

## Clipping and other geometric algorithms

MIT EECS 6.837  
Frédo Durand  
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MIT EECS



## Final projects

- Rest of semester
  - Weekly meetings with TAs
  - Office hours on appointment
- This week, with TAs
  - Refine timeline
  - Define high-level architecture
- Project should be a whole, but subparts should be identified with regular merging of code

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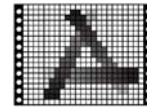
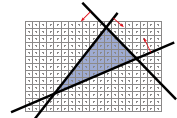
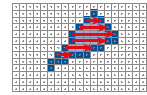
## Review of last time?

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## Last time

- Polygon scan conversion
  - Smart
    - Take advantage of coherence
    - Good for big triangles
  - back to brute force
    - Incremental edge equation
    - Good for small triangles
    - Simpler clipping
- Visibility
  - Painter: complex ordering
  - Z buffer: simple, memory cost
    - Hyperbolic z interpolation

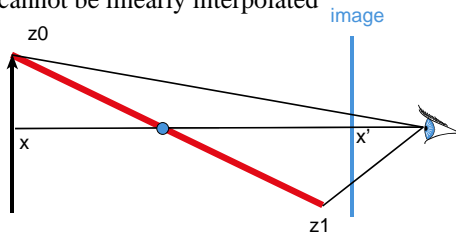


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## Z interpolation

- $X' = x/z$
- Hyperbolic variation
- Z cannot be linearly interpolated

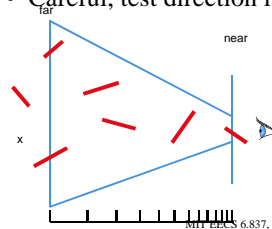


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## Integer z-buffer

- Use  $1/z$  to have more precision in the foreground
- Set a near and far plane
  - $1/z$  values linearly encoded between  $1/\text{near}$  and  $1/\text{far}$
- Careful, test direction is reversed

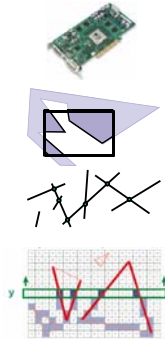


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## Plan

- Review of rendering pipeline
- 2D polygon clipping
- Segment intersection
- Scanline rendering overview



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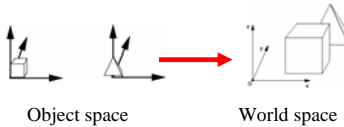
## The Graphics Pipeline

Modeling Transformations	<b>Input:</b> <i>Geometric model:</i> Description of all object, surface, and light source geometry and transformations <i>Lighting model:</i> Computational description of object and light properties, interaction (reflection) <i>Synthetic Viewpoint (or Camera):</i> Eye position and viewing frustum <i>Raster Viewport:</i> Pixel grid onto which image plane is mapped
Illumination (Shading)	
Viewing Transformation (Perspective / Orthographic)	
Clipping	
Projection (to Screen Space)	<b>Output:</b> <i>Colors/Intensities</i> suitable for framebuffer display (For example, 24-bit RGB value at each pixel)
Scan Conversion (Rasterization)	
Visibility / Display	

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## Modeling Transformations

Modeling Transformations
Illumination (Shading)
Viewing Transformation (Perspective / Orthographic)
Clipping
Projection (to Screen Space)
Scan Conversion (Rasterization)
Visibility / Display



Object space      World space

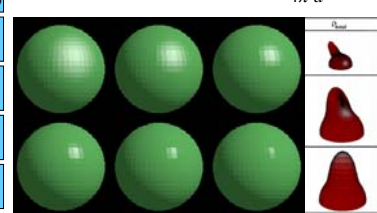
$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Illumination (Shading) (Lighting)

Modeling Transformations
Illumination (Shading)
Viewing Transformation (Perspective / Orthographic)
Clipping
Projection (to Screen Space)
Scan Conversion (Rasterization)
Visibility / Display

- Vertices lit (shaded) according to material properties, surface properties (normal) and light
- Local lighting model (Diffuse, Ambient, Phong, etc.)

