



SnowFlake L-System

based on Tree L-system

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Background

Snowflakes can be made a lot of regular fractals, but I thought I could make a nice image if I used the Tree L-system over and over again.

So, I made a tree L-system and rotated it to make one snowflake, then I created and combined several snowflakes of different sizes to complete the final snowflake image.

- **Difficulty of works**

Snowflake's leaves did not gather correctly when rotate each leaves because the center point had to be moved using the `translate()` even during rotation to make snowflake leaves and for utilize 'F' function.

To this end, `pushMatrix()` and `popMatrix()` were used several times to solve it.

L-System Code

```
String S = "A";  
String Rule_F = ">F<";  
String Rule_A = "[+X] [-X]FA";  
String Rule_X = "A";  
  
float length_factor = 1.2; //factor how regulate length of line  
float angle = radians(30);
```

Rules

$F \rightarrow >F<$

$A \rightarrow [+X][-X]FA$

$X \rightarrow A$

The length_factor was introduced to express that the branches become shorter and shorter as L-system recurs repeatedly.

> : Multiply length factor to branch's length

< : Divide by length factor to branch's length

```
void render(String S, float branchLen) {  
    int strLen = S.length();  
    for (int i=0; i<strLen; i++) {  
        switch( S.charAt(i) ) {  
            case 'F':  
                line(0, 0, branchLen, 0);  
                translate(branchLen, 0);  
                break;  
            case '+':  
                rotate(angle);  
                break;  
            case '-':  
                rotate(-angle);  
                break;  
            case '[':  
                pushMatrix();  
                break;  
            case ']':  
                popMatrix();  
                break;  
            case '<':  
                branchLen /= length_factor;  
                break;  
            case '>':  
                branchLen *= length_factor;  
                break;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

L-System Image



L-System Image

Rotate (5 times) & Repeat

