Computer Graphics 1

Chapter 10 (July 21st, 2011, 2-4pm):
3D input and output devices
Ein paar Dinge vorab:

• 21.7. letzter Termin mit prüfungsrelevantem Stoff
  – 28.7. Fragestunde zum Vorlesungsstoff, kein neuer Stoff mehr
  – Klausur am 3.8.2011 von 18:00 - 20:00 im Hörsaal B 201
  – Montag 18.7. Übungsblatt mit Klausur-ähnlichen Fragen
  – in den Übungen der Woche danach: Besprechung der Lösungen

• Evaluation der Vorlesung
  – LMU-Evaluation: nach der Klausur
  – meinprof.de (optional!)
The 3D rendering pipeline (our version for this class)

3D models in model coordinates → 3D models in world coordinates → 2D Polygons in camera coordinates → Pixels in image coordinates

Scene graph → Camera → Rasterization

Animation, Interaction → Lights
Chapter 10 - 3D input and output devices

- Depth perception in human vision
- 3D output devices
  - anaglyphic stereo
  - shutter and polarizing glasses
  - autostereoscopic displays
  - volumetric displays
  - CAVE
  - head tracked stereo
  - HMDs
- 3D input devices
  - mice
  - gloves
  - tracking
Depth Perception in Human Vision

• The visual system derives spatial information from a number of cues:

• Monocular cues:
  – Occlusion: which objects cover up which other?
  – Size: the relative or familiar size of objects shows how far they are.
  – Perspective: assumptions about space and perspective communicate depth
  – Texture gradient: imagine a cobblestone pavement on the road before you...
  – Accommodation: the distance at which the eye lenses are focused
  – Motion parallax: moving the head left and right provides stereo-like depth perception with one eye only

• Binocular cues:
  – Stereopsis: different images seen by left and right eye
  – Convergence: the distance at which objects are in the same position for both eyes
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Anaglyphic stereo on conventional screens

• Overlays 2 images in different primary or complementary colors
  – mostly: left image in red, right image in cyan

• When rendering:
  – set convergence on main object
  – Set focus on main object (anyway ;-)

• When viewing:
  – convergence is on main object
  – accommodation is on screen
  – ideal: convergence in screen plane (i.e. focus = conv.)

• Cheapest way of achieving stereo vision
  – color stereo glasses for a few cents

• Unwanted effects on color
  – red/cyan: all colors there, but in different eyes...

http://www.syndime.com/pics/Hulk.jpg
LCD Shutter Glasses

- Liquid crystals change polarization direction with electric current
- LCD element can be switched between transparent and opaque

- Each eye is covered by an LCD element
- Eyes are blinded alternatingly
  - left image is shown when right eye is blinded
  - right image is shown when left eye is blinded
  - light loss >= 50%
- Glasses need to be synchronized with screen
  - via cable or infrared

- Image frequency needs to be twice as high
  - can be a problem with projectors
Polarized Projection

- Project left and right image with different polarization
  - used to need 2 projectors for that
  - now available in 1 device for $6K
  - preserves full color

- Special projection screen needed to preserve polarization

- Cover eyes with orthogonal polarizers
- Polarizer glasses absorb light (>50%)
- Full color is preserved
- Focus + convergence on the projection plane
Autostereoscopic displays

- Provide different images to both eyes depending on their position
- Very sensitive to head motion
  - what about motion parallax?
- Different optical constructions exist
  - parallax barrier
  - lenslets, prisms
- accommodation on screen
- convergence on main object
- Principle was known since the 80s
- Still no wide adoption
Excursion: 3D-TV

- No clear technology favourite for 3D TV yet, different systems in use:
  - Stereoscopy with shutter glasses (see there), works everywhere
  - Stereoscopy with polarizer glasses (see there), no batteries needed
  - Autostereoscopic screens (see there): works only in a sweet spot.