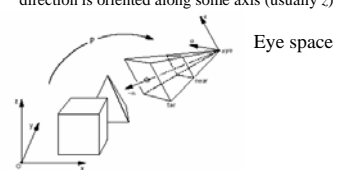
$$L(\omega_s) = k_a + (k_d(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{l}) + k_s(\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{r})^2) \frac{\Phi_s}{4\pi d^2}$$


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## Viewing Transformation

Modeling Transformations
Illumination (Shading)
Viewing Transformation (Perspective / Orthographic)
Clipping
Projection (to Screen Space)
Scan Conversion (Rasterization)
Visibility / Display

- Viewing position is transformed to origin & direction is oriented along some axis (usually z)



World space      Eye space

Yet another 4x4 matrix

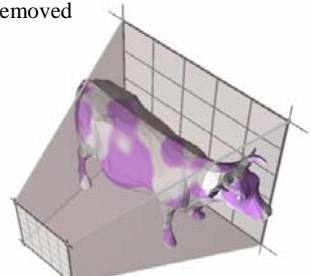
$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Clipping

Modeling Transformations
Illumination (Shading)
Viewing Transformation (Perspective / Orthographic)
Clipping
Projection (to Screen Space)
Scan Conversion (Rasterization)
Visibility / Display

- Portions of the object outside the view volume (view frustum) are removed



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## Clipping – modern hardware

- Only to the near plane

Modeling Transformations
Illumination (Shading)
Viewing Transformation (Perspective / Orthographic)
<b>Clipping</b>
Projection (to Screen Space)
Scan Conversion (Rasterization)
Visibility / Display

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## Projection

- Projective transform

Modeling Transformations
Illumination (Shading)
Viewing Transformation (Perspective / Orthographic)
Clipping
<b>Projection (to Screen Space)</b>
Scan Conversion (Rasterization)
Visibility / Display

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## Perspective Projection

- 2 conceptual steps:
  - 4x4 matrix
  - Homogenize
    - In fact not always needed
    - Modern graphics hardware performs most operations in 2D homogeneous coordinates

$$\begin{pmatrix} x * d / z \\ y * d / z \\ d / z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \\ z / d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/d & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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## When to clip?

- Before perspective transform in 3D space
  - Use the equation of 6 planes
  - Natural, not too degenerate
- In homogeneous coordinates after perspective transform (Clip space)
  - Before perspective divide (4D space, weird w values)
  - Canonical, independent of camera
  - The simplest to implement in fact
- In the transformed 3D screen space after perspective division
  - Problem: objects in the plane of the camera

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## Scan Conversion (Rasterization)

- Incremental edge equations
- Interpolate values as we go (color, depth, etc.)
- Screen-space bbox clipping

Modeling Transformations
Illumination (Shading)
Viewing Transformation (Perspective / Orthographic)
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<b>Scan Conversion (Rasterization)</b>
Visibility / Display

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## Visibility / Display

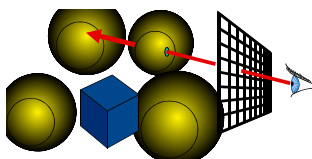
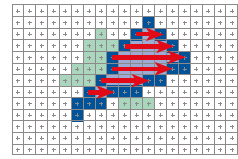
- Each pixel remembers the closest object (depth buffer)

Modeling Transformations
Illumination (Shading)
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Projection (to Screen Space)
Scan Conversion (Rasterization)
<b>Visibility / Display</b>

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## Rendering Pipeline vs. ray casting

