

NVIDIA Vulkan Update

- NVIDIA driver stack updates
- Libraries
- Tools

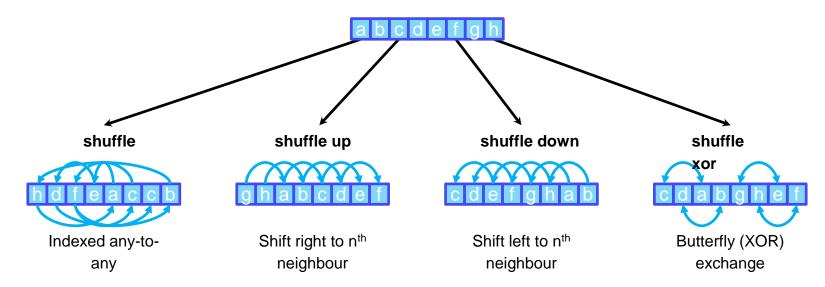


Vulkan 1.1!

- Released March 7th!
 - NVIDIA Vulkan 1.1 developer drivers out the same day
 - https://developer.nvidia.com/vulkan-driver
- Big ticket items:
 - Subgroups (SM6.0+)
 - Explicit Multi-GPU: support for AFR/SFR, VR applications
 - Multi-view
 - Cross-API / Cross-process synchronization primitives
 - Various "quality of life" improvements and other minor features

Subgroups

- Efficient cross-thread communication primitives
 - Exchange data between invocations of a warp/subgroup
 - Lower latency than shared memory
 - Can be used in graphics shaders
- Vulkan 1.1 supports SM6+ functionality and more



Meanwhile, at NVIDIA...

- EXT_sampler_filter_minmax:
 - Useful for voxelization algorithms, sparse textures.
- NV_fragment_coverage_to_color:
 - Output sample coverage information.
- EXT_conservative_raster
 - Cover all the pixels! Faster voxelization, raytraced shadow maps.
- EXT_depth_range_unrestricted
 - Depth can go to infinity! (But not beyond.)

NVIDIA keeps busy...

- EXT_post_depth_coverage
 - Control coverage from fragment stage.
- EXT_shader_viewport_index_layer (subset of NV_viewport_array2)
 - Pick render target layer in vertex shader
- EXT_sample_locations
 - Programmable sample locations.
- NV_fill_rectangle
 - Improved UI rendering performance, reduces fragment overhead for full-screen passes
- •••



Implementation Limits

- Developers sometimes run into our implementation-defined limits
 - Desire to have lots of descriptors bound comes up frequently
- NVIDIA has so far exposed our actual hardware limits
- We're now relaxing them
 - Implementation will handle spilling transparently where needed
 - Note that performance may degrade: existing thresholds were designed to avoid spills

```
maxPerStageDescriptorSamplers 4000 -> 1048576
maxPerStageDescriptorUniformBuffers 12 -> 15
maxPerStageDescriptorStorageBuffers 4096 -> 1048576
maxPerStageDescriptorSampledImages 16384 -> 1048576
maxPerStageDescriptorStorageImages 16384 -> 1048576
maxPerStageDescriptorInputAttachments 8 -> 1048576
maxPerStageResources 53268 -> 4294967295
maxDescriptorSetSamplers 4000 -> 1048576
maxDescriptorSetUniformBuffers 72 -> 90
maxDescriptorSetUniformBuffersDynamic 72 -> 15
maxDescriptorSetStorageBuffers 4096 -> 1048576
maxDescriptorSetSampledImages 98304 -> 1048576
maxDescriptorSetStorageImages 98304 -> 1048576
maxDescriptorSetStorageImages 8 -> 1048576
```



Original compiler path



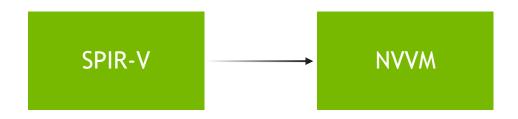
- Original bring-up path for driver
- Leveraged NVIDIA's OpenGL shader compiler (decade+ of refinements)

Original compiler path



- Original bring-up path for driver
- Leveraged NVIDIA's OpenGL shader compiler (decade+ of refinements)
- However...
 - SPIR-V is not GLSL, translation confused the optimizer
 - Many pathological edge cases for shader performance
 - Slow compile times, high memory usage

Brand new compiler stack!



- Very simple translation between SPIR-V and NVVM (LLVM-based representation)
- Leverages modern compiler improvements in LLVM
- NVVM compiler stack shared across DX12 and Vulkan

What to expect?

- Faster shader compilation --- 3x speedup on average
- Roughly ~50% reduction in memory footprint
- Stable runtime shader performance, less pathological cases
- Expected to ship with R396 drivers (~1 month away)

- VK_NV_glsl_shader being deprecated
 - New compiler does not speak GLSL
 - Extension will be disabled soon after compiler transition

Best Practices

- Not many anti-patterns in shipping applications
 - Vulkan was designed to avoid such things --- seems to be working so far!

