

From Squish thru Zoom3 to ...

(a 64k intro experience)

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Overview...

- **64k intro background**
- **Sound subsystem**
 - History of the tools and synths
 - Basics and technical overview
- **Graphical subsystem**
 - 3D Scene creation
 - Scene storage in Squish and Zoom3
 - Shader stuff
- **Additional tricks**
 - Code size optimization, Blobs tricks

Sound synthesis

- **Synthesis Background**
- **Beginning**
 - 2000 - MSG (Minimal Sample Generator)
- **Squish 64k**
 - 2001 - SeqGEN (Sequence Generator)
- **Zoom3 64k**
 - 2002/2003 - AND XSynth

Synthesis Background

- **Simple waveform**
 - Like Square, Sine, Saw, Noise
- **Filter pipeline**
 - FIR or IIR
- **Additional effects**
 - Delay, Flanger, Chorus, Distortion, etc
- **Envelope stuff**
 - To control of synthesis parameters
- **Post processing**

MSG (non realtime)

- **ATG like, but for Sound**
- **MSG Basics**
 - 10 buffers
 - Render something to buffer
 - Use this buffer as a source for next operations
 - WAVE sample as result
- **Very hard to tweak**
- **Used with sample based stuff**
 - Like FastTracker + MINIFMOD

SeqGEN (non realtime)

- **Internally looks like MSG**
- **Fixed synthesis pipeline**
 - Sum of 8 Oscillators
 - Overdrive/Distortion filter
 - lowpass filter (IIR like) with resonance
 - Flanger effect
 - Delay
- **Set of 8 envelopes to control stuff above**
- **Simple Sequencer**
 - 16 tick pattern with Attack and Decay

AND XSynth (realtime) #1

- **Complete sound system**
 - C static library
 - Set of basic generators (Machine)
 - BUZZ machine wrappers (as Plugins)
 - File convertor from BMX to AMX
 - Custom music player (DXSound based)
- **Very fast and specialized machines**
 - A lot of machines
 - A lot of links (connections)

AND XSynth (realtime) #2

- **Works in Realtime**
 - Easy to get a music sounds different
 - Very fast precalculation time
 - Hard CPU usage
- **Buildin MS SAPI Wrapper**
 - Some tricks to get the sound needed
 - Two synthesis ways for Win2k and WinXP
 - SAPI 4.0 (Win2k) and (SAPI 5.1)
 - But still sounds different and hard to tweak

AND XSynth (realtime) #3

- **Common synthesis pipeline**
 - Generation (Source of the sound)
 - Processing (DSP stuff)
 - Routing (Combine all machines together)
- **XSynth/BUZZ machine**
 - Internal 32bit float buffer (Mono/Stereo)
 - Set of patterns
 - Set of connections

AND XSynth (realtime) #4

- **Used in Zoom3 64k intro**
 - Zoom3 track takes 15% on 2GHz CPU
 - 66 Machines
 - 88 Connections
 - 60k of uncompressed AMX
 - 5k of compressed AMX (8%)
 - 6k of the library code

Squish/Zoom3 engine #1

- **Core interface**
 - Rendering API
 - Effects/Layers API
 - Timeline table
 - Scene stuff (Reconstruction, Rendering, ...)
- **Hardcoded**
 - Object/Scene management
 - Lights management
 - Effects, Animations, Cameras, etc...

