

# Introduction to OpenGL 3.x and Shader-Programming using GLSL Part 1

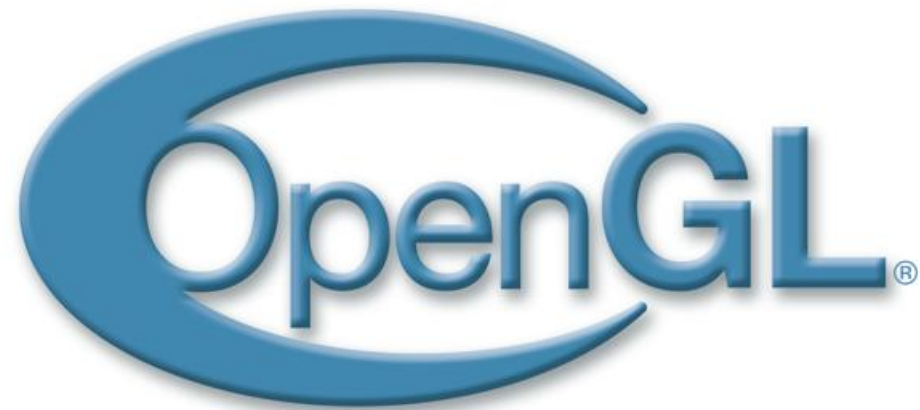
Ingo Radax,  
Günther Voglsam

Institute of Computer Graphics and Algorithms  
Vienna University of Technology



- OpenGL 3.x and OpenGL Evolution
- OpenGL-Program-Skeleton and OpenGL-Extensions, GLEW
- State-machines and OpenGL-objects life-cycle
- Introduction to Shader-Programming using GLSL





OpenGL 3.x



- OpenGL [1] = Open Graphics Library
- An open industry-standard API for hardware accelerated graphics drawing
- Implemented by graphics-card vendors
- As of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010:
  - ◆ Current versions: OpenGL 4.0, GLSL 4.0
- Bindings for lots of programming-languages:
  - ◆ C, C++, C#, Java, Fortran, Perl, Python, Delphi, etc.



# What is OpenGL?

- Maintained by the Khronos-Group [2]:



- Members:



## ■ Pros & Cons:

- ◆ + Full specification freely available
- ◆ + Everyone can use it
- ◆ + Can use it anywhere (Windows, Linux, Mac, BSD, Mobile phones, Web-pages (soon), ...)
- ◆ + Long-term maintenance for older applications
- ◆ + New functionality usually earlier available through Extensions
- ◆ - Inclusion of Extensions to core may take longer
- ◆ ? Game-Industry



- Include OpenGL-header:

```
#include <GL/gl.h>    // basic OpenGL
```

- Link OpenGL-library “opengl32.lib”
- If needed, also link other libraries (esp. GLEW, see later!).



## ■ OpenGL-functions prefixed with “gl”:

```
glFunction{1234}{bsifd...}{v}(T arg1, T arg2, ...);
```

Example: `glDrawArrays(GL_TRIANGLES, 0, vertexCount);`

## ■ OpenGL-constants prefixed with “GL\_”:

*GL\_SOME\_CONSTANT*

Example: `GL_TRIANGLES`

## ■ OpenGL-types prefixed with “GL”:

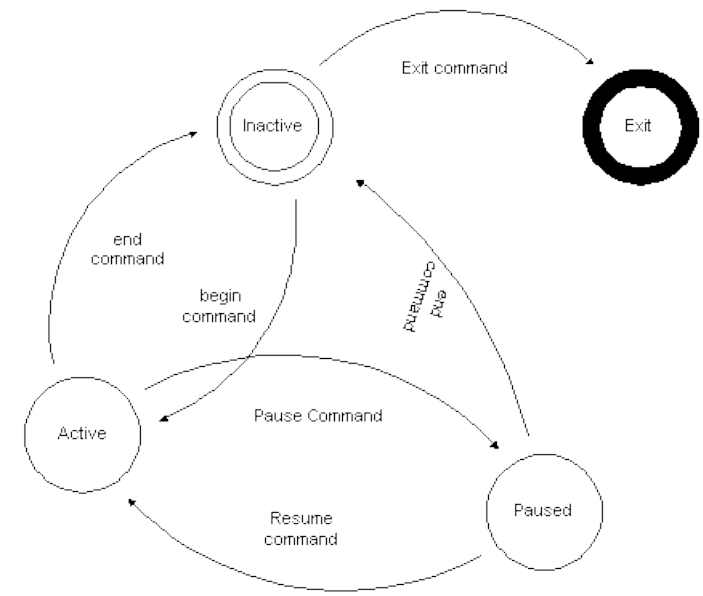
*GLtype*

Example: `GLfloat`





- OpenGL is a **state-machine**
- Remember state-machines:
  - ◆ Once a state is set, it remains active until the state is changed to something else via a transition.
  - ◆ A transition in OpenGL equals a function-call.
  - ◆ A state in OpenGL is defined by the OpenGL-objects which are current.



