

Graphics Programming

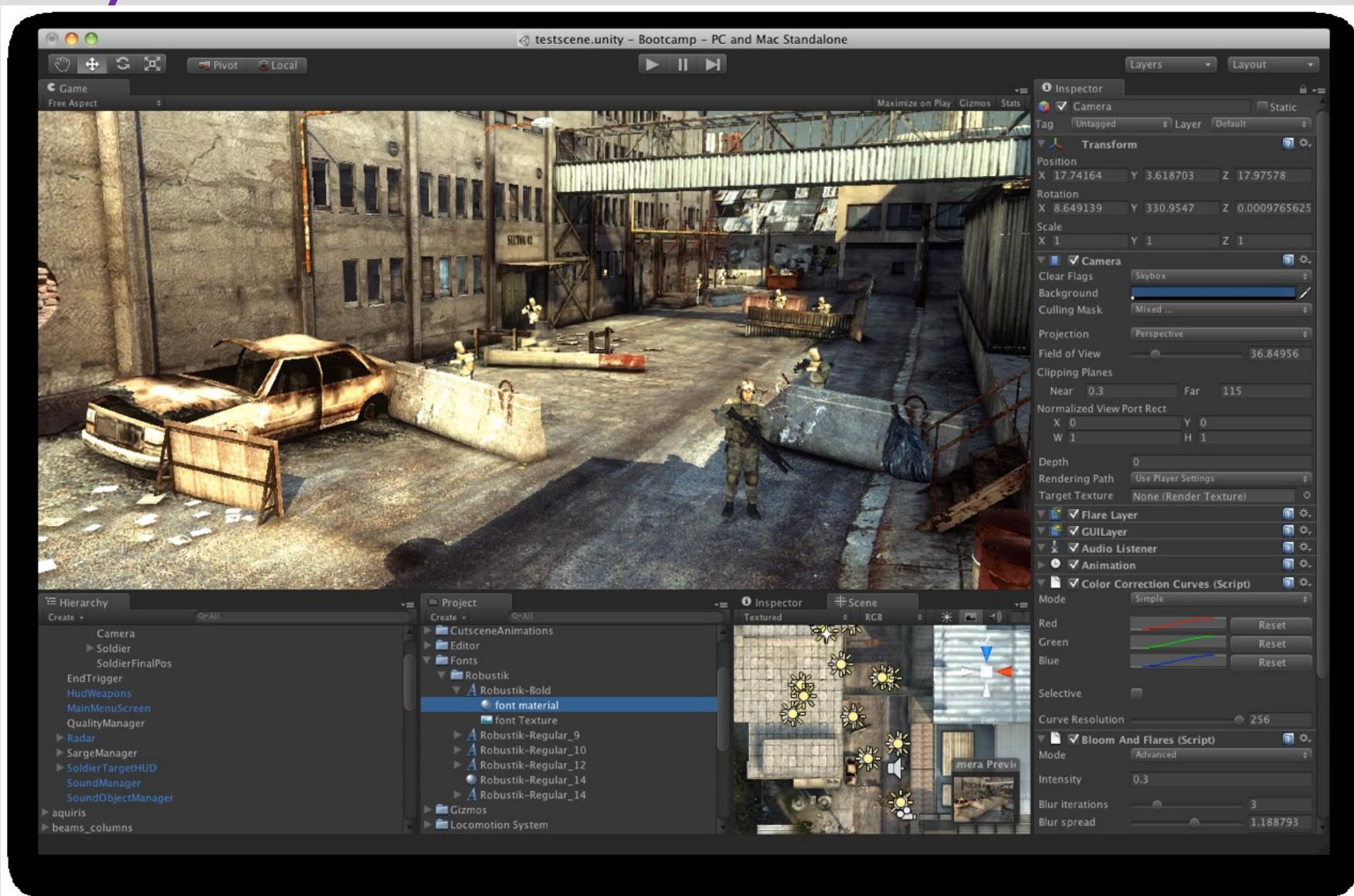
Lecturer: **Rachel McDonnell**
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Course www: <https://www.scss.tcd.ie/Rachel.McDonnell/>
Credits: Some notes taken from Prof. Jeff Chastine

Lab Today

- Online now
- Build a simple GLUT/OpenGL program and alter it
- Visual C++ project
 - Install GLUT library
- Play around with it to get an understanding of how OpenGL works
 - Add a new response key

Unity 3D



Unreal Engine 4



Why OpenGL?

- No ready-to-use tools
 - Graphics programming is hard
 - Much, much longer to create a game
 - 3D programming is very time consuming!
-
- Mastering OpenGL will lead you towards becoming a graphics programmer
 - You will have a deeper understanding of how game engines have been built

Essential checklist

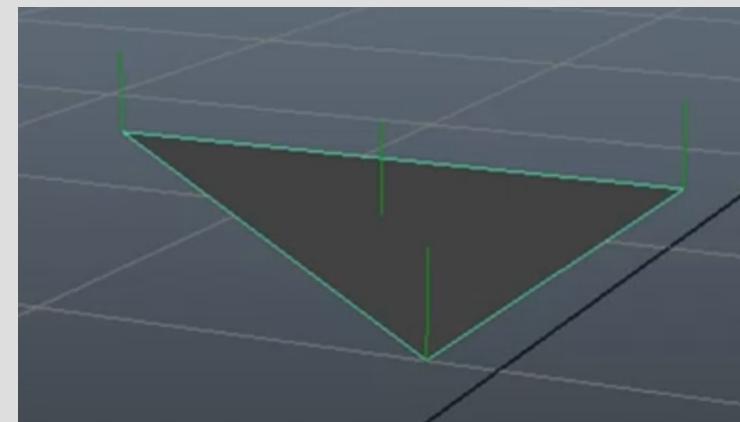
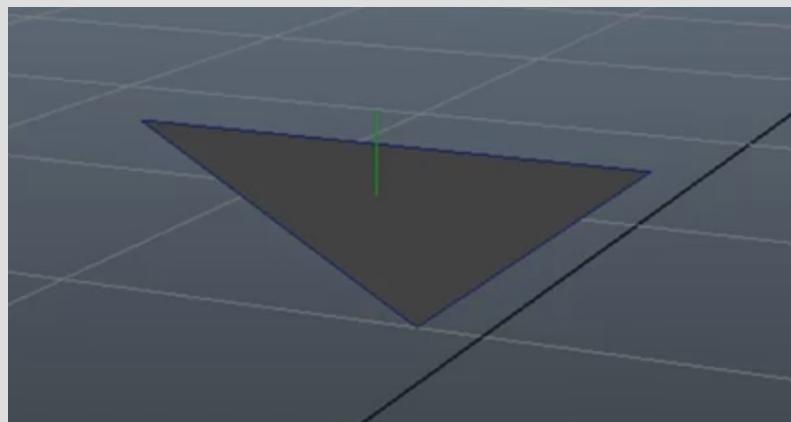
- ✓ always have a pencil and paper
- ✓ solve your problem before you start coding
- ✓ know how to compile and link against libraries
- ✓ know how to use memory, pointers, addresses
- ✓ understand the hardware pipeline
- ✓ make a 3d maths cheat sheet
- ✓ do debugging (visual and programmatic)
- ✓ print the Quick Reference Card for OpenGL
- ✓ start assignments ASAP

Overview

- OpenGL background
- OpenGL conventions,
- GLUT Event loop, callback registration
- OpenGL primitives, OpenGL objects
- Shaders
- Vertex Buffer Objects
- Books, resources, recommended reading

Quick Background

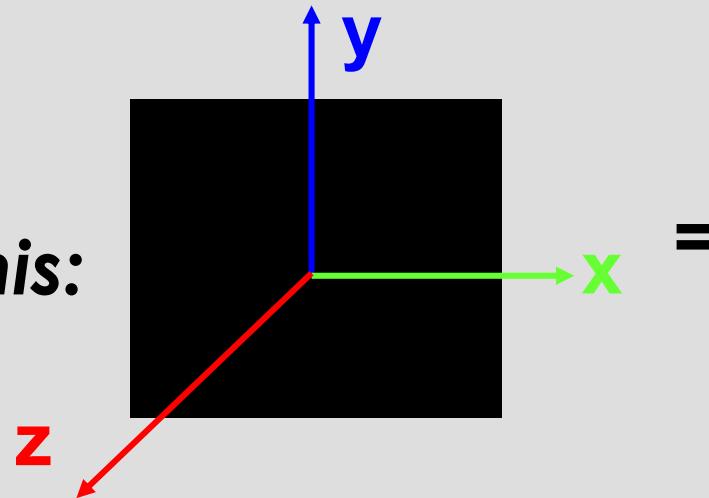
- A Vertex is a 3D point (x,y,z)
- A triangle
 - Is made from 3 vertices
 - Has a normal
 - Note: vertices can have normals too!



Sources of 3D data

Directly specify the Three-Dimensional data

Fine for this:



=

(-1, -1, -1)
(1, -1, -1)
(1, 1, -1)
(-1, 1, -1)
(-1, -1, 1)
(1, -1, 1)
(1, 1, 1)
(-1, 1, 1)

... But not for this!

