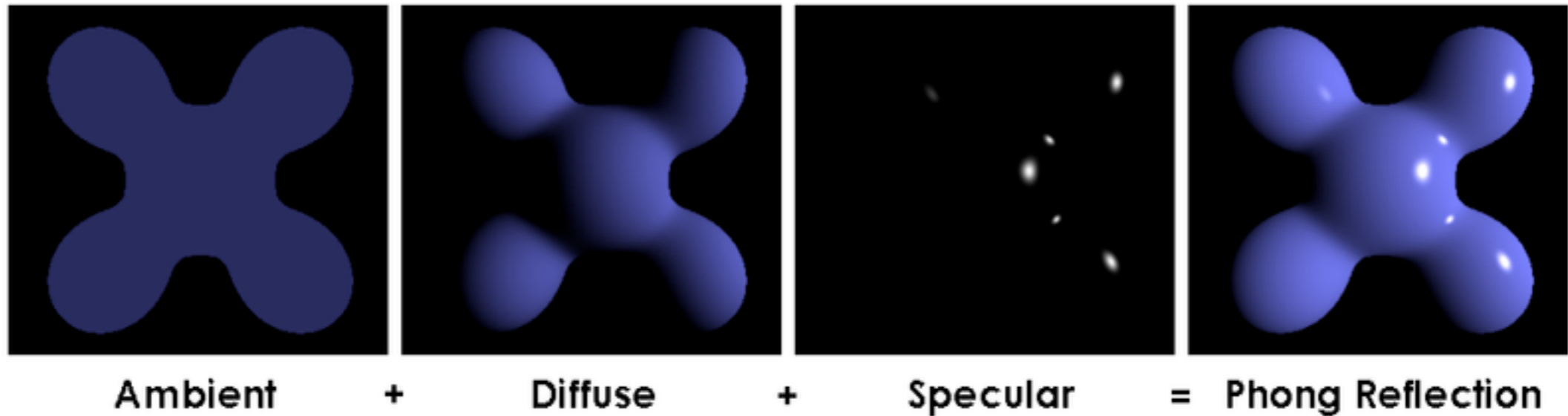
[Brad Smith, Wikimedia Commons]

- efficient, reasonably realistic
- 3 components
- 4 vectors



- $l$  to light source
- $n$  surface normal
- $v$  to viewer
- $r$  perfect reflector (function of  $n$  and  $l$ )

# Phong Reflection Model



[Brad Smith, Wikimedia Commons]

$$I = I_a + I_d + I_s$$
$$= R_a L_a + R_d L_d \max(0, \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{n}) + R_s L_s \max(0, \cos \phi)^\alpha$$

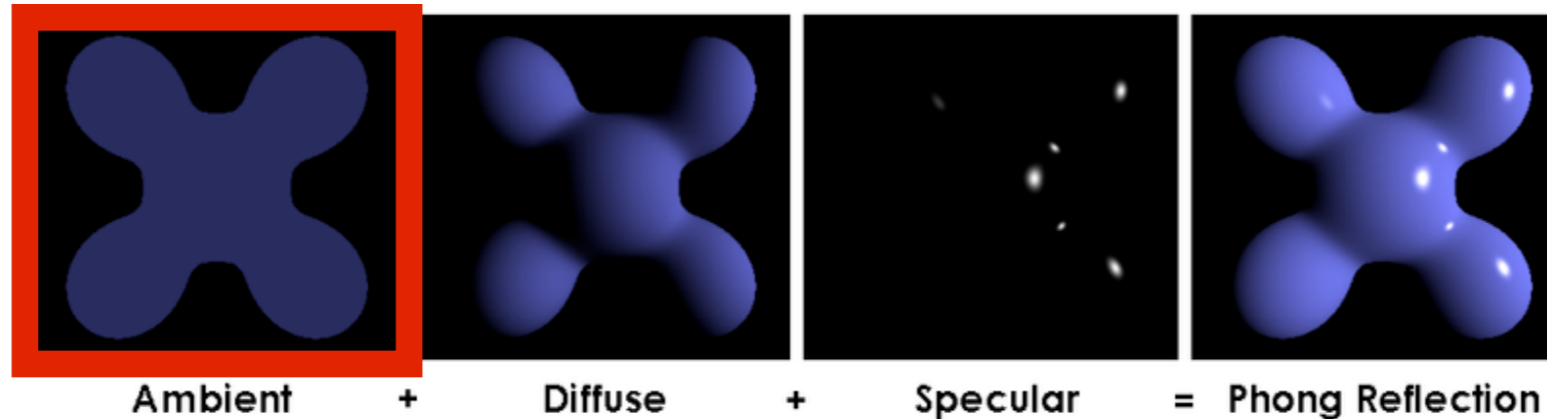
color intensity

reflectance

illumination

This formula will be applied for each of the three color channels independently.

