

# Cube Mapping

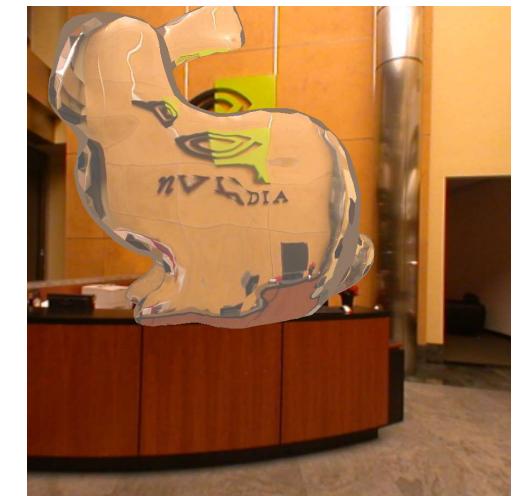


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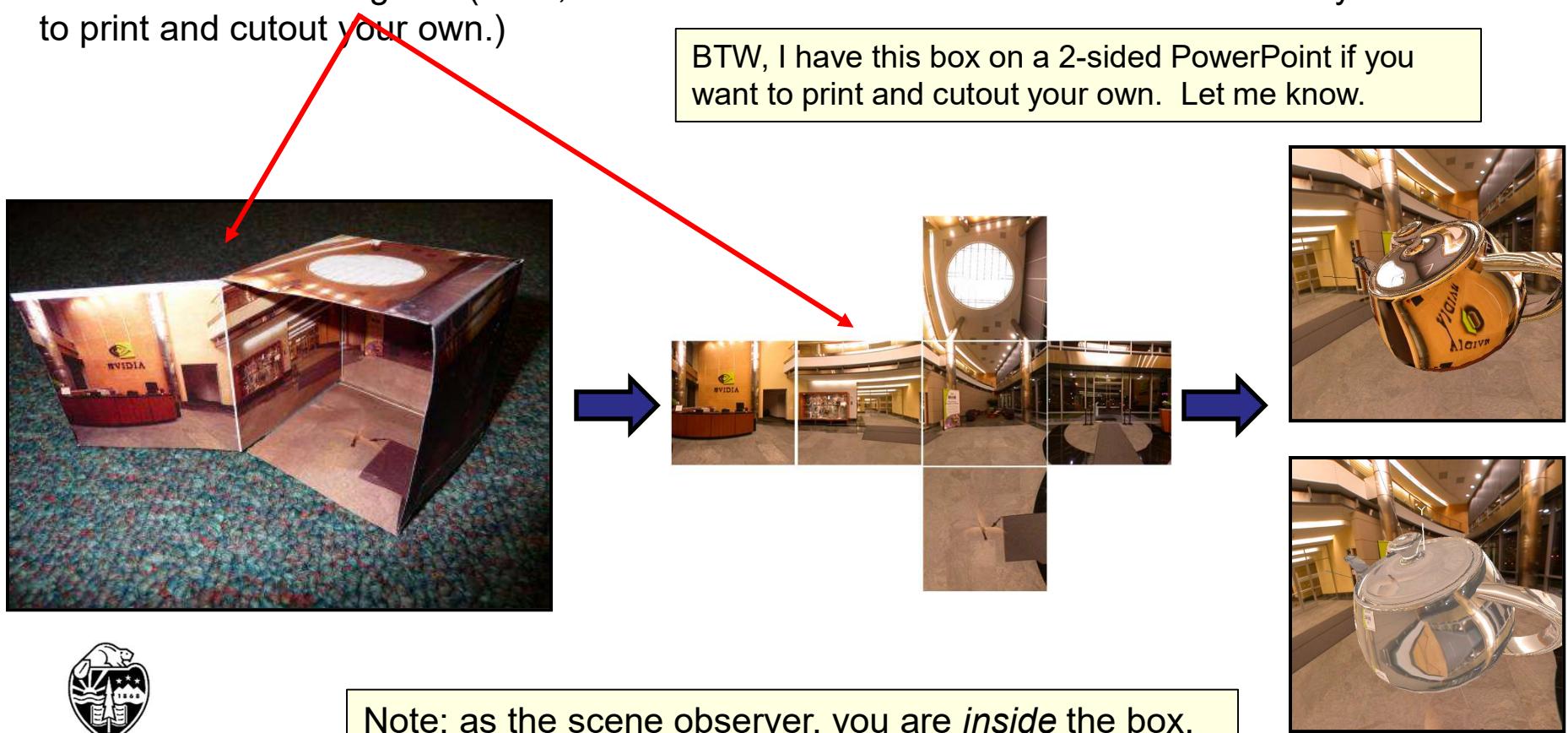


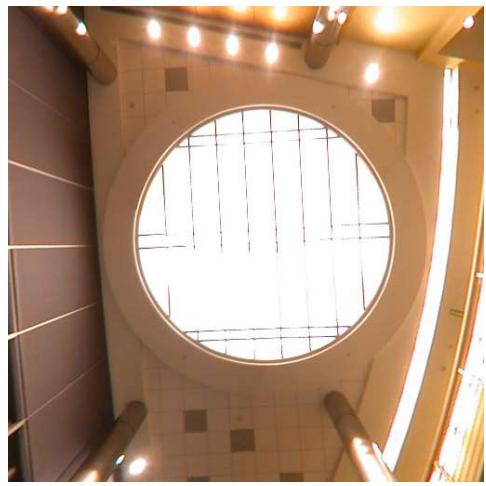
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## What is Cube Mapping?

Cube Mapping is the process of creating a representation of an object's surrounding environment as a collection of 6 images, grouped together as a single "cube map texture".

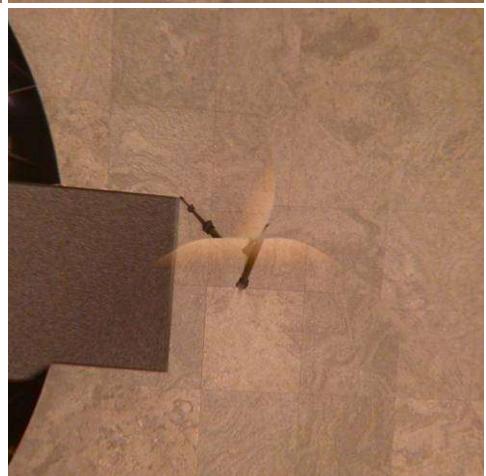
Think of it as a folding box.(BTW, I have this box on a 2-sided PowerPoint slide if you want to print and cutout your own.)

