## INFOMAGR – Advanced Graphics

Jacco Bikker - November 2019 - February 2020

# Lecture 5 - "The Perfect BVH"

Welcome!

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n = E * brdf * (dot( N, R ) / pdf);
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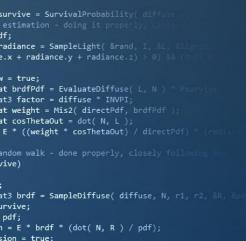
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), N );

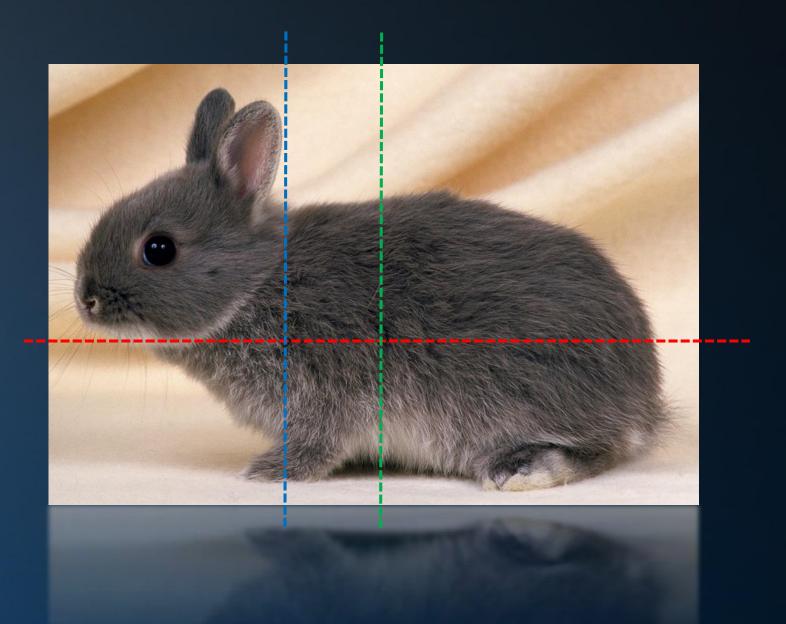
### Today's Agenda:

- Building Better BVHs
- Refitting
- Fast BVH Construction
- The Top-level BVH



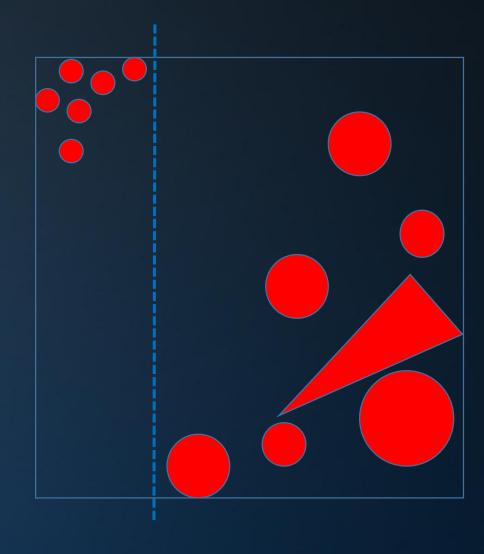


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radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I, &L, &l
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v = true;
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at3 factor = diffuse * INVPI;
at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf );
at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );
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1 = E * brdf * (dot( N, R ) / pdf);
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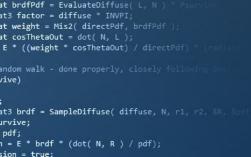
What Are We Trying To Solve?

A BVH is used to reduce the number of ray/primitive intersections.

But: it introduces new intersections.

The ideal BVH minimizes:

- # of ray / primitive intersections
- # of ray / node intersections.



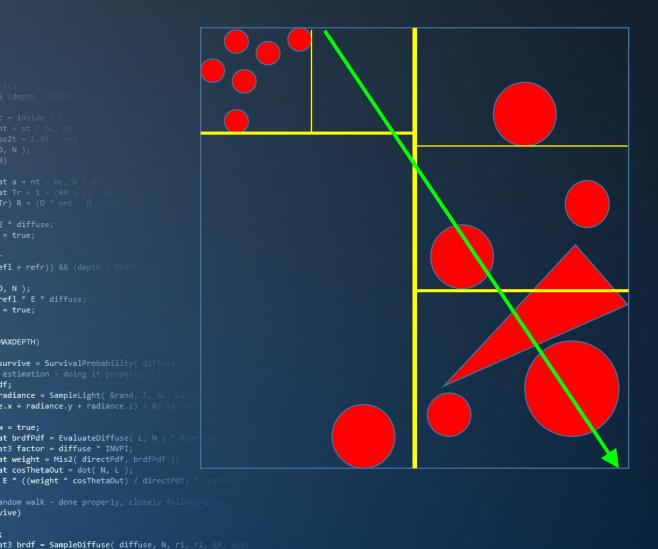
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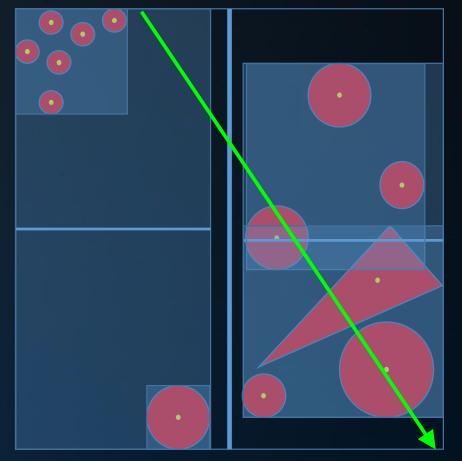
v = true;

survive = SurvivalProbability( diff.

