

Direct3D Fundamentals

Outline

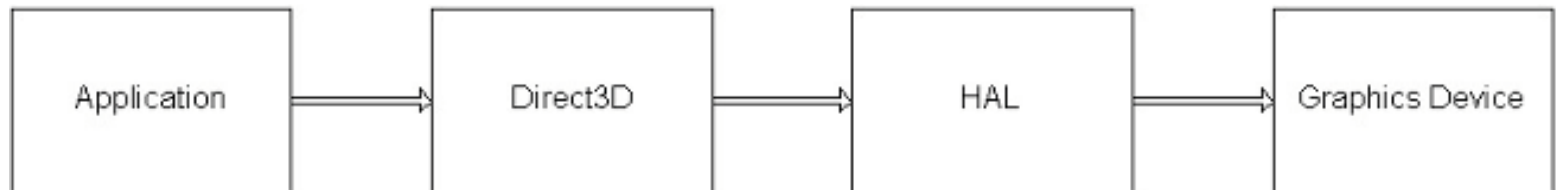
- Direct3D Initialization
- The Rendering Pipeline
- Drawing in Direct3D
- Color
- Lighting
- Texturing
- Blending
- Stenciling

Direct3D Initialization

- To learn how Direct3D interacts with graphics hardware
- To understand the role that COM plays with Direct3D
- To learn fundamental graphics concepts, such as how 2D images are stored, page flipping, and depth buffering
- To learn how to initialize Direct3D
- To become familiar with the general structure that the sample applications of this book employ

Direct3D Overview

- Direct3D is a low-level graphics API (application programming interface) that enables us to render 3D worlds using 3D hardware acceleration.



The REF Device

- Direct3D provides a reference rasterizer (known as a REF device), which emulates the entire Direct3D API in software.
- It is important to understand that the REF device is for development only
- D3DDEVTYPE_HAL
- D3DDEVTYPE_REF

Component Object Model (COM)

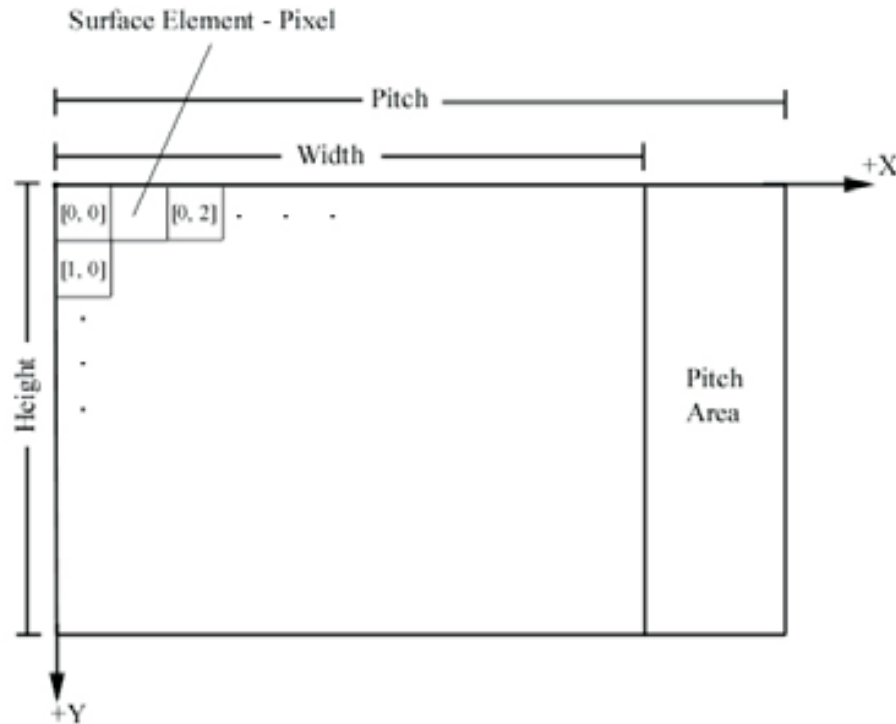
- Is the technology that allows DirectX to be language independent and have backward compatibility
- We obtain pointers to COM interfaces through special functions or the methods of another COM interface
- COM interfaces are prefixed with a capital **I**.
- For example, the COM interface that represents a surface is called **IDirect3DSurface9**.

