

Lesson 01 - Introduction to Interaction Design

1. Introduction to Interaction Design (IxD)

- Defines structure and behavior of interactive systems
- Aims to create meaningful relationships between people and products/services
- Involves designing interactive products to support communication and interaction
- Good examples: smartphones, iPads, navigation systems
- Bad examples: SharePoint, self-checkouts, poorly designed lift controls
- Considers users, activities, context, and optimizes interactions

2. Transdisciplinary Nature of IxD

- Involves psychology, social sciences, computing, engineering, and design fields
- Practiced within HCI, ubiquitous computing, cognitive engineering, information systems, etc.
- Multidisciplinary teams enable more ideas but present communication challenges

3. User Experience (UX)

- Encompasses product behavior, usage, and users' feelings, pleasure, and satisfaction
- Cannot be designed directly, only designed for
- Affected by pragmatic (simplicity) and hedonic (stimulation) qualities

4. Key Principles of IxD

- Involve users throughout development
- Identify clear usability and UX goals upfront
- Use iteration: discovering requirements, designing alternatives, prototyping, evaluating
- Consider accessibility and inclusivity for widest range of users

5. Usability and UX Goals

- Usability: effectiveness, efficiency, safety, utility, learnability, memorability
- UX: desirable aspects (fun, entertainment, helpfulness, motivation) vs. undesirable aspects (boredom, frustration, annoyance, cuteness)
- Potential tradeoffs between usability and UX goals

6. Design Principles

- Visibility, feedback, constraints, logical mapping, consistency, affordances
- Act as guiding heuristics for analyzing and evaluating interactive products

7. User-Centered Design

- Early focus on users and tasks
- Empirical measurement
- Iterative design
- Four basic activities: discovering requirements, designing alternatives, prototyping, evaluating

Lesson 02 - Data Gathering and Analysis

1. Topics Covered in Lecture 2

- What data needs to be gathered
- Planning and running a successful data gathering program
- Conducting interviews, designing questionnaires, and planning observations
- Analyzing qualitative and quantitative data, and presenting findings
- Software packages for data analysis

2. Key Issues in Data Gathering

- Setting goals and deciding how to analyze data
- Identifying participants and determining sample size
- Maintaining clear and professional relationships with participants
- Obtaining informed consent when appropriate
- Triangulation: collecting data from multiple perspectives and sources
- Conducting pilot studies

3. Data Recording Methods

- Notes, audio, video, and photographs (individually or combined)

- Each method has different challenges and advantages
4. Interviews
 - Unstructured, structured, or semi-structured (recommended)
 - Focus groups: group interviews that generate discussion and debate
 - Avoid long, compound, jargon-filled, leading, or biased questions
 - Follow a logical structure: introduction, warm-up, main body, cool-off, closure
 - Can be conducted using digital conferencing systems (e.g., Skype, Zoom)
 5. Questionnaires
 - Closed questions (easier to analyze) vs. open questions
 - Administered to large populations via paper, email, or web
 - Design considerations: question order, clear instructions, balanced layout, question length
 - Response formats: checkboxes, rating scales (Likert and semantic), open-ended responses
 - Encourage good response rates through clear purpose, anonymity, incentives, and follow-up
 6. Online Questionnaires
 - Advantages: quick distribution and response, cost-effective, easy data collection and analysis
 - Challenges: unknown population size, preventing multiple responses, question alteration
 - Deployment steps: plan timeline, design offline, program online, test, and recruit participants
 7. Observation Methods
 - Direct observation in the field or controlled environments
 - Indirect observation: diaries, interaction logging, video/photo remote collection
 - Structuring frameworks to guide observation (e.g., person, place, thing; Robson's framework)
 - Planning considerations: level of involvement, acceptance, sensitive topics, data collection
 8. Data Analysis
 - Quantitative data (numbers) vs. qualitative data (themes, patterns, stories)
 - Basic quantitative analysis: averages (mean, median, mode), percentages, graphical representations
 - Question design affects analysis: open (analyzed separately) vs. closed (analyzed quantitatively)
 - Basic qualitative analysis: critical incidents, identifying themes (inductive), categorizing data (deductive)
 - Interaction analysis: understanding interactions between people and artifacts using empirical observations
 - Tools: spreadsheets, statistical packages (SAS, SPSS), qualitative data analysis tools (NVivo, Dedoose)
 9. Interpreting and Presenting Findings
 - Use visualizations (e.g., bubble diagrams, timelines) to communicate insights effectively
 - Employ structured notations and stories to present different viewpoints and summarize findings

Lesson 03 - Interfaces and Interaction Paradigms

1. Evaluation: Why, What, Where, and When
 - Continuous iterative design and evaluation process
 - Why: Check users' requirements, usability, and satisfaction
 - What: Conceptual models, prototypes, and competitive products
 - Where: Natural settings, labs, and in-the-wild
 - When: Throughout the design process and for finished products
2. Types of Evaluation
 - Controlled settings directly involving users (most popular)
 - Natural settings involving users (gaining popularity)
 - Settings not directly involving users (less common)
3. Living Labs
 - Evaluate people's use of technology in everyday lives
 - Examples: Aware Home, EU-funded research projects in cities
4. Evaluation Case Studies
 - Experimental investigation of physiological responses in computer games
 - Ethnographic study of visitors at the Royal Highland show using a mobile app
 - Crowdsourcing opinions and reactions to inform technology evaluation
5. Participants' Rights and Informed Consent

