CS174A Lecture 16

Announcements & Reminders

- Dec 1: projects due
- Dec 3 and 5: project presentations, in class
 - We will post some guidelines about the order of presentations, how to gather scores from teammates, class, etc.
 - Test your laptops, adapters, etc. beforehand with class projector
- Dec 12 (Thursday): final exam
 - Time: 11:30 AM 2:30 PM
 - Place: Kinsey Pavilion 1220B
- Course evaluations: Nov 28 Dec 7

TA Session This Friday

HAPPY THANKSGIVING: no TA session this Friday

Next Week:

- Team projects & logistics
- Final exam review

Last Lecture Recap

- Ray Tracing
 - Issues: speed, shadows, aliasing
 - Stochastic ray tracing
- Transparent Objects
- Particle Rendering
- Prof Demetri: Biometric Human Simulation

Next Up

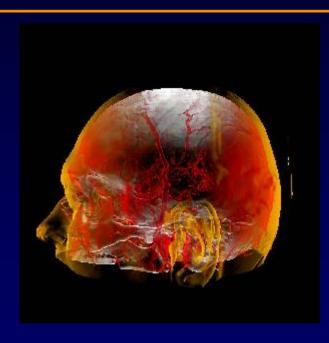
- Volume Rendering
- Aliasing/Anti-Aliasing

Prof Demetri Terzopoulos

Demetri Terzopoulos is Distinguished Professor and Chancellor's Professor of Computer Science at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he directs the UCLA Computer Graphics & Vision Laboratory. He is also Co-Founder and Chief Scientist of VoxelCloud, Inc. He is or was a Guggenheim Fellow, a Fellow of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), a Fellow of the Royal Society of London, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (RSC), and a member of the European Academy of Sciences (EAS), the New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS), and Sigma Xi.

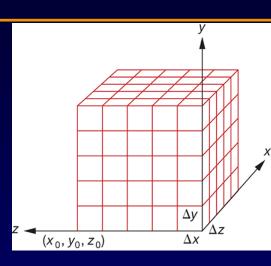
Volume Rendering

- 2D projection of 3D sampled dataset
- Volume rendering algorithms:
 - Usually no illumination or shadows, just compositing
 - Therefore only ray-casting, no recursive ray-tracing
 - No perspective, only parallel projection.



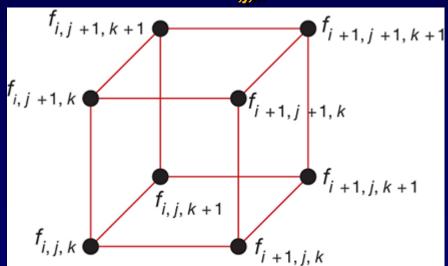
Volume Rendering: Voxels

- Volume dataset: 3D regular grid of voxels
- Voxel: a small cube at i,j,k with sides Δx,Δy,Δz
- Each grid point has a scalar value f(x,y,z)
- For example, density, intensity, CT scan, MRI
- Voxelize more complex implicit surfaces
- If $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta z \Rightarrow$ structured volume dataset
- Transfer function: to map lattice scalar values to RGBA
- Based on viewer location, there's a natural ordering of voxels
- Composite front-to-back or back-to-front



Volume Rendering: Marching Cubes

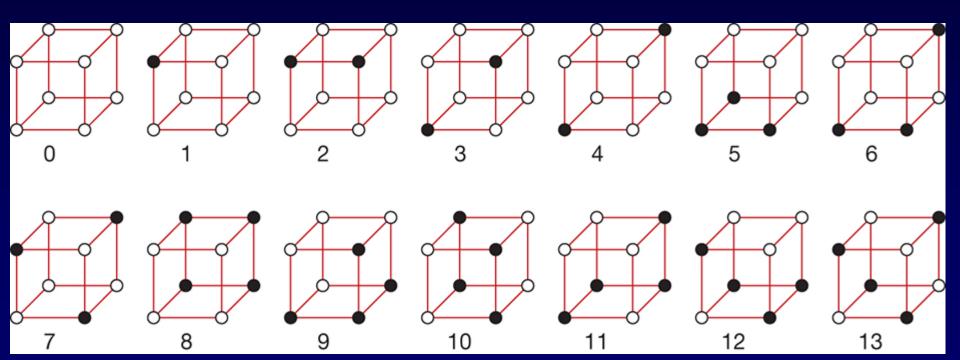
- Object based volume rendering technique
- Create poly mesh by extracting isosurfaces: $f_{i,j,k} = c$
- Color vertices: if $f_{i,i,k} < c$, then white, else black





