

# Games with Texture Mapping

## **CS 4620 Lecture 13**

# Recall first definition...

**Texture mapping:** a technique of defining surface properties (especially shading parameters) in such a way that they vary as a function of position on the surface.

# A refined definition

**Texture mapping:** a set of techniques for defining functions on surfaces, for a variety of uses.

- **Let's look at some examples of more general uses of texture maps.**

# Reflection mapping

- **Early (earliest?) non-decal use of textures**
- **Appearance of shiny objects**
  - Phong highlights produce blurry highlights for glossy surfaces.
  - A polished (shiny) object reflects a sharp image of its environment.
- **The whole key to a shiny-looking material is providing something for it to reflect.**

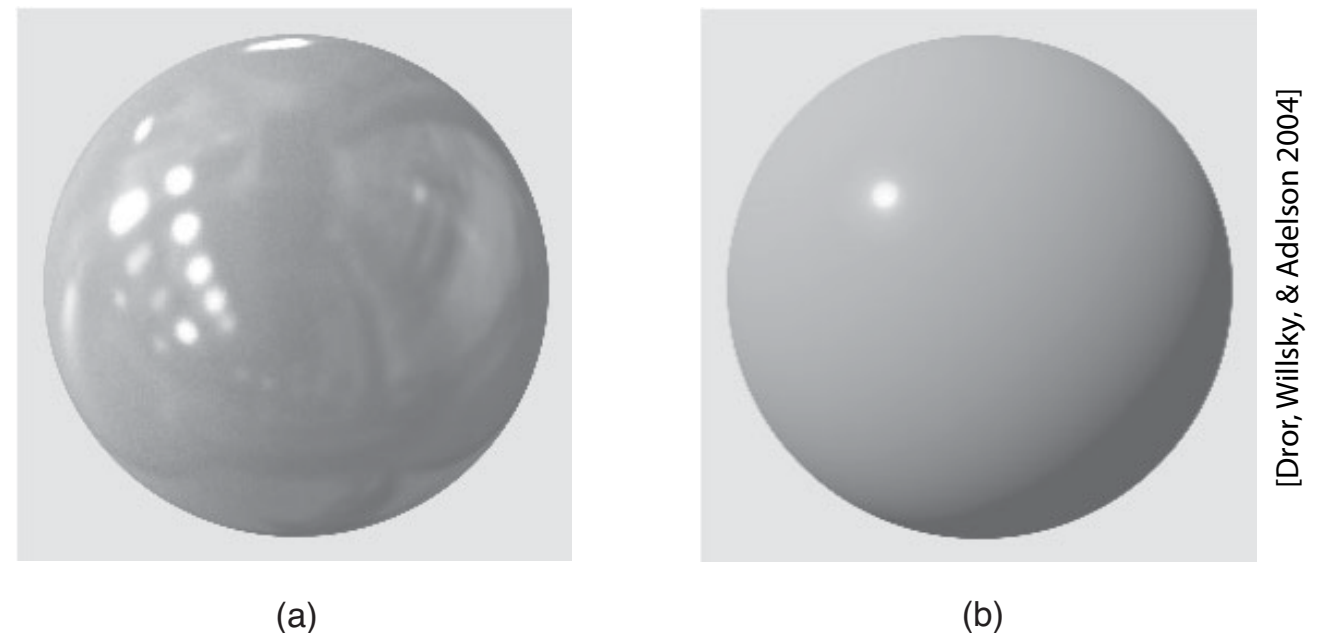
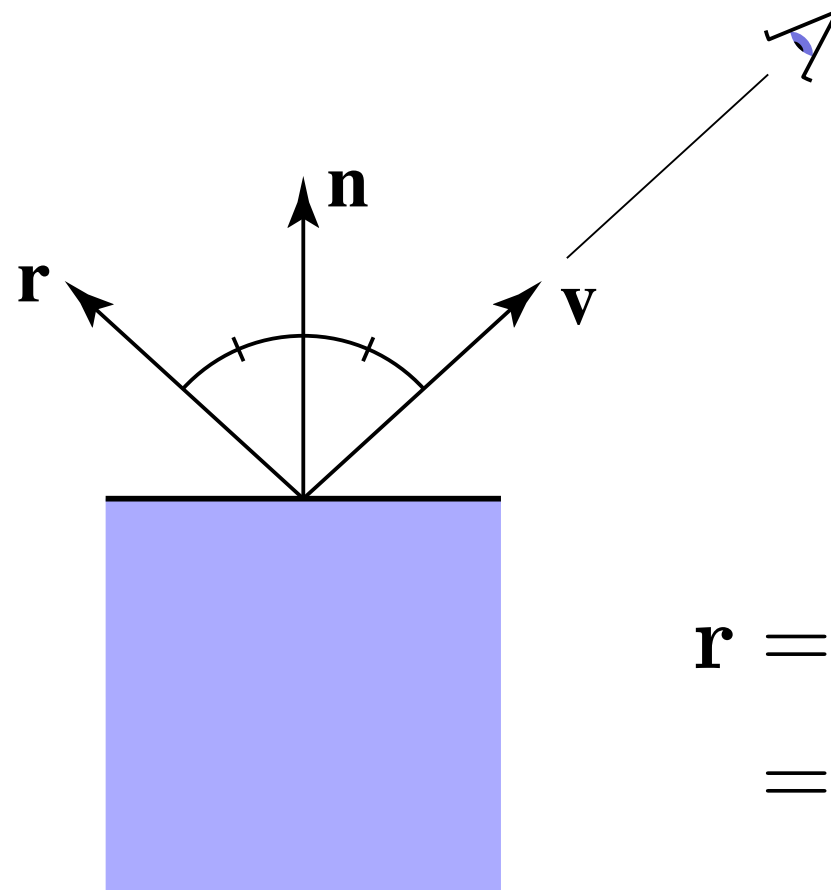
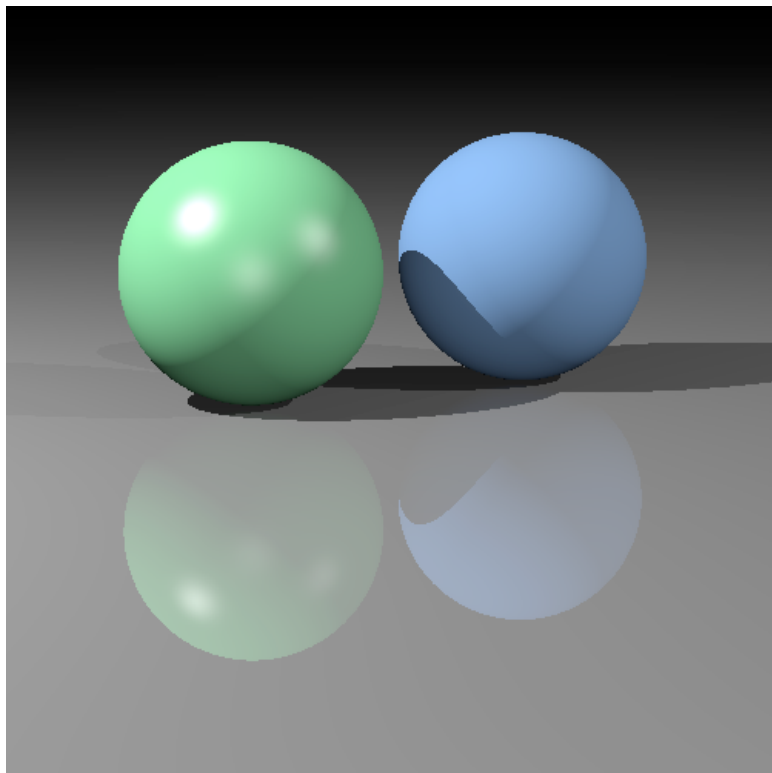


Figure 2. (a). A shiny sphere rendered under photographically acquired real-world illumination. (b). The same sphere rendered under illumination by a point light source.