- Biggest concern: use dedicated allocations for large resources
 - Improves stability when under memory pressure
 - Can be faster in certain cases (and will never be slower)
 - Either flavor (KHR_dedicated_allocation/NV_dedicated_allocation) will work
 - Now core in Vulkan 1.1

Display driver stopped responding and has recovered X Display driver NVIDIA Windows Kernel Mode Driver, Version stopped responding and has successfully recovered.



How do I debug this?



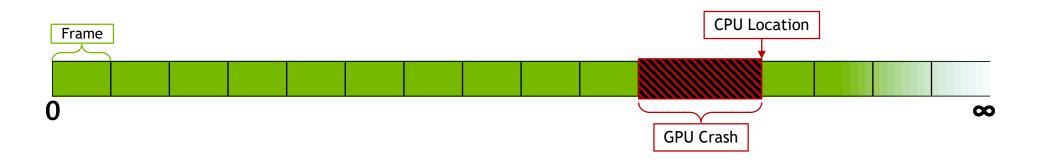






Debugging GPU crashes

- i. Crash detected based on error code from API (CPU)
- ii. Crash happened sometime in the last N frames of GPU commands...
- iii. CPU call stack is likely a red-herring



Not useful for debugging!

NVIDIA Aftermath

Post-mortem GPU Crash Debugging

- Insert lightweight markers in the command stream
 - Can stash arbitrary app-specific data behind a marker
 - Designed such that performance impact is negligible, yet highly flexible

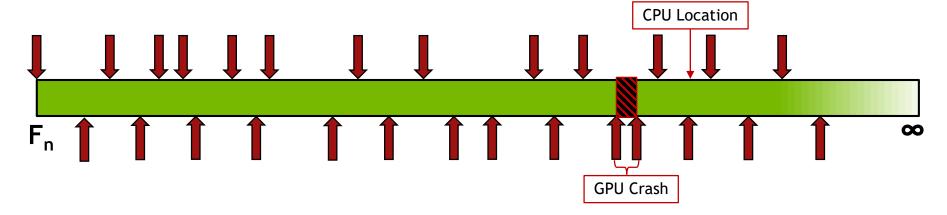
After device lost, read back last marker value that the GPU executed

Debug Instrumentation with Aftermath

Checkpoints: Narrow in on GPU crash location WRT to command stream

Example:

- i. Game inserts user-defined markers in the command stream (CPU)
- ii. GPU signals each checkpoint once reached
- iii. Last marker reached indicates GPU crash location



Aftermath for Vulkan

- Device checkpoints available soon
 - Same functionality as DX12 version
 - https://developer.nvidia.com/vulkan-driver

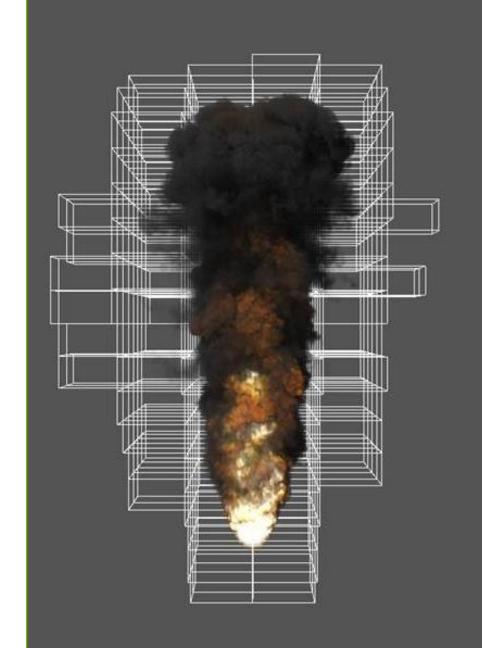
More features to come later



```
// VK NV device diagnostic checkpoints
typedef struct VkCheckpointDataNV {
   VkStructureType sType;
   const void* pNext;
   VkBool32
               checkpointTopValid;
   void*
               pCheckpointTop;
               checkpointBottomValid;
   VkBool32
   void*
               pCheckpointBottom;
} VkCheckpointDataNV;
void vkCmdSetCheckpointNV(
   VkCommandBuffer commandBuffer,
    const void* pCheckpointData);
VkResult vkGetCheckpointDataNV(
   VkQueue queue,
   VkCheckpointDataNV* pCheckpointData);
```

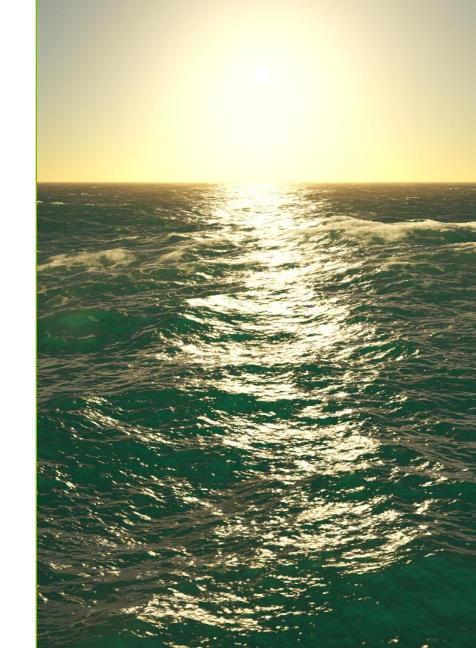
Flow

- Adaptive sparse voxel smoke/fire
- Vulkan support (in addition to DX11/DX12)
- New sparse framework, grid boundary restrictions removed
- Linux support
- Release coming soon



