VRML 98

Introduction to VRML 97

Lecturer

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Tutorial notes sections

Abstract

VRML (the Virtual Reality Modeling Language) has emerged as the de facto standard for describing 3-D shapes and scenery on the World Wide Web. VRML's technology has very broad applicability, including web-based entertainment, distributed visualization, 3-D user interfaces to remote web resources, 3-D collaborative environments, interactive simulations for education, virtual museums, virtual retail spaces, and more. VRML is a key technology shaping the future of the web.

Participants in this tutorial will learn how to use VRML 97 (a.k.a. *ISO VRML*, *VRML 2.0*, and *Moving Worlds*) to author their own 3-D virtual worlds on the World Wide Web. Participants will learn VRML concepts and terminology, and be introduced to VRML's text format syntax. Participants also will learn tips and techniques for increasing performance and realism. The tutorial includes numerous VRML examples and information on where to find out more about VRML features and use.

Preface

Welcome to the *Introduction to VRML 97* tutorial notes! These tutorial notes have been written to give you a quick, practical, example-driven overview of *VRML 97*, the Web's Virtual Reality Modeling Language. To do this, I've included over 500 pages of tutorial material with nearly 200 images and over 100 VRML examples.

To use these tutorial notes you will need an HTML Web browser with support for viewing VRML worlds.

What's included in these notes

These tutorial notes primarily contain two types of information:

1. General information, such as this preface
2. Tutorial slides and examples

The tutorial slides are arranged as a sequence of 500+ hyper-linked pages containing VRML syntax notes, VRML usage comments, or images of sample VRML worlds. Clicking on a sample world's image, or the file name underneath it, loads the VRML world into your browser for you to examine yourself.

You can view the text for any of the VRML worlds using a text editor and see how I created a particular effect. In most cases, the VRML files contain extensive comments providing information about the techniques the file illustrates.

The tutorial notes provide a necessarily terse overview of VRML. I recommend that you invest in one of the VRML books on the market to get thorough coverage of the language. I am a co-author of one such VRML book, *The VRML 2.0 Sourcebook*. Several other good VRML books are on the market as well.

A word about VRML versions

VRML has evolved through several versions of the language, starting way back in late 1994. These tutorial notes cover *VRML 97*, the latest version of the language. To provide context, the following table provides a quick overview of these VRML versions and the names they have become known by.

Version	Released	Comments
VRML 1.0	May 1995	Begun in late 1994, the first version of VRML was largely based upon the *Open Inventor* file format developed by Silicon Graphics Inc. The VRML 1.0 specification was completed in May 1995 and included support for shape building, lighting, and texturing. VRML 1.0 browser plug-ins became widely available by late 1995, though few ever supported the full range of features defined by the VRML 1.0 specification.
VRML 1.0c	January 1996	As vendors began producing VRML 1.0 browsers, a number of ambiguities in the VRML 1.0 specification surfaced. These problems were corrected in a new VRML 1.0c (clarified) specification released in January 1996. No new features were added to the language in VRML 1.0c.
VRML 1.1	canceled	In late 1995, discussion began on extensions to the VRML 1.0 specification. These extensions were intended to address language features that made browser implementation difficult or inefficient. The extended language was tentatively dubbed VRML 1.1. These enhancements were later dropped in favor of forging ahead on VRML 2.0 instead. No VRML 1.1 browsers exist.
Moving Worlds	January 1996	VRML 1.0 included features for building static, unchanging worlds suitable for architectural walk-throughs and some scientific visualization applications. To extend the language to support animation and interaction, the VRML architecture group made a call for proposals for a language redesign. Silicon Graphics, Netscape, and others worked together to create the *Moving Worlds* proposal, submitted in January 1996. That proposal was later accepted and became the starting point for developing VRML 2.0. The final VRML 2.0 language specification is still sometimes referred to as the Moving Worlds specification, though it differs significantly from the original Moving Worlds proposal.
VRML 2.0	August 1996	After seven months of intense effort by the VRML community, the Moving Worlds proposal evolved to become the final VRML 2.0 specification, released in August 1996. The new specification redesigned the VRML syntax and added an extensive set of new features for shape building, animation, interaction, sound, fog, backgrounds, and language extensions. While multiple VRML 2.0 browsers exist today, as of this writing, none are *complete*. All of the browsers are missing a few features.

		Fortunately, most of the missing features are obscure aspects of VRML.
VRML 97	September 1997	In early 1997, efforts got under way to present the VRML 2.0 specification to the International Standards Organization (ISO) which oversees most of the major language specifications in use in the computing community. The ISO version of VRML 2.0 was reviewed and the specification significantly rewritten to clarify issues. A few minor changes to the language were also made. The final ISO VRML was dubbed *VRML 97*. The VRML 97 specification features finalized in March 1997, while the specification's text finalized in September 1997. Most major VRML 2.0 browsers are now VRML 97 browsers.

VRML 1.0 and VRML 2.0 differ radically in syntax and features. A VRML 1.0 browser cannot display VRML 2.0 worlds. Most VRML 2.0 browsers, however, can display VRML 1.0 worlds.

VRML 97 differs in a few minor ways from VRML 2.0. In most cases, a VRML 2.0 browser will be able to correctly display VRML 97 files. However, for 100% accuracy, you should have a VRML 97 compliant browser for viewing the VRML files contained within these tutorial notes.

How I created these tutorial notes

These tutorial notes were developed primarily on Silicon Graphics High Impact UNIX workstations. HTML and VRML text was hand-authored using a text editor. A Perl program script was used to process raw tutorial notes text to produce the 500+ individual HTML files, one per tutorial slide.

HTML text was displayed using Netscape Navigator 3.01 on Silicon Graphics and PC systems. Colors were checked for viewability in 24-bit, 16-bit, and 8-bit display modes on a PC. Text sizes were chosen for viewability at a normal 12 point font on-screen, and at an 18 point font for presentation during the tutorial. The large text, white-on-black colors, and terse language are used to insure that slides are readable when displayed for the tutorial audience at the conference.

VRML worlds were displayed on Silicon Graphics systems using the Silicon Graphics Cosmo Player 1.02 VRML 97 compliant browser for Netscape Navigator. The same worlds were displayed on PC systems using three different VRML 2.0 compliant browsers for Netscape Navigator: Silicon Graphics Cosmo Player 2.0 beta 1, Intervista WorldView 2.0, and Newfire Torch beta.

Texture images were created using Adobe PhotoShop 4.0 on a PC with help from KAI's PowerTools 3.0 from MetaTools. Image processing was also performed using the Image Tools suite of applications for UNIX workstations from the San Diego Supercomputer Center.

PDF tutorial notes for printing were created by dumping individual tutorial slides to PostScript on a Silicon Graphics workstation. The PostScript was transferred to a PC where it was converted to PDF and assembled into a single PDF file using Adobe's Distiller and Exchange.

Use of these tutorial notes

I am often asked if there are any restrictions on use of these tutorial notes. The answer is:

You are free to use these tutorial notes in whole or in part to help you teach your own VRML tutorial. You may translate these notes into other languages and you may post copies of these notes on your own Web site, as long as the above copyright notice is included as well. You may not, however, sell these tutorial notes for profit or include them on a CD-ROM or other media product without written permission.

If you use these tutorial notes, I ask that you:

1. Give me credit for the original material
2. Tell me since I like hearing about the use of my material!

If you find bugs in the notes, please tell me. I have worked hard to try and make the notes bug-free, but if something slipped by, I'd like to fix it before others are confused by my mistake.

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Lecturer biography

- **David R. Nadeau**
  Mr. Nadeau is a principal scientist at the San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC), specializing in scientific visualization and virtual reality. He is an author of technical papers on graphics and VRML and a co-author of two books on VRML (*The VRML Sourcebook*, and *The VRML 2.0 Sourcebook*). He has taught VRML courses at conferences including SIGGRAPH 96-97, WebNet 96-97, VRML 97, Eurographics 97, and Visualization 97, and is the creator of *The VRML Repository*, a principal Web site for information on VRML software and documentation. Mr. Nadeau co-chaired *VRML 95*, the first conference on VRML, and the *VRML Behavior Workshop*, the first workshop on behavior support for VRML. He is SDSC's representative in the *VRML Consortium*.

Using the VRML examples

These tutorial notes include over a hundred VRML files. Almost all of the provided worlds are linked to from the tutorial slides pages.

VRML support

As noted in the preface to these tutorial notes, this tutorial covers VRML 97, the ISO standard version of VRML 2.0. There are only minor differences between VRML 97 and VRML 2.0, so any VRML 97 or VRML 2.0 browser should be able to view any of the VRML worlds contained within these tutorial notes.

The VRML 97 (and VRML 2.0) language specifications are complex and filled with powerful features for VRML content authors. Unfortunately, the richness of the language makes development of a robust VRML browser difficult. As of this writing, there are nearly a dozen VRML browsers on the market, but none support all features in VRML 97 (despite press releases to the contrary).

I am reasonably confident that all VRML examples in these tutorial notes are correct, though of course I could have missed something. Chances are that if one of the VRML examples doesn't look right, the problem is with your VRML browser and not with the example. It's a good idea to read carefully the release notes for your browser to see what features it does and does not support. It's also a good idea to regularly check your VRML browser vendor's Web site for updates. The industry is moving very fast and often produces new browser releases every month or so.

As of this writing, I have found that Silicon Graphics (SGI) Cosmo Player for PCs and SGI UNIX workstations is the most complete and robust VRML 97 browser available. It is this browser that I used for most of my VRML testing. On the Macintosh and non-SGI UNIX workstations, I was unable to find a usable VRML browser with which to test the VRML tutorial examples.

What if my VRML browser doesn't support a VRML feature?

If your VRML browser doesn't support a particular VRML 97 feature, then those worlds that use the feature will not load properly. Some VRML browsers display an error window when they encounter an unsupported feature. Other browsers silently ignore features they do not support yet.

When your VRML browser encounters an unsupported feature, it may elect to reject the entire VRML file, or it may load only those parts of the world that it understands. When only part of a VRML file is loaded, those portions of the world that depend upon the unsupported features will display incorrectly. Shapes may be in the wrong position, have the wrong size, be shaded incorrectly, or have the wrong texture colors. Animations may not run, sounds may not play, and interactions may not work correctly.

For most worlds I have captured an image of the world and placed it on the tutorial slide page to give you an idea of what the world should look like. If your VRML browser's display doesn't look like the picture, chances are the browser is missing support for one or more features used by the world. Alternately, the browser may simply have a bug or two.

In general, VRML worlds later in the tutorial use features that are harder for vendors to implement than those features used earlier in the tutorial. So, VRML worlds at the end of the tutorial are more likely to fail to load properly than VRML worlds early in the tutorial.

Using the JavaScript examples

These tutorial notes include several VRML worlds that use JavaScript program scripts within `Script` nodes. The text for these program scripts is included directly within the `Script` node within the VRML file.

JavaScript support

The VRML 97 specification does not require that a VRML browser support the use of JavaScript to create program scripts for `Script` nodes. Fortunately, most VRML browsers do support JavaScript program scripts, though you should check your VRML browser's release notes to be sure it is JavaScript-enabled.

Some VRML browsers, particularly those from Silicon Graphics, support a derivative of JavaScript called *VRMLscript*. The language is essentially identical to JavaScript. Because of Silicon Graphics' strength in the VRML market, most VRML browser vendors have modified their VRML browsers to support VRMLscript as well as JavaScript.

JavaScript and VRMLscript program scripts are included as text within the `url` field of a `Script` node. To indicate the program script's language, the field value starts with either "`javascript:`" for JavaScript, or "`vrmlscript:`" for VRMLscript, like this:

```
Script {
    field SFFloat bounceHeight 1.0
    eventIn SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed

    url "vrmlscript:
        function set_fraction( frac, tm ) {
            y = 4.0 * bounceHeight * frac * (1.0 - frac);
            value_changed[0] = 0.0;
            value_changed[1] = y;
            value_changed[2] = 0.0;
        }"
}
```

For compatibility with Silicon Graphics VRML browsers, all JavaScript program script examples in these notes are tagged as "`vrmlscript:`", like the above example. If you have a VRML browser that does not support VRMLscript, but does support JavaScript, then you can convert the examples to JavaScript simply by changing the tag "`vrmlscript:`" to "`javascript:`" like this:

```
Script {
    field SFFloat bounceHeight 1.0
    eventIn SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed

    url "javascript:
        function set_fraction( frac, tm ) {
```

```
                y = 4.0 * bounceHeight * frac * (1.0 - frac);
                value_changed[0] = 0.0;
                value_changed[1] = y;
                value_changed[2] = 0.0;
            }"
    }
```

What if my VRML browser doesn't support JavaScript?

If your VRML browser doesn't support JavaScript or VRMLscript, then those worlds that use these languages will produce an error when loaded into your VRML browser. This is unfortunate since JavaScript or VRMLscript is an essential feature that all VRML browsers should support. I recommend that you consider getting a different VRML browser.

If you can't get another VRML browser right now, there are only a few VRML worlds in these tutorial notes that you will not be able to view. Those worlds are contained as examples in the following tutorial sections:

- Introducing script use
- Writing program scripts with JavaScript
- Creating new node types

So, if you don't have a VRML browser with JavaScript or VRMLscript support, just skip the above sections and everything will be fine.

Using the Java examples

These tutorial notes include a few VRML worlds that use Java program scripts within `Script` nodes. The text for these program scripts is included in files with `.java` file name extensions. Before use, you will need to compile these Java program scripts to Java byte-code contained in files with `.class` file name extensions.

Java support

The VRML 97 specification does not require that a VRML browser support the use of Java to create program scripts for `Script` nodes. Fortunately, most VRML browsers do support Java program scripts, though you should check your VRML browser's release notes to be sure it is Java-enabled.

In principle, all Java-enabled VRML browsers identically support the VRML Java API as documented in the VRML 97 specification. Similarly, in principle, a compiled Java program script using the VRML Java API can be executed on any type of computer within any brand of VRML browser

In practice, neither of these ideal cases occurs. The Java language is supported somewhat differently on different platforms, particularly as the community transitions from Java 1.0 to Java 1.1 and beyond. Additionally, the VRML Java API is implemented somewhat differently by different VRML browsers, making it difficult to insure that a compiled Java class file will work for all VRML browsers available now and in the future.

Because of Java incompatibilities observed with current VRML browsers, I have elected to not include compiled Java class files in these tutorial notes. Instead, I include the uncompiled Java program scripts. Before use, you will need to compile the Java program scripts yourself on your platform with your VRML browser and your version of the Java language and support tools.

Compiling Java

To compile the Java examples, you will need:

- The VRML Java API class files for your VRML browser
- A Java compiler

All VRML browsers that support Java program scripts supply their own set of VRML Java API class files. Typically these are automatically installed when you install your VRML browser.

There are multiple Java compilers available for most platforms. Sun Microsystems provides the Java Development Kit (JDK) for free from its Web site at http://www.javasoft.com. The JDK includes the `javac` compiler and instructions on how to use it. Multiple commercial Java development environments are available from Microsoft, Silicon Graphics, Symantec, and others.

An up to date list of available Java products is available at Gamelan's Web site at http://www.gamelan.com.

Once you have the VRML Java API class files and a Java compiler, you will need to compile the supplied Java files. Unfortunately, I can't give you explicit directions on how to do this. Each platform and Java compiler is different. You'll have to consult your software's manuals.

Once compiles, place the `.class` files in the `slides` folder along with the other tutorial slides. Now, when you click on a VRML world using a Java program script, the class files will be automatically loaded and the example will run.

What if my VRML browser doesn't support Java ?

If your VRML browser doesn't support Java, then those worlds that use Java will produce an error when loaded into your VRML browser. This is unfortunate since Java is an essential feature that all VRML browsers should support. I recommend that you consider getting a different VRML browser.

What if I don't compile the Java program scripts?

If you have a VRML browser that doesn't support Java, or if if you don't compile the Java program scripts, those worlds that use Java will produce an error when loaded into your VRML browser. Fortunately, I have kept Java use to a minimum. In fact, Java program scripts are only used in the *Writing program scripts with Java* section of the tutorial slides. So, if you don't compile the Java program scripts, then just skip the VRML examples in that section and everything will be fine.

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Welcome!

Introduction to VRML 97

Schedule for the day

Tutorial scope

Introduction to VRML 97

Welcome to the tutorial!

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Schedule for the day

Part 1	Shapes, geometry, appearance
	Break
Part 2	Animation, sensors, geometry
	Lunch
Part 3	Textures, lights, environment
	Break
Part 4	Scripts, prototypes

Tutorial scope

- **This tutorial covers *VRML 97***
  - **The ISO standard revision of VRML 2.0**

- **You will learn:**
  - **VRML file structure**
  - **Concepts and terminology**
  - **Most shape building syntax**
  - **Most sensor and animation syntax**
  - **Most program scripting syntax**
  - **Where to find out more**

5
Introducing VRML

What is VRML?

What do I need to use VRML?

Examples

How can VRML be used on a Web page?

What do I need to develop in VRML?

Should I use a text editor?

Should I use a world builder?

Should I use a 3D modeler and format translator?

Should I use a shape generator?

How do I get VRML software?

What is VRML?

- **VRML is:**
  - **A simple text language for describing 3-D shapes and interactive environments**

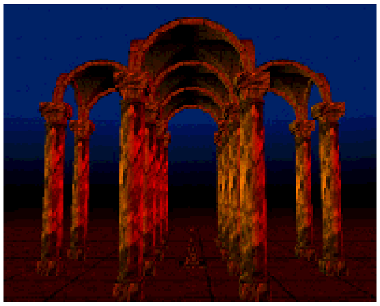
- **VRML text files use a `.wrl` extension**

What do I need to use VRML?

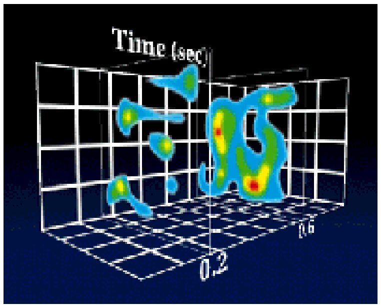
- **You can view VRML files using a *VRML browser*:**
  - **A VRML helper-application**
  - **A VRML plug-in to an HTML browser**

- **You can view VRML files from your local hard disk, or from the Internet**

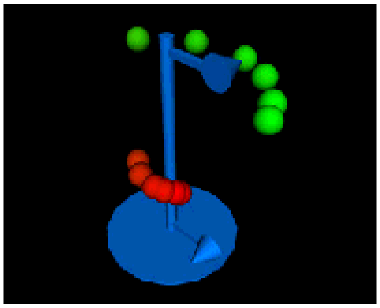
Examples



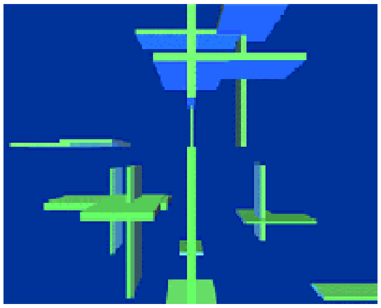
[temple.wrl]



[cutplane.wrl]



[spiral.wrl]



[floater.wrl]

How can VRML be used on a Web page?

- **Fill Web page [boxes.wrl]**
- **Embed into Web page [boxes1.htm]**
- **Fill Web page frame [boxes2.htm]**
- **Embed into Web page frame [boxes3.htm]**
- **Embed multiple times [boxes4.htm]**

What do I need to develop in VRML?

- **You can construct VRML files using:**
  - **A text editor**
  - **A world builder application**
  - **A 3D modeler and format translator**
  - **A shape generator (like a Perl script)**

Should I use a text editor?

- **Pros:**
  - **No new software to buy**
  - **Access to all VRML features**
  - **Detailed control of world efficiency**

- **Cons:**
  - **Hard to author complex 3D shapes**
  - **Requires knowledge of VRML syntax**

Should I use a world builder?

- **Pros:**
  - **Easy 3-D drawing and animating user interface**
  - **Little need to learn VRML syntax**

- **Cons:**
  - **May not support all VRML features**
  - **May not produce most efficient VRML**

Should I use a 3D modeler and format translator?

- **Pros:**
  - **Very powerful drawing and animating features**
  - **Can make photo-realistic images too**

- **Cons:**
  - **May not support all VRML features**
  - **May not produce most efficient VRML**
  - **Not designed for VRML**
  - **Often a one-way path from 3D modeler into VRML**
  - **Easy to make shapes that are too complex**

Should I use a shape generator?

- **Pros:**
  - **Easy way to generate complex shapes**
    - **Fractal mountains, logos, etc.**
  - **Generate VRML from CGI Perl scripts**
  - **Common to extend science applications to generate VRML**

- **Cons:**
  - **Only suitable for narrow set of shapes**
  - **Best used with other software**

How do I get VRML software?

- **The VRML Repository at:**

  http://vrml.sdsc.edu

  maintains uptodate information and links for:

Browser software	**Sound libraries**
World builder software	**Object libraries**
File translators	**Specifications**
Image editors	**Tutorials**
Java authoring tools	**Books**
Texture libraries	***and more...***

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Building a VRML world

VRML file structure

- **VRML files contain:**
  - **The file header**
  - ***Comments* - notes to yourself**
  - ***Nodes* - nuggets of scene information**
  - ***Fields* - node attributes you can change**
  - ***Values* - attribute values**
  - **more. . .**

A sample VRML file

```
#VRML V2.0 utf8
# A Cylinder
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Cylinder {
        height 2.0
        radius 1.5
    }
}
```

Understanding the header

```
#VRML V2.0 utf8
```

- `#VRML`: **File contains VRML text**
- `V2.0` : **Text conforms to version 2.0 syntax**
- `utf8` : **Text uses UTF8 character set**

Understanding UTF8

- `utf8` **is an international character set standard**
- `utf8` **stands for:**
  - **UCS (Universal Character Set) Transformation Format, 8-bit**
- **Encodes 24,000+ characters for many languages**
  - **ASCII is a subset**

Using comments

```
# A Cylinder
```

- **Comments start with a number-sign (`#`) and extend to the end of the line**

Using nodes

```
Cylinder {
}
```

- **Nodes describe shapes, lights, sounds, etc.**

- **Every node has:**
  - **A *node type* (`Shape`, `Cylinder`, etc.)**
  - **A pair of curly-braces**
  - **Zero or more fields inside the curly-braces**

Using node type names

- **Node type names are *case sensitive***
  - **Each word starts with an upper-case character**
  - **The rest of the word is lower-case**

- **Some examples:**

```
Appearance      ElevationGrid
Cylinder        FontStyle
Material        ImageTexture
Shape           IndexedFaceSet
```

Using fields and values

```
Cylinder {
    height 2.0
    radius 1.5
}
```

- **Fields describe node attributes**

- **Every field has:**
  - **A field name (`height`, `radius`, etc.)**
  - **A data type (float, integer, etc.)**
  - **A default value**

Using field names

- **Field names are *case sensitive***
  - **The first word starts with a lower-case character**
  - **Each additional word starts with an upper-case character**
  - **The rest of the word is lower-case**

- **Some examples:**

```
appearance    coordIndex
height        diffuseColor
material      fontStyle
radius        textureTransform
```

Using fields and values

- **Different node types have different fields**

- **Fields are optional**
  - **A default value is used if a field is not given**

- **Fields can be listed in any order**
  - **The order doesn’t affect the node**

Summary

- **The file header gives the version and encoding**
- **Nodes describe scene content**
- **Fields and values specify node attributes**
- **Everything is case sensitive**

Motivation

Example

Syntax: Shape

Specifying appearance

Specifying geometry

Syntax: Box

Syntax: Cone

Syntax: Cylinder

Syntax: Sphere

Syntax: Text

Syntax: FontStyle

Syntax: FontStyle

Syntax: FontStyle

Syntax: FontStyle

A sample primitive shape

A sample primitive shape

Building multiple shapes

A sample file with multiple shapes

A sample file with multiple shapes

Summary

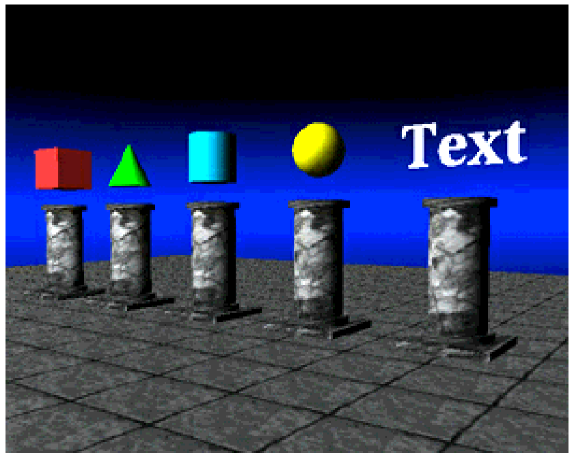
Motivation

- ***Shapes* are the building blocks of a VRML world**

- ***Primitive Shapes* are standard building blocks:**
  - **Box**
  - **Cone**
  - **Cylinder**
  - **Sphere**
  - **Text**

Building primitive shapes

Example



[prim.wrl]

Syntax: Shape

- **A `Shape` node builds a shape**
  - **`appearance` - color and texture**
  - **`geometry` - form, or structure**

```
Shape {
    appearance . . .
    geometry   . . .
}
```

Specifying appearance

- **Shape appearance is described by *appearance* nodes**

- **For now, we'll use nodes to create a shaded white appearance:**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry   . . .
}
```

Specifying geometry

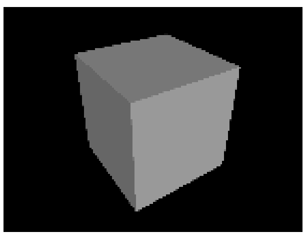
- **Shape geometry is built with *geometry* nodes:**

```
Box      { . . . }
Cone     { . . . }
Cylinder { . . . }
Sphere   { . . . }
Text     { . . . }
```

- **Geometry node fields control dimensions**
  - **Dimensions usually in meters, but can be anything**

Syntax: Box

- **A `Box` geometry node builds a box**
  - **`size` - width, height, depth**

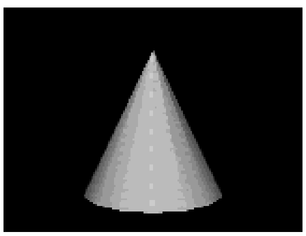


[box.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Box {
        size 2.0 2.0 2.0
    }
}
```

Syntax: Cone

- **A `Cone` geometry node builds an upright cone**
  - **`height` and `bottomRadius` - cylinder size**
  - **`bottom` and `side` - parts on or off**

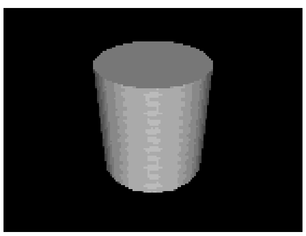


[cone.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Cone {
        height 2.0
        bottomRadius 1.0
        bottom TRUE
        side TRUE
    }
}
```

Syntax: Cylinder

- **A `Cylinder` geometry node builds an upright cylinder**
  - **`height` and `radius` - cylinder size**
  - **`bottom`, `top`, and `side` - parts on or off**

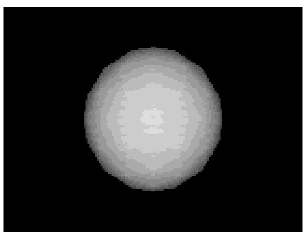


[cyl.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Cylinder {
        height 2.0
        radius 1.0
        bottom TRUE
        top TRUE
        side TRUE
    }
}
```

Syntax: Sphere

- **A `Sphere` geometry node builds a sphere**
  - **`radius` - sphere radius**

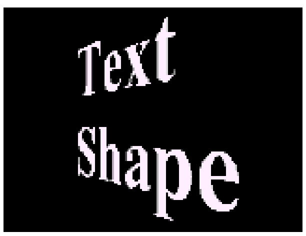


[sphere.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Sphere {
        radius 1.0
    }
}
```

Syntax: Text

- **A `Text` geometry node builds text**
  - **`string` - text to build**
  - **`fontStyle` - font control**



[text.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Text {
        string [ "Text",
                 "Shape" ]
        fontStyle FontStyle {
            style "BOLD"
        }
    }
}
```

Syntax: FontStyle

- **A `FontStyle` node describes a font**
  - **`family` - `SERIF`, `SANS`, or `TYPEWRITER`**
  - **`style` - `BOLD`, `ITALIC`, `BOLDITALIC`, or `PLAIN`**

