ICE: INFINITE CANVAS ENGINE

BACKGROUND

 Two common representations in computer graphics include images (pixels) and SVG (Structured Vector Graphics)

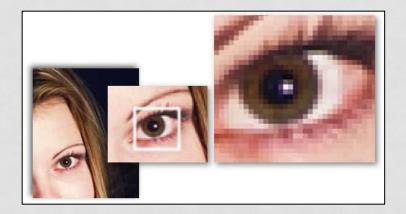


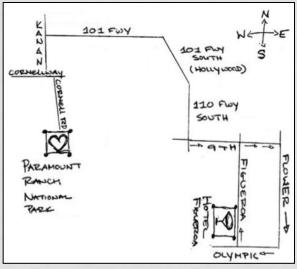


Image

BACKGROUND

- Images provide rich texture and detail but don't scale without pixelation artifacts and require considerable space
- They also provide no level of abstraction which can help when trying to convey various forms of information or when trying to edit a particular element

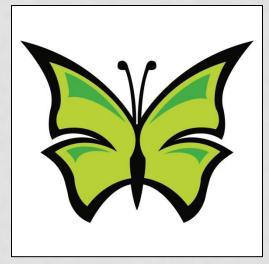




Abstraction yields clarity

BACKGROUND

 SVG is compact and can be scaled to any size without loss of quality but lacks the texture and richness of images



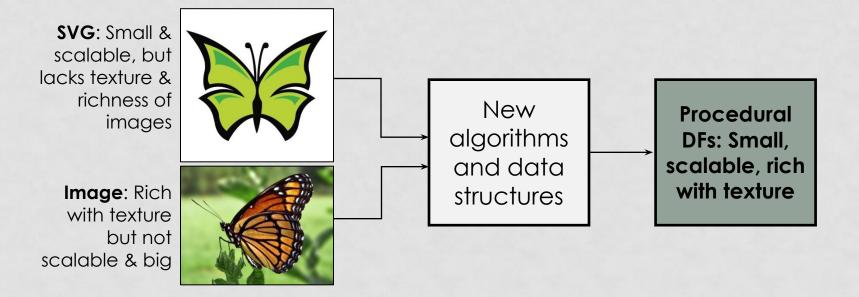
SVG: Small & scalable, but lacks texture & richness of images



Image: Rich with texture but not scalable and big

THE NEXT FRONTIER

- What's needed is a representation that provides the richness of pixels with the scalability and size of SVG
- A new form of procedural distance fields (DFs) provide such a representation



PROCEDURAL DFS

- Procedural detail directed distance fields are used to represent geometry such as variable width strokes and solid regions
- The distance fields are either explicitly represented in a data structure or defined implicitly and generated on demand when required
- The distance fields are supplied as input, along with other parameters, to a procedural component which adds texture and color and modulates geometry
- The procedural component provides rich texture and detail with infinite scalability

PROCEDURAL DFS

 A small set of primitive procedural DFs (i.e., a set of basis functions) can be combined to produce a very broad range of appearance styles



