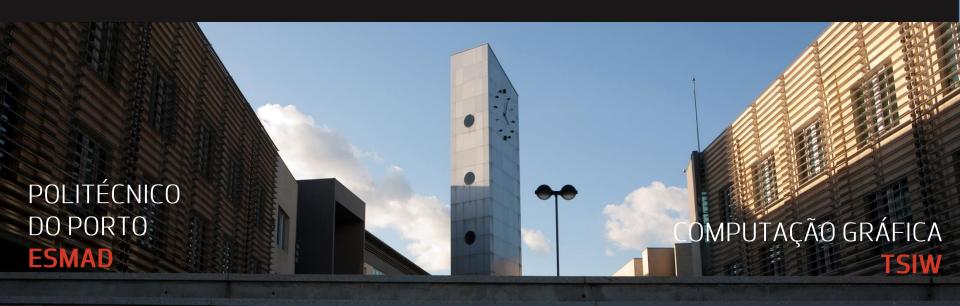
P.PORTO



WebGL

- New standard for 3D graphics on the web
- It appeared in 2006 as Mozilla Canvas3D
- Joined Opera, Apple and Google: renamed to WebGL
- Developed and maintained by the Khronos group (khronos.org/webgl)
- Part of the HTML5 family of technologies
 - Not an official W3C specification
 - Supported by most browsers with HTML5 support (get.webgl.org / webglreport.com)
- Graphics are rendered using JavaScript
- Features are downloaded by the browser, but the code runs directly on the GPU



WebGL

JavaScript API for rendering interactive 2D and 3D graphics inside an HTML <canvas> element













WebGL

Note that WebGL is part of the Khronos Group, not the W3C.

1 WebGL context is accessed from "experimental-webgl" rather than "webgl"



https://caniuse.com/#feat=webgl

WebGL 2.0



https://caniuse.com/#feat=webgl2

3D Graphics

Modelling

- How to represent objects
- How to build those representations

Animation

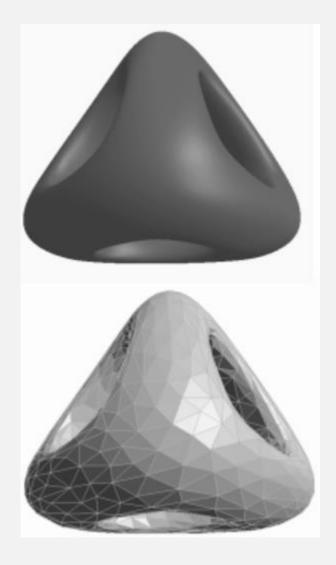
Controlling the way things move

Rendering

How to display a scene

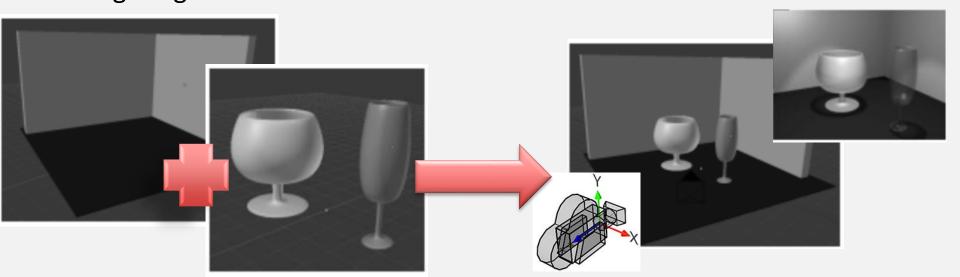
3D Modelling

- 3D models
 - Point meshes
 - Curves and surfaces
- But when data is sent to the graphics card
 - everything is transformed into triangles

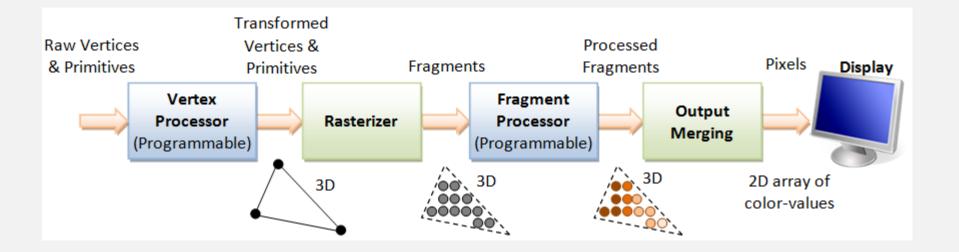


3D Rendering

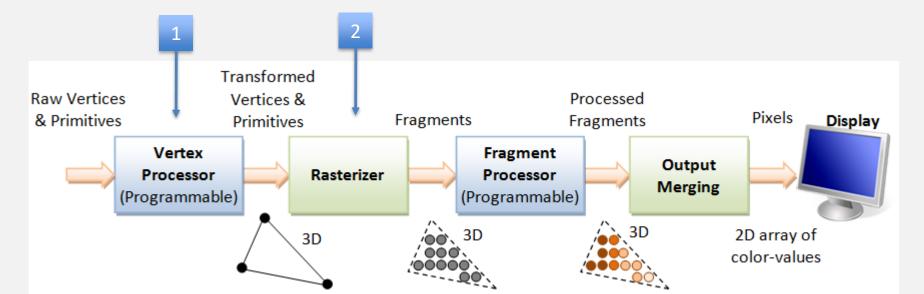
- Geometric transformations to the vertices
 - To position the models and create a 3D scene
 - The pretended view of the scene is chosen by camera positioning
 - Projection from 3D to 2D
- Triangle painting
- Lighting and materials



- Rendering Pipeline: series of processing stages in order to produce an image on the display from a 3D model description
 - accepts description of 3D objects in terms of vertices of primitives (such as triangles, points, lines, ...)
 - produces the color-value for the pixels on the display



