

# Supplemental Document for ReSTIR BDPT

TREVOR HEDSTROM, University of California San Diego, USA

MARKUS KETTUNEN, NVIDIA, Finland

DAQI LIN, NVIDIA, USA

CHRIS WYMAN, NVIDIA, USA

TZU-MAO LI, University of California San Diego, USA

## ACM Reference Format:

Trevor Hedstrom, Markus Kettunen, Daqi Lin, Chris Wyman, and Tzu-Mao Li. 2025. Supplemental Document for ReSTIR BDPT. *ACM Trans. Graph.* 0, 0, Article 0 (2025), 5 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/nnnnnnn.nnnnnnn>

## 1 RECURSIVE MIS WEIGHTS FOR RECONNECTION

In this section, we derive a formula for Georgiev et al.; van Antwerpen’s [2012; 2011] recursive MIS weights that is more suitable for our ReSTIR BDPT algorithm. We first prove a non-recursive form for Equation 6; that will be Equation 7. Then, we present new cached quantities accessible during our path sampling and reuse (Section 1.4), and give Equation 6 a new expression using these quantities (Section 1.5).

### 1.1 Notation

The quantity  $\vec{p}_i$  denotes the area-measure probability density of sampling the vertex  $x_i$  from the vertex  $x_{i-1}$  while tracing from the camera. Similarly, the quantity  $\overleftarrow{p}_i$  denotes the area-measure probability density of sampling vertex  $x_i$  from the vertex  $x_{i+1}$  while tracing from the light. The area-measure densities are calculated using the geometry terms as

$$\vec{p}_i = \vec{p}_i^\sigma \cdot \vec{g}_i \quad (1)$$

$$\overleftarrow{p}_i = \overleftarrow{p}_i^\sigma \cdot \overleftarrow{g}_i, \quad (2)$$

where

$$\vec{p}_i^\sigma = \begin{cases} p^\sigma(x_{i-2} \rightarrow x_{i-1} \rightarrow x_i) & x_{i-1} \text{ nondelta} \\ p^{\text{delta}}(x_{i-1} \rightarrow x_i) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

$$\overleftarrow{p}_i^\sigma = \begin{cases} p^\sigma(x_{i+2} \rightarrow x_{i+1} \rightarrow x_i) & x_{i+1} \text{ nondelta} \\ p^{\text{delta}}(x_{i+1} \rightarrow x_i) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Here,  $p^\sigma(x \rightarrow x' \rightarrow x'')$  is the solid-angle probability density of sampling the vertex  $x''$  from  $x'$ , following Veach’s three-point notation [Veach 1997], and  $p^{\text{delta}}$  is the probability of selecting the delta component of the material, or 1 for a delta-only material.

Authors’ addresses: Trevor Hedstrom, University of California San Diego, USA, [tjhedstr@ucsd.edu](mailto:tjhedstr@ucsd.edu); Markus Kettunen, NVIDIA, Finland, [mktettunen@nvidia.com](mailto:mktettunen@nvidia.com); Daqi Lin, NVIDIA, USA, [daqil@nvidia.com](mailto:daqil@nvidia.com); Chris Wyman, NVIDIA, USA, [chris.wyman@acm.org](mailto:chris.wyman@acm.org); Tzu-Mao Li, University of California San Diego, USA, [tzli@ucsd.edu](mailto:tzli@ucsd.edu).

Permission to make digital or hard copies of all or part of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. Copyrights for components of this work owned by others than ACM must be honored. Abstracting with credit is permitted. To copy otherwise, or republish, to post on servers or to redistribute to lists, requires prior specific permission and/or a fee. Request permissions from [permissions@acm.org](mailto:permissions@acm.org).

© 2025 Association for Computing Machinery.

0730-0301/2025/0-ART0 \$15.00

<https://doi.org/10.1145/nnnnnnn.nnnnnnn>

This formulation allows us to manipulate the  $\vec{p}_i$  and  $\overleftarrow{p}_i$  quantities without separate cases for delta PDFs, since  $\vec{p}_i^\sigma$  and  $\overleftarrow{p}_i^\sigma$  do not contain deltas.

