



CSE 5255

INTRODUCTION TO
COMPUTER GRAPHICS
CLASS NOTES

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Spring 1996

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Clipping Concepts

- Clipping (internal) – removing picture parts outside an area
- External clipping – removing picture parts inside an area
- Cohen–Sutherland algorithm (line clipping)
- Liang–Barsky/Cyrus–Beck algorithm (line clipping)
- Sutherland–Hodgman algorithm (polygon clipping)
- Weiler–Atherton algorithm (polygon clipping)
- Text character clipping

Type of Clipping

- Scissoring — clip the primitive during scan conversion to pixels
 - Consider a polygon filled on scan line at a time
 - Only the extreme points on the scan line need to be clipped
- Bit (Pixel) block transfers (bitblts/pixblts)
 - Copy a 2D array of pixels from a large canvas to a destination window
 - Useful for text characters, pulldown menus, etc.
- Analytic methods
 - Computer intersections of primitives with the clipping window's boundary
- For floating point graphics packages, clip analytically in floating point coordinate system then scan convert the clipped primitives
- For integer based packages either analytic clipping or scissoring can be used
- Bitblts/Pixblts often used in windowing systems

Point, Line, and Polygon Clipping

- 2-dimensional point clipping

- A point is saved if

$$x_{min} \leq x \leq x_{max} \quad \text{and} \quad y_{min} \leq y \leq y_{max}$$

- Very expensive to test each point on a primitive
- For 3-dimensional point clipping, need to compare z values as well

$$z_{min} \leq z \leq z_{max}$$

- Line clipping

- Determine if line segment is wholly within the window
- Determine if line segment is wholly outside window
- Determine if line segment is partially inside, partially outside
- Efficient line clipping algorithms will be studied

- Polygon clipping

- Determine areas of polygon inside window and areas outside window

Cohen–Sutherland Line Clipping

1001	0001	0101
1000	0000 Window	0100
1010	0010	0110

- Clip a line to an upright rectangular window
- Extended window boundaries to define 9 regions: top left, top center, top right, center left, center, center right, bottom left, bottom center, bottom right
- Assign 4 bit code to identify each region
- For each point (x, y)
 - First bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies to left of window
 - Second bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies to right of window
 - Third bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies below window
 - Fourth bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies above window
- LRBT (Left, Right, Bottom, Top) – somewhat arbitrary sequence
- On the window edge (boundary) \Rightarrow inside window (bit= 0)

- Given a line segment with end points $P_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ and $P_2 = (x_2, y_2)$
- Compute 4-bit codes for each end point
 - If both codes are 0000, (bitwise OR of codes yields 0000) line is totally visible – pass end points to draw routine
 - If both codes have 1's in the same bit position (bitwise AND of codes is not 0000), line is totally invisible
 - Otherwise, indeterminate case – line may be partially visible or not visible
- In the indeterminate case, analytically compute the intersection of the line with the appropriate window edges

Cohen–Sutherland Indeterminate Case

- One of two end-points must be outside the window, say it is $P_1 = (x_1, y_1)$
- Read P_1 's 4-bit code in order, say left-to-right
- When a set bit (1) is found, compute intersection I of corresponding window edge with line from P_1 to P_2 .
 - Suppose we want intersection with the left window edge
 - The x value of the intersection is x_{\min}
 - The y value of the intersection is found by substituting x_{\min} into the line equation (from P_1 to P_2)

$$y - y_1 = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}(x - x_1)$$

and solving for y

$$y = y_1 + \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}(x_{\min} - x_1)$$

- Other cases are handled similarly
- Replace P_1 with I and repeat Cohen–Sutherland algorithm

Cohen–Sutherland Example

- Define window by

$x = 0$ Left edge

$y = 1$ Top edge

$y = 0$ Bottom edge

$x = 1$ Right edge

- End-points $(1/2, 1/2)$ and $(1/4, 3/4)$ both have 4-bit codes 0000 – draw line between them
- End-point $(3, 3)$ has 4-bit code 0101 and end-point $(-2, 5)$ has 4-bit code 1001.
Logical AND: $0101 \wedge 1001 = 0001 \neq 0000 \Rightarrow$ both end-points to right of window. Therefore line is invisible
- End-point $(3, 3)$ has 4-bit code 0101 and end-point $(0, 1/2)$ has 4-bit code 0000.
 - $(3, 3)$ is outside
 - Reading 4-bit code from left-to-right, “top” bit is set
 - Intersection with top edge is at $I = ?$
 - I has 4-bit code ?

