M3G – Java Mobile 3D

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Agenda

- What is M3G
- What's new in 2.0

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M3G – Mobile 3D Graphics API for Java

- Enables real-time 3D on mass-market phones
  - Came out in 2004, now almost universally adopted
  - Installed base somewhere between 500M-1B
- Retained mode API
  - OpenGL ES features wrapped into Java objects
  - Animation and scene graph layered on top

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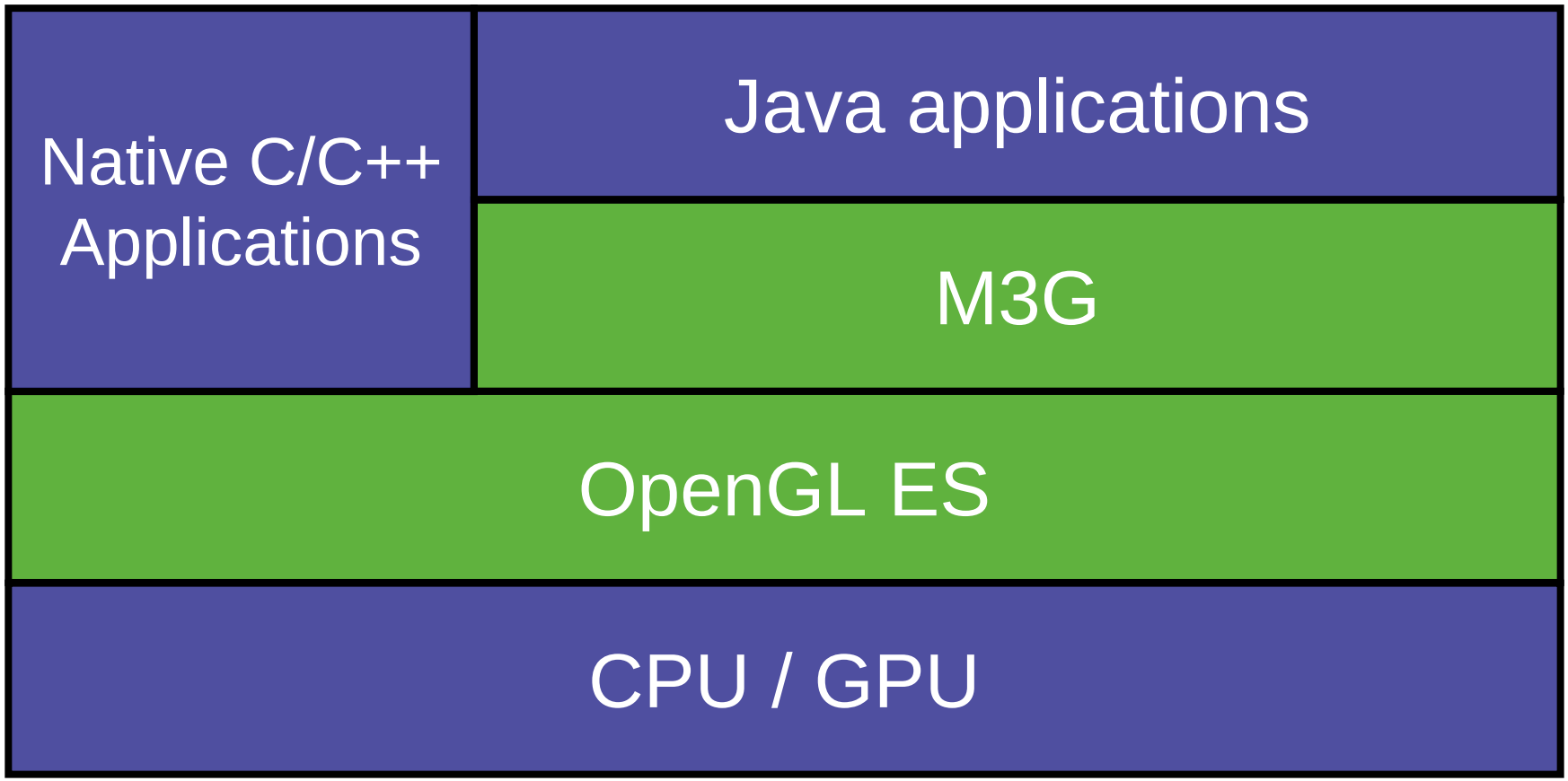
Mobile 3D Graphics APIs



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Mobile Java

Pros

+ More widely available than any other platform
+ The only platform on many/most phones
+ Easy to write code that works

Cons

– Different devices have different APIs (and bugs)
– Latest hardware features not always available
– Performance not as good as in C/C++

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M3G Design Principles

#1	Minimize the amount of Java code
#2	Do not require graphics hardware
#3	Enable easy content creation

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Programming Model

- M3G is not an “extensible” scene graph
  - No interfaces, events, or render callbacks
  - No threads; all methods are synchronous
- Scene update is decoupled from rendering
  - **`render`** ➔ Draw the scene, no side-effects
  - **`animate`** ➔ Update the scene to the given time
  - **`align`** ➔ Re-orient target cameras, billboards