[textfont.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Text {
        string . . .
        fontStyle FontStyle {
            family  "SERIF"
            style   "BOLD"
        }
    }
}
```

Syntax: FontStyle

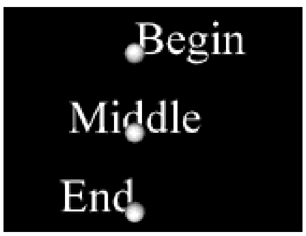
- A `FontStyle` node describes a font
  - `size` - character height
  - `spacing` - row/column spacing

[textsize.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Text {
        string . . .
        fontStyle FontStyle {
            size    1.0
            spacing 1.0
        }
    }
}
```

Syntax: FontStyle

- **A `FontStyle` node describes a font**
  - **`justify` - `FIRST`, `BEGIN`, `MIDDLE`, or `END`**

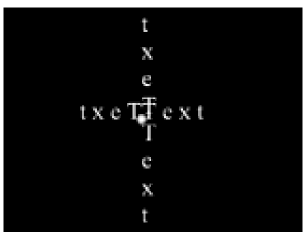


[textjust.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Text {
        string . . .
        fontStyle FontStyle {
            justify "BEGIN"
        }
    }
}
```

Syntax: FontStyle

- **A `FontStyle` node describes a font**
  - **`horizontal` - horizontal or vertical**
  - **`leftToRight` and `topToBottom` - direction**



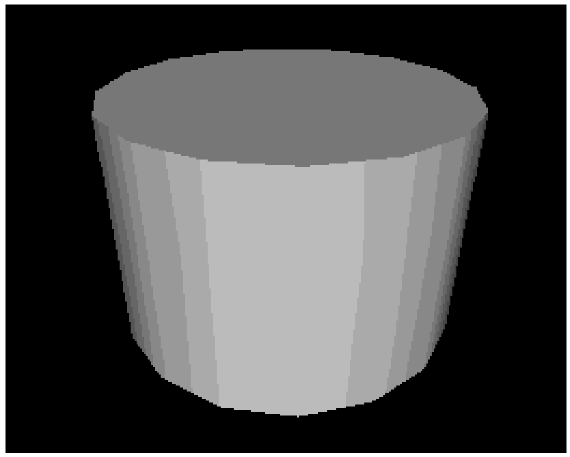
[textvert.wrl]

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Text {
        string . . .
        fontStyle FontStyle {
            horizontal  FALSE
            leftToRight TRUE
            topToBottom TRUE
        }
    }
}
```

A sample primitive shape

```
#VRML V2.0 utf8
# A cylinder
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Cylinder {
        height 2.0
        radius 1.5
    }
}
```

A sample primitive shape



[cylinder.wrl]

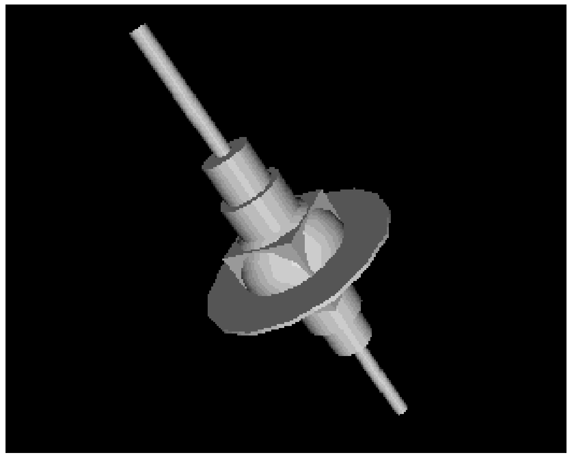
Building multiple shapes

- **Shapes are built centered in the world**
- **A VRML file can contain multiple shapes**
- **Shapes overlap when built at the same location**

A sample file with multiple shapes

```
#VRML V2.0 utf8
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Box {
        size 1.0 1.0 1.0
    }
}
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
    }
    geometry Sphere {
        radius 0.7
    }
}
. . .
```

A sample file with multiple shapes



[space.wrl]

Summary

- **Shapes are built using a `Shape` node**
- **Shape geometry is built using geometry nodes, such as `Box`, `Cone`, `Cylinder`, `Sphere`, and `Text`**
- **Text fonts are controlled using a `FontStyle` node**

Motivation

Example

Using coordinate systems

Visualizing a coordinate system

Transforming a coordinate system

Syntax: Transform

Including children

Translating

Translating

Rotating

Specifying rotation axes

Rotating

Using the Right-Hand Rule

Using the Right-Hand Rule

Scaling

Scaling

Scaling, rotating, and translating

Scaling, rotating, and translating

A sample transform group

A sample transform group

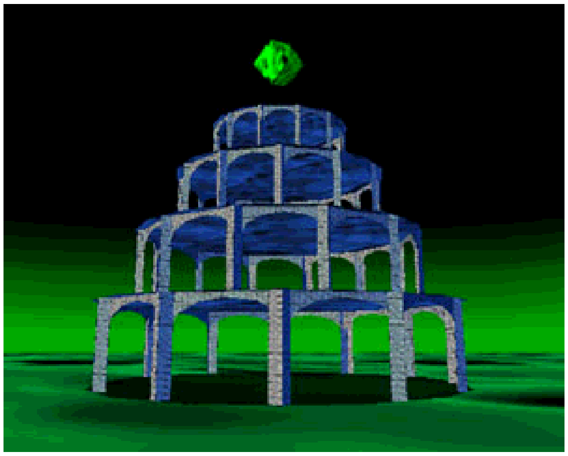
Motivation

- **By default, all shapes are built at the center of the world**

- **A *transform* enables you to**
  - **Position shapes**
  - **Rotate shapes**
  - **Scale shapes**

Transforming shapes

Example



[towers.wrl]

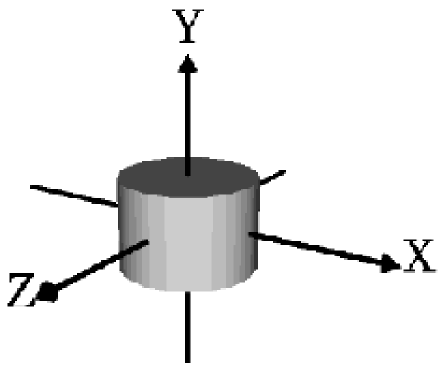
Using coordinate systems

- **A VRML file builds components for a world**

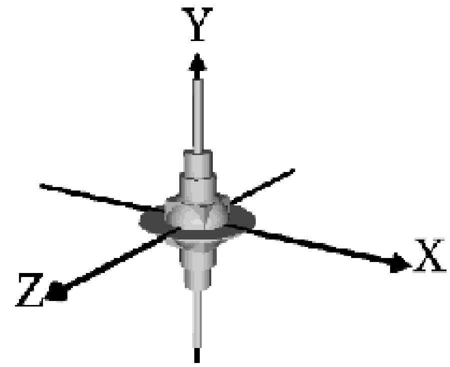
- **A file's world components are built in the file's *world coordinate system***

- **By default, all shapes are built at the origin of the world coordinate system**

Visualizing a coordinate system



a. XYZ axes and a simple shape



b. XYZ axes and a complex shape

Transforming a coordinate system

- **A *transform* creates a coordinate system that is**
  - **Positioned**
  - **Rotated**
  - **Scaled**

  relative to a parent coordinate system

- **Shapes built in the new coordinate system are positioned, rotated, and scaled along with it**

Syntax: Transform

- **The `Transform` group node creates a group with its own coordinate system**
  - `translation` - **position**
  - `rotation` - **orientation**
  - `scale` - **size**
  - `children` - **shapes to build**

```
Transform {
    translation . . .
    rotation    . . .
    scale       . . .
    children  [ . . . ]
}
```

Including children

- **The `children` field includes a list of one or more nodes**

```
Transform {
    . . .
    children [
        Shape { . . . }
        Shape { . . . }
        Transform { . . . }
        . . .
    ]
}
```

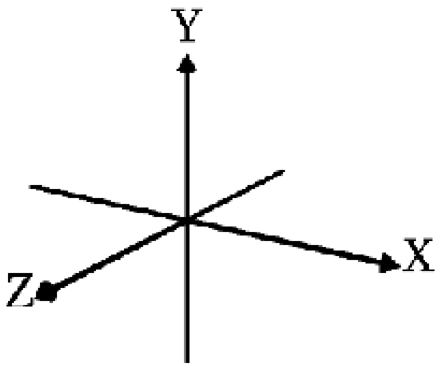
Translating

- ***Translation* positions a coordinate system in X, Y, and Z**

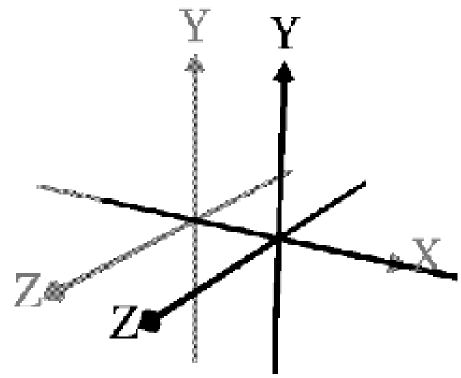
```
Transform {
    #           X   Y   Z
    translation 2.0 0.0 0.0
    children [ . . . ]
}
```

Transforming shapes

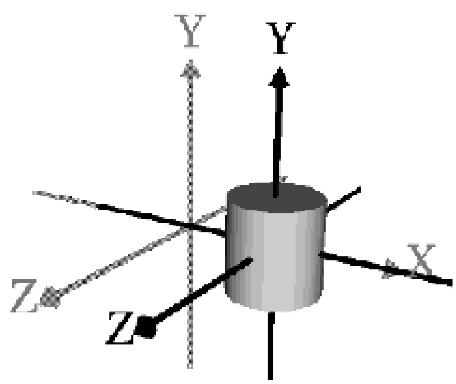
Translating



a. World coordinate system



b. New coordinate system, translated 2.0 units in X



c. Shape built in new coordinate system

Rotating

- *Rotation* **orients a coordinate system about a rotation axis by a rotation angle**
  - **Angles are measured in *radians***
    - **`radians = degrees / 180.0 * 3.1415927`**

```
Transform {
    #         X   Y   Z    Angle
    rotation 0.0 0.0 1.0  0.52
    children [ . . . ]
}
```

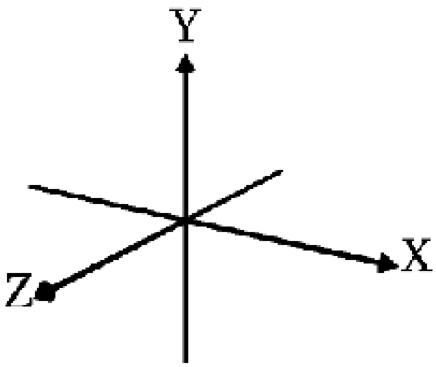
Specifying rotation axes

- **A rotation axis defines a pole to rotate around**
  - **Like the Earth's North-South pole**

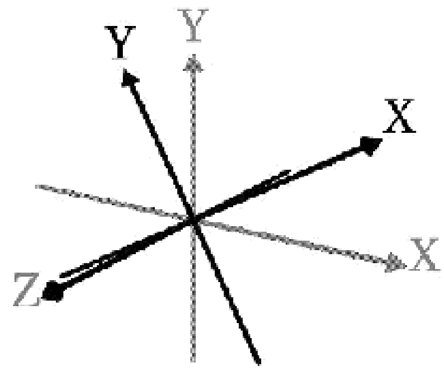
- **Typical rotations are about the X, Y, or Z axes:**

Rotate about	Axis
X-Axis	`1.0 0.0 0.0`
Y-Axis	`0.0 1.0 0.0`
Z-Axis	`0.0 0.0 1.0`

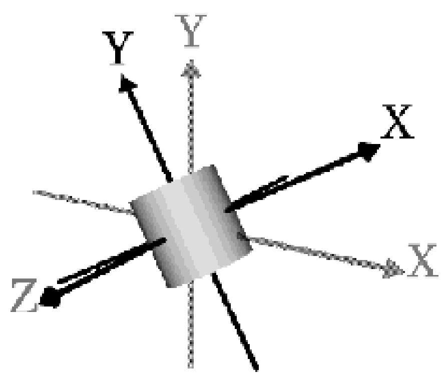
Rotating



a. World coordinate system



b. New coordinate system, rotated 30.0 degrees around Z



c. Shape built in new coordinate system

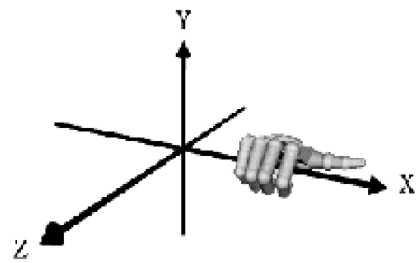
Using the Right-Hand Rule

- **Positive rotations are *counter-clockwise***

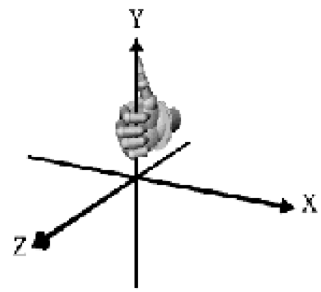
- **To help remember positive and negative rotation directions:**
  - **Open your hand**
  - **Stick out your thumb**
  - **Aim your thumb in an axis *positive* direction**
  - **Curl your fingers around the axis**

  - **The curl direction is a *positive* rotation**

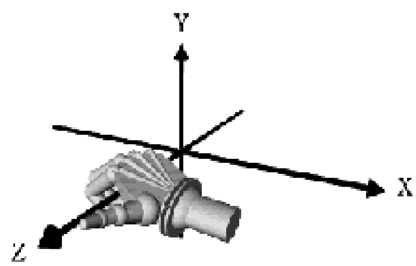
Using the Right-Hand Rule



a. X-axis rotation



b. Y-axis rotation



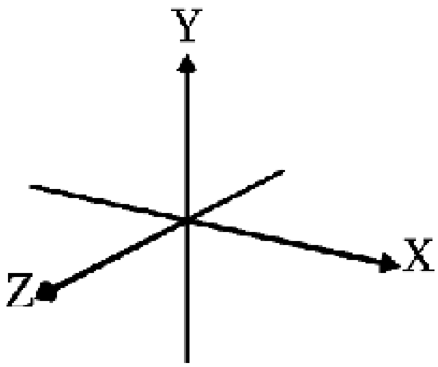
c. Z-axis rotation

Scaling

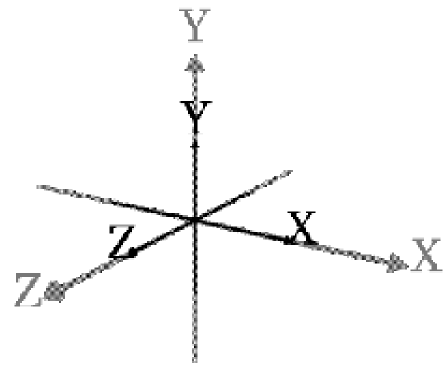
- ***Scale* grows or shrinks a coordinate system by a scaling factor in X, Y, and Z**

```
Transform {
    #      X   Y   Z
    scale 0.5 0.5 0.5
    children [ . . . ]
}
```

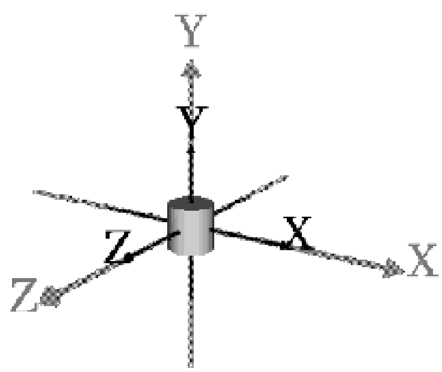
Scaling



a. World coordinate system



b. New coordinate system, scaled by half



c. Shape built in new coordinate system

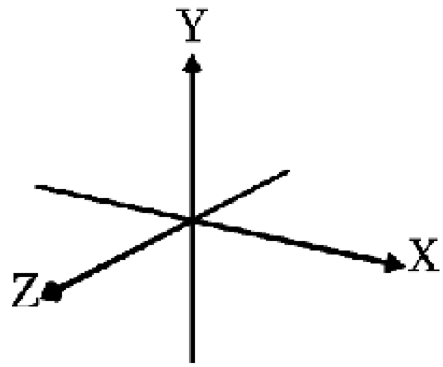
Scaling, rotating, and translating

- ***Scale*, *Rotate*, and *Translate* a coordinate system, one after the other**

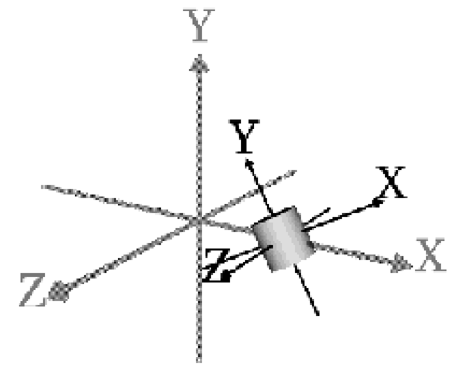
```
Transform {
    translation 2.0 0.0 0.0
    rotation 0.0 0.0 1.0  0.52
    scale 0.5 0.5 0.5
    children [ . . . ]
}
```

- **Read operations *bottom-up*:**
  - **The children are scaled, rotated, then translated**
  - **Order is fixed, independent of field order**

Scaling, rotating, and translating



a. World coordinate system

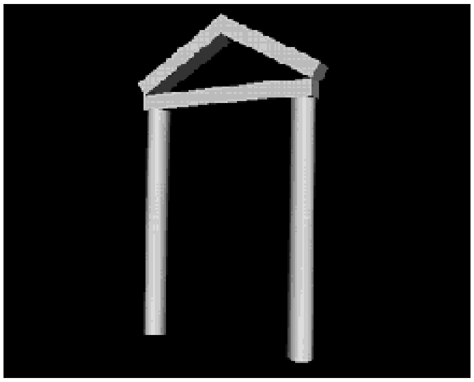


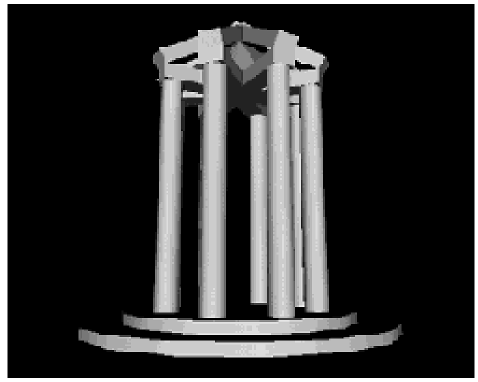
b. New coordinate system, scaled by half, rotated 30.0 degrees around Z, and translated 2.0 units in X

A sample transform group

```
Transform {
    translation -2.0 3.0 0.0
    children [
        Shape {
            appearance Appearance {
                material Material { }
            }
            geometry Cylinder {
                radius 0.3
                height 6.0
                top FALSE
            }
        }
    ]
}
. . .
```

A sample transform group





[arch.wrl] **[arches.wrl]**

Summary

- **All shapes are built in a coordinate system**

- **The `Transform` node creates a new coordinate system relative to its parent**

- **`Transform` node fields do**
    - `translation`
    - `rotation`
    - `scale`

Controlling appearance with materials

Motivation

Example

Syntax: Shape

Syntax: Appearance

Syntax: Material

Specifying colors

Syntax: Material

Experimenting with shiny materials

Example

A sample world using appearance

A sample world using appearance

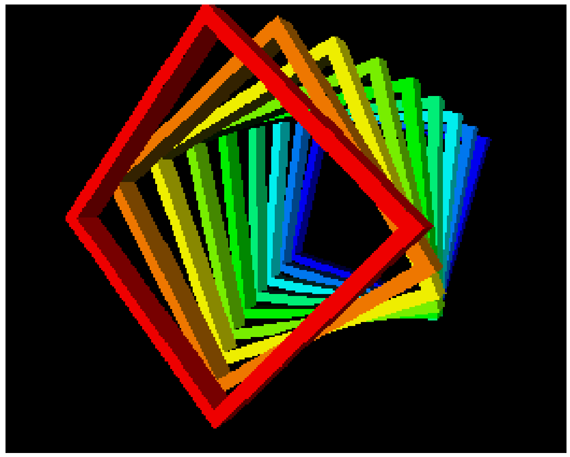
Summary

Motivation

- **The primitive shapes have a default emissive (glowing) white appearance**

- **You can control a shape’s**
  - **Shading color**
  - **Glow color**
  - **Transparency**
  - **Shininess**
  - **Ambient intensity**

Example



[colors.wrl]

Syntax: Shape

- **Recall that `Shape` nodes describe:**
  - `appearance` **- color and texture**
  - `geometry` **- form, or structure**

```
Shape {
    appearance . . .
    geometry   . . .
}
```

Syntax: Appearance

- **An `Appearance` node describes overall shape appearance**
  - **`material` properties - color, transparency, etc.**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material . . .
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Syntax: Material

- **A `Material` node controls shape material attributes**
  - **`diffuseColor` - main shading color**
  - **`emissiveColor` - glowing color**
  - **`transparency` - opaque or not**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material {
            diffuseColor  0.8 0.8 0.8
            emissiveColor 0.0 0.0 0.0
            transparency  0.0
        }
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Specifying colors

- **Colors specify:**
  - **A mixture of red, green, and blue light**
  - **Values between 0.0 (none) and 1.0 (lots)**

Color	Red	Green	Blue	Result
White	1.0	1.0	1.0	(white)
Red	1.0	0.0	0.0	(red)
Yellow	1.0	1.0	0.0	(yellow)
Cyan	0.0	1.0	1.0	(cyan)
Brown	0.5	0.2	0.0	(brown)

Syntax: Material

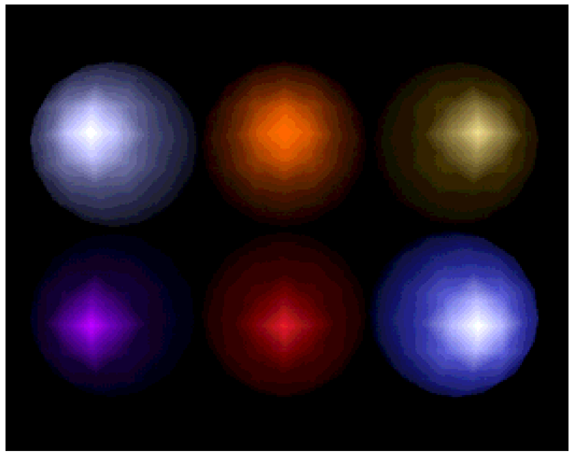
- **A `Material` node also controls shape shininess**
  - **`specularColor` - highlight color**
  - **`shininess` - highlight size**
  - **`ambientIntensity` - ambient lighting effects**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material {
            specularColor 0.71 0.70 0.56
            shininess 0.16
            ambientIntensity 0.4
        }
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Experimenting with shiny materials

Description	ambient Intensity	diffuse Color	specular Color	shininess
Aluminum	0.30	0.30 0.30 0.50	0.70 0.70 0.80	0.10
Copper	0.26	0.30 0.11 0.00	0.75 0.33 0.00	0.08
Gold	0.40	0.22 0.15 0.00	0.71 0.70 0.56	0.16
Metalic Purple	0.17	0.10 0.03 0.22	0.64 0.00 0.98	0.20
Metalic Red	0.15	0.27 0.00 0.00	0.61 0.13 0.18	0.20
Plastic Blue	0.10	0.20 0.20 0.71	0.83 0.83 0.83	0.12

Example

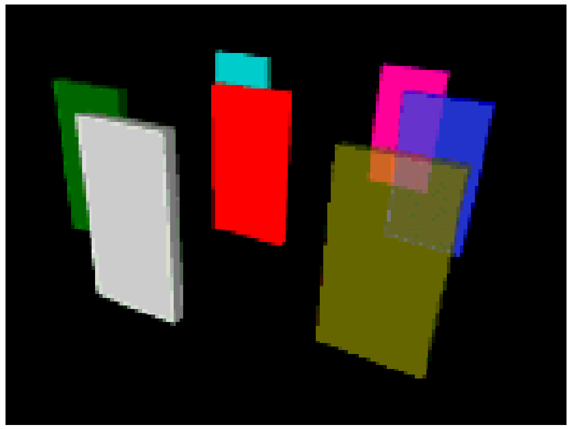


[shiny.wrl]

A sample world using appearance

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material {
            diffuseColor  0.2 0.2 0.2
            emissiveColor 0.0 0.0 0.8
            transparency  0.25
        }
    }
    geometry Box {
        size 2.0 4.0 0.3
    }
}
. . .
```

A sample world using appearance



[slabs.wrl]

Summary

- **The `Appearance` node controls overall shape appearance**

- **The `Material` node controls overall material properties including:**
  - **Shading color**
  - **Glow color**
  - **Transparency**
  - **Shininess**
  - **Ambient intensity**

Grouping nodes

Motivation

Syntax: Group

Syntax: Switch

Syntax: Transform

Syntax: Billboard

Billboard rotation axes

Billboard rotation axes

A sample billboard group

A sample billboard group

Syntax: Anchor

A Sample Anchor

Syntax: Inline

A sample inlined file

A sample inlined file

Summary

Summary

Motivation

- **You can group shapes to compose complex shapes**
- **VRML has several grouping nodes, including:**

```
Group       { . . . }
Switch      { . . . }
Transform   { . . . }
Billboard   { . . . }
Anchor      { . . . }
Inline      { . . . }
```

Syntax: Group

- **The `Group` node creates a basic group**
  - ***Every child* node in the group is displayed**

```
Group {
    children [ . . . ]
}
```

Syntax: Switch

- **The `Switch` group node creates a switched group**
  - **Only *one child* node in the group is displayed**
  - **You select which child**
    - **Children implicitly numbered from 0**
    - **A -1 selects no children**

```
Switch {
    whichChoice 0
    choice [ . . . ]
}
```

Syntax: Transform

- **The `Transform` group node creates a group with its own coordinate system**
  - ***Every child* node in the group is displayed**

```
Transform {
    translation 0.0 0.0 0.0
    rotation    0.0 1.0 0.0 0.0
    scale       1.0 1.0 1.0
    children [ . . . ]
}
```

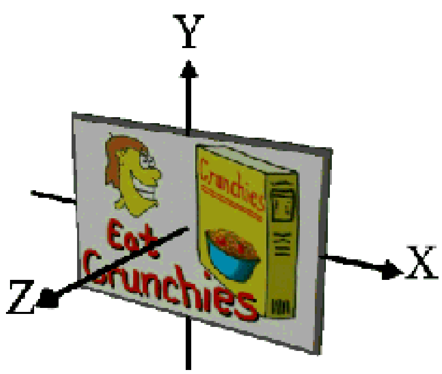
Syntax: Billboard

- **The `Billboard` group node creates a group with a special coordinate system**
  - ***Every child* node in the group is displayed**
  - **Coordinate system is turned to face viewer**

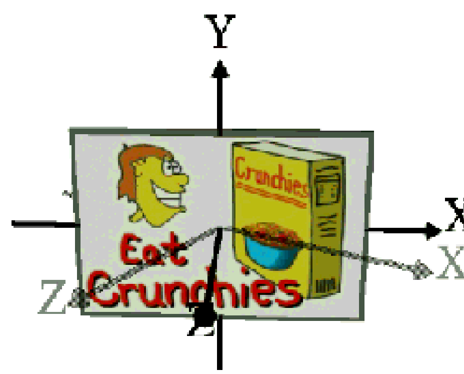
```
Billboard {
    axisOfRotation 0.0 1.0 0.0
    children [ . . . ]
}
```

Billboard rotation axes

- **A rotation axis defines a pole to rotate round**
  - **Similar to a `Transform` node's `rotation` field, but no angle (auto computed)**



a. Viewer moves to the right



b. Billboard automatically rotates to face viewer

Billboard rotation axes

- **A standard rotation axis limits rotation to spin about that axis**

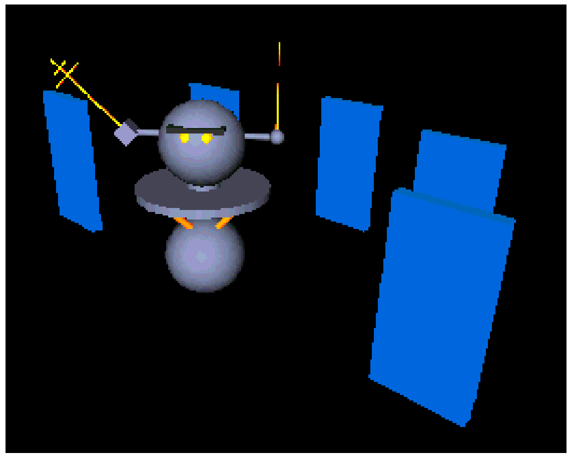
- **A *zero* rotation axis enables rotation around any axis**

Rotate about	Axis
X-Axis	`1.0 0.0 0.0`
Y-Axis	`0.0 1.0 0.0`
Z-Axis	`0.0 0.0 1.0`
Any Axis	`0.0 0.0 0.0`

A sample billboard group