- Participants must be informed about the evaluation purpose, process, and their rights
- Informed consent forms act as a contract between participants and researchers
- Evaluation design, data analysis, and storage methods require ethical approval

6. Interpreting Data

- Consider reliability, validity, ecological validity, biases, and scope of the results

7. Usability Testing

- Involves recording performance of typical users doing typical tasks
- Conducted in controlled settings with 5-10 representative users
- Quantitative performance measures include success rates, time, errors, and satisfaction

8. Experiments

- Test hypotheses about relationships between variables (independent and dependent)
- Different experimental designs: between-subjects, within-subjects, and matched-pairs
- Must be replicable and validated statistically

9. Field Studies

- Conducted in natural settings to understand user behavior and technology impact
- Used to identify opportunities, determine requirements, and evaluate technology in use
- Example: Painpad study in hospitals to evaluate a pain-monitoring device

10. Inspections (Evaluation without Users)

- Expert reviews (formal or informal) based on knowledge of users and technology
- Heuristic evaluation guided by a set of usability heuristics (e.g., Nielsen's heuristics)
- Cognitive walkthroughs focusing on ease of learning through usage scenarios

11. Web Analytics and A/B Testing

- Web analytics: Analyzing user activities on websites to inform design improvements
- A/B testing: Large-scale experiments comparing user performance on two design versions

12. Predictive Models

- Evaluating products or designs without directly involving users
- Based on expert error-free behavior (e.g., Fitts' Law for pointing time prediction)

Lesson 04 - Usability Testing and Evaluation

1. Prepare Your Test Plan

- Include test plan name, scenario name, goals, quantitative and qualitative measurements, scenario, task list, post-scenario interview or questionnaire questions, and test setup details
- Different roles have different tasks (e.g., admin, users)

2. General Procedure for Usability Test Sessions

- Prepare test room, greet the guest, conduct pre-test questions, explain interface, present the scenario, administer post-scenario questionnaire or interview, repeat steps for each scenario, conduct post-test questionnaire, thank the participant, and organize files

3. What, Why, and When to Evaluate

- What: Evaluate various features, some in the lab and others in natural settings
- Why: Ensure users can use the product and like it
- When: During design (formative evaluation) or after the design is finished (summative evaluation)

4. Persona, User Story, Scenario, and Storyboard

- User research is the first step in designing around users
- Persona: Archetype or character representing a potential user
- User story: Short statement identifying the user and their need/goal
- Scenario: Situation capturing how users perform tasks on the site or app
- Storyboard: Visual representation of how the user would interact with the site or app

5. Example of a Scenario

- Mary, mother of 16-year-old Amy, wants her daughter to learn about her culture
- Amy finds cultural heritage sites uninteresting

- Mary finds a mobile app that enables visitors to experience life back in time
- Amy uses smart eyeglasses with the app to immerse herself in the historical atmosphere
- The experience changes Amy's perspective and appreciation for history and her culture

6. Characteristics of a Perfect User Scenario

- Short story clearly defining the context of product use
- Answers questions about the user, their goals, how they achieve them, and why they choose the product
- Keeps scenarios close to reality using typical user expressions and wording

7. Examples of Prototyping and Field Studies

- Prototyping example: Smart Ambient, a pilot study to contextualize mobile learning in the domain of cultural heritage
- Field study example: Design challenges for mobile and wearable systems to support learning on the move at outdoor cultural heritage sites

8. Examples of User Testing Using Paper-Based Prototypes

- Several YouTube video examples demonstrating user testing with paper-based prototypes

Lesson 05 - Design and Prototyping

1. Visibility of System Status

- Designs should keep users informed about what is going on through appropriate, timely feedback.
- Example: Interactive mall maps show people their current location to help them navigate.

2. Match Between System and the Real World

- The design should use words, phrases, and concepts familiar to the user, rather than internal jargon.
- Example: Stovetop controls are mapped to the corresponding heating elements for easy understanding.

3. User Control and Freedom

- Users often perform actions by mistake and need a clearly marked "emergency exit" to leave the unwanted action.
- Example: Digital spaces, like physical spaces, need quick "emergency" exits.

4. Consistency and Standards

- Users should not have to wonder whether different words, situations, or actions mean the same thing. Follow platform conventions.
- Example: Check-in counters are usually located at the front of hotels, meeting user expectations.

5. Error Prevention

- Good error messages are important, but the best designs carefully prevent problems from occurring in the first place.
- Example: Guard rails on curvy mountain roads prevent drivers from falling off cliffs.

6. Recognition Rather Than Recall

- Minimize the user's memory load by making elements, actions, and options visible. Avoid making users remember information.
- Example: People are likely to correctly answer "Is Lisbon the capital of Portugal?" based on recognition rather than recall.

7. Flexibility and Efficiency of Use

- Shortcuts, hidden from novice users, may speed up the interaction for expert users.
- Example: Regular routes are listed on maps, but locals with more area knowledge can take shortcuts.

