Programmable GPUS

For the Birds, Pixar, 2000
Last Time?

- Planar Shadows
- Projective Texture Shadows
- Shadow Maps
- Shadow Volumes
  - Stencil Buffer

Today

- Papers for Today
- Worksheet on Real-Time Shadows
- Modern Graphics Hardware
- Shader Programming Languages
- Gouraud Shading vs. Phong Normal Interpolation
- Many “Mapping” techniques
- Papers for Next Time
"Rendering Fake Soft Shadows with Smoothies", Chan & Durand, EGSR 2003

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Modern Graphics Hardware

- High performance through
  - Parallelism
  - Specialization
  - No data dependency
  - Efficient pre-fetching

![Diagram of Modern Graphics Hardware]

Programmable Graphics Hardware

- Geometry and pixel (fragment) stage become programmable
  - Elaborate appearance
  - More and more general-purpose computation (GPU hacking)

![Diagram of Programmable Graphics Hardware]
Misc. Stats on Graphics Hardware

- 2005
  - 4-6 geometry units, 16 fragment units
  - Deep pipeline (~800 stages)
- NVIDIA GeForce 9 (Feb 2008)
  - 32/64 cores, 512 MB/1GB memory
- ATI Radeon R700 (2008)
  - 480 stream processing units
- NVIDIA GeForce GTX 480 (2010)
  - 480 cores, 1536 MB memory
  - 2560x1600 resolution
- ATI Radeon HD 7900 (2012)
  - 2048 processors, 3GB memory
- NVIDIA GeForce GTX 680 (2012)
  - 1536 cores, 2040 MB memory
- NVIDIA GeForce GTX 980 (2014)
  - 2048 core, 4 GB RAM
- AMD Radeon R9 275x2 (2014)
  - water cooling, 1200 power supply
  - 5,632 processors, 8 GB RAM,
- NVIDIA GeForce 10 (2016)
  - Almost 4,000 (shaders, texture map, render output)
- Nvidia GeForce RTX 3080 (2021)
  - 8704 cores

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  - Cg design goals
  - GLSL examples
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  Interpolation
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Emerging & Evolving Languages

- Inspired by Shade Trees [Cook 1984] & Renderman Shading Language [1980’s]:
  - RTSL [Stanford 2001] – real-time shading language
  - Cg [NVIDIA 2003] – “C for graphics”
  - GLSL [OpenGL ARB 2004] – OpenGL 2.0
  - Optix [NVIDIA 2009] – Real time ray tracing engine for CUDA
- General Purpose GPU computing
  - CUDA [NVIDIA 2007]
  - OpenCL (Open Computing Language) [Apple 2008]
    for heterogeneous platforms of CPUs & GPUs

Cg Design Goals

- Ease of programming
- Portability
- Complete support for hardware functionality
- Performance
- Minimal interference with application data
- Ease of adoption
- Extensibility for future hardware
- Support for non-shading uses of the GPU

“Cg: A system for programming graphics hardware in a C-like language”
Mark et al. SIGGRAPH 2003
Cg Design

- Hardware is changing rapidly [2003]… no single standard
- Specify “profile” for each hardware
  - May omit support of some language capabilities (e.g., texture lookup in vertex processor)
- Use hardware virtualization or emulation?
  - “Performance would be so poor it would be worthless for most applications”
  - Well, it might be ok for general purpose programming (not real-time graphics)

Cg compiler vs. GPU assembly

- Can inspect the assembly language produced by Cg compiler and perform additional optimizations by hand
  - Generally once development is complete (& output is correct)
- Using Cg is easier than writing GPU assembly from scratch
(Typical) Language Design Issues

- Parameter binding
- Call by reference vs. call by value
- Data types: 32 bit float, 16 bit float, 12 bit fixed & type-promotion (aim for performance)
- Specialized arrays or general-purpose arrays
  - float4 x vs. float x[4]
- Indirect addressing/pointers (not allowed…)
- Recursion (not allowed…)