```
Billboard {
    # Y-axis
    axisOfRotation 0.0 1.0 0.0
    children [
        Shape { . . . }
        Shape { . . . }
        Shape { . . . }
        . . .
    ]
}
```

A sample billboard group



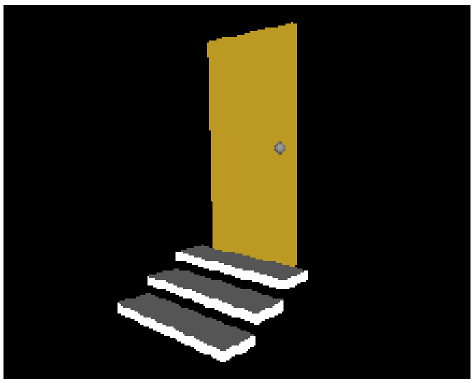
[Y axis: robobill.wrl,
Any axis: robobil2.wrl]

Syntax: Anchor

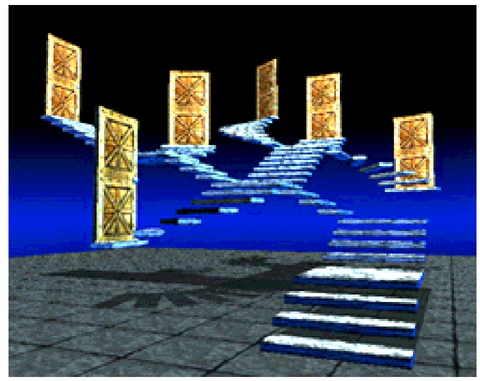
- **An `Anchor` node creates a group that acts as a clickable anchor**
  - ***Every child* node in the group is displayed**
  - **Clicking any child follows a URL**
  - **A *description* names the anchor**

```
Anchor {
    url "stairwy.wrl"
    description "Twisty Stairs"
    children [ . . . ]
}
```

A Sample Anchor



[**anchor.wrl**]
a. Click on door to go to...



[**stairwy.wrl**]
b. ...the stairway world

Syntax: Inline

- **An `Inline` node creates a special group from another VRML file's contents**
  - **Children read from file selected by a URL**
  - ***Every child* node in group is displayed**

```
Inline {
    url "table.wrl"
}
```

A sample inlined file

```
Inline { url "table.wrl" }
. . .
Transform {
    translation -0.95 0.0 0.0
    rotation 0.0 1.0 0.0 3.14
    children [
        Inline { url "chair.wrl" }
    ]
}
```

A sample inlined file

[table.wrl, chair.wrl, dinette.wrl]

Summary

- **The `Group` node creates a basic group**

- **The `Switch` node creates a group with 1 choice used**

- **The `Transform` node creates a group with a new coordinate system**

Summary

- **The `Billboard` node creates a group with a coordinate system that rotates to face the viewer**

- **The `Anchor` node creates a clickable group**
  - **Clicking any child in the group loads a URL**

- **The `Inline` node creates a special group loaded from another VRML file**

Motivation

- **If several shapes have the same geometry or appearance, you must use multiple duplicate nodes, one for each use**

- **Instead, *define* a name for the first occurrence of a node**

- **Later, *use* that name to share the same node in a new context**

Syntax: DEF

- **The `DEF` syntax gives a name to a node**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material DEF RedColor Material {
            diffuseColor 1.0 0.0 0.0
        }
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Using DEF

- `DEF` must be in upper-case
- You can name any node
- Names can be most any sequence of letters and numbers
    - Names must be unique within a file

Syntax: USE

- **The `USE` syntax uses a previously named node**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material USE RedColor
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Using USE

- **`USE` must be in upper-case**
- **A re-use of a named node is called an *instance***
- **A named node can have any number of instances**
  - **Each instance shares the same node description**
  - **You can only instance names defined in the same file**

Using named nodes

- **Naming and using nodes:**
  - **Saves typing**
  - **Reduces file size**
  - **Enables rapid changes to shapes with the same attributes**
  - **Speeds browser processing**

- **Names are also necessary for animation...**

A sample use of node names

```
Inline { url "table.wrl" }
Transform {
    translation 0.95 0.0 0.0
    children DEF Chair Inline { url "chair.wrl" }
}
Transform {
    translation -0.95 0.0 0.0
    rotation 0.0 1.0 0.0 3.14
    children USE Chair
}
Transform {
    translation 0.0 0.0 0.95
    rotation 0.0 1.0 0.0 -1.57
    children USE Chair
}
Transform {
    translation 0.0 0.0 -0.95
    rotation 0.0 1.0 0.0 1.57
    children USE Chair
}
```

A sample use of node names

[dinette.wrl]

Summary

- `DEF` **names a node**

- `USE` **uses a named node**

A fairy-tale castle

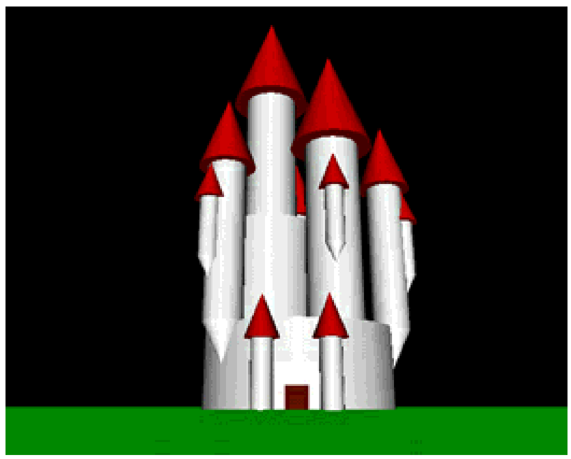
A bar plot

A simple spaceship

A juggling hand

A fairy-tale castle

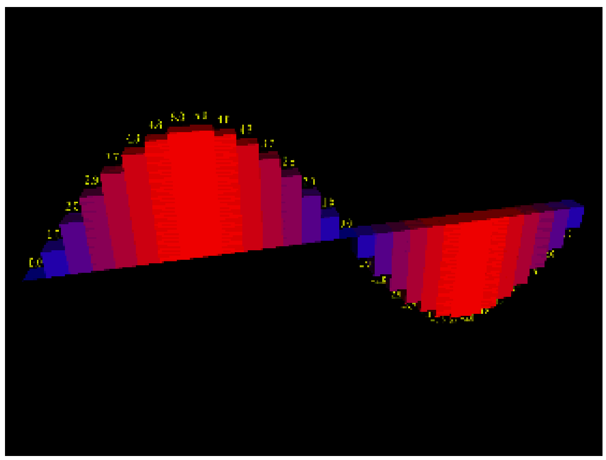
- `Cylinder` **nodes build the towers**
- `Cone` **nodes build the roofs and tower bottoms**



[castle.wrl]

A bar plot

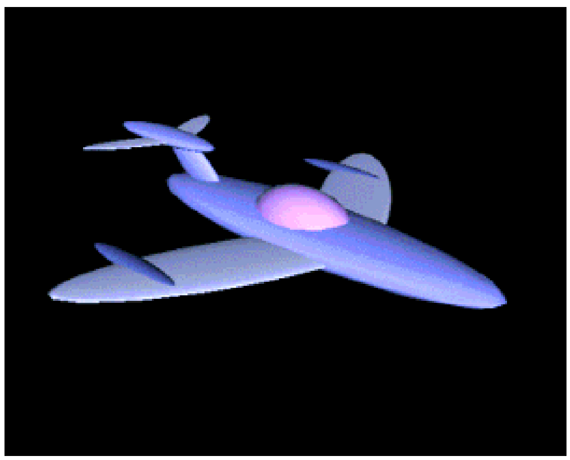
- **`Box` nodes create the bars**
- **`Text` nodes provide bar labels**
- **`Billboard` nodes keep the labels facing the viewer**



[barplot.wrl]

A simple spaceship

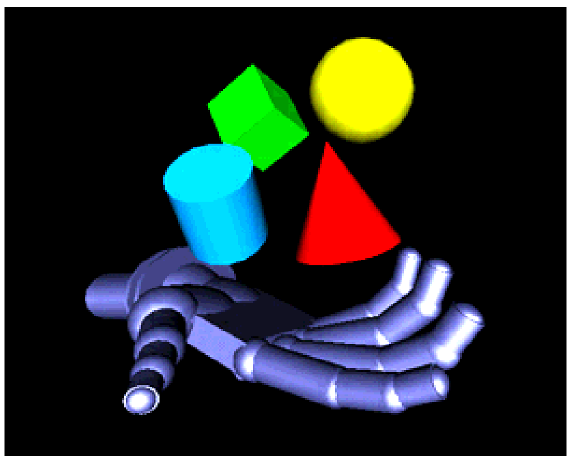
- **`Sphere` nodes make up all parts of the ship**
- **`Transform` nodes scale the spheres into ship parts**



[space2.wrl]

A juggling hand

- **`Cylinder` and `Sphere` nodes build fingers and joints**
- **`Transform` nodes articulate the hand**



[hand.wrl]

Motivation

Building animation circuits

Examples

Routing events

Using node inputs and outputs

Sample inputs

Sample outputs

Syntax: ROUTE

Event data types

Event data types

Event data types

Following naming conventions

A sample animation

A sample animation

Using multiple routes

Summary

Motivation

- **Nodes like `Billboard` and `Anchor` have built-in behavior**

- **You can create your own behaviors to make shapes move, rotate, scale, blink, and more**

- **We need a means to trigger, time, and respond to a sequence of events in order to provide better user/world interactions**

Building animation circuits

- **Almost every node can be a component in an *animation circuit***
  - **Nodes act like virtual electronic parts**
  - **Nodes can send and receive *events***
  - **Wired *routes* connect nodes together**

- **An *event* is a message sent between nodes**
  - **A data value (such as a translation)**
  - **A time stamp (when did the event get sent)**

Examples

- **To spin a shape:**
  - **Connect a node that sends *rotation events* to a `Transform` node's `rotation` field**

- **To blink a shape:**
  - **Connect a node that sends *color events* to a `Material` node's `diffuseColor` field**

Routing events

- **To set up an animation circuit, you need three things:**

1. **A node which sends events**
   - **The node must be named with `DEF`**

2. **A node which receives events**
   - **The node must be named with `DEF`**

3. **A route connecting them**

Using node inputs and outputs

- **Every node has fields, inputs, and outputs:**
  - ***field:* A stored value**
  - ***eventIn:* An input**
  - ***eventOut:* An output**

- **An *exposedField* is a short-hand for a *field*, *eventIn*, and *eventOut***

Sample inputs

- **A `Transform` node has these eventIns:**
  - **`set_translation`**
  - **`set_rotation`**
  - **`set_scale`**

- **A `Material` node has these eventIns:**
  - **`set_diffuseColor`**
  - **`set_emissiveColor`**
  - **`set_transparency`**

Sample outputs

- **An `OrientationInterpolator` node has this eventOut:**
  - **`value_changed` to send rotation values**

- **A `PositionInterpolator` node has this eventOut:**
  - **`value_changed` to send position (translation) values**

- **A `TimeSensor` node has this eventOut:**
  - **`time` to send time values**

Syntax: ROUTE

- **A `ROUTE` statement connects two nodes together using**
  - **The sender's node name and *eventOut* name**
  - **The receiver's node name and *eventIn* name**

```
ROUTE MySender.rotation_changed
   TO MyReceiver.set_rotation
```

- **`ROUTE` and `TO` must be in upper-case**

Event data types

- **Sender and receiver event data types must match!**

- **Data types have names with a standard format, such as:**
  `SFString`, `SFRotation`, or `MFColor`

Character	**Values**
1	**`S`**: Single value **`M`**: Multiple values
2	Always an **`F`**
remainder	Name of data type, such as **`String`**, **`Rotation`**, or **`Color`**

Event data types

Data type	Meaning
`SFBool`	Boolean, true or false value
`SFColor, MFColor`	RGB color value
`SFFloat, MFFloat`	Floating point value
`SFImage`	Image value
`SFInt32, MFInt32`	Integer value
`SFNode, MFNode`	Node value

Event data types

Data type	Meaning
`SFRotation, MFRotation`	Rotation value
`SFString, MFString`	Text string value
`SFTime`	Time value
`SFVec2f, MFVec2f`	XY floating point value
`SFVec3f, MFVec3f`	XYZ floating point value

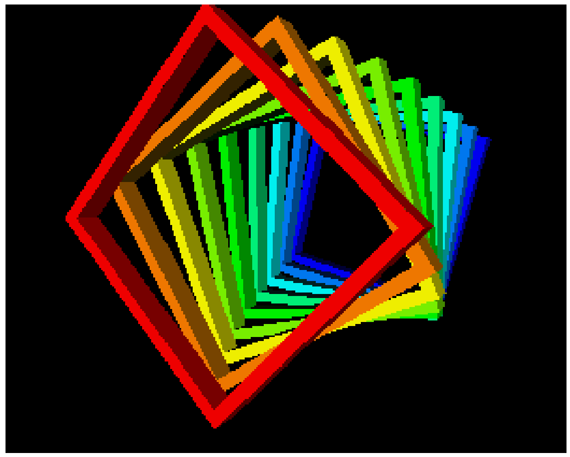
Following naming conventions

- **Most nodes have *exposedFields***
- **If the exposed field name is `xxx`, then:**
  - **`set_xxx` is an *eventIn* to set the field**
  - **`xxx_changed` is an *eventOut* that sends when the field changes**
  - **The `set_` and `_changed` sufixes are optional but recommended for clarity**
- **The `Transform` node has:**
  - **`rotation` field**
  - **`set_rotation` eventIn**
  - **`rotation_changed` eventOut**

A sample animation

```
DEF Touch TouchSensor { }

DEF Timer1 TimeSensor { . . . }

DEF Rot1 OrientationInterpolator { . . . }

DEF Frame1 Transform {
    children [
        Shape { . . . }
    ]
}

ROUTE Touch.touchTime          TO Timer1.set_startTime
ROUTE Timer1.fraction_changed TO Rot1.set_fraction
ROUTE Rot1.value_changed      TO Frame1.set_rotation
```

A sample animation



[colors.wrl]

Using multiple routes

- **You can have *fan-out***
  - **Multiple routes out of the same sender**

- **You can have *fan-in***
  - **Multiple routes into the same receiver**

Summary

- **Connect senders to receivers using routes**

- ***eventIns* are inputs, and *eventOuts* are outputs**

- **A route names the *sender.eventOut*, and the *receiver.eventIn***
  - **Data types must match**

- **You can have multiple routes into or out of a node**

Animating transforms

Motivation

Example

Controlling time

Using absolute time

Using fractional time

Syntax: TimeSensor

Using timers

Using timers

Using timers

Using timer outputs

A sample time sensor

A sample time sensor

Converting time to position

Interpolating positions

Syntax: PositionInterpolator

Using position interpolator inputs and outputs

A sample using position interpolators

A sample using position interpolators

Using other types of interpolators

Syntax: OrientationInterpolator

Syntax: PositionInterpolator

Syntax: ColorInterpolator

Syntax: ScalarInterpolator

A sample using other interpolators

Summary

Summary

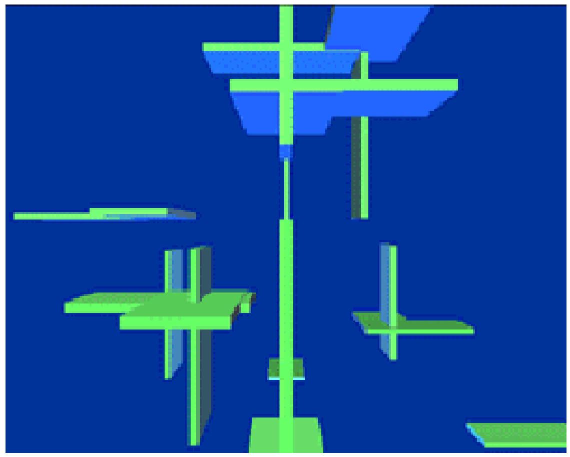
Summary

Motivation

- **An *animation* changes something over time:**
  - ***position* - a car driving**
  - ***orientation* - an airplane banking**
  - ***color* - seasons changing**

- **Animation requires control over time:**
  - **When to start and stop**
  - **How fast to go**

Example



[floater.wrl]

Controlling time

- **A `TimeSensor` node is similar to a stop watch**
  - **You control the start and stop time**

- **The sensor generates time events while it is running**

- **To animate, route time events into other nodes**

Using absolute time

- **A `TimeSensor` node generates *absolute* and *fractional* time events**

- **Absolute time events give the wall-clock time**
  - **Absolute time is measured in seconds since 12:00am January 1, 1970!**
  - **Useful for triggering events at specific dates and times**

Using fractional time

- **Fractional time events give a number from 0.0 to 1.0**
  - **When the sensor starts, it outputs a 0.0**
  - **At the end of a *cycle*, it outputs a 1.0**
  - **The number of seconds between 0.0 and 1.0 is controlled by the *cycle interval***
- **The sensor can loop forever, or run through only one cycle and stop**

Syntax: TimeSensor

- **A `TimeSensor` node generates events based upon time**
  - **`startTime` and `stopTime` - when to run**
  - **`cycleInterval` - how long a cycle is**
  - **`loop` - whether or not to repeat cycles**

```
TimeSensor {
    cycleInterval 1.0
    loop FALSE
    startTime 0.0
    stopTime 0.0
}
```

Using timers

- **To create a continuously running timer:**

```
loop TRUE
stopTime <= startTime
```

- **When stop time <= start time, stop time is ignored**

Using timers

- **To run until the stop time:**

```
loop TRUE
stopTime > startTime
```

- **To run one cycle then stop:**

```
loop FALSE
stopTime <= startTime
```

Using timers

- **The `set_startTime` input event:**
  - **Sets when the timer should start**

- **The `set_stopTime` input event:**
  - **Sets when the timer should stop**

Using timer outputs

- The `isActive` output event:
  - Outputs `TRUE` at timer start
  - Outputs `FALSE` at timer stop

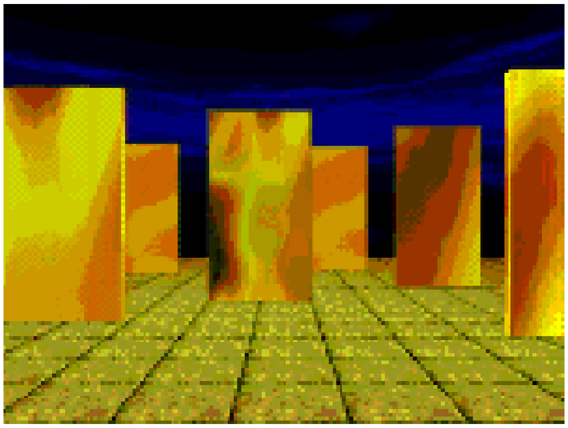
- The `time` output event:
  - Outputs the absolute time

- The `fraction_changed` output event:
  - Outputs values from 0.0 to 1.0 during a cycle
  - Resets to 0.0 at the start of each cycle

A sample time sensor

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material DEF Monolith1Facade Material {
            diffuseColor 0.2 0.2 0.2
        }
    }
    geometry Box { size 2.0 4.0 0.3 }
}
DEF Monolith1Timer TimeSensor {
    cycleInterval 4.0
    loop FALSE
    startTime 0.0
    stopTime  0.1
}

ROUTE Monolith1Touch.touchTime
   TO Monolith1Timer.set_startTime
ROUTE Monolith1Timer.fraction_changed
   TO Monolith1Facade.set_transparency
```

A sample time sensor



[monolith.wrl]

Converting time to position

- **To animate the position of a shape you provide:**
  - **A list of *key positions* for a movement path**
  - **A time at which to be at each position**

- **An *interpolator* node converts an input time to an output position**
  - **When a time is in between two key positions, the interpolator computes an intermediate position**

Interpolating positions

- **Each key position along a path has:**
  - **A *key value* (such as a position)**
  - **A *key* fractional time**

- **Interpolation fills in values between your key values:**

Fractional Time		**Position**
0.0		0.0 0.0 0.0
	0.1	*0.4 0.1 0.0*
	0.2	*0.8 0.2 0.0*
	. . .	. . .
0.5		4.0 1.0 0.0
	. . .	. . .

Syntax: PositionInterpolator

- **A `PositionInterpolator` node describes a position path**
  - **`key` - key fractional times**
  - **`keyValue` - key positions**

```
PositionInterpolator {
    key [ 0.0, . . . ]
    keyValue [ 0.0 0.0 0.0, . . . ]
}
```

- **Typically route into a `Transform` node's `set_translation` input**

Using position interpolator inputs and outputs

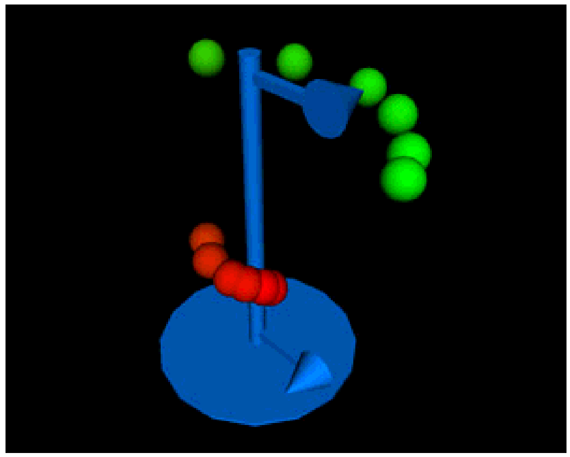
- **The `set_fraction` input:**
  - **Sets the current fractional time along the key path**

- **The `value_changed` output:**
  - **Outputs the position along the path each time the fraction is set**

A sample using position interpolators

```
DEF Particle1 Transform {
    children [
        Shape { . . . }
    ]
}
DEF Timer1 TimeSensor {
    cycleInterval 12.0
    loop TRUE
    startTime 0.0
    stopTime -1.0
}
DEF Position1 PositionInterpolator {
    key  [ 0.0, . . . ]
    keyValue [ 0.0 0.0 0.0, . . .]
}
ROUTE Timer1.fraction_changed TO Position1.set_fraction
ROUTE Position1.value_changed TO Particle1.set_translation
```

A sample using position interpolators



[spiral.wrl]

Using other types of interpolators

Animate position	`PositionInterpolator`
Animate rotation	`OrientationInterpolator`
Animate scale	`PositionInterpolator`
Animate color	`ColorInterpolator`
Animate transparency	`ScalarInterpolator`

Syntax: OrientationInterpolator

- **A `OrientationInterpolator` node describes an orientation path**
  - **`key` - key fractional times**
  - **`keyValue` - key rotations (axis and angle)**

```
OrientationInterpolator {
    key [ 0.0, . . . ]
    keyValue [ 0.0 1.0 0.0 0.0, . . . ]
}
```

- **Typically route into a `Transform` node's `set_rotation` input**

Syntax: PositionInterpolator

- A `PositionInterpolator` node describes a position *or scale* path
  - `key` - key fractional times
  - `keyValue` - key positions (or scales)

```
PositionInterpolator {
    key [ 0.0, . . . ]
    keyValue [ 0.0 0.0 0.0, . . . ]
}
```

- Typically route into a `Transform` node's `set_scale` input

Syntax: ColorInterpolator

- `ColorInterpolator` **node describes a color path**
  - `key` **- key fractional times**
  - `keyValue` **- key colors (red, green, blue)**

```
ColorInterpolator {
    key [ 0.0, . . . ]
    keyValue [ 1.0 1.0 0.0, . . . ]
}
```

- **Typically route into a** `Material` **node's** `set_diffuseColor` **or** `set_emissiveColor` **inputs**

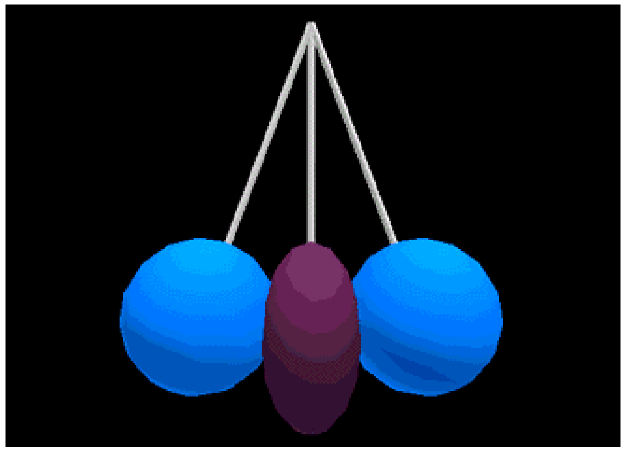
Syntax: ScalarInterpolator

- `ScalarInterpolator` **node describes a scalar path**
  - `key` **- key fractional times**
  - `keyValue` **- key scalars (used for anything)**

```
ScalarInterpolator {
    key [ 0.0, . . . ]
    keyValue [ 4.5, . . . ]
}
```

- **Often route into a** `Material` **node's** `set_transparency` **input**

A sample using other interpolators



[squisher.wrl]

Summary

- **The `TimeSensor` node's fields control**
  - **Timer start and stop times**
  - **The cycle interval**
  - **Whether the timer loops or not**

- **The sensor outputs**
  - **true/false on `isActive` at start and stop**
  - **absolute time on `time` while running**
  - **fractional time on `fraction_changed` while running**

Summary

- **Interpolators use key times and values and compute intermediate values**

- **All interpolators have:**
  - **a `set_fraction` input to set the fractional time**
  - **a `value_changed` output to send new values**

Summary

- **The `PositionInterpolator` node converts times to positions (or scales)**
- **The `OrientationInterpolator` node converts times to rotations**
- **The `ColorInterpolator` node converts times to colors**
- **The `ScalarInterpolator` node converts times to scalars (such as transparencies)**

Motivation

Using action sensors

Sensing shapes

Syntax: TouchSensor

A sample use of a TouchSensor node

A sample use of a TouchSensor node

Syntax: SphereSensor

Syntax: CylinderSensor

Syntax: PlaneSensor

Using multiple sensors

A sample use of a multiple sensors

Summary

Motivation

- **You can sense when the viewer's cursor:**
  - **Is *over* a shape**
  - **Has *touched* a shape**
  - **Is *dragging* atop a shape**

- **You can trigger animations on a viewer's touch**

- **You can enable the viewer to move and rotate shapes**

Using action sensors

- **There are four main action sensor types:**
  - **`TouchSensor` senses touch**
  - **`SphereSensor` senses drags**
  - **`CylinderSensor` senses drags**
  - **`PlaneSensor` senses drags**

- **The `Anchor` node is a special-purpose action sensor with a built-in response**

Sensing shapes

- **All action sensors *sense* all shapes in the same group**

- **Sensors trigger when the viewer's cursor *touches* a sensed shape**

Syntax: TouchSensor

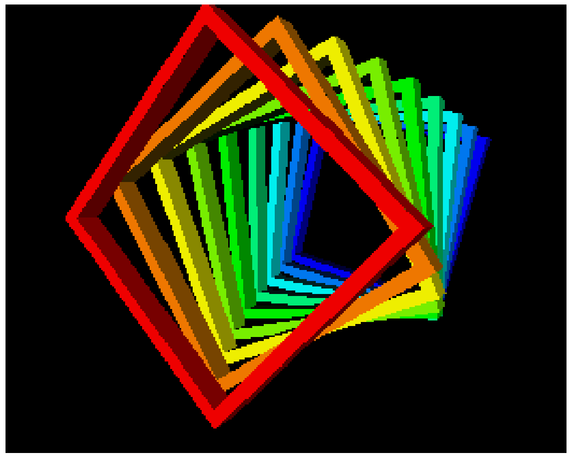
- **A TouchSensor node senses the cursor's *touch***
  - `isOver` **- send true/false when cursor over/not over**
  - `isActive` **- send true/false when mouse button pressed/released**
  - `touchTime` **- send time when mouse button released**

```
Transform {
    children [
        DEF Touched TouchSensor { }
        Shape { . . . }
        . . .
    ]
}
```