# Ambient reflection



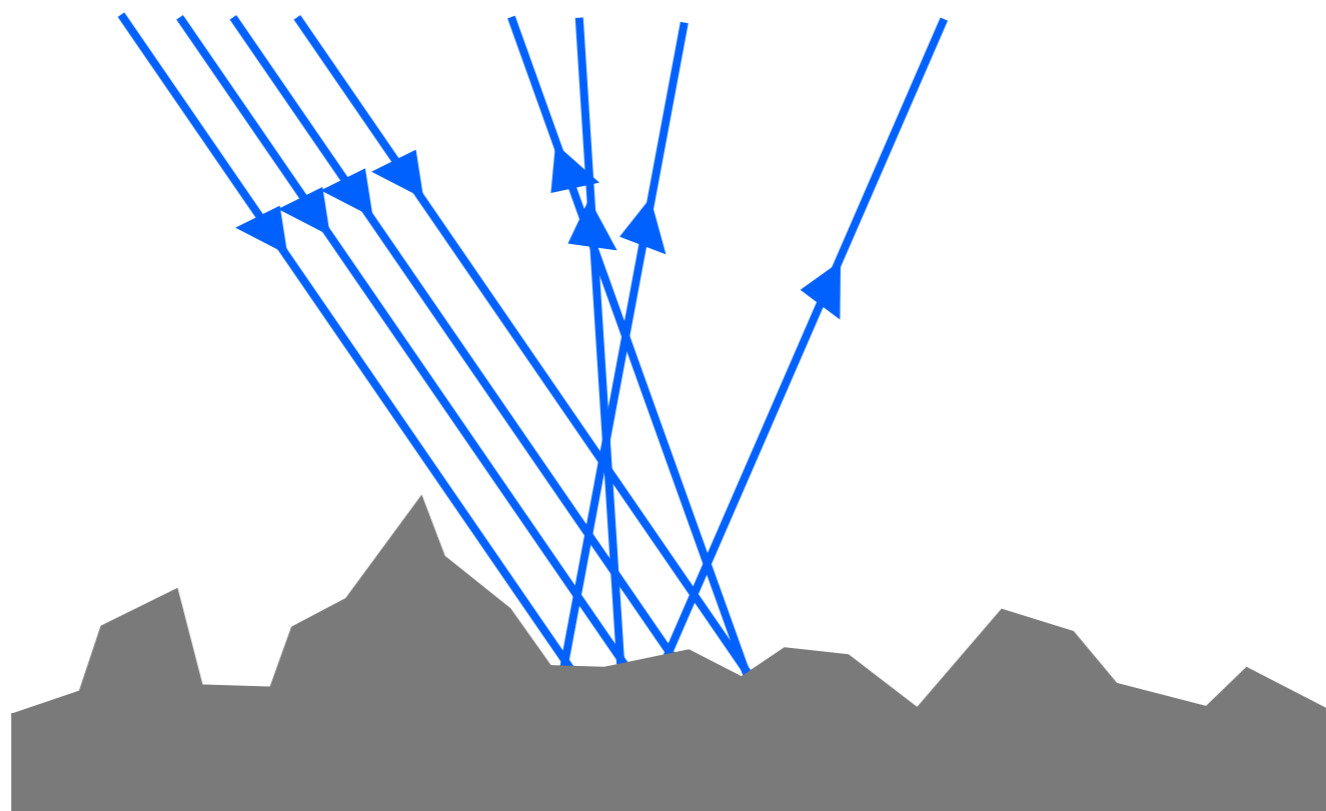
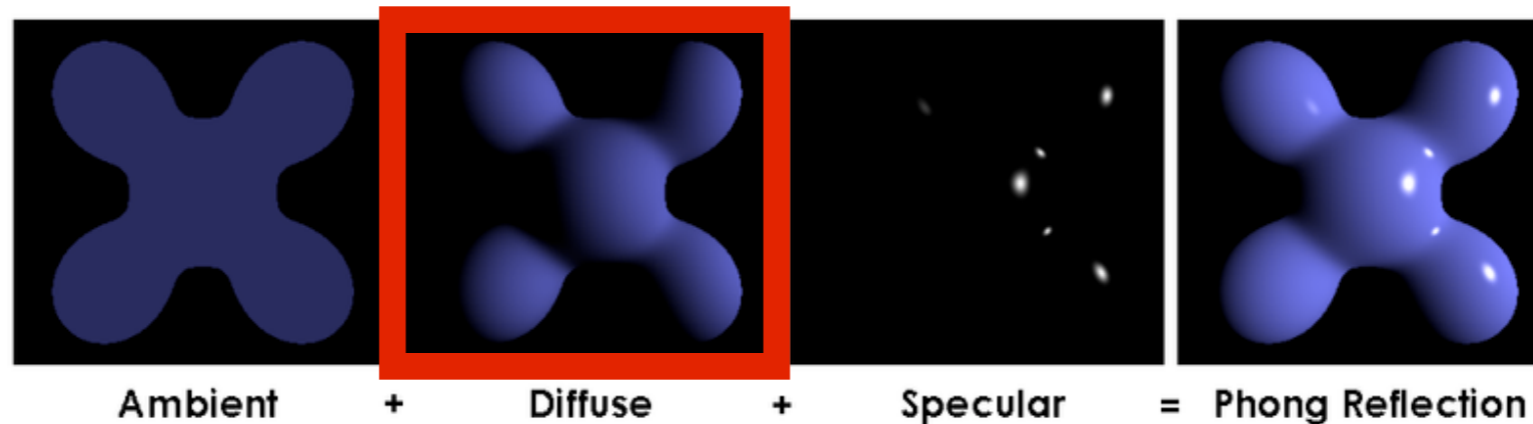
different ambient  
coefficients for  
different colors

$$I_a = R_a L_a, \quad 0 \leq R_a \leq 1$$

*ambient  
reflection  
coefficient*

e.g., white light shining on the object will be reflected differently in red, green, blue channels  
e.g., more red and blue reflection here

