



# **Khronos Data Format Specification**

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Version 1.2, Revision 0

September 14, 2017

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| <i>Revision number</i> | <i>Date</i>    | <i>Release Info</i>                                              | <i>Author</i> |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 0.1                    | Jan 2015       | Initial sharing                                                  | AG            |
| 0.2                    | Feb 2015       | Added clarification, tables, examples                            | AG            |
| 0.3                    | Feb 2015       | Further cleanup                                                  | AG            |
| 0.4                    | Apr 2015       | Channel ordering standardised                                    | AG            |
| 0.5                    | Apr 2015       | Typos and clarification                                          | AG            |
| 1.0                    | May 2015       | Submission for 1.0 release                                       | AG            |
| 1.0 rev 2              | June 2015      | Clarifications for 1.0 release                                   | AG            |
| 1.0 rev 3              | July 2015      | Added KHR_DF_SAMPLE_DATATYPE_LINEAR                              | AG            |
| 1.0 rev 4              | July 2015      | Clarified KHR_DF_SAMPLE_DATATYPE_LINEAR                          | AG            |
| 1.1                    | November 2015  | Added definitions of compressed texture formats                  | AG            |
| 1.1 rev 2              | January 2016   | Added definitions of floating point formats                      | AG            |
| 1.1 rev 3              | February 2016  | Fixed typo in sRGB conversion (thank you, Tom Grim!)             | AG            |
| 1.1 rev 4              | March 2016     | Fixed typo/clarified sRGB in ASTC, typographical improvements    | AG            |
| 1.1 rev 5              | March 2016     | Switch to official Khronos logo, removed scripts, restored title | AG            |
| 1.1 rev 6              | June 2016      | ASTC "block footprint" note, fixed credits/changelog/contents    | AG            |
| 1.1 rev 7              | September 2016 | ASTC multi-point "part" and quint decode typo fixes              | AG            |
| 1.1 rev 8              | June 2017      | ETC2 legibility and table typo fix                               | AG            |
| 1.2 rev 0              | September 2017 | Added color conversion formulae and extra options                | AG            |

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## **Abstract**

This document describes a data format specification for non-opaque (user-visible) representations of user data to be used by, and shared between, Khronos standards. The intent of this specification is to avoid replication of incompatible format descriptions between standards and to provide a definitive mechanism for describing data that avoids excluding useful information that may be ignored by other standards. Other APIs are expected to map internal formats to this standard scheme, allowing formats to be shared and compared. This document also acts as a reference for the memory layout of a number of common compressed texture formats, and describes conversion between a number of common color spaces.

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Many APIs operate on bulk data — buffers, images, volumes, etc. — each composed of many elements with a fixed and often simple representation. Frequently, multiple alternative representations of data are supported: vertices can be represented with different numbers of dimensions, textures may have different bit depths and channel orders, and so on. Sometimes the representation of the data is highly specific to the application, but there are many types of data that are common to multiple APIs — and these can reasonably be described in a portable manner. In this standard, the term *data format* describes the representation of data.

It is typical for each API to define its own enumeration of the data formats on which it can operate. This causes a problem when multiple APIs are in use: the representations are likely to be incompatible, even where the capabilities intersect. When additional format-specific capabilities are added to an API which was designed without them, the description of the data representation often becomes inconsistent and disjoint. Concepts that are unimportant to the core design of an API may be represented simplistically or inaccurately, which can be a problem as the API is enhanced or when data is shared.

Some APIs do not have a strict definition of how to interpret their data. For example, a rendering API may treat all color channels of a texture identically, leaving the interpretation of each channel to the user's choice of convention. This may be true even if color channels are given names that are associated with actual colors — in some APIs, nothing stops the user from storing the blue quantity in the red channel and the red quantity in the blue channel. Without enforcing a single data interpretation on such APIs, it is nonetheless often useful to offer a clear definition of the color interpretation convention that is in force, both for code maintenance and for communication with external APIs which do have a defined interpretation. Should the user wish to use an unconventional interpretation of the data, an appropriate descriptor can be defined that is specific to this choice, in order to simplify automated interpretation of the chosen representation and to provide concise documentation.

Where multiple APIs are in use, relying on an API-specific representation as an intermediary can cause loss of important information. For example, a camera API may associate color space information with a captured image, and a printer API may be able to operate with that color space, but if the data is passed through an intermediate compute API for processing and that API has no concept of a color space, the useful information may be discarded.

The intent of this standard is to provide a common, consistent, machine-readable way to describe those data formats which are amenable to non-proprietary representation. This standard provides a portable means of storing the most common descriptive information associated with data formats, and an extension mechanism that can be used when this common functionality must be supplemented.

While this standard is intended to support the description of many kinds of data, the most common class of bulk data used in Khronos standards represents color information. For this reason, the range of standard color representations used in Khronos standards is diverse, and a significant portion of this specification is devoted to color formats.

Later sections provide a description of the memory layout of a number of common texture compression formats, and describe some of the common color space conversions.

## Chapter 2

# Overview

This document describes a standard layout for a data structure that can be used to define the representation of simple, portable, bulk data. Using such a data structure has the following benefits:

- Ensuring a precise description of the portable data
- Simplifying the writing of generic functionality that acts on many types of data
- Offering portability of data between APIs

The “bulk data” may be, for example:

- Pixel/texel data
- Vertex data
- A buffer of simple type

The layout of proprietary data structures is beyond the remit of this specification, but the large number of ways to describe colors, vertices and other repeated data makes standardization useful.

The data structure in this specification describes the elements in the bulk data, not the layout of the whole. For example, it may describe the size, location and interpretation of color channels within a pixel, but is not responsible for determining the mapping between spatial coordinates and the location of pixels in memory. That is, two textures which share the same pixel layout can share the same descriptor as defined in this specification, but may have different sizes, line strides, tiling or dimensionality. An example pixel format is described in [Table 2.1](#).

|  |     |       |      |  |
|--|-----|-------|------|--|
|  | Red | Green | Blue |  |
|--|-----|-------|------|--|

Table 2.1: A simple texel block — three channels representing one pixel

In some cases, the elements of bulk texture data may not correspond to a conventional texel. For example, in a compressed texture it is common for the atomic element of the buffer to represent a rectangular block of texels. Alternatively the representation of the output of a camera may have a repeating pattern according to a Bayer or other layout, as shown in [Table 2.2](#). It is this repeating and self-contained atomic unit, termed a *texel block*, that is described by this standard.

|  |       |  |       |  |
|--|-------|--|-------|--|
|  | Red   |  | Green |  |
|  | Green |  | Blue  |  |

Table 2.2: A simple Bayer-pattern texel block — three channels spread across 2×2 pixels

The sampling or reconstruction of texel data is not a function of the data format. That is, a texture has the same format whether it is point sampled or a bicubic filter is used, and the manner of reconstructing full color data from a camera sensor is not defined. Where information making up the data format has a spatial aspect, this is part of the descriptor: it is part of the descriptor to define the spatial configuration of color samples in a Bayer sensor or whether the chroma difference channels in a  $Y'CbCr$  format are considered to be centered or co-sited, but not how this information must be used to generate coordinate-aligned full color values.

The data structure defined in this specification is termed a *data format descriptor*. This is an extensible block of contiguous memory, with a defined layout. The size of the data format descriptor depends on its content, but is also stored in a field at the start of the descriptor, making it possible to copy the data structure without needing to interpret all possible contents.

The data format descriptor is divided into one or more *descriptor blocks*, each also consisting of contiguous data, as shown in Table 2.3. These descriptor blocks may, themselves, be of different sizes, depending on the data contained within. The size of a descriptor block is stored as part of its data structure, allowing applications to process a data format descriptor while skipping contained descriptor blocks that it does not need to understand. The data format descriptor mechanism is extensible by the addition of new descriptor blocks.

|                        |
|------------------------|
| Data format descriptor |
| Descriptor block 1     |
| Descriptor block 2     |
| :                      |

Table 2.3: Data format descriptor and descriptor blocks

The diversity of possible data makes a concise description that can support every possible format impractical. This document describes one type of descriptor block, a *basic descriptor block*, that is expected to be the first descriptor block inside the data format descriptor where present, and which is sufficient for a large number of common formats, particularly for pixels. Formats which cannot be described within this scheme can use additional descriptor blocks of other types as necessary.

Later sections of this specification provide a description of the in-memory representation of a number of common compressed texture formats, and describe several common color spaces.

## Glossary

**Data format** The interpretation of individual elements in bulk data. Examples include the channel ordering and bit positions in pixel data or the configuration of samples in a Bayer image. The format describes the elements, not the bulk data itself: an image's size, stride, tiling, dimensionality, border control modes, and image reconstruction filter are not part of the format and are the responsibility of the application.

**Data format descriptor** A contiguous block of memory containing information about how data is represented, in accordance with this specification. A data format descriptor is a container, within which can be found one or more descriptor blocks. This specification does not define where or how the data format descriptor should be stored, only its content. For example, the descriptor may be directly prepended to the bulk data, perhaps as part of a file format header, or the descriptor may be stored in a CPU memory while the bulk data that it describes resides within GPU memory; this choice is application-specific.

**(Data format) descriptor block** A contiguous block of memory with a defined layout, held within a data format descriptor. Each descriptor block has a common header that allows applications to identify and skip descriptor blocks that it does not understand, while continuing to process any other descriptor blocks that may be held in the data format descriptor.

**Basic (data format) descriptor block** The initial form of descriptor block as described in this standard. Where present, it must be the first descriptor block held in the data format descriptor. This descriptor block can describe a large number of common formats and may be the only type of descriptor block that many portable applications will need to support.

**Texel block** The units described by the Basic Data Format Descriptor: a repeating element within bulk data. In simple texture formats, a texel block may describe a single pixel. In formats with subsampled channels, the texel block may

describe several pixels. In a block-based compressed texture, the texel block typically describes the compression block unit. The basic descriptor block supports texel blocks of up to four dimensions.

**Sample** In this standard, texel blocks are considered to be composed of contiguous bit patterns with a single channel or component type and a single spatial location. A typical ARGB pixel has four samples, one for each channel, held at the same coordinate. A texel block from a Bayer sensor might have a different location for different channels, and may have multiple samples representing the same channel at multiple locations. A  $Y'C_B C_R$  buffer with downsampled chroma may have more luma sample than chroma, each at different locations.

**Plane** In some formats, a texel block is not contiguous in memory. In a two-dimensional texture, the texel block may be spread across multiple scan lines, or channels may be stored independently. The basic format descriptor block defines a texel block as being made of a number of concatenated bits which may come from different regions of memory, where each region is considered a separate *plane*. For common formats, it is sufficient to require that the contribution from each plane is an integer number of bytes. This specification places no requirements on the ordering of planes in memory — the plane locations are described outside the format. This allows support for multiplanar formats which have proprietary padding requirements that are hard to accommodate in a more terse representation.

In many existing APIs, planes may be “downsampled” differently. For example, in these APIs, a  $Y'C_B C_R$  (colloquially “YUV”) 4:2:0 buffer as in Table 2.4 would typically be represented with three planes (Table 2.5), one for each channel, with the luma ( $Y'$ ) plane containing four times as many pixels as the chroma ( $C_B$  and  $C_R$ ) planes, and with two horizontal lines of the luma held within the same plane for each horizontal line of the chroma planes.

| Y' channel             |    |    |    |
|------------------------|----|----|----|
| 0                      | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4                      | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8                      | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12                     | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| C <sub>B</sub> channel |    |    |    |
| 16                     |    | 17 |    |
| 18                     |    | 19 |    |
| C <sub>R</sub> channel |    |    |    |
| 20                     |    | 21 |    |
| 22                     |    | 23 |    |

Table 2.4: Possible memory representation of a  $4 \times 4$   $Y'C_B C_R$  4:2:0 buffer (numbers are byte offsets)

|             |           |               |                         |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Y' plane    | offset 0  | byte stride 4 | downsample $1 \times 1$ |
| $C_B$ plane | offset 16 | byte stride 2 | downsample $2 \times 2$ |
| $C_R$ plane | offset 20 | byte stride 2 | downsample $2 \times 2$ |

Table 2.5: Plane descriptors for the above  $Y'C_B C_R$  format buffer in a conventional API

This approach does not extend logically to more complex formats such as a Bayer grid. Therefore in this specification, we would instead define the luma channel as in Table 2.6, using two planes, vertically interleaved (in a linear mapping between addresses and samples) by the selection of a suitable offset and line stride, with each line of luma samples contiguous in memory. Only one plane is used for each of the chroma channels (or one plane collectively if the chroma samples are stored adjacently).

|             |           |               |               |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Y' plane 1  | offset 0  | byte stride 8 | plane bytes 2 |
| Y' plane 2  | offset 4  | byte stride 8 | plane bytes 2 |
| $C_B$ plane | offset 16 | byte stride 2 | plane bytes 1 |
| $C_R$ plane | offset 20 | byte stride 2 | plane bytes 1 |

Table 2.6: Plane descriptors for the above  $Y'C_B C_R$  format buffer using this standard

The same approach can be used to represent a static interlaced image, with a texel block consisting of two planes, one per field. This mechanism is all that is required to represent a static image without downsampled channels; however correct reconstruction of interlaced, downsampled color difference formats (such as Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub>), which typically involves interpolation of the nearest chroma samples in a given *field* rather than the whole *frame*, is beyond the remit of this specification. There are many proprietary and often heuristic approaches to sample reconstruction, particularly for Bayer-like formats and for multi-frame images, and it is not practical to document them here.

There is no expectation that the internal format used by an API that wishes to make use of the Khronos Data Format Specification must use this specification's representation internally: reconstructing downsampling information from this standard's representation in order to revert to the more conventional representation should be trivial if required.

There is no requirement that the number of bytes occupied by the texel block be the same in each plane. The descriptor defines the number of bytes that the texel block occupies in each plane, which for most formats is sufficient to allow access to consecutive elements. For a two-dimensional data structure, it is up to the controlling interface to resolve byte stride between consecutive lines. For a three-dimensional structure, the controlling API may need to add a level stride. Since these strides are determined by the data size and architecture alignment requirements, they are not considered to be part of the format.



## Chapter 3

# Required concepts not in the “format”

This specification encodes how atomic data should be interpreted in a manner which is independent of the layout and dimensionality of the collective data. Collections of data may have a “compatible format” in that their format descriptor may be identical, yet be different sizes. Some additional information is therefore expected to be recorded alongside the “format description”.

The API which controls the bulk data is responsible for controlling which memory location corresponds to the indexing mechanism chosen. A texel block has the concept of a coordinate offset within the block, which implies that if the data is accessed in terms of spatial coordinates, a texel block has spatial locality as well as referring to contiguous memory (per plane). For texel blocks which represent only a single spatial location, this is irrelevant; for block-based compression, for formats with downsampled channels, or for Bayer-like formats, the texel block represents a finite extent in up to four dimensions. However, the mapping from coordinate system to the memory location containing a texel block is beyond the control of this API.

The minimum requirements for accessing a linearly-addressed buffer is to store the start address and a stride (typically in bytes) between texels in each dimension of the buffer, for each plane contributing to the texel block. For the first dimension, the memory stride between texels may simply be the byte size of texel block in that plane — this implies that there are no gaps between texel blocks. For other dimensions, the stride is a function of the size of the data structure being represented — for example, in a compact representation of a two-dimensional buffer, the texel block at coordinate  $(x,y+1)$  might be found at the address of coordinate  $(x,y)$  plus the buffer width multiplied by the texel size in bytes. Similarly in a three-dimensional buffer, the address of the pixel at  $(x,y,z+1)$  may be at the address of  $(x,y,z)$  plus the byte size of a two-dimensional slice of the texture. In practice, even linear layouts may have padding, and often more complex relationships between coordinates and memory location are used to encourage locality of reference. The details of all of these data structures are beyond the remit of this specification.

Most simple formats contain a single *plane* of data. Those formats which require additional planes compared with a conventional representation are typically downsampled  $Y'CbCr$  formats, which already have the concept of separate storage for different color channels. While this specification uses multiple planes to describe texel blocks that span multiple scan lines if the data is disjoint, there is no expectation that the API using the data formats needs to maintain this representation — interleaved planes should be easy to identify and coalesce if the API requires a more conventional representation of downsampled formats.

Some image representations are composed of tiles of texels which are held contiguously in memory, with the texels within the tile stored in some order that improves locality of reference for multi-dimensional access. This is a common approach to improve memory efficiency when texturing. While it is possible to represent such a tile as a large texel block (up to the maximum representable texel block size in this specification), this is unlikely to be an efficient approach, since a large number of samples will be needed and the layout of a tile usually has a very limited number of possibilities. In most cases, the layout of texels within the tile should be described by whatever interface is aware of image-specific information such as size and stride, and only the format of the texels should be described by a format descriptor.

The complication to this is where texel blocks larger than a single pixel are themselves encoded using proprietary tiling. The spatial layout of samples within a texel block is required to be fixed in the basic format descriptor — for example, if the texel block size is  $2 \times 2$  pixels, the top left pixel might always be expected to be in the first byte in that texel block. In some proprietary memory tiling formats, such as ones that store small rectangular blocks in raster order in consecutive

bytes or in Morton order, this relationship may be preserved, and the only proprietary operation is finding the start of the texel block. In other proprietary layouts such as Hilbert curve order, or when the texel block size does not divide the tiling size, a direct representation of memory may be impossible. In these cases, it is likely that this data format standard would be used to describe the data as it would be seen in a linear format, and the mapping from coordinates to memory would have to be hidden in proprietary translation. As a logical format description, this is unlikely to be critical, since any software which accesses such a layout will necessarily need proprietary knowledge anyway.

## Chapter 4

# Translation to API-specific representations

The data format container described here is too unwieldy to be expected to be used directly in most APIs. The expectation is that APIs and users will define data descriptors in memory, but have API-specific names for the formats that the API supports. If these names are enumeration values, a mapping can be provided by having an array of pointers to the data descriptors, indexed by the enumeration. It may commonly be necessary to provide API-specific supplementary information in the same array structure, particularly where the API natively associates concepts with the data which is not uniquely associated with the content.

In this approach, it is likely that an API would predefine a number of common data formats which are natively supported. If there is a desire to support dynamic creation of data formats, this array could be made extensible with a manager returning handles.

Even where an API supports only a fixed set of formats, it is flexible to provide a comparison with user-provided format descriptors in order to establish whether a format is compatible.

## Chapter 5

# Data format descriptor

The layout of the data structures described here are assumed to be little-endian for the purposes of data transfer, but may be implemented in the natural endianness of the platform for internal use.

The data format descriptor consists of a contiguous area of memory, as shown in Table 5.1, divided into one or more *descriptor blocks*, as in Table 5.2 which are tagged by the type of descriptor that they contain. The size of the data format descriptor varies according to its content.

|                  |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| uint32_t         | total_size                        |
| Descriptor block | first descriptor                  |
| Descriptor block | second descriptor (optional) etc. |

Table 5.1: Data Format Descriptor layout

The **total\_size** field, measured in bytes, allows the full format descriptor to be copied without need for details of the descriptor to be interpreted.

|                    |
|--------------------|
| total_size         |
| Descriptor block 1 |
| Descriptor block 2 |
| :                  |

Table 5.2: Data format descriptor header and descriptor blocks

## Chapter 6

# Descriptor block

Each Descriptor Block has the same prefix, shown in Table 6.1.

|                      |                                                |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| uint32_t             | vendor_id   (descriptor_type << 16)            |
| uint32_t             | version_number   (descriptor_block_size << 16) |
| Format-specific data |                                                |

Table 6.1: Descriptor Block layout

The **vendor\_id** is a 16-bit value uniquely assigned to organizations, allocated by Khronos; ID 0 is used to identify Khronos itself. The ID 0xFFFF is reserved for internal use which is guaranteed not to clash with third-party implementations; this ID should not be shipped in libraries to avoid conflicts with development code.

The **descriptor\_type** is a unique identifier defined by the vendor to distinguish between potential data representations.

The **version\_number** is vendor-defined, and intended to allow for backwards-compatible updates to existing descriptor blocks.

The **descriptor\_block\_size** indicates the size in bytes of this Descriptor Block, remembering that there may be multiple Descriptor Blocks within one container, as shown in Table 6.2. The **descriptor\_block\_size** therefore gives the offset between the start of the current Descriptor Block and the start of the next — so the size includes the **vendor\_id**, **descriptor\_type**, **version\_number** and **descriptor\_block\_size** fields, which collectively contribute 8 bytes.

Having an explicit **descriptor\_block\_size** allows implementations to skip a descriptor block whose format is unknown, allowing known data to be interpreted and unknown information to be ignored. Some descriptor block types may not be of a uniform size, and may vary according to the content within.

This specification initially describes only one type of descriptor block. Future revisions may define additional descriptor block types for additional applications — for example, to describe data with a large number of channels or pixels described in an arbitrary color space. Vendors can also implement proprietary descriptor blocks to hold vendor-specific information within the standard Descriptor.

|                                                |  |
|------------------------------------------------|--|
| total_size                                     |  |
| vendor_id   (descriptor_type << 16)            |  |
| version_number   (descriptor_block_size << 16) |  |
| :                                              |  |
| vendor_id   (descriptor_type << 16)            |  |
| version_number   (descriptor_block_size << 16) |  |
| :                                              |  |

Table 6.2: Data format descriptor header and descriptor block headers

## Chapter 7

# Khronos Basic Data Format Descriptor Block

One *basic descriptor block*, shown in Table 7.1 is intended to cover a large amount of metadata that is typically associated with common bulk data — most notably image or texture data. While this descriptor contains more information about the data interpretation than is needed by many applications, having a relatively comprehensive descriptor reduces the risk that metadata needed by different APIs will be lost in translation.

The format is described in terms of a repeating axis-aligned *texel block* composed of of *samples*. Each sample contains a single channel of information with a single spatial offset within the texel block, and consists of an amount of contiguous data. This *descriptor block* consists of information about the interpretation of the texel block as a whole, supplemented by a description of a number of samples taken from one or more *planes* of contiguous memory. For example, a 24-bit red/green/blue format may be described as a  $1 \times 1$  pixel region, containing three samples, one of each color, in one plane. A  $Y' C_B C_R$  4:2:0 format may consist of a repeating  $2 \times 2$  region consisting of four  $Y'$  samples and one sample each of  $C_B$  and  $C_R$ .

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                          | Byte 1                  | Byte 2                                                     | Byte 3 (MSB)            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0 (vendor_id)                                         |                         | 0 (descriptor_type)                                        |                         |
| 0 (version number)                                    |                         | 24 + 16 times number of samples<br>(descriptor_block_size) |                         |
| color_model                                           | color_primaries         | transfer_function                                          | flags                   |
| texel_block_dimension_0                               | texel_block_dimension_1 | texel_block_dimension_2                                    | texel_block_dimension_3 |
| bytes_plane_0                                         | bytes_plane_1           | bytes_plane_2                                              | bytes_plane_3           |
| bytes_plane_4                                         | bytes_plane_5           | bytes_plane_6                                              | bytes_plane_7           |
| Sample information for first sample                   |                         |                                                            |                         |
| Sample information for second sample (optional), etc. |                         |                                                            |                         |

Table 7.1: Basic Data Format Descriptor layout

The fields of the Basic Data Format Descriptor Block are described in the following sections.

## vendor\_id

The **vendor\_id** for the Basic Data Format Descriptor Block is 0, defined as **KHR\_DF\_VENDORID\_KHRONOS** in **KHR\_DF\_VENDORID\_E**.

## descriptor\_type

The **descriptor\_type** for the Basic Data Format Descriptor Block is 0, a value reserved in **KHR\_DF\_KHR\_DESCRIPTOR\_TYPE\_E** (the enumeration of Khronos-specific descriptor types) as **KHR\_DF\_KHR\_DESCRIPTOR\_TYPE\_BASICFORMAT**.

## version\_number

The **version\_number** relating to the Basic Data Format Descriptor Block as described in this specification is 1.

## descriptor\_block\_size

The size of the Basic Data Format Descriptor Block depends on the number of samples contained within it. The memory requirements for this format are 24 bytes of shared data plus 16 bytes per sample. The **descriptor\_block\_size** is measured in bytes.

## color\_model

The **color\_model** determines the set of color (or other data) channels which may be encoded within the data, though there is no requirement that all of the possible channels from the **color\_model** be present. Most data fits into a small number of common color models, but compressed texture formats each have their own color model enumeration. Note that the data need not actually represent a color — this is just the most common type of content using this descriptor. Some standards use **color container** for this concept.

The available color models are described in the **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_e** enumeration, and are represented as an unsigned 8-bit value.

Note that the numbering of the component channels is chosen such that those channel types which are common across multiple color models have the same enumeration value. That is, alpha is always encoded as channel ID 15, depth is always encoded as channel ID 14, and stencil is always encoded as channel ID 13. Luma/Luminance is always in channel ID 0. This numbering convention is intended to simplify code which can process a range of color models. Note that there is no guarantee that models which do not support these channels will not use this channel ID. Particularly, RGB formats do not have luma in channel 0, and a 16-channel undefined format is not obligated to represent alpha in any way in channel number 15.

The value of each enumerant is shown in parentheses following the enumerant name.

### KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_UNSPECIFIED (= 0)

When the data format is unknown or does not fall into a predefined category, utilities which perform automatic conversion based on an interpretation of the data cannot operate on it. This format should be used when there is no expectation of portable interpretation of the data using only the basic descriptor block.

For portability reasons, it is recommended that pixel-like formats with up to sixteen channels, but which cannot have those channels described in the basic block, be represented with a basic descriptor block with the appropriate number of samples from UNSPECIFIED channels, and then for the channel description to be stored in an extension block. This allows software which understands only the basic descriptor to be able to perform operations that depend only on channel location, not channel interpretation (such as image cropping). For example, a camera may store a raw format taken with a modified Bayer sensor, with “RGBW” (red, green, blue and white) sensor sites, or “RGBE” (red, green, blue and “emerald”). Rather than trying to encode the exact color coordinates of each sample in the basic descriptor, these formats could be represented by a four-channel “UNSPECIFIED” model, with an extension block describing the interpretation of each channel.

### KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_RGBSDA (= 1)

This color model represents additive colors of three channels, nominally red, green and blue, supplemented by channels for alpha, depth and stencil, as shown in Table 7.2. Note that in many formats, depth and stencil are stored in a completely independent buffer, but there are formats for which integrating depth and stencil with color data makes sense.

| Channel number | Name                          | Description          |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_RGBSDA_RED     | Red                  |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_RGBSDA_GREEN   | Green                |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_RGBSDA_BLUE    | Blue                 |
| 13             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_RGBSDA_STENCIL | Stencil              |
| 14             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_RGBSDA_DEPTH   | Depth                |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_RGBSDA_ALPHA   | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.2: Basic Data Format RGBSDA channels

Portable representation of additive colors with more than three primaries requires an extension to describe the full color space of the channels present. There is no practical way to do this portably without taking significantly more space.



## KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_YUVSDA (= 2)

This color model represents color differences with three channels, nominally luma ( $Y'$ ) and two color-difference chroma channels,  $U$  ( $C_B$ ) and  $V$  ( $C_R$ ), supplemented by channels for alpha, depth and stencil, as shown in Table 7.3. These formats are distinguished by  $C_B$  and  $C_R$  being a delta between the  $Y'$  channel and the blue and red channels respectively, rather than requiring a full color matrix. The conversion between  $Y'C_BC_R$  and RGB color spaces is defined in this case by the choice of value in the **color primaries** field as described in Section 20.1.

### Note

Most single-channel luma/luminance monochrome data formats should select **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_YUVSDA** and use only the Y channel, unless there is a reason to do otherwise.

| Channel number | Name                          | Description             |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YUVSDA_Y       | $Y/Y'$ (luma/luminance) |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YUVSDA_CB      | $C_B$ (alias for $U$ )  |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YUVSDA_U       | $U$ (alias for $C_B$ )  |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YUVSDA_CR      | $C_R$ (alias for $V$ )  |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YUVSDA_V       | $V$ (alias for $C_R$ )  |
| 13             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YUVSDA_STENCIL | Stencil                 |
| 14             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YUVSDA_DEPTH   | Depth                   |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YUVSDA_ALPHA   | Alpha (transparency)    |

Table 7.3: Basic Data Format YUVSDA channels

### Note

Terminology for this color model is often abused. This model is based on the idea of creating a representation of monochrome light intensity as a weighted average of color channels, then calculating color differences by subtracting two of the color channels from this monochrome value. Proper names vary for each variant of the ensuing numbers, but “YUV” is colloquially used for all of them. In the television standards from which this terminology is derived,  $Y'C_BC_R$  is more formally used to describe the representation of these color differences. See Section 20.1 for more detail.

## KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_YIQSDA (= 3)

This color model represents color differences with three channels, nominally luma ( $Y$ ) and two color-difference chroma channels,  $I$  and  $Q$ , supplemented by channels for alpha, depth and stencil, as shown in Table 7.4. This format is distinguished by  $I$  and  $Q$  each requiring all three additive channels to evaluate.  $I$  and  $Q$  are derived from  $C_B$  and  $C_R$  by a 33-degree rotation.

| Channel number | Name                          | Description          |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YIQSDA_Y       | $Y'$ (luma)          |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YIQSDA_I       | $I$ (in-phase)       |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YIQSDA_Q       | $Q$ (quadrature)     |
| 13             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YIQSDA_STENCIL | Stencil              |
| 14             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YIQSDA_DEPTH   | Depth                |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YIQSDA_ALPHA   | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.4: Basic Data Format YIQSDA channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_LABSDA (= 4)**

This color model represents the ICC perceptually-uniform L\*a\*b\* color space, combined with the option of an alpha channel, as shown in Table 7.5.

| Channel number | Name                          | Description          |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_LABSDA_L       | L* (luma)            |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_LABSDA_A       | a*                   |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_LABSDA_B       | b*                   |
| 13             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_LABSDA_STENCIL | Stencil              |
| 14             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_LABSDA_DEPTH   | Depth                |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_LABSDA_ALPHA   | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.5: Basic Data Format LABSDA channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_CMYKA (= 5)**

This color model represents secondary (subtractive) colors and the combined key (black) channel, along with alpha, as shown in Table 7.6.

| Channel number | Name                         | Description          |
|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CMYKA_CYAN    | Cyan                 |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CMYKA_MAGENTA | Magenta              |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CMYKA_YELLOW  | Yellow               |
| 3              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CMYKA_KEY     | Key/Black            |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CMYKA_ALPHA   | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.6: Basic Data Format CMYKA channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_XYZW (= 6)**

This “color model” represents channel data used for coordinate values, as shown in Table 7.7 — for example, as a representation of the surface normal in a bump map. Additional channels for higher-dimensional coordinates can be used by extending the channel number within the 4-bit limit of the **channel\_type** field.

| Channel number | Name                  | Description |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_XYZW_X | X           |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_XYZW_Y | Y           |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_XYZW_Z | Z           |
| 3              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_XYZW_W | W           |

Table 7.7: Basic Data Format XYZW channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_HSVA\_ANG (= 7)**

This color model represents color differences with three channels, *value* (luminance or luma), *saturation* (distance from monochrome) and *hue* (dominant wavelength), supplemented by an alpha channel, as shown in Table 7.8. In this model, the hue relates to the angular offset on a color wheel.

| Channel number | Name                               | Description          |
|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSVA_ANG_VALUE      | V (value)            |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSVA_ANG_SATURATION | S (saturation)       |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSVA_ANG_HUE        | H (hue)              |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSVA_ANG_ALPHA      | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.8: Basic Data Format HSVA\_ANG channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_HSLA\_ANG (= 8)**

This color model represents color differences with three channels, *lightness* (maximum intensity), *saturation* (distance from monochrome) and *hue* (dominant wavelength), supplemented by an alpha channel, as shown in Table 7.9. In this model, the hue relates to the angular offset on a color wheel.

| Channel number | Name                               | Description          |
|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSLA_ANG_LIGHTNESS  | L (lightness)        |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSLA_ANG_SATURATION | S (saturation)       |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSLA_ANG_HUE        | H (hue)              |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSLA_ANG_ALPHA      | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.9: Basic Data Format HSLA\_ANG channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_HSVA\_HEX (= 9)**

This color model represents color differences with three channels, *value* (luminance or luma), *saturation* (distance from monochrome) and *hue* (dominant wavelength), supplemented by an alpha channel, as shown in Table 7.10. In this model, the hue is generated by interpolation between extremes on a color hexagon.

| Channel number | Name                               | Description          |
|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSVA_HEX_VALUE      | V (value)            |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSVA_HEX_SATURATION | S (saturation)       |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSVA_HEX_HUE        | H (hue)              |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSVA_HEX_ALPHA      | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.10: Basic Data Format HSVA\_HEX channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_HSLA\_HEX (= 10)**

This color model represents color differences with three channels, *lightness* (maximum intensity), *saturation* (distance from monochrome) and hue (dominant wavelength), supplemented by an alpha channel, as shown in Table 7.11. In this model, the hue is generated by interpolation between extremes on a color hexagon.

| Channel number | Name                               | Description          |
|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSLA_HEX_LIGHTNESS  | L (lightness)        |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSLA_HEX_SATURATION | S (saturation)       |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSLA_HEX_HUE        | H (hue)              |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_HSLA_HEX_ALPHA      | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.11: Basic Data Format HSLA\_HEX channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_YCGCOA (= 11)**

This color model represents low-cost approximate color differences with three channels, nominally luma (Y) and two color-difference chroma channels, Cg (green/purple color difference) and Co (orange/cyan color difference), supplemented by a channel for alpha, as shown in Table 7.12.

| Channel number | Name                        | Description          |
|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCGCOA_Y     | Y                    |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCGCOA_CG    | Cg                   |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCGCOA_CO    | Co                   |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCGCOA_ALPHA | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.12: Basic Data Format YCoCgA channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_YCCBCCRC (= 12)**

This color model represents the “Constant luminance”  $Y'_C C'_{BC} C'_{RC}$  color model defined as an optional representation in ITU-T BT.2020 and described in Section 20.2.

| Channel number | Name                            | Description          |
|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCCBCCRC_YC      | $Y_C$ (luminance)    |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCCBCCRC_CBC     | $C_{BC}$             |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCCBCCRC_CRC     | $C_{RC}$             |
| 13             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCCBCCRC_STENCIL | Stencil              |
| 14             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCCBCCRC_DEPTH   | Depth                |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_YCCBCCRC_ALPHA   | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.13: Basic Data Format  $Y_C C_{BC} C_{RC}$  channels**KHR\_DF\_MODEL ICTCP (= 13)**

This color model represents the “Constant intensity  $IC_T C_P$  color model” defined as an optional representation in ITU-T BT.2100 and described in Section 20.3.

| Channel number | Name                         | Description          |
|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL ICTCP_I       | $I$ (intensity)      |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL ICTCP_CT      | $C_T$                |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL ICTCP_CP      | $C_P$                |
| 13             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL ICTCP_STENCIL | Stencil              |
| 14             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL ICTCP_DEPTH   | Depth                |
| 15             | KHR_DF_CHANNEL ICTCP_ALPHA   | Alpha (transparency) |

Table 7.14: Basic Data Format  $IC_T C_P$  channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_CIEXYZ (= 14)**

This color model represents channel data used to describe color coordinates in the **CIE 1931 XYZ** coordinate space, as shown in Table 7.15.

| Channel number | Name                    | Description |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CIEXYZ_X | X           |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CIEXYZ_Y | Y           |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CIEXYZ_Z | Z           |

Table 7.15: Basic Data Format CIE XYZ channels

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_CIEYY (= 15)**

This color model represents channel data used to describe chromaticity coordinates in the **CIE 1931 xyY** coordinate space, as shown in Table 7.16.

| Channel number | Name                          | Description |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 0              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CIEXYZ_X       | x           |
| 1              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CIEXYZ_YCHROMA | y           |
| 2              | KHR_DF_CHANNEL_CIEXYZ_YLUMA   | Y           |

Table 7.16: Basic Data Format CIE xyY channels

## Compressed formats

A number of compressed formats are supported as part of **khr\_df\_model\_e**. In general, these formats will have a texel block dimension of the compression block size. Most contain a single sample of channel type 0 at offset 0,0—where further samples are required, they should also be sited at 0,0. By convention, models which have multiple channels that are disjoint in memory have these channel locations described accurately.

The ASTC family of formats have a number of possible channels, and are distinguished by samples which reference some set of these channels. The **texel\_block\_dimensions** field determines the compression ratio for ASTC.

Floating-point compressed formats have lower and upper limits specified in floating point format. Integer compressed formats with a lower and upper of 0 and **UINT32\_MAX** (for unsigned formats) or **INT32\_MIN** and **INT32\_MAX** (for signed formats) are assumed to map the full representable range to the 0..1 or -1..1 respectively.

### **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_DXT1A/KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_BC1A (= 128)**

This model represents the DXT1 or BC1 format. Channel 0 indicates color. If a second sample is present it should use channel 1 to indicate that the “special value” of the format should represent transparency—otherwise the “special value” represents opaque black.

### **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_DXT2/3/KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_BC2 (= 129)**

This model represents the DXT2/3 format, also described as BC2. The alpha premultiplication state (the distinction between DXT2 and DXT3) is recorded separately in the descriptor. This model has two channels: ID 0 contains the color information and ID 15 contains the alpha information. The alpha channel is 64 bits and at offset 0; the color channel is 64 bits and at offset 64. No attempt is made to describe the 16 alpha samples for this position independently, since understanding the other channels for any pixel requires the whole texel block.

### **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_DXT4/5/KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_BC3 (= 130)**

This model represents the DXT4/5 format, also described as BC3. The alpha premultiplication state (the distinction between DXT4 and DXT5) is recorded separately in the descriptor. This model has two channels: ID 0 contains the color information and ID 15 contains the alpha information. The alpha channel is 64 bits and at offset 0; the color channel is 64 bits and at offset 64.

### **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_BC4 (= 131)**

This model represents the Direct3D BC4 format for single-channel interpolated 8-bit data. The model has a single channel of id 0 with offset 0 and length 64 bits.

### **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_BC5 (= 132)**

This model represents the Direct3D BC5 format for dual-channel interpolated 8-bit data. The model has two channels, 0 (red) and 1 (green), which should have their bit depths and offsets independently described: the red channel has offset 0 and length 64 bits and the green channel has offset 64 and length 64 bits.

### **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_BC6H (= 133)**

This model represents the Direct3D BC6H format for RGB floating-point data. The model has a single channel 0, representing all three channels, and occupying 128 bits.

### **KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_BC7 (= 134)**

This model represents the Direct3D BC7 format for RGBA data. This model has a single channel 0 of 128 bits.

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_ETC1 (= 160)**

This model represents the original Ericsson Texture Compression format, with a guarantee that the format does not rely on ETC2 extensions. It contains a single channel of RGB data.

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_ETC2 (= 161)**

This model represents the updated Ericsson Texture Compression format, ETC2. Channel 0 represents red, and is used for the R11 EAC format. Channel 1 represents green, and both red and green should be present for the RG11 EAC format. Channel 2 represents RGB combined content. Channel 15 indicates the presence of alpha. If the texel block size is 8 bytes and the RGB and alpha channels are co-sited, “punch through” alpha is supported. If the texel block size is 16 bytes and the alpha channel appears in the first 8 bytes, followed by 8 bytes for the RGB channel, 8-bit separate alpha is supported.

**KHR\_DF\_MODEL\_ASTC (= 162)**

This model represents Adaptive Scalable Texture Compression as a single channel in a texel block of 16 bytes. ASTC HDR (high dynamic range) and LDR (low dynamic range) modes are distinguished by the **channel\_id** containing the flag **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_FLOAT**: an ASTC texture that is guaranteed by the user to contain only LDR-encoded blocks should have the **channel\_id KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_FLOAT** bit clear, and an ASTC texture that may include HDR-encoded blocks should have the **channel\_id KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_FLOAT** bit set to 1. ASTC supports a number of compression ratios defined by different texel block sizes; these are selected by changing the texel block size fields in the data format. The single sample has a size of 128 bits.

ASTC encoding is described in section Chapter 15.



## color\_primaries

It is not sufficient to define a buffer as containing, for example, additive primaries. Additional information is required to define what “red” is provided by the “red” channel. A full definition of primaries requires an extension which provides the full color space of the data, but a subset of common primary spaces can be identified by the **KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_e** enumeration, represented as an unsigned 8-bit integer value.

More information about color primaries is provided in Chapter 19.

### KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_UNSPECIFIED (= 0)

This “set of primaries” identifies a data representation whose color representation is unknown or which does not fit into this list of common primaries. Having an “unspecified” value here precludes users of this data format from being able to perform automatic color conversion unless the primaries are defined in another way. Formats which require a proprietary color space—for example, raw data from a Bayer sensor that records the direct response of each filtered sample—can still indicate that samples represent “red”, “green” and “blue”, but should mark the primaries here as “unspecified” and provide a detailed description in an extension block.

### KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_BT709 (= 1)

This value represents the Color Primaries defined by the **ITU-R BT.709 specification** and described in Section 19.1, which are also shared by sRGB.

RGB data is distinguished between BT.709 and sRGB by the Transfer Function. Conversion to and from BT.709 Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> (“YUV”) representation uses the color conversion matrix defined in the **BT.709** specification, and described in Section 20.1.1, except in the case of sYCC (which can be distinguished by the use of the sRGB transfer function), in which case conversion to and from BT.709 Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> representation uses the color conversion matrix defined in the **BT.601** specification, and described in Section 20.1.2. This is the preferred set of color primaries used by HDTV and sRGB, and likely a sensible default set of color primaries for common rendering operations.

**KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_SRGB** is provided as a synonym for **KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_BT709**.

### KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_BT601\_EBU (= 2)

This value represents the Color Primaries defined in the **ITU-R BT.601 specification** for standard-definition television, particularly for 625-line signals, and described in Section 19.2. Conversion to and from BT.601 Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> (“YUV”) typically uses the color conversion matrix defined in the BT.601 specification and described in Section 20.1.2.

### KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_BT601\_SMPTE (= 3)

This value represents the Color Primaries defined in the **ITU-R BT.601 specification** for standard-definition television, particularly for 525-line signals, and described in Section 19.3. Conversion to and from BT.601 Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> (“YUV”) typically uses the color conversion matrix defined in the BT.601 specification and described in Section 20.1.2.

### KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_BT2020 (= 4)

This value represents the Color Primaries defined in the **ITU-R BT.2020 specification** for ultra-high-definition television and described in Section 19.4. Conversion to and from BT.2020 Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> (“YUV”) uses the color conversion matrix defined in the BT.2020 specification and described in Section 20.1.3.

### KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_CIEXYZ (= 5)

This value represents the theoretical Color Primaries defined by the International Color Consortium for the **ICC XYZ** linear color space.

**KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_ACES (= 6)**

This value represents the Color Primaries defined for the [Academy Color Encoding System](#) and described in Section 19.7.

**KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_ACESCC (= 7)**

This value represents the Color Primaries defined for the [Academy Color Encoding System](#) compositor and described in Section 19.8.

**KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_NTSC1953 (= 8)**

This value represents the Color Primaries defined for the NTSC 1953 color television transmission standard and described in Section 19.5.

**KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_PAL525 (= 9)**

This value represents the Color Primaries defined for 525-line PAL signals, described in Section 19.6.

**KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_DISPLAYP3 (= 10)**

This value represents the Color Primaries defined for the Display P3 color space, described in Section 19.9.

**KHR\_DF\_PRIMARIES\_ADOBERGB (= 11)**

This value represents the Color Primaries defined in [Adobe RGB \(1998\)](#), described in Section 19.10.

## transfer\_function

Many color representations contain a non-linear *transfer function* which maps between a linear (intensity-based) representation and a more perceptually-uniform encoding. Common transfer functions are encoded in the **khr\_df\_transfer\_e** enumeration and represented as an unsigned 8-bit integer. A fully-flexible transfer function requires an extension with a full color space definition. Where the transfer function can be described as a simple power curve, applying the function is commonly known as “gamma correction”. The transfer function is applied to a sample only when the sample’s **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_LINEAR** bit is 0; if this bit is 1, the sample is represented linearly irrespective of the **transfer\_function**.

When a color model contains more than one channel in a sample and the transfer function should be applied only to a subset of those channels, the convention of that model should be used when applying the transfer function. For example, ASTC stores both alpha and RGB data but is represented by a single sample; in ASTC, any sRGB transfer function is not applied to the alpha channel of the ASTC texture. In this case, the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_LINEAR** bit being zero means that the transfer function is “applied” to the ASTC sample in a way that only affects the RGB channels. This is not a concern for most color models, which explicitly store different channels in each sample.

If all the samples are linear, **KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_LINEAR** should be used. In this case, no sample should have the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_LINEAR** bit set.

The enumerant value for each of the following transfer functions is shown in parentheses alongside the title.

### **KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_UNSPECIFIED (= 0)**

This value should be used when the transfer function is unknown, or specified only in an extension block, precluding conversion of color spaces and correct filtering of the data values using only the information in the basic descriptor block.

### **KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_LINEAR (= 1)**

This value represents a linear transfer function: for color data, there is a linear relationship between numerical pixel values and the intensity of additive colors. This transfer function allows for blending and filtering operations to be applied directly to the data values.

### **KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_SRGB (= 2)**

This value represents the non-linear transfer function defined in the [sRGB specification](#) for mapping between numerical pixel values and intensity. This is described in Section [18.3](#).

### **KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_ITU (= 3)**

This value represents the non-linear transfer function defined by the ITU and used in the BT.601, BT.709 and BT.2020 specifications. This is described in Section [18.2](#).

### **KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_NTSC (= 4)**

This value represents the non-linear transfer function defined by the original NTSC television broadcast specification. This is described in Section [18.8](#).

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#### **Note**

More recent formulations of this transfer functions, such as that defined in SMPTE 170M-2004, use the ITU formulation described above.

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**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_SLOG (= 5)**

This value represents a nonlinear Transfer Function used by some Sony video cameras to represent an increased dynamic range, and is described in Section 18.13.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_SLOG2 (= 6)**

This value represents a nonlinear Transfer Function used by some Sony video cameras to represent a further increased dynamic range, and is described in Section 18.14.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_BT1886 (= 7)**

This value represents the nonlinear OETF defined in BT.1886 and described in Section 18.4.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_HLG\_OETF (= 8)**

This value represents the Hybrid Log Gamma OETF defined by the ITU in BT.2100 for high dynamic range television, and described in Section 18.5.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_HLG\_EOTF (= 9)**

This value represents the Hybrid Log Gamma OETF defined by the ITU in BT.2100 for high dynamic range television, and described in Section 18.5.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_PQ\_EOTF (= 10)**

This value represents the Perceptual Quantization EOTF defined by the ITU in BT.2100 for high dynamic range television, and described in Section 18.6.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_PQ\_OETF (= 11)**

This value represents the Perceptual Quantization EOTF defined by the ITU in BT.2100 for high dynamic range television, and described in Section 18.6.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_DCIP3 (= 12)**

This value represents the transfer function defined in DCI P3 and described in Section 18.7.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_PAL\_OETF (= 13)**

This value represents the OETF for legacy PAL systems described in Section 18.9.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_PAL625\_EOTF (= 14)**

This value represents the EOTF for legacy 625-line PAL systems described in Section 18.10.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_ST240 (= 15)**

This value represents the transfer function associated with the legacy ST-240 (SMPTE240M) standard, described in Section 18.11.

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_ACESCC (= 16)**

This value represents the nonlinear Transfer Function used in the ACEScc Academy Color Encoding System logarithmic encoding system for use within Color Grading Systems, S-2014-003, defined in [\[aces\]](#). This is described in Section [18.15](#).

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_ACESCCT (= 17)**

This value represents the nonlinear Transfer Function used in the ACEScc Academy Color Encoding System quasi-logarithmic encoding system for use within Color Grading Systems, S-2016-001, defined in [\[aces\]](#). This is described in Section [18.16](#).

**KHR\_DF\_TRANSFER\_ADOBERGB (= 18)**

This value represents the transfer function defined in the Adobe RGB (1998) specification and described in Section [18.12](#).

## flags

The format supports some configuration options in the form of boolean flags; these are described in the **khr\_df\_flags\_e** enumeration and represented in an unsigned 8-bit integer value.

### **KHR\_DF\_FLAG\_ALPHA\_PREMULTIPLIED** (= 1)

If the **KHR\_DF\_FLAG\_ALPHA\_PREMULTIPLIED** bit is set, any color information in the data should be interpreted as having been previously scaled by the alpha channel when performing blending operations.

The value **KHR\_DF\_FLAG\_ALPHA\_STRAIGHT** (= 0) is provided to represent this flag not being set, which indicates that the color values in the data should be interpreted as needing to be scaled by the alpha channel when performing blending operations. This flag has no effect if there is no alpha channel in the format.

## texel\_block\_dimensions\_[0..3]

The **texel\_block\_dimensions** define the number of coordinates covered by the repeating block described by the samples. Four separate values, represented as unsigned 8-bit integers, are supported, corresponding to successive dimensions. The Basic Data Format Descriptor Block supports up to four dimensions of encoding within a texel block, supporting, for example, a texture with three spatial dimensions and one temporal dimension. Nothing stops the data structure as a whole from having higher dimensionality: for example, a two-dimensional texel block can be used as an element in a six-dimensional look-up table.

The value held in each of these fields is one fewer than the size of the block in that dimension—that is, a value of 0 represents a size of 1, a value of 1 represents a size of 2, etc. A texel block which covers fewer than four dimensions should have a size of 1 in each dimension that it lacks, and therefore the corresponding fields in the representation should be 0.

For example, a Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> 4:2:0 representation may use a Texel Block of 2×2 pixels in the nominal coordinate space, corresponding to the four Y' samples, as shown in Table 7.17. The texel block dimensions in this case would be 2×2×1×1 (in the X, Y, Z and T dimensions, if the fourth dimension is interpreted as T). The **texel\_block\_dimensions\_[0..3]** values would therefore be:

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| texel_block_dimensions_0 | 1 |
| texel_block_dimensions_1 | 1 |
| texel_block_dimensions_2 | 0 |
| texel_block_dimensions_3 | 0 |

Table 7.17: Example Basic Data Format **texel\_block\_dimensions** for Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> 4:2:0

## bytes\_plane\_[0..7]

The Basic Data Format Descriptor divides the image into a number of planes, each consisting of an integer number of consecutive bytes. The requirement that planes consist of consecutive data means that formats with distinct subsampled channels — such as Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> 4:2:0 — may require multiple planes to describe a channel. A typical Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> 4:2:0 image has *two* planes for the Y' channel in this representation, offset by one line vertically.

The use of byte granularity to define planes is a choice to allow large texels (of up to 255 bytes). A consequence of this is that formats which are not byte-aligned on each addressable unit, such as 1-bit-per-pixel formats, need to represent a texel block of multiple samples, contained within a.

A maximum of eight independent planes is supported in the Basic Data Format Descriptor. Formats which require more than eight planes — which are rare — require an extension.

The **bytes\_plane\_[0..7]** fields each contain an unsigned 8-bit integer which represents the number of bytes which that plane contributes to the format. The first field which contains the value 0 indicates that only a subset of the 8 possible planes are present; that is, planes which are not present should be given the **bytes\_plane** value of 0, and any **bytes\_plane** values after the first 0 are ignored. If no **bytes\_plane** value is zero, 8 planes are considered to exist.

As an exception, if **bytes\_plane\_0** has the value 0, the first plane is considered to hold indices into a color palette, which is described by one or more additional planes and samples in the normal way. The first sample in this case should describe a 1×1×1×1 texel holding an unsigned integer value. The number of bits used by the index should be encoded in this sample, with a maximum value of the largest palette entry held in **sample\_upper**. Subsequent samples describe the entries in the palette, starting at an offset of bit 0. Note that the texel block in the index plane is not required to be byte-aligned in this case, and will not be for paletted formats which have small palettes. The channel type for the index is irrelevant.

For example, consider a 5-color paletted texture which describes each of these colors using 8 bits of red, green, blue and alpha. The color model would be RGBSDA, and the format would be described with two planes. **bytes\_plane\_0** would be 0, indicating the special case of a palette, and **bytes\_plane\_1** would be 4, representing the size of the palette entry. The first sample would then have a number of bits corresponding to the number of bits for the palette — in this case, three bits, corresponding the requirements of a 5-color palette. The **sample\_upper** value for this sample is 4, indicating only 5 palette entries. Four subsequent samples represent the red, green, blue and alpha channels, starting from bit 0 as though the index value were not present, and describe the contents of the palette. The full data format descriptor for this example is provided in Table 23.5 as one of the example format descriptors.

## Sample information

The layout and position of the information within each plane is determined by a number of *samples*, each consisting of a single channel of data and with a single corresponding position within the texel block, as shown in Table 7.18.

