

Foundations of Computer Graphics

Online Lecture 10: Ray Tracing 2 – Nuts and Bolts

Camera Ray Casting

Ravi Ramamoorthi

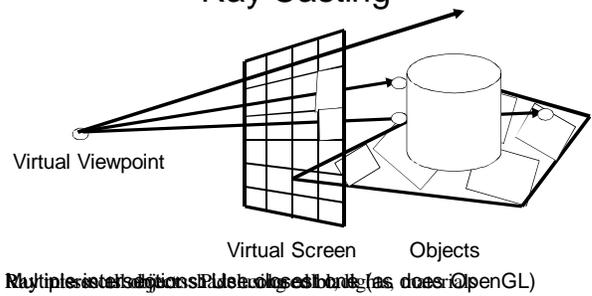
Outline

- *Camera Ray Casting (choose ray directions)*
- Ray-object intersections
- Ray-tracing transformed objects
- Lighting calculations
- Recursive ray tracing

Outline in Code

```
Image Raytrace (Camera cam, Scene scene, int width, int height)
{
  Image image = new Image (width, height) ;
  for (int i = 0 ; i < height ; i++)
    for (int j = 0 ; j < width ; j++) {
      Ray ray = RayThruPixel (cam, i, j) ;
      Intersection hit = Intersect (ray, scene) ;
      image[i][j] = FindColor (hit) ;
    }
  return image ;
}
```

Ray Casting

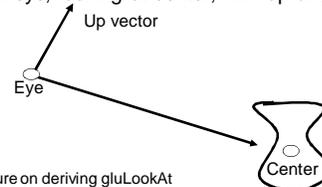


Finding Ray Direction

- Goal is to find ray direction for given pixel i and j
- Many ways to approach problem
 - Objects in world coord, find dirn of each ray (we do this)
 - Camera in canonical frame, transform objects (OpenGL)
- Basic idea
 - Ray has origin (camera center) and direction
 - Find direction given camera params and i and j
- Camera params as in `gluLookAt`
 - `Lookfrom[3], LookAt[3], up[3], fov`

Similar to `gluLookAt` derivation

- `gluLookAt(eyex, eyez, eyez, centerx, centery, centerz, upx, upy, upz)`
- Camera at eye, looking at center, with up direction being up



Constructing a coordinate frame?

We want to associate w with a , and v with b

- But a and b are neither orthogonal nor unit norm
- And we also need to find u

$$w = \frac{a}{\|a\|}$$

$$u = \frac{b \times w}{\|b \times w\|}$$

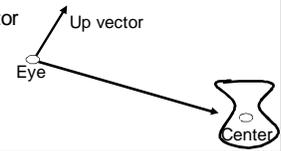
$$v = w \times u$$

From basic math lecture - Vectors: Orthonormal Basis Frames

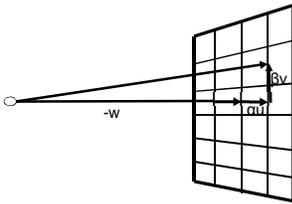
Constructing a coordinate frame

$$w = \frac{a}{\|a\|} \quad u = \frac{b \times w}{\|b \times w\|} \quad v = w \times u$$

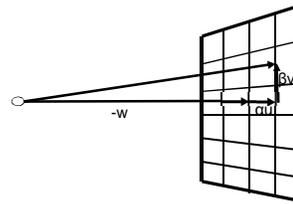
- We want to position camera at origin, looking down $-Z$ dirn
- Hence, vector a is given by **eye - center**
- The vector b is simply the **up** vector



Canonical viewing geometry

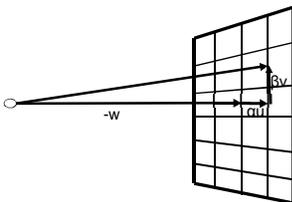


Canonical viewing geometry



$$\alpha = \tan\left(\frac{fov_x}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{j - (width/2)}{width/2}\right) \quad \beta = \tan\left(\frac{fov_y}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{(height/2) - i}{height/2}\right)$$

Canonical viewing geometry



$$ray = eye + \frac{\alpha u + \beta v - w}{|\alpha u + \beta v - w|}$$

$$\alpha = \tan\left(\frac{fov_x}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{j - (width/2)}{width/2}\right) \quad \beta = \tan\left(\frac{fov_y}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{(height/2) - i}{height/2}\right)$$

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Ray-Object Intersections

Ravi Ramamoorthi

Outline

- Camera Ray Casting (choosing ray directions)
- Ray-object intersections
- Ray-tracing transformed objects
- Lighting calculations
- Recursive ray tracing

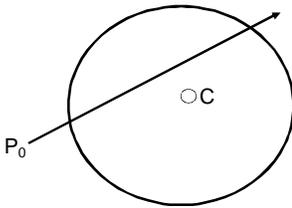
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```