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I, &L e.x + radiance.y + radiance.z) > 0) &

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BVH versus kD-tree

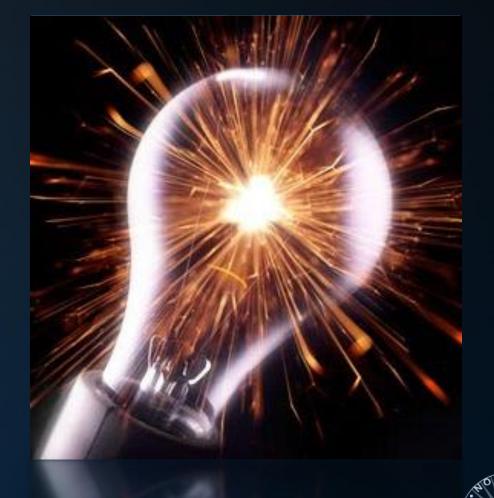
The BVH better encapsulates geometry.

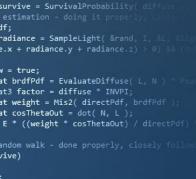
- → This reduces the chance of a ray hitting a node.
- → This is all about probabilities!

What is the probability of a ray hitting a random triangle?

What is the probability of a ray hitting a random node?

This probability is proportional to **surface area**.





1 = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, A

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(AXDEPTH)

refl \* E \* diffuse;



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n = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);



Route 2: 100% up-time, \$100 fine

#### **Optimal Split Plane Position**

The ideal split minimizes the *expected cost* of a ray intersecting the resulting nodes.

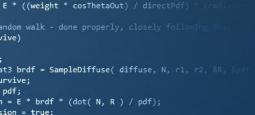
This expected cost is based on:

- Number of primitives that will have to be intersected
- Probability of this happening

The cost of a split is thus:

$$A_{left} * N_{left} + A_{right} * N_{right}$$





at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );

#### **Optimal Split Plane Position**

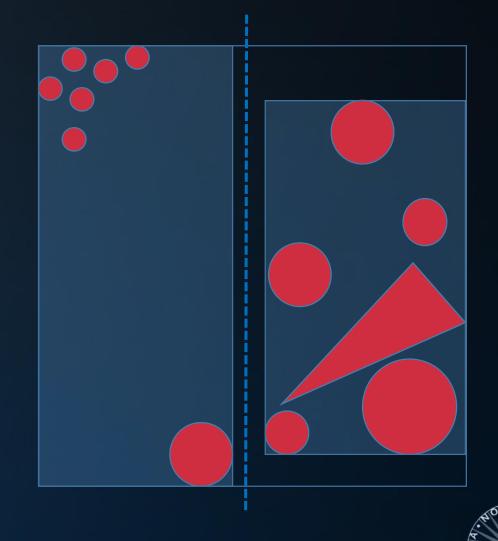
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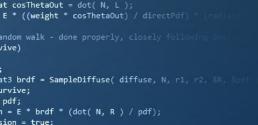
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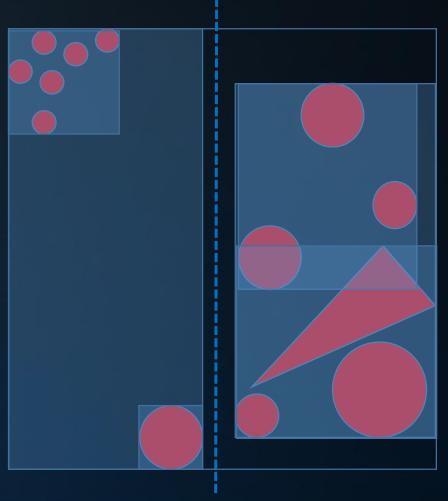
#### Optimal Split Plane Position

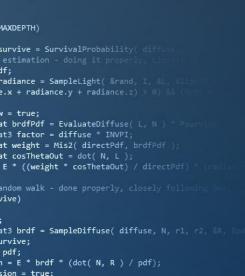
Or, more concisely:

$$A_{left}^{0}*\left(A_{left}^{1}*N_{left}^{1}+A_{right}^{1}*N_{right}^{1}\right)$$

+

$$A_{right}^{0} * \left(A_{left}^{2} * N_{left}^{2} + A_{right}^{2} * N_{right}^{2}\right)$$





refl \* E \* diffuse;