Primitive Procedural DFs

Broad Range of Styles

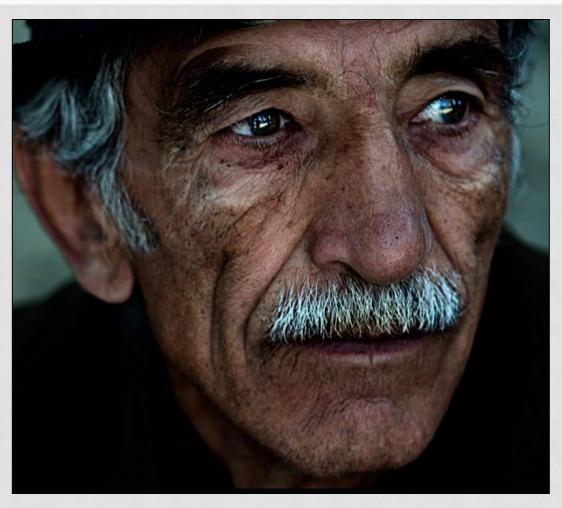


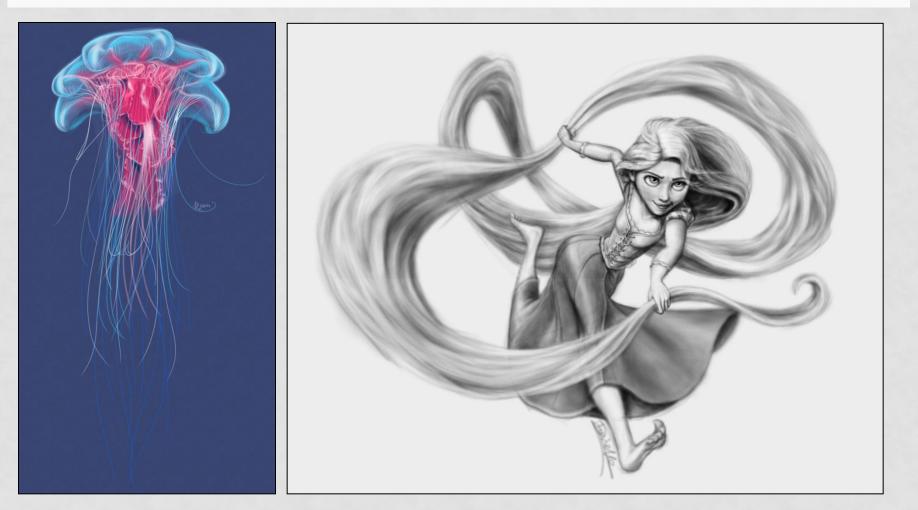






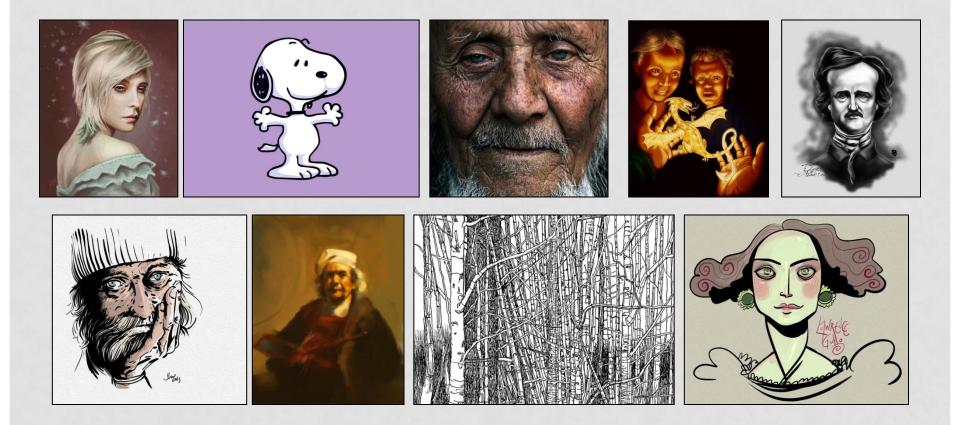






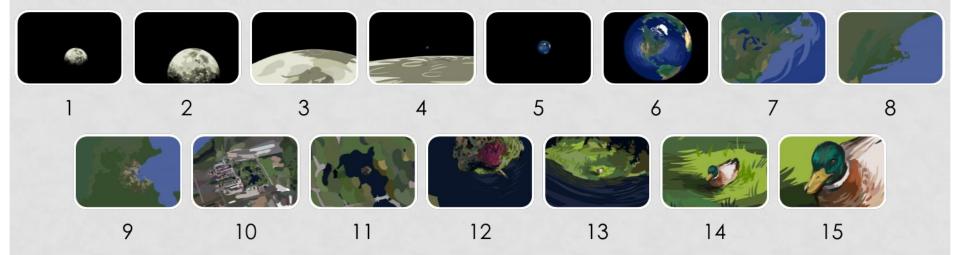






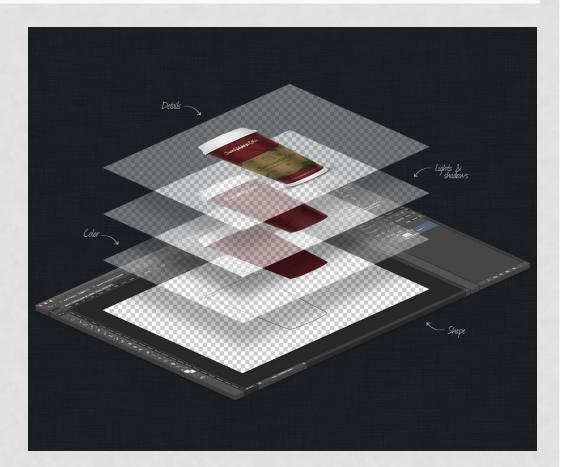
SEAMLESS INFINITE ZOOM

- Procedural DFs enable a 50 trillion to 1 dynamic zoom range
- Scaling is artifact free and seamless with no fades and other video tricks used to avoid popping



LAYERS

- Procedural DFs support layering, an essential tool for deconstructing a target image into its parts
- All forms of image creation benefit from this technique



SUMMARY OF ADVANTAGES

- Richness of pixels with the scalability and size of SVG
- Seamless infinite zoom
- Easily supports layers
- Fast by exploiting the massive parallelism inherent in GPUs
- Proven high quality rendering
- Amenable to stylization for different looks and levels of abstraction