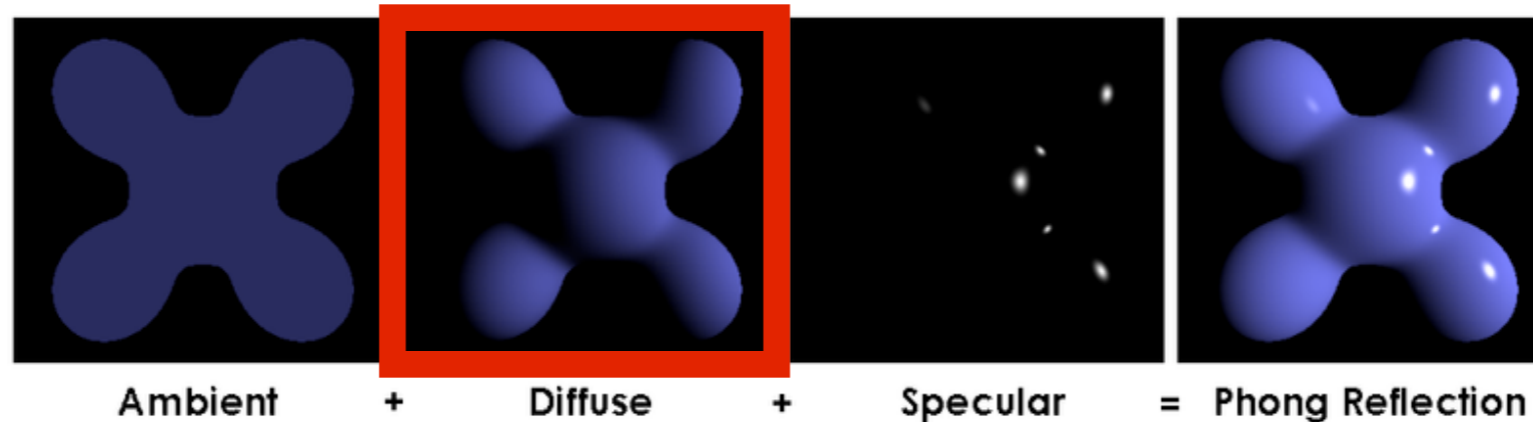
# Diffuse reflection



e.g., paper, unfinished wood, unpolished stone

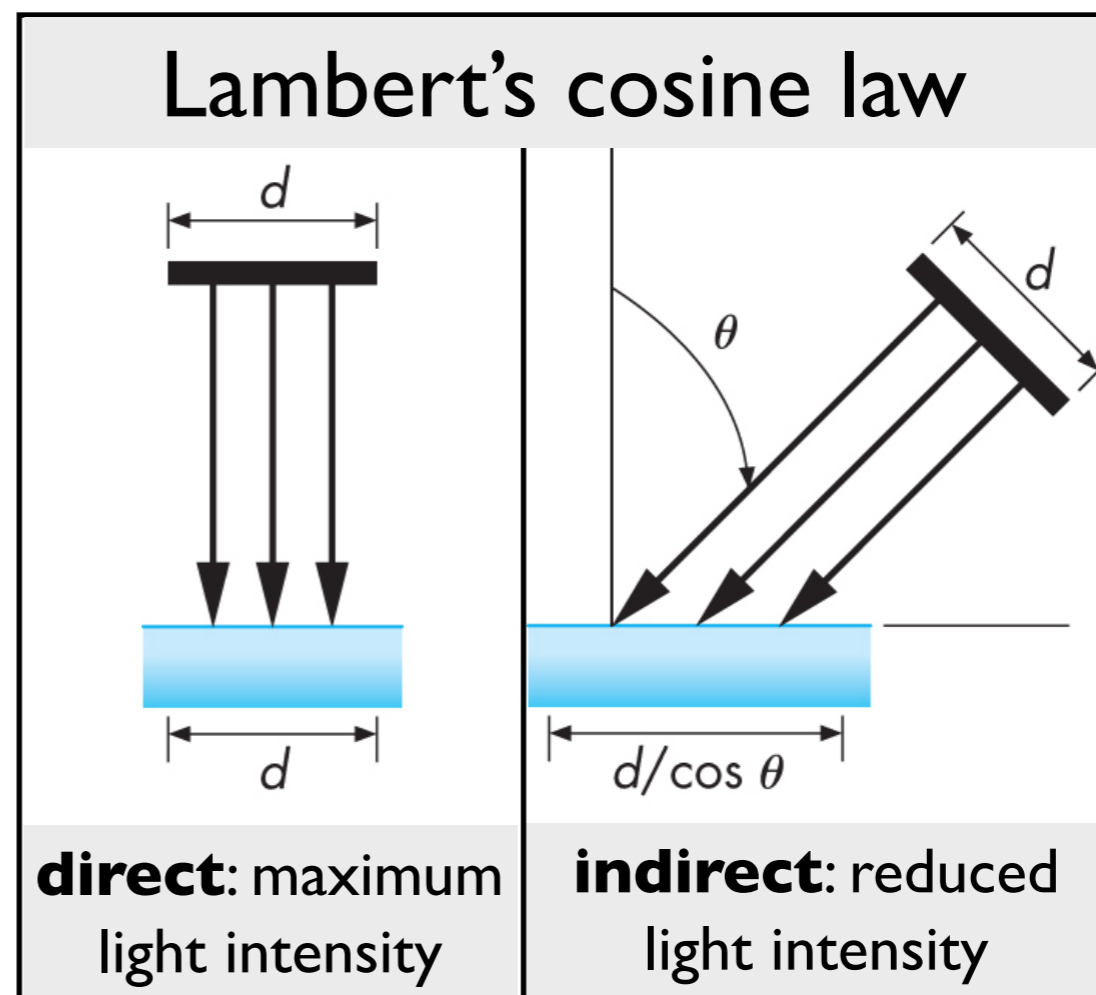
The diffuse component of the Phong reflectance model is the same as the Lambertian reflectance model

# Diffuse reflection



$$I_d = R_d L_d \max(0, \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{n})$$

