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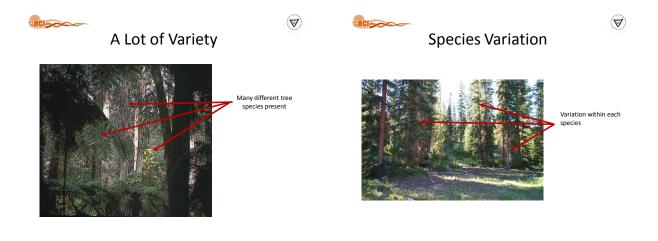
Forest Modelling

PA199 Advanced Game Design

Lecture 8 Procedural Forest and Cities

Dr. Fotis Liarokapis

15th April 2019



Plants and Vegetation Variation



Plants and vegetation variation



Modeling Forests

- Model a forest scene
 - -Procedural modeling
 - -Grammars and L-Systems

HCI

Procedural Modeling

- Use procedure to generate all needed geometric primitives
- Store complex tasks in procedure
 - Detail level
 - Shaders
 - -Internal animation

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HCI

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Procedural Trees

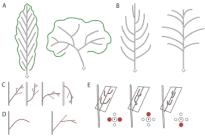
- Trees are a classic example of complex natural objects that can be procedurally modeled
- There have been numerous research papers published on various aspects of botanical modeling
 - One recent paper focused on creating the detailed sub-millimeter scale vein patterns seen on leaf surfaces



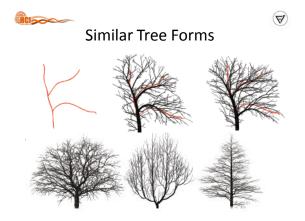
Procedural Trees.

- By varying a number of key parameters, one can model a wide variety of plants and trees to any level of detail desired
- Even with about 10 parameters, can model a wide variety of overall plant shapes:
 - However real plant modeling systems may allow hundreds of parameters as well as the inclusion of custom geometric data to define leaf shapes or branch cross sections

Selected aspects of tree form



A) Tree silhouette and growth habits B) Branch curving: hyponasty and epinasty C) Tropisms: no tropism, negative gravitropism, plagiotropism, positive gravitropism D) Branch flow: curved, angular E) Gravimorphism: epitony, amphitony, basitony





Plant Morphology

- An important part of a plants morphology is the **bud**
 - A bud is where every part of a plants body starts growing
- There are two different types of buds
 - -The apical bud at the end of a branch
 - -The lateral buds
 - Can grow new branches, leafs or flowers

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HCISOS

(a)

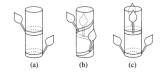
Plant Morphology.

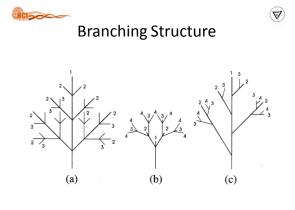
- The starting point for leaves (or subbranches) at a branch is called **Nodus**
 - The part between two nodes is the Internodium
- A node can grow one or more leaves
 - The angular distance between all leaves grown at one Node will be constant

HCI

Plant Morphology ..

- Three basic types:
 - (a) One leaf per node, leafs of consecutive nodes are rotated by 180 degrees
 - (b) One leaf per node, but consecutive leafs are rotated by the mean building up a spiral shape
 - (c) Several leaves per node, leaves alternate





HCISO

Primary Shoot Growth

 All plants grow according to the same basic pattern

 Although there is a huge amount of variation within that pattern

Growth takes place at tips of stems
 Where new leaves are formed

HCISOCO

Primary Shoot Growth.

- Primary growth includes:
 - Development of these new leaves at relatively regular intervals
 - Elongation of the stem between the nodes



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Axillary Growth

- At each leaf node an **axillary** bud is formed
 - Which may remain dormant
 - Or may develop into a whole new stem

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Flowers

- Flowers will form at the tips of younger stems at certain times of the year, triggered by seasonal properties

 i.e. day length or temperature
- Flower petals and other floral components are modified leaves themselves



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HCI

Plant Shapes

- The variety of plant shapes is mainly due to variations in stem shapes, branching properties, and leaf shapes, and these can be broken down into specific properties that can be used to control a procedural plant model
- A simple way to model a plant is to start by thinking of it as a bunch of branches (stems) and leaves



Branches

- Think of a branch as being a **circular extrusion** along some path
 - But it would certainly be possible to use non-circular cross sections as well
- The radius of the cross section will either remain constant or may taper from being thicker at the base and thinner at the tip
 - Simplify by specifying a radius at each end and assume a linear interpolation along the branch



Branches.

