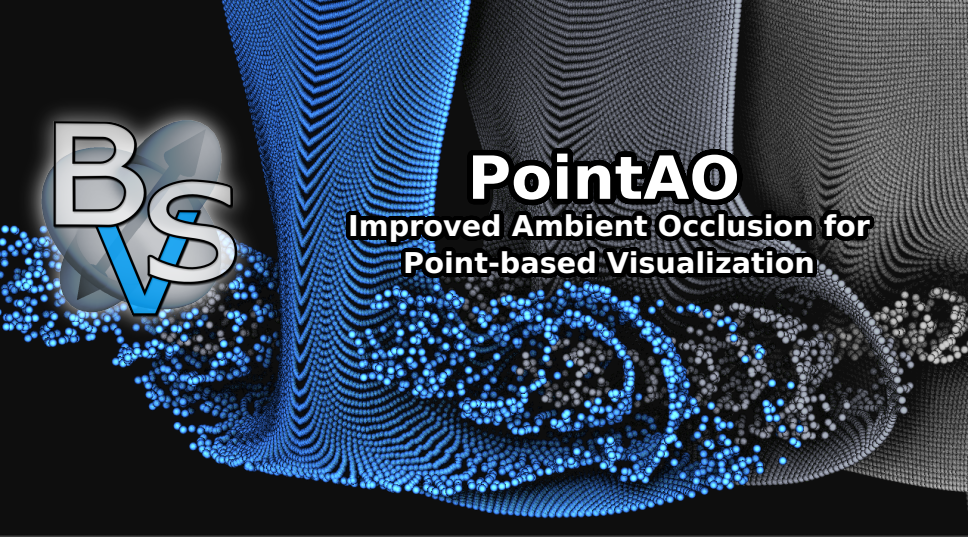




PointAO

Improved Ambient Occlusion for Point-based Visualization

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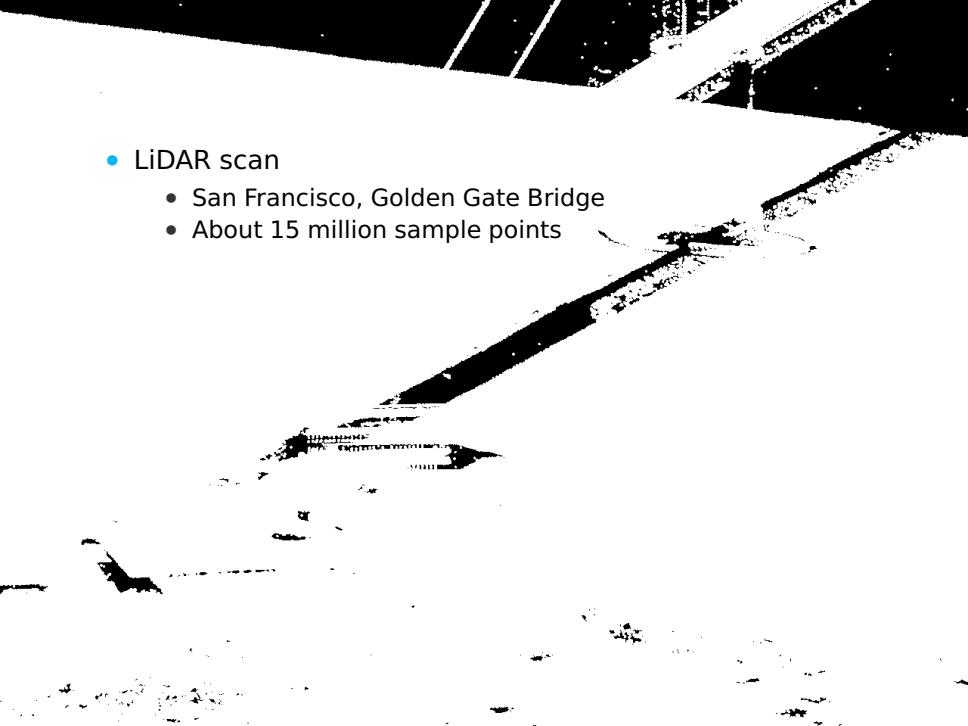


Why?

