Implementation III

Ed Angel
Professor Emeritus of Computer Science
University of New Mexico

Objectives

- Survey Line Drawing Algorithms
  - DDA
  - Bresenham's Algorithm
- Aliasing and Antialiasing

Rasterization

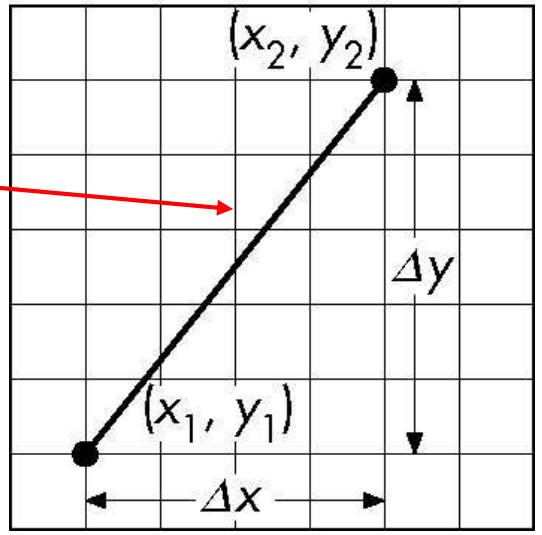
- Rasterization (scan conversion)
  - Determine which pixels that are inside primitive specified by a set of vertices
  - Produces a set of fragments
  - Fragments have a location (pixel location) and other attributes such color and texture coordinates that are determined by interpolating values at vertices
- Pixel colors determined later using color, texture, and other vertex properties

Scan Conversion of Line Segments

- Start with line segment in window coordinates with integer values for endpoints
- Assume implementation has a **`write_pixel`** function

y = mx + h

$$m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$$



DDA Algorithm

- Digital Differential Analyzer
  - DDA was a mechanical device for numerical solution of differential equations
  - Line $y=mx+h$ satisfies differential equation

$$dy/dx = m = \Delta y/\Delta x = y_2-y_1/x_2-x_1$$

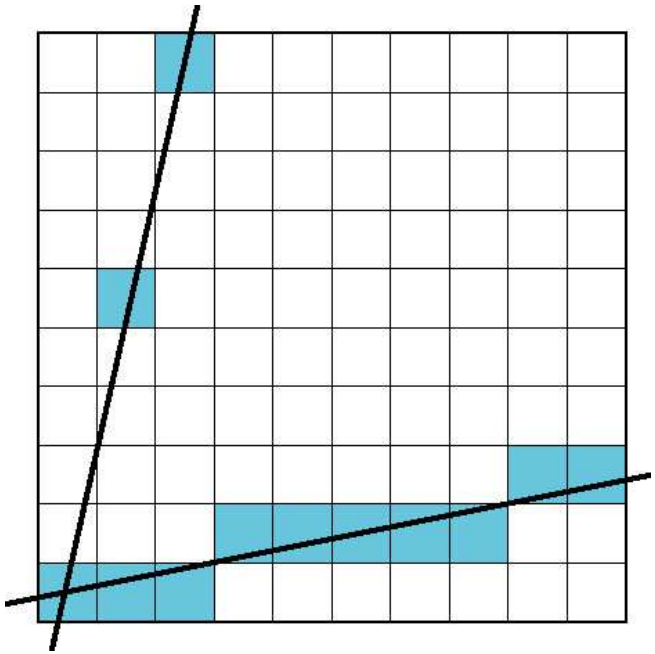
- Along scan line $\Delta x = 1$

```
For(x=x1; x<=x2,ix++) {
    y+=m;
  write_pixel(x, round(y), line_color)
}
```

