

# Shadows

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#### **Computer Graphics Research – Info Sources**

- <u>http://kesen.realtimerendering.com/</u>
- SIGGRAPH, SIGGRAPH Asia, Eurographics, EGSR, I3D, ...
- scholar.google.com

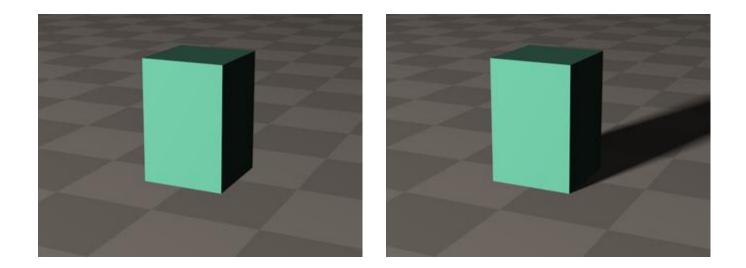
# Outline

- Motivation & Terminology
- Approximate & projection shadows
- Shadow maps
- Shadow volumes
- Summary

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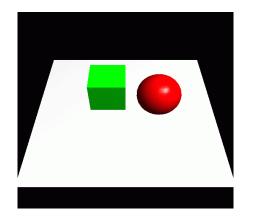


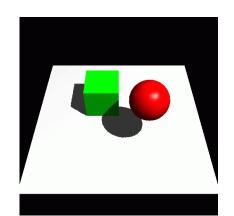
Shadows tell us about the relative locations and motions of objects





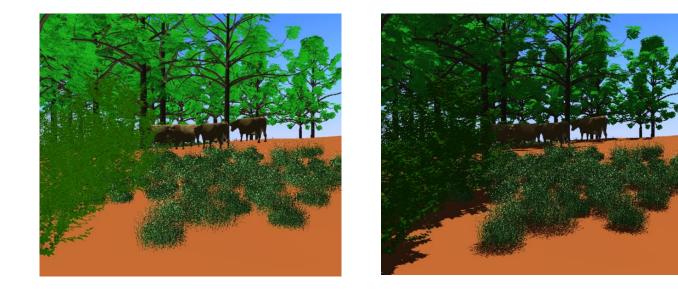
Shadows tell us about the relative locations and motion of objects And about light positions







#### Objects look like they are "floating" $\rightarrow$ shadows fix that!



#### What for?

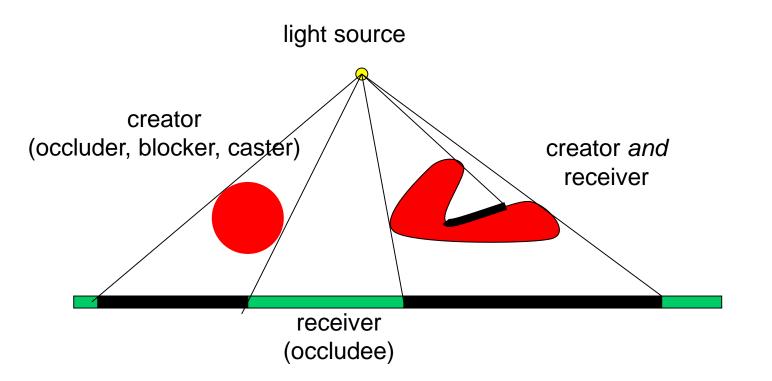


# **Motivation**

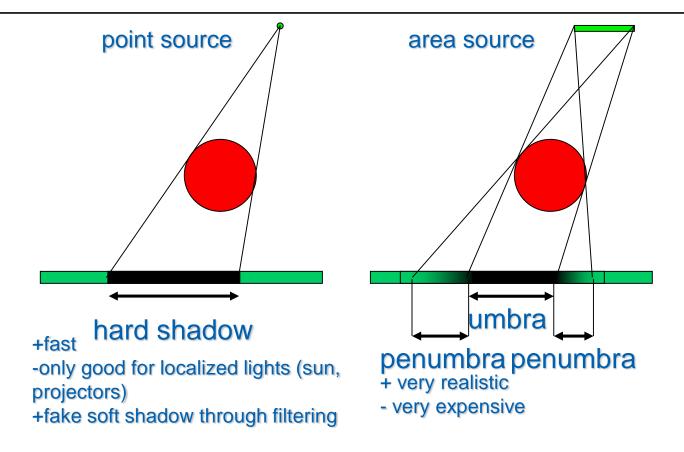
- Shadows contribute significantly to realism of rendered images
  - Anchor objects in scene
- **Global** effect  $\rightarrow$  expensive!
- Light source behaves very similar to camera
  - Is a point visible from the light source?
    - $\rightarrow$  shadows are "hidden" regions
  - Shadow is a projection of caster on receiver
    - $\rightarrow$  projection methods

# **Shadow Algorithms**

- Static shadow algorithms (lights + objects)
  - Radiosity, ray tracing  $\rightarrow$  lightmaps
- Approximate shadows
- Projected shadows [Blinn 88]
- Shadow maps [Williams 78]
  - Projective image-space algorithm
- Shadow volumes [Crow 77]
  - Object-space algorithm
- Soft shadow extensions for all above algorithms
  - Still hot research topic (500+ shadow publications)



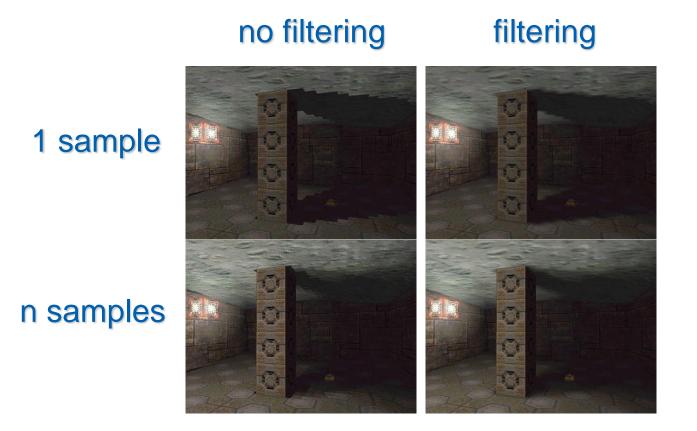
#### Hard vs. Soft Shadows



#### **Static Shadows**

- Glue to surface whatever we want
- Idea: incorporate shadows into light maps
  - For each texel, cast ray to each light source
- "Bake" soft shadows in light maps
  - Not by texture filtering alone, but:
  - Sample area light sources

