Photo-Realistic 3D Models and Animations for Video Games and Films

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ABSTRACT

Realistic 3D objects are challenging to create. A detailed creation requires care if we can make remarkable detail and realism using techniques and a solid reference photo. In this post, we may learn how to construct beautiful, realistic scene objects using comprehensive procedures. This article shows how to use the Pen Tool and Blending Options to create a 3D animated scene. This work teaches simple Layer Styles to create beautiful shadows, lights, textures, and a realistic 3D feel. This work also shows how attractive illumination and rendering options may produce a natural scene. This article also shows how to make photo-realistic 3D models from digital images. This work teaches Illustrator pathways, texturing, essential lighting and rendering, texture application, and building and object parenting. This approach might even reconstruct tiny features or 3D items from 2D images. After a critical art stage, we can present the architecture of an animation design technique in this article. The goal is a conceptual and methodological lesson to approach this topic scientifically and practically. This goal also includes developing a scientifically sound paradigm to help comprehend realistic animation processes.

Key words:
Three Dimension, Animation, Modeling, Rendering, Keyframe, Games

INTRODUCTION

Software and hardware are utilized to actualize the representation of lights, shadows, and textures. A photo-realistic scene is a collection of objects specified geometrically in three-dimensional space. These items also have viewing, cloud, and lighting attributes that are associated with them (Deming et al., 2018). This article provides a concise presentation of the various approaches to modeling a 3D scene that has been investigated in previous
research, as well as how all of these factors have contributed to the formation of an environment. This article examines how shadows and lights are applied to the renderings of a photo-realistic work and their significant influence on a 3D scene through layer styles in preparation for future animations (Sekeroglu, 2012).

Technology and the arts are brought together in full in 3D computer graphics, a profession that offers various career opportunities. The motion picture and television industries are currently the primary focus of 3D computer graphics development (Desamsetti, 2016b). Because of this, it is rare to find a movie that does not have special effects that were developed entirely or partly on a computer.

The term “virtual reality” refers to an experience created when three-dimensional images are made interactive so that viewers feel like they are a part of the scene. Because of this, the location that is formed can be made to appear to be disconnected from reality. Working with textures, volumes, and light drawings makes 3D graphics more complicated. The creation of meshes, parametric surfaces, procedural surfaces, implicit surfaces, and volumetric models have all benefited from developing a wide variety of sketch-based modeling tools (Desamsetti, 2016a).

The recent advancements in sampling techniques have made it possible for digital images, sounds, and videos to become an integral part of our everyday lives. Each day, people's activities became more and more intertwined with the world's design, which became increasingly popular (Dekkati et al., 2019). The recent advancement of 3D graphics has made it possible to shape complicated objects or scenes in 3D. This was previously impossible. The capacity of the sketch-based modeling techniques to provide a high-level surface paradigm based on a low-level volumetric representation is the primary benefit of using these techniques rather than the voxel-based ones (Dekkati & Thaduri, 2017). A spectator's attention can be directed to a particular scene component through the strategic use of light (Desamsetti, 2018).

USES OF 3D ANIMATION

When most people think about 3D Animation, the first thing that comes to mind is 3D Modeling for video games. This is because 3D modeling for video games is one of the most common services in the video game business. However, although the two terms are interchangeable, other industries have begun incorporating 3D Animation to simplify messages more effectively (Gao, 2013). How is 3D Animation utilized in many different fields? In this section, we take a look at the various sectors, such as medical, marketing, and education, and discuss the craft’s application and impact there:

- **Media and Entertainment**: The role that 3D animation plays in the media sector, specifically character animation, is the most well-known application of this Technology. With the release of Toy Story, the history and success of 3D Animation in the entertainment business have been firmly established. It also brings up a more comprehensive take on the argument between computer-generated imagery and three-dimensional Animation (Bodepudi et al., 2019). Even more so than before, three-dimensional Animation is becoming increasingly prevalent in the industry. In particular, compared to the past ten to fifteen years, 3D Animation in television series is becoming increasingly common (Chen et al., 2019). Nothing like this would have been complicated and expensive, even a few years ago. However, energy enchantment is broader than seen on television and in the movies. The use of 3D
Animation can be found in a variety of different entertainment mediums. These include three-dimensional Modeling for commercials, music videos, and live stage performances!