- Isn't plain point and glyph rendering sufficient for visualization?

- LiDAR scan

- San Francisco, Golden Gate Bridge
- About 15 million sample points





Depth-Colormap

only available for LIDAR



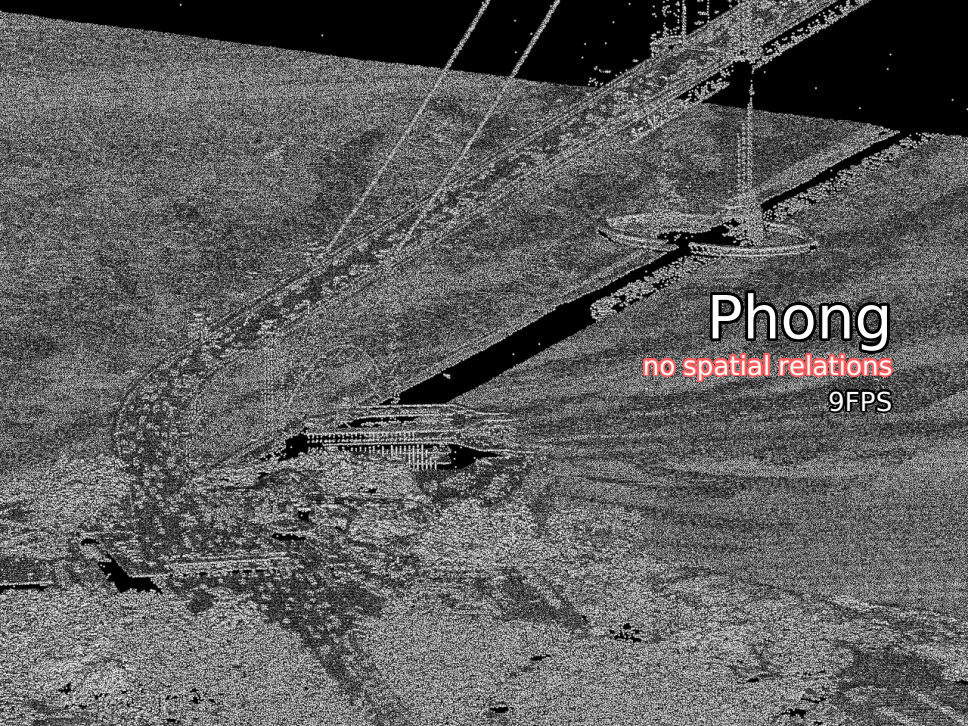
Why? — The Problem

- Possible solution: [shape from shading](#).
 - See Ramachandran et al.
 - Shading in computer graphics?
 - local illumination provides structure
 - global illumination provides relative, spatial information
- Let's try!