#### Static Soft Shadow Example



# Outline

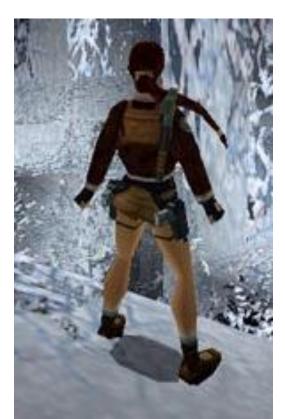
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# **Approximate Shadows**

- Handdrawn approximate geometry
  - Perceptual studies suggest: shape not so important
  - Minimal cost



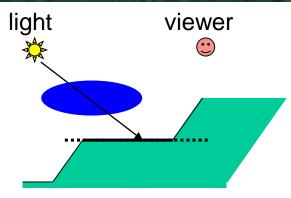


# **Approximate Shadows**

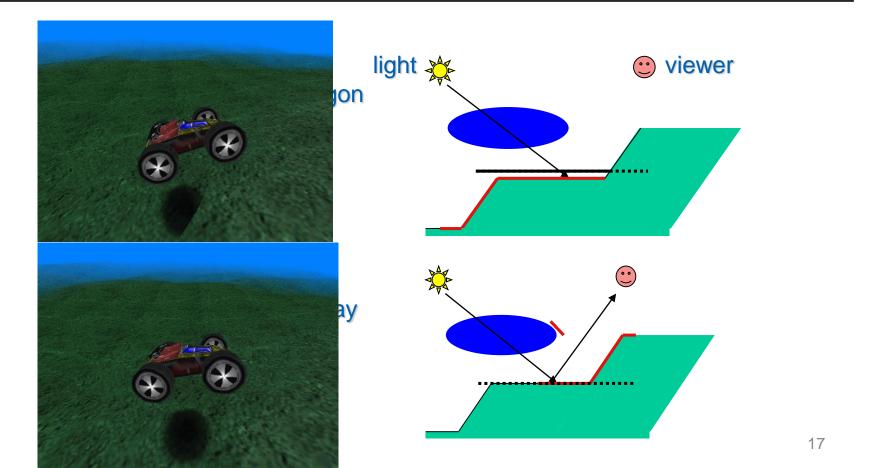
- Dark polygon (maybe with texture)
  - Cast ray from light source through o
  - Blend polygon into frame buffer at lo
  - May apply additional rotation/scale/t
    Incorporate distance and receiver orie
- Problem with z-quantization:



Blend at hit polygon Z-test equal → z-buffer quantization errors!

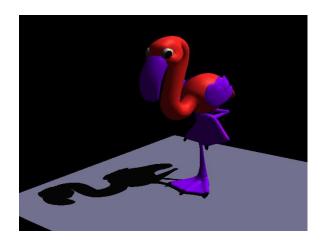


## **Approximate Shadows**

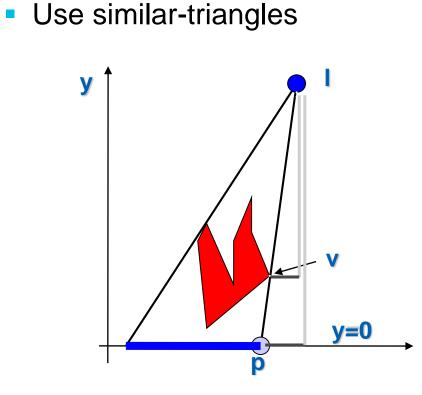


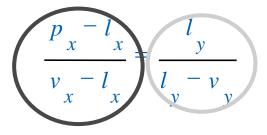
# **Projection Shadows (Blinn 88)**

- Shadows for selected large *planar* receivers
  - Ground plane
  - Walls
- Projective geometry: flatten 3D model onto plane
  - and "darken" using framebuffer blend



#### **Projection for Ground Plane**

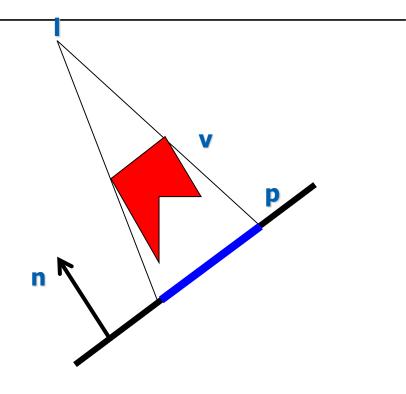




$$p_{x} = \frac{l_{y}v_{x} - l_{y}v_{x}}{l_{y} - v_{y}}$$
$$p_{z} = \frac{l_{y}v_{z} - l_{z}v_{y}}{l_{y} - v_{y}}$$
$$p_{y} = 0$$

# **Projection Matrix**

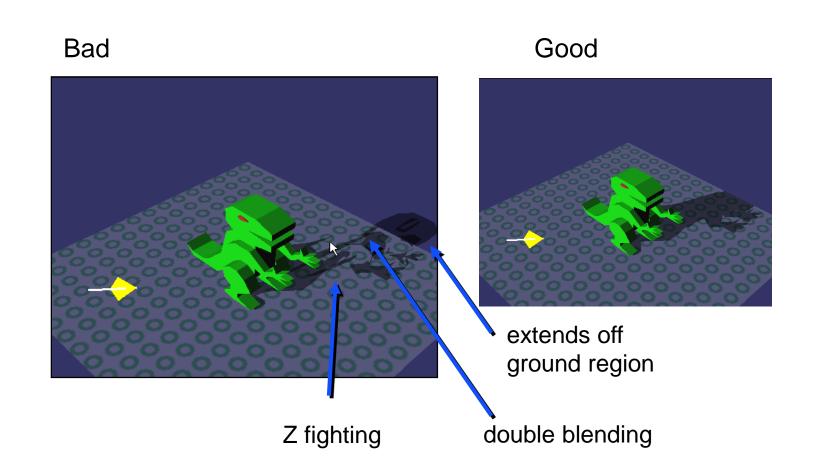
- Projective 4x4 matrix:  $M = \begin{pmatrix} l_y & -l_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -l_z & l_y & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & l_y \end{pmatrix}$
- Arbitrary plane:
  - Intersect line  $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{I} \alpha (\mathbf{v} \mathbf{I})$
  - with plane  $\mathbf{n} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{d} = 0$
  - Express result as a 4x4 matrix
- Append this matrix to view transform