- **Education**: Because students’ attention spans are getting shorter and more demanding subjects aren’t necessarily the most excellent combination, many teachers find it challenging to convey tough concepts. However, because of the advent of 3D Animation, instructors now have a simpler time explaining these complex concepts. After all, many students find that visual cues that explain concepts clearly and concisely improve their learning (Desamsetti & Lal, 2019). One of the many applications of three-dimensional Animation is producing educational content that is engaging and easy to recall. This is highly effective with younger audiences, mainly because of the prevalence of 3D art in the various forms of media they consume daily (Ballamudi et al., 2021). Many educators frequently use 3D Animation in the classroom nowadays, and it is used to illustrate scientific processes, historical events, and even mathematics difficulties to various audiences (Bodepudi et al., 2019).

- **Medicine**: As with educational programs, medical training involves many intricate procedures requiring extended instruction. The viewers are led through complex physiological processes by the 3D animations accompanied by educational movies. Even if one has yet to gain direct experience with the task, the films can comprehensively understand it. In medicine, transitioning from the era of static, physical 3D models to the age of 3D Animation is likewise a step forward. Now, students of treatment can observe all of the movements a natural human body performs. When training for an unusual operation or a novel method, 3D Animation is an excellent choice (Yu et al., 2017).

- **Marketing**: Numerous research studies have repeated their findings that exposing one’s brain to visual art improves memory and retention. According to the statistics, approximately 74% of users downloaded an application or software after seeing the brand’s video; 84% of consumers were convinced to buy a product or service through the brand’s video; and 80% of marketers believed videos to be crucial in their increase in sales. We’ve got a winning combo if you combine the power of video with the allure of three-dimensional Animation. A company’s marketing goals should be considered before designing 3D Animation (Koehler et al., 2020). There are, however, a few things that you need to be aware of.

- **3D Games**: A study by Fyber indicated that playable advertising is the type of in-app advertisement that marketers consider the most successful overall. Therefore, if you are releasing your 3D game, a playable 3D ad is the best way to pique the curiosity of the people you are trying to reach. This is because you can display the beauty of your game and demonstrate the gameplay of your product in the most effective manner feasible (Ballamudi & Desamsetti, 2017).

- **Understanding Complex Ideas**: The 3D strategy is the most suitable for newly established businesses that offer groundbreaking new products or services. A novel concept can be more effectively communicated to an audience through the use of 3D animated advertisements, which are comparable to video explainers (Lal, 2015). It is visually appealing, attractive, and has the potential to be immersive.

- **Reusable 3D Assets**: When advertising wants to convey a story — specifically, in a series — having materials that can be reused in 3D is ideal. Throughout the customer
journey, your marketing collaterals remain constant, enhancing the experience of your target audience and moving them closer to loving your brand and purchasing from you (Lal, 2016).

- **Military and Police:** The potential for physical harm can be mitigated by using 3D Animation in training members of the armed forces and the police. The design of the military’s and the police’s machining and engineering may also be done in 3D Animation if the Technology permits it. This leads to improved machine performance without necessitating the need for actual manufacturing testing to be carried out (Lal et al., 2018).

- **Engineering:** The use of 3D Animation in engineering and technology disciplines is highly advanced and has a lot of potential applications. This is because of the amount of time that it saves. The engineers’ design can be previewed on a screen before they waste any resources (Gutlapalli et al., 2019). In addition, users are free to modify and personalize their designs in any way that suits them. If a physical prototype is necessary, 3D models also come to the rescue because they make it possible to create one quickly.

- **Architecture:** One of the most valuable applications of 3D animations is that it allows architects and designers to explore their structures in Virtual Reality (V.R.) or Augmented Reality (A.R.). This is one of the most practical applications of 3D animations. At any time of the day, architects are free to explore the building, enabling them to detect and correct any architectural flaws. Before, architectural designs had to be presented on flat pieces of paper, representing a significant advancement from that need (Avramescu, 2015).

**DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF 3D ARTWORK**

As noted before, 3D is a large subject, and a typical completed picture will result from several, if not hundreds, hours of work with various talents. In the following paragraphs, you will get an outline of the topics you should study to develop into a well-rounded 3D artist.

