




ECE4893A/CS4803MPG:  
**MULTICORE AND GPU**  
 PROGRAMMING  
 FOR VIDEO GAMES

 **Texturing & Blending** 

Prof. Aaron Lanterman  
 (Based on slides by Prof. Hsien-Hsin Sean Lee)  
 School of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
 Georgia Institute of Technology



## Textures

- Rendering tiny triangles is slow
- Players won't even look at some certain details
  - Sky, clouds, walls, terrain, wood patterns, etc.
- Simple way to add details and enhance realism
- Use 2D images to map polygons
- Images are composed of 2D “texels”
- Can be used to substitute or blend with the lit color of a texture-mapped surface

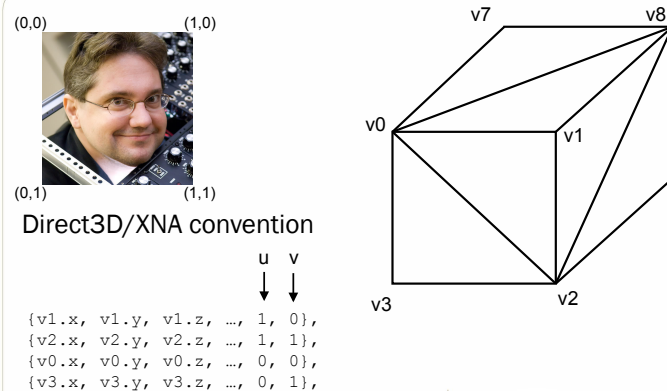
## Texture coordinates

- Introduce one more component to geometry
  - Position coordinates
  - Normal vector
  - Color
  - **Texture coordinates**

## Texture coordinate conventions

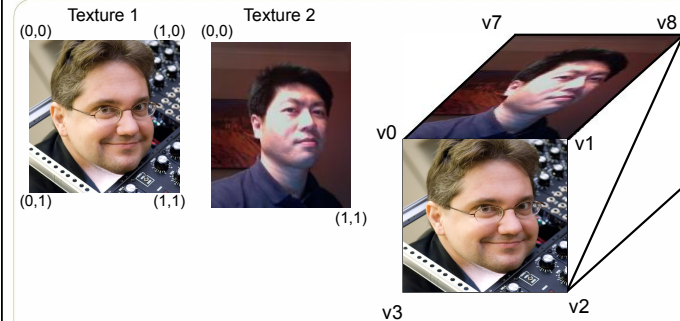
- Direct3D/XNA texture convention
  - (u, v) coordinates for each vertex
  - (0,0) = upper left corner
  - (1,1) = lower right corner
- OpenGL texture convention
  - (s, t) coordinates for each vertex
  - (0,0) = bottom left corner
  - (1,1) = upper right corner

## Texture mapping example (1)



Georgia Institute of Technology

## Texture mapping example (2)



Georgia Institute of Technology

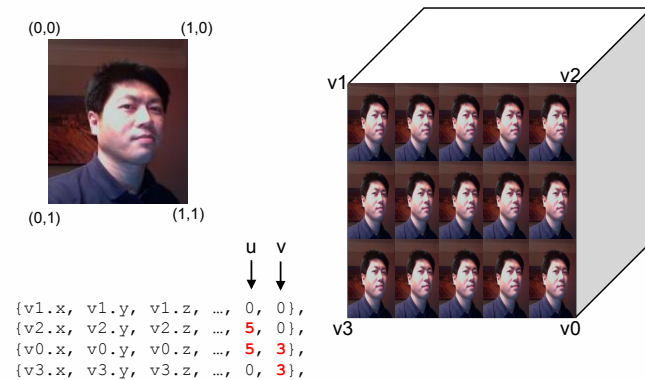
## "Perspective correct" texture mapping



From [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texture\\_mapping](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texture_mapping)

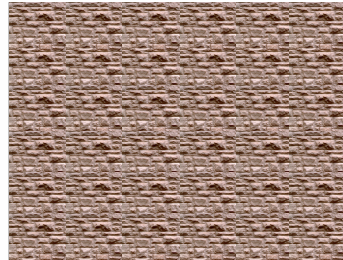
Georgia Institute of Technology

## Repeated textures



Georgia Institute of Technology

## Repeated brick texture

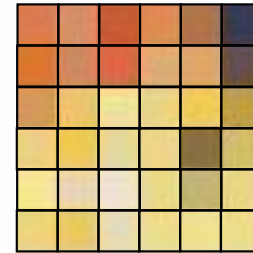


u v

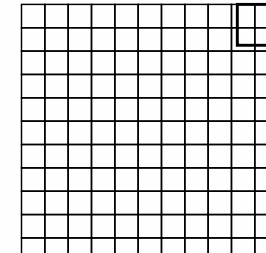
```
{v1.x, v1.y, v1.z, ..., 0, 0},
{v2.x, v2.y, v2.z, ..., 6, 0},
{v0.x, v0.y, v0.z, ..., 6, 6},
{v3.x, v3.y, v3.z, ..., 0, 6},
```