# **Projection Shadow Algorithm**

- Render scene (full lighting)
- For each receiver polygon
  - Compute projection matrix M
  - Append to view matrix
  - Render selected shadow caster
    - · With framebuffer blending enabled

#### **Projection Shadow Artifacts**

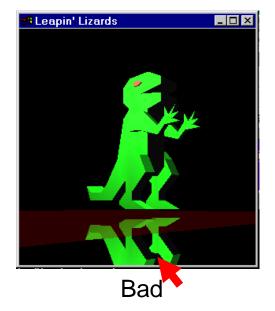


#### **Stencil Buffer Projection Shadows**

- Stencil can solve all of these problems
  - Separate 8-bit frame buffer for numeric ops
- Stencil buffer algorithm (requires 1 bit):
  - Clear stencil to 0
  - Draw ground polygon last and with
    - glStencilOp(GL\_KEEP, GL\_KEEP, GL\_ONE);
  - Draw shadow caster with no depth test but
    - glStencilFunc(GL\_EQUAL, 1, 0xFF); glStencilOp(GL\_KEEP, GL\_KEEP, GL\_ZERO);
- Every plane pixel is touched at most once

#### **Stencil Buffer Planar Reflections**

- Draw object twice, second time with:
  - glScalef(1, -1, 1)
- Reflects through floor





# Good, stencil used to limit reflection.

# **Projection Shadow Summary**

- Easy to implement
  - GLQuake first game to implement it
- Only practical for very few, large receivers
- No self shadowing

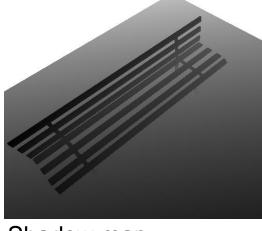
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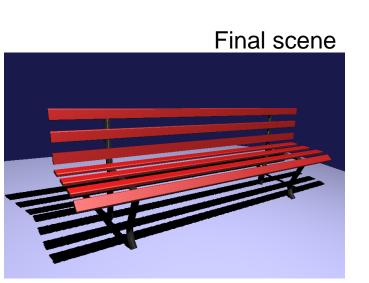
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# **Shadow Maps**

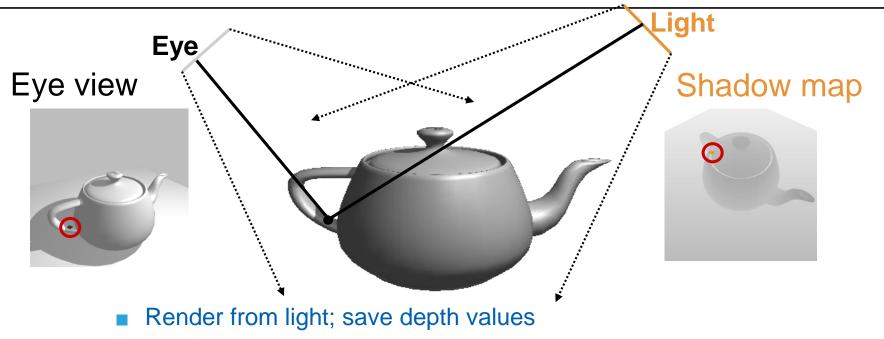
- Casting curved shadows on curved surfaces
  - Image-space algorithm, 2 passes



Shadow map



# Shadow Map Algorithm



- Render from eye
  - Transform all fragments to light space
  - Compare z<sub>eye</sub> and z<sub>light</sub> (both in light space!!!)
  - Z<sub>eye</sub> > Z<sub>light</sub>

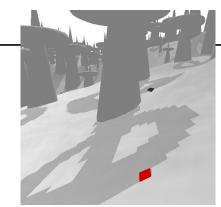
fragment in shadow

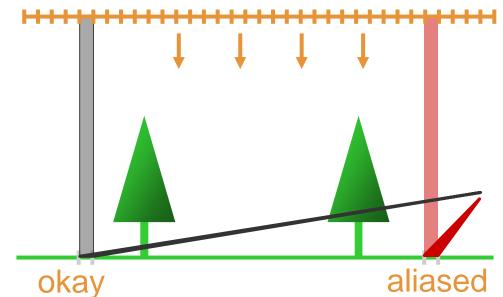
## Shadow Maps in Hardware

- Render lightspace depth into texture
- In vertex shader:
  - Calculate texture coordinates as in projective texturing
- In fragment shader:
  - Depth compare

# **Problem: Perspective Aliasing**

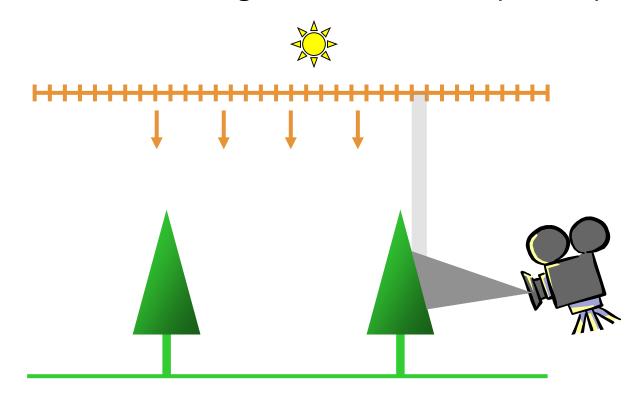
- Sufficient resolution far from eye
- Insufficient resolution near eye



