COMP220: Graphics & Simulation

5: Textures and models

Learning outcomes

- Explain how a complex 3D model is represented in memory
- Explain how a 2D texture image can be wrapped onto a 3D model
- Write programs which draw textured meshes to the screen

Basic texture mapping

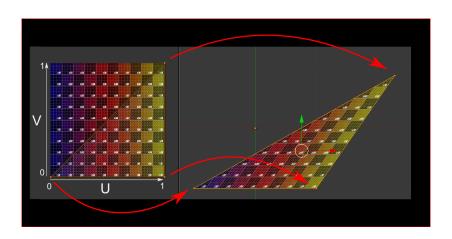
Loading textures from a file

- ► The SDL_Image library lets us load images from JPG, PNG, BMP etc.
- ▶ Steps:
 - Load the image with IMG_Load
 - Create a texture with glGenTextures
 - Bind the texture with glBindTexture
 - Load the pixel data into the new texture with qlTexImage2D
 - Set the texture filtering modes with glTexParameteri (more on this later)

Texture coordinates

- We use UV coordinates to refer to points in a texture
- ▶ u axis is horizontal and ranges from 0 (left) to 1 (right)
- \triangleright v axis is vertical and ranges from 0 (bottom) to 1 (top)
- (So really just another name for xy coordinates in texture space)
- ► Basic idea of texture mapping: give each vertex a *uv* coordinate, and interpolate across the triangle

UV coordinates





Textures in GLSL

Fragment shader:

Texture filtering

- Linear interpolation (GL_LINEAR) smooths between pixels
- Nearest neighbour (GL_NEAREST) is pixelated but may be slightly faster
- Anisotropic filtering improves the quality of linear interpolation but is slower
- Mip-mapping pre-calculates scaled down versions of the texture — improves quality but costs memory

Transparency

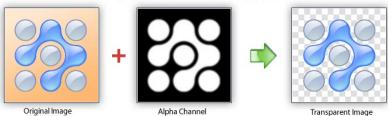
Alpha

- ▶ We are used to working with colours in RGB space
- We can also work in RGBA space, where A = alpha = transparency
- $ightharpoonup A = 0 \implies \text{fully transparent}$

RGB - 24 bpp

ightharpoonup A = 1 (or A = 255) \implies fully opaque

Use of Alpha Channel to create Transparent Image



RGBA - 32 bpp

A-8bpp

Alpha in OpenGL

- ► Use vec4 instead of vec3 for colours
- ► Textures can have an alpha channel
 - PNG supports alpha channels, JPG and BMP do not
- Need to enable alpha blending

```
glEnable(GL_BLEND);
glBlendFunc(GL_SRC_ALPHA, GL_ONE_MINUS_SRC_ALPHA);
```

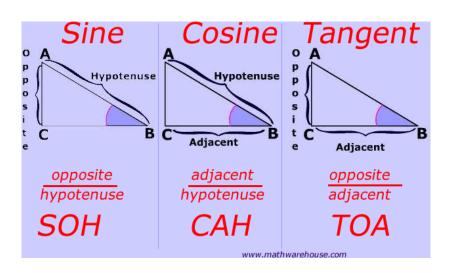
Other values can be passed to glBlendFunc for special effects (e.g. additive blending is often used for particle effects simulating light, fire, explosions etc.)

Transparency and depth testing

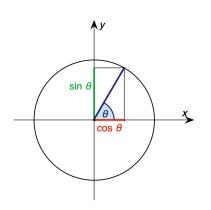
- Recall we are using depth testing
 - Each fragment on screen remembers its depth (distance from the camera)
 - A new fragment is drawn only if its depth value is less than the current depth value
 - I.e. don't draw objects that should be behind something that was already drawn
- But if the object in front is (semi-)transparent, we want to see the object behind it!
- Solution: draw semi-transparent objects after opaque objects, and in back to front order
- ► Further discussion: http://www.opengl-tutorial.org/ intermediate-tutorials/tutorial-10-transparency/

More meshes

SOH CAH TOA



Drawing a circle



Circle of **radius** r

 \therefore hypotenuse = r

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}} = \frac{x}{r}$$

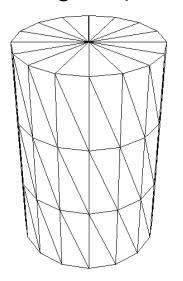
 $\therefore X = r \cos \theta$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}} = \frac{y}{r}$$

 $\therefore y = r \sin \theta$

NB: this works even if $\cos \theta$ and/or $\sin \theta$ are negative (i.e. if θ is not between 0° and 90°)

Drawing a cylinder



Drawing a sphere

