

3D Rendering Intro & Ray Casting

COS 426, Spring 2020 Felix Heide Princeton University



Ed Catmull and Pat Hanrahan win ACM Turing award



Syllabus



I. Image processing

- II. Modeling
- **III.** Rendering
- **IV.** Animation

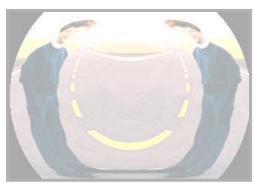
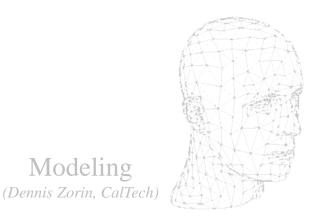
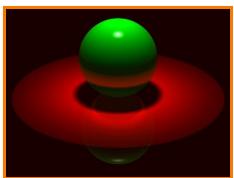


Image Processing (Rusty Coleman, CS426, Fall99)



Modeling



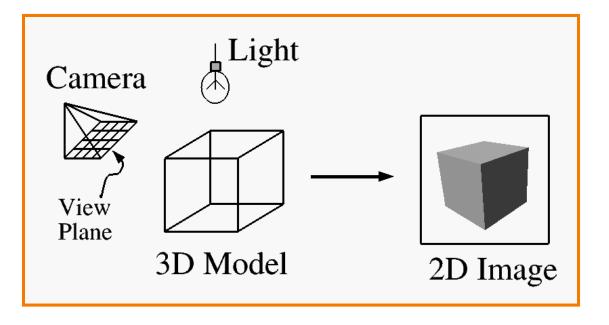
Rendering (Michael Bostock, CS426, Fall99)

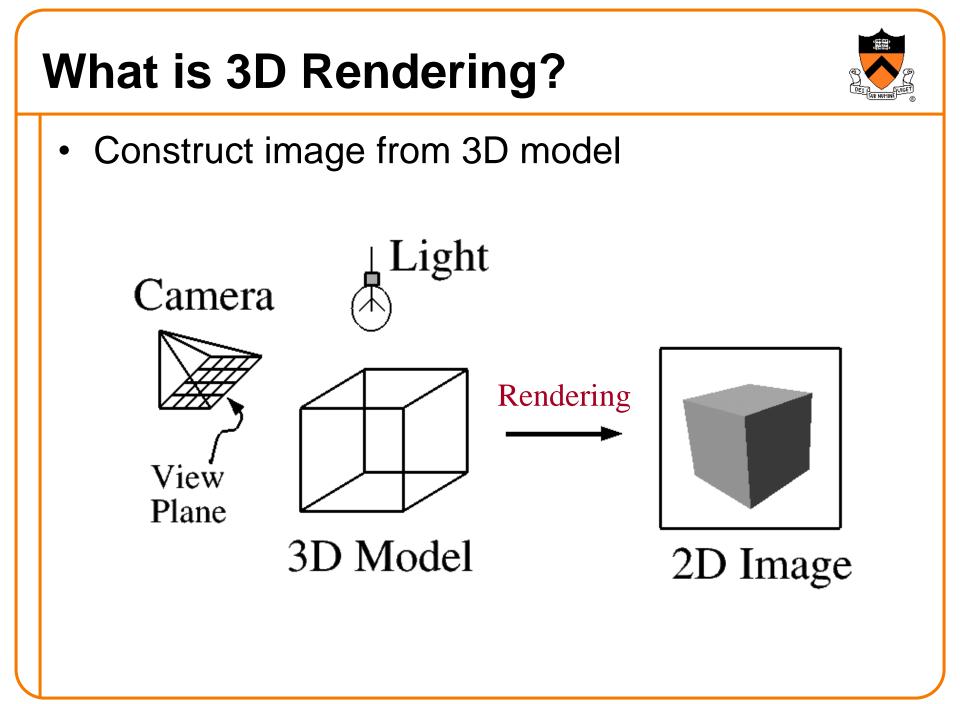


What is 3D Rendering?



- Topics in computer graphics
 - Imaging = representing 2D images
 - Modeling = representing 3D objects
 - Rendering = constructing 2D images from 3D models
 - Animation = *simulating changes over time*

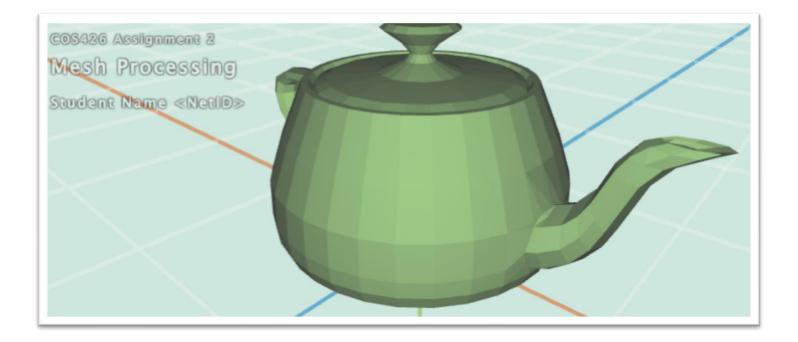




Interactive 3D Rendering



 Images generated in fraction of a second (e.g., 1/30) as user controls rendering parameters (e.g., camera)
 » Achieve highest quality possible in given time
 » Useful for visualization, games, etc.



Offline 3D Rendering



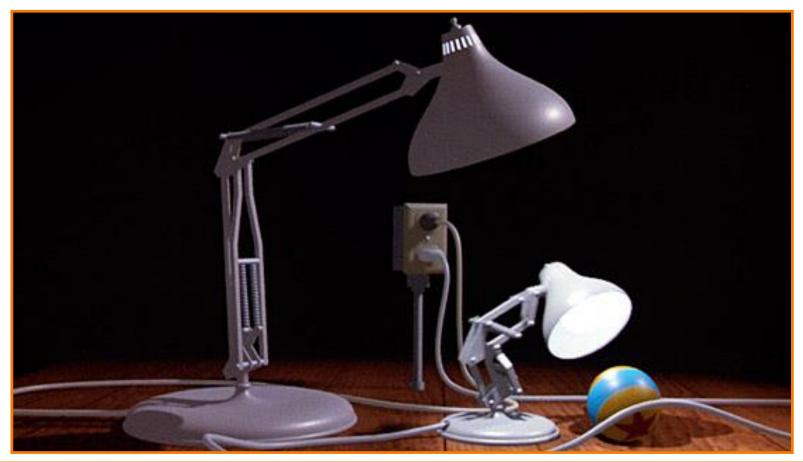
Avatar

 One image generated with as much quality as possible for a particular set of rendering parameters
 » Take as much time as is needed (minutes, hours...)
 » Photorealism: movies, cut scenes, etc.



 What issues must be addressed by a 3D rendering system?

Pixar





- What issues must be addressed by a 3D rendering system?
 - Camera
 - Visible surface determinaton
 - Lights
 - Reflectance
 - Shadows
 - Indirect illumination
 - Sampling
 - etc.

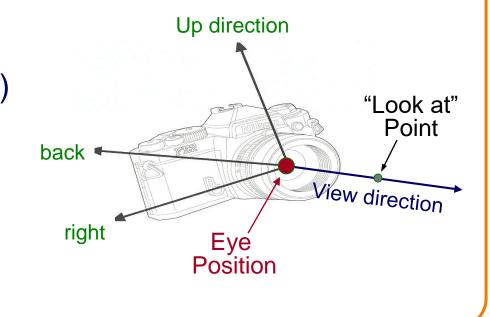


- What issues must be addressed by a 3D rendering system?
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Pinhole Camera Parameters

- Position
 - Eye position (p_x , p_y , p_z)
- Orientation
 - View direction (d_x , d_y , d_z) or "look at" point
 - Up direction (u_x, u_y, u_z)
- Coverage

 Field of view (fov_x, fov_y)
- Resolution
 x and y







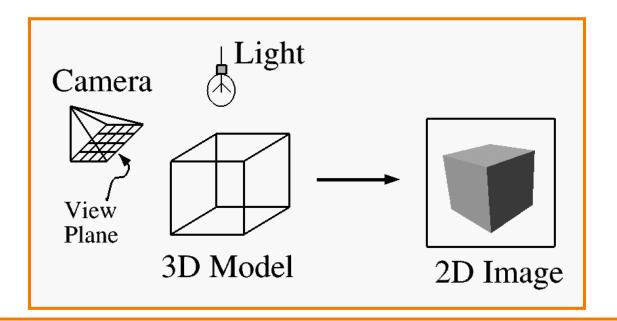
- What issues must be addressed by a 3D rendering system?
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Visible Surface Determination



 The color of each pixel on the view plane depends on the radiance ("amount of light") emanating from visible surfaces

How find visible surfaces?