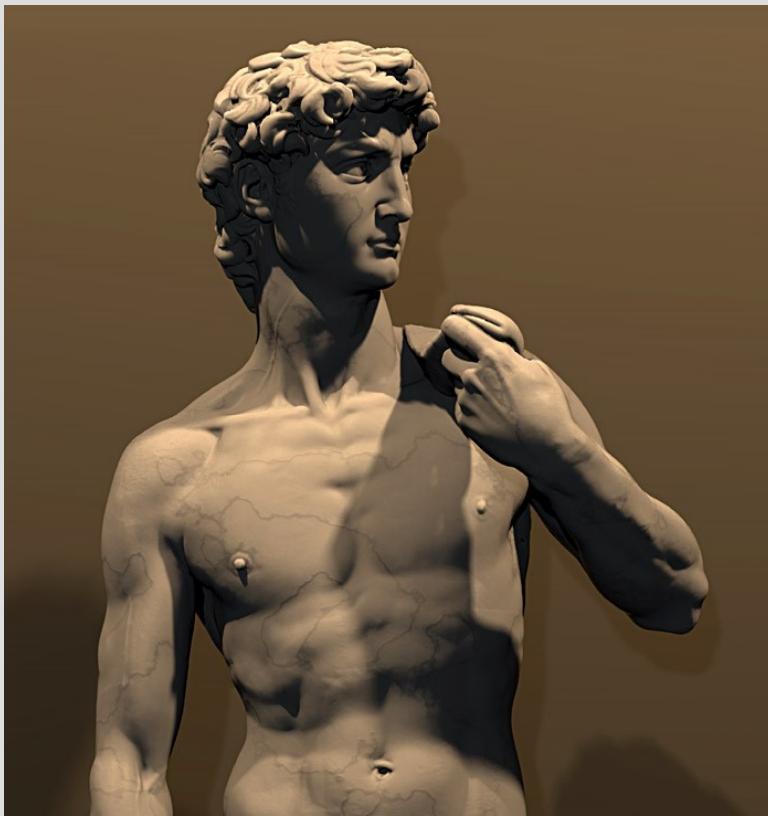


Modelling Program

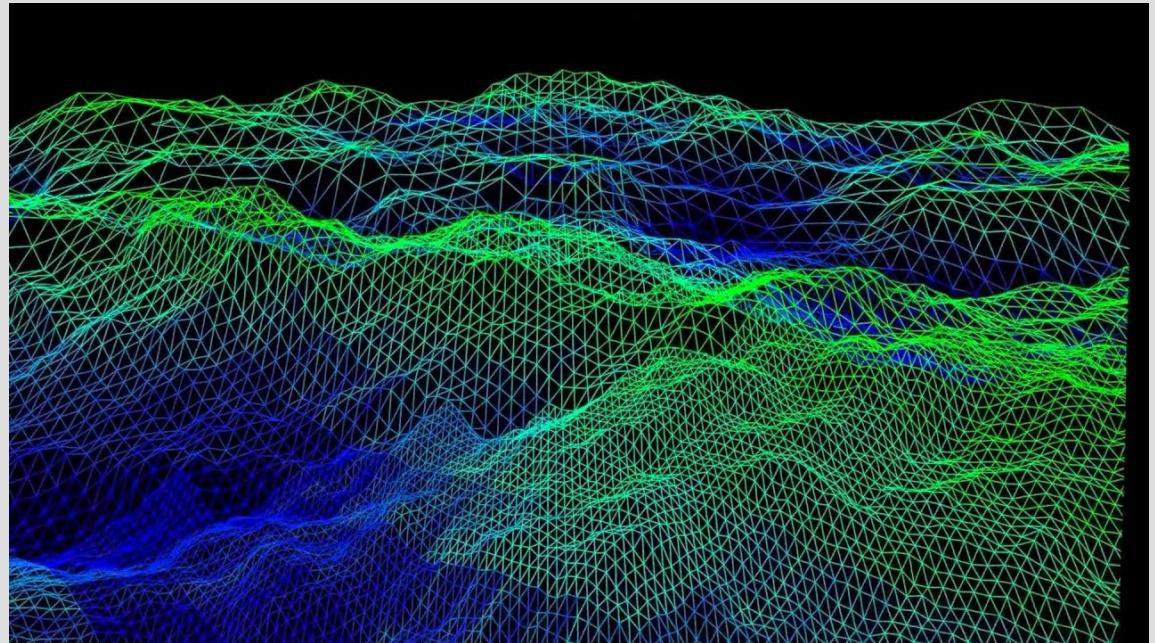
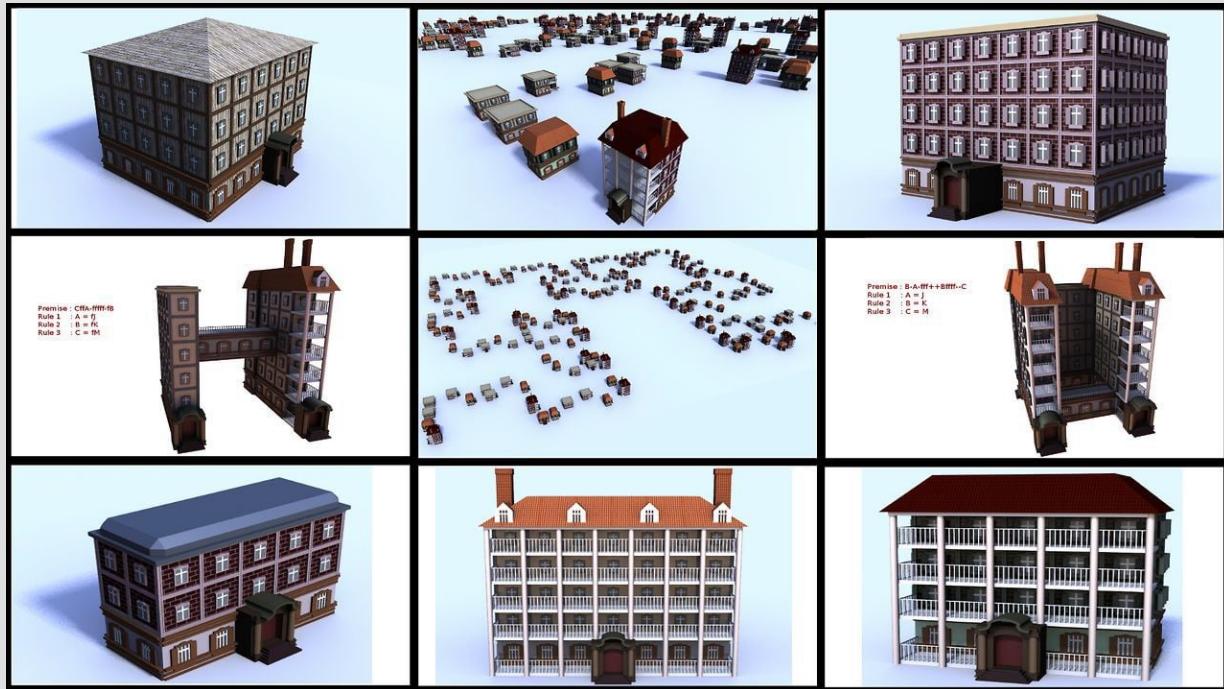
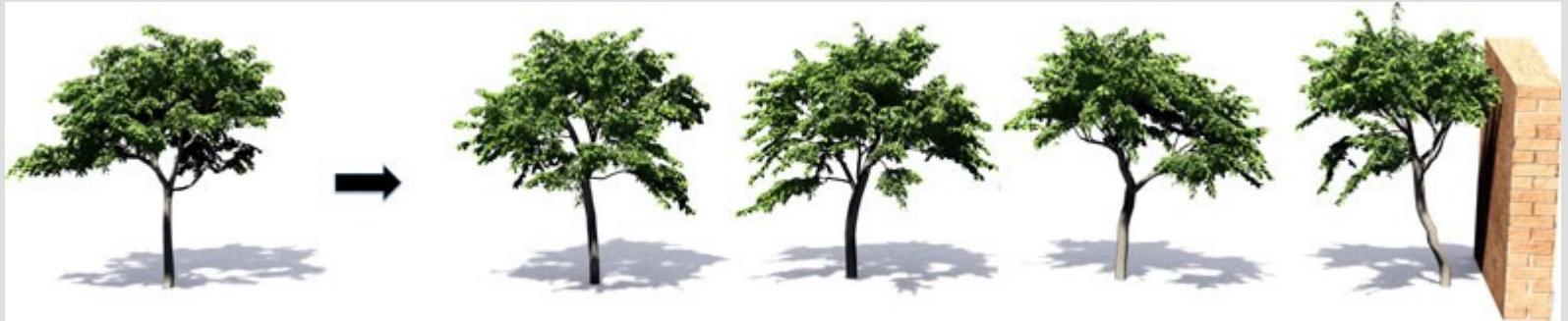
- 3ds Max, Maya, Softimage, Blender, Auto CAD etc.



Laser Scanning



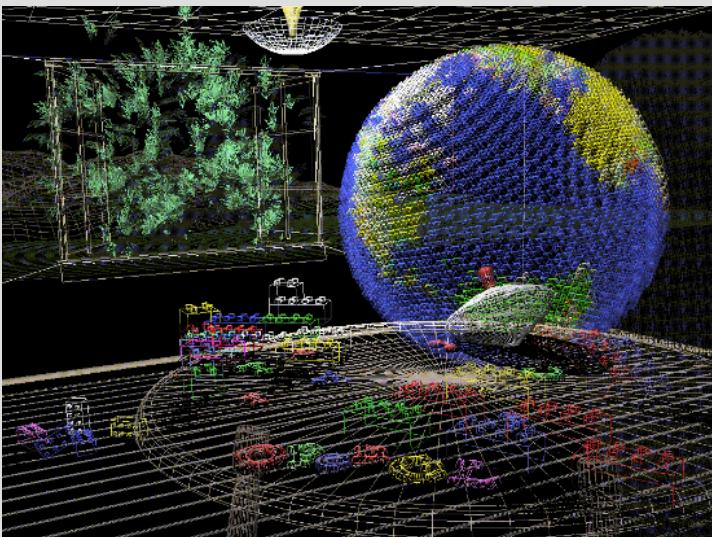
Procedural Models



Algorithmic rules to generate complex models

Rendering

- Rendering is the process by which a computer creates images from models. These *models*, or objects, are constructed from geometric primitives - points, lines, and polygons - that are specified by their vertices
- The final rendered image consists of pixels drawn on the screen



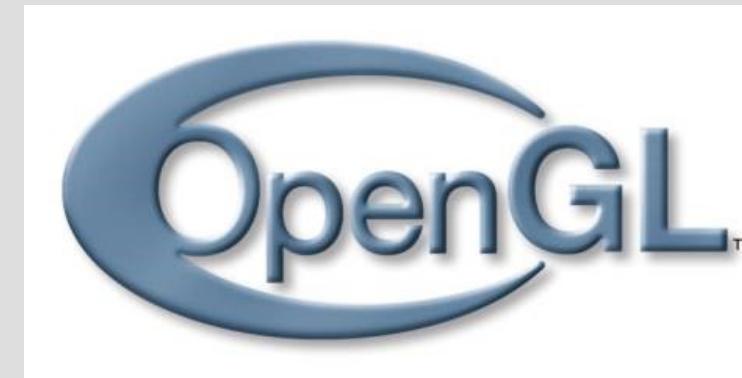
A Graphics System

- Input devices
- Central Processing Unit
- Graphics Processing Unit
- Memory
- Frame buffer
- Output devices



What is OpenGL?

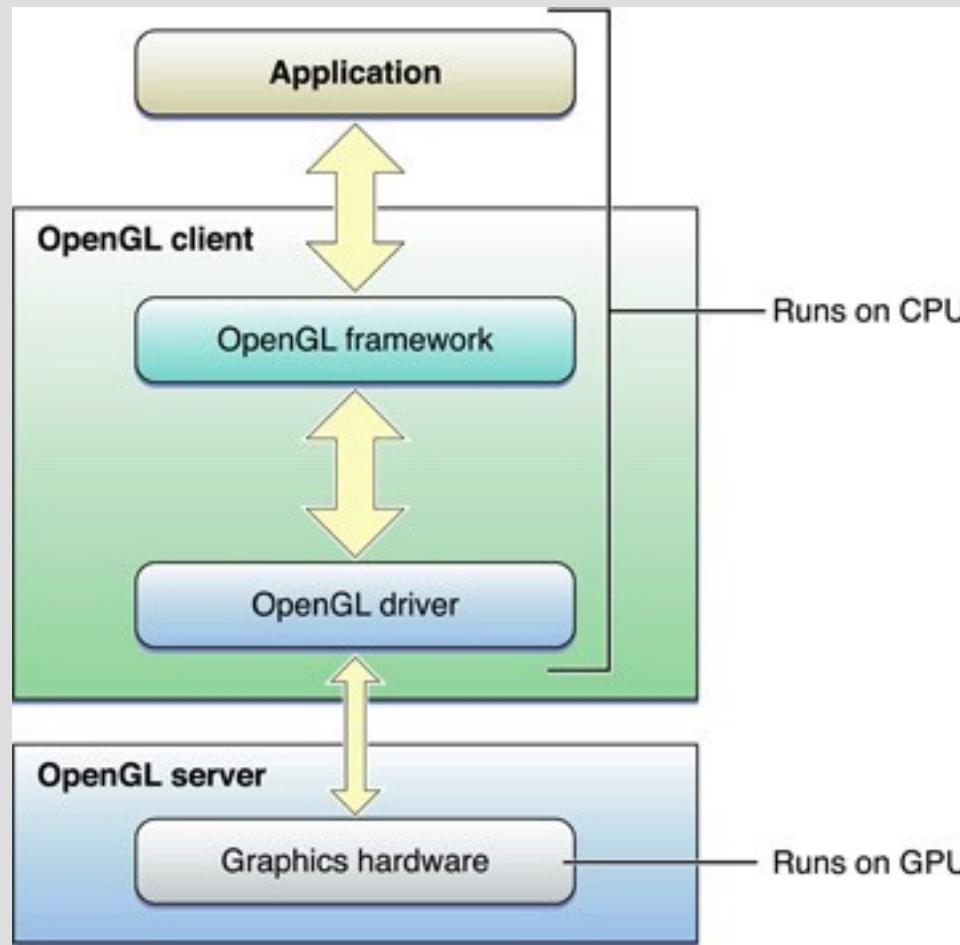
- OpenGL = Open Graphics Library
- Application you can use to access and control the graphics subsystem of the device upon which it runs
- Developed at Silicon Graphics (SGI)
- It is device *independent*
- Cross Platform
 - (Win32, Mac OS X, Unix, Linux)
- Only does 3D Graphics. No Platform Specifics
 - (Windowing, Fonts, Input, GUI)



OpenGL

- OpenGL is a **software library** for accessing features in graphics hardware.
- About 500 distinct commands.
 - Not a single function relating to window, screen management, keyboard input, mouse input
- OpenGL uses a **client-server** model
 - Client is your application, server is OpenGL implementation on your graphics card/network graphics card
- Default language is **C/C++**.
- To the programmer OpenGL behaves like a **state machine**.
- The actual drawing operations are performed by the underlying *accelerated graphics hardware* (e.g. Nvidia, ATI, SGI etc).

