

Monash University • Clayton's School of Information Technology

CSE3313 Computer Graphics

Lecture 8: OpenGL — Fonts, Tessellation, Transformations, Errors

Fonts in GLUT

- GLUT provides a few raster and stroke fonts. It is also possible to access the fonts in the windowing system.
- We can access a single character from a **monotype** or evenly spaced font by the function call

```
glutStrokeCharacter(  
    GLUT_STROKE_MONO_ROMAN, int character )
```

- Some words of caution:
 - The font may need to be scaled to fit in with the rest of the program output;
 - Calling this function includes a translation to the bottom right of the character box to prepare for the next character.
 - Transformations (scaling, rotation, translation, etc.) affect the OpenGL state so we might need to use `glPushMatrix` and `glPopMatrix` to return to the state before `glPushMatrix` was called.

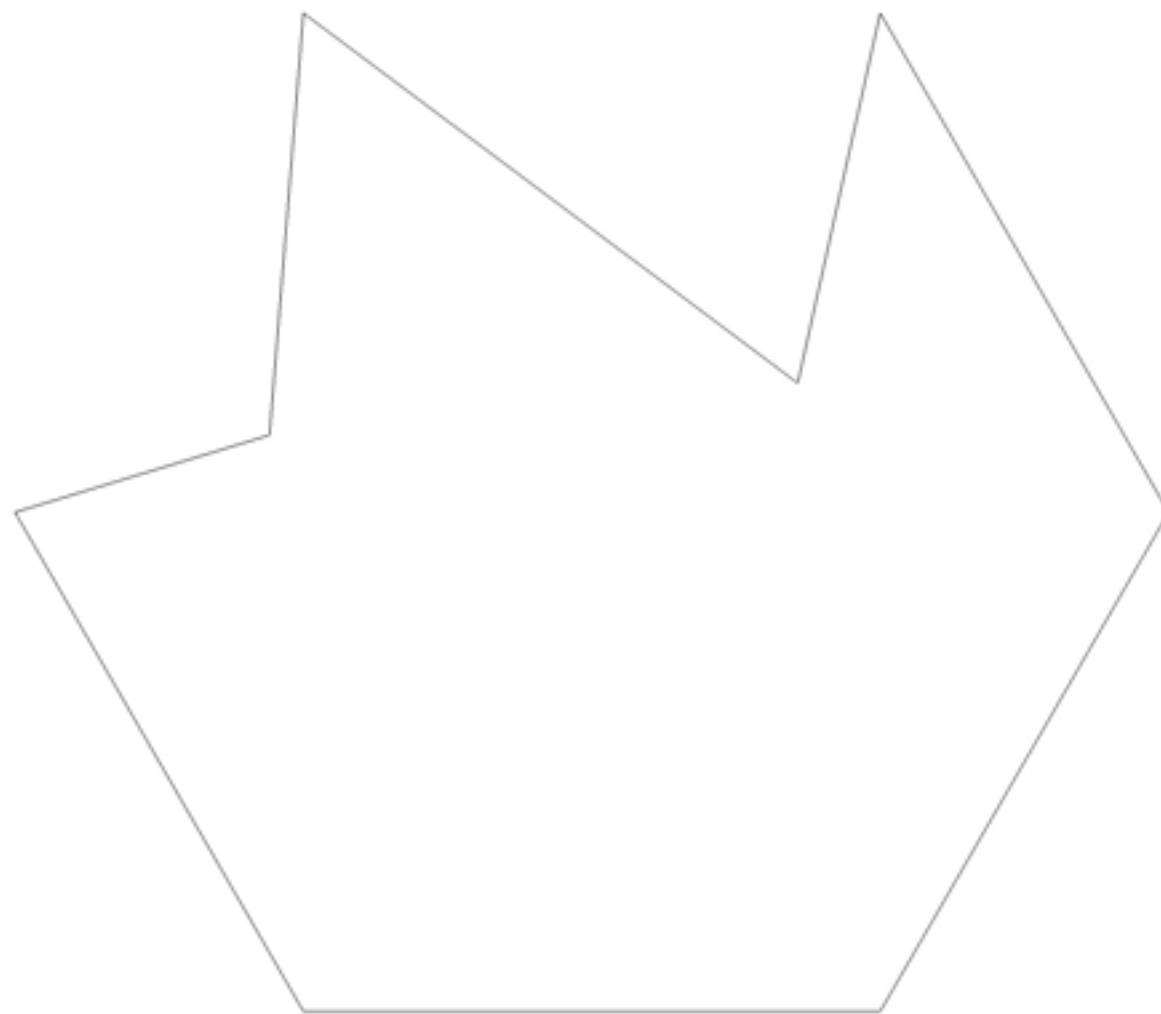
Drawing Text (cont.)