### 1.2 Recursive MIS weights

The recursive MIS algorithm computes recursive *partial MIS quantities* at each subpath vertex. For camera subpaths, these quantities are computed with

$$d_i^p = [x_{i-1} \text{ nondelta}] \left( \frac{1}{\vec{p}_i} \right)^\beta, \quad (5)$$

$$d_i^{\text{VC}} = \left( \frac{\overleftarrow{g}_{i-1}}{\overleftarrow{p}_i} \right)^\beta \left( [x_{i-1} \text{ nondelta}] d_{i-1}^p + \left( \overleftarrow{p}_{i-2}^\sigma \right)^\beta d_{i-1}^{\text{VC}} \right). \quad (6)$$

where the bracket notation evaluates to 1 if the expression inside the bracket is true, or 0 otherwise. These quantities are computed and stored with the camera subpath  $\bar{z}$ . The full MIS weight  $\omega_{s,t}$  is then recovered using the recursive quantities from the camera and light subpath endpoints  $y_{s-1}$  and  $z_{t-1}$  as described in Section 6.1.

After reconnecting to the reconnection vertex  $z_r$ , we can compute  $d_r^p$  and  $d_r^{\text{VC}}$  using Equation 5 and Equation 6. In order to compute the full MIS weight, we require  $d_{t-1}^p$  and  $d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$  from the end of the camera subpath, which can be an arbitrary number of vertices after the reconnection vertex  $z_r$ . Calculating  $d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$  using Equation 6 requires visiting all vertices between  $z_r$  and  $z_{t-1}$ . Instead, we derive an algorithm to compute the recursive quantity  $d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$  from  $d_r^{\text{VC}}$ , without visiting vertices between  $z_r$  and  $z_{t-1}$ .

### 1.3 Non-recursive $d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$

We first prove a non-recursive expression for  $d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$ . We define

$$\tilde{d}_{r+n}^{\text{VC}} = \left( \frac{\overleftarrow{g}_{r+n-1}}{\overleftarrow{p}_{r+n}} \right)^\beta \left( \sum_{i=r}^{r+n-1} [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^p \prod_{j=i}^{r+n-2} \left( \frac{\overleftarrow{p}_j}{\overleftarrow{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta + \left( \overleftarrow{p}_{r-1}^\sigma \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{r+n-2} \left( \frac{\overleftarrow{p}_i}{\overleftarrow{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right), \quad (7)$$

where  $n = t-1-r$  counts the number of camera subpath vertices after the reconnection vertex, and prove by induction that  $\tilde{d}_{r+n}^{\text{VC}} = d_{r+n}^{\text{VC}}$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

#### 1.3.1 Proof.

Case  $n = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{d}_{r+1}^{\text{VC}} &= \left( \frac{\bar{g}_r}{\bar{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \left( \sum_{i=r}^r [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^p \prod_{j=i}^{r-1} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_j}{\bar{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{r-1} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_i}{\bar{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right) \\
&= \left( \frac{\bar{g}_r}{\bar{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \left( [x_r \text{ nondelta}] d_r^p \prod_{j=r}^{r-1} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_j}{\bar{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \right) \\
&= \left( \frac{\bar{g}_r}{\bar{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \left( [x_r \text{ nondelta}] d_r^p + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \right) \\
&= \bar{d}_{r+1}^{\text{VC}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Case  $n = k + 1$ . We start with the non-recursive form of  $d_{r+k+1}^{\text{VC}}$ ,

$$d_{r+k+1}^{\text{VC}} = \left( \frac{\bar{g}_{r+k}}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta \left( [x_{r+k} \text{ nondelta}] d_{r+k}^p + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r+k-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta d_{r+k}^{\text{VC}} \right).$$

