

Texture Mapping in Practice

CSE606: Computer Graphics Jaya Sreevalsan Nair, IIIT Bangalore March 24-26, 2025



Midterm Rubric Discussion (in-class)



Surface Parametrizations



Surface Parametrizations: Rectangle

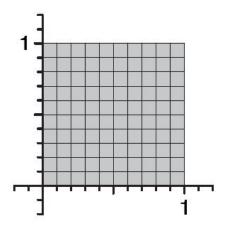
1. simple linear function:

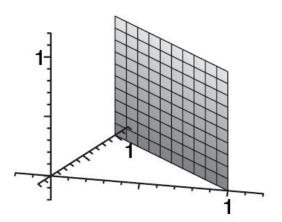
```
parameter domain: \Omega = \{(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : u, v \in [0, 1]\}

surface: S = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x, y, z \in [0, 1], x + y = 1\}

parameterization: f(u, v) = (u, 1 - u, v)

inverse: f^{-1}(x, y, z) = (x, z)
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Kai Hormann et al, SIGGRAPH Course Notes



Surface Parametrizations: Cylinder

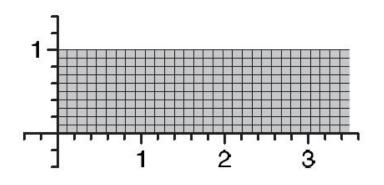
2. cylinder:

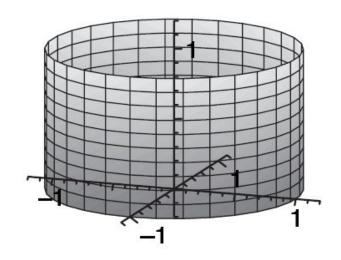
parameter domain: $\Omega = \{(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : u \in [0, 2\pi), v \in [0, 1]\}$

surface: $S = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 = 1, z \in [0, 1]\}$

parameterization: $f(u, v) = (\cos u, \sin u, v)$

inverse: $f^{-1}(x, y, z) = (\arccos x, z)$





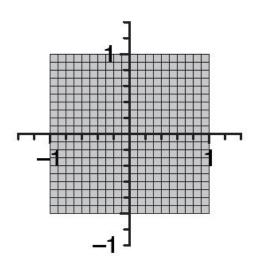


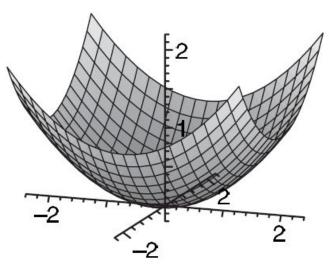
Surface Parametrizations: Paraboloid

3. paraboloid:

parameter domain:
$$\Omega = \{(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : u, v \in [-1, 1]\}$$

surface: $S = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x, y \in [-2, 2], z = \frac{1}{4}(x^2 + y^2)\}$
parameterization: $f(u, v) = (2u, 2v, u^2 + v^2)$
inverse: $f^{-1}(x, y, z) = (\frac{x}{2}, \frac{y}{2})$







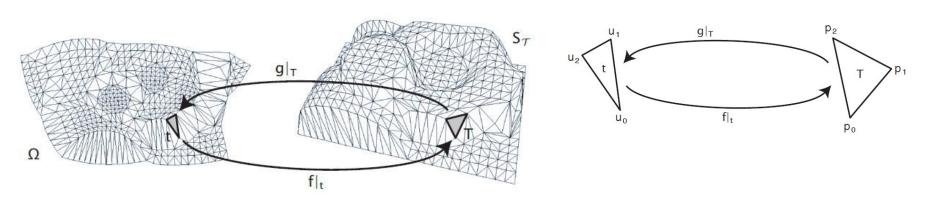
Texture Mapping for Parametrized Surfaces



Parameterization of 3D Mesh

Parameterization defines a correspondence between points on a surface mesh in 3D and a 2D domain.

- Should be bijective (one-to-one) or, at least, locally bijective (i.e. triangles are not flipped/inverted in 2D).
- Can be computed using a spring network model with minimizing spring energy;
 which is done using affine combination of neighbors.