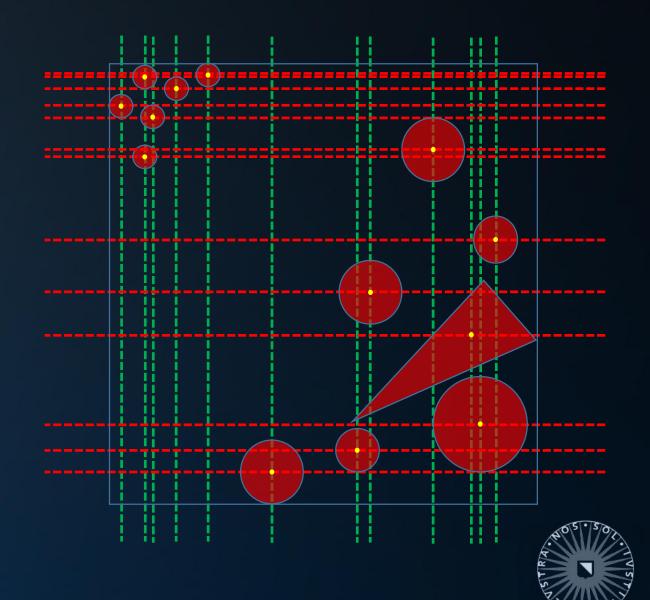
Optimal Split Plane Position

Which positions do we consider?

*Object subdivision may happen over x, y or z axis.* 

The cost function is constant between primitive centroids.

- → For N primitives: 3(N-1) possible locations
- For a 2-level tree:  $(3(N-1))^2$  configurations



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survive = SurvivalProbability( di

at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf ); at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L ); E \* ((weight \* cosThetaOut) / directPdf;

#### SAH and Termination

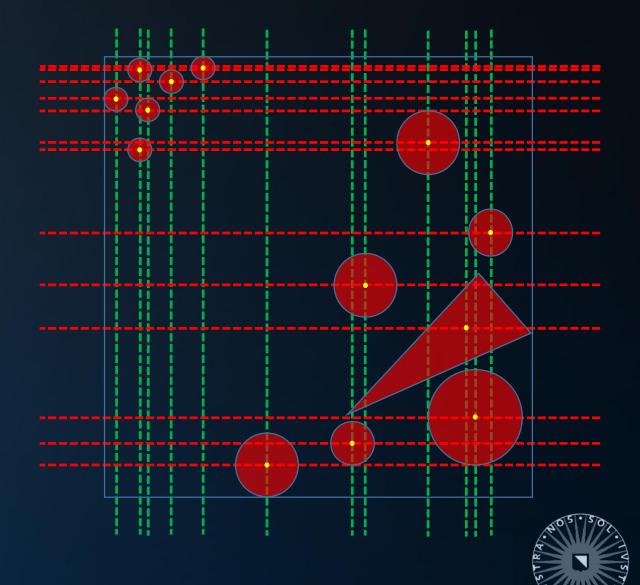
A split is 'not worth it' if it doesn't yield a cost lower than the cost of the parent node, i.e.:

$$A_{left} * N_{left} + A_{right} * N_{right} \ge A * N$$

This provides us with a natural and optimal termination criterion.

(and it solves the problem of the Bad Artist)

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survive = SurvivalProbability( diff.

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at brdfPdf = EvaluateDiffuse( L, N ) \* at3 factor = diffuse \* INVPI; at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf ) at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );

E \* ((weight \* cosThetaOut) / directPdf)

(AXDEPTH)

v = true;

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Optimal Split Plane Position
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Evaluating (3(N-1))^2 configurations?
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Solution: apply the *surface area heuristic* (SAH) in a greedy manner\*.

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*: Heuristics for Ray Tracing using Space Subdivision, MacDonald & Booth, 1990.

** Heuristics for Ray Tracing using Space Subdivision, MacDonald & Booth, 1990.

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#### Optimal Split Plane Position

#### Comparing naïve versus SAH:

- SAH will cut #intersections in half;
- expect ~2x better performance.

#### SAH & kD-trees:

Same scheme applies.

