

Computer Graphics Ph.D. Qualifying Exam, March 2010

1. (20%) (a) The Phong illumination model can be summarized by the following equation:

$$I = k_e + k_a I_a + \sum_i \left[I_{l_i} \left(k_d (\mathbf{N} \cdot \mathbf{L}_i)_+ + k_s (\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{R}_i)_{+}^{n_s} \right) \min \left(1, \frac{1}{a_0 + a_1 d_i + a_2 d_i^2} \right) \right]$$

Draw a diagram to explain the main variables in the above formulation. What effects do the terms of the above formulation intend to model? (b) Describe how to shade a triangle using flat shading, Gouraud shading and Phong shading. Discuss their visual differences.

2. (20%) (a) Describe the rendering equation proposed by Kajiya in his classic SIGGRAPH 1986 paper. (12%) (b) Suggest a way to find the solution to the rendering equation without making assumptions. You can ignore the efficiency issue. (8%)
3. (20%) Given a triangle T with vertices V_1, V_2, V_3 and a ray R with origin O and direction d , (a) use a parametric equation to describe all points lying on the ray (5%), (b) what is the plane equation where T lies? (5%), (c) what is the intersection of R and that plane? (5%) and (d) how to check whether R and T intersect? (5%)
4. (20%) **Radiosity**. There are n patches, P_i , in the scene. Patch P_i has its area A_i , reflectivity R_i and emitted energy E_i . The form factor between two patches P_i and P_j is denoted as F_{ij} . The goal of radiosity algorithms is to solve for the radiosity B_i for each patch. (a) Write down the radiosity equation. (5%) (b) How to solve the radiosity equation? (5%) (c) Explain what form factor is. (5%) (d) Suggest a way for evaluation of the form factors. (5%)
5. (20%) Assume a very simple scene, the inside of a uniformly emitting Lambertian sphere with emittance E and reflectance ρ . What is the radiance for each point inside the sphere when the scene reaches equilibrium.