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Master thesis

Web based Visualization

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Erklrung

Hiermit erklre ich,

- dass ich die vorliegende Arbeit selbststndig verfasst habe,
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- dass die eingereichte Arbeit weder vollstndig noch in wesentlichen Teilen Gegenstand eines anderen Prfungsverfahrens ist,
- dass ich die Arbeit noch nicht verffentlicht habe,
- dass das elektronische Exemplar mit diesem Exemplar bereinstimmt.

Stuttgart, den 24.07.2017

Abstract

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1 Introduction

1.1 Motivation

Data visualization is an important method to demonstrate the results of numerical simulations. With graphics measures, the results can be presented through intuitive form and convey the information more effective, especially in the ares of teaching, product or research presentations, an easily available and light-weight visualization solution is expected[?]. Nowadays, with the development of web technologies and modern browsers, a cross-platform, web-based technologies WebGL(Web Graphics Library) make it possible.

Generally, people render 3D graphics by using particular APIs, e.g. DirectX, OpenGL. These APIs define a set of functions which can be called by the client program[?]. The solutions which build on these APIs need specific platforms, e.g. DirectX runs on Microsoft products, or specific configuration environment and plug-ins to deploy. These applications are also too heavy to run on mobile devices and their availability and compatibility are limited. The new web standard HTML5 brings up the new spark for web-based application. In general, HTML5 mainly involves the Hypertext Markup Language(HTML), the Cascading Style Sheets(CSS) and Javascript technologies, it introduces new features and new elements to enhance the support for multimedia and graphic, on the one hand the new specification reduces the dependencies on plug-ins, such as Flash, Silverlight, JavaFX, on the other hand it provides native support for graphics rendering with canvas element and JavaScript.

WebGL specification is official introduced into the HTML5 specification in 2014 as a web standard. It allows GPU acceleration and is supported by common browsers, such as Microsoft IE, Google Chrome, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox. WebGL makes it possible for building an easy accessible, lightweight, crossplatform mobile visualization system. The initial idea was came up in the paper "Web Based 3D Visualization for COMSOL Multiphysics" [?].

In this paper some further improvements are worked out and new features are added.

1.2 Outline of this thesis

This section outlines the chapters of this thesis.

Chapter 2: Visualization System

Chapter 3: Web client

Chapter 4: Rendering using WebGL

Chapter 5: Virtual Reality

2 Visualization System

In this chapter the system architecture and corresponding components will be introduced. This chapter emphasizes on depicting the whole picture of the solution, some specific technical detail will be represented in the later chapters.

2.1 System architecture

The main role of visualization system is to handle and process the data between different components and represent them in graphics, so the visualization system can be described in the systemic aspect and data aspect. The flowchart in fig. 1 shows the visualization pipeline in a general visualization system[?].



Abbildung 2.1: Visualization pipeline

The data flow is abstracted out in several state

2.2 Work flow between system components

3 Data Extraction and Conversion

- 3.1 Data-structure of COMSOL file
- 3.2 Data-format after conversion

4 Rendering using WebGL

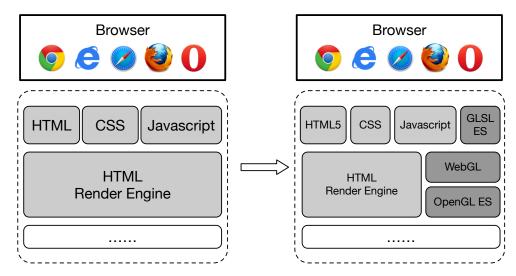


Abbildung 4.1: WebGL

- 4.1 WebGL graphics pipeline
- 4.2 2D translation, rotation, scale and matrix math
- 4.3 3D Orthographic, Perspective, Cameras
- 4.4 Rendering text using sprites

5 Virtual Reality

6 Conclusion

6 Conclusion

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