Computer Graphics 2014

8. Hidden Surface Elimination

Hongxin Zhang State Key Lab of CAD&CG, Zhejiang University

2014-10-20

Visual Realism

- Achieved by correct rendering of :
 - View (perspective)
 - Field of view (Clip outside the window)
 - Omit hidden parts
 - Surface details like texture
 - Light effects on surfaces like continuous shading, shadows, and caustics.
 - Volumetric effects like transparency and translucency through participating media like water, steam, smoke, ...
 - Dynamic effects like movement, elasticity, ...

OpenGL functions

- glEnable / glDisable (GL_CULL_FACE);
- glCullFace(mode)

- glutInitDisplayMode(... | GLUT_DEPTH)
- glEnable(GL_DEPTH_TEST)
- glEnable(GL_FOG) glFog*()

Viewing Pipeline Review



Computer Graphics @ ZJU

Hongxin Zhang, 2014

Projection













Visible Surface Determination

- Goal
 - Given: a set of 3D objects and Viewing specification,
 - Determine: those parts of the objects that are visible when viewed along the direction of projection
- Or, equivalently, elimination of hidden parts (hidden lines and surfaces)
- Visible parts will be drawn/shown with proper colors and shades

HLHSR Algorithms

- Two Fundamental Approach
 - Object space algorithm
 - a.k.a. Object Precision ~
 - hidden line remove

- Image space algorithm
 - a.k.a. Image Precision ~
 - z-buffer

Object Precision Algorithm

foreach (object in the world) {

determine those parts of the object whose view is unobstructed by other parts of it or any other object;

draw those parts in the appropriate color;

Image Precision Algorithms



determine the object closest to the viewer that is pierced by the projector through the pixel;

draw the pixel in the appropriate color;



- In a closed polygonal surface
 - i.e. the surface of a polyhedral volume or a solid polyhedron
 - The faces whose outward normals point away from the viewer are not visible
 - Such back-facing faces can be eliminated from further processing

- Elimination of back-faces is called back-face culling

- Back Face:
 - Part of the object surface facing away from the eye.

 $\overline{\mathbf{0}}$

- i.e. surface whose normal points away from the eye position.





Algorithm:

- 1. Find angle between the eye-vector & normal to face.
- 2. If between 0 to 90° , discard the face.

Determination of back-faces

A polygonal face with outward surface normal N_f is a backface if $N_f \circ D_p > 0$

where D_p is the direction of projection



What happens when the projectors are along Z axis, i.e., (0,0,1) is the view direction.

Let $N_f = (n_x, n_y, n_z)$, the dot product now equals n_z . If this is +ve, then this is a back-face!

Back-face culling does not solve all visibility problems



Back-face culling does not solve all visibility problems



Back-face culling does not solve all visibility problems



Back-face culling does not solve all visibility problems



Back-face culling does not solve all visibility problems





If the scene consists of a single convex closed polygonal surface then back-face culling is equivalent to HLHSR











Painter's Algorithm

From back to Front



Painter's Algorithm

From back to Front





Painter's Algorithm

From back to Front







Z-Buffer Algorithm

- Image precision algorithm
 - Apart from a frame buffer F in which color values are stored,
 - it also needs a z-buffer, of the same size as the frame buffer, to store depth (z) values



A.K.A. depth-buffer method



Computer Graphics @ ZJU

Hongxin Zhang, 2013
Polygon Scan Conversion



Z-Buffer Pseudo-code

- for (j=0; j<SCREEN_HEIGHT; j++)</pre>
 - for (i=0; i<SCREEN_WIDTH; i++) {
 - WriteToFrameBuffer(i, j, BackgroundColor);
 - WriteToZBuffer(i, j, MAX);
 - }
- for (each polygon)
 - for (each pixel in polygon's projection) {
 - z = polygon's z value at (i, j) ;
 - if (z < ReadFromZBuffer(i, j)) {
 - WriteToFrameBuffer(i, j, polygon's color at (i, j));
 - WriteToZBuffer(i, j, z);
 - } - }





















Calculate the z of the point Ax + By + Cz + D = 0

$$z = \frac{-Ax - By - D}{C}$$

Question: how?



