

Real-Time High Quality Rendering

GAMES202, Lingqi Yan, UC Santa Barbara

Lecture 1: Introduction and Overview



Welcome!



Logo created by Junqiu Zhu

Welcome!



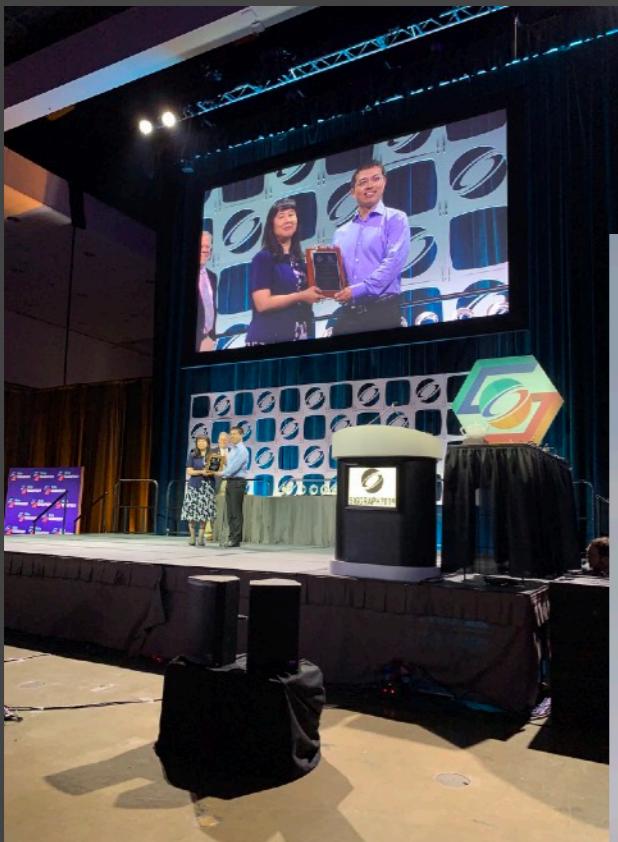
Cyberpunk 2077

Instructor

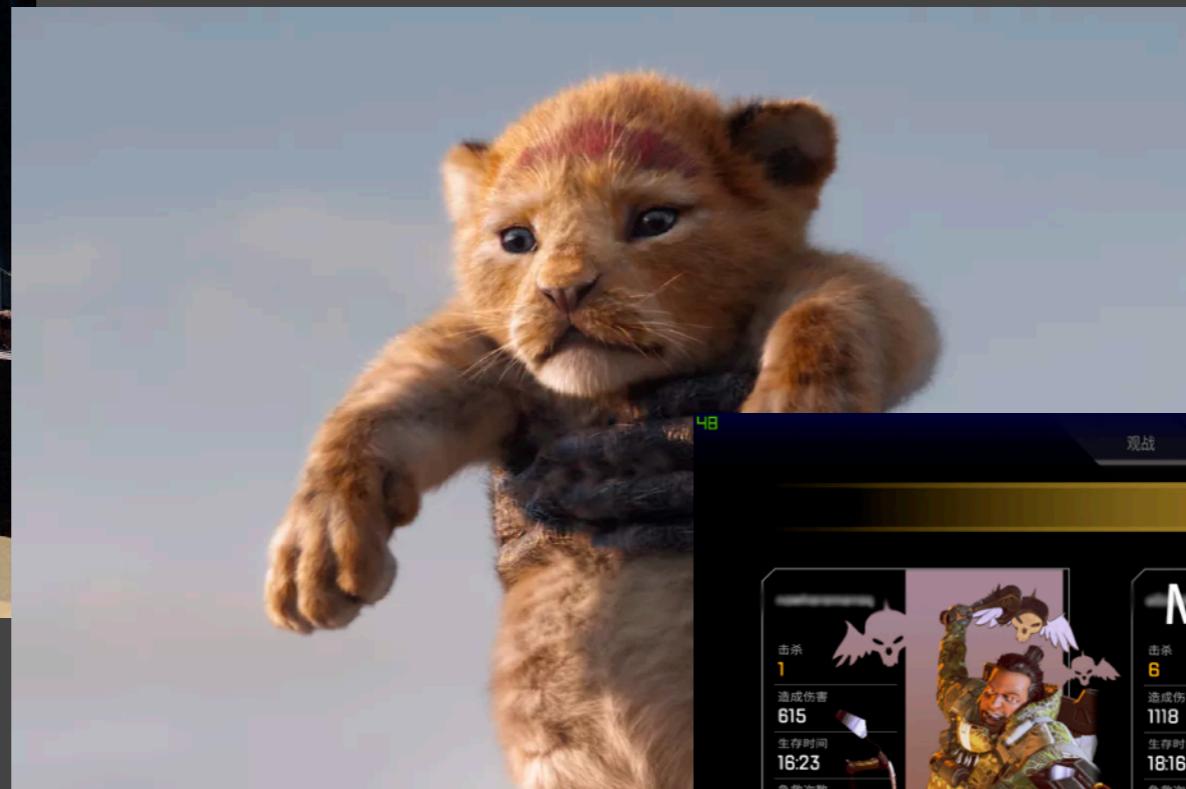
- Lingqi Yan
 - Assistant Professor @ UCSB
 - Web: www.cs.ucsb.edu/~lingqi/
Email: lingqi@cs.ucsb.edu
 - Research: Rendering in Computer Graphics
 - Hobbies: research, video games, piano, NBA, traveling, etc.



Instructor's Achievements



2019: ACM SIGGRAPH
Outstanding Doctoral
Dissertation Award



2019: Oscar Nominee
for Best Visual Effects



2019: six APEX Champions in one evening

Course Staff

- Teaching Assistants
 - 万健洲 (wanjianzhou@qq.com)
 - 周锦超 (zhoujinchao@buaa.edu.cn)
 - 邓俊辰 (junchendeng@gmail.com)
- More will be recruited **from current students** (based on need)

About this Course

What is GAMES202 about?

Real-Time High Quality Rendering

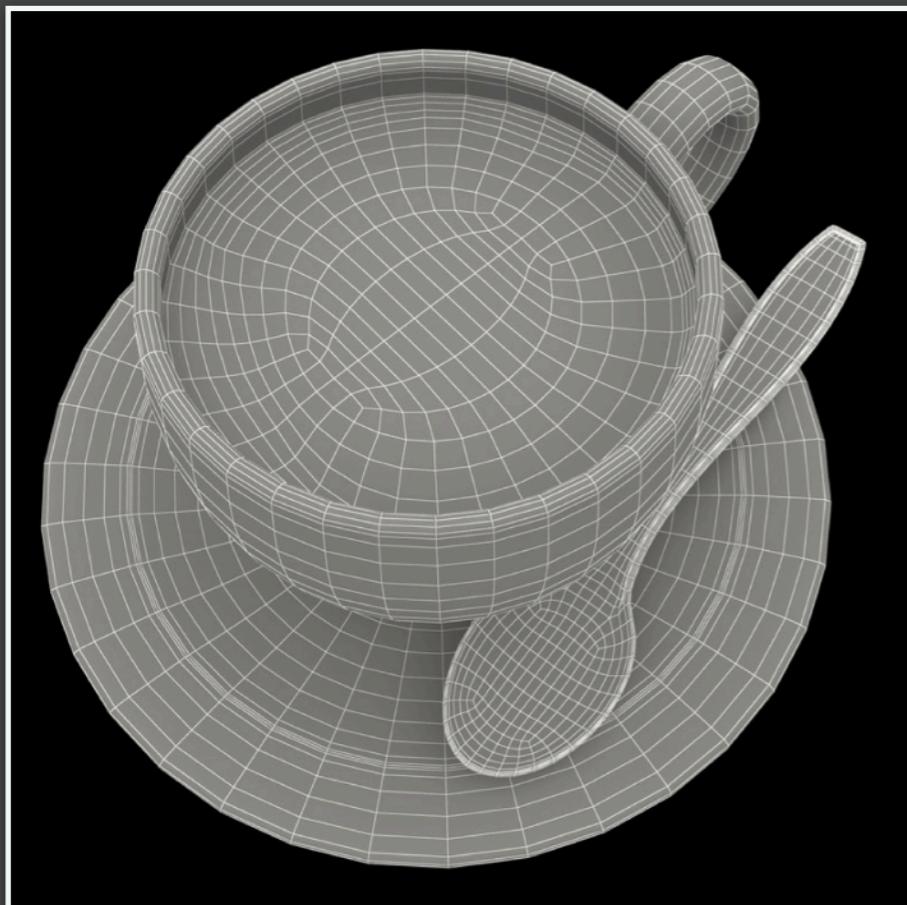
Intermediate level — connecting basic knowledge and research

What is GAMES202 about?