The bytes from the plane data contributing to the format are treated as though they have been concatenated into a bit stream, with the first byte of the lowest-numbered plane providing the lowest bits of the result. Each sample consists of a number of consecutive bits from this bit stream.

If the content for a channel cannot be represented in a single sample, for example because the data for a channel is non-consecutive within this bit stream, additional samples with the same coordinate position and channel number should follow from the first, in order increasing from the least significant bits from the channel data.

Note that some native big-endian formats may need to be supported with multiple samples in a channel, since the constituent bits may not be consecutive in a little-endian interpretation. There is an example, Table 23.7, in the list of format descriptors provided. In this case, the **sample\_lower** and **sample\_upper** fields for the combined sample are taken from the first sample to belong uniquely to this channel/position pair.

By convention, to avoid aliases for formats, samples should be listed in order starting with channels at the lowest bits of this bit stream. Ties should be broken by increasing channel type id, as shown in Table 23.11.

The number of samples present in the format is determined by the **descriptor\_block\_size** field. There is no limit on the number of samples which may be present, other than the maximum size of the Data Format Descriptor Block. There is no requirement that samples should access unique parts of the bit-stream: formats such as combined intensity and alpha, or shared exponent formats, require that bits be reused. Nor is there a requirement that all the bits in a plane be used (a format may contain padding).

| Byte 0 (LSB)      | Byte 1            | Byte 2            | Byte 3 (MSB)      |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| bit_offset        |                   | bit_length        | channel_type      |
| sample_position_0 | sample_position_1 | sample_position_2 | sample_position_3 |
| sample_lower      |                   |                   |                   |
| sample_upper      |                   |                   |                   |

Table 7.18: Basic Data Format Descriptor Sample Information

### bit\_offset

The **bit\_offset** field describes the offset of the least significant bit of this sample from the least significant bit of the least significant byte of the concatenated bit stream for the format. Typically the **bit\_offset** of the first sample is therefore 0; a sample which begins at an offset of one byte relative to the data format would have a Bit Offset of 8. The Bit Offset is an unsigned 16-bit integer quantity.

### bit\_length

The **bit\_length** field describes the number of consecutive bits from the concatenated bit stream that contribute to the sample. This field is an unsigned 8-bit integer quantity, and stores the number of bits contributed minus 1; thus a single-byte channel should have a **bit\_length** field value of 7. If a **bit\_length** of more than 256 is required, further samples should be added; the value for the sample is composed in increasing order from least to most significant bit as subsequent samples are processed.



## channel\_type

The **channel\_type** field is an unsigned 8-bit quantity.

The bottom four bits of the **channel\_type** indicates which channel is being described by this sample. The list of available channels is determined by the **color\_model** field of the Basic Data Format Descriptor Block, and the **channel\_type** field contains the number of the required channel within this list—see the **color\_model** field for the list of channels for each model.

The top four bits of the **channel\_type** are described by the **khr\_df\_sample\_datatype\_qualifiers\_e** enumeration:

If the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_LINEAR** bit is not set, the sample value is modified by the transfer function defined in the format's **transfer\_function** field; if this bit is set, the sample is considered to contain a linearly-encoded value irrespective of the format's **transfer\_function**.

If the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_EXPONENT** bit is set, this sample holds an exponent (in integer form) for this channel. For example, this would be used to describe the shared exponent location in shared exponent formats (with the exponent bits listed separately under each channel). An exponent is applied to any integer sample of the same type. If this bit is not set, the sample is considered to contain mantissa information. If the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_SIGNED** bit is also set, the exponent is considered to be two's complement—otherwise it is treated as unsigned. The bias of the exponent can be determined by the exponent's **sample\_lower** value. The presence or absence of an implicit leading digit in the mantissa of a format with an exponent can be determined by the **sample\_upper** value of the mantissa.

If the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_SIGNED** bit is set, the sample holds a signed value in two's complement form. If this bit is not set, the sample holds an unsigned value. It is possible to represent a sign/magnitude integer value by having a sample of unsigned integer type with the same channel and sample location as a 1-bit signed sample.

If the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_FLOAT** bit is set, the sample holds floating point data in a conventional format of 10, 11 or 16 bits, as described in Chapter 16, or of 32, or 64 bits as described in [IEEE 754]. Unless a genuine unsigned format is intended, **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_SIGNED** should be set. Less common floating point representations can be generated with multiple samples and a combination of signed integer, unsigned integer and exponent fields, as described above and in Section 16.4.

## sample\_position\_[0..3]

The sample has an associated location within the 4-dimensional space of the texel block. Each sample has an offset relative to the 0,0 position of the texel block, determined in units of half a coordinate. This allows the common situation of downsampled channels to have samples conceptually sited at the midpoint between full resolution samples. Support for offsets other than multiples of a half coordinates require an extension. The direction of the sample offsets is determined by the coordinate addressing scheme used by the API. There is no limit on the dimensionality of the data, but if more than four dimensions need to be contained within a single texel block, an extension will be required.

Each **sample\_position** is an 8-bit unsigned integer quantity. **sample\_position\_0** is the X offset of the sample, **sample\_position\_1** is the Y offset of the sample, etc. Formats which use an offset larger than 127.5 in any dimension require an extension.

It is legal, but unusual, to use the same bits to represent multiple samples at different coordinate locations.

## sample\_lower

**Sample\_lower**, combined with **sample\_upper**, is used to represent the mapping between the numerical value stored in the format and the conceptual numerical interpretation. For unsigned formats, **sample\_lower** typically represents the value which should be interpreted as zero (the black point). For signed formats, **sample\_lower** typically represents “-1”. For color difference models such as  $Y'CbCr$ , **sample\_lower** represents the lower extent of the color difference range (which corresponds to an encoding of -0.5 in numerical terms).

If the channel encoding is an integer format, the **sample\_lower** value is represented as a 32-bit integer—signed or unsigned according to whether the channel encoding is signed. Signed negative values should be sign-extended if the channel has fewer than 32-bit, such that the value encoded in **sample\_lower** is itself negative. If the channel encoding is a floating point value, the **sample\_lower** value is also floating point. If the number of bits in the sample is greater than 32, the lowest representable value for **sample\_lower** is interpreted as the smallest value representable in the channel format.

If the channel consists of multiple co-sited integer samples, for example because the channel bits are non-contiguous, there are two possible behaviors. If the total number of bits in the channel is less than or equal to 32, the **sample\_lower** values in the samples corresponding to the least-significant bits of the sample are ignored, and only the **sample\_lower** from the most-significant sample is considered. If the number of bits in the channel exceeds 32, the **sample\_lower** values from the sample corresponding to the most-significant bits within any 32-bit subset of the total number are concatenated to generate the final **sample\_lower** value. For example, a 48-bit signed integer may be encoded in three 16-bit samples. The first sample, corresponding to the least-significant 16 bits, will have its **sample\_lower** value ignored. The next sample of 16 bits takes the total to 32, and so the **sample\_lower** value of this sample should represent the lowest 32 bits of the desired 48-bit virtual **sample\_lower** value. Finally, the third sample indicates the top 16 bits of the 48-bit channel, and its **sample\_lower** contains the top 16 bits of the 48-bit virtual **sample\_lower** value.

The **sample\_lower** value for an exponent should represent the exponent bias—the value that should be subtracted from the encoded exponent to indicate that the mantissa’s **sample\_upper** value will represent 1.0. See Section 16.4 for more detail on this.

For example, the BT.709 television broadcast standard dictates that the  $Y'$  value stored in an 8-bit encoding should fall between the range 16 and 235. In this case, **sample\_lower** should contain the value 16.

In OpenGL terminology, a “normalized” channel contains an integer value which is mapped to the range 0..1.0. A channel which is not normalized contains an integer value which is mapped to a floating point equivalent of the integer value. Similarly an “snorm” channel is a signed normalized value mapping from -1.0 to 1.0. Setting **sample\_lower** to the minimum signed integer value representable in the channel is equivalent to defining an “snorm” texture.

## sample\_upper

**Sample\_upper**, combined with **sample\_lower**, is used to represent the mapping between the numerical value stored in the format and the conceptual numerical interpretation. **Sample\_upper** typically represents the value which should be interpreted as “1.0” (the “white point”). For color difference models such as  $Y' C_B C_R$ , **sample\_upper** represents the lower extent of the color difference range (which corresponds to an encoding of 0.5 in numerical terms).

If the channel encoding is an integer format, the **sample\_upper** value is represented as a 32-bit integer — signed or unsigned according to whether the channel encoding is signed. If the channel encoding is a floating point value, the **sample\_upper** value is also floating point. If the number of bits in the sample is greater than 32, the highest representable value for **sample\_upper** is interpreted as the largest value representable in the channel format. If the channel encoding is the mantissa of a custom floating point format (that is, the encoding is integer but the same sample location and channel is shared by a sample that encodes an exponent), the presence of an implicit “1” digit can be represented by setting the **sample\_upper** value to a value one larger than can be encoded in the available bits for the mantissa, as described in Section 16.4.

The **sample\_upper** value for an exponent should represent the largest conventional legal exponent value. If the encoded exponent exceeds this value, the encoded floating point value encodes either an infinity or a NaN value, depending on the mantissa. See Section 16.4 for more detail on this.

If the channel consists of multiple co-sited integer samples, for example because the channel bits are non-contiguous, there are two possible behaviors. If the total number of bits in the channel is less than or equal to 32, the **sample\_upper** values in the samples corresponding to the least-significant bits of the sample are ignored, and only the **sample\_upper** from the most-significant sample is considered. If the number of bits in the channel exceeds 32, the **sample\_upper** values from the sample corresponding to the most-significant bits within any 32-bit subset of the total number are concatenated to generate the final **sample\_upper** value. For example, a 48-bit signed integer may be encoded in three 16-bit samples. The first sample, corresponding to the least-significant 16 bits, will have its **sample\_upper** value ignored. The next sample of 16 bits takes the total to 32, and so the **sample\_upper** value of this sample should represent the lowest 32 bits of the desired 48-bit virtual **sample\_upper** value. Finally, the third sample indicates the top 16 bits of the 48-bit channel, and its **sample\_upper** contains the top 16 bits of the 48-bit virtual **sample\_upper** value.

For example, the BT.709 television broadcast standard dictates that the  $Y'$  value stored in an 8-bit encoding should fall between the range 16 and 235. In this case, **sample\_upper** should contain the value 235.

In OpenGL terminology, a “normalized” channel contains an integer value which is mapped to the range 0..1.0. A channel which is not normalized contains an integer value which is mapped to a floating point equivalent of the integer value. Similarly an “snorm” channel is a signed normalized value mapping from -1.0 to 1.0. Setting **sample\_upper** to the maximum signed integer value representable in the channel for a signed channel type is equivalent to defining an “snorm” texture. Setting **sample\_upper** to the maximum unsigned value representable in the channel for an unsigned channel type is equivalent to defining a “normalized” texture. Setting **sample\_upper** to “1” is equivalent to defining an “unnormalized” texture.

Sensor data from a camera typically does not cover the full range of the bit depth used to represent it. **Sample\_upper** can be used to specify an upper limit on sensor brightness — or to specify the value which should map to white on the display, which may be less than the full dynamic range of the captured image.

There is no guarantee or expectation that image data be guaranteed to fall between **sample\_lower** and **sample\_upper** unless the users of a format agree that convention.

## Chapter 8

# Extension for more complex formats

Some formats will require more channels than can be described in the Basic Format Descriptor, or may have more specific color requirements. For example, it is expected that an extension will be available which places an ICC color profile block into the descriptor block, allowing more color channels to be specified in more precise ways. This will significantly enlarge the space required for the descriptor, and is not expected to be needed for most common uses. A vendor may also use an extension block to associate metadata with the descriptor—for example, information required as part of hardware rendering. So long as software which uses the data format descriptor always uses the **total\_size** field to determine the size of the descriptor, this should be transparent to user code.

The extension mechanism is the preferred way to support even simple extensions such as additional color spaces transfer functions that can be supported by an additional enumeration. This approach improves compatibility with code which is unaware of the additional values. Simple extensions of this form that have cross-vendor support have a good chance of being incorporated more directly into future revisions of the specification, allowing application code to distinguish them by the **version\_id** field.

As an example, consider a single-channel 32-bit depth buffer, as shown in Table 8.1. A tiled renderer may wish to indicate that this buffer is “virtual”: it will be allocated real memory only if needed, and will otherwise exist only a subset at a time in an on-chip representation. Someone developing such a renderer may choose to add a vendor-specific extension (with ID 0xFFFF to indicate development work and avoid the need for a vendor ID) which uses a boolean to establish whether this depth buffer exists only in virtual form. Note that the mere presence or absence of this extension within the data format descriptor itself forms a boolean, but for this example we will assume that an extension block is always present, and that a boolean is stored within. We will give the enumeration 32 bits, in order to simplify the possible addition of further extensions.

In this example (which should not be taken as an implementation suggestion), the data descriptor would first contain a descriptor block describing the depth buffer format as conventionally described, followed by a second descriptor block that contains only the enumeration. The descriptor itself has a **total\_size** that includes both of these descriptor blocks.

It is possible for a vendor to use the extension block to store peripheral information required to access the image—plane base addresses, stride, etc. Since different implementations have different kinds of non-linear ordering and proprietary alignment requirements, this is not described as part of the standard. By many conventional definitions, this information is not part of the “format”, and particularly it ensures that an identical copy of the image will have a different descriptor block (because the addresses will have changed) and so a simple bitwise comparison of two descriptor blocks will disagree even though the “format” matches. Additionally, many APIs will use the format descriptor only for external communication, and have an internal representation that is more concise and less flexible. In this case, it is likely that address information will need to be represented separately from the format anyway. For these reasons, it is an implementation choice whether to store this information in an extension block, and how to do so, rather than being specified in this standard..

|                                                                     |                               |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 56 (total_size: total size of the two blocks plus one 32-bit value) |                               |                                 |                             |
| Basic descriptor block                                              |                               |                                 |                             |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                                       |                               | 0 (descriptor_type)             |                             |
| 0 (version_number)                                                  |                               | 40 (descriptor_block_size)      |                             |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                                                | UNSPECIFIED (color_primaries) | UNSPECIFIED (transfer_function) | 0 (flags)                   |
| 0 (texel_block_dimension_0)                                         | 0 (texel_block_dimension_1)   | 0 (texel_block_dimension_2)     | 0 (texel_block_dimension_3) |
| 4 (bytes_plane_0)                                                   | 0 (bytes_plane_1)             | 0 (bytes_plane_2)               | 0 (bytes_plane_3)           |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                                                   | 0 (bytes_plane_5)             | 0 (bytes_plane_6)               | 0 (bytes_plane_7)           |
| Sample information for the depth value                              |                               |                                 |                             |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                                      |                               | 32 (bit_length)                 | SIGNED   FLOAT   DEPTH      |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                               | 0 (sample_position_1)         | 0 (sample_position_2)           | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0xbf800000 (sample_lower: -1.0f)                                    |                               |                                 |                             |
| 0x3f800000U (sample_upper: 1.0f)                                    |                               |                                 |                             |
| Extension descriptor block                                          |                               |                                 |                             |
| 0xFFFF (vendor_id)                                                  |                               | 0 (descriptor_type)             |                             |
| 0 (version_number)                                                  |                               | 12 (descriptor_block_size)      |                             |
| Data specific to the extension follows                              |                               |                                 |                             |
| 1 (buffer is “virtual”)                                             |                               |                                 |                             |

Table 8.1: Example of a depth buffer with an extension to indicate a virtual allocation

## Chapter 9

# Frequently Asked Questions

### Why have a binary format rather than a human-readable one?

While it is not expected that every new container will have a unique data descriptor or that analysis of the data format descriptor will be on a critical path in an application, it is still expected that comparison between formats may be time-sensitive. The data format descriptor is designed to allow relatively efficient queries for subsets of properties, to allow a large number of format descriptors to be stored, and to be amenable to hardware interpretation or processing in shaders. These goals preclude a text-based representation such as an XML schema.

### Why not use an existing representation such as those on FourCC.org?

Formats in FourCC.org do not describe in detail sufficient information for many APIs, and are sometimes inconsistent.

### Why have a descriptive format?

Enumerations are fast and easy to process, but are limited in that any software can only be aware of the enumeration values in place when it was defined. Software often behaves differently according to properties of a format, and must perform a look-up on the enumeration — if it knows what it is — in order to change behaviors. A descriptive format allows for more flexible software which can support a wide range of formats without needing each to be listed, and simplifies the programming of conditional behavior based on format properties.

### Why describe this standard within Khronos?

Khronos supports multiple standards that have a range of internal data representations. There is no requirement that this standard be used specifically with other Khronos standards, but it is hoped that multiple Khronos standards may use this specification as part of a consistent approach to inter-standard operation.

### Why should I use this format if I don't need most of the fields?

While a library may not use all the data provided in the data format descriptor that is described within this standard, it is common for users of data — particularly pixel-like data — to have additional requirements. Capturing these requirements portably reduces the need for additional metadata to be associated with a proprietary descriptor. It is also common for additional functionality to be added retrospectively to existing libraries — for example, Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> support is often an

afterthought in rendering APIs. Having a consistent and flexible representation in place from the start can reduce the pain of retrofitting this functionality.

Note that there is no expectation that the format descriptor from this standard be used directly, although it can be. The impact of providing a mapping between internal formats and format descriptors is expected to be low, but offers the opportunity both for simplified access from software outside the proprietary library and for reducing the effort needed to provide a complete, unambiguous and accurate description of a format in human-readable terms.

## **Why not expand each field out to be integer for ease of decoding?**

There is a trade-off between size and decoding effort. It is assumed that data which occupies the same 32-bit word may need to be tested concurrently, reducing the cost of comparisons. When transferring data formats, the packing reduces the overhead. Within these constraints, it is intended that most data can be extracted with low-cost operations, typically being byte-aligned (other than sample flags) and with the natural alignment applied to multi-byte quantities.

## **Can this descriptor be used for text content?**

For simple ASCII content, there is no reason that plain text could not be described in some way, and this may be useful for image formats that contain comment sections. However, since many multilingual text representations do not have a fixed character size, this use is not seen as an obvious match for this standard.

## Chapter 10

# S3TC Compressed Texture Image Formats

*This description is derived from the [EXT\\_texture\\_compression\\_s3tc](#) extension.*

Compressed texture images stored using the S3TC compressed image formats are represented as a collection of  $4 \times 4$  texel blocks, where each block contains 64 or 128 bits of texel data. The image is encoded as a normal 2D raster image in which each  $4 \times 4$  block is treated as a single pixel. If an S3TC image has a width or height that is not a multiple of four, the data corresponding to texels outside the image are irrelevant and undefined.

When an S3TC image with a width of  $w$ , height of  $h$ , and block size of  $blocksize$  (8 or 16 bytes) is decoded, the corresponding image size (in bytes) is:

$$\left\lceil \frac{w}{4} \right\rceil \times \left\lceil \frac{h}{4} \right\rceil \times blocksize$$

When decoding an S3TC image, the block containing the texel at offset  $(x,y)$  begins at an offset (in bytes) relative to the base of the image of:

$$blocksize \times \left( \left\lceil \frac{w}{4} \right\rceil \times \left\lfloor \frac{y}{4} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{x}{4} \right\rfloor \right)$$

The data corresponding to a specific texel  $(x,y)$  are extracted from a  $4 \times 4$  texel block using a relative  $(x,y)$  value of

$$(x \bmod 4, y \bmod 4)$$

There are four distinct S3TC image formats:

### BC1 with no alpha

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 64 bits of RGB image data.

Each RGB image data block is encoded as a sequence of 8 bytes, called (in order of increasing address):

$$c0_{lo}, c0_{hi}, c1_{lo}, c1_{hi}, bits_0, bits_1, bits_2, bits_3$$

The 8 bytes of the block are decoded into three quantities:

$$color_0 = c0_{lo} + c0_{hi} \times 256$$

$$color_1 = c1_{lo} + c1_{hi} \times 256$$

$$bits = bits_0 + 256 \times (bits_1 + 256 \times (bits_2 + 256 \times bits_3))$$

$color_0$  and  $color_1$  are 16-bit unsigned integers that are unpacked to RGB colors RGB0 and RGB1 as though they were 16-bit packed pixels with the R channel in the high 5 bits, G in the next 6 bits and B in the low 5 bits.



| Block value                          | Condition                                  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| $RGB_0$                              | $color_0 > color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 0$    |
| $RGB_1$                              | $color_0 > color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 1$    |
| $\frac{(2 \times RGB_0 + RGB_1)}{3}$ | $color_0 > color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 2$    |
| $\frac{(RGB_0 + 2 \times RGB_1)}{3}$ | $color_0 > color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 3$    |
| $RGB_0$                              | $color_0 \leq color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 0$ |
| $RGB_1$                              | $color_0 \leq color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 1$ |
| $\frac{(RGB_0 + RGB_1)}{2}$          | $color_0 \leq color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 2$ |
| BLACK                                | $color_0 \leq color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 3$ |

Table 10.1: Block decoding for BC1

$bits$  is a 32-bit unsigned integer, from which a two-bit control code is extracted for a texel at location  $(x,y)$  in the block using:

$$code(x,y) = bits[2 \times (4 \times y + x) + 1 \dots 2 \times (4 \times y + x) + 0]$$

where bit 31 is the most significant and bit 0 is the least significant bit.

The RGB color for a texel at location  $(x,y)$  in the block is given in Table 10.1.

Arithmetic operations are done per component, and BLACK refers to an RGB color where red, green, and blue are all zero.

Since this image has an RGB format, there is no alpha component and the image is considered fully opaque.

## BC1 with alpha

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 64 bits of RGB image data and minimal alpha information. The RGB components of a texel are extracted in the same way as BC1 with no alpha.

The alpha component for a texel at location  $(x,y)$  in the block is given by Table 10.2.

| Alpha value | Condition                                  |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 0.0         | $color_0 \leq color_1$ and $code(x,y) = 3$ |
| 1.0         | otherwise                                  |

Table 10.2: BC1 with alpha

The red, green, and blue components of any texels with a final alpha of 0 should be encoded as zero (black).

## BC2

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 64 bits of uncompressed alpha image data followed by 64 bits of RGB image data.

Each RGB image data block is encoded according to the BC1 formats, with the exception that the two code bits always use the non-transparent encodings. In other words, they are treated as though  $color_0 > color_1$ , regardless of the actual values of  $color_0$  and  $color_1$ .

Each alpha image data block is encoded as a sequence of 8 bytes, called (in order of increasing address):

$$a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6, a_7$$

The 8 bytes of the block are decoded into one 64-bit integer:

$$alpha = a_0 + 256 \times (a_1 + 256 \times (a_2 + 256 \times (a_3 + 256 \times (a_4 + 256 \times (a_5 + 256 \times (a_6 + 256 \times a_7))))))$$

$\alpha$  is a 64-bit unsigned integer, from which a four-bit alpha value is extracted for a texel at location  $(x, y)$  in the block using:

$$\alpha(x, y) = \text{bits}[4 \times (4 \times y + x) + 3 \dots 4 \times (4 \times y + x) + 0]$$

where bit 63 is the most significant and bit 0 is the least significant bit.

The alpha component for a texel at location  $(x, y)$  in the block is given by  $\frac{\alpha(x, y)}{15}$ .

## BC3

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 64 bits of compressed alpha image data followed by 64 bits of RGB image data.

Each RGB image data block is encoded according to the BC1 formats, with the exception that the two code bits always use the non-transparent encodings. In other words, they are treated as though  $\text{color0} > \text{color1}$ , regardless of the actual values of  $\text{color0}$  and  $\text{color1}$ .

Each alpha image data block is encoded as a sequence of 8 bytes, called (in order of increasing address):

$$\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \text{bits}_0, \text{bits}_1, \text{bits}_2, \text{bits}_3, \text{bits}_4, \text{bits}_5$$

The  $\alpha_0$  and  $\alpha_1$  are 8-bit unsigned bytes converted to alpha components by multiplying by  $\frac{1}{255}$ .

The 6 *bits* bytes of the block are decoded into one 48-bit integer:

$$\text{bits} = \text{bits}_0 + 256 \times (\text{bits}_1 + 256 \times (\text{bits}_2 + 256 \times (\text{bits}_3 + 256 \times (\text{bits}_4 + 256 \times \text{bits}_5))))$$

*bits* is a 48-bit unsigned integer, from which a three-bit control code is extracted for a texel at location  $(x, y)$  in the block using:

$$\text{code}(x, y) = \text{bits}[3 \times (4 \times y + x) + 2 \dots 3 \times (4 \times y + x) + 0]$$

where bit 47 is the most-significant and bit 0 is the least-significant bit.

The alpha component for a texel at location  $(x, y)$  in the block is given by Table 10.3.

| Alpha value                                         | Condition                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| $\alpha_0$                                          | $\text{code}(x, y) = 0$                              |
| $\alpha_1$                                          | $\text{code}(x, y) = 1$                              |
| $\frac{(6 \times \alpha_0 + 1 \times \alpha_1)}{7}$ | $\alpha_0 > \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 2$    |
| $\frac{(5 \times \alpha_0 + 2 \times \alpha_1)}{7}$ | $\alpha_0 > \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 3$    |
| $\frac{(4 \times \alpha_0 + 3 \times \alpha_1)}{7}$ | $\alpha_0 > \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 4$    |
| $\frac{(3 \times \alpha_0 + 4 \times \alpha_1)}{7}$ | $\alpha_0 > \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 5$    |
| $\frac{(2 \times \alpha_0 + 5 \times \alpha_1)}{7}$ | $\alpha_0 > \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 6$    |
| $\frac{(1 \times \alpha_0 + 6 \times \alpha_1)}{7}$ | $\alpha_0 > \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 7$    |
| $\frac{(4 \times \alpha_0 + 1 \times \alpha_1)}{5}$ | $\alpha_0 \leq \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 2$ |
| $\frac{(3 \times \alpha_0 + 2 \times \alpha_1)}{5}$ | $\alpha_0 \leq \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 3$ |
| $\frac{(2 \times \alpha_0 + 3 \times \alpha_1)}{5}$ | $\alpha_0 \leq \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 4$ |
| $\frac{(1 \times \alpha_0 + 4 \times \alpha_1)}{5}$ | $\alpha_0 \leq \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 5$ |
| 0.0                                                 | $\alpha_0 \leq \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 6$ |
| 1.0                                                 | $\alpha_0 \leq \alpha_1$ and $\text{code}(x, y) = 7$ |

Table 10.3: Alpha encoding for BC3 blocks

## Chapter 11

# RGTC Compressed Texture Image Formats

*This description is derived from the “RGTC Compressed Texture Image Formats” section of the OpenGL 4.5 specification.*

Compressed texture images stored using the RGTC compressed image encodings are represented as a collection of  $4 \times 4$  texel blocks, where each block contains 64 or 128 bits of texel data. The image is encoded as a normal 2D raster image in which each  $4 \times 4$  block is treated as a single pixel. If an RGTC image has a width or height that is not a multiple of four, the data corresponding to texels outside the image are irrelevant and undefined.

When an RGTC image with a width of  $w$ , height of  $h$ , and block size of  $blocksize$  (8 or 16 bytes) is decoded, the corresponding image size (in bytes) is:

$$\left\lceil \frac{w}{4} \right\rceil \times \left\lceil \frac{h}{4} \right\rceil \times blocksize$$

When decoding an RGTC image, the block containing the texel at offset  $(x, y)$  begins at an offset (in bytes) relative to the base of the image of:

$$blocksize \times \left( \left\lceil \frac{w}{4} \right\rceil \times \left\lfloor \frac{y}{4} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{x}{4} \right\rfloor \right)$$

The data corresponding to a specific texel  $(x, y)$  are extracted from a  $4 \times 4$  texel block using a relative  $(x, y)$  value of

$$(x \bmod 4, y \bmod 4).$$

There are four distinct RGTC image formats:

### BC4 unsigned

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 64 bits of unsigned red image data.

Each red image data block is encoded as a sequence of 8 bytes, called (in order of increasing address):

$$red_0, red_1, bits_0, bits_1, bits_2, bits_3, bits_4, bits_5$$

The 6  $bits_*$  bytes of the block are decoded into a 48-bit bit vector:

$$bits = bits_0 + 256 \times (bits_1 + 256 \times (bits_2 + 256 \times (bits_3 + 256 \times (bits_4 + 256 \times bits_5))))$$

$red_0$  and  $red_1$  are 8-bit unsigned integers that are unpacked to red values  $RED_0$  and  $RED_1$ .

$bits$  is a 48-bit unsigned integer, from which a three-bit control code is extracted for a texel at location  $(x, y)$  in the block using:

$$code(x, y) = bits[3 \times (4 \times y + x) + 2 \dots 3 \times (4 \times y + x) + 0]$$

where bit 47 is the most significant and bit 0 is the least significant bit.

The red value  $R$  for a texel at location  $(x, y)$  in the block is given by Table 11.1.

$RED_{min}$  and  $RED_{max}$  are 0.0 and 1.0 respectively.

Since the decoded texel has a red format, the resulting RGBA value for the texel is  $(R, 0, 0, 1)$ .

| <b>R value</b>              | <b>Condition</b>                   |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| $RED_0$                     | $red_0 > red_1, code(x, y) = 0$    |
| $RED_1$                     | $red_0 > red_1, code(x, y) = 1$    |
| $\frac{6RED_0 + RED_1}{7}$  | $red_0 > red_1, code(x, y) = 2$    |
| $\frac{5RED_0 + 2RED_1}{7}$ | $red_0 > red_1, code(x, y) = 3$    |
| $\frac{4RED_0 + 3RED_1}{7}$ | $red_0 > red_1, code(x, y) = 4$    |
| $\frac{3RED_0 + 4RED_1}{7}$ | $red_0 > red_1, code(x, y) = 5$    |
| $\frac{2RED_0 + 5RED_1}{7}$ | $red_0 > red_1, code(x, y) = 6$    |
| $\frac{RED_0 + 6RED_1}{7}$  | $red_0 > red_1, code(x, y) = 7$    |
| $RED_0$                     | $red_0 \leq red_1, code(x, y) = 0$ |
| $RED_1$                     | $red_0 \leq red_1, code(x, y) = 1$ |
| $\frac{4RED_0 + RED_1}{5}$  | $red_0 \leq red_1, code(x, y) = 2$ |
| $\frac{3RED_0 + 2RED_1}{5}$ | $red_0 \leq red_1, code(x, y) = 3$ |
| $\frac{2RED_0 + 3RED_1}{5}$ | $red_0 \leq red_1, code(x, y) = 4$ |
| $\frac{RED_0 + 4RED_1}{5}$  | $red_0 \leq red_1, code(x, y) = 5$ |
| $RED_{min}$                 | $red_0 \leq red_1, code(x, y) = 6$ |
| $RED_{max}$                 | $red_0 \leq red_1, code(x, y) = 7$ |

Table 11.1: Block decoding for BC4

## BC4 signed

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 64 bits of signed red image data. The red values of a texel are extracted in the same way as BC4 unsigned except  $red_0$ ,  $red_1$ ,  $RED_0$ ,  $RED_1$ ,  $RED_{min}$ , and  $RED_{max}$  are signed values defined as follows:

$$RED_0 = \begin{cases} \frac{red_0}{127.0}, & red_0 > -128 \\ -1.0, & red_0 = -128 \end{cases}$$

$$RED_1 = \begin{cases} \frac{red_1}{127.0}, & red_1 > -128 \\ -1.0, & red_1 = -128 \end{cases}$$

$$RED_{min} = -1.0$$

$$RED_{max} = 1.0$$

$red_0$  and  $red_1$  are 8-bit signed (twos complement) integers.

CAVEAT for signed  $red_0$  and  $red_1$  values: the expressions  $red_0 > red_1$  and  $red_0 \leq red_1$  above are considered undefined (read: may vary by implementation) when  $red_0 = -127$  and  $red_1 = -128$ . This is because if  $red_0$  were remapped to -127 prior to the comparison to reduce the latency of a hardware decompressor, the expressions would reverse their logic. Encoders for the signed red-green formats should avoid encoding blocks where  $red_0 = -127$  and  $red_1 = -128$ .

## BC5 unsigned

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 64 bits of compressed unsigned red image data followed by 64 bits of compressed unsigned green image data.

The first 64 bits of compressed red are decoded exactly like BC4 unsigned above.

The second 64 bits of compressed green are decoded exactly like BC4 unsigned above except the decoded value  $R$  for this second block is considered the resulting green value  $G$ .

Since the decoded texel has a red-green format, the resulting RGBA value for the texel is  $(R, G, 0, 1)$ .

## BC5 signed

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 64 bits of compressed signed red image data followed by 64 bits of compressed signed green image data.

The first 64 bits of compressed red are decoded exactly like BC4 signed above.

The second 64 bits of compressed green are decoded exactly like BC4 signed above except the decoded value  $R$  for this second block is considered the resulting green value  $G$ .

Since this image has a red-green format, the resulting RGBA value is  $(R, G, 0, 1)$ .

## Chapter 12

# BPTC Compressed Texture Image Formats

*This description is derived from the “BPTC Compressed Texture Image Formats” section of the OpenGL 4.5 specification.*

Compressed texture images stored using the BPTC compressed image formats are represented as a collection of  $4 \times 4$  texel blocks, where each block contains 128 bits of texel data. The image is encoded as a normal 2D raster image in which each  $4 \times 4$  block is treated as a single pixel. If a BPTC image has a width or height that is not a multiple of four, the data corresponding to texels outside the image are irrelevant and undefined.

When a BPTC image with a width of  $w$ , height of  $h$ , and block size of  $blocksize$  (16 bytes) is decoded, the corresponding image size (in bytes) is:

$$\left\lceil \frac{w}{4} \right\rceil \times \left\lceil \frac{h}{4} \right\rceil \times blocksize$$

When decoding a BPTC image, the block containing the texel at offset  $(x, y)$  begins at an offset (in bytes) relative to the base of the image of:

$$blocksize \times \left( \left\lceil \frac{w}{4} \right\rceil \times \left\lfloor \frac{y}{4} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{x}{4} \right\rfloor \right)$$

The data corresponding to a specific texel  $(x, y)$  are extracted from a  $4 \times 4$  texel block using a relative  $(x, y)$  value of:

$$(x \bmod 4, y \bmod 4)$$

There are two distinct BPTC image formats each of which has two variants. BC7 with or without an sRGB transform function used in the encoding of the RGB channels compresses 8-bit unsigned, normalized fixed-point data. BC6H in signed or unsigned form compresses high dynamic range floating-point values. The formats are similar, so the description of the BC6H format will reference significant sections of the BC7 description.

## BC7

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 128 bits of RGBA image data, of which the RGB components may be encoded linearly or with the sRGB transfer function.

Each block contains enough information to select and decode a pair of colors called endpoints, interpolate between those endpoints in a variety of ways, then remap the result into the final output.

Each block can contain data in one of eight modes. The mode is identified by the lowest bits of the lowest byte. It is encoded as zero or more zeros followed by a one. For example, using  $x$  to indicate a bit not included in the mode number, mode 0 is encoded as xxxxxx1 in the low byte in binary, mode 5 is xx100000, and mode 7 is 10000000. Encoding the low byte as zero is reserved and should not be used when encoding a BPTC texture.

All further decoding is driven by the values derived from the mode listed in Table 12.3 and Table 12.4. The fields in the block are always in the same order for all modes. Starting at the lowest bit after the mode and going up, these fields are:

partition number, rotation, index selection, color, alpha, per-endpoint P-bit, shared P-bit, primary indices, and secondary indices. The number of bits to be read in each field is determined directly from the table.

Each block can be divided into between 1 and 3 groups of pixels with independent compression parameters called subsets. A texel in a block with one subset is always considered to be in subset zero. Otherwise, a number determined by the number of partition bits is used to look up in Table 12.5 or Table 12.6 for 2 and 3 subsets respectively. This partitioning is indexed by the X and Y within the block to generate the subset index.

Each block has two colors for each subset, stored first by endpoint, then by subset, then by color. For example, a format with two subsets and five color bits would have five bits of red for endpoint 0 of the first subset, then five bits of red for endpoint 1, then the two ends of the second subset, then green and blue stored similarly. If a block has non-zero alpha bits, the alpha data follows the color data with the same organization. If not, alpha is overridden to 1.0. These bits are treated as the high bits of a fixed-point value in a byte. If the format has a shared P-bit, there are two bits for endpoints 0 and 1 from low to high. If the format has a per-endpoint P-bits, then there are  $2 \times \text{subsets}$  P-bits stored in the same order as color and alpha. Both kinds of P-bits are added as a bit below the color data stored in the byte. So, for a format with 5 red bits, the P-bit ends up in bit 2. For final scaling, the top bits of the value are replicated into any remaining bits in the byte. For the preceding example, bits 6 and 7 would be written to bits 0 and 1.

The endpoint colors are interpolated using index values stored in the block. The index bits are stored in x-major order. Each index has the number of bits indicated by the mode except for one special index per subset called the anchor index. Since the ordering of the endpoints is unimportant, we can save one bit on one index per subset by ordering the endpoints such that the highest bit is guaranteed to be zero. In partition zero, the anchor index is always index zero. In other partitions, the anchor index is specified by Table 12.7, Table 12.8, and Table 12.9. If secondary index bits are present, they are read in the same manner. The anchor index information is only used to determine the number of bits each index has when it's read from the block data.

The endpoint color and alpha values used for final interpolation are the decoded values corresponding to the applicable subset as selected above. The index value for interpolating color comes from the secondary index for the texel if the format has an index selection bit and its value is one and from the primary index otherwise. The alpha index comes from the secondary index if the block has a secondary index and the block either doesn't have an index selection bit or that bit is zero and the primary index otherwise.

Interpolation is always performed using a 6-bit interpolation factor. The effective interpolation factors for 2-, 3-, and 4-bit indices are given in Table 12.1.

| 2 | 0 |   |   |    | 21 |    |    |    | 43 |    |    |    | 64 |    |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 3 | 0 |   | 9 |    | 18 |    | 27 |    | 37 |    | 46 |    | 55 |    | 64 |    |
| 4 | 0 | 4 | 9 | 13 | 17 | 21 | 26 | 30 | 34 | 38 | 43 | 47 | 51 | 55 | 60 | 64 |

Table 12.1: BPTC interpolation factors

The interpolation results in an RGBA color. If rotation bits are present, this color is remapped according to Table 12.2.

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 0 | no change |
| 1 | swap(a,r) |
| 2 | swap(a,g) |
| 3 | swap(a,b) |

Table 12.2: BPTC Rotation bits

These 8-bit values should be interpreted as RGBA 8-bit normalized channels, either linearly encoded or with the sRGB transfer function.

## BC6H

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of texels consists of 128 bits of RGB data. These formats are very similar and will be described together. In the description and pseudocode below, *signed* will be used as a condition which is true for the signed version of the

| Mode | NS | PB | RB | ISB | CB | AB | EPB | SPB | IB | IB2 |
|------|----|----|----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| 0    | 3  | 4  | 0  | 0   | 4  | 0  | 1   | 0   | 3  | 0   |
| 1    | 2  | 6  | 0  | 0   | 6  | 0  | 0   | 1   | 3  | 0   |
| 2    | 3  | 6  | 0  | 0   | 5  | 0  | 0   | 0   | 2  | 0   |
| 3    | 2  | 6  | 0  | 0   | 7  | 0  | 1   | 0   | 2  | 0   |
| 4    | 1  | 0  | 2  | 1   | 5  | 6  | 0   | 0   | 2  | 3   |
| 5    | 1  | 0  | 2  | 0   | 7  | 8  | 0   | 0   | 2  | 2   |
| 6    | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0   | 7  | 7  | 1   | 0   | 4  | 0   |
| 7    | 2  | 6  | 0  | 0   | 5  | 5  | 1   | 0   | 2  | 0   |

Table 12.3: Mode-dependent BPTC parameters.

| Mode | As described previously             |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| NS   | Number of subsets in each partition |
| PB   | Partition bits                      |
| RB   | Rotation bits                       |
| ISB  | Index selection bits                |
| CB   | Color bits                          |
| AB   | Alpha bits                          |
| EPB  | Endpoint P-bits                     |
| SPB  | Shared P-bits                       |
| IB   | Index bits per element              |
| IB2  | Secondary index bits per element }  |

Table 12.4: The full descriptions of the BPTC mode columns are as follows

format and false for the unsigned version of the format. Both formats only contain RGB data, so the returned alpha value is 1.0. If a block uses a reserved or invalid encoding, the return value is (0, 0, 0, 1).

Each block can contain data in one of 14 modes. The mode number is encoded in either the low two bits or the low five bits. If the low two bits are less than two, that is the mode number, otherwise the low five bits the mode number. Mode numbers not listed in Table 12.10 are reserved (19, 23, 27, and 31).

The data for the compressed blocks is stored in a different format for each mode. The formats are specified in Table 12.11. The format strings are intended to be read from left to right with the LSB on the left. Each element is of the form  $v[a:b]$ . If  $a \geq b$ , this indicates extracting  $b - a + 1$  bits from the block at that location and put them in the corresponding bits of the variable  $v$ . If  $a < b$ , then the bits are reversed.  $v[a]$  is used as a shorthand for the one bit  $v[a:a]$ . As an example,  $m[1:0], g2[4]$  would move the low two bits from the block into the low two bits of  $m$  then the next bit of the block into bit 4 of  $g2$ . The variable names given in the table will be referred to in the language below.

Subsets and indices work in much the same way as described for the fixed-point formats above. If a float block has no partition bits, then it is a single-subset block. If it has partition bits, then it is a 2 subset block. The partition index references the first half of Table 12.5. Indices are read in the same way as the fixed-point formats including obeying the anchor values for index 0 and as needed by Table 12.7.

In a single-subset blocks, the two endpoints are contained in  $r_0, g_0, b_0$  (hence  $e_0$ ) and  $r_1, g_1, b_1$  (hence  $e_1$ ). In a two-subset block, the endpoints for the second subset are in  $r_2, g_2, b_2$  and  $r_3, g_3, b_3$ . The value in  $e_0$  is sign-extended if the format of the texture is signed. The values in  $e_1$  (and  $e_2$  and  $e_3$  if the block is two-subset) are sign-extended if the format of the texture is signed or if the block mode has transformed endpoints. If the mode has transformed endpoints, the values from  $e_0$  are used as a base to offset all other endpoints, wrapped at the number of endpoint bits. For example,  $r_1 = (r_0 + r_1) \& ((1 \ll EPB) - 1)$ .



| 0  |   |   |   | 1  |   |   |   | 2  |   |   |   | 3  |   |   |   | 4  |   |   |   | 5  |   |   |   | 6  |   |   |   | 7  |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 8  |   |   |   | 9  |   |   |   | 10 |   |   |   | 11 |   |   |   | 12 |   |   |   | 13 |   |   |   | 14 |   |   |   | 15 |   |   |   |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 16 |   |   |   | 17 |   |   |   | 18 |   |   |   | 19 |   |   |   | 20 |   |   |   | 21 |   |   |   | 22 |   |   |   | 23 |   |   |   |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 24 |   |   |   | 25 |   |   |   | 26 |   |   |   | 27 |   |   |   | 28 |   |   |   | 29 |   |   |   | 30 |   |   |   | 31 |   |   |   |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 32 |   |   |   | 33 |   |   |   | 34 |   |   |   | 35 |   |   |   | 36 |   |   |   | 37 |   |   |   | 38 |   |   |   | 39 |   |   |   |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 40 |   |   |   | 41 |   |   |   | 42 |   |   |   | 43 |   |   |   | 44 |   |   |   | 45 |   |   |   | 46 |   |   |   | 47 |   |   |   |
| 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 48 |   |   |   | 49 |   |   |   | 50 |   |   |   | 51 |   |   |   | 52 |   |   |   | 53 |   |   |   | 54 |   |   |   | 55 |   |   |   |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 56 |   |   |   | 57 |   |   |   | 58 |   |   |   | 59 |   |   |   | 60 |   |   |   | 61 |   |   |   | 62 |   |   |   | 63 |   |   |   |
| 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Table 12.5: Partition table for BPTC 2 subset, with the 4×4 block of values for each partition index value

| 0  |   |   |   | 1  |   |   |   | 2  |   |   |   | 3  |   |   |   | 4  |   |   |   | 5  |   |   |   | 6  |   |   |   | 7  |   |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 0  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 8  |   |   |   | 9  |   |   |   | 10 |   |   |   | 11 |   |   |   | 12 |   |   |   | 13 |   |   |   | 14 |   |   |   | 15 |   |   |   |   |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2  | 0 | 0 | 1 |   |
| 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 0 |   |
| 16 |   |   |   | 17 |   |   |   | 18 |   |   |   | 19 |   |   |   | 20 |   |   |   | 21 |   |   |   | 22 |   |   |   | 23 |   |   |   |   |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 0  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 0 |   |
| 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 0 |   |
| 24 |   |   |   | 25 |   |   |   | 26 |   |   |   | 27 |   |   |   | 28 |   |   |   | 29 |   |   |   | 30 |   |   |   | 31 |   |   |   |   |
| 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 0 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 1 |   |
| 32 |   |   |   | 33 |   |   |   | 34 |   |   |   | 35 |   |   |   | 36 |   |   |   | 37 |   |   |   | 38 |   |   |   | 39 |   |   |   |   |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 0  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 |   |
| 1  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 40 |   |   |   | 41 |   |   |   | 42 |   |   |   | 43 |   |   |   | 44 |   |   |   | 45 |   |   |   | 46 |   |   |   | 47 |   |   |   |   |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 1 | 2 | 1 |   |
| 2  | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 1 | 2 | 1 |   |
| 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2  | 1 | 2 | 1 |   |
| 48 |   |   |   | 49 |   |   |   | 50 |   |   |   | 51 |   |   |   | 52 |   |   |   | 53 |   |   |   | 54 |   |   |   | 55 |   |   |   |   |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 |   |
| 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2  | 1 | 1 | 2 |   |
| 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 56 |   |   |   | 57 |   |   |   | 58 |   |   |   | 59 |   |   |   | 60 |   |   |   | 61 |   |   |   | 62 |   |   |   | 63 |   |   |   |   |
| 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 |   |
| 0  | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 |

Table 12.6: Partition table for BPTC 3 subset, with the 4×4 block of values for each partition index value

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| 15 | 2  | 8  | 2  | 2  | 8  | 8  | 15 |
| 2  | 8  | 2  | 2  | 8  | 8  | 2  | 2  |
| 15 | 15 | 6  | 8  | 2  | 8  | 15 | 15 |
| 2  | 8  | 2  | 2  | 2  | 15 | 15 | 6  |
| 6  | 2  | 6  | 8  | 15 | 15 | 2  | 2  |
| 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 2  | 2  | 15 |

Table 12.7: BPTC anchor index values for the second subset of two-subset partitioning. Values run right, then down.

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 3  | 3  | 15 | 15 | 8  | 3  | 15 | 15 |
| 8  | 8  | 6  | 6  | 6  | 5  | 3  | 3  |
| 3  | 3  | 8  | 15 | 3  | 3  | 6  | 10 |
| 5  | 8  | 8  | 6  | 8  | 5  | 15 | 15 |
| 8  | 15 | 3  | 5  | 6  | 10 | 8  | 15 |
| 15 | 3  | 15 | 5  | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| 3  | 15 | 5  | 5  | 5  | 8  | 5  | 10 |
| 5  | 10 | 8  | 13 | 15 | 12 | 3  | 3  |

Table 12.8: BPTC anchor index values for the second subset of three-subset partitioning. Values run right, then down.

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 15 | 8  | 8  | 3  | 15 | 15 | 3  | 8  |
| 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 8  |
| 15 | 8  | 15 | 3  | 15 | 8  | 15 | 8  |
| 3  | 15 | 6  | 10 | 15 | 15 | 10 | 8  |
| 15 | 3  | 15 | 10 | 10 | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 6  | 15 | 8  | 15 | 3  | 6  | 6  | 8  |
| 15 | 3  | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 3  | 15 | 15 | 8  |

Table 12.9: BPTC anchor index values for the third subset of three-subset partitioning. Values run right, then down.

Next, the endpoints are unquantized to maximize the usage of the bits and to ensure that the negative ranges are oriented properly to interpolate as a two's complement value. The following pseudocode assumes the computation is being done using sufficiently large intermediate values to avoid overflow. For the unsigned float format, we unquantize a value  $x$  to *unq* by:

```

if (EPB >= 15)
    unq = x;
else if (x == 0)
    unq = 0;
else if (x == ((1 << EPB)-1))
    unq = 0xFFFF;
else
    unq = ((x << 15) + 0x4000) >> (EPB-1);

```

The signed float unquantization is similar, but needs to worry about orienting the negative range:

```

s = 0;
if (EPB >= 16) {
    unq = x;
} else {
    if (x < 0) {
        s = 1;
        x = -x;
    }

    if (x == 0)
        unq = 0;
    else if (x >= ((1 << (EPB-1))-1))
        unq = 0x7FFF;
    else
        unq = ((x << 15) + 0x4000) >> (EPB-1);

    if (s)
        unq = -unq;
}

```

After the endpoints are unquantized, interpolation proceeds as in the fixed-point formats above including the interpolation weight table.

The interpolated values are passed through a final unquantization step. For the unsigned format, this step simply multiplies by  $\frac{31}{64}$ . The signed format negates negative components, multiplies by  $\frac{31}{32}$ , then ORs in the sign bit if the original value was negative.

The resultant value should be a legal 16-bit half float.

| Mode Number | Transformed Endpoints | Partition Bits (PB) | Endpoint Bits (EPB) | Delta Bits   |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 0           | 1                     | 5                   | 10                  | {5, 5, 5}    |
| 1           | 1                     | 5                   | 7                   | {6, 6, 6}    |
| 2           | 1                     | 5                   | 11                  | {5, 4, 4}    |
| 6           | 1                     | 5                   | 11                  | {4, 5, 4}    |
| 10          | 1                     | 5                   | 11                  | {4, 4, 5}    |
| 14          | 1                     | 5                   | 9                   | {5, 5, 5}    |
| 18          | 1                     | 5                   | 8                   | {6, 5, 5}    |
| 22          | 1                     | 5                   | 8                   | {5, 6, 5}    |
| 26          | 1                     | 5                   | 8                   | {5, 5, 6}    |
| 30          | 0                     | 5                   | 6                   | {6, 6, 6}    |
| 3           | 0                     | 0                   | 10                  | {10, 10, 10} |
| 7           | 1                     | 0                   | 11                  | {9, 9, 9}    |
| 11          | 1                     | 0                   | 12                  | {8, 8, 8}    |
| 15          | 1                     | 0                   | 16                  | {4, 4, 4}    |

Table 12.10: Endpoint and partition parameters for BPTC block modes

| Mode Number | Block Format                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0           | m[1:0], g2[4], b2[4], b3[4], r0[9:0], g0[9:0], b0[9:0], r1[4:0], g3[4], g2[3:0], g1[4:0], b3[0], g3[3:0], b1[4:0], b3[1], b2[3:0], r2[4:0], b3[2], r3[4:0],                                   |
| 1           | m[1:0], g2[5], g3[4], g3[5], r0[6:0], b3[0], b3[1], b2[4], g0[6:0], b2[5], b3[2], g2[4], b0[6:0], b3[3], b3[5], b3[4], r1[5:0], g2[3:0], g1[5:0], g3[3:0], b1[5:0], b2[3:0], r2[5:0], r3[5:0] |
| 2           | m[4:0], r0[9:0], g0[9:0], b0[9:0], r1[4:0], r0[10], g2[3:0], g1[3:0], g0[10], b3[0], g3[3:0], b1[3:0], b0[10], b3[1], b2[3:0], r2[4:0], b3[2], r3[4:0],                                       |
| 6           | m[4:0], r0[9:0], g0[9:0], b0[9:0], r1[3:0], r0[10], g3[4], g2[3:0], g1[4:0], g0[10], g3[3:0], b1[3:0], b0[10], b3[1], b2[3:0], r2[3:0], b3[0], b3[2], r3[3:0], g2[4], b3[3]                   |
| 10          | m[4:0], r0[9:0], g0[9:0], b0[9:0], r1[3:0], r0[10], b2[4], g2[3:0], g1[3:0], g0[10], b3[0], g3[3:0], b1[4:0], b0[10], b2[3:0], r2[3:0], b3[1], b3[2], r3[3:0], b3[4], b3[3]                   |
| 14          | m[4:0], r0[8:0], b2[4], g0[8:0], g2[4], b0[8:0], b3[4], r1[4:0], g3[4], g2[3:0], g1[4:0], b3[0], g3[3:0], b1[4:0], b3[1], b2[3:0], r2[4:0], b3[2], r3[4:0], b3[3]                             |
| 18          | m[4:0], r0[7:0], g3[4], b2[4], g0[7:0], b3[2], g2[4], b0[7:0], b3[3], b3[4], r1[5:0], g2[3:0], g1[4:0], b3[0], g3[3:0], b1[4:0], b3[1], b2[3:0], r2[5:0], r3[5:0]                             |
| 22          | m[4:0], r0[7:0], b3[0], b2[4], g0[7:0], g2[5], g2[4], b0[7:0], g3[5], b3[4], r1[4:0], g3[4], g2[3:0], g1[5:0], g3[3:0], b1[4:0], b3[1], b2[3:0], r2[4:0], b3[2], r3[4:0], b3[3]               |
| 26          | m[4:0], r0[7:0], b3[1], b2[4], g0[7:0], b2[5], g2[4], b0[7:0], b3[5], b3[4], r1[4:0], g3[4], g2[3:0], g1[4:0], b3[0], g3[3:0], b1[5:0], b2[3:0], r2[4:0], b3[2], r3[4:0], b3[3]               |
| 30          | m[4:0], r0[5:0], g3[4], b3[0], b3[1], b2[4], g0[5:0], g2[5], b2[5], b3[2], g2[4], b0[5:0], g3[5], b3[3], b3[5], b3[4], r1[5:0], g2[3:0], g1[5:0], g3[3:0], b1[5:0], b2[3:0], r2[5:0], r3[5:0] |
| 3           | m[4:0], r0[9:0], g0[9:0], b0[9:0], r1[9:0], g1[9:0], b1[9:0]                                                                                                                                  |
| 7           | m[4:0], r0[9:0], g0[9:0], b0[9:0], r1[8:0], r0[10], g1[8:0], g0[10], b1[8:0], b0[10]                                                                                                          |
| 11          | m[4:0], r0[9:0], g0[9:0], b0[9:0], r1[7:0], r0[10:11], g1[7:0], g0[10:11], b1[7:0], b0[10:11]                                                                                                 |
| 15          | m[4:0], r0[9:0], g0[9:0], b0[9:0], r1[3:0], r0[10:15], g1[3:0], g0[10:15], b1[3:0], b0[10:15]                                                                                                 |

Table 12.11: Block formats for BC6H block modes

## Chapter 13

# ETC1 Compressed Texture Image Formats

This description is derived from the *OES\_compressed\_ETC1\_RGB8\_texture* OpenGL extension.

