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PLAYSTATION®Edge

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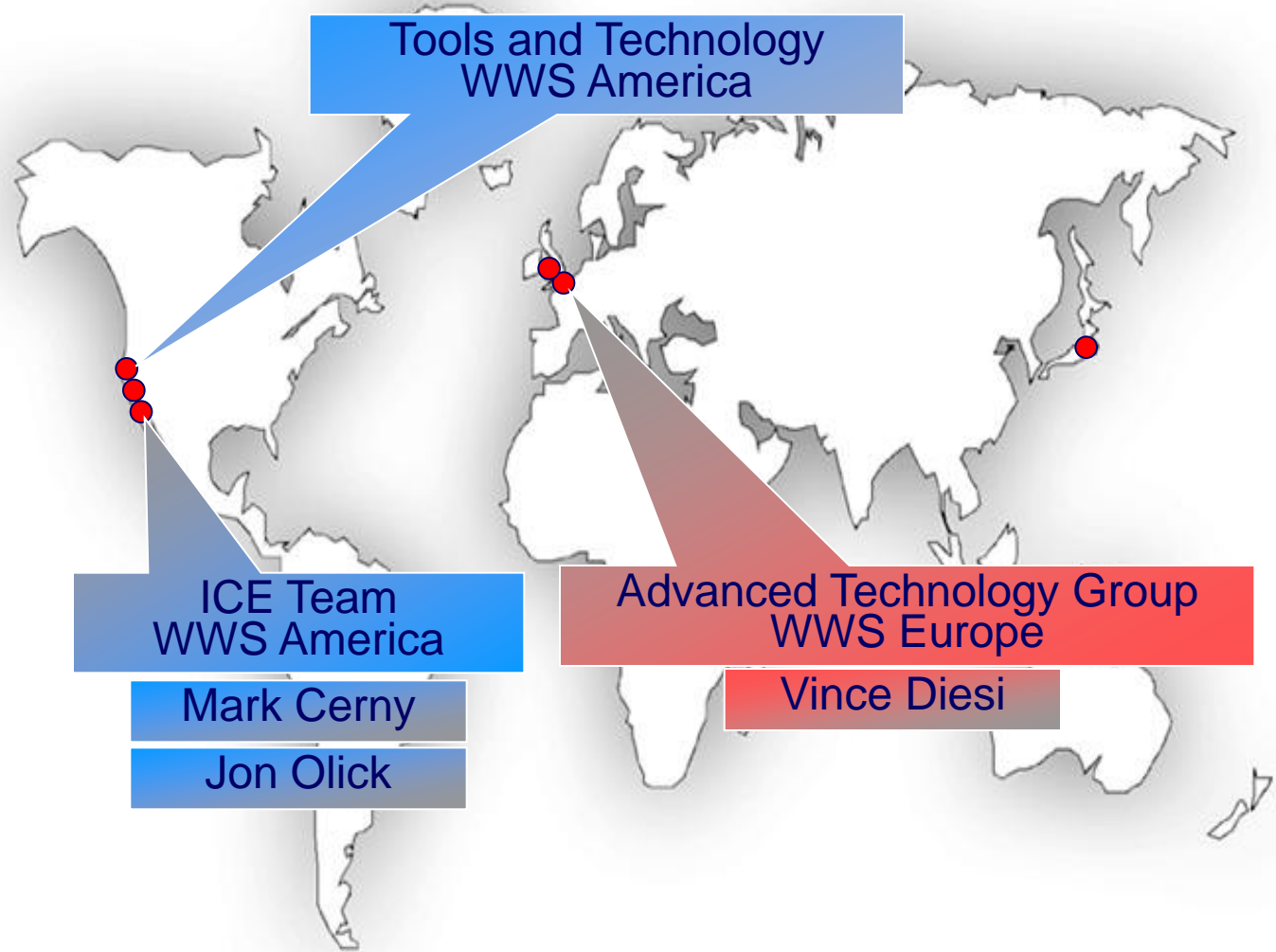


PLAYSTATION®Edge

Mark Cerny

Jon Olick

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GCM Replay

- ⌚ March release
- ⌚ RSX Performance Analysis
- ⌚ *Speculative* Performance Analysis



PLAYSTATION®Edge Philosophy

- ⦿ Discrete pieces of technology
 - ⦿ Targeted for easy adoption
 - ⦿ Show first party best practices



PLAYSTATION®Edge Component Overview

- ⌘ Animation System
- ⌘ Geometry Processing
- ⌘ Compression
- ⌘ GCM Replay



PLAYSTATION®Edge Component Overview

- ⌘ Animation System
 - ⌘ Blend trees of arbitrary depth
 - ⌘ Several layers of compression
 - ⌘ High performance
 - ⌘ Very flexible



PLAYSTATION®Edge Component Overview

- ③ Geometry Processing
 - ③ Skinning on SPU's
 - ③ Offload the RSX
 - ③ Triangle Culling on SPU's
 - ③ Remove unnecessary RSX processing
 - ③ Blend Shapes on SPU's
 - ③ Offload the PPU
 - ③ Compressed Data formats
 - ③ SPU's can use better data compression than the RSX



PLAYSTATION®Edge Component Overview

③ Compression

- ③ Fast zlib decompression implemented for the SPU
- ③ Increases effective bandwidth from BD-ROM
- ③ Useful for high speed streaming
- ③ 40MB/sec with ~25% of an SPU



PLAYSTATION®Edge Component Overview

- ③ GCM Replay
 - ③ New tool for use with the RSX
 - ③ Analysis
 - ③ Debugging
 - ③ Profiling



PLAYSTATION®Edge Component Overview

- ④ Full source code available
 - ④ SPU code
 - ④ Runs as SPURS jobs
 - ④ C with Intrinsics
 - ④ PPU and tools code written in C with some C++
 - ④ libGCM used as RSX interface



PLAYSTATION®Edge Component Overview

- ⌋ Offline Tools Pipeline
 - ⌋ Generates binary data used by animation and geometry runtime
 - ⌋ Collada compatible pipeline
 - ⌋ Multi-layered approach



PLAYSTATION®Edge Component Overview

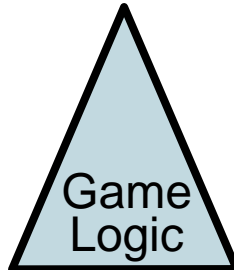
- ⦿ Will be released as part of the PlayStation 3 SDK to all licensed developers



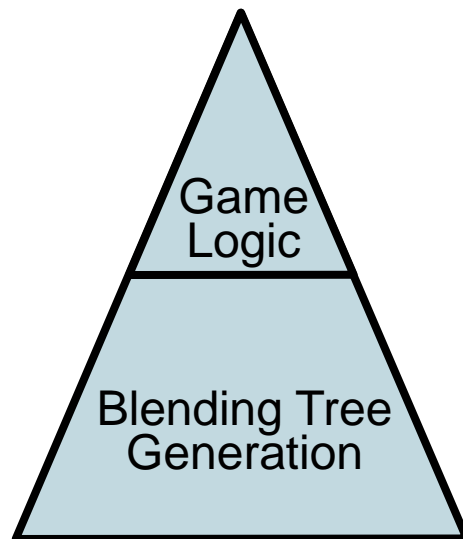
PLAYSTATION®Edge Animation



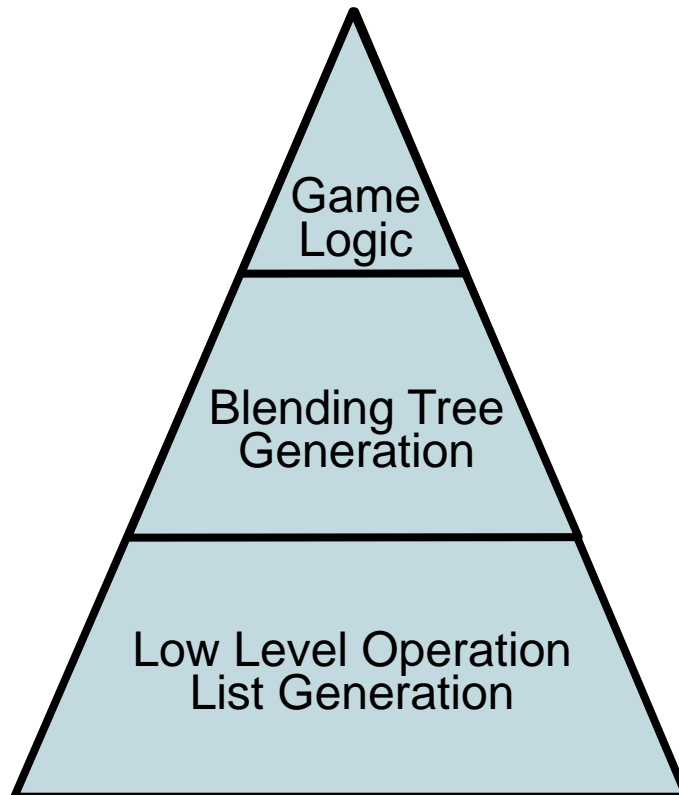
Animation Processing



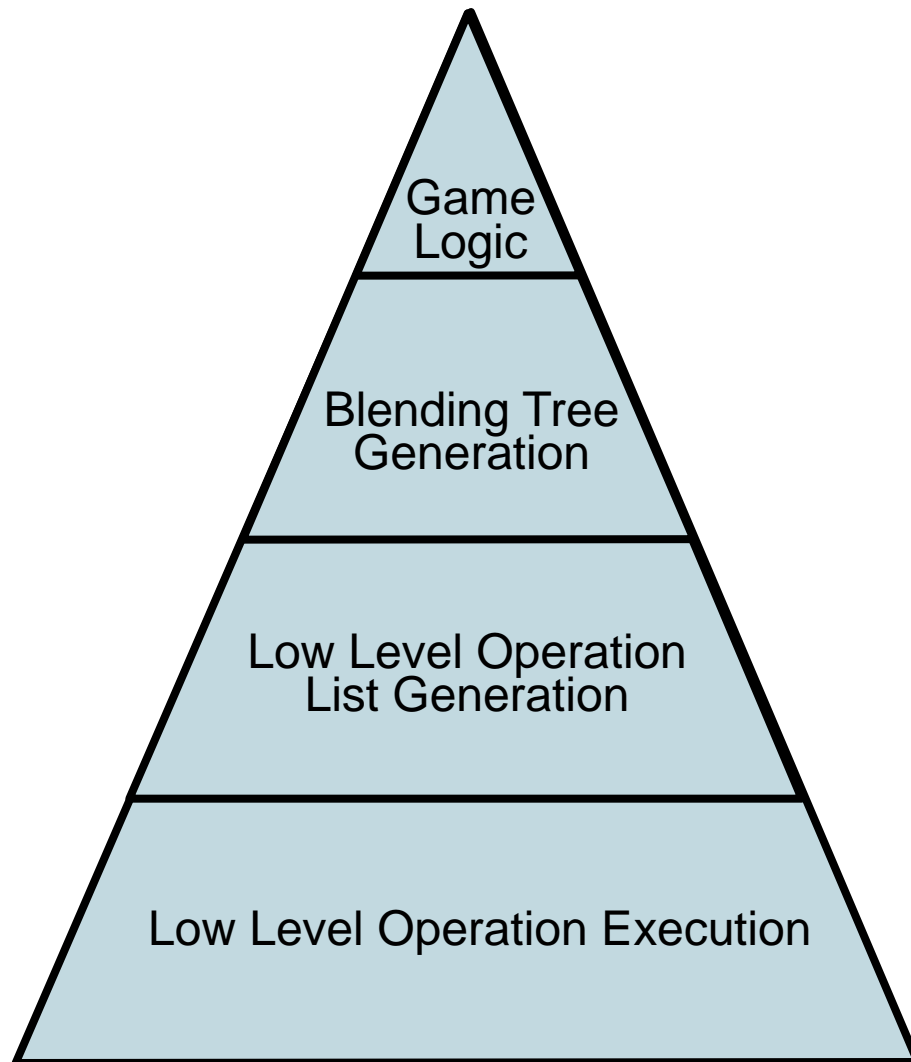
Animation Processing



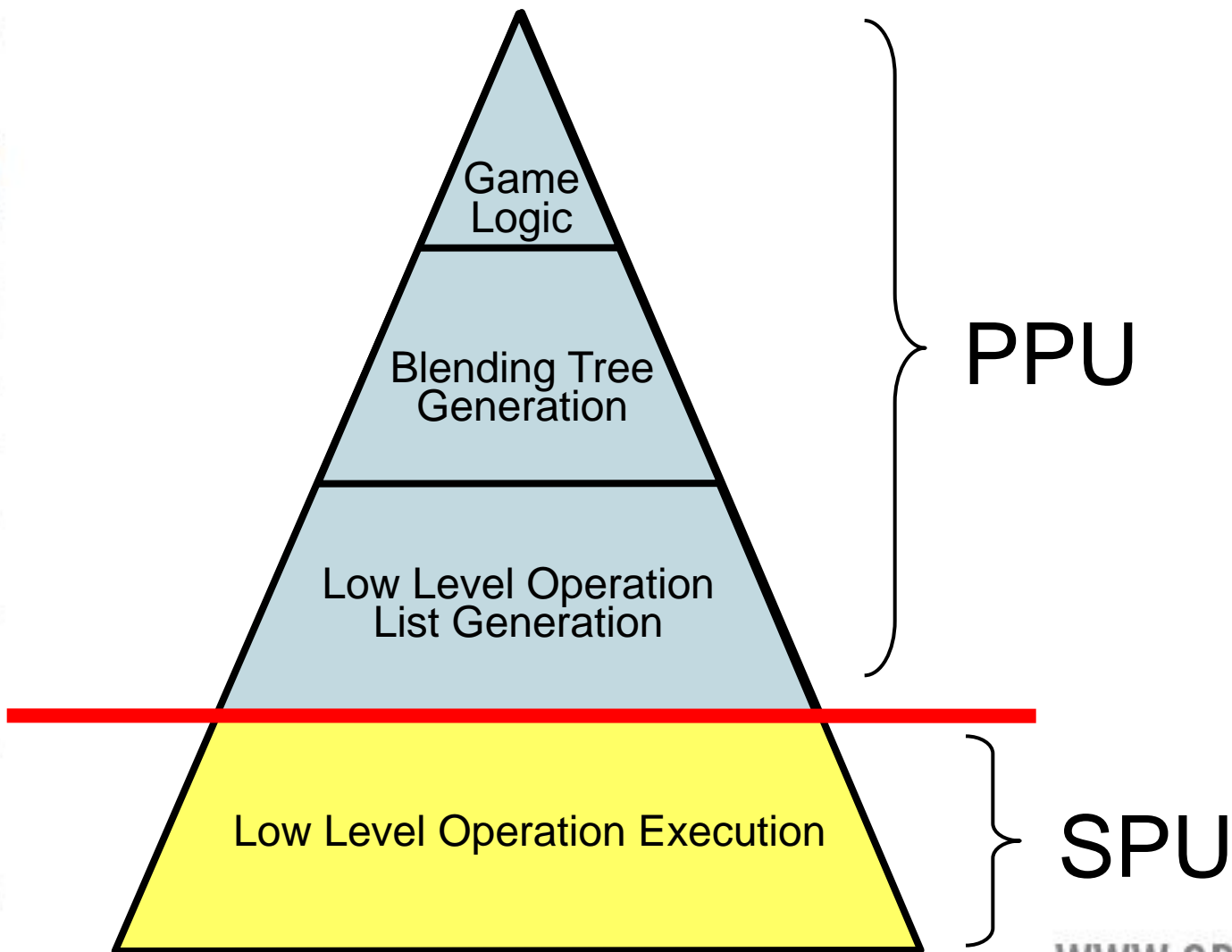
Animation Processing



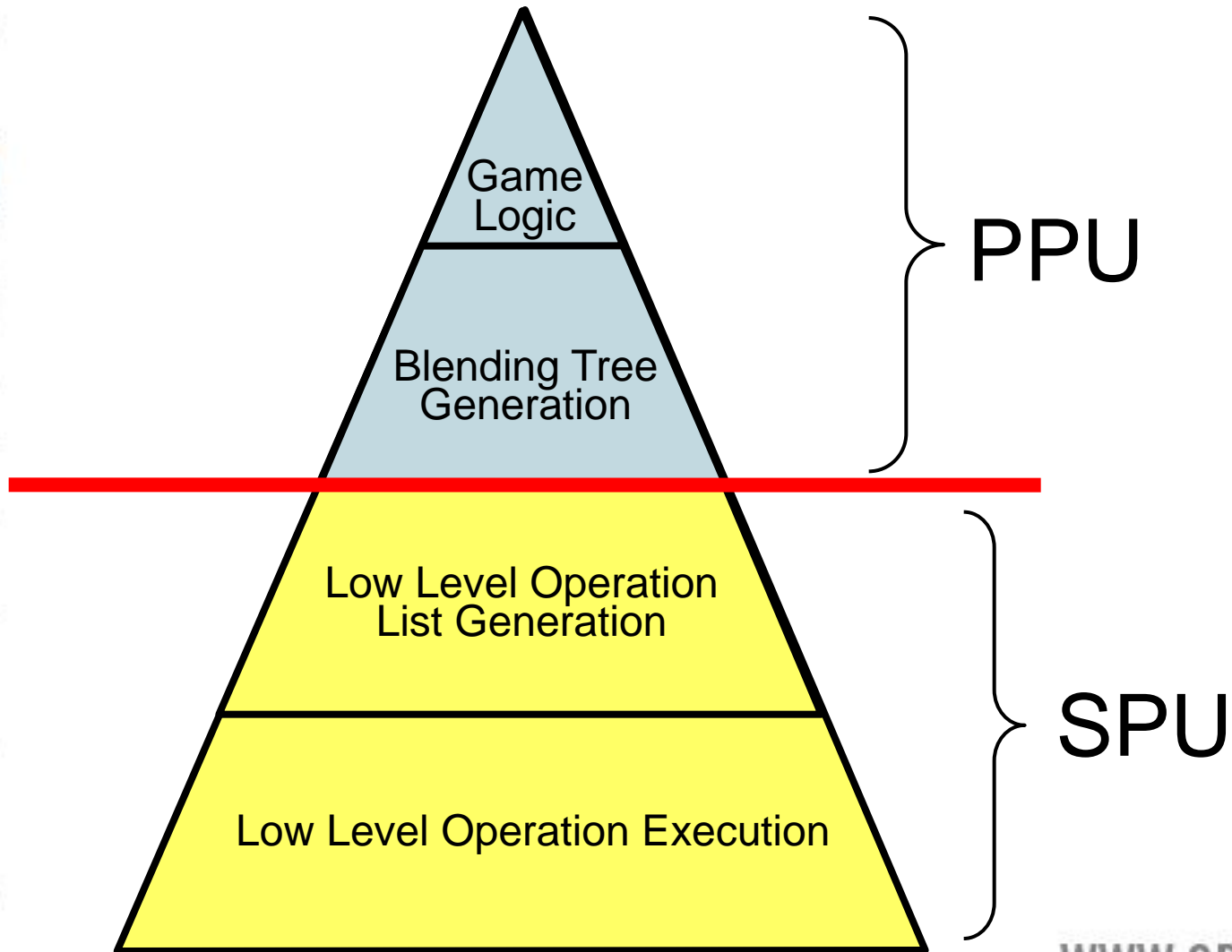
Animation Processing



Animation Processing



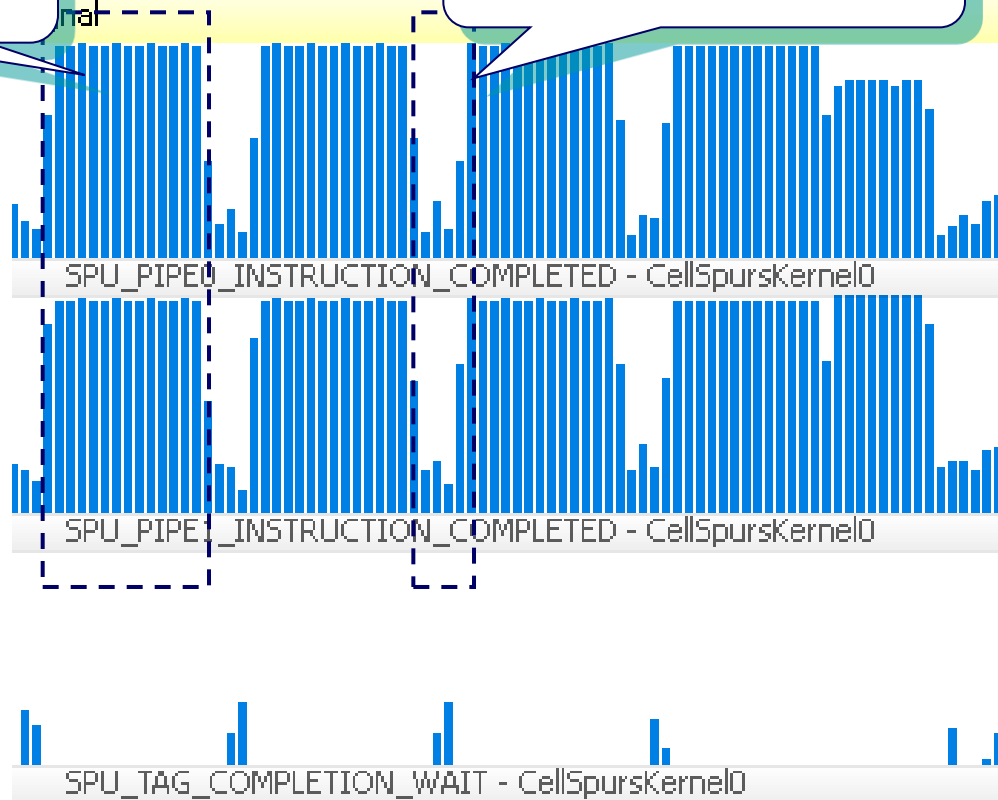
Animation Processing



SPU Capture

Low Level
Functions

Blend Tree Parsing,
Flow Control

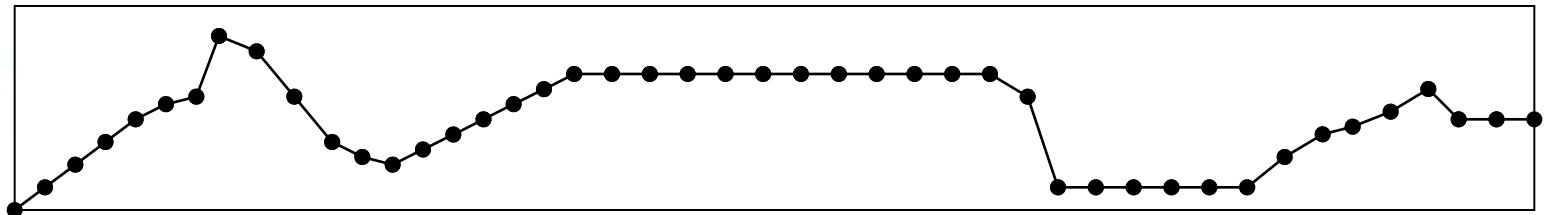




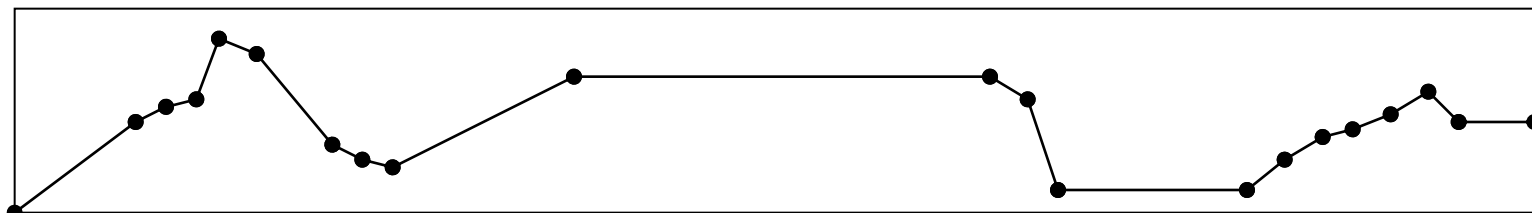
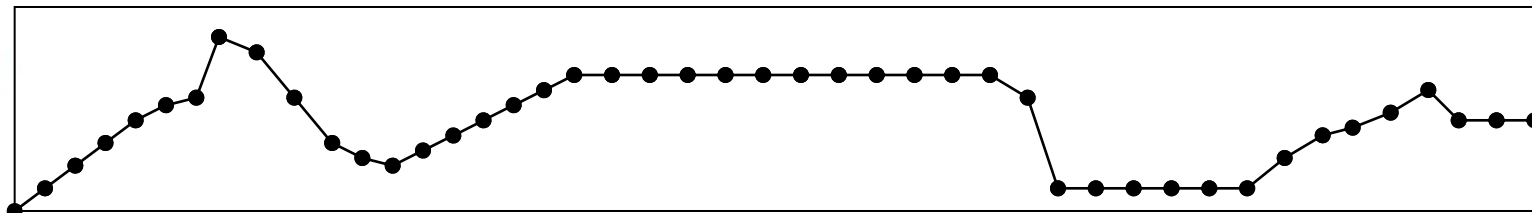
Additional Features

- ⌘ Additive Blending
- ⌘ Partial Animations
 - ⌘ Per-joint weight
- ⌘ Compression
 - ⌘ Static joint parameters removed
 - ⌘ Varying joint parameters expressed as sparse keyframes

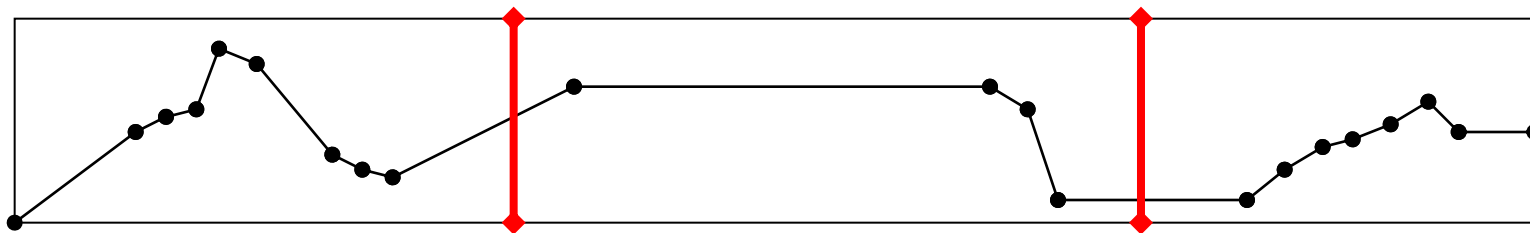
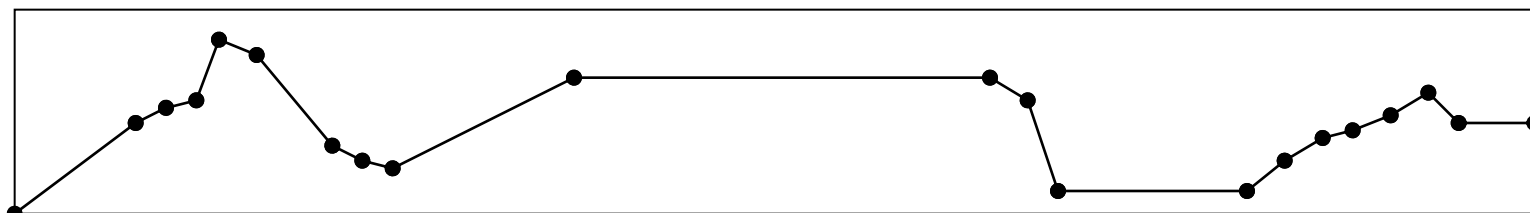
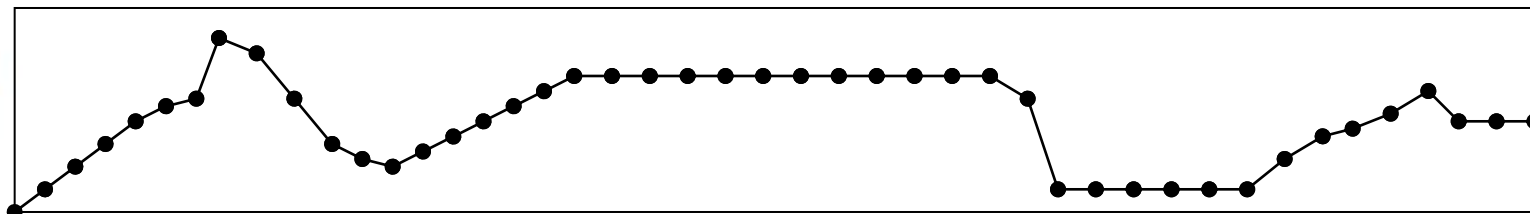
Varying parameter treatment