- As part of the OpenGL state there is a **raster position** which identifies where the next raster primitive will be placed. This can be set via `glRasterPos* ()`, e.g. `glRasterPos2i(10,10)`
- The raster position can be set in world coordinates. The current raster position is updated automatically following a call to `glutBitmapCharacter()`
- You can query the width of a bitmap character using `int glutBitmapWidth(GLUTbitmapFont font, int char)` which returns the width of the character in the font font.
- **Example:**

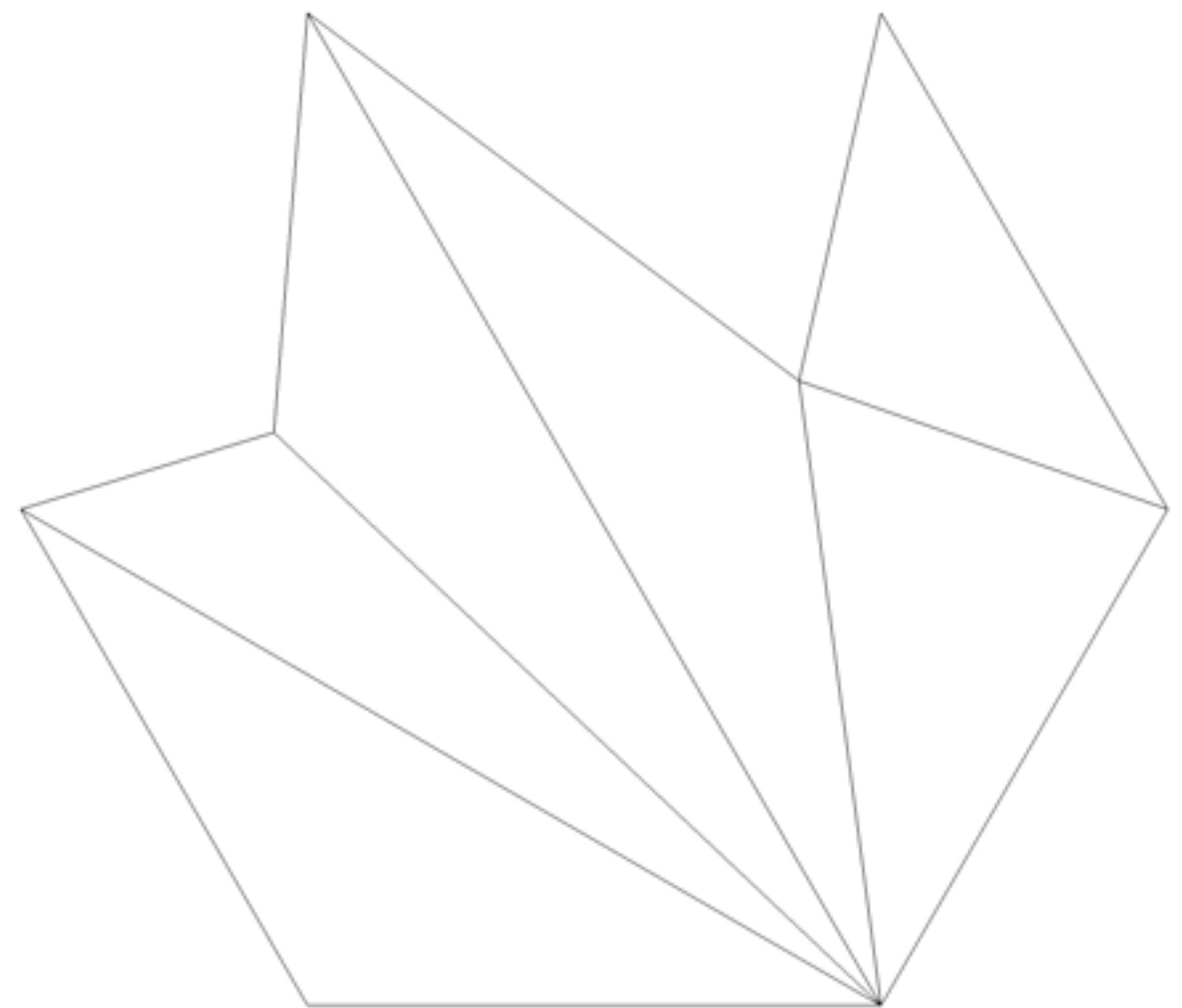
```
char * text = "hello world"; int i;
glRasterPos2i(10,10);
for (i = 0; i < strlen(text); ++i)
    glutBitmapCharacter(GLUT_BITMAP_9_BY_15,
text[i]);
```

Concave Polygons

- `GL_POLYGON` can only render simple, convex polygons. To draw concave polygons we need to use the polygon tessellator interface in GLU.



