Conveying Structure

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Final project

Design new visualization method

Pose problem, Implement creative solution

Deliverables

- Implementation of solution
- 8-12 page paper in format of conference paper submission
- 2 design discussion presentations

Schedule

- Project proposal: 10/24
- Initial problem presentation: 10/24, 10/29 or 10/31
- Midpoint design discussion: 11/19, 11/21 or 11/26
- Final paper and presentation: To be determined

Grading

- Groups of up to 3 people, graded individually
- Clearly report responsibilities of each member





Perspective distortion

Wide angle projection Does not preserve subjective size



Fish-eye vs. wide angle







How to Depict All Buildings on Street?





<image><image><caption><image>























Average Projected Sources

























Summary

Tension between properties of projections

- Orthographic projections preserve different properties than perspective projections
- Equiarea implies not equiangular
- Modern projections seek compromise

People tolerate distortion -- to an extent

- Maintain important information
- Avoid extremes



Complex 3D objects



- Architectural models
- Mechanical assemblies
- Biological specimens
- ···



Problem: Occlusion

Can't see beyond frontmost surface

Fundamental property / limitation of vision

Exterior surfaces hide internal structure

Normally we exploit this in computer graphics



Topics

Framework for conveying structure Choosing good views Layering Cutaways and sections Exploded views



Framework for conveying structure

Goal: Expose important internal features

Requirements

- Internal features
- Viewpoint
- Blockers

Procedure

Transform blockers so internal features visible

Internal Features

- Which internal features should be visible?
 - Presentation
 - Features support story

Exploration

- Show all internal parts
- All of the important features may not be known a priori



Lincoln's assassination at Ford's theater [Lorenz 88]





Blocker transformation

Choose transformations that de-emphasizes blockers and emphasizes internal features?

- Cull
- Move
- Transparency
- Modify drawing style
- Rotate object (or transform viewpoint)

Visualization should clearly indicate transformation



Generic vs. accidental views

Generic: A view of an object that does not change drastically under small changes in viewpoint



Accidental: A special view of an object for which small perturbations in viewpoint drastically change appearance





Generic vs. accidental view





Canonical view [Palmer, Rosch, Chase 81] Features must be salient Generic view **Oblique view** HORSE PIANO TEAPOT Frontal view from above ¾ up view CAR CHAIR CAMERA TELEPHONE HOUSE CLOCK PENCIL SHARPENER SHOP IRON



What is a good view?

Canonical views

- Oblique views from above
- Avoid accidental views

In our case – to reveal internal structure

Separation of internal features in image plane

Viewpoint transformations



Street level view



Overhead view

Sometimes a good viewpoint will expose features

- Street view does not show overall city plan
- Overhead view exposes more of the city plan









Draw blockers as wireframes





Leonardo Da Vinci circa 1490



Interrante – Siggraph 97



Cutaways and Sections

Cutaways

Blockers partially visible

Edges

- Raggedness emphasizes cut
- Contrast also adds emphasis
- Shape focuses attention
- Spatializes internal stuff



Manually operated reciprocating water pump [Agricola 1556]





Sections

Split along cutting surface

- Usually planar cut
- May not cut all objects in plane

Orientation

- Principal planes
- Symmetry planes
- Structural elements

Convey shape

- Shape of cutting surface
- Auxiliary view showing cut location
- Shape & material of cut volume
- Orthogonal view allows measurement







Technical illustration







Shape of cutting surface



Physical cutaway [CalCo www.calcocutaways.com]

Shape of blocking surface



Material of cut volume



