Varying parameter treatment



Varying parameter treatment





Offline Tools Layout



Offline Tools Layout

- ⌚ Tools generate
 - ⌚ Joint hierarchy
 - ⌚ Compressed animation data



Offline Tools Layout

- ⌚ Tools generate
 - ⌚ Joint hierarchy
 - ⌚ Compressed animation data

High Level

Standalone Executable



Offline Tools Layout

- ⌚ Tools generate
 - ⌚ Joint hierarchy
 - ⌚ Compressed animation data

High Level

Standalone Executable

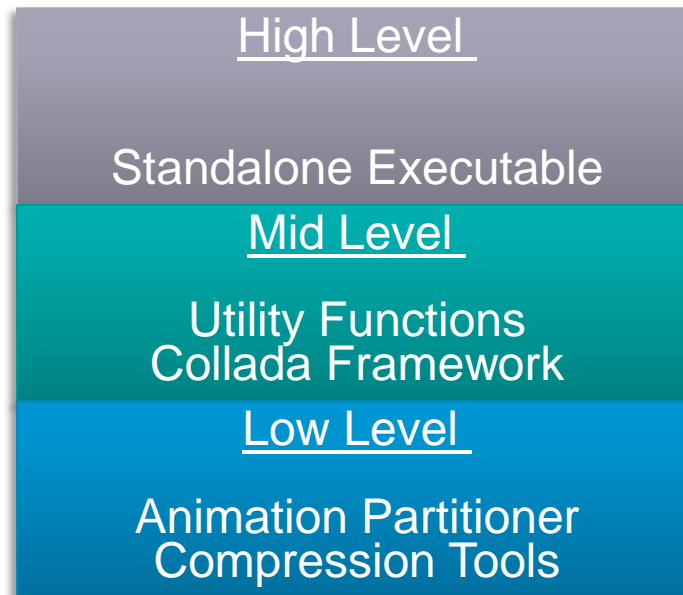
Mid Level

Utility Functions
Collada Framework



Offline Tools Layout

- ⌚ Tools generate
 - ⌚ Joint hierarchy
 - ⌚ Compressed animation data



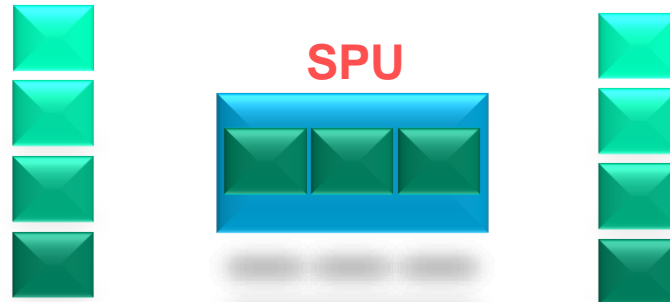


PLAYSTATION®Edge Geometry

Two modes of usage

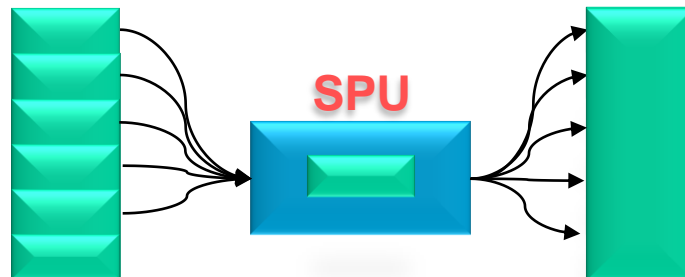
⊕ Primary mode

- ⊕ Use PLAYSTATION®Edge offline tools
- ⊕ Partition into vertex sets
- ⊕ Use indexed triangles
- ⊕ All features of pipeline can be used

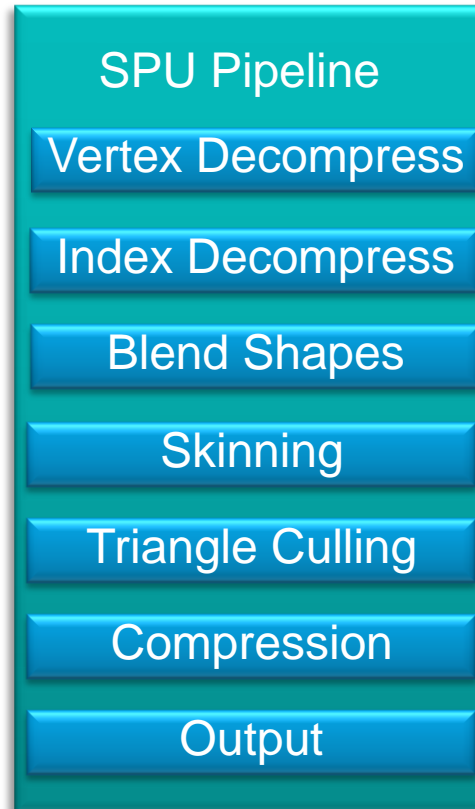


Two modes of usage (cont)

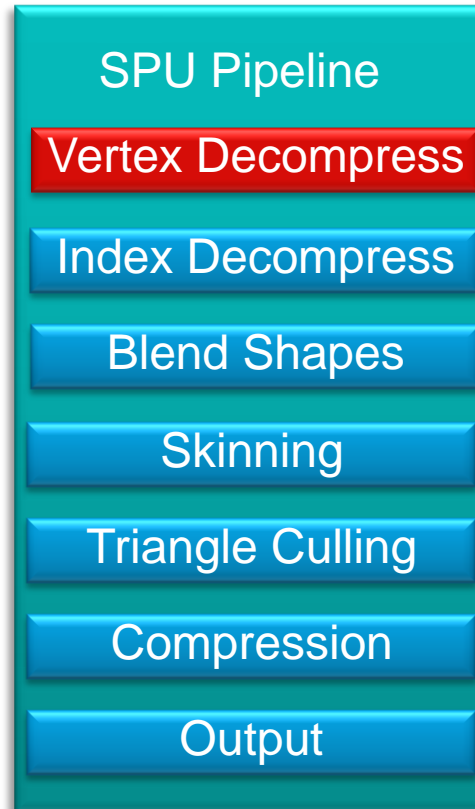
- ③ Secondary mode
 - ③ Data generated by other tools
 - ③ Formats other than indexed triangles
 - ③ Non-partitioned objects
 - ③ Subset of pipeline features can be used



SPU Geometry Pipeline Stages



Vertex Decompression

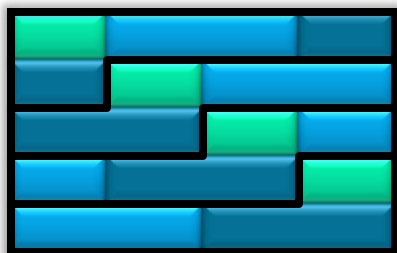


Vertex attributes can be input into the SPU in multiple arrays

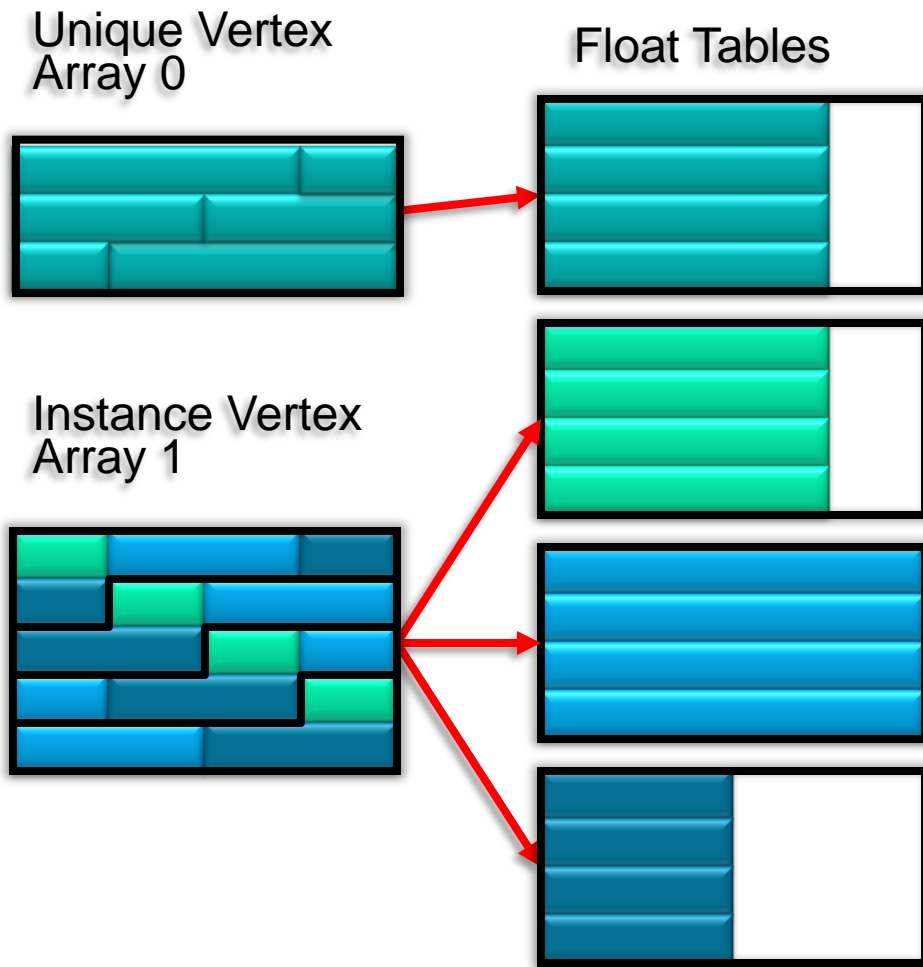
Unique Vertex
Array 0



Instance Vertex
Array 1



Vertex information is decompressed into tables of floats





24bit Unit Vector

- ⊕ Smallest 2 compression
 - ⊕ Two smallest components with 10 bits each
 - ⊕ Encoded from $-\sqrt{2}/2$ to $+\sqrt{2}/2$
 - ⊕ Largest component reconstructed via
 - ⊕ Largest = $\sqrt{1 - \text{smallestA}^2 - \text{smallestB}^2}$



24bit Unit Vector

- ③ Smallest 2 compression
 - ③ Two smallest components with 10 bits each
 - ③ Encoded from $-\sqrt{2}/2$ to $+\sqrt{2}/2$
 - ③ Largest component reconstructed via
 - ③ Largest = $\sqrt{1 - \text{smallestA}^2 - \text{smallestB}^2}$
- ③ One additional bit to represent W as +1 or -1
 - ③ For constructing bi-normal from normal and tangent.



N-bit Fixed Point with integer offsets

- ④ Simple $n.x$ fixed point values
 - ④ Per-segment integer offset
- ④ Bit count may vary from attribute to attribute

Index Decompression





Index Table Construction

- ③ Index table is created by a vertex cache optimizer
 - ③ Supplied in PlayStation 3 SDK
- ③ First party research
 - ③ Importance of mini-cache

RSX Best Practices

Thursday 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Room 3001, West Hall



Index Buffer Cache Optimizer

	Scene #1	Scene #2
Standard VCO	1495599 cycles	14292754 cycles
PLAYSTATION Edge	1449833 cycles	14058953 cycles
	(45766) 3.1%	(233801) 1.6%

Index Decompression

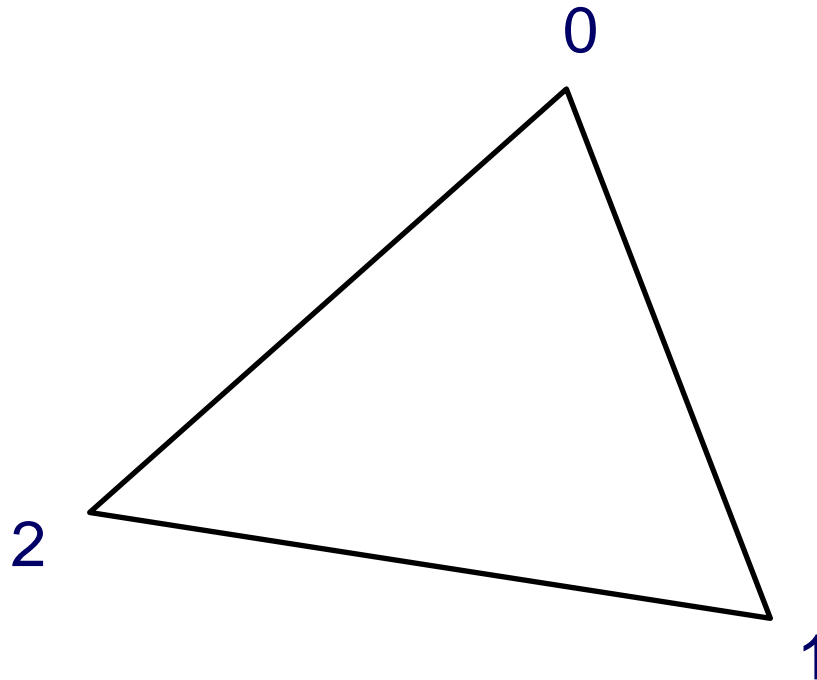




Index Decompression

- ⌚ Provided vertex cache optimizer produces very regular index data
 - ⌚ Index patterns are easily compressed

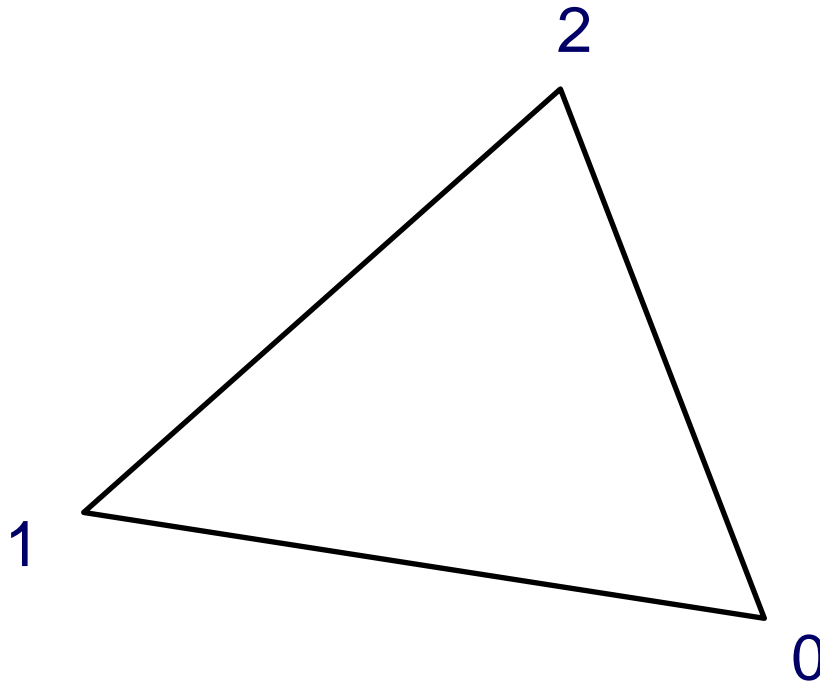
Index Decompression



Triangle Indexes

0	1	2
---	---	---

Index Decompression



Triangle Indexes

2	0	1
---	---	---



Index Decompression

00	Previous Index 0	Previous Index 2	New Index
01	Previous Index 2	Previous Index 1	New Index
10	Previous Index 1	Previous Index 0	New Index
11	New Index	New Index	New Index



Index Decompression

85% compression
6.5x more triangles

Blend Shapes

SPU Pipeline

Vertex Decompress

Index Decompress

Blend Shapes

Skinning

Triangle Culling

Compression

Output





Skinning

SPU Pipeline

Vertex Decompress

Index Decompress

Blend Shapes

Skinning

Triangle Culling

Compression

Output



Skinning on SPU

```
void SkinVs(float4 inPosition : ATTR0, float4 weights : ATTR3,  
float4 matrixIndex : ATTR4,  
out float4 position : POSITION,  
uniform float4 joints[72], uniform float4x4 modelViewProj)  
{  
    position = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++)  
    {  
        float idx = matrixIndex[i];  
        float3x4 joint = float3x4(joints[idx+0], joints[idx+1],  
                                   joints[idx+2]);  
        position += weights[i] * mul(joint, inPosition);  
    }  
    position = mul(modelViewProj, position);  
}
```




Skinning on SPU

30% Performance Improvement



Skinning on SPU's

30% Performance Improvement

Shadow map generation.... 70%!

Triangle Culling

SPU Pipeline

Vertex Decompress

Index Decompress

Blend Shapes

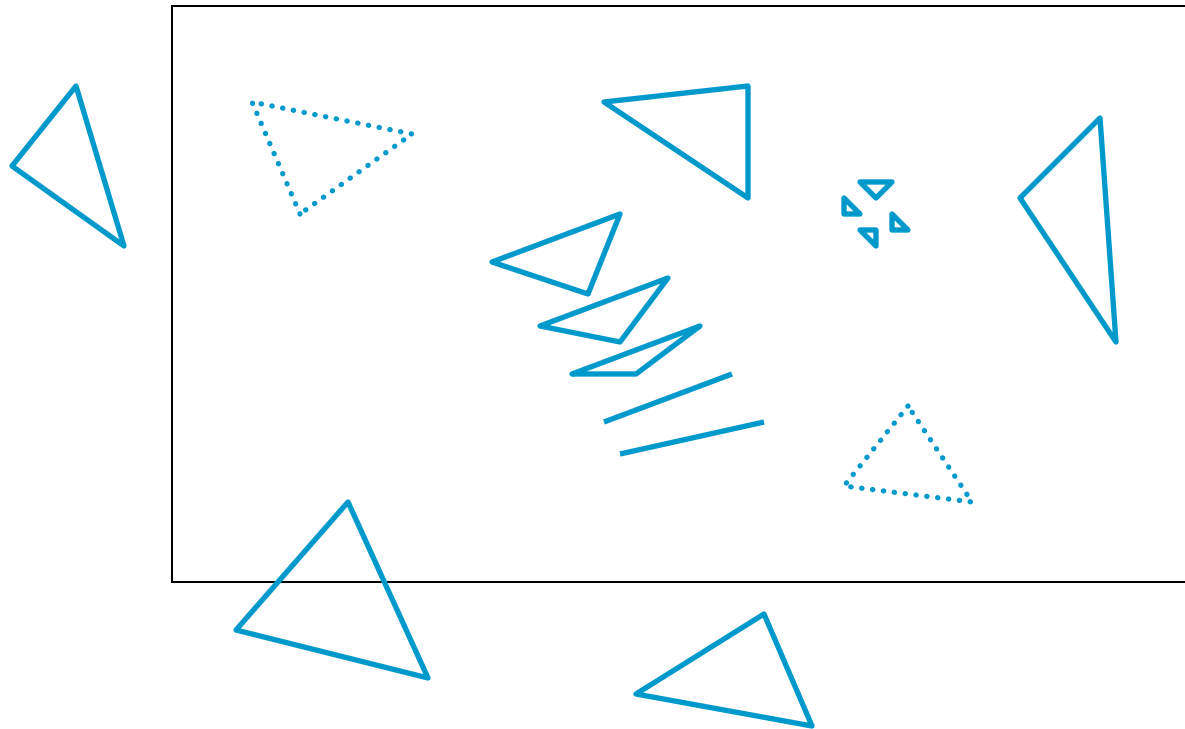
Skinning

Triangle Culling

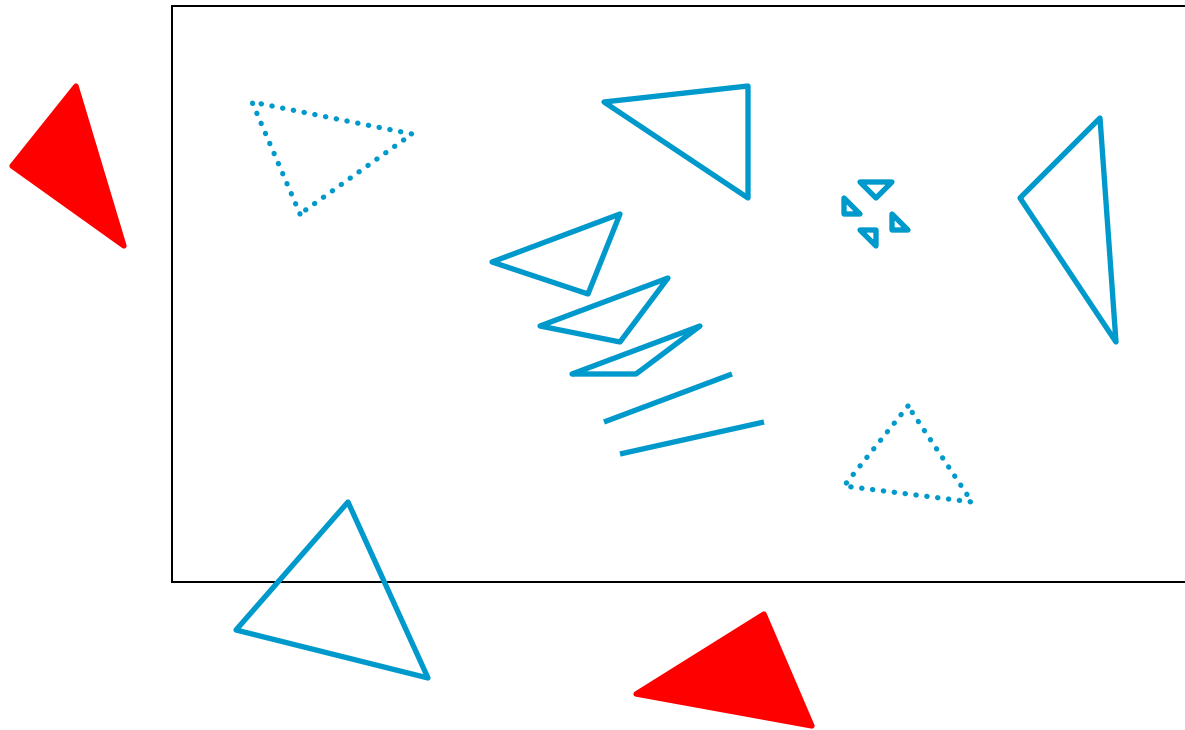
Compression

Output

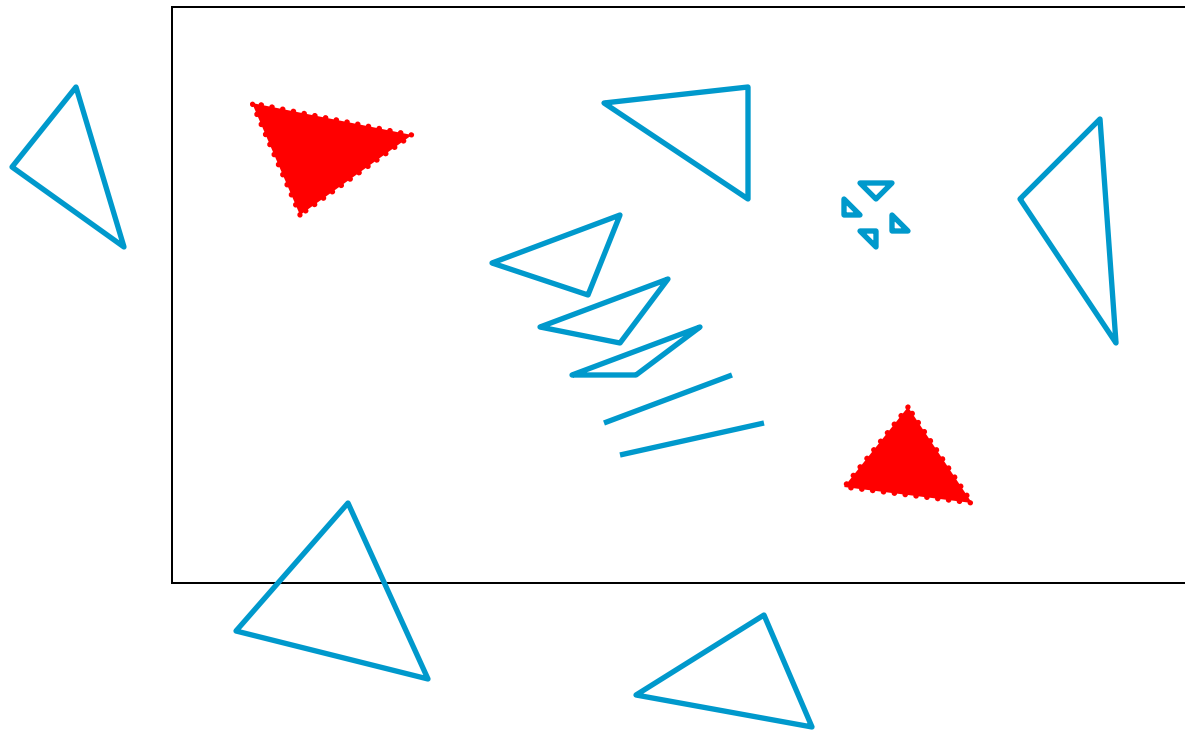
Up to **70%** of triangles do not contribute to final image.