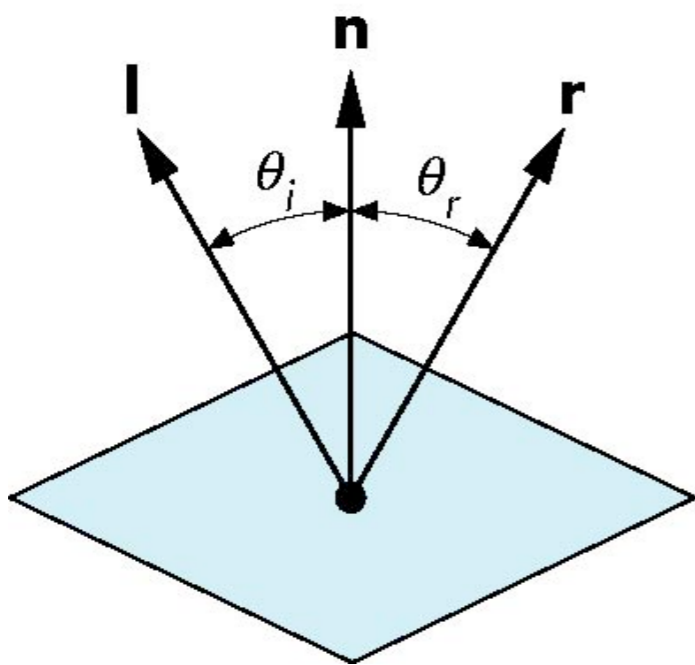
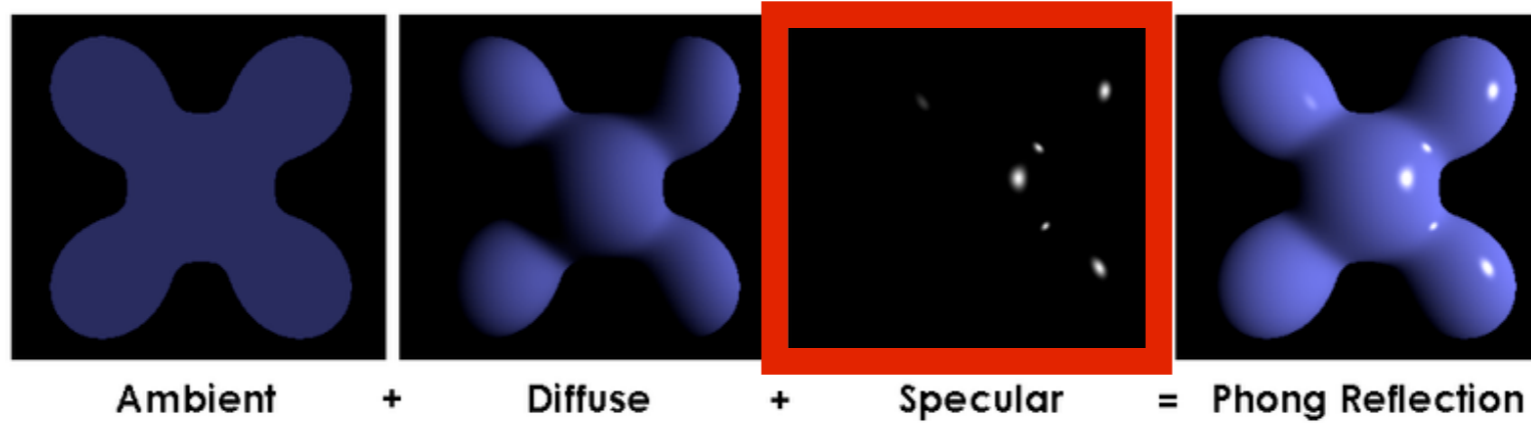
diffuse  
reflection  
coefficient



- the light is reduced by cos of angle
- this is because same amount of light is spread over larger area when light comes in at an angle



# Specular reflection



Ideal reflector

$$\theta_i = \theta_r$$

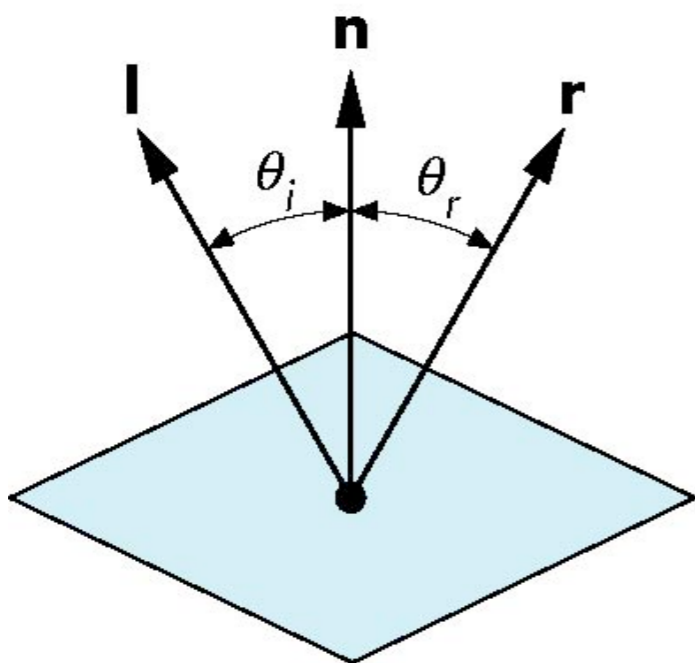
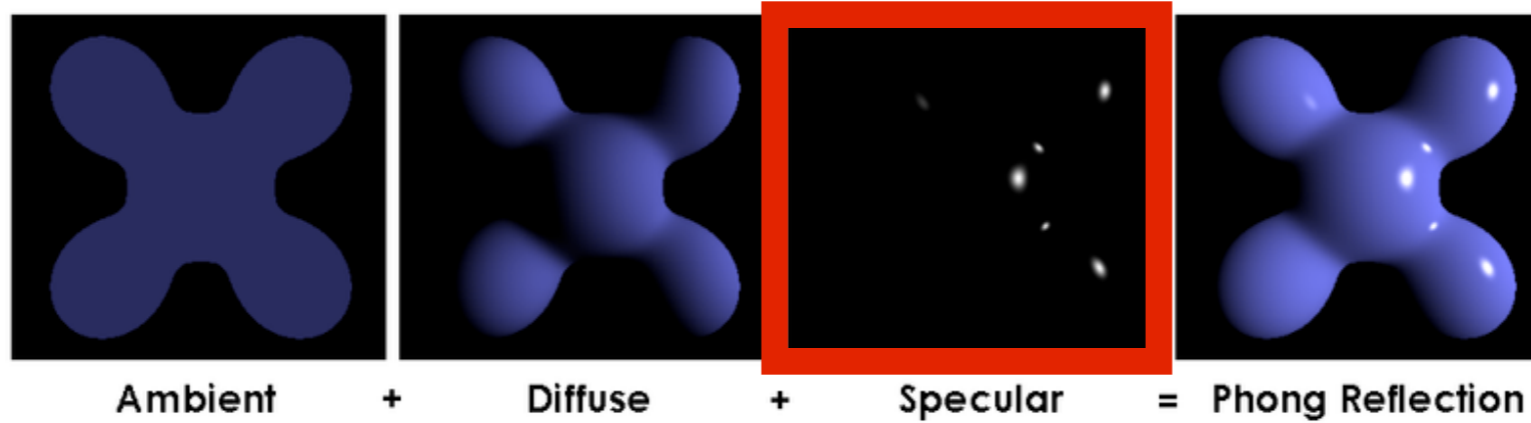
angle of incidence

