

Shadows

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Computer Graphics Research – Info Sources

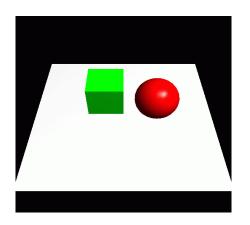
- http://kesen.realtimerendering.com/
- SIGGRAPH, SIGGRAPH Asia, Eurographics, EGSR, I3D, ...
- scholar.google.com

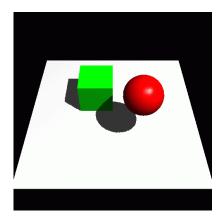
Outline

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

What for?

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





What for?

Objects look like they are "floating" → shadows fix that!





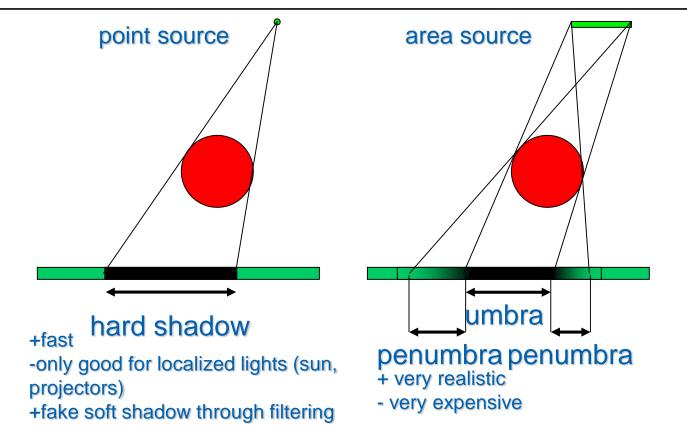
Motivation

- 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

- 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)

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

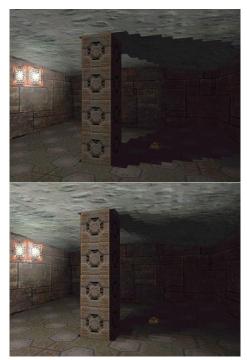
Static Soft Shadow Example

no filtering

filtering

1 sample

n samples

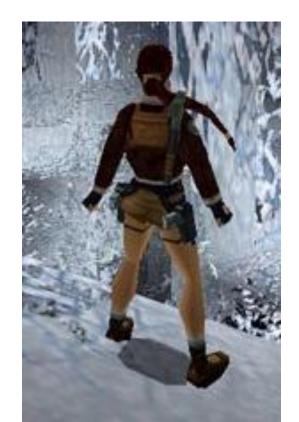




Approximate Shadows

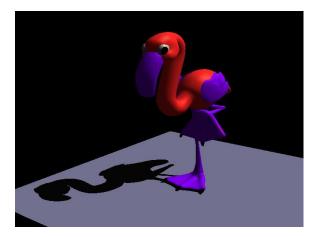
- Handdrawn approximate geometry
 - Perceptual studies suggest: shape not so important
 - Minimal cost





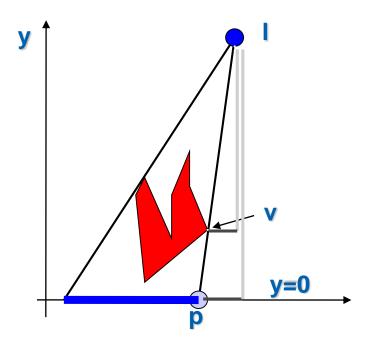
Projection Shadows (Blinn 88)

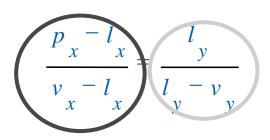
- Shadows for selected large *planar* receivers
 - Ground plane
 - Walls
- Projective geometry: flatten 3D model onto plane
 - and "darken" using framebuffer blend



Projection for Ground Plane

Use similar-triangles





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

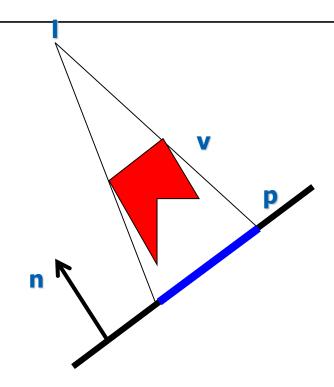
$$p_{z} = \frac{l_{y}v_{z} - l_{y}v_{y}}{l_{y} - v_{y}}$$

$$p_{y} = 0$$

Projection Matrix

Projective 4x4 matrix:
$$M = \begin{pmatrix} l_y & -l_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -l_z & l_y & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & l_y \end{pmatrix}$$