The University of New Mexico

Problem

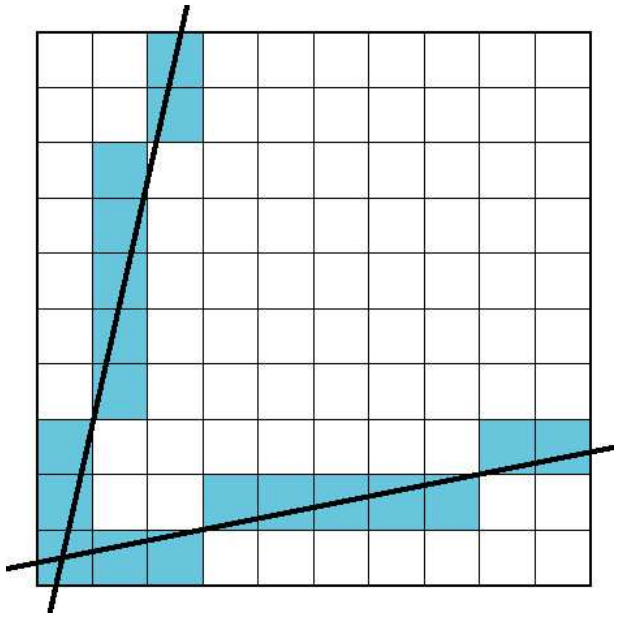
- DDA = for each x plot pixel at closest y
  - Problems for steep lines



The University of New Mexico

Using Symmetry

- Use for $1 \geq m \geq 0$
- For $m > 1$, swap role of x and y
  - For each y, plot closest x

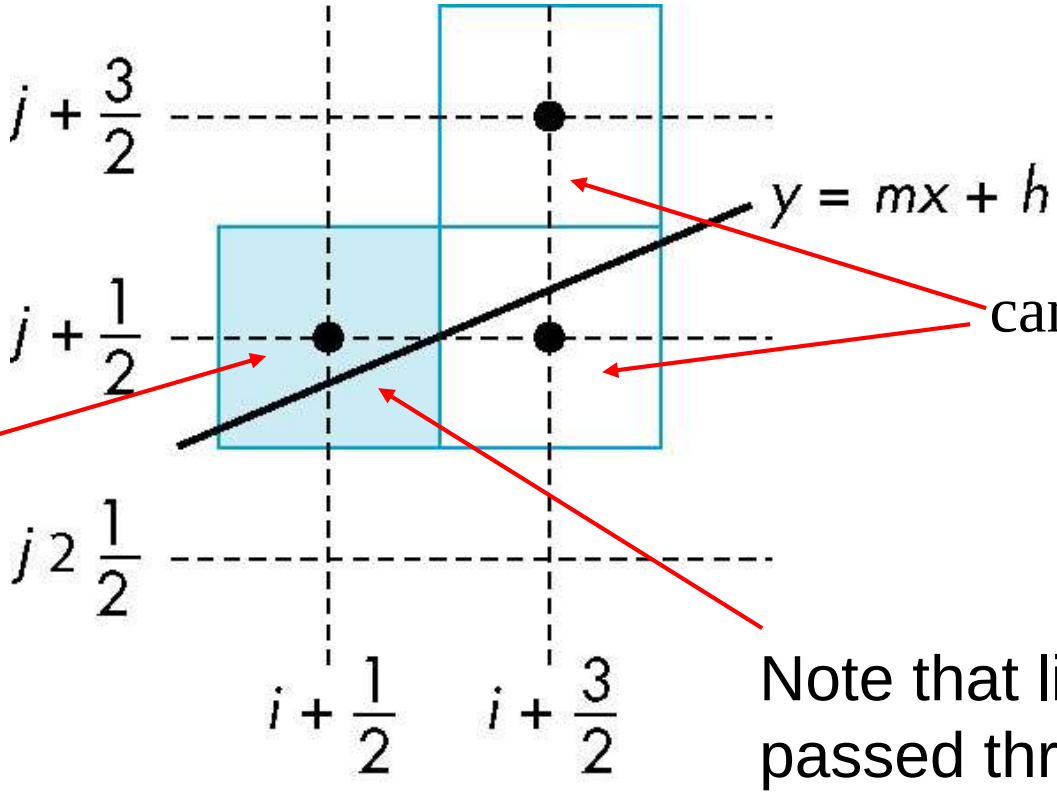


Bresenham's Algorithm

- DDA requires one floating point addition per step
- We can eliminate all fp through Bresenham's algorithm
- Consider only $1 \geq m \geq 0$
  - Other cases by symmetry
- Assume pixel centers are at half integers
- If we start at a pixel that has been written, there are only two candidates for the next pixel to be written into the frame buffer