V. S. Ramachandran. Perception of shape from shading. *Nature*, 331:163–166, 1988.



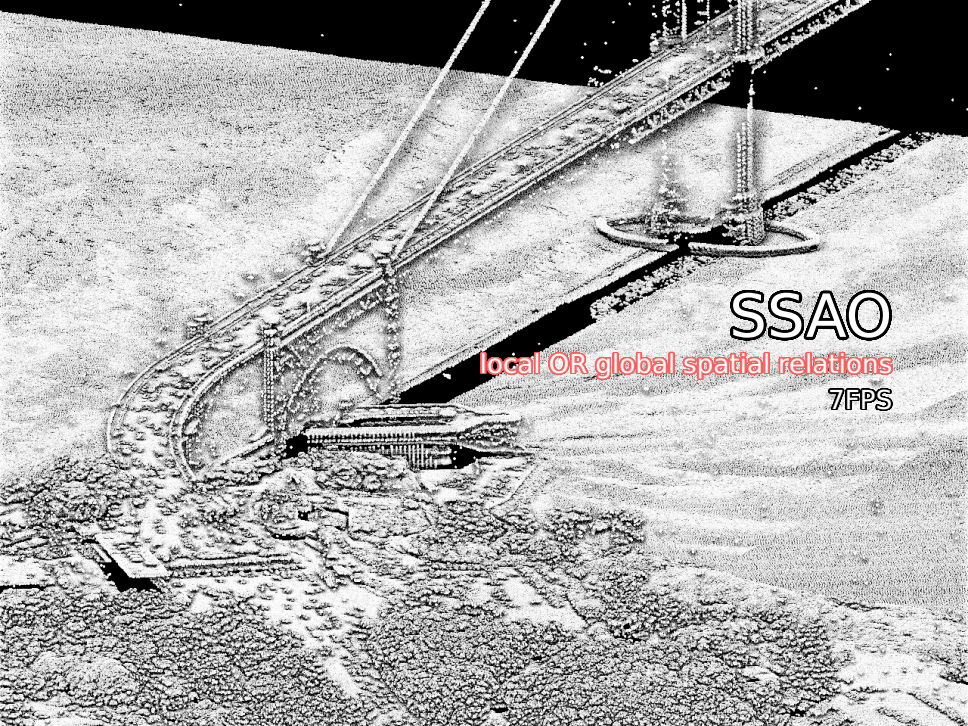
No Shading



Phong

no spatial relations

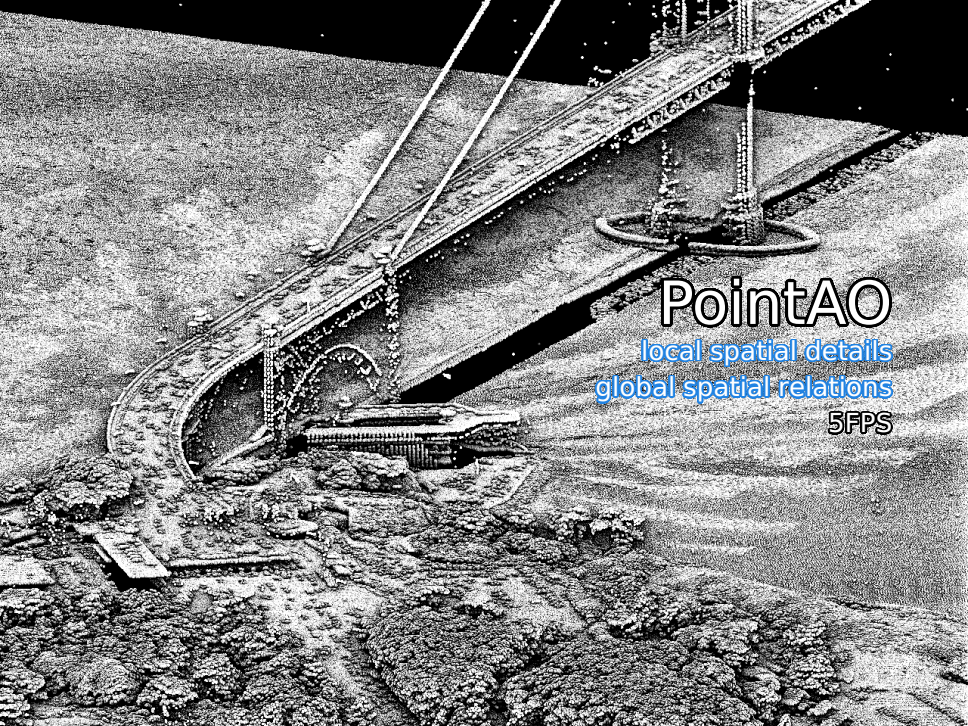
9FPS



SSAO

local OR global spatial relations