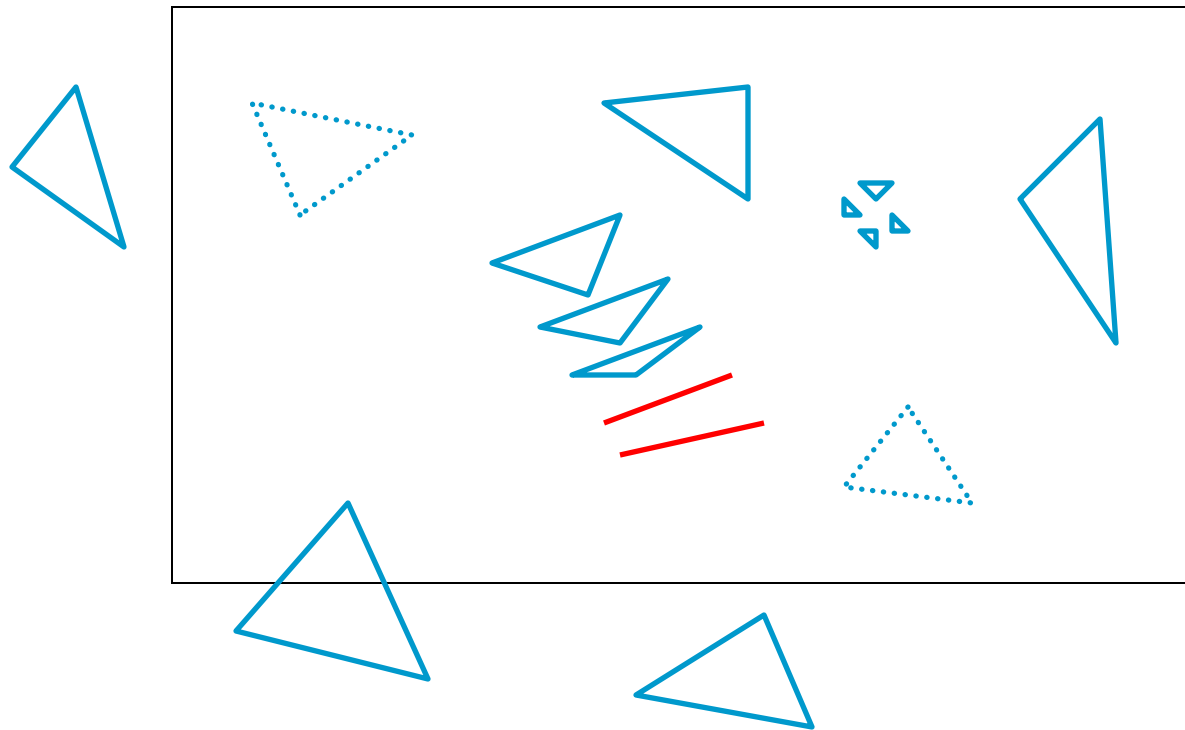
Off Screen Triangles



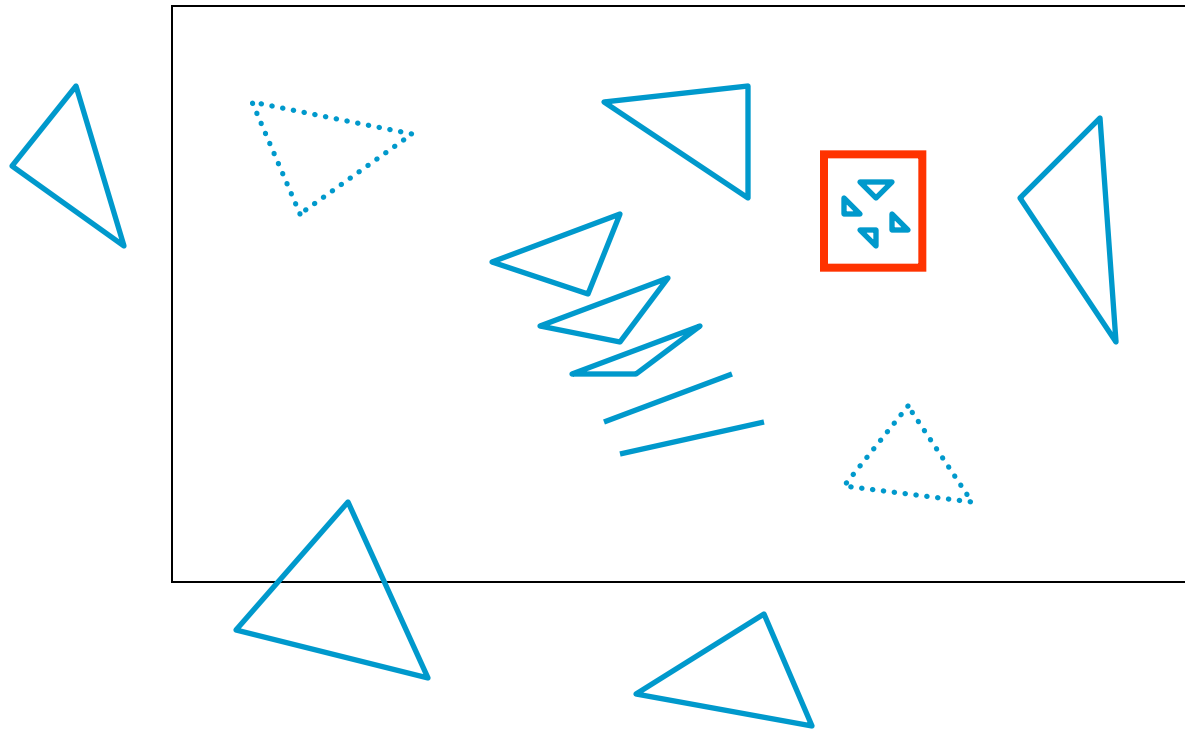
Back Facing Triangles



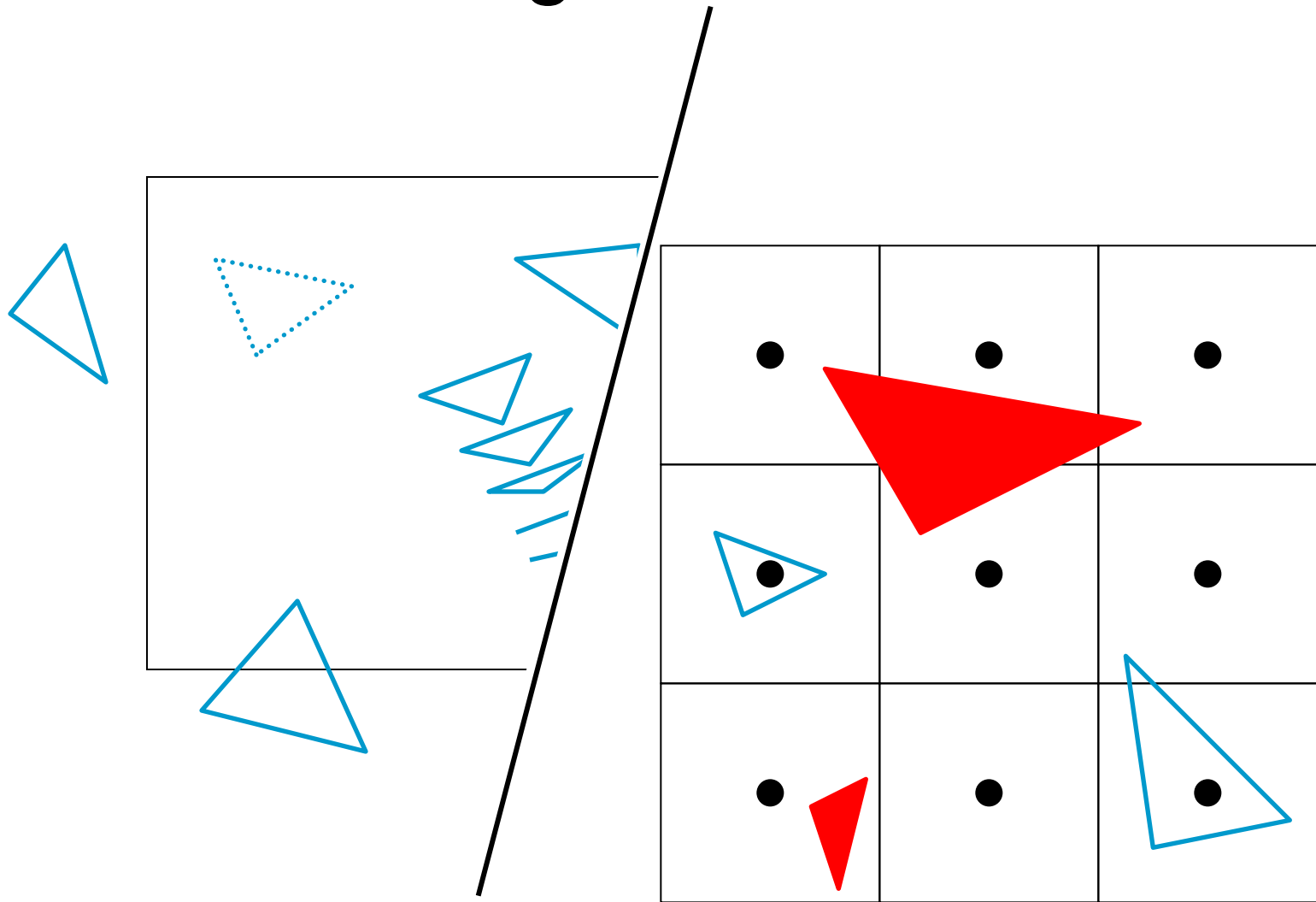
Zero Area Triangles



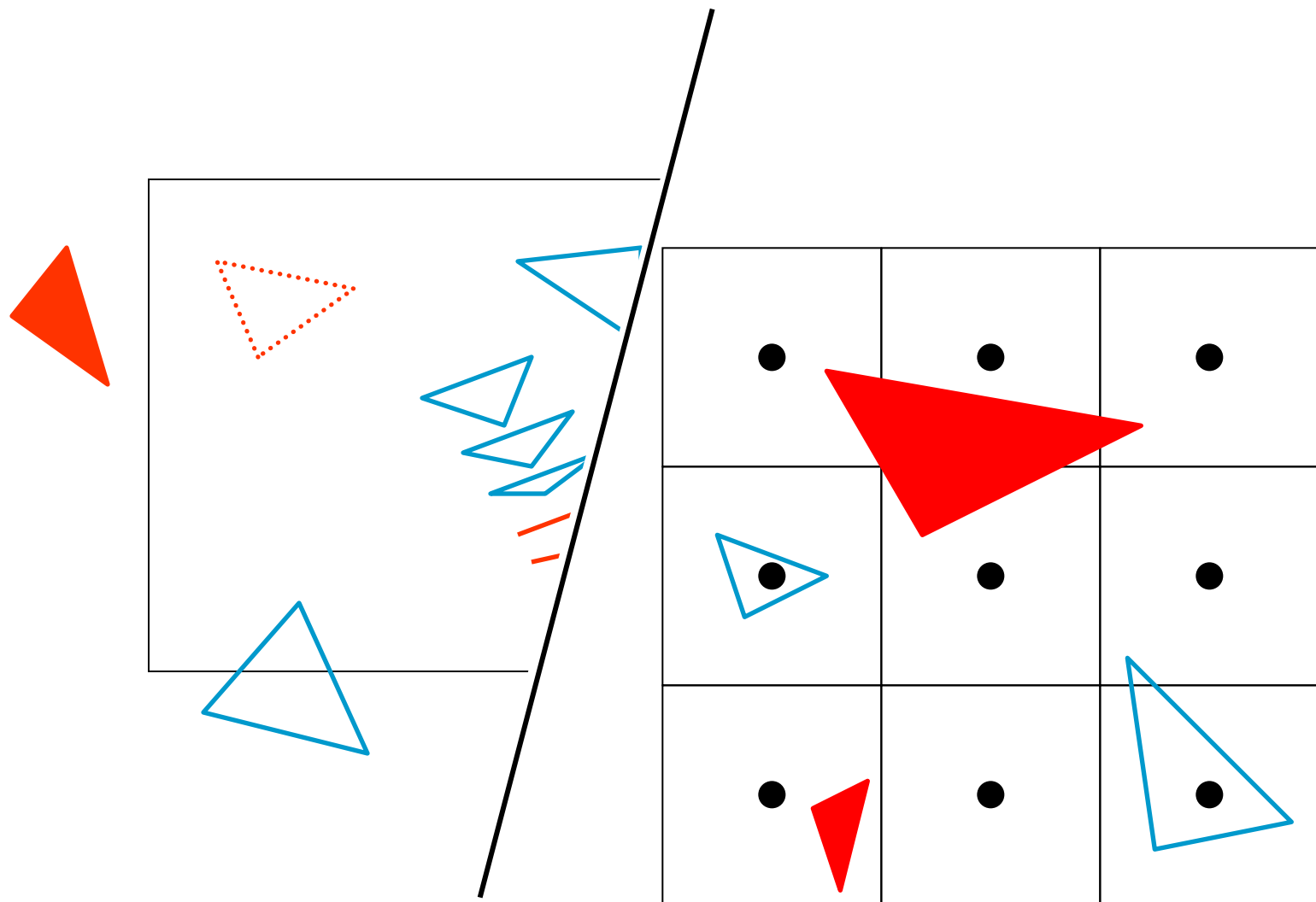
Zero Area Triangles



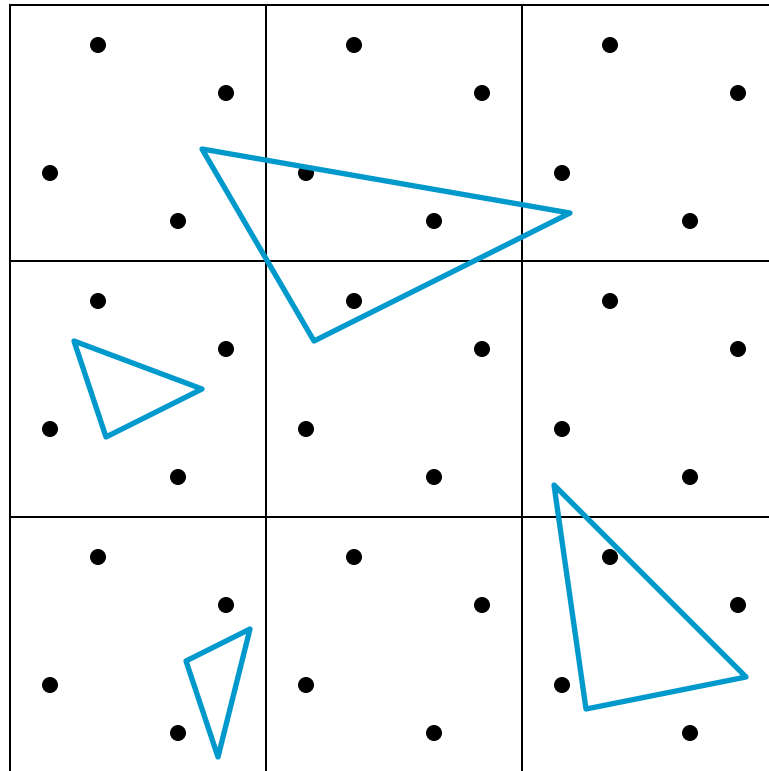
No Pixel Triangles



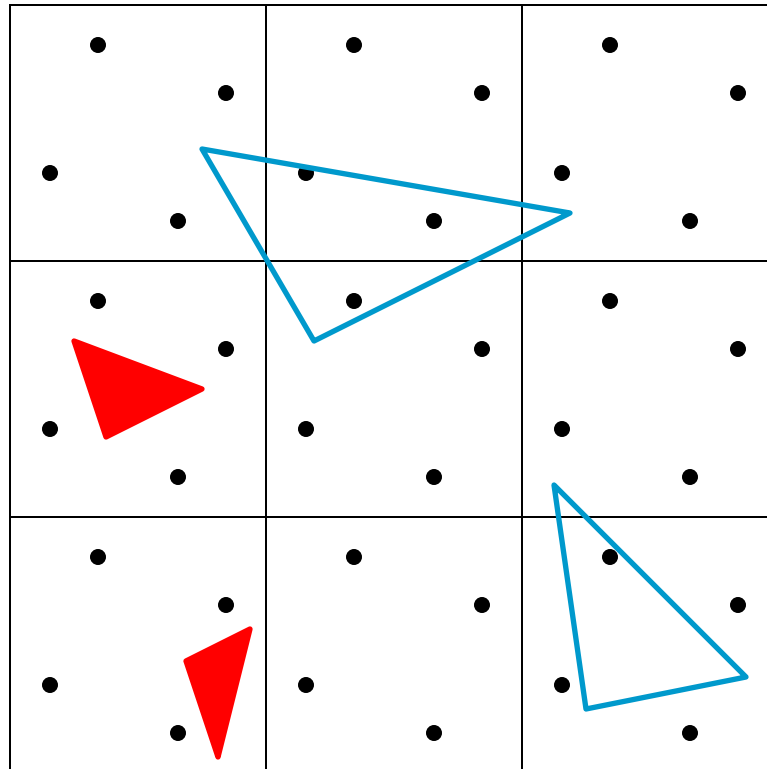
Triangle Culling



Multisampling adds some complications...



Culled



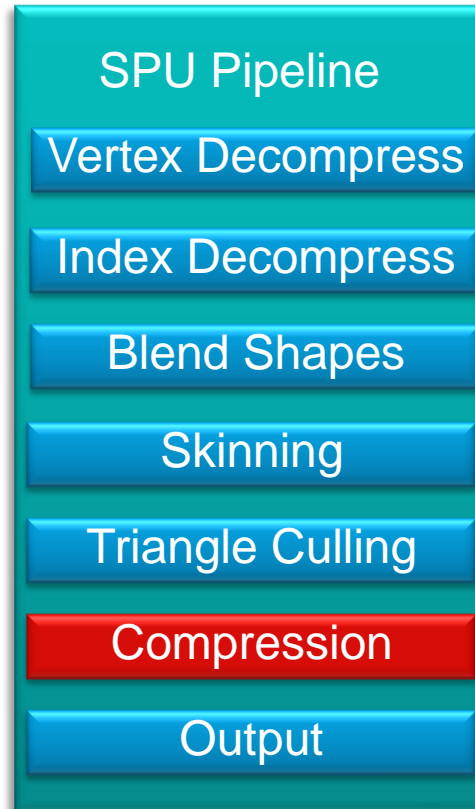


Triangle Culling

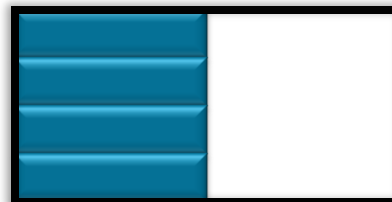
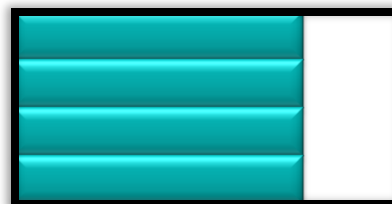
10% to 20%

Performance Improvement

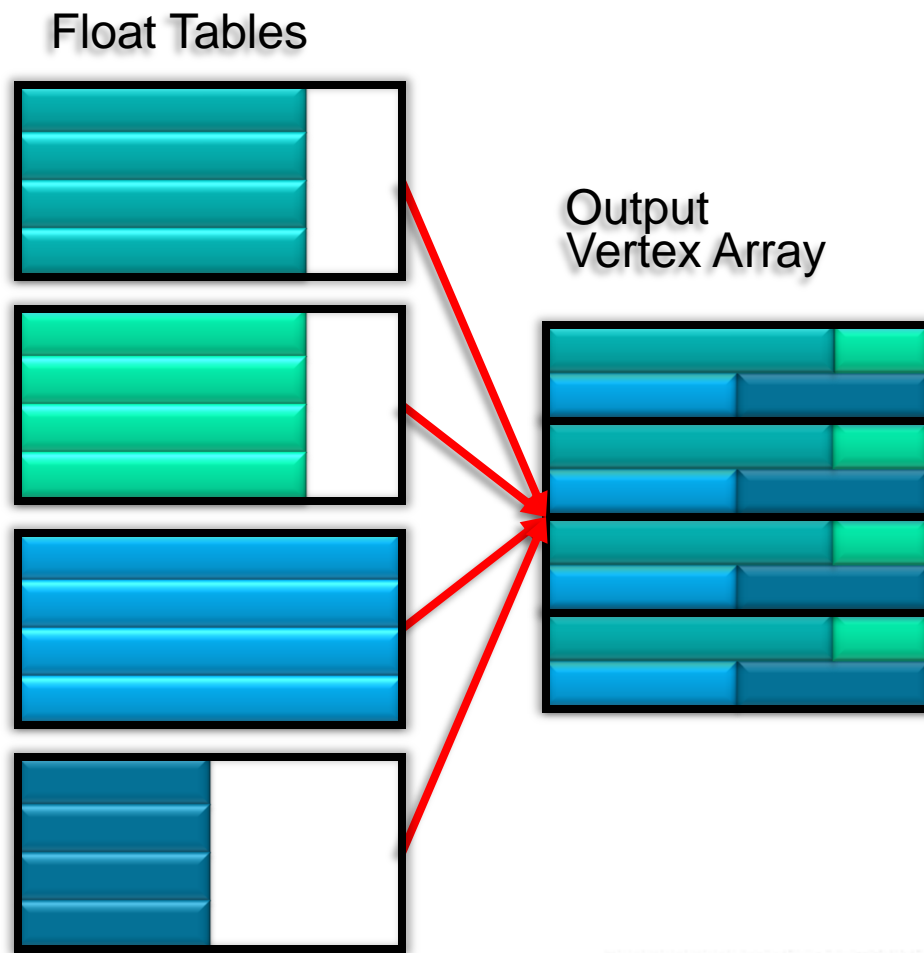
Compression for Output



Float Tables



When done, the vertex attributes are compressed into one output stream





Offline Tools Layout

High Level

Standalone Executable

Mid Level

Utility Functions
Collada Framework

Low Level

Geometry Partitioner
Cache-Optimizer



Geometry Runtime Details



“Just in Time” Single Buffer Strategy

- ⊕ SPU generate data in same frame as RSX consumes it
- ⊕ System tuned so that the RSX rarely waits on SPU
- ⊕ $\text{SPU} \leftrightarrow \text{RSX}$ synchronization in place to handle rare cases



Geometry System Rendering Sequence

⌚ On the PPU

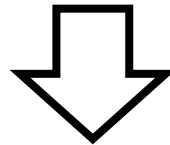
- ⌚ Create a SPURS job
- ⌚ Place most RSX commands in the command buffer
- ⌚ Leave space in the RSX command buffer for the SPU to fill in later

⌚ On the SPU

- ⌚ Process geometry
- ⌚ Write final commands to RSX command buffer

Synchronization Techniques

RSX \leftrightarrow SPU synchronization
by manipulation of put pointer



RSX \leftrightarrow SPU synchronization
through “local stalls”

RSX Best Practices

Thursday 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Room 3001, West Hall



```
void cellSpursJobMain(CellSpursJobContext* stInfo,
    CellSpursJob256 *job)
{
    edgeInitialize(...);
    edgeDecompressVertexes(...);
    edgeProcessBlendShapes(...);
    edgeSkinVertexes(...);
    edgeDecompressIndexes(...);
    edgeTransformVertexesForCull(...);
    edgeCullTriangles(...);
    if(!edgeAllocateOutputSpace(...))
        return;
    edgeOutputIndexes();
    edgeCompressVertexes();
    edgeOutputVertexes();
    edgeFillPushBufferHole(...);
}
```



```
void WaveVertexes(float *positions, unsigned numVertexes,
float t)
{
    for(unsigned i = 0; i < numVertexes; ++i)
        positions[i*4+0] +=
            sinf(t + positions[i*4+0] +
                positions[i*4+1]) * 10.f;
}
```



```
void cellSpursJobMain(CellSpursJobContext* stInfo,  
    CellSpursJob256 *job)  
{  
    edgeInitialize(...);  
    edgeDecompressVertexes(...);  
    edgeProcessBlendShapes(...);  
    edgeSkinVertexes(...);  
  
    WaveVertexes(...);  
    edgeDecompressIndexes(...);  
    edgeTransformVertexesForCull(...);  
    edgeCullTriangles(...);  
    if(!edgeAllocateOutputSpace(...))  
        return;  
    edgeOutputIndexes();  
    edgeCompressVertexes();  
    edgeOutputVertexes();  
    edgeFillPushBufferHole(...);  
}
```




Software Pipelined C with SPU Intrinsics

```
do
{
    m1  = in1;
    in1 = si_lqx(pIn1, offset);
    m2  = in2;
    in2 = si_lqx(pIn2, offset);
    m3  = in3;
    in3 = si_lqx(pIn3, offset);
    temp2 = si_selb(m3, m1, mask_0X00);
    si_stqx(out1, pOut1, offset);
    temp3 = si_selb(m2, m1, mask_00X0);
    si_stqx(out2, pOut2, offset);
    temp1 = si_selb(m1, m2, mask_0X00);
    si_stqx(out3, pOut3, offset);
    offset = si_ai(offset, 0x30);
    out2 = si_shufb(m2, temp2, qs_bCaD);
    out1 = si_selb(temp1, m3, mask_00X0);
    out3 = si_shufb(m3, temp3, qs_caBD);
} while(si_to_int(offset) != 0);
```



Software Pipelined C with SPU Intrinsics

```
do
{
    m1  = in1;
    in1 = si_lqx(pIn1, offset);
    m2  = in2;
    in2 = si_lqx(pIn2, offset);
    m3  = in3;
    in3 = si_lqx(pIn3, offset);
    temp2 = si_selb(m3, m1, mask_0X00);
    si_stqx(out1, pOut1, offset);
    temp3 = si_selb(m2, m1, mask_00X0);
    si_stqx(out2, pOut2, offset);
    temp1 = si_selb(m1, m2, mask_0X00);
    si_stqx(out3, pOut3, offset);
    offset = si_ai(offset, 0x30);
    out2 = si_shufb(m2, temp2, qs_bCaD);
    out1 = si_selb(temp1, m3, mask_00X0);
    out3 = si_shufb(m3, temp3, qs_caBD);
} while(si_to_int(offset) != 0);
```

20x faster than
straight C/C++



```
EDGE_DECOMPRESS_INIT_GLOBAL (...);  
EDGE_DECOMPRESS_INIT_F32 (EDGE_ATTRIBUTE_USAGE_POSITION, ...);  
EDGE_DECOMPRESS_INIT_F16 (EDGE_ATTRIBUTE_USAGE_GENERIC, ...);  
EDGE_DECOMPRESS_LOAD_COMMON ();  
do  
{  
    EDGE_DECOMPRESS_LOOP_START ();  
    EDGE_DECOMPRESS_LOOP_F32 (...);  
    EDGE_DECOMPRESS_LOOP_F16 (...);  
    EDGE_DECOMPRESS_LOOP_END ();  
} while (! EDGE_DECOMPRESS_LOOP_DONE ());  
EDGE_DECOMPRESS_FINALIZE_F32 (...);  
EDGE_DECOMPRESS_FINALIZE_F16 (...);
```



PLAYSTATION®Edge Geometry Performance

	Cycles / Triangle
Vertex Decompression	10.5
Index Decompression	12.3
Blend Shapes (per shape)	11.0
Vertex Transform + Triangle Culling	30.4
Matrix Palette Skinning	34.4



1 SPU

WWW.GDCONF.COM



1 SPU

800,000+
Triangles Per Frame
at **60** Frames per Second



1 SPU

800,000+
Triangles Per Frame
at **60** Frames per Second

60% of which are culled!



PLAYSTATION®Edge

Beta Release

MARCH 2007



GCM Replay

SCE World Wide Studios

WWW.GDCONF.COM

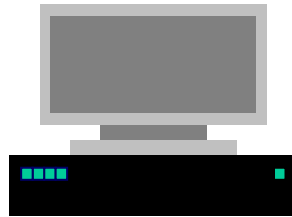


GCM Replay

- ⌘ GCM Replay is a new tool for RSX
 - ⌘ Analysis
 - ⌘ Debugging
 - ⌘ Profiling

GCM Replay - Overview

Game + libgcmReplay.a

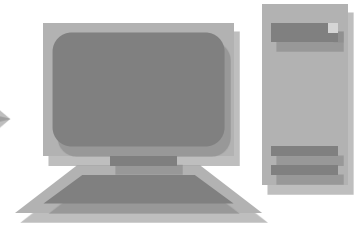


PS3 Dev-Tool



PS3 Dev-Tool

GCM Replay



Host PC

- ⊕ GCM Replay consists of two parts
 - ⊕ Small PS3 runtime library
 - ⊕ Main Application - runs on a Windows PC + PS3 Dev-Tool



GCM Replay - Overview

- ④ Uses RSX rather than simulation
- ④ Supports highly detailed analysis
 - ④ Far greater than a typical real-time profiler would allow
 - ④ Supporting scene-wide analysis
 - ④ To the analysis of individual draw calls, vertices and pixels
- ④ Focus on off-line performance analysis features
 - ④ Many of which have never been available before



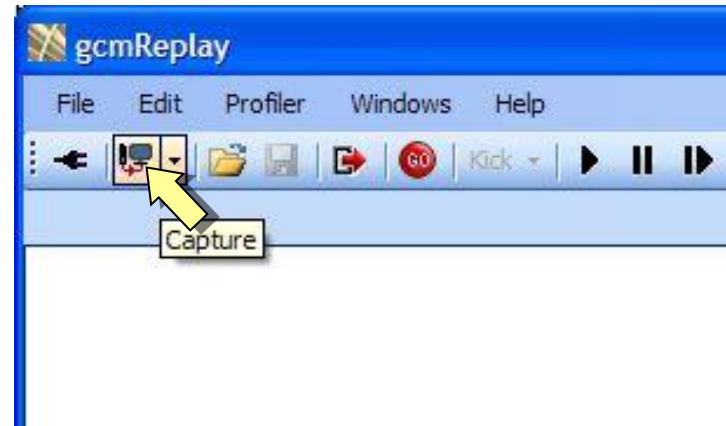
GCM Replay

Workflow and Behind the Scenes

GCM Replay - Overview

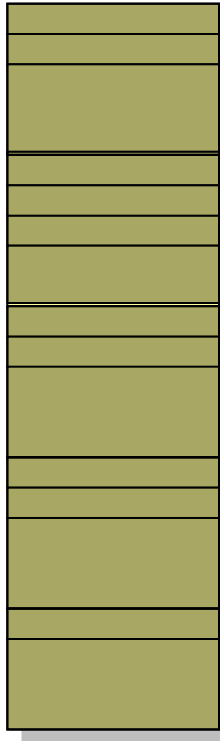
- ③ Run your game with the GCM Replay runtime linked in
- ③ Once you reach a point of interest...