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GLSL example: hw4_shader.vs

```glsl
// Input vertex data, different for all executions of this shader.
layout(location = 0) in vec3 vertexPosition_modelspace;
layout(location = 1) in vec3 vertexNormal_modelspace;
layout(location = 2) in vec3 vertexColor;

// Output data
out vec3 vertexPosition_worldspace;
out vec3 vertexNormal_worldspace;
out vec3 vertexColor_worldspace;
out vec3 EyeDirection_worldspace;
out vec3 myColor;

// Values that stay constant for the whole mesh.
uniform mat4 MVP;
uniform mat4 V;
uniform mat4 M;
uniform vec3 LightPosition_worldspace;

void main()
{
    // Output position of the vertex, in clip space : MVP * position
    gl_Position = MVP * vec4(vertexPosition_modelspace,1);

    // Position of the vertex, in worldspace : M * position
    vertexPosition_worldspace = (M * vec4(vertexPosition_modelspace,1)).xyz;

    // Vector that goes from the vertex to the camera, in camera space.
    // In camera space, the camera is at the origin (0,0,0).
    vec3 eyeDirection_worldspace = vec3(0,0,1) - vertexPosition_worldspace;
    eyeDirection_worldspace = normalize((M * vec4(vertexNormal_worldspace,0))).xyz;

    // pass color to the fragment shader
    myColor = vertexColor;
}
```

---

GLSL example: hw4_shader.fs

```glsl
in vec3 vertexNormal_worldspace;

// Output data
out vec3 color;

// Values that stay constant for the whole mesh.
uniform vec3 LightPosition_worldspace;
uniform int colormode;
uniform int whichshader;

void main()
{
    vec3 checkerboard(vec3 pos)
    {
        // determine the parity of this point in the 3D checkerboard
        int count = 0;
        if (mod(pos.x,0.3)> 0.15) count++;
        if (mod(pos.y,0.3)> 0.15) count++;
        if (mod(pos.z,0.3)> 0.15) count++;
        if (count == 1 || count == 3 ) {
            return vec3(0,1,0);
        } else {
            return vec3(1,1,1);
        }
    }

    // surface normal
    vec3 surface_normal = vertexNormal_worldspace;

    // Material properties
    vec3 MaterialDiffuseColor = myColor;
    if (whichshader == 1) 
    {
        MaterialDiffuseColor = checkerboard(vertexPosition_worldspace);
    } else if (whichshader == 2) 
    {
        MaterialDiffuseColor = vec3(1,0,0);
    } else if (whichshader == 3) 
    {
        MaterialDiffuseColor = vec3(0,1,1);
    } else if (whichshader == 4) 
    {
        MaterialDiffuseColor = vec3(1,0,0);
    }

    vec3 LightColor = vec3(1,1,1);
    float LightPower = 4.0;

    // surface normal
    vec3 surface_normal = vertexNormal_worldspace;

    // Material properties
    vec3 MaterialDiffuseColor = myColor;
    if (whichshader == 1) 
    {
        MaterialDiffuseColor = checkerboard(vertexPosition_worldspace);
    } else if (whichshader == 2) 
    {
        MaterialDiffuseColor = vec3(1,0,0);
    } else if (whichshader == 3) 
    {
        MaterialDiffuseColor = vec3(0,1,1);
    } else if (whichshader == 4) 
    {
        MaterialDiffuseColor = vec3(1,0,0);
    }

    // shading
    vec3 diffuse = MaterialDiffuseColor * LightColor;
    vec3 ambient = vec3(0.2,0.2,0.2);
    vec3 result = diffuse + ambient;
}
```
Remember Gouraud Shading?

- Instead of shading with the normal of the triangle, we’ll shade the vertices with the average normal and interpolate the shaded color across each face
  - Gives the illusion of a smooth surface with smoothly varying normals

Phong Normal Interpolation

- Interpolate the average vertex normals across the face and compute per-pixel shading
  - Normals should be re-normalized (ensure length=1)

- Before shaders, per-pixel shading was not possible in hardware (Gouraud shading is actually a decent substitute!)
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  - Displacement Mapping
  - Environment Mapping
  - Light Mapping
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- Parallax Occlusion Mapping

Phong Reflection/Lighting Model

\[ I_p = k_a i_a + \sum_{m \in \text{lights}} (k_d \langle \hat{L}_m \cdot \hat{N} \rangle i_{m,d} + k_s \langle \hat{R}_m \cdot \hat{V} \rangle^\alpha i_{m,s}) \]
The Phong Model

- Sum of three components:
  - diffuse reflection + specular reflection + “ambient”.

