Perspective Projection and Texture Mapping

Computer Graphics
CMU 15-462/15-662
Mini HW2: Awesome student pictures! :-)

[Images of various tree and fractal designs]
Perspective & Texture

- PREVIOUSLY:
  - rasterization
    (how to turn primitives into pixels)
  - transformations
    (how to manipulate primitives in space)

- TODAY:
  - see where these two ideas come crashing together!
  - revisit perspective transformations
  - talk about how to map texture onto a primitive to get more detail
  - ...and how perspective creates challenges for texture mapping!
Perspective Projection
Perspective projection

- Parallel lines converge at the horizon.
- Distant objects appear smaller.
Early painting: incorrect perspective

Carolingian painting, 8-9th century
Evolution toward correct perspective

Lorenzetti, c. 1344

Brunelleschi, c. 1428

Masaccio, c. 1427
Later... rejection of proper perspective projection

Picasso, 1910
Return of perspective in computer graphics
Rejection of perspective in computer graphics
Transformations: From Objects to the Screen

**[WORLD COORDINATES]**
- original description of objects

**[VIEW COORDINATES]**
- all positions now expressed relative to camera; camera is sitting at origin looking down -z direction

**[CLIP COORDINATES]**
- everything visible to the camera is mapped to unit cube for easy “clipping”

**[IMAGE COORDINATES]**
- coordinates stretched to match image dimensions (and flipped upside-down)

**[NORMALIZED COORDINATES]**
- unit cube mapped to unit square via perspective divide

2D primitives can now be drawn via rasterization.
Review: simple camera transform

Consider camera at (4,2,0), looking down x-axis, object given in world coordinates:

\[(4,2,0)\]

Q: What spatial transformation puts in the object in a coordinate system where the camera is at the origin, looking down the \(-z\) axis?

- Translating object vertex positions by (-4, -2, 0) yields position relative to camera
- Rotation about \(y\) by \(\pi/2\) gives position of object in new coordinate system where camera’s view direction is aligned with the \(-z\) axis
Camera looking in a different direction

Now consider a camera looking in a direction \( \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \)

Q: What transform places in the object in a coordinate system where the camera is at the origin and the camera is looking directly down the z axis?

- Construct vectors \( \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \) orthogonal to \( \mathbf{w} \)
  - e.g., with y as “up vector”, let \( \mathbf{u} := \mathbf{y} \times \mathbf{w} \)
- We need one more basis: \( \mathbf{v} := \mathbf{w} \times \mathbf{u} \)
- Normalize everything:
  \[
  \hat{\mathbf{u}} := \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|} \quad \hat{\mathbf{v}} := \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|} \quad \hat{\mathbf{w}} := \frac{\mathbf{w}}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}
  \]

Form a matrix with basis vectors in rows

\[
R = \begin{bmatrix}
\hat{u}_x & \hat{u}_y & \hat{u}_z \\
\hat{v}_x & \hat{v}_y & \hat{v}_z \\
\hat{w}_x & \hat{w}_y & \hat{w}_z
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\( R \) maps \( \hat{\mathbf{u}} \) to x-axis, \( \hat{\mathbf{v}} \) to y-axis, \( \hat{\mathbf{w}} \) to z-axis
Camera looking in a different direction

Now consider a camera looking in a direction \( \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \)

Q: What change do we need to make so that the camera is looking down \(-z\)?

