

A collection of approximately 15 squares in various shades of blue and grey, scattered across the top half of the slide.

MVD: Advanced Graphics 1

19 - Terrain

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Terrain



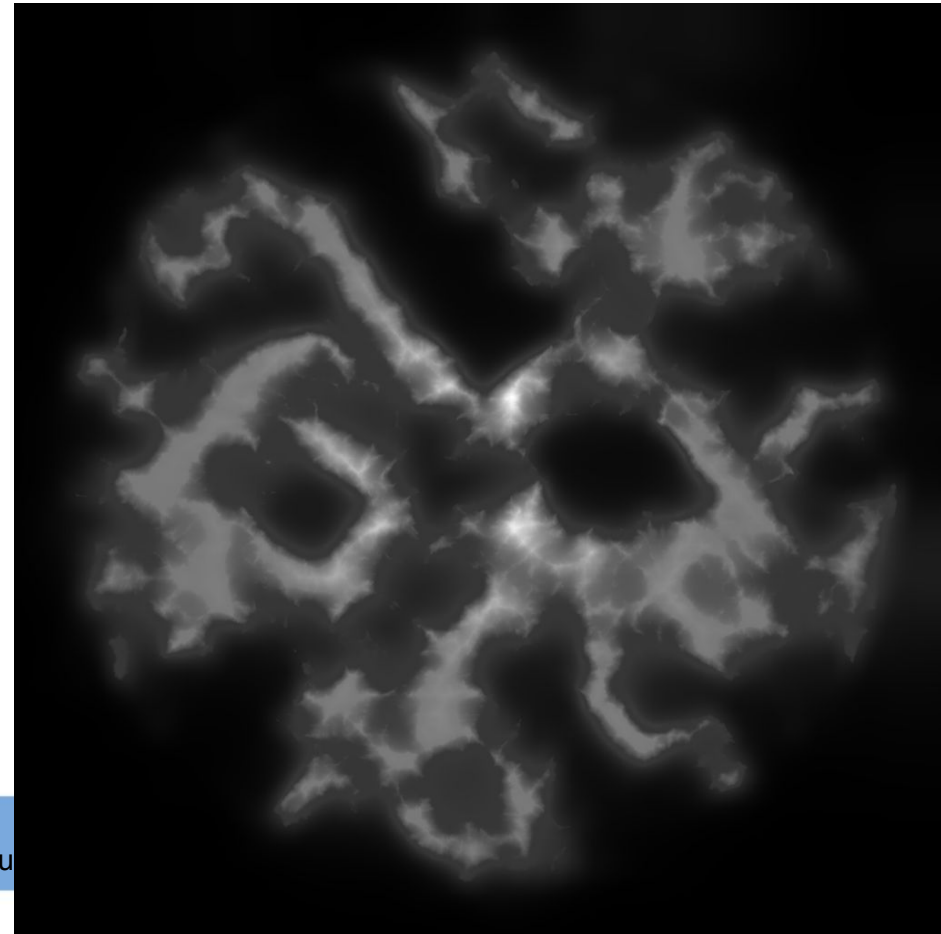
The height map

The height map is a greyscale image which we sample to modify the height of the terrain

Sample the height map at each vertex.

Change vertex position.y based on sample

Could you do this in the shader?



Creating a grid

Need:

- resolution (how many grid points per axis)
- step (distance between grid point)
- max height (the y-coord of highest point)
- height map pixel data

Making vertices:

foreach axis

for each gridpoint in resolution

add step, make grid point

Loading data

New Geometry functions to create geometry

Modification of Parsers:: load texture to store pointer to texture data

```
static GLuint parseTexture(std::string filename,  
                           ImageData* image_data = nullptr,  
                           bool keep_data = false);
```

ImageData struct

add noise map and multiple diffuse maps to material

if you add a new map to material must init = -1!!!