- **Real-Time High Quality Rendering**
 - Speed: more than **30 FPS** (frames per second), even more for Virtual / Augmented Reality (VR / AR): 90 FPS
 - Interactivity: Each frame generated **on the fly**
- **Real-Time High Quality Rendering**
 - Realism: advanced approaches to make rendering more realistic
 - Dependability: all-time **correctness** (exact or approximate), no tolerance to (uncontrollable) failures

What is GAMES202 about?

- Real-Time High Quality **Rendering**
 - What is Rendering?



3D scene (meshes, lights, etc.)

Calculating
light -> eye



Image

What is GAMES202 about?

- Highest level: 4 different parts on real-time rendering

Shadows
(and env)



Physically-
based
Shading



Global Illum.
(Scene/image space,
precomputed)

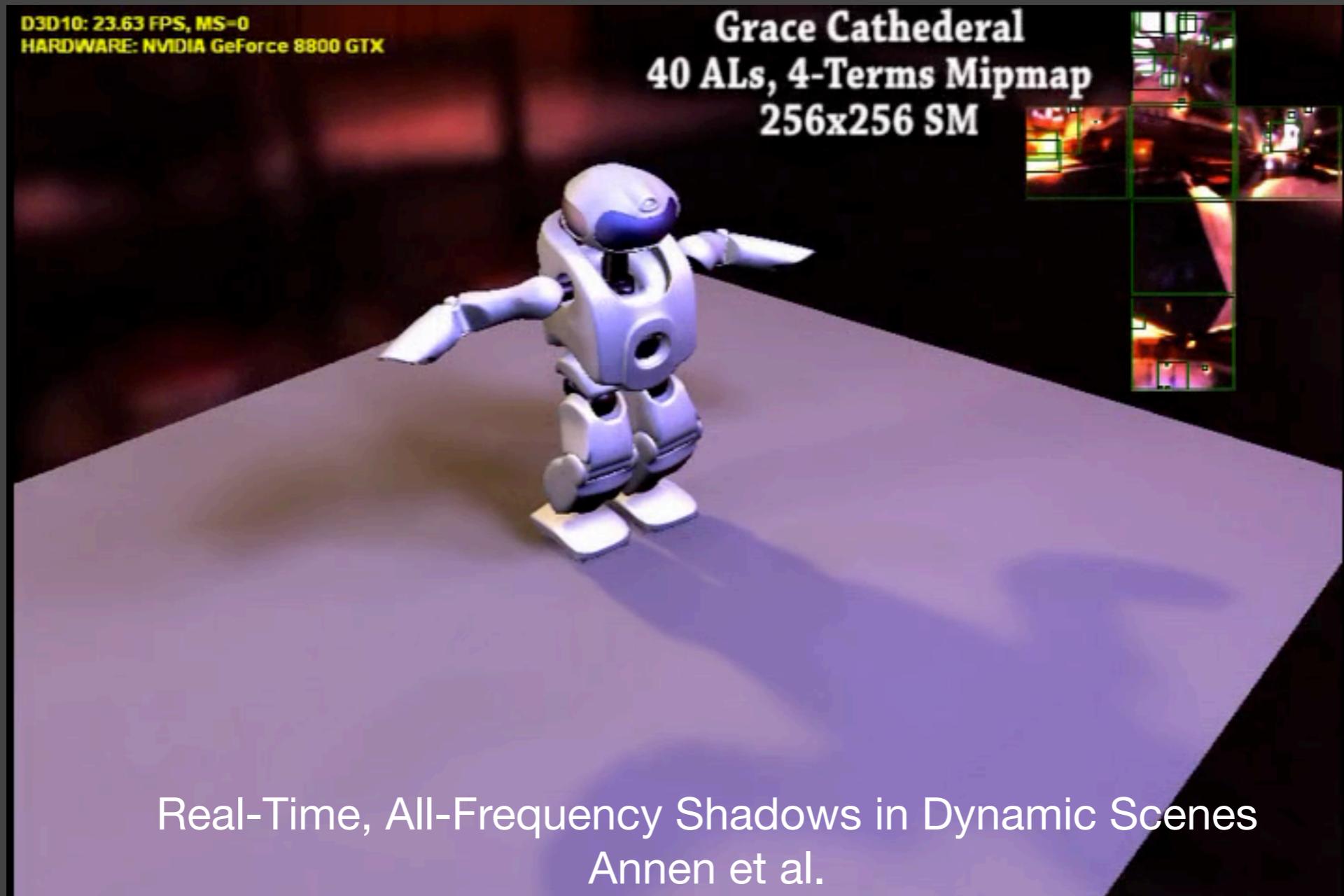


Real-time
ray tracing



Course Topics

- Shadow and Environment Mapping



Course Topics

- Interactive Global Illumination Techniques



Course Topics

- Precomputed Radiance Transfer



Course Topics

- Real-Time Ray Tracing



Course Topics

- Participating Media Rendering, Image Space Effects, etc.