angle of reflection

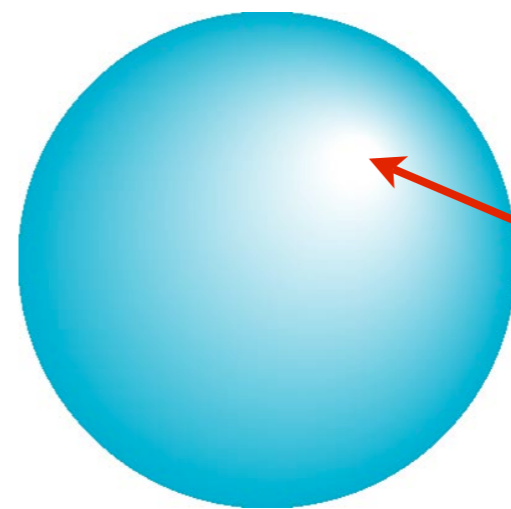
$\mathbf{r}$  is the mirror reflection direction

The new thing in the Phong reflection model is the specular component

# Specular reflection



Specular surface

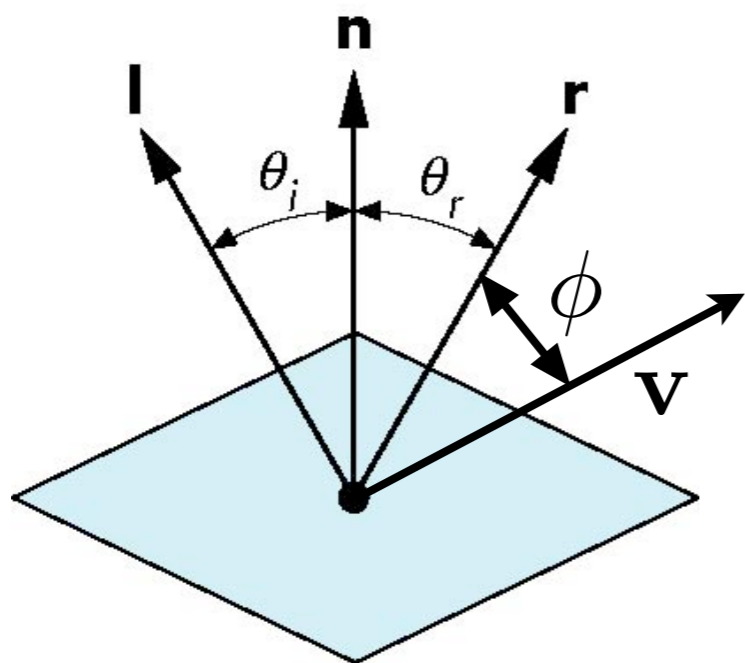
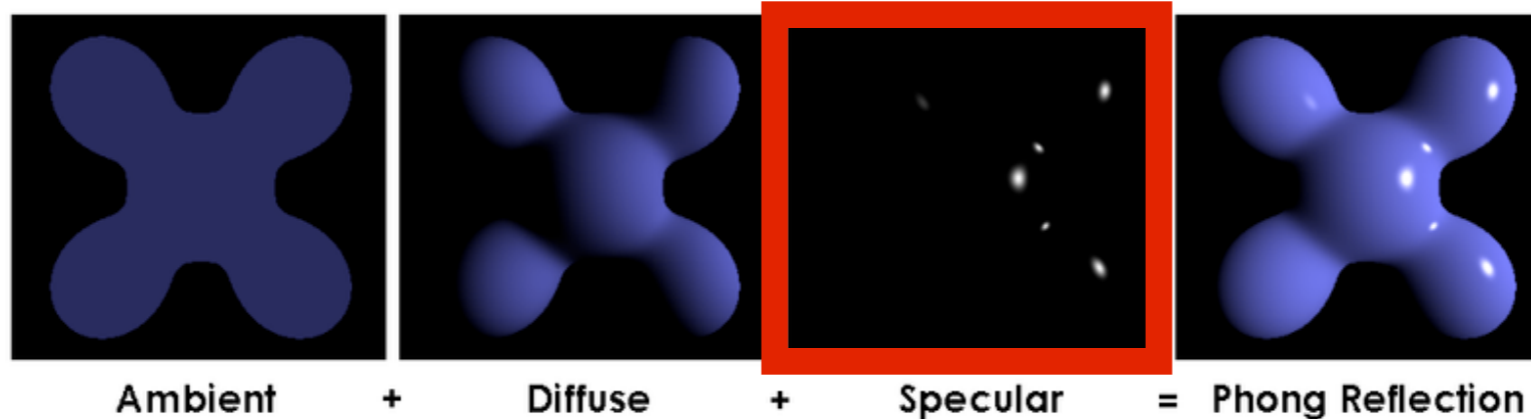


