
3D Graphics Programming Tools

Object modelling

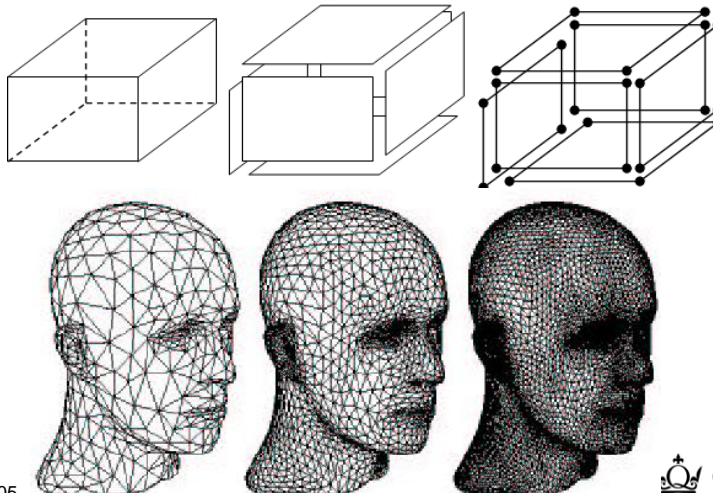
EBU5405



1

Modelling

The generation of **abstract descriptions of 3D objects** is called **geometric modelling**.



EBU5405



2

3D Graphics



EBU5405



3

3D Graphics



EBU5405



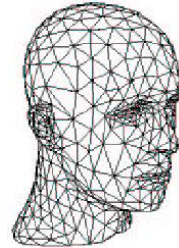
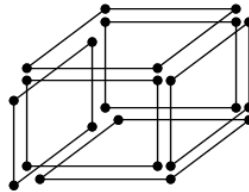
4