Graphics API Architecture



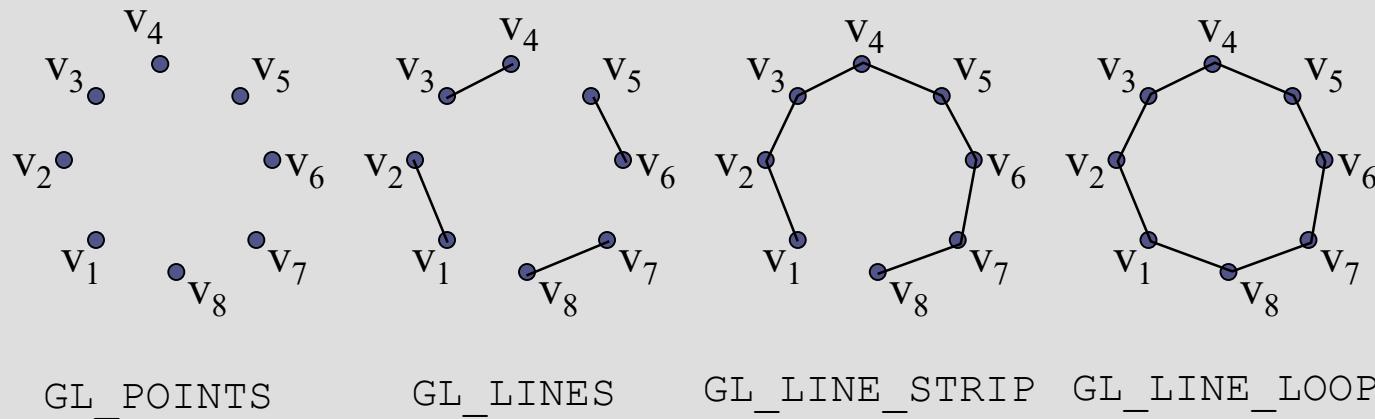
- Set-up & rendering loop run on CPU
- Copy mesh data to **buffers** in graphics hardware memory
- Write **shaders** to draw on the GPU
- CPU command queues drawing on GPU with *this* shader, and *that* mesh data
- CPU & GPU then run **asynchronously**

OpenGL Global State Machine

- Set various aspects of the state machine using the API
 - Colour, lighting, blending
- When rendering, everything drawn is affected by the current settings of the state machine
- Most **parameters are persistent**
 - Values remain unchanged until we explicitly change them through functions that alter the state
- Not uncommon to have **unexpected results** due to having one or more states set incorrectly

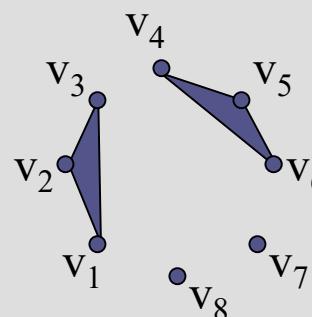
OpenGL Primitives

- All geometric objects in OpenGL are created from a set of basic *primitives*.
- Certain primitives are provided to allow optimisation of geometry for improved rendering speed.
- Line based primitives:

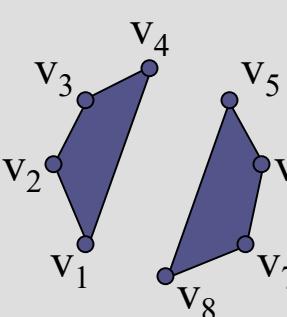


OpenGL® Primitives

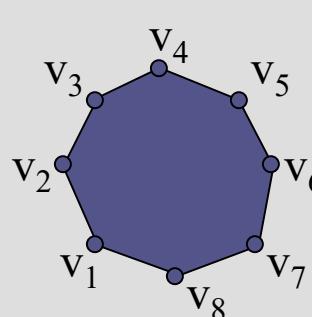
- Polygon primitives



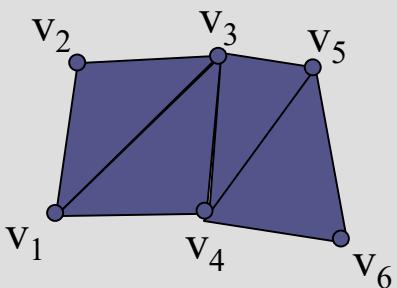
`GL_TRIANGLES`



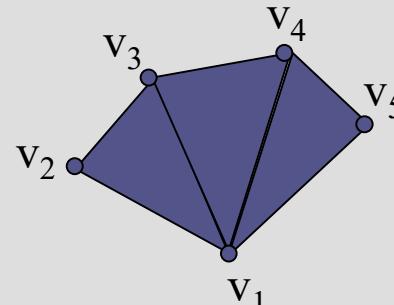
`GL_QUADS`



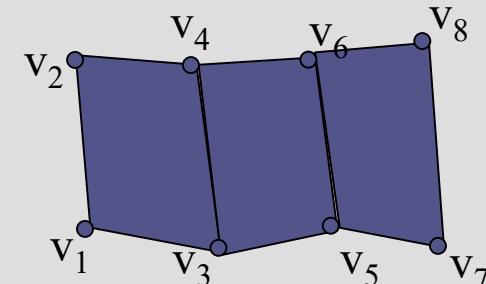
`GL_POLYGON`



`GL_TRIANGLE_STRIP`



`GL_TRIANGLE_FAN`



`GL_QUAD_STRIP`

OpenGL Conventions

- Conventions:
 - all function names begin with **gl**, or **glut**
 - **glBegin(...)**
 - **glutInitDisplayMode(...)**
 - constants begin with **GL_**, **GLU_**, or **GLUT_**
 - **GL_POLYGON**
 - Function names can encode parameter types, e.g. **glVertex***:
 - **glVertex2i(1, 3)**
 - **glVertex3f(1.0, 3.0, 2.5)**
 - **glVertex4fv(array_of_4_floats)**

<http://www.opengl.org/sdk/docs/man/>

The Drawing Process

- `ClearTheScreen () ;`
- `DrawTheScene () ;`
- `CompleteDrawing () ;`
- `SwapBuffers () ;`
- In animation there are usually **two buffers**. Drawing usually occurs on the background buffer.
- When it is complete, it is brought to the front (swapped). This gives a **smooth** animation without the viewer seeing the actual drawing taking place. Only the final image is viewed.
- The technique to swap the buffers will depend on which windowing library you are using with OpenGL.

Clearing the Window

- `glClearColor(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0);`
- `glClear(GL_COLOR_BUFFER_BIT);`
- Typically you will clear the color and depth buffers.
- `glClearColor(0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0);`
- `glClearDepth(0.0);`
- `glClear(GL_COLOR_BUFFER_BIT | GL_DEPTH_BUFFER_BIT);`
- You can also clear the accumulation and stencil buffers.
- `GL_ACCUM_BUFFER_BIT` and `GL_STENCIL_BUFFER_BIT`

Specifying a Colour

- It is possible to represent almost any colour by adding red, green and blue
- Colour is specified in (R,G,B,A) form [Red, Green, Blue, Alpha], with each value being in the range of 0.0 to 1.0.
 - 0.0 means “all the way off”
 - 1.0 means “all the way on”
- Examples:
 - `(red, green, blue, alpha);`
 - `(0.0, 0.0, 0.0); /* Black */`
 - `(1.0, 0.0, 0.0); /* Red */`
 - `(0.0, 1.0, 0.0); /* Green */`
 - `(1.0, 1.0, 0.0); /* Yellow */`
 - `(1.0, 0.0, 1.0); /* Magenta */`
 - `(1.0, 1.0, 1.0); /* White */`

Colours

- What colour does this represent in OpenGL?
 - $(0.0, 1.0, 0.0)$;

Complete Drawing the Scene

- Need to tell OpenGL you have finished drawing your scene.

- **glFinish();**

or

- **glFlush();**

- For more information see Chapter of the Red Book:

- <http://fly.srk.fer.hr/~unreal/theredbook/chapter02.html>

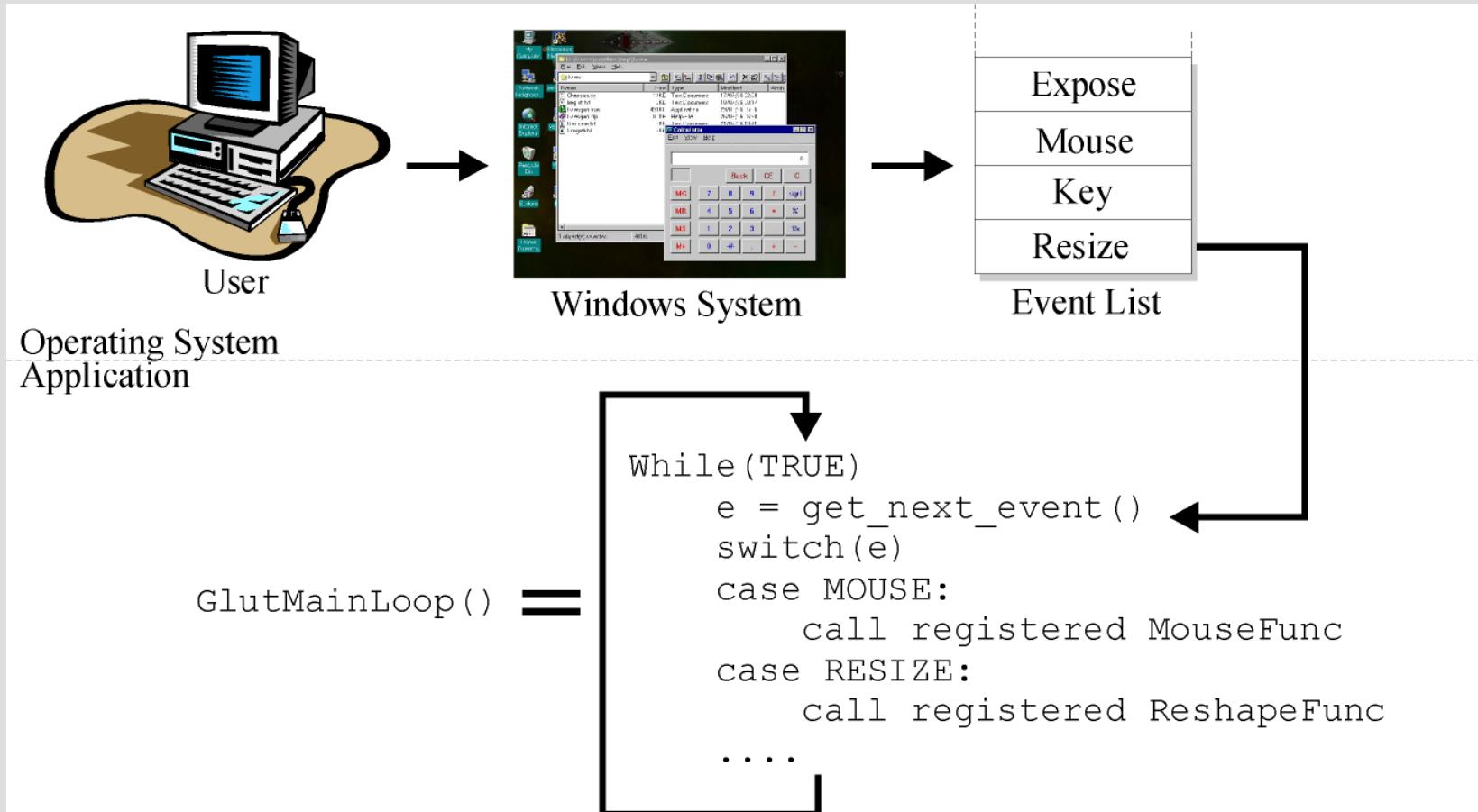
OpenGL GLUT Overview

- Initialise GLUT and create a window
- GLUT enters event processing loop and gains control of the application
- GLUT waits for an event to occur & then checks for a function to process it
- Tell GLUT which functions it must call for each event

