SIGGRAPH2012

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Beyond a Simple Physically Based Blinn-Phong Model in Real-time

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Real-time Physically Based Rendering

- Make the entire rendering pipeline physically based (for current-gen consoles)
 - Physically based
 - shading models
 - Physically based BRDF models
 - lighting
 - Quantities based on physics
 - Film simulation (spectrum based tone-mapping)
 - camera simulation
 - Lens simulation based on real camera system



Modified Blinn-Phong Model



- A modified Blinn-Phong model
 - Basic function
 - Blinn-Phong for NDF (D)
 - Schlick Approximation (F)
 - Spherical Gaussian Approximation
 - Neumann-Neumann GAF (G)
 - Normalized specular component
 - Fitted to a linear function
 - Energy conservation
 - Approximated for performance
 - Details on "Physically Based Shading Models at tri-Ace" [SIGGRAPH 2010]



Our Physically Based Blinn-Phong

$$L_{r} = \frac{R_{d}}{\pi} \left(1 - F_{diff}(F_{0}) \right) + \frac{(n+2)}{4\pi(2-2^{-\frac{n}{2}})} \cdot \frac{F_{spec}(F_{0})(N \cdot H)^{n}}{\max(N \cdot L, N \cdot E)}$$

Our modified physically based Blinn-Phong model





Approximation



$$L_{r} = \frac{R_{d}}{\pi} (1 - F_{0}) + (0.0397436 shininess + 0.0856832) \frac{F_{spec}(F_{0})(N \cdot H)^{shininess}}{\max(N \cdot L, N \cdot E)}$$

Our implemented BRDF model (approximated)





Physically Based Image Based Lighting

- PBIBL is implemented for area lighting
 - AmbientBRDF
 - Pre-filtered Mipmapped Radiance Environment Map
 - Irradiance Environment Map or Spherical Harmonics
 - Details are on our past talks in [GDC 2009, 2012], [CEDEC 2007-2011] and [SIGGRAPH 2010]





More Than Physically Based Blinn-Phong SIGGRAPH2012

- Is this model enough?
 - In reality, there are a lot of other complicated models
 - The simple physically based Blinn-Phong models, even with anisotropic and spectral models, are not enough
 - More complicated shading
 - Translucency
 - Rough materials
 - Layered materials
 - Retro-reflectivity



Problems with the Modified Blinn-Phong

- Many real-world materials have multiple layers
 - Makes surface appearances more complicated
 - Difficult to represent with a single Blinn-Phong model



Layered Materials



- The ideal implementation allows flexibility and supports multiple layers
 - Flexibility vs. computational time
 - Any BRDF model combination
 - Number of layers



Layered Materials



- Dual-layer material implementation
 - Reasonable solution
 - Based on
 - [Weidlich et al. 2009]
 "Exploring the Potential of Layered BRDF Models"
 - [Weidlich et al. 2011]

"Thinking in layers: modeling with layered materials"



Approximation



- Our implementation is coarsely approximated for performance in real-time
 - Approximated components
 - Color absorption computation by the top layer
 - Using our modified Blinn-Phong instead of Cook-Torrance
 - No parallax effects



Color Absorption Approximation

- Color absorption originally takes into account refraction
 - But our implementation deals with the nonrefracted distance instead of refracted distance
 - Changing the color from the bottom layer by the top layer is regarded as more important than the correct simulation



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Color Absorption Approximation





Fresnel Component in the Bottom Layer

- The bottom-layer BRDF is evaluated with light passing through the top layer
 - Fresnel component in the bottom layer becomes

$$F_{bottom}(n_1, n_2) = \left(1 - F(n_1)\right) \left(F(\frac{n_2}{n_1})\right) \left(1 - F(\frac{1}{n_1})\right)$$

$$F(n) : \text{Fresnel equation}$$

$$n_1 : \text{Refractive index of the top layer}$$

$$n_2 : \text{Refractive index of the bottom layer}$$



Fresnel Component in the Bottom Layer



Approximation

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- Fresnel component in the bottom layer can be approximated with a constant

$$\begin{split} F_{transmittance}(n_1) &= \left(1 - F(n_1)\right) \\ F_{bottom}(n_1, n_2) &= \left(F_0(\frac{n_2}{n_1})\right) \left(1 - F_0(\frac{1}{n_1})\right) \\ F_0(n) &: \text{Fresnel equation for normal direction} \\ F_{transmittance}(n) &: \text{Transmittance from the top layer by Fresnel term} \\ F_{bottom}(n_1, n_2) &: \text{Reflectance by the bottom layer and Fresnel term} \end{split}$$





