
Meshes

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COMP 3501 - Meshes

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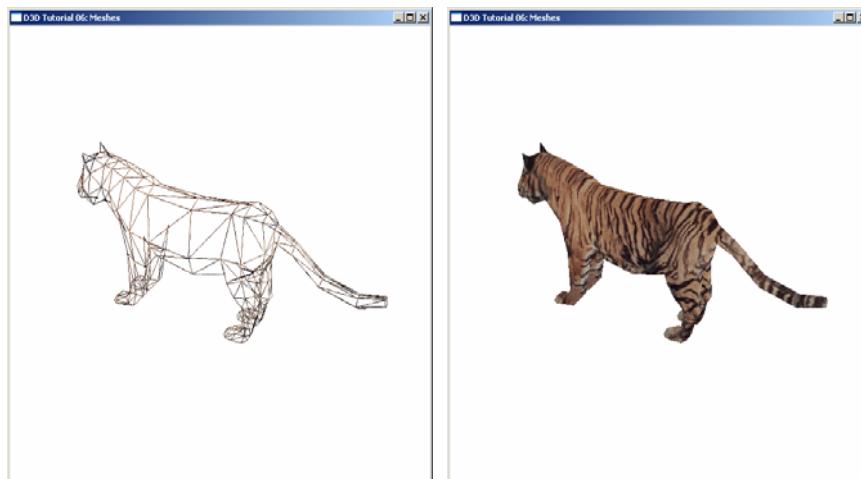
-
- Meshes what are they?
 - How to use them?
 - Progressive Meshes?

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Meshes



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What is a mesh?

- A collection of vertices, edges and faces which define the geometric shape of a 3D object.
- In our case the faces are
 - Triangles
 - Quads

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What information is required

- Mesh data consists of two types of data
 - Geometrical
 - Where is the object in space
 - How does its shape look
 - Topological –
 - abstract relationship of the object's geometry
- Minimum required information
 - Geometry – vertices – geometry
 - Topology – faces or edges

Mesh representation

- A number of ways to represent the data
 - Doubly Connected Edge List
 - Graph representations
- Complete representation
 - All data is stored and pre-computed
- Partial representation
 - Only part of the topological data is stored
 - Missing information can be constructed as needed

Why Meshes?

- Objects consists of many triangles
 - Facilitate drawing
 - Facilitate the manipulation of complex objects
 - Storage and retrieval of objects from a secondary storage

Mesh and Direct3D

- ID3DXMesh – the Direct3D mesh interface
- Required data is stored as follows
 - Geometrical data – a vertex buffer
 - Topological data – index buffer

Retrieving mesh data

- ID3DXMesh – the COM interface that defines the functionality of the objects

```
LPD3DXMESH pMesh;  
LPDIRECT3DVERTEXBUFFER9 vtxBuf;  
LPDIRECT3DVERTEXBUFFER9 vtxBuf;\n\npMesh->LockVertexBuffer(lockFlags, &vtxBuf);  
pMesh->LockIndexBuffer(lockFlags, &indBuf);  
  
pMesh->GetVertexBuffer( &vtxBuf);  
pMesh->GetIndexBuffer( &indBuf);  
  
pMesh->UnlockVertexBuffer();  
pMesh->UnlockIndexBuffer();
```

LockVertexBuffer(DWORD lockFlags, void **vtxBuf);
LockIndexBuffer(DWORD lockFlags, void **indBuf);

UnlockVertexBuffer();
UnlockIndexBuffer();

Note: The mesh locks and unlocks the buffers

Where does the mesh come from?