7FPS



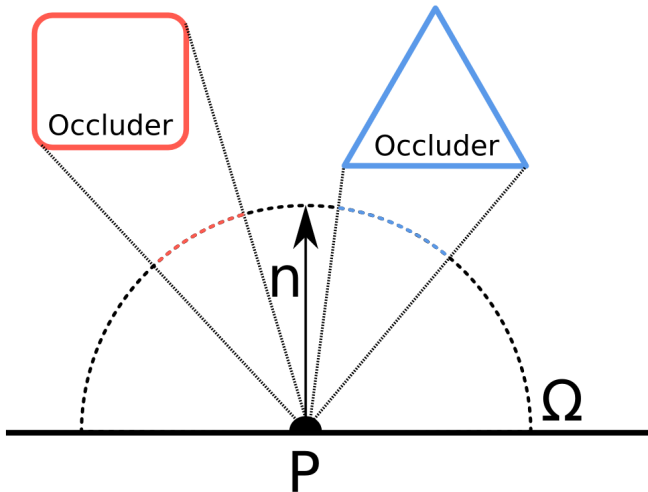
PointAO

local spatial details
global spatial relations

5FPS

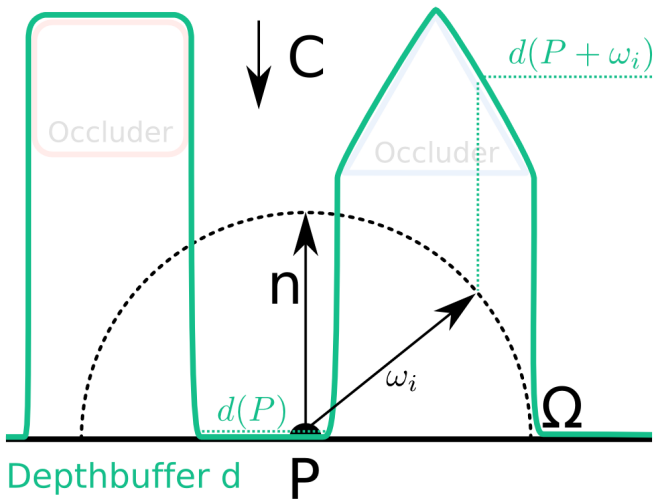


How? — Ambient Occlusion



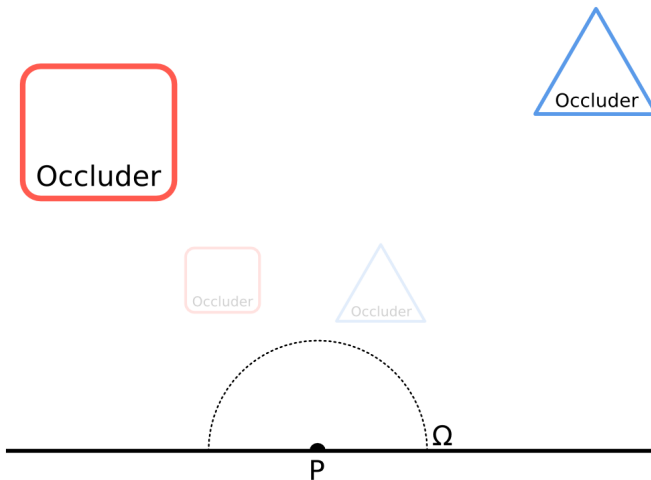


How? — SSAO