# Reflections in ray tracing

- Recall how we can make mirror reflections in ray tracing



$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r} &= \mathbf{v} + 2((\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v})\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{v}) \\ &= 2(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{v})\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{v}\end{aligned}$$

# Reflection mapping

- **If scene is infinitely far away, the color seen by the reflection ray depends only on the direction of the ray**
  - a two-dimensional function
  - represent it with a texture!
- **Environment map: texture that maps directions to colors**
  - one option: axes are  $(\theta, \phi)$
  - better option: cube map





**A spherical panorama, aka. environment map**

# Environment map

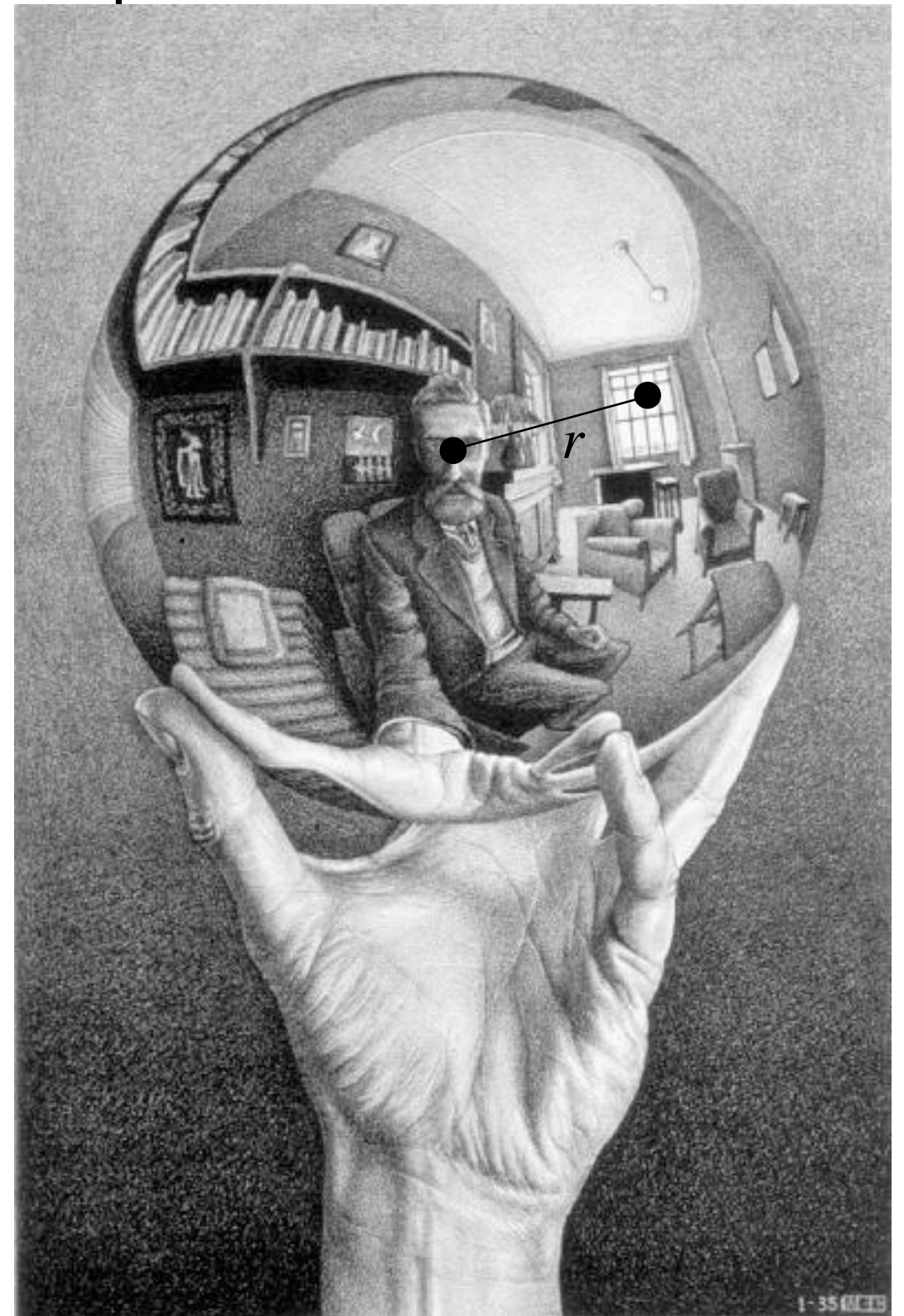
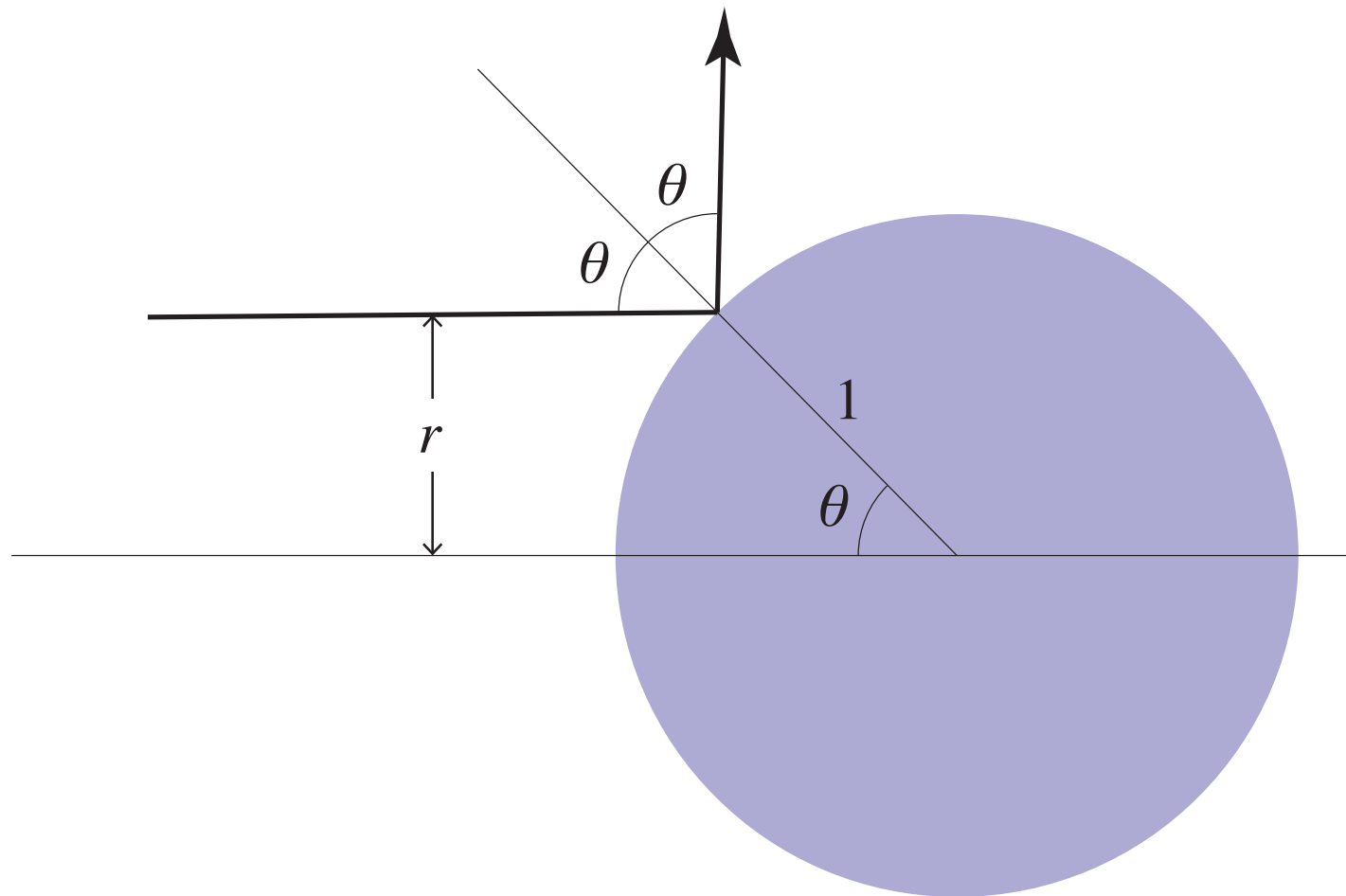
- **A function from the sphere to colors, stored as a texture.**



[Blinn & Newell 1976]

