


The Graphics Pipeline Data Structure (GPDS)



Oregon State University
Mike Bailey
mb@cs.oregonstate.edu

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GraphicsPipelineDataStructure.pptx

What is the Vulkan Graphics Pipeline Data Structure (GPDS)?

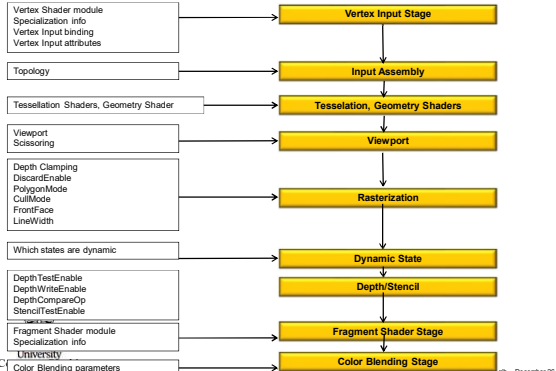
Here's what you need to know:

- The Vulkan Graphics Pipeline is like what OpenGL would call "The State", or "The Context". It is a **data structure**.
- Since you know the OpenGL state, a lot of the Vulkan GPDS will seem familiar to you.
- The current shader program is part of the state. (It was in OpenGL too, we just didn't make a big deal of it.)
- The Vulkan Graphics Pipeline is *not* the processes that OpenGL would call "the graphics pipeline".
- For the most part, the Vulkan Graphics Pipeline Data Structure is immutable – that is, once this combination of state variables is combined into a Pipeline, that Pipeline never gets changed. To make new combinations of state variables, create a new GPDS.
- The shaders get compiled the rest of the way when their Graphics Pipeline Data Structure gets created.

There are also a Vulkan Compute Pipeline Data Structure and a Raytrace Pipeline Data Structure – we will get to those later.

Vulkan Graphics Pipeline Stages and what goes into Them

The GPU and Driver specify the Pipeline Stages – the Vulkan Graphics Pipeline declares what goes in them



- Vertex Input Stage**: Vertex Shader module specialization info, Vertex input binding, Vertex input attributes
- Input Assembly**: Topology
- Tessellation, Geometry Shaders**: Tessellation Shaders, Geometry Shader
- Viewport**: Viewport Scissoring
- Rasterization**: Depth Clamping, DiscardEnable, PolygonMode, CullMode, FrontFace, LineWidth
- Dynamic State**: Which states are dynamic
- Depth-Stencil**: DepthTestEnable, DepthWriteEnable, DepthCompareOp, StencilTestEnable
- Fragment Shader Stage**: Fragment Shader module specialization info
- Color Blending Stage**: Color Blending parameters

The First Step: Create the Graphics Pipeline Layout

The Graphics Pipeline Layout is fairly static. Only the layout of the Descriptor Sets and information on the Push Constants need to be supplied.

```

VkPipelineLayout GraphicsPipelineLayout; // global
...
VkResult
Init14GraphicsPipelineLayout()
{
    VkResult result;

    VkPipelineLayoutCreateInfo
    vpcli.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_LAYOUT_CREATE_INFO;
    vpcli.pNext = nullptr;
    vpcli.flags = 0;
    vpcli.setLayoutCount = 4;
    vpcli.setLayouts = &DescriptorSetLayouts[0];
    vpcli.pushConstantRangeCount = 0;
    vpcli.pushConstantRanges = (VkPushConstantRange *)nullptr;

    result = vkCreatePipelineLayout(LogicalDevice, IN &vpcli, PALLOCATOR, OUT &GraphicsPipelineLayout);

    return result;
}

```

Let the Pipeline Layout know about the Descriptor Set and Push Constant layouts.

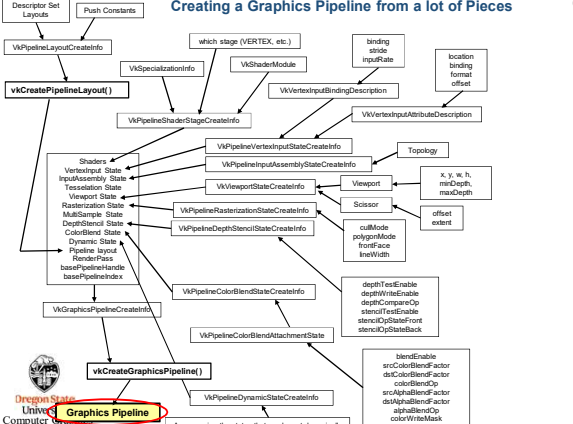
Why is this necessary? It is because the Descriptor Sets and Push Constants data structures have different sizes depending on how many of each you have. So, the exact structure of the Pipeline Layout depends on you telling Vulkan about the Descriptor Sets and Push Constants that you will be using.

