

Monash University • Clayton's School of Information Technology

CSE3313 Computer Graphics

Lecture 18: Viewing, Perspective and Hidden Surface Removal in OpenGL

- In OpenGL the standard perspective transformation assumes:
 - (1) the **centre of projection** is at the origin of the viewing system;
 - the **viewing direction** is along the negative z axis;
 - the **view plane** is orthogonal to the z axis.
- Objects in world coordinates can be transformed relative to this viewing coordinate system by setting the matrix mode to `GL_MODELVIEW` and changing the **current transformation matrix**.
- OpenGL has a convenient way to specify the viewing transformation. We position a synthetic camera at a point e (called the **eyepoint**), in world coordinates.
- We specify a vector pointing from the eyepoint to a point, a , called the **at point**.

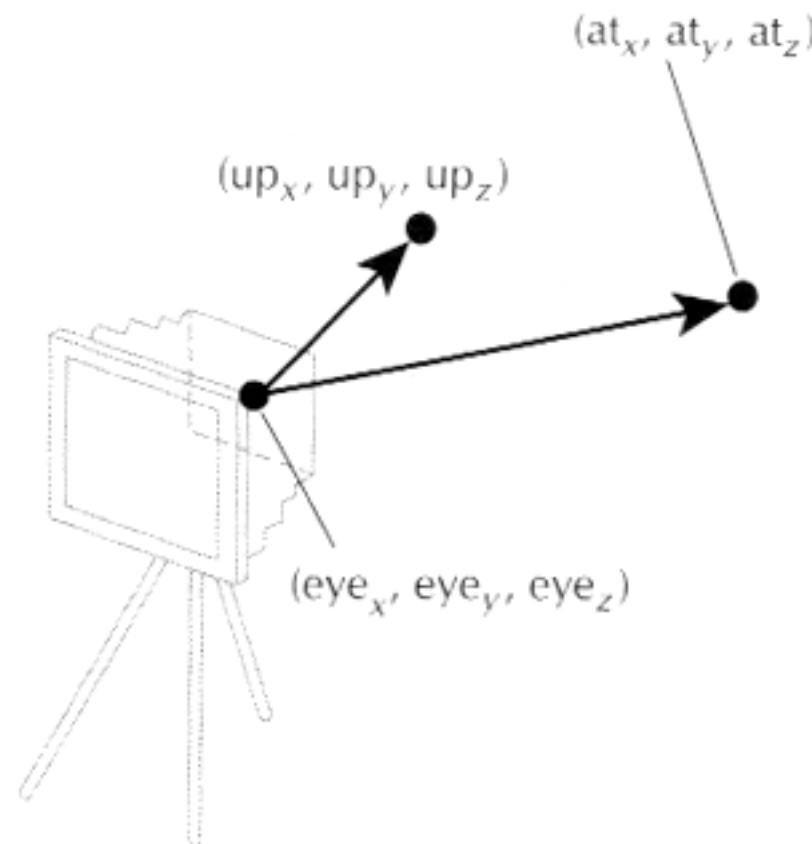
Viewing in OpenGL (cont.)

- Since the camera can be rotated around the viewing direction, we need to specify a **view up vector**.