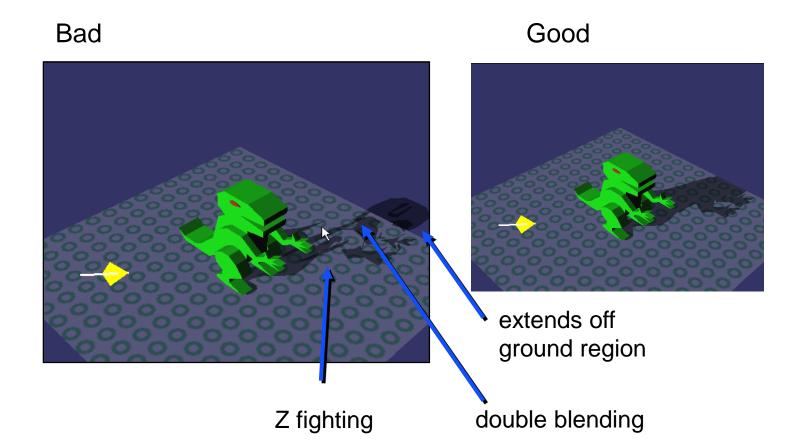
- Arbitrary plane:
 - Intersect line $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{I} \alpha (\mathbf{v} \mathbf{I})$
 - with plane $\mathbf{n} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{d} = 0$
 - Express result as a 4x4 matrix
- Append this matrix to view transform



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

Projection Shadow Summary

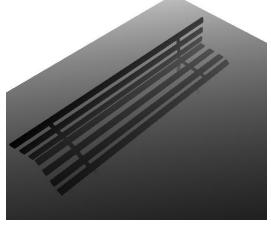
- Easy to implement
 - GLQuake first game to implement it
- Only practical for very few, large receivers
- No self shadowing

Outline

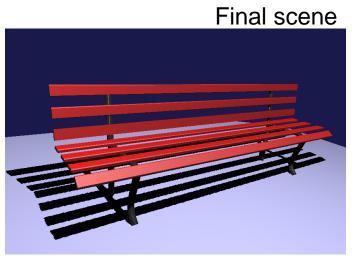
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Shadow Maps

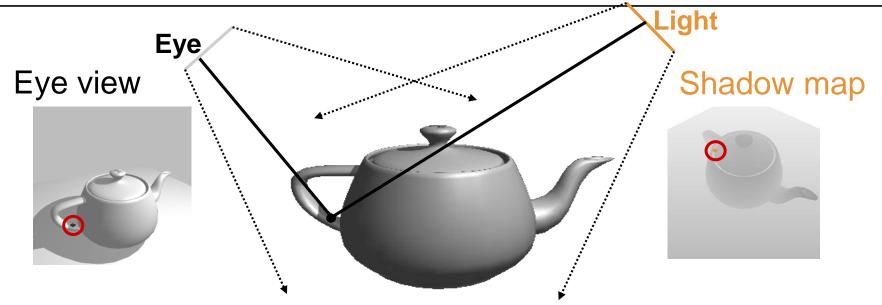
- Casting curved shadows on curved surfaces
 - Image-space algorithm, 2 passes



Shadow map



Shadow Map Algorithm



- Render from light; save depth values
- Render from eye
 - Transform all fragments to light space
 - Compare z_{eye} and z_{light} (both in light space!!!)
 - $Z_{eve} > Z_{light}$

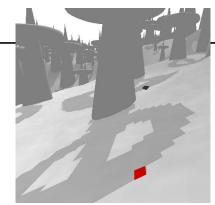
fragment in shadow

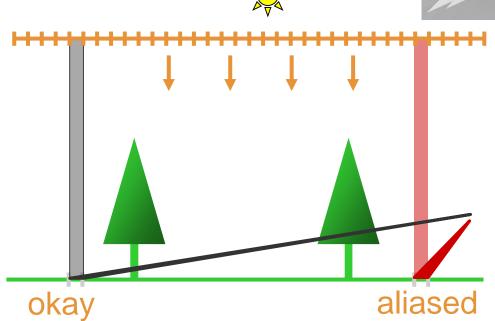
Shadow Maps in Hardware

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

Problem: Perspective Aliasing

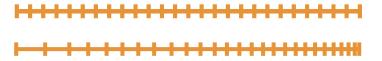
- Sufficient resolution far from eye
- Insufficient resolution near eye

