



Lecture 29 of 41

Lab 5b: Particle Systems

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KSOL course pages: <http://bit.ly/hGvXIH> / <http://bit.ly/eVizRE>
Public mirror web site: <http://www.kddresearch.org/Courses/CIS636>
Instructor home page: <http://www.cis.ksu.edu/~bhsu>

Readings:

Today: **Particle System Handout**
Next class: §5.3, Eberly 2nd – see <http://bit.ly/ieUq45>; **CGA Handout**
Wikipedia, *Particle System*: <http://bit.ly/hzZoff>



Lecture Outline

- Reading for Last Class: §9.1, Eberly 2nd; **Particle System Handout**
- Reading for Today: **Particle System Handout**
- Reading for Next Class: §5.3, Eberly 2nd; **CGA Handout**
- Last Time: Collision Response, Particle Systems
 - * Collision handling, concluded: response
 - Impulse vs. force
 - Compression & restitution
 - Bounce
 - Friction
 - * Simulation of Processes, Simple Physical Bodies
 - * Events: birth (emission), collision, death
 - * Properties: mass, initial velocity, lifetime
- Today: Lab on Particle Systems; Dissection of Working Program
- Next Class: Animation Part 3 of 3 – Inverse Kinematics



Where We Are

21	Lab 4a: Animation Basics	Flash animation handout
22	Animation 2: Rotations, Dynamics, Kinematics	Chapter 17, esp. §17.1 – 17.2
23	Demos 4: Modeling & Simulation, Rotations	Chapter 10, 13, §17.3 – 17.6
24	Collisions 1: axes, OBBs, Lab 4b	§2.4.3, 8.1, GL handout
25	Spatial Sorting, Binary Space Partitioning	Chapter 6, esp. §6.1
26	Demos 8: More CGA, Picking, HW Exam	Chapter 7, § 8.4
27	Lab 5a: Interaction Handling	§ 8.3 – 8.4; 4.2, 5.0, 5.6, 9.1
28	Collisions 2: Dynamic, Particle Systems	§ 9.1, particle system handout
29	Exam 2 review: Hour Exam 2 (evening)	Chapters 6 – 6.7 – 8, 12, 17
30	Lab 5b: Particle Systems	Particle system handout
31	Animation 3: Control & IK	§ 5.3, CGA handout
32	Ray Tracing 1: Intersections, ray trees	Chapter 14
33	Lab 6a: Ray Tracing Basics with POV-Ray	RT handout
34	Ray Tracing 2: advanced topic survey	Chapter 15, RT handout
35	Visualization 1: Data (Quantities & Evidence)	Tufte handout (1)
36	Lab 6b: More Ray Tracing	RT handout
37	Visualization 2: Objects	Tufte handout (2 & 4)
38	Color Basics, Term Project Prep	Color handout
39	Lab 7: Fractals & Terrain Generation	Fractals/Terrain handout
40	Project presentations 1: Final Review 1	Tufte handout (3)
41	Project presentations 2: Final Review 2	–
42	Final Exam	Ch. 1 – 8, 10 – 16, 17, 20

Lightly-shaded entries denote the due date of a written problem set; heavily-shaded entries, that of a machine problem (programming assignment); blue-shaded entries, that of a paper review; and the green-shaded entry, that of the term project.
Green, blue and red letters denote exam review, exam, and exam solution review dates.



Acknowledgements: 3-D Particle Systems



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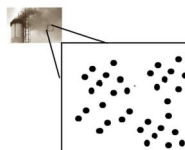
Rahul Malhotra
Senior Software Engineer, Overstock.com



Review [1]: Particle Emitters & Attributes

Each new particle has the following attributes:

- initial position
- initial velocity (speed and direction)
- initial size
- initial color
- initial transparency
- shape
- lifetime




Review [2]: Impacts

- When two solid objects collide (such as a particle hitting a solid surface), forces are generated at the impact location that prevent the objects from interpenetrating
- These forces act over a very small time and as far as the simulation is concerned, it's easiest to treat it as an instantaneous event
- Therefore, instead of the impact applying a force, we must use an impulse



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Review [3]: Impulse

- An impulse can be thought of as the integral of a force over some time range, which results in a finite change in momentum:


$$\mathbf{j} = \int \mathbf{f} dt = \Delta \mathbf{p}$$

- An impulse behaves a lot like a force, except instead of affecting an object's acceleration, it directly affects the velocity
- Impulses also obey Newton's Third Law, and so objects can exchange equal and opposite impulses
- Also, like forces, we can compute a total impulse as the sum of several individual impulses

Adapted from slides ♥ 2004 – 2005 S. Rotenberg, UCSD
CSE169: Computer Animation, Winter 2005, <http://bit.ly/f0VIAN>

