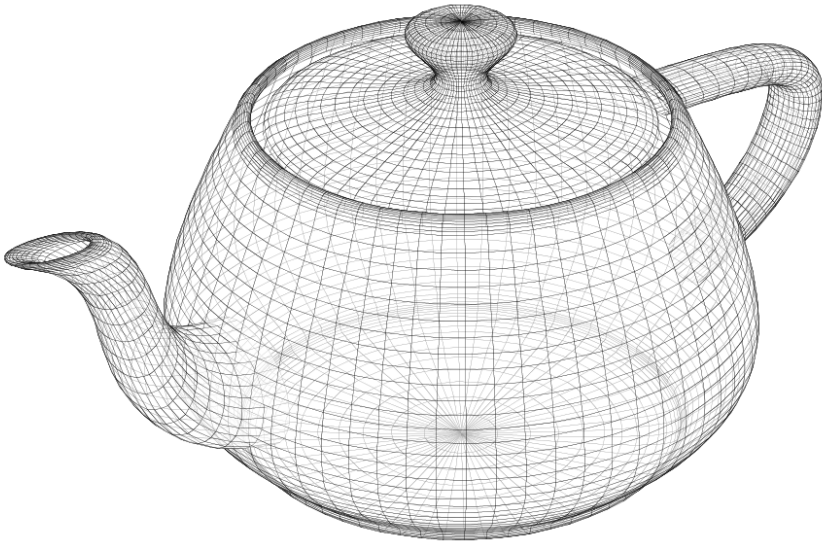


# Barycentric Coordinates

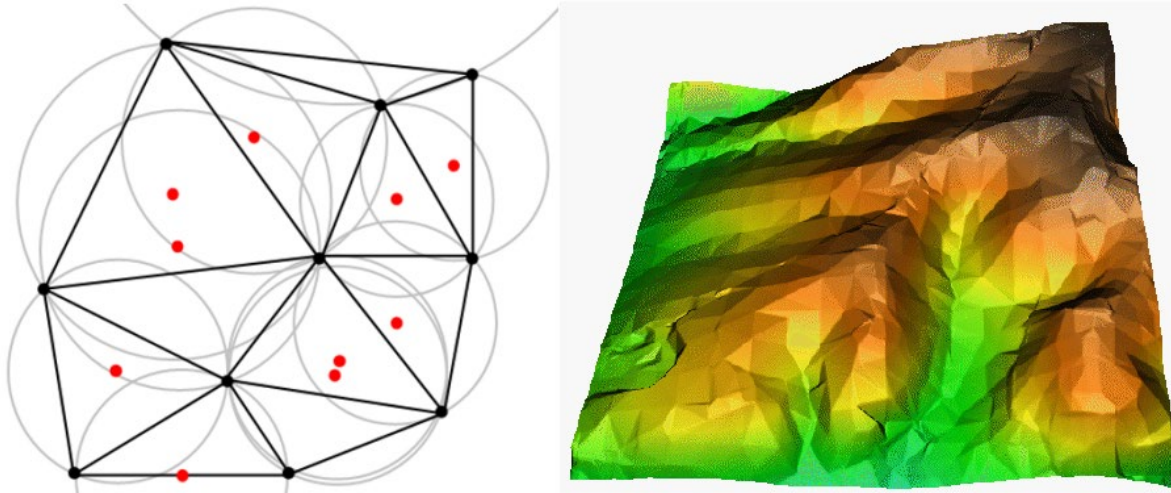
## Ray-Triangle Intersection



Production Computer Graphics  
Professor Eric Shaffer

# Barycentric Interpolation

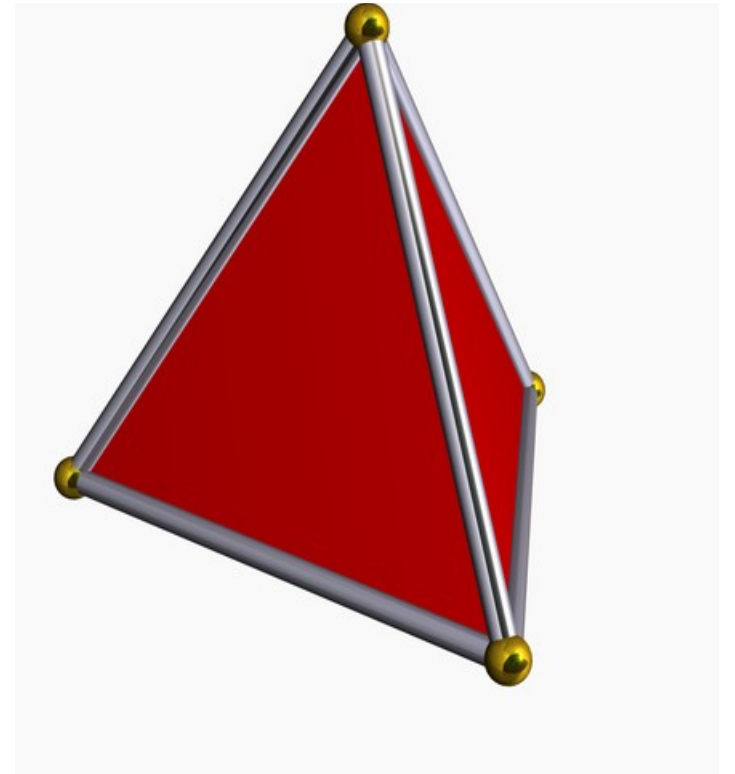
How can we linearly interpolate a function over triangles?



Can be useful in graphics for what purposes?

# Barycentric Interpolation

- Barycentric coordinates apply to more than just triangles
- Used on any simplex
- A simplex is a convex hull of  $k+1$  points in a  $k$ -dimensional space
  - Simplest convex “polygon” in a  $k$ -dimensional space
  - A 3-simplex is a tetrahedron
- Barycentric coordinates provide a way to interpolate over simplices



# Barycentric Coordinates for Triangles

Describe location of a point in relation to the vertices of a given triangle

Express point  $p$  in barycentric coordinates  $p=(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3)$

