

Computer Graphics (E016712A)

A. PIZURICA and D. BABIN GHENT UNIVERSITY 2021/2022 AY

Responsible assistant: Michiel Vlaminck

Project: Quake/Doom environment in OpenGL

1 Introduction

OpenGL is a library for the rendering of computer graphics, enabling to create interactive applications which render high-quality color images composed of 3D geometric objects. To simplify programming and window system dependence, freeware libraries such as GLFW or freeglut are often used. Both, GLFW and freeglut are free, system independent toolkits for making simple OpenGL applications. It simplifies the process of creating windows, working with events in the window system, creating animations and handling user interaction. We suggest to use GLFW or freeglut for this project as a tool that provides the bare necessities required for rendering 3D on the screen.

2 Assignment

The goal of this project is to get introduced to basic OpenGL functionalities by creating a Quake/Doom-like environment (cfr. figure 1), where a user can move through a maze of rooms with simple objects in them. The basic features include drawing geometric primitives, animation, mouse and keyboard handling, usage of light and material properties and texture mapping. In addition, we will investigate how 3D space partitioning can be used to speed up geometric operations involved in moving through the scene and shooting on objects. You are free to choose which toolkit (GLFW or freeglut) you are going to use.

The project consists of three main tasks. First, a 3D world has to be created in OpenGL. Second, space partitioning by means of an octree has to be investigated. More specifically, some geometrical operations should be implemented including ray intersection and collision detection. These two operations will be used to further implement moving in the 3D scene and shooting on objects. Finally, a report has to be written, covering both the thorough but concise explanation and the evaluation of the implemented algorithms.

2.1 Creating the 3D world

The first task is to create a simple labyrinth consisting of at least 5 different rooms using geometric primitives. At least one object and one light source should be present in each room in order to make the rooms distinguishable. The choice of objects may be freely chosen but they should have different colors and material properties. At least one object should have a reflection on the floor. The textures for walls, floors and ceilings should be different. It should also be possible to resize the window. Allow the user to move through the maze using the typical keys: 'a' turn left, 'd' turn right, 'w' move forward, 's' move backward, 'q' move strafe left, 'e' move strafe





Figure 1: Doom 3 environment.

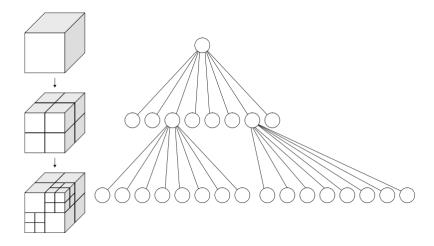


Figure 2: The concept of the octree data structure. The root voxel represents a bounding box of the entire 3D model or 3D scene. Subsequently, at each lower level, the *occupied* voxels are subdivided in eight smaller sub cubes of the same size. The same procedure is repeated until the desired leaf size is obtained.

right. The user should be able to use the mouse in order to look around. Moving mouse forward or backward turns the view up or down, while moving the mouse left or right turns the view to left or right.

2.2 Integrating spatial partitioning

Space partitioning is the process of dividing the (3D) space in non-overlapping regions. It is mostly organized in the form of a hierarchical tree because of its $O(\log n)$ search complexity and therefore it is often used in the field of computer graphics to speed up certain geometry queries. There are several tree-based datastructures, among them the k-d tree, the octree and the binary space partitioning (BSP) tree. Each of them has its own features and limitations and they should be used in those specific use cases where they fit best. However, in this project we will only investigate the octree, an axis aligned tree constructed by cutting the space using regularly spaced planes into cubes. It is the 3D equivalent of a quad-tree. The construction process starts with a bounding box or cube of the entire scene that is recursively subdivided into 8 equal sub-cubes (also called voxels). A visualization of this process is depicted in figure 2. It is not needed to create an implementation of the octree. Instead, an existing implementation (see section 3.2) can be used.

2.2.1 Ray intersection

One of the main usages of space partitioning is ray tracing. The next task is to allow the player to shoot on objects and walls. To this end, you will have to implement a ray tracing algorithm using the implemented octree. In other words, you will have to compute the octree voxels intersected by a straight line. Try to visualize where the bullet hit the wall or object by leaving a pothole on that wall or object.

2.2.2 Collision detection [Only for 6SP]

Another application for which spatial partitioning is often adopted is collision detection. Collision detection can be used to prohibit the player from running through walls and other objects. Try to implement collision detection using the octree space partitioning.

2.3 Writing the report

A report has to be written explaining the choices you made for each of the algorithms implemented. An answer on at least each of the following questions should be given.

- Explain how you organized the 3D world in terms of geometric primitives.
- Explain moving in 3D. Related to that, describe how frustum culling or hidden surface determination is done.
- What kind of light sources did you use? Explain how they work.
- Which texture mapping strategie(s) did you use? Explain.
- How long does it take to build the octree? Do you have any ideas on further speeding up this process?
- Explain how you implemented collision detection based on the octree.
- Explain how you implemented ray tracing using the octree. What is the time complexity? What is the worst case scenario?
- As mentioned in section 2.2 there are other space partitioning algorithms such as the kd-tree and BSP-tree. What are the benefits of using an octree? In which situations would you definitely use it? What are on the other hand the limitations of the octree compared to these other data structures? In which situations you wouldn't use it?

3 General remarks

3.1 Tips and tricks

- Describe the implemented algorithms and their evaluation thoroughly, but keep the report concise. Pseudo code is allowed and in certain situations advisable but keep it as short as possible. Do not list complete classes.
- Understanding the algorithms is important. You are allowed to use existing implementations that you find on the internet as long as you know exactly how they work.

- Do not hesitate to contact your supervisor if something is unclear or if you have further questions.
- Remember that Google is your best friend.

3.2 Software

- GLFW installation is available on http://www.glfw.org
- A simple implementation of an octree can be found at https://github.com/brandonpelfrey/SimpleOctree.

3.3 Documentation

- OpenGL Programming Guide: http://www.glprogramming.com/red
- OpenGL tutorial: http://www.opengl-tutorial.org/
- OpenGL with GLFW tutorials: https://learnopengl.com/
- OpenGL slides: www.opengl.org/archives/resources/code/samples/s2001/notes/opengl. pdf
- GLFW tutorials: http://www.glfw.org/docs/latest/pages.html
- Freeglut tutorials: http://freeglut.sourceforge.net/docs/api.php