WaveWorks

- Cinematic-quality ocean simulation for interactive applications
- Rebuilt on cross-API abstraction layer
- Vulkan and DX11 now functional
- Linux support
- Lots of new features, release planned for later this year





Introduction

- Nsight Graphics 1.0
- Vulkan specific features
- Vulkan specific road map

Nsight Graphics 1.0

- New standalone profiling, debugging, and analysis tool
- Builds upon technologies in Nsight Visual Studio Edition
- Vulkan, D3D11/12, OpenGL
- Available now!



More information at "Beyond Performance: Introducing NVIDIA's New Graphics Debugger"

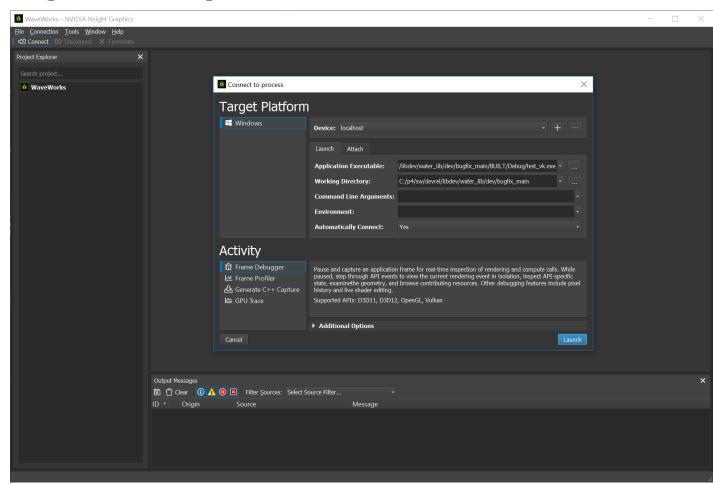
NVIDIA.com > Developers > GameWorks > Tools

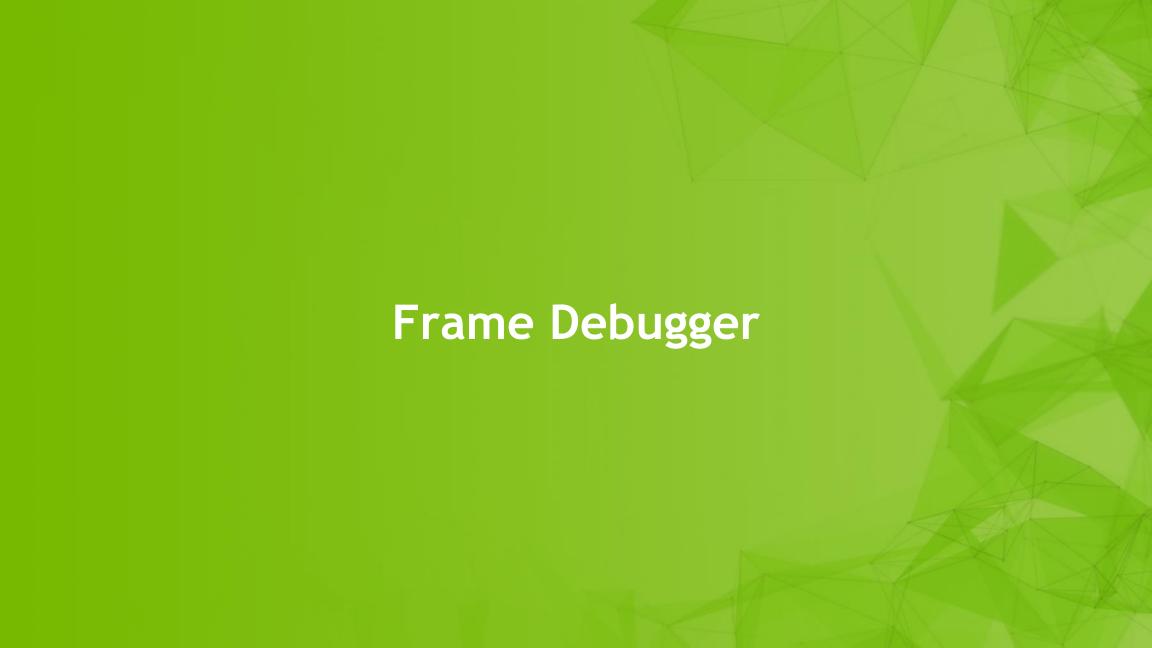
https://developer.nvidia.com/nsight-graphics