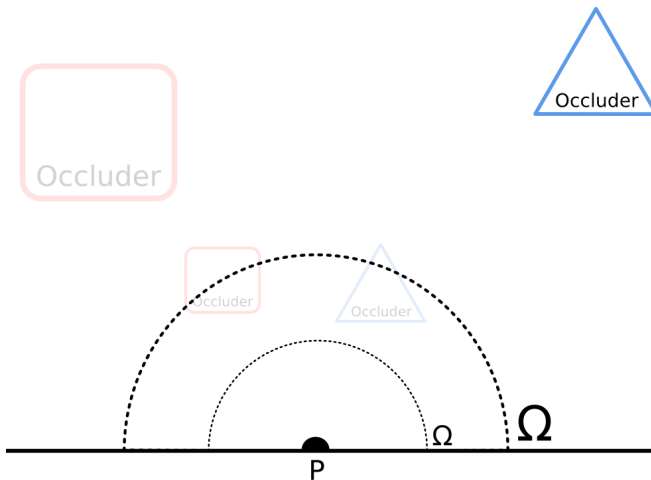


How? — From SSAO to PointAO



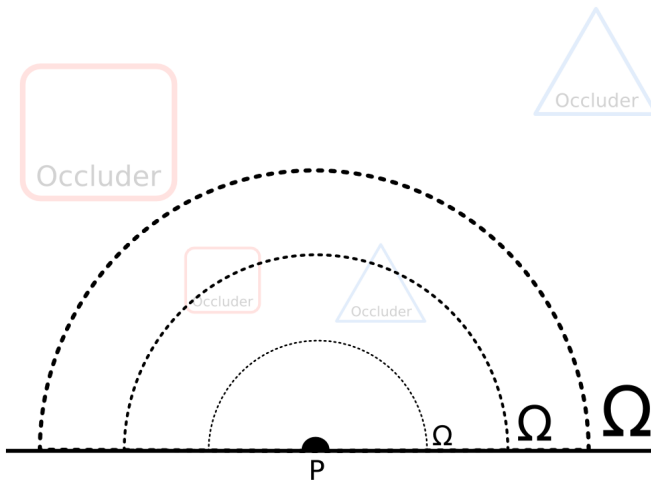


How? — From SSAO to PointAO



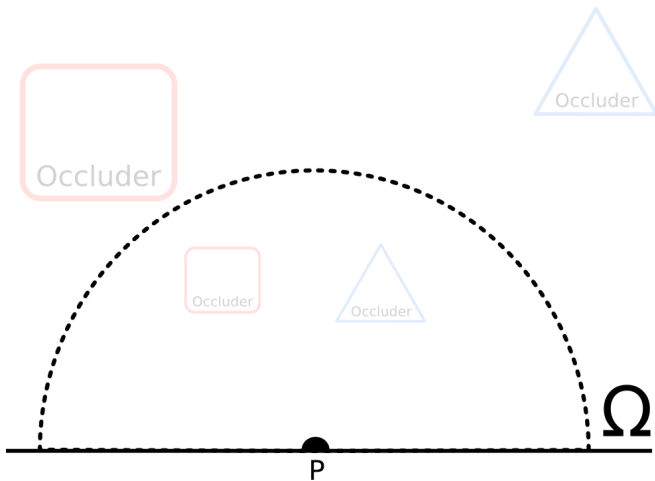


How? — From SSAO to PointAO





Why not a single, large hemisphere?

