

**DCGI**

**KATEDRA POČÍTAČOVÉ GRAFIKY A INTERAKCE**

# Shadows

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# Computer Graphics Research – Info Sources

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- <http://kesen.realtimerendering.com/>
- SIGGRAPH, SIGGRAPH Asia, Eurographics, EGSR, I3D, ...
- [scholar.google.com](http://scholar.google.com)

# Outline

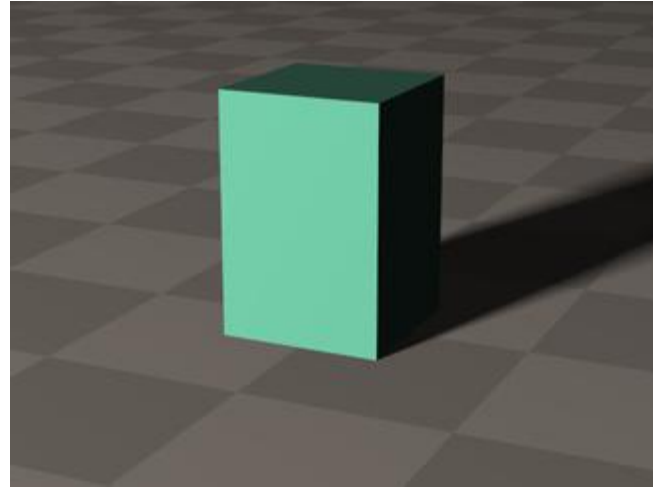
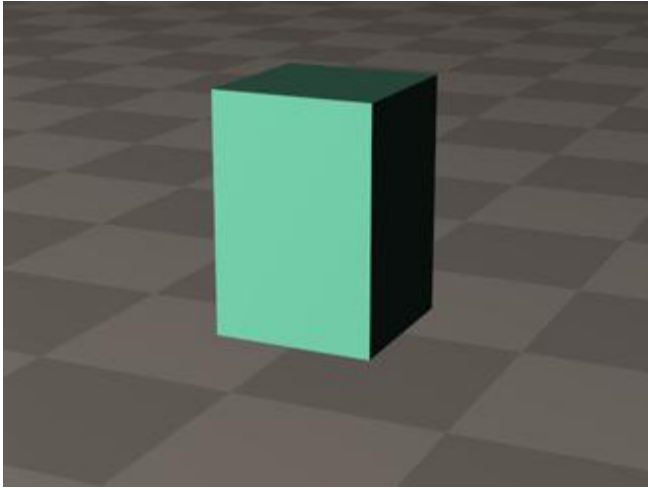
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- Motivation & Terminology MPG 12
- Approximate & projection shadows MPG 12.1
- Shadow maps MPG 12.3
- Shadow volumes MPG 12.2
- Summary

# What for?

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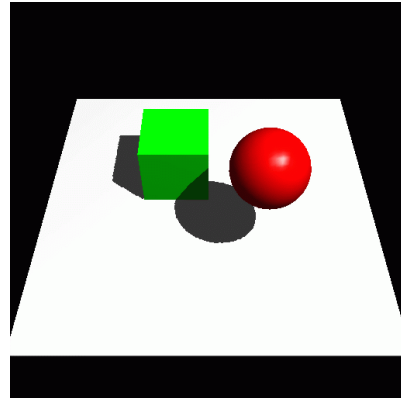
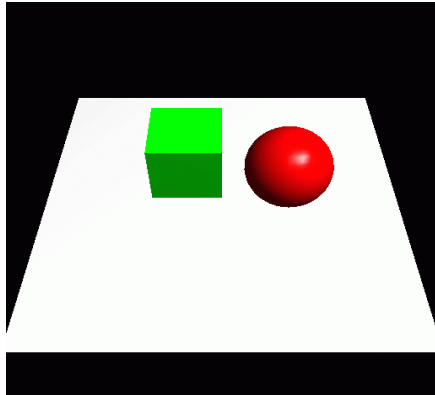
Shadows tell us about the relative locations and motions of objects



# What for?

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



# What for?

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Objects look like they are “floating” → shadows fix that!



# What for?



# Motivation

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



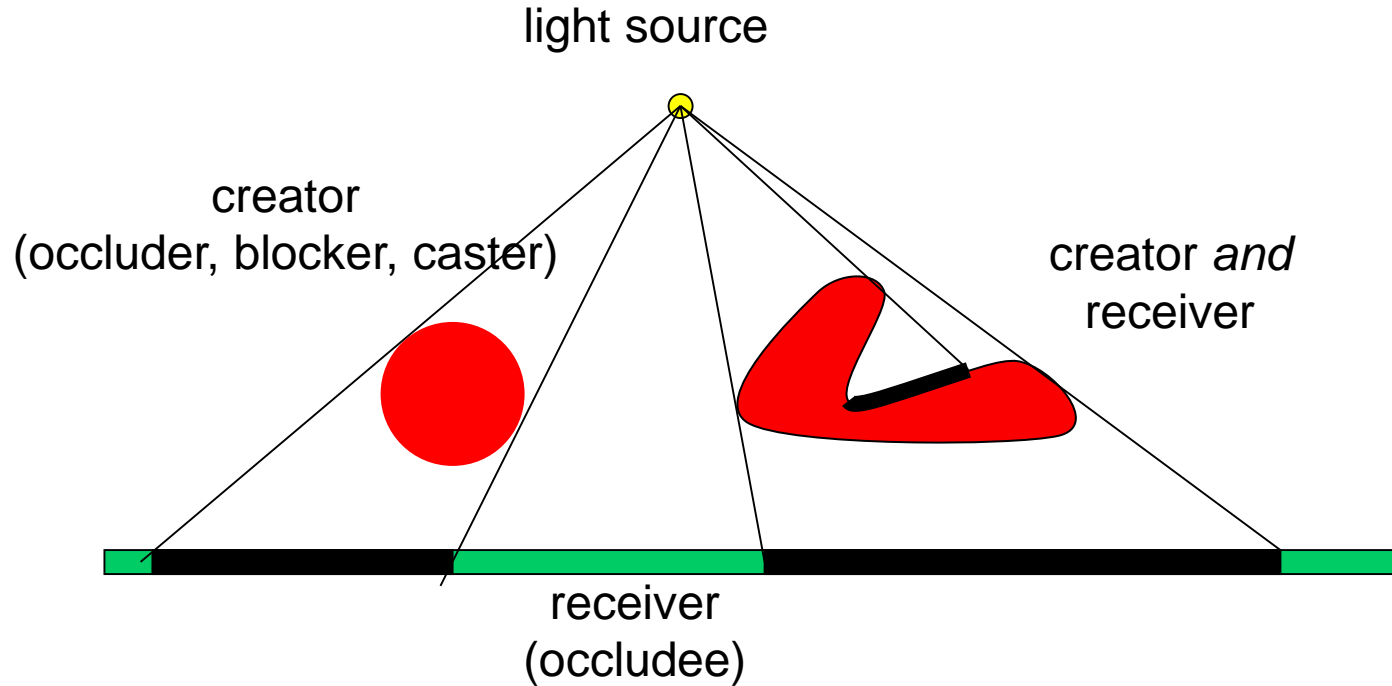
# Shadow Algorithms

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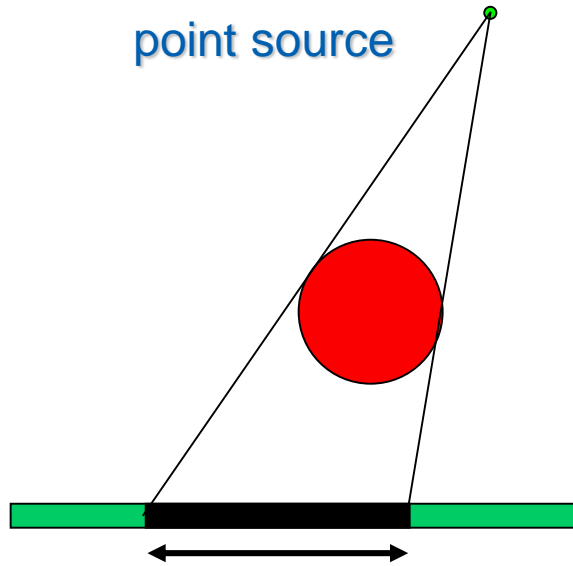
- Static shadow algorithms (lights + objects)
  - Radiosity, ray tracing → lightmaps
- Approximate shadows
- Projected shadows [Blinn 88]
- Shadow maps [Williams 78]
  - Projective image-space algorithm
- Shadow volumes [Crow 77]
  - Object-space algorithm
- Soft shadow extensions for all above algorithms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

# Shadow Terms

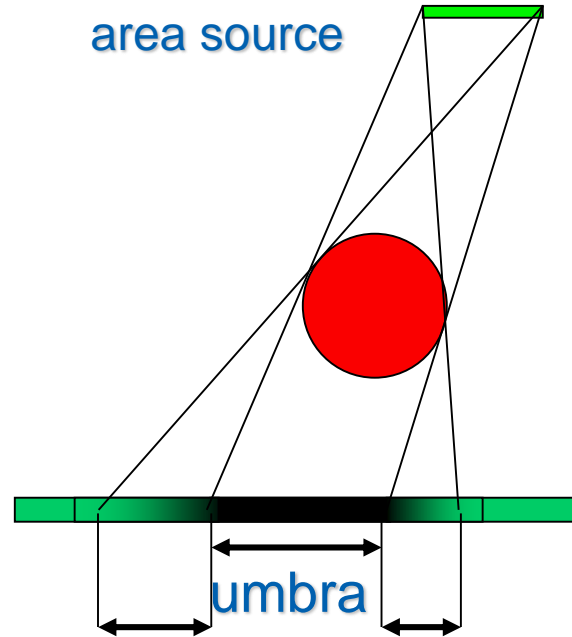
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# Hard vs. Soft Shadows



- hard shadow**
- +fast
  - only good for localized lights (sun, projectors)
  - +fake soft shadow through filtering



- umbra**
- penumbra penumbra**
- + very realistic
  - very expensive

# Static Shadows

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- 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

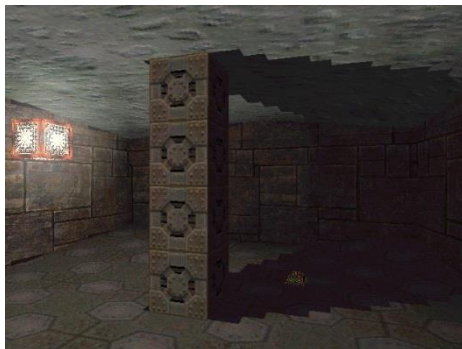
# Static Soft Shadow Example

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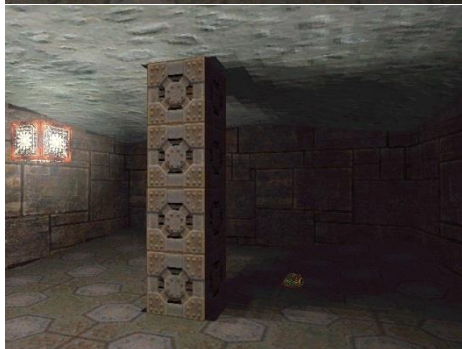
no filtering

filtering

1 sample



n samples



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# Approximate Shadows

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

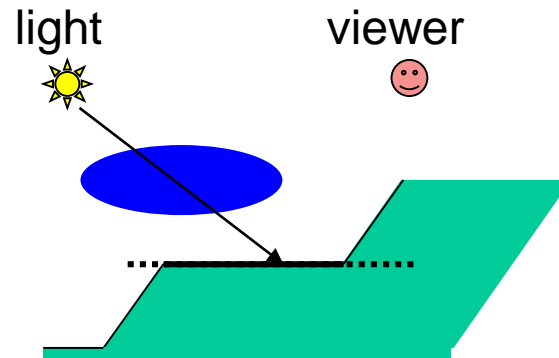


# Approximate Shadows

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

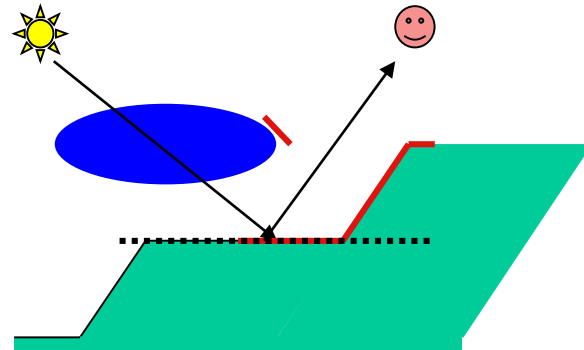
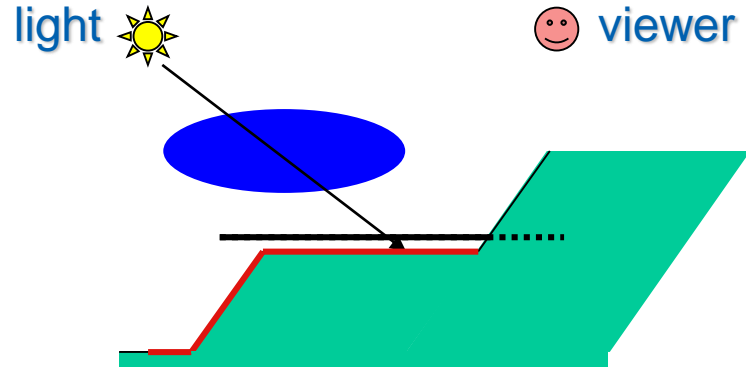


Blend at hit polygon  
Z-test equal  
→ z-buffer quantization errors!