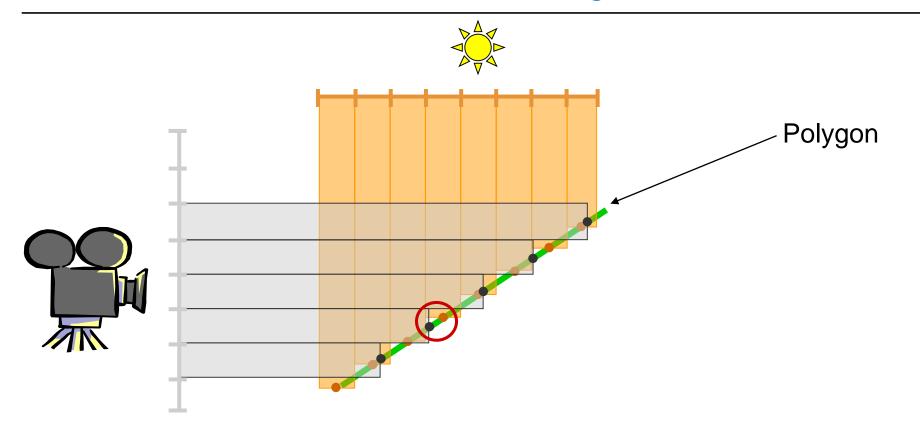


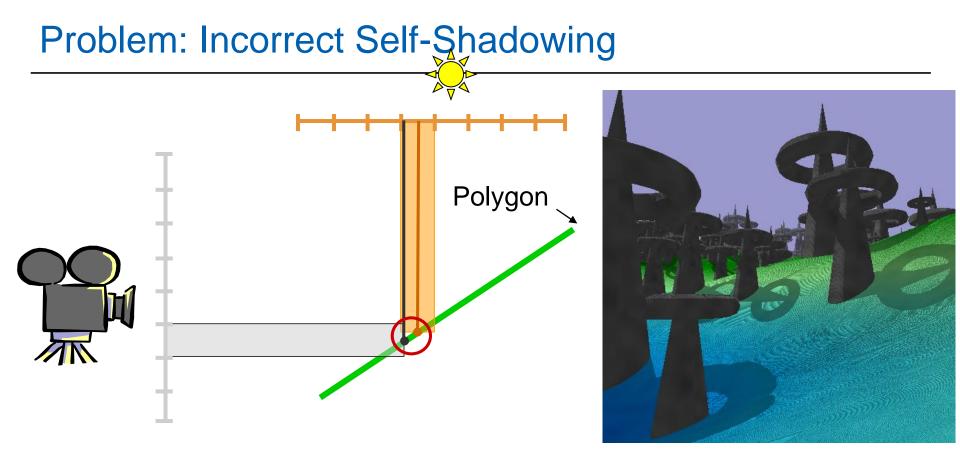
#### **Problem: Projection Aliasing**

Shadow receiver ~ orthogonal to Shadow Map - viewplane



#### **Problem: Incorrect Self-Shadowing**

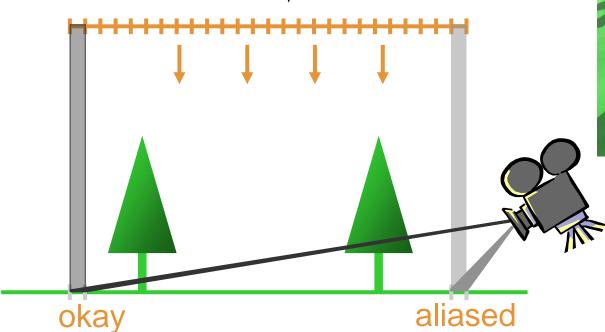


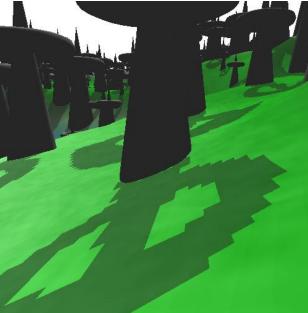


 $Z_{eye} > Z_{light} \implies$  Incorrect Self-shadowing 33

# **Solution for Perspective Aliasing**

Insufficient resolution near eye





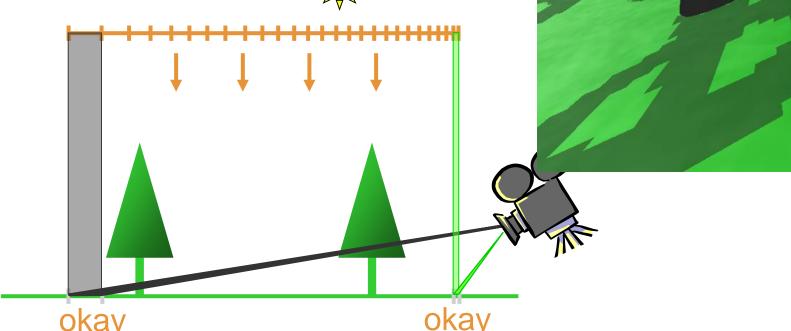
# **Solution for Perspective Aliasing**

- Insufficient resolution near eye
- Redistribute values in shadow map

# Solution for Perspective Aliasing

- Sufficient resolution near eye
- Redistribute values in shadow map



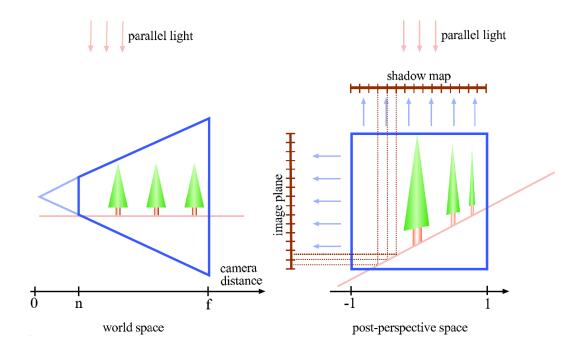


## **Solution for Perspective Aliasing**

Use warping for light pass (and lookups)



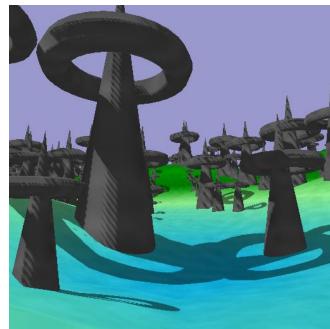
# Solution for Perspective Aliasing

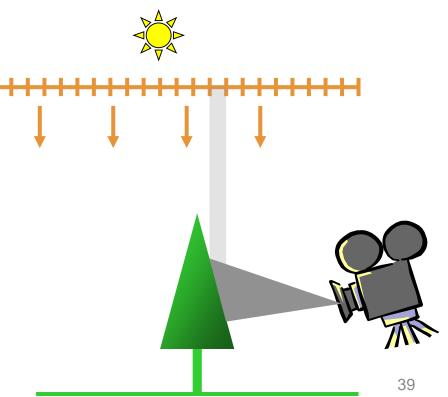


- Stamminger, Drettakis Perspective Shadow Maps
- Wimmer et al. Light space perspective shadow maps

# Solution for Projection Aliasing

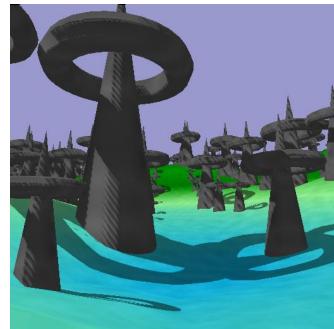
- Shadow receiver ~ orthogonal to Shadow Map plane
- Redistribution does not work
- But...