Terrain material

Note scaled uvs and noise_map

```
//noise map data - must be cleaned up
ImageData noise_image_data;
float terrain_height = 20.0f;

int mat_terrain_index = graphics_system_.createMaterial();
Material& mat_terrain = graphics_system_.getMaterial(mat_terrain_index);
mat_terrain.shader_id = terrain_shader->program;
mat_terrain.specular = lm::vec3(0,0,0);
mat_terrain.diffuse_map = Parsers::parseTexture("data/assets/terrain/grass01.tga");
mat_terrain.diffuse_map_2 = Parsers::parseTexture("data/assets/terrain/cliffs.tga");
mat_terrain.normal_map = Parsers::parseTexture("data/assets/terrain/grass01_n.tga");
//read texture, pass optional variables to get pointer to pixel data
mat_terrain.noise_map = Parsers::parseTexture("data/assets/terrain/heightmap1.tga",
                                             &noise_image_data,
                                             true );

mat_terrain.height = terrain_height;
mat_terrain.uv_scale = lm::vec2(100,100);
```

Terrain material

Note freeing memory!

```
//terrain
//create terrain geometry - this function is a wrapper for Geometry::createTerrain
int terrain_geometry = graphics_system_.createTerrainGeometry( 500,
                                                                0.4f,
                                                                terrain_height,
                                                                noise_image_data);

//delete noise_image data other we have a memory leak
delete noise_image_data.data;
```


Terrain entity

```
//terrain
int terrain_entity = ECS.createEntity("Terrain");
Mesh& terrain_mesh = ECS.createComponentForEntity<Mesh>(terrain_entity);
terrain_mesh.geometry = terrain_geometry;
terrain_mesh.material = mat_blue_check_index;
terrain_mesh.render_mode = RenderModeForward;
```


Multiresolution tiling

Simple tiling of grass texture

```
//sample grass  
vec2 s_uv = v_uv * u_uv_scale;  
vec3 grass_full_res = texture(u_diffuse_map, s_uv).xyz;  
mat_diffuse *= grass_full_res;
```

see tiling really badly



GLSL mix function

```
mix(colorA, colorB, ratio)
```

ratio of 0.0 = 100% colorA

ratio of 1.0 = 100% colorB

Multiresolution tiling

Multiply scaled uvs (separately) by 0.4 and 0.1.

Sample texture three times

Mix result:

```
//mix the three resolutions to get a result
mat_diffuse *= mix(
    mix (grass_full_res, grass_med_res, 0.5),
    grass_low_res,
    0.2
);
```

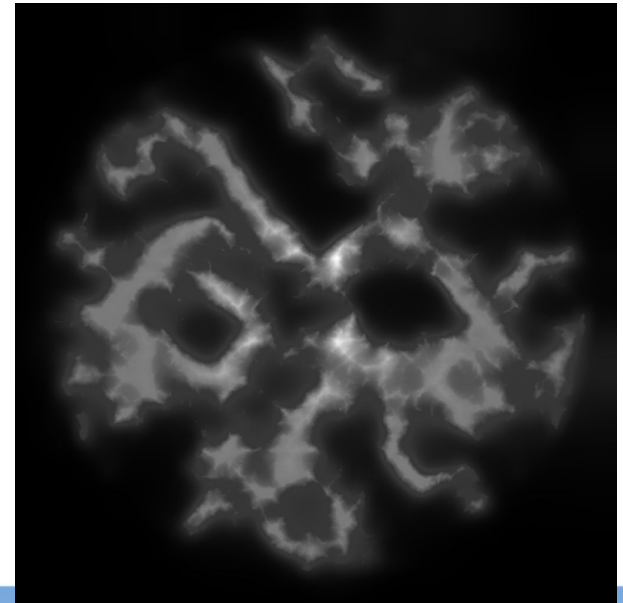


Sampling height map data

Our image data struct has a `getPixel` function.

Receives pixel coords, and a `int[3]` array pointer

Why `int[3]` and not `float[3]`?