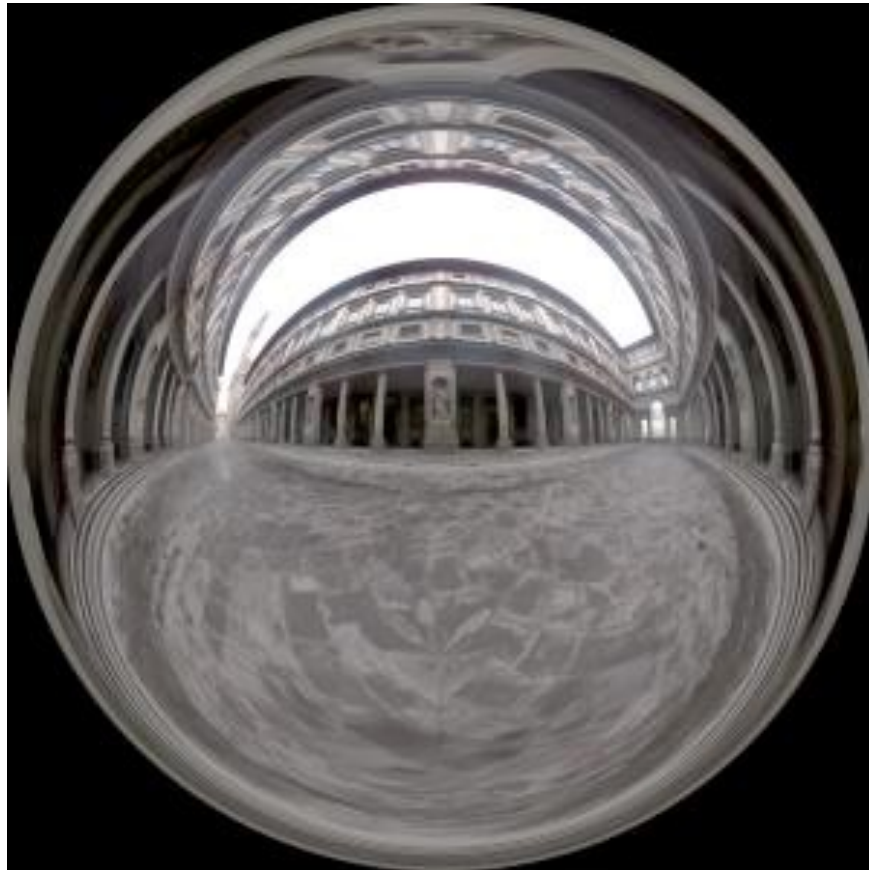


# Spherical environment map



*Hand with Reflecting Sphere.* M. C. Escher, 1935. lithograph

# Environment Maps



[Paul Debevec]

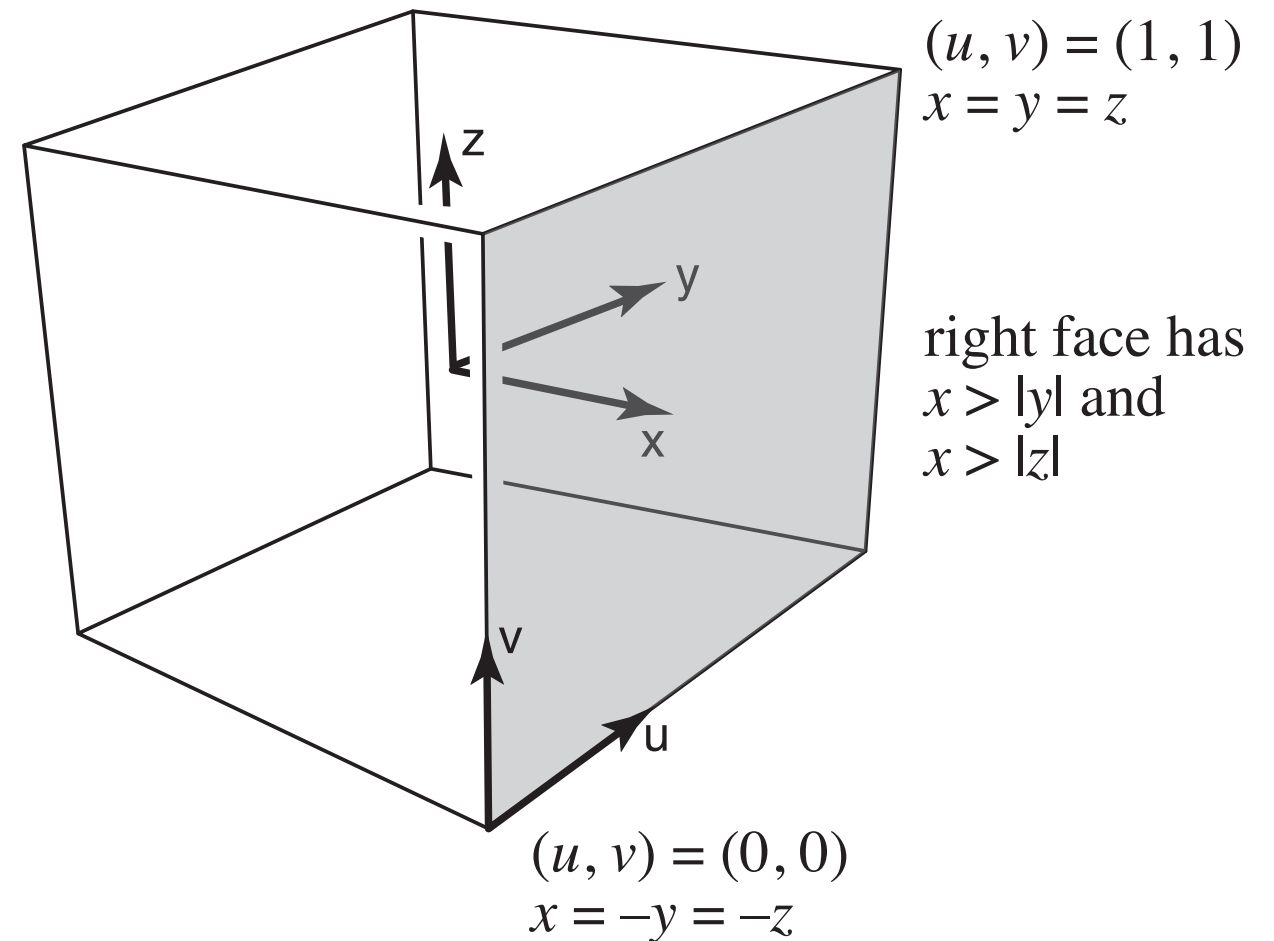
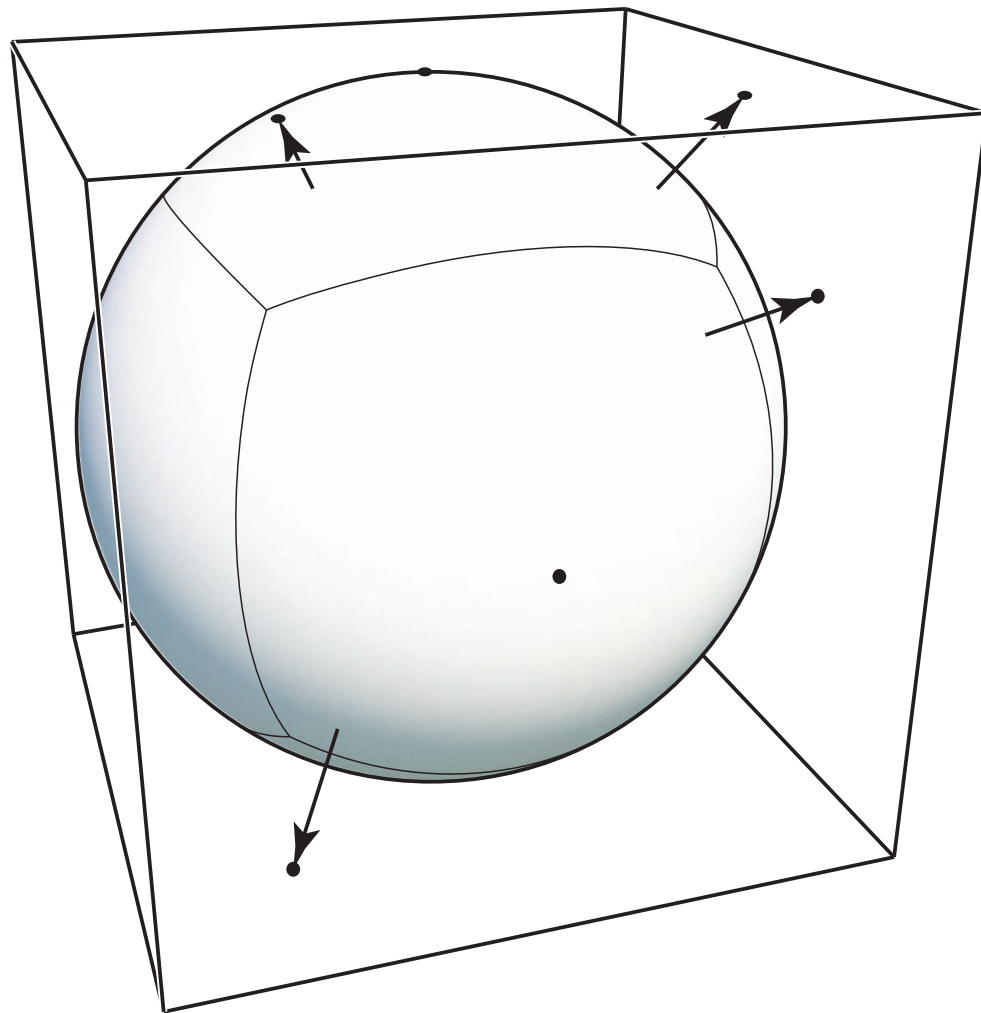






