

# Connecting the AxF Format to the AxF Material Implementation in Unity

**Date:** 08/06/18 (DD/MM/YY)

At the moment, only the “SVBRDF” and “Car Paint” BRDF types are supported (not BTF nor layered then).

I will list below the variables expected by the AxF material to drive the AxF shader:

## Textures

**NOTE:** The “\_sRGB” suffixed textures are only here to specify that if the texture is created as an 8-bits format then it should be stored as sRGB. But the AxF files usually provide floating-point values so the floating-point RGBA16F or RGBA32F formats should be preferred/expected to be fed to the shader at all times. I specify the preferred format for each texture.

**NOTE:** When a vector/color is given as the default expected value for a texture, ideally the importer should create a small 4x4 texture with that uniform color, unless there is a flag to enable or disable the texture sampling (e.g. height map or clear coat map).

**CAUTION!** Some color textures have been found to contain negative values! Max to 0!

## SVBRDF-Only Textures

- **\_SVBRDF\_DiffuseColorMap\_sRGB** (AxF lowercase name: “diffusecolor”)  
RGB Diffuse color.  
Usually always provided otherwise use (0,0,0,0) (black) as a default value.  
**RGBA16F** format is advised.
- **\_SVBRDF\_SpecularColorMap\_sRGB** (AxF lowercase name: “specularcolor”)  
RGB Specular color  
Usually always provided otherwise use (1,1,1,1) (white) as a default value.  
**RGBA16F** format is advised.
- **\_SVBRDF\_NormalMap** (AxF lowercase name: “normal”)  
Tangent-Space Normal vector with offset  
**Warning:** The AxF format provides [-1,+1] vector values but the shader expects a classical normal with offset so you must apply the following re-ranging transform:  
 $\text{targetNormal} = 0.5 * (\text{sourceNormal} + 1)$ .  
We should fix that and use the float values directly in the future but for the moment you can

create a **RGBA16\_UNORM** texture.

Usually always provided otherwise use (0.5,0.5,1,1) (bump) as a default value.

- **\_SVBRDF\_SpecularLobeMap** (AxF lowercase name: “**specularlobe**”)  
Specular lobe in [0,1]. Also known as “roughness”.  
Either a scalar (**R16F**) if isotropic, or a float2 (**RG16F**) if anisotropic.  
Usually always provided otherwise use (1,1,1,1) (white) as a default value.
- **\_SVBRDF\_OpacityMap** (AxF lowercase name: “**opacity**”)  
Alpha (scalar in [0,1])  
*Never encountered.*  
Use 1 as a default value.  
**R8\_UNORM** format is advised.
- **\_SVBRDF\_FresnelMap\_sRGB** (AxF lowercase name: “**fresnel**”)  
RGB F0 value in [0,1].  
Usually always provided otherwise use (0,0,0,0) (black) as a default value.  
**RGBA16F** format is advised.
- **\_SVBRDF\_AnisotropicRotationAngleMap** (AxF lowercase name: “**anisrotation**”)  
Anisotropy rotation angle.  
**Warning:** The AxF format provides values in  $[-\pi, +\pi]$  but the shader expects a [0,1] scale so you need to apply the following re-ranging transform:  
$$\text{targetAngle} = 0.5 * (1 + \text{sourceAngle} / \text{PI})$$
  
We should fix that and use the float values directly in the future but for the moment you can create a **RGBA16\_UNORM** texture.
- **\_SVBRDF\_HeightMap** (AxF lowercase name: “**height**”)  
Height map, should be in millimeters. Rescale accordingly.  
*Never encountered.*  
**R16F** format advised.

## Car-Paint-Only Textures

- **\_CarPaint\_BRDFColorMap\_sRGB** (AxF lowercase name: “**brdfcolors**”)  
RGB BRDF color.  
Usually always provided otherwise use (1,1,1,1) (white) as a default value.  
**RGBA16F** format is advised.
- **\_CarPaint\_BTFFlakesMap\_sRGB** (AxF lowercase name: “**btfflakes**”)  
RGB Flakes color.  
**Warning:** This is a Texture2DArray where as many slices as the “depth” dimension indicates, also AxF provides all mip levels for the array, which must also be used otherwise very nasty aliasing would occur.  
**RGBA16F** format is advised.

If not provided then use (0,0,0,0) (black) as a default value.

- **\_CarPaint\_thetaFI\_sliceLUTMap** (doesn't exist in AxF, must be created manually)  
This is a custom texture created from the TYPE\_INT\_ARRAY property named **"thetaFI\_sliceLUT"**.  
The texture is expected to be at least the amount of entries in the INT\_ARRAY. The advised format is **R8\_UNORM** and the values in the INT\_ARRAY *must be divided by 255.0f*.  
In the future, we should create a **R8\_UINT** texture directly to avoid the division by 255.