Pixel data

Pixel is data unsigned int 0 -> 255

Get pixel fills array with pixel data

```
bool getPixel(int x, int y, int pixel[3]) {  
    if (x > width || y > height) return false;  
  
    int pixel_location = width * bytes_pp * y + x * bytes_pp;  
    pixel[0] = data[pixel_location];  
    pixel[1] = data[pixel_location + 1];  
    pixel[2] = data[pixel_location + 2];  
    return true;  
}
```

Converting pixel data to height

Need to have max height of terrain

Need to normalize pixel data to 0->1

so

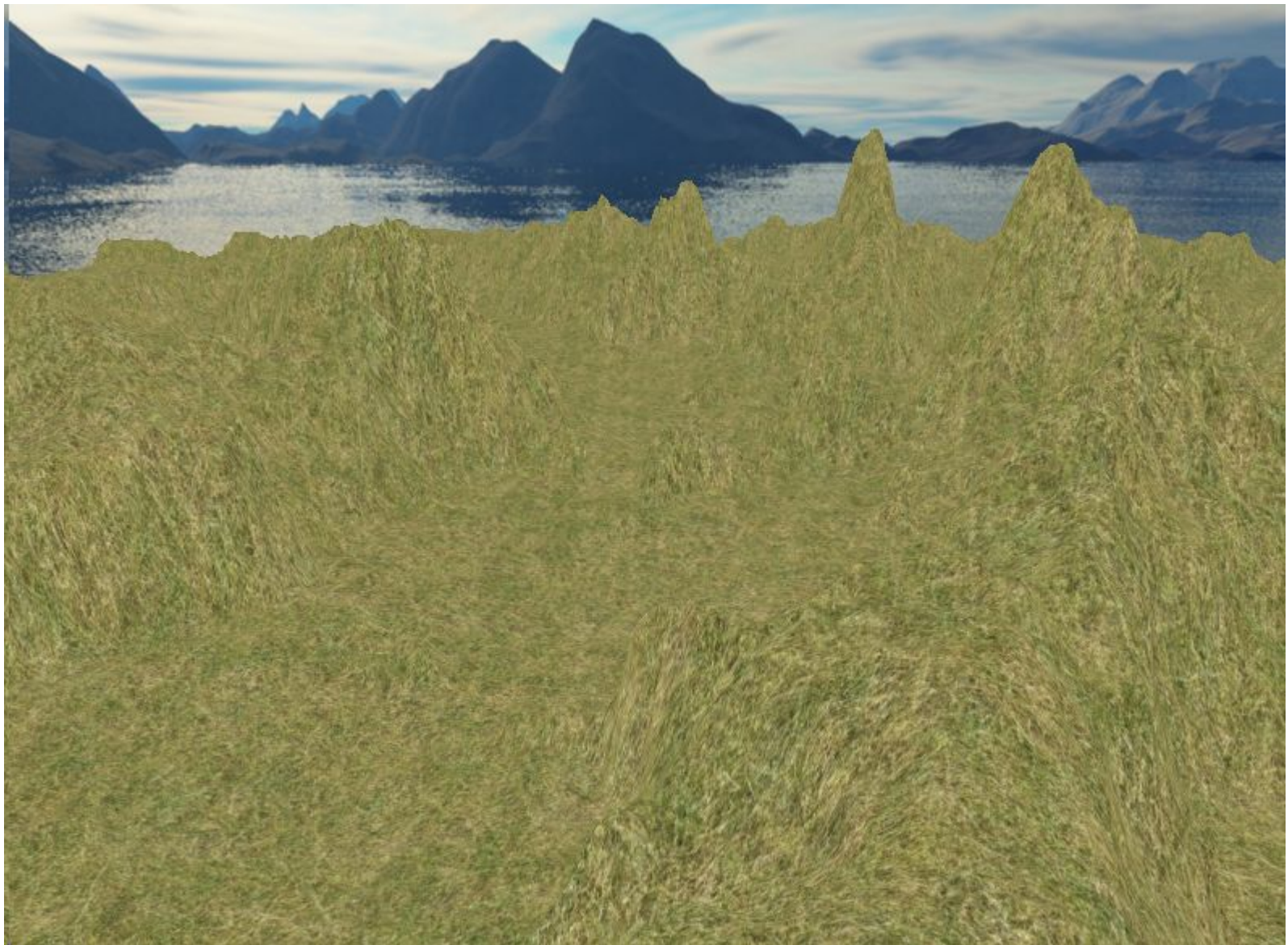
$$\text{height} = (\text{data} / 255) * \text{max_terrain_height}$$