Single scattering



Image space reflection

Course Topics

- Non-Photorealistic Rendering
 - But will not be in depth / per game



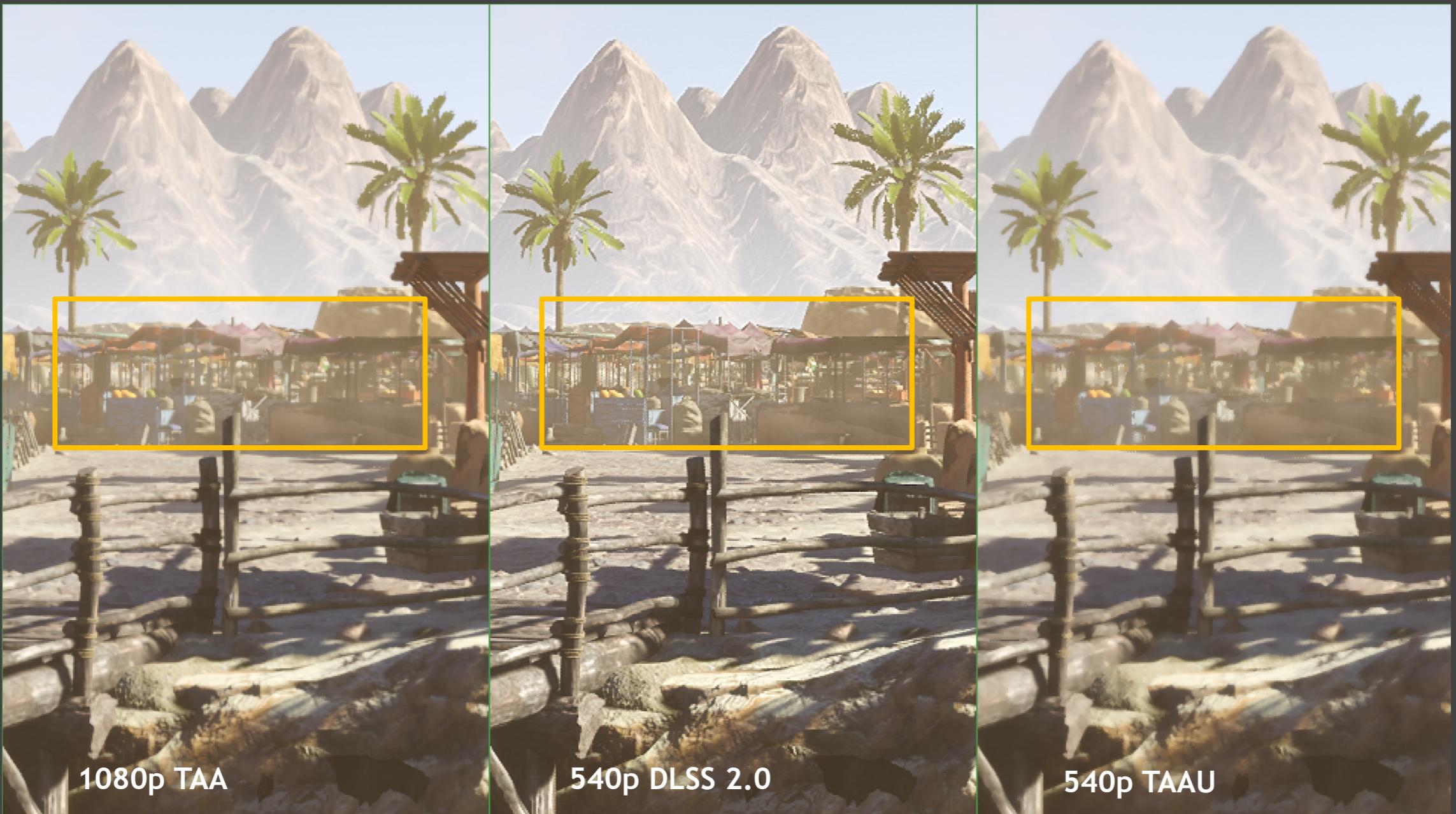
Genshin Impact



Animal Crossing: New Horizons

Course Topics

- Antialiasing and supersampling



Course Topics

- Chatting about techs!

A dark, atmospheric scene from a video game, likely Unreal Engine 5, showing a rocky landscape with a bright opening in the distance.

Unreal Engine 5 Demo

Course Topics

- Chatting about games!



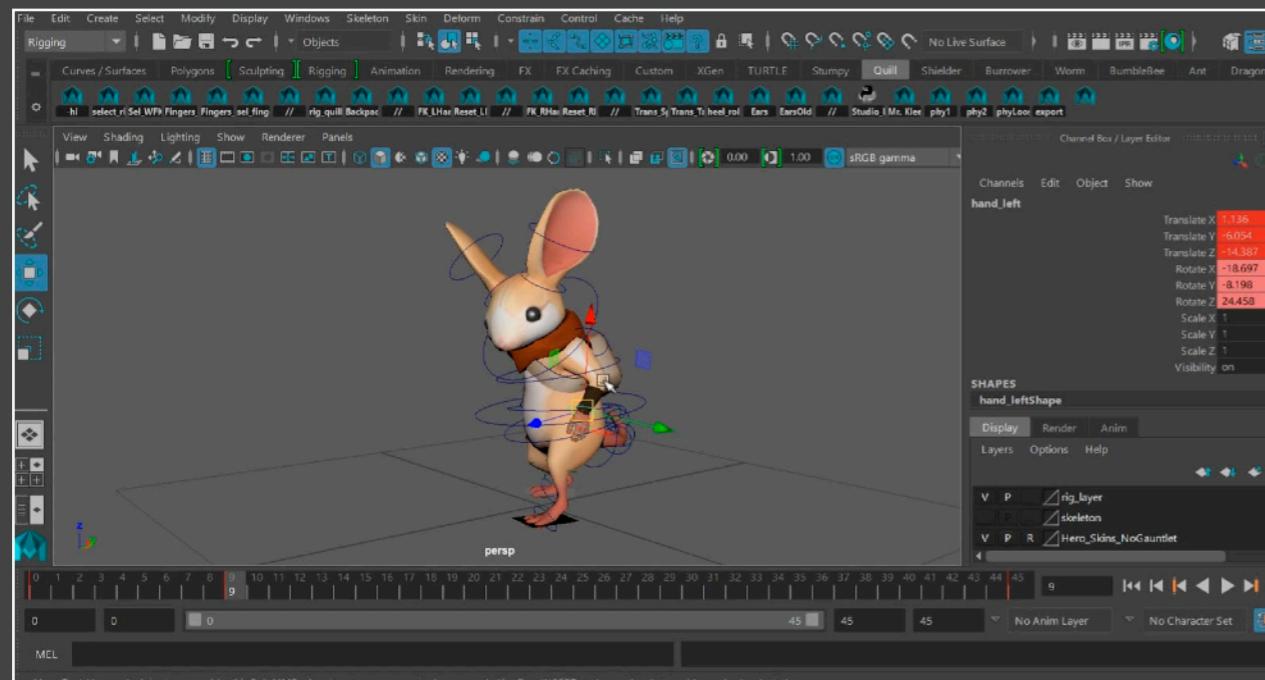
Golf II
The Last of Us Part II
(2020 Game of the Year)



Monster Hunter Rise
(2021)

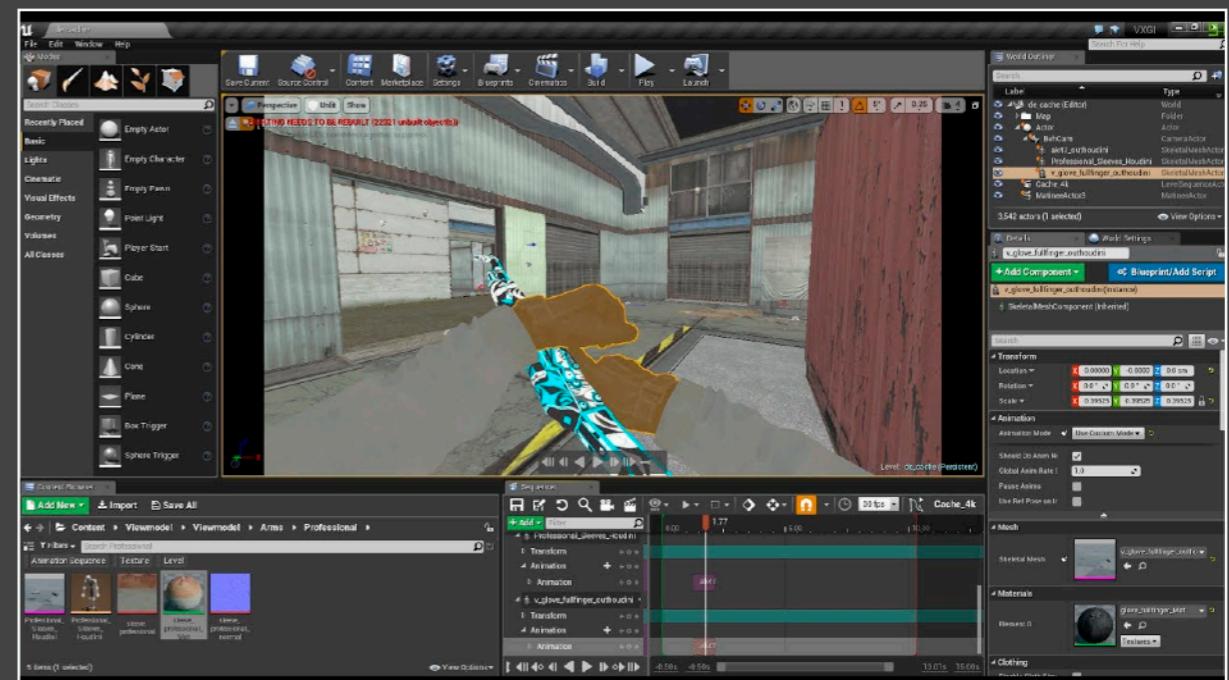
What is GAMES202 NOT about?