Cohen–Sutherland Midpoint Subdivision

- In the indeterminate case, compute the midpoint of the line segment
- Midpoint calculation

$$x_m = (x_1 + x_2)/2$$

$$y_m = (y_1 + y_2)/2$$

- Process each half of line segment
- Continue until intersection point is found or single pixel is reached
- Easy to implement in hardware

Cohen–Sutherland Line Clipping in 3D

- Extended 3D-window (NDC cube) boundaries define 27 regions
- Assign 6 bit code to each region
- For each point (x, y, z)
 - Left bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies to left of window
 - Second bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies to right of window
 - Third bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies below window
 - Fourth bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies above window
 - Fifth bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies to in front of window (near)
 - Sixth bit set (1) \Rightarrow point lies to behind of window (far)
- LRBTNF (Left, Right, Bottom, Top, Near, Far) – somewhat arbitrary sequence
- On the window edge (boundary) \Rightarrow inside window (bit= 0)

Cohen–Sutherland Line Clipping in 3D

- 2D algorithm extends naturally
 - Trivial accept (visible) if both end points have code 000000
 - Trivial reject (invisible) if both end points have code with common bit set
 - Indeterminant case, use parametric form of the line

$$x = x_1 + t(x_2 - x_1)$$

$$y = y_1 + t(y_2 - y_1)$$

$$z = z_1 + t(z_2 - z_1)$$

- To clip against a face, say $y = y_{\max}$, compute

$$t = \frac{y_{\max} - y_1}{y_2 - y_1}$$

and use it to evaluate the x and z intersections

Liang-Barsky/Cyrus-Beck Line Clipping

- The Liang-Barsky and Cyrus-Beck algorithms use the same ideas, but Liang-Barsky has been optimized for an upright rectangular clip window
- Use of parametric equations, clip window edge normals, and inner products can improve the efficiency of line clipping
- Let $P(t) = P_1 + t(P_2 - P_1)$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$ denote the parametric equation of the line segment from P_1 to P_2
- Let \vec{n} denote the outward pointing normal of the clip window edge E
- Let P_E be an arbitrary point of edge E

Liang-Barsky/Cyrus-Beck Line Clipping

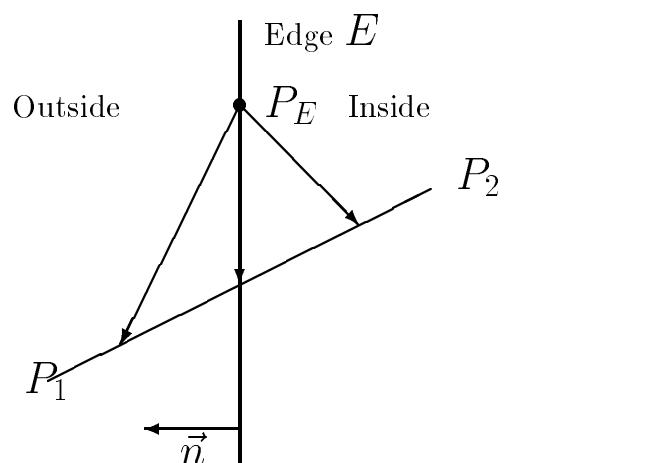
- Consider the vector $P(t) - P_E$ from P_E to a point on the line $P(t)$
- At the intersection of $P(t)$ and E the inner product of \vec{n} and $P(t) - P_E$ is zero

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{n} \cdot (P(t) - P_E) &= \vec{n} \cdot (P_1 + t(P_2 - P_1) - P_E) \\ &= \vec{n} \cdot (P_1 - P_E) + t\vec{n} \cdot (P_2 - P_1) \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