Comparison

Scenes are rendered with one directional light on PS3 @ 1280x720 compared to 0.33ms using the single-layered Blinn

Original Absorption 0.53ms

Approximated 0.37ms

No Absorption 0.34ms

IBL for Layered Materials



- IBL is also important for layered materials
 - Evaluate IBL twice, once for the top layer and once for the bottom layer
 - Mathematically the absorption component must be integrated with the rendering equation
 - Also approximated with the same approach as AmbientBRDF



Pre-integration of Absorption Components SIGGRAPH2012

- For the specular component
 - Mathematically, it depends on the shininess value
 - Also coarsely approximated
 - Only takes into account the case where it is perfect mirror reflection → N · L = N · E





Pre-integration of Absorption Components

 Multiply the derived component by the computed color from IBL to compute the specular component

$$I_{s} = IBL_{specular} \cdot F_{bottom}(n_{1,}n_{2}) \max\left(0, 1 - \alpha'(\frac{2}{N \cdot E})\right)$$



Pre-integration of Absorption Components SIGGRAPH2012

- For the diffuse component
 - Integrate the approximated absorption function over the hemisphere with Lambert





Pre-integration of Absorption Components SIGGRAPH2012

 Multiply the derived component by the computed color from IBL to compute the diffuse component

$$I_d = IBL_{diffuse} \cdot \left(1 - F_{bottom}(n_1, n_2)\right) \max\left(0, 1 - \alpha'(2 + \frac{1}{N \cdot E})\right)$$



Results





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Performance

PS3 @ 1280x720

Single-layered Blinn with IBL 3.00 ms Dual-layered Blinn with IBL 4.28 ms

Problems with the Modified Blinn-Phong

- Diffuse component is assumed to be Lambertian
 - Many materials in the real world are not Lambertian
 - Rough materials (shininess < 30) should have a matte diffuse component rather than Lambert



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Oren-Nayar



- Lambert with the Torrance-Sparrow V-cavity model
 - Diffuse component with Torrance-Sparrow
 - Much more complicated than Cook-Torrance
 - Looks more "matte" than Lambert
 - View-dependent component
 - Off-peak characteristic (retro-reflectivity)
 - Shadowing / masking factor
 - Inter-reflection effect due to microfacets



Oren-Nayar

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Shading Model

$$\overline{L_r(\theta_r, \theta_i, \phi_r - \phi_i; \sigma)} = L_r^1(\theta_r, \theta_i, \phi_r - \phi_i; \sigma) + L_r^2(\theta_r, \theta_i, \phi_r - \phi_i; \sigma)$$

Direct Illumination Component

$$L_r^1(\theta_r, \theta_i, \phi_r - \phi_i; \sigma) = \frac{\rho}{\pi} E_0 \cos \theta_i \left[C_1(\sigma) + \cos(\phi_r - \phi_i) C_2(\alpha; \beta; \phi_r - \phi; \sigma) \tan \beta + (1 - |\cos(\phi_r - \phi_i)| C_3(\alpha; \beta; \sigma) \tan(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}) \right]$$

