Computer Graphics (COMP0027) 2022/23

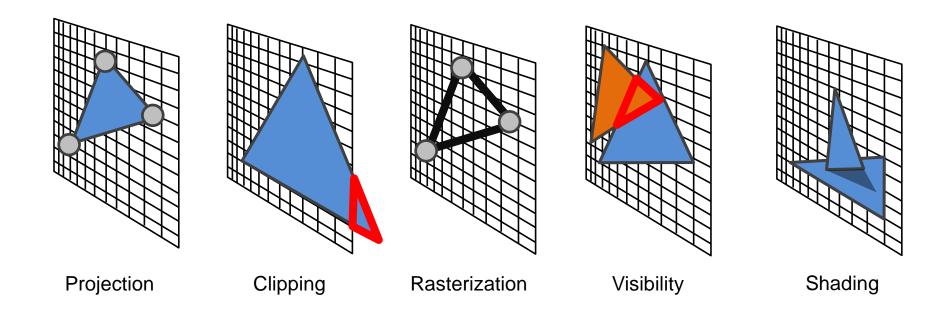
Interpolation and z-buffering

Tobias Ritschel





Challenges





Pipeline



Projection

Clipping

Culling

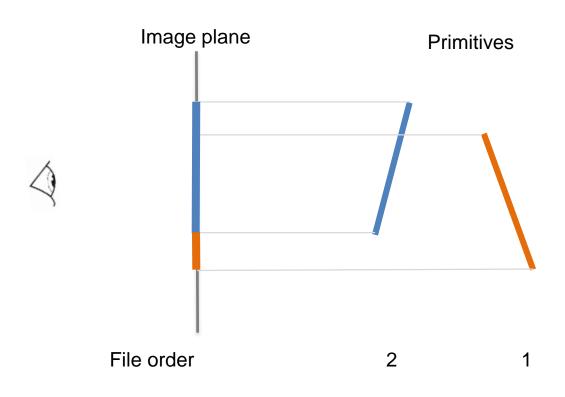
Rasterisation

z test

Shading

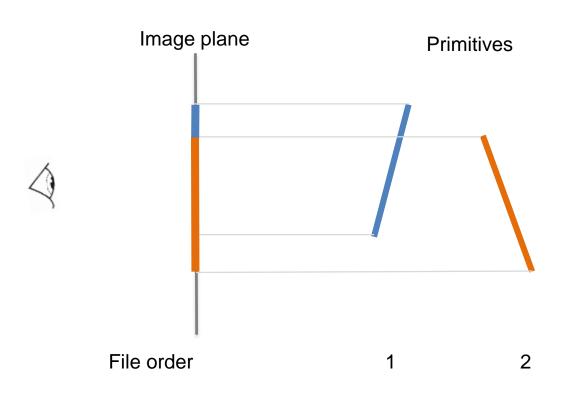


Doing nothing (with some luck)

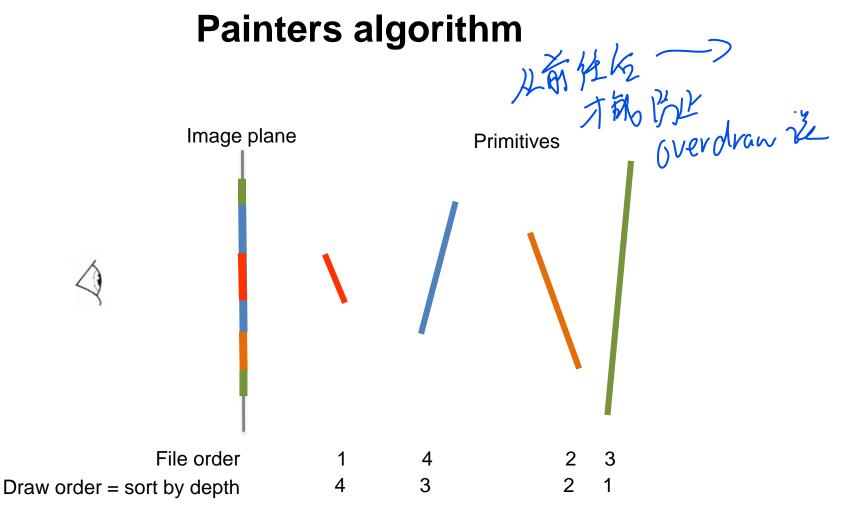




Doing nothing (with no luck)