# Solution for Projection Aliasing

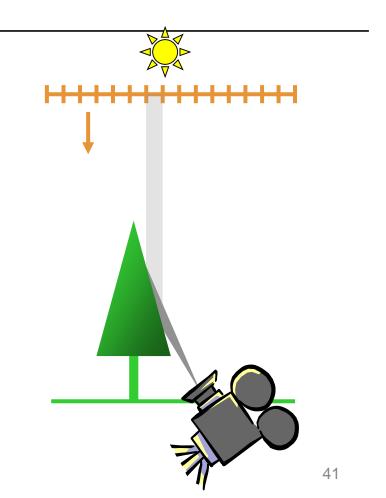
- Diffuse lighting:  $I = I_L max(dot(L, N), 0)$
- Almost orthogonal receivers have small
- Dark artifacts not very visible!

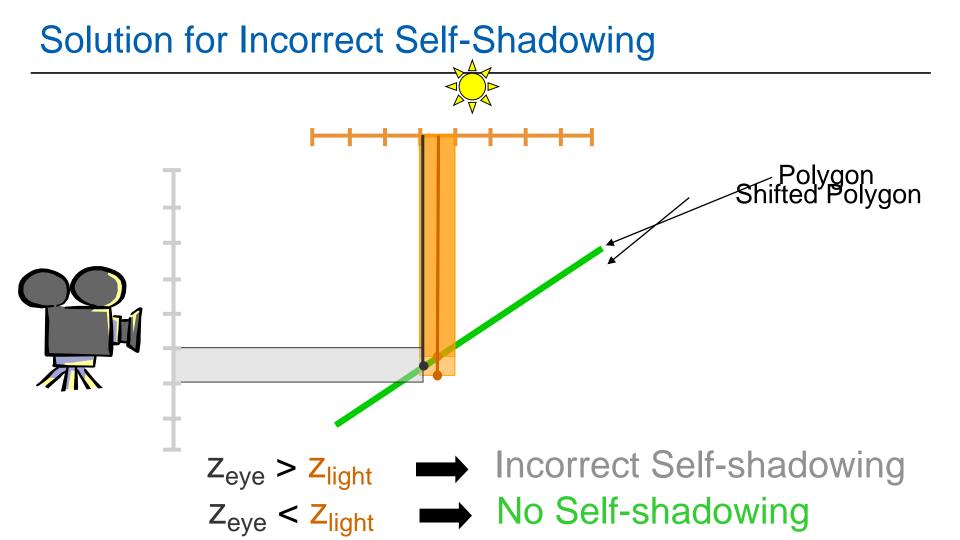


40

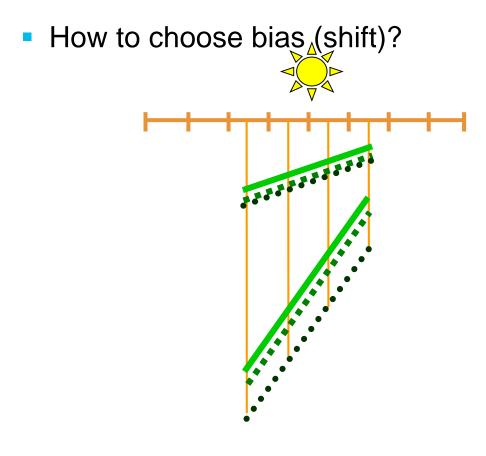
# **Solution for Projection Aliasing**

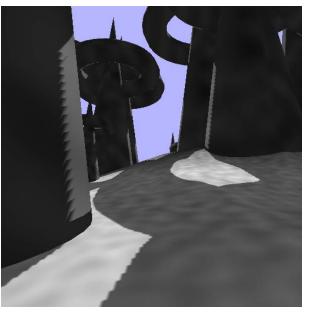
- Recommendations
  - Small ambient term
  - Diffuse term hides artifacts
  - Specular term not problematic
    - · Light and view direction almost identical
    - Shadow Map resolution sufficient





# Solution for Incorrect Self-Shadowing





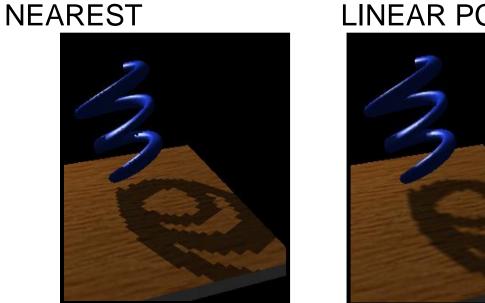
— No Bias

- ••• Constant Bias
- ••• Slope-Scale Bias

## **Problem: Aliasing Artifacts**

- Resolution mismatch image/shadow map!
  - Use perspective shadow maps
- Use "percentage closer" filtering
  - Normal color filtering cannot be used
  - Filter lookup result, not depth map values!
  - 2x2 PCF in hardware for NVIDIA

# **Shadow Map Filtering**



#### LINEAR PCF



# Shadow Map Summary

- Advantages
  - Fast only one additional pass
  - Independent of scene complexity (no additional shadow polygons!)
  - Self shadowing (but beware bias)
  - Can sometimes reuse depth map
- Disadvantages
  - Problematic for omnidirectional lights
  - Biasing tweak (light leaks, surface acne)
  - Jagged edges (aliasing)

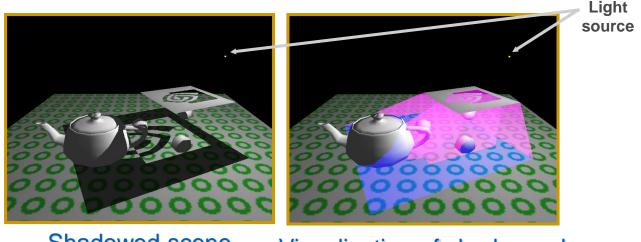
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# Shadow Volumes (Crow 1977)