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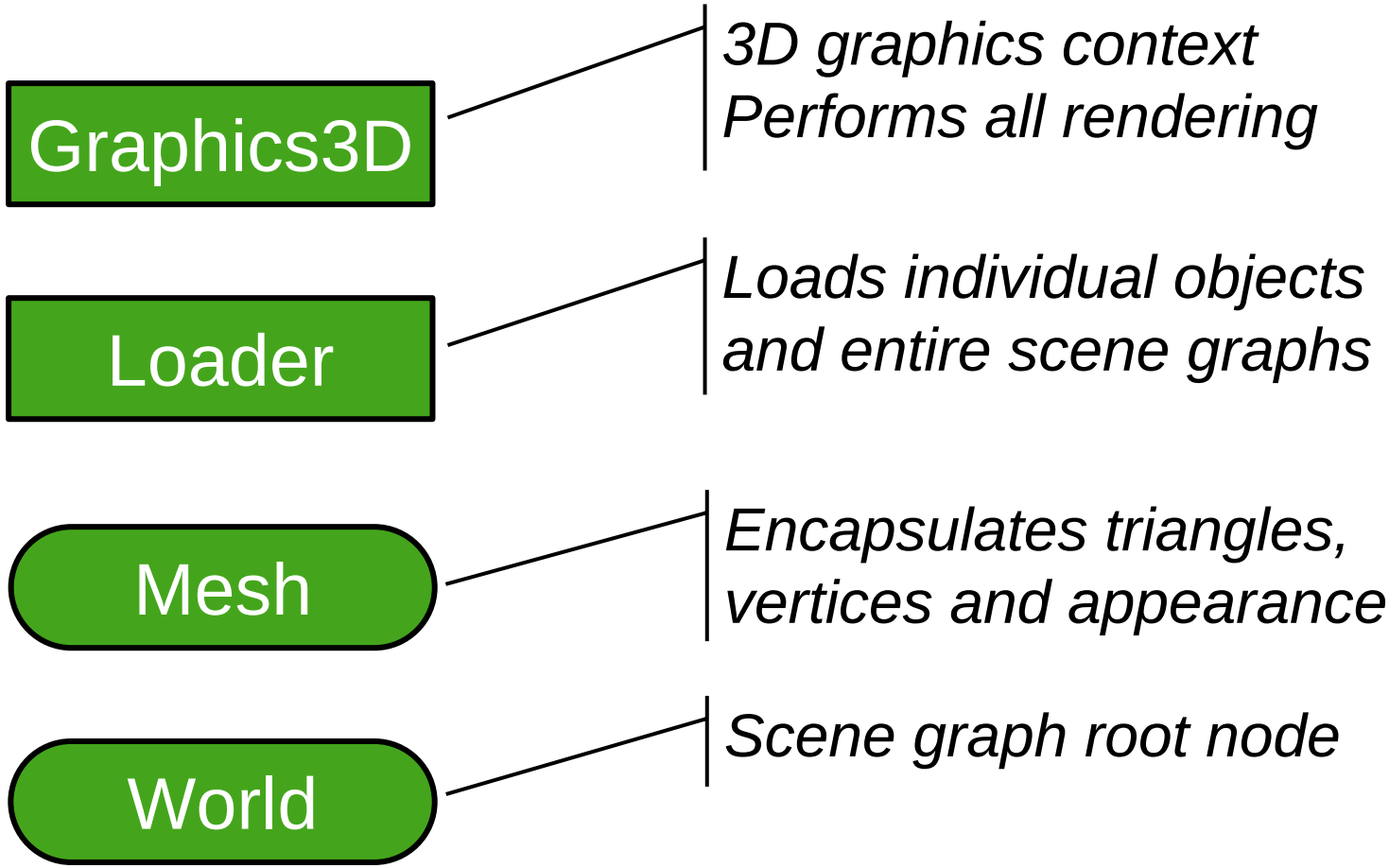
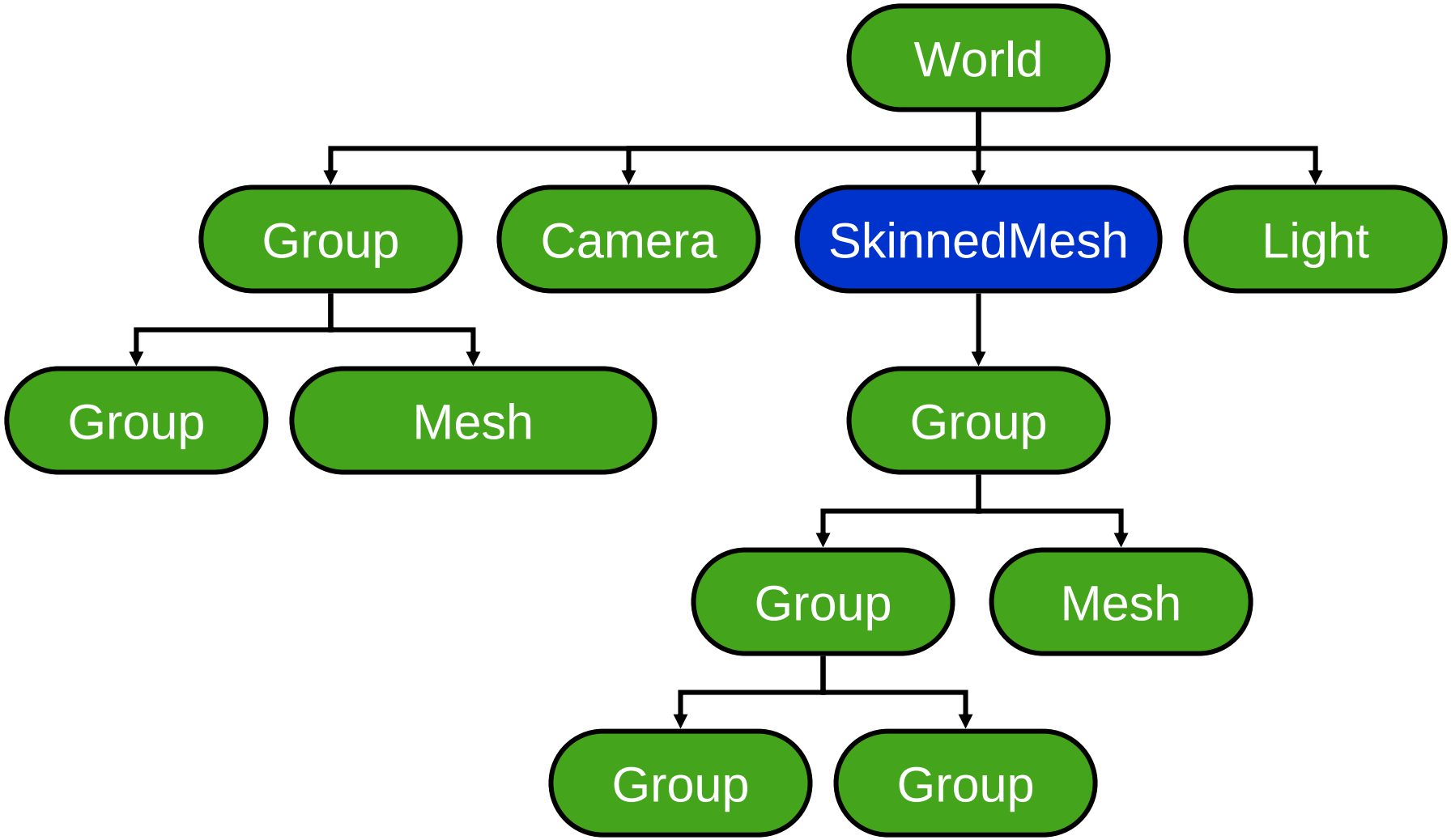
Main classes



Example scene graph



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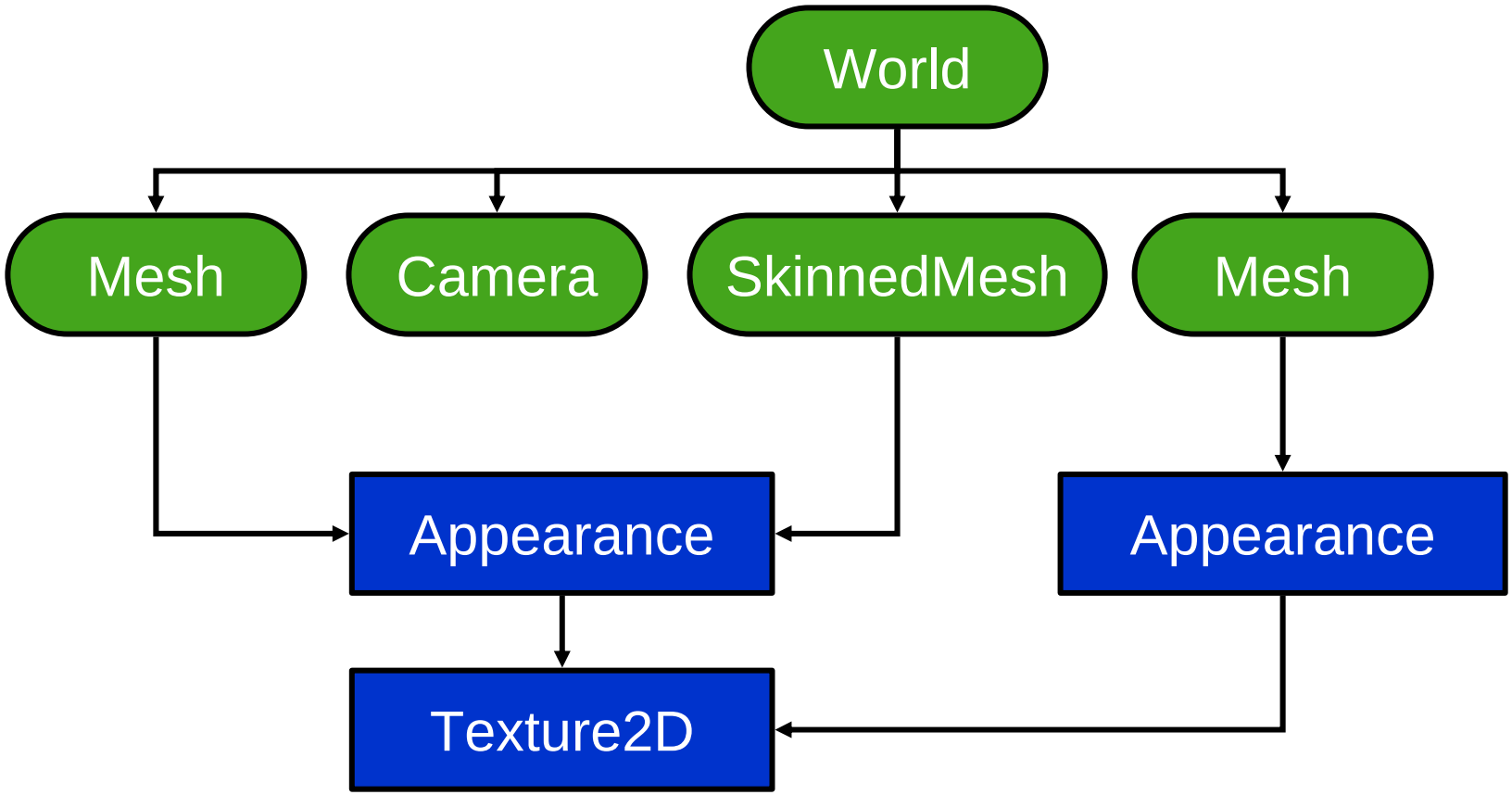
Components can be shared