8. Aesthetic and Minimalist Design

- Interfaces should not contain irrelevant information. Every extra unit of information competes with the relevant units.
- Example: A minimalist three-legged stool still serves its purpose as a place to sit.

9. Help Users Recognize, Diagnose, and Recover from Errors

- Error messages should be expressed in plain language (no error codes), precisely indicate the problem, and constructively suggest a solution.
- Example: Wrong-way signs on the road remind drivers that they are heading in the wrong direction.

10. Help and Documentation

- It's best if the design doesn't need additional explanation. However, it may be necessary to provide documentation to help users complete their tasks.

- Example: Information kiosks at airports are easily recognizable and solve customers' problems in context and immediately.

Lesson 06 - Interfaces and Interaction

1. 20 Interface Types Covered

- Command, Graphical, Multimedia, Virtual Reality, Web, Mobile, Appliance, Voice, Pen, Touch, Gesture, Haptic, Multimodal, Shareable, Tangible, Augmented Reality, Wearables, Robots and Drones, Brain-Computer Interaction, Smart

2. Graphical User Interfaces (GUIs)

- Originated from Xerox Star's WIMP (Windows, Icons, Menus, Pointing Device)
- Windows: scrollable, stretchable, overlapping, movable screen sections
- Icons: pictograms representing applications, objects, commands, and tools
- Menus: lists of options that can be scrolled and selected
- Pointing Device: mouse controlling the cursor for interacting with GUI elements

3. Window Design

- Overcome physical constraints of computer displays
- Enable viewing more information and performing tasks
- Multiple windows can make finding the desired one difficult
- Techniques like listing, tabbing, and thumbnails can help

4. Menu Styles

- Flat list, drop-down, pop-up, contextual, collapsible, mega
- Each style has its own advantages and use cases

5. Icon Design

- Assumed to be easier to learn and remember than commands
- Can be compact and variably positioned on the screen
- Mapping between representation and referent can be similar, analogical, or arbitrary
- Most effective icons are similar ones

6. Multimedia

- Combines graphics, text, video, sound, and animation with interactivity
- Users click links to navigate, play animations or videos
- Provides better ways of presenting information when done carefully and consistently

7. Virtual Reality

- Computer-generated graphical simulations providing an illusion of participation
- Enables interacting with objects and navigating in 3D space
- Creates highly engaging user experiences
- Applications in video games, therapy, travel planning, architecture, design, education

8. Website Design

- Early websites were text-based with hyperlinks, focusing on information structure
- Modern websites emphasize distinctive, striking, and aesthetically pleasing designs
- Need to consider designing for multiple platforms (keyboard vs. touch)
- Balancing usability and aesthetics is crucial

9. Mobile Interfaces

- Handheld devices used while on the move (phones, fitness trackers, smartwatches)
- Larger-sized tablets used in mobile settings by professionals
- Key concern is the hit area (space for fingers to press accurately)
- Fitts' law can help design the right spacing

10. Appliances

- Everyday devices in home, public places, or car (washing machines, remotes, toasters)
- Personal devices like digital clocks and cameras
- Used for short periods, need to be usable with minimal learning
- Design as transient interfaces with short interactions, consider soft vs. hard controls

11. Voice User Interfaces

- Person talking with a spoken language app (timetable, travel planner, phone service)
- Used for inquiring about specific information or performing transactions
- Also used by people with visual impairments
- Design challenges: keeping conversation on track, efficient navigation, error recovery

12. Pen-based Devices

- Enable writing, drawing, selecting, and moving objects using light pens or styluses
- Capitalize on well-honed drawing skills developed from childhood
- Digital ink (e.g., Anoto) combines ordinary ink pen with digital camera for recording

13. Touchscreens

- Single touchscreens detect presence and location of a person's touch (kiosks, ATMs)
- Multi-touch surfaces support dynamic finger actions (swiping, flicking, pinching)
- Used in smartphones, tablets, tabletops, supporting one and two-hand gestures
- Design concerns: display size, orientation, shape, and their effect on collaboration

14. Gesture-based Systems

- Involve moving arms and hands to communicate, using camera recognition and sensors
- Gestures need to be presented sequentially to be understood

15. Haptic Interfaces

- Provide tactile feedback by applying vibration and forces to a person's body
- Vibrotactile feedback can simulate the sense of touch between remote people
- Design considerations: actuator placement, intensity, context, and creative applications

16. Multimodal Interfaces

- Combine multiple input modes (e.g., facial recognition, gestures, voice recognition)
- Example: Kinect camera detects multimodal input in real-time to build a person's model

17. Shareable Interfaces

- Designed for more than one person to use, providing multiple inputs
- Examples: large wall displays with pens or gestures, interactive tabletops with fingertips

18. Tangible Interfaces

- Physical objects coupled with digital representations, manipulating objects causes digital effects
- Example: VoxBox, a tangible system for gathering opinions at events

19. Augmented Reality

- Virtual representations superimposed on physical devices and objects
- Examples: Pokémon Go (using smartphone camera and GPS), medical applications

20. Wearables

- Devices worn on the body (jewelry, glasses, fabrics) to interact with digital information
- Applications: automatic diaries, tour guides, cycle indicators, fashion clothing

21. Brain-Computer Interfaces

- Allow direct communication between the brain and an external device
- Example: a woman who is paralyzed using BCI to select letters on a screen