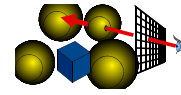
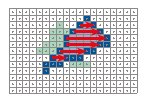
<p><b>Ray Casting</b>          For each pixel              For each object          Send pixels to the scene          Discretize first</p>	<p><b>Rendering Pipeline</b>          For each triangle              For each pixel          Project scene to the pixels          Discretize last</p>
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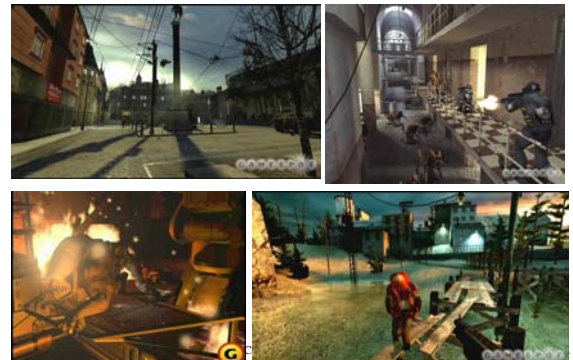
## Rendering Pipeline vs. ray casting

<p><b>Ray Casting</b>          For each pixel              For each object</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depth complexity: no calculation for hidden part</li> <li>• Whole scene must be in memory</li> <li>• Very atomic computation</li> <li>• More general, more flexible             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Primitive, lighting effects, adaptive antialiasing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Rendering Pipeline</b>          For each triangle              For each pixel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coherence: geometric transforms for vertices only</li> <li>• Arithmetic intensity: the amount of computation increases in the depth of the pipeline             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good bandwidth/computation ratio</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Harder to get global illumination (shadows, interreflection, etc.)</li> </ul>
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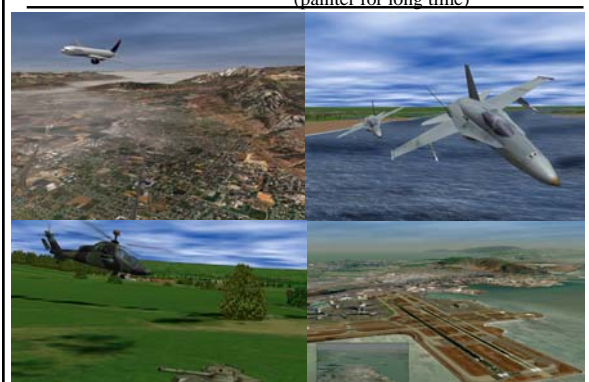
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## Games : pipeline

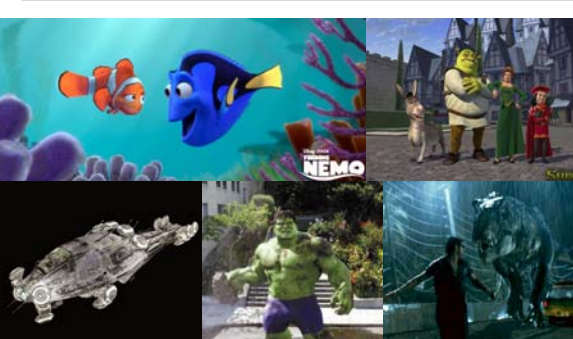


## Flight simulation : pipeline

(painter for long time)



## Movies : Both pipeline and ray tracing



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## CAD-CAM & design

pipeline during design, anything for final image



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## Architecture

ray-tracing, pipeline, but do complex lighting simulation (cf. later lectures)

## Virtual reality : pipeline

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## Visualization:

mostly pipeline, ray-tracing for high-quality eye candy, interactive ray-tracing is starting

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## Medical imaging: cf. visualization

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## Questions?

From [1] 481  
 Hunter's representation of Van Gogh's  
 'Milkmaid' is a good example of attention.  
 From a purely visual perspective, the  
 figure stands at the top of the work, clearly  
 separates the dark line which defines the  
 edge of the table and the bottom of the  
 vase, as shown in the photograph (left),  
 while the blue marks represent the  
 figure.  
 However, Anderson interprets these blue  
 marks as a central and useful in function  
 to the structure, given the way that  
 structure flows down. In the painting,  
 these marks signify something of the  
 overall effect and are thought to have  
 the function of making the  
 structure 'soft'.