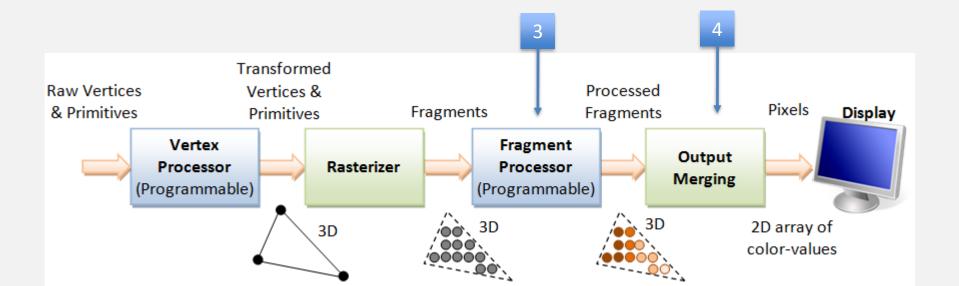
- Main stages
 - 1. Vertex Processing: process and transform individual vertices
 - 2. Rasterization: convert each primitive (connected vertices) into a set of fragments; a fragment can be treated as a pixel in 3D space, which is aligned with the pixel grid, with attributes such as position, color, normal and texture



Main stages

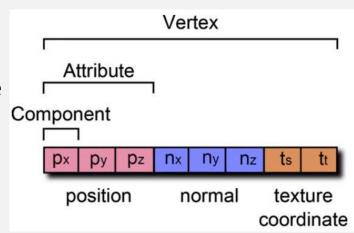
(...)

- 3. Fragment Processing: process (color) individual fragments
- **4. Output Merging**: combine the fragments of all primitives (in 3D space) into 2D color-pixel for the display



Vertex:

- **Position** in 3D space, $P=(p_x, p_y, p_z)$: typically expressed in floating point numbers
- Color: expressed in RGB or RGBA components; values are typically normalized [0.0; 1.0] (or 8-bit unsigned integer [0; 255]); alpha (A) is used to specify the transparency, with alpha of 0 for totally transparent and alpha of 1 for opaque
- Vertex-Normal $N=(n_x, n_y, n_z)$: used to differentiate the front- and back-face, and for other processing steps such as lighting
- Texture T=(t_s, t_t): in computer graphics, often a 2D image is wrapped to an object to make it seen realistic; therefore, the texture coordinates provides a reference point to a 2D texture image

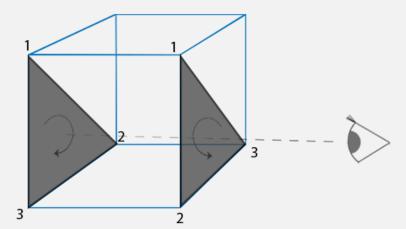


Normals:

Face (polygon or triangle) normal:

A triangle is defined by its vertices - the corner points. Each of those points is referenced by a number, and the order of those points defines the direction in which the face normal is orientated.

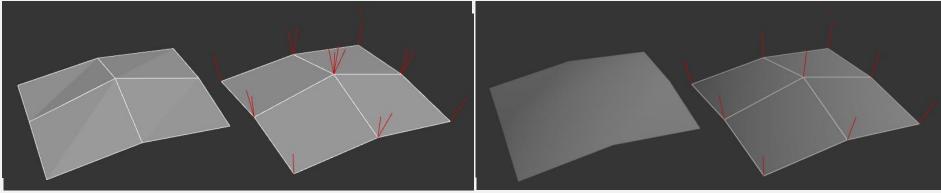
WebGL uses the face normal, to determine what is the inside and what is the outside of an object. By default, triangles defined with counter-clockwise vertices are processed as front-facing triangles. It does not render the backfaces unless explicitly told to do so.



Normals:

– Vertex normals:

Are a continuation of the basic principle of face normals. Each vertex normal is a vector pointing in some direction. In the case of a single triangle, all the vertex normals point in the same direction as the face normal - unless explicitly changed. This is not particularly useful for a single triangle, but it gets interesting if we have neighboring polygons.

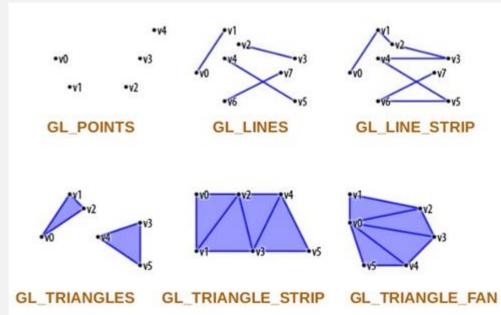


vertex normals in a multi-polygon mesh

vertex normals in a smoothed mesh

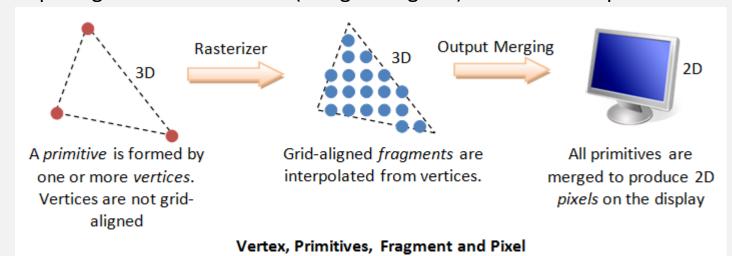
Primitive:

- Formed by of one or more vertices
- OpenGL supports three classes of geometric primitives: points, line segments, and closed polygons
- Primitive assembly groups vertices forming one primitive
- Primitives often share vertices
- Instead of repeatedly specifying the vertices, it is more efficient to create an index list of vertices, and use the indexes in specifying the primitives