## ■ Set OpenGL-states:

```
glEnable(...);  
glDisable(...);  
gl*(...); // several call depending on purpose
```

## ■ Query OpenGL-states with Get-Methods:

```
glGet*(...); // several calls available, depending on  
what to query
```

## ■ For complete API see [3] and especially the quick-reference [4]!

- ◆ Note: In the references the gl-prefixes are omitted due to readability!



- Released in August 2006
- Fully supported “fixed function” (FF) <sup>\*)</sup>
- GLSL-Shaders supported as well
- Mix of FF and shaders was possible, which could get confusing or clumsy quickly in bigger applications
- Supported by all graphics-drivers

<sup>\*)</sup> See “Introduction to Shader-Programming using GLSL” for more information on FF.



- Released in August 2008
- Introduced a deprecation model:
  - ◆ Mainly FF was marked deprecated
  - ◆ Use of FF still possible, but not recommend
- Also introduced Contexts:
  - ◆ Forward-Compatible Context (FWD-CC) vs.
  - ◆ Full Context
- With FWD-CC, no access to FF anymore, i.e. FF-function-calls create error “Invalid Call”.



- Furthermore, GLSL 1.3 was introduced
- Supported by recent Nvidia and ATI-graphics drivers.



- Released in March 2009
- Introduced GLSL 1.4
- Removed deprecated features of 3.0, but FF can still be accessed by using the “GL\_ARB\_compatibility”-extension.
- Supported by recent Nvidia and ATI-graphics drivers.



- Released in August 2009
- Profiles were introduced:
  - ◆ Core-Profile vs.
  - ◆ Compatibility-Profile
- With Core-Profile, only access to OpenGL 3.2 core-functions
- With Compatibility-Profile, FF can still be used
- Also introduced GLSL 1.5
- Supported by recent Nvidia and ATI-graphics drivers.



- Released on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010
- Introduces GLSL 3.3
- Includes some new Extensions
- Maintains compatibility with older hardware
- Currently no drivers available
- Will be supported by Nvidia's Fermi architecture immediately when Fermi will be released (scheduled: March 29<sup>th</sup> 2010).





- Released on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010
- Introduces GLSL 4.0
- Introduces new shader-stages for hardware-tessellation.
- Adoption of new Extensions to Core.
- Currently no drivers available
- Will be supported by Nvidia's Fermi architecture immediately when Fermi will be released (scheduled: March 29<sup>th</sup> 2010).



- Overview of the evolution:
  - ◆ FF equals roughly in other versions:

2.1	3.0	3.1	3.2/3.3/4.0
FF	Deprecated Features and Non-FWD-CC	"GL_ARB_compatibility" extension	Compatibility-Profile

- **Important!**

See the **Quick-Reference Guide** [4] for the “current” (=3.2) OpenGL-API!



- Note that from OpenGL 3.x (FWD-CC || Core) onwards there is no more built-in:
  - ◆ Immediate-Mode
  - ◆ Matrix-Stacks and Transformations
  - ◆ Lighting and Materials
- You have to do “missing” stuff by yourself!
- That’s why there are shader. (More on shader later on.)



- Extensions are additional and newer functions which are not supported by the core of the current OpenGL-version.
- Collected and registered in the OpenGL Extension Registry [5].
- Extensions may eventually be adopted into the OpenGL core at the next version.



- On Windows only OpenGL 1.1 supported natively.
- To use newer OpenGL versions, each additional function, i.e. ALL extensions (currently ~1900), must be loaded manually!
- → Lots of work!
- Therefore:  
Use GLEW [6] = OpenGL Extension Wrangler



- Include it in your program and initialize it:

```
#include <GL/glew.h> // include before other GL headers!  
// #include <GL/gl.h>    included with GLEW already  
  
void initGLEW()  
{  
    GLenum err = glewInit(); // initialize GLEW  
  
    if (err != GLEW_OK) // check for error  
    {  
        cout << "GLEW Error: " << glewGetErrorString(err);  
        exit(1);  
    }  
}
```



## ■ Check for supported OpenGL version:

```
if (glewIsSupported("GL_VERSION_3_2"))  
{  
    // OpenGL 3.2 supported on this system  
}
```

## ■ To check for a specific extension:

```
if (GLEW_ARB_geometry_shader4)  
{  
    // Geometry-Shader supported on this system  
}
```



- If OpenGL 3.x context can not be created on your hardware one can use 2.1 without the „fixed function“-pipeline:
  - ◆ Be sure to use the latest drivers, libs et al and test if our OpenGL 3.x demo is running!
  - ◆ If it doesn't work out, you can use OpenGL 2.1 w/o FF.
  - ◆ This means...





