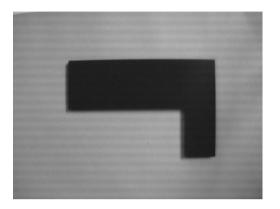
Image Capture and Problems

Robert B. Fisher School of Informatics University of Edinburgh

A reasonable capture



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Image Capture: Focus problems





http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials/depth-of-field.htm

Focus set to one distance, and other nearby distances in focus (depth of focus). Further or closer not so well focused. Compare 'identical' lines.

Image Capture: Shadow problems

False colour to emphasise the shadow location. Often hard to separate from part.



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Image Capture: Saturation problems



Pixels clip at 255.

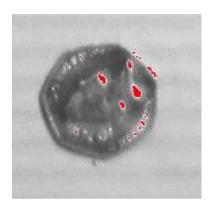
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Image Capture: Non-uniform illumination



Contrast on background enhanced: may cause analysis problems.

Image Capture: Specularities/highlights



Saturated pixels set to red.

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Image Capture: Radial lens distortion



Note 'straight' lines at image edge. May make accurate measurements hard.

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Image Capture: Overcoming Problems

- Shadows, specularities, non-uniform illumination: increase ambient lighting by using light diffusing panels or lots of point lights
- **Depth of Focus**: use smaller aperture and brighter light
- Motion Blur: use shorter capture time and brighter light
- Saturation: use smaller aperture, reduce gain and adjust gamma

• Lens Distortion: more expensive lenses, view from further away

• Aliasing: use incandescent lights

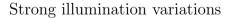
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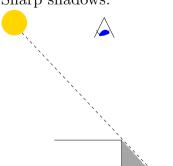
Illumination control techniques

Main cause of problem: point light sources

Brightness = $B / (surface distance from source)^2$

Sharp shadows:

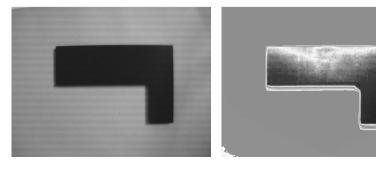






Shadow Example

Figure and shadow at bottom left emphasised

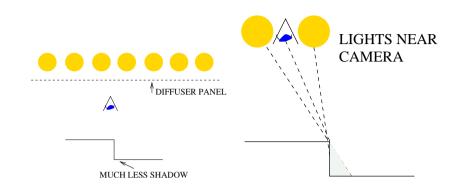


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Lighting control

To reduce complications arising from illumination:

- Increase ambient (all direction) light with light diffuser panels
- Illumination by camera to move shadows to non-visible places
- Backlighting panel



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Lecture Overview

- A set of typical image capture problems: focus, saturation, specularities, shadows, lens distortion, illumination
- \bullet Some approaches to overcoming the problems

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