

Shaders and Visual Realism



"Toy Story" - Pixar, 1995 - Using the Pixar RenderMan Language
(Programmable Photorealistic Off-line Rendering)

Part I

VISUAL REALISM IN GAMES



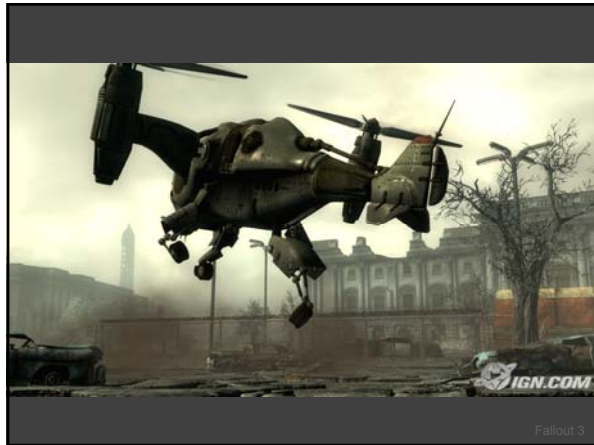


Codemasters: Dirt 2



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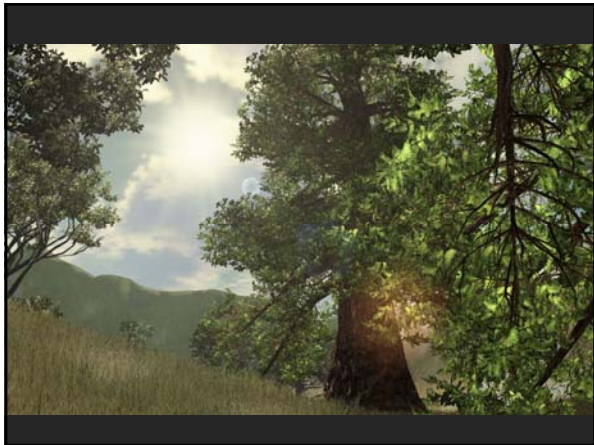
















"Alan Wake"



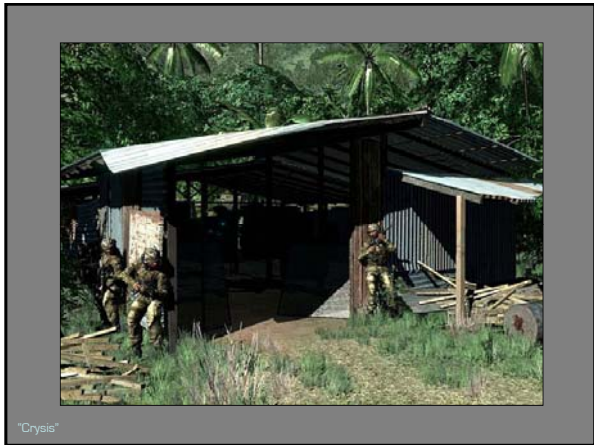
"Alan Wake"



"Alan Wake"



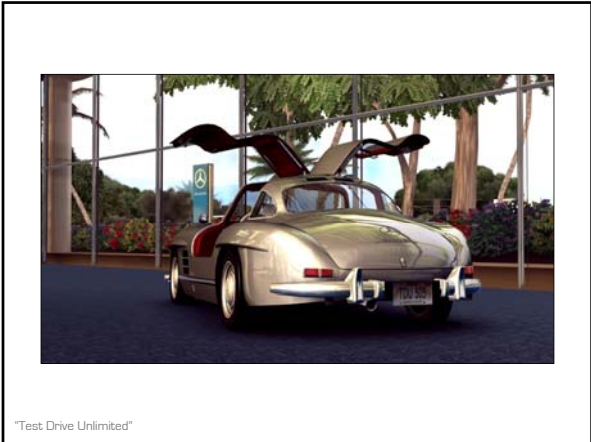
"Unreal Tournament 2007"

