

# Welcome to 6.837 Computer Graphics

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MIT CSAIL

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# Luxo Jr.

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- Pixar Animation Studios, 1986
- Director: John Lasseter

Image of Pixar's Luxo Jr. removed due to copyright restrictions -- please see <http://www.computerhistory.org/atcm/pixars-luxo-jr/> for further details.

# Plan

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- Overview of computer graphics
- Administrivia
- Overview of the semester
- Overview of assignments
- Intro to OpenGL & assignment 0

# What are the applications of graphics?

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# Movies/special effects

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# More than you would expect

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# Video Games

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# Simulation

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# CAD-CAM & Design

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# Architecture

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Video removed due to copyright restrictions -- please see "The Light of Mies van der Rohe" for further details, available at <http://graphics.ucsd.edu/~henrik/animations/>.

# Virtual Reality

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# Visualization

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# Medical Imaging

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# Education

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# Geographic Info Systems & GPS

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# Any display

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- Computers go through OpenGL and DirectX to display anything
- 2D graphics, Illustrator, Flash, Fonts

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# What do you expect to learn?

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- And why?

# What you will learn in 6.837

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- Fundamentals of computer graphics algorithms
  - Will give a pretty good idea of how to implement lots of the things just shown
- We will concentrate on 3D, not 2D illustration or image processing
- Basics of real-time rendering and graphics hardware
- Basic OpenGL
  - Not the focus, though: Means, not the end.
- You will get C++ programming experience

# What you will NOT learn in 6.837

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- OpenGL and DirectX hacks
  - Most become obsolete every 18 months anyway!
  - Does not really matter either: Graphics is becoming all software again (OpenCL, Larrabee, etc.)
- Software packages
  - CAD-CAM, 3D Studio MAX, Maya
  - Photoshop and other painting tools
- Artistic skills
- Game design

# How much Math?

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- Lots of simple linear algebra
  - Get it right, it will help you a lot!
- Some more advanced concepts
  - Homogeneous coordinates
  - Ordinary differential equations (ODEs) and their numerical solution
  - Sampling, antialiasing (some gentle Fourier analysis)
  - Monte-Carlo integration
- Always in a concrete and visual context

# Beyond computer graphics

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- Many of the mathematical and algorithmic tools are useful in other engineering and scientific context
- Linear algebra
- Splines
- Differential equations
- Monte-Carlo integration
- ...

# Questions?

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# Plan

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# Team

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- Instructor
  - Wojciech Matusik

# Administrivia: Website, Staff Email

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- Course website
  - Announcements
  - Slides (posted soon after each lecture)
  - Assignments, both instructions and turn-in
- Message Board
- Staff Email
  - Reaches all of us, preferred method of communication

# Administrivia: Grading Policy

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- Assignments: 75%
  - Two-week programming assignments
  - Must be completed individually
  - *No final project*
- Quiz: 10%
  - in class
- Final Exam: 10%
  - TBA during finals week
- Participation: 5%

# Administrivia: Prerequisites

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- Not strictly enforced
- All assignments are in C++
  - *Optional review/introductory session*
- Calculus, Linear Algebra
  - Solving equations, derivatives, integral
  - vectors, matrices, basis, solving systems of equations
  - *Optional review/introductory session*

# Administrivia: Assignments

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- Turn in code and executable (Linux)
- Always turn in a README file
  - Describe problems, explain partially-working code
  - Say how long the assignment took
- Coding style important
  - Some assignments are cumulative
- Collaboration policy:
  - You can chat, but code on your own
  - Acknowledge your collaboration! (in readme file)
- Late policy:
  - **The deadline is absolute: 0 if not on time**
  - Due Wednesday @ 8pm
  - Extensions only considered if requested 1 week before due date
  - Medical problems must be documented

# The deadline is absolute

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- I mean it.
- I do regularly give 0 for,
  - an assignment turned in half an hour late
  - turning in the wrong file
- Submit early, even before you might be fully done

# Collaboration policy

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- You can chat, but code on your own (we use automated plagiarism detection software!)
- Use Piazza message board
- Help others on Piazza message board (will help your grade!)
- Acknowledge your collaboration (in README)
- Talk to each other, get a community going
  - Graphics is fun!

# Administrivia: Assignments

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- **The assignments are a lot of work. Really.**
  - Start early!

# Assignments

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0: Warm up (mesh display with OpenGL)

1: Curves & surfaces

2: Hierarchical modeling, skinning

3: Physically-based simulation

4: Ray casting

5: Ray tracing

(more in later slides)

# Textbooks

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- No textbook is required
- Recommendations
  - 3D Computer Graphics (Watt)
  - 3D Computer Graphics: A Mathematical Introduction with OpenGL (Buss)
    - **There is a free online version** available from [Books24x7](#)
  - Real-Time Rendering, 3rd ed. (Akenine-Möller, Haines, Hoffman)
  - Fundamentals of Computer Graphics, 3rd ed. (Shirley, Marschner)

# Questions?

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# Plan

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# How do you make this picture?



- Modeling
  - Geometry
  - Materials
  - Lights
- Animation
  - Make it move
- Rendering
  - I.e., draw the picture!
  - Lighting, shadows, textures...

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# Questions?

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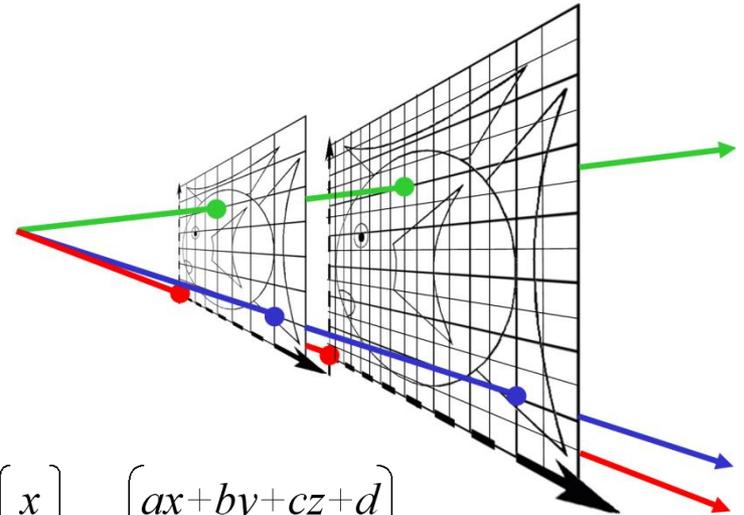
# Overview of the Semester

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- Modeling, Transformations
- Animation, Color
- Ray Casting / Ray Tracing
- The Graphics Pipeline
- Textures, Shadows
- Sampling, Global Illumination

# Transformations

- Yep, good old linear algebra
- Homogeneous coordinates
  - (Adding dimensions to make life harder)
- Perspective

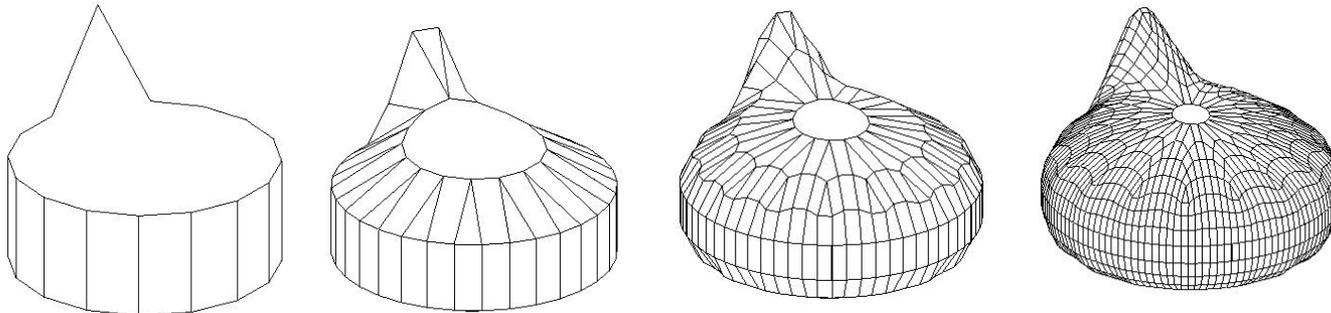
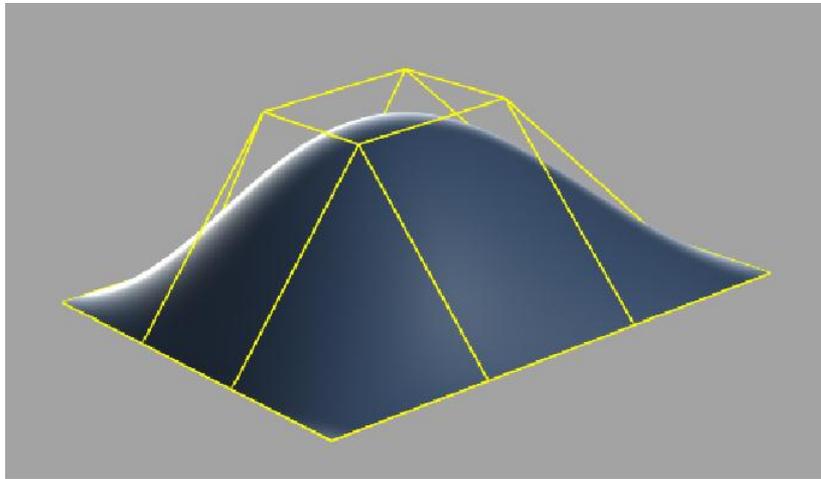


$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ e & f & g & h \\ i & j & k & l \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ax+by+cz+d \\ ex+fy+gz+h \\ ix+jy+kz+l \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

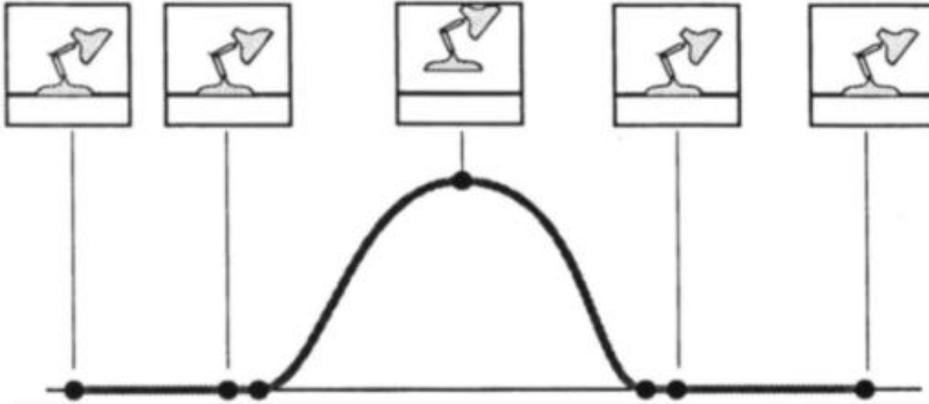
# Modeling

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- Curves and surfaces
- Subdivision surfaces



# Animation: Keyframing



ACM © 1987 "Principles of traditional animation applied to 3D computer animation"