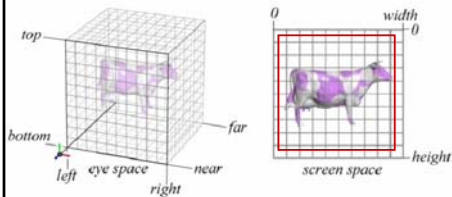
## The infamous half pixel

- I refuse to teach it, but it's an annoying issue you should know about
- Do a line drawing of a rectangle from [top, right] to [bottom, left]
- Do we actually draw the columns/rows of pixels?

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## The infamous half pixel

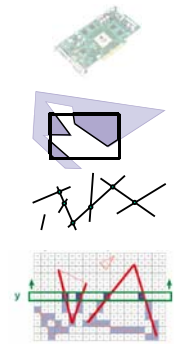
- Displace by half a pixel so that top, right, bottom, left are in the middle of pixels
- Just change the viewport transform



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## Plan

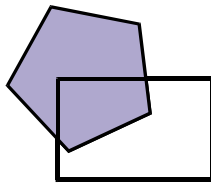
- Review of rendering pipeline
- 2D polygon clipping
- Segment intersection
- Scanline rendering overview



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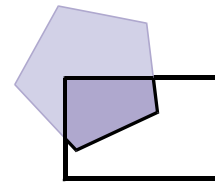
## Polygon clipping



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## Polygon clipping

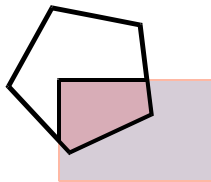


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## Polygon clipping

- Clipping is symmetric

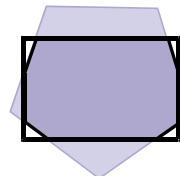


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## Polygon clipping is complex

- Even when the polygons are convex

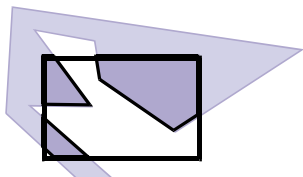


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## Polygon clipping is nasty

- When the polygons are concave

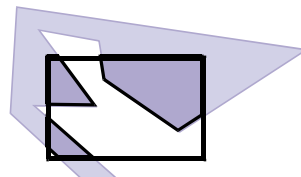


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## Naïve polygon clipping?

- $N*m$  intersections
- Then must link all segment
- Not efficient and not even easy

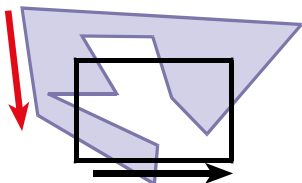


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## Weiler-Atherton Clipping

- Strategy: "Walk" polygon/window boundary
- Polygons are oriented (CCW)

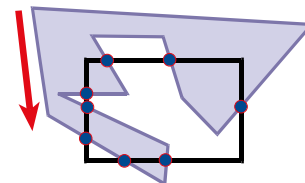


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## Weiler-Atherton Clipping

- Compute intersection points

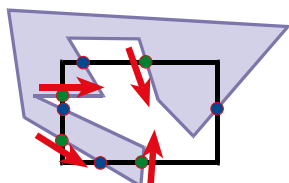


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## Weiler-Atherton Clipping

- Compute intersection points
- Mark points where polygons enters clipping window (green here)

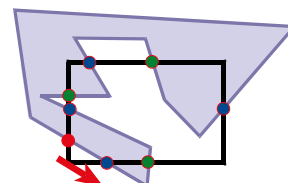


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## Clipping

- While there is still an unprocessed entering intersection  
Walk" polygon/window boundary

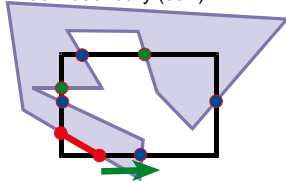


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## Walking rules

- Out-to-in pair:
  - Record clipped point
  - Follow polygon boundary (ccw)
- In-to-out pair:
  - Record clipped point
  - Follow window boundary (ccw)