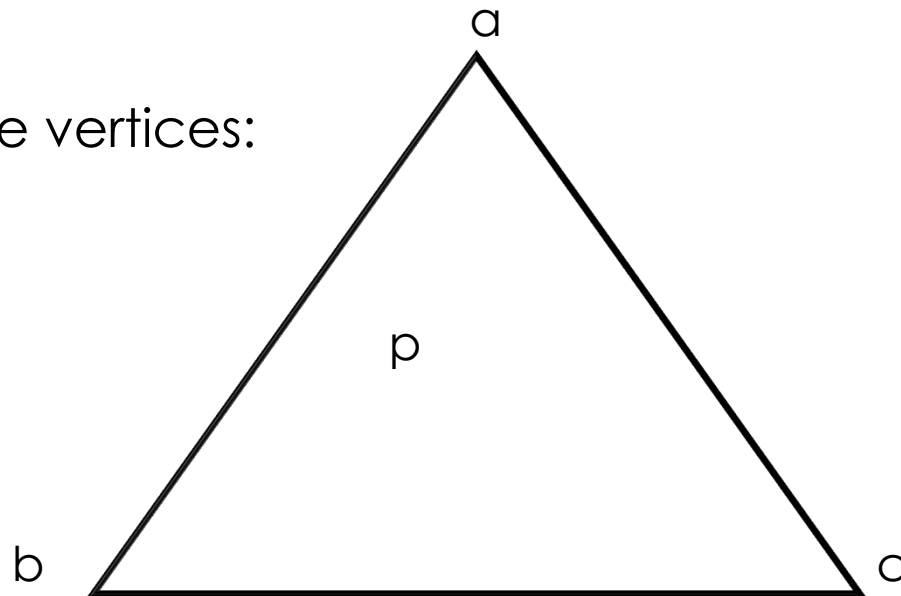
The following must be true

$$p = \lambda_1 a + \lambda_2 b + \lambda_3 c$$

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 1$$

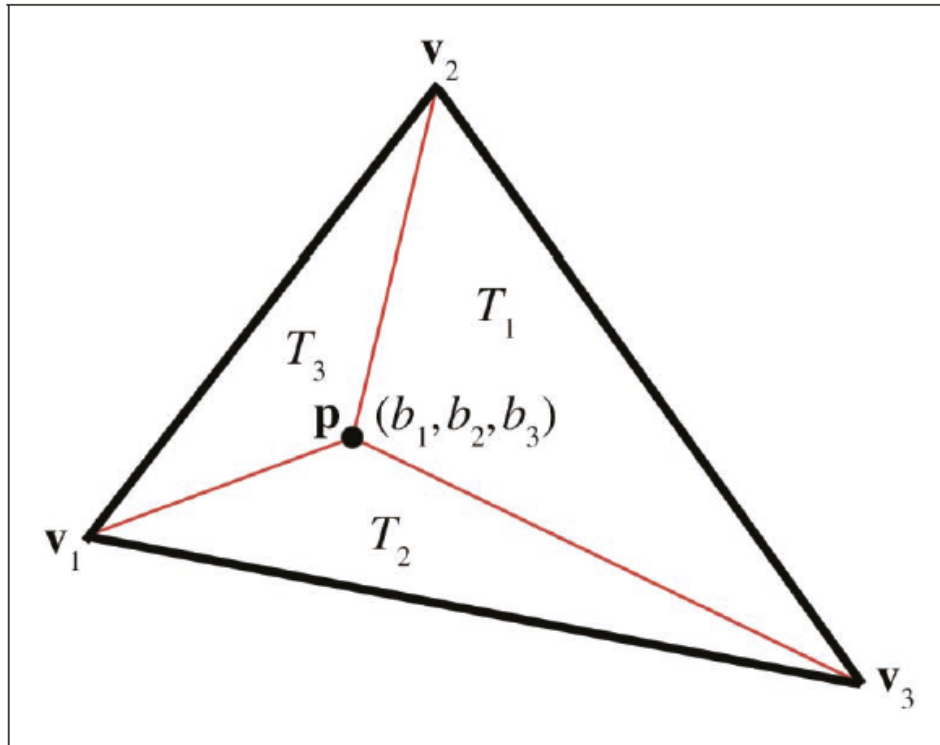
To interpolate a function sampled at the vertices:

$$f(p) = \lambda_1 f(a) + \lambda_2 f(b) + \lambda_3 f(c)$$