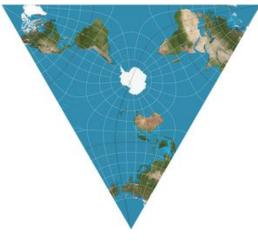
Properties of Parametric Maps

- 1. Isometric: Length of a curve is preserved
- 2. Conformal: Angle between intersecting curves is preserved
- 3. Equiareal: Area of area element is preserved

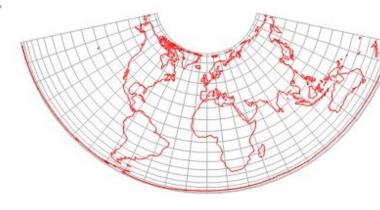
Isometric ⇔ Conformal + Equiareal



Orthographic map Wikipedia



Lee conformal map in a tetrahedron Wikipedia



Albers equiareal projection From WolframAlpha

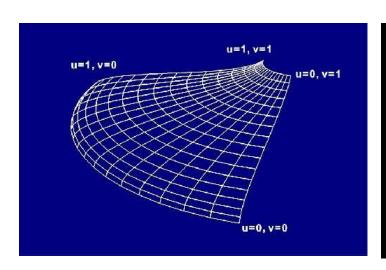


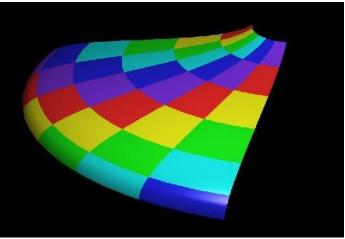
Textures for Parametric Surfaces

Surfaces often modelled as parametric patches:

- Defined as $f(u,v) \rightarrow (x,y,z)$
- E.g. planes, cylinders, spheres, Bezier surfaces, b-splines, NURBS

Use the natural u,v parameters as texture parameters







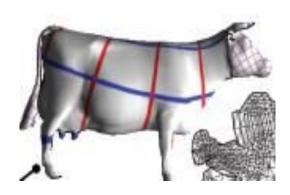
Texture Mapping for Generalized Surfaces – Intermediate Analytic Forms

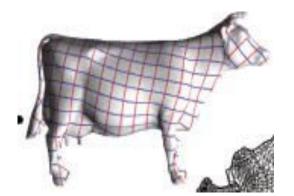


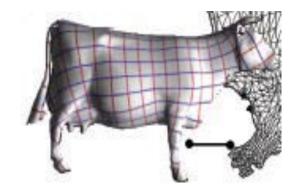
Parameterization of Complex Surfaces

How do we assign parameters to objects where sizes of quads (or tris) are not uniform?

- Typically, smaller tris/quads in areas of higher curvature or other detail
- A straightforward texture mapping will produce uneven and unrealistic images
 - e.g. mapping checkerboard onto the teapot: size of checkers will depend on size of quads
 - Unrealistic, since object is made up a single smooth material/surface
- In practice, difficult to work out a general inverse mapping that would correctly handle all kinds of surfaces









Mapping Analytic Forms

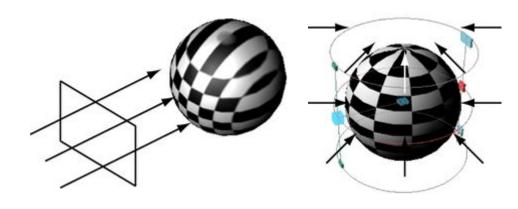
Images: Autodesk Maya

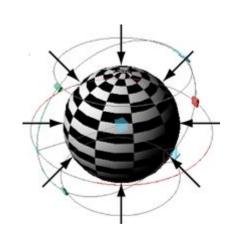
General problem of determining texture coordinates (or parameters) is difficult.

Hence, use an intermediate shape to map to, as a first-cut.