**Modeling:** No, you won’t be hitting the catwalk any time soon to show off your slick moves. I do hope that is not the case. The creation of a three-dimensional mesh is what Modeling refers to, regardless of whether the end product is a bug-eyed extraterrestrial or a teacup. The steps you take to complete that model are primarily determined by the strategies that make the most intuitive sense to you as an individual (Ji & Liu, 2016).

**Animation:** The art of bringing a three-dimensional thing to life by giving it motion is known as Animation. There are many distinct styles within the realm of Animation. One type of Animation is called keyframe animation (Ballamudi, 2016). In this type of Animation, the animator moves the elements in the scene one frame at a time, much like in traditional hand-drawn cartoons. Other ways of Animation include positioning items on splines and directing them to follow the direction of the curve, as well as importing data from motion capture and applying it to a character rig to simulate their movements (Mandapuram & Hosen, 2018). Use the built-in physics engines of your 3D program to animate, for example, if your scene calls for items to fall to the ground. This is yet another approach to liven.
Texturing: Texture artists are responsible for the aesthetic appeal of models (Gutlapalli, 2017a). Without some textured art, everything will be different, with solid colors in varying tones. The method that is both the most frequent and the most accurate for creating a texture for a model is to "unwrap" the mesh, flatten it out, and then paint over it using a program like Photoshop. After that, the completed texture is "wrapped" over the primary mesh again. Each has its texture. For example, a character might have a different surface for their hands, a different one for their arms, and a different one for their torso, even though they’re all designed to blend in perfectly with one another.

Rendering: The process of rendering a picture is almost always the final stage in any workflow pipeline, and it is also likely the most significant component of the process. It is a stage that novices frequently skip or brush over since they are more concerned with developing and animating models (Mandapuram et al., 2018). Several facets go into creating a decent final render of a scene, including paying attention to the placement of the camera, making lighting decisions that might alter the scene's mood and shadows, handling reflections and transparency, and manipulating special effects like fluids or gases (Gutlapalli, 2017b).

Everything else: Developing a high-quality end product also involves many additional considerations. The scenes must be placed correctly, and the standard method for doing so is to work off of a pre-visualization representation or a quick pencil drawing (Ballamudi, 2020). For Animation to work correctly, character models need to have proper rigging, which is an art form in and of itself (Reddy et al., 2020). In many large 3D studios, there is likely to be a small team of artists whose primary responsibility is to rig up models developed by modelers so that animators may use them. Finally, the majority of large software packages include the ability to add additional functionality to the core program through the use of plugins. Programmers may choose to incorporate features that are required to finish a specific scenario or type of Animation (Gutlapalli, 2016).

3D MODELING

Modeling turns a form into a 3D mesh. Most 3D models start with a primitive and "grow" into a polished, complex design. Primitives include vertex, edge, spline, and three-dimensional objects. Each primitive can be changed to create an item using your 3D software (Desamsetti, 2020). You'll discover one way to generate a 3D model and use it repeatedly. 3D artists should know how to apply all three methods to construct a model.

- **Spline or patch modeling:** Splines are 3D curves with at least two control points. Bezier curves and NURBS are the most prevalent 3D splines. Maya has a solid NURBS modeling basis. The oldest and most traditional 3D modeling method is spline. Create a spline cage as the object’s "skeleton." The software creates a 3D skin around the shape by extending an area of polygons between two splines. Spline modeling is rarely utilized for character generation since it takes so long to build effective models. Without much alteration, created models aren't helpful for Animation. Spline modeling is mainly used to make cars, buildings, and furniture. Splines are great for producing angular-curved designs. Spline modeling is best for 3D scenes with curved geometry (Gao, 2013).

- **Box modeling:** Box modeling is the most popular and resembles sculpting. In inbox modeling, one starts with a primitive (typically a cube) and adds detail by "slicing" and extending its faces to achieve the desired form. The model's fundamental shape is created using box modeling. Once trained, the technique yields good results...
quickly. Unfortunately, the method involves a lot of model adjusting. A model with an animation-friendly surface topology is challenging to develop (Thaduri et al., 2016). Box modeling helps build organic characters. Box models can construct rigid objects like buildings, but exact curving shapes are more complex.