- The path of the branch can just be a set of points
- These points could be a straight line

 Not be hard to add some curvature and randomness
- The path could be randomly created just from

A starting point, an initial direction, and a desired length



Branching

- Each branch can spawn off new branches
- The new branches would be placed at points along the original branch with some rule to define their initial direction
 - For example, it is nice to allow new branches to start at some percentage along the original branch



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• The length of the new branches can be defined by two percentages:

Branching.

- One describes the length of new branches at the base of the original branch
- -One describes the length at the tip
- The branching angle can be described similarly by values at the base and tip

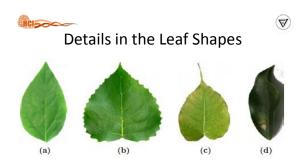


Branching and Leaves

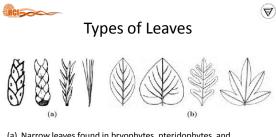
(a)

- The branching is usually repeated **two or three times** so that we get sub-branches on sub-branches on branches
- At that point, we branch one final time
 But create leaves instead of new branches
- The leaves can be placed along the branch according to similar rules as sub-branches





(a)2D leaf without any details, (b) leaf with jagged edges (teeth), (c) leaf with very sharp tip (drip-tip), and (d) leaf warped in 3D space

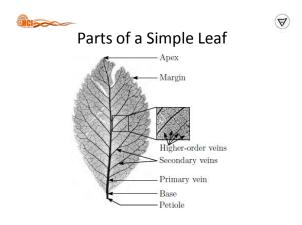


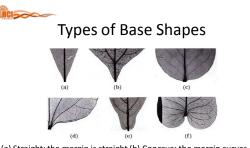
(a) Narrow leaves found in bryophytes, pteridophytes, and gymnosperms are slender

(b) Broad leaves found in angiosperms are wide and their thickness is negligible compared to the surface area

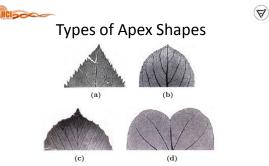


(b–e) A compound leaf has a lamina that splits into a number of small leaflets

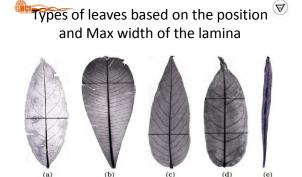




(a) Straight: the margin is straight (b) Concave: the margin curves towards the primary vein. (c) Convex: the margin curves away from the primary vein. (d) Concavo-convex: the margin is concave proximally and convex distally. (e) Complex: the margin has more then one point of inflection. (f) Cordate: the margin extends below the base

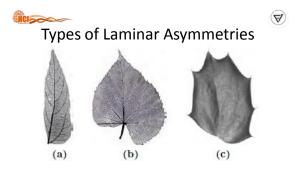


(a) Straight: the margin is straight (b) Convex: the margin curves away from the primary vein (c) Acuminate: the margin is concave proximally and convex distally or concave only (d) Emarginate: the margin extends above the apex



(a) Elliptic (b) Obovate (c) Ovate (d) Oblong (e) Linear





(a) A simple leaf with asymmetric maximum width (b) A simple leaf with asymmetric cordate base (c) A simple leaf with cordate base on one side and no extension on the other



Plant Example



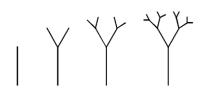
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Fractal Trees and Plants

 Fractal trees and plants are among the easiest of fractal objects to understand

 They are based on the idea of self-similarity



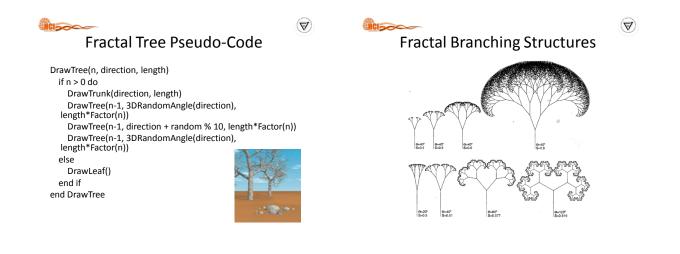
HCI

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Fractal Trees and Plants .

- The main idea in creating fractal trees or plants is to have a base object and to then create smaller, similar objects protruding from that initial object
 - The angle, length and other features of these *children* can be randomized for a more realistic look
 - This method is a recursive method







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Grammars and L-Systems

- How can we change the structure of something?
 - With textures can fake it
- To modify the object itself, change its change or add new shapes then need to use L-Systems

HCISO

Introduction to L-Systems

- Developed by A. Lindenmayer to model the development of plants

 Originally described cellular growth
- Based on parallel string-rewriting rules

 Formal set of rules and symbols
 Rules applied iteratively to start sequence
- Excellent for modeling organic objects and fractals

HCI

L-Systems Definition

• The process of replacement can be formalized using a **grammar**, or parallel rewriting system is called an **L-system**



