Physics-Based Visual Computing for Efficient 3D Vision and Sensing

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Physics-Based Visual Computing

Photon Interactions



time of flight polarization spectrum coherence angle spatial statistics

...

Optics, Sensors, Algorithms





"Superhuman" Visual Computing



3D geometry, lighting, reflectance, material properties, motion, segmentation, semantics, behavior, etc. Machine Learning/AI

& Optimization

Physics-Based Visual Computing

Optics & Sensors

Imaging &Computer Vision



Pierre Bouguer



Treatise on Optical Gradations (1760)





Treatise on Optical Gradations (1760)





Treatise on Optical Gradations (1760)



Radiative Transfer

$$(\omega \cdot \nabla) L(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = -\sigma_t(\mathbf{x}) L(\mathbf{x}, \omega) + L_e(\mathbf{x}, \omega) + \sigma_s(\mathbf{x}) \int_{S^2} f_p(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \omega') L(\mathbf{x}, \omega') d\omega'$$
radiance in direction ω scattering/absorption emission in-scattering

Overview



Non-Line-of-Sight Imaging Nature '18

SIGGRAPH '19 CVPR '19 ACM Trans. Graph. '20 CVPR '20 IEEE TCI '21

Imaging through Scattering Media Nature Communications '20

Physics-based AI & Neural Rendering NeurIPS '20 CVPR '21 CVPR '22





Non-Line-of-Sight Imaging

Nature '18 SIGGRAPH '19 CVPR '19 ACM Trans. Graph. '20 CVPR '20 IEEE TCI '21



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Physics-based AI & Neural Rendering

NeurIPS '20 CVPR '21 In submission '21







04.800 ns 1st bounce: 2.7 ns 3rd bounce: 4.3 ns









resolution: 128×128 area: $2 \text{ m} \times 2 \text{ m}$





measurements

Lindell et al., SIGGRAPH 2019





reconstruction

Dimensions: 2 m x 2 m x 1.5 m

Lindell et al., SIGGRAPH 2019

Challenges

1. Light efficiency / photon sensitivity

- weak signal from multiply scattered light
- emit as much light as possible *fundamentally limited by eye* safety (in most applications)
- detect as much light as possible, ideally individual photons

Challenges

2. High-speed time stamping (determines accuracy)

- speed of light is ~300,000,000 m/s
- 1 m = 3.3 ns; 1 cm = 33 ps; 1 mm = 3.3 ps
- need picosecond-accurate time-stamping → usually high-end electronics, but also done with ASICs, FPGAs

(Single-photon) Avalanche Photodiodes

<u>Linear mode</u> (i.e., avalanche photodiode or *APD*): acts like a conventional photodiode with extremely high gain or amplification time resolution >300 ps – 10 ns

<u>Geiger mode</u> (i.e., single-photon avalanche photodiode *SPAD*): 500x more sensitive, i.e. single-photon sensitive

time resolution ~50 ps



Semiconductor devices



image by Princeton Lightwave

wall



laser and detector focus on this point







RAW histogram (10 FPS)



O'Toole et al. 2018







laser and detector focus on the same point

1-way propagation at half speed

Enables efficient wave propagation!

hidden object

$$\nabla^2 \Psi - \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

image formation model $|\Psi(x,z,t)|$ wavefield wall (z = 0) $\Psi(x, \overline{z, t} = 0)$ Ζ hidden object

$$\Psi(x, z = 0, t)$$

confocal measurements



Х



Х

general solution (time reversal)

finite-difference timedomain method



1. approximate wave equation with finite differences

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} \approx \frac{\Psi_i^{n+1} - 2\Psi_i^n + \Psi_i^{n-1}}{(\Delta t)^2}$$

2. solve for previous timestep $\Psi_i^{n-1} = f\left(\Psi^n, \Psi^{n+1}\right)$

3. repeatedly update Ψ at all grid cells

general solution (time reversal)

finite-difference timedomain method





3. repeatedly update Ψ at all grid cells




Lindell et al., SIGGRAPH 2019





f-k Migration



f-k Migration

Express wavefield as function of measurement spectrum (plane wave decomposition) $\Psi(x, y, z, t) = \iiint \bar{\Phi}(k_x, k_y, f) e^{2\pi i (k_x x + k_y y + k_z z - ft)} dk_x dk_y df$ wavefield
Fourier transform of measurements Set t=0 to get migrated solution $\Psi(x, y, z, t = 0) = \iint \bar{\Phi}(k_x, k_y, f) e^{2\pi i (k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)} dk_x dk_y df$

Almost an inverse Fourier Transform!

f-k Migration

Set t=0 to get migrated solution

$$\Psi(x, y, z, t = 0) = \iiint \bar{\Phi}(k_x, k_y, f) e^{2\pi i (k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)} dk_x dk_y df$$

Almost an inverse Fourier Transform!