A sample use of a TouchSensor node

```
DEF Touch TouchSensor { }

DEF Timer1 TimeSensor { . . . }

DEF Rot1 OrientationInterpolator { . . . }

DEF Frame1 Transform {
    children [
        Shape { . . . }
    ]
}

ROUTE Touch.touchTime          TO Timer1.set_startTime
ROUTE Timer1.fraction_changed TO Rot1.set_fraction
ROUTE Rot1.value_changed      TO Frame1.set_rotation
```

A sample use of a TouchSensor node



[colors.wrl]

Syntax: SphereSensor

- **A SphereSensor node senses a cursor *drag* and generates rotations as if rotating a ball**
  - **`isActive` - sends true/false when mouse button pressed/released**
  - **`rotation_changed` - sends rotation during a drag**

```
Transform {
    children [
        DEF Rotator  SphereSensor { }
        DEF RotateMe Transform { . . . }
    ]
}
ROUTE Rotator.rotation_changed TO RotateMe.set_rotation
```

Syntax: CylinderSensor

- **A CylinderSensor node senses a cursor *drag* and generates rotations as if rotating a cylinder**
  - `isActive` **- sends true/false when mouse button pressed/released**
  - `rotation_changed` **- sends rotation during a drag**

```
Transform {
    children [
        DEF Rotator  CylinderSensor { }
        DEF RotateMe Transform { . . . }
    ]
}
ROUTE Rotator.rotation_changed TO RotateMe.set_rotation
```

Syntax: PlaneSensor

- **A PlaneSensor node senses a cursor *drag* and generates translations as if sliding on a plane**
  - **`isActive` - sends true/false when mouse button pressed/released**
  - **`translation_changed` - sends translations during a drag**

```
Transform {
    children [
        DEF Mover  PlaneSensor { }
        DEF MoveMe Transform { . . . }
    ]
}
ROUTE Mover.translation_changed TO MoveMe.set_translation
```

Using multiple sensors

- **Multiple sensors can sense the same shape *but. . .***
  - **If sensors are in the same group:**
    - **They all respond**

  - **If sensors are at different depths in the hierarchy:**
    - **The deepest sensor responds**
    - **The other sensors do not respond**

A sample use of a multiple sensors

[lamp.wrl]

Summary

- **Action sensors sense when the viewer's cursor:**
  - **is over a shape**
  - **has touched a shape**
  - **is dragging atop a shape**

- **Sensors convert viewer actions into events to**
  - **Start and stop animations**
  - **Orient shapes**
  - **Position shapes**

Building shapes out of points, lines, and faces

Summary

Summary

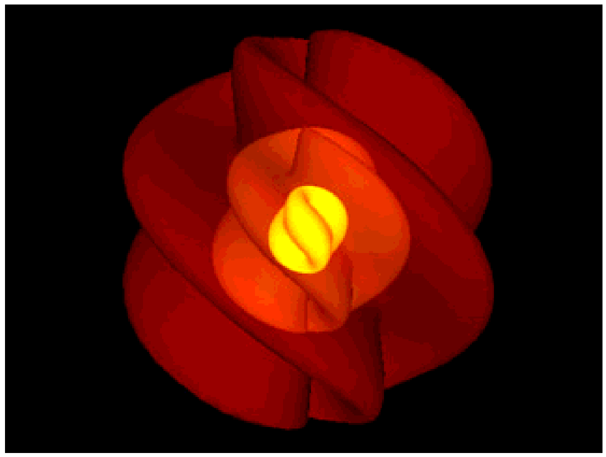
Summary

Motivation

- **Complex shapes are hard to build with primitive shapes**
  - **Terrain**
  - **Animals**
  - **Plants**
  - **Machinery**

- **Instead, build shapes out of atomic components:**
  - **Points, lines, and faces**

Example



[isosurf.wrl]

Building shapes using coordinates

- **Shape building is like a 3-D *connect-the-dots* game:**
  - **Place *dots* at 3-D locations**
  - **Connect-the-dots to form shapes**

- **A *coordinate* specifies a 3-D *dot* location**
  - **Measured relative to a coordinate system origin**

- **A geometry node specifies how to connect the dots**

Syntax: Coordinate

- **A `Coordinate` node contains a list of coordinates for use in building a shape**

```
Coordinate {
    point [
#       X   Y   Z
        2.0 1.0 3.0,
        4.0 2.5 5.3,
        . . .
    ]
}
```

Using geometry coordinates

- **Build coordinate-based shapes using geometry nodes:**
  - **`PointSet`**
  - **`IndexedLineSet`**
  - **`IndexedFaceSet`**

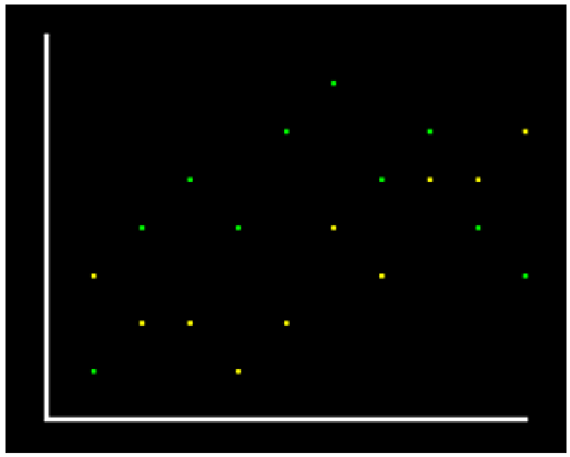
- **For all three nodes, use a `Coordinate` node as the value of the `coord` field**

Syntax: PointSet

- **A `PointSet` geometry node creates geometry out of *points***
  - **One point (a dot) is placed at each coordinate**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry PointSet {
        coord Coordinate {
            point [  . . .  ]
        }
    }
}
```

A sample PointSet node shape



[ptplot.wrl]

Syntax: IndexedLineSet

- **An `IndexedLineSet` geometry node creates geometry out of *lines***
  - **A straight line is drawn between pairs of selected coordinates**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry  IndexedLineSet {
        coord Coordinate {
            point [  . . .  ]
        }
        coordIndex [ . . . ]
    }
}
```

Using line set coordinate indexes

- **Each coordinate in a `Coordinate` node is implicitly numbered**
  - **Index *0* is the first coordinate**
  - **Index *1* is the second coordinate, etc.**

- **To build a line shape**
  - **Make a list of coordinates, using their indexes**

  - **List coordinate indexes in the `coordIndex` field of the `IndexedLineSet` node**

Using line set coordinate index lists

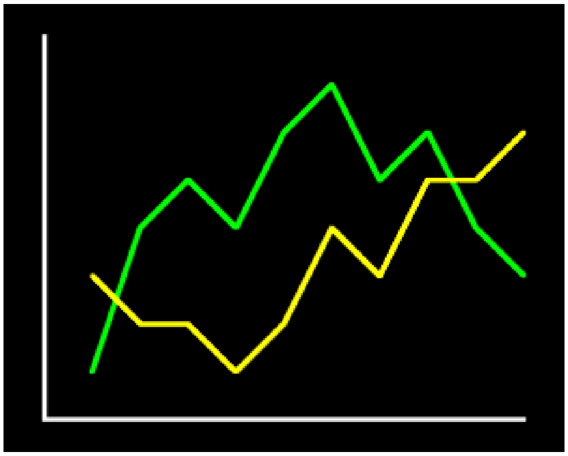
- **A line is drawn between pairs of coordinate indexes**
  - **`-1` marks a break in the line**

  - **A line is *not* automatically drawn from the last index back to the first**

```
coordIndex [ 1, 0, 3, 8, -1, 5, 9, 0 ]
```

`1, 0, 3, 8,`	**Draw line from 1 to 0 to 3 to 8**
`-1,`	**End line, start next**
`5, 9, 0`	**Draw line from 5 to 9 to 0**

A sample IndexedLineSet node shape



[lnplot.wrl]

Syntax: IndexedFaceSet

- **An IndexedFaceSet geometry node creates geometry out of *faces***
  - **A flat *face* (polygon) is drawn using an outline specified by coordinate indexes**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry IndexedFaceSet {
        coord Coordinate {
            point [  . . .  ]
        }
        coordIndex [ . . . ]
    }
}
```

Using face set coordinate index lists

- **To build a face shape**
  - **Make a list of coordinates, using their indexes**

  - **List coordinate indexes in the `coordIndex` field of the `IndexedFaceSet` node**

Using face set coordinate index lists

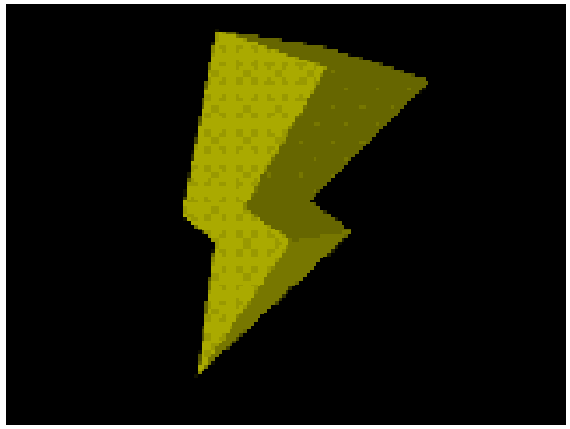
- **A triangle is drawn connecting sequences of coordinate indexes**
  - **`-1` marks a break in the sequence**

  - **Each face *is* automatically closed, connecting the last index back to the first**

```
coordIndex [ 1, 0, 3, 8, -1, 5, 9, 0 ]
```

`1, 0, 3, 8`	**Draw face from 1 to 0 to 3 to 8 to 1**
`-1,`	**End face, start next**
`5, 9, 0`	**Draw face from 5 to 9 to 0 to 5**

A sample IndexedFaceSet node shape



[lightng.wrl]

Syntax: IndexedFaceSet

- **An IndexedFaceSet geometry node creates geometry out of *faces***
  - **`solid` - shape is solid**
  - **`ccw` - faces are counter-clockwise**
  - **`convex` - faces are convex**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry IndexedFaceSet {
        coord Coordinate { . . . }
        coordIndex [ . . . ]
        solid TRUE
        ccw TRUE
        convex TRUE
    }
}
```

Using shape control

- **A *solid* shape is one where the insides are never seen**
  - **If never seen, don't attempt to draw them**
  - **When `solid TRUE`, the *back* sides (inside) of faces are not drawn**

- **The front of a face has coordinates in *counter-clockwise order***
  - **When `ccw FALSE`, the other side is the front**

- **Faces are assumed to be convex**
  - **When `convex FALSE`, concave faces are automatically broken into multiple convex faces**

Syntax: CoordinateInterpolator

- **A `CoordinateInterpolator` node describes a coordinate path**
  - **`keys` - key fractions**
  - **`values` - key coordinate lists (X,Y,Z lists)**

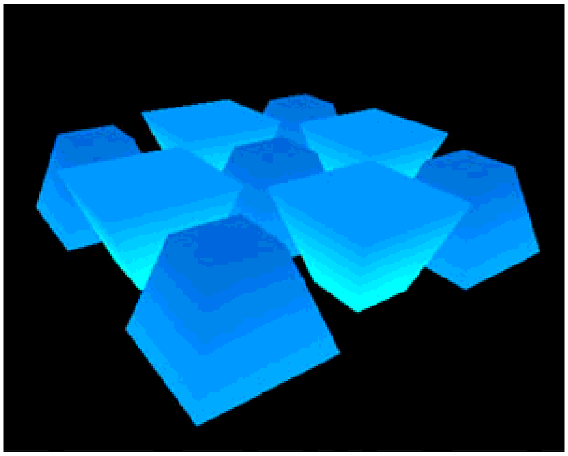
```
CoordinateInterpolator {
    key [ 0.0, . . . ]
    keyValue [ 0.0 1.0 0.0, . . . ]
}
```

- **Typically route into a `Coordinate` node's `set_point` input**

Interpolating coordinate lists

- **A `CoordinateInterpolator` node interpolates *lists* of coordinates**
  - **Each output is a *list* of coordinates**
  - **If `n` output coordinates are needed for `t` fractional times:**
    - **`n × t` coordinates are needed in the key value list**

A sample use of a CoordinateInterpolator node



[wiggle.wrl]

Summary

- **Shapes are built by connecting together coordinates**
- **Coordinates are listed in a `Coordinate` node**
- **Coordinates are implicitly numbers starting at 0**
- **Coordinate index lists give the order in which to use coordinates**

Summary

- **The `PointSet` node draws a dot at every coordinate**
  - **The `coord` field value is a `Coordinate` node**

- **The `IndexedLineSet` node draws lines between coordinates**
  - **The `coord` field value is a `Coordinate` node**
  - **The `coordIndex` field value is a list of coordinate indexes**

Summary

- **The `IndexedFaceSet` node draws faces outlined by coordinates**
  - **The `coord` field value is a `Coordinate` node**
  - **The `coordIndex` field value is a list of coordinate indexes**

- **The `CoordinateInterpolator` node converts times to coordinates**

Building elevation grids

Motivation

Example

Syntax: ElevationGrid

Syntax: ElevationGrid

Syntax: ElevationGrid

A sample elevation grid

A sample elevation grid

Summary

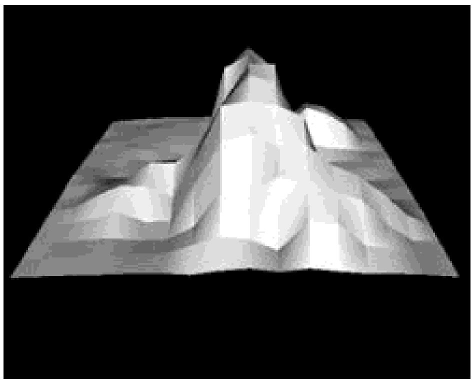
Motivation

- **Building terrains is very common**
  - **Hills, valleys, mountains**
  - **Other tricky uses...**

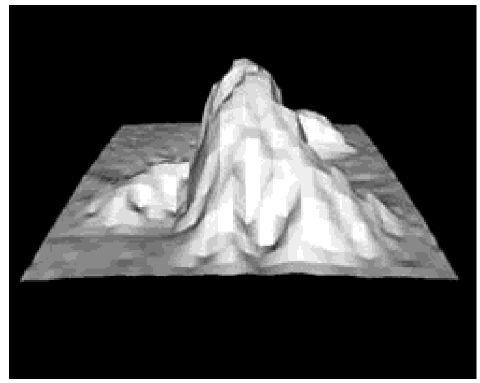
- **You can build a terrain using an `IndexedFaceSet` node**

- **You can build terrains more efficiently using an `ElevationGrid` node**

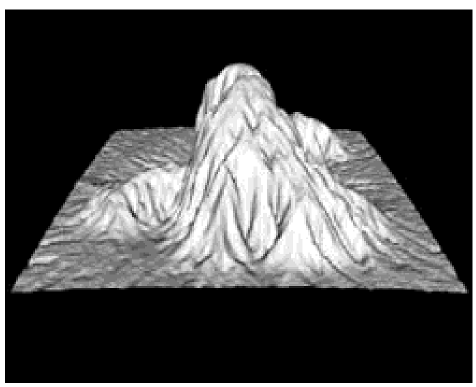
Example



[16 x 16: mount16.wrl]



[32 x 32: mount32.wrl]



[128 x 128: mount128.wrl]

Syntax: ElevationGrid

- **An `ElevationGrid` geometry node creates terrains**
  - **`xDimension` and `zDimension` - grid size**
  - **`xSpacing` and `zSpacing` - row and column distances**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry ElevationGrid {
        xDimension 3
        zDimension 2
        xSpacing   1.0
        zSpacing   1.0
        . . .
    }
}
```

Syntax: ElevationGrid

- **An `ElevationGrid` geometry node creates terrains**
  - **`height` - elevations at grid points**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry ElevationGrid {
        . . .
        height [
            0.0, -0.5, 0.0,
            0.2,  4.0, 0.0
        ]
    }
}
```

Syntax: ElevationGrid

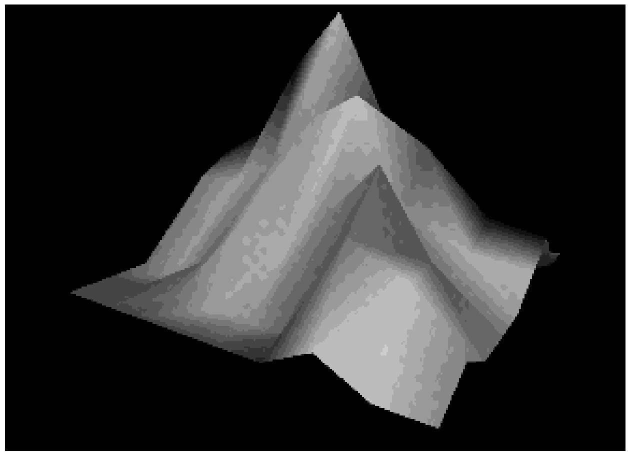
- **An `ElevationGrid` geometry node creates terrains**
  - **`solid` - shape is solid**
  - **`ccw` - faces are counter-clockwise**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry ElevationGrid {
        . . .
        solid TRUE
        ccw TRUE
    }
}
```

A sample elevation grid

```
Shape {
  appearance Appearance { . . . }
  geometry ElevationGrid {
    xDimension 9
    zDimension 9
    xSpacing   1.0
    zSpacing   1.0
    solid FALSE
    height [
      0.0, 0.0, 0.5, 1.0, 0.5, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0,
      0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 2.5, 0.5, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0,
      0.0, 0.0, 0.5, 0.5, 3.0, 1.0, 0.5, 0.0, 1.0,
      0.0, 0.0, 0.5, 2.0, 4.5, 2.5, 1.0, 1.5, 0.5,
      1.0, 2.5, 3.0, 4.5, 5.5, 3.5, 3.0, 1.0, 0.0,
      0.5, 2.0, 2.0, 2.5, 3.5, 4.0, 2.0, 0.5, 0.0,
      0.0, 0.0, 0.5, 1.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 1.5, 0.0,
      0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 2.0, 1.5, 0.5,
      0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.5, 0.0, 0.0,
    ]
  }
}
```

A sample elevation grid



[mount.wrl]

Summary

- **An `ElevationGrid` node efficiently creates a terrain**
- **Grid size is specified in the `xDimension` and `zDimension` fields**
- **Grid spacing is specified in the `xSpacing` and `zSpacing` field**
- **Elevations at each grid point are specified in the `height` field**

Building extruded shapes

Motivation

Examples

Creating extruded shapes

Extruding along a straight line

Extruding around a circle

Extruding along a helix

Syntax: Extrusion

Syntax: Extrusion

Squishing and twisting extruded shapes

Syntax: Extrusion

Sample extrusions with scale and rotation

Summary

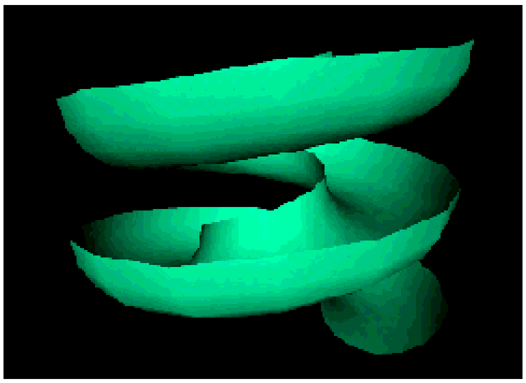
Motivation

- **Extruded shapes are very common**
  - **Tubes, pipes, bars, vases, donuts**
  - **Other tricky uses...**

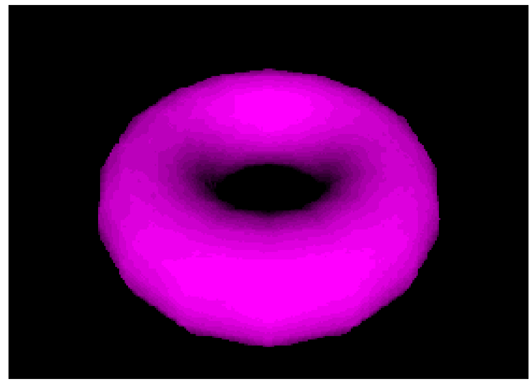
- **You can build extruded shapes using an `IndexedFaceSet` node**

- **You can build extruded shapes more easily and efficiently using an `Extrusion` node**

Examples



[slide.wrl]



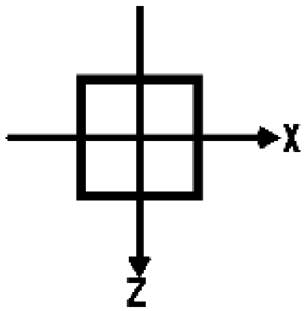
[donut.wrl]

Creating extruded shapes

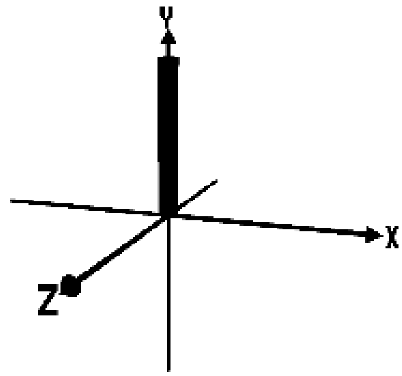
- **Extruded shapes are described by**
  - **A 2-D *cross-section***
  - **A 3-D *spine* along which to sweep the cross-section**

- **Extruded shapes are like long bubbles created with a bubble wand**
  - **The bubble wand's outline is the *cross-section***
  - **The path along which you swing the wand is the *spine***

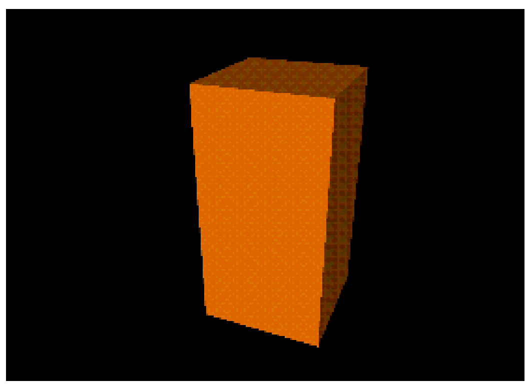
Extruding along a straight line



a. Square cross-section

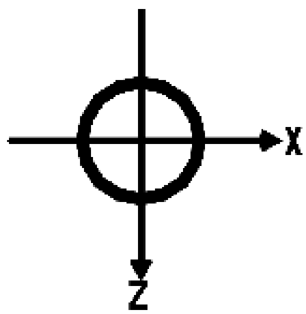


b. Straight spine

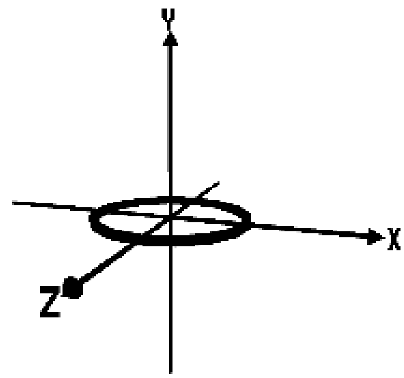


c. Resulting extrusion

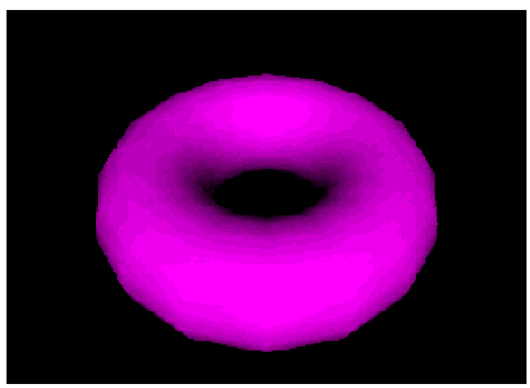
Extruding around a circle



a. Circular cross-section

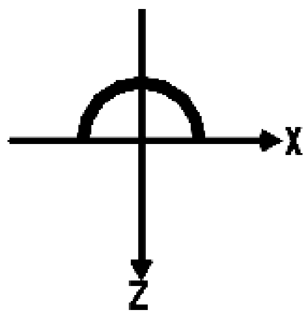


b. Circular spine

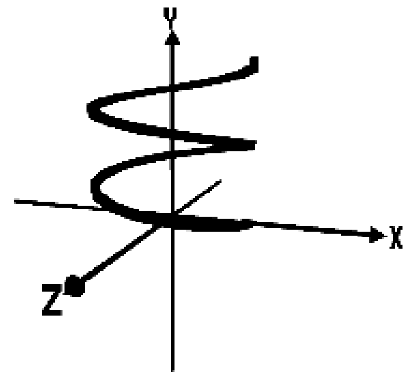


c. Resulting extrusion

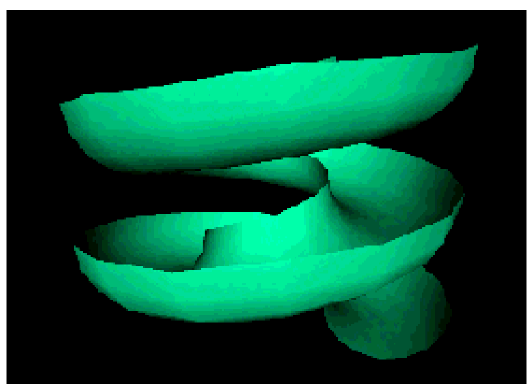
Extruding along a helix



a. Half-circle cross-section



b. Helical spine



c. Resulting extrusion

Syntax: Extrusion

- **An `Extrusion` geometry node creates extruded geometry**
  - **`cross-section` - 2-D cross-section**
  - **`spine` - 3-D sweep path**
  - **`endCap` and `beginCap` - cap ends**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry Extrusion {
        crossSection [ . . . ]
        spine [ . . .  ]
        endCap TRUE
        beginCap TRUE
        . . .
    }
}
```

Syntax: Extrusion

- An `Extrusion` geometry node creates extruded geometry
  - `solid` - shape is solid
  - `ccw` - faces are counter-clockwise
  - `convex` - faces are convex

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry Extrusion {
        . . .
        solid TRUE
        ccw TRUE
        convex TRUE
    }
}
```

Squishing and twisting extruded shapes

- **You can scale the cross-section along the spine**
  - **Vases, musical instruments**
  - **Surfaces of revolution**

- **You can rotate the cross-section along the spine**
  - **Twisting ribbons**

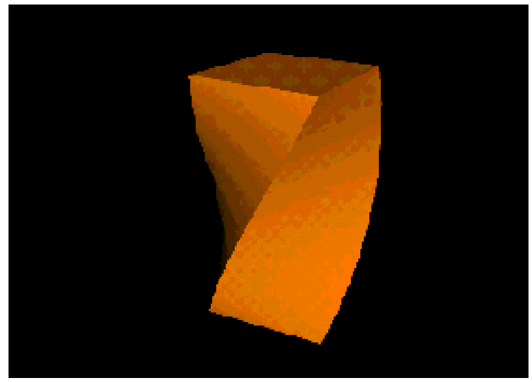
Syntax: Extrusion

- **An `Extrusion` geometry node creates geometry using**
  - **`scale` - cross-section scaling per spine point**
  - **`orientation` - cross-section rotation per spine point**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry Extrusion {
        . . .
        scale [ . . . ]
        orientation [ . . . ]
    }
}
```

Sample extrusions with scale and rotation

[horn.wrl]



[bartwist.wrl]

Summary

- **An `Extrusion` node efficiently creates extruded shapes**

- **The `crossSection` field specifies the cross-section**

- **The `spine` field specifies the sweep path**

- **The `scale` and `orientation` fields specify scaling and rotation at each spine point**

