

# Creating 3D apps & games using Babylon.JS



# David Catuhe

Windows Clients Evangelist  
Lead

<http://aka.ms/david>  
**@deltakosh**

# David Rousset

Windows Clients Evangelist

<http://aka.ms/davrous>  
**@davrous**

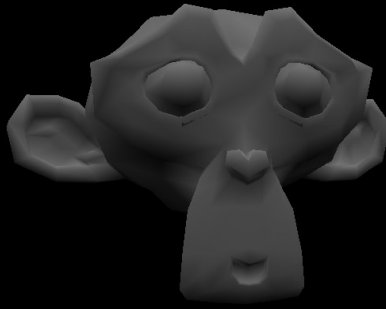
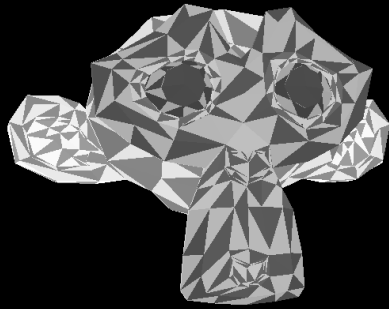
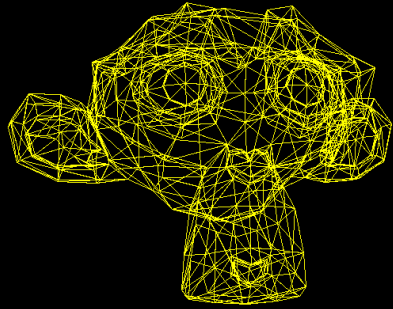
# Agenda

- **Why building a WebGL 3D engine ?**
  - The old school way: Using the 2D canvas
  - The rise of GPUs
  - Using **WebGL** directly
- **Using Babylon.js to create 3D apps and games**
  - How to use **Babylon.js**?
  - Advanced features
- **What we've learned...**
  - Tracking and reducing the pressure on garbage collector
  - Performance first
  - Handling touch devices

Why building a **WebGL** 3D engine ?

# The oldschool way: using 2D canvas

Build a 3D “**Software**” engine that only uses the CPU



# Soft Engine

DEMONSTRATION

# The **rise** of GPUs

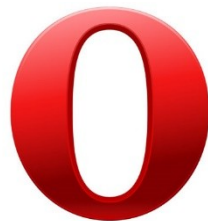
**Hardware accelerated  
rendering:**  
2D Canvas, CSS3  
animations

**H264 & JPG hardware  
decoding**

Accelerated 3D  
with **WebGL**

# Using **WebGL** directly

Requires a **compatible** browser:



A new **context** for the canvas:

```
canvas.getContext("webgl", { antialias: true }) ||  
canvas.getContext("experimental-webgl", { antialias: true });
```

