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Pipeline Barriers: A case of Gate-ing and Wait-ing

Mike Bailey
mjb@cs.oregonstate.edu

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From the Command Buffer Notes: These are the Commands that can be entered into the Command Buffer, I

```
vkCmdBeginQuery( commandBuffer, flags );
vkCmdBeginRenderPass( commandBuffer, const contents );
vkCmdBindDescriptorSets( commandBuffer, pDynamicOffsets );
vkCmdBindIndexBuffer( commandBuffer, indexType );
vkCmdBindPipeline( commandBuffer, pipeline );
vkCmdBindVertexBuffers( commandBuffer, firstBinding, bindingCount, const pOffsets );
vkCmdBlitImage( commandBuffer, filter );
vkCmdClearAttachments( commandBuffer, attachmentCount, const pRects );
vkCmdClearColorImage( commandBuffer, pRanges );
vkCmdClearDepthStencilImage( commandBuffer, pRanges );
vkCmdCopyBuffer( commandBuffer, pRegions );
vkCmdCopyBufferToImage( commandBuffer, pRegions );
vkCmdCopyImage( commandBuffer, pRegions );
vkCmdCopyImageToBuffer( commandBuffer, pRegions );
vkCmdCopyQueryPoolResults( commandBuffer, flags );
vkCmdDebugMarkerBeginEXT( commandBuffer, pMarkerInfo );
vkCmdDebugMarkerEndEXT( commandBuffer );
vkCmdDebugMarkerInsertEXT( commandBuffer, pMarkerInfo );
vvkCmdDispatch( commandBuffer, groupCountX, groupCountY, groupCountZ );
vkCmdDispatchIndirect( commandBuffer, offset );
vkCmdDraw( commandBuffer, vertexCount, instanceCount, firstVertex, firstInstance );
vkCmdDrawIndexed( commandBuffer, indexCount, instanceCount, firstIndex, int32_t vertexOffset, firstInstance );
vkCmdDrawIndexedIndirect( commandBuffer, stride );
vkCmdDrawIndexedIndirectCountAMD( commandBuffer, stride );
vkCmdDrawIndirect( commandBuffer, stride );
vkCmdDrawIndirectCountAMD( commandBuffer, stride );
vkCmdEndQuery( commandBuffer, query );
vkCmdEndRenderPass( commandBuffer );
vkCmdExecuteCommands( commandBuffer, commandBufferCount, const pCommandBuffers );
```

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We don't any one of these commands to have to wait on a previous command unless you say so. In general, we want all of these commands to be able to run **"flat-out"**.

But, if we do that, surely there will be nasty **race conditions**!

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From the Command Buffer Notes: These are the Commands that can be entered into the Command Buffer, II

```
vkCmdFillBuffer( commandBuffer, dstBuffer, dstOffset, size, data );
vkCmdNextSubpass( commandBuffer, contents );
vkCmdPipelineBarrier( commandBuffer, srcStageMask, dstStageMask, dependencyFlags, memoryBarrierCount, VkMemoryBarrier* pMemoryBarriers,
        bufferMemoryBarrierCount, pBufferMemoryBarriers, imageMemoryBarrierCount, pImageMemoryBarriers );
vkCmdProcessCommandsNVX( commandBuffer, pProcessCommandsInfo );
vkCmdPushConstants( commandBuffer, layout, stageFlags, offset, size, pValues );
vkCmdPushDescriptorSetKHR( commandBuffer, pipelineBindPoint, layout, set, descriptorWriteCount, pDescriptorWrites );
vkCmdPushDescriptorSetWithTemplateKHR( commandBuffer, descriptorUpdateTemplate, layout, set, pData );
vkCmdReserveSpaceForCommandsNVX( commandBuffer, pReserveSpaceInfo );
vkCmdResetEvent( commandBuffer, event, stageMask );
vkCmdResetQueryPool( commandBuffer, queryPool, firstQuery, queryCount );
vkCmdResolveImage( commandBuffer, srcImage, srcImageLayout, dstImage, dstImageLayout, regionCount, pRegions );
vkCmdSetBlendConstants( commandBuffer, blendConstants[4] );
vkCmdSetDepthBias( commandBuffer, depthBiasConstantFactor, depthBiasClamp, depthBiasSlopeFactor );
vkCmdSetDepthBounds( commandBuffer, minDepthBounds, maxDepthBounds );
vkCmdSetDeviceMaskKHX( commandBuffer, deviceMask );
vkCmdSetDiscardRectangleEXT( commandBuffer, firstDiscardRectangle, discardRectangleCount, pDiscardRectangles );
vkCmdSetEvent( commandBuffer, event, stageMask );
vkCmdSetLineWidth( commandBuffer, lineWidth );
vkCmdSetScissor( commandBuffer, firstScissor, scissorCount, pScissors );
vkCmdSetStencilCompareMask( commandBuffer, faceMask, compareMask );
vkCmdSetStencilReference( commandBuffer, faceMask, reference );
vkCmdSetStencilWriteMask( commandBuffer, faceMask, writeMask );
vkCmdSetViewport( commandBuffer, firstViewport, viewportCount, pViewports );
vkCmdSetViewportWScalingNV( commandBuffer, firstViewport, viewportCount, pViewportWScalings );
vkCmdUpdateBuffer( commandBuffer, dstBuffer, dstOffset, dataSize, pData );
vkCmdWaitEvents( commandBuffer, eventCount, pEvents, srcStageMask, dstStageMask, memoryBarrierCount, pMemoryBarriers,
        bufferMemoryBarrierCount, pBufferMemoryBarriers, imageMemoryBarrierCount, pImageMemoryBarriers );
vkCmdWriteTimestamp( commandBuffer, pipelineStage, queryPool, query );
```

