

IMGD 3000: Basic Computer Graphics

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Overview

- Extremely over-simplified view of graphics (60 min)
- Purpose of Computer Graphics in a Game Engine
- Representations of Data
 - Geometry
 - Light
 - Maps
- Rendering
- Courses



Purpose

- A first look at:
 - Some kinds of graphical information games require
 - Discussion on why some simplifications are made
 - Free engines
 - Where to find out more
 - Some examples in games if we have time

Rendering Equation

$$L_o(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) = L_e(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) + \int_{\Omega} f_r(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \omega, \lambda, t) L_i(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \lambda, t) (-\omega' \cdot \mathbf{n}) d\omega'$$

- Games/Real Time rendering:
 - Find ways to simplify the rendering equation
 - Target ~30+ frames per second
- We will glance at a small portion of the devices used in making game images realistic or at least appealing.

Rendering Equation

Find the amount of light in some direction w to some point x on a surface.

The point x may itself emit light.

Integrate over the hemisphere surrounding the point x .

Incoming light for a direction w'

Lambert's Law

Consider, the material at point x may alter the reflected light in some way for different pairs of input and output directions.

Integrate with small solid angles.

$$L_o(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) = L_e(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) + \int_{\Omega} f_r(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \omega, \lambda, t) L_i(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \lambda, t) (-\omega' \cdot \mathbf{n}) d\omega'$$

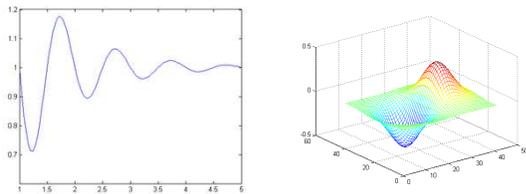
Some Representations of Data

- Following slides present objects that have the following attributes:
 - All are used in modern games/engines
 - Relatively quick and easy to compute
 - Can be fitted to real world data within some measure of accuracy
 - Cannot necessarily represent real world data exactly
 - For now consider the data to represent some solid object

$$L_o(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) = L_e(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) + \int_{\Omega} f_r(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \omega, \lambda, t) L_i(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \lambda, t) (-\omega' \cdot \mathbf{n}) d\omega'$$

Exact

- Use equations, parametric functions, etc.
- Can be evaluated at arbitrary degree of accuracy
- Remember that your graphics card has limited accuracy



Mesh

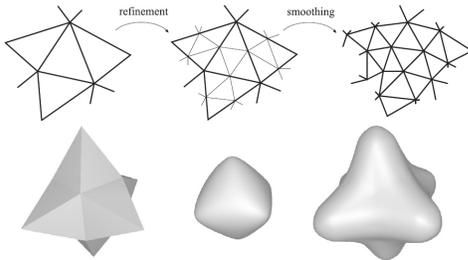
- Mesh: connected set of vertices
- Maintained as lists of connections and vertex locations



- Compact and malleable
- Used to establish boundaries in the game world

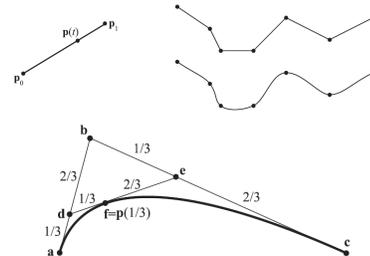
Subdivision Surface

- Insert new vertices and smooth



Spline

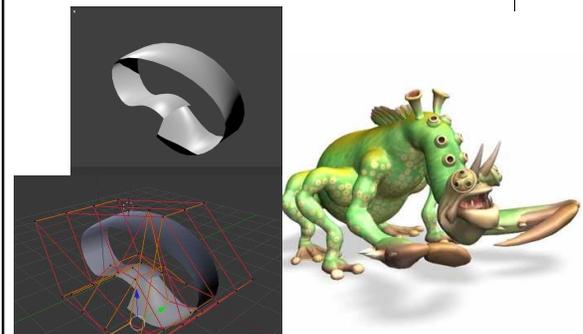
- Splines: interpolate around a set of control points
- Defined parametrically



NURBS / B-Spline

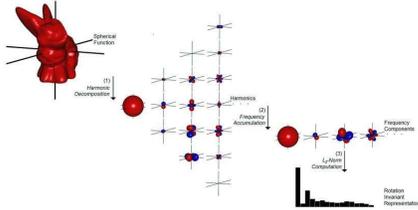
- NURBS/B-Splines
 - Local Editing
 - Transform Invariant
 - Control over continuity
 - Well defined derivatives, normals, position
 - Some editing techniques are expensive
 - Can represent conics
 - The NURBS Book

NURBS / B-Spline



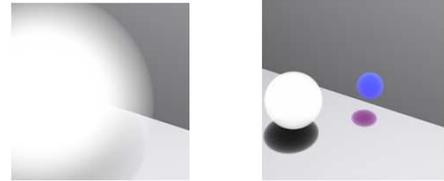
Frequency

- Decompose data into collection of equivalent scaled/modified basis functions
- Performance gain for certain operations
- Expensive to represent high detail objects