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L-Systems Structure

• An L-System is a set of three things:

G = (V, w, P)

-V = Alphabet

- Set of symbols that can be replaced
- -w = Start or axiom
- P = Set of production rules



L-Systems Structure

AB
A
A -> B
B -> AB

- 1. Take the Start (w) as the current string
- 2. Apply the production rule to every symbol
- in the current string.
 When finished, call this the new string.
- 4. Repeat

Process:

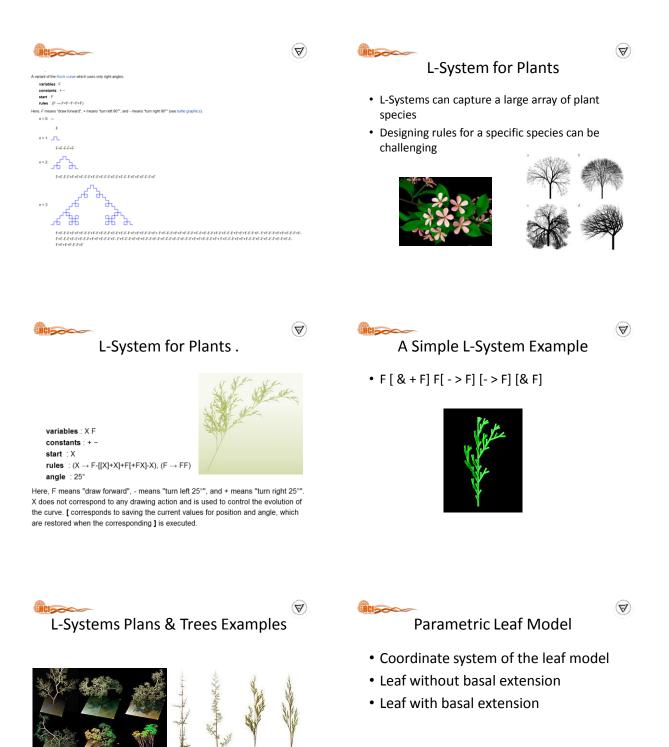
start:	A	
iteration 1:	в	(rule A->B)
iteration 2:	AB	(rule B->AB)
iteration 3:	BAB	(rules A->B, B->AB)
iteration 4:	ABBAB	(rules B->AB, A->B, B->AB

L-Systems Physical Interpretation

 L-Systems can have a physical interpretation, if we assign meaning to letters



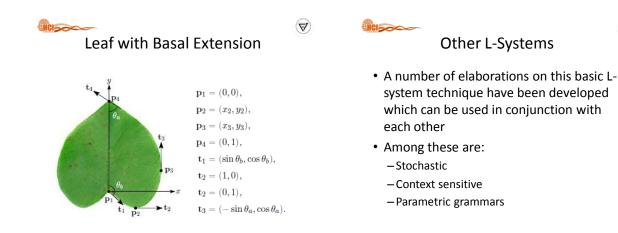
The dragon curve drawn using an L-system



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(a)(a)Coordinate system of the leaf model Leaf without Basal Extension • The parameters of the leaf model are expressed as: $\mathbf{p}_1 = (0,0),$ – A right-handed coordinate system with origin at the $\mathbf{p}_2 = (x_2, y_2),$ base $\mathbf{p}_3 = (0, 1),$ - The y-axis pointing towards $\mathbf{t}_1 = (\sin \theta_b, \cos \theta_b),$ the apex of the leaf $t_2 = (0, 1),$ - The primary vein is defined to have a unit length $\mathbf{t}_3 = (-\sin\theta_a, \cos\theta_a).$



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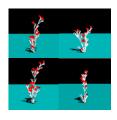
Stochastic L-Systems

- Specify more than one production rule for a symbol, giving each a probability of occurring
- When a stochastic grammar is used in an evolutionary context, it is advisable to incorporate a random seed into the genotype
 - So that the stochastic properties of the image remain constant between generations

HCIS

Stochastic L-Systems .

- Several rules for each symbol
- Rules chosen based on probability
- Create different plants using same L-System
- Simulate environmental effects



http://www.csee.umbc.edu/~ebert/693/TLin/node18.html

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Context Sensitive L-Systems

- A context sensitive production rule looks not only at the symbol it is modifying, but the symbols on the string appearing before and after it
- For instance, the production rule:
 - $-b < a > c \rightarrow aa transforms "a" to "aa"$
 - Only If the "a" occurs between a "b" and a "c" in the input string: ...bac...

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Context Sensitive L-Systems .