Texturing a sphere using maps that are:

- Planar
- Cylindrical
- Spherical





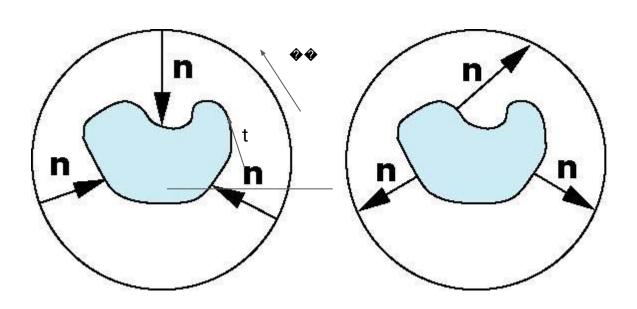


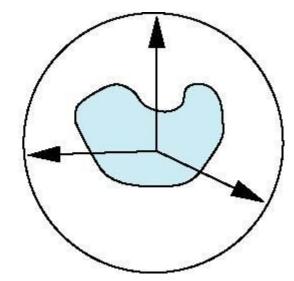
Intermediate Maps

Map object to intermediate object

- Normals from intermediate to actual
- Normals from actual to intermediate
- Vectors from center of intermediate

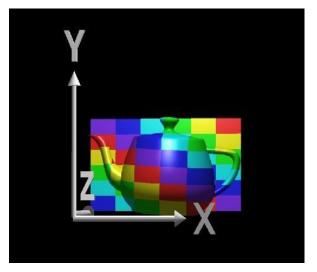
Use an appropriate mapping of point **p** on the surface to **\theta** of the intermediate map, and hence compute **t**

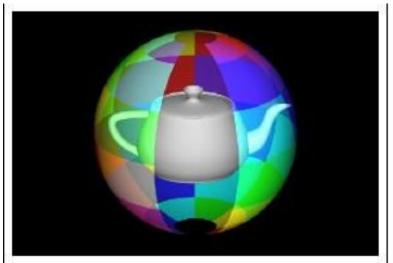






Projections

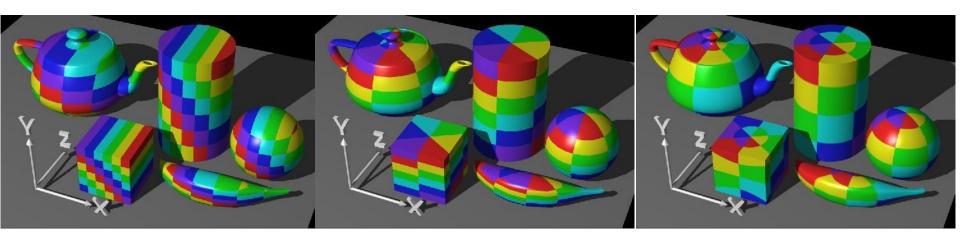








Intermediate Objects

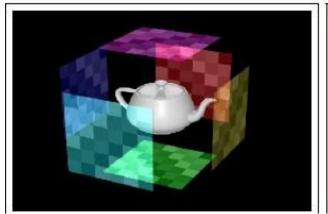


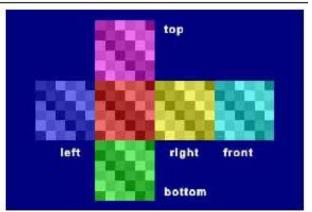
What were the intermediate objects used here?

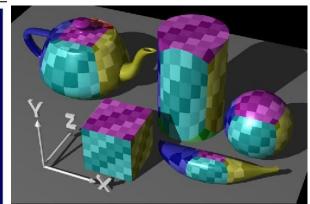
http://www.siggraph.org/education/materials/HyperGraph/mapping/r_wolfe/r_wolfe_mapping_3.htm



Intermediate Objects







http://www.siggraph.org/education/materials/HyperGraph/mapping/r_wolfe/r_wolfe_mapping_3.htm



Cube Maps

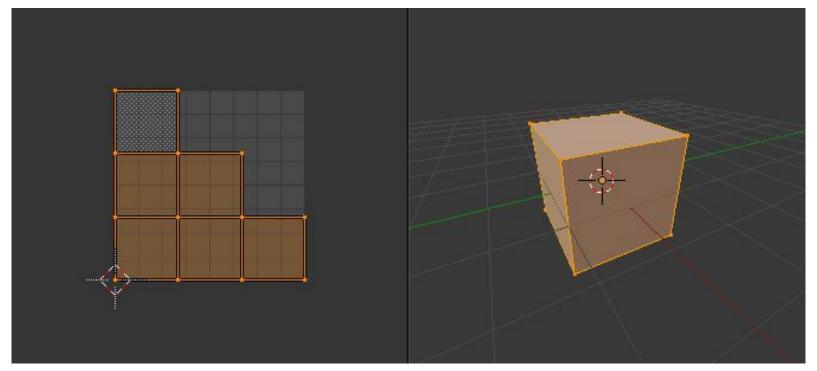


Cube as an intermediate map.