A Graphics Pipeline Data Structure Contains the Following State Items:

- Pipeline Layout: Descriptor Sets, Push Constants
- Which Shaders to use (half-compiled SPIR-V modules)
- Per-vertex input attributes: location, binding, format, offset
- Per-vertex input bindings: binding, stride, inputRate
- Assembly: topology (e.g., **VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_TRIANGLE_LIST**)
- **Viewport**: x, y, w, h, minDepth, maxDepth
- **Scissoring**: x, y, w, h
- **Rasterization**: cullMode, polygonMode, frontFace, **lineWidth**
- **Depth**: depthTestEnable, depthWriteEnable, depthCompareOp
- **Stencil**: stencilTestEnable, stencilOpStateFront, stencilOpStateBack
- **Blending**: blendEnable, **srcColorBlendFactor**, **dstColorBlendFactor**, colorBlendOp, **srcAlphaBlendFactor**, **dstAlphaBlendFactor**, alphaBlendOp, colorWriteMask
- **DynamicState**: which states can be set dynamically (bound to the command buffer, outside the Pipeline)

Bold/Italics indicates that this state item can be changed with Dynamic State Variables

Creating a Graphics Pipeline from a lot of Pieces



The diagram illustrates the flow from high-level pipeline creation functions like `vkCreatePipelineLayout()` and `vkCreateGraphicsPipeline()` down to specific state objects such as `VkPipelineLayoutCreateInfo`, `VkPipelineShaderStageCreateInfo`, `VkPipelineVertexInputStateCreateInfo`, `VkPipelineInputAssemblyStateCreateInfo`, `VkPipelineRasterizationStateCreateInfo`, `VkPipelineDepthStencilStateCreateInfo`, `VkPipelineColorBlendStateCreateInfo`, and `VkPipelineDynamicStateCreateInfo`.

Creating a Typical Graphics Pipeline

```

VkResult
Init14GraphicsVertexFragmentPipeline( VkShaderModule vertexShader, VkShaderModule fragmentShader,
VkPrimitiveTopology topology, OUT VKPipeline *pGraphicsPipeline )
{
    #ifdef ASSUMPTIONS
        vwbld[0].inputRate = VK_VERTEX_INPUT_RATE_VERTEX;
        vpssc[0].depthClampEnable = VK_FALSE;
        vpssc[0].rasterizerDiscardEnable = VK_FALSE;
        vpssc[0].polygonMode = VK_POLYGON_MODE_FILL;
        vpssc[0].cullMode = VK_CULL_MODE_NONE; // best to do this because of the projectionMatrix[1][1] != -1;
        vpssc[0].frontFace = VK_FRONT_FACE_COUNTER_CLOCKWISE;
        vpssc[0].rasterizationSamples = VK_SAMPLE_COUNT_ONE_BIT;
        vpccbas.blendEnable = VK_FALSE;
        vpccbsci.logicOpEnable = VK_FALSE;
        vpccbsci.depthTestEnable = VK_TRUE;
        vpccbsci.depthWriteEnable = VK_TRUE;
        vpccbsci.depthCompareOp = VK_COMPARE_OP_LESS;
    #endif
    ...
}
    
```

These settings seem pretty typical to me. Let's write a simplified Pipeline-creator that accepts Vertex and Fragment shader modules and the topology, and always uses the settings in red above.