- **Find basis mapping**
  - \( \hat{\mathbf{u}} \) to the \( x \)-axis, \( \hat{\mathbf{v}} \) to the \( y \)-axis, \( -\hat{\mathbf{w}} \) to \( z \)-axis
- **Construct vectors** \( \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \) orthogonal to \( -\mathbf{w} \)
  - e.g., with \( y \) as “up vector”, let
    \[
    \mathbf{u} := y \times (-\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{w} \times y
    \]
- **We need one more basis**: 
  \[
  \mathbf{v} := -\mathbf{w} \times \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{w}
  \]
- **Normalize everything as before**

Form a matrix with basis vectors in rows

\[
R = \begin{bmatrix}
\hat{u}_x & \hat{u}_y & \hat{u}_z \\
\hat{v}_x & \hat{v}_y & \hat{v}_z \\
-\hat{w}_x & -\hat{w}_y & -\hat{w}_z
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\( R \) maps \( \hat{\mathbf{u}} \) to \( x \)-axis, \( \hat{\mathbf{v}} \) to \( y \)-axis, \( \hat{\mathbf{w}} \) to \(-z\)-axis

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**View frustum**

*View frustum* is region the camera can see:

- Top / bottom / left / right planes correspond to four sides of the image
- Near / far planes correspond to closest/furthest thing we want to draw
“Clipping” eliminates triangles not visible to the camera / in view frustum
- Don’t waste time rasterizing primitives (e.g., triangles) you can’t see!
- Discarding individual fragments is expensive (“fine granularity”)
- Makes more sense to toss out whole primitives (“coarse granularity”)
- Still need to deal with primitives that are partially clipped…

image credit: Jason L. McKesson (https://paroj.github.io/gltut/)

= in frustum
Near/Far Clipping

Why have near/far clipping planes?

- Some primitives (e.g., triangles) may have vertices both in front & behind eye! (Causes headaches for rasterization, e.g., checking if fragments are behind eye)
- Also important for dealing with finite precision of depth buffer / limitations on storing depth as floating point values

floating point has more “resolution” near zero—hence more precise resolution of primitive-primitive intersection
Mapping frustum to unit cube

Before projecting to 2D, map view frustum to cube $[-1,1]^3$:

- Scale to size 2
- Translate to origin

$A = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{2}{r-l} & 0 & 0 & \frac{l+r}{l-r} \\
0 & \frac{2}{t-b} & 0 & \frac{b-t}{b-t} \\
0 & 0 & \frac{2}{n-f} & \frac{b+t}{b+t} \\
0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{f+n}{f-n}
\end{bmatrix}$

Why do we do this?
- Makes clipping much easier!
  - just discard points outside range $[-1,1]$
  - need to think about partially-clipped triangles

Q: How can we express this mapping as a matrix?
A: Solve $Ax_i = y_i$ for unknown entries of $A$

$l = left \quad b = bottom \quad n = near$
$r = right \quad t = top \quad f = far$

$x_1 = \{l, b, n, 1\} \quad y_1 = \{-1, -1, 1, 1\}$
$x_2 = \{r, b, n, 1\} \quad y_2 = \{1, -1, 1, 1\}$
$x_3 = \{r, t, n, 1\} \quad y_3 = \{1, 1, 1, 1\}$
$x_4 = \{l, t, n, 1\} \quad y_4 = \{-1, 1, 1, 1\}$
$x_5 = \{l, b, f, 1\} \quad y_5 = \{-1, -1, -1, 1\}$
$x_6 = \{r, b, f, 1\} \quad y_6 = \{1, -1, -1, 1\}$
$x_7 = \{r, t, f, 1\} \quad y_7 = \{1, 1, -1, 1\}$
$x_8 = \{l, t, f, 1\} \quad y_8 = \{-1, 1, -1, 1\}$

(orthographic projection)
Matrix for Perspective Transform

Recall our basic perspective projection matrix

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
x \\
y \\
z \\
w
\end{bmatrix}
= 
\begin{bmatrix}
x \\
y \\
z \\
w
\end{bmatrix}
\]

Full perspective matrix takes geometry of view frustum into account:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
\frac{2n}{r-l} & 0 & \frac{r+l}{r-l} & 0 \\
0 & \frac{2n}{t-b} & \frac{t+b}{t-b} & 0 \\
0 & 0 & -\frac{(f+n)}{f-n} & -\frac{2fn}{f-n} \\
0 & 0 & -1 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]

For a derivation: http://www.songho.ca/opengl/gl_projectionmatrix.html
Review: screen transformation

- Had one last transformation in the rasterization pipeline: transform from 2D viewing plane to pixel coordinates.
- Projection will take points to \([-1,1] \times [-1,1]\) on the \(z = 1\) plane; transform into a \(W \times H\) pixel image.