The texture is described as a number of  $4 \times 4$  pixel blocks. If the texture (or a particular mip-level) is smaller than 4 pixels in any dimension (such as a  $2 \times 2$  or a  $8 \times 1$  texture), the texture is found in the upper left part of the block(s), and the rest of the pixels are not used. For instance, a texture of size  $4 \times 2$  will be placed in the upper half of a  $4 \times 4$  block, and the lower half of the pixels in the block will not be accessed.

Pixel  $a_1$  (see Table 13.4) of the first block in memory will represent the texture coordinate ( $u=0, v=0$ ). Pixel  $a_2$  in the second block in memory will be adjacent to pixel  $m_1$  in the first block, etc until the width of the texture. Then pixel  $a_3$  in the following block (third block in memory for a  $8 \times 8$  texture) will be adjacent to pixel  $d_1$  in the first block, etc until the height of the texture. The data storage for an  $8 \times 8$  texture using the first, second, third and fourth block if stored in that order in memory would have the texels encoded in the same order as a simple linear format as if the bytes describing the pixels came in the following memory order:  $a_1 e_1 i_1 m_1 a_2 e_2 i_2 m_2 b_1 f_1 j_1 n_1 b_2 f_2 j_2 n_2 c_1 g_1 k_1 o_1 c_2 g_2 k_2 o_2 d_1 h_1 l_1 p_1 d_2 h_2 l_2 p_2 a_3 e_3 i_3 m_3 a_4 e_4 i_4 m_4 b_3 f_3 j_3 n_3 b_4 f_4 j_4 n_4 c_3 g_3 k_3 o_3 c_4 g_4 k_4 o_4 d_3 h_3 l_3 p_3 d_4 h_4 l_4 p_4$ .

The number of bits that represent a  $4 \times 4$  texel block is 64 bits.

The data for a block is stored as a number of bytes,  $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6, q_7\}$ , where byte  $q_0$  is located at the lowest memory address and  $q_7$  at the highest. The 64 bits specifying the block are then represented by the following 64 bit integer:

$$int64bit = 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times q_0 + q_1) + q_2) + q_3) + q_4) + q_5) + q_6) + q_7$$

Each 64-bit word contains information about a  $4 \times 4$  pixel block as shown in Table 13.5. There are two modes in ETC1; the ‘individual’ mode and the ‘differential’ mode. Which mode is active for a particular  $4 \times 4$  block is controlled by bit 33, which we call ‘diffbit’. If *diffbit* = 0, the ‘individual’ mode is chosen, and if *diffbit* = 1, then the ‘differential’ mode is chosen. The bit layout for the two modes are different: The bit layout for the individual mode is shown in Table 13.1 part a and part c, and the bit layout for the differential mode is laid out in Table 13.1 part b and part c.

In both modes, the  $4 \times 4$  block is divided into two subblocks of either size  $2 \times 4$  or  $4 \times 2$ . This is controlled by bit 32, which we call ‘flipbit’. If *flipbit*=0, the block is divided into two  $2 \times 4$  subblocks side-by-side, as shown in Table 13.6. If *flipbit*=1, the block is divided into two  $4 \times 2$  subblocks on top of each other, as shown in Table 13.7.

In both individual and differential mode, a ‘base color’ for each subblock is stored, but the way they are stored is different in the two modes:

In the ‘individual’ mode (*diffbit* = 0), the base color for subblock 1 is derived from the codewords R1 (bit 63-60), G1 (bit 55-52) and B1 (bit 47-44), see section a of Table 13.1. These four bit values are extended to RGB888 by replicating the four higher order bits in the four lower order bits. For instance, if  $R1 = 14 = 1110b$ ,  $G1 = 3 = 0011b$  and  $B1 = 8 = 1000b$ , then the red component of the base color of subblock 1 becomes  $11101110b = 238$ , and the green and blue components become  $00110011b = 51$  and  $10001000b = 136$ . The base color for subblock 2 is decoded the same way, but using the 4-bit codewords R2 (bit 59-56), G2 (bit 51-48) and B2 (bit 43-40) instead. In summary, the base colors for the subblocks in the individual mode are:

$$\begin{aligned} base\ col\ subblock1 &= extend\_4to8bits(R1, G1, B1) \\ base\ col\ subblock2 &= extend\_4to8bits(R2, G2, B2) \end{aligned}$$

In the ‘differential’ mode (*diffbit* = 1), the base color for subblock 1 is derived from the five-bit codewords  $R1'$ ,  $G1'$  and  $B1'$ . These five-bit codewords are extended to eight bits by replicating the top three highest order bits to the three lowest order bits. For instance, if  $R1' = 28 = 11100b$ , the resulting eight-bit red color component becomes  $11100111b = 231$ . Likewise, if  $G1' = 4 = 00100b$  and  $B1' = 3 = 00011b$ , the green and blue components become  $00100001b = 33$  and  $00011000b = 24$  respectively. Thus, in this example, the base color for subblock 1 is (231, 33, 24). The five bit representation for the base color of subblock 2 is obtained by modifying the 5-bit codewords  $R1'$ ,  $G1'$  and  $B1'$  by the codewords  $dR2$ ,  $dG2$  and  $dB2$ . Each of  $dR2$ ,  $dG2$  and  $dB2$  is a 3-bit two-complement number that can hold values between  $-4$  and  $+3$ . For instance, if  $R1' = 28$  as above, and  $dR2 = 100b = -4$ , then the five bit representation for the red color component is  $28 + (-4) = 24 = 11000b$ , which is then extended to eight bits to  $11000110b = 198$ . Likewise, if  $G1' = 4$ ,  $dG2 = 2$ ,  $B1' = 3$  and  $dB2 = 0$ , the base color of subblock 2 will be  $RGB = (198, 49, 24)$ . In summary, the base colors for the subblocks in the differential mode are:

$$\begin{aligned} base\ col\ subblock1 &= extend\_5to8bits(R1', G1', B1') \\ base\ col\ subblock2 &= extend\_5to8bits(R1' + dR2, G1' + dG2, B1' + dB2) \end{aligned}$$

Note that these additions are not allowed to under- or overflow (go below zero or above 31). (The compression scheme can easily make sure they don’t.) For over- or underflowing values, the behavior is undefined for all pixels in the  $4 \times 4$  block. Note also that the extension to eight bits is performed *after* the addition.

After obtaining the base color, the operations are the same for the two modes ‘individual’ and ‘differential’. First a table is chosen using the table codewords: For subblock 1, table codeword 1 is used (bits 39-37), and for subblock 2, table codeword 2 is used (bits 36-34), see Table 13.1. The table codeword is used to select one of eight modifier tables, see Table 13.2. For instance, if the table code word is  $010b = 2$ , then the modifier table  $[-29, -9, 9, 29]$  is selected. Note that the values in Table 13.2 are valid for all textures and can therefore be hardcoded into the decompression unit.

Next, we identify which modifier value to use from the modifier table using the two ‘pixel index’ bits. The pixel index bits are unique for each pixel. For instance, the pixel index for pixel  $d$  (see Table 13.5) can be found in bits 19 (most significant bit, MSB), and 3 (least significant bit, LSB), see section c of Table 13.1. Note that the pixel index for a particular texel is always stored in the same bit position, irrespectively of bits *diffbit* and *flipbit*. The pixel index bits are decoded using Table 13.3. If, for instance, the pixel index bits are  $01b = 1$ , and the modifier table  $[-29, -9, 9, 29]$  is used, then the modifier value selected for that pixel is 29 (see Table 13.3). This modifier value is now used to additively modify the base color. For example, if we have the base color (231, 8, 16), we should add the modifier value 29 to all three components:  $(231 + 29, 8 + 29, 16 + 29)$  resulting in (260, 37, 45). These values are then clamped to  $[0, 255]$ , resulting in the color (255, 37, 45), and we are finished decoding the texel.

| a) bit layout in bits 63 through 32 if diffbit = 0 |    |    |    |                          |    |    |    |                           |    |    |    |                          |    |             |             |
|----------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|--------------------------|----|----|----|---------------------------|----|----|----|--------------------------|----|-------------|-------------|
| 63                                                 | 62 | 61 | 60 | 59                       | 58 | 57 | 56 | 55                        | 54 | 53 | 52 | 51                       | 50 | 49          | 48          |
| base col1<br>R1 (4 bits)                           |    |    |    | base col2<br>R2 (4 bits) |    |    |    | base col1<br>G1 (4 bits)  |    |    |    | base col2<br>G2 (4 bits) |    |             |             |
| 47                                                 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43                       | 42 | 41 | 40 | 39                        | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35                       | 34 | 33          | 32          |
| base col1<br>B1 (4 bits)                           |    |    |    | base col2<br>B2 (4 bits) |    |    |    | table<br>cw 1             |    |    |    | table<br>cw 2            |    | diff<br>bit | flip<br>bit |
| b) bit layout in bits 63 through 32 if diffbit = 1 |    |    |    |                          |    |    |    |                           |    |    |    |                          |    |             |             |
| 63                                                 | 62 | 61 | 60 | 59                       | 58 | 57 | 56 | 55                        | 54 | 53 | 52 | 51                       | 50 | 49          | 48          |
| base col1<br>R1' (5 bits)                          |    |    |    | dcol 2<br>dR2            |    |    |    | base col1<br>G1' (4 bits) |    |    |    | dcol 2<br>dG2            |    |             |             |
| 47                                                 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43                       | 42 | 41 | 40 | 39                        | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35                       | 34 | 33          | 32          |
| base col1<br>B1' (5 bits)                          |    |    |    | dcol 2<br>db2            |    |    |    | table<br>cw 1             |    |    |    | table<br>cw 2            |    | diff<br>bit | flip<br>bit |
| c) bit layout in bits 31 through 0 (in both cases) |    |    |    |                          |    |    |    |                           |    |    |    |                          |    |             |             |
| 31                                                 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27                       | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23                        | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19                       | 18 | 17          | 16          |
| most significant pixel index bits                  |    |    |    |                          |    |    |    |                           |    |    |    |                          |    |             |             |
| p                                                  | o  | n  | m  | l                        | k  | j  | i  | h                         | g  | f  | e  | d                        | c  | b           | a           |
| 15                                                 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11                       | 10 | 9  | 8  | 7                         | 6  | 5  | 4  | 3                        | 2  | 1           | 0           |
| least significant pixel index bits                 |    |    |    |                          |    |    |    |                           |    |    |    |                          |    |             |             |
| p                                                  | o  | n  | m  | l                        | k  | j  | i  | h                         | g  | f  | e  | d                        | c  | b           | a           |

Table 13.1: Texel Data format for ETC1 compressed textures

| Table<br>codeword | Modifier table |     |    |     |
|-------------------|----------------|-----|----|-----|
| 0                 | -8             | -2  | 2  | 8   |
| 1                 | -17            | -5  | 5  | 17  |
| 2                 | -29            | -9  | 9  | 29  |
| 3                 | -42            | -13 | 13 | 42  |
| 4                 | -60            | -18 | 18 | 60  |
| 5                 | -80            | -24 | 24 | 80  |
| 6                 | -106           | -33 | 33 | 106 |
| 7                 | -183           | -47 | 47 | 183 |

Table 13.2: Intensity modifier sets for ETC1 compressed textures

| Pixel index value |     | Resulting modifier value  |
|-------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| msb               | lsb |                           |
| 1                 | 1   | -b (large negative value) |
| 1                 | 0   | -a (small negative value) |
| 0                 | 0   | a (small positive value)  |
| 0                 | 1   | b (large positive value)  |

Table 13.3: Mapping from pixel index values to modifier values for ETC1 compressed textures



| First block in mem |       |       |       |  | Second block in mem |       |       |       |                              |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|--|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------------|
| $a_1$              | $e_1$ | $i_1$ | $m_1$ |  | $a_2$               | $e_2$ | $i_2$ | $m_2$ | $\rightarrow u$<br>direction |
| $b_1$              | $f_1$ | $j_1$ | $n_1$ |  | $b_2$               | $f_2$ | $j_2$ | $n_2$ |                              |
| $c_1$              | $g_1$ | $k_1$ | $o_1$ |  | $c_2$               | $g_2$ | $k_2$ | $o_2$ |                              |
| $d_1$              | $h_1$ | $l_1$ | $p_1$ |  | $d_2$               | $h_2$ | $l_2$ | $p_2$ |                              |
|                    |       |       |       |  |                     |       |       |       |                              |
| $a_3$              | $e_3$ | $i_3$ | $m_3$ |  | $a_4$               | $e_4$ | $i_4$ | $m_4$ | $\downarrow v$<br>direction  |
| $b_3$              | $f_3$ | $j_3$ | $n_3$ |  | $b_4$               | $f_4$ | $j_4$ | $n_4$ |                              |
| $c_3$              | $g_3$ | $k_3$ | $o_3$ |  | $c_4$               | $g_4$ | $k_4$ | $o_4$ |                              |
| $d_3$              | $h_3$ | $l_3$ | $p_3$ |  | $d_4$               | $h_4$ | $l_4$ | $p_4$ |                              |
| Third block in mem |       |       |       |  | Fourth block in mem |       |       |       |                              |

Table 13.4: Pixel layout for an  $8 \times 8$  texture using four ETC1 compressed blocks. Note how pixel  $a_2$  in the second block is adjacent to pixel  $m_1$  in the first block.

|     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| $a$ | $e$ | $i$ | $m$ |
| $b$ | $f$ | $j$ | $n$ |
| $c$ | $g$ | $k$ | $o$ |
| $d$ | $h$ | $l$ | $p$ |

Table 13.5: Pixel layout for an ETC1 compressed block

|     |     |  |     |     |
|-----|-----|--|-----|-----|
| $a$ | $e$ |  | $i$ | $m$ |
| $b$ | $f$ |  | $j$ | $n$ |
| $c$ | $g$ |  | $k$ | $o$ |
| $d$ | $h$ |  | $l$ | $p$ |

Table 13.6: Two  $2 \times 4$ -pixel ETC1 subblocks side-by-side

|     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| $a$ | $e$ | $i$ | $m$ |
| $b$ | $f$ | $j$ | $n$ |
|     |     |     |     |
| $c$ | $g$ | $k$ | $o$ |
| $d$ | $h$ | $l$ | $p$ |

Table 13.7: Two  $4 \times 2$ -pixel ETC1 subblocks on top of each other

## Chapter 14

# ETC2 Compressed Texture Image Formats

*This description is derived from the “ETC Compressed Texture Image Formats” section of the OpenGL 4.5 specification.*

The ETC formats form a family of related compressed texture image formats. They are designed to do different tasks, but also to be similar enough that hardware can be reused between them. Each one is described in detail below, but we will first give an overview of each format and describe how it is similar to others and the main differences.

**RGB ETC2** is a format for compressing RGB data. It is a superset of the older ETC1 format. This means that an older ETC1 texture can be decoded using an ETC2-compliant decoder. The main difference is that the newer version contains three new modes; the ‘T-mode’ and the ‘H-mode’ which are good for sharp chrominance blocks and the ‘Planar’ mode which is good for smooth blocks.

**RGB ETC2 with sRGB encoding** is the same as linear RGB ETC2 with the difference that the values should be interpreted as being encoded with the sRGB transfer function instead of linear RGB-values.

**RGBA ETC2** encodes RGBA 8-bit data. The RGB part is encoded exactly the same way as RGB ETC2. The alpha part is encoded separately.

**RGBA ETC2 with sRGB encoding** is the same as RGBA ETC2 but here the RGB-values (but not the alpha value) should be interpreted as being encoded with the sRGB transfer function.

**Unsigned R11 EAC** is a one-channel unsigned format. It is similar to the alpha part of RGBA ETC2 but not exactly the same; it delivers higher precision. It is possible to make hardware that can decode both formats with minimal overhead.

**Unsigned RG11 EAC** is a two-channel unsigned format. Each channel is decoded exactly as R11 EAC.

**Signed R11 EAC** is a one-channel signed format. This is good in situations when it is important to be able to preserve zero exactly, and still use both positive and negative values. It is designed to be similar enough to Signed R11 EAC so that hardware can decode both with minimal overhead, but it is not exactly the same. For example; the signed version does not add 0.5 to the base codeword, and the extension from 11 bits differ. For all details, see the corresponding sections.

**Signed RG11 EAC** is a two-channel signed format. Each channel is decoded exactly as signed R11 EAC.

**RGB ETC2 with “punchthrough” alpha** is very similar to RGB ETC2, but has the ability to represent “punchthrough”-alpha (completely opaque or transparent). Each block can select to be completely opaque using one bit. To fit this bit, there is no individual mode in RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha. In other respects, the opaque blocks are decoded as in RGB ETC2. For the transparent blocks, one index is reserved to represent transparency, and the decoding of the RGB channels are also affected. For details, see the corresponding sections.

**RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha and sRGB encoding** is the same as linear RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha but the RGB channel values should be interpreted as being encoded with the sRGB transfer function.

A texture compressed using any of the ETC texture image formats is described as a number of  $4 \times 4$  pixel blocks.

Pixel  $a_1$  (see Table 14.1) of the first block in memory will represent the texture coordinate ( $u = 0, v = 0$ ). Pixel  $a_2$  in the second block in memory will be adjacent to pixel  $m_1$  in the first block, etc. until the width of the texture. Then pixel  $a_3$  in the following block (third block in memory for a  $8 \times 8$  texture) will be adjacent to pixel  $d_1$  in the first block, etc. until the height of the texture.

The data storage for an  $8 \times 8$  texture using the first, second, third and fourth block if stored in that order in memory would have the texels encoded in the same order as a simple linear format as if the bytes describing the pixels came in the following memory order:  $a_1 e_1 i_1 m_1 a_2 e_2 i_2 m_2 b_1 f_1 j_1 n_1 b_2 f_2 j_2 n_2 c_1 g_1 k_1 o_1 c_2 g_2 k_2 o_2 d_1 h_1 l_1 p_1 d_2 h_2 l_2 p_2 a_3 e_3 i_3 m_3 a_4 e_4 i_4 m_4 b_3 f_3 j_3 n_3 b_4 f_4 j_4 n_4 c_3 g_3 k_3 o_3 c_4 g_4 k_4 o_4 d_3 h_3 l_3 p_3 d_4 h_4 l_4 p_4$ .

| First block in mem |       |       |       |  | Second block in mem |       |       |       |                              |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|--|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------------|
| $a_1$              | $e_1$ | $i_1$ | $m_1$ |  | $a_2$               | $e_2$ | $i_2$ | $m_2$ | $\rightarrow u$<br>direction |
| $b_1$              | $f_1$ | $j_1$ | $n_1$ |  | $b_2$               | $f_2$ | $j_2$ | $n_2$ |                              |
| $c_1$              | $g_1$ | $k_1$ | $o_1$ |  | $c_2$               | $g_2$ | $k_2$ | $o_2$ |                              |
| $d_1$              | $h_1$ | $l_1$ | $p_1$ |  | $d_2$               | $h_2$ | $l_2$ | $p_2$ |                              |
|                    |       |       |       |  |                     |       |       |       |                              |
| $a_3$              | $e_3$ | $i_3$ | $m_3$ |  | $a_4$               | $e_4$ | $i_4$ | $m_4$ | $\downarrow v$<br>direction  |
| $b_3$              | $f_3$ | $j_3$ | $n_3$ |  | $b_4$               | $f_4$ | $j_4$ | $n_4$ |                              |
| $c_3$              | $g_3$ | $k_3$ | $o_3$ |  | $c_4$               | $g_4$ | $k_4$ | $o_4$ |                              |
| $d_3$              | $h_3$ | $l_3$ | $p_3$ |  | $d_4$               | $h_4$ | $l_4$ | $p_4$ |                              |
| Third block in mem |       |       |       |  | Fourth block in mem |       |       |       |                              |

Table 14.1: Pixel layout for an  $8 \times 8$  texture using four ETC2 compressed blocks. Note how pixel  $a_3$  in the third block is adjacent to pixel  $d_1$  in the first block.

If the width or height of the texture (or a particular mip-level) is not a multiple of four, then padding is added to ensure that the texture contains a whole number of  $4 \times 4$  blocks in each dimension. The padding does not affect the texel coordinates. For example, the texel shown as  $a_1$  in Table 14.1 always has coordinates  $i = 0, j = 0$ . The values of padding texels are irrelevant, e.g., in a  $3 \times 3$  texture, the texels marked as  $m_1, n_1, o_1, d_1, h_1, l_1$  and  $p_1$  form padding and have no effect on the final texture image.

The number of bits that represent a  $4 \times 4$  texel block is 64 bits if the format is RGB ETC2, RGB ETC2 with sRGB encoding, RGBA ETC2 with punchthrough alpha, or RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha and sRGB encoding.

In those cases the data for a block is stored as a number of bytes,  $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6, q_7\}$ , where byte  $q_0$  is located at the lowest memory address and  $q_7$  at the highest. The 64 bits specifying the block are then represented by the following 64 bit integer:

$$int64bit = 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times q_0 + q_1) + q_2) + q_3) + q_4) + q_5) + q_6) + q_7$$

The number of bits that represent a  $4 \times 4$  texel block is 128 bits if the format is RGBA ETC2 with a linear or sRGB transfer function. In those cases the data for a block is stored as a number of bytes:  $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6, q_7, q_8, q_9, q_{10}, q_{11}, q_{12}, q_{13}, q_{14}, q_{15}\}$ , where byte  $q_0$  is located at the lowest memory address and  $q_{15}$  at the highest. This is split into two 64-bit integers, one used for color channel decompression and one for alpha channel decompression:

$$int64bitAlpha = 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times q_0 + q_1) + q_2) + q_3) + q_4) + q_5) + q_6) + q_7$$

$$int64bitColor = 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times q_8 + q_9) + q_{10}) + q_{11}) + q_{12}) + q_{13}) + q_{14}) + q_{15}$$

## Format RGB ETC2

For RGB ETC2, each 64-bit word contains information about a three-channel  $4 \times 4$  pixel block as shown in Table 14.2.

The blocks are compressed using one of five different ‘modes’. Section a of Table 14.3 shows the bits used for determining the mode used in a given block. First, if the bit marked ‘D’ is set to 0, the ‘individual’ mode is used. Otherwise, the three 5-bit values R, G and B, and the three 3-bit values dR, dG and dB are examined. R, G and B are treated as integers between 0 and 31 and dR, dG and dB as two’s-complement integers between  $-4$  and  $+3$ . First, R and dR are added, and if the sum is not within the interval  $[0, 31]$ , the ‘T’ mode is selected. Otherwise, if the sum of G and dG is outside the interval  $[0, 31]$ , the ‘H’ mode is selected. Otherwise, if the sum of B and dB is outside of the interval  $[0, 31]$ , the ‘planar’ mode is selected. Finally, if the ‘D’ bit is set to 1 and all of the aforementioned sums lie between 0 and 31, the ‘differential’ mode is selected.

|                      |          |          |          |                         |
|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------------|
| <i>a</i>             | <i>e</i> | <i>i</i> | <i>m</i> | → <i>u</i><br>direction |
| <i>b</i>             | <i>f</i> | <i>j</i> | <i>n</i> |                         |
| <i>c</i>             | <i>g</i> | <i>k</i> | <i>o</i> |                         |
| <i>d</i>             | <i>h</i> | <i>l</i> | <i>p</i> |                         |
| ↓ <i>v</i> direction |          |          |          |                         |

Table 14.2: Pixel layout for an ETC2 compressed block

|                                                                                 |     |    |     |    |      |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |      |      |       |      |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |        |    |       |    |        |    |    |    |    |       |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|-----|----|------|----|-------|----|-------|----|----|----|------|------|-------|------|----|----|----|-------|----|-------|----|--------|----|-------|----|--------|----|----|----|----|-------|----|
| a) location of bits for mode selection                                          |     |    |     |    |      |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |      |      |       |      |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |        |    |       |    |        |    |    |    |    |       |    |
| 63                                                                              | 62  | 61 | 60  | 59 | 58   | 57 | 56    | 55 | 54    | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50   | 49   | 48    | 47   | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43    | 42 | 41    | 40 | 39     | 38 | 37    | 36 | 35     | 34 | 33 | 32 |    |       |    |
| R                                                                               |     |    |     | dR |      |    |       | G  |       |    |    | dG |      |      |       | B    |    |    |    | dB    |    |       |    | .....  |    |       |    | D      |    | .  |    |    |       |    |
| b) bit layout for bits 63 through 32 for ‘individual’ mode:                     |     |    |     |    |      |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |      |      |       |      |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |        |    |       |    |        |    |    |    |    |       |    |
| 63                                                                              | 62  | 61 | 60  | 59 | 58   | 57 | 56    | 55 | 54    | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50   | 49   | 48    | 47   | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43    | 42 | 41    | 40 | 39     | 38 | 37    | 36 | 35     | 34 | 33 | 32 |    |       |    |
| R1                                                                              |     |    |     | R2 |      |    |       | G1 |       |    |    | G2 |      |      |       | B1   |    |    |    | B2    |    |       |    | table1 |    |       |    | table2 |    |    |    | 0  | $F_B$ |    |
| c) bit layout for bits 63 through 32 for ‘differential’ mode:                   |     |    |     |    |      |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |      |      |       |      |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |        |    |       |    |        |    |    |    |    |       |    |
| 63                                                                              | 62  | 61 | 60  | 59 | 58   | 57 | 56    | 55 | 54    | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50   | 49   | 48    | 47   | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43    | 42 | 41    | 40 | 39     | 38 | 37    | 36 | 35     | 34 | 33 | 32 |    |       |    |
| R                                                                               |     |    |     | dR |      |    |       | G  |       |    |    | dG |      |      |       | B    |    |    |    | dB    |    |       |    | table1 |    |       |    | table2 |    |    |    | 1  | $F_B$ |    |
| d) bit layout for bits 63 through 32 for ‘T’ mode:                              |     |    |     |    |      |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |      |      |       |      |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |        |    |       |    |        |    |    |    |    |       |    |
| 63                                                                              | 62  | 61 | 60  | 59 | 58   | 57 | 56    | 55 | 54    | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50   | 49   | 48    | 47   | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43    | 42 | 41    | 40 | 39     | 38 | 37    | 36 | 35     | 34 | 33 | 32 |    |       |    |
| ...                                                                             |     |    | R1a |    |      | .  | R1b   |    |       | G1 |    |    |      | B1   |       |      |    | R2 |    |       |    | G2    |    |        |    | B2    |    |        |    | da |    | 1  | db    |    |
| e) bit layout for bits 63 through 32 for ‘H’ mode:                              |     |    |     |    |      |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |      |      |       |      |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |        |    |       |    |        |    |    |    |    |       |    |
| 63                                                                              | 62  | 61 | 60  | 59 | 58   | 57 | 56    | 55 | 54    | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50   | 49   | 48    | 47   | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43    | 42 | 41    | 40 | 39     | 38 | 37    | 36 | 35     | 34 | 33 | 32 |    |       |    |
| .                                                                               | R1  |    |     |    | G1 a |    |       |    | ...   |    |    |    | G1 b | B1 a | .     | B1 b |    |    |    | R2    |    |       |    | G2     |    |       |    | B2     |    |    |    | da | 1     | db |
| f) bit layout for bits 31 through 0 for ‘individual’, ‘diff’, ‘T’ and ‘H’ modes |     |    |     |    |      |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |      |      |       |      |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |        |    |       |    |        |    |    |    |    |       |    |
| 31                                                                              | 30  | 29 | 28  | 27 | 26   | 25 | 24    | 23 | 22    | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18   | 17   | 16    | 15   | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11    | 10 | 9     | 8  | 7      | 6  | 5     | 4  | 3      | 2  | 1  | 0  |    |       |    |
| p0                                                                              | o0  | n0 | m0  | l0 | k0   | j0 | i0    | h0 | g0    | f0 | e0 | d0 | c0   | b0   | a0    | p1   | o1 | n1 | m1 | l1    | k1 | j1    | i1 | h1     | g1 | f1    | e1 | d1     | c1 | b1 | a1 |    |       |    |
| g) bit layout for bits 63 through 0 for ‘planar’ mode:                          |     |    |     |    |      |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |      |      |       |      |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |        |    |       |    |        |    |    |    |    |       |    |
| 63                                                                              | 62  | 61 | 60  | 59 | 58   | 57 | 56    | 55 | 54    | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50   | 49   | 48    | 47   | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43    | 42 | 41    | 40 | 39     | 38 | 37    | 36 | 35     | 34 | 33 | 32 |    |       |    |
| .                                                                               | R O |    |     |    |      |    | G O 1 | .  | G O 2 |    |    |    |      |      | B O 1 | ...  |    |    |    | B O 2 | .  | B O 3 |    |        |    | R H 1 |    |        |    |    |    | 1  | R H 2 |    |
| 31                                                                              | 30  | 29 | 28  | 27 | 26   | 25 | 24    | 23 | 22    | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18   | 17   | 16    | 15   | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11    | 10 | 9     | 8  | 7      | 6  | 5     | 4  | 3      | 2  | 1  | 0  |    |       |    |
| GH                                                                              |     |    |     |    |      |    | BH    |    |       |    |    |    |      | RV   |       |      |    |    |    |       | GV |       |    |        |    |       |    | BV     |    |    |    |    |       |    |

Table 14.3: Texel Data format for ETC2 compressed texture formats

|          |          |  |          |          |
|----------|----------|--|----------|----------|
| <i>a</i> | <i>e</i> |  | <i>i</i> | <i>m</i> |
| <i>b</i> | <i>f</i> |  | <i>j</i> | <i>n</i> |
| <i>c</i> | <i>g</i> |  | <i>k</i> | <i>o</i> |
| <i>d</i> | <i>h</i> |  | <i>l</i> | <i>p</i> |

Table 14.4: Two 2-by-4-pixel ETC2 subblocks side-by-side.

The layout of the bits used to decode the ‘individual’ and ‘differential’ modes are shown in [section b](#) and [section c](#) of Table 14.3, respectively. Both of these modes share several characteristics. In both modes, the  $4 \times 4$  block is split into two subblocks of either size  $2 \times 4$  or  $4 \times 2$ . This is controlled by bit 32, which we dub the ‘flip bit’. If the ‘flip bit’ is 0, the block is divided into two  $2 \times 4$  subblocks side-by-side, as shown in Table 14.4. If the ‘flip bit’ is 1, the block is divided into two  $4 \times 2$  subblocks on top of each other, as shown in Table 14.5. In both modes, a ‘base color’ for each subblock is stored, but the way they are stored is different in the two modes:

|          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>a</i> | <i>e</i> | <i>i</i> | <i>m</i> |
| <i>b</i> | <i>f</i> | <i>j</i> | <i>n</i> |
|          |          |          |          |
| <i>c</i> | <i>g</i> | <i>k</i> | <i>o</i> |
| <i>d</i> | <i>h</i> | <i>l</i> | <i>p</i> |

Table 14.5: Two 4-by-2-pixel ETC2 subblocks on top of each other.

In the ‘individual’ mode, following the layout shown in [section b](#) of Table 14.3, the base color for subblock 1 is derived from the codewords R1 (bit 63—60), G1 (bit 55—52) and B1 (bit 47—44). These four bit values are extended to RGB888 by replicating the four higher order bits in the four lower order bits. For instance, if  $R1 = 14 = 1110$  binary (1110b for short),  $G1 = 3 = 0011$ b and  $B1 = 8 = 1000$ b, then the red component of the base color of subblock 1 becomes  $11101110$ b = 238, and the green and blue components become  $00110011$ b = 51 and  $10001000$ b = 136. The base color for subblock 2 is decoded the same way, but using the 4-bit codewords R2 (bit 59—56), G2 (bit 51—48) and B2 (bit 43—40) instead. In summary, the base colors for the subblocks in the individual mode are:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{base col subblock1} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}(R1, G1, B1) \\ \text{base col subblock2} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}(R2, G2, B2) \end{aligned}$$

In the ‘differential’ mode, following the layout shown in [section c](#) of Table 14.3, the base color for subblock 1 is derived from the five-bit codewords R, G and B. These five-bit codewords are extended to eight bits by replicating the top three highest order bits to the three lowest order bits. For instance, if  $R = 28 = 11100$ b, the resulting eight-bit red color component becomes  $11100111$ b = 231. Likewise, if  $G = 4 = 00100$ b and  $B = 3 = 00011$ b, the green and blue components become  $00100001$ b = 33 and  $00011000$ b = 24 respectively. Thus, in this example, the base color for subblock 1 is (231, 33, 24). The five-bit representation for the base color of subblock 2 is obtained by modifying the five-bit codewords R G and B by the codewords dR, dG and dB. Each of dR, dG and dB is a 3-bit two’s-complement number that can hold values between  $-4$  and  $+3$ . For instance, if  $R = 28$  as above, and  $dR = 100$ b =  $-4$ , then the five bit representation for the red color component is  $28 + (-4) = 24 = 11000$ b, which is then extended to eight bits to  $11000110$ b = 198. Likewise, if  $G = 4$ ,  $dG = 2$ ,  $B = 3$  and  $dB = 0$ , the base color of subblock 2 will be RGB = 198, 49, 24. In summary, the base colors for the subblocks in the differential mode are:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{base col subblock1} &= \text{extend\_5to8bits}(R, G, B) \\ \text{base col subblock2} &= \text{extend\_5to8bits}(R + dR, G + dG, B + dB) \end{aligned}$$

Note that these additions will not under- or overflow, or one of the alternative decompression modes would have been chosen instead of the ‘differential’ mode.

After obtaining the base color, the operations are the same for the two modes ‘individual’ and ‘differential’. First a table is chosen using the table codewords: For subblock 1, table codeword 1 is used (bits 39—37), and for subblock 2, table codeword 2 is used (bits 36—34), see [section b](#) or [section c](#) of Table 14.3. The table codeword is used to select one of eight modifier tables, see Table 14.6. For instance, if the table code word is 010 binary = 2, then the modifier table  $-29, -9, 9, 29$  is selected for the corresponding sub-block. Note that the values in Table 14.6 are valid for all textures and can therefore be hardcoded into the decompression unit.

Next, we identify which modifier value to use from the modifier table using the two ‘pixel index’ bits. The pixel index bits are unique for each pixel. For instance, the pixel index for pixel d (see Table 14.2) can be found in bits 19 (most significant bit, MSB), and 3 (least significant bit, LSB), see [section f](#) of Table 14.3. Note that the pixel index for a particular texel is always stored in the same bit position, irrespectively of bits ‘diffbit’ and ‘flipbit’. The pixel index bits are decoded using Table 14.7. If, for instance, the pixel index bits are 01 binary = 1, and the modifier table  $-29, -9, 9, 29$  is used, then the modifier value selected for that pixel is 29 (see Table 14.7). This modifier value is now used to additively modify the base

| Table<br>codeword | Modifier table |     |    |     |
|-------------------|----------------|-----|----|-----|
| 0                 | -8             | -2  | 2  | 8   |
| 1                 | -17            | -5  | 5  | 17  |
| 2                 | -29            | -9  | 9  | 29  |
| 3                 | -42            | -13 | 13 | 42  |
| 4                 | -60            | -18 | 18 | 60  |
| 5                 | -80            | -24 | 24 | 80  |
| 6                 | -106           | -33 | 33 | 106 |
| 7                 | -183           | -47 | 47 | 183 |

Table 14.6: ETC2 intensity modifier sets for ‘individual’ and ‘differential’ modes

| Pixel index value |     | Resulting modifier value  |
|-------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| msb               | lsb |                           |
| 1                 | 1   | -b (large negative value) |
| 1                 | 0   | -a (small negative value) |
| 0                 | 0   | a (small positive value)  |
| 0                 | 1   | b (large positive value)  |

Table 14.7: Mapping from pixel index values to modifier values for RGB ETC2 compressed textures.

color. For example, if we have the base color (231, 8, 16), we should add the modifier value 29 to all three components: (231 + 29, 8 + 29, 16 + 29) resulting in (260, 37, 45). These values are then clamped to [0, 255], resulting in the color (255, 37, 45), and we are finished decoding the texel.

The ‘T’ and ‘H’ compression modes also share some characteristics: both use two base colors stored using 4 bits per channel decoded as in the individual mode. Unlike the ‘individual’ mode however, these bits are not stored sequentially, but in the layout shown in [section d](#) and [section e](#) of Table 14.3. To clarify, in the ‘T’ mode, the two colors are constructed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{base col 1} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}((R1a \ll 2) \mid R1b, G1, B1) \\ \text{base col 2} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}(R2, G2, B2) \end{aligned}$$

Here,  $\ll$  denotes bit-wise left shift and  $\mid$  denotes bit-wise OR. In the ‘H’ mode, the two colors are constructed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{base col 1} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}(R1, (G1a \ll 1) \mid G1b, (B1a \ll 3) \mid B1b) \\ \text{base col 2} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}(R2, G2, B2) \end{aligned}$$

Both the ‘T’ and ‘H’ modes have four ‘paint colors’ which are the colors that will be used in the decompressed block, but they are assigned in a different manner. In the ‘T’ mode, ‘paint color 0’ is simply the first base color, and ‘paint color 2’ is the second base color. To obtain the other ‘paint colors’, a ‘distance’ is first determined, which will be used to modify the luminance of one of the base colors. This is done by combining the values ‘da’ and ‘db’ shown in [section d](#) of Table 14.3 by  $(da \ll 1) \mid db$ , and then using this value as an index into the small look-up table shown in Table 14.8. For example, if ‘da’ is 10 binary and ‘db’ is 1 binary, the index is 101 binary and the selected distance will be 32. ‘Paint color 1’ is then equal to the second base color with the ‘distance’ added to each channel, and ‘paint color 3’ is the second base color with the ‘distance’ subtracted.

| Distance index | Distance |
|----------------|----------|
| 0              | 3        |
| 1              | 6        |
| 2              | 11       |
| 3              | 16       |
| 4              | 23       |
| 5              | 32       |
| 6              | 41       |
| 7              | 64       |

Table 14.8: Distance table for ETC2 ‘T’ and ‘H’ modes.

In summary, to determine the four ‘paint colors’ for a ‘T’ block:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{paint color } 0 &= \text{base col } 1 \\
 \text{paint color } 1 &= \text{base col } 2 + (d, d, d) \\
 \text{paint color } 2 &= \text{base col } 2 \\
 \text{paint color } 3 &= \text{base col } 2 - (d, d, d)
 \end{aligned}$$

In both cases, the value of each channel is clamped to within [0,255].

A ‘distance’ value is computed for the ‘H’ mode as well, but doing so is slightly more complex. In order to construct the three-bit index into the distance table shown in Table 14.8, ‘da’ and ‘db’ shown in section e of Table 14.3 are used as the most significant bit and middle bit, respectively, but the least significant bit is computed as (base col 1 value  $\geq$  base col 2 value), the ‘value’ of a color for the comparison being equal to  $(R \ll 16) + (G \ll 8) + B$ . Once the ‘distance’  $d$  has been determined for an ‘H’ block, the four ‘paint colors’ will be:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{paint color } 0 &= \text{base col } 1 + (d, d, d) \\
 \text{paint color } 1 &= \text{base col } 1 - (d, d, d) \\
 \text{paint color } 2 &= \text{base col } 2 + (d, d, d) \\
 \text{paint color } 3 &= \text{base col } 2 - (d, d, d)
 \end{aligned}$$

Again, all color components are clamped to within [0,255]. Finally, in both the ‘T’ and ‘H’ modes, every pixel is assigned one of the four ‘paint colors’ in the same way the four modifier values are distributed in ‘individual’ or ‘differential’ blocks. For example, to choose a paint color for pixel  $d$ , an index is constructed using bit 19 as most significant bit and bit 3 as least significant bit. Then, if a pixel has index 2, for example, it will be assigned paint color 2.

The final mode possible in an RGB ETC2-compressed block is the ‘planar’ mode. Here, three base colors are supplied and used to form a color plane used to determine the color of the individual pixels in the block.

All three base colors are stored in RGB 676 format, and stored in the manner shown in section g of Table 14.3. The three colors are there labelled ‘O’, ‘H’ and ‘V’, so that the three components of color ‘V’ are RV, GV and BV, for example. Some color channels are split into non-consecutive bit-ranges, for example BO is reconstructed using BO1 as the most significant bit, BO2 as the two following bits, and BO3 as the three least significant bits.

Once the bits for the base colors have been extracted, they must be extended to 8 bits per channel in a manner analogous to the method used for the base colors in other modes. For example, the 6-bit blue and red channels are extended by replicating the two most significant of the six bits to the two least significant of the final 8 bits.

With three base colors in RGB888 format, the color of each pixel can then be determined as:

$$R(x,y) = \frac{x \times (RH - RO)}{4.0} + \frac{y \times (RV - RO)}{4.0} + RO$$

$$G(x,y) = \frac{x \times (GH - GO)}{4.0} + \frac{y \times (GV - GO)}{4.0} + GO$$

$$B(x,y) = \frac{x \times (BH - BO)}{4.0} + \frac{y \times (BV - BO)}{4.0} + BO$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are values from 0 to 3 corresponding to the pixels coordinates within the block,  $x$  being in the  $u$  direction and  $y$  in the  $v$  direction. For example, the pixel  $g$  in Table 14.2 would have  $x = 1$  and  $y = 2$ .

These values are then rounded to the nearest integer (to the larger integer if there is a tie) and then clamped to a value between 0 and 255. Note that this is equivalent to

$$R(x,y) = \text{clamp255}((x \times (RH - RO) + y \times (RV - RO) + 4 \times RO + 2) \gg 2)$$

$$G(x,y) = \text{clamp255}((x \times (GH - GO) + y \times (GV - GO) + 4 \times GO + 2) \gg 2)$$

$$B(x,y) = \text{clamp255}((x \times (BH - BO) + y \times (BV - BO) + 4 \times BO + 2) \gg 2)$$

where  $\text{clamp255}$  clamps the value to a number in the range  $[0, 255]$  and where  $\gg$  performs bit-wise right shift.

This specification gives the output for each compression mode in 8-bit integer colors between 0 and 255, and these values all need to be divided by 255 for the final floating point representation.

## Format RGB ETC2 with sRGB encoding

Decompression of floating point sRGB values in RGB ETC2 with sRGB encoding follows that of floating point RGB values of linear RGB ETC2. The result is sRGB-encoded values between 0.0 and 1.0. The further conversion from an sRGB encoded component,  $cs$ , to a linear component,  $cl$ , is done according to the formulae in Section 18.3. Assume  $cs$  is the sRGB component in the range  $[0,1]$ .

## Format RGBA ETC2

Each  $4 \times 4$  block of RGBA8888 information is compressed to 128 bits. To decode a block, the two 64-bit integers `int64bitAlpha` and `int64bitColor` are calculated as described in Section 14.1. The RGB component is then decoded the same way as for RGB ETC2 (see Section 14.1), using `int64bitColor` as the `int64bit` codeword.

|                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |            |    |    |    |             |    |    |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------------|----|----|----|-------------|----|----|----|
| a) bit layout in bits 63 through 48                                                                                            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |            |    |    |    |             |    |    |    |
| 63                                                                                                                             | 62 | 61 | 60 | 59 | 58 | 57 | 56 | 55         | 54 | 53 | 52 | 51          | 50 | 49 | 48 |
| base_codeword                                                                                                                  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | multiplier |    |    |    | table index |    |    |    |
| b) bit layout in bits 47 through 0, with pixels as name in Table 14.2, bits labelled from 0 being the LSB to 47 being the MSB. |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |            |    |    |    |             |    |    |    |
| 47                                                                                                                             | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43 | 42 | 41 | 40 | 39         | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35          | 34 | 33 | 32 |
| a0                                                                                                                             | a1 | a2 | b0 | b1 | b2 | c0 | c1 | c2         | d0 | d1 | d2 | e0          | e1 | e2 | f0 |
| 31                                                                                                                             | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23         | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19          | 18 | 17 | 16 |
| f1                                                                                                                             | f2 | g0 | g1 | g2 | h0 | h1 | h2 | i0         | i1 | i2 | j0 | j1          | j2 | k0 | k1 |
| 15                                                                                                                             | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9  | 8  | 7          | 6  | 5  | 4  | 3           | 2  | 1  | 0  |
| k2                                                                                                                             | l0 | l1 | l2 | m0 | m1 | m2 | n0 | n1         | n2 | o0 | o1 | o2          | p0 | p1 | p2 |

Table 14.9: Texel Data format for alpha part of RGBA ETC2 compressed textures

The 64-bits in `int64bitAlpha` used to decompress the alpha channel are laid out as shown in Table 14.9. The information is split into two parts. The first 16 bits comprise a base codeword, a table codeword and a multiplier, which are used together to compute 8 pixel values to be used in the block. The remaining 48 bits are divided into 16 3-bit indices, which are used to select one of these 8 possible values for each pixel in the block.



The decoded value of a pixel is a value between 0 and 255 and is calculated the following way:

$$\text{clamp}_{255}((\text{base\_codeword}) + \text{modifier} \times \text{multiplier})$$

EQUATION 14.1: ETC2-base

where  $\text{clamp}_{255}(\cdot)$  maps values outside the range  $[0, 255]$  to 0.0 or 255.0.

The *base\_codeword* is stored in the first 8 bits (bits 63—56) as shown in Table 14.9 part (a). This is the first term in Equation ETC2-base.

Next, we want to obtain the modifier. Bits 51—48 in Table 14.9 part (a) form a 4-bit index used to select one of 16 pre-determined ‘modifier tables’, shown in Table 14.10.

| table index | modifier table |    |     |     |   |   |   |    |
|-------------|----------------|----|-----|-----|---|---|---|----|
| 0           | -3             | -6 | -9  | -15 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 14 |
| 1           | -3             | -7 | -10 | -13 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 12 |
| 2           | -2             | -5 | -8  | -13 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 12 |
| 3           | -2             | -4 | -6  | -13 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 12 |
| 4           | -3             | -6 | -8  | -12 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 11 |
| 5           | -3             | -7 | -9  | -11 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 10 |
| 6           | -4             | -7 | -8  | -11 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 10 |
| 7           | -3             | -5 | -8  | -11 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 10 |
| 8           | -2             | -6 | -8  | -10 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 9  |
| 9           | -2             | -5 | -8  | -10 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 9  |
| 10          | -2             | -4 | -8  | -10 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 9  |
| 11          | -2             | -5 | -7  | -10 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 9  |
| 12          | -3             | -4 | -7  | -10 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 9  |
| 13          | -1             | -2 | -3  | -10 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 9  |
| 14          | -4             | -6 | -8  | -9  | 3 | 5 | 7 | 8  |
| 15          | -3             | -5 | -7  | -9  | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8  |

Table 14.10: Intensity modifier sets for RGBA ETC2 alpha component

For example, a table index of 13 (1101 binary) means that we should use table  $[-1, -2, -3, -10, 0, 1, 2, 9]$ . To select which of these values we should use, we consult the pixel index of the pixel we want to decode. As shown in Table 14.9 part (b), bits 47—0 are used to store a 3-bit index for each pixel in the block, selecting one of the 8 possible values. Assume we are interested in pixel *b*. Its pixel indices are stored in bit 44—42, with the most significant bit stored in 44 and the least significant bit stored in 42. If the pixel index is 011 binary = 3, this means we should take the value 3 from the left in the table, which is  $-10$ . This is now our modifier, which is the starting point of our second term in the addition.

In the next step we obtain the multiplier value; bits 55—52 form a four-bit ‘multiplier’ between 0 and 15. This value should be multiplied with the modifier. An encoder is not allowed to produce a multiplier of zero, but the decoder should still be able to handle also this case (and produce  $0 \times \text{modifier} = 0$  in that case).

The modifier times the multiplier now provides the third and final term in the sum in Equation ETC2-base. The sum is calculated and the value is clamped to the interval  $[0, 255]$ . The resulting value is the 8-bit output value.

For example, assume a *base\_codeword* of 103, a ‘table index’ of 13, a pixel index of 3 and a multiplier of 2. We will then start with the base codeword 103 (01100111 binary). Next, a ‘table index’ of 13 selects table  $[-1, -2, -3, -10, 0, 1, 2, 9]$ , and using a pixel index of 3 will result in a modifier of  $-10$ . The multiplier is 2, forming  $-10 \times 2 = -20$ . We now add this to the base value and get  $103 - 20 = 83$ . After clamping we still get  $83 = 01010011$  binary. This is our 8-bit output value.

This specification gives the output for each channel in 8-bit integer values between 0 and 255, and these values all need to be divided by 255 to obtain the final floating point representation.

Note that hardware can be effectively shared between the alpha decoding part of this format and that of R11 EAC texture. For details on how to reuse hardware, see Section 14.5.

## Format RGBA ETC2 with sRGB encoding

Decompression of floating point sRGB values in RGBA ETC2 with sRGB encoding follows that of floating point RGB values of linear RGBA ETC2. The result is sRGB values between 0.0 and 1.0. The further conversion from an sRGB encoded component,  $cs$ , to a linear component,  $cl$ , is according to the formula in Section 18.3. Assume  $cs$  is the sRGB component in the range [0,1].

The alpha component of RGBA ETC2 with sRGB encoding is done in the same way as for linear RGBA ETC2.

## Format Unsigned R11 EAC

The number of bits to represent a  $4 \times 4$  texel block is 64 bits. if format is R11 EAC. In that case the data for a block is stored as a number of bytes,  $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6, q_7\}$ , where byte  $q_0$  is located at the lowest memory address and  $q_7$  at the highest. The red component of the  $4 \times 4$  block is then represented by the following 64 bit integer:

$$int64bit = 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times q_0 + q_1) + q_2) + q_3) + q_4) + q_5) + q_6) + q_7$$

This 64-bit word contains information about a single-channel  $4 \times 4$  pixel block as shown in Table 14.2. The 64-bit word is split into two parts. The first 16 bits comprise a base codeword, a table codeword and a multiplier. The remaining 48 bits are divided into 16 3-bit indices, which are used to select one of the 8 possible values for each pixel in the block, as shown in Table 14.9.

The decoded value is calculated as:

$$clamp1((base\_codeword + 0.5) \times \frac{1}{255.875} + modifier \times multiplier \times \frac{1}{255.875})$$

where  $clamp1(\cdot)$  maps values outside the range [0.0, 1.0] to 0.0 or 1.0.

We will now go into detail how the decoding is done. The result will be an 11-bit fixed point number where 0 represents 0.0 and 2047 represents 1.0. This is the exact representation for the decoded value. However, some implementations may use, e.g., 16-bits of accuracy for filtering. In such a case the 11-bit value will be extended to 16 bits in a predefined way, which we will describe later.