Inter-reflection Component

$$L_r^2(\theta_r, \theta_i, \phi_r - \phi_i; \sigma) = 0.17 \frac{\rho^2}{\pi} E_0 \cos \theta_i \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + 0.13} \left[1 - \cos(\phi_r - \phi_i) (\frac{2\beta}{\pi})^2 \right]$$

$$Coefficients C_{1} = 1 - 0.5 \frac{\sigma^{2}}{\sigma^{2} + 0.33} \quad C_{2} = \begin{cases} 0.45 \frac{\sigma^{2}}{\sigma^{2} + 0.09} \sin \alpha & \text{if } \cos(\phi_{r} - \phi_{i}) \ge 0\\ 0.45 \frac{\sigma^{2}}{\sigma^{2} + 0.09} \left(\sin \alpha - (\frac{2\beta}{\pi})^{3}\right) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad C_{3} = 0.125 \left(\frac{\sigma^{2}}{\sigma^{2} + 0.09}\right) \left(\frac{4\alpha\beta}{\pi^{2}}\right)^{2} \\ \alpha = Max(\theta_{r}, \theta_{i}) \qquad \beta = Min(\theta_{r}, \theta_{i}) \end{cases}$$



The original paper offers an approximated model

Shading Model

$$L_r(\theta_r, \theta_i, \phi_r - \phi_i; \sigma) = \frac{\rho}{\pi} E_0 \cos \theta_i (A + B \operatorname{Max}(0, \cos(\phi_r - \phi_i)) \sin \alpha \tan \beta)$$

Coefficients

$$A = 1 - 0.5 \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + 0.33} \quad B = 0.45 \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + 0.09} \quad \alpha = \text{Max}(\theta_r, \theta_i) \quad \beta = \text{Min}(\theta_r, \theta_i)$$









Oren-Nayar Simplification (1)





Oren-Nayar Simplification (2)







Simplified Oren-Nayar



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Before simplification

Roughness Map for Oren-Nayar

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- Use a shininess map for both specular and diffuse
 - It works for most cases
 - If shininess is used for specular

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{2}{shininess}}$$

- When the sizes of the microfacets are close to wavelengths of the visible light
 - Specular and diffuse behave differently
 - Two different shininess (roughness) maps for diffuse and specular



More Simplification





Problems with Qualitative Model



- When L·E < 0 (backward light), the qualitative model becomes Lambert, but the original doesn't
 - This problem makes the results look slightly flat
- The qualitative model doesn't contain an inter-reflection component
 - It makes the results slightly dark



Improved Qualitative Model (1)



Improved Qualitative Model (2)

 Change the formula with respect to forward and backward lighting like C₂ in the original Oren-Nayar

$$C_2 = \begin{cases} 0.45 \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + 0.09} \sin \alpha & \text{if } \cos(\phi_r - \phi_i) \ge 0\\ 0.45 \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + 0.09} \left(\sin \alpha - (\frac{2\beta}{\pi})^3\right) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$L_{r} = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho}{\pi} E_{0} \left[(N \cdot L)(1 - \frac{1}{2 + 0.65shi}) + \left(\frac{1}{2.22222 + 0.1shi}(E \cdot L - (N \cdot E)(N \cdot L))Min(1, \frac{N \cdot L}{N \cdot E})\right) \right] & \text{if } (E \cdot L - (N \cdot E)(N \cdot L)) \ge 0 \\ \frac{\rho}{\pi} E_{0} \left[(N \cdot L)(1 - \frac{1}{2 + 0.65shi}) + \left(\frac{1}{2.22222 + 0.1shi}(E \cdot L - (N \cdot E)(N \cdot L))(N \cdot L)\right) \right] & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Improved model





Result



Comparison

Original qualitative model

Improved model

Qualitative model

Improved model

Performance

one directional light on PS3 @ 1280x720

Blinn-Lambert 0.97ms

Blinn-Oren-Nayar 1.25ms



- Difficult to take into account the view-dependent component with image-based lighting
 - Requires a multi-dimensional cube map like Blinn-Phong specular
 - If using SH lighting for the diffuse component
 - Can SH coefficients be tweaked to reproduce Oren-Nayar characteristics?



Oren-Nayar Characteristics



- Matte appearance
 - Using low-order SH coefficients is "matte" enough
 - Should we reduce high-order SH coefficients by roughness?
- View-dependent component
 - It gives the appearance of a very "matte-like" specular component
 - Should we control SH coefficients using the eye vector?
- Shadow / masking factor
 - Total energy changes by incident and outgoing directions
 - Should we control SH coefficients using the light and eye vectors?
- Off-peak diffuse (retro-reflective component)
 - Should we bend the normal vector?



