Animation

Animation is the process of giving motion to your geometric models. Before animating, there are questions you need to ask first:

- Why am I doing this?
- Do I want the animation to obey the real laws of physics? Partially? Which elements?
- Am I willing to “fake” the physics to get the objects to want to move in a way that I tell it?
- Do I have specific key positions I want the objects to pass through no matter what?
- Do I want to simply record the motion of a real person, animal, etc., and then play it back?

Keyframe Animation

These icons refer to explanatory videos on the class web site.

Blender:

These icons refer to explanatory videos on the class web site.
Here’s Some Code that Lets You Create DIY Keyframe Animations

Instead of Key-Frames, I like specifying Key Times better. And, so, I created a C++ class to do it for you.

class Keytimes:
void AddTimeValue( float time, float value );
float GetFirstTime( );
float GetLastTime( );
int GetNumKeytimes( );
float GetValue( float time );
void PrintTimeValues( );

Instead of Key Frames, I like specifying Key Times better.

Instead of Key-Frames, I like specifying Key Times better. Here it wants to interpolate and animate the x-location of something.

int main( int argc, char *argv[] )
{
    Keytimes Xpos;
    Xpos.AddTimeValue( 0.0, 0.000 );
    Xpos.AddTimeValue( 2.0, 0.333 );
    Xpos.AddTimeValue( 1.0, 3.142 );
    Xpos.AddTimeValue( 0.5, 2.718 );
    fprintf(stderr, "%d time-value pairs:
", Xpos.GetNumKeytimes( ) );
    Xpos.PrintTimeValues( );
    fprintf(stderr, "Time runs from %8.3f to %8.3f
", Xpos.GetFirstTime( ), Xpos.GetLastTime( ) );
    for( float t = 0.; t <= 2.01; t += 0.1 )
    {
        float v = Xpos.GetValue( t );
        fprintf(stderr, "%8.3f	%8.3f
", t, v );
    }
}

Instead of Key Frames, I Like Specifying Key Times Better

Number of msec in the animation cycle

Using the System Clock in Display( ) for Timing

#define MSEC 10000 // i.e., 10 seconds
Keytimes Xpos, Ypos, Zpos;
Keytimes ThetaX, ThetaY, ThetaZ;

if( AnimationIsOn )
{
    // # msec into the cycle ( 0 - MSEC-1 ):
    int msec = glutGet( GLUT_ELAPSED_TIME ) % MSEC;
    // turn that into a time in seconds:
    float nowTime = (float)msec / 1000.;
    glPushMatrix( );
    glTranslatef( Xpos.GetValue( nowTime ), Ypos.GetValue( nowTime ), Zpos.GetValue( nowTime ) );
    glRotatef( ThetaX.GetValue( nowTime ), 1., 0., 0. );
    glRotatef( ThetaY.GetValue( nowTime ), 0., 1., 0. );
    glRotatef( ThetaZ.GetValue( nowTime ), 0., 0., 1. );
    << draw the object >>
    glPopMatrix( );
}
Forward Kinematics: Change Parameters – Connected Things Move
(All children understand this)

Inverse Kinematics (IK):
Things Need to Move to a Particular Location – What Parameters Will Make Them Do That?

Of course, there will always be target locations that can never be reached. Think about that spot in the middle of your back that you can never scratch! 😊

Forward Kinematics solves the problem “If I know the link transformation parameters, where are the links?”.
Inverse Kinematics (IK) solves the problem “If I know where I want the end of the chain to be (X*, Y*), what transformation parameters will put it there?”
Particle Systems: A Cross Between Modeling and Animation?

The basic process is:

1. Emit
2. Random Number Generator
3. Display
4. Update

Particle Systems Examples

Chuck Evans

particles.mp4
Particle Systems Examples

The Lion King (2019) – Disney

A Particle System to Simulate Colliding Galaxies in Cosmic Voyage

Particles Don’t Actually Have to Be “Particles”
Newton's second law: 
\[ \text{force} = \text{mass} \times \text{acceleration} \]
or 
\[ \ddot{x} = \frac{\text{force}}{\text{mass}} \]

\[ x(T) = \int_{t=0}^{T} \ddot{x} \, dt \approx \sum \ddot{x} \Delta t \]

In order to make this work, you need to supply physical properties such as mass, center of mass, moment of inertia, coefficients of friction, coefficients of restitution, etc.

\[ F = k(D - D_0) \]

This is known as Hooke's Law.
Simulating a Bouncy String

Placing a Physical Barrier in the Scene

Animating Cloth
Cloth Examples

Cloth Example

cloth.mp4

Functional Animation:
Make the Object Want to Move Towards a Goal Position

\[ m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0 \]
**Functional Animation:**

While Making it Want to Move Away from all other Objects

\[ \ddot{m}x = \sum F_{\text{repulsive}} \]

**Total Goal – Make the Free Body Move Towards its Final Position While Being Repelled by the Other Bodies**

\[ \ddot{m}x + c\dot{x} + kx = \sum F \]

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**Increasing the Stiffness**

- Stiffness = 3
- Stiffness = 6
- Stiffness = 9

**Increasing the Repulsion Coefficient**

- Repulse = 10
- Repulse = 30
Motion Capture ("MoCap") as an Input for Animation

Motion Capture is for Faces Too

Even Animals can be MoCapped

My cat would never have put up with this…

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyq_LQrHpoo
Tron I –
They probably should have used physics, but didn’t

Card Trick

Pixar Animated Shorts

Pixar