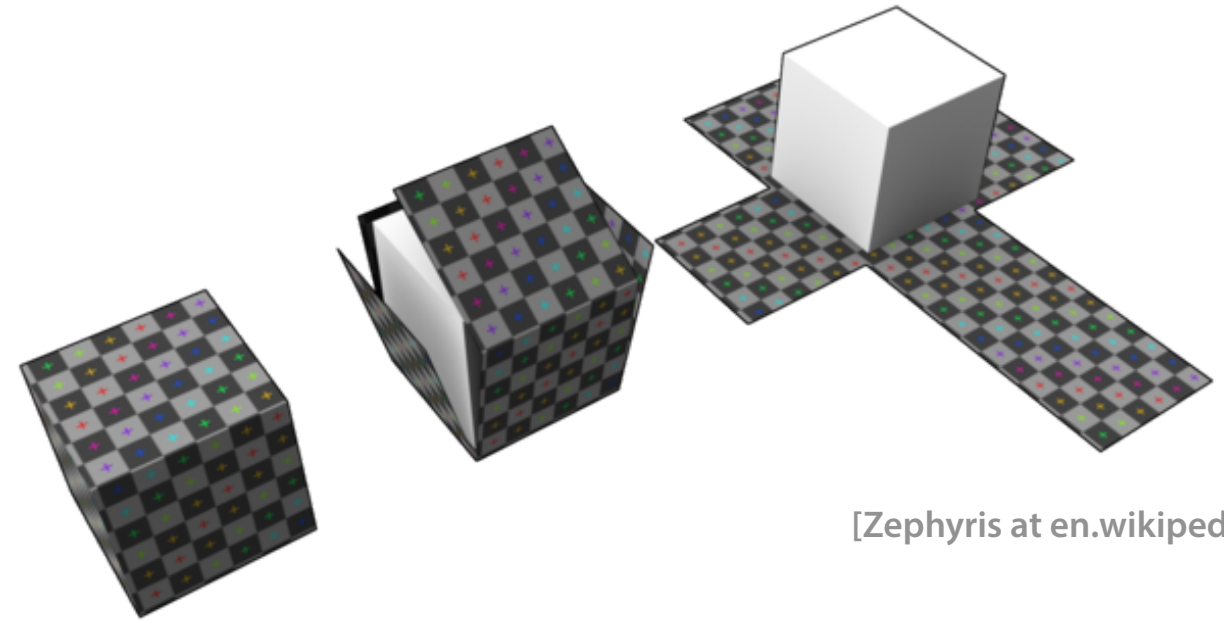
[CS467 slides]

# Cube map



a direction vector maps to the point on the cube that is along that direction.  
The cube is textured with 6 square texture maps.

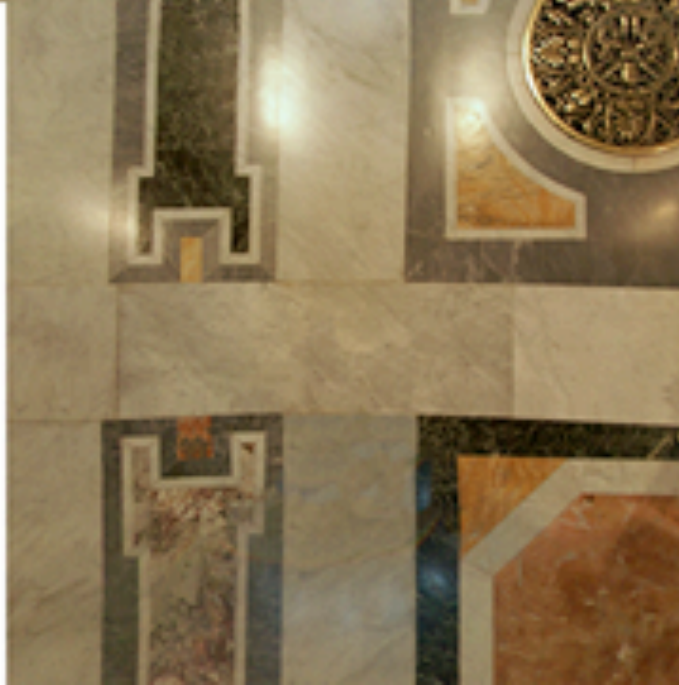




[Zephyris at en.wikipedia]



[Emil Persson]



# Reflection mapping in GLSL

- **A fragment operation**
  - requires surface normal and a way to get the view direction
- **GLSL handles cubemaps by itself**
  - you just give it the reflection vector and it figures out where to sample and on which face
  - sample using `textureCube()`
- **Don't overlook built-in functions**
  - e.g. `reflect()`