Hierarchy in geometric models

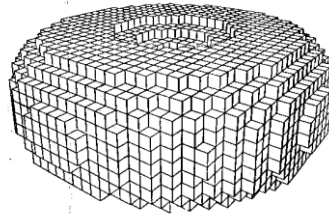
- Point-based



- Surface-based



- Constructive

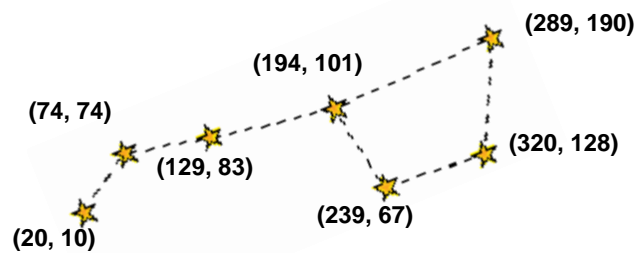


EBU5405



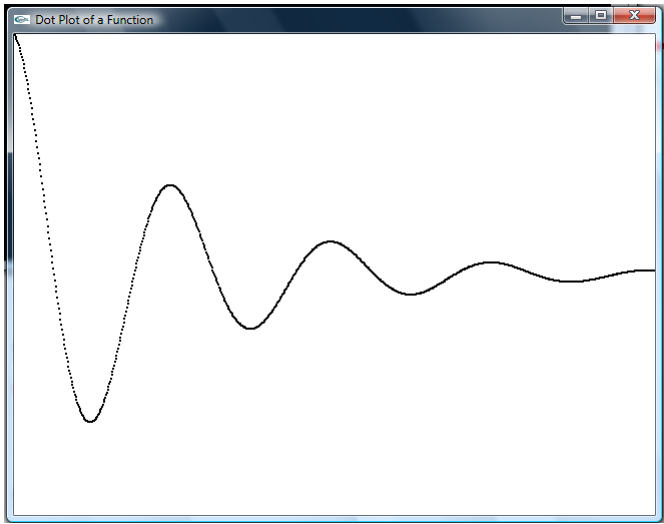
6

Point-based: the Big Dipper

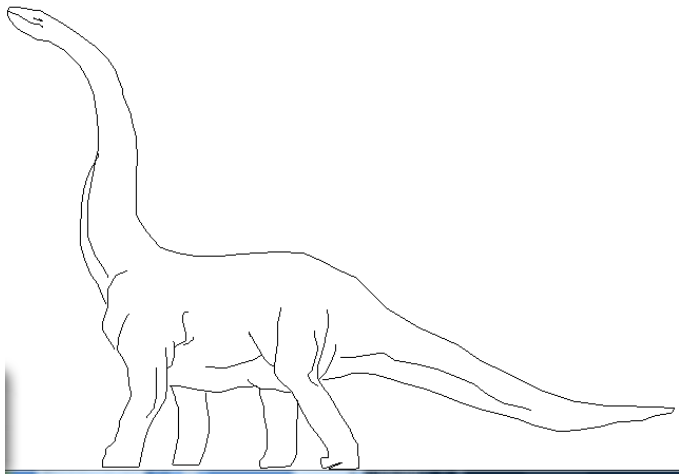


7

Dot plots

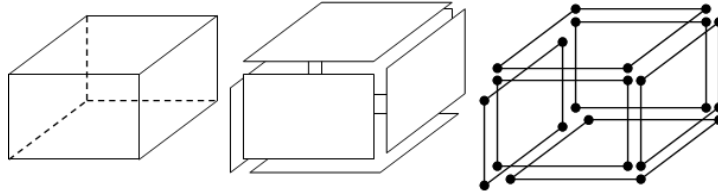


Drawing from a file

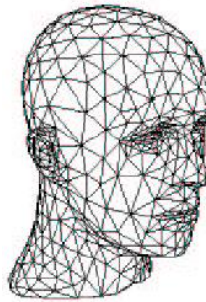


Surface modelling

Boundary representations (b-reps)



Polygon mesh

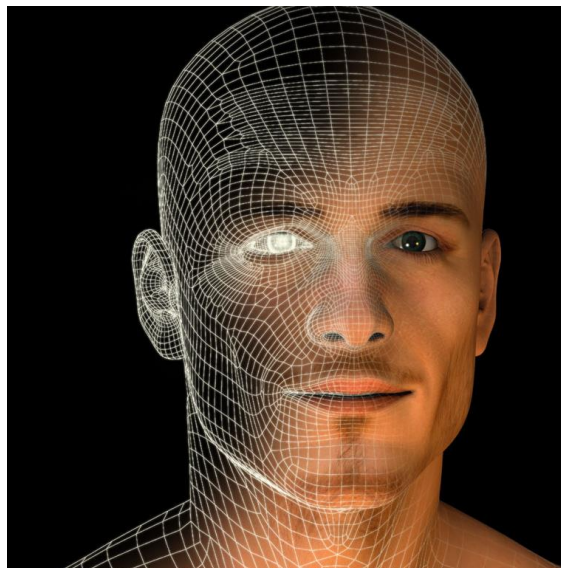


EBU5405



10

Polygon mesh



EBU5405



11

Representing polygon meshes

Polygon mesh (or “POLYHEDRON”):

- POLYHEDRON = geometric object with flat faces and straight edges
- Collection of polygons (faces), which are together connected to form the skin of the object
 - **Faces**
 - **Edges** → the boundary between faces
 - **Vertices** → the boundaries between edges, or where three or more faces meet
 - **Normals**, texture coordinates, colours, shading coefficients, etc



Polygon Mesh

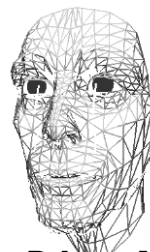
EBU5405



12

Why polygons?

- They are:
 - Easy to represent
 - Easy to transform
 - Easy to draw
- Especially if they are:
 - Flat
 - Convex
 - Simple