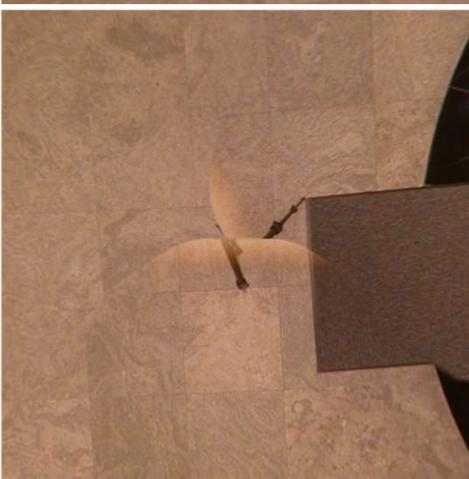




BTW, if you would like your very own Nvidia Lobby 3D Cube, print this page and the next page on a single piece of paper.

In the **Printer Properties** be sure that the  
**Print on both sides** setting says:  
**Yes, flip over**  
or  
**Flip pages on Short Edge**





## Using Cube Mapping to Model a 3D Environment

Take 6 photos in all directions.  
Warning! It is tricky to do this and get  
the seams to match correctly.



Go here:

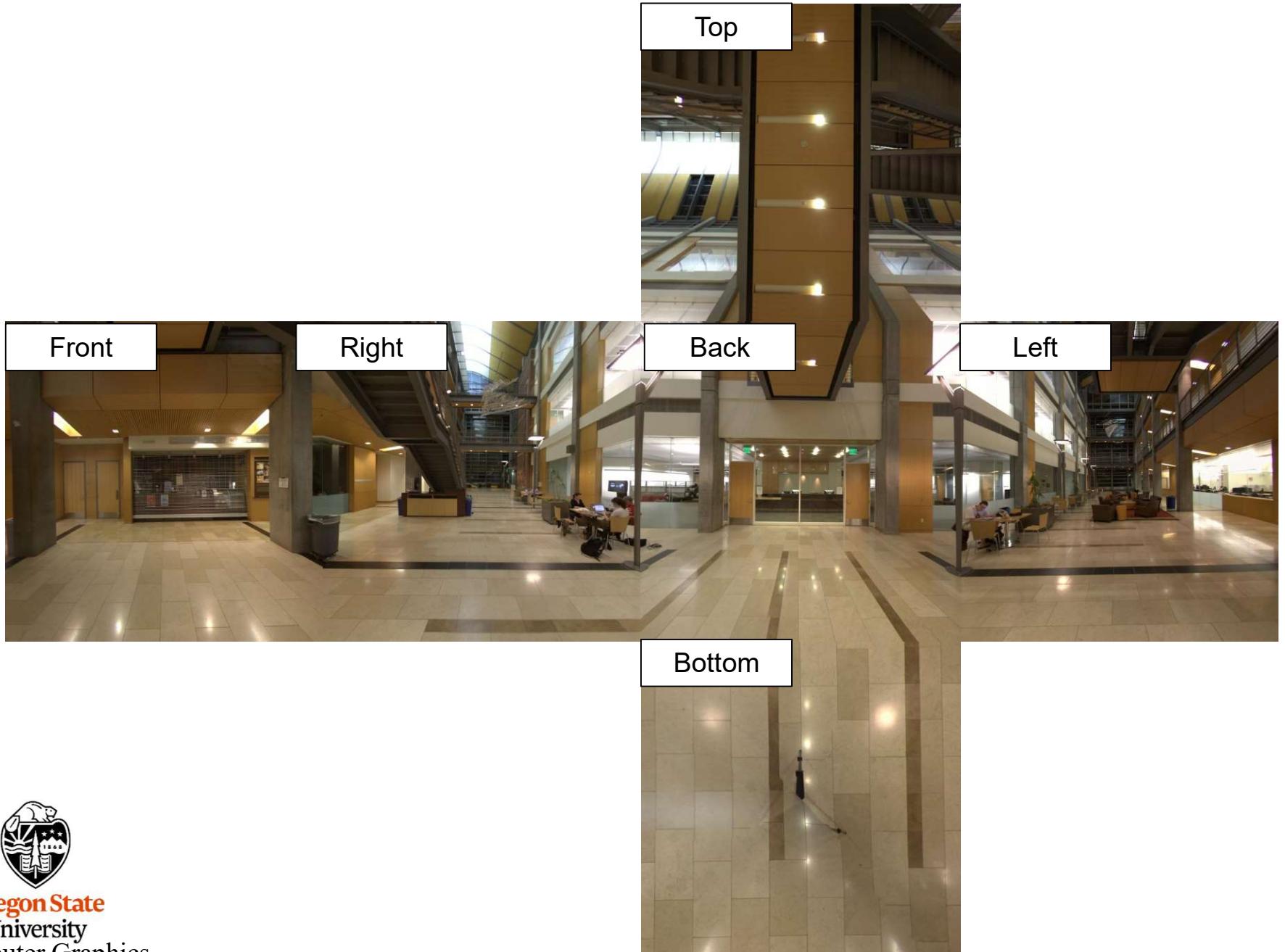
<https://www.humus.name/index.php?page=Textures&start=0>

to find lots of cool cube map textures.

