



CS 112 - Object Representation



What is Graphics?

- Modeling
 - Computer representation of the 3D world
- Analysis
 - For efficient rendering
 - For catering the model to different applications.....
- Rendering
 - Generating 2D images of the 3D world



Object Representation

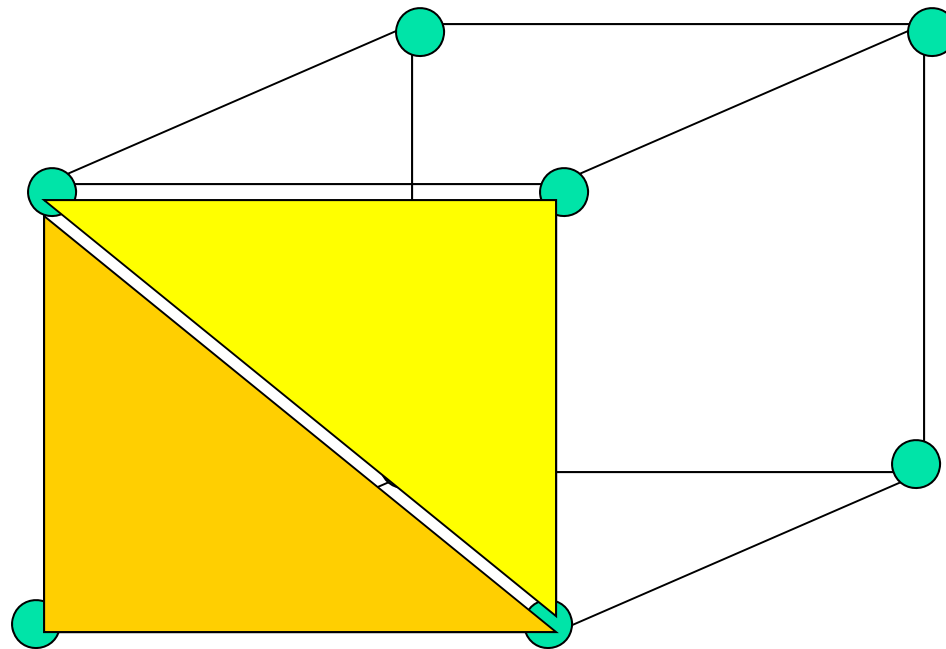
- Polygons, Points, Images, Surfaces
- Representations
 - Explicit : $y = mx + c$
 - Can draw the line, but cannot represent y axis
 - Implicit: $ax + by + c = 0$
 - Cannot draw the line, but evaluate if points lie on the line
 - Parametric: $P1(1-u) + P2(u)$
 - Interpolation is simple



Polygon Representation

- TRIANGLES: most common
- Geometric information
 - Vertices
 - 3D coordinates, Normals
- Topological information
 - Connectivity or Adjacency
- Other attributes **at vertices**
 - Color, texture, transparency....

Object Representation: Example





Characteristics of Polygonal Objects

- Geometric properties
 - Position
 - Normals
 - Curvature, continuity



Characteristics of Polygonal Models

- Topological properties
 - Manifolds (w/ boundaries) / Non-manifold
 - Dimension
 - Euler characteristic/Genus
 - Orientability
- *Invariant* with change in geometric properties



Manifold Definitions

- Manifolds

- 2D: Every edge has exactly two incident triangles.
- 3D: Every triangle has exactly two incident tetrahedrons.

- Manifolds with boundaries

- 2D: Every edge has either one or two incident triangles.
- 3D: Every triangle has either one or two incident tetrahedrons.

- Non-manifolds

- That does not have the above restrictions.