- Do **NOT** use the following in OpenGL 2.1:
  - ◆ Built-In matrix-functions/stacks:
    - `glMatrixMode`, `glMult/LoadMatrix`,  
`glRotate/Translate/Scale`, `glPush/PopMatrix...`
  - ◆ Immediate Mode:
    - `glBegin/End`, `glVertex`, `glTexCoords...`
  - ◆ Material and Lighting:
    - `glLight`, `glMaterial`, ...
  - ◆ Attribute-Stack:
    - `glPush/PopAttrib`, ...



- ◆ some Primitive Modes:

- GL\_QUAD\*, GL\_POLYGON

- Do **NOT** use the following in GLSL 1.1/1.2:

- ◆ ftransform()

- ◆ All built-in gl\_\*-variables, except:

- gl\_Position in vertex-shader
- gl\_FragColor, gl\_FragData[] in fragment-shader



- The list may not be complete!
- To see what can be used and what not, see the quick-reference guide [4]!  
Everything written in **black** is allowed; **blue** is not allowed. (But we will not be too strict about that in CG2LU.)
- If you are not sure what you can use, do it the way it works for you and ASK US in the forum or by PM.

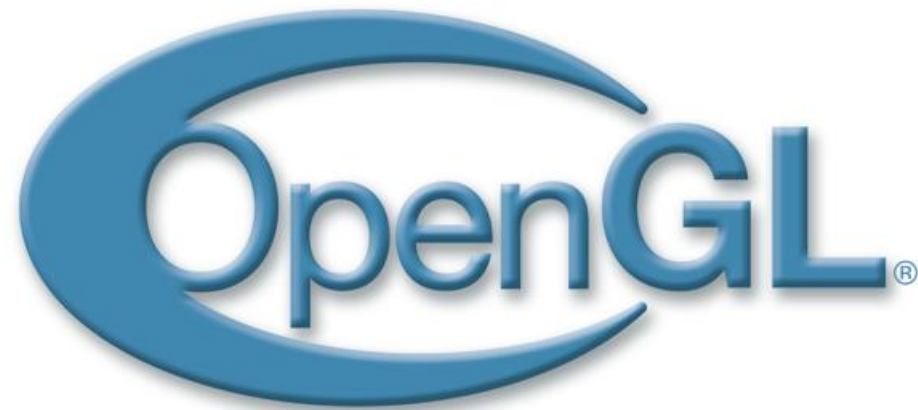


- Be sure to use the most recent version working on your hardware (and use: no FF || no deprecation || Full-Context || Core-Profile)!
- Be sure to see the 8-page **Quick-Reference Guide [4]** for the current OpenGL-API!
- Use the (complete) specification [3] for detailed information on a particular OpenGL-method!



- [1] OpenGL, <http://www.opengl.org>
- [2] Khronos Group, <http://www.khronos.org>
- [3] OpenGL Specification, <http://www.opengl.org/registry>
- [4] OpenGL 3.2 API Quick Reference Card, <http://www.khronos.org/files/opengl-quick-reference-card.pdf>
- [5] OpenGL Extension Registry, <http://www.opengl.org/registry>
- [6] GLEW – OpenGL Extension Wrangler Library, <http://glew.sourceforge.net>
- [7] DGL Wiki, <http://wiki.delphigl.com>