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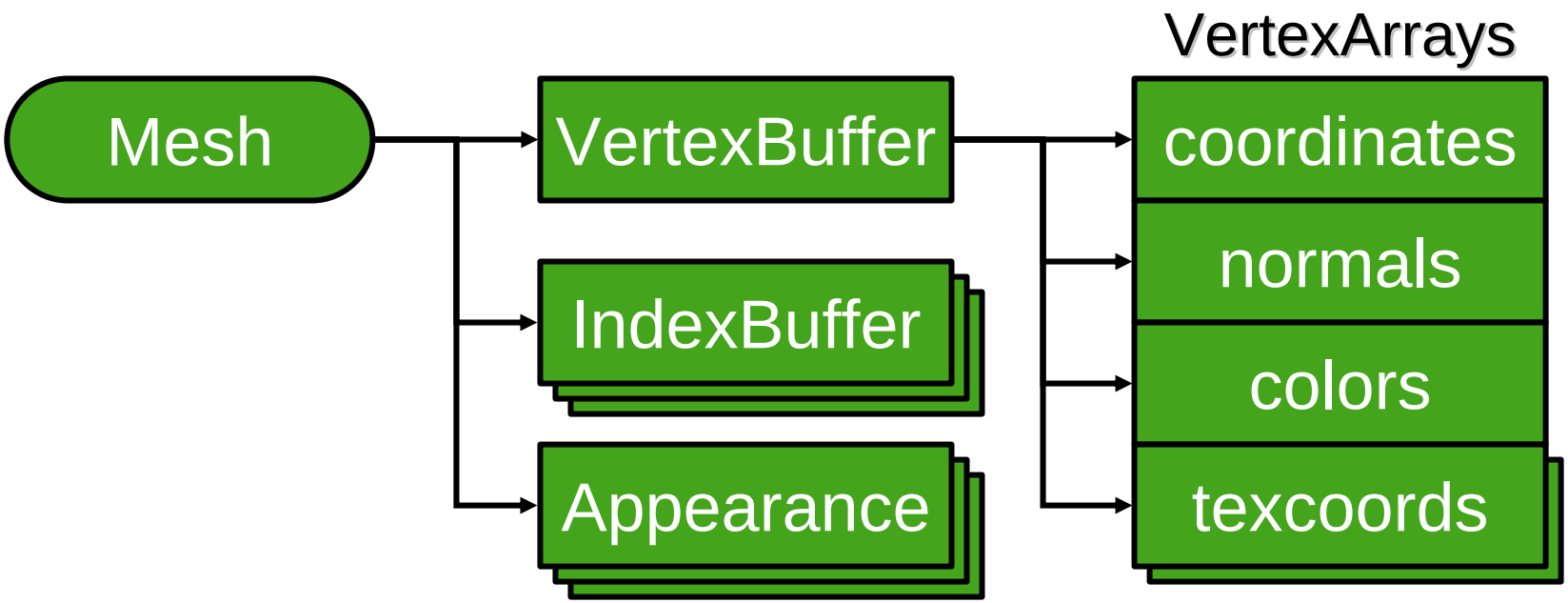
Mesh

- One VertexBuffer, containing VertexArrays
- 1..*N* submeshes (IndexBuffer + Appearance)



Simple animation player

```
world = (World) Loader.load(“/scene.m3g”)[0];
```

```
void paint(Graphics g) {
