Depth Complexity

- The hardware paints each pixel many times, performing expensive per-pixel shading operations.
- No contribution from invisible fragments.





Visibility

• Exact Visibility – identify polygon fragments that are visible from a viewpoint [Sutherland et. al. 74].



- Paints each pixel exactly once.
- Unfortunately:



- A scene containing *n* polygons can have $O(n^2)$ fragments.
- Known algorithms are complex and hard to implement in interactive applications.
- Hardware *z*-buffer algorithm is widely used.