- 3D modeling or game development using Unreal Engine
(where can I learn them?)



Modeling character animation in Maya

[<http://tutorials.cgrecord.net/2017/08/17-minute-animation-process-in-autodesk.html>]

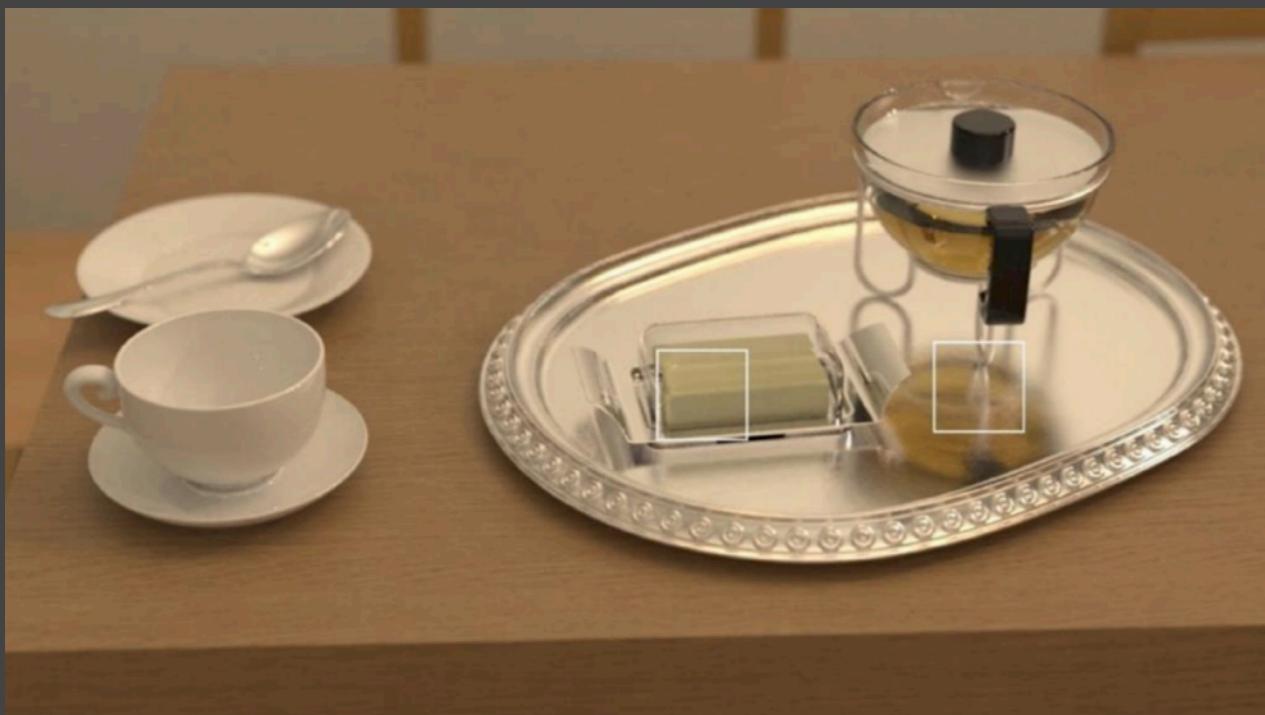


CSGO PoV Cam set up in Unreal Engine

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3TQ18SmQSw0>]

What is GAMES202 NOT about?

- Expensive (but more accurate) light transport techniques in movies / animations (where can I learn this?)



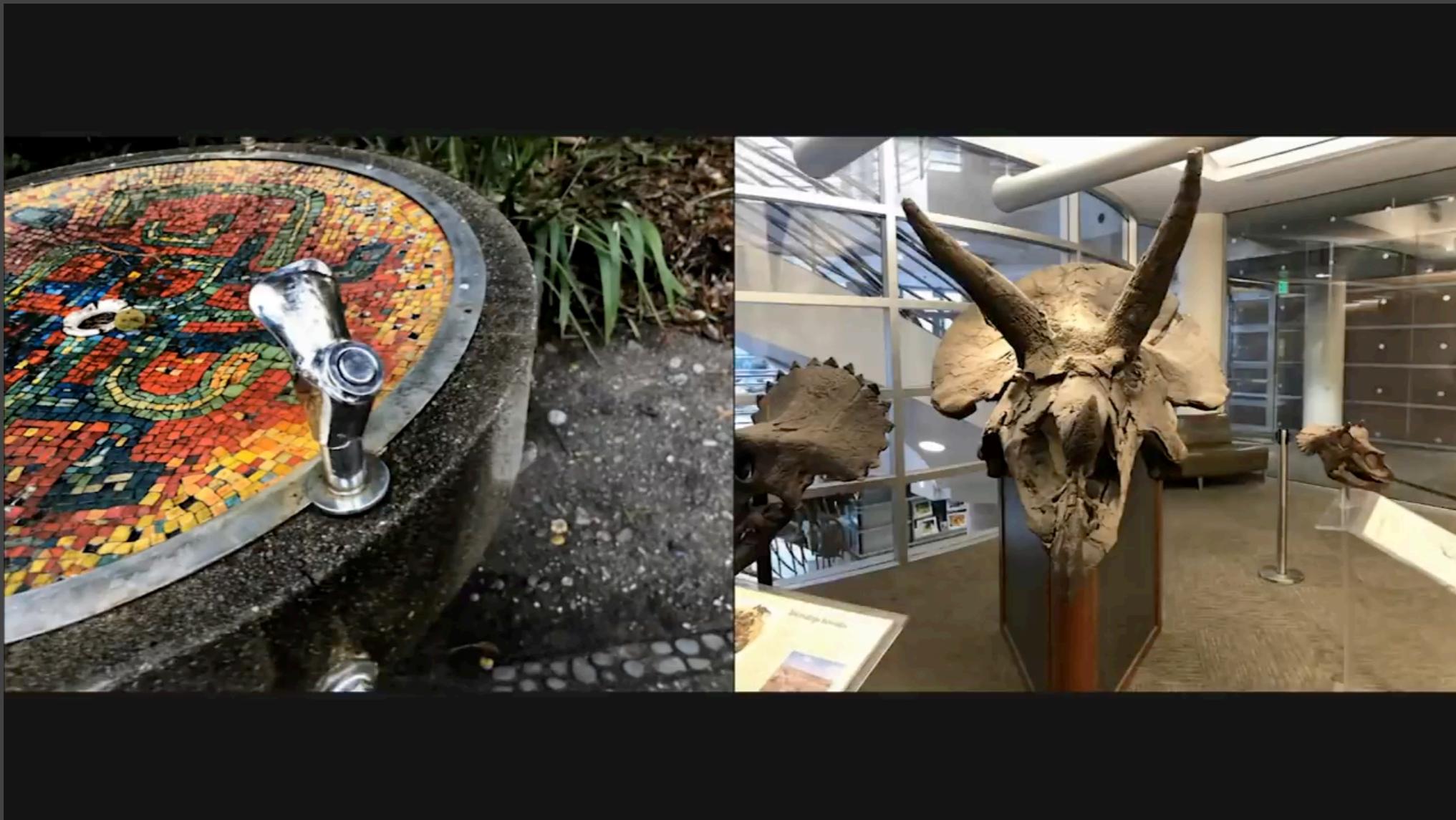
Manifold Metropolis Light Transport
Jakob et al.