22. Robots

- Main types: remote robots (hazardous settings), domestic robots (household chores), pet robots (companions), sociable robots (collaborating with humans)

23. Drones

- Unmanned aircraft controlled remotely, used in entertainment, agriculture, wildlife protection
- Can fly low and stream photos to ground stations for mapping and analysis

24. Smart Interfaces

- Devices connected to the internet and other devices, having some intelligence
- Context-aware: understand surroundings and execute appropriate actions (e.g., Nest thermostat)
- Human-building interaction: buildings designed to sense and act on behalf of inhabitants

Lesson 07 - Data Visualization

1. What is a Prototype?

- One manifestation of a design that allows stakeholders to interact with it
- In interaction design, prototypes can be screen sketches, storyboards, PowerPoint slides, videos, physical objects, cardboard mock-ups, or limited functionality software

2. Why Prototype?

- Evaluation and feedback are central to interaction design
- Stakeholders can see, hold, and interact with a prototype more easily than a document or drawing
- Team members can communicate effectively, ideas can be tested out, and prototyping encourages reflection
- Prototypes answer questions and support designers in choosing between alternatives

3. Low-fidelity Prototyping

- Uses a medium unlike the final medium (e.g., paper, cardboard)
- Quick, cheap, and easily changed
- Examples: 'Post-it' notes, storyboards, sketches of screens and task sequences, 'Wizard-of-Oz'

4. Storyboards

- A series of sketches showing how a user might progress through a task using the product
- Often used with scenarios, bringing in more detail and a chance to role-play

5. Sketching

- Low-fidelity prototyping often relies on sketching
- Don't be inhibited about drawing ability; practice simple symbols

6. 'Wizard-of-Oz' Prototyping

- The user thinks they are interacting with a computer, but a human is responding to output rather than the system
- Usually done early in design to understand users' expectations
- Requires a script, a participant to play the role of the end user, and a human "wizard" simulating the completed product's behavior

7. High-fidelity Prototyping

- Uses materials expected in the final product; looks more like the final system than a low-fidelity version
- Can be developed by integrating existing hardware and software components
- Danger that users think they have a complete system

8. Compromises in Prototyping

- Prototyping involves compromises (e.g., slow response, sketchy icons, limited functionality)
- Two common types of compromise: horizontal (wide range of functions, little detail) and vertical (a lot of detail for only a few functions)
- Compromises in prototypes must not be ignored

9. Conceptual Design

- A conceptual model outlines what people can do with a product and what concepts are needed to understand and interact with it
- Understand problem space, current requirements, and empathize with users
- Use creativity and brainstorming techniques (e.g., mood board)
- Consider alternatives using scenarios and prototyping

10. Concrete Design

- Emphasis differs from conceptual design
- Aspects include color, icons, buttons, interaction devices, user characteristics, context, inclusiveness, accessibility, cross-cultural design, and indigenous knowledge

11. Generating Prototypes

- Break down scenarios into steps and create a scene for each step to generate a storyboard
- Sketching out a storyboard prompts designers to think about design issues
- Generate a card-based prototype from a storyboard or use case by considering each step and drawing a card that captures the interaction element

12. Explore the User's Experience

- Use card-based prototypes to model the user experience
- Visual representations called customer or user journey maps, or experience maps
- Common representations: wheel and timeline

13. Construction: Physical Computing

- Build and code prototypes using electronics with toolkits like Arduino, LilyPad, Senseboard, BBC micro:bit, and MaKey MaKey
- Designed for use by a wide range of people

14. Construction: Software Development Kits (SDKs)

- Programming tools and components to develop for a specific platform (e.g., iOS)
- Includes IDE, documentation, drivers, sample code, and APIs
- Makes development much easier
- Examples: Amazon's Alexa Skills Kit, Apple's ARKit, Microsoft's Kinect SDK

Lesson 08 - Usability Heuristics

1. The Practice of Interaction Design

- Agile development: short iterative development cycles with early and repeated customer/user feedback
- Design Patterns: capture design experience as solutions to problems in context
- Open Source Resources: community-driven components, frameworks, and systems available for free
- Tools for Interaction Design: support creativity, sketching, simulation, brainstorming, library search, mind mapping, video capture, and prototyping

2. Agile UX

- Integrates interaction design and agile methods, balancing research and reflection with rapid iterations
- Requires careful planning of when and how much to use UX techniques
- Focus on product as deliverable, cross-functional teams
- Three practical areas: user research, aligning work practices, and documentation

3. User Research in Agile UX

- Characterizes users, tasks, and context through data gathering and analysis
- Detailed research may not fit within a limited time box; can be performed in iteration 0 or as an ongoing program

4. Aligning Work Practices in Agile UX

- Parallel tracks approach: create product vision before development, design work one iteration ahead of development
- Advantages: no wasted design time, timely feedback, flexibility to handle problems

5. Documentation in Agile UX

- Agile encourages minimal documentation; use only where needed
- Consider time spent, users, minimum customer needs, sign-off process efficiency, duplication, and required polish