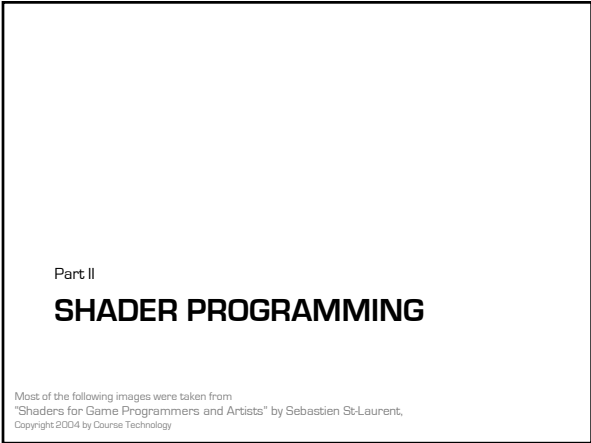


"Crysis"



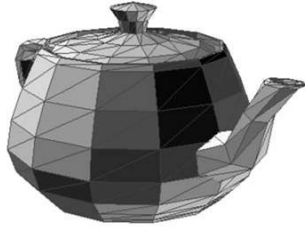
"Test Drive Unlimited"



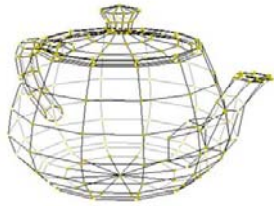




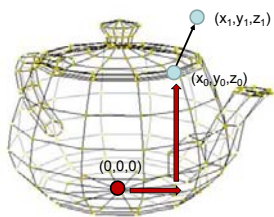
Polygons (Triangles)



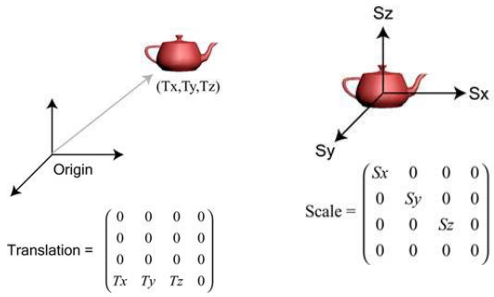
Vertices



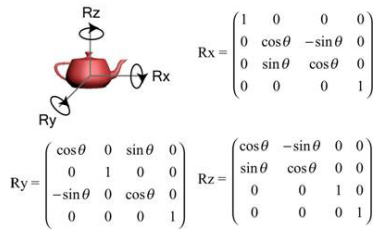
Vertex Transformation



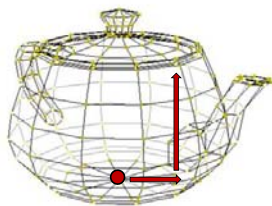
Translating and Scaling



Rotating



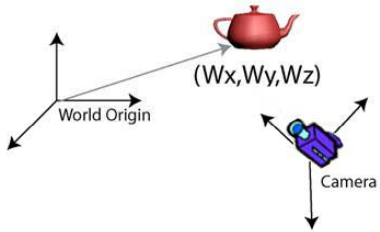
Vertex Transformation



Object vertices in Object coordinates:

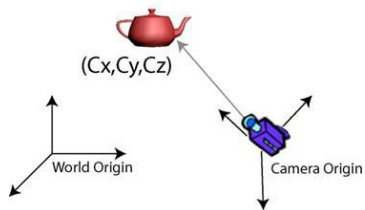
T_{local}

World Coordinates



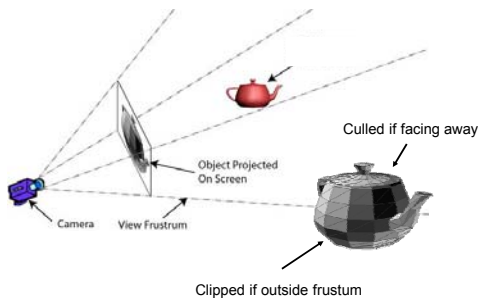
Object vertices in World Space coordinates:
 $T_{world} \cdot T_{local}$

Camera Coordinates

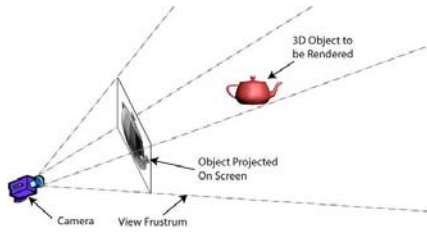


Object vertices in Camera Space coordinates:
 $T_{camera}^{-1} \cdot T_{world} \cdot T_{local}$

