

Introduction to Javascript and WebGL (2% of final grade)

The goal of this assignment is to familiarize yourself with basic Javascript and WebGL. You will see how vertices are stored in a WebGLBuffer object (sometimes called a *vertex buffer object (VBO)*, and how these are then used to draw an object. Note that when we use the `three.js` library in future assignments, the use of VBO's will be abstracted away, but they are still being used behind the scenes.

Copy and expand the zip file in a local “cs314” directory for this assignment:

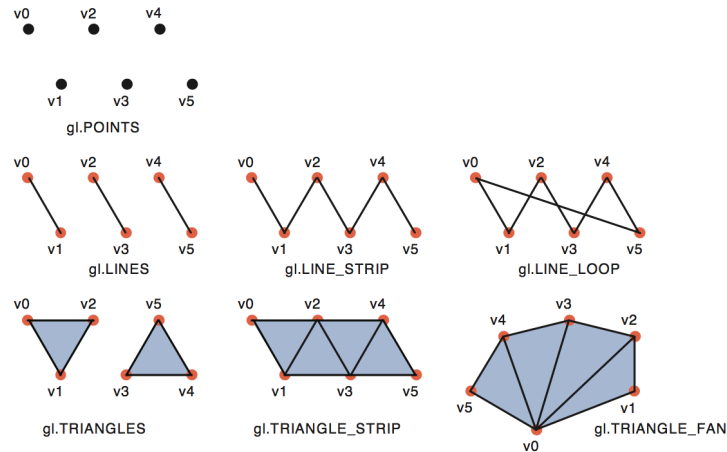
```
cp a1.zip ~/cs314/a1.zip
cd ~/cs314
unzip a1.zip
cd a1
```

View your local version of `a1.html` to ensure that your web browser is properly enabled to run Javascript and WebGL. It should be an up-to-date HTML5 browser. Chrome, Firefox, and Safari all support WebGL.

Now walk through the following steps, and implement any requested changes. After each edit to `a1.html` or `animate.js`, you will want to reload `a1.html` in order to see the changed result. When introducing errors, fix the error before moving on to the next step. All other changes can be made in a cumulative fashion.

1. Understanding a basic WebGL program.
 - (a) Change the window size to be 700×700 pixels. See the HTML file.
 - (b) Open the console window and look for the “hello world” message. Change the code so that the console message reads “Assignment 1 (FOO)”, where FOO is your name.
 - (c) Attempt to print the result of a division by zero. What happens?
 - (d) Attempt to use a variable name that does not exist yet. What happens?
 - (e) Add a new variable using “var foo;” and then print it’s value without first initializing it. What happens?
 - (f) Change the background colour to be yellow.
 - (g) Move the peak vertex of the house so that the roof is taller.
 - (h) Add a `modelMatrix.scale(x,y,z)` transformation so that the house is twice as large.
 - (i) Add a second pink copy of the house to the left of the original, with the help of a `modelMatrix.translate(x,y,z)` transformation and other code, as needed. Make this house red.

(j) WebGL/OpenGL comes with several basic primitive types, as illustrated here:



What happens when you change `TRIANGLE_FAN` to `LINE_LOOP`? `LINE_STRIP`? `TRIANGLE_STRIP`? Return to using `TRIANGLE_FAN` at the end.

- (k) Turn off the animation, by calling `draw()` instead of `animate()`.
- (l) Use `Math.random()` to draw a third house that is located at a random x,y location on the screen, and drawn in a random colour. Reloading the web page will then produce a new random location.

Show your demo to a TA (either this week or next week) and submit your assignment by the deadline using:

`handin cs314 a1`