
Subject: 3D point cloud visualization: filled polygons in the front, different fill colour + lines in the back

Posted by [Nuno Ferreira](#) on Mon, 25 May 2015 17:56:29 GMT

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Hi all,

I am trying to visualize 3D point clouds taken with a Kinect v2 camera. My data consist of a set of vertices in 3D space (xyz + RGBA) with connectivity information (polygons). Suppose I take a photo of someone, with depth information, from a single position: looking from the front, I would see a normal photo, but it could be rotated all around, allowing to see the back (I would have the polygons only from the half-surface that was facing the camera). I am trying to visualize this dataset using filled polygons in the front side (without lines) and shades of grey + lines in the back face.

I tried a few options but each has specific problems (please see the screenshot:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6Ti5FMqve-dRzRuMk9yY1FjM2c/view?usp=sharing> - you can also run the program below):

- in option 1, it is difficult to distinguish the back face from the front face and that is why I would prefer using a single color for the back face (e.g., grey, eventually shaded + lines);
- in options 1 and 2, the lines in the front side cover the filled polygons and since the density of vertices is large I would see mainly black lines that would at least partially hide the colors of the polygons;
- option 3 is almost what I would like, but I would prefer having the lines in the back face with a single color. Do you have any suggestions?

I am also aware that I could either offset or scale the vertices positions to avoid covering the lines with the polygons but I would prefer a solution that does not change these positions.

Many thanks and sorry for the long message!

Nuno

PRO question_example_event, ev
; (not really needed for this example)
END

```
PRO question_example
; create a test object
vertices = [[0, 0, 0], [1, 0, 0], [1, 1, 0], [0, 1, 0], [0.5, 0.5, 1]]
connectivity = [3, 0, 1, 4, $
               3, 1, 2, 4, $
```

```

        3, 2, 3, 4, $
        3, 3, 0, 4]
vert_colors = [[0,0,0],[255,0,0],[0,255,0],[0,0,255],[255,255,255]]

```

```

; Initialize model for display (2 views).

```

```

oModel1 = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrModel')

```

```

oModel2 = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrModel')

```

```

; Initialize polygon and/or polyline

```

```

option=4

```

```

CASE option of

```

```

1:  begin

```

```

    oPolygon = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrPolygon', vertices, $

```

```

        POLYGONS = connectivity, SHADING=1, $

```

```

        vert_colors=vert_colors)

```

```

    oPolyline = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrPolyline', vertices, $

```

```

        POLYLINES = connectivity, COLOR = [0, 0, 0])

```

```

end

```

```

2:  begin

```

```

    oPolygon = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrPolygon', vertices, $

```

```

        POLYGONS = connectivity, SHADING=1, $

```

```

        vert_colors=vert_colors, bottom=[200,200,200], $

```

```

        depth_offset=1)

```

```

    oPolyline = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrPolyline', vertices, $

```

```

        POLYLINES = connectivity, COLOR = [0, 0, 0])

```

```

end

```

```

3:  begin

```

```

    oPolygon = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrPolygon', vertices, $

```

```

        POLYGONS = connectivity, SHADING=1, $

```

```

        vert_colors=vert_colors, bottom=[200,200,200], $

```

```

        depth_offset=1)

```

```

    oPolygon2 = OBJ_NEW('IDLgrPolygon', vertices, $

```

```

        POLYGONS = connectivity, SHADING=1, STYLE=2, $

```

```

        vert_colors=vert_colors, bottom=[200,200,200], $

```

```

        depth_offset=0)

```

```

end

```

```

endcase

```

```

; Add the polygon(s) and/or polyline to the model.

```

```

oModel1 -> Add, oPolygon

```

```

if option EQ 1 or option EQ 2 then oModel1 -> Add, oPolyline

```

```

if option EQ 3 then oModel1 -> Add, oPolygon2

```

```

oModel2.Add, oModel1, /alias ; create an alias for 2nd model

```

```

; used for display:

```

```

ov1 = idlgrview(viewplane_rect=[-2, -2, 4, 4], zclip=[2, -2], eye=2)
ov1.add, oModel1
ov2 = idlgrview(viewplane_rect=[-2, -2, 4, 4], zclip=[2, -2], eye=2)
ov2.add, oModel2

; create GUI
s    = 256
base = widget_base(/row, Title='Option '+string(option))
d1   = widget_draw(base, graphics_level=2, $
    xsize=s, ysize=s, tooltip="Front")
d2   = widget_draw(base, graphics_level=2, $
    xsize=s, ysize=s, tooltip="Back")

; show GUI and model
widget_control, base, /realize
widget_control, d1, get_value=ow1
widget_control, d2, get_value=ow2
oModel1 -> Rotate, [1, 0, 0], 45 ; Rotate to better show the front side
ow1.setproperty, graphics_tree=ov1
ow1.draw
oModel1 -> Rotate, [1, 0, 0], 180 ; Rotate again to show the back side
ow2.setproperty, graphics_tree=ov2
ow2.draw

xmanager, 'question_example', base
END

```