## Common Textures

Although ill-prefixed "SVBRDF", the clear coat textures are valid for both BRDF types...

- **\_SVBRDF\_ClearCoatColorMap\_sRGB** (AxF lowercase name: **"clearcoatcolor"**)  
RGB Clear coat color  
Usually provided if property "cc\_no\_refraction" is *not* found or set to 0, otherwise use (1,1,1,1) (white) as a default value.  
**RGBA16F** format is advised.
- **\_SVBRDF\_ClearCoatNormalMap** (AxF lowercase name: **"clearcoatnormal"**)  
Tangent-Space clear coat Normal vector with offset  
**Warning:** The AxF format provides [-1,+1] vector values but the shader expects a classical normal with offset so you must apply the following re-ranging transform:  
$$\text{targetNormal} = 0.5 * (\text{sourceNormal} + 1).$$
  
We should fix that and use the float values directly in the future but for the moment you can create a **RGBA16\_UNORM** texture.  
Usually provided if property "cc\_no\_refraction" is *not* found or set to 0, otherwise use (0.5,0.5,1,1) (bump) as a default value.
- **\_SVBRDF\_ClearCoatIORMap\_sRGB** (AxF lowercase name: **"clearcoator"**)  
Clear coat F0  
**Warning:** The AxF format provides the IOR (Index of Refraction) in [0,∞[ range but since I only support [0,1] range, I converted the IOR into a Fresnel F0 value so at the moment you need to apply the following transform:  
$$F_0 = \left( \frac{IOR - 1}{IOR + 1} \right)^2$$
  
**R16F** format is advised.  
Usually provided if property "cc\_no\_refraction" is *not* found or set to 0, otherwise use IOR=1.5 (F0 = 0.04)

## Vector/Scalar Values

Unless explicitly written, no variable should be exposed to the user... (unlike the current state of AxFUI.cs where many variables are exposed but for debug purpose only)

### Common Values

- (float) **\_materialSizeU\_mm**  
size of the U range, in millimeters (currently used as UV scale factor)  
► **Should be exposed to the user.**
- (float) **\_materialSizeV\_mm**  
size of the V range, in millimeters (currently used as UV scale factor)  
► **Should be exposed to the user.**
- (uint) **\_flags**
  - Bit 0 = Anisotropic. If true, specular lobe map contains 2 channels and the **\_AnisotropicRotationAngleMap** needs to be provided (used for **SVBRDF** only).  
**Set to match “blsAnisotropic” bit after calling axfGetSvbrdfSpecularModelVariant()**
  - Bit 1 = HasClearCoat. If true, the clear coat must be applied. The **\_ClearCoatNormalMap** must be valid and contain clear coat normal data.  
**Set if any of the clear coat textures is present (color, normal or IOR)**
  - Bit 2 = ClearCoatUseRefraction. If true, then **\_ClearCoatIORMap** must be valid and contain clear coat IOR data.  
**Set if property “cc\_no\_refraction” is not found or set to 0.**
  - Bit 3 = useHeightMap. If true then displacement mapping is used and **\_HeightMap** must contain valid data.  
**Set if a height map is present.**

### SVBRDF-Only Values

- (uint) **\_SVBRDF\_BRDFTType**
  - Bit 0 = Diffuse Type (**set to match axfGetSvbrdfDiffuseModelRepresentation**)
    - 0 = Lambert
    - 1 = Oren-Nayar (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)
  - Bit 1-3 = Specular Type (**set to match axfGetSvbrdfSpecularModelRepresentation**)
    - 0 = Ward
    - 1 = Blinn-Phong (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)
    - 2 = Cook-Torrance (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)
    - 3 = GGX (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)
    - 4 = Phong (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)

- (uint) **\_SVBRDF\_BRDFVariants**
  - Bit 0-1 = Fresnel Variant.
    - 0 = No Fresnel ← **axfGetSvbrdfSpecularModelVariant** returns a flag “bHasFresnel” that can be used to set this value
    - 1 = Dielectric (Cook-Torrance 1981) (*not encountered*)
    - 2 = Schlick (1994)
  - Bit 2-3 = Ward NDF Variant (**set to match axfGetSvbrdfSpecularModelVariant**)
    - 0 = Moroder (2010)
    - 1 = Dur (2006) (supported but *not encountered*)
    - 2 = Ward (1992) (supported but *not encountered*)
  - Bit 4-5 = Blinn-Phong Variant (**set to match axfGetSvbrdfSpecularModelVariant**)
    - 0 = Ashikmin-Shirley (2000) (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)
    - 1 = Blinn (1977) (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)
    - 2 = V-Ray (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)
    - 3 = Lewis (1993) (not supported at the moment) (*not encountered*)
- (float) **\_SVBRDF\_heightMapMax\_mm**  
Maximum height map displacement, in millimeters  
If you can provide the height maps as a **R16F or R32F** format, then this is useless and can be set to 1