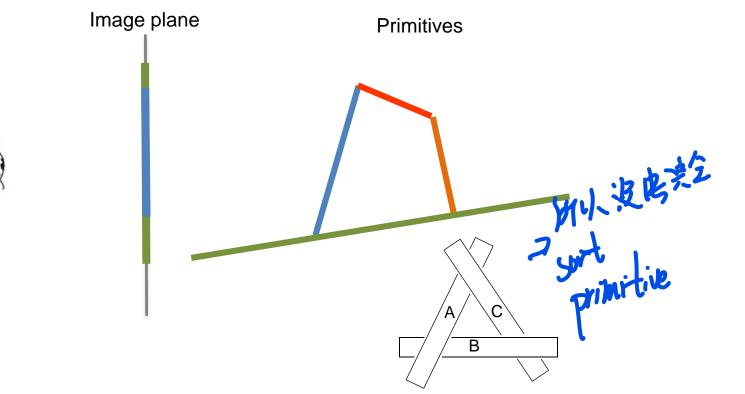








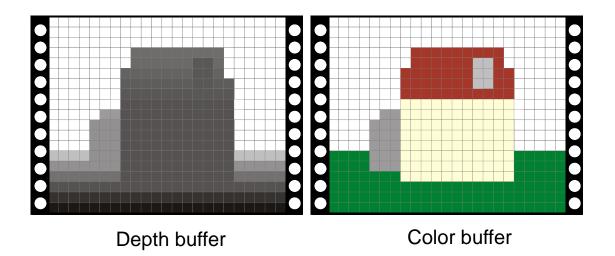
Painters algorithm





z-Buffer

- In addition to color buffer
- Depth buffer (z of view space coordinate)





Basic Idea

- Initialise the z-Buffer array zbuffer [width height] to $z_{\rm max}$
- Consider a point at (x, y, z), projected to pixel (x_s, y_s) with colour c
- If $z < \text{zbuf}[x_s][y_s]$
 - set colorBufer[x_s][y_s] = c, zBuffer[x_s][y_s] = z
 - or else, do nothing



Rasterization code with z test

```
For every triangle
  ComputeProjection
  Compute bbox, clip bbox to screen limits
  Compute line equations
  For all pixels in bbox
  If all line equations > 0
  If z < depthBuffer[x, y] {
    framebuffer[x, y] = color;
    depthBuffer[x, y] = depth;
}</pre>
```



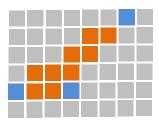
Problems

- Aliasing on depth (z-buffer tearing)
- Which z value?
- How to compute z value at each pixel?



Per-vertex and per-color depth

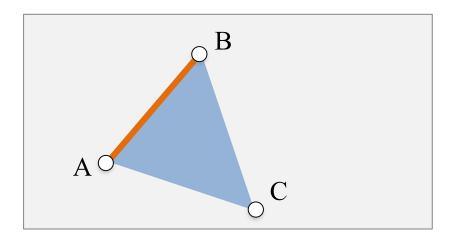
- Now we have to write a z value for each pixel
- Problem: We only know it at the vertices
- Solution: Interpolate
 - We will look at this in more detail!
 - The same interpolation will also give us per-pixel
 - colors,
 - normals,
 - texture coords,
 - etc





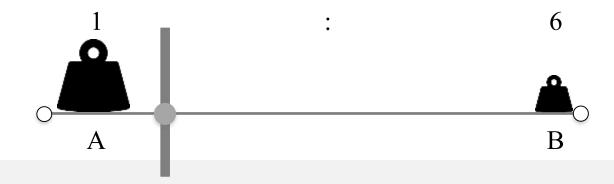
Line vs. area interpolation

- We now know how to interpolate between two points A and B
- But triangle A, B, C has **three** points
- Solution: Barycentric interpolation