Then, assuming  $d_{r+k}^{\text{VC}} = \bar{d}_{r+k}^{\text{VC}}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
d_{r+k+1}^{\text{VC}} &= \left( \frac{\bar{g}_{r+k}}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta \left( [x_{r+k} \text{ nondelta}] d_{r+k}^p \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r+k-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta \left( \frac{\bar{g}_{r+k-1}}{\bar{p}_{r+k}} \right)^\beta \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left( \sum_{i=r}^{r+k-1} [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^p \prod_{j=i}^{r+k-2} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_j}{\bar{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{r+k-2} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_i}{\bar{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

We simplify  $\frac{\bar{p}_{r+k-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \cdot \frac{\bar{g}_{r+k-1}}{\bar{p}_{r+k}} = \frac{\bar{p}_{r+k-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}}$  by Equation 2 to get

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left( \frac{\bar{g}_{r+k}}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta \left( [x_{r+k} \text{ nondelta}] d_{r+k}^p \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r+k-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta \sum_{i=r}^{r+k-1} [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^p \prod_{j=i}^{r+k-2} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_j}{\bar{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r+k-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{r+k-2} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_i}{\bar{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right)
\end{aligned}$$

We now move the ratio  $\left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r+k-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta$  into the products, which increases their upper bound to  $r + k - 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left( \frac{\bar{g}_{r+k}}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta \left( [x_{r+k} \text{ nondelta}] d_{r+k}^p \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \sum_{i=r}^{r+k-1} [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^p \prod_{j=i}^{r+k-1} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_j}{\bar{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{r+k-1} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_i}{\bar{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Next, we move the term  $[x_{r+k} \text{ nondelta}] d_{r+k}^p$  into the sum, which increases its upper bound to  $r + k$ . This is possible because the product is empty for  $j = r + k$ , yielding

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left( \frac{\bar{g}_{r+k}}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta \left( \sum_{i=r}^{r+k} [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^p \prod_{j=i}^{r+k-1} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_j}{\bar{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+k+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{r+k-1} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_i}{\bar{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right) \\
&= \bar{d}_{r+k+1}^{\text{VC}}.
\end{aligned}$$

#### 1.4 Additional quantities

Our algorithm works by computing and storing these extra quantities when the camera subpath is first sampled:

$$\bar{\gamma} = \left( \frac{\bar{g}_{t-2}}{\bar{p}_{t-1}} \right)^\beta, \quad (8)$$

$$\bar{\lambda}^{\text{VC}} = \left( \frac{\bar{p}_r}{\bar{g}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \prod_{i=r+1}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_i}{\bar{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta, \quad (9)$$

$$\bar{\lambda}^p = [x_{r+1} \text{ nondelta}] \prod_{i=r+1}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_i}{\bar{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta, \quad (10)$$

$$\bar{\sigma} = \sum_{i=r+2}^{t-2} [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^p \prod_{j=i}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_j}{\bar{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta. \quad (11)$$

Next, we give a new formula for  $d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$  using these cached quantities.

#### 1.5 Computing $d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$

Case  $r = t - 1$ . If the reconnection vertex is the last vertex on the camera subpath, then Equation 6 can be evaluated directly.

Case  $r = t - 2$ . If the reconnection vertex is the second-to-last vertex on the camera subpath, we rewrite Equation 6 using Equation 1 to separate the geometry term in the denominator:

$$d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}} = \left( \frac{\bar{g}_r}{\bar{p}_{r+1}^\sigma \bar{g}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \left( d_r^p + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \right), \quad (12)$$

In this case,  $[x_r \text{ nondelta}]$  is always 1 since  $x_r$  must be nondelta for reconnection to occur. The quantities  $\bar{p}_{r+1}^\sigma$ ,  $d_r^p$ , and  $\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma$  are computed during reconnection, and the remaining quantities are cached during initial sampling.

