



Lecture 06

Rendering in Game Engine

The Challenges and Fun of Rendering the Beautiful Mother Nature



Red Dead Redemption



Real-World Landscape

- Huge geospatial scale
- Rich geomorphological
 - Vegetation
 - Rivers
 - Undulating peaks
 - Alpine snow
 -



Too Complex for Rendering Using Traditional Mesh + Material



Environment Components in Games



Sky and Cloud



Vegetation



Terrain



Terrain Rendering



Microsoft Flight Simulator

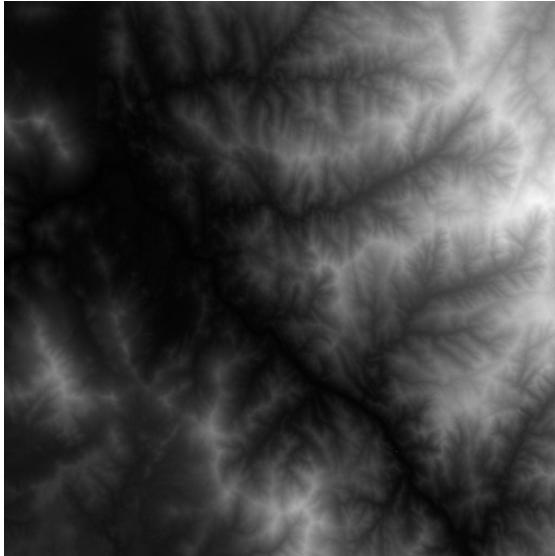


No Man's Sky

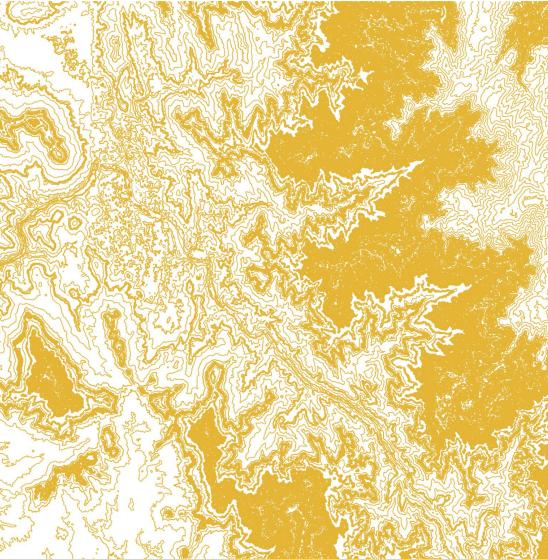


Simple Idea - Heightfield

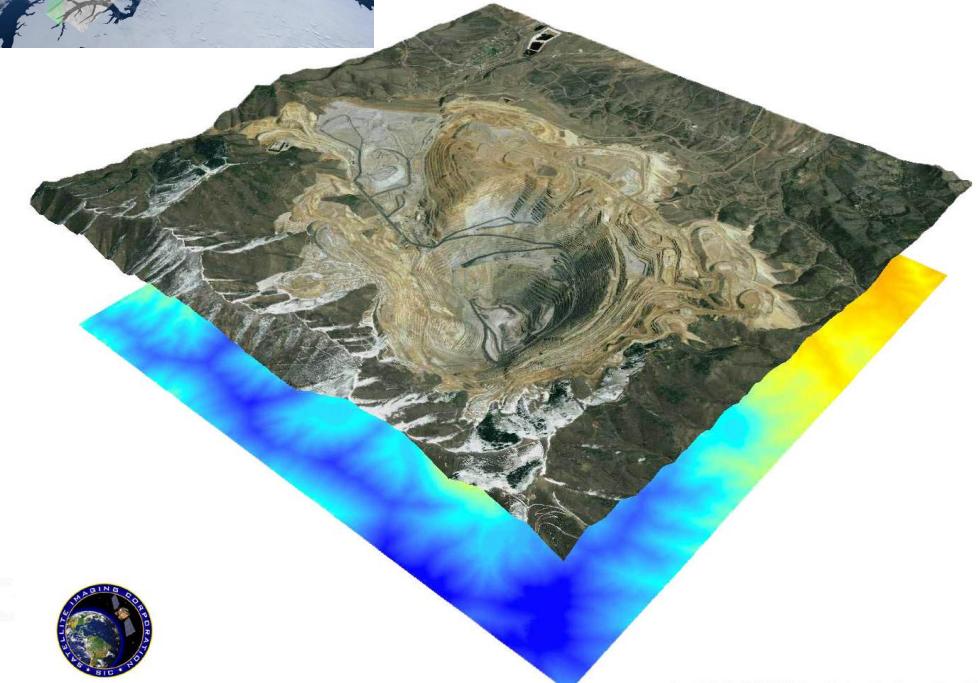
- Satellite image and google earth



Height Map



Contour Map



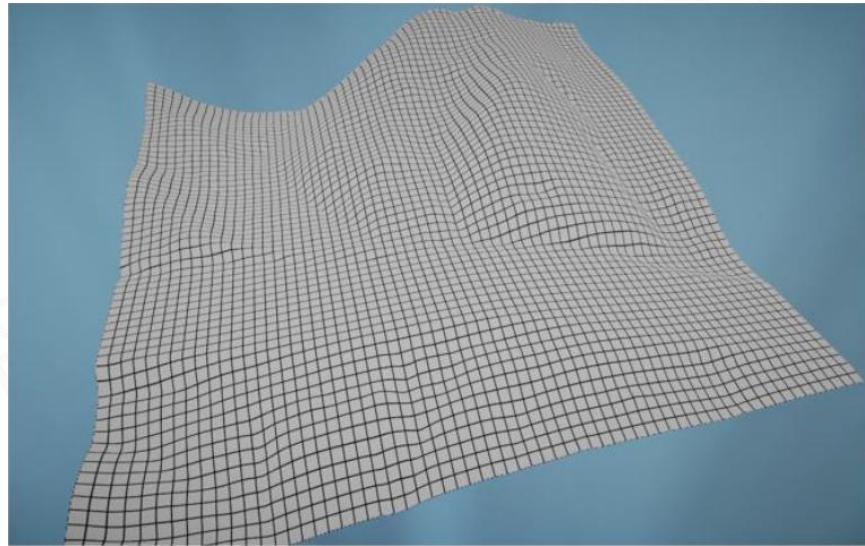


Expressive Heightfield Terrains

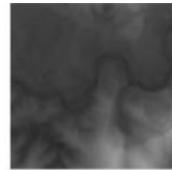




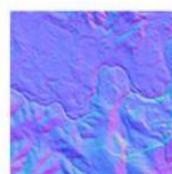
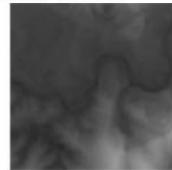
Render Terrain with Heightfield



Mesh Grids



Material



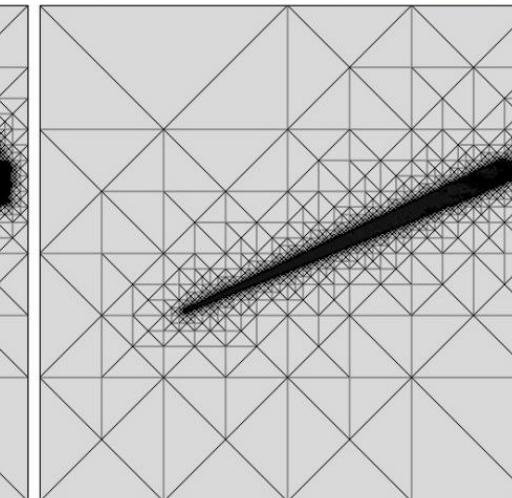
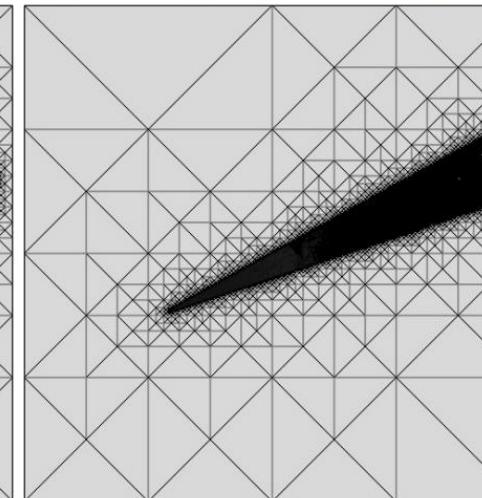
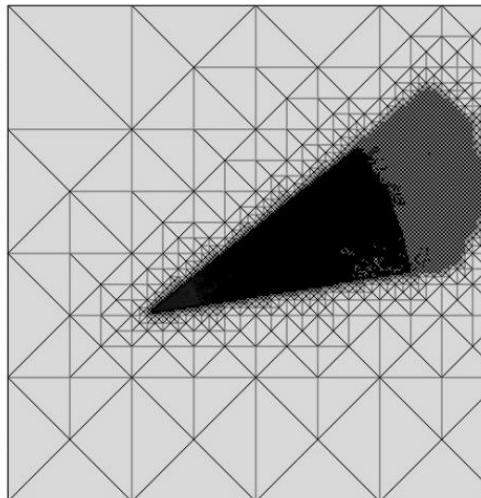
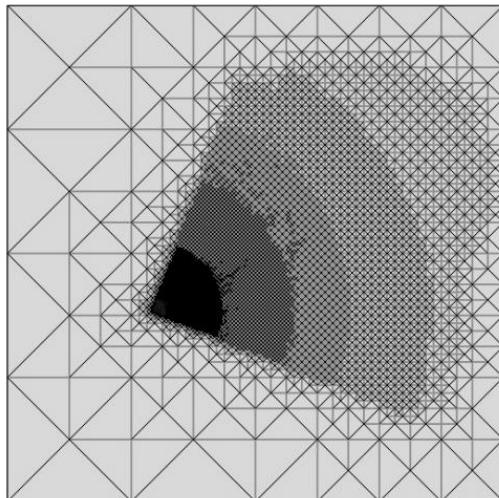
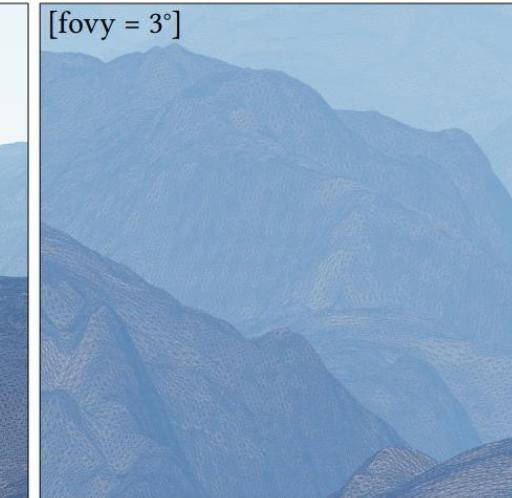
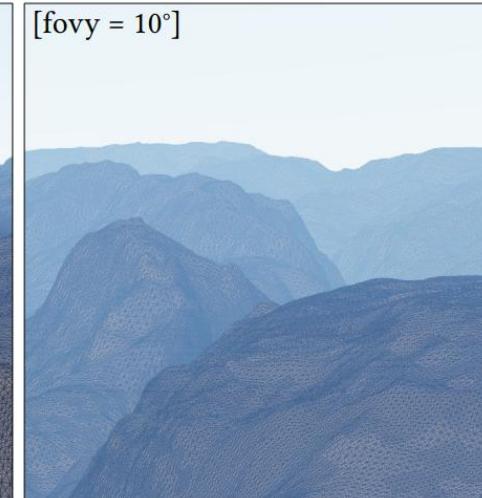
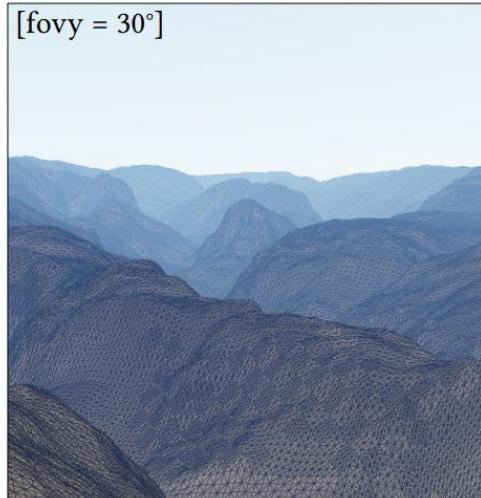
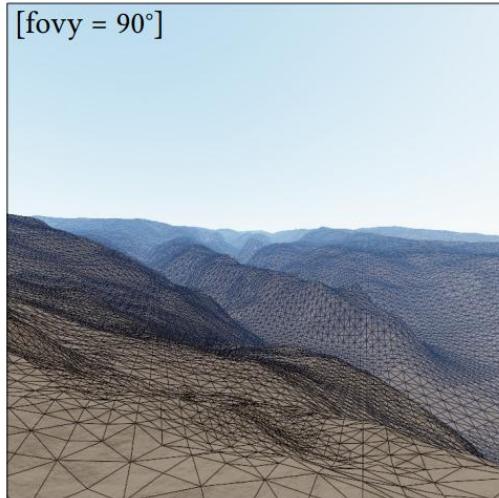
1km × 1km map, sample distance 1m
Need $2 * 1,000 * 1,000 = 2,000,000$ triangles



Vast Open World



Adaptive Mesh Tessellation

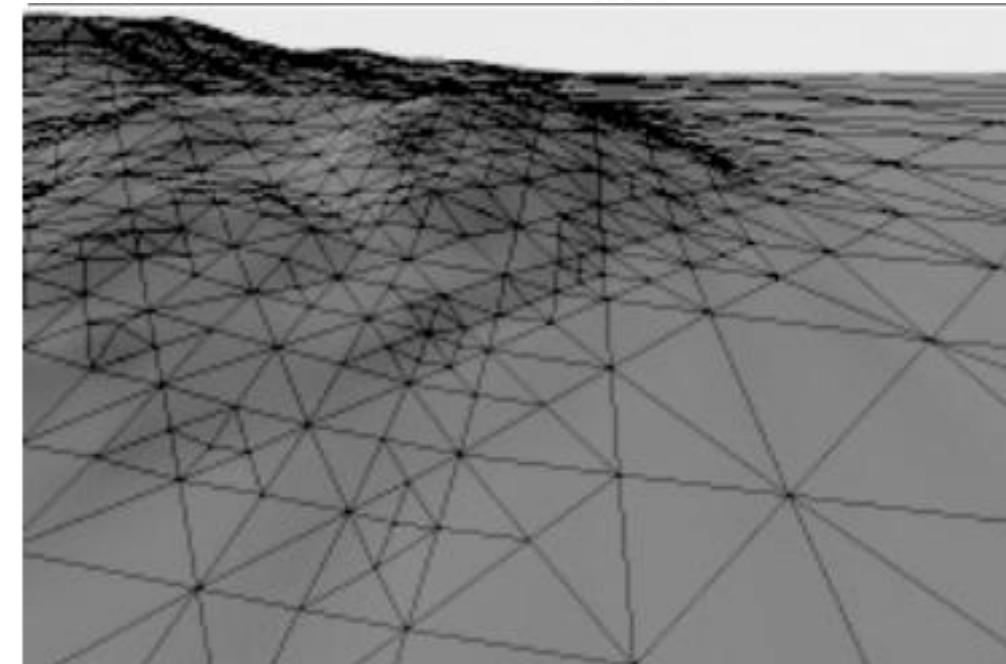
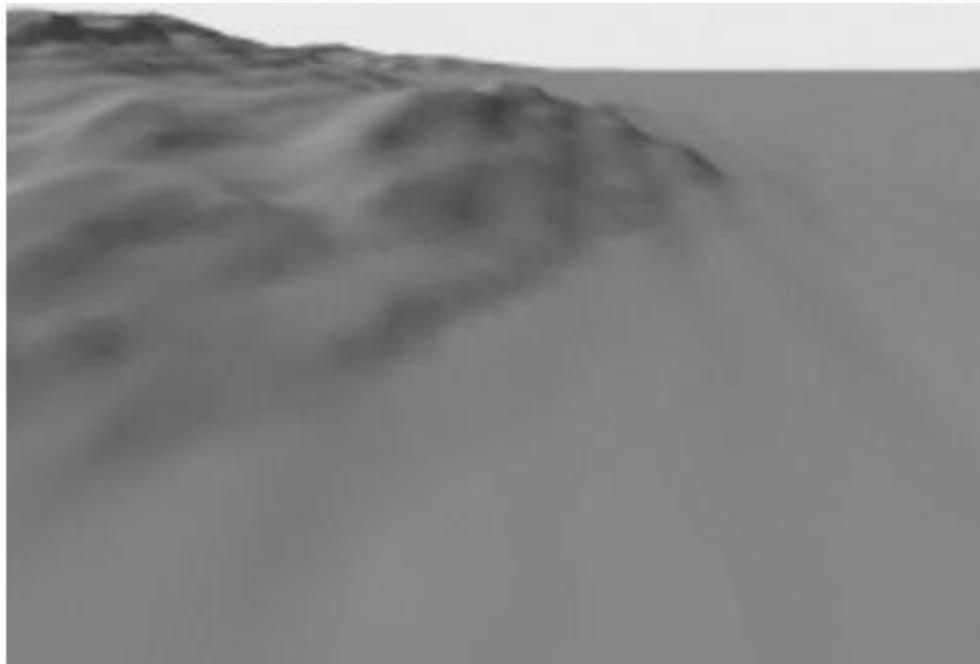




Two Golden Rules of Optimization

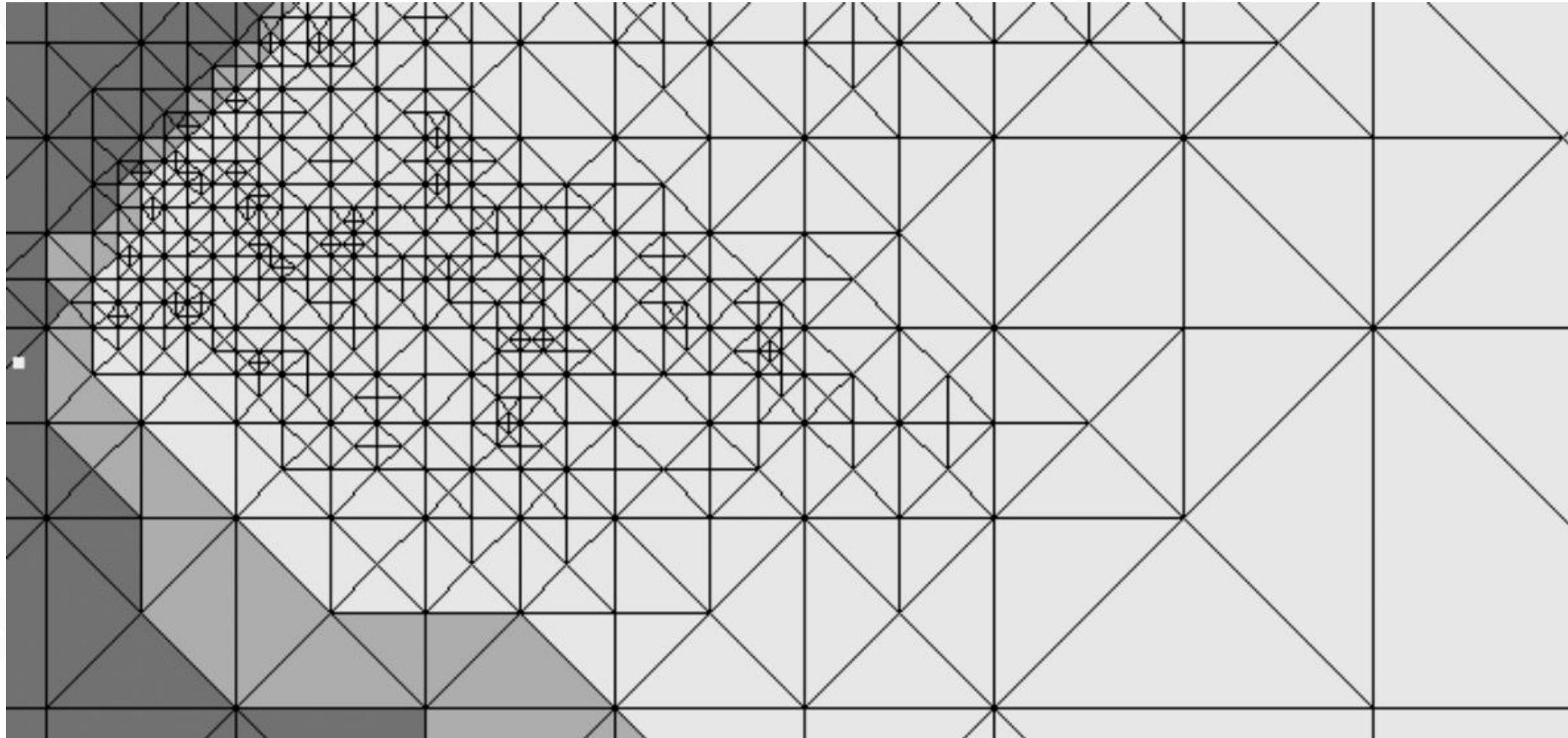
View-dependent error bound

- Distance to camera and FoV
- Error compare to ground truth (pre-computation)





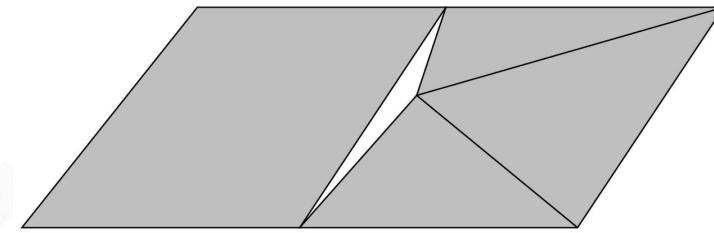
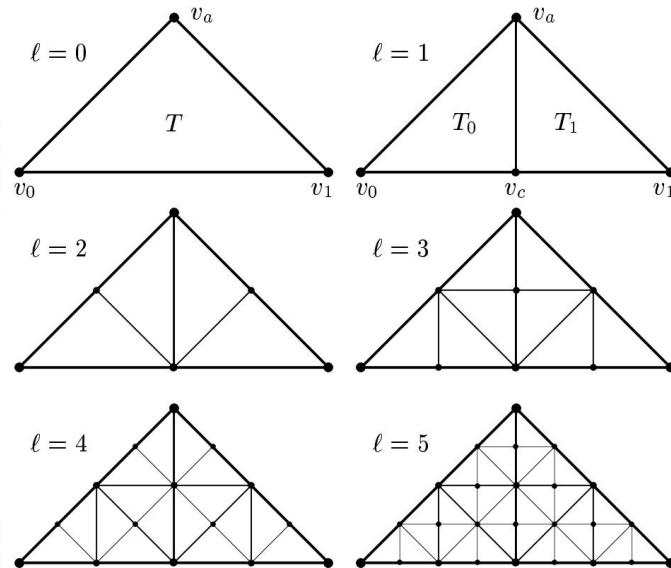
Triangle-Based Subdivision



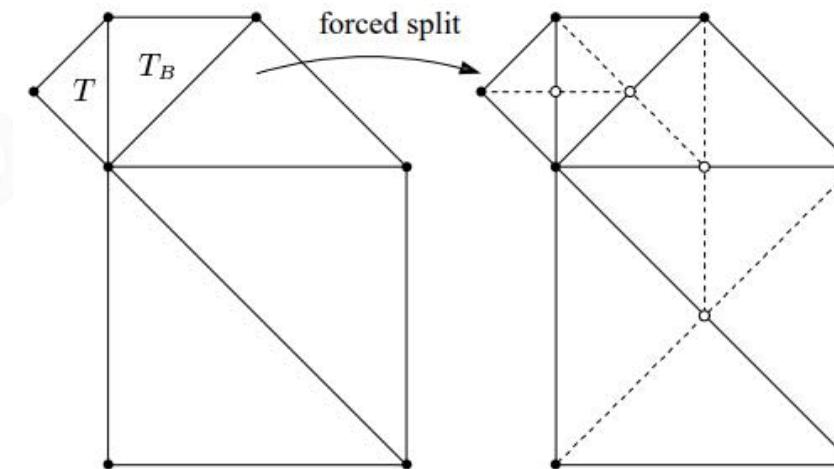


Subdivision and T-Junctions

Continuously partitioning triangles and their children based on the idea of binary trees

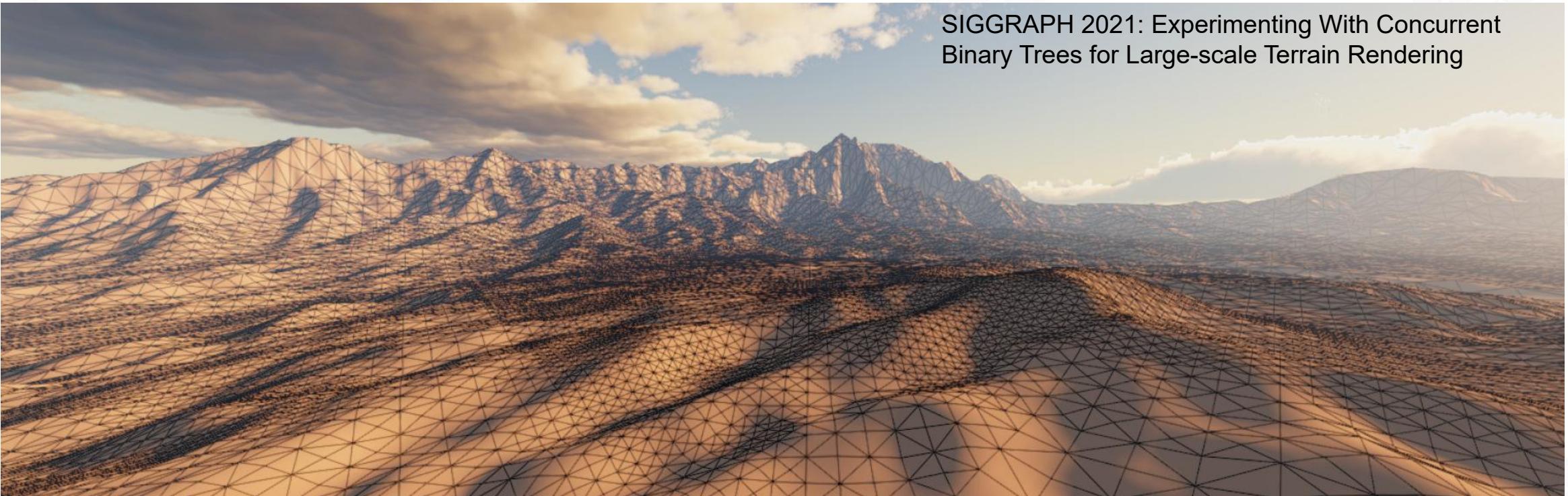


T-Junction





Triangle-Based Subdivision on GPU



54×54 km terrain on GPU using Unity game engine



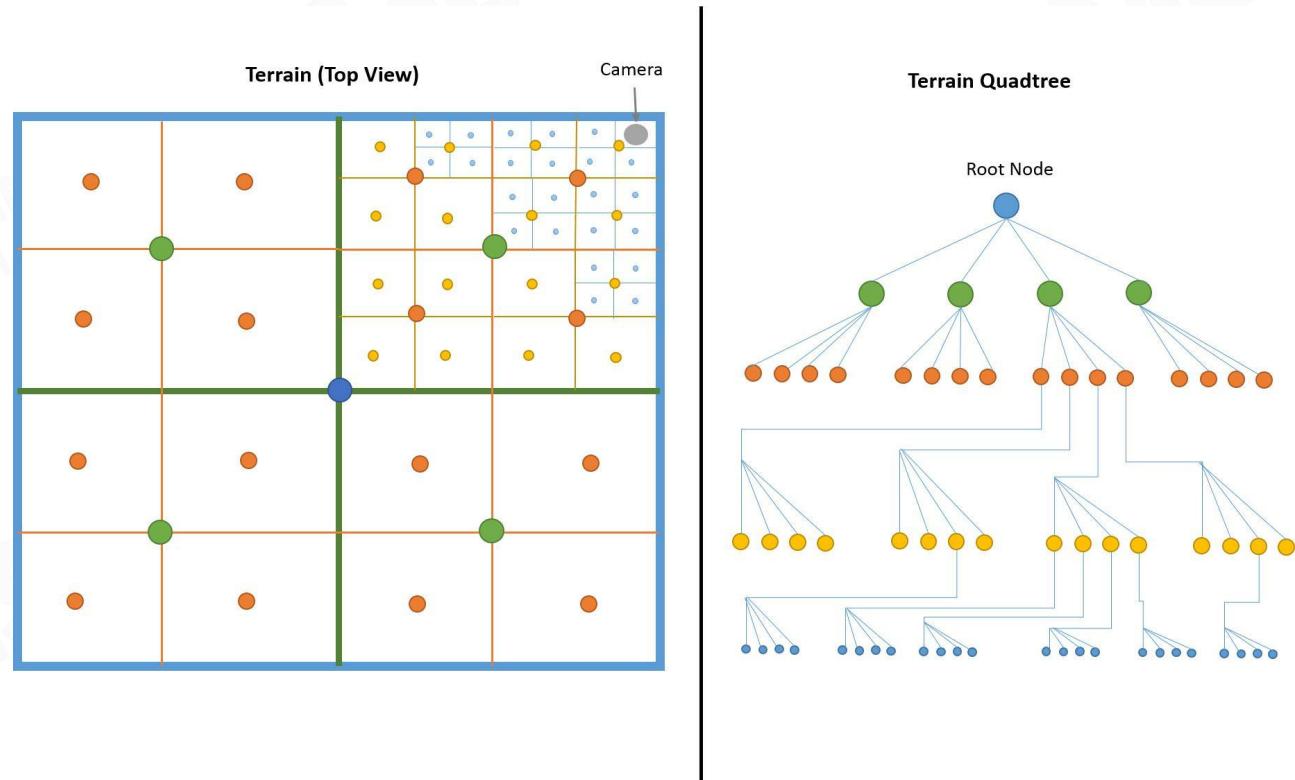
QuadTree-Based Subdivision

Pros

- Easy to construct
- Easy management of data under geospatial, including objects culling and data streaming