## Car-Paint-Only Values

- (float) **\_CarPaint\_CT\_diffuse**  
Diffuse factor, directly set from property “CT\_diffuse”.
- (float) **\_CarPaint\_IOR**  
Clear coat IOR, directly set from property “IOR”
- (float) **\_CarPaint\_BRDFColorMap\_Scale**  
Optional scale factor to the BRDFColor map.  
If you can provide the texture “\_CarPaint\_BRDFColorMap\_sRGB” as a **R16F or R32F** format, then this is useless and can be set to 1
- (float) **\_CarPaint\_BTFFlakesMap\_Scale**  
Optional scale factor to the BTFFlakes map.  
If you can provide the texture “\_CarPaint\_BTFFlakesMap\_sRGB” as a **R16F or R32F** format, then this is useless and can be set to 1

## Cook-Torrance Lobes Descriptors

- (uint) **\_CarPaint\_lobesCount**  
Amount of valid components in the vectors below.  
You can set it from the length of the FLOAT\_ARRAY properties listed below but it’s generally

always set to 3, up to 4 lobes supported.

- (float4) **\_CarPaint\_CT\_F0s**  
Description of multi-lobes F0 values, directly set from property “CT\_F0s”
- (float4) **\_CarPaint\_CT\_coefs**  
Description of multi-lobes coefficients values, directly set from property “CT\_coefs”
- (float4) **\_CarPaint\_CT\_spreads**  
Description of multi-lobes spread values, directly set from property “CT\_spreads”