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The Shaders to Use

```

VkPipelineShaderStageCreateInfo
vpssc[0].sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_SHADER_STAGE_CREATE_INFO;
vpssc[0].pNext = nullptr;
vpssc[0].flags = 0;
vpssc[0].stage = VK_SHADER_STAGE_VERTEX_BIT;
vpssc[0].module = vertexShader;
vpssc[0].pName = "main";
vpssc[0].pSpecializationInfo = (VkSpecializationInfo *)nullptr;

VkPipelineShaderStageCreateInfo
vpssc[1].sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_SHADER_STAGE_CREATE_INFO;
vpssc[1].pNext = nullptr;
vpssc[1].flags = 0;
vpssc[1].stage = VK_SHADER_STAGE_FRAGMENT_BIT;
vpssc[1].module = fragmentShader;
vpssc[1].pName = "main";
vpssc[1].pSpecializationInfo = (VkSpecializationInfo *)nullptr;

VkVertexInputBindingDescription
vwbld[0].binding = 0; // which binding is used
vwbld[0].stride = sizeof( struct vertex ); // bytes between successive
vwbld[0].inputRate = VK_VERTEX_INPUT_RATE_VERTEX;

VkVertexInputAssemblyStateCreateInfo
vpvpsc[0].sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_INPUT_ASSEMBLY_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vpvpsc[0].pNext = nullptr;
vpvpsc[0].flags = 0;
vpvpsc[0].topology = VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_TRIANGLE_LIST;
    
```

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Link in the Per-Vertex Attributes

```

VkVertexInputAttributeDescription
vwiad[0].location = 0; // location in the layout
vwiad[0].binding = 0; // which binding description this is part of
vwiad[0].format = VK_FORMAT_VEC3; // x, y, z
vwiad[0].offset = offsetof( struct vertex, position ); // 0

// these are here for convenience and readability
#define VK_FORMAT_VEC4 VK_FORMAT_R32G32B32A32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_XYZW VK_FORMAT_R32G32B32A32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_VEC3 VK_FORMAT_R32G32B32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_STP VK_FORMAT_R32G32B32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_XYZ VK_FORMAT_R32G32B32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_VEC2 VK_FORMAT_R32G32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_ST VK_FORMAT_R32G32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_XY VK_FORMAT_R32G32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_FLOAT VK_FORMAT_R32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_S VK_FORMAT_R32_SFLOAT
#define VK_FORMAT_K VK_FORMAT_R32_SFLOAT
    
```

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The Shaders to Use

```

VkPipelineVertexInputStateCreateInfo
vpvpsc[0].sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_VERTEX_INPUT_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vpvpsc[0].pNext = nullptr;
vpvpsc[0].flags = 0;
vpvpsc[0].vertexBindingDescriptions = vwbld;
vpvpsc[0].vertexAttributeDescriptions = vwiad;

VkPipelineInputAssemblyStateCreateInfo
vpvpsc[0].sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_INPUT_ASSEMBLY_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vpvpsc[0].pNext = nullptr;
vpvpsc[0].flags = 0;
vpvpsc[0].topology = VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_TRIANGLE_LIST;

VkPipelineTessellationStateCreateInfo
vtpsc[0].sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_TESSELLATION_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vtpsc[0].pNext = nullptr;
vtpsc[0].flags = 0;
vtpsc[0].patchControlPoints = 0; // number of patch control points

VkPipelineGeometryStateCreateInfo
vgpsc[0].sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_GEOMETRY_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vgpsc[0].pNext = nullptr;
vgpsc[0].flags = 0;
    
```

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Options for vpvpsc[0].topology

VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_POINT_LIST

VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_TRIANGLE_LIST

VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_LINE_LIST

VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_TRIANGLE_STRIP

VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_LINE_STRIP

VK_PRIMITIVE_TOPOLOGY_TRIANGLE_FAN

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What is "Primitive Restart Enable"?

```

vpvpsc[0].primitiveRestartEnable = VK_FALSE;
    
```

"Restart Enable" is used with:

- Indexed drawing.
- TRIANGLE_FAN and *_STRIP topologies

If vpvpsc[0].primitiveRestartEnable is VK_TRUE, then a special "index" indicates that the primitive should start over. This is more efficient than explicitly ending the current primitive and explicitly starting a new primitive of the same type.

```

typedef enum VkIndexType
{
    VK_INDEX_TYPE_UINT16 = 0, // 0 - 65,535
    VK_INDEX_TYPE_UINT32 = 1, // 0 - 4,294,967,295
} VkIndexType;
    
```

If your VkIndexType is VK_INDEX_TYPE_UINT16, then the special index is 0xffff.
 If your VkIndexType is VK_INDEX_TYPE_UINT32, then the special index is 0xffffffff.

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One Really Good use of Restart Enable is in Drawing Terrain Surfaces with Triangle Strips

Triangle Strip #0:
Triangle Strip #1:
Triangle Strip #2:
...