# Computing Barycentric Coordinates for Triangles

Coordinates are the signed area of the opposite subtriangle divided by area of the triangle



$$b_1x_1 + b_2x_2 + b_3x_3 = p_x,$$

$$b_1y_1 + b_2y_2 + b_3y_3 = p_y,$$

$$b_1 + b_2 + b_3 = 1.$$

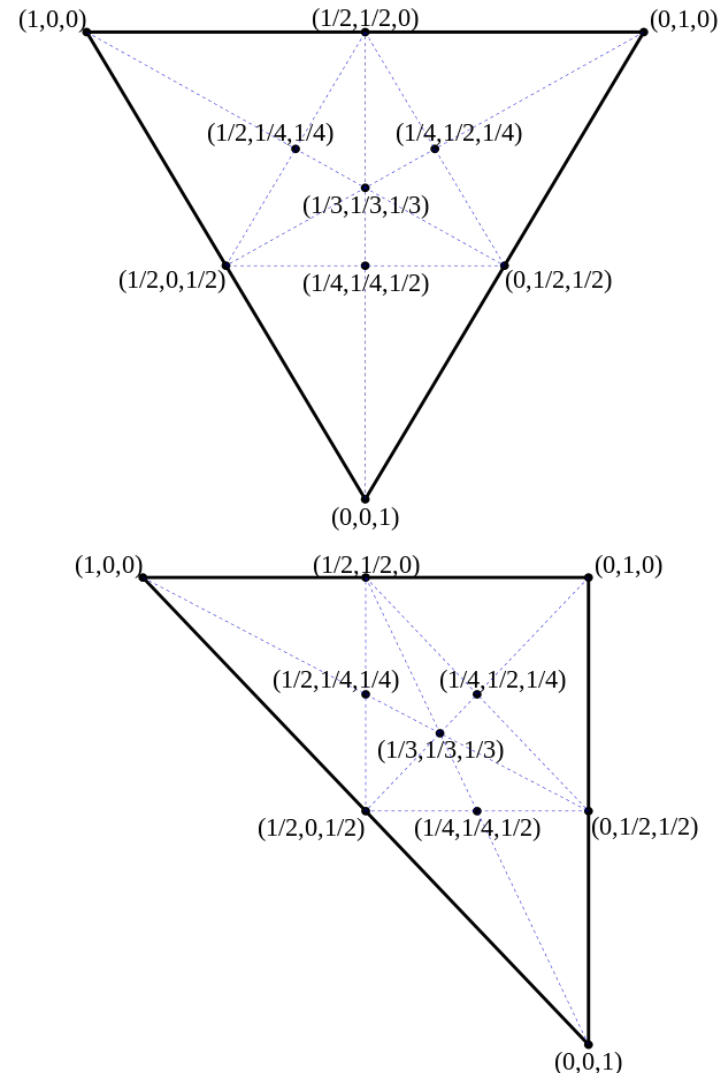
$$b_1 = \frac{(p_y - y_3)(x_2 - x_3) + (y_2 - y_3)(x_3 - p_x)}{(y_1 - y_3)(x_2 - x_3) + (y_2 - y_3)(x_3 - x_1)},$$