Which pixel to sample

For each grid point in mesh, we must find pixel coord (x, y) for image map:

e.g. for x

$$\text{normalized_grid_point_x} = (v_x / \text{resolution})$$
$$x_pixel = \text{normalized_grid_point_x} * \text{width_image}$$



Normals

Normals are calculated using partial derivative of the heightmap, in x and y

normal at pixel $P = (dx, 2.0, dy)$

where $dx = P_{x-1} - P_{x+1}$ and $dy = P_{y-1} - P_{y+1}$

For this to work we need to make boundary checks before getting pixel data

```
lm::vec3 Geometry::calculateTerrainNormal(ImageData& height_map, int x, int y){  
    //boundary check  
    if (x == 0) x = 1; if (y == 0) y = 1;  
    if (x == height_map.width) x--; if (y == height_map.height) y--;  
  
    //obtain partial derivatives in both dimensions, using data points either side  
    int hl[3]; int hr[3]; int hd[3]; int hu[3];  
    height_map.getPixel(x - 1, y, hl);  
    height_map.getPixel(x + 1, y, hr);  
    height_map.getPixel(x, y - 1, hu);  
    height_map.getPixel(x, y + 1, hd);  
  
    lm::vec3 n((float)(hl[0] - hr[0]), 2.0, (float)(hd[0] - hu[0]));  
  
    return n;  
}
```


