

**What is the set of images of an object under all possible lighting conditions?**

In answering this question, we'll arrive at a photometric stereo method for reconstructing surface shape w/ unknown lighting.

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### The Space of Images

- Consider an  $n$ -pixel image to be a point in an  $n$ -dimensional space,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Each pixel value is a coordinate of  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- Many results will apply to linear transformations of image space (e.g. filtered images)
- Other image representations (e.g. Cayley-Klein spaces. See Koenderink's "pixel f#@king paper")

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### Assumptions

For discussion, we assume:

- Lambertian reflectance functions.
- Objects have convex shape.
- Light sources at infinity.
- Orthographic projection.

• Note: many of these can be relaxed....

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### Lambertian Surface

At image location  $(u,v)$ , the intensity of a pixel  $x(u,v)$  is:

$$x(u,v) = [a(u,v) \hat{\mathbf{n}}(u,v)] \cdot [s_0 \hat{\mathbf{s}}] = \mathbf{b}(u,v) \cdot \mathbf{s}$$

where

- $a(u,v)$  is the albedo of the surface projecting to  $(u,v)$ .
- $\hat{\mathbf{n}}(u,v)$  is the direction of the surface normal.
- $s_0$  is the light source intensity.
- $\mathbf{s}$  is the direction to the light source.

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### Model for Image Formation

**Lambertian Assumption with shadowing:**

$$\mathbf{x} = \max(\mathbf{B} \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{0}) \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{b}_1^T & - \\ -\mathbf{b}_2^T & - \\ \dots & \dots \\ -\mathbf{b}_n^T & - \end{bmatrix} \quad n \times 3$$

where

- $\mathbf{x}$  is an  $n$ -pixel image vector
- $\mathbf{B}$  is a matrix whose rows are unit normals scaled by the albedos
- $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is vector of the light source direction scaled by intensity

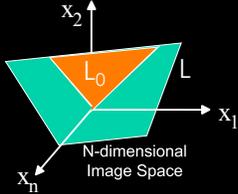
### 3-D Linear subspace

The set of images of a Lambertian surface with no shadowing is a subset of 3-D linear subspace.

[Moses 93], [Nayar, Murase 96], [Shashua 97]

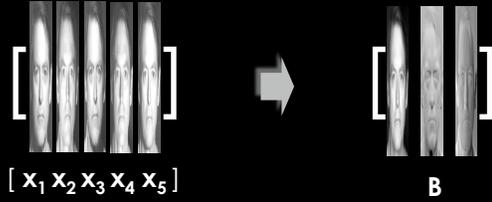
$$L = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{s}, \forall \mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \}$$

where  $\mathbf{B}$  is a  $n$  by 3 matrix whose rows are product of the surface normal and Lambertian albedo



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### How do you construct subspace?



With more than three of images, perform least squares estimation of  $\mathbf{B}$  using Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

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### Still Life

Original Images



Basis Images



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### Rendering Images: $\sum_i \max(\mathbf{B}_i, \mathbf{0})$

1 Light



2 Lights



3 Lights



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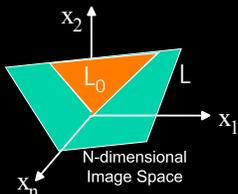
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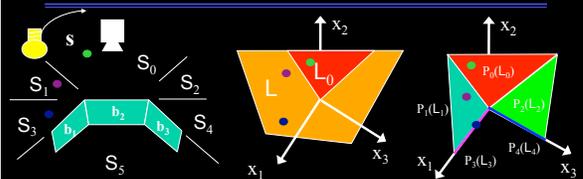
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### Set of Images from a Single Light Source



- Let  $L_i$  denote the intersection of  $L$  with an orthant  $i$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Let  $P_i(L_i)$  be the projection of  $L_i$  onto a "wall" of the positive orthant given by  $\max(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{0})$ .

Then, the set of images of an object produced by a single light source is:

$$U = \bigcup_{i=0}^M P_i(L_i)$$

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### Lambertian, Shadows and Multiple Lights

The image  $\mathbf{x}$  produced by multiple light sources is

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_i \max(\mathbf{B} \mathbf{s}_i, 0)$$

where

- $\mathbf{x}$  is an  $n$ -pixel image vector.
- $\mathbf{B}$  is a matrix whose rows are unit normals scaled by the albedo.
- $\mathbf{s}_i$  is the direction and strength of the light source  $i$ .

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### Set of Images from Multiple Light Sources

- With two lights on, resulting image along line segment between single source images: superposition of images, non-negative lighting
- For all numbers of sources, and strengths, rest is convex hull of  $U$ .