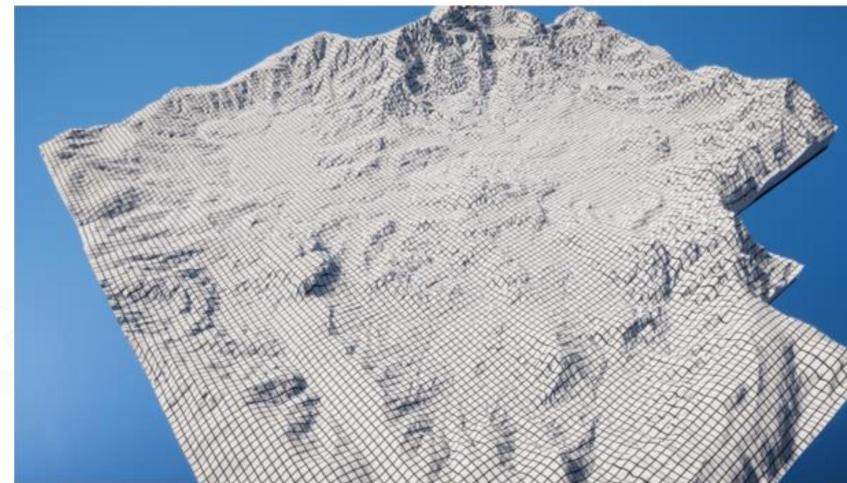
Cons

- Mesh subdivision is not as flexible as triangle mesh
- The grid level of the leaf nodes needs to be consistent





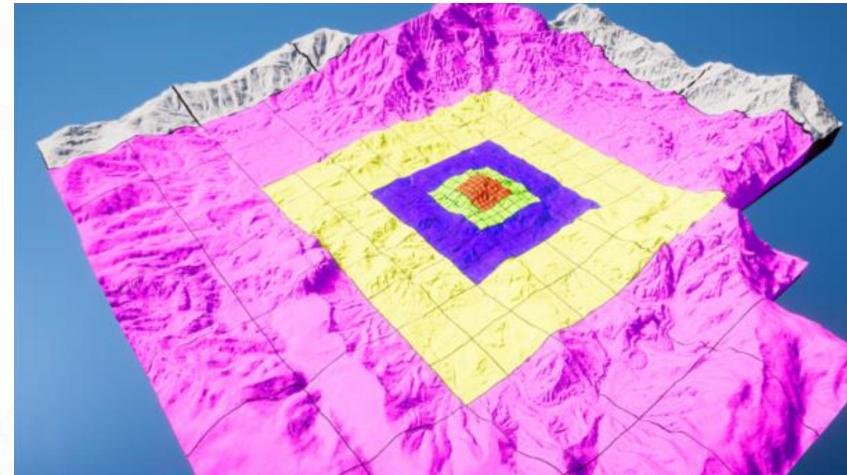
Original Terrain



Highest Resolution Grid



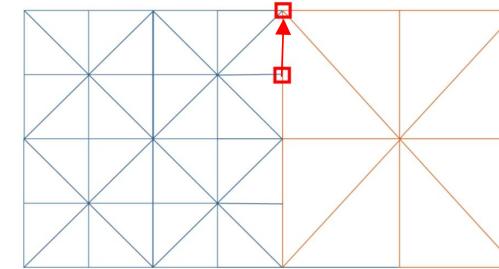
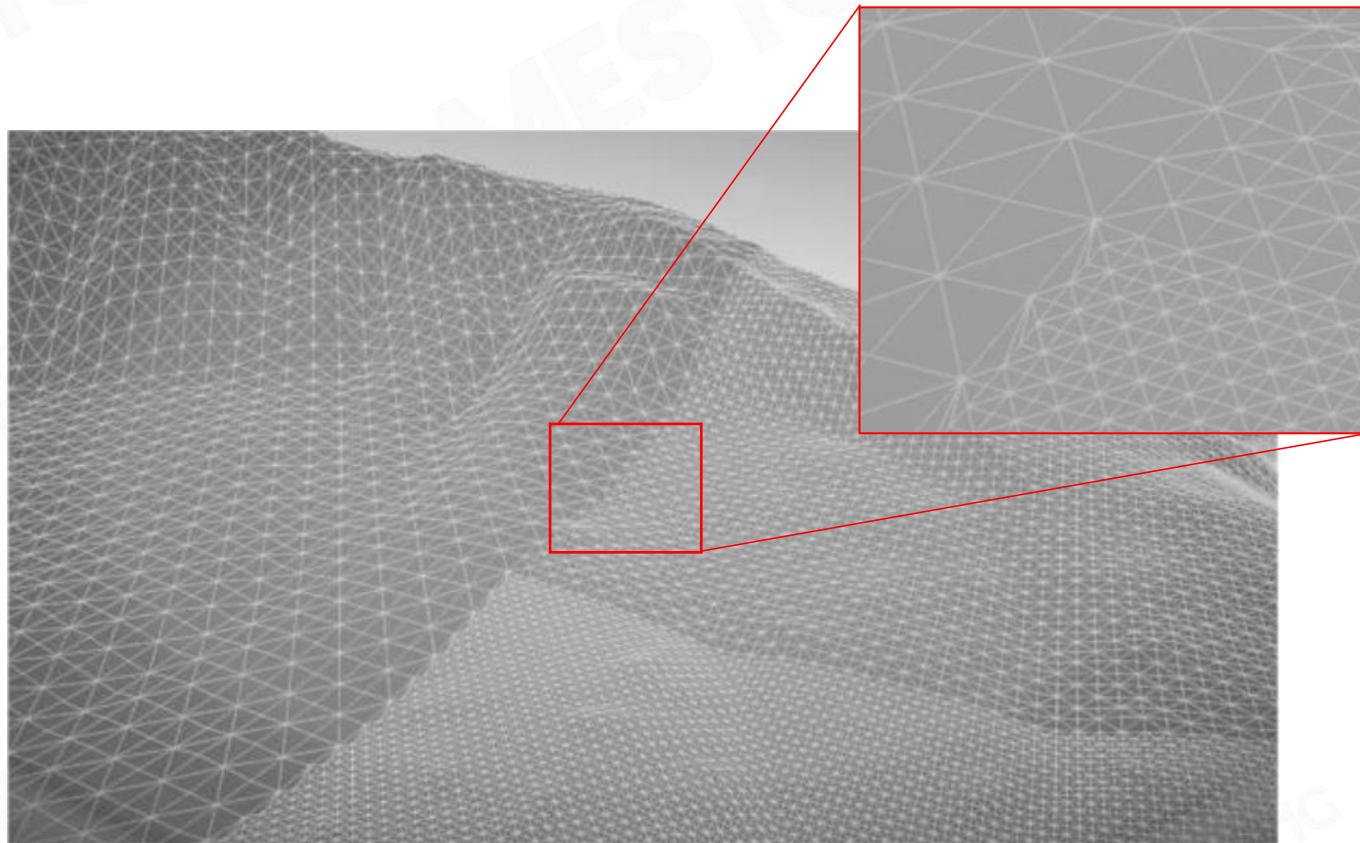
Lowest Resolution Grid



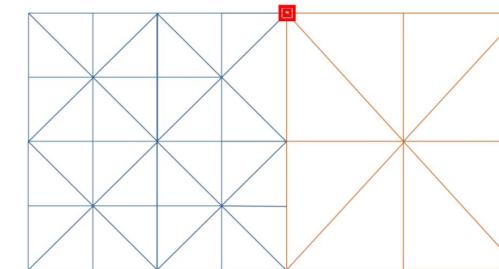
Terrain Quad Tree



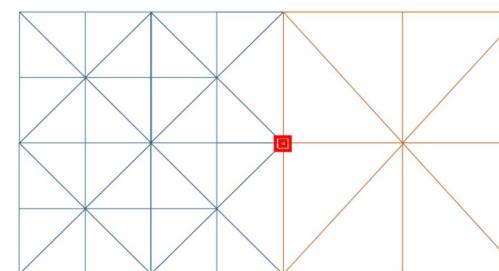
Solving T-Junctions among Quad Grids



Source



Stitching Step 1



Mesh LoD Stitching

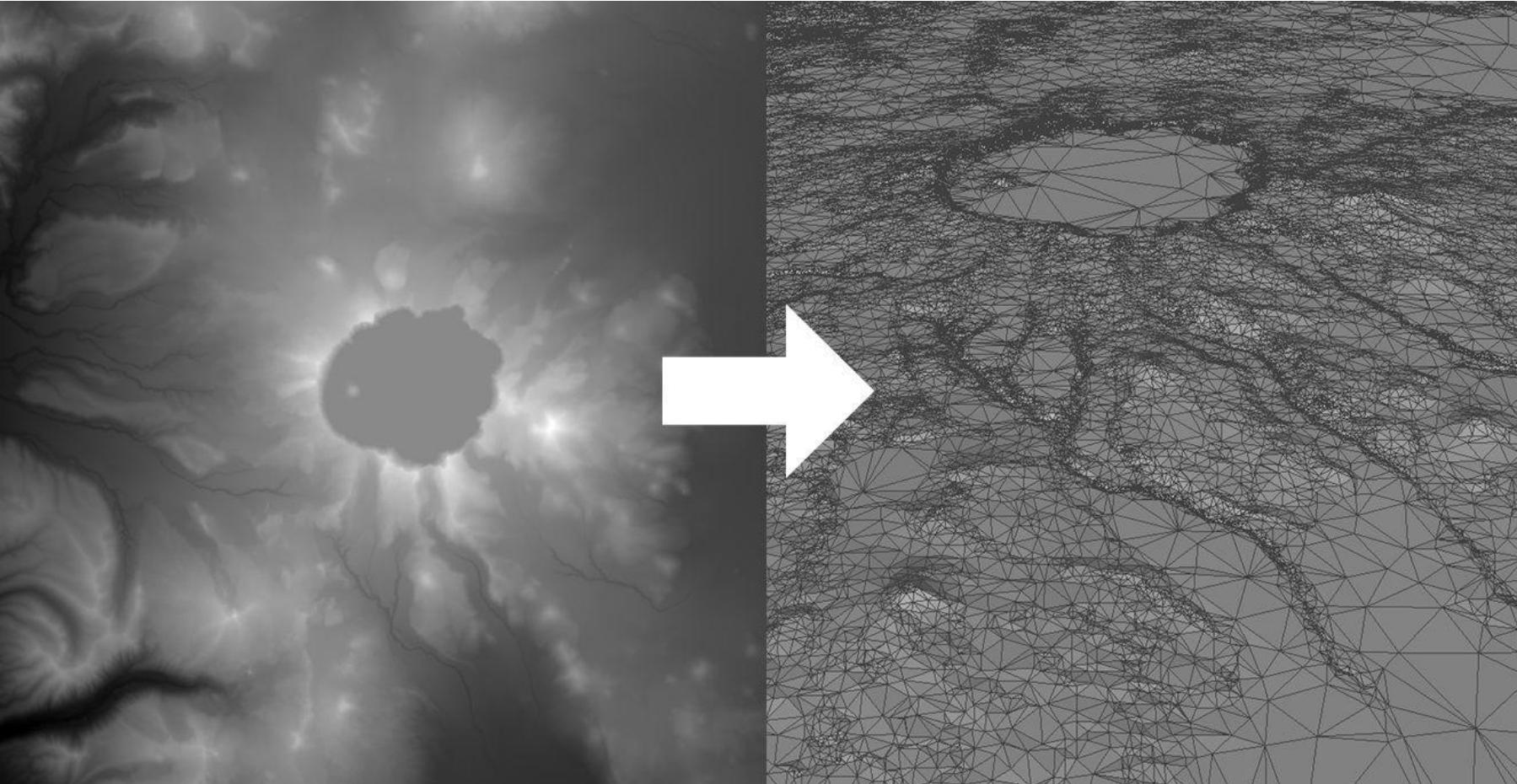


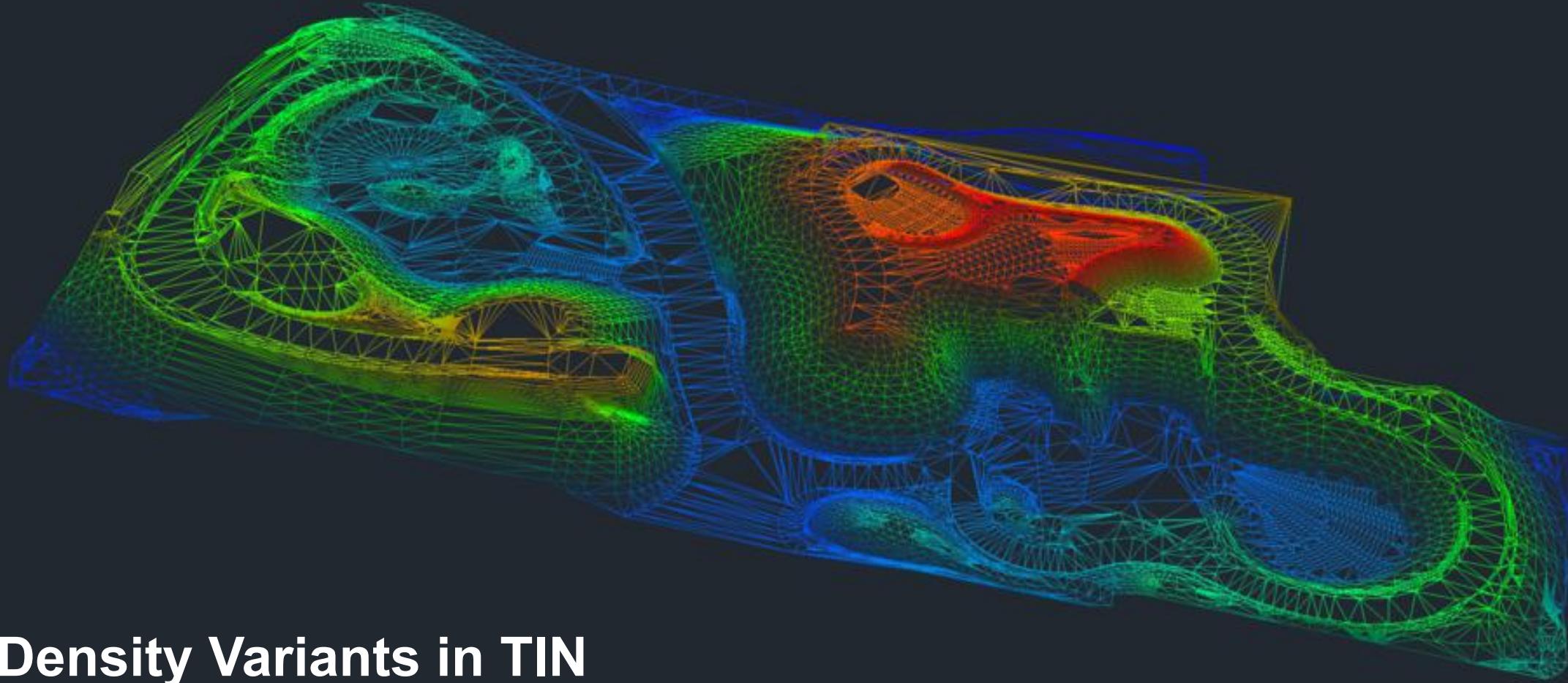
Terrain Rendering with Quad Grid

Far Cry V



Triangulated Irregular Network (TIN)



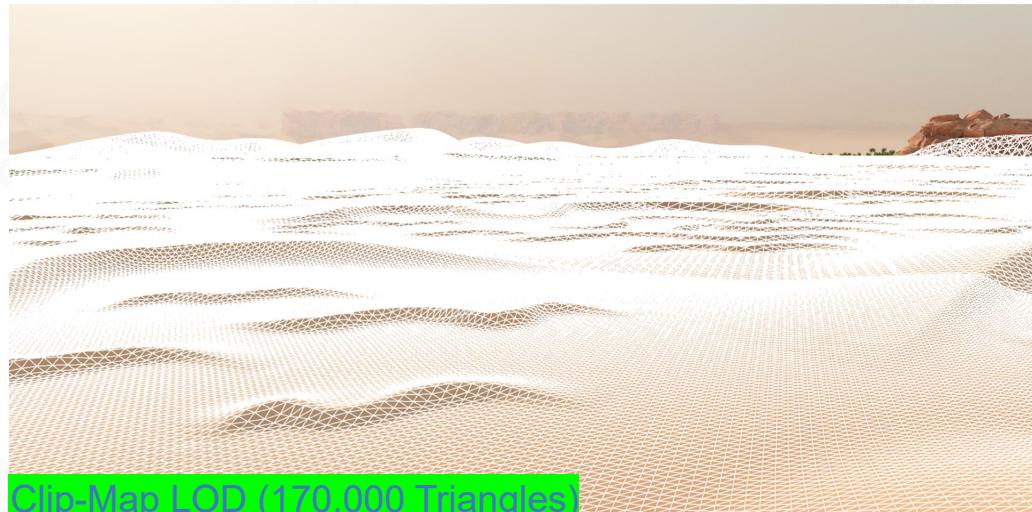




Triangulated Irregular Network vs. Adaptive Tessellation

Pros

- Easy in runtime rendering
- Less triangles in certain terrain types



Clip-Map LOD (170,000 Triangles)

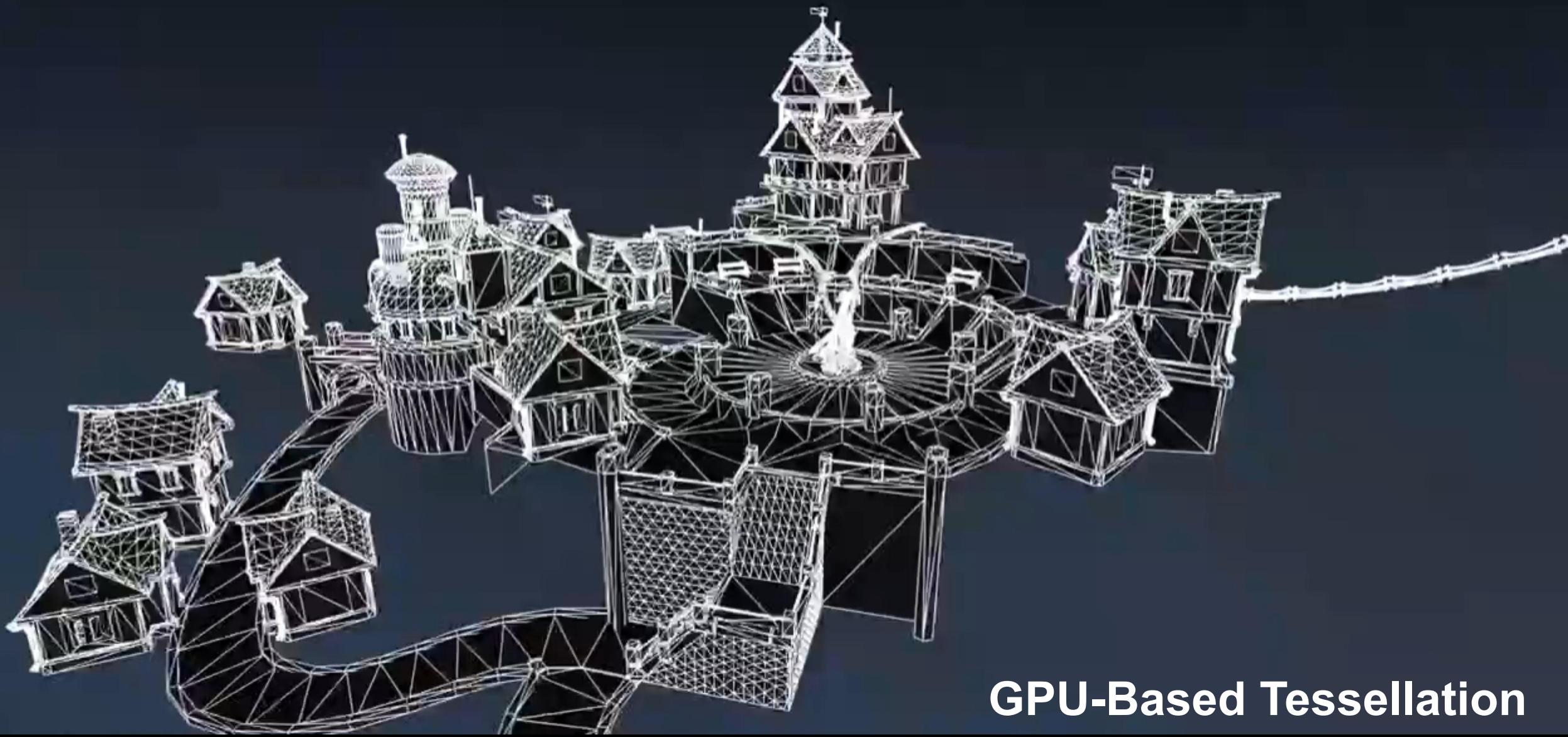
Cons

- Requires certain pre-processing steps
- Poor reusability



Mesh LOD (50,000 Triangles)

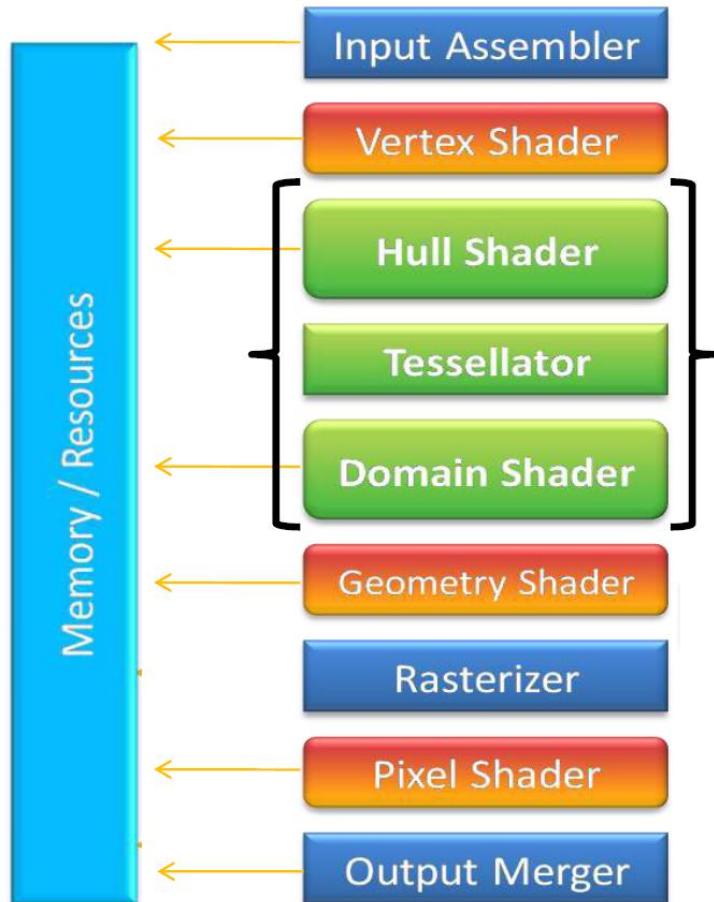
GDC2021 Boots on the Ground: The Terrain of Call of Duty



GPU-Based Tessellation



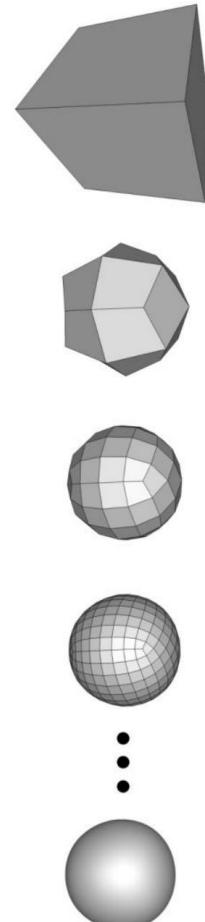
Hardware Tessellation



Hull-Shader Stage - transforms basis functions from base mesh to surface patches

Tessellator Stage - produces a semi-regular tessellation pattern for each patch

Domain-Shader Stage - a programmable shader stage that calculates the vertex position that corresponds to each domain sample





```
Simple Hull Shader (control point phase)
// Called once per control point
[domain("tri")] // indicates a triangle patch (3 verts)
[partitioning("fractional_odd")] // fractional avoids popping
// vertex ordering for the output triangles
[outputtopology("triangle_cw")] [outputcontrolpoints(3)]
// name of the patch constant hull shader
[patchconstantfunc("ConstantsHS")]
[maxTessFactor(7.0)] // hint to the driver - the lower the better
// Pass in the input patch and an index for the control point
HS_CONTROL_POINT_OUTPUT HS( InputPatch<VS_OUTPUT_HS_INPUT, 3>
inputPatch, uint uCPID : SV_OutputControlPointID )
{
    HS_CONTROL_POINT_OUTPUT Out;

    // Copy inputs to outputs - "pass through" shaders are optimal
    Out.vWorldPos = inputPatch[uCPID].vPosWS.xyz;
    Out.vTexCoord = inputPatch[uCPID].vTexCoord;
    Out.vNormal = inputPatch[uCPID].vNormal;
    Out.vLightTS = inputPatch[uCPID].vLightTS;

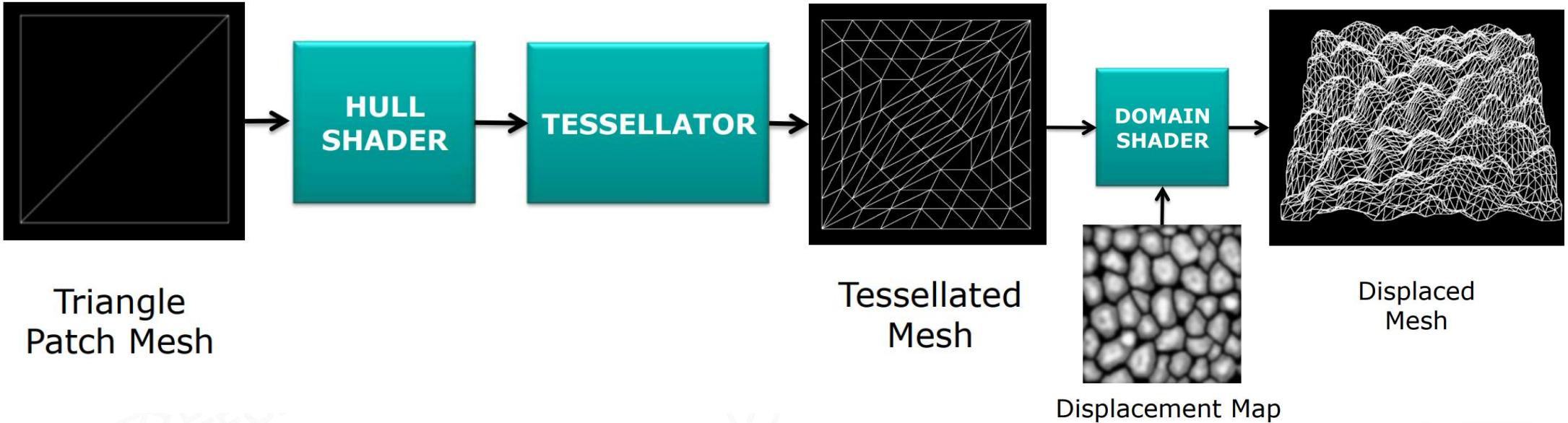
    return Out;
}
```

```
Simple Hull Shader (patch constant phase)
// Called once per patch. The patch and an index to the patch (patch
// ID) are passed in
HS_CONSTANT_DATA_OUTPUT ConstantsHS( InputPatch<VS_OUTPUT_HS_INPUT, 3>
p, uint PatchID : SV_PrimitiveID )
{
    HS_CONSTANT_DATA_OUTPUT Out;

    // Assign tessellation factors - in this case use a global
    // tessellation factor for all edges and the inside. These are
    // constant for the whole mesh.
    Out.Edges[0] = g_TessellationFactor;
    Out.Edges[1] = g_TessellationFactor;
    Out.Edges[2] = g_TessellationFactor;
    Out.Inside = g_TessellationFactor;
    return Out;
}
```

```
Simple Domain Shader (part 1)
// Called once per tessellated vertex
[domain("tri")] // indicates that triangle patches were used
// the origin of each is passed along with the vertex position in barycentric
// coordinates, and the patch constant phase hull shader output (tessellation factors)
DS_VS_OUTPUT_PS_INPUT DS( HS_CONSTANT_DATA_OUTPUT input,
                           float3 BarycentricCoordinates : SV_DomainLocation,
                           const OutputPatch<HS_CONTROL_POINT_OUTPUT, 3>
                           TrianglePatch )
{
    DS_VS_OUTPUT_PS_OUTPUT Out;
    // Interpolate world space position with barycentric coordinates
    float3 vWorldPos =
        BarycentricCoordinates.x * TrianglePatch[0].vWorldPos +
        BarycentricCoordinates.y * TrianglePatch[1].vWorldPos +
        BarycentricCoordinates.z * TrianglePatch[2].vWorldPos;
    // Interpolate texture coordinates with barycentric coordinates
    Out.vTexCoord =
        BarycentricCoordinates.x * TrianglePatch[0].vTexCoord + ...
    // Interpolate normal with barycentric coordinates
    float3 vNormal =
        BarycentricCoordinates.x * TrianglePatch[0].vNormal + ...
```