Uploading multiple textures

Can upload multiple diffuse maps if you want!

```
//texture uniforms - diffuse
if (mat.diffuse_map != -1){
    shader_>setUniform(U_USE_DIFFUSE_MAP, 1);
    shader_>setTexture(U_DIFFUSE_MAP, mat.diffuse_map, 8);
} else shader_>setUniform(U_USE_DIFFUSE_MAP, 0);

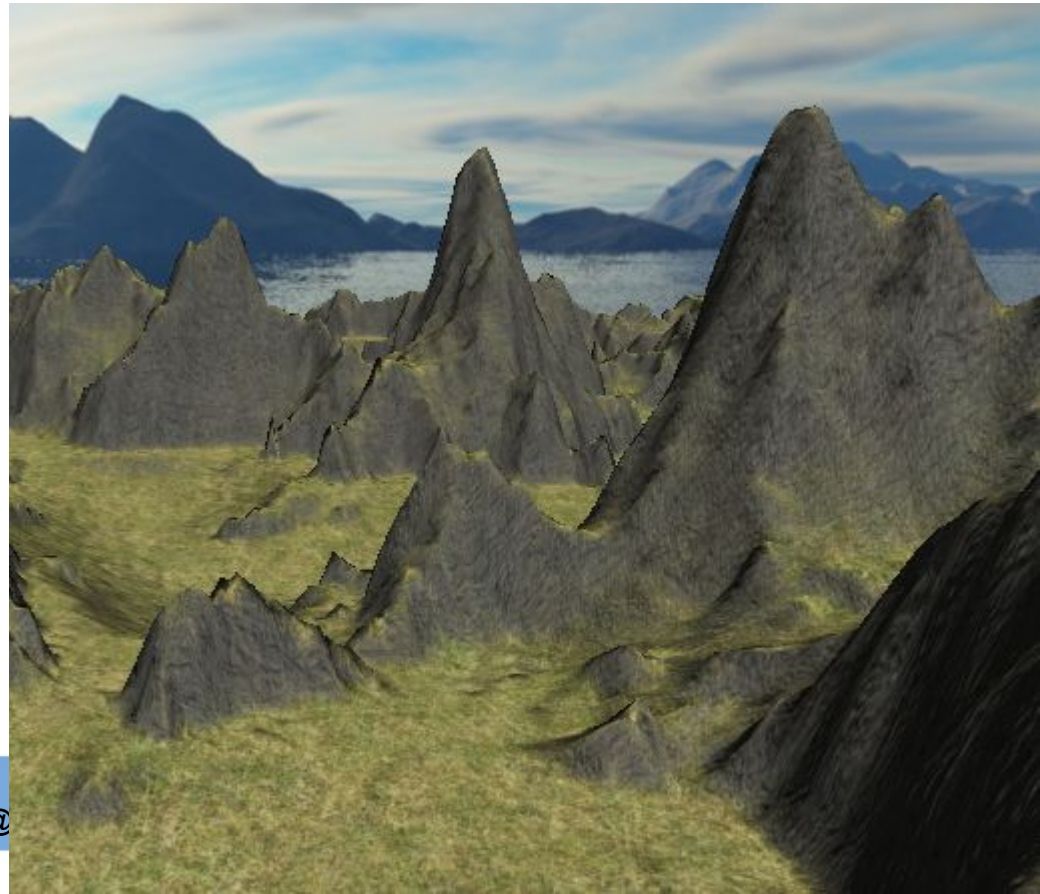
//add extra diffuse maps
if (mat.diffuse_map_2 != -1) {
    shader_>setUniform(U_USE_DIFFUSE_MAP_2, 1);
    shader_>setTexture(U_DIFFUSE_MAP_2, mat.diffuse_map_2, 9);
}
else shader_>setUniform(U_USE_DIFFUSE_MAP_2, 0);
if (mat.diffuse_map_3 != -1) {
    shader_>setUniform(U_USE_DIFFUSE_MAP_3, 1);
    shader_>setTexture(U_DIFFUSE_MAP_3, mat.diffuse_map_3, 10);
}
else shader_>setUniform(U_USE_DIFFUSE_MAP_3, 0);
```