Gradient Domain Path Tracing
Kettunen et al.

What is GAMES202 NOT about?

- Neural Rendering



NeRF: Representing Scenes as Neural Radiance Fields for View Synthesis
[Mildenhall et al.]

What is GAMES202 NOT about?

- Using OpenGL
- Scene / shader optimization
- Reverse engineering of shaders
- High performance computing
e.g. CUDA programming

Questions?

How to study GAMES202?

- Understand the difference between science and technology
 - Science != technology
 - Science == knowledge
 - Technology == engineering skills that turn science into product
- Real-time rendering =
fast & approximate offline rendering + systematic engineering
- Fact: in real-time rendering technologies,
the industry is way ahead of the academia
- Practice makes perfect

How to study GAMES202?

- If you are watching live streams of this course
 - Be active asking questions!
- If you are watching recordings
 - 1.25x - 1.5x playback speed is recommended!

Why study GAMES202?

Computer Graphics
is
AWESOME!

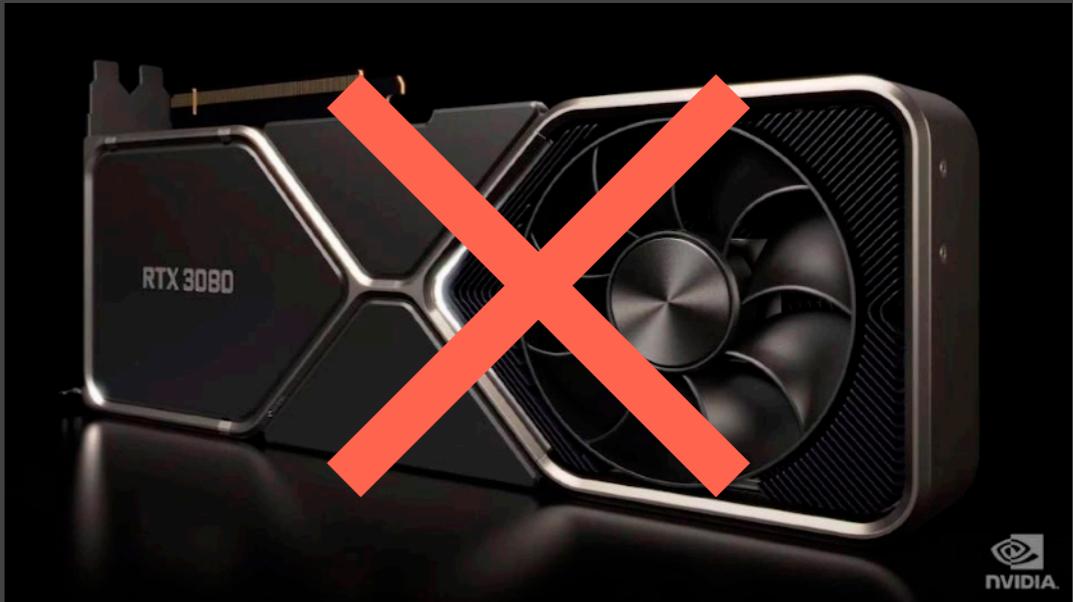
Course Logistics

Prerequisites

- Strong interest in Rendering, Graphics
- Computer Graphics experience
 - GAMES101 or equivalent
 - Basic calculus
- What else to be prepared?
 - Basic OpenGL Shader Language (GLSL)!
 - The next lecture will briefly review it
 - Assignment 0 (optional, will be released with the next lecture)
will help you warm up quickly

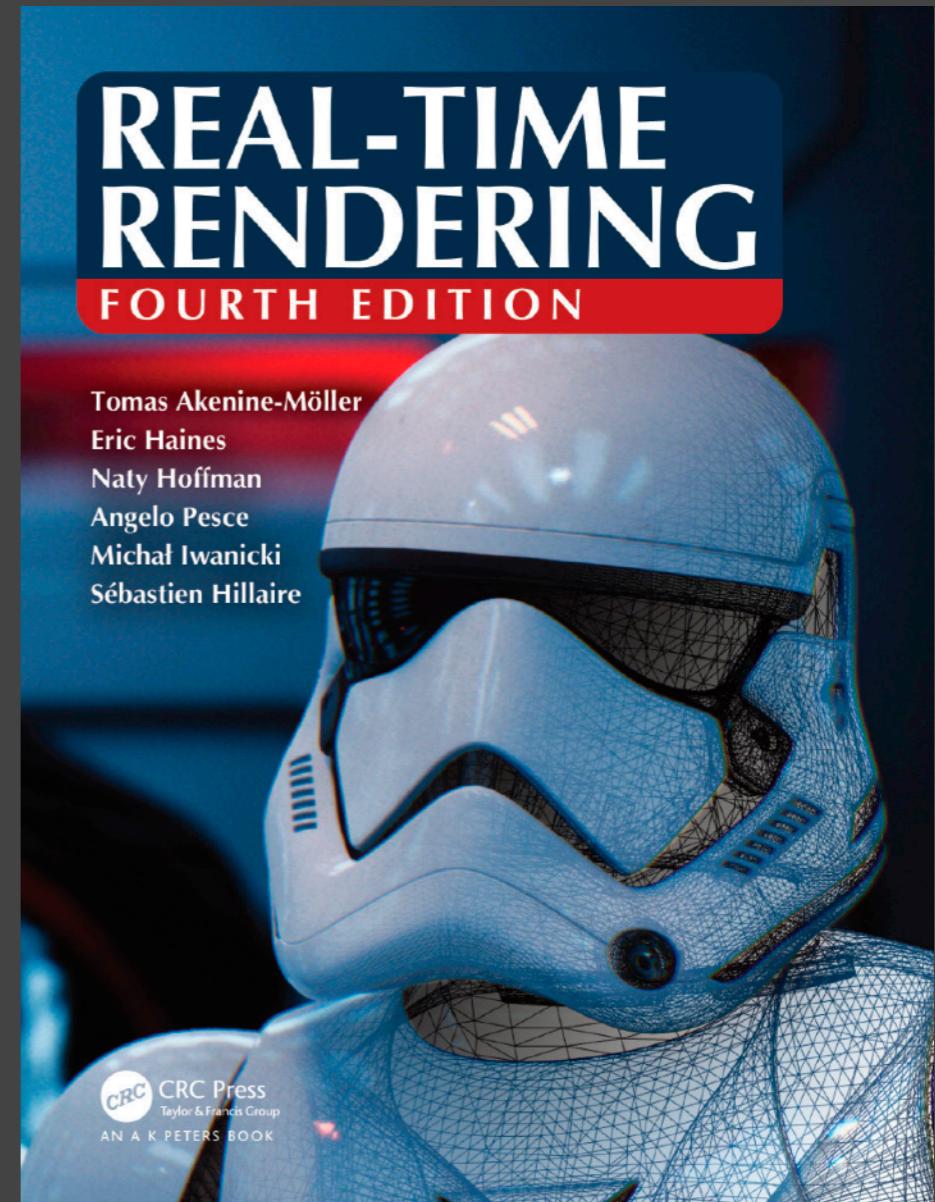
General Information

- Modern Course
 - Comprehensive but no need to have **extreme hardware!**
 - Pace / contents subject to change
- Course Website
 - <http://www.cs.ucsb.edu/~lingqi/teaching/games202.html>
 - Has all the needed information
 - Syllabus, slides, reading materials, etc.