You can find lots more cube map textures just by Googling: *cube map textures*

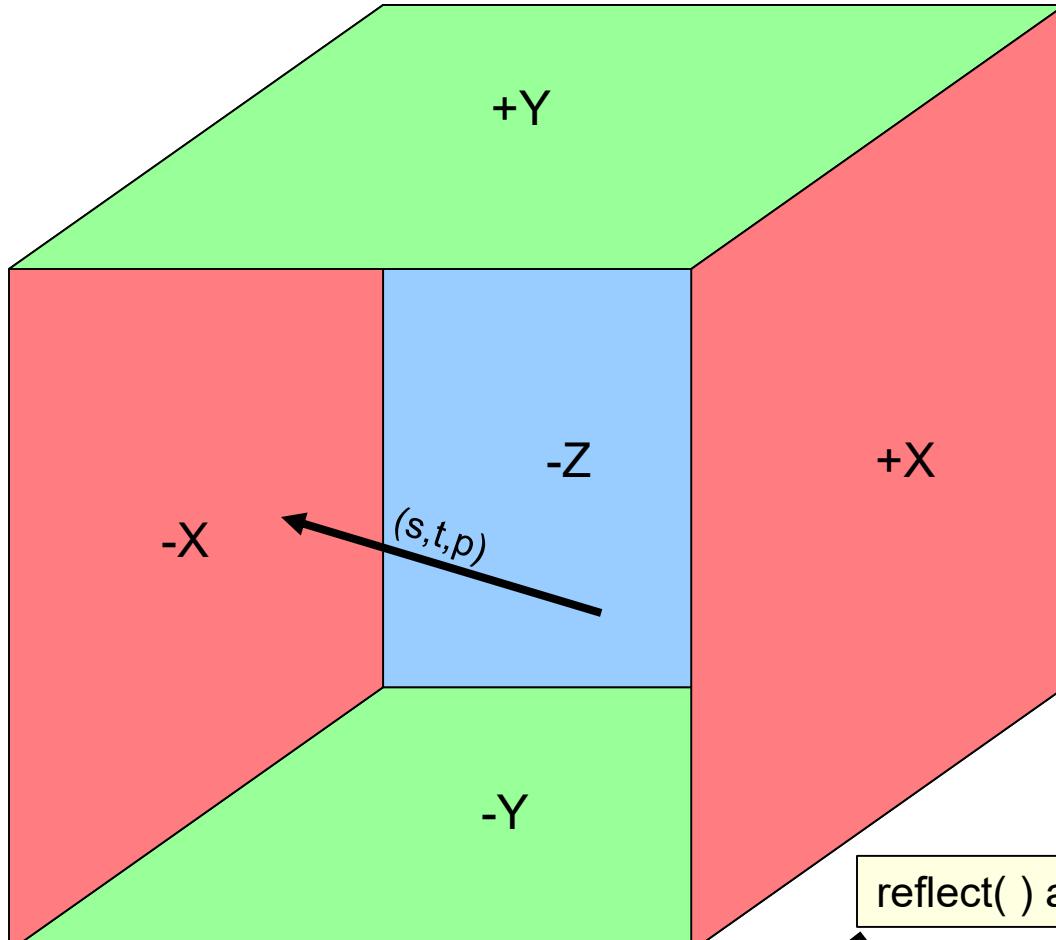
# Cube Map of the Kelley Engineering Center Atrium

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## Cube Map Texture Lookup:

Given an  $(s,t,p)$  direction vector , what  $(r,g,b)$  does that correspond to?

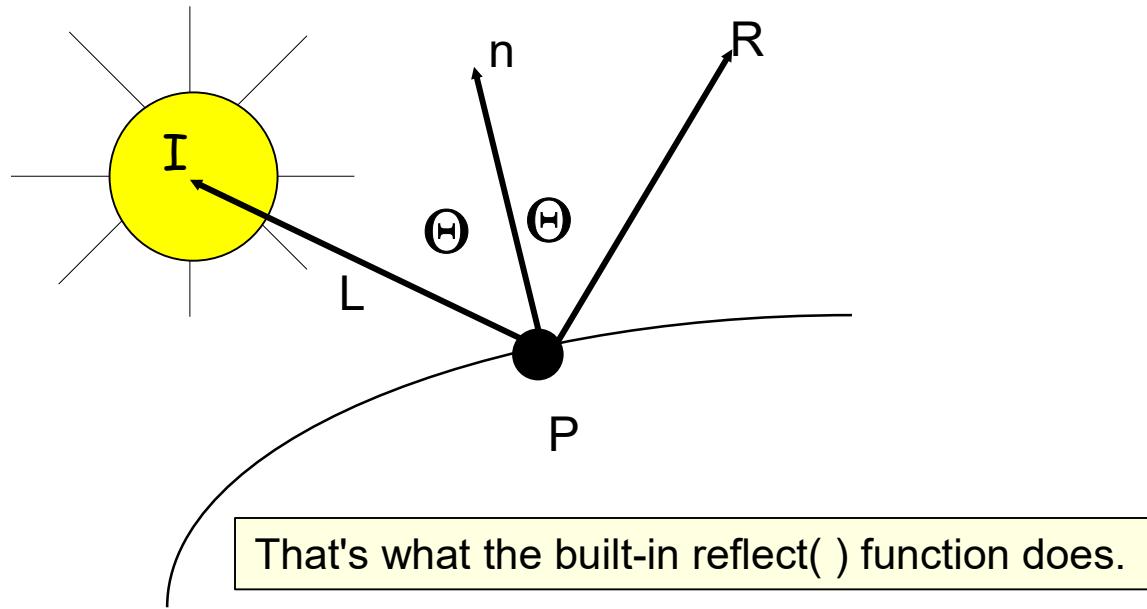


- Let  $L$  be the texture coordinate of  $(s, t, \text{ and } p)$  with the largest *magnitude*
- $L$  determines which of the 6 2D texture “walls” is being hit by the vector  $(-X$  in this case)
- The texture coordinates in that texture are the remaining two texture coordinates divided by  $L$ :  
 $(s=a/L, t=b/L)$

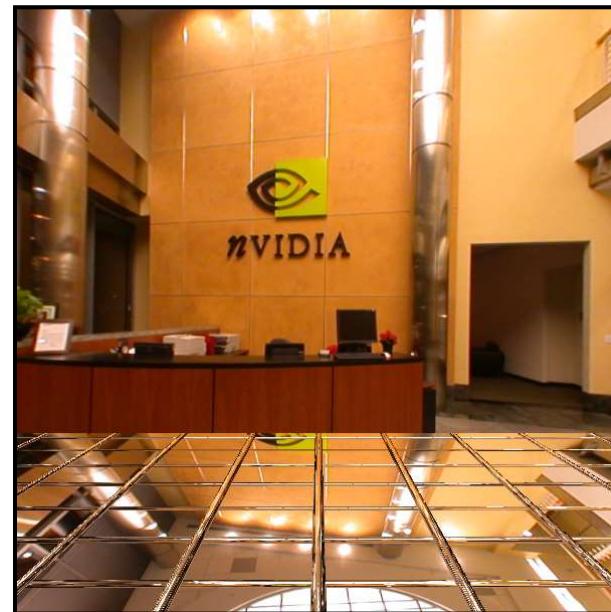
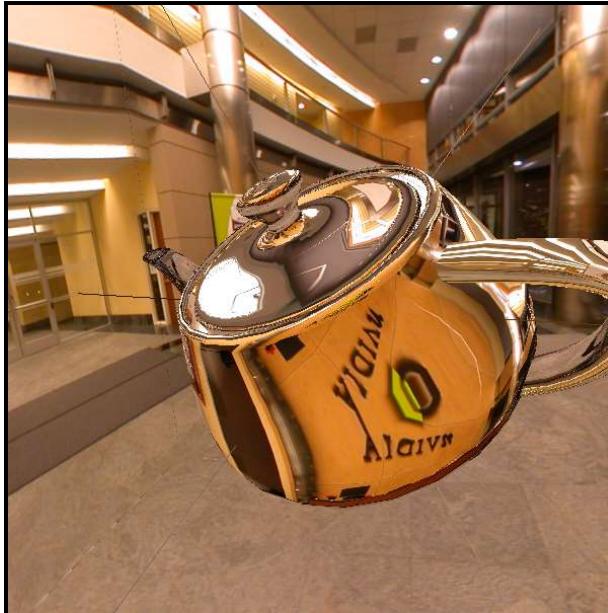
reflect( ) and refract( ) are built-in GLSL functions

```
vec3 ReflectVector = reflect( vec3 eyeDir, vec3 normal );
vec3 RefractVector = refract( vec3 eyeDir, vec3 normal, float Eta );
```