 $\underline{http://www.siggraph.org/education/materials/HyperGraph/mapping/r_wolfe/r_wolfe_mapping_3.htm}$



Parametric maps of mesh surfaces



Blender.org

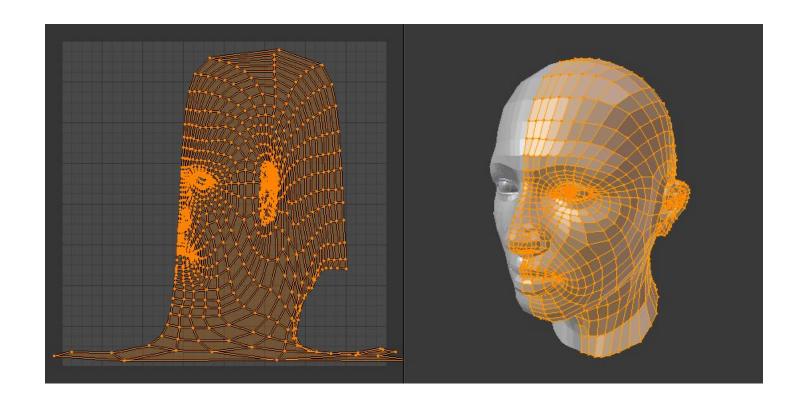
Break surface into multiple patches that are each reasonably flat.

Define UV map for each patch

Surface can be "cut" along edges above a certain angle threshold, for instance



Parameterization for Complex Surfaces

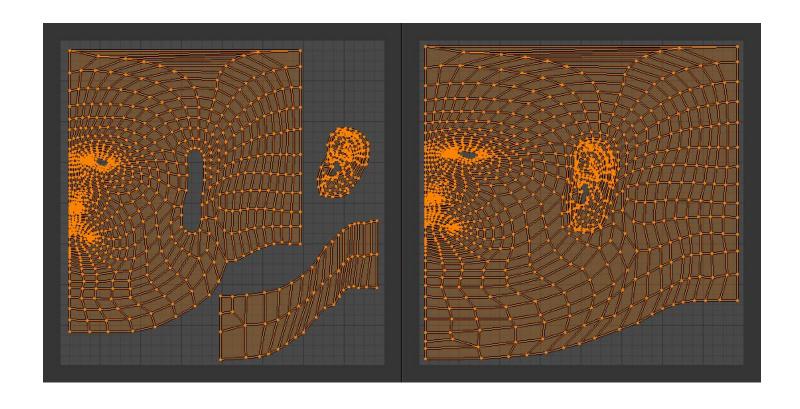


"Flattening" a surface onto a standard shape, e.g. a sphere. High distortion at ear, eye, neck etc

Blender.org



Parameterization for Complex Surfaces

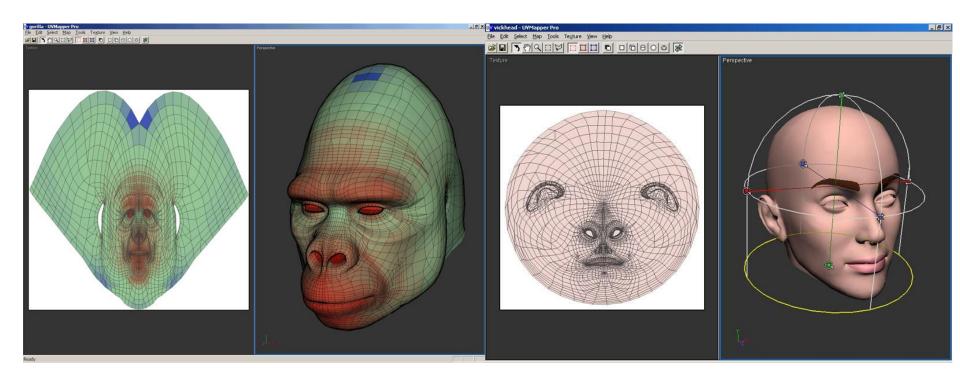


Cut out ear, neck; parameterize them independently, "stitch" back the pieces in uv-space

Blender.org



Examples: Parametric Maps of Complex Surfaces



uvmapper.com

For a detailed explanation, see:

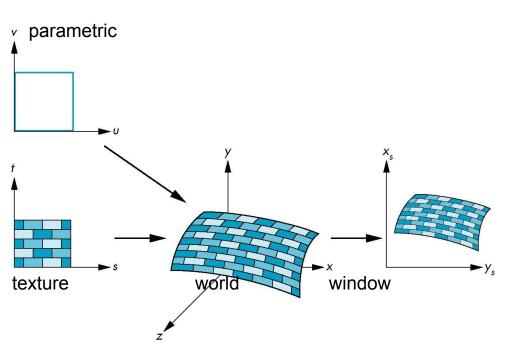