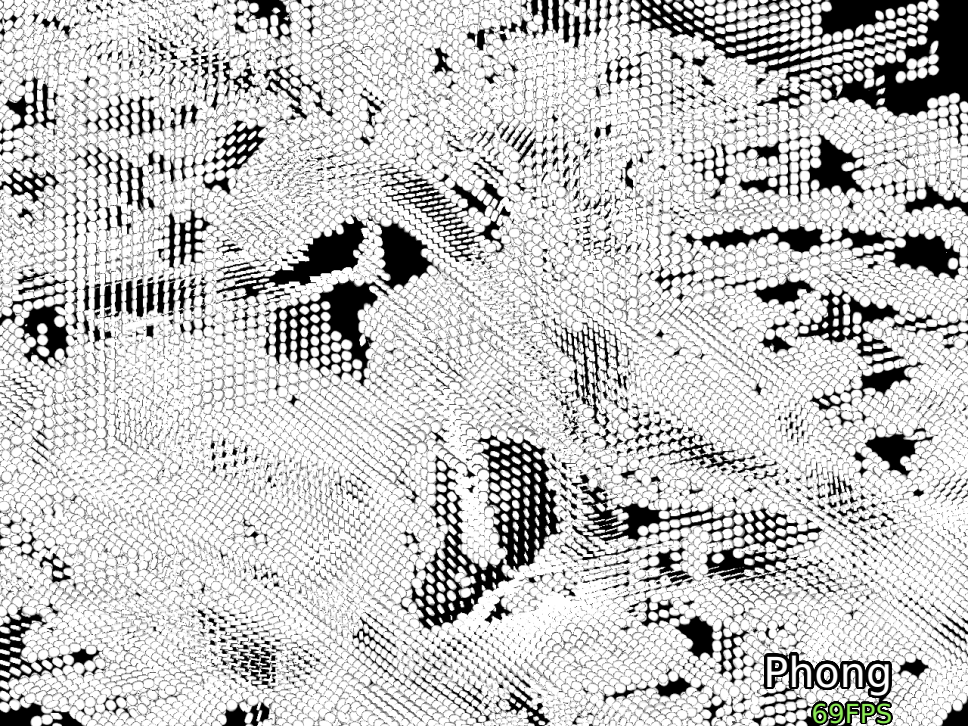




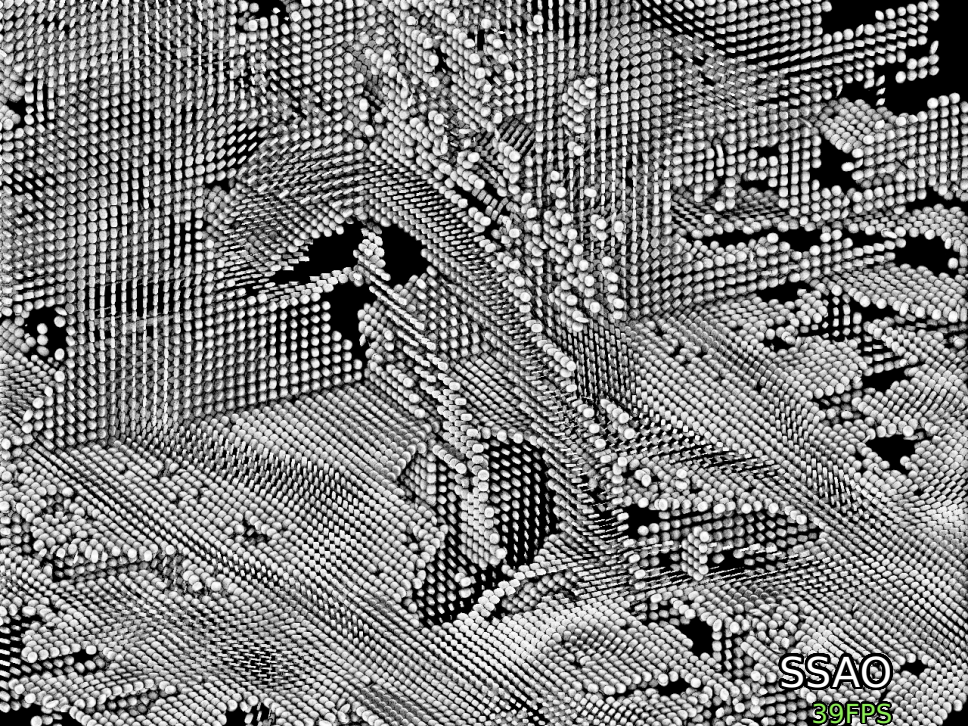
How? — PointAO

- Similar to LineAO
- Modified:
 - Sampling Scheme
 - Radius Scaling Scheme
 - Weighting Function