    world.animate(currentTime);
    graphics3d.bindTarget(g);
    graphics3d.render(world);
    graphics3d.releaseTarget();
}
```

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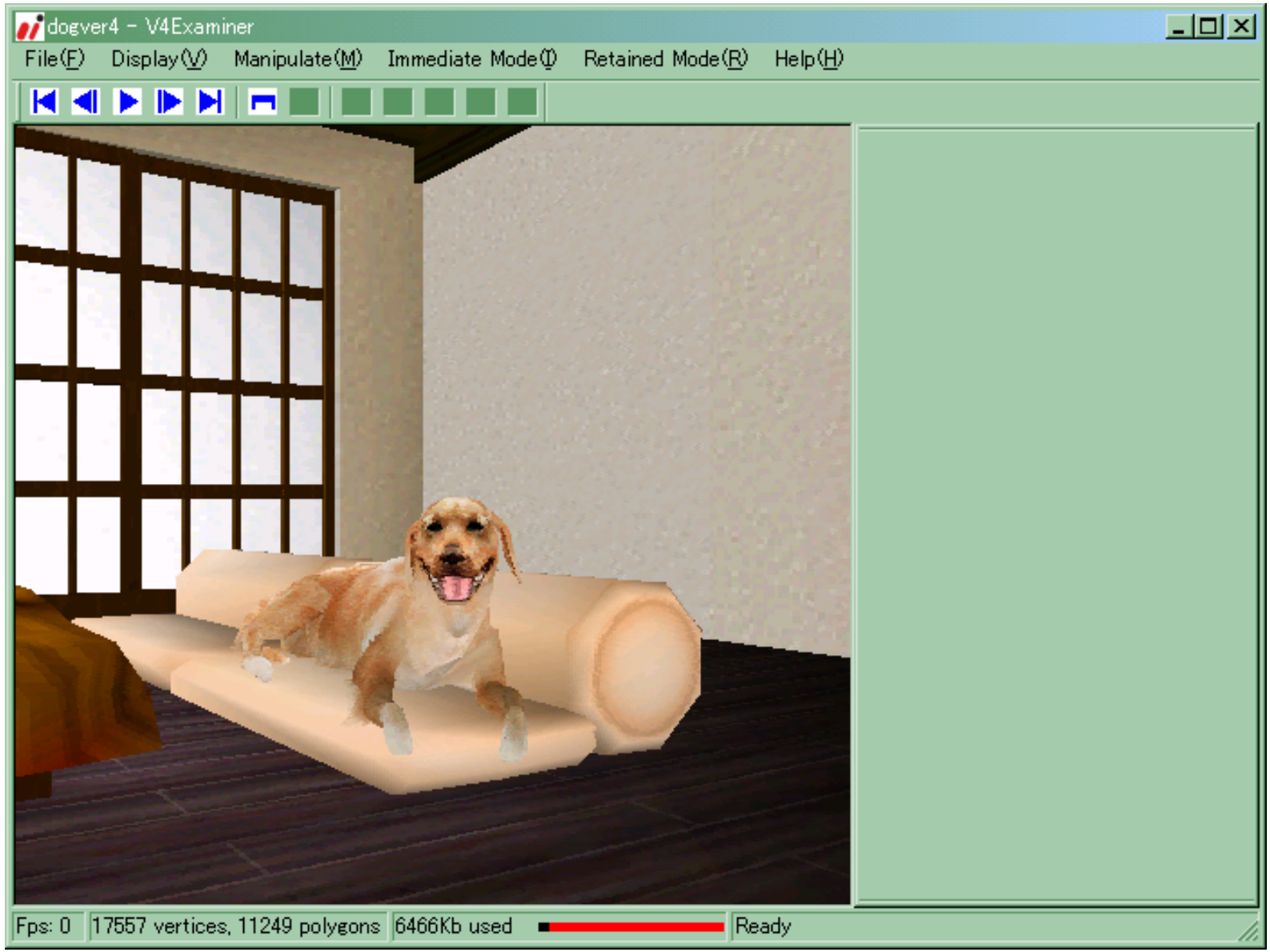
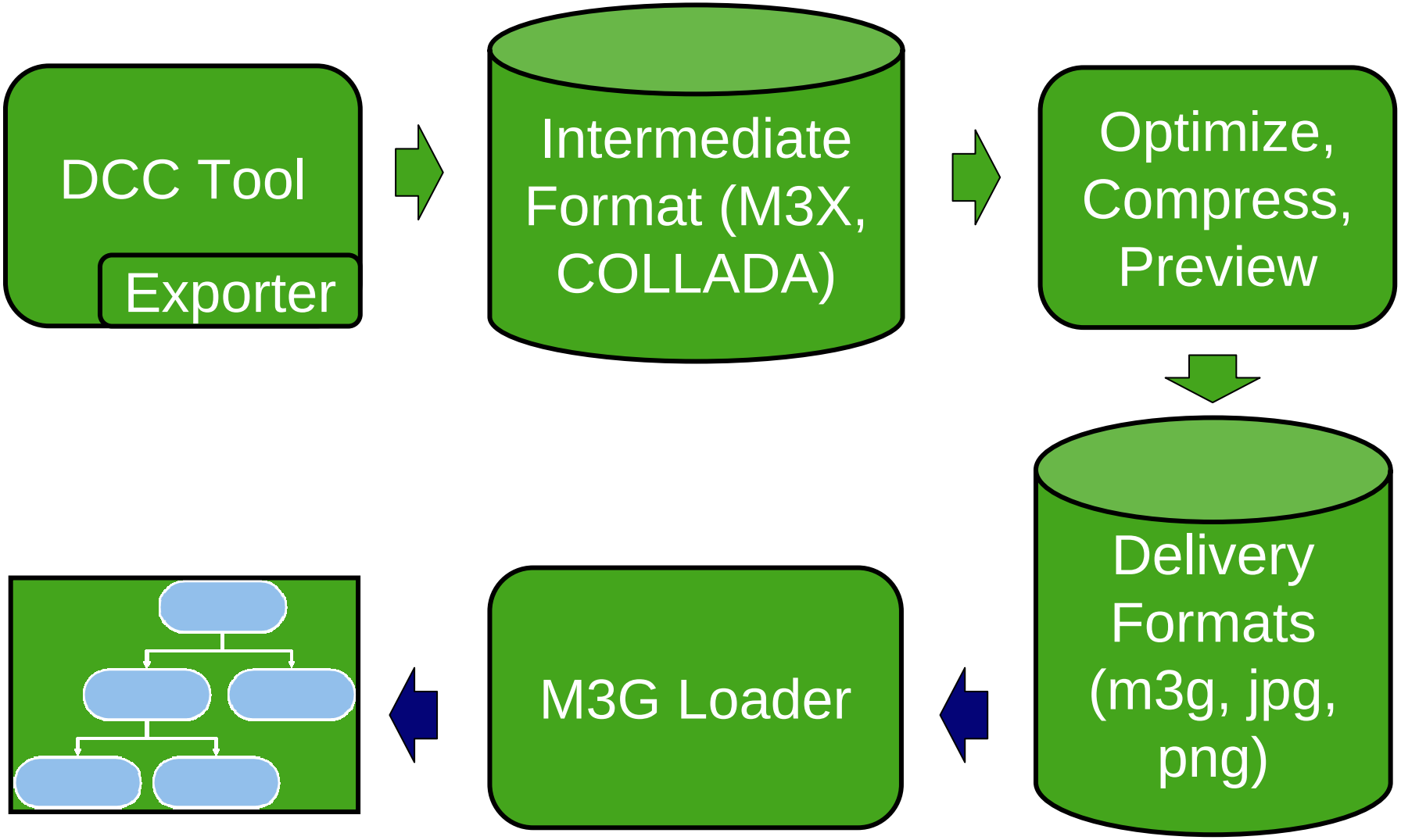
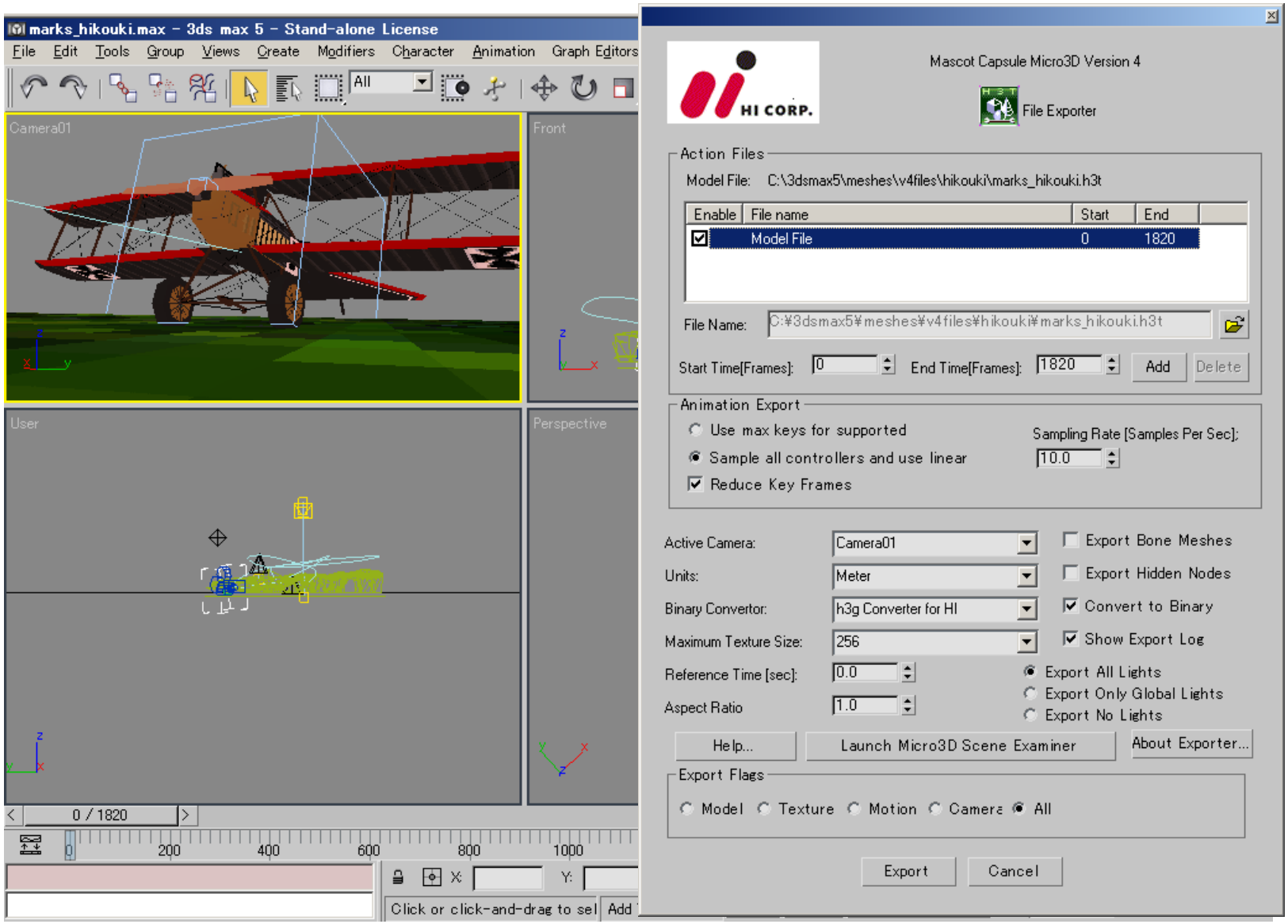
犬友 (Dear Dog) Demo