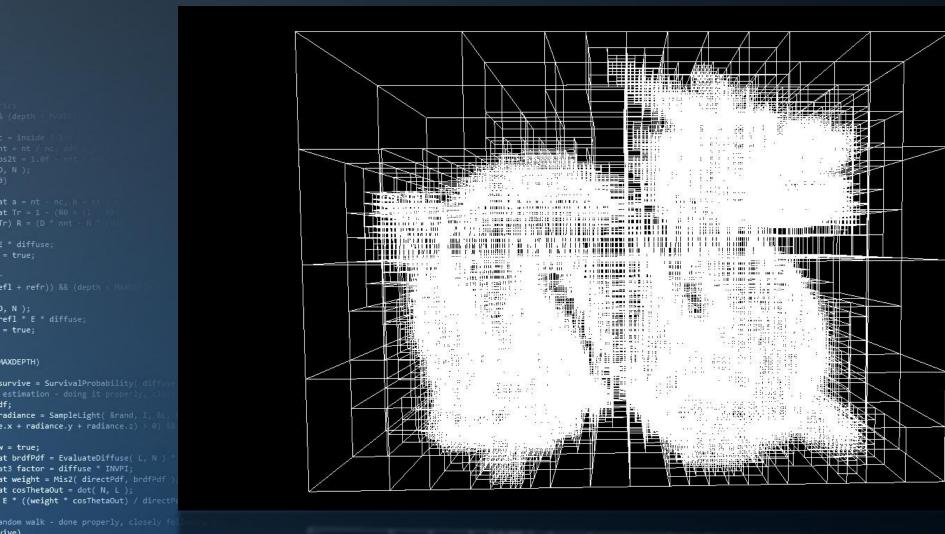
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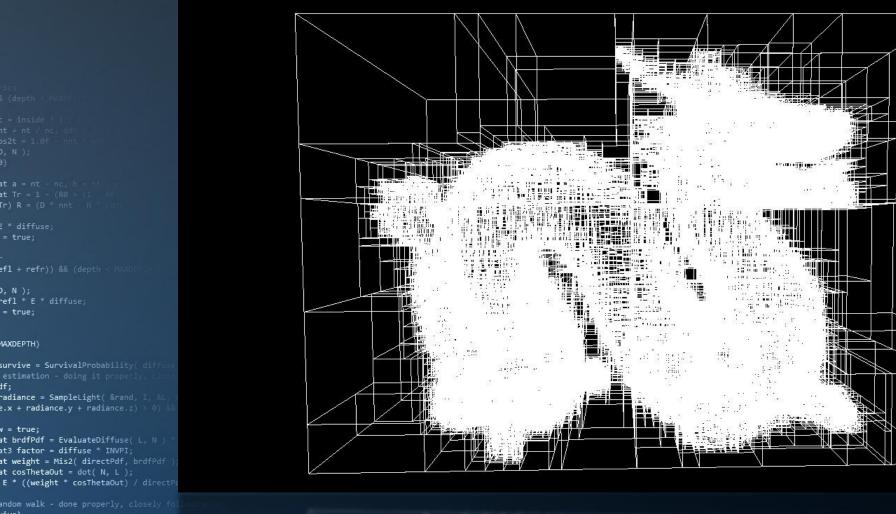




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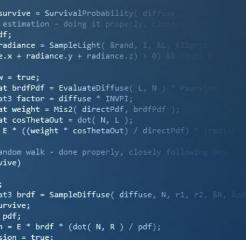


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## Today's Agenda:

- Building Better BVHs
- Refitting
- Fast BVH Construction
- The Top-level BVH





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survive = SurvivalProbability( dif

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I,

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at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf
at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );

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v = true;

#### Summary of BVH Characteristics

A BVH provides significant freedom compared to e.g. a kD-tree:

- No need for a 1-to-1 relation between bounding boxes and primitives
- Bounding boxes may overlap
- Bounding boxes can be altered, as long as they fit in their parent box
- A BVH can be very bad but still valid

Some consequences / opportunities:

- We can rebuild part of a BVH
- We can combine two BVHs into one
- We can *refit* a BVH



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E \* ((weight \* cosThetaOut) / directPdf)
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at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, &

#### Refitting

Q: What happens to the BVH of a tree model, if we make it bend in the wind?

A: Likely, only bounds will change; the topology of the BVH will be the same (or at least similar) in each frame.

#### Refitting:

Updating the bounding boxes stored in a BVH to match changed primitive coordinates.



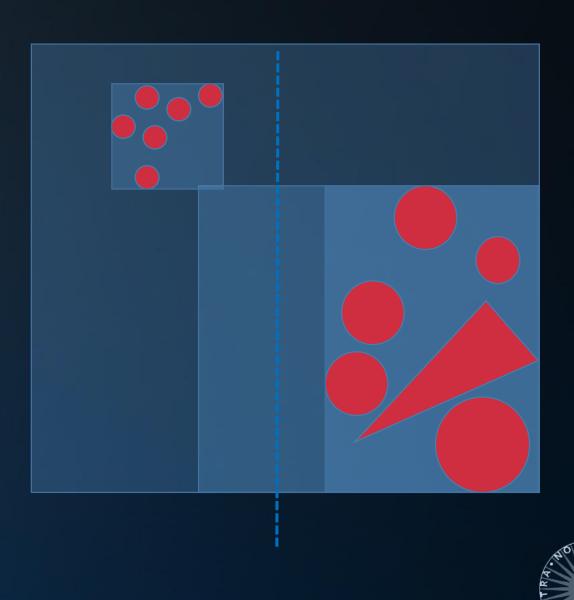


#### Refitting

Updating the bounding boxes stored in a BVH to match changed primitive coordinates.