Candidate Pixels

$1 \geq m \geq 0$



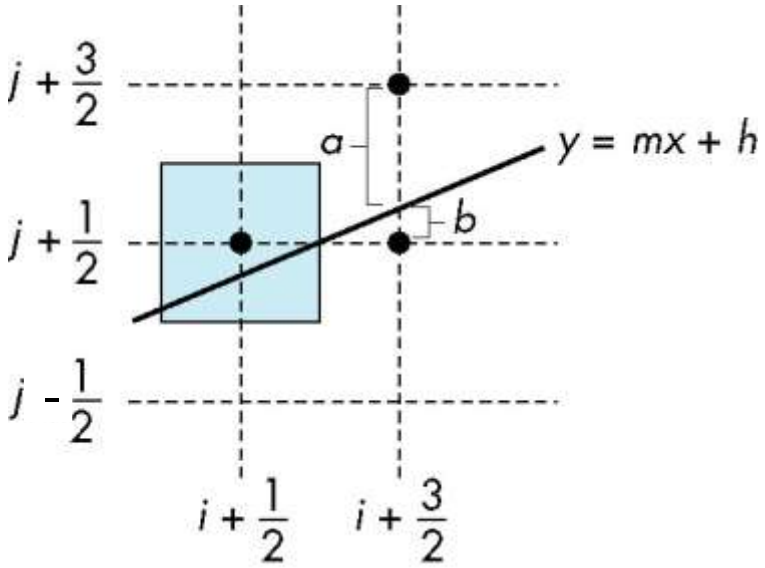
Note that line could have passed through any part of this pixel

The University of New Mexico

Decision Variable

$$d = \Delta x(b-a)$$

d is an integer
d > 0 use upper pixel
d < 0 use lower pixel



Incremental Form

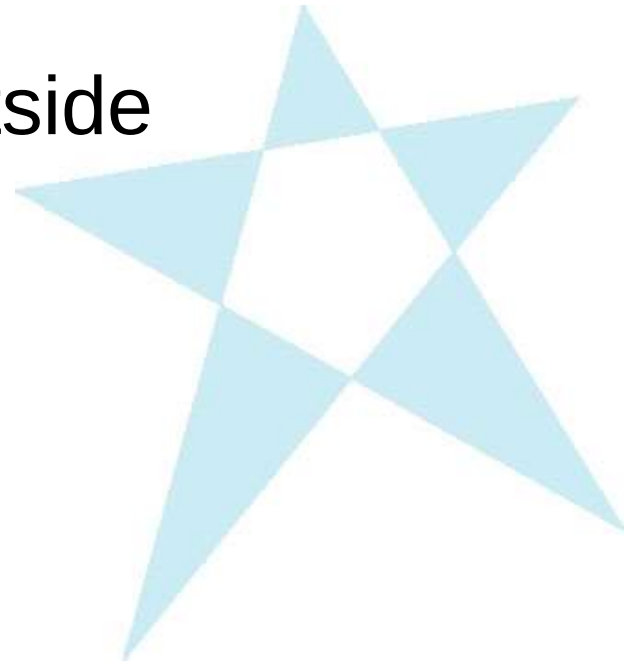
- More efficient if we look at d_k, the value of the decision variable at $x = k$

$$d_{k+1} = d_k - 2\Delta y, \quad \text{if } d_k < 0$$
$$d_{k+1} = d_k - 2(\Delta y - \Delta x), \quad \text{otherwise}$$