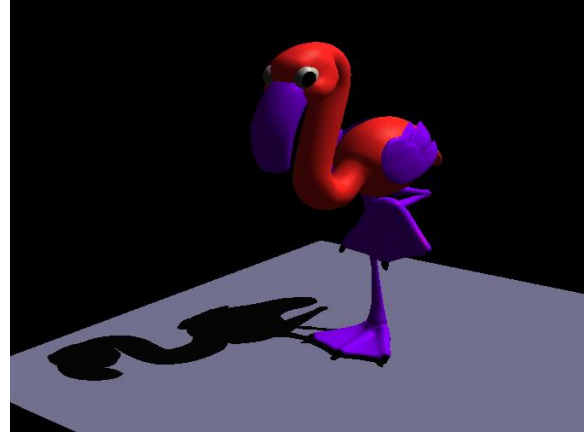
# Approximate Shadows



# Projection Shadows (Blinn 88)

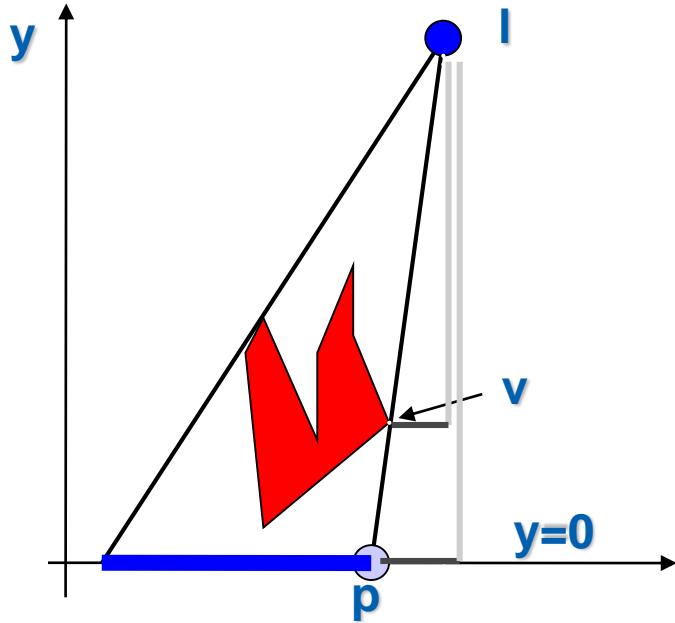
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- Shadows for selected large *planar* receivers
  - Ground plane
  - Walls
- Projective geometry: flatten 3D model onto plane
  - and “darken” using framebuffer blend



# Projection for Ground Plane

- Use similar-triangles



$$\frac{p_x - l_x}{v_x - l_x} = \frac{l_y}{l_y - v_y}$$

$$p_x = \frac{l_y v_x - l_x v_y}{l_y - v_y}$$

$$p_z = \frac{l_y v_z - l_z v_y}{l_y - v_y}$$

$$p_y = 0$$

# Projection Matrix

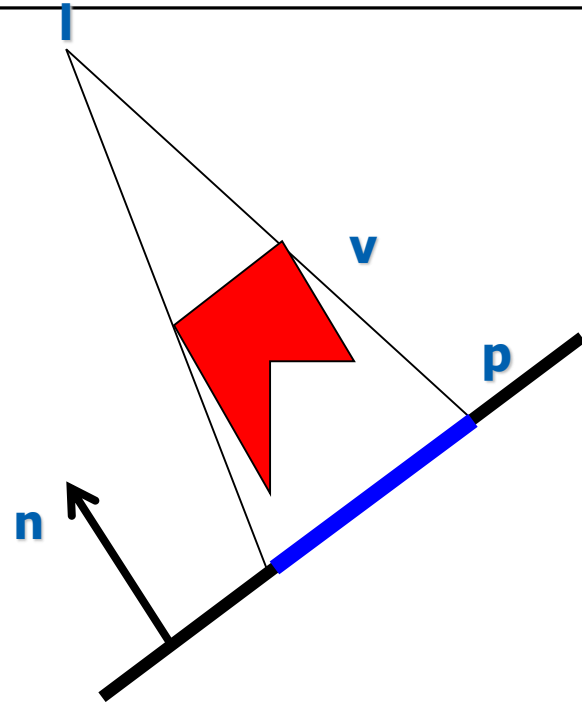
- Projective 4x4 matrix:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} l_y & -l_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -l_z & l_y & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & l_y \end{pmatrix}$$

- Arbitrary plane:

- Intersect line  $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{l} - \alpha (\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{l})$
- with plane  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{x} + d = 0$
- Express result as a 4x4 matrix

- Append this matrix to view transform



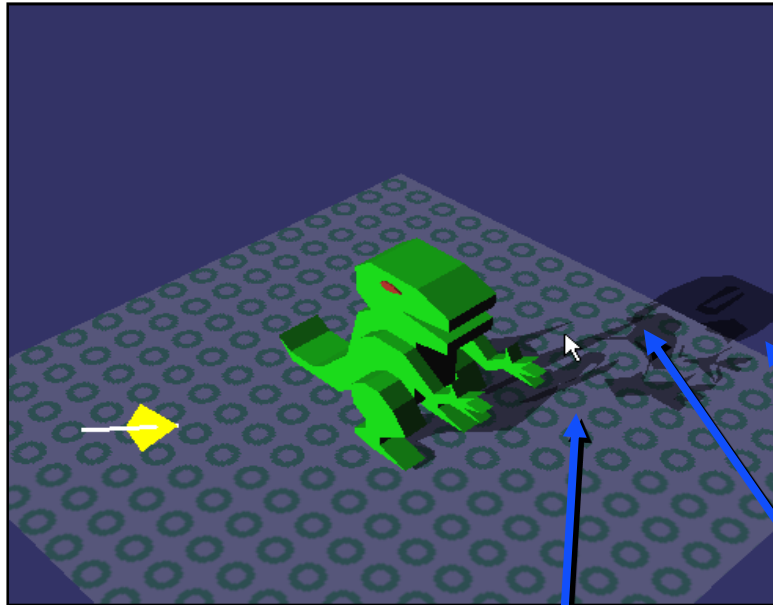
# Projection Shadow Algorithm

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

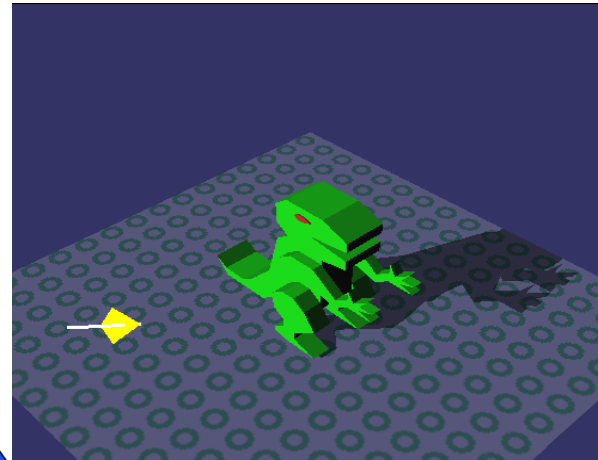
# Projection Shadow Artifacts

Bad



Z fighting

Good



extends off  
ground region

double blending

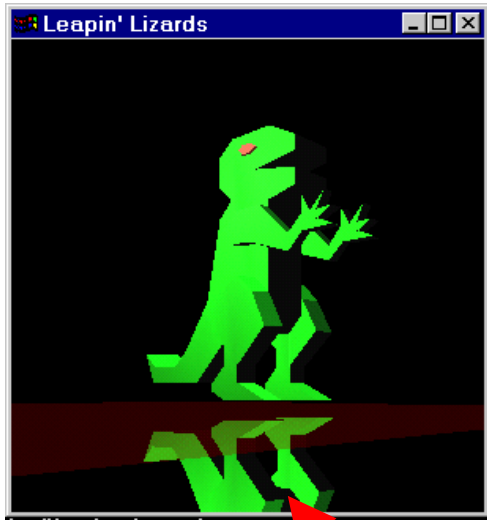
# Stencil Buffer Projection Shadows

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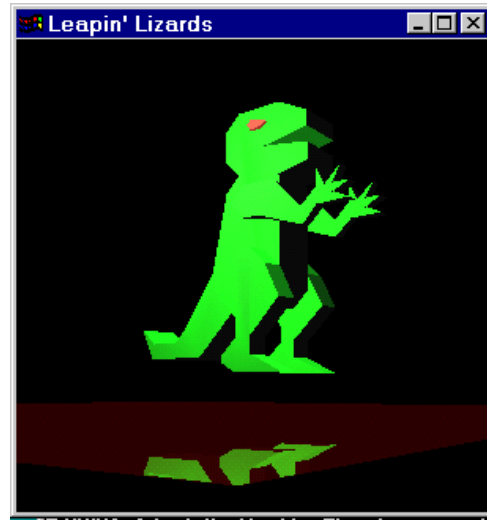
- Stencil can solve all of these problems
  - Separate 8-bit frame buffer for numeric ops
- Stencil buffer algorithm (requires 1 bit):
  - Clear stencil to 0
  - Draw ground polygon last and with
    - `glStencilOp(GL_KEEP, GL_KEEP, GL_ONE);`
  - Draw shadow caster with no depth test but
    - `glStencilFunc(GL_EQUAL, 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



Bad



Good, stencil  
used to limit reflection.



# Projection Shadow Summary

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

# Outline

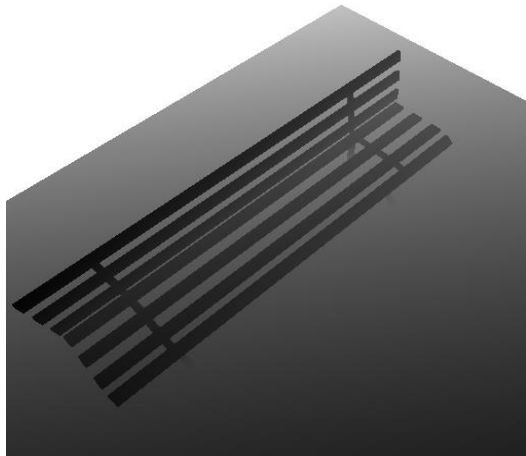
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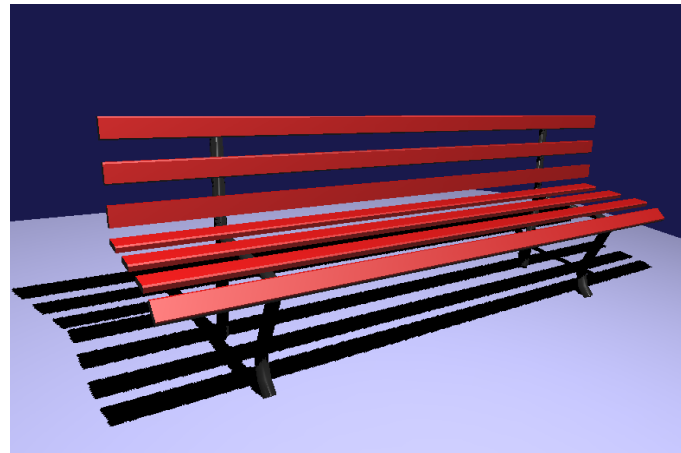
# Shadow Maps

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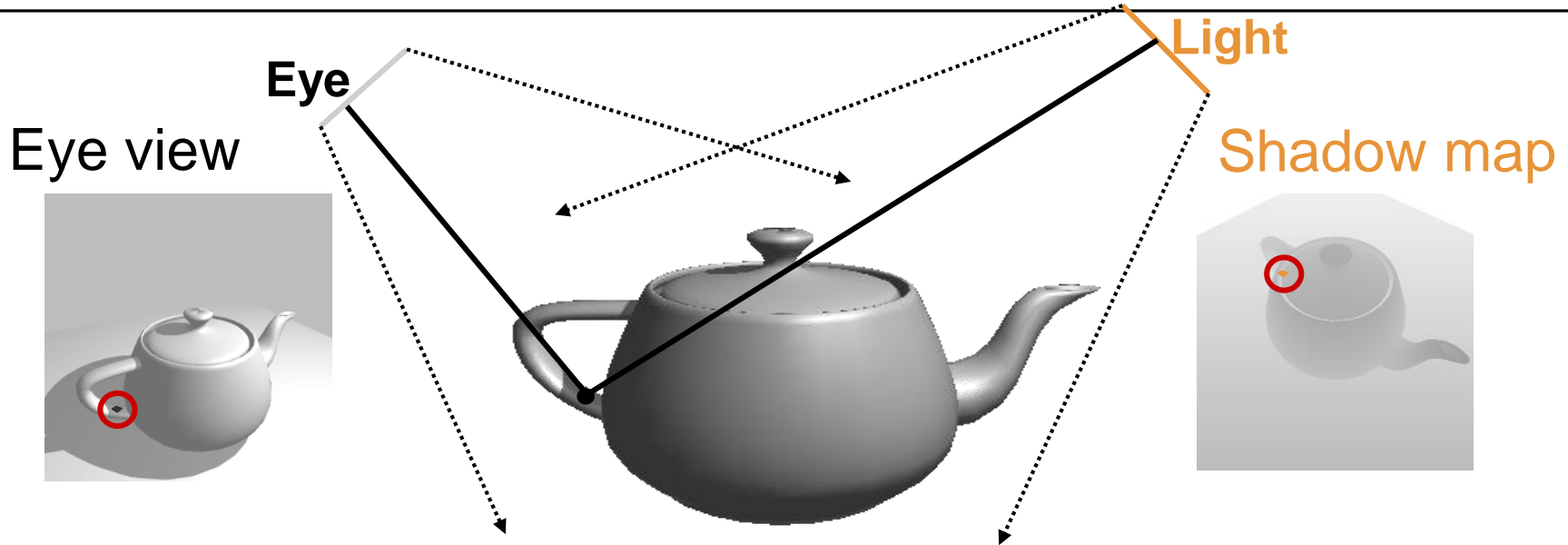
- Casting curved shadows on curved surfaces
  - Image-space algorithm, 2 passes



Shadow map



# Shadow Map Algorithm



- Render from light; save depth values
- Render from eye
  - Transform all fragments to light space
  - Compare  $z_{\text{eye}}$  and  $z_{\text{light}}$  (both in light space!!!)
  - $z_{\text{eye}} > z_{\text{light}}$   $\longrightarrow$  fragment in shadow

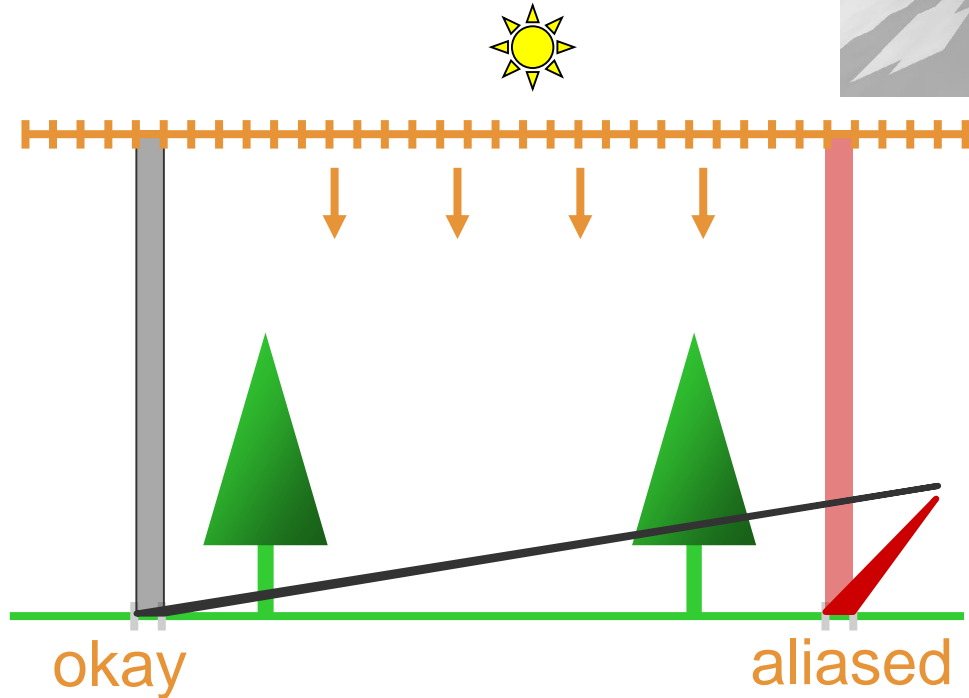
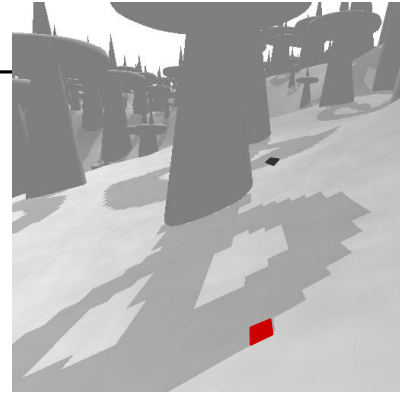
# Shadow Maps in Hardware