#### Algorithm:

- 1. For each leaf, calculate the bounds over the primitives it represents
- 2. Update parent bounds





#### Refitting - Suitability

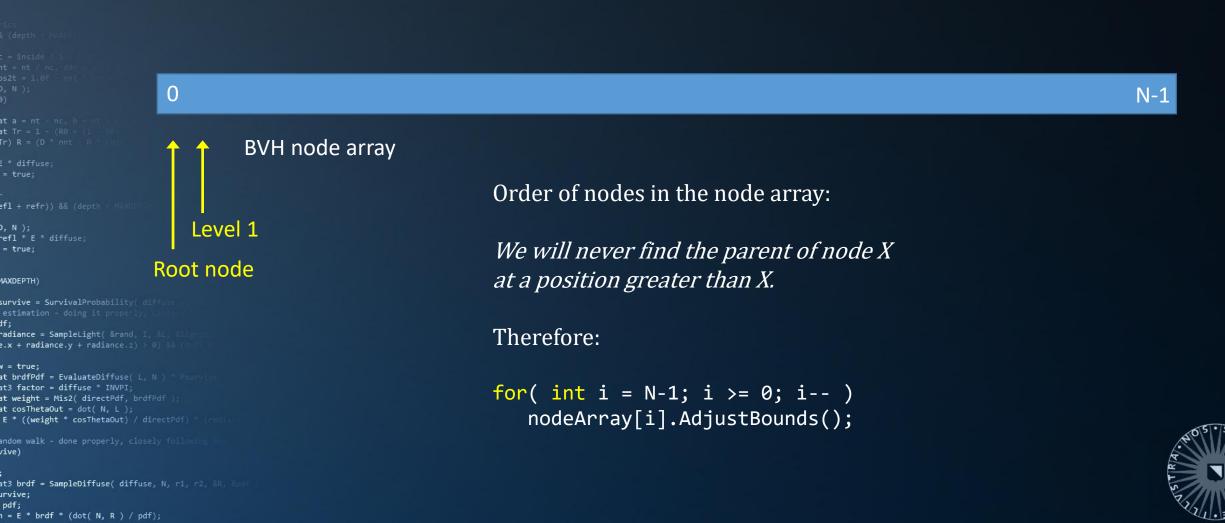






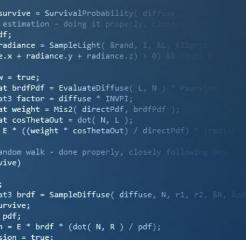


Refitting – Practical



## Today's Agenda:

- Building Better BVHs
- Refitting
- Fast BVH Construction
- The Top-level BVH





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refl \* E \* diffuse;

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I e.x + radiance.y + radia<u>nce.z) ></u>

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#### Rapid BVH Construction

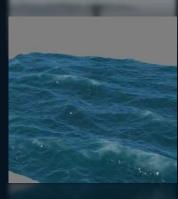
Refitting allows us to update hundreds of thousands of primitives in realtime. But what if topology changes significantly?

Rebuilding a BVH requires 3NlogN split plane evaluations.

#### Options:

- 1. Do not use SAH (significantly lower quality BVH)
- 2. Do not evaluate all 3 axes (minor degradation of BVH quality)
- 3. Make split plane selection independent of *N*



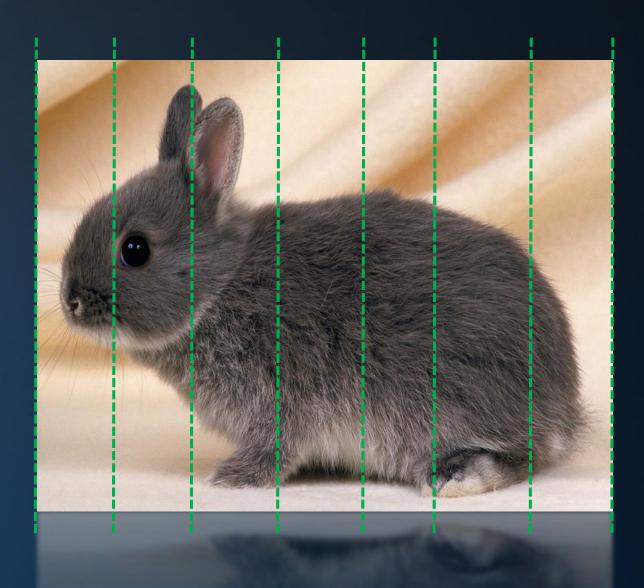




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at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf );
at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );
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radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I, &L, &l
e.x + radiance.y + radiance.z) > 0) 88
v = true;
at brdfPdf = EvaluateDiffuse( L, N ) * Ps
at3 factor = diffuse * INVPI;
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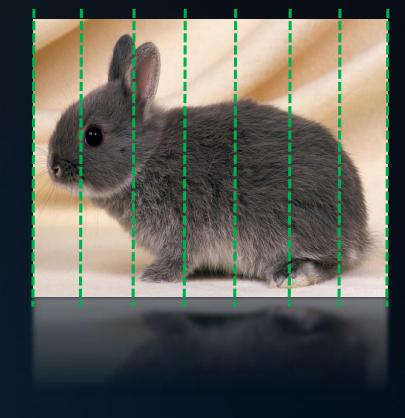
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E \* ((weight \* cosThetaOut) / directPdf)

1 = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

Binned BVH Construction\*

Binned construction: *Evaluate SAH at N discrete intervals.* 





\*: On fast Construction of SAH-based Bounding Volume Hierarchies, Wald, 2007

at a = nt - nc,

(AXDEPTH)

