Shading values for colored surfaces

- **Simplest:**
  - Use appropriate shading model in 3 channels, instead of one
  - Implies red albedo, green albedo, blue albedo, etc.
  - Works because the shading model is independent of wavelength.
  - Can lead to somewhat inaccurate colour reproduction in some cases - particularly coloured light on coloured surfaces

- **Better**
  - Use appropriate shading model at many different wavelength samples - 7 is usually enough
  - Estimate receptor response in eye using sum over wavelength
  - Set up pixel value to generate that receptor response

Monitor Gamma

A typical image encoding is **NOT** linear. Often a gamma correction is included. This leads to no end of confusion.

A “gamma” corrected image is ready to drive a CRT monitor, and has advantages that quantization (8 bits) errors are *roughly* uniformly distributed--that fact that this works is a convenient accident.

Monitor Gamma

Due to the physics involved, CRT monitor brightness is proportional to $voltage^{2.5}$

This is further hacked to give the “standard” gamma of 2.2

So, if an image looks good on a CRT, it is likely to be non-linear by $pow(1/2.2)$

LCD--more linear, but then hardware/software can be hacked to be like CRT

Confusing? Yes!

Recursive ray tracing

H&B, page 597
Recursive ray tracing rendering algorithm

- Cast ray from pinhole (projection center) through pixel, determine nearest intersection
- Compute components by casting rays
  - to sources = shadow ray (diffuse and for specular lobe)
  - along reflected direction = reflected ray
  - along transmitted dir = refracted ray
- Determine each component and add them up with contribution from ambient illumination.
- To determine some of the components, the ray tracer must be called recursively.

Recursive ray tracing rendering (cont)

- Recursion needs to stop at some point!
- Contributions die down after multiple bounces --- there is no such thing as a perfect reflector --- so we either set mirror reflections to be less than 100% (even if the user asks for 100%), or simply include an attenuation factor for each new ray.
- Can also model absorption due to light traveling in medium
  - Usually ignored in air, but depends on the application
  - Translucent absorption is exponential in depth
  \[ I = I_0e^{-\alpha d} \]
- Recursion is stopped when contributions are too small
  - Need to track the cumulative effect
  - Common to also limit the depth explicitly

Mechanics

- Primary issue is intersection computations.
  - E.g. sphere, triangle.
- Polygon (should feel familiar!)
- Find point on plane of polygon and then determine if it is inside
  - One way is to make an argument with angles
  - Another way --- thinking of the polygon as a surface of a polyhedra --- is to check if the point is on the inside side of each of the other planes of the polyhedra.
- Sphere, relatively simple algebra.
To find the intersection of the ray and the plane, solve:

\[ (P_0 + su - P_p) \cdot n = 0 \]

Once you have the point of intersection, \( P_i \), test that it is inside by testing against all other faces.

\[ (P_i - P_p) \cdot n < 0 \]

Note that \( n \) and \( P_p \) are now from those other faces.

The last expression is easily solved using the quadratic equation. If the discriminant is negative (complex solutions), then the ray does not intersect the sphere.

Recall that if:

\[ as^2 + bs + c = 0 \]

The “discriminant” is:

\[ b^2 - 4ac \]

The solution is:

\[ s = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \]

Note that in the book, \( u \) is a unit vector, so \( u \cdot u = 1 \), thus \( a = 1 \), and \( b \) has a factor of 2 that is removed by dividing by 2a=2, to get equation 10-71.
Reflection Details

\[ \hat{s} + \hat{r} = k\hat{n} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{n} \cdot \hat{s} = \hat{n} \cdot \hat{r} \]

\[ \hat{n} \cdot \hat{s} + \hat{n} \cdot \hat{r} = k \Rightarrow k = 2\hat{n} \cdot \hat{s} \]

So \[ \hat{r} = 2(\hat{n} \cdot \hat{s})\hat{n} - \hat{s} \]