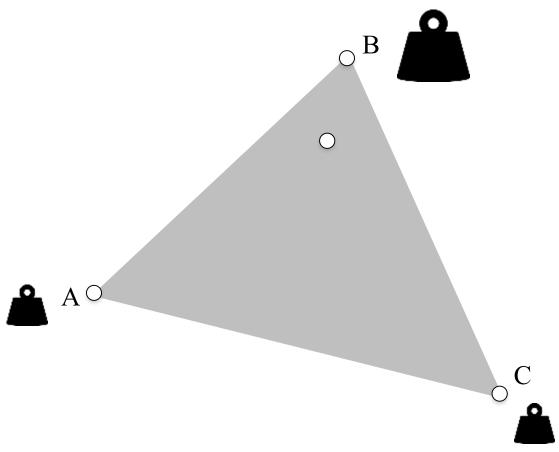


Barycentric coordinates





Barycentric coordinates



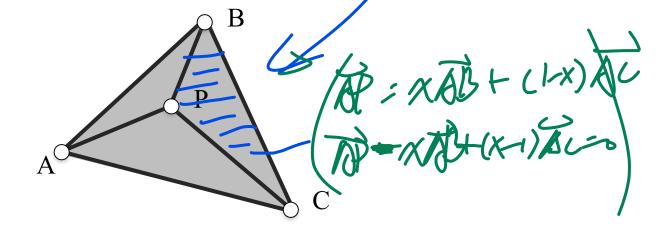


Barycentic coordinates: Definition

File Dany

$$w_A(P) = t(P, B, C) / t(A, B, C)$$

 $w_B(P) = t(P, C, A) / t(A, B, C)$
 $w_C(P) = t(P, A, B) / t(A, B, C)$



t(A, B, C) is the triangle are



Barycentic coordinates: Definition

$$W_A(P) = t(P, B, C) / t(A, B, C)$$

$$W_B(P) = t(P, C, A) / t(A, B, C)$$

$$w_{C}(P) = t(P, A, B) / t(A, B, C)$$

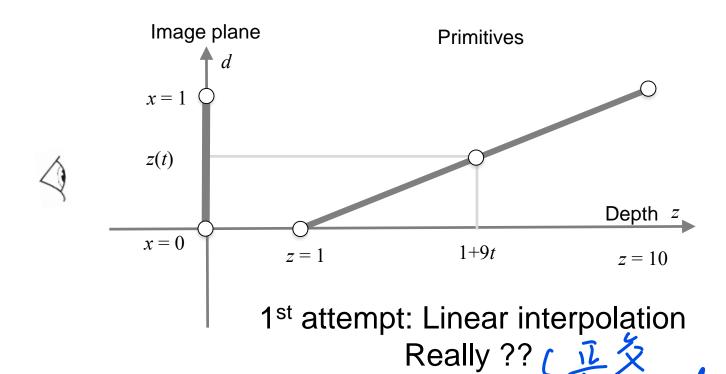
Example:

$$color(P) = color_A w_A(P) + color_B w_B(P) + color_C w_C(P)$$





Interpolating z along a line







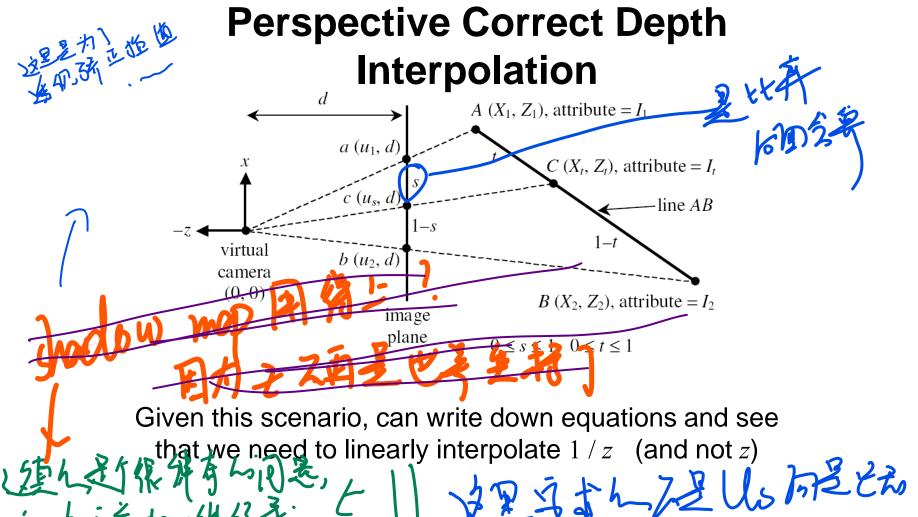






Why is this incorrect?