- The OpenGL utility function

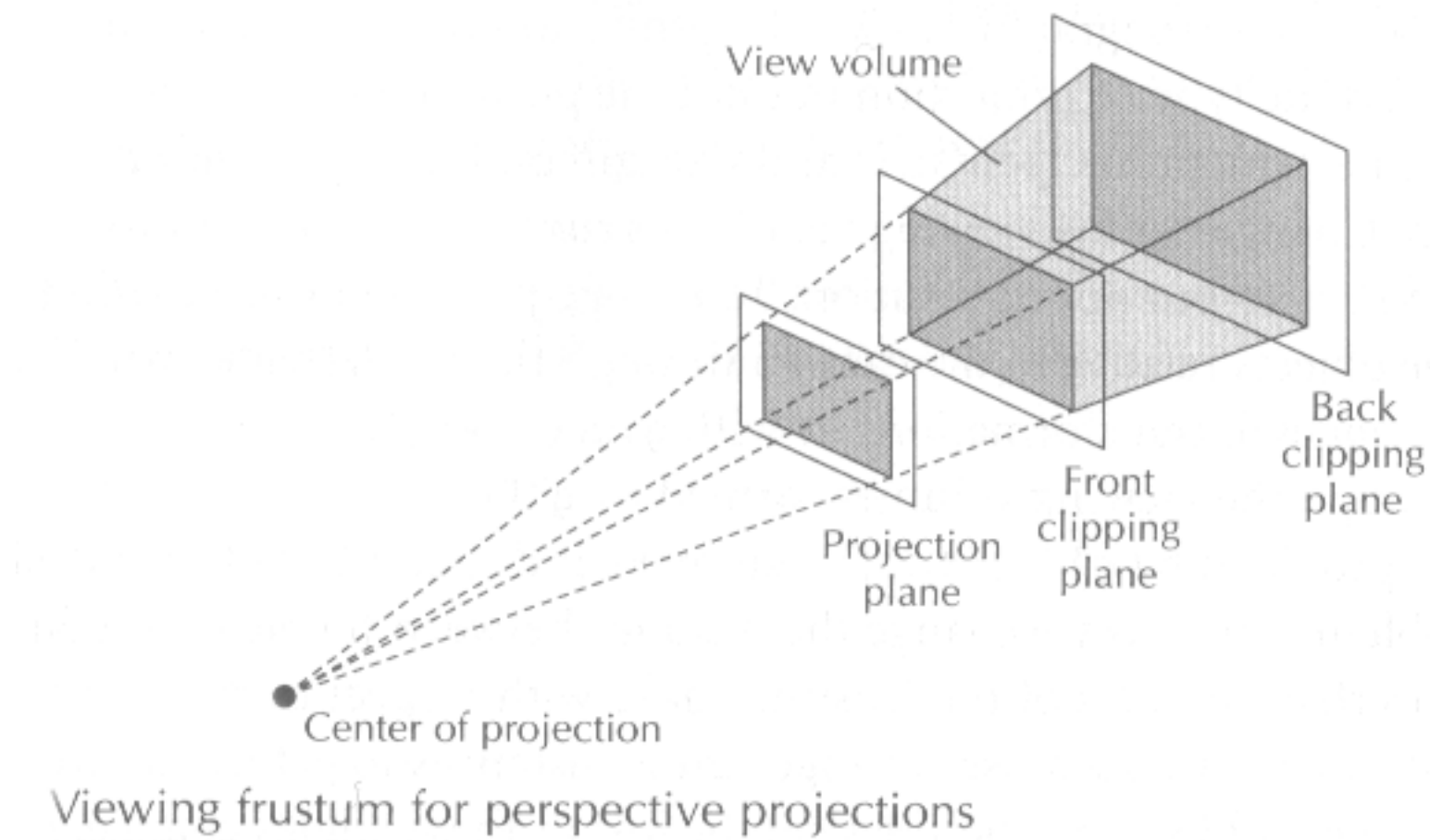
```
gluLookAt( eyex, eyey, eyez, atx, aty, atz,  
           upx, upy, upz );
```

alters the model-view matrix for a camera pointed along this line.



Perspective in OpenGL

- OpenGL provides two functions for specifying perspective views and one for parallel views.
- The function
`glFrustum(left, right, bottom, top, near, far)`
specifies a **view volume** that is a **viewing frustum**.



glFrustum

- near and far define the front and back clipping planes, measured from the COP. Both must be positive, with `far > near`.
- `(left, bottom, near)` defines the bottom left corner of the front clipping window. `(right, top, near)` the top right coordinates.
- Viewing parameters are measured in camera or viewing coordinates.
- A typical code sequence is:

```
glMatrixMode( GL_PROJECTION );  
glLoadIdentity( );  
glFrustum(left, right, top, bottom, near, far);  
glMatrixMode( GL_MODELVIEW );
```
- Note: the frustum does not have to be symmetric with respect to the *z* axis.