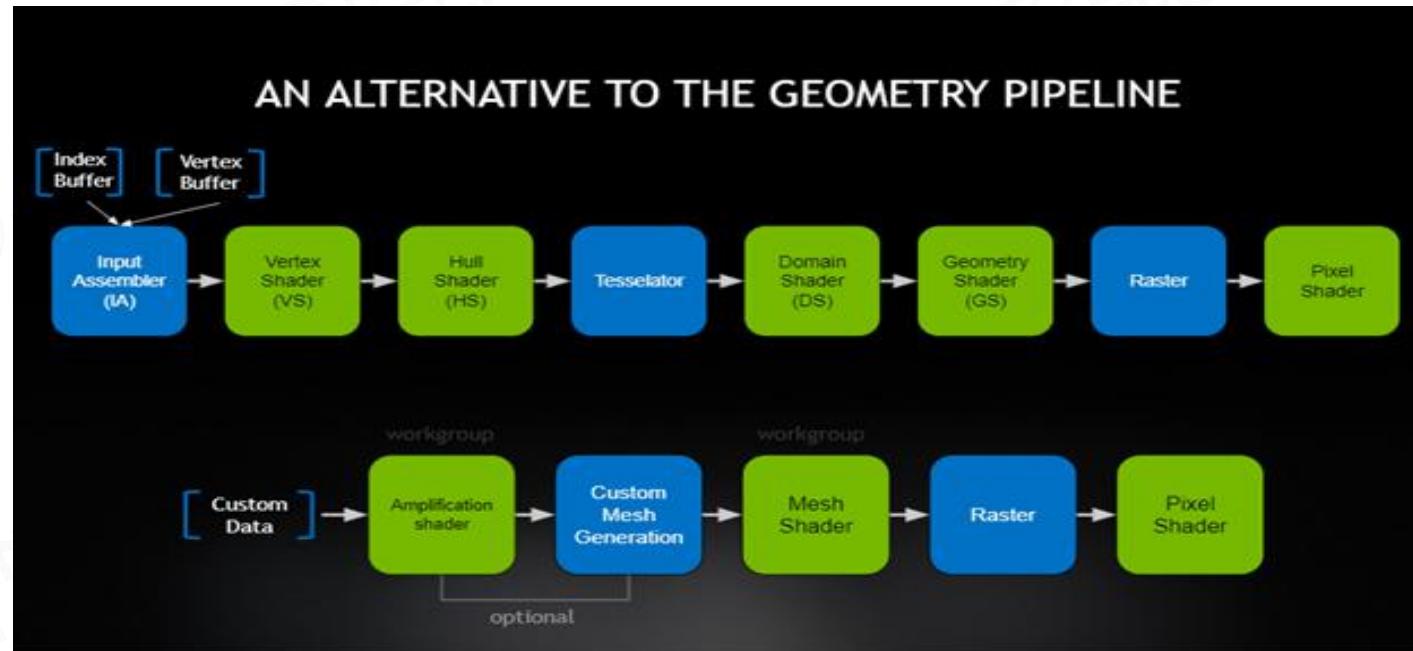
```
// sample the displacement map for the magnitude of displacement
float fDisplacement = g_DisplacementMap.SampleLevel(
    g_sampleLinear, Out.vTexCoord.xy, 0 ).r;
fDisplacement *= g_Scale;
fDisplacement += g_Bias;
float3 vDirection = -vNormal; // direction is opposite normal
// translate the position
vWorldPos += vDirection * fDisplacement;
// transform to clip space
Out.vPosCS = mul( float4( vWorldPos.xyz, 1.0 ),
                   g_mWorldViewProjection );
return Out;
} // end of domain shader
```





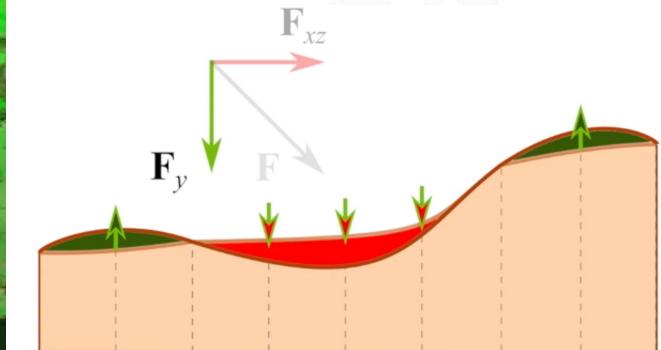
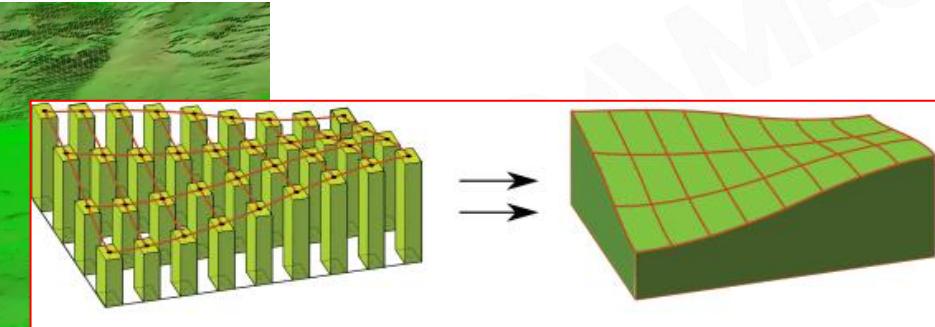
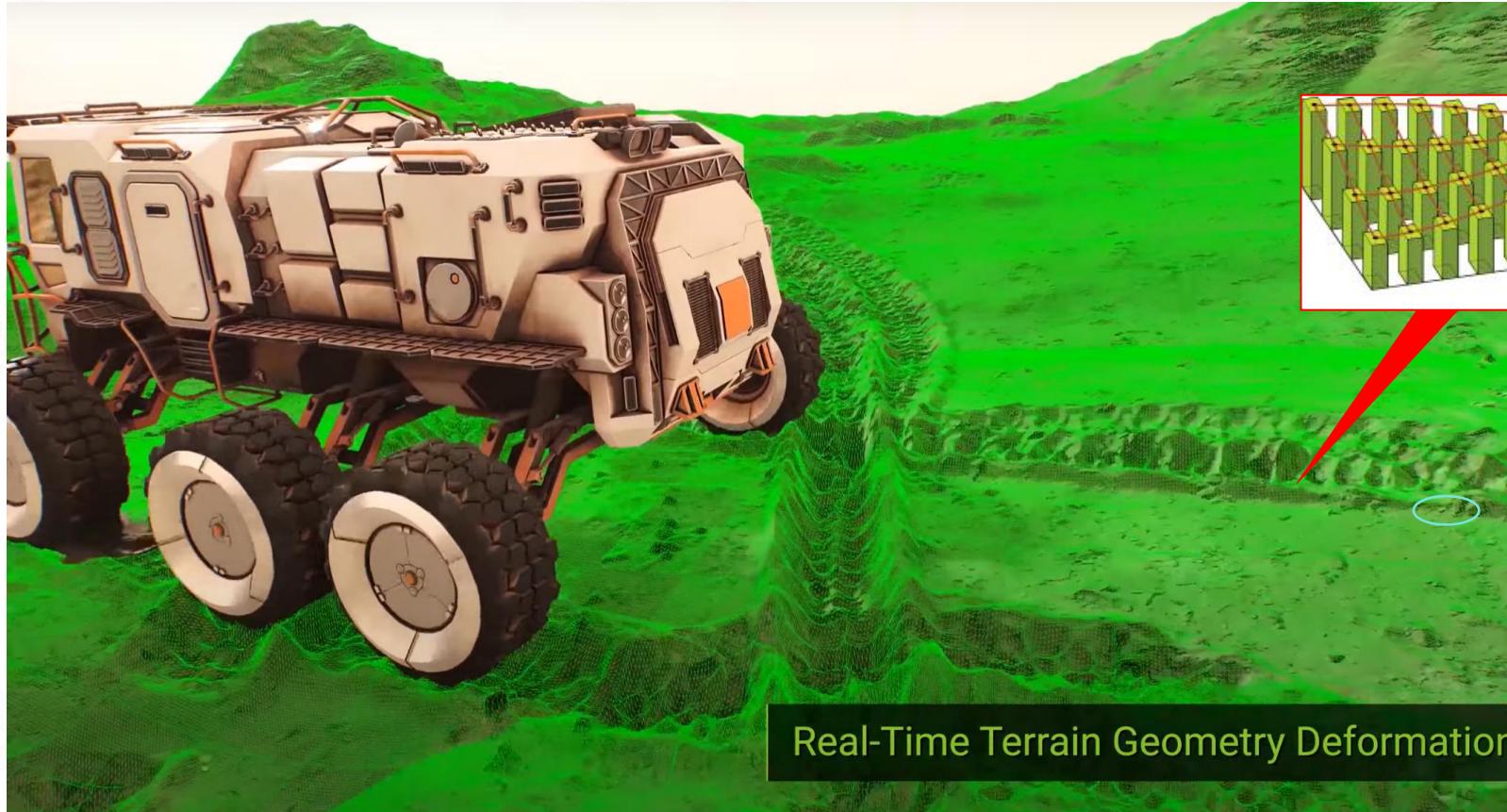
Mesh Shader Pipeline

- **Amplification Shader Stage** - decides how many Mesh shader groups to run and passes data to those groups
- **Mesh Shader Stage** - produces a semi-regular tessellation pattern for each patch, and outputs comprise vertices and primitives



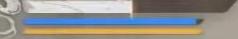


Real-Time Deformable Terrain





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Non-Heightfield Terrain

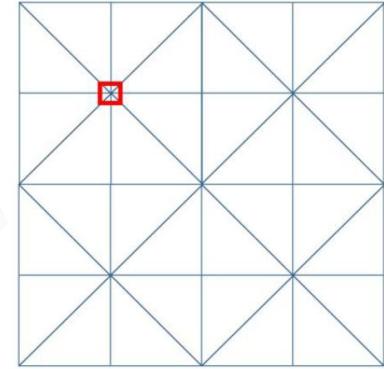


Dig a Hole in Terrain

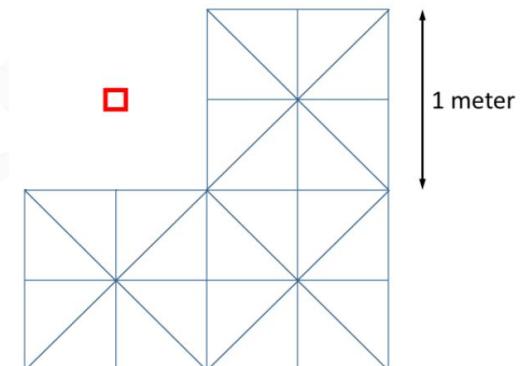


Cull a terrain vertex by outputting NaN from the vertex shader

- `projectedPosition /= (isHole ? 0 : 1)`



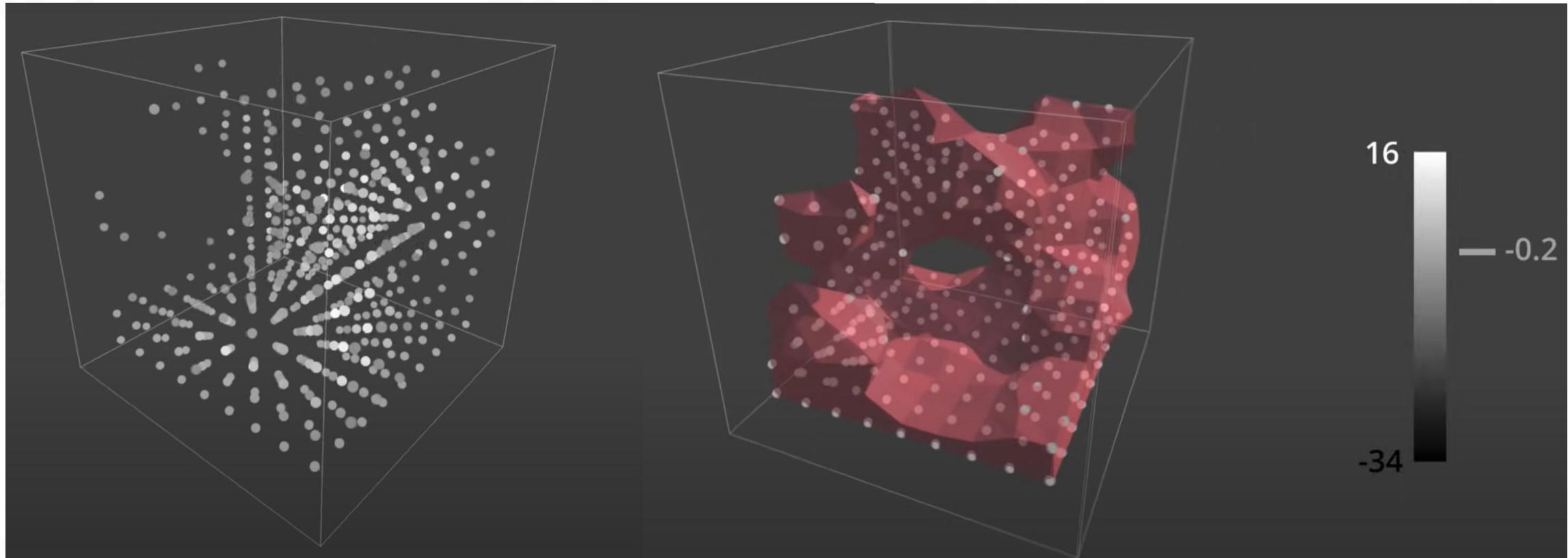
Output 1 NaN
Vertex Position



Kill a Quad



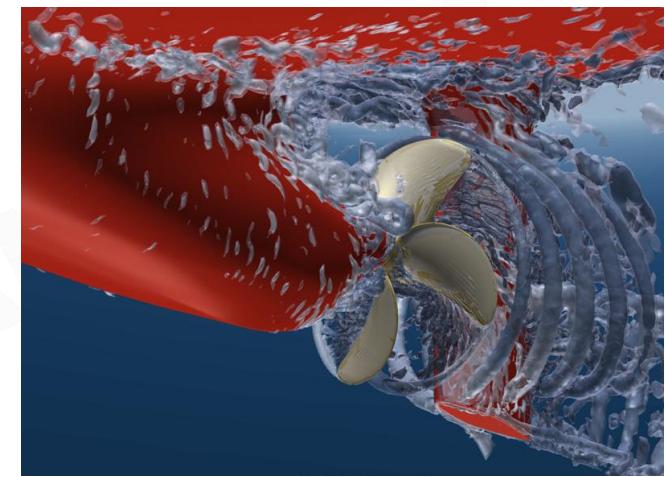
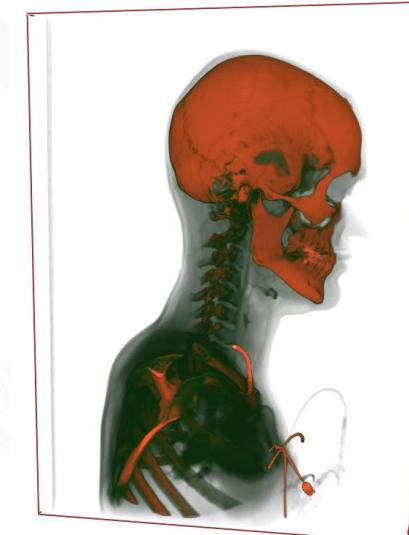
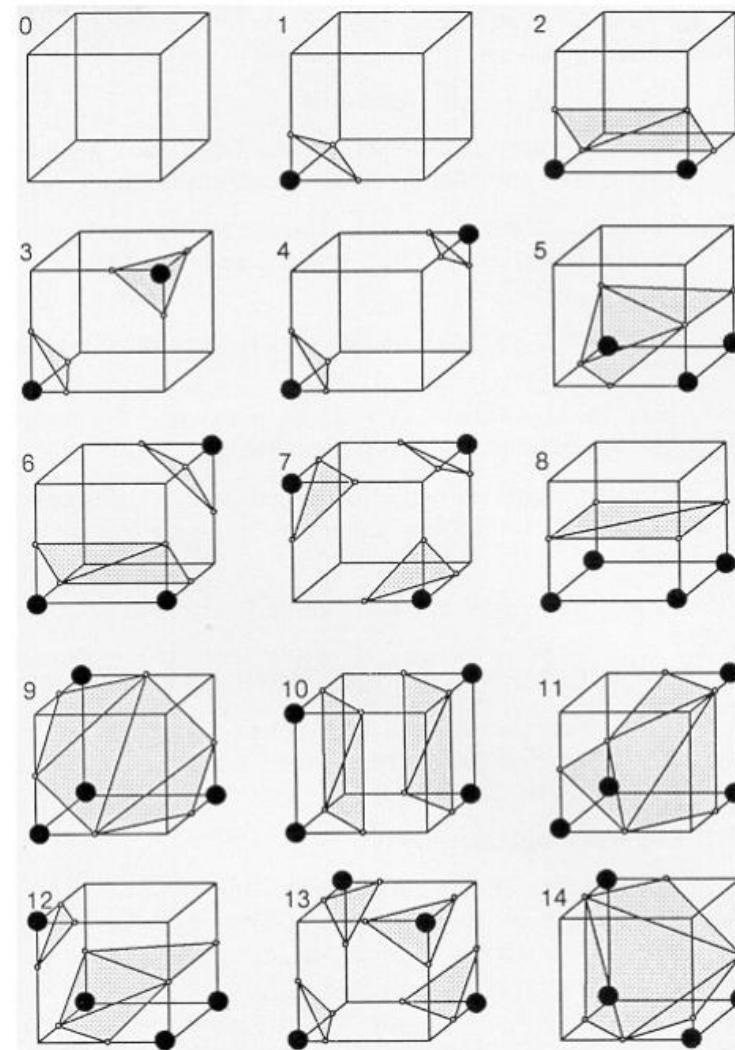
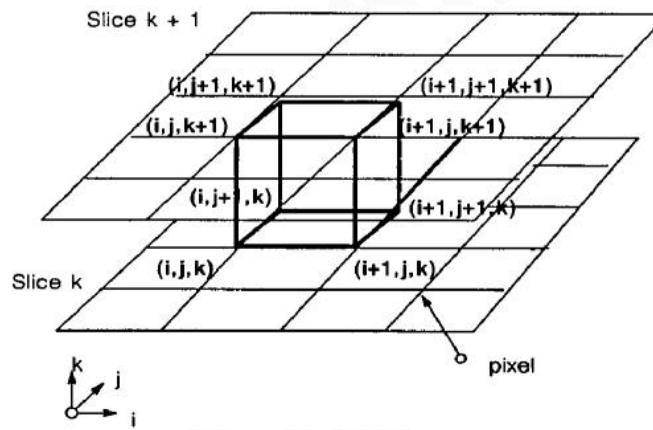
Crazy Idea - Volumetric Representation



In 3D computer graphics, a voxel represents a value on a regular grid in three-dimensional space. As pixels in a 2D bitmap, voxels themselves do not typically have their position (i.e. coordinates) explicitly encoded with their values



Marching Cubes



MARCHING CUBES: A HIGH RESOLUTION 3D SURFACE CONSTRUCTION ALGORITHM'; Computer Graphics, Volume 21, Number 4, July 1987



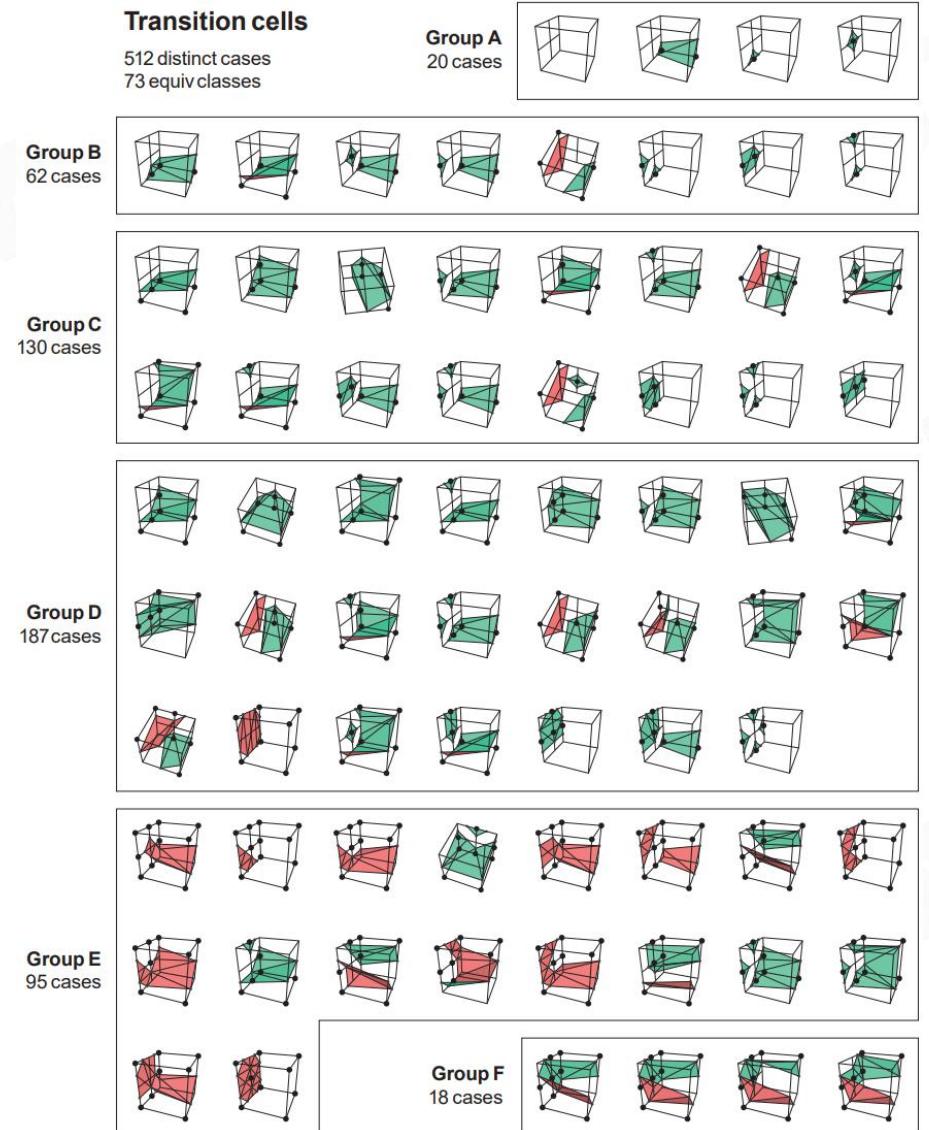
Transition Cell Lookup Table

Transvoxel Algorithm

- Constructs the triangulation of transition cells to form a lookup table, and uses this lookup table to do the triangulation of LOD voxel cubes



Lengyel, Eric. (2010). Voxel-Based Terrain for Real-Time Virtual Simulations.





Make AAA as Flexible as Minecraft??? :-)



Paint Terrain Materials





11 Biomes
140 materials

11 Biomes 140 Materials

Ghost Recon Wildlands



Terrain Materials

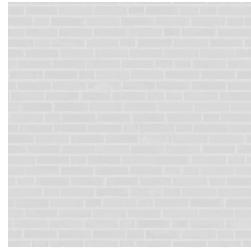
Base Color



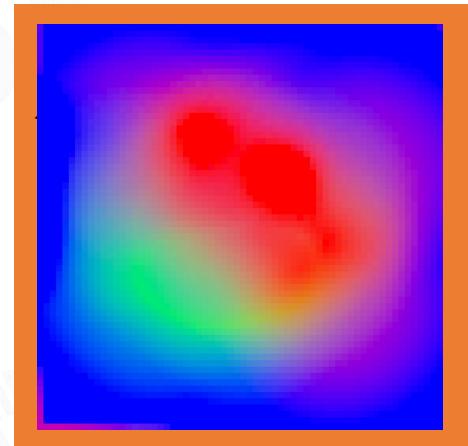
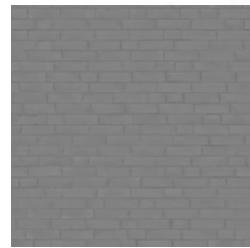
Normal



Roughness



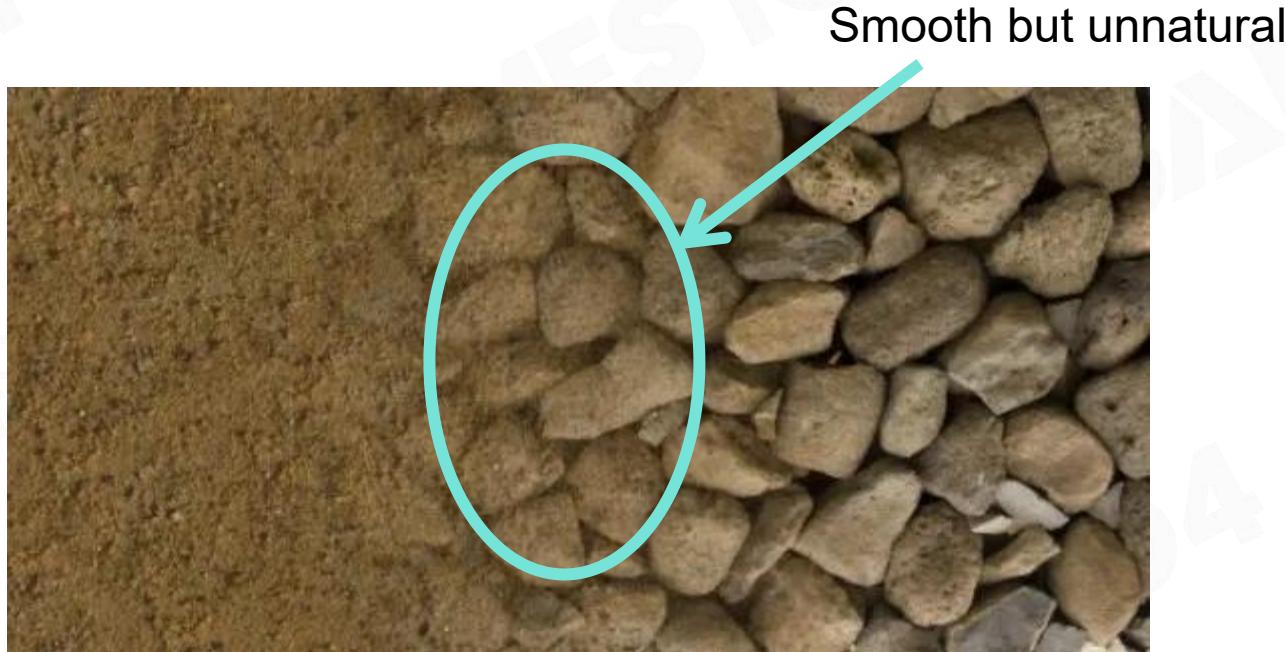
Height



Material blending result



Simple Texture Splatting



Simple Blending

```
float3 blend(float4 texture1, float a1, float4 texture2, float a2)
{
    return texture1.rgb * a1 + texture2.rgb * a2;
}
```

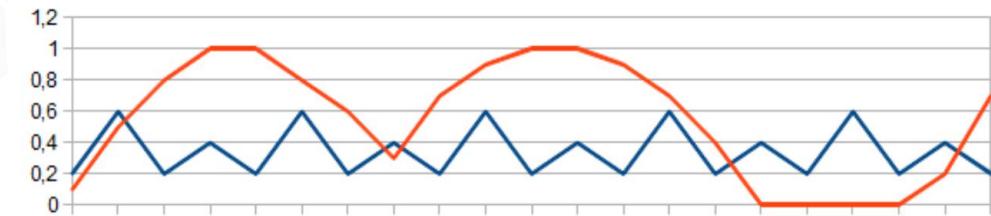


Advanced Texture Splatting



Blending with Height

```
float3 blend(float4 texture1, float height1, float4 texture2, float height2)
{
    return height1 > height2 ? texture1.rgb : texture2.rgb;
}
```