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

# Problem: Perspective Aliasing

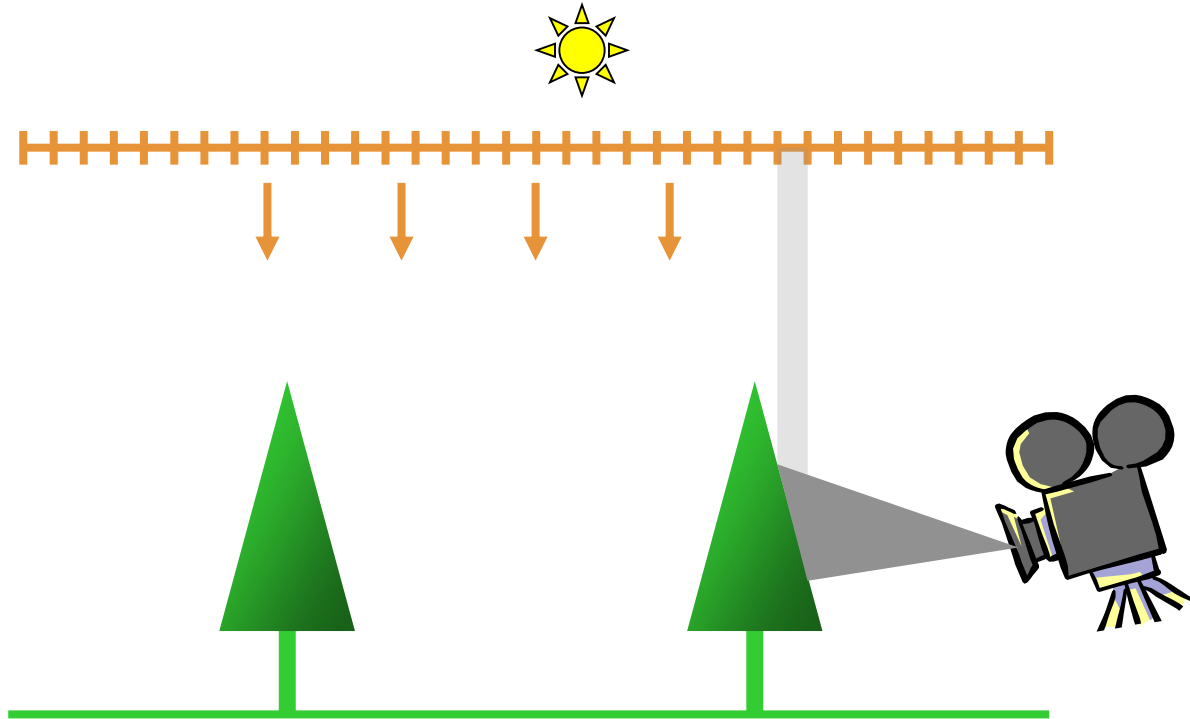
- Sufficient resolution far from eye
- **Insufficient** resolution near eye



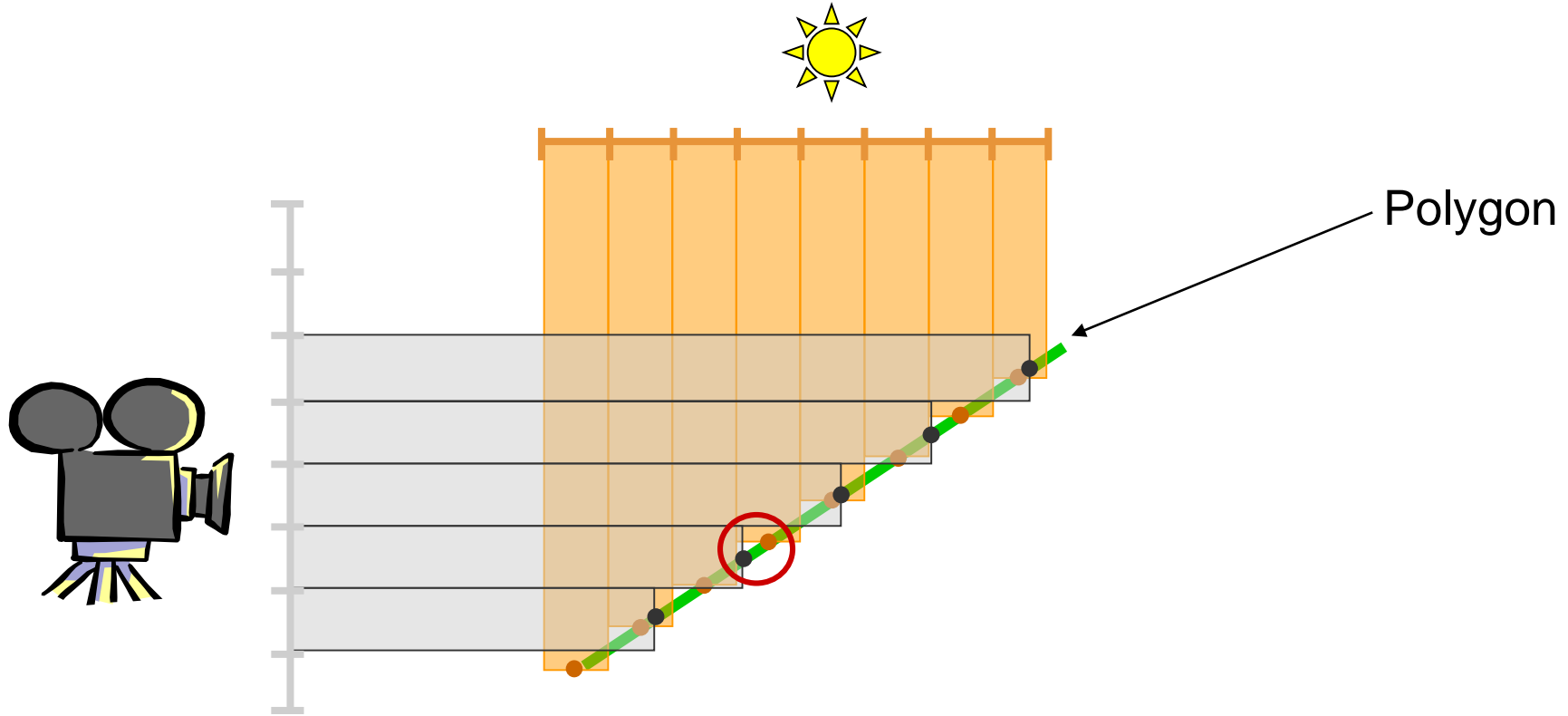
# Problem: Projection Aliasing

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Shadow receiver ~ **orthogonal** to Shadow Map - viewplane

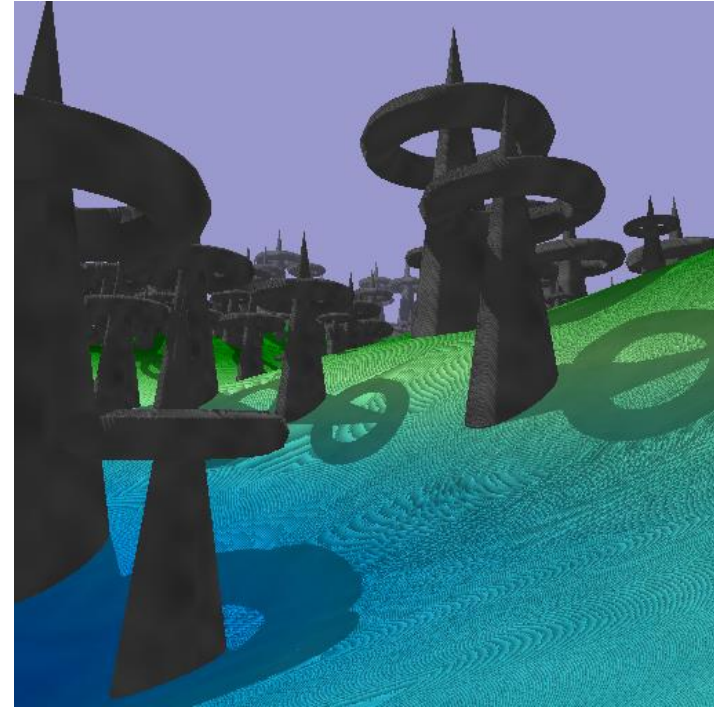
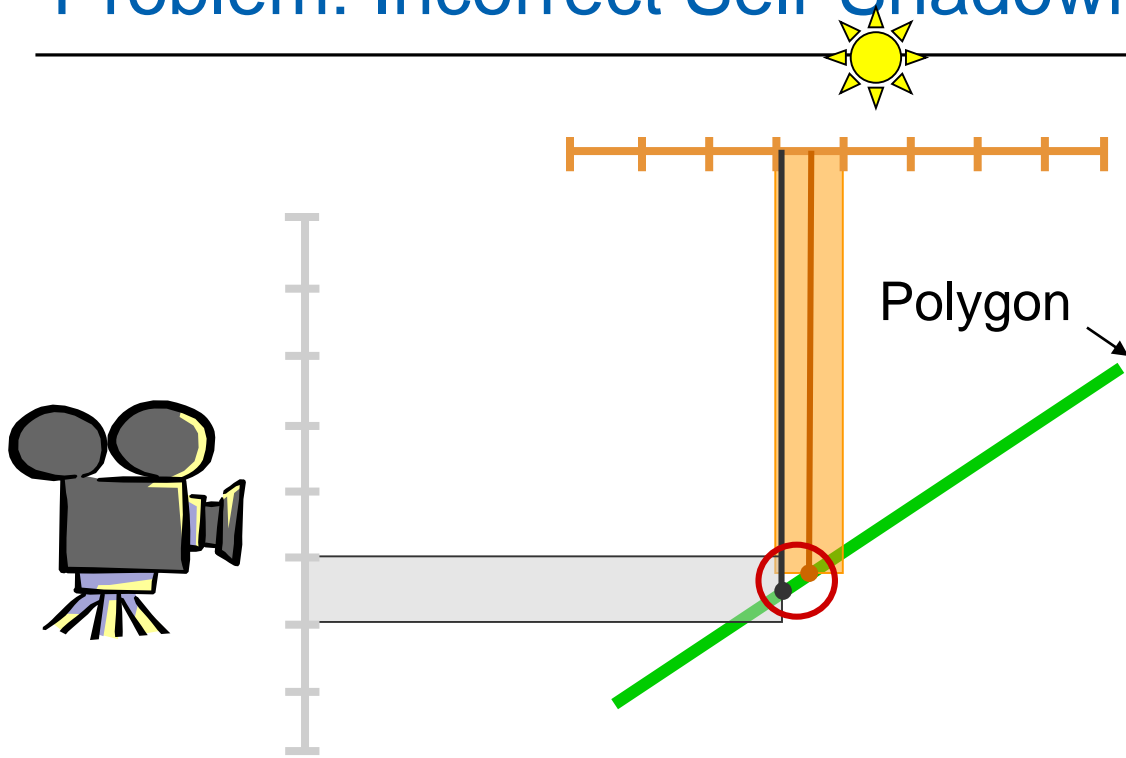


# Problem: Incorrect Self-Shadowing





# Problem: Incorrect Self-Shadowing



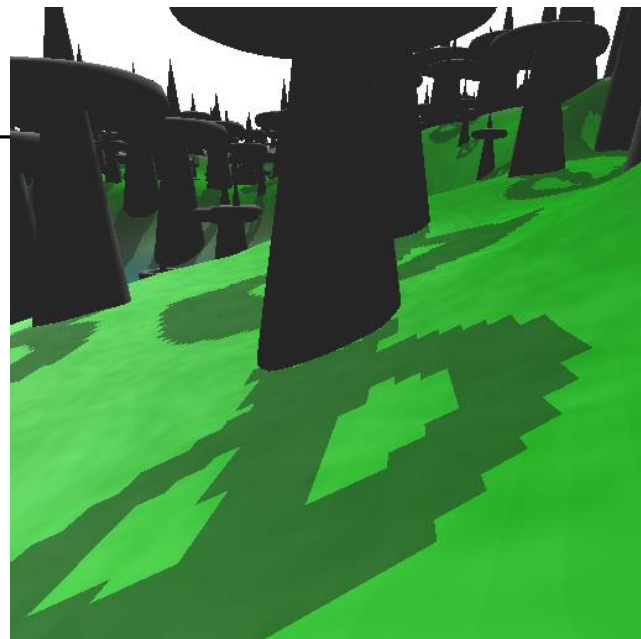
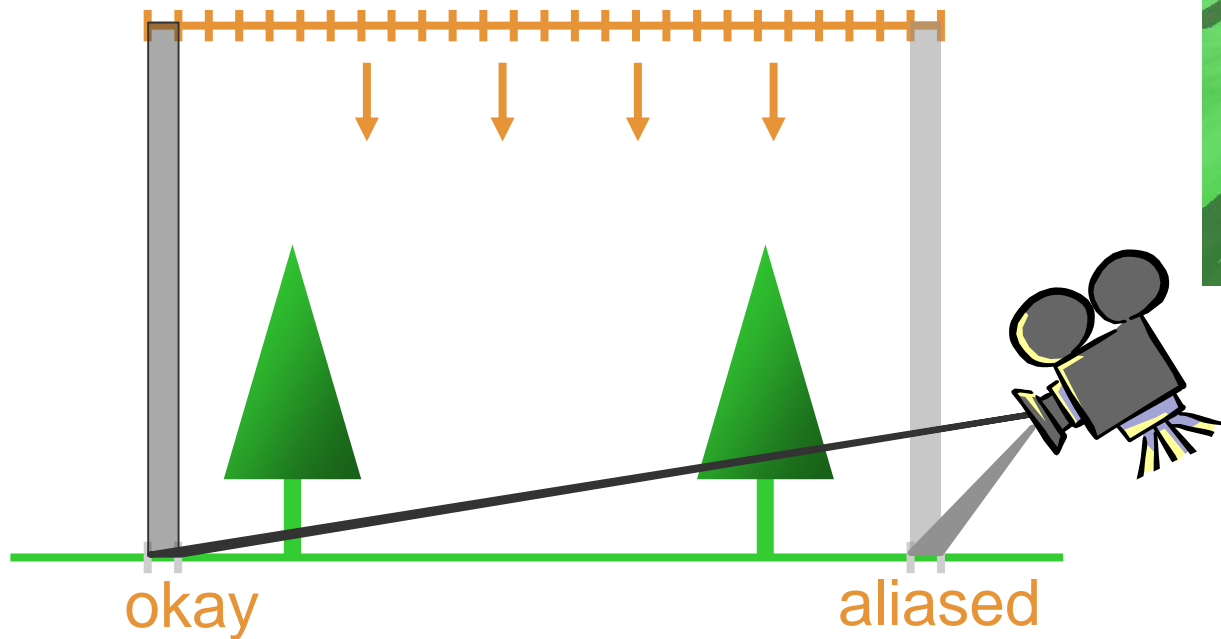
$Z_{\text{eye}} > Z_{\text{light}}$



