Non-photorealistic Rendering (NPR)

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Rendering alternatives

model

photorealism

non-photorealism (NPR)
Non/Photorealism in painting

Bouguereau 1891

van Gogh 1889
Realistic modeling and rendering

[Deussen 99]
Non-photorealistic rendering (NPR)
NPR: Applications

- Explanation
- Illustration
- Storytelling
- Design
NPR: Applications

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NPR: Applications

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[Dr. Seuss]
NPR: Applications

- Explanation
- Illustration
- Storytelling
- Design

[McCoy]
A Brief History of NPR...
NPR: Simulating various media

Technical Illustration [Saito 90]

Pen & Ink [Winkenbach 94]

Watercolor [Curtis 97]

Paint [Hertzmann 98]
NPR: Dynamic imagery

Painterly rendering for...

3D models [Meier 96]

Video [Litwinowicz 97]
NPR: Interactive rendering

[Kowalski 99]  [Gooch 98]  [Praun 01]
NPR: Abstraction & attention

Provide control over point of emphasis
Control clutter in the rendered image

[Cole et al. 2006]
Stylized lines in commercial apps...
Tools for stylized rendering

- Toon shading
- Stylized strokes
- Paper Effect
- Detail Marks
- Hatching
- Outlines
Tools for stylized rendering

- Toon shading
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Toon shading

Remap \((n \cdot I)\) from lighting calculation

- Or \((n \cdot v)\) for headlight
- Can be done by texture lookup (1D)
Toon shading
Toon shading
Tools for stylized rendering

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Paper Effect

Height field texture:
• Peaks catch pigment
• Valleys resist pigment

Implementation:
• Pixel shader
Paper effect
Tools for stylized rendering

- Toon shading
- Stylized strokes
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Hatching based on $n \cdot l$

Example stroke → Preprocess → Set of textures → Real-Time → Result
Tonal Art Maps

Collection of stroke images
Will blend $\rightarrow$ design with high coherence
Stroke nesting property
Texture Blending

6-way blend $\rightarrow$ final
Hatching direction

Along lines of principal curvature

(this can also be used for growing explicit hatching strokes)
Stroke-based hatching

[Winkenbach 94, 96]

[Sousa 99]

[Hertzmann 2000]
Painterly rendering

Object- or image-space paint strokes

3D models
[Meier 96]

Video
[Litwinowicz 97]
Deep Canvas [Disney]
Stippling: density $\sim n \cdot l$  
[Secord02]
Tools for stylized rendering

- Toon shading
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Crease Stylization

“Rubber-stamping” Synthesis from Example

Synthesis uses Markov model. Similar to “video textures” [Schödl 00]
Stylization as Offsets

- Artist over-sketches crease
- Stylization recorded as 2D offsets
- Applied to new base path
Silhouette Stylization

Silhouettes are view-dependent.

• Problem #1: localized stylization?
• Solution: “rubber-stamp” globally

prototype
Silhouette Tracking

Silhouettes are view-dependent.

- Problem #2: parameterization coherence
- Solution: screen-space tracking
WYSIWYG NPR

- Draw into 3D scene
- Retain style in new views
- Ensure coherent animation

[Kalnins02]
Aesthetic flexibility
Tools for stylized rendering

- Toon shading
- Stylized strokes
- Paper Effect
- Detail Marks
- Hatching
- Outlines
How to Describe Shape-Conveying Lines?

- Image-space features
- Object-space features
  - View-independent
  - View-dependent

[Flaxman 1805]
Image-Space Lines

+ Intuitive motivation; well-suited for GPU
  - Difficult to stylize

Examples:

  - Isophotes (toon-shading boundaries)
  - Edges (e.g., [Canny 1986])
  - Ridges, valleys of illumination
Image Edges and Extremal Lines

Edges:
Local maxima of gradient magnitude, in gradient direction

Ridges/valleys:
Local minima/maxima of intensity, in direction of max Hessian eigenvector
View-Independent Object-Space Lines

- Intrinsic properties of shape; can be precomputed
- Under changing view, can be misinterpreted as surface markings
View-Independent Object-Space Lines

Topo lines: constant altitude
View-Independent Object-Space Lines

Creases: infinitely sharp folds

[Saito & Takahashi 90]
View-Independent Object-Space Lines

Ridges and valleys (crest lines)
- Local maxima of curvature
- Sometimes effective, sometimes not

[Thirion 92, Interrante 95, Stylianou 00, Pauly 03, Ohtake 04 …]
View-Dependent Object-Space Lines

+ Seem to be perceived as conveying shape
  - Must be recomputed per frame
What Lines to Draw?

Silhouettes:

– Boundaries between object and background
What Lines to Draw?

Occluding contours:
- Depth discontinuities
- Surface normal perpendicular to view direction

[Saito & Takahashi 90, Winkenbach & Salesin 94, Markosian et al 97, …]
Occluding Contours

For any shape: locations of depth discontinuities
- View dependent
- Also called “interior and exterior silhouettes”

no contour from this viewpoint

contour from this viewpoint
Occluding Contours

For smooth shapes: points at which \( n \cdot v = 0 \)
Occluding Contours on Meshes

Applying either definition on polygonal meshes can result in messy lines.
Occluding Contours on Meshes

Alternative: interpolate normals within faces
- Start with per-vertex normals
- Interpolate per-face (same as Phong shading)
- Compute $n \cdot v$ at each point, find zero crossings
- Potential snag: visibility

$n \cdot v > 0$

$n \cdot v = 0$

$n \cdot v < 0$
Occluding Contours on Meshes

Contours along edges

Contours within faces

Frontfacing
Backfacing
Contour
What Lines to Draw?

There are other lines…

[Flaxman 1805]
What Lines to Draw?

There are other lines…

[Flaxman 1805]
What Lines to Draw?

There are other lines…

Hypothesis: some are “almost contours”
Suggestive Contours

“Almost contours”: 
– Points that become contours in nearby views

contours

contours + suggestive contours
Suggestive Contours: Definition 1

Contours in nearby viewpoints

(not corresponding to contours in closer views)
Suggestive Contours: Definition 2

\(n \cdot v\) not quite zero, but a local minimum (in the projected view direction \(w\))
Results...

contours

contours + suggestive contours
Results...

contours

contours + suggestive contours
Results...

contours

contours + suggestive contours
Abstraction in NPR

User guided approaches
– the user explicitly marks the important content

[Durand et al. 2001] [Hertzmann 2001]
Abstraction in NPR

Indication in pen and ink illustration
– the user specified what content was important
Abstraction in NPR

Provide control over point of emphasis
– control clutter in the rendered image

[Cole et al. 2006]
Abstraction in NPR

Rendering specific content: trees

– programatically leave out lines in center of tree

[Kowalski et al. 1999]

[Deussen 2000]
Abstraction in NPR

Select elements based on density and clutter
– drop strokes in areas of high density

[Winson and Ma 2004]

[Grabli et al. 2004]
Abstraction in NPR

User guided approaches

– infer important content from a user’s eye movements

– evaluate using eye tracking [Santella and DeCarlo 2004]

[DeCarlo and Santella 2002]
Eye movements

Recorded using commercial eye-trackers
Results…
Summary

NPR provides control over style, abstraction

Common ingredients: toon shading, outline strokes, hatching, paint, paper effect