To get a value between 0 and 2047 we must multiply Equation R11 EAC-start by 2047.0:

$$clamp2((base\_codeword + 0.5) \times \frac{2047.0}{255.875} + modifier \times multiplier \times \frac{2047.0}{255.875})$$

where  $clamp2(\cdot)$  clamps to the range [0.0, 2047.0]. Since  $\frac{2047.0}{255.875}$  is exactly 8.0, the above equation can be written as

$$clamp2(base\_codeword \times 8 + 4 + modifier \times multiplier \times 8)$$

EQUATION 14.2: Equation R11 EAC simple

The base\_codeword is stored in the first 8 bits as shown in Table 14.9 part (a). Bits 63—56 in each block represent an eight-bit integer (base\_codeword) which is multiplied by 8 by shifting three steps to the left. We can add 4 to this value without addition logic by just inserting 100 binary in the last three bits after the shift. For example, if base\_codeword is  $129 = 10000001$  binary (or 10000001b for short), the shifted value is 10000001000b and the shifted value including the +4 term is 10000001100b =  $1036 = 129 \times 8 + 4$ . Hence we have summed together the first two terms of the sum in Equation R11 EAC simple.

Next, we want to obtain the modifier. Bits 51-48 form a 4-bit index used to select one of 16 pre-determined ‘modifier tables’, shown in Table 14.10. For example, a table index of 13 (1101 binary) means that we should use table  $[-1, -2, -3, -10, 0, 1, 2, 9]$ . To select which of these values we should use, we consult the pixel index of the pixel we want to decode. Bits 47—0 are used to store a 3-bit index for each pixel in the block, selecting one of the 8 possible values. Assume we are interested in pixel  $b$ . Its pixel indices are stored in bit 44—42, with the most significant bit stored in 44 and the least significant bit stored in 42. If the pixel index is 011 binary = 3, this means we should take the value 3 from the left in the table, which is  $-10$ . This is now our modifier, which is the starting point of our second term in the sum.

In the next step we obtain the multiplier value; bits 55—52 form a four-bit ‘multiplier’ between 0 and 15. We will later treat what happens if the multiplier value is zero, but if it is nonzero, it should be multiplied with the modifier. This product should then be shifted three steps to the left to implement the  $\times 8$  multiplication. The result now provides the third and final term in the sum in Equation R11 EAC simple. The sum is calculated and the result is clamped to a value in the interval  $[0, 2047]$ . The resulting value is the 11-bit output value.

For example, assume a base\_codeword of 103, a ‘table index’ of 13, a pixel index of 3 and a multiplier of 2. We will then first multiply the base\_codeword 103 (01100111b) by 8 by left-shifting it (0110111000b) and then add 4 resulting in  $011011100b = 828 = 103 \times 8 + 4$ . Next, a ‘table index’ of 13 selects table  $[-1, -2, -3, -10, 0, 1, 2, 9]$ , and using a pixel index of 3 will result in a modifier of  $-10$ . The multiplier is nonzero, which means that we should multiply it with the modifier, forming  $-10 \times 2 = -20 = 11111101100b$ . This value should in turn be multiplied by 8 by left-shifting it three steps:  $111101100000b = -160$ . We now add this to the base value and get  $828 - 160 = 668$ . After clamping we still get  $668 = 01010011100b$ . This is our 11-bit output value, which represents the value  $\frac{668}{2047} = 0.32633121 \dots$

If the multiplier\_value is zero (i.e., the multiplier bits 55—52 are all zero), we should set the multiplier to  $\frac{1.0}{8.0}$ . Equation-r1leac-eqn-simple can then be simplified to

$$\text{clamp2}(\text{base\_codeword} \times 8 + 4 + \text{modifier})$$

As an example, assume a base\_codeword of 103, a ‘table index’ of 13, a pixel index of 3 and a multiplier\_value of 0. We treat the base\_codeword the same way, getting  $828 = 103 \times 8 + 4$ . The modifier is still  $-10$ . But the multiplier should now be  $\frac{1}{8}$ , which means that third term becomes  $\frac{-10 \times (1/8)}{8 \times 8 = -10}$ . The sum therefore becomes  $828 - 10 = 818$ . After clamping we still get  $818 = 01100110010b$ , and this is our 11-bit output value, and it represents  $\frac{818}{2047} = 0.39960918 \dots$

Some OpenGL ES implementations may find it convenient to use 16-bit values for further processing. In this case, the 11-bit value should be extended using bit replication. An 11-bit value  $x$  is extended to 16 bits through  $(x \ll 5) + (x \gg 6)$ . For example, the value  $668 = 01010011100b$  should be extended to  $0101001110001010b = 21386$ .

In general, the implementation may extend the value to any number of bits that is convenient for further processing, e.g., 32 bits. In these cases, bit replication should be used. On the other hand, an implementation is not allowed to truncate the 11-bit value to less than 11 bits.

Note that the method does not have the same reconstruction levels as the alpha part in the RGBA ETC2 format. For instance, for a base\_value of 255 and a table\_value of 0, the alpha part of the RGBA ETC2 format will represent a value of  $\frac{(255+0)}{255.0} = 1.0$  exactly. In R11 EAC the same base\_value and table\_value will instead represent  $\frac{(255.5+0)}{255.875} = 0.99853444 \dots$ . That said, it is still possible to decode the alpha part of the RGBA ETC2-format using R11 EAC hardware. This is done by truncating the 11-bit number to 8 bits. As an example, if base\_value = 255 and table\_value = 0, we get the 11-bit value  $(255 \times 8 + 4 + 0) = 2044 = 1111111100b$ , which after truncation becomes the 8-bit value  $11111111b = 255$  which is exactly the correct value according to RGBA ETC2. Clamping has to be done to 0, 255 after truncation for RGBA ETC2 decoding. Care must also be taken to handle the case when the multiplier value is zero. In the 11-bit version, this means multiplying by  $\frac{1}{8}$ , but in the 8-bit version, it really means multiplication by 0. Thus, the decoder will have to know if it is an RGBA ETC2 texture or an R11 EAC texture to decode correctly, but the hardware can be 100% shared.

As stated above, a base\_value of 255 and a table\_value of 0 will represent a value of  $\frac{(255.5+0)}{255.875} = 0.99853444 \dots$ , and this does not reach 1.0 even though 255 is the highest possible base\_codeword. However, it is still possible to reach a pixel value of 1.0 since a modifier other than 0 can be used. Indeed, half of the modifiers will often produce a value of 1.0. As an example, assume we choose the base\_value 255, a multiplier of 1 and the modifier table  $[-3 \ -5 \ -7 \ -9 \ 2 \ 4 \ 6 \ 8]$ . Starting with-r1leac-eqn-simple,

$$\text{clamp1}((\text{base\_codeword} + 0.5) \times \frac{1}{255.875} + \text{table\_value} \times \text{multiplier} \times \frac{1}{255.875})$$

we get

$$\text{clamp1}((255 + 0.5) \times \frac{1}{255.875} + [ \begin{smallmatrix} -3 & -5 & -7 & -9 & 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 \end{smallmatrix} ] \times \frac{1}{255.875})$$

which equals

$$\text{clamp1}([ \begin{smallmatrix} 0.987 & 0.979 & 0.971 & 0.963 & 1.00 & 1.01 & 1.02 & 1.03 \end{smallmatrix} ])$$

or after clamping

$$[ \begin{smallmatrix} 0.987 & 0.979 & 0.971 & 0.963 & 1.00 & 1.00 & 1.00 & 1.00 \end{smallmatrix} ]$$

which shows that several values can be 1.0, even though the base value does not reach 1.0. The same reasoning goes for 0.0.

## Format Unsigned RG11 EAC

The number of bits to represent a  $4 \times 4$  texel block is 128 bits if the format is RG11 EAC. In that case the data for a block is stored as a number of bytes,  $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6, q_7, p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6, p_7\}$  where byte  $q_0$  is located at the lowest memory address and  $p_7$  at the highest. The 128 bits specifying the block are then represented by the following two 64 bit integers:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{int64bit0} &= 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times q_0 + q_1) + q_2) + q_3) + q_4) + q_5) + q_6) + q_7 \\ \text{int64bit1} &= 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times p_0 + p_1) + p_2) + p_3) + p_4) + p_5) + p_6) + p_7 \end{aligned}$$

The 64-bit word `int64bit0` contains information about the red component of a two-channel  $4 \times 4$  pixel block as shown in Table 14.2, and the word `int64bit1` contains information about the green component. Both 64-bit integers are decoded in the same way as R11 EAC described in Section-r11eac-r11eac.

## Format Signed R11 EAC

The number of bits to represent a  $4 \times 4$  texel block is 64 bits if the format is signed R11 EAC. In that case the data for a block is stored as a number of bytes,  $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6, q_7\}$ , where byte  $q_0$  is located at the lowest memory address and  $q_7$  at the highest. The red component of the  $4 \times 4$  block is then represented by the following 64 bit integer:

$$\text{int64bit} = 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times q_0 + q_1) + q_2) + q_3) + q_4) + q_5) + q_6) + q_7$$

This 64-bit word contains information about a single-channel  $4 \times 4$  pixel block as shown in Table 14.2. The 64-bit word is split into two parts. The first 16 bits comprise a base codeword, a table codeword and a multiplier. The remaining 48 bits are divided into 16 3-bit indices, which are used to select one of the 8 possible values for each pixel in the block, as shown in Table 14.9.

The decoded value is calculated as

$$\text{clamp1}(\text{base\_codeword} \times \frac{1}{127.875} + \text{modifier} \times \text{multiplier} \times \frac{1}{127.875})$$

EQUATION 14.3: R11-start

where  $\text{clamp1}(\cdot)$  maps values outside the range  $[-1.0, 1.0]$  to  $-1.0$  or  $1.0$ . We will now go into detail how the decoding is done. The result will be an 11-bit two's-complement fixed point number where  $-1023$  represents  $-1.0$  and  $1023$  represents  $1.0$ . This is the exact representation for the decoded value. However, some implementations may use, e.g., 16-bits of accuracy for filtering. In such a case the 11-bit value will be extended to 16 bits in a predefined way, which we will describe later.

To get a value between  $-1023$  and  $1023$  we must multiply Equation R11-start by  $1023.0$ :

$$\text{clamp2}(\text{base\_codeword} \times \frac{1023.0}{127.875} + \text{modifier} \times \text{multiplier} \times \frac{1023.0}{127.875})$$

where  $\text{clamp2}(\cdot)$  clamps to the range  $[-1023.0, 1023.0]$ . Since  $\frac{1023.0}{127.875}$  is exactly 8, the above formula can be written as:

$$\text{clamp2}(\text{base\_codeword} \times 8 + \text{modifier} \times \text{multiplier} \times 8)$$

The *base\_codeword* is stored in the first 8 bits as shown in Table 14.9 part (a). It is a two's-complement value in the range  $[-127, 127]$ , and where the value  $-128$  is not allowed; however, if it should occur anyway it must be treated as  $-127$ . The *base\_codeword* is then multiplied by 8 by shifting it left three steps. For example the value  $65 = 01000001$  binary (or  $01000001b$  for short) is shifted to  $0100001000b = 520 = 65 \times 8$ .

Next, we want to obtain the modifier. Bits 51—48 form a 4-bit index used to select one of 16 pre-determined 'modifier tables', shown in Table 14.10. For example, a table index of 13 (1101 binary) means that we should use table  $-1, -2, -3, -10, 0, 1, 2, 9$ . To select which of these values we should use, we consult the pixel index of the pixel we want to decode. Bits 47—40 are used to store a 3-bit index for each pixel in the block, selecting one of the 8 possible values. Assume we are interested in pixel *b*. Its pixel indices are stored in bit 44—42, with the most significant bit stored in 44 and the least significant bit stored in 42. If the pixel index is 011 binary = 3, this means we should take the value 3 from the left in the table, which is  $-10$ . This is now our modifier, which is the starting point of our second term in the sum.

In the next step we obtain the multiplier value; bits 55-52 form a four-bit 'multiplier' between 0 and 15. We will later treat what happens if the multiplier value is zero, but if it is nonzero, it should be multiplied with the modifier. This product should then be shifted three steps to the left to implement the  $\times 8$  multiplication. The result now provides the third and final term in the sum in Equation-signedr1 leac-eqn-simple. The sum is calculated and the result is clamped to a value in the interval  $[-1023, 1023]$ . The resulting value is the 11-bit output value.

For example, assume a *base\_codeword* of 60, a 'table index' of 13, a pixel index of 3 and a multiplier of 2. We start by multiplying the *base\_codeword* (00111100b) by 8 using bit shift, resulting in (00111100000b) =  $480 = 60 \times 8$ . Next, a 'table index' of 13 selects table  $[-1, -2, -3, -10, 0, 1, 2, 9]$ , and using a pixel index of 3 will result in a modifier of  $-10$ . The multiplier is nonzero, which means that we should multiply it with the modifier, forming  $-10 \times 2 = -20 = 11111101100b$ . This value should in turn be multiplied by 8 by left-shifting it three steps:  $1111110100000b = -160$ . We now add this to the base value and get  $480 - 160 = 320$ . After clamping we still get  $320 = 00101000000b$ . This is our 11-bit output value, which represents the value  $\frac{320}{1023} = 0.31280547 \dots$

If the *multiplier\_value* is zero (i.e., the multiplier bits 55-52 are all zero), we should set the multiplier to  $\frac{1.0}{8.0}$ . Equation-signedr1 leac-eqn-simple can then be simplified to:

$$\text{clamp2}(\text{base\_codeword} \times 8 + \text{modifier})$$

As an example, assume a *base\_codeword* of 65, a 'table index' of 13, a pixel index of 3 and a *multiplier\_value* of 0. We treat the *base\_codeword* the same way, getting  $480 = 60 \times 8$ . The modifier is still  $-10$ . But the multiplier should now be  $\frac{1}{8}$ , which means that third term becomes  $-10 \times (\frac{1}{8}) \times 8 = -10$ . The sum therefore becomes  $480 - 10 = 470$ . Clamping does not affect the value since it is already in the range  $[-1023, 1023]$ , and the 11-bit output value is therefore  $470 = 00111010110b$ . This represents  $\frac{470}{1023} = 0.45943304 \dots$

Some OpenGL ES implementations may find it convenient to use two's-complement 16-bit values for further processing. In this case, a positive 11-bit value should be extended using bit replication on all the bits except the sign bit. An 11-bit value *x* is extended to 16 bits through  $(x \ll 5) + (x \gg 5)$ . Since the sign bit is zero for a positive value, no addition logic is needed for the bit replication in this case. For example, the value  $470 = 00111010110b$  in the above example should be expanded to  $0011101011001110b = 15054$ . A negative 11-bit value must first be made positive before bit replication, and then made negative again:

```
if (result11bit >= 0) {
    result16bit = (result11bit << 5) + (result11bit >> 5);
} else {
    result11bit = -result11bit;
    result16bit = (result11bit << 5) + (result11bit >> 5);
    result16bit = -result16bit;
}
```

Simply bit replicating a negative number without first making it positive will not give a correct result.

In general, the implementation may extend the value to any number of bits that is convenient for further processing, e.g., 32 bits. In these cases, bit replication according to the above should be used. On the other hand, an implementation is not allowed to truncate the 11-bit value to less than 11 bits.

Note that it is not possible to specify a base value of 1.0 or  $-1.0$ . The largest possible base\_codeword is +127, which represents  $\frac{127}{127.875} = 0.993\dots$ . However, it is still possible to reach a pixel value of 1.0 or  $-1.0$ , since the base value is modified by the table before the pixel value is calculated. Indeed, half of the modifiers will often produce a value of 1.0. As an example, assume the base\_codeword is +127, the modifier table is  $[-3 \ -5 \ -7 \ -9 \ 2 \ 4 \ 6 \ 8]$  and the multiplier is one. Starting with Equation-signedr1leac-eqn-start,

$$base\_codeword \times \frac{1}{127.875} + modifier \times multiplier \times \frac{1}{127.875}$$

we get

$$\frac{127}{127.875} + [-3 \ -5 \ -7 \ -9 \ 2 \ 4 \ 6 \ 8] \times \frac{1}{127.875}$$

which equals

$$[ \ 0.970 \ 0.954 \ 0.938 \ 0.923 \ 1.01 \ 1.02 \ 1.04 \ 1.06 \ ]$$

or after clamping

$$[ \ 0.970 \ 0.954 \ 0.938 \ 0.923 \ 1.00 \ 1.00 \ 1.00 \ 1.00 \ ]$$

This shows that it is indeed possible to arrive at the value 1.0. The same reasoning goes for  $-1.0$ .

Note also that Equations-signedr1leac-eqn-simple/signedr1leac-eqn-simpler are very similar to Equations-r1leac-eqn-simple/r1leac-eqn-simpler in the unsigned version EAC\_R11. Apart from the +4, the clamping and the extension to bit sizes other than 11, the same decoding hardware can be shared between the two codecs.

## Format Signed RG11 EAC

The number of bits to represent a  $4 \times 4$  texel block is 128 bits if the format is signed RG11 EAC. In that case the data for a block is stored as a number of bytes,  $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6, q_7, p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6, p_7\}$  where byte  $q_0$  is located at the lowest memory address and  $p_7$  at the highest. The 128 bits specifying the block are then represented by the following two 64 bit integers:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{int64bit0} &= 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times q_0 + q_1) + q_2) + q_3) + q_4) + q_5) + q_6) + q_7 \\ \text{int64bit1} &= 256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times (256 \times p_0 + p_1) + p_2) + p_3) + p_4) + p_5) + p_6) + p_7 \end{aligned}$$

The 64-bit word int64bit0 contains information about the red component of a two-channel  $4 \times 4$  pixel block as shown in Table 14.2, and the word int64bit1 contains information about the green component. Both 64-bit integers are decoded in the same way as signed R11 EAC described in Section 14.8.

## Format RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha

For RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha, each 64-bit word contains information about a four-channel  $4 \times 4$  pixel block as shown in Table 14.2.

The blocks are compressed using one of four different ‘modes’. Table 14.11 part (a) shows the bits used for determining the mode used in a given block.

To determine the mode, the three 5-bit values R, G and B, and the three 3-bit values dR, dG and dB are examined. R, G and B are treated as integers between 0 and 31 and dR, dG and dB as two’s-complement integers between  $-4$  and  $+3$ . First, R and dR are added, and if the sum is not within the interval  $[0,31]$ , the ‘T’ mode is selected. Otherwise, if the



a) location of bits for mode selection

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 63 | 62 | 61 | 60 | 59 | 58 | 57 | 56 | 55 | 54 | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50 | 49 | 48 | 47 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43 | 42 | 41 | 40 | 39    | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35 | 34 | 33 | 32 |
| R  |    |    |    |    |    | dR |    |    | G  |    |    |    | dG |    |    | B  |    |    |    |    | dB |    |    | ..... |    |    |    |    |    | Op | .  |

b) bit layout for bits 63 through 32 for ‘differential’ mode:

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |    |    |        |    |    |    |       |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------|----|----|--------|----|----|----|-------|
| 63 | 62 | 61 | 60 | 59 | 58 | 57 | 56 | 55 | 54 | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50 | 49 | 48 | 47 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43 | 42 | 41 | 40 | 39     | 38 | 37 | 36     | 35 | 34 | 33 | 32    |
| R  |    |    |    |    |    | dR |    |    | G  |    |    |    | dG |    |    | B  |    |    |    |    | dB |    |    | table1 |    |    | table2 |    |    | Op | $F_B$ |

c) bit layout for bits 63 through 32 for ‘T’ mode:

|     |    |    |     |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 63  | 62 | 61 | 60  | 59 | 58 | 57 | 56  | 55 | 54 | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50 | 49 | 48 | 47 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43 | 42 | 41 | 40 | 39 | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35 | 34 | 33 | 32 |    |    |
| ... |    |    | R1a |    |    | .  | R1b |    |    | G1 |    |    |    | B1 |    |    |    | R2 |    |    |    | G2 |    |    |    | B2 |    |    |    | da |    | Op | db |

d) bit layout for bits 63 through 32 for ‘H’ mode:

|    |    |    |    |    |    |      |    |    |     |    |    |      |      |    |      |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|----|----|-----|----|----|------|------|----|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 63 | 62 | 61 | 60 | 59 | 58 | 57   | 56 | 55 | 54  | 53 | 52 | 51   | 50   | 49 | 48   | 47 | 46 | 45 | 44 | 43 | 42 | 41 | 40 | 39 | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35 | 34 | 33 | 32 |    |
| .  | R1 |    |    |    |    | G1 a |    |    | ... |    |    | G1 b | B1 a | .  | B1 b |    |    | R2 |    |    |    | G2 |    |    |    | B2 |    |    |    | da | Op | db |

e) bit layout for bits 31 through 0 for ‘diff’, ‘T’ and ‘H’ modes

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 31 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9  | 8  | 7  | 6  | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1  | 0  |
| p0 | o0 | n0 | m0 | l0 | k0 | j0 | i0 | h0 | g0 | f0 | e0 | d0 | c0 | b0 | a0 | p1 | o1 | n1 | m1 | l1 | k1 | j1 | i1 | h1 | g1 | f1 | e1 | d1 | c1 | b1 | a1 |

f) bit layout for bits 63 through 0 for ‘planar’ mode:

|    |     |    |    |    |    |    |       |    |       |    |    |    |    |    |       |     |    |    |       |    |       |    |    |       |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|----|-------|----|----|----|----|----|-------|-----|----|----|-------|----|-------|----|----|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| 63 | 62  | 61 | 60 | 59 | 58 | 57 | 56    | 55 | 54    | 53 | 52 | 51 | 50 | 49 | 48    | 47  | 46 | 45 | 44    | 43 | 42    | 41 | 40 | 39    | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35 | 34 | 33 | 32    |
| .  | R O |    |    |    |    |    | G O 1 | .  | G O 2 |    |    |    |    |    | B O 1 | ... |    |    | B O 2 | .  | B O 3 |    |    | R H 1 |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | R H 2 |
| 31 | 30  | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 24    | 23 | 22    | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16    | 15  | 14 | 13 | 12    | 11 | 10    | 9  | 8  | 7     | 6  | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1  | 0     |
| GH |     |    |    |    |    | BH |       |    |       |    |    | RV |    |    |       |     |    | GV |       |    |       |    |    | BV    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |

Table 14.11: Texel Data format for punchthrough alpha ETC2 compressed texture formats

sum of G and dG is outside the interval [0,31], the ‘H’ mode is selected. Otherwise, if the sum of B and dB is outside of the interval [0,31], the ‘planar’ mode is selected. Finally, if all of the aforementioned sums lie between 0 and 31, the ‘differential’ mode is selected.

The layout of the bits used to decode the ‘differential’ mode is shown in Table 14.11 part (b). In this mode, the  $4 \times 4$  block is split into two subblocks of either size  $2 \times 4$  or  $4 \times 2$ . This is controlled by bit 32, which we dub the ‘flip bit’. If the ‘flip bit’ is 0, the block is divided into two  $2 \times 4$  subblocks side-by-side, as shown in Table 14.4. If the ‘flip bit’ is 1, the block is divided into two  $4 \times 2$  subblocks on top of each other, as shown in Table 14.5. For each subblock, a ‘base color’ is stored.

In the ‘differential’ mode, following the layout shown in Table 14.11 part (b), the base color for subblock 1 is derived from the five-bit codewords R, G and B. These five-bit codewords are extended to eight bits by replicating the top three highest order bits to the three lowest order bits. For instance, if  $R = 28 = 11100$  binary (11100b for short), the resulting eight-bit red color component becomes 11100111b = 231. Likewise, if  $G = 4 = 00100$ b and  $B = 3 = 00011$ b, the green and blue components become 00100001b = 33 and 00011000b = 24 respectively. Thus, in this example, the base color for subblock 1 is (231, 33, 24). The five bit representation for the base color of subblock 2 is obtained by modifying the 5-bit codewords R, G and B by the codewords dR, dG and dB. Each of dR, dG and dB is a 3-bit two’s-complement number that can hold values between  $-4$  and  $+3$ . For instance, if  $R = 28$  as above, and  $dR = 100$ b =  $-4$ , then the five bit representation for the red color component is  $28 + (-4) = 24 = 11000$ b, which is then extended to eight bits to 11000110b = 198. Likewise, if  $G = 4$ ,  $dG = 2$ ,  $B = 3$  and  $dB = 0$ , the base color of subblock 2 will be RGB = (198, 49, 24). In summary, the base colors for the subblocks in the differential mode are:

$$\begin{aligned} base\ col\ subblock1 &= extend\_5to8bits(R, G, B) \\ base\ col\ subblock2 &= extend\_5to8bits(R + dR, G + dG, B + dB) \end{aligned}$$

Note that these additions will not under- or overflow, or one of the alternative decompression modes would have been chosen instead of the ‘differential’ mode.

After obtaining the base color, a table is chosen using the table codewords: For subblock 1, table codeword 1 is used (bits 39—37), and for subblock 2, table codeword 2 is used (bits 36—34), see Table 14.11 part (b). The table codeword is used to select one of eight modifier tables. If the ‘opaque’-bit (bit 33) is set, Table 14.12 is used. If it is unset, Table 14.13 is

| table codeword | modifier table |     |    |     |
|----------------|----------------|-----|----|-----|
| 0              | -8             | -2  | 2  | 8   |
| 1              | -17            | -5  | 5  | 17  |
| 2              | -29            | -9  | 9  | 29  |
| 3              | -42            | -13 | 13 | 42  |
| 4              | -60            | -18 | 18 | 60  |
| 5              | -80            | -24 | 24 | 80  |
| 6              | -106           | -33 | 33 | 106 |
| 7              | -183           | -47 | 47 | 183 |

Table 14.12: ETC2 intensity modifier sets for the ‘differential’ if ‘opaque’ is set.

| table codeword | modifier table |   |   |     |
|----------------|----------------|---|---|-----|
| 0              | -8             | 0 | 0 | 8   |
| 1              | -17            | 0 | 0 | 17  |
| 2              | -29            | 0 | 0 | 29  |
| 3              | -42            | 0 | 0 | 42  |
| 4              | -60            | 0 | 0 | 60  |
| 5              | -80            | 0 | 0 | 80  |
| 6              | -106           | 0 | 0 | 106 |
| 7              | -183           | 0 | 0 | 183 |

Table 14.13: ETC2 intensity modifier sets for the ‘differential’ if ‘opaque’ is unset.

used. For instance, if the ‘opaque’-bit is 1 and the table code word is 010 binary = 2, then the modifier table [−29, −9, 9, 29] is selected for the corresponding sub-block. Note that the values in Table 14.12 and Table 14.13 are valid for all textures and can therefore be hardcoded into the decompression unit.

Next, we identify which modifier value to use from the modifier table using the two ‘pixel index’ bits. The pixel index bits are unique for each pixel. For instance, the pixel index for pixel d (see Table 14.2) can be found in bits 19 (most significant bit, MSB), and 3 (least significant bit, LSB), see Table 14.11 part (e). Note that the pixel index for a particular texel is always stored in the same bit position, irrespectively of the ‘flipbit’.

If the ‘opaque’-bit (bit 33) is set, the pixel index bits are decoded using Table 14.14. If the ‘opaque’-bit is unset, Table 14.15 will be used instead. If, for instance, the ‘opaque’-bit is 1, and the pixel index bits are 01 binary = 1, and the modifier table [−29, −9, 9, 29] is used, then the modifier value selected for that pixel is 29 (see Table 14.14). This modifier value is now used to additively modify the base color. For example, if we have the base color (231, 8, 16), we should add the modifier value 29 to all three components: (231 + 29, 8 + 29, 16 + 29) resulting in (260, 37, 45). These values are then clamped to [0, 255], resulting in the color (255, 37, 45).

| Pixel index value |     | Resulting modifier value  |
|-------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| msb               | lsb |                           |
| 1                 | 1   | -b (large negative value) |
| 1                 | 0   | -a (small negative value) |
| 0                 | 0   | a (small positive value)  |
| 0                 | 1   | b (large positive value)  |

Table 14.14: ETC2 mapping from pixel index values to modifier values when ‘opaque’-bit is set.

The alpha component is decoded using the ‘opaque’-bit, which is positioned in bit 33 (see Table 14.11 part (b)). If the ‘opaque’-bit is set, alpha is always 255. However, if the ‘opaque’-bit is zero, the alpha-value depends on the pixel indices; if MSB==1 and LSB==0, the alpha value will be zero, otherwise it will be 255. Finally, if the alpha value equals 0, the red-, green- and blue components will also be zero.



| Pixel index value |     | Resulting modifier value  |
|-------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| msb               | lsb |                           |
| 1                 | 1   | -b (large negative value) |
| 1                 | 0   | 0 (zero)                  |
| 0                 | 0   | 0 (zero)                  |
| 0                 | 1   | b (large positive value)  |

Table 14.15: ETC2 mapping from pixel index values to modifier values when ‘opaque’-bit is unset.

```

if (opaque == 0 && MSB == 1 && LSB == 0) {
    red = 0;
    green = 0;
    blue = 0;
    alpha = 0;
} else {
    alpha = 255;
}

```

Hence paint color 2 will equal RGBA = (0,0,0,0) if opaque == 0.

In the example above, assume that the ‘opaque’-bit was instead 0. Then, since the MSB = 0 and LSB 1, alpha will be 255, and the final decoded RGBA-tuple will be (255, 37, 45, 255).

The ‘T’ and ‘H’ compression modes share some characteristics: both use two base colors stored using 4 bits per channel. These bits are not stored sequentially, but in the layout shown in Table 14.11 part (c) and Table 14.11 part (d). To clarify, in the ‘T’ mode, the two colors are constructed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{base col 1} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}((R1a \ll 2) | R1b, G1, B1) \\
 \text{base col 2} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}(R2, G2, B2)
 \end{aligned}$$

In the ‘H’ mode, the two colors are constructed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{base col 1} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}(R1, (G1a \ll 1) | G1b, (B1a \ll 3) | B1b) \\
 \text{base col 2} &= \text{extend\_4to8bits}(R2, G2, B2)
 \end{aligned}$$

The function `extend_4to8bits()` just replicates the four bits twice. This is equivalent to multiplying by 17. As an example, `extend_4to8bits(1101b)` equals `11011101b = 221`.

Both the ‘T’ and ‘H’ modes have four ‘paint colors’ which are the colors that will be used in the decompressed block, but they are assigned in a different manner. In the ‘T’ mode, ‘paint color 0’ is simply the first base color, and ‘paint color 2’ is the second base color. To obtain the other ‘paint colors’, a ‘distance’ is first determined, which will be used to modify the luminance of one of the base colors. This is done by combining the values ‘da’ and ‘db’ shown in Table 14.11 part (c) by  $(da \ll 1) | db$ , and then using this value as an index into the small look-up table shown in Table 14.8. For example, if ‘da’ is 10 binary and ‘db’ is 1 binary, the index is 101 binary and the selected distance will be 32. ‘Paint color 1’ is then equal to the second base color with the ‘distance’ added to each channel, and ‘paint color 3’ is the second base color with the ‘distance’ subtracted. In summary, to determine the four ‘paint colors’ for a ‘T’ block:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{paint color 0} &= \text{base col 1} \\
 \text{paint color 1} &= \text{base col 2} + (d, d, d) \\
 \text{paint color 2} &= \text{base col 2} \\
 \text{paint color 3} &= \text{base col 2} - (d, d, d)
 \end{aligned}$$

In both cases, the value of each channel is clamped to within [0,255].

Just as for the differential mode, the RGB channels are set to zero if alpha is zero, and the alpha component is calculated the same way:

```
if (opaque == 0 && MSB == 1 && LSB == 0) {
    red = 0;
    green = 0;
    blue = 0;
    alpha = 0;
} else {
    alpha = 255;
}
```

A ‘distance’ value is computed for the ‘H’ mode as well, but doing so is slightly more complex. In order to construct the three-bit index into the distance table shown in Table 14.8, ‘da’ and ‘db’ shown in Table 14.11 part (d) are used as the most significant bit and middle bit, respectively, but the least significant bit is computed as (base col 1 value  $\geq$  base col 2 value), the ‘value’ of a color for the comparison being equal to  $(R \ll 16) + (G \ll 8) + B$ . Once the ‘distance’ d has been determined for an ‘H’ block, the four ‘paint colors’ will be:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{paint color 0} &= \text{base col 1} + (d, d, d) \\ \text{paint color 1} &= \text{base col 1} - (d, d, d) \\ \text{paint color 2} &= \text{base col 2} + (d, d, d) \\ \text{paint color 3} &= \text{base col 2} - (d, d, d) \end{aligned}$$

Yet again, RGB is zeroed if alpha is 0 and the alpha component is determined the same way:

```
if (opaque == 0 && MSB == 1 && LSB == 0) {
    red = 0;
    green = 0;
    blue = 0;
    alpha = 0;
} else {
    alpha = 255;
}
```

Hence paint color 2 will have R=G=B=alpha=0 if opaque == 0.

Again, all color components are clamped to within [0,255]. Finally, in both the ‘T’ and ‘H’ modes, every pixel is assigned one of the four ‘paint colors’ in the same way the four modifier values are distributed in ‘individual’ or ‘differential’ blocks. For example, to choose a paint color for pixel d, an index is constructed using bit 19 as most significant bit and bit 3 as least significant bit. Then, if a pixel has index 2, for example, it will be assigned paint color 2.

The final mode possible in an RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha—compressed block is the ‘planar’ mode. In this mode, the ‘opaque’-bit must be 1 (a valid encoder should not produce an ‘opaque’-bit equal to 0 in the planar mode), but should the ‘opaque’-bit anyway be 0 the decoder should treat it as if it were 1. In the ‘planar’ mode, three base colors are supplied and used to form a color plane used to determine the color of the individual pixels in the block.

All three base colors are stored in RGB 676 format, and stored in the manner shown in Table 14.11 part (f). The three colors are there labelled ‘O’, ‘H’ and ‘V’, so that the three components of color ‘V’ are RV, GV and BV, for example. Some color channels are split into non-consecutive bit-ranges, for example BO is reconstructed using BO1 as the most significant bit, BO2 as the two following bits, and BO3 as the three least significant bits.

Once the bits for the base colors have been extracted, they must be extended to 8 bits per channel in a manner analogous to the method used for the base colors in other modes. For example, the 6-bit blue and red channels are extended by replicating the two most significant of the six bits to the two least significant of the final 8 bits.

With three base colors in RGB888 format, the color of each pixel can then be determined as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(x,y) &= \frac{x \times (RH - RO)}{4.0} + \frac{y \times (RV - RO)}{4.0} + RO \\
 G(x,y) &= \frac{x \times (GH - GO)}{4.0} + \frac{y \times (GV - GO)}{4.0} + GO \\
 B(x,y) &= \frac{x \times (BH - BO)}{4.0} + \frac{y \times (BV - BO)}{4.0} + BO \\
 A(x,y) &= 255
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are values from 0 to 3 corresponding to the pixels coordinates within the block,  $x$  being in the  $u$  direction and  $y$  in the  $v$  direction. For example, the pixel  $g$  in Table 14.2 would have  $x = 1$  and  $y = 2$ .

These values are then rounded to the nearest integer (to the larger integer if there is a tie) and then clamped to a value between 0 and 255. Note that this is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(x,y) &= \text{clamp255}((x \times (RH - RO) + y \times (RV - RO) + 4 \times RO + 2) \gg 2) \\
 G(x,y) &= \text{clamp255}((x \times (GH - GO) + y \times (GV - GO) + 4 \times GO + 2) \gg 2) \\
 B(x,y) &= \text{clamp255}((x \times (BH - BO) + y \times (BV - BO) + 4 \times BO + 2) \gg 2) \\
 A(x,y) &= 255
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\text{clamp255}$  clamps the value to a number in the range  $[0, 255]$ .

Note that the alpha component is always 255 in the planar mode.

This specification gives the output for each compression mode in 8-bit integer colors between 0 and 255, and these values all need to be divided by 255 for the final floating point representation.

## Format RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha and sRGB encoding

Decompression of floating point sRGB values in RGB ETC2 with sRGB encoding and punchthrough alpha follows that of floating point RGB values of RGB ETC2 with punchthrough alpha. The result is sRGB values between 0.0 and 1.0. The further conversion from an sRGB encoded component,  $cs$ , to a linear component,  $cl$ , is according to the formula in Section 18.3. Assume  $cs$  is the sRGB component in the range  $[0,1]$ . Note that the alpha component is not gamma corrected, and hence does not use the above formula.

## Chapter 15

# ASTC Compressed Texture Image Formats

*This description is derived from the Khronos [OES\\_texture\\_compression\\_astc](#) OpenGL extension.*

### What is ASTC?

ASTC stands for Adaptive Scalable Texture Compression. The ASTC formats form a family of related compressed texture image formats. They are all derived from a common set of definitions.

ASTC textures may be either 2D or 3D.

ASTC textures may be encoded using either high or low dynamic range. Low dynamic range images may optionally be specified using the sRGB transfer function for the RGB channels.

Two sub-profiles (“LDR Profile” and “HDR Profile”) may be implemented, which support only 2D images at low or high dynamic range respectively.

ASTC textures may be encoded as 1, 2, 3 or 4 components, but they are all decoded into RGBA. ASTC has a variable block size.

### Design Goals

The design goals for the format are as follows:

- Random access. This is a must for any texture compression format.
- Bit exact decode. This is a must for conformance testing and reproducibility.
- Suitable for mobile use. The format should be suitable for both desktop and mobile GPU environments. It should be low bandwidth and low in area.
- Flexible choice of bit rate. Current formats only offer a few bit rates, leaving content developers with only coarse control over the size/quality tradeoff.
- Scalable and long-lived. The format should support existing R, RG, RGB and RGBA image types, and also have high “headroom”, allowing continuing use for several years and the ability to innovate in encoders. Part of this is the choice to include HDR and 3D.
- Feature orthogonality. The choices for the various features of the format are all orthogonal to each other. This has three effects: first, it allows a large, flexible configuration space; second, it makes that space easier to understand; and third, it makes verification easier.
- Best in class at given bit rate. It should beat or match the current best in class for peak signal-to-noise ratio (PSNR) at all bit rates.

- Fast decode. Texel throughput for a cached texture should be one texel decode per clock cycle per decoder. Parallel decoding of several texels from the same block should be possible at incremental cost.
- Low bandwidth. The encoding scheme should ensure that memory access is kept to a minimum, cache reuse is high and memory bandwidth for the format is low.
- Low area. It must occupy comparable die size to competing formats.

## Basic Concepts

ASTC is a block-based lossy compression format. The compressed image is divided into a number of blocks of uniform size, which makes it possible to quickly determine which block a given texel resides in.

Each block has a fixed memory footprint of 128 bits, but these bits can represent varying numbers of texels (the block “footprint”).

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### Note

The term “block footprint” in ASTC refers to the same concept as “compressed texel block dimensions” elsewhere in the Data Format Specification.

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Block footprint sizes are not confined to powers-of-two, and are also not confined to be square. They may be 2D, in which case the block dimensions range from 4 to 12 texels, or 3D, in which case the block dimensions range from 3 to 6 texels.

Decoding one texel requires only the data from a single block. This simplifies cache design, reduces bandwidth and improves encoder throughput.

## Block Encoding

To understand how the blocks are stored and decoded, it is useful to start with a simple example, and then introduce additional features.

The simplest block encoding starts by defining two color “endpoints”. The endpoints define two colors, and a number of additional colors are generated by interpolating between them. We can define these colors using 1, 2, 3, or 4 components (usually corresponding to R, RG, RGB and RGBA textures), and using low or high dynamic range.

We then store a color interpolant weight for each texel in the image, which specifies how to calculate the color to use. From this, a weighted average of the two endpoint colors is used to generate the intermediate color, which is the returned color for this texel.

There are several different ways of specifying the endpoint colors, and the weights, but once they have been defined, calculation of the texel colors proceeds identically for all of them. Each block is free to choose whichever encoding scheme best represents its color endpoints, within the constraint that all the data fits within the 128 bit block.

For blocks which have a large number of texels (e.g. a  $12 \times 12$  block), there is not enough space to explicitly store a weight for every texel. In this case, a sparser grid with fewer weights is stored, and interpolation is used to determine the effective weight to be used for each texel position. This allows very low bit rates to be used with acceptable quality. This can also be used to more efficiently encode blocks with low detail, or with strong vertical or horizontal features.

For blocks which have a mixture of disparate colors, a single line in the color space is not a good fit to the colors of the pixels in the original image. It is therefore possible to partition the texels into multiple sets, the pixels within each set having similar colors. For each of these “partitions”, we specify separate endpoint pairs, and choose which pair of endpoints to use for a particular texel by looking up the partition index from a partitioning pattern table. In ASTC, this partition table is actually implemented as a function.

The endpoint encoding for each partition is independent.

For blocks which have uncorrelated channels—for example an image with a transparency mask, or an image used as a normal map—it may be necessary to specify two weights for each texel. Interpolation between the components of the

endpoint colors can then proceed independently for each “plane” of the image. The assignment of channels to planes is selectable.

Since each of the above options is independent, it is possible to specify any combination of channels, endpoint color encoding, weight encoding, interpolation, multiple partitions and single or dual planes.

Since these values are specified per block, it is important that they are represented with the minimum possible number of bits. As a result, these values are packed together in ways which can be difficult to read, but which are nevertheless highly amenable to hardware decode.

All of the values used as weights and color endpoint values can be specified with a variable number of bits. The encoding scheme used allows a fine-grained tradeoff between weight bits and color endpoint bits using “integer sequence encoding”. This can pack adjacent values together, allowing us to use fractional numbers of bits per value.

Finally, a block may be just a single color. This is a so-called “void extent block” and has a special coding which also allows it to identify nearby regions of single color. This may be used to short-circuit fetching of what would be identical blocks, and further reduce memory bandwidth.

## LDR and HDR Modes

The decoding process for LDR content can be simplified if it is known in advance that sRGB output is required. This selection is therefore included as part of the global configuration.

The two modes differ in various ways, as shown in Table 15.1.

| Operation                       | LDR Mode                                                      | HDR Mode                |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Returned Value                  | Vector of FP16, or vector of 8-bit unsigned normalized values | Vector of FP16 values   |
| sRGB compatible                 | Yes                                                           | No                      |
| LDR endpoint decoding precision | 16 bits, or 8 bits for sRGB                                   | 16 bits                 |
| HDR endpoint mode results       | Error color                                                   | As decoded              |
| Error results                   | Error color                                                   | Vector of NaNs (0xFFFF) |

Table 15.1: ASTC differences between LDR and HDR modes

The error color is opaque fully-saturated magenta  $(R, G, B, A) = (0xFF, 0x00, 0xFF, 0xFF)$ . This has been chosen as it is much more noticeable than black or white, and occurs far less often in valid images.

For linear RGB decode, the error color may be either opaque fully-saturated magenta  $(R, G, B, A) = (1.0, 0.0, 1.0, 1.0)$  or a vector of four NaNs  $(R, G, B, A) = (NaN, NaN, NaN, NaN)$ . In the latter case, the recommended NaN value returned is 0xFFFF.

The error color is returned as an informative response to invalid conditions, including invalid block encodings or use of reserved endpoint modes.

Future, forward-compatible extensions to ASTC may define valid interpretations of these conditions, which will decode to some other color. Therefore, encoders and applications must not rely on invalid encodings as a way of generating the error color.

## Configuration Summary

The global configuration data for the format are as follows:

- Block dimension (2D or 3D)
- Block footprint size
- sRGB output enabled or not

The data specified per block are as follows:

- Texel weight grid size
- Texel weight range
- Texel weight values
- Number of partitions
- Partition pattern index
- Color endpoint modes (includes LDR or HDR selection)
- Color endpoint data
- Number of planes
- Plane-to-channel assignment

## Decode Procedure

To decode one texel:

```
(Optimization: If within known void-extent, immediately return single color)

Find block containing texel
Read block mode
If void-extent block, store void extent and immediately return single color

For each plane in image
    If block mode requires infill
        Find and decode stored weights adjacent to texel, unquantize and interpolate
    Else
        Find and decode weight for texel, and unquantize

Read number of partitions
If number of partitions > 1
    Read partition table pattern index
    Look up partition number from pattern

Read color endpoint mode and endpoint data for selected partition
Unquantize color endpoints
Interpolate color endpoints using weight (or weights in dual-plane mode)
Return interpolated color
```

## Block Determination and Bit Rates

The block footprint is a global setting for any given texture, and is therefore not encoded in the individual blocks.

For 2D textures, the block footprint's width and height are selectable from a number of predefined sizes, namely 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12 pixels.

For square and nearly-square blocks, this gives the bit rates in Table [15.2](#).

The "Increment" column indicates the ratio of bit rate against the next lower available rate. A consistent value in this column indicates an even spread of bit rates.

For 3D textures, the block footprint's width, height and depth are selectable from a number of predefined sizes, namely 3, 4, 5, and 6 pixels.

| Footprint |        | Bit Rate | Increment |
|-----------|--------|----------|-----------|
| Width     | Height |          |           |
| 4         | 4      | 8.00     | 125%      |
| 5         | 4      | 6.40     | 125%      |
| 5         | 5      | 5.12     | 120%      |
| 6         | 5      | 4.27     | 120%      |
| 6         | 6      | 3.56     | 114%      |
| 8         | 5      | 3.20     | 120%      |
| 8         | 6      | 2.67     | 105%      |
| 10        | 5      | 2.56     | 120%      |
| 10        | 6      | 2.13     | 107%      |
| 8         | 8      | 2.00     | 125%      |
| 10        | 8      | 1.60     | 125%      |
| 10        | 10     | 1.28     | 120%      |
| 12        | 10     | 1.07     | 120%      |
| 12        | 12     | 0.89     |           |

Table 15.2: ASTC 2D footprint and bit rates

| Block Footprint |        |       | Bit Rate | Increment |
|-----------------|--------|-------|----------|-----------|
| Width           | Height | Depth |          |           |
| 3               | 3      | 3     | 4.74     | 133%      |
| 4               | 3      | 3     | 3.56     | 133%      |
| 4               | 4      | 3     | 2.67     | 133%      |
| 4               | 4      | 4     | 2.00     | 125%      |
| 5               | 4      | 4     | 1.60     | 125%      |
| 5               | 5      | 4     | 1.28     | 125%      |
| 5               | 5      | 5     | 1.02     | 120%      |
| 6               | 5      | 5     | 0.85     | 120%      |
| 6               | 6      | 5     | 0.71     | 120%      |
| 6               | 6      | 6     | 0.59     |           |

Table 15.3: ASTC 3D footprint and bit rates



For cubic and near-cubic blocks, this gives the bit rates in Table 15.3.

The full profile supports only those block footprints listed in Table 15.2 and Table 15.3. Other block sizes are not supported.

For images which are not an integer multiple of the block size, additional texels are added to the edges with maximum X and Y (and Z for 3D textures). These texels may be any color, as they will not be accessed.

Although these are not all powers of two, it is possible to calculate block addresses and pixel addresses within the block, for legal image sizes, without undue complexity.

Given an image which is  $W \times H \times D$  pixels in size, with block size  $w \times h \times d$ , the size of the image in blocks is:

$$\begin{aligned} B_w &= \left\lceil \frac{W}{w} \right\rceil \\ B_h &= \left\lceil \frac{H}{h} \right\rceil \\ B_d &= \left\lceil \frac{D}{d} \right\rceil \end{aligned}$$

For a 3D image built from 2D slices, each 2D slice is a single texel thick, so that for an image which is  $W \times H \times D$  pixels in size, with block size  $w \times h$ , the size of the image in blocks is:

$$\begin{aligned} B_w &= \left\lceil \frac{W}{w} \right\rceil \\ B_h &= \left\lceil \frac{H}{h} \right\rceil \\ B_d &= D \end{aligned}$$

## Block Layout

Each block in the image is stored as a single 128-bit block in memory. These blocks are laid out in raster order, starting with the block at (0,0,0), then ordered sequentially by X, Y and finally Z (if present). They are aligned to 128-bit boundaries in memory.

The bits in the block are labeled in little-endian order — the byte at the lowest address contains bits 0..7. Bit 0 is the least significant bit in the byte.

Each block has the same basic layout, shown in Table 15.4.

Since the size of the “texel weight data” field is variable, the positions shown for the “more config data” field and “color endpoint data” field are only representative and not fixed.

The “Block mode” field specifies how the Texel Weight Data is encoded.

The “Part” field specifies the number of partitions, minus one. If dual plane mode is enabled, the number of partitions must be 3 or fewer. If 4 partitions are specified, the error value is returned for all texels in the block.

The size and layout of the extra configuration data depends on the number of partitions, and the number of planes in the image, as shown in Table 15.5 (only the bottom 32 bits are shown).

CEM is the color endpoint mode field, which determines how the Color Endpoint Data is encoded.

If dual-plane mode is active, the color component selector bits appear directly below the weight bits, as shown in Table 15.6.

The Partition Index field specifies which partition layout to use. CEM is the first 6 bits of color endpoint mode information for the various partitions. For modes which require more than 6 bits of CEM data, the additional bits appear at a variable position directly beneath the texel weight data.

If dual-plane mode is active, the color component selector bits then appear directly below the additional CEM bits.

The final special case is that if bits [8:0] of the block are “11111100”, then the block is a void-extent block, which has a separate encoding described in Section 15.23.

|                                    |     |     |     |                          |     |            |     |                     |     |     |     |                  |     |     |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|-----|------------|-----|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 127                                | 126 | 125 | 124 | 123                      | 122 | 121        | 120 | 119                 | 118 | 117 | 116 | 115              | 114 | 113 | 112 |
| Texel weight data (variable width) |     |     |     |                          |     |            |     |                     |     |     |     | Fill direction → |     |     |     |
| 111                                | 110 | 109 | 108 | 107                      | 106 | 105        | 104 | 103                 | 102 | 101 | 100 | 99               | 98  | 97  | 96  |
| Texel weight data                  |     |     |     |                          |     |            |     |                     |     |     |     |                  |     |     |     |
| 95                                 | 94  | 93  | 92  | 91                       | 90  | 89         | 88  | 87                  | 86  | 85  | 84  | 83               | 82  | 81  | 80  |
| Texel weight data                  |     |     |     |                          |     |            |     |                     |     |     |     |                  |     |     |     |
| 79                                 | 78  | 77  | 76  | 75                       | 74  | 73         | 72  | 71                  | 70  | 69  | 68  | 67               | 66  | 65  | 64  |
| Texel weight data                  |     |     |     |                          |     |            |     |                     |     |     |     |                  |     |     |     |
| 63                                 | 62  | 61  | 60  | 59                       | 58  | 57         | 56  | 55                  | 54  | 53  | 52  | 51               | 50  | 49  | 48  |
|                                    |     |     |     |                          |     |            |     |                     |     |     |     | More config data |     |     |     |
| 47                                 | 46  | 45  | 44  | 43                       | 42  | 41         | 40  | 39                  | 38  | 37  | 36  | 35               | 34  | 33  | 32  |
| ← Fill direction                   |     |     |     |                          |     |            |     | Color endpoint data |     |     |     |                  |     |     |     |
| 31                                 | 30  | 29  | 28  | 27                       | 26  | 25         | 24  | 23                  | 22  | 21  | 20  | 19               | 18  | 17  | 16  |
|                                    |     |     |     | Extra configuration data |     |            |     |                     |     |     |     |                  |     |     |     |
| 15                                 | 14  | 13  | 12  | 11                       | 10  | 9          | 8   | 7                   | 6   | 5   | 4   | 3                | 2   | 1   | 0   |
| Extra                              |     |     |     | Part                     |     | Block mode |     |                     |     |     |     |                  |     |     |     |

Table 15.4: ASTC block layout

|                     |    |    |    |    |            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| 31                  | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26         | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16  |
| Color endpoint data |    |    |    |    |            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | CEM |
| 15                  | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10         | 9  | 8  | 7  | 6  | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1  | 0   |
| CEM                 |    |    | 0  | 0  | Block mode |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |

Table 15.5: ASTC single-partition block layout

|                 |    |    |      |     |            |    |    |    |                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------------|----|----|------|-----|------------|----|----|----|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 31              | 30 | 29 | 28   | 27  | 26         | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22              | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 |
|                 |    |    |      | CEM |            |    |    |    | Partition index |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 15              | 14 | 13 | 12   | 11  | 10         | 9  | 8  | 7  | 6               | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1  | 0  |
| Partition index |    |    | Part |     | Block mode |    |    |    |                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

Table 15.6: ASTC multi-partition block layout

## Block Mode

The Block Mode field specifies the width, height and depth of the grid of weights, what range of values they use, and whether dual weight planes are present. Since some of these are not represented using powers of two (there are 12 possible weight widths, for example), and not all combinations are allowed, this is not a simple bit packing. However, it can be unpacked quickly in hardware.

