

RayStorm Documentation

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COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> RayStorm Documentation		
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Chapter 1

RayStorm Documentation

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WINTOFRONT

Wood

1.2 RayStorm Documentation

06 ↔
August ↔
↔
1995 ↔

Demoversion
by Andreas Heumann and Mike Hesser

Introduction
Requirements
Features
Installation
ARexx interface
Examples
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1.3 Introduction

INTRODUCTION

RayStorm has been written to be as fast as possible, and use as less memory as possible. Thus we have implemented a octree algorithm, and optimized all calculations as much as we could.

It has been developed on Amiga and also on PC, therefore there also exists a

PC-Version

.

This demo version is limited to a resolution of 160x128, only 2 lightsources and only 17 objects.

The full version is unlimited.

FUNDAMENTALS ABOUT RAYTRACING

General

Octree

Antialiasing

Surfaces

Internals

1.4 General

GENERAL

Raytracing makes it possible to generate fotorealistic pictures of objects.

A raytracer casts a ray form the position of the viewer through a scene and calculates the intersections with the objects in that scene. If a intersection is found, the raytracer decides which color the object at this position has. If the object is reflective or transparent, the raytracer casts new rays from this positon and tests the intersections again and so on

To make the surfaces of the objects more realistic, textures which simulate marble or clouds or water or other surfaces can be used.

1.5 Octree

OCTREE

Simple raytraces determine the intersections with objects by testing all objects. This can lead to long rendering times if there are a lot of objects in the scene.

One solution of this problem is the Octree algorithm. This algorithm divides the scene in eight childcells and every childcell again in eight cells and so on until there are less than one objects in the cell or the maximum depth of the tree is reached.

Octree division

```

      /| z
     /
  /-----/-----/|
 ^ y/      /      / |
 | / left / right / b|
 |/      /      / |a| |
 |-----/-----| f|c|
 |          | r|k|
 |      up   | o| /
 |-----| n|/
 |          | t|
 |      down | / x
 |-----| /-->

```

1.6 Antialiasing

ANTIALIASING

RayStorm uses a algorithm called 'Adaptive Supersampling' to do antialiasing. This algorithm cast for each pixel which has a high contrast against it's four neighbours new rays which are close to the ray used for the pixel itself. The new color of the pixel is calculated with the supersampled pixels and the gaussian filter.

Example:

Settings: squareroot of number of samples per pixel: 3

```
|-----|-----|-----|
| super- | super- | super- |
| sampled| sampled| sampled|
|         |         |         |
|-----|-----|-----|
| super- |         | super- |
| sampled| pixel  | sampled|
|         |         |         |
|-----|-----|-----|
| super- | super- | super- |
| sampled| sampled| sampled|
|         |         |         |
|-----|-----|-----|
|- Gaussian filter width -|
```

The rendering time increases dramatically if you use antialiasing. The values below depend on the contrast of the picture.

Samplesetting	rendering time
1	x1
2	x4
3	x9
4	x16
...	...

Setting higher than 3 are not leading to significant better results.

1.7 Surfaces

SURFACES

Ambient (set with AMBIENT)

This determines the color of the object in sections, which are in shadow.

Diffuse reflection (set with DIFFUSE)

The diffuse reflection falls off as the cosine of the angle between the normal and the ray to the light. Diffuse reflection determines the

main color of the object (color in Imagine).

Specularly reflected highlights (set with SPECULAR)

Specularly reflected highlights fall off as the cosine of the angle between the reflected ray and the ray to the light source (specular in Imagine)

Specular reflection exponent (set with REFPHONG)

Determines the size of the specularly reflected highlights, the higher the smaller the highlight (hardness in Imagine)

Diffuse transmission (set with DIFFTRANS)

Same as diffuse reflection, but only used if the lightsource is on opposite side of surface. Only applied if tranlucency is not 0.

Specular transmission (set with SPECTRANS)

Same as specular reflection, but only used if the lightsource is on opposite side of surface. Only applied if tranlucency is not 0.

Specular transmission exponent (set with TRANSPHONG)

Same as specular reflection exponent, but only used if the lightsource is on opposite side of surface.

Specular transmittance (set with TRANSLUC)

Specular transmittance.

Transparency (set with TRANSPAR)

Transparent color (filter in Imagine).

Reflectivity (set with REFLECT)

Reflective color (reflect in Imagine).

Transmission attenuation (set with TRANSATTU)

(fog in Imagine).

Index of refraction (set with REFRINDEX)

Determines how the ray through transparent objects is refracted, the higher the more (index of refraction in Imagine).