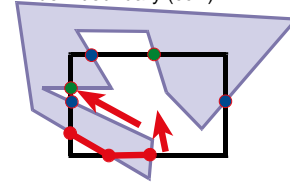


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## Walking rules

- Out-to-in pair:
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  - Follow window boundary (ccw)

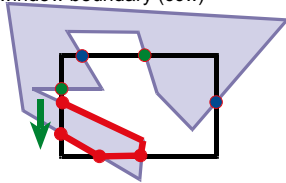


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## Walking rules

- Out-to-in pair:
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  - Follow polygon boundary (ccw)
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  - Record clipped point
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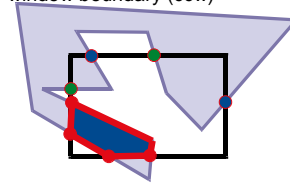


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## Walking rules

- Out-to-in pair:
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- In-to-out pair:
  - Record clipped point
  - Follow window boundary (ccw)

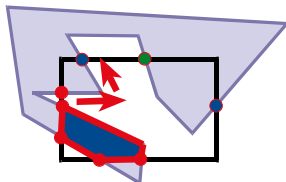


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## Walking rules

While there is still an unprocessed entering intersection  
Walk" polygon/window boundary

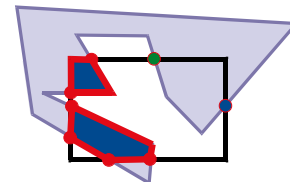


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## Walking rules

While there is still an unprocessed entering intersection  
Walk" polygon/window boundary



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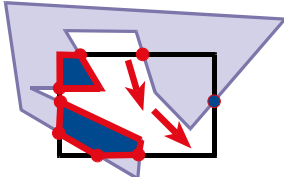
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## Walking rules

While there is still an unprocessed entering intersection

Walk" polygon/window boundary



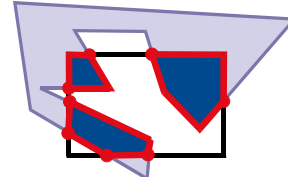
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## Walking rules

While there is still an unprocessed entering intersection

Walk" polygon/window boundary

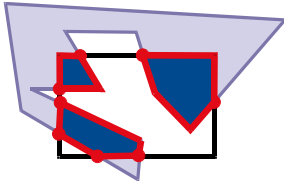


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## Weiler-Atherton Clipping

- Importance of good adjacency data structure (here simply list of oriented edges)

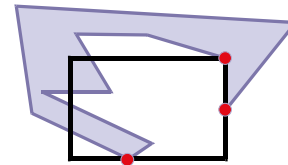


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## Robustness, precision, degeneracies

- What if a vertex is on the boundary?
- What happens if it is "almost" on the boundary?
  - Problem with floating point precision
- Welcome to the real world of geometry!



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## Clipping

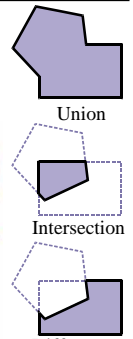
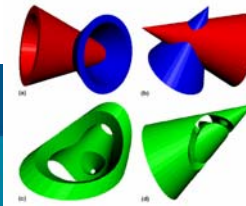
- Many other clipping algorithms:
- Parametric, general windows, region-region, One-Plane-at-a-Time Clipping, etc.

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## Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)

- Sort of generalized clipping
- Boolean operations
- Very popular in CAD/CAM
- CSG tree



Ari Rappoport, Steven Spitz 97  
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## Questions?

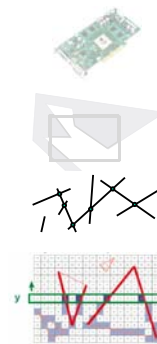


Above:  
Studies show that cats spend about 3% of their play-hunting time lying on their backs looking at things upside down. A recent theory contends that this may be partly why cats invert objects when they represent them in their paintings - a practice known as "invertism" which was not discovered until recently because cat representations are very basic and not as easy to recognize when inverted as more complex motifs are.