<u>Teaching Texture Mapping Visually, Rosalee Wolfe, SIGGRAPH 97</u> <u>Education Set</u>



Texture Operations



Texture Mapping Process

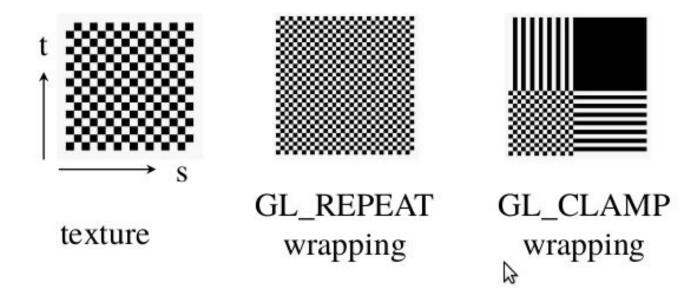


- Parametric coordinates may be used to model curves and surfaces.
- Texture coordinates used to identify points in the image to be mapped.
- Object or World Coordinates, conceptually, where the mapping takes place.
- Window Coordinates, where the final image is really produced



Texture Wrapping

Wrapping parameters determine what happens if s and t are outside the (0,1) range

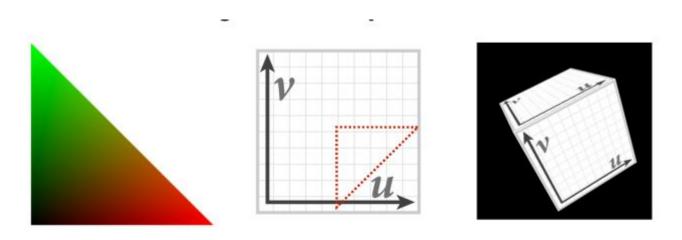




Texture Sampling

Basic algorithm for mapping texture to surface:

- Interpolate u and v coordinates across triangle.
- For each fragment:
 - Sample (evaluate) texture at (u,v)
 - Set color of fragment to sampled texture value

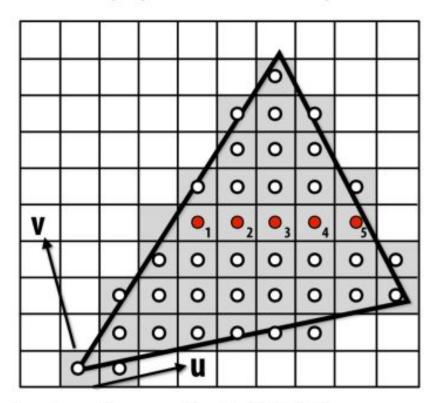


...sadly not this easy in general!