Polygon Mesh

EBU5405



13

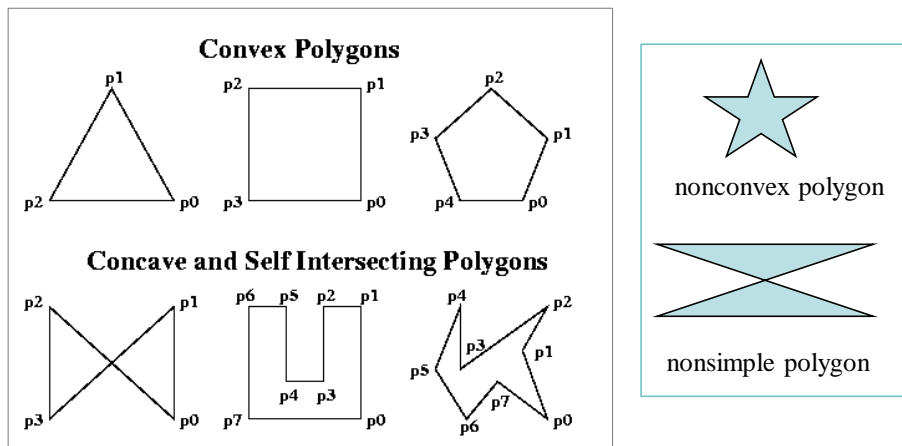
Polygon Issues

- OpenGL will only display polygons correctly that are
 - Simple: edges cannot cross
 - Convex: All points on line segment between two points in a polygon are also in the polygon
 - Flat: all vertices are in the same plane
- User program must check if above true
 - OpenGL will produce output if these conditions are violated but it may not be what is desired
- Triangles satisfy all conditions

14

14

Polygon Issues

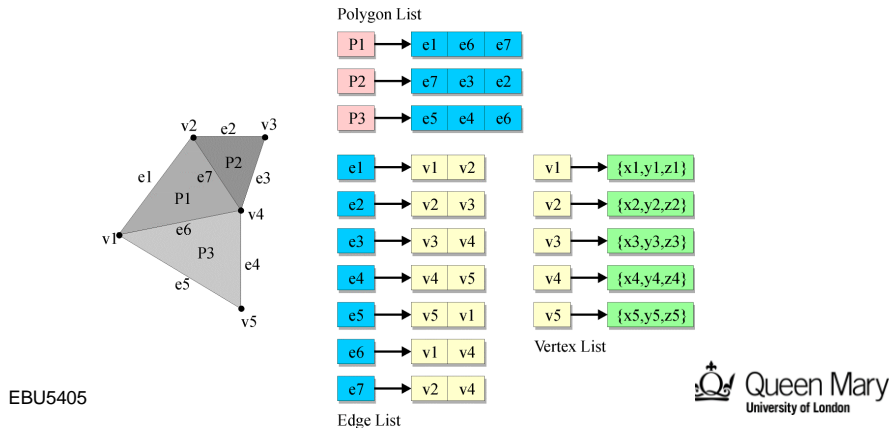


15

15

Representing polygon meshes

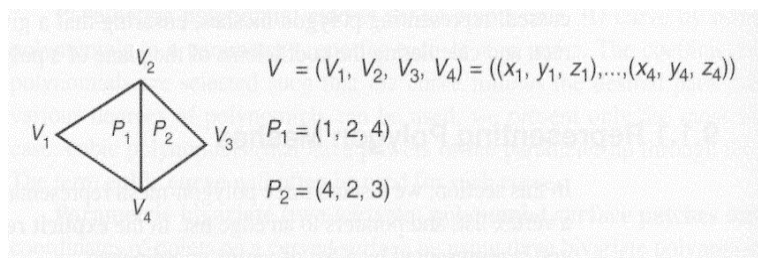
- **Vertex list** → locations of the vertices, geometric info
- **Edge list** → indexes into end vertices of edges, topological info
- **Face list** → indexes into vertices and normal lists, topological info
- **Normal list** → directions of the normal vectors, orientation info



16

Representing polygon meshes

- Euler's Formula: $V - E + F = 2$
 - V: # of vertices
 - E: # of edges
 - F: # of faces
- Vertex list and face list are enough



EBU5405

17

Polygon mesh example

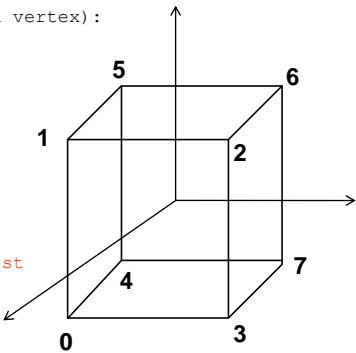
A cube:

Coordinates of **Vertices** (3D, x, y, and z for each vertex):

```
-1 , -1 , 1 # Vertex 0
-1 , 1 , 1 # Vertex 1
1 , 1 , 1 # Vertex 2
1 , -1 , 1 # Vertex 3
-1 , -1 , -1 # Vertex 4
-1 , 1 , -1 # Vertex 5
1 , 1 , -1 # Vertex 6
1 , -1 , -1 # Vertex 7
```

Lists of 6 **Faces** (vertices are referenced to the vertices above, -1 marks the end of the vertex list of a face) :

```
0, 3, 2, 1, -1 # Front face=vertex 0,1,2,3
2, 3, 7, 6, -1 # Right side
3, 0, 4, 7, -1 # Bottom
1, 2, 6, 5, -1 # Top
4, 5, 6, 7, -1 # Back
5, 4, 0, 1, -1 # Left
```



EBU5405



18

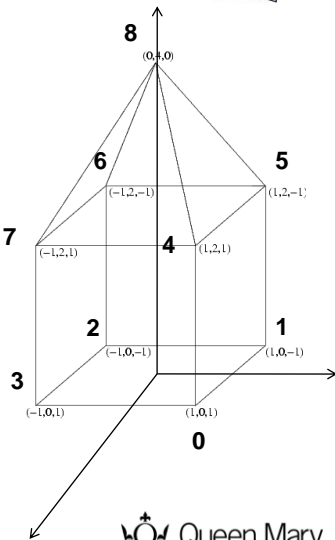
Polygon mesh example



A House:

Coordinates of **Vertices**: List of **Faces**?

```
1 0 1 # Vertex 0
1 0 -1 # Vertex 1
-1 0 -1 # Vertex 2
-1 0 1 # Vertex 3
1 2 1 # Vertex 4
1 2 -1 # Vertex 5
-1 2 -1 # Vertex 6
-1 2 1 # Vertex 7
0 4 0 # Vertex 8
```



EBU5405



19

A simple barn

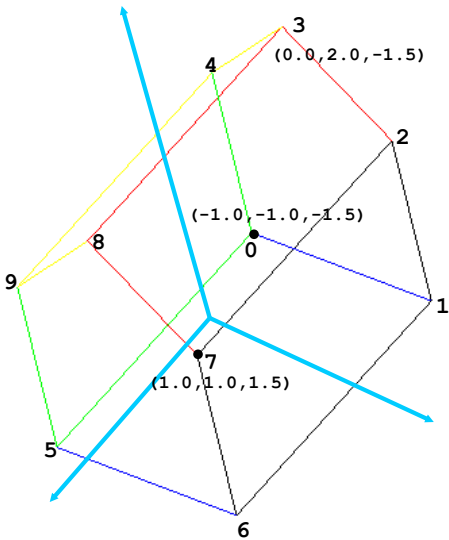


EBU5405



20

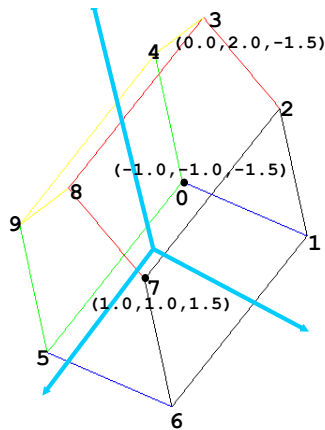
A simple barn



EBU5405



21



A simple barn



```
GLfloat GlobalVertices[][3] = { ? };
```

```
GLint BarnFaces[][6] = { ? };
```

EBU5405



22

Drawing a polygon via a list of vertices

```
void a3dpolygon(GLfloat vertices[][3], GLint face[])
{
    /* draw a polygon (face) via list of vertices */
    int i = 0;
    int id;
    glShadeModel(GL_FLAT);
    glBegin(GL_POLYGON);
    while (face[i] > -1) {
        id = face[i];
        glVertex3fv(vertices[id]);
        i++;
    }
    glEnd();
}
```

