

newschool amiga demos

winden of network - bcnparty 101

intro

- newschool
 - almost pure cpu effects
 - minimal custom chip usage
- coding oriented talk
 - but also some graphics and sound info

¿amiga? - I

- fixed hardware since 10 years
- demos run on bare hardware
 - the only code running is yours
- lots of documentation and tutorials
- small but active scene community

machine specs

- 50 mhz cpu, 1 million cycles per frame
- 32 megs “fast” ram
- 80 kb per frame upload to gfxram
- separate 8 kb code + 8 kb data caches

sound

- low cpu usage: 4 channel sound
- medium cpu usage: 8 channel sound
- high cpu: streaming adpcm
- simply use public routines at first

screen modes

- palette based, upto 256 colors
- ham based, 18bit truecolor
 - HQ RGBB pixel quads
 - LQ, alternating RG/BG pixel pairs
 - better speed
 - drawing routine is more complex

screen modes II

- palette 320x256: 80 kb per frame
- truecolor 320x256 HQ: 320 kb per frame
- truecolor 320x256 LQ: 160 kb per frame

chunky to planar

- newschool routines need chunky image
- display hardware needs planar image
- howto: read from chunky, convert in registers, write to planar in vram
- complex, time-critical operation
- simply use off-the-shelf routines

cpu

- motorola 68060, last in 680x0 series
- 1 cycle per instr... but pairing make it 0,5
- 16 integer regs, 8 float regs
- 8k inst cache, can fit complete effects inside
- 8k data cache, same speed as a register
- branch cache, looping takes 0 cycles

design guides

- hide code limitations via design
- don't forget logos, wipes...
- use palette tricks to accelerate effects
 - forces graphics to use less colors
- talk a lot with your graphician
- tight sync the demo with the music