 Multiple productions to handle symbols in different contexts – Similar to





http://www.csee.umbc.edu/~ebert/693/TLin/node17.html

Parametric Grammars L-Systems

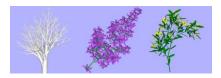
- Each symbol in the alphabet has a parameter list associated with it
- A symbol coupled with its parameter list is called a module, and a string in a parametric grammar is a series of modules
- An example string might be: -a(0,1)[b(0,0)]a(1,2)

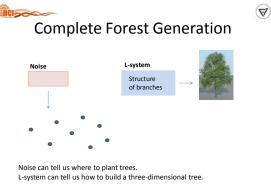
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Parametric Grammars L-Systems .

• Parametric grammars allow line lengths and branching angles to be determined by the grammar

- Rather than the turtle interpretation methods





But do we make **one tree** and copy it, or do we **make lots of different trees**?





• What is randomness?



HCI

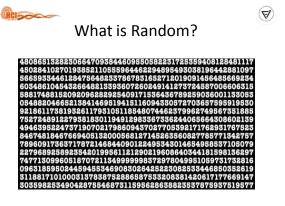
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Randomness Definitions

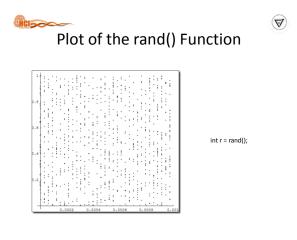
- "Having no definite aim or purpose; not sent or guided in a particular direction.." – Oxford English Dictionary
- "Free will is limited to low-level decision making."
 - Martin Luther
- "God does not play dice with the universe."
 Albert Einstein





Computer Random Numbers

- Numbers are generated as a sequence, starting from some seed point
- Problem is finding the next number so that it has nothing to do with the last





Randomness in CG

• Typical example is Fractals



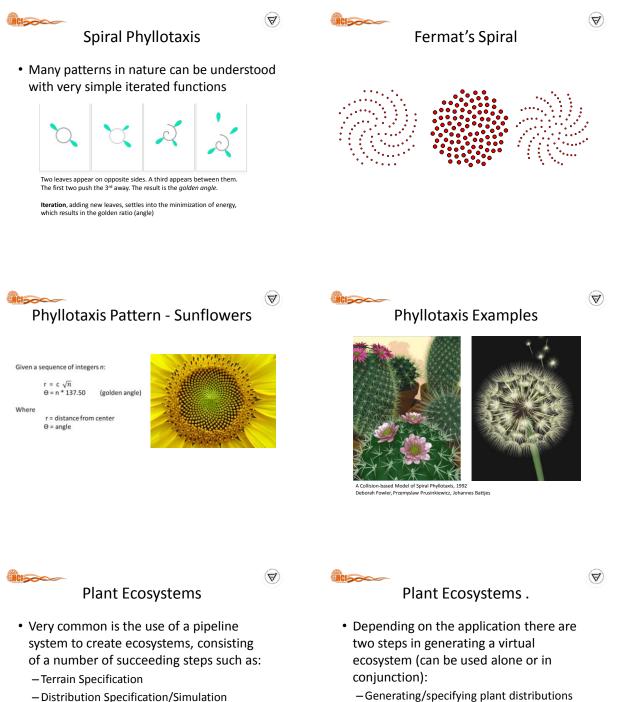
"Clouds are not spheres, mountains are not cones, coastlines are not circles, and bark is not smooth.."

Benoit Mandelbrot, (b. 1924) The Fractal Geometry of Nature, 1982



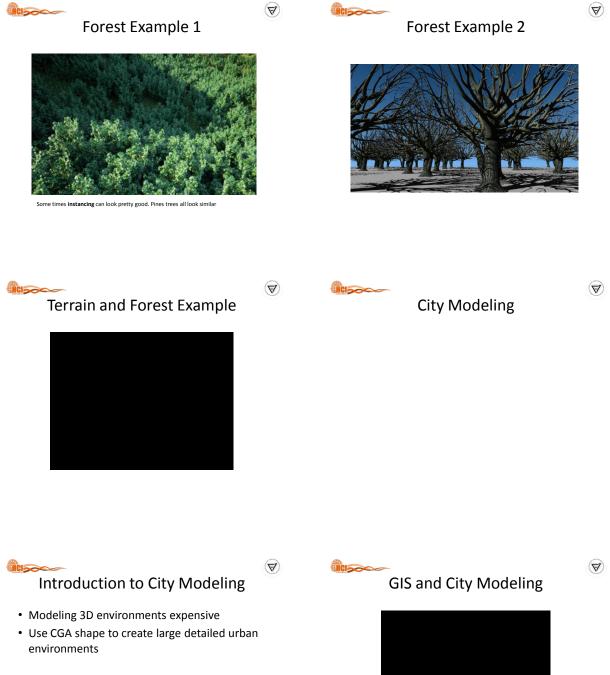


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-Simulating plant distributions