#### **Binned BVH Construction**

#### Detailed algorithm:

- 1. Calculate spatial bounds
- 2. Calculate object centroid bounds
- 3. Calculate intervals (efficiently and accurately!)
- 4. Populate bins
- 5. Sweep: evaluate cost, keep track of counts
- 6. Use best position

```
survive = SurvivalProbability( diffuse )
estimation - doing it properly, closes

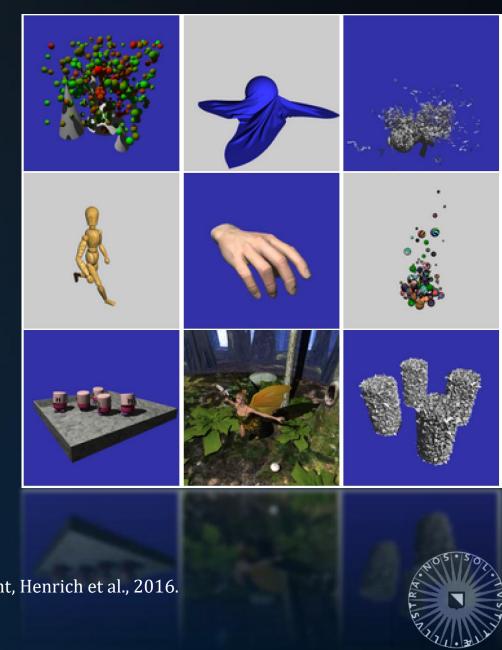
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radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I, &L, &lighton &radiance.z) > 0) && (doto &radiance.z) > 0) && (do
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**Binned BVH Construction** 

Performance evaluation:

472ms 7.88M triangles (12 cores @ 2Ghz)\*.



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five)

survive = SurvivalProbability( diff)

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I, &L, e.x + radiance.y + radiance.z) > 0) &

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(AXDEPTH)

v = true;

\*: Parallel BVH Construction using Progressive Hierarchical Refinement, Henrich et al., 2016.

at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, & urvive; pdf; n = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

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at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1; r2, &R,

pdf; n = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

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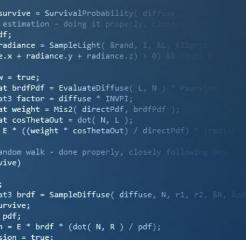
ırvive;

```
Brigade 2 (Win64)
```



## Today's Agenda:

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## Top-level BVH

at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2

= E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

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at3 factor = diffuse * INVPI;
at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf );
at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );
E * ((weight * cosThetaOut) / directPdf
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## Top-level BVH

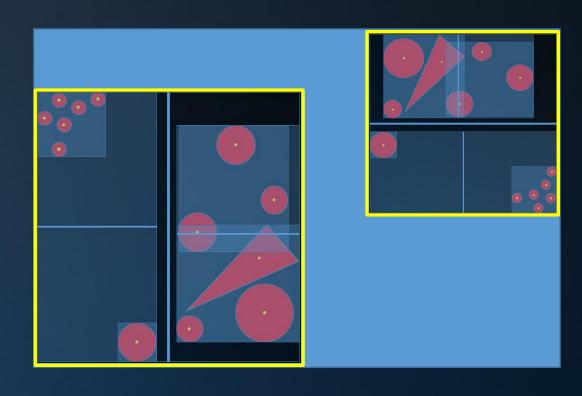
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at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );
E * ((weight * cosThetaOut) / directPdf
at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R
pdf;
n = E * brdf * (dot( N, R ) / pdf);
```





#### Combining BVHs

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(AXDEPTH)
survive = SurvivalProbability( diffu
radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I, &L, &
e.x + radiance.y + radiance.z) > 0) &&
v = true;
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at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );
E * ((weight * cosThetaOut) / directPdf) = (mag
at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, &pd
pdf;
n = E * brdf * (dot( N, R ) / pdf);
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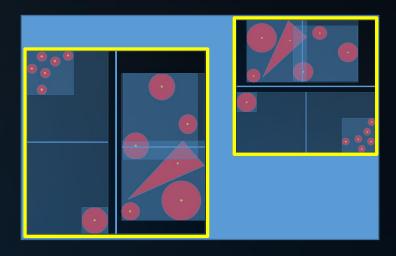


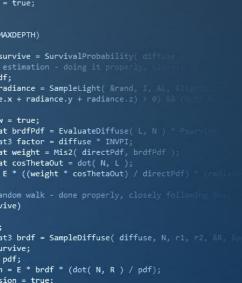


#### **Combining BVHs**

Two BVHs can be combined into a single BVH, by simply adding a new root node pointing to the two BVHs.

- This works regardless of the method used to build each BVH
- This can be applied repeatedly to combine many BVHs





efl + refr)) && (depth < M

refl \* E \* diffuse;





andom walk - done properly, closely follow

1 = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, &p





#### Scene Graph

If our application uses a scene graph, we can construct a BVH for each scene graph node.