Before Tessellation



After Tessellation

- We can declare a **tessellator object** using GLU

Note: one 'l'



```
GLUtesselator * myTess;  
myTess = gluNewTess( );  
gluTessBeginPolygon(myTess, NULL);  
gluTessBeginContour(myTess);  
for (i = 0; i < nvertices; i++)  
    gluTessVertex(myTess, vertex[i], vertex[i]);  
gluTessEndContour(myTess);  
gluTessEndPolygon(myTess);
```

- You also need to register tessellation callbacks:

```
gluTessCallback( GLUtesselator * t, GLenum which,  
GLvoid (*CallBackFunc)() );
```

- Note that Angel contains typos and doesn't mention callbacks!

Other OpenGL functions

- To clear the colour part of the frame buffer:

```
glClearColor(r,g,b,a); /* this only needs to be set  
once if you don't change the clear colour */
```

```
glClear(GL_COLOR_BUFFER_BIT);
```

Other parts of the buffer (e.g. Depth buffer) can be cleared by a logical or ('|') with the appropriate constant.

- GLUT coordinates are from the top left (0,0) increasing x moves from left to right, increasing y goes from top to bottom.
- OpenGL places the origin at the bottom left, increasing x moves from left to right, increasing y goes from bottom to top.

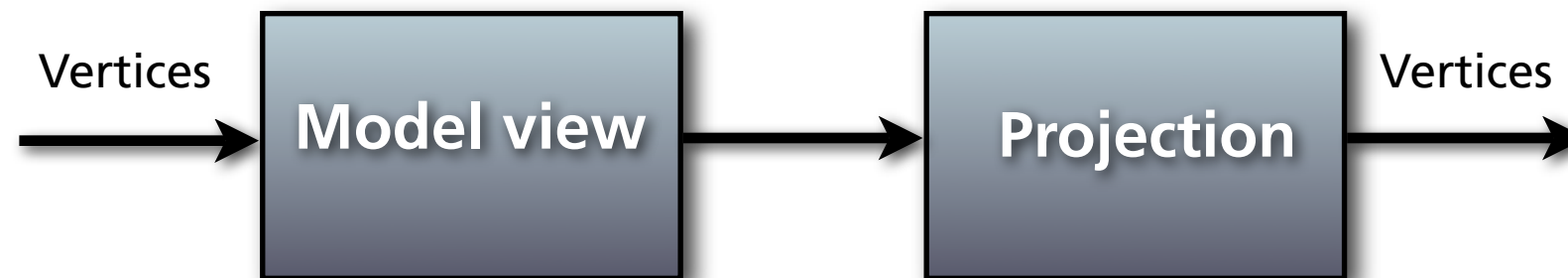
Matrix Modes

- To transform 2D objects defined in **world coordinates** into rasterized pixels defined in 2D **screen coordinates** OpenGL uses two matrices — the **model-view matrix** and the **projection matrix**.
- These matrices are part of the OpenGL state. To set either of these matrices we perform the following steps:
 - Identify the matrix we want to change
 - Set the matrix to the identity matrix
 - Change the identity matrix
- For example to set the two dimensional clipping window:

```
glMatrixMode( GL_PROJECTION );  
glLoadIdentity( );  
gluOrtho2D(-1.0, 1.0, -1.0, 1.0);
```

Matrix Modes (cont.)

- The model view matrix transforms objects relative to the camera.
- The projection matrix forms the image through projection and helps with clipping by mapping vertices to a normalized coordinate system.
- We can also save and restore the current matrix on a stack using `glPushMatrix()` and `glPopMatrix()`



Errors in OpenGL

- You can check for errors in the GL system via

```
GLenum glGetError( );
```

This returns the error type or `GL_NO_ERROR` if no error has been made. Once an error is made, no other errors are recorded until `glGetError` has been called.

- `glGetError` should be called in a loop, until it returns `GL_NO_ERROR` if all error flags are to be reset.
- Most errors do not effect the GL state or frame buffer contents, with the exception of `GL_OUT_OF_MEMORY`.
- The GLU provides a function to return the error number as a string

```
GLubyte * gluErrorString( GLenum error )
```
- GLUT provides a function that lets you obtain GLUT state

```
int glutGet(GLenum state)
```