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- What issues must be addressed by a 3D rendering system?
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Lighting Simulation Viewer



- What issues must be addressed by a 3D rendering system?
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Shadows



Occlusions from light sources
 Soft shadows with area light source



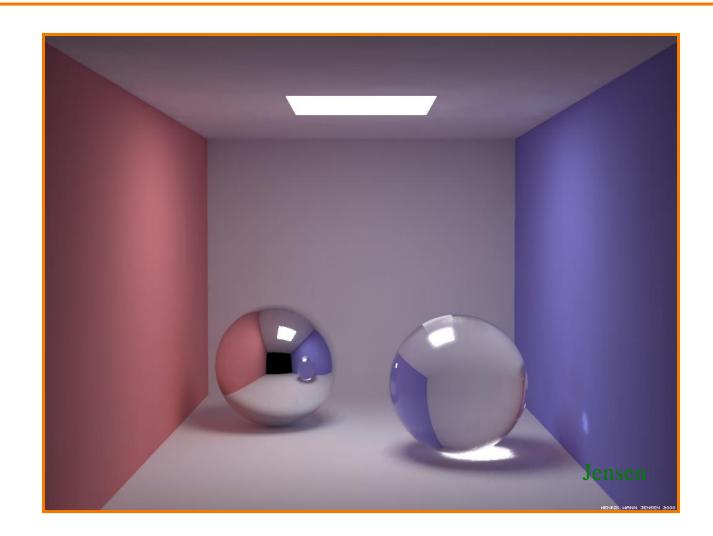




- What issues must be addressed by a 3D rendering system?
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Indirect Illumination





Henrik Wann Jensen

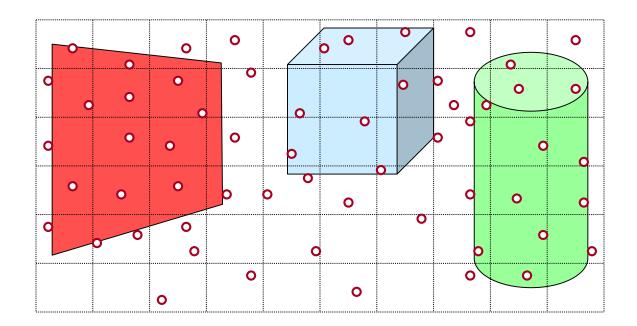


- What issues must be addressed by a 3D rendering system?
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Sampling



- Scene can be sampled with any ray
 - Rendering is a problem in sampling and reconstruction

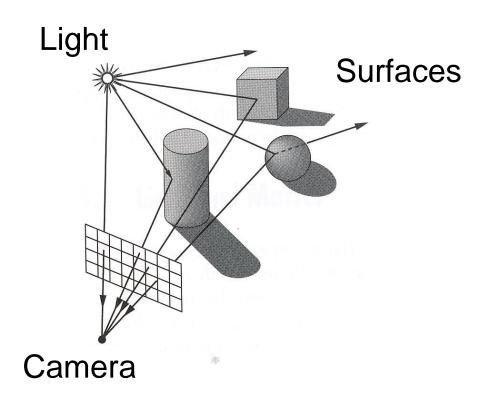




Rendering Method I: Ray Casting



 The color of each pixel on the view plane depends on the radiance emanating along rays from visible surfaces in scene

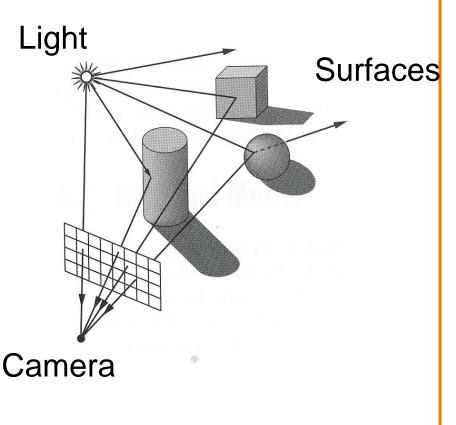


Scene



- Scene has:
 - Scene graph with surface primitives
 - Set of lights
 - Camera

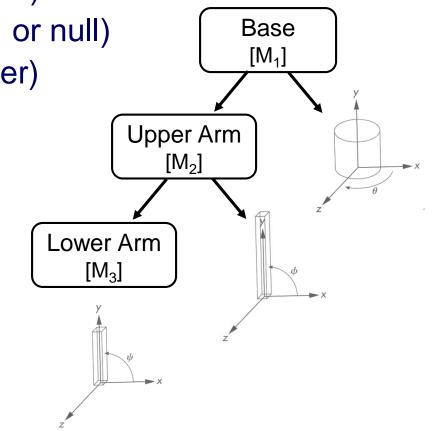
};



Scene Graph



- Scene graph is hierarchy of nodes, each with:
 - Bounding box (in node's coordinate system)
 - Transformation (4x4 matrix)
 - Shape (mesh, sphere, ... or null)
 - Material (more on this later)



• Simple scene graph implementation:

```
struct R3Node {
    struct R3Node *parent;
    vector<struct R3Node *> children;
    R3Shape *shape;
    R3Matrix transformation;
    R3Material *material;
    R3Box bbox;
};
```

struct R3Shape { R3ShapeType type; R3Box *box; R3Sphere *sphere; R3Cylinder *cylinder; R3Cone *cone; R3Mesh *mesh;

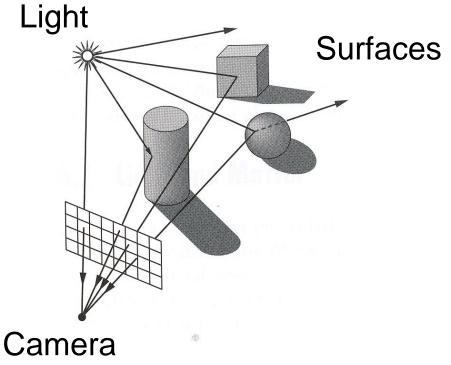
};

Scene Graph





- For each sample (pixel) ...
 - Construct ray from eye position through view plane
 - Compute radiance leaving first point of intersection between ray and scene





• Simple implementation:

```
R2Image *RayCast(R3Scene *scene, int width, int height)
    R2Image *image = new R2Image(width, height);
    for (int i = 0; i < width; i++) {
        for (int j = 0; j < \text{height}; j++) \{
             R3Ray ray = ConstructRayThroughPixel(scene->camera, i, j);
             R3Rgb radiance = ComputeRadiance(scene, &ray);
             image->SetPixel(i, j, radiance);
    return image;
```

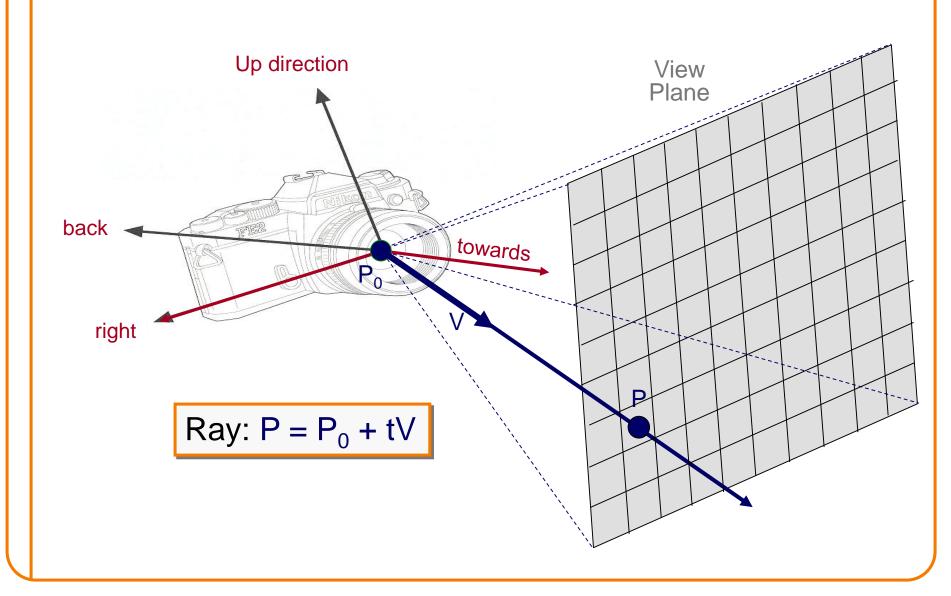


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Constructing Ray Through a Pixel







Constructing Ray Through a Pixel

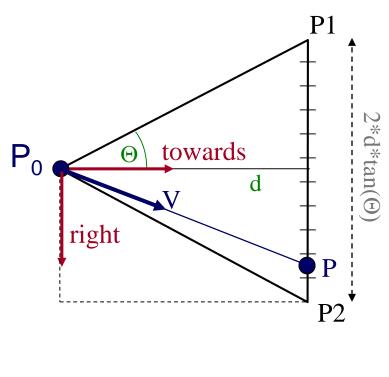
• 2D Example

 Θ = frustum **half**-angle d = distance to view plane

right = towards \times up

 $P1 = P_0 + d*towards - d*tan(\Theta)*right$ $P2 = P_0 + d*towards + d*tan(\Theta)*right$

P = P1 + ((i + 0.5) / width) * (P2 - P1)V = (P - P₀) / ||P - P₀ || (d cancels out...)