*specular  
highlight*

specular reflection is strongest in  
mirror reflection direction

area of specular highlight depends on how smooth the surface is

# Specular reflection



$$I_s = R_s L_s \cos^\alpha \phi$$

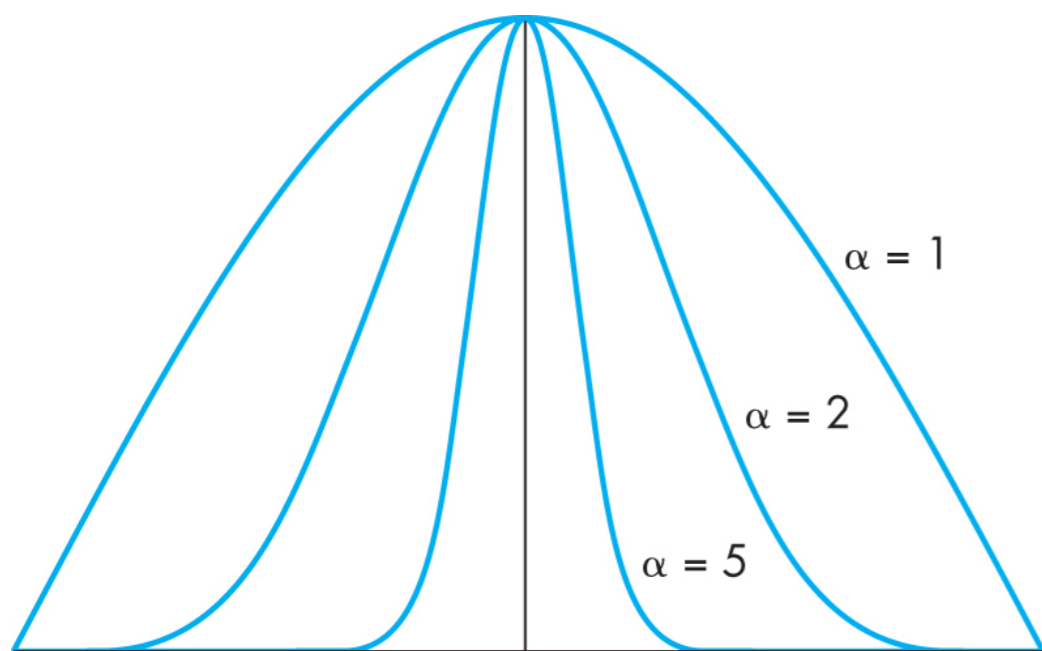
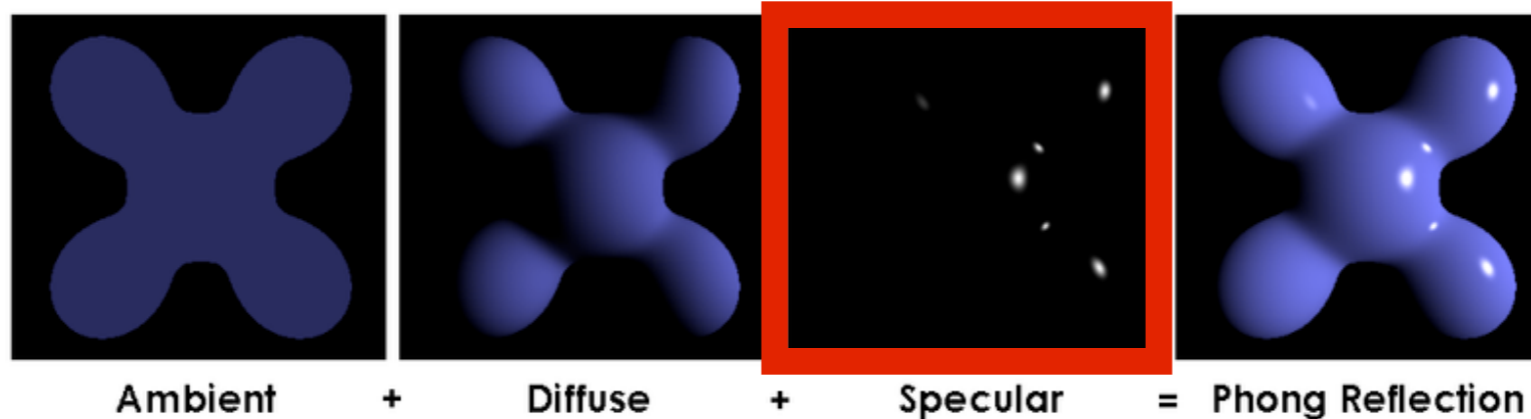
specular  
reflection  
coefficient