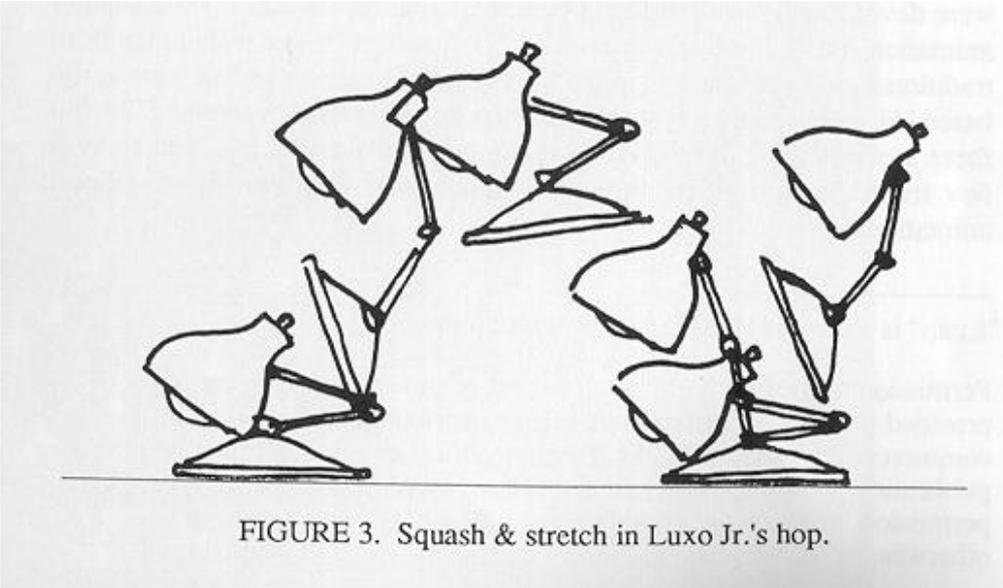
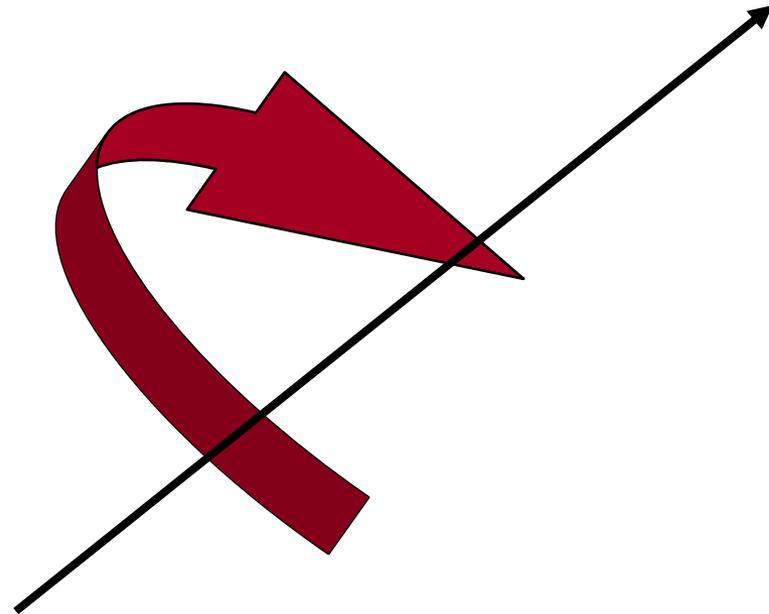
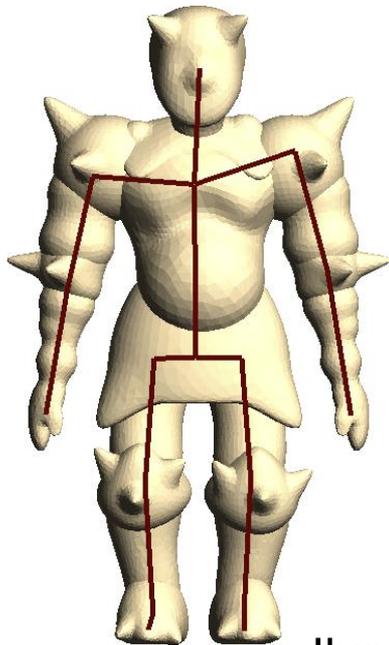


FIGURE 3. Squash & stretch in Luxo Jr.'s hop.



# Character Animation: Skinning

- Animate simple “skeleton”
- Attach “skin” to skeleton
  - Skin deforms smoothly with skeleton
- Used everywhere (games, movies)



Ilya Baran

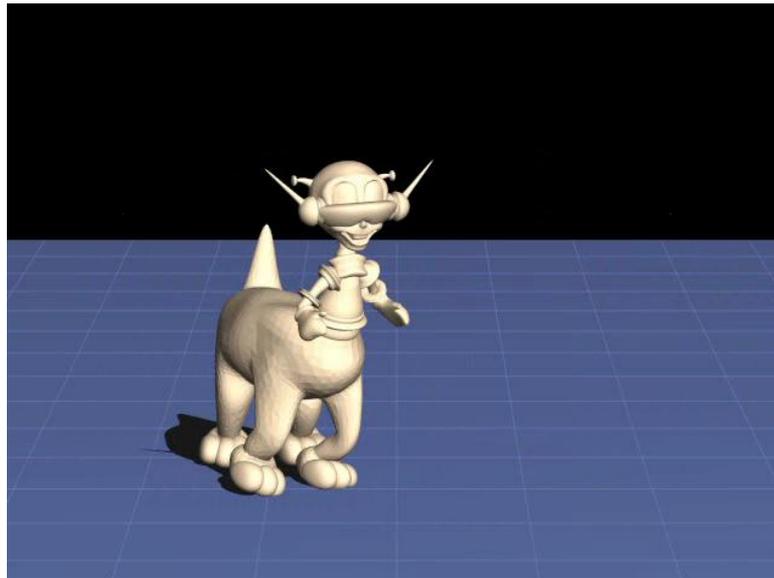
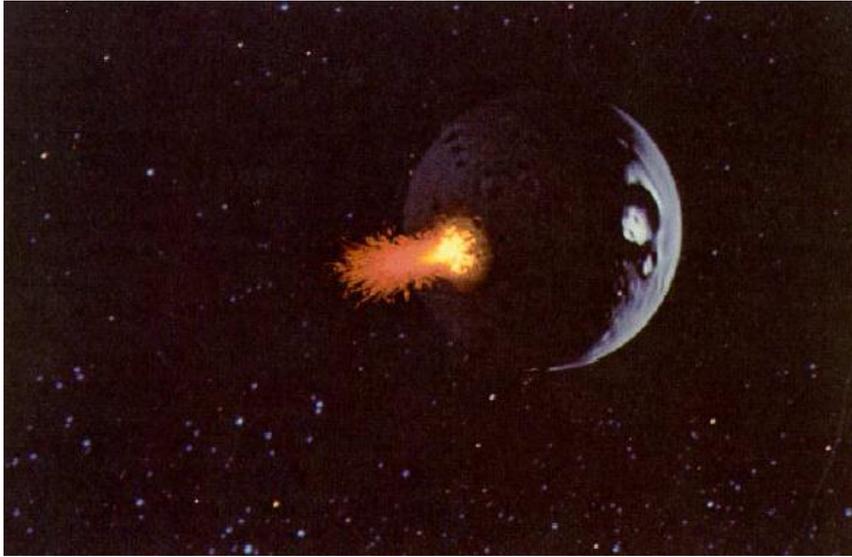


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# Particle system (PDE)

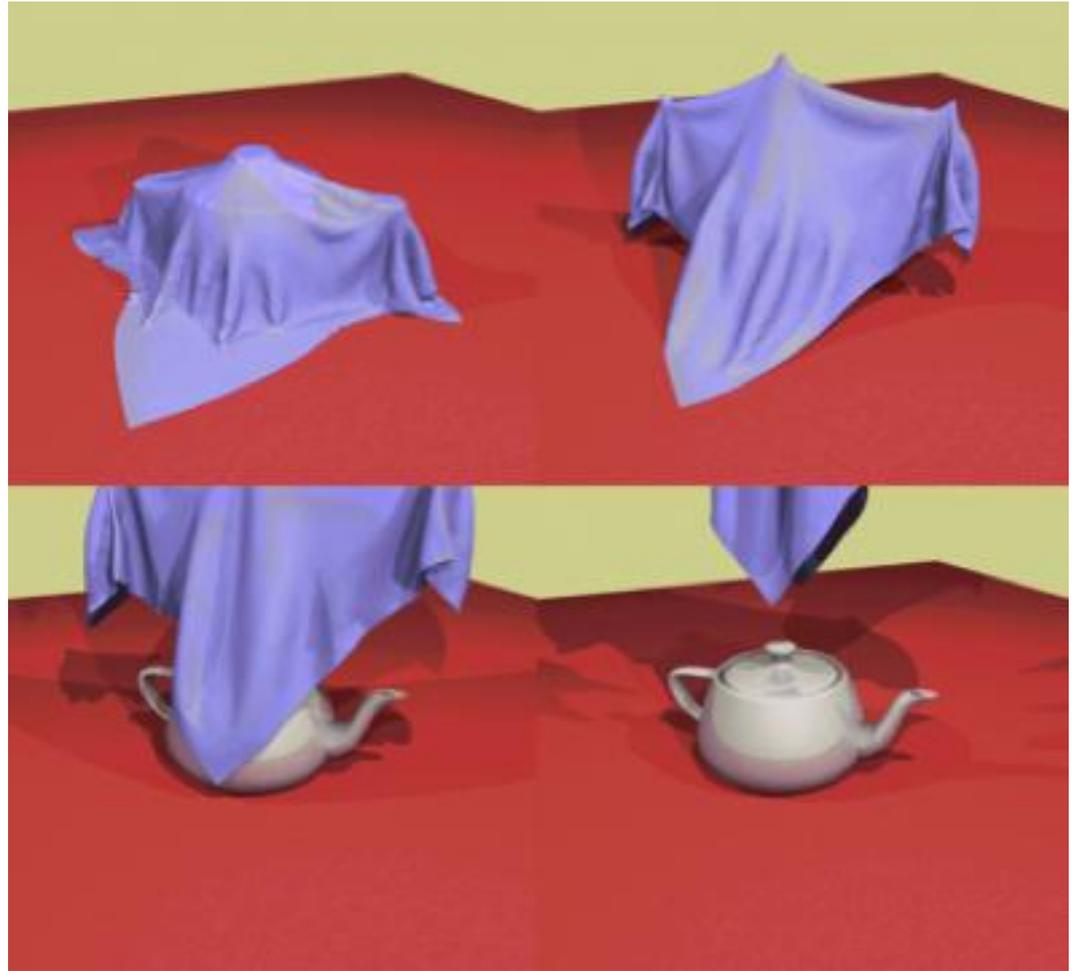
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# “Physics” (ODEs)