Face Culling and Clipping

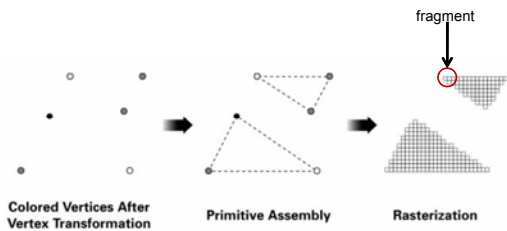


View Projection



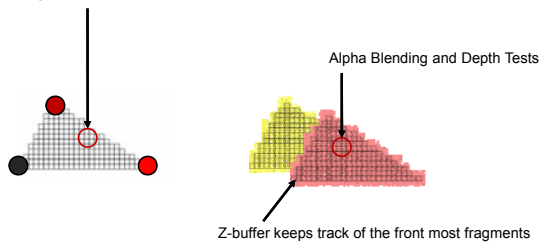
Object vertices in Screen Space coordinates:
 $\text{Projection Matrix} \cdot T_{\text{camera}}^{-1} \cdot T_{\text{world}} \cdot T_{\text{local}}$

Rasterization



Fragment Coloring and Blending

Coloring of fragments based on interpolated information from nearby vertices (e.g. Vertex colors, Vertex UV coordinates, Vertex Normals)

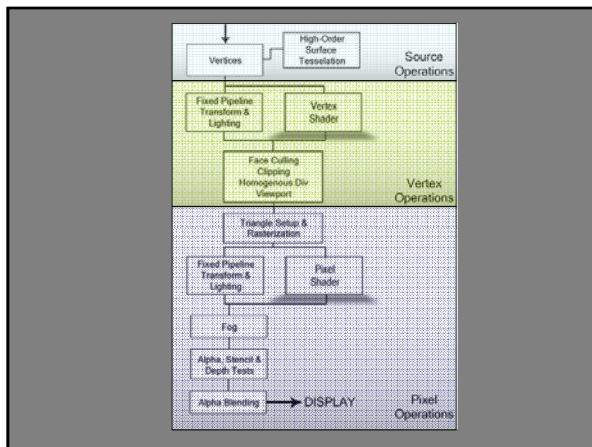


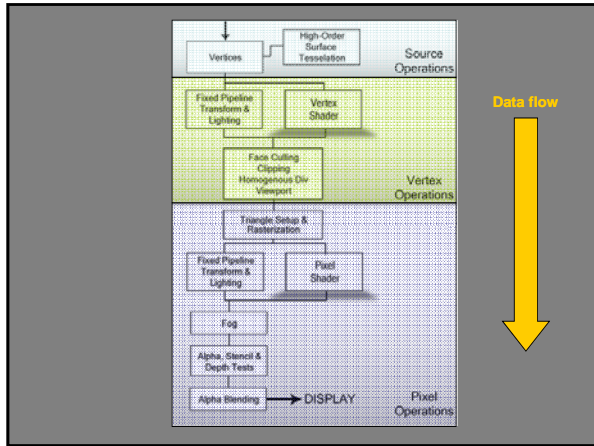
Pixels (what we see on the screen)