- For each x, we need do only an integer addition and a test
- Single instruction on graphics chips

Polygon Scan Conversion

- Scan Conversion = Fill
- How to tell inside from outside
  - Convex easy
  - Nonsimple difficult
  - Odd even test
    - Count edge crossings
  - Winding number

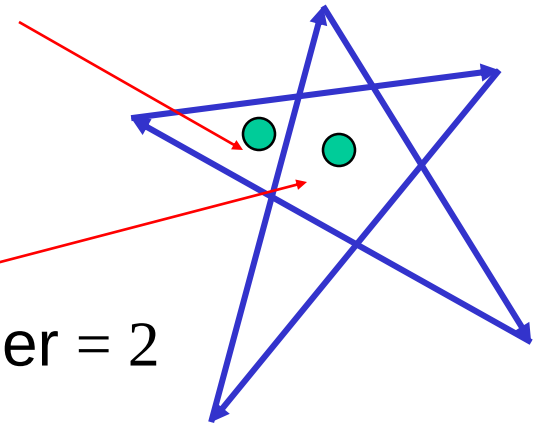


odd-even fill

Winding Number

- Count clockwise encirclements of point

winding number = 1



winding number = 2

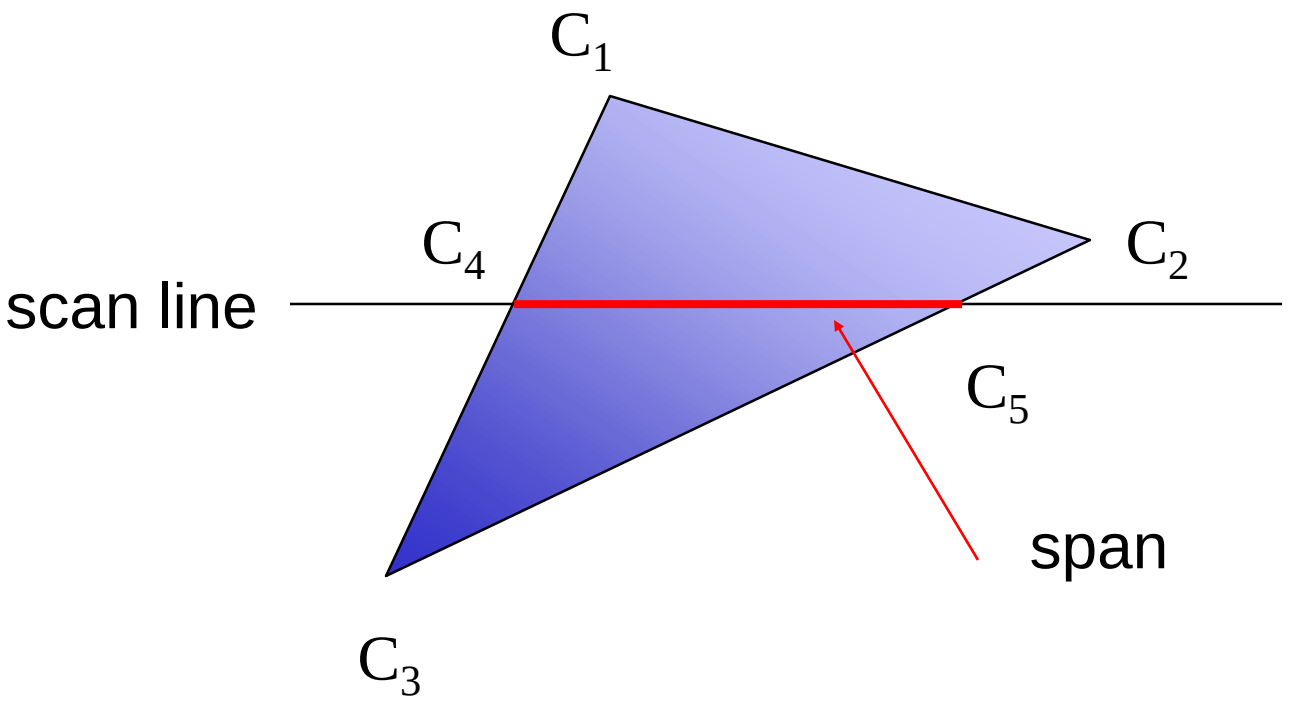
- Alternate definition of inside: inside if winding number $\neq 0$