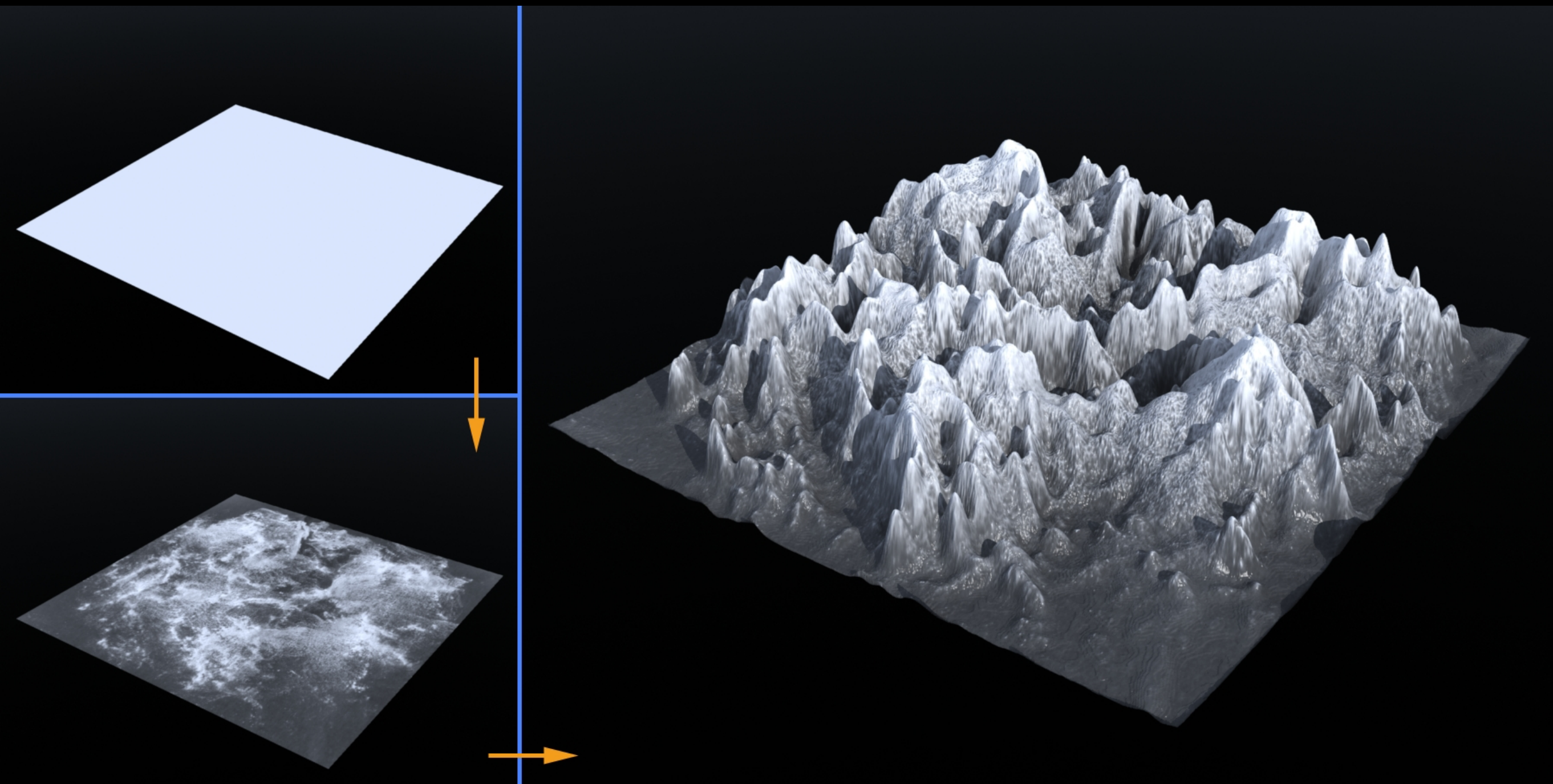


Geometry

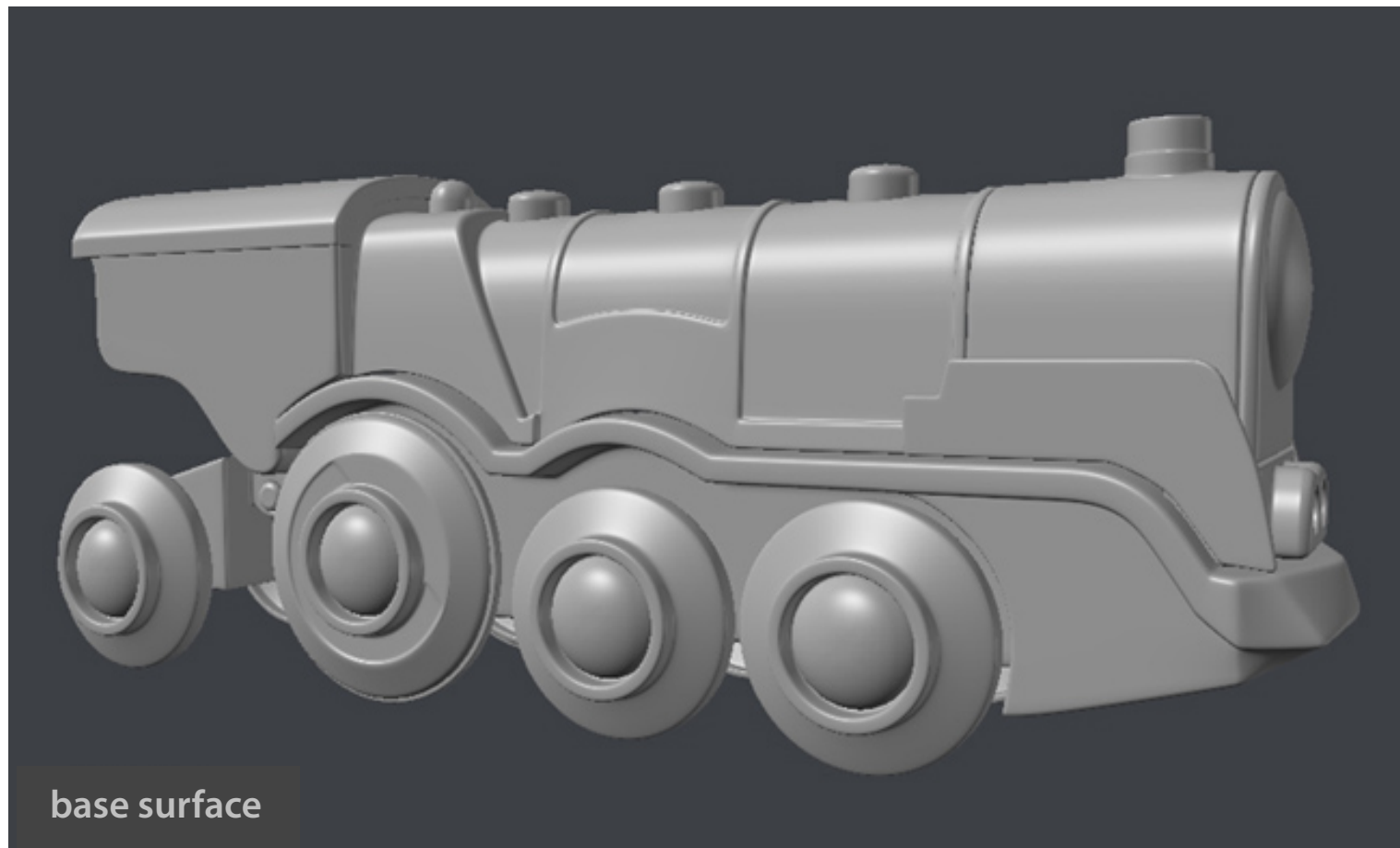


Displacement  
mapping





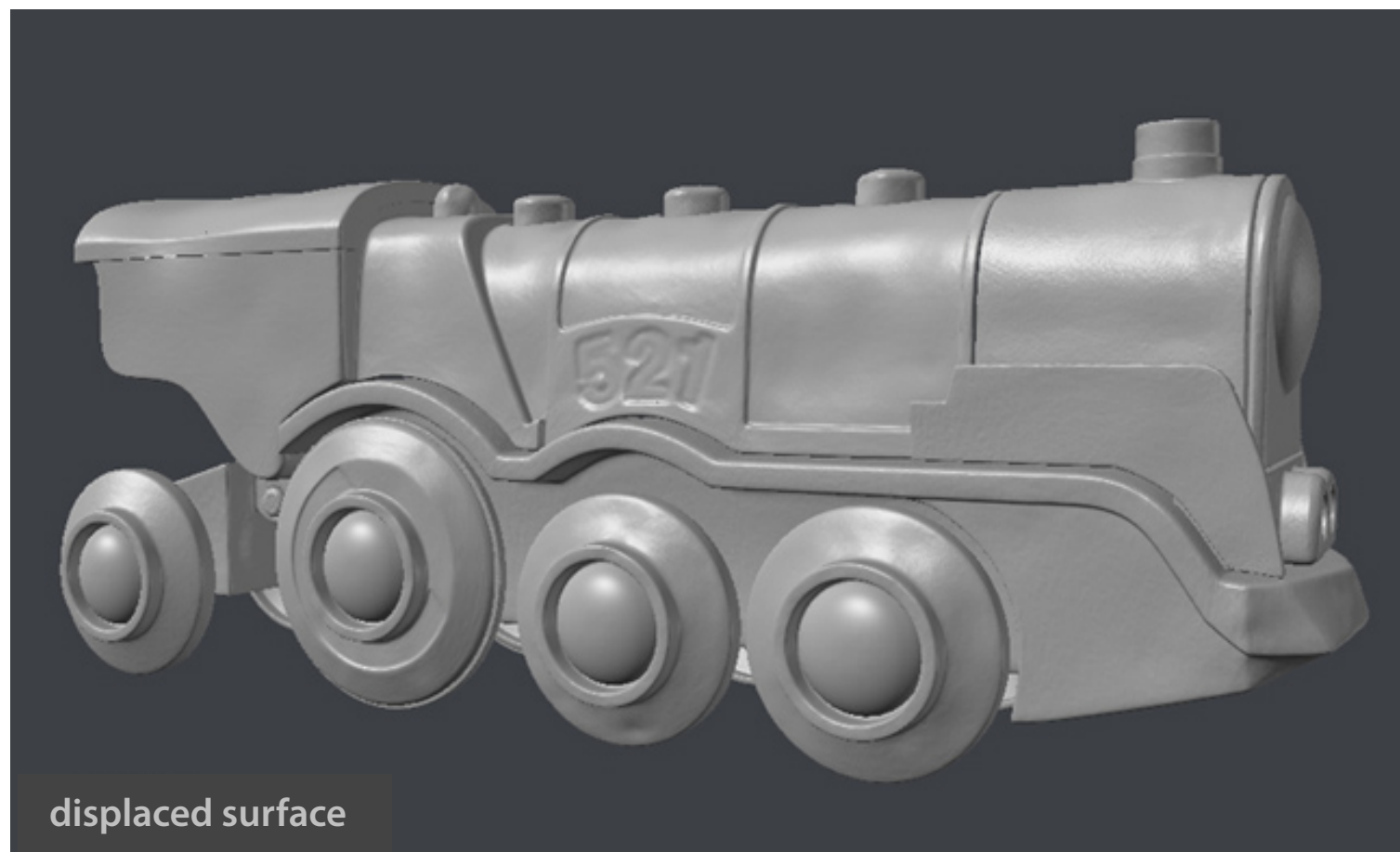
[wikiwand]



base surface



hand-painted displacement map (detail)