## Remember Angle-of-Reflection-Equals-Angle-of-Incidence from Lighting? 8



## Using the Cube Map for Reflection



## Using the Cube Map for Reflection

Vertex shader

```
out vec3          vNormal;
out vec3          vEyeDir;
out vec3          vMC;

void
main( )
{
    vec4 newVertex = gl_Vertex;
        // could possibly apply displacements to newVertex here
    vMC = newVertex.xyz;
    vec3 ECposition = ( gl_ModelViewMatrix * newVertex).xyz;
    vEyeDir = ECposition - vec3(0.,0.,0.);           // vector from eye to pt
    vNormal = normalize( gl_NormalMatrix * gl_Normal );
        // or newNormal if you have displaced vertices
    gl_Position = gl_ModelViewProjectionMatrix * newVertex;
}
```

## Using the Cube Map for Reflection

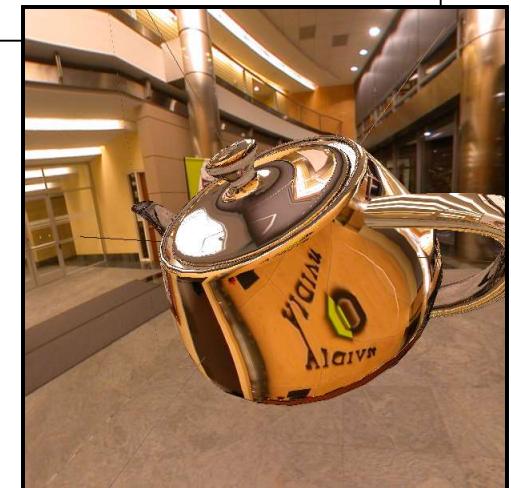
Fragment shader

```

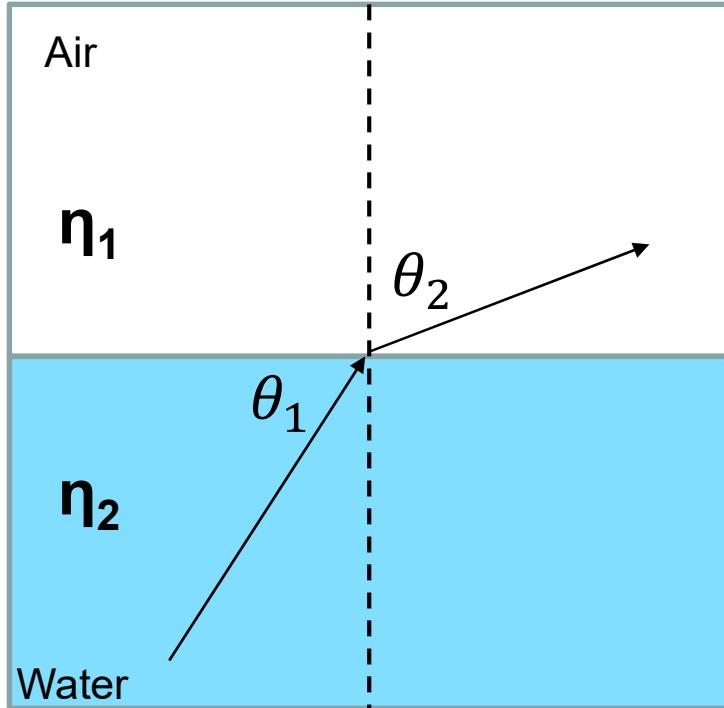
in vec3 vNormal;
in vec3 vEyeDir;
in vec3 vMC;
uniform samplerCube uReflectUnit;

void
main( )
{
    vec3 normal = vNormal;
        // if you are bump-mapping, apply noise to normal here using vMC
    vec3 reflectVector = reflect( vEyeDir, normal );
    vec4 reflectColor = texture( uReflectUnit, reflectVector ); // on Macs, use textureCube( )
    gl_FragColor = vec4( reflectColor.rgb, 1. );
}

```



## The Index of Refraction, $\eta$ (eta)



The Index of Refraction (IOR) is a measure of how much light slows down as it passes through a particular material. The larger the IOR, the slower the speed of light in that material.

Snell's Law of Refraction says that:

$$\frac{\sin\theta_2}{\sin\theta_1} = \frac{n_1}{n_2}$$

Or:  
 $\sin\theta_2 = \sin\theta_1 \frac{n_1}{n_2}$

That's what the built-in `refract( )` function does.

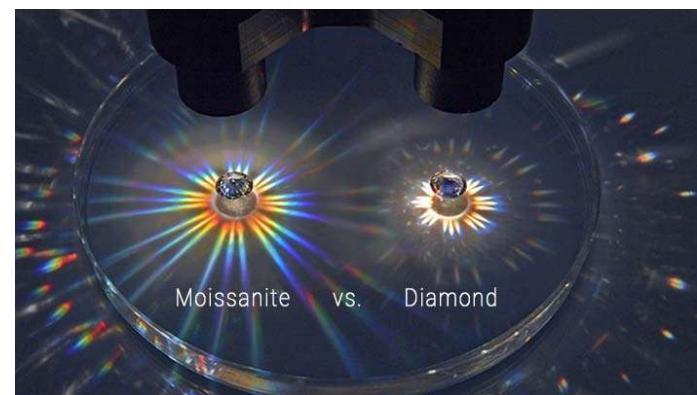


Notice that there are certain combinations of the  $\eta$ 's that require  $\sin\Theta_2$  to be outside the range  $-1. \rightarrow +1.$ , which is not possible. This indicates that the refraction has actually become a **Total Internal Reflection**.

