# Modelling the Directionality of Light Scattered in Translucent Materials 

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Materials (scattering and absorption of light)

- Optical properties (index of refraction, $n(\lambda)=n^{\prime}(\lambda)+i n^{\prime \prime}(\lambda)$ ).
- Reflectance distribution functions, $S\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i} ; \mathbf{x}_{o}, \vec{\omega}_{o}\right)$.




## Subsurface scattering

- Behind the rendering equation [Nicodemus et al. 1977]:

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d} L_{r}\left(\mathbf{x}_{o}, \vec{\omega}_{o}\right)}{\mathrm{d} \Phi_{i}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i}\right)}=S\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i} ; \mathbf{x}_{o}, \vec{\omega}_{o}\right)
$$



- An element of reflected radiance $\mathrm{d} L_{r}$ is proportional to an element of incident flux $\mathrm{d} \Phi_{i}$.
- $S$ (the BSSRDF) is the factor of proportionality.
- Using the definition of radiance $L=\frac{d^{2} \Phi}{\cos \theta d A d \omega}$, we have

$$
L_{r}\left(\mathbf{x}_{o}, \vec{\omega}_{o}\right)=\int_{A} \int_{2 \pi} S\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i} ; \mathbf{x}_{o}, \vec{\omega}_{o}\right) L_{i}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i}\right) \cos \theta \mathrm{d} \omega_{i} \mathrm{~d} A .
$$

References

- Nicodemus, F. E., Richmond, J. C., Hsia, J. J., Ginsberg, I. W., and Limperis, T. Geometrical considerations and nomenclature for reflectance. Tech. rep., National Bureau of Standards (US), 1977.





## Splitting up the BSSRDF

- Bidirectional Scattering-Surface Reflectance Distribution Function: $S=S\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i} ; \mathbf{x}_{o}, \vec{\omega}_{o}\right)$.
- Away from sources and boundaries, we can use diffusion.
- Splitting up the BSSRDF

$$
S=T_{12}\left(S^{(0)}+S^{(1)}+S_{d}\right) T_{21}
$$

where

- $T_{12}$ and $T_{21}$ are Fresnel transmittance terms (using $\vec{\omega}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{o}$ ).
- $S^{(0)}$ is the direct transmission part (using Dirac $\delta$-functions).
- $S^{(1)}$ is the single scattering part (using all arguments).
- $S_{d}$ is the diffusive part (multiple scattering, using $\left|\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}\right|$ ).
- We distribute the single scattering to the other terms using the delta-Eddington approximation:

$$
S=T_{12}\left(S_{\delta E}+S_{d}\right) T_{21}
$$

and generalize the model such that $S_{d}=S_{d}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i} ; \mathbf{x}_{o}\right)$.

## Diffusion theory

- Think of multiple scattering as a diffusion process.
- In diffusion theory, we use quantities that describe the light field in an element of volume of the scattering medium.
- Total flux, or fluence, is defined by

$$
\phi(\mathbf{x})=\int_{4 \pi} L(\mathbf{x}, \vec{\omega}) \mathrm{d} \omega .
$$



- We find an expression for $\phi$ by solving the diffusion equation

$$
\left(D \nabla^{2}-\sigma_{a}\right) \phi(\mathbf{x})=-q(\mathbf{x})+3 D \nabla \cdot \mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{x})
$$

where $\sigma_{a}$ and $D$ are absorption and diffusion coefficients, while $q$ and $\mathbf{Q}$ are zeroth and first order source terms.

## Deriving a BSSRDF

- Assume that emerging light is diffuse due to a large number of scattering events: $S_{d}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i} ; \mathbf{x}_{o}, \vec{\omega}_{o}\right)=S_{d}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i} ; \mathbf{x}_{o}\right)$.
- Integrating emerging diffuse radiance over outgoing directions, we find
where

$$
S_{d}=\frac{C_{\phi}(\eta) \phi-C_{\mathbf{E}}(\eta) D \vec{n}_{o} \cdot \nabla \phi}{\phi 4 \pi C_{\phi}(1 / \eta)}
$$

- $\Phi$ is the flux entering the medium at $\mathbf{x}_{i}$.
- $\vec{n}_{o}$ is the surface normal at the point of emergence $\mathbf{x}_{0}$.
- $C_{\phi}$ and $C_{E}$ depend on the relative index of refraction $\eta$ and are polynomial fits of different hemispherical integrals of the Fresnel transmittance.
- This connects the BSSRDF and the diffusion theory.
- To get an analytical model, we use a special case solution for the diffusion equation (an expression for $\phi$ ).
- Then, "all" we need to do is to find $\nabla \phi$ (do the math) and deal with boundary conditions (build a plausible model).