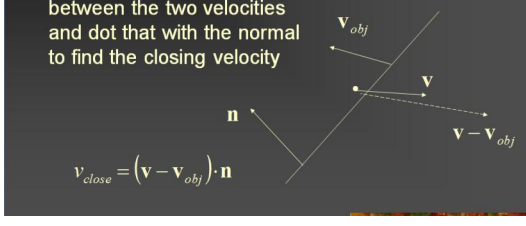
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Review [4]: Final Velocity & Collision Impulse

- We take the difference between the two velocities and dot that with the normal to find the closing velocity




$$\mathbf{v}_{close} = (\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_{obj}) \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

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Review [5]: Impulse given Velocity (Frictionless)


- Let's first consider a collision with no friction
- The collision impulse will be perpendicular to the collision plane (i.e., along the normal) and will be large enough to stop the particle (at least)

$$\mathbf{j} = -(1 + e) m \mathbf{v}_{close} \mathbf{n}$$

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Review [6]: Dynamic Friction Equation (Coulomb)


- As we are not considering static contact, we will just use a single dynamic friction equation
- For an impact, we can just compute the impulse in the exact same way as we would for dynamic friction
- We can use the magnitude of the elasticity impulse as the normal impulse

$$\mathbf{j}_{dynamic} = \mu_d |\mathbf{j}_{normal}| \mathbf{e}$$

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Review [8]: Position Adjustment Options

- Moving the particle to a legal position isn't always easy
- There are different possibilities:
 - Move it to a position just before the collision
 - Put it at the collision point
 - Put it at the collision point plus some offset along the normal
 - Compute where it would have gone if it bounced
- Computing the bounced position is really the best, but may involve more computation and in order to do it right, it may require further collision testing...

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Review [9]: Data Structures for Collisions

- BV, BVH (bounding volume hierarchies)
 - Octree
 - KD tree
 - BSP (binary separating planes)
 - OBB tree (oriented bounding boxes- a popular form of BVH)
 - K-dop tree
- Uniform grid
- Hashing
- Dimension reduction

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How Are Particle Systems Used?

- Explosions
 - Large
 - Fireworks
- Fire
- Vapor
 - Clouds
 - Dust
 - Fog
 - Smoke
 - Contrails
- Water
 - Waterfalls
 - Streams
- Plants





Command & Conquer 4: Tiberian Twilight
© 2010 Electronic Arts, Inc.
Wikipedia: <http://bit.ly/qFGMIQ>

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History of Particle Systems [1]: Spacewar!

Spacewar! © 1962 S. Russell et al.
Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spacewar!>


- Developed in 1962 on Digital Equipment Corporation PDP-1
 - Steve “Slug” Russell, Martin “Shag” Graetz, Wayne Witaenem
 - Trig functions by DEC
 - Other features, Dan Edwards & Peter Samson
- Used Pixel Clouds as Explosions

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History of Particle Systems [2]: Asteroids



Asteroids © 1979 L. Rains & E. Logg
Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asteroids_\(video_game\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asteroids_(video_game))


- Short Moving Vectors for Explosions
- Probably First “Physical” Particle System (Collision Model) in Games
- Hey, Hey, 16K © 2000 M. J. Hibbett, Video © 2004 R. Manuel
<http://youtu.be/Ts96J7HhO28>

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History of Particle Systems [3]: Genesis Device in Star Trek II



“Wall of Fire” effect from Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan © 1983 Evans & Sutherland
Wikipedia: <http://bit.ly/xwrb>

- Particle System for Genesis Bomb: <http://youtu.be/Qe9qSLYK5q4>
- Part of Planetary Fly-By “Visualization”
- One of Earliest Cinematic Uses

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Definition & Basic Particle System Physics

- A particle system is a collection of a number of individual elements or *particles*.
- Particle systems control a set of particles that act autonomously but share some common attributes.
- Particle is a point in 3D space.
- Forces (e.g. gravity or wind) accelerate a particle.
- Acceleration changes velocity.
- Velocity changes position

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More Attributes of Particles

- Position
- Velocity
- Life Span
- Size
- Weight
- Representation
- Color
- Owner

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Methods of Particle Systems

- Initialize
- Update
- Render
- Move
- Get/Set force

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Implementation [1]: Particle Struct

```
struct Particle
{
    Vector3 m_pos;           // current position
    Vector3 m_prevPos;       // last position
    Vector3 m_velocity;       // direction and speed
    Vector3 m_acceleration;   // acceleration

    float m_energy;          // how long particle is alive

    float m_size;            // size of particle
    float m_sizeDelta;        // change in size per time unit


    float m_weight;          // how gravity affects particle
    float m_weightDelta;      // change over time

    float m_color[4];        // current color
    float m_colorDelta[4];    // change over time
};
```

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Implementation [2]: Particle System Class


```
class ParticleSystem
{
public:
    ParticleSystem (int maxParticles, Vector3 origin);
    // abstract functions
    virtual void Update(float elapsedTime) = 0;
    virtual void Render() = 0;
    virtual int Emit(int numParticles);
    virtual void InitializeSystem();
    virtual void KillSystem();

protected:
    virtual void InitializeParticle(int index) = 0;
    Particle *m_particleList; // particles for this emitter
    int m_maxParticles;       // maximum total number of particles
    int m_numParticles;       // indices of all free particles
    Vector3 m_origin;         // center of the particle system
    float m_accumulatedTime;  // track when last particle emitted
    Vector3 m_force;          // forces (gravity, wind, etc.) on PS
};
```

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How to Represent Particles?