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### The Illumination Cone

**Theorem:** *The set of images of any object in fixed posed, but under all lighting conditions, is a **convex cone** in the image space.*

(Belhumeur and Kriegman, IJCV, 98)

Single light source images lie on cone boundary

2-light source image

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### Some natural ideas & questions

- Can the cones of two different objects intersect?
- Can two different objects have the same cone?
- How big is the cone?
- How can cone be used for recognition?

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### Do Ambiguities Exist?

Can two objects of differing shapes produce the same illumination cone?

**YES**

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### Do Ambiguities Exist? **Yes**

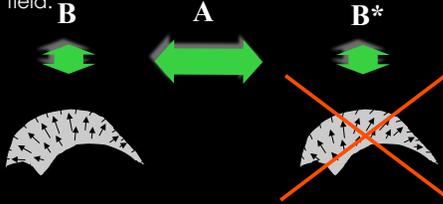
- Cone is determined by linear subspace  $L$
- The columns of  $\mathbf{B}$  span  $L$
- For any  $\mathbf{A} \in GL(3)$ ,  $\mathbf{B}^* = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}$  also spans  $L$ .
- For any image of  $\mathbf{B}$  produced with light source  $\mathbf{S}$ , the same image can be produced by lighting  $\mathbf{B}^*$  with  $\mathbf{S}^* = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{S}$  because
 
$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{B}^* \mathbf{S}^* = \mathbf{B} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{S} = \mathbf{B} \mathbf{S}$$
- When we estimate  $\mathbf{B}$  using SVD, the rows are NOT generally normal \* albedo.

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## Surface Integrability

In general,  $B^*$  **does not** have a corresponding surface.

Linear transformations of the surface normals in general **do not produce** an integrable normal field.

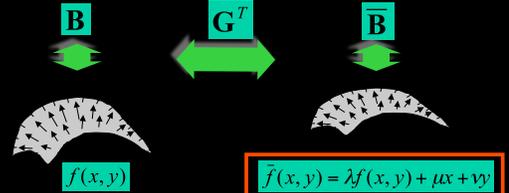


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## GBR Transformation

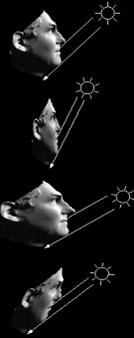
Only **Generalized Bas-Relief** transformations satisfy the integrability constraint:

$$A = G^T = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 & -\mu \\ 0 & \lambda & -\nu \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T$$



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## Generalized Bas-Relief Transformations



Objects differing by a GBR have the same illumination cone.

Without knowledge of light source location, one can **only recover surfaces up to GBR transformations.**

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## Uncalibrated photometric stereo

1. Take  $n$  images as input, perform SVD to compute  $B^*$ .
2. Find some  $A$  such that  $B^*A$  is close to integrable.
3. Integrate resulting gradient field to obtain height function  $f^*(x, y)$ .

Comments:

- $f^*(x, y)$  differs from  $f(x, y)$  by a GBR.
- Can use specularities to resolve GBR for non-Lambertian surface.

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## What about cast shadows for nonconvex objects?

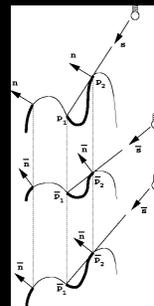


P.P. Rubens in *Opticorum Libri Sex*, 1613  
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## GBR Preserves Shadows

Given a surface  $f$  and a GBR transformed surface  $f'$  then for every light source  $\mathbf{s}$  which illuminates  $f$  there exists a light source  $\mathbf{s}'$  which illuminates  $f'$  such that the **attached** and **cast shadows** are identical.

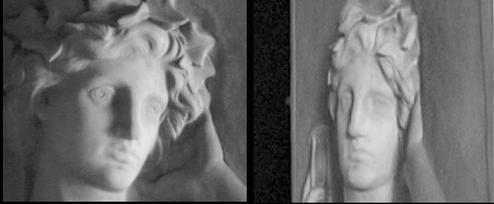
GBR is the only transform that preserves shadows.



[Kriegman, Belhumeur 2001]

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## Bas-Relief Sculpture



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## Codex Urbinas



As far as light and shade are concerned low relief fails both as sculpture and as painting, because the shadows correspond to the low nature of the relief, as for example in the shadows of foreshortened objects, which will not exhibit the depth of those in painting or in sculpture in the round.

Leonardo da Vinci  
Treatise on Painting (Kemp)

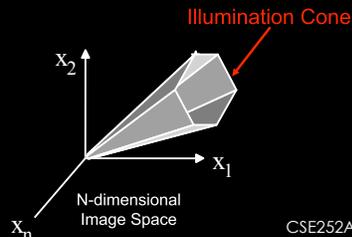
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## The Illumination Cone

**Thm:** The span of the extreme rays of the illumination cone is equal to the number of distinct surface normals – i.e., as high as  $n$ .