6. Practical Issues in Interaction Design

- Identifying users/stakeholders: consider distinct user types and stakeholder groups
- Determining users' needs: explore problem space, investigate users and activities, try ideas, focus on goals
- Generating alternatives: research, synthesis, cross-fertilization, user input, product evolution, inspiration, balancing constraints
- Choosing among alternatives: technical feasibility, user/peer evaluation, A/B testing, quality thresholds
- Integrating interaction design with other models: careful planning, promising integration with agile development

7. Discovering Requirements

- Purpose: explore problem space, establish description of what will be developed
- Capturing requirements: prototypes, operational product, structured or rigorous notations
- Importance: miscommunication occurs most commonly during requirements activity

8. Different Types of Requirements

- Functional, data, environment or context of use (physical, social, organizational, technical), user (characteristics, usability goals, user experience goals)
- Usable security: balancing robust security with user experience to prevent circumvention

9. Data Gathering for Requirements

- Interviews, observation, questionnaires, studying documentation, researching similar products
- Combining methods is highly productive (e.g., direct/indirect observation, interviews, diaries, surveys)

- Probes engage users: cultural, design, technology, provocative
- Contextual Inquiry: one-on-one field interviews guided by "cool concepts" and contextual design models
- Brainstorming for innovation: diverse participants, catalysts, capturing ideas, sharpening focus, fun

10. Bringing Requirements to Life

- Personas: rich descriptions of typical users synthesized from research, relevant to product, aid design decisions
- Scenarios: informal narrative stories, simple, personal, not generalizable, may be textual, animated, audio, or video
- Personas and scenarios together augment basic requirements and bring them to life

Lesson 09 - Data Visualization and Interaction Design

1. Introduction to Visualization

- Visualization is a mental process of transforming information into a visual form
- Enables users to observe information and perceive hidden features needed for data analysis and exploration
- Scope of visualization is diverse and intersects with various areas of computer science research and development

2. Applications of Visualization

- Laser-guided surgery, entertainment, teaching, design & modeling
- Visualization offers a method for seeing the unseen and fostering profound insights

3. The Birth of Information Visualization (InfoVis)

- Use of computer-supported interactive visual representation of abstract data to amplify cognition
- Compact graphical presentation of large datasets enabling users to make discoveries, decisions, and explanations
- Relates to patterns, groups, and individual items

4. Historical Examples of InfoVis

- Minard's Map (1812-1813): Depicts Napoleon's Russian campaign, conveying multiple variables in a limited space
- The Tube Map (1932-present): Evolution of the London Underground map, prioritizing clarity over geographical accuracy
- Dr. John Snow's Map (1854): Plotted locations of cholera deaths, leading to the identification of the Broad Street Pump as the source

5. Shneiderman's Mantra for InfoVis Design

- Overview, zoom, filter, details-on-demand
- Informal design code for creating effective visualizations
- Additional considerations: relate, history, extract

6. Data Types in InfoVis

- Qualitative: nominal (no natural order) and ordinal (natural order)
- Quantitative: discrete (integers) and continuous (floats, singles, doubles)
- Examples: 1D linear, 2D map, 3D world, multi-dimensional, temporal, tree, network
- Different data types require different considerations when representing

7. Examples and Resources

- GapMinder by Hans Rosling: Interactive visualization of global development data
- Browsing HCIL (Human-Computer Interaction Lab) for various visualization projects
- Browsing Visual Complexity for a wide range of complex data visualizations
- Browsing Data to Viz for a comprehensive guide on creating meaningful visualizations

Lesson 10 - OpenGL Introduction

1. Introduction to Computer Graphics

- Creation and manipulation of graphic images by means of a computer
- Started as a technique to enhance the display of information generated by a computer
- Major areas: modeling, rendering, animation, user interaction, virtual reality, visualization, image processing, 3D scanning, computational photography

2. Overview of Graphics Systems

- Images: two-dimensional shapes with X and Y axes
- Hardware: input, computation, and output stages
- Representing objects: vertex method (define objects as a set of points with connectivity information)
- Interactive computer graphics (ICG): provides two-way communication between the computer and the user

3. Graphics Pipeline

- Series of interconnected stages through which data and commands related to a scene go through during the rendering process
- Stages: world coordinate system, projection onto a view plane, clipping planes, window to viewport transformation, logical screen coordinates to physical device coordinates

4. Input Devices

- Locator devices: mouse, trackball, joystick, tablet, virtual reality trackers, data gloves, digitizers
- Keyboard: text input, list boxes, GUI, CAD/CAM, modeling
- Scanners: image scanners (flatbed), laser scanners (Deltasphere), camera-based scanners
- Other devices: light pens, voice systems, touch panels, camera/vision-based

5. Computation Stage

- Transformations: converting the model to a form suitable for output
- Rasterization: converting the transformed model into a framebuffer
- Framebuffer: a block of memory dedicated to graphics output that holds the contents of what will be displayed
- Bit depth: number of bits allocated per pixel in a buffer (e.g., 16 bits, 32 bits)
- Dithering: trading spatial resolution for intensity and color depth to increase the number of apparent colors

6. Output Devices

- Hardcopy: printers (dot matrix, inkjet, laser) and pen plotters
- Display: vector and raster scan
- Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs): electron gun firing at a phosphor-coated screen
- Liquid Crystal Displays (LCDs): cells that either allow light to flow through or block it
- Projection Displays: use bright CRT or LCD screens to generate an image sent through an optical system to focus on a large screen
- Displays in Virtual Reality: head-mounted displays (HMDs) and head-tracked displays (HTDs)

