math 396L math for 3D graphics

Fall 08 - week one

lab rules (i.e., what you are not supposed to do at the lab)

general rules:

- no food
- no drinks
- don't print more than 10 pages
- respect others working at the lab keep noise to a minimum
- care for lab equipment (as if it were yours)

lab rules (i.e., what you are not supposed to do at the lab)

general (a few more 'please don't...'):

- when done, leave working space and equipment as you found them (or as you'd like to find them)
- don't save your work on the local disk, you are likely to not find it again
- don't remove/add any icons from/to the desktop
- don't change the type of session, keep KDE

lab rules (i.e., what you are not supposed to do at the lab)

in addition to those, while in class:

- don't surf the net
- don't answer your cell phone (if possible, turn ringer off)
- keep headphones off, i may say something useful, even something interesting...
- don't distract others

lab hours

open hours:

• TBA

reserved for lecture (i.e., not available):

- MWF 11.00 12.10
- W 2.00 3.00
- Th 2.00 3.50, 4.00 5.00, and 5.30 7.20

lab at SH 272 is open M-Th from 10.00 to 5.30, Fri 10.00 - 3.00, and Sat 11.00 - 2.00, starting Tue. Sept. 2nd

lab equipment

- the lab has 30 PCs with linux RedHat Fedora 7 as OS
- MS windows and windows applications can be used through VMWare
- two printers
- overhead projector and instructor computer

software

- OS: linux RedHat Fedora 7
- windows and windows applications are still available through VMWare
- all computers have MATLAB, Maple, and Mathematica installed
- eclipse C/C++ IDE and Java IDE are also available
- jEdit an advanced text editor (good for source code)
- OpenOffice an application for word-type documents,
 spreadsheets, presentations and few other things
- linux comes with internet browsers, email and ftp clients, GNU compilers, text editors, LaTex, and more

when you get to the lab and choose a computer to work on, you may find four possible scenarios:

- 1. the last person using that computer logged out of the user account and you see a login screen, as it should be
- 2. the last person using that computer didn't log out and:
 - o you are in a student_user session
 - o you are in a vmuser session (two possibilities here)
 - o you are in a vmuser session and the screen is locked

case 1:

- if you want to use linux and its applications, log in as student_user with password math254
- if you want to use windows and its applications, log in as vmuser with password usevmware
- in either case, the login screen prompts you for username and psswd, you can either type the user name (student_user or vmuser), or simply click on one of the user names displayed above (student_user or VMWare User), then type the corresponding psswd

case 2.1:

 log out and go back to case 1, don't just keep working on that session, log out first!

case 2.2 (unlikely):

- in this case, you may find some linux applications open and/or VMWare open with windows running
 - if VMware is not open, or if it is open, but the windows session is "powered off", close all applications, log out, and go back to case 1
 - if VMWare is open and windows is running, close all windows applications, then shutdown windows (you may need to press crtl-alt to realese the mouse pointer), close all other applications, log out, and go back to case 1

case 2.3:

use the password usevmware to unlock the screen

go back to case 2.2

lab usage

- by now, you are probably logged in as student_user and can start working...
- make sure your own (private) drive (USB drive or your university udrive) is accessible before doing anything else, you don't want to save your work locally!!!
- when you are done using the computer, close all applications, remove your USB drive safely (if using one), and log out

once you log in as student_user, you'll see a GUI and see:

- a bunch of icons on the left of the screen (more later)
- a dock/panel/bar at the bottom

from here, everything should be straight forward: click on the application icon you want to use, or, if you don't see one on the the desktop, click on the K-menu (bottom left corner) and look for it in there... let's look at the panel at the bottom of the screen a bit closer...

what's on the KDE desktop panel?

- on the left of the panel, you'll find a button with a K on it, if you click it, a menu will open, you can access almost everything from that menu...
- to the right of the K button, you'll see a little home, if you click it, a file system browser window will open show the files and folders of student_user, this browser is a KDE application called Konqueror (more later)
- also, next to that 'single family unit', you'll see a terminal icon, it opens a terminal

what else is on the KDE desktop panel?

- next to those two icons, you'll see a little panel with four buttons labeled 1 through 4, each one of these will take you to a different desktop, yes, 4 different desktops in the same KDE session! Why?
- well, you may want to have different applications open on different desktops: web browser and email client on desktop 1, MATLAB on desktop 2, a text editor and a terminal on 3, etc.

what else is on the KDE desktop panel? (cont'd)

- next to the right, there is a space where you can see a tab for each application you are running, these will help you navigate your 4 desktops and switch from one application to another
- click the application you want to see with the left mouse button, and you'll be shown that application on the desktop it is open

what else is on the KDE desktop panel? (cont'd)

- click with your right mouse button and you'll see what else you can do with that application: change it to another desktop, close it, etc.
- to the other side of the space for application tabs, you'll see some system icons (you can ignore those for the time being) and a clock (which tells you the exact time of the day even if you feel like my voice and the class contents are slowing it down)

how to access your udrive

this is one of those instances you may want to pay close attention, seriously!

 open konqueror (you can do this by clicking the home icon) and type in the address bar

smb://udrive.csun.edu/user_name

where user_name stands for your csun login ID

you'll be prompted for you user name (again) and psswd

how to access your udrive

- konqueror will display the files and directories in your udrive, that's where you want to save your work
- how to disconnect from your udrive?

Now you really want to pay attention!!!

- when you are done working, close all the files in your udrive that are open, then close konqueror (all konqueror windows you have open), if you do this, you'll have to reenter your login ID and psswd to see your udrive again...
- but if you leave konqueror open or have any files from your udrive open, your udrive will still be accessible
- log out from your KDE session!!!

using an USB drive

- when you plugged your USB drive it will be mounted automatically in /media/sdb1 and you'll be given the option of opening that location
- to safely remove the drive, go to system:/media/ directory, right click on your USB drive, and choose Safely Remove, then you can remove the drive