- Interesting technology proposed by SHARP:
  - Switchable parallax barrier
  - Can be used for 3D
  - Can display 2D without loss

- Very active development

http://www.thinkdigit.com/TVs/How-3D-TV-works-Part-II-3602.html
Volumetric Displays

• Active field of research
• Several approaches exist
• Video: siggraph 2007 exhibit
• Discussion: How does this work?

http://gl.ict.usc.edu/Research/3DDisplay/
CAVE

- CAVE Automatic Virtual Environment
- User is surrounded by back projection
- Minimum 3, maximum 6 sides
- Stereo projection for space impression
- Head tracking for correct perspective
- User can walk around (well, a bit ;-)

- Usually quite a big architectural effort
- LRZ is currently planning to build one
Head-tracked 3D and motion parallax

- Stereo rendering assumes a known head position
- Motion parallax needs head movements to work
- „Fishtank VR“ really needs head tracking to work properly
- If the display is moved, additional tracking is needed.

http://hct.ece.ubc.ca/research/pcubee/
Head-Mounted Displays

• Concept first presented by Ivan Sutherland 1965
• Large developments, but still no wide adoption

• Idea: have a small screen with optics for each eye
  • stereopsis works well
  • accommodation is usually fixed to a few meters
  • convergence depends on rendering

• HMDs need fast tracking of the head
  – Discussion: why???
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  – gloves
  – tracking
2D mouse ;-)  

- No real 3D interaction device, but still the one most often used for 3D interaction!
- Dimensionality is the same as 2D screen
  - similar problems result
- Substitute 3rd dimension by various means
  - input modes, e.g. by pressing buttons
  - interaction techniques (see last lecture)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mouse_(computing)
Space mouse

• Provides true 6 DOF input
  – 3x translate, 3x rotate

• Not an absolute and direct mapping as with 2D mouse
  – rather joystick-like mapping

• Various designs and manufacturers exist

http://www.3dconnexion.com/
Data Gloves

• Track the angles of the fingers
  – at various levels of exactness
• Some are also tracked in space (3-6 DOF)
• Models with force feedback exist
• Usually used with a virtual hand in the 3D scene

http://www.vrealities.com/glove.html
Tracking

- Acoustic: 3D position
- Magnetic: 3D position + orientation (6 DOF)
- Inertial: 3D orientation and relative position

- other technologies and combined systems exist
  - beyond the scope of this class
  - see AR and IE classes
Acoustical Tracking: Working Principle

- The tracking target is a known sound source emitting e.g. ultrasonic pulses
- 3 or more Microphones determine the time it takes for the signal to arrive. This is directly proportional to the distance (speed of sound = 330m/s)
- Time $t$ to a microphone means the source is on a sphere with radius $t/330$
- 2 spheres define a circle, 3 spheres define 2 points
- 1 point can often be excluded logically
- Hence 3 mics can determine the 3D position of a sound source

[Bishop et al. 2001]
Magnetic Tracking: Working Principle

• Big stationary Coils create a known magnetic field in space
• This magnetic field induces a current in small coils, depending on their orientation and distance
• Three small coils can identify 3D position and orientation (=6 DOF)
• Two main principles:
  – low frequency AC, all metallic objects around influence the field
  – pulsating DC, only influenced by ferromagnetic objects
• Magnetic tracking is hard to calibrate and influences other devices
Inertial Tracking: Acceleration sensors

- Built from piezo elements and weights
- Integrated circuit
Inertial Tracking: Gyroscopes

\[ L = I \omega \]

angular momentum

The rapidly spinning inner wheel will maintain its direction in space if the outside framework changes.

see also http://www.mikrokopter.de/ucwiki/GyroScope
Lecture Summary

1. 5.5. Intro, LinAlg
2. 12.5. -
3. 19.5. 3D Modelling
4. 26.5. Camera, culling, Z-Buffer
5. 2.6. -
6. 9.6. Scene graphs
7. 16.6. Light, Phong Model, Shadows
8. 23.6. -
9. 30.6. Surfaces, Materials, Maps
10. 7.7. Shading, Rendering
11. 14.7. Animation
12. 21.7. Interaction
13. 28.7. Devices
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