7. Graphics Software

- Special-purpose software: Excel, AutoCAD, medical visualization
- Programming API: provides a way to communicate with the hardware

Lesson 11 - Shaders

1. Introduction to OpenGL

- OpenGL is a cross-platform graphics API developed by the Khronos Group
- Set of specifications implemented by graphics card manufacturers
- Users should keep their graphics drivers updated

2. OpenGL Core vs. Compatibility

- Old OpenGL (fixed function pipeline): less control, most things hidden from the programmer, inefficient
- New OpenGL (version 3.3 or higher): split into Core (modern version with more flexibility and control) and Compatibility (to maintain legacy)

3. OpenGL State Machine

- OpenGL is a large state machine with a collection of variables defining how it should operate
- Context: the state of OpenGL, changed by state-changing functions
- Objects: a collection of objects representing a subset of OpenGL's state
- State-using functions: perform operations based on the current state of OpenGL

4. Drawing Primitives in OpenGL

- GL_POINTS, GL_LINES, GL_LINE_STRIP, GL_LINE_LOOP
- GL_TRIANGLES, GL_TRIANGLE_STRIP, GL_TRIANGLE_FAN

5. OpenGL Shading Language (GLSL)

- GLSL is a mini-program, also known as a shader program
- Enables the programmer to harness the power of the Graphics Processing Unit (GPU)
- Fundamental and integral to OpenGL

6. GLSL Common Data Types

- Built-in Simple Types: float, double, bool, int, uint
- Vectors: vec2, vec3, vec4 (floats); dvec2, dvec3, dvec4 (doubles); bvec2, bvec3, bvec4 (bools); ivec2, ivec3, ivec4 (ints); uvec2, uvec3, uvec4 (unsigned ints)

- Square Matrices: mat2, mat3, mat4 (floats); dmat2, dmat3, dmat4 (doubles)
- Non-Square Matrices: mat(2,3,4) x (2,3,4) (floats and doubles)

7. Simplified Graphics Pipeline

- Transformation Process: transforming coordinates from 3D to 2D (CPU, Vertex Shader, Primitive Assembly, Geometry Shader, Rasterization, clipping)
- Coloring Process: applying color and presenting on the screen (Fragment Shader, Tests and Blending, Display)

8. Useful Definitions

- Vertex: a collection of data per 3D coordinate
- Vertex Data: a collection of vertices
- Vertex Attributes: vertex position, vertex color, etc.
- Uniforms: global variables seen by all shaders, coming directly from the CPU
- layout (location = 0): specifies the vertex attribute location
- Vertex Shader: transforms 3D coordinates and allows basic processing on vertex attributes
- Fragment Shader: calculates the final color of a pixel, where most advanced OpenGL effects occur

9. Useful Links for Learning JOGL (Java OpenGL)

- https://jogamp.org/wiki/index.php/Jogl_Tutorial
- <https://www.tutorialspoint.com/jogl/index.htm>
- <https://www.javatpoint.com/jogl-introduction>

Lesson 12 - Two-Dimensional Images

1. Two Dimensional Images

- Images in this class are two-dimensional shapes with X (horizontal) and Y (vertical) axes
- The origin (0, 0) is typically located at the top-left or bottom-left corner

2. Hardware Pipeline

- Input, Computation, and Output stages
- Describing a rectangle to a computer using a model (object description that a computer understands)

3. Representing Objects

- Most common method is the vertex method: define the object as a set of points (vertices) with connectivity information
- Connectivity is important because it defines which vertices are connected via edges

4. Interactive Computer Graphics (ICG)

- Provides two-way communication between the computer and the user
- Three major components: Frame Buffer, T.V. Monitor, and Display Controller

5. Graphics Pipeline

- A series of interconnected stages through which data and commands related to a scene go through during the rendering process
- Transformation of view plane coordinates to physical device coordinates involves window-to-viewport transformation and logical screen coordinates to physical device coordinates transformation

6. Computation Stage

- Transformations: converting the model to a form suitable for output
- Rasterization: converting the transformed model into a framebuffer

7. Framebuffer

- A block of memory dedicated to graphics output that holds the contents of what will be displayed
- Consists of pixels (one element of the framebuffer)
- The size of the framebuffer and the amount of memory allocated depends on the desired resolution and bit depth

8. Bit Depths and Memory

- More bits per pixel allow for more colors to be stored at each pixel
- Common bit depths: 16 bits (high color) and 32 bits (true color) per pixel
- The amount of memory required depends on the resolution and bit depth (e.g., 640 x 480 x 32 bits = 1,228,800 bytes)

9. Dithering

- Trading spatial resolution for intensity and color depth to increase the number of apparent colors

- Works by relying on the human eye's tendency to blend areas of high frequency
- Used when there are not enough bits to represent the desired number of colors

10. Output

- Hardcopy: printers (dot matrix, inkjet, laser) and pen plotters
- Display: vector and raster scan
- The framebuffer contents are converted from digital to analog signals and sent to the monitor by the video card's RAMDAC