- Occluders and light source cast out a 3D shadow volume
  - Shadow through new geometry
  - Results in Pixel correct shadows



Shadowed scene

Visualization of shadow volume

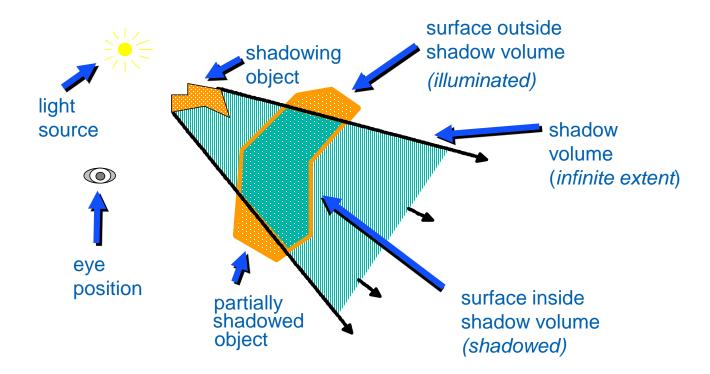
## Shadow Volumes (Crow 1977)

#### Heavily used in Doom3



# 2D Cutaway of Shadow Volume

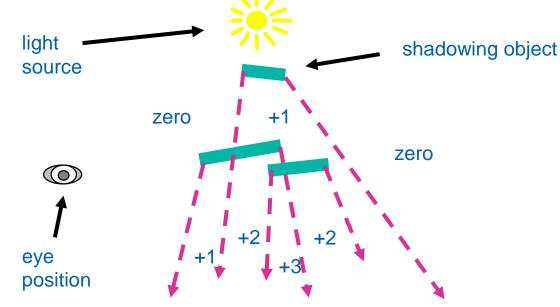
Occluder polygons extruded to semi-infinite volumes



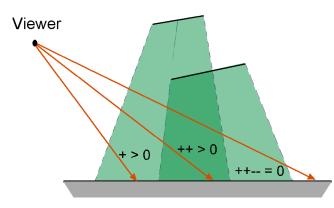
- 3D point-in-polyhedron inside-outside test
- Principle similar to 2D point-in-polygon test
  - Choose a point known to be outside the volume
  - Count ray intersections from test point to known point with polyhedron faces
    - Front face +1
    - Back face -1
- Known point will distinguish algorithms:
  - Infinity: "Z-fail" algorithm
  - Eye-point: "Z-pass" algorithm

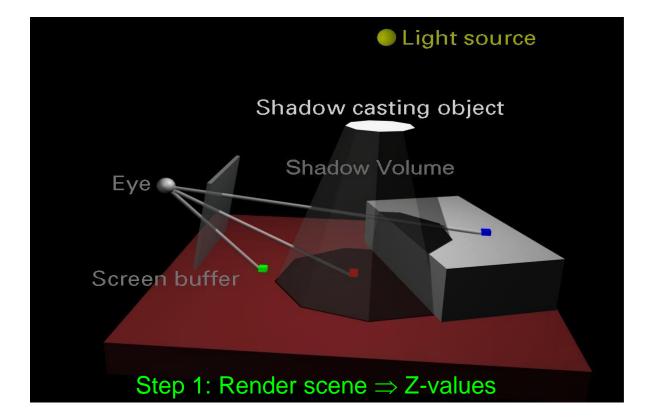
# Enter/Leave Approach

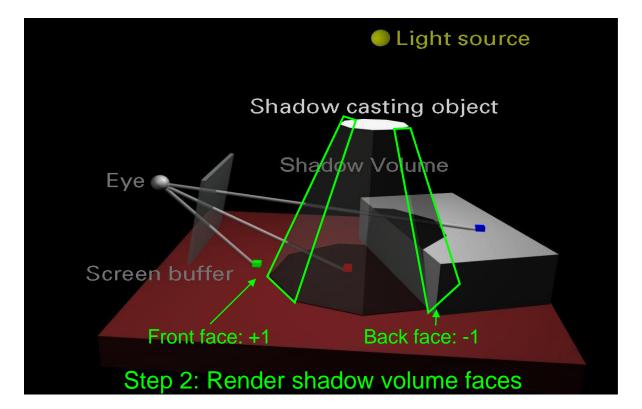
- Increment on enter, decrement on leave
- Simultaneously test all visible pixels
  - $\rightarrow$  Stop when hitting object nearest to viewer

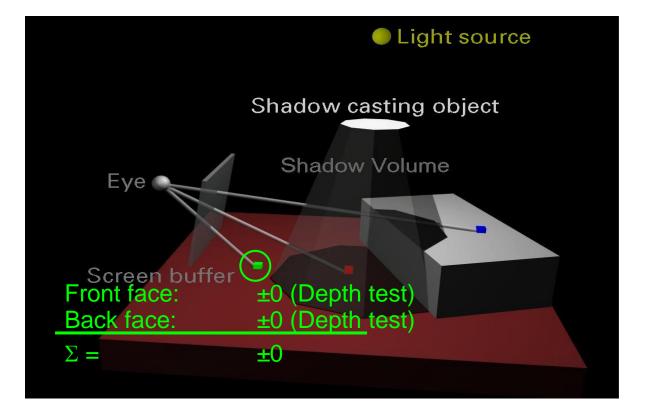


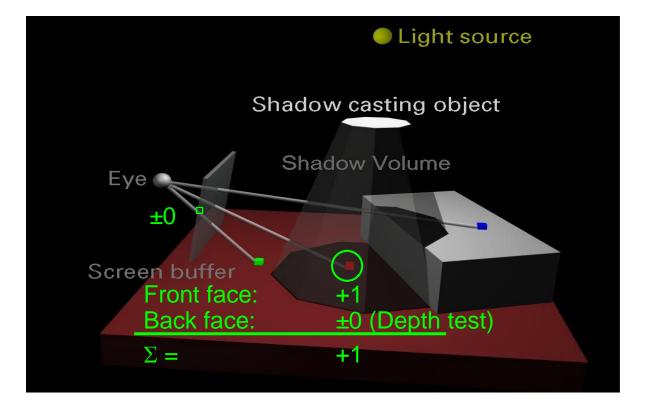
- Shadow volumes in object precision
  - Calculated by CPU/Vertex Shaders
- Shadow test in image precision
  - Using stencil buffer as counter!
- Light Source