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```

VkViewport
v.x = 0;
v.y = 0;
v.width = (float)Width;
v.height = (float)Height;
v.minDepth = 0.0f;
v.maxDepth = 1.0f;

VkRect2D
vr.offset.x = 0;
vr.offset.y = 0;
vr.extent.width = Width;
vr.extent.height = Height;

VkPipelineViewportStateCreateInfo
vpvscl.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_VIEWPORT_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vpvscl.pNext = nullptr;
vpvscl.flags = 0;
vpvscl.viewports = &v;
vpvscl.scissors = &vr;
    
```

Declare the viewport information

Declare the scissoring information

Group the viewport and scissor information together

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What is the Difference Between Changing the Viewport and Changing the Scissoring?

Viewport:
Viewporting operates on **vertices** and takes place right **before** the rasterizer. Changing the vertical part of the **viewport** causes the entire scene to get scaled (scrunched) into the viewport area.

Scissoring:
Scissoring operates on **fragments** and takes place right **after** the rasterizer. Changing the vertical part of the **scissor** causes the entire scene to get clipped where it falls outside the scissor area.

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Setting the Rasterizer State

```

VkPipelineRasterizationStateCreateInfo
vrscil.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_RASTERIZATION_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vrscil.pNext = nullptr;
vrscil.flags = 0;
vrscil.depthClampEnable = VK_FALSE;
vrscil.rasterizerDiscardEnable = VK_FALSE;
vrscil.polygonMode = VK_POLYGON_MODE_FILL;

//def CHOICES
VK_POLYGON_MODE_FILL
VK_POLYGON_MODE_LINE
VK_POLYGON_MODE_POINT
//endf

vrscil.cullMode = VK_CULL_MODE_NONE; // recommend this because of the projMatrix[1][1] == -1.;
//def CHOICES
VK_CULL_MODE_NONE
VK_CULL_MODE_FRONT_BIT
VK_CULL_MODE_BACK_BIT
VK_CULL_MODE_FRONT_AND_BACK_BIT
//endf

vrscil.frontFace = VK_FRONT_FACE_COUNTER_CLOCKWISE;
//def CHOICES
VK_FRONT_FACE_COUNTER_CLOCKWISE
VK_FRONT_FACE_CLOCKWISE
//endf

vrscil.depthBiasEnable = VK_FALSE;
vrscil.depthBiasConstantFactor = 0.0f;
vrscil.depthBiasClamp = 0.0f;
vrscil.depthBiasSlopeFactor = 0.0f;
vrscil.lineWidth = 1.0f;
    
```

Declare information about how the rasterization will take place

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What is "Depth Clamp Enable"?

```

vprscil.depthClampEnable = VK_FALSE;
    
```

Depth Clamp Enable causes the fragments that would normally have been discarded because they are closer to the viewer than the near clipping plane to instead get projected to the near clipping plane and displayed.

A good use for this is **Polygon Capping**.

The front of the polygon is clipped, revealing to the viewer that this is really a shell, not a solid

The gray area shows what would happen with depthClampEnable (except it would have been red).

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What is "Depth Bias Enable"?

```

vprscil.depthBiasEnable = VK_FALSE;
vprscil.depthBiasConstantFactor = 0.0f;
vprscil.depthBiasClamp = 0.0f;
vprscil.depthBiasSlopeFactor = 0.0f;
    
```

Depth Bias Enable allows scaling and translation of the Z-depth values as they come through the rasterizer to avoid Z-fighting.

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MultiSampling State

```

VkPipelineMultisampleStateCreateInfo
vpscisci.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_MULTISAMPLE_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vpscisci.pNext = nullptr;
vpscisci.flags = 0;
vpscisci.rasterizationSamples = VK_SAMPLE_COUNT_1_BIT;
vpscisci.sampleShadingEnable = VK_FALSE;
vpscisci.minSampleShading = 0;
vpscisci.pSampleMask = (VkSampleMask*)nullptr;
vpscisci.alphaToCoverageEnable = VK_FALSE;
vpscisci.alphaToOneEnable = VK_FALSE;
    
```

Declare information about how the multisampling will take place

We will discuss MultiSampling in a separate noteset.



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Color Blending State for each Color Attachment *

Create an array with one of these for each color buffer attachment. Each color buffer attachment can use different blending operations.