Mix in cliffs texture

Load cliffs texture as diffuse texture 2

mix based on normal.y

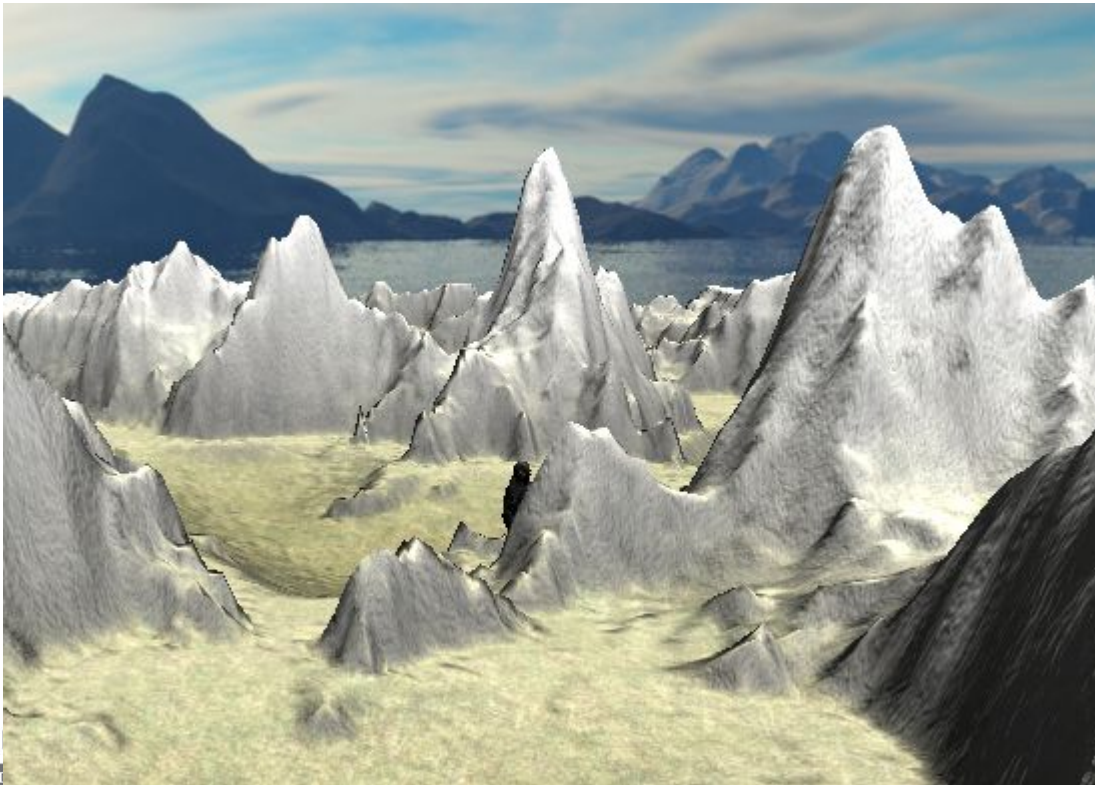
Can scale N.y
to decide quantity



Mix in 'snow'

Snow is just the color white (could be a texture if you want)