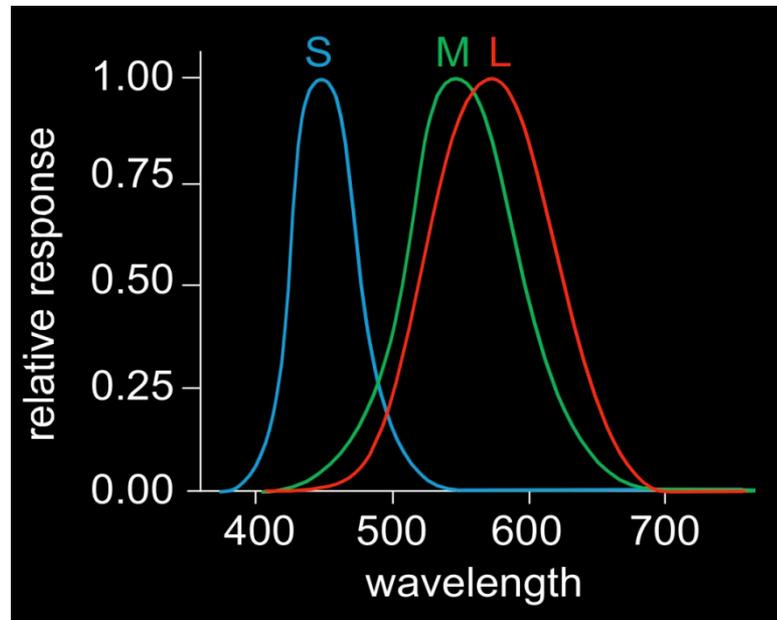
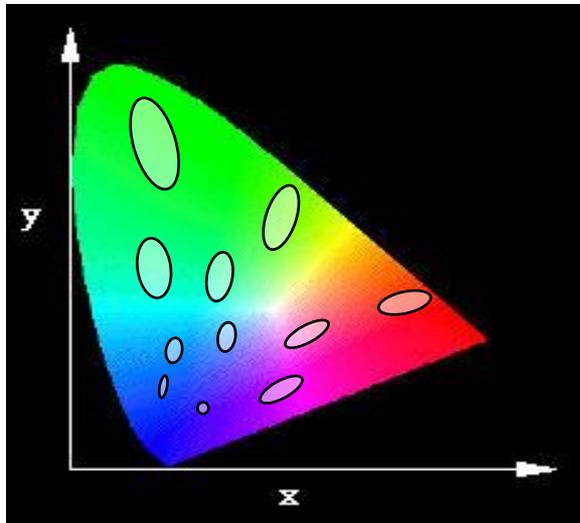
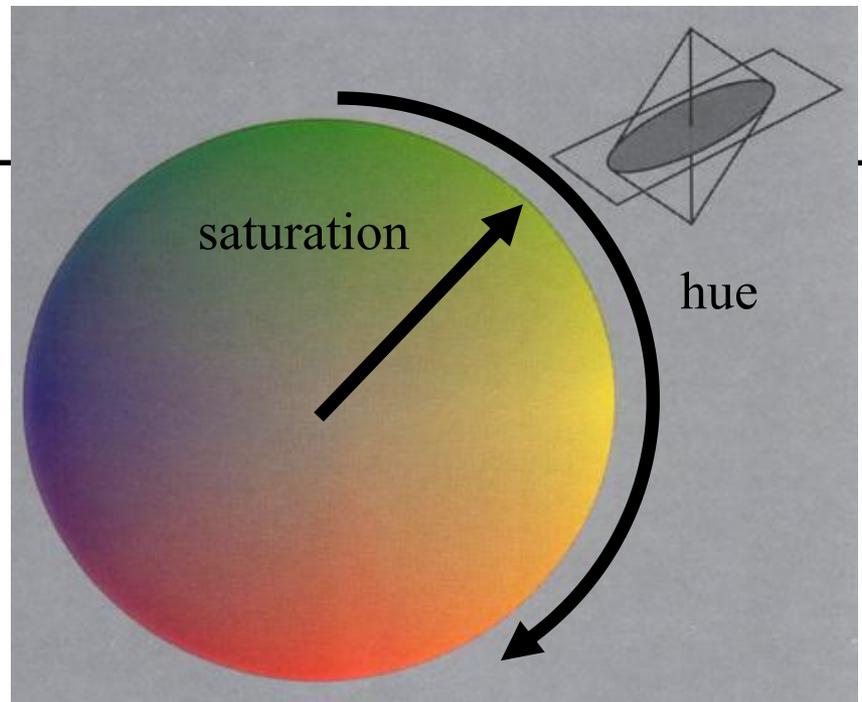
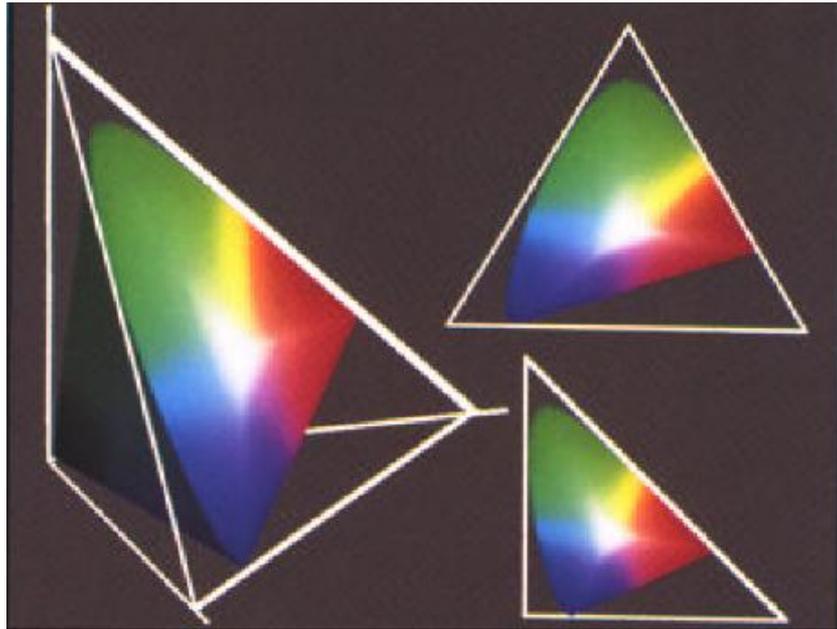
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- Fire, smoke
- Cloth
  
- Quotes because we do “visual simulation”



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# Color

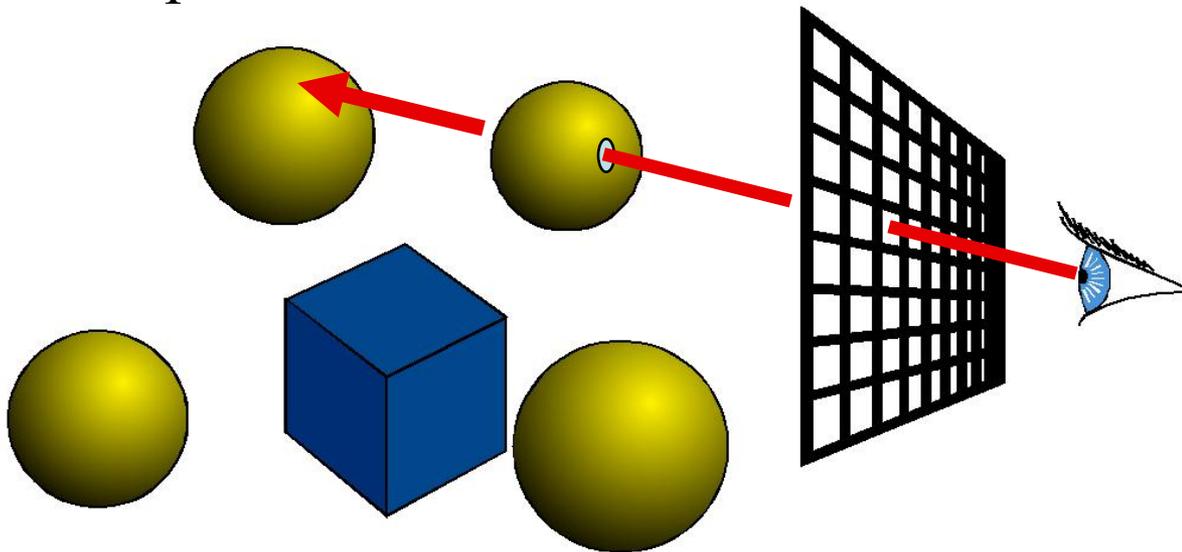


Courtesy of Victor Ostromoukhov.

# Ray Casting

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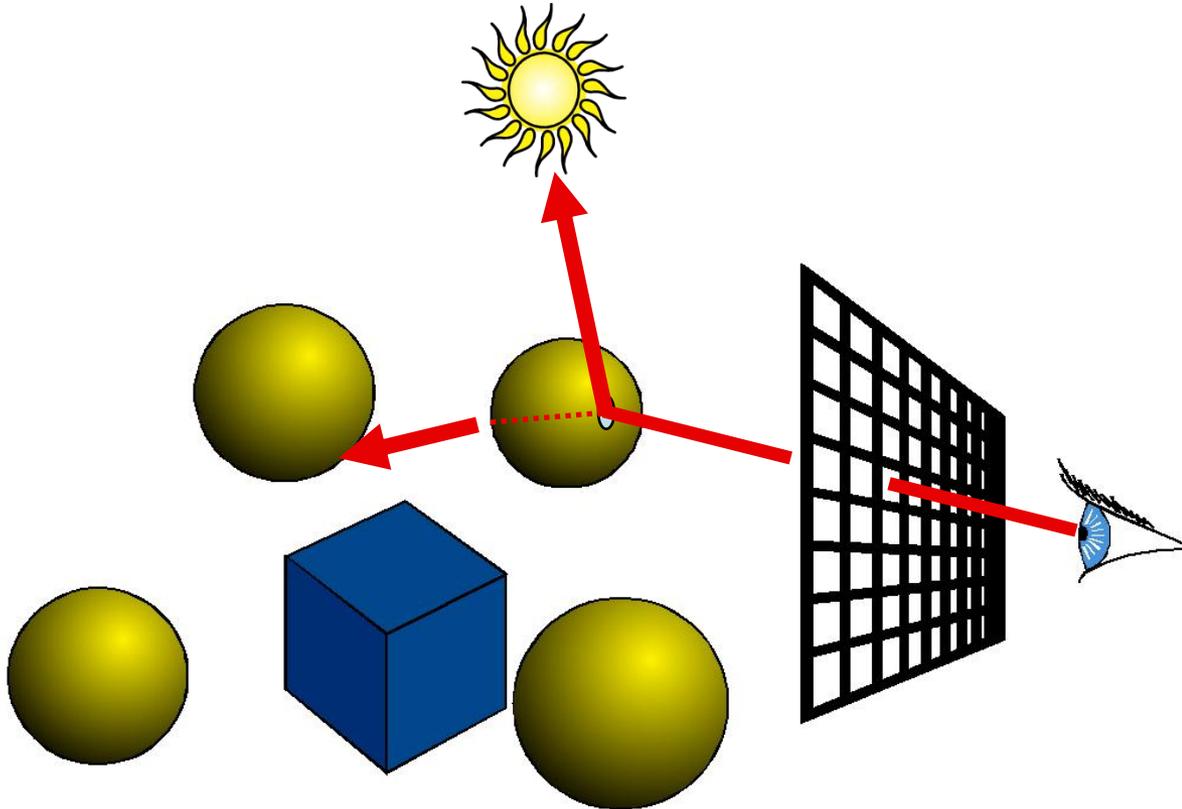
- For every pixel  
construct a ray from the eye
  - For every object in the scene
    - Find intersection with the ray
    - Keep if closest



# Ray Tracing

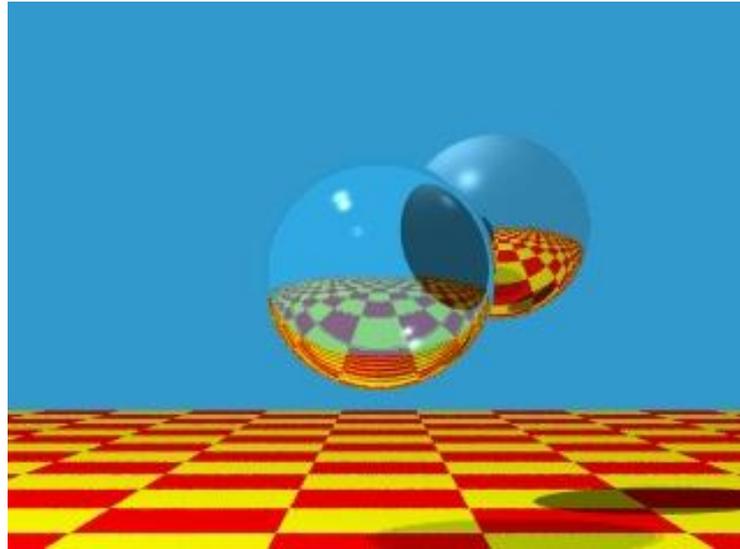
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- Shade (interaction of light and material)
- Secondary rays (shadows, reflection, refraction)