Georgia Institute of Technology

## Magnification



Texels



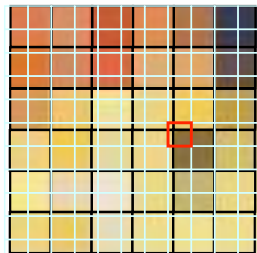
Pixels on screen

- Texel and pixel mapping is rarely 1-to-1
- Mapped triangle is very close to the camera
- One texel maps to multiple pixels

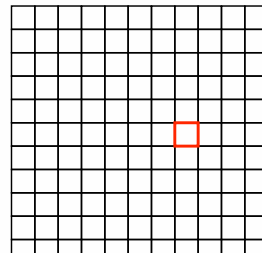


Georgia Institute of Technology

## Nearest point sampling (for magnification)



Texels

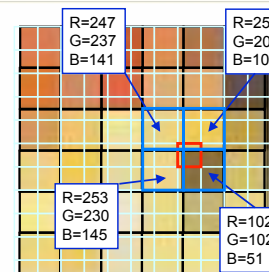


Pixels on screen

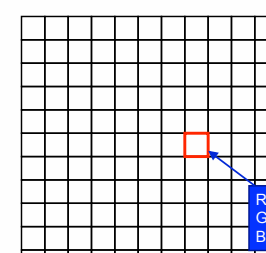
- Choose the texel nearest the pixel's center

Georgia Institute of Technology

## Averaging (for magnification)



Texels

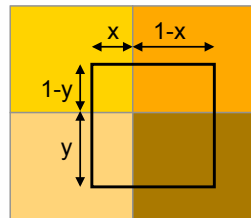


Pixels on screen

- Average the 2x2 texels surrounding a given pixel

Georgia Institute of Technology

## Bilinear filtering (for magnification)



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Texel 1} * (1-x) * (1-y) \\
 + & \text{Texel 2} * (1-x) * y \\
 + & \text{Texel 3} * x * (1-y) \\
 + & \text{Texel 4} * x * y
 \end{aligned}$$

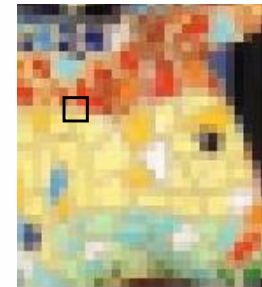
Final Color

□ : pixel enclosed by 4 texels

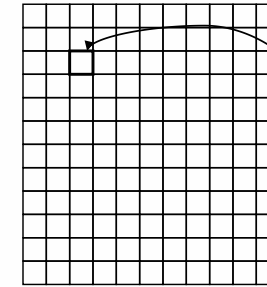
- Or take the weighted color values for the 2x2 texels surrounding a given pixel

Georgia Institute of Technology

## Minification



Texels



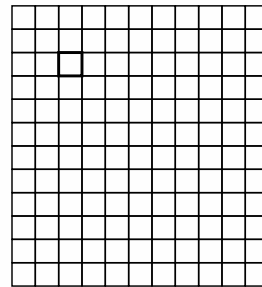
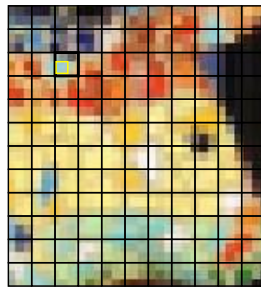
Pixels on screen

Color?

- Texel and pixel mapping is rarely 1-to-1
- Multiple texels map to one pixel

Georgia Institute of Technology

## Nearest point sampling (for minification)

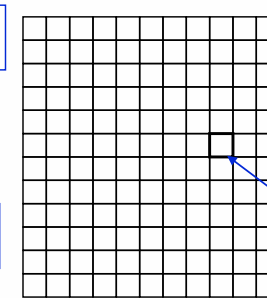
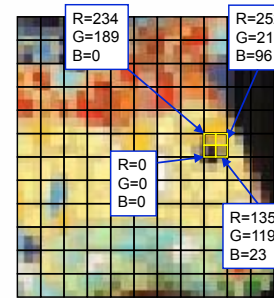