References

- No Required Textbooks
 - Reading materials (if any) will available online before lectures
 - Mainly SIGGRAPH courses + engine design docs
 - Lecture slides will be available after class
- Possible reference
 - Akenine-Moller et al., "Real-time Rendering", 4th edition.
 - Still not quite related
(unlike the tiger book to GAMES101)



Q & A

- Sign up on our BBS for discussion (<http://games-cn.org/forums/forum/games202/>)
- And QQ group!

计算机图形学与混合现实研讨会
GAMES: Graphics And Mixed Environment Seminar

首页 活动通知 往期报告PPT&视频 在线课程 ▾ GAMES线下会议 ▾ 招聘信息 ▾ 讨论区 更多资源 ▾ 其他信息 ▾

主页,Forums,Games202-高质量实时渲染 Sort topics by votes

This forum has 2 topics, 2 replies, and was last updated 4 hours, 52 minutes ago by George.

Viewing 2 topics - 1 through 2 (of 2 total)

FOLLOW:

NEXT STORY
GAMES在线课程 (现代计算机图形学入门) 讨论区 >



Assignments

- Assignments
 - 5 programming assignments (excluding assignment 0)
 - About 1.5 week for each assignment
 - Language: OpenGL Shader Language (GLSL)
 - Code skeleton will be provided (Javascript + WebGL)
- Submission
 - Submit your project by 11:59PM AoE (Anywhere on Earth) on/before the due dates
 - Feedback will be provided in a week

Assignments

- A quick look at our assignment skeleton



Assignments

- Assignment Submission Website
(<http://smartchair.org/GAMES202>)
- No Exams
- Course Project / Final Project
 - Starting midway of this course
 - References will be provided, but you decide the topic
 - Best work will be posted online for showing off

The image contains two screenshots of a web application. The top screenshot is the login page for 'GAMES202'. It features a logo with red, green, and blue squares, followed by the text '思澈会议系统'. Below this is a form with fields for 'Email:' (labeled 'Email address') and '密码:' (labeled 'Password'), both with placeholder text. A blue '登录' (Login) button is below the fields. To the right of the fields, there are three links: '请使用思澈会议系统(SmartChair)帐号登录系统注册相应会议及课程。 关于思澈会议系统(SmartChair)帐号' (Please use the SmartChair account to log in and register corresponding meetings and courses. About SmartChair account), '注册新的思澈会议系统(SmartChair)帐号' (Register a new SmartChair account), and '忘记密码?' (Forgot password?). The bottom screenshot shows a course page titled '高质量实时渲染'. It includes the URL <https://sites.cs.ucsb.edu/~lingqi/teaching/games202.html>, the period '在线 2021年3月10日 ~ 6月30日' (Online March 10, 2021 ~ June 30, 2021), the instructor '主讲老师: 闫令琪, UCSB (<https://sites.cs.ucsb.edu/~lingqi>)', and the course homepage '课程主页: <https://sites.cs.ucsb.edu/~lingqi/teaching/games202.html>'.

No Need to Use An IDE!

- IDE: Integrated Development Environment
- An IDE Helps you parse a entire project
 - And gives hints on syntax / usages of member functions, etc.
- Since you'll be focusing on writing shaders most of the times in this course
 - No need to use an IDE this time
 - A text editor is perfectly fine
 - Sublime Text, Vi / Vim, Emacs, etc.
 - Online text editors are also great

Academic integrity

- Work alone for regular assignments
 - no copy-pasting from any other sources
- Do not publish your code (on Github, etc.) for assignments using our skeleton code
- Do not post your solution online
 - Discussion / explanation is welcomed

Questions?

Today's Lecture

Outline

- Motivation
- Evolution of real-time rendering
- Technological and algorithmic milestones
 - Programmable graphics hardware
 - Precomputation-based methods
 - Interactive Ray Tracing

Motivation

- Today, Computer Graphics is able to generate **photorealistic** images
 - Complex geometry, lighting, materials, shadows
 - Computer-generated movies/special effects (difficult or impossible to tell real from rendered...)



[Artist: Teruyuki and Yuka]



[Artist:
Hyun Kyung]

Motivation

- But accurate algorithms (esp. ray tracing) are **very slow**
 - So they are called **offline rendering** methods
 - Remember how long it takes to render **1 frame** in Zootopia?



Zootopia, Disney Animation

Motivation

- With proper approximations, we can generate **plausible** results but runs much faster



Toyota 2000GT, from TurboSquid
(offline rendering)



Final Fantasy XV
(real-time rendering)

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

- Interactive 3D graphics pipeline as in OpenGL
 - Earliest SGI machines (Clark 82) to today
 - Most focus on more geometry, texture mapping
 - Some tweaks for realism (shadow mapping, accum. buffer)



SGI Reality Engine 93
(Kurt Akeley)

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

- 20 years ago
 - Interactive 3D geometry with simple texture mapping, fake shadows (OpenGL, DirectX)



Final Fantasy VII
(1997)



Counter Strike
(1999)

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

- 20 -> 10 years ago
 - A giant leap since the emergence of programmable shaders (2000)
 - Complex environment lighting, real materials (velvet, satin, paints), soft shadows



Assassin's Creed II
(2009)

DARK OILY



Resident Evil 5
(2009)

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

- Today
 - “Stunning graphics”



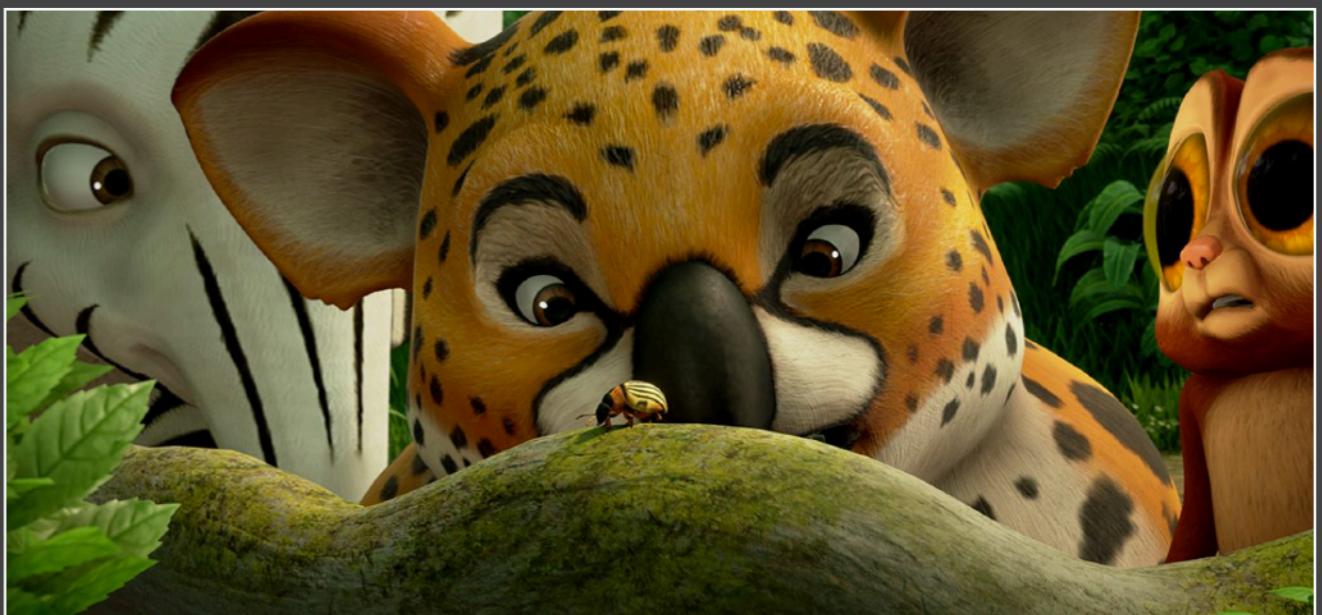
God of War (2018)