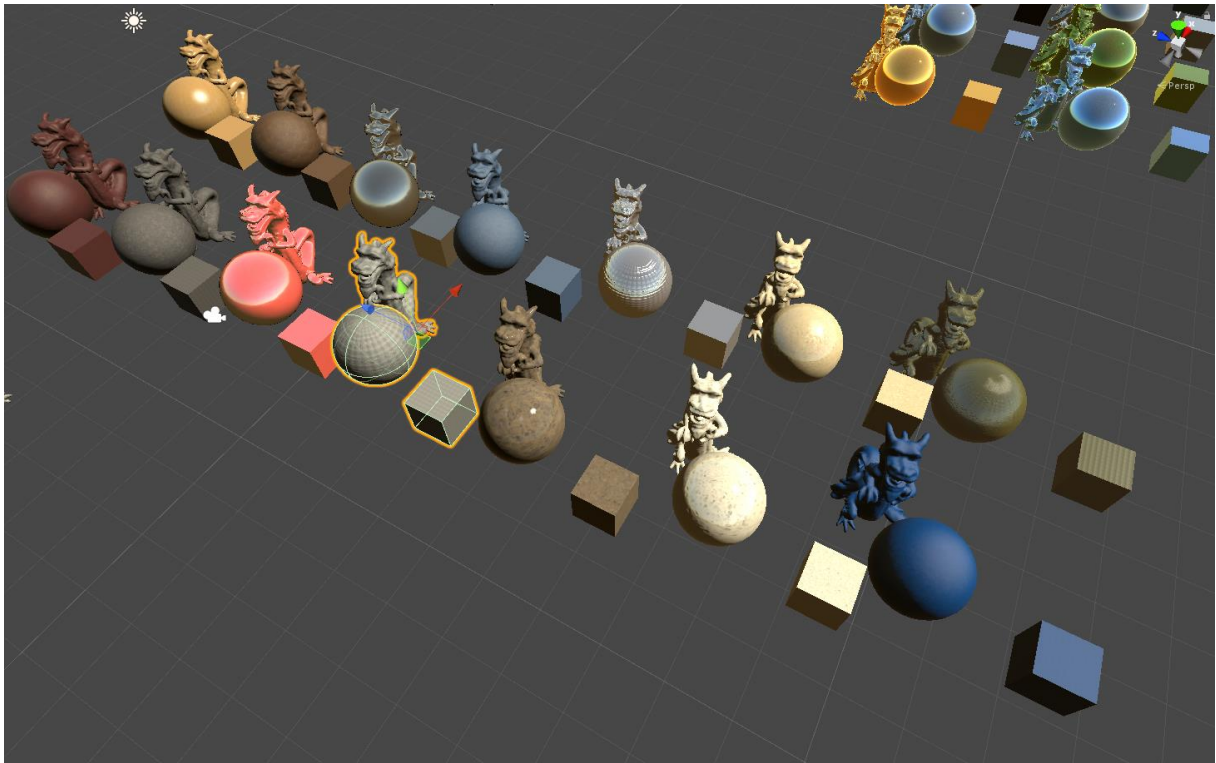
#### Flakes Descriptors

- (float) **\_CarPaint\_FlakesTiling**  
Tiling factor for flakes, *NOT* an AxF property, default value is 10.  
► **Should be exposed to the user.**
- (uint) **\_CarPaint\_maxThetal**  
Maximum thetal index, directly set from property “max\_thetal”
- (uint) **\_CarPaint\_numThetaF**  
Amount of thetaF entries, directly set from property “num\_thetaF”
- (uint) **\_CarPaint\_numThetal**  
Amount of thetal entries, directly set from property “num\_thetal”

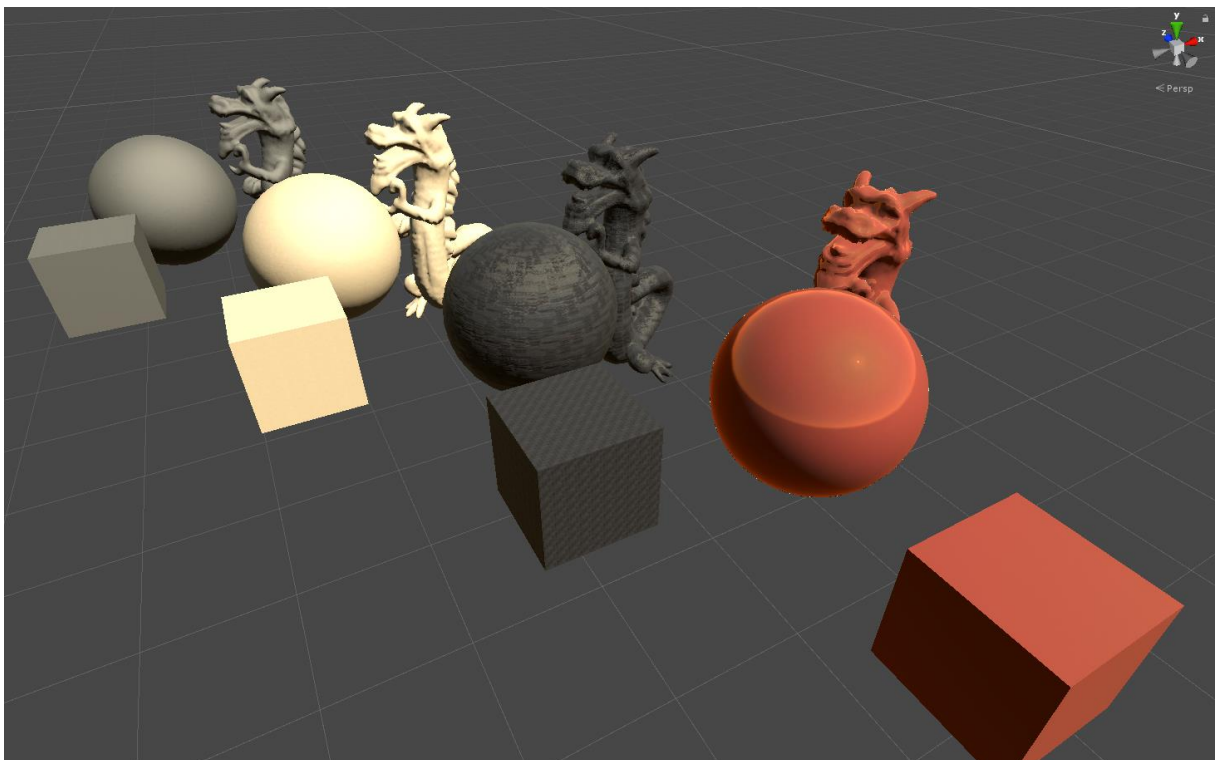
## Tested packages

The following packages have been successfully exported and tested in Unity:

- **AxFSvbrdf\_1\_0\_Dir, AxFSvbrdf\_1\_1\_Dir, AxFSvbrdfNoRefract\_1\_3\_Dir**, containing only SVBRDF materials.



- **Volkswagen**, containing 3 SVBRDF materials + 1 car paint material



- **AxFCarPaintRefract\_1\_2\_Dir**, containing only car paint materials