- File – a number of software that can create mesh files (3D Studio, Maya)
- Built in functions – D3DXCreate???
 - Box – D3DXCreateBox
 - Sphere – D3DXCreateSphere
 - Cylinder – D3DXCreateCylinder
 - Teapot – D3DXCreateTeapot
 - Polygon – D3DXCreatePolygon
 - Torus – D3DXCreateTorus

```
Result D3DXCreateTeapot(  
LPDIRECT3DDEVICE9 d3dDev,  
LPD3DXMESH *pMesh,  
LPD3DXBUFFER *pAdjancyBuffer);
```

```
ID3DXMesh *pMesh = NULL;  
D3DXCreateTeapot(d3dDev, &pMesh,NULL);
```

Vertex Buffer Navigation Functions

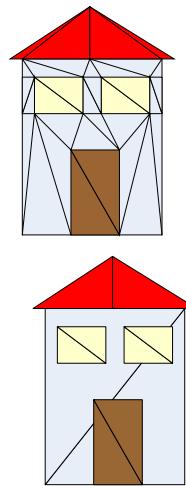
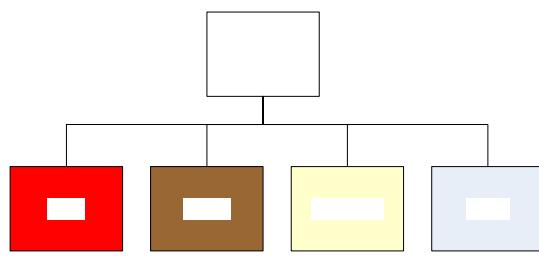
- DWORD GetFVF() – returns the flags that define the format of the vertices
- DWORD GetNumVertices() – returns the number of vertices in the vertex buffer
- DWORD GetNumBytesPerVertex() – returns the number of vertices in the vertex buffer
- DWORD GetNumFaces() – returns the number of vertices in the vertex buffer

Managing the Mesh Triangles

- **Rendering Needs**
 - Manipulate the geometry
 - Move hands of a mesh which represents a human
 - Manipulate the cladding
 - Terrain – draw lakes, mountains, grass
- **Solution**
 - Organize the mesh into groups/subsets
 - Enable one to manipulate each subset independently

Mesh Subsets

- Divide the mesh into subsets



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Meshes Subsets

- Organize the set of mesh triangles into subsets.
- Each subset would be rendered and/or manipulated using the same attributes
 - Rendering – material, texture, render states...
- Mechanism
 - Assign each triangle in the mesh an attribute id
 - Issues rendering command based on the attribute id

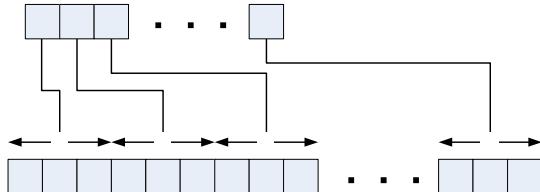
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Assigning Attributes

- Use an attributed buffer
- 1-1 correspondence between triangles and attribute entity



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```
// managing the attribute buffer
long *buf = NULL;
pMesh->LockAttributeBuffer(lockingFlags, &buffer);