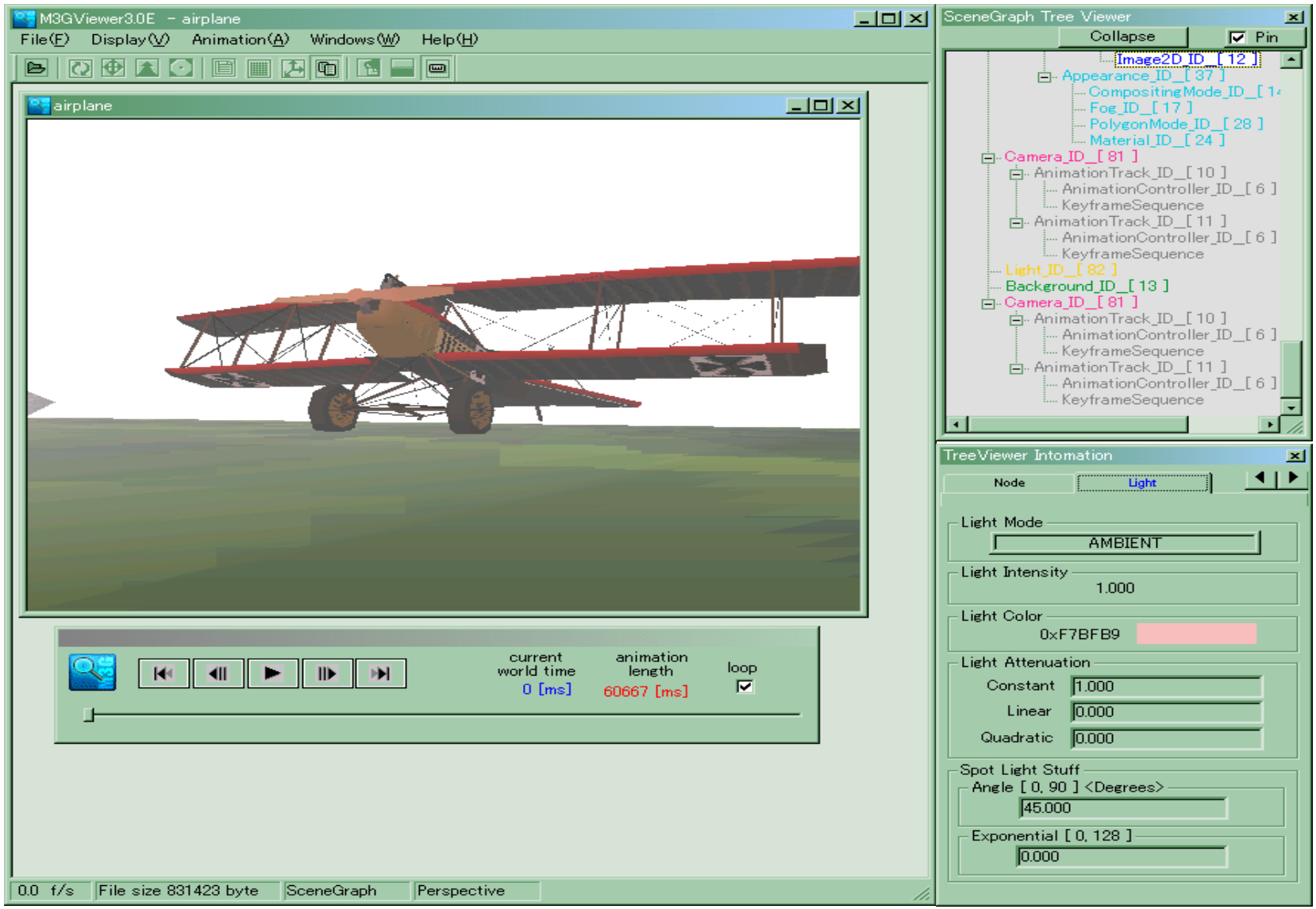
Creating art assets



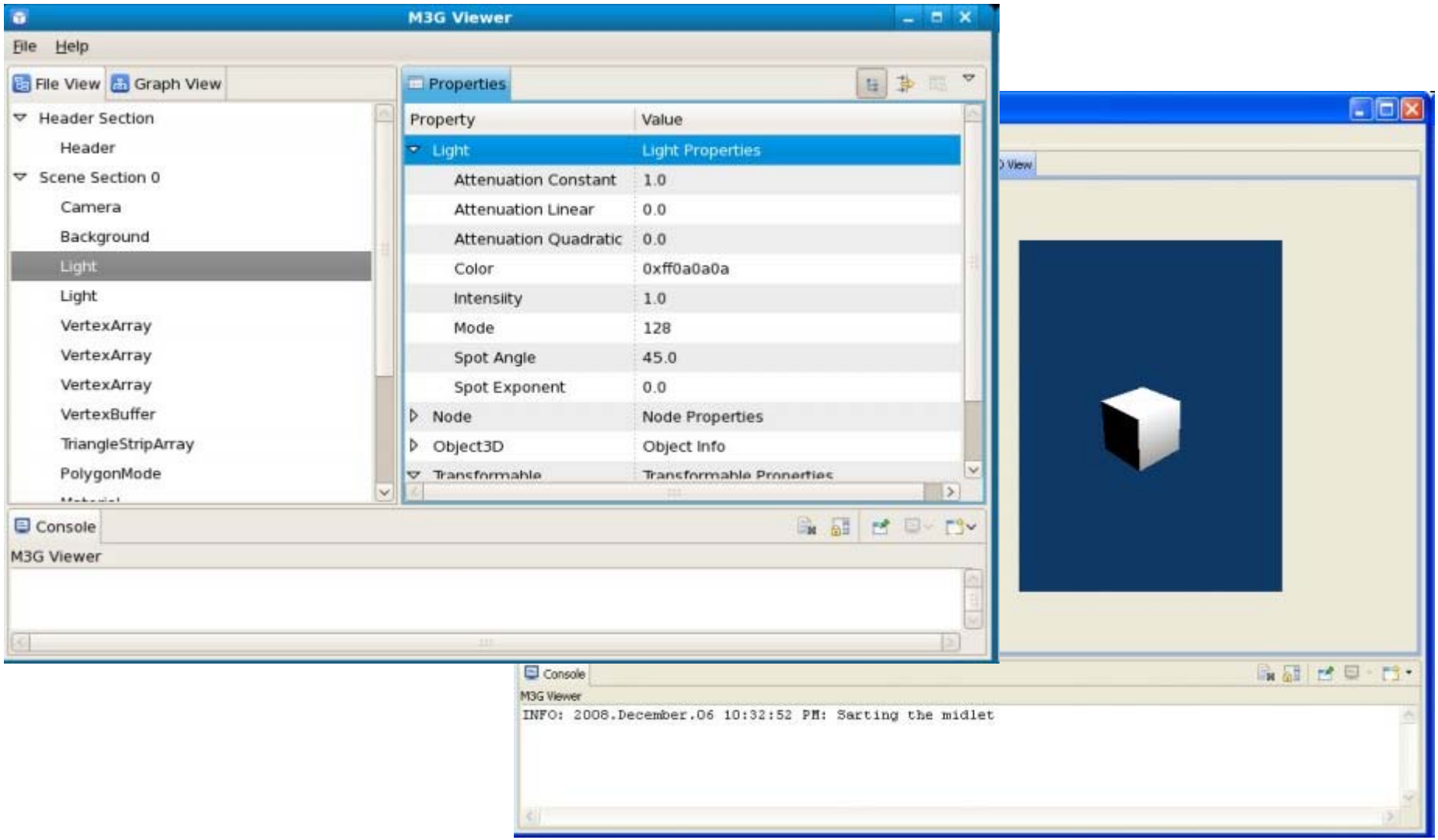
Mascot Capsule M3G Exporter



Mascot Capsule M3G Viewer



Wizzer Works M3G Viewer



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Selected open source projects

- www.wizzerworks.com
  - M3G Toolkit & Viewer for manipulating .m3g files
- m3x.dev.java.net
  - XML encoding of the .m3g file format + tools
- www.microemu.org
  - Java ME stack implemented on Java SE / Android
- lwuit.dev.java.net
  - Lightweight UI Toolkit, uses M3G for transition effects

Start developing!

- Choose IDE
  - www.eclipse.org
  - www.netbeans.org
- Choose SDK
  - forum.nokia.com/java
  - developer.sonyericsson.com/java
  - mpowerplayer.com/sdk
- Choose Exporter
  - www.m3gexport.com – Maya
  - www.mascotcapsule.com/M3G – Max, Maya, Lightwave, XSI
  - www.nelson-games.de/bl2m3g – Blender (open source)

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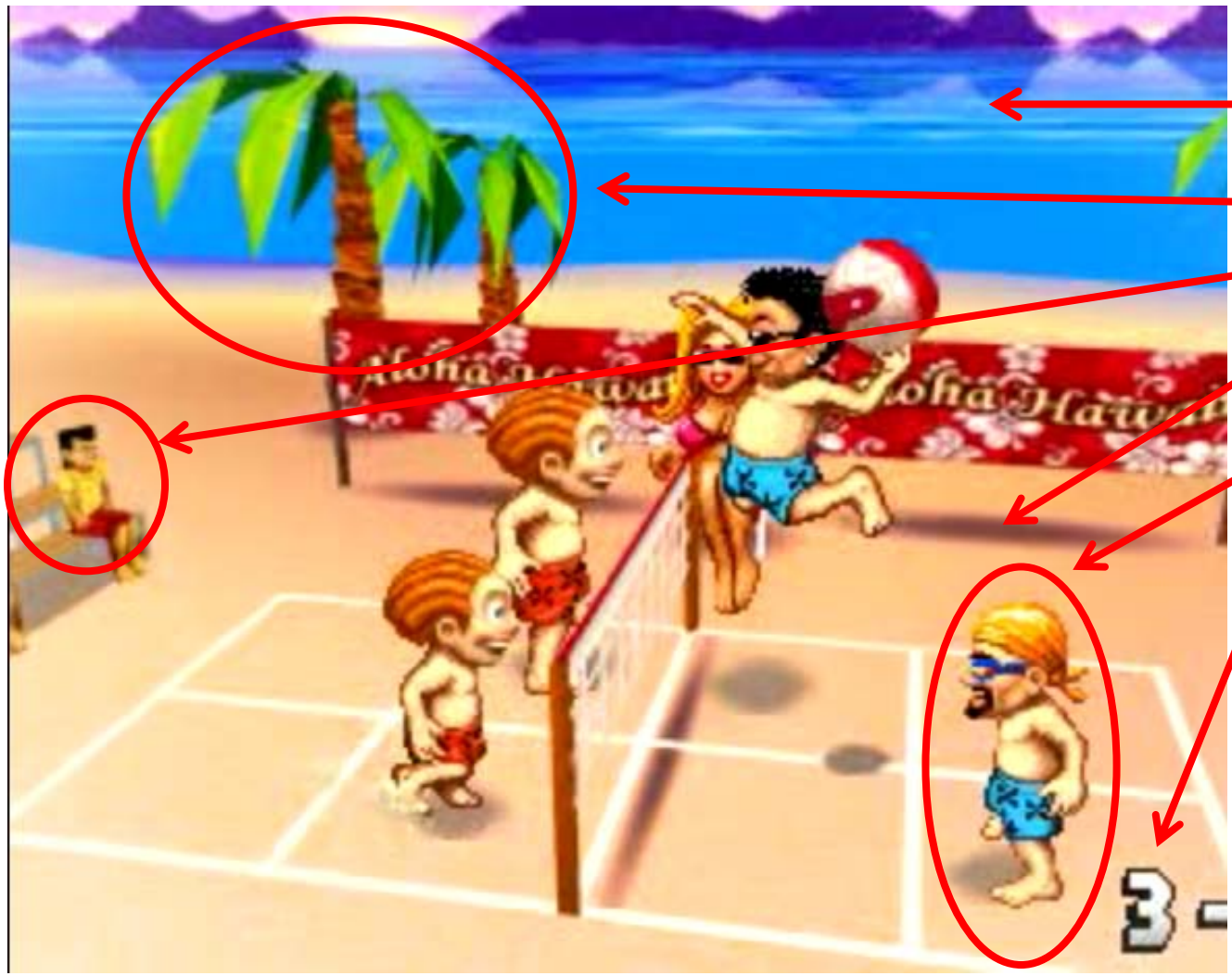
Example Games

Playman Beach Volley – RealNetworks



2D backdrop

3D background

2D spectators

3D field

2D players

2D overlays

~7 layers of 2D and 3D!

