

ReSTIR Subsurface Scattering for Real-Time Path Tracing

Mirco Werner, Vincent Schüßler, and Carsten Dachsbacher

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Surface Light Transport vs. Subsurface Scattering (SSS)

Surface Light Transport vs. Subsurface Scattering (SSS)

smooth shadows

Surface Light Transport vs. Subsurface Scattering (SSS)

smooth

appearance

• $f(\boldsymbol{x}) \propto R_d(r) \cdot L(\boldsymbol{x}_3)$

• BSSRDF importance sampling [King et al. 2013]

• additional source of variance

reference

ReSTIR Subsurface Scattering (ReSTIR SSS)

reference

ReSTIR SSS (1 spp)

- ReSTIR [Bitterli et al. 2020]
	- **reuse samples by sharing across pixels and frames**

Spatiotemporal reservoir resampling for real-time ray tracing with dynamic direct lighting

BENEDIKT BITTERLI, Dartmouth College CHRIS WYMAN, NVIDIA MATT PHARR, NVIDIA PETER SHIRLEY, NVIDIA **AARON LEFOHN, NVIDIA WOJCIECH JAROSZ, Dartmouth College**

Fig. 1. Two complex scenes ray traced with direct lighting from many dynamic lights. (Left) A still from the Zrmo DAY video [Winkelm in 2015] with 11,000 dynamic emissive triangles. (Right) A view of one ride in an AMUSEMENT PARK scene containing 3.4 million dynamic emissive triangles. Both images show three methods running in equal time on a modern GPU, from left to right: Moreau et al. [2019]'s efficient light-sampling BVH, our new unbiased estimator, and our new biased estimator. The ZERO DAY image is rendered in 15 ms and AMUSEMENT PARK in 50 ms, both at 1920 x 1080 resolution. ZERO DAY @beeple, Pirate Ship Osema edis

Efficiently rendering direct lighting from millions of dynamic light sources light samples and apply further spatial and temporal resampling to leverage using Monte Carlo integration remains a challenging problem, even for information from relevant nearby samples. We derive an unbiased Monte
off-line rendering systems. We introduce a new algorithm--ReSTIR-that Carlo estima renders such lighting interactively, at high quality, and without needing to $\,$ maintain complex data structures. We repeatedly resample a set of candidate

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6x-60x faster than state-of-the-art methods. A biased estimator reduces noise further and is 35x-65x faster, at the cost of some energy loss. We implemented our approach on the GPU, rendering complex scenes containing
up to 3.4 million dynamic, emissive triangles in under 50 ms per frame while

importance sampling, real-time rendering, reservoir sampling

ACM Reference Format:

Benedikt Bitterli, Chris Wyman, Matt Pharr, Peter Shirley, Aaron Lefohn, and Wojciech Jarosz. 2020. Spatiotemporal reservoir resampling for real-time ray tracing with dynamic direct lighting. ACM Trans. Graph. 39, 4, Article 148 (July 2020), 17 pages. https://doi.org/10.1145/3386569.33

ACM Trans. Graph., Vol. 39, No. 4, Article 148. Publication date: July 2020.

- ReSTIR [Bitterli et al. 2020]
	- **Figure 3** reuse samples by sharing across pixels and frames

- why ReSTIR SSS? why not use...
	- ReSTIR GI [Ouyang et al. 2021] or
	- ReSTIR PT [Lin et al. 2022]?

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ReSTIR GI: Path Resampling for Real-Time Path Tracing

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¹ NVIDIA Corporation, Santa Clara, CA, USA

Figur 3090 R

resamp This is paths.