Dimension

- Number of parameters you can change and still be in the object
- Point : dimension 0
- Point in a room: dimension 0 embedded in 3D room
 - 3 coordinates, how many can you change and still be on the point? --- None
 - Hence, dimension 0



Dimension

- Line
 - $P1(1-u) + P2(u)$
- You can change u and still be on the line
- Hence, dimension 1
- But note, these objects can be *embedded* in a higher dimension world



Manifold: Euler Characteristic (χ)

- $\chi = V - E + F$ (V: Vertices, E: Edges, F: Faces).
- Applicable only for manifolds
- In general
 - $\chi = (0 \text{ dim}) - (1 \text{ dim}) + (2 \text{ dim}) - (3 \text{ dim}) + (4 \text{ dim}) \dots$
- Verify: Cube has 8 vertices, 12 edges, 6 faces
 - $\chi = V - E + F = 8 - 12 + 6 = 2$
- Changing geometric properties keeps euler characteristic invariant
 - Adding edges, vertices or pulling vertices
 - Square approaching sphere

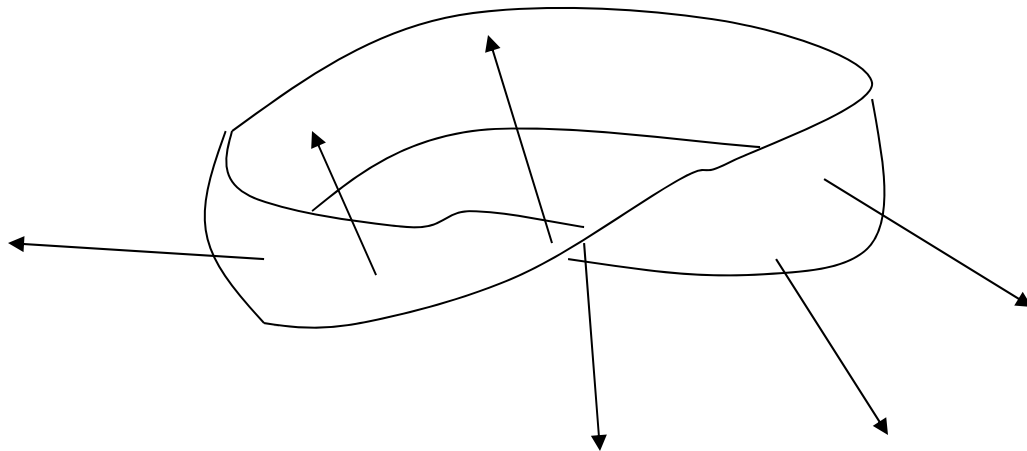


Manifold: Genus (g)

- Applicable only for manifolds
- (Naïve) Number of “handles”.
- Sphere has $g=0$; cube has $g=0$; torus has $g=1$; coffee cup has $g=1$.
- Going from coffee cup to torus
 - Changing only geometric properties
- Relationship between e and g : $e=2-2g$
 - Sphere or Cube: $e=2-2(0)=2$
 - Torus: $e=2-2(1)=0$

Orientability of an object

- If you have consistent normal direction for a point then the object is orientable. Otherwise, non-orientable.



Möbius Strip



In this course..

- 2D orientable manifolds without boundaries.

Remember: manifolds with boundaries is a superset of manifolds, and non-manifold is a superset of manifolds with boundaries.

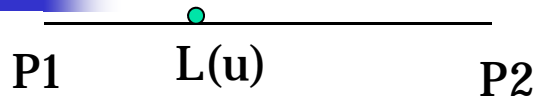
Non-manifold actually means that “need not” be a manifold; not “is not” a manifold.



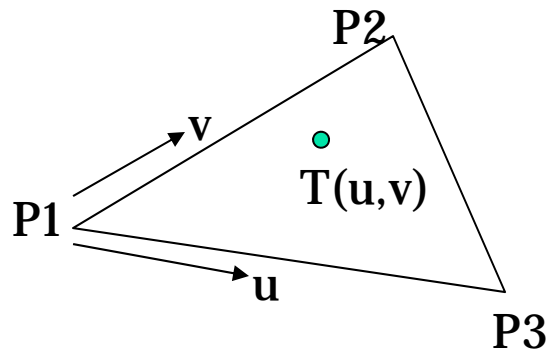
Why TRIANGLES?