Ray:
$$P = P_0 + tV$$



• Simple implementation:

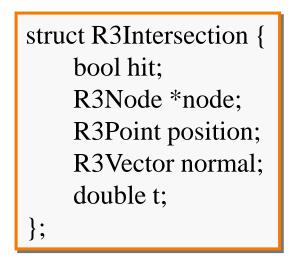
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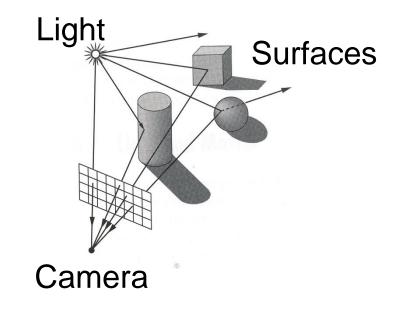


• Simple implementation:

R3Rgb ComputeRadiance(R3Scene *scene, R3Ray *ray)

R3Intersection intersection = ComputeIntersection(scene, ray); return ComputeRadiance(scene, ray, intersection);



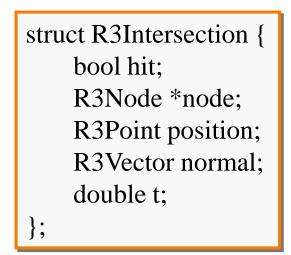


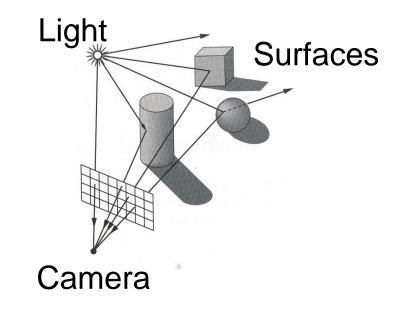


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Ray Intersection

- Ray Intersection
 - Sphere
 - Triangle
 - Box
 - Scene
- Ray Intersection Acceleration
 - Bounding volumes
 - Uniform grids
 - Octrees
 - BSP trees



Ray Intersection

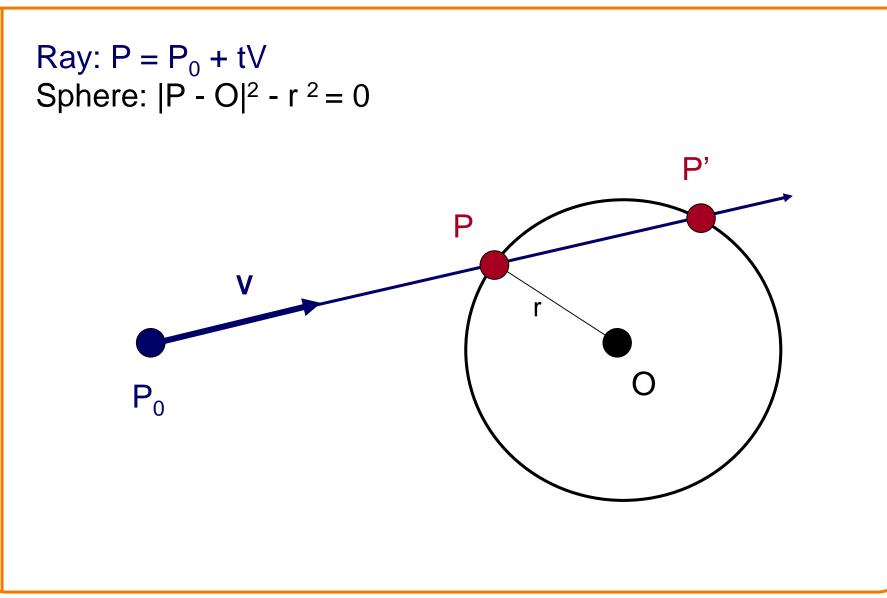
- Ray Intersection
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Ray-Sphere Intersection Ρ' Ρ V P_0

Ray-Sphere Intersection





Ray-Sphere Intersection I

Ray: $P = P_0 + tV$ Sphere: $|P - O|^2 - r^2 = 0$

Substituting for P, we get: $|\mathbf{P_0} + \mathbf{tV} - \mathbf{O}|^2 - r^2 = 0$

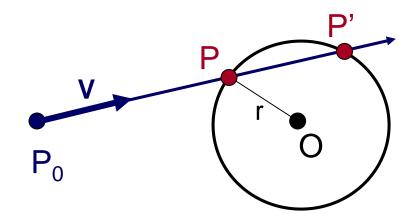
Solve quadratic equation: $at^2 + bt + c = 0$

where:

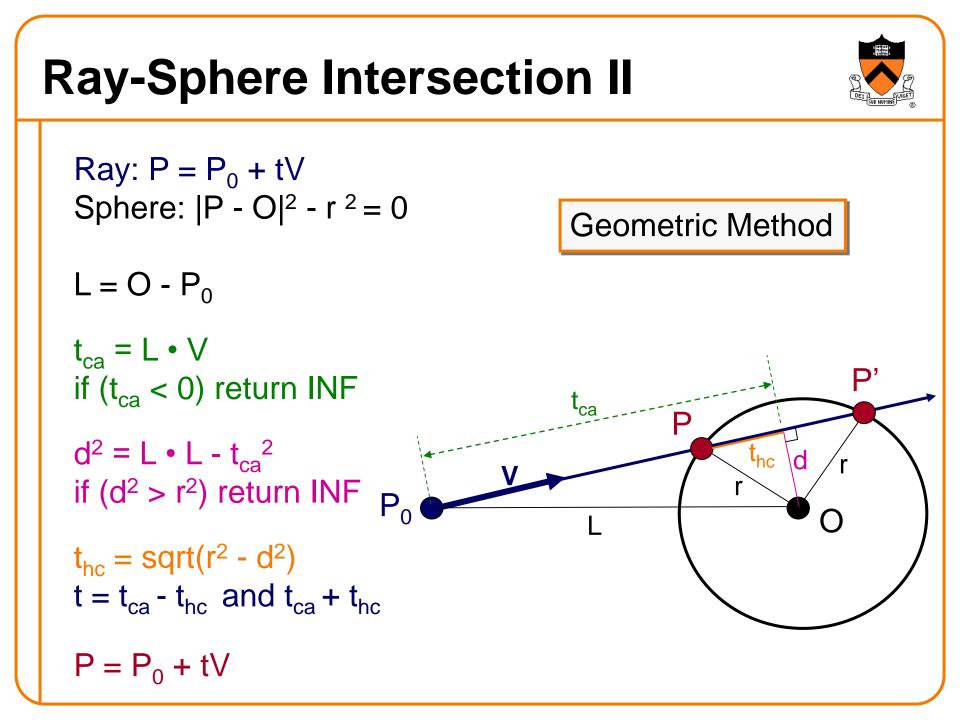
a = V²
b = 2 V • (P₀ - O)
c =
$$|P_0 - C|^2 - r^2 = 0$$

 $P = P_0 + tV$

Algebraic Method





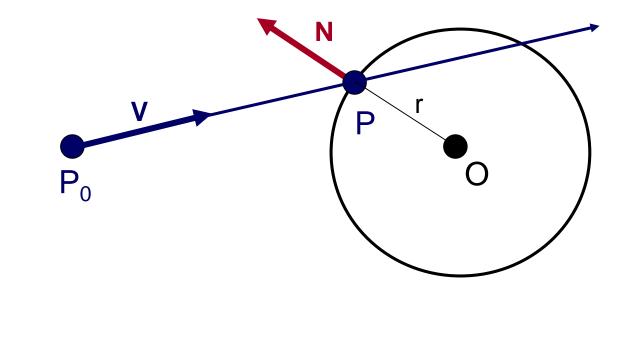


Ray-Sphere Intersection



• Need normal vector at intersection for lighting calculations (next lecture)