# OpenGL Program-Skeleton

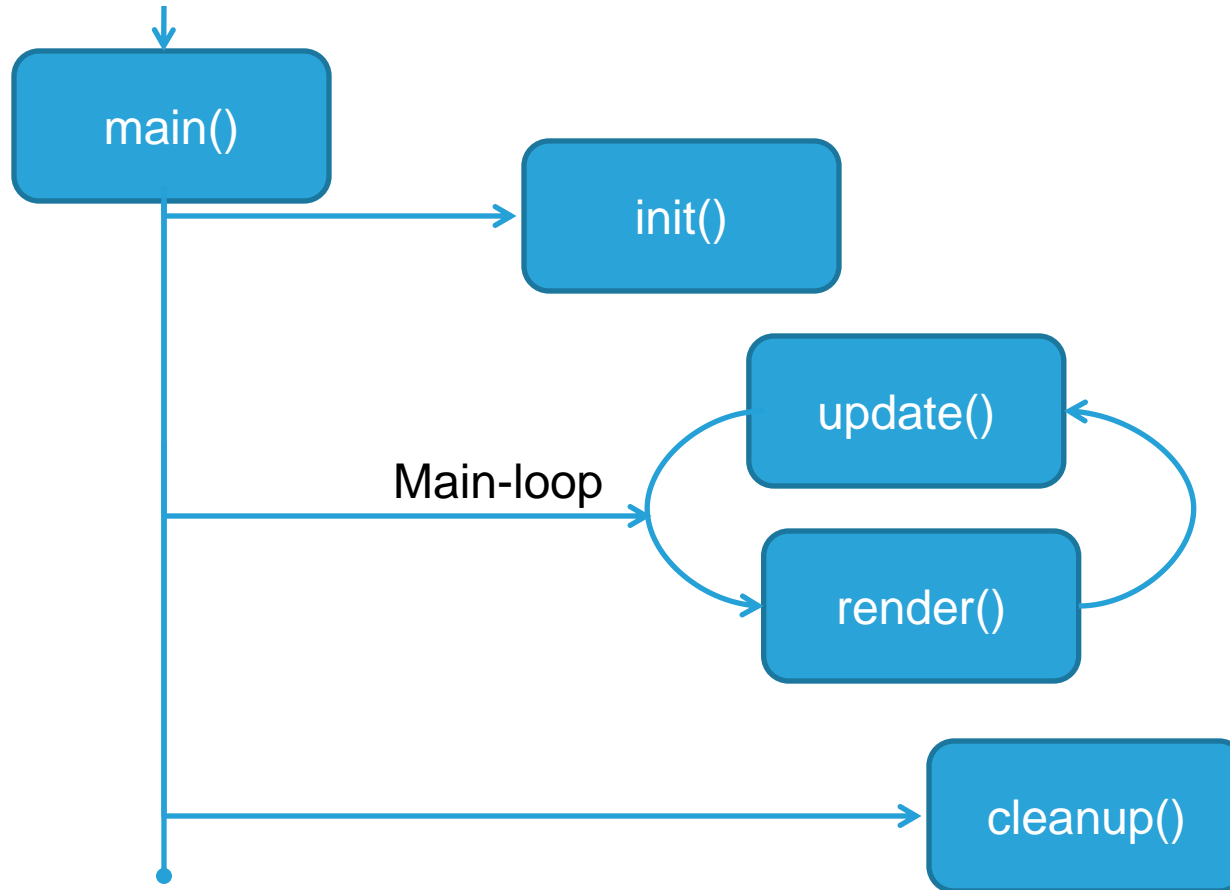


- Typical OpenGL-program runs in a window (maybe fullscreen)
- Therefore: window-loop-based applications
- Independent of window-manager!
  - ◆ Can use: GLFW, SDL, WinAPI, (GLUT), Qt, ...
  - ◆ Choose the one you like most.
  - ◆ We recommend using GLFW [1]. For more information about GLFW check the LU-HP [2]!



## ■ Typical OpenGL-Application:

Start Application



Exit application





- `main()`:
  - ◆ Program-Entry
  - ◆ Create window
  - ◆ Call `init()`
  - ◆ Start main window-loop
  - ◆ Call `cleanup()`
  - ◆ Exit application
- `init()`:
  - ◆ Initialize libraries, load config-files, ...
  - ◆ Allocate resources, preprocessing, ...



- `update()`:
  - ◆ Handle user-input, update game-logic, ...
- `render()`:
  - ◆ Do actual rendering of graphics here!
  - ◆ Note: Calling `render()` twice without calling `update()` in between should result in the same rendered image!
- `cleanup()`:
  - ◆ Free all resources



## ■ Example init()-function:

```
void init() {  
    Create and initialize a window with depth-buffer and double-  
    buffering. See your window-managers documentation.  
  
    // enable the depth-buffer in OpenGL  
    glEnable(GL_DEPTH_TEST);  
  
    // enable back-face culling in OpenGL  
    glEnable(GL_CULL_FACE);  
  
    // define a clear color  
    glClearColor(0.0f, 0.0f, 0.0f, 0.0f);  
  
    // set the OpenGL-viewport  
    glViewport(0, 0, windowWidth, windowHeight);  
  
    Do other useful things  
}
```



- The geometry of a 3D-object is stored in an array of vertices called *Vertex-Array*.
- Each vertex can have so called *Attributes*, like a Normal Vector and Texture-Coordinates.
- OpenGL also treats vertices as attributes!
- To render geometry in OpenGL, vertex-(attribute)-arrays are passed to OpenGL and then rendered.



## ■ To do so:

- ◆ Query the attribute-location in the shader: \*)

```
GLint vertexLocation = glGetAttribLocation(  
    myShaderProgram, "in_Position");
```

- ◆ Enable an array for the vertex-attribute:

```
glEnableVertexAttribArray(vertexLocation);
```

- ◆ Then tell OpenGL which data to use:

```
glVertexAttribPointer(vertexLocation, 3, GL_FLOAT,  
    GL_FALSE, 0, myVertexArray);
```

\*) See “Introduction to Shader-Programming using GLSL” for more information on shader attribute-variables.