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We don't any one of these commands to have to wait on a previous command unless you say so. In general, we want all of these commands to be able to run **"flat-out"**.

But, if we do that, surely there will be nasty **race conditions**!

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Potential Memory Race Conditions that Pipeline Barriers can Prevent

1. Write-then-Read (WtR) – the memory write in one operation starts overwriting the memory that another operation's read needs to use
2. Read-then-Write (RtW) – the memory read in one operation hasn't yet finished before another operation starts overwriting that memory
3. Write-then-Write (WtW) – two operations start overwriting the same memory and the end result is non-deterministic

Note: there is no problem with Read-then-Read (RtR) as no data has been changed

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vkCmdPipelineBarrier( ) Function Call

A **Pipeline Barrier** is a way to establish a memory dependency between commands that were submitted before the barrier and commands that are submitted after the barrier

```
vkCmdPipelineBarrier( commandBuffer,
        srcStageMask,
        dstStageMask,
        VK_DEPENDENCY_BY_REGION_BIT,
        memoryBarrierCount,          pMemoryBarriers,
        bufferMemoryBarrierCount,    pBufferMemoryBarriers,
        imageMemoryBarrierCount,     pImageMemoryBarriers
);
```

Guarantee that this pipeline stage has completely generated one set of data before …

… allowing this pipeline stage to consume it

Defines what data we will be blocking/un-blocking on

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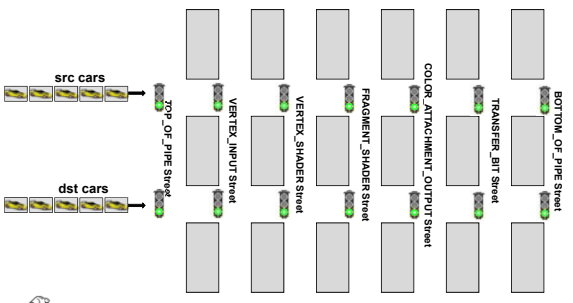
The Scenario



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The Scenario Rules

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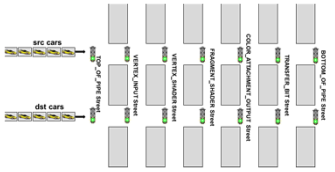

1. The cross-streets are named after pipeline stages
2. All traffic lights start out green ("we want all of these commands to be able to run flat-out")
3. There are special sensors at all intersections that will know when the ***first car in the src group*** enters that intersection
4. There are connections from those sensors to the traffic lights so that when the ***first car in the src group*** enters its intersection, the ***dst*** traffic light will be turned red
5. When the ***last car in the src group*** completely makes it through its intersection, the ***dst*** traffic light can be turned back to green
6. The Vulkan command pipeline ordering is this: (1) the **src** cars get released, (2) the pipeline barrier is invoked (which turns some lights red), (3) the **dst** cars get released (which end up being stopped by a red light somewhere), (4) the **src** cars clear their intersection, (5) the **dst** cars get released

Pipeline Stage Masks – Where in the Pipeline is this Memory Data being Generated or Consumed?