N = (P - O) / ||P - O||

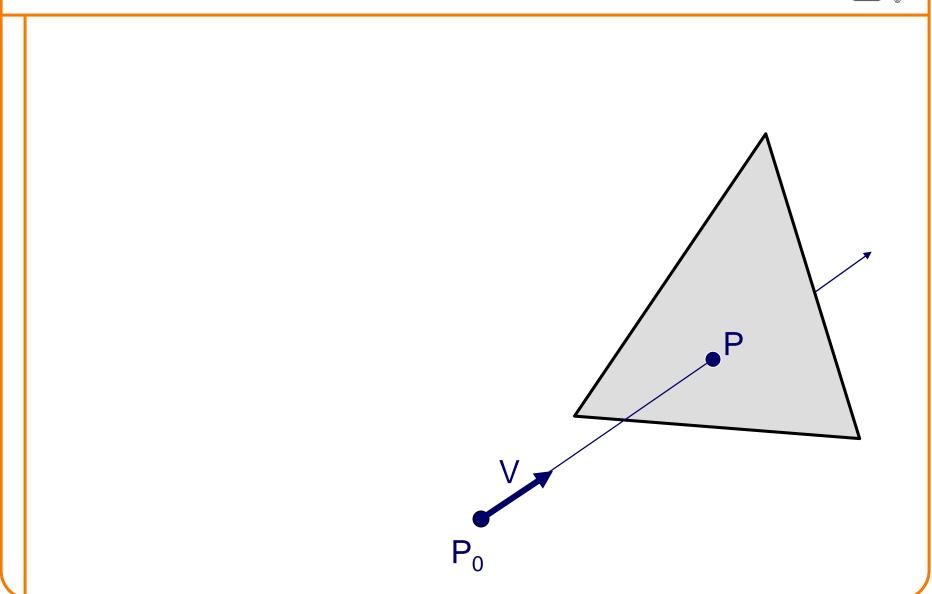


Ray Intersection

- Ray Intersection
 - Sphere
 - ➤ Triangle
 - Box
 - Scene
- Ray Intersection Acceleration
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Ray-Triangle Intersection

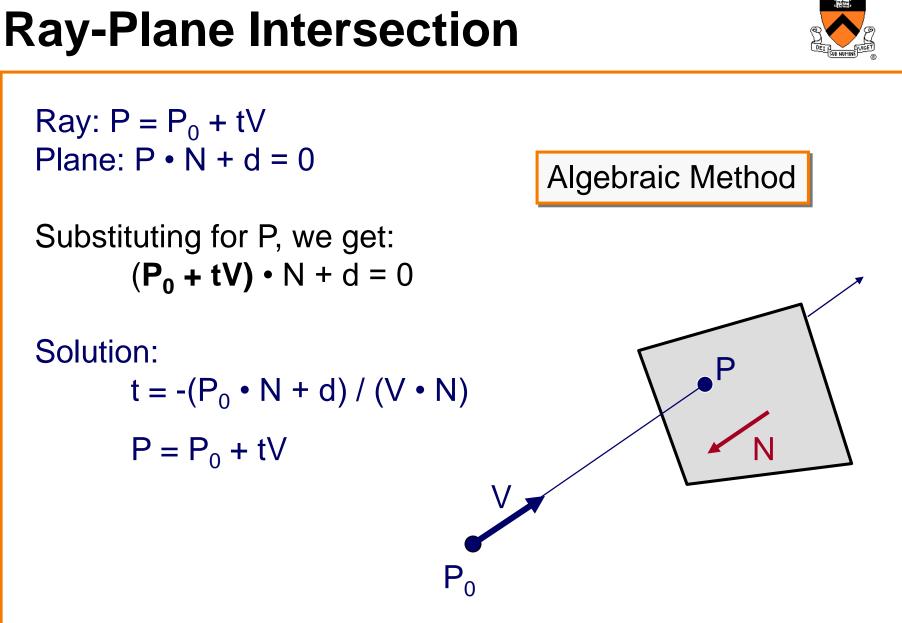


Ray-Triangle Intersection



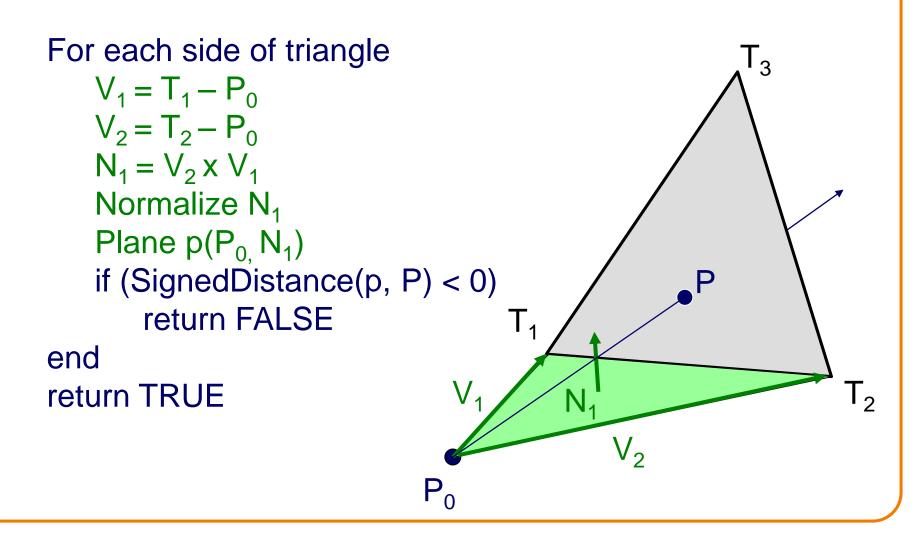
- First, intersect ray with plane
- Then, check if intersection point is inside triangle
 P

\/



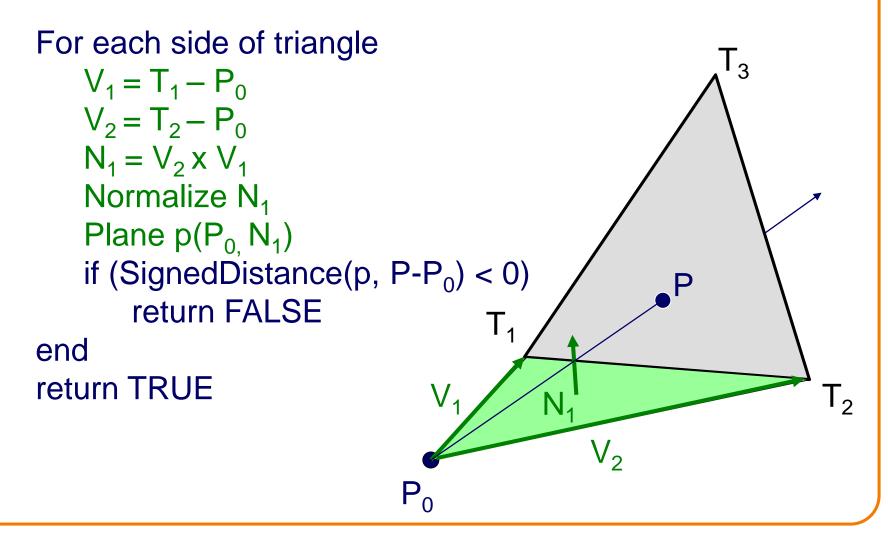
Ray-Triangle Intersection I

- Check if point is inside triangle algebraically



Ray-Triangle Intersection I

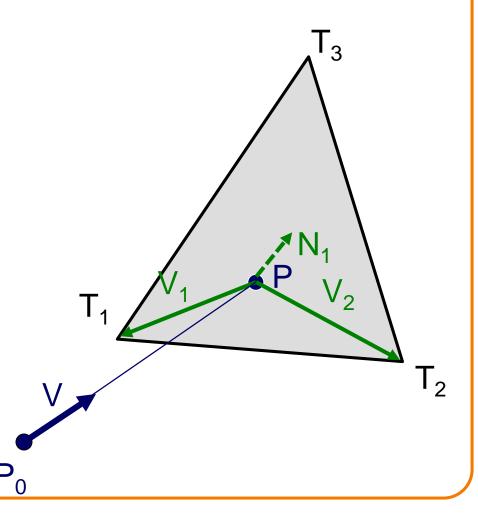
- Check if point is inside triangle algebraically



Ray-Triangle Intersection II

• Check if point is inside triangle algebraically

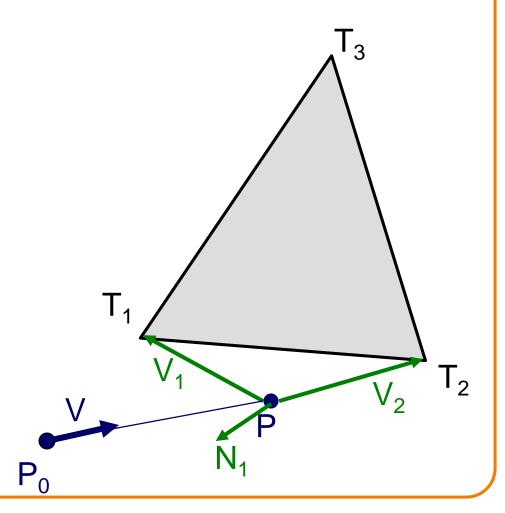
```
For each side of triangle
   V_1 = T_1 - P
   V_2 = T_2 - P
    N_1 = V_2 \times V_1
   if (V \bullet N_1 < 0)
        return FALSE
end
return TRUE
```



Ray-Triangle Intersection II

• Check if point is inside triangle algebraically

```
For each side of triangle
   V_1 = T_1 - P
   V_2 = T_2 - P
    N_1 = V_2 \times V_1
   if (V \bullet N_1 < 0)
        return FALSE
end
return TRUE
```





