Clipping

The Graphics Pipeline, Revisited

- Must eliminate objects that are outside of viewing frustum
- Clipping: object space (eye coordinates)
- Scissoring: image space (pixels in frame buffer) – most often less efficient than clipping
- We will first discuss 2D clipping (for simplicity) – OpenGL uses 3D clipping

Clipping Against a Frustum

- General case of frustum (truncated pyramid)
- Clipping is tricky because of frustum shape

Perspective Normalization

- Solution:
  - Implement perspective projection by perspective normalization and orthographic projection
  - Perspective normalization is a homogeneous transformation

The Normalized Frustum

- OpenGL uses \(-1 \leq x, y, z \leq 1\) (others possible)
- Clip against resulting cube
- Clipping against arbitrary (programmer-specified) planes requires more general algorithms and is more expensive

The Viewport Transformation

- Transformation sequence again:
  1. Camera: From object coordinates to eye coords
  2. Perspective normalization: to clip coordinates
  3. Clipping
  4. Perspective division: to normalized device coords.
  5. Orthographic projection (setting \(z_p = 0\))
  6. Viewport transformation: to screen coordinates
- Viewport transformation can distort
  - Solution: pass the correct window aspect ratio to gluPerspective
Clipping

- General: 3D object against cube

- Simpler case:
  - In 2D: line against square or rectangle
  - Later: polygon clipping

Clipping Against Rectangle in 2D

- Line-segment clipping: modify endpoints of lines to lie within clipping rectangle

Clipping Against Rectangle in 2D

- The result (in red)

Several practical algorithms for clipping

- Main motivation:
  Avoid expensive line-rectangle intersections (which require floating point divisions)
  - Cohen-Sutherland Clipping
  - Liang-Barsky Clipping
  - There are many more (but many only work in 2D)

Cohen-Sutherland Clipping

- Clipping rectangle is an intersection of 4 half-planes

- Encode results of four half-plane tests
  - Generalizes to 3 dimensions (6 half-planes)
Outcodes (Cohen-Sutherland)

- Divide space into 9 regions
- 4-bit outcode determined by comparisons

\[ b_0 : y > y_{\text{max}} \]
\[ b_1 : y < y_{\text{min}} \]
\[ b_2 : x > x_{\text{max}} \]
\[ b_3 : x < x_{\text{min}} \]

\[ o_1 = \text{outcode}(x_1, y_1) \]
\[ o_2 = \text{outcode}(x_2, y_2) \]

Cases for Outcodes

- Outcomes: accept, reject, subdivide

\[ o_1 = o_2 = 0000: \text{accept entire segment} \]
\[ o_1 \land o_2 \neq 0000: \text{reject entire segment} \]
\[ o_1 = 0000, o_2 = 0000: \text{subdivide} \]
\[ o_1 \land o_2 = 0000: \text{subdivide} \]

Cohen-Sutherland Subdivision

- Pick outside endpoint \((o \neq 0000)\)
- Pick a crossed edge \((o = b_0 b_1 b_2 b_3 \text{ and } b_k \neq 0)\)
- Compute intersection of this line and this edge
- Replace endpoint with intersection point
- Restart with new line segment
  - Outcodes of second point are unchanged
  - This algorithms converges

Liang-Barsky Clipping

- Start with parametric form for a line
\[ p(\alpha) = (1 - \alpha)p_1 + \alpha p_2, \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1 \]
\[ x(\alpha) = (1 - \alpha)x_1 + \alpha x_2 \]
\[ y(\alpha) = (1 - \alpha)y_1 + \alpha y_2 \]

Ordering of intersection points

- Order the intersection points
  - Figure (a): \(1 > \alpha_4 > \alpha_3 > \alpha_2 > \alpha_1 > 0\)
  - Figure (b): \(1 > \alpha_4 > \alpha_2 > \alpha_3 > \alpha_1 > 0\)
Liang-Barsky Idea

- It is possible to clip already if one knows the order of the four intersection points!
- Even if the actual intersections were not computed!
- Can enumerate all ordering cases