Is calculated with the formula

$$\text{index} = \frac{\text{lightspeed in vacuum}}{\text{lightspeed in object}} .$$

1.8 Internals

INTERNALS

Memory requirements

```
Triangle:      142 Bytes (flat shaded)
               178 Bytes (Phong shaded)
Sphere:        58 Bytes
Plane:         66 Bytes
Surface:       118 Bytes + length of name
Screenbuffer:  4 Bytes per pixel
```

Memory requirements of the octree depends on the scene.

1.9 Requirements

REQUIREMENTS

- (1) You will need at least Kickstart 2.0 and a 68020 processor and a mathematical coprocessor (68881/882 or internal 68040/060 version).

The faster the better :-).

- (2) ShowObj was written using
MUI
. So you need
muimaster.library V2.0+ or later to run ShowObj.

Tested with:

A2000 68040/30, 9MB, 250+250MB HD, Merlin Gfx-board

A2000 68030/14, 68882/20, 4MB, 720+52MB HD

1.10 Features

FEATURES

- Fast. About 20% faster than Imagine.
 - ARexx-port. RayStorm can be used by all programs with the ARexx-port.
 - Imagine compatible. RayStorm is designed to be almost compatible to Imagine. It can load Imagine objects and use Imagine textures.
 - Octree algorithm used for rendering.
 - Antialiasing possibility (adaptive supersampling).
 - Image can be saved as 24Bit IFF-ILBM file.
 - Three builtin object types: sphere, plane and triangle.
-

- Three light types: ambient, point and spot.
- Depth of field

1.11 Installation

INSTALLATION

There is a installation script included in the archive which uses the Commodore Installer. Run it to install RayStorm.

1.12 ARexx Interface

AREXX INTERFACE

Address

The ARexx-address of RayStorm is 'RAYSTORM'.

Parameter conventions:

- /S - Switch.
- /N - Number.
- /A - Required.

All other numeric parameters are floating point numbers.

ARexx commands

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REFRINDEX

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SETSCREEN

SETWORLD

SIZE

SPECTRANS

SPECULAR

1.16 display

DISPLAY

!!! CAUTION !!!
THIS COMMAND ISN'T RELEASED IN THIS VERSION YET
!!! CAUTION !!!

Arguments: FLOYD/S dither with Floyd-Steinberg algorithm
Description: Displays rendered pic on screen

1.17 objectpath

OBJECTPATH

Arguments: PATH/A pathname
Description: Defines the path where to search Imagine objects.

1.18 pointlight

POINTLIGHT

Arguments: POSX, POSY, POSZ position
COLR/N, COLG/N, COLB/N color
SHADOW/S cast shadows if keyword given
Description: Creates a point lightsource
Default: POINTLIGHT 0 0 0 255 255 255

1.19 quit

QUIT

Arguments: none
Description: Quits Raystrom

1.20 savepic

SAVEPIC

Arguments: NAME/A name of file to save
Description: Saves rendered pic as IFF-ILBM-file

1.21 setcamera

SETCAMERA

Arguments: POSX/A, POSY/A, POSZ/A position
 VIEWX, VIEWY, VIEWZ viewpoint
 VUPX, VUPY, VUPZ viewupvector
 FOVX, FOVY field of view (in degree)
 (20 degree creates camera like Imagine default camera)
 FOCALDIST distance from eye to focal plane
 APERTURE aperture width (0 == pinhole)

Description: Sets the parameters of the camera

Default: SETCAMERA 0 0 -10 0 0 0 0 1 0 45 45 1. 0.

1.22 setscreen

SETSCREEN

Arguments: RESX/N/A, RESY/N/A resolution
 COLORS/N number of colors (not yet implemented)

Description: sets the screen parameters

Default: SETSCREEN 128 128 32

1.23 setworld

SETWORLD

Arguments: BACKR/N/A, BACKG/N/A, BACKB/N/A backgroundcolor
 AMBR/N, AMBG/N, AMBB/N ambientcolor

Description: Sets world parameters

Default: SETWORLD 0 0 0 0 0 0

1.24 spotlight

SPOTLIGHT

Arguments: POSX, POSY, POSZ position
 COLR/N, COLG/N, COLB/N color
 DIRX, DIRY, DIRZ direction
 COEFF coefficient
 SHADOW/S cast shadows if keyword given

Description: Creates a spot lightsource

Default: SPOTLIGHT 0 0 0 255 255 255

1.25 startrender

1.30 sphere

SPHERE

Arguments: SURF/A surface name
 POSX/A, POSY/A, POSZ/A position
 RADIUS/A radius
Description: Creates a sphere