- Solving for t yields

$$t = \frac{\vec{n} \cdot (P_E - P_1)}{\vec{n} \cdot (P_2 - P_1)}$$

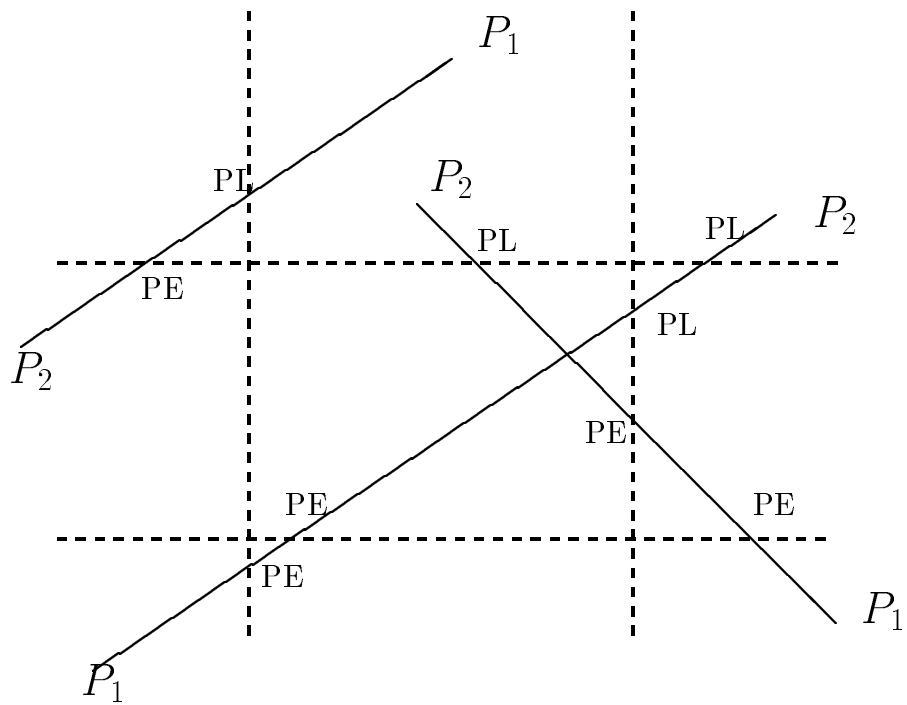
- Note that checks need to be made that the denominator above is not zero



Liang-Barsky Line Clipping, continued

- Using the 4 edge normals for an upright rectangular clip window and 4 points, one on each edge, we can calculate 4 parameter values where $P(t)$ intersects each edge
- Let's call these parameter values t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4
- Note any of the t 's outside of the interval $[0, 1]$ can be discarded
- The remaining t values are characterized as “potentially entering” (PE) or “potentially leaving” (PL)
 - The parameter t_i is PE if when traveling along the (extended) line from P_1 to P_2 we move from the outside to the inside of the window with respect to the edge i
 - The parameter t_i is PL if when traveling along the (extended) line from P_1 to P_2 we move from the inside to the outside of the window with respect to the edge i

Liang-Barsky Line Clipping, continued



Liang-Barsky Line Clipping, continued

- The inner product of the outward pointing edge normal \vec{n}_i with $P_2 - P_1$ can be used to classify the parameter t_i as PE or PL

- If

$$\vec{n}_i \cdot (P_2 - P_1) < 0$$

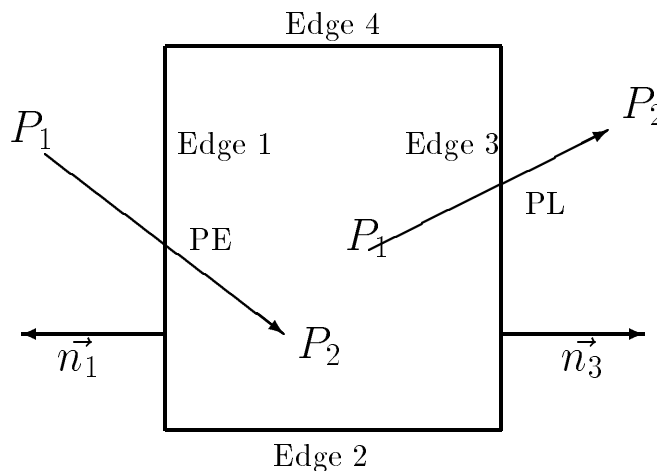
the parameter t_i is potentially entering (PE)