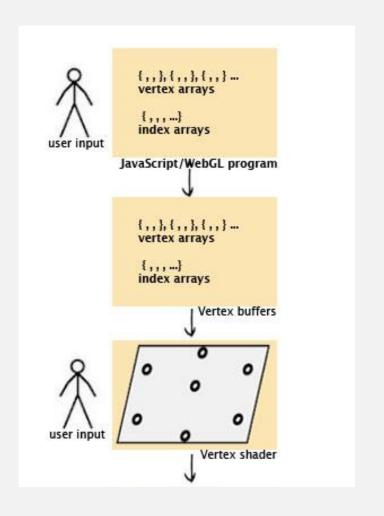


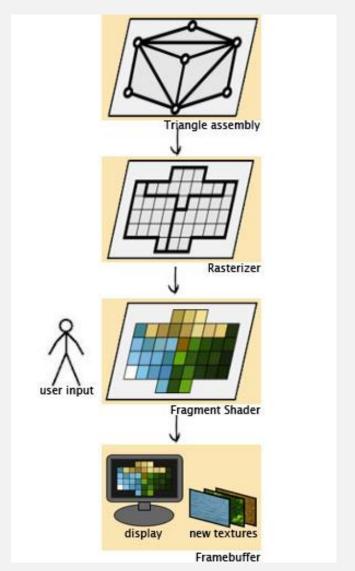
Fragment

- Pixels refers to the dots on the display, which are aligned in a 2D grid of a certain rows and columns corresponding to the display's resolution
- In order to produce the grid-aligned pixels for the display, the rasterizer takes each input primitive and perform raster-scan to produce a set of grid-aligned fragments enclosed within the primitive
- A fragment is 3D, with a (x,y,z) position: the (x,y) are aligned with the
 2D pixel-grid and the z-value (not grid-aligned) denotes its depth



WebGL pipeline





WebGL pipeline

- All WebGL programs must:
 - Configure the Canvas element to run WebGL
 - Create shader programs
 - Generate geometric data in the application
 - Create buffer objects where to place the geometric data
 - Interconnect the data with the variables of the shaders (shader plumbing)
 - Perform object rendering
- Open sample program available at Moodle (WebGL 2D triangle)

Configure the Canvas element to run WebGL

```
// Gets 3D Canvas context
var canvas = document.getElementById('gl-canvas');

// JavaScript utilities for common WebGL tasks (checks for success or failure)
gl = WebGLUtils.setupWebGL(canvas);
if (!gl) { alert("WebGL not available"); }

// Sets WebGL viewport (same size as Canvas element)
gl.viewport(0, 0, canvas.width, canvas.height);
// Sets background color
gl.clearColor(0.9, 0.9, 0.8, 1.0);
```

- Create shader programs vertex and fragment shaders in GLSL language (OpenGL Shading Language)
- Vertex shader:
 - Executed in parallel for each vertex sent to the GPU
 - Used to transform geometry
 - Uses attributes (per-vertex input variables) to access information contained in Vertex Buffer Objects

```
<script id="vertex-shader" type="x-shader/x-vertex">
    attribute vec4 vPosition;

    void main()
    {
        gl_Position=vPosition;
    }
</script>
```

Vertex shader:

- Once the vertex coordinates have been processed in the vertex shader, they should be in NDC: Normalized Device Coordinates, meaning all x, y and z values vary from -1.0 to 1.0 (any coordinates that fall outside this range will be discarded/clipped and won't be visible on your screen)
- The NDC coordinates will then be transformed to screen-space coordinates via the viewport transform using the data provided in glViewport
- In the provided example, all vertices are already provided in NDC, therefore no transformations need to be performed

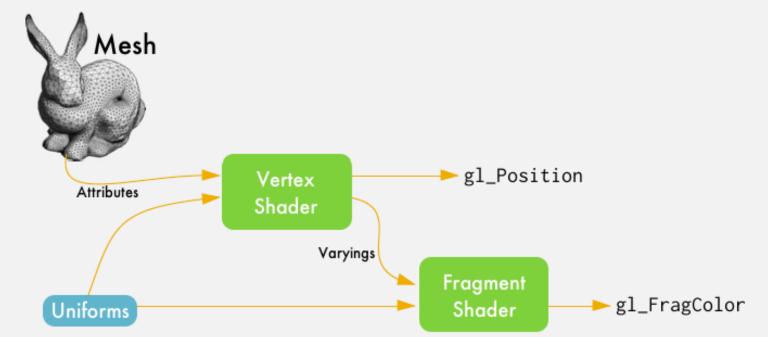
```
<script id="vertex-shader" type="x-shader/x-vertex">
    attribute vec4 vPosition;

    void main()
    {
        gl_Position=vPosition;
    }
</script>
```

WebGL shaders

Shader variables

- Attributes: exclusive data from each vertex
- Uniforms: common data for all vertices (such as transformations, texture coordinates,...)
- Varyings: used to pass data from the vertex shader to the fragment shader



Fragment (pixel) shader:

- Written to calculate the color for each of one of the pixels of each fragment
- Used for operations with interpolated values, access to textures, color composition, ...
- In the provided example, all pixels are colored with a fixed opaque color (blue RGB(0,0,1))

```
<script id="fragment-shader" type="x-shader/x-fragment">
    precision mediump float;

    void main()
    {
        gl_FragColor=vec4(0.0, 0.0, 1.0, 1.0);
    }
</script>
```

Compile shader programs

```
// Compiles both vertex and fragment shaders in GPU
var program = initShaders(gl, "vertex-shader", "fragment-shader");
gl.useProgram(program);
```

Generate geometric data in the application

```
var vertices = new Float32Array([
    -0.5, -0.5, // Triangle vertex 0
    0, 0.5, // Triangle vertex 1
    0.5, -0.5 // Triangle vertex 2
]);
                                      (0.0.5)
    Triangle in plane Z=0:
  vertex 0 (-0.5, -0.5, 0)
  vertex 1 ( 0.0, 0.5, 0)
  vertex 2 ( 0.5, -0.5, 0)
                                (-0.5, -0.5) (0.5, -0.5)
```

size (2D)

WebGL example - triangle

- Create buffer objects where to place the geometric data
 - In the example, vertices array data is binded to the buffer array

```
// Uploads data into GPU
var bufferId = gl.createBuffer();
gl.bindBuffer(gl.ARRAY_BUFFER, bufferId);
gl.bufferData(gl.ARRAY_BUFFER, vertices, gl.STATIC_DRAW);
```

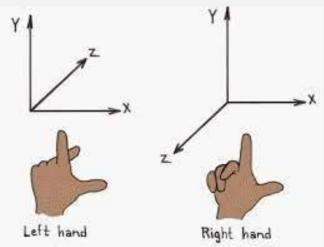
- Interconnect the data with the shaders variables (shader plumbing)
 - In the example, shader attribute variable vPosition is associated with data

```
// Links shader variables to data buffers
var vPosition = gl.getAttribLocation(program, "vPosition");
gl.vertexAttribPointer(vPosition, 2, gl.FLOAT, false, 0, 0);
gl.enableVertexAttribArray(vPosition);
```