The weight ranges are encoded using a 3 bit value R, which is interpreted together with a precision bit H, as shown in Table 15.7.

| R   | Low Precision Range (H=0) |       |        |      | High Precision Range (H=1) |       |        |      |
|-----|---------------------------|-------|--------|------|----------------------------|-------|--------|------|
|     | Weight Range              | Trits | Quints | Bits | Weight Range               | Trits | Quints | Bits |
| 000 | Invalid                   |       |        |      | Invalid                    |       |        |      |
| 001 | Invalid                   |       |        |      | Invalid                    |       |        |      |
| 010 | 0..1                      |       |        | 1    | 0..9                       |       | 1      | 1    |
| 011 | 0..2                      | 1     |        |      | 0..11                      | 1     |        | 2    |
| 100 | 0..3                      |       |        | 2    | 0..15                      |       |        | 4    |
| 101 | 0..4                      |       | 1      |      | 0..19                      |       | 1      | 2    |
| 110 | 0..5                      | 1     |        | 1    | 0..23                      | 1     |        | 3    |
| 111 | 0..7                      |       |        | 3    | 0..31                      |       |        | 5    |

Table 15.7: ASTC weight range encodings

Each weight value is encoded using the specified number of Trits, Quints and Bits. The details of this encoding can be found in Section 15.12.

For 2D blocks, the Block Mode field is laid out as shown in Table 15.8.

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4     | 3     | 2     | 1     | 0     | Width | Height | Notes       |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------------|
| D  | H | B |   | A |   | $R_0$ | 0     | 0     | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | B+4   | A+2    |             |
| D  | H | B |   | A |   | $R_0$ | 0     | 1     | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | B+8   | A+2    |             |
| D  | H | B |   | A |   | $R_0$ | 1     | 0     | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | A+2   | B+8    |             |
| D  | H | 0 | B | A |   | $R_0$ | 1     | 1     | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | A+2   | B+6    |             |
| D  | H | 1 | B | A |   | $R_0$ | 1     | 1     | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | B+2   | A+2    |             |
| D  | H | 0 | 0 | A |   | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | 12    | A+2    |             |
| D  | H | 0 | 1 | A |   | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | A+2   | 12     |             |
| D  | H | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | 6     | 10     |             |
| D  | H | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | 10    | 6      |             |
| B  |   | 1 | 0 | A |   | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | A+6   | B+6    | D=0, H=0    |
| x  | x | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 0     | 0     | -     | -      | Void-extent |
| x  | x | 1 | 1 | 1 | x | x     | x     | x     | 0     | 0     | -     | -      | Reserved*   |
| x  | x | x | x | x | x | x     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | -     | -      | Reserved    |

Table 15.8: ASTC 2D block mode layout

Note that, due to the encoding of the R field, as described in the previous page, bits  $R_2$  and  $R_1$  cannot both be zero, which disambiguates the first five rows from the rest of the table.

Bit positions with a value of x are ignored for purposes of determining if a block is a void-extent block or reserved, but may have defined encodings for specific void-extent blocks.

The penultimate row of the table is reserved only if bits [5:2] are not all 1, in which case it encodes a void-extent block (as shown in the previous row).

For 3D blocks, the Block Mode field is laid out as shown in Table 15.9.

The D bit is set to indicate dual-plane mode. In this mode, the maximum allowed number of partitions is 3.

| 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4     | 3     | 2     | 1     | 0     | Width | Height | Depth | Notes       |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------------|
| D  | H | B |   | A |   | $R_0$ | C     |       | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | A+2   | B+2    | C+2   |             |
| B  |   | 0 | 0 | A |   | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | 6     | B+2    | A+2   | D=0, H=0    |
| B  |   | 0 | 1 | A |   | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | A+2   | 6      | B+2   | D=0, H=0    |
| B  |   | 1 | 0 | A |   | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | A+2   | B+2    | 6     | D=0, H=0    |
| D  | H | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | 6     | 2      | 2     |             |
| D  | H | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | 2     | 6      | 2     |             |
| D  | H | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | $R_0$ | $R_2$ | $R_1$ | 0     | 0     | 2     | 2      | 6     |             |
| x  | x | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 0     | 0     | -     | -      | -     | Void-extent |
| x  | x | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | x     | x     | x     | 0     | 0     | -     | -      | -     | Reserved*   |
| x  | x | x | x | x | x | x     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | -     | -      | -     | Reserved    |

Table 15.9: ASTC 3D block mode layout

The penultimate row of the table is reserved only if bits [4:2] are not all 1, in which case it encodes a void-extent block (as shown in the previous row).

The size of the grid in each dimension must be less than or equal to the corresponding dimension of the block footprint. If the grid size is greater than the footprint dimension in any axis, then this is an illegal block encoding and all texels will decode to the error color.

## Color Endpoint Mode

In single-partition mode, the Color Endpoint Mode (CEM) field stores one of 16 possible values. Each of these specifies how many raw data values are encoded, and how to convert these raw values into two RGBA color endpoints. They can be summarized as shown in Table 15.10.

| CEM | Description                      | Class |
|-----|----------------------------------|-------|
| 0   | LDR Luminance, direct            | 0     |
| 1   | LDR Luminance, base+offset       | 0     |
| 2   | HDR Luminance, large range       | 0     |
| 3   | HDR Luminance, small range       | 0     |
| 4   | LDR Luminance+Alpha, direct      | 1     |
| 5   | LDR Luminance+Alpha, base+offset | 1     |
| 6   | LDR RGB, base+scale              | 1     |
| 7   | HDR RGB, base+scale              | 1     |
| 8   | LDR RGB, direct                  | 2     |
| 9   | LDR RGB, base+offset             | 2     |
| 10  | LDR RGB, base+scale plus two A   | 2     |
| 11  | HDR RGB, direct                  | 2     |
| 12  | LDR RGBA, direct                 | 3     |
| 13  | LDR RGBA, base+offset            | 3     |
| 14  | HDR RGB, direct + LDR Alpha      | 3     |
| 15  | HDR RGB, direct + HDR Alpha      | 3     |

Table 15.10: ASTC color endpoint modes

In multi-partition mode, the CEM field is of variable width, from 6 to 14 bits. The lowest 2 bits of the CEM field specify how the endpoint mode for each partition is calculated as shown in Table 15.11.

| Value | Meaning                                                                                                                         |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 00    | All color endpoint pairs are of the same type. A full 4-bit CEM is stored in block bits [28:25] and is used for all partitions. |
| 01    | All endpoint pairs are of class 0 or 1.                                                                                         |
| 10    | All endpoint pairs are of class 1 or 2.                                                                                         |
| 11    | All endpoint pairs are of class 2 or 3.                                                                                         |

Table 15.11: ASTC Multi-Partition Color Endpoint Modes

If the CEM selector value in bits [24:23] is not 00, then data layout is as shown in Table 15.12 and Table 15.13.

| Part |     |        | n  | m | l  | k | j  | i | h  | g |     |
|------|-----|--------|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|-----|
| 2    | ... | Weight | M1 |   |    |   |    |   |    |   | ... |
| 3    | ... | Weight | M2 |   | M1 |   | M0 |   |    |   | ... |
| 4    | ... | Weight | M3 |   | M2 |   | M1 |   | M0 |   | ... |

Table 15.12: ASTC multi-partition color endpoint mode layout

| Part | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 24  | 23 |
|------|----|----|----|----|-----|----|
| 2    | M0 |    | C1 | C0 | CEM |    |
| 3    | M9 | C2 | C1 | C0 | CEM |    |
| 4    | C3 | C2 | C1 | C0 | CEM |    |

Table 15.13: ASTC multi-partition color endpoint mode layout (2)

In this view, each partition  $i$  has two fields.  $C_i$  is the class selector bit, choosing between the two possible CEM classes (0 indicates the lower of the two classes), and  $M_i$  is a two-bit field specifying the low bits of the color endpoint mode within that class. The additional bits appear at a variable bit position, immediately below the texel weight data.

The ranges used for the data values are not explicitly specified. Instead, they are derived from the number of available bits remaining after the configuration data and weight data have been specified.

Details of the decoding procedure for Color Endpoints can be found in Section 15.13.

## Integer Sequence Encoding

Both the weight data and the endpoint color data are variable width, and are specified using a sequence of integer values. The range of each value in a sequence (e.g. a color weight) is constrained.

Since it is often the case that the most efficient range for these values is not a power of two, each value sequence is encoded using a technique known as “integer sequence encoding”. This allows efficient, hardware-friendly packing and unpacking of values with non-power-of-two ranges.

In a sequence, each value has an identical range. The range is specified in one of the forms shown in Table 15.14 and Table 15.15.

Since  $3^5$  is 243, it is possible to pack five trits into 8 bits (which has 256 possible values), so a trit can effectively be encoded as 1.6 bits. Similarly, since  $5^3$  is 125, it is possible to pack three quints into 7 bits (which has 128 possible values), so a quint can be encoded as 2.33 bits.

The encoding scheme packs the trits or quints, and then interleaves the  $n$  additional bits in positions that satisfy the requirements of an arbitrary length stream. This makes it possible to correctly specify lists of values whose length is not an integer multiple of 3 or 5 values. It also makes it possible to easily select a value at random within the stream.

| Value range                  | MSB encoding           | LSB encoding                 |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| $0 \dots 2^n - 1$            | -                      | n bit value m ( $n \leq 8$ ) |
| $0 \dots (3 \times 2^n) - 1$ | Base-3 “trit” value t  | n bit value m ( $n \leq 6$ ) |
| $0 \dots (5 \times 2^n) - 1$ | Base-5 “quint” value q | n bit value m ( $n \leq 5$ ) |

Table 15.14: ASTC range forms

| Value range                  | Value              | Block | Packed block size |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|
| $0 \dots 2^n - 1$            | $m$                | 1     | $n$               |
| $0 \dots (3 \times 2^n) - 1$ | $t \times 2^n + m$ | 5     | $8 + 5 \times n$  |
| $0 \dots (5 \times 2^n) - 1$ | $q \times 2^n + m$ | 3     | $7 + 3 \times n$  |

Table 15.15: ASTC encoding for different ranges

If there are insufficient bits in the stream to fill the final block, then unused (higher order) bits are assumed to be 0 when decoding.

To decode the bits for value number  $i$  in a sequence of bits  $b$ , both indexed from 0, perform the following:

If the range is encoded as  $n$  bits per value, then the value is bits  $b[i \times n + n - 1 : i \times n]$  — a simple multiplexing operation.

If the range is encoded using a trit, then each block contains 5 values (v0 to v4), each of which contains a trit (t0 to t4) and a corresponding LSB value (m0 to m4). The first bit of the packed block is bit  $\lfloor \frac{i}{5} \rfloor \times (8 + 5 \times n)$ . The bits in the block are packed as shown in Table 15.16 (in this example,  $n$  is 4).

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 27 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 |
|    |    |    |    | T7 | m4 |    |    |    | T6 | T5 | m3 |    |    |    | T4 |
| 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9  | 8  | 7  | 6  | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1  | 0  |
| m2 |    |    |    | T3 | T2 | m1 |    |    |    | T1 | T0 | m0 |    |    |    |

Table 15.16: ASTC trit-based packing

The five trits t0 to t4 are obtained by bit manipulations of the 8 bits T[7:0] as follows:

```

if T[4:2] = 111
    C = { T[7:5], T[1:0] }; t4 = t3 = 2
else
    C = T[4:0]
    if T[6:5] = 11
        t4 = 2; t3 = T[7]
    else
        t4 = T[7]; t3 = T[6:5]

if C[1:0] = 11
    t2 = 2; t1 = C[4]; t0 = { C[3], C[2]&~C[3] }
else if C[3:2] = 11
    t2 = 2; t1 = 2; t0 = C[1:0]
else
    t2 = C[4]; t1 = C[3:2]; t0 = { C[1], C[0]&~C[1] }
```

If the range is encoded using a quint, then each block contains 3 values (v0 to v2), each of which contains a quint (q0 to q2) and a corresponding LSB value (m0 to m2). The first bit of the packed block is bit  $\lfloor \frac{i}{3} \rfloor \times (7 + 3 \times n)$ .

The bits in the block are packed as described in Table 15.17 and Table 15.18 (in this example,  $n$  is 4).

|    |    |    |
|----|----|----|
| 18 | 17 | 16 |
| Q6 | Q5 | m2 |

Table 15.17: ASTC quint-based packing

|    |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|
| 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7  | 6  | 5  | 4  | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| m2 |    |    | Q4 | Q3 | m1 |   |   | Q2 | Q1 | Q0 | m0 |   |   |   |   |

Table 15.18: ASTC quint-based packing (2)

The three quints q0 to q2 are obtained by bit manipulations of the 7 bits Q[6:0] as follows:

```

if Q[2:1] = 11 and Q[6:5] = 00
    q2 = { Q[0], Q[4]&~Q[0], Q[3]&~Q[0] }; q1 = q0 = 4
else
    if Q[2:1] = 11
        q2 = 4; C = { Q[4:3], ~Q[6:5], Q[0] }
    else
        q2 = Q[6:5]; C = Q[4:0]

    if C[2:0] = 101
        q1 = 4; q0 = C[4:3]
    else
        q1 = C[4:3]; q0 = C[2:0]

```

Both these procedures ensure a valid decoding for all 128 possible values (even though a few are duplicates). They can also be implemented efficiently in software using small tables.

Encoding methods are not specified here, although table-based mechanisms work well.

## Endpoint Unquantization

Each color endpoint is specified as a sequence of integers in a given range. These values are packed using integer sequence encoding, as a stream of bits stored from just above the configuration data, and growing upwards.

Once unpacked, the values must be unquantized from their storage range, returning them to a standard range of 0..255.

For bit-only representations, this is simple bit replication from the most significant bit of the value.

For trit or quint-based representations, this involves a set of bit manipulations and adjustments to avoid the expense of full-width multipliers. This procedure ensures correct scaling, but scrambles the order of the decoded values relative to the encoded values. This must be compensated for using a table in the encoder.

The initial inputs to the procedure are denoted A (9 bits), B (9 bits), C (9 bits) and D (3 bits) and are decoded using the range as described in Table 15.19.

These are then processed as follows:

```

T = D * C + B;
T = T ^ A;
T = (A & 0x80) | (T >> 2);

```

Note that the multiply in the first line is nearly trivial as it only needs to multiply by 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

| Range  | T | Q | B | Bits   | A        | B         | C   | D           |
|--------|---|---|---|--------|----------|-----------|-----|-------------|
| 0..5   | 1 |   | 1 | a      | aaaaaaaa | 000000000 | 204 | Trit value  |
| 0..9   |   | 1 | 1 | a      | aaaaaaaa | 000000000 | 113 | Quint value |
| 0..11  | 1 |   | 2 | ba     | aaaaaaaa | b000b0bb0 | 93  | Trit value  |
| 0..19  |   | 1 | 2 | ba     | aaaaaaaa | b000b0bb0 | 54  | Quint value |
| 0..23  | 1 |   | 3 | cba    | aaaaaaaa | cb000cbcb | 44  | Trit value  |
| 0..39  |   | 1 | 3 | cba    | aaaaaaaa | cb000cbcb | 26  | Quint value |
| 0..47  | 1 |   | 4 | dcba   | aaaaaaaa | dcb000dcb | 22  | Trit value  |
| 0..79  |   | 1 | 4 | dcba   | aaaaaaaa | dcb000dcb | 13  | Quint value |
| 0..95  | 1 |   | 5 | edcba  | aaaaaaaa | edcb000ed | 11  | Trit value  |
| 0..159 |   | 1 | 5 | edcba  | aaaaaaaa | edcb0000e | 6   | Quint value |
| 0..191 | 1 |   | 6 | fedcba | aaaaaaaa | fedcb000f | 5   | Trit value  |

Table 15.19: ASTC color unquantization parameters

## LDR Endpoint Decoding

The decoding method used depends on the Color Endpoint Mode (CEM) field, which specifies how many values are used to represent the endpoint.

The CEM field also specifies how to take the  $n$  unquantized color endpoint values  $v_0$  to  $v_{n-1}$  and convert them into two RGBA color endpoints  $e_0$  and  $e_1$ .

The HDR Modes are more complex and do not fit neatly into this section. They are documented in following section.

The methods can be summarized as shown in Table 15.20.

| CEM | Range | Description                  | n |
|-----|-------|------------------------------|---|
| 0   | LDR   | Luminance, direct            | 2 |
| 1   | LDR   | Luminance, base+offset       | 2 |
| 2   | HDR   | Luminance, large range       | 2 |
| 3   | HDR   | Luminance, small range       | 2 |
| 4   | LDR   | Luminance+Alpha, direct      | 4 |
| 5   | LDR   | Luminance+Alpha, base+offset | 4 |
| 6   | LDR   | RGB, base+scale              | 4 |
| 7   | HDR   | RGB, base+scale              | 4 |
| 8   | LDR   | RGB, direct                  | 6 |
| 9   | LDR   | RGB, base+offset             | 6 |
| 10  | LDR   | RGB, base+scale plus two A   | 6 |
| 11  | HDR   | RGB                          | 6 |
| 12  | LDR   | RGBA, direct                 | 8 |
| 13  | LDR   | RGBA, base+offset            | 8 |
| 14  | HDR   | RGB + LDR Alpha              | 8 |
| 15  | HDR   | RGB + HDR Alpha              | 8 |

Table 15.20: ASTC LDR color endpoint modes

Mode 14 is special in that the alpha values are interpolated linearly, but the color components are interpolated logarithmically. This is the only endpoint format with mixed-mode operation, and will return the error value if encountered in LDR mode.

Decode the different LDR endpoint modes as follows:

### Mode 0 LDR Luminance, direct

```
e0=(v0,v0,v0,0xFF); e1=(v1,v1,v1,0xFF);
```



**Mode 1 LDR Luminance, base+offset**

```
L0 = (v0>>2) | (v1&0xC0); L1=L0+(v1&0x3F);  
if (L1>0xFF) { L1=0xFF; }  
e0=(L0,L0,L0,0xFF); e1=(L1,L1,L1,0xFF);
```

**Mode 4 LDR Luminance+Alpha,direct**

```
e0=(v0,v0,v0,v2);  
e1=(v1,v1,v1,v3);
```

**Mode 5 LDR Luminance+Alpha, base+offset**

```
bit_transfer_signed(v1,v0); bit_transfer_signed(v3,v2);  
e0=(v0,v0,v0,v2); e1=(v0+v1,v0+v1,v0+v1,v2+v3);  
clamp_unorm8(e0); clamp_unorm8(e1);
```

**Mode 6 LDR RGB, base+scale**

```
e0=(v0*v3>>8,v1*v3>>8,v2*v3>>8, 0xFF);  
e1=(v0,v1,v2,0xFF);
```

**Mode 8 LDR RGB, Direct**

```
s0= v0+v2+v4; s1= v1+v3+v5;  
if (s1>=s0){e0=(v0,v2,v4,0xFF);  
            e1=(v1,v3,v5,0xFF); }  
else { e0=blue_contract(v1,v3,v5,0xFF);  
       e1=blue_contract(v0,v2,v4,0xFF); }
```

**Mode 9 LDR RGB, base+offset**

```
bit_transfer_signed(v1,v0);  
bit_transfer_signed(v3,v2);  
bit_transfer_signed(v5,v4);  
if(v1+v3+v5 >= 0)  
{ e0=(v0,v2,v4,0xFF); e1=(v0+v1,v2+v3,v4+v5,0xFF); }  
else  
{ e0=blue_contract(v0+v1,v2+v3,v4+v5,0xFF);  
  e1=blue_contract(v0,v2,v4,0xFF); }  
clamp_unorm8(e0); clamp_unorm8(e1);
```

**Mode 10 LDR RGB, base+scale plus two A**

```
e0=(v0*v3>>8,v1*v3>>8,v2*v3>>8, v4);  
e1=(v0,v1,v2, v5);
```

**Mode 12 LDR RGBA, direct**

```

s0= v0+v2+v4; s1= v1+v3+v5;
if (s1>=s0){e0=(v0,v2,v4,v6);
            e1=(v1,v3,v5,v7); }
else { e0=blue_contract(v1,v3,v5,v7);
      e1=blue_contract(v0,v2,v4,v6); }

```

**Mode 13 LDR RGBA, base+offset**

```

bit_transfer_signed(v1,v0);
bit_transfer_signed(v3,v2);
bit_transfer_signed(v5,v4);
bit_transfer_signed(v7,v6);
if (v1+v3+v5>=0) { e0=(v0,v2,v4,v6);
                  e1=(v0+v1,v2+v3,v4+v5,v6+v7); }
else { e0=blue_contract(v0+v1,v2+v3,v4+v5,v6+v7);
      e1=blue_contract(v0,v2,v4,v6); }
clamp_unorm8(e0); clamp_unorm8(e1);

```

The `bit_transfer_signed` procedure transfers a bit from one value (*a*) to another (*b*). Initially, both *a* and *b* are in the range 0..255. After calling this procedure, *a*'s range becomes -32..31, and *b* remains in the range 0..255. Note that, as is often the case, this is easier to express in hardware than in C:

```

bit_transfer_signed(int& a, int& b)
{
    b >>= 1;
    b |= a & 0x80;
    a >>= 1;
    a &= 0x3F;
    if( (a&0x20)!=0 ) a-=0x40;
}

```

The `blue_contract` procedure is used to give additional precision to RGB colors near grey:

```

color blue_contract( int r, int g, int b, int a )
{
    color c;
    c.r = (r+b) >> 1;
    c.g = (g+b) >> 1;
    c.b = b;
    c.a = a;
    return c;
}

```

The `clamp_unorm8` procedure is used to clamp a color into the UNORM8 range:

```

void clamp_unorm8(color c)
{
    if(c.r < 0) {c.r=0;} else if(c.r > 255) {c.r=255;}
    if(c.g < 0) {c.g=0;} else if(c.g > 255) {c.g=255;}
    if(c.b < 0) {c.b=0;} else if(c.b > 255) {c.b=255;}
    if(c.a < 0) {c.a=0;} else if(c.a > 255) {c.a=255;}
}

```

## HDR Endpoint Decoding

For HDR endpoint modes, color values are represented in a 12-bit pseudo-logarithmic representation.

### HDR Endpoint Mode 2

Mode 2 represents luminance-only data with a large range. It encodes using two values (v0, v1). The complete decoding procedure is as follows:

```
if(v1 >= v0)
{
    y0 = (v0 << 4);
    y1 = (v1 << 4);
}
else
{
    y0 = (v1 << 4) + 8;
    y1 = (v0 << 4) - 8;
}
// Construct RGBA result (0x780 is 1.0f)
e0 = (y0, y0, y0, 0x780);
e1 = (y1, y1, y1, 0x780);
```

### HDR Endpoint Mode 3

Mode 3 represents luminance-only data with a small range. It packs the bits for a base luminance value, together with an offset, into two values (v0, v1), according to Table 15.21.

| Value | 7      | 6      | 5 | 4 | 3      | 2 | 1 | 0 |
|-------|--------|--------|---|---|--------|---|---|---|
| v0    | M      | L[6:0] |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| v1    | X[3:0] |        |   |   | d[3:0] |   |   |   |

Table 15.21: ASTC HDR mode 3 value layout

The bit field marked as X allocates different bits to L or d depending on the value of the mode bit M.

The complete decoding procedure is as follows:

```
// Check mode bit and extract.
if((v0&0x80) !=0)
{
    y0 = ((v1 & 0xE0) << 4) | ((v0 & 0x7F) << 2);
    d = (v1 & 0x1F) << 2;
}
else
{
    y0 = ((v1 & 0xF0) << 4) | ((v0 & 0x7F) << 1);
    d = (v1 & 0x0F) << 1;
}

// Add delta and clamp
y1 = y0 + d;
if(y1 > 0xFFFF) { y1 = 0xFFFF; }

// Construct RGBA result (0x780 is 1.0f)
e0 = (y0, y0, y0, 0x780);
e1 = (y1, y1, y1, 0x780);
```

## HDR Endpoint Mode 7

Mode 7 packs the bits for a base RGB value, a scale factor, and some mode bits into the four values (v0, v1, v2, v3), as shown in Table 15.22.

| Value | 7      | 6  | 5      | 4      | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
|-------|--------|----|--------|--------|---|---|---|---|
| v0    | M[3:2] |    | R[5:0] |        |   |   |   |   |
| v1    | M1     | X0 | X1     | G[4:0] |   |   |   |   |
| v2    | M0     | X2 | X3     | B[4:0] |   |   |   |   |
| v3    | X4     | X5 | X6     | S[4:0] |   |   |   |   |

Table 15.22: ASTC HDR mode 7 value layout

The mode bits M0 to M3 are a packed representation of an endpoint bit mode, together with the major component index. For modes 0 to 4, the component (red, green, or blue) with the largest magnitude is identified, and the values swizzled to ensure that it is decoded from the red channel.

The endpoint bit mode is used to determine the number of bits assigned to each component of the endpoint, and the destination of each of the extra bits X0 to X6, as shown in Table 15.23.

|      | Number of bits |   |   |   |  | Destination of extra bits |      |      |       |      |       |      |
|------|----------------|---|---|---|--|---------------------------|------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| Mode | R              | G | B | S |  | X0                        | X1   | X2   | X3    | X4   | X5    | X6   |
| 0    | 11             | 5 | 5 | 7 |  | R[9]                      | R[8] | R[7] | R[10] | R[6] | S[6]  | S[5] |
| 1    | 11             | 6 | 6 | 5 |  | R[8]                      | G[5] | R[7] | B[5]  | R[6] | R[10] | R[9] |
| 2    | 10             | 5 | 5 | 8 |  | R[9]                      | R[8] | R[7] | R[6]  | S[7] | S[6]  | S[5] |
| 3    | 9              | 6 | 6 | 7 |  | R[8]                      | G[5] | R[7] | B[5]  | R[6] | S[6]  | S[5] |
| 4    | 8              | 7 | 7 | 6 |  | G[6]                      | G[5] | B[6] | B[5]  | R[6] | R[7]  | S[5] |
| 5    | 7              | 7 | 7 | 7 |  | G[6]                      | G[5] | B[6] | B[5]  | R[6] | S[6]  | S[5] |

Table 15.23: ASTC HDR mode 7 endpoint bit mode

As noted before, this appears complex when expressed in C, but much easier to achieve in hardware: bit masking, extraction, shifting and assignment usually ends up as a single wire or multiplexer.

The complete decoding procedure is as follows:

```

// Extract mode bits and unpack to major component and mode.
int majcomp; int mode; int modeval = ((v0&0xC0)>>6) | ((v1&0x80)>>5) | ((v2&0x80)>>4);

if( (modeval & 0xC ) != 0xC ) {
    majcomp = modeval >> 2; mode = modeval & 3;
} else if( modeval != 0xF ) {
    majcomp = modeval & 3; mode = 4;
} else {
    majcomp = 0; mode = 5;
}

// Extract low-order bits of r, g, b, and s.
int red   = v0 & 0x3f; int green = v1 & 0x1f;
int blue  = v2 & 0x1f; int scale = v3 & 0x1f;

// Extract high-order bits, which may be assigned depending on mode
int x0 = (v1 >> 6) & 1; int x1 = (v1 >> 5) & 1; int x2 = (v2 >> 6) & 1;
int x3 = (v2 >> 5) & 1; int x4 = (v3 >> 7) & 1; int x5 = (v3 >> 6) & 1;
int x6 = (v3 >> 5) & 1;

// Now move the high-order xs into the right place.
int ohm = 1 << mode;
if( ohm & 0x30 ) green |= x0 << 6;
if( ohm & 0x3A ) green |= x1 << 5;
if( ohm & 0x30 ) blue |= x2 << 6;
if( ohm & 0x3A ) blue |= x3 << 5;
if( ohm & 0x3D ) scale |= x6 << 5;
if( ohm & 0x2D ) scale |= x5 << 6;
if( ohm & 0x04 ) scale |= x4 << 7;
if( ohm & 0x3B ) red |= x4 << 6;
if( ohm & 0x04 ) red |= x3 << 6;
if( ohm & 0x10 ) red |= x5 << 7;
if( ohm & 0x0F ) red |= x2 << 7;
if( ohm & 0x05 ) red |= x1 << 8;
if( ohm & 0x0A ) red |= x0 << 8;
if( ohm & 0x05 ) red |= x0 << 9;
if( ohm & 0x02 ) red |= x6 << 9;
if( ohm & 0x01 ) red |= x3 << 10;
if( ohm & 0x02 ) red |= x5 << 10;

// Shift the bits to the top of the 12-bit result.
static const int shamts[6] = { 1,1,2,3,4,5 };
int shamt = shamts[mode];
red <<= shamt; green <<= shamt; blue <<= shamt; scale <<= shamt;

// Minor components are stored as differences
if( mode != 5 ) { green = red - green; blue = red - blue; }

// Swizzle major component into place
if( majcomp == 1 ) swap( red, green );
if( majcomp == 2 ) swap( red, blue );

// Clamp output values, set alpha to 1.0
e1.r = clamp( red, 0, 0xFFFF );
e1.g = clamp( green, 0, 0xFFFF );
e1.b = clamp( blue, 0, 0xFFFF );
e1.alpha = 0x780;
e0.r = clamp( red - scale, 0, 0xFFFF );
e0.g = clamp( green - scale, 0, 0xFFFF );
e0.b = clamp( blue - scale, 0, 0xFFFF );
e0.alpha = 0x780;

```

## HDR Endpoint Mode 11

Mode 11 specifies two RGB values, which it calculates from a number of bitfields (a, b0, b1, c, d0 and d1) which are packed together with some mode bits into the six values (v0, v1, v2, v3, v4, v5) as shown in Table 15.24.

| Value | 7      | 6  | 5       | 4       | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
|-------|--------|----|---------|---------|---|---|---|---|
| v0    | a[7:0] |    |         |         |   |   |   |   |
| v1    | m0     | a8 | c[5:0]  |         |   |   |   |   |
| v2    | m1     | X0 | b0[5:0] |         |   |   |   |   |
| v3    | m2     | X1 | b1[5:0] |         |   |   |   |   |
| v4    | mj0    | X2 | X4      | d0[4:0] |   |   |   |   |
| v5    | mj1    | X3 | X5      | d1[4:0] |   |   |   |   |

Table 15.24: ASTC HDR mode 11 value layout

If the major component bits mj[1:0] are both 1, then the RGB values are specified directly by Table 15.25.

| Value | 7        | 6        | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
|-------|----------|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| v0    | R0[11:4] |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| v1    | R1[11:4] |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| v2    | G0[11:4] |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| v3    | G1[11:4] |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| v4    | 1        | B0[11:5] |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| v5    | 1        | B1[11:5] |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Table 15.25: ASTC HDR mode 11 direct value layout

The mode bits m[2:0] specify the bit allocation for the different values, and the destinations of the extra bits X0 to X5 as shown in Table 15.26.

| Mode | Number of bits |   |   |   | Destination of extra bits |       |       |       |       |       |
|------|----------------|---|---|---|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|      | a              | b | c | d | X0                        | X1    | X2    | X3    | X4    | X5    |
| 0    | 9              | 7 | 6 | 7 | b0[6]                     | b1[6] | d0[6] | d1[6] | d0[5] | d1[5] |
| 1    | 9              | 8 | 6 | 6 | b0[6]                     | b1[6] | b0[7] | b1[7] | d0[5] | d1[5] |
| 2    | 10             | 6 | 7 | 7 | a[9]                      | c[6]  | d0[6] | d1[6] | d0[5] | d1[5] |
| 3    | 10             | 7 | 7 | 6 | b0[6]                     | b1[6] | a[9]  | c[6]  | d0[5] | d1[5] |
| 4    | 11             | 8 | 6 | 5 | b0[6]                     | b1[6] | b0[7] | b1[7] | a[9]  | a[10] |
| 5    | 11             | 6 | 7 | 6 | a[9]                      | a[10] | c[7]  | c[6]  | d0[5] | d1[5] |
| 6    | 12             | 7 | 7 | 5 | b0[6]                     | b1[6] | a[11] | c[6]  | a[9]  | a[10] |
| 7    | 12             | 6 | 7 | 6 | a[9]                      | a[10] | a[11] | c[6]  | d0[5] | d1[5] |

Table 15.26: ASTC HDR mode 11 endpoint bit mode

The complete decoding procedure is as follows:

```

// Find major component
int majcomp = ((v4 & 0x80) >> 7) | ((v5 & 0x80) >> 6);

// Deal with simple case first
if( majcomp == 3 ) {
    e0 = (v0 << 4, v2 << 4, (v4 & 0x7f) << 5, 0x780);
    e1 = (v1 << 4, v3 << 4, (v5 & 0x7f) << 5, 0x780);
    return;
}

// Decode mode, parameters.
int mode = ((v1&0x80)>>7) | ((v2&0x80)>>6) | ((v3&0x80)>>5);
int va = v0 | ((v1 & 0x40) << 2);
int vb0 = v2 & 0x3f; int vb1 = v3 & 0x3f;
int vc = v1 & 0x3f;
int vd0 = v4 & 0x7f; int vd1 = v5 & 0x7f;

// Assign top bits of vd0, vd1.
static const int dbitstab[8] = {7,6,7,6,5,6,5,6};
vd0 = signextend( vd0, dbitstab[mode] );
vd1 = signextend( vd1, dbitstab[mode] );

// Extract and place extra bits
int x0 = (v2 >> 6) & 1;
int x1 = (v3 >> 6) & 1;
int x2 = (v4 >> 6) & 1;
int x3 = (v5 >> 6) & 1;
int x4 = (v4 >> 5) & 1;
int x5 = (v5 >> 5) & 1;

int ohm = 1 << mode;
if( ohm & 0xA4 ) va |= x0 << 9;
if( ohm & 0x08 ) va |= x2 << 9;
if( ohm & 0x50 ) va |= x4 << 9;
if( ohm & 0x50 ) va |= x5 << 10;
if( ohm & 0xA0 ) va |= x1 << 10;
if( ohm & 0xC0 ) va |= x2 << 11;
if( ohm & 0x04 ) vc |= x1 << 6;
if( ohm & 0xE8 ) vc |= x3 << 6;
if( ohm & 0x20 ) vc |= x2 << 7;
if( ohm & 0x5B ) vb0 |= x0 << 6;
if( ohm & 0x5B ) vb1 |= x1 << 6;
if( ohm & 0x12 ) vb0 |= x2 << 7;
if( ohm & 0x12 ) vb1 |= x3 << 7;

// Now shift up so that major component is at top of 12-bit value
int shamt = (modeval >> 1) ^ 3;
va <<= shamt; vb0 <<= shamt; vb1 <<= shamt;
vc <<= shamt; vd0 <<= shamt; vd1 <<= shamt;

e1.r = clamp( va, 0, 0xFFFF );
e1.g = clamp( va - vb0, 0, 0xFFFF );
e1.b = clamp( va - vb1, 0, 0xFFFF );
e1.alpha = 0x780;
e0.r = clamp( va - vc, 0, 0xFFFF );
e0.g = clamp( va - vb0 - vc - vd0, 0, 0xFFFF );
e0.b = clamp( va - vb1 - vc - vd1, 0, 0xFFFF );
e0.alpha = 0x780;

if( majcomp == 1 ) { swap( e0.r, e0.g ); swap( e1.r, e1.g ); }
else if( majcomp == 2 ) { swap( e0.r, e0.b ); swap( e1.r, e1.b ); }

```

## HDR Endpoint Mode 14

Mode 14 specifies two RGBA values, using the eight values (v0, v1, v2, v3, v4, v5, v6, v7). First, the RGB values are decoded from (v0..v5) using the method from Mode 11, then the alpha values are filled in from v6 and v7:

```
// Decode RGB as for mode 11
(e0,e1) = decode_mode_11(v0,v1,v2,v3,v4,v5)

// Now fill in the alphas
e0.alpha = v6;
e1.alpha = v7;
```

Note that in this mode, the alpha values are interpreted (and interpolated) as 8-bit unsigned normalized values, as in the LDR modes. This is the only mode that exhibits this behavior.

## HDR Endpoint Mode 15

Mode 15 specifies two RGBA values, using the eight values (v0, v1, v2, v3, v4, v5, v6, v7). First, the RGB values are decoded from (v0..v5) using the method from Mode 11. The alpha values are stored in values v6 and v7 as a mode and two values which are interpreted according to the mode, as shown in Table 15.27.

| Value     | 7  | 6      | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
|-----------|----|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <b>v6</b> | M0 | A[6:0] |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| <b>v7</b> | M1 | B[6:0] |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Table 15.27: ASTC HDR mode 15 alpha value layout

The alpha values are decoded from v6 and v7 as follows:

```
// Decode RGB as for mode 11
(e0,e1) = decode_mode_11(v0,v1,v2,v3,v4,v5)

// Extract mode bits
mode = ((v6 >> 7) & 1) | ((v7 >> 6) & 2);
v6 &= 0x7F;
v7 &= 0x7F;

if(mode==3)
{
    // Directly specify alphas
    e0.alpha = v6 << 5;
    e1.alpha = v7 << 5;
}
else
{
    // Transfer bits from v7 to v6 and sign extend v7.
    v6 |= (v7 << (mode+1)) & 0x780;
    v7 &= (0x3F >> mode);
    v7 ^= 0x20 >> mode;
    v7 -= 0x20 >> mode;
    v6 <<= (4-mode);
    v7 <<= (4-mode);

    // Add delta and clamp
    v7 += v6;
    v7 = clamp(v7, 0, 0xFFF);
    e0.alpha = v6;
    e1.alpha = v7;
}
```



Note that in this mode, the alpha values are interpreted (and interpolated) as 12-bit HDR values, and are interpolated as for any other HDR component.

## Weight Decoding

The weight information is stored as a stream of bits, growing downwards from the most significant bit in the block. Bit  $n$  in the stream is thus bit  $127-n$  in the block.

For each location in the weight grid, a value (in the specified range) is packed into the stream. These are ordered in a raster pattern starting from location (0,0,0), with the X dimension increasing fastest, and the Z dimension increasing slowest. If dual-plane mode is selected, both weights are emitted together for each location, plane 0 first, then plane 1.

## Weight Unquantization

Each weight plane is specified as a sequence of integers in a given range. These values are packed using integer sequence encoding.

Once unpacked, the values must be unquantized from their storage range, returning them to a standard range of 0..64. The procedure for doing so is similar to the color endpoint unquantization.

First, we unquantize the actual stored weight values to the range 0..63.

For bit-only representations, this is simple bit replication from the most significant bit of the value.

For trit or quint-based representations, this involves a set of bit manipulations and adjustments to avoid the expense of full-width multipliers.

For representations with no additional bits, the results are as shown in Table 15.28.

| Range | 0 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
|-------|---|----|----|----|----|
| 0..2  | 0 | 32 | 63 | -  | -  |
| 0..4  | 0 | 16 | 32 | 47 | 63 |

Table 15.28: ASTC weight unquantization values

For other values, we calculate the initial inputs to a bit manipulation procedure. These are denoted A (7 bits), B (7 bits), C (7 bits), and D (3 bits) and are decoded using the range as shown in Table 15.29.

| Range | T | Q | B | Bits | A       | B       | C  | D           |
|-------|---|---|---|------|---------|---------|----|-------------|
| 0..5  | 1 |   | 1 | a    | aaaaaaa | 0000000 | 50 | Trit value  |
| 0..9  |   | 1 | 1 | a    | aaaaaaa | 0000000 | 28 | Quint value |
| 0..11 | 1 |   | 2 | ba   | aaaaaaa | b000b0b | 23 | Trit value  |
| 0..19 |   | 1 | 2 | ba   | aaaaaaa | b0000b0 | 13 | Quint value |
| 0..23 | 1 |   | 3 | cba  | aaaaaaa | cb000cb | 11 | Trit value  |

Table 15.29: ASTC weight unquantization parameters

These are then processed as follows:

```
T = D * C + B;
T = T ^ A;
T = (A & 0x20) | (T >> 2);
```

Note that the multiply in the first line is nearly trivial as it only needs to multiply by 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4.

As a final step, for all types of value, the range is expanded from 0..63 up to 0..64 as follows:

```
if (T > 32) { T += 1; }
```

This allows the implementation to use 64 as a divisor during interpolation, which is much easier than using 63.

## Weight Infill

After unquantization, the weights are subject to weight selection and infill. The infill method is used to calculate the weight for a texel position, based on the weights in the stored weight grid array (which may be a different size). The procedure below must be followed exactly, to ensure bit exact results.

The block size is specified as three dimensions along the s, t and r axes ( $B_s$ ,  $B_t$ ,  $B_r$ ). Texel coordinates within the block (s,t,r) can have values from 0 to one less than the block dimension in that axis. For each block dimension, we compute scale factors ( $D_s$ ,  $D_t$ ,  $D_r$ ):

$$D_s = \left\lfloor \frac{(1024 + \lfloor \frac{B_s}{2} \rfloor)}{(B_s - 1)} \right\rfloor$$

$$D_t = \left\lfloor \frac{(1024 + \lfloor \frac{B_t}{2} \rfloor)}{(B_t - 1)} \right\rfloor$$

$$D_r = \left\lfloor \frac{(1024 + \lfloor \frac{B_r}{2} \rfloor)}{(B_r - 1)} \right\rfloor$$

Since the block dimensions are constrained, these are easily looked up in a table. These scale factors are then used to scale the (s,t,r) coordinates to a homogeneous coordinate ( $c_s$ ,  $c_t$ ,  $c_r$ ):

```
cs = Ds * s;
ct = Dt * t;
cr = Dr * r;
```

This homogeneous coordinate ( $c_s$ ,  $c_t$ ,  $c_r$ ) is then scaled again to give a coordinate ( $g_s$ ,  $g_t$ ,  $g_r$ ) in the weight-grid space. The weight-grid is of size (N, M, Q), as specified in the block mode field:

```
gs = (cs*(N-1)+32) >> 6;
gt = (ct*(M-1)+32) >> 6;
gr = (cr*(Q-1)+32) >> 6;
```

The resulting coordinates may be in the range 0..176. These are interpreted as 4:4 unsigned fixed point numbers in the range 0.0 .. 11.0.

If we label the integral parts of these ( $j_s$ ,  $j_t$ ,  $j_r$ ) and the fractional parts ( $f_s$ ,  $f_t$ ,  $f_r$ ), then:

```
js = gs >> 4; fs = gs & 0x0F;
jt = gt >> 4; ft = gt & 0x0F;
jr = gr >> 4; fr = gr & 0x0F;
```

These values are then used to interpolate between the stored weights. This process differs for 2D and 3D.

For 2D, bilinear interpolation is used:

```
v0 = js + jt*N;
p00 = decode_weight(v0);
p01 = decode_weight(v0 + 1);
p10 = decode_weight(v0 + N);
p11 = decode_weight(v0 + N + 1);
```

The function `decode_weight(n)` decodes the  $n^{\text{th}}$  weight in the stored weight stream. The values p00 to p11 are the weights at the corner of the square in which the texel position resides. These are then weighted using the fractional position to produce the effective weight *i* as follows:

```

w11 = (fs*ft+8) >> 4;
w10 = ft - w11;
w01 = fs - w11;
w00 = 16 - fs - ft + w11;
i = (p00*w00 + p01*w01 + p10*w10 + p11*w11 + 8) >> 4;

```

For 3D, simplex interpolation is used as it is cheaper than a naïve trilinear interpolation. First, we pick some parameters for the interpolation based on comparisons of the fractional parts of the texel position as shown in Table 15.30.

| $f_s > f_t$ | $f_t > f_r$ | $f_s > f_r$ | $s_1$        | $s_2$        | $w_0$      | $w_1$       | $w_2$       | $w_3$ |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| True        | True        | True        | 1            | N            | $16 - f_s$ | $f_s - f_t$ | $f_t - f_r$ | $f_r$ |
| False       | True        | True        | N            | 1            | $16 - f_t$ | $f_t - f_s$ | $f_s - f_r$ | $f_r$ |
| True        | False       | True        | 1            | $N \times M$ | $16 - f_s$ | $f_s - f_r$ | $f_r - f_t$ | $f_t$ |
| True        | False       | False       | $N \times M$ | 1            | $16 - f_r$ | $f_r - f_s$ | $f_s - f_t$ | $f_t$ |
| False       | True        | False       | N            | $N \times M$ | $16 - f_t$ | $f_t - f_r$ | $f_r - f_s$ | $f_s$ |
| False       | False       | False       | $N \times M$ | N            | $16 - f_r$ | $f_r - f_t$ | $f_t - f_s$ | $f_s$ |

Table 15.30: ASTC simplex interpolation parameters

Italicized test results are implied by the others. The effective weight  $i$  is then calculated as:

```

v0 = js + jt*N + jr*N*M;
p0 = decode_index(v0);
p1 = decode_index(v0 + s1);
p2 = decode_index(v0 + s1 + s2);
p3 = decode_index(v0 + N*M + N + 1);
i = (p0*w0 + p1*w1 + p2*w2 + p3*w3 + 8) >> 4;

```

## Weight Application

Once the effective weight  $i$  for the texel has been calculated, the color endpoints are interpolated and expanded.

For LDR endpoint modes, each color component  $C$  is calculated from the corresponding 8-bit endpoint components  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  as follows:

If sRGB conversion is not enabled, or for the alpha channel in any case,  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  are first expanded to 16 bits by bit replication:

```
C0 = (C0 << 8) | C0;    C1 = (C1 << 8) | C1;
```

If sRGB conversion is enabled,  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  for the R, G, and B channels are expanded to 16 bits differently, as follows:

```
C0 = (C0 << 8) | 0x80;  C1 = (C1 << 8) | 0x80;
```

$C_0$  and  $C_1$  are then interpolated to produce a UNORM16 result  $C$ :

```
C = floor( (C0*(64-i) + C1*i + 32)/64 )
```

If sRGB conversion is enabled, the top 8 bits of the interpolation result for the R, G and B channels are passed to the external sRGB conversion block. Otherwise, and for the alpha channel in any case, if  $C = 65535$ , then the final result is 1.0 (0x3C00); otherwise  $C$  is divided by 65536 and the infinite-precision result of the division is converted to FP16 with round-to-zero semantics.

For HDR endpoint modes, color values are represented in a 12-bit pseudo-logarithmic representation, and interpolation occurs in a piecewise-approximate logarithmic manner as follows:

In LDR mode, the error result is returned.

In HDR mode, the color components from each endpoint,  $C_0$  and  $C_1$ , are initially shifted left 4 bits to become 16-bit integer values and these are interpolated in the same way as LDR. The 16-bit value  $C$  is then decomposed into the top five bits,  $E$ , and the bottom 11 bits  $M$ , which are then processed and recombined with  $E$  to form the final value  $C_f$ :

```
C = floor( (C0*(64-i) + C1*i + 32)/64 )
E = (C & 0xF800) >> 11; M = C & 0x7FF;
if (M < 512) { Mt = 3*M; }
else if (M >= 1536) { Mt = 5*M - 2048; }
else { Mt = 4*M - 512; }
Cf = (E<<10) + (Mt>>3)
```

This interpolation is a considerably closer approximation to a logarithmic space than simple 16-bit interpolation.

This final value  $C_f$  is interpreted as an IEEE FP16 value. If the result is +Inf or NaN, it is converted to the bit pattern 0x7BFF, which is the largest representable finite value.

## Dual-Plane Decoding

If dual-plane mode is disabled, all of the endpoint components are interpolated using the same weight value.

If dual-plane mode is enabled, two weights are stored with each texel. One component is then selected to use the second weight for interpolation, instead of the first weight. The first weight is then used for all other components.

The component to treat specially is indicated using the 2-bit Color Component Selector (CCS) field as shown in Table 15.31.

| Value | Weight 0 | Weight 1 |
|-------|----------|----------|
| 0     | GBA      | R        |
| 1     | RBA      | G        |
| 2     | RGA      | B        |
| 3     | RGB      | A        |

Table 15.31: ASTC dual plane color component selector values

The CCS bits are stored at a variable position directly below the weight bits and any additional CEM bits.

## Partition Pattern Generation

When multiple partitions are active, each texel position is assigned a partition index. This partition index is calculated using a seed (the partition pattern index), the texel's x,y,z position within the block, and the number of partitions. An additional argument, `small_block`, is set to 1 if the number of texels in the block is less than 31, otherwise it is set to 0.

This function is specified in terms of x, y and z in order to support 3D textures. For 2D textures and texture slices, z will always be 0.

The full partition selection algorithm is as follows:

```
int select_partition(int seed, int x, int y, int z,
                    int partitioncount, int small_block)
{
    if( small_block ){ x <= 1; y <= 1; z <= 1; }
    seed += (partitioncount-1) * 1024;
    uint32_t rnum = hash52(seed);
    uint8_t seed1 = rnum & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed2 = (rnum >> 4) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed3 = (rnum >> 8) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed4 = (rnum >> 12) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed5 = (rnum >> 16) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed6 = (rnum >> 20) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed7 = (rnum >> 24) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed8 = (rnum >> 28) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed9 = (rnum >> 18) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed10 = (rnum >> 22) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed11 = (rnum >> 26) & 0xF;
    uint8_t seed12 = ((rnum >> 30) | (rnum << 2)) & 0xF;

    seed1 *= seed1;    seed2 *= seed2;
    seed3 *= seed3;    seed4 *= seed4;
    seed5 *= seed5;    seed6 *= seed6;
    seed7 *= seed7;    seed8 *= seed8;
    seed9 *= seed9;    seed10 *= seed10;
    seed11 *= seed11;  seed12 *= seed12;

    int sh1, sh2, sh3;
    if( seed & 1 )
        { sh1 = (seed&2 ? 4:5); sh2 = (partitioncount==3 ? 6:5); }
    else
        { sh1 = (partitioncount==3 ? 6:5); sh2 = (seed&2 ? 4:5); }
    sh3 = (seed & 0x10) ? sh1 : sh2;

    seed1 >>= sh1; seed2 >>= sh2; seed3 >>= sh1; seed4 >>= sh2;
    seed5 >>= sh1; seed6 >>= sh2; seed7 >>= sh1; seed8 >>= sh2;
    seed9 >>= sh3; seed10 >>= sh3; seed11 >>= sh3; seed12 >>= sh3;

    int a = seed1*x + seed2*y + seed11*z + (rnum >> 14);
    int b = seed3*x + seed4*y + seed12*z + (rnum >> 10);
    int c = seed5*x + seed6*y + seed9 *z + (rnum >> 6);
    int d = seed7*x + seed8*y + seed10*z + (rnum >> 2);

    a &= 0x3F; b &= 0x3F; c &= 0x3F; d &= 0x3F;

    if( partitioncount < 4 ) d = 0;
    if( partitioncount < 3 ) c = 0;

    if( a >= b && a >= c && a >= d ) return 0;
    else if( b >= c && b >= d ) return 1;
    else if( c >= d ) return 2;
    else return 3;
}
```

As has been observed before, the bit selections are much easier to express in hardware than in C.

The seed is expanded using a hash function hash52, which is defined as follows:

```
uint32_t hash52( uint32_t p )
{
    p ^= p >> 15;  p -= p << 17;  p += p << 7;  p += p << 4;
    p ^= p >> 5;   p += p << 16;  p ^= p >> 7;  p ^= p >> 3;
    p ^= p << 6;   p ^= p >> 17;
    return p;
}
```

This assumes that all operations act on 32-bit values

## Data Size Determination

The size of the data used to represent color endpoints is not explicitly specified. Instead, it is determined from the block mode and number of partitions as follows:

```
config_bits = 17;
if(num_partitions>1)
    if(single_CEM)
        config_bits = 29;
    else
        config_bits = 25 + 3*num_partitions;

num_weights = M * N * Q; // size of weight grid

if(dual_plane)
    config_bits += 2;
    num_weights *= 2;

weight_bits = ceil(num_weights*8*trits_in_weight_range/5) +
               ceil(num_weights*7*quints_in_weight_range/3) +
               num_weights*bits_in_weight_range;

remaining_bits = 128 - config_bits - weight_bits;

num_CEM_pairs = base_CEM_class+1 + count_bits(extra_CEM_bits);
```

The CEM value range is then looked up from a table indexed by remaining bits and num\_CEM\_pairs. This table is initialized such that the range is as large as possible, consistent with the constraint that the number of bits required to encode num\_CEM\_pairs pairs of values is not more than the number of remaining bits.