```


VkPipelineColorBlendAttachmentState
vpcbas.blendEnable = VK_FALSE;
vpcbas.srcColorBlendFactor = VK_BLEND_FACTOR_SRC_COLOR;
vpcbas.dstColorBlendFactor = VK_BLEND_FACTOR_ONE_MINUS_SRC_COLOR;
vpcbas.colorBlendOp = VK_BLEND_OP_ADD;
vpcbas.srcAlphaBlendFactor = VK_BLEND_FACTOR_ONE;
vpcbas.dstAlphaBlendFactor = VK_BLEND_FACTOR_ZERO;
vpcbas.alphaBlendOp = VK_BLEND_OP_ADD;
vpcbas.colorWriteMask =
    VK_COLOR_COMPONENT_R_BIT |
    VK_COLOR_COMPONENT_G_BIT |
    VK_COLOR_COMPONENT_B_BIT |
    VK_COLOR_COMPONENT_A_BIT;
    
```

This controls blending between the output of each color attachment and its image memory.

$$Color_{new} = (1-\alpha) * Color_{existing} + \alpha * Color_{incoming}$$

$$0 \leq \alpha \leq 1.$$

*A "Color Attachment" is a framebuffer to be rendered into. You can have as many of these as you want.




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Raster Operations for each Color Attachment

```

VkPipelineColorBlendStateCreateInfo
vpscisci.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_COLOR_BLEND_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vpscisci.pNext = nullptr;
vpscisci.flags = 0;
vpscisci.logicOpEnable = VK_FALSE;
vpscisci.logicOp = VK_LOGIC_OP_COPY;
#ifez CHOICES
VK_LOGIC_OP_CLEAR
VK_LOGIC_OP_AND
VK_LOGIC_OP_AND_REVERSE
VK_LOGIC_OP_COPY
VK_LOGIC_OP_AND_INVERTED
VK_LOGIC_OP_NO_OP
VK_LOGIC_OP_NOR
VK_LOGIC_OP_OR
VK_LOGIC_OP_OR_INVERTED
VK_LOGIC_OP_OR_REVERSE
VK_LOGIC_OP_COPY_INVERTED
VK_LOGIC_OP_OR_INVERTED
VK_LOGIC_OP_NAND
VK_LOGIC_OP_SET
#endif
vpcbsci.attachmentCount = 1;
vpcbsci.pAttachments = &vpcbas;
vpcbsci.blendConstants[0] = 0;
vpcbsci.blendConstants[1] = 0;
vpcbsci.blendConstants[2] = 0;
vpcbsci.blendConstants[3] = 0;
    
```

This controls blending between the output of the fragment shader and the input to the color attachments.




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Which Pipeline Variables can be Set Dynamically

Just used as an example in the Sample Code

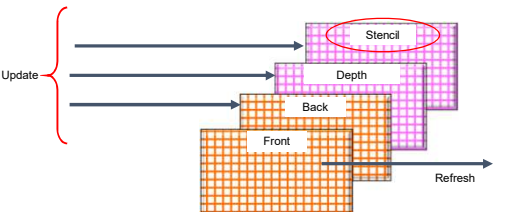
```

VkDynamicState
#ifez CHOICES
vds1 VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_VIEWPORT, VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_SCISSOR
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_VIEWPORT
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_SCISSOR
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_LINE_WIDTH
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_DEPTH_BIAS
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_BLEND_CONSTANTS
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_DEPTH_BOUNDS
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_STENCIL_COMPARE_MASK
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_STENCIL_WRITE_MASK
VK_DYNAMIC_STATE_STENCIL_REFERENCE
#endif
VkPipelineDynamicStateCreateInfo
vpsdsci.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_DYNAMIC_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vpsdsci.pNext = nullptr;
vpsdsci.flags = 0;
vpsdsci.dynamicStateCount = 1; // leave turned off for now
vpsdsci.pDynamicStates = vds;
    