Controlling color on coordinate-based geometry

Motivation

Example

Syntax: Color

Binding colors

Syntax: PointSet

A sample PointSet node shape

Syntax: IndexedLineSet

Controlling color binding for line sets

A sample IndexedLineSet node shape

Syntax: IndexedFaceSet

Controlling color binding for face sets

A sample IndexedFaceSet node shape

Syntax: ElevationGrid

Controlling color binding for elevation grids

A sample ElevationGrid node shape

Summary

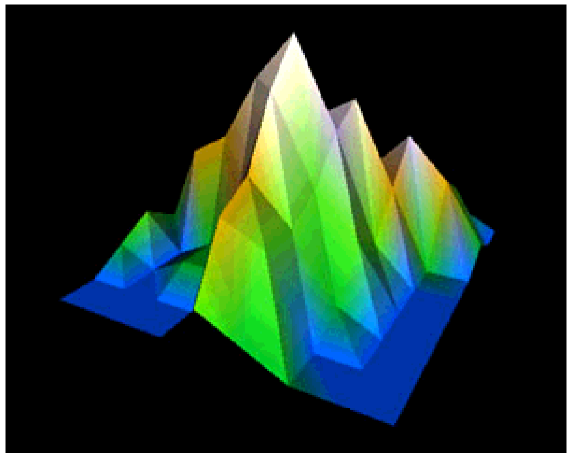
Motivation

- **The `Material` node gives an entire shape the same color**

- **You can provide colors for individual parts of a shape using a `Color` node**

Controlling color on coordinate-based geometry

Example



[cmount.wrl]

Syntax: Color

- **A `Color` node contains a list of RGB values (similar to a `Coordinate` node)**

```
Color {
    color [ 1.0 0.0 0.0, . . . ]
}
```

- **Used as the `color` field value of `IndexedFaceSet`, `IndexedLineSet`, `PointSet` or `ElevationGrid` nodes**

Binding colors

- **Colors in the `Color` node override those in the `Material` node**

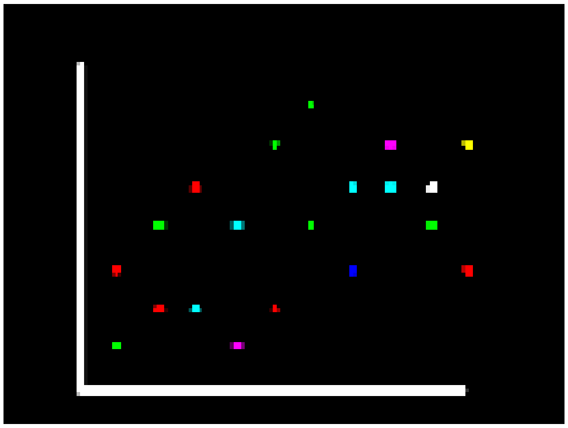
- **You can bind colors**
  - **To each point, line, or face**
  - **To each coordinate in a line, or face**

Syntax: PointSet

- **A `PointSet` geometry node creates geometry out of *points***
  - **`color` - provides a list of colors**
  - **Always binds one color to each point, in order**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry PointSet {
        coord Coordinate { . . . }
        color Color { . . . }
    }
}
```

A sample PointSet node shape



[scatter.wrl]

Syntax: IndexedLineSet

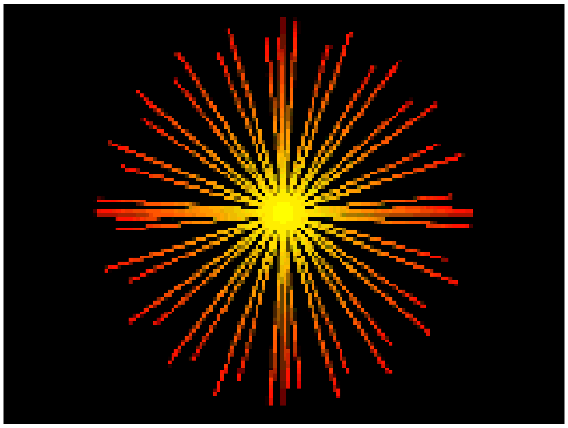
- **An `IndexedLineSet` geometry node creates geometry out of lines**
  - **`color` - list of colors**
  - **`colorIndex` - selects colors from list**
  - **`colorPerVertex` - control color binding**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry IndexedLineSet {
        coord Coordinate { . . . }
        coordIndex [ . . . ]
        color Color { . . . }
        colorIndex [ . . . ]
        colorPerVertex TRUE
    }
}
```

Controlling color binding for line sets

- **The `colorPerVertex` field controls how color indexes are used**
  - **`FALSE`: one color index to each line (ending at -1 coordinate indexes)**
  - **`TRUE`: one color index to each coordinate index of each line (including -1 coordinate indexes)**

A sample IndexedLineSet node shape



[burst.wrl]

Syntax: IndexedFaceSet

- **An `IndexedFaceSet` geometry node creates geometry out of faces**
  - **`color` - list of colors**
  - **`colorIndex` - selects colors from list**
  - **`colorPerVertex` - control color binding**

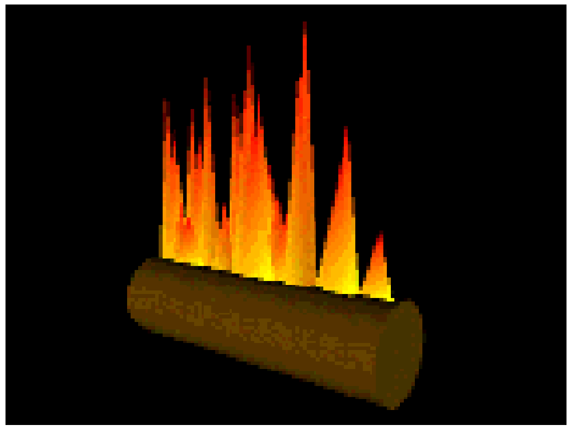
```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry IndexedFaceSet {
        coord Coordinate { . . . }
        coordIndex [ . . . ]
        color Color { . . . }
        colorIndex [ . . . ]
        colorPerVertex TRUE
    }
}
```

Controlling color binding for face sets

- **The `colorPerVertex` field controls how color indexes are used (similar to line sets)**
  - **`FALSE`: one color index to each face (ending at -1 coordinate indexes)**
  - **`TRUE`: one color index to each coordinate index of each face (including -1 coordinate indexes)**

Controlling color on coordinate-based geometry

A sample IndexedFaceSet node shape



[log.wrl]

Syntax: ElevationGrid

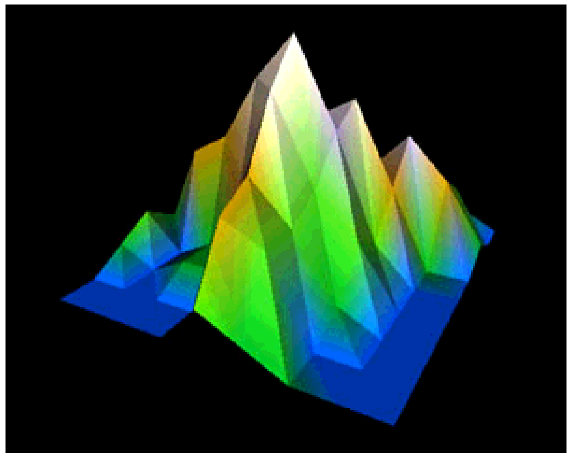
- **An `ElevationGrid` geometry node creates terrains**
  - **`color` - list of colors**
  - **`colorPerVertex` - control color binding**
  - **Always binds one color to each grid point or square, in order**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry ElevationGrid {
        . . .
        height [ . . . ]
        color Color { . . . }
        colorPerVertex TRUE
    }
}
```

Controlling color binding for elevation grids

- **The `colorPerVertex` field controls how color indexes are used (similar to line and face sets)**
  - **`FALSE`: one color to each grid square**
  - **`TRUE`: one color to each height for each grid square**

A sample ElevationGrid node shape



[cmount.wrl]

Summary

- **The `Color` node lists colors to use for parts of a shape**
  - **Used as the value of the `color` field**
  - **Color indexes select colors to use**
  - **Colors override `Material` node**

- **The `colorPerVertex` field selects color per line/face/grid square or color per coordinate**

Controlling shading on coordinate-based geometry

Motivation

Example

Controlling shading using the crease angle

Selecting crease angles

A sample using crease angles

Using normals

Syntax: Normal

Syntax: IndexedFaceSet

Controlling normal binding for face sets

Syntax: ElevationGrid

Controlling normal binding for elevation grids

Syntax: NormalInterpolator

Summary

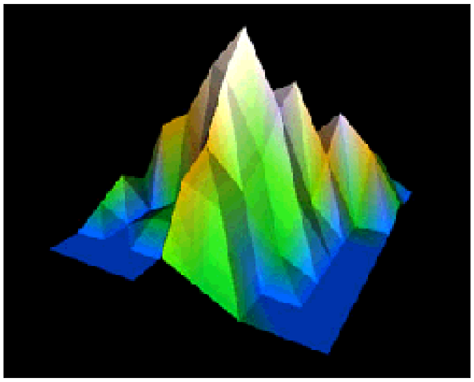
Motivation

- **When shaded, the faces on a shape are obvious**

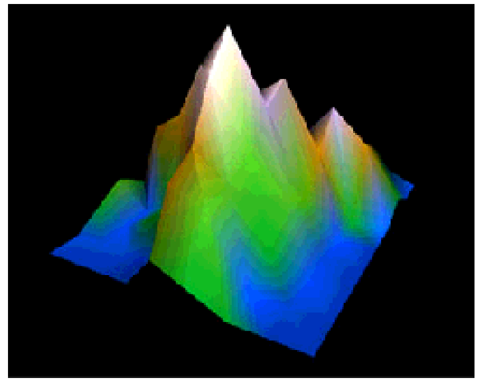
- **To create a smooth shape you can use a large number of small faces**
  - **Requires lots of faces, disk space, memory, and drawing time**

- **Instead, use *smooth shading* to create the illusion of a smooth shape, but with a small number of faces**

Example



[cmount.wrl]
a. No smooth shading



[cmount2.wrl]
b. With smooth shading

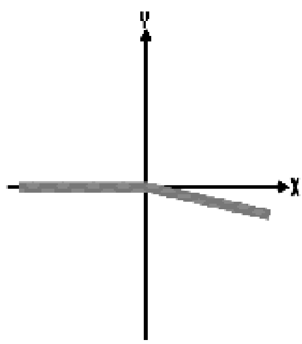
Controlling shading using the crease angle

- **By default, faces are drawn with faceted shading**

- **You can enable smooth shading using the `creaseAngle` field for**
  - **`IndexedFaceSet`**
  - **`ElevationGrid`**
  - **`Extrusion`**

Selecting crease angles

- **A *crease angle* is a threshold angle between two faces**

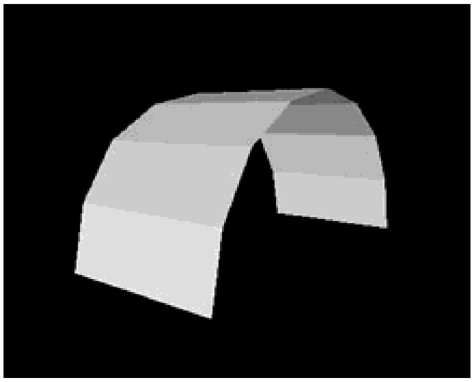


- **If face angle >= crease angle, use facet shading**

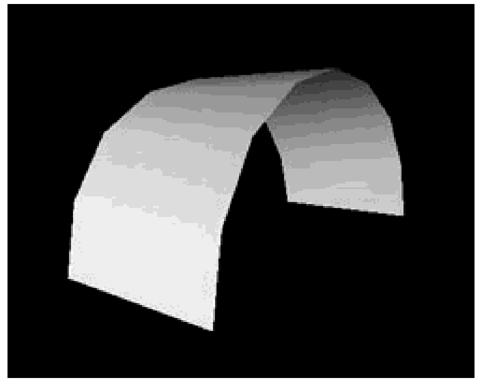
- **If face angle < crease angle, use smooth shading**

Controlling shading on coordinate-based geometry

A sample using crease angles



[hcyl1.wrl]
a. crease angle = 0
Smooth shading disabled



[hcyl2.wrl]
b. crease angle = 90 deg
Smooth shading enabled

Using normals

- **A *normal vector* indicates the direction a face is facing**
  - **If it faces a light, the face is shaded bright**

- **By defualt, normals are automatically generated by the VRML browser**
  - **You can specify your own normals with a `Normal` node**

  - **Usually automatically generated normals are good enough**

Syntax: Normal

- **A `Normal` node contains a list of normal vectors that *override* use of a crease angle**

```
Normal {
    vector [ 0.0 1.0 0.0, . . . ]
}
```

- **Normals can be given for `IndexedFaceSet` and `ElevationGrid` nodes**

Syntax: IndexedFaceSet

- **An `IndexedFaceSet` geometry node creates geometry out of faces**
  - **`normal` - list of normals**
  - **`normalIndex` - selects normals from list**
  - **`normalPerVertex` - control normal binding**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry IndexedFaceSet {
        coord Coordinate { . . . }
        coordIndex [ . . . ]
        normal Normal { . . . }
        normalIndex [ . . . ]
        normalPerVertex TRUE
    }
}
```

Controlling normal binding for face sets

- **The `normalPerVertex` field controls how normal indexes are used**
  - **`FALSE`: one normal index to each face (ending at -1 coordinate indexes)**
  - **`TRUE`: one normal index to each coordinate index of each face (including -1 coordinate indexes)**

Syntax: ElevationGrid

- **An `ElevationGrid` geometry node creates terrains**
  - **`normal` - list of normals**
  - **`normalPerVertex` - control normal binding**
  - **Always binds one normal to each grid point or square, in order**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry ElevationGrid {
        height [ . . . ]
        normal Normal { . . . }
        normalPerVertex TRUE
    }
}
```

Controlling normal binding for elevation grids

- **The `normalPerVertex` field controls how normal indexes are used (similar to face sets)**
  - **`FALSE`: one normal to each grid square**
  - **`TRUE`: one normal to each height for each grid square**

Syntax: NormalInterpolator

- **A `NormalInterpolator` node describes a normal set**
  - `keys` **- key fractions**
  - `values` **- key normal lists (X,Y,Z lists)**
  - **Interpolates *lists* of normals, similar to the `CoordinateInterpolator`**

```
NormalInterpolator {
    key [ 0.0, . . . ]
    keyValue [ 0.0 1.0 1.0, . . . ]
}
```

- **Typically route into a `Normal` node's `set_vector` input**

Summary

- **The `creaseAngle` field controls faceted or smooth shading**

- **The `Normal` node lists normal vectors to use for parts of a shape**
  - **Used as the value of the `normal` field**
  - **Normal indexes select normals to use**
  - **Normals override `creaseAngle` value**

- **The `normalPerVertex` field selects normal per face/grid square or normal per coordinate**

- **The `NormalInterpolator` node converts times to normals**

A terrain

Particle flow

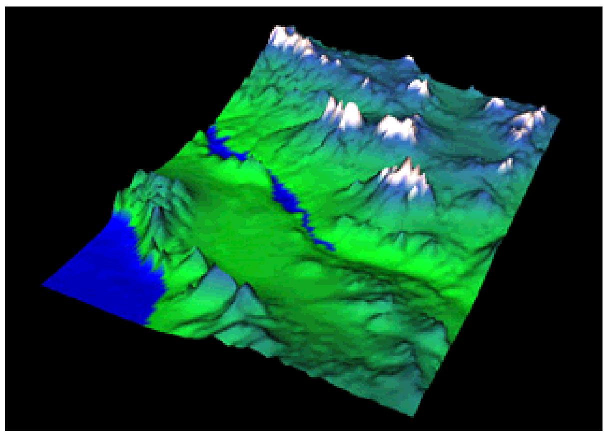
A real-time clock

A timed timer

A morphing snake

A terrain

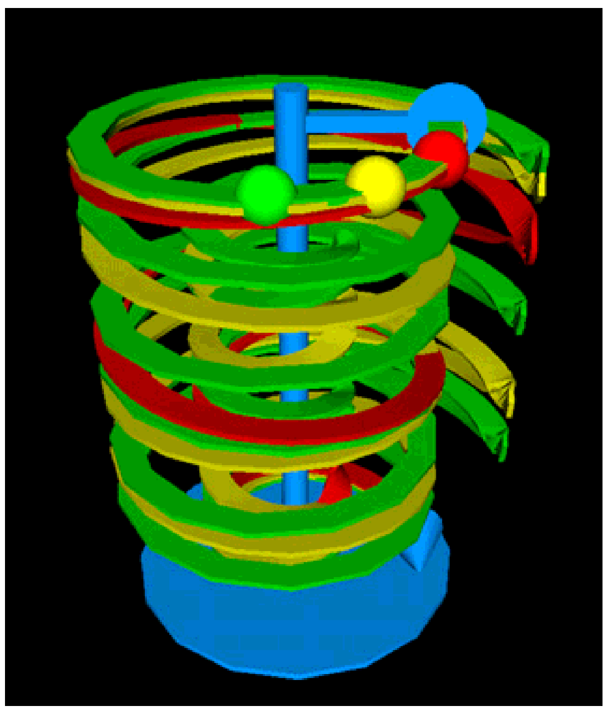
- **An `ElevationGrid` node creates a terrain**
- **A `Color` node provides terrain colors**



[land.wrl]

Particle flow

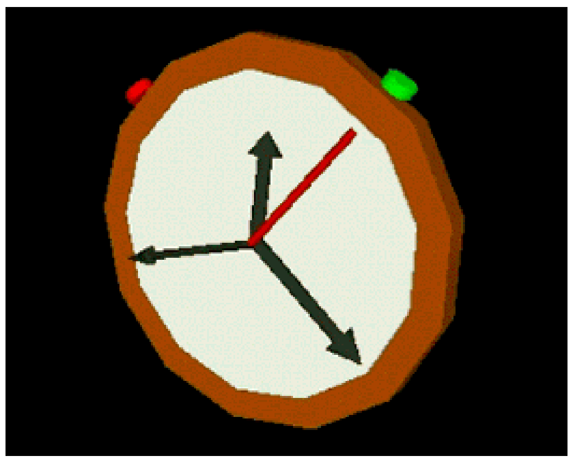
- **Multiple `Extrusion` nodes trace particle paths**
- **Multiple `PositionInterpolator` nodes define particle animation paths**
- **Multiple `TimeSensor` nodes clock the animation using different starting times**



[espiralm.wrl]

A real-time clock

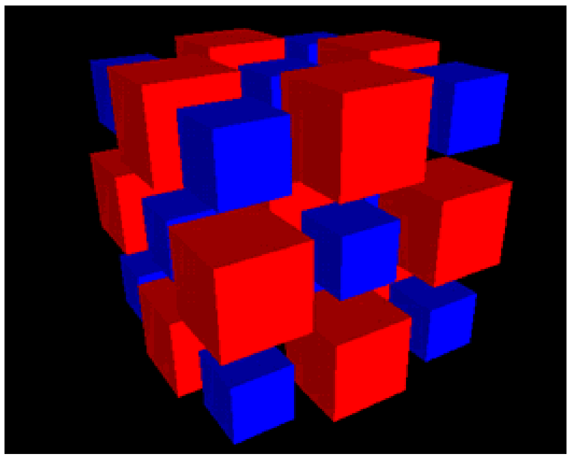
- **A set of `TimeSensor` nodes watch the time**
- **A set of `OrientationInterpolator` nodes spin the clock hands**



[stopwtch.wrl]

A timed timer

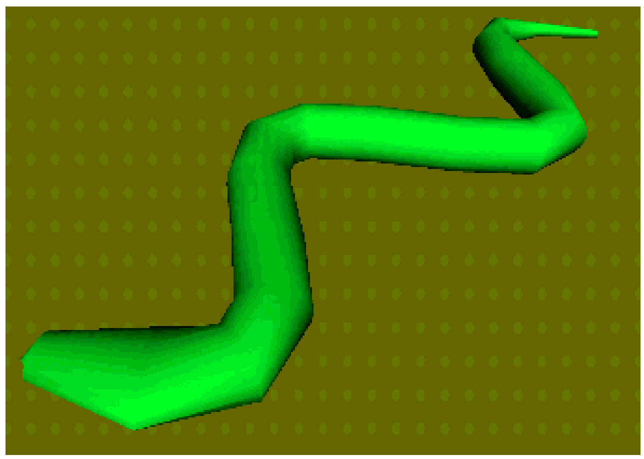
- **A first `TimeSensor` node clocks a second `TimeSensor` node to create a periodic animation**



[timetime.wrl]

A morphing snake

- **A `CoordinateInterpolator` node animates the spine of an `Extrusion` node**



[snake.wrl]

Motivation

Example

Example Textures

Using image textures

Using pixel textures

Using movie textures

Syntax: Appearance

Syntax: ImageTexture

Syntax: PixelTexture

Syntax: MovieTexture

Using materials with textures

Colorizing textures

Using transparent textures

A sample transparent texture

A sample transparent texture

Summary

Motivation

- **You can model every tiny texture detail of a world using a vast number of colored faces**
  - **Takes a long time to write the VRML**
  - **Takes a long time to draw**

- **Use a trick instead**
  - **Take a picture of the real thing**
  - **Paste that picture on the shape, like sticking on a decal**

- **This technique is called *Texture Mapping***

Mapping textures

Example

[can.wrl]

Example Textures

Using image textures

- **Image texture**
  - **Uses a single image from a file in one of these formats:**

GIF	• **8-bit lossless compressed images** • **1 transparency color** • **Usually a poor choice for texture mapping**
JPEG	• **8-bit thru 24-bit lossy compressed images** • **No transparency support** • **An adequate choice for texture mapping**
PNG	• **8-bit thru 24-bit lossless compressed images** • **8-bit transparency per pixel** • **Best choice**

Using pixel textures

- **Pixel texture**
  - **A single image, given in the VRML file itself**

  - **The image is encoded using *hex***
    - **Up to 10 bytes per pixel**
    - ***Very* inefficient**
    - **Only useful for very small textures**
      - **Stripes**
      - **Checkerboard patterns**

Using movie textures

- **Movie texture**
  - **A movie from an MPEG-1 file**

  - **The movie plays back on the textured shape**
    - **Problematic in some browsers**

Syntax: Appearance

- **An `Appearance` node describes overall shape appearance**
  - **`texture` - texture source**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { . . . }
        texture ImageTexture { . . . }
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Syntax: ImageTexture

- **An `ImageTexture` node selects a texture image for texture mapping**
    - **`url` - texture image file URL**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
        texture ImageTexture {
            url "wood.jpg"
        }
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Syntax: PixelTexture

- **A `PixelTexture` node specifies texture image pixels for texture mapping**
  - **`image` - texture image pixels**
  - **Image data - width, height, bytes/pixel, pixel values**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
        texture PixelTexture {
            image 2 1 3
                0xFFFF00 0xFF0000
        }
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Syntax: MovieTexture

- **A `MovieTexture` node selects a texture movie for texture mapping**
  - **`url` - texture movie file URL**
  - **When to play the movie, and how quickly (like a `TimeSensor` node)**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { }
        texture MovieTexture {
            url "movie.mpg"
            loop TRUE
            speed 1.0
            startTime 0.0
            stopTime 0.0
        }
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Using materials with textures

- **Color textures *override* the color in a `Material` node**
- **Grayscale textures *multiply* with the `Material` node color**
  - **Good for *colorizing* grayscale textures**
- **If there is *no* `Material` node, the texture is applied *emissively***

Colorizing textures

a. Grayscale wood texture

b. Six wood colors from one colorized texture

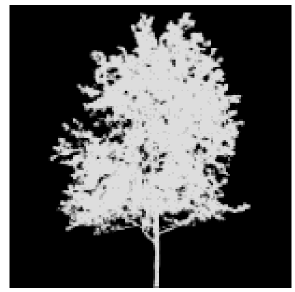
Using transparent textures

- **Texture images can include *color* and *transparency* values for each pixel**
  - **Pixel transparency is also known as *alpha***

- **Pixel transparency enables you to make parts of a shape transparent**
  - **Windows, grillwork, holes**
  - **Trees, clouds**

A sample transparent texture

a. Color portion of tree texture



b. Transparency portion of tree texture

A sample transparent texture

[treewall.wrl]

Summary

- **A *texture* is like a decal pasted to a shape**
- **Specify the texture using an `ImageTexture`, `PixelTexture`, or `MovieTexture` node in an `Appearance` node**
- **Color textures override material, grayscale textures multiply**
- **Textures with transparency create holes**

Controlling how textures are mapped

Motivation

Working through the texturing process

Using texture coordinate system

Specifying texture coordinates

Applying texture transforms

Texturing a face

Working through the texturing process

Syntax: TextureCoordinate

Syntax: IndexedFaceSet

Syntax: ElevationGrid

Syntax: Appearance

Syntax: TextureTransform

A sample using no transform

A sample using translation

A sample using rotation

A sample using scale

A sample using texture coordinates

A sample using scale

Scaling, rotating, and translating

Scaling, rotating, and translating

A sample using scale and rotation

Summary

Controlling how textures are mapped

Motivation

- **By default, an entire texture image is mapped once around the shape**

- **You can also:**
  - **Extract only pieces of interest**
  - **Create repeating patterns**

Working through the texturing process

- **Imagine the texture image is a big piece of rubbery cookie dough**

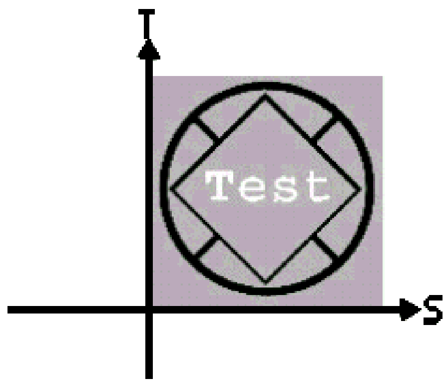
- **Select a texture image piece**
  - **Define the shape of a cookie cutter**
  - **Position and orient the cookie cutter**
  - **Stamp out a piece of texture dough**

- **Stretch the rubbery texture cookie to fit a face**

Controlling how textures are mapped

Using texture coordinate system

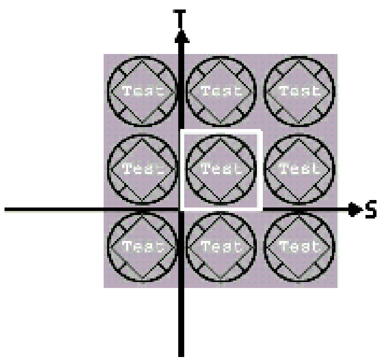
- **Texture images (the dough) are in a *texture coordinate system***



- **_S_ direction is horizontal**
- **_T_ direction is vertica**
- **(0,0) at lower-left**
- **(1,1) at upper-right**

Specifying texture coordinates

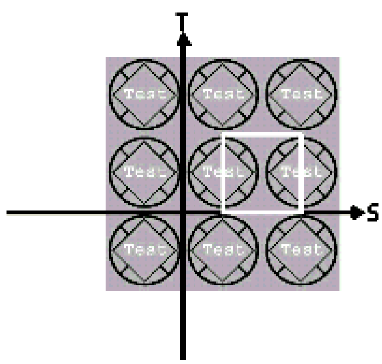
- ***Texture coordinates*** **and** ***texture coordinate indexes*** **specify a texture piece shape (the cookie cutter)**

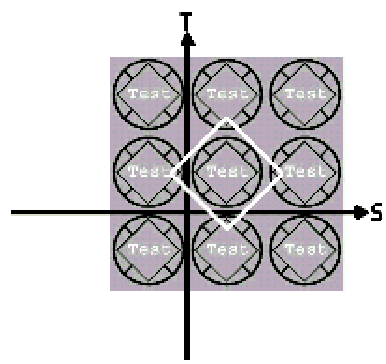


0.0 0.0,
1.0 0.0,
1.0 1.0,
0.0 1.0

Applying texture transforms

- ***Texture transforms*** **translate, rotate, and scale the texture coordinates (placing the cookie cutter)**





Texturing a face

- **Bind the texture to a face (stretch the cookie and stick it)**

Working through the texturing process

- **Select piece with texture coordinates and indexes**
  - **Create a cookie cutter**

- **Transform the texture coordinates**
  - **Position and orient the cookie cutter**

- **Bind the texture to a face**
  - **Stamp out the texture and stick it on a face**

- **The process is *very similar* to creating faces!**

Syntax: TextureCoordinate

- **A `TextureCoordinate` node contains a list of texture coordinates**

