VGP352 – Week 9

- Agenda:
  - High Dynamic Range Imaging (HDR)
  - Quiz #4 (at the end of class)

High Dynamic Range

- Until now, our rendering has had a contrast ratio of 256:1
  - As noted in [Green 2004]:
    - Bright things can be really bright
    - Dark things can be really dark
    - And the details can be seen in both

High Dynamic Range

- Several possible solutions depending on hard-ware support / performance:
  - Render multiple “exposures” and composite results
    - This is how HDR images are captured with a camera
    - Yuck!
  - Render to floating-point buffers
    - Best quality
    - Even fp16 buffers are large / expensive
    - Differing levels of hardware support (esp. on mobile devices)
  - Render to RGBe
    - Smaller / faster
    - Lower quality
    - Issues with blending / multipass

Floating-Point Render Targets

- Create drawing surface with a floating-point internal format
  - Surface is either a texture or a renderbuffer
  - `GL_RGB32F`, `GL_RGBA32F`, `GL_RGB16F`, and `GL_RGBA16F` are most common
    - Requires `GL_ARB_texture_float` (and `GL_ARB_half_float_pixel` for `16F` formats) and `GL_ARB_color_buffer_float` or OpenGL 3.0

Floating-Point Render Targets

- Disable [0, 1] clamping of fragments

```
glClampColorARB(GLenum target, Glenum clamp);
```

  - `target` is one of `GL_CLAMP_VERTEX_COLOR`, `GL_CLAMP_FRAGMENT_COLOR`, or `GL_CLAMP_READ_COLOR`
  - `clamp` is one of `GL_FIXED_ONLY`, `GL_TRUE`, or `GL_FALSE`
  - OpenGL 3.x version drops `ARB` from name

Floating-Point Render Targets

- Common hardware limitations:
  - May not be supported at all!
    - Almost universal on desktop, not so much on mobile
    - Intel GMA950 in most netbooks lacks support
  - May not support blending to floating-point targets
    - `RGBA32F` blending not supported on Geforce6 and similar generation chips
    - May also be *really* slow
  - May not support all texture filtering modes
    - Some hardware can't do mipmap filtering from FP textures
    - Many DX9 era cards can't do any filtering on `RGBA32F` textures

RGBe

- Store R, G, and B mantissa values with a single exponent
  - Exponent store in alpha component
  - Trades precision for huge savings on storage
    - Keeps most of the useful range of FP32

RGBe

- Convert floating-point RGB in shader to RGBe:

```
vec4 rgb_to_rgbe(vec3 color)
{
    const float max_component =
        max(color.r, max(color.g, color.b));
    const float e = ceil(log(max_component));

    return vec4(color / exp(e),
                (e + 128.0) / 255.0);
}
```

RGBe

- A lot of hardware supports a `RGB9E5` mode
  - Hardware that can texture from it *should* be able to render to it too
    - `glCheckFramebufferStatus` will return `GL_FRAMEBUFFER_UNSUPPORTED` if it can't
  - Internal format is `GL_RGB9_E5`
    - 9-bits for each mantissa, 5-bits for exponent
      - Matches the bit partitions for 16-bit float
    - Requires OpenGL 3.0 or `GL_EXT_texture_shared_exponent`

RGBe

- Limitations / problems:
  - The `log` and `exp` calls in the shader aren't free
    - May be a problem for compute bound vs. bandwidth bound shaders
  - Blending is possible but painful
  - Can't store components with vastly different magnitudes
    - {10000, 0.1, 0.1 } becomes {10000, 0, 0}
    - *Usually* fine for color data because the final display can't reproduce that much range anyway

Tone Mapping

- Remap HDR rendered image to LDR displayable image
  - Display still limited to [0,1] with only 8-bit precision
- Remap using Reinhard's tone reproduction operator in 5 steps:
  - Convert RGB image to luminance
  - Calculate log-average luminance
    - Used to calculate key value
  - Scale luminance by key value
  - Remap scaled luminance to [0, 1]
  - Scale RGB values by remapped luminance

Tone Mapping

- Standard luminance calculation:

$$l = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2125 & 0.7154 & 0.0721 \end{bmatrix}^T \cdot \mathbf{C}$$

  - If using RGBe, the color must be mapped back from RGBe to floating-point

Tone Mapping

- Image key:

$$k = \frac{1}{n} e^{\sum_{\text{all pixels}} \ln(\partial + l_{x,y})}$$

- Does this pixel averaging operation remind you of anything?

Tone Mapping

- Image key:

$$k = \frac{1}{n} e^{\sum_{\text{all pixels}} \ln(\partial + l_{x,y})}$$

- Does this pixel averaging operation remind you of anything?
  - It's like calculating the lowest-level mipmap!
  - ...but with some other math and emitting HDR

Tone Mapping

- Scaled luminance:

$$l_{scaled} = l_{x,y}\left(\frac{l_{mid\ zone}}{k}\right)$$

  - $l_{mid\ zone}$ is the mid zone reference reflectance value
    - 0.18 is a “common” value... see references
- Remapped luminance:

$$l_{final} = \frac{l_{scaled}}{1 + l_{scaled}}$$

- Final pass modulates l_{final} with original RGB
  - Output in plain old 8-bit RGB, naturally

Tone Mapping

- Can alternately map based on the dimmest value that should be full intensity

$$l_{final} = \frac{l_{scaled}\left(1 + \frac{l_{scaled}}{l_{min\ white}}\right)}{1 + l_{scaled}}$$

  - $l_{min\ white}$ is the minimum HDR intensity that should be mapped to fully bright

Tone Mapping

- Tone map operation is performed each frame

Tone Mapping

- Tone map operation is performed each frame
  - Ouch!
  - Common practice is to only recompute k every few frames
    - Once every half second is common
    - Has the realistic side-effect of not immediately responding to dramatic changes in scene brightness

Bloom

- Overly bright areas leak brightness into neighboring areas

Bloom

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  - Apply "bright pass" filter to image
    - Pixels above a certain threshold keep their luminance, everything else becomes black
  - Apply Gaussian blur
  - Add blurred image to final LDR image

Bloom

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This step can be very expensive!

Bloom

- Blur optimization:
  - Make multiple down-scaled images (i.e., mipmaps)
    - Largest image should be 1/8th the size of the original
  - Blur each down-scaled image
    - This approximates a doubling of the filter kernel size
  - Apply small filter kernel
    - [Kalogirou 2006] suggests 5x5 is sufficient

References

Simon Green and Cem Cebenoyan (2004). "High Dynamic Range Rendering (on the GeForce 6800)." GeForce 6 Series. nVidia. http://download.nvidia.com/developer/presentations/2004/6800_Leagues/6800_Leagues_HDR.pdf

Adam Lake, Cody Northrop, and Jeff Freeman. “High Dynamic Range Environment Mapping On Mainstream Graphics Hardware.” 2005. http://www.gamedev.net/reference/articles/article2485.asp

Harry Kalogirou (2006). “How to do good bloom for HDR rendering.” http://harkal.sylphis3d.com/2006/05/20/how-to-do-good-bloom-for-hdr-rendering/

Next week...

- Deferred shading
- Review for the final
- Read:

Shishkovtsov, Oles. "Deferred Shading in S.T.A.L.K.E.R." in Fernando, Randima (editor) GPU Gems 2, Addison Wesley, 2005.
http://http.developer.nvidia.com/GPUGems2/gpugems2_chapter09.html

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