Ray-Sphere Intersection

$$\text{ray} \equiv P = P_0 + P_1 t$$

$$\text{sphere} \equiv (P - C)(P - C) - r^2 = 0$$



Ray-Sphere Intersection

$$\text{ray} \equiv P = P_0 + P_1 t$$

$$\text{sphere} \equiv (P - C)(P - C) - r^2 = 0$$

Substitute

Ray-Sphere Intersection

$$\text{ray} \equiv P = P_0 + P_1 t$$

$$\text{sphere} \equiv (P - C)(P - C) - r^2 = 0$$

Substitute

$$\text{ray} \equiv P = P_0 + P_1 t$$

$$\text{sphere} \equiv (P_0 + P_1 t - C)(P_0 + P_1 t - C) - r^2 = 0$$

Simplify

Ray-Sphere Intersection

$$\text{ray} \equiv P = P_0 + P_1 t$$

$$\text{sphere} \equiv (P - C)(P - C) - r^2 = 0$$

Substitute

$$\text{ray} \equiv P = P_0 + P_1 t$$

$$\text{sphere} \equiv (P_0 + P_1 t - C)(P_0 + P_1 t - C) - r^2 = 0$$

Simplify

$$t^2 (P_1 P_1) + 2t P_1 (P_0 - C) + (P_0 - C)(P_0 - C) - r^2 = 0$$

Ray-Sphere Intersection

$$t^2(P_1 P_1) + 2t P_1(P_0 - C) + (P_0 - C)(P_0 - C) - r^2 = 0$$

Solve quadratic equations for t

- 2 real positive roots: pick smaller root 
- Both roots same: tangent to sphere 
- One positive, one negative root: ray origin inside sphere (pick + root) 
- Complex roots: no intersection (check discriminant of equation first) 

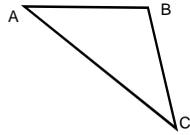
Ray-Sphere Intersection

- Intersection point: $ray \equiv P = P_0 + P_1 t$
- Normal (for sphere, this is same as coordinates in sphere frame of reference, useful other tasks)

$$normal = \frac{P - C}{|P - C|}$$

Ray-Triangle Intersection

- One approach: Ray-Plane intersection, then check if inside triangle
- Plane equation:

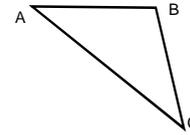


Ray-Triangle Intersection

- One approach: Ray-Plane intersection, then check if inside triangle

- Plane equation:

$$n = \frac{(C - A) \times (B - A)}{|(C - A) \times (B - A)|}$$



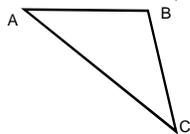
Ray-Triangle Intersection

- One approach: Ray-Plane intersection, then check if inside triangle

- Plane equation:

$$plane \equiv P n - A n = 0$$

$$n = \frac{(C - A) \times (B - A)}{|(C - A) \times (B - A)|}$$



Ray-Triangle Intersection

- One approach: Ray-Plane intersection, then check if inside triangle

- Plane equation:

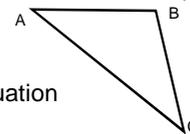
$$plane \equiv P n - A n = 0$$

- Combine with ray equation

$$ray \equiv P = P_0 + P_1 t$$

$$(P_0 + P_1 t) n = A n$$

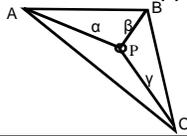
$$n = \frac{(C - A) \times (B - A)}{|(C - A) \times (B - A)|}$$



$$t = \frac{A n - P_0 n}{P_1 n}$$

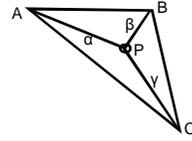
Ray inside Triangle

- Once intersect with plane, need to find if in triangle
- Many possibilities for triangles, general polygons
- We find parametrically [barycentric coordinates]. Also useful for other applications (texture mapping)



$$P = \alpha A + \beta B + \gamma C$$
$$\alpha \geq 0, \beta \geq 0, \gamma \geq 0$$
$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 1$$

Ray inside Triangle



$$P = \alpha A + \beta B + \gamma C$$
$$\alpha \geq 0, \beta \geq 0, \gamma \geq 0$$
$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 1$$

$$P - A = \beta(B - A) + \gamma(C - A)$$
$$0 \leq \beta \leq 1, 0 \leq \gamma \leq 1$$
$$\beta + \gamma \leq 1$$

Other primitives

- Much early work in ray tracing focused on ray-primitive intersection tests
- Cones, cylinders, ellipsoids
- Boxes (especially useful for bounding boxes)
- General planar polygons
- Many more

Ray Scene Intersection

```
Intersection (ray, scene) {
    mindist = infinity; hitobject = NULL ;
    For each object in scene { // Find closest intersection; test all objects
        t = Intersect (ray, object) ;
        if (t > 0 && t < mindist) // closer than previous closest object
            mindist = t ; hitobject = object ;
    }
    return IntersectionInfo(mindist, hitobject) ; // may already be in Intersect()
}
```