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

- Today
 - Extended to Virtual Reality (VR) and even movies



Beat Saber, VR Game



Zafari, animation series rendered completely using Unreal game engine

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

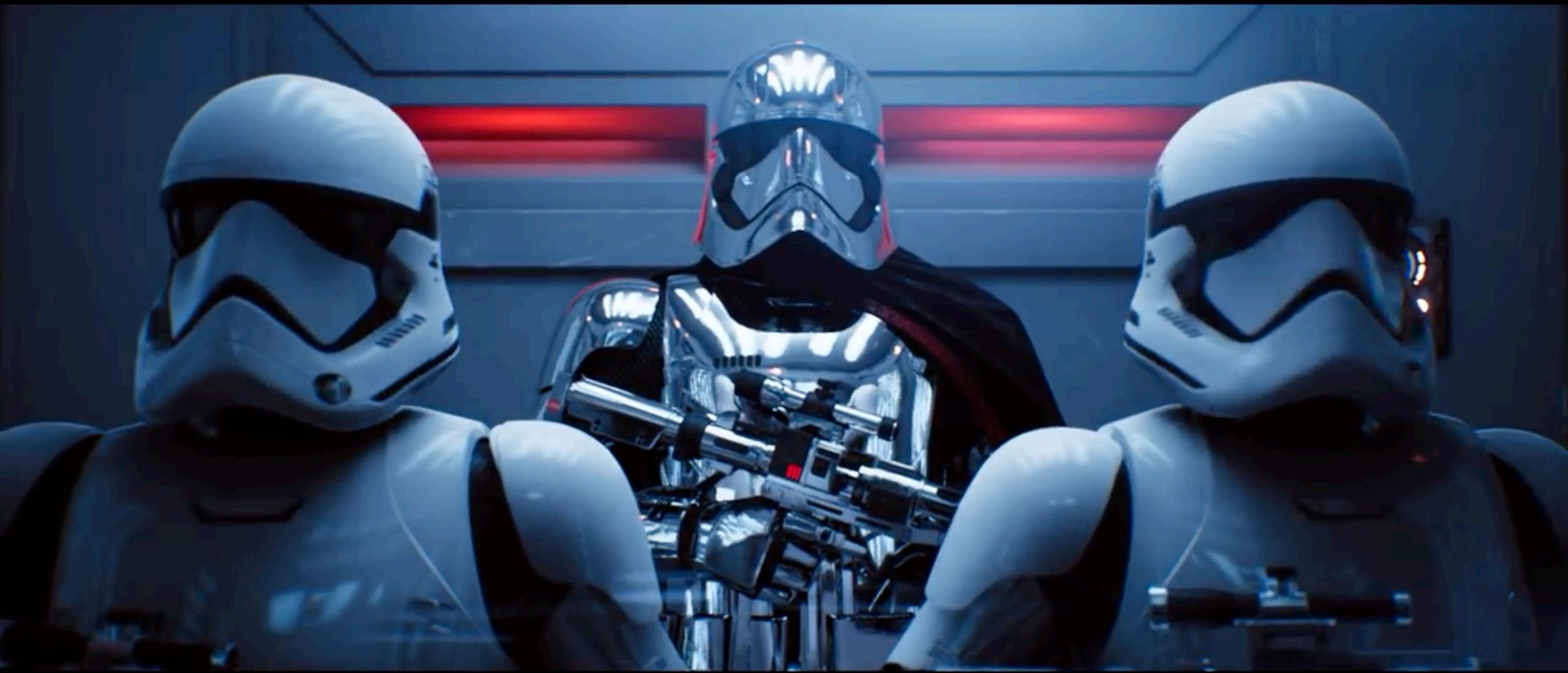
- Today



(2018) - Photorealistic Forests with Unreal Engine 4

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

- Today



(2018) - Real-Time Ray Tracing Demo, NVIDIA

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

- In the future



The Matrix (1999 movie)

Evolution of Real-Time Rendering

- In the future

A dark, futuristic scene from the movie Ready Player One. In the center, there is a digital projection of text. The text reads "COLUMBUS, OHIO" on the first line and "2045" on the second line. The text is in a blue, glowing font. There are some blurred lights and shapes in the background, suggesting a high-tech environment.

COLUMBUS, OHIO
2045 —

Ready Player One (2018 movie)

Technological and Algorithmic Milestones

- Programmable graphics hardware (shaders) (20 years ago)



A New Dawn demo, NVIDIA

<https://www.geforce.com/games-applications/pc-applications/a-new-dawn/videos>

Technological and Algorithmic Milestones

- Programmable graphics hardware (shaders)

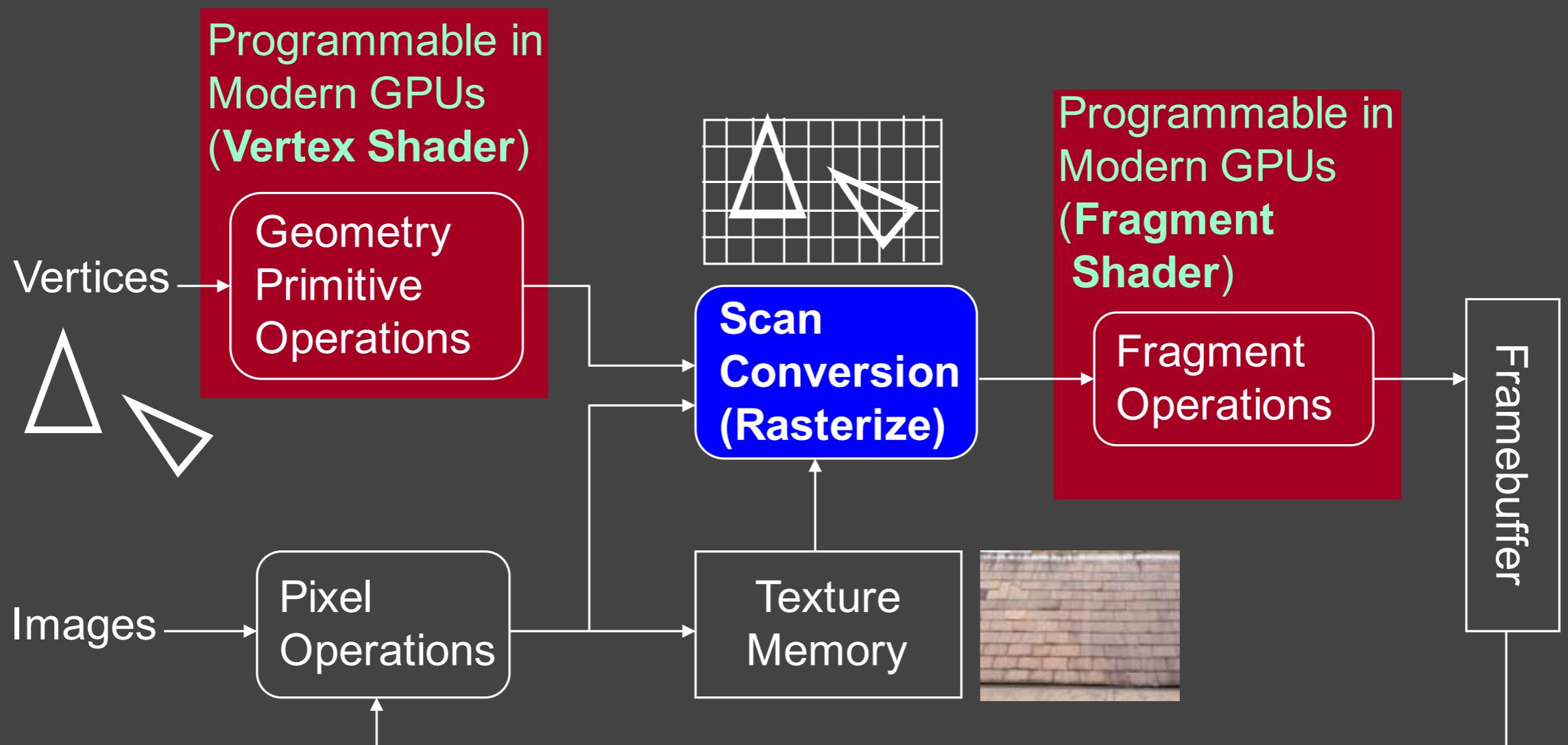


Image courtesy of Prof. Ravi Ramamoorthi

Technological and Algorithmic Milestones

- Precomputation-based methods (15 years ago)
 - Complex visual effects are (partially) pre-computed
 - Minimum rendering cost at run time

