# Reflectance and Natural Illumination from a Single Image

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#### **Reflectance and Illumination Estimation**





## Past Work on Reflectance and Illumination Recovery





#### **Reflectance Only**

[Klinker et al. '88] [Kay and Caelli '94] [Lu and Little '95] [Sato et al. '97] [Boivin and Gagalowicz '01] [Romeiro et al. '08] [Romeiro and Zickler '10] [Chandraker and Ramamoorthi '11] [Lombardi and Nishino '12]

#### **Joint Recovery**

[Land and McCann '71] [Barrow and Tenenbaum '78] [Sinha and Adelson '93] [Tappen et al. '02] [Ramamoorthi and Hanrahan '04] [Hara et al. '05, '08] [Sunkavalli et al. '08] [Hara and Nishino '09, '11]

#### **Illumination Only**

[Sato et al. '03] [Stumpfel et al. '04] [Finlayson et al. '04] [Kim and Hong '05] [Basri et al. '07] [Lalonde et al. '09, '11] [Mei et al. '11]

## Past Work on Reflectance and Illumination Recovery



# **Frequency Ambiguity**

Illumination

Reflectance



**Observed** Image

# **Color Ambiguity**

Illumination

Reflectance



#### **Constraining Reflectance and Illumination**



$$p(I|R,L) = \prod_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{N}(I_{\mathbf{x}}|E_{\mathbf{x}}(R,L),\sigma^2)$$

#### Constraining Illumination: Natural Image Statistics









#### We can leverage natural image statistics!

## Constraining Illumination: Natural Image Statistics





## Constraining Illumination: Entropy Increase Due to Reflectance



#### **Entropy Increases**

# Enforcing a Low-Entropy Illumination Estimate

- A prior that encourages low entropy
- $-\ln p_e(\mathbf{L}) = H(\mathbf{L})$  Continuous entropy  $H(\mathbf{L}) = -\int p(x) \log p(x) dx$   $\int \max_{\mathbf{L}} \log p(x) dx$   $\int \max_{\mathbf{L}} \log p(x) dx$
- Kernel density estimation (Gaussian kernel)

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x - \mathbf{L}_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$$
Gaussian kerne

## Constraining Reflectance: A Statistical Approach

Directional Statistics BRDF [Nishino '09][Nishino and Lombardi '11]



Simple but powerful prior

$$p(\mathbf{R}) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_R)$$

# **Color Ambiguity**

- Perform estimation two times:
  - First constraining illumination to be greyscale
  - Next allowing illumination to be full color



## How many lights are there?



We can't know

#### **Results: Synthetic**



# Predicting the Appearance of Materials with Recovered Illumination



## Predicting Object Appearance from Different Views



## Results: Real-world



## Results: Real-world



# Successful Estimation through the Right Priors

- Joint recovery requires tight constraints on reflectance and illumination
  - Novel entropy prior
  - Natural image statistic prior
  - DSBRDF reflectance prior
- Despite the inherit limits, we recover important illumination features to allow object appearance prediction





#### Natural Image Statistics



#### Source Code



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#### Data



#### cs.drexel.edu/~kon/natgeom

#### Data set includes 6 objects in 5 natural illumination environments with calibrated ground-truth geometry