$\text{snow_mix} = \text{vertex_position.y} / \text{maximum_height_of_terrain}$

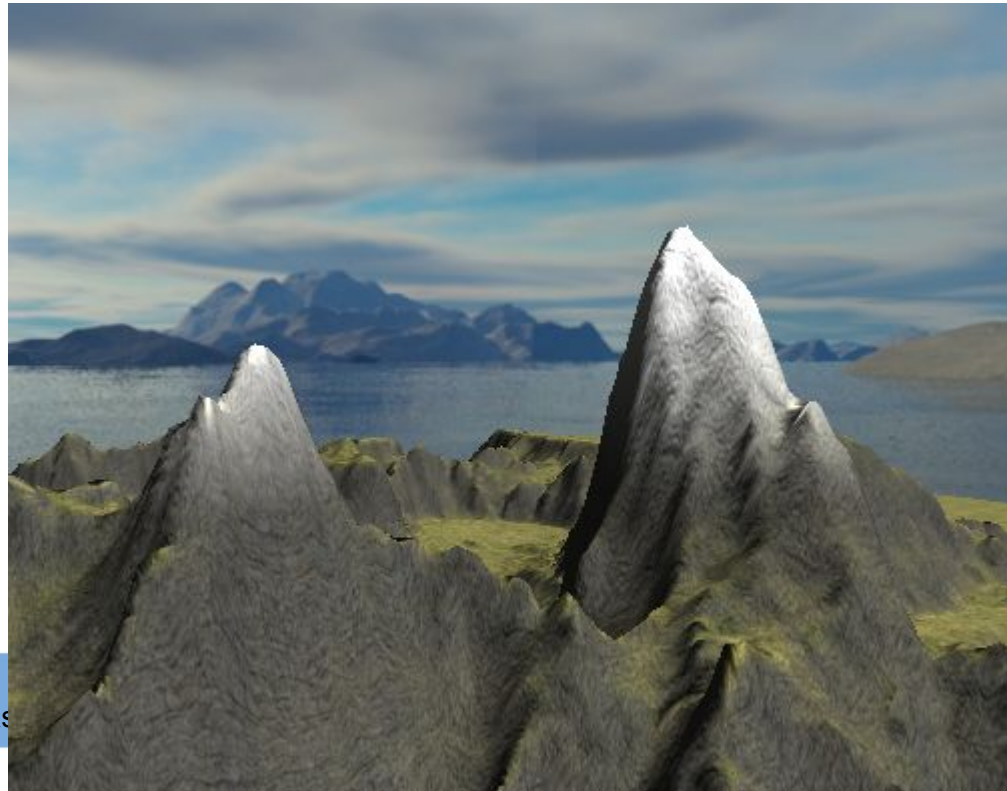


Non-linear snow

Multiply mix by a nonlinear function so that snow is only on highest peaks

snowmix = snowmix * $x - y$

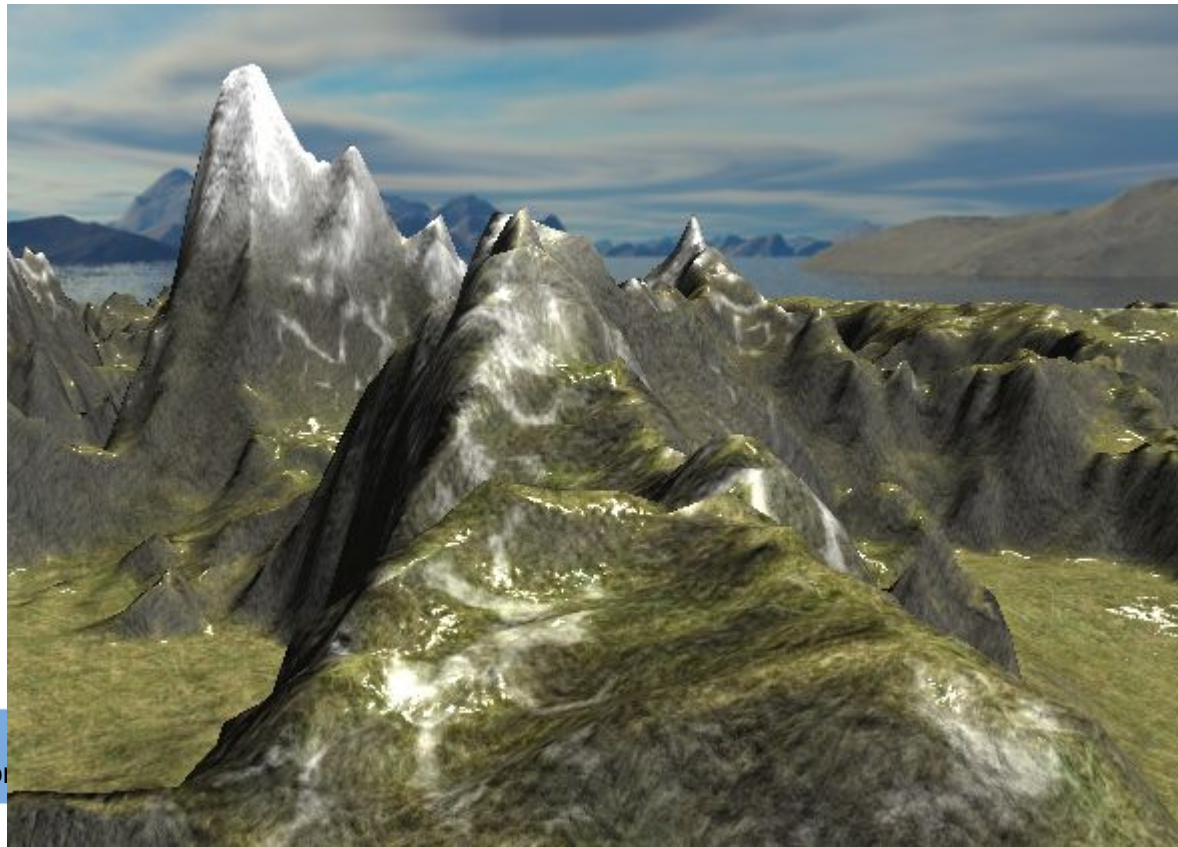
play with x and y to see levels



Mixing with noise map

Modify snow by sampling a noise map

This is the same noise texture used to create terrain



More ideas

Paths - use values of a greyscale texture to mix a path/bricks texture

Water - we we will look at this later but for now you could put a simple plane with a reflection shader. Use fresnel's law to modify reflection amount based on camera angle with normal