- If

$$\vec{n}_i \cdot (P_2 - P_1) > 0$$

the parameter t_i is potentially leaving (PL)

- Let t_E be the largest PE parameter value and t_L the smallest PL parameter value
- The clipped line extends from t_E to t_L , where $0 \leq t_E \leq t_L \leq 1$



Clipping In Homogeneous Coordinates

- Let (x, y, z, w) denote a point in homogeneous space and let (X, Y, Z) represent the same point in 3-space
- The clipping plane boundaries $X = 0, X = 1, Y = 0, Y = 1, Z = 0, Z = 1$ correspond to homogeneous boundary conditions $x = 0, w - x = 0, y = 0, w - y = 0, z = 0, w - z = 0$
- We can represent these homogeneous boundary conditions as dot products of (x, y, z, w) with column boundary vectors

$$B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad B_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad B_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad B_6 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

being equal to zero

Clipping In Homogeneous Coordinates

- Let $P = (x, y, z, w)$ be a point and notice if the dot product

$$P \cdot B_j$$

is less than, equal to, or greater than zero, the point is outside, on, or inside the boundary, respectively

- Consider a line

$$P(u) = P_0 + u(P_1 - P_0)$$

from $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0, w_0)$ to $P_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1, w_1)$ that crosses a boundary (dot products of P_0 and P_1 with the corresponding boundary vector B_j have opposite signs)

- We find the parameter value u where the line crosses by taking the dot product of the line with B_j

$$P(u) \cdot B_j = P_0 \cdot B_j + u(P_1 \cdot B_j - P_0 \cdot B_j)$$

- Since we want $P(u)$ to be on the boundary, its dot product is zero, so

$$u = \frac{P_0 \cdot B_j}{(P_0 \cdot B_j - P_1 \cdot B_j)}$$

Clipping In Homogeneous Coordinates

- Given a list $(Q_0, Q_1, \dots, Q_{n-1})$ of polygon vertices, we clip and move to the first point, then clip and draw the remaining points back to Q_0

clip(Q_0 , *move*);

for $i = 1$ **to** $n - 1$ **do**

clip(Q_i , *draw*);

clip(Q_0 , *draw*);

- The *clip* routine calculates outcodes for the boundary planes based on the dot product values

kalc-kodes(bc_1 , $kode_1$);

{

$kode_1 = 0$;

for $j = 1$ **to** 6 **do**

$bc_1[j] = P_1 \cdot B_j$;

if $bc_1[j] < 0$ **then**

$kode_1$ **and** 1

shift $kode_1$ left one bit

}

Clipping In Homogeneous Coordinates

- The *clip* routine is called with a point and a *flag*
- If the *flag* is *move* and the point is visible (*kode*= 0) it is passed down the pipeline as the first point of a line segment
- If the *flag* is *draw* and the point can not be trivially rejected and if both points are in view, the last point is passed down the pipe
- If both points are not in view, the non-trivial clip takes placed
- The values of P_1 , bc_1 , $kode_1$ are saved for the next call

```
clip( $P_1$ , flag);  
{  
  kalc-kodes( $bc_1$ ,  $kode_1$ );  
  if flag = move then  
    if  $kode_1$  = 0 then viewpt( $P_1$ , move)  
  else  
    if ( $kode_0$  and  $kode_1$ ) = 0  
      if ( $kode_0$  or  $kode_1$ ) = 0  
        viewpt( $P_1$ , draw)  
      else do nontrivial-stuff();  
   $P_0$  =  $P_1$ ;  $bc_0$  =  $bc_1$ ;  $kode_0$  =  $kode_1$ ;  
}
```

```
nontrivial-stuff()
{
    klip = kode0 or kode1;
    u0 = 0; u1 = 1; mask = 1;
    for i = 1 to 6 do
        if klip and mask ≠ 0 then
            u = bc0[i]/(bc0[i] − bc1[i]);
            if kode0 and mask ≠ 0 then
                u0 = max(u0, u);
            else
                u1 = min(u1, u);
            if (u1 < u0) return;
        shift mask left one bit;
    if (kode0 ≠ 0) then
        P = P0 + u0(P1 − P0);
        viewpt(P, move)
    if (kode1 ≠ 0) then
        P = P0 + u1(P1 − P0);
        viewpt(P, draw)
    else viewpt(P, draw)
}
```