```




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The Stencil Buffer



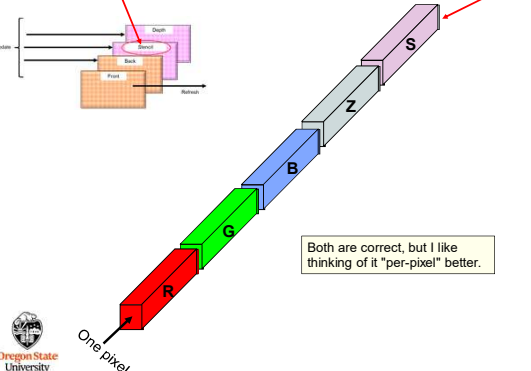
Here's what the Stencil Buffer can do for you:

- While drawing into the Back Buffer, you can write values into the Stencil Buffer at the same time.
- While drawing into the Back Buffer, you can do arithmetic on values in the Stencil Buffer at the same time.
- The Stencil Buffer can be used to write-protect certain parts of the Back Buffer.




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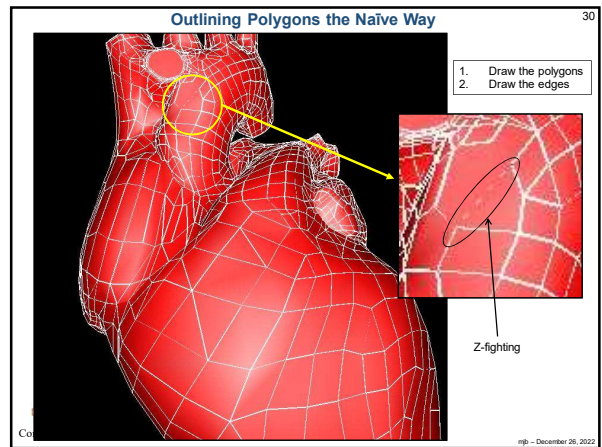
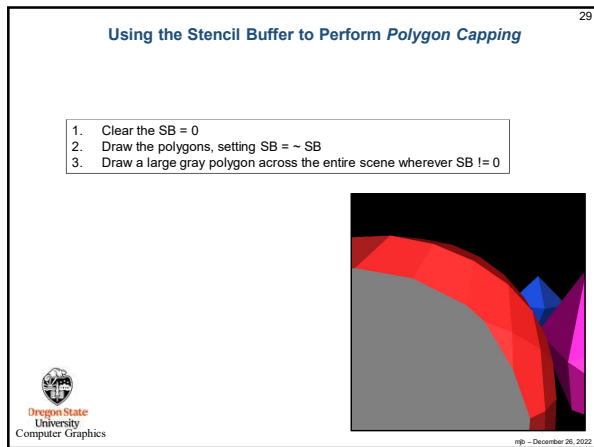
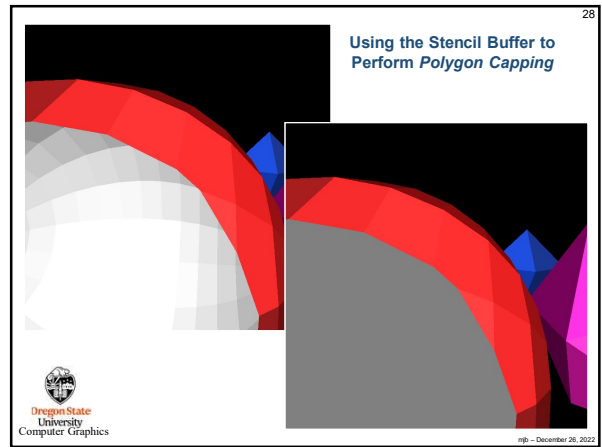
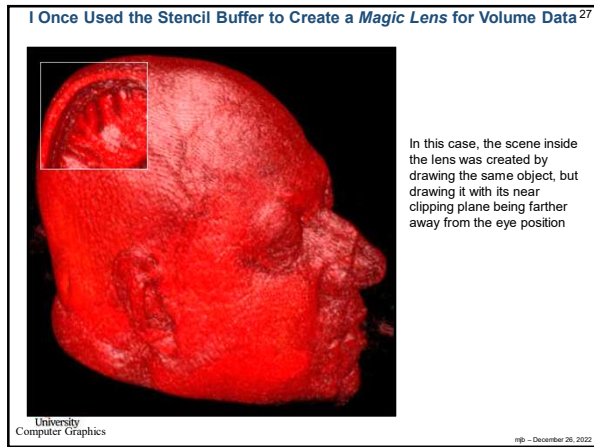
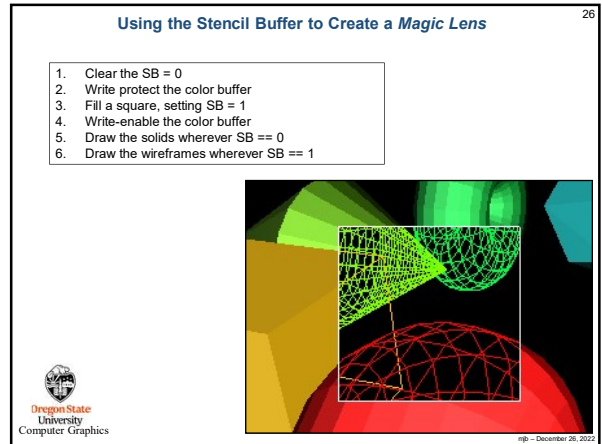
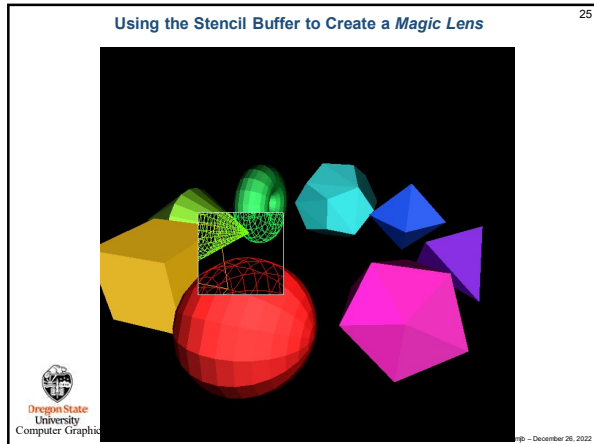
You Can Think of the Stencil Buffer as a Separate Framebuffer, or, You Can Think of it as being Per-Pixel



Both are correct, but I like thinking of it "per-pixel" better.



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Using the Stencil Buffer to Better Outline Polygons

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Using the Stencil Buffer to Better Outline Polygons