// read or write from the buffer
pMesh->UnlockAttributeBuffer();
```

```
//Rendering the mesh subsets
for (i = 0; i < numSubsets; i++) {
    d3dDev->SetMaterial(0,matBuff[i]);
    d3dDev->SetTexture(0,textureBuf[i]);
    pMesh->DrawSubset[i];
}
```

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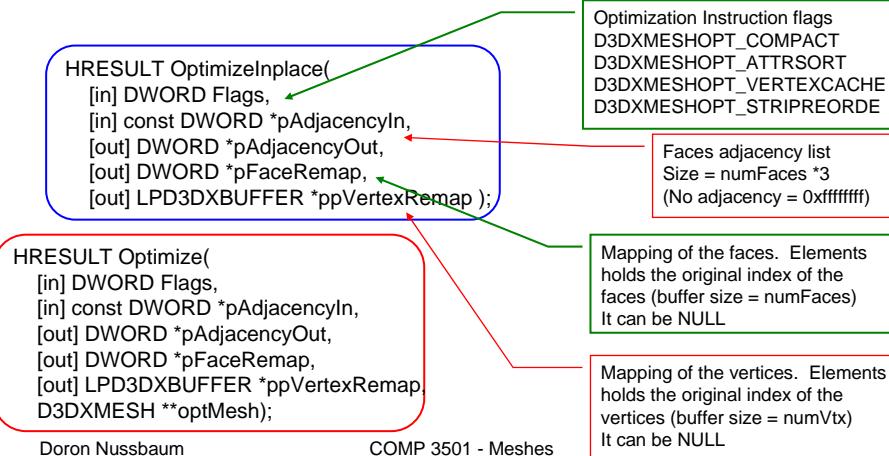
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Optimization

- Reorganize the mesh in order to speed up the rendering



Optimization

- Reorganize the mesh in order to speed up the rendering

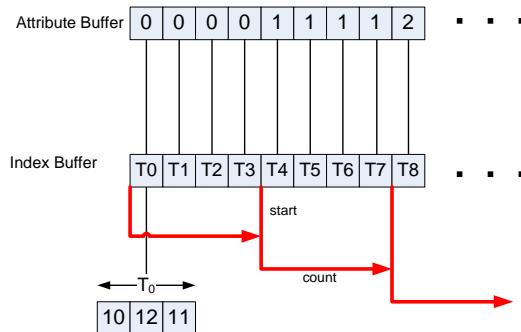
```
// get the adjacency information
numFaces = pMesh->GetNumFaces();
int adjInfo[numFaces*3]; // it should be memory allocation
pMesh->GenerateAdjacency(0.0, adjInfo);

// output
int optAdjInfo[numFaces*3]; // it should be memory allocation

pMesh->Optimizelnplace(
    D3DXMESHOPT_COMPACT |
    D3DXMESHOPT_ATTRSORT |
    D3DXMESHOPT_VERTEXCACHE,
    adjInfo,
    optAdjInfo,
    NULL,
    NULL);
```

Attribute Table

- Optimization under the D3DXMESHOPT_ATTSORT groups the geometry together by attribute



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Attribute Table

```
typedef struct D3DXATTRIBUTERANGE {  
    DWORD AttribId;  
    DWORD FaceStart;  
    DWORD FaceCount;  
    DWORD VertexStart;  
    DWORD VertexCount;  
} D3DXATTRIBUTERANGE, *LPD3DXATTRIBUTERANGE;
```

```
HRESULT GetAttributeTable(  
    [out] D3DXATTRIBUTERANGE *pAttribTable,  
    [out] DWORD cAttribTableSize );
```

```
HRESULT SetAttributeTable(  
    [in] D3DXATTRIBUTERANGE *pAttribTable,  
    [in] DWORD cAttribTableSize );
```

```
int numSubsets = 0;  
pMesh->GetAttributeTable(NULL, &numSubsets);  
  
// allocate memory  
D3DXATTRIBUTERANGE attTable = new D3DXATTRIBUTERANGE[numSubsets];  
  
pMesh->GetAttributeTable(attTable, &numSubsets);
```

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Adjacency information

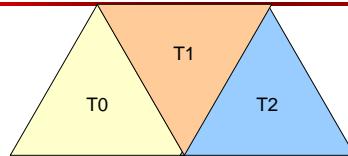
- Purpose
 - Assists in optimizing meshes
 - Assists in navigating the mesh
- Adjacency data
 - 1-1 correspondence with triangles
 - Each triangle has three value
 - Buffer size if numFaces*3
 - Information for triangle j is in
 - $3*j$
 - $3*j+1$
 - $3*j+2$

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Adjacency



Adjacency array [-1 1 -1 0 1 2 1 -1 -1]

Index Buffer [V0 V1 V2 V3 V4 V5 V6 V7 V8]