“normalized device coordinates”

Step 1: reflect about x-axis
Step 2: translate by \((1,1)\)
Step 3: scale by \((W/2,H/2)\)
Transformations: From Objects to the Screen

- **World Coordinates**
  - Original description of objects

- **View Coordinates**
  - All positions now expressed relative to camera; camera is sitting at origin looking down -z direction

- **Clip Coordinates**
  - Everything visible to the camera is mapped to unit cube for easy “clipping”
  - Perspective divide

- **Image Coordinates**
  - Screen transform
  - Coordinates stretched to match image dimensions (and flipped upside-down)

- **Normalized Coordinates**
  - Unit cube mapped to unit square via perspective divide

2D primitives can now be drawn via rasterization
So, how do we draw nice primitives?
Coverage(x,y)

Previously discussed how to sample coverage given the 2D position of the triangle's vertices.
Consider sampling color(x,y)

What is the triangle’s color at the point x?

Standard strategy: **interpolate** color values at vertices.
Linear interpolation in 1D

Suppose we’ve sampled values of a function $f(x)$ at points $x_i$, i.e., $f_i := f(x_i)$

Q: How do we construct a function that “connects the dots” between $x_i$ and $x_{i+1}$?

$$t := (x - x_i)/(x_{i+1} - x_i) \in [0, 1]$$

$$\hat{f}(t) = f_i + t(f_{i+1} - f_i) = (1 - t)f_i + tf_{i+1}$$
Linear interpolation in 2D

Suppose we’ve likewise sampled values of a function $f(p)$ at points $p_i, p_j, p_k$ in 2D.

Q: How do we “connect the dots” this time? E.g., how do we fit a plane?

$p_i = (x_i, y_i)$
Linear interpolation in 2D

- Want to fit a linear (really, affine) function to three values
- Any such function has three unknown coefficients $a$, $b$, and $c$:

$$\hat{f}(x, y) = ax + by + c$$

- To interpolate, we need to find coefficients such that the function matches the sample values at the sample points:

$$\hat{f}(x_n, y_n) = f_n, \ n \in \{i, j, k\}$$

- Yields three linear equations in three unknowns. Solution?

$$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ (x_j y_i - x_i y_j) + (x_k y_j - x_j y_k) + (x_i y_k - x_k y_i) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_i(y_k - y_j) + f_j(y_i - y_k) + f_k(y_j - y_i) \\ f_i(x_j - x_k) + f_j(x_k - x_i) + f_k(x_i - x_j) \\ f_i(x_k y_j - x_j y_k) + f_j(x_i y_k - x_k y_i) + f_k(x_j y_i - x_i y_j) \end{bmatrix}$$

This is ugly. There has to be a better way to think about this…
1D Linear Interpolation, revisited

- Let’s think about how we did linear interpolation in 1D:

\[ \hat{f}(t) = (1 - t)f_i + tf_j \]

- Can think of this as a linear combination of two functions:

- As we move closer to \( t=0 \), we approach the value of \( f \) at \( x_i \)
- As we move closer to \( t=1 \), we approach the value of \( f \) at \( x_j \)
2D Linear Interpolation, revisited

- We can construct analogous functions for a triangle.
- For a given point $x$, measure the distance to each edge; then divide by the height of the triangle:

$$\phi_i(x) = \frac{d_i(x)}{h_i}$$

Interpolate by taking linear combination:

$$\hat{f}(x) = f_i \phi_i + f_j \phi_j + f_k \phi_k$$

Q: Is this the same as the (ugly) function we found before?
2D Interpolation, another way