Use dispersion relation¹ to perform substitution of variables

$$f = v \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2}$$
$$\boxed{f \Rightarrow k_z}$$

¹Georgi, Howard. *The physics of waves*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1993.

Use dispersion relation¹ to perform substitution of variables

$$f = v\sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2}$$

$$f \Rightarrow k_z$$



Use dispersion relation¹ to perform substitution of variables

$$f = v\sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2}$$

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Use dispersion relation¹ to perform substitution of variables

$$f = v\sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2}$$

$$f \Rightarrow k_z$$



The migrated solution is an inverse Fourier Transform!

$$\Psi(x,y,z,t=0) = \iiint \Phi(k_x,k_y,k_z)e^{2\pi i(k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)}dk_x dk_y dk_z$$





Lindell et al., SIGGRAPH 2019

У

Reconstruction Comparison

dimensions: 2 m x 2 m x 1.5 m



/Filtered Backprojection

real-time scanning



Framerate: 4 Hz Resolution: 32 x 32 Dimensions: 2 m x 2 m x 2 m Reconstruction time: ~1 s per frame

Outlook

Directional Light-Cone Transform





Recovered surface

[Young et al., CVPR 2020]

Outlook

Keyhole NLOS Imaging



[Metzler et al., IEEE TCI 2021]

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Nature Communications '20

NeurIPS '20 CVPR '21 In submission '21

Time-resolved active imag	ging	count	
		photon	time
		-	
	Challenaes		

- very few returning photons
- information is 'scrambled' by scattering

light enters here and begins scattering



light enters here and begins scattering



here and

begins

light enters scattering ballistic increased random walk scattering regime

transport mean free path



> 6 transport mean free paths (TMFP)

Connection to Radiative Transfer



Ballistic imaging



[Wang '91], [Redo-Sanchez '16], [Satat '18], ...

Ballistic imaging



[Wang '91], [Redo-Sanchez '16], [Satat '18], ...

Ballistic imaging



[Wang '91], [Redo-Sanchez '16], [Satat '18], ...

Diffuse Optical Tomography

2D



3D

[Hajihashemi '12]

[Satat '16]

Ballistic imaging



[Wang '91], [Redo-Sanchez '16], [Satat '18], ...

Diffuse Optical Tomography



[Satat '16]

This work

- Invert light transport
- non-invasive, reflection mode
- efficient 3D reconstruction at meter scales without a priori knowledge of target







Hardware





Results



hidden object



total acquisition time: 1 min. (60 ms/sample)







reconstruction (50 ms) $(0.6 \text{ m} \times 0.6 \text{ m} \times 0.5 \text{ m})$

total acquisition time: 1 min. (60 ms/sample)





$$\phi(t, \mathbf{r_0}, \mathbf{r_1}) = \frac{c}{(4\pi Dct)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{r_1} - \mathbf{r_0}\|_2^2}{4Dct} - \mu_a ct\right)$$



How to efficiently model free space propagation?

Method





$$\phi(t, \mathbf{r_0}, \mathbf{r_1}) = \frac{c}{(4\pi Dct)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{r_1} - \mathbf{r_0}\|_2^2}{4Dct} - \mu_a ct\right)$$
Method



confocal: illuminate and image here

Method

Approximation:

Approximate measured light as scattering back to the same spot. ${f r_1=r_2}$

Error ~ (spot size)² / (2 * distance) << 1 cm



confocal: illuminate and image here

Method

Approximation:

Approximate measured light as scattering back to the same spot. ${f r_1=r_2}$

Error ~ (spot size)² / (2 * distance) << 1 cm

measurements

$$\hat{\tau}(t, \mathbf{r_0}) =$$

 $\begin{aligned} \phi(t, \mathbf{r_0}, \mathbf{r_1}) * \phi(t, \mathbf{r_0}, \mathbf{r_1}) * I(t, \mathbf{r_1}, \mathbf{r_1}) \\ \text{diffusion kernels} \qquad & \text{NLOS model} \end{aligned}$

Can use efficient NLOS inversion!



confocal: illuminate and image here





measurements

Results





measurements





reconstruction

Results





reconstruction







traffic cones

reflective mannequin

diffuse letter













Lindell et al., Nat. Commun. 2020



Outlook

- efficient method for 3D imaging through scattering media based on DOT
- works without *a priori* knowledge of target position
- What's next?
 - embedded, dynamic media
 - priors, Al algorithms



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.