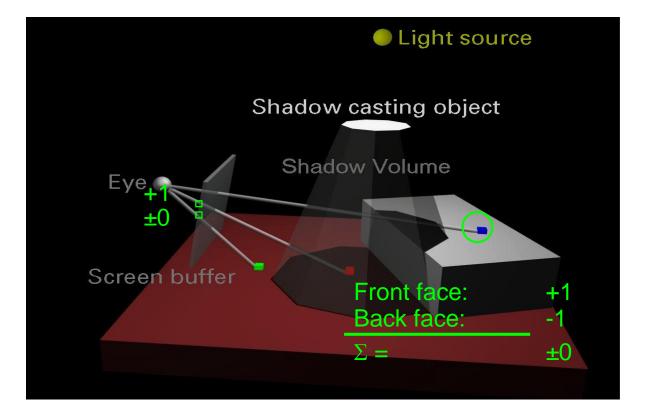


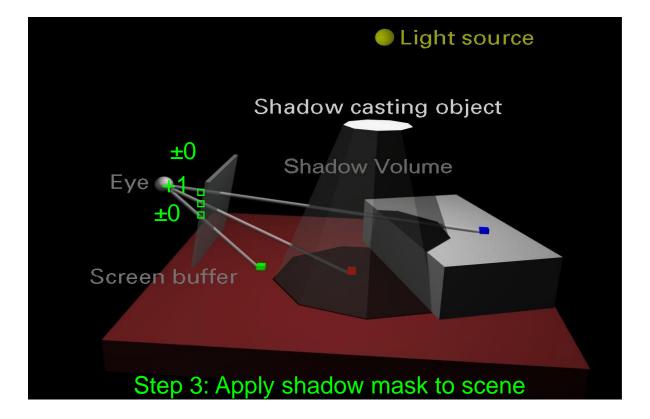








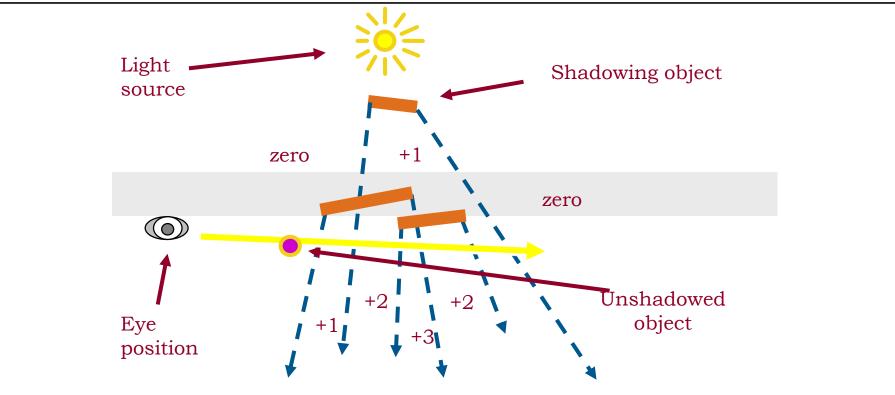




# Shadow Volume Algorithm (Zpass)

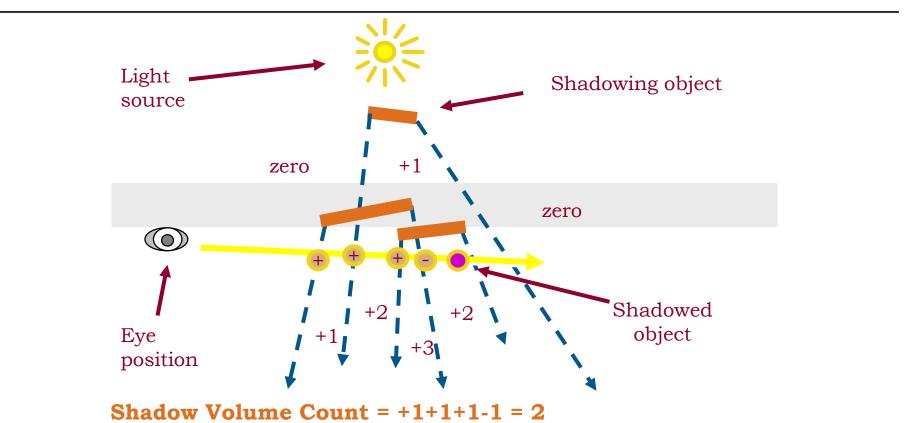
- Render scene to establish z-buffer
  - Can also do ambient illumination
- For each light
  - Clear stencil
  - Draw shadow volume twice using culling
    - Render front faces and increment stencil
    - Render back faces and decrement stencil
  - Illuminate all pixels not in shadow volume
    - Render testing stencil = 0
    - Use additive blend

### Zpass Technique (Before Shadow)

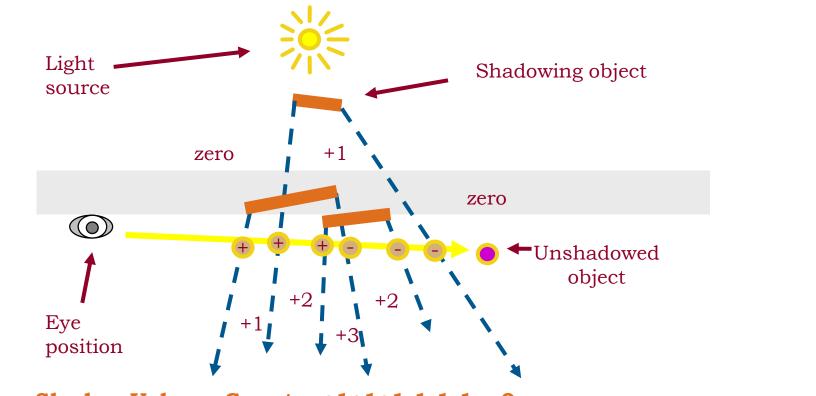


Shadow Volume Count = 0 (no depth tests passes)