- ◆ Draw (“render”) the arrays:

```
glDrawArrays(GL_TRIANGLES, 0, 3); // this does the  
actual drawing!
```

- ◆ Finally disable the attribute-array:

```
glDisableVertexAttribArray(vertexLocation);
```

- ◆ See the demo on the LU-HP for full program and code!



## ■ Example render()-function:

```
// triangle data
static GLfloat vertices[] = {-0.5, -0.333333, 0,    // x1, y1, z1
                             +0.5, -0.333333, 0,    // x2, y2, z2
                             +0.0, +0.666666, 0};    // x3, y3, z3

...

void render() {
    // clear the color-buffer and the depth-buffer
    glClear(GL_COLOR_BUFFER_BIT | GL_DEPTH_BUFFER_BIT);

    // activate a shader program
    glUseProgram(myShaderProgram);

    // Find the attributes
    GLint vertexLocation = glGetAttribLocation(
        myShaderProgram, "in_Position");
}
```



```
// enable vertex attribute array for this attribute
glEnableVertexAttribArray(vertexLocation);

// set attribute pointer
glVertexAttribPointer(vertexLocation, 3, GL_FLOAT,
    GL_FALSE, 0, vertices);

// Draw ("render") the triangle
glDrawArrays(GL_TRIANGLES, 0, 3);

// Done with rendering. Disable vertex attribute array
glDisableVertexAttribArray(vertexLocation);

// disable shader program
glUseProgram(0);

Swap buffers

}
```





- In OpenGL, all objects, like buffers and textures, are somehow treated the same way.
- On object creation and initialization:
  - ◆ First, create a *handle* to the object (in OpenGL often called a *name*). Do this ONCE for each object.
  - ◆ Then, *bind* the object to make it current.
  - ◆ *Pass data* to OpenGL. As long as the data does not change, you only have to do this ONCE.
  - ◆ *Unbind* the object if not used.



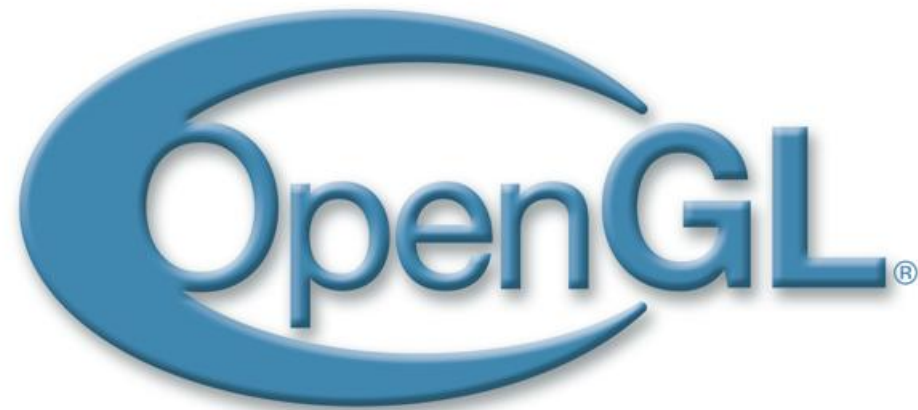
- On rendering, or whenever the object is used:
  - ◆ *Bind* it to make it current.
  - ◆ *Use* it.
  - ◆ *Unbind* it.
- Finally, when object is not needed anymore:
  - ◆ *Delete* object.

Note that in some cases you manually have to delete attached resources!
- NOTE: OpenGL-objects are **NOT** objects in an OOP-sense!



- [1] GLFW, <http://glfw.sourceforge.net>
- [2] Computergraphics 2 Lab, TU Vienna,  
<http://www.cg.tuwien.ac.at/courses/CG23/LU.html>