Ray-Triangle Intersection III

- Check if point is inside triangle parametrically

"Barycentric coordinates" α , β , γ : l 3 $P = \alpha T_3 + \beta T_2 + \gamma T_1$ where $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 1$ $\alpha = \operatorname{Area}(T_1T_2P) / \operatorname{Area}(T_1T_2T_3)$ $\beta = \text{Area}(T_1PT_3) / \text{Area}(T_1T_2T_3)$ $\gamma = \text{Area}(\text{PT}_2\text{T}_3) / \text{Area}(\text{T}_1\text{T}_2\text{T}_3)$ $-\alpha - \beta$ $= 1 - \alpha - \beta$ α T_2

Ray-Triangle Intersection III



12

3

 $-\alpha$ -B

α

Check if point is inside triangle parametrically

Compute "barycentric coordinates" α , β : $\alpha = Area(T_1T_2P) / Area(T_1T_2T_3)$ $\beta = Area(T_1PT_3) / Area(T_1T_2T_3)$

Area $(T_1T_2T_3) = \frac{1}{2} || (T2-T1) \times (T3-T1) ||$ check if backfacing: $((T2-T1) \times (T3-T1)) \cdot N < 0$

Check if point inside triangle. $0 \le \alpha \le 1$ and $0 \le \beta \le 1$ and $\alpha + \beta \le 1$

Ray Intersection

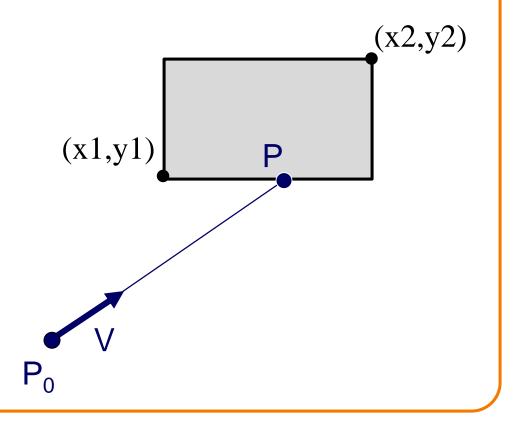
- Ray Intersection
 - Sphere
 - Triangle
 - ➢ Box
 - Scene
- Ray Intersection Acceleration
 - Bounding volumes
 - Uniform grids
 - Octrees
 - BSP trees



Ray-Box Intersection



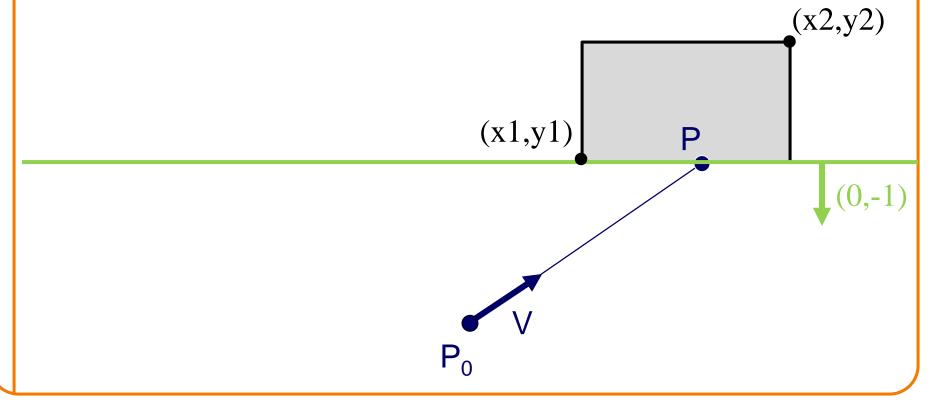
 Check front-facing sides for intersection with ray and return closest intersection (least t)



Ray-Box Intersection



- Check front-facing sides for intersection with ray and return closest intersection (least t)
 - Find intersection with plane
 - Check if point is inside rectangle



Ray-Box Intersection

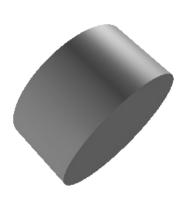


 Check front-facing sides for intersection with ray and return closest intersection (least t) Find intersection with plane Check if point is inside rectangle (x2,y2)(x1,y1)

Other Ray-Primitive Intersections



- Cone, cylinder:
 - Similar to sphere
 - Must also check end caps
- Convex polygon



- Same as triangle (check point-in-polygon algebraically)
- Or, decompose into triangles, and check all of them
- Mesh
 - Compute intersection for all polygons
 - Return closest intersection (least t)

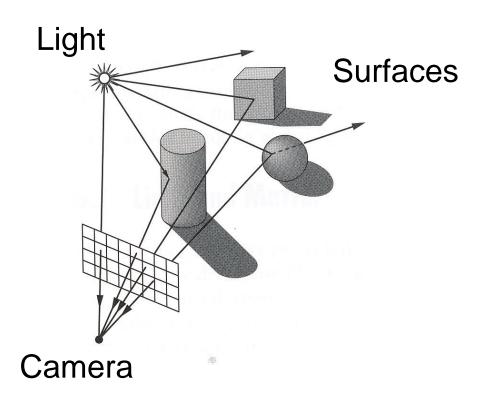
Ray Intersection

- Ray Intersection
 - Sphere
 - Triangle
 - Box
 - Scene
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 - Bounding volumes
 - Uniform grids
 - Octrees
 - BSP trees



Ray-Scene Intersection

- Intuitive method
 - Compute intersection for all nodes of scene graph
 - Return closest intersection (least t)



Ray-Scene Intersection • Scene graph is a DAG Traverse with recursion Light Surfaces Sphere Cylinder Box Camera

Ray-Scene Intersection I



R3Intersection ComputeIntersection(R3Scene *scene, R3Node *node, R3Ray *ray)

// Check for intersection with shape

shape_intersection = Intersect node's shape with ray
if (shape_intersection is a hit) closest_intersection = shape_intersection
else closest_intersection = infinitely far miss

// Check for intersection with children nodes

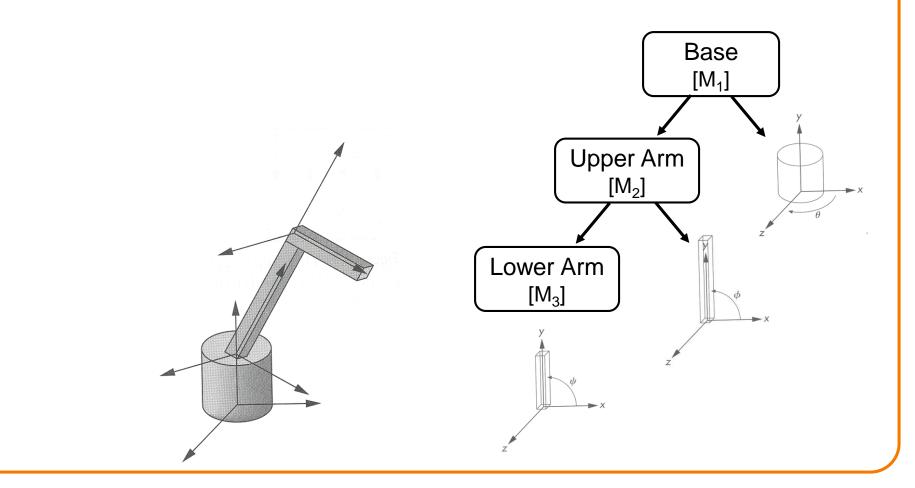
for each child node

// Return closest intersection in tree rooted at this node
return closest_intersection

Ray-Scene Intersection



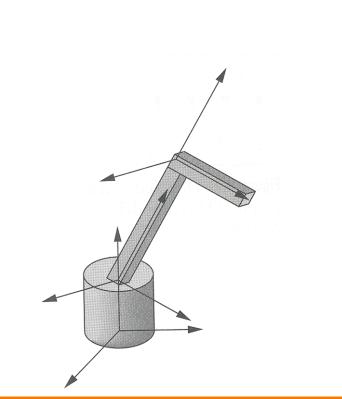
• Scene graph can have transformations

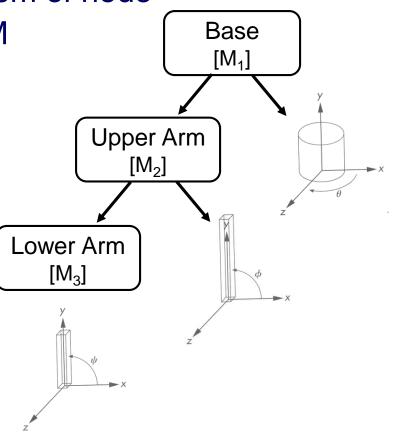


Ray-Scene Intersection



- Scene graph node can have transformations
 - Transform ray (not primitives) by inverse of M
 - Intersect in coordinate system of node
 - Transform intersection by M





Ray-Scene Intersection II



R3Intersection ComputeIntersection(R3Scene *scene, R3Node *node, R3Ray *ray)