- Interpolating z linearly in 2d is incorrect!
- Why is that?
 - Projection of a point onto screen is done with non-linear projection matrix (Remember: w = (z + 1) factor)
 - Must take that into account



Computer Graphics (COMP0027), Tobias Ritschel



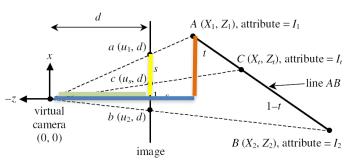
By similar triangles we have:

$$\frac{X_1}{Z_1} = \frac{u_1}{d} \implies X_1 = \frac{u_1 Z_1}{d},$$

$$\frac{X_2}{Z_2} = \frac{u_2}{d} \implies X_2 = \frac{u_2 Z_2}{d},$$

$$\frac{X_t}{Z_t} = \frac{u_s}{d} \implies Z_t = \frac{dX_t}{u_s}.$$

(3)





By similar triangles we have:

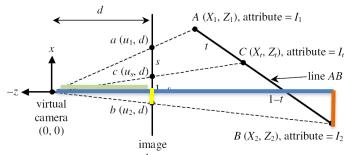
$$\frac{X_1}{Z_1} = \frac{u_1}{d} \implies X_1 = \frac{u_1 Z_1}{d},$$

$$\frac{X_2}{Z_2} = \frac{u_2}{d} \implies X_2 = \frac{u_2 Z_2}{d},$$
 (2)

$$\frac{X_t}{Z_t} = \frac{u_s}{d} \implies Z_t = \frac{dX_t}{u_s}.$$

(3)

(1)





By similar triangles we have:

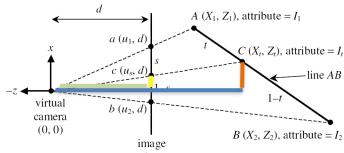
$$\frac{X_1}{Z_1} = \frac{u_1}{d} \implies X_1 = \frac{u_1 Z_1}{d},$$

$$\frac{X_2}{Z_2} = \frac{u_2}{d} \implies X_2 = \frac{u_2 Z_2}{d},\tag{2}$$

$$\frac{X_t}{Z_t} = \frac{u_s}{d} \implies Z_t = \frac{dX_t}{u_s}.$$

(3)

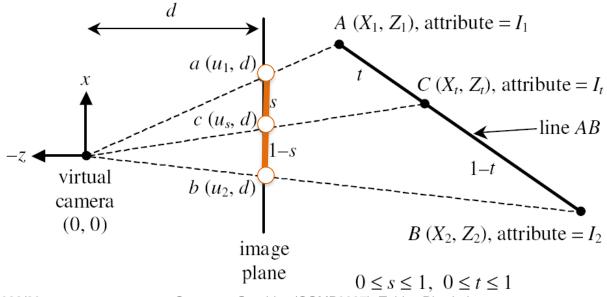
(1)





By linearly interpolating in the image plane (or screen space), we have

$$u_s = u_1 + s(u_2 - u_1). (4)$$

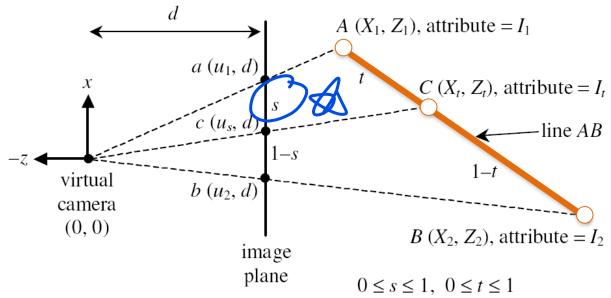




By linearly interpolating across the primitive in the camera coordinate system, we have

$$X_t = X_1 + t(X_2 - X_1), (5)$$

$$Z_t = Z_1 + t(Z_2 - Z_1), (6)$$





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$$X_t = X_1 + t(X_2 - X_1), (5)$$