Sutherland–Hodgman Polygon Clipping

- Since polygons are basic primitives, algorithms have been developed for clipping them directly
- Given a *subject* polygon (to be clipped) with an ordered sequence of vertices

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$$

- Compare each subject polygon edge against a single clip window edge
- Save vertices on the in-side of the edge
- Save the intersection points when crossing the edge

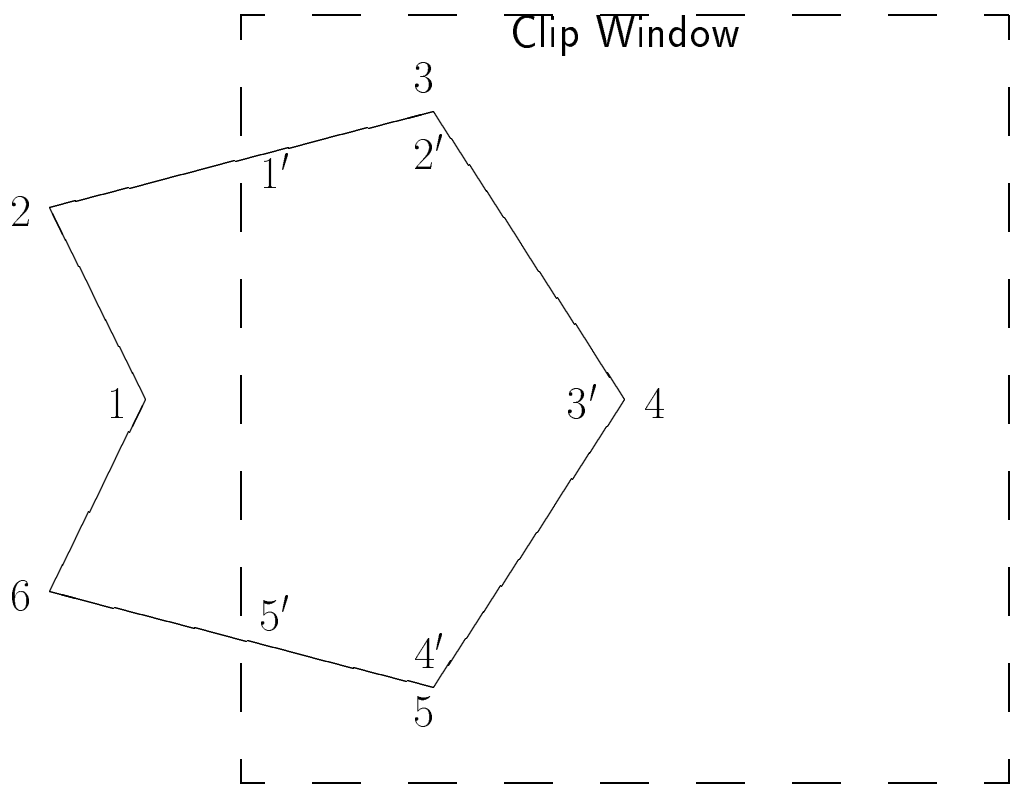
Sutherland–Hodgman Polygon Clipping

- Four cases:
 - Polygon edge goes from outside window edge to outside window edge – save nothing
 - Polygon edge goes from outside window edge to inside window edge – save intersection and inside point
 - Polygon edge goes from inside window edge to outside window edge – save intersection point
 - Polygon edge goes from inside window edge to inside window edge – save second inside point (first was saved previously)
 - Start point – if inside save it, drop it otherwise
 - Last edge – if start point was save, don't save again