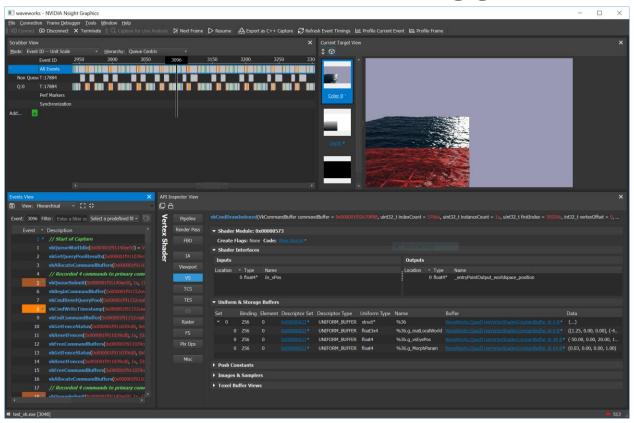
Nsight Graphics 1.0

- Independent from Visual Studio
- Streamlined launch experience
- Targeted activities
 - Frame Debugging
 - Profiling
 - C++ Capture Export
 - Tracing





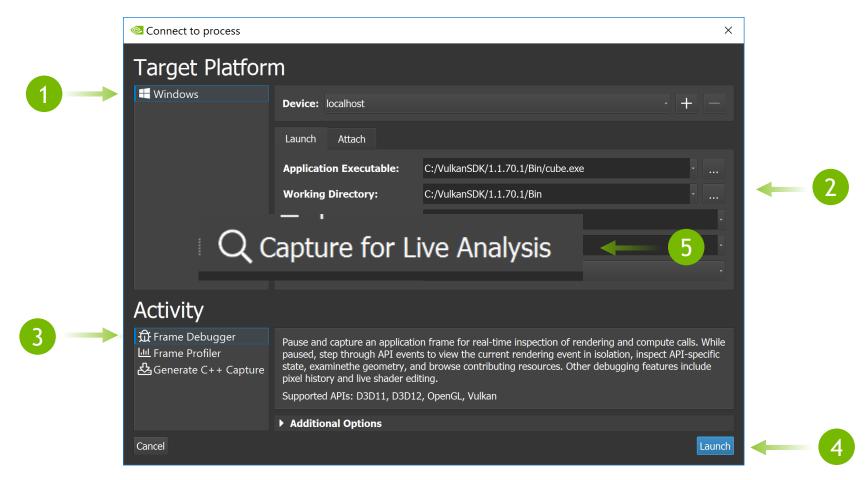
Frame Debugger - Overview



- Pause an application for live "online" analysis
- Multiple sub-windows offering different tools
- Scrub through important events
- Examine mid-frame state

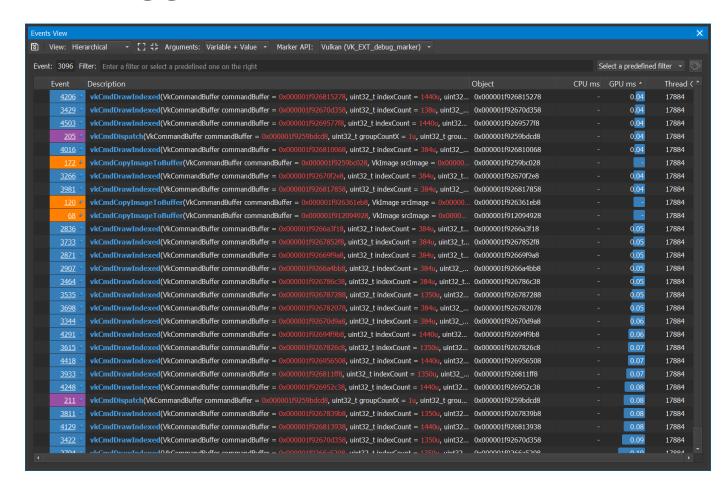
NOTE: All screenshots from WaveWorks for Vulkan

Frame Debugger - Getting Started



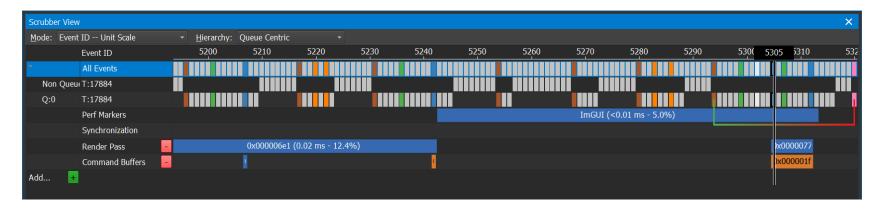
Frame Debugger - Event View

- Captured event stream
- Organize by command buffer, thread, queue
- Powerful filter, sort, and search systems
- Hierarchical range markers via VK_EXT_debug_marker
- Object names via VK_EXT_debug_marker



