Texture Mapping

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Texture mapping

• Objects have properties that vary across the surface



Texture Mapping

• So we make the shading parameters vary across the surface



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Texture mapping

• Adds visual complexity; makes appealing images



[Pixar / Toy Story]

Texture mapping

- Color is not the same everywhere on a surface
 one solution: multiple primitives
- Want a function that assigns a color to each point
 - the surface is a 2D domain, so that is essentially an image
 - can represent using any image representation
 - raster texture images are very popular

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A definition

Texture mapping: a technique of

defining surface properties (especially shading parameters) in such a way that they vary as a function of position on the surface.

- This is very simple!
 - but it produces complex-looking effects

Examples

- Wood gym floor with smooth finish
 - diffuse color k_D varies with position
 - specular properties $k_{\rm S}$, *n* are constant
- Glazed pot with finger prints
 - diffuse and specular colors k_D , k_S are constant
 - specular exponent n varies with position
- Adding dirt to painted surfaces
- Simulating stone, fabric, ...
 - in many cases textures are used to approximate effects of small-scale geometry
 - they look flat but are a lot better than nothing

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Mapping textures to surfaces

- Usually the texture is an image (function of u, v)
 - the big question of texture mapping: where on the surface does the image go?
 - obvious only for a flat rectangle the same shape as the image
 - otherwise more interesting
- Note that 3D textures also exist
 - texture is a function of (u, v, w)
 - can just evaluate texture at 3D surface point
 - good for solid materials
 - often defined procedurally



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Mapping textures to surfaces

- "Putting the image on the surface"
 - this means we need a function f that tells where each point on the image goes



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Texture coordinate functions

- Non-parametrically defined surfaces: more to do
 - can't assign texture coordinates as we generate the surface
 - need to have the inverse of the function f



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Texture coordinate functions

- Mapping from S to D can be many-to-one
 - that is, every surface point gets only one color assigned
 - but it is OK (and in fact useful) for multiple surface points to be mapped to the same texture point
 - e.g. repeating tiles



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Texture coordinate functions

• Define texture image as a function

 $T:D\to C$

- where C is the set of colors for the diffuse component
- Diffuse color (for example) at point **p** is then $k_D(\mathbf{p}) = T(\phi(\mathbf{p}))$

Examples of coordinate functions

- A rectangle
 - image can be mapped directly, unchanged

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Examples of coordinate functions

For a sphere: latitude-longitude coordinates
φ maps point to its latitude and longitude





Examples of coordinate functions

- A parametric surface (e.g. spline patch)
 - surface parameterization gives mapping function directly (well, the inverse of the parameterization)





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Examples of coordinate functions

- For non-parametric surfaces it is trickier
 - directly use world coordinates
 - need to project one out



[Wolfe / SG97 Slide set]

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Texture in the graphics pipeline

- Texture coordinates are another attribute
 - the application sets them to control where the texture goes
- Texturing as a fragment operation
 - because the whole point is to vary quickly across the surface
- Interpolating coordinates across triangles
 - to do texturing at fragment stage, we need interpolated (u, v) coordinates at each fragment
 - but—sad to say—you can't interpolate u and v linearly in screen space
 - not only won't you get 0.5 at the midpoint, you'll get different answers depending on the view.

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Texture coordinate interp example

• Solution: interpolate u/w, 1/w and divide

Texture mapping demo



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