OpenGL GLUT Event Loop

- Interaction with the user is handled through an *event loop*.
- Application registers *handlers* (or callbacks) to be associated with particular events:
 - mouse button, mouse motion, timer, resize, redraw
- GLUT provides a wrapper on the X-Windows or Win32 core event loop.
- X-Windows or Win32 manages event creation and passing, GLUT uses them to catch events and then invokes the appropriate callback.
- GLUT is more general than X or Win32 etc.
 - ⇒ more portable: user interface code need not be changed.
 - ⇒ less powerful: implements a common subset

OpenGL GLUT Event Loop



OpenGL GLUT Event Loop

- To add handlers for events we call a callback registering function, e.g:

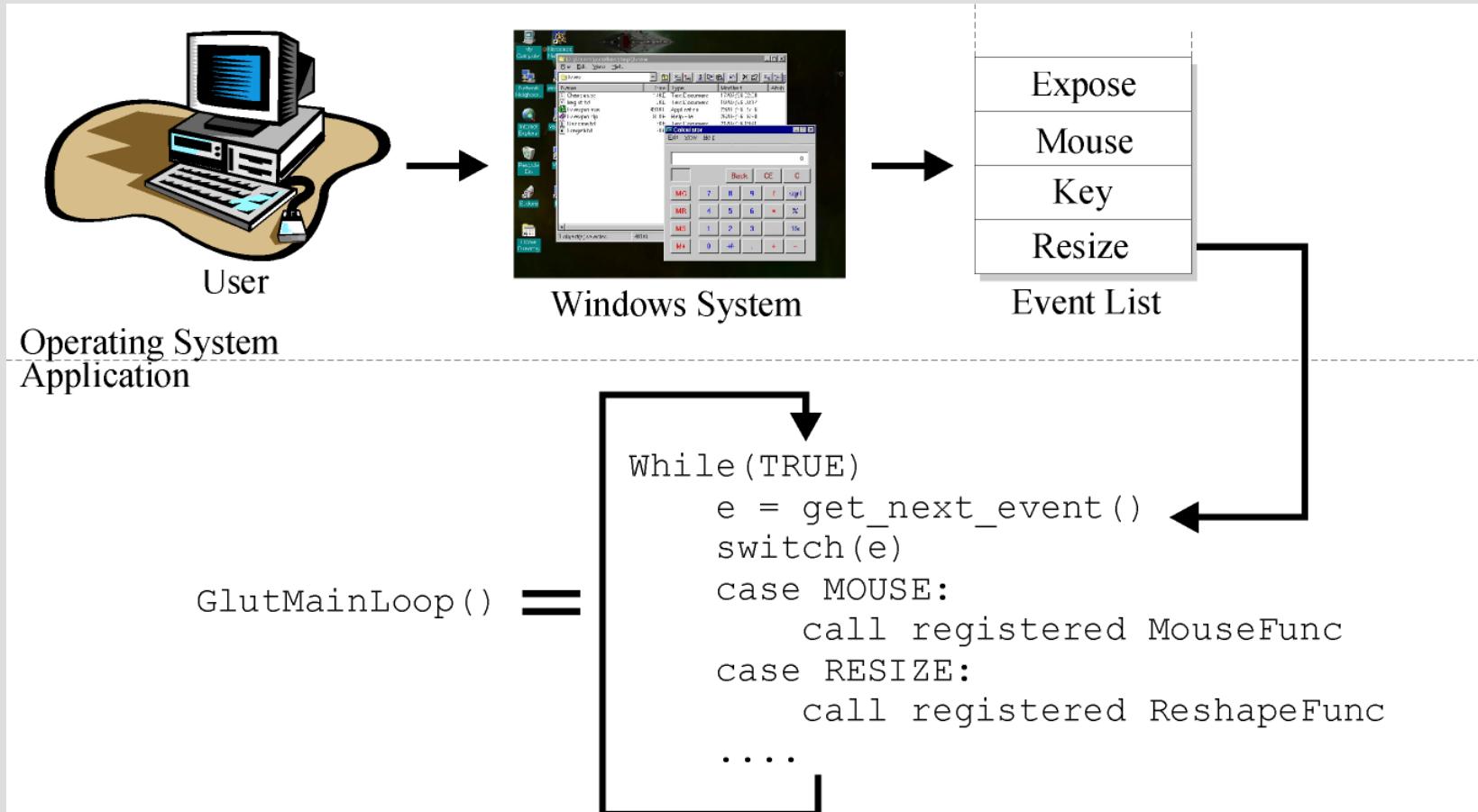
```
void glutKeyboardFunc(void (*func) (unsigned char key, int x, int y));
```

- Takes a function (the required callback) as a parameter.
- Handlers must conform to the specification defined.
- Example:

```
void key_handler(unsigned char key, int x, int y);  
glutKeyboardFunc(key_handler);
```

- In this case, **key** is the ascii code of the key hit and **(x,y)** is the mouse position within the window when the key was hit.
- The callback function is *automatically* called when a key is hit.

OpenGL GLUT Event Loop



OpenGL GLUT Event Loop

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- The callback function is *automatically* called when a key is hit.

```
//-----  
//  
// main  
//  
  
glutInit(&argc, argv);  
glutInitDisplayMode(GLUT_RGBA);  
glutInitWindowSize(512, 512);  
glutInitContextVersion(4, 3);  
glutInitContextProfile(GLUT_CORE_PROFILE);  
glutCreateWindow(argv[0]);  
  
if (glewInit()) {  
    cerr << "Unable to initialize GLEW ... exiting" << endl;  
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);  
}  
  
init(); ← Call init()  
glutDisplayFunc(display);  
  
glutMainLoop(); ← Event Loop  
}
```

**Creates a
Window using
GLUT**

```
-----  
//  
// init  
//  
  
    glGenVertexArrays(NumVAOs, VAOs);  
    glBindVertexArray(VAOs[Triangles]);  
  
    GLfloat vertices[NumVertices][2] = {  
        { -0.90, -0.90 }, // Triangle 1  
        { 0.85, -0.90 },  
        { -0.90, 0.85 },  
        { 0.90, -0.85 }, // Triangle 2  
        { 0.90, 0.90 },  
        { -0.85, 0.90 }  
    };  
  
    glGenBuffers(NumBuffers, Buffers);  
    glBindBuffer(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER, Buffers[ArrayBuffer]);  
    glBufferData(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER, sizeof(vertices),  
                 vertices, GL_STATIC_DRAW);  
  
    ShaderInfo shaders[] = {  
        { GL_VERTEX_SHADER, "triangles.vert" },  
        { GL_FRAGMENT_SHADER, "triangles.frag" },  
        { GL_NONE, NULL }  
    };  
  
    GLuint program = LoadShaders(shaders);  
    glUseProgram(program);  
  
    glVertexAttribPointer(vPosition, 2, GL_FLOAT,  
                          GL_FALSE, 0, BUFFER_OFFSET(0));  
    glEnableVertexAttribArray(vPosition);  
}
```

Set up your object's initial position

Specify Shaders

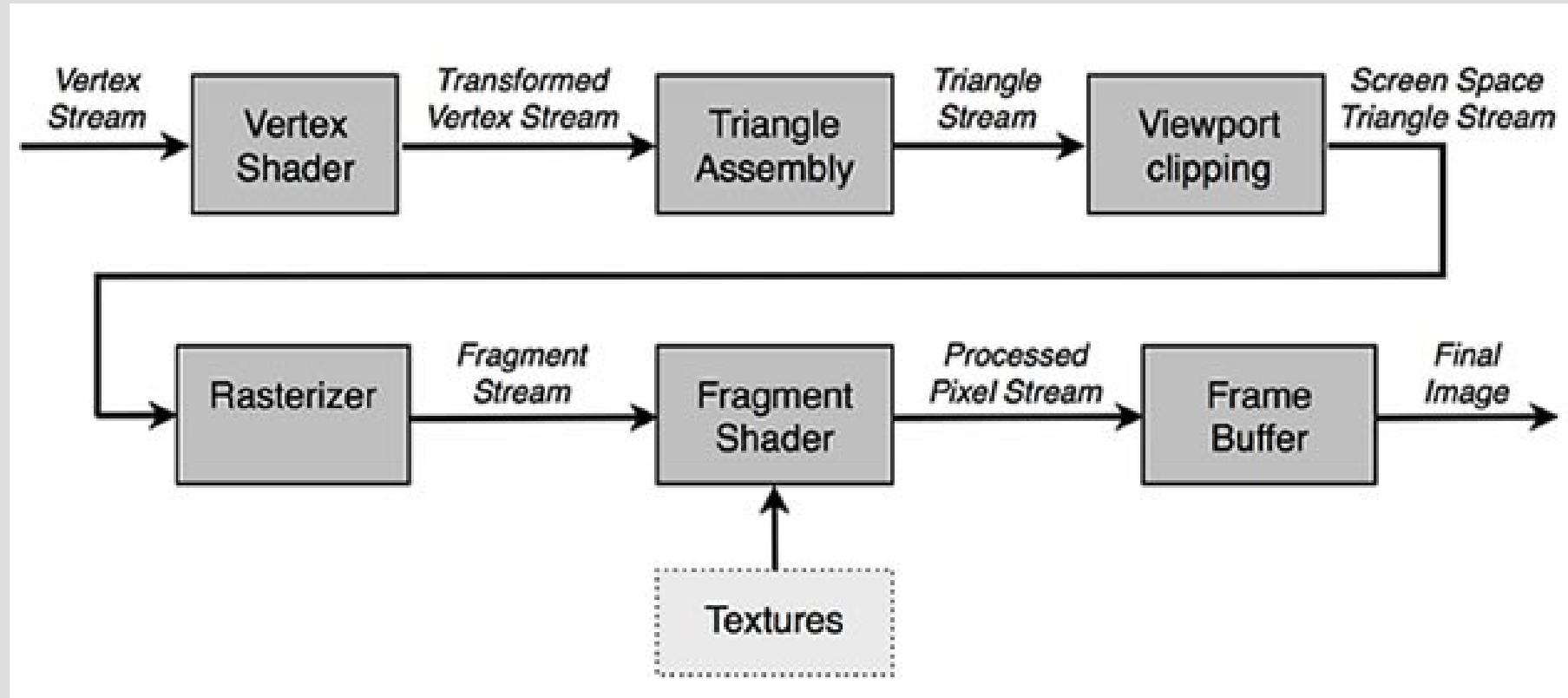
```
//-----  
//  
// display  
  
//  
  
    glClear(GL_COLOR_BUFFER_BIT);  
  
    glBindVertexArray(VAOs[Triangles]);  
    glDrawArrays(GL_TRIANGLES, 0, NumVertices);  
  
    glFlush();  
}
```