An equivalent iterative algorithm would be:

```
num_CEM_values = num_CEM_pairs*2;

for(range = each possible CEM range in descending order of size)
{
    CEM_bits = ceil(num_CEM_values*8*trits_in_CEM_range/5) +
               ceil(num_CEM_values*7*quints_in_CEM_range/3) +
               num_CEM_values*bits_in_CEM_range;

    if(CEM_bits <= remaining_bits)
        break;
}
return range;
```

In cases where this procedure results in unallocated bits, these bits are not read by the decoding process and can have any value.

## Void-Extent Blocks

A void-extent block is a block encoded with a single color. It also specifies some additional information about the extent of the single-color area beyond this block, which can optionally be used by a decoder to reduce or prevent redundant block fetches.

The layout of a 2D Void-Extent block is as shown in Table 15.32.

|                                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                  |     |                   |     |     |       |     |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------------------------|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|
| 127                              | 126 | 125 | 124 | 123 | 122 | 121 | 120 | 119                              | 118 | 117               | 116 | 115 | 114   | 113 | 112 |
| Block color A component          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                  |     |                   |     |     |       |     |     |
| 111                              | 110 | 109 | 108 | 107 | 106 | 105 | 104 | 103                              | 102 | 101               | 100 | 99  | 98    | 97  | 96  |
| Block color B component          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                  |     |                   |     |     |       |     |     |
| 95                               | 94  | 93  | 92  | 91  | 90  | 89  | 88  | 87                               | 86  | 85                | 84  | 83  | 82    | 81  | 80  |
| Block color G component          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                  |     |                   |     |     |       |     |     |
| 79                               | 78  | 77  | 76  | 75  | 74  | 73  | 72  | 71                               | 70  | 69                | 68  | 67  | 66    | 65  | 64  |
| Block color R component          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                  |     |                   |     |     |       |     |     |
| 63                               | 62  | 61  | 60  | 59  | 58  | 57  | 56  | 55                               | 54  | 53                | 52  | 51  | 50    | 49  | 48  |
| Void-extent maximum T coordinate |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                  |     |                   |     |     | Min T |     |     |
| 47                               | 46  | 45  | 44  | 43  | 42  | 41  | 40  | 39                               | 38  | 37                | 36  | 35  | 34    | 33  | 32  |
| Void-extent minimum T coordinate |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |                                  |     | Void-extent max S |     |     |       |     |     |
| 31                               | 30  | 29  | 28  | 27  | 26  | 25  | 24  | 23                               | 22  | 21                | 20  | 19  | 18    | 17  | 16  |
| Void-extent max S coord          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | Void-extent minimum S coordinate |     |                   |     |     |       |     |     |
| 15                               | 14  | 13  | 12  | 11  | 10  | 9   | 8   | 7                                | 6   | 5                 | 4   | 3   | 2     | 1   | 0   |
| Min S coord                      |     |     |     | 1   | 1   | D   | 1   | 1                                | 1   | 1                 | 1   | 1   | 1     | 0   | 0   |

Table 15.32: ASTC 2D void-extent block layout overview

The layout of a 3D Void-Extent block is as shown in Table 15.33.

|                              |     |                              |     |                                  |     |     |     |     |     |                         |     |                   |     |           |     |
|------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------------------|-----|-------------------|-----|-----------|-----|
| 127                          | 126 | 125                          | 124 | 123                              | 122 | 121 | 120 | 119 | 118 | 117                     | 116 | 115               | 114 | 113       | 112 |
| Block color A component      |     |                              |     |                                  |     |     |     |     |     |                         |     |                   |     |           |     |
| 111                          | 110 | 109                          | 108 | 107                              | 106 | 105 | 104 | 103 | 102 | 101                     | 100 | 99                | 98  | 97        | 96  |
| Block color B component      |     |                              |     |                                  |     |     |     |     |     |                         |     |                   |     |           |     |
| 95                           | 94  | 93                           | 92  | 91                               | 90  | 89  | 88  | 87  | 86  | 85                      | 84  | 83                | 82  | 81        | 80  |
| Block color G component      |     |                              |     |                                  |     |     |     |     |     |                         |     |                   |     |           |     |
| 79                           | 78  | 77                           | 76  | 75                               | 74  | 73  | 72  | 71  | 70  | 69                      | 68  | 67                | 66  | 65        | 64  |
| Block color R component      |     |                              |     |                                  |     |     |     |     |     |                         |     |                   |     |           |     |
| 63                           | 62  | 61                           | 60  | 59                               | 58  | 57  | 56  | 55  | 54  | 53                      | 52  | 51                | 50  | 49        | 48  |
| Void-extent max R coordinate |     |                              |     |                                  |     |     |     |     |     | Void-extent min R coord |     |                   |     |           |     |
| 47                           | 46  | 45                           | 44  | 43                               | 42  | 41  | 40  | 39  | 38  | 37                      | 36  | 35                | 34  | 33        | 32  |
| min R                        |     | Void-extent max T coordinate |     |                                  |     |     |     |     |     |                         |     | Void-extent min T |     |           |     |
| 31                           | 30  | 29                           | 28  | 27                               | 26  | 25  | 24  | 23  | 22  | 21                      | 20  | 19                | 18  | 17        | 16  |
| min T coord                  |     |                              |     | Void-extent minimum S coordinate |     |     |     |     |     |                         |     |                   |     | Minimum S |     |
| 15                           | 14  | 13                           | 12  | 11                               | 10  | 9   | 8   | 7   | 6   | 5                       | 4   | 3                 | 2   | 1         | 0   |
| Minimum S coord              |     |                              |     |                                  |     | D   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1                       | 1   | 1                 | 1   | 0         | 0   |

Table 15.33: ASTC 3D void-extent block layout overview

Bit 9 is the Dynamic Range flag, which indicates the format in which colors are stored. A 0 value indicates LDR, in which case the color components are stored as UNORM16 values. A 1 indicates HDR, in which case the color components are stored as FP16 values.

The reason for the storage of UNORM16 values in the LDR case is due to the possibility that the value will need to be passed on to sRGB conversion. By storing the color value in the format which comes out of the interpolator, before the conversion to FP16, we avoid having to have separate versions for sRGB and linear modes.

If a void-extent block with HDR values is decoded in LDR mode, then the result will be the error color, opaque magenta, for all texels within the block.

In the HDR case, if the color component values are infinity or NaN, this will result in undefined behavior. As usual, this must not lead to GL interruption or termination.

Bits 10 and 11 are reserved and must be 1.

The minimum and maximum coordinate values are treated as unsigned integers and then normalized into the range 0..1 (by dividing by  $2^{13}-1$  or  $2^9-1$ , for 2D and 3D respectively). The maximum values for each dimension must be greater than the corresponding minimum values, unless they are all all-1s.

If all the coordinates are all-1s, then the void extent is ignored, and the block is simply a constant-color block.

The existence of single-color blocks with void extents must not produce results different from those obtained if these single-color blocks are defined without void-extents. Any situation in which the results would differ is invalid. Results from invalid void extents are undefined.

If a void-extent appears in a MIPmap level other than the most detailed one, then the extent will apply to all of the more detailed levels too. This allows decoders to avoid sampling more detailed MIPmaps.

If the more detailed MIPmap level is not a constant color in this region, then the block may be marked as constant color, but without a void extent, as detailed above.

If a void-extent extends to the edge of a texture, then filtered texture colors may not be the same color as that specified in the block, due to texture border colors, wrapping, or cube face wrapping.

Care must be taken when updating or extracting partial image data that void-extents in the image do not become invalid.

## Illegal Encodings

In ASTC, there is a variety of ways to encode an illegal block. Decoders are required to recognize all illegal blocks and emit the standard error color value upon encountering an illegal block.

Here is a comprehensive list of situations that represent illegal block encodings:

- The block mode specified is one of the modes explicitly listed as Reserved.
- A 2D void-extent block that has any of the reserved bits not set to 1.
- A block mode has been specified that would require more than 64 weights total.
- A block mode has been specified that would require more than 96 bits for integer sequence encoding of the weight grid.
- A block mode has been specified that would require fewer than 24 bits for integer sequence encoding of the weight grid.
- The size of the weight grid exceeds the size of the block footprint in any dimension.
- Color endpoint modes have been specified such that the color integer sequence encoding would require more than 18 integers.
- The number of bits available for color endpoint encoding after all the other fields have been counted is less than  $\lceil \frac{13C}{5} \rceil$  where C is the number of color endpoint integers (this would restrict color integers to a range smaller than 0..5, which is not supported).
- Dual weight mode is enabled for a block with 4 partitions.
- Void-Extent blocks where the low coordinate for some texture axis is greater than or equal to the high coordinate.

Note also that, in LDR mode, a block which has both HDR and LDR endpoint modes assigned to different partitions is not an error block. Only those texels which belong to the HDR partition will result in the error color. Texels belonging to a LDR partition will be decoded as normal.



## LDR PROFILE SUPPORT

In order to ease verification and accelerate adoption, an LDR-only subset of the full ASTC specification has been made available.

Implementations of this LDR Profile must satisfy the following requirements:

- All textures with valid encodings for LDR Profile must decode identically using either a LDR Profile, HDR Profile, or Full Profile decoder.
- All features included only in the HDR Profile or Full Profile must be treated as reserved in the LDR Profile, and return the error color on decoding.
- Any sequence of API calls valid for the LDR Profile must also be valid for the HDR Profile or Full Profile and return identical results when given a texture encoded for the LDR Profile.

The feature subset for the LDR profile is:

- 2D textures only.
- Only those block sizes listed in Table 15.2 are supported.
- LDR operation mode only.
- Only LDR endpoint formats must be supported, namely formats 0, 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13.
- Decoding from a HDR endpoint results in the error color.
- Interpolation returns UNORM8 results when used in conjunction with sRGB.
- LDR void extent blocks must be supported, but void extents may not be checked.

## HDR PROFILE SUPPORT

In order to ease verification and accelerate adoption, a second subset of the full ASTC specification has been made available, known as the HDR profile.

Implementations of the HDR Profile must satisfy the following requirements:

- The HDR profile is a superset of the LDR profile and therefore all valid LDR encodings must decode identically using a HDR profile decoder.
- All textures with valid encodings for HDR Profile must decode identically using either a HDR Profile or Full Profile decoder.
- All features included only in the Full Profile must be treated as reserved in the HDR Profile, and return the error color on decoding.
- Any sequence of API calls valid for the HDR Profile must also be valid for the Full Profile and return identical results when given a texture encoded for the HDR Profile.

The feature subset for the HDR profile is:

- 2D textures only.
- Only those block sizes listed in Table 15.2 are supported.
- All endpoint formats must be supported.
- 2D void extent blocks must be supported, but void extents may not be checked.

## Chapter 16

# Floating-point formats

Some common floating-point numeric representations are defined in [\[IEEE 754\]](#). Additional floating point formats are defined in this section.

### 16-bit floating-point numbers

A 16-bit floating-point number has a 1-bit sign ( $S$ ), a 5-bit exponent ( $E$ ), and a 10-bit mantissa ( $M$ ). The value  $V$  of a 16-bit floating-point number is determined by the following:

$$V = \begin{cases} (-1)^S \times 0.0, & E = 0, M = 0 \\ (-1)^S \times 2^{-14} \times \frac{M}{2^{10}}, & E = 0, M \neq 0 \\ (-1)^S \times 2^{E-15} \times \left(1 + \frac{M}{2^{10}}\right), & 0 < E < 31 \\ (-1)^S \times Inf, & E = 31, M = 0 \\ NaN, & E = 31, M \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

If the floating-point number is interpreted as an unsigned 16-bit integer  $N$ , then

$$S = \left\lfloor \frac{N \bmod 65536}{32768} \right\rfloor$$

$$E = \left\lfloor \frac{N \bmod 32768}{1024} \right\rfloor$$

$$M = N \bmod 1024.$$

### Unsigned 11-bit floating-point numbers

An unsigned 11-bit floating-point number has no sign bit, a 5-bit exponent ( $E$ ), and a 6-bit mantissa ( $M$ ). The value  $V$  of an unsigned 11-bit floating-point number is determined by the following:

$$V = \begin{cases} 0.0, & E = 0, M = 0 \\ 2^{-14} \times \frac{M}{64}, & E = 0, M \neq 0 \\ 2^{E-15} \times \left(1 + \frac{M}{64}\right), & 0 < E < 31 \\ Inf, & E = 31, M = 0 \\ NaN, & E = 31, M \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

If the floating-point number is interpreted as an unsigned 11-bit integer  $N$ , then

$$E = \left\lfloor \frac{N}{64} \right\rfloor$$

$$M = N \bmod 64.$$

## Unsigned 10-bit floating-point numbers

An unsigned 10-bit floating-point number has no sign bit, a 5-bit exponent ( $E$ ), and a 5-bit mantissa ( $M$ ). The value  $V$  of an unsigned 10-bit floating-point number is determined by the following:

$$V = \begin{cases} 0.0, & E = 0, M = 0 \\ 2^{-14} \times \frac{M}{32}, & E = 0, M \neq 0 \\ 2^{E-15} \times \left(1 + \frac{M}{32}\right), & 0 < E < 31 \\ Inf, & E = 31, M = 0 \\ NaN, & E = 31, M \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

If the floating-point number is interpreted as an unsigned 10-bit integer  $N$ , then

$$E = \left\lfloor \frac{N}{32} \right\rfloor$$

$$M = N \bmod 32.$$

## Non-standard floating point formats

Rather than attempting to enumerate every possible floating-point format variation in this specification, the data format descriptor can be used to describe the components of arbitrary floating-point data, as follows. Note that non-standard floating point formats do not use the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_FLOAT** bit.

An example of use of the 16-bit floating point format described in Section 16.1 but described in terms of a custom floating point format is provided in Table 23.13. Note that this is provided for example only, and this particular format would be better described using the standard 16-bit floating point format as documented in Table 23.14.

### The mantissa

The mantissa of a custom floating point format should be represented as an integer **channel\_type**. If the mantissa represents a signed quantity encoded in two's complement, the **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_SIGNED** bit should be set. To encode a signed mantissa represented in sign-magnitude format, the main part of the mantissa should be represented as an unsigned integer quantity (with **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_SIGNED** not set), and an additional one-bit sample *with* **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_SIGNED** set should be used to identify the sign bit. By convention, a sign bit should be encoded in a later sample than the corresponding mantissa.

The **sample\_upper** and **sample\_lower** values for the mantissa should be set to indicate the representation of 1.0 and 0.0 (for unsigned formats) or -1.0 (for signed formats) respectively when the exponent is in a 0 position after any bias has been corrected. If there is an implicit “1” bit, these values for the mantissa will exceed what can be represented in the number of available mantissa bits.

For example, the shared exponent formats shown in Table 23.8 does not have an implicit “1” bit, and therefore the **sample\_upper** values for the 9-bit mantissas are 256 — this being the mantissa value for 1.0 when the exponent is set to 0.

For the 16-bit signed floating point format described in Section 16.1, **sample\_upper** should be set to 1024, indicating the implicit “1” bit which is above the 10 bits representable in the mantissa. **sample\_lower** should be 0 in this case, since the mantissa uses a sign-magnitude representation.

By convention, the **sample\_upper** and **sample\_lower** values for a sign bit are 0 and -1 respectively.

### The exponent

The **KHR\_DF\_SAMPLE\_DATATYPE\_EXPONENT** bit should be set in a sample which contains the exponent of a custom floating point format.

The **sample\_lower** for the exponent should indicate the exponent bias. That is, the mantissa should be scaled by two raised to the power of the stored exponent minus this **sample\_lower** value.

The **sample\_upper** for the exponent indicates the maximum legal exponent value. Values above this are used to encode infinities and not-a-number (*NaN*) values. **Sample\_upper** can therefore be used to indicate whether or not the format supports these encodings.

## Special values

Floating point values encoded with an exponent of 0 (before bias) and a mantissa of 0 are used to represent the value 0. An explicit sign bit can distinguish between +0 and -0.

Floating point values encoded with an exponent of 0 (before bias) and a non-zero mantissa are assumed to indicate a denormalized number, if the format has an implicit “1” bit. That is, when the exponent is 0, the “1” bit becomes explicit and the exponent is considered to be the negative sample bias minus one.

Floating point values encoded with an exponent larger than the exponent’s **sample\_upper** value and with a mantissa of 0 are interpreted as representing +/- infinity, depending on the value of an explicit sign bit. Note that in some formats, no exponent above **sample\_upper** is possible — for example, Table 23.8.

Floating point values encoded with an exponent larger than the exponent’s **sample\_upper** value and with a mantissa of non-0 are interpreted as representing not-a-number (*NaN*).

Note that these interpretations are compatible with the corresponding numerical representations in [IEEE 754].

## Conversion formulae

Given an optional sign bit  $S$ , a mantissa value of  $M$  and an exponent value of  $E$ , a format with an implicit “1” bit can be converted from its representation to a real value as follows:

$$V = \begin{cases} (-1)^S \times 0.0, & E = 0, M = 0 \\ (-1)^S \times 2^{-(E_{\text{sample\_lower}}-1)} \times \frac{M}{M_{\text{sample\_upper}}}, & E = 0, M \neq 0 \\ (-1)^S \times 2^{E-E_{\text{sample\_lower}}} \times \left(1 + \frac{M}{M_{\text{sample\_upper}}}\right), & 0 < E \leq E_{\text{sample\_upper}} \\ (-1)^S \times \text{Inf}, & E > E_{\text{sample\_upper}}, M = 0 \\ \text{NaN}, & E > E_{\text{sample\_upper}}, M \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

If there is no implicit “1” bit (that is, the **sample\_upper** value of the mantissa is representable in the number of bits assigned to the mantissa), the value can be converted to a real value as follows:

$$V = \begin{cases} (-1)^S \times 2^{E-E_{\text{sample\_lower}}} \times \left(\frac{M}{M_{\text{sample\_upper}}}\right), & 0 < E \leq E_{\text{sample\_upper}} \\ (-1)^S \times \text{Inf}, & E > E_{\text{sample\_upper}}, M = 0 \\ \text{NaN}, & E > E_{\text{sample\_upper}}, M \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

A descriptor block for a format without an implicit “1” (and with the added complication of having the same exponent bits shared across multiple channels, which is why an implicit “1” bit does not make sense) is shown in Table 23.8. In the case of this particular example, the above equations simplify to:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{red} &= \text{red}_{\text{shared}} \times 2^{(\text{exp}_{\text{shared}}-B-N)} \\ \text{green} &= \text{green}_{\text{shared}} \times 2^{(\text{exp}_{\text{shared}}-B-N)} \\ \text{blue} &= \text{blue}_{\text{shared}} \times 2^{(\text{exp}_{\text{shared}}-B-N)} \end{aligned}$$

Where:

$$N = 9 \text{ (= number of mantissa bits per component)}$$

$$B = 15 \text{ (= exponent bias)}$$

Note that in general conversion from a real number to any representation may require rounding, truncation and special value management rules which are beyond the scope of a data format specification and may be documented in APIs which generate these formats.

## Chapter 17

# Introduction to color conversions

### Color space composition

A “color space” determines the meaning of decoded numerical color values: that is, it is distinct from the bit patterns, compression schemes and locations in memory used to store the data.

A color space consists of three basic components:

- **Transfer functions** define the relationships between linear intensity and linear numbers in the encoding scheme. Since the human eye’s sensitivity to changes in intensity is non-linear, a non-linear encoding scheme typically allows improved visual quality at reduced storage cost.
  - An opto-electrical transfer function (OETF) describes the conversion from “scene-referred” normalized linear light intensity to a (typically) non-linear electronic representation. The inverse function is written “ $OETF^{-1}$ ”.
  - An electro-optical transfer function (EOTF) describes the conversion from the electronic representation to “display-referred” normalized linear light intensity in the display system. The inverse function is written “ $EOTF^{-1}$ ”.
  - An opto-optical transfer function (OOTF) describes the relationship between the linear scene light intensity and linear display light intensity:  $OOTF(x) = EOTF(EOTF(x))$ .  $OETF = EOTF^{-1}$  and  $EOTF = OETF^{-1}$  only if the OOTF is linear.
  - Historically, a non-linear transfer function has been implicit due to the non-linear relationship between voltage and intensity provided by a CRT display. In contrast, many computer graphics applications are best performed in a representation with a linear relationship to intensity.
  - Use of an incorrect transfer function can result in images which have too much or too little contrast or saturation, particularly in mid-tones.
- **Color primaries** define the spectral response of a “pure color” in an additive color model - typically, what is meant by “red”, “green” and “blue” for a given system, and (allowing for the relative intensity of the primaries) consequently define the system’s white balance.
  - These primary colors might refer to the wavelengths emitted by phosphors on a CRT, transmitted by filters on an LCD for a given back-light, or emitted by the LED sub-pixels of an OLED. The primaries are typically defined in terms of a reference display, and represent the most saturated colors the display can produce, since other colors are by definition created by combining the primaries. The definition usually describes a relationship to the responses of the human visual system rather than a full spectrum.
  - Use of incorrect primaries introduces a shift of hue, most visible in saturated colors.

- **Color models** describe the distinction between a color representation and additive colors. Since the human visual system treats differences in absolute intensity differently from differences in the spectrum composing a color, many formats benefit from transforming the color representation into one which can separate these aspects of color. Color models are frequently “named” by listing their component color channels.
  - For example, a color model might directly represent additive primaries (“RGB”), simple color difference values (“ $Y'C_B C_R$ ” - colloquially “YUV”), or separate hue, saturation and intensity (“HSV”/“HSL”).
  - Interpreting an image with an incorrect color model typically results in wildly incorrect colors: a (0,0,0) triple in an RGB additive color model typically represents black, but may represent white in CMYK, or saturated green in color difference models.

## Operations in a color conversion

Conversion between color representations may require a number of separate conversion operations:

- Conversion between representations with different **color primaries** can be performed directly. If the input and output of the conversion do not share the same color primaries, this transformation forms the “core” of the conversion.
- The color primary conversion operates on linear *RGB* additive color values; if the input or output are not defined in linear terms but with a non-linear **transfer function**, any color primary conversion must be “wrapped” with any transfer functions; conventionally, non-linear *RGB* values are written  $R'G'B'$ .
- If the input or output **color model** is not defined in terms of additive primaries (for example,  $Y'C_B C_R$ , colloquially known as “YUV”), the model conversion is applied to the non-linear  $R'G'B'$  values; the  $Y'_C C'_B C'_R$  and  $IC_T C_P$  color models are created from both linear and non-linear *RGB*.
- Converting numerical values stored in memory to the representation of the color model may itself require additional operations - in order to remove dependence on bit depth, all the formulae described here work with continuous natural numbers, but some common in-memory **quantization schemes** must often be applied.

Details of these conversion operations are described in the following chapters.

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### Note

As described in the License Information at the start of this document, the Khronos Data Format Specification does not convey a right to implement the operations it describes. This is particularly true of the conversion formulae in the following sections, whose inclusion is purely informative. Please refer to the originating documents and the bodies responsible for the standards containing these formulae for the legal framework required for implementation.

---

Common cases such as converting a  $Y'C_B C_R$  image encoded for 625-line **BT.601** to a  $Y'C_B C_R$  image encoded for **BT.709** can involve multiple costly operations. An example is shown in the following diagram, which represents sampling from a  $Y'C_B C_R$  texture in one color space, and the operations needed to generate a different set of  $Y'C_B C_R$  values representing the color of the sample position in a different color space:

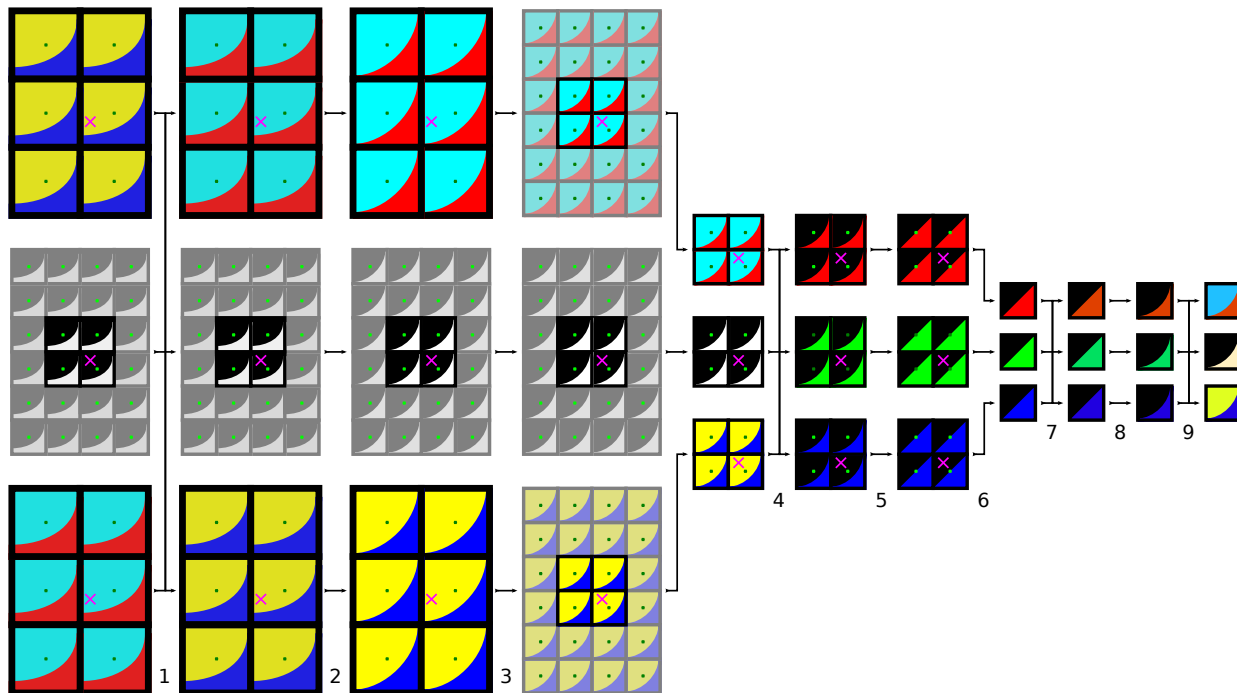


Figure 17.1: Example sampling in one space and converting to a different space

In this diagram, non-linear luma  $Y'$  channels are shown in black and white, color difference  $C_B/C_R$  channels are shown with the colors at the extremes of their range, and color primary channels are shown as the primary color and black. Linear representations are shown diagonally divided by a straight line; non-linear representations are shown with a gamma curve. The luma and color difference representation is discussed in Section 20.1. The interpretation of color primaries is discussed in Chapter 19. Non-linear transfer functions are described in Chapter 18. As described below, the diagram shows a  $2 \times 3$  grid of input chroma texel values, corresponding to a  $4 \times 6$  grid of luma texel values, since the chroma channels are stored at half the horizontal and half the vertical resolution of the luma channel (i.e. in “4:2:0” representation). Grayed-out texel values do not contribute to the final output, and are shown only to indicate relative alignment of the coordinates.

The stages numbered in the above diagram show the following operations:

1. Arranging the channels from the representation correctly for the conversion operations (a “swizzle”). In this example, the implementation requires that the  $C_B$  and  $C_R$  values be swapped.
2. Range expansion to the correct range for the values in the color model (handled differently, for example, for “full” and “narrow” ranges); in this example, the result is to increase the effective dynamic range of the encoding: contrast and saturation are increased.

In this example, operations 1 and 2 can be combined into a single sparse matrix multiplication of the input channels, although actual implementations may wish to take advantage of the sparseness.

3. Reconstruction to full resolution of channels which are not at the full sampling resolution (“chroma reconstruction”), for example by replication or interpolation at the sites of the luma samples, allowing for the chroma sample positions; this example assumes that the chroma samples are being reconstructed through linear interpolation. In the diagram, sample positions for each channel are shown as green dots, and each channel corresponds to the same region of the image; in this example, the chroma samples are located at the horizontal and vertical midpoint of quads of luma samples, but different standards align the chroma samples differently. Note that interpolation for channel reconstruction necessarily happens in a non-linear representation for color difference representations such as  $Y' C_B C_R$ : creating a linear representation would require converting to  $RGB$ , which in turn requires a full set of  $Y' C_B C_R$  samples for a given location.
4. Conversion between color models - in this example, from non-linear  $Y' C_B C_R$  to non-linear  $R' G' B'$ . For example, the conversion might be that between BT.601  $Y' C_B C_R$  and BT.601 non-linear  $R' G' B'$  described in Section 20.1.2. For  $Y' C_B C_R$  to  $R' G' B'$ , this conversion is a sparse matrix multiplication.
5. Application of a transfer function to convert from non-linear  $R' G' B'$  to linear  $RGB$ , using the color primaries of the input representation. In this case, the conversion might be the EOTF<sup>-1</sup> described in Section 18.2.  
The separation of stages 4 and 5 is specific to the  $Y' C_B C_R$  to  $R' G' B'$  color model conversion. Other representations such as  $Y'_C C'_{BC} C'_{RC}$  and  $IC_T C_P$  have more complex interactions between the color model conversion and the transfer function.
6. Interpolation of linear color values at the sampling position shown with a magenta cross according to the chosen sampling rules.
7. Convert from the color primaries of the input representation to the desired color primaries of the output representation, which is a matrix multiplication operation. Conversion from linear BT.601 EBU primaries to BT.709 primaries, as described in Section 19.2 and Section 19.1.
8. Convert from the linear  $RGB$  representation using the target primaries to a non-linear  $R' G' B'$  representation, for example the OETF described in Section 18.2.
9. Conversion from non-linear  $R' G' B'$  to the  $Y' C_B C_R$  color model, for example as defined in as defined in Section 20.1.1 (a matrix multiplication).

If the output is to be written to a frame buffer with reduced-resolution chroma channels, chroma values for multiple samples need to be combined. Note that it is easy to introduce inadvertent chroma blurring in this operation if the source space chroma values are generated by interpolation.

In this example, generating the four linear  $RGB$  values required for linear interpolation at the magenta cross position requires *six* chroma samples. In the example shown, all four  $Y'$  values fall between the same two chroma sample centers on the horizontal axis, and therefore recreation of these samples by linear blending on the horizontal axis only requires two horizontally-adjacent samples. However, the upper pair of  $Y'$  values are sited above the sample position of the middle row of chroma sample centers, and therefore reconstruction of the corresponding chroma values requires interpolation between the upper four source chroma values. The lower pair of  $Y'$  values are sited below the sample position of the middle row of chroma sample centers, and therefore reconstruction of the corresponding chroma values requires interpolation between the lower four source chroma values. In general, reconstructing four chroma values by interpolation may require four, six or nine source chroma values, depending on which samples are required. The worst case is reduced if chroma samples are aligned (“co-sited”) with the luma values, or if chroma channel reconstruction uses replication (nearest-neighbor filtering) rather than interpolation.



An approximation to the above conversion is depicted in the following diagram:

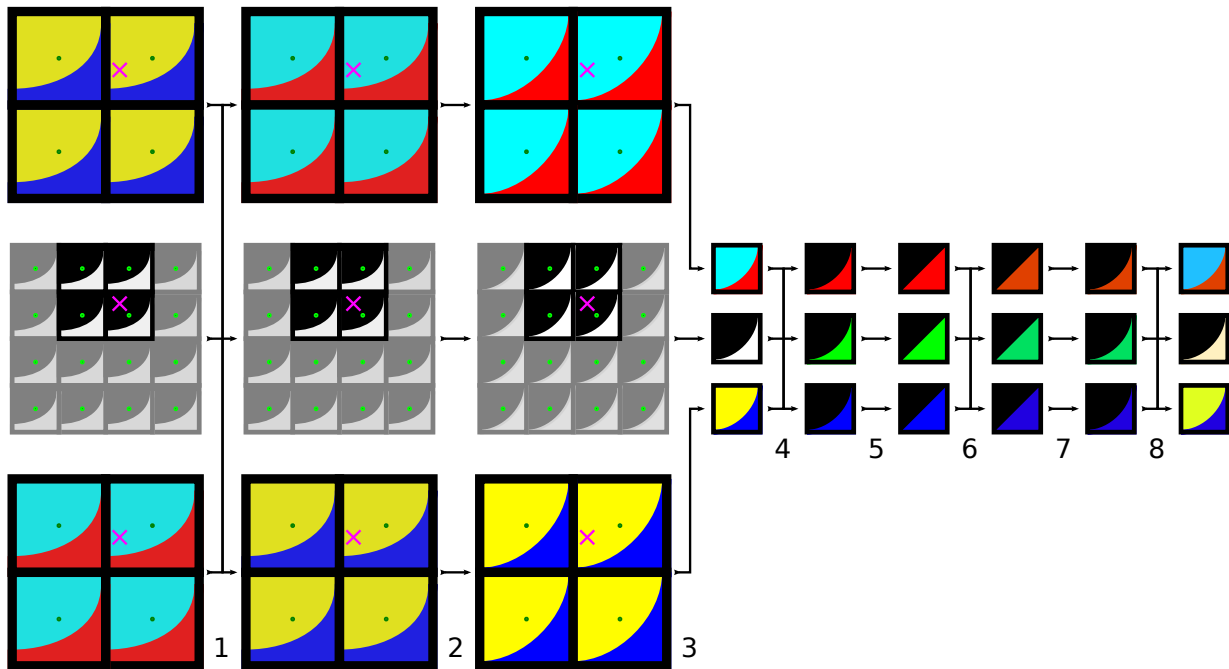


Figure 17.2: Example approximated sampling in one space and converting to a different space

A performance-optimized approximation to our example conversion may use the following steps:

1. Channel rearrangement (as in the previous example)
2. Range expansion (as in the previous example)
3. Chroma reconstruction combined with sampling. In this case, the desired chroma reconstruction operation is approximated by adjusting the sample locations to compensate for the reduced resolution and sample positions of the chroma channels, resulting in a single set of non-linear  $Y'C_B C_R$  values.
4. Model conversion from  $Y'C_B C_R$  to  $R'G'B'$  as described in Section 20.1.2, here performed *after* the sampling/filtering operation.
5. Conversion from non-linear  $R'G'B'$  to linear  $RGB$ , using the EOTF<sup>-1</sup> described in Section 18.2.
6. Conversion of color primaries, corresponding to step 7 of the previous example.
7. Conversion to a non-linear representation, corresponding to step 8 of the previous example.
8. Conversion to the output color model, corresponding to step 9 of the previous example.

#### Note

Since stages 1 and 2 represent an affine matrix transform, linear interpolation of input values may equivalently be performed before these operations. This observation allows stages 1..4 to be combined into a single matrix transformation.

Large areas of color will be correctly converted by this approximation. However, there are two sources of errors near color boundaries:

1. Interpolation takes place on values with a non-linear representation; the repercussions of this are discussed in Chapter 18, but can introduce both intensity and color shifts. Note that applying a non-linear transfer function as part of filtering does not improve accuracy for color models other than  $R'G'B'$  since the non-linear additive values have been transformed as part of the color model representation.
2. When chroma reconstruction is bilinear and the final sample operation is bilinear, the interpolation operation now only access a maximum of four chroma samples, rather than up to nine for the precise series of operations. This has the potential to introduce a degree of aliasing in the output.

This approximation produces identical results to the more explicit sequence of operations in two cases:

1. If chroma reconstruction uses nearest-neighbor replication and the sampling operation is also a nearest-neighbor operation rather than a linear interpolation.
2. If the sampling operation is a nearest-neighbor operation and chroma reconstruction uses linear interpolation, *if* the sample coordinate position is adjusted to the nearest luma sample location.

As another example, the conversion from BT.709-encoded  $Y'CbCr$  to sRGB  $R'G'B'$  may be considered to be a simple **model conversion** (to BT.709  $R'G'B'$  non-linear primaries using the “ITU” OETF), since sRGB shares the BT.709 color primaries and is defined as a complementary **EOTF** intended to be combined with BT.709’s OETF. This interpretation imposes a  $\gamma \approx 1.1$  OOTF. Matching the OOTF of a BT.709-BT.1886 system, for which  $\gamma \approx 1.2$ , implies using the BT.1886 EOTF to convert to linear light, then the sRGB EOTF<sup>-1</sup> to convert back to sRGB non-linear space. Encoding linear scene light with linear OOTF means applying the BT.709 OETF<sup>-1</sup>; if the sRGB  $R'G'B'$  target is itself intended to represent a linear OOTF, then the  $\{R'_{sRGB}, G'_{sRGB}, B'_{sRGB}\}$  should be calculated as:

$$\{R'_{sRGB}, G'_{sRGB}, B'_{sRGB}\} = \text{EOTF}_{sRGB}^{-1}(\text{OETF}_{BT.709}^{-1}(\{R'_{BT.709}, G'_{BT.709}, B'_{BT.709}\}))$$

## Chapter 18

# Transfer functions

### About transfer functions (informative)

The **transfer function** describes the mapping between a linear numerical representation and a non-linear encoding. The eye is more sensitive to relative light levels than absolute light levels. That is, if one image region is twice as bright as another, this will be more visible than if one region is 10% brighter than another, even if the absolute difference in brightness is the same in both cases. To make use of the eye's non-linear response to light to provide better image quality with a limited number of quantization steps, it is common for color encodings to work with a non-linear representation which dedicates a disproportionate number of bits to darker colors compared with lighter colors. The typical effect of this encoding is that mid-tones are stored with a larger (nearer-to-white) numerical value than their actual brightness would suggest, and that mid-values in the non-linear encoding typically represent darker intensities than their fraction of the representation of white would suggest.

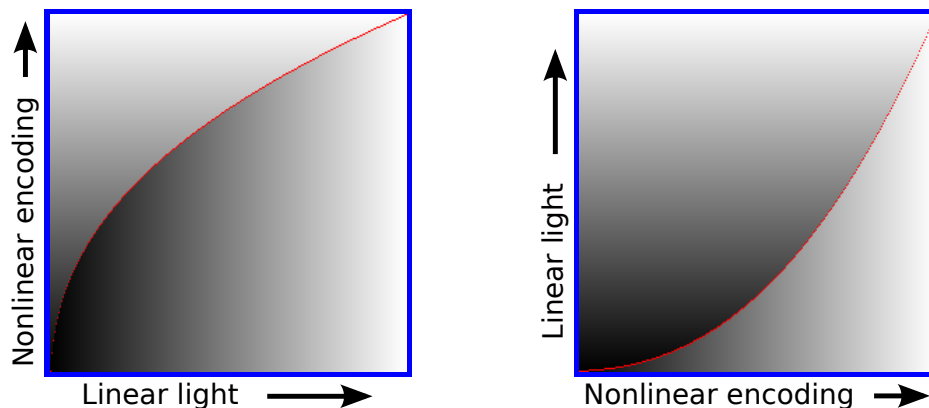


Figure 18.1: Conversion curves between linear light and encoded values (sRGB example)

The behavior has historically been approximated by a power function with an exponent conventionally called  $\gamma$ :  $\{R,G,B\}_{\text{non-linear}} = \{R,G,B\}_{\text{linear}}^\gamma$ . Hence this conversion is colloquially known as *gamma correction*.

#### Note

Many practical transfer functions incorporate a small linear segment near 0, instead of being a pure power function. This linearity reduces the required resolution for representing the conversion, especially where results must be reversible, and also reduces the noise sensitivity of the function in an analog context. When combined with a linear segment, the power function has a different exponent from the pure power function that best approximates the resulting curve.

A consequence of this non-linear encoding is that many image processing operations should not be applied directly to the raw non-linearly-encoded numbers, but require conversion back to a linear representation. For example, linear color gradients will appear distorted unless the encoding is adjusted to compensate for the encoding; CGI lighting calculations need linear intensity values for operation, and filtering operations require texel intensities converted to linear form.

In the following example, the checker patterns are filtered in the right-most square of each row by averaging the checker colors, emulating a view of the pattern from a distance at which the individual squares are no longer distinct. The intended effect can be seen by viewing the diagram from a distance, or deliberately out of focus. The output is interpreted using the **sRGB EOTF**, approximating the behavior of a CRT with uncorrected signals. The background represents 50% gray.

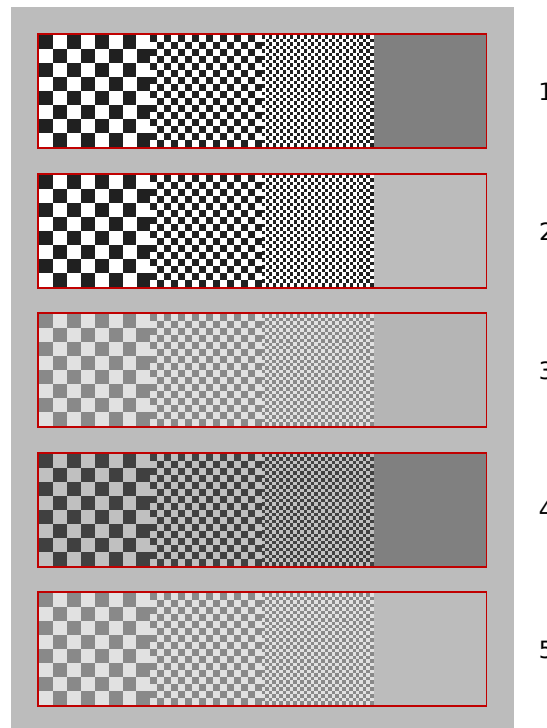


Figure 18.2: Averaging checker values with different transfer functions

- **In row 1** black (0.0) and white (1.0) texels are averaged to calculate a 0.5 value in the frame buffer. Due to the sRGB non-linearity, the appearance of the value 0.5 is darker than the average value of the black and white texels, so the gray box appears darker than the average intensity of the checker pattern.
- **In row 2** the 0.5 average of the frame buffer is corrected using the sRGB (electro-optical) EOTF<sup>-1</sup> to  $\sim 0.74$ . The gray box accordingly appears a good match for the average intensity of the black and white squares on most media.
- **In row 3** the checker pattern instead represents values of 25% and 75% of the light intensity (the average of which should be the same as the correct average of the black and white squares in the first two rows). These checker values have been converted to their non-linear representations, as might be the case for a texture in this format: the darker squares are represented by  $\sim 0.54$ , and the lighter squares are represented by  $\sim 0.88$ . Averaging these two values to get a value of 0.71 results in the right-most square: this appears slightly too dark compared with the correct representation of mid-gray ( $\sim 0.74$ ) because, due to the non-linear encoding, the calculated value should not lie exactly half way between the two end points. Since the end points of the interpolation are less distant than the black and white case, the error is smaller than in the first example, and can more clearly be seen by comparing with the background gray.
- **In row 4** the checker values have been converted using the EOTF to a linear representation which can be correctly interpolated, but the resulting output represents linear light, which is therefore interpreted as too dark by the non-linear display.
- **In row 5** the results of row 4 have been converted back to the non-linear representation using the EOTF<sup>-1</sup>. The checker colors are restored to their correct values, and the interpolated value is now the correct average intensity of the two colors.

Incorrectly-applied transfer functions can also introduce color shifts, as demonstrated by the saturation change in the following examples:

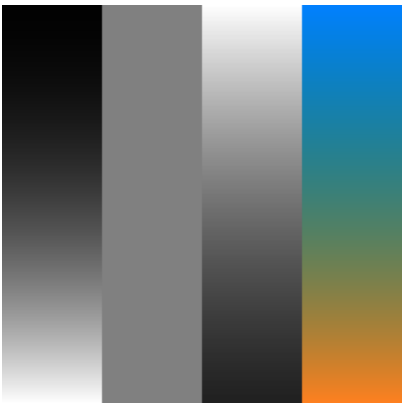


Figure 18.3: R,G,B and combined color gradient with linear light intensity in each channel



Figure 18.4: R',G',B' and combined color gradient with non-linear sRGB encoding in each channel

A standard for image representation typically defines one or both of two types of transfer functions:

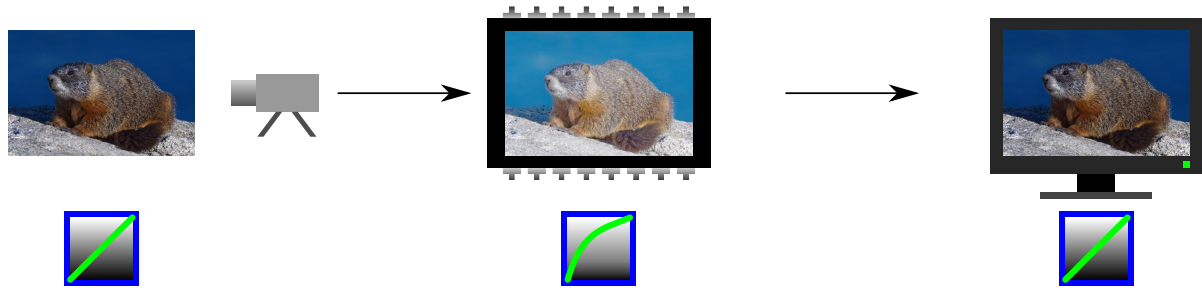


Figure 18.5: Opto-electronics and electro-optical transfer functions

- An opto-electronic transfer function (OETF) defines the conversion between a normalized linear light intensity as recorded in the scene, and a non-linear electronic representation. Note that there is no requirement that this directly correspond to actual captured light: the content creator or scene capture hardware may adjust the apparent intensity compared to reality for aesthetic reasons, as though the colors (or lighting) of objects in the scene were similarly different from reality. For example, a camera may implement a roll-off function for highlights, and a content creator may introduce tone mapping to preserve shadow detail in the created content, with these being logically recorded as if the scene was actually modified accordingly. The inverse of the OETF (the conversion from the non-linear electronic representation to linear scene light) is written  $\text{OETF}^{-1}(n)$ .
- An electro-optical transfer function (EOTF) converts between a non-linear electronic representation and a linear light normalized intensity as produced by the output display. The inverse of the EOTF (the conversion from linear display light to the non-linear electronic representation) is written  $\text{EOTF}^{-1}(n)$ . Typical CRT technology has implicitly applied a non-linear EOTF which coincidentally offered an approximately perceptually linear gradient when supplied with a linear voltage; other display technologies must implement the EOTF explicitly. As with the OETF, the EOTF describes a logical relationship that in reality will be modified by the viewer's aesthetic configuration choices and environment, and by the implementation choices of the display medium. Modern displays often incorporate proprietary variations from the reference intensity, particularly when mapping high dynamic range content to the capabilities of the hardware.

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#### Note

Some color models derive chroma (color difference) channels wholly or partly from non-linear intensities. It is common for image representations which use these color models to use a reduced-resolution representation of the chroma channels, since the human eye is less sensitive to high resolution chroma errors than to errors in brightness. Despite the color shift introduced by interpolating non-linear values, these chroma channels are typically resampled directly in their native, non-linear representation.

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The opto-optical transfer function (OOTF) of a system is the relationship between linear input light intensity and displayed output light intensity:  $\text{OOTF}(\text{input}) = \text{EOTF}(\text{OETF}(\text{input}))$ . It is common for the OOTF to be non-linear. For example, a brightly-lit scene rendered on a display that is viewed in a dimly-lit room will typically appear washed-out and lacking contrast, despite mapping the full range of scene brightness to the full range supported by the display. A non-linear OOTF can compensate for this by reducing the intensity of mid-tones, which is why television standards typically assume a non-linear OOTF: logical scene light intensity is not proportional to logical display intensity.

In the following diagram, the upper pair of images are identical, as are the lower pair of images (which have mid-tones darkened but the same maximum brightness). Adaptation to the surround means that the top left and lower right images look similar.

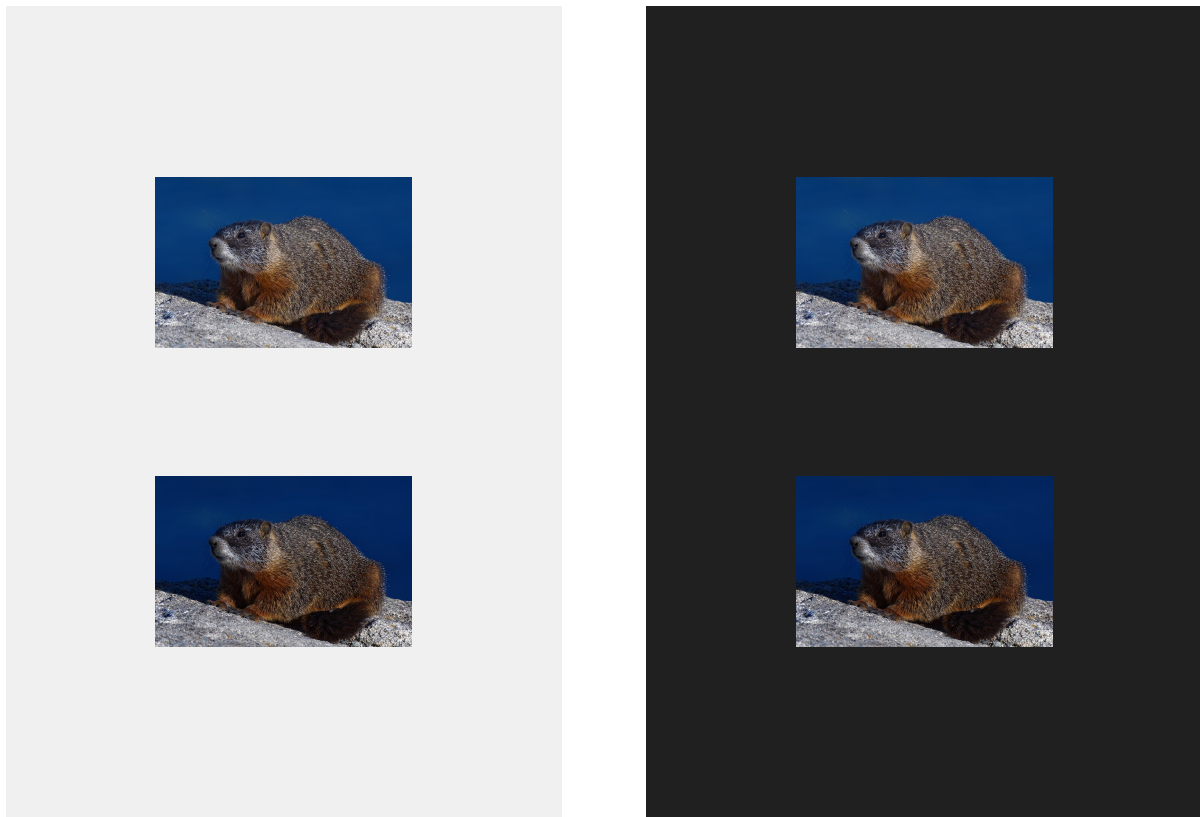


Figure 18.6: Simultaneous contrast

In the context of a non-linear OOTF, an application should be aware of whether operations on the image are intended to reflect the representation of colors in the scene or whether the intent is to represent the output color accurately, at least when it comes to the transfer function applied. For example, an application could choose to convert lighting calculations from a linear to non-linear representation using the OETF (to match the appearance of lighting in the scene), but to perform image scaling operations using the EOTF in order to avoid introducing intensity shifts due to filtering. Working solely with the EOTF or OETF results in ignoring the intended OOTF of the system.

In practice, the OOTF is usually near enough to linear that this distinction is subtle and rarely worth making for computer graphics, especially since computer-generated images may be designed to be viewed in brighter conditions which would merit a linear OOTF, and since a lot of graphical content is inherently not photo-realistic (or of limited realism, so that the transfer functions are not the most important factor in suspending disbelief). For video and photographic content viewed in darker conditions, the non-linearity of the OOTF is significant. The effect of a non-linear OOTF is usually secondary to the benefits of using non-linear encoding to reduce quantization.

By convention, non-linearly-encoded values are distinguished from linearly-encoded values by the addition of a prime ( $'$ ) symbol. For example,  $(R, G, B)$  may represent a linear set of red, green and blue components;  $(R', G', B')$  would represent the non-linear encoding of each value. Typically the non-linear encoding is applied to additive primary colors; derived color differences may or may not retain the prime symbol.

Charles Poynton provides a further discussion on “Gamma” in <http://www.poynton.com/PDFs/TIDV/Gamma.pdf>.

## ITU transfer functions

### Note

“ITU” is used in this context as a shorthand for the OETF shared by the current [BT.601](#), [BT.709](#) and [BT.2020](#) family of standard dynamic range digital television production standards. The same OETF is shared by [SMPTE 170M](#). The ITU does define other transfer functions, for example the [PQ](#) and [HLG](#) transfer functions described below (originating in [BT.2100](#)) and the list of EOTFs listed in [BT.470-6](#).