Phong  
exponent

specular reflection drops off  
with increasing angle  $\phi$

Phong proposed this model

# Specular reflection



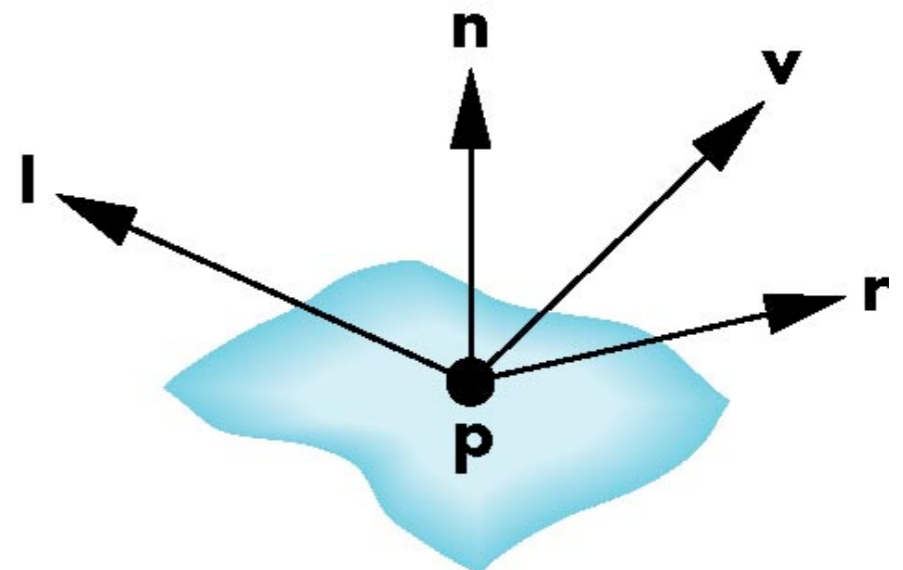
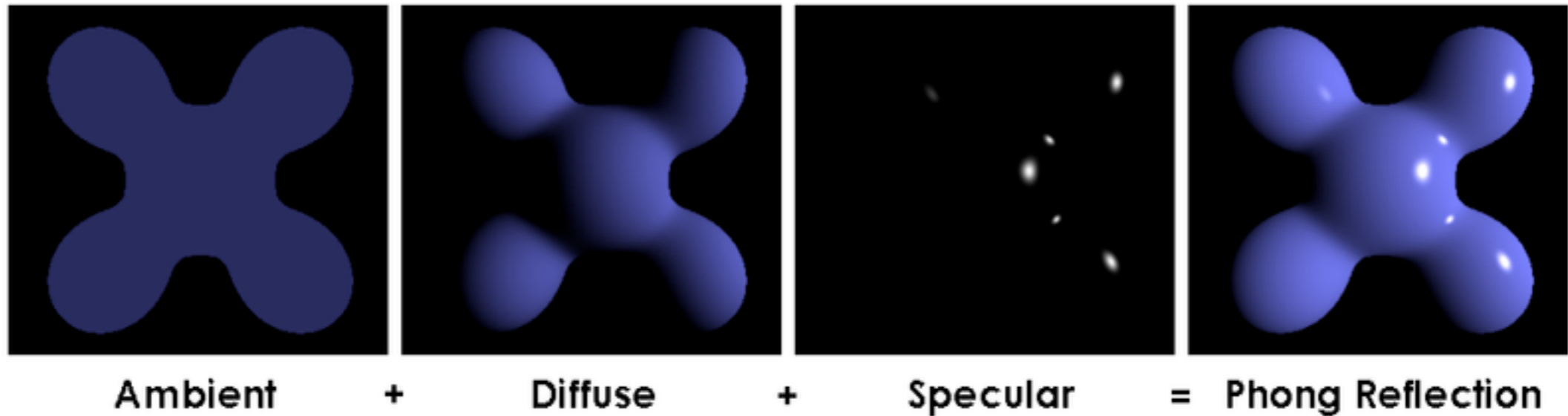
$$I_s = R_s L_s \max(0, \cos \phi)^\alpha$$

Phong  
exponent

$\alpha = 5..10$  plastic  
 $\alpha = 100..200$  metal

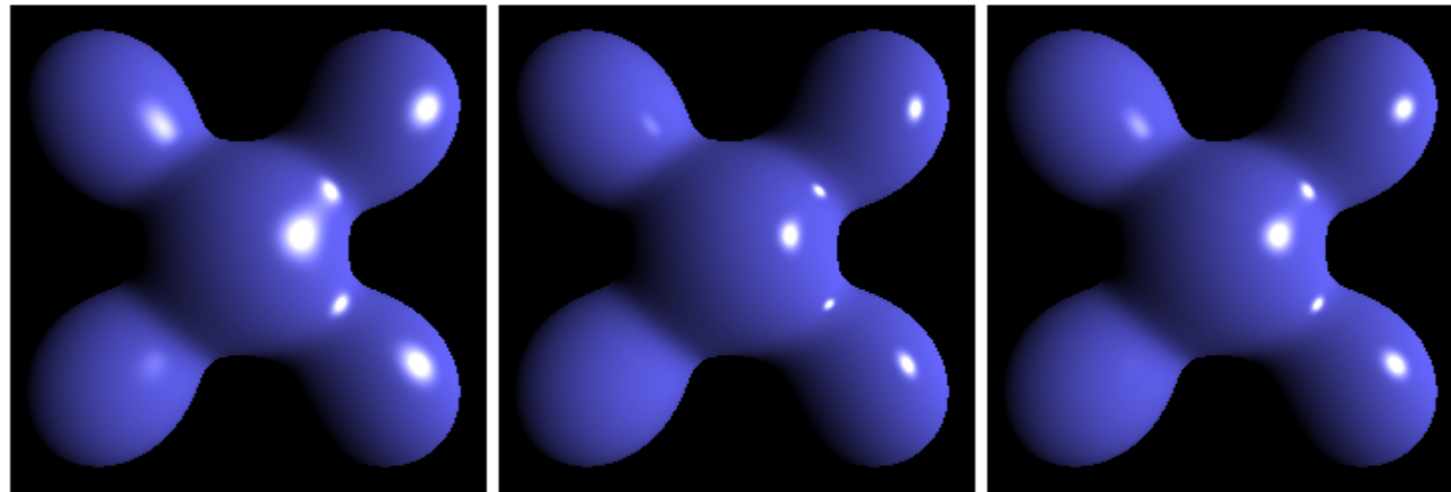
Phong proposed this model  
clamp to 0 -- avoid negative values  
the fuzzy highlight was too big without an exponent

# Phong Reflection Model



$$I = I_a + I_d + I_s$$
$$= \underbrace{R_a L_a}_{\text{Ambient}} + \underbrace{R_d L_d \max(0, \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{n})}_{\text{Diffuse}} + \underbrace{R_s L_s \max(0, \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{r})^\alpha}_{\text{Specular}}$$