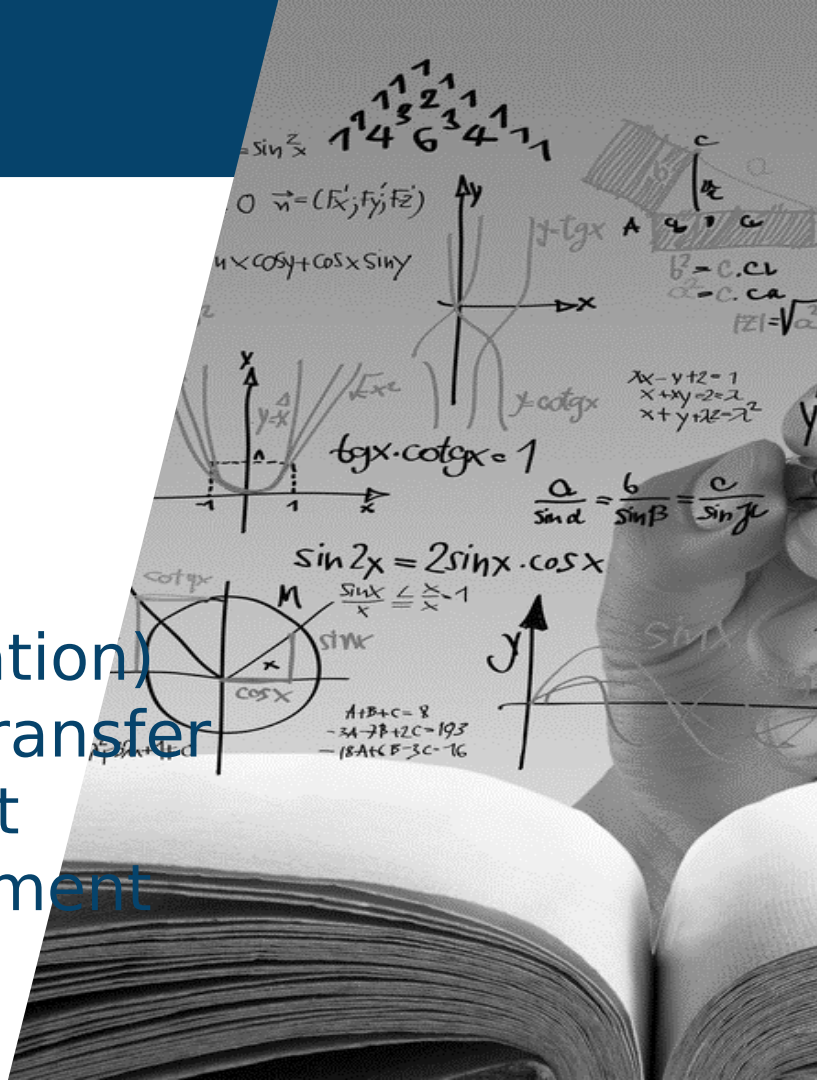


# Using **WebGL** directly

# WebGL is a **low** level API

Need to handle **everything**  
except the *rendering*:

- Shaders code (loading, compilation)
- Geometry creation, topology, transfer
- Shaders variables management
- Texture and resources management
- Render loop



# WebGL 101

DEMONSTRATION

Using **Babylon.js** to create 3D apps &  
games

# How to use **Babylon.js** ?

Open source project (Available on Github)

**<http://www.babylonjs.com>**

**<https://github.com/babylonjs/babylon.js>**

How to use it? **Include** one file and you're ready to go!

```
<script  
  src="babylon.js"></script>
```

To start Babylon.js, you've just need to create an **engine** object:

```
var engine = new BABYLON.Engine(canvas,  
                                true);
```

# How to use **Babylon.js** ?

Babylon.js is a **scene graph**: All complex features are abstracted for **YOU!**

```
var scene = new BABYLON.Scene(engine);

var camera = new BABYLON.FreeCamera("Camera", new BABYLON.Vector3(0, 0, -10),
scene);
var light0 = new BABYLON.PointLight("Omni0", new BABYLON.Vector3(0, 100, 100),
scene);
var sphere = BABYLON.Mesh.createSphere("Sphere", 16, 3, scene);
```

Handling **rendering** can be done in one line:

```
engine.runRenderLoop(function()
{ scene.render(); });
```