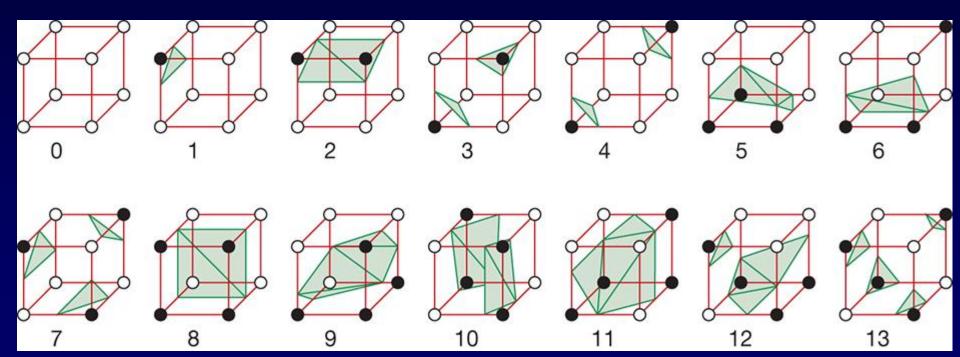
Volume Rendering: Marching Cubes

• Total $2^8 = 256$, but only 14 unique cases



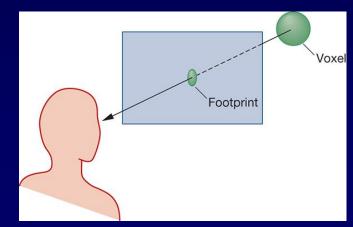
Volume Rendering: Marching Cubes

• Once volume is polygonised, GPU can be used to render



Volume Rendering: Splatting

- Object based volume rendering technique
- Each volume element (voxel) is splatted on screen as a snowball
- Voxels splatted in BTF order wrt to the viewer
- Splats are rendered and composited as disks on the screen
- Circular, ellipsoidal or Gaussian splats

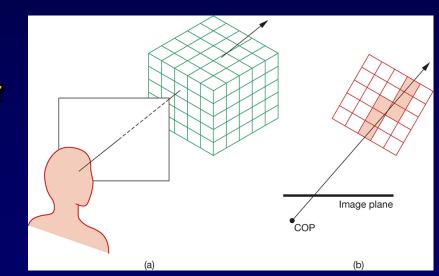


Volume Rendering: V-Buffer

- Image based volume rendering technique
- Ray casting through volume
- Trilinear interpolation to determine RGBA at non-lattice point
- Accumulate color and opacity
- 3 levels of sampling:
 - Voxel lattice: x_{i,i,k}
 - Sampling along ray: y_i
 - Image plane: z_{i,i}
- 2 pipelines (color/opacity): $c = c_1 + c_2(1 \alpha_1)$; $\alpha = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2(1 \alpha_1)$