Sutherland–Hodgman Example

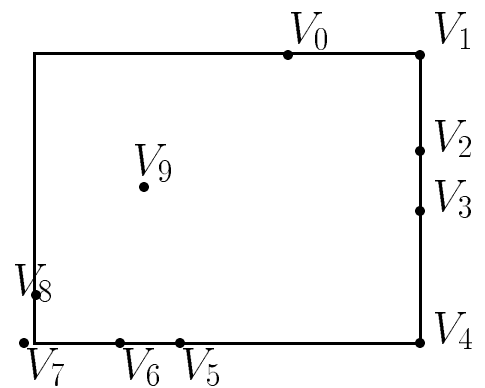
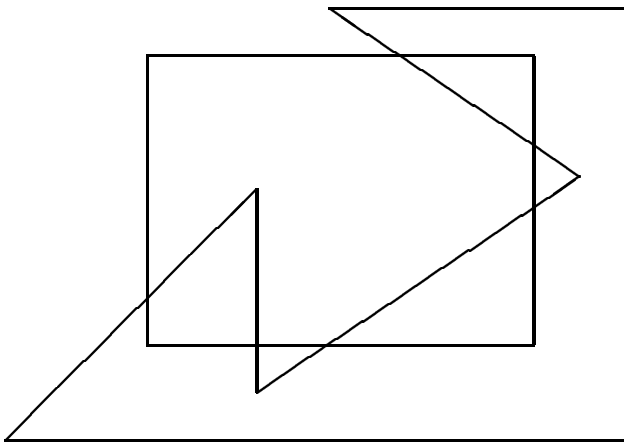
- Clip the polygon against each edge
- Diagram shows result of clipping against the left edge
- Sutherland and Hodgman structure the algorithm so it is reentrant
 - As soon as a vertex is output, clipper calls itself with that vertex
 - Clip is then performed against the next boundary edge
 - No intermediate storage required for partially clipped polygon
 - This is the basis for Clark's "Geometry Engine," which was used in the first Silicon Graphics machines

Sutherland–Hodgman Example



Weiler-Atherton Polygon Clipping

- Sutherland-Hodgman can clip an arbitrary polygon against any *convex* polygonal window (not just rectangles)
- Sutherland-Hodgman may produce connecting lines that were not in the original polygon
- Weiler-Atherton can clip an arbitrary polygon against an arbitrary clipping window and does not produce connecting lines
- Weiler-Atherton is a 2D clip algorithm

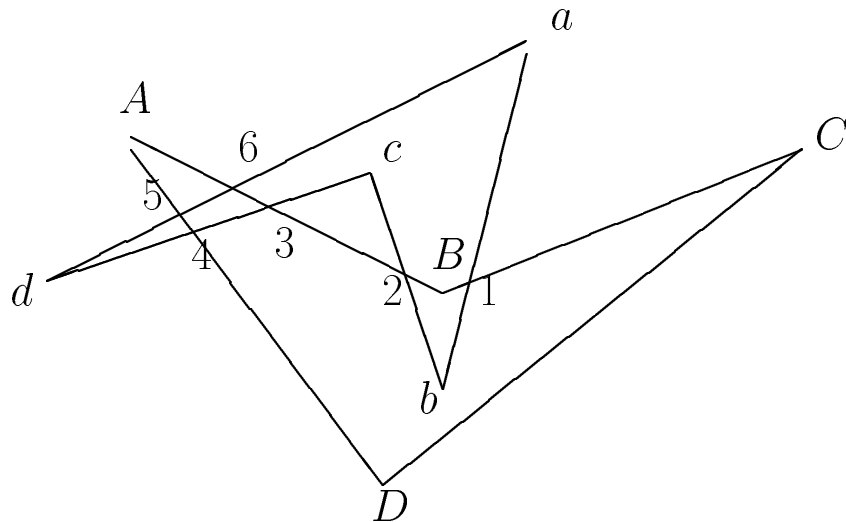


Weiler-Atherton Polygon Clipping

- Assume the vertices of the subject polygon are listed in clockwise order (interior is on the right)
- Start at an entering intersection
- Follow the edge(s) of the polygon being clipped until an exiting intersection is encountered
- Turn right at the exiting intersection and following clip window edge until intersection is found
- Turn right and follow the subject polygon
- Continue until vertex already visited is reached
- If entire polygon has not be processed, repeat

Weiler-Atherton Example

- Consider the subject polygon with vertices a, b, c, d and the clip polygon with vertices A, B, C, D
- Insert the intersections in both vertex lists
 - Subject list: $a, 1, b, 2, c, 3, 4, d, 5, 6$
 - Clip list: $A, 6, 3, 2, B, 1, C, D, 4, 5$