## Common Indices of Refraction

Material	$\eta$
Air	1.000237
Ice	1.31
Water	1.33
Pyrex	1.47
Window Glass	1.52
Quartz	1.54
Cubic Zirconia	2.16
Diamond	2.42
Moissanite	2.69

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_refractive\\_indices](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_refractive_indices)



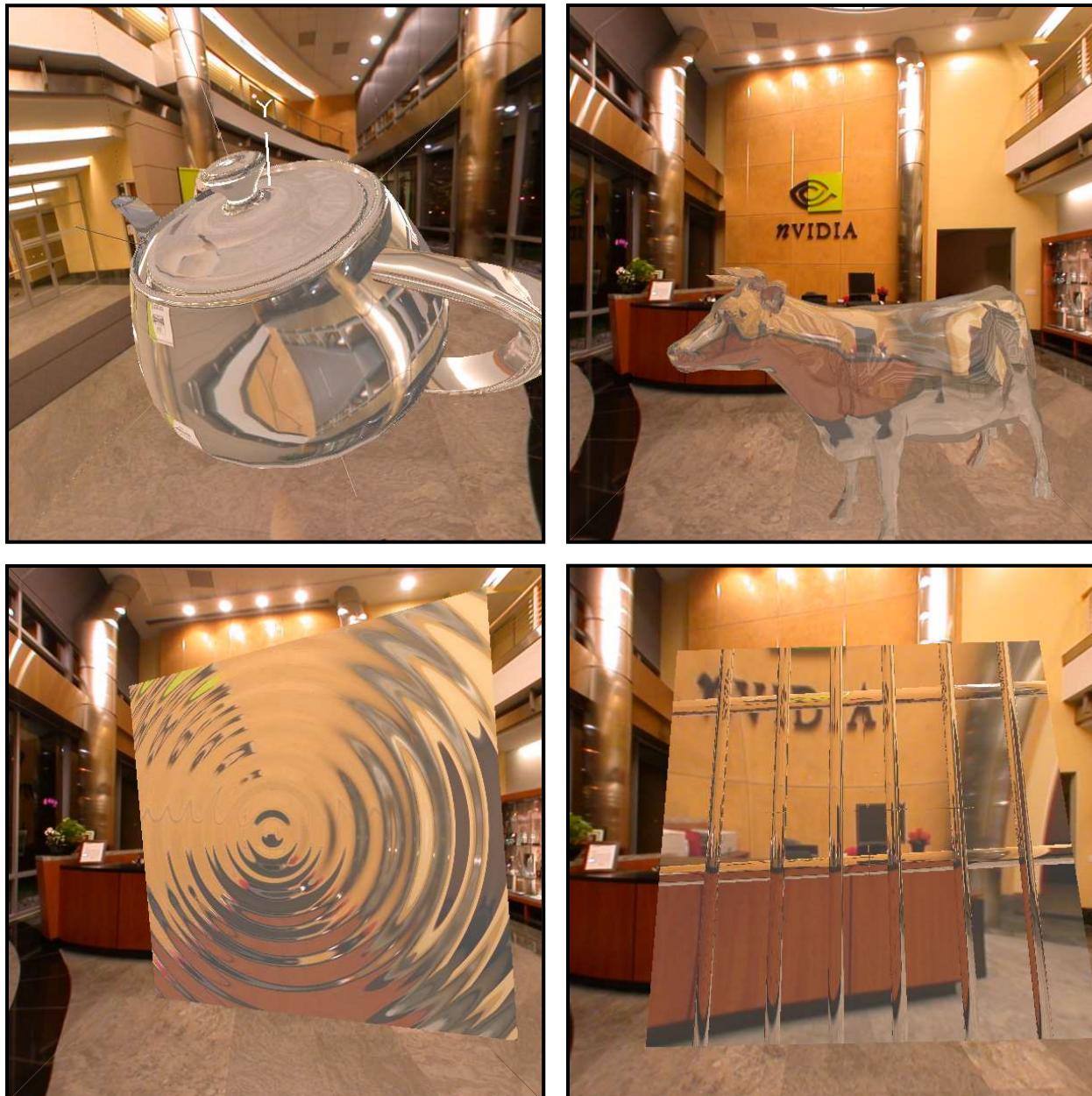
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<https://discover.charlesandcolvard.com/our-brand/everything-you-need-to-know-about-moissanite-vs-diamonds/>

mjb – December 26, 2024

## Using the Cube Map for Refraction



# Using the Cube Map for Refraction

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Vertex shader

```
out vec3          vNormal;
out vec3          vEyeDir;
out vec3          vMC;

void
main( )
{
    vec4 newVertex = gl_Vertex;
        // could possibly apply displacements to newVertex here
    vMC = newVertex.xyz;
    vec3 ECposition = ( gl_ModelViewMatrix * newVertex).xyz;
    vEyeDir = ECposition - vec3(0.,0.,0.);           // vector from eye to pt
    vNormal = normalize( gl_NormalMatrix * gl_Normal );
        // or newNormal if you have displaced vertices
    gl_Position = gl_ModelViewProjectionMatrix * newVertex;
}
```

Same as for reflection...



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# Using the Cube Map for Refraction