Case  $r < t - 2$ . If the reconnection vertex is before the second-to-last vertex on the camera subpath, we rewrite Equation 6 using eqs. (8) to (11)

$$\begin{aligned}
d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}} &= \bar{\gamma} \left( \left( \frac{1}{\bar{p}_{r+1}^\sigma} \right)^\beta \bar{\lambda}^{\text{VC}} \left( d_r^p + \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{r-1}^\sigma}{\bar{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left( \frac{1}{\bar{p}_{r+1}^\sigma} \right)^\beta \left( \frac{1}{\bar{g}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \bar{\lambda}^p + \bar{\sigma} \right)
\end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

which we prove equal to  $\bar{d}_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$  in the following.

**1.5.1 Proof.** We start by substituting  $\bar{\lambda}^{\text{VC}}$  from Equation 9 into Equation 13:

$$d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}} = \bar{y} \left( \left( \frac{1}{\vec{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \left[ \left( \frac{\vec{p}_r}{\vec{g}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \prod_{i=r+1}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right] \left( d_r^{\text{p}} + \left( \vec{p}_{r-1}^\sigma \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{\vec{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \left( \frac{1}{\vec{g}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \bar{\lambda}^{\text{p}} + \bar{\sigma} \right).$$

Combining factors and substituting  $\vec{p}_{r+1}^\sigma \cdot \vec{g}_{r+1} = \vec{p}_{r+1}$  by Equation 1 yields

$$= \bar{y} \left( \left( \frac{\vec{p}_r}{\vec{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta \left( \prod_{i=r+1}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right) \left( d_r^{\text{p}} + \left( \vec{p}_{r-1}^\sigma \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \right) + \frac{1}{\left( \vec{p}_{r+1} \right)^\beta} \bar{\lambda}^{\text{p}} + \bar{\sigma} \right).$$

We merge the ratio  $\left( \frac{\vec{p}_r}{\vec{p}_{r+1}} \right)^\beta$  into the product as  $i = r$ , giving

$$= \bar{y} \left( \left( \prod_{i=r}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right) \left( d_r^{\text{p}} + \left( \vec{p}_{r-1}^\sigma \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \right) + \frac{1}{\left( \vec{p}_{r+1} \right)^\beta} \bar{\lambda}^{\text{p}} + \bar{\sigma} \right).$$

Expanding the parentheses now yields

$$= \bar{y} \left( d_r^{\text{p}} \prod_{i=r}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta + \left( \vec{p}_{r-1}^\sigma \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta + \frac{1}{\left( \vec{p}_{r+1} \right)^\beta} \bar{\lambda}^{\text{p}} + \bar{\sigma} \right).$$

We now substitute  $\bar{y}$ ,  $\bar{\lambda}^{\text{p}}$ , and  $\bar{\sigma}$  (Equations 8, 10, 11) to reach

$$= \left( \frac{\vec{g}_{t-2}}{\vec{p}_{t-1}} \right)^\beta \left( d_r^{\text{p}} \prod_{i=r}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta + \left( \vec{p}_{r-1}^\sigma \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta + \frac{1}{\left( \vec{p}_{r+1} \right)^\beta} [x_{r+1} \text{ nondelta}] \prod_{i=r+1}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta + \sum_{i=r+2}^{t-2} [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^{\text{p}} \prod_{j=i}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_j}{\vec{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta \right).$$

Since the reconnection vertex  $x_r$  and its predecessor  $x_{r-1}$  must be non-delta for reconnection to occur, we have  $[x_r \text{ nondelta}] = 1$ , and the first term becomes

$$d_r^{\text{p}} \prod_{i=r}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta = [x_r \text{ nondelta}] d_r^{\text{p}} \prod_{j=r}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_j}{\vec{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta,$$

i.e., term  $i = r$  in the bottom sum. Similarly, we have by Equation 5

$$\frac{1}{\left( \vec{p}_{r+1} \right)^\beta} = [x_r \text{ nondelta}] \frac{1}{\left( \vec{p}_{r+1} \right)^\beta} = d_{r+1}^{\text{p}},$$

