3D Models CSCI 4830/7000 Spring 2010

The Goal

- Create a file that can be loaded into an OpenGL program and display an arbitrary three dimensional object
 - Must be general enough to describe any object
 - May need to accept some limitations
 - Must be flexible in creation and use
 - Must be efficient

Utah Teapot

- Defined in terms of a set of Bezier patches
- Complex shape
- Has Problems
 - Lid
 - Spout



Stanford Bunny

- Intended to replace teapot
- Input by 3D scanner
- Very complex



Stanford Armadillo

- Input by 3D scanner
- Extremely Complex
- Good for testing performance



Super Bible F16

- Moderately Complex
- Introduces challenges
 - Textures
 - Transparency
 - Emission Color
 - Control surfaces



Design Decisions

- ASCII Text
 - Easier to view
 - Free format or line oriented
- Binary
 - Efficient
 - Byte gender
 - Word length
- Structure

Structure

- What must be stored
 - facets or patches
 - direct or hierarchy
- Efficiency
 - Store once, load many times
- Simplify loader implementation
 - Header to simplify memory management
 - Simple instruction set
 - File management (e.g. textures)

Example File Formats

- PLY
 - Also called Stanford Triangle Format
 - Text and binary versions
- OBJ
 - Developed by Wavefront Technologies
 - Relatively simple text format
 - Supported by many programs
- 3DS
 - Developed by Autodesk
 - Binary files
 - Lots of advanced features