Fragment shader

```

in vec3 vNormal;
in vec3 vEyeDir;
in vec3 vMC;

uniform float uEta;
uniform samplerCube uReflectUnit;
uniform samplerCube uRefractUnit;
uniform float uMix, uWhiteMix;

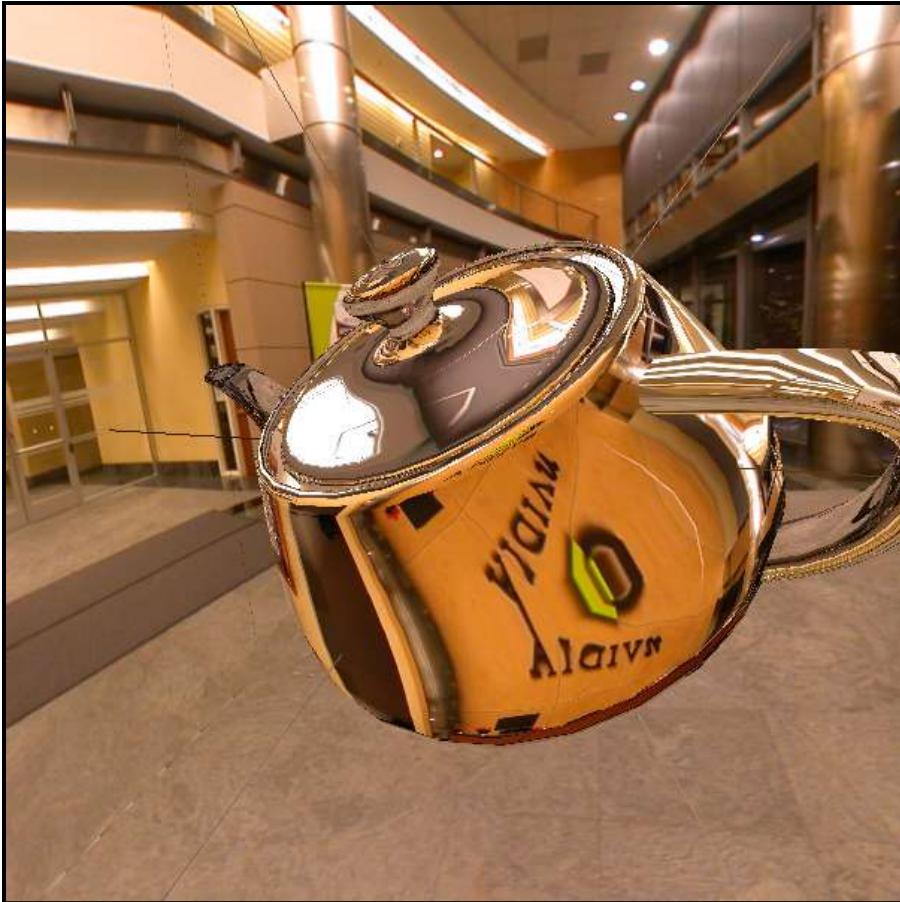
const vec3 WHITE = vec3( 1.,1.,1. );

void main( )
{
    vec3 normal = vNormal;
                                // if you are bump-mapping, apply noise to normal here using vMC
    vec3 reflectVector = reflect( vEyeDir, normal );
    vec3 reflectColor = texture( uReflectUnit, reflectVector ).rgb;           // on Macs, use textureCube( )

    vec3 refractVector = refract( vEyeDir, normal, uEta );
    vec3 refractColor;
    if( all( equal( refractVector, vec3(0.0,0.0,0.0) ) ) )                  // like saying "if all elements of the refractVector are == 0.0 ..."
    {
        refractColor = reflectColor;                                         // ... then treat this as a total internal reflection
    }
    else
    {
        refractColor = texture( uRefractUnit, refractVector ).rgb;          // on Macs, use textureCube( )
        refractColor = mix( refractColor, WHITE, uWhiteMix );
    }
    vec3 color = mix( refractColor, reflectColor, uMix );
    color = mix( color, WHITE, uWhiteMix );
    gl_FragColor = vec4(color, 1. );
}

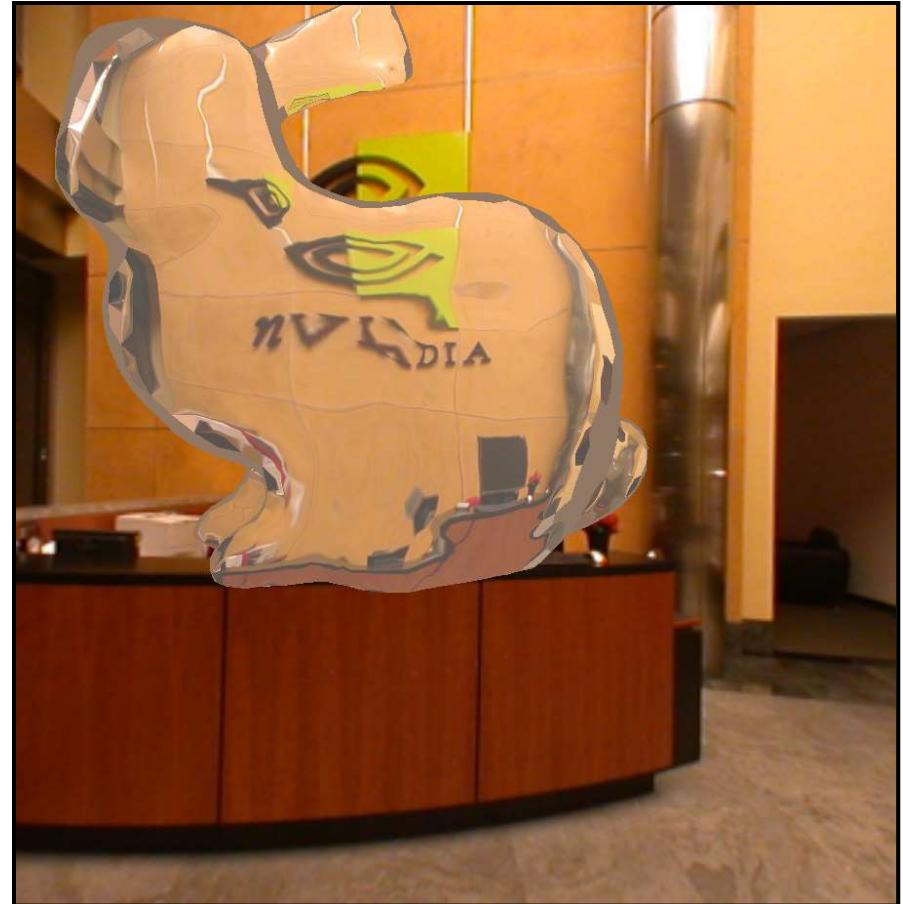
```





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## Cube Mapping in glman

.glb file

```
##OpenGL GLIB
Perspective 70

Vertex texture.vert
Fragment texture.frag
Program Texture TexUnit 6

Texture2D 6 nvposx.bmp
QuadYZ 5. 5. 10 10
Texture2D 6 nvnegx.bmp
QuadYZ -5. 5. 10 10
Texture2D 6 nvposy.bmp
QuadXZ 5. 5. 10 10
Texture2D 6 nvnegy.bmp
QuadXZ -5. 5. 10 10
Texture2D 6 nvposz.bmp
QuadXY 5. 5. 10 10
Texture2D 6 nvnegz.bmp
QuadXY -5. 5. 10 10
```

***These have nothing to do with the cube mapping. They are here to create the six walls, without which the cube mapping looks ridiculous.***

These must be listed in the order:  
 $+X, -X, +Y, -Y, +Z, -Z$

```
CubeMap 5 nvposx.bmp nvnegx.bmp nvposy.bmp nvnegy.bmp nvposz.bmp nvnegz.bmp
CubeMap 6 nvposx.bmp nvnegx.bmp nvposy.bmp nvnegy.bmp nvposz.bmp nvnegz.bmp
```

```
Vertex refract.vert
Fragment refract.frag
Program Refract uReflectUnit 5 uRefractUnit 6 uEta <.1 1.1 5.> uMix <0. 0. 1.>
```

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```
GLSLProgram Pattern;  
  