Pixels on screen

- Choose the texel nearest the pixel's center

Georgia Institute of Technology

## Averaging (for minification)



Pixels on screen

- Average for the 2x2 texels corresponding to a given pixel

Georgia Institute of Technology

## Mip-mapping (1)

- Multiple versions are provided for the same texture
- Different versions have different levels of details
  - E.g., 7 LOD maps: 256x256, 128x128, 64x64, 32x32, 16x16, 8x8, 4x4
  - Choose the closest maps to render a surface
- Maps can be automatically generated by 3D API

Georgia Institute of Technology

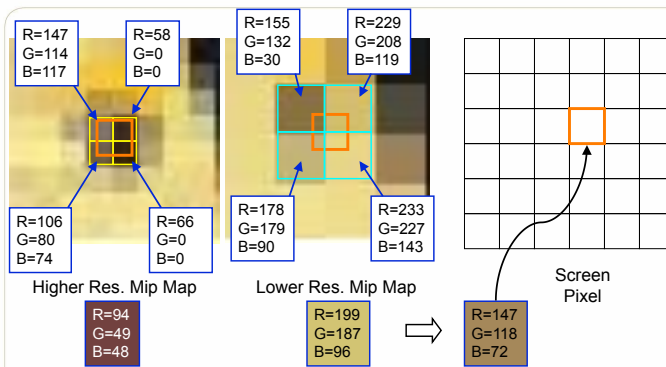
## Mip-mapping (2)



- API or hardware can
  - Choose the right one for the viewer
    - Good performance for far triangles
    - Good LOD for close-by objects
  - Trilinearly interpolate

Georgia Institute of Technology

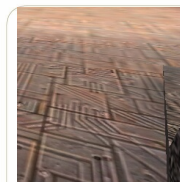
## Tri-linear filtering using mipmaps



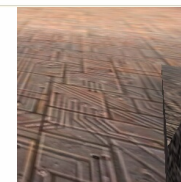
- Interpolate between mipmaps

Georgia Institute of Technology

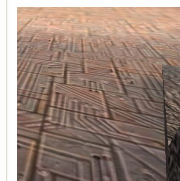
## Anisotropic filtering



Bilinear filtering



Trilinear filtering



16x Anisotropic filtering



64x Anisotropic filtering

- Not isotropic
- Preserves details for oblique viewing angles (non-uniform surface)
- AF calculates the "shape" of the surface before mapping
- The number of pixels sampled depends on the distance and view angles relative to the screen
- Very expensive

Source: nvidia

Georgia Institute of Technology

## Color blending and alpha blending

- Transparency effect (e.g. water, glasses, etc.)
- Source color blended with destination color
- Several blending methods
  - Additive  

$$C = \text{SrcPixel} \otimes (1,1,1,1) + \text{DstPixel} \otimes (1,1,1,1) = \text{SrcPixel} + \text{DstPixel}$$
  - Subtractive  

$$C = \text{SrcPixel} \otimes (1,1,1,1) - \text{DstPixel} \otimes (1,1,1,1) = \text{SrcPixel} - \text{DstPixel}$$
  - Multiplicative  

$$C = \text{DstPixel} \otimes \text{SrcPixel}$$
  - Using Alpha value in the color (Alpha blending)  

$$C = \text{SrcPixel} \otimes (\alpha, \alpha, \alpha, \alpha) + \text{DstPixel} \otimes (1-\alpha, 1-\alpha, 1-\alpha, 1-\alpha)$$
  - And many more in the API ...

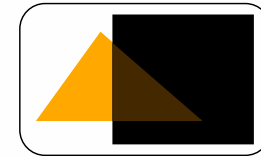
Georgia Institute of Technology

21

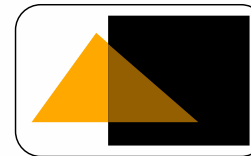
## Alpha blending (inverse source form)



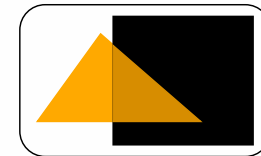
No transparency



Src=0.2 (triangle)  
Dest=0.8 (square)



Src=0.5 (triangle)  
Dest=0.5 (square)

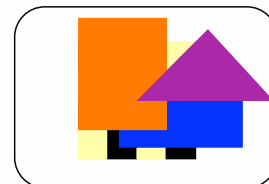
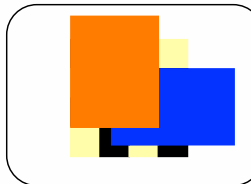
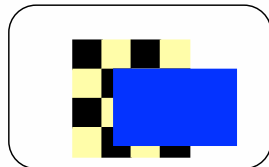
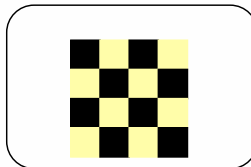


