Lambertian model of reflectance I: shape from shading and photometric stereo

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Variations due to lighting (and pose)















Dumitru Verdianu Flying Pregnant Woman





Edges on smooth surfaces





Bump or dip?



What sticks out?



Light field

- Rays travel from sources to objects
- There they are either absorbed or reflected
- Energy of light decreases with distance and number of bounces
- Camera is designed to capture the set of rays that travel through the focal center
- We will assume the camera response is linear

Specular reflectance (mirror)

• When a surface is smooth light reflects in the opposite direction of the surface normal



Specular reflectance

• When a surface is slightly rough the reflected light will fall off around the specular direction



Diffuse reflectance

• When the surface is very rough light may be reflected equally in all directions



Diffuse reflectance

• When the surface is very rough light may be reflected equally in all directions



BRDF

• Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function

 $f(\theta_{in}, \phi_{in}; \theta_{out}, \phi_{out})$

• Specifies for a unit of incoming light in a direction (θ_{in}, ϕ_{in}) how much light will be reflected in a direction $(\theta_{out}, \phi_{out})$



BRDF



Light from front Light from back

Lambertian reflectance



Lambertian reflectance



Lambert's law



Preliminaries

- A surface is denoted z(x, y)
- A point on z is (x, y, z(x, y))
- The tangent plane is spanned by $(1,0,z_x)$ $(0,1,z_y)$
- The surface normal is given by

$$\hat{n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{z_x^2 + z_y^2 + 1}} \left(-z_x, -z_y, 1\right)$$

Photometric stereo



- Given several images of the a lambertian object under varying lighting
- Assuming single directional source

M = LS

Photometric stereo

M = LS



- We can solve for **S** if **L** is known (Woodham)
- This algorithm can be extended to more complex reflection models (if known) through the use of a lookup table

Factorization (Hayakawa)

• Use SVD to find a rank 3 approximation

 $M = U\Sigma V^T$

• Define $\Sigma_3 = diag(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3)$, where $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3$ are the largest singular values of M

$$\hat{L} = U\sqrt{\Sigma_3}$$
, $\hat{S} = \sqrt{\Sigma_3}V^T$ and $M \approx \hat{L}\hat{S}$

- Factorization is not unique, since $\widehat{M} = (\widehat{L}A^{-1})(A\widehat{S}), A \text{ is } 3 \times 3 \text{ invertible}$
- We can reduce ambiguity by imposing integrability

Generlized bas-relief ambiguity (Belhumeur, Kriegman and Yuille)

Linearly related surfaces: given a surface z(x, y)
 the surfaces related linearly to z are:

$$\tilde{z}(x,y) = ax + by + cz(x,y)$$

- $G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ a & b & c \end{bmatrix} \qquad G^{-1} = \frac{1}{c} \begin{bmatrix} c & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c & 0 \\ -a & -b & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- Forms a sub-group of GL(3)

Bas-relief







Integrability

- Objective: given a normal field $n(x, y) \in S^2$ recover depth $z(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}$
- Recall that $n = (n_x, n_y, n_z) = \frac{\rho}{\sqrt{z_x^2 + z_y^2 + 1}} (-z_x, -z_y, 1)$
- Given *n*, we set $\rho = ||n|| ; p = -\frac{n_x}{n_z}, q = -\frac{n_y}{n_z}$

Integrability

• Solve

$$\min_{z(x,y)} (z(x+1,y) - z(x,y) - p)^2 + (z(x,y+1) - z(x,y) - q)^2$$

where

$$p=-rac{n_x}{n_z}$$
 , $q=-rac{n_y}{n_z}$

Photometric stereo with matrix completion (Wu et al.)



Shape from shading (SFS)

- What if we only have one image?
- Assuming that lighting is known and albedo is uniform

 $I = \vec{l^T} \vec{n} \propto \cos \theta$

- Every intensity determines a circle of possible normals
- There is only one unknown (z) for each pixel (since uniform albedo is assumed)



Shape from shading

- Denote $n = (-z_x, -z_y, 1)$
- Then

$$E = \frac{l^T n}{\|n\|}$$

Therefore

$$E^2 n^T n = n^T l l^T n$$

• We obtain

$$n^T(ll^T - E^2I)n = 0$$

• This is a first order, non-linear PDE (Horn)

Shape from shading

- Suppose l = (0,0,1), then $z_x^2 + z_y^2 = \frac{1}{E^2} - 1$
- This is called an *Eikonal* equation

Distance transform

• The distance of each point to the boundary



Shortest path



Distance transform

• Posed as an Eikonal equation $\|\nabla z\|^2 = z_x^2 + z_y^2 = 1$



Update for shortest path



 $T = \min\{T_1 + w_1, T_2 + w_2\}$



SFS Solution (Kimmel & Sethian)

• Lambertian SFS produces an eikonal equation

$$\|\nabla z\|^2 = z_x^2 + z_y^2 = \frac{1}{E^2} - 1$$

- Right hand side determines "speed"
- Boundary conditions are required: depth values at local maxima of intensity and possibly in shape boundaries
- The case $l \neq (0,0,1)$ is handled by change of variables

Example





Summary

- Understanding the effect of lighting on images is challenging, but can lead to better interpretation of images
- We considered Lambertian objects illuminated by single sources
- We surveyed two problems:
 - Photometric stereo
 - Shape from shading

Challenges

- General reflectance properties
 - Lambertian
 - specular
 - general BRDFs
- Generic lighting
 - multiple light sources ("attached shadows")
 - near light
- Cast shadows
- Inter-reflections
- Dynamic scenes
- Local approaches (eg. direction of gradients)
 Can we hope to model this complexity?