Computer Graphics

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Intro to Three.js

- Three.js is a javascript library on top of WebGL
- Go to http://webglreport.com/?v=1
 - to check the webgl status on your browser on your hardware
- Go to https://threejs.org/ for
 - showcases, documentation and examples



Tasks in this Lab

- Set up a Three.js development environment
- Run the starter code
- Modify the starter code to add
 - more shapes
 - a basic animation



Set up Three.js

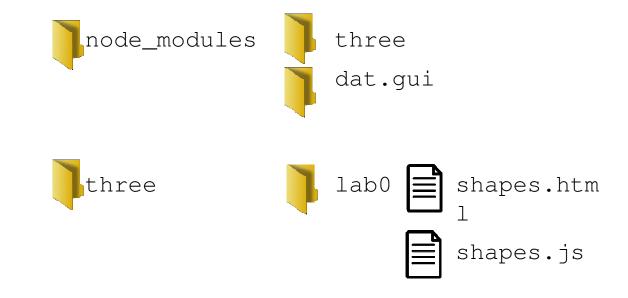
- Our webpage must load three.js
 - The labs also needs dat.gui.js for simple sliders and input fields
- Recommended to install these files locally
 - Go to https://nodejs.org/ and download the installer (e.g., the LTS version)
 - This will allow you to install the package manager npm
 - You can now issue in your working directory the commands

```
npm install three
npm install -- save dat.qui
```



Directory Structure for Three.js Labs

- npm will create a node_modules directory
- npm list will show what is installed and in what version





Lab Environment

- The VDI environment has firefox installed but the server has very limited graphics
 - Will work for this lab but will not run WebGL2
- A workaround is to use remote apps
 https://engineering.uottawa.ca/it/remote-apps
 - Remote apps runs on a different server with Tesla
 GPUs and enables hardware support
 - One remote app is firefox
- Best solution: Use your own laptop



Starter Code

- Running the starter code should show a green plane, a sphere and a box shown both solid and as wireframe
- There is a dat.gui input as well





Tasks

- Add three more shapes:
 - a cylinder and dodecahedron in the corners
 - a spinning torus above the origin
- See the specific instructions in the comments of the code
- Look up the details of the commands at <u>https://threejs.org/docs/index.html</u>



Expected Result

- Look at the code for animation and resizing
- Check out the parameters to the geometries
- Play around with camera parameters





Summary

- All content is organized in a scene
 - Object3D is the base class for most objects
 - Objects for basic shapes are available
 - Objects can be grouped
- Math package included
 - See Matrix4 for more details
 - Local transformation changes shape position and orientation of objects