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## Plan

- Review of rendering pipeline
- 2D polygon clipping
- Segment intersection
- Scanline rendering overview

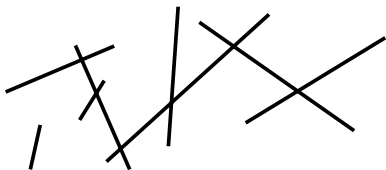


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## Line segment intersection

- $N$  segments in the plane
- Find all intersections

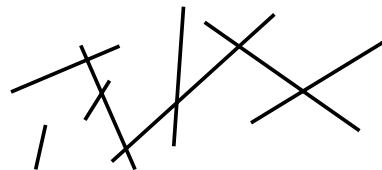


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## Maximum complexity?

- $N^2$
- (always  $N^2$  if we take full lines)

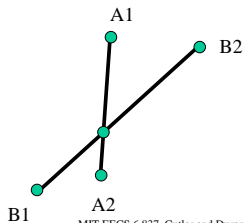


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## Intersection between 2 segments

- Compute line equation for the 4 vertices
- If different signs
- Line intersection

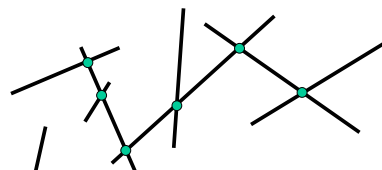


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## Naïve algorithm

- $N^2$  intersection:  
For ( $I=0$ ;  $I<N$ ;  $I++$ )  
  For ( $J=I+1$ ;  $J<N$ ;  $J++$ )  
    Compute intersection segments  $I$  and  $J$

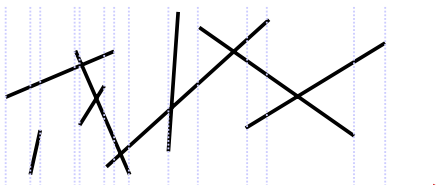


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## Taking advantage of coherence 1

- Sort in x
- Test only overlapping segments

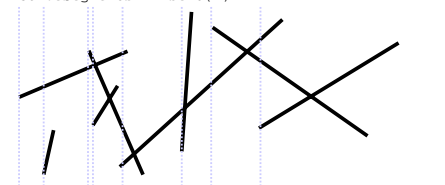


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## Taking advantage of coherence 1

```
Sort segments by xmin into queue Q
List ActiveSegments =empty
While Q not empty
  L= Q.next() //pick next segment
  ActiveSegment->removeSegmentsBefore(L.xmin)
  For all segments Li in Active segments
    Compute Intersection between L and Li
  ActiveSegments->insert(L)
```

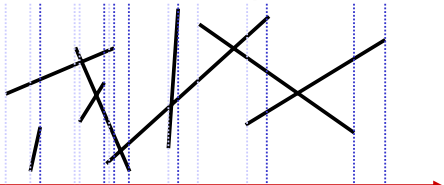


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## Taking advantage of coherence 1

```
Sort segments by xmin into queue Q
List ActiveSegments =empty
While Q not empty
  L= Q.next() //pick next segment
  ActiveSegment->removeSegmentsBefore(L.xmin) //easier if sorted
  For all segments Li in Active segments
    Compute Intersection between L and Li
  ActiveSegments->insert(L) //keep sorted by xmax
```



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## What have we achieved?

- Take advantage of locality and coherence
- Maintain working set
- Still  $O(n^2)$
- But much better on average
- Can we do better?

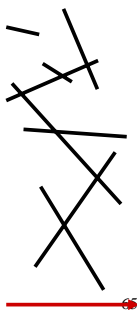


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## Can we do better?