- Distribution Specification/Simulation
- Plant Specification









SkylineEngine

- Research oriented project
- Aims at the development of a procedural urban modeling engine



http://ggg.udg.edu/skylineEngine/

(a)

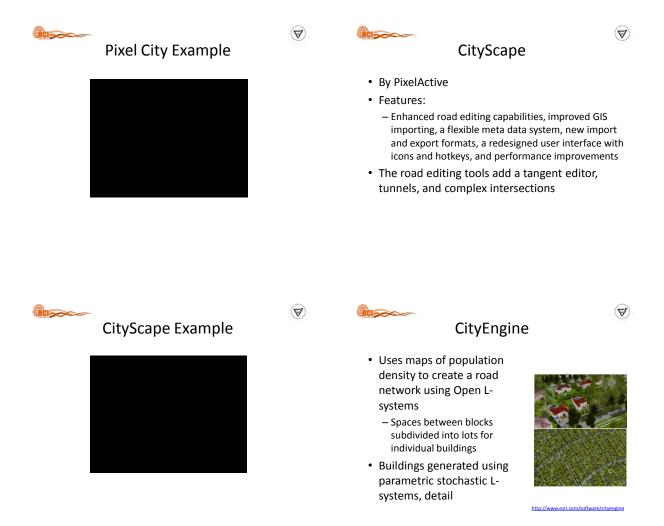
HCISOCO

Pixel City

- Written in C++ using OpenGL
- No fragment or vertex shaders are used



http://code.google.com/p/pixelcity/



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City Engine Example



(a)

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Environmentally Sensitive L-Systems

- So far, L-systems have been more or less self-contained
- Parameters provide global influences from the environment
 - Provide a way to have the environment affect the development of the system locally

Examples

• Examples from Synthetic Topiary, by P. Prusinkiewicz, M. James & R. Měch





Open L-systems

- Generalisation of environmentally sensitive Lsystems
- When interpreted, control is passed to an external function representing some part of the environment
- Environment performs calculations, optionally passes back modified parameter values to be used in the next derivation step
- Two-way communication between system and environment

Procedural Road Modeling

- Roads can be modeled as **cross sections** that get path extruded along some curve
- The cross section can include:
 - -Lanes, curbs, sidewalks, center islands
- Intersections require special handling
 - Can still be generated using a set of procedural techniques

Procedural Road Modeling .

- Roads can be placed on height fields by placing the control points of the road curves on the height field
 - Note that this will require some local flattening for the road and the area to the side of the road
- Render road triangles onto the height field
 - Where a low detail road is extruded and 'rendered' into the cells of the height field to set their heights

HCI

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Procedural Road Modeling ..

- Sides of roads can be blended

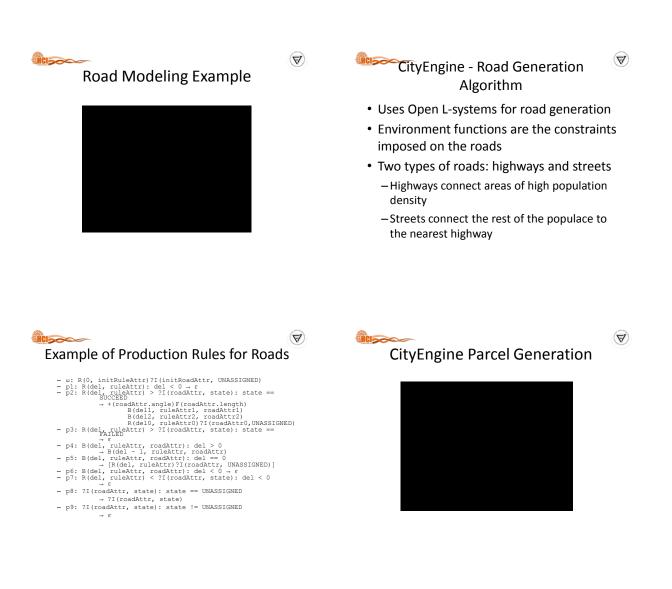
 Using techniques similar to alpha blending
- Note that the above operations will modify the existing shape the height field

-Similarly to how real roads are constructed

HCI

Procedural Road Modeling ...

