

Vulkan.
Shaders and SPIR-V

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

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License

Oregon State University Computer Graphics

The Shaders' View of the Basic Computer Graphics Pipeline

In general, you want to have a vertex and fragment shader as a minimum.

- A missing stage is OK. The output from one stage becomes the input of the next stage that is there.
- The last stage before the fragment shader feeds its output variables into the rasterizer. The interpolated values then go to the fragment shaders

Legend:
 = Fixed Function
 = Programmable

Oregon State University Computer Graphics

Vulkan Shader Stages

Shader stages

```

typedef enum VkPipelineStageFlagBits {
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TOP_OF_PIPE_BIT = 0x00000001,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_DRAW_INDIRECT_BIT = 0x00000002,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_INPUT_BIT = 0x00000004,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_VERTEX_SHADER_BIT = 0x00000008,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_CONTROL_SHADER_BIT = 0x00000010,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TESSELLATION_EVALUATION_SHADER_BIT = 0x00000020,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_GEOMETRY_SHADER_BIT = 0x00000040,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_FRAGMENT_SHADER_BIT = 0x00000080,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_EARLY_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT = 0x00000100,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_LATE_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT = 0x00000200,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT = 0x00000400,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COMPUTE_SHADER_BIT = 0x00000800,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_TRANSFER_BIT = 0x00001000,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_BOTTOM_OF_PIPE_BIT = 0x00002000,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_HOST_BIT = 0x00004000,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_GRAPHICS_BIT = 0x00008000,
    VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_COMMANDS_BIT = 0x00010000,
} VkPipelineStageFlagBits;
    
```

Oregon State University Computer Graphics

Vulkan: GLSL Differences from OpenGL

Detecting that a GLSL Shader is being used with Vulkan/SPIR-V:

- In the compiler, there is an automatic `#define VULKAN 100`

Vertex and Instance indices:

```
gl_VertexIndex
gl_InstanceIndex
```

These are `gl_VertexID` and `gl_InstanceID` in OpenGL. The Vulkan names make more sense.

- Both are 0-based

gl_FragColor:

- In OpenGL, it broadcasts to all color attachments
- In Vulkan, it just broadcasts to color attachment location #0
- Best idea: don't use it -- explicitly declare out variables to have specific location numbers

Oregon State University Computer Graphics

Vulkan: GLSL Differences from OpenGL

Shader combinations of separate texture data and samplers:

```
uniform sampler s;
uniform texture2D t;
vec4 rgba = texture( sampler2D( t, s ), vST );
```

Descriptor Sets:

```
layout( set=0, binding=0 ) ... ;
```

Push Constants:

```
layout( push_constant ) ... ;
```

Specialization Constants:

```
layout( constant_id = 3 ) const int N = 5;
```

- Can only use basic operators, declarations, and constructors
- Only for scalars, but a vector can be constructed from specialization constants

Specialization Constants for Compute Shaders:

```
layout( local_size_x_id = 8, local_size_y_id = 16 );
```

- `gl_WorkGroupSize.z` is still as it was

Oregon State University Computer Graphics

Vulkan: Shaders' use of Layouts for Uniform Variables

```

layout( std140, set = 0, binding = 0 ) uniform matBuf
{
    mat4 uModelMatrix;
    mat4 uViewMatrix;
    mat4 uProjectionMatrix;
    mat3 uNormalMatrix;
} Matrices;

// non-opaque must be in a uniform block
layout( std140, set = 1, binding = 0 ) uniform lightBuf
{
    vec4 uLightPos;
} Light;

layout( set = 2, binding = 0 ) uniform sampler2D uTexUnit;
    
```

All opaque (non-sampler) uniform variables must be in block buffers

Oregon State University Computer Graphics

Vulkan Shader Compiling

- You pre-compile your shaders with an external compiler
- Your shaders get turned into an intermediate form known as SPIR-V
- SPIR-V gets turned into fully-compiled code at runtime
- SPIR-V spec has been public for a couple of years –new shader languages are surely being developed
- OpenGL and OpenCL will be moving to SPIR-V as well

Advantages:

- Software vendors don't need to ship their shader source
- Syntax errors appear during the SPIR-V step, not during runtime
- Software can launch faster because half of the compilation has already taken place
- This guarantees a common front-end syntax
- This allows for other language front-ends

Oregon State University Computer Graphics | mjb - September 17, 2018

SPIR-V, from the Khronos Group

The first open standard intermediate language for parallel compute and graphics:

- SPIR (Standard Portable Intermediate Representation) was initially developed for use by OpenCL and SPIR versions 1.2 and 2.0 were based on LLVM. SPIR has now evolved into a true cross-API standard that is fully defined by Khronos with native support for shader end kernel features – called SPIR-V.
- SPIR-V is the first open standard, cross-API intermediate language for natively representing parallel compute and graphics and is incorporated as part of the core specification of both OpenCL 2.1 and OpenCL 2.2 and the new Vulkan graphics and compute API.
- SPIR-V exposes the machine model for OpenCL 1.2, 2.0, 2.1, 2.2 and Vulkan - including full flow control, and graphics and parallel constructs not supported in LLVM. SPIR-V also supports OpenCL C and OpenCL C++ kernel languages as well as the GLSL shader language for Vulkan.
- SPIR-V 1.1, launched in parallel with OpenCL 2.2, now supports all the kernel language features of OpenCL C++ in OpenCL 2.2, including initializer and finalizer function execution modes to support constructors and destructors. SPIR-V 1.1 also enhances the expressiveness of kernel programs by supporting named barriers, subgroup execution, and program scope pipes.
- SPIR-V is catalyzing a revolution in the language compiler ecosystem - it can split the compiler chain across multiple vendors' products, enabling high-level language front-ends to emit programs in a standardized intermediate form to be ingested by Vulkan or OpenCL drivers. For hardware vendors, ingesting SPIR-V eliminates the need to build a high-level language source compiler into device drivers, significantly reducing driver complexity, and will enable a broad range of language and framework front-ends to run on diverse hardware architectures.
- For developers, using SPIR-V means that kernel source code no longer has to be directly exposed, kernel load times can be accelerated and developers can choose the use of a common language front-end, improving kernel reliability and portability across multiple hardware implementations.

Oregon State University Computer Graphics | <https://www.khronos.org/spir> | mjb - September 17, 2018

SPIR-V: Standard Portable Intermediate Representation for Vulkan

glslangValidator shaderFile -V [-H] [-I<dir>] [-S <stage>] -o shaderBinaryFile.spv

Shaderfile extensions:

- .vert Vertex
- .tesc Tessellation Control
- .tese Tessellation Evaluation
- .geom Geometry
- .frag Fragment
- .comp Compute

(Can be overridden by the -S option)

- V Compile for Vulkan
- G Compile for OpenGL
- I Directory(ies) to look in for #includes
- S Specify stage rather than get it from shaderfile extension
- c Print out the maximum sizes of various properties

Windows: glslangValidator.exe
Linux: setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH /usr/local/common/gcc-6.3.0/lib64/

Oregon State University Computer Graphics | mjb - September 17, 2018

You Can Run the SPIR-V Compiler on Windows from a Bash Shell

Oregon State University Computer Graphics | mjb - September 17, 2018

You Can Run the SPIR-V Compiler on Windows from a Bash Shell

Oregon State University Computer Graphics | mjb - September 17, 2018

Running glslangValidator.exe


```

MINGW64~/y/Vulkan/Sample2017
ONID+mjb@pooh MINGW64 /y/Vulkan/Sample2017
$ 185
glslangValidator.exe -V sample-vert.vert -o sample-vert.spv
sample-vert.vert
ONID+mjb@pooh MINGW64 /y/Vulkan/Sample2017
$ 186
glslangValidator.exe -V sample-frag.frag -o sample-frag.spv
sample-frag.frag
ONID+mjb@pooh MINGW64 /y/Vulkan/Sample2017
$
    
```

Oregon State University Computer Graphics | mjb - September 17, 2018

You can also run SPIR-V from a Linux Shell 13

```
$ gslangValidator.exe -V sample-vert.vert -o sample-vert.spv
$ gslangValidator.exe -V sample-frag.frag -o sample-frag.spv
```



mjb - September 17, 2018

You can also run SPIR-V from a Linux Shell 14


```
gslangValidator.exe -V sample-vert.vert -o sample-vert.spv
```

Compile for Vulkan ("G" is compile for OpenGL)

The input file. The compiler determines the shader type by the file extension:

- .vert Vertex shader
- .tccs Tessellation Control Shader
- .tecs Tessellation Evaluation Shader
- .geom Geometry shader
- .frag Fragment shader
- .comp Compute shader

Specify the output file



mjb - September 17, 2018


How do you know if SPIR-V compiled successfully? 15

Same as C/C++ -- the compiler gives you no nasty messages.