# Ray Tracing

- Original Ray-traced image by Whitted



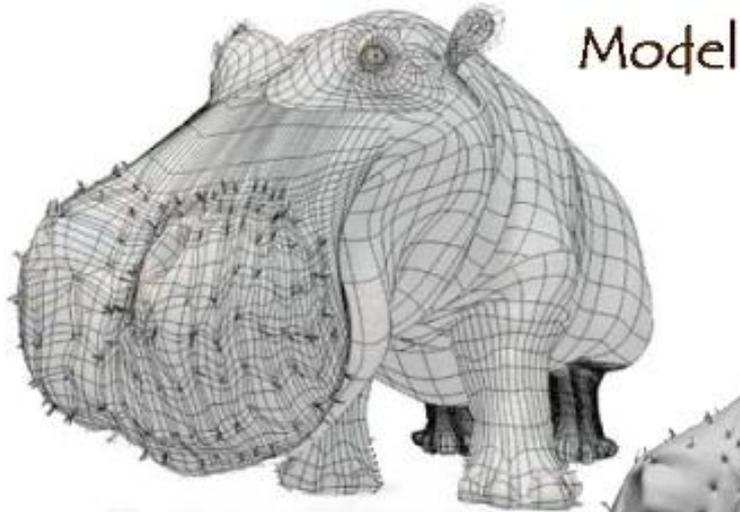
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- Image computed using the Dali ray tracer by Henrik Wann Jensen
- Environment map by Paul Debevec



Courtesy of Henrik Wann Jensen. Used with permission.

# Textures and Shading



Model + Shading



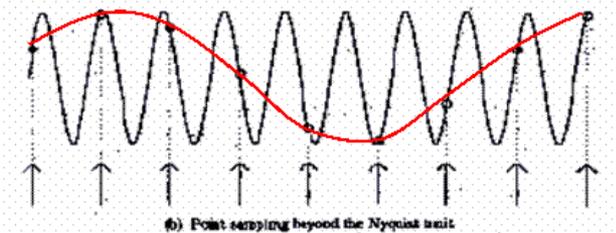
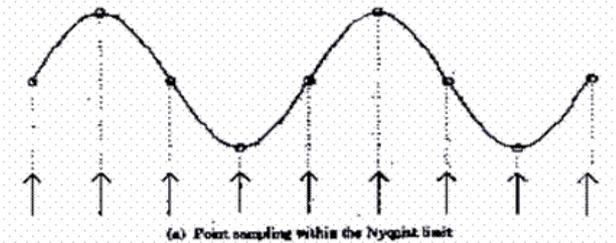
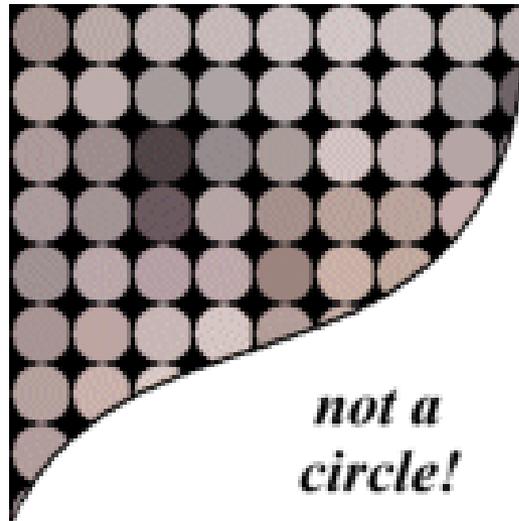
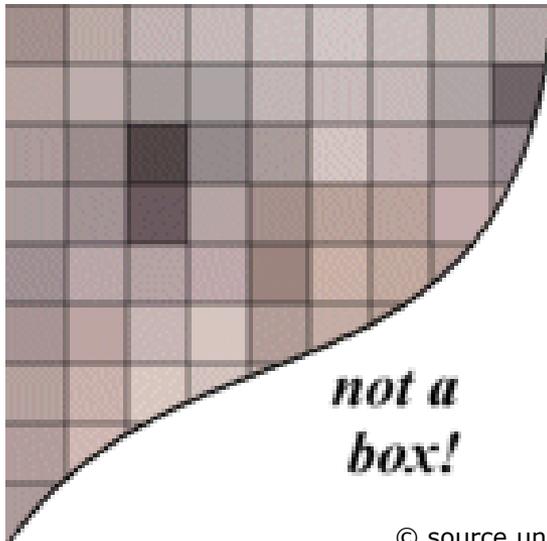
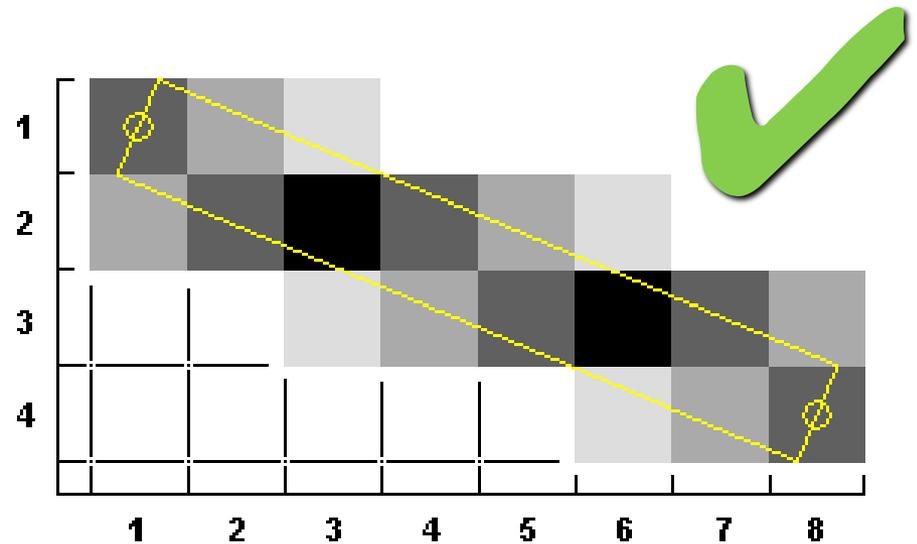
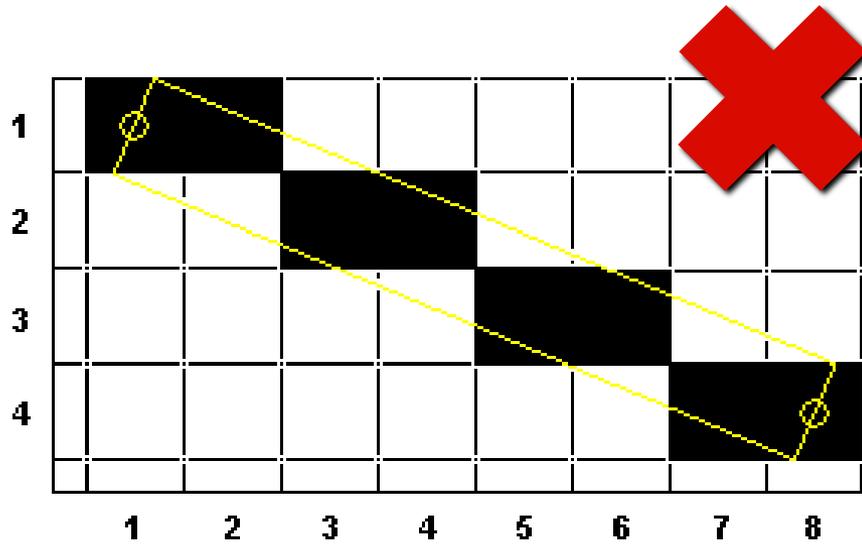
Model + Shading + Textures

At what point  
do things start  
looking real?

For more info on the computer artwork of Jeremy Birn  
see <http://www.3drender.com/jbirn/productions.html>



# Sampling & Antialiasing



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# Shadows

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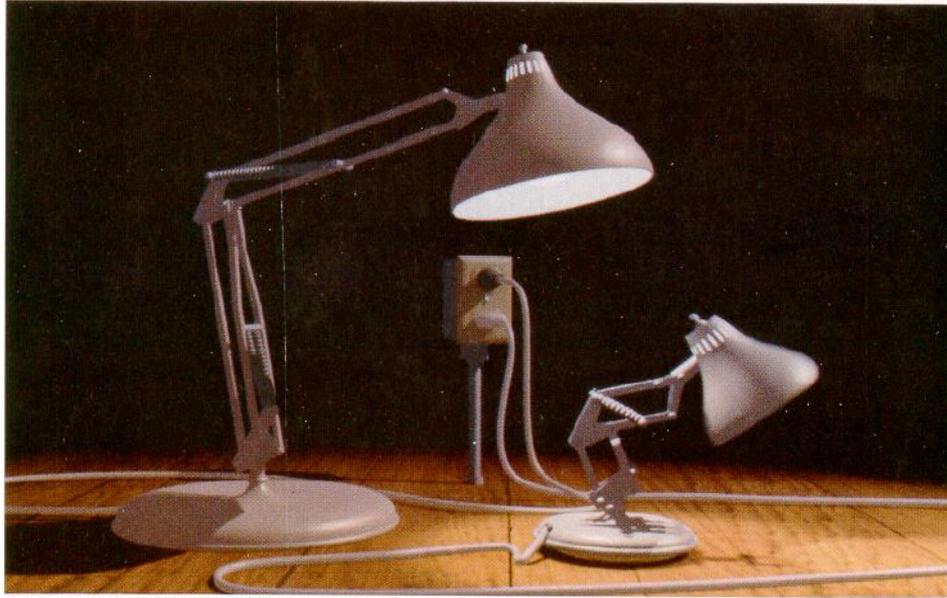