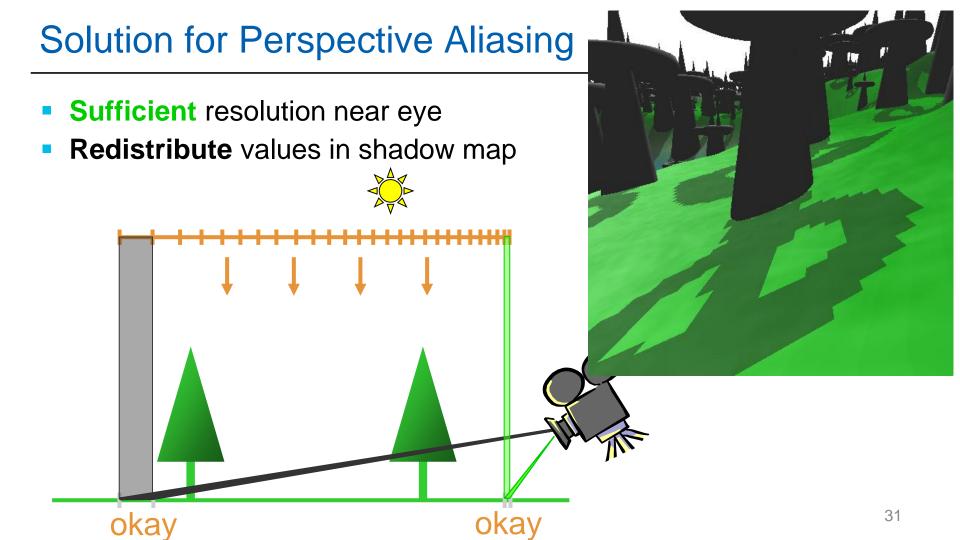




Solution for Perspective Aliasing

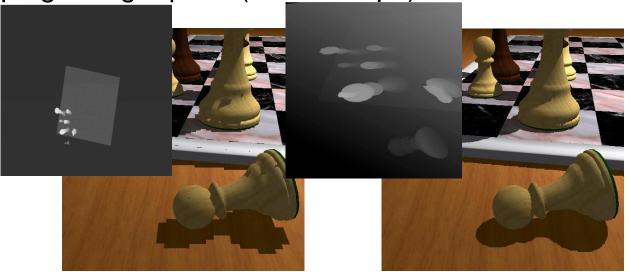
- Insufficient resolution near eye
- Redistribute values in shadow map



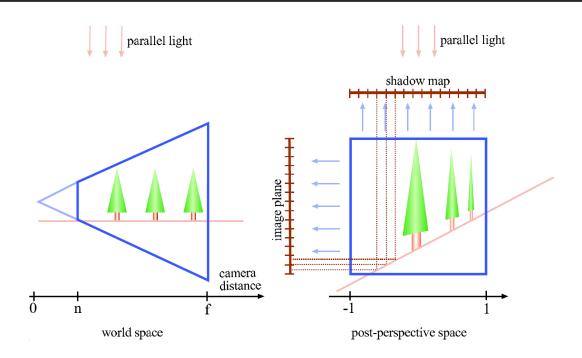


Solution for Perspective Aliasing

Use warping for light pass (and lookups)



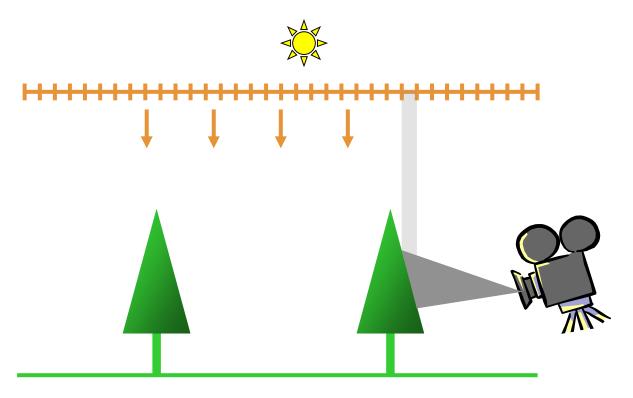
Solution for Perspective Aliasing



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

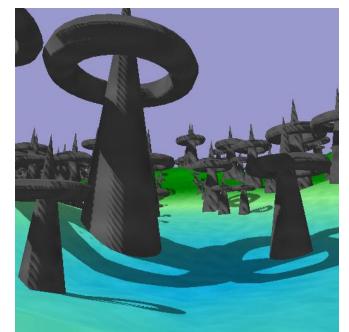
Problem: Projection Aliasing

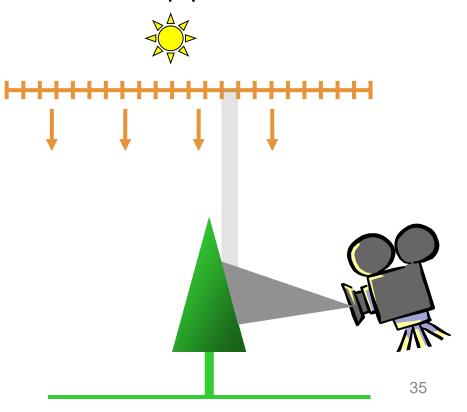
Shadow receiver ~ orthogonal to Shadow Map - viewplane