$$b_2 = \frac{(p_y - y_1)(x_3 - x_1) + (y_3 - y_1)(x_1 - p_x)}{(y_1 - y_3)(x_2 - x_3) + (y_2 - y_3)(x_3 - x_1)},$$

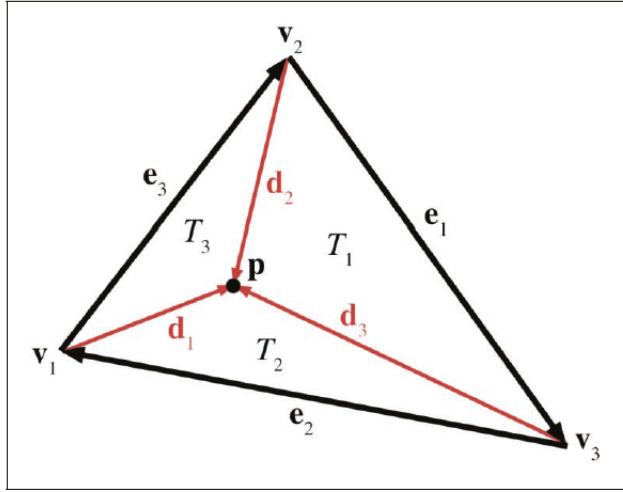
$$b_3 = \frac{(p_y - y_2)(x_1 - x_2) + (y_1 - y_2)(x_2 - p_x)}{(y_1 - y_3)(x_2 - x_3) + (y_2 - y_3)(x_3 - x_1)}.$$

$$b_1 = A(T_1)/A(T), \quad b_2 = A(T_2)/A(T), \quad b_3 = A(T_3)/A(T)$$

# Some Important Points



# Computing Coordinates for 3D Triangles



$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{v}_3 - \mathbf{v}_2,$$

$$\mathbf{d}_1 = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{v}_1,$$

$$\mathbf{e}_2 = \mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_3,$$

$$\mathbf{d}_2 = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{v}_2,$$

$$\mathbf{e}_3 = \mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{v}_1,$$

$$\mathbf{d}_3 = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{v}_3.$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} = \frac{\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2}{\|\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2\|}.$$

$$A(T) = ((\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}})/2,$$

$$A(T_1) = ((\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{d}_3) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}})/2,$$

$$A(T_2) = ((\mathbf{e}_2 \times \mathbf{d}_1) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}})/2,$$

$$A(T_3) = ((\mathbf{e}_3 \times \mathbf{d}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}})/2.$$

$$b_1 = A(T_1)/A(T) = \frac{(\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{d}_3) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}}{(\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}},$$

$$b_2 = A(T_2)/A(T) = \frac{(\mathbf{e}_2 \times \mathbf{d}_1) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}}{(\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}},$$

$$b_3 = A(T_3)/A(T) = \frac{(\mathbf{e}_3 \times \mathbf{d}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}}{(\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}}.$$

# Barycentric Coordinates for Tetrahedra

We have 4 vertices of a tetrahedron  $\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3$ , and  $\mathbf{r}_4$