**Request that
image is
presented on
screen**

Pick current
vertex array

**Does the actual
Drawing on the
Screen**

Programmable Pipeline



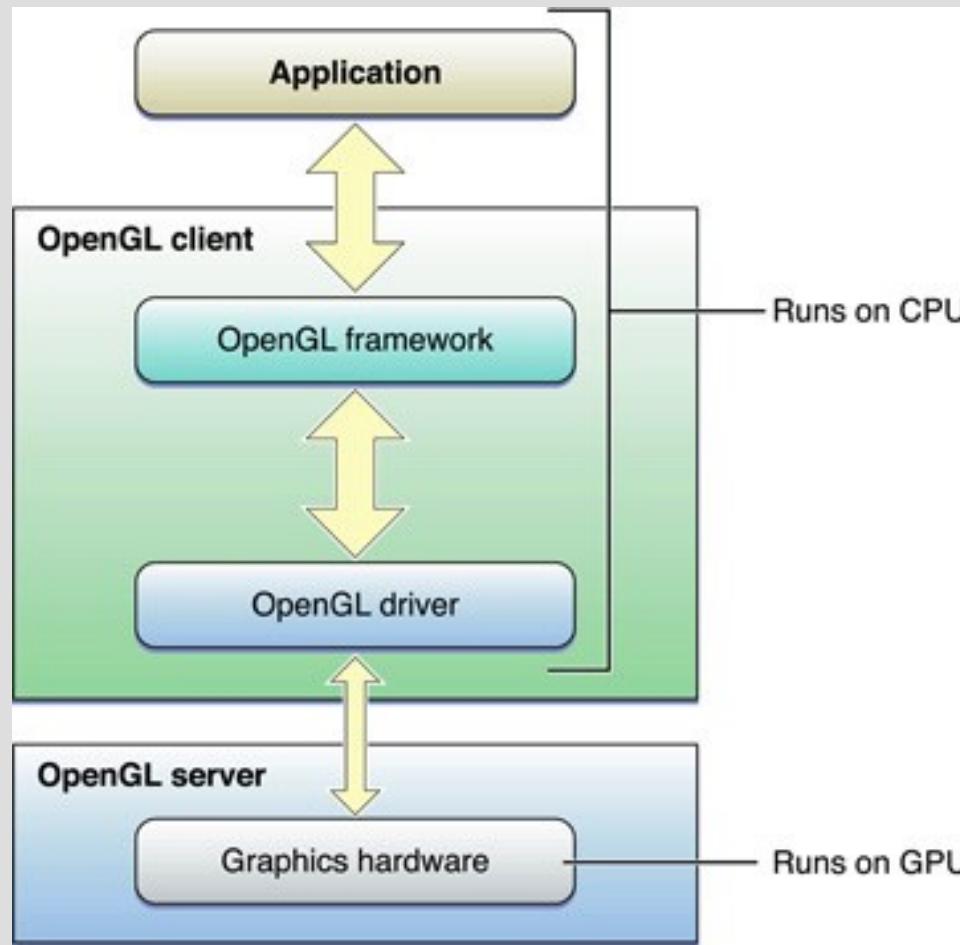
Quick Background

- Hardware has changed!
 - Was “fixed”
 - More of the graphics pipeline is programmable
- OpenGL has changed!
 - Was “fixed”
 - Now shader-based

Overview

- Shaders
- Vertex Buffer Objects

Graphics API Architecture



- Set-up & rendering loop run on CPU
- Copy mesh data to **buffers** in graphics hardware memory
- Write **shaders** to draw on the GPU
- CPU command queues drawing on GPU with *this* shader, and *that* mesh data
- CPU & GPU then run **asynchronously**

Shadertoy

- WebGL tool to experiment with shaders on-the-fly
- implemented entirely in a fragment shader

<https://www.shadertoy.com/>

Shaders

- A shader is a program with *main* as its entry point
 - Has source code (text file)
 - Cg, HLSL and **GLSL**
 - GLSL is a C-like language
 - Is compiled into a program
 - We get back IDs, which are just ints!

GLSL Data Types

- Scalar types: float, int, bool
- Vector types: vec2, vec3, vec4
- Matrix types: mat2, mat3, mat4
- Texture sampling; sampler1D, sampler2D, sampler3D, sampleCube
- C++ Style Constructors
 - `vec3 a = vec3(1.0, 2.0, 3.0);`

Operators

- Standard C/C++ arithmetic and logic operators
- Overloaded operators for matrix and vector operations

```
mat4 m;  
vec4 a, b, c;
```

```
b = a*m;  
c = m*a;
```

Components

- Access vector components using either:
 - [] (c-style array indexing)
 - xyzw, rgba, or stpq (named components)
- For example:
 - `vec3 v;`
 - `v[1], v.y, v.g, v.t` – all refer to the same elements

Qualifiers

- `in`, `out`
 - Copy vertex attributes and other variable info into and out of shaders

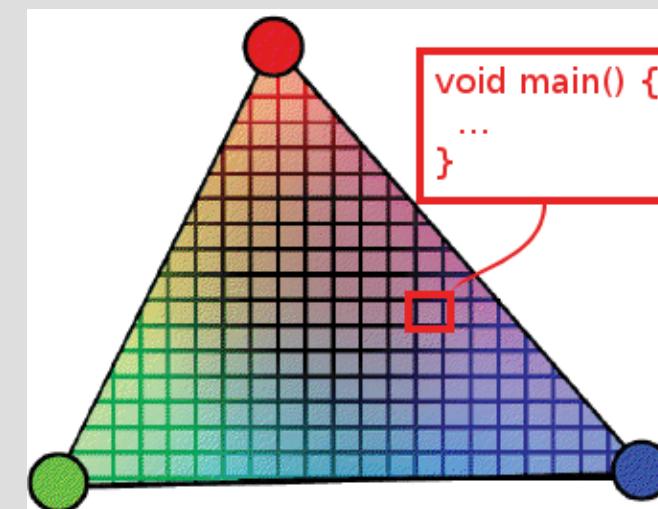
```
in vec2 texCoord;  
out vec4 color;
```

- `uniform`
 - Shader-constant variable from application

```
uniform float time;  
uniform vec4 rotation;
```

Shaders

- Two primary types of shaders:
 - **Vertex shader**
 - Changes the position of a vertex (trans/rot/skew)
 - May determine colour of the vertex
 - **Fragment shader**
 - Determines the colour of a pixel
 - Uses lighting, materials, normals, etc...



Vertex Shader

- Processes vertices
- Data describing what triangles are formed is unavailable to the vertex shader
- At a minimum, a vertex shader must always output vertex location
- Usually transforms vertices into homogeneous clip space

Fragment/Pixel Shader

- Vertex shader outputs become pixel shaders inputs
- A total of 16 vectors can be passed from the vertex to fragment shader
 - E.g., flag to determine which side of a triangle is visible
- Limitation: can only influence the fragment handed it
 - It cannot send its results directly to neighbouring pixels
 - It uses the data interpolated from the vertices along with stored constants and texture data
- Not severe limitation
 - Other ways to affect neighbouring pixels

Making a shader program

- Compile a vertex shader (get an ID)
- Compile a fragment shader (get an ID)
- Check for compilation errors
- Link those two shaders together (get an ID)
 - Keep that ID!
 - Use that ID before you render triangles
 - Can have separate shaders for each model

Examples

```
#version 430
in vec4 vPosition;

void main () {
    // The value of vPosition should be between -1.0 and +1.0
    gl_Position = vPosition;
}

-----
out vec4 fColor ;

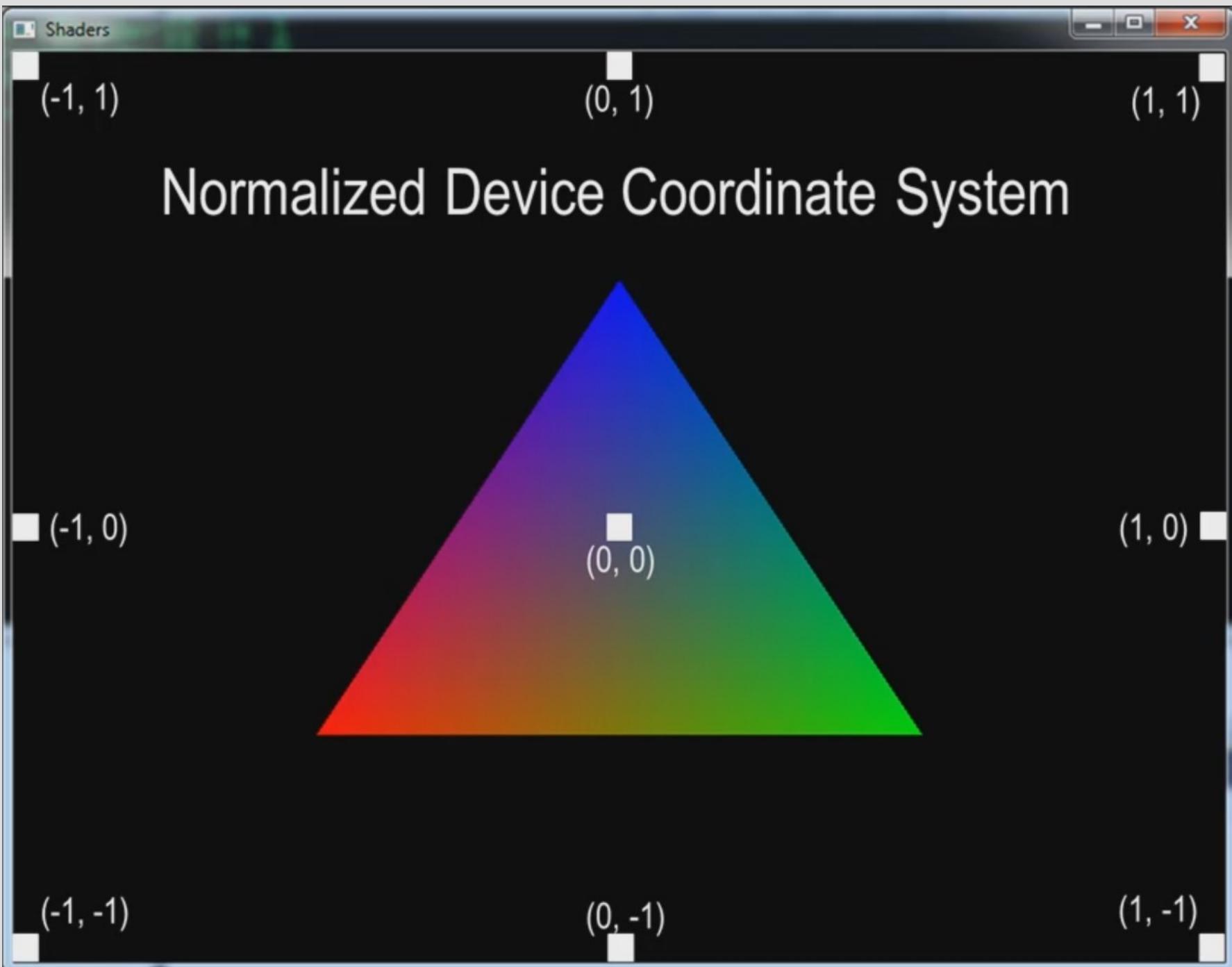
void main () {
    // No matter what, color the pixel red!
    fColor = vec4 (1.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0);
}
```