```

Clear the SB = 0
for( each polygon )
{
    Draw the edges, setting SB = 1
    Draw the polygon wherever SB != 1
    Draw the edges, setting SB = 0
}
    
```

Before

After

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Using the Stencil Buffer to Perform Hidden Line Removal

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Stencil Operations for Front and Back Faces

```

// front
VkStencilOpState
vsosf.depthFailOp = VK_STENCIL_OP_KEEP; // what to do if depth operation fails
vsosf.failOp = VK_STENCIL_OP_KEEP; // what to do if stencil operation fails
vsosf.passOp = VK_STENCIL_OP_KEEP; // what to do if stencil operation succeeds

#definef CHOICES
Vk_STENCIL_OP_KEEP -- keep the stencil value as it is
Vk_STENCIL_OP_ZERO -- set stencil value to 0
Vk_STENCIL_OP_REPLACE -- replace stencil value with the reference value
Vk_STENCIL_OP_INCREMENT_AND_CLAMP -- increment stencil value
Vk_STENCIL_OP_DECREMENT_AND_CLAMP -- decrement stencil value
Vk_STENCIL_OP_INVERT -- bit-invert stencil value
Vk_STENCIL_OP_INCREMENT_AND_WRAP -- increment stencil value
Vk_STENCIL_OP_DECREMENT_AND_WRAP -- decrement stencil value
#endif

vsosf.compareOp = VK_COMPARE_OP_NEVER;

#definef CHOICES
VK_COMPARE_OP_NEVER -- never succeeds
VK_COMPARE_OP_LESS -- succeeds if stencil value is < the reference value
VK_COMPARE_OP_EQUAL -- succeeds if stencil value is == the reference value
VK_COMPARE_OP_LESS_OR_EQUAL -- succeeds if stencil value is <= the reference value
VK_COMPARE_OP_GREATER -- succeeds if stencil value is > the reference value
VK_COMPARE_OP_NOT_EQUAL -- succeeds if stencil value is != the reference value
VK_COMPARE_OP_GREATER_OR_EQUAL -- succeeds if stencil value is >= the reference value
VK_COMPARE_OP_ALWAYS -- always succeeds
#endif

vsosf.compareMask = -0;
vsosf.writeMask = -0;
vsosf.reference = 0;

// back
VkStencilOpState
vsosb.depthFailOp = VK_STENCIL_OP_KEEP;
vsosb.failOp = VK_STENCIL_OP_KEEP;
vsosb.passOp = VK_STENCIL_OP_KEEP;
vsosb.compareOp = VK_COMPARE_OP_NEVER;
vsosb.compareMask = -0;
vsosb.writeMask = -0;
vsosb.reference = 0;
    
```

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Operations for Depth Values