Filling in the Frame Buffer

- Fill at end of pipeline
  - Convex Polygons only
  - Nonconvex polygons assumed to have been tessellated
  - Shades (colors) have been computed for vertices (Gouraud shading)
  - Combine with z-buffer algorithm
    - March across scan lines interpolating shades
    - Incremental work small

Using Interpolation

C_1 C_2 C_3 specified by **`glColor`** or by vertex shading
C_4 determined by interpolating between C_1 and C_3
C_5 determined by interpolating between C_2 and C_3
interpolate between C_4 and C_5 along span



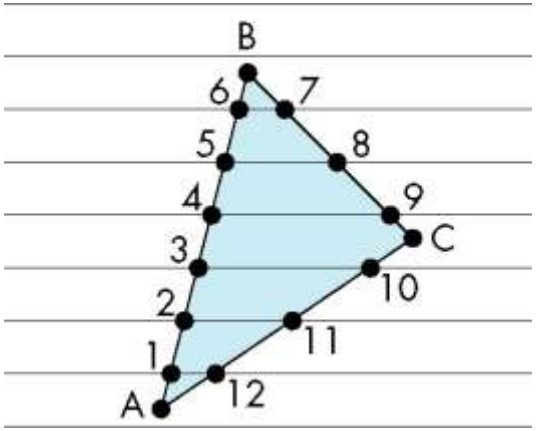
Flood Fill

- Fill can be done recursively if we know a seed point located inside (WHITE)
- Scan convert edges into buffer in edge/inside color (BLACK)

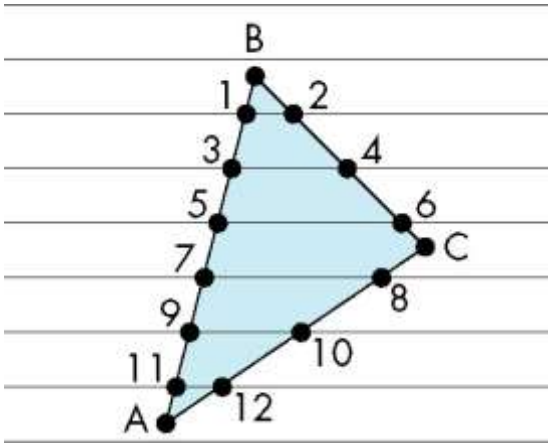
```
flood_fill(int x, int y) {
    if(read_pixel(x,y)= = WHITE) {
        write_pixel(x,y,BLACK);
        flood_fill(x-1, y);
        flood_fill(x+1, y);
        flood_fill(x, y+1);
        flood_fill(x, y-1);
}   }
```

Scan Line Fill

- Can also fill by maintaining a data structure of all intersections of polygons with scan lines
  - Sort by scan line
  - Fill each span