## ITU OETF

The ITU-T [BT.601](#), [BT.709](#) and [BT.2020](#) specifications (for standard definition television, HDTV and UHD TV respectively), and [SMPTE 170M](#), which defines NTSC broadcasts, define an opto-electrical transfer function. The (OETF) conversion from linear  $(R, G, B)$  encoding to non-linear  $(R', G', B')$  encoding is:

$$\begin{aligned} R' &= \begin{cases} R \times 4.500, & R < \beta \\ \alpha \times R^{0.45} - (\alpha - 1), & R \geq \beta \end{cases} \\ G' &= \begin{cases} G \times 4.500, & G < \beta \\ \alpha \times G^{0.45} - (\alpha - 1), & G \geq \beta \end{cases} \\ B' &= \begin{cases} B \times 4.500, & B < \beta \\ \alpha \times B^{0.45} - (\alpha - 1), & B \geq \beta \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\alpha = 1.0993$  and  $\beta = 0.0181$  for 12-bit encoding in the BT.2020 specification, and  $\alpha = 1.099$  and  $\beta = 0.018$  otherwise.

## ITU OETF<sup>-1</sup>

From this the inverse (OETF<sup>-1</sup>) transformation can be deduced:

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \begin{cases} \frac{R'}{4.500}, & R' < \delta \\ \left( \frac{R' + (\alpha - 1)}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.45}}, & R' \geq \delta \end{cases} \\ G &= \begin{cases} \frac{G'}{4.500}, & G' < \delta \\ \left( \frac{G' + (\alpha - 1)}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.45}}, & G' \geq \delta \end{cases} \\ B &= \begin{cases} \frac{B'}{4.500}, & B' < \delta \\ \left( \frac{B' + (\alpha - 1)}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.45}}, & B' \geq \delta \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$\delta$  can be deduced from  $\alpha \times \beta^{0.45} - (\alpha - 1) \approx 0.0812$ . Note that this is subtly different from  $4.5 \times \beta$  due to rounding. See the following section for the derivation of these values.

[SMPTE 170M-2004](#), which defines the behavior of NTSC televisions, defines the EOTF of the “reference reproducer” as the OETF<sup>-1</sup> function above, with  $\delta$  explicitly written as 0.0812. Therefore the SMPTE 170M-2004 EOTF<sup>-1</sup> equals the OETF given above. The “reference camera” of SMPTE 170M-2004 has an OETF function matching that of the ITU specifications. That is, the OETF of the system described in SMPTE 170M-2004 provides a linear mapping of captured scene intensity to display intensity: the SMPTE 170M-2004 OETF is described as being chosen to result in a linear OETF on a typical display. This is distinct from the current ITU specifications, which assume a non-linear OETF. SMPTE 170M-2004 also represents a change from the “assumed gamma” of 2.2 associated with most NTSC display devices as described in [ITU-T BT.470-6](#) and [BT.2043](#), although these standards also define a linear OETF.



This “ITU” OETF is closely approximated by a simple power function with an exponent of 0.5 (and therefore the OETF<sup>-1</sup> is quite closely approximated by a simple power function with an exponent of 2.0); the linear segment and offset mean that the best match is *not* the exponent of 0.45 that forms part of the exact equation. ITU standards deliberately chose a different transfer curve from that of a typical CRT in order to introduce a non-linear OOTF, as a means to compensate for the typically dim conditions in which a television is viewed. [ITU BT.2087](#) refers to the approximation of the OETF with a square root ( $\gamma = \frac{1}{2}$ ) function.

The following graph shows the close relationship between the ITU OETF (shown in red) and a pure power function with  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2}$  (in blue). The difference between the curves is shown in black. The largest difference between the curve values at the same point when quantized to 8 bits is 15, mostly due to the sharp vertical gradient near 0.

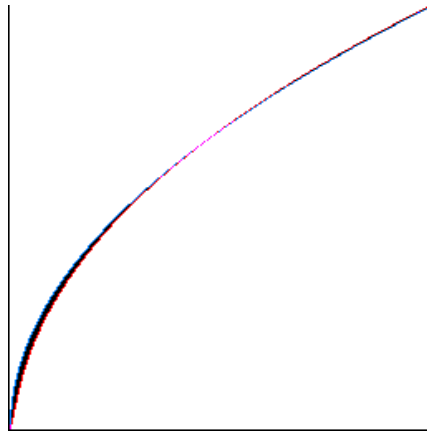


Figure 18.7: ITU OETF vs pure gamma 0.5

#### Note

[SMPTE 170M-2004](#) contains a note that the OETF is a more “technically correct” definition of the transfer function, and compares it to a “transfer gradient (gamma exponent) of 2.2” in previous specifications, and that the OETF in older documents is described as “1/2.2 (0.455. . .)”. While both versions define a linear OOTF, there is no explicit mention that curve has substantially changed; this might be due to conflation of the 0.455 exponent in older specifications with the 0.45 exponent in the new formulae. The ITU OETF is actually a closer match to a gamma exponent of  $\frac{1}{2.0}$ , as shown above; it is a relatively poor match to a gamma exponent of  $\frac{1}{2.2}$ ; the following graph shows the difference between the ITU OETF (shown in red) and a pure power function with  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2.2}$  (in blue). The difference between the curves is shown in black.

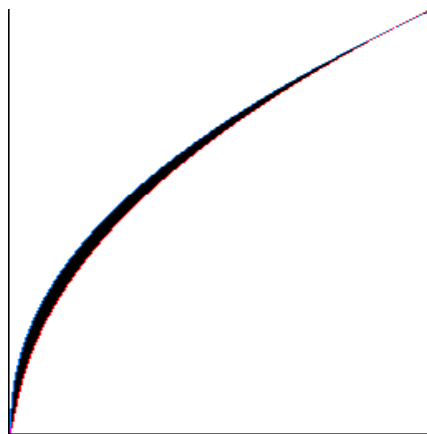


Figure 18.8: ITU OETF vs pure gamma 1/2.2

## Derivation of the ITU alpha and beta constants (informative)

Using the 12-bit encoding values for  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  from [Rec.2020](#), there is an overlap around a non-linear value of 0.08145. In other cases, the conversion from linear to non-linear representation with encoding introduces a discontinuity between  $(0.018 \times 4.500) = 0.081$  and  $(1.099 \times 0.018^{0.45} - 0.099) \approx 0.0812$ , corresponding to roughly a single level in a 12-bit range. [SMPTE 170M-2004](#) provides formulae for both transformations and uses 0.0812 as a case selector for the non-linear-to-linear transformation.

The values of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in the ITU function were apparently chosen such that the linear segment and power segment meet at the same value and with the same derivative (that is, the linear segment meets the power segment at a tangent). The  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  values can be derived as follows:

At  $\{R, G, B\} = \beta$ , the linear and non-linear segments of the curve must calculate the same value:

$$4.5 \times \beta = \alpha \times \beta^{0.45} - (\alpha - 1)$$

Additionally, the derivatives of the linear and non-linear segments of the curve must match:

$$4.5 = 0.45 \times \alpha \times \beta^{-0.55}$$

The derivative can be rearranged to give the equation:

$$\alpha = 10 \times \beta^{0.55}$$

Substituting this into the original equation results in the following:

$$4.5 \times \beta = 10 \times \beta^{0.55} \times \beta^{0.45} - (10 \times \beta^{0.55} - 1)$$

This simplifies to:

$$5.5 \times \beta - 10 \times \beta^{0.55} + 1 = 0$$

This can be solved numerically (for example by Newton-Raphson iteration), and results in values of:

$$\beta \approx 0.018053968510808$$

$$\alpha \approx 1.099296826809443$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta &= \alpha \times \beta^{0.45} - (\alpha - 1) = 4.5 \times \beta \\ &\approx 0.081242858298635 \end{aligned}$$

## sRGB transfer functions

### sRGB EOTF

The **sRGB specification** defines an electro-optical transfer function. The EOTF conversion from non-linear  $(R', G', B')$  encoding to linear  $(R, G, B)$  encoding is:

$$R = \begin{cases} \frac{R'}{12.92}, & R' \leq 0.04045 \\ \left( \frac{R' + 0.055}{1.055} \right)^{2.4}, & R' > 0.04045 \end{cases}$$

$$G = \begin{cases} \frac{G'}{12.92}, & G' \leq 0.04045 \\ \left( \frac{G' + 0.055}{1.055} \right)^{2.4}, & G' > 0.04045 \end{cases}$$

$$B = \begin{cases} \frac{B'}{12.92}, & B' \leq 0.04045 \\ \left( \frac{B' + 0.055}{1.055} \right)^{2.4}, & B' > 0.04045 \end{cases}$$

### sRGB EOTF<sup>-1</sup>

The corresponding sRGB EOTF<sup>-1</sup> conversion from linear  $(R, G, B)$  encoding to non-linear  $(R', G', B')$  encoding is:

$$R' = \begin{cases} R \times 12.92, & R \leq 0.0031308 \\ 1.055 \times R^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - 0.055, & R > 0.0031308 \end{cases}$$

$$G' = \begin{cases} G \times 12.92, & G \leq 0.0031308 \\ 1.055 \times G^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - 0.055, & G > 0.0031308 \end{cases}$$

$$B' = \begin{cases} B \times 12.92, & B \leq 0.0031308 \\ 1.055 \times B^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - 0.055, & B > 0.0031308 \end{cases}$$

### sRGB EOTF vs gamma 2.2

The sRGB EOTF approximates a simple power function with an exponent of 2.2, which is intended to be consistent with legacy CRT content, particularly for **NTSC** devices, and to approximate the expected EOTF for **BT.709** content, given the implicit OETF used in production video content. sRGB is distinct from **ITU-T BT.1886**, which offers a (different) reference EOTF for flat panels used for HDTV and is also intended to complement BT.709; in addition to the change in EOTF, sRGB specifies a reference display maximum luminance of 80cd/m<sup>2</sup>, compared with 100cd/m<sup>2</sup> for BT.1886. sRGB is also distinct from **SMPTE 170M**, which defines its EOTF as the inverse of its (and BT.709's) OETF.

The following graph compares the sRGB EOTF (in red) and a pure power function with  $\gamma = 2.2$  (in blue); the area between the two curves is shown in black. The largest non-linear difference at the same linear value when quantized to 8 bits is 3.

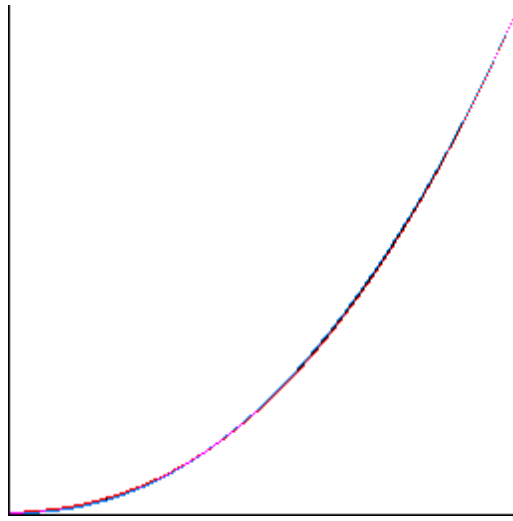


Figure 18.9: sRGB EOTF vs pure gamma 2.2

#### Note

The sRGB standard assumes a quantization scheme in which 0.0 is represented by the value 0 and 1.0 is represented by 255. Despite the goal of complementing [ITU-T Rec. BT.709](#), this is different from the ITU “full-range” encoding scheme defined in [ITU-T Rec. BT.2100](#), which represents 1.0 as a power of two (not  $2^n - 1$ ) and therefore cannot exactly represent 1.0.

The following graph shows the relationship between the sRGB EOTF (shown in red) and the [ITU OETF](#) (shown in blue). The result of applying the two functions in turn, resulting in the OOTF of a combined ITU-sRGB system, is shown in black. Since the sRGB EOTF approximates a power function with  $\gamma = 2.2$  and the ITU OETF approximates a power function with  $\gamma = 2.0$ , also shown in green is the resulting OOTF corresponding to a power function with  $\gamma = \frac{2.2}{2.0} = 1.1$ .

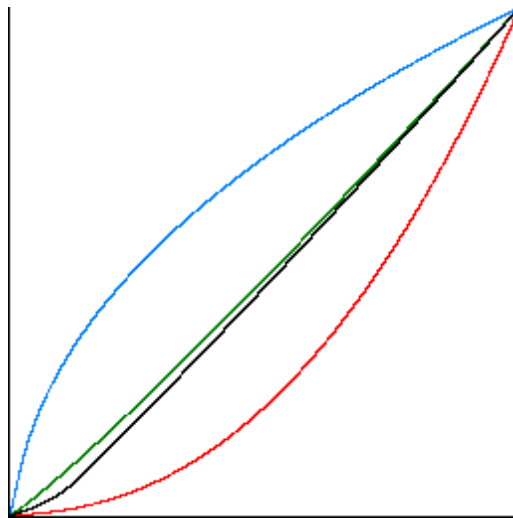


Figure 18.10: sRGB EOTF and ITU OETF

## scRGB EOTF and EOTF<sup>-1</sup>

The original sRGB specification was defined only in terms of positive values between 0 and 1. Subsequent standards, such as **scRGB** annex B, use the same transfer function but expand the range to incorporate values less than 0 and greater than 1.0. In these cases, when the input channel to the conversion is negative, the output should be the negative version of the conversion applied to the absolute value of the input. That is:

$$R' = \begin{cases} -1.055 \times (-R)^{\frac{1}{2.4}} + 0.055, & R \leq -0.0031308 \\ R \times 12.92, & -0.0031308 < R < 0.0031308 \\ 1.055 \times R^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - 0.055, & R \geq 0.0031308 \end{cases}$$

$$G' = \begin{cases} -1.055 \times (-G)^{\frac{1}{2.4}} + 0.055, & G \leq -0.0031308 \\ G \times 12.92, & -0.0031308 < G < 0.0031308 \\ 1.055 \times G^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - 0.055, & G \geq 0.0031308 \end{cases}$$

$$B' = \begin{cases} -1.055 \times (-B)^{\frac{1}{2.4}} + 0.055, & B \leq -0.0031308 \\ B \times 12.92, & -0.0031308 < B < 0.0031308 \\ 1.055 \times B^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - 0.055, & B \geq 0.0031308 \end{cases}$$

### Note

**scRGB** annex B changes the behavior of the  $\{R, G, B\} = 0.0031308$  case compared with the **sRGB** specification. Since both calculations agree to seven decimal places, this is unlikely to be significant in most applications. **scRGB** annex B does not define the EOTF<sup>-1</sup>, so the formulae below are derived by extending the sRGB formulae.

$$R = \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{0.055-R'}{1.055}\right)^{2.4}, & R' < -0.04045 \\ \frac{R'}{12.92}, & -0.04045 \leq R' \leq 0.04045 \\ \left(\frac{R'+0.055}{1.055}\right)^{2.4}, & R' > 0.04045 \end{cases}$$

$$G = \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{0.055-G'}{1.055}\right)^{2.4}, & G' < -0.04045 \\ \frac{G'}{12.92}, & -0.04045 \leq G' \leq 0.04045 \\ \left(\frac{G'+0.055}{1.055}\right)^{2.4}, & G' > 0.04045 \end{cases}$$

$$B = \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{0.055-B'}{1.055}\right)^{2.4}, & B' < -0.04045 \\ \frac{B'}{12.92}, & -0.04045 \leq B' \leq 0.04045 \\ \left(\frac{B'+0.055}{1.055}\right)^{2.4}, & B' > 0.04045 \end{cases}$$

### Note

**sYCC** includes a hint that a 1cd/m<sup>2</sup> level of flare should be assumed for the reference 80cd/m<sup>2</sup> output, and that the black level should therefore be assumed to be  $\frac{1}{80} = 0.0125$ . It notes that the non-linear sRGB  $\{R', G', B'\}$  values can be corrected as follows:

$$E_{sYCC} = \begin{cases} 0.0125 - \left(\frac{1-0.0125}{1.055^{2.4}}\right) \times (0.055 - E'_{sRGB})^{2.4}, & E'_{sRGB} \leq -0.04045 \text{ [sic]} \\ 0.0125 + \frac{1-0.0125}{12.92} \times E'_{sRGB}, & -0.04045 \leq E'_{sRGB} \leq 0.04045 \\ 0.0125 + \left(\frac{1-0.0125}{1.055^{2.4}}\right) \times (0.055 + E'_{sRGB})^{2.4}, & E'_{sRGB} > 0.04045 \end{cases}$$

$$E_{sYCC} = (\text{linear})\{R_{sYCC}, G_{sYCC}, B_{sYCC}\}$$

$$E'_{sRGB} = (\text{non-linear})\{R'_{sRGB}, G'_{sRGB}, B'_{sRGB}\}$$

This is equivalent to applying  $E_{sYCC} = 0.0125 + \frac{1}{1-0.0125} \times E_{sRGB}$  to linear  $\{R, G, B\}$  values. The resulting linear  $E_{sYCC}$  values then need to be non-linearly encoded with the EOTF.

## Derivation of the sRGB constants (informative)

Similar to the ITU transfer function, the EOTF<sup>-1</sup> of the sRGB function can be written as:

$$\{R, G, B\} = \begin{cases} \{R', G', B'\} \times 12.92, & \{R', G', B'\} \leq \beta \\ \alpha \times \{R', G', B'\}^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - (\alpha - 1), & \{R', G', B'\} > \beta \end{cases}$$

Like the ITU transfer function above, the values of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in the sRGB function appear to have been chosen such that the linear segment and power segment meet at the same value and with the same derivative (that is, the linear segment meets the power segment at a tangent). The  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  values can be derived as follows:

At  $\{R', G', B'\} = \beta$ , the linear and non-linear segments of the function must calculate the same value:

$$12.92 \times \beta = \alpha \times \beta^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - (\alpha - 1)$$

Additionally, the derivatives of the linear and non-linear segments of the function must match:

$$12.92 = \frac{\alpha \times \beta^{\frac{1}{2.4}-1}}{2.4}$$

This formula can be rearranged to give  $\alpha$  in terms of  $\beta$ :

$$\alpha = 12.92 \times 2.4 \times \beta^{1-\frac{1}{2.4}}$$

Substituting this into the formula for  $\{R, G, B\}$ :

$$12.92 \times \beta = 12.92 \times 2.4 \times \beta^{1-\frac{1}{2.4}} \times \beta^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - (12.92 \times 2.4 \times \beta^{1-\frac{1}{2.4}} - 1)$$

This equation simplifies to:

$$1.4 \times 12.92 \times \beta - 2.4 \times 12.92 \times \beta^{1-\frac{1}{2.4}} + 1 = 0$$

This can be further simplified to:

$$1.4 \times \beta - 2.4 \times \beta^{1-\frac{1}{2.4}} + \frac{1}{12.92} = 0$$

The value of  $\beta$  can be found numerically (for example by Newton-Raphson iteration, with a derivative of  $1.4 - 1.4\beta^{-\frac{1}{2.4}}$ ), and results in values of:

$$\beta \approx 0.003041282560128$$

$$\alpha \approx 1.055010718947587$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta &= 12.92 \times \beta = \alpha \times \beta^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - (\alpha - 1.0) \\ &\approx 0.039293370676848 \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\delta$  is the value of the EOTF<sup>-1</sup> at  $\{R', G', B'\} = \beta$ .

---

### Note

These deduced values are appreciably different from those in the sRGB specification, which does not state the origin of its constants. The intersection point of the sRGB EOTF has less numerical stability (and more nearby local minima in curves being optimized) than the corresponding ITU function - it is sensitive to the start value used for numerical approximations. This may explain how different values were reached for the sRGB specification. However, the errors both in value and derivative at the point of selection between the linear and exponent segments are small in practice.

---

The EOTF can be written with these derived values as:

$$\{R, G, B\} = \begin{cases} \frac{\{R', G', B'\}}{12.92}, & \{R', G', B'\} \leq \delta \\ \left( \frac{\{R', G', B'\}}{\alpha} + \frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha} \right)^{2.4}, & \{R', G', B'\} > \delta \end{cases}$$

**Note**

Apple describes the **Display P3 color space** as using the sRGB transfer function. The profile viewer in Apple's ColorSync utility reports that the EOTF is of the following form:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} cx, & x < d \\ (ax + b)^\gamma, & x \geq d \end{cases}$$

The reported figures for  $\gamma = 2.4$ ,  $a = 0.948$ ,  $b = 0.52$  and  $c = 0.077$  correspond to the equivalent values in the sRGB specification:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\alpha} &\approx 0.948 = a \\ \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha} &\approx 0.52 = b \\ \frac{1}{12.92} &\approx 0.077 = c \end{aligned}$$

These values are correct to the reported precision both for the value  $\alpha = 1.055$  in the sRGB specification and for the more precise  $\alpha \approx 1.055010718947587$  derived above.

However, where the sRGB specification states that  $\delta = 0.04045$ , the profile viewer reports a corresponding  $d = 0.039$ . The disparity can be explained if the profile values have been derived as described in this section:

$$\delta \approx 0.039293370676848 \approx 0.039 = d$$

Note that this value assumes a correspondingly corrected version of  $\alpha$  rather than  $a = 1.055$ .

The extra precision may be needed over the constants in the sRGB specification due to the use of additional bits of accuracy in the Display P3 representation, which may expose a discontinuity due to rounding with the original numbers, particularly in the gradient of the curve. However, this distinction is subtle: when calculated over a  $[0..1]$  range, the derived EOTF and EOTF<sup>-1</sup> agree with the official sRGB formulae to greater than 16-bit precision.

Without allowing for adjusting the  $\alpha = 1.055$  constant in the sRGB formula, the power function cannot be made to intersect perfectly at a tangent to the linear segment with gradient of 12.92. However, the intersection point  $\beta$  can be found by solving:

$$1.055 \times \beta^{\frac{1}{2.4}} - 12.92 \times \beta - 0.055 = 0$$

This equation can give us a slightly more precise pair of values for the original sRGB equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &\approx 0.003130668 \\ \delta &\approx 0.040448236 \end{aligned}$$

In practice this makes no measurable difference, but does suggest that the values of  $\beta = 0.0031308$  in the sRGB specification may have been incorrectly rounded.

## BT.1886 transfer functions

The **BT.1886** standard for the “Reference electro-optical transfer function for flat panel displays used in HDTV studio production” is intended to represent a typical OETF for CRTs and to document this to ensure consistency between other display technologies:

$$L = a(\max(V + b, 0))^\gamma$$

$L$  = screen luminance in  $\text{cd/m}^2$

$V$  = input signal normalized to  $[0..1]$

$a$  = user gain (legacy “contrast”)

$b$  = black level lift (legacy “brightness”)

$\gamma = 2.4$

If  $L_W$  is the screen luminance of maximum white and  $L_B$  is the screen luminance of minimum black:

$$L_B = a \times b^\gamma$$

$$L_W = a \times (1 + b)^\gamma$$

$$a = (L_W^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} - L_B^{\frac{1}{\gamma}})^\gamma$$

$$b = \frac{L_B^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}}{L_W^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} - L_B^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}}$$

**ITU BT.2087** proposes the use of a simple power function with a  $\gamma = 2.4$  as an approximation to this EOTF for the purposes of color conversion, effectively assuming  $b = 0$  and  $L_B$  is pure black. The reference display described in BT.1886 has a maximum luminance level of  $100\text{cd/m}^2$  (brighter than the equivalent **sRGB** reference display).

The following graph shows the relationship between the BT.1886 EOTF (shown in red) and the **ITU OETF** such as used for **BT.709** (shown in blue). The result of applying the two functions in turn, resulting in the OOTF of a combined BT.709-BT.1886 system, is shown in black. Since the ITU OETF approximates a power function with  $\gamma = 2.0$ , also shown in green is the resulting OOTF corresponding to a power function with  $\gamma = \frac{2.4}{2.0} = 1.2$ .

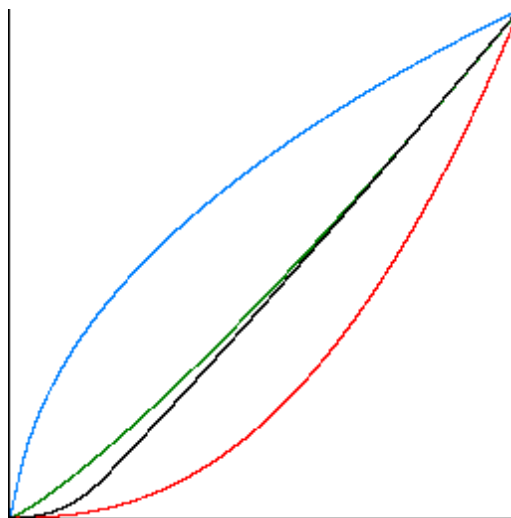


Figure 18.11: BT.1886 EOTF and BT.709 OETF



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**Note**

**BT.1886** also offers an alternative EOTF which may provide a better match to CRT measured luminance than the standard formula listed above:

$$L = \begin{cases} k(V_C + b)^{(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)}(V + b)^{\alpha_2}, & V < V_C \\ k(V + b)^{\alpha_1}, & V_C \leq V \end{cases}$$

$$V_C = 0.35$$

$$\alpha_1 = 2.6$$

$$\alpha_2 = 3.0$$

$k$  = coefficient of normalization (so that  $V = 1$  gives white),

$$k = L_W(1 + b)^{-\alpha_1}$$

$b$  = black level lift (legacy “brightness”)

---

## BT.2100 HLG transfer functions

HLG (and **PQ**, below) are intended to allow a better encoding of high-dynamic-range content compared with the standard ITU OETF.

### HLG OETF (normalized)

The **BT.2100-1** Hybrid Log Gamma description defines the following OETF for linear scene light:

$$E'_{norm} = \text{OETF}(E) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{3E}, & 0 \leq E \leq \frac{1}{12} \\ a \times \ln((12 \times E) - b) + c, & \frac{1}{12} < E \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$E$  = the  $R_S$ ,  $G_S$  or  $B_S$  color component of linear scene light, normalized to [0..1]

$E'$  = the resulting non-linear  $R'_S$ ,  $G'_S$  or  $B'_S$  non-linear scene light value in the range [0..1]

$a = 0.17883277$

$b = 1 - 4 \times a = 0.28466892$

$c = 0.5 - a \times \ln(4 \times a) \approx 0.55991073$

---

#### Note

BT.2100-0, in note 5b, defines these formulae equivalently, but slightly differently:

$$E'_{norm} = \text{OETF}(E) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{3E}, & 0 \leq E \leq \frac{1}{12} \\ a \times \ln(E - b_0) + c_0, & \frac{1}{12} < E \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

This formulation in BT.2100-0 uses different constants for  $b$  and  $c$  ( $a$  is unmodified), as follows:

|     | <b>BT.2100-1</b>   | <b>BT.2100-0</b>   |
|-----|--------------------|--------------------|
| $b$ | $b_1 = 0.28466892$ | $b_0 = 0.02372241$ |
| $c$ | $c_1 = 0.55991073$ | $c_0 = 1.00429347$ |

These variations can be derived from the BT.2100-1 numbers as:

$$\begin{aligned} a \times \ln((12 \times E) - b_1) + c_1 &= a \times \ln\left(12 \times \left(E - \frac{b_1}{12}\right)\right) + c_1 \\ &= a \times \ln\left(E - \frac{b_1}{12}\right) + a \times \ln(12) + c_1 \\ \frac{b_1}{12} &= \frac{0.28466892}{12} = 0.023772241 = b_0 \\ a \times \ln(12) + c_1 &= 0.17883277 \times \ln(12) + 0.55991073 = 1.00429347 = c_0 \end{aligned}$$


---

## HLG OETF<sup>-1</sup> (normalized)

The OETF<sup>-1</sup> of normalized HLG is:

$$E = \text{OETF}^{-1}(E') = \begin{cases} \frac{E'^2}{3}, & 0 \leq E' \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{12} \times \left( b + e^{(E'-c)/a} \right), & \frac{1}{2} < E' \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are defined as for the normalized HLG OETF. BT.2100-0 again defines an equivalent formula without the  $\frac{1}{12}$  scale factor in the  $\frac{1}{2} < E' \leq 1$  term, using the modified  $b_0$  and  $c_0$  constants described in the note in the **HLG OETF** above.

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### Note

**BT.2100-1** (the current version at the time of writing) includes an apparent typographical error in its definition of the OETF<sup>-1</sup>, providing both the equation with  $E$  normalized to the range [0..1] and the (legacy) **equation with E normalized to the range [0..12]**, without explanation.

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## Unnormalized HLG OETF

BT.2100-0 describes the HLG OETF formulae with  $E$  “normalized” to the range [0..12], with the **variant with the range normalized to [0..1]** as an alternative. Only the variant normalized to the range [0..1] is described in the updated version of the specification, BT.2100-1.

$$E' = \text{OETF}(E) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{E}}{2}, & 0 \leq E \leq 1 \\ a \times \ln(E - b) + c, & 1 < E \end{cases}$$

$E'$  = the  $R_S$ ,  $G_S$  or  $B_S$  color component of linear scene light, normalized to [0..12]

$E'_S$  = the resulting non-linear  $R'_S$ ,  $G'_S$  or  $B'_S$  value in the range [0..1]

$a = 0.17883277$

$b = 0.28466892$

$c = 0.55991073$

Note that these constants are the same as those used in the BT.2100-1 version of the **normalized formulae**.

## Unnormalized HLG OETF<sup>-1</sup>

The OETF<sup>-1</sup> of “unnormalized” HLG (producing  $E$  in the range [0..12]) is:

$$E = \text{OETF}^{-1}(E') = \begin{cases} 4 \times E'^2, & 0 \leq E' \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ b + e^{(E'-c)/a}, & \frac{1}{2} < E' \end{cases}$$

$a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are defined as for the **unnormalized HLG OETF**.

BT.2100-0 describes this “unnormalized” version of the formulae, with the variant with the  $E$  normalized to [0..1] as an alternative. Only the variant with  $E$  normalized to [0..1] is described in the updated version, BT.2100-1.

## Derivation of the HLG constants (informative)

HLG constants appear to have chosen  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  to meet the following constraints, which are easiest to express in terms of the unnormalized EOTF<sup>-1</sup>:

- The derivative of the  $0 \leq E' \leq \frac{1}{2}$  term of the unnormalized EOTF<sup>-1</sup> has the same value as the derivative of the  $\frac{1}{2} < E' \leq 1$  term of the unnormalized EOTF<sup>-1</sup> at  $E' = \frac{1}{2}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d(4 \times E'^2)}{dE'} &= 8 \times E' = 8 \times \frac{1}{2} = 4 \text{ (derivative of the } 0 \leq E' \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{ case)} \\
 \frac{d(e^{(E'-c)/a} + b)}{dE'} &= \frac{d(e^{E'/a} \times e^{-c/a} + b)}{dE'} \text{ (derivative of the } \frac{1}{2} < E' \text{ case)} \\
 &= \frac{d((e^{E'} \times e^{-c})^{1/a} + b)}{dE'} \\
 &= \frac{1}{a} \times (e^{E'} \times e^{-c})^{(1/a)-1} \times (e^{E'} \times e^{-c}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{a} \times (e^{E'} \times e^{-c})^{1/a} \\
 4 &= \frac{1}{a} \times (e^{0.5} \times e^{-c})^{1/a} \text{ at } E' = \frac{1}{2} \\
 \implies (4 \times a)^a &= e^{0.5} \times e^{-c} \\
 \implies c &= -\ln\left(\frac{(4 \times a)^a}{e^{0.5}}\right) \\
 &= 0.5 - a \times \ln(4 \times a)
 \end{aligned}$$

- The  $0 \leq E' \leq \frac{1}{2}$  term of the unnormalized EOTF<sup>-1</sup> has the same value as the  $\frac{1}{2} < E' \leq 1$  term of the unnormalized EOTF<sup>-1</sup> at  $E' = \frac{1}{2}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 4 \times E'^2 &= e^{\frac{E'-c}{a}} + b \text{ (from the } 0 \leq E' \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } \frac{1}{2} < E' \text{ cases)} \\
 4 \times \frac{1}{2}^2 &= 1 = e^{\frac{0.5-c}{a}} + b \text{ (at } E' = \frac{1}{2}) \\
 &= e^{\frac{0.5-0.5+a \times \ln(4 \times a)}{a}} + b \\
 &= e^{\ln(4 \times a)} + b \\
 b &= 1 - 4 \times a
 \end{aligned}$$

- At  $E' = 1$ , the  $\frac{1}{2} < E'$  term of the unnormalized EOTF<sup>-1</sup> = 12:

$$\begin{aligned}
 12 &= e^{\frac{E'-c}{a}} + b \\
 &= e^{\frac{1-0.5+a \times \ln(4 \times a)}{a}} + 1 - 4 \times a \\
 11 + 4 \times a &= e^{\frac{0.5}{a} + \ln(4 \times a)} \\
 11 + 4 \times a &= (4 \times a) \times e^{\frac{0.5}{a}} \\
 \frac{11}{4 \times a} + 1 &= \sqrt[e^{\frac{1}{a}}]{} \\
 \frac{121}{16 \times a^2} + \frac{11}{2 \times a} + 1 &= e^{\frac{1}{a}} \\
 \frac{121}{16} + \frac{a \times 11}{2} + a^2 \times (1 - e^{\frac{1}{a}}) &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

This last equation can be solved numerically to find:

$$a \approx 0.1788327726569497656312771$$

With this precision, more accurate values of the other constants are:

$$b = 0.28466890937$$

$$c = 0.55991072776$$

The  $b = 0.28466892$  official figure assumes the rounded  $a = 0.17883277$  value as an input to the  $b = 1 - 4 \times a$  relation.

#### Note

No explanation for the choice of  $[0..12]$  range in the official version of the formula is explicitly offered in BT.2100-0 (it does *not*, for example, appear to relate to the [BT.1886](#) OOTF  $\gamma = 1.2$  combined with the  $10\times$  ratio between the  $1000\text{cd/m}^2$  of a standard HLG HDR TV and the  $100\text{cd/m}^2$  of a standard dynamic range set). However, allowing for the difference in the maximum display brightness of HDR and SDR systems there is deliberate (scaled) compatibility between the HLG OETF and the [BT.2020 OETF](#) (which itself approximates a square root function) over much of the encodable dynamic range of a BT.2020 system. Since HDR content is intended to support accurate highlights more than to maintain a higher persistent screen brightness (many HDR displays can only support maximum brightness in a small area or over a small period without overheating), agreement over a significant chunk of the tone curve allows a simple adaptation between HDR and SDR devices: fed HLG-encoded content, an SDR display may represent darker tones accurately and simply under-represent highlights. The origins of both HLG and PQ are discussed in [ITU-R BT.2390](#).

As graphed in [ITU-R BT.2390](#), the “unnormalized” HLG OETF (red) is a good approximation to the standard dynamic range ITU transfer function (blue, output scaled by 0.5) up to  $E \approx 1$  and  $\text{OETF}(E) = E' \approx 0.5$ , with a smooth curve up to the maximum HLG representable scene light value of “12”:

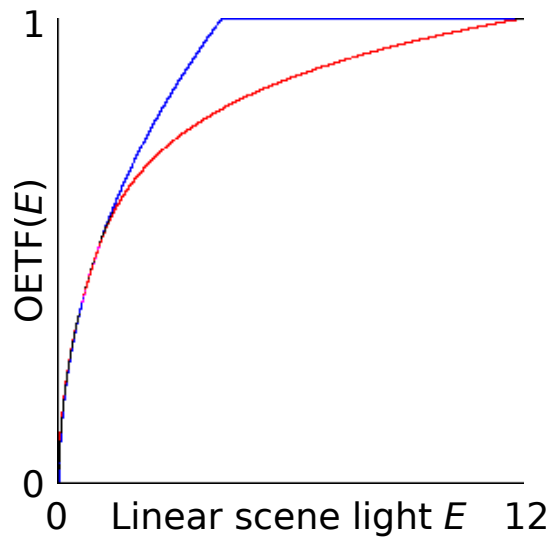


Figure 18.12: HLG OETF (red) vs ITU OETF/2 (blue)

## HLG OOTF

The OOTF of HLG is described as:

$$\begin{aligned} R_D &= \alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times R_S + \beta \\ G_D &= \alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times G_S + \beta \\ B_D &= \alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times B_S + \beta \end{aligned}$$

where  $R_D$ ,  $G_D$  and  $B_D$  describe the luminance of the displayed linear component in  $\text{cd/m}^2$  and  $R_S$ ,  $G_S$  and  $B_S$  describe each color component in scene linear light, scaled by camera exposure and normalized to the representable range.

---

### Note

BT.2100 notes that some legacy displays apply the  $\gamma$  function to each channel separately, rather than to the luminance component. That is,  $\{R_D, G_D, B_D\} = \alpha \times \{R_S, G_S, B_S\}^\gamma + \beta$ . This is an approximation to the official OOTF.

---

$Y_S$  is the normalized scene luminance, defined as:

$$Y_S = 0.2627 \times R_S + 0.6780 \times G_S + 0.0593 \times B_S$$

$\beta$  represents the black level (display “brightness”):

$$\beta = L_B$$

$\alpha$  represents the black level (display “contrast”):

|          | Scene light<br>normalized to [0..1] | Scene light<br>normalized to [0..12] |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| $\alpha$ | $L_W - L_B$                         | $\frac{L_W - L_B}{(12)^\gamma}$      |

$L_W$  is the nominal peak luminance of the display in  $\text{cd/m}^2$ , and  $L_B$  is the display luminance of black in  $\text{cd/m}^2$ .

---

### Note

**BT.2100-1** (the current version at the time of writing) includes an apparent typographical error in its definition of the OOTF, providing both the equation with scene light normalized to the range [0..1] and the (legacy) **equation with scene light normalized to the range [0..12]**, without explanation.

---

$\gamma = 1.2$  for a nominal peak display luminance of  $1000\text{cd/m}^2$ . For displays with higher peak luminance or if peak luminance is reduced through a contrast control,  $\gamma = 1.2 + 0.42 \times \log_{10} \left( \frac{L_W}{1000} \right)$ .

For the purposes of general conversion,  $L_W$  can be assumed to be  $1000\text{cd/m}^2$ , and  $L_B$  can be approximated as 0, removing the constant offset from the above equations and meaning  $\gamma = 1.2$ .

## HLG EOTF

The EOTF of BT.2100 HLG is defined in terms of the OETF and OOTF defined above:

$$\begin{aligned} R_D &= \alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times R_S + \beta \\ G_D &= \alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times G_S + \beta \\ B_D &= \alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times B_S + \beta \\ \{R_D, G_D, B_D\} &= \text{OOTF}(\text{OETF}^{-1}(\{R'_S, G'_S, B'_S\})) \end{aligned}$$

## HLG OOTF<sup>-1</sup>

Using the formula from the OOTF leads to the following relationship between  $Y_D$  and  $Y_S$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_D &= 0.2627 \times R_D + 0.6780 \times G_D + 0.0593 \times B_D \\
 &= 0.2627 \times (\alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times R_S + \beta) + 0.6780 \times (\alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times G_S + \beta) + 0.0593 \times (\alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times B_S + \beta) \\
 &= \alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1} \times (0.2627 \times R_S + 0.6780 \times G_S + 0.0593 \times B_S) + \beta \\
 &= \alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma} + \beta \\
 \therefore Y_S &= \left( \frac{Y_D - \beta}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} \\
 Y_S^{1-\gamma} &= \left( \frac{Y_D - \beta}{\alpha} \right)^{(1-\gamma)/\gamma}
 \end{aligned}$$

From this, the following relations can be derived:

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_S &= \frac{(R_D - \beta)}{\alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1}} = Y_S^{1-\gamma} \times \frac{(R_D - \beta)}{\alpha} = \left( \frac{Y_D - \beta}{\alpha} \right)^{(1-\gamma)/\gamma} \times \left( \frac{R_D - \beta}{\alpha} \right) \\
 G_S &= \frac{(G_D - \beta)}{\alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1}} = Y_S^{1-\gamma} \times \frac{(G_D - \beta)}{\alpha} = \left( \frac{Y_D - \beta}{\alpha} \right)^{(1-\gamma)/\gamma} \times \left( \frac{G_D - \beta}{\alpha} \right) \\
 B_S &= \frac{(B_D - \beta)}{\alpha \times Y_S^{\gamma-1}} = Y_S^{1-\gamma} \times \frac{(B_D - \beta)}{\alpha} = \left( \frac{Y_D - \beta}{\alpha} \right)^{(1-\gamma)/\gamma} \times \left( \frac{B_D - \beta}{\alpha} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

For processing without knowledge of the display,  $\alpha$  can be treated as 1.0cd/m<sup>2</sup> and  $\beta$  can be considered to be 0.0cd/m<sup>2</sup>. This simplifies the equations as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_S &= Y_D^{1/\gamma} \\
 Y_S^{1-\gamma} &= Y_D^{(1/\gamma)-1} \\
 R_S &= Y_D^{(1/\gamma)-1} \times R_D \\
 G_S &= Y_D^{(1/\gamma)-1} \times G_D \\
 B_S &= Y_D^{(1/\gamma)-1} \times B_D
 \end{aligned}$$

## HLG EOTF<sup>-1</sup>

The EOTF<sup>-1</sup> can be defined as:

$$\{R'_S, G'_S, B'_S\} = \text{OETF}(\text{OOTF}^{-1}(\{R_D, G_D, B_D\}))$$

## BT.2100 PQ transfer functions

### Note

Unlike **BT.2100 HLG** and other **ITU broadcast** standards, PQ is defined in terms of an EOTF (mapping from the encoded values to the display output), not an OETF (mapping from captured scene content to the encoded values).

### PQ EOTF

The **BT.2100** Perceptual Quantization description defines the following EOTF:

$$F_D = \text{EOTF}(E') = 10000 \times Y$$

$$Y = \left( \frac{\max((E'^{\frac{1}{m_2}} - c_1), 0)}{c_2 - c_3 \times E'^{\frac{1}{m_2}}} \right)^{\frac{1}{m_1}}$$

$E'$  is a non-linear color channel  $\{R', G', B'\}$  or  $\{L', M', S'\}$  encoded as PQ in the range  $[0..1]$ .

$F_D$  is the luminance of the displayed component in  $\text{cd/m}^2$  (where the luminance of an  $\{R_D, G_D, B_D\}$  or  $Y_D$  or  $I_D$  component is considered to be the luminance of the color with all channels set to the same value as the component).

When  $R' = G' = B'$  the displayed pixel is monochromatic.

$Y$  is a linear color value normalized to  $[0..1]$ .

$$m_1 = \frac{2610}{16384} = 0.1593017578125$$

$$m_2 = \frac{2523}{4096} \times 128 = 78.84375$$

$$c_1 = \frac{3424}{4096} = 0.8359375 = c_3 - c_2 + 1$$

$$c_2 = \frac{2413}{4096} \times 32 = 18.8515625$$

$$c_3 = \frac{2392}{4096} \times 32 = 18.6875$$

### PQ EOTF<sup>-1</sup>

The corresponding EOTF<sup>-1</sup> is:

$$Y = \frac{F_D}{10000}$$

$$\text{EOTF}^{-1}(F_D) = \left( \frac{c_1 + c_2 \times Y^{m_1}}{1 + c_3 \times Y^{m_1}} \right)^{m_2}$$



## PQ OOTF

The OOTF of PQ matches that of [BT.1886](#)'s EOTF combined with [BT.709](#)'s OETF:

$$F_D = \text{OOTF}(E) = G_{1886}(G_{709}(E))$$

where  $E$  is one of  $\{R_S, G_S, B_S, Y_S, I_S\}$ , the linear representation of scene light scaled by camera exposure and in the range  $[0..1]$ ,  $G_{1886}$  is the EOTF described in [BT.1886](#), and  $G_{709}$  is the OETF described in [BT.709](#) with a scale factor of 59.5208 applied to  $E$ :

$$\begin{aligned} F_D &= G_{1886}(G_{709}(E)) &= G_{1886}(E') &= 100 \times E'^{2.4} \\ E' &= G_{709}(E) &= \begin{cases} 1.099 \times (59.5208 \times E)^{0.45} - 0.099, & 1 > E > 0.0003024 \\ 267.84 \times E, & 0.0003024 \geq E \geq 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

---

### Note

[ITU-R BT.2390](#) explains the derivation of the scale factor:

PQ can encode 100 times the display brightness of a standard dynamic range ("SDR") encoding (10000cd/m<sup>2</sup> compared with the 100cd/m<sup>2</sup> SDR reference display described in [BT.1886](#)). High dynamic range (HDR) displays are intended to represent the majority of scene content within a "standard" dynamic range, and exposure of a normalized SDR signal is chosen to provide suitable exposure. HDR displays offer extra capability for representation of small or transient highlights (few HDR displays can actually reach the maximum 10000cd/m<sup>2</sup> encodable brightness, and few HDR displays can maintain their maximum intensity over a large area for an extended period without overheating). Therefore the behavior of HDR displays is intended to approximate a conventional standard dynamic range display for most of the image, while retaining the ability to encode extreme values.

As described in [BT.2390](#), the OOTF of SDR is roughly  $\gamma = 1.2$  (deviating from this curve more near a 0 value), so the maximum *scene* light intensity that can be represented is roughly  $100^{\frac{1}{1.2}} \approx 46.42$  times that of a SDR encoding.

Using exact equations from [BT.709](#) and [BT.1886](#) to create the OOTF, rather than the  $\gamma = 1.2$  approximation, the maximum representable scene brightness, if 1.0 is the maximum normalized SDR brightness is:

$$\left( \frac{100^{\frac{1}{1.2}} + 0.099}{1.099} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.45}} \approx 59.5208$$

The other constants in the  $G_{709}$  formula are derived as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{0.018}{59.5208} &\approx 0.0003024 \\ 4.5 \times 59.5208 &\approx 267.84 \end{aligned}$$

Note that these constants differ slightly if the more accurate  $\alpha = 1.0993$  figure from [BT.2020](#) is used instead of 1.099.

---

## PQ OETF

The OETF of PQ is described in terms of the above OOTF:

$$E' = \text{OETF}(E) = \text{EOTF}^{-1}(\text{OOTF}(E)) = \text{EOTF}^{-1}(F_D)$$

**PQ OOTF<sup>-1</sup>**

The PQ OOTF<sup>-1</sup> is:

$$E = \text{OOTF}^{-1}(F_D) = G_{709}^{-1}(G_{1886}^{-1}(F_D))$$

where  $F_D$ , display intensity, is one of  $\{R_D, G_D, B_D, Y_D, I_D\}$ , and E is the corresponding normalized scene intensity.

$$\begin{aligned} E' = G_{1886}^{-1}(F_D) &= \left( \frac{F_D}{100} \right)^{\frac{1}{2.4}} \\ E = G_{709}^{-1}(E') &= \begin{cases} \left( \frac{(E' + 0.099)}{1.099 \times 59.5208^{0.45}} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.45}}, & E' > 0.081 \implies F_D > 8.1^{2.4} \\ \frac{E'}{267.84}, & 0.081 \geq E' \geq 0 \implies 8.1^{2.4} \geq F_D \geq 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

**PQ OETF<sup>-1</sup>**

The PQ OETF<sup>-1</sup> is described in terms of the OOTF<sup>-1</sup>:

$$E = \text{OETF}^{-1}(E') = \text{OOTF}^{-1}(\text{EOTF}(E')) = \text{OOTF}^{-1}(F_D)$$

## DCI P3 transfer functions

**DCI P3** defines a simple power function with an exponent of 2.6 (applied to scaled CIE XYZ values).

That is:

$$\begin{aligned} X' &= \left( \frac{X}{52.37} \right)^{\frac{1}{2.6}} \\ Y' &= \left( \frac{Y}{52.37} \right)^{\frac{1}{2.6}} \\ Z' &= \left( \frac{Z}{52.37} \right)^{\frac{1}{2.6}} \\ X &= X'^{2.6} \times 52.37 \\ Y &= Y'^{2.6} \times 52.37 \\ Z &= Z'^{2.6} \times 52.37 \end{aligned}$$

This power function is applied directly to scaled CIE XYZ color coordinates: the “primaries” in DCI define the bounds of the gamut, but the actual color encoding uses XYZ coordinates. DCI scales the resulting non-linear values to the range [0..4095] prior to quantization, rounding to nearest.

---

### Note

“Display P3” uses the **sRGB transfer function**, modified in some implementations to have more accurate constants (see the section on the derivation of the sRGB constants).

---

## Legacy NTSC transfer functions

**ITU-R BT.470-6**, which has now been deprecated, lists a number of regional TV standard variants; an updated list of variant codes used by country is defined in **ITU-R BT.2043**. This standard, along with **e-CFR title 47 section 73.682**, documents a simple EOTF power function with  $\gamma = 2.2$  for NTSC display devices.

$$\begin{aligned} R' &= R^{\frac{1}{2.2}} \\ G' &= G^{\frac{1}{2.2}} \\ B' &= B^{\frac{1}{2.2}} \\ R &= R'^{2.2} \\ G &= G'^{2.2} \\ B &= B'^{2.2} \end{aligned}$$

This value of  $\gamma$  is also used for N/PAL signals in the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, and was also adopted by **ST-240**.

Combined with the reference in **SMPTE 170M** to a  $\gamma = 2.2$  being used in “older documents”, this suggests a linear design OOTF for NTSC systems.

**ITU-R BT.1700**, which partly replaced BT.470, also describes an “assumed gamma of display device” of 2.2 for PAL and SECAM systems; this is distinct from the  $\gamma = 2.8$  value listed in **ITU-R BT.470-6**. Combined with the **ITU OETF** which approximates  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2.0}$ , the PAL OOTF retains a  $\gamma \approx 1.1$  when this value of  $\gamma = 2.2$  is used for the EOTF, similar to the figure described under the **legacy PAL EOTF**.

In contrast, **ITU-R BT.1700** also includes **SMPTE 170m**, which defines the assumed EOTF of the display device as being the inverse of the current **ITU OETF**. Hence the new NTSC formulation also assumes a linear OOTF.

## Legacy PAL OETF

**ITU-R BT.472**, “Video-frequency characteristics of a television system to be used for the international exchange of programmes between countries that have adopted 625-line colour or monochrome systems”, defines that the “gamma of the picture signal” should be “approximately 0.4”. The reciprocal of this value is 2.5.

That is, this standard defines an approximate OETF and OETF<sup>-1</sup> for PAL content:

$$R' \approx R^{0.4}$$

$$G' \approx G^{0.4}$$

$$B' \approx B^{0.4}$$

$$R \approx R'^{2.5}$$

$$G \approx G'^{2.5}$$

$$B \approx B'^{2.5}$$

## Legacy PAL 625-line EOTF

**ITU-R BT.470-6**, which has now been deprecated in favor of BT.1700, lists a number of regional TV standard variants; an updated list of variant codes used by country is defined in **ITU-R BT.2043**.

This specification describes a simple EOTF power function with  $\gamma_{\text{EOTF}} = 2.8$  for most PAL and SECAM display devices:

$$R' \approx R^{\frac{1}{2.8}}$$

$$G' \approx G^{\frac{1}{2.8}}$$

$$B' \approx B^{\frac{1}{2.8}}$$

$$R \approx R'^{2.8}$$

$$G \approx G'^{2.8}$$

$$B \approx B'^{2.8}$$

---

### Note

Poynton describes a  $\gamma$  of 2.8 as being “unrealistically high” for actual CRT devices.

---

Combined with the **corresponding legacy EOTF** with  $\gamma_{\text{EOTF}} = 0.4$ , the described system OOTF is:

$$R_{\text{display}} \approx R_{\text{scene}}^{\frac{2.8}{2.5}}$$

$$G_{\text{display}} \approx G_{\text{scene}}^{\frac{2.8}{2.5}}$$

$$B_{\text{display}} \approx B_{\text{scene}}^{\frac{2.8}{2.5}}$$

Or  $\gamma_{\text{OOTF}} \approx 1.12$ .

The value of  $\gamma_{\text{EOTF}} = 2.8$  is described in BT.470-6 as being chosen for “an overall system gamma” (OOTF power function exponent) of “approximately 1.2”; this suggests that the “approximately 0.4” exponent in **BT.472-6** should be interpreted as nearer to  $\frac{1.2}{2.8} \approx 0.43$ , or at least that there was enough variation in early devices for precise formulae to be considered irrelevant.

---

### Note

The EOTF power function of  $\gamma_{\text{EOTF}} = 2.2$  described in **BT.1700** combines with the **ITU OETF** described in **BT.601** (which approximates  $\gamma_{\text{OETF}} \approx 0.5$ ) to give a similar system  $\gamma_{\text{OOTF}} \approx 1.1$ . As described **above**, the **ITU OETF** combined with the **BT.1886** EOTF results in a more strongly non-linear  $\gamma_{\text{OOTF}} \approx \frac{2.4}{2.0} = 1.2$ .