Incorrect Self-shadowing

# Solution for Perspective Aliasing

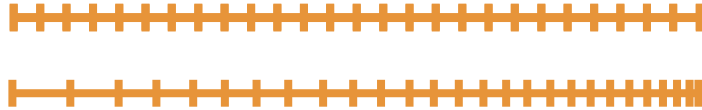
- **Insufficient** resolution near eye



# Solution for Perspective Aliasing

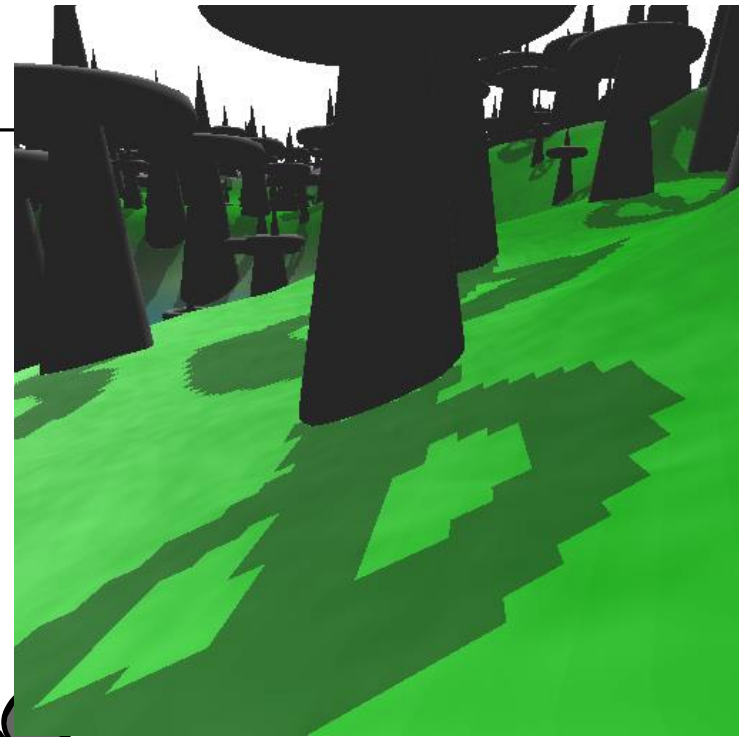
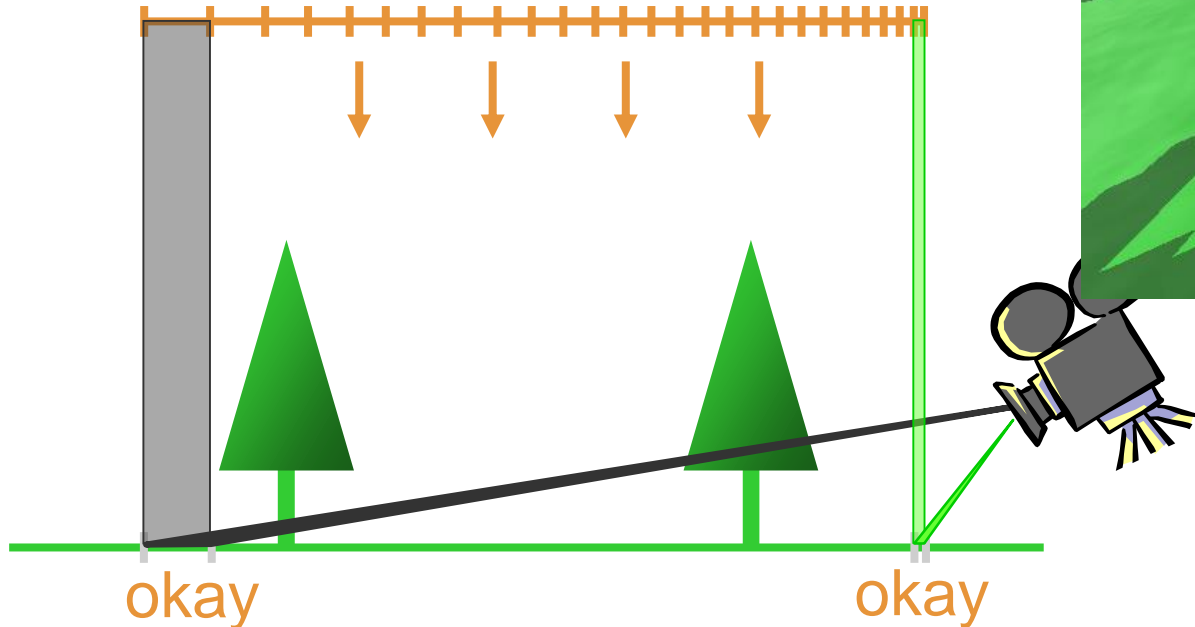
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- **Insufficient** resolution near eye
- **Redistribute** values in shadow map



# Solution for Perspective Aliasing

- **Sufficient** resolution near eye
- **Redistribute** values in shadow map



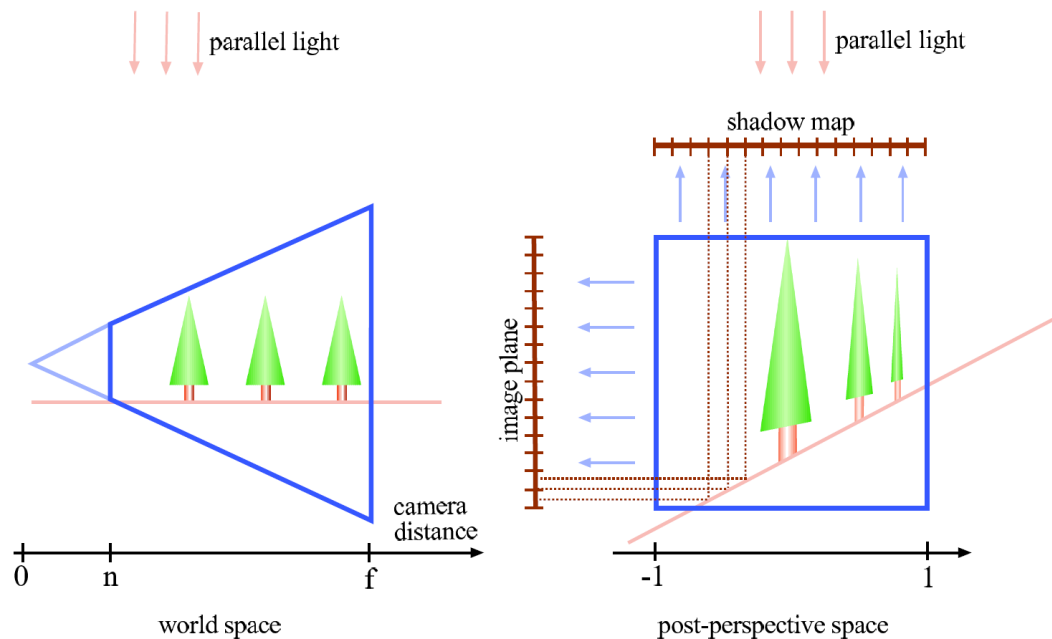
# Solution for Perspective Aliasing

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- Use warping for light pass (and lookups)



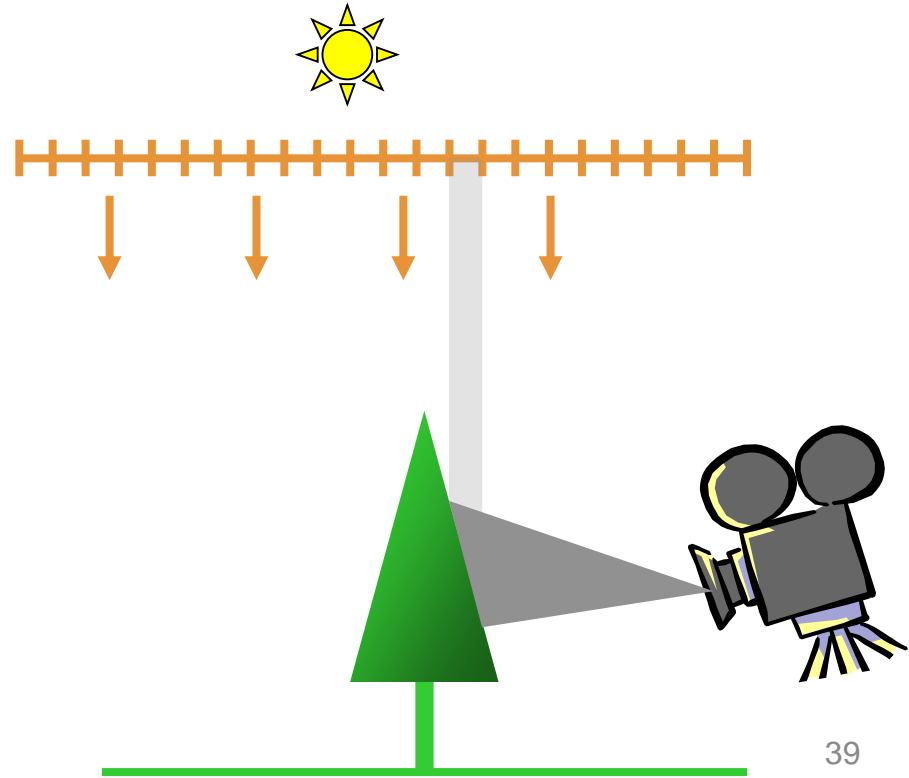
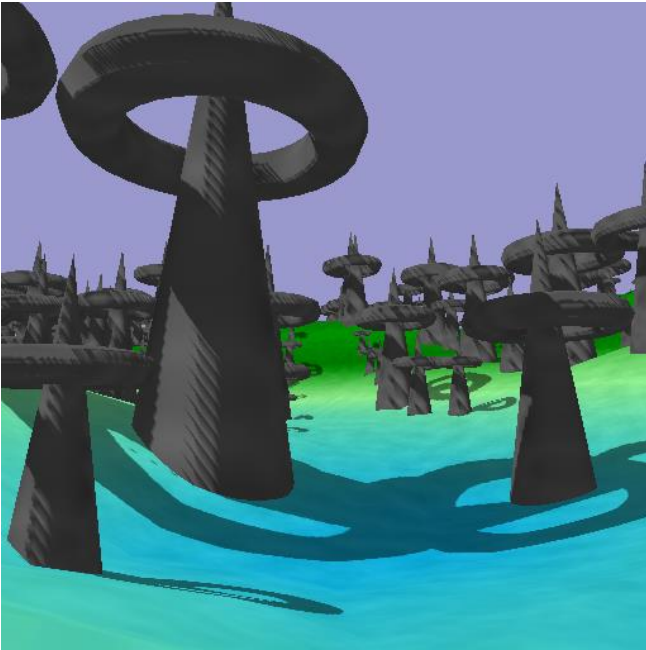
# Solution for Perspective Aliasing



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

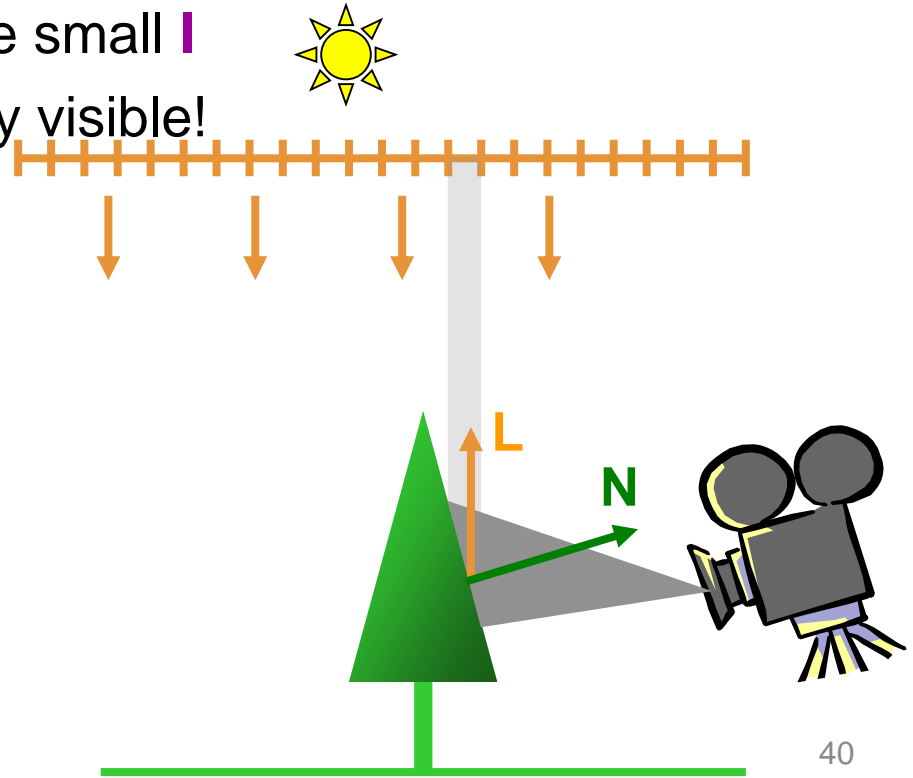
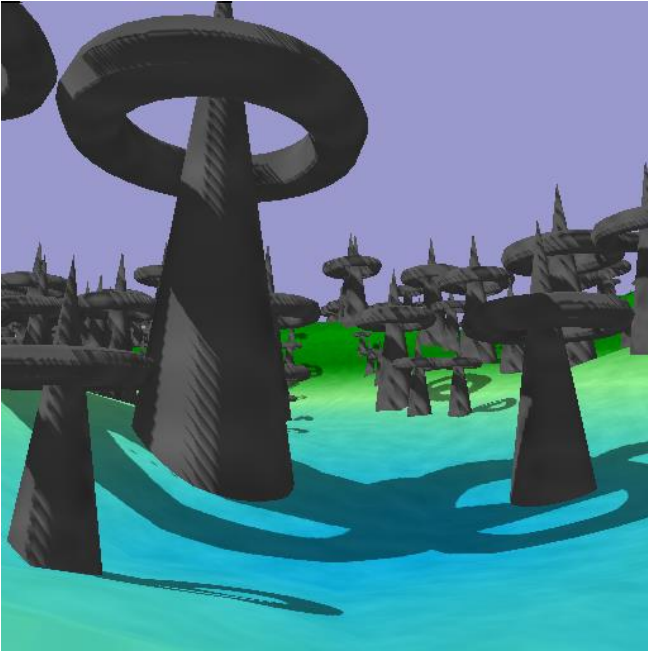
# Solution for Projection Aliasing

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



# Solution for Projection Aliasing

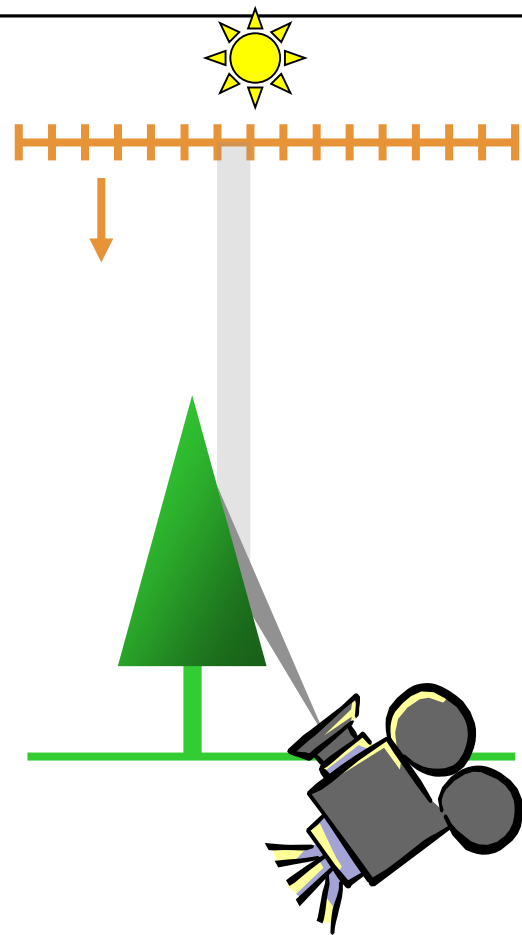
- Diffuse lighting:  $I = I_L \max(\text{dot}(\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{N}), 0)$
- Almost orthogonal receivers have small  $I$
- Dark  $\longrightarrow$  artifacts not very visible!