Hit Capture



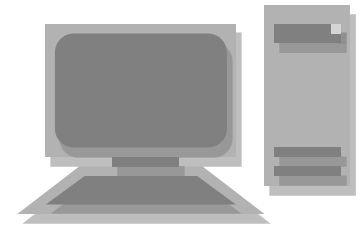
Capturing the Command Buffer

Command Buffer



Command Buffer
Memory

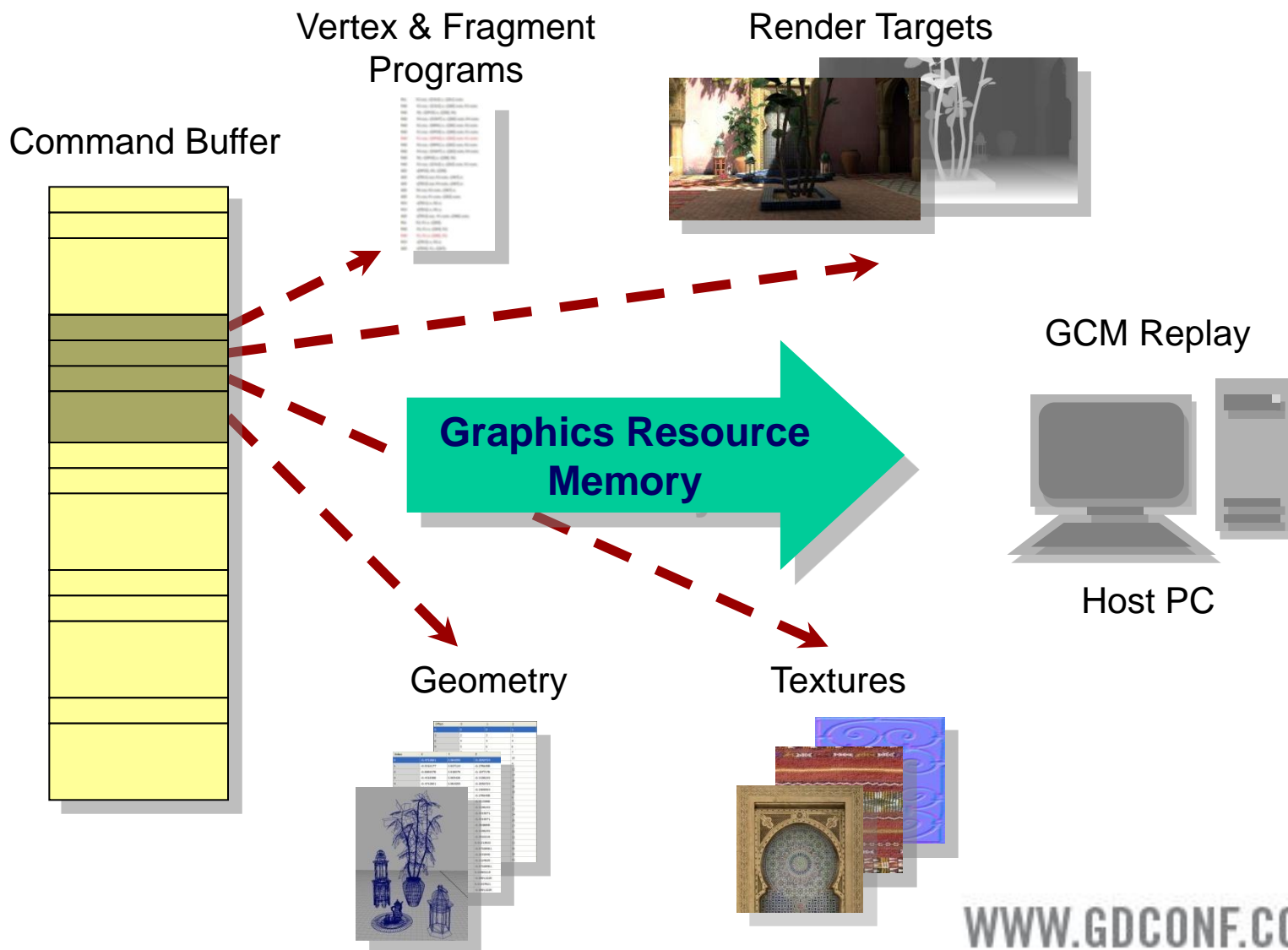
GCM Replay



Host PC

- ⌚ GCM Replay will traverse the Command Buffer
- ⌚ Transfer Command Buffer Memory to the PC
- ⌚ Each command is analysed

Capturing the Command Buffer





Capturing the Command Buffer

- ⦿ Once the process is complete - GCM Replay has all the data it needs to

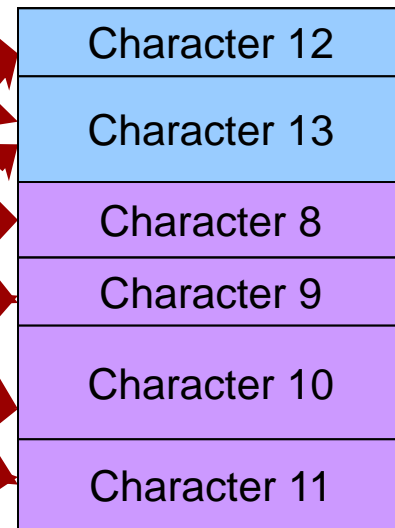
REPLAY your Command Buffer

Capturing the Command Buffer

Command Buffer



Ring Buffer

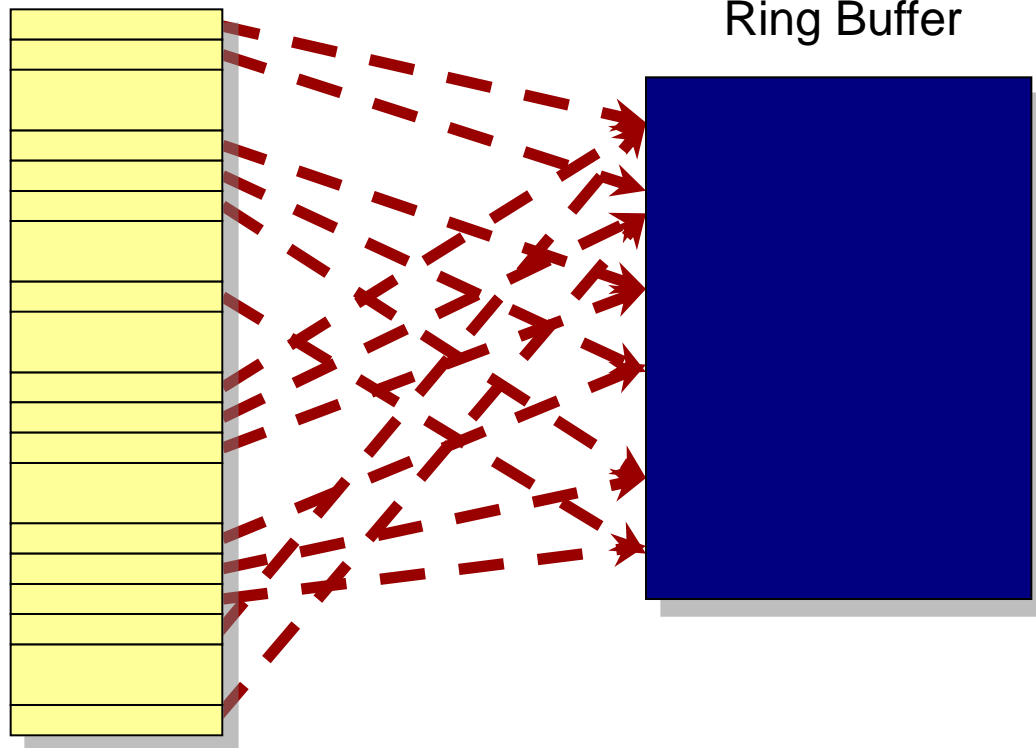


- ⦿ Capturing the Command Buffer can be very complex

Capturing the Command Buffer

Command Buffer

Ring Buffer



- ⌚ All RSX usage models can be captured with GCM Replay



GCM Replay Integration

- ⌚ Only takes a few minutes
- ⌚ At initialisation

// Initialise the capture API

```
cellGcmReplay::Network::Init();  
cellGcmReplay::Capture::Init();
```



GCM Replay Integration

⌚ Then every frame...

// Call a single heartbeat function

```
cellGcmReplay::Heartbeat(&yourContext);
```

⌚ Add optional annotations

// Useful for adding semantics

```
cellGcmReplay::InsertDebugString("Bloom Pass");
```



GCM Replay Captures

Analyse it immediately

OR

Save for analysis later



GCM Replay Application

Screenshot of the GCM Replay Application interface showing a list of API commands, a raw view of the command stream, and a 3D render target display.

API List:

- // Draw context 0, Clear (00000001) /* Clear...
- // Draw context 1, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 2, Clear (0000000F) /* Clear /*
- // Draw context 3, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 4, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 5, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 6, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 7, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 8, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 9, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 10, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 11, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 12, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 13, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 14, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 15, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 16, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 17, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 18, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 19, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 20, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 21, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 22, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 23, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 24, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 25, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 26, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 27, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 28, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 29, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 30, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 31, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 32, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 33, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 34, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...
- // Draw context 35, DrawElements (kDrawTrian...

Raw View:

Address	Command	Data	Comment
		01010101	Index buffer address
			Offset = 0x038fe800
		01010101	Index buffer format
			Format = kIndex16
			Context = VIDEO MEMORY
80218438	01010101		
		01010101	Begin draw
			Mode = kDrawTriangles
80218440	01010101		
		01010101	Draw elements
			Offset = 0
			Count = 256
		01010101	Draw elements
			Offset = 256
			Count = 256
		01010101	Draw elements
			Offset = 512
			Count = 256
		01010101	Draw elements
			Offset = 768
			Count = 72
80218454	01010101		
8021845c	01010101		End draw

Render State:

DrawElements (kDrawTriangles, 0, 840) : Draw context 11

Render target 1, 1280x720, kMultisample

Vertex program 4

Fragment program 4

(0) Vertex array 54, 038fe000, 3xkAttribFloat, 56
(0) Vertex array 55, 038fe00c, 3xkAttribHalfFloat, 56
(0) Vertex array 56, 038fe014, 3xkAttribHalfFloat, 56
(0) Vertex array 57, 038fe01c, 3xkAttribHalfFloat, 56
(0) Vertex array 58, 038fe024, 3xkAttribFloat, 56

Texture 30, 043f6000, 512x512, mip=10, D
Texture 34, 04440800, 512x512, mip=10, D
Texture 35, 044a1600, 512x512, mip=10, F
Texture 3, 07580000, 64x64, mip=1, DPT1
Texture 36, 044cc100, 256x256, mip=9, RG

Render Targets:

Render target 0
Depth-Stencil buffer
Render target 1
Color buffer 0
Depth-Stencil buffer
Render target 2
Color buffer 0
Render target 3
Color buffer 0
Render target 4
Color buffer 0
Render target 5
Color buffer 0
Render target 6
Color buffer 0
Render target 7
Color buffer 0
Render target 8
Color buffer 0
Render target 9
Color buffer 0
Render target 10
Color buffer 0
Render target 11
Color buffer 0
Render target 12
Color buffer 0
Render target 13
Color buffer 0

CB0, Address=00394000 Context=VIDEO MEMORY Pitch=5120
Width=1280 Height=720 Multisample=kMultisampleNone
Format=RGB, (R 0 G 0 B 0)

Output:

Output Problems

Push-Buffer Overview:

Category	Size	Size minus redundancy	% of total size
Vertex program	20088	17924	22
Vertex program constant	11232	7420	12
Fragment program	840	648	1

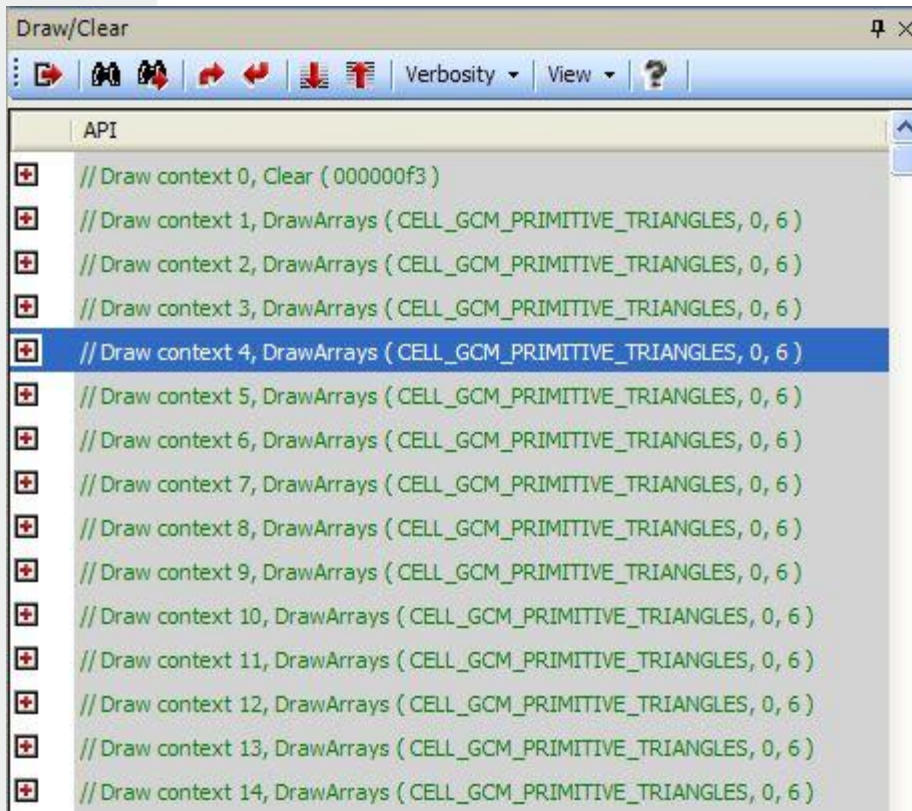
Push-Buffer Overview | Significant Redundancy | Detailed Redundancy



GCM Replay

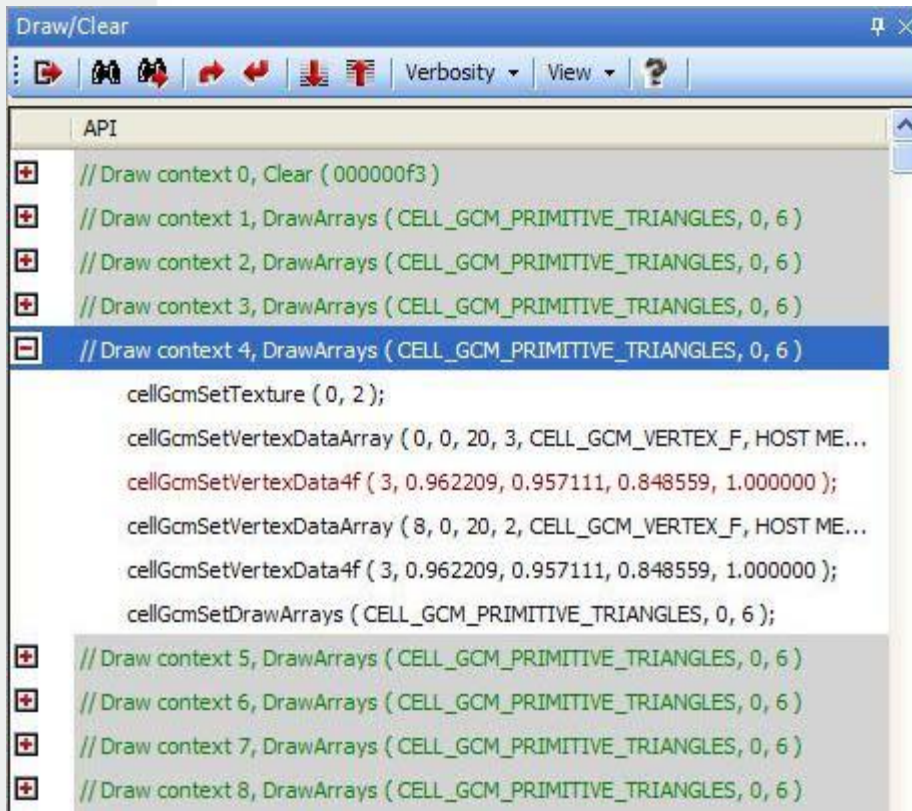
Analysis and Debugging Views

Draw Context View



- Provides primary means of Command Buffer navigation
- Lists all Draw / Clear calls
- Plus their associated setup state

Draw Context View



The screenshot shows a window titled "Draw/Clear" with a toolbar containing icons for navigation and settings. Below the toolbar is a list of draw contexts, each with a plus or minus icon to its left. The list is as follows:

- + // Draw context 0, Clear (000000f3)
- + // Draw context 1, DrawArrays (CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6)
- + // Draw context 2, DrawArrays (CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6)
- + // Draw context 3, DrawArrays (CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6)
- // Draw context 4, DrawArrays (CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6)

Below the list, the API calls for the selected context (4) are displayed:

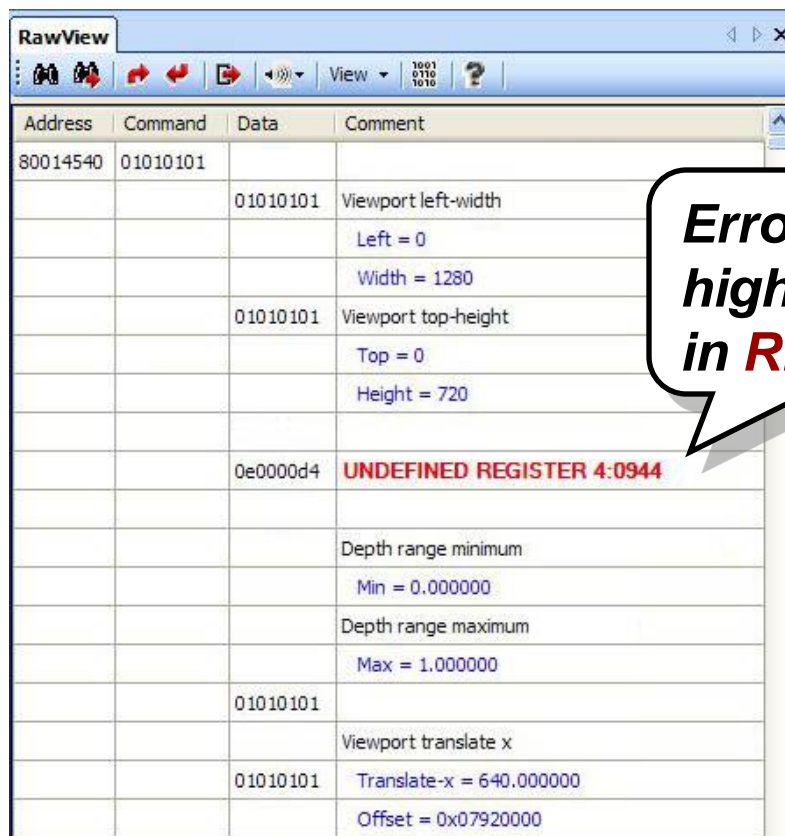
```
cellGcmSetTexture ( 0, 2 );
cellGcmSetVertexDataArray ( 0, 0, 20, 3, CELL_GCM_VERTEX_F, HOST ME...
cellGcmSetVertexData4f ( 3, 0.962209, 0.957111, 0.848559, 1.000000 );
cellGcmSetVertexDataArray ( 8, 0, 20, 2, CELL_GCM_VERTEX_F, HOST ME...
cellGcmSetVertexData4f ( 3, 0.962209, 0.957111, 0.848559, 1.000000 );
cellGcmSetDrawArrays ( CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6 );
```

- + // Draw context 5, DrawArrays (CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6)
- + // Draw context 6, DrawArrays (CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6)
- + // Draw context 7, DrawArrays (CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6)
- + // Draw context 8, DrawArrays (CELL_GCM_PRIMITIVE_TRIANGLES, 0, 6)

- Expand to see your original Gcm API calls
- Full source-level disassembly
- Parameter Annotations
- User Annotations

Raw Command Buffer View

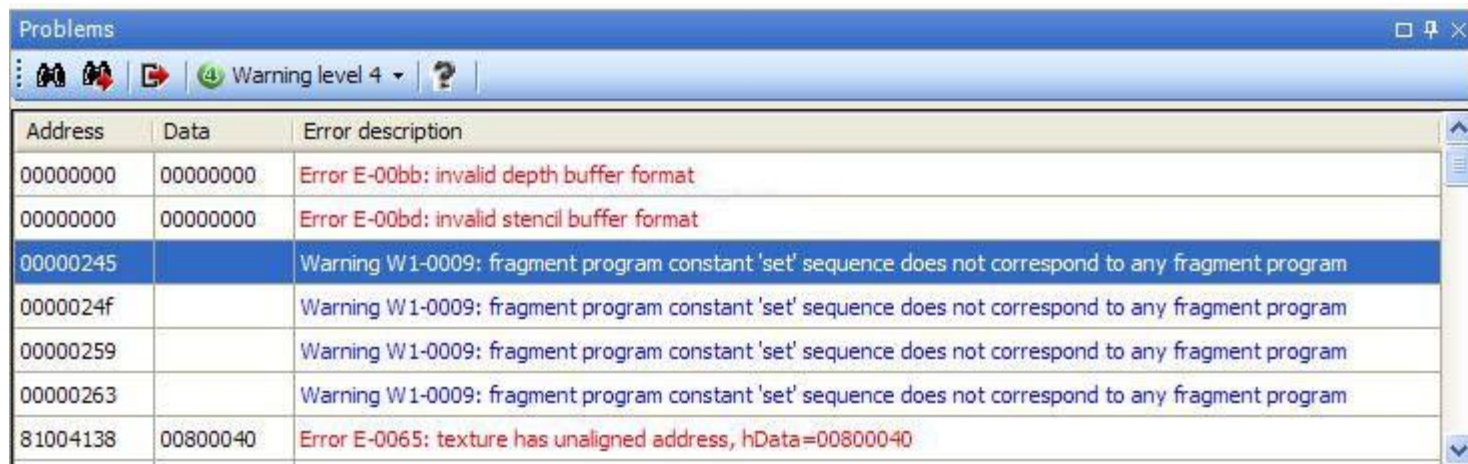
- Displays full Command Buffer disassembly



Address	Command	Data	Comment
80014540	01010101		
		01010101	Viewport left-width
			Left = 0
			Width = 1280
		01010101	Viewport top-height
			Top = 0
			Height = 720
		0e0000d4	UNDEFINED REGISTER 4:0944
			Depth range minimum
			Min = 0.000000
			Depth range maximum
			Max = 1.000000
		01010101	Viewport translate x
		01010101	Translate-x = 640.000000
			Offset = 0x07920000

**Errors
highlighted
in RED**

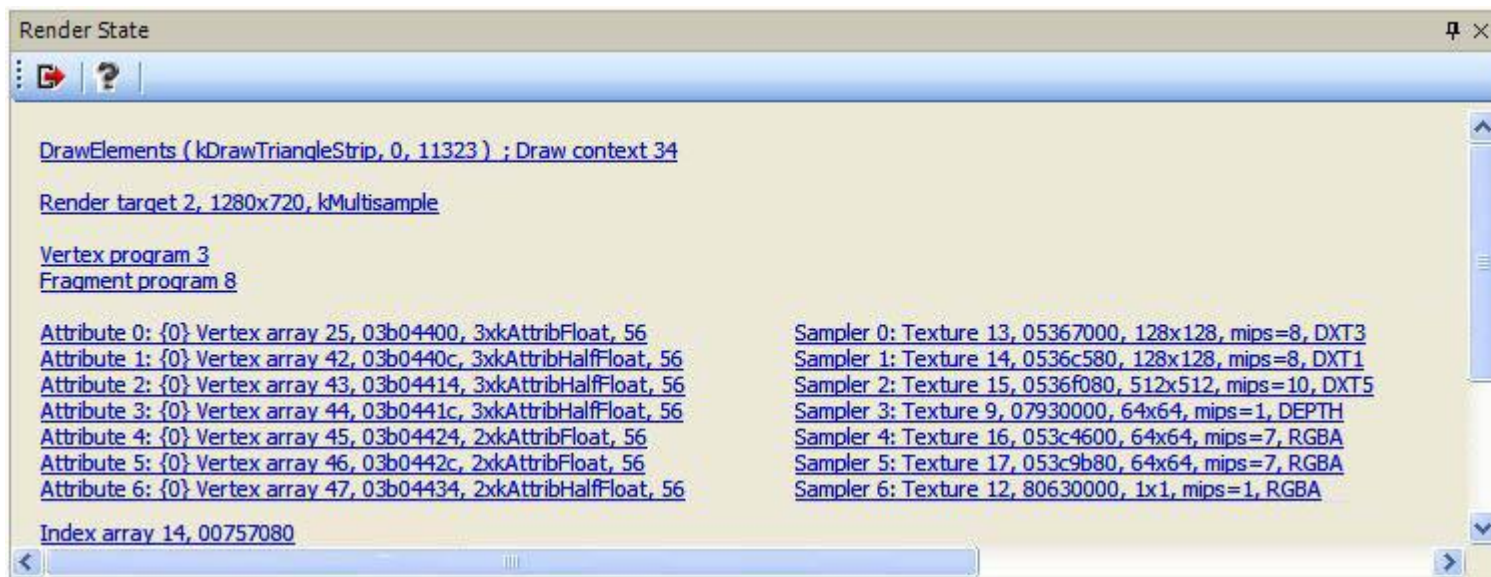
Problems View



Address	Data	Error description
00000000	00000000	Error E-00bb: invalid depth buffer format
00000000	00000000	Error E-00bd: invalid stencil buffer format
00000245		Warning W1-0009: fragment program constant 'set' sequence does not correspond to any fragment program
0000024f		Warning W1-0009: fragment program constant 'set' sequence does not correspond to any fragment program
00000259		Warning W1-0009: fragment program constant 'set' sequence does not correspond to any fragment program
00000263		Warning W1-0009: fragment program constant 'set' sequence does not correspond to any fragment program
81004138	00800040	Error E-0065: texture has unaligned address, hData=00800040

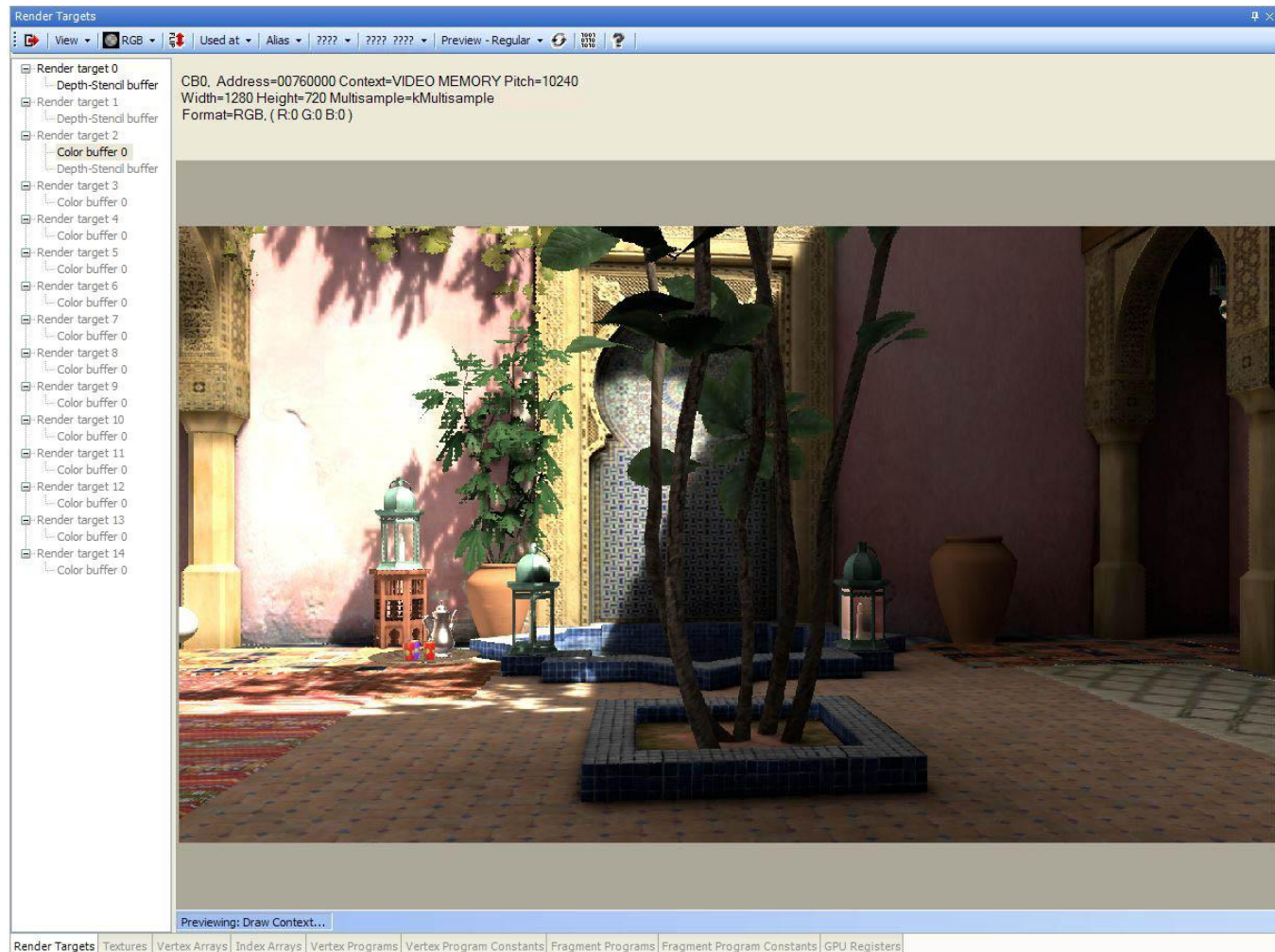
- ⌚ Summarises all warnings and errors
- ⌚ Click on problem - jump to offending Draw Context

Render State View

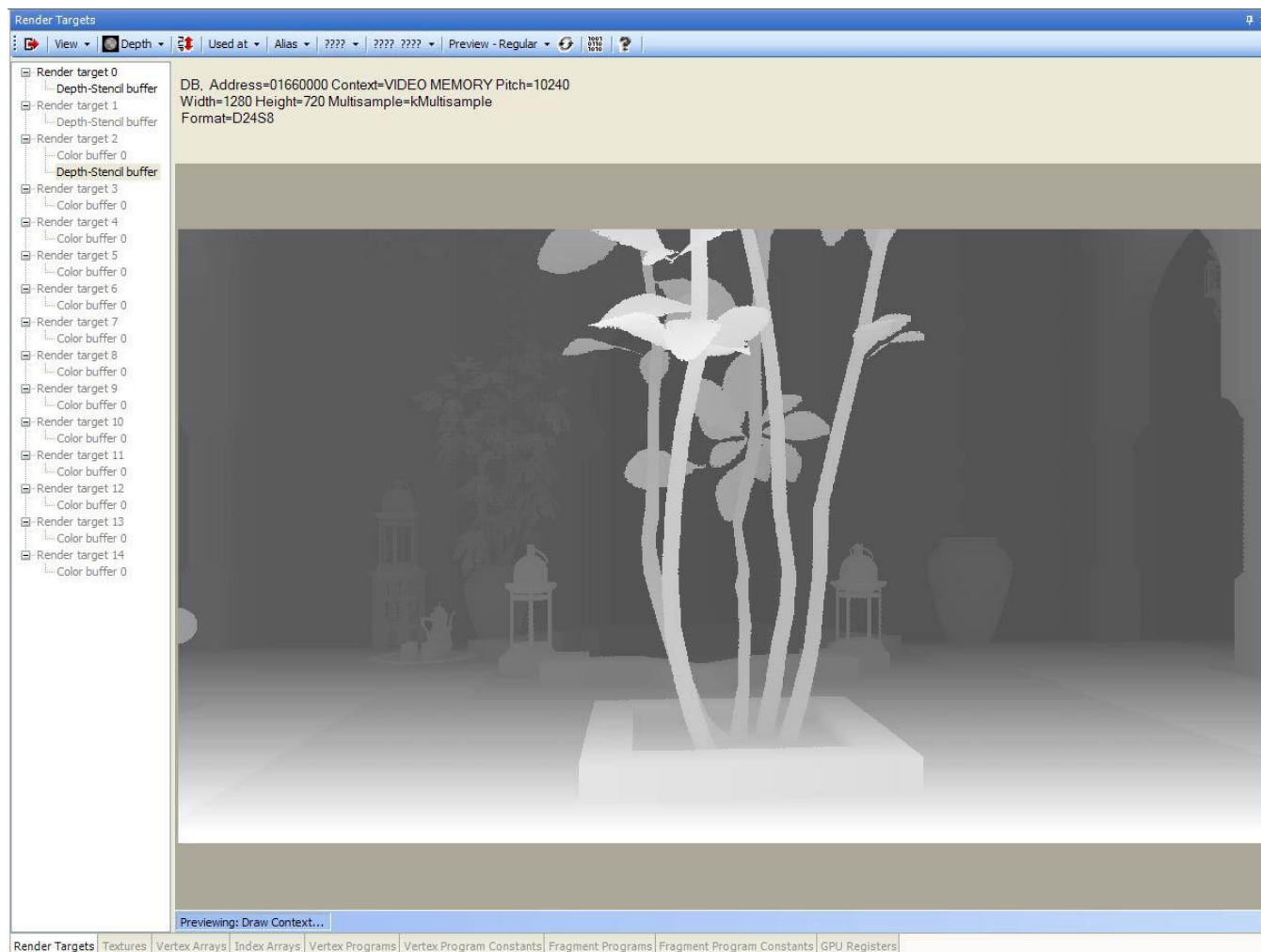


- ⦿ See all Resources referenced by current Draw Context
- ⦿ Click on [Link Label](#) to select that Resource for previewing