Height Maps



Height Maps + Alpha Blending

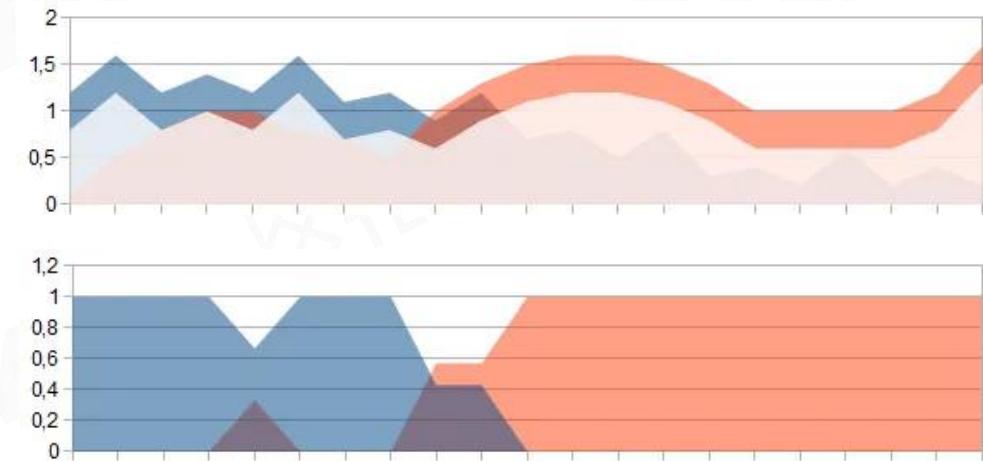


Advanced Texture Splatting - Biased



```
float3 blend(float4 texture1, float height1, float4 texture2, float height2)
{
    float depth = 0.2; ←
    float ma = max(texture1.a + height1, texture2.a + height2) - depth;
    float b1 = max(texture1.a + height1 - ma, 0);
    float b2 = max(texture2.a + height2 - ma, 0);
    return (texture1.rgb * b1 + texture2.rgb * b2) / (b1 + b2);
}
```

Height Bias

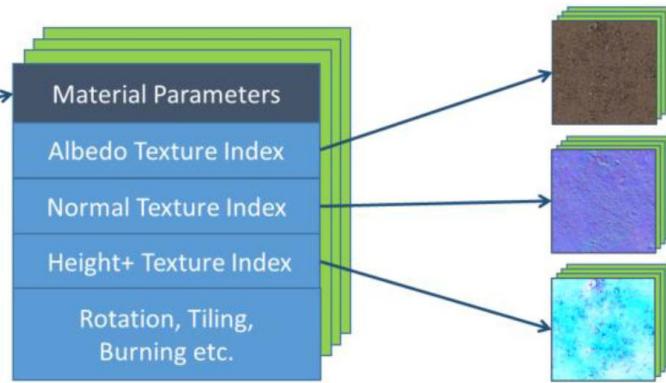
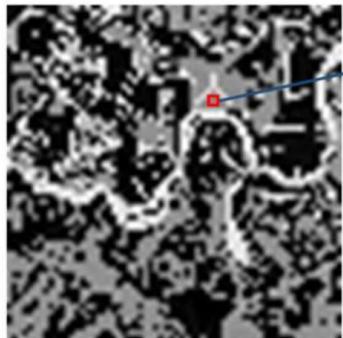


Links:

<https://www.gamedeveloper.com/programming/advanced-terrain-texture-splatting>



Sampling from Material Texture Array



Material Texture Array

```
...
// get material index from splat map, and sample several directions of material for blending
int base_material_index = sampleSplatMap(base_material_uv);
int right_material_index = sampleSplatMap(right_material_uv);
int up_material_index = sampleSplatMap(up_material_uv);
int rightup_material_index = sampleSplatMap(rightup_material_uv);

// get material parameters
float4 base_albedo = sampleAlbedoMapArray(base_map_uv, base_material_index);
float3 base_normal = sampleNormalMapArray(base_map_uv, base_material_index);
float base_height = sampleHeightMapArray(base_map_uv, base_material_index);

float4 right_albedo = ...
float3 right_normal = ...
float right_height = ...

...
// get blend weights according to material heights and use bilinear interpolation
float blend_weights = getBlendWeights(base_height, right_height, up_height, rightup_height);

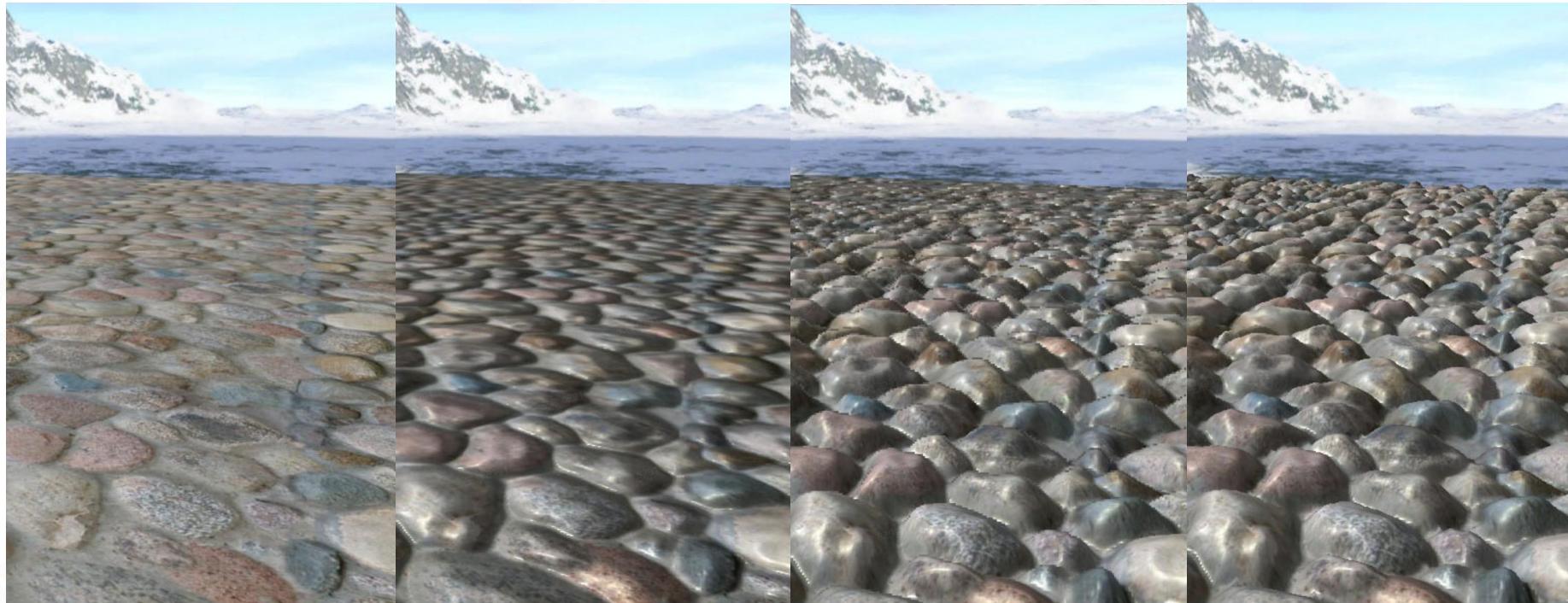
// blend base, up, right, rightup layer data to get a smooth shading result
float4 blend_albedo =
blendAlbedoWithWeights(blend_weights, base_albedo, right_albedo, up_albedo, rightup_albedo);
float3 blend_normal =
blendNormalWithWeights(blend_weights, base_normal, right_normal, up_normal, rightup_normal);
...

```





Parallax and Displacement Mapping



Color mapping

Bump mapping

Parallax mapping

Displacement mapping

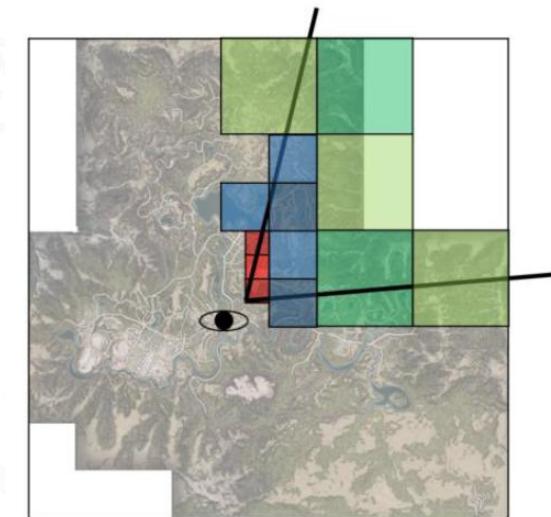
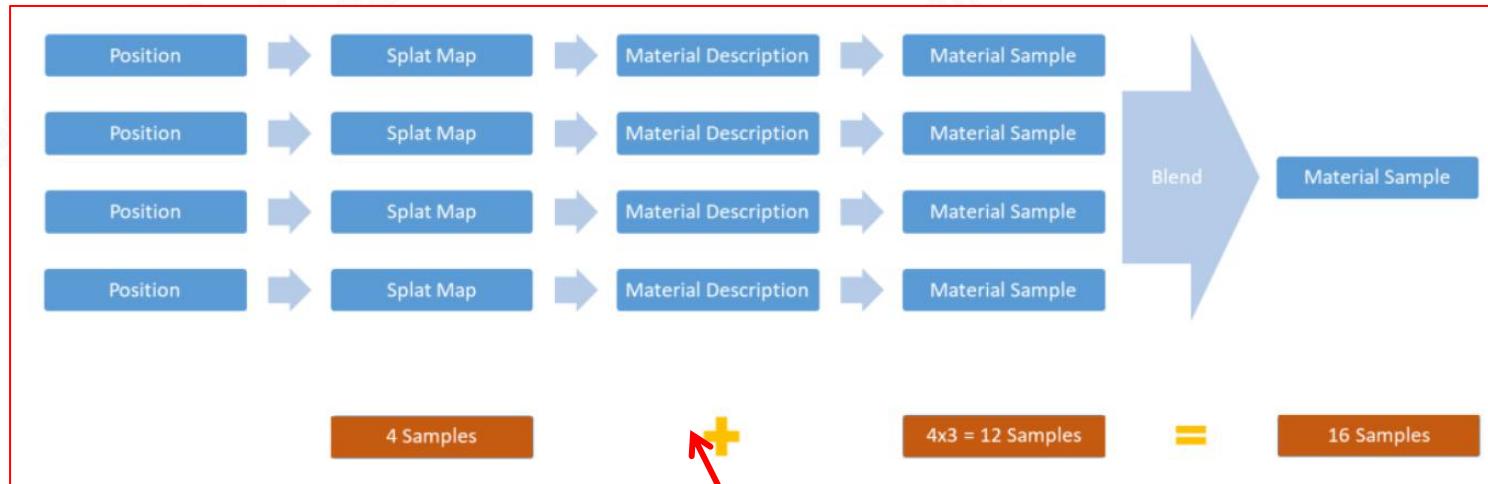


Parallax Mapping:
Due to the height of the surface, the eye sees point B instead of point A. It creates a sense of dimensionality



Expensive Material Blending

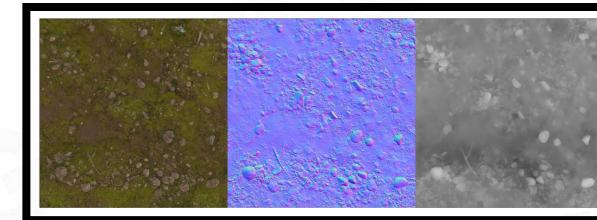
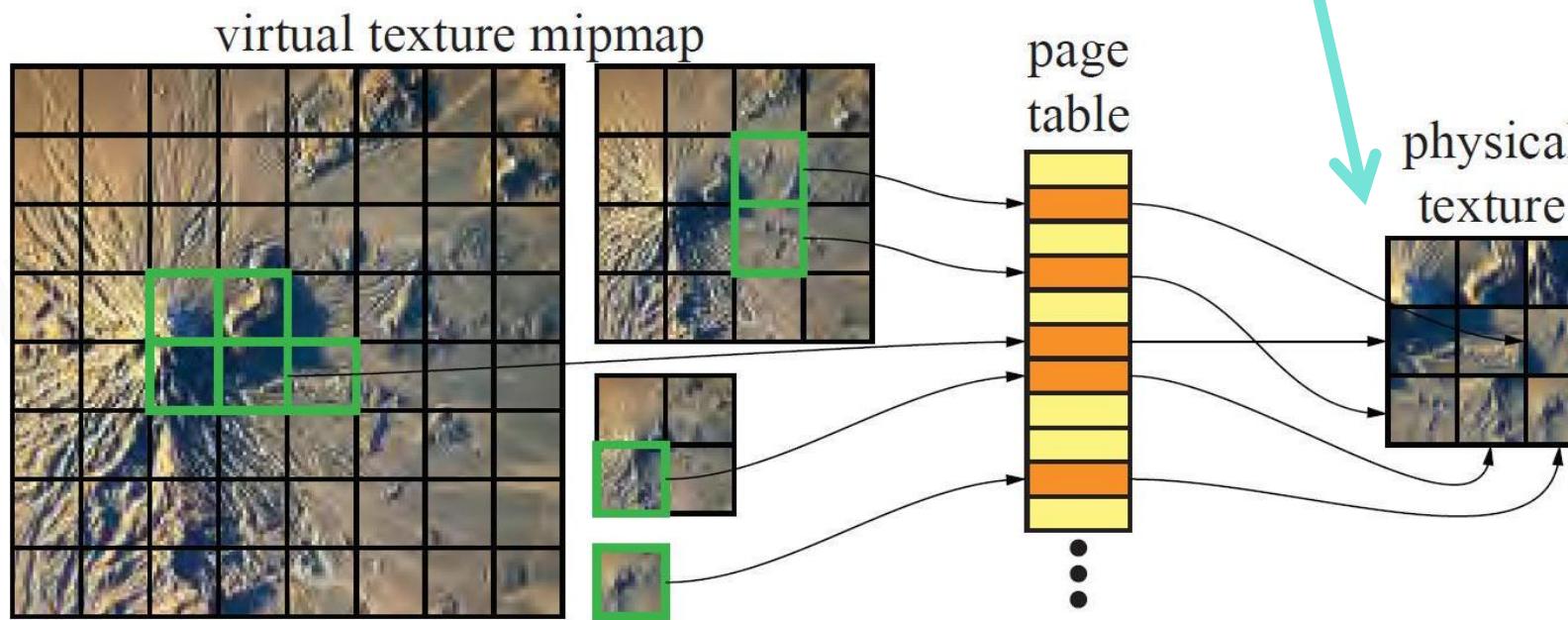
- **Many Texturing** - Low performance when multiple materials are sampled too many times
- **Huge Splat Map** - We only see a small set of terrain, but we load splat maps for 100 square km into video memory



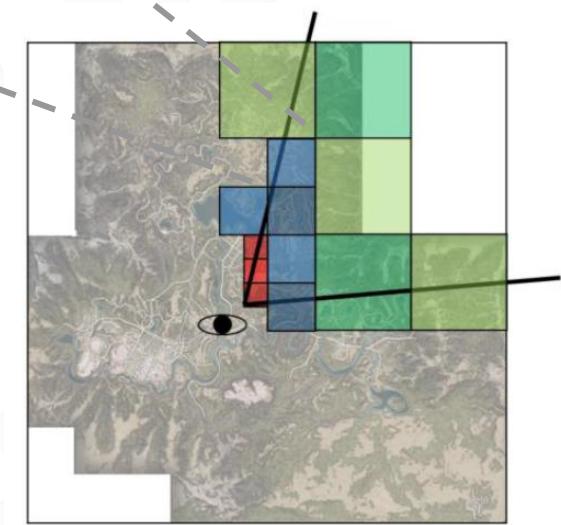


Virtual Texture

- Build a virtual indexed texture to represent all blended terrain materials for whole scene
- Only load materials data of tiles based on view-depend LOD
- Pre-bake materials blending into tile and store them into physical textures

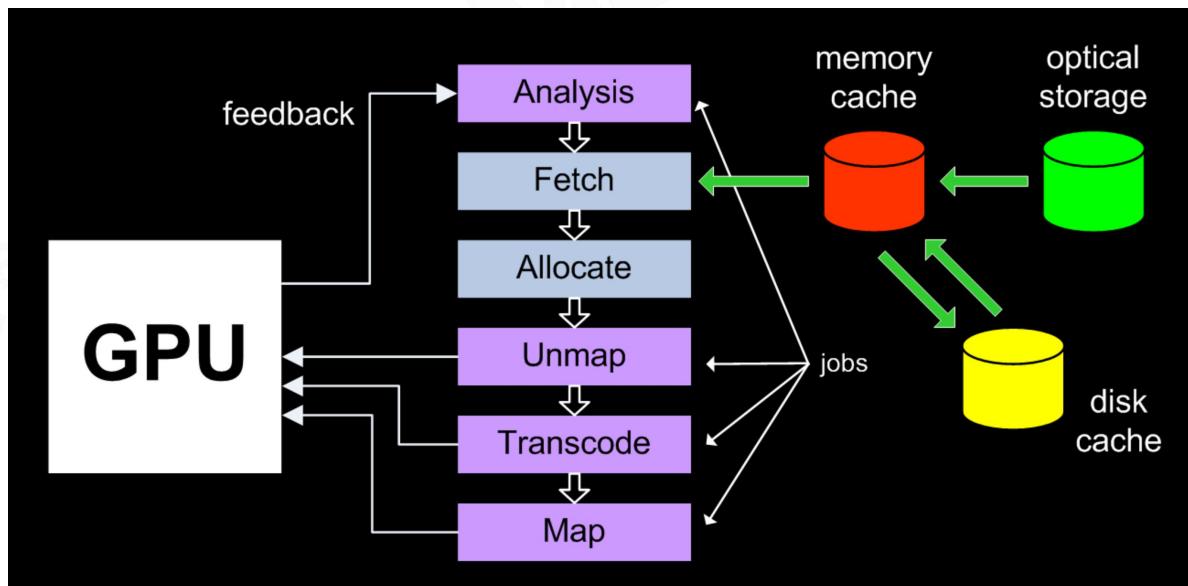


Baked Terrain Tile



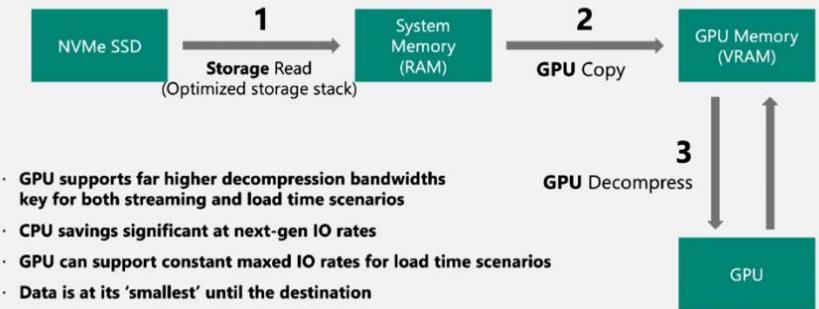


VT Implementation, DirectStorage & DMA

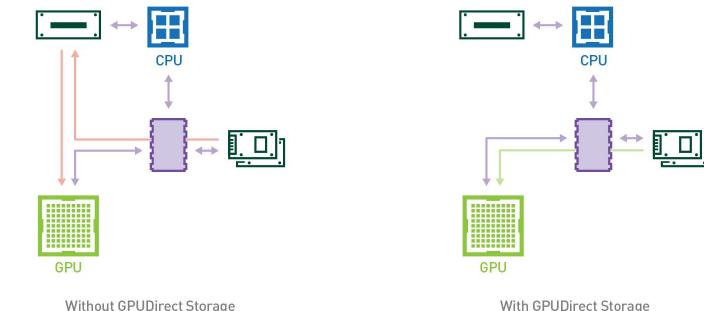


CPU based cache management among disk,
main memory and video memory

Flow of GPU assets (with DirectStorage for Windows)



DirectStorage

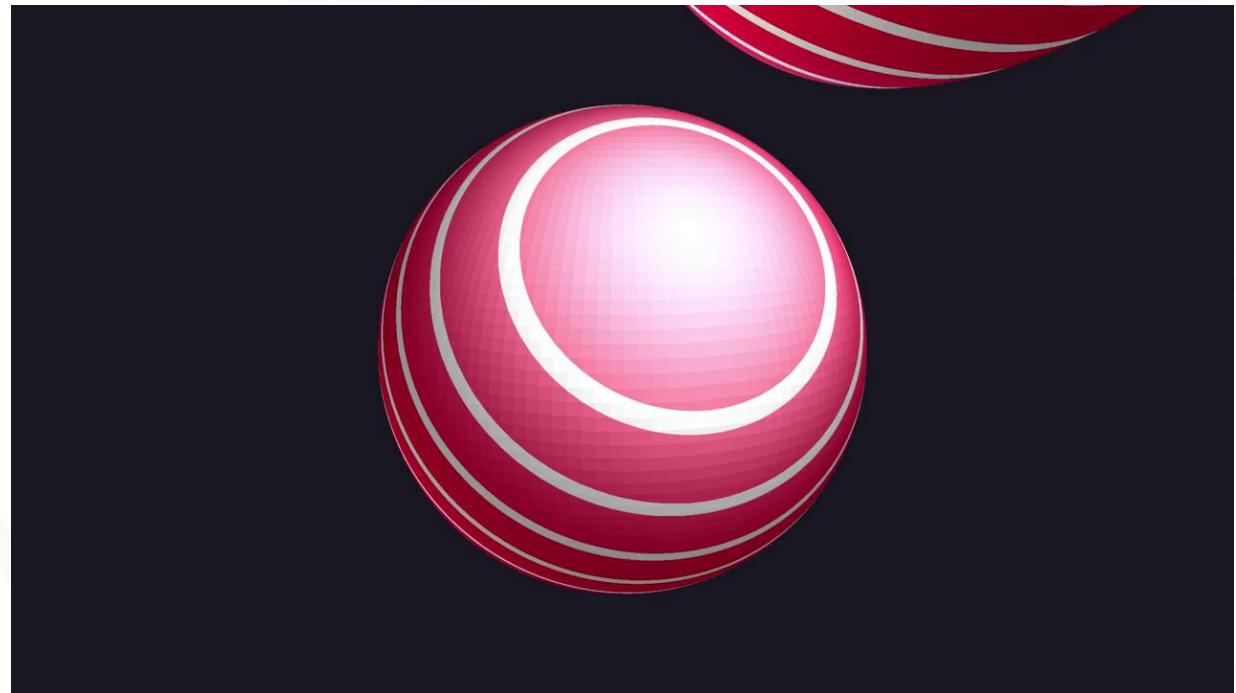
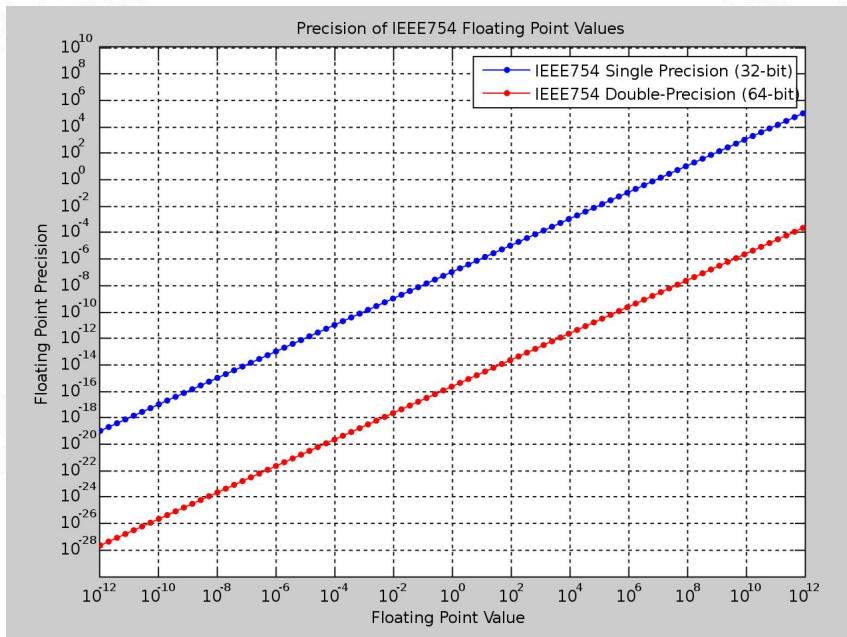
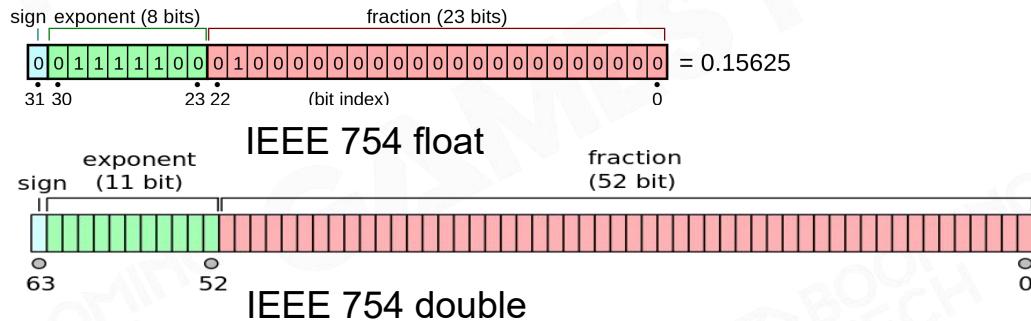


System Memory NVMe PCIe Switch GPUDirect Storage Bounce buffer PCIe

DMA



Floating-point Precision Error



Floating-point error caused artifacts while camera and object in large value (from 1m to 60,000km)

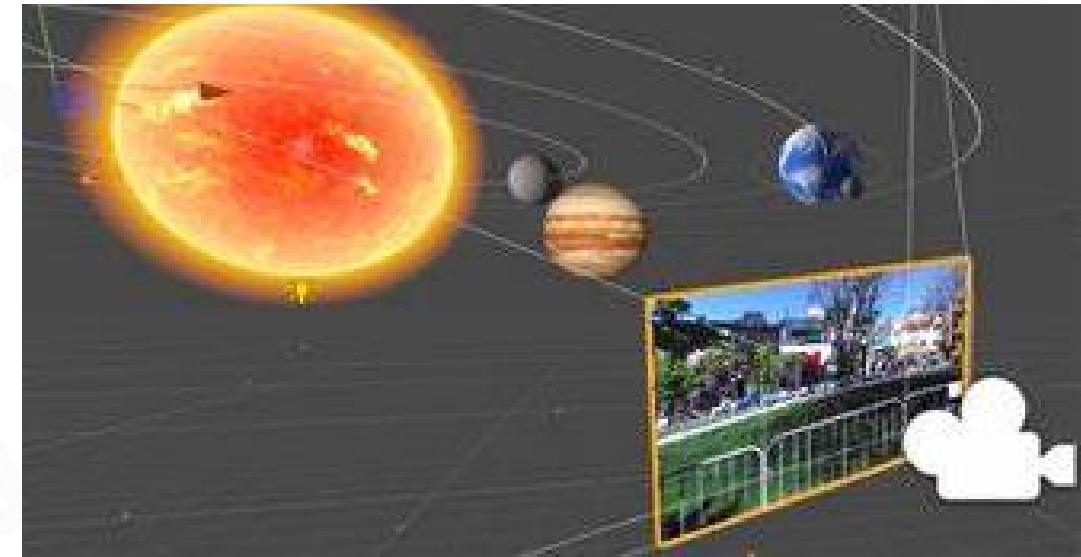


Camera-Relative Rendering

- Translates objects by the negated world space camera position before any other geometric transformations affect them
- It then sets the world space camera position to 0 and modifies all relevant matrices accordingly

```
// camera relative
foreach render_object in render_objects
{
    render_object.m_position -= render_camera.m_position;
    updateRenderObjectTransform();
}

render_camera.m_position = Vector3(0.0, 0.0, 0.0);
updateRenderViewProjectionMatrix();
```



