Input and Interaction

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Objectives

- Introduce the basic input devices
  - Physical Devices
  - Logical Devices
  - Input Modes
- Event-driven input
- Introduce double buffering for smooth animations
- Programming event input with GLUT

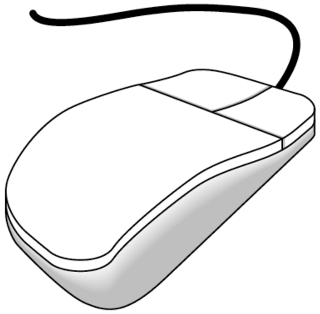
Project Sketchpad

- Ivan Sutherland (MIT 1963) established the basic interactive paradigm that characterizes interactive computer graphics:
    - User sees an *object* on the display
    - User points to (*picks*) the object with an input device (light pen, mouse, trackball)
    - Object changes (moves, rotates, morphs)
    - Repeat

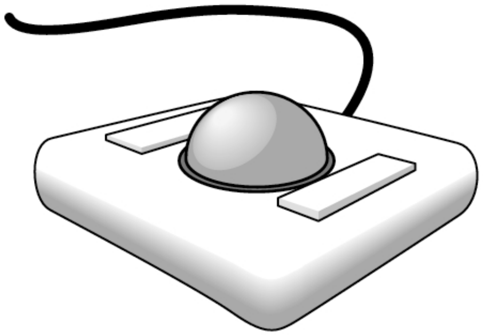
Graphical Input

- Devices can be described either by
  - Physical properties
    - Mouse
    - Keyboard
    - Trackball
  - Logical Properties
    - What is returned to program via API
      - A position
      - An object identifier
- Modes
  - How and when input is obtained
    - Request or event

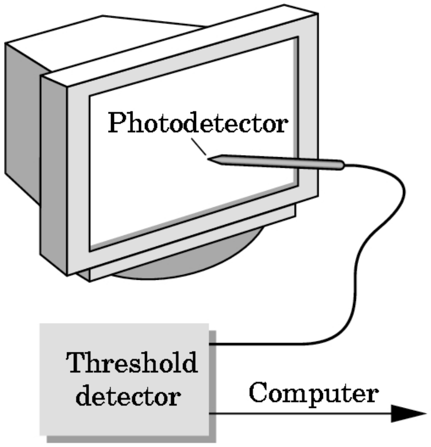
Physical Devices



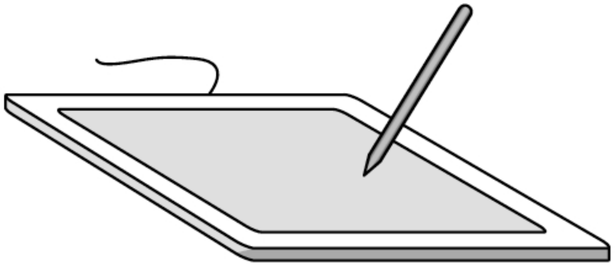
mouse



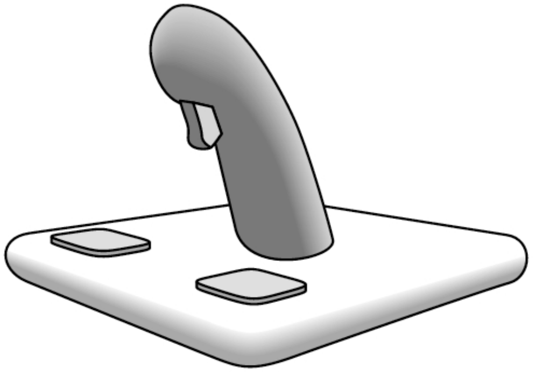
trackball



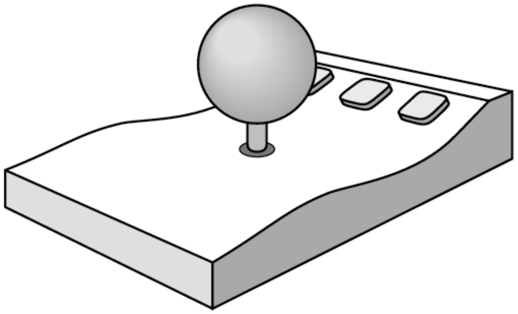
light pen



data tablet



joy stick



space ball

Incremental (Relative) Devices

- Devices such as the data tablet return a position directly to the operating system
- Devices such as the mouse, trackball, and joy stick return incremental inputs (or velocities) to the operating system
  - Must integrate these inputs to obtain an absolute position
    - Rotation of cylinders in mouse
    - Roll of trackball
    - Difficult to obtain absolute position
    - Can get variable sensitivity