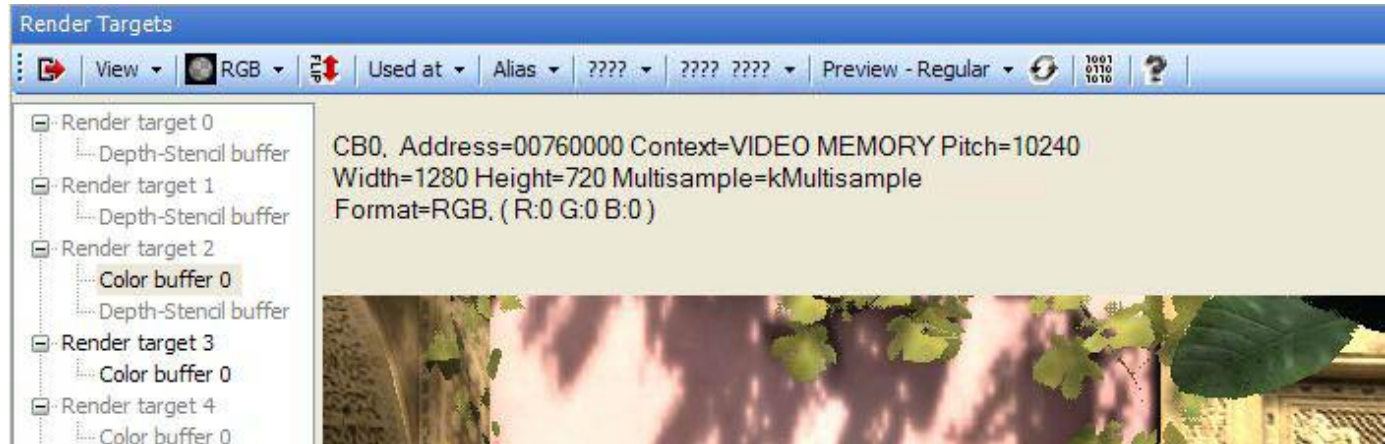
Render Targets View



Render Targets View

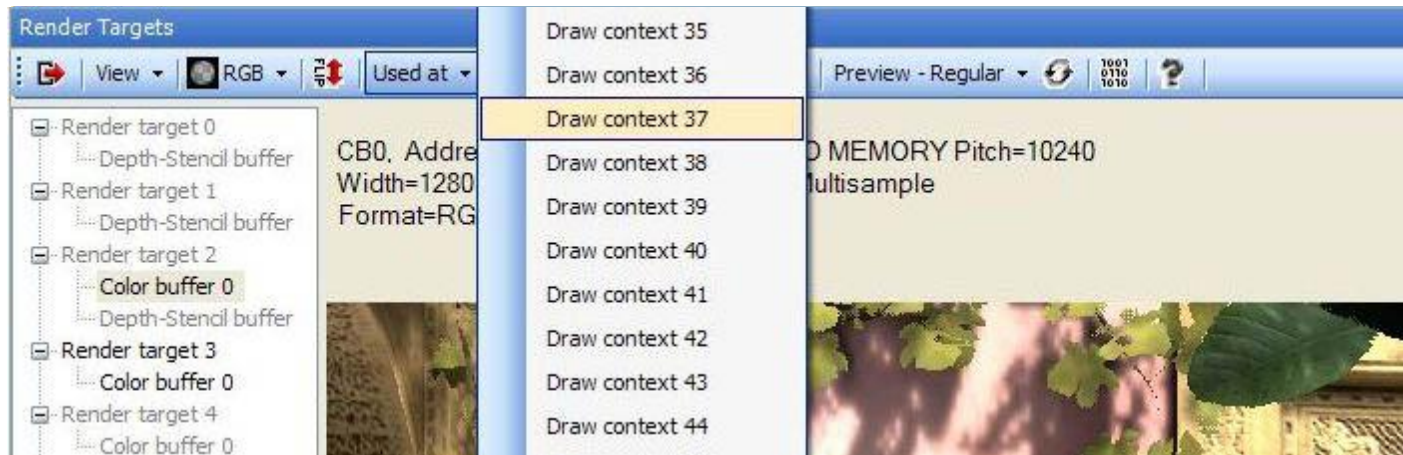


Render Targets View



- ③ Puts internal analysis results at your finger tips
- ③ So you can instantly answer...

Render Targets View



- ③ What Draw Contexts write to this Render Target?
- ③ Is this Render Target aliased as a Texture?
- ③ Is this Render Target setup for
 - ③ Double-Speed rendering?
 - ③ Early-Z optimisation?

Render Target Refresh





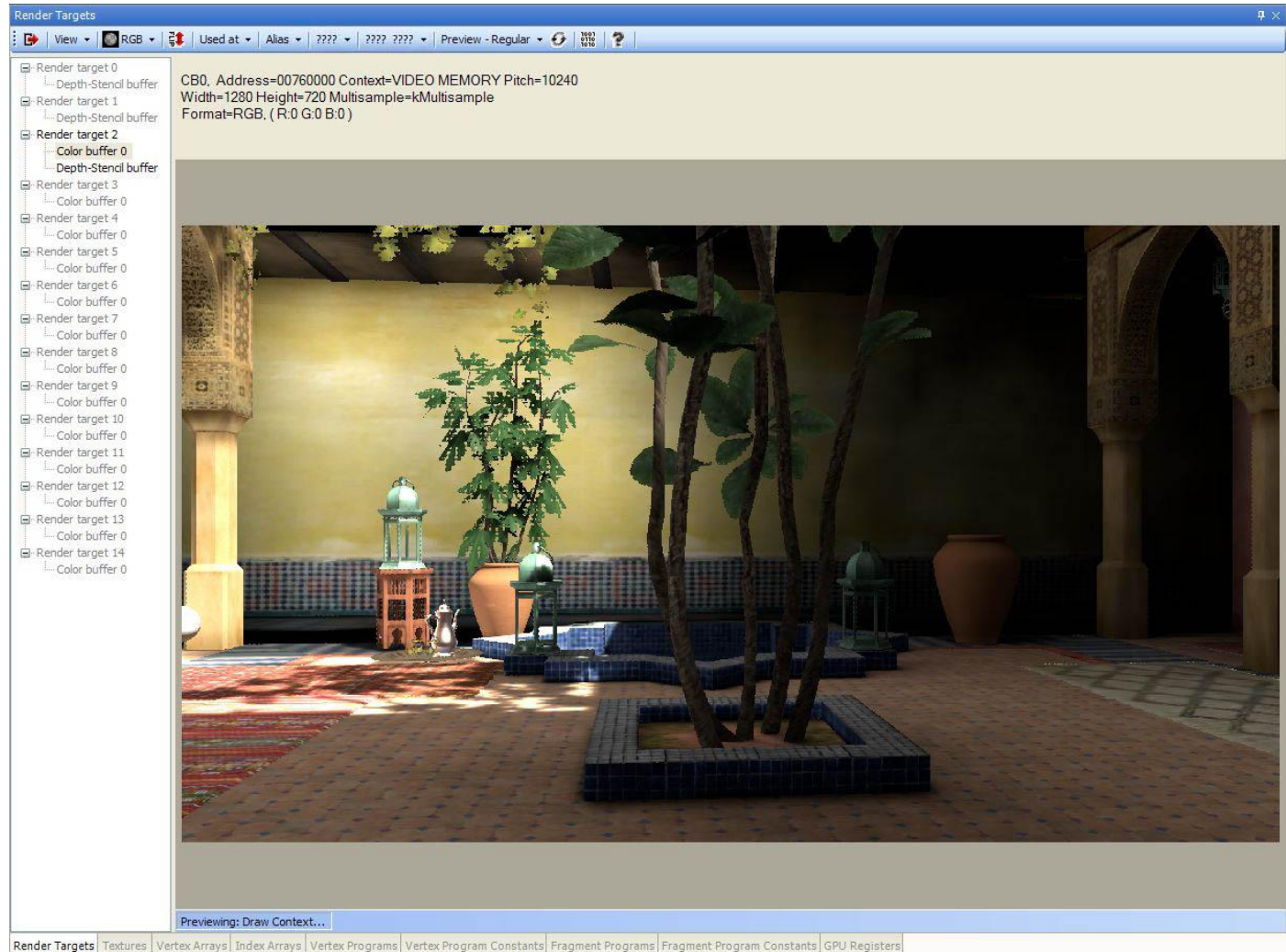
Render Target Refresh

1. Transfer Command Buffer and Resources
2. Kick Command Buffer up to the current Draw Context

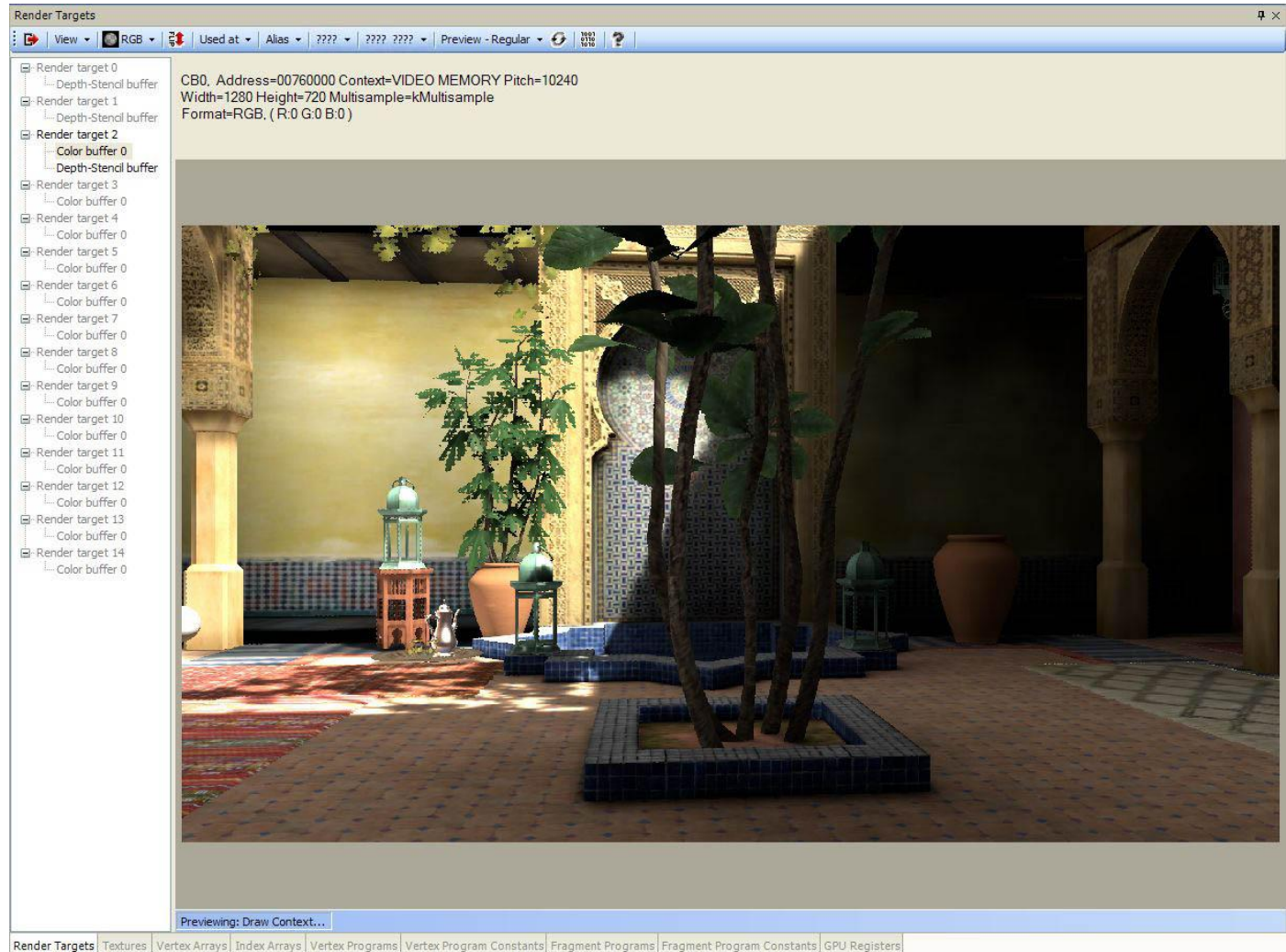
Allows you to single step your rendering process