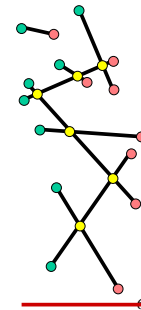
- We have taken advantage of the coherence in x
- We have maintained a local view of the world at discrete events in x
- Do the same in y as well



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## Maintain segments sorted in y

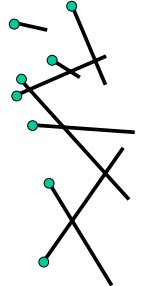
- Events
  - New segment
  - End of segment
  - Change of y sorting



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## New segment

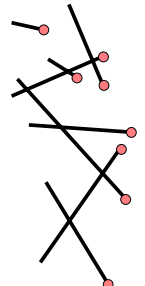
- Just insert at y1
- Use balanced binary trees



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## End of segment

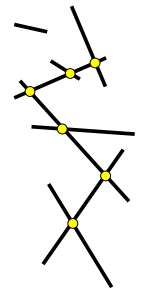
- Just remove
- Potentially re-balance the tree



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## Intersection

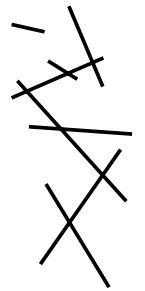
- Where can intersection occur?
- Intersection must be between segments adjacent in y
- For each pair of adjacent segments, always maintain next intersection



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## Sweep algorithm

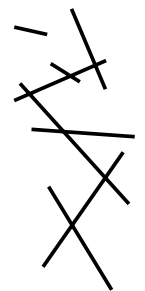
- Maintain event queue
  - New segment for each x1
    - Insert in binary tree
    - Compute potential new intersection
    - Add ending event
  - End of segment
    - simply remove
    - compute new intersections
  - Change of y sorting
    - report intersection
    - swap two segments
    - compute new intersections



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## Sweep algorithm

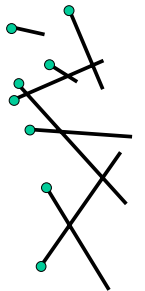
- Maintain event queue
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## Sweep algorithm

- Maintain event queue
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    - Insert in binary tree
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### Sweep algorithm

- Maintain event queue
  - New segment for each  $x_1$ 
    - Insert in binary tree
    - Compute potential new intersection
    - Add ending event
  - End of segment
    - simply remove
    - compute new intersections
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### Sweep algorithm

- Maintain event queue
  - New segment for each  $x_1$ 
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### Sweep algorithm

- Maintain event queue
  - New segment for each  $x_1$ 
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### Sweep algorithm

- Maintain event queue
  - New segment for each  $x_1$ 
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    - simply remove
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### Output sensitive

- The running time depends on the output
- Hopefully linear in the output
  - + smaller complexity in the input
- In our case time  $O(n \log n + k \log n)$ 
  - Where  $k$  is the number of intersections
- Space:  $O(n)$
- The optimal bound is time  $O(n \log n + k)$

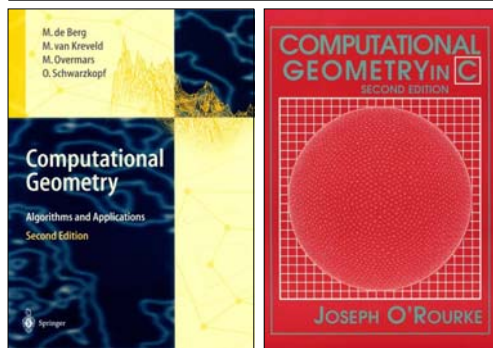
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### Other strategy?

- Grid!

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## Ref

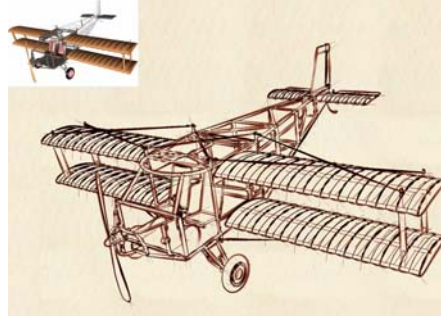


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## Questions?