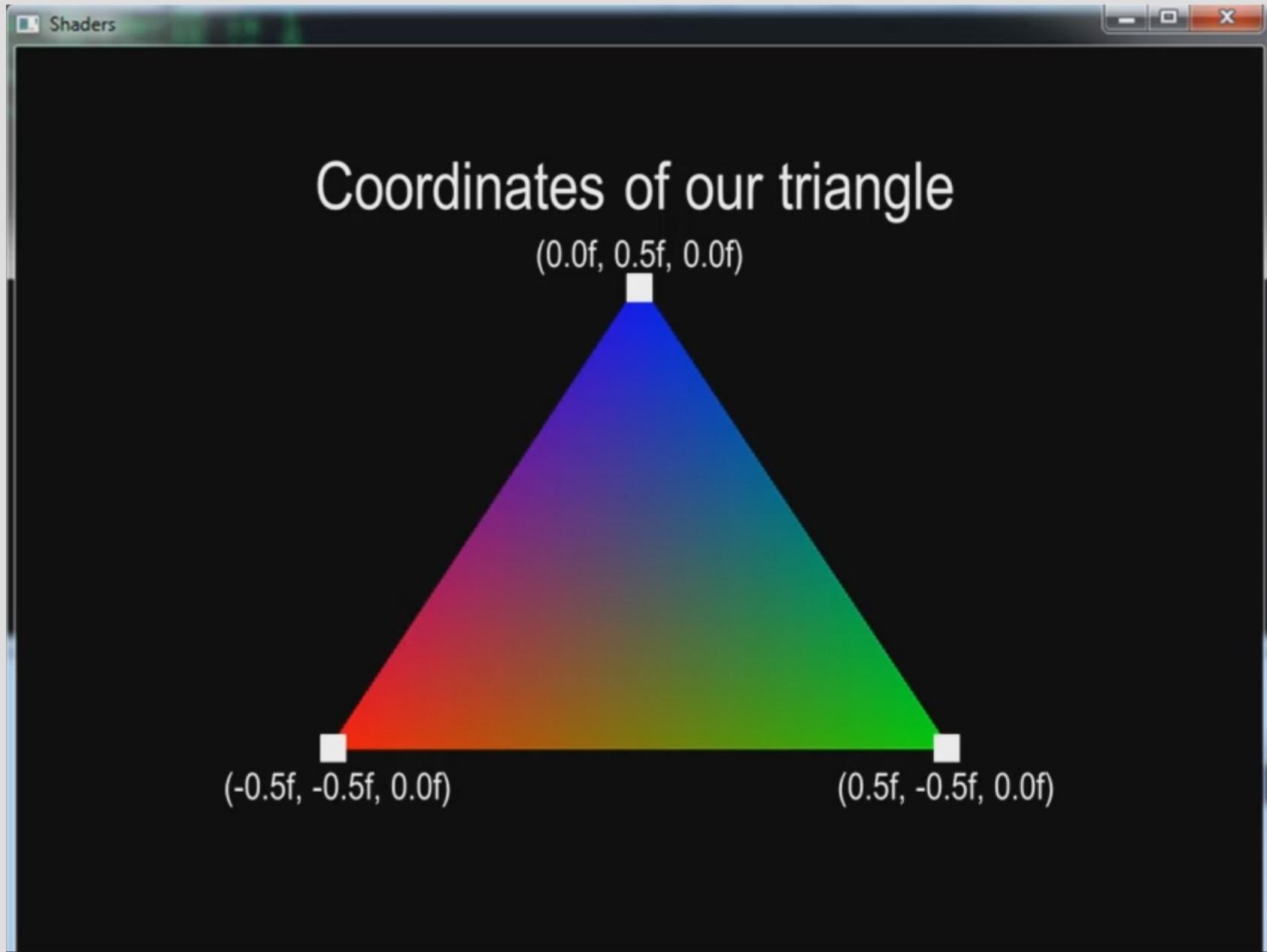
Compiling Shaders

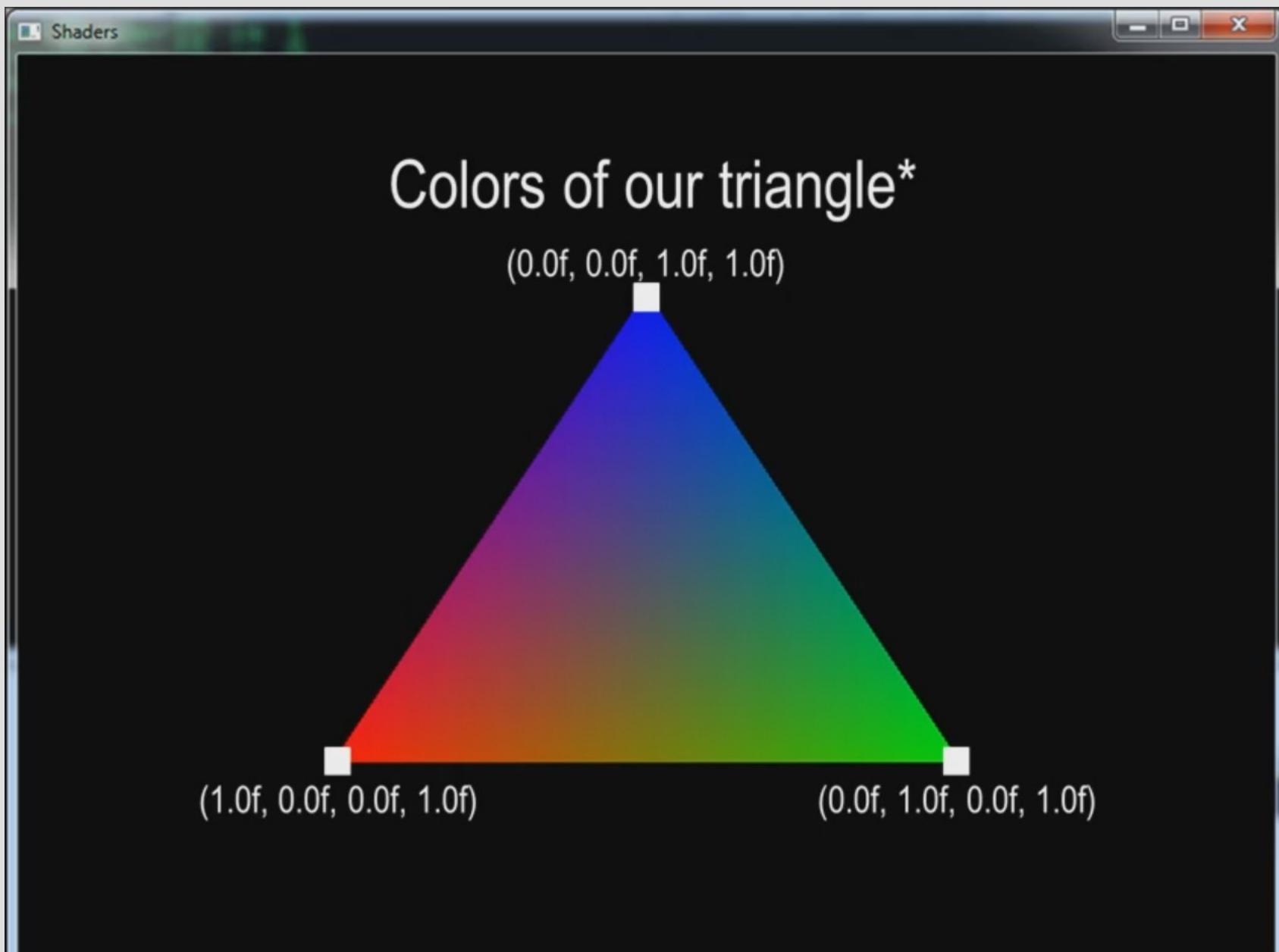
- <GLuint> `glCreateShader` (<type>)
 - Creates an ID (a GLuint) of a shader
 - Example: GLuint ID = glCreateShader(GL_VERTEX_SHADER);
- `glShaderSource` (<id>, <count>, <src code>, <lengths>)
 - Binds the source code to the shader
 - Happens before compilation
- `glCompileShader` (<id>)
 - Used to make the shader program

Creating/Linking/Using Shaders

- `<GLuint> glCreateProgram()`
 - Returns an ID – keep this for the life of the program
- `glAttachShader (<prog ID>, <shader ID>)`
 - Do this for both the vertex and fragment shaders
- `glLinkProgram (<prog ID>)`
 - Actually makes the shader program
- `glUseProgram (<prog ID>)`
 - Use this shader when you're about to draw triangles







VERTEX BUFFER OBJECTS

- How do we get the geometry and colour onto the GPU?
- Typically also need a *normal* and *texture coordinate* for each vertex!
- Ask the OpenGL driver to create a buffer object
 - This is just a chunk of memory (e.g. array)
 - Nothing to be afraid of!
 - Located on the GPU (probably)

Working with Buffers

- To create a buffer ID:

```
// This will be the ID of the buffer  
GLuint buffer;  
  
// Ask OpenGL to generate exactly 1 unique ID  
glGenBuffers(1, &buffer);
```

- To set this buffer as the active one and specify which buffer we're referring to:

```
glBindBuffer(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER, buffer);
```

- Notes:

- That buffer is now bound and active!
- Any “drawing” will come from that buffer
- Any “loading” goes into that buffer

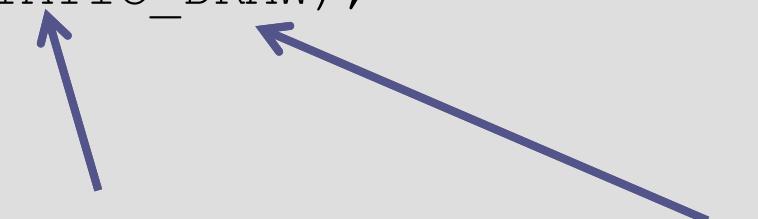
Loading the Buffer with Data

- Got some data in an array called “data” and want it to be in the GPU
- `glBufferData(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER, sizeof(data), data,
GL_STATIC_DRAW);`