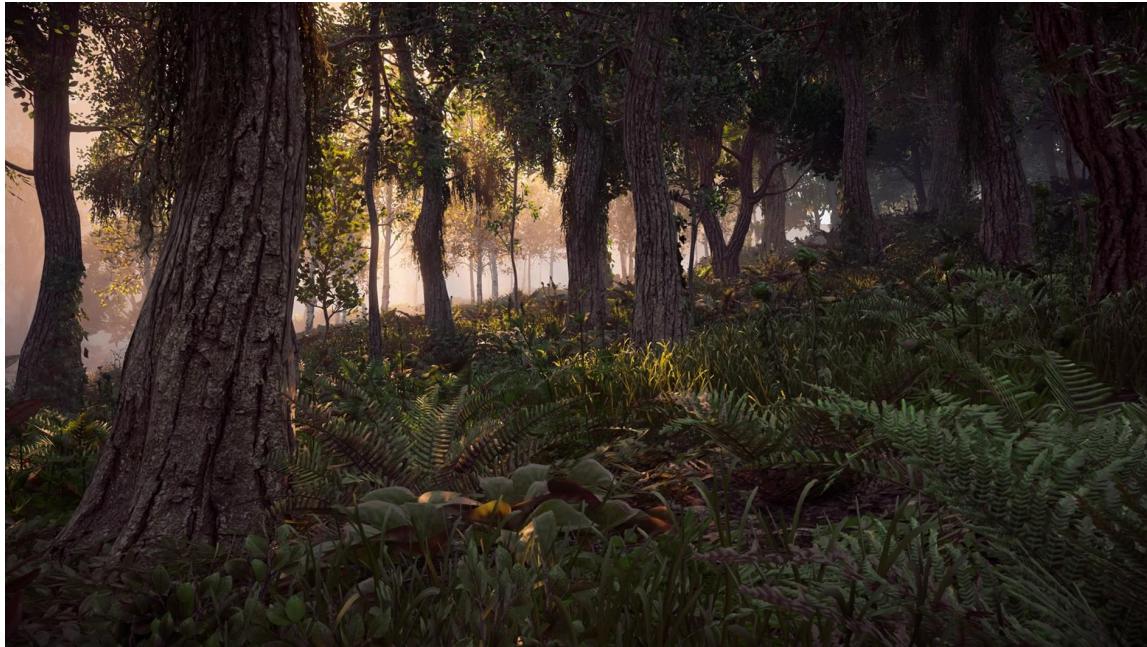
Render a whole galaxy :-)

Integration with other world elements (rocks, trees, grass)





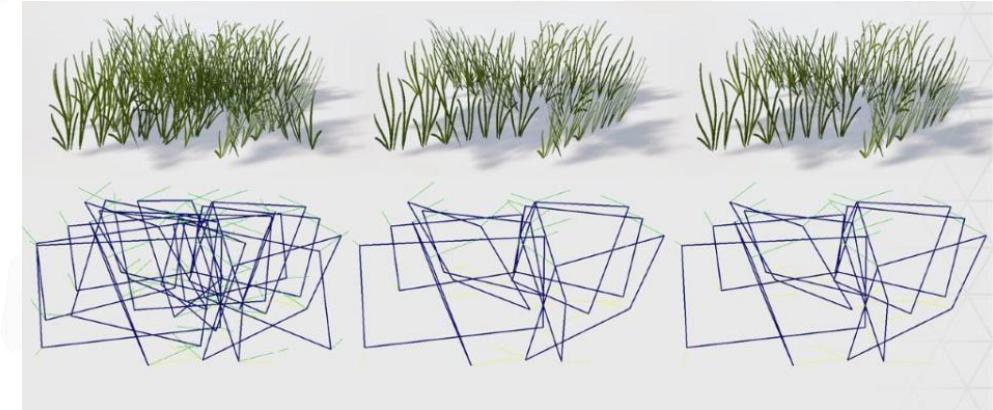
Tree Rendering



Tree Rendering LODs



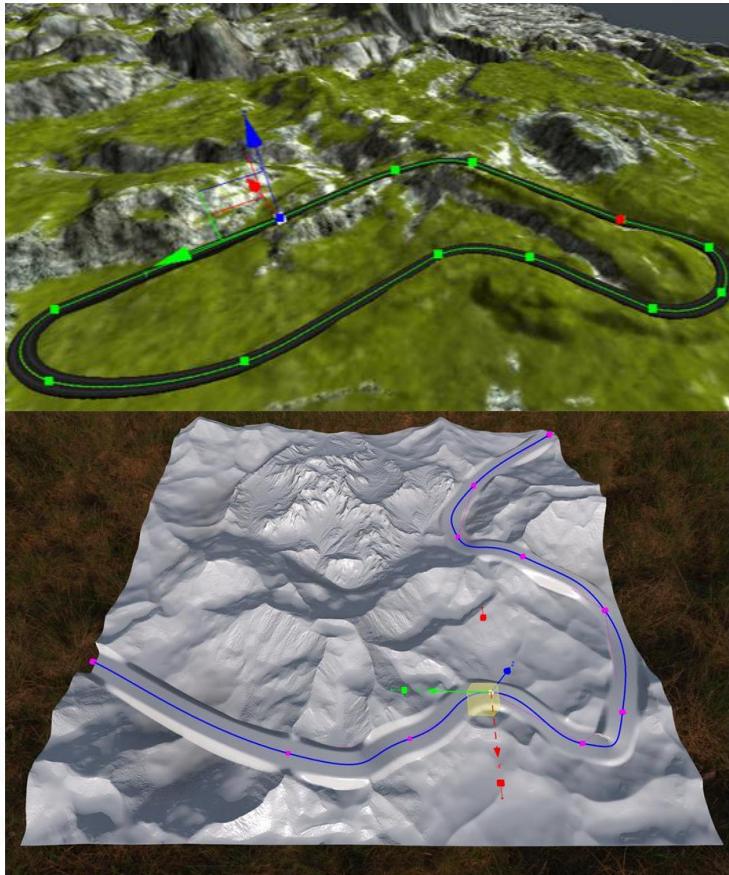
Decorator Rendering



Decorator Rendering LODs



Road and Decals Rendering



Spline-based Road Editing and
Sculpturing Height Field



Decals



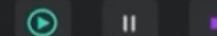
Splatting Road and Decals on Virtual Texture

File Editor View Tools Window Debug Setting Plugin Help



Default

Scale: 1



Place Actors

Tree Brush



Scene

Operation

Mode: Draw **Clear** Snap

Target: All Selected

Brush

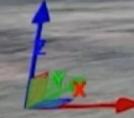
Radius: 28.43

Strength: 0.36

Tree Brush

MinScale: 80

MaxScale: 120



Level... Debug Terrain... Terrain...

Import height map

Water level: 0 Altitude: 500

Select file: C:\Users\linjing.bao\Desktop\hei

Import

Import color map

BlockSelection TileSelection SetBaseBlock

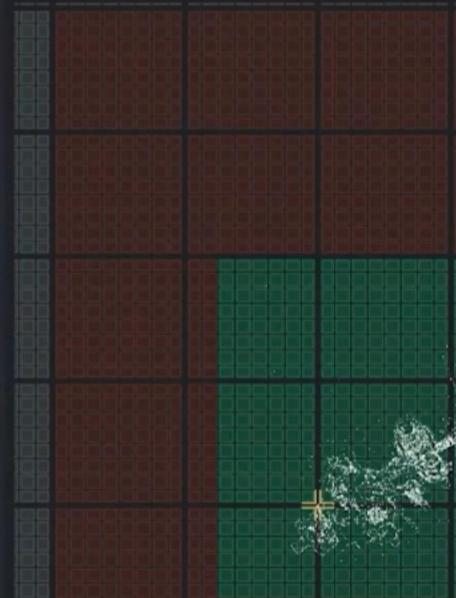
Show Walkable Area

Show Selected Block 100

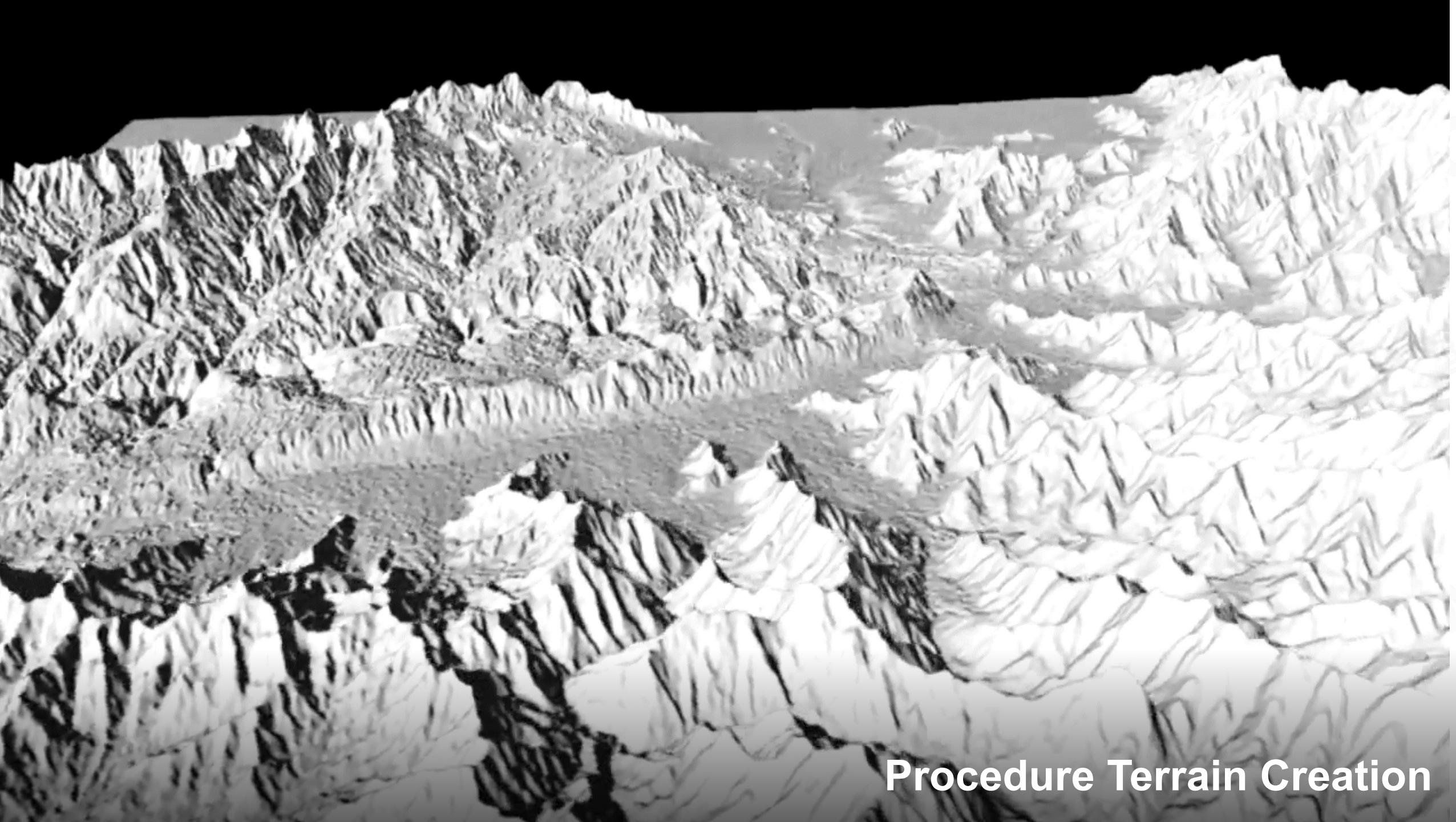
Adjust the selection area height: 0 Adjust

setWalkable

setUnWalkable



Terrain Editing in Game Engine



Procedure Terrain Creation

A wide-angle landscape painting featuring a vast, turbulent sky filled with large, billowing clouds in shades of yellow, orange, and blue. The clouds are illuminated from behind by a bright sun, creating a dramatic and somewhat apocalyptic atmosphere. In the foreground, a river flows through a valley, reflecting the light. On either side of the river are green hills and fields. In the background, dark, rugged mountains rise against the horizon.

Sky and Atmosphere



Red Dead Redemption 2



HORIZON FORBIDDEN WEST™

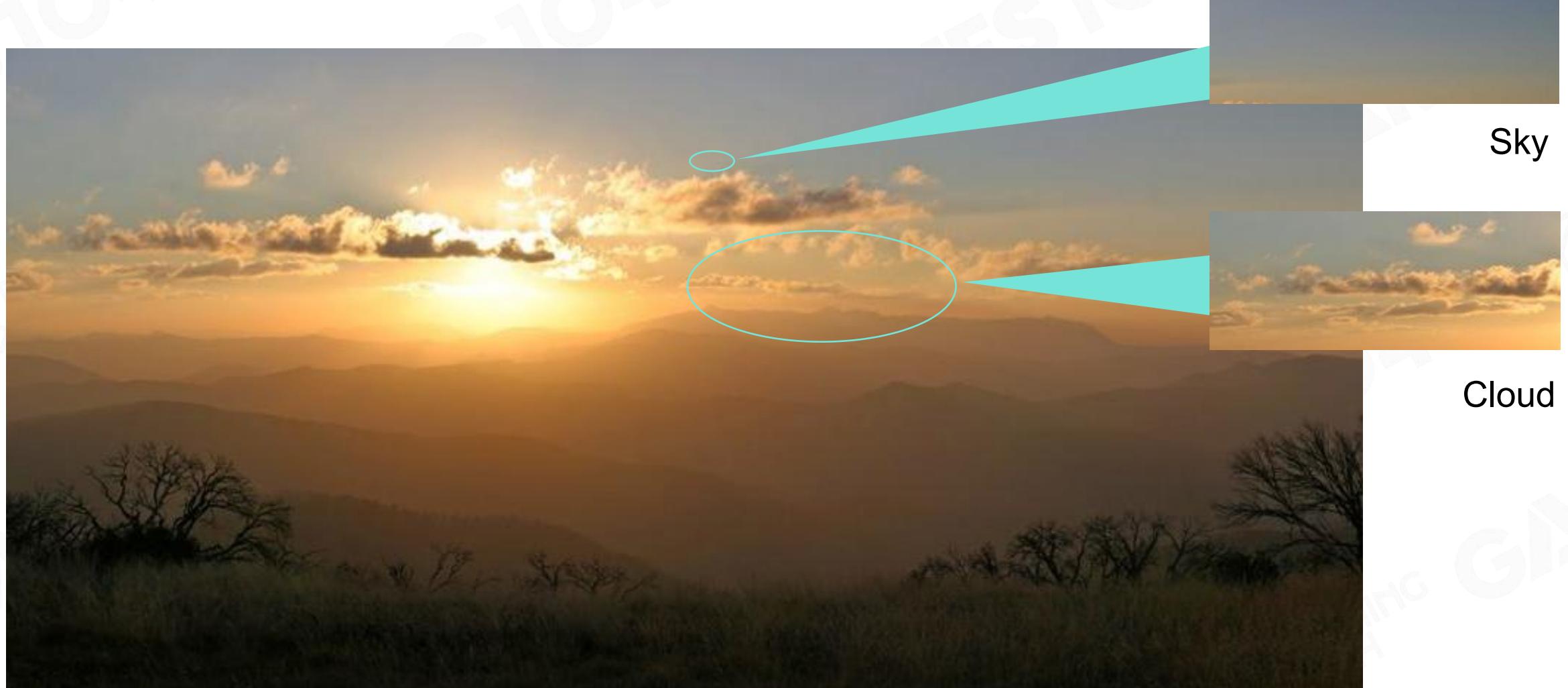
Captured on PS5™



ELDEN RING



How to "Paint" Everything in the Sky



Atmosphere





Analytic Atmosphere Appearance Modeling

$$\mathbb{F}(\theta, \gamma) = (1 + Ae^{\frac{B}{\cos \theta + 0.01}}) \cdot (C + De^{E\gamma} + F \cos^2 \gamma + G \cdot \chi(H, \gamma) + I \cdot \cos^{\frac{1}{2}} \theta)$$

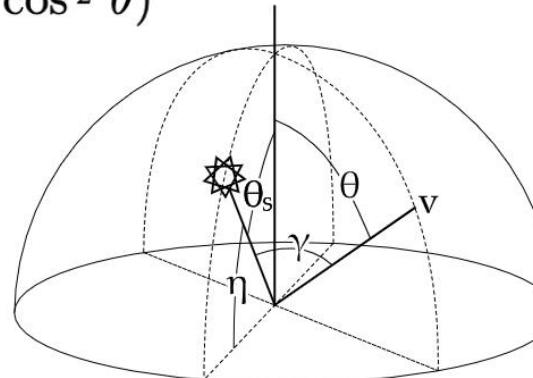
$$L_\lambda = \mathbb{F}(\theta, \gamma) \cdot L_{M\lambda}$$

Pros

- Calculation is simple and efficient

Cons

- Limited to ground view
- Atmosphere parameters can't be changed freely



Photograph

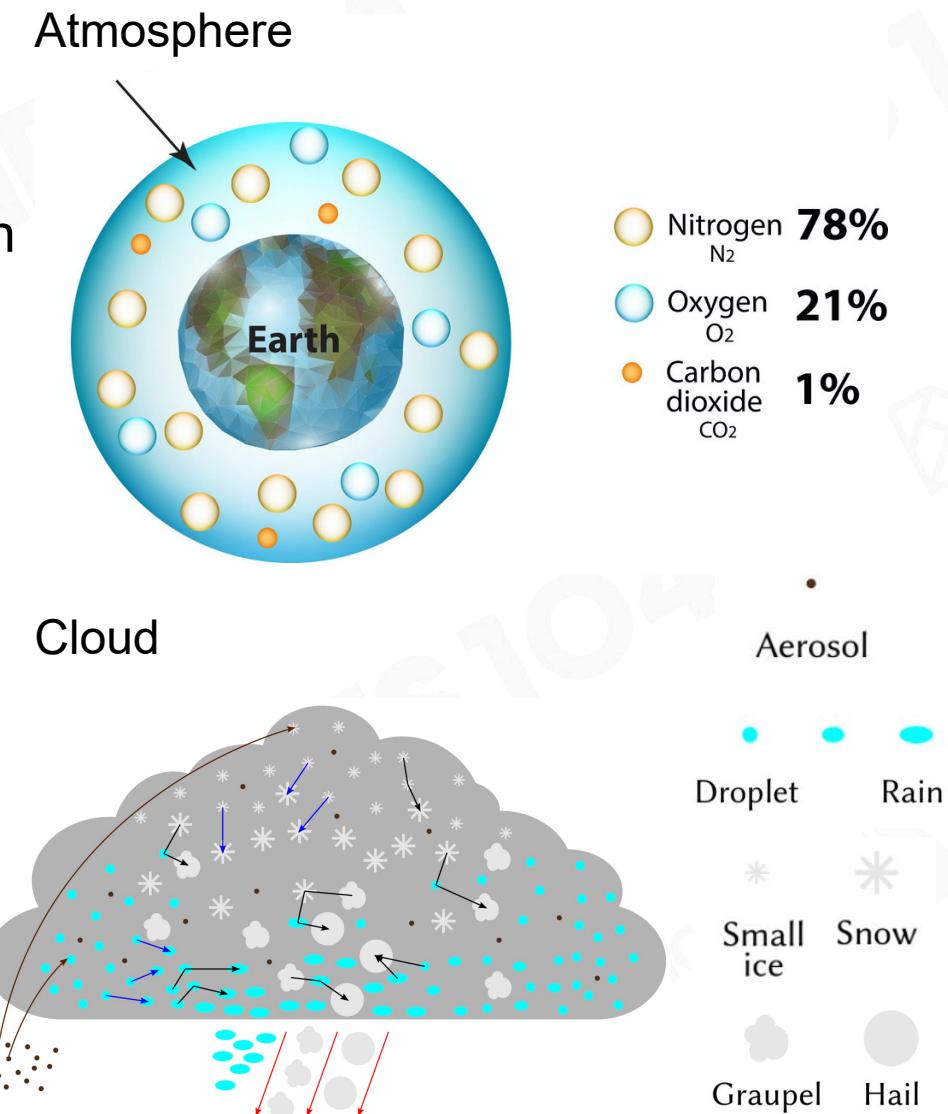
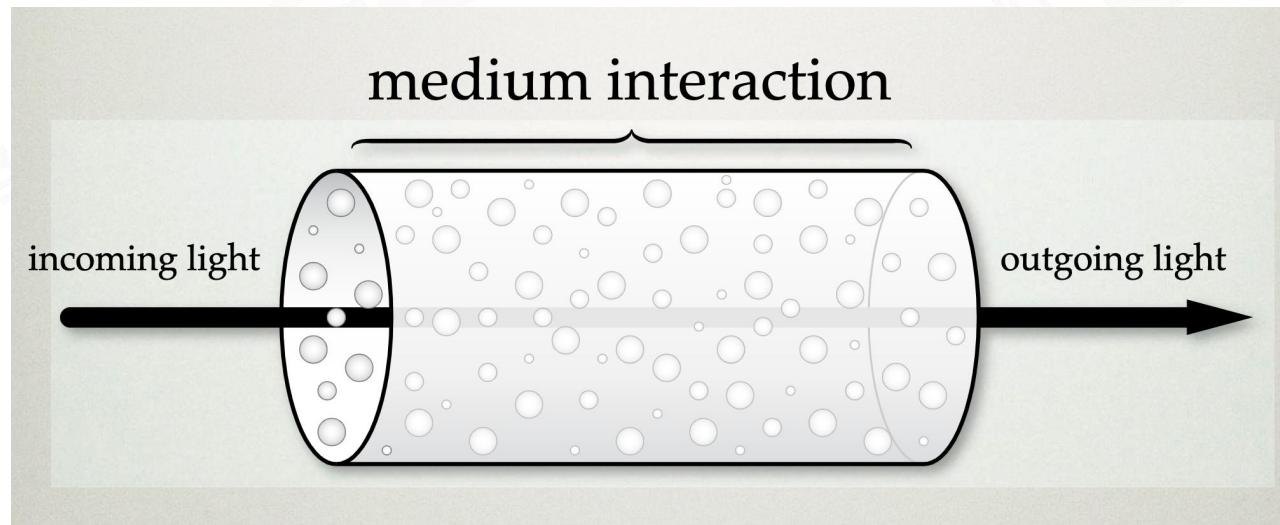


Rendering



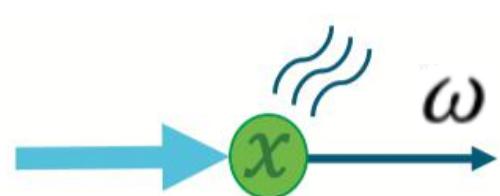
Participating Media

- Volume filled with particles
- Interact differently with light depending on its composition





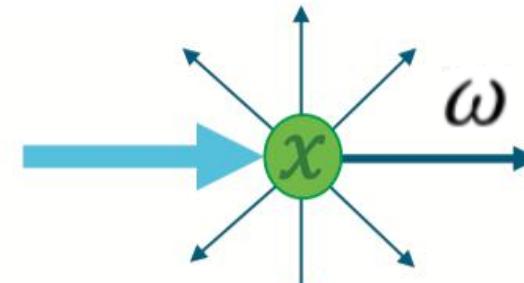
How Light Interacts with Participating Media Particles?



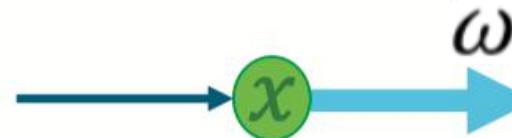
Absorption

$$dL(x,\omega) / dx = -\sigma_a L(x,\omega) \quad -\sigma_s L(x,\omega)$$

σ_a Absorption Coefficient σ_s Scattering Coefficient

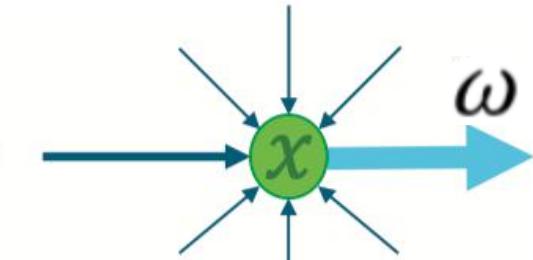


Out-scattering



Emission

$$\sigma_a L_e(x,\omega)$$



In-scattering

$$\sigma_s \int_{S^2} f_p(x,\omega,\omega') L(x,\omega') d\omega'$$

Radiative Transfer Equation (RTE)

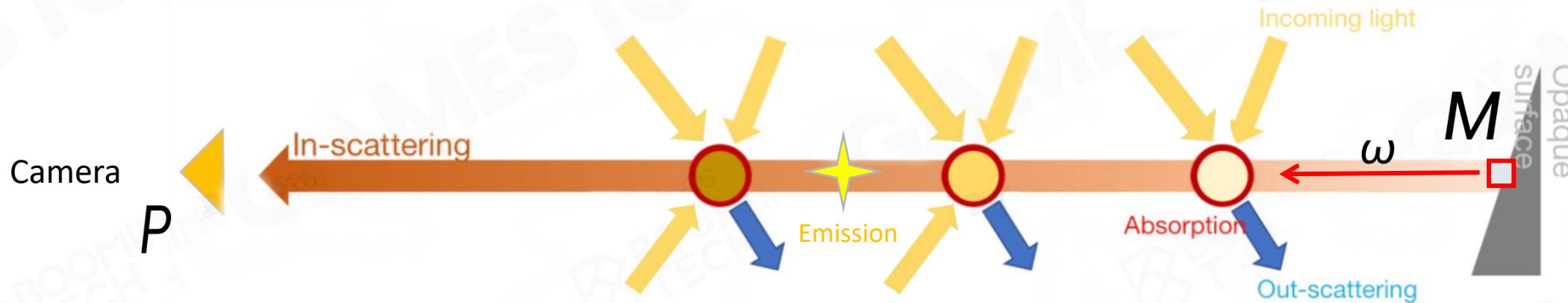
Extinction Coefficient $\sigma_t(x) = \sigma_a(x) + \sigma_s(x)$

$$dL(x,\omega) / dx = -\sigma_t L(x,\omega) + \sigma_a L_e(x,\omega) + \sigma_s \int_{S^2} f_p(x,\omega,\omega') L(x,\omega') d\omega'$$

In-Scattering Function



Volume Rendering Equation (VRE)



$$L(P, \omega) = \int_{x=0}^d T(x) [\sigma_a \cdot L_e(x, \omega) + \sigma_s \cdot L_i(x, \omega)] dx + T(M) L(M, \omega)$$

$$T(x) = e^{-\int_x^P \sigma_t(s) ds}$$

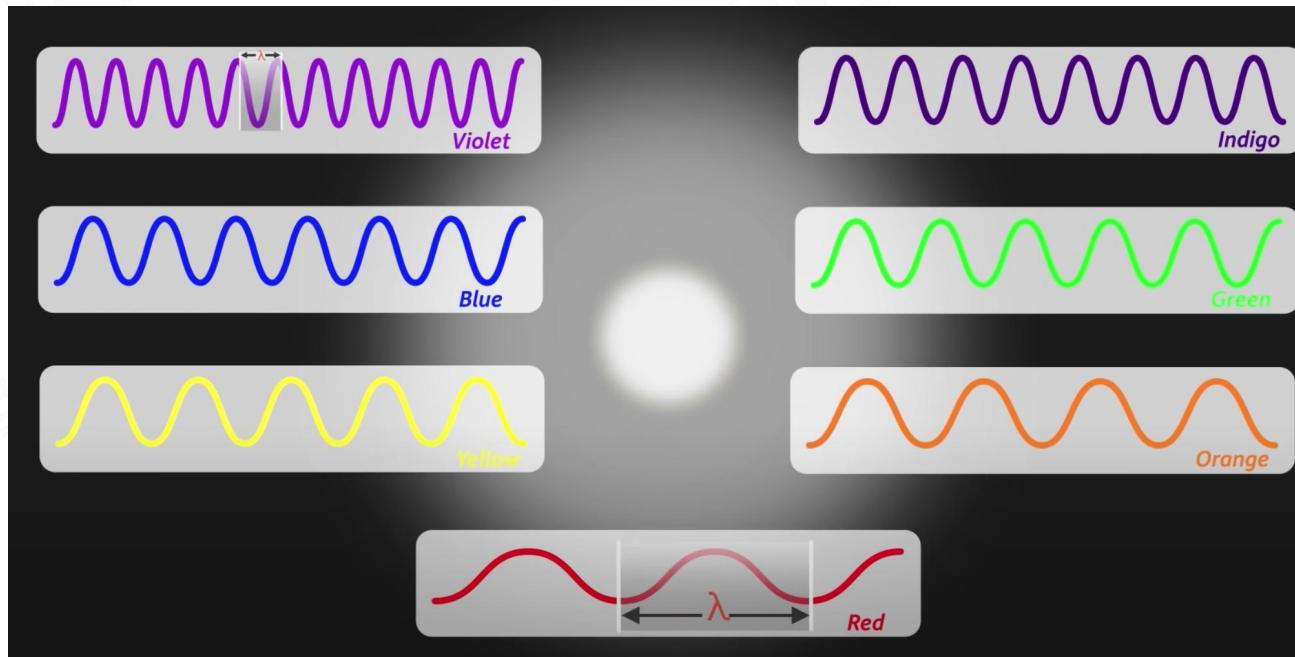
Transmittance: the net reduction factor from absorption and out-scattering

$$L_i(x, \omega) = \int_{S^2} f_p(x, \omega, \omega') L(x, \omega') d\omega'$$

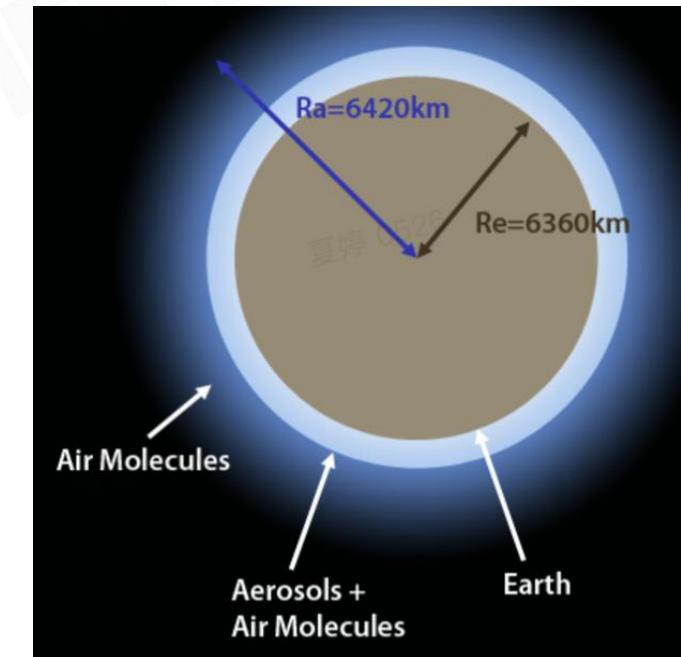
The net increase factor from in-scattering