Perform object rendering

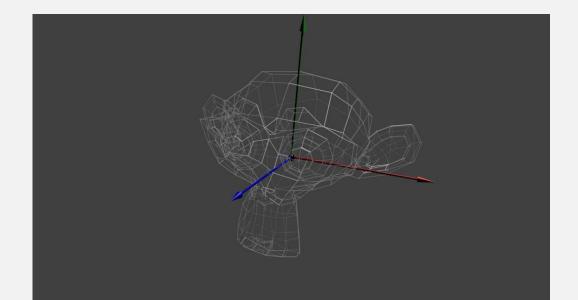
```
// Object rendering
    render();
};
function render() {
    gl.clear(gl.COLOR_BUFFER_BIT);
    // Draw data as triangle primitives
    gl.drawArrays(gl.TRIANGLES, 0, 3);
                                                              Number of
                                                             vertices (3)
                   Primitive
                                 Index of the
                                 first vertex
```

 A three-dimensional coordinate system (CS) can be right-handed or left-handed

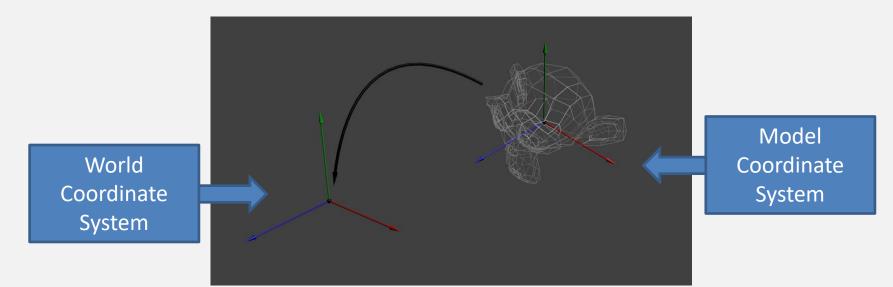


- WebGL / OpenGL convention is to assume right-handed CS
 - the Z axis points out, toward the viewer

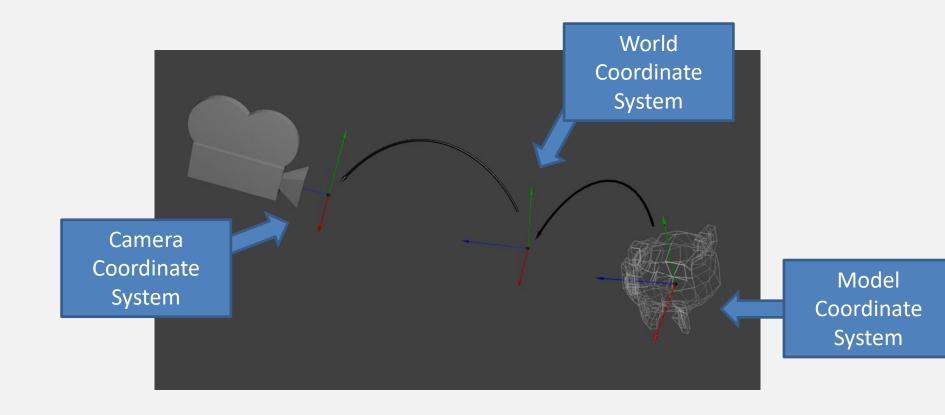
- Model CS: used to draw an object (e.g. in a 3D modelling tool)
 - Axis are centred in the model point of rotation, usually its geometric center
 - This system is aligned with the model, does not matter its position in the world
 - You can use the model coordinate system to define each modeling object independently



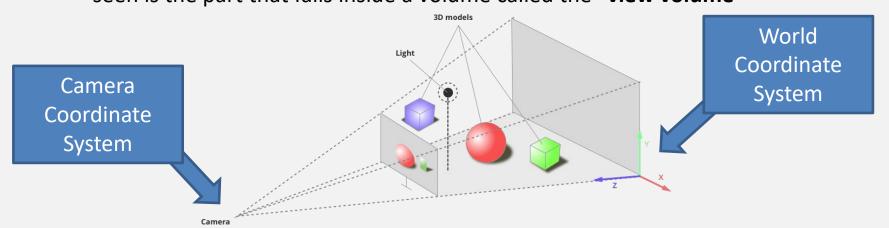
- World CS: where all objects are located (all objects will have a geometric relation between them)
 - This is the system we usually think when objects are placed in a scene (by object we mean 3D models, cameras or light sources)
 - In this system, we usually care about details like object's scale, their relative position, etc...

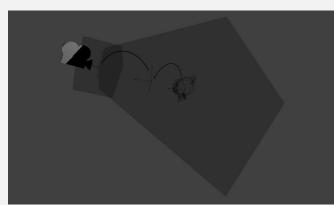


Camera CS: the observer of the scene

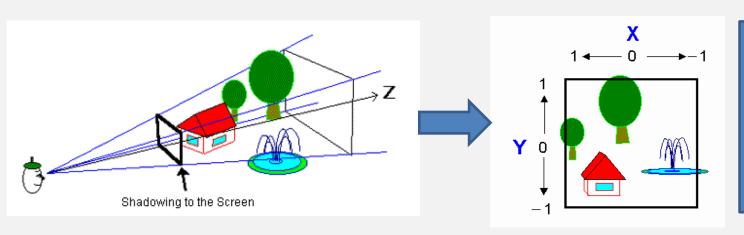


- Camera CS: the observer of the scene
 - System centered in a virtual camera: the
 position where the camera placed is perceived
 as the world origin (0,0,0); its viewing direction
 is perceived as the Z axis (depth)
 - This CS is what the computer graphics hardware
 uses to view the virtual 3D world set up in the computer; the range actually
 seen is the part that falls inside a volume called the "view volume"





- Clip CS: defines the clipping volume
 - It marks the centre of the canvas: axis X, Y and Z vary from -1 to 1: coordinates in this space are also called Normalized Clip Coordinates (NDC)
- Y (+1,+1,+1)
 Z
 (·1,·1,·1)
- Coordinates X and Y already consider the impact caused by the Z-axis transformation, due to the projection
- Everything outside the viewing volume is not draw