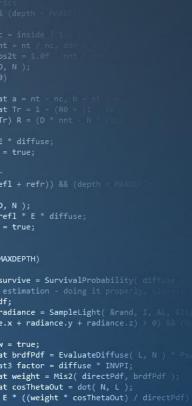
The BVH for each node is built using an appropriate construction algorithm:

- High-quality SBVH for static scenery (offline)
- Fast binned SAH BVHs for dynamic scenery

The extra nodes used to combine these BVHs into a single BVH are known as the *Top-level BVH*.







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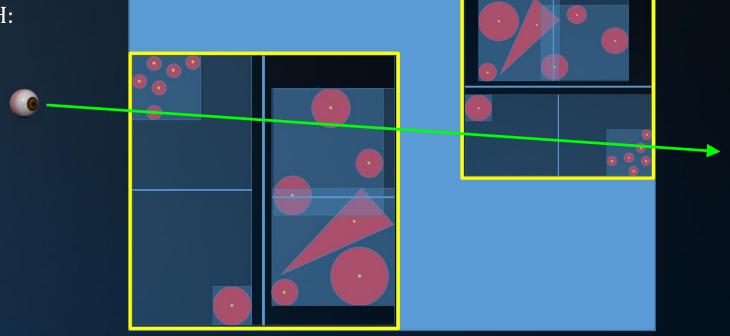
1 = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

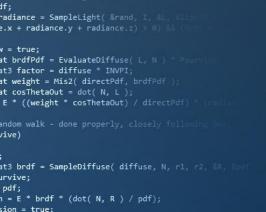
at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, A

#### **Rigid Motion**

Applying rigid motion to a BVH:

- 1. Refit the top-level BVH
- 2. Refit the affected BVH





(AXDEPTH)

survive = SurvivalProbability( diff)



), N );

(AXDEPTH)

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, :

at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );

1 = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, A

#### Rigid Motion

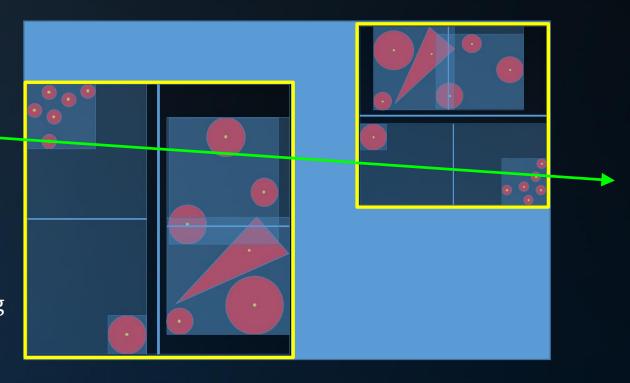
Applying rigid motion to a BVH:

- 1. Refit the top-level BVH
- 2. Refit the affected BVH

or:

2. Transform the ray, not the node

Rigid motion is achieved by transforming the rays by the *inverse transform* upon entering the sub-BVH.



(this obviously does not only apply to translation)



The Top-level BVH - Construction

Input: *list of axis aligned bounding boxes for transformed scene graph nodes* 

#### Algorithm:

- 1. Find the two elements in the list for which the AABB has the smallest surface area
- 2. Create a parent node for these elements
- 3. Replace the two elements in the list by the parent node
- 4. Repeat until one element remains in the list.

Note: algorithmic complexity is  $O(N^3)$ .

```
st cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );
E * ((weight * cosThetaOut) / directPdf) * (radius
andom walk - done properly, closely following Securive)
;
st3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, &p
urvive;
pdf;
n = E * brdf * (dot( N, R ) / pdf);
sion = true:
```

efl + refr)) && (depth < F

survive = SurvivalProbability( diff

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I,

at brdfPdf = EvaluateDiffuse( L, N ) at3 factor = diffuse \* INVPI; at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf

refl \* E \* diffuse;

), N );

(AXDEPTH)

v = true;

efl + refr)) && (depth

survive = SurvivalProbability( dif

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I,

at brdfPdf = EvaluateDiffuse( L at3 factor = diffuse \* INVPI at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf ) at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L );

1 = E \* brdf \* (dot( N, R ) / pdf);

at3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, )

refl \* E \* diffuse;

), N );

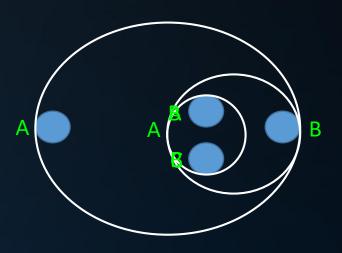
(AXDEPTH)

v = true;

The Top-level BVH – Faster Construction\*

#### Algorithm:

```
Node A = list.GetFirst();
                    Node B = list.FindBestMatch( A );
                    while (list.size() > 1)
                        Node C = list.FindBestMatch( B );
                        if (A == C)
                           list.Remove( A );
                           list.Remove( B );
                           A = new Node(A, B);
                           list.Add( A );
                           B = list.FindBestMatch( A );
                        else A = B, B = C;
E * ((weight * cosThetaOut) / directPdf)
andom walk - done properly, closely followi
```





<sup>\*:</sup> Fast Agglomerative Clustering for Rendering, Walter et al., 2008

), N );

(AXDEPTH)

v = true;

refl \* E \* diffuse;

survive = SurvivalProbability( dift

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I, & e.x + radiance.y + radiance.z) > 0) The Top-level BVH – Traversal

The leafs of the top-level BVH contain the sub-BVHs.

