
1 Overview

- 1.1 Sample** This sample can be used as a complete stand-alone sample. It can be placed anywhere in the file system. To incorporate this sample into the SDK samples, copy the contents of the `\\VolumeRendering\samples\opencl\cl\app\VolumeRendering` folder into the `$(AMDAPPSDKSAMPLESROOT)\samples\opencl\cl\app\VolumeRendering` folder.

To add this sample in `OpenCLSamples.sln`:

1. Open `OpenCLSamples.sln` in Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 or `OpenCLSamplesVS10.sln` in Visual Studio 2010.
2. Right-click on the `app` folder in the Solution Explorer, and select *add->existing project*.
3. Browse to `VolumeRendering.vcproj` (in Visual Studio 2008) or `VolumeRendering.vcxproj` (in Visual Studio 2010), and add it.
4. Right-click the Solution `OpenCLSamples` in the Solution Explorer, and select Properties.
5. Select the Project Dependencies tab, and add `SDKUtil` as a dependency for the `VolumeRendering` project.

To add this sample to the main make file, so it compiles with other SDK samples:

1. Go to the `$(AMDAPPSDKSAMPLESROOT)\samples\opencl\cl\app` folder.
2. Add `VolumeRendering` to the `SUB_DIRS` list.

- 1.2 How to Build** Compile the sample.

To do this under Windows

1. With Visual Studio: Open `VolumeRendering.sln` with Visual Studio 2008 Professional Edition, or open `VolumeRenderingVS10.sln` with Visual Studio 2010 Professional Edition; then, select build by right-clicking on the solution name.
2. With Make files: Type `make` to build the sample from the Visual Studio command prompt. If no options are specified, `make` builds for the native platform in debug configuration. To select the release configuration, add the option `release = 1`. To force a 32-bit build on a 64-bit platform, add the option `bitness=32`.

To do thus under Linux

Type `make` to build the sample. If no options are specified, `make` builds for the native platform in debug configuration. To select release configuration, add the option `release = 1`. To force a 32-bit build on a 64-bit platform, add the option `bitness=32`.

Note : Ensure that AMDAPPSDKROOT and AMDAPPSDKSAMPLESROOT are set to the appropriate location.

1.3 How to Run Typing `VolumeRendering` renders 3D volume data that is provided in an input RAW file.

1.4 Command Line Options Table 1 lists, and briefly describes, the command line options.

Table 1 Command Line Options

Short Form	Long Form	Description
-h	--help	Shows all command options and their respective meaning.
	--device	Devices on which the program is to be run. Acceptable values are <code>cpu</code> or <code>gpu</code> .
-q	--quiet	Quiet mode. Suppresses all text output.
-e	--verify	Verify results against reference implementation.
-t	--timing	Print timing.
	--dump	Dump binary image for all devices.
	--load	Load binary image and execute on device.
	--flags	Specify compiler flags to build the kernel.
-p	--platformId	Select platformId to be used (0 to N-1, where N is the number of available platforms).
-d	--deviceId	Select deviceId to be used (0 to N-1, where N is the number of available devices).
-i	--iterations	Number of iterations for kernel execution.

2 Implementation Details

The sample renders a 3D volume box from a data file using ray casting. The data is loaded into 3D textures that are provided in OpenCL; these originally consist of a number of 2D slices representing a 3D volume. The normalized 3D texture data lies in a box between end points (0, 0, 0) and (1, 1, 1).

A camera and a near location is placed in $-Z$ direction. For each pixel on the near plane, a ray is fired from the camera through the near plane. If the ray does not intersect the volume box, the kernel returns; otherwise, data is sampled using a fixed step size and pixel color. This data is accumulated using a linear blending equation.

Note - The sample works with other volume data available at volvis.org. The volume dimensions may have to be changed in the `VolumeRendering.hpp` as these are hardcoded to 256x256x256, according to the provided volume data `aneurism`.

3 References

The OpenCL code is based on a pixel shader code available at:
<http://graphicsrunner.blogspot.com/2009/01/volume-rendering-101.html>

The volume data `aneurism.raw` was acquired from www.volvis.org.

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