Both forwards and backwards in time

Render Target Refresh

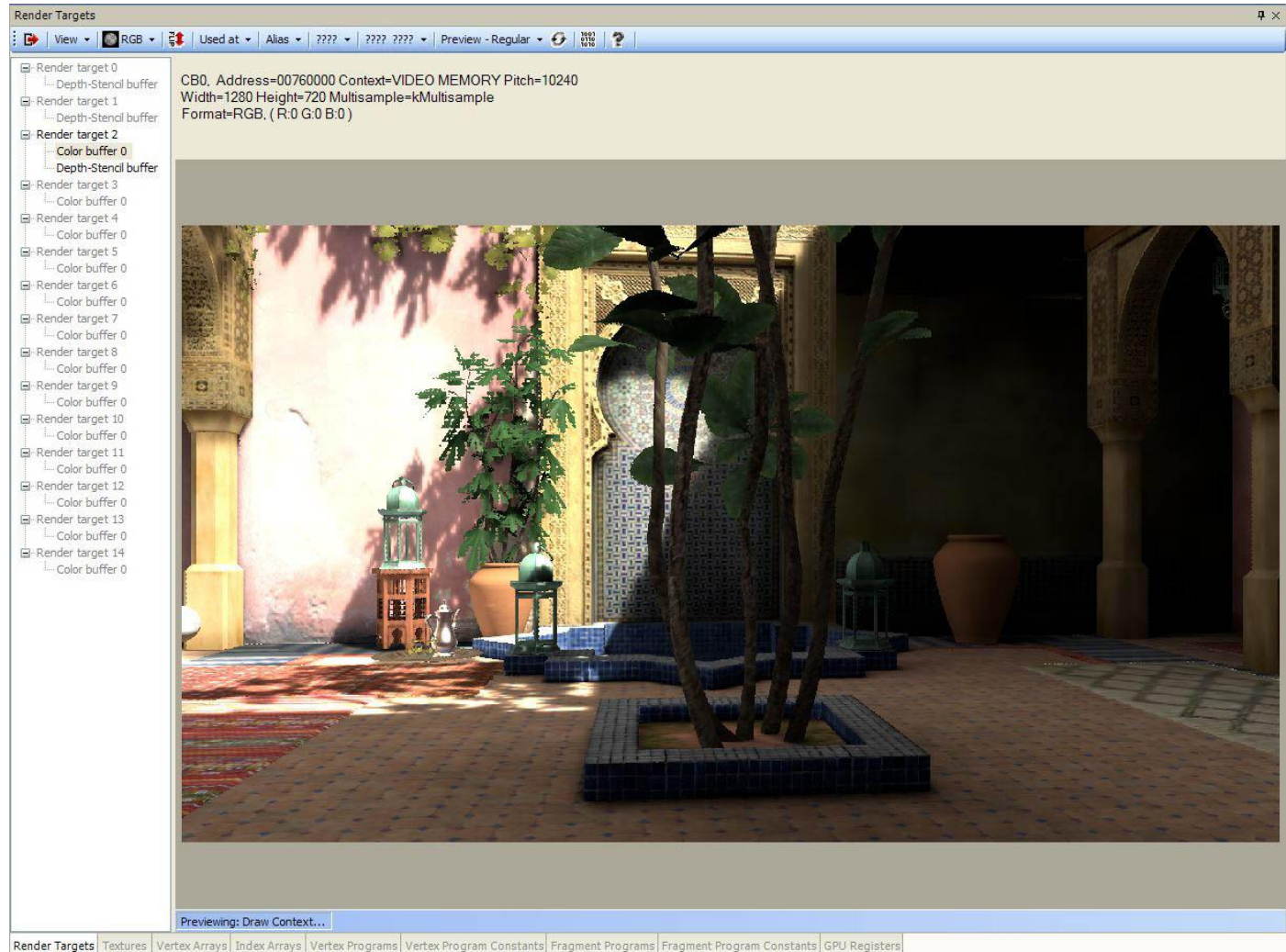


Render Target Refresh

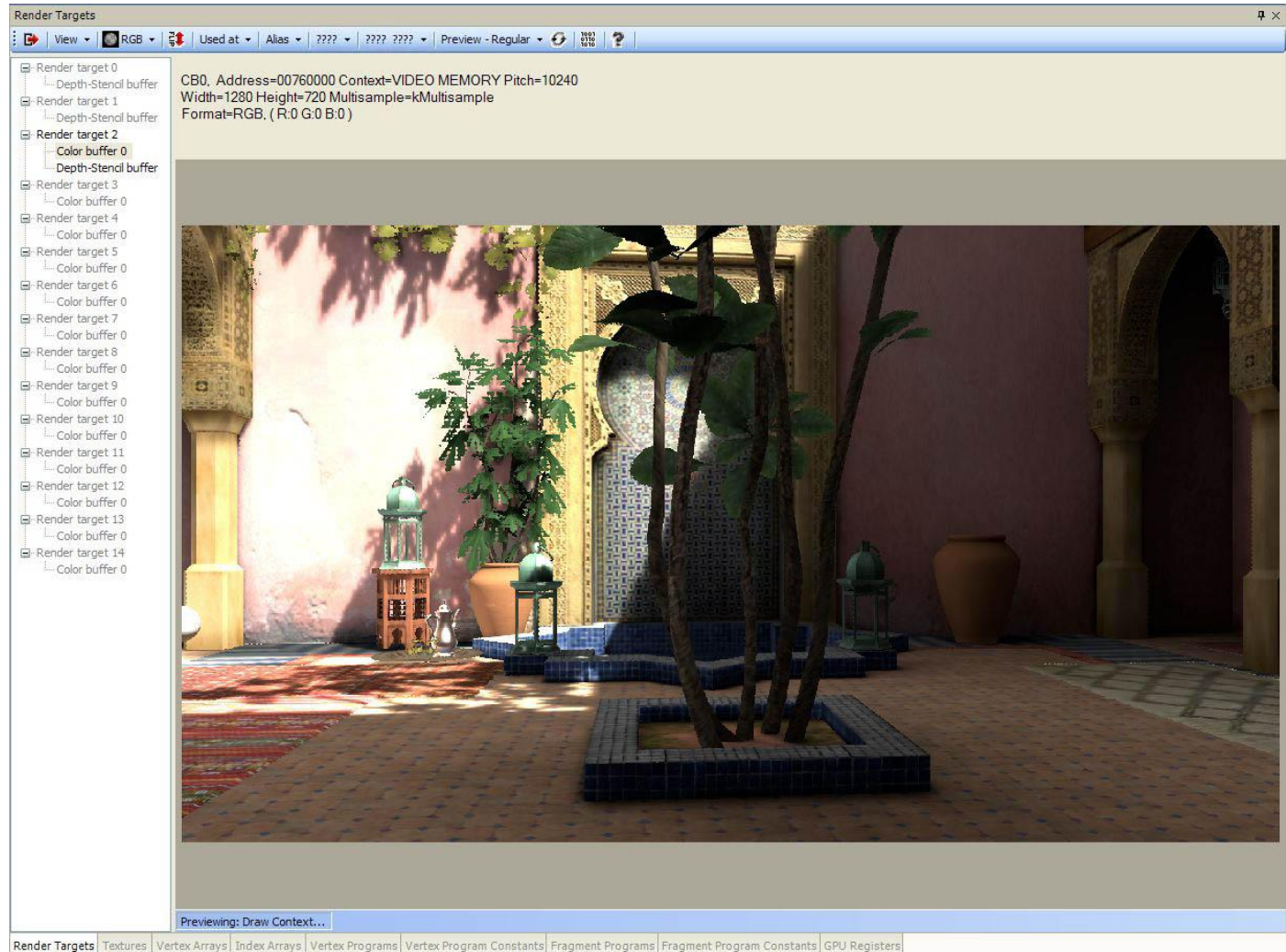




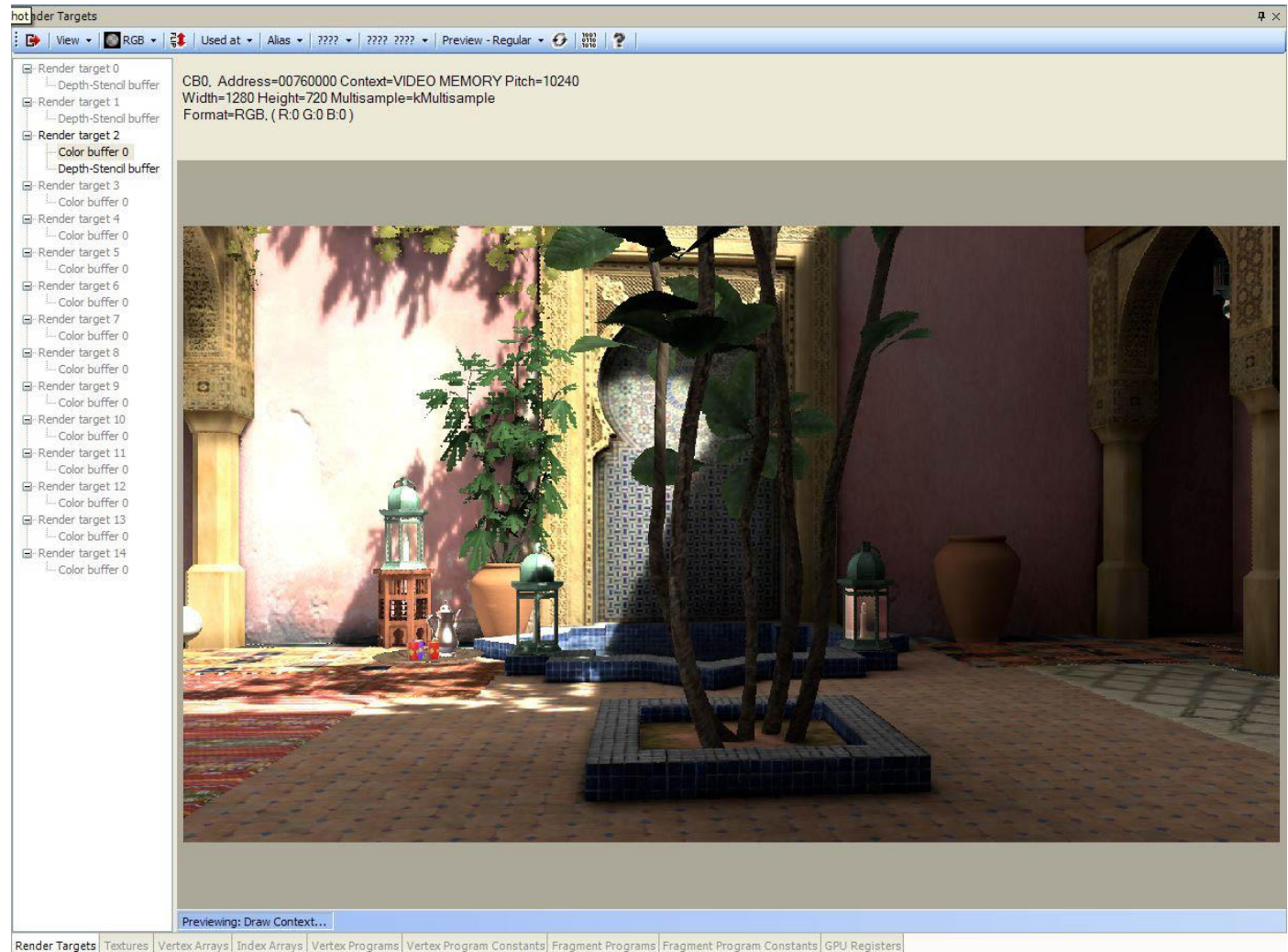
Render Target Refresh



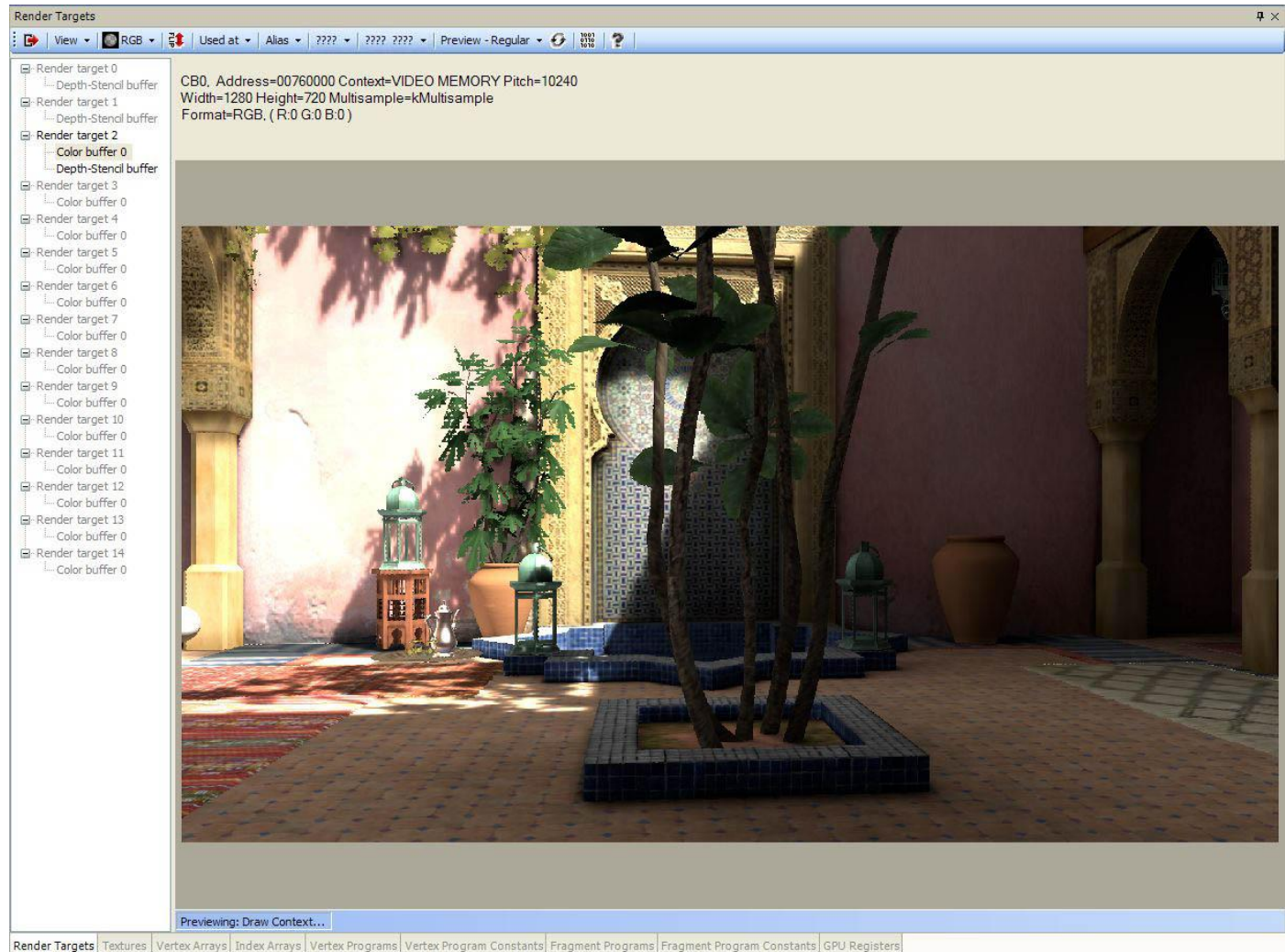
Render Target Refresh



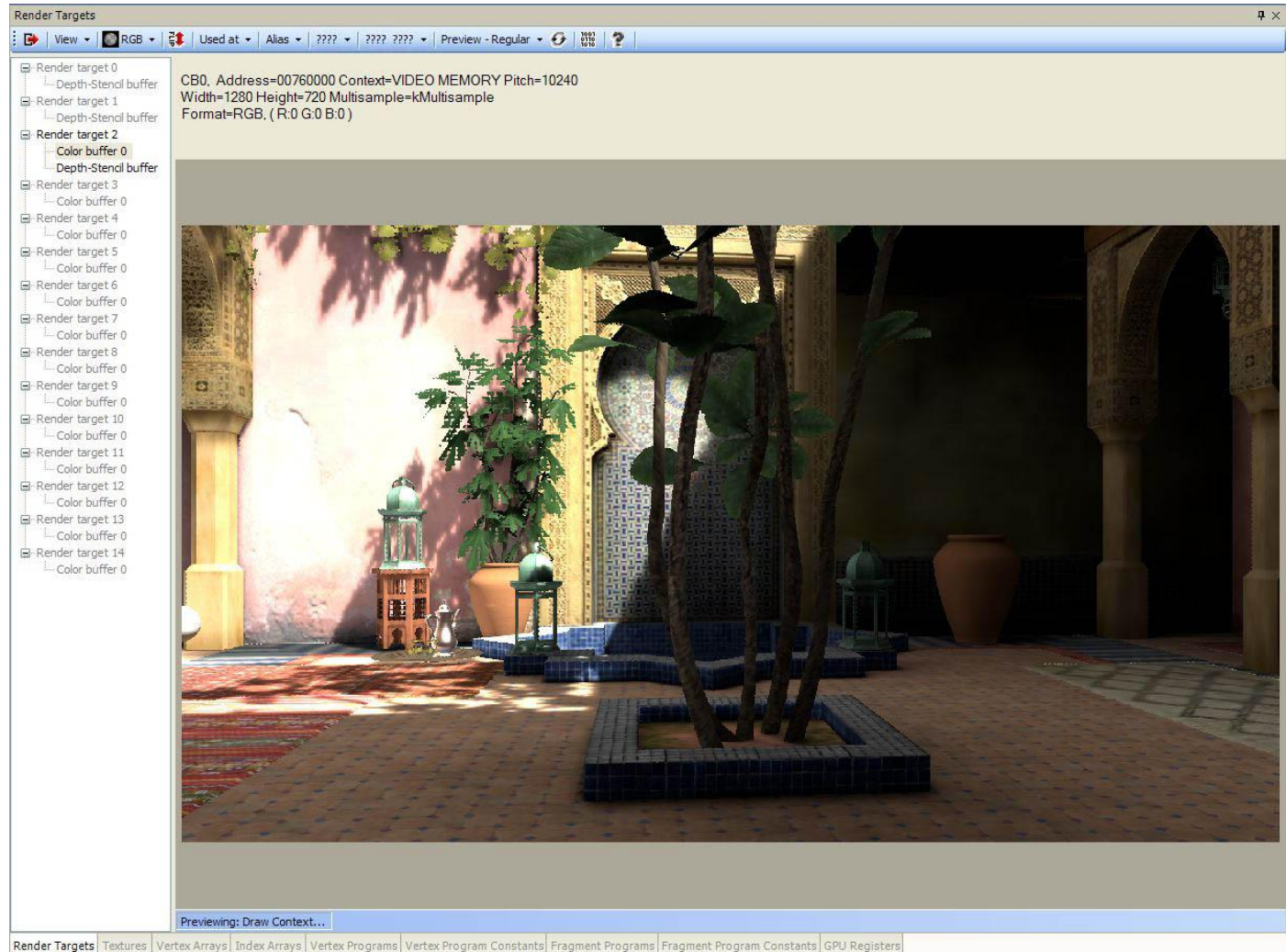
Render Target Refresh



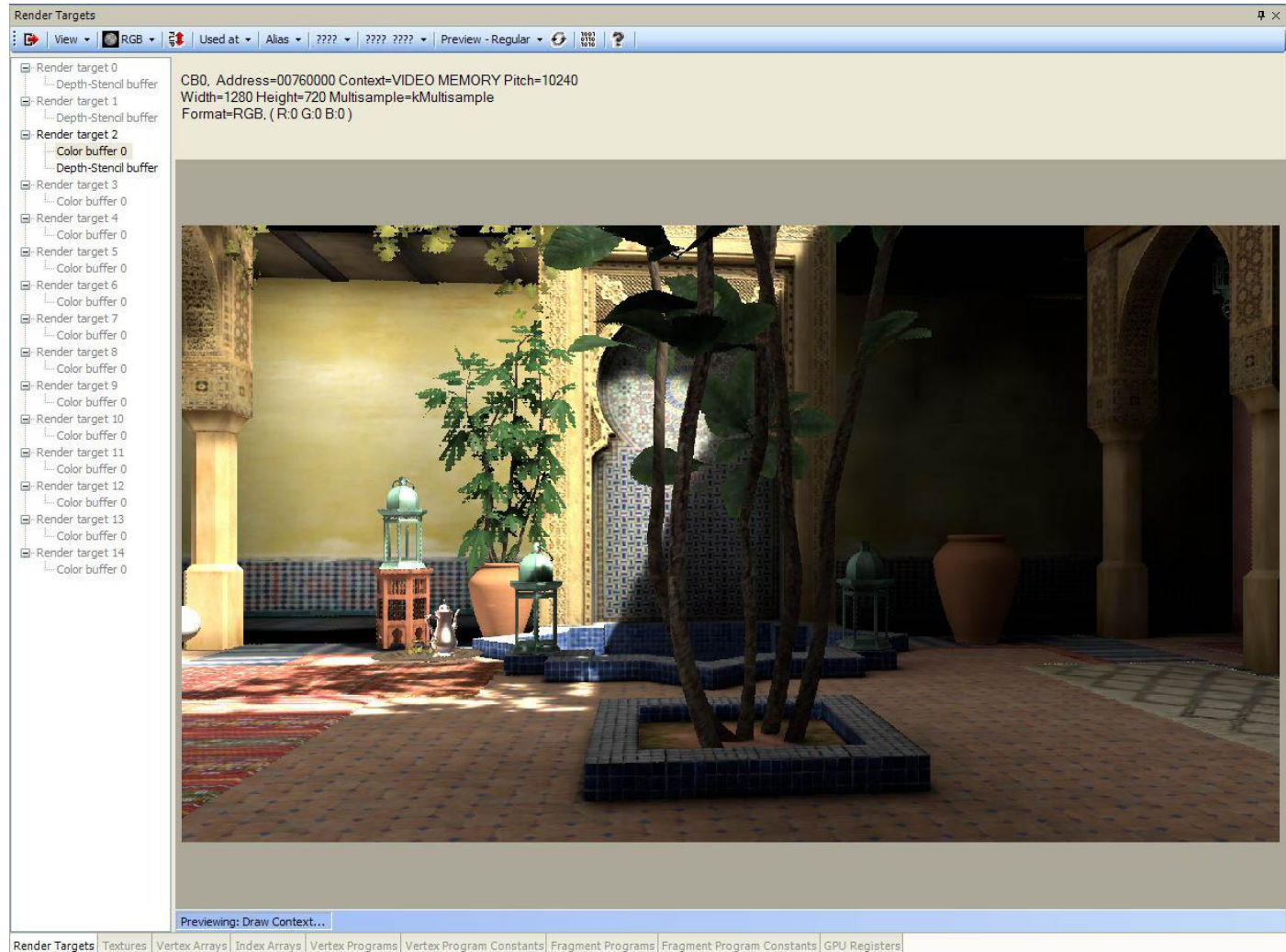
Render Target Refresh



Render Target Refresh



Render Target Refresh



Render Target Pixel Analysis

Render Targets

View RGB Used at Alias ???? ???? ???? Preview - Regular

Render target 0
Depth-Stencil buffer

Render target 1
Depth-Stencil buffer

Render target 2
Color buffer 0
Depth-Stencil buffer

Render target 3
Color buffer 0

Render target 4
Color buffer 0

Render target 5
Color buffer 0

Render target 6
Color buffer 0

Render target 7
Color buffer 0

Render target 8
Color buffer 0

Render target 9
Color buffer 0

Render target 10
Color buffer 0

Render target 11
Color buffer 0

Render target 12
Color buffer 0

Render target 13
Color buffer 0

Render target 14
Color buffer 0

CB0. Address=00010000 Context=VIDEO MEMORY Pitch=5120
Width=1280 Height=720 Multisample=kMultisample
Format=RGB. (R:0 G:0 B:0)

Actual pixel values written by RSX

Pixel [X=310, Y=458]
Color R=92,G=75,B=67
Texel [U0=0.242188, V0=0.636111, U1=0.242969, V1=0.637500]

Previewing: Draw Context...

Render Targets Textures Vertex Arrays Index Arrays Vertex Programs Vertex Program Constants Fragment Programs Fragment Program Constants GPU Registers

Render Target Memory Dump

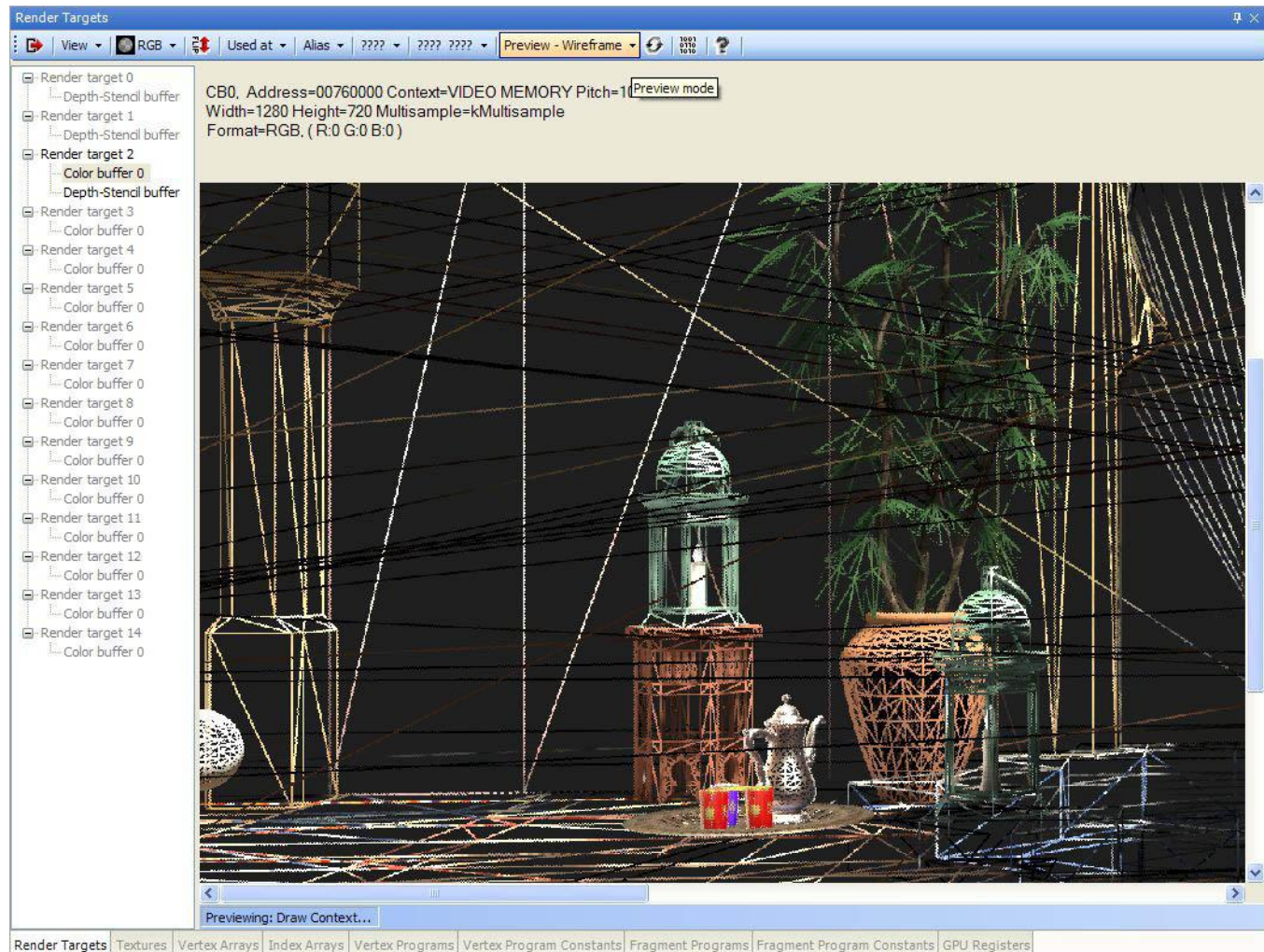
Memory dump								
VIDEO MEMORY 00010000								
Address	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
00010000	ff786242	ff7a6243	ff7b6343	ff7a6243	ff71583c	ff7d6343	ff745b3d	ff685337
00010020	ff6a5539	ff735b40	ff856b49	ff886e4b	ff7c6446	ff8c7250	ff866b4c	ff866c4c
00010040	ff967d57	ff9d805a	ff9d7f5a	ff896e4a	ff5f4c31	ff514129	ff4f4027	ff483823
00010060	ff483823	ff4f4028	ff4c3e27	ff4c3d27	ff483a25	ff413423	ff413422	ff423521
00010080	ff403520	ff473923	ff4a3b25	ff4b402a	ff423823	ff4d3f26	ff4c3e26	ff4b3e26
000100a0	ff4c3e26	ff4d4026	ff4c3e25	ff4c4026	ff4f4227	ff514229	ff4b3b25	ff42321e
000100c0	ff6d5a39	ff76623f	ff816b47	ff836d48	ff86704a	ff8c764e	ff8e764f	ff836c48
000100e0	ff715e3c	ff8e784e	ff957e52	ffac8b5d	ffa28457	ff997c51	ffa28458	ff28231c
00010100	ff4e412f	ff8f744a	ff816a45	ff625135	ff675436	c9827744	be878248	be838147



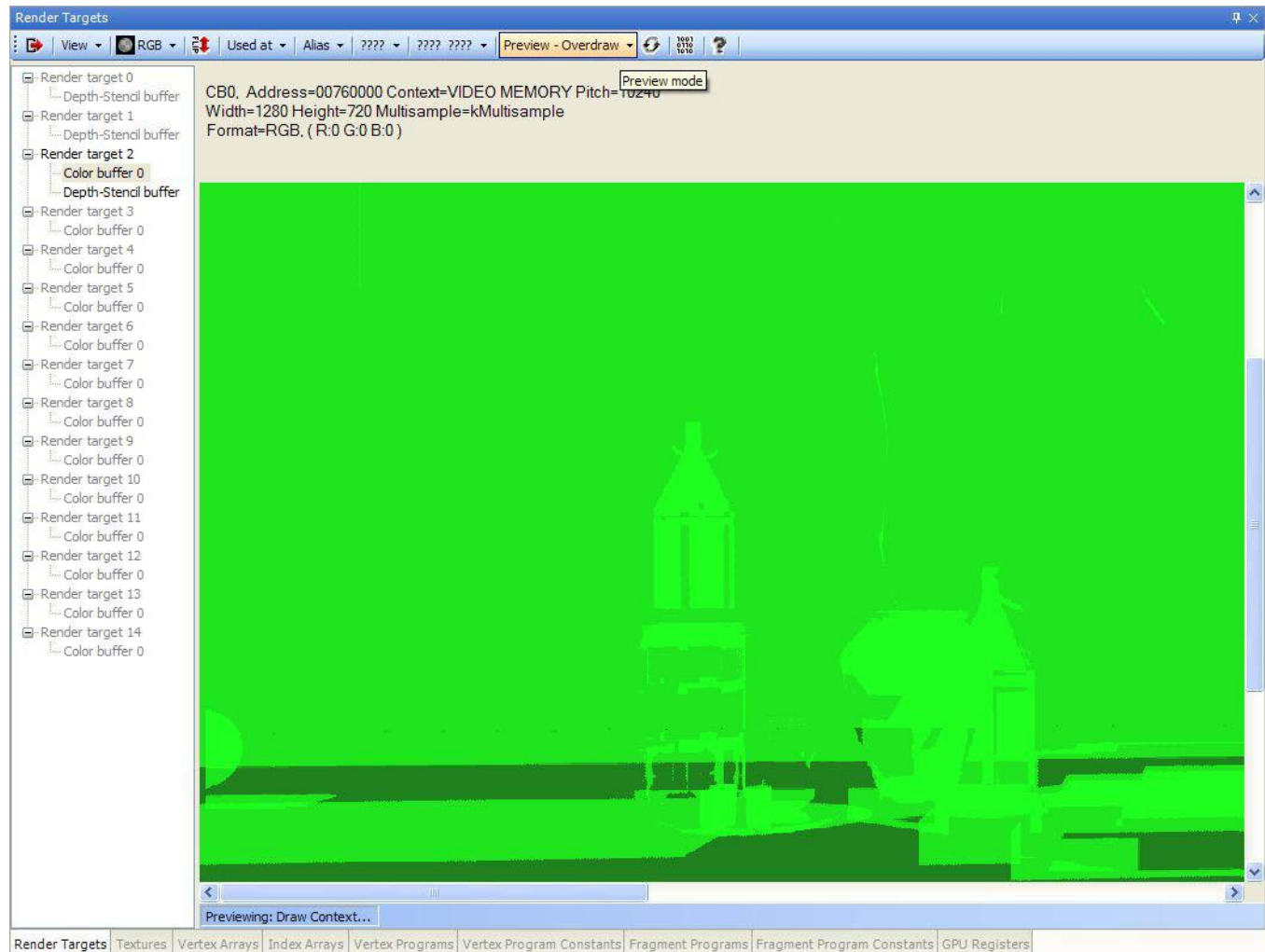
Preview Render Target

***Modify the Command Buffer before
its kicked***

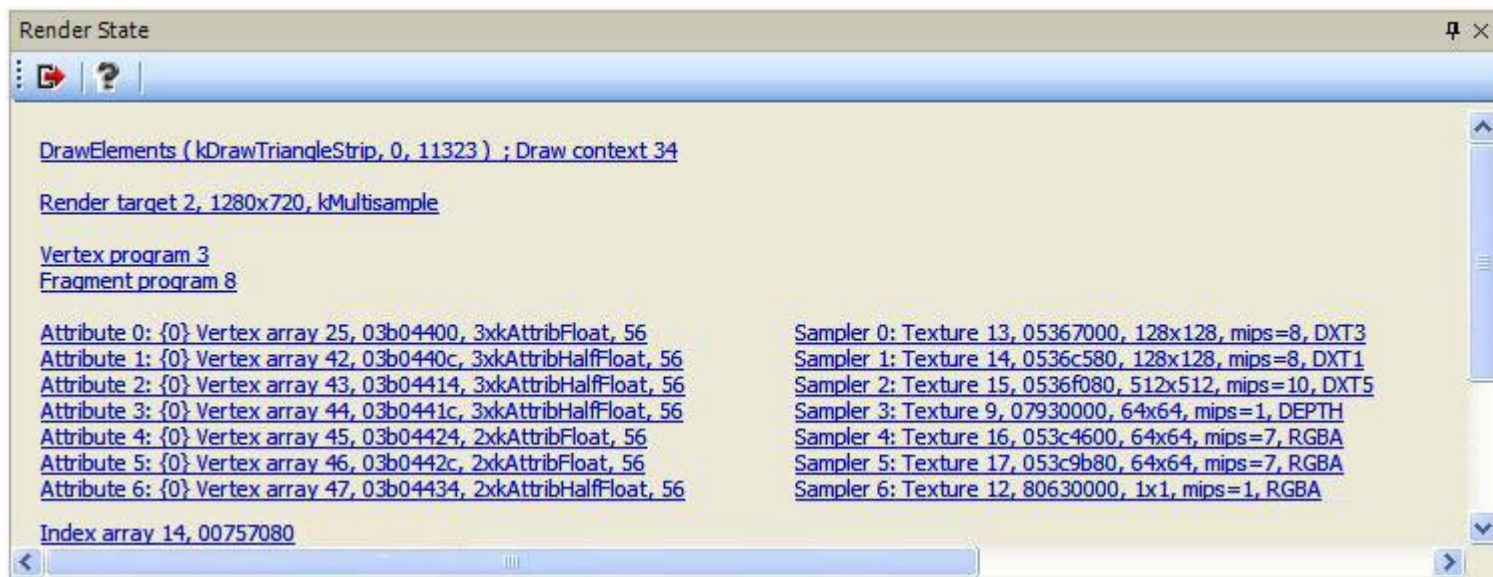
Preview Render Target as Wireframe



Preview Render Target Overdraw

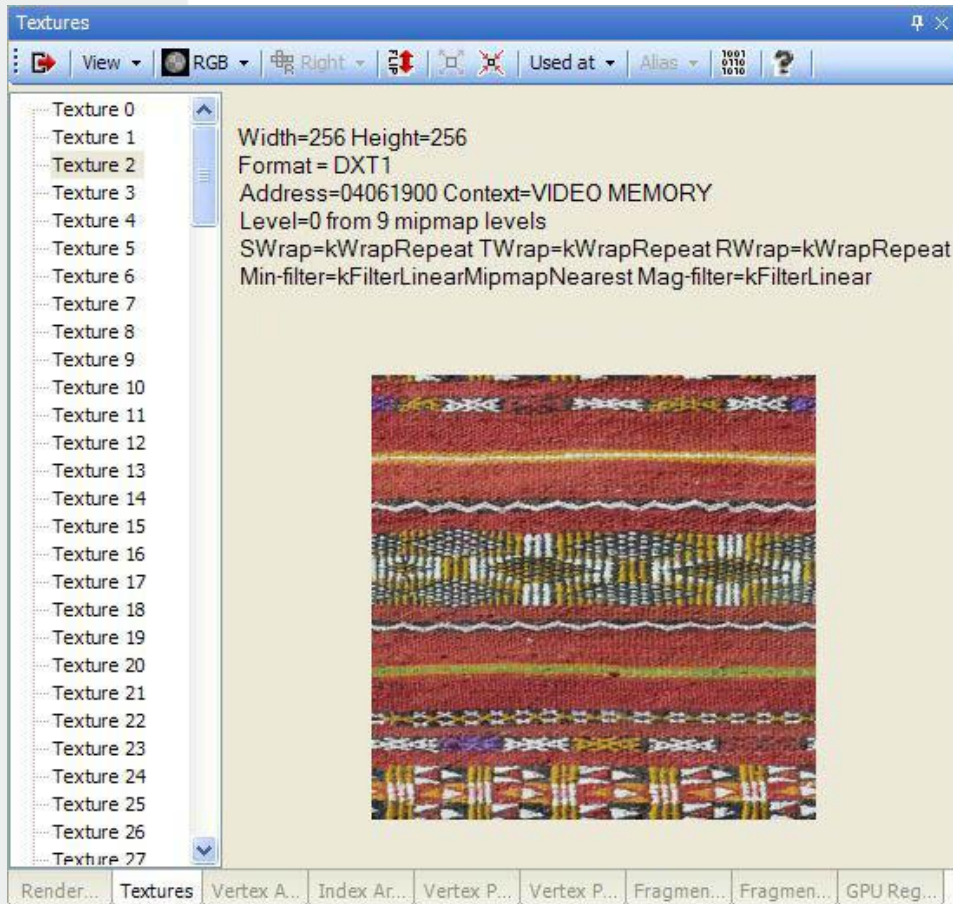


Render State View



- ④ What other Resource types can we select for analysis?

Textures View



- View referenced Textures
- Including
 - State
 - Complete Mip-chain
 - Cube Faces
 - Volume Slices

Vertex Arrays View

Vertex Arrays

Address=0386c000 Context=VIDEO MEMORY
kAttribFloat3, Stride=48
Min-index=0, Max-index=725

Index	X	Y	Z
0	-6.002134	5.275455	-0.55
1	-6.002134	5.091427	-0.55
2	-5.963712	5.275455	-0.55
3	-5.963712	5.091427	-0.55
4	-6.002134	7.11573	-0.55
5	-5.963712	7.11573	-0.55
6	-6.001601	6.931702	-0.5500001
7	-5.963712	6.931702	-0.5500001
8	-6.002134	5.275455	-0.55
9	-5.920229	6.931702	0.4000003
10	-5.96478	6.931702	0.4000003
11	-5.920229	6.931702	9.999999E-08
12	-5.96478	6.931702	9.999999E-08
13	-5.920229	6.931702	-0.3999995
14	-5.96478	6.931702	-0.3999995
15	-5.920229	6.870359	0.35

Render Targ... Textures **Vertex Arrays** Index Arrays Vertex Progr... Vertex Progr... Fragment Pr... Fragment Pr... GPU Registers

Index Arrays View

Index Arrays

Address=0075fd00 Context=VIDEO MEMORY
Format=kIndex16
Min-offset=0, Max-offset=64, Min-index=0, Max-index=31

Offset	0	1	2
0	0	1	2
3	2	3	3
6	4	5	6
9	7	8	9
12	8	10	8
15	11	12	13
18	12	14	12
21	0	15	2
24	15	4	15
27	6	15	8
30	12	12	16
33	16	17	18
36	17	19	20
39	21	21	22
42	22	21	23
45	19	24	18

Render Targ... Textures Vertex Arrays **Index Arrays** Vertex Progr... Vertex Progr... Fragment Pr... Fragment Pr... GPU Registers

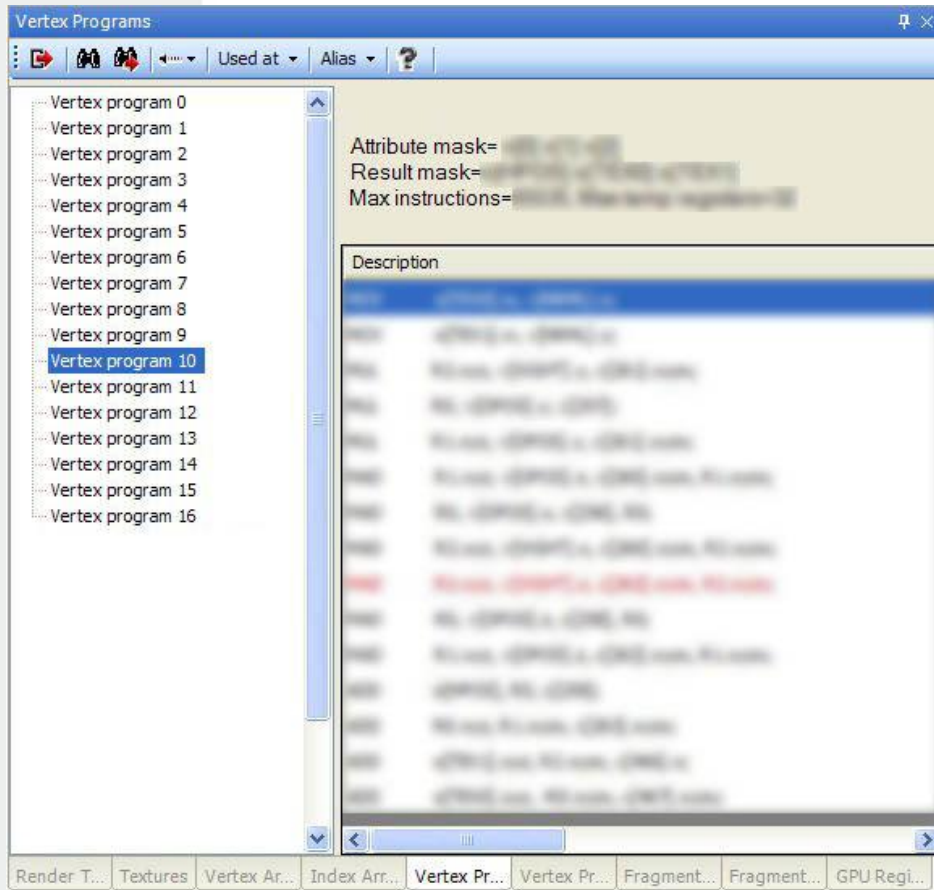
Draw Data View



Vertex	v0.x	v0.y	v0.z	v8.x	v8.y
0	-0.9222906	1.192578	-1	1	0
1	-0.9814983	1.224507	-1	0	0
2	-0.9994587	1.119249	-1	0	1
3	-0.9222906	1.192578	-1	1	0
4	-0.9994587	1.119249	-1	0	1
5	-0.9402511	1.087319	-1	1	1

- ⌕ See vertices kicked by current Draw Context
- ⌕ Each element of each referenced attribute

Vertex Programs View



- ⌘ Full disassembly
- ⌘ Stalls highlighted in **Red**
- ⌘ Optionally show
 - ⌘ Instruction latencies
 - ⌘ Dual issue

Vertex Program Constants View

Vertex Program Constants

Index	X	Y	Z	W
256	1.634309	1.415646E-06	0.09802957	0.09801732
257	-8.860938E-13	2.919496	-4.947647E-06	-4.947029E-06
258	0.1609657	-1.437328E-05	-0.9953091	-0.9951847
259	3.714763E-08	-2.919496	4.400566	4.600004
260	1	0	0	0
261	0	1	0	0
262	0	0	1	0
263	0	0	0	1
264	4.48343	0.8101416	-2.035417	0
265	-1.427224	-2.437196	-4.113818	0
266	-1.662011	4.278334	-1.958053	0
267	13.50049	7.143856	-4.919978	1
466	-0.4508796	1.000023	4.577849	1
467	0	0	0	0

Render... Textures Vertex... Index... Vertex... Vertex... Fragme... Fragme... GPU Re...