The number of extreme rays of the cone is  $n(n-1)+2$

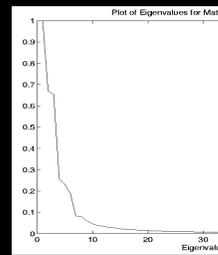
(Belhumeur and Kriegman, IJCV, '98)



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## Shape of the Illumination Cone

**Observation:** The illumination cone is flat with most of its volume concentrated near a low-dimensional linear subspace



	Ball	Face	Phone	Parrot
#1	48.2	53.7	67.9	42.8
#3	94.4	90.2	88.2	76.3
#5	97.9	93.5	94.1	84.7
#7	99.1	95.3	96.3	88.5
#9	99.5	96.3	97.2	90.7

[ Epstein, Hallinan, Yuille 95]

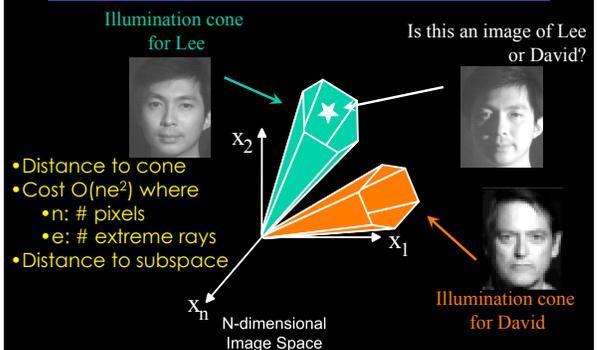
Dimension:

## Recent results

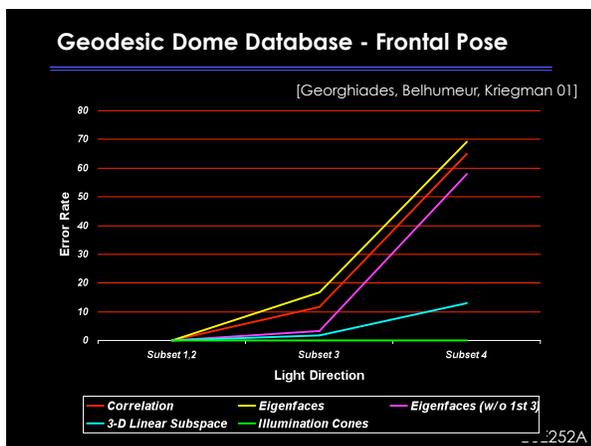
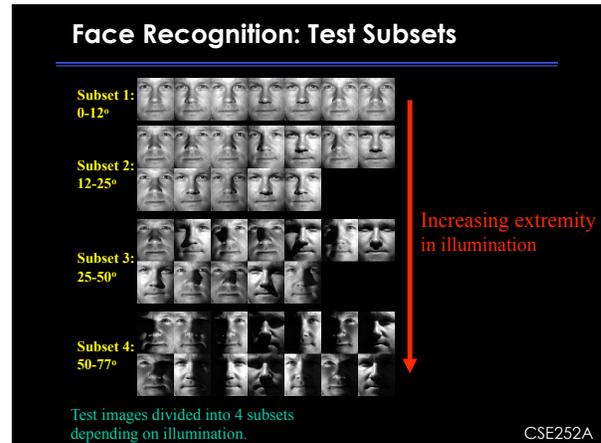
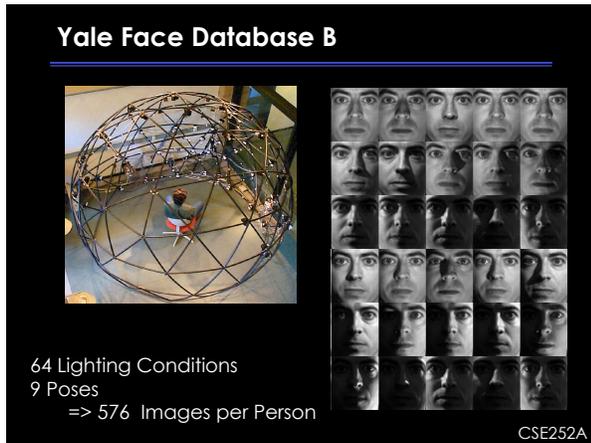
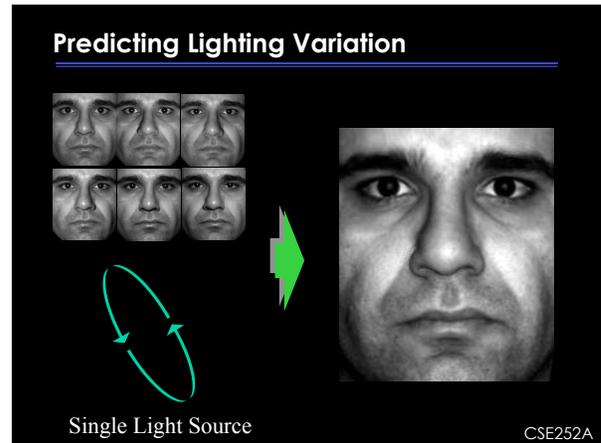
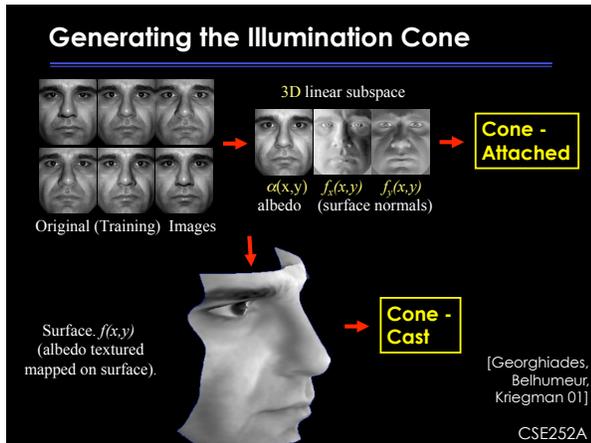
- Illumination cone is well capture by nine dimensions for a convex Lambertian surface.
  - Spherical Harmonic representation of lighting & BRDF.