Logical Devices

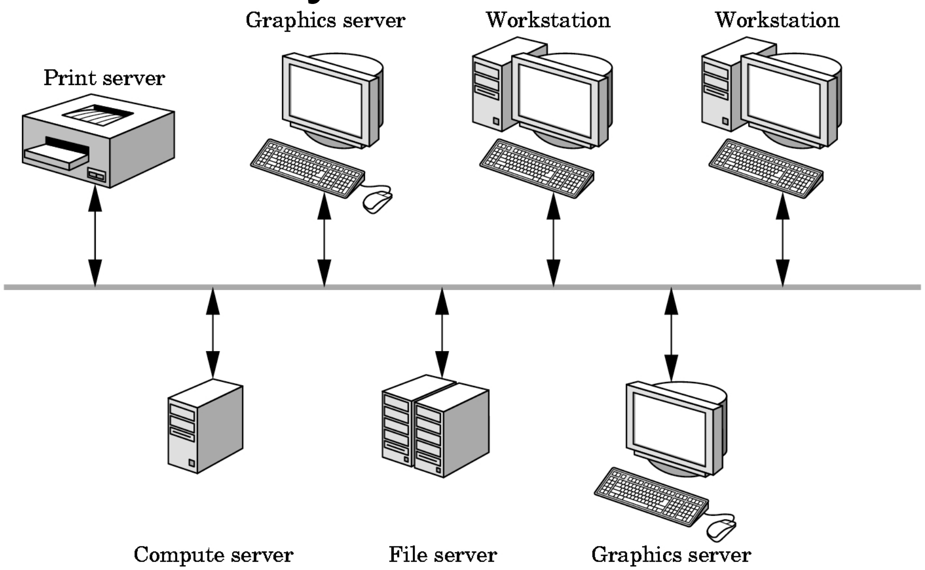
- Consider the C and C++ code
  - C++: `cin >> x;`
  - C: `scanf (“%d”, &x);`
- What is the input device?
  - Can’t tell from the code
  - Could be keyboard, file, output from another program
- The code provides *logical input*
  - A number (an `int`) is returned to the program regardless of the physical device

Graphical Logical Devices

- Graphical input is more varied than input to standard programs which is usually numbers, characters, or bits
- Two older APIs (GKS, PHIGS) defined six types of logical input
  - **Locator**: return a position
  - **Pick**: return ID of an object
  - **Keyboard**: return strings of characters
  - **Stroke**: return array of positions
  - **Valuator**: return floating point number
  - **Choice**: return one of n items

X Window Input

- The X Window System introduced a client-server model for a network of workstations
  - **Client**: OpenGL program
  - **Graphics Server**: bitmap display with a pointing device and a keyboard

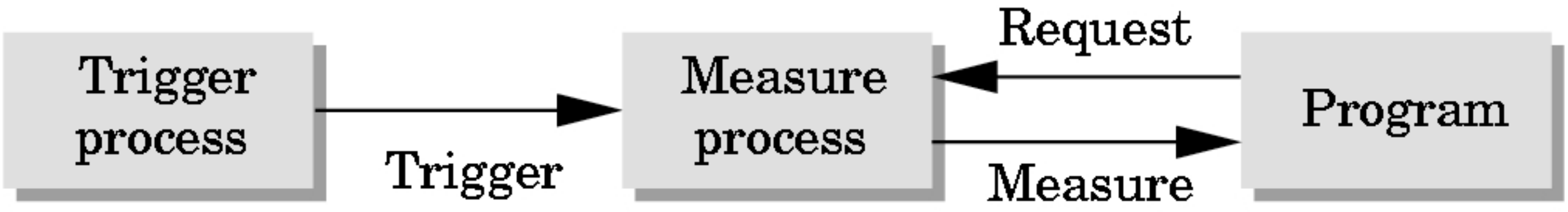


Input Modes

- Input devices contain a *trigger* which can be used to send a signal to the operating system
  - Button on mouse
  - Pressing or releasing a key
- When triggered, input devices return information (their *measure*) to the system
  - Mouse returns position information
  - Keyboard returns ASCII code