Zoom3 building

3D Studio MAX

Scene exporter

Scene compiler

BUZZ Tracker

Music compiler

ATG

.ASM file (incbin, include)

NASM (.ASM to .OBJ)

Engine

Scene unpacker

ANDXSynth

ATG like tgen

Effects

Squish/Zoom3 engine #2

- **C like coded in C++**
 - Without classes (in most cases)
 - `__fastcall` functions

```
class CEffect_monsterx : public CLayer
{
private :
    .....
public :
    void      Init          ();
    bool      DoFrame      ();
    void      Release      ();
}
```

Zoom3 common code

```
bool CEffect_monsterx::DoFrame()
{
    if ( !CLayer::DoFrame() ) return false;
    rend_SetRenderFX( 0xffffffff );
    CScene::Clear();
    PlayCamera( &g_pCamera01, 0.3f * m_fLocalTime );
    rend_SetViewProj( gc.Tgcs.g_xvCameraPos, .....
    XVec3 lpos1 = { -100, 40, 100 * sin( m_fLocalTime ) };
    static XVec3 ldif1 = { 0.7f, 0.9f, 1 };
    CScene::AddLight( lpos1, ldif1, XVec3_One, 300 );
    CScene::AddScene( m_pScene, lpos1, XEuler_Zero );
    rend_RestoreRenderFX( 7, 0 );
    return true;
}
```

From C++ to C like C++ #1

- **Math library used in Squish and Zoom3**
 - Almost 2 times smaller in C like code
- **C++ with classes**

```
class XVec3 {  
public :  
    float          x, y, z;  
  
    friend XVec3 operator + ( const XVec3 &v1, const XVec3 &v2);  
}  
XVec3 operator + ( const XVec3 &v1, const XVec3 &v2 )  
{  
    return XVec3( v1.x + v2.x, v1.y + v2.y, v1.z + v2.z );  
}
```

From C++ to C like C++ #2

- **C++ without classes**

```
typedef float XVec3[ 3 ];
```

```
void __fastcall XVec3_Add
```

```
(  
    XVec3 xvOut,  
    const XVec3 xvIn1,  
    const XVec3 xvIn2  
)
```

```
{
```

```
    xvOut[ 0 ] = xvIn1[ 0 ] + xvIn2[ 0 ];  
    xvOut[ 1 ] = xvIn1[ 1 ] + xvIn2[ 1 ];  
    xvOut[ 2 ] = xvIn1[ 2 ] + xvIn2[ 2 ];
```

```
}
```


Squish lighting

- **Squish 64k**
 - Common D3D pervertex lighting
 - CPU based shadow casting
 - 8 lights max
 - 1 shadow casting light
 - One pass rendering
 - Fake shadowing

out = sum(light[i]) * shadow

Zoom3 lighting

- **The main feature (probably)**
- **Zoom3 Lighting is**
 - Perpixel model (PS1.1)
 - GPU based shadow casting
 - Fillrate limited number of lights (unlim.)
 - Low poly geometry looks fine
 - Multipass rendering
 - Complex Scene design ->

Zoom3 :: Scene design

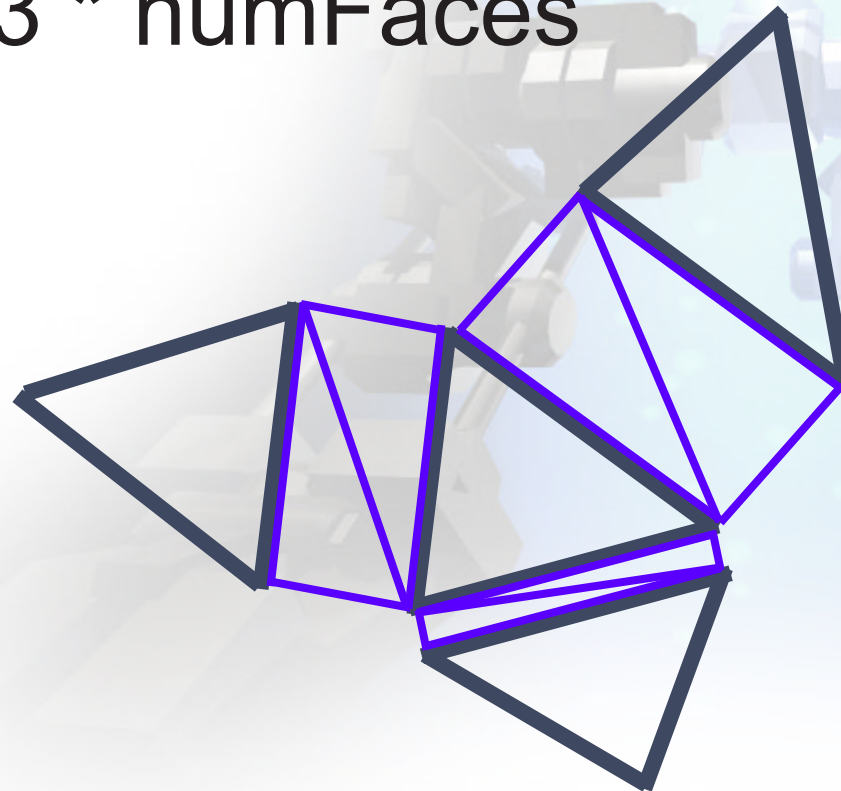
- **A GAME of LIGHT and SHADOW**
- **Perpixel lighting looks better without complex diffuse textures**
- **More objects = more detail :)**
- **More shadows = more detail !**
 - Local light sources
 - More corners = more shadow casters
- **Abstract micro textures**
 - To hide pixelshader artifacts

