Physics: effects in air

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Scattering

- Fundamental mechanism of light/matter interactions
- Visually important for
 - slightly translucent materials (skin, milk, marble, etc.)
 - participating media

Participating media

• for example,

- smoke,
- wet air (mist, fog)
- rain
- dusty air
- air at long scales
- Light leaves/enters a ray travelling through space
 - leaves because it is scattered out
 - enters because it is scattered in
- New visual effects

Light hits a small box of material



A ray passing through scattering material



Airlight as a scattering effect







From Lynch and Livingstone, Color and Light in Nature





From Lynch and Livingstone, Color and Light in Nature

Absorption



- Ignore in-scattering
 - only account for forward scattering
- Assume there is a source at t=T
 - of intensity I(T)
 - what do we see at t=0?



$$\begin{array}{c} \checkmark \\ I(t) \\ I(t - \delta t) = I(t) - \sigma(t)I(t)\delta(t) \\ \uparrow \\ \\ Extinction \\ coefficient \\ \hline \\ \frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma(t)I(t) \\ \frac{d\log I}{dt} = \sigma(t) \\ I(T) = I(0)e^{\int_0^T \sigma(t)dt} \\ \qquad \qquad \uparrow \\ \\ Eye \text{ is at } 0 \\ \hline \\ \\ Eye \text{ is at } 0 \\ \hline \\ \\ Itensity \text{ at } T \\ \hline \\ \end{array}$$

Airlight as a scattering effect

Airlight color at p

$$I(p) = J(p) \times T(p) + A(p) \times (1 - T(p))$$
Image color at p
Surface radiance color at p

Absorption term, exponential in depth, at p



Dehazing and airlight

Airlight color at p

$$I(p) = J(p) \times T(p) + A(p) \times (1 - T(p))$$
Image color at p

Surface radiance color at p

Absorption term, exponential in depth, at p

- Consequences
 - Brightness is a depth cue •
 - Reasoning about airlight color yields dehazed image •

Airlight yields a depth cue

• Assume that airlight is dominant

- (i.e. most of light arriving at camera is airlight)
- then you can recover depth from a single image
- Disadvantages
 - requires significant fog (but not too much) or large scales



(a)



Nayar and Narasimhan, 1999

(b)



Model

Airlight color - same at all points $I(p) = J(p) \times T(p) + A(p) \times (1 - T(p))$ Observed
Observed
Shading weakeds

Shading x albedo

Independent of shading

- With work, this yields
 - neighboring pixels with same albedo produce
 - constraints on shading and T
 - assume shading and T independent
 - estimate A to yield "most independent" shading and T
 - result: J(p)



Figure 1: Dehazing based on a single input image and the corresponding depth estimate.

Fattal, 08 - note depth map AND dehaze; note also slightly odd colors

Improved estimation by cleaner model



Fig. 1. Old Town of Lviv. Input image on the left, our result on the right.

Fattal, 08 - note depth map AND dehaze; note also slightly odd colors

More interesting...

- Intensity is "created along the ray"
 - by (say) airlight

E

• Model - the particles glow with intensity C(x)

 Δs

0

0

0

0

Cross sectional area of "slab" is E Contains particles, radius r, density rho

Too few to overlap when projected

Light out = Light in -Light absorbed+ Light generated

Light generated: C x (area fraction of proj. particles)

which is

$$C(\mathbf{x}(s))\frac{(\rho E\Delta s)\pi r^2}{E} = C(\mathbf{x}(s))\sigma(s)\Delta s$$



Generation

$$I(0) = \int_0^T \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x}(s))\sigma(s)e^{-\int_0^s \sigma(u)du}ds$$



Accumulate along ray

Scattering profiles can be complicated



Big (dust, smoke)

Air molecules

Water drops

Fig. 2.7C Scattering patterns for different particles. (a) Large irregular particles, like those comprising dust and smoke, are irregular in the sense that they are not symmetric. They do, however, have a strong forward scattering peak and a smaller though still pronounced backscattering peak. (b) Air molecules have a scattering function that is symmetric fore and aft: they scatter the same amount of light in both the forward and backward directions but lack both the forward and backscattering peak. (c) Large water drops have a strong forward and backscattering peak and also show strong enhancements at the primary and secondary rainbow **From Lynch and Livingstone, Color and Light in Nature**



From Lynch and Livingstone, Color and Light in Nature





Minnaert, Light and Color in the outdoors

Notice flattened sun, sparkles