1.31 triangle

TRIANGLE

Arguments: SURF/A surface name
 P1X/A, P1Y/A, P1Z/A first point
 P2X/A, P2Y/A, P2Z/A second point
 P3X/A, P3Y/A, P3Z/A third point
 N1X, N1Y, N1Z first normal
 N2X, N2Y, N2Z second normal
 N3X, N3Y, N3Z third normal
Description: Creates a triangle

1.32 newsurface

NEWSURFACE

Arguments: NAME/A
Description: Creates a new surface with name 'NAME'

1.33 ambient

AMBIENT

Arguments: COLR/N/A, COLG/N/A, COLB/N/A color
Description: Sets the ambient color of surface
Default: AMBIENT 255 255 255

1.34 brush

BRUSH

Arguments: NAME/A name of brush file (IFF-ILBM)
 TYPE/A Brush type: valid strings
 COLOR, REFLECT, FILTER, ALTITUDE
 WRAP/A Brush wrapping method: valid strings
 FLAT, WRAPX, WRAPY, WRAPXY
 PX/A, PY/A, PZ/A position

AX/A, AY/A, AZ/A alignment
 LX/A, LY/A, LZ/A length of each axis
 Description: Adds a brush to surface (only 24Bit-IFF-ILBM images are supported)

1.35 difftrans

DIFFTRANS

Arguments: COLR/N/A, COLG/N/A, COLB/N/A color
 Description: Sets the diffuse transmission color of surface
 Default: DIFFTRANS 0 0 0

1.36 diffuse

DIFFUSE

Arguments: COLR/N/A, COLG/N/A, COLB/N/A color
 Description: Sets the diffuse color of surface
 Default: DIFFUSE 255 255 255

1.37 imtexture

IMTEXTURE

Arguments: NAME/A name of Imagine texture file
 PX, PY, PZ position
 AX, AY, AZ alignment
 LX, LY, LZ length of each axis
 P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11, P12, P13,
 P14, P15, P16 texture parameters
 Description: Adds a Imagine texture to surface
 Default: defaults are take from texture if not all paramters are given

1.38 refexp

REFEXP

Arguments: VALUE/A specular reflection exponent
 Description: Sets the specular reflection exponent of surface
 Default: REFEXP 12.

1.39 reflect

REFLECT

Arguments: COLR/N/A, COLG/N/A, COLB/N/A color
 Description: Sets the specular reflectivity of surface
 Default: REFLECT 0 0 0

1.40 refrindex

REFRINDEX

Arguments: VALUE/A index of refraction
 Description: Sets the index of refraction of surface
 Default: REFRINDEX 1.
 Examples:

MATERIAL	Index

Vacuum	1.00000 (exactly)
Air (STP).....	1.00029
Acetone	1.36
Alcohol	1.329
Amorphous Selenium	2.92
Calspar1	1.66
Calspar2	1.486
Carbon Disulfide	1.63
Chromium Oxide	2.705
Copper Oxide	2.705
Crown Glass	1.52
Crystal	2.00
Diamond	2.417
Emerald	1.57
Ethyl Alcohol	1.36
Flourite	1.434
Fused Quartz	1.46
Heaviest Flint Glass	1.89
Heavy Flint Glass	1.65
Glass	1.5
Ice	1.309
Iodine Crystal	3.34
Lapis Lazuli	1.61
Light Flint Glass	1.575
Liquid Carbon Dioxide	1.20
Polystyrene	1.55
Quartz 1	1.644
Quartz 2	1.553
Ruby	1.77
Sapphire	1.77
Sodium Chloride (Salt) 1	1.544
Sodium Chloride (Salt) 2	1.644
Sugar Solution (30%)	1.38
Sugar Solution (80%)	1.49
Topaz	1.61
Water (20 C)	1.333
Zinc Crown Glass	1.517

1.41 spectrans

SPECTRANS

Arguments: COLR/N/A, COLG/N/A, COLB/N/A color
Description: Sets the specular transmission color of surface
Default: SETSPECTRANS 255 255 255

1.42 specular

SPECULAR

Arguments: COLR/N/A, COLG/N/A, COLB/N/A color
Description: Sets the specular color of surface
Default: SPECULAR 255 255 255

1.43 transattu

TRANSATTU

Arguments: VALUE/A specular transmission attenuation
Description: Sets the specular transmission attenuation of surface
Default: TRANSATTU 1.

