## 2D & 3D Animation

NBAY 6120 Lecture 9 Donald P. Greenberg March 27, 2018 **2D Cel Animation** 

#### Mr. Walt Disney











William Hannah

Joseph Barbera

#### **Cartoon Animation**

#### • What is cartoon animation?

A sequence of drawings which, when viewed in rapid succession, create an illusion of continuous life-like movement.

#### • Cel animation

- Process in which background and action are drawn separately
- Background and action are placed together when ready to film

#### Steps for creating cel-animated films

- ✓ Background is drawn and colored
- Key animator draws the most important, or key, frames of character
- ✓ In-betweener draws the intermediate frames with all the action required of the character
- ✓ Cels are inked and painted
- Checker places each cel on the background and checks the quality of art and movement
- ✓ Each cel is filmed

#### **Cel-animation**



#### Standard Animation Cel



Standard Animation Cel With Background

#### **Cel-animation**



HANNA-BARBERA PRODUCTIONS SC. SMR. SLATE m) SONG "MY FRVORITE TIME OF THE YEAR PROD. # 110-1 (FX: DOOR SLAM!) FRED: MERCAY CHRISTMAS, Folos Sc. #110 9.-35 MISTOR SLATE! OCT 2.1 1977 1.0. CHECK 35'S HOUND Se. 86 For CONSISTENCY FINAL PRODUCTION BOARD REVISED 10/13/77 01 1118 TILA (FRED SAGS) FRED: YABBA DABBA (INTO HAPPY REALIZATION) FRED: (RELIEVED) WHEW! OH BOY! OH BOY! OHBOY! OHBOY! Doo.

154 SERIES FLINTSTONES A Hanna-Barbera Productions, Inc. 11/78 - D-1 0 Ca FL-1 0 OR-A D FL-1 MUEZLE N-1  $(\mathbf{A})$ PG-A N-1 SPOTS 63 DY-A FL-il . FRED WILMA







#### **Multi-Plane Camera**



# Automating the production process with computers for keyframe animation

 Almost the entire process of creating an animated film can be automated with a computer

- Backgrounds can be drawn and colored on a computer
- Key frames should still be drawn by key animator
- In-between frames can be interpolated with a computer
- Cels can be inked and painted on a computer
- Cel and background can be put together and checked with a computer and then filmed

#### **Approximate Employee Distribution, 1975**

•	Storyboard/Screen Writers		5
•	Background		10
•	Animators (140)		
	– Key		25
	– Ass't		40
	– In-betweeners		75
•	Checkers		10
•	Inking/Painting		220
•	Sound/Music		5
•	Editing		10
		Total	400

# Automating the production process with computers for keyframe animation

- Backgrounds can be drawn and colored on a computer
- Key frames are still drawn by key animator
- All in-between frames are still drawn by animators
- Cels can be inked and painted on a computer
- Cel and background can be put together and checked with a computer and then filmed

#### **Advantages of Partial Animation**

- All artistic control stays with the animators
- The cost of the most expensive part of the production process (inking and painting) is vastly reduced (1/10<sup>th</sup>)
- Can still take advantage of special features
  - > Zooming
  - > Color changes
  - > Multi-Plane camera simulation
  - > Reduction in scale





# Three-Dimensional Computer Animation

#### Why do we need an animation production pipeline?

- Animated full-length features are huge endeavors
  - Up to 5 years from conception to final (2 years in production)
  - > 500 people involved
    - Currently requires big budgets and big organizations
      - \$100 M \$150M per movie
    - Needs a very organized structure to bring the creative process from conception to final product

#### Toy Story 3 Building a Single Frame



**1 / SKETCHES** There are 49,516 of these sketches in the movie's story reel.

#### **Building a Single Frame**



2 / COLOR SCRIPTS The goal is to begin to define the style and lighting scheme of the frame.

#### **Building a Single Frame**



**3 / PROPS** Toys are positioned in the 3-D "dressed set." The director can fine-tune the camera's movement to best capture the action.

John Lehrer. "How It's Done," Wired 18.06 http://www.wired.com/magazine/18-06



# The simplified pipeline

• Many departments



#### Jan Pinkava – Storyboard

#### **GERI'S GAME (Pencil)**





The control mesh for Geri's head, created by digitizing a full-scale model sculpted out of clay.

### **Subdivision surfaces**



© Pixar/Disney

## **Story Development**







# **Art Development**

- Develop the look-and-feel of the movie
  - Characters and Sets
  - Follow it through production
  - Make the most of the *high-level* artistic decisions
- Traditional media
  - Sketches, Pastels, Sculptures
- Process
  - Start with real world objects
  - Develop the look: shape, colors, materials
  - Develop expressions and movements
  - For characters, sculptures are developed

#### Pete Docter – Sullivan and Mike (Marker)



#### **Art Development - Characters**



Pixar/Disney

#### **Art Development - Environments**







Pixar/Disney

#### Casting

• Voices have to match your characters

















JAMES COBURN

© Pixar/Disney

#### **The Simplified Pipeline**

#### • Characters and Sets



# Modeling

- Defines the shape
- Process
  - Starts with art data
    - > Drawings
    - > Sculptures (sometimes scanned)
  - Recreate geometry in the modeling environment
- Models have to
  - Look good to please the eye
  - Be functional to fit in the pipeline
  - Work when deformed for animation

#### **Character Modeling**



#### Shading





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# Pixar/Disney

#### **Character Rigging**

- Prepares a character for animation
  - Defines the deformation of the shape
    - > Shape changes when the character moves
  - Defines controls for animators
- Process
  - Start with art data
  - Work with animation to test the look and controls

#### Rigging



#### Backgrounds



© Pixar/Disney

#### **The Simplified Pipeline**

#### • Movement



#### Layout

- Defines the camera
  - Starting position
  - Framing which objects are seen
  - Movement
- Defines basic object positions
  - Starting point for animation
- Story boards are used as reference

#### Layout



© Pixar/Disney

#### Animation

- Keyframed animation
  - Movement is specified by changing individual controls on characters at various frames
  - Similar to 2d animation
  - Used by Pixar and DreamWorks
- Motion capture
  - Movement is recorded using live actors
  - Editing to fix problems
  - Used by Sony Imageworks, Weta

#### Animation



© Pixar/Disney



#### Simulation

- Not possible to animate everything
- Physically-based animation
  - Movement is computed to simulate physics

#### Applications

- Humans: hair, cloth, skin
- Natural media: water, fire, smoke
- Special effects: explosions

#### Effects

- Natural media: Water, Fire, Smoke
- Weather: Snow, Rain, Wind
- Special effects: Explosions, Morphing

- Very specific
- Encompasses modeling, animation and shading

#### **The Simplified Pipeline**

• Final images



#### Lighting

- Defines scene illumination
- Process
  - Study real world footage
  - Study material/light interaction
    - > Simple materials: plastic, woods, etc.
    - > Complex materials: metals
    - > Characters: skin, hair
  - Start with art images
  - Add and change lights to obtain the final picture

#### Lighting



Darren Brooker. "Essential CG Lighting Techniques," 2003.

#### Lighting



Darren Brooker. "Essential CG Lighting Techniques," 2003 .

#### Rendering

#### • Compute the final images