// Transform ray by inverse of node's transformation

// Check for intersection with shape

// Check for intersection with children nodes

// Transform intersection by node's transformation

// Return closest intersection in tree rooted at this node

Ray-Scene Intersection II



R3Intersection ComputeIntersection(R3Scene *scene, R3Node *node, R3Ray *ray)

// Transform ray by inverse of node's transformation

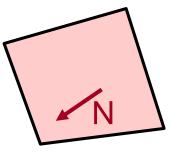
// Check for intersection with shape

// Check for intersection with children nodes

// Transform intersection by node's transformation

// Return closest intersection in tree rooted at this node

Note: directions (including ray direction and surface normal N) must be transformed by inverse transpose of M



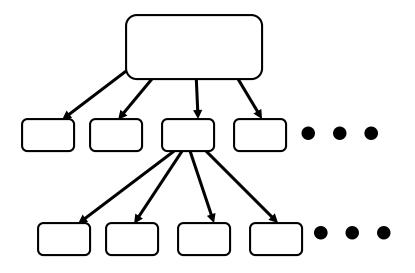
Ray Intersection

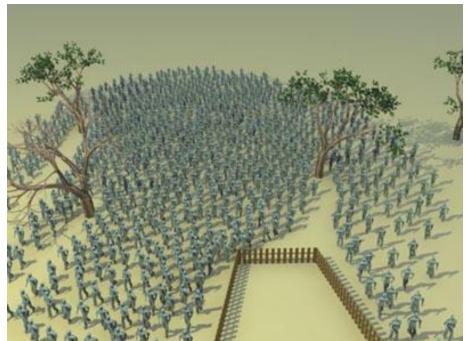
- Ray Intersection
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 - BSP trees



Ray Intersection Acceleration

• What if there are a lot of nodes?

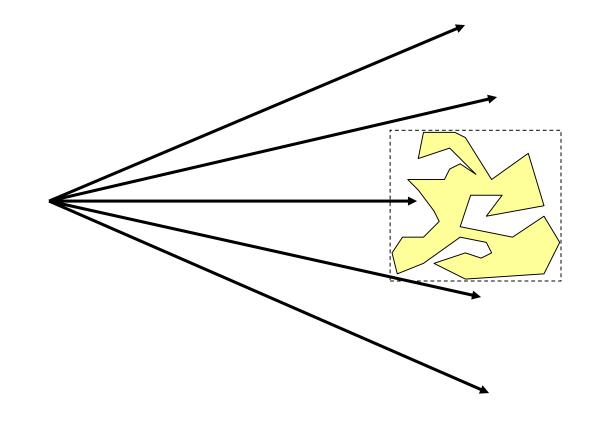




http://www.3dm3.com

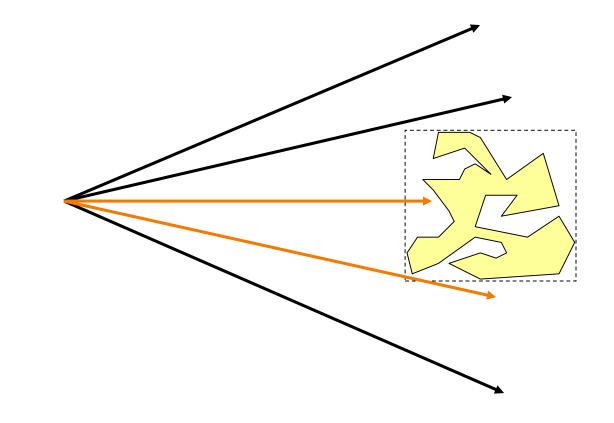


• Check for intersection with simple bounding volume first



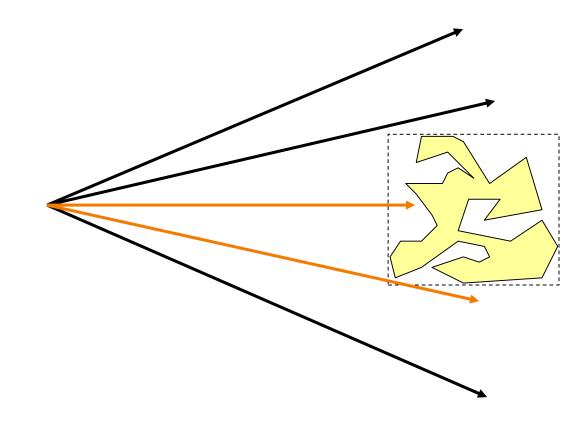


Check for intersection with bounding volume first



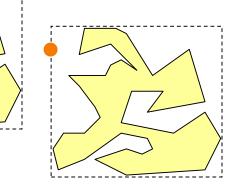


- Check for intersection with bounding volume first
 - If ray doesn't intersect bounding volume, then it can't intersect its contents



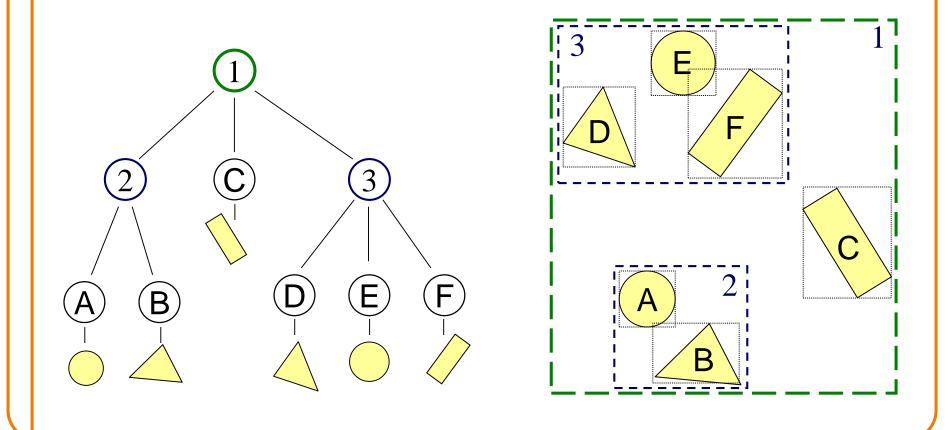


- Check for intersection with bounding volume first
 If already found a primitive intersection closer than
 - intersection with bounding box, then skip checking contents of bounding box



Bounding Volume Hierarchies

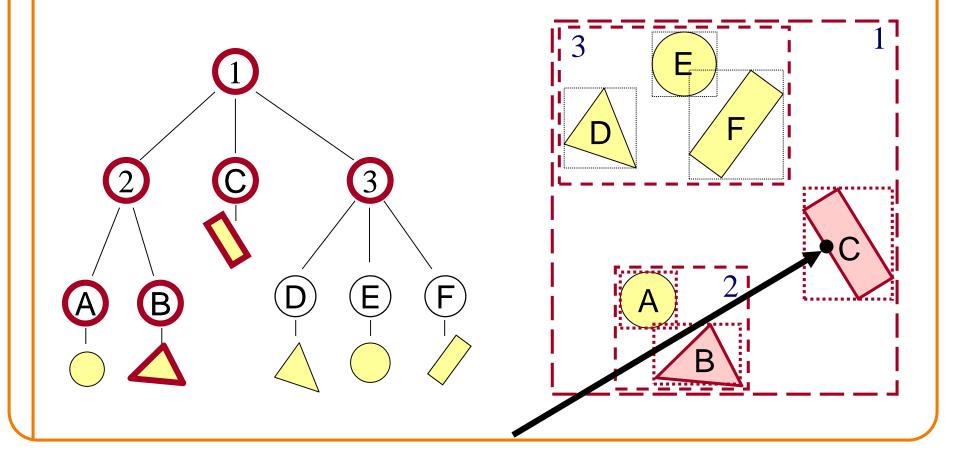
- Scene graph has hierarchy of bounding volumes
 Bounding volume of interior node contains all children



Bounding Volume Hierarchies



• Checking bounding volumes hierarchically (within each node) can greatly accelerate ray intersection



Bounding Volume Hierarchies



R3Intersection ComputeIntersection(R3Scene *scene, R3Node *node, R3Ray *ray)

// Transform ray by inverse of node's transformation
// Check for intersection with shape