displaced surface

Paweł Filip  
tolas.wordpress.com





fryrender

physically-based render engine

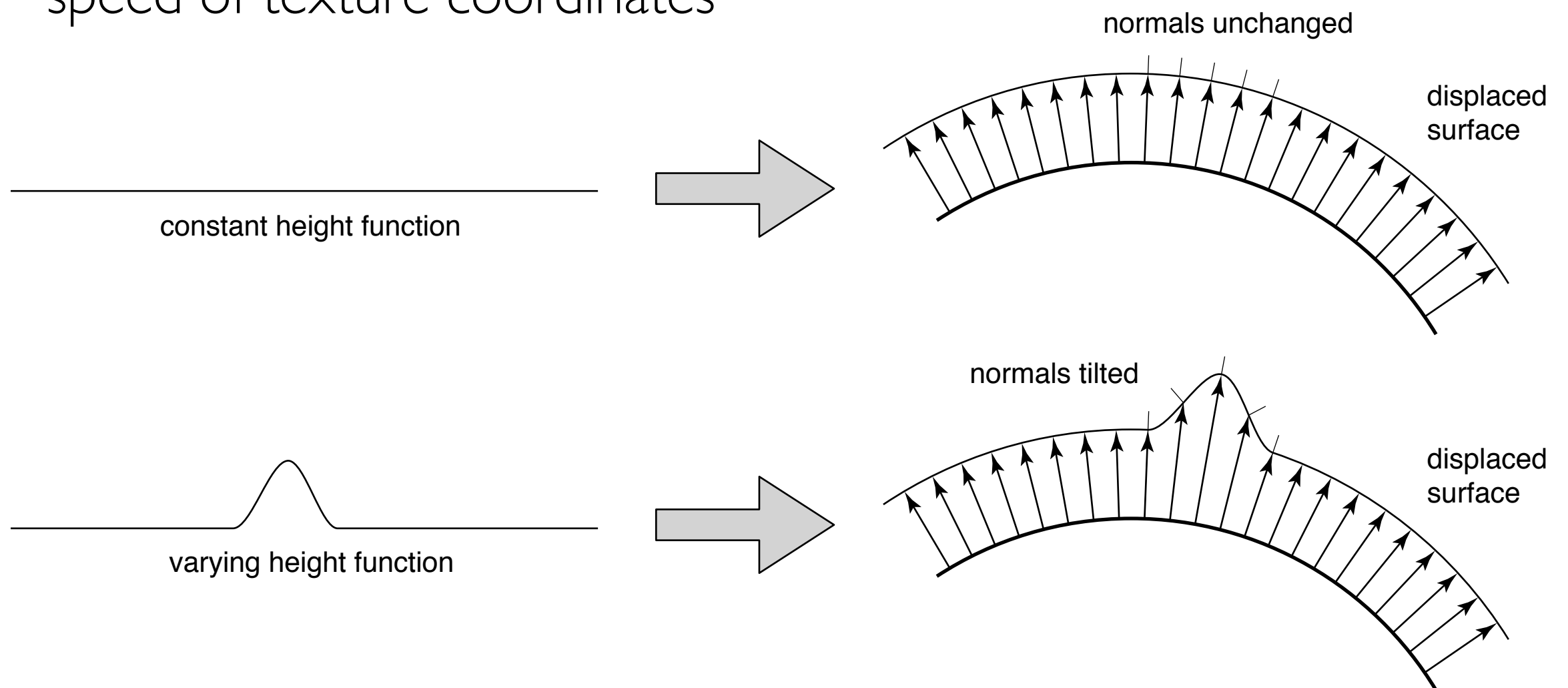
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# Displacement mapping

- **A powerful tool for modeling detail**
  - used heavily in film production
- **Geometric prerequisites**
  - texture map representing height field
  - smooth normals
  - texture coordinates
  - dense triangulation
- **In GLSL**
  - a vertex operation (because it moves geometry)
  - displace vertices along normal vectors by a distance proportional to texture map value
  - compute new normal to displaced surface

# Normals in displacement mapping

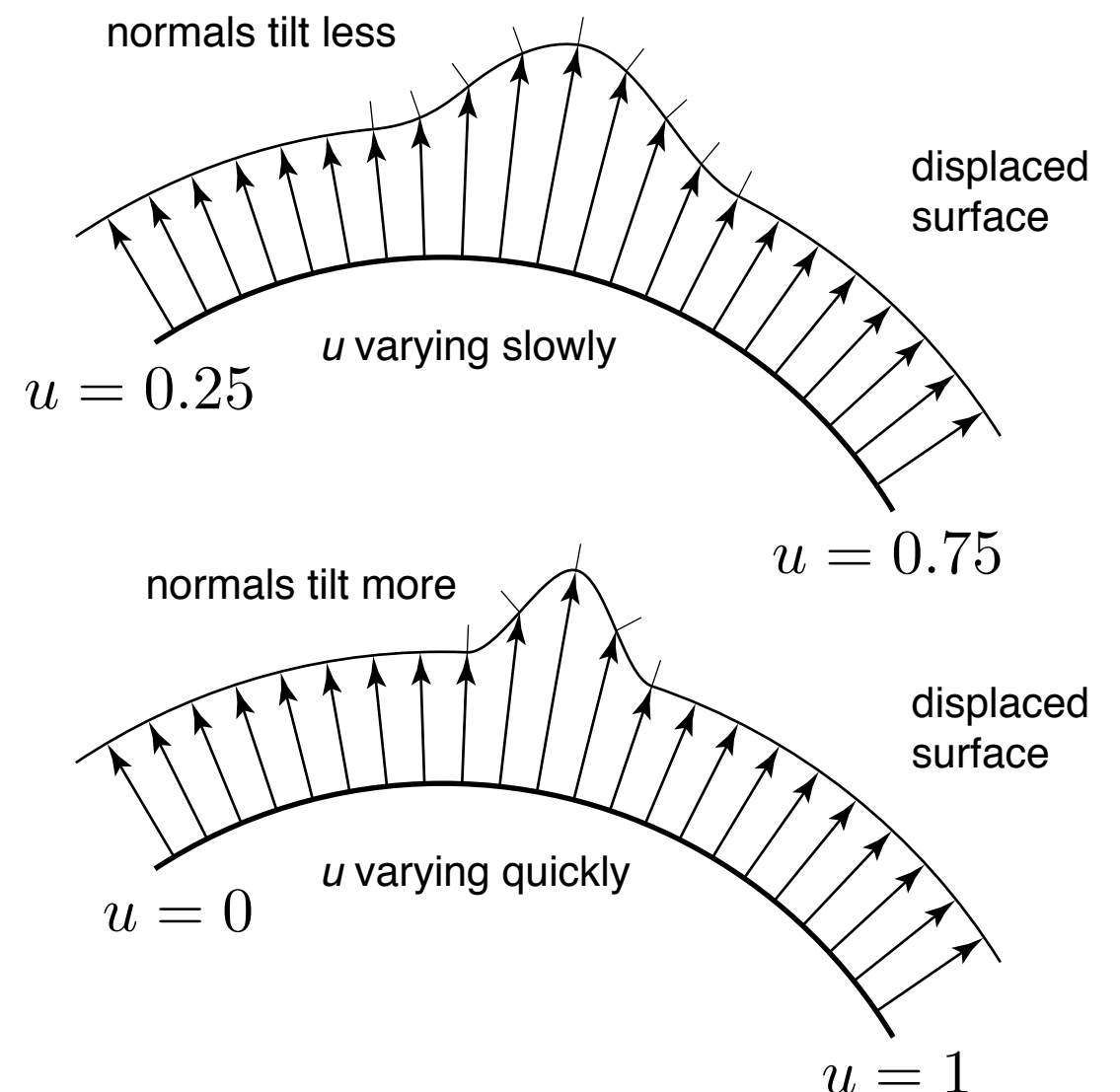
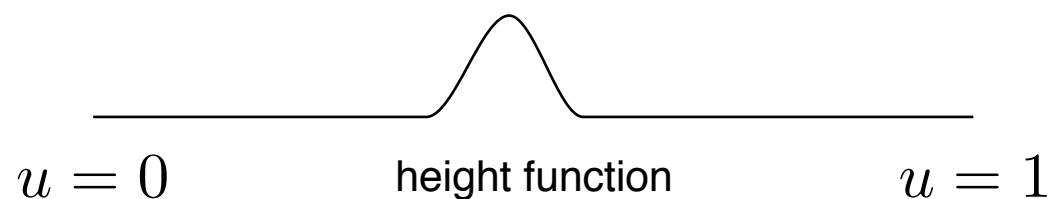
- **Displacement changes the surface normal, depending on:**
  - derivative of height function
  - orientation of texture coordinates
  - speed of texture coordinates





# Normals in displacement mapping

- **Displacement changes the surface normal, depending on:**
  - derivative of height function
  - orientation of texture coordinates
  - speed of texture coordinates



# Displacement mapping math

- **Start with a parametric surface and a height function**

$$\mathbf{p}(u, v) : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \qquad h(u, v) : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

- Recall the tangent vectors are the partial derivatives of  $\mathbf{p}$

$$\mathbf{t}_u(u, v) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}}{\partial u}(u, v) \qquad \mathbf{t}_v(u, v) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}}{\partial v}(u, v)$$

- ...and the normal vector is the cross product of the two tangents.

$$\mathbf{n}(u, v) = \mathbf{t}_u(u, v) \times \mathbf{t}_v(u, v)$$

- We normalize to make unit tangents and normals, when needed

$$\hat{\mathbf{t}}_u = \frac{\mathbf{t}_u}{\|\mathbf{t}_u\|} \qquad \hat{\mathbf{t}}_v = \frac{\mathbf{t}_v}{\|\mathbf{t}_v\|} \qquad \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \frac{\mathbf{n}}{\|\mathbf{n}\|} = \hat{\mathbf{t}}_u \times \hat{\mathbf{t}}_v$$