## Point source diffusion or ray source diffusion


standard dipole

- Point source diffusion
[Bothe 1941; 1942]

$$
\phi(r)=\frac{\phi}{4 \pi D} \frac{e^{-\sigma_{\mathrm{tt}} r}}{r},
$$

where $r=\left|\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}\right|$ and $\sigma_{\mathrm{tr}}=\sqrt{\sigma_{a} / D}$ is the effective transport coefficient.


- Ray source diffusion [Menon et al. 2005a; 2005b]

$$
\begin{aligned}
\phi(r, \theta) & =\frac{\phi}{4 \pi D} \frac{e^{-\sigma_{\mathrm{tr}} r}}{r} \\
(1 & \left.+3 D \frac{1+\sigma_{\mathrm{tr}} r}{r} \cos \theta\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

where $\theta$ is the angle between the refracted ray and $\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}$.

## Our BSSRDF when disregarding the boundary



- Using $\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}, r=|\mathbf{x}|, \cos \theta=\mathbf{x} \cdot \vec{\omega}_{12} / r$, we take the gradient of $\phi(r, \theta)$ (the expression for ray source diffusion) and insert to find

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S_{d}^{\prime}\left(\mathbf{x}, \vec{\omega}_{12}, r\right)=\frac{1}{4 C_{\phi}(1 / \eta)} \frac{1}{4 \pi^{2}} \frac{\mathrm{e}^{-\sigma_{\mathrm{tt}} r}}{r^{3}}\left[C_{\phi}(\eta)\left(\frac{r^{2}}{D}+3\left(1+\sigma_{\mathrm{tr}} r\right) \mathbf{x} \cdot \vec{\omega}_{12}\right)\right. \\
& \left.-C_{\mathbf{E}}(\eta)\left(3 D\left(1+\sigma_{\mathrm{tr}} r\right) \vec{\omega}_{12} \cdot \vec{n}_{o}-\left(\left(1+\sigma_{\mathrm{tr}} r\right)+3 D \frac{3\left(1+\sigma_{\mathrm{tr}} r\right)+\left(\sigma_{\mathrm{tr}} r\right)^{2}}{r^{2}} \mathbf{x} \cdot \vec{\omega}_{12}\right) \mathbf{x} \cdot \vec{n}_{o}\right)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

which would be the BSSRDF if we neglect the boundary.

## Dipole configuration (method of mirror images)



- We place the "real" ray source at the boundary and reflect it in an extrapolated boundary to place the "virtual" ray source.
- Distance to the extrapolated boundary [Davison 1958]:

$$
d_{e}=2.131 D / \sqrt{1-3 D \sigma_{a}} .
$$

- In case of a refractive boundary $\left(\eta_{1} \neq \eta_{2}\right)$, the distance is

$$
A d_{e} \quad \text { with } \quad A=\frac{1-C_{\mathbf{E}}(\eta)}{2 C_{\phi}(\eta)}
$$

## Modified tangent plane



- The dipole assumes a semi-infinite medium.
- We assume that the boundary contains the vector $\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}$ and that it is perpendicular to the plane spanned by $\vec{n}_{i}$ and $\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}$.
- The normal of the assumed boundary plane is then

$$
\vec{n}_{i}^{*}=\frac{\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}}{\left|\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}\right|} \times \frac{\vec{n}_{i} \times\left(\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}\right)}{\left|\vec{n}_{i} \times\left(\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}\right)\right|}, \quad \text { or } \vec{n}_{i}^{*}=\vec{n}_{i} \text { if } \mathbf{x}_{o}=\mathbf{x}_{i}
$$

and the virtual source is given by

$$
\mathbf{x}_{v}=\mathbf{x}_{i}+2 A d_{e} \vec{n}_{i}^{*}, \quad d_{v}=\left|\mathbf{x}_{v}-\mathbf{x}_{i}\right|, \quad \vec{\omega}_{v}=\vec{\omega}_{12}-2\left(\vec{\omega}_{12} \cdot \vec{n}_{i}^{*}\right) \vec{n}_{i}^{*} .
$$

## Distance to the real source (handling the singularity)


standard dipole

$$
d_{r}=\sqrt{r^{2}+z_{r}^{2}} .
$$


our model

$$
d_{r}=r ?
$$

- Emergent radiance is an integral over $z$ of a Hankel transform of a Green function which is Fourier transformed in $x$ and $y$.
- Approximate analytic evaluation is possible if $r$ is corrected to

$$
R^{2}=r^{2}+\left(z^{\prime}+d_{e}\right)^{2} .
$$

- The resulting model for $z^{\prime}=0$ corresponds to the standard dipole where $z^{\prime}=z_{r}$ and $d_{e}$ is replaced by the virtual source.