```
int adjData[pMesh->numFaces() * 3];  
pMesh->GenerateAdjacency(0.01f, adjData);
```

Level of accuracy

Data buffer

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Creating a Mesh

- Three options
 - Create from scratch – D3DXCreateMeshFVF
 - Cloning – CloneMeshFVF
 - Reading from a file

Cloning

- Creating a mesh from an existing mesh

```
HRESULT ClonePMeshFVF(  
    DWORD Options,  
    DWORD FVF,  
    DIRECT3DDEVICE9 *pD3DDevice,  
    LPD3XPBMESH * ppCloneMesh );
```

Optimization Instruction flags
D3DXMESHOPT_COMPACT
D3DXMESHOPT_ATTRSORT
D3DXMESHOPT_VERTEXCACHE
D3DXMESHOPT_STRIPREORDE

FVF vertex definition
Enables different output

The graphics device

The output mesh

```
D3XPBMESH *pCloneMesh;  
  
pMesh->ClonePMeshFVF(  
    pMesh->getOptions(), // use same options  
    D3DFVF_XYZ | D3DFVF_DIFFUSE,  
    d3dDev,  
    &pCloneMesh );
```

Creating a Mesh

- A two steps process
 - Create an empty mesh
 - Provide place holders for data
 - Populate the data

```
HRESULT D3DXCreateMeshFVF(
    __in DWORD NumFaces,
    __in DWORD NumVertices,
    __in DWORD Options,
    __in DWORD FVF,
    __in DIRECT3DDEVICE9 *d3dDev,
    __out D3DXMESH **ppMesh );
```

Mesh options
D3DXMESH_32BIT
D3DXMESH_WRITEONLY
D3DXMESH_MANAGED
D3DXMESH_DYNAMIC

The mesh

Creating a Mesh

- Another Function

```
HRESULT D3DXCreateMeshFVF(
    __in DWORD NumFaces,
    __in DWORD NumVertices,
    __in DWORD Options,
    __in const LPD3DVERTEXELEMENT9 *pDeclaration,
    __in DIRECT3DDEVICE9 *d3dDev,
    __out D3DXMESH **ppMesh );
```

```
typedef struct D3DVERTEXELEMENT9 {
    WORD Stream;
    WORD Offset;
    BYTE Type;
    BYTE Method;
    BYTE Usage;
    BYTE UsageIndex;
} D3DVERTEXELEMENT9,
*LPD3DVERTEXELEMENT9;
```

Note:

1D array with no counter →
Add a sentinel record
Macro **D3DDECL_END()**

```

D3DXMESH *pMesh = NULL;
int numSubsets = 3;
IDirect3DTexture9 *Textures[3] = {NULL, NULL, NULL};

Rc = D3DXCreateMeshFVF(8,12, D3DXMANAGED, MY_VTX_FVF, d3DDev, &pMesh);

Struct MY_VERTEX *vtx;
pMesh->LockVertexBuffer(0, (void **) &vtx);
Vtx[0] = ...

pMesh->UnlockVertexBuffer();

short *indexBuf;
pMesh->LockIndexBuffer(0, (void **) &indexBuf);
indexBuf[0] = ...

pMesh->UnlockIndexBuffer();

// attribute buffer

// Optimize mesh
pMesh->OptimizeInPlace(D3DXMESHOPT_ATTRSORT, &adjBuffer, NULL, NULL, NULL);