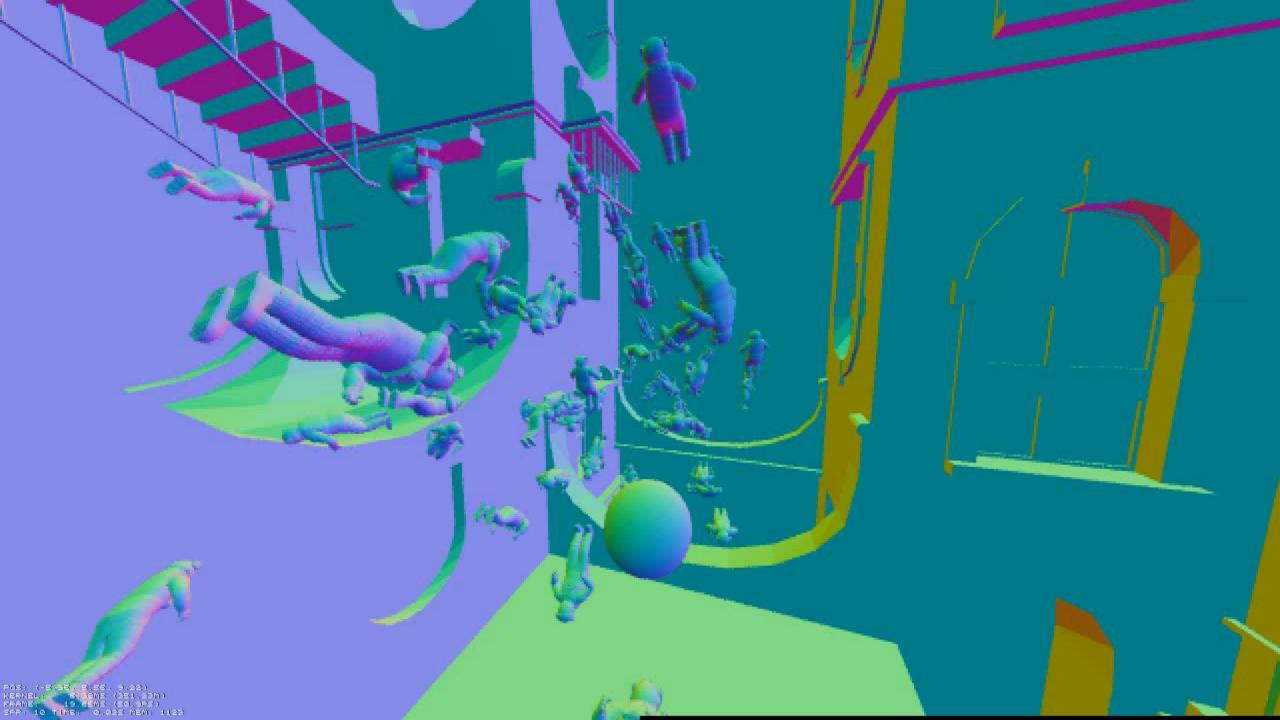
When a ray intersects such a leaf, it is transformed by the inverted transform matrix of the sub-BVH. After this, it traverses the sub-BVH.

Once the sub-BVH has been traversed, we transform the ray again, this time by the transform matrix of the sub-BVH.

For efficiency, we store the inverted matrix with the sub-BVH root.







The Top-level BVH – Summary

The top-level BVH enables complex animated scenes:

- for static objects, it contains high-quality sub-BVHs;
- for objects undergoing rigid motion, it also contains high-quality sub-BVHs, with a transform matrix and its inverse;
- for deforming objects, it contains sub-BVHs that can be refitted;
- for arbitrary animations, it contains lower quality sub-BVHs.

Combined, this allows for efficient maintenance of a global BVH.

```
at brdfPdf = EvaluateDiffuse( L, N ) * Psurvivality factor = diffuse * INVPI; at weight = Mis2( directPdf, brdfPdf ); at cosThetaOut = dot( N, L ); E * ((weight * cosThetaOut) / directPdf) * (radial andom walk - done properly, closely following servive)

at 3 brdf = SampleDiffuse( diffuse, N, r1, r2, &R, furvive; pdf; a = E * brdf * (dot( N, R ) / pdf); sion = true:
```

), N );

(AXDEPTH)

v = true;

refl \* E \* diffuse;

survive = SurvivalProbability( dift

radiance = SampleLight( &rand, I, &L e.x + radiance.y + radiance<u>.z) > 0)</u>



# INFOMAGR – Advanced Graphics

Jacco Bikker - November 2019 - February 2020

## END of "The Perfect BVH"

next lecture: "Path Tracing"



efl + refr)) && (depth < M

refl \* E \* diffuse;

), N );



### Practical:

- 1. Converging
- 2. Handling materials and textures

survive = SurvivalProbability( diffu:

(AXDEPTH)