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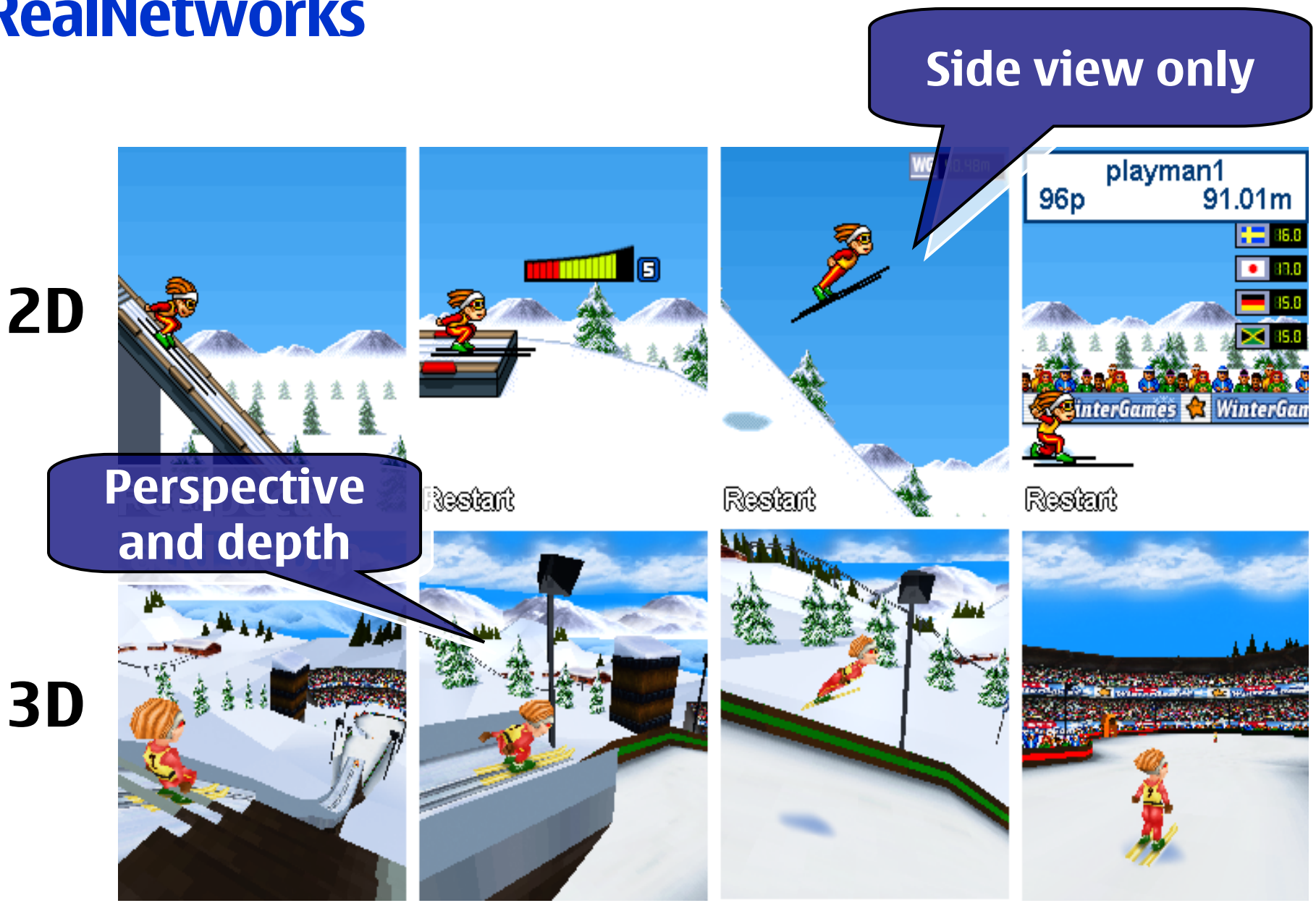
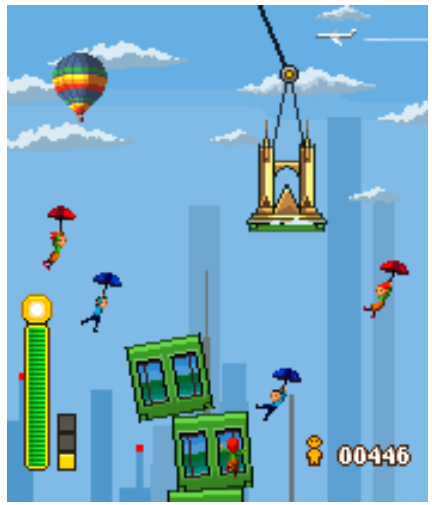
Playman Winter Games – RealNetworks

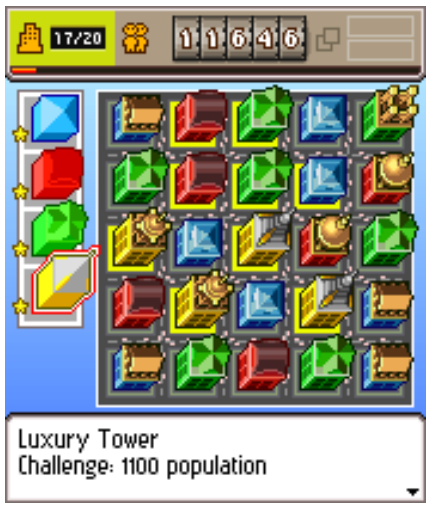


Playman World Soccer – RealNetworks

- 2D/3D hybrid
- Cartoon-like 2D figures in a 3D scene
- 2D particle effects etc.

Tower Bloxx – Digital Chocolate





- Puzzle/arcade mixture
- 3D with 2D overlays and backgrounds

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Mini Golf Castles – Digital Chocolate

- 3D with 2D background and overlays
- Skinned characters

Rollercoaster Rush – Digital Chocolate

- 2D backgrounds
- 3D main scene
- 2D overlays

M3G 2.0

M3G 2.0

- Supercedes M3G 1.1
  - Adds programmable shaders in the high end
  - Improved features & perf also in the low end
  - Fully backwards compatible

- Work in progress
  - Get the Proposed Final Draft at www.jcp.org → JSR 297
  - Developer feedback can still make a difference!