# Hello World with **Babylon.js**

DEMONSTRATION

# Advanced features

**Blender** exporter  
Design & render

**Offline** support  
IndexedDB

Complete **collisions**  
engine

**Network** optimizations  
Incremental loading



# Unleash `babylon.js`

DEMONSTRATION



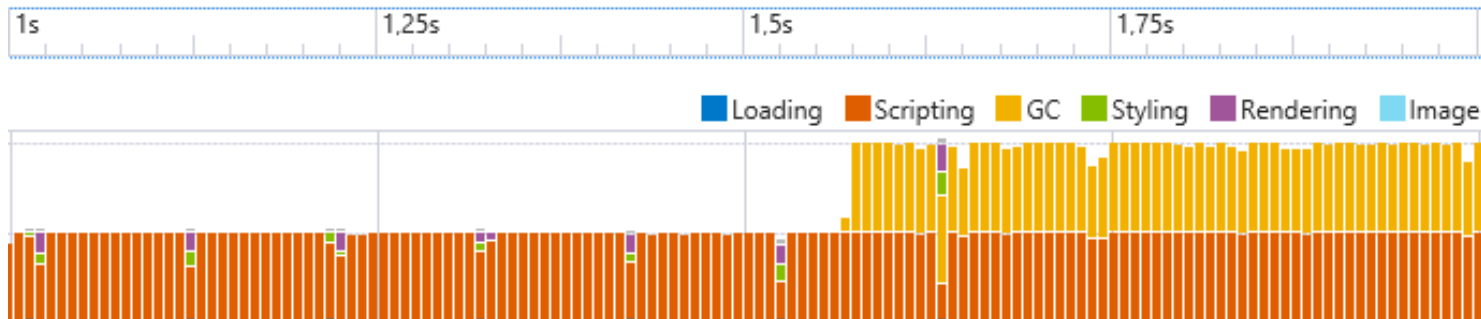
What we've **learned** ?

# Tracking & reducing the **pressure** on GC

A **3D engine** is a place where matrices, vectors and quaternions live.  
**And there may be tons of them!**



Pressure is huge on the **garbage collector**



# Tracking & reducing the **pressure** on GC

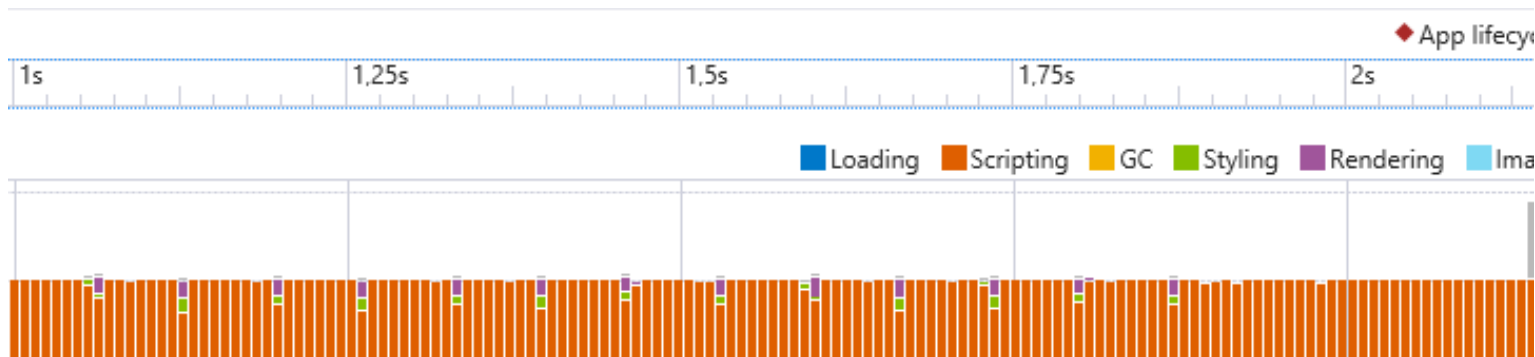
Maximum reuse of mathematical entities

- Pre-instantiate
- Stock variables

GC friendly arrays (able to reset size at no cost)



When the scene is up and running, aiming at **no allocation** at all



Using **F12** to reduce  
memory **pressure**

DEMONSTRATION

# Performance first

## **Efficient** shaders

Do only what is REALLY  
required

## **Complete** cache system

Update WebGL only when  
required

## **Scene** partitioning

Frustum / submeshes /  
octrees

# Handling **touch** devices



# Hand.js and the TouchCamera

DEMONSTRATION



# Questions ?

@deltakosh / @davrous