11. Raster vs. Vector Images

- Raster images are compilations of individual colored pixels, with higher resolution allowing for larger resizing without blurriness or jagged edges
- Vector images are best suited for projects requiring scalable graphics, such as printed projects and marketing images or logos, as they maintain crisp, clear lines when resized

Lesson 13 - 2D Graphics Algorithms

1. 2D Graphics Algorithms

- Line Drawing Algorithms: DDA Algorithm, Midpoint Algorithm, Bresenham's Algorithm
- Circle Drawing Algorithms: Midpoint Circle Algorithm
- Antialiasing
- Fill-Area Algorithms

2. Line Drawing

- Fundamental to computer graphics, requiring fast and efficient functions
- Rasterization Problem: Computing intermediate pixels to closely approximate the ideal line

3. Analytical Method for Line Drawing

- Uses the equation of a line ($y = mx + c$) to compute points based on the previous point
- Incremental algorithms assume the next pixel is on the next column (for small slopes) or row (for large slopes)

4. Digital Differential Analyzer (DDA) Algorithm

- Incremental algorithm assuming slope is less than 1 (increment along x)
- Given a point (x_k, y_k) on a line, the next point is given by $x_{k+1} = x_k + 1$ and $y_{k+1} = y_k + m$

5. Midpoint Algorithm

- Incremental algorithm assuming slope is less than 1
- Determines the next pixel based on the position of the midpoint between two candidate pixels
- Decision criteria based on the sign of $F(MP) = F(x_k + 1, y_k + \frac{1}{2})$

6. Midpoint Circle Drawing Algorithm

- Determines the closest pixel position to the specified circle path at each step
- Calculates pixel positions around a circle path centered at the origin, then moves them to the proper screen position
- Uses the circle function $f_{\text{circle}}(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - r^2$ to determine if a point is inside, outside, or on the circle boundary

7. Antialiasing

- Technique used to diminish jagged edges of an image or line by changing pixels around the edges to intermediate colors or grayscales
- Can be enabled in OpenGL using the `GL_LINE_SMOOTH` option

8. Fill-Area Algorithms

- Used to fill the interior of a polygonal shape by identifying interior points given the polygon boundary
- Basic Filling Algorithm: Commonly used in interactive graphics packages, requiring a user-specified interior point
- Types of Basic Filling Algorithms:
 - Boundary Fill Algorithm: For filling a region with a single boundary color
 - Flood Fill Algorithm: For filling a region with multiple boundary colors

Lesson 14 - 2D Transformations

1. 2D Transformations

- Allow viewing objects from different angles, enlarging or reducing the scale or shape

- Each transformation is a single entity, denoted by a unique name or symbol
- Transformations can be combined through concatenation

2. Types of 2D Transformations

- Rigid Body Transformations: do not change the object's shape
 - Translate: repositioning an object along a straight-line path
 - Scale: altering the size of an object about a fixed point
 - Rotate: repositioning an object along a circular path, requiring an angle and a pivot point

3. Representing Transformations

- Vertices represented as (x, y) or as a matrix/vector
- Transformations can be represented using matrices
- Translation: $P' = P + T$, where T is the translation matrix
- Scaling: $P' = S * P$, where S is the scaling matrix
- Rotation: $P' = R(\theta) * P$, where $R(\theta)$ is the rotation matrix

4. Combining Transformations

- Transformations can be combined by multiplying their matrices
- The order of transformations matters, as matrix multiplication is not commutative

5. Homogeneous Coordinates

- Increase the dimensionality of the problem to transform the addition component of translation into multiplication
- By expressing transformations with homogeneous equations and coordinates, all transformations can be expressed as matrix multiplications

6. Coordinate Systems

- Object Coordinates: local coordinate system for each object
- World Coordinates: global coordinate system
- Screen Coordinates: coordinate system of the display device
- Transformations can be applied hierarchically to convert between coordinate systems

7. 3D Geometry

- Three-dimensional system with x, y, and z axes
- Right-handed and left-handed coordinate systems

8. 3D Transformations

- Translation: movement of an object from one position to another using translation vectors (T_x, T_y, T_z)
- Scaling: changing the size of an object using scaling factors (S_x, S_y, S_z)
 - Uniform scaling: all scaling factors are equal
 - Differential scaling: scaling factors are different
- Rotation: moving an object about an angle and an axis (x, y, or z)
 - Rotation matrices for each axis: $R_x(\theta), R_y(\theta), R_z(\theta)$

Lesson 15 - Image Processing Techniques

1. Simplified Graphics Pipeline

- Vertex shader takes input variables and outputs variables to the fragment shader
- Fragment shader takes input variables and outputs variables to the frame buffer
- Vertex attributes, uniform variables, and interpolation connect the shaders

2. Vectors

- Magnitude: length of a vector, calculated using the Pythagorean theorem ($\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$)
- Normalizing: creating a unit vector with a magnitude of 1, done by dividing the vector by its magnitude
- Dot product: multiplication of two vectors resulting in a scalar, $a \cdot b = |a| \cdot |b| \cdot \cos(\theta)$
- Cross product: multiplication of two vectors resulting in a third vector perpendicular to the original vectors, $a \times b = |a| \cdot |b| \cdot \sin(\theta) \cdot n$

3. Shading Models and Components

- Ambient: represents light that illuminates all surfaces equally and reflects equally in all directions
 - $I_a = K_a \cdot I_s$, where K_a is surface reflectivity and I_s is light source intensity