---

## ST240/SMPTE240M transfer functions

The **ST-240**, formerly SMPTE240M, interim standard for HDTV defines the following OETF:

$$R' = \begin{cases} R \times 4, & 0 \leq R < 0.0228 \\ 1.1115 \times R^{0.45} - 0.1115, & 1 \geq R \geq 0.0228 \end{cases}$$

$$G' = \begin{cases} G \times 4, & 0 \leq G < 0.0228 \\ 1.1115 \times G^{0.45} - 0.1115, & 1 \geq G \geq 0.0228 \end{cases}$$

$$B' = \begin{cases} B \times 4, & 0 \leq B < 0.0228 \\ 1.1115 \times B^{0.45} - 0.1115, & 1 \geq B \geq 0.0228 \end{cases}$$

Like **SMPTE170m**, ST-240 defines a linear OOTF. Therefore the above relationship also holds for the EOTF<sup>-1</sup>.

The EOTF, and also OETF<sup>-1</sup>, is:

$$R = \begin{cases} \frac{R'}{4}, & 0 \leq R' < 0.0913 \\ \left( \frac{R' + 0.1115}{1.1115} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.45}} - 0.1115, & 1 \geq R' \geq 0.0228 \end{cases}$$

$$G = \begin{cases} \frac{G'}{4}, & 0 \leq G' < 0.0913 \\ \left( \frac{G' + 0.1115}{1.1115} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.45}} - 0.1115, & 1 \geq G' \geq 0.0228 \end{cases}$$

$$B = \begin{cases} \frac{B'}{4}, & 0 \leq B' < 0.0913 \\ \left( \frac{B' + 0.1115}{1.1115} \right)^{\frac{1}{0.45}} - 0.1115, & 1 \geq B' \geq 0.0228 \end{cases}$$

## Adobe RGB (1998) transfer functions

The **Adobe RGB (1998) specification** defines the following transfer function (notable for not including a linear component):

$$R = R'^{2.19921875}$$

$$G = G'^{2.19921875}$$

$$B = B'^{2.19921875}$$

2.19921875 is obtained from  $2 \frac{51}{256}$  or hexadecimal 2.33. Therefore the inverse transfer function is:

$$R' = R^{\frac{256}{563}}$$

$$G' = G^{\frac{256}{563}}$$

$$B' = B^{\frac{256}{563}}$$

## Sony S-Log transfer functions

The Sony **S-Log** OETF is defined for each color channel as:

$$y = (0.432699 \times \log_{10}(t + 0.037584) + 0.616596) + 0.03$$

Linear camera input scaled by exposure  $t$  ranges from 0 to 10.0;  $y$  is the non-linear encoded value.

The OETF<sup>-1</sup> is:

$$Y = 10.0^{\frac{t-0.616596-0.03}{0.432699}} - 0.037584$$

The encoded non-linear value  $t$  ranges from 0 to 1.09;  $Y$  is the linear scene light.

## Sony S-Log2 transfer functions

**S-Log2** defines the following OETF:

$$y = \begin{cases} (0.432699 \times \log_{10}(\frac{155.0 \times x}{219.0} + 0.037584) + 0.616596 + 0.03, & x \geq 0 \\ x \times 3.53881278538813 + 0.030001222851889303, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$x$  is the IRE in scene-linear space.

$y$  is the IRE in S-Log2 space.

The OETF<sup>-1</sup> is:

$$y = \begin{cases} \frac{219.0 \times 10.0^{\frac{x-0.616596-0.03}{0.432699}}}{155.0}, & x \geq 0.030001222851889303 \\ \frac{x-0.030001222851889303}{3.53881278538813}, & x < 0.030001222851889303 \end{cases}$$

$x$  is the IRE in S-Log2 space.

$y$  is the IRE in scene-linear space.

A reflection is calculated by multiplying an IRE by 0.9.

## ACESc transfer function

**ACES** is scene-referred; therefore ACESc defines an OETF.

For each linear color channel  $lin_{AP1}$  transformed to the ACESc primaries, the *ACESc* non-linear encoding is:

$$ACESc = \begin{cases} \frac{\log_2(2^{-16})+9.72}{17.52}, & lin_{AP1} \leq 0 \\ \frac{\log_2(2^{-16}+lin_{AP1} \times 0.5)+9.72}{17.52}, & lin_{AP1} < 2^{-15} \\ \frac{\log_2(lin_{AP1})+9.72}{17.52}, & lin_{AP1} \geq 2^{-15} \end{cases}$$

## ACEScct transfer function

**ACES** is scene-referred; therefore ACEScct defines an OETF.

For each linear color channel  $lin_{AP1}$  transformed to the ACESc primaries, the *ACEScct* non-linear encoding is:

$$ACEScct = \begin{cases} 10.5402377416545 \times lin_{AP1} + 0.0729055341958355, & lin_{AP1} \leq 0.0078125 \\ \frac{\log_2(lin_{AP1})+9.72}{17.52}, & lin_{AP1} > 0.0078125 \end{cases}$$

## Chapter 19

# Color primaries

**Color primaries** define the interpretation of each color channel of the color model, particularly with respect to the RGB color model. In the context of a typical display, **color primaries** describe the color of the red, green and blue phosphors or filters.

Primaries are typically defined using the **CIE 1931 XYZ color space**, which is a color space which preserves the linearity of light intensity. Consequently, the transform from linear-intensity  $(R, G, B)$  to  $(X, Y, Z)$  is a simple matrix multiplication. Conversion between two sets of  $(R, G, B)$  color primaries can be performed by converting to the  $(X, Y, Z)$  space and back.

The  $(X, Y, Z)$  space describes absolute intensity. Since most standards do not make a requirement about the absolute intensity of the display, color primaries are typically defined using the  $x$  and  $y$  components of the  $xyY$  color space, in which the  $Y$  channel represents linear luminance.  $xyY$  is related to  $XYZ$  via the following formulae:

$$x = \frac{X}{X+Y+Z} \quad y = \frac{Y}{X+Y+Z} \quad z = \frac{Z}{X+Y+Z} = 1 - x - y$$

$$X = \frac{y}{y}x \quad Z = \frac{Y}{y}(1 - x - y)$$

This is relevant because, although the brightness of the display in a color space definition is typically undefined, the **white point** is known: the  $x$  and  $y$  coordinates in  $xyY$  color space which corresponds to equal amounts of  $R$ ,  $G$  and  $B$ . This makes it possible to determine the relative intensities of these color primaries.

### Note

Many color standards use the CIE D65 standard illuminant as a white point. D65 is intended to represent average daylight, and has a color temperature of approximately 6500K. In **CIE 1931** terms, this white point is defined in ITU standards as  $x = 0.3127$ ,  $y = 0.3290$ , but elsewhere given as  $x = 0.312713$ ,  $y = 0.329016$ . Different coordinates will affect the conversion matrices given below. The definition of the D65 white point is complicated by the constants in Planck's Law (which is a component in calculating the white point from the color temperature) having been revised since D65 was standardized, such that the standard formula for calculating CIE coordinates from the color temperature do not agree with the D65 standard. The actual color temperature of D65 is nearer to  $6500 \times \frac{1.4388}{1.438} \approx 6503.6\text{K}$ .

Assuming an arbitrary white luminance ( $Y$  value) of 1.0, it is possible to express the following identity for the  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  coordinates of each color channel  $R$ ,  $G$  and  $B$ , and of the white point  $W$ :

$$W_X = R_X + G_X + B_X \quad W_Y = R_Y + G_Y + B_Y = 1.0 \quad W_Z = R_Z + G_Z + B_Z$$

The identities  $X = Y \frac{x}{y}$  and  $Z = Y \frac{(1-x-y)}{y}$  can be used to re-express the above terms in the  $xyY$  space:

$$R_Y \left( \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) + G_Y \left( \frac{G_x}{G_y} \right) + B_Y \left( \frac{B_x}{B_y} \right) = W_Y \left( \frac{W_x}{W_y} \right) = \frac{W_x}{W_y}$$

$$R_Y + G_Y + B_Y = W_Y = 1.0$$

$$R_Y \left( \frac{1 - R_x - R_y}{R_y} \right) + G_Y \left( \frac{1 - G_x - G_y}{G_y} \right) + B_Y \left( \frac{1 - B_x - B_y}{B_y} \right) = W_Y \left( \frac{1 - W_x - W_y}{W_y} \right) = \frac{1 - W_x - W_y}{W_y}$$

This equation for  $W_Z$  can be simplified to:

$$R_Y \left( \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} - 1 \right) + G_Y \left( \frac{1-G_x}{G_y} - 1 \right) + B_Y \left( \frac{1-B_x}{B_y} - 1 \right) = W_Y \left( \frac{1-W_x}{W_y} - 1 \right) = \frac{1-W_x}{W_y} - 1$$

Since  $R_Y + G_Y + B_Y = W_Y = 1$ , this further simplifies to:

$$R_Y \left( \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) + G_Y \left( \frac{1-G_x}{G_y} \right) + B_Y \left( \frac{1-B_x}{B_y} \right) = \frac{1-W_x}{W_y}$$

The  $R_Y + G_Y + B_Y$  term for  $W_Y$  can be multiplied by  $\frac{R_x}{R_y}$  and subtracted from the equation for  $W_X$ :

$$G_Y \left( \frac{G_x}{G_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) + B_Y \left( \frac{B_x}{B_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) = \frac{W_x}{W_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y}$$

Similarly, the  $R_Y + G_Y + B_Y$  term can be multiplied by  $\frac{1-R_x}{R_y}$  and subtracted from the simplified  $W_Z$  line:

$$G_Y \left( \frac{1-G_x}{G_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) + B_Y \left( \frac{1-B_x}{B_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) = \frac{1-W_x}{W_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y}$$

Finally, the  $G_Y$  term can be eliminated by multiplying the former of these two equations by  $\frac{1-G_x}{G_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y}$  and subtracting it from the latter multiplied by  $\frac{G_x}{G_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y}$ , giving:

$$\begin{aligned} B_Y \left( \left( \frac{1-B_x}{B_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) \left( \frac{G_x}{G_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) - \left( \frac{B_x}{B_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) \left( \frac{1-G_x}{G_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) \right) \\ = \left( \frac{1-W_x}{W_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) \left( \frac{G_x}{G_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) - \left( \frac{W_x}{W_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) \left( \frac{1-G_x}{G_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$B_Y = \frac{\left( \frac{1-W_x}{W_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) \left( \frac{G_x}{G_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) - \left( \frac{W_x}{W_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) \left( \frac{1-G_x}{G_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right)}{\left( \frac{1-B_x}{B_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right) \left( \frac{G_x}{G_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) - \left( \frac{B_x}{B_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right) \left( \frac{1-G_x}{G_y} - \frac{1-R_x}{R_y} \right)}$$

This allows  $G_Y$  to be calculated by rearranging an earlier equation:

$$G_Y = \frac{\frac{W_x}{W_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} - B_Y \left( \frac{B_x}{B_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y} \right)}{\frac{G_x}{G_y} - \frac{R_x}{R_y}}$$

And finally:

$$R_Y = 1 - G_Y - B_Y$$

These relative magnitudes allow the definition of vectors representing the color primaries in the  $XYZ$  space, which in turn provides a transformation between colors specified in terms of the color primaries and the  $XYZ$  space. Without an absolute magnitude the transformation to  $XYZ$  is incomplete, but sufficient to allow transformation to another set of color primaries.

The transform from the defined color primaries to  $XYZ$  space is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} R_X & G_X & B_X \\ R_Y & G_Y & B_Y \\ R_Z & G_Z & B_Z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{R_Y}{R_y} R_x, & \frac{G_Y}{G_y} G_x, & \frac{B_Y}{B_y} B_x \\ R_Y, & G_Y, & B_Y \\ \frac{R_Y}{R_y} (1-R_x-R_y), & \frac{G_Y}{G_y} (1-G_x-G_y), & \frac{B_Y}{B_y} (1-B_x-B_y) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{pmatrix}$$

The transform from  $XYZ$  space to the defined color primaries is therefore:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} R_X & G_X & B_X \\ R_Y & G_Y & B_Y \\ R_Z & G_Z & B_Z \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{R_Y}{R_y} R_x, & \frac{G_Y}{G_y} G_x, & \frac{B_Y}{B_y} B_x \\ R_Y, & G_Y, & B_Y \\ \frac{R_Y}{R_y} (1-R_x-R_y), & \frac{G_Y}{G_y} (1-G_x-G_y), & \frac{B_Y}{B_y} (1-B_x-B_y) \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

#### Note

These transforms assume that the black point for the color space is at  $(X, Y, Z) = (0, 0, 0)$ . If the black point is non-zero, these transforms require a translational component. In some color spaces the black point has the same color as the white point, in which case it is also possible to adjust the  $(R, G, B)$  values outside the matrix.



## BT.709 color primaries

ITU-T BT.709 (HDTV) defines the following chromaticity coordinates:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_x = 0.640 & R_y = 0.330 \\ G_x = 0.300 & G_y = 0.600 \\ B_x = 0.150 & B_y = 0.060 \\ W_x = 0.3127 & W_y = 0.3290 \text{ (D65)} \end{array}$$

These chromaticity coordinates are also shared by sRGB and scRGB.

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of BT.709 color primaries to XYZ space the formulae in Chapter 19 result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.412391, & 0.357584, & 0.180481 \\ 0.212639, & 0.715169, & 0.072192 \\ 0.019331, & 0.119195, & 0.950532 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of BT.709 color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.240970, & -1.537383, & -0.498611 \\ -0.969244, & 1.875968, & 0.041555 \\ 0.055630, & -0.203977, & 1.056972 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

---

### Note

sYCC lists a slightly different version of this matrix, possibly due to rounding errors.

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## BT.601 625-line color primaries

ITU-T Rec.601 defines different color primaries for 625-line systems (as used in most PAL systems) and for 525-line systems (as used in the SMPTE 170M-2004 standard for NTSC).

The following chromaticity coordinates are defined for 625-line “EBU” systems:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_x = 0.640 & R_y = 0.330 \\ G_x = 0.290 & G_y = 0.600 \\ B_x = 0.150 & B_y = 0.060 \\ W_x = 0.3127 & W_y = 0.3290 \end{array}$$

---

### Note

BT.470-6, which also describes these constants in a legacy context, approximates D65 as  $x = 0.313$ ,  $y = 0.329$ .

---

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of BT.601 color primaries for 625-line systems to XYZ space the formulae in Chapter 19 result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.430554, & 0.341550, & 0.178352 \\ 0.222004, & 0.706655, & 0.071341 \\ 0.020182, & 0.129553, & 0.939322 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{601\text{EBU}} \\ G_{601\text{EBU}} \\ B_{601\text{EBU}} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of BT.601 “EBU” 625-line color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{601\text{EBU}} \\ G_{601\text{EBU}} \\ B_{601\text{EBU}} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.063361, & -1.393390, & -0.475824 \\ -0.969244, & 1.875968, & 0.041555 \\ 0.067861, & -0.228799, & 1.069090 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

## BT.601 525-line color primaries

ITU-T Rec.601 defines different color primaries for 625-line systems (as used in most PAL systems) and for 525-line systems (as used in the SMPTE 170M-2004 standard for NTSC).

The following chromaticity coordinates are defined in BT.601 for 525-line digital systems and in SMPTE-170M:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_x = 0.630 & R_y = 0.340 \\ G_x = 0.310 & G_y = 0.595 \\ B_x = 0.155 & B_y = 0.070 \\ W_x = 0.3127 & W_y = 0.3290 \end{array}$$

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of BT.601 color primaries for 525-line systems to XYZ space the formulae in Chapter 19 result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.393521, & 0.365258, & 0.191677 \\ 0.212376, & 0.701060, & 0.086564 \\ 0.018739, & 0.111934, & 0.958385 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{601SMPTE} \\ G_{601SMPTE} \\ B_{601SMPTE} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of BT.601 525-line color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{601SMPTE} \\ G_{601SMPTE} \\ B_{601SMPTE} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.506003, -1.739791, & -0.544058 \\ -1.069048, 1.977779, & 0.035171 \\ 0.056307, -0.196976, & 1.049952 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

---

### Note

Analog 525-line PAL systems used a different white point, and therefore have a different conversion matrix.

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## BT.2020 color primaries

The following chromaticity coordinates are defined in BT.2020 for ultra-high-definition television:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_x = 0.708 & R_y = 0.292 \\ G_x = 0.170 & G_y = 0.797 \\ B_x = 0.131 & B_y = 0.046 \\ W_x = 0.3127 & W_y = 0.3290 \end{array}$$

The same primaries are used for BT.2100 for HDR TV.

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of BT.2020 color primaries to XYZ space the formulae in Chapter 19 result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.636958, & 0.144617, & 0.168881 \\ 0.262700, & 0.677998, & 0.059302 \\ 0.000000, & 0.028073, & 1.060985 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{2020} \\ G_{2020} \\ B_{2020} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of BT.2020 color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{2020} \\ G_{2020} \\ B_{2020} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1.716651, & -0.355671, & -0.253366 \\ -0.666684, & 1.616481, & 0.015769 \\ 0.017640, & -0.042771, & 0.942103 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

## NTSC 1953 color primaries

The following chromaticity coordinates are defined in [ITU-R BT.470-6](#) and [SMPTE 170m](#) as a reference to the legacy NTSC standard:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_x = 0.67 & R_y = 0.33 \\ G_x = 0.21 & G_y = 0.71 \\ B_x = 0.14 & B_y = 0.08 \\ W_x = 0.310 & W_y = 0.316 \text{ (Illuminant C)} \end{array}$$

### Note

These primaries apply to the 1953 revision of the NTSC standard. Modern NTSC systems, which reflect displays that are optimized for brightness over saturation, use the color primaries as described in [Section 19.3](#). The white point used in the original NTSC 1953 specification is CIE Standard Illuminant C, 6774K, as distinct from the CIE Illuminant D65 white point used by most modern standards. BT.470-6 notes that SECAM systems may use these NTSC primaries and white point. Japanese legacy NTSC systems used the same primaries but with the white point set to D-white at 9300K.

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of NTSC 1953 color primaries to XYZ space the formulae in [Chapter 19](#) result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.606993, & 0.173449, & 0.200571 \\ 0.298967, & 0.586421, & 0.114612 \\ 0.000000, & 0.066076, & 1.117469 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{NTSC}} \\ G_{\text{NTSC}} \\ B_{\text{NTSC}} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of NTSC 1953 color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{NTSC}} \\ G_{\text{NTSC}} \\ B_{\text{NTSC}} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1.909675, & -0.532365, & -0.288161 \\ -0.984965, & 1.999777, & -0.028317 \\ 0.058241, & -0.118246, & 0.896554 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

## PAL 525-line analog color primaries

[ITU-R BT.1700](#) defines the following chromaticity coordinates for legacy 525-line PAL systems:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_x = 0.630 & R_y = 0.340 \\ G_x = 0.310 & G_y = 0.595 \\ B_x = 0.155 & B_y = 0.070 \\ W_x = 0.3101 & W_y = 0.3162 \text{ (Illuminant C)} \end{array}$$

### Note

This matches the color primaries from [SMPTE-170m](#) analog NTSC and [BT.601](#) 525-line encoding, but the white point used is CIE Standard Illuminant C, 6774K, as distinct from the CIE Illuminant D65 white point used by most modern standards.

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of PAL 525-line color primaries to XYZ space the formulae in [Chapter 19](#) result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.415394, & 0.354637, & 0.210677 \\ 0.224181, & 0.680675, & 0.095145 \\ 0.019781, & 0.108679, & 1.053387 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{PAL525}} \\ G_{\text{PAL525}} \\ B_{\text{PAL525}} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of PAL 525-line 1953 color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{PAL525}} \\ G_{\text{PAL525}} \\ B_{\text{PAL525}} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.321392, & -1.648181, & -0.515410 \\ -1.101064, & 2.037011, & 0.036225 \\ 0.051228, & -0.179211, & 0.955260 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

## ACES color primaries

The following chromaticity coordinates are defined in [SMPTE ST 2065-1](#)

$$\begin{aligned} R_x &= 0.73470 & R_y &= 0.26530 \\ G_x &= 0.0 & G_y &= 1.0 \\ B_x &= 0.00010 & B_y &= -0.0770 \\ W_x &= 0.32168 & W_y &= 0.33767 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of ACES color primaries to XYZ space the formulae in Chapter 19 result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.9525523959, & 0.0, & 0.0000936786 \\ 0.3439664498, & 0.7281660966, & -0.0721325464 \\ 0.0, & 0.0, & 1.0088251844 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{ACES}} \\ G_{\text{ACES}} \\ B_{\text{ACES}} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of ACES color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{ACES}} \\ G_{\text{ACES}} \\ B_{\text{ACES}} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1.0498110175, & 0.0, & -0.0000974845 \\ -0.4959030231, & 1.3733130458, & 0.0982400361 \\ 0.0, & 0.0, & 0.9912520182 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

## ACEScc color primaries

The following chromaticity coordinates are defined in [Academy S-2016-001](#) (ACEScct) and S-2014-003 (ACEScc), which share the same primaries:

$$\begin{aligned} R_x &= 0.713 & R_y &= 0.293 \\ G_x &= 0.165 & G_y &= 0.830 \\ B_x &= 0.128 & B_y &= 0.044 \\ W_x &= 0.32168 & W_y &= 0.33767 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of ACEScc/ACEScct color primaries to XYZ space the formulae in Chapter 19 result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.6624541811, & 0.1340042065, & 0.1561876870 \\ 0.2722287168, & 0.6740817658, & 0.0536895174 \\ -0.0055746495, & 0.0040607335, & 1.0103391003 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{ACEScct}} \\ G_{\text{ACEScct}} \\ B_{\text{ACEScct}} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of ACEScc/ACEScct color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{ACEScc}} \\ G_{\text{ACEScc}} \\ B_{\text{ACEScc}} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1.6410233797, & -0.3248032942, & -0.2364246952 \\ -0.6636628587, & 1.6153315917, & 0.0167563477 \\ 0.0117218943, & -0.0082844420, & 0.9883948585 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

## Display P3 color primaries

The following chromaticity coordinates are defined in **Display P3**:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_x = 0.6800 & R_y = 0.3200 \\ G_x = 0.2650 & G_y = 0.6900 \\ B_x = 0.1500 & B_y = 0.0600 \\ W_x = 0.3127 & W_y = 0.3290 \end{array}$$

---

### Note

The DCI P3 color space defines the bounds of its gamut using these primaries, but actual color data in DCI P3 is encoded using CIE XYZ coordinates. Display P3, on the other hand, uses these values as primaries in an RGB color space, with a D65 white point.

---

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of Display P3 color primaries to XYZ space the formulae in Chapter 19 result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.4865709486, & 0.2656676932, & 0.1982172852 \\ 0.2289745641, & 0.6917385218, & 0.0792869141 \\ 0.0000000000, & 0.0451133819, & 1.0439443689 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{DisplayP3}} \\ G_{\text{DisplayP3}} \\ B_{\text{DisplayP3}} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of DisplayP3 color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{DisplayP3}} \\ G_{\text{DisplayP3}} \\ B_{\text{DisplayP3}} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 2.4934969119, & -0.9313836179, & -0.4027107845 \\ -0.8294889696, & 1.7626640603, & 0.0236246858 \\ 0.0358458302, & -0.0761723893, & 0.9568845240 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

---

### Note

These matrices differ from those given in **SMPTE EG 432-1** due to the choice of a D65 white point in Display P3. The matrices in 432-1 can be reproduced by applying a white point of  $W_x = 0.314$ ,  $W_y = 0.351$  to the above primaries.

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## Adobe RGB (1998) color primaries

The following chromaticity coordinates are defined in **Adobe RGB (1998)**:

$$\begin{array}{ll} R_x = 0.6400 & R_y = 0.3300 \\ G_x = 0.2100 & G_y = 0.7100 \\ B_x = 0.1500 & B_y = 0.0600 \\ W_x = 0.3127 & W_y = 0.3290 \end{array}$$

Therefore to convert from linear color values defined in terms of Adobe RGB (1998) color primaries to XYZ space the formulae in Chapter 19 result in the following matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.5766690429, & 0.1855582379, & 0.1882286462 \\ 0.2973449753, & 0.6273635663, & 0.0752914585 \\ 0.0270313614, & 0.0706888525, & 0.9913375368 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{AdobeRGB}} \\ G_{\text{AdobeRGB}} \\ B_{\text{AdobeRGB}} \end{pmatrix}$$

The inverse transformation, from the XYZ space to a color defined in terms of Adobe RGB (1998) color primaries, is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{\text{AdobeRGB}} \\ G_{\text{AdobeRGB}} \\ B_{\text{AdobeRGB}} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 2.0415879038, & -0.5650069743, & -0.3447313508 \\ -0.9692436363, & 1.8759675015, & 0.0415550574 \\ 0.0134442806, & -0.1183623922, & 1.0151749944 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

Adobe RGB (1998) defines a reference display white brightness of 160cd/m<sup>2</sup> and a black point 0.34731% of this brightness, or 0.5557cd/m<sup>2</sup>, for a contrast ratio of 287.9. The black point has the same color temperature as the white point, and this does not affect the above matrices.

## BT.709/BT.601 625-line primary conversion example

Conversion from **BT.709** to **BT.601** 625-line primaries can be performed using the matrices in Section 19.1 and Section 19.2 as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{601EBU} \\ G_{601EBU} \\ B_{601EBU} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.063361, & -1.393390, & -0.475824 \\ -0.969244, & 1.875968, & 0.041555 \\ 0.067861, & -0.228799, & 1.069090 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.412391, & 0.357584, & 0.180481 \\ 0.212639, & 0.715169, & 0.072192 \\ 0.019331, & 0.119195, & 0.950532 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{601EBU} \\ G_{601EBU} \\ B_{601EBU} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.957815, & 0.042184, & 0.0 \\ 0.0, & 1.0, & 0.0 \\ 0.0, & -0.011934, & 1.011934 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix}$$

Conversion from BT.601 625-line to BT.709 primaries can be performed using these matrices:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.240970, & -1.537383, & -0.498611 \\ -0.969244, & 1.875968, & 0.041555 \\ 0.055630, & -0.203977, & 1.056972 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.430554, & 0.341550, & 0.178352 \\ 0.222004, & 0.706655, & 0.071341 \\ 0.020182, & 0.129553, & 0.939322 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{601EBU} \\ G_{601EBU} \\ B_{601EBU} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1.044044, & -0.044043, & 0.0 \\ 0.0, & 1.0, & 0.0 \\ 0.0, & 0.011793, & 0.988207 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{601EBU} \\ G_{601EBU} \\ B_{601EBU} \end{pmatrix}$$

## BT.709/BT.2020 primary conversion example

Conversion from **BT.709** to **BT.2020** primaries can be performed using the matrices in Section 19.4 and Section 19.1 as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{2020} \\ G_{2020} \\ B_{2020} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1.716651, & -0.355671, & -0.253366 \\ -0.666684, & 1.616481, & 0.015769 \\ 0.017640, & -0.042771, & 0.942103 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.412391, & 0.357584, & 0.180481 \\ 0.212639, & 0.715169, & 0.072192 \\ 0.019331, & 0.119195, & 0.950532 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{2020} \\ G_{2020} \\ B_{2020} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0.627404, & 0.329282, & 0.043314 \\ 0.069097, & 0.919541, & 0.011362 \\ 0.016392, & 0.088013, & 0.895595 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix}$$

Conversion from BT.2020 primaries to BT.709 primaries can be performed with the following matrices:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.240970, & -1.537383, & -0.498611 \\ -0.969244, & 1.875968, & 0.041555 \\ 0.055630, & -0.203977, & 1.056972 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.636958, & 0.144617, & 0.168881 \\ 0.262700, & 0.677998, & 0.059302 \\ 0.000000, & 0.028073, & 1.060985 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{2020} \\ G_{2020} \\ B_{2020} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{709} \\ G_{709} \\ B_{709} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1.660491, & -0.587641, & -0.072850 \\ -0.124551, & 1.132900, & -0.008349 \\ -0.018151, & -0.100579, & 1.118730 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_{2020} \\ G_{2020} \\ B_{2020} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Chapter 20

# Color models

The human eye is more sensitive to high-frequency changes in intensity (absolute quantity of light) than to high-frequency changes in the dominant wavelength and saturation of a color. Additionally the eye does not exhibit equal sensitivity to all wavelengths. Many image representations take advantage of these facts to distribute the number of bits used to represent a texel in a more perceptually-uniform manner than is achieved by representing the color primaries independently - for example by encoding the chroma information at a reduced spatial resolution.

### Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> color model

Color models based on color differences are often referred to with incorrect or ambiguous terminology, the most common of which is “YUV”.

In the broadcast standards which define these models:

- A prime mark (') is used to refer to the “gamma pre-corrected” version of a value. That is, an approximation to a perceptually linear mapping between value and intensity. The absence of a prime mark indicates that the value is linear in intensity.
- $R'G'B'$  is used to refer to the red, green and blue reference values in “gamma pre-corrected” form. That is,  $R'$ ,  $G'$  and  $B'$  have a non-linear transfer function, whereas  $R$ ,  $G$  and  $B$  are linear with respect to light intensity. The transfer function used resembles an exponentiation “gamma correction” operation, with a linear segment near zero for mathematical stability. See Section 18.2 for details of the transfer function typically used in these cases.
- IEEE standards [BT.601](#) and [BT.709](#) use a prefix of  $E$  to refer to a continuous signal value in the range [0..1], mirroring the terminology in analog standards such as [BT.1700](#) and [SMPTE-170M](#). For example, in these standards, the continuous encoding of  $R'$  is written  $E'_R$ . [BT.2020](#) and [BT.2100](#) no longer use the  $E$  convention, and refer to continuous values as, for example,  $R'$  directly. For brevity, this specification does not use the  $E$ -prefix convention for model conversions, and all values can be assumed to be continuous. [BT.601](#) refers to the quantized digital version of  $E'_R$ ,  $E'_G$  and  $E'_B$  as  $E'_{R_D}$ ,  $E'_{G_D}$  and  $E'_{B_D}$ . In [BT.709](#) the quantized digital representation is instead  $D'_R$ ,  $D'_G$  and  $D'_B$ , in [BT.2020](#) and [BT.2100](#) written as  $DR'$ ,  $DG'$  and  $DB'$ .
- $Y'$  is a weighted sum of  $R'$ ,  $G'$  and  $B'$  values, and represents non-physically-linear (but perceptually-linear) light intensity, as distinct from physically-linear light intensity. Note that the ITU broadcast standards use “luminance” for  $Y'$  despite some authorities reserving that term for a linear intensity representation. Since this is a weighted sum of non-linear values,  $Y'$  is not mathematically equivalent to applying the non-linear transfer function to a weighted sum of linear  $R$ ,  $G$  and  $B$  values:  $R^\gamma + G^\gamma + B^\gamma \neq (R + G + B)^\gamma$ . The prime symbol is often omitted so that  $Y'$  is confusingly written  $Y$ . [BT.601](#) and [BT.709](#) refers to the continuous non-linear “luminance” signal as  $E'_Y$ ; in [BT.2020](#) and [BT.2100](#) this value is just  $Y'$ . The quantized digital representation is written as simply  $Y'$  in [BT.601](#), as  $D'_Y$  in [BT.709](#), and as  $DY'$  in [BT.2020](#) and [BT.2100](#). In this standard,  $Y'$  refers to a continuous value.



- For the purposes of this section, we will refer to the weighting factor applied to  $R'$  as  $K_R$  and the weighting factor applied to  $B'$  as  $K_B$ . The weighting factor of  $G'$  is therefore  $1 - K_R - K_B$ . Thus  $Y' = K_R \times R' + (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G' + K_B \times B'$ .

Color differences are calculated from the non-linear  $Y'$  and color components as:

$$\begin{aligned} B' - Y' &= (1 - K_B) \times B' - (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G' - K_R \times R' \\ R' - Y' &= (1 - K_R) \times R' - (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G' - K_B \times B' \end{aligned}$$

Note that, for  $R', G', B'$  in the range  $[0..1]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - K_B) \geq B' - Y' &\geq -(1 - K_B) \\ (1 - K_R) \geq R' - Y' &\geq -(1 - K_R) \end{aligned}$$

- $(B' - Y')$  scaled appropriately for incorporation into a PAL sub-carrier signal is referred to in **BT.1700** as  $U$ ; note that the scale factor (0.493) is not the same as that used for digital encoding of this color difference.  $U$  is colloquially used for other representations of this value.
- $(R' - Y')$  scaled appropriately for incorporation into a PAL sub-carrier signal is referred to in **BT.1700** as  $V$ ; note that the scale factor (0.877) is not the same as that used for digital encoding of this color difference.  $V$  is colloquially used for other representations of this value.
- $(B' - Y')$  scaled to the range  $[-0.5..0.5]$  is referred to in **BT.601** and **BT.709** as  $E'_{CB}$ , and in **BT.2020** and **BT.2100** as simply  $C'_B$ . In **ST-240** this value is referred to as  $E_{PB'}$ , and the analog signal is colloquially known as  $P_B$ . This standard uses the  $C'_B$  terminology for brevity and consistency with  $Y'_C C'_{BC} C'_{RC}$ . It is common, especially in the name of a color model, to omit the prime symbol and write simply  $C_B$ .
- $(R' - Y')$  scaled to the range  $[-0.5..0.5]$  is referred to in **BT.601** and **BT.709** as  $E'_{CR}$ , and in **BT.2020** and **BT.2100** as simply  $C'_R$ . In **ST-240** this value is referred to as  $E_{PR'}$ , and the analog signal is colloquially known as  $P_R$ . This standard uses the  $C'_R$  terminology for brevity and consistency with  $Y'_C C'_{BC} C'_{RC}$ . It is common, especially in the name of a color model, to omit the prime symbol and write simply  $C_R$ .
- $(B' - Y')$  scaled and quantized for digital representation is known as simply  $C'_B$  in **BT.601**,  $D'_{CB}$  in **BT.709** and  $DC'_B$  in **BT.2020** and **BT.2100**.
- $(R' - Y')$  scaled and quantized for digital representation is known as simply  $C'_R$  in **BT.601**,  $D'_{CR}$  in **BT.709** and  $DC'_R$  in **BT.2020** and **BT.2100**.
- This section considers the color channels in continuous terms; the terminology  $DC'_B$  and  $DC'_R$  is used in Chapter 21.

Using this terminology, the following conversion formulae can be derived:

$$\begin{aligned} Y' &= K_R \times R' + (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G' + K_B \times B' \\ C'_B &= \frac{(B' - Y')}{2(1 - K_B)} \\ &= \frac{B'}{2} - \frac{K_R \times R' + (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G'}{2(1 - K_B)} \\ C'_R &= \frac{(R' - Y')}{2(1 - K_R)} \\ &= \frac{R'}{2} - \frac{K_B \times B' + (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G'}{2(1 - K_R)} \end{aligned}$$

For the inverse conversion:

$$\begin{aligned} R' &= Y' + 2(1 - K_R) \times C'_R \\ B' &= Y' + 2(1 - K_B) \times C'_B \end{aligned}$$

The formula for  $G'$  can be derived by substituting the formulae for  $R'$  and  $B'$  into the derivation of  $Y'$ :

$$\begin{aligned} Y' &= K_R \times R' + (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G' + K_B \times B' \\ &= K_R \times (Y' + 2(1 - K_R) \times C'_R) + \\ &\quad (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G' + \\ &\quad K_B \times (Y' + 2(1 - K_B) \times C'_B) \\ Y' \times (1 - K_R - K_B) &= (1 - K_R - K_B) \times G' + \\ &\quad K_R \times 2(1 - K_R) \times C'_R + \\ &\quad K_B \times 2(1 - K_B) \times C'_B \\ G' &= Y' - \frac{2(K_R(1 - K_R) \times C'_R + K_B(1 - K_B) \times C'_B)}{1 - K_R - K_B} \end{aligned}$$

The values chosen for  $K_R$  and  $K_B$  vary between standards.

#### Note

The required color model conversion between  $Y'C_B C_R$  and  $R'G'B'$  can typically be deduced from other color space parameters:

| Primaries                   |              | OETF         |               | Color model conversion |                |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Defined in                  | Described in | Defined in   | Described in  | Defined in             | Described in   |
| BT.709<br>sRGB              | Section 19.1 | BT.709       | Section 18.2  | BT.709                 | Section 20.1.1 |
| BT.709<br>sRGB<br>sYCC      | Section 19.1 | sRGB<br>sYCC | Section 18.3  | BT.601                 | Section 20.1.2 |
| BT.601 (625-line)           | Section 19.2 | BT.601       | Section 18.2  | BT.601                 | Section 20.1.2 |
| BT.601 (525-line)<br>ST-240 | Section 19.3 | BT.601       | Section 18.2  | BT.601                 | Section 20.1.2 |
| BT.601 (525-line)<br>ST-240 | Section 19.3 | ST-240       | Section 18.11 | ST-240                 | Section 20.1.4 |
| BT.2020<br>BT.2100          | Section 19.4 | BT.2020      | Section 18.2  | BT.2020                | Section 20.1.3 |

**BT.709 Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> conversion**

**ITU Rec.709** defines  $K_R = 0.2126$  and  $K_B = 0.0722$ .

That is, for conversion between  $(R', G', B')$  defined in **BT.709 color primaries** and using the **ITU transfer function**:

$$\begin{aligned} Y' &= 0.2126 \times R' + 0.7152 \times G' + 0.0722 \times B' \\ C'_B &= \frac{(B' - Y')}{1.8556} \\ C'_R &= \frac{(R' - Y')}{1.5748} \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively:

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y' \\ C'_B \\ C'_R \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2126, & 0.7152, & 0.0722 \\ -\frac{0.2126}{1.8556}, & -\frac{0.7152}{1.8556}, & 0.5 \\ 0.5, & -\frac{0.7152}{1.5748}, & -\frac{0.0722}{1.5748} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R' \\ G' \\ B' \end{pmatrix}$$

For the inverse conversion:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R' \\ G' \\ B' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1, & 0, & 1.5748 \\ 1, & -\frac{0.13397432}{0.7152}, & -\frac{0.33480248}{0.7152} \\ 1, & 1.8556, & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y' \\ C'_B \\ C'_R \end{pmatrix}$$

**BT.601 Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> conversion**

**ITU Rec.601** defines  $K_R = 0.299$  and  $K_B = 0.114$ .

That is, for conversion between  $(R', G', B')$  defined in **BT.601 EBU color primaries** or **BT.601 SMPTE color primaries**, and using the **ITU transfer function**:

$$\begin{aligned} Y' &= 0.299 \times R' + 0.587 \times G' + 0.114 \times B' \\ C'_B &= \frac{(B' - Y')}{1.772} \\ C'_R &= \frac{(R' - Y')}{1.402} \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively:

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y' \\ C'_B \\ C'_R \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.299, & 0.587, & 0.114 \\ -\frac{0.299}{1.772}, & -\frac{0.587}{1.772}, & 0.5 \\ 0.5, & -\frac{0.587}{1.402}, & -\frac{0.114}{1.402} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R' \\ G' \\ B' \end{pmatrix}$$

For the inverse conversion:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R' \\ G' \\ B' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1, & 0, & 1.402 \\ 1, & -\frac{0.202008}{0.587}, & -\frac{0.419198}{0.587} \\ 1, & 1.772, & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y' \\ C'_B \\ C'_R \end{pmatrix}$$

**BT.2020 Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> conversion**

ITU Rec.2020 and ITU Rec.2100 define  $K_R = 0.2627$  and  $K_B = 0.0593$ .

That is, for conversion between  $(R', G', B')$  defined in BT.2020 color primaries and using the ITU transfer function:

$$\begin{aligned} Y' &= 0.2627 \times R' + 0.6780 \times G' + 0.0593 \times B' \\ C'_B &= \frac{(B' - Y')}{1.8814} \\ C'_R &= \frac{(R' - Y')}{1.4746} \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively:

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y' \\ C'_B \\ C'_R \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2627, & 0.6780, & 0.0593 \\ -\frac{0.2627}{1.8814}, & -\frac{0.6780}{1.8814}, & 0.5 \\ 0.5, & -\frac{0.6780}{1.4746}, & -\frac{0.0593}{1.4746} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R' \\ G' \\ B' \end{pmatrix}$$

For the inverse conversion:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R' \\ G' \\ B' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1, & 0, & 1.4746 \\ 1, & -\frac{0.11156702}{0.6780}, & -\frac{0.38737742}{0.6780} \\ 1, & 1.8814, & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y' \\ C'_B \\ C'_R \end{pmatrix}$$

**ST-240/SMPTE 240M Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> conversion**

ST240, formerly SMPTE 240M, defines  $K_R = 0.212$  and  $K_B = 0.087$ .

That is, for conversion using the ST240 transfer function:

$$\begin{aligned} Y' &= 0.212 \times R' + 0.701 \times G' + 0.087 \times B' \\ C'_B &= \frac{(B' - Y')}{1.826} \\ C'_R &= \frac{(R' - Y')}{1.576} \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively:

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y' \\ C'_B \\ C'_R \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.212, & 0.701, & 0.087 \\ -\frac{0.212}{1.826}, & -\frac{0.701}{1.826}, & 0.5 \\ 0.5, & -\frac{0.701}{1.576}, & -\frac{0.087}{1.576} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R' \\ G' \\ B' \end{pmatrix}$$

For the inverse conversion:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R' \\ G' \\ B' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1, & 0, & 1.576 \\ 1, & -\frac{0.58862}{0.701}, & -\frac{0.334112}{0.701} \\ 1, & 1.826, & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y' \\ C'_B \\ C'_R \end{pmatrix}$$

## $Y'_C C'_{BC} C'_{RC}$ constant luminance color model

ITU-T Rec. BT.2020 introduced a “constant luminance” color representation as an alternative representation to  $Y'_B C'_B C'_R$ :

$$Y'_C = (0.2627R + 0.6780G + 0.0593B)'$$

$$C'_{BC} = \begin{cases} \frac{B' - Y'_C}{1.9404}, & -0.9702 \leq B' - Y'_C \leq 0 \\ \frac{B' - Y'_C}{1.5816}, & 0 < B' - Y'_C \leq 0.7908 \end{cases}$$

$$C'_{RC} = \begin{cases} \frac{R' - Y'_C}{1.7184}, & -0.8592 \leq R' - Y'_C \leq 0 \\ \frac{R' - Y'_C}{0.9936}, & 0 < R' - Y'_C \leq 0.4968 \end{cases}$$

This terminology follows BT.2020's convention of describing the continuous values as  $Y'_C$ ,  $C'_{BC}$  and  $C'_{RC}$ , BT.2020 uses  $DY'_C$ ,  $DC'_{BC}$  and  $DC'_{RC}$  to represent the quantized integer representations of the same values.

---

### Note

$Y'_C$  is derived from applying a non-linear transfer function to a combination of linear  $RGB$  components and applying a non-linear transfer function to the result, but the  $C'_{BC}$  and  $C'_{RC}$  color differences still encode differences between non-linear values.

---

The inverse transformation can be derived from the above:

$$B' = \begin{cases} Y'_C + 1.9404C'_{BC}, & C'_{BC} \leq 0 \\ Y'_C + 1.5816C'_{BC}, & C'_{BC} > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$R' = \begin{cases} Y'_C + 1.7184C'_{RC}, & C'_{RC} \leq 0 \\ Y'_C + 0.9936C'_{RC}, & C'_{RC} > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$G = Y'_C - 0.2627R - 0.0593B$$

---

### Note

Performing these calculations requires conversion between a linear representation and a non-linear transfer function during the transformation. This is distinct from the non-constant-luminance case, which is a simple matrix transform.

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## IC<sub>T</sub>C<sub>P</sub> constant intensity color model

ITU-T Rec. BT.2100 introduced a “constant intensity” color representation as an alternative representation to  $Y'C_B C_R$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 L &= \frac{(1688R + 2146G + 262B)}{4096} \\
 M &= \frac{(683R + 2951G + 462B)}{4096} \\
 S &= \frac{(99R + 309G + 3688B)}{4096} \\
 L' &= \begin{cases} \text{EOTF}^{-1}(L_D), & \text{PQ transfer function} \\ \text{OETF}(L_S), & \text{HLG transfer function} \end{cases} \\
 M' &= \begin{cases} \text{EOTF}^{-1}(M_D), & \text{PQ transfer function} \\ \text{OETF}(M_S), & \text{HLG transfer function} \end{cases} \\
 S' &= \begin{cases} \text{EOTF}^{-1}(S_D), & \text{PQ transfer function} \\ \text{OETF}(S_S), & \text{HLG transfer function} \end{cases} \\
 I &= 0.5L' + 0.5M' \\
 C_T &= \frac{(6610L' - 13613M' + 7003S')}{4096} \\
 C_P &= \frac{(17933L' - 17390M' - 543S')}{4096}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that the suffix <sub>D</sub> indicates that PQ encoding is *display-referred* and the suffix <sub>S</sub> indicates that HLG encoding is *scene-referred* - that is, they refer to display and scene light respectively.

To invert this, it can be observed that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \begin{pmatrix} L' \\ M' \\ S' \end{pmatrix} &= 4096 \times \begin{pmatrix} 2048, & 2048, & 0 \\ 6610, & -13613, & 7003 \\ 17933, & -17390, & -543 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} I \\ C_T \\ C_P \end{pmatrix} \\
 \begin{pmatrix} L' \\ M' \\ S' \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1, & 1112064/129174029, & 14342144/129174029 \\ 1, & -1112064/129174029, & -14342144/129174029 \\ 1, & 72341504/129174029, & -41416704/129174029 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I \\ C_T \\ C_P \end{pmatrix} \\
 \begin{pmatrix} L' \\ M' \\ S' \end{pmatrix} &\approx \begin{pmatrix} 1, & 0.0086090370, & 0.1110296250 \\ 1, & -0.0086090370, & -0.1110296250 \\ 1, & 0.5600313357, & -0.3206271750 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I \\ C_T \\ C_P \end{pmatrix} \\
 \{L_D, M_D, S_D\} &= \text{EOTF}_{\text{PQ}}(\{L', M', S'\}) \\
 \{L_S, M_S, S_S\} &= \text{OETF}_{\text{HLG}}^{-1}(\{L', M', S'\}) \\
 \begin{pmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{pmatrix} &= 4096 \times \begin{pmatrix} 1688, & 2146, & 262 \\ 683, & 2951, & 462 \\ 99, & 309, & 3688 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} L \\ M \\ S \end{pmatrix} \\
 \begin{pmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{4096}{12801351680} \times \begin{pmatrix} 10740530, & -7833490, & 218290 \\ -2473166, & 6199406, & -600910 \\ -81102, & -309138, & 3515570 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} L \\ M \\ S \end{pmatrix} \\
 \begin{pmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{pmatrix} &\approx \begin{pmatrix} 3.4366066943, & -2.5064521187, & 0.0698454243 \\ -0.7913295556, & 1.9836004518, & -0.1922708962 \\ -0.0259498997, & -0.0989137147, & 1.1248636144 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} L \\ M \\ S \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Chapter 21

# Quantization schemes

The formulae in the previous sections are described in terms of operations on continuous values. These values are typically represented by quantized integers. There are standard encodings for representing some color models within a given bit depth range.

### “Narrow range” encoding

ITU broadcast standards typically reserve values at the ends of the representable integer range for rounding errors and for signal control data. The nominal range of representable values between these limits is represented by the following encodings, for bit depth  $n = \{8, 10, 12\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 DG' &= \lfloor 0.5 + (219 \times G' + 16) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor & DB' &= \lfloor 0.5 + (219 \times B' + 16) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor \\
 DY' &= \lfloor 0.5 + (219 \times Y' + 16) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor & DR' &= \lfloor 0.5 + (219 \times R' + 16) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor \\
 DY'_C &= \lfloor 0.5 + (219 \times Y'_C + 16) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor & DC'_B &= \lfloor 0.5 + (224 \times C'_B + 128) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor \\
 DI &= \lfloor 0.5 + (219 \times I + 16) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor & DC'_R &= \lfloor 0.5 + (224 \times C'_R + 128) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor \\
 & & DC'_{CB} &= \lfloor 0.5 + (224 \times C'_{CB} + 128) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor \\
 & & DC'_{CR} &= \lfloor 0.5 + (224 \times C'_{CR} + 128) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor \\
 & & DC'_T &= \lfloor 0.5 + (224 \times C'_T + 128) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor \\
 & & DC'_P &= \lfloor 0.5 + (224 \times C'_P + 128) \times 2^{n-8} \rfloor
 \end{aligned}$$

The dequantization formulae are therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G' &= \frac{\frac{DG'}{2^{n-8}} - 16}{219} & Y' &= \frac{\frac{DY'}{2^{n-8}} - 16}{219} & Y'_C &= \frac{\frac{DY'_C}{2^{n-8}} - 16}{219} & I &= \frac{\frac{DI}{2^{n-8}} - 16}{219} \\
 B' &= \frac{\frac{DB'}{2^{n-8}} - 16}{219} & C'_B &= \frac{\frac{DC'_B}{2^{n-8}} - 128}{224} & C'_{CB} &= \frac{\frac{DC'_{CB}}{2^{n-8}} - 128}{224} & C'_T &= \frac{\frac{DC'_T}{2^{n-8}} - 128}{224} \\
 R' &= \frac{\frac{DR'}{2^{n-8}} - 16}{219} & C'_R &= \frac{\frac{DC'_R}{2^{n-8}} - 128}{224} & C'_{CR} &= \frac{\frac{DC'_{CR}}{2^{n-8}} - 128}{224} & C'_P &= \frac{\frac{DC'_P}{2^{n-8}} - 128}{224}
 \end{aligned}$$

For consistency with  $Y'_C C'_{BC} C'_{RC}$ , these formulae use the [BT.2020](#) and [BT.2100](#) terminology of prefixing a  $D$  to represent the digital quantized encoding of a numerical value.

That is, in “narrow range” encoding:

| Value                          | Continuous encoding value                                            | Quantized encoding                                                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Black                          | $\{R', G', B', Y', Y'_C, I\} = 0.0$                                  | $\{DR', DG', DB', DY', DY'_C, DI\} = 16 \times 2^{n-8}$                 |
| Peak brightness                | $\{R', G', B', Y', Y'_C, I\} = 1.0$                                  | $\{DR', DG', DB', DY', DY'_C, DI\} = 235 \times 2^{n-8}$                |
| Minimum color difference value | $\{C'_B, C'_R, C'_{BC}, C'_{RC}, C_T, C_P\} = -0.5$                  | $\{DC'_B, DC'_R, DC'_{BC}, DC'_{CR}, DC_T, DC_P\} = 16 \times 2^{n-8}$  |
| Maximum color difference value | $\{C'_B, C'_R, C'_{BC}, C'_{RC}, C_T, C_P\} = 0.5$                   | $\{DC'_B, DC'_R, DC'_{BC}, DC'_{CR}, DC_T, DC_P\} = 240 \times 2^{n-8}$ |
| Achromatic colors              | $R' = G' = B'$<br>$\{C'_B, C'_R, C'_{BC}, C'_{RC}, C_T, C_P\} = 0.0$ | $\{DC'_B, DC'_R, DC'_{BC}, DC'_{CR}, DC_T, DC_P\} = 128 \times 2^{n-8}$ |

If, instead of the quantized values, the input is interpreted as fixed-point values in the range 0.0..1.0, as might be the case if the values were treated as unsigned normalized quantities in a computer graphics API, the following conversions can be applied instead:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G' &= \frac{G'_{norm} \times 2^{n-1} - 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{219 \times 2^{n-8}} & B' &= \frac{B'_{norm} \times 2^{n-1} - 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{219 \times 2^{n-8}} \\
 Y' &= \frac{Y'_{norm} \times 2^{n-1} - 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{219 \times 2^{n-8}} & R' &= \frac{R'_{norm} \times 2^{n-1} - 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{219 \times 2^{n-8}} \\
 Y'_C &= \frac{Y'_{Cnorm} \times 2^{n-1} - 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{219 \times 2^{n-8}} & C'_B &= \frac{DC'_{Bnorm} \times 2^{n-1} - 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{224 \times 2^{n-8}} \\
 I &= \frac{I'_{norm} \times 2^{n-1} - 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{219 \times 2^{n-8}} & C'_R &= \frac{DC'_{Rnorm} \times 2^{n-1} - 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{224 \times 2^{n-8}} \\
 G'_{norm} &= \frac{G' \times 219 \times 2^{n-8} + 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} & C'_{CB} &= \frac{DC'_{CBnorm} \times 2^{n-1} - 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{224 \times 2^{n-8}} \\
 Y'_{norm} &= \frac{Y' \times 219 \times 2^{n-8} + 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} & C'_{CR} &= \frac{DC'_{CRnorm} \times 2^{n-1} - 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{224 \times 2^{n-8}} \\
 Y'_{Cnorm} &= \frac{Y'_C \times 219 \times 2^{n-8} + 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} & C'_T &= \frac{DC'_{Tnorm} \times 2^{n-1} - 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{224 \times 2^{n-8}} \\
 I_{norm} &= \frac{I \times 219 \times 2^{n-8} + 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} & C'_