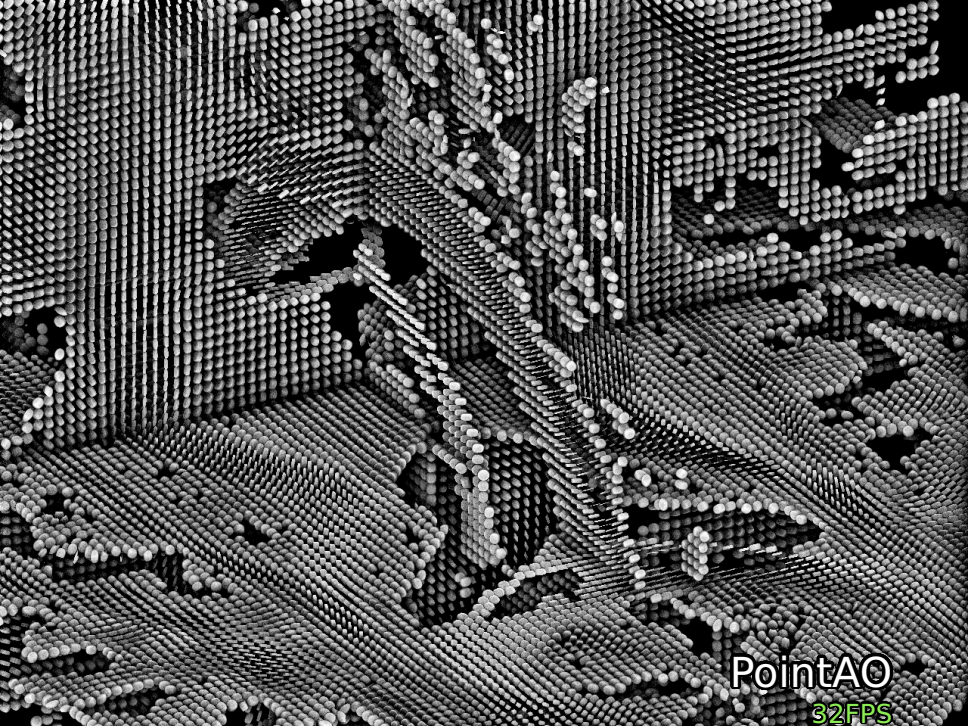
Eichelbaum et al.: LineAO – improved three-dimensional line rendering. IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics 19, 3 (2013), 433–445