See Vertex Program Constants

Used by current Draw Context

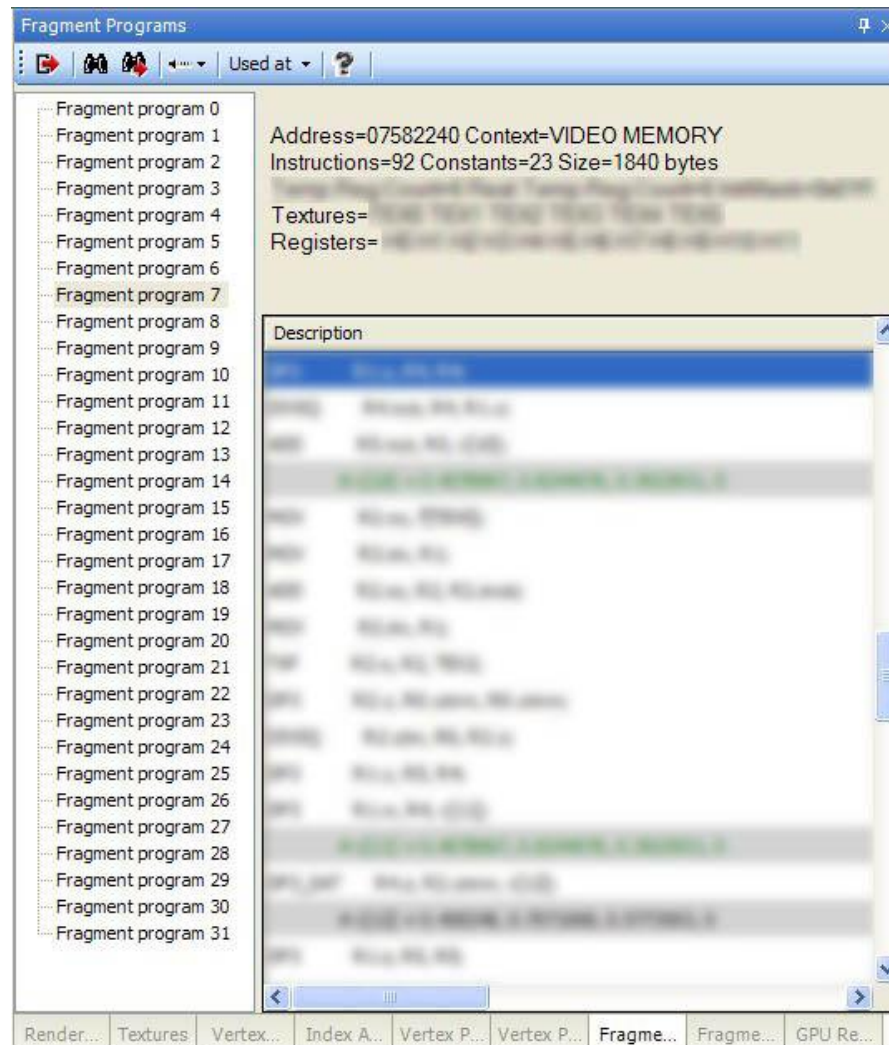
Colour-coded by analysis passes

Blue - newly modified

Green - inherited from previous

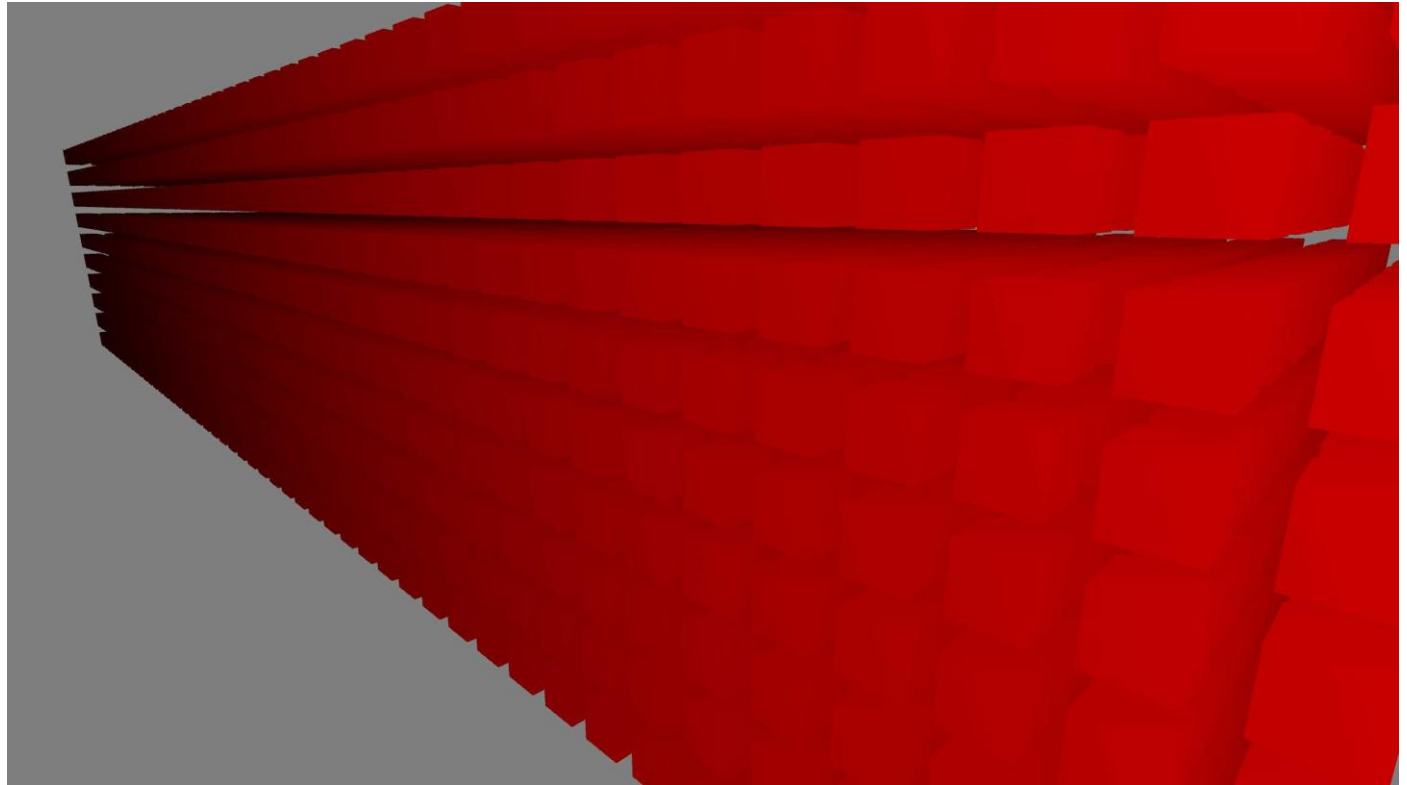
Red - redundant sets

Fragment Programs View



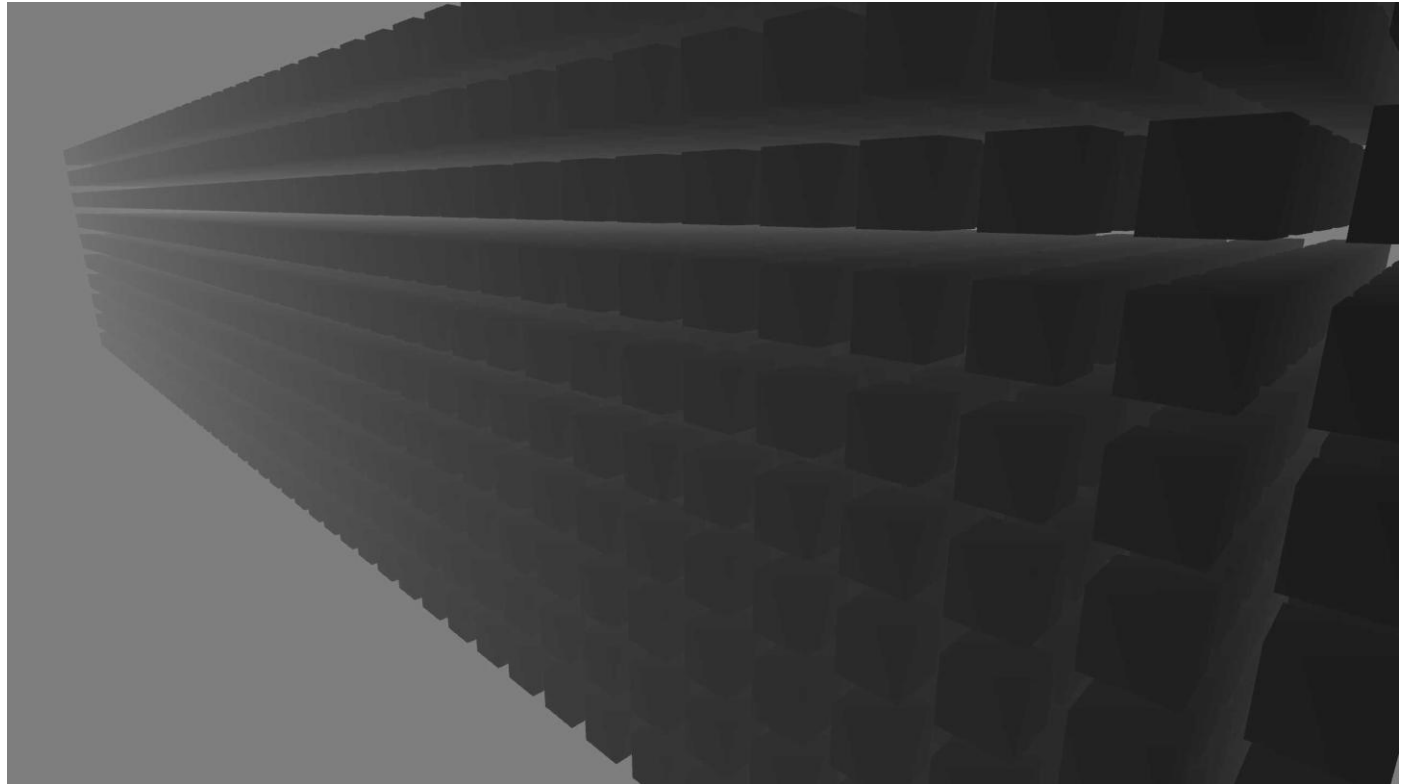


Fragment Program Debugging



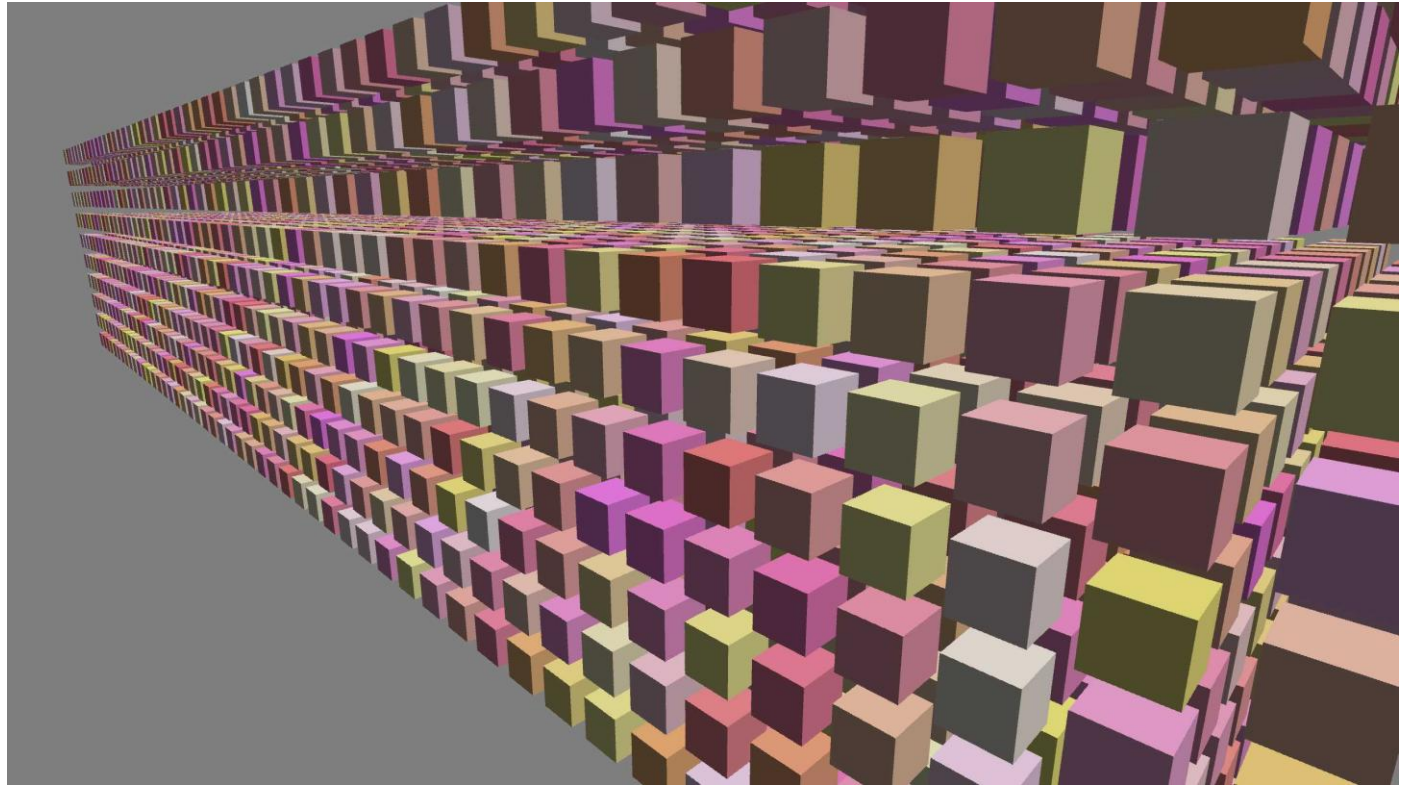


Fragment Program Debugging



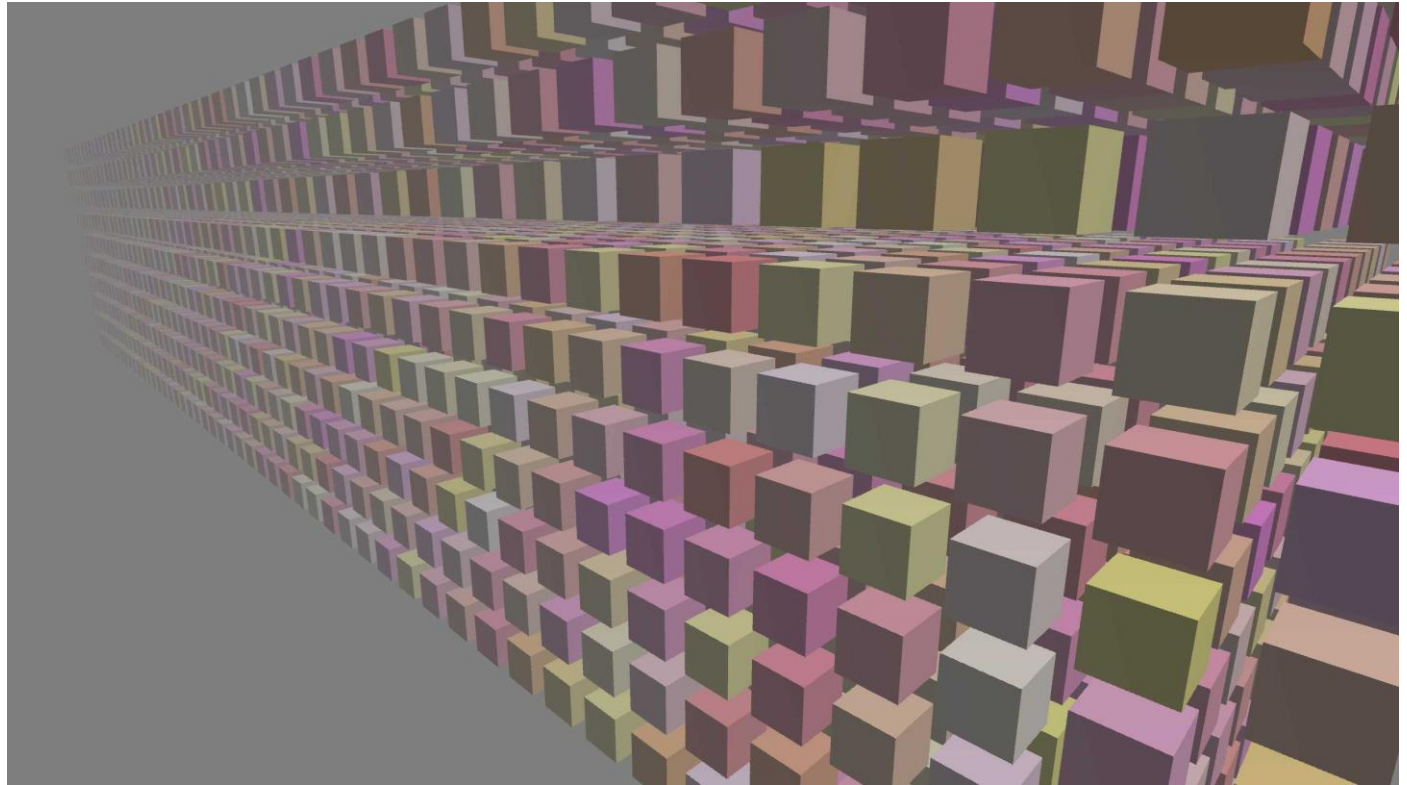


Fragment Program Debugging

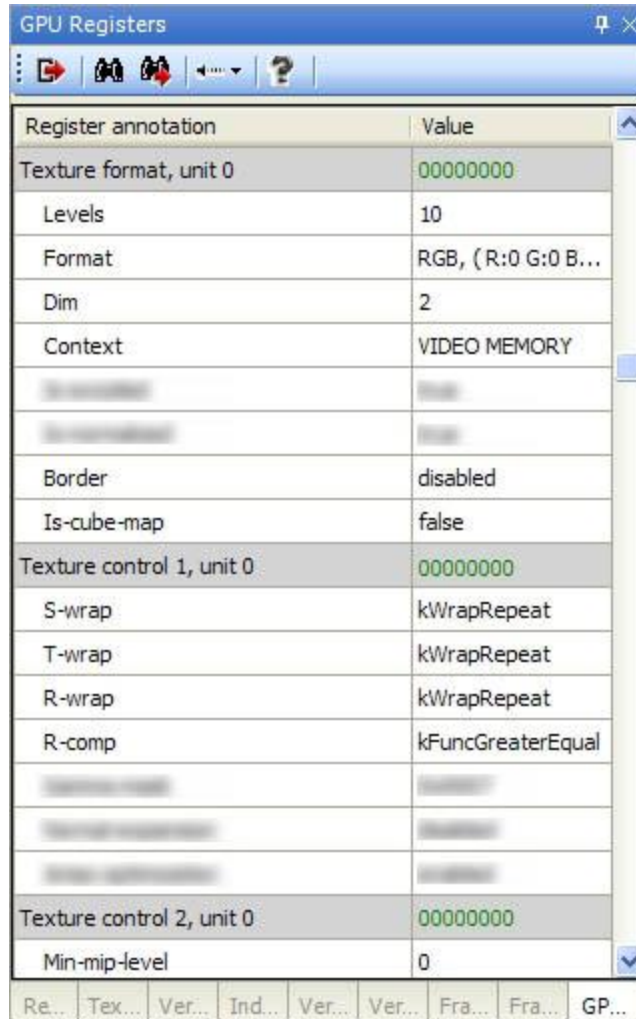




Fragment Program Debugging



GPU Registers View



Register annotation	Value
Texture format, unit 0	00000000
Levels	10
Format	RGB, (R:0 G:0 B...
Dim	2
Context	VIDEO MEMORY
Border	disabled
Is-cube-map	false
Texture control 1, unit 0	00000000
S-wrap	kWrapRepeat
T-wrap	kWrapRepeat
R-wrap	kWrapRepeat
R-comp	kFuncGreaterEqual
Texture control 2, unit 0	00000000
Min-mip-level	0

- ⌘ **Brief Mode** - registers set in current Draw Context
- ⌘ **Descriptive Mode** - entire register state
- ⌘ *Verify RSX state is what you expect*



Preview Resource Views

- ⌵ Exist for all Resource types
- ⌵ Analyse
 - ⌵ Draw Context
 - ⌵ Entire Scene
- ⌵ All Preview Views have unique features
- ⌵ Share common functionality - including
 - ⌵ Cross-referencing
 - ⌵ Search
 - ⌵ Memory Dump
 - ⌵ Export

Memory Layout View

RawView Memory Layout

Offset	Legend	Objects
007b1c00	262144 bytes	Texture 1
007f1c00	448 bytes	Fragment program 7
007f1dc0	64 bytes	
007f1e00	32 bytes	Vertex array 7
007f1e20	32 bytes	
007f1e40	544 bytes	Fragment program 4
007f2060	32 bytes	
007f2080	128 bytes	Fragment program 6
007f2100	1728 bytes	Fragment program 5
007f27c0	64 bytes	
007f2800	32 bytes	Vertex array 6
007f2820	96 bytes	
007f2880	32 bytes	Vertex array 2
007f28a0	55136 bytes	
00800000	524288 bytes	Render target (depth buffer) 0
00800000		Render target (color buffer 3) 0
00800000		
00800000		Render target (color buffer 2) 0
00800000		Render target (color buffer 1) 0
00800000		Render target (color buffer 0) 0
00800000		Texture 0
00880000	7372800 bytes	Render target (color buffer 0) 1
00880000		Render target (color buffer 1) 1

- See your Memory map
- Resource locations in
 - Local Memory
 - Host Memory

Command Buffer Overview

Command Buffer Overview			
Category	Size	Size minus redundancy	% of total size
Texture	26192	7332	22
Render target	2432	1200	2
Vertex array	10080	10072	8
Vertex program	25276	21124	21
Vertex program constant	15552	12548	13
Fragment program	1376	864	1
Fragment program constant	25272	9216	21
Draw	6740	6272	6
State change	3240	1148	3
System commands	2448	128	2
Total	118608	69904	

Command Buffer Overview... Significant Redundancy Detailed Redundancy

- Command Buffer breakdown
- Categorised by Command type



GCM Replay

Profiling Features



GCM Replay Profiling

- ⌚ Supports a number of flavours
- ⌚ RSX executes your Command Buffer many times
- ⌚ Use of RSX hardware counters and timing facilities

Ensures timings and event counts are accurate

WWW.GDCONF.COM



Sub-Unit Utilisation

On a Draw Context basis

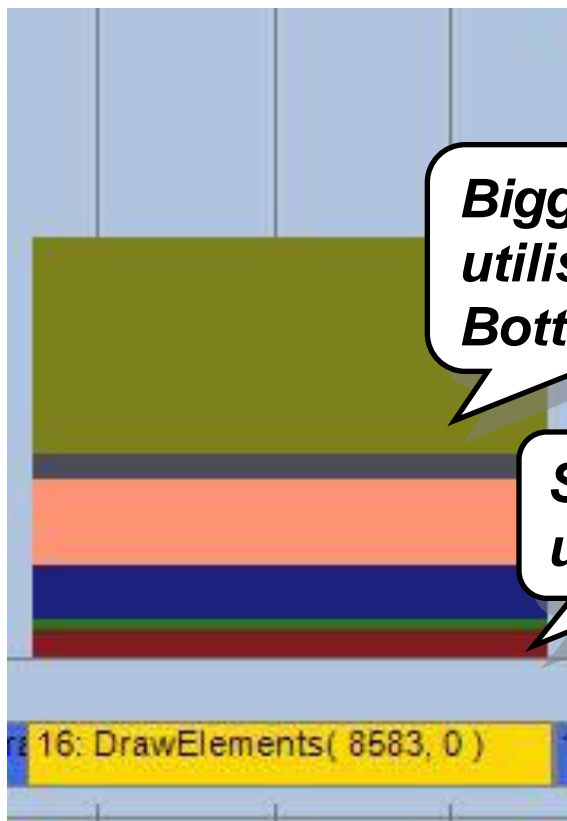
Each utilisation is drawn overlapped (stacked)

Result - a sorted list of optimisation targets

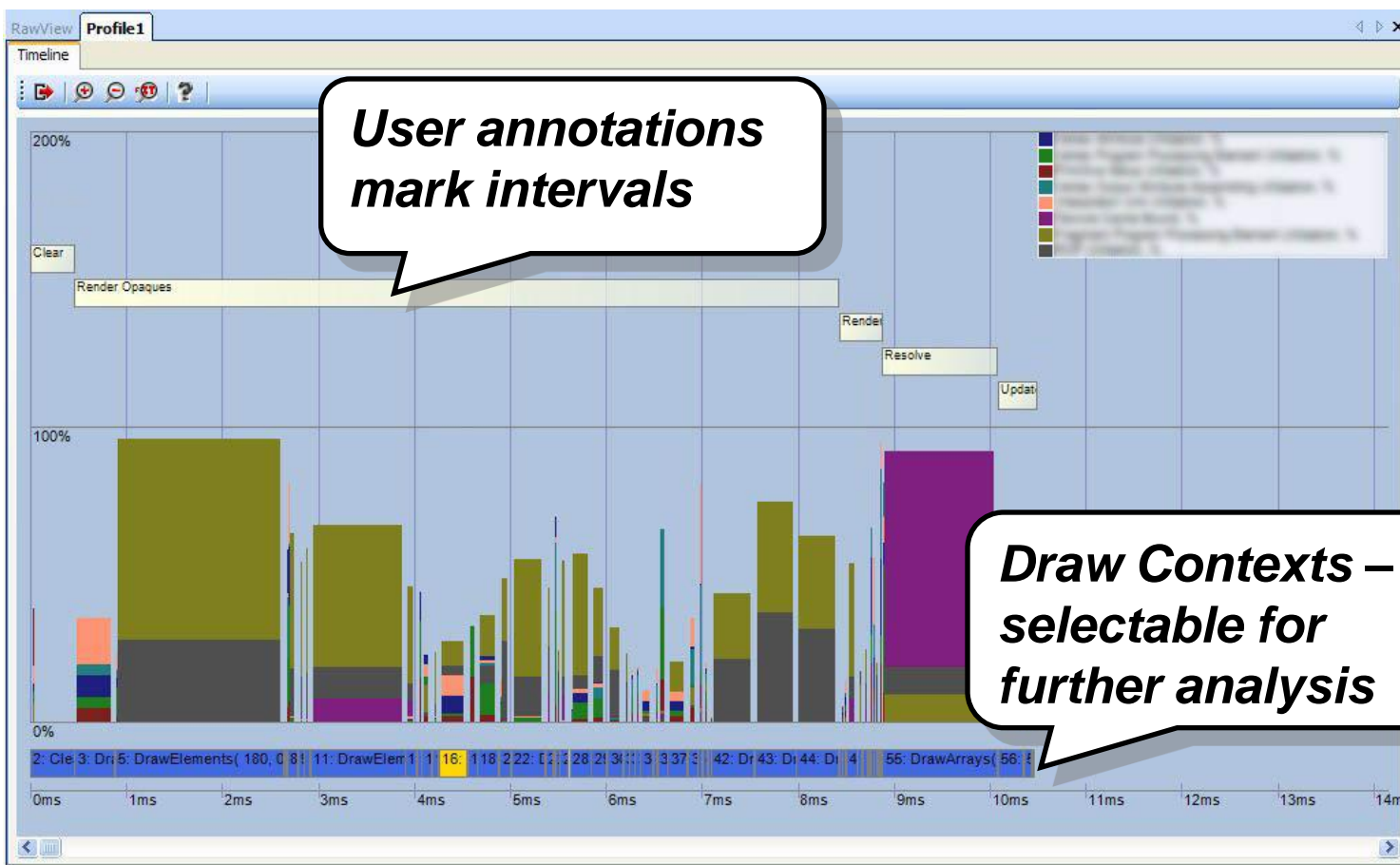
Smallest utilisation

Biggest utilisation - Bottleneck!