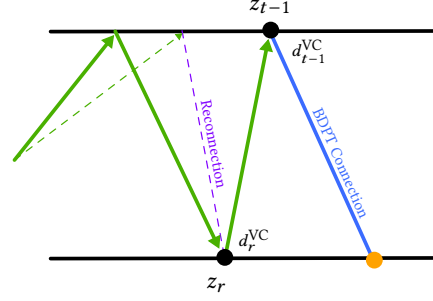


Fig. 1. If  $r = t - 2$ , we only need to advance  $d_r^{\text{VC}}$  by one bounce to recover  $d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}}$ .

so the middle term becomes term  $i = r + 1$  in the bottom sum. Hence, we reach

$$d_{t-1}^{\text{VC}} = \left( \frac{\vec{g}_{t-2}}{\vec{p}_{t-1}} \right)^\beta \left( \sum_{i=r}^{t-2} [x_i \text{ nondelta}] d_i^{\text{p}} \prod_{j=i}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_j}{\vec{p}_{j+1}} \right)^\beta + \left( \vec{p}_{r-1}^\sigma \right)^\beta d_r^{\text{VC}} \prod_{i=r}^{t-3} \left( \frac{\vec{p}_i}{\vec{p}_{i+1}} \right)^\beta \right) = \bar{d}_{r+n}^{\text{VC}} \text{ with } n = t - 1 - r.$$

## 2 BOUNDS ON ERROR FROM TECHNIQUE MIS REUSE

In the following, we show that the relative bias from reusing old samples' technique MIS weights is bounded by their relative error.

In our proposed method, we select an extended path  $\hat{Y} = (Y, \tau)$  with GRIS by resampling from  $M$  candidates  $\hat{X}_1, \dots, \hat{X}_M$ , with  $\hat{X}_i = (X_i, \tau_i)$ , according to resampling weights  $w_i$ . We then select a single candidate  $\hat{X}_z$  and shift it into the target domain with shift map  $T_z$ :

$$\hat{Y} = T_z(\hat{X}_z), \quad (14)$$

mapping  $X_z$  from its domain  $\Omega_z$  to the target  $\Omega$  with the shift mapping corresponding to its sampling technique  $\tau_z$ , retaining the sampling technique:

$$T_z(\hat{X}_z) = (T_{z, \tau_z}(X_z), \tau_z). \quad (15)$$

Once  $\hat{Y}$  is selected, the integral  $I$  is estimated using the MIS-weighted GRIS estimator  $\langle I \rangle$ :

$$\langle I \rangle = \omega_\tau(Y) f(Y) W_{\hat{Y}}. \quad (16)$$

If we modify the right side of Equation 16 to instead use the unshifted candidate's MIS weight  $\omega_\tau(X_z)$ , we form a new estimator

$$\begin{aligned} \langle I_{\text{biased}} \rangle &= \omega_\tau(X_z) f(Y) W_{\hat{Y}} \\ &= \omega_\tau(T_{z, \tau}^{-1}(Y)) f(Y) W_{\hat{Y}}. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

We first define the contribution error as the technique MIS weight error scaled by the integrand:

$$f_i^\Delta(\hat{Y}) = f(Y) \left| \omega_\tau(Y) - \omega_\tau(T_{i, \tau}^{-1}(Y)) \right|. \quad (18)$$

Now, we write the bias as the expectation of the difference of Equation 16 and Equation 17:

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{Bias}| &= |\mathbb{E}[\langle I \rangle - \langle I_{\text{biased}} \rangle]| \\ &= \left| \mathbb{E} \left[ \omega_{\tau}(Y) f(Y) W_{\hat{Y}} - \omega_{\tau} \left( T_{z,\tau}^{-1}(Y) \right) f(Y) W_{\hat{Y}} \right] \right| \\ &\leq \mathbb{E} \left[ \left| \omega_{\tau}(Y) - \omega_{\tau} \left( T_{z,\tau}^{-1}(Y) \right) \right| f(Y) W_{\hat{Y}} \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[ f_z^{\Delta}(\hat{Y}) W_{\hat{Y}} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