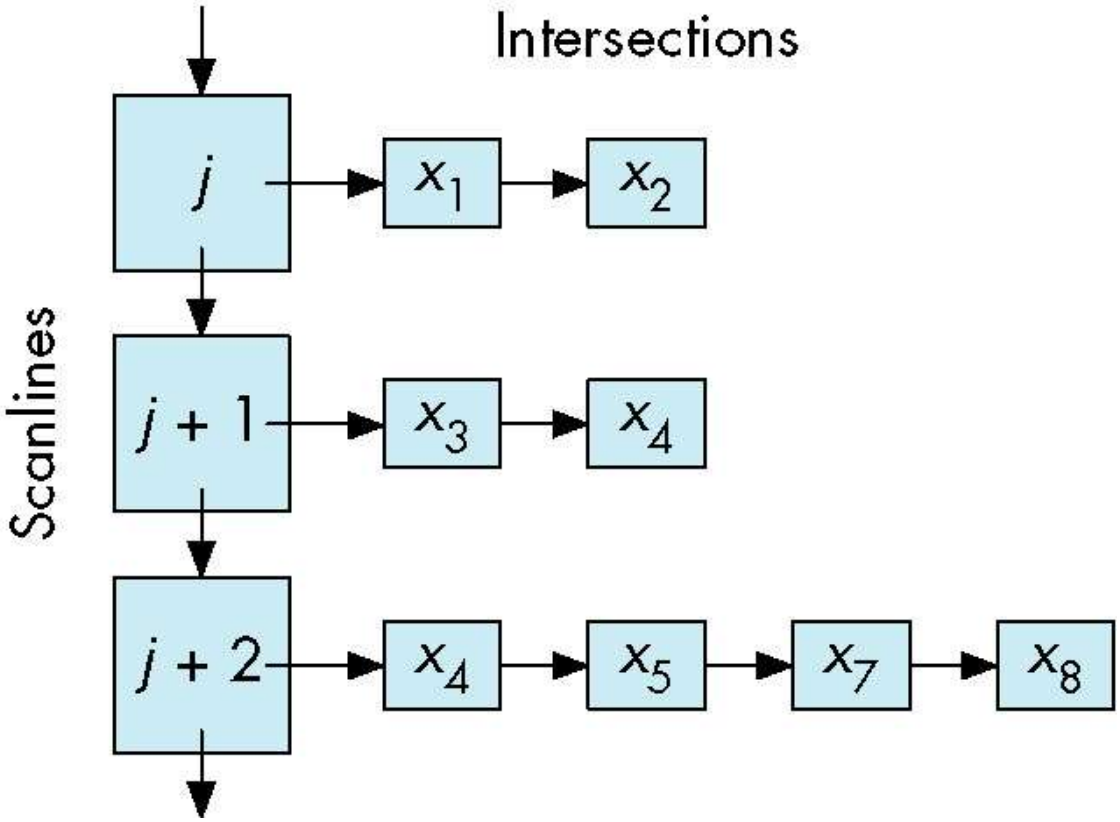


vertex order generated by vertex list



desired order

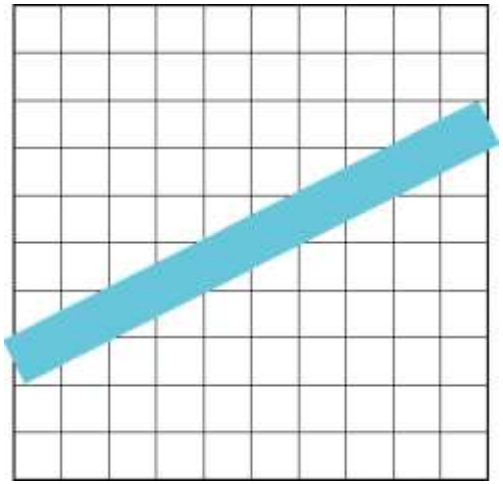
Data Structure



The University of New Mexico

Aliasing

- Ideal rasterized line should be 1 pixel wide



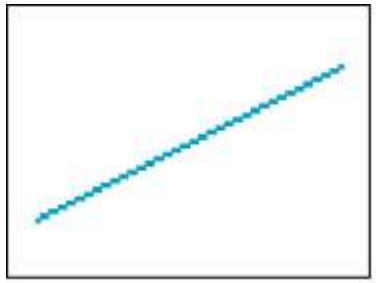
- Choosing best y for each x (or visa versa) produces aliased raster lines