**STREAM
STATIC
DYNAMIC**

**(how
frequently
data will
change)**

**DRAW
READ
COPY**



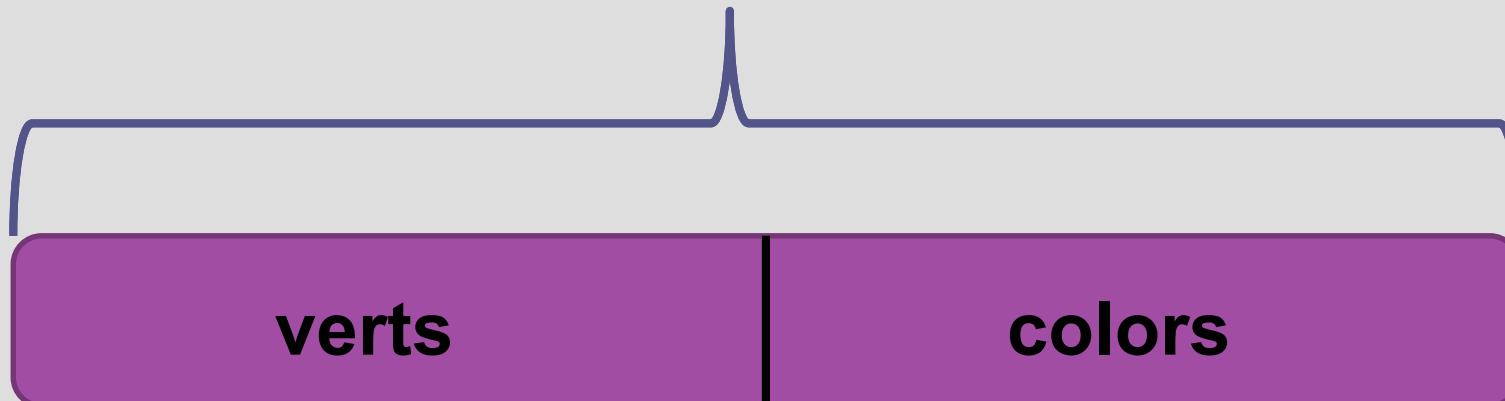
Loading the Buffer with Data

- Process:
 - Create the buffer and pass no data
 - Load the geometry
 - Load the colors
 - Load the normals, texture coordinates...
- Can organise buffer however you like

- **generateObjectBuffer** (GLfloat vertices[], GLfloat colors[]) {
 GLuint VBO;
 glGenBuffers(1, &VBO);
 glBindBuffer(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER, VBO);
 glBufferData(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER,
 numVertices*7*sizeof(GLfloat),
 NULL, GL_STATIC_DRAW);
 glBufferSubData(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER, 0,
 numVertices*3*sizeof(GLfloat),
 vertices);
 glBufferSubData(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER,
 numVertices*3*sizeof(GLfloat),
 numVertices*4*sizeof(GLfloat), colors);

x,y,z + r,g,b,a

Buffer→



What we have so far..

- We have a buffer with an ID
- That buffer lives on the graphics card
- That buffer is full of vertex position/colour data
- How do we get that info to our shader?

Link to the Shader

- Query the shader program for its variables
- The code below goes into the shader program and gets the “vPosition” ID

```
GLuint vpos;  
vpos = glGetUniformLocation (programID, "vPosition");
```

- In OpenGL, we have to enable things (attributes, in this case):
 `glEnableVertexAttribArray(vpos); // turn on vPosition`
- Finally, Tell those variables where to find their info in the currently bound buffer:

```
glVertexAttribPointer(vpos, 3, GL_FLOAT, GL_FALSE, 0, 0);
```

```
void glVertexAttribPointer(GLuint index, GLint size,  
GLenum type, GLboolean normalized, GLsizei stride,  
const GLvoid* offset);
```

Buffer→

verts

colors

```
vpos = glGetUniformLocation (programID, "vPosition");  
 glEnableVertexAttribArray(vpos);  
 glVertexAttribPointer(vpos, 3, GL_FLOAT, GL_FALSE, 0, 0);
```

```
in vec4 vPosition;
```

```
in vec4 vColor;
```

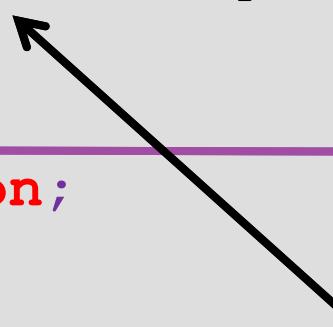
```
out vec4 color;
```

```
void main () {
```

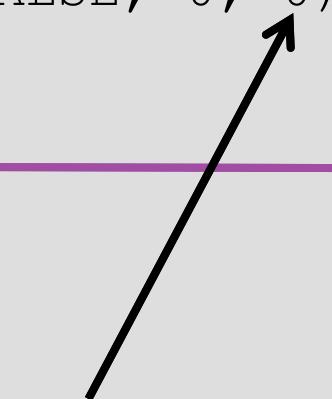
```
    gl_Position = s_vPosition;
```

```
    Color = vColor;
```

```
}
```



Bind that
variable to a
spot in the
buffer



Where to
find it in
the buffer

Buffer→

verts

colors

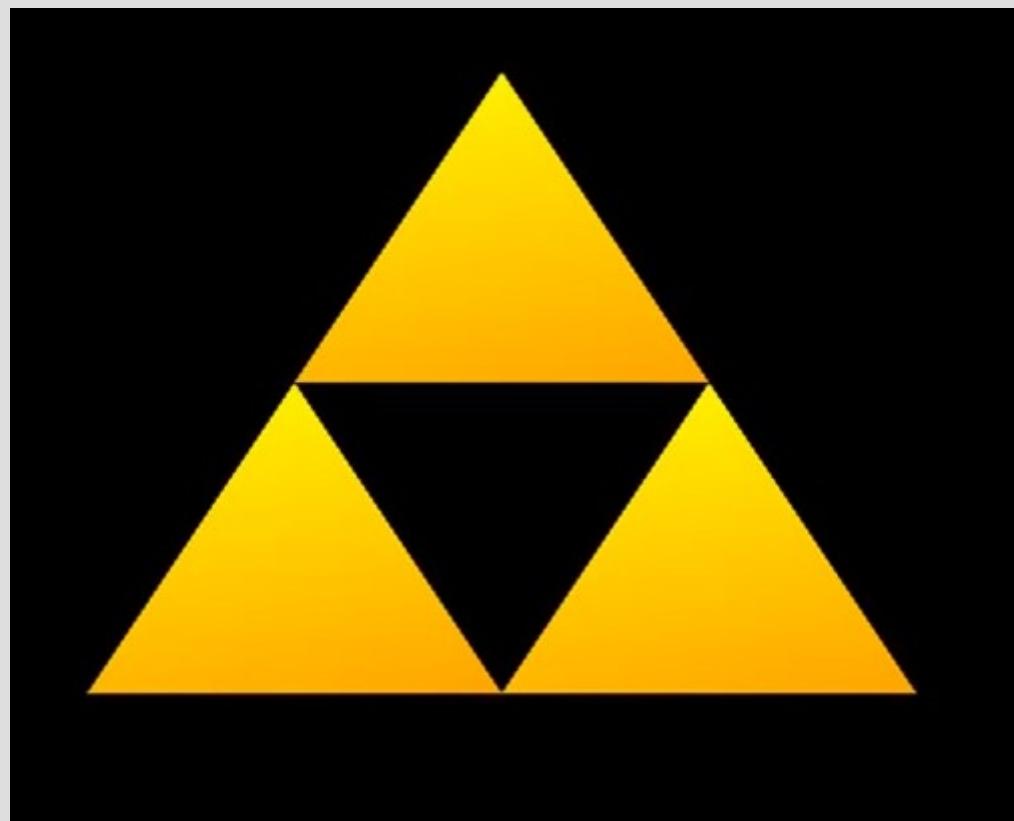
```
cpos = glGetUniformLocation (programID, "vColor");  
 glEnableVertexAttribArray(cpos);  
 glVertexAttribPointer(cpos, 4, GL_FLOAT, GL_FALSE, 0,  
 (BUFFER_OFFSET(numVertices * 3 * sizeof(Glfloat))));
```

```
in vec4 vPosition;  
in vec4 vColor;  
out vec4 color;  
  
void main () {  
    gl_Position = s_vPosition;  
    Color = vColor;  
}
```