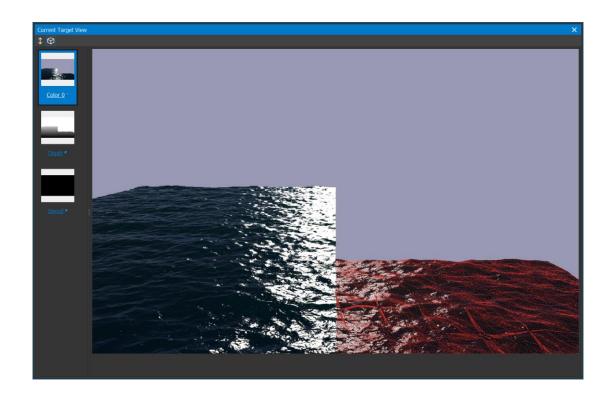
Frame Debugger - Scrubber

- Timeline view of your scene
 - Event, GPU, or CPU time scale
- Multi-queue and multi-thread aware
- Range markers via VK_EXT_debug_marker and heuristics
- Synchronization indicators

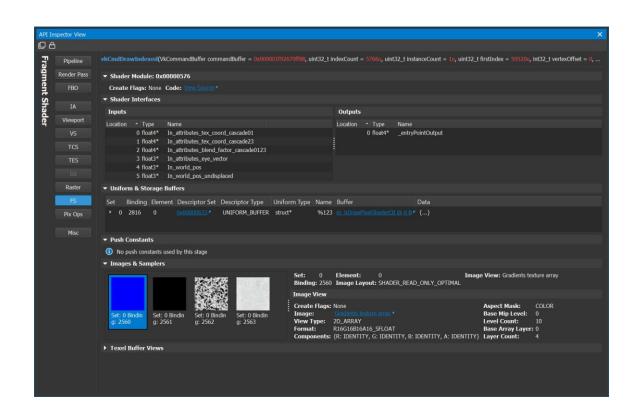


Frame Debugger - Current Target

- Visualize incremental per-draw state of your render targets
- Color, depth, stencil
- Optional overlays
- Pixel history
 - More later...



Frame Debugger - API Inspector

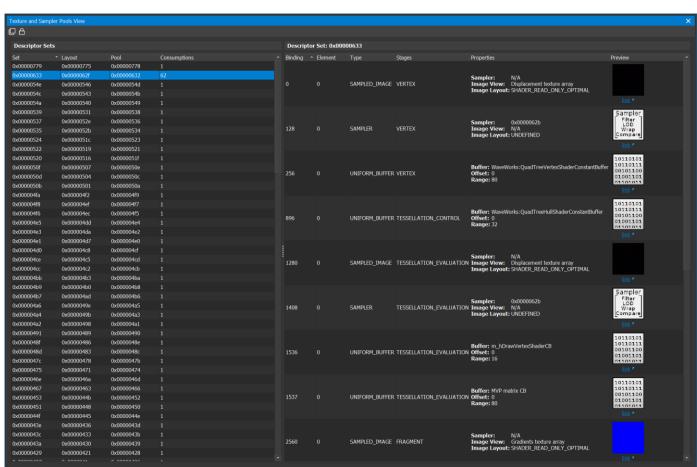


- Per-pipeline stage information
- See bound descriptor sets and their associated data
- Images with thumbnails
- Uniform buffers with data at-aglance
- Reflection information if SPIRV has annotations



Frame Debugger - Descriptor Views

- Listing of all descriptors used in scene
- Sort and search by pools and layouts
- At a glance contents of each descriptor