# Displacement mapping math

- **Define displaced surface by adding an offset along the normal**

$$\mathbf{p}^d(u, v) = \mathbf{p}(u, v) + h(u, v)\hat{\mathbf{n}}(u, v)$$

(unit normal here because we want  $h$  to measure the displacement distance)

- **Tangents to the displaced surface**

– start with tangent in the direction of the  $u$  texture coordinate

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{p}^d}{\partial u}(u, v) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}}{\partial u}(u, v) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial u}(u, v)\hat{\mathbf{n}}(u, v) + h(u, v)\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{n}}}{\partial u}(u, v)$$

– last term gets messy but only matters for large displacements relative to surface curvature; throw it out. Then the tangents are

$$\mathbf{t}_u^d(u, v) = \mathbf{t}_u(u, v) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial u}(u, v)\hat{\mathbf{n}}(u, v)$$

$$\mathbf{t}_v^d(u, v) = \mathbf{t}_v(u, v) + \frac{\partial h}{\partial v}(u, v)\hat{\mathbf{n}}(u, v)$$

(non-unit tangents here because the correct result depends on their length)

# Displacement mapping math

- **Last step is to compute the normal to the displaced surface**

$$\mathbf{n}^d = \mathbf{t}_u^d \times \mathbf{t}_v^d$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}}^d = \frac{\mathbf{n}^d}{\|\mathbf{n}^d\|}$$

# Geometry for displacement

- **geometric inputs**

- $u$  tangent (unnormalized) as vertex attribute
- $v$  tangent (unnormalized) as vertex attribute
- height field as a texture

- **vertex stage**

- compute displaced vertex position
  - look up displacement value from texture
- compute normal to displaced surface
  - compute derivatives of height by finite differences
  - add offset to the base surface tangents
  - normalized cross product is the shading normal

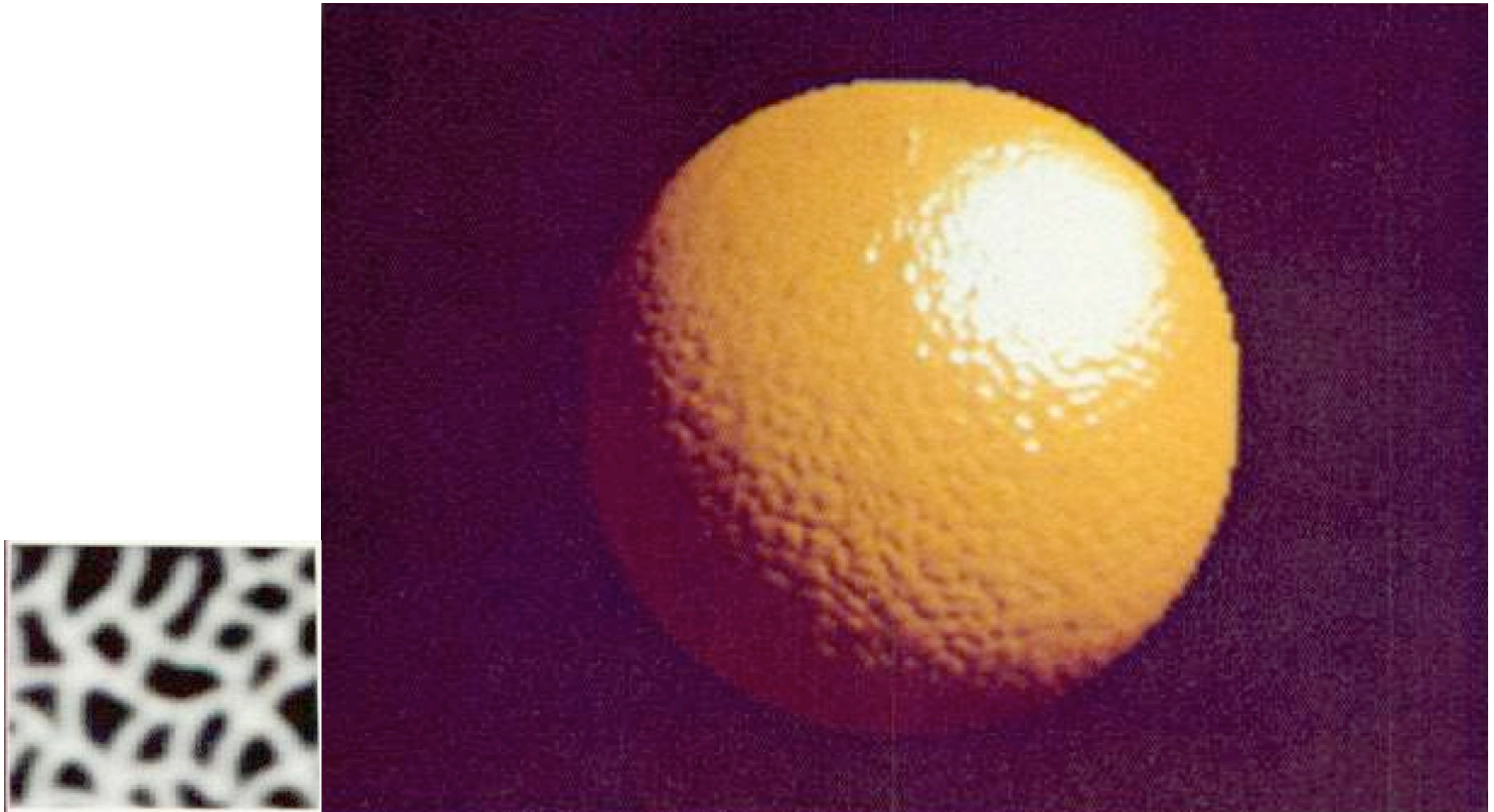
(or compute them ahead of time and store height and derivatives in a 3-channel texture)

- **fragment stage: just compute shading**

# Computing tangent vectors

- **How do we get these tangent vectors?**
  - they need to be stored at vertices on the mesh, like normals
- **For a triangle, there's a unique linear map from  $(u,v)$  to  $(x,y,z)$** 
  - the derivatives of that map are the (non-unit) tangents
  - can be computed by solving three  $2 \times 2$  linear systems
  - math resembles triangle setup for rasterization; details [here](#)
- **For displacement mapping you want to leave the tangents unnormalized and non-orthogonal**
- **For other uses it's often handy to make the two tangents and the normal into an ONB**
  - use exactly the basis-from-two math that we have used for cameras and manipulators

# Bump mapping



[Blinn 1978]

# Bump mapping

- **Displacement mapping is expensive**
  - requires densely tessellated geometry
  - many triangles to rasterize
- **For small displacements, the most important effect is on the normal**
  - so just do that part; don't displace the surface
- **Bump mapping is then a fragment operation**
  - doesn't require dense tessellation
  - doesn't actually displace the surface
  - gives shading that looks just like displaced surface





Geometry



Bump  
mapping



Displacement  
mapping

# Bump mapping

- **Geometric inputs**

- tangent vectors (unnormalized) as vertex attributes
- height field as a texture
- no dense triangulation needed

- **Vertex phase**

- simply transform and pass through the position and tangents

- **Fragment phase**

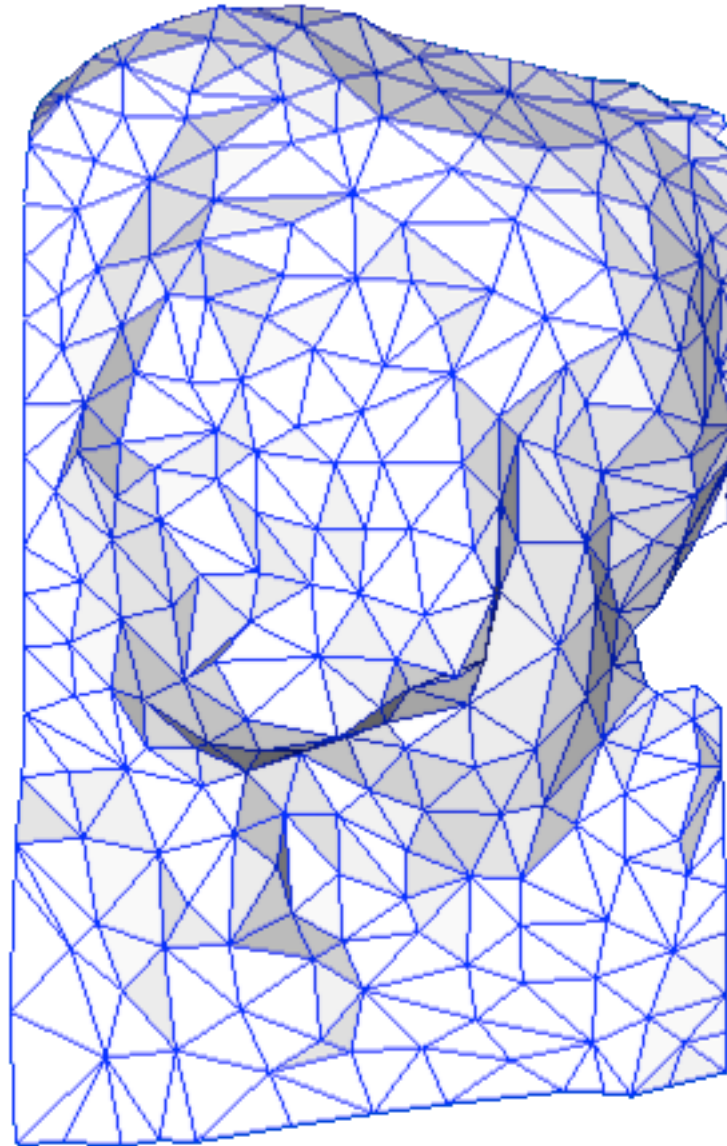
- compute normal to displaced surface
  - compute derivatives of height by finite differences
  - add offset to the base surface tangents
  - normalized cross product is the shading normal
- compute shading using displaced normal