Zoom3 :: Lighting pipeline

- **Render all objects to Z-Buffer**
 - Add Z based fog
 - Add Environmental mapping
- **For each light do**
 - **Compute mask of unshadowed area**
 - Common Stencil technique
 - **Render light to the frame buffer with Additive blending**
- **Final fullscreen post-processing**

Zoom3 :: Shadow casting #1

- **Vertex shader based shadow volumes**
 - Completely in GPU
 - 2 additional triangles for each original
 - $\text{numVertices} = 3 * \text{numFaces}$

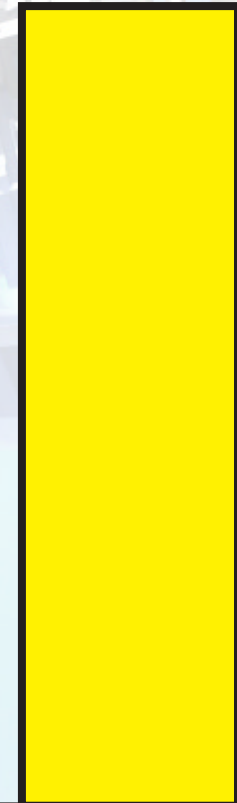


Zoom3 :: Shadow casting #2

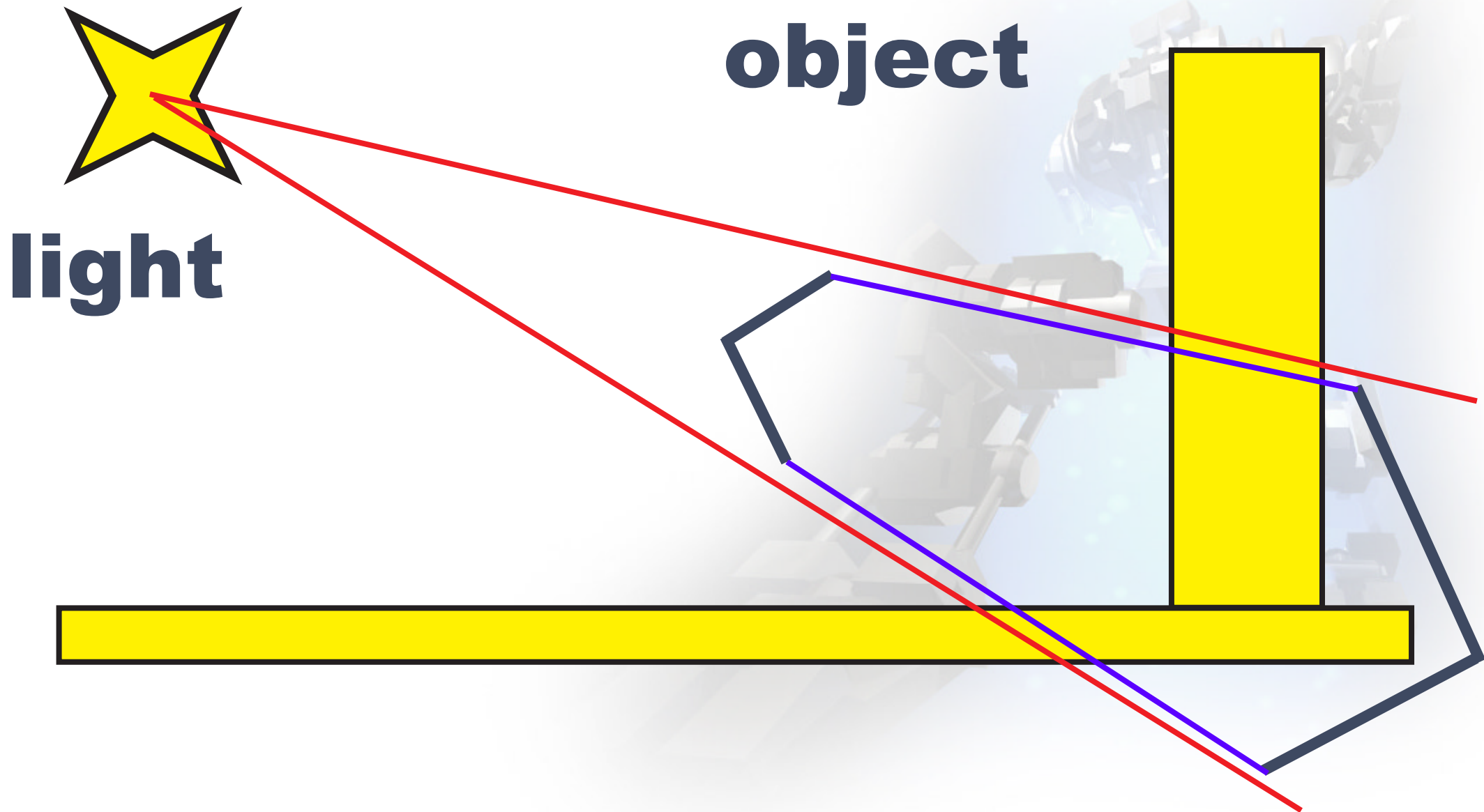


light

object