Some Preliminaries

- Surfaces
- Multisampling
- Pixel Formats
- Memory Pools
- The Swap Chain and Page Flipping
- Depth Buffers
- Vertex processing
- Device Capabilities

Surfaces

- *A surface is a matrix of pixels that Direct3D uses primarily to store 2D image data.*



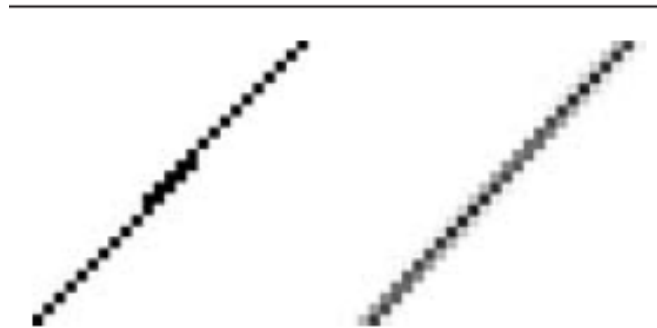
Surfaces

- IDirect3DSurface9
 - ✓ LockRect
 - ✓ UnlockRect
 - ✓ GetDesc

```
typedef struct D3DLOCKED_RECT {  
    INT Pitch;    // the surface pitch  
    void *pBits;  // pointer to the start of the surface memory  
} D3DLOCKED_RECT;
```

Multisampling

- Multisampling is a technique used to smooth out blocky-looking images



- D3DMULTISAMPLE_TYPE
 - ✓ D3DMULTISAMPLE_NONE
 - ✓ D3DMULTISAMPLE_1_SAMPLE
 - ✓ D3DMULTISAMPLE_16_SAMPLE

Pixel Formats

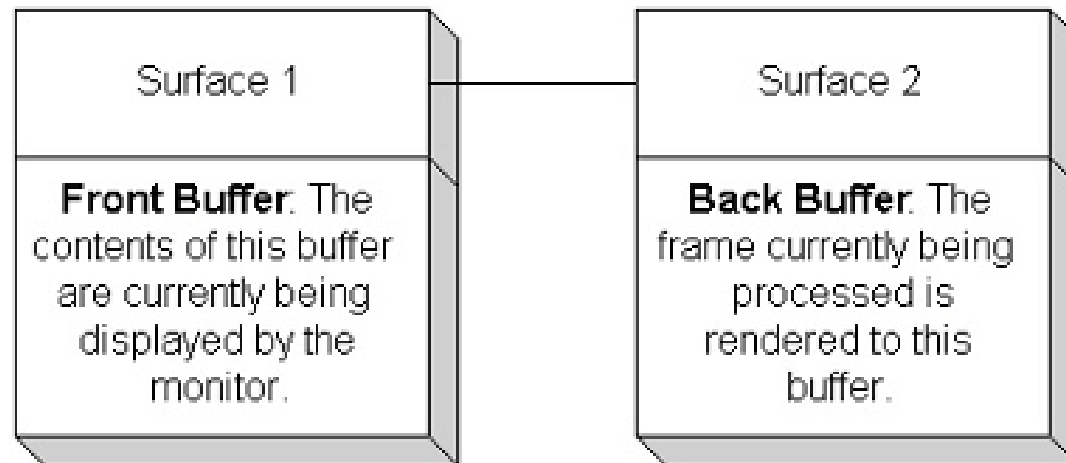
- D3DFORMAT
 - ✓ D3DFMT_R8G8B8
 - ✓ D3DFMT_X8R8G8B8
 - ✓ D3DFMT_A8R8G8B8
 - ✓ D3DFMT_A16B16G16R16F
 - ✓ D3DFMT_A32B32G32R32F
- The first three formats are common and supported on most hardware.