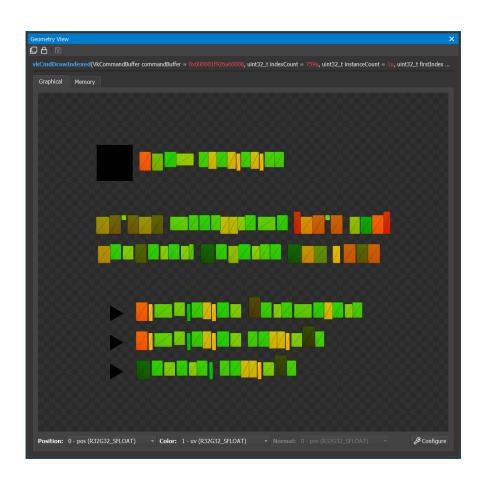


Frame Debugger - Shaders

- Per-pipeline and per-shader information
- View shader SPIRV source
- View as GLSL or HLSL via translation

```
waveworks - NVIDIA Nsight Graphics
                                                                                                                                                                                              File Connection Frame Debugger Tools Window Help
           🖒 Disconnect 🗴 Terminate 📱 🔾 Capture for Live Analysis 👂 Next Frame 🄀 Resume 🕹 Export as C++ Capture 🥰 Refresh Event Timings 🔟 Profile Current Event 🗀 Profile Frame
Linked Programs View
                                                                     X Shader Source View: Pipeline - 0x0000002d, CS - 0x00000027 X
₿ ♡
                                                                          GLSL • Main • Ø Edit Shader & Compile Shader ↑ Promote Shader
 Filter: Enter a filter
                                                                           Shader editing is not supported by this shader.
  All Programs & Shaders
                             Status
                                       Debug Info
                                       None
                             Source
                                                                                     uint m_resolution;
                                       None
                                                                                     uint m_resolution_plus_one;
  ▶ 0x00000032
                             Source
                                       None
                                                                                     uint m half resolution;
                                       None
                                                                                     uint m_resolution_plus_one_squared_minus_one;
                                       None
                                                                                     uint m 32 minus log2 resolution;
                                                                                      float m window in;
                                       None
                                       None
                                                                                      vec2 m wind dir;
                                                                                      float m_frequency_scale;
  ▶ 0x0000007f
                                                                                      float m linear scale;
  ▶ 0x00000084
                                                                                      float m wind speed:
                                                                                      float m wind distance;
  ▶ 0x00000089
                                                                                      float m_wind_dependency;
                                                                                      float m_small_waves_cutoff_length;
  ▶ 0x000000a8
                                                                                      float m small waves cutoff power;
  ▶ 0x000000ad
                                                                                     float m_spectrum_peaking;
                                                                                      float m_choppy_scale;
  ▶ 0x000000b2
                                                                                     double m time;
  ▶ 0x00000159
                                       None
  ▶ 0x00000160
                                       None
                                                                                 layout(binding = 0, std430) readonly buffer _370_372
  ▶ 0x00000167
                    Pipeline
                                       None
                                                                                     vec2 _data[];
  → 0x0000016e
                    Pipeline
                             Source
                                       None
                                                                                 } g_gauss_input;
  ▶ 0x00000179
                    Pipeline
                             Source
                                       None
                                                                             32 layout(binding = 512, std430) buffer _382_384
  ▶ 0x0000017c
                                       None
                                                                                    vec2 _data[];
  ▶ 0x0000017f
                                       None
                                                                             35 } g_h0_output;
  ▶ 0x0000018e
                                       None
                                                                             37 float _secf(float a)
  ▶ 0x00000191
                                       None
  ▶ 0x00000194
                                                                                     return 2.0 / (exp(a) + exp(-a));
  Linked Programs View Scrubber View
test_vk.exe [3048]
```

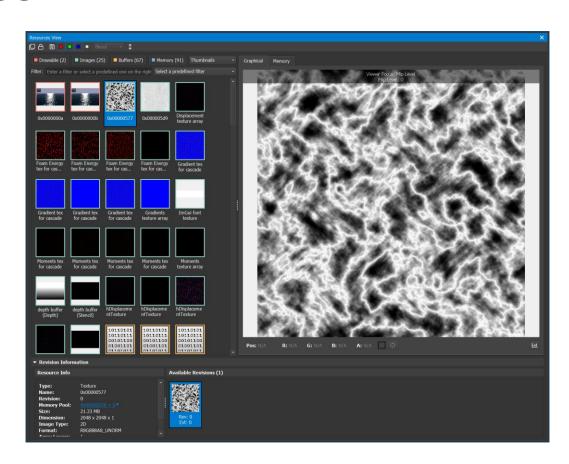
Frame Debugger - Geometry



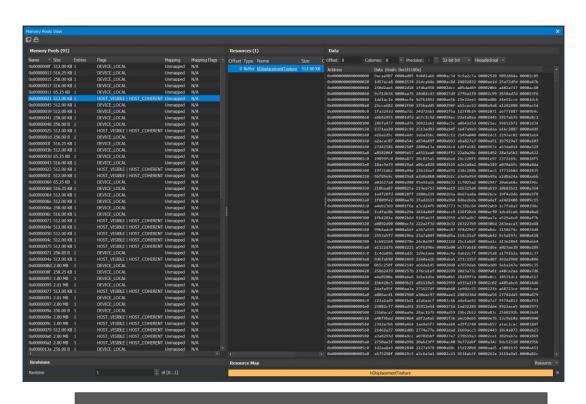
- 3D geometry of current draw calls
- Highly configurable
 - Select attributes for position, color, and normal
 - Multiple shading modes
- Reflection information from SPIRV annotations

Frame Debugger - Resources

- At a glance view of all images and buffers
- Objects names via VK_EXT_debug_marker extension
- Powerful search and filters
- Revision and consumption tracking
- Links to backing device memory



Frame Debugger - Device Memory



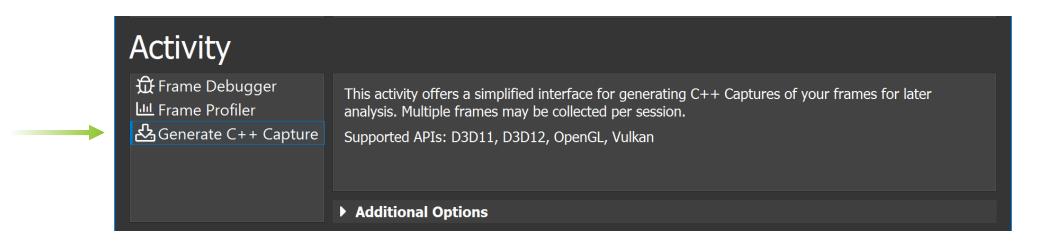
NOTE: This example is only one resource per-memory region.