I claim we can also get the same three basis functions as a ratio of triangle areas:

\[
\phi_i(x) = \frac{\text{area}(x, x_j, x_k)}{\text{area}(x_i, x_j, x_k)}
\]

Q: Do you buy it? (Why or why not?)
Barycentric Coordinates

- No matter how you compute them, the values of the three functions $\phi_i(x), \phi_j(x), \phi_k(x)$ for a given point are called **barycentric coordinates**.
- Can be used to interpolate any attribute associated with vertices. (color*, texture coordinates, etc.)
- Importantly, these same three values fall out of the half-plane tests used for triangle rasterization! (Why?)
- Hence, get them for “free” during rasterization.

$$\text{color}(x) = \text{color}(x_i)\phi_i + \text{color}(x_j)\phi_j + \text{color}(x_k)\phi_k$$

*Note: we haven’t explained yet how to encode colors as numbers! We’ll talk about that in a later lecture…
Perspective-incorrect interpolation

Due to perspective projection (homogeneous divide), barycentric interpolation of values on a triangle with different depths is not an affine function of screen XY coordinates.

Want to interpolate attribute values linearly in 3D object space, not image space.
Example: perspective incorrect interpolation

Consider a quadrilateral split into two triangles:

If we compute barycentric coordinates using 2D (projected) coordinates, leads to (derivative) discontinuity in interpolation where quad was split.
Perspective Correct Interpolation

- **Goal:** interpolate some attribute $\phi$ at vertices

- **Basic recipe:**
  - Compute depth $z$ at each vertex
  - Evaluate $Z := 1/z$ and $P := \phi/z$ at each vertex
  - Interpolate $Z$ and $P$ using standard (2D) barycentric coords
  - At each fragment, divide interpolated $P$ by interpolated $Z$
    to get final value

For a derivation, see Low, “Perspective-Correct Interpolation”
Class ended here!

(we’ll pick up from this point on Wednesday, but you can look ahead if you would like :)
Texture Mapping
Many uses of texture mapping
Define variation in surface reflectance

Pattern on ball
Wood grain on floor
Describe surface material properties

Multiple layers of texture maps for color, logos, scratches, etc.
Normal & Displacement Mapping

**Normal Mapping**

- Use texture value to perturb surface normal to "fake" appearance of a bumpy surface

**Displacement Mapping**

- Dice up surface geometry into tiny triangles & offset positions according to texture values (note bumpy silhouette and shadow boundary)
Represent precomputed lighting and shadows

Grace Cathedral environment map

Environment map used in rendering
Texture coordinates

- “Texture coordinates” define a mapping from surface coordinates to points in texture domain.
- Often defined by linearly interpolating texture coordinates at triangle vertices.

Suppose each cube face is split into eight triangles, with texture coordinates $(u,v)$ at each vertex.

A texture on the $[0,1]^2$ domain can be specified by a 2048x2048 image.

Linearly interpolating texture coordinates & “looking up” color in texture gives this image:

(location of highlighted triangle in texture space shown in red)
Visualization of texture coordinates

Associating texture coordinates \((u, v)\) with colors helps to visualize mapping.
More complex mapping

Visualization of texture coordinates

Triangle vertices in texture space

Each vertex has a coordinate \((u,v)\) in texture space

(Actually coming up with these coordinates is another story!)
Texture mapping adds detail

Each triangle “copies” a piece of the image back to the surface
Texture mapping adds detail

rendering without texture

rendering with texture

texture image

zoom
Another example: periodic coordinates

Q: Why do you think texture coordinates might repeat over the surface?
Textured Sponza

A: Want to tile a texture many times (rather than store a huge image!)
Texture Sampling 101

- Basic algorithm for texture mapping:
  - for each pixel in the rasterized image:
    - interpolate \((u, v)\) coordinates across triangle
    - sample (evaluate) texture at interpolated \((u, v)\)
    - set color of fragment to sampled texture value

...sadly not this easy in general!
Recall: aliasing

Undersampling a high-frequency signal can result in aliasing

\[ f(x) \]

\[ x \]
Visualizing texture samples

Since triangles are projected from 3D to 2D, pixels in screen space will correspond to regions of varying size & location in texture.