Generalized Resampled Importance Sampling: Foundations of ReSTIR

DAQI LIN', University of Utah, USA MARKUS KETTUNEN', NVIDIA, Finland **BENEDIKT BITTERLI, NVIDIA, USA** JACOPO PANTALEONI, NVIDIA, Germany CEM YUKSEL, University of Utah, USA **CHRIS WYMAN, NVIDIA, USA**

1. Intr

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Fig. 1. Our new generalized resampled importance sampling (GRIS) theory extends resampled importance sampling [Talbot 2005] to guarante convergence even when applied to correlated samples arising from spatiotemporal reuse (i.e., Bitterli et al. [2020]). GRIS allows applying ReSTIR to reuse arbitrary paths, shown with paths of length 10 in the CAROUSEL and PARIS OPERA HOUSE. Main images compare naive path tracing and our new ReSTIR PT in equal time (80 ms at 1920 × 1080). Insets show equal-time path tracing, ReSTIR GI (Ouyang et al. 2021), our ReSTIR PT, plus a converged reference. We significantly improve quality for glossy interreflection, reflections, refractions, and other high-frequency lighting. For CAROUSEL, MAPE errors: path tracing (1.63), ReSTIR GI (0.45), and ReSTIR PT (0.39). Corresponding errors in Overa House: 1.28, 0.39, and 0.33. (CAROUSEL @carousel_world; PARIS OPERA HOUSE courtesy @GoldSmooth from TurboSquid.)

As scenes become ever more complex and real-time applications embrace ray tracing, path sampling algorithms that maximize quality at low sample ints become vital. Recent resampling algorithms building on Talbot et al.'s [2005] resampled importance sampling (RIS) reuse paths spatiotemporally to render surprisingly complex light transport with a few samples per pixel These reservoir-based spatiotemporal importance resamplers (ReSTIR) and their underlying RIS theory make various assumptions, including sample $\,$ independence. But sample reuse introduces correlation, so ReSTIR-style iterative reuse loses most convergence guarantees that RIS theoretically provides.

We introduce generalized resampled importance sampling (GRIS) to extend the theory, allowing RIS on correlated samples, with unknown PDFs Joint first authors; equal contribution.

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and taken from varied domains. This solidifies the theoretical foundat allowing us to derive variance bounds and convergence conditions in ReSTIRbased samplers. It also guides practical algorithm design and enables advanced path reuse between pixels via complex shift mappings.

We show a path-traced resampler (ReSTIR PT) running interactively or complex scenes, capturing many-bounce diffuse and specular lighting while ding just one path per pixel. With our new theoretical foun ation, we can also modify the algorithm to guarantee convergence for offline renderers.

CCS Concepts: \cdot Computing methodologies \rightarrow Rendering.

ACM Reference Format:

Dagi Lin, Markus Kettunen, Benedikt Bitterli, Jacopo Pantaleoni, Cem Yuksel, and Chris Wyman. 2022. Generalized Resampled Importance Sampling Foundations of ReSTIR. ACM Trans. Graph. 41, 4, Article 75 (July 2022) 23 pages. https://doi.org/10.1145/3528223.3530158

1 INTRODUCTION

Monte Carlo algorithms form the core of modern rendering. While originally only feasible in offline renderers, ray-tracing hardware [Kilgariff et al. 2018] has made such algorithms practical in realtime systems as well. However, strict real-time constraints in games limit feasible per-frame ray counts [Halen et al. 2021], giving many modern real-time path tracers budgets of at most one path per pixel Importance sampling reduces variance at low sample counts by

- ReSTIR [Bitterli et al. 2020]
	- **reuse samples by sharing across pixels and frames**

- why ReSTIR SSS? why not use...
	- ReSTIR GI [Ouyang et al. 2021] or
	- ReSTIR PT [Lin et al. 2022]?

- sampling of surface vs. subsurface light transport paths
- specialized techniques for reusing paths

ReSTIR Subsurface Scattering for Real-Time Path Tracing

MIRCO WERNER, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany VINCENT SCHÜSSLER, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany CARSTEN DACHSBACHER, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany

Fig. 1. A dragon with a material that exhibits noticeable subsurface scattering. We apply ReSTIR for subsurface scattering using our hybrid and sequential shift in real-time path tracing to significantly reduce noise and denoising artifacts in regions with visible scattered light.