// draw the mesh

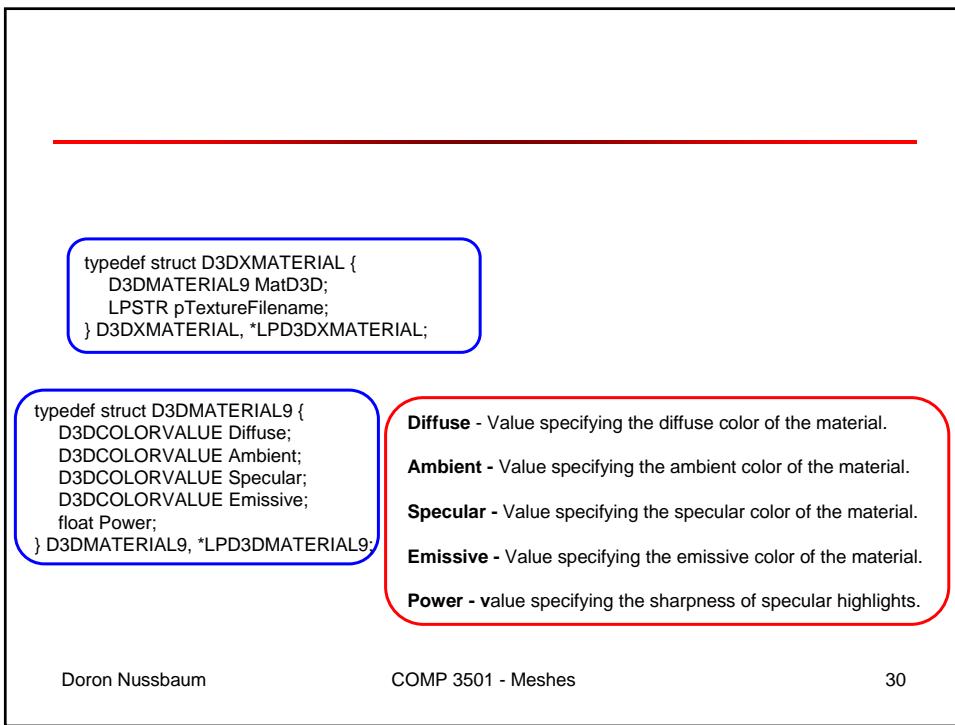
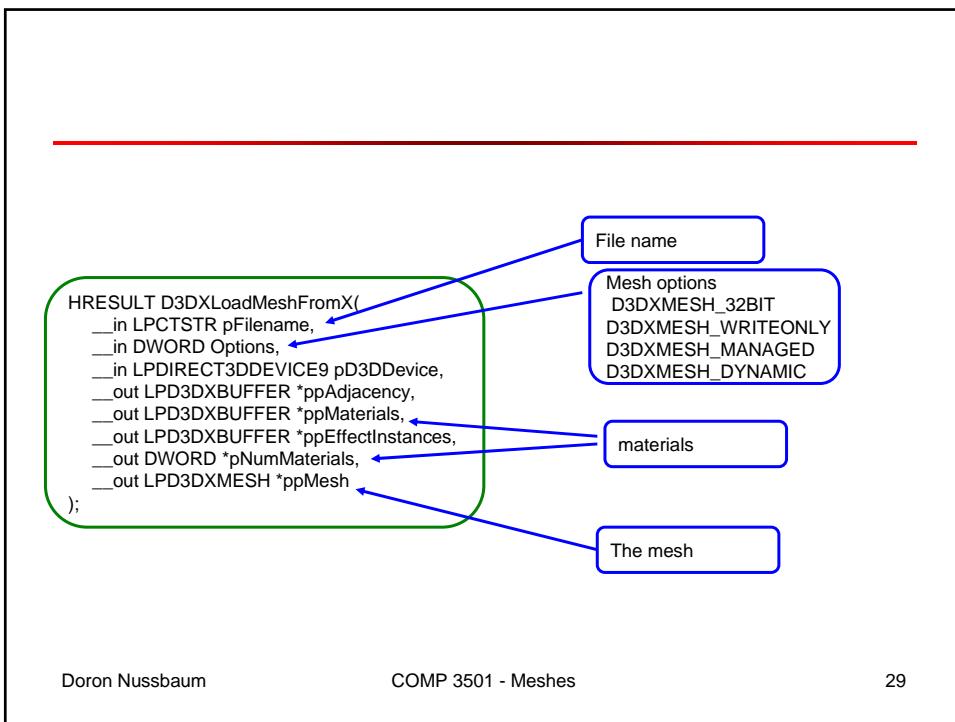
```

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Loading a mesh from X file

- XFile contains objects with all the required information for drawing
 - Geometry
 - Topology
 - Cladding
- Generated by modeling tools
 - Maya
 - 3D Max
 - LightWave 3D



Progressive Meshes

- Uses edge collapse
 - by combining two vertices into a single vertex
 - One or two faces are removed
- Direct3D enables
 - Creation of a progressive mesh
 - Manipulation of a progressive mesh by the programmer
 - Level of progressive mesh is to be defined at runtime