Solution for Projection Aliasing

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



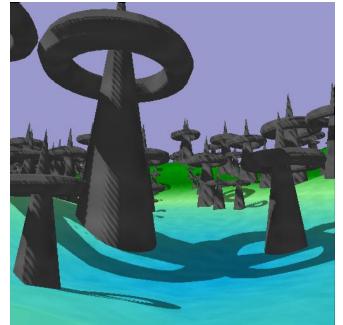


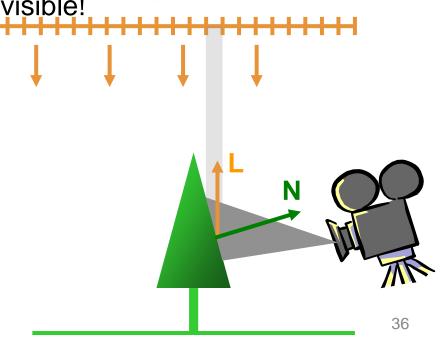
Solution for Projection Aliasing

• Diffuse lighting: $I = I_L \max(dot(L, N), 0)$

Almost orthogonal receivers have small I

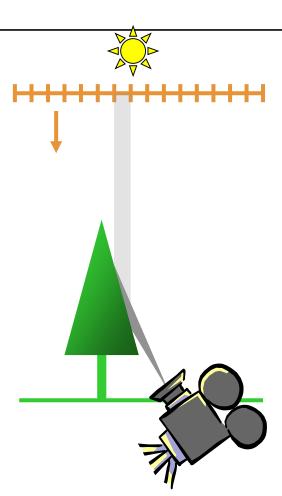
Dark artifacts not very visible!



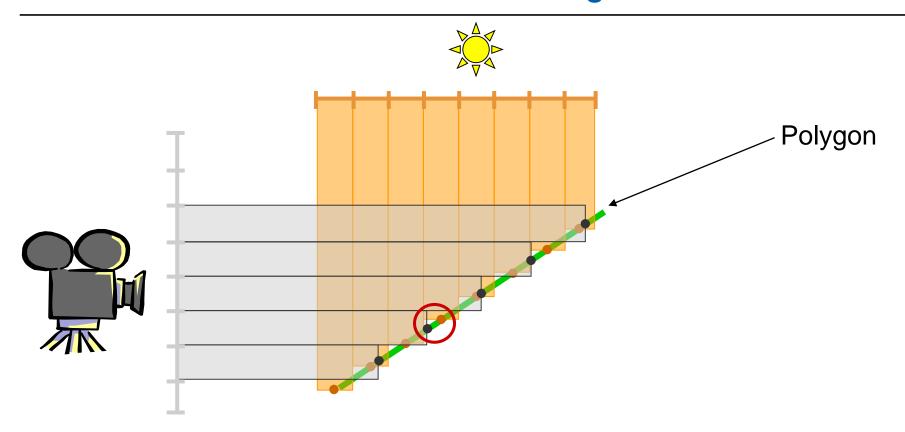


Solution for Projection Aliasing

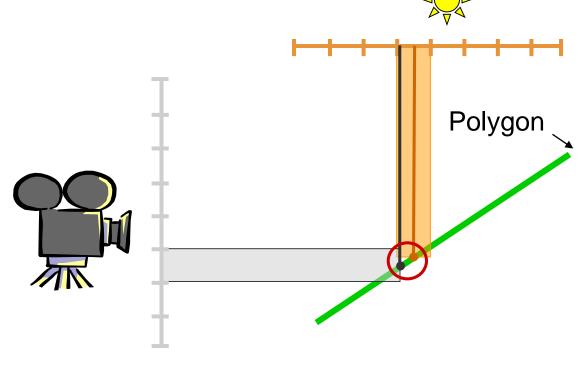
- Recommendations
 - Small **ambient** term
 - Diffuse term hides artifacts
 - Specular term not problematic
 - Light and view direction almost identical
 - Shadow Map resolution sufficient