```
TextureCoordinate {
    point [ 0.2 0.2, 0.8 0.2, . . . ]
}
```

- **Used as the `texCoord` field value of `IndexedFaceSet` or `ElevationGrid` nodes**

Syntax: IndexedFaceSet

- **An IndexedFaceSet geometry node creates geometry out of faces**
  - **`texCoord` and `texCoordIndex` - specify texture pieces**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry IndexedFaceSet {
        coord Coordinate { . . . }
        coordIndex [ . . . ]
        texCoord TextureCoordinate { . . . }
        texCoordIndex [ . . . ]
    }
}
```

Syntax: ElevationGrid

- **An `ElevationGrid` geometry node creates terrains**
  - **`texCoord` - specify texture pieces**
  - **Automatically generated texture coordinate indexes**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance { . . . }
    geometry ElevationGrid {
        height [ . . . ]
        texCoord TextureCoordinate { . . . }
    }
}
```

Syntax: Appearance

- **An `Appearance` node describes overall shape appearance**
  - **`textureTransform` - transform**

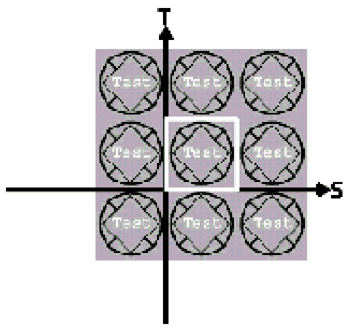
```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { . . . }
        texture ImageTexture { . . . }
        textureTransform TextureTransform { . . . }
    }
    geometry . . .
}
```

Syntax: TextureTransform

- **A `TextureTransform` node transforms texture coordinates**
    - `translation` **- position**
    - `rotation` **- orientation**
    - `scale` **- size**

```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { . . . }
        texture ImageTexture { . . . }
        textureTransform TextureTransform {
            translation 0.0 0.0
            rotation    0.0
            scale       1.0 1.0
        }
    }
}
```

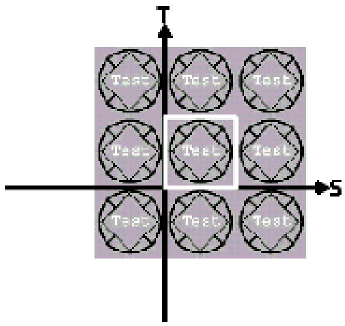
A sample using no transform



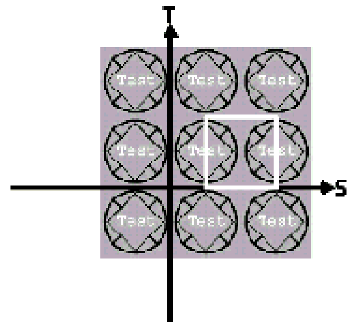
a. Texture in texture space

b. Texture on shape

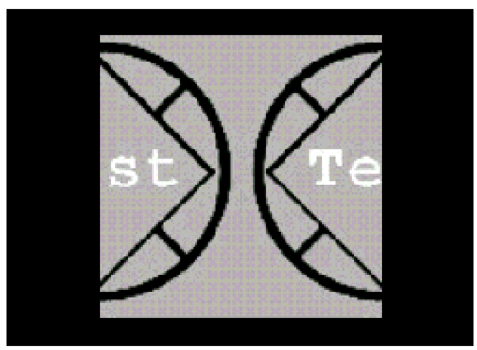
A sample using translation



a. Texture in texture space

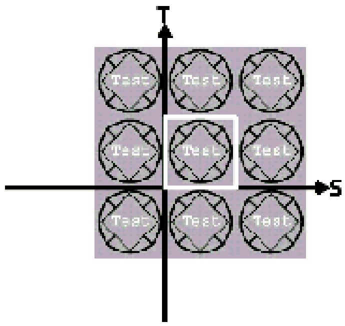


b. Translated cookie cutter

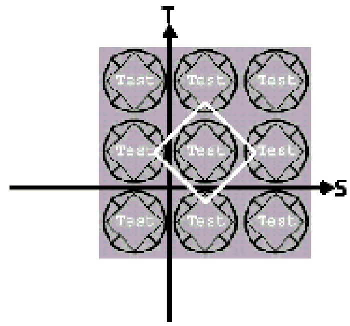


c. Texture on shape

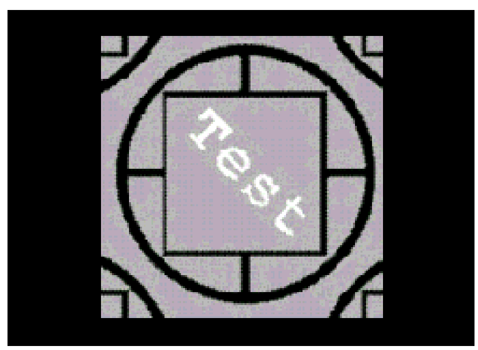
A sample using rotation



a. Texture in texture space

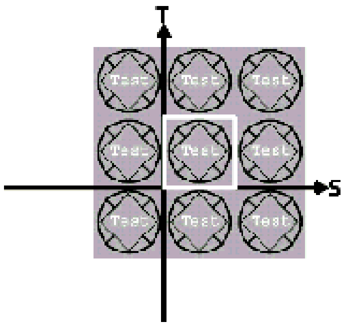


b. Rotated cookie cutter

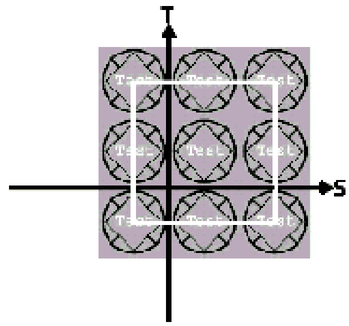


c. Texture on shape

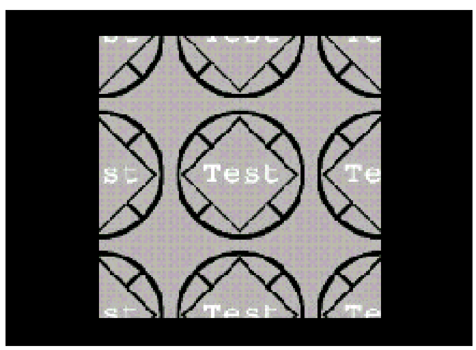
A sample using scale



a. Texture in texture space



b. Scaled cookie cutter



c. Texture on shape

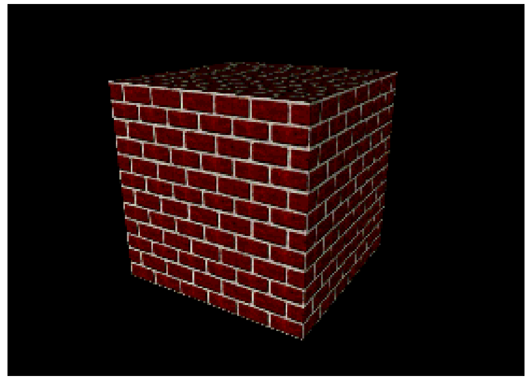
A sample using texture coordinates

a. Texture image

[cookie.wrl]
b. Texture on shapes

A sample using scale

a. Texture image



[brickb.wrl]
b. Texture on shape

Scaling, rotating, and translating

- ***Scale*, *Rotate*, and *Translate* a texture cookie cutter one after the other**

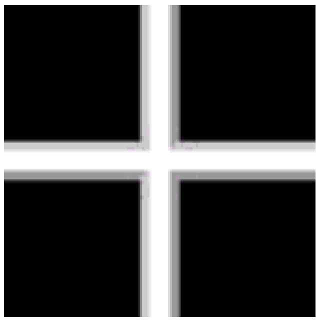
```
Shape {
    appearance Appearance {
        material Material { . . . }
        texture ImageTexture { . . . }
        textureTransform TextureTransform {
            translation 0.0 0.0
            rotation .785
            scale 8.5 8.5
        }
    }
}
```

Scaling, rotating, and translating

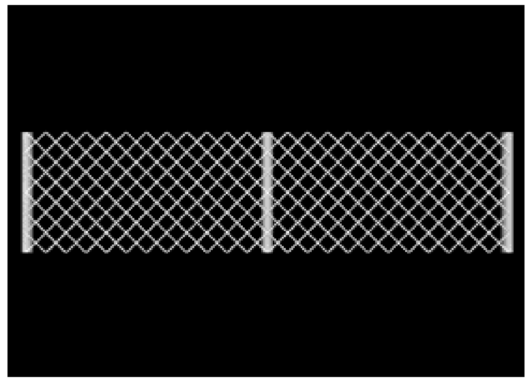
- **Read texture transform operations *top-down*:**
  - **The cookie cutter is translated, rotated, then scaled**
  - **Order is fixed, independent of field order**
  - **This is the *reverse* of a `Transform` node**

- **This is a significant difference between VRML 2.0 and ISO VRML 97**
  - **VRML 2.0 uses scale, rotate, translate order**
  - **ISO VRML 97 uses translate, rotate, scale order**

A sample using scale and rotation



a. Texture image



[fence.wrl]
b. Texture on shape

Summary

- **Texture images are in a texture coordinate system**

- **Texture coordinates and indexes describe a texture cookie cutter**

- **Texture transforms translate, rotate, and scale place the cookie cutter**

- **Texture indexes bind the cut-out cookie texture to a face on a shape**

Motivation

Example

Using types of lights

Using common lighting features

Using common lighting features

Syntax: PointLight

Syntax: DirectionalLight

Syntax: SpotLight

Syntax: SpotLight

Example

Summary

Motivation

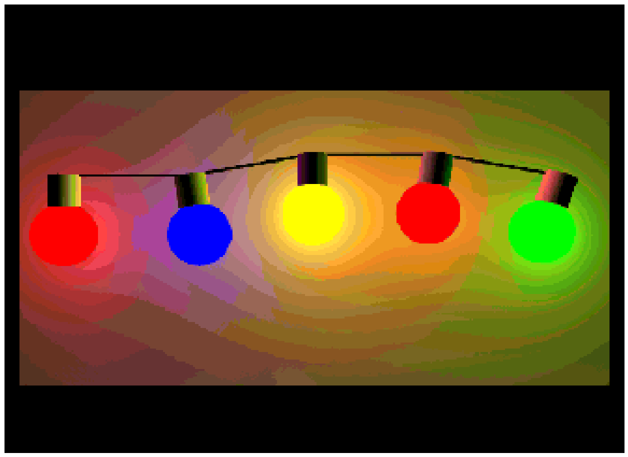
- **By default, you have one light in the scene, attached to your head**

- **For more realism, you can add multiple lights**
    - **Suns, light bulbs, candles**
    - **Flashlights, spotlights, firelight**

- **Lights can be positioned, oriented, and colored**

- **Lights do not cast shadows**

Example



Using types of lights

- **Theer are three types of VRML lights**
  - ***Point lights* - radiate in all directions from a point**
  - ***Directional lights* - aim in one direction from infinitely far away**
  - ***Spot lights* - aim in one direction from a point, radiating in a cone**

Using common lighting features

- **All lights have several common fields:**
  - `on` **- turn it on or off**
  - `intensity` **- control brightness**
  - `ambientIntensity` **- control ambient effect**
  - `color` **- select color**

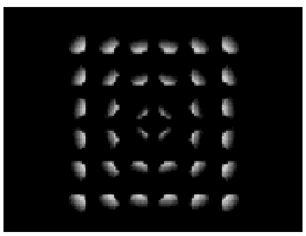
Using common lighting features

- **Point lights and spot lights also have:**
  - **`location` - position**
  - **`radius` - maximum lighting distance**
  - **`attenuation` - drop off with distance**

- **Directional lights and spot lights also have**
  - **`direction` - aim direction**

Syntax: PointLight

- **A `PointLight` node illuminates radially from a point**

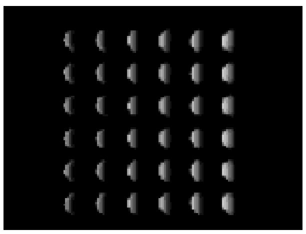


[pntlite.wrl]

```
PointLight {
    location 0.0 0.0 0.0
    intensity 1.0
    color 1.0 1.0 1.0
}
```

Syntax: DirectionalLight

- **A `DirectionalLight` node illuminates in one direction from infinitely far away**

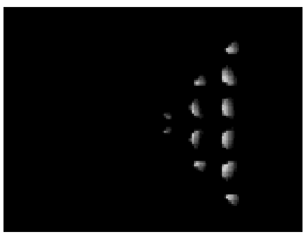


[dirlite.wrl]

```
DirectionalLight {
    direction 1.0 0.0 0.0
    intensity 1.0
    color 1.0 1.0 1.0
}
```

Syntax: SpotLight

- **A `SpotLight` node illuminates from a point, in one direction, within a cone**



[sptlite.wrl]

```
SpotLight {
    location  0.0 0.0 0.0
    direction 1.0 0.0 0.0
    intensity 1.0
    color 1.0 1.0 1.0
    cutOffAngle 0.785
}
```

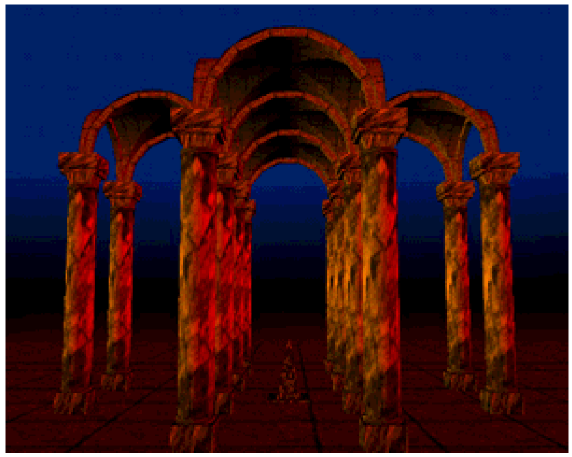
Syntax: SpotLight

- **The maximum width of a spot light's cone is controlled by the `cutOffAngle` field**

- **An inner cone region with constant brightness is controlled by the `beamWidth` field**

```
SpotLight {
     . . .
     cutOffAngle 0.785
     beamWidth   0.52
}
```

Example



[temple.wrl]

Summary

- **There are three types of lights: point, directional, and spot**

- **All lights have an on/off, intensity, ambient effect, and color**

- **Point and spot lights have a location, radius, and attenuation**

- **Directional and spot lights have a direction**

Adding backgrounds

Motivation

Using the background components

Using the background components

Syntax: Background

Using sky angles and colors

Using ground angles and colors

A sample background

A sample background

Syntax: Background

A sample background image

A sample background

A sample background

Summary

Motivation

- **Shapes form the *foreground* of your scene**

- **You can add a *background* to provide context**

- **Backgrounds describe:**
  - **Sky and ground colors**
  - **Panorama images of mountains, cities, etc**

- **Backgrounds are faster to draw than if you used shapes to build them**

Using the background components

- **A background creates three special shapes:**
  - **A *sky sphere***
  - **A *ground hemisphere* inside the sky sphere**
  - **A *panorama box* inside the ground hemisphere**

- **The sky sphere and ground hemisphere are shaded with a color gradient**

- **The panorama box is texture mapped with six images**

Using the background components

- **Transparent parts of the ground hemisphere reveal the sky sphere**
- **Transparent parts of the panorama box reveal the ground and sky**
- **The viewer can look up, down, and side-to-side to see different parts of the background**
- **The viewer can never get closer to the background**

Syntax: Background

- **A `Background` node describes background colors**
  - **`skyColor` and `skyAngle` - sky gradation**
  - **`groundColor` and `groundAngle` - ground gradation**

```
Background {
    skyColor    [ 0.1 0.1 0.0, . . . ]
    skyAngle    [ 1.309, 1.571 ]
    groundColor [ 0.0 0.2 0.7, . . . ]
    groundAngle [ 1.309, 1.571 ]
}
```

Using sky angles and colors

- **The first sky color is at the north pole**
- **The remaining sky colors are at given sky angles**
  - **The maximum angle is 180 degrees = 3.1415 radians**
- **The last color smears on down to the south pole**

Using ground angles and colors

- **The first ground color is at the south pole**

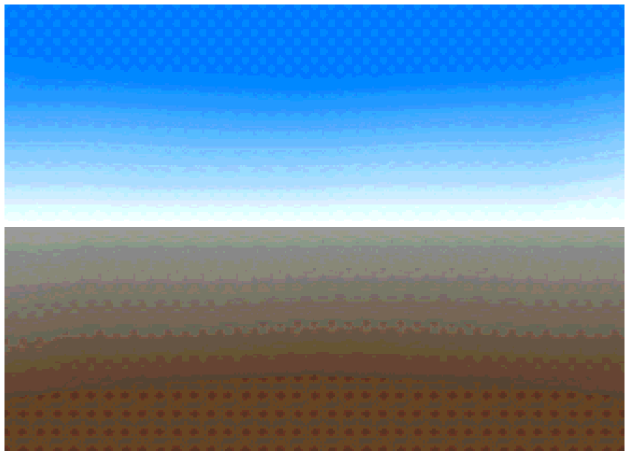
- **The remaining ground colors are at given ground angles**
  - **The maximum angle is 90 degrees = 1.5708 radians**

- **After the last color, the rest of the hemisphere is transparent**

A sample background

```
Background {
    skyColor [
        0.0 0.2 0.7,
        0.0 0.5 1.0,
        1.0 1.0 1.0
    ]
    skyAngle [ 1.309, 1.571 ]
    groundColor [
        0.1 0.10 0.0,
        0.4 0.25 0.2,
        0.6 0.60 0.6,
    ]
    groundAngle [ 1.309, 1.571 ]
}
```

A sample background



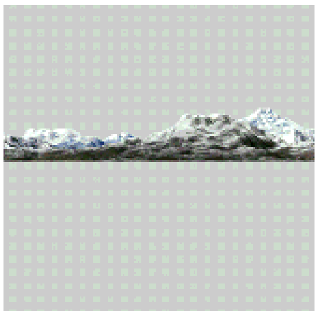
[back.wrl]

Syntax: Background

- **A `Background` node describes background images**
  - **`frontUrl`, etc - texture image URLs for box**

```
Background {
    . . .
    frontUrl  "mountns.png"
    backUrl   "mountns.png"
    leftUrl   "mountns.png"
    rightUrl  "mountns.png"
    topUrl    "clouds.png"
    bottomUrl "ground.png"
}
```

A sample background image



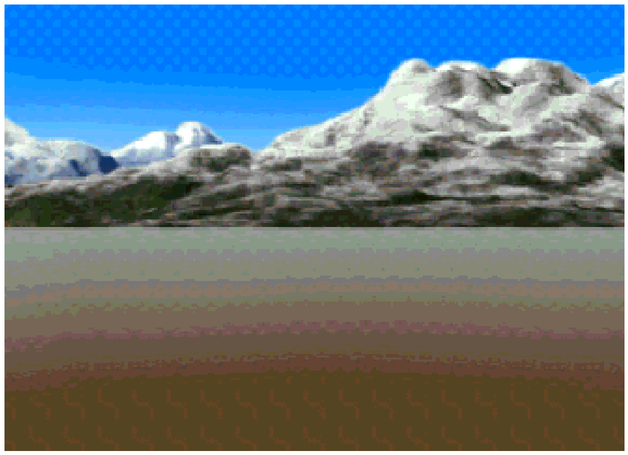
a. Color portion of mountains texture

b. Transparency portion of mountains texture

A sample background

```
Background {
    skyColor [
        0.0 0.2 0.7,
        0.0 0.5 1.0,
        1.0 1.0 1.0
    ]
    skyAngle [ 1.309, 1.571 ]
    groundColor [
        0.1 0.10 0.0,
        0.4 0.25 0.2,
        0.6 0.60 0.6,
    ]
    groundAngle [ 1.309, 1.571 ]
    frontUrl "mountns.png"
    backUrl  "mountns.png"
    leftUrl  "mountns.png"
    rightUrl "mountns.png"
    # no top or bottom images
}
```

A sample background



[back2.wrl]

Summary

- **Backgrounds describe:**
  - **Ground and sky color gradients on ground hemisphere and sky sphere**
  - **Panorama images on a panorama box**
- **The viewer can look around, but never get closer to the background**

Adding fog

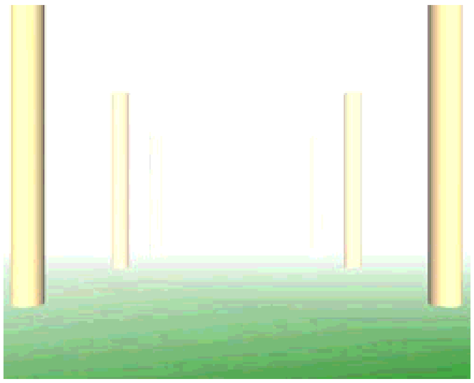
Motivation

- **Fog increases realism:**
  - **Add fog outside to create hazy worlds**
  - **Add fog inside to create dark dungeons**
  - **Use fog to set a mood**

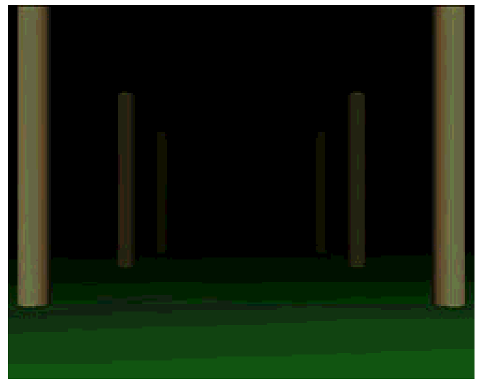
- **The further the viewer can see, the more you have to model and draw**

- **To reduce development time and drawing time, limit the viewer's sight by using fog**

Examples



[fog2.wrl]



[fog4.wrl]

Using fog visibility controls

- **The *fog type* selects linear or exponential visibility reduction with distance**
  - **Linear is easier to control**
  - **Exponential is more realistic and "thicker"**

- **The *visibility range* selects the distance where the fog reaches maximum thickness**
  - **Fog is "clear" at the viewer, and gradually reduces visibility**

Selecting a fog color

- **Fog has a *fog color***
  - **White is typical, but black, red, etc. also possible**

- ***Shapes* are faded to the fog color with distance**

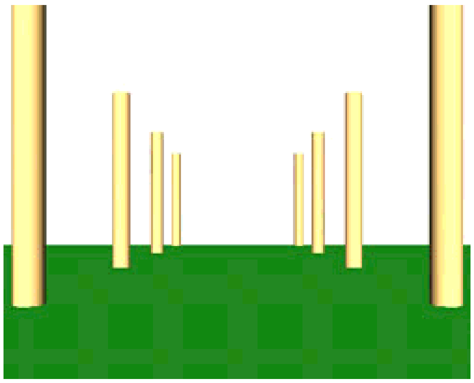
- **The background is unaffected**
  - **For the best effect, make the background the fog color**

Syntax: Fog

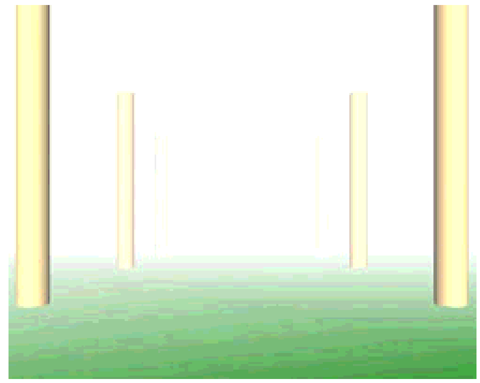
- **A `Fog` node creates colored fog**
  - **`color` - fog color**
  - **`fogType` - `LINEAR` or `EXPONENTIAL`**
  - **`visibilityRange` - maximum visibility limit**

```
Fog {
     color 1.0 1.0 1.0
     fogType "LINEAR"
     visibilityRange 10.0
}
```

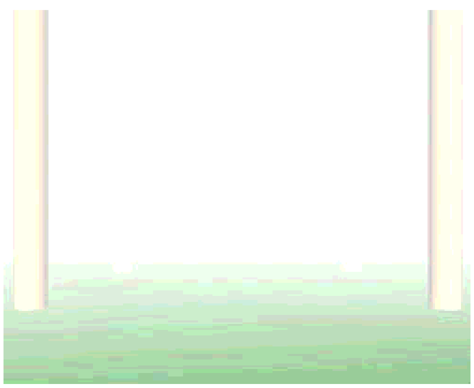
Several fog samples



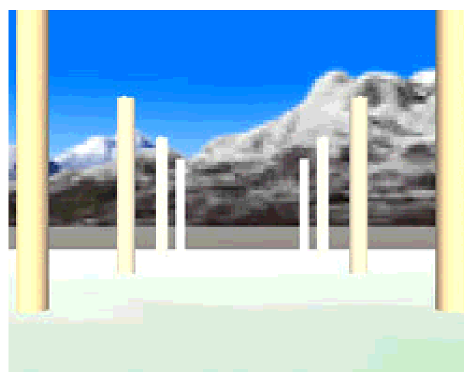
[fog1.wrl]
a. No fog



[fog2.wrl]
b. Linear fog, visibility range 30.0



[fog3.wrl]
c. Exponential fog, visibility range 30.0



[fog5.wrl]
c. Linear fog with a background
(don’t do this!)

Summary

- **Fog has a color, a type, and a visibility range**

- **Fog can be used to set a mood, even indoors**

- **Fog limits the viewer's sight:**
  - **Reduces the amount of the world you have to build**
  - **Reduces the amount of the world that must be drawn**

Motivation

Creating sounds

Syntax: AudioClip

Syntax: MovieTexture

Selecting sound source types

Syntax: Sound

Syntax: Sound

Syntax: Sound

Setting the sound range

Creating triggered sounds

A sample using triggered sound

A sample using triggered sound

Creating continuous localized sounds

A sample using continuous localized sound

A sample using continuous localized sound

Creating continuous background sounds

Summary

Motivation

- **Sounds can be triggered by viewer actions**
  - **Clicks, horn honks, door latch noises**

- **Sounds can be continuous in the background**
  - **Wind, crowd noises, elevator music**

- **Sounds emit from a location, in a direction, within an area**

Creating sounds

- **Sounds have two components**
  - **A *sound source* providing a sound signal**
    - **Like a stereo component**

  - **A *sound emitter* converts a signal to virtual sound**
    - **Like a stereo speaker**

Syntax: AudioClip

- **An `AudioClip` node creates a digital sound source**
  - **`url` - a sound file URL**
  - **`pitch` - playback speed**
  - **playback controls, like a `TimeSensor` node**

```
Sound {
    source AudioClip {
        url "myfile.wav"
        pitch 1.0
        startTime 0.0
        stopTime  0.0
        loop FALSE
    }
}
```

Syntax: MovieTexture

- **A `MovieTexture` node creates a movie sound source**
  - **`url` - a texture move file URL**
  - **`speed` - playback speed**
  - **playback controls, like a `TimeSensor` node**

```
Sound {
    source MovieTexture {
        url "movie.mpg"
        speed 1.0
        startTime 0.0
        stopTime  0.0
        loop FALSE
    }
}
```

Selecting sound source types

- **Supported by the `AudioClip` node:**
  - ***WAV* - digital sound files**
    - **Good for sound effects**

  - ***MIDI* - General MIDI musical performance files**
    - **MIDI files are good for background music**

- **Supported by the `MovieTexture` node:**
  - ***MPEG* - movie file with sound**
    - **Good for virtual TVs**

Syntax: Sound

- **A `Sound` node describes a sound emitter**
  - **`source` - `AudioClip` or `MovieTexture` node**
  - **`location` and `direction` - emitter placement**

```
Sound {
    source AudioClip { . . . }
    location  0.0 0.0 0.0
    direction 0.0 0.0 1.0
}
```

Syntax: Sound

- **A `Sound` node describes a sound emitter**
  - `intensity` **- volume**
  - `spatialize` **- use spatialize processing**
  - `priority` **- prioritize the sound**

```
Sound {
     . . .
     intensity 1.0
     spatialize TRUE
     priority 0.0
}
```

Syntax: Sound

- **A `Sound` node describes a sound emitter**
  - **`minFront`, `minBack` - inner ellipsoid**
  - **`maxFront`, `maxBack` - outer ellipsoid**