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Ray-Tracing Transformed Objects

- We have an optimized ray-sphere test
- But we want to ray trace an ellipsoid...
- Solution: Ellipsoid transforms sphere
- Apply inverse transform to ray, use ray-sphere
 - Allows for instancing (traffic jam of cars)
 - Same idea for other primitives

Transformed Objects

- Consider a general 4x4 transform M (matrix stacks)
- Apply inverse transform M^{-1} to ray
 - Locations stored and transform in homogeneous coordinates
 - Vectors (ray directions) have homogeneous coordinate set to 0 [so there is no action because of translations]
- Do standard ray-surface intersection as modified
- Transform intersection back to actual coordinates
 - Intersection point p transforms as Mp
 - Normals n transform as $M^{-1}n$. Do all this before lighting

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Lighting Calculations

Ravi Ramamoorthi

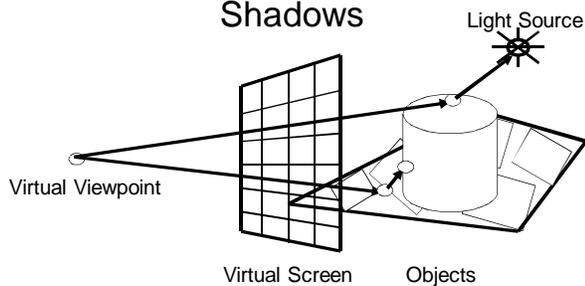
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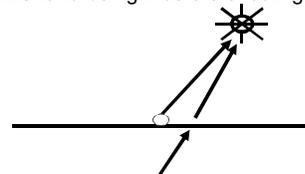
Shadows



Shadow ray to light is blocked: object in shadow

Shadows: Numerical Issues

- Numerical inaccuracy may cause intersection to be below surface (effect exaggerated in figure)
- Causing surface to incorrectly shadow itself
- Move a little towards light before shooting shadow ray



Lighting Model

- Similar to OpenGL
- Lighting model parameters (global)
 - Ambient r g b
 - Attenuation const linear quadratic $L = \frac{L_0}{const + lin * d + quad * d^2}$
- Per light model parameters
 - Directional light (direction, RGB parameters)
 - Point light (location, RGB parameters)
 - Some differences from HW 2 syntax

Material Model

- Diffuse reflectance (r g b)
- Specular reflectance (r g b)
- Shininess s
- Emission (r g b)
- All as in OpenGL

Shading Model

$$I = K_a + K_e + \sum_{i=1}^n V_i L_i (K_d \max(|l_i n|, 0) + K_s (\max(h_i n, 0))^s)$$

- Global ambient term, emission from material
- For each light, diffuse specular terms
- Note visibility/shadowing for each light (not in OpenGL)
- Evaluated per pixel per light (not per vertex)

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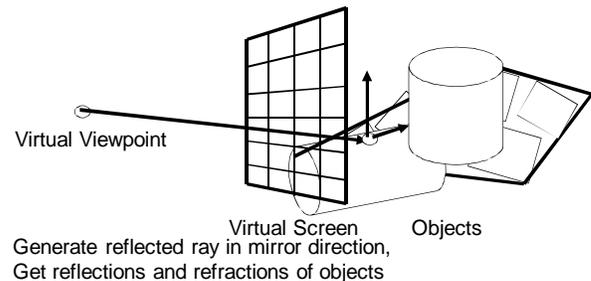
Recursive Ray Tracing

Ravi Ramamoorthi

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Mirror Reflections/Refractions



Basic idea

For each pixel

- Trace Primary Eye Ray, find intersection
- Trace Secondary Shadow Ray(s) to all light(s)
 - Color = Visible ? Illumination Model : 0 ;
- Trace Reflected Ray
 - Color += reflectivity * Color of reflected ray

Recursive Shading Model

$$I = K_a + K_e + \sum_{l=1}^n V_l L_l (K_d \max(I_l, n, 0) + K_s (\max(h_l, n, 0))^s) + K_s I_R + K_T I_T$$

- Highlighted terms are recursive specularities [mirror reflections] and transmission (latter is extra)
- Trace secondary rays for mirror reflections and refractions, include contribution in lighting model
- GetColor calls RayTrace recursively (the I values in equation above of secondary rays are obtained by recursive calls)

Problems with Recursion

- Reflection rays may be traced forever
- Generally, set maximum recursion depth
- Same for transmitted rays (take refraction into account)

Some basic add ons

- Area light sources and soft shadows: break into grid of $n \times n$ point lights
 - Use jittering: Randomize direction of shadow ray within small box for given light source direction
 - Jittering also useful for antialiasing shadows when shooting primary rays
- More complex reflectance models
 - Simply update shading model
 - But at present, we can handle only mirror global illumination calculations