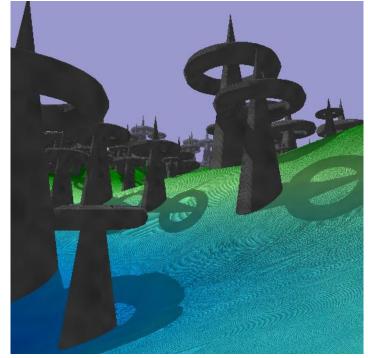


Problem: Incorrect Self-Shadowing



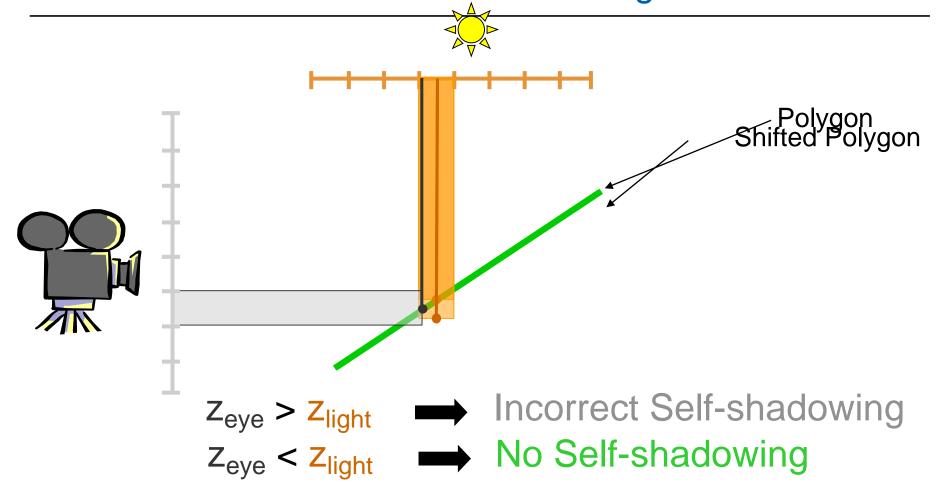
Problem: Incorrect Self-Shadowing





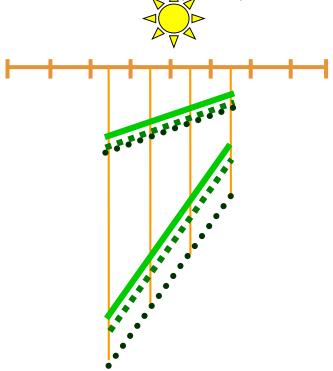
 $Z_{\text{eye}} > Z_{\text{light}}$

Solution for Incorrect Self-Shadowing



Solution for Incorrect Self-Shadowing

How to choose bias (shift)?





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

Percentage closer filtering

- Filter lookup result, not depth map values!
- Normal color filtering cannot be used
- 2x2 PCF in hardware for NVIDIA

NEAREST



LINEAR PCF



Shadow Map Summary

Advantages

- Fast only one additional pass
- Independent of scene complexity (no additional shadow polygons!)
- Self shadowing
- Can sometimes reuse depth map

Disadvantages

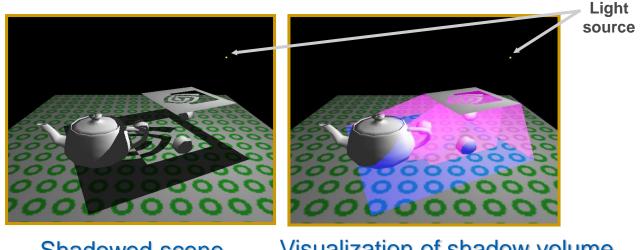
- Problematic for omnidirectional lights
- Biasing tweaks (light leaks, surface acne)
- Jagged edges (aliasing)

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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

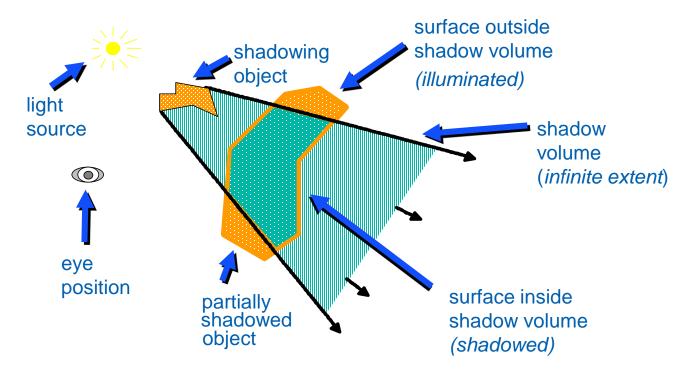
Shadow Volumes (Crow 1977)

Heavily used in Doom3



2D Cutaway of Shadow Volume

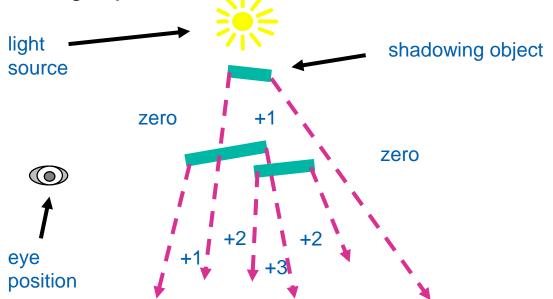
Occluder polygons extruded to semi-infinite volumes