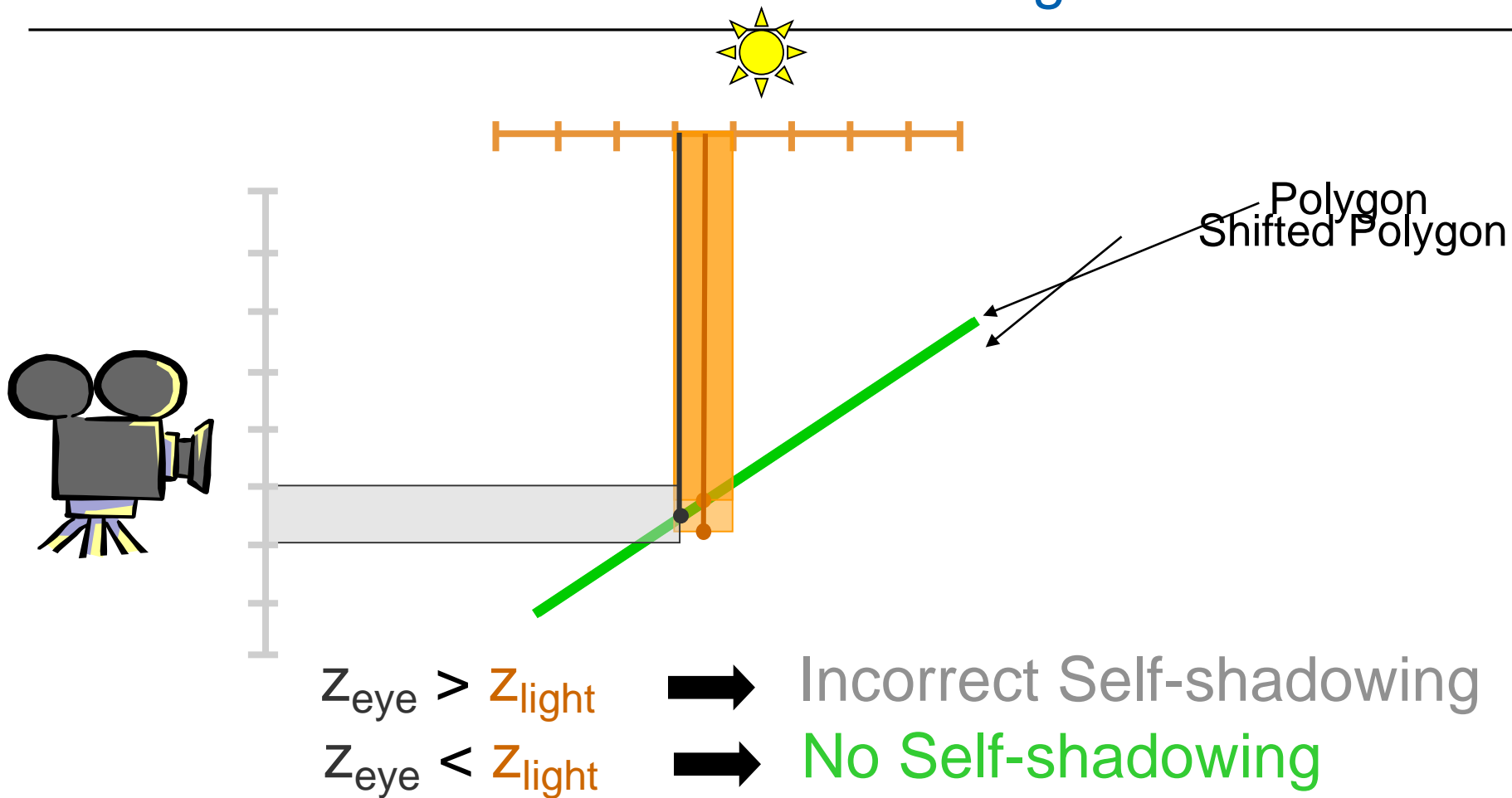


# Solution for Projection Aliasing

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

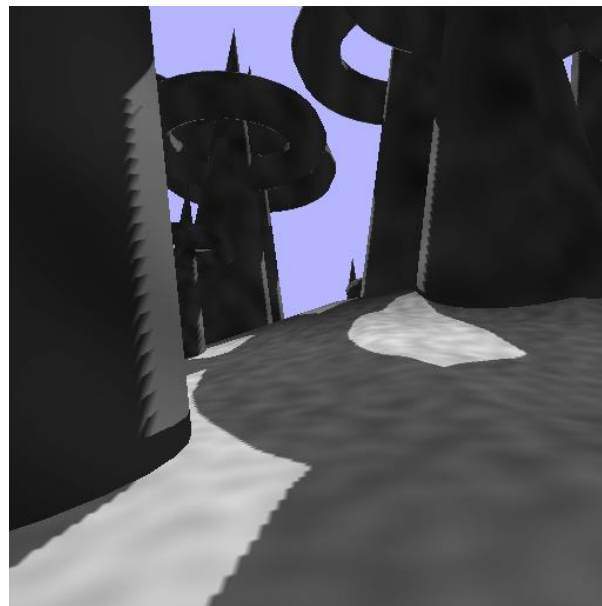
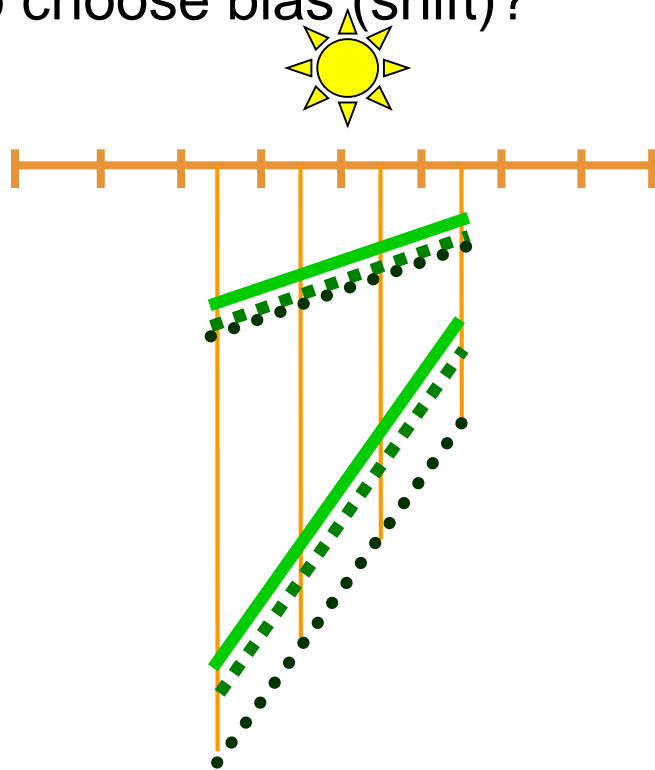


# Solution for Incorrect Self-Shadowing



# Solution for Incorrect Self-Shadowing

- How to choose bias (shift)?



- No Bias**
- · · Constant Bias**
- · · Slope-Scale Bias**

# Problem: Aliasing Artifacts

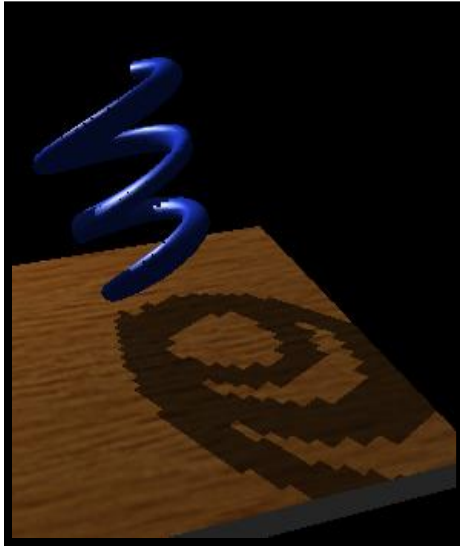
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- Resolution mismatch image/shadow map!
  - Use perspective shadow maps
- Use “percentage closer” filtering
  - Normal color filtering cannot be used
  - Filter lookup result, not depth map values!
  - 2x2 PCF in hardware for NVIDIA

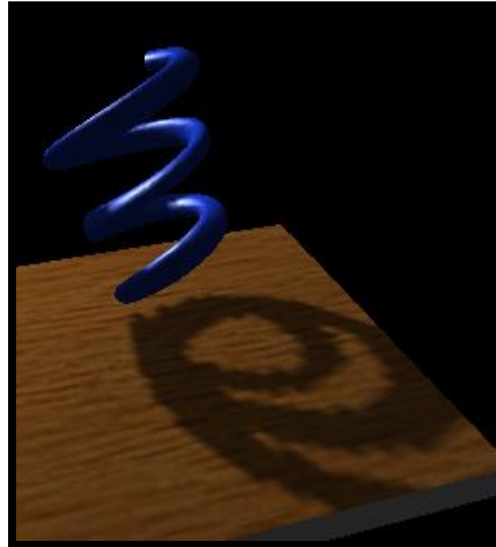
# Shadow Map Filtering

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NEAREST



LINEAR PCF



# Shadow Map Summary

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- 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)

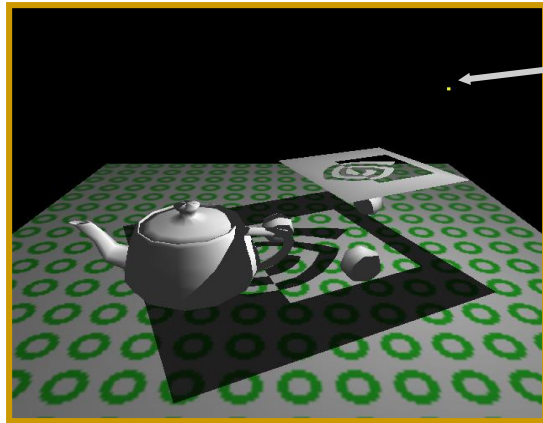
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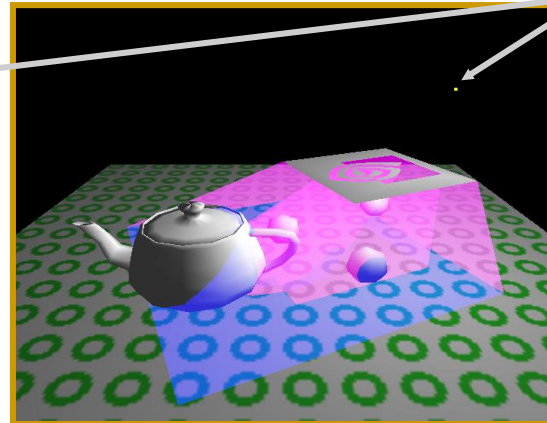
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# Shadow Volumes (Crow 1977)

- 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)

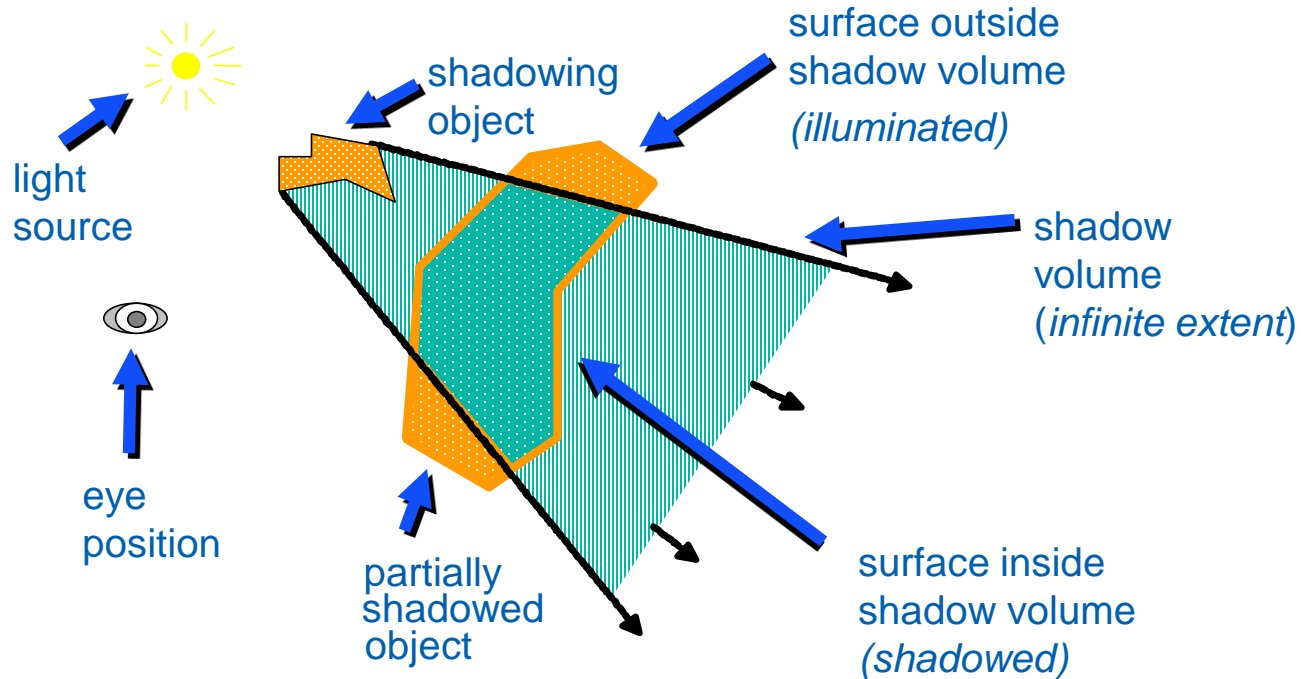
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- Heavily used in Doom3