```
Sound {
    . . .
    minFront 1.0
    minBack  1.0
    maxFront 10.0
    maxBack  10.0
}
```

Setting the sound range

- **The sound range fields specify two *ellipsoids***
  - **`minFront` and `minBack` control an inner ellipsoid**
  - **`maxFront` and `maxBack` control an outer ellipsoid**

- **Sound has a constant volume inside the inner ellipsoid**

- **Sound drops to zero volume from the inner to the outer ellipsoid**

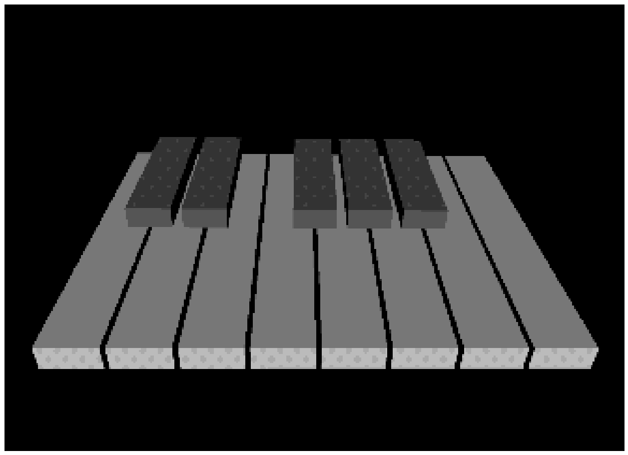
Creating triggered sounds

- `AudioClip` **node:**
  - `loop FALSE`
  - **Set `startTime` from a sensor node**
- `Sound` **node:**
  - `spatialize TRUE`
  - `minFront` **etc. with small values**
  - `priority 1.0`

A sample using triggered sound

```
Group {
    children [
        Shape {
            appearance Appearance {
                material Material { diffuseColor 1.0 1.0 1.0
            }
            geometry Box { size 0.23 0.1 1.5 }
        }
        DEF C4 TouchSensor { }
        Sound {
            source DEF PitchC4 AudioClip {
                url "tone1.wav"
                pitch 1.0
            }
            maxFront 100.0
            maxBack 100.0
        }
    ]
}
ROUTE C4.touchTime TO PitchC4.set_startTime
```

A sample using triggered sound



[kbd.wrl]

Creating continuous localized sounds

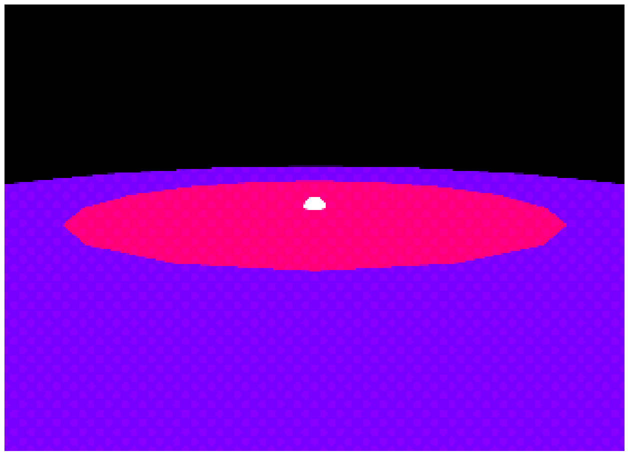
- `AudioClip` node:
    - `loop TRUE`
    - `startTime 0.0` (default)
    - `stopTime 0.0` (default)

- `Sound` node:
    - `spatialize TRUE` (default)
    - `minFront` etc. with medium values
    - `priority 0.0` (default)

A sample using continuous localized sound

```
Sound {
    source AudioClip {
        url "willow1.wav"
        loop TRUE
        startTime 1.0
        stopTime 0.0
    }
    minFront 5.0
    minBack  5.0
    maxFront 10.0
    maxBack  10.0
}
Transform {
    translation 0.0 -1.65 0.0
    children [
        Inline { url "sndmark.wrl" }
    ]
}
```

A sample using continuous localized sound



[ambient.wrl]

Creating continuous background sounds

- `AudioClip` node:
  - `loop TRUE`
  - `startTime 0.0` (default)
  - `stopTime 0.0` (default)

- `Sound` node:
  - `spatialize FALSE` (default)
  - `minFront` etc. with large values
  - `priority 0.0` (default)

Summary

- **An `AudioClip` node or a `MovieTexture` node describe a sound source**
  - **A URL gives the sound file**
  - **Looping, start time, and stop time control playback**

- **A `Sound` node describes a sound emitter**
  - **A source node provides the sound**
  - **Range fields describe the sound volume**

Controlling the viewpoint

Motivation

Creating viewpoints

Syntax: Viewpoint

A sample using multiple viewpoints

Summary

Motivation

- **By default, the viewer enters a world at (0.0, 0.0, 10.0)**
- **You can provide your own preferred view points**
  - **Select the entry point position**
  - **Select favorite views for the viewer**
  - **Name the views for a browser menu**

Creating viewpoints

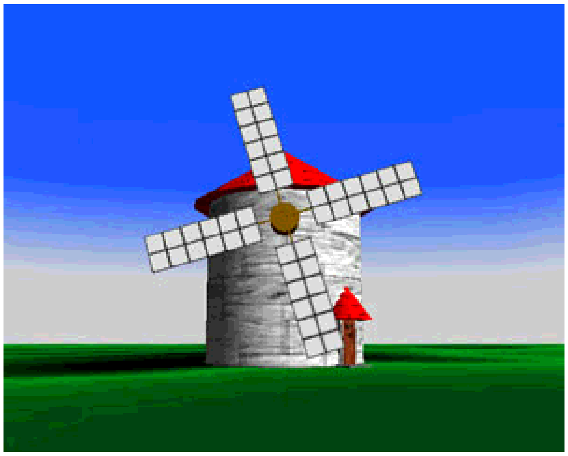
- **Viewpoints specify a desired location, an orientation, and a camera field of view lens angle**
- **Viewpoints can be transformed using a `Transform` node**
- **The first viewpoint found in a file is the entry point**

Syntax: Viewpoint

- **A `Viewpoint` node specifies a named viewing location**
  - **`position` and `orientation` - viewing location**
  - **`fieldOfView` - camera lens angle**
  - **`description` - description for viewpoint menu**

```
Viewpoint {
    position    0.0 0.0 10.0
    orientation 0.0 0.0 1.0 0.0
    fieldOfView 0.785
    description "Entry View"
}
```

A sample using multiple viewpoints



[windmill.wrl]

Summary

- **Specify favorite viewpoints in `Viewpoint` nodes**
- **The first viewpoint in the file is the entry viewpoint**

Controlling navigation

Motivation

- **Different types of worlds require different styles of navigation**
  - **Walk through a dungeon**
  - **Fly through a cloud world**
  - **Examine shapes in a CAD application**

- **You can select the navigation type**

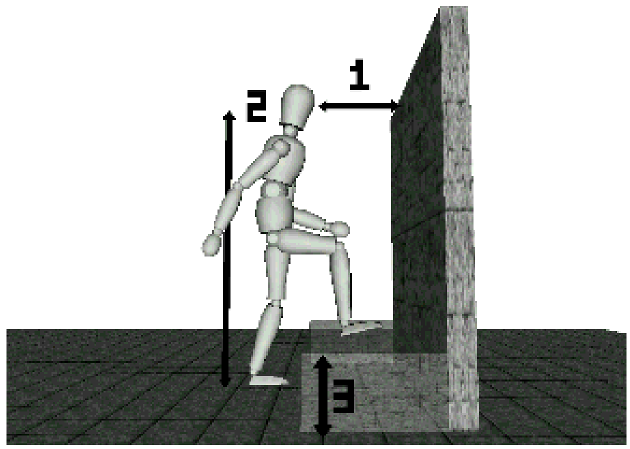
- **You can describe the size and speed of the viewer's *avatar***

Selecting navigation types

- **There are five standard navigation keywords:**
  - **`WALK` - walk, pulled down by gravity**
  - **`FLY` - fly, unaffected by gravity**
  - **`EXAMINE` - examine an object at "arms length"**
  - **`NONE` - no navigation, movement controlled by world not viewer!**
  - **`ANY` - allows user to change navigation type**

- **Some browsers support additional navigation types**

Specifying avatars



- **Avatar size (width, height, step height) and speed can be specified**

Controlling the headlight

- **By default, a *headlight* is placed on the avatar's head and aimed in the head direction**

- **You can turn this headlight on and off**
  - **Most browsers provide a menu option to control the headlight**
  - **You can also control the headlight with the `NavigationInfo` node**

Syntax: NavigationInfo

- **A `NavigationInfo` node selects the navigation type and avatar characteristics**
  - **`type` - navigation style**
  - **`avatarSize` and `speed` - avatar characteristics**
  - **`headlight` - headlight on or off**

```
NavigationInfo {
    type        [ "WALK", "ANY" ]
    avatarSize [ 0.25, 1.6, 0.75 ]
    speed       1.0
    headlight   TRUE
}
```

Summary

- **The navigation type specifies how a viewer can move in a world**
  - **walk, fly, examine, or none**

- **The avatar overall size and speed specify the viewer's avatar characteristics**

Motivation

Sensing the viewer

Using visibility and proximity sensors

Syntax: VisibilitySensor

Syntax: ProximitySensor

Syntax: ProximitySensor

Detecting viewer-shape collision

Creating collision groups

Syntax: Collision

A sample use of proximity sensors and collision groups

Optimizing collision detection

Using multiple sensors

Summary

Summary

Summary

Motivation

- **Sensing the viewer enables you to trigger animations**
  - **when a region is visible to the viewer**
  - **when the viewer is within a region**
  - **when the viewer collides with a shape**

- **The `LOD` and `Billboard` nodes are special-purpose viewer sensors with built-in responses**

Sensing the viewer

- **There are three types of viewer sensors:**
  - **A `VisibilitySensor` node senses if the viewer can see a region**
  - **A `ProximitySensor` node senses if the viewer is within a region**
  - **A `Collision` node senses if the viewer has collided with shapes**

Using visibility and proximity sensors

- **`VisibilitySensor` and `ProximitySensor` nodes sense a box-shaped region**
  - **`center` - region center**
  - **`size` - region dimensions**

- **Both nodes have similar outputs:**
  - **`enterTime` - sends time on visible or region entry**
  - **`exitTime` - sends time on not visible or region exit**
  - **`isActive` - sends true on entry, false on exit**

Syntax: VisibilitySensor

- **A `VisibilitySensor` node senses if the viewer sees or stops seeing a region**
  - **`center` and `size` - the region's location and size**
  - **`enterTime` and `exitTime` - sends time on entry/exit**
  - **`isActive` - sends true/false on entry/exit**

```
DEF VisSense VisibilitySensor {
    center 0.0 0.0 0.0
    size   14.0 14.0 14.0
}
ROUTE VisSense.enterTime TO Clock.set_startTime
```

Syntax: ProximitySensor

- **A `ProximitySensor` node senses if the viewer enters or leaves a region**
  - **`center` and `size` - the region's location and size**
  - **`enterTime` and `exitTime` - sends time on entry/exit**
  - **`isActive` - sends true/false on entry/exit**

```
DEF ProxSense ProximitySensor {
    center 0.0 0.0 0.0
    size   14.0 14.0 14.0
}
ROUTE ProxSense.enterTime TO Clock.set_startTime
```

Syntax: ProximitySensor

- **A `ProximitySensor` node senses the viewer while in a region**
  - **`position` and `orientation` - sends position and orientation while viewer is in the region**

```
DEF ProxSense ProximitySensor { . . . }

ROUTE ProxSense.position_changed TO PetRobotFollower.set_
```

Detecting viewer-shape collision

- **A `Collision` grouping node senses shapes within the group**
  - **Detects if the viewer collides with any shape in the group**
  - **Automatically stops the viewer from going through the shape**

- **Collision occurs when the viewer's avatar gets close to a shape**
  - **Collision distance is controlled by the avatar size in the `NavigationInfo` node**

Creating collision groups

- **Collision checking is *expensive* so, check for collision with a *proxy* shape instead**
  - **Proxy shapes are typically extremely simplified versions of the actual shapes**
  - **Proxy shapes are never drawn**

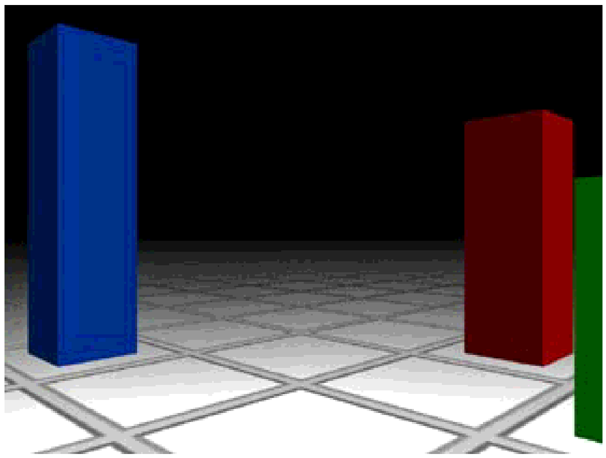
- **A collision group with a proxy shape, but no children, creates an invisible collidable shape**
  - **Windows and invisible railings**
  - **Invisible world limits**

Syntax: Collision

- **A `Collision` grouping node senses if the viewer collides with group shapes**
  - **`collide` - enable/disable sensor**
  - **`proxy` - simple shape to sense instead of children**
  - **`children` - children to sense**
  - **`collideTime` - sends time on collision**

```
DEF Collide Collision {
    collide TRUE
    proxy Shape { geometry Box { . . . } }
    children [ . . . ]
}
ROUTE Collide.collideTime TO OuchSound.set_startTime
```

A sample use of proximity sensors and collision groups



[prox2.wrl]

Optimizing collision detection

- **Collision is on by default**
  - **Turn it off whenever possible!**
- **However, once a parent turns off collision, a child can't turn it back on!**
- **Collision results from viewer colliding with a shape, but not from a shape colliding with a viewer**

Using multiple sensors

- **Any number of sensors can sense at the same time**
  - **You can have multiple visibility, proximity, and collision sensors**
  - **Sensor areas can overlap**
  - **If multiple sensors should trigger, they do**

Summary

- **A `VisibilitySensor` node checks if a region is visible to the viewer**
  - **The region is described by a center and a size**
  - **Time is sent on entry and exit of visibility**
  - **True/false is sent on entry and exit of visibility**

Summary

- **A `ProximitySensor` node checks if the viewer is within a region**
  - **The region is described by a center and a size**
  - **Time is sent on viewer entry and exit**
  - **True/false is sent on viewer entry and exit**
  - **Position and orientation of the viewer is sent while within the sensed region**

Summary

- **A `Collision` grouping node checks if the viewer has run into a shape**
  - **The shapes are defined by the group's children or a proxy**

  - **Collision time is sent on contact**

Summary examples

A doorway

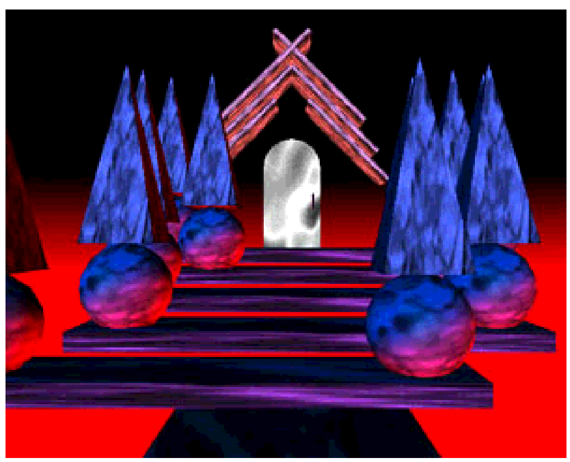
A mysterious temple

Depth-cueing using fog

A heads-up display

A doorway

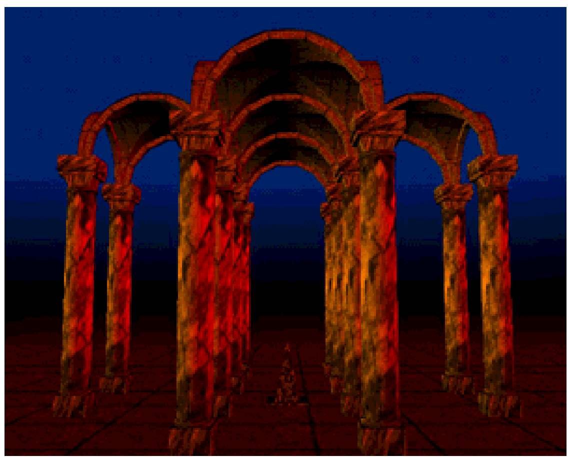
- **A set of `ImageTexture` nodes add marble textures**
- **Lighting nodes create dramatic lighting**
- **A `Fog` node fades distant shapes**
- **A `ProximitySensor` node controls animation**



[doorway.wrl]

A mysterious temple

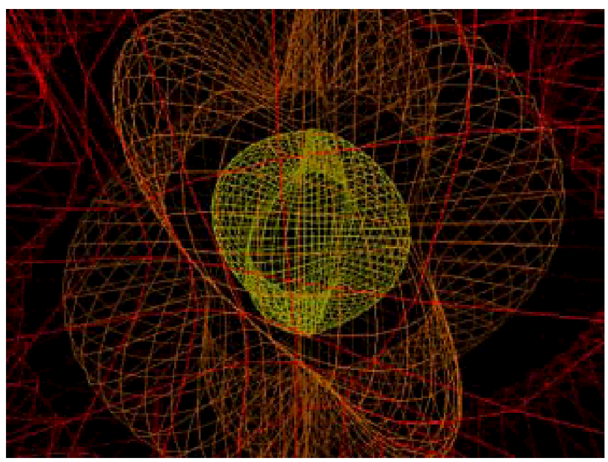
- **A `Background` node creates a sky gradient**
- **A `Sound` node creates a spatialized sound effect**
- **A set of `Viewpoint` nodes provide standard views**



[temple.wrl]

Depth-cueing using fog

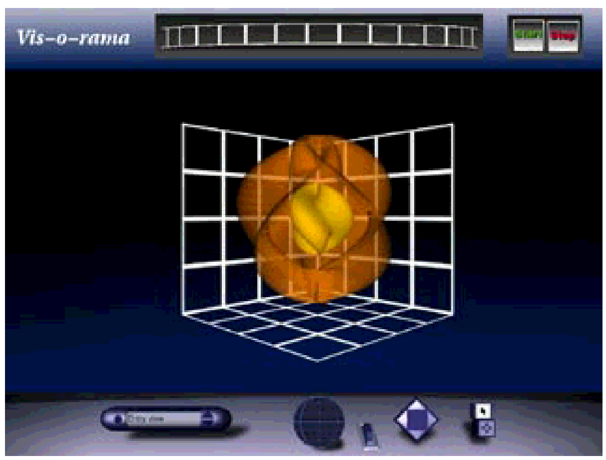
- **Multiple `IndexedLineSet` nodes create wireframe isosurfaces**
- **A `Fog` node with black fog fades out distant lines for depth-cueing**



[isoline.wrl]

A heads-up display

- **A `ProximitySensor` node tracks the viewer and moves a panel at each step**
- **The panel contains shapes and sensors to control the content**



[hud.wrl]

Motivation

Example

Creating multiple shape versions

Controlling level of detail

Syntax: LOD

Choosing detail ranges

Optimizing a shape

A sample of detail levels

A sample LOD

A sample LOD

Summary

Motivation

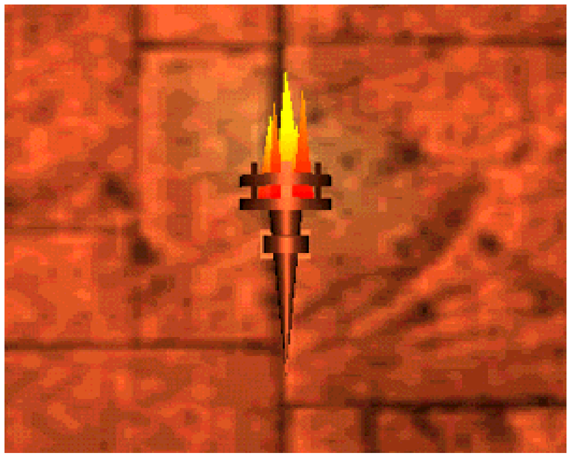
- **The further the viewer can see, the more there is to draw**

- **If a shape is distant:**
  - **The shape is smaller**
  - **The viewer can't see as much detail**
  - **So... draw it with less detail**

- **Varying detail with distance reduces upfront download time, and increases drawing speed**

Controlling detail

Example



[prox1.wrl]

Creating multiple shape versions

- **To control detail, model the *same shape* several times**
  - **high detail for when the viewer is close up**
  - **medium detail for when the viewer is nearish**
  - **low detail for when the viewer is distant**

- **Usually, two or three different versions is enough, but you can have as many as you want**

Controlling level of detail

- **Group the shape versions as *levels* in an `LOD` grouping node**
  - ***LOD* is short for *Level of Detail***
  - **List them from highest to lowest detail**

Syntax: LOD

- **An `LOD` grouping node creates a group of shapes describing different levels (versions) of the same shape**
  - **`center` - the center of the shape**
  - **`range` - a list of level switch ranges**
  - **`level` - a list of shape levels**

```
LOD {
    center 0.0 0.0 0.0
    range [ . . . ]
    level [ . . . ]
}
```

Choosing detail ranges

- **Use a list of ranges for level switch points**
  - **If you have 3 levels, you need 2 ranges**
  - **Ranges are *hints* to the browser**

```
range [ 5.0, 10.0 ]
```

shape center —— **5.0** —— **10.0** ——

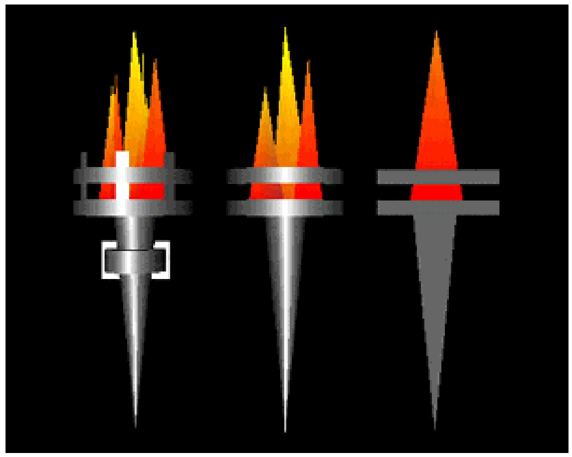
Viewer <= 5.0	Viewer <= 10.0	Viewer > 10.0
Show 1st level	Show 2nd level	Show 3rd level

Optimizing a shape

- **Suggested procedure to make different levels (versions):**
  - **Make the high detail shape first**
  - **Copy it to make a medium detail level**
  - **Move the medium detail shape to a desired switch distance**
  - **Delete parts that aren't dominant**
  - **Repeat for a low detail level**

- **Lower detail levels should use simpler geometry, fewer textures, and no text**

A sample of detail levels



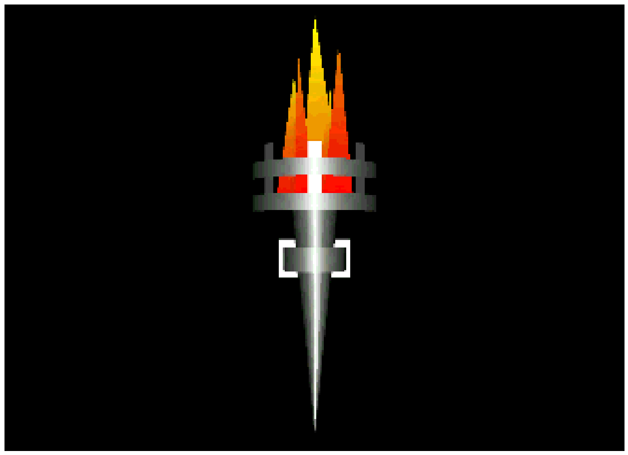
[torches3.wrl]

A sample LOD

```
LOD {
    center 0.0 0.0 0.0
    range [ 7.0, 10.0 ]
    level [
        Inline { url "torch1.wrl" }
        Inline { url "torch2.wrl" }
        Inline { url "torch3.wrl" }
    ]
}
```

Controlling detail

A sample LOD



[torches.wrl]

Summary

- **Increase performance by making multiple levels of shapes**
  - **High detail for close up viewing**
  - **Lower detail for more distant viewing**

- **Group the levels in an `LOD` node**
  - **Ordered from high detail to low detail**
  - **Ranges to select switching distances**

Introducing script use

Motivation

Syntax: Script

Defining the program script interface

Data types

Data types

A sample using a program script

A sample using a program script

Summary

Motivation

- **Many actions are too complex for animation nodes**
  - **Computed animation paths (eg. gravity)**
  - **Algorithmic shapes (eg. fractals)**
  - **Collaborative environments (eg. games)**

- **You can create new sensors, interpolators, etc., using program scripts written in**
  - ***Java* - powerful general-purpose language**
  - ***JavaScript* - easy-to-learn language**
  - ***VRMLscript* - same as JavaScript**

Syntax: Script

- **A `Script` node selects a program script to run:**
  - **`url` - choice of program script**

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    url "bouncer.class"
or...
    url "bouncer.js"
or...
    url "javascript: ..."
or...
    url "vrmlscript: ..."
}
```

Defining the program script interface

- **A `Script` node also declares the program script interface**
  - **`field`, `eventIn`, and `eventOut` - inputs and outputs**
    - **Each has a name and data type**
    - **Fields have an initial value**

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    field    SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed
}
```

Data types

Data type	Meaning
`SFBool`	Boolean, true or false value
`SFColor, MFColor`	RGB color value
`SFFloat, MFFloat`	Floating point value
`SFImage`	Image value
`SFInt32, MFInt32`	Integer value
`SFNode, MFNode`	Node value

Data types

Data type	Meaning
`SFRotation, MFRotation`	Rotation value
`SFString, MFString`	Text string value
`SFTime`	Time value
`SFVec2f, MFVec2f`	XY floating point value
`SFVec3f, MFVec3f`	XYZ floating point value

A sample using a program script

```
DEF Clock TimeSensor { . . . }

DEF Ball Transform { . . . }

DEF Bouncer Script {
    field    SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed
    url "vrmlscript: . . ."
}

ROUTE Clock.fraction_changed TO Bouncer.set_fraction
ROUTE Bouncer.value_changed  TO Ball.set_translation
```

Introducing script use

A sample using a program script

[bounce1.wrl]

Summary

- **The `Script` node selects a program script, specified by a URL**

- **Program scripts have field and event interface declarations, each with**
  - **A data type**
  - **A name**
  - **An initial value (fields only)**

Writing program scripts with JavaScript

Motivation

Declaring a program script interface

Initializing a program script

Shutting down a program script

Responding to events

Processing events in JavaScript

Accessing fields from JavaScript

Accessing eventOuts from JavaScript

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

A sample JavaScript script

Building user interfaces

Building a toggle switch

Using a toggle switch

Using a toggle switch

Building a color selector

Using a color selector

Using a color selector

Summary

Motivation

- **A program script implements the `Script` node using values from the interface**
  - **The script responds to inputs and sends outputs**

- **A program script can be written in *Java*, *JavaScript*, *VRMLscript*, and other languages**
  - **JavaScript is easier to program**
  - **Java is more powerful**
  - **VRMLscript is essentially JavaScript**

Declaring a program script interface

- **For a JavaScript program script, typically give the script in the `Script` node's `url` field**

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    field    SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed
    url "javascript: . . ."
or...
    url "vrmlscript: . . ."
}
```

Initializing a program script

- **The optional `initialize` function is called when the script is loaded**

```
function initialize ( ) {
    . . .
}
```

- **Initialization occurs when:**
    - **the `Script` node is created (typically when the browser loads the world)**

Shutting down a program script

- **The optional `shutdown` function is called when the script is unloaded**

```
function shutdown ( ) {
    . . .
}
```

- **Shutdown occurs when:**
  - **the `Script` node is deleted**
  - **the browser loads a new world**

Responding to events

- **An *eventIn function* must be declared for each eventIn**

- **The eventIn function is called each time an event is received, passing the event's**
  - **value**
  - **time stamp**

```
function set_fraction( value, timestamp ) {
    . . .
}
```

Processing events in JavaScript

- **If multiple events arrive at once, then multiple eventIn functions are called**

- **The optional `eventsProcessed` function is called after all (or some) eventIn functions have been called**

```
function eventsProcessed ( ) {
    . . .
}
```