- Ideally, the road surface would be an extrusion and the open terrain would be a height field
- They can be sewn together into a single triangle mesh
 - Similarly to how trim curves are used in patch tessellation



HCI

Population Density

- Highways connect peaks on **population** density map
- End of segment shoots rays across map
 - Each ray is sampled and sample points look up population value
- Highway generation continues in the direction of the fittest ray

(a)

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(a)

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Street Patterns

- New York style

 Streets form blocks by restricting the length of
 a block and the angles that streets follow
- Paris style
 - Concentric rings around a central point, connected by short radial streets
- San Francisco style
 - Tries to reduce the length of non-contour streets and uses gradient of elevation map



Other Constraints

- Modify attributes (length, angle) of road segments in response to surroundings
- Make sure roads do not cross water and any other places you'd expect not to find them
- · Creates intersections with other roads



Road Intersections

- No more dead ends than intersections
- No intersecting segments without creating an intersection (node in the road graph)
- Three rules:
 - -2 streets cross: generate an intersection
 - Segment ends close to intersection: join it to the intersection
 - Segment ends close to another segment: extend it and create an intersection

HCI

Buildings Modeling

- Once the roadmap has been generated
 - Allotments can be generated
 - Geometry can be generated
 - Buildings can be assigned textures
 - Preferably procedural





City Block Divisions

- City divided into blocks
- Blocks subdivided into allotments
 - Blocks assumed to be convex and rectangular
 - Concave allotments forbidden



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HCIDOOC

parallel

small discarded

(a)

Building Geometry

- Parametric, stochastic L-System
- One building per allotment
- Each building style has own set of production rules
- Manipulate arbitrary ground plan



Building Geometry.

City Block Divisions .

- Divide longest edges that are approximately

- Stop when size less than threshold value

Allotments without street access or too

Maximum building height from image map

Simple recursive algorithm

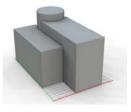
- L-System modules:
 - Transformation modules
 - Extrusion module
 - Branching and Terminating modules
 - -Geometric templates
- Final shape is ground plan transformed by L-System
- Building functionality not represented



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Mass Models Generation

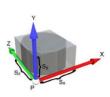
- Crude volumetric building model
- Composed of shape primitives



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Shapes Generation

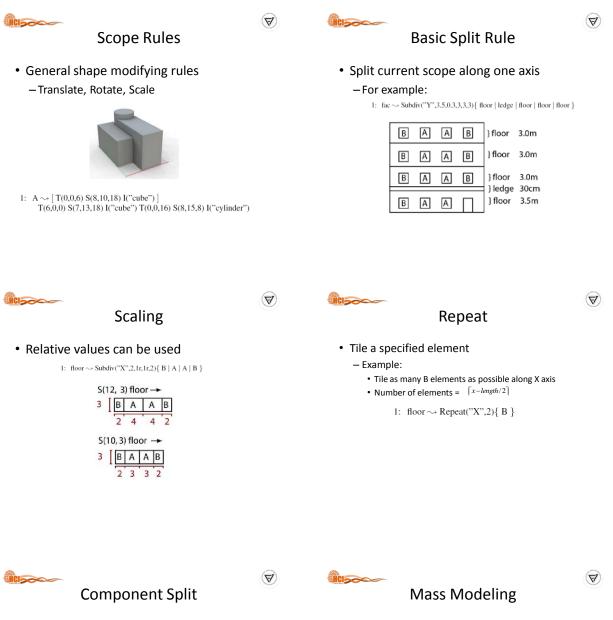
- Used by the grammar
- Consists of:
 - Symbol (string)
 - -Geometric attributes
 - Position
 - Coordinate System
 - Size
 - Numeric attributes





Production Process

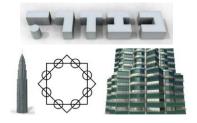
- Configuration: Finite set of basic shapes
- Start configuration of shapes
 - Process:
 - Select active shape with symbol B
 - Choose a rule to compute a successor for B
 - Mark B as inactive, add the shapes BNEW to configuration and repeat
- Stop when there are no more non-terminals
- Assign a picking priority based on detail



- Split into shapes of lesser dimensions
- type = type to split
- param = associated parameters (if any)
- {A| ...} = symbol of shape after split

 $1{:}\ a \leadsto Comp(type, param) \big\{ \ A \ \big| \ B \ \big| \ ... \ \big| \ Z \ \big\}$

 Union of volumetric shapes – Box, Cylinder, etc



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Add roof shapes

• Categorize different types of roofs -i.e. according to building style or height

Roofs



HCI

Façades

- Extract 2D façades from 3D shapes
- Result
- Aligned 2D scope
- · Grammar refines resulting quads and triangles



Classe

Occlusion

- Test for intersections between shapes
- None, partial, or full
- Avoid placing façade elements on intersections
 - 1: tile : Shape.occ("noparent") == "none" → window
 - 2: tile : Shape.occ("noparent") == "part" → wall
 3: tile : Shape.occ("noparent") == "full" → ε

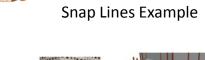




Snapping

- Additional control of façade layout
- Used by repeat and subdivide

	Repeat	Subdiv	
default:			
snapped:			