# 2D Cutaway of Shadow Volume

- Occluder polygons extruded to semi-infinite volumes



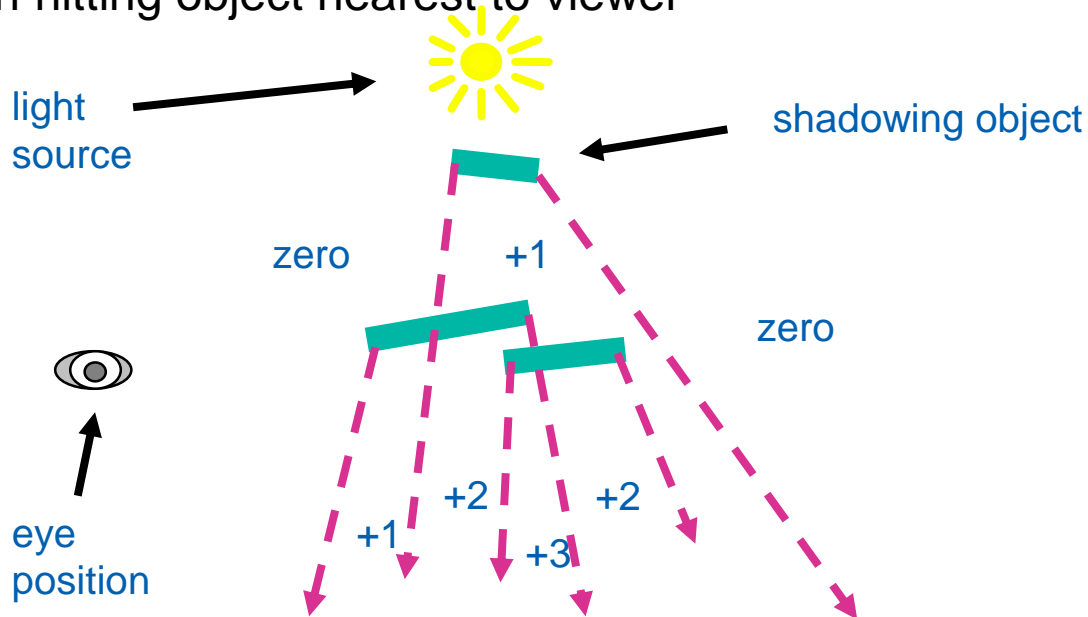
# Shadow Volume Algorithm

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- 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

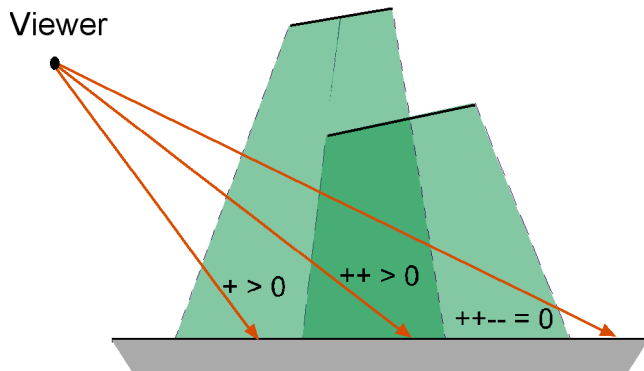
- Increment on enter, decrement on leave
- Simultaneously test all visible pixels  
→ Stop when hitting object nearest to viewer



# Shadow Volume Algorithm

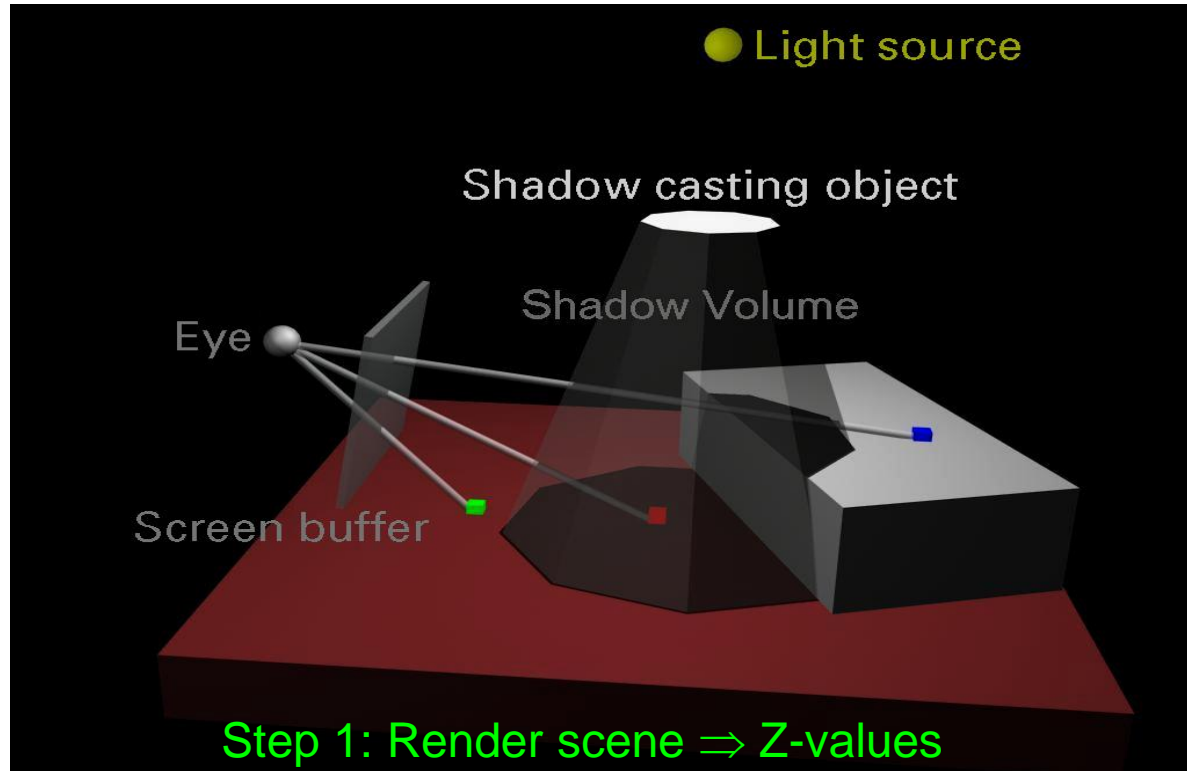
- Shadow volumes in object precision
  - Calculated by CPU/Vertex Shaders
- Shadow test in image precision
  - Using stencil buffer as counter!

• Light Source



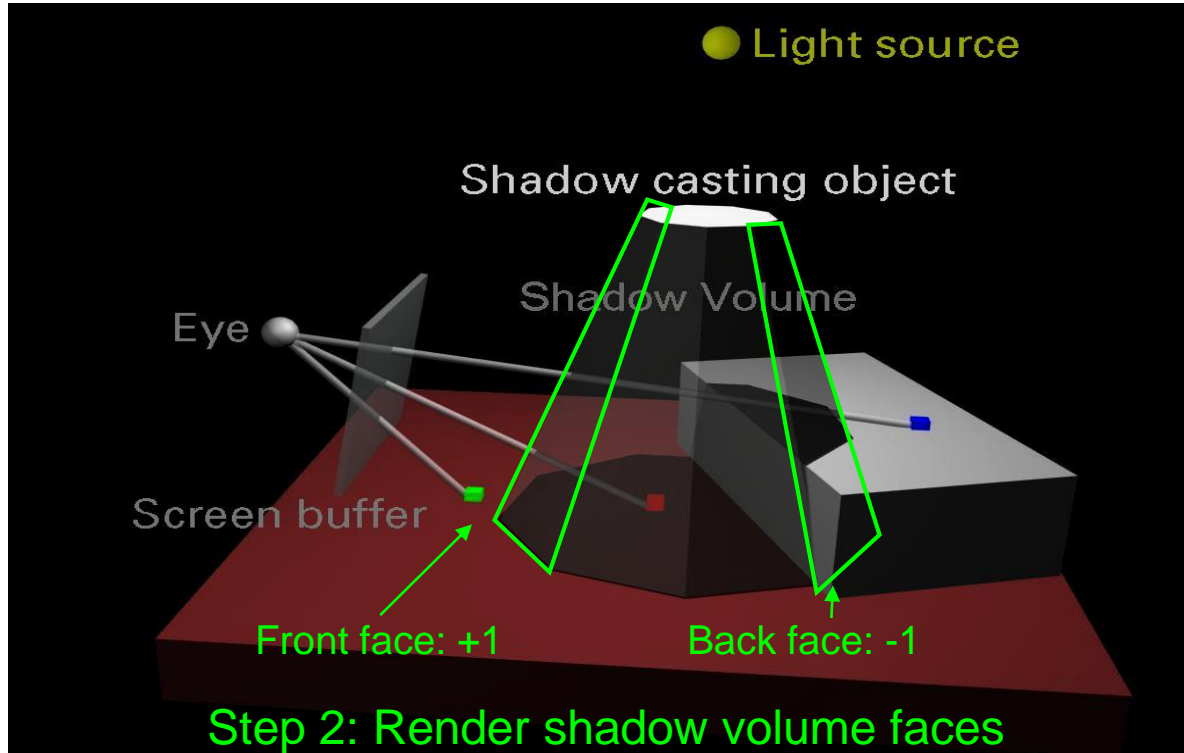
# Shadow Volume Algorithm

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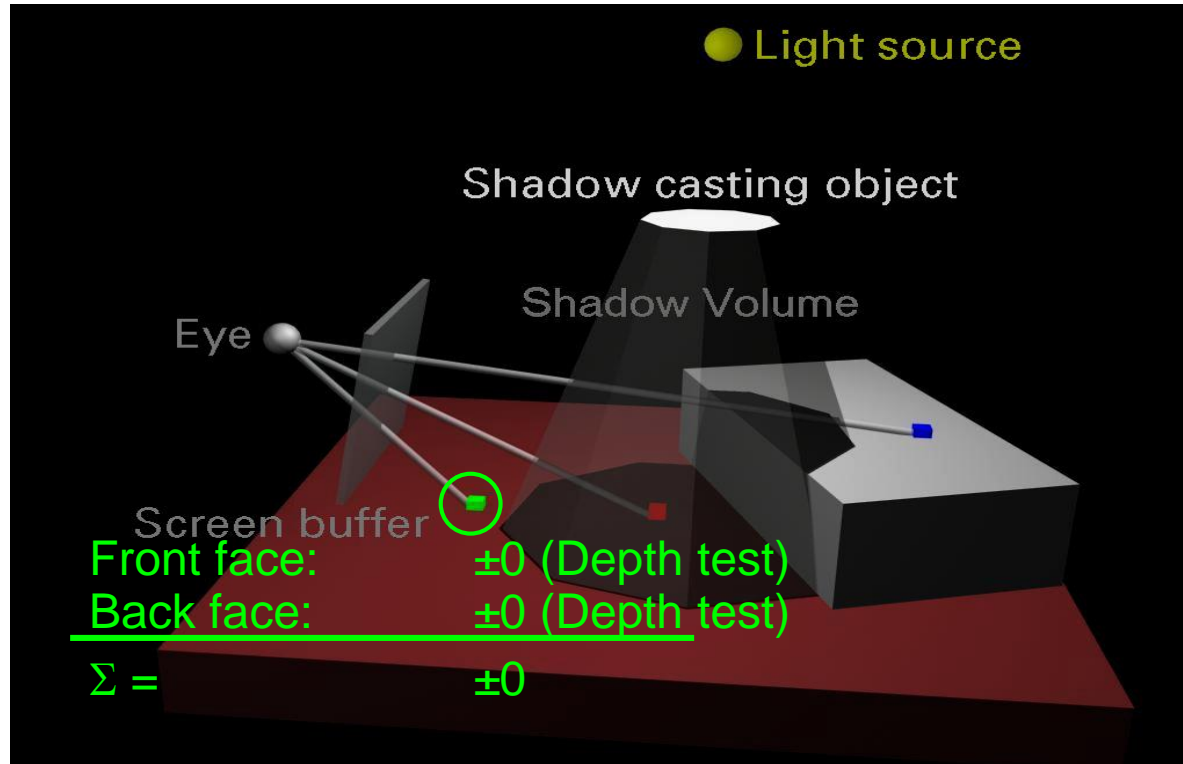


# Shadow Volume Algorithm

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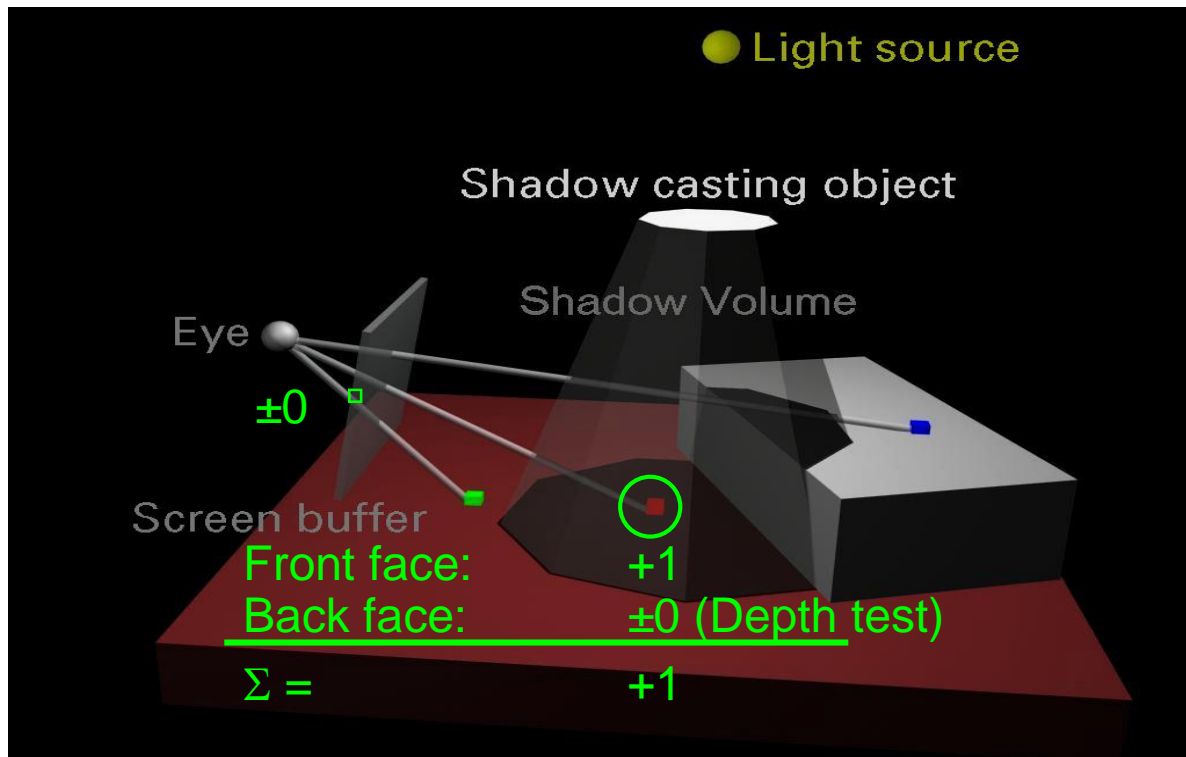