- 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

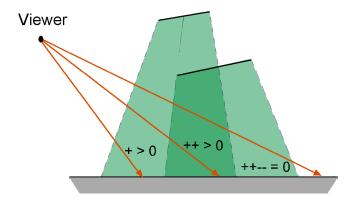
Enter/Leave Approach

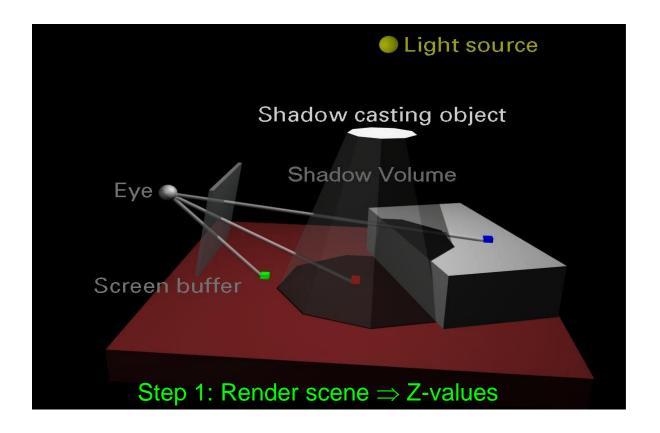
- Increment on enter, decrement on leave
- Simultaneously test all visible pixels
 - → Stop when hitting object nearest to viewer

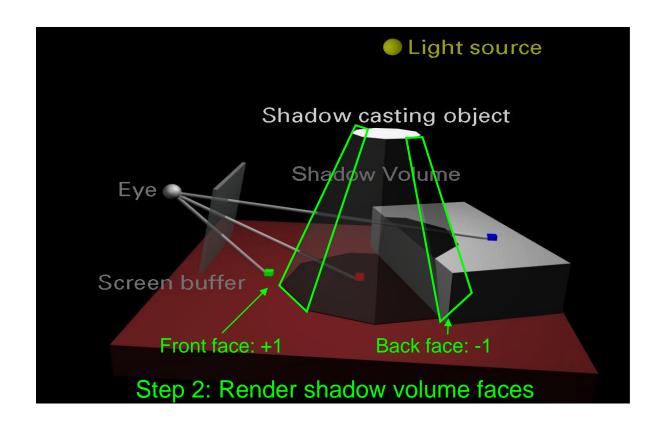


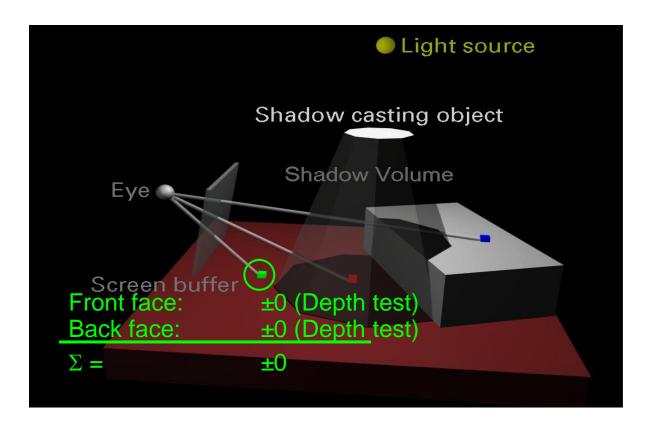
- Shadow volumes in object precision
 - Calculated by CPU/Vertex Shaders
- Shadow test in image precision
 - Using stencil buffer as counter!