Note floor levels are aligned



Façade Textures

- Division into simple grid-like structures
- Structures can be layered

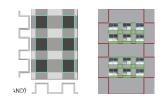


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Layered Textures

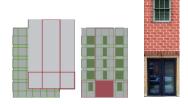
- Two base functions form a layer
- Every layer defines a facade element



(a)

Layering of Planes

- Stacked layers for facade texture
- Functions between layers model relation between facade elements





Case Studies for City Modeling

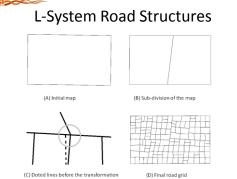
- New Classic Buildings
- Roman Settlements
- Ionic Temples



New Classic Buildings of Athens

- · Demonstrate how some of the neoclassical buildings in Athens used to be around 100 years ago
 - Based on procedural modeling techniques used for the generation of these characteristic buildings





(C) Doted lines before the transformation of the edge, straight lines after it

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 (\mathbf{A}) **Building Topologies and Pavement** Generation





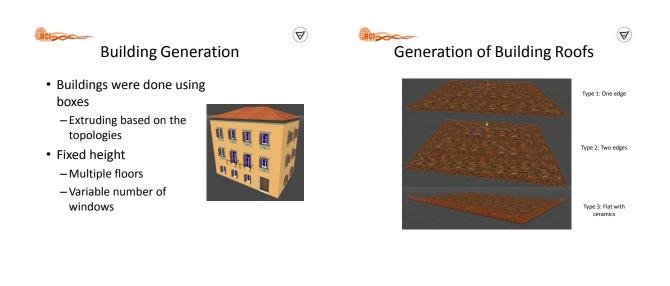


(D) City layout with blocks sub-divided into building topol

(C) City layout with blocks

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HCI

Balconies, Doors and Windows







Window







Modelling for Roman Settlements

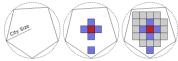
- Automatic generation of Roman cities
- Grammar for describing Roman settlements derived from the writings of Vitruvius including
 - Location
 - Road structures

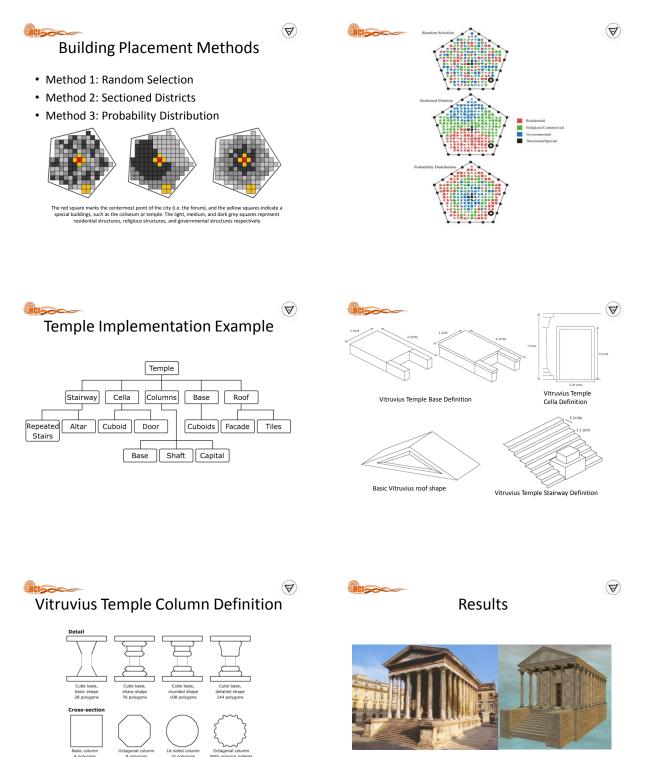
derson, E., Liarokapis, F. Towards a Vitruvian Shape Grammar for Procedurally Generating Class re VAST 2012. Short and Project Papers. Europraphics. Briehton. UK. 19-21 November, 41-44.20

- Important building structures
 - Temples, theatres, baths and civic buildings

Roman Settlement Planning

- The corners of the city are recorded and the buildable area is marked off
- Next the buildings of significance are added – i.e. forum, theatre, and basilica
- The remaining space is filled with generic structures





Total

32 po

84 r

124 polygons

216 pc

Image

Computer Graphics

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Accuracy

(a)

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• Overlay comparison of Warren's drawings with the rendered output



