

Three.js Solar System

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Introduction to Computer Graphics - 2021/2022 - Project 1

Main ideas

User interactive solar system

Possibility to stop the system elements

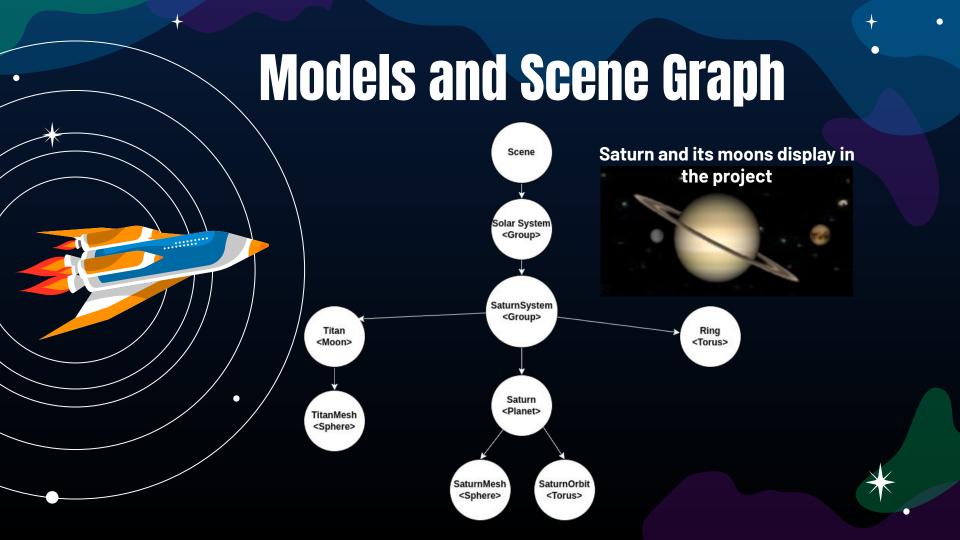
Option to hide/show the planets' orbits

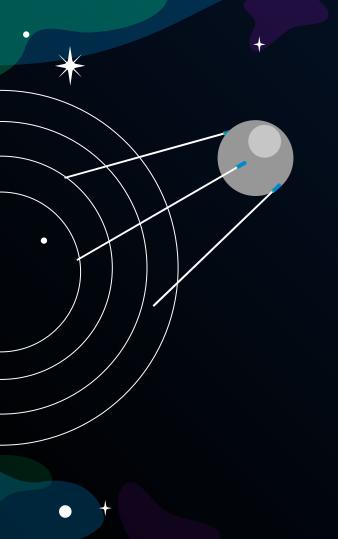
Zoom-in planet's and moon's surface

Use of the OrbitControls Three.js module



URL: https://artur-romao.github.io/three.js-solar-system/





Animations

Sun, planets and moons self rotation

Planets and moons translation around the sun

Moon translation around the respective planet (through a mathematical expression)

Zoom-in planet's and moon's surface

Illumination

PointLight located in the center of the sun

Simulation of day-night feature regarding the face towards the sun

Simulation of eclipses

User interaction



Mouse

Exploring the environment (rotating the solar system, zooming into the planets) thanks to OrbitControls

Clicking in the "Show/Hide Planet Orbits" checkbox to interact with the orbits

Clicking in a planet or a moon translates the user next to it



Keyboard

Stop the solar system motion when pressing the spacebar

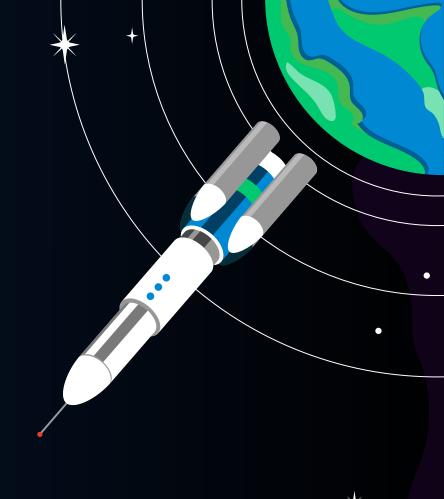


Code organized in a folder "js" with 2 classes (Planet and Moon) and a module (OrbitControls) and 2 independent files (scene.js and index.html)

Had some struggles doing the moons translations around the planets

Difficulties while developing the zoom-in functionality

Saturn ring is not perfect, due to illumination





References

Three.js documentation: https://threejs.org/docs/

Coding a 3D Solar System with JavaScript + Three.js: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOSMzSyiEiA

And a lot of stackoverflow...