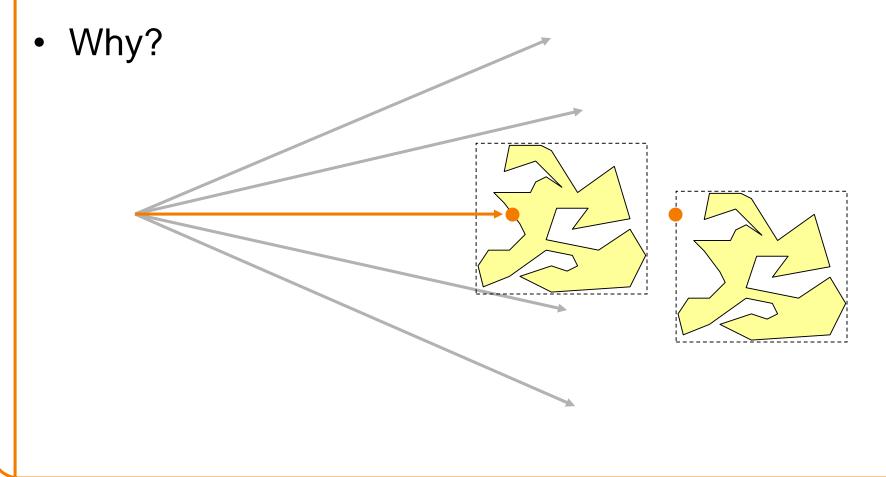
// Check for intersection with children nodes for each child node

// Check for intersection with child bounding box first
bbox_intersection = Intersect child's bounding box with ray
if (bbox_intersection is a miss or further than closest_intersection) continue

// Transform intersection by node's transformation// Return closest intersection in tree rooted at this node

Sort Bounding Volume Intersection

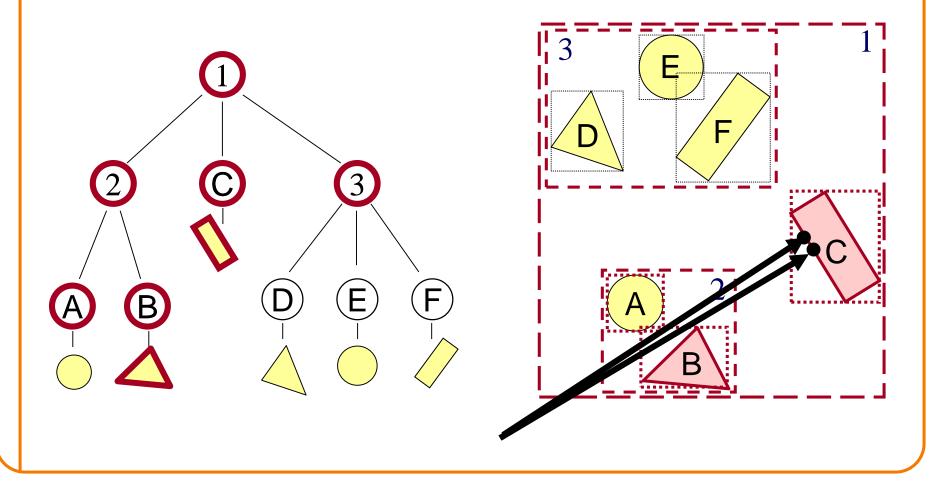
 Sort child bounding volume intersections and then visit child nodes in front-to-back order



Cache Node Intersections



• For each node, store closest child intersection from previous ray and check that node first



Bounding Volumes

- Common primitives are:
 - Axis-aligned bounding box
 - Sphere
- What are the tradeoffs?
 - Sphere has simple/efficient intersection code
 - Bounding box is generally "tighter"



Ray Intersection

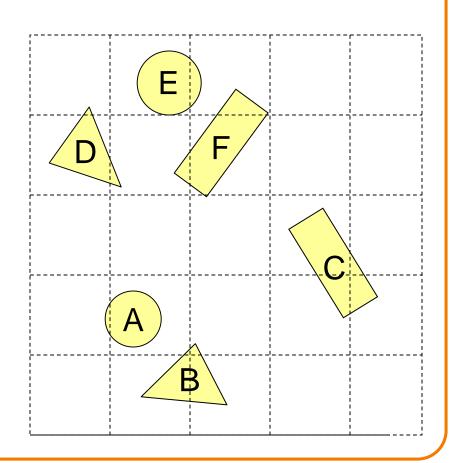
- Ray Intersection
 - Sphere
 - Triangle
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- Ray Intersection Acceleration
 - Bounding volumes
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 - BSP trees



Uniform Grid



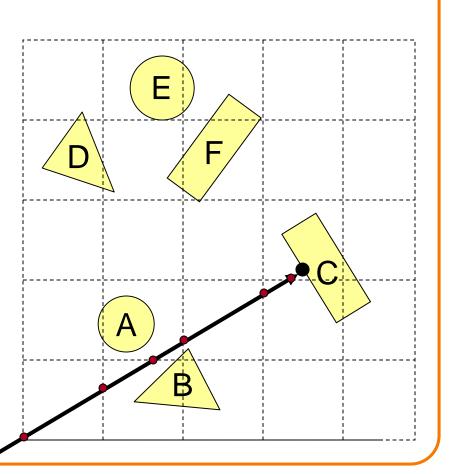
- Construct uniform grid over scene
 - Index primitives according to overlaps with grid cells



- Trace rays through grid cells
 - Fast
 - Incremental

Uniform Grid

Only check primitives in intersected grid cells

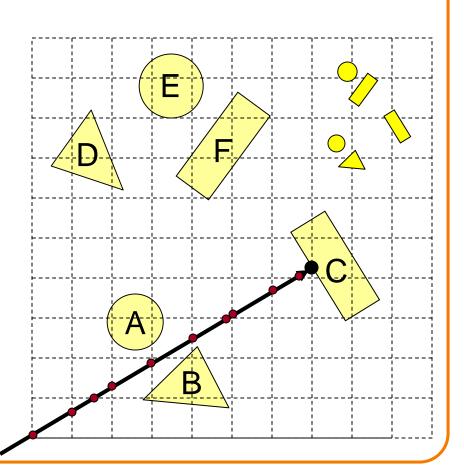




- Uniform Grid
 - Potential problem:
 - How choose suitable grid resolution?

Too little benefit if grid is too coarse

Too much cost if grid is too fine





Ray Intersection

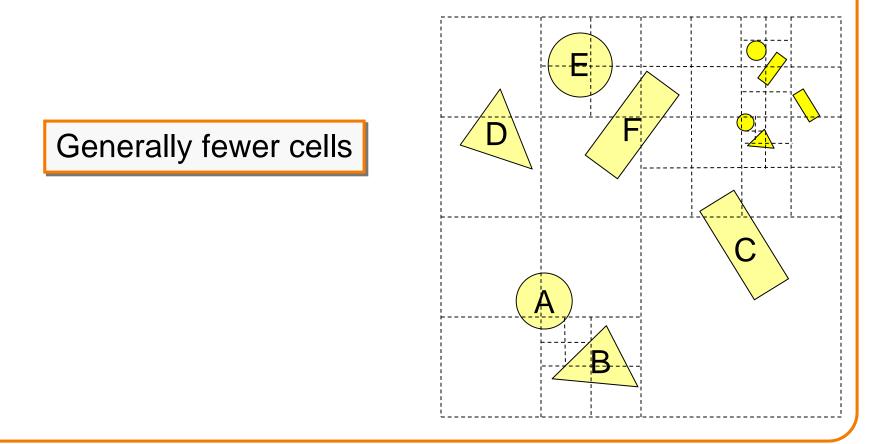
- Ray Intersection
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Octree



- Construct adaptive grid over scene
 - Recursively subdivide box-shaped cells into 8 octants
 - Index primitives by overlaps with cells

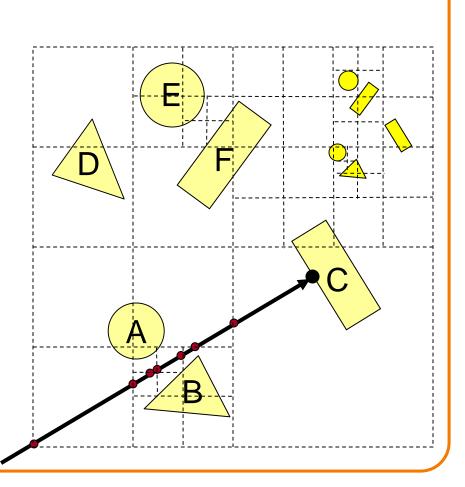


Octree



Trace rays through neighbor cells
 Fewer cells

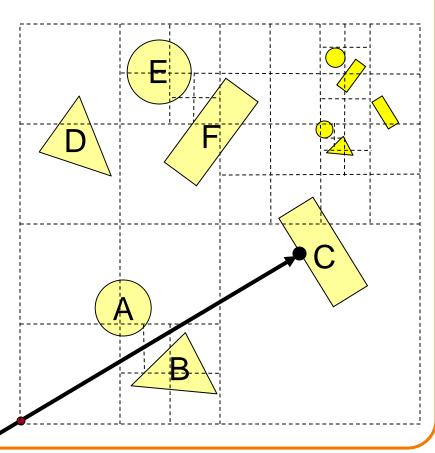
Trade-off fewer cells for more expensive traversal



Octree



- Or, check rays versus octree boxes hierarchically
 - Computing octree boxes while descending tree
 - Sort eight boxes
 front-to-back at each level
 - Check primitives/children inside box