Src=0.8 (triangle)  
Dest=0.2 (square)

Georgia Institute of Technology

22

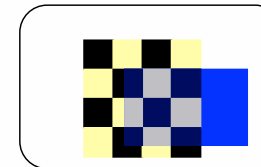
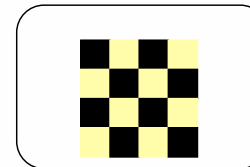
## Another example w/out transparency



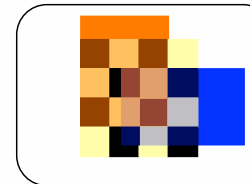
Georgia Institute of Technology

23

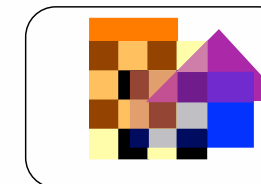
## Another alpha blending example



Src=0.3 (rect) Dest=0.7 (checker)



Src=0.5 (orange rect) Dest=0.5

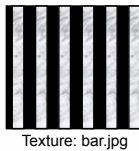


Src=0.6 (triangle) Dest=0.4

Georgia Institute of Technology

24

## Alpha test



Straightforward  
texture mapping

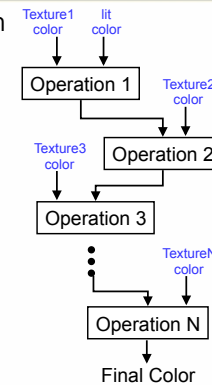
```
if (α op val)
    reject pixel
else
    accept pixel
```

- Reject pixels by checking their alpha values
- Model fences, chicken wires, etc.

Georgia Institute  
of Technology

## Multitexturing

- Map multiple textures to a polygon
  - Common APIs support 8 textures
- Performance will be reduced
- Multiple texturing stages in the pipeline
- Texture color will be calculated by
  - Multiplication
  - Addition
  - Subtraction



Georgia Institute  
of Technology

## Multi-texturing example: light mapping



Some crumpled  
paper texture



A spotlight map



Different alpha blending

Georgia Institute  
of Technology

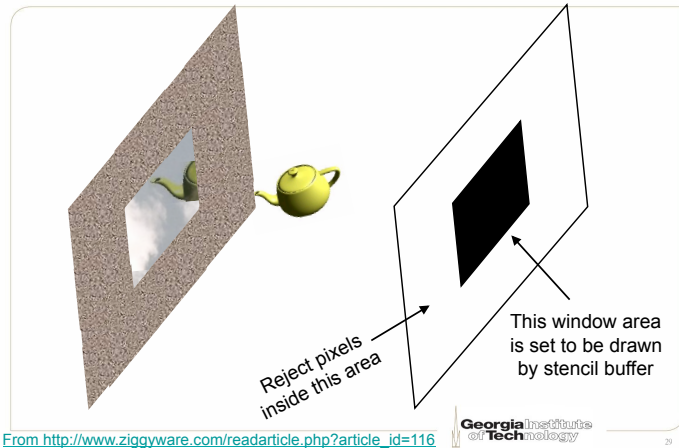
## Stenciling

- Stencil buffer
  - To reject certain pixels to be displayed
  - To create special effect similar to alpha test
    - Mask out part of the screen
  - Set together with Z-buffer in 3D API
  - Perform prior to Z-buffer test

```
if ((stencil ref & mask)
    op (pixel val & mask))
    accept pixel
else
    reject pixel
```

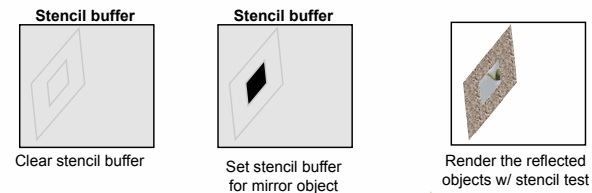
Georgia Institute  
of Technology

## Stencil buffer example



## Mirror effect (1)

1. Render the entire scene as normal (no reflection yet)
2. Clear the entire stencil buffer to '0' (i.e., mirror's fragments)
3. Render the mirror primitives and set the corresponding stencil buffer fragment to '1'
4. Render the reflected objects only if stencil test passes (i.e., value==1)
  - Using a "reflection matrix" for world transformation (Draw the scene as if they are seen in the mirror)



## Mirror effect (2)

Can be done in a reverse order

1. Render the reflected image of the scene using a "reflection matrix" for world transformation (Draw the scene as if they are seen in the mirror)
2. Render non-reflected with stencil buffer accept/reject test to prevent the reflected image being drawn over