Calculate the z of the point Ax + By + Cz + D = 0



Question: how?



Computer Graphics @ ZJU



Ax + By + Cz + D = 0

 $(x, y, z) \rightarrow (x, y, d)$

 $(x, y, z) \rightarrow (x_p, y_p, d)$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{x_{p}}{x} = \frac{d}{z} \\ \frac{y_{p}}{y} = \frac{d}{z} \\ \frac{y_{p}}{y} = \frac{d}{z} \end{cases}$$



d

Ζ

У_{Р_} =

Computer Graphics @ ZJU

















Perspective Transformation...

 We need to apply a perspective transformation to the view volume and transform it into a rectangular parallel-piped one

 This makes the final 3D view volume of a perspective view the same as that of a parallel view, just before projection

Perspective Transformation



 A perspective transformation preserves relative depth, straight lines and planes

Perspective Transformation



A-buffer

- Accumulation buffer
 - used in Lucasfilm REYES
 - not only store depth but also other data
 - support transparent surfaces

Depth-sorting

- space-image space hybrid method
 - space or image space:
 - sort surface by depth



- image space:
 - do scan conversion from deepest surfaces

Binary Space Partitioning Trees

- BSP Tree
 - Very efficient for a static group of 3D polygons as seen from an arbitrary viewpoint
 - Correct order for Painter's algorithm is determined by a suitable traversal of the binary tree of polygons







Draw BSP Tree

function draw(bsptree tree, point eye) if *tree.empty* then return if $f_{\text{tree.root}}(eye) < 0$ draw (*tree.right*) rasterize(*tree.root*) draw(tree.left) else tree.left draw (tree.left) rasterize(tree.root) draw(tree.right)











- Code works for any view
- Tree can be pre-computed
- Requires evaluation of

 $f_{plane of the triangle}(eye)$



BSP Tree Construction

- The binary tree is constructed using the following principle:
 - For each polygon, we can divide the set of other polygons into two groups
 - One group contains those lying in front of the plane of the given polygon
 - The other group contains those in the back
 - The polygons intersecting the plane of the given polygon are split by that plane





• Split Triangle:

How to?




• Split Triangle:

How to?





• Split Triangle:

How to?



Summary: BSP Trees

• Pros:

Simple, elegant scheme

Only writes to frame-buffer (i.e., painters algorithm)

Thus very popular for video games (but getting less so)

• Cons:

Computationally intense preprocess stage restricts algorithm to static scenes Worst-case time to construct tree: $O(n^3)$

Splitting increases polygon count

Again, $O(n^3)$ worst case





Hongxin Zhang, 2014

Computational expensive of clipping



Z-buffer

Scan-line

Warnock:

A divide and conquer

Hongxin Zhang, 2014

Warnock's Area Subdivision (Image Precision)

- Start with whole image
- If one of the easy cases is satisfied, draw what's in front
 - front polygon covers the whole window or
 - there is at most one polygon in the window.
- Otherwise, subdivide region into 4 windows and recurse
- If region is single pixel, choose surface with smallest depth
- Advantages:
 - No over-rendering
 - Anti-aliases well just recurse deeper to get sub-pixel information
- Disadvantage:
 - Tests are quite complex and slow

Warnock's Algorithm



Regions labeled with case used to classify them:

One polygon in front

Empty

- One polygon inside, surrounding or intersecting
- Small regions not labeled



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/View_frustum_culling

ray casting



Ray Casting

- For each sample ...
 - Construct ray from eye position through view plane
 - Find first surface intersected by ray through pixel
 - Compute color sample based on surface radiance



Thank You