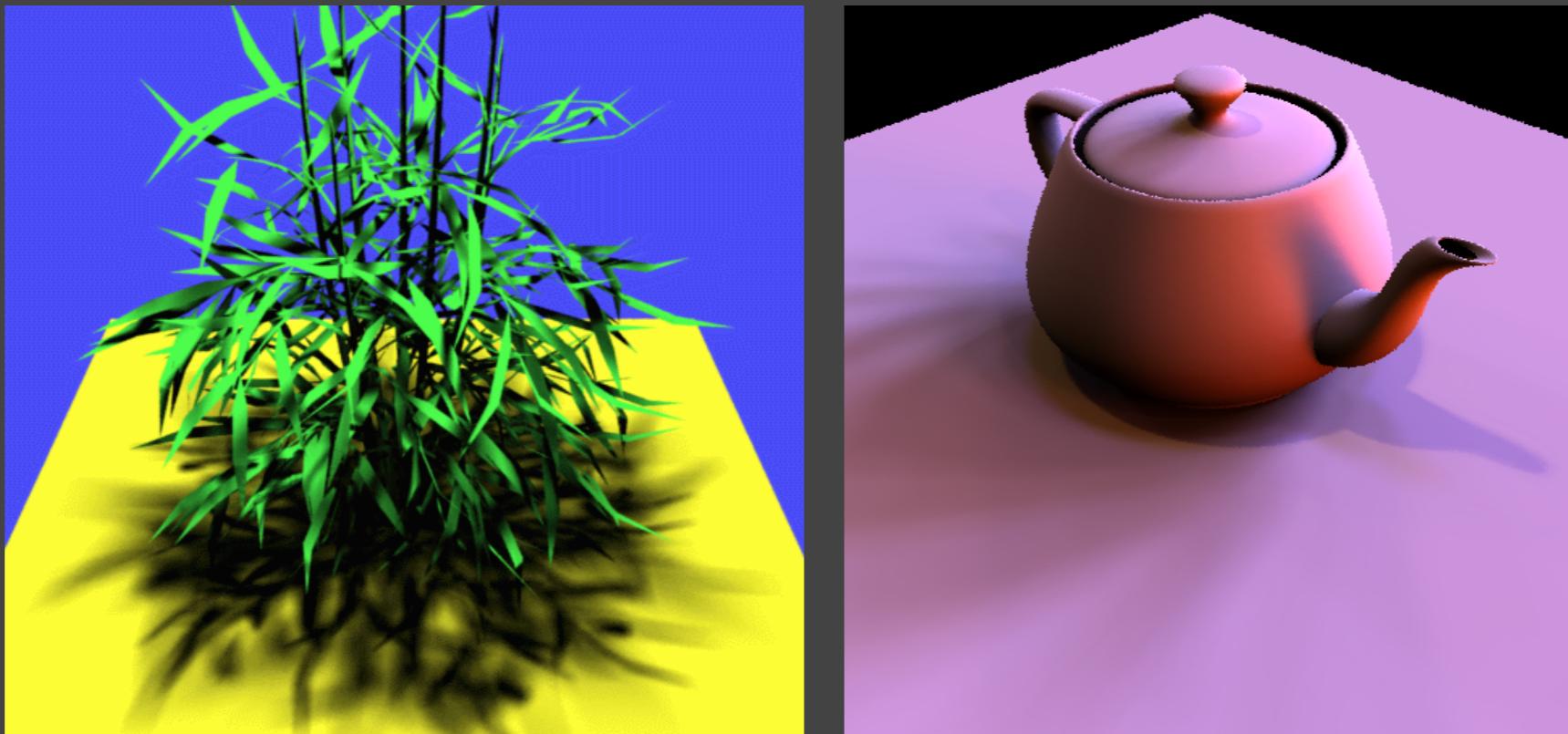


Image courtesy of Prof. Ravi Ramamoorthi

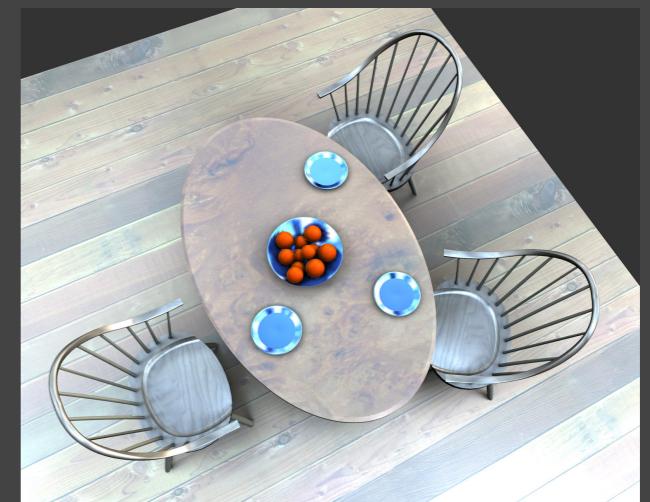
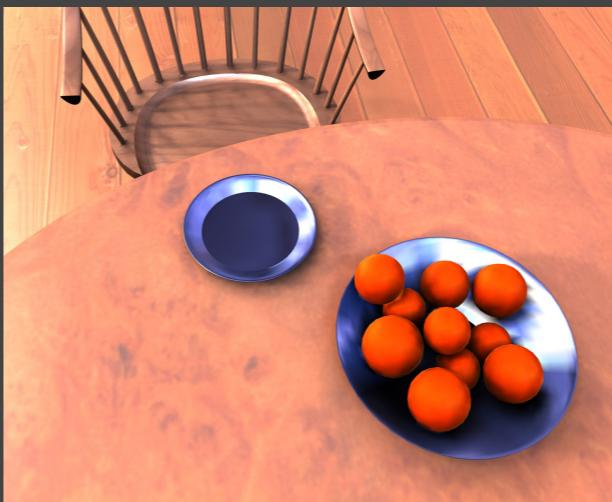
Technological and Algorithmic Milestones

- Precomputation-based methods



Technological and Algorithmic Milestones

- Precomputation-based methods: Relighting
 - Fix geometry
 - Fix viewpoint
 - Dynamically change lighting



[Ng, Ramamoorthi, Hanrahan 04]

Technological and Algorithmic Milestones

- Interactive Ray Tracing (8-10 years ago: CUDA + OptiX)
 - Hardware development allows ray tracing on GPUs at low sampling rates (~1 samples per pixel (SPP))
 - Followed by post processing to denoise



Car interactively rendered
using NVIDIA OptiX



Pixar's real-time
previewer

Questions?

Next Lecture

- A swift and brutal recap of some important concepts
 - Graphics Pipeline
 - Shader Language
 - Rendering Equation
 - Calculus
 - etc.

Thank you!