![Surface variations in Phong specular exponent](image)

Another GLSL example: orange.vs

```glsl
varying vec3 normal;
varying vec3 position_eyespace;
varying vec3 position_worldspace;

// a shader that looks like orange peel
void main(void) {

    // the fragment shader requires both the world space position (for
    // consistent bump mapping) & eyespace position (for the phong
    // specular highlight)
    position_eyespace = vec3(gl_ModelViewMatrix * gl_Vertex);
    position_worldspace = gl_Vertex.xyz;

    // pass along the normal
    normal = normalize(gl_NormalMatrix * gl_Normal);

    gl_Position = gl_ModelViewProjectionMatrix * gl_Vertex;
}
```
Another GLSL example: orange.fs

```glsl
 varying vec3 normal;
 varying vec3 position_eyespace;
 varying vec3 position_worldspace;

 // a shader that looks like orange peel
 void main (void) {

 // the base color is orange!
 vec3 color = vec3(1.0, 0.5, 0.1);

 // high frequency noise added to the normal for the bump map
 vec3 normal2 = normalize(normal1+0.4*noise3(70.0*position_worldspace));

 // direction to the light
 vec3 light = normalize(gl_LightSource[1].position.xyz - position_eyespace);
 // direction to the viewer
 vec3 eye_vector = normalize(-position_eyespace);
 // ideal specular reflection
 vec3 reflected_vector = normalize(-reflect(light,normal2));

 // basic phong lighting
 float ambient = 0.6;
 float diffuse = 0.4*max(dot(normal2,light),0.0);
 float specular = 0.2 * pow(max(dot(reflected_vector,eye_vector),0.0),10.0);
 vec3 white = vec3(1.0,1.0,1.0);
 color = ambient*color + diffuse*color + specular*white;
 gl_FragColor = vec4 (color, 1.0);
 }
```

Bump Mapping

- Use textures to alter the surface normal
  - Does not change the actual shape of the surface
  - Just shaded as if it were a different shape
Bump Mapping

- Treat a greyscale texture as a single-valued height function
- Compute the normal from the partial derivatives in the texture

Another Bump Map Example

Cylinder w/Diffuse Texture Map

Cylinder w/Texture Map & Bump Map
Normal Mapping

- Variation on Bump Mapping:
  Use an RGB texture to directly encode the normal

What's Missing?

- There are no bumps on the silhouette of a bump-mapped or normal-mapped object
- Bump/Normal maps don’t allow self-occlusion or self-shadowing
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Displacement Mapping

• Use the texture map to actually move the surface point
• The geometry must be displaced before visibility is determined
Displacement Mapping

Image from:

Geometry Caching for Ray-Tracing Displacement Maps
EGRW 1996
Matt Pharr and Pat Hanrahan

note the detailed shadows cast by the stones

Displacement Mapping

Ken Musgrave
Parallax Mapping a.k.a. Offset Mapping or Virtual Displacement Mapping

• Displace the texture coordinates for each pixel based on view angle and value of the height map at that point
• At steeper view-angles, texture coordinates are displaced more, giving illusion of depth due to parallax effects

"Detailed shape representation with parallax mapping", Kaneko et al. ICAT 2001

Parallax Occlusion Mapping

• Brawley & Tatarchuk 2004
• Per pixel ray tracing of the heightfield geometry
• Occlusions & soft shadows

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Environment Maps

• We can simulate reflections by using the direction of the reflected ray to index a spherical texture map at "infinity".
• Assumes that all reflected rays begin from the same point.
What's the Best Chart?

Environment Mapping Example

Terminator II
Texture Maps for Illumination

• Also called "Light Maps"

3D shape is unrolled/flattened/stretched into a square image. Stored using existing image formats and compression methods.

"Geometry Images", Gu, Gortler, & Hoppe, 2002
Questions?

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Reading for Next Time (pick one)


• Chris Wyman, "An Approximate Image-Space Approach for Interactive Refraction”, SIGGRAPH 2005
“Hardware-Accelerated Global Illumination by Image Space Photon Mapping” McGuire & Luebke, HPG 2009

Figure 1: Image-space photon mapping can compute global illumination at interactive rates for scenes with multiple lights, caustics, shadows, and complex BSDFs. This scene renders at 26 Hz at 1920 × 1080. (Indirect and ambient intensity are amplified for comparison in this image.)