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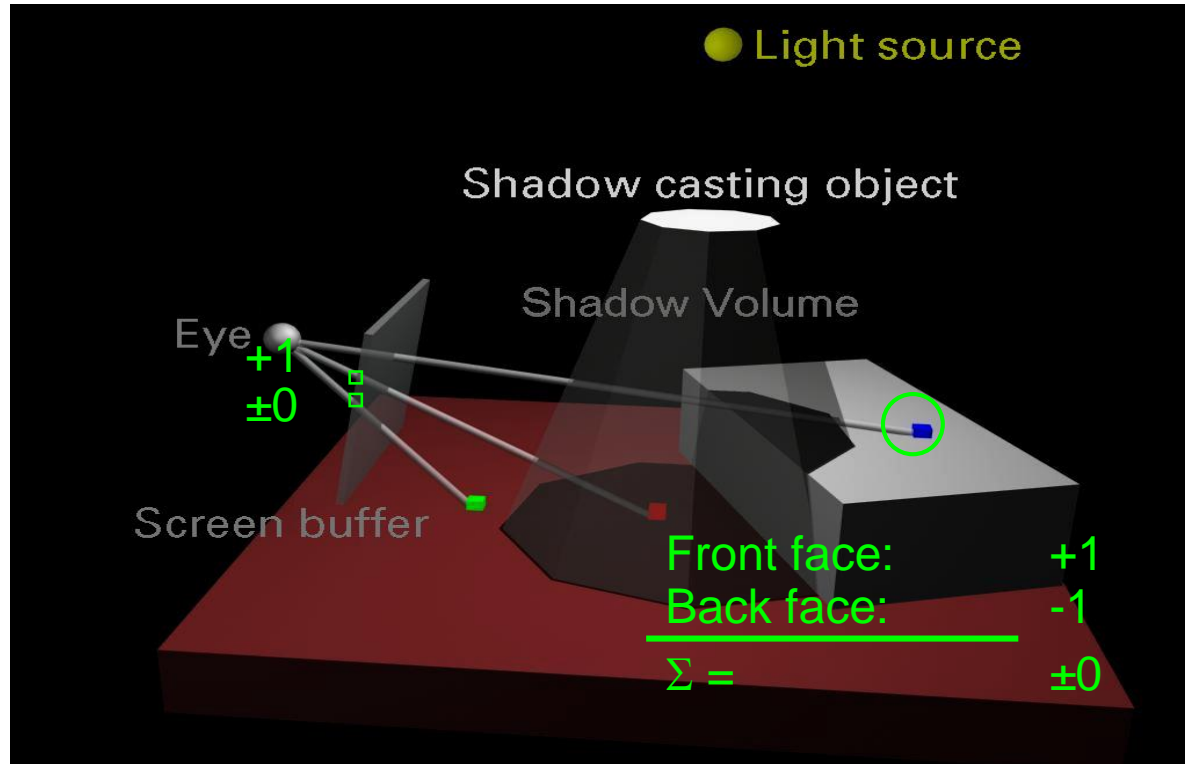




# Shadow Volume Algorithm

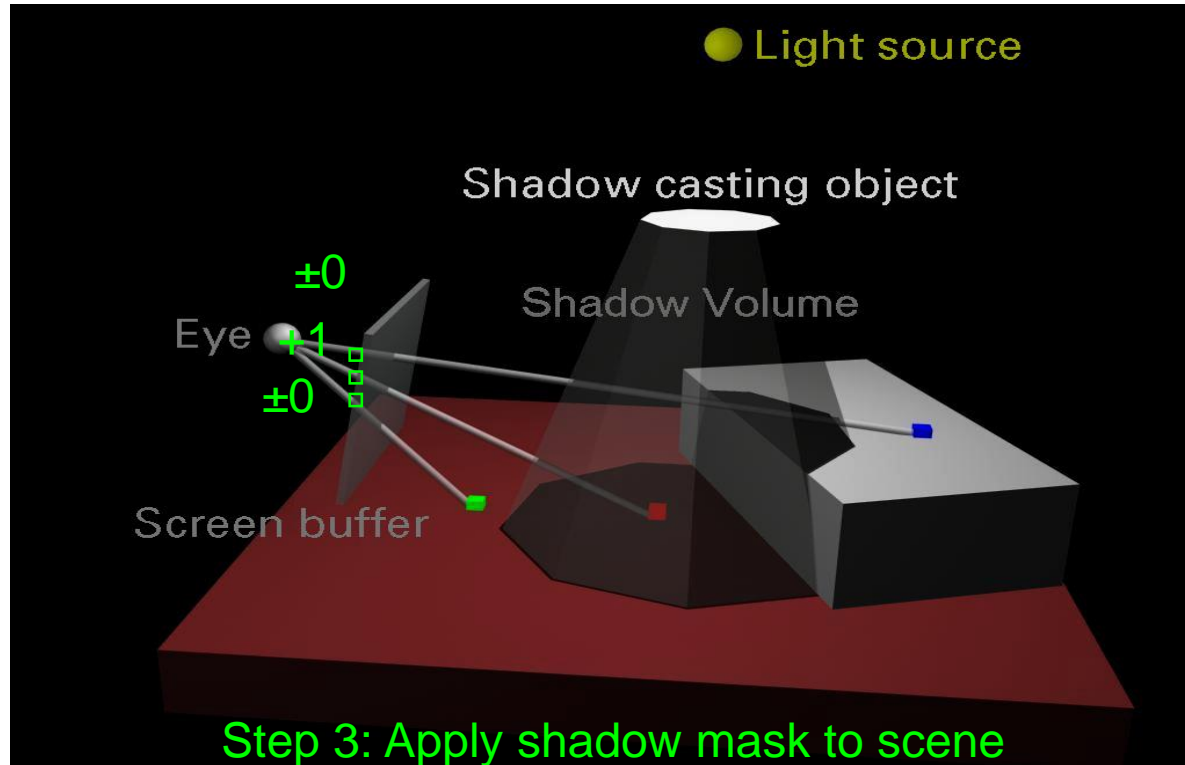


# Shadow Volume Algorithm



# Shadow Volume Algorithm

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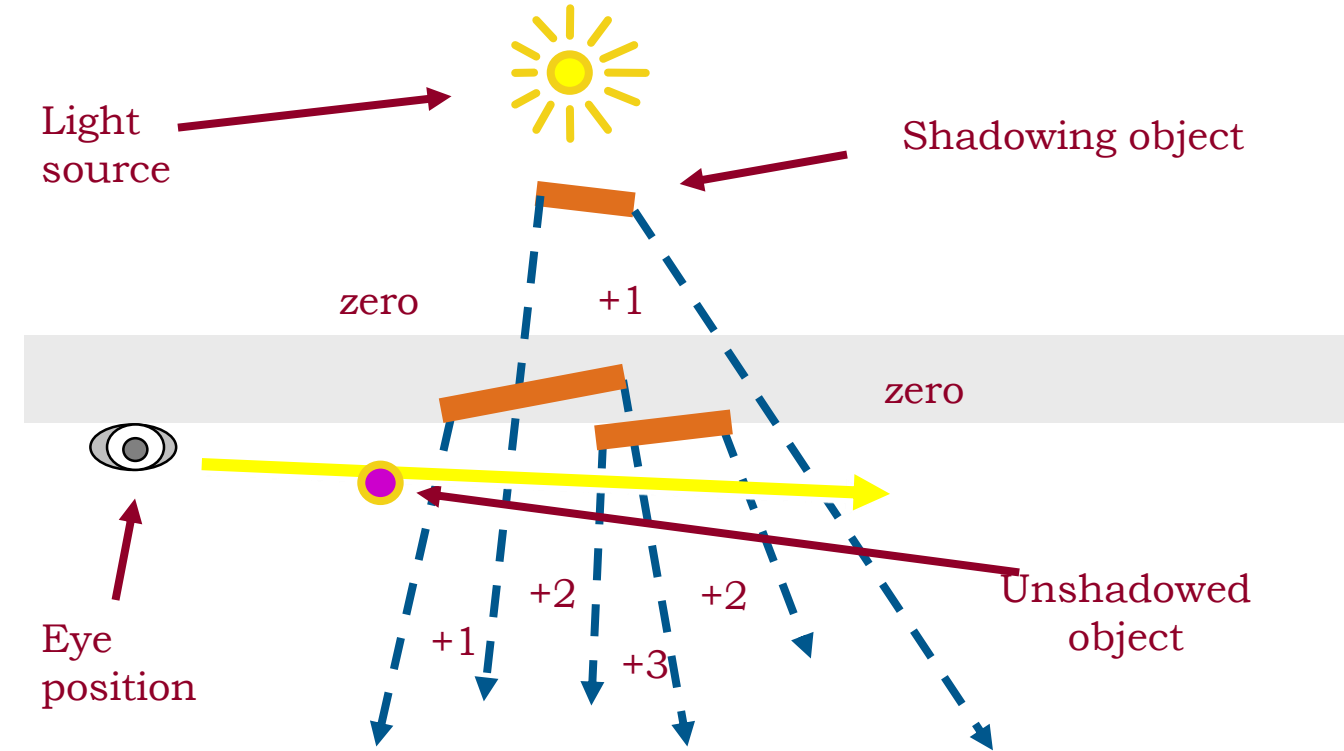


# Shadow Volume Algorithm (Zpass)

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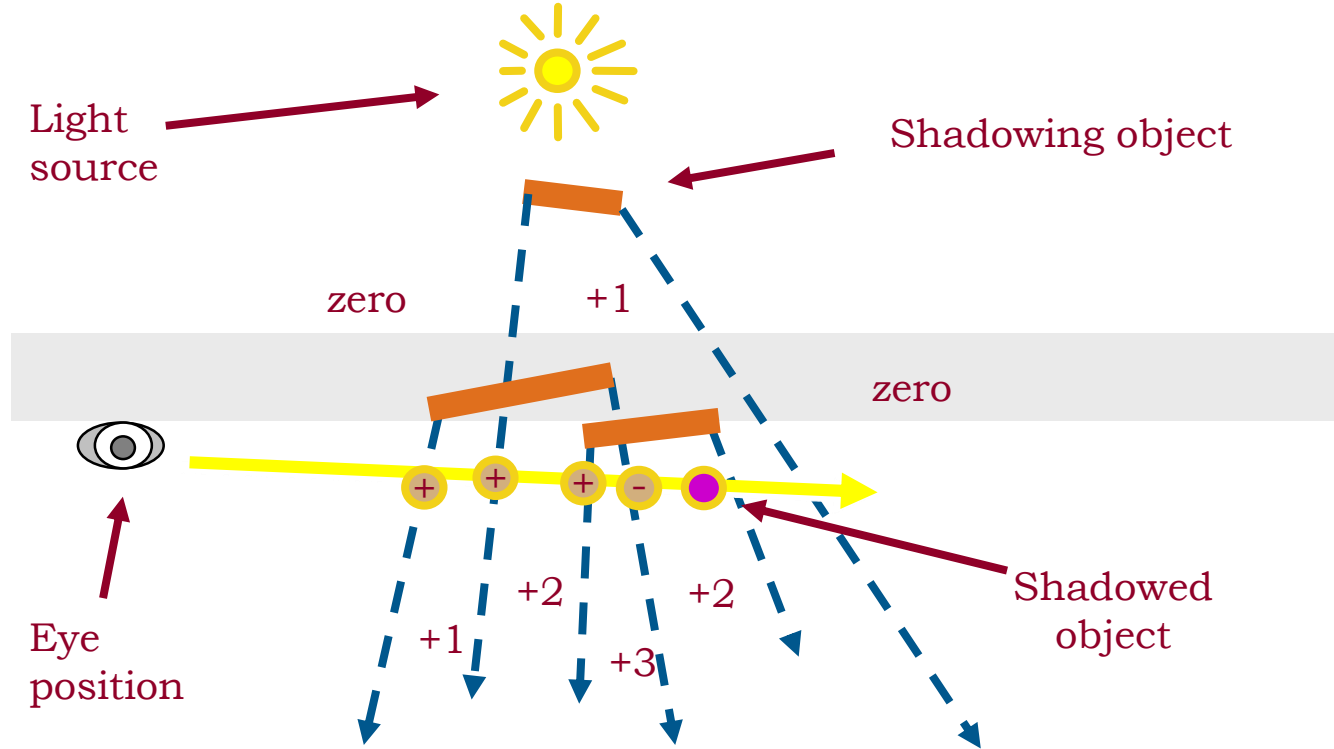
- Render scene to establish z-buffer
  - Can also do ambient illumination
- For each light
  - Clear stencil
  - Draw shadow volume twice using culling
    - Render front faces and increment stencil
    - Render back faces and decrement stencil
  - Illuminate all pixels not in shadow volume
    - Render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

# Zpass Technique (Before Shadow)



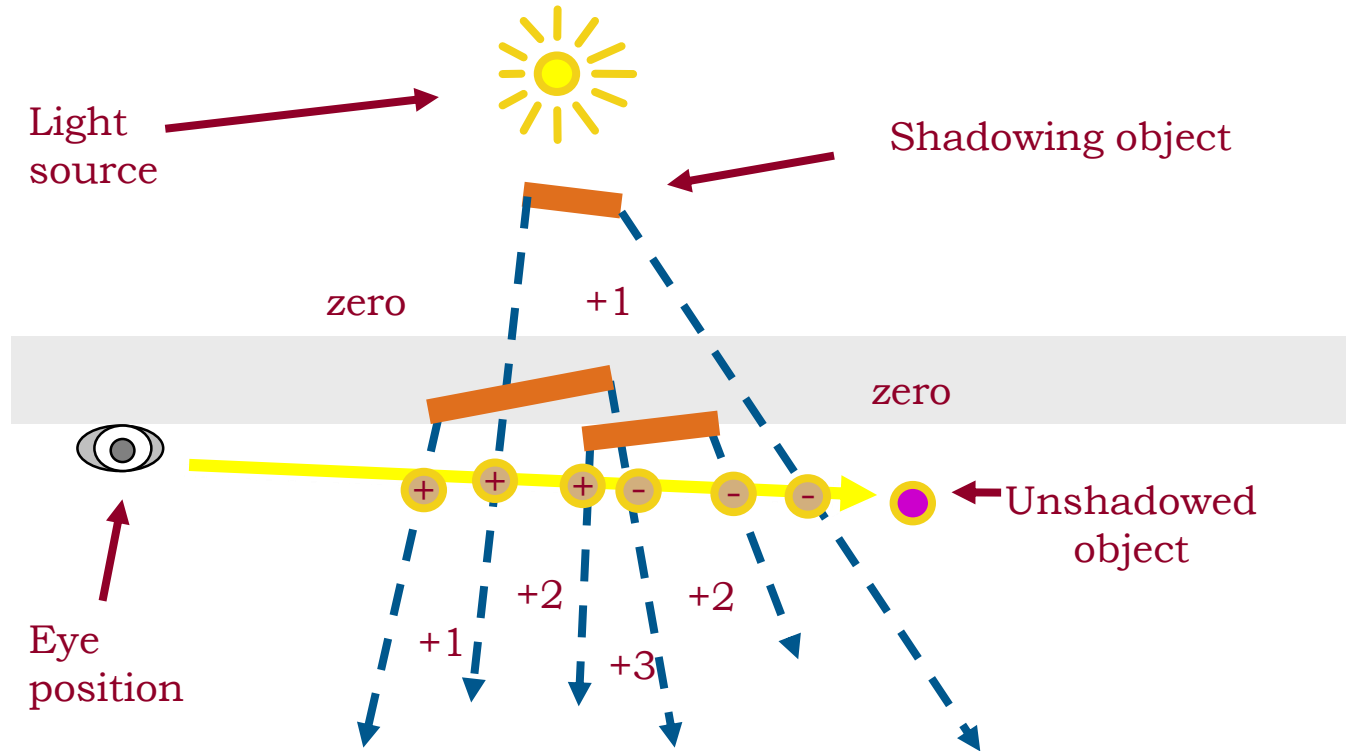
**Shadow Volume Count = 0 (no depth tests passes)**