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- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TOP_OF_PIPE_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_DRAW_INDIRECT_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_INPUT_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_SHADER_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_CONTROL_SHADER_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_EVALUATION_SHADER_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_GEOMETRY_SHADER_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_FRAGMENT_SHADER_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_EARLY_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_LATE_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COMPUTE_SHADER_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TRANSFER_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_BOTTOM_OF_PIPE_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_HOST_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_GRAPHICS_BIT
- VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_COMMANDS_BIT

Pipeline Stages

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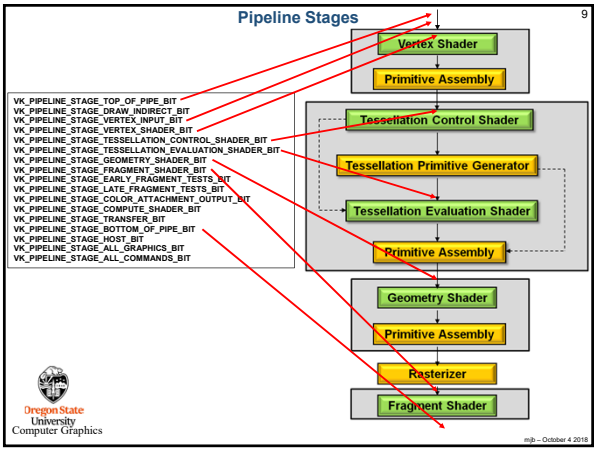

Access Masks – What are you Interested in Generating or Consuming this Memory for?

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- VK_ACCESS_INDIRECT_COMMAND_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_INDEX_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_VERTEX_ATTRIBUTE_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_UNIFORM_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_INPUT_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_SHADER_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_SHADER_WRITE_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_TRANSFER_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_TRANSFER_WRITE_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_HOST_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_HOST_WRITE_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_READ_BIT
- VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_WRITE_BIT

Pipeline Stages and what Access Operations can Happen There

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		VK_ACCESS_INDIRECT_COMMAND_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_INDEX_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_VERTEX_ATTRIBUTE_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_UNIFORM_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_INPUT_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_SHADER_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_SHADER_WRITE_BIT	VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT	VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT	VK_ACCESS_TRANSFER_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_TRANSFER_WRITE_BIT	VK_ACCESS_HOST_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_HOST_WRITE_BIT	VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_READ_BIT	VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_WRITE_BIT
1	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TOP_OF_PIPE_BIT																	
2	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_DRAW_INDIRECT_BIT	•																
3	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_INPUT_BIT		•	•														
4	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_SHADER_BIT				•		•	•										
5	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_CONTROL_SHADER_BIT				•		•	•										
6	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_EVALUATION_SHADER_BIT				•		•	•										
7	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_GEOMETRY_SHADER_BIT				•		•	•										
8	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_EARLY_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT										•	•						
9	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_FRAGMENT_SHADER_BIT				•	•	•	•										
10	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_LATE_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT										•	•						
11	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT								•	•								
12	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_BOTTOM_OF_PIPE_BIT																	
	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COMPUTE_SHADER				•		•	•										
	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TRANSFER_BIT												•	•				
	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_HOST_BIT														•	•		

Access Operations and what Pipeline Stages they can be used In

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		1 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TOP_OF_PIPE_BIT	2 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_DRAW_INDIRECT_BIT	3 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_INPUT_BIT	4 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_SHADER_BIT	5 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_CONTROL_SHADER_BIT	6 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_EVALUATION_SHADER_BIT	7 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_GEOMETRY_SHADER_BIT	8 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_EARLY_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT	9 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_FRAGMENT_SHADER_BIT	10 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_LATE_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT	11 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT	12 VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_BOTTOM_OF_PIPE_BIT	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COMPUTE_SHADER	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TRANSFER_BIT	VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_HOST_BIT
	VK_ACCESS_INDIRECT_COMMAND_READ_BIT	•														
	VK_ACCESS_INDEX_READ_BIT			•												
	VK_ACCESS_VERTEX_ATTRIBUTE_READ_BIT			•												
	VK_ACCESS_UNIFORM_READ_BIT				•	•	•	•		•				•		
	VK_ACCESS_INPUT_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT									•						
	VK_ACCESS_SHADER_READ_BIT				•	•	•	•		•				•		
	VK_ACCESS_SHADER_WRITE_BIT				•	•	•	•		•				•		
	VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT											•				
	VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT											•				
	VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT								•		•					
	VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT								•		•					
	VK_ACCESS_TRANSFER_READ_BIT													•		
	VK_ACCESS_TRANSFER_WRITE_BIT													•		
	VK_ACCESS_HOST_READ_BIT														•	
	VK_ACCESS_HOST_WRITE_BIT														•	
	VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_READ_BIT															
	VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_WRITE_BIT															