1.44 transexp

TRANSEXP

Arguments: VALUE/A specular transmission exponent
Description: Sets the specular transmission exponent of surface
object
Default: TRANSEXP 12.

1.45 transluc

TRANSLUC

Arguments: VALUE/A diffuse transmittance
Description: Sets the specular transmittance of surface
Default: TRANSLUC 0

1.46 transpar

TRANSPAR

Arguments: COLR/N/A, COLG/N/A, COLB/N/A color
Description: Sets the diffuse transmittance of surface
Default: TRANS 0 0 0

1.47 alignment

ALIGNMENT

!!! CAUTION !!!
THIS COMMAND ISN'T RELEASED IN THIS VERSION YET
!!! CAUTION !!!

Arguments: BEGIN/N,END/N begin and end of position
ALIGNX/A, ALIGNY/A, ALIGNZ/A alignment
Description: Sets the alignment of the object

1.48 maxframes

MAXFRAMES

!!! CAUTION !!!
THIS COMMAND ISN'T RELEASED IN THIS VERSION YET
!!! CAUTION !!!

Arguments: FRAMES/N amount of frames
Description: Sets the amount of objects

1.49 newactor

NEWACTOR

!!! CAUTION !!!
THIS COMMAND ISN'T RELEASED IN THIS VERSION YET
!!! CAUTION !!!

Arguments: NAME name of new actor
Description: creates a new actor

1.50 position

POSITION

!!! CAUTION !!!
THIS COMMAND ISN'T RELEASED IN THIS VERSION YET
!!! CAUTION !!!

Arguments: BEGIN/N,END/N begin and end of position
 POSX/A, POSY/A, POSZ/A position
Description: Sets the position of the object

1.51 size

SIZE

!!! CAUTION !!!
THIS COMMAND ISN'T RELEASED IN THIS VERSION YET
!!! CAUTION !!!

Arguments: BEGIN/N,END/N begin and end of position
 SIZE/A,SIZEY/A,SIZEZ/A position
Description: Sets the size of the object

1.52 General ARexx-commands

GENERAL AREXX-COMMANDS

ANTIALIAS
sets antialiasing parameters

BRUSHPATH
sets brush path

CLEANUP
cleanups scene

DISPLAY
displays scene

OBJECTPATH
sets object path

POINTLIGHT
creates point lightsource

QUIT
quits RayStorm

SAVEPIC
saves scene as IFF-ILBM-file

SETCAMERA
sets camera parameters

SETSCREEN
sets screen parameters

```
SETWORLD
  sets world parameters

SPOTLIGHT
  creates spot lightsource

STARTRENDER
  starts rendering

TEXTUREPATH
  sets texture path

WINTOFRONT
  brings window to front
```

1.53 ARexx-commands for creating objects

```
AREXX-COMMANDS FOR CREATING OBJECTS
```

```
LOADOBJ
  loads an Imagine TDDD-file

PLANE
  creates a plane (ground in Imagine)

SPHERE
  creates a sphere

TRIANGLE
  creates a triangle
```

1.54 ARexx-commands for setting attributes

```
AREXX-COMMANDS FOR SETTING ATTRIBUTES
```

```
NEWSURFACE
  creates a new surface

AMBIENT
  sets ambient color

BRUSH
  adds a brush

DIFFTRANS
  sets diffuse transmission color

DIFFUSE
  sets diffuse color
```

IMTEXTURE
adds a Imagine texture

REFEXP
sets the specular reflection exponent

REFLECT
sets the specular reflectivity

REFRINDEX
sets the index of refraction

SPECTRANS
sets the specular transmission

SPECULAR
sets the specular color

TRANSATTU
sets the specular transmission attenuation

TRANSEXP
sets the specular transmission exponent

TRANSLUC
sets the specular transmittance

TRANSPAR
sets the diffuse transmittance

1.55 ARexx-commands for animation control

AREXX-COMMANDS FOR ANIMATION CONTROL

ALIGNMENT
sets alignment

MAXFRAMES
sets amount of frames

NEWACTOR creates a new actor

POSITION
sets position

SIZE
sets size

1.56 ARexx-errors

AREXX-ERRORS

```
10 Error in argumentstring
11 Unknown command
12 Error using Imagine texture
13 Not enough memory for this command
14 File not found
15 Error reading IFF-ILBM file
16 Error reading IFF-TDDD file
17 Surface not defined
```

1.57 Examples

EXAMPLES

There are several examples in the directories 'rexx' and 'examples'.