- **Poly modeling/edge extrusion**: A bit tricky to start with, poly Modeling is one of the most influential and precise methods. Poly Modeling involves face-by-face point-by-point 3D mesh creation. One usually begins with a quad (a 3D object with 4 points) and extrudes an edge to create a second quad. This makes the 3D model gradual. Poly Modeling is slower than box modeling, but it requires less mesh adjusting to get it "just right," you can design the animation topology ahead of time. Poly Modeling may build organic or rigid objects, although it works best for organic models (Thaduri & Lal, 2020).

**Workflow that Works**

How familiar you are with a technique, the object you’re making, and your product goals will determine your model creation approach. A designer of an architectural setting may use cubes and other simple shapes to sketch the idea (Ballamudi, 2019c). Meshes can be refined or replaced with more detailed objects during the project. Professional scene creators use this systematic, well-planned method to simplify scenario development. However, beginners rush in headfirst and work on the most detailed objects. This method is intimidating and can quickly frustrate and overwhelm. Sketch the first tweak afterward. Beginners often start with the most intricate elements of an organic model and fill in the rest, generating a chaotic character (Ballamudi, 2019a). This may explain box modeling’s popularity. A modeler can finish the figure before adding eyes, mouth, and ears. Creating organic models using a mixed process may be preferable. Combining box and poly modeling creates a well-planned organic form. Box modeling sketches the arms, legs, and torso, while poly modeling details the head, hands, and feet. This tradeoff helps expert modelers avoid getting bogged down in details (Lal & Ballamudi, 2017). It can distinguish a fully developed character from one that is only an idea.

**Mesh Topology**

A model with an ideal 3D mesh topology is another process consideration. The creation of animation models involves topology optimization. It is vital to prepare ahead when developing 3D objects for Animation since models with a smooth, circular topology may perform correctly. Creating or placing edge loops is the most discussed topology. Edgeloops are polygon rings positioned where the model can distort, such as in Animation. Polygon rings are commonly put around the shoulder and elbow muscles. Edgeloop placement is crucial for faces. Ignoring edge loops causes models to "tear" when animated, requiring rework or scrapping in favor of a correctly planned model.

**The Foundations of 3D Animation**

There are typically two basic modes via which Animation in 3D applications can occur. Both may be employed in more significant projects (Sun & Ge, 2014).

**Keyframe Animation**

The most well-known and oldest type of Animation is called keyframe animation, also spelled keyframing. Some examples of Animation created frame by frame date back to
Egypt in 1600 B.C. The first examples of modern keyframing techniques may be found in the early cartoons that animation pioneers such as Winsor McCay and Walt Disney made. Since the early 1900s, keyframing methods have remained the same; most fundamental ideas still apply today. This fact may come as a surprise to you. What has changed is that 3D software packages have made it easier to execute keyframing, which means that a wider variety of artists may now learn how to animate.

Changing an item’s form, location, distance, or timing in successive frames is the essence of keyframing. The keyframes are the frames in which the object undergoes the most significant transformations. In classic, hand-drawn 2D Animation, each frame is typically created one at a time. When animation frames are exhibited one after the other, such as in a movie, the minute variances in each frame give the impression that the Animation is moving (Thodupunori & Gutlapalli, 2018). By interpolating, also known as "tweening," the structures between keyframes, 3D software packages simplify the process of keyframe animation. In the process of animating a falling ball, for instance, one of the keyframes may depict the ball while it is still in mid-air, the following keyframe could show the ball as it makes contact with the ground, and the critical structure that follows that would depict the ball as it deforms as a result of the collision (Mandapuram et al., 2020). The software will then automatically compute all the frames in between, including the squish at the bottom (Desamsetti & Mandapuram, 2017). As a result, the natural process of Animation consists of nothing more than the creation of a few excellent keyframes.

**Motion Capture**

Because of the constraints imposed by the Technology at the time, motion capture, also known as mocap, was first utilized only in a limited capacity (Ferreira et al., 2016). However, as the method continues to develop, it is gaining popularity in various fields, including Animation for video games and computer-generated effects in films. Motion capture delivers immediacy that is not present in the more conventional animation techniques, such as keyframing, a style of Animation that is precise but slow. Mocap subjects, who are typically actors, are outfitted with a one-of-a-kind suit equipped with sensors that capture the movement of their limbs as they move. After that, the data is connected to the rig of a 3D character, and the Animation is created by the 3D software using that data.