- Points
- Lines
- Texture-mapped quads
- Point Sprites

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Rendering Particles [1]: Points

```
glBegin( GL_POINTS );
    glVertex3f
        (m_position.x,
         m_position.y,
         m_position.z);
glEnd();
```

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Rendering Particles [2]: Lines


```
glBegin(GL_LINES);
    glColor4f( r, g, b, 0.1f );
    glVertex3f
        (m_position.x,
         m_position.y,
         m_position.z);
    glColor4f( r, g, b, a );
    glVertex3f
        (m_position.x + m_direction.x,
         m_position.y + m_direction.y,
         m_position.z + m_direction.z);
glEnd();
```

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Rendering Particles [3]: Quads



```

glBegin(GL_TRIANGLE_FAN);
if (textured)
    glTexCoord2f(0.0f, 0.0f);
glVertex3f(pts[0].x, pts[0].y, pts[0].z);
if (textured)
    glTexCoord2f(1.0f, 0.0f);
glVertex3f(pts[1].x, pts[1].y, pts[1].z);
if (textured)
    glTexCoord2f(1.0f, 1.0f);
glVertex3f(pts[2].x, pts[2].y, pts[2].z);
if (textured)
    glTexCoord2f(0.0f, 1.0f);
glVertex3f(pts[3].x, pts[3].y, pts[3].z);
glEnd();


```

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Rendering Particles [4]: Point Sprites



```

glTexEnvf (GL_POINT_SPRITE,
          GL_COORD_REPLACE,
          GL_TRUE);
glEnable (GL_POINT_SPRITE);
glBegin ( GL_POINTS );
glVertex3f
    (m_position.x,
     m_position.y,
     m_position.z);
glEnd();
glDisable (GL_POINT_SPRITE);

```


See also Saar & Rotzler tutorial (2008):
<http://bit.ly/kjBPY>

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Point Sprites vs. Textured Quads



- Point Sprites disappear suddenly
- Cannot rotate a point.
- Point sprites are not supported in older cards.
- Point sprite size is dependent on available OpenGL point sizes.

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Particle Systems API v2



- Free Particle System
- Much lighter than a full physics engine
- Simulations of groups of moving objects: explosion, bounce, etc.
- Download from www.particlesystems.org
- Demo


Wayback Machine archive (2007):
<http://bit.ly/g5GqQc>

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Advanced Topics




- Adding Scripting capability
- Particle Systems Manager
- Improving Particle Systems with the GPU

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References



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- Particle Systems API © 2006 – 2007 D. K. McAllister: <http://bit.ly/g5GqQc>
- "Everything about Particle System Effects", L. Latta (Electronic Arts) <http://bit.ly/dOQrwN>
- Tutorial on particle systems, A. Johnson (University of Illinois Chicago): <http://bit.ly/ekuC20>
- Spacewar!
 - * In Java: <http://spacewar.oversigma.com>
 - * More history: <http://www.wheels.org/spacewar/>
- "Simulate fuzzy phenomena with particle systems", J. Friesen, JavaWorld, <http://bit.ly/ghgTqF>

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Summary

- Reading for Last Class: §9.1, Eberly 2nd; **Particle System Handout**
- Reading for Today: **Particle System Handout**
- Reading for Next Class: §5.3, Eberly 2nd; **CGA Handout**
- Last Class: Particle Systems
 - * Collision response
 - * Simulation, events: birth (emission), collision, death
 - * Properties: mass, initial velocity, lifetime
 - * Changing properties: color, position (trajectory)
- Today: Lab on Particle Systems; Dissection of Working Program
- Next Class: Computer-Generated Animation Concluded
 - * Autonomous movement in agents vs. hand-animated characters
 - * Inverse kinematics
 - * Rag doll physics
 - * Minimization models
 - * More CGA resources



Terminology

- **Particle Systems** – Simulation of Processes, Simple Physical Bodies
 - * **Events**
 - **Birth** – particle generated based on shape, position of **emitter**
 - **Collision** – particle with object (including other particles)
 - **Death** – end of particle life, due to collision or expiration
 - * Initial properties: mass, position, velocity, size, lifetime, color, owner
 - * Change in properties: delta mass, position, etc.
- **Emitter** – Point, Line, Plane or Region from which Particles Originate
- **Particle Fountain** – Particle System with Directional Emitter
- **Sprite** (Wikipedia: <http://bit.ly/gylnPg>)
 - * Definition: 2-D image or animation made part of larger scene
- * **Point sprite**
 - Screen-aligned element of variable size
 - Defined by single point
 - (Saar & Rotzler, 2008): <http://bit.ly/fkiBPY>