Liang-Barsky efficiency improvements

- Efficiency improvement 1:
  - Compute intersections one by one
  - Often can reject before all four are computed
- Efficiency improvement 2:
  - Equations for $\alpha_3$, $\alpha_2$
    \[
    y_{max} = (1 - \alpha_3)y_1 + \alpha_3y_2 \\
    x_{min} = (1 - \alpha_2)x_1 + \alpha_2x_2 \\
    \alpha_3 = \frac{y_{max} - y_1}{y_2 - y_1}, \quad \alpha_2 = \frac{x_{min} - x_1}{x_2 - x_1}
    \]
  - Compare $\alpha_3$, $\alpha_2$ without floating-point division

Line-Segment Clipping Assessment

- Cohen-Sutherland
  - Works well if many lines can be rejected early
  - Recursive structure (multiple subdivisions) is a drawback
- Liang-Barsky
  - Avoids recursive calls
  - Many cases to consider (tedious, but not expensive)

Outline

- Line-Segment Clipping
  - Cohen-Sutherland
  - Liang-Barsky
- Polygon Clipping
  - Sutherland-Hodgeman
  - Clipping in Three Dimensions

Polygon Clipping

- Polygon is clipped into one or more polygons
- Their union is intersection with clip window
- Alternatively, we can first tesselate concave polygons (OpenGL supported)

Concave Polygons

- Approach 1: clip, and then join pieces to a single polygon
  - Often difficult to manage
- Approach 2: tesselate and clip triangles
  - This is the common solution

Outline
Sutherland-Hodgeman (part 1)

- Subproblem:
  - Input: polygon (vertex list) and single clip plane
  - Output: new (clipped) polygon (vertex list)
- Apply once for each clip plane
  - 4 in two dimensions
  - 6 in three dimensions
  - Can arrange in pipeline

Sutherland-Hodgeman (part 2)

- To clip vertex list (polygon) against a half-plane:
  - Test first vertex. Output if inside, otherwise skip.
  - Then loop through list, testing transitions
    - In-to-in: output vertex
    - In-to-out: output intersection
    - Out-to-in: output intersection and vertex
    - Out-to-out: no output
  - Will output clipped polygon as vertex list
- May need some cleanup in concave case
- Can combine with Liang-Barsky idea

Other Cases and Optimizations

- Curves and surfaces
  - Do it analytically if possible
  - Otherwise, approximate curves / surfaces by lines and polygons
- Bounding boxes
  - Easy to calculate and maintain
  - Sometimes big savings

Outline

- Line-Segment Clipping
  - Cohen-Sutherland
  - Liang-Barsky
- Polygon Clipping
  - Sutherland-Hodgeman
- Clipping in Three Dimensions

Clipping Against Cube

- Derived from earlier algorithms
- Can allow right parallelepiped

Cohen-Sutherland in 3D

- Use 6 bits in outcode
  - $b_4$: $z > z_{\text{max}}$
  - $b_5$: $z < z_{\text{min}}$
- Other calculations as before
**Liang-Barsky in 3D**

- Add equation \( z(\alpha) = (1 - \alpha) z_1 + \alpha z_2 \)
- Solve, for \( p_0 \) in plane and normal \( n \):
  \[
  p(\alpha) = (1 - \alpha)p_1 + \alpha p_2 \\
  n \cdot (p(\alpha) - p_0) = 0 
  \]
- Yields:
  \[
  \alpha = \frac{n \cdot (p_0 - p_1)}{n \cdot (p_2 - p_1)} 
  \]
- Optimizations as for Liang-Barsky in 2D

**Summary: Clipping**

- Clipping line segments to rectangle or cube
  - Avoid expensive multiplications and divisions
  - Cohen-Sutherland or Liang-Barsky
- Polygon clipping
  - Sutherland-Hodgeman pipeline
- Clipping in 3D
  - Essentially extensions of 2D algorithms

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**Preview and Announcements**

- Scan conversion
- Anti-aliasing
- Other pixel-level operations
- Assignment 2 due a week from today!