In the 'arexx' directory are examples scripts which show the usage of RayStorm with ARexx. Start them simply by typing 'rx ???ray' in a shell (???ray is the name of the script).

Attrtest.ray

Several examples for attributes.

Attrtest1.ray

Several examples for attributes.

Brush.ray

Demonstrates usage of brush mapping.

Bump.ray

Test of bump texture.

Chess.ray

Chess scene.

Dof.ray

Test of depth of field.

Eight.ray

Billard scene.

Im_texture.ray

Example for usage of Imagine textures.

Marble.ray

Test of marble texture.

Randomsphere.ray

Randomly colored sphere.

Supersample.ray

Demonstrates adaptptive supersampling.

Title.ray

Renders the RayStorm title.

Title1.ray

Renders the RayStorm title.

Wood.ray

Test of wood texture.

In the 'examples' directory are C-programms which show the usage of RayStorm directly with a program. They can only be run from a shell. These programs are producing a couple of pictures no animation, which must be glued together with a utility like MainActor.

Sphanim

Animation of several spheres which jump over a checker board. Camera follows them.

Worldanim

Rotating world.

1.58 Textures

TEXTURES

Textures are mathematical generated patterns which can be applied to the surface of a object.

There are several textures in the directory 'textures'.

Bump

Checker

Linear

Marble

Wood

1.59 Bump

BUMP

This texture applies a bumps to the surface.
Size of texture determines size of bumps.

Parameters:

X bump size - Y bump size - Z bump size
Sets the 'depth' of the bumps.

1.60 Checker

CHECKER

This texture applies a normal checks pattern to the surface.

Parameters:

Color Red - Color Green - Color Blue
Color of the checks, other color is taken from object.

Reflect Red - Reflect Green - Reflect Blue
Reflect color of the checks.

Filter Red - Filter Green - Filter Blue
Filter color of the checks.

1.61 Linear

LINEAR

This texture varies the color of the object in the y-direction of the texture.

Parameters:

Color Red - Color Green - Color Blue
Color to inerpolate to.

Reflect Red - Reflect Green - Reflect Blue
Reflect to inerpolate to.

Filter Red - Filter Green - Filter Blue
Filter to inerpolate to.

1.62 Wood

WOOD

This texture applies a wood like texture to the surface.
Size of texture determines size of wood.

Parameters:

Color Red - Color Green - Color Blue
Color. Other color is taken from object.

Reflect Red - Reflect Green - Reflect Blue
Reflect color.

Filter Red - Filter Green - Filter Blue
Filter color.

Octave
Than higher the octave than noisier are the wood rings.

Frequency
Than higher the frequency than smaller the wood rings.

1.63 Marble

Marble

This texture applies a marble like texture to the surface.
Size of texture determines size of bumps.

Parameters:

Color Red - Color Green - Color Blue
Color. Other color is taken from object.

Reflect Red - Reflect Green - Reflect Blue
Reflect color.

Filter Red - Filter Green - Filter Blue
Filter color.

Octave
Than higher the octave than noisier is the texture.

1.64 Legal Stuff

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MUI

1.65 MUI

This application uses

MUI - MagicUserInterface

(c) Copyright 1993/94 by Stefan Stuntz

MUI is a system to generate and maintain graphical user interfaces. With the aid of a preferences program, the user of an application has the ability to customize the outfit according to his personal taste.

MUI is distributed as shareware. To obtain a complete package containing lots of examples and more information about registration please look for a file called "muiXXusr.lha" (XX means the latest version number) on your local bulletin boards or on public domain disks.

If you want to register directly, feel free to send

DM 30.- or US\$ 20.-

to

Stefan Stuntz
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1.66 Credits

CREDITS

I want to thank the following person:

- Stephan Dorenkamp - for testing

1.67 Register

REGISTER

If you like RayStorm send me 20 DM or 15 US \$ and a empty disk and you get the full version of RayStorm.

1.68 Author

AUTHORS

For bug reports, comments, suggestions ... you can contact us at the following addresses.

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1.69 History of Changes

HISTORY

version 1.0 (09-July-95)

- first release.

1.70 PC-version

PC-VERSION

There is also a PC-version of RayStorm under development, but unfortunately it's not finished yet.

1.71 Future

FUTURE ADDITIONS

- more objects (torus, cylinder, ...)
 - real motion blur
 - JPEG-saver (use datatypes to load and save pics)
 - use Imagine staging files (animation possibility)
 - fog
 - bright flag for objects
 - backdrop picture
 - global reflection map
 - TeX documentation
 - animation language
 - shadow caching
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