gluPerspective

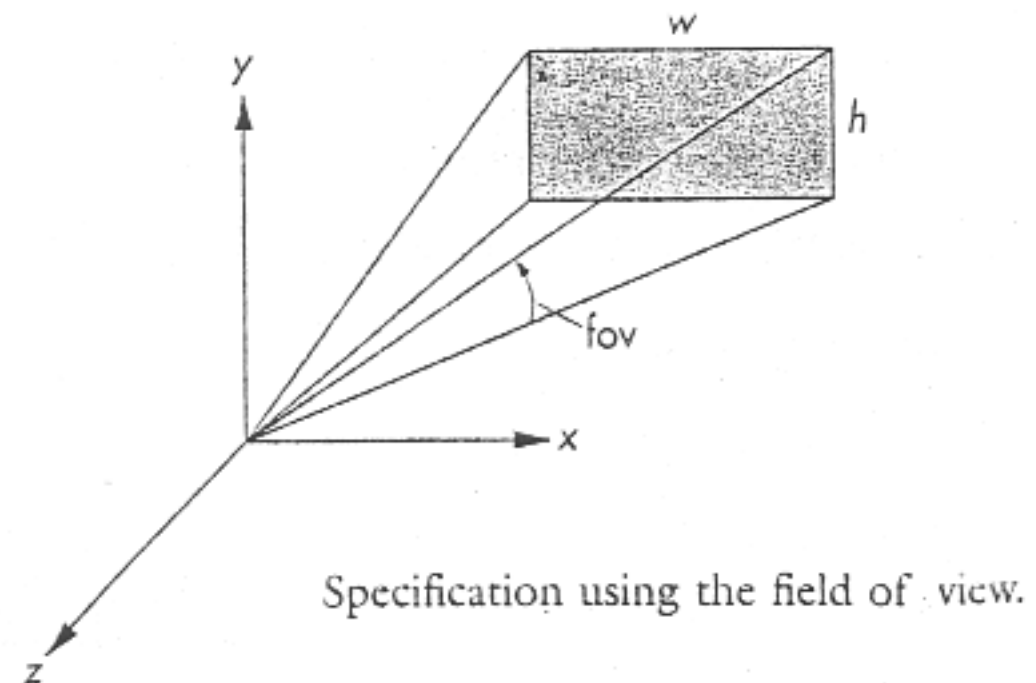
- In many applications we may want to specify an angle or *field of view*. If the projection window is rectangular then there is a different angle for the horizontal and vertical components of the view.

- The OpenGL utility function

```
gluPerspective( fovy, aspect, near, far);
```

`fovy` specifies the angle of view in the up (*y*) direction, `aspect` specifies the aspect ratio – width/height. In this case the frustum is symmetric about the *z* axis.

This matrix postmultiplies the CTM.

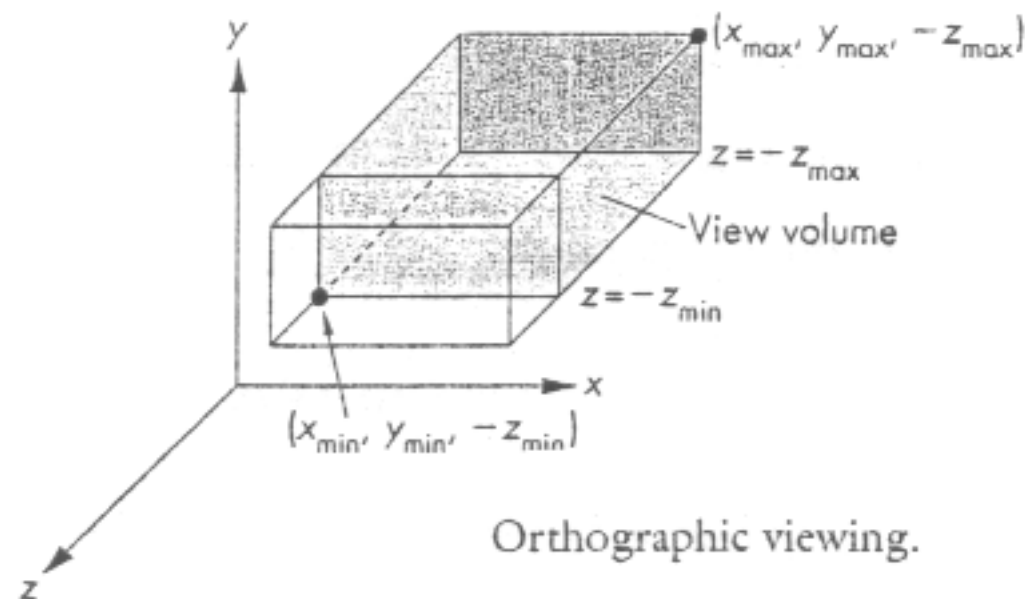


Parallel Viewing in OpenGL

- The only parallel viewing function provided by OpenGL is

`glOrtho(left, right, bottom, top, near, far);`

`near` and `far` need not be non-negative but we require `far > near`.



OpenGL and Hidden Surface Removal

- OpenGL allows the application program to specify that hidden surface removal should be carried out using a **depth buffer**.

```
glutInitDisplayMode( GLUT_RGB | GLUT_DEPTH );  
glEnable( GL_DEPTH_TEST );
```

- In order to render a new scene the buffer can be cleared by

```
glClear( GL_DEPTH_BUFFER_BIT );
```

- Here OpenGL uses a **z-buffer** or **depth buffer** algorithm to remove hidden surfaces.
- To animate with hidden surfaces, the depth buffer must be cleared before each frame and then

```
glutSwapBuffers()
```

called.