Because motion capture has a few drawbacks, learning how to use it might be challenging for beginners interested in 3D Animation. To begin, there is the expense involved in utilizing mocap technology, which can range anywhere from a few thousand to tens of thousands of dollars. Because of this, most newly trained 3D artists must learn how to implement this animation style into a project by importing mocap data from a mocap library that is made available for purchase (Meng et al., 2017). Mocap animation typically requires cleanup from keyframe artists to make it look more realistic, particularly if the animated character does not have an anatomy or proportions similar to a human’s. This is one of the main drawbacks of mocap, which is that the results are sometimes improvements.

**Animations for Game**

Animating still photographs dates back to the 1800s. New evolutionary offshoots of the art form make the sector more diverse nowadays. Video games provide new potential and constraints in Animation. Video games have extensive energy in Full Motion Video cut-scenes and in-game engine animations across platforms (Lin et al., 2013). FMV can be hand-drawn or C.G., created like film or video footage. With little or no user input, FMV segments
are primarily narrative. The medium's potential comes from in-game engine animations. A great artist can create a story using body language and a few graphics here. "How a character walks (e.g., slouching sadly or bouncing happily) is telling the character's story," says Sam Yip. Disney Interactive senior animator Sam Yip. He worked on "Pirates of the Caribbean Online," "Saints Row," and "Golden Eye: Rogue Agent." He likes traditional Animation and interactive media, although he thinks games and film differ most in their goals. "The goal of [film] animation is to serve a story/narrative, and in video games, the animation's goal is to serve the gameplay so that the game player can create his own story."

In modern games, Voice-over and written plot sequences are prevalent, but the artist's job is to give the avatar personality. Yip says, "Video game animations will have a lot of body movements such as running, walking, swinging a sword, and a lot of them will be cycled." Many genre restrictions apply here. Since a player controls the character, an artist must create plausible, quick-change movements. This dramatically impacts expectations. In traditional and interactive Animation, characters physically prepare for activities through anticipation. Film and television animators can train with the storyboard, making this easy. Games require animators to balance fast character responsiveness and convincing movement (Ballamudi, 2019b). Technical constraints like engine frame rate complicate this operation. "The anticipations in video game animations could be just a few frames," says Yip, "if the frame rate is low and those few frames are skipped, then the player will not see the anticipation at all, which lessens the impact and believability of the animation." Creative planning and movement shortening can fix this.

Though most modern games employ Maya and 3DS Max for 3D Animation, there are several types. New considerations arise. Traditional Animation focuses on the action within the frame, whereas video games let us see events from practically any viewpoint, necessitating a universal approach and more information. As with theatrical C.G., MoCap or Keyframe are options. Some games need a cartoony look that only time-consuming keyed Animation can achieve, while others benefit from MoCap's realism, but a thorough cleanup may be required. Game animation has many intriguing potential and challenges. Participants in this digital playground enjoy a rich and fulfilling experience, creating energy that connects with the audience more personally than ever. (Most studios hire full-time, not contract!) To pursue this career, Sam advises, "Find your passion, and just do it."

**Conclusion**

Graphic representation links imagination, reason, and reality. This article explains how shadows and lights affect scene renderings. Designing a photo-realistic scene nowadays requires understanding and anticipating the needs of viewers. This study reveals that animated scenes help individuals compare information to their knowledge or experience. Our articles explore how lighting and shadows impact 3D Animation in photo-realistic scenes, advancing the design industry. Layer Styles' beneficial qualities include their link to layer contents. Since the style is an independent entity linked to the layer, it updates itself when its contents are updated or moved. These effects are non-destructive and can be readily altered after application.

This article highlights integrating light sources and shadows in a 3D scene. Dynamic 3D lighting and rendering are crucial for creating a realistic scene resembling reality. Each rendering type is tailored to distinct user requirements and characteristics. The comparative investigation yielded a precise result. Mental Ray rendering provides greater credibility and a sense of realism for the location. The research reveals that scene presentation includes
rendering and dynamic 3D lighting, which are crucial for animation creation. This research addresses performance concerns in geometrical Modeling by addressing gaps in the industry, such as adding realism to animated 3D scenarios. The project aims to analyze the dynamic rendering aspects in geometrical Modeling and their prediction value for complicated 3D scene performance.

REFERENCES