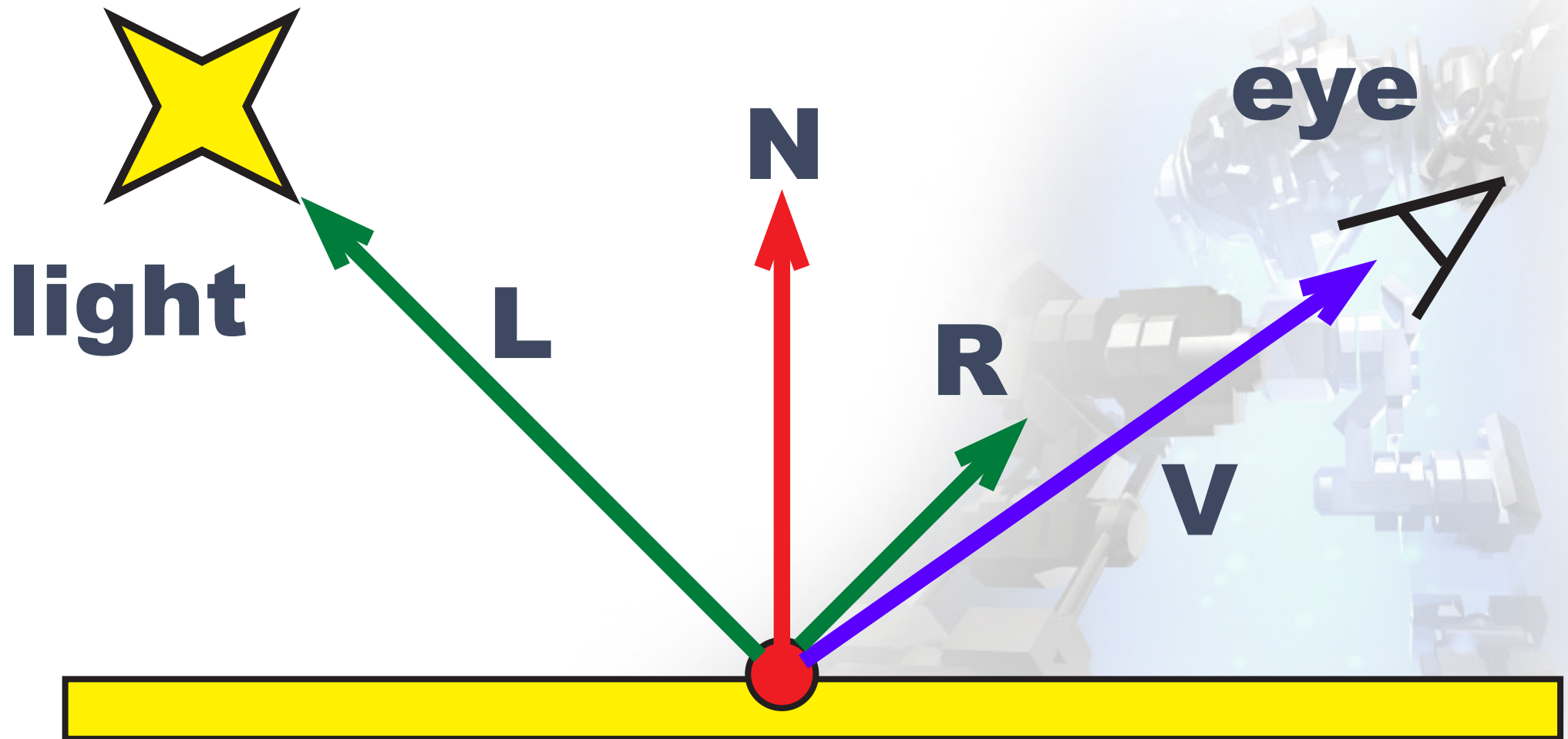
Zoom3 :: Shadow casting #3



Zoom3 :: Shadow casting #4

- **Each vertex of the object has**
 - XYZ position
 - XYZ lighting normal - used for lighting (different for each vertex)
 - XYZ face normal - used for shadow casting (equal for all vertices of the face)

Zoom3 :: Phong basics #1



Zoom3 :: Phong basics #2

- **All vectors are normalized**
- **Diffuse component**
 $dOut = \text{dot}(L, N) * \text{lightDiffuse}$
- **Specular component**
 $sOut = \text{pow}(\text{dot}(V, R), f) * \text{lightSpecular}$
 $R = 2 * N * \text{dot}(N, L) - L$
- **Final pixel is**
 $Out = (dOut + sOut) * \text{lightAttenuation}$

Zoom3 :: Pixelshader #1

ps.1.1

; c0 - Light diffuse
; c1 - Light specular
; v0 - “Normalized” vertex normal

tex t0 ; Attenuation function (3D texture)
tex t1 ; Diffuse (micro) texture
tex t2 ; V - Normalized view vector (Cubemap)
tex t3 ; L - Normalized light vector (Cubemap)

Zoom3 :: Pixelshader #2

```
; diffuse lighting  $D = ( N.L )$   
dp3      r0, v0_bx2, t3_bx2
```

```
; reflected light vector  $R = 2.N.( N.L ) - L$   
mad      r1.rgb, r0, v0_bx2, -t3_bias
```

```
;  $( N.L ).attenuation$   
+mul_sat r0.a, r0.a, t0.a
```

```
; Phong like specular  $S = ( R.V )$   
dp3_x2_sat r1, r1, t2_bx2
```