Real Physics in Atmosphere



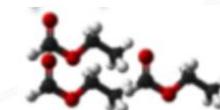
Sun Light



- Air Molecules
 $\text{N}_2 \text{ O}_2 \text{ O}_3$



- Aerosols
Dust Sand





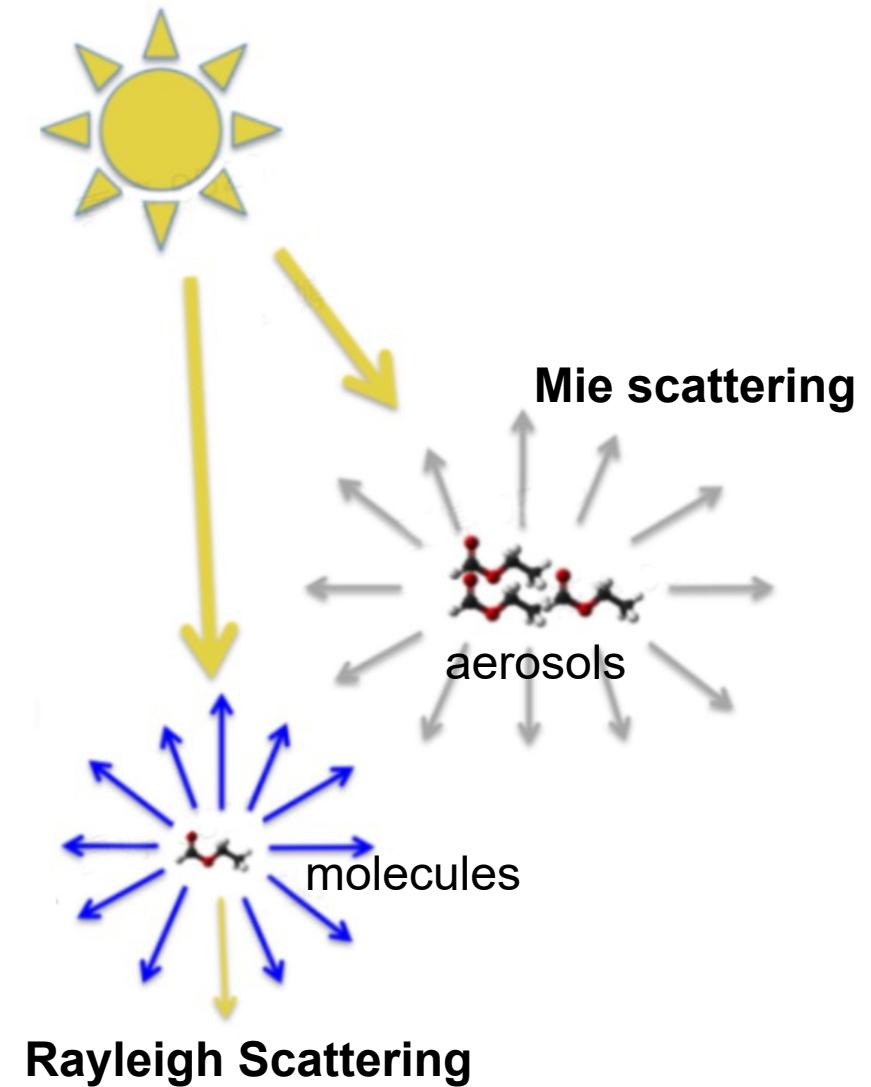
Scattering Types

- **Rayleigh Scattering**

Scattering of light by particles that have a diameter **much smaller than** the wavelength of the radiation (eg. air molecules)

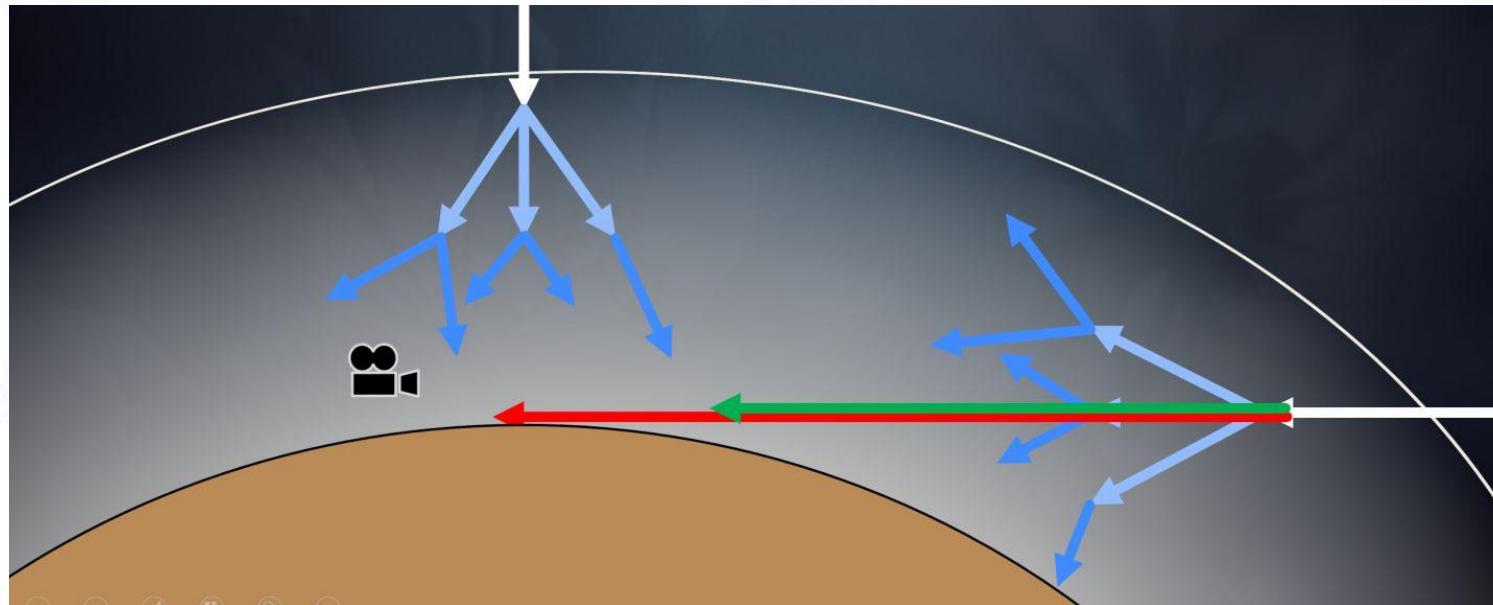
- **Mie scattering**

Scattering of light by particles that have a diameter **similar to or larger than** the wavelength of the incident light (eg. aerosols)

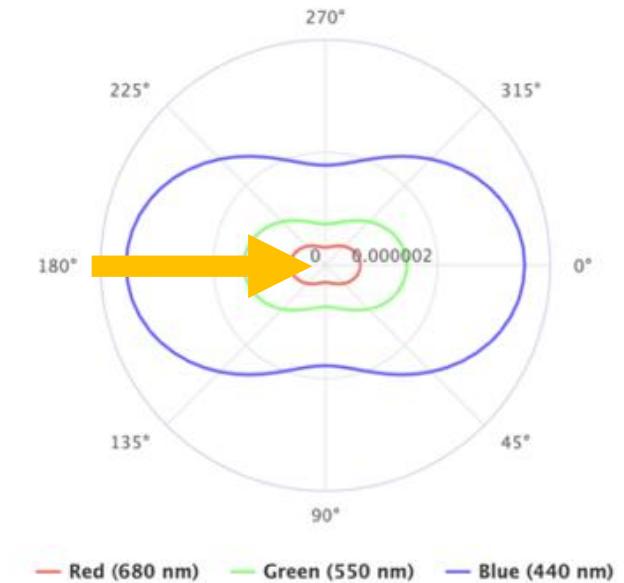




Rayleigh Scattering



- Certain directions receive more light than others
front-back symmetry
- Shorter wavelengths (eg. blue) are scattered more
strongly than longer wavelengths (eg. red)



Rayleigh Scattering Distribution



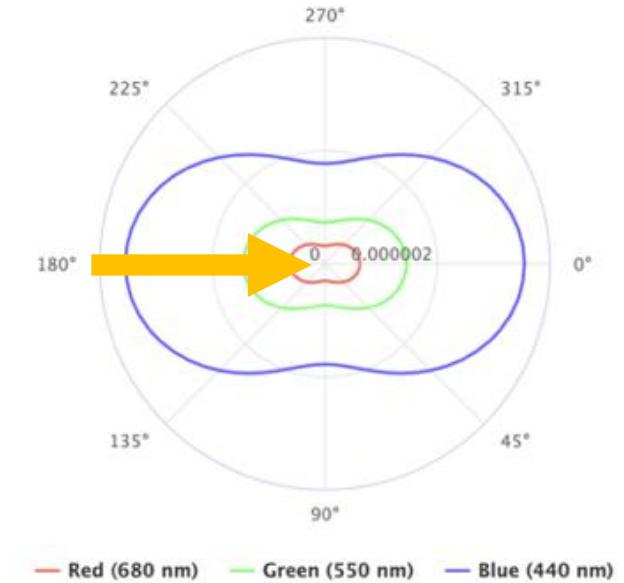
Rayleigh Scattering Equation

$$S(\lambda, \theta, h) = \frac{\pi^2(n^2 - 1)^2 \rho(h)}{2} \underbrace{\frac{1}{N}}_{\text{Density}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{\lambda^4}}_{\text{Geometry}} (1 + \cos^2 \theta)$$

$$\sigma_s^{Rayleigh}(\lambda, h) = \frac{8\pi^3(n^2 - 1)^2 \rho(h)}{3} \frac{1}{N} \frac{1}{\lambda^4} \quad F_{Rayleigh}(\theta) = \frac{3}{16\pi} (1 + \cos^2 \theta)$$

Scattering Coefficient

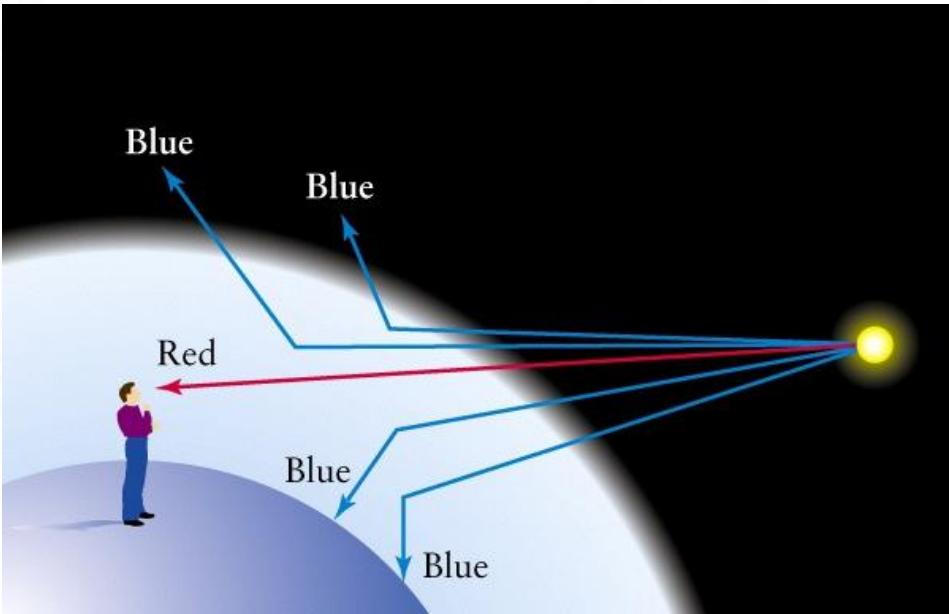
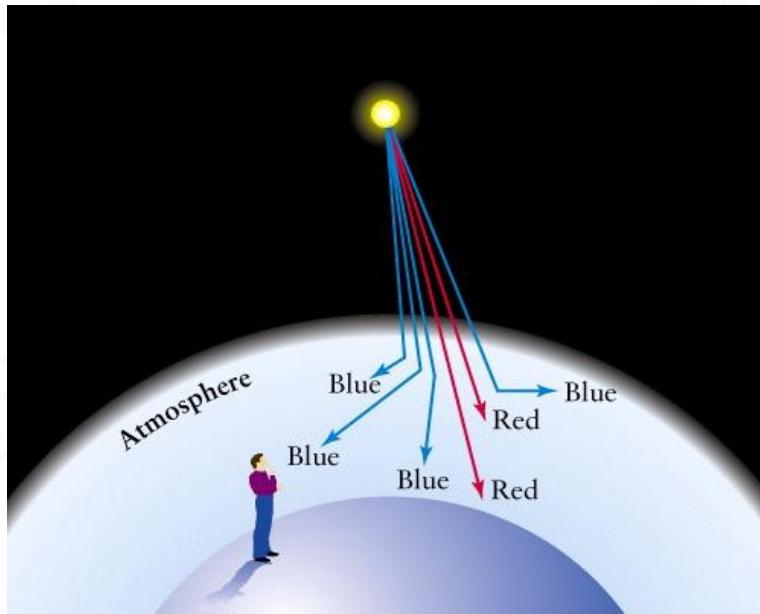
Phase Function



Rayleigh Scattering Distribution

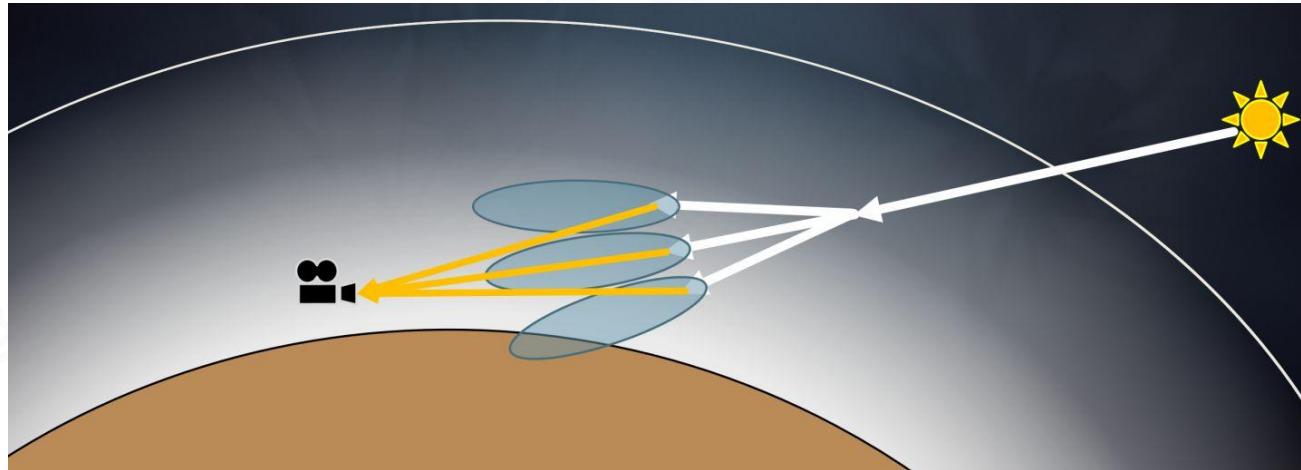


Why Sky is Blue

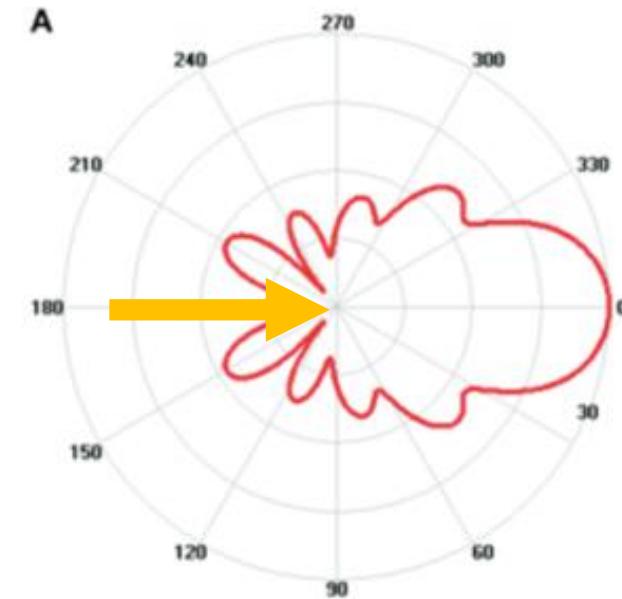




Mie Scattering



- Scatter light of all wavelength nearly equally
- Exhibit a strong forward directivity



Mie Scattering Distribution

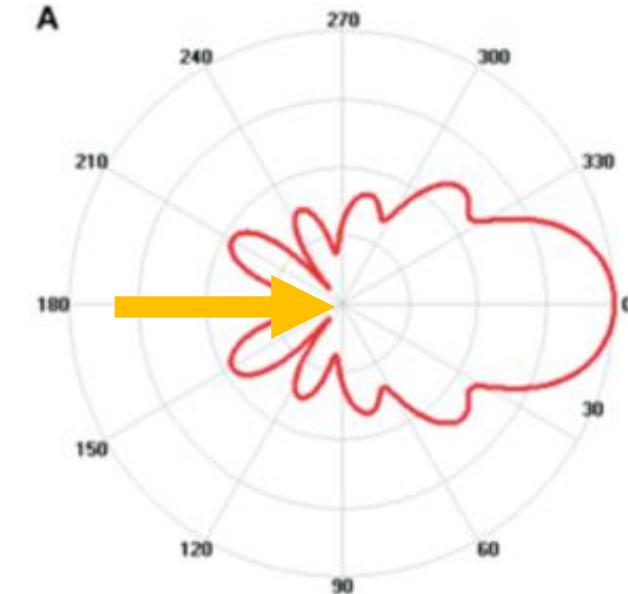


Mie Scattering Equation

$$S(\lambda, \theta, h) = \pi^2 (n^2 - 1)^2 \frac{\rho(h)}{N} \frac{1 - g^2}{2 + g^2} \frac{1 + \cos^2 \theta}{(1 - g^2 - 2g \cos \theta)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

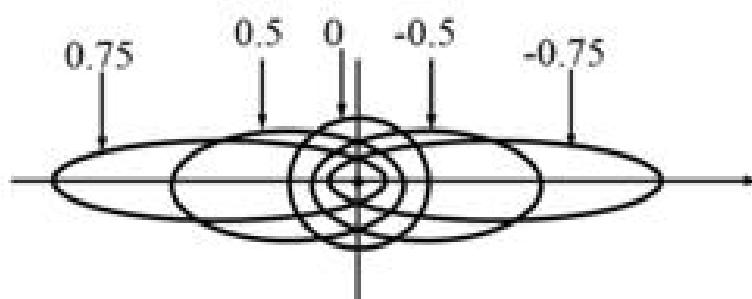
Scattering Coefficient **Phase Function**

$$\sigma_s^{Mie}(\lambda, h) = \frac{8\pi^3 (n^2 - 1)^2 \rho(h)}{3 N} \quad F_{Mie}(\theta) = \frac{3}{8\pi} \frac{1 - g^2}{2 + g^2} \frac{1 + \cos^2 \theta}{(1 - g^2 - 2g \cos \theta)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$



Mie Scattering Distribution

- $g > 0$, scatters more forward
Mie scattering
- $g < 0$, scatters more backward
- $g = 0$, Rayleigh scattering



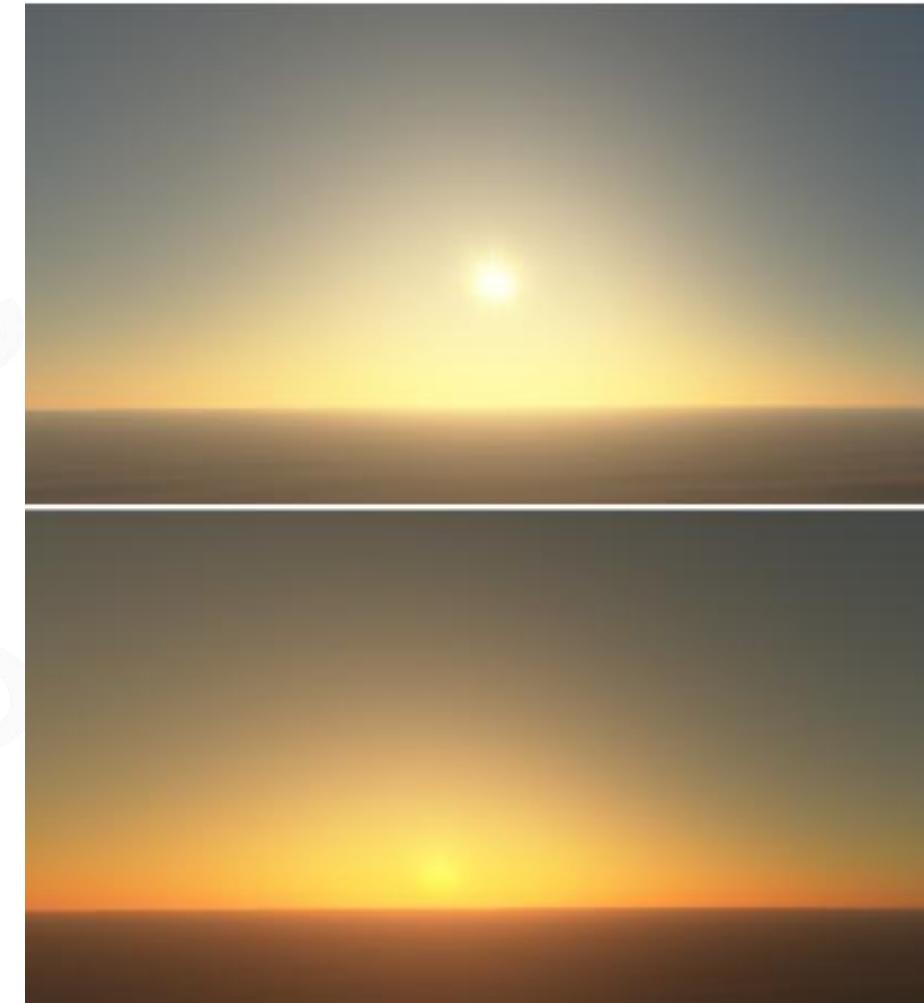


Mie Scattering in Daily Life

- Exhibit a strong forward directivity (halo effects around sun)
- Scatter light of all wavelength nearly equally (fog effects)



Fog



Halo of Sun



Variant Air Molecules Absorption

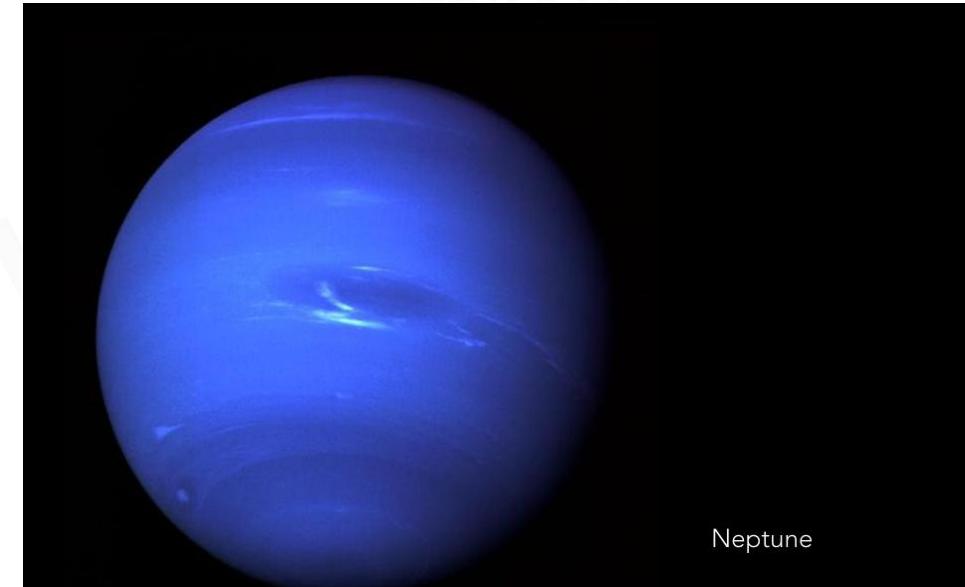
- Ozone (O₃)
- Methane (CH₄)

Absorb strongly at longer wavelengths to filter out the reds, oranges, yellows

Well-known for absorbing red light



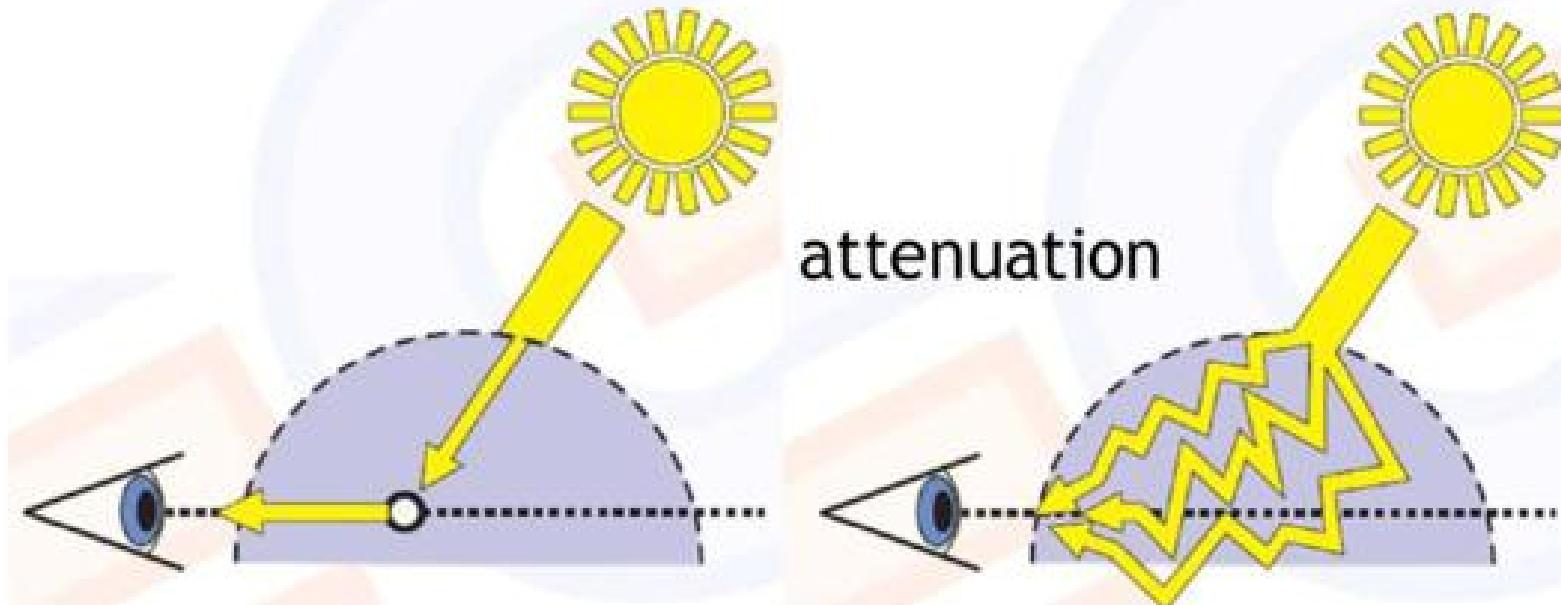
Blue sky near zenith on sunset



Neptune covered by CH₄



Single Scattering vs. Multi Scattering



single scattering

$$L_1 = \int_A^B L_{P \rightarrow A} ds$$

multiple scattering

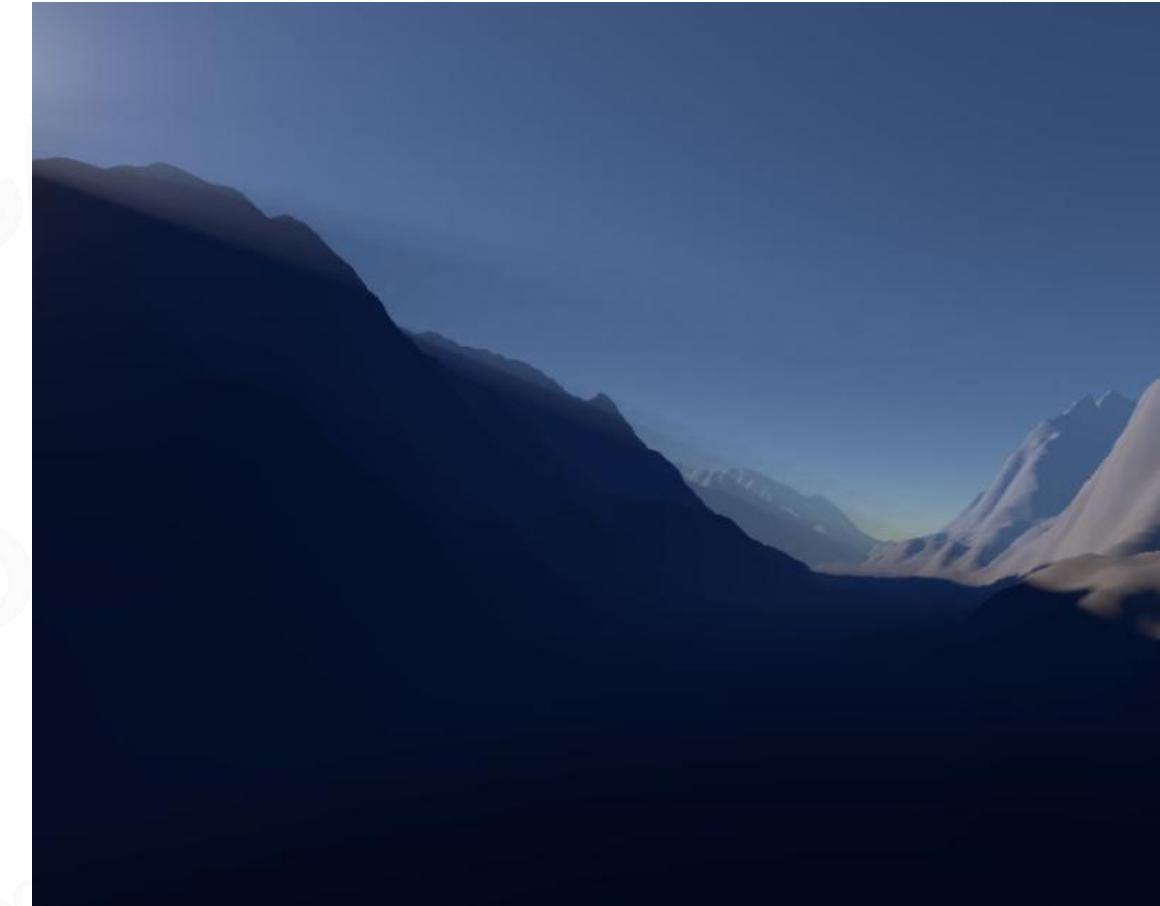
$$L_{n+1} = \int_A^B \int_{4\pi} L_n(p, v') \cdot S(\lambda, \theta, h) \cdot T(p \rightarrow A) dv' ds$$