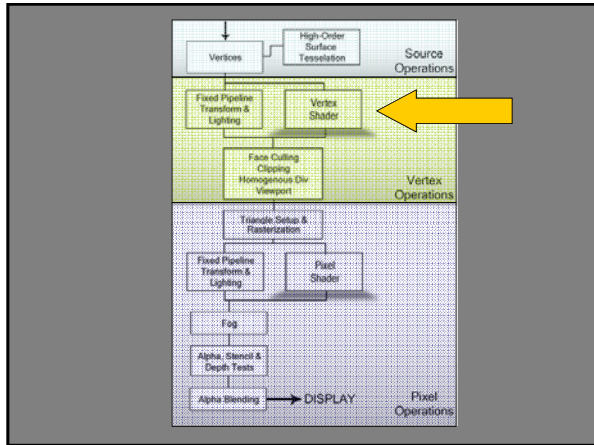


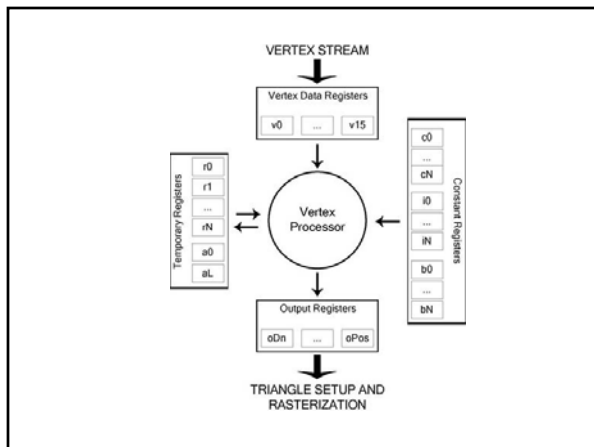
PC 3D Rendering in Hardware

Year	Graphics Card	Milestone
1987	IBM VGA	Provides a pixel frame buffer that the CPU has to fill
1996	3dfx Voodoo	Rasterizes and textures pre-transformed vertices (triangles)
1999	nVidia GeForce 256	Applies both transformation and lighting to vertices (T&L) - fixed pipeline
2001	nVidia GeForce 3	Configurable pixel shader and programmable vertex shader
2003	nVidia GeForce FX	Fully programmable pixel and vertex shaders





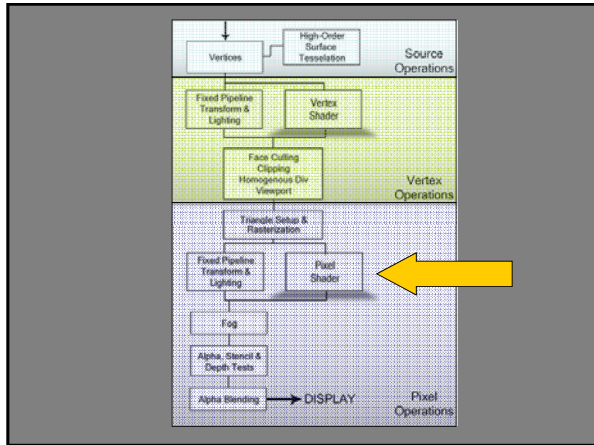


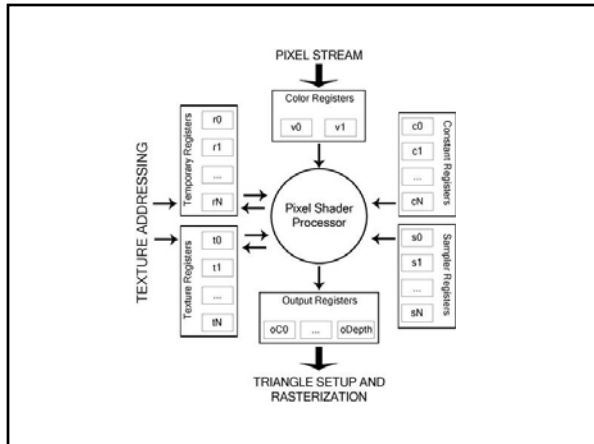


Vertex Shader

```

// Simplest Vertex Shader
// input vertex
struct VertIn {
    float4 pos : POSITION;
    float4 color : COLOR0;
};
// output vertex
struct VertOut {
    float4 pos : POSITION;
    float4 color : COLOR0;
};
// vertex shader main entry
VertOut main(VertIn IN, uniform float4x4 modelViewProj) {
    VertOut OUT;
    OUT.pos = mul(modelViewProj, IN.pos); // calculate output coords
    OUT.color = IN.color; // copy input color to output
    return OUT;
}
    
```





Pixel Shader

```
// Small Pixel Shader (Grayscale Converter)
// input pixel
struct PixIn {
    float3 color : COLOR0;
    float3 texcoord : TEXCOORD0;
};
// output pixel
struct PixOut {
    float3 color : COLOR0;
};
// vertex shader main entry
PixOut main(PixIn IN, uniform sampler2D texture : TEXUNIT0) {
    PixOut OUT;
    float3 color = tex2D(texture, IN.texcoord).rgb;
    OUT.color = dot(color, float3(0.299, 0.587, 0.184)).xxx;
    return OUT;
}
```

Categories of Shader Programs

- Vertex Skinning
- Vertex Displacement Mapping
- Screen Effects
- Light and Surface Models
- Non-photorealistic Rendering

Screen Effects

- Pixel shader renders to a temporary texture that it then processes with filters before returning the color values.