 $\mathrm{d}x$





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Images







Shapes

Neural Networks as Signal Representations





Neural Networks as Signal Representations



- Agnostic to grid resolution
- Model memory scales with signal complexity
- Admits effective learning of priors
- Flexible, can be used with physics-based equations



Neural Networks as Signal Representations







Shapes

Audio

Quantities defined by a differential equation

















Representing Images





* Mildenhall et al. 2020



Input	Output supervised by	Implicit Formulation Find ${m \Phi}$ that minimizes ${\cal L}$
$t \in \mathbb{R}$	$f(t) \in \mathbb{R}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{audio}} = \int_{\Omega} \ \Phi(t) - f(t)\ \mathrm{d}t$

Representing Audio – Voice





Representing Audio – Music









ReLU w/ positional encoding















Representing Video



Ground Truth



ReLU MLP







Representing Video









Poisson's Equation



supervision





3D Shapes - solving the Eikonal equation ReLU





SIREN

5 layers, 256 hidden units









Solving the Helmholtz Equation





Solving the Helmholtz Equation





Like discrete grid or point clouds, SIREN is a data representation.



With a number of benefits.



Continuous, parametric (NN) function Memory scale with signal complexity, independent of resolution Can fit signals via first- and higher-order derivatives
Photon Interactions



time of flight polarization spectrum coherence angle spatial statistics

...

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"Superhuman" Visual Computing



3D geometry, lighting, reflectance, material properties, motion, segmentation, semantics, behavior, etc.

Machine Learning/Al

& Optimization

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Imaging

Optics & Sensors

- How can we combine computational imaging with physics-based AI?
 - Need faster training times, more scalable architectures for large-scale signals

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Image Fitting Example (16 MP)



4096 pixels

4096 pixels

Gigapixel Image Fitting



ACORN Output

- How can we combine computational imaging with physics-based AI?
 - Need faster training times, more scalable architectures for large-scale signals
 - Generalization techniques to incorporate robust priors
 - Improve interpretability of representations (what about unsupervised input coordinates?)



Machine Learning/Al & Optimization

Physics-Based Visual Computing

Optics & Sensors

Imaging

- Emerging "extreme" sensors
 - SPAD/jot arrays
 - ultra-low flux imaging
 - high-speed imaging
 - high-resolution imaging

Machine Learning/Al & Optimization

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Optics & Sensors

Imaging

- Emerging "extreme" sensors
 - SPAD/jot arrays
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 - high-speed imaging
 - high-resolution imaging
 - Coherent LIDAR
 - micron-scale resolution
 - velocimetry
 - ambient rejection

Machine Learning/Al & Optimization

Physics-Based Visual Computing

Optics & Sensors

Imaging

- Emerging "extreme" sensors
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 - high-resolution imaging
 - Coherent LIDAR
 - micron-scale resolution
 - velocimetry
 - ambient rejection
 - Sensor Fusion
 - LIDAR + radar + multiview stereo + acoustic

Machine Learning/Al & Optimization

Physics-Based Visual Computing

Optics & Sensors

Imaging

- Efficient solutions to radiative transfer
 - Biomedical imaging (micro-scale)
 - Robotics/remote sensing (macro-scale)
 - Many applications in computer vision, graphics, rendering

$$(\omega \cdot \nabla)L(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = -\sigma_t(\mathbf{x})L(\mathbf{x}, \omega) + L_e(\mathbf{x}, \omega)$$

+
$$\sigma_s(\mathbf{x}) \int_{\mathcal{S}^2} f_p(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \omega') L(\mathbf{x}, \omega') d\omega'$$

Acknowledgments















Computational Imaging at Toronto

TCCIC Toronto Computational Imaging Group

Machine Learning & 3D Vision

Computational Imaging



3D reconstruction



Physics-informed networks



Neural rendering



LIDAR



Non-line-of-sight imaging



Imaging through scattering media



Single-photon imaging

Physics-Based Visual Computing for Efficient 3D Vision and Sensing

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