Figure 12. Frame from *Luxo Jr.*

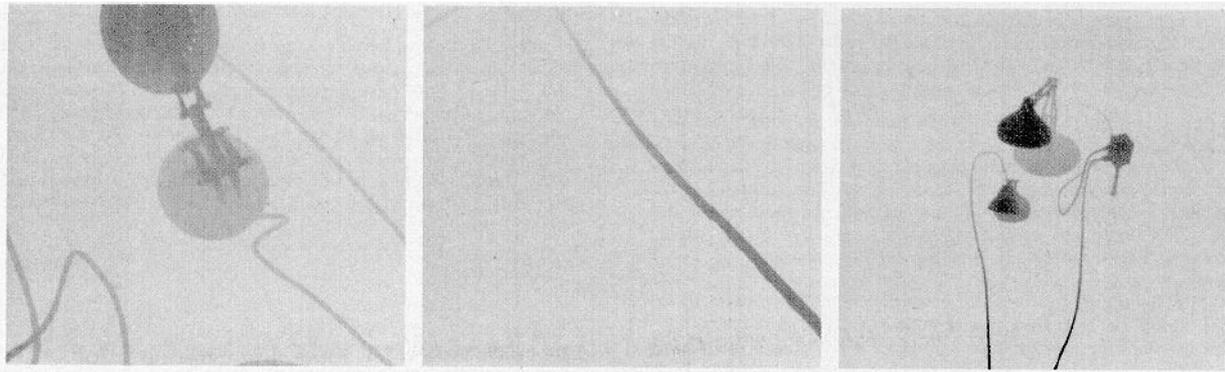
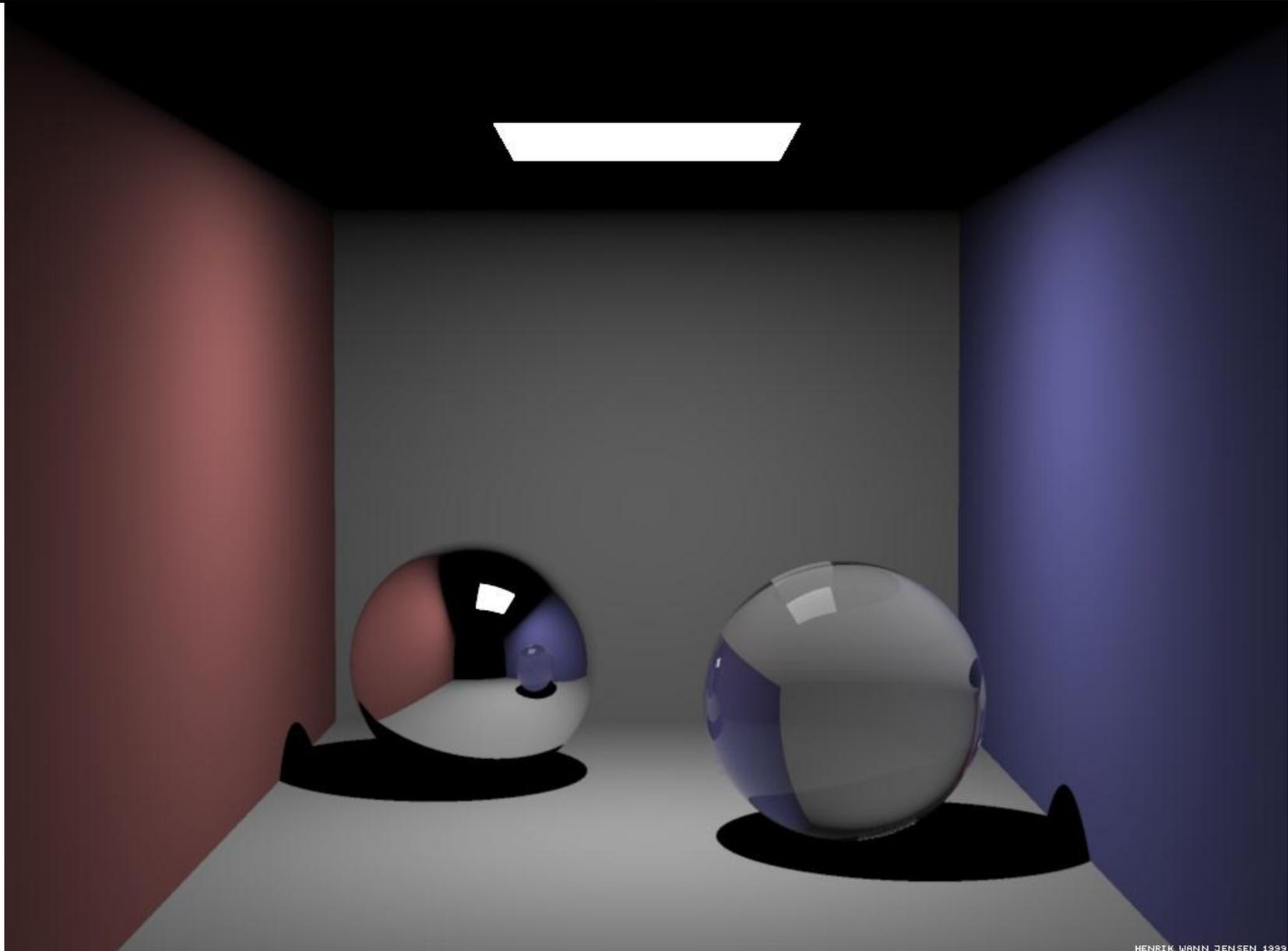


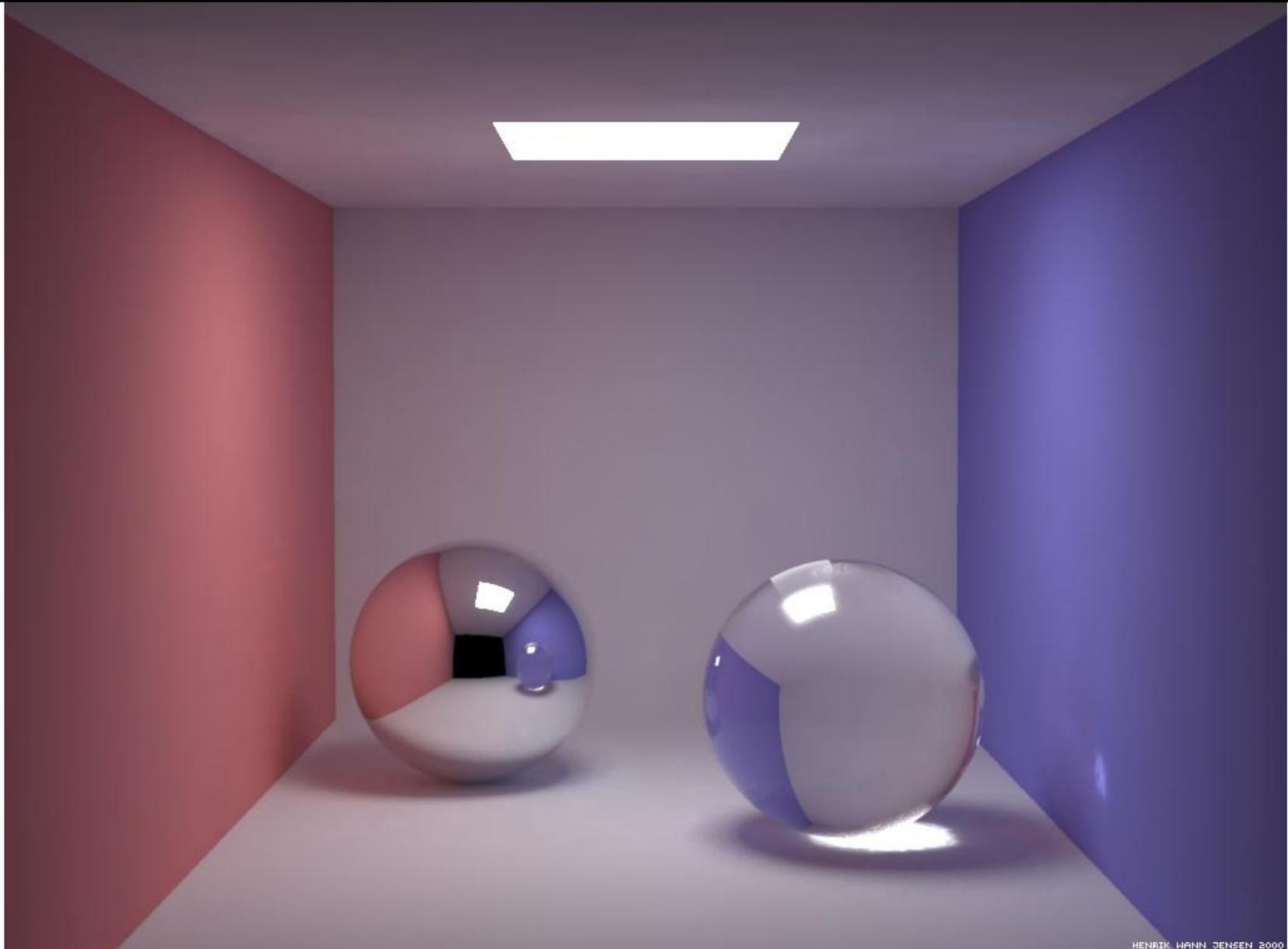
Figure 13. Shadow maps from *Luxo Jr.*

# Traditional Ray Tracing



Courtesy of Henrik Wann Jensen. Used with permission.

# Global Illumination



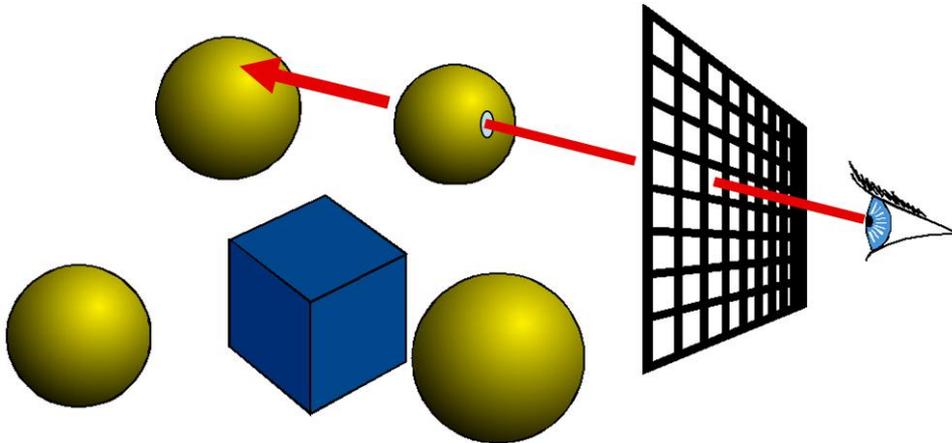
Courtesy of Henrik Wann Jensen. Used with permission.

HENRIK WANN JENSEN 2000

# The Graphics Pipeline

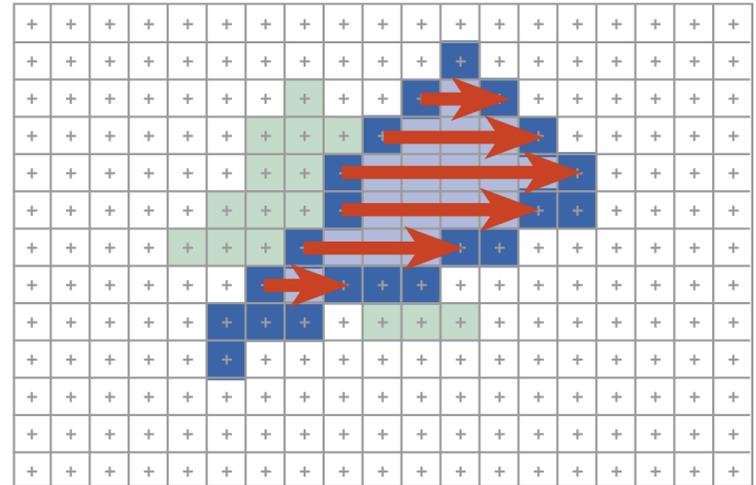
## Ray Casting

For each pixel  
For each object  
Send pixels to scene



## Rendering Pipeline

For each triangle  
For each projected pixel  
Project scene to pixels



# The Graphics Pipeline

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- Transformations
- Clipping
- Rasterization
- Visibility