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Substituting (4) and (5) into (3),

$$Z_{t} = \frac{d\left(X_{1} + t(X_{2} - X_{1})\right)}{u_{1} + s(u_{2} - u_{1})}.$$
(7)



Substituting (1) and (2) into (7),

$$Z_{t} = \frac{d\left(\frac{u_{1}Z_{1}}{d} + t\left(\frac{u_{2}Z_{2}}{d} - \frac{u_{1}Z_{1}}{d}\right)\right)}{u_{1} + s(u_{2} - u_{1})}$$

$$= \frac{u_{1}Z_{1} + t(u_{2}Z_{2} - u_{1}Z_{1})}{u_{1} + s(u_{2} - u_{1})}.$$
(8)

Substituting (6) into (8),

$$Z_1 + t(Z_2 - Z_1) = \frac{u_1 Z_1 + t(u_2 Z_2 - u_1 Z_1)}{u_1 + s(u_2 - u_1)},$$
(9)



which can be simplified into

$$t = \frac{sZ_1}{sZ_1 + (1 - s)Z_2}$$
 (10)

Substituting (10) into (6), we have

$$Z_{t} = Z_{1} + \frac{sZ_{1}}{sZ_{1} + (1 - s)Z_{2}} (Z_{2} - Z_{1}),$$
(11)

which can be simplified to

$$Z_{t} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{Z_{1}} + s \left(\frac{1}{Z_{2}} - \frac{1}{Z_{1}}\right)}$$
(12)



"Can be simplified" in Eq. 10

```
z1 + t(z2 - z1) = (u1z1 + t(u2z2 - u1z1)) / (u1 + s(u2 - u1))
z1 + tz2 - tz1 = (u1z1 + t(u2z2 - u1z1)) / (u1 + s(u2 - u1))
0 = (u1z1 + t(u2z2 - u1z1)) / (u1 + s(u2 - u1)) - z1 - tz2 + tz1
0 = u1z1 + t(u2z2 - u1z1)) + (-z1 - tz2 + tz1) * (u1 + s(u2 - u1))
0 = u1z1 + t(u2z2 - u1z1) + (-z1(u1 + s(u2 - u1) - tz2(u1 + s(u2 - u1) + tz1(u1 + s(u2 - u1)))
0 = u1z1 + tu2z2 - tu1z1 - z1u1 - z1s(u2 - u1) - tz2u1 - tz2s(u2 - u1) + tz1u1 + tz1s(u2 - u1)
0 = tu2z2 - z1s(u2 - u1) - tz2u1 - tz2s(u2 - u1) + tz1s(u2 - u1)
0 = tu2z2 - z1su2 + z1su1 - tz2su1 - tz2su2 + tz2su1 + tz1su2 - tz1su1
0 = -z1su2 + z1su1 + tu2z2 - tz2u1 - tz2su2 + tz2su1 + tz1su2 - tz1su1
0 = -z1su2 + z1su1 + t(u2z2 - z2u1 - z2su2 + z2su1 + z1su2 - z1su1)
t = z1su2 - z1su1 / (u2z2 - z2u1 - z2su2 + z2su1 + z1su2 - z1su1)
t = (z1s(u2 - u1)) / (u2z2 - z2u1 - z2su2 + z2su1 + z1su2 - z1su1)
t = (z1s(u2 - u1)) / ((u2 - u1)(z2 - z2s + z1s))
t = z1s / (z2 - z2s + z1s)
t = z1s / (z2(1 - s) + z1s)
t = sz1 / (z1s + (1 - s)z2)
```



Thus we only need to linearly interpolate between 1/z values:

$$Z_{t} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{Z_{1}} + s \left(\frac{1}{Z_{2}} - \frac{1}{Z_{1}}\right)}.$$
(12)



Trade-Offs

- Painter's algorithm:
 - Expensive
- z-Buffer can be inaccurate with few bits
 - Really simple to implement though!
- z-Buffer good for small, sparse polygons
- Why doing both can be good?



Recap: Rasterization

- Simple: Painter's method
- Used today: z-Buffer
- Need to interpolate z across triangles
- Need to do this perspective-correct