SH Oren-Nayar Approximation

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- The following characteristics are reproduced in our implementation
 - View-dependent component
 - Distinctive difference between Oren-Nayar and Lambert
 - Shadow / masking factor
 - This affects brightness of shading result
- 1st-order SH is "matte" enough
 - Retro-reflective component is difficult to distinguish
 - It is not computationally reasonable



SH Oren-Nayar Approximation (1)

 Check the total energy by integrating Oren-Nayar over the hemisphere



SH Oren-Nayar Approximation (2)

Total energy affects the DC component in SH coefficients

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The DC component can be computed as:



SH Oren-Nayar Approximation (3)

- The fitted model is still computationally expensive
 - The following coarse approximation may be useful for real-time



SH Oren-Nayar Approximation (4)



- Oren-Nayar values become a flat line (matte) as
 - σ and N·E get bigger
 - $\phi_r \phi_i$ becomes small enough (inside the plane of incidence)



SH Oren-Nayar Approximation (5)

- Design a function to interpolate a scale factor for the linear component with a different σ and N·E
 - Try to reproduce the most noticeable characteristic ($\phi_r \phi_i = 0$) because there is no light vector for image-based lighting



SH Oren-Nayar Approximation (5)



Linear component can be computed as:

$SH'_{linear} = S(shi, N \cdot E)SH_{linear}$ $S(s, x) = f(s) + (f(s) - 1)(1 - x)$		
	N·E = 1	$N \cdot E = 0$
<i>σ</i> = 0	Equivalent to Lambert	Equivalent to Lambert
	$S(\infty, 1.0) = 1.0$	$S(\infty, 0.0) = 1.0$
σ=1	0.7 * Lambert	Comparatively Flat
	$S(2,1.0) = f(2) \approx 0.7$	$S(2,0.0) = 2f(2) - 1 \approx 0.4$



one IBL on PS3 @ 1280x720

Performance

Blinn-Lambert 1.35ms

Blinn-Oren-Nayar 1.62ms

Thoughts on Human Skin



- Human skin is composed of
 - a coat of oil and moisture
 - skin (epidermis, dermis, blood vessels)
 - Subsurface scattering
 - Roughness component
 - E.g. Roughness is 0.58 for Oren-Nayar





Simplest Implementation

- With only a single physically based Blinn-Phong
 - Control specular by using a shininess map to represent oil
 - Skin appearance is reproduced with an ad-hoc approach such as drawing highlights into the albedo textures



Subsurface Scattering Implementation

- Blinn-Phong + subsurface scattering
 - Single-layered material with a subsurface scattering algorithm
 - Try to represent not only the translucent component, but also a matte appearance without a more "matte" diffuse component
 - Too much translucency
 - Looks like a wax figure



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Layered Material + Oren-Nayar

- Better appearance than the simplest implementation
 - The top layer represents oil and moisture
 - The bottom layer represents the skin itself (matte specular and diffuse)
 - No translucency



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More Realistic

- Layered materials
 - Oil and moisture
 - Matte specular and diffuse for the skin surface
- Additionally
 - Multiple layered subsurface scattering for epidermis, dermis, and blood vessels



Result

Performance



Blinn-Lambert Blinn-Oren-Nayar 6.87ms 7.17ms Layered Blinn-Lambert 7.55ms Layered Blinn-Oren-Nayar 7.82ms

one directional light + one IBL on PS3 @ 1280x720

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Conclusion



- Even physically based Blinn-Phong or Cook-Torrance is not enough to represent realistic materials
- Layered materials and Oren-Nayar are computationally inexpensive to implement even for current-gen consoles
 - Realistic diffuse shading is very important
 - They can be selectively used based on performance
 - These materials could become the standard for next-gen consoles



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Questions?

You can find these slides, including past presentations, at

http://research.tri-ace.com/