- Consistently planar
- Easy definition of topology and geometry
- Rotationally invariant interpolation of attributes during rasterization
- Easy to implement in hardware

Interpolation



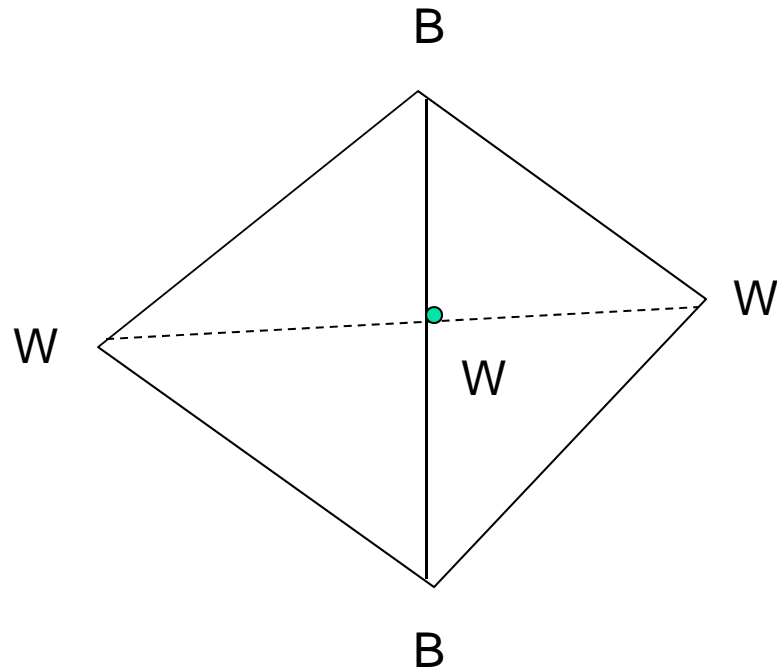
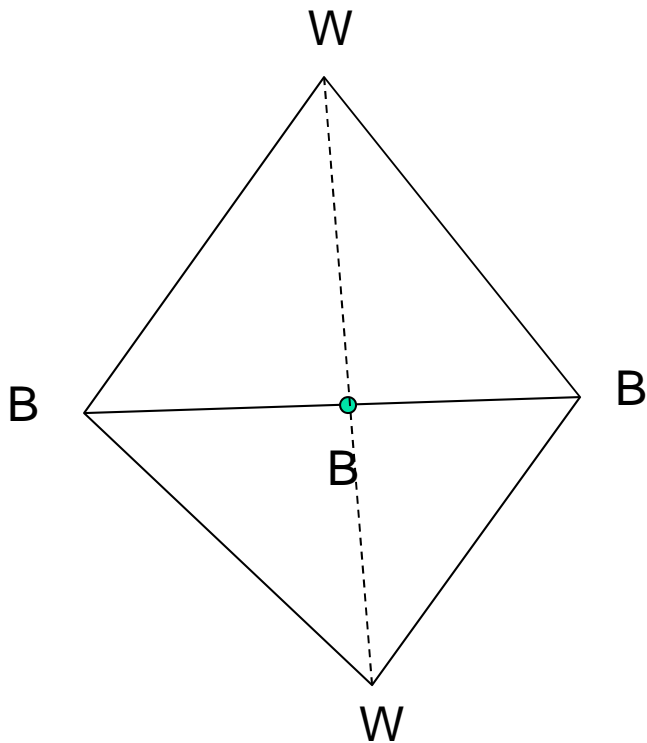
Linear Interpolation
 $L(u) = P1(1-u) + P2(u)$



Bilinear Interpolation
 $T(u,v) = P1(1-u)(1-v) + P2.u + P3.v$

- *Linear* combination of the points
- *Coefficients*
 - Less than 1.0 - Within the convex hull
 - Greater than 1.0 – Outside the convex hull

Rotationally Invariant Interpolation





Other Representations

- Point
 - No connectivity
- Quadrilaterals
 - Non-planar, inconsistent interpolation of attributes
- Spline
 - Have to be converted to polygons for rasterization



Common Data Structure

- Sequential List of Vertices
- Indexed List of Vertices
 - No need to be in order
- List of Triangles
 - Defined by indices of vertices