Radial Basis Function

- Decompose data into collection of equivalent scaled/modified basis functions at different centers
- Inexpensive
- Can model solid objects, dense objects, fog like media



Density Grid

- Density data contained in a 3D grid
- Many ways to render



Rendered with PBRT

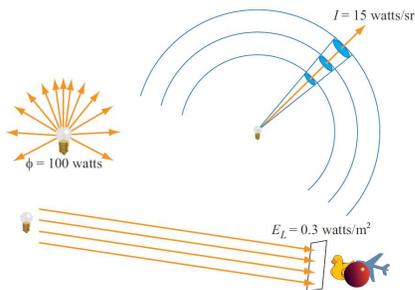
Light Models

- Different ways of representing light sources of different shape and distance from rendering area.
- Shape can be defined with previously mentioned representations
- Simplified model of light used to allow faster rendering

$$L_o(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) = L_e(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) + \int_{\Omega} f_r(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \omega, \lambda, t) L_i(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \lambda, t) (-\omega' \cdot \mathbf{n}) d\omega'$$

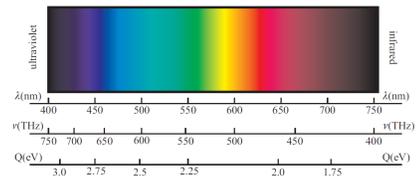
The diagram shows three yellow arrows representing light rays hitting a surface. The first arrow is reflected, the second is refracted, and the third is absorbed. The equation below represents the light model.

Measure of Energy



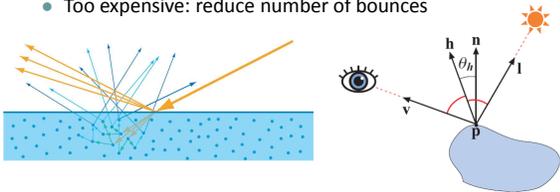
Light

- Typical Simplifying Assumptions:
 - Unpolarized
 - Sample few wavelengths
 - Speed is not considered (considered with refraction)
 - Other assumptions where appropriate



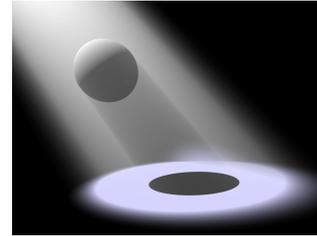
Propagation of Light

- Rays of light will reflect and refract depending on the nature of the object they hit
- More rays produced, each go on to reflect and refract off other surfaces
- Too expensive: reduce number of bounces



Spot + Directional

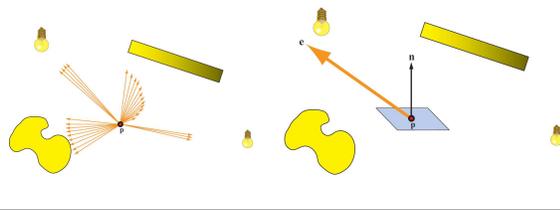
- Light originates at a point or a infinite plane and moves in a direction (all rays in directional case are parallel)



Spot Lighting PBRT: Not Real Time

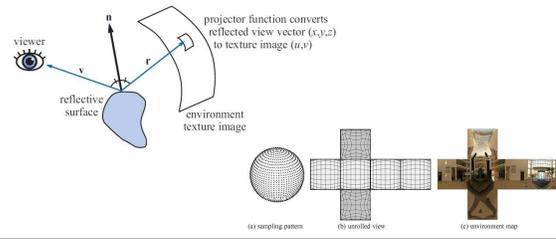
Area Lighting

- Light originates from many locations on a surface
- Many surfaces too complicated to integrate directly
- Sample or average to increase frame rate



Environment Lighting

- Light originates from many locations on a surface
- Many surfaces too complicated to integrate directly
- Sample or average to increase frame rate



Mappings

- OpenGL DirectX support 2D + 3D textures
- Textures can be used to map information to other objects in ways that can improve rendering efficiency.
 - Require the mapped-to object to store map coordinates
- They can be viewed as objects themselves:
 - Vertex/index data can be written to texture
 - Can be used as flat sprites
 - 3D textures as voxel grids (density/opacity)
 - Can model any part of the rendering function

$$L_o(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) = L_e(\mathbf{x}, \omega, \lambda, t) + \int_{\Omega} f_r(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \omega, \lambda, t) L_i(\mathbf{x}, \omega', \lambda, t) (-\omega' \cdot \mathbf{n}) d\omega'$$

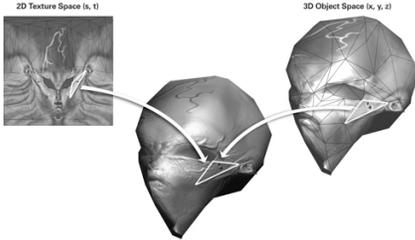
Color Texturing

- Set or modify the color of an object
- Map pixels in texture to surface of triangles