We write this as an expectation over the possible choices  $T_i(\hat{X}_i)$  for  $\hat{Y}$ , noting that the selection probability  $P_s(i) = 0$  if  $\hat{X}_i$  cannot be shifted with  $T_i$ . With

$$W_{\hat{Y}} = \frac{1}{\hat{p}(\hat{Y})} \sum_{i=1}^M w_i, \quad (20)$$

we reach  $|\text{Bias}|$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \sum_{i=1}^M \mathbb{E} \left[ f_i^{\Delta}(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) \left( \frac{1}{\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{X}_i))} \sum_{j=1}^M w_j \right) [P_s(i) > 0] P_s(i) \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^M \mathbb{E} \left[ f_i^{\Delta}(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) \left( \frac{1}{\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{X}_i))} \sum_{j=1}^M w_j \right) [P_s(i) > 0] \frac{w_i}{\sum_{j=1}^M w_j} \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^M \mathbb{E} \left[ [\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) > 0] f_i^{\Delta}(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) \frac{w_i}{\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{X}_i))} \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^M \mathbb{E} \left[ [\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) > 0] f_i^{\Delta}(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) \frac{m_i(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) \hat{p}(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) W_{\hat{X}_i} \left| \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial \hat{X}_i} \right|}{\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{X}_i))} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

On line 3, the bracket  $[\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{X}_i)) > 0]$  first requires that  $T_i(\hat{X}_i)$  is defined, i.e.,  $\hat{X}_i \in \text{Dom}(T_i)$ ; we leave this implicit for brevity. All summands are now of form  $\mathbb{E} \left[ g(\hat{X}_i) W_{\hat{X}_i} \right]$ , and by the definition of unbiased contribution weights, we write

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{\text{supp } \hat{X}_i} [\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{x})) > 0] f_i^{\Delta}(T_i(\hat{x})) m_i(T_i(\hat{x})) \left| \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial \hat{x}} \right| d\hat{x} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{\text{supp } \hat{X}_i \cap \text{Dom}(T_i)} [\hat{p}(T_i(\hat{x})) > 0] f_i^{\Delta}(T_i(\hat{x})) m_i(T_i(\hat{x})) \left| \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial \hat{x}} \right| d\hat{x}. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

The change of variables  $\hat{y} = T_i(\hat{x}_i)$  now yields

$$= \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{T_i(\text{supp } \hat{X}_i \cap \text{Dom}(T_i))} [\hat{p}(\hat{y}) > 0] f_i^{\Delta}(\hat{y}) m_i(\hat{y}) d\hat{y}, \quad (23)$$

which by exchanging the domain and the bracket is equivalent with

$$= \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{\text{supp } \hat{p}} [\hat{y} \in T_i(\text{supp } \hat{X}_i \cap \text{Dom}(T_i))] f_i^{\Delta}(\hat{y}) m_i(\hat{y}) d\hat{y}. \quad (24)$$

We now drop the bracket, since the resampling MIS weights  $m_i$  require  $m_i(\hat{y}) = 0$  if there exist no  $\hat{x} \in \text{supp } \hat{X}_i$  such that  $\hat{y} = T_i(\hat{x})$ . We reach

$$= \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{\text{supp } \hat{p}} f_i^{\Delta}(\hat{y}) m_i(\hat{y}) d\hat{y}. \quad (25)$$

Let us now assume the relative technique MIS weight error is smaller than some arbitrary  $\epsilon_{\omega}$ :

$$\left| \frac{\omega_{\tau}(\hat{y}) - \omega_{\tau}(T_{i,\tau}^{-1}(\hat{y}))}{\omega_{\tau}(\hat{y})} \right| \leq \epsilon_{\omega}, \quad (26)$$

where  $\hat{y} = (\bar{y}, \tau)$ . Continuing from Equation 25, we reach the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{Bias}| &\leq \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{\text{supp } \hat{p}} f_i^{\Delta}(\hat{y}) m_i(\hat{y}) d\hat{y} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{\text{supp } \hat{p}} \left( f(\bar{y}) \left| \omega_{\tau}(\bar{y}) - \omega_{\tau}(T_{i,\tau}^{-1}(\bar{y})) \right| \right) m_i(\hat{y}) d\hat{y} \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^M \int_{\text{supp } \hat{p}} \epsilon_{\omega} \omega_{\tau}(\bar{y}) f(\bar{y}) m_i(\hat{y}) d\hat{y} \\ &= \epsilon_{\omega} \int_{\text{supp } \hat{p}} \omega_{\tau}(\bar{y}) f(\bar{y}) \left( \sum_{i=1}^M m_i(\hat{y}) \right) d\hat{y}. \end{aligned}$$

