COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIPOS Part IB 75%, Part II 50% – 2019 – Paper 7

6 Further Graphics (pb355)

- (a) The challenge of simulation sickness (sim sickness) in Virtual Reality is a crucial hurdle in creating engaging virtual content.
 - (i) When it comes to avoiding sim sickness, what is the cardinal rule of VR? [1 mark]
 - (*ii*) Succinctly explain the triggers and effects of sim sickness. [2 marks]
 - (iii) List the constraints that sim sickness imposes on user interface design in VR. For each constraint give a one-sentence explanation of how developers must adapt to compensate.
- (b) A mathematician tells you that a mystery shape is composed of polygons forming a closed, connected, manifold mesh without border. They claim that the mesh has 832 vertices, 1,648 edges, and 600 faces. The mathematician wants to know if it is possible that there is a loop of connected polygon edges in the mesh which, if all of those edges were cut apart, would *not* split the mesh into disconnected parts.
 - (i) If you say no, they will want to know why.
 - If you say that you cannot answer, they will want to know why not.
 - If you say yes, they will ask you why; and then they will ask you to find the greatest possible number of such loops that could simultaneously be cut in the mesh.

What do you tell them?

[5 marks]

- (ii) If the mathematician had instead said that the mesh had 832 vertices, 1,648 edges, and 900 faces, would your answer to their question have been different? If so, how?
 [2 marks]
- (c) Implement a Signed Distance Field method cylinder() which returns the signed distance from point p to a finite cylinder segment. The cylinder should go from point a to point b with flat ends and radius r.



float cylinder(vec3 p, vec3 a, vec3 b, float r) {
 // ...
}

[5 marks]