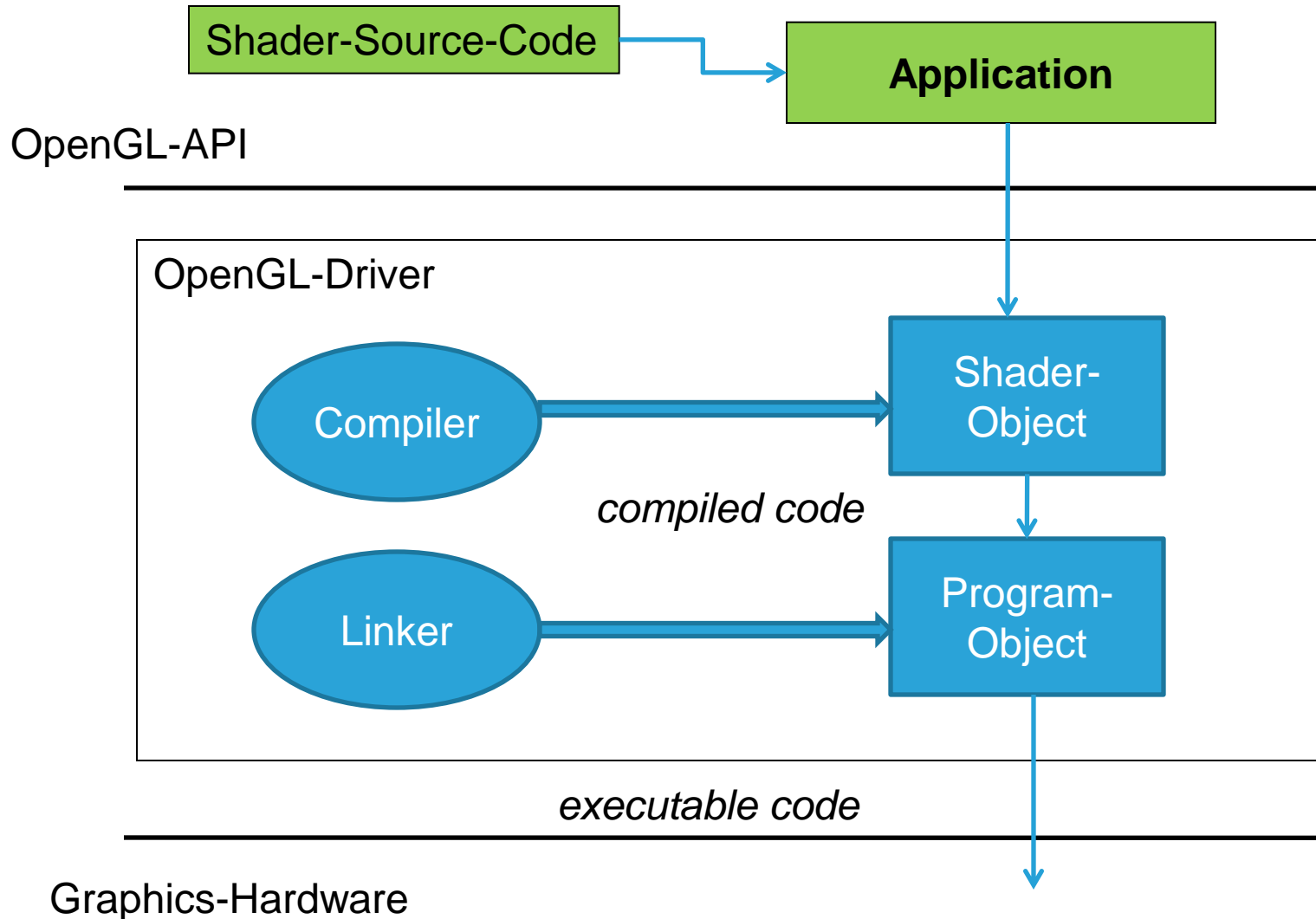


# Introduction to Shader- Programming using GLSL

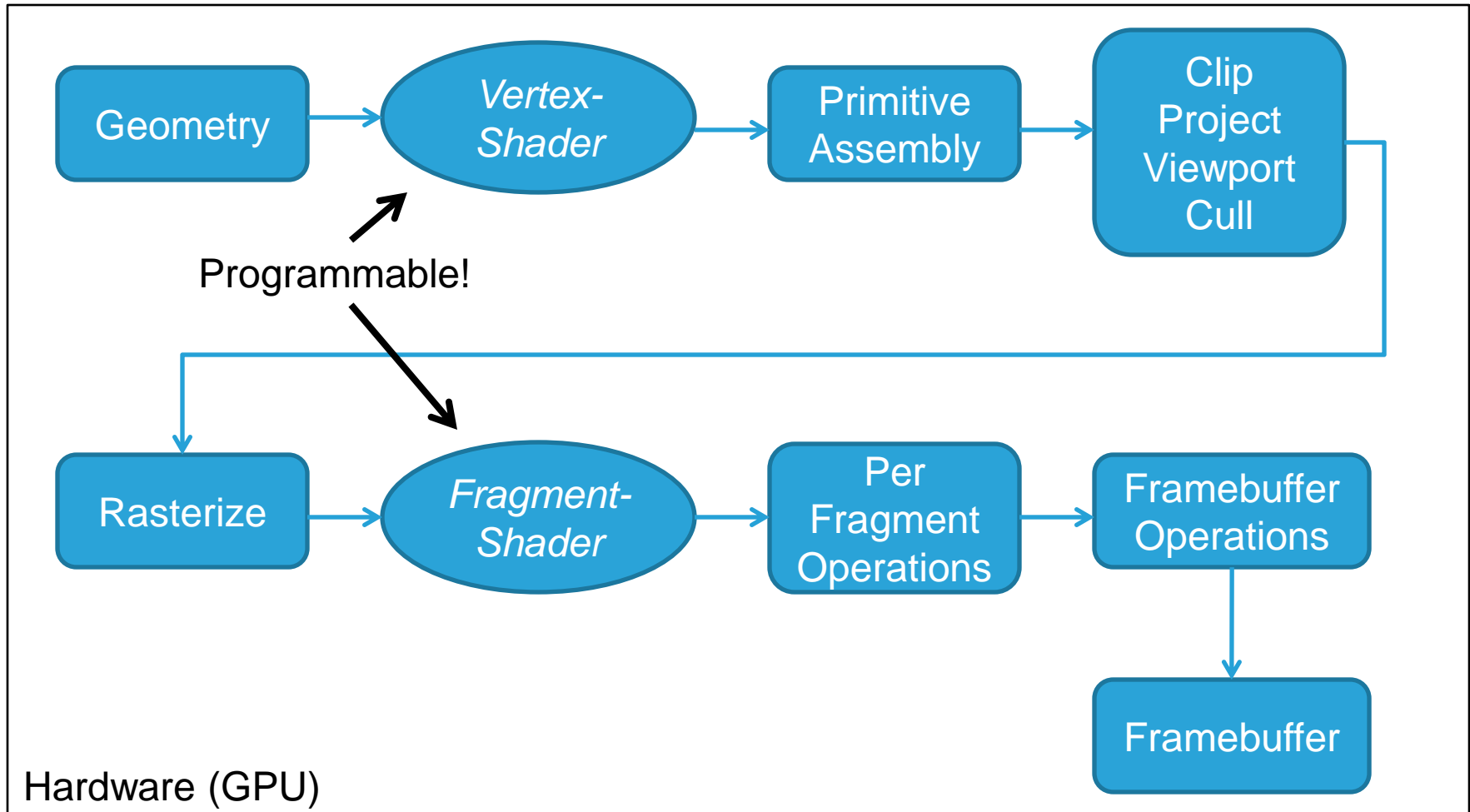


- Small C-like programs executed on the graphics-hardware
- Replace fixed function pipeline with shaders
- Shader-Types
  - ◆ Vertex Shader (VS): per vertex operations
  - ◆ Geometry Shader (GS): per primitive operations
  - ◆ Fragment shader (FS): per fragment operations
- Used e.g. for transformations and lighting





## ■ OpenGL 3.x Rendering-Pipeline:



- Remember:
  - ◆ The *Vertex-Shader* is executed ONCE per each vertex!
  - ◆ The *Fragment-Shader* is executed ONCE per rasterized fragment (~ a pixel)!
- A *Shader-Program* consists of both,
  - ◆ One VS
  - ◆ One FS





## ■ Compile shaders:

```
char* shaderSource;    // contains shadersource
int shaderHandle = glCreateShader(GL_SHADER_TYPE);
    // shader-types: vertex || geometry || fragment
glShaderSource(shaderHandle, 1, shaderSource, NULL);
glCompileShader(shaderHandle);
```

## ■ Create program and attach shaders to it:

```
int programHandle = glCreateProgram();
glAttachShader(programHandle, shaderHandle); // do this
for vertex AND fragment-shader (AND geometry if needed)!
```

## ■ Finally link program:

```
glLinkProgram(programHandle);
```



## ■ Enable a GLSL program:

```
glUseProgram(programHandle); // shader-program now active
```

- ◆ The active shader-program will be used until `glUseProgram()` is called again with another program-handle.
- ◆ Call of `glUseProgram(0)` sets no program active (undefined state!).



- Do this for each shader to check for error:

```
bool succeeded = false;
glGetShader(shaderHandle, GL_COMPILE_STATUS, &succeeded);