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Design Goals

Target all devices

1. Programmable HW
2. No graphics HW
3. Fixed-function HW

Enable reuse of

1. Assets & tools (.m3g)
2. Source code (.java)
3. Binary code (.class)

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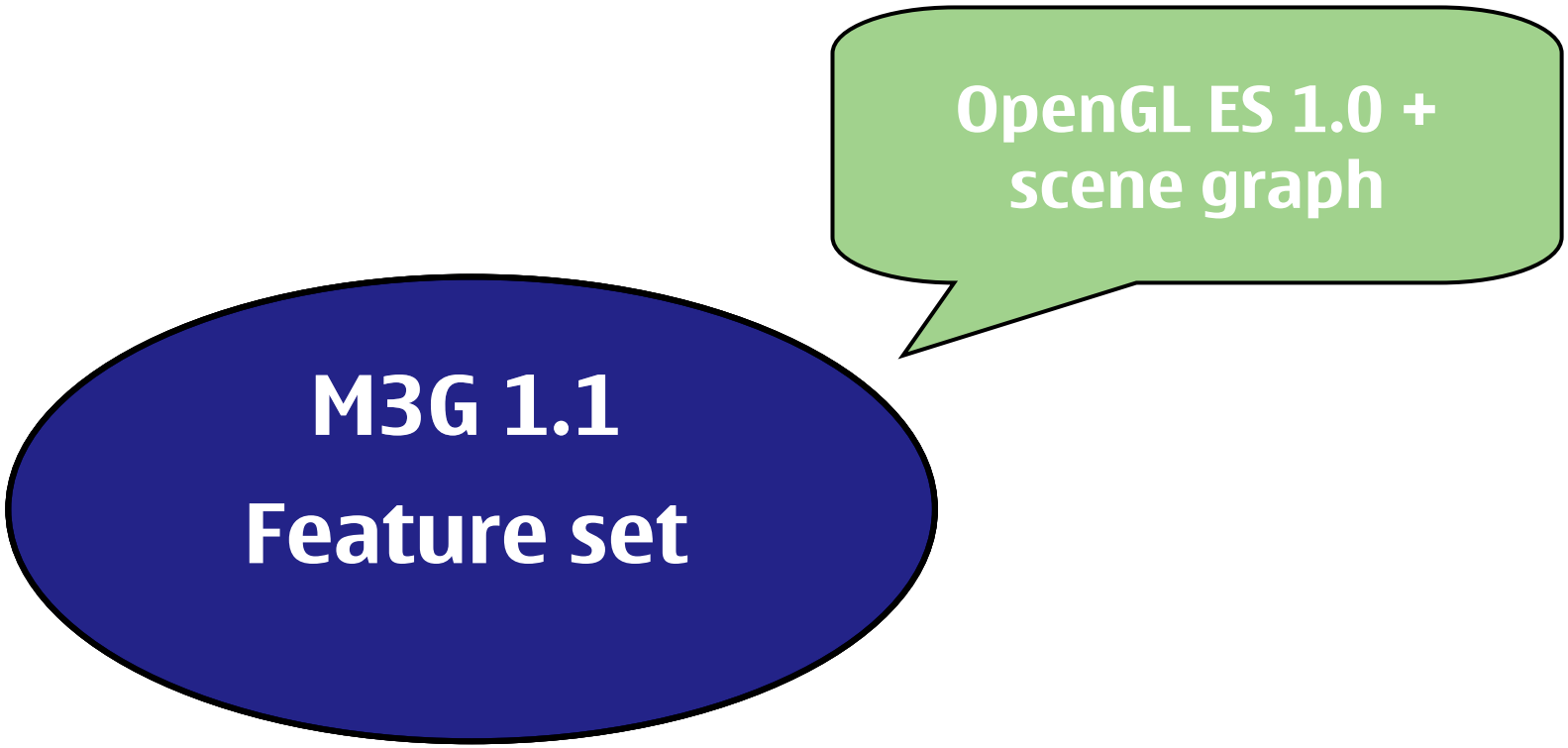
M3G 2.0 is a superset of 1.1



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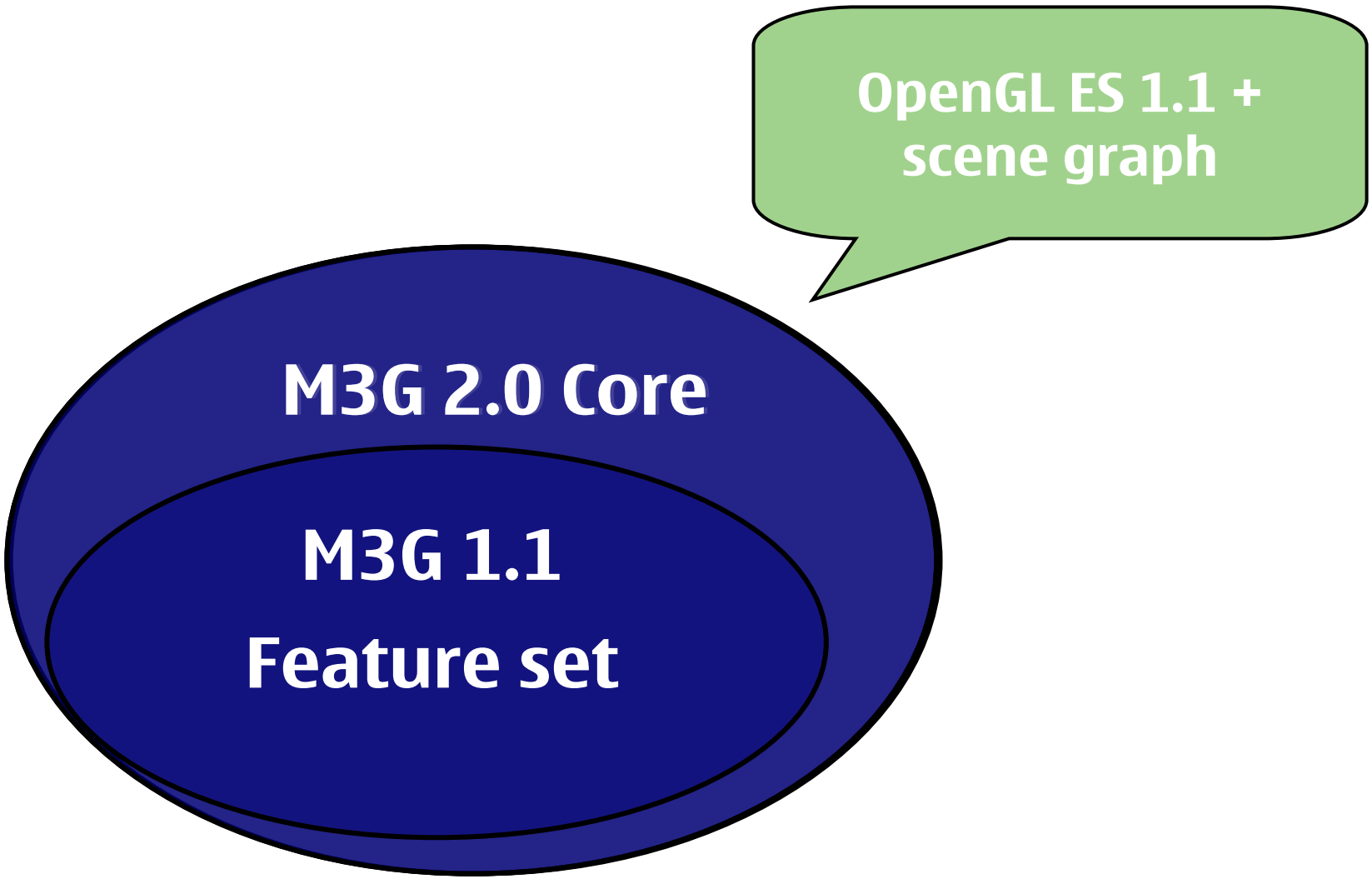

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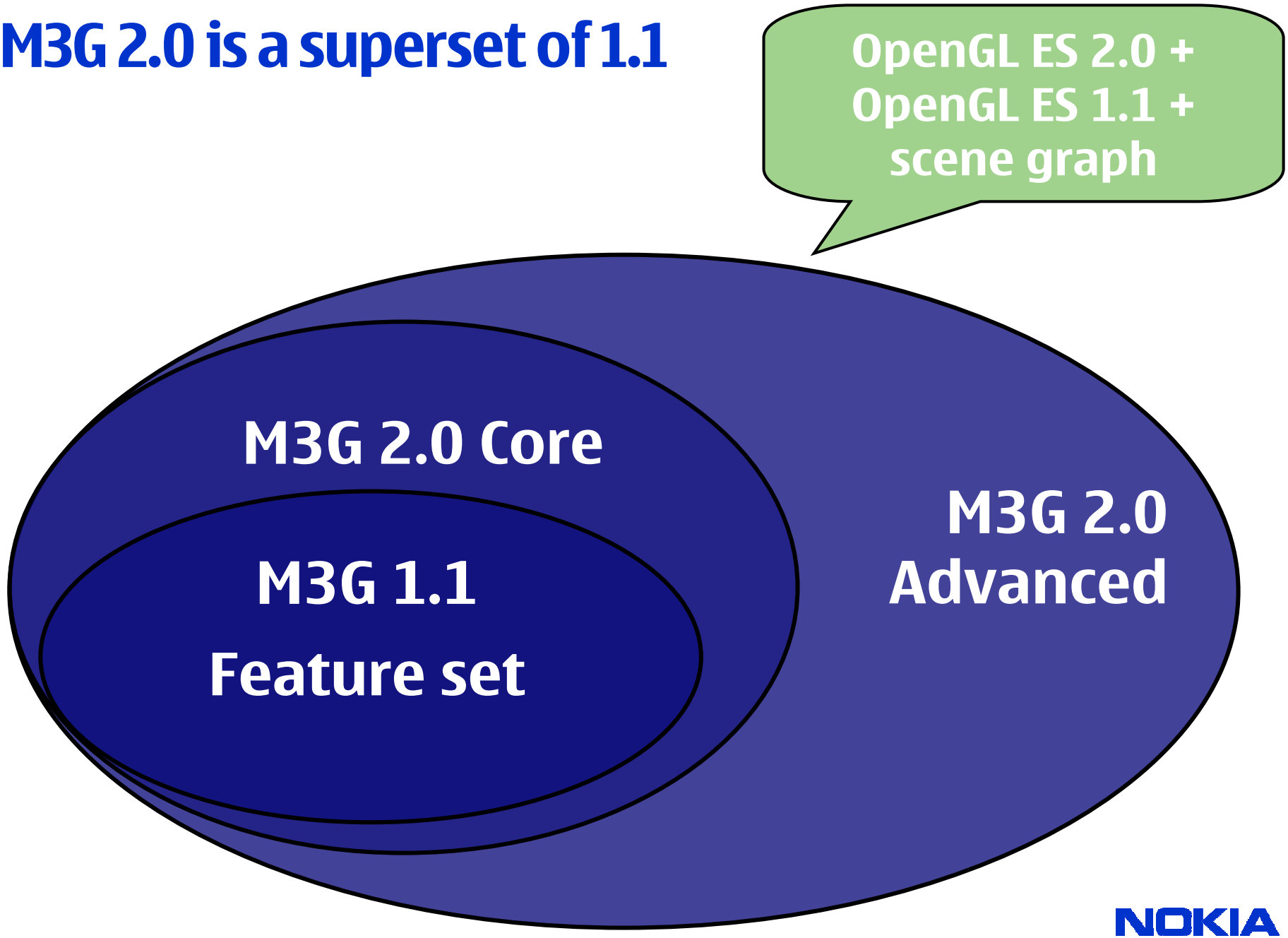

