## Graphics 2014



#### **Raytracing** Recursive Raytracing · Data Structures

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# Basic Raytracing



## Central Projection



## Central Projection



## Ray Tracing



## Ray Tracing



#### **Primary Rays**

- Rays through each pixel
- Details: Tutorial #6

## Local Illumination



#### **Primary Rays**

- Rays through each pixel
- (Basic trigonometry)

## Shadows



#### Shadow rays

Blocked by occluders (hard shadows)

## Reflection



#### Reflection

- Reflect ray across normal at intersection point
- (Basic linear algebra)

## Multiple Reflections: Recursion



#### **Multiple Reflections**

- Call algorithm recursively for secondary rays
- (Terminate after *n* levels, for safety)

## Refraction



#### Refraction

- Same story
- New rays: Snellius' law

## Recursive Raytracing



#### Worst-case complexity

- $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{m} \cdot 2^r)$
- n = Triangles, m = Pixels, r = maximum recursion depth

## Raytracing in a Nutshell



## Intersection Tests



## Ray-Triangle Intersection

**Equations:** 

$$\lambda_1 \mathbf{t}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{t}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{t}_r = \mathbf{p}_r - \mathbf{p}_t$$

#### Linear system of equations:

 $\mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ 

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ \mathbf{t}_1 & \mathbf{t}_2 & -\mathbf{t}_r \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{p}_r - \mathbf{p}_t, \qquad \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

→ Gaussian elimination, Kramer's rule

## Ray-Triangle Intersection





#### Parametric line equation:

$$\mathbf{x}(\mu) = \mathbf{p}_r + \mu \cdot \mathbf{t}_r$$
$$\mu \ge 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \mathbf{x}(\mu)$$
  
$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{p}_r + \mu \cdot \mathbf{t}_r = \mathbf{p}_t + \lambda_1 \mathbf{t}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{t}_2$$

 $\Leftrightarrow \lambda_1 \mathbf{t}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{t}_2 - \mu \cdot \mathbf{t}_r = \mathbf{p}_r - \mathbf{p}_t$ 

#### Parametric plane equation:

$$\mathbf{x}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \mathbf{p}_t + \lambda_1 \mathbf{t}_1 + \lambda_2 \mathbf{t}_2$$
$$0 \le \lambda_1 \le 1,$$
$$0 \le \lambda_2 \le 1,$$
$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \le 1$$

## Ray-Sphere Intersection



# $r^2 y^2$ $r^2 y^2$

#### **Parametric line equation:**

$$\mathbf{x}(\mu) = \mathbf{p}_r + \mu \cdot \mathbf{t}_r$$
$$\mu \ge 0$$

Sphere (Implicit!)  
$$\langle \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{c} \rangle = r^2$$

$$\langle \mathbf{x}(\mu) - \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{x}(\mu) - \mathbf{c} \rangle - r^2 = 0$$
  
$$\langle \mathbf{p}_r + \mu \cdot \mathbf{t}_r - \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{p}_r + \mu \cdot \mathbf{t}_r - \mathbf{c} \rangle - r^2 = 0$$

## Derivation

Solving the equation:

$$\langle \mathbf{x}(\mu) - \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{x}(\mu) - \mathbf{c} \rangle - r^2 = 0$$
$$(\mathbf{x}(\mu) - \mathbf{c})^2 - r^2 = 0$$
$$(\mathbf{p}_r + \mu \cdot \mathbf{t}_r - \mathbf{c})^2 - r^2 = 0$$
$$(\mu \cdot \mathbf{t}_r + (\mathbf{p}_r - \mathbf{c}))^2 - r^2 = 0$$

**Result:** 1D Quadratic equation in  $\mu$  $\mu^2 \cdot \mathbf{t}_r^2 + \mu \cdot 2(\mathbf{t}_r \cdot (\mathbf{p}_r - \mathbf{c})) + (\mathbf{p}_r - \mathbf{c}) - r^2 = 0$ 

## Spatial Data Structures Range Queries, Collision Detection



## Spatial Data Structures

#### **Range Queries**

- Common problems
  - Raytracing
  - Select object by mouse click
  - Collision detection
- This should work on large models
  - Scale to billions of primitives
  - Asymptotic complexity

## Spatial Data Structures

### Basic Idea: Hierarchical decomposition

#### If number objects too large:

- Form spatially coherent groups
- For each group:
  - Simple bounding volume
  - Apply recursively

## Result

- We obtain a tree of bounding volumes
- "Bounding volume hierarchy"



## Bounding Volumes

## **Axis-Aligned Bounding Box**

- Store minimum x,y,z-coord and
- maximum x,y,z-coord

## **Bounding Sphere**

- Store radius, center
- Such that all geometry is contained



axis-aligned bounding box



bounding sphere

## Variants

#### Variants:

#### Bounding volume hierarchy

- General definition
- Any bounding volumes
- Image: spheres

#### BSP-tree

- Split planes (half-spaces)
- "Binary space partition tree"
- Arbitrary planes





## Variants

#### Variants

#### Axis aligned BSP tree / kD-tree

- Axis-parallel splitting planes
- Special case: kD-tree
  - Alternating splitting dimensions
  - Median cut: split at median coordinate



- Divide into 4/8 cubes
- Special case of the above (no binary tree though)





## Extended Objects

#### Extended objects (other than points)

- Extended objects:
  - Triangles
  - Polygons
  - etc...
- Division of space might intersect with object
- Three solutions
  - Split objects (expensive, uncommon)
  - Overlapping nodes (common)
  - Storage multiple times (also common)

## Splitting Objects

#### First solution: splitting

- Example: Triangles in BSP tree
  - Split at plane
  - Aim at few splits
- (Rather) easy to see:
  - General BSP tree needs still  $O(n^2)$  fragments (worst case, *n* triangles; practice:  $\approx O(n \log n)$ )
  - Lower bound for kD trees, octrees, etc...
- Splitting usually too expensive
  - Used in early low-polygon 3D engines (BSP-visibility)

# Overlapping Regions

#### Second Solution: overlap

- Permit overlapping bounding volumes
- E.g., second bounding box (octree)
- Possible strategy:
  - Up to 10% oversize (in each direction)
  - No fit into leaf nodes: use an inner node
- Overlap reduces efficiency
  - Multi-coverage of volume
  - 10% in each direction means  $1.2^3 \approx 1.7 \times$
  - Effect on algorithms might vary



# Overlapping Regions

#### Third Solution: *store multiple times*

- Store primitive multiple times
- Disadvantages
  - Reduced efficiency
  - Additional memory
- Advantages
  - Regular structures
  - No additional bounding boxes
- Common for raytracing



# Range Queries



## Range Query Algorithm



#### Start at root node: Then, recursively

- If range overlaps bounding box
  - Test node primitives
    - Report if within range
  - Call recursively for child nodes
- If *range* does not overlap *bounding box* 
  - End recursion

algorithm works for all hierarchy types

## Examples









## Raytracing



#### Raytracing: special case

- Ray is the range
- Early ray termination
  - Sorted recursion (child closer to the camera: first)
  - Stop after hit

## In Practice

### Significant Speedup

- My own, simple implementation
  - Axis-aligned BSP tree
  - Single-core C++
  - 1.000.000 triangle scene
  - ~500.000 triangle-ray intersections per second
- If you work harder...
  - Optimized software ~15M
  - GPU implementations up to 100M
  - Optimized versions:
  - Performance also depends on ray coherence