Lecture 16: Clipping and Rasterization

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Today

• At this point mapping polygon vertices into the Canonical View Volume is well understood.

• Today is about coloring pixels while accounting for depth.
Partly Visible

Q: Given a polygon, which parts do you draw?

(This gives rise to clipping)
Start More Simply: Line Clipping

Q: Given a line segment, which parts do you draw? (This is called clipping)
Step Back – A Line is …

- Three common representations
- Function – think about early algebra
  - Probably first you encountered
  - Not too useful
- Implicit Function
  - Roots (zeroes) of an equation
  - … again with the dot product
- Parametric form
  - Parameter specifies points on line
Clipping - Brute force

Intersect each line segment with all four boundaries of the clipping rectangle.

*What does this do?*

*Think in terms of half-planes...*
2D Cohen-Sutherland Clipping
Cohen Sutherland Bit Encoding
Cohen-Sutherland Clipping III

- AND together bit codes; any line with a non-zero result can be trivially rejected. Why?

- OR together bit codes; if result is zero, line can be trivially accepted. Why?

- Otherwise, intersect line with boundary represented by non-zero OR bit and recurse.
Example

A = 0001
B = 0100
A or B = 0101

Bottom edge & left edge intersect line

Pick one & replace endpoint with intersection
C = 0000
B = 0100
C or B = 0100

Bottom edge intersects line

Replace endpoint with intersection
Line Cut 2

C = 0000
D = 0000
C or D = 0000
Finished
Back to Polygons

• Clipping non-convex polygons is tricky
  – Solution: convex polygons
    • “Doctor, doctor, it hurts when I do this…”

• Clipping convex polygons is simple:
  – Clip polygon boundaries.
  – Connect disconnected vertices along image boundaries
Odd-even parity rule

A point is inside a polygon if any ray from the point to infinity crosses an odd number of edges (assume every line includes lower or left endpoint)

Try it, draw a star in PowerPoint.
Polygon Filling

Question: how to fill in an arbitrary polygon?

Which pixels should be filled in?
Start simpler ...

Which pixels should be filled in?
Surprised?

What happened to the top pixels? To the rightmost pixels? Why is this good?
General Rules for Filling Polygons

1) No pixel belongs to more than one polygon

2) As always, efficiency matters and

3) remember that endpoints are integral

4) Odd-even Parity Rule
   \( \text{(Look for it – it is there in simpler form ...)} \)
Back to the Rectangle

Filling the Top and Bottom Rows would cause adjacent rectangles to “double fill” pixels.
Why Not “Double-Fill” Pixels?

- Inefficient (obviously)
- If polygons have different color, then final color depends on the order in which the polygons are drawn
- Extra darkening when using alpha blending

This last point may lead to “flicker”, irregular boundaries
Polygon Filling - Approach

- Fill in left and lower integer boundaries, but not right or upper boundaries.
- If boundaries fall between pixels,
  - round left boundaries to the right,
  - round right boundaries to the left.
- Fill in polygons by computing intersections of boundaries with scan lines.
- Fill between pairs of intersections.
- This is the actual algorithm!
Details of Polygon Filling: Rounding

Q: Given an intersection at a fractional x value, which pixels do we fill?

A1: Algorithmically, always round intersection values up.
A2: Visually, this will have the effect of filling to the inside of the fractional boundary only.
Intersections:

(0,4) (0,4) (6,4) (6,4)
(0,3) (1.5,3) (4.5,3) (6,3)
(0,2) (0,2) (3,2) (3,2)
(6,2) (6,2)
(1.5,1) (4.5,1)
(3,0) (3,0)
Q: Given intersections at integer x values, do we fill them?

A: For intersection pair, will fill from the first element (inclusive) to the second element (exclusive).
In Other Words

Intersections:

(0,4) (0,4) (6,4) (6,4)

[(0,3) (2,3)] [(5,3) (6,3)]

(0,2) (0,2) (3,2) (3,2)

(6,2) (6,2)

[(2,1) (5,1)]

(3,0) (3,0)
Boundary Top & Bottoms

Q: If lines (boundaries) end at a scan-line, do they intersect that scan-line?

A1: Ignore all horizontal boundaries (!)

A2: Boundaries are (set-theoretically) “open” at the top, so they intersect every line up to but not including the top scan-line.

They are closed at the bottom, so they do intersect the bottom scan-line
In Other Words

Polygon:

Intersections:

(0,4) (0,4) (6,4) (6,4)
(0,3) (2,3) (5,3) (6,3)
(0,2) (3,2) (3,2)
(6,2) (6,2)
(2,1) (5,1)
(3,0) (3,0)
Finally … Shared Vertices

• What to do about the (3,0) (3,0) case?
• Different texts say different things!
  – Foley & van Dam say fill it
    • inclusive of first intersection; may double fill
  – Hearn & Baker say don’t
    • Because intersecting lines don’t vertically span the vertex
  – Today’s answer: Maybe
Polygon:

Intersections:

(0,4) (0,4) (6,4) (6,4)
(0,3) (2,3) (5,3) (6,3)
(0,2) [(0,2) (3,2)] [(3,2) (6,2)]
(2,1) (5,1)
(3,0) (3,0)

= fill

= Maybe

= ???
Psuedo-Code

\[
\text{For}(y = y_{\text{min}}; y < y_{\text{max}}; y++) \{ \\
\quad \text{ignore horizontal boundaries;} \\
\quad \text{intersect scanline with boundaries;} \\
\quad \text{ignore top vertex;} \\
\quad \text{sort intersections} \\
\quad \quad \text{by increasing x coordinate;} \\
\quad \text{for every pair of intersections} \{ \\
\quad \quad \text{for}(x = \text{ceil}(\text{first}); \text{ x < ceil(last);} \text{ x++}) \{ \\
\quad \quad \quad \text{fill}(x, y); \\
\quad \quad \} \\
\quad \} \\
\} 
\]
Your turn ....

Which black pixels should be filled in?
Solution
Comments

• Symmetric polygons may not be drawn symmetrically
• Isolated pixels from continuous polygons. How?
• As always, efficiency matters.
  – How do you make this fast?
  – Where is most of the computation.