### Zpass Technique (In Shadow)

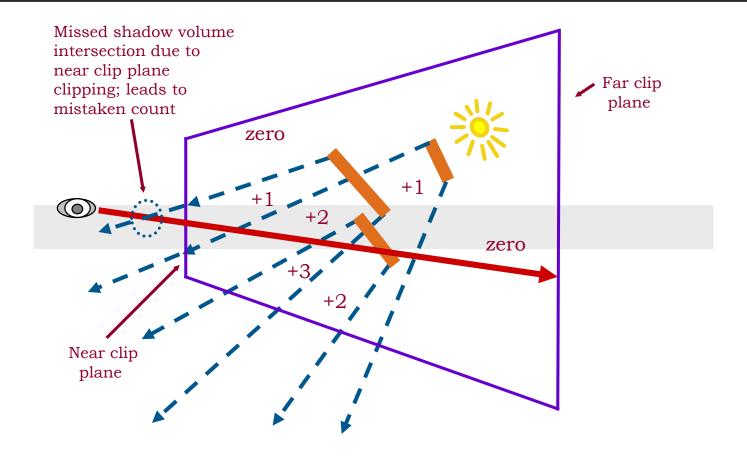


### Zpass Technique (Behind Shadow)



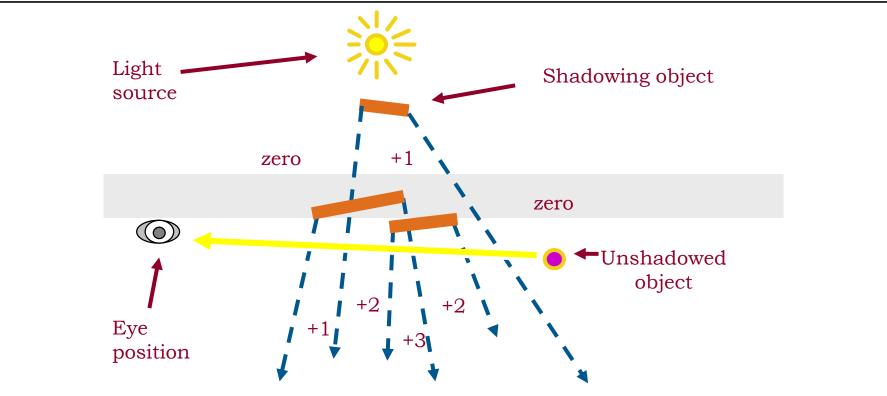
**Shadow Volume Count** = +1+1+1-1-1=0

#### **Zpass Near Plane Problem**



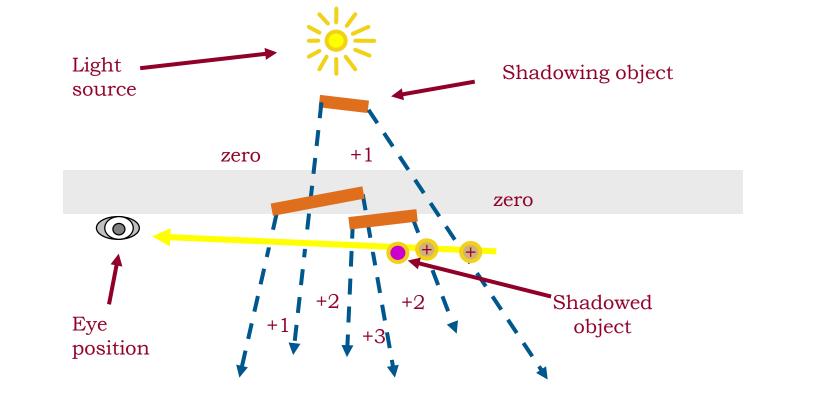
- Zpass near plane problem difficult to solve
  - Have to "cap" shadow volume at near plane
  - Expensive and not robust, many special cases
- Try reversing test order → Zfail technique (also known as Carmack's reverse)
  - Start from infinity and stop at nearest intersection
    - → Render shadow volume fragments only when depth test fails
  - Render back faces first and increment
  - Then front faces and decrement
  - Need to cap shadow volume at infinity or light extent

#### Zfail, Behind Shadow



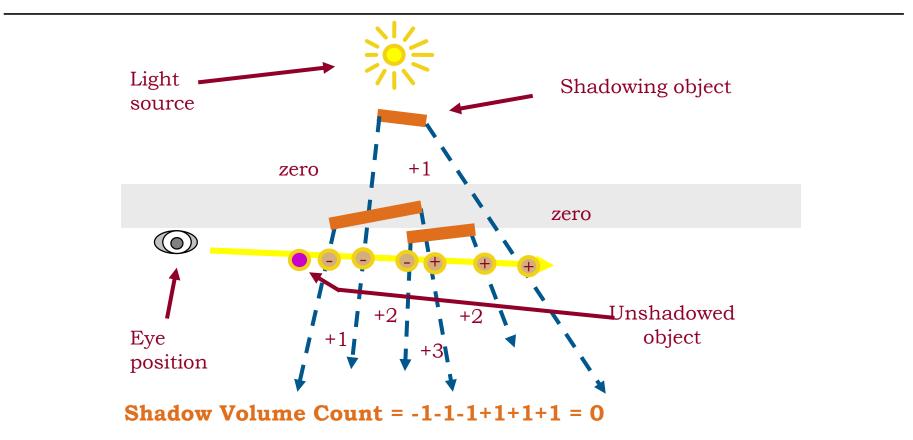
Shadow Volume Count = 0 (zero depth tests fail)

#### Zfail, in Shadow



**Shadow Volume Count = +1+1 = 2** 

#### Zfail, before Shadow



### **Shadow Volumes**

- Shadow volume = closed polyhedron
- Actually 3 sets of polygons!
  - 1. Object polygons facing the light ("light cap")
  - Object polygons facing away from the light and projected to infinity (with w = 0) ("dark cap")
  - Actual shadow volume polygons (extruded object edges) ("sides")
     → but which edges?

# **Computing Actual SV Polygons**

- Trivial but bad: one volume per triangle
  - 3 shadow volume polygons per triangle
- Better: find exact silhouette
  - Expensive on CPU

#### Even better: possible silhouette edges

- Edge shared by a back-facing and front-facing polygon (with respect to light source!), extended to infinity
- Actual extrusion can be done by vertex shader

# **Shadow Volumes Summary**

- Advantages
  - Arbitrary receivers
  - Fully dynamic
  - Omnidirectional lights (unlike shadow maps!)
  - Exact shadow boundaries (pixel-accurate)
  - Automatic self shadowing
  - Broad hardware support (stencil)
- Disadvantages
  - Fill-rate intensive
  - Difficult to get right (Zfail vs. Zpass)
  - Silhouette computation required
  - Doesn't work for arbitrary casters (smoke, fog...)

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