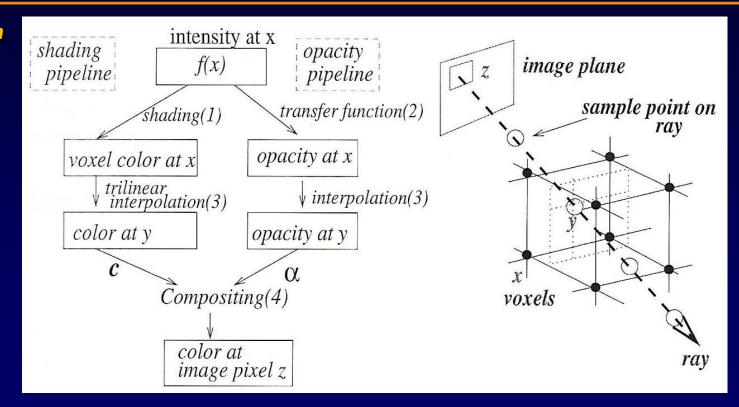
Volume Rendering: V-Buffer

- Ray casting through volume
- Parametric eqn of ray: p + t*d
 - p: pixel location
 - d: ray direction
 - t: parameter along ray
- Step through ray by incrementing t



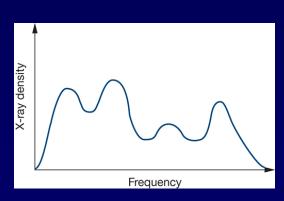
Volume Rendering

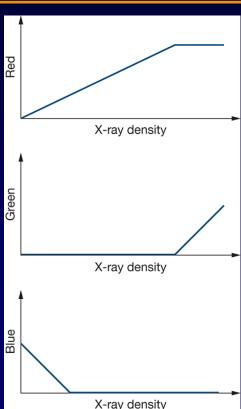
Algorithm



Volume Rendering: Transfer Function

- X-Ray density data for each voxel
- Assign different color to each peak in histogram
- Opacity values based on emphasis





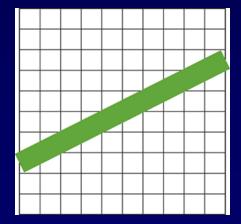
Volume Rendering: V-Buffer Speedups

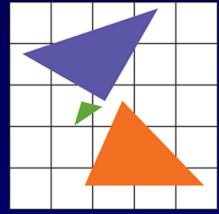
- Early ray termination
 - Stop when opacity reaches 1
 - Or when ray exits volume
- Empty space skipping
- Octree or BSP trees
- Temporal use of voxels

Aliasing: Rasterization

Spatial aliasing in CG

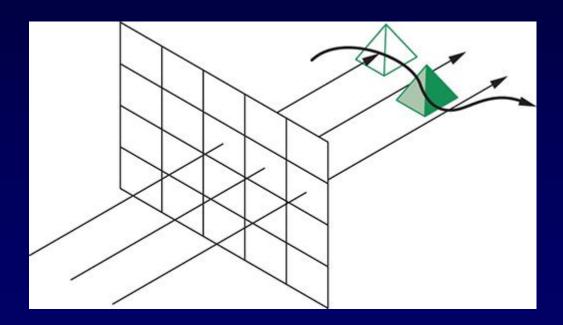
- Jagged lines while rasterization
- Going from continuous representation to a sampled approximation, which has limited resolution
- Pixels on screen have fixed number, size, shape and location





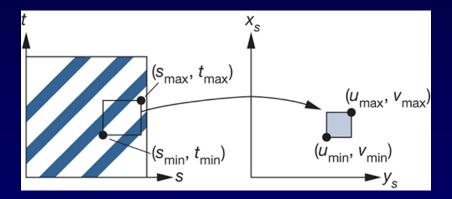
Aliasing: Temporal

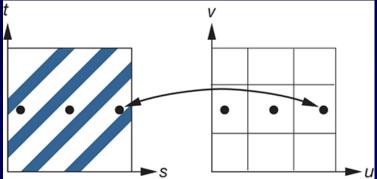
Temporal aliasing in CG



Aliasing: Mappings

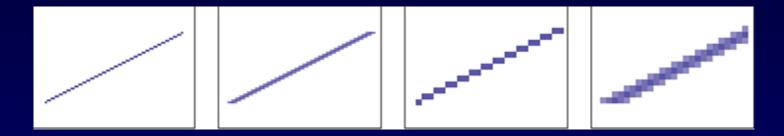
Due to high-frequency patterns





Anti-Aliasing

Area averaging



- Super-sampling, then averaging or blending
- In h/w, use super-sampled offline buffer, then average to frame buffer