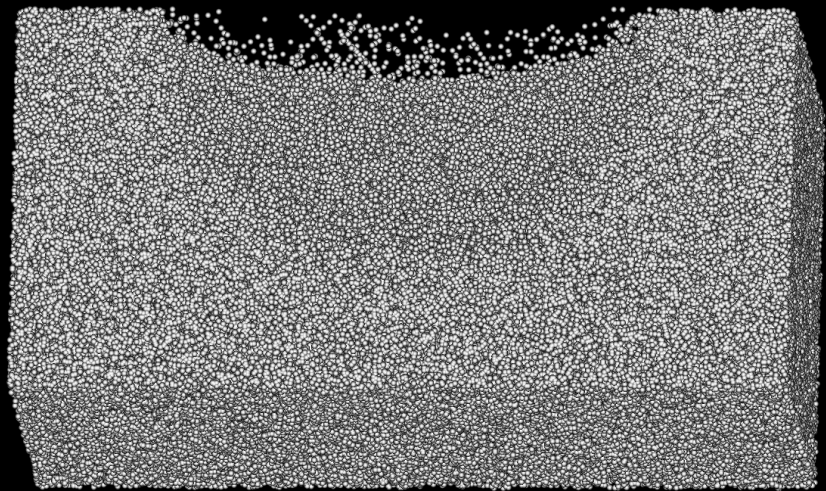
Phong
69FPS



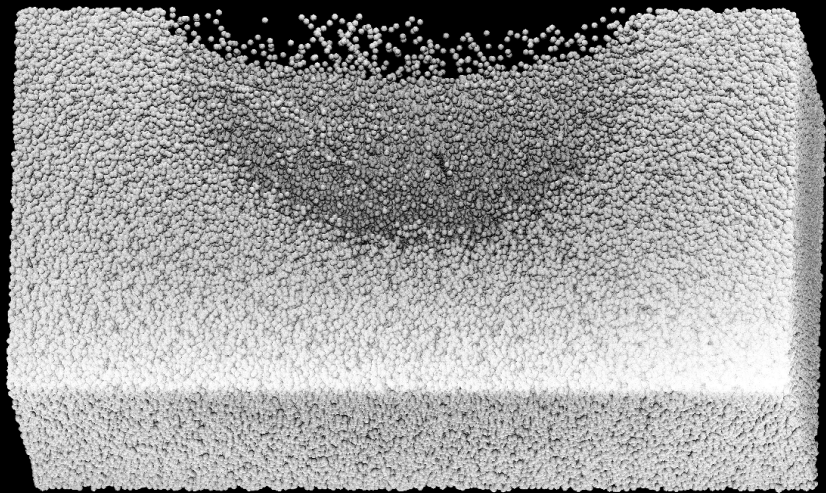
SSAO
39FPS



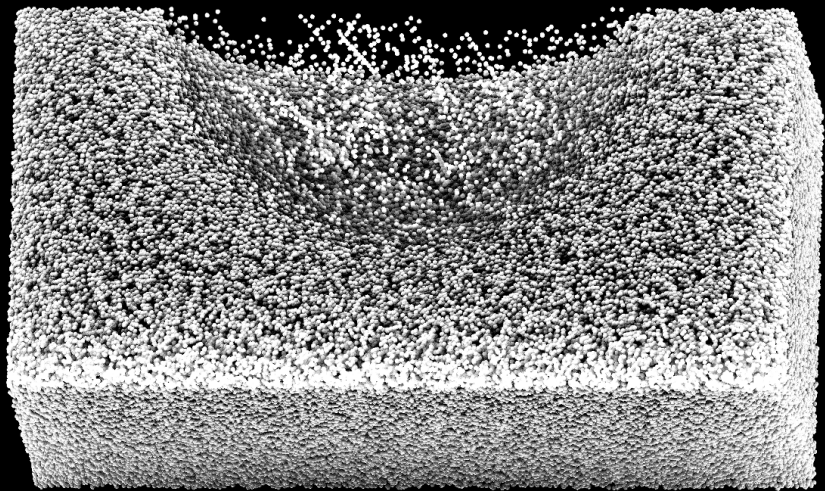
PointAO
32FPS



Phong
30FPS



SSAO
19FPS



PointAO

12FPS



Results — Features

- Greatly improved structural and spatial perception
- Simultaneous depiction of local and global structures
- Renders in real time without pre-computation
- Consistency under modification and interaction



Results — Limitations

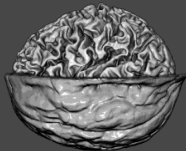
- Not suited for coarse data
- Does not work for two dimensional and quasi two dimensional data



Future Work

- Combination with other visualization paradigms

Thank You!
Questions?



OpenWalnut
Visualization in a Nutshell





Details – Math

$$\text{PointAO}_{s_r, s_h, r_0}(P) = \sum_{j=0}^{s_r-1} \text{AO}_{s_h, j}(P, \frac{1}{1-d(P)} * z(P) * (j^2 + j * r_0))$$

$$\text{AO}_{s, l}(P, r) = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{i=1}^s [(1 - V(r\omega_i, P)) g_l(r\omega_i, P)]$$

$$V(\omega, P) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } d(P) - d(P + \omega) < 0 \\ 0 & \text{else,} \end{cases}$$

$$g_l(\omega, P) = g_l^{\text{depth}}(\omega, P) \cdot g^{\text{light}}(\omega, P)$$

$$\Delta d_l(\omega, P) = d(P) - d(P + \omega) \in [-1, 1]$$

$$\delta(l) = \left(1 - \frac{l}{s_r}\right)^2 \in (0, 1]$$

$$h(x) = 3x^2 - 2x^3, \forall x \in [0, 1] : h(x) \in [0, 1]$$

$$g_l^{\text{depth}}(\omega, P) =$$

$$\begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \Delta d(\omega, P) > \delta(l) \\ 1, & \text{if } \Delta d(\omega, P) < \delta_0 \\ 1 - h\left(\frac{d(\omega, P) - \delta_0}{\delta(l) - \delta_0}\right), & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

$$g^{\text{light}}(\omega, P) = 1 - \langle \omega, n(P) \rangle$$

- **Scale radius** according to depth of pixel.
- Weight each occluder with $g(r\omega_i, P)$
- Classify and weight according to **distance and used hemisphere**
- Incorporate **local light** to retain shape of rendered objects (especially useful for glyphs)



LineAO vs. PointAO

- Sampling Scheme
 - No Gaussian pyramid
 - No reduction of samples

→ more details



LineAO vs. PointAO

- Radius Scaling
 - No linear scaling
 - Instead: $\frac{1}{1-d_j(P)} * z(P) * (j^2 + j * r_0)$
 - include depth of pixel
 - more near pixels use smaller sampling radii for more detail
 - far away pixels use larger sampling radii for smooth shadows when behind others
 - = darken holes/cracks



LineAO vs. PointAO

- Weighting Function
 - Ignore scattered light of far away occluders
 - Instead: use local BRDF to emphasize shape
 - Retains shape of glyphs