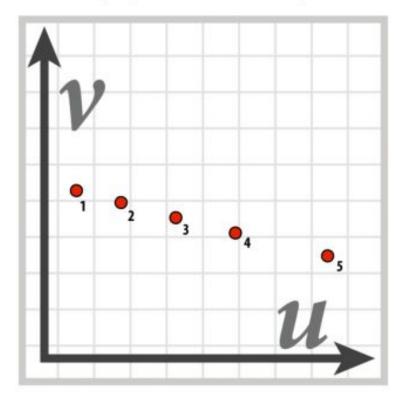
Texture Space Samples

Sample positions in XY screen space



Sample positions are uniformly distributed in screen space (rasterizer samples triangle's appearance at these locations)

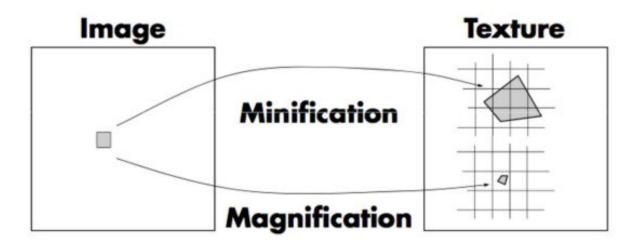
Sample positions in texture space



Texture sample positions in texture space (texture function is sampled at these locations)



Texture Filtering - Minification and Magnification



Minification:

- Area of screen pixel maps to large region of texture (filtering required -- averaging)
- One texel corresponds to far less than a pixel on screen
- Example: when scene object is very far away

Magnification:

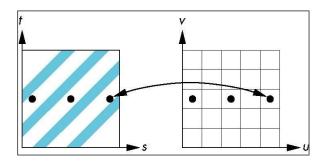
- Area of screen pixel maps to tiny region of texture (interpolation required)
- One texel maps to many screen pixels
- Example: when camera is very close to scene object (need higher resolution texture map)



Issue-1: Aliasing

Point sampling of textures can lead to aliasing errors, especially in inverse mapping:

Can miss parts of texture pattern

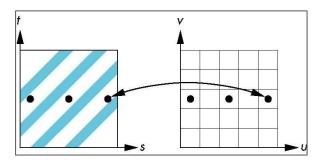




Issue-1: Aliasing

Point sampling of textures can lead to aliasing errors, especially in inverse mapping:

Can miss parts of texture pattern



Solution: Texture Sampling

- Filter modes allow us to use area averaging instead of point samples
 - Mapping (s,t) directly to texel coords (integers) can cause aliasing issues
 - Can apply filters:
 - Nearest
 - Linear (Use 4 texels around the point to compute a weighted average
 - Produces smoother variations

2. Mipmapping



Mipmapping

Mipmaps are smaller, pre-filtered versions of a texture image, representing different levels of detail (LOD) of the texture.

They are often stored in sequences of progressively smaller textures called mipmap chains with each level half as small as the previous one.

Advantages:

- Improved image quality
- Increased performance





Mipmapping - Application

As the object gets further from the camera, the object's texture will eventually appear smaller on-screen than its actual resolution, i.e., there will be more than one texel (pixels of a texture map) per screen pixel.

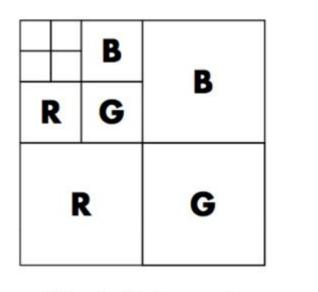
The texture will have to be scaled down in a process called **minification filtering**, which often requires the application to sample multiple texels to decide on the colour of a pixel. This is a problem when the entire texture needs to be sampled at runtime for an object that could only be a single pixel wide.

Instead of sampling a single texture, the application can switch between any of the lower resolution mipmaps in the chain depending on the distance from the camera. Thus, mipmaps is a solution to texture aliasing issue.

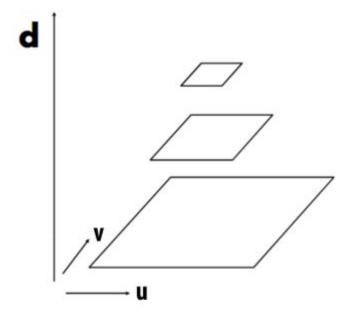
512 x 512



MipMapping - Storage



Williams' original proposed mip-map layout



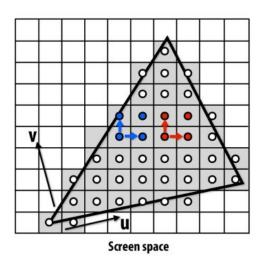
"Mip hierarchy" level = d

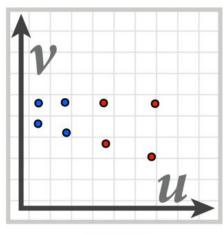
What is the storage overhead of a mipmap?

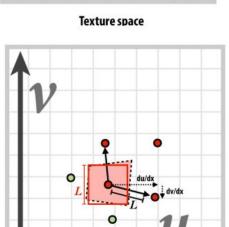
Williams, L., 1983, July. Pyramidal parametrics. In *Proceedings of the 10th annual conference on Computer graphics and interactive techniques* (pp. 1-11).