GLuint          CubeName;  
  
char *          FaceFiles[6]  
{  
    "kec.posx.bmp",  
    "kec.negx.bmp",  
    "kec.posy.bmp",  
    "kec.negy.bmp",  
    "kec.posz.bmp",  
    "kec.negz.bmp"  
};
```

## Cube Mapping in a C/C++ Program

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```
void
InitGraphics( )
{
    // open the window . . .
    // setup the callbacks . . .
    // initialize glew . . .
    // create and compile the shader . . .

    glGenTextures( 1, &CubeName );
    glBindTexture( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP, CubeName );
    glTexParameteri( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP, GL_TEXTURE_WRAP_S, GL_REPEAT );
    glTexParameteri( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP, GL_TEXTURE_WRAP_T, GL_REPEAT );
    glTexParameteri( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP, GL_TEXTURE_WRAP_R, GL_REPEAT );
    glTexParameteri( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP, GL_TEXTURE_MAG_FILTER, GL_LINEAR );
    glTexParameteri( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP, GL_TEXTURE_MIN_FILTER, GL_LINEAR );

    for( int file = 0; file < 6; file++ )
    {
        int nums, numt;
        unsigned char * texture2d = BmpToTexture( FaceFiles[file], &nums, &numt );
        if( texture2d == NULL )
            fprintf( stderr, "Could not open BMP 2D texture '%s'", FaceFiles[file] );
        else
            fprintf( stderr, "BMP 2D texture '%s' read -- nums = %d, numt = %d\n", FaceFiles[file], nums, numt );

        glTexImage2D( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP_POSITIVE_X + file, 0, 3, nums, numt, 0,
                      GL_RGB, GL_UNSIGNED_BYTE, texture2d );

        delete [ ] texture2d;
    }
}
```

## Cube Mapping in a C/C++ Program

```
void
Display( )
{
    ...
    int uReflectUnit = 5;
    int uRefractUnit = 6;
    float uAd = 0.1f;
    float uBd = 0.1f;
    float uEta = 1.4f;
    float uTol = 0.f;
    float uMix = 0.4f;

    Pattern.Use( );
    glBindTexture( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP, CubeName );
    glEnable(GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP);
    glBindTexture( GL_TEXTURE_CUBE_MAP, CubeName );

    Pattern.SetUniformVariable( "uReflectUnit", uReflectUnit );
    Pattern.SetUniformVariable( "uRefractUnit", uRefractUnit );
    Pattern.SetUniformVariable( "uMix", uMix );
    Pattern.SetUniformVariable( "uEta", uEta )

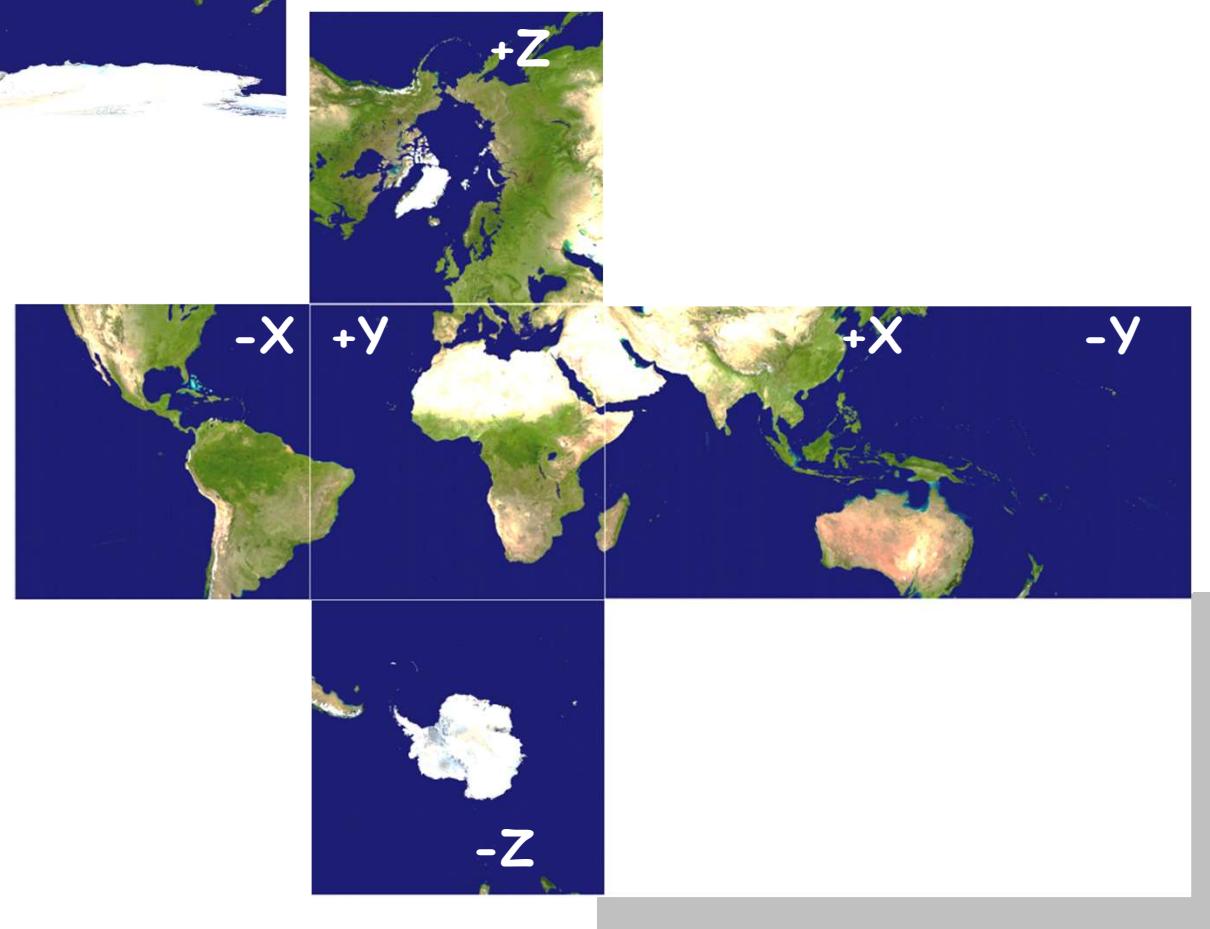
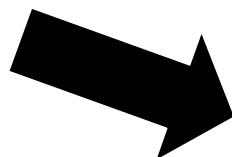
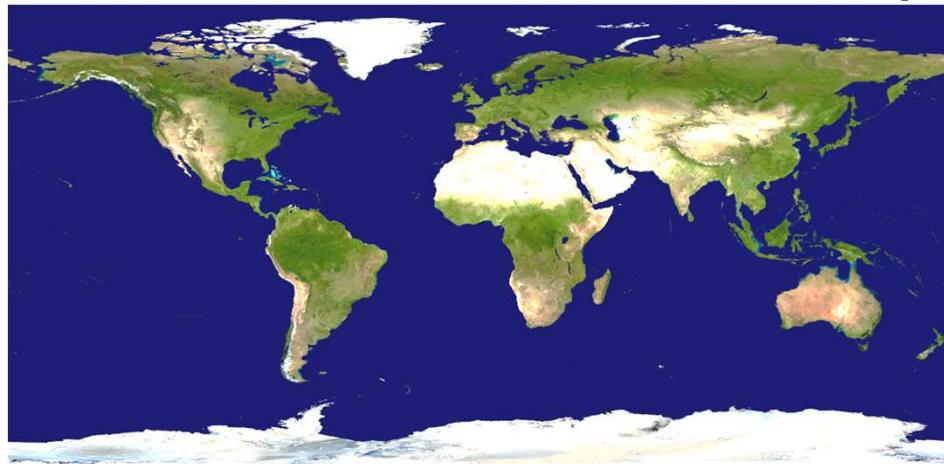
    glCallList( SphereList );
    Pattern.UnUse;
}
```