- Starting at vertex a of the clip polygon, find 1 is first entering intersection
- Traversing the subject, find 2 is exiting intersection
- “Jump” to vertex 2 in clip polygon, follow until vertex 1 (which has been visited)
- Output clipped list 1, $b, 2, B$

Weiler-Atherton Example

- Jump back to subject list, restarting at c , find 3 is entering intersection
- Traversing the subject, find 4 is exiting intersection
- Jump to vertex 4 in clip polygon, follow until vertex 5 (which is entering)
- Jump to subject, at vertex 5, find 6 is exiting
- Jump to clip, at vertex 6, find 3 is visited
- Output clipped list 3, 4, 5, 6
- All entering intersections have been visited

Character Clipping

- Characters can be defined as curved or polygonal outlines
 - Computationally expensive to clip and scan convert each character
 - Fonts are “scalable” and can be manipulated by matrix transforms
- Characters can be defined as small rectangular bitmaps
 - Image stored in an offscreen canvas, called a *font cache*
 - Bitblt used to copy character to the frame buffer
 - Bitmaps do not scale well, multiple bitmaps must be defined for each character (at multiple point sizes)
 - A distinct cache is needed for each font
 - Each character can be clipped to destination rectangle on a pixel-by-pixel basis
 - Some systems clip characters or whole strings on an all-or-nothing basis

Problems

1. Given the points below, determine their outcodes relative to the unit cube $0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1, 0 \leq z \leq 1$

- $(0.5, 0.5, 0.5)$
- $(5, 5, 5)$
- $(-5, 5, -5)$
- $(5, -5, 0.5)$
- $(5, 5, 0.5)$
- $(-5, 5, -0.5)$

2. Show how the Cohen-Sutherland algorithm would clip the line between the points below. Assume the unit cube as the clipping volume.

- $(2, 3, 5)$ and $(-1, -3, 0)$.
- $(0.2, 0.3, 0.5)$ and $(-1, -3, 0)$.

3. Given a window defined by the lines

$$x = -1, x = 1, y = -1, y = 1$$

Show how the Cohen-Sutherland algorithm clips the following lines. That is, find the 4-bit codes for the end-points of the lines, determine that the line is completely visible, completely invisible, or, in the indeterminate case, show the algorithm determines any visible portions of the line.

1. $P_1 = (0, 0), P_2 = (0.75, -0.75)$
2. $P_1 = (-2, 2), P_2 = (-0.5, 1.5)$
3. $P_1 = (-2, -2), P_2 = (3, 3)$
4. $P_1 = (1, 2), P_2 = (4, 1)$

4. What are the four cases in the Sutherland-Hodgman polygon clipping algorithm?

5. Use the Sutherland-Hodgman algorithm to clip the polygon $P = (v_0, v_1, v_2, v_3)$, where

$$v_0 = (-1, -2), v_1 = (-2, -1), v_2 = (-2, 2), v_3 = (3, 2).$$

against the triangle T where the interior of T is defined by the inequalities

$$e_0 : y \leq 0, e_1 : x \leq 0, \text{ and } e_2 : x + y + 4 \geq 0.$$

Problems

6. Explain how the Weiler-Atherton clipping algorithm works.
7. Show how to use the Weiler-Atherton algorithm on the polygon $P = (v_0, v_1, v_2, v_3)$, where

$$v_0 = (-1, -2), v_1 = (-2, -1), v_2 = (-2, 2), v_3 = (3, 2).$$

against the triangle T where the interior of T is defined by the inequalities

$$e_0 : y \leq 0, e_1 : x \leq 0, \text{ and } e_2 : x + y + 4 \geq 0.$$

8. In this question you are to answer questions about the Sutherland-Hodgman polygon clipping algorithm. In each case below, let S and F be the start and final points of a line that crosses edge E and let I be the intersection point.
1. If both S and F are inside the polygon with respect to the edge E what points will be output to the new polygon?
 2. If S is inside and F is outside the polygon with respect to the edge E what points will be output to the new polygon?
 3. If both S and F are outside the polygon with respect to the edge E what points will be output to the new polygon?
 4. If S is outside and F is inside the polygon with respect to the edge E what points will be output to the new polygon?