## Distance to the real source (handling the singularity)



- Since we neither have normal incidence nor $\mathbf{x}_{0}$ in the tangent plane, we modify the distance correction:

$$
R^{2}=r^{2}+z^{\prime 2}+d_{e}^{2}-2 z^{\prime} d_{e} \cos \beta
$$

- It is possible to reformulate the integral over $z$ to an integral along the refracted ray.
- We can approximate this integral by choosing an offset $D^{*}$ along the refracted ray. Then $z^{\prime}=D^{*}\left|\cos \theta_{0}\right|$.


## Our BSSRDF when considering boundary conditions

- Our final distance to the real source becomes

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \quad d_{r}^{2}= \begin{cases}r^{2}+D \mu_{0}\left(D \mu_{0}-2 d_{e} \cos \beta\right) & \text { for } \mu_{0}>0 \text { (frontlit) } \\
r^{2}+1 /\left(3 \sigma_{t}\right)^{2} & \text { otherwise (backlit), }\end{cases} \\
& \text { with } \mu_{0}=\cos \theta_{0}=-\vec{n}_{o} \cdot \vec{\omega}_{12} \text { and } \\
& \qquad \cos \beta=-\sin \theta \frac{r}{\sqrt{r^{2}+d_{e}^{2}}}=-\sqrt{\frac{r^{2}-\left(\mathbf{x} \cdot \omega_{12}\right)^{2}}{r^{2}+d_{e}^{2}}} .
\end{aligned}
$$

- The diffusive part of our BSSRDF is then

$$
S_{d}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{i} ; \mathbf{x}_{o}\right)=S_{d}^{\prime}\left(\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{i}, \vec{\omega}_{12}, d_{r}\right)-S_{d}^{\prime}\left(\mathbf{x}_{o}-\mathbf{x}_{v}, \vec{\omega}_{v}, d_{v}\right)
$$

while the full BSSRDF is as before:

$$
S=T_{12}\left(S_{\delta E}+S_{d}\right) T_{21}
$$

## Previous Models

- Previous models are based on the point source solution of the diffusion equation and have the problems listed below.

1. Ignore incoming light direction:

- Standard dipole [Jensen et al. 2001].
- Multipole [Donner and Jensen 2005].
- Quantized diffusion [d'Eon and Irving 2011].

2. Require precomputation:

- Precomputed BSSRDF [Donner et al. 2009, Yan et al. 2012].

3. Rely on numerical integration:

- Photon diffusion [Donner and Jensen 2007, Habel et al. 2013].
- Using ray source diffusion, we can get rid of those problems.

$$
5
$$

$$
53
$$

## Results (Simple Scene)



- Path traced single scattering was added to the existing models but not to ours.
- Faded bars show quality measurements when single scattering is not added.
- The four leftmost materials

 scatter light isotropically.


## Results (2D plots, $30^{\circ}$ Oblique Incidence)

## quantized

ours

- Our model is significantly different
- when the angle of incidence changes
- when the direction toward the point of emergence changes.


## Results (2D plots, $45^{\circ}$ Oblique Incidence)

## quantized

ours

- Our model is significantly different
- when the angle of incidence changes
- when the direction toward the point of emergence changes.


## Results (2D plots, $60^{\circ}$ Oblique Incidence)

## quantized

ours

- Our model is significantly different
- when the angle of incidence changes
- when the direction toward the point of emergence changes.


## Results (Diffuse Reflectance Curves)



- Our model comes closer than the existing analytical models to measured and simulated diffuse reflectance curves.

Results (Image Based Lighting)

quantized

The 3Shape Buddha! (scanned with a TRIOS Scanner)

matte milk-coloured
mini milk

## Conclusion

- First BSSRDF which...
- Considers the direction of the incident light.
- Requires no precomputation.
- Provides a fully analytical solution.
- Much more accurate than previous models.
- Incorporates single scattering in the analytical model.
- Future work:
- Consider the direction of the emergent light.
- Real-time approximations.
- Directional multipole and quadpole extensions.
- Directional photon diffusion.
- Anisotropic media (skewed dipole).