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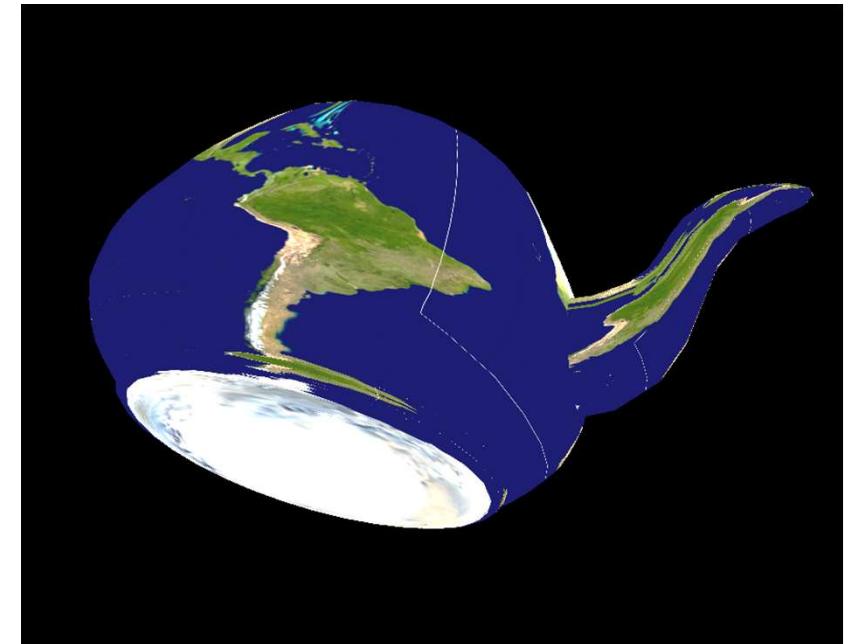
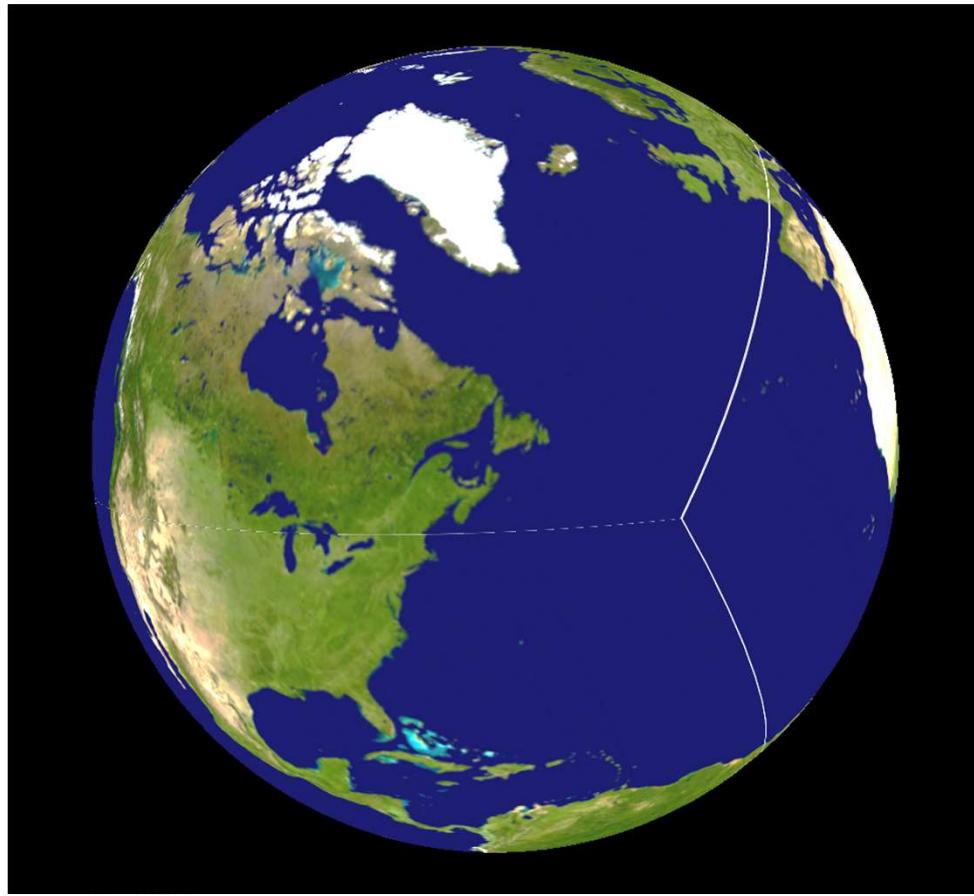
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Sidebar: You Can Also Use Cube Mapping to "Surround" an Object with a Texture:<sup>24</sup>  
A Cube Map of the World



## Sidebar: You Can Also Use Cube Mapping to "Surround" an Object with a Texture: A Cube Map of the World

Use the normal ( $n_x, n_y, n_z$ ) as the (s,t,p) for the 3D lookup



(Some shapes map better than others...)

## Sidebar: You Can Also Use Cube Mapping to "Surround" an Object with a Texture: A Cube Map of the World



Vertex shader

```
out vec3 vNormal;  
  
void  
main( )  
{  
    vNormal = normalize( gl_Normal );  
  
    gl_Position = gl_ModelViewProjectionMatrix * gl_Vertex;  
}
```

Use the normal ( $n_x, n_y, n_z$ ) as the (s, t, p) for the 3D lookup

Fragment shader

```
uniform samplerCube uTexUnit;  
in vec3 vNormal;  
  
void  
main( )  
{  
    vec4 newcolor = texture( uTexUnit, vNormal );  
    gl_FragColor = vec4( newcolor.rgb, 1. );  
}
```