- Diffuse: models a surface that exhibits purely diffuse reflection (scatters light in all directions equally)
 - $L = K_d \cdot L_d \cdot (s \cdot n \cdot \cos\theta)$, where K_d is diffuse reflectivity, L_d is light source intensity, and $s \cdot n$ is the dot product between the light direction and normal vector
 - Specular: models the shininess of the surface and represents glossy reflection around a preferred direction
 - $I_s = K_s \cdot L_s \cdot (r \cdot v)^f$, where K_s is specular reflectivity, L_s is light intensity, r is the reflection vector, v is the viewing vector, and f is the power coefficient
4. Phong Reflection Model
- Combines ambient, diffuse, and specular components
 - $I = I_a + I_d + I_s = K_a \cdot L_a + K_d \cdot L_d \cdot (s \cdot n) + K_s \cdot L_s \cdot (r \cdot v)^f$
5. Per-vertex vs. Per-fragment Shading
- Per-vertex (Gouraud) shading: calculations done within the vertex shader, can lead to warped or lost specular highlights
 - Per-fragment shading: calculations applied to every pixel, more realistic but more expensive
6. Attenuation and Directional Light
- Attenuation: modeling the fall-off of light intensity with distance, done by dividing the light intensity by the inverse square of the distance or using a less steep curve
 - Directional light: has only direction, no position, avoiding the need to calculate light direction in the shader
7. Useful Resources
- Coordinate systems, transformations, GLSL basics, and linear algebra tutorials are provided as additional learning resources

Lesson 16 - Lighting and Shading

1. Main Types of Lights
- Directional: similar to sunlight, only light direction matters, position is irrelevant
 - Point: behaves like a light bulb, has a limited range, position is crucial for calculating light direction
 - Spotlight: similar to a real spotlight, position and orientation are important
2. Directional Light
- Light rays are parallel, intensity stays constant, no fall-off
 - Light direction can be sent directly as a uniform to avoid calculations in the shader
 - Use separate shaders for directional and point lights to take advantage of parallel processing on the GPU
3. Point Light
- Uses the Phong reflection model: $I = I_a + I_d + I_s$
 - Ambient (I_a), Diffuse (I_d), and Specular (I_s) components are calculated and summed
4. Multiple Point Lights
- Evaluate the reflection model for each light and sum the results to determine total light intensity
 - Use uniform arrays to store position and intensity of each light
 - Optimize code by using one light intensity for diffuse and specular components
5. Per-Fragment Shading (Phong Shading or Phong Interpolation)
- Improves the look by doing all calculations in the fragment shader
 - Interpolates position and normal vector, calculates color for each fragment
 - More expensive than per-vertex shading (Gouraud shading) but provides better results, especially for specular highlights
6. Blinn-Phong Reflection Model
- Calculates a half vector (h) instead of the reflection vector (r)
 - Replaces the dot product of r and v with the dot product of h and n
 - More efficient than the original Phong model
7. Spotlight
- Light radiates within a cone with the apex located at the light source
 - Light is maximal along the axis of the cone and decreases toward the outside edges
 - Creates similar visual effects to a real spotlight
8. Toon Shading (Cel Shading)

- Non-photorealistic rendering technique that mimics the style of hand-drawn animation
- Large areas of constant color with sharp transitions between them
- Locks the value of the dot product calculated for diffuse to a fixed number of possible values

9. Fog Simulation

- Achieved by mixing the color of each fragment with a constant fog color
- Amount of "fog color" applied is determined by the distance from the camera
- Linear or non-linear interpolation can be used
- Fog factor (f) is calculated using the formula: $f = (d_{max} - |z|) / (d_{max} - d_{min})$

Lesson 17 - Image Processing Techniques

1. Introduction

- Image processing uses fragment shaders and rendering to textures
- Works directly with pixels, typically involves multiple passes
- Framebuffer: portion of RAM containing bitmap driving video display

2. Edge Detection Filter

- Identifies regions with significant brightness changes (edges)
- Uses convolution filters (e.g., Sobel operator with 3x3 kernels)
- Edge magnitude: $g = \sqrt{s_x^2 + s_y^2}$, compared to threshold

3. Gaussian Blur Filter

- Mixes pixel's color with nearby pixels using weighted sum
- Uses 2D Gaussian function for weights
- Decomposed into 1D horizontal and vertical passes for performance

4. HDR Lighting

- High Dynamic Range (HDR) rendering: larger dynamic range
- Tone mapping compresses range using Tone Mapping Operator (TMO)
- Local TMOs: use current and nearby pixels; Global TMOs: entire image
- Log-average luminance used in simple global TMO
- Color space conversions (RGB, CIE XYZ, CIE xyY) using matrices

5. Bloom Effect

- Bright parts bleed into darker areas, simulating airy disc effect
- Implemented in five passes:
 1. Render scene to HDR texture
 2. Extract bright parts (bright-pass filter)
 3. Apply Gaussian blur to bright parts (two passes)
 4. Apply tone mapping
 5. Add tone-mapped result to blurred bright-pass results

6. Useful Links

- Additional resources on HDR, bloom, image processing, colorimetry, gamma correction
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