Scene Effects: **Glow**



Scene Effects: **Depth of Field**



Scene Effects: **Distortion**

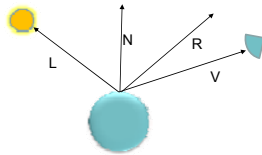


Scene Effects: High Dynamic Range + Bloom

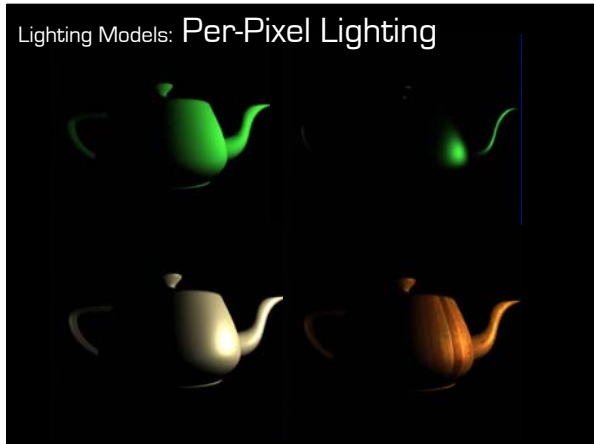


Lighting Models

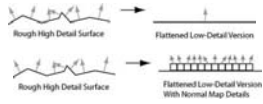
- Shaders calculate new color values by applying various lighting models, involving parameters such as surface normals (N), light angle (L), reflected light angle (R) and view angle (V).



Lighting Models: Per-Pixel Lighting

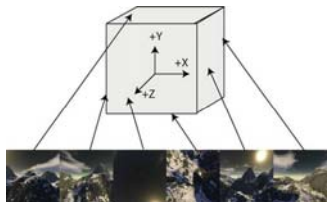


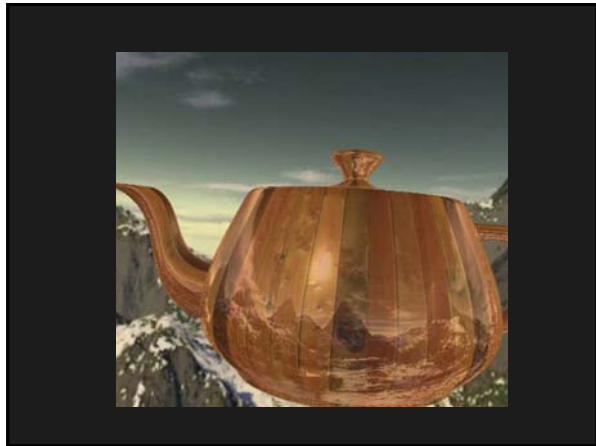
Lighting Models: Normal Mapping

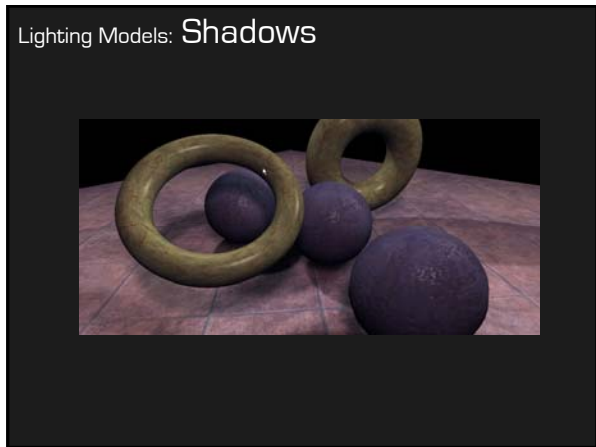


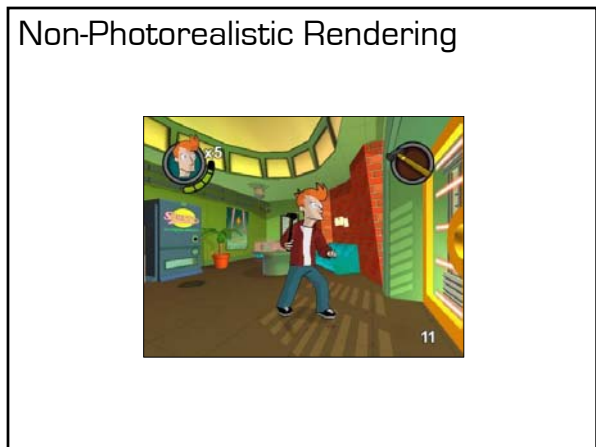


Lighting Models: Environment Reflection









Non-Photorealistic Rendering