Subsurface scattering is an important visual cue and in real-time rendering it is often approximated using screen-space algorithms. Path tracing with the diffusion approximation can easily overcome the limitations of these algorithms, but increases image noise. We improve its efficiency by applying reservoir-based spatiotemporal importance resampling (ReSTIR) to subsurface light transport paths. For this, we adopt BSSRDF importance sampling for generating candidates. Further, spatiotemporal reuse requires shifting paths between domains. We observe that different image regions benefit most from either reconnecting through the translucent object (reconnection shift), or one vertex later (delayed reconnection shift). We first introduce a local subsurface scattering specific criterion for a hybrid shift that deterministically selects one of the two shifts for a path. Due to the locality, it cannot always choose the most efficient shift, e.g. near shadow boundaries. Therefore, we additionally propose a novel sequential shift to combine multiple shift mappings: We execute subsequent resampling passes, each one using a different shift, which does not require to deterministically choose a shift for a path. Instead, resampling can pick the most successful shift implicitly. Our method achieves realtime performance and significantly reduces noise and denoising artifacts in regions with visible subsurface scattering compared to standard path tracing with equal render time.

CCS Concepts: \cdot Computing methodologies \rightarrow Ray tracing.

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candidate generation

21

23

candidate generation*

*more details in the paper

candidate generation*

*more details in the paper

ability to shift paths

candidate generation*

*more details in the paper

ability to shift paths

 $T([x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3]$

 $T([x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [y_0, y_1, \quad \, , \quad \,]$

reconnection

 $T([x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [y_0, y_1, x_2, x_3]$

reconnection

 $T([x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [y_0, y_1, x_2, x_3] \qquad \qquad T([x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [y_0, y_1, \quad , \quad]$

reconnection delayed reconnection

 $T([x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [y_0, y_1, x_2, x_3] \qquad \qquad T([x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [y_0, y_1, y_2, \quad]$

reconnection delayed reconnection (random replay)

 $T([x_0,x_1,x_2,x_3])=[y_0,y_1,x_2,x_3] \hspace{.5in} T([x_0,x_1,x_2,x_3])=[y_0,y_1,y_2,x_3]$

reconnection delayed reconnection (random replay + reconnection)

• need to combine both shifts!

Advanced Shift Strategies (I) Hybrid Shift

- choose either x_2 or x_3 for reconnection
	- **deterministic criterion**

reconnection

delayed reconnection

- choose either x_2 or x_3 for reconnection
	- **deterministic criterion**
- idea: separate regions
	- **Shadowed (visible SSS)**
	- **Illuminated**

reconnection

delayed reconnection

- choose either x_2 or x_3 for reconnection
	- **deterministic criterion**
- idea: separate regions
	- shadowed (visible SSS)
	- **Illuminated**

our criterion: reconnect $\boldsymbol{y}_1 \rightarrow \boldsymbol{x}_2$ if $||\bm{x}_2 - \bm{y}_1|| \geq \kappa_{\text{distance}}$

- choose either x_2 or x_3 for reconnection
	- **deterministic criterion**
- idea: separate regions
	- shadowed (visible SSS)
	- **Illuminated**

our criterion: reconnect $\boldsymbol{y}_1 \rightarrow \boldsymbol{x}_2$ if

$$
\textcolor{gray}{\textbf{-.} \quad \textbf{.}} \hspace{.2cm} ||\textbf{\textit{x}}_2 - \textbf{\textit{y}}_1|| \geq \kappa_{\text{distance}} \hspace{.2cm} \text{ or } \hspace{.2cm}
$$

n^x ⋅ ² *ny*¹ ≤ *κ*orientation

- choose either x_2 or x_3 for reconnection
	- **deterministic criterion**
- idea: separate regions
	- shadowed (visible SSS)
	- **Illuminated**

- our criterion: reconnect $\boldsymbol{y}_1 \rightarrow \boldsymbol{x}_2$ if
	- or $||\bm{x}_2 - \bm{y}_1|| \geq \kappa_{\text{distance}}$
	- $\boldsymbol{n_{x_2}}\cdot\boldsymbol{n_{y_1}} \leq \kappa_{\text{orientation}}$
- otherwise random replay and reonnect $\boldsymbol{y}_2\rightarrow\boldsymbol{x}_3$