```

VkPipelineDepthStencilStateCreateInfo
vpsdsci.Type = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_DEPTH_STENCIL_STATE_CREATE_INFO;
vpsdsci.pNext = nullptr;
vpsdsci.flags = 0;
vpsdsci.depthTestEnable = VK_TRUE;
vpsdsci.depthWriteEnable = VK_TRUE;
vpsdsci.depthCompareOp = VK_COMPARE_OP_LESS;

VK_COMPARE_OP_NEVER -- never succeeds
VK_COMPARE_OP_LESS -- succeeds if new depth value is < the existing value
VK_COMPARE_OP_EQUAL -- succeeds if new depth value is == the existing value
VK_COMPARE_OP_LESS_OR_EQUAL -- succeeds if new depth value is <= the existing value
VK_COMPARE_OP_GREATER -- succeeds if new depth value is > the existing value
VK_COMPARE_OP_NOT_EQUAL -- succeeds if new depth value is != the existing value
VK_COMPARE_OP_GREATER_OR_EQUAL -- succeeds if new depth value is >= the existing value
VK_COMPARE_OP_ALWAYS -- always succeeds
#endif

vpsdsci.depthBoundsTestEnable = VK_FALSE;
vpsdsci.front = vsosf;
vpsdsci.back = vsosb;
vpsdsci.minDepthBounds = 0.;
vpsdsci.maxDepthBounds = 1.;
vpsdsci.stencilTestEnable = VK_FALSE;
    
```

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Putting it all Together! (finally...)

```

VkPipeline GraphicsPipeline; // global
...
VkGraphicsPipelineCreateInfo
vgpci.Type = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_GRAPHICS_PIPELINE_CREATE_INFO;
vgpci.pNext = nullptr;
vgpci.flags = 0;

#definef CHOICES
VK_PIPELINE_CREATE_DISABLE_OPTIMIZATION_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_CREATE_ALLOW_DERIVATIVES_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_CREATE_DERIVATIVE_BIT
#endif

vgpci.stageCount = 2; // number of stages in this pipeline
vgpci.pStages = vpscsi;
vgpci.pVertexInputState = &vpvisci;
vgpci.pVertexInputAssemblyState = &vpviasi;
vgpci.pTessellationState = (VkPipelineTessellationStateCreateInfo*) nullptr;
vgpci.pViewportState = &vpvsci;
vgpci.pRasterizationState = &vpvrsi;
vgpci.pMultisampleState = &vpvmsci;
vgpci.pDepthStencilState = &vpsdsci;
vgpci.pColorBlendState = &vpvcbsci;
vgpci.pDynamicState = &vpvdsi;
vgpci.layout = IN GraphicsPipelineLayout;
vgpci.renderPass = IN RenderPass;
vgpci.subpass = 0; // subpass number
vgpci.basePipelineHandle = (VkPipeline) VK_NULL_HANDLE;
vgpci.basePipelineIndex = 0;

result = vkCreateGraphicsPipelines( LogicalDevice, VK_NULL_HANDLE, 1, IN &vgpci,
PALLOCATOR, OUT &GraphicsPipeline );

return result;
    
```


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When Drawing, We will Bind a Specific Graphics Pipeline Data Structure to the Command Buffer

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```

VkPipeline   GraphicsPipeline;    // global
...
vkCmdBindPipeline( CommandBuffers[nextImageIndex],
                    VK_PIPELINE_BIND_POINT_GRAPHICS, GraphicsPipeline );
    
```



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Sidebar: What is the Organization of the Pipeline Data Structure?

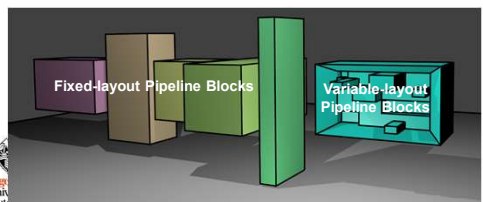
38


If you take a close look at the pipeline data structure creation information, you will see that almost all the pieces have a *fixed size*. For example, the viewport only needs 6 pieces of information – ever:

```

VkViewport   vw;
    w.x = 0;
    w.y = 0;
    w.width = (float)Width;
    w.height = (float)Height;
    w.minDepth = 0.0f;
    w.maxDepth = 1.0f;
    
```

There are two exceptions to this -- the Descriptor Sets and the Push Constants. Each of these two can be almost any size, depending on what you allocate for them. So, I think of the Graphics Pipeline Data Structure as consisting of some fixed-layout blocks and 2 variable-layout blocks, like this:





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