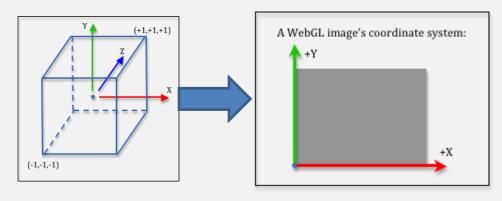


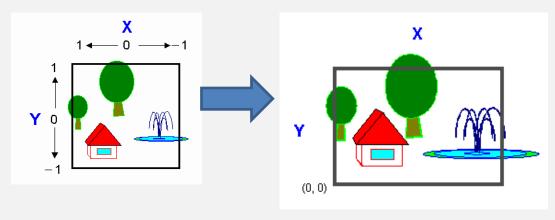
The Clip CS is the display equipment for the virtual 3D space inside your computer.
Like the camera CS, the viewing direction is the Z-axis and the center of the screen is the origin

Viewport CS: defines the 2D screen space

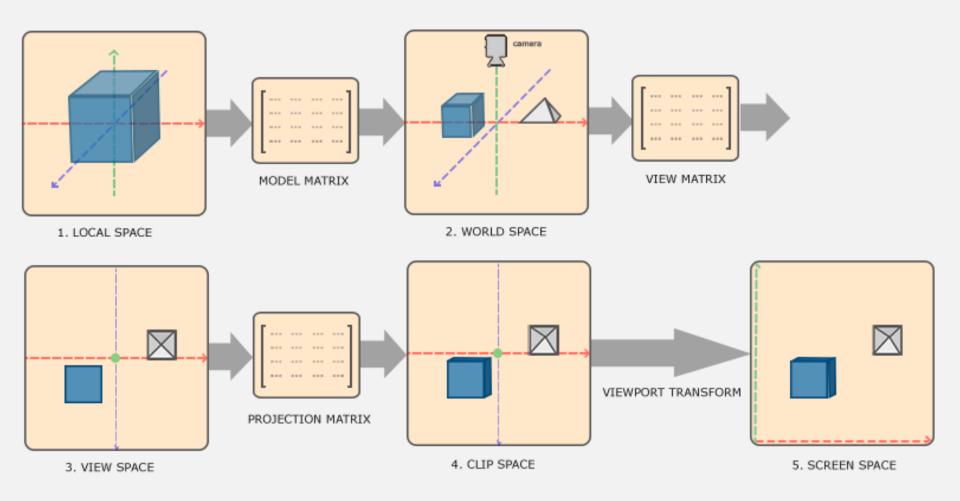
CS for the rendered 2D: the 3D normalized vertex data is mapped into 2D pixels

that will compose an image that will be rendered on the HTML canvas element – called the **viewport**





WebGL - Transformations



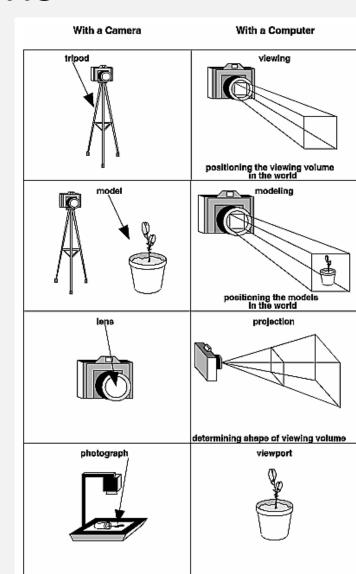
FROM: https://learnopengl.com/Getting-started/Coordinate-Systems



WebGL - Transformations

Analogy with a photographic camera

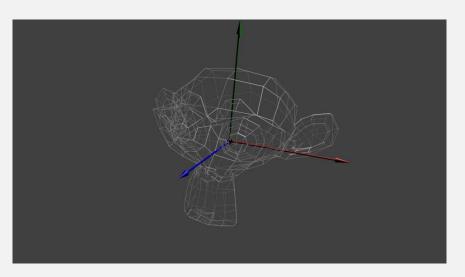
- Viewing transformation: aim the camera to the scene (defines the camera CS relatively to the world CS)
- Modeling transformation: compose the scene (defines the model CS relatively to the world CS)
- Projection transformation: chooses the lens and sets the zoom (defines how to transform from the camera CS to the projection CS)
- 4. Viewport transformation: determines the scene size



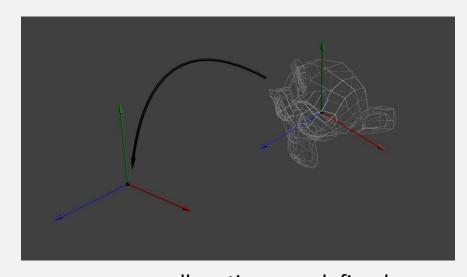
World Coordinates

WebGL - Transformations

Model matrix: transform from Model to World coordinates



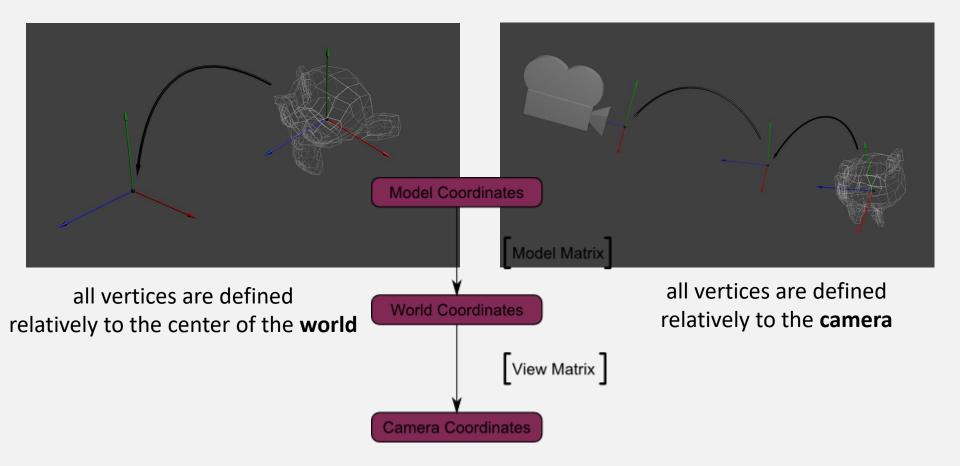
all vertices are defined relatively to the center of the **model**