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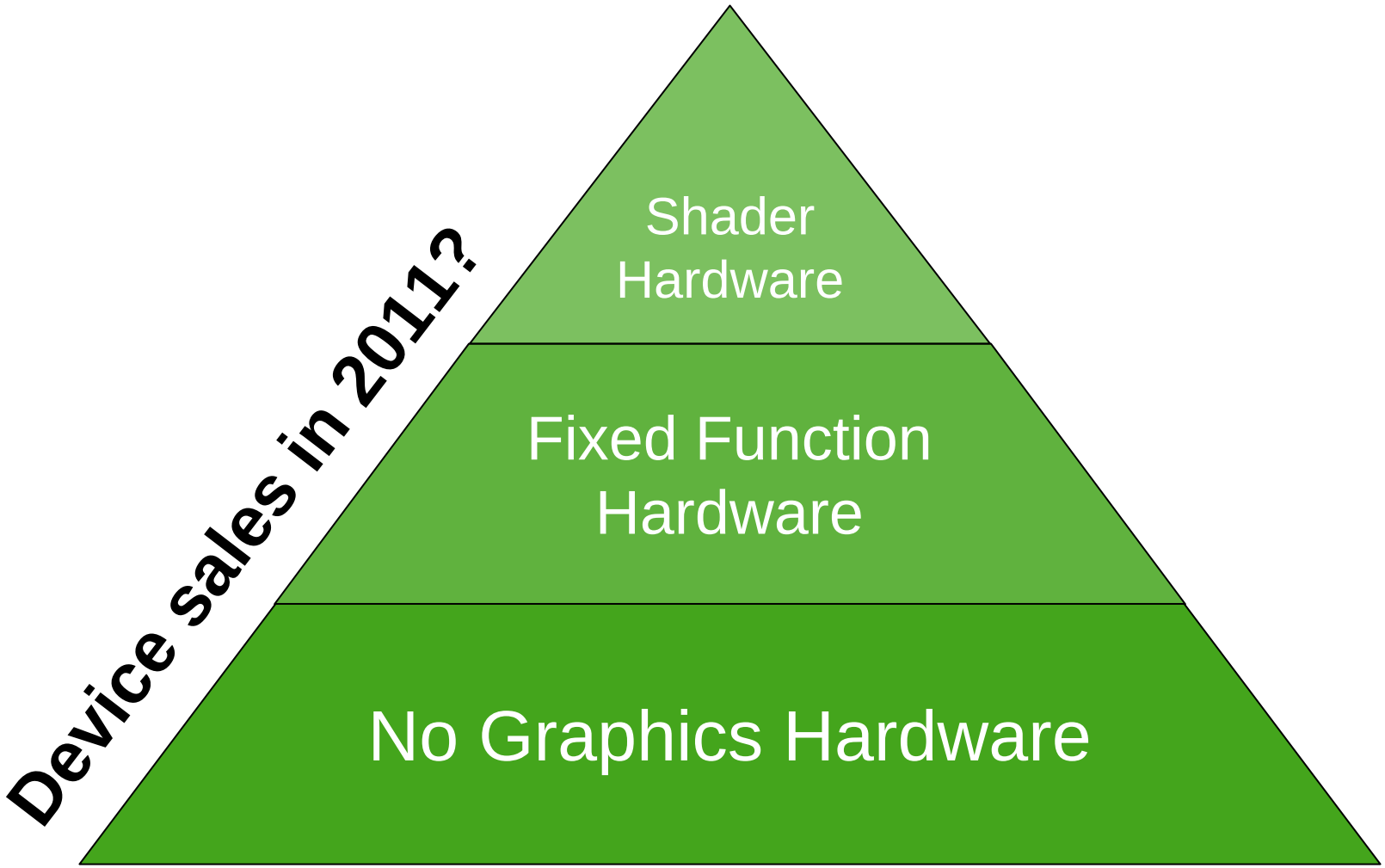
Why Not Shaders Only?



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New Core features due to popular demand

- Optimized mesh deformation & animation
  - Morphing and skinning on the same mesh
  - Morph targets applied on a subset of the base mesh
  - Multichannel keyframe sequences
  - Animation event tracks
- Scene graph
  - Bounding volume hierarchies (boxes and spheres)
  - Neatly encapsulated multipass render-to-texture effects
  - Transparent objects can be sorted back-to-front
  - Lots of convenience methods

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New Core features due to popular demand

- Improved texturing
  - Compressed textures, JPEG
  - Non-power-of-two sizes
  - Video textures
  - Bump mapping
- New primitive types
  - Point sprites, lines
  - Float/half vertices

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Level of Detail (LOD)

- A Group node can select one of its children
  - Based on their size in screen pixels
  - Similar to mipmap level selection

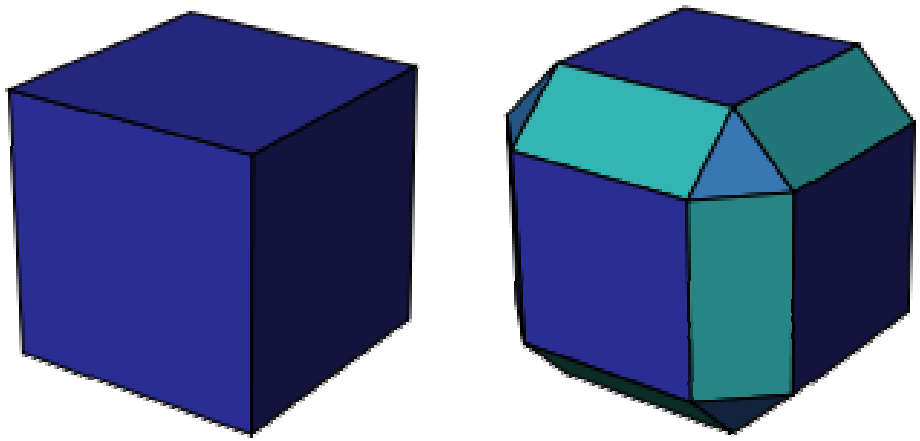
- Formally
  1. Compute $\boldsymbol{s}$ = pixels per model-space unit
  2. Select the node whose ideal scale $\boldsymbol{s_i}$ satisfies

$$\max\{ s_i \mid s_i \leq s \}$$

Collision Detection

- Each Node can have a collision volume
  - k-DOP = Discrete Oriented Polytope
  - AABB with corners & edges chopped off

- `world.collide(…)` to find all collisions



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Simple vertex shader

Declare attribute semantics via #pragmas

```
#pragma M3Gpositionattrib(myVertex)
#pragma M3Gvertexstage(clipspace)


void main() {
  m3g_ffunction();
  gl_Position = myVertex;
}
```

Built-in function for morphing, skinning, model-view-projection

Result passed to the fragment shader

Summary

Summary

- M3G enables real-time 3D on mass-market phones
  - Easy to use, high performance scene graph API
  - Installed base somewhere between 500M-1B
  - Grab the tools and start developing!

- M3G 2.0 is under development
  - Adds programmable shaders in the high end
  - Improved features & perf also in the low end
  - Fully backwards compatible

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