Scan Conversion & Shading

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Overview

- Scan conversion
  - Figure out which pixels to fill
- Shading
  - Determine a color for each filled pixel

Scan Conversion

- Render an image of a geometric primitive by setting pixel colors

```
void SetPixel(int x, int y, Color rgba)
```

- Example: Filling the inside of a triangle

Triangle Scan Conversion

- Properties of a good algorithm
  - Symmetric
  - Straight edges
  - Anti-aliased edges
  - No cracks between adjacent primitives
  - MUST BE FAST!
Simple Algorithm

• Color all pixels inside triangle

```java
void ScanTriangle(Triangle T, Color rgba){
    for each pixel P at (x,y){
        if (Inside(T, P))
            SetPixel(x, y, rgba);
    }
}
```

Inside Triangle Test

• A point is inside a triangle if it is in the positive halfspace of all three boundary lines
  - Triangle vertices are ordered counter-clockwise
  - Point must be on the left side of every boundary line

```java
Boolean Inside(Triangle T, Point P)
{
    for each boundary line L of T {
        Scalar d = L.a*P.x + L.b*P.y + L.c;
        if (d < 0.0) return FALSE;
    }
    return TRUE;
}
```

Inside Triangle Test

- Properties of a good algorithm
  - Symmetric
  - Straight edges
  - Antialiased edges
  - No cracks between adjacent primitives
  - MUST BE FAST!
Triangle Sweep-Line Algorithm

- Take advantage of spatial coherence
  - Compute which pixels are inside using horizontal spans
  - Process horizontal spans in scan-line order
- Take advantage of edge linearity
  - Use edge slopes to update coordinates incrementally

Polygon Scan Conversion

- Fill pixels inside a polygon
  - Triangle
  - Quadrilateral
  - Convex
  - Star-shaped
  - Concave
  - Self-intersecting
  - Holes

Inside Polygon Rule

- What is a good rule for which pixels are inside?

Convex Polygon

Inside Polygon Rule

- Odd-parity rule
  - Any ray from P to infinity crosses odd number of edges
**Polygon Sweep-Line Algorithm**

- Incremental algorithm to find spans, and determine insideness with odd parity rule
  - Takes advantage of scanline coherence

**Hardware Scan Conversion**

- Convert everything into triangles
  - Scan convert the triangles

**Overview**

- Scan conversion
  - Figure out which pixels to fill
- Shading
  - Determine a color for each filled pixel

**Polygon Sweep-Line Algorithm**

```c
void ScanPolygon(Triangle T, Color rgba){
  sort edges by maxy
  make empty "active edge list"
  for each scanline (top-to-bottom) {
    insert/remove edges from "active edge list"
    update x coordinate of every active edge
    sort active edges by x coordinate
    for each pair of active edges (left-to-right)
      SetPixels(x, xnext, y, rgba);
  }
}
```

**Hardware Antialiasing**

- Supersample pixels
  - Multiple samples per pixel
  - Average subpixel intensities (box filter)
  - Trades intensity resolution for spatial resolution

**Shading**

- How do we choose a color for each filled pixel?
  - Each illumination calculation for a ray from the eyepoint through the view plane provides a radiance sample
  - How do we choose where to place samples?
  - How do we filter samples to reconstruct image?

Emphasis on methods that can be implemented in hardware
Ray Casting

• Simplest shading approach is to perform independent lighting calculation for every pixel
  - When is this unnecessary?

\[ I = I_e + K_d I_{dl} + \sum (K_g(N \cdot L_i) I_i + K_r(V \cdot R_i)^\tau I_i) \]

Polygon Shading

• Can take advantage of spatial coherence
  - Illumination calculations for pixels covered by same primitive are related to each other

\[ I = I_e + K_d I_{dl} + \sum (K_g(N \cdot L_i) I_i + K_r(V \cdot R_i)^\tau I_i) \]

Polygon Shading Algorithms

• Flat Shading
• Gouraud Shading
• Phong Shading

Flat Shading

• What if a faceted object is illuminated only by directional light sources and is either diffuse or viewed from infinitely far away

\[ I = I_e + K_d I_{dl} + \sum (K_g(N \cdot L_i) I_i + K_r(V \cdot R_i)^\tau I_i) \]
**Flat Shading**

- Objects look like they are composed of polygons
  - OK for polyhedral objects
  - Not so good for smooth surfaces

**Polygon Shading Algorithms**

- Flat Shading
- Gouraud Shading
- Phong Shading

**Gouraud Shading**

- What if smooth surface is represented by polygonal mesh with a normal at each vertex?

\[ I = I_e + K_s I_{at} + \sum (K_p (N \cdot L_i) I_i + K_r (V \cdot R_i)^2 I_i) \]

**Gouraud Shading**

- Method 1: One lighting calculation per vertex
  - Assign pixels inside polygon by interpolating colors computed at vertices

**Gouraud Shading**

- Bilinearly interpolate colors at vertices down and across scan lines

\[ I = \alpha I_1 + (1-\alpha)I_2 \]

**Gouraud Shading**

- Smooth shading over adjacent polygons
  - Curved surfaces
  - Illumination highlights
  - Soft shadows

Mesh with shared normals at vertices
Gouraud Shading
- Produces smoothly shaded polygonal mesh
  - Piecewise linear approximation
  - Need fine mesh to capture subtle lighting effects

Flat Shading
Gouraud Shading

Polygon Shading Algorithms
- Flat Shading
- Gouraud Shading
- Phong Shading

Phong Shading
- Method 2: One lighting calculation per pixel
  - Approximate surface normals for points inside polygons by bilinear interpolation of normals from vertices

Phong Shading
- What if polygonal mesh is too coarse to capture illumination effects in polygon interiors?

Phong Shading
- Bilinearly interpolate surface normals at vertices down and across scan lines

Phong Shading
- Approximate surface normals for points inside polygons by bilinear interpolation of normals from vertices

Polygon Shading Algorithms
- Wireframe
- Flat
- Gouraud
- Phong

Watt Plate 7
Shading Issues

- Problems with interpolated shading:
  - Polygonal silhouettes
  - Perspective distortion
  - Orientation dependence (due to bilinear interpolation)
  - Problems computing shared vertex normals
  - Problems at T-vertices

Summary

- 2D polygon scan conversion
  - Paint pixels inside primitive
  - Sweep-line algorithm for polygons

- Polygon Shading Algorithms
  - Flat
  - Gouraud
  - Phong
  - Ray casting

- Key ideas:
  - Sampling and reconstruction
  - Spatial coherence

• Less expensive
• More accurate