# Questions?

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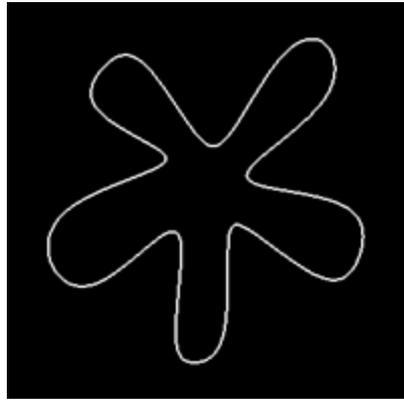
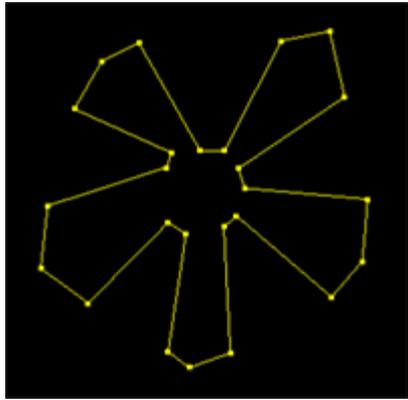
# Plan

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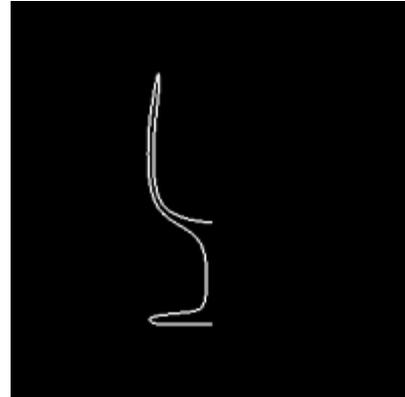
- Overview of computer graphics
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- Overview of the semester
- **Overview of assignments**
- Intro to OpenGL & assignment 0

# Assignment 1: curves & surfaces

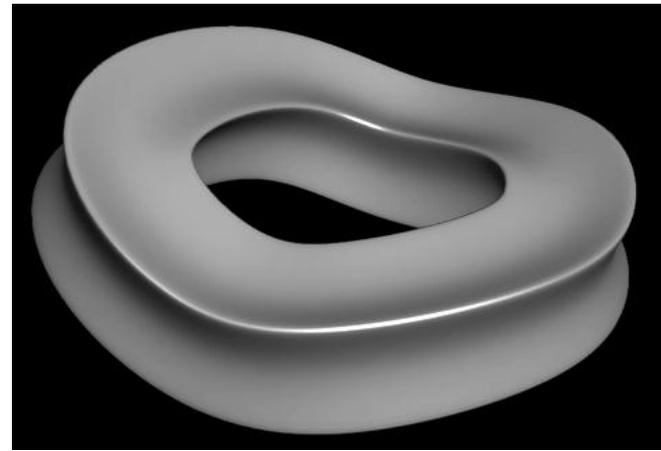
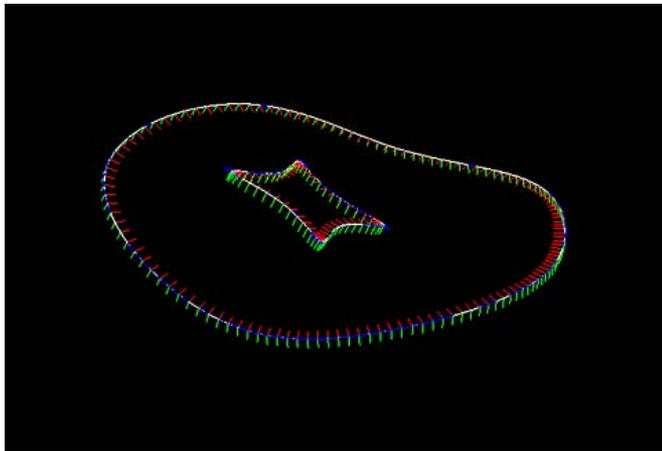
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Bezier curves



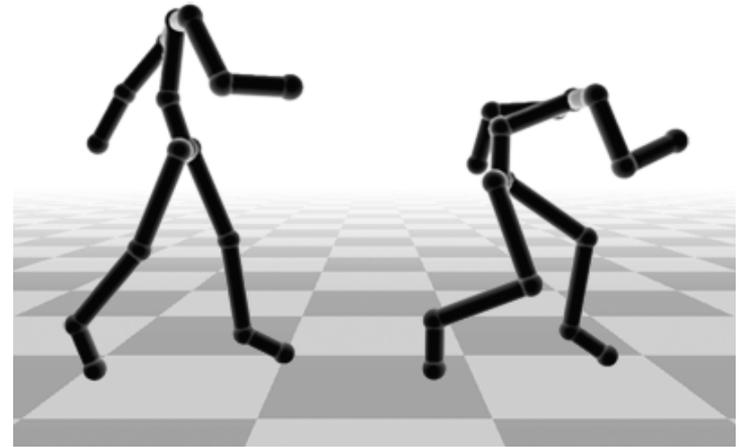
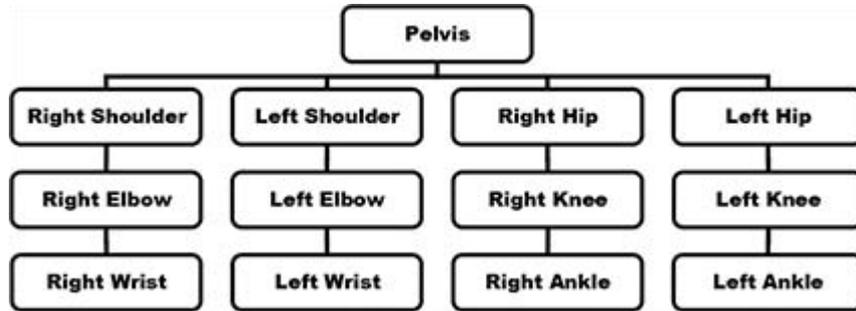
Surfaces of revolution



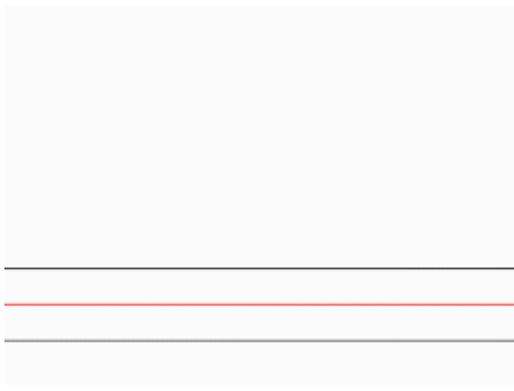
Sweep surfaces

# Assignment 2: hierarchical modeling

- Animate character skeleton as tree of transformations



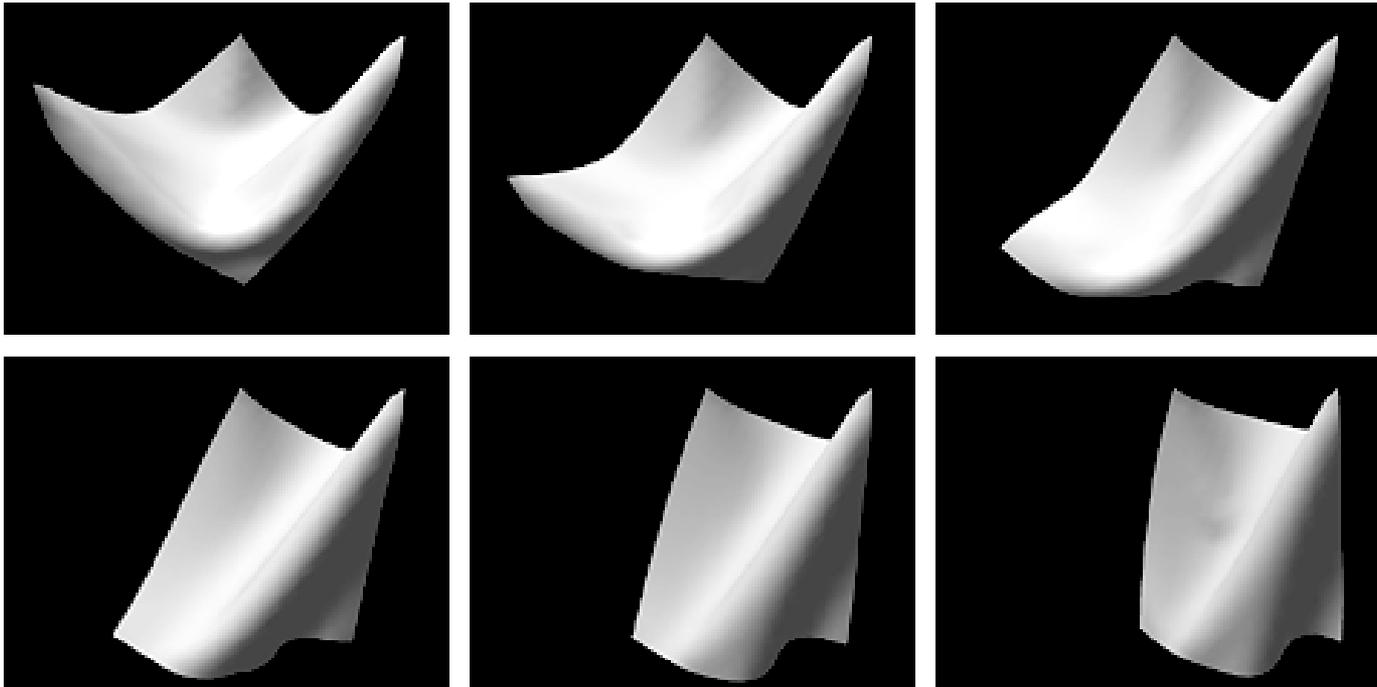
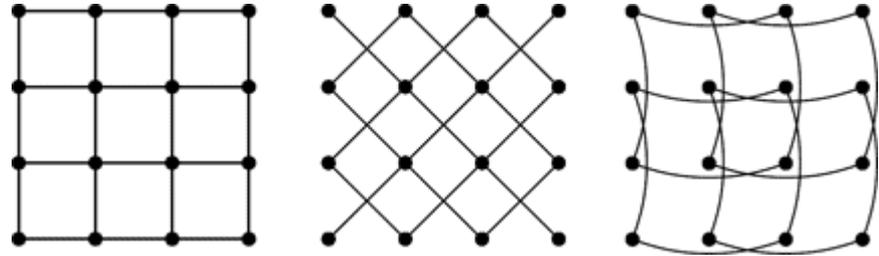
- Skinning: smooth surface deformation