# Alternative: Blinn-Phong Model



Blinn-Phong

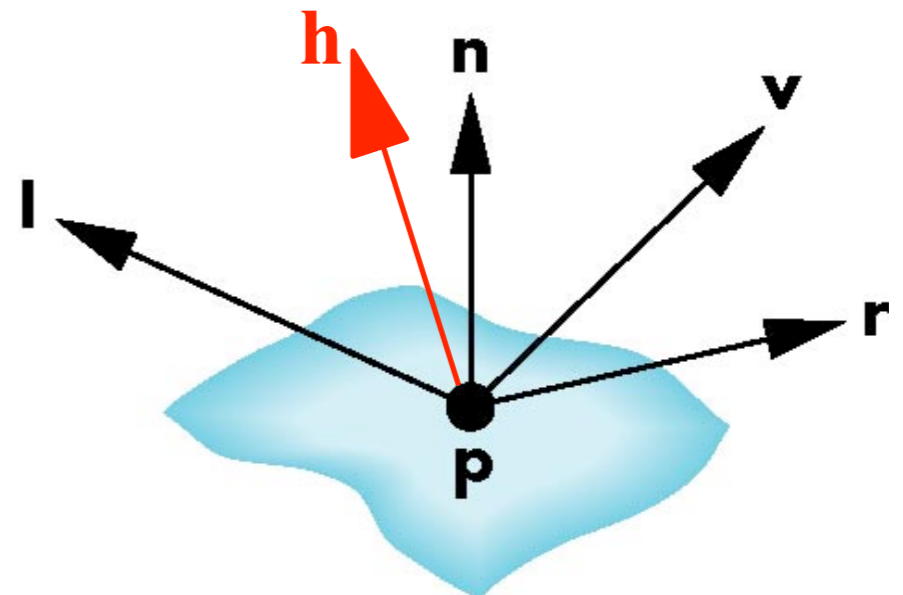
Phong

Blinn-Phong  
(Lower Exponent)

[Brad Smith, Wikimedia Commons]

halfway vector

$$\mathbf{h} = \frac{\mathbf{l} + \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{l} + \mathbf{v}|}$$



$$I = I_a + I_d + I_s$$

$$= R_a L_a + R_d L_d \max(0, \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{n}) + R_s L_s \max(0, \mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{n})^\alpha$$

Ambient

Diffuse

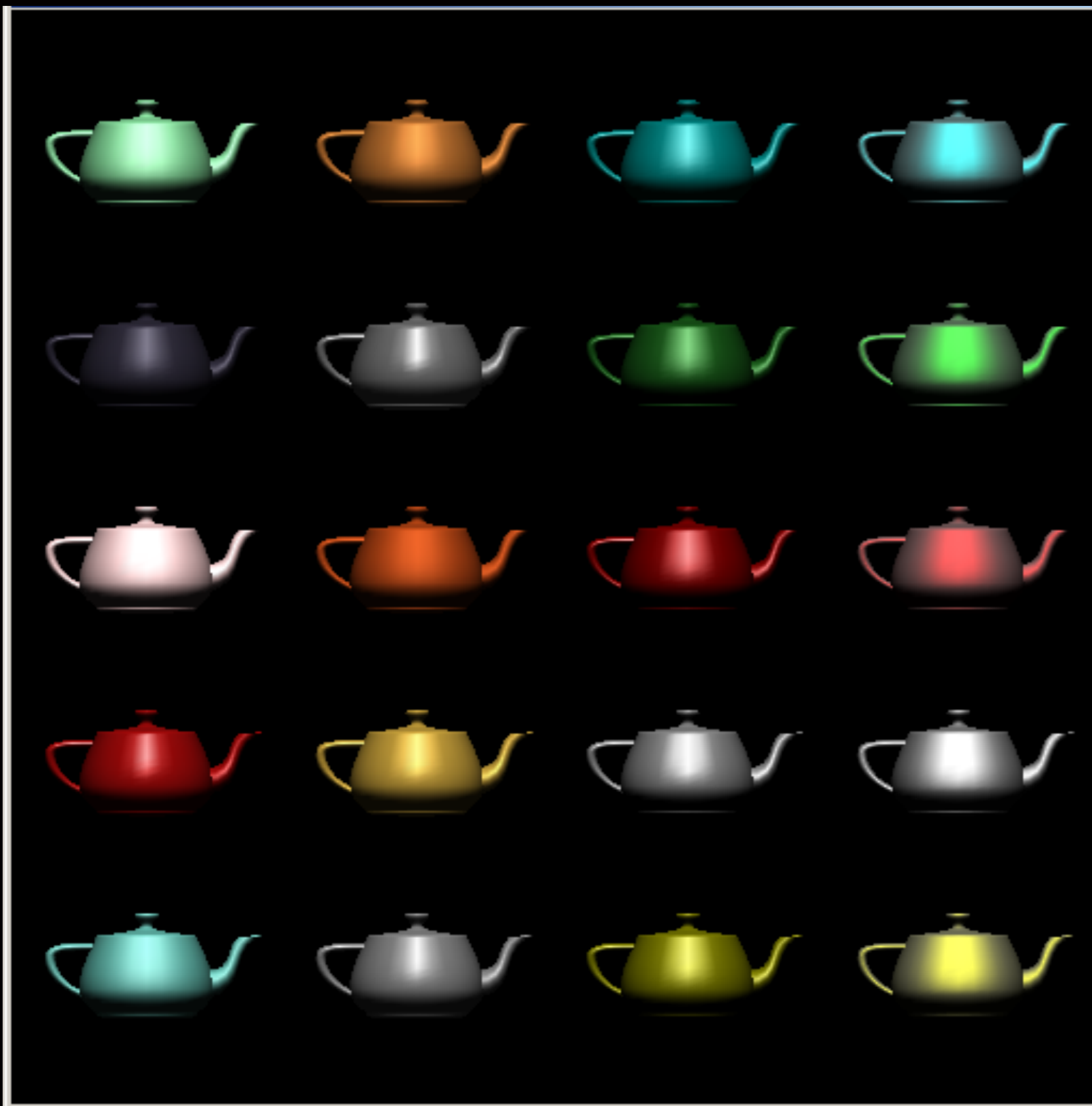
Specular

replace  $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{r}$  with  $\mathbf{h} \cdot \mathbf{n}$

this way we don't have to recompute  $\mathbf{r}$ , which depends on  $\mathbf{n}$

$\mathbf{h}$  does not depend on  $\mathbf{n}$

saves a lot especially for directional lights and constant viewing direction



$\alpha$

10: eggshell

100: shiny

1000: glossy

10000: mirror-like