Single Scattering vs. Multi Scattering



Single Scattering

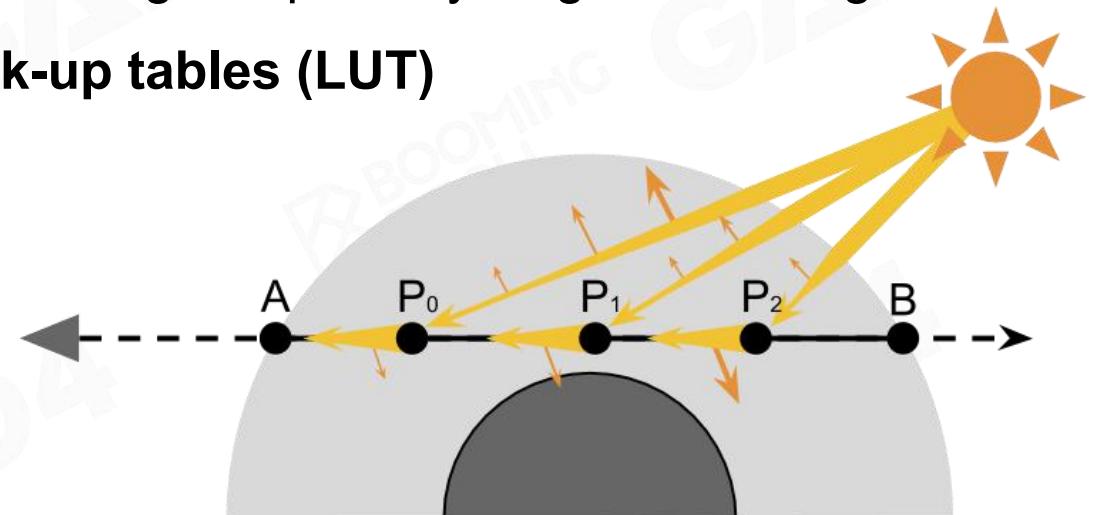
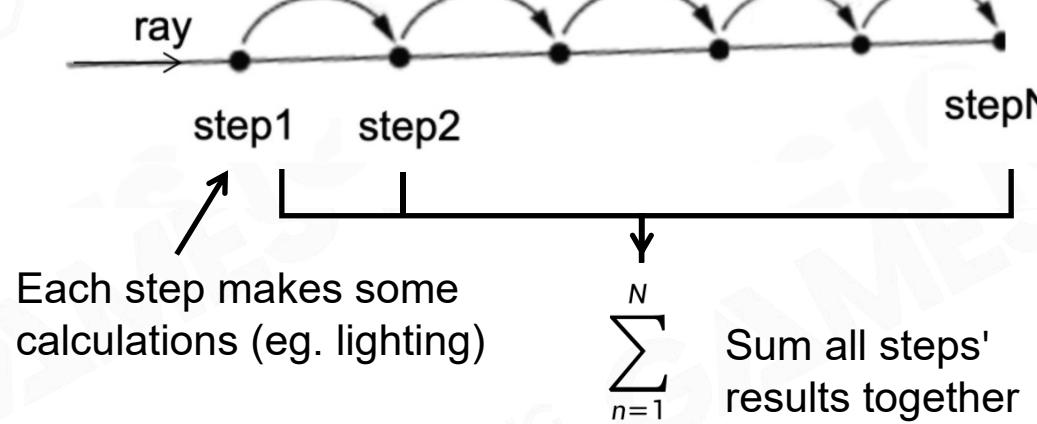


Multi Scattering



Ray Marching

- **Ray marching** is a popular method to integrate function along a path
- We use ray marching to calculate final radiance for a given point by single scattering
- The integrated radiance is usually stored in **look-up tables (LUT)**

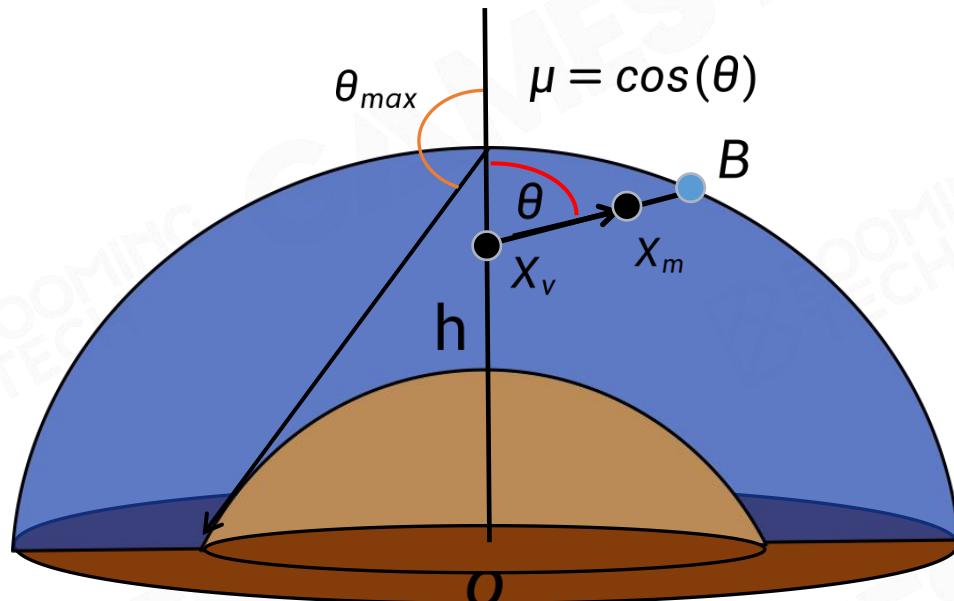


$$L_{\text{sun}} \int_A^B S(\lambda, \theta, h) \cdot (T(\text{sun} \rightarrow P) + T(P \rightarrow A)) ds$$

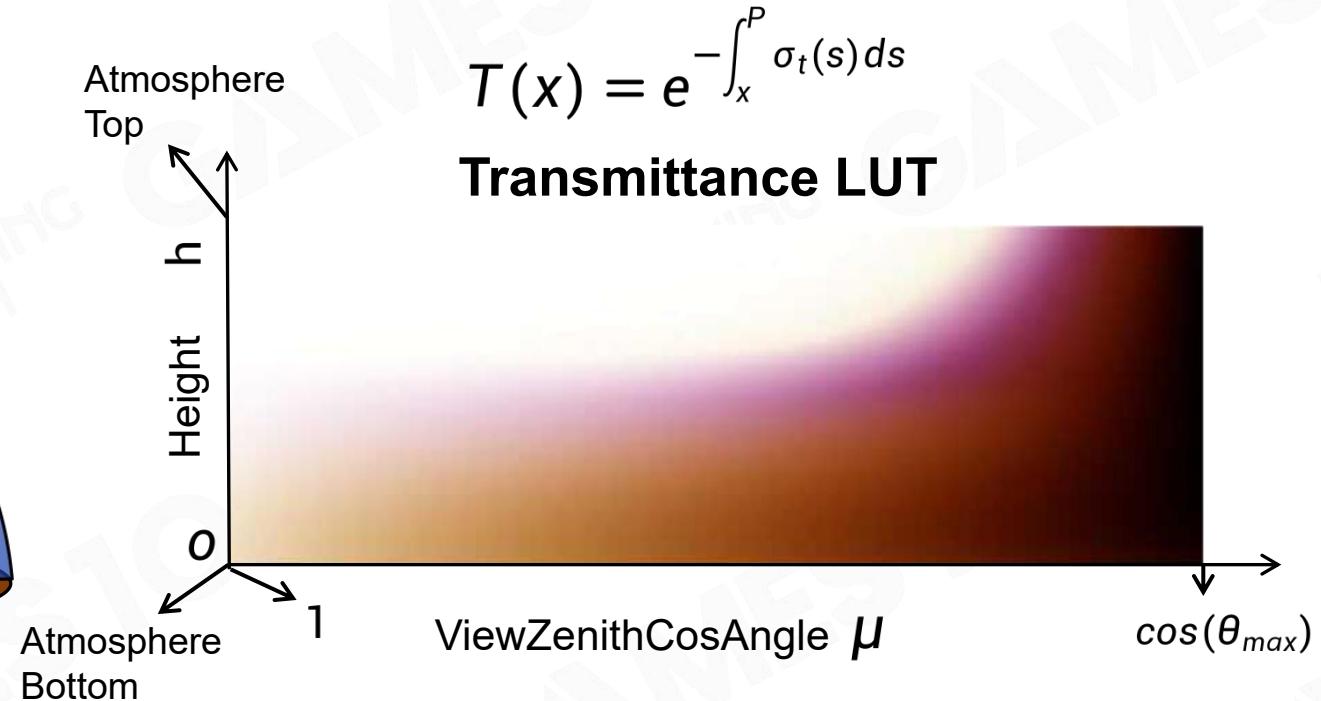
Single Scattering Integration



Precomputed Atmospheric Scattering

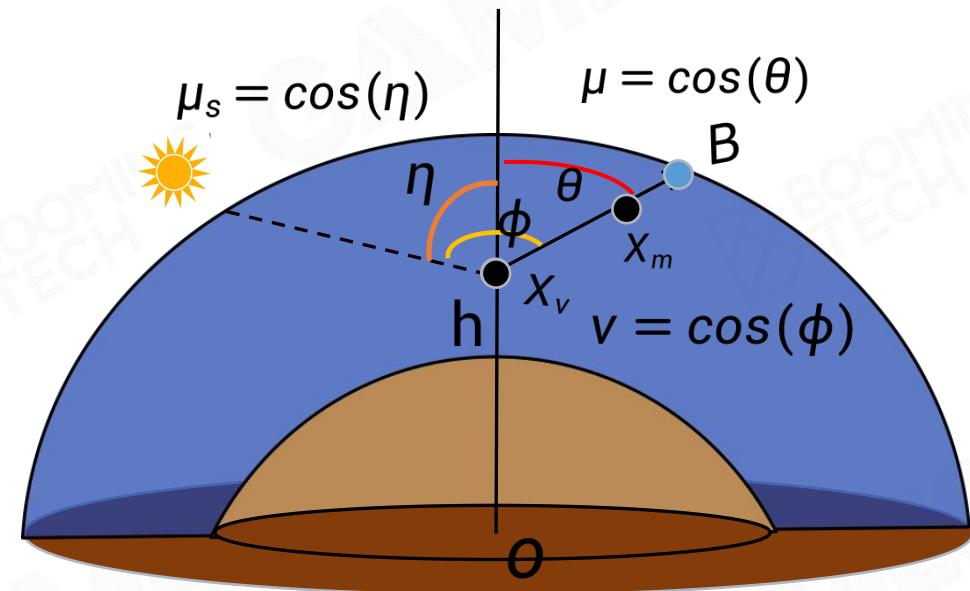


$$T(X_v \rightarrow X_m) = \frac{T(X_v \rightarrow B)}{T(X_m \rightarrow B)}$$





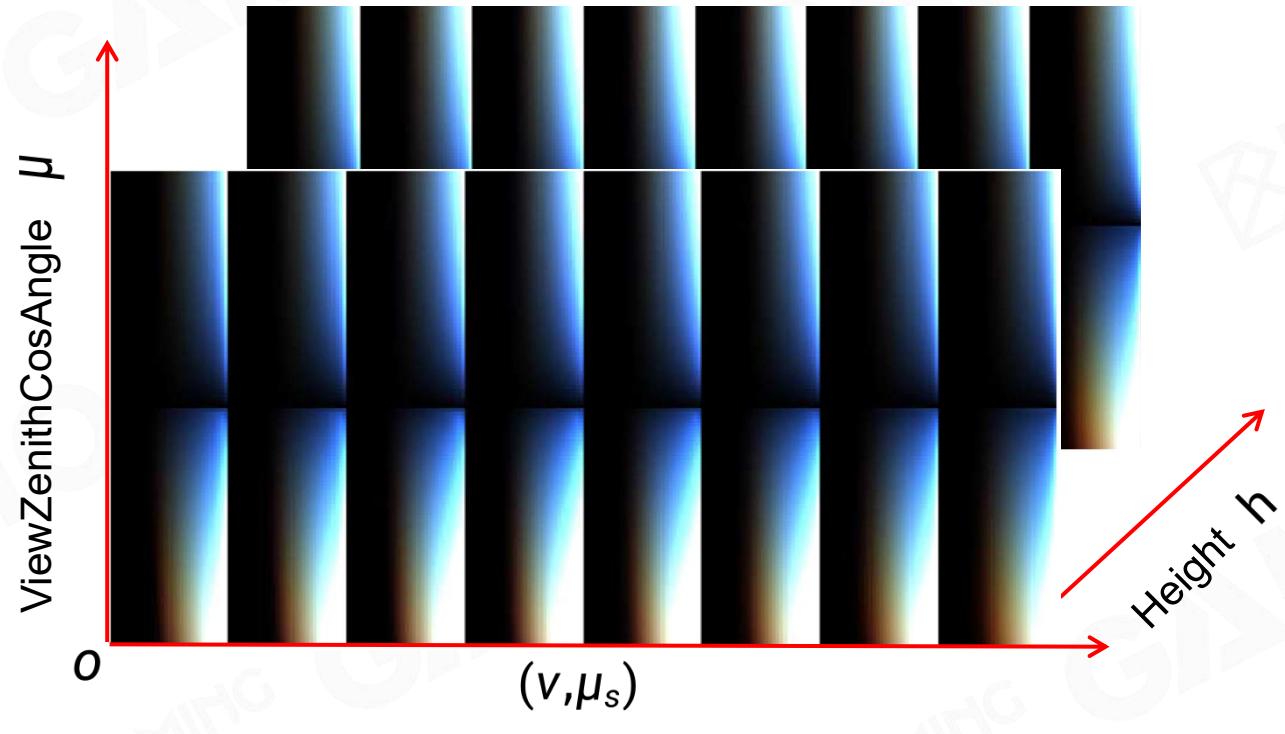
Precomputed Atmospheric Scattering



$$L_{\text{sun}} \int_A^B S(\lambda, \theta, h) \cdot (T(\text{sun} \rightarrow P) + T(P \rightarrow A)) ds$$

$$L(X_v \rightarrow X_m) = L(X_v \rightarrow B) - L(X_m \rightarrow B) \cdot T(X_v \rightarrow X_m)$$

Single Scattering LUT
Store 4D table in 3D Texture Array



ViewSunCosAngle x 8, SunZenithCosAngle x 32

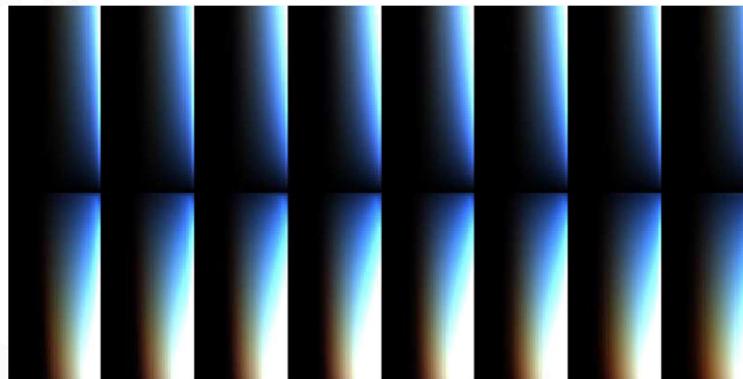


Precomputed Atmospheric Scattering

Multi Scattering LUT



Transmittance LUT (μ, r)



Single Scattering LUT (v, μ_s, μ, r)



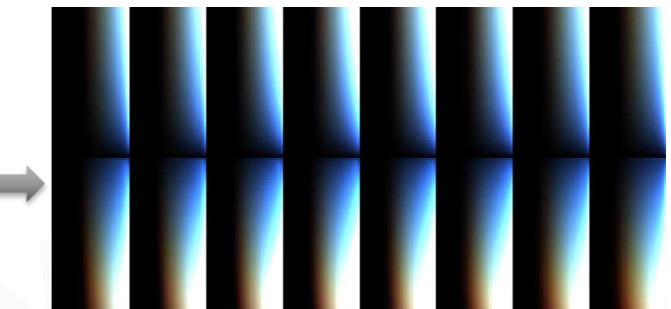
Scattered Light
Integration

Integration



N-order Scattering

Accumulate
scattering
order



Multi Scattering LUT
(v, μ_s, μ, r)



Precomputed Atmospheric Scattering



Challenges of Precomputed Atmospheric Scattering

- Precomputation Cost
 - Multi-scattering iterations are very expensive
 - Hard to generate atmosphere LUT on low-end devices (ie. mobile)
- Authoring and Dynamic Adjustment of Environments
 - Artist can't change scattering coefficients on the fly
 - Hard to render effects like weather from sunny to rain fog, space travel among planets
- Runtime Rendering Cost
 - Expensive per-pixel multi high dimensional texture sampling for transmittance LUT and multi scattering LUT (always need to down-sample for efficiency)

A Scalable and Production Ready Sky and Atmosphere Rendering Technique

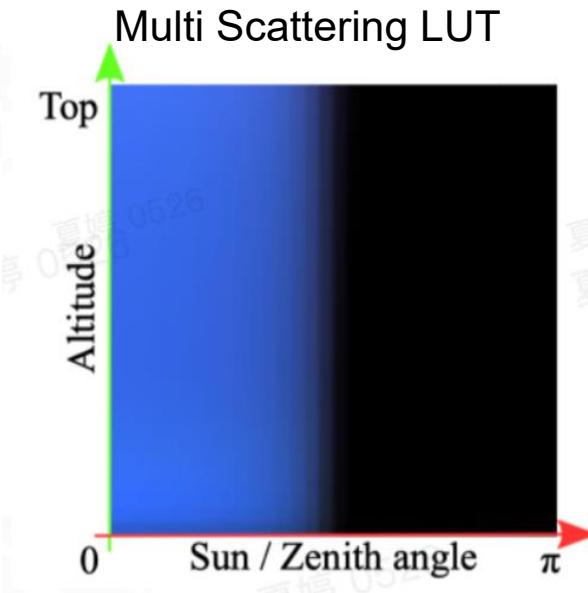
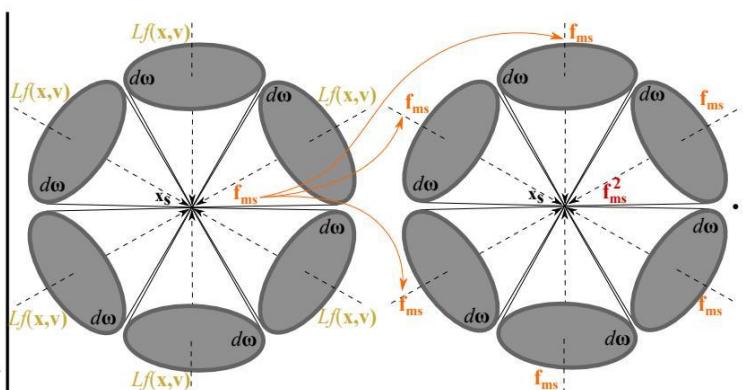
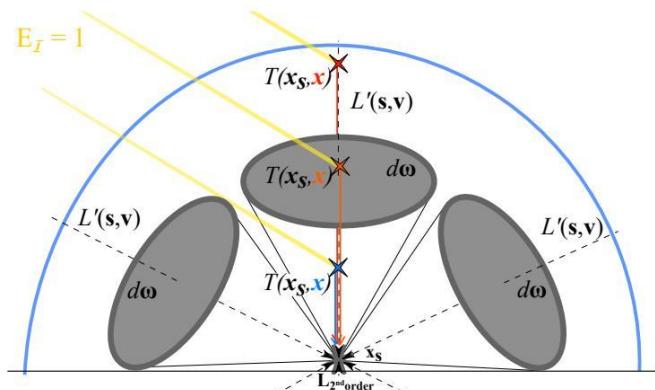
<https://diglib.eg.org/bitstream/handle/10.1111/cgf14050/v39i4pp013-022.pdf>



Production Friendly Quick Sky and Atmosphere Rendering

Simplify Multi-scattering Assumption

- Scattering events with order greater or equal to 2 are executed using an **isotropic phase function**
- All points within the neighborhood of the position we currently shade **receive the same amount of second order scattered light**
- Visibility is ignored**



$$G_{n+1} = G_n * f_{ms}$$

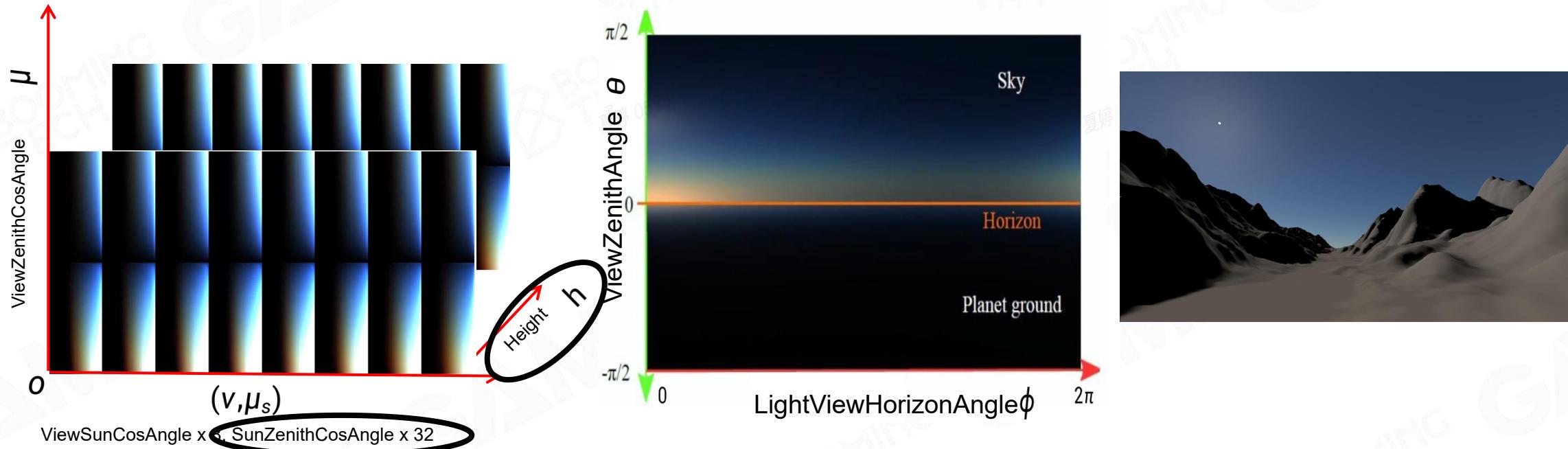
$$F_{ms} = 1 + f_{ms} + f_{ms}^2 + f_{ms}^3 + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - f_{ms}}$$

$$\Psi_{ms} = L_{2^{nd} order} F_{ms}$$



Production Friendly Quick Sky and Atmosphere Rendering

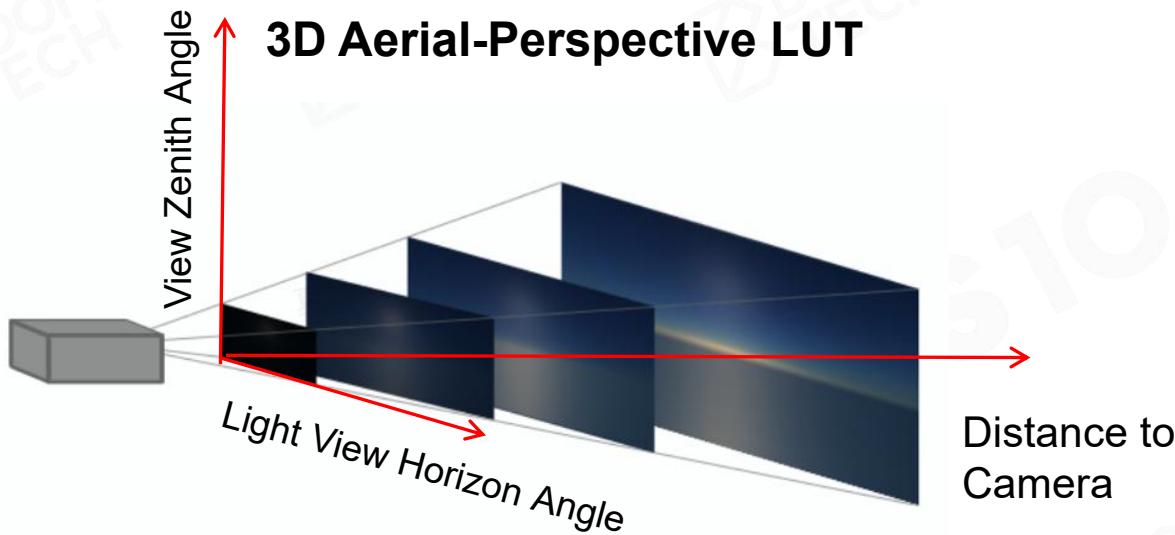
Fixed view position and sun position to remove 2 dimensions out of LUT





Production Friendly Quick Sky and Atmosphere Rendering

- Generated a 3D LUT to evaluate aerial-perspective effects by ray marching





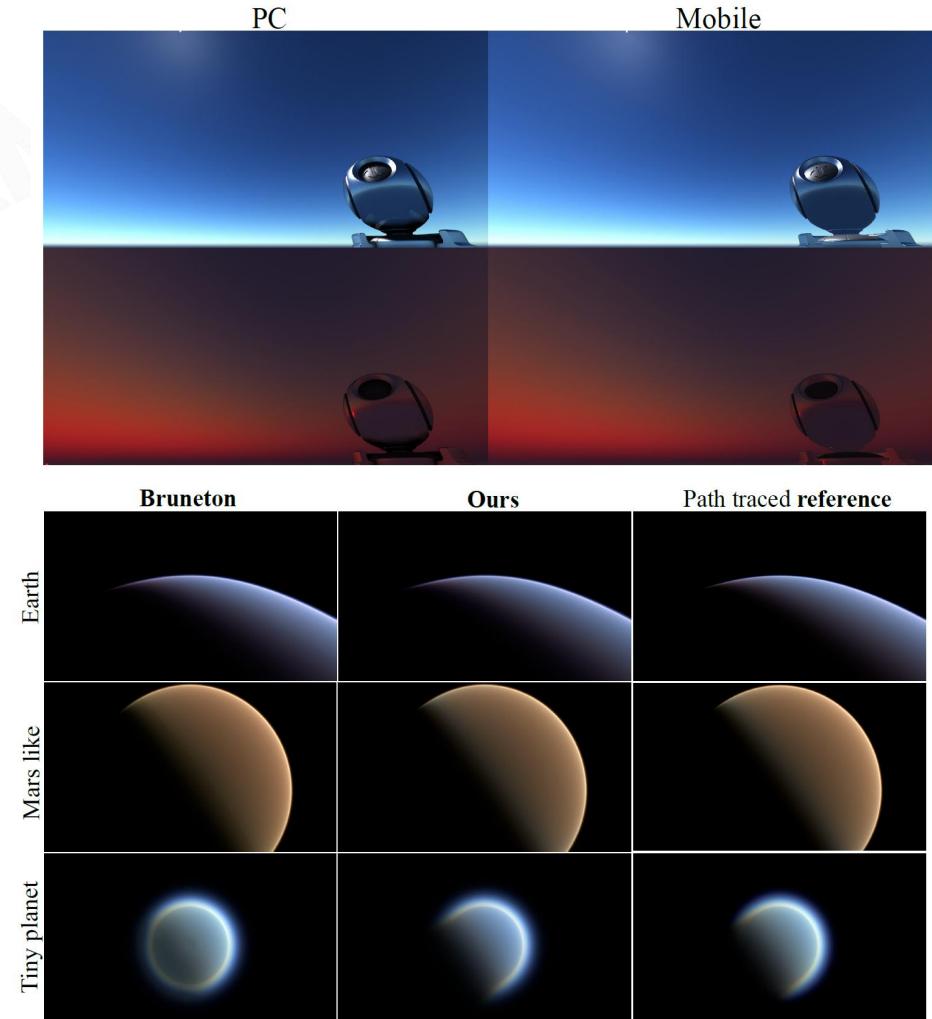
Good Balance of Performance and Effect

- Scalable from mobile to high-end PCs

PC			
LUT	Resolution	Step count	Render time
Transmittance	256×64	40	0.01ms
Sky-View	200×100	30	0.05ms
Aerial perspective	32^3	30	0.04ms
Multi-scattering	32^2	20	0.07ms

