



CG1 WS 23/24 - Exercise 2: Canonical View

Technische Universität Berlin - Computer Graphics

Date 16. November 2023 **Deadline** 29. November 2023

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Projection / Canonical viewing volume (7 Points)

This exercise is built on the Nate Robins OpenGL projection tutorial and it extends the visualization by the canonical viewing volume (normalized device coordinates).

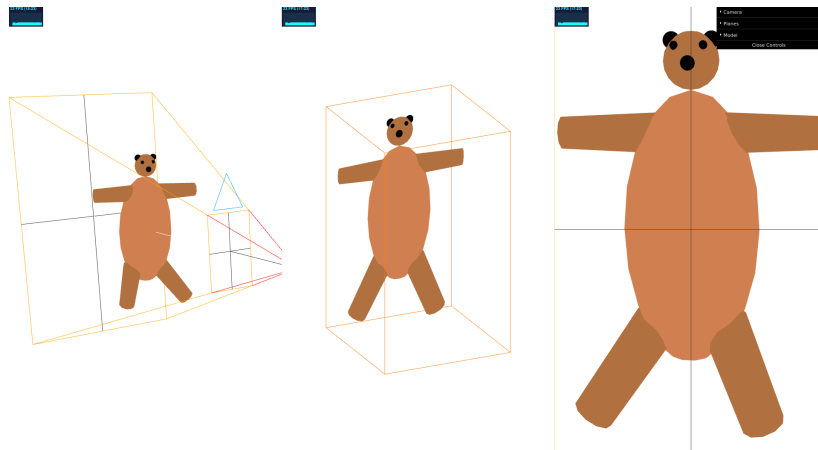


Figure 1.1: The scene in world space (left), canonical viewing space (middle) and screen space (right).

The usual way to visualize a 3 dimensional scene on a two dimensional output device such as a computer screen avoids simulating the physics of light. Instead it uses a projective transformation of the scene to simulate a camera. In this exercise, you explore the projection step that is needed to transform a scene onto the screen and visualize the effect of different camera parameters. Figure 1.1 shows an example view of the three different spaces you are working in. The screen space (right) is the projected space as viewed by the camera, the world space (left) shows the scene including the camera that is used for the rendering of the screen space and the region effectively viewed by the camera called the frustum. In the process of transforming the world space to screen space, an intermediate representation in normalized device coordinates (NDC, middle) is used. By applying the camera's perspective projection, it effectively transforms the camera's frustum to a cube called the canonical viewing volume. The perspective transformation depends on the camera parameters and enlarges the parts of the scene that are closer to the camera. The canonical viewing volume facilitates clipping the visible part of the image and can be easily transformed to screen space by a second, parallel, projection. Note that the rendering of the cube does not have the same height and width, this is due to the convention of the window coordinate system, nevertheless all edges have the same length in the NDC coordinate system.

In this exercise sheet, you render the three different views and update them accordingly in case internal camera parameters, viewing angle or object position has been altered using the GUI or orbit controls.

The tasks in detail are:

- Screen space (right):** Create a scene with a white background color containing a teddy bear (the object creation is provided by `createTeddyBear` in `helper.ts`) and render it in the right window using a perspective camera (from now on called screen camera). That camera must be controllable by `OrbitControls`. Implement the gui functionalities in the model folder, so that you are able to translate and rotate the teddy bear in all three dimensions. (1 point)
- World space (left):** Render the same scene using a different perspective camera (now called world camera) that is also controllable using `OrbitControls`. Implement the gui functionalities in the camera folder, so that the screen camera parameters are updated accordingly. Add a visualization of the

screen camera (e.g. using `CameraHelper` in `Three.js`) to the scene. The visualization is also updated whenever the screen camera is changed (either by parameter changes or by transformation changes introduced by the `OrbitControls`). Consequently we can observe the corresponding updates in both world space (by the camera visualization) and screen space (different output). *Hint:* First: Whenever you change the camera properties you have to call `updateProjectionMatrix` so that the projection matrix is updated according to the parameters. Second: You can listen on `OrbitControl` changes using `addEventListener` with the 'change' event. That event is triggered whenever the controls change the transformation of the camera. (1.5 point)

3. **Normalized device coordinates (mid):** Create a new scene (again with a white background) that is render in the mid window using an orthographic¹ camera (provided by `createCanonicalCamera` in `helper.ts`) that is again controllable using `OrbitControls`. Add a cube with length 2 to the new scene that is centered at the origin (provided by `setupCube` in `helper.ts`). Add a copy of the original teddy bear to the scene and implement a function that transforms the teddy bear into the canonical viewing space (normalized device coordinates, NDC). That function needs to be called whenever the camera or the teddy bear changes. (3.5 points)

Restriction: For this task, you are not allowed to use the `applyMatrix4` neither of `BufferGeometry` nor `BufferAttribute` nor `VectorX` for $X \in \{3, 4\}$. Iterate over the vertices of the geometry and transform each vertex individually and apply the perspective transformation by hand. Vertex positions (stored as `BufferAttribute`) can be accessed using the `getAttribute("position")` function call of the `BufferGeometry` class. Check out the documentation to see how to set and get the coordinates of the vertices. Make sure that `needUpdate` is set to true in the `BufferAttribute` after the change.

Hints:

- The `PerspectiveCamera` in `Three.js` provides the inverse of `matrixWorld` that can be accessed with `matrixWorldInverse` and the projection matrix stored in `projectionMatrix`. Use the `updateMatrix`, `updateMatrixWorld` and `updateProjectionMatrix` methods to make sure that they are up to date whenever the camera parameters change.
 - `Object3D.traverse` can largely simplify the computation.
 - All `Object3Ds` are still organized in the scene graph after the perspective transformation of every vertex. That means each transformed vertex position is still defined in local coordinates. But the perspective transformation makes the scene graph and all its local coordinate systems obsolete. So make sure that after the transformation each local coordinate system equals the global coordinate system (i.e. set every matrix of the bear to the identity).
 - The camera coordinate system is left-handed. Since the rendering of the NDC is itself done by a left-handed camera, you need to invert one of the axes of the NDC to show it in the correct orientation.
4. Add six clipping planes to simulate the canonical viewing volume (i.e. anything outside the viewing volume is removed). Extend the GUI so that the clipping planes can be toggled on and off. *Hint:* You can add clipping planes to a renderer using the `clippingPlanes` property of the `renderer` object. (1 point)

Requirements

- Exercises must be completed individually. Plagiarism will lead to exclusion from the course.
- Submit a .zip file of the `src` folder of your solution through ISIS by **29. November 2023, 23:59**.
- *Naming convention:* {firstname}_{lastname}_cg1_ex{#}.zip (for example: jane_doe_cg1_ex2.zip).
- You only hand in your `src` folder, make sure your code works with the rest of the provided skeleton.

¹Trivia: An orthographic camera is not necessary but enables us to produce the same output in the right and mid rendering.