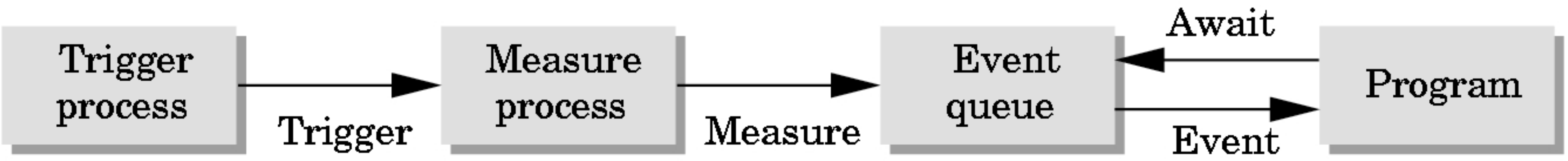
Request Mode

- Input provided to program only when user triggers the device
- Typical of keyboard input
  - Can erase (backspace), edit, correct until enter (return) key (the trigger) is depressed



Event Mode

- Most systems have more than one input device, each of which can be triggered at an arbitrary time by a user
- Each trigger generates an *event* whose measure is put in an *event queue* which can be examined by the user program



Event Types

- Window: resize, expose, iconify
- Mouse: click one or more buttons
- Motion: move mouse
- Keyboard: press or release a key
- Idle: nonevent
  - Define what should be done if no other event is in queue

Callbacks

- Programming interface for event-driven input
- Define a *callback function* for each type of event the graphics system recognizes
- This user-supplied function is executed when the event occurs
- GLUT example:

```
glutMouseFunc(mymouse)
```

mouse callback function

GLUT callbacks

GLUT recognizes a subset of the events recognized by any particular window system (Windows, X, Macintosh)

- **`glutDisplayFunc`**
- **`glutMouseFunc`**
- **`glutReshapeFunc`**
- **`glutKeyboardFunc`**
- **`glutIdleFunc`**
- **`glutMotionFunc`, `glutPassiveMotionFunc`**

GLUT Event Loop

- Recall that the last line in `main.c` for a program using GLUT must be

```
glutMainLoop();
```

which puts the program in an infinite event loop

- In each pass through the event loop, GLUT
  - looks at the events in the queue
  - for each event in the queue, GLUT executes the appropriate callback function if one is defined
  - if no callback is defined for the event, the event is ignored

The display callback

- The display callback is executed whenever GLUT determines that the window should be refreshed, for example
  - When the window is first opened
  - When the window is reshaped
  - When a window is exposed
  - When the user program decides it wants to change the display
- In **`main.c`**
  - **`glutDisplayFunc(mydisplay)`** identifies the function to be executed
  - Every GLUT program must have a display callback

Posting redisplays

- Many events may invoke the display callback function
  - Can lead to multiple executions of the display callback on a single pass through the event loop
- We can avoid this problem by instead using

```
glutPostRedisplay();
```

  which sets a flag.

- GLUT checks to see if the flag is set at the end of the event loop
- If set then the display callback function is executed

Animating a Display

- When we redraw the display through the display callback, we usually start by clearing the window
  - `glClear()`

then draw the altered display

- Problem: the drawing of information in the frame buffer is decoupled from the display of its contents
  - Graphics systems use dual ported memory
- Hence we can see partially drawn display
  - See the program **`single_double.c`** for an example with a rotating cube

Double Buffering

- Instead of one color buffer, we use two
  - **Front Buffer**: one that is displayed but not written to
  - **Back Buffer**: one that is written to but not displayed
- Program then requests a double buffer in main.c
  - `glutInitDisplayMode(GL_RGB | GL_DOUBLE)`
  - At the end of the display callback buffers are swapped

```
void mydisplay()
{
      glClear(GL_COLOR_BUFFER_BIT|….)
.
/* draw graphics here */
.
      glutSwapBuffers()
}
```

Using the idle callback

- The idle callback is executed whenever there are no events in the event queue
  - **glutIdleFunc(myidle)**
  - Useful for animations

```
void myidle() {
/* change something */
      t += dt
      glutPostRedisplay();
}

Void mydisplay() {
      glClear();
/* draw something that depends on t */
      glutSwapBuffers();
}
```

Using globals

- The form of all GLUT callbacks is fixed
  - void **mydisplay()**
  - void **mymouse(GLint button, GLint state, GLint x, GLint y)**
- Must use globals to pass information to callbacks

```
float t; /*global */

void mydisplay()
{
/* draw something that depends on t
}
```