Amphitheatre Grammar

$$\begin{split} & \text{Non-Terminals} = \begin{cases} ST - Stateway, S - Side_{0} \\ A - Amphibiatore \end{cases} \\ & \text{Terminals} = \{C - Colom, Se - Step, A - Archway\} \\ & \text{Stat} \text{ Symbol} = A - Amphibiatore \\ & A_{x,y,z}^{x,h,d} - S_{x,y,z}^{x,h,h} \\ & \text{support} = S_{x,y,z}^{x,h,h} \\ & \text{support} = S_{x,y,z}^{x,h,h,h} Ar_{x,y,z}^{x,h,h}, \\ & \text{Stat} \text{ Symbol} = A_{x,y,h,h}^{x,h,h,h} \\ & \text{St}_{x,y,z}^{x,h,h} - Se_{x,y,h,h}^{x,h,h} \\ & \text{St}_{x,y,z}^{x,h,h} - Se_{x,y,h,h}^{x,h,h} \\ & \text{St}_{x,y,z}^{x,h,h} - Se_{x,y,h,h}^{x,h,h} \\ & \text{St}_{x,y,x}^{x,h,h} - Se_{x,y,h,h}^{x,h,h} \\ \end{aligned}$$





Measuring Efficiency

• Test was performed on a Toshiba laptop with a 2.3GHz processor, 6 GB of RAM, and a GeForce graphics card

	City Radius	Number of	Number of Polygons	FPS (Frames Per
CitySize	(Meters)	Buildings	(triangles)	Second)
100	300	99	87970	208
125	375	104	93610	201
150	450	110	101952	192
175	525	144	138146	185
200	600	197	173660	176
225	675	248	217226	164
250	750	293	257074	150



Roman Settlements Video

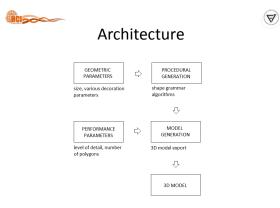
(a)



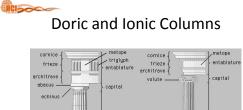
HCI

Accurate Modelling of Temples

- Accurate modelling of Roman and Greek temples
 - Focused on Ionic temples
 - Ornaments that usually decorate the column capital have not been taken into account
- Creation of a generic tool
 - For game developers and archaeologists



 $\overline{\nabla}$



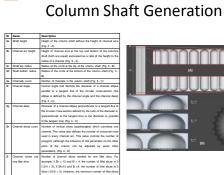
shaft



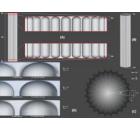
shaft

base

 (∇)

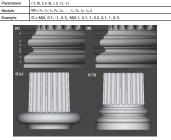


HCI





fluting

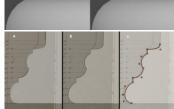


(A) column base subdivided into floors, a is convex and b is concave curvatures (B) column base subdivided into modules (Ca) output using G1 (Cb) output using G2

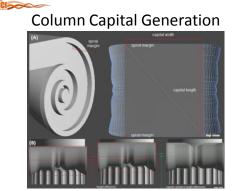


(a)





A column base constructed using: a) the first b) the second version, figure c) shows the positions of the control points of a Bézier curve

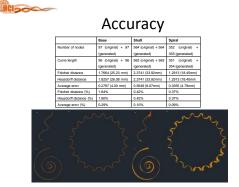


A) Capital general parameters B) Capital height parameters



Image

Computer Graphics



Left Image: Comparison between generated (red) and original (yellow) curves: a) column base, b) column shaft, ci capital spiral, Right Image: Circles with radius equal to node-curve distance between generated (red) and original (yellow) curves: a) column base, b) column shaft, c) capital spiral





 (\mathbf{A})



HCI

Useful Links

- <u>http://algorithmicbotany.org/papers/#abop</u>
- <u>http://fractalfoundation.org/</u>
- <u>http://vladlen.info/publications/metropolis-</u> procedural-modeling/
- <u>http://vterrain.org/Plants/Modelling/</u>
- <u>http://www.dpit2.de/navie/index.php?content=p</u> <u>lants</u>
- <u>http://forums.odforce.net/topic/16961-procedural-plants-generation-tool/</u>



References

- <u>http://www.td-grafik.de/artic/talk20030122/overview.html</u>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/L-system
- <u>http://davis.wpi.edu/~matt/courses/fractals/trees.html</u>
- <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Procedural_modeling</u>
- Garg, S. Procedural Modeling and Constrained Morphing of Leaves, DPhil, University of Singapore, 2012.
- <u>http://prophet.cs.duke.edu/courses/fall01/cps296.3/resource</u> s/p351-prusinkiewicz.pdf
- Parish, Y., Müller, P. Procedural Modeling of Cities, SIGGRAPH 2011
- <u>http://ggg.udg.edu/skylineEngine/</u>
- <u>http://code.google.com/p/pixelcity/</u>
- <u>http://www.esri.com/software/cityengine</u>



 $\overline{\nabla}$

(a)

 (\mathbf{A})



Questions