Sample positions are uniformly distributed in screen space (rasterizer samples triangle’s appearance at these locations).

Sample positions in texture space are not uniform (texture function is sampled at these locations).

Irregular sampling pattern makes it hard to avoid aliasing!
Magnification vs. Minification

- **Magnification (easier):**
  - Example: camera is very close to scene object
  - Single screen pixel maps to tiny region of texture
  - Can just interpolate value at screen pixel center

- **Minification (harder):**
  - Example: scene object is very far away
  - Single screen pixel maps to large region of texture
  - Need to compute average texture value over pixel to avoid aliasing

Figure credit: Akeley and Hanrahan
Bilinear interpolation (magnification)

How can we “look up” a texture value at a non-integer location \((u, v)\)?

\[ i = \lfloor u - \frac{1}{2} \rfloor \]
\[ j = \lfloor v - \frac{1}{2} \rfloor \]

\[ s = u - (i + \frac{1}{2}) \in [0, 1] \]
\[ t = v - (j + \frac{1}{2}) \in [0, 1] \]

Linear (each row)
- \((1 - s)f_{01} + sf_{11}\)
- \((1 - s)f_{00} + sf_{10}\)

Bilinear
- \((1 - t)((1 - s)f_{00} + sf_{10}) + t((1 - s)f_{01} + sf_{11})\)

Q: What happens if we interpolate vertically first?

Fast but ugly: just grab value of nearest “texel” (texture pixel)
Aliasing due to minification
“Pre-filtering” texture (minification)
Texture prefiltering — basic idea

- Texture aliasing often occurs because a single pixel on the screen covers many pixels of the texture.

- If we just grab the texture value at the center of the pixel, we get aliasing (get a "random" color that changes if the sample moves even very slightly).

- Ideally, would use the average texture value—but this is expensive to compute.

- Instead, we can pre-compute the averages (once) and just look up these averages (many times) at run-time.

But which averages should we store? Can’t precompute them all!
Prefiltered textures

Actual texture: 700x700 image
(only a crop is shown)

Actual texture: 64x64 image

Q: Are two resolutions enough?  A: No…
MIP map (L. Williams 83)

- Rough idea: store prefiltred image at “every possible scale”
- Texels at higher levels store average of texture over a region of texture space (downsampled)
- Later: look up a single pixel from MIP map of appropriate size
Mipmap (L. Williams 83)

Williams’ original proposed mip-map layout

“Mip hierarchy”
level = \(d\)

Q: What’s the storage overhead of a mipmap?
Computing MIP Map Level

Even within a single triangle, may want to sample from different MIP map levels:

Q: Which pixel should sample from a **coarser** MIP map level: the blue one, or the red one?
Computing Mip Map Level

Compute differences between texture coordinate values at neighboring samples

\[
\frac{du}{dx} = u_{10} - u_{00} \quad \frac{dv}{dx} = v_{10} - v_{00}
\]

\[
\frac{du}{dy} = u_{01} - u_{00} \quad \frac{dv}{dy} = v_{01} - v_{00}
\]

\[
L_x^2 = \left( \frac{du}{dx} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{dv}{dx} \right)^2 \quad L_y^2 = \left( \frac{du}{dy} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{dv}{dy} \right)^2
\]

\[
L = \sqrt{\max(L_x^2, L_y^2)}
\]

mip-map level: \( d = \log_2 L \)
Visualization of mip-map level
($d$ clamped to nearest level)
Sponza (bilinear resampling at level 0)
Sponza (bilinear resampling at level 2)
Sponza (bilinear resampling at level 4)
Sponza (MIP mapped)

nicely filters the background

retains detail in the foreground
Problem with basic MIP mapping

- If we just use the nearest level, can get artifacts where level “jumps”—appearance sharply transitions from detailed to blurry texture