(image from [Lin et al. 2022])

similar to ReSTIR PT's hybrid shift [Lin et al. 2022]

hybrid

hybrid

hybrid

denoised

denoised

denoised

Advanced Shift Strategies (II) Sequential Shift

candidate generation entitled temporal reuse spatial reuse spatial reuse (either reconnection or delayed reconnection)

ReSTIR SSS: Hybrid Shift

ReSTIR SSS: Sequential Shift

(reconnection)

- try to shift a certain sample with both shifts
-

spatial reuse (delayed reconnection)

1. spatial reuse (reconnection)

1. spatial reuse (reconnection)

- 1. spatial reuse (reconnection)
- 2. spatial reuse (delayed reconnection)

- 1. spatial reuse (reconnection)
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- 1. spatial reuse (reconnection)
- 2. spatial reuse (delayed reconnection)

how do we obtain $\bm{u}_{1}^{\bm{y}}?$ *y*

- 1. spatial reuse (reconnection)
- 2. spatial reuse (delayed reconnection)

- 1. spatial reuse (reconnection)
- 2. spatial reuse (delayed reconnection)

- how do we obtain $\bm{u}_{1}^{\bm{y}}?$ *y*
- can we just invert $\hat{S_{\boldsymbol{y}_1}}(\boldsymbol{u}_1^{\boldsymbol{y}}) = \boldsymbol{x}_2$, i.e. $S_{\boldsymbol{y}_1}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{x}_2) = \boldsymbol{u}_1^{\boldsymbol{y}_2}$ *y*

usually not invertible

(image from [Bitterli et al. 2017])

- usually not invertible
	- **different "techniques" can generate the** same sample
	- **Exerche incontracts: BSDF lobe, projection axis,** channel of diffusion profile, etc.

(image from [Bitterli et al. 2017])

define *extended path space* $\mathcal{P}\times[0,1]^m$ [Bitterli et al. 2017]

(image from [Bitterli et al. 2017])

- define *extended path space* $\mathcal{P}\times[0,1]^m$ [Bitterli et al. 2017]
- obtain extra dimension (technique) using *probabilistic inversion* [Bitterli et al. 2017]
	- **draw independent random numbers**
	- **Sample technique based on the** techniques' likelihoods

(image from [Bitterli et al. 2017])

- define *extended path space* $\mathcal{P}\times[0,1]^m$ [Bitterli et al. 2017]
- obtain extra dimension (technique) using *probabilistic inversion* [Bitterli et al. 2017]
	- **draw independent random numbers**
	- sample technique based on the techniques' likelihoods
- applicable to ReSTIR (SSS)

- define *extended path space* $\mathcal{P}\times[0,1]^m$ [Bitterli et al. 2017]
- obtain extra dimension (technique) using *probabilistic inversion* [Bitterli et al. 2017]
	- **draw independent random numbers**
	- sample technique based on the techniques' likelihoods
- applicable to ReSTIR (SSS)
	- **Solves our problem with the sequential** shift (obtaining $\bm{u}_{1}^{\bm{y}})$ *y*

denoised

Results

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denoised NVIDIA OptiX[™]

path tracing (1 spp)

reference

ReSTIR SSS (1 spp)

reference

1 spp

hybrid sequential

reference

1 spp

hybrid sequential 12 spp

ReSTIR SSS: Results

ReSTIR SSS: Results

• ReSTIR SSS significantly reduces noise...

• ReSTIR SSS significantly reduces noise...

by using our hybrid

• ReSTIR SSS significantly reduces noise...

- **by using our hybrid**
- **or sequential shifting strategies**

- ReSTIR SSS significantly reduces noise...
	- **by using our hybrid**
	- **or sequential shifting strategies**

- better quality after denoising...
	- **due to better sampling**

- ReSTIR SSS significantly reduces noise...
	- **by using our hybrid**
	- **or sequential shifting strategies**

- better quality after denoising...
	- **due to better sampling**

Thank you!

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