Bind that
variable to a
spot in the
buffer

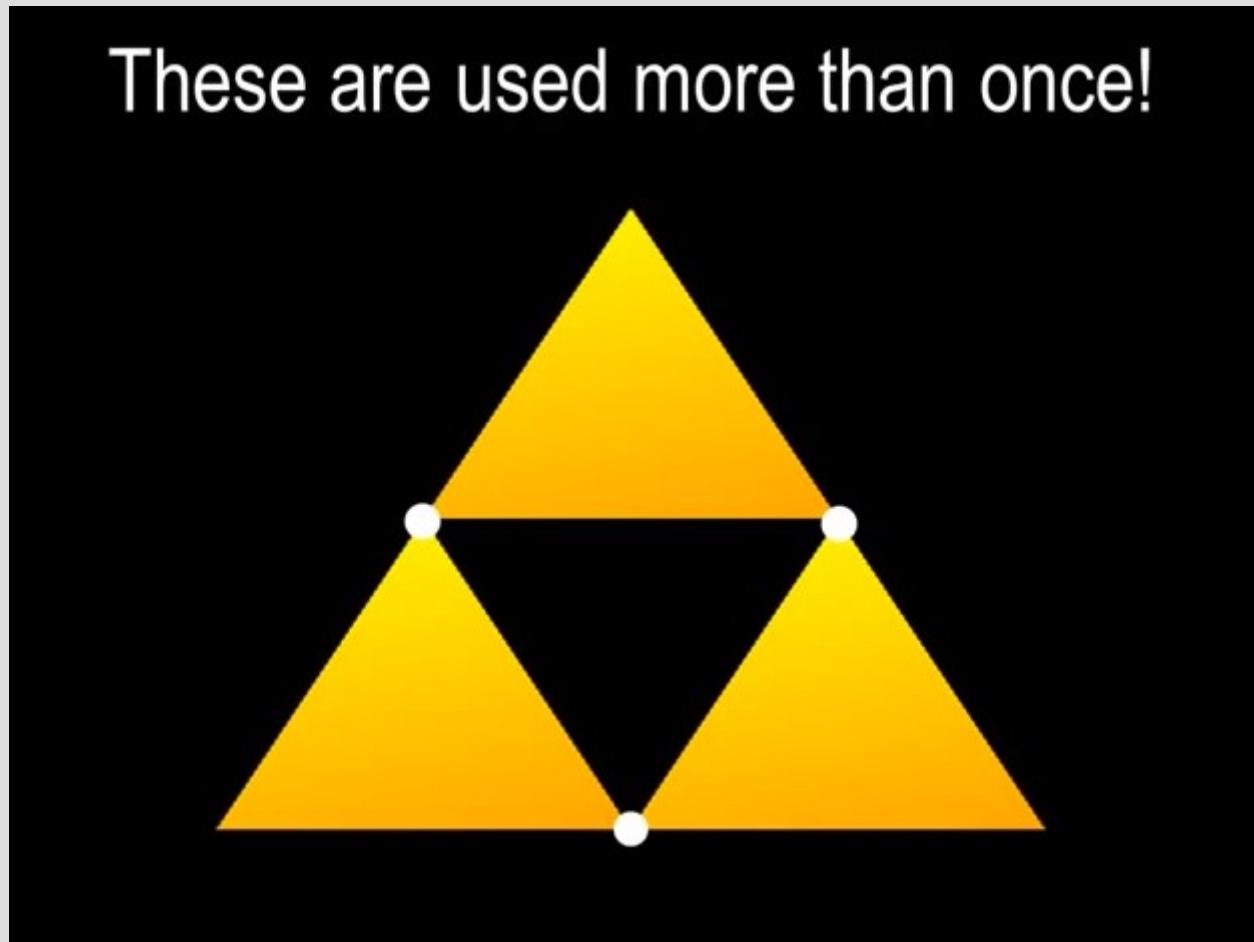
Where to
find it in
the buffer

Index Buffers



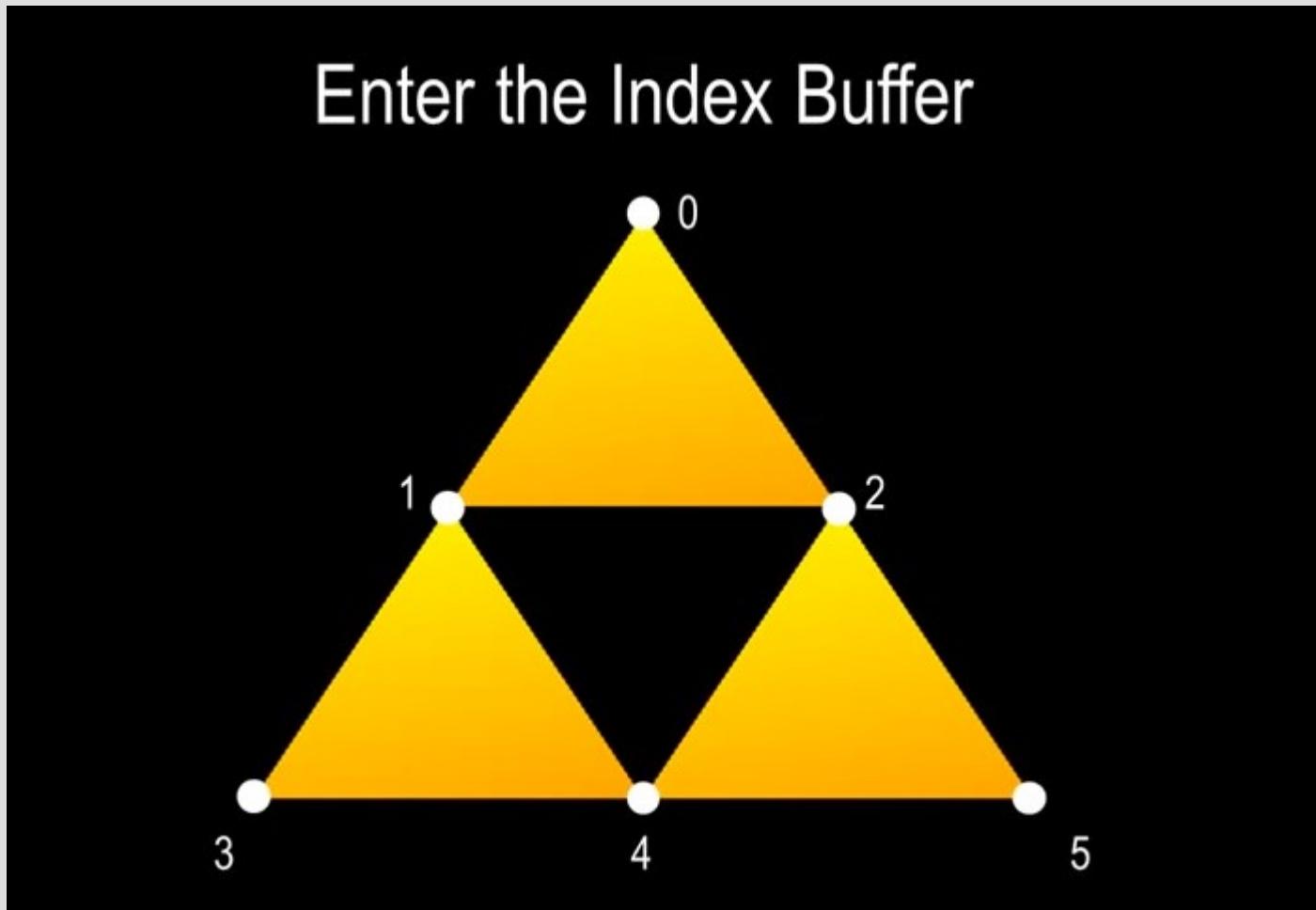
Index Buffers

- Storing 9 verts – not efficient



Index Buffers

- Index buffer - {0, 1, 2, 1, 3, 4, 2, 4, 5}



Code

```
GLuint EBO;  
glGenBuffers(1, &EBO);  
glBindBuffer(GL_ELEMENT_ARRAY_BUFFER, EBO);  
glBufferData(GL_ELEMENT_ARRAY_BUFFER, size, indices, GL_STATIC_DRAW);
```

- To render the triangles:

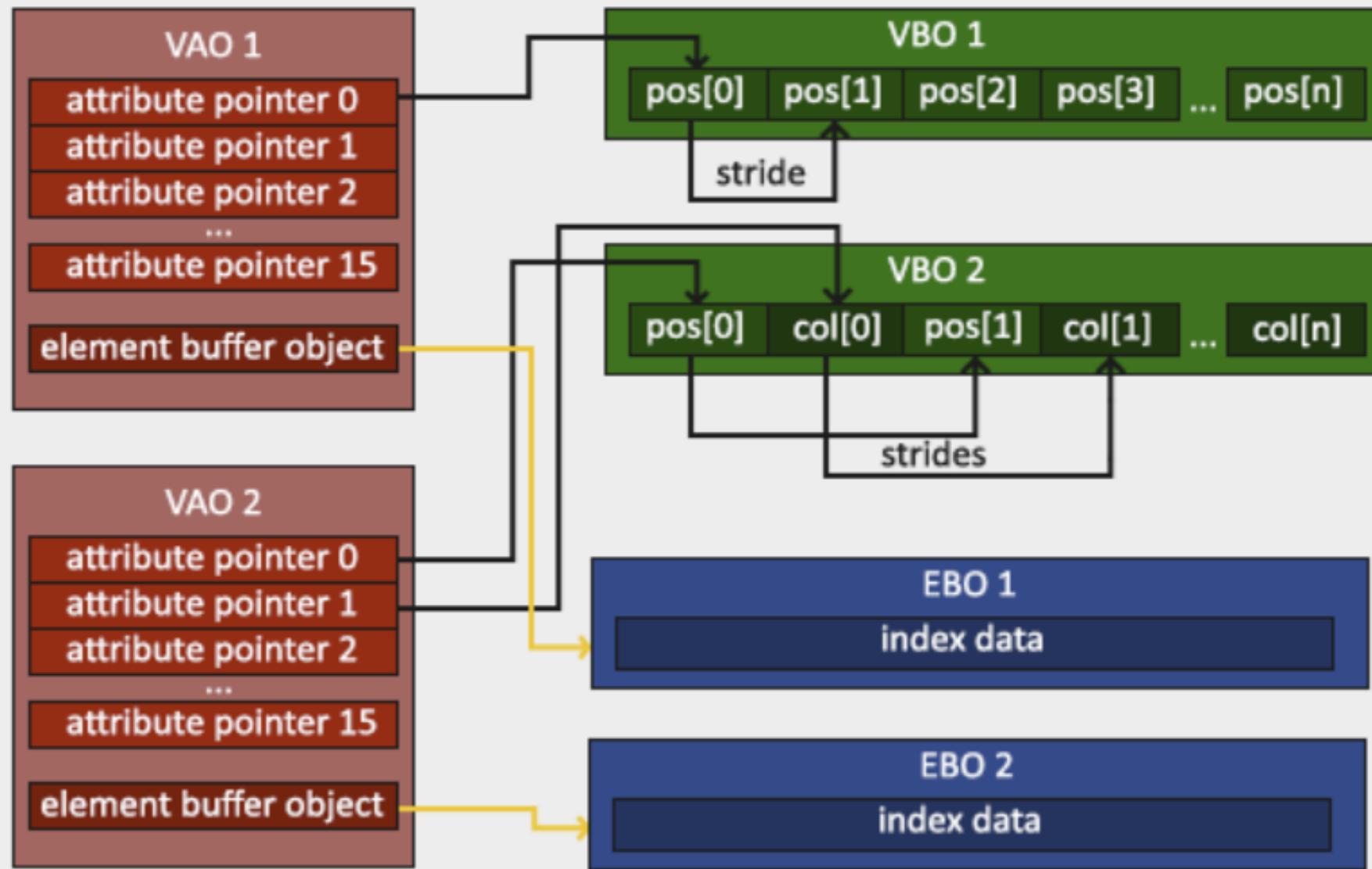
Don't use: `glDrawArrays(GL_TRIANGLES, 0, NUM_VERTICES);`

//Use both the vertex buffer and the index buffer!

```
glDrawElements(GL_TRIANGLES, numIndices, GL_UNSIGNED_INT, NULL);
```

VAOs

- VAOs store the data of a geometric object
- Steps in using VAO
 - Generate VAO names by calling `glGenVertexArrays()`
 - Bind a specific VAO for initialization by calling `glBindVertexArray()`
 - Update VBOs associated with this VAO
 - Bind VAO for use in rendering
- This approach allows a single function call to specify all the data for objects
 - Previously, you might have needed to make many calls to make all the data current



Uniforms

- Pass data into a shader that stays the same – is uniform
 - e.g., transformation matrix
- Get data directly from application to shaders
- Two approaches
 - Declare in default block
 - Store in buffer object
- Simply place the keyword **uniform** at beginning of variable definition
 - uniform float fTime
 - uniform mat4 modelMatrix

Using Uniforms to Transform Geometry

- Now it is time to put all our knowledge together and build a program that does a little more than pass vertices through untransformed

The Old Vertex Shader

```
in vec4 vPosition;  
  
void main () {  
    // The value of vPosition should be between -1.0 and +1.0  
    gl_Position = vPosition;  
}  
-----  
out vec4 fColor ;  
  
void main () {  
    // No matter what, color the pixel red!  
    fColor = vec4 (1.0, 0.0, 0.0, 1.0);  
}
```

A Better Vertex Shader

```
in vec4 vPosition; // the vertex in local coordinate system  
uniform mat4 mM; // the matrix for the pose of the model  
uniform mat4 mV; // The matrix for the pose of the camera  
uniform mat4 mP; // The projection matrix (perspective)
```

```
void main () {  
    // The value of vPosition should be between -1.0 and +1.0  
    gl_Position = mP * mV * mM * vPosition;  
}
```

New position in NDC

Original (local) position

Code example – matrix

```
int matrix_location = glGetUniformLocation (shaderProgramID,  
"model");
```

Load the data:

```
glUniformMatrix4fv (matrix_location, 1, GL_FALSE, model.m);
```

Shader code: uniform mat4 model;

Code example - float

```
glUseProgram(shaderProgramID);
gScaleLocation = glGetUniformLocation(shaderProgramID,
"gScale");

void display(){

    glClear(GL_COLOR_BUFFER_BIT);
    static float Scale = 0.0f;
        Scale += 0.001f;
        glUniform1f(gScaleLocation, sinf(Scale));
    glDrawArrays(GL_TRIANGLES, 0, 3);
        glutSwapBuffers();
}
```

Drawing Geometric Primitives

- For contiguous groups of vertices

```
glDrawArrays( GL_Triangles, 0, numVertices);
```

- Usually invoked in display callback
- Initiates vertex shader

Resources

- OpenGL Home Page
 - <http://www.opengl.org>
- Anton's OpenGL Tutors
 - <http://antongerdelan.net/opengl/>
- Tutorials
 - <http://ogldev.atspace.co.uk/>
- OpenGL (Programming Guide)
 - <http://www.goprogramming.com/>
- Excellent OpenGL video tutorials on various topics
 - <http://cse.spsu.edu/jchastin/courses/cs4363/lectures/videos/default.htm>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-9XFm7XAT8>
- Glut Tutorial
 - <http://www.lighthouse3d.com/opengl/glut/index.php3?gameglut>

Recommended Material

- Read Chapters 1-6 of OpenGL Red Book
- Familiarise yourself with OpenGL Blue Book
- Play with OpenGL Tutorials
- Learn about GLUT