Ray Intersection

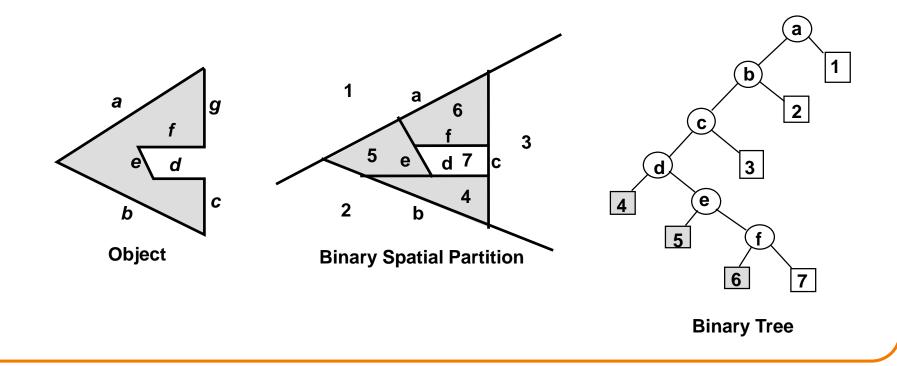
- Ray Intersection
 - Sphere
 - Triangle
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 - ➢ BSP trees



Binary Space Partition (BSP) Tree



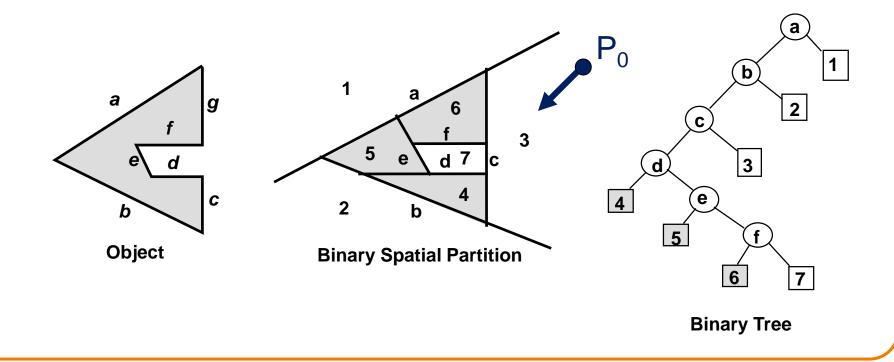
- Recursively partition space by planes
 - BSP tree nodes store partition plane and set of polygons lying on that partition plane
 - Every part of every polygon lies on a partition plane



Binary Space Partition (BSP) Tree



- Traverse nodes of BSP tree front-to-back
 - Visit halfspace (child node) containing P₀
 - Intersect polygons lying on partition plane
 - \circ Visit halfspace (other child node) not containing P₀



Binary Space Partition (BSP) Tree



R3Intersection ComputeBSPIntersection(R3Ray *ray, BspNode *node, double min_t, double max_t)

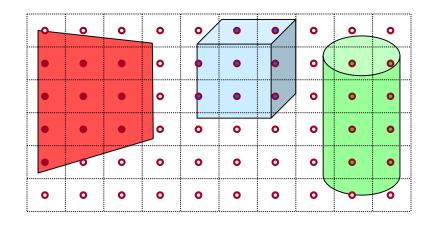
// Compute parametric value of ray-plane intersection
t = ray parameter for intersection with split plane of node
if (t < min_t) || (t < max_t)) return no_intersection;</pre>

// Compute side of partition plane that contains ray start point int side = (SignedDistance(node->plane, ray.Start()) < 0) ? 0 : 1; intersection1 = ComputeBSPIntersection(ray, node->child[side], min_t, t); if (intersection1 is a hit) return intersection1; intersection2 = ComputePolygonsIntersection(ray, node->polygons); if (intersection2 is a hit) return intersection2; intersection3 = ComputeBSPIntersection(ray, node->child[1-side], t, max_t); return intersection 3;

Other Accelerations



- Screen space coherence check > 1 ray at once
 - Beam tracing
 - Pencil tracing
 - Cone tracing
- Memory coherence
 Large scenes



- Parallelism
 - Ray casting is "embarrassingly parallelizable"
 - Assignment 3 (raytracer) runs program per-pixel
- etc.

Acceleration



- Intersection acceleration techniques are important
 - Bounding volume hierarchies
 - Spatial partitions
- General concepts
 - Sort objects spatially
 - Make trivial rejections quick
 - Perform checks hierarchically
 - Utilize coherence when possible

Expected time is sub-linear in number of primitives

Summary



- Writing a simple ray casting renderer is easy
 - Generate rays
 - Intersection tests
 - Lighting calculations

```
R2Image *RayCast(R3Scene *scene, int width, int height)
{
    R2Image *image = new R2Image(width, height);
    for (int i = 0; i < width; i++) {
        for (int j = 0; j < height; j++) {
            R3Ray ray = ConstructRayThroughPixel(scene->camera, i, j);
            R3Rgb radiance = ComputeRadiance(scene, &ray);
            image->SetPixel(i, j, radiance);
        }
    }
    return image;
}
```

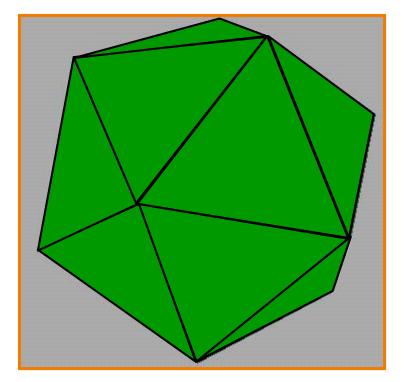


Heckbert's Business Card Ray Tracer

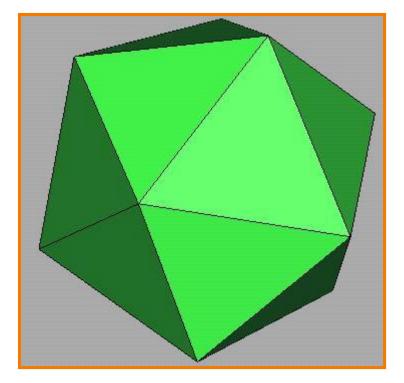
typedef struct{double x,y,z}vec;vec U,black,amb={.02,.02,.02};struct sphere{ vec cen,color; double rad,kd,ks,kt,kl,ir}*s,*best,sph[]={0.,6.,.5,1.,1.,1.,.9, .05,.2,.85,0.,1.7,-1.,8.,-.5,1.,.5,.2,1., .7,.3,0,.05,1.2,1.,8,,-.5,.1,.8,.8, 1,..3,.7,0,.0,,1.2,3,,-6,,15,,1,.8,1,,7,,0,,0,,0,,6,1.5,-3,,-3,,12,, .8,1., 1.,5.,0.,0.,0.,.5,1.5,};yx;double u,b,tmin,sqrt(),tan();double vdot(A,B)vec A ,B;{return A.x *B.x+A.y*B.y+A.z*B.z;}vec vcomb(a,A,B)double a;vec A,B;{B.x+=a* A.x;B.y+=a*A.y;B.z+=a*A.z; return B;}vec vunit(A)vec A;{return vcomb(1./sqrt(vdot(A,A)),A,black);}struct sphere*intersect (P,D)vec P,D;{best=0;tmin=1e30;s= sph+5;while(s-->sph)b=vdot(D,U=vcomb(-1.,P,s->cen)), u=b*b-vdot(U,U)+s->rad*s ->rad,u=u>0?sqrt(u):1e31,u=b-u>1e-7?b-u:b+u,tmin=u>=1e-7&& u<tmin?best=s,u: tmin;return best;}vec trace(level,P,D)vec P,D;{double d,eta,e;vec N,color; struct sphere*s,*l;if(!level--)return black;if(s=intersect(P,D));else return amb;color=amb;eta= s->ir;d= -vdot(D,N=vunit(vcomb(-1.,P=vcomb(tmin,D,P),s->cen)));if(d<0)N=vcomb(-1.,N,black), eta=1/eta,d= -d;l=sph+5;while(l-->sph)if((e=l ->kl*vdot(N,U=vunit(vcomb(-1.,P,l->cen))))>0&& intersect(P,U)==I)color=vcomb(e,I->color,color);U=s->color;color.x*=U.x;color.y*=U.y;color.z *=U.z;e=1-eta* eta*(1-d*d);return vcomb(s->kt,e>0?trace(level,P,vcomb(eta,D,vcomb(eta*dsqrt (e),N,black))):black,vcomb(s->ks,trace(level,P,vcomb(2*d,N,D)),vcomb(s->kd, color,vcomb (s->kl,U,black))));}main(){printf("%d %d\n",32,32);while(yx<32*32) U.x=yx%32-32/2,U.z=32/2yx++/32,U.y=32/2/tan(25/114.5915590261),U=vcomb(255., trace(3,black,vunit(U)),black),printf ("%.0f %.0f %.0f\n",U);}/*minray!*/

Next Time is Illumination!





Without Illumination



With Illumination