EBU5405



23

A simple barn

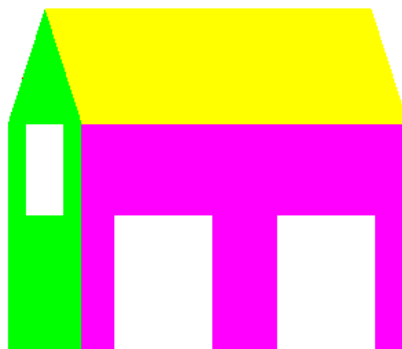
```
void barn()
{
    /* map vertices to faces */
    glColor3fv(colors[0]);
    a3dpolygon(BarnVertices, BarnFaces[0]);
    glColor3fv(colors[1]);
    a3dpolygon(BarnVertices, BarnFaces[1]);
    glColor3fv(colors[2]);
    a3dpolygon(BarnVertices, BarnFaces[2]);
    glColor3fv(colors[3]);
    a3dpolygon(BarnVertices, BarnFaces[3]);
    glColor3fv(colors[4]);
    a3dpolygon(BarnVertices, BarnFaces[4]);
    glColor3fv(colors[5]);
    a3dpolygon(BarnVertices, BarnFaces[5]);
    glColor3fv(colors[6]);
    a3dpolygon(BarnVertices, BarnFaces[6]);
}
```

EBU5405



24

A barn with windows ...



EBU5405



25

Polygon meshes



EBU5405



26

3D File Formats

- The basic purpose of a 3D file format is to store information about 3D models as plain text or binary data.
- There are hundreds of 3D file formats currently being used!
- Software manufacturers such as AutoDesk and Blender have their own proprietary format which is optimized for their software.
- To solve the problem of interoperability, *neutral* or *open source* formats were invented as intermediate formats for converting between two proprietary formats.
- Some popular formats: [STL](#), [OBJ](#), [FBX](#), [COLLADA](#), [VRML](#) and [X3D](#), etc.

EBU5405



27

3D File Formats

Green indicates *supported*, red indicated *not supported*

File format	Geometry		Appearance				Scene		Animation	
	Approximate mesh	Precise mesh	CSG	Color	Material	Texture	Camera	Lights	Relative positioning	
STL	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
OBJ	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
FBX	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
COLLADA	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
3DS	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red
IGES	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red
STEP	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red
X3D	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

EBU5405



STL (STereoLithography)

- STL is one of the most important neutral 3D file formats in the domain of 3D printing, rapid prototyping, and computer aided manufacturing.
- STL encodes the surface geometry of a 3D model approximately using a triangular mesh.

EBU5405



OBJ

- The OBJ file format is another neutral format widely used in the fields of 3D printing and 3D graphics.
- The OBJ file format supports both approximate and precise encoding of surface geometry (i.e. smooth curves and surfaces such as NURBS: *Non-Uniform Rational B-Spline*), instead of polygons.
- When using the approximate encoding, it doesn't restrict the surface mesh to triangular facets (users can use polygons like Quadrilaterals).

EBU5405



30

FBX

- FBX is a proprietary file format which is widely used in the film industry and video games.
- Used as an exchange format which facilitates high fidelity exchange between 3DS Max, Maya, MotionBuilder, Mudbox and other proprietary software.

EBU5405



31

COLLADA

- Collada is a neutral file format used heavily in the video game and film industry.
- The file extension for the COLLADA format is .DAE
- The COLLADA format supports geometry, appearance related properties like color, material, textures, and animation.
- The COLLADA format stores data using the XML markup language.

EBU5405



32

VRML and X3D

- VRML stands for Virtual Reality Modeling Language.
- It is a 3D file format that was developed for the web.
- The VRML format uses a polygonal mesh to encode surface geometry and can store appearance related information such as color, texture, transparency etc.
- It has been succeeded by X3D.
- X3D is an XML based 3D file format.
- The X3D format adds NURBS encoding of the surface geometry, the capability of storing scene related information and support for animation.
- The goal of X3D is to become the standard 3D file format for the web, but it has not yet received wide acceptance.

