

Painter's Algorithm

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Painter's Algorithm



Drawing to a buffer

– Video RAM, raster printer with a buffer

Area filling

– Even with patterns

Drawing is back to front

- **Overdrawing** of earlier objects

Determines visibility

Simplified Versions



Explicit drawing order

– E.g. as function of two variables: z = f(x,y)

Depth-sort

- Sorting of objects (polygons) by z coordinate (center)
- Works well for large amounts of small objects
- Does not work correctly for mixtures of large and small polygons (table-top with small objects on them)

Correct Algorithm



- Scene is made up of **planar geometry**
- Faces may have common points only along the border (no intersections)



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Phase 1: Sorting

 Polygons are sorted by minimal *z* coordinate in ascending order – back to front – which generates an input list *S*



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Phase 2: Checking the Ordering

From the beginning of the list *S* we take the polygon *P* – a candidate for drawing.
 We have to test other polygons against *P* whether there is a collision. The tested polygons are denoted *Q*





Phase 2A: "minimax test"

First we perform a very
easy test – we compare the generation of the bounding boxes of the two polygons. If there are no overlapping points, the testing of *Q* ends.
If not, we go on with further tests of *P* and *Q*.





Phase 2B: testing of *P* against *Q*

We then test whether *P*completely lies behind the plane of the polygon *Q*.
If this is the case, testing of *Q* ends.
If not, we go on with further tests of *P* and *Q*.

 $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{d} < 0$





Phase 2C: testing of **Q** against **P**

We then test whether *Q*completely lies before the plane of the polygon *P*.
If this is the case, testing of *Q* ends.
If not, we go on with further tests of *P* and *Q*.



$\mathbf{a} \cdot x + \mathbf{b} \cdot y + \mathbf{c} \cdot z + \mathbf{d} > 0$

Ζ



Phase 2D: Complete Projection

If the previous tests all failed, we have to run a complete intersection test of the **polygons** *P* and *Q* **in projection**. It is necessary to determine whether **Q** covers any part of **P**. In this case, *P* has to be drawn before **Q**!





Phase 2D: Complete Projection

We test all edges of *P* and *Q* against each other. If we find intersections, we compare the *z* coordinate. If any part of *P* is before *Q*, the test of *Q* ends. In this case, it would not be possible to draw *P* before *Q*!





Phase 2D: Complete Projection

 But even if no intersections of *P* and *Q* exist, we have to check whether *P* does not lie completely inside *Q*, or vice versa.
 We do this by comparing *Z* coordinates.



Phase 2: Re-Ordering



- If *P* cannot be drawn in front of *Q*, we try to move *Q* to the beginning of the list *S* (even before P)
 - *Q* will again undergo all tests of the 2nd phase (described for *P*)
 - Tests between *Q* and *P* have already been done, you only need to do an inverted test on *B* and *C*
- During **loops** each candidate has to be evaluated separately



Phase 2: Cycle Removal



- If any candidate is tested more than once, there is a cycle
- A cycle can be eliminated by **splitting** some polygons (correct order is A₁, B, C, A₂)

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Further information:

- J. Foley, A. van Dam, S. Feiner, J. Hughes: Computer Graphics, Principles and Practice, 672-675
- Jiří Žára a kol.: Počítačová grafika, principy a algoritmy, 302-304