(or compute them ahead of time and store in a 2-channel texture)

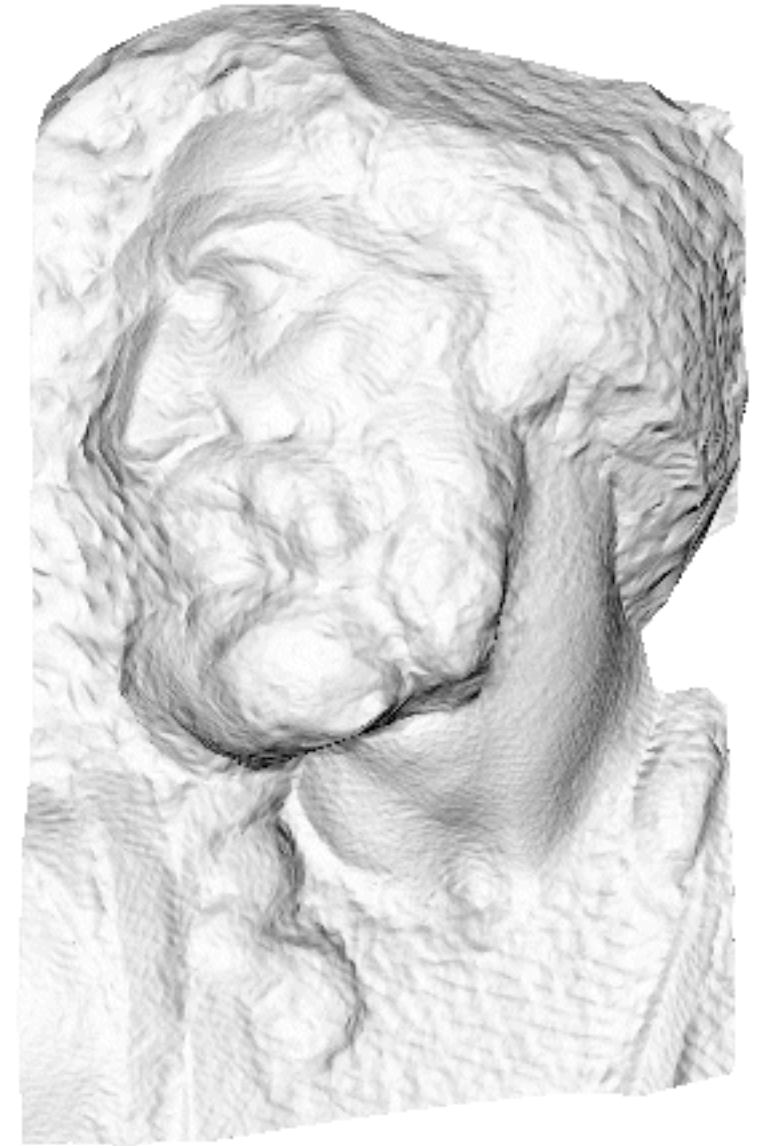
# Normal mapping



original mesh  
4M triangles



simplified mesh  
500 triangles



simplified mesh  
and normal mapping  
500 triangles

[Paolo Cignoni]

# Normal mapping

- **Geometric prerequisites**

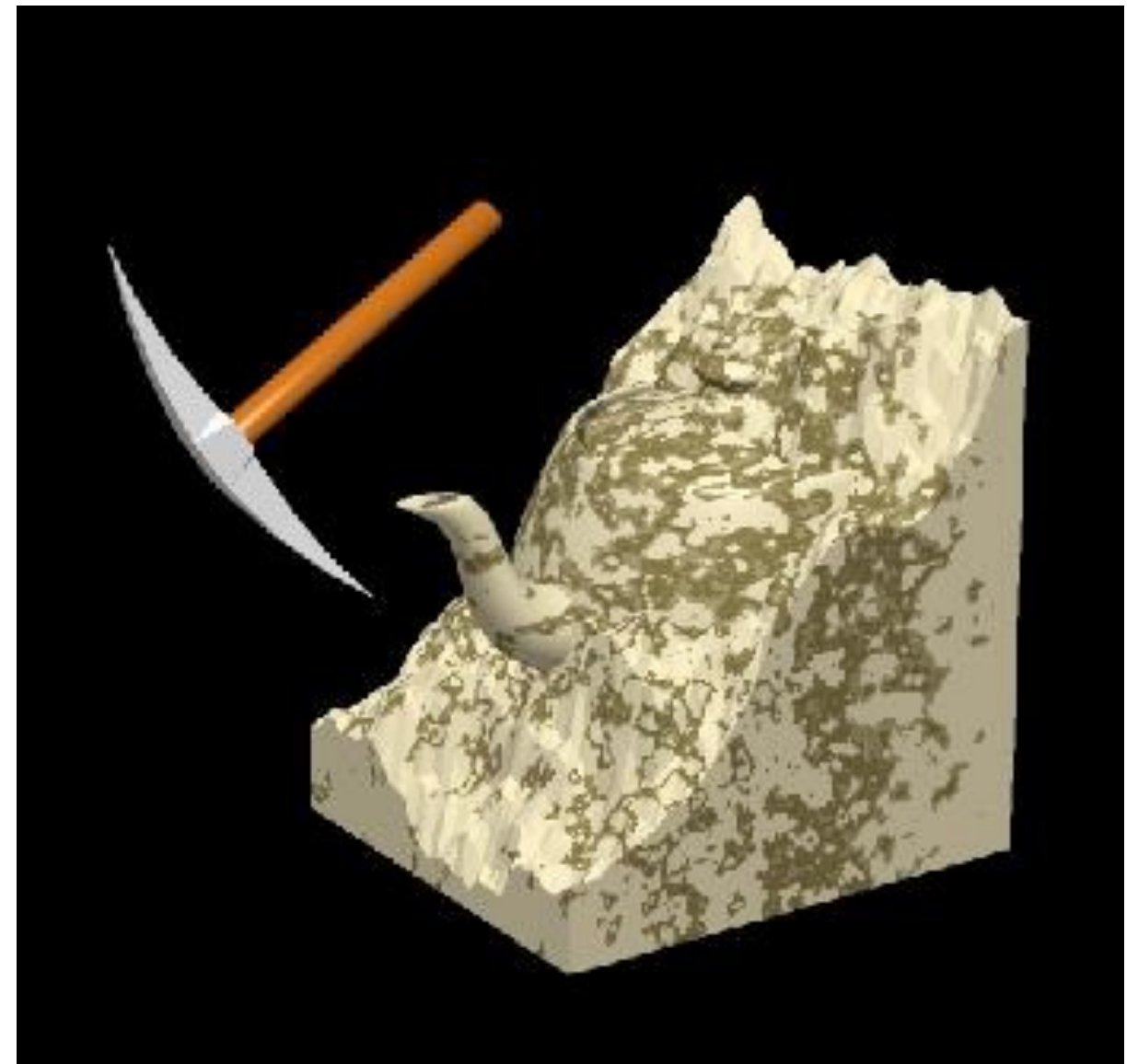
- Texture map (3 channels) representing normal field
  - single lookups into normal map required
- Smooth normals
- Unit tangent vectors
  - if you want to store normals in tangent space (and you do)
- No dense triangulation needed
- No finite differencing needed

- **Geometric logic**

- look up normal from map
- transform into (tangent-u, tangent-v, normal) space

# 3D textures

- **Texture is a function of  $(u, v, w)$** 
  - can just evaluate texture at 3D surface point
  - good for solid materials
  - often defined procedurally
  - see book for more!



[Wolfe / SG97 Slide set]