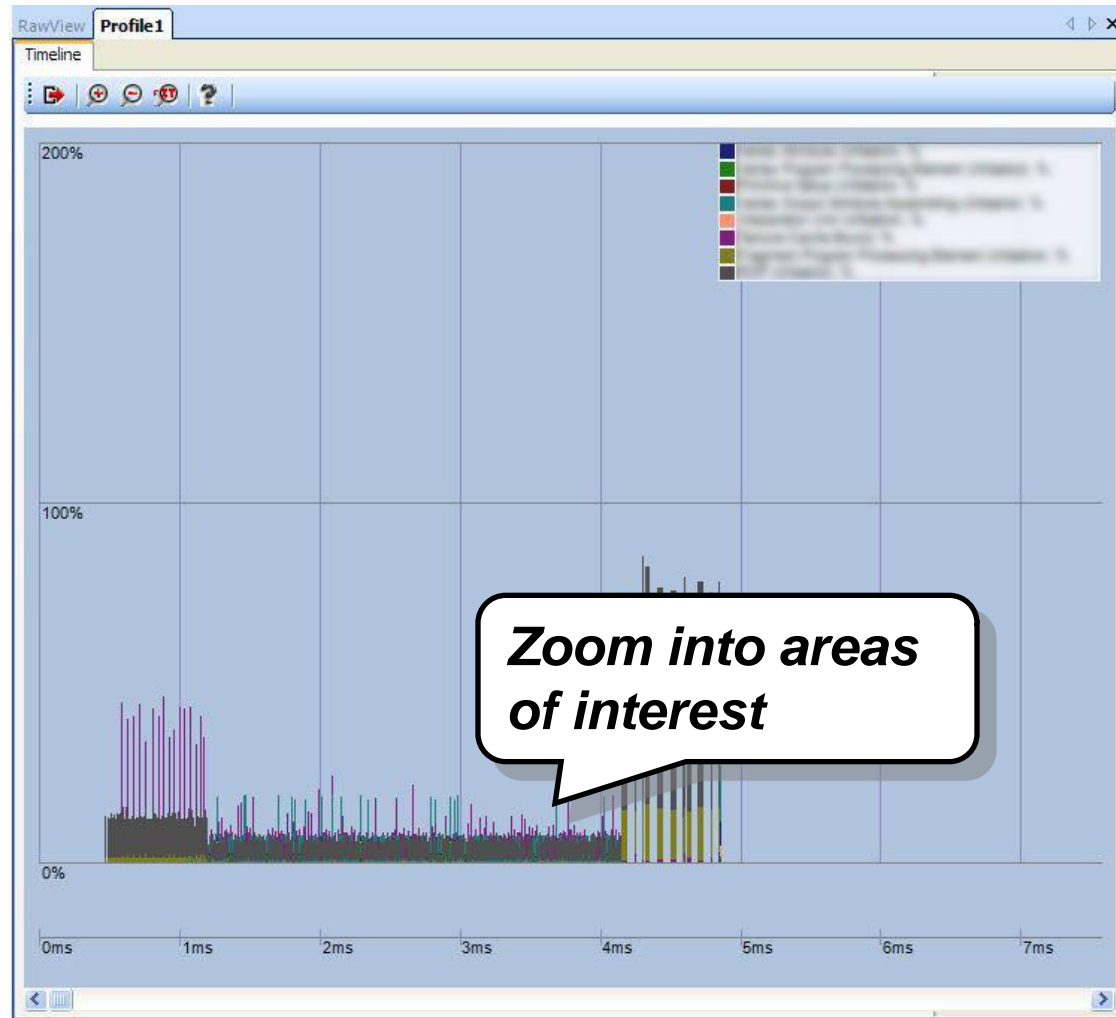
indication of the **bottleneck**



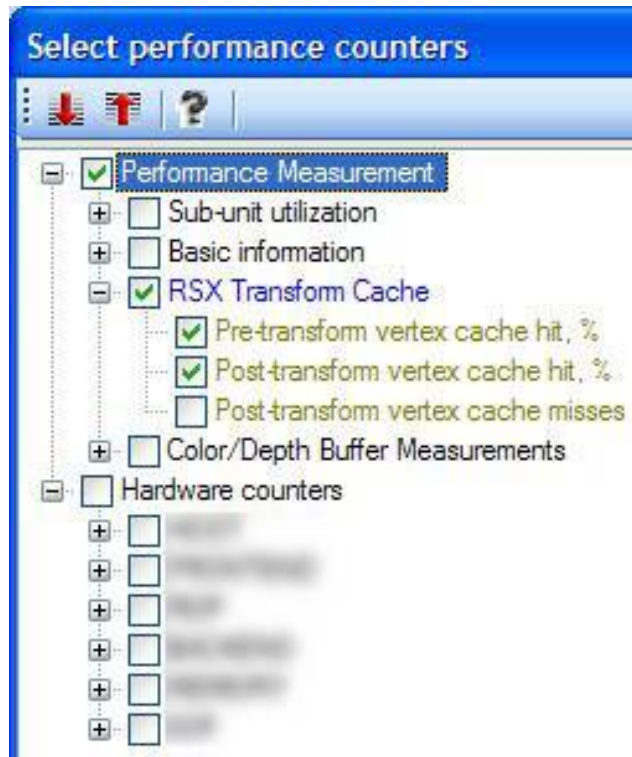
Sub-Unit Utilisation



Sub-Unit Utilisation

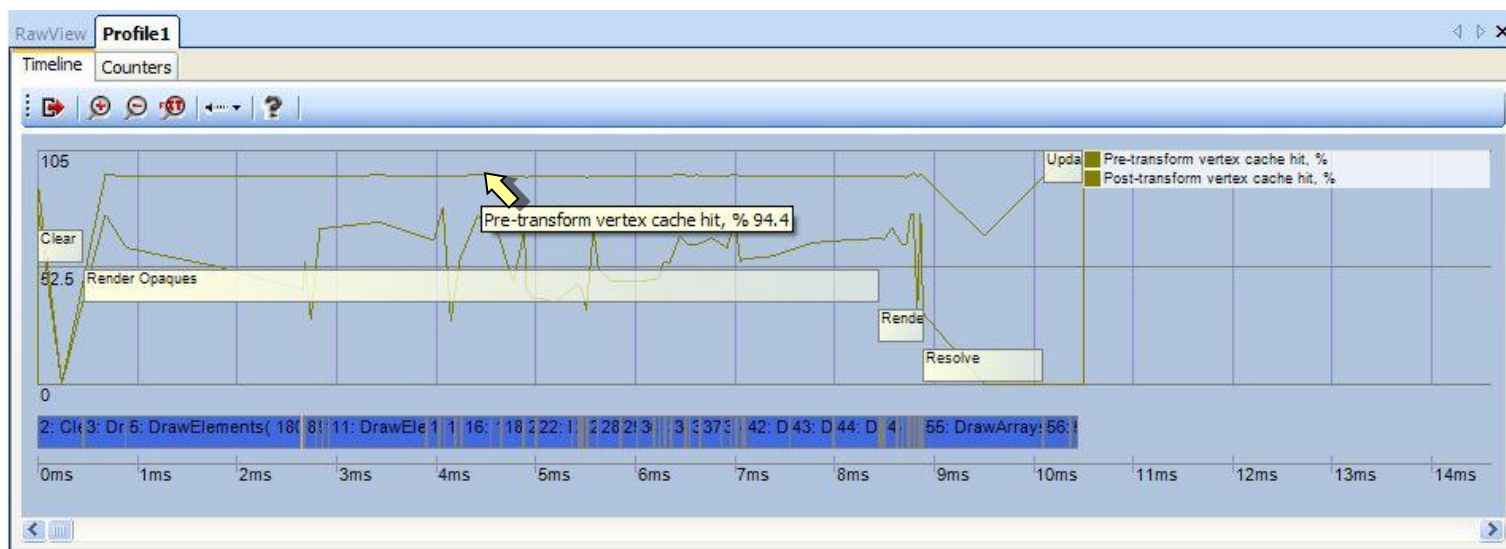


Performance Counters



- ⊙ Provide more detail
- ⊙ Profile additional events
- ⊙ GCM Replay exposes
 - ⊙ **Hardware counters**
 - ⊙ **Derived counters**
- ⊙ Workflow
 - ⊙ Select counters
 - ⊙ **Hit Profile**
 - ⊙ Analyse results

Performance Counters



- Multiple counters graphed simultaneously

Highlight counters of interest

Performance Counters

RawView Profile1

Timeline Counters

Msec

Index	Time interval	Pre-transform vertex cache hit, %	Post-transform vertex cache hit, %
33	0.05	93.7%	54.5%
34	0.14	94.4%	66.5%
35	0.03	93.6%	62.6%
36	0.1	94%	62.7%
37	0.2	93.7%	65.8%
38	0.1	93.6%	61.4%
39	0.05	94.3%	74.7%
40	0.05	93.7%	55%
41	0.03	93.6%	56.5%
42	0.45	93.7%	57.2%
43	0.44	93.7%	63.7%
44	0.45	93.7%	65.2%
45	0.02	93.7%	65.5%
46	0.03	93.6%	65.2%
47	0.12	93.6%	70.3%
48	0.05	93.7%	63.1%

- Raw counters in tabulated form
- Sort on individual keys
- Select Draw Contexts of interest



Story so far...

⊕ Using GCM Replay you can

⊕ ***Capture***

⊕ ***Analyse and Debug***

⊕ ***Modify and Replay***

⊕ ***Profile***

What's the next BIG question?



How do I make it run faster?



RSX

- ⌚ Deep and complex pipeline
- ⌚ Large array of rendering options
- ⌚ Difficult to predict
 - ⌚ *Effects of your engine changes?*
 - ⌚ *What optimisations matter most?*



What-If... I change the anisotropic filtering level on my race track?

- ⌘ *How much time would that buy back?*
- ⌘ *What would it look like?*
- ⌘ *What's the best compromise?*



What-If... I re-optimize my meshes?

For example

- ⌚ *Convert triangle strips to triangle lists*
- ⌚ *Interleave all attribute streams*
- ⌚ *Optimize index tables for all vertex caches*
- ⌚ *How would these effect RSX performance?*



What-If... If I write a near **perfect** visibility culler?

- ⌚ *That culls on a per triangle basis*
- ⌚ *Removes all triangles outside the viewport*
- ⌚ *All back-facing triangles*
- ⌚ *Zero-area degenerate triangles*
- ⌚ *Micro-triangles that miss all pixel centres*



And...

*It runs on the SPU's and removes all triangles
before they hit the RSX*

How much time would that buy back?



With GCM Replay you can answer all these questions...

Without touching a single line of code

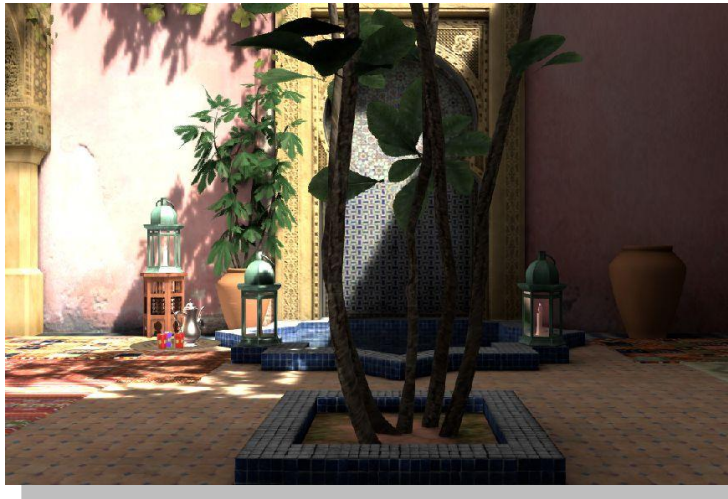


GCM Replay *What-Ifs*

- ③ A new form of *Conditional Profiling*
- ③ Make fundamental changes to your
 - ③ Command Buffer
 - ③ Resources
- ③ All from within GCM Replay
- ③ Measure observed performance difference
 - ③ See % ***Gain*** or ***Loss***

What-if... Example

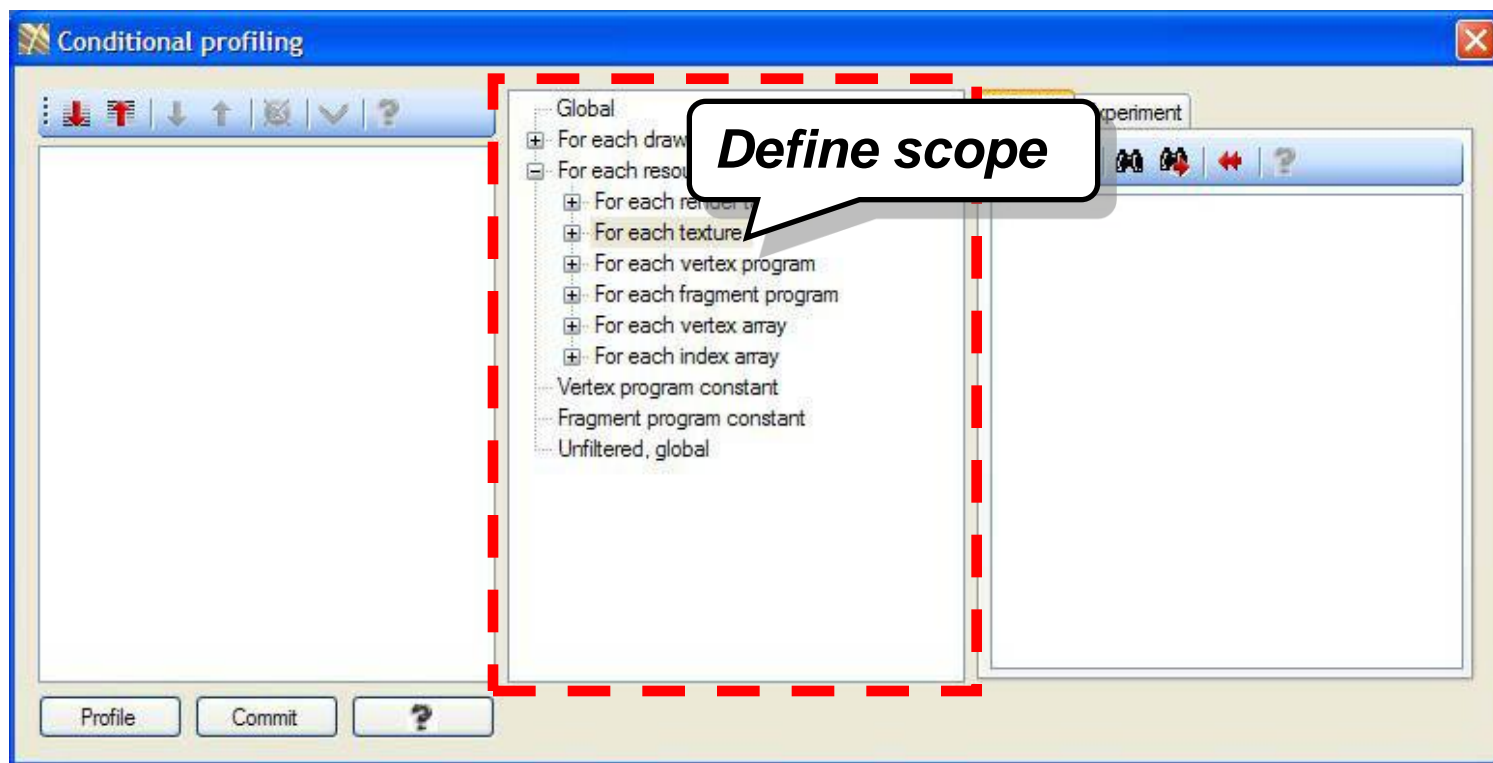
My Scene



- ⊙ Through analysis I realise...
- ⊙ *Not all my textures are compressed*
- ⊙ *Not all my textures have a mip-chain*

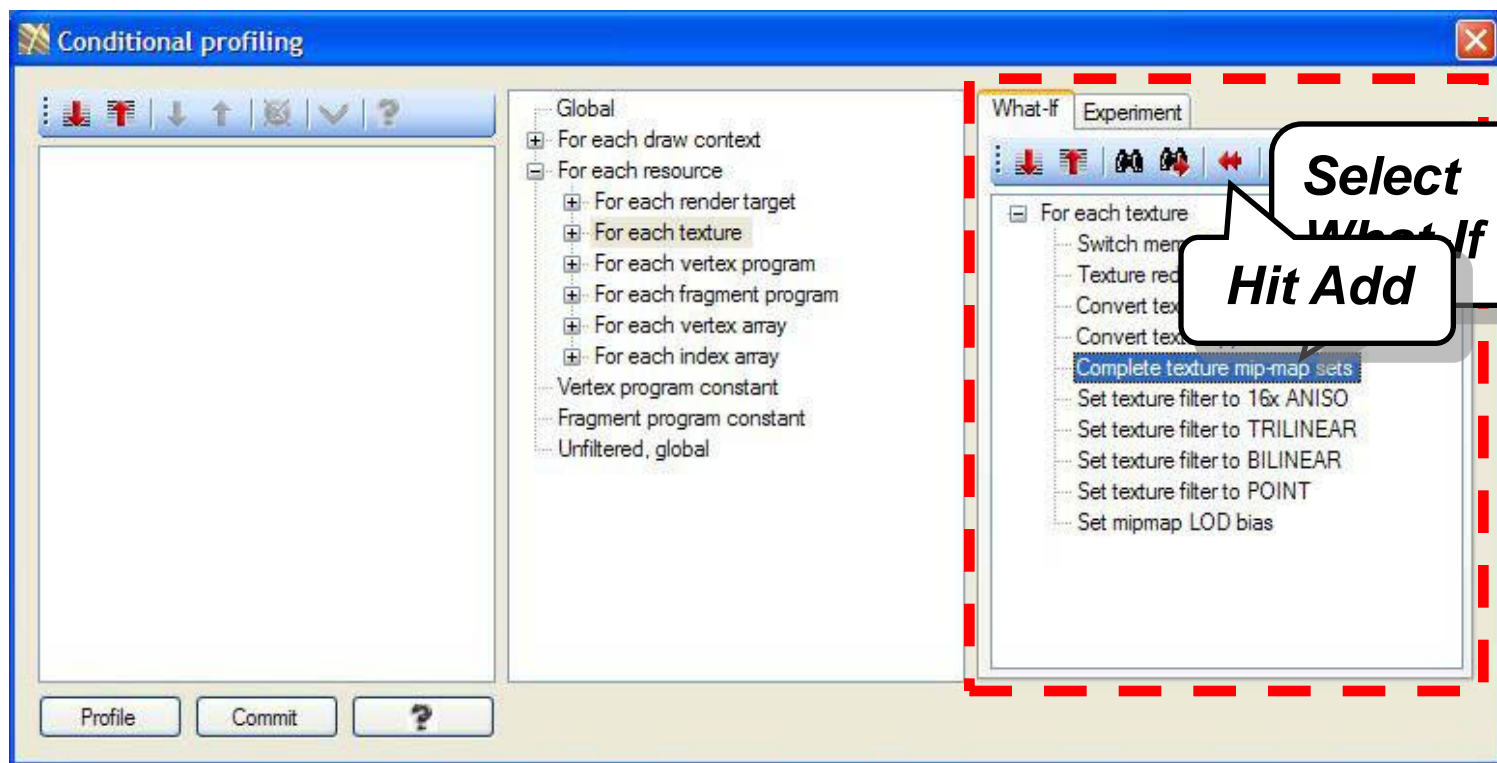


What-If... Workflow



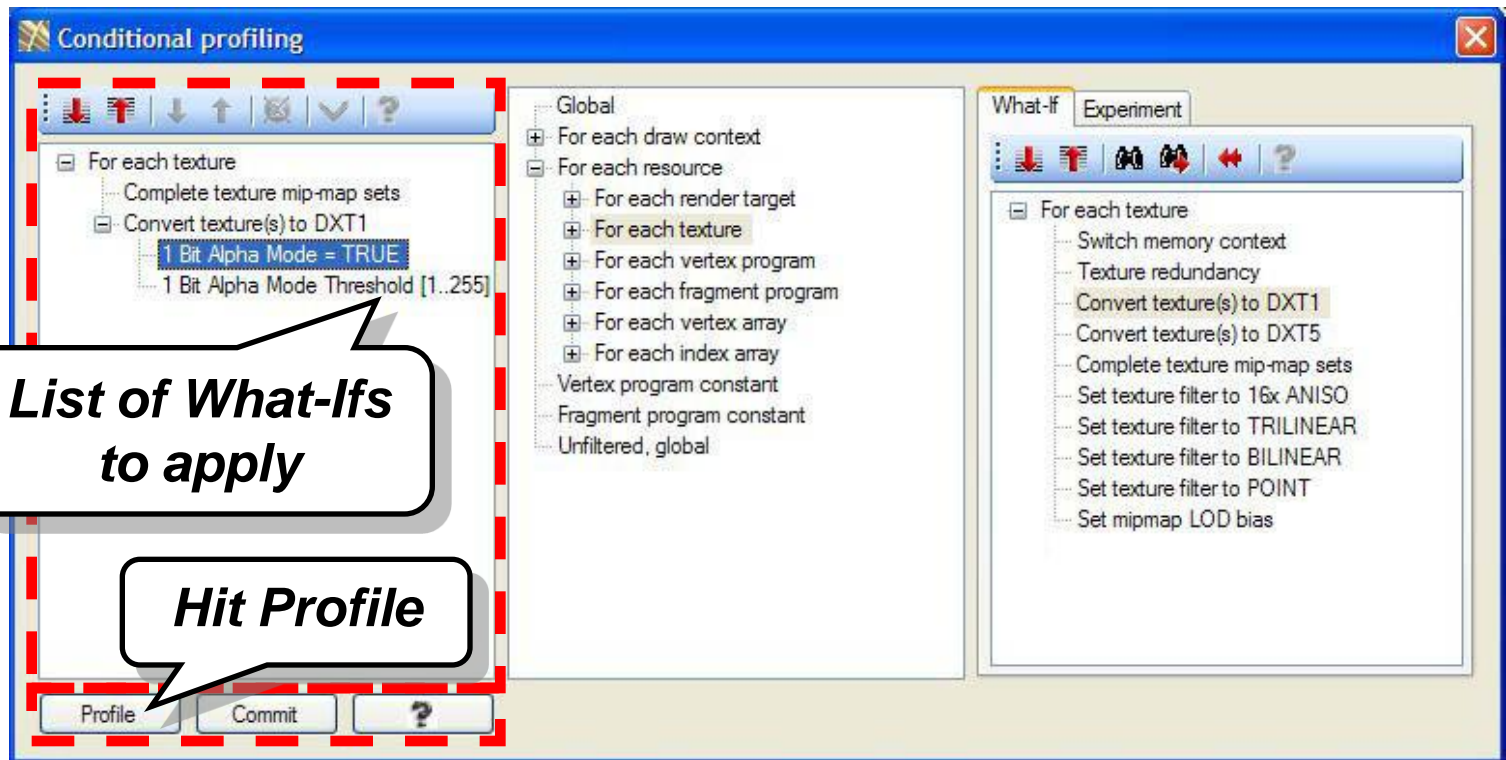
- Apply to
 - A Draw Context **OR** all Draw Contexts
 - A Resource **OR** all Resources of that type

What-If... Workflow



- ④ Select **What-ifs** from a filtered set

What-If... Workflow



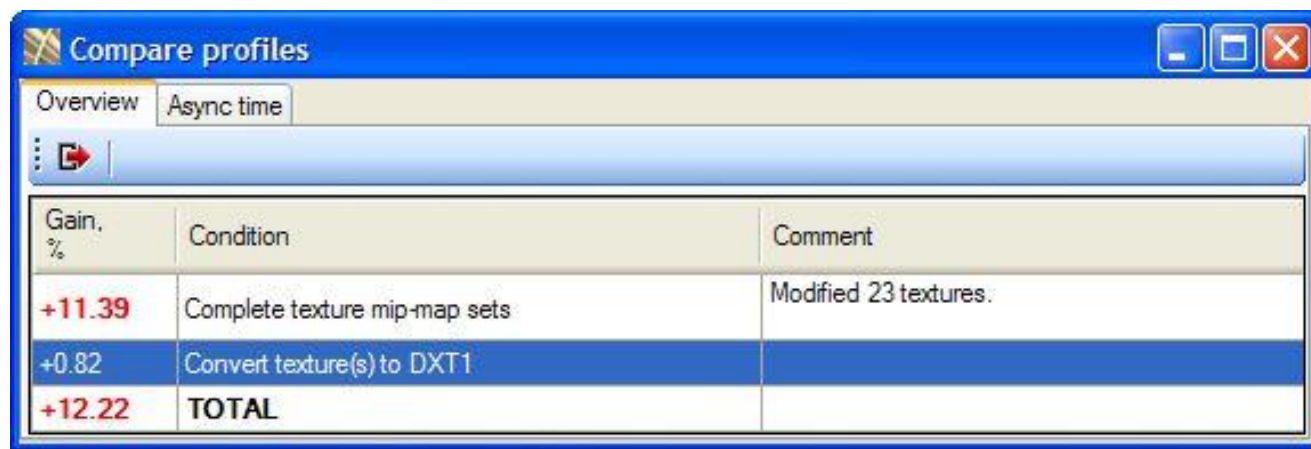
- Optionally tweak **What-If** parameters



What-ifs – Behind the Scenes

- ③ Profile baseline
- ③ For each ***What-If*** condition
 - ③ Make modifications
 - ③ Profile
 - ③ Save results
- ③ In this example
 - ③ Generate mip-chains
 - ③ Compress Textures
 - ③ Modify Texture state in Command Buffer

What-If... Results



The screenshot shows a window titled 'Compare profiles' with a tab for 'Async time'. Below the tab is a table with three columns: 'Gain, %', 'Condition', and 'Comment'. The table contains three rows: a summary row with a total gain of +12.22%, a row for 'Complete texture mip-map sets' with a gain of +11.39% and a comment 'Modified 23 textures.', and a row for 'Convert texture(s) to DXT1' with a gain of +0.82%.

Gain, %	Condition	Comment
+11.39	Complete texture mip-map sets	Modified 23 textures.
+0.82	Convert texture(s) to DXT1	
+12.22	TOTAL	

- ⊙ Summarise
 - ⊙ % gain for each **What-If**
 - ⊙ Comments on actual modifications made
- ⊙ Total % gain for all **What-Ifs**

Instantly see the change in performance



What-If... Workflow

- ③ Two options
 - ③ **Profile** – with new ***What-Ifs***, same baseline
 - ③ **Commit** – make new baseline
- ③ Iterate Process
 - ③ Performance target reached
 - ③ We're as close as we can get

Incorporate the optimisations into your game

What-If... Remove Redundancy

- What if we remove all redundant commands?

Overview Async time		
Gain, %	Condition	Comment
+4.09	What if there was no redundant sets.	Removed 569 redundant vertex program constant sets. Removed 170 redundant fragment program constant sets. Removed 0 redundant fragment program sets. Removed 9 redundant vertex program selects. Removed 6 redundant vertex program loads. Removed 0 redundant render target sets. Removed 67 redundant texture sets.
+4.09	TOTAL	



What-If... Optimise FP Constant Patching

- ⦿ What if all constants are set externally?
- ⦿ Directly patched by PPU or SPU

Overview Async time		
Gain, %	Condition	Comment
+6.47	Optimise fragment program constant patching	Number of new fragment programs created: 53
+6.47	TOTAL	

Moroccan Scene Results

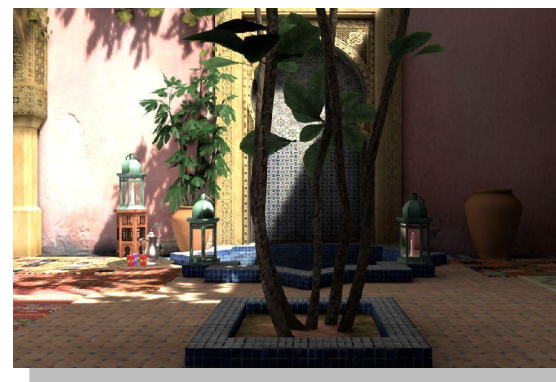
- Applying all four ***What-ifs...***

<i>Complete Texture Mip-chains</i>	<i>+11.39%</i>
<i>Compress Textures</i>	<i>+0.82%</i>
<i>Remove Global Redundancy</i>	<i>+4.09%</i>
<i>Optimise Fragment Constant Patching</i>	<i>+4.73%</i>

- Total Performance Gain*

~21%

faster than original scene



PLAYSTATION®Edge Demo



What-If... Trim Triangles

- ③ What if we trim all triangles
 - ③ Off-screen
 - ③ Back facing
 - ③ Degenerate
 - ③ Don't hit any pixel centres
- ③ Set scope to all Draw Contexts
- ③ Enable all triangle tests
- ③ ***Hit Profile***



What-If... Trim Triangles

⊙ 19% performance gain from Triangle Culling alone

Overview Async time		
Gain, %	Condition	Comment
+19.18	Trimming all draw contexts	Number draw contexts trimmed: 205 Number primitives trimmed: 202467
+19.18	TOTAL	



GCM Replay *What-ifs*

- ④ Evaluate fundamental engine changes
 - ④ Without actually having to make them
- ④ Provide rapid feedback
 - ④ See ***What-If...** results within minutes*
- ④ Help you make informed decisions
 - ④ *What optimisations matter most?*
 - ④ *How close are we to theoretical maximums?*
- ④ Help avoid wasting time on fruitless changes
 - ④ *Save precious development time*



The *What-Ifs*



Global

- Remove Redundancy



For each Draw Context

- Optimise all Triangle Lists
- Convert Strips to Lists
- Change Stream Interleaving
- Trim Triangles
- Trim Batches
- Depth-only Pass
- Disable unused Attributes
- Disable unused Interpolators
- Sort Batches Front to Back
- Replace with Single Colour FP
- Non-disclosed x3
- Perfect Early-Z Settings
- Convert to Indexed Drawing
- Disable unused Clear Components
- Remove redundant Clears
- Remove completely filled Clears
- Remove non-varying Attributes



For each Render Target

- Remove redundancy
- Non-disclosed



For each Texture

- Switch Memory Context
- Remove redundancy
- Convert to DXT1
- Convert to DXT5
- Complete mip-chain
- Override filtering modes
- Override LOD bias



For each Vertex Program

- Remove redundancy
- Non-disclosed



For each Fragment Program

- Optimise Constant Patching
- Remove redundancy
- Non-disclosed x2



GCM Replay *Experiments*

- ⌘ Extend the *What-If* concept
- ⌘ *Experiments* – automatically replay selected *What-Ifs* with many times
- ⌘ Finds the optimal settings for your game
- ⌘ Example – Texture Placement *Experiment*



GCM Replay – The Future

- ④ More ***What-ifs***
- ④ More ***Experiments***
- ④ Extend ***Edit-and-Continue***
 - ④ Modify all Resource types
 - ④ Hot-load replacement Resources
- ④ ***Vertex and Fragment Program Debugging***



GCM Replay

BETA Release - March 2007