```
HRESULT D3DXGeneratePMesh( LPD3DXMESH pMesh,  
    CONST DWORD * pAdjacency,  
    CONST D3DXATTRIBUTEWEIGHTS * pVertexAttributeWeights,  
    CONST FLOAT * pVertexWeights,  
    DWORD MinValue,  
    DWORD Options,  
    LPD3DXPMESH * ppPMesh );
```

pMesh - the source mesh.
pAdjacency – adjacency of the source mesh
pVertexAttributeWeights – array containing the weight for each vertex component (can be NULL)
pVertexWeights – array containing the vertex weights (can be NULL).
MinValue – the minimum number of requested vertices or faces for simplification.
Options – specify how to simplify (D3DXMESHSIMP_VERTEX, D3DXMESHSIMP_FACE)
ppPMesh – output mesh

```
D3DXGeneratePMesh(  
    LPD3DXMESH Pmesh,  
    DWORD *pAdjBuffer,  
    LPD3DXATTRIBUTEWEIGHTS pVtxAttWeights,
```

- Weights are used to determine which vertex will be removed
 - Value range 0.0-1.0
- What is the alg. Of comparing attributes ?

```
typedef struct D3DXATTRIBUTEWEIGHTS {  
    FLOAT Position;  
    FLOAT Boundary;  
    FLOAT Normal;  
    FLOAT Diffuse;  
    FLOAT Specular;  
    FLOAT Texcoord[8];  
    FLOAT Tangent;  
    FLOAT Binormal;  
} D3DXATTRIBUTEWEIGHTS, *LPD3DXATTRIBUTEWEIGHTS;
```

ID3DXPMesh Functions

- GetMaxFaces()
 - Returns the maximum number of faces
- GetMaxVertices()
 - Returns the maximum number of vertices
- GetMinFaces()
 - Returns the minimum number of faces
- GetMinVertices()
 - Returns the minimum number of vertices
- SetNumFaces(int numFaces)
 - Sets the number of faces
 - pPMesh->setNumFaces(40);
- SetNumVertices(int numVtx)
 - Sets the number of vertices
 - pPMesh->setNumVertices(40);

Bounding Volumes

- Direct3D can compute simple bounding volume
 - Sphere
 - Box
- The function accept an array of vertices and compute the bounding volume

```
HRESULT D3DXComputeBoundingBox(
    D3DXVECTOR3 *pFirstPosition,
    DWORD NumVertices,
    DWORD dwStride,
    D3DXVECTOR3 *pMin,
    D3DXVECTOR3 *pMax );
```

```
HRESULT D3DXComputeBoundingBox(
    D3DXVECTOR3 *pFirstPosition,
    DWORD NumVertices,
    DWORD dwStride,
    D3DXVECTOR3 *pCentre,
    FLOAT *pRadius );
```

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```
void *vtx = NULL;
float centre;
float radius;

pMesh->LockVertexBuffer(0, (void **) &vtx);

rc = D3DXComputeBoundingSphere(
    (D3DXVECTOR3 *) vtx,
    pMesh->GetNumVertices(),
    D3DXGetFVFVertexSize(pMesh->GetFVF()),
    &centre,
    &radius);

pMesh->UnlockVertexBuffer();
```

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