- At a glance view of all device memory objects
- Listing of bound resources
- Memory of each sub-resource
- Object layout map



C++ Capture - Overview

- Export an application frame as a free standing executable built from C++ source
- Previously called "Serialization" in Nsight VSE
- Debug / profile / edit & experiment with source



C++ Capture - Code Output

- Great for rapid "hack and slash" changes
- Human readable code

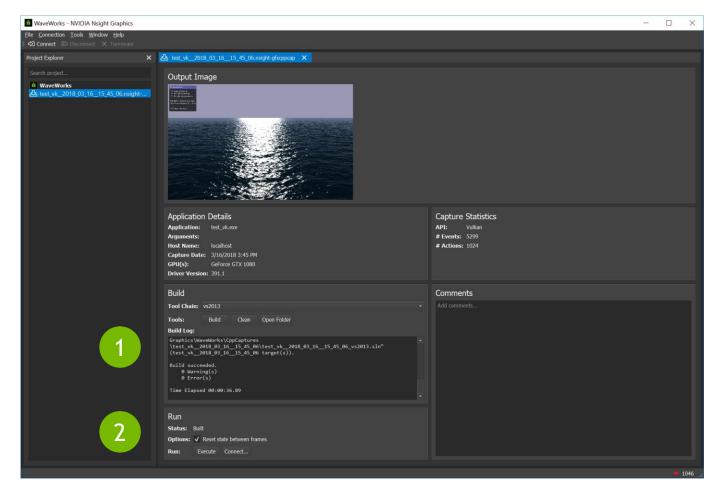
```
BEGIN DATA SCOPE();
static VkImageViewCreateInfo VkImageViewCreateInfo temp 14[1] = { VkImageViewCreateInfo{
/* sType = */ VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_VIEW_CREATE_INFO,
/* pNext = */ nullptr,
/* flags = */ VkImageViewCreateFlags(0),
/* image = */ VkImage_uid_37,
/* viewType = */ VK IMAGE VIEW TYPE 2D,
/* format = */ VK FORMAT R8G8B8A8 UNORM,
/* components = */ VkComponentMapping{
/* >> r = */ VK COMPONENT SWIZZLE R,
/* >> g = */ VK COMPONENT SWIZZLE G,
/* >> b = */ VK COMPONENT SWIZZLE B,
/* >> a = */ VK COMPONENT SWIZZLE A},
/* subresourceRange = */ VkImageSubresourceRange{
/* >> aspectMask = */ VkImageAspectFlags(VK IMAGE ASPECT COLOR BIT),
/* >> layerCount = */ 1u}} };
NV THROW IF(vkCreateImageView(VkDevice uid 16, VkImageViewCreateInfo temp 14, nullptr, &VkImageView uid 40) != VK SUCCESS, "A Vulkan API call was
    unsuccessful"):
```

C++ Capture - Vulkan Capabilities

- Respects the acquire / record / submit / present model
 - Can't naïvely loop frames
 - Need to record command buffers based on results of vkAcquireNextImageKHR
- Best-effort to support replay on different hardware from capture
 - Dynamically patch up code
 - Some cases are impossible (e.g. missing major feature or extension)

C++ Capture - .nsight-gfxcppcap File

- Additional metafile generated with C++ export
- Screenshot, system information, statistics, etc.
- Ability to build (#1) and launch (#2) from within the GUI
- Easily debug, profile, etc. later





Vulkan Tools Roadmap

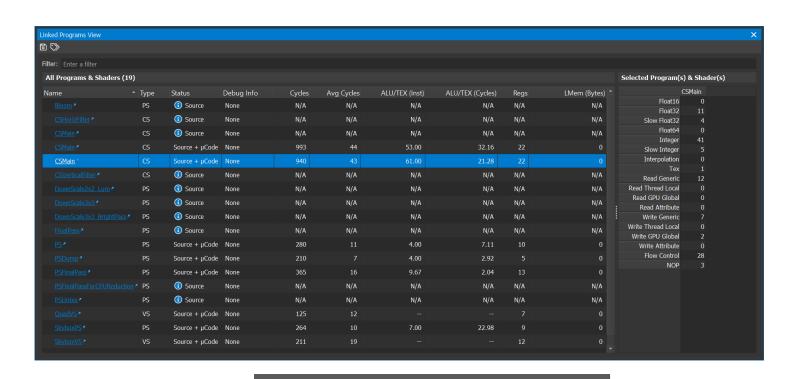
- 2018 1st Half
 - Vulkan 1.1 support
 - Linux support*
 - Android support
 - Shader statistics
 - Shader editing
 - C++ export improvements

- 2018 2nd Half
 - Hardware profiling
 - GPU trace
 - Pixel history
- Beyond...
 - Support future extensions and core updates

^{*}Already available in the NVIDIA Linux Graphics Debugger 2.3

Roadmap - Shader Statistics

- Low level information about each pipeline and shader object
- Estimated cycles
- Register counts
- LMem counts