Memory Pools

- D3DPOOL
 - ✓ D3DPOOL_DEFAULT
 - ✓ D3DPOOL_MANAGED
 - ✓ D3DPOOL_SYSTEMMEM
 - ✓ D3DPOOL_SCRATCH

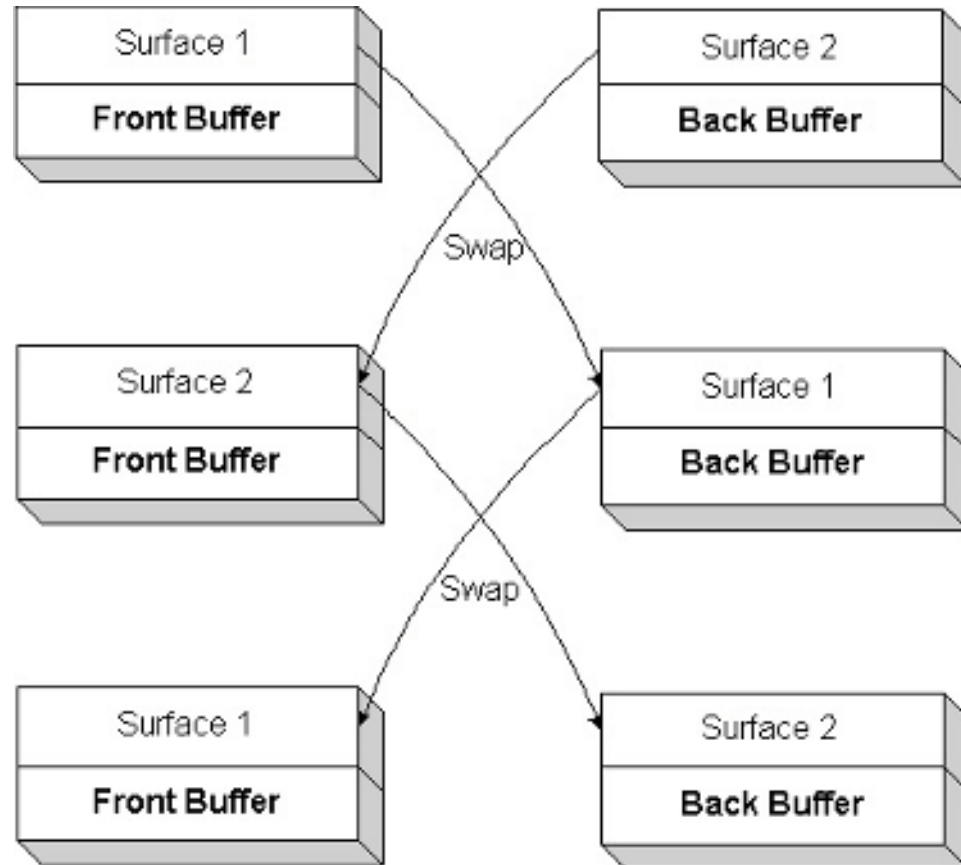
The Swap Chain and Page Flipping

- Swap chains is used to provide smooth animation between frames



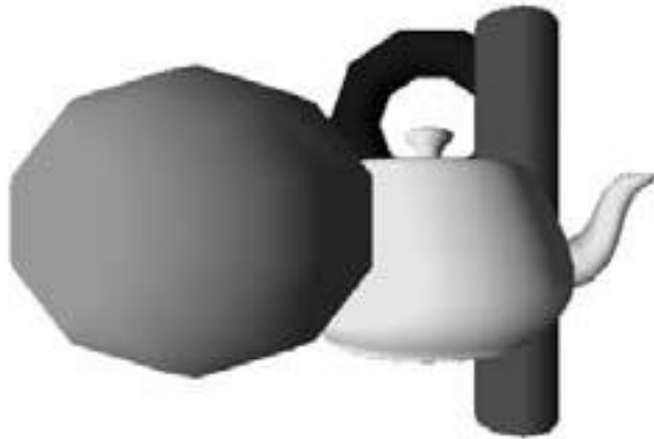
Presenting

1. Render to back buffer
2. Present the back buffer
3. Go To (1)



Depth Buffers

- The depth buffer or z buffer is a surface that does not contain image data but rather depth information about a particular pixel.



Depth Buffers

- D3DFMT
 - ✓ D3DFMT_D32
 - ✓ D3DFMT_D24S8
 - ✓ D3DFMT_D24X8
 - ✓ D3DFMT_D24X4S4
 - ✓ D3DFMT_D16

Vertex processing

- Vertices are the building blocks for 3D geometry, and they can be processed in two different ways
 - *software vertex processing*
 - *hardware vertex processing*
- supports hardware vertex processing in hardware is to say that the graphics card supports transformation and lighting calculations in hardware.

Device Capabilities

- Every feature that Direct3D exposes has a corresponding data member or bit in the D3DCAPS9 structure.

```
bool supportsHardwareVertexProcessing;

// If the bit is "on" then that implies the hardware device
// supports it.
if( caps.DevCaps & D3DDEVCAPS HWTRANSFORMANDLIGHT )
{
    // Yes, the bit is on, so it is supported.
    supportsHardwareVertexProcessing = true;
}
else
{
    // No, the bit is off, so it is not supported.
    hardwareSupportsVertexProcessing = false;
}
```

Initializing Direct3D

- The process of initializing Direct3D can be broken down into the following steps:
 1. Acquire a pointer to an IDirect3D9
 2. Check the device capabilities (D3DCAPS9)
 3. Initialize an instance of the D3DPRESENT_PARAMETERS
 4. Create the IDirect3DDevice9