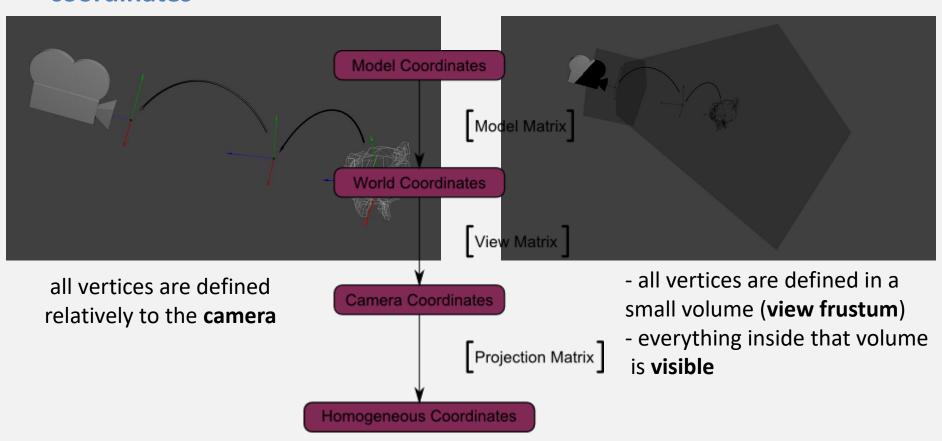
all vertices are defined relatively to the center of the world

[Model Matrix]

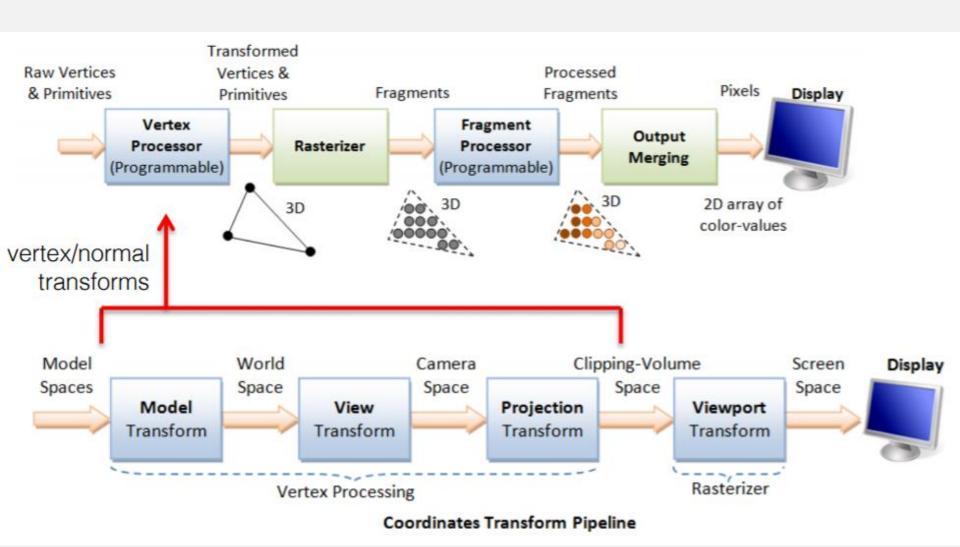
View matrix: transform from World to Camera (or Eye) coordinates



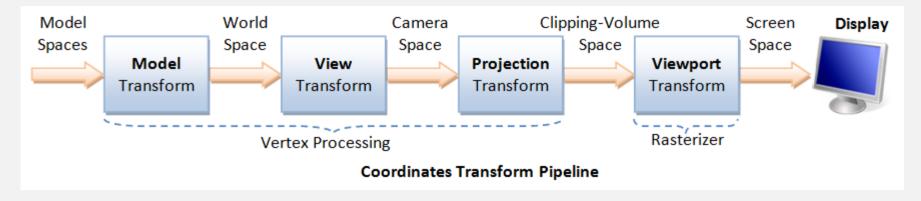
Projection matrix: transform from Camera to Projection (or Clip) coordinates



Coordinates Transformation



Coordinates Transformation



As we saw, WebGL is a rasterization tool: it starts from coordinates defined in a 3D space to a result on pixels a 2D screen. To do so, vertices are multiplied by several matrices:

- 1. Arrange the objects (or models) in the world (Model matrix)
- 2. Position and orientation the camera (View matrix)
- 3. Select a camera type (**Projection matrix**)
- 4. Display the image on a selected area of the screen (Viewport transformation) in rasterization stage
 NOTE: it is done internally by the graphics pipeline; programmer only can specify which part of a canvas is the viewport

Vertex Shader: where Model, View and Projection matrices are applied to the vertex data

In JS, it is necessary to create and pass these matrices to the vertex shader

```
<!-- The vertex shader operates on individual vertices in our model data by
setting gl_Position -->
<script id="vertex-shader" type="x-shader/x-vertex">
  //Each point has a position
 attribute vec3 position;
  // The transformation matrices
 uniform mat4 model;
 uniform mat4 view;
 uniform mat4 projection;
 void main() {
    gl_Position = projection * view * model * vec4( position, 1.0 );
</script>
```

View + Model

- OpenGL: matrix glMatrixMode(GL_MODELVIEW)
- Camera positioning (View)
- Rotations, translations, scales (Model)
- In WebGL, it is necessary to create and pass the matrices to the vertex shader

Projection

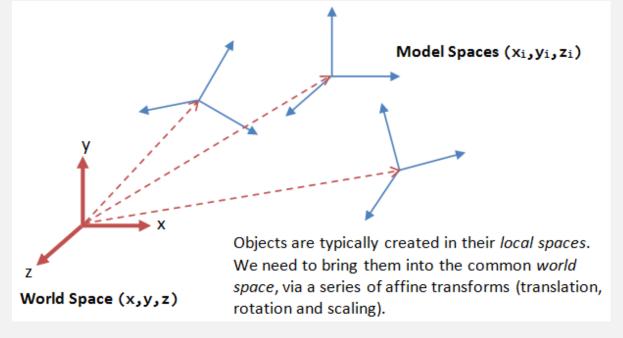
- OpenGL: matrix glMatrixMode(GL_PROJECTION)
- Defines the projection volume
- In WebGL, it is necessary to create and pass the matrix to the vertex shader