To find the coordinates of a point  $\mathbf{r}$  we can compute

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{T}^{-1}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_4)$$

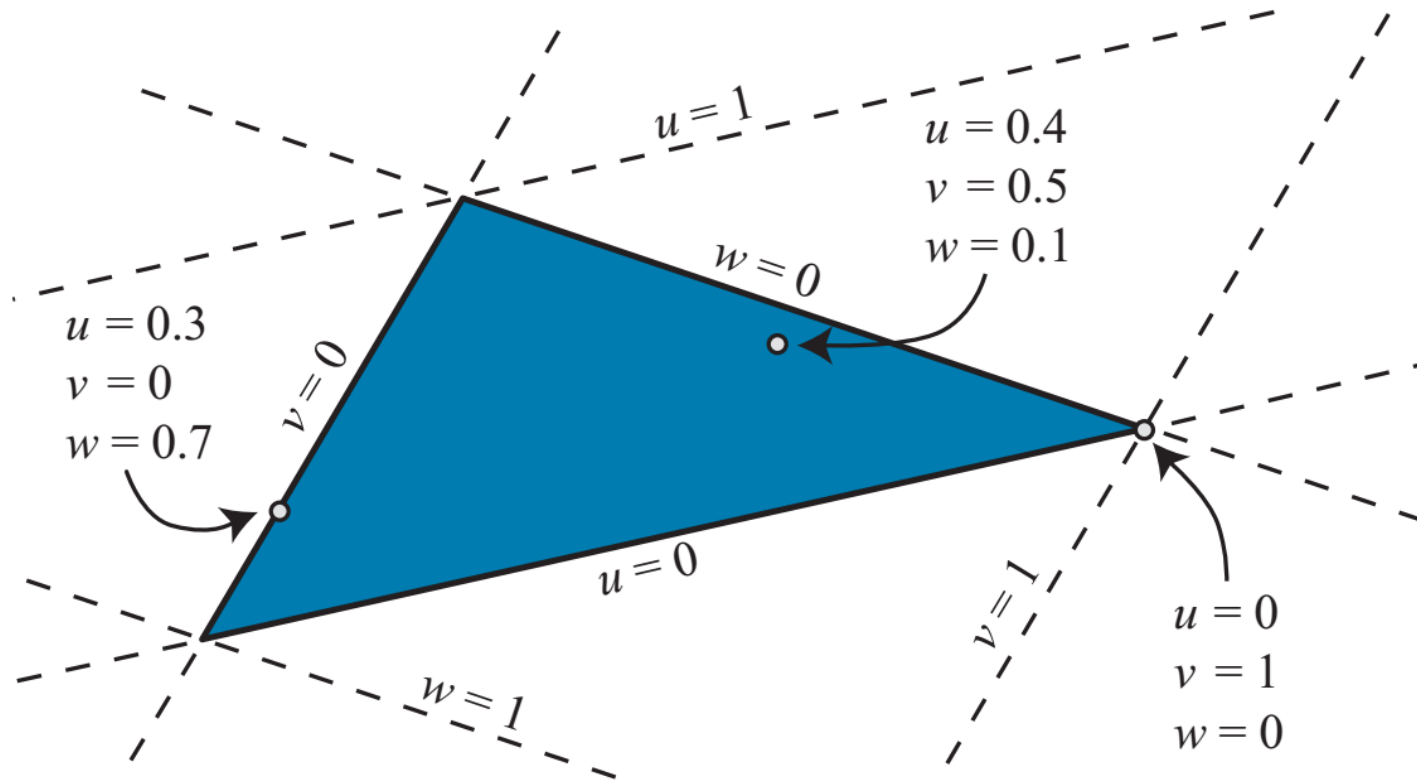
$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - x_4 & x_2 - x_4 & x_3 - x_4 \\ y_1 - y_4 & y_2 - y_4 & y_3 - y_4 \\ z_1 - z_4 & z_2 - z_4 & z_3 - z_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $\lambda_4 = 1 - \lambda_1 - \lambda_2 - \lambda_3$





# Ray Triangle Intersection Test



How can we test if a point is in a triangle?