MipMap Level Determination







Compute differences
between texture
coordinates of neighboring
screen samples / fragments

$$\begin{array}{ll} du/dx = u_{10}\text{-}u_{00} & dv/dx = v_{10}\text{-}v_{00} \\ du/dy = u_{01}\text{-}u_{00} & dv/dy = v_{01}\text{-}v_{00} \end{array}$$

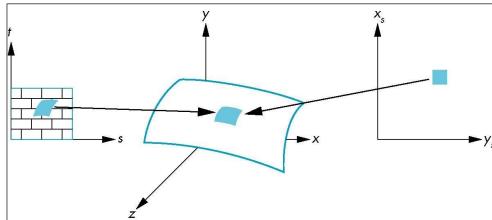
$$L = \max\left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{du}{dx}\right)^{2} + \left(\frac{dv}{dx}\right)^{2}}, \sqrt{\left(\frac{du}{dy}\right)^{2} + \left(\frac{dv}{dy}\right)^{2}}\right)$$

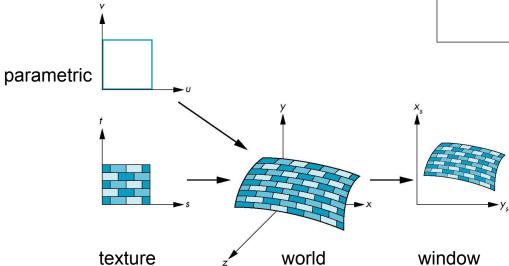
$$mip-map \ d = log_{2} L$$



Issue-2: Texture Pre-image

Pre-image of (rectangular) pixel may be curved.

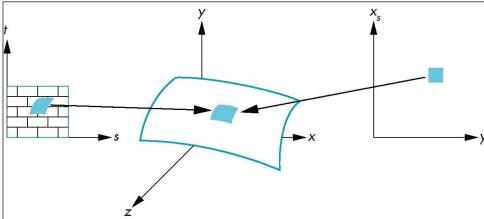


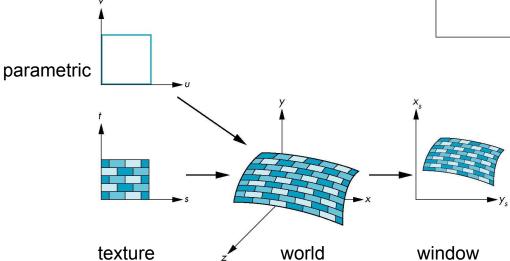




Issue-2: Texture Pre-image

Pre-image of (rectangular) pixel may be curved.



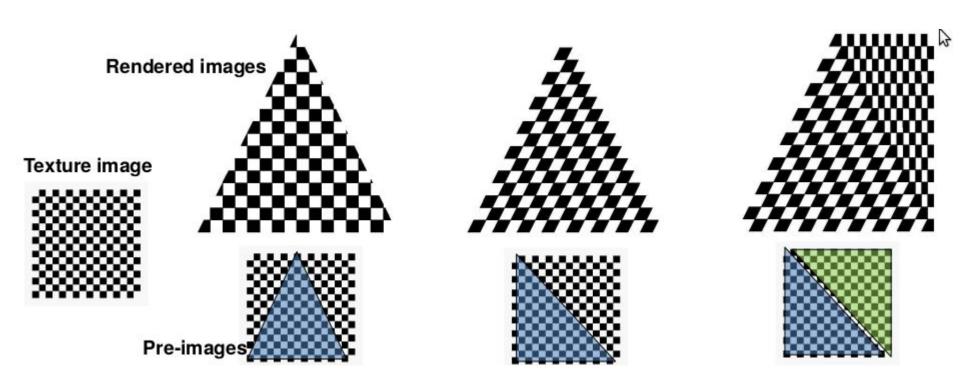


Solution: Use seams



Texture Interpolation

- Interpolation of texture coordinates (i.e. map to texels)
- Can result in distortions





Texture Mapping Application



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yx2JNbv8Kpq



Summary

- Surface parametrization analytical forms
- Textures for 3D parametric surfaces
- Textures for general mesh surfaces
 - Intermediate maps
- Texture Operations
 - Wrapping
 - Sampling
 - Mipmapping
 - Curved elements