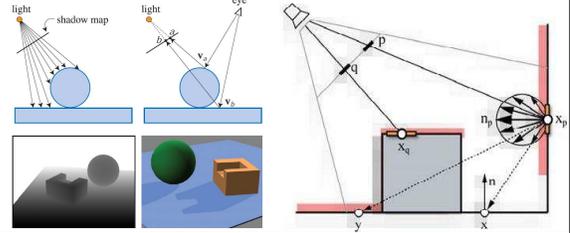
Bump/Normal Mapping

- Set or modify the normal of an object



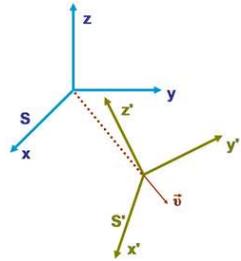
Shadow/RSM

- Render scene from perspective of light source
- Use pixels to indicate regions that receive light or generate indirect illumination



Transformations

- Matrix transformation of:
 - Control Points
 - Vertices, Normals, directions
 - Centers
 - Other matrix transforms
- Rotate, Scale, Translate, Project, ...

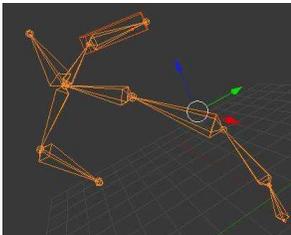


Animation

- An area of study in its own right.
 - Important to CG since animation transformations may take place on the graphics hardware
 - We will ignore that animations:
 - Can collide
 - Have mass and acceleration
 - Limited degrees of translational and rotational freedom
 - Etc.

Forward Kinematic

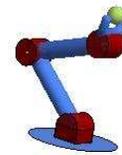
- Compute orientations of the armature
 - from the root of the chain to the effector.



<http://demonstrations.wolfram.com/ForwardKinematics/>

Inverse Kinematic

- Compute orientations of the armature
 - from the effector to the root
 - Many solutions

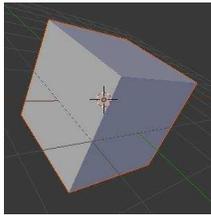


<http://demonstrations.wolfram.com/InverseKinematics/>

Projection: Perspective/Ortho

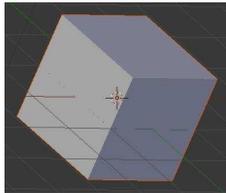
- Sample the world with rays from the camera

Rays from camera originate at a point



Perspective

Rays from camera originate at a plane



Ortho

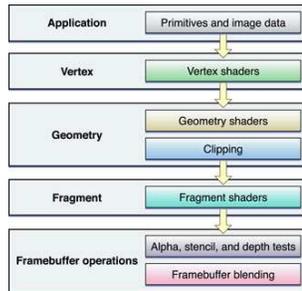
Rendering

- Sample the world over a given interval
 - Select w rays along which light energy is integrated
 - Combine observations together with other effects
 - Camera lenses distortion
 - Focus/blur
 - Pretty much anything from image processing

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Graphics Pipeline

- Broken into stages: some controlled by shader programs



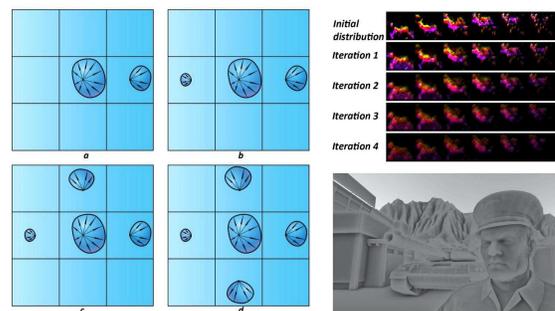
Free Engines

- Ogre
- Unity (to some degree)
- Blender

Miscellaneous

- Real time graphics is becoming increasingly influenced by physical models
 - Most convincing renders are computed with information taken from experiment
 - Graphics hardware has progressed to the point where some ray-trace scenes are realizable with at least interactive frame rates

CryENGINE: LPV, SSAO



What was Missed?



- How to do any of these things
- How to do them in an efficient manner
- How to program with OpenGL or DirectX
- How to program shaders
- Any ray casting techniques
- A whole lot more...

Graphics Oriented Classes



- CS 4731 Computer Graphics
 - CS 545 Digital Image Processing
 - CS 549 Computer Vision
 - CS 563 Advanced Computer Graphics
- Courses will generally focus on aspects graphics itself rather than graphics as it applies to games in particular.

References



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References



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- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inertial_frame_of_reference (figure of reference frames)
- https://developer.apple.com/library/mac/#documentation/graphicsimaging/conceptual/OpenGL-MacProgGuide/opengl_shaders/opengl_shaders.html (shader pipeline image)

References



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- *Physically Based Ray Tracing*
by Matt Pharr and Greg Humphreys
- *Real Time Rendering*
By Tomas Akenine-Möller, Eric Haines and Naty Hoffman