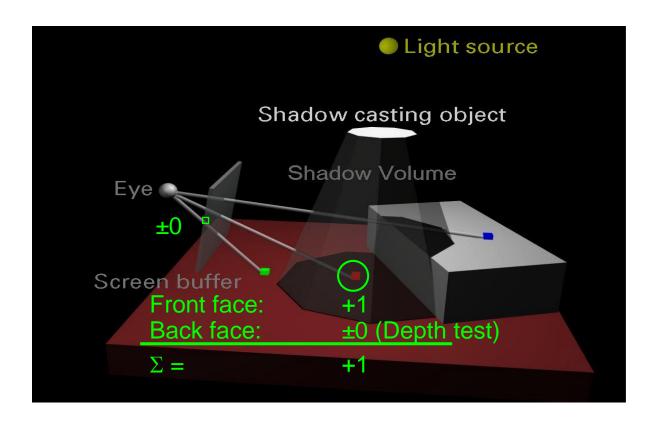
Light Source

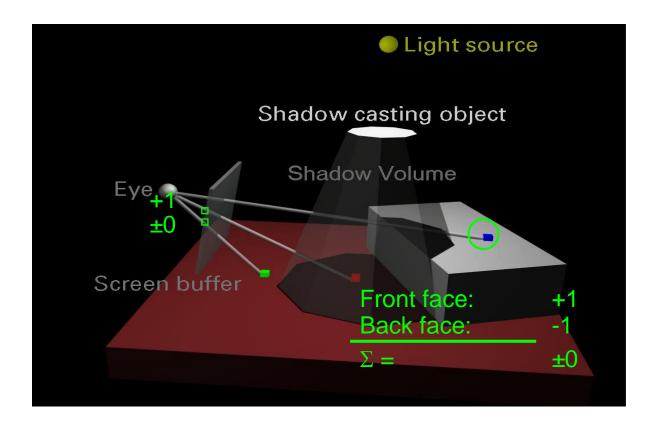


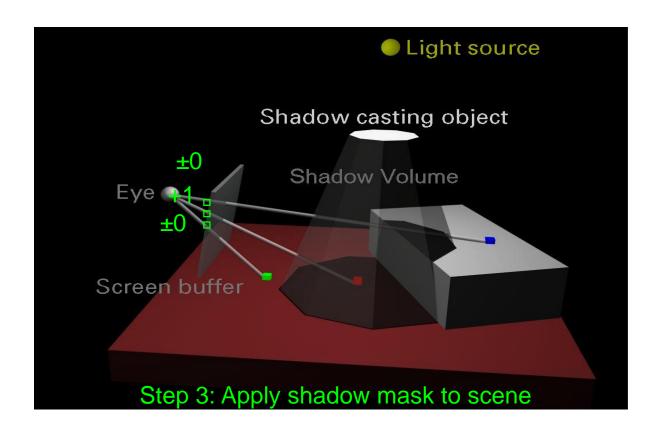








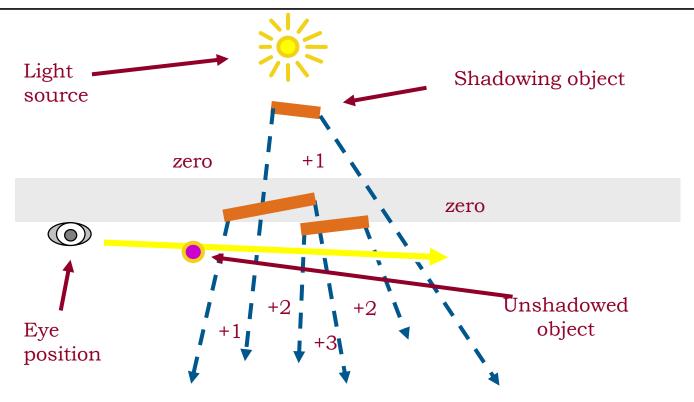




Shadow Volume Algorithm (Zpass)

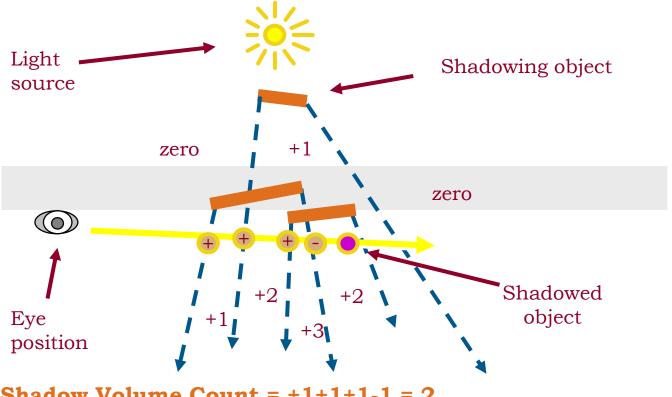
- Render scene to establish z-buffer
 - Can also do ambient illumination
- For each light
 - Clear stencil
 - Draw shadow volume twice using culling
 - Render front faces and increment stencil
 - Render back faces and decrement stencil
 - Illuminate all pixels not in shadow volume
 - Render testing stencil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

Zpass Technique (Before Shadow)



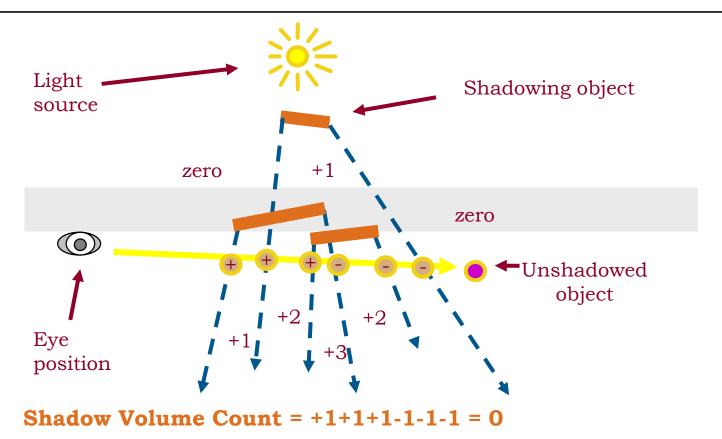
Shadow Volume Count = 0 (no depth tests passes)

Zpass Technique (In Shadow)