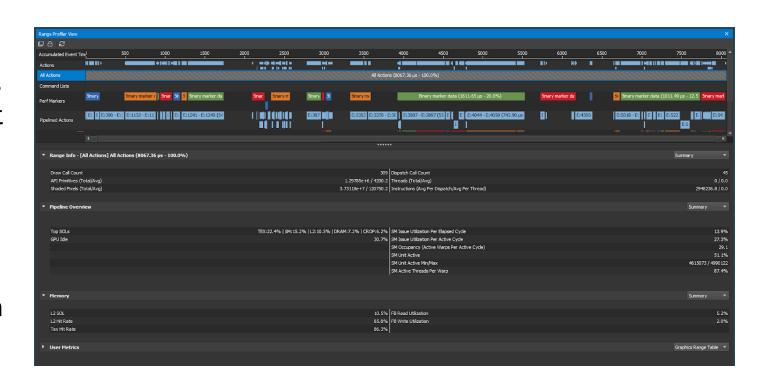
Roadmap - Shader Editing

- Edit shader source and see changes reflected live in running application
- Quickly toggle between shader sets
- Edit as SPIRV, GLSL, or HLSL

```
Ø Edit Shader ⊕ Compile Shader
                                                                                                                                       2 #version 420 core
               g_AtmosphereDarkColor=vec3(0.6,0.6,0.7);
                                                                                                                                                           g_AtmosphereDarkColor=vec3(0.6,0.6,0.7);
                                                                                                                                               c3 CalculateFogColor(vec3 pixel_to_light_vector, vec3 pixel_to_eye_vector)
                                                                                                                                                     g_AtmosphereBrightColor,
0.5 * dot(pixel_to_light_vector,-pixel_to_eye_vector)
                                                                                                                                              vec3 acolor;
vec3 pixel_to_light_vector = normalize(u_tightPosition-positionMS);
vec3 pixel_to_eye_vector = normalize(u_CameraPosition-positionMS);
  vec3 pixel_to_light_vector = normalize(u_LightPosition-positionWS)
vec3 pixel_to_eye_vector = normalize(u_CameraPosition-positionWS);
 acolor = CalculateFogColor(pixel_to_light_vector,pixel_to_eye_vector);
color.rgb = mix(color.rgb,acolor,pow(clamp(texcoord.y,0.0,1.0),10.0));
                                                                                                                                              acolor = CalculateFogColor(pixel to light vector, pixel to_eye vector)
color.rgb = mix(color.rgb,acolor,pow(clamp(texcoord.y,0.8,1.0),10.0))
```

Roadmap - Hardware Profiling

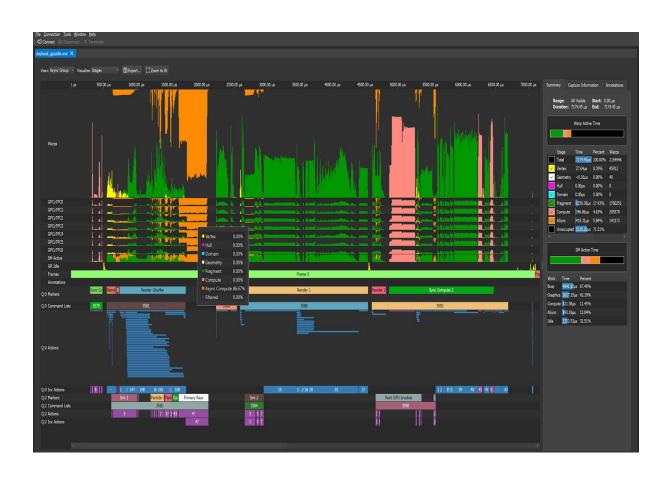
- Low level
 performance metrics
 on a range and event
 basis
- Find performance limiting hardware units
- Identify optimization opportunities



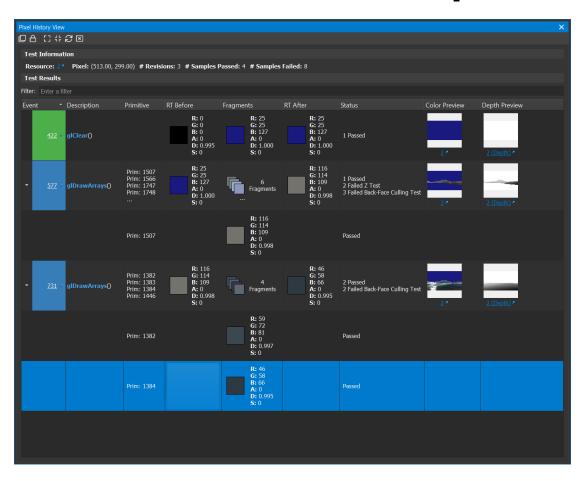
Roadmap - GPU Trace

- Low level GPU utilization
- Identify and optimize asynchronous compute opportunities

NOTE: Currently supported for D3D12 in preview



Road Map - Pixel History



- Trace the life of a pixel in a render target
- Draws, clears, and blits that contribute to final output pixel value
- Detailed information about failed fragments
 - Back face culling, depth, etc.

Thank you!

- Nvidia Nsight Graphics 1.0 now available
- Nvidia Linux Graphics Debugger 2.3 (with Vulkan support) now available
- Live demos @ Booth 233 in South Hall
- We are hiring!

NVIDIA.com > Developers > GameWorks > Tools

https://developer.nvidia.com/nsight-graphics