if (!succeeded) // check if something went wrong while compiling
{
    // get log-length
    int logLength = 0;
    glGetShader(shaderHandle, GL_INFO_LOG_LENGTH, &logLength);

    // get info-log
    std::string infoLog(logLength, ' ');
    glGetShaderInfoLog(shaderHandle, logLength, NULL, &infoLog[0]);

    // print info-log
    std::cout << "Shader compile error:\n\n" << infoLog <<
    std::endl;
}
```



- Do this for each program to check for error:

```
bool succeeded = false;
glGetProgram(programHandle, GL_LINK_STATUS, &succeeded);

if (!succeeded) // check if something went wrong while compiling
{ // get log-length
    int logLength = 0;
    glGetProgram(programHandle, GL_INFO_LOG_LENGTH, &logLength);

    // get info-log
    std::string infoLog(logLength, ' ');
    glGetProgramInfoLog(programHandle, logLength, NULL,
        &infoLog[0]);

    // print info-log
    std::cout << "Program linking error:\n\n" << infoLog <<
    std::endl;
}
```



- Shader-Programs must have a `main()`-method
- Vertex-Shader outputs to at least `gl_Position`
- Fragment-Shader to custom defined output

```
//preprocessor directives like:  
#version 150
```

```
variable declarations
```

```
void main()  
{  
    do something and write into output variables  
}
```



## ■ Shader variable examples:

```
uniform    mat4 projMatrix;    // uniform input
in         vec4 vertex;        // attribut-input
out        vec3 fragColor;     // shader output
```

## ■ Three types:

- ◆ *uniform*: does not change per primitive; read-only in shaders
- ◆ *in*: VS: input changes per vertex, read-only; FS: interpolated input; read-only
- ◆ *out*: shader-output; VS to FS; FS output.