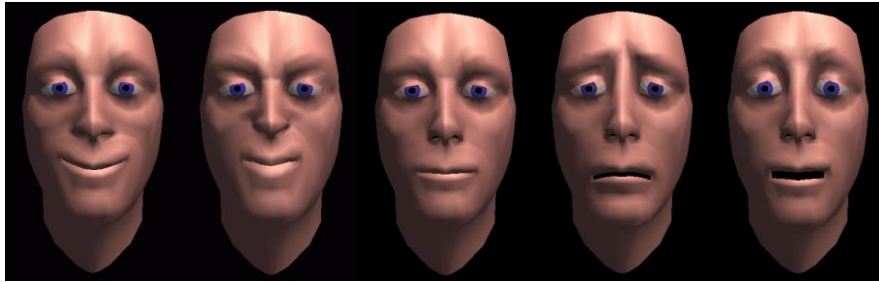
EBU5405



33

Building a face mesh

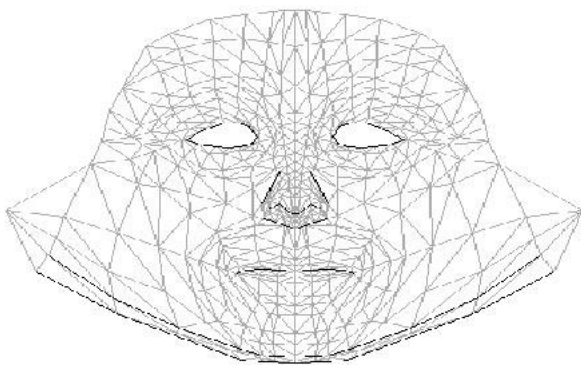
- Number of nodes
- Computational cost



by: **Cem Yuksel**, BUPAM Bogazici University Pattern Analysis and Machine Vision Laboratory
EBU5405

34

Generic Face Mesh and Mesh Adaptation



Advantages:

- Well-defined features
- Efficient Triangulation

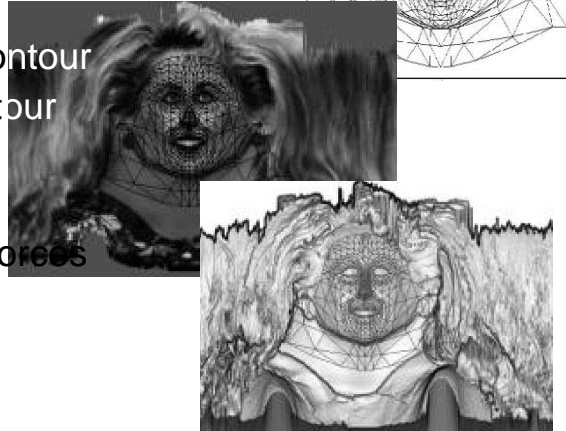
K. Waters. A muscle model for animating three-dimensional facial expression. *Computer Graphics*, 1987.

EBU5405

35

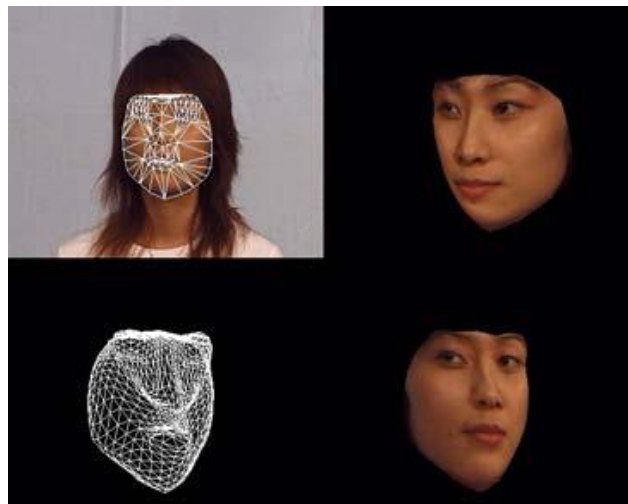
Mesh Adaptation Procedures

1. Locate nose tip
2. Locate chin tip
3. Locate mouth contour
4. Locate chin contour
5. Locate ears
6. Locate eyes
7. Activate spring forces
8. Adapt hair mesh
9. Conform to 3D



by: **Cem Yuksel**, BUPAM Bogazici University Pattern Analysis and Machine Vision Laboratory
EBU5405

36



EBU5405

37