Viewport

- OpenGL: glViewport (x, y, vpWidth, vpHeight)
- WebGL (it's identical): gl.viewport(x, y, vpWidth, vpHeight)

- Converts a vertex $v = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ from one coordinate system to another v
- Arrange the objects in the world In computer graphics, transform is carried by multiplying the vector with a transformation matrix M:





• Transforms each vertex v from object to world coordinates $\dot{v} = Mv$

1. Scaling:
$$S = \begin{bmatrix} s_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{v} = Sv = \begin{bmatrix} s_{\chi} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_{y} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s_{z} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_{\chi} * x \\ s_{y} * y \\ s_{z} * z \end{bmatrix}$$

• Transforms each vertex v from object to world coordinates $\dot{v} = Mv$

2. Rotation:
$$R_{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_{y} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

e.g.
$$\dot{v} = R_z v = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta \\ x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$



• Transforms each vertex v from object to world coordinates $\dot{v} = Mv$

3. Translation:
$$\dot{v} = v + T = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t_x \\ t_y \\ t_z \end{bmatrix}$$



cannot be represented as a 3x3 matrix

Solution: use homogeneous coordinates, where a vertex
$$v = \begin{bmatrix} y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{v} = Tv = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & t_x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & t_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + t_x \\ y + t_y \\ z + t_z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

WebGL – Homogeneous coordinates

A 3D point is defined in a typical Cartesian coordinate system:
 (x,y,z)

• The added 4th dimension changes this point into a **homogeneous**

coordinate: (x,y,z,1)

 It still represents a point in 3D space and allows for lots of nice techniques for manipulating 3D data

Functions to convert coordinates between the cartesian and homogeneous systems

```
let x = point[0];
let y = point[1];
let z = point[2];

return [x, y, z, 1];
}

function homogeneousToCartesian(point) {
  let x = point[0];
  let y = point[1];
  let z = point[2];
  let w = point[3];

return [x/w, y/w, z/w];
}
```

function cartesianToHomogeneous(point)



Summary of Homogeneous Matrix Transforms

Scale:
$$S = \begin{bmatrix} s_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_y & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotation:
$$R_x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos\theta & -\sin\theta & 0 \\ 0 & \sin\theta & \cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} R_y = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & 0 & \sin\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\sin\theta & 0 & \cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_z = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 & 0\\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Translation:
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & t_x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & t_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Summary of Homogeneous Matrix Transforms

EXAMPLE:

Successive transforms: $\dot{v} = (T.S.R_z.R_x).v$

Inverse successive transforms:

$$v = (T.S.R_z.R_x)^{-1}.\dot{v} = R_x^{-1}.R_z^{-1}.S^{-1}.T^{-1}.\dot{v}$$

Initialization or reset (4x4 identity matrix)

- OpenGL: function glLoadIdentity()
- WebGL: you need to know matrix math!

```
let identityMatrix = [
  1, 0, 0, 0,
  0, 1, 0, 0,
  0, 0, 1, 0,
  0, 0, 0, 1
];
```

NOTE: WebGL is just a rasterization engine, similar to Canvas 2D; it is not a 3D library (like Three.js) where you supply 3D data and the libraries take care of calculating clip space points from 3D!

Fortunatelly there are plenty of matrix libraries available for WebGL, like glMatrix.js

	glMatrix.js
M = I	<pre>let M = mat4.create();</pre>

Read more:

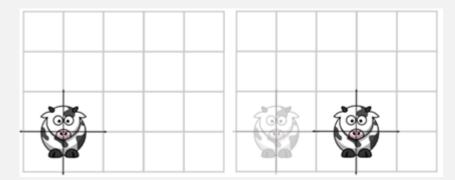
https://webgl2fundamentals.org/webgl/lessons/webgl-2d-vs-3d-library.html https://math.hws.edu/graphicsbook/c7/s1.html#webgl3d.1.2

Translation

- OpenGL: function glTranslate{f|d}(dx, dy, dz)
- WebGL (using library glMatrix.js):

M = T	mat4.fromTranslation(M, [tx, ty, tz]) *
M2 = M1*T	mat4.translate(M2, M1, [tx, ty, tz])

```
* This is equivalent to (but much faster than):
mat4.identity(dest);
mat4.translate(dest, dest, vec);
```



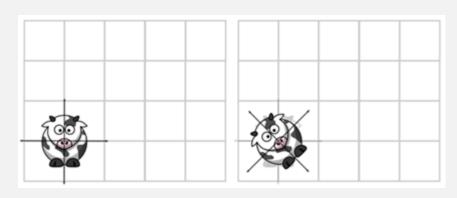
Rotation

- OpenGL: function glRotate{f|d}(angle, ex, ey, ez)
- WebGL (using libray glMatrix.js):

M = R	mat4.fromRotation(M, angle*, axis**)
M2 = M1*R	mat4.rotate(M2, M1, angle, axis*)

^{*} angle in radians

X-rotation: [1,0,0] Y-rotation: [0,1,0] Z-rotation: [0,0,1]



^{**} axis is 3x1 vector indicating the rotation axis



Scaling

- OpenGL: function glScale{f|d}(sx, sy, sz)
- WebGL (using libray glMatrix.js):

M = S	mat4.fromScaling(M, [sx, sy, sz])
M2 = M1*S	mat4.scale(M2, M1, [sx, sy, sz])

Remember: it is on the *Vertex Shader* where **Model** (and **View** and **Projection**) matrix is applied to the vertex data

```
<!-- The vertex shader operates on individual vertices in our model data by
setting gl_Position -->
<script id="vertex-shader" type="x-shader/x-vertex">
    //Each point has a position and color
    attribute vec3 position;

// The transformation matrices
    uniform mat4 model;
    uniform mat4 view;
    uniform mat4 projection;

void main() {
    gl_Position = projection * view * model * vec4( position, 1.0 );
    }
</script>
```

In JavaScript:

Get address for the vertex shader uniform variable

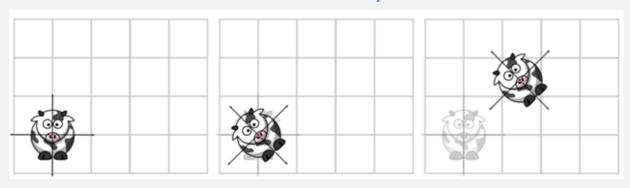
```
let modelMatrix = gl.getUniformLocation(program, "model")
```

 In render routine, after applying transformations to a 4x4 matrix variable and before drawing a new object

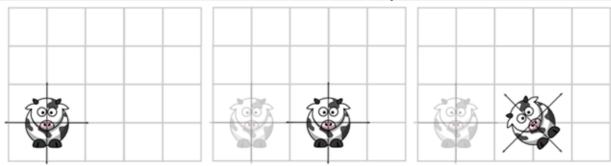
```
gl.uniformMatrix4fv(modelMatrix, gl.FALSE, matrix)
```

In WebGL, transformations are accumulated using matrix **multiplications**The order is important!

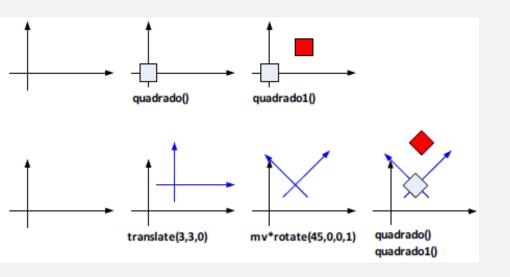
Rotation followed by translation

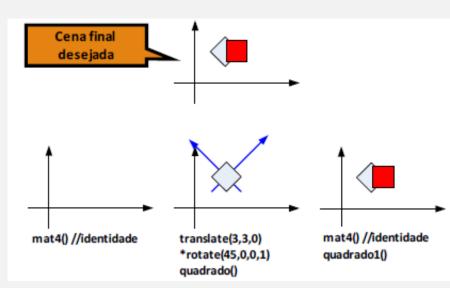


Translation followed by rotation



Local (model) versus global (world) coordinate system transformations





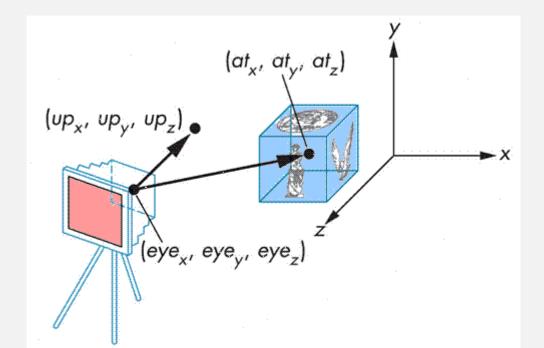
Local versus global coordinate system

- Whichever method you use, you will almost always need to either reset the matrix to the identity matrix, or save and restore a previous matrix state
- In OpenGL a transformation matrix can be stored using function glPushMatrix() and it can be recovered using glPopMatrix()
- In WebGL, this can be simulated by creating a heap system:
 - Create an array to store your transformation matrices and use pop() and push() array methods
 - Be carefull in pairing the pushes and pops
 - Make sure that pushing

View Transformation

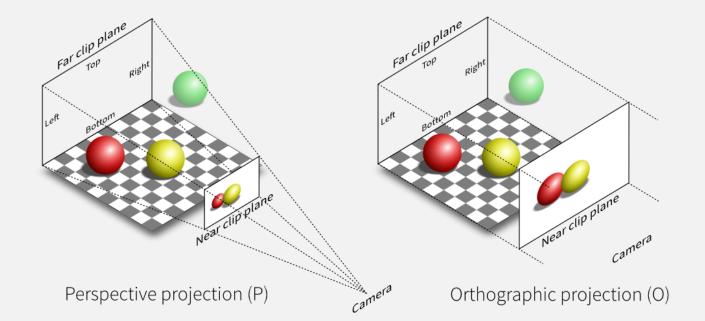
- OpenGL: function gluLookAt(eye, at, up)
- WebGL (using libray glMatrix.js):

mat4.lookAt(M, [eye_x, eye_y, eye₇], [at_x, at_y, at₇], [up_x, up_y, up₇])



Projection transformation

- Projection transformation defines the visualization volume, which is used in two ways:
 - Determines how an object is projected into the screen (using perspective or orthographic projection)
 - Defines which objects (or parts of it) are eliminated from the final image

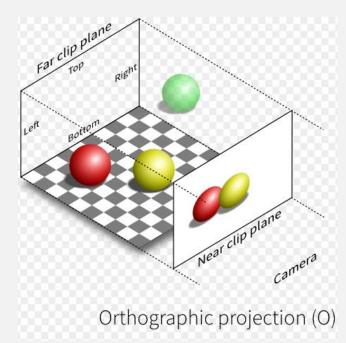


Projection transformation

Orthographic Projection

- OpenGL: function glOrtho(left, right, bottom, top, near, far)
- WebGL (using libray glMatrix.js):

mat4.ortho(M, left, right, bottom, top, near, far)





Projection transformation

Perspective Projection

- OpenGL: function glPerspective(fovy, aspect, zNear, zFar)
- WebGL (using libray glMatrix.js):

mat4.perspective(M, fovy, aspect, zNear, zFar) Perspective projection (P)

WebGL example – rotating triangle

Vertex shader:

- In the provided example, all vertices are already provided in NDC, therefore no projection transformation needs to be performed
- The rotation will be passed onto the model/view matrix:

WebGL example – rotating triangle

• JS:

- The main program should pass the rotation matrix onto the vertex shader uniform variable modelview
- First, get a pointer to the shader variable:

```
//Get address for the vertex shader uniform modelview variable
mvLoc = gl.getUniformLocation(program, "modelview");
```

 Use a rendering loop to update the rotation matrix and pass it to the vertex shader uniform variable modelview:

```
mv = new mat4();
mv = mult(mv, rotate(rotation++, [0, 1, 1])); // Y & Z axis rotation
// update shader variable with the new rotation value
gl.uniformMatrix4fv(mvLoc, gl.FALSE, flatten(mv));
```