# Assignment 3: physics

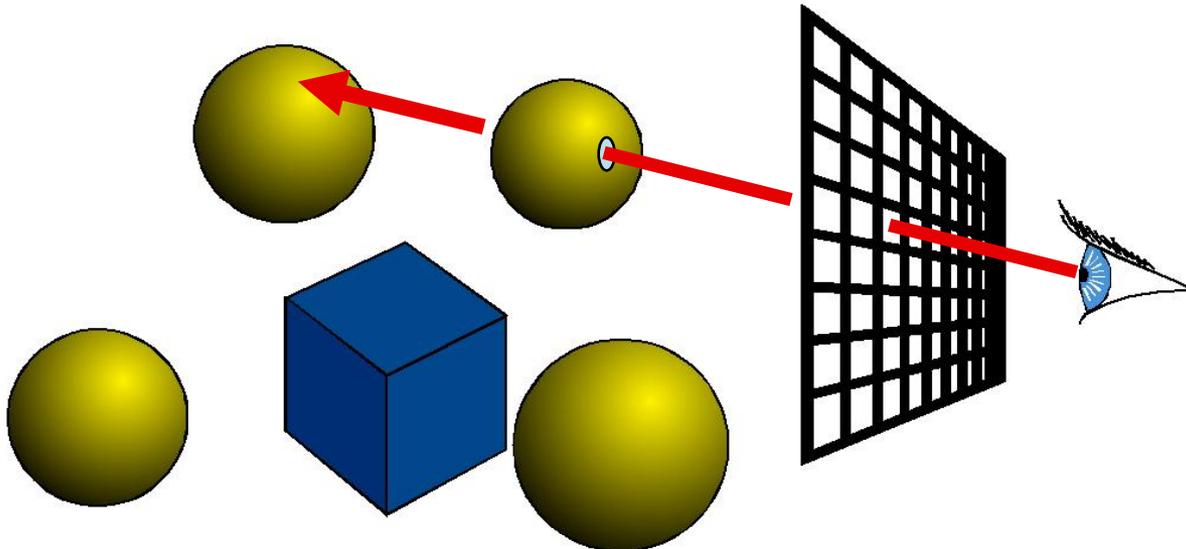
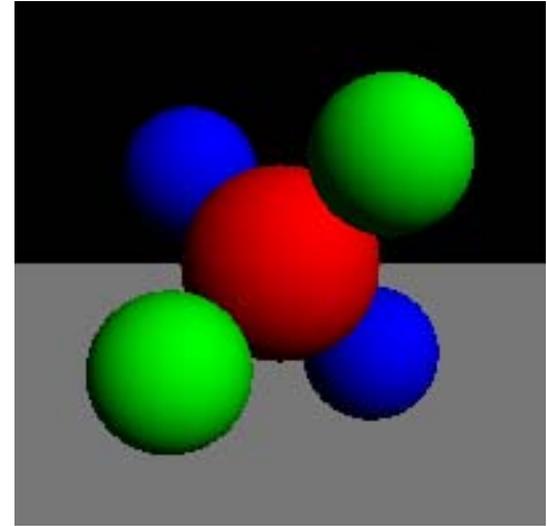
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- Simulate cloth as a mass-spring network
  - ODE integration



# Assignment 4: ray casting

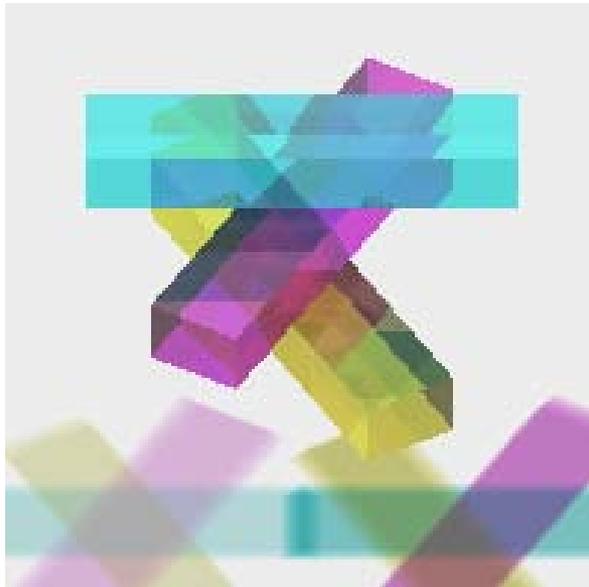
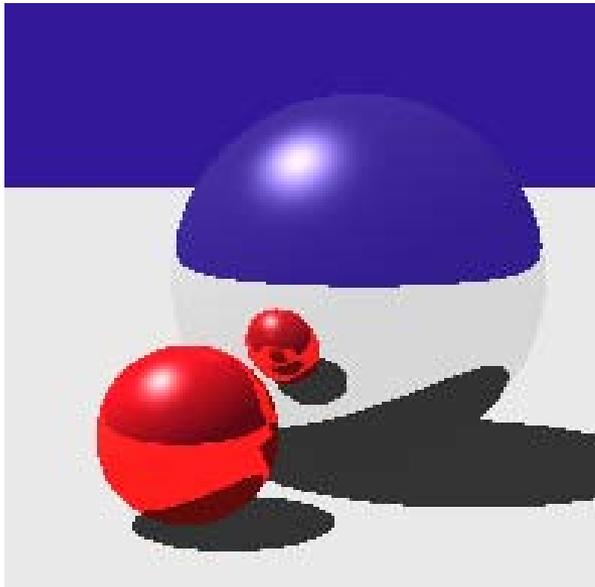
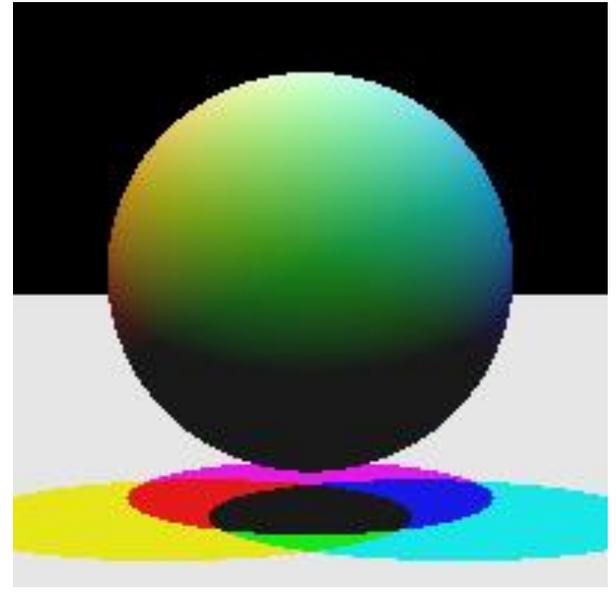
- Cast rays from the viewpoint
- Intersect with scene primitives



# Assignment 5: ray tracing

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- Shadows, reflection, refraction
- + flexible extension



# Questions?

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# Plan

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- Overview of computer graphics
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- Overview of assignments
- **Intro to OpenGL & assignment 0**

# Simple 3D with OpenGL

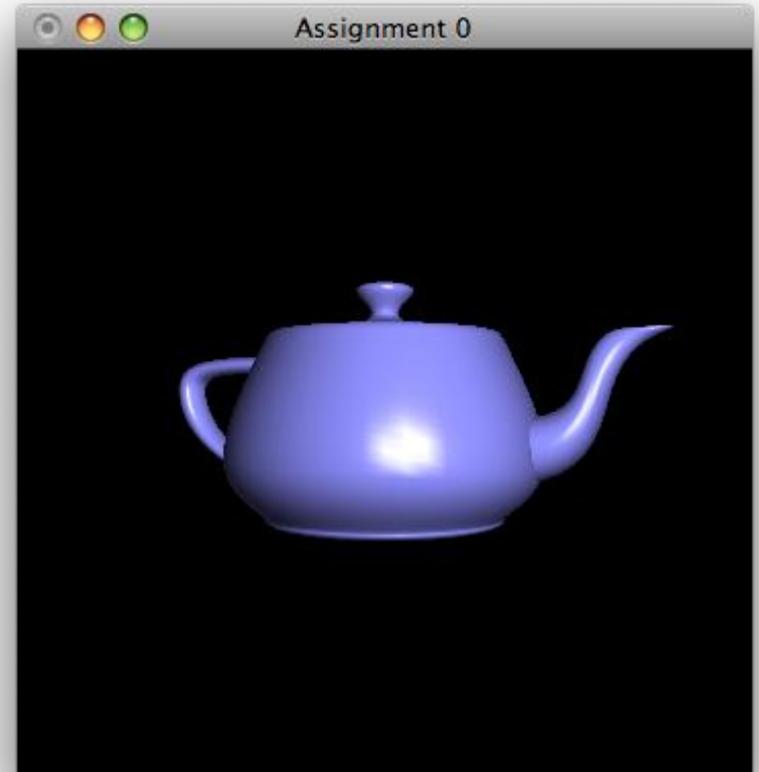
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- OpenGL is an API that allows you to send commands to the graphics card to draw 2D or 3D scenes
- At the beginning of the semester, we will use OpenGL as a black box to display 3D content
- Later, we will see what is under the hood

# Assignment 0

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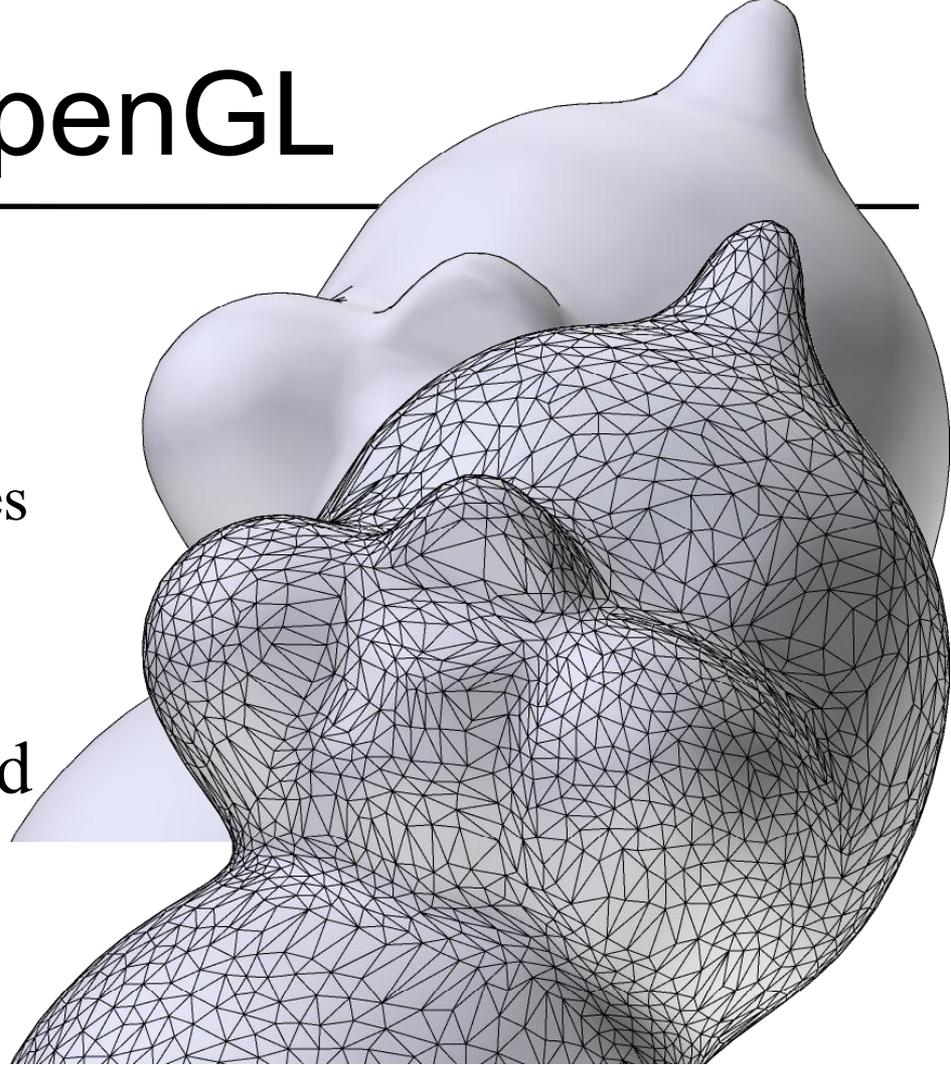
- Read a file with triangle mesh data
  - Including mesh normals
- Display it using OpenGL
  - Colors, simple movement
- **Due next Wednesday!**



