

Vulkan Synchronization Notes

[<https://github.com/KhronosGroup/Vulkan-Docs/wiki/Synchronization-Examples>]

General

A 'vkCmdPipelineBarrier' covers all resources globally.

```
const VkMemoryBarrier mem_barrier = {
    .sType          = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_MEMORY_BARRIER,
    .pNext          = NULL,
    .srcAccessMask  = VkAccessFlagBits,
    .dstAccessMask  = VkAccessFlagBits,
};

const VkImageMemoryBarrier img_barrier = {
    .sType          = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_MEMORY_BARRIER,
    .pNext          = NULL,
    .srcAccessMask  = VkAccessFlagBits,
    .dstAccessMask  = VkAccessFlagBits,
    .oldLayout      = VkImageLayout,
    .newLayout      = VkImageLayout,
    .srcQueueFamilyIndex = (uint32_t)VK_QUEUE_FAMILY_IGNORED or a queue index,
    .dstQueueFamilyIndex = (uint32_t)VK_QUEUE_FAMILY_IGNORED or a queue index,
    .image          = VkImage,
    .subresourceRange = {
        .aspectMask    = VkImageAspectFlagBits,
        .baseMipLevel  = uint32_t,
        .levelCount    = uint32_t,
        .baseArrayLayer = uint32_t,
        .layerCount    = uint32_t,
    }
};

const VkSubpassDependency sub_pass_dep = {
    .srcSubpass      = uint32_t,
    .dstSubpass      = uint32_t,
    .srcStageMask    = VkPipelineStageFlagBits,
    .dstStageMask    = VkPipelineStageFlagBits,
    .srcAccessMask   = VkAccessFlagBits,
    .dstAccessMask   = VkAccessFlagBits,
    .dependencyFlags = VK_DEPENDENCY_BY_REGION_BIT,
};
```

'VK_DEPENDENCY_BY_REGION_BIT' means that you only read / write pixels you own in a single subpass

This would not work **if** you had a blur shader that read outside of that area.

```
const VkBufferMemoryBarrier buf_mem_barrier = {
    .sType          = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_BUFFER_MEMORY_BARRIER,
    .pNext          = NULL,
    .srcAccessMask   = VkAccessFlagBits,
    .dstAccessMask   = VkAccessFlagBits,
    .srcQueueFamilyIndex = uint32_t,
    .dstQueueFamilyIndex = uint32_t,
    .buffer          = VkBuffer,
    .offset          = VkDeviceSize,
    .size            = VkDeviceSize,
};
```

Compute -> Compute

Write -> Read

Using a “vkCmdPipelineBarrier” inbetween two ‘vkCmdDispatch’ protect against read after write.

‘VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COMPUTE_SHADER_BIT’ for both src and dst stage. ‘VK_ACCESS_SHADER_WRITE_BIT’ for srcAccessMask ‘VK_ACCESS_SHADER_READ_BIT’ for dstAccessMask

Read -> Write

A simpler execution dependency solves the write after read issue. ‘vkCmdPipelineBarrier’ with no memory barrier.

Compute -> Graphics

Write (C) -> Read (G)

Same as Compute -> Compute for this situation.

Write (C) -> Read (G) -> Read (C)

Nearly the same but adds more flags thus batching rather than using two barriers. Or the ‘dstStageMask’ and ‘dstAccessMask’ so that it includes both of the following ops.

Image based writes and reads

Use ‘VkImageMemoryBarrier’ with a correct layout transition. This is only if the Draw wants to view it as an image other wise mem_barrier is fine.

Graphics -> Compute

Use a 'VkImageMemoryBarrier' with the correct stages and access masks. Super simple.

Graphics -> Graphics

Use a 'VkSubpassDependency' if you can. "VkAttachmentDescription" does implicit layout transitions.

Otherwise use a 'VkImageMemoryBarrier'.

WAR Hazard

You would normally only need an execution dep but since you need a layout transition then you need an 'VkImageMemoryBarrier' with an empty 'srcAccessMask'.

WAW Hazard (RP -> RP reusing the same depth buffer)

Always needs a memory dep. Needs use of 'VK_SUBPASS_EXTERNAL' because of the automatic transition. Use pipeline stages with the fragments tests as those use the depth buffer. .dependencyFlags should be 0.

Memory Transfer

Staging buffer -> Device Local Memory

Start with a 'vkCmdCopyBuffer'. Then:

If the queue is unified a normal 'vkCmdPipelineBarrier' is fine.

Otherwise: A 'VkBufferMemoryBarrier' is needed. End and submit to the queue. (Must have a semaphore the gfx queue waits on) Begin commands Another 'VkBufferMemoryBarrier' with the correct dst Access. End cmd and submit to gfx queue.

Images have the same story except they can use 'VkImageMemoryBarrier' as they also have the family queue indices field. (unified uses: VK_QUEUE_FAMILY_IGNORED)

External Deps

```
Variables: $first_subpass_that_uses_attachments: 0 $last_subpass_that_uses_attachments
: #num_subpasses - 1 $first_need_for_layout: VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT
$last_need_for_layout: VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT;
```

```
// When to do layout transitions: dependencies[0].srcSubpass = VK_SUBPASS_EXTERNAL;
dependencies[0].dstSubpass = $first_subpass_that_uses_attachments; dependencies[0].srcStageMask = VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_COMMANDS_BIT;
```

```

dependencies[0].dstStageMask = $first_need_for_layout; dependencies[0].srcAccessMask = VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_READ_BIT; dependencies[0].dstAccessMask = VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT | VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT; dependencies[0].dependencyFlags = VK_DEPENDENCY_BY_REGION_BIT;

dependencies[1].srcSubpass = $last_subpass_that_uses_attachments; dependencies[1].dstSubpass = VK_SUBPASS_EXTERNAL; dependencies[1].srcStageMask = $last_need_for_layout; dependencies[1].dstStageMask = VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_ALL_COMMANDS_BIT; dependencies[1].srcAccessMask = VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_READ_BIT | VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT; dependencies[1].dstAccessMask = VK_ACCESS_MEMORY_READ_BIT; dependencies[1].dependencyFlags = VK_DEPENDENCY_BY_REGION_BIT;

// ----- -// // Required Layout Table for Access
// from Shaders // // ----- -// // (1) Storage
// Image // VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_GENERAL // // (2) Sampled Image: //
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_READ_ONLY_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_ATTACHMENT_STENCIL_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_STENCIL_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_SHADER_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL //
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_GENERAL // // (3) Combined Image Sampler: //
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_READ_ONLY_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_ATTACHMENT_STENCIL_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_STENCIL_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_SHADER_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL //
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_GENERAL // // (4) Input Attachment: //
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_READ_ONLY_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_ATTACHMENT_STENCIL_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_STENCIL_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_SHADER_READ_ONLY_OPTIMAL //
// VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_GENERAL

```