Also, if you care, legal .spv files have a magic number of **0x07230203**

So, if you do an `od -x` on the .spv file, the magic number looks like this:


```
0203 0723 ...
```



mjb - September 17, 2018

Reading a SPIR-V File into a Vulkan Shader Module 16

```
VkResult
Init12SpirVShader( std::string filename, VkShaderModule * pShaderModule )
{
    FILE *fp;
    (void) fopen_s( &fp, filename.c_str(), "rb" );
    if( fp == NULL )
    {
        fprintf( FpDebug, "Cannot open shader file %s\n", filename.c_str() );
        return VK_SHOULD_EXIT;
    }
    uint32_t magic;
    fread( &magic, 4, 1, fp );
    if( magic != SPIRV_MAGIC )
    {
        fprintf( FpDebug, "Magic number for spir-v file %s is 0x%08x -- should be 0x%08x\n",
            filename.c_str(), magic, SPIRV_MAGIC );
        return VK_SHOULD_EXIT;
    }
    fseek( fp, 0L, SEEK_END );
    int size = ftell( fp );
    rewind( fp );
    unsigned char *code = new unsigned char [size];
    fread( code, size, 1, fp );
    fclose( fp );
}
```




mjb - September 17, 2018

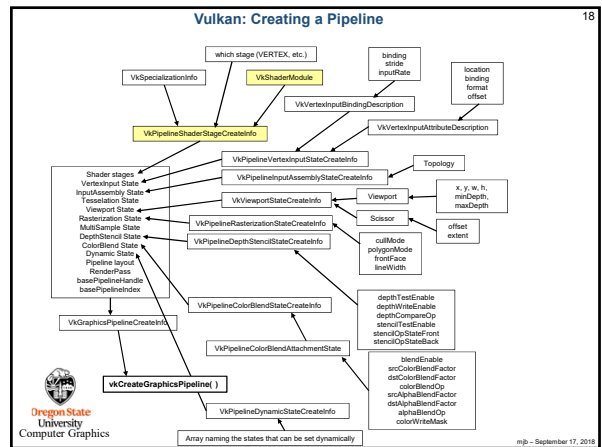
Reading a SPIR-V File into a Shader Module 17

```
VkShaderModuleCreateInfo vsmci;
vsmci.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_SHADER_MODULE_CREATE_INFO;
vsmci.pNext = nullptr;
vsmci.flags = 0;
vsmci.codeSize = size;
vsmci.pCode = (uint32_t *)code;

VkResult result = vkCreateShaderModule( LogicalDevice, IN &vsmci, ALLOCATOR, pShaderModule );
fprintf( FpDebug, "Shader Module %s successfully loaded\n", filename.c_str() );
delete [ ] code;
return result;
}
```




mjb - September 17, 2018



SPIR-V: More Information 25

SPIR-V Tools:
<http://github.com/KhronosGroup/SPIRV-Tools>



mjb - September 17, 2018


Installing bash on Windows 26

1. Open **Settings**.
2. Click on **Update & security**.
3. Click on **For Developers**.
4. Under "Use developer features", select the **Developer mode** option to setup the environment to install Bash.
5. On the message box, click **Yes** to turn on developer mode.
6. After the necessary components install, you'll need to restart your computer.
7. Once your computer reboots, open **Control Panel**.
8. Click on **Programs**.
9. Click on **Turn Windows features on or off**.
10. Check the **Windows Subsystem for Linux (beta)** option.
11. Click **OK**.
12. Once the components installed on your computer, click the **Restart now** button to complete the task.

After your computer restarts, you will notice that Bash will not appear in the "Recently added" list of apps, this is because Bash isn't actually installed yet. Now that you have setup the necessary components, use the following steps to complete the installation of Bash.

1. Open Start, do a search for **bash.exe**, and press **Enter**.
2. On the command prompt, type **y** and press **Enter** to download and install Bash from the Windows Store.
3. Then you'll need to create a default UNIX user account. This account doesn't have to be the same as your Windows account. Enter the username in the required field and press **Enter** (you can't use the username "admin").
4. Close the "bash.exe" command prompt

Now that you completed the installation and setup, you can open the Bash tool from the Start menu like you would with any other app.



<https://www.windowscentral.com/how-install-bash-shell-command-line-windows-10>
 mjb - September 17, 2018