- Rendering this line drawing involved the intersection of all stroke segments



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## Plan

- Review of rendering pipeline
- 2D polygon clipping
- Segment intersection
- Scanline rendering overview

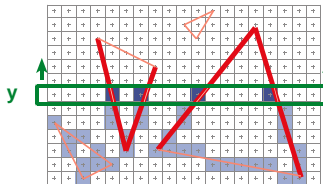


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## Scan Line rasterization

- Draw one scanline at a time
- Maintain ordered slices of triangles
- Advantage, does not require whole model and whole image in memory

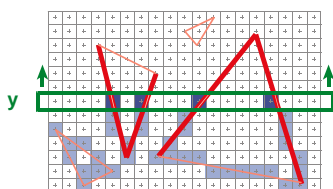


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## Scan Line : Principle

- Proceed row by row
- Maintain Active Edge List (AEL) (EdgeRecList)
- Edge Table (ET) for new edges at  $y$  (EdgeRecTable)

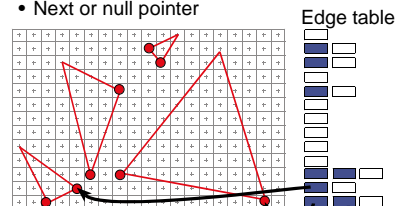


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## Precompute: Edge Table

- One entry per scan line (where edge begins)
- Each entry is a linked list of Edges, sorted by  $x$ 
  - $y_{end}$ :  $y$  of top edge endpoint
  - $x_{curr}$ :  $x$ : current  $x$  intersection, delta wrt  $y$
  - Next or null pointer

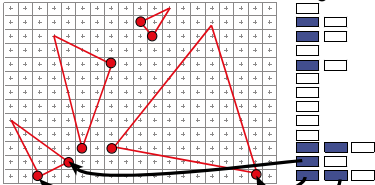


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## Initialization: events

- Edge Table
  - List of Edges, sorted by x
    - yend
    - xcurr, delta wrt y
- Active edge list (AEL)
  - Will be maintained
  - Store all active edges intersecting scanline
  - Ordered by x  
Edge table

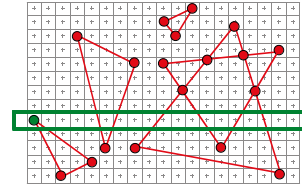


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## When Does AEL Change State?

- When a vertex is encountered
  - When an edge begins
    - All such events pre-stored in Edge Table
  - When an edge ends
    - Can be deduced from current Active Edge List

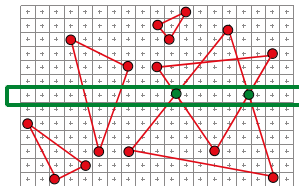


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## When Does AEL Change State?

- When a vertex is encountered
- When two edges change order along a scanline
  - I.e., when edges cross each other!
  - How to detect this efficiently?

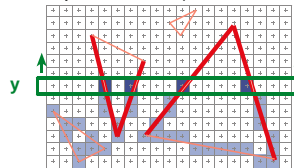


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## Scanline algorithm summary

- Initialize Raster, Polygons, Edge Table, AEL
- For each scanline y
  - Update Active Edge List (insert edges from EdgeTable[y])
  - Assign raster of pixels from AEL
  - Update AEL (delete, increment, resort)



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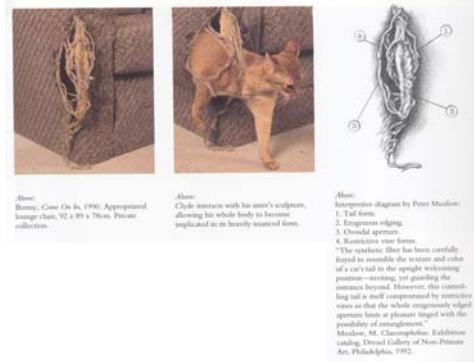
## Other sweep algorithms

- Sweep is a very general principle:
  - Maintain a slice
  - Update at events
  - Works well if events are predictable locally in the slice (regular)
- Applied to many problems
  - E.g. construction of weird visibility data structures in 4.5D

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## Questions?



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