# Intersecting a Ray and Triangle

A point on triangle is given as  $(u, v, 1 - u - v)$  in barycentric coordinates.

$$\mathbf{f}(u, v) = (1 - u - v)\mathbf{p}_0 + u\mathbf{p}_1 + v\mathbf{p}_2$$

The intersection with a ray is:

$$\mathbf{o} + t\mathbf{d} = (1 - u - v)\mathbf{p}_0 + u\mathbf{p}_1 + v\mathbf{p}_2.$$

# Linear Algebra!

Rearranging terms gives us

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{d} & \mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0 & \mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{p}_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{o} - \mathbf{p}_0$$

This is a system of equations...3 equations and 3 unknowns

# Solve the System

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{e}_2 = \mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{p}_0, \text{ and } \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{o} - \mathbf{p}_0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} t \\ u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\det(-\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2)} \begin{pmatrix} \det(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2) \\ \det(-\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{e}_2) \\ \det(-\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{s}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Using Cramer's Rule (don't tell any numerical analysts you know...)

Why not? Well, computational cost for  $n \times n$  system is  $O(n! \times n)$  and Gaussian Elimination is  $O(n^3)$

Here, it's only  $3 \times 3$ ...so maybe OK although it can still be less numerically stable than the GE

# Solve the System

We know  $\det(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}) = |\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c}| = -(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}) \cdot \mathbf{b} = -(\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{a}$

So 
$$\begin{pmatrix} t \\ u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{(\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbf{e}_1} \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{e}_1) \cdot \mathbf{e}_2 \\ (\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbf{s} \\ (\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{e}_1) \cdot \mathbf{d} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{e}_1} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{e}_2 \\ \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{s} \\ \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{d} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Alternatively...

$$\begin{pmatrix} t \\ u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{(\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbf{e}_1} \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{e}_1) \cdot \mathbf{e}_2 \\ (\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbf{s} \\ (\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{e}_1) \cdot \mathbf{d} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \frac{1}{-(\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbf{d}} \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2) \cdot \mathbf{s} \\ (\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{d}) \cdot \mathbf{e}_2 \\ -(\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{d}) \cdot \mathbf{e}_1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{-\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{d}} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{s} \\ \mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{e}_2 \\ -\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{e}_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Useful if you already have  $\mathbf{n}$  the  
unnormalized normal of the triangle

# The Algorithm

```
RayTriIntersect(o, d, p0, p1, p2)  
returns ({REJECT, INTERSECT}, u, v, t);  
1 : e1 = p1 − p0  
2 : e2 = p2 − p0  
3 : q = d × e2  
4 : a = e1 · q  
5 : if(a > − $\epsilon$  and a <  $\epsilon$ ) return (REJECT, 0, 0, 0);  
6 : f = 1/a  
7 : s = o − p0  
8 : u = f(s · q)  
9 : if(u < 0.0) return (REJECT, 0, 0, 0);  
10 : r = s × e1  
11 : v = f(d · r)  
12 : if(v < 0.0 or u + v > 1.0) return (REJECT, 0, 0, 0);  
13 : t = f(e2 · r)  
14 : return (INTERSECT, u, v, t);
```

Line 4 computes determinant of matrix *M*.

Then test to avoid determinants close to zero.

Good choice  $\epsilon = 10^{-5}$

# Get the Code

Möller, Tomas, and Ben Trumbore, “Fast, Minimum Storage Ray-Triangle Intersection,” *journal of graphics tools*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 21–28, 1997. Also collected in [112]. Cited on p. 962, 965

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C3%B6ller%E2%80%93Trumbore\\_intersection\\_algorithm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C3%B6ller%E2%80%93Trumbore_intersection_algorithm)

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## Möller–Trumbore intersection algorithm

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Möller–Trumbore ray-triangle intersection algorithm**, named after its inventors Tomas Möller and Ben Trumbore, is a fast method for calculating the intersection of a [ray](#) and a [triangle](#) in three dimensions without needing precomputation of the plane equation of the plane containing the triangle.<sup>[1]</sup> Among other uses, it can be used in [computer graphics](#) to implement [ray tracing](#) computations involving [triangle meshes](#).<sup>[2]</sup>

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