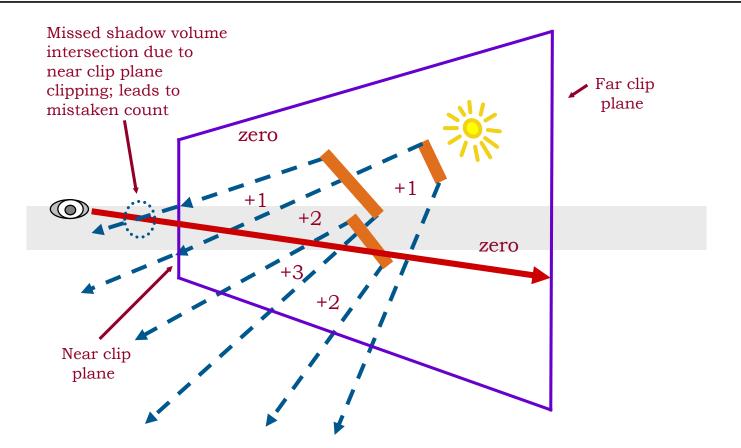


Shadow Volume Count = +1+1+1-1=2

Zpass Technique (Behind Shadow)



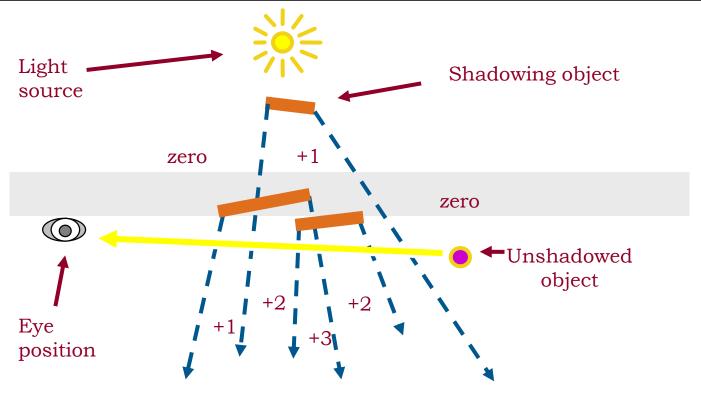
Zpass Near Plane Problem



Alternative: Zfail Technique

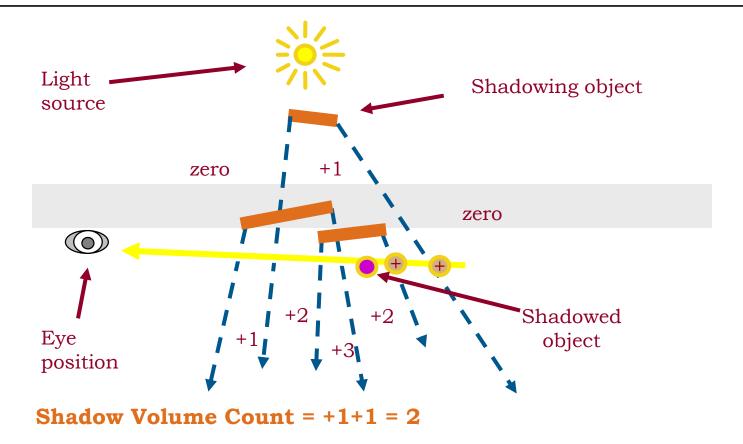
- Zpass near plane problem difficult to solve
 - Have to "cap" shadow volume at near plane
 - Expensive and not robust, many special cases (camera in shadow)
- Reversing test order → Zfail technique (also known as Carmack's reverse)
 - Start from infinity and stop at nearest intersection
 - → Render 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

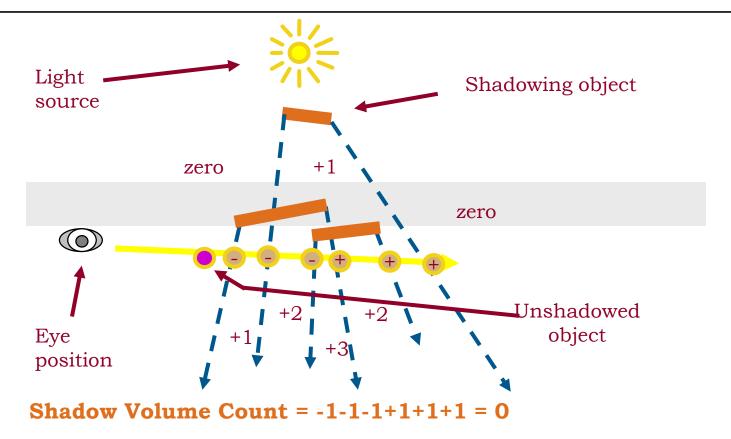


Shadow Volume Count = 0 (zero depth tests fail)

Zfail, in Shadow



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")
 - 3. 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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Questions?