## ■ Set uniform parameters in an application:

```
// first get location  
projMtxLoc = glGetUniformLocation(programHandle,  
    "projMatrix");  
  
// then set current value  
glUniformMatrix4fv(projMtxLoc, 1, GL_FALSE,  
    currentProjectionMatrix);
```

- ◆ First get the „location“ of the uniform-variable
- ◆ Then set the current value
- ◆ Can pass values to vertex- and fragment-shader



- A vertex can have attributes like a normal-vector or texture-coordinates
- OpenGL also treats the vertex itself as an attribute
- We want to access our current vertex within our vertex-shader (as we used to do with `gl_Vertex` in former GLSL-versions):
  - ◆ Therefore, we declare in our vertex-shader:

```
in          vec4 vertex;           // vertex attribut
```





- Now, there are two ways to pass data to this shader attribute-variable, depending on:
  - ◆ if you just have an array of vertices (*Vertex Array*),
  - ◆ or an VBO (*Vertex Buffer Object*, more about that next week!).
- To do so: Query shader-variable location
  - ◆ Enable vertex-attribute array
  - ◆ Set pointer to array
  - ◆ Draw and disable array



- For a Vertex-Array, pass data like this:

```
// first get the attribute-location
vertexLocation = glGetAttribLocation(programHandle,
    "vertex");

// enable an array for the attribute
glEnableVertexAttribArray(vertexLocation);

// set attribute pointer
glVertexAttribPointer(vertexLocation, 3, GL_FLOAT,
    GL_FALSE, 0, myVertexArray);

// Draw ("render") the triangle
glDrawArrays(GL_TRIANGLES, 0, 3);

// Done with rendering. Disable vertex attribute array
glDisableVertexAttribArray(vertexLocation);
```



## ■ Setting attribute parameters with VBOs:

```
// first get location
vertexLocation = glGetAttribLocation(programHandle,
    "vertex");

// activate desired VBO
glBindBuffer(GL_ARRAY_BUFFER, vertexBuffer);

// set attribute-pointer
glVertexAttribPointer(vertexLocation, 4, GL_FLOAT,
    GL_FALSE, 0, 0);

// finally enable attribute-array
glEnableVertexAttribArray(vertexLocation);

...
```



- Since GLSL 1.3, `gl_FragColor` is deprecated.
- Therefore, need to define output on our own.
- Declare output variable in FS:

```
out        vec4 fragColor;    // fragment color output
```

- In the application, **before** linking the shader-program with `glLinkProgram()`, bind the FS-output:

```
glBindFragDataLocation(programHandle, 0, "fragColor");
```

- Finally assign a value to `fragColor` in the FS.



- An application using shaders could basically look like this:

Load shader and initialize parameter-handles

Do some useful stuff like binding texture, activate texture-units, calculate and update matrices, etc.

```
glUseProgram(programHandle);
```

Set shader-parameters

Draw geometry

```
glUseProgram(anotherProgramHandle);
```

...



- Setup is more complicated nowadays, but more flexible.
- Use the info-log to debug!
- Use tools like gDebugger (see some LU-HP and forum!) for better debugging!
- See the specifications [1] for exact information on methods!
- Look at useful examples at [2]!
- Have fun with OpenGL! 😊



- [1] OpenGL Registry, <http://www.opengl.org/registry/>
- [2] Norbert Nopper, [http://nopper.tv/opengl\\_3\\_1.html](http://nopper.tv/opengl_3_1.html)



- OpenGL „Red Book“
- OpenGL „Orange Book“
- OpenGL Registry, <http://www.opengl.org/registry/>
- DGL Wiki, <http://wiki.delphigl.com>
- Norbert Nopper, [http://nopper.tv/opengl\\_3\\_2.html](http://nopper.tv/opengl_3_2.html)
- LightHouse 3D, <http://www.lighthouse3d.com/opengl/>
- NeHe, <http://nehe.gamedev.net>
- GameDev, <http://www.gamedev.net>
- Nvidia Developer pages, esp. the OpenGL SDK, <http://developer.nvidia.com>
- Graphic Remedy's gDEBugger, <http://www.gremedy.com>  
We have a academic license for it, so USE it!!





# Thanks for your time!