Accessing fields from JavaScript

- **Each interface field is a JavaScript variable**
  - **Read a variable to access the field value**
  - **Write a variable to change the field value**

```
lastval = bounceHeight;    // get field
bounceHeight = newval;     // set field
```

Accessing eventOuts from JavaScript

- **Each interface eventOut is a JavaScript variable**
  - **Read a variable to access the last eventOut value**
  - **Write a variable to send an event on the eventOut**

```
lastval = value_changed[0];  // get last event
value_changed[0] = newval;   // send new event
```

A sample JavaScript script

- **Create a *Bouncing ball interpolator* that computes a gravity-like vertical bouncing motion from a fractional time input**

- **Nodes needed:**

```
DEF Ball Transform {
    children [ . . . ]
}
DEF Clock TimeSensor {
    . . .
}
DEF Bouncer Script {
    . . .
}
```

A sample JavaScript script

- **Script fields needed:**
  - **Bounce height**

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    field SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    . . .
}
```

A sample JavaScript script

- **Inputs and outputs needed:**
  - **Fractional time input**
  - **Position value output**

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    . . .
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed
    . . .
}
```

A sample JavaScript script

- **Initialization and shutdown actions needed:**
  - **None - all work done in eventIn function**

A sample JavaScript script

- **Event processing actions needed:**
  - **`set_fraction` eventIn function**
  - **No need for `eventsProcessed` function**

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    . . .
    url "vrmlscript:
        function set_fraction( frac, tm ) {
            . . .
        }"
}
```

A sample JavaScript script

- **Calculations needed:**
  - **Compute new ball position**
  - **Send new position event**

- **Use a ball position equation roughly based upon Physics**
  - **See comments in the VRML file for the derivation of the equation**

A sample JavaScript script

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    field    SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed

    url "vrmlscript:
        function set_fraction( frac, tm ) {
            y = 4.0 * bounceHeight * frac * (1.0 - frac);
            value_changed[0] = 0.0;
            value_changed[1] = y;
            value_changed[2] = 0.0;
        }"
}
```

A sample JavaScript script

- **Routes needed:**
  - **Clock into script's `set_fraction`**
  - **Script's `value_changed` into transform**

```
ROUTE Clock.fraction_changed TO Bouncer.set_fraction
ROUTE Bouncer.value_changed  TO Ball.set_translation
```

A sample JavaScript script

```
DEF Ball Transform {
    children [
        Shape {
            appearance Appearance {
                material Material {
                    ambientIntensity 0.5
                    diffuseColor 1.0 1.0 1.0
                    specularColor 0.7 0.7 0.7
                    shininess 0.4
                }
                texture ImageTexture { url "beach.jpg" }
                textureTransform TextureTransform { scale 2.
            }
            geometry Sphere { }
        }
    ]
}
DEF Clock TimeSensor {
    cycleInterval 2.0
    startTime 1.0
    stopTime 0.0
    loop TRUE
}
DEF Bouncer Script {
    field    SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed

    url "vrmlscript:
        function set_fraction( frac, tm ) {
            y = 4.0 * bounceHeight * frac * (1.0 - frac);
            value_changed[0] = 0.0;
            value_changed[1] = y;
            value_changed[2] = 0.0;
        }"
}
ROUTE Clock.fraction_changed TO Bouncer.set_fraction
```

```
ROUTE Bouncer.value_changed  TO Ball.set_translation
```

A sample JavaScript script

[bounce1.wrl]

Building user interfaces

- **Program scripts can be used to help create 3D user interface widgets**
  - **Toggle buttons**
  - **Radio buttons**
  - **Rotary dials**
  - **Scrollbars**
  - **Text prompts**
  - **Debug message text**

Building a toggle switch

- **A toggle script turns on at 1st touch, off at 2nd**
  - **A `TouchSensor` node can supply touch events**

```
DEF Toggle Script {
    field    SFBool on TRUE
    eventIn  SFBool set_active
    eventOut SFBool on_changed

    url "vrmlscript:
        function set_active( b, ts ) {
            if ( b  == FALSE ) return;
            if ( on == TRUE  ) on = FALSE;
            else               on = TRUE;
            on_changed = on;
        }"
}
```

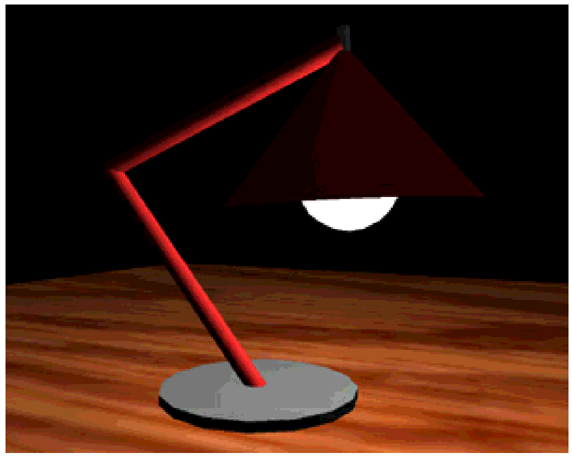
Using a toggle switch

- **Use the toggle switch to make a lamp turn on and off**

```
DEF LightSwitch TouchSensor { }
DEF LampLight SpotLight { . . . }

DEF Toggle Script { . . . }

ROUTE LightSwitch.isActive TO Toggle.set_active
ROUTE Toggle.on_changed    TO LampLight.set_on
```

Writing program scripts with JavaScript

Using a toggle switch



[lamp2a.wrl]

Building a color selector

- **The lamp on and off, but the light bulb doesn't change color!**

- **A color selector script sends an *on* color on a `TRUE` input, and an *off* color on a `FALSE` input**

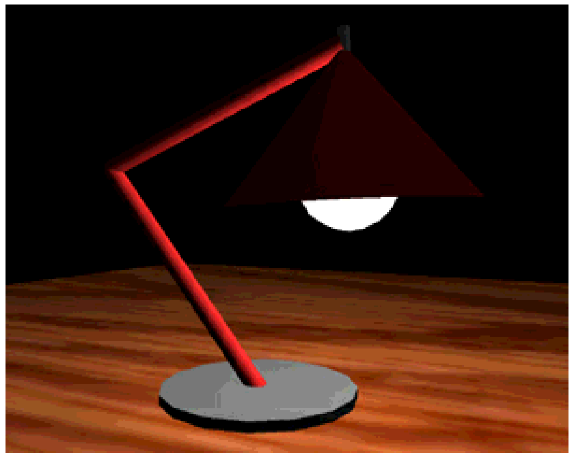
```
DEF ColorSelector Script {
    field    SFColor onColor  1.0 1.0 1.0
    field    SFColor offColor 0.0 0.0 0.0
    eventIn  SFBool  set_selection
    eventOut SFColor color_changed

    url "vrmlscript:
        function set_selection( b, ts ) {
            if ( b == TRUE ) color_changed = onColor;
            else             color_changed = offColor;
        }"
}
```

Using a color selector

- **Use the color selector to change the lamp bulb color**

```
DEF LightSwitch TouchSensor { }
DEF LampLight SpotLight { . . . }

DEF BulbMaterial Material { . . . }

DEF Toggle Script { . . . }

DEF ColorSelector Script { . . . }

ROUTE LightSwitch.isActive TO Toggle.set_active
ROUTE Toggle.on_changed    TO LampLight.set_on
ROUTE Toggle.on_changed    TO ColorSelector.set_selection
ROUTE ColorSelector.color_changed TO BulbMaterial.set_emi
```

Using a color selector



[lamp2.wrl]

Summary

- **The `initialize` and `shutdown` functions are called at load and unload**
- **An eventIn function is called when an event is received**
- **The `eventsProcessed` function is called after all (or some) events have been received**
- **Functions can get field values and send event outputs**

Motivation

Declaring a program script interface

Importing packages for the Java class

Creating the Java class

Initializing a program script

Shutting down a program script

Responding to events

Processing events in Java

Accessing fields from Java

Accessing eventOuts from Java

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

A sample Java script

Summary

Motivation

- **Compared to JavaScript/VRMLscript, Java enables:**
  - **Better modularity**
  - **Better data structures**
  - **Potential for faster execution**
  - **Access to the network**

- **For simple tasks, use JavaScript/VRMLscript**
- **For complex tasks, use Java**

Declaring a program script interface

- **For a Java program script, give the class file in the `Script` node's `url` field**
  - **A class file is a compiled Java program script**

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    field    SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed

    url "bounce2.class"
}
```

Importing packages for the Java class

- **The program script file must import the VRML packages:**

```
import vrml.*;
import vrml.field.*;
import vrml.node.*;
```

Creating the Java class

- **The program script must define a public class that extends the `Script` class**

```
public class bounce2
    extends Script
{
    . . .
}
```

Initializing a program script

- **The optional `initialize` method is called when the script is loaded**

```
public void initialize ( ) {
    . . .
}
```

- **Initialization occurs when:**
  - **the `Script` node is created (typically when the browser loads the world)**

Shutting down a program script

- **The optional `shutdown` method is called when the script is unloaded**

```
public void shutdown ( ) {
    . . .
}
```

- **Shutdown occurs when:**
    - **the `Script` node is deleted**
    - **the browser loads a new world**

Responding to events

- **The `processEvent` method is called each time an event is received, passing an `Event` object containing the event's**
  - **value**
  - **time stamp**

```
public void processEvent( Event event ) {
    . . .
}
```

Processing events in Java

- **If multiple events arrive at once, then the `processEvent` method is called multiple times**

- **The optional `eventsProcessed` method is called after all (or some) events have been handled**

```
public void eventsProcessed ( ) {
    . . .
}
```

Accessing fields from Java

- **Each interface field can be read and written**
  - **Call `getField` to get a field object**

```
obj = (SFFloat) getField( "bounceHeight" );
```

  - **Call `getValue` to get a field value**

```
lastval = obj.getValue( );
```

  - **Call `setValue` to set a field value**

```
obj.setValue( newval );
```

Accessing eventOuts from Java

- **Each interface eventOut can be read and written**
  - **Call `getEventOut` to get an eventOut object**

```
obj = (SFVec3f) getEventOut( "value_changed" );
```

  - **Call `getValue` to get the last event sent**

```
lastval = obj.getValue( );
```

  - **Call `setValue` to send an event**

```
obj.setValue( newval );
```

A sample Java script

- **Create a *Bouncing ball interpolator* that computes a gravity-like vertical bouncing motion from a fractional time input**

- **Nodes needed:**

```
DEF Ball Transform {
    children [ . . . ]
}
DEF Clock TimeSensor {
    . . .
}
DEF Bouncer Script {
    . . .
}
```

A sample Java script

- **Give it the same interface as the JavaScript example**

```
DEF Bouncer Script {
    field    SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed

    url "bounce2.class"
}
```

A sample Java script

- **Imports and class definition needed:**

```
import vrml.*;
import vrml.field.*;
import vrml.node.*;

public class bounce2
    extends Script
{
    . . .
}
```

A sample Java script

- **Class variables needed:**
  - **One for the `bounceHeight` field value**
  - **One for the `value_changed` eventOut object**

```
private float   bounceHeight;
private SFVec3f value_changedObj;
```

A sample Java script

- **Initialization actions needed:**
  - **Get the value of the `bounceHeight` field**
  - **Get the `value_changedObj` eventOut object**

```
public void initialize( )
{
    SFFloat obj = (SFFloat) getField( "bounceHeight" );
    bounceHeight = (float) obj.getValue( );
    value_changedObj = (SFVec3f) getEventOut( "value_chan
}
```

A sample Java script

- **Shutdown actions needed:**
  - **None - all work done in `processEvent` method**

A sample Java script

- **Event processing actions needed:**
  - **`processEvent` event method**
  - **No need for `eventsProcessed` method**

```
public void processEvent( Event event )
{
    . . .
}
```

A sample Java script

- **Calculations needed:**
  - **Compute new ball position**
  - **Send new position event**

A sample Java script

```
public void processEvent( Event event )
{
    ConstSFFloat flt = (ConstSFFloat) event.getValue( );
    float frac = (float) flt.getValue( );

    float y = (float)(4.0 * bounceHeight * frac * (1.0 - fra

    float[] changed = new float[3];
    changed[0] = (float) 0.0;
    changed[1] = y;
    changed[2] = (float) 0.0;
    value_changedObj.setValue( changed );
}
```

A sample Java script

```
import vrml.*;
import vrml.field.*;
import vrml.node.*;

public class bounce2
    extends Script
{
    private float bounceHeight;
    private SFVec3f value_changedObj;

    public void initialize( )
    {
        // Get the fields and eventOut
        SFFloat floatObj = (SFFloat) getField( "bounceHeight
        bounceHeight     = (float)   floatObj.getValue( );
        value_changedObj = (SFVec3f) getEventOut( "value_cha
    }

    public void processEvent( Event event )
    {
        ConstSFFloat flt = (ConstSFFloat) event.getValue( );
        float frac       = (float) flt.getValue( );

        float y = (float)(4.0 * bounceHeight * frac * (1.0 -

        float[] changed = new float[3];
        changed[0] = (float)0.0;
        changed[1] = y;
        changed[2] = (float)0.0;
        value_changedObj.setValue( changed );
    }
}
```

A sample Java script

- **Routes needed:**
  - **Clock into script's `set_fraction`**
  - **Script's `value_changed` into transform**

```
ROUTE Clock.fraction_changed TO Bouncer.set_fraction
ROUTE Bouncer.value_changed  TO Ball.set_translation
```

A sample Java script

```
DEF Ball Transform {
    children [
        Shape {
            appearance Appearance {
                material Material {
                    ambientIntensity 0.5
                    diffuseColor 1.0 1.0 1.0
                    specularColor 0.7 0.7 0.7
                    shininess 0.4
                }
                texture ImageTexture { url "beach.jpg" }
                textureTransform TextureTransform { scale 2.
            }
            geometry Sphere { }
        }
    ]
}
DEF Clock TimeSensor {
    cycleInterval 2.0
    startTime 1.0
    stopTime 0.0
    loop TRUE
}
DEF Bouncer Script {
    field    SFFloat bounceHeight 3.0
    eventIn  SFFloat set_fraction
    eventOut SFVec3f value_changed

    url "bounce2.class"
}
ROUTE Clock.fraction_changed TO Bouncer.set_fraction
ROUTE Bouncer.value_changed  TO Ball.set_translation
```

A sample Java script

[bounce2.wrl]

Summary

- **The `initialize` and `shutdown` methods are called at load and unload**

- **The `processEvent` method is called when an event is received**

- **The `eventsProcessed` method is called after all (or some) events have been received**

- **Methods can get field values and send event outputs**

Motivation

Syntax: PROTO

Defining prototype bodies

Syntax: IS

Syntax: IS

Using IS

Using prototyped nodes

Controlling usage rules

Controlling usage rules

A sample prototype use

A sample prototype use

A sample prototype use

A sample prototype use

A sample prototype use

Changing a prototype

A sample prototype use

Syntax: EXTERNPROTO

Summary

Motivation

- **You can create new node types that encapsulate:**
  - **Shapes**
  - **Sensors**
  - **Interpolators**
  - **Scripts**
  - **anything else . . .**

- **This creates high-level nodes**
  - **Robots, menus, new shapes, etc.**

Syntax: PROTO

- **A `PROTO` statement declares a new node type (a *proto*type)**
  - ***name* - the new node type name**
  - ***fields* and *events* - interface to the prototype**

```
PROTO BouncingBall [
    field SFFloat bounceHeight  1.0
    field SFTime  cycleInterval 1.0
] {
    . . .
}
```

Defining prototype bodies

- **`PROTO` defines:**
  - ***body* - nodes and routes for the new node type**

```
PROTO BouncingBall [
    . . .
] {
    Transform {
        children [ . . . ]
    }
    ROUTE . . .
}
```

Syntax: IS

- **The `IS` syntax connects a prototype interface field, eventIn, or eventOut to the body**
  - **Like an assignment statement**
  - **Assigns interface field or eventIn to body**
  - **Assigns body eventOut to interface**

Syntax: IS

- **Interface items connected by `IS` need not have the same name as an item in the body, but often do**

```
PROTO BouncingBall [
    field SFFloat bounceHeight  1.0
    field SFTime  cycleInterval 1.0
] {
    . . .
    DEF Clock TimeSensor {
        cycleInterval IS cycleInterval
        . . .
    }
    . . .
}
```

Using IS

	May `IS` to . . .			
Interface	**Fields**	**Exposed fields**	**EventIns**	**EventOuts**
Fields	**yes**	**yes**	**no**	**no**
Exposed fields	**no**	**yes**	**no**	**no**
EventIns	**no**	**yes**	**yes**	**no**
EventOuts	**no**	**yes**	**no**	**yes**

Using prototyped nodes

- **The new node type can be used like any other type**

```
BouncingBall {
    bounceHeight  3.0
    cycleInterval 2.0
}
```

Controlling usage rules

- **Recall that node use must be appropriate for the context**
  - **A `Shape` node specifies shape, not color**
  - **A `Material` node specifies color, not shape**
  - **A `Box` node specifies geometry, not shape or color**

Controlling usage rules

- **The context for a new node type depends upon the *first* node in the PROTO body**

- **For example, if the first node is a *geometry node*:**
  - **The prototype creates a new *geometry node* type**

- **The new node type can be used wherever the *first* node of the prototype body can be used**

A sample prototype use

- **Create a `BouncingBall` node type that:**
  - **Builds a beachball**
  - **Creates an animation clock**
    - **Using a `PROTO` field to select the cycle interval**
  - **Bounces the beachball**
    - **Using the bouncing ball program script**
    - **Using a `PROTO` field to select the bounce height**

A sample prototype use

- **Fields needed:**
  - **Bounce height**
  - **Cycle interval**

```
PROTO BouncingBall [
    field SFFloat bounceHeight 1.0
    field SFTime  cycleInterval 1.0
] {
    . . .
}
```

A sample prototype use

- **Inputs and outputs needed:**
  - **None - a `TimeSensor` node is built in to the new node**

A sample prototype use

- **Body needed:**
  - **A ball shape inside a transform**
  - **An animation clock**
  - **A bouncing ball program script**
  - **Routes connecting it all together**

```
PROTO BouncingBall [
    . . .
] {
    DEF Ball Transform {
        children [
            Shape { . . . }
        ]
    }
    DEF Clock   TimeSensor { . . . }
    DEF Bouncer Script { . . . }
    ROUTE . . .
}
```

A sample prototype use

[bounce3.wrl]

Changing a prototype

- **If you change a prototype, all uses of that prototype change as well**
  - **Prototypes enable world modularity**
  - **Large worlds make heavy use of prototypes**

- **For the `BouncingBall` prototype, adding a shadow to the prototype makes all balls have a shadow**

A sample prototype use

[bounce4.wrl]

Syntax: EXTERNPROTO

- **Prototypes are typically in a separate *external* file, referenced by an `EXTERNPROTO`**
  - ***name*, *fields*, *events* - as from `PROTO`, minus initial values**
  - ***url* - the URL of the prototype file**
  - ***#name* - name of `PROTO` in file**

```
EXTERNPROTO BouncingBall [
    field SFFloat bounceHeight
    field SFTime  cycleInterval
] "bounce.wrl#BouncingBall"
```

Summary

- `PROTO` **declares a new node type and defines its node body**

- `EXTERNPROTO` **declares a new node type, specified by URL**

Motivation

Syntax: WorldInfo

Motivation

- **After you've created a great world, sign it!**
- **You can provide a title and a description embedded within the file**

Syntax: WorldInfo

- **A `WorldInfo` node provides title and description information for your world**
    - **`title` - the name for your world**
    - **`info` - any additional information**

```
WorldInfo {
    title "My Masterpiece"
    info  [ "Copyright (c) 1997 Me." ]
}
```

An animated switch

A vector node for vector fields

An animated texture plane node

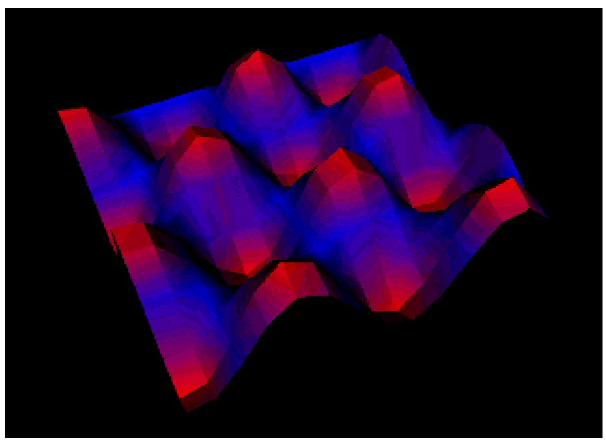
A cutting plane node

An animated flame node

A torch node

An animated switch

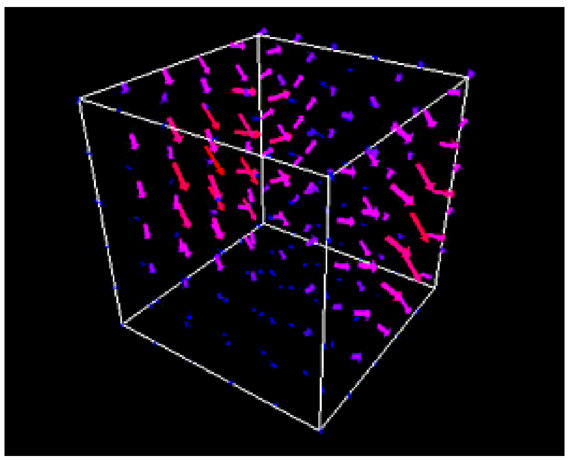
- **A `Switch` node groups together a set of elevation grids**
- **A `Script` node converts fractional times to switch choices**



[animgrd.wrl]

A vector node for vector fields

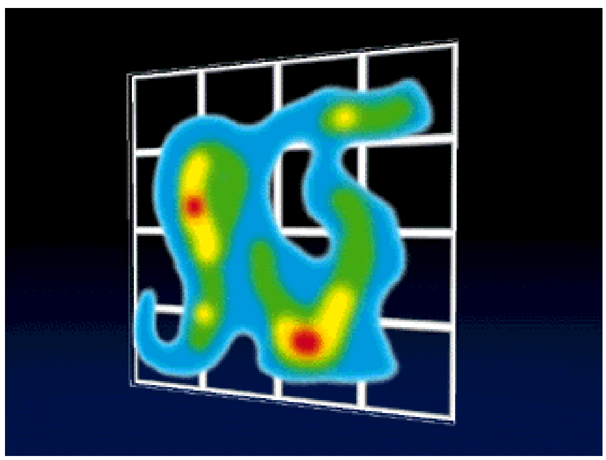
- **A `PROTO` encapsulates a vector shape into a `Vector` node**
- **That node is used multiple times to create a vector field**



[vecfld1.wrl]

An animated texture plane node

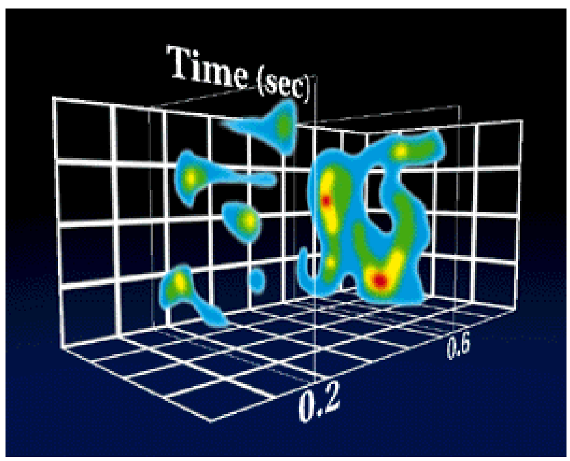
- **A `Script` node selects a texture to map to a face**
- **A `PROTO` encapsulates the face shape, script, and routes to create a `TexturePlane` node type**



[texplane.wrl]

A cutting plane node

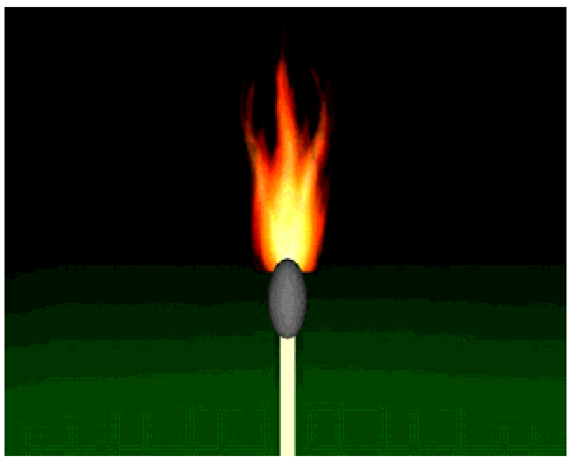
- **A `TexturePlane` node creates textured face**
- **A `PlaneSensor` node slides the textured face**
- **A `PROTO` encapsulates the textured face, sensor, and translator script to create a `SlidingPlane` node**



[cutplane.wrl]

An animated flame node

- **A `Script` node cycles between flame textures**
- **A `PROTO` encapsulates the flame shape, script, and routes into a `Flames` node**



[match.wrl]

A torch node

- **A `Flame` node creates animated flame**
- **An `LOD` node selects among torches using the flame**
- **A `PROTO` encapsulates the torches into a `Torch` node**

[columns.wrl]

Working groups

Working groups

Using the binary file format

Using the binary file format

Using the external authoring interface

Using the external authoring interface

Using living worlds

Working groups

- **Several groups are working on VRML extensions**
  - **Color fidelity WG**
  - **Compressed binary format WG**
  - **Conformance WG**
  - **Database WG**
  - **External authoring interface WG**
  - **Human animation WG**

Working groups

- **And more...**
  - **Keyboard input WG**
  - **Living worlds WG**
  - **Metaforms WG**
  - **Object-oriented WG**
  - **Universal media libraries WG**
  - **Widgets WG**

Using the binary file format

- **The binary file format enables smaller files for faster download**

- **The binary file format includes**
  - **Binary representation of nodes and fields**
  - **Support for prototypes**
  - **Geometry compression**

Using the binary file format

- **Most authoring will be done with world builders that output binary VRML files directly**

- **Hand-authored text VRML will be compiled to the binary format**

- **Converters back to text VRML will become available**
  - **Comments will be lost by translation**
  - **`WorldInfo` nodes will be retained**

Using the external authoring interface

- **Program scripts in a `Script` node are *Internal***
  - **Inside the world**
  - **Connected by routes**

- ***External* program scripts can be written in Java using the *External Authoring Interface* (EAI)**
  - **Outside the world, on an HTML page**
  - **No need to use routes!**

Using the external authoring interface

- **A typical Web page contains:**
  - **HTML text**
  - **An *embedded* VRML browser plug-in**
  - **A Java applet**

- **The EAI enables the Java applet to "talk" to the VRML browser**

- **The EAI is *not* part of the VRML standard (yet), but it is widely supported**
  - **Check your browser's release notes for EAI support**

Using living worlds

- **Several extensions are in progress to create a framework for multi-user *living* worlds**
  - **Shared objects and spaces**
  - **Piloted objects (like avatars)**
  - **Common avatar descriptions**

Coverage

Coverage

Where to find out more

Where to find out more

Introduction to VRML 97

Coverage

- **This morning we covered:**
    - **Building primitive shapes**
    - **Building complex shapes**
    - **Translating, rotating, and scaling shapes**
    - **Controlling appearance**
    - **Grouping shapes**
    - **Animating transforms**
    - **Interpolating values**
    - **Sensing viewer actions**

Coverage

- **This afternoon we covered:**
  - **Controlling texture**
  - **Controlling shading**
  - **Adding lights**
  - **Adding backgrounds and fog**
  - **Controlling detail**
  - **Controlling viewing**
  - **Adding sound**
  - **Sensing the viewer**
  - **Using and writing program scripts**
  - **Building new node types**

Where to find out more

- **The VRML 2.0 specification**
  http://vag.vrml.org/VRML2.0/FINAL

- **The VRML 97 specification**
  http://vrml.sgi.com/moving-worlds

- **The VRML Repository**
  http://www.sdsc.edu/vrml

Where to find out more

- **Shameless plug for my VRML book...**

  The VRML 2.0 Sourcebook
  by Andrea L. Ames, David R. Nadeau, and John L. Moreland
  published by John Wiley & Sons

Introduction to VRML 97

Thanks for coming!

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