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## Illumination Cones: Recognition Method



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- ### Face Recognition: Lighting & Pose
- Union of linear subspaces
    - Sample the pose space, and for each pose construct illumination cone.
    - Cone can be approximated by linear subspace (used 11-D)
  - For computational efficiency, project using PCA to 100-D
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## Illumination Variability Reveals Shape



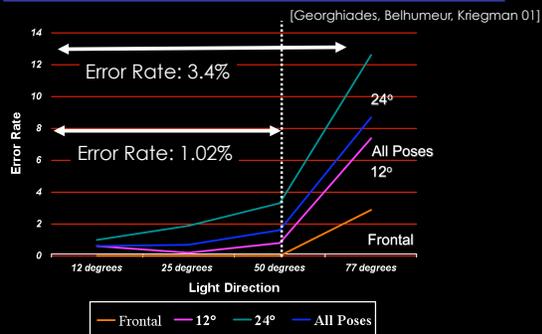
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## Pose Variability in test set: Up to 24°



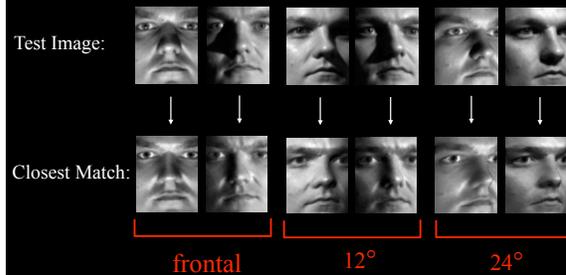
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## Illumination Cone Face Recognition Result: Pose and Lighting



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## Closest Sample to Test Image: Examples



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## Illumination & Image Set

- **Lack of illumination invariants**  
[Chen, Jacobs, Belhumeur 98]
- **Set of images of Lambertian surface w/o shadowing is 3-D linear subspace**  
[Moses 93], [Nayar, Murase 96], [Shashua 97]
- **Empirical evidence that set of images of object is well-approximated by a low-dimensional linear subspace**  
[Hallinan 94], [Epstein, Hallinan, Yuille 95]
- **Illumination cones**  
[Belhumeur, Kriegman 98]
- **Spherical harmonics lighting & images**  
[Basri, Jacobs 01], [Ramamoorthi, Hanrahan 01]
- **Analytic PCA of image over lighting**  
[Ramamoorthi 02]

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## Some subsequent work

1. "Face Recognition Under Variable Lighting using Harmonic Image Exemplars," Zhang, Samaras, CVPR03
2. "Clustering Appearances of Objects Under Varying Illumination Conditions," Ho, Lee, Lim, Kriegman, CVPR 03
3. "Low-Dimensional Representations of Shaded Surfaces under Varying Illumination," Nillius, Eklundh, CVPR03
4. "Using Specularities for Recognition," Osadchy, Jacobs, Ramamoorthi, ICCV 03

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