# Simple 3D with OpenGL

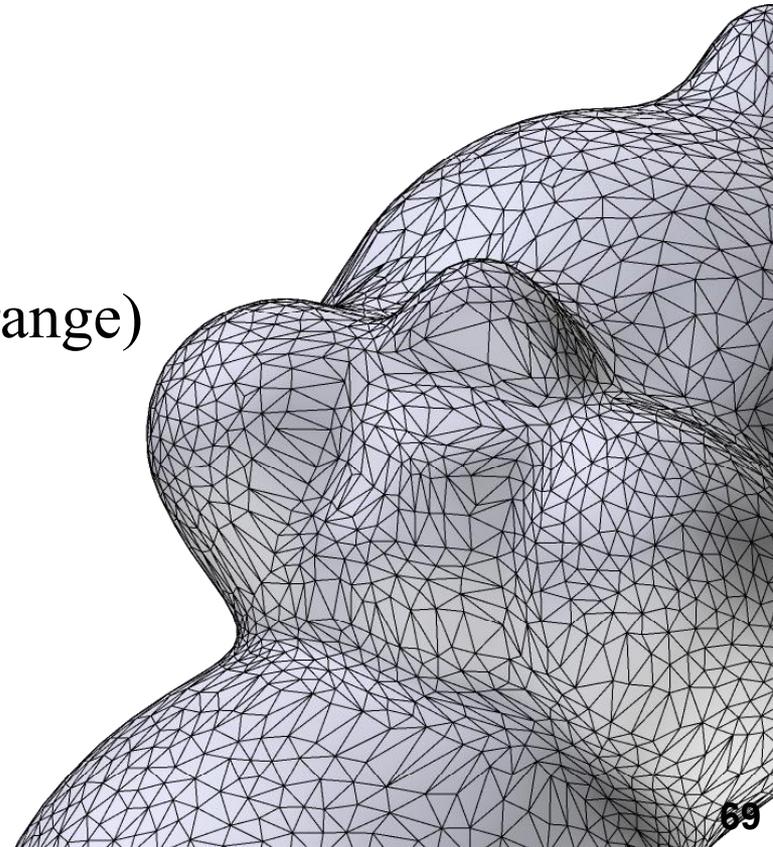
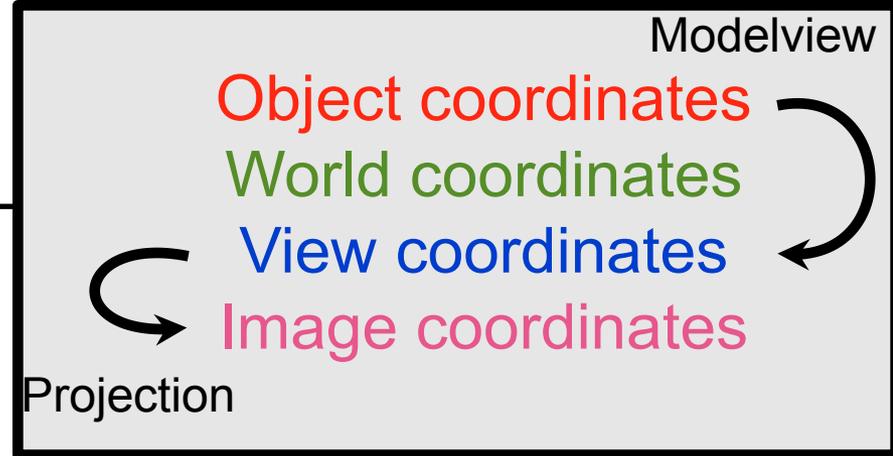
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- Scene represented as triangles
  - A triangle is a set of 3 vertices
  - A vertex is a set of 3 floating point numbers (x, y, z)
- We will use OpenGL to send this to the graphics card (GPU)
  - The GPU will do its magic to display the scene from the current viewpoint (Later, we will get to see how this happens)



# How to Draw?

- You need to tell OpenGL
  - The geometry of the object
    - Vertex positions
    - Vertex normals
    - 3 x vertex makes a triangle!
  - Camera parameters
    - Field of view, aspect ratio, (depth range)
    - The “projection matrix”



# Questions?

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# OpenGL high-level pseudocode

---

- Initialize
  - (get graphics context, etc.)
- For each frame
  - Manage UI
  - Set appropriate viewpoint
  - Set light source directions
  - For each triangle
    - For  $i=0$  to 2
    - Send vertex data

# OpenGL Example: Viewing

---

```
// Current matrix affects objects positions
glMatrixMode( GL_MODELVIEW );
// Initialize to the identity
glLoadIdentity();
// Position the camera at [0,0,5], looking at
// [0,0,0], with [0,1,0] as the up direction.
gluLookAt(0.0, 0.0, 5.0,
          0.0, 0.0, 0.0,
          0.0, 1.0, 0.0);
// Rotate by -20 degrees about [0,1,0]
glRotated(-20.0, 0.0, 1.0, 0.0);

// Draw a teapot.
glutSolidTeapot(1.0);
```

# Vertex data

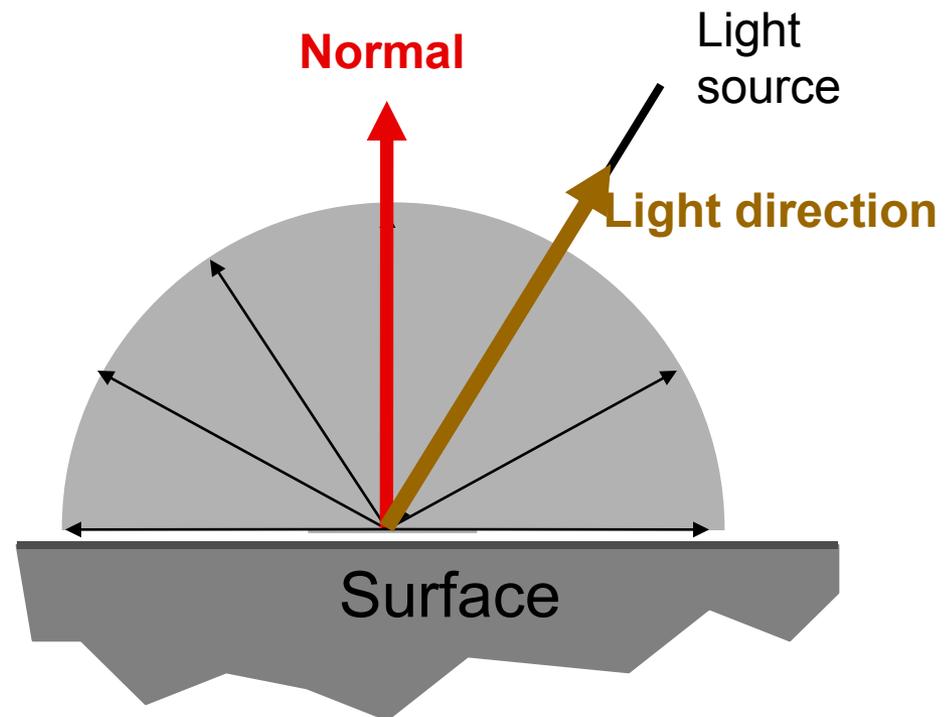
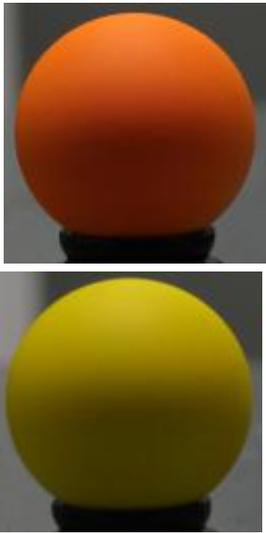
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- What information do we need at each vertex?
  - Coordinates (3 floats)
  - Color (optional, 3 floats)
  - Normal information (optional, 3 floats)
  - Transparency (optional, 1 float)
  - More to come (texture information, shininess)

# Why normals?

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- To compute color as a function of light direction
- Simplest: Diffuse or Lambert model
  - Intensity = dot product (normal, light direction)



# OpenGL Code

---

```
glBegin(GL_TRIANGLES); //what follows describes triangles
glColor3d (1,1,0); //red, green and blue components=>(yellow)
glNormal3d (0, 0, 1); //normal pointing up
glVertex3d (2,3,3); //3D position x, y, z
glColor3d (1,0,0);
glNormal3d (0, 0, 1);
glVertex3d (5,3,3);
glColor3d (1,0,1);
glNormal3d (0, 0, 1);
glVertex3d (3,6,3);
glEnd();
```

# OpenGL high-level pseudocode

---

- Initialize
  - (get graphics context, etc.)
- For each frame
  - Manage UI
  - Set appropriate viewpoint
  - Set light source directions
  - For each triangle
    - For  $i=0$  to 2
    - Send vertex data

# OpenGL is a state machine

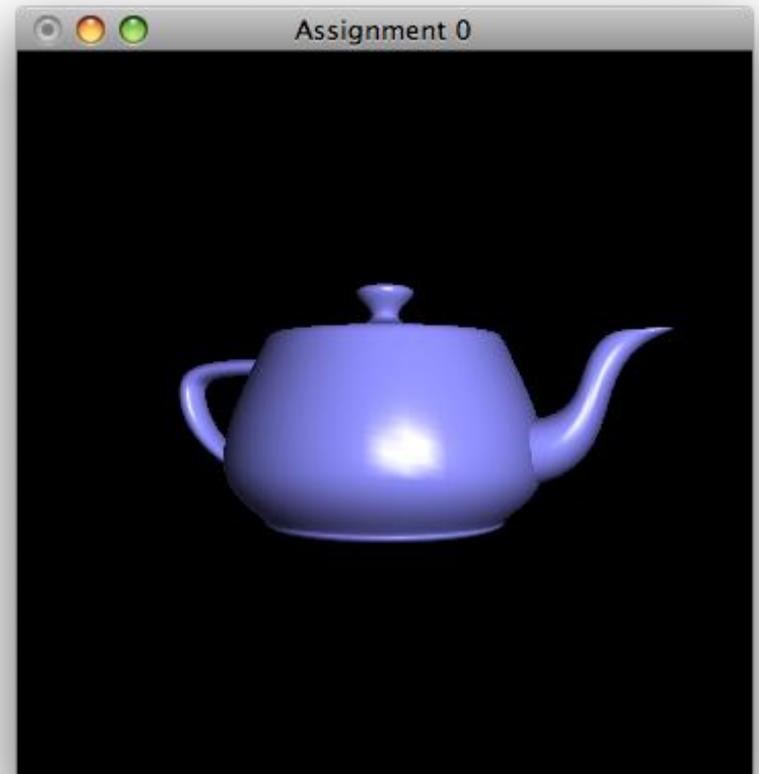
---

- Each command changes the state
  - But `glVertex` also “pushes” data
- For example, `glColor3f` changes the current color.
  - The color remains valid until we call `glColorxx` again
  - Use it before each vertex to get per-vertex color.
- Other state to manage lighting and other rendering aspects
- Can make it hard to debug
- *(Note: This is conceptually simple, but not quite how you write efficient code these days.)*

# Assignment 0

---

- Read a file with triangle mesh data
  - Including mesh normals
- Display it using OpenGL
  - Colors, simple movement
- **Due next Wednesday!**



# What is missing?

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- Shadows
  - Shininess
  - Texture
  - Etc.
- 
- Be patient, you will have plenty enough

# Linear Algebra is Everywhere

---

- Vertices are 3-vectors
- Normals are 3-vectors
  - Orthogonal to surface tangent plane
  - Cross product
- Colors are 3-vectors
- Diffuse shading is a dot product
- A non-bending object moving in a scene undergoes a rigid transformation
- Changing the viewpoint is a linear transformation of the scene coordinate
- **Brush up in the review session!**

# What Makes Graphics Fun?

---

- Very interdisciplinary
  - Within CS: systems, compilers, languages, computer architecture, algorithms, numerical techniques
  - Math, physics, art, perception, architecture, manufacturing
- Helps you understand why the world looks the way it does
- You can “see” the result

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