Since the original estimator is unbiased, the MIS weights sum to 1, and we reach

$$\begin{aligned} &= \epsilon_{\omega} \int_{\text{supp } \hat{p}} \omega_{\tau}(\bar{y}) f(\bar{y}) d\hat{y} \\ &= \epsilon_{\omega} \mathbb{E}[\langle I \rangle] \\ &= \epsilon_{\omega} I, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$|\text{Bias}| \leq \epsilon_{\omega} I,$$

the relative bias from reusing technique MIS weights is bounded by their relative error.

### 3 DATA STRUCTURES

The Light Vertex Cache is a simple array of LightSubpathVertex structs:

```
struct LightSubpathVertex {
    SceneVertex y0
    PathVertex y_{s-1}
    float3 throughput
    float subpathPdf
    uint subpathSeed
    uint subpathId
    uint16_t numVertices
    uint16_t numBounces
    float d^{VC}
    float d^P
}
```

In our implementation, the PathVertex struct is 48 bytes as it contains information needed to fetch all shading and geometry data, while the SceneVertex struct is only 16 bytes as it only contains information needed to fetch geometry data. The full LightSubpathVertex struct is 112 bytes (including padding for alignment).

Our per-pixel path reservoir struct is shown below. Here, the MisEvalData struct is 84 bytes, containing all information required

```

struct PathReservoir {
    float          UCW
    float          confidenceWeight //  $c_i$ 
    uint          cameraSubpathSeed
    uint          cameraSubpathId
    uint8_t       bounces
    uint8_t       prefixBounces // Bounces before  $x_r$ 
    uint8_t       prefixDiffuseBounces
    uint8_t       flags // Caustic or non-caustic
    float3       pathF //  $f(\bar{x})$ 
    float        misWeight //  $\omega_\tau$ 
    float        prefixPdf //  $p(x_0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_r)$ 
    PathVertex   $x_r$  // Reconnection vertex
    float3       suffixF //  $f(x_r \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_{s+t-1})$ 
    float        suffixPdf //  $p(x_r \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_{s+t-1})$ 
    float        reconnectionCos //  $\left| n_r \cdot \frac{x_{r-1} - x_r}{\|x_{r-1} - x_r\|} \right|$ 
    float        reconnectionDist //  $\|x_{r-1} - x_r\|$ 
    float3       dirOut //  $\frac{x_{r+1} - x_r}{\|x_{r+1} - x_r\|}$ 
    SceneVertex  $y_0$ 
    uint        lightPathSeed
    uint        lightPathId
    float        lightPathPdf //  $p(y_0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow y_{s-1})$ 
    uint16_t    lightPathVertices
    uint16_t    lightPathDiffuseBounces
    MisEvalData cachedMisData
}

```

to compute  $\bar{w}_{s-1}$  and  $\bar{w}_{t-1}$ , which are used to compute the full MIS weight  $\omega_\tau$  (Equation 33 in the main text).

## REFERENCES

- Iliyan Georgiev, Jaroslav Krivánek, Tomáš Davidovič, and Philipp Slusallek. 2012. Light Transport Simulation with Vertex Connection and Merging. *ACM Transactions on Graphics (TOG)* 31, 6, Article 192 (Nov. 2012), 10 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/2366145.2366211>
- D. van Antwerpen. 2011. Recursive MIS Computation for Streaming BDPT on the GPU. (2011).
- Eric Veach. 1997. *Robust Monte Carlo Methods for Light Transport Simulation*. Ph.D. Dissertation.