Mobile (iPhone 6s)			
LUT	Resolution	Step count	Render time
Transmittance	256×64	40	0.53ms
Sky-View	96×50	8	0.27ms
Aerial perspective	$32^2 \times 16$	8	0.11ms
Multi-scattering	32^2	20	0.12ms

Performance for each step of method, as measured on PC (NV 1080) and a mobile device (iPhone 6s)



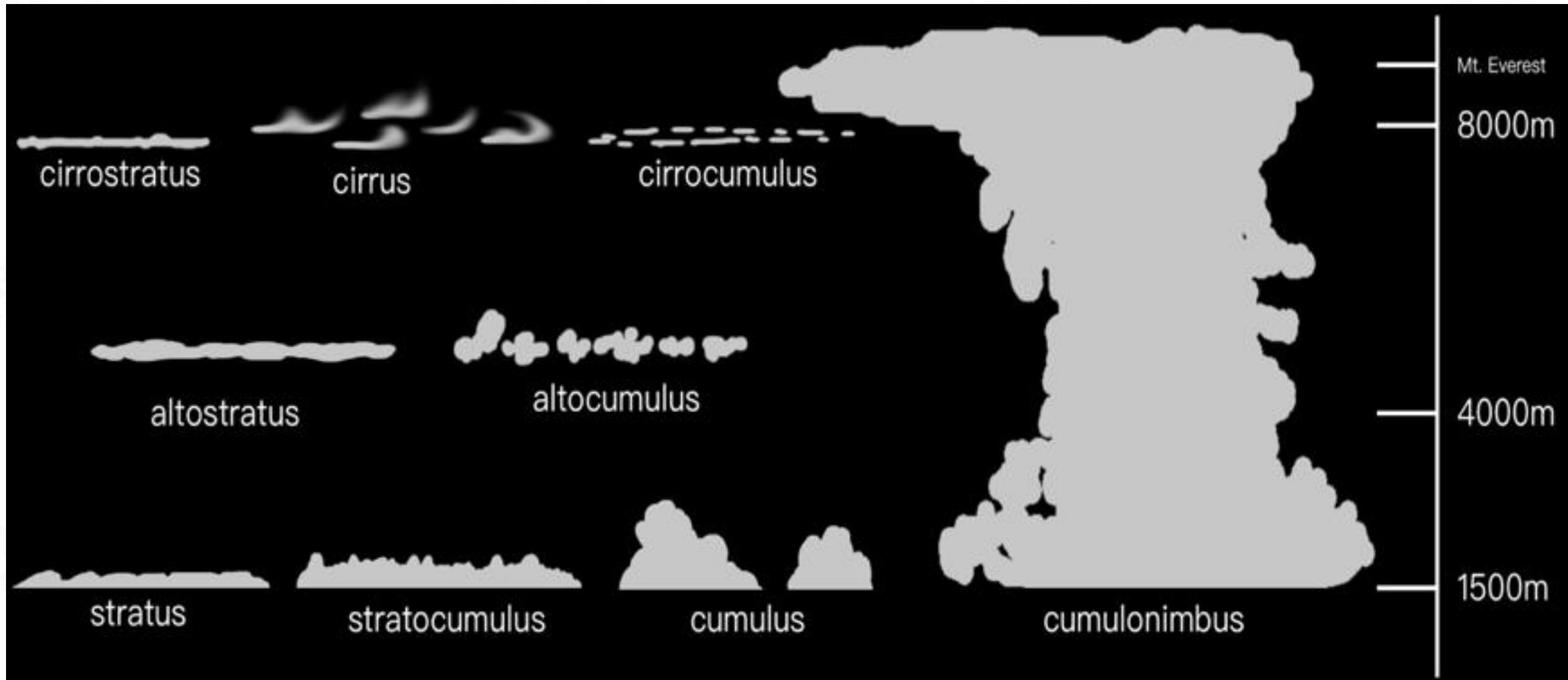


Video of Atmosphere Demo



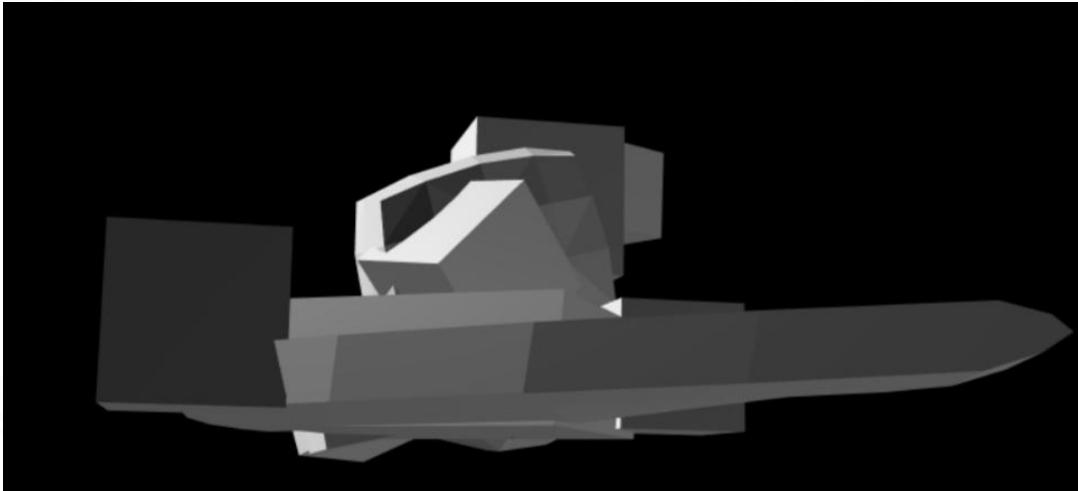


Cloud Type





Mesh-Based Cloud Modeling

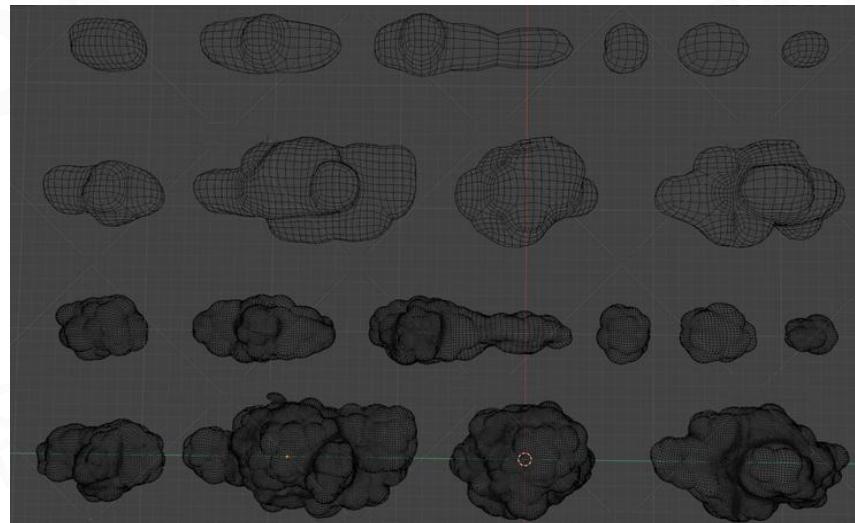


Pros

- High quality

Cons

- Overall expensive
- Do not support dynamic weather





Billboard Cloud

Pros

- Efficient

Cons

- Limited visual effect
- Limited cloud type





Volumetric Cloud Modeling



Pros

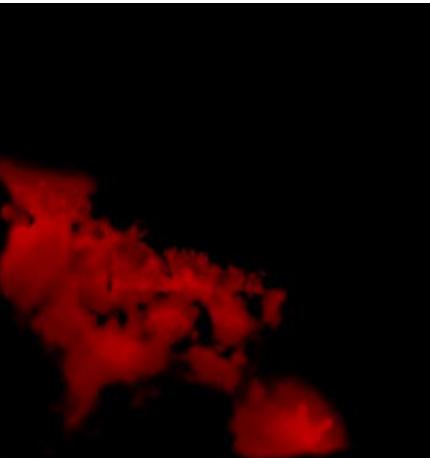
- Realistic cloud shapes
- Large scale clouds possible
- Dynamic weather supported
- Dynamic volumetric lighting and shadowing

Cons

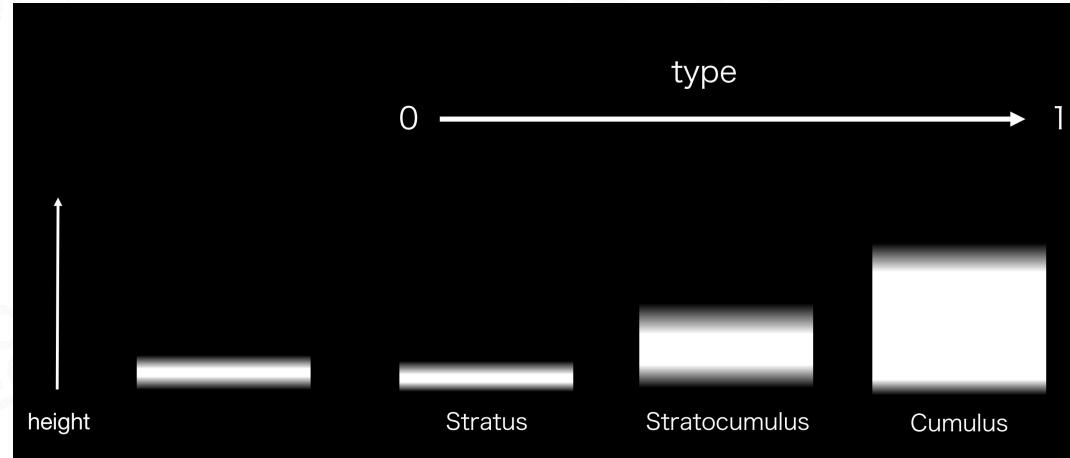
- Efficiency must be considered



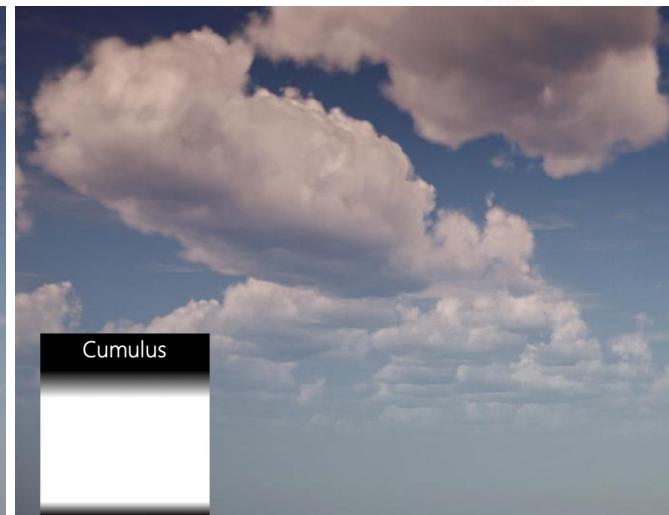
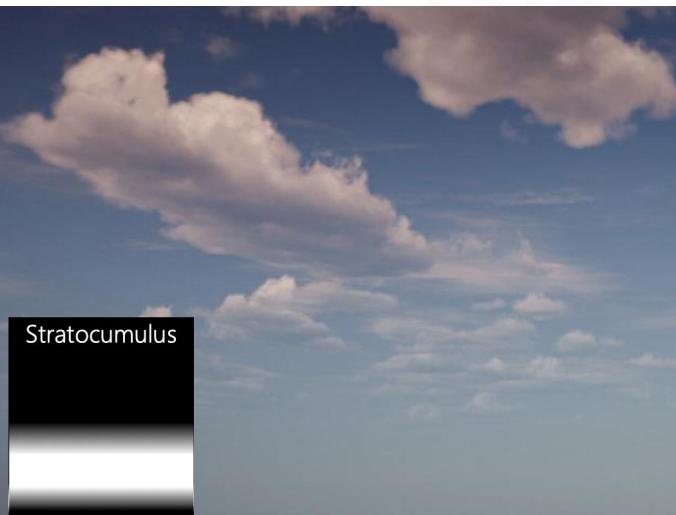
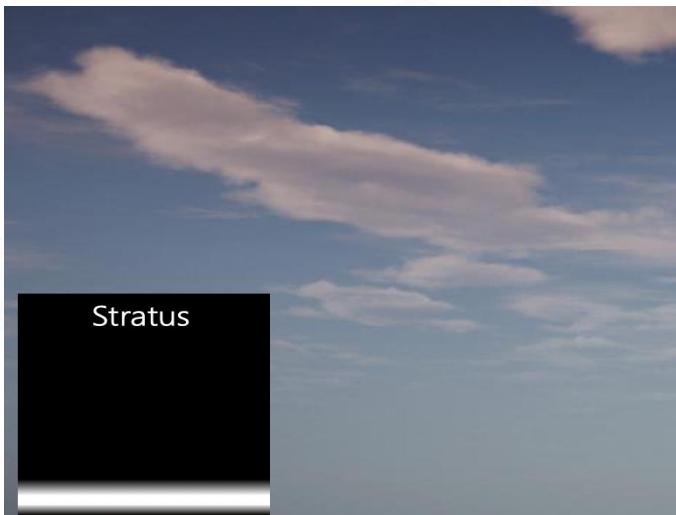
Weather Texture



+



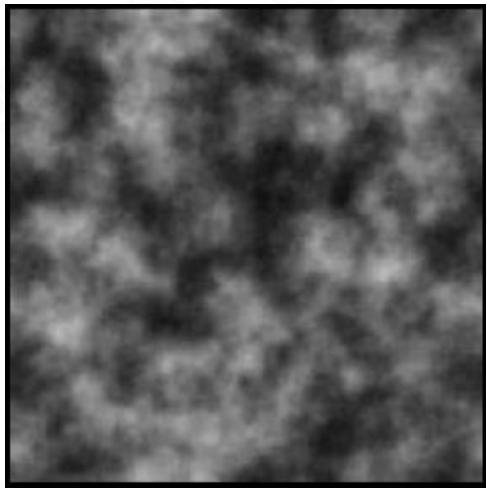
=



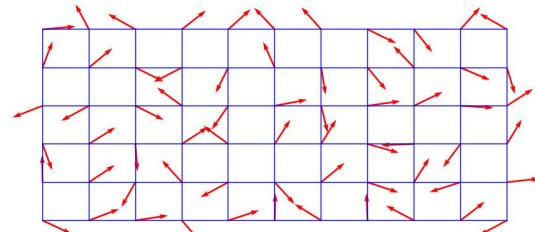


Noise Functions

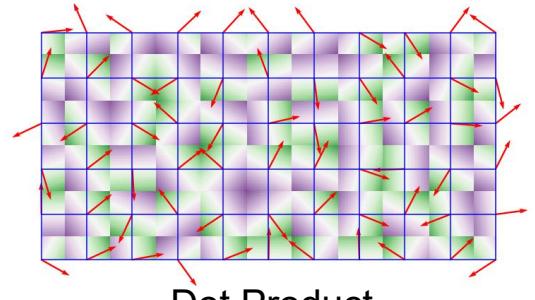
Perlin Noise



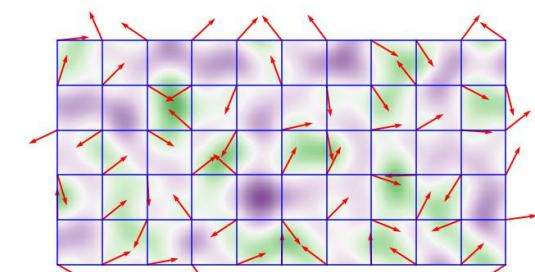
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perlin_noise



Grid Definition

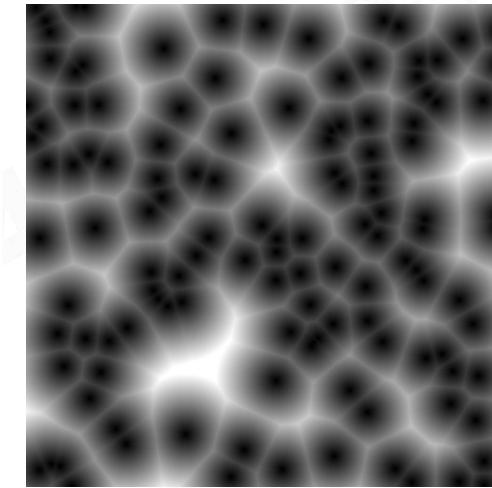


Dot Product



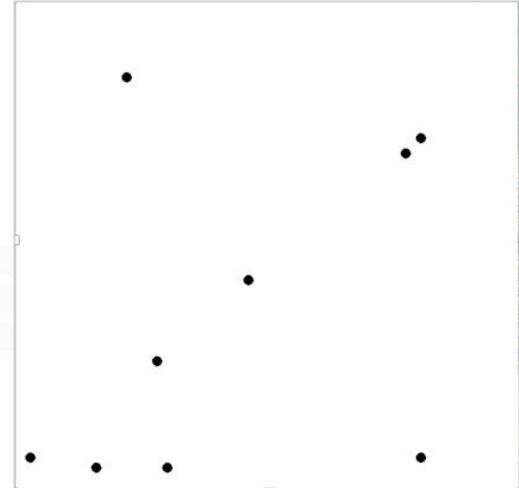
Interpolation

Worley Noise



<https://thebookofshaders.com/12/>

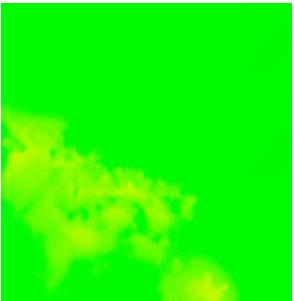
Voronoi





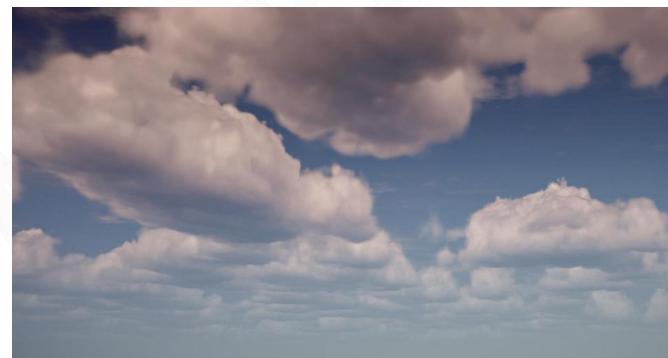
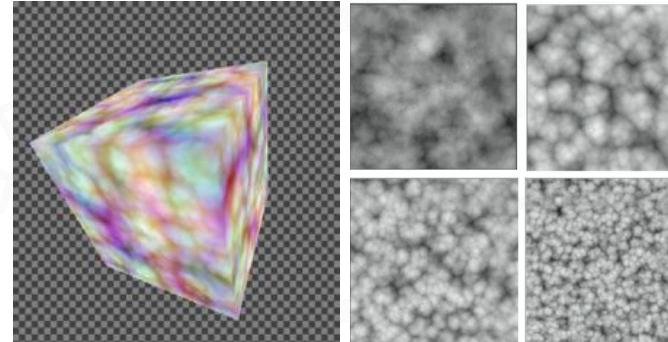
Cloud Density Model

Basic Distribution



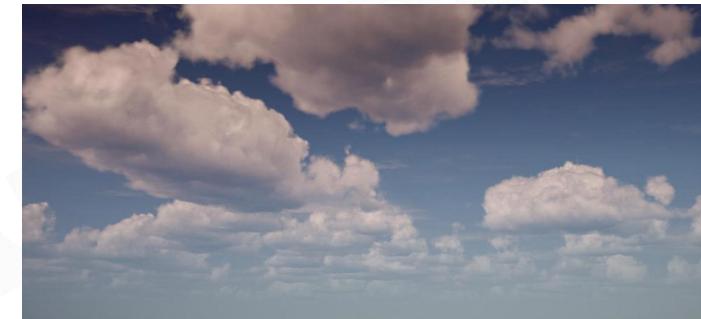
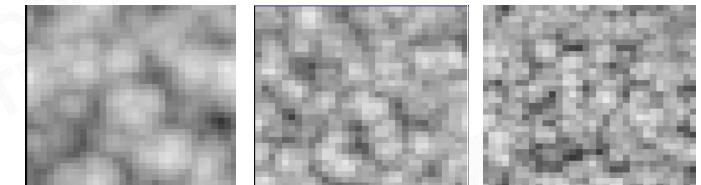
Basic Shape

RGB channels
R Perlin-Worley
GBA layered Worley



More Details

3 low resolution Worley

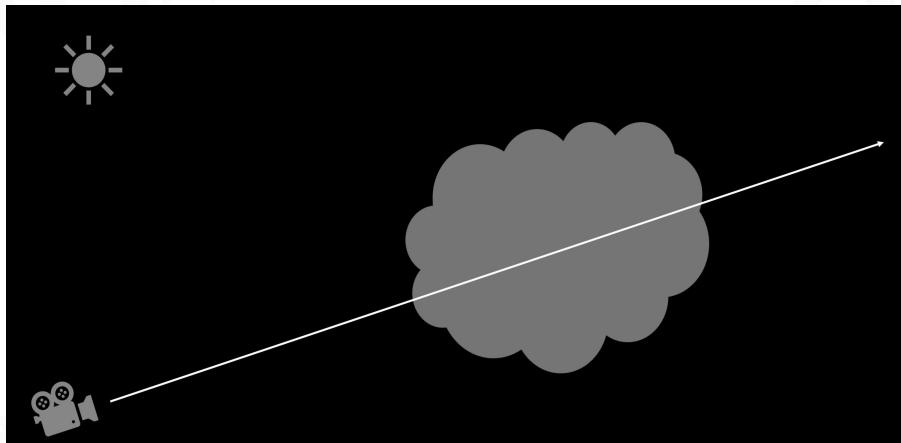


$$DN_{fbm} = dn_r \times 0.625 + dn_g \times 0.25 + dn_b \times 0.125$$

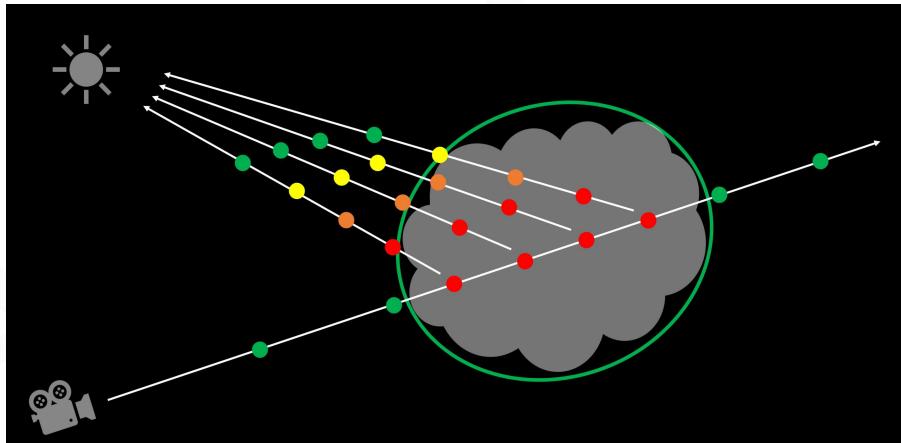
$$SN_{sample} = R(sn_r, (sn_g \times 0.625 + sn_b \times 0.25 + sn_a \times 0.125) - 1, 1, 0, 1)$$



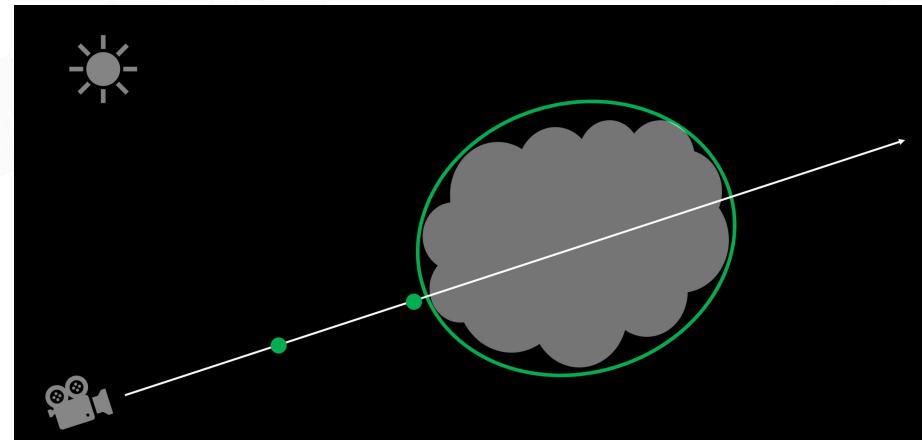
Rendering Cloud by Ray Marching



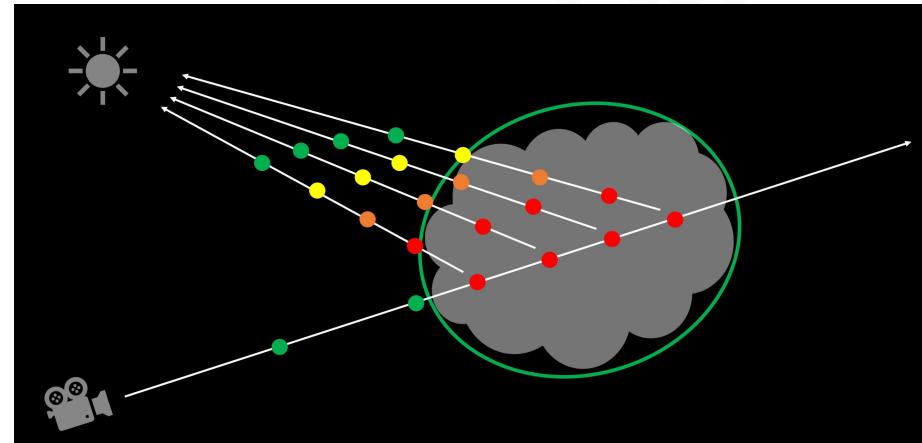
Step 1 : Cast ray for each screen pixel



Step 3 : Dense step sampling inside cloud



Step 2 : Big step marching until hitting cloud



Step 4 : Gather radiance scattered from sun

A dark, atmospheric landscape, possibly a forest or mountain range at night or dusk. The foreground is mostly black, with faint silhouettes of trees and mountain peaks visible against a dark sky.

Video of Volume Cloud



Pilot Engine V0.0.2 Released - 12 April

Bugfixes

- Fixed the transform of rigid bodies of objects
- Fixed crashes when reloading current level
- Fixed transforming objects by dragging axes of Transform – Component in Component Details Panel
- Fixed specular calculation when roughness is 0
- Fixed compilation and crashes on M1 macOS



Optimizations

- Optimized the display performance of the file tree in File Content Panel
- Optimized the coloring of axes of Transform Component in Component Details Panel
- Prefer independent graphics card when initializing Vulkan

Contributors



ShenMian, KSkun, and 19 other contributors



Optimization of Course Arrangement

Take 1 week break every 3 lectures from lecture08

- The course team needs a break to better prepare for the course
- Leave more time for students to digest knowledge and catch up with homework





Q&A



Lecture 06 Contributor

- 一将
- 爵爷
- 金大壮
- QUIU
- 光哥
- Jason
- Leon
- C佬
- 烛哥
- 砚书
- 梨叔
- 阿乐
- 玉林
- BOOK
- Shine
- 阿熊
- 小老弟
- MANDY
- 邓导
- CC
- 建辉
- 俗哥
- Judy
- 大喷



Enjoy ;) Coding



Course Wechat

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