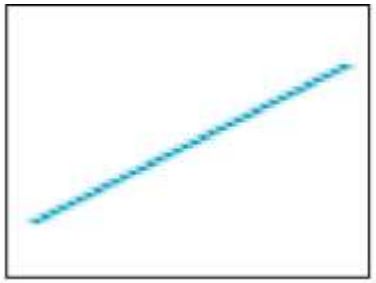
The University of New Mexico

Antialiasing by Area Averaging

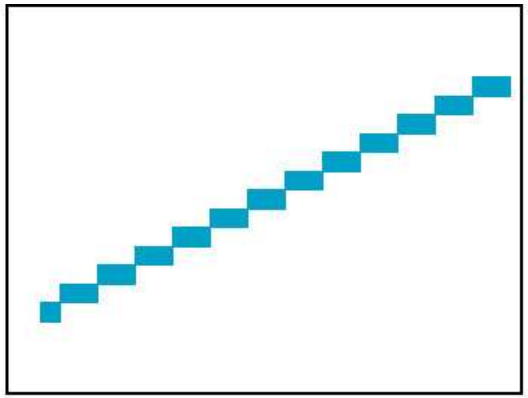
- Color multiple pixels for each x depending on coverage by ideal line

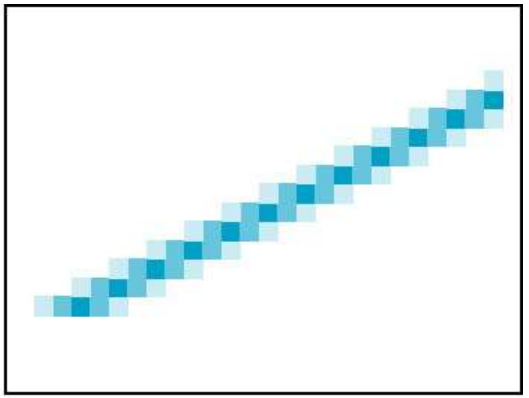
original





antialiased



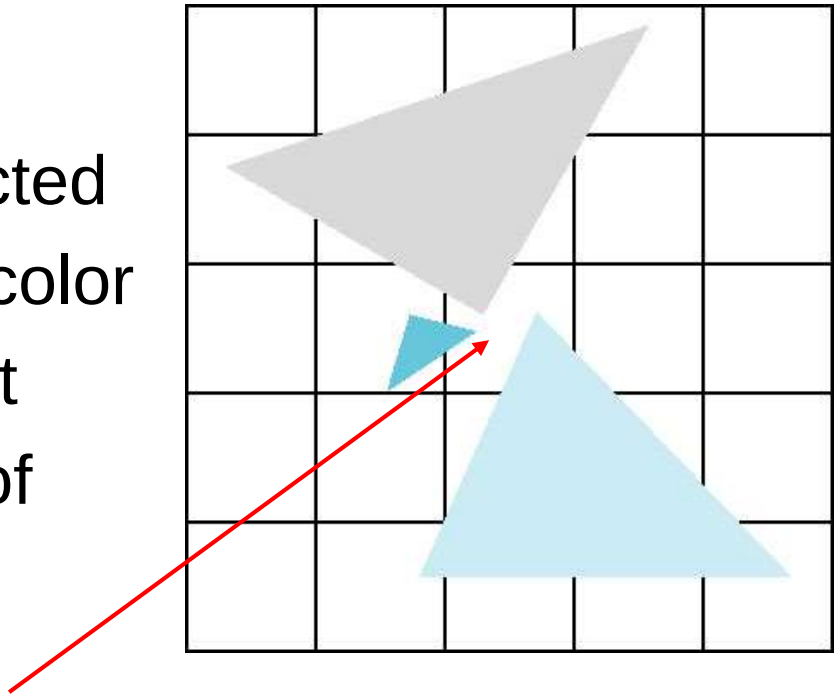


magnified

The University of New Mexico

Polygon Aliasing

- Aliasing problems can be serious for polygons
  - Jaggedness of edges
  - Small polygons neglected
  - Need compositing so color of one polygon does not totally determine color of pixel



All three polygons should contribute to color