- **IDEA:** rather than clamping the MIP map level to the closest integer, use the original (continuous) MIP map level $d$

- **PROBLEM:** we only computed a fixed number of MIP map levels. How do we interpolate between levels?
Trilinear Filtering

- Used bilinear filtering for 2D data; can use trilinear filtering for 3D data
- Given a point \((u, v, w) \in [0, 1]^3\), and eight closest values \(f_{ijk}\)
- Just iterate linear filtering:
  - weighted average along \(u\)
  - weighted average along \(v\)
  - weighted average along \(w\)

\[
\begin{align*}
g_{00} &= (1 - u)f_{000} + uf_{100} \\
g_{10} &= (1 - u)f_{010} + uf_{110} \\
g_{01} &= (1 - u)f_{001} + uf_{101} \\
g_{11} &= (1 - u)f_{011} + uf_{111}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
h_0 &= (1 - v)g_{00} + vg_{10} \\
h_1 &= (1 - v)g_{01} + vg_{11} \\
(1 - w)h_0 + wh_1 &= \text{image adapted from: Akeley and Hanrahan}
\]
MIP Map Lookup

- MIP map interpolation works essentially the same way
  - not interpolating from 3D grid
  - interpolate from two MIP map levels closest to $d \in \mathbb{R}$
  - perform bilinear interpolation independently in each level
  - interpolate between two bilinear values using $w = d - \lfloor d \rfloor$

Starts getting expensive! (⇒ specialized hardware)

Bilinear interpolation:
four texel reads
3 linear interpolations (3 mul + 6 add)

Trilinear/MIP map interpolation:
eight texel reads
7 linear interpolations (7 mul + 14 add)
Anisotropic Filtering
At grazing angles, samples may be stretched out by (very) different amounts along $u$ and $v$. 

Overblurring in $u$ direction

Common solution: combine multiple MIP map samples (even more arithmetic/bandwidth!)
Texture Sampling Pipeline

1. Compute \( u \) and \( v \) from screen sample \((x, y)\) via barycentric interpolation

2. Approximate \( \frac{du}{dx}, \frac{du}{dy}, \frac{dv}{dx}, \frac{dv}{dy} \) by taking differences of screen-adjacent samples

3. Compute mip map level \( d \)

4. Convert normalized \([0, 1]\) texture coordinate \((u, v)\) to pixel locations \((U, V) \in [W, H]\) in texture image

5. Determine addresses of texels needed for filter (e.g., eight neighbors for trilinear)

6. Load texels into local registers

7. Perform tri-linear interpolation according to \((U, V, d)\)

8. (…even more work for anisotropic filtering…)

Takeaway: high-quality texturing requires far more work than just looking up a pixel in an image! Each sample demands significant arithmetic & bandwidth

For this reason, graphics processing units (GPUs) have dedicated, fixed-function hardware support to perform texture sampling operations
Perspective & Texture Mapping—Summary

- **Perspective projection** turns 3D primitives into 2D primitives that can be rasterized
  - View frustum used to manage clipping, Z-fighting
- Once we have 2D primitives, can interpolate attributes across vertices using barycentric coordinates
- Important example: **texture coordinates**, used to copy pieces of a 2D image onto a 3D surface
- Careful **texture filtering** is needed to avoid aliasing
  - **Key idea:** what’s the average color covered by a pixel?
  - For **magnification**, can just do a **bilinear** lookup
  - For **minification**, use **prefiltering** to compute averages ahead of time
    - **MIP map** stores averages at different levels
    - Blend between levels using **trilinear filtering**
  - At grazing angles, **anisotropic filtering** needed to deal w/ “stretching” of samples
  - In general, **no perfect solution to aliasing!** Try to balance quality & efficiency
Next Time: Depth & Transparency