# Zpass Technique (In Shadow)



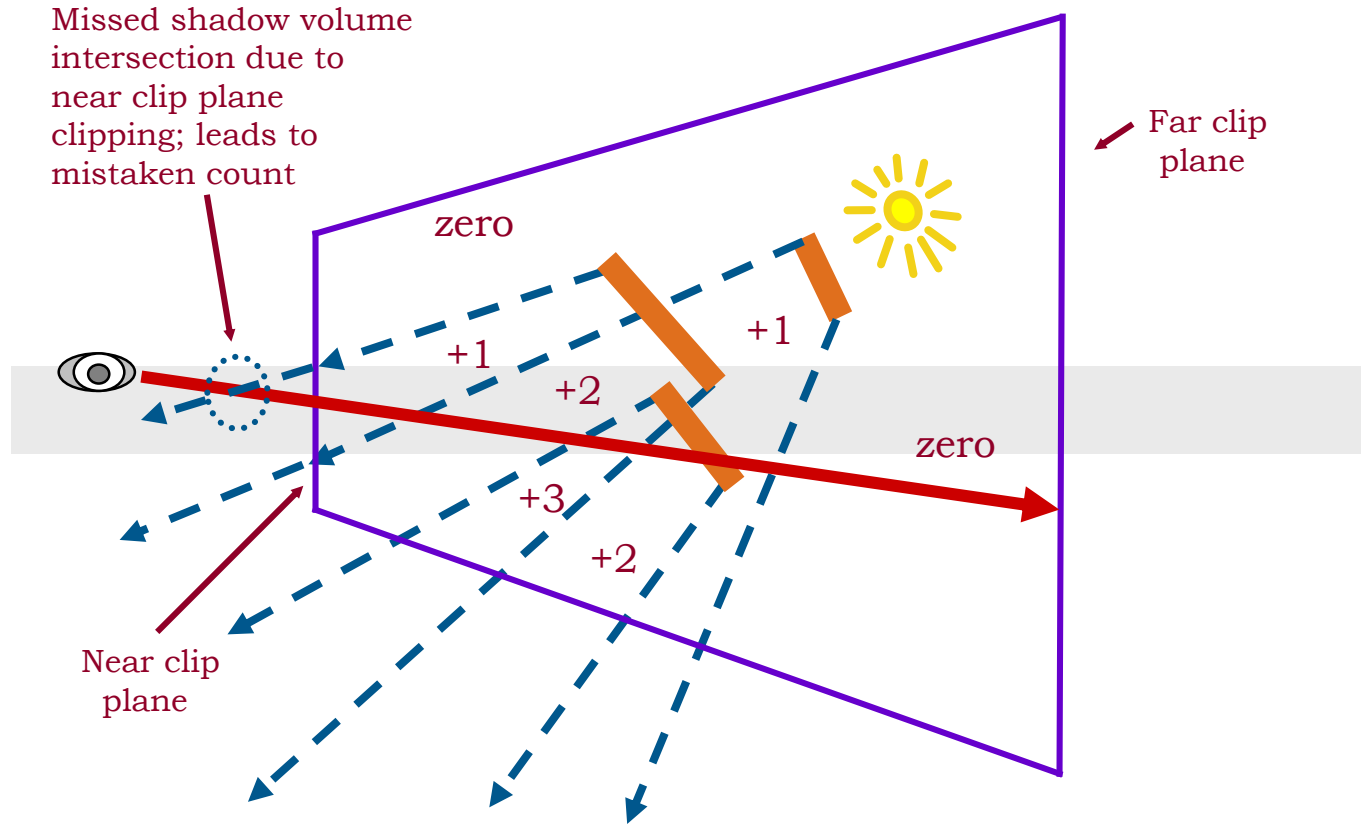
**Shadow Volume Count = +1+1+1-1 = 2**

# Zpass Technique (Behind Shadow)



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

# Zpass Near Plane Problem



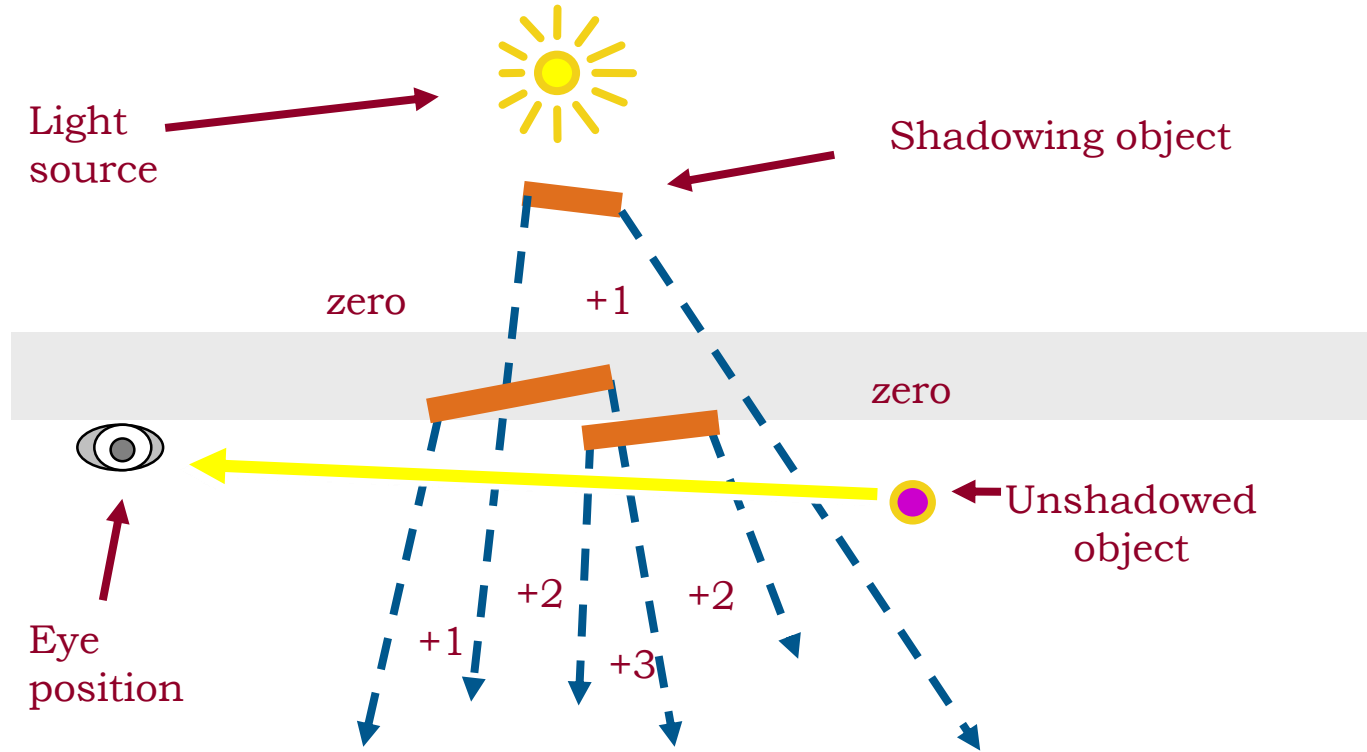


# Alternative: Zfail Technique

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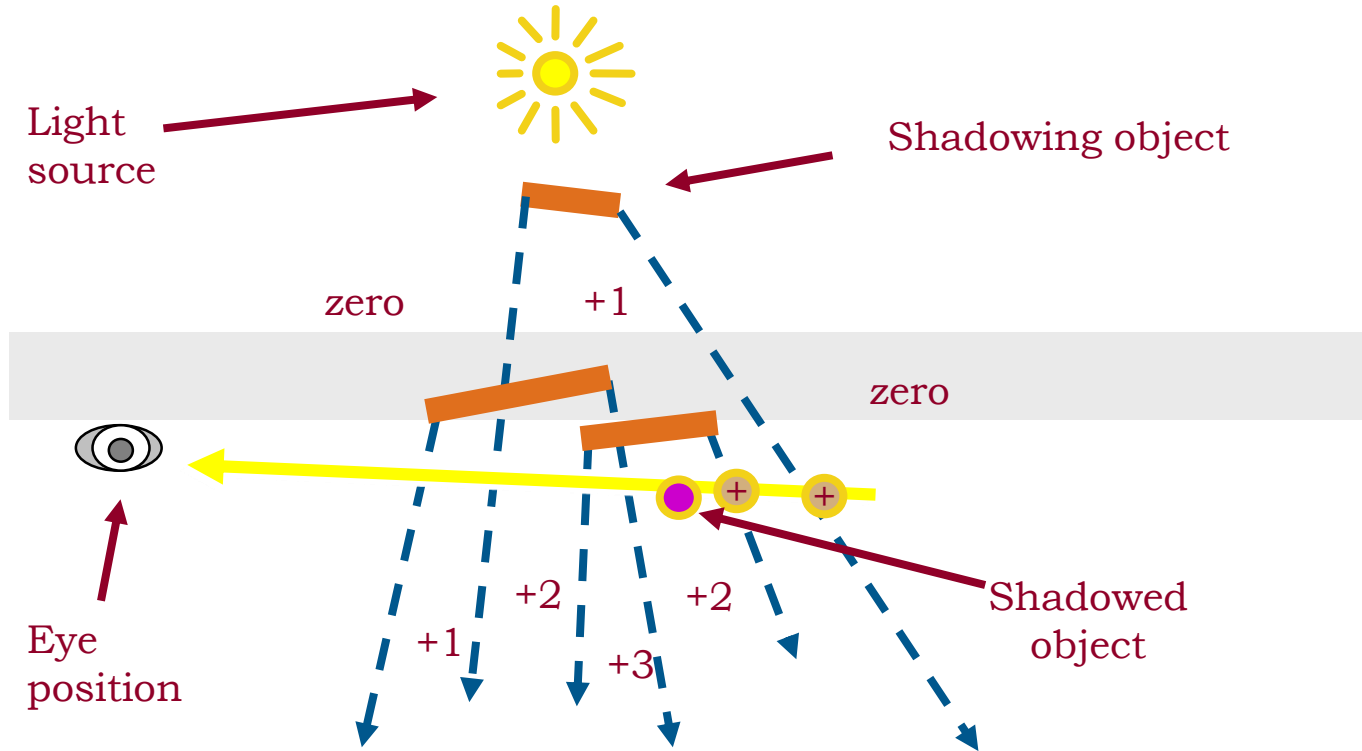
- Zpass near plane problem difficult to solve
  - Have to “cap” shadow volume at near plane
  - Expensive and not robust, many special cases
- Try reversing test order → Zfail technique (also known as Carmack’s reverse)
  - Start from infinity and stop at nearest intersection
    - Render shadow volume 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
  - Special projection matrix that moves zfar to infinity! [Kilgard2004]

# Zfail, Behind Shadow



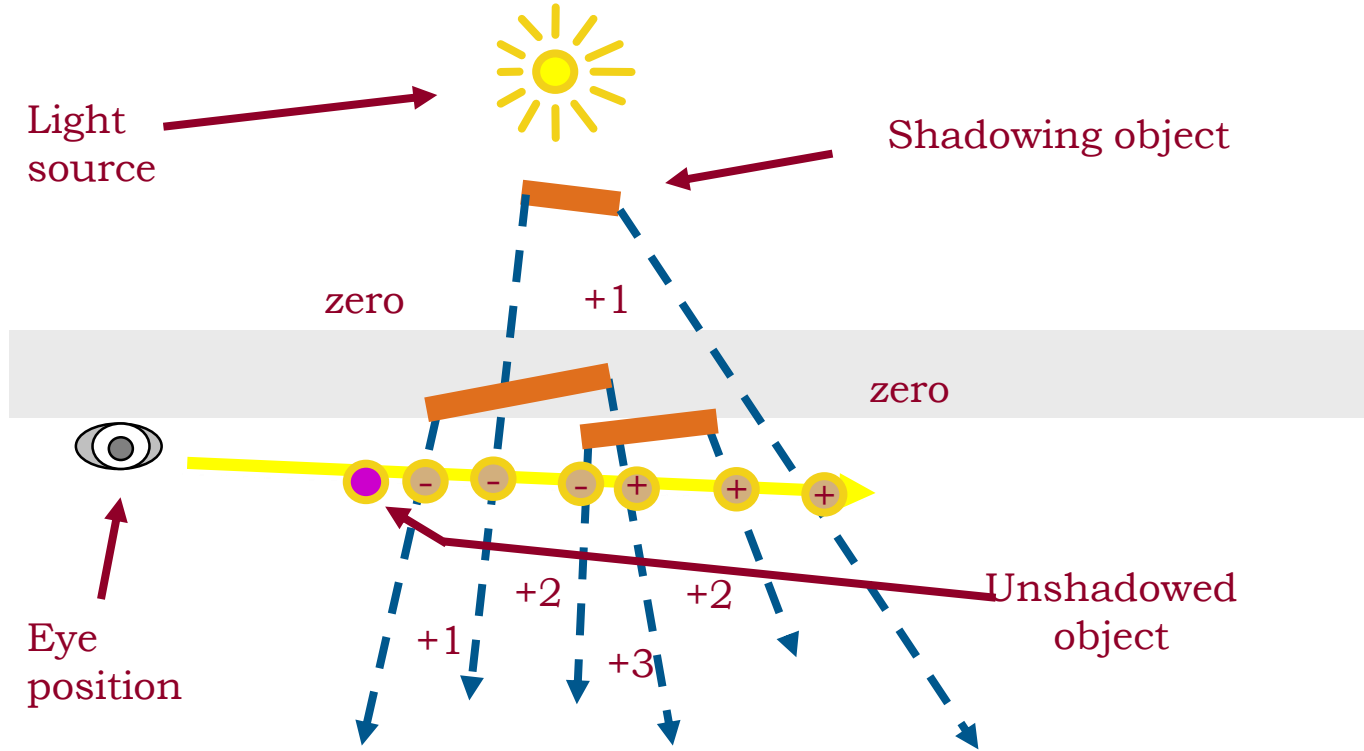
**Shadow Volume Count = 0 (zero depth tests fail)**

# Zfail, in Shadow



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

# Zfail, before Shadow



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

# Shadow Volumes

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

# Computing Actual SV Polygons

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- 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

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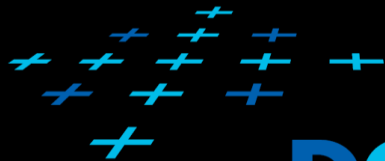
- Advantages
  - Arbitrary receivers
  - Fully dynamic
  - Omnidirectional lights (unlike shadow maps!)
  - Exact shadow boundaries (pixel-accurate)
  - Automatic self shadowing
  - Broad hardware support (stencil)
- Disadvantages
  - Fill-rate intensive
  - Difficult to get right (Zfail vs. Zpass)
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

# Outline

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- Motivation & Terminology MPG 12
- Approximate & projection shadows MPG 12.1
- Shadow maps MPG 12.3
- Shadow volumes MPG 12.2
- Summary





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Questions?