Example: Be sure we are done writing an output image before using it for something else

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Stages

VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TOP_OF_PIPE_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_DRAW_INDIRECT_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_INPUT_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_CONTROL_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_EVALUATION_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_GEOMETRY_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_FRAGMENT_SHADER_BIT ← src
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_EARLY_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_LATE_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COMPUTE_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TRANSFER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_BOTTOM_OF_PIPE_BIT ← dst
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_HOST_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_GRAPHICS_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_COMMANDS_BIT

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The Scenario

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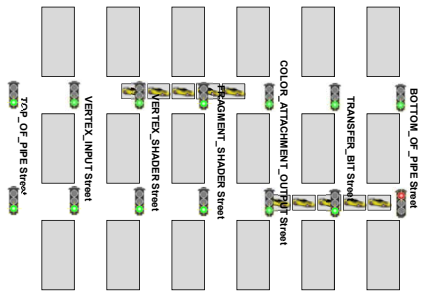
src cars are generating the image

dst cars are doing something with that image



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Example: Don't read a buffer back to the host until a shader is done writing it

Stages

VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TOP_OF_PIPE_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_DRAW_INDIRECT_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_INPUT_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_SHADER_BIT ← src
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_CONTROL_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_EVALUATION_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_GEOMETRY_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_FRAGMENT_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_EARLY_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_LATE_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COMPUTE_SHADER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TRANSFER_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_BOTTOM_OF_PIPE_BIT ← dst
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_HOST_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_GRAPHICS_BIT
VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_COMMANDS_BIT

Access types

VK_ACCESS_INDIRECT_COMMAND_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_INDEX_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_VERTEX_ATTRIBUTE_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_UNIFORM_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_INPUT_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_SHADER_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_SHADER_WRITE_BIT ← src
VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT
VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT
VK_ACCESS_TRANSFER_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_TRANSFER_WRITE_BIT
VK_ACCESS_HOST_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_HOST_WRITE_BIT
VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_READ_BIT
VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_WRITE_BIT

dst (no access setting needed)

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The Scenario

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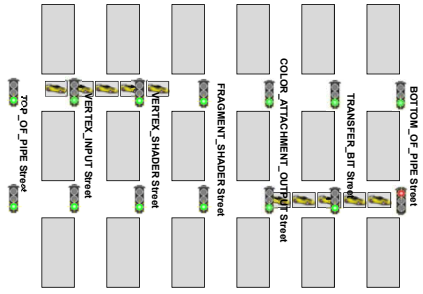
src cars

dst cars



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VkImageLayout – How an Image gets Laid Out in Memory depends on how it will be Used

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```
VkImageMemoryBarrier vimb;
vimb.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_MEMORY_BARRIER;
vimb.pNext = nullptr;
vimb.srcAccessMask = ??;
vimb.dstAccessMask = ??;
vimb.oldLayout = ??;
vimb.newLayout = ??;
vimb.srcQueueFamilyIndex = VK_QUEUE_FAMILY_IGNORED;
vimb.dstQueueFamilyIndex = VK_QUEUE_FAMILY_IGNORED;
vimb.image = ??;
vimb.subresourceRange = visr;
```

VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_UNDEFINED
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_GENERAL
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OPTIMAL ← Used as a color attachment
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_OPTIMAL
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_STENCIL_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_SHADER_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL ← Read into a shader as a texture
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_TRANSFER_SRC_OPTIMAL ← Copy from
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_TRANSFER_DST_OPTIMAL ← Copy to
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_PREINITIALIZED
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_PRESENT_SRC_KHR ← Show image to viewer
VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_SHARED_PRESENT_KHR

Here, the use of vkCmdPipelineBarrier( ) is to simply change the layout of an image

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