Zoom3 :: Pixelshader #3

```
; ( R.V ) ^ 2
```

```
mul_sat    r1.rgb, r1, r1
```

```
; ( R.V ) ^ 2
```

```
+mul_sat   r1.a, r1.a, r1.a
```

```
; D.attenuation.texture
```

```
mul_sat    r0.rgb, r0.a, t1
```

```
; S = ( R.V ) ^ 4
```

```
+mul_sat   r1.a, r1.b, r1.a
```

Zoom3 :: Pixelshader #4

```
; S.attenuation
```

```
mul_sat    r1, r1.a, t0.a
```

```
; S.attenuation.lightSpecular
```

```
mul_sat    r1, r1, c1
```

```
; out = D.atten.tex.color + S.atten.color
```

```
mad_sat    r0.rgb, r0, c0, r1
```

```
; kill a pixel if it is outside of the light (alphatest)
```

```
+mov_sat   r0.a, t0.a
```

Zoom3 :: Pixelshader #5

- **Extremely optimized pixelshader**
 - 12 instruction in PS.1.1
 - 8 instruction slots used (max in PS.1.1)
 - 4 additional in alpha channel
- **Final function is**
$$\text{out} = ((N.L) * \text{texture} * \text{lightDiffuse} + ((V.(2.N.(N.L)) ^ 4) * \text{lightSpecular})) * \text{lightAttenuation}$$

3D Scene basics #1

- **Based on 3D Studio MAX**
 - Custom Objects
 - Custom Exporters
- **ATX command-line scene compiler**
 - Load exported data
 - Optimization
 - Pack and save output file
- **Intro engine**
 - Scene reconstruction
 - Rendering

3D Scene basics #2

- **Simple objects**
 - Box, Cylinder, Sphere, etc...
- **Simple deformations**
 - Bend, Skew, Squeeze, Twist, etc...
- **General parameters of object**
 - Position, Rotation
- **Custom parameters of object**
 - Like width, height, radius, etc...
- **Cloned objects**
 - Position, Rotation, source of custom params

Squish :: General object

- **It is :**
 - Simple high-tessellated box
 - Plus applied FFD 3x3x3 modifier
- **Custom parameters**
 - 26 (27) control points
 - fake-floats (12 bit)
- **General parameters**
 - Texture ID
 - Flags (Shadowing, Cloning)
 - Delta position and rotation (for clones)

Value storage

- **Fake-floats (for Squish)**

- Common float is 32bit
- Fake-float is a part of common float

XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX
XXXX XXXX XXXX 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000

0x3f9e0610 = 1.23456f (32bit)

0x3f900000 = 1.12500f (12bit)

- **Common integers (for Zoom3)**

- 16bit short

Squish :: Scene storage #1

- **Number of objects**
- **Stream of object commands**
 - 8bit field

SCXX XXXX

s = Is a shadow caster

c = Is a clone

x = Texture ID (64 textures)

Squish :: Scene storage #2

- **High parts of**
 - FFD's X, Y, Z
 - Cloned position X, Y, Z
- **Low parts of**
 - FFD's X, Y, Z
 - Cloned position X, Y, Z
- **Stream of packed rotations for clones**
 - 24bit field

000y yyyy 000p pppp 000r rrrr
Yaw Pitch Roll

Zoom3 :: General object

- **It is :**
 - Cylinder based (mix of ChamferBox/Cyl)
 - Optimal for industrial scenes
- **Custom parameters**
 - Length (Rx), Width (Ry), Height
 - Fillet (Chamfer)
 - Number of height segments
 - Number of sides
 - Normal smoothing flag
 - Shadow casting flag

Zoom3 :: Scene storage #1

- **A3D signature**
- **Number of objects**
- **Stream of object commands**
 - 32bit field

cccc cccc cccc cccc xxxx xmdd dsfq qqtt

t = object type

{

q0 = SuperBox (has FFD)

11 = Clone

}

Zoom3 :: Scene storage #2

cccc cccc cccc cccc xxxx xmdd dsfq qqtt

- x** = Texture ID
- d** = Number of height segments
- qqqt** = Number of sides
- f** = Object has FFD modifier
- s** = No shadows
- c** = Number of clones

Zoom3 :: Scene storage #3

- **Low parts of**
 - Pos.x, Pos.y, Pos.z
 - Length, Width, Height, Fillet
- **The same for high parts**
- **Set of 15bit packed rotations**
0rrr rrpp pppy yyyy
Yaw Pitch Roll (Euler angles)
- **FFD points are stored in Pos.x,Pos.y,Pos.z**
- **Totally 16 different streams**

IsoSurfaces :: Basics

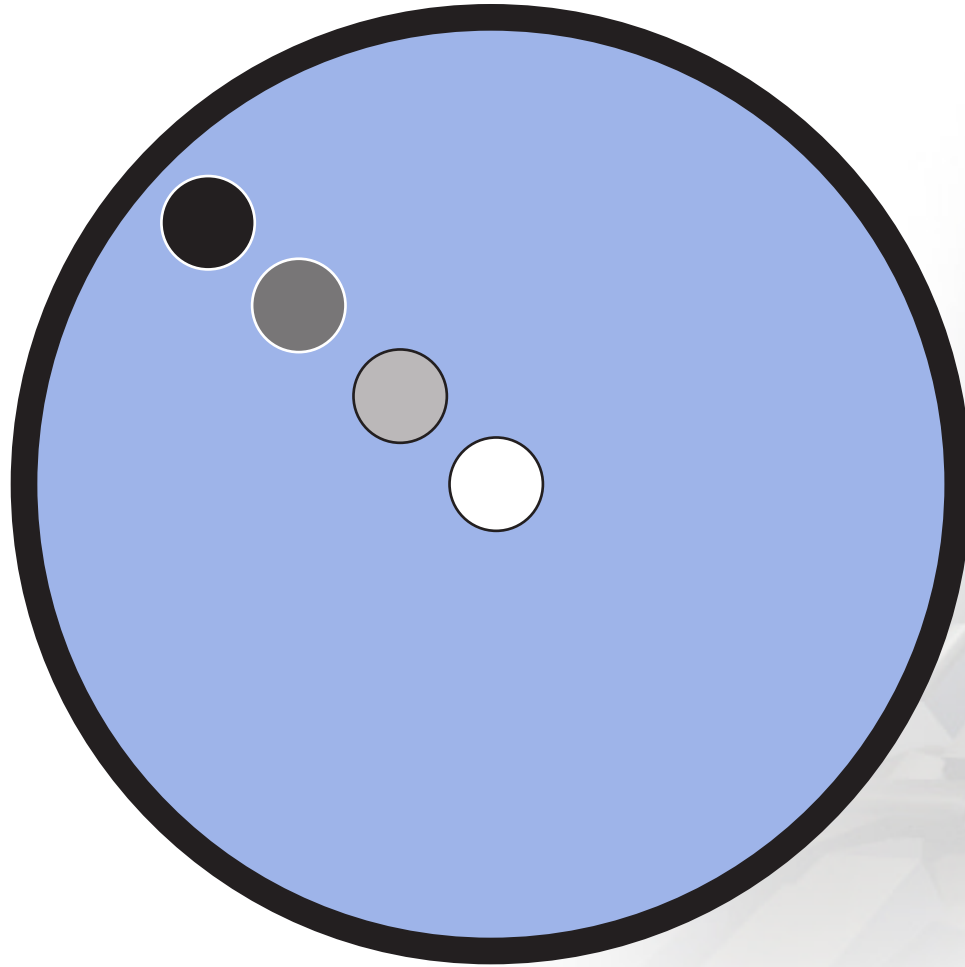
- **Originally is a scalar field**

$$F_{iso} = \text{SUM}_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{R_i}{(x - O_{ix})^2 + (y - O_{iy})^2 + (z - O_{iz})^2} \right)$$

- True in the case of Sphere-like surfaces
- **Complex surfaces**
 - Cube, Cylinder, Torus, etc...
 - Water worm (Like in Zoom3)
- **Hard to calculate surface and normals**

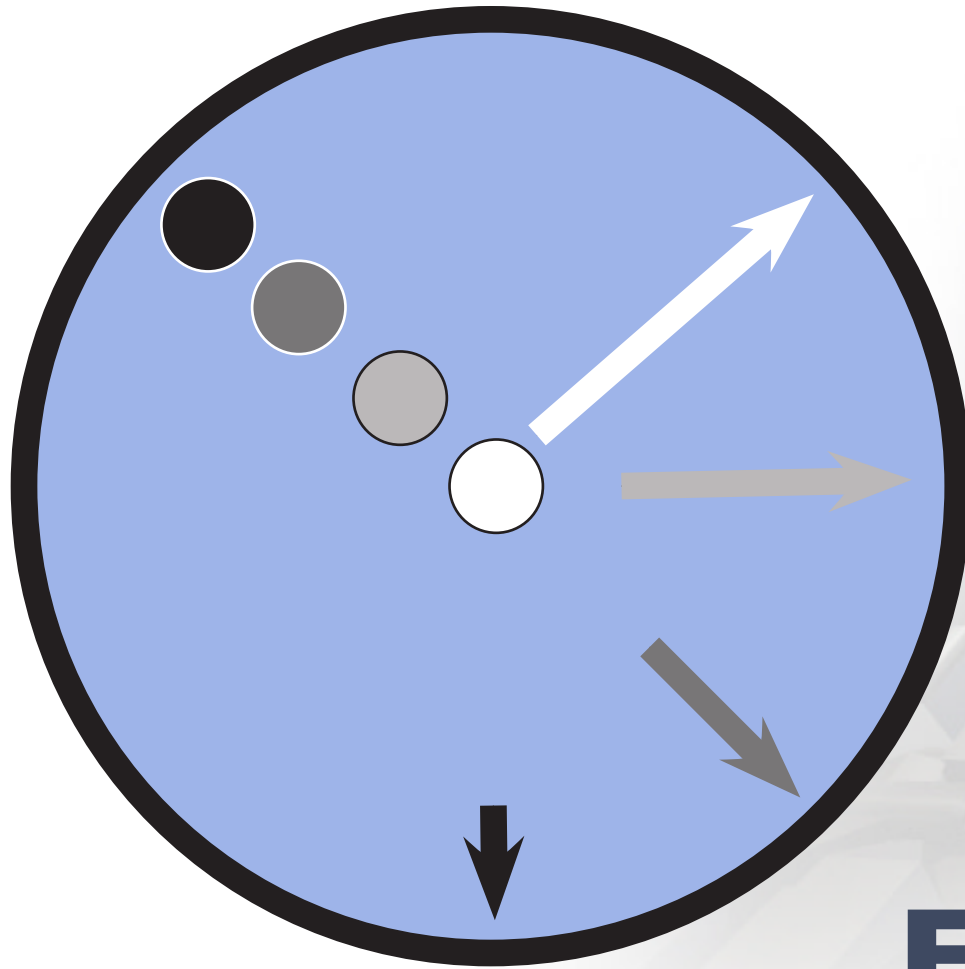
IsoSurfaces :: Scalar field

Scalar values



IsoSurfaces :: Combined field

Scalar values



Force field

IsoSurfaces :: 3D Sprites

- **Each iso-object is like a 3D sprite**
 - Precalculated 3D arrays

$$F_{iso} = \sum_{i=1}^n (IsoObject[i].scalar)$$

- **Normal is like a field direction**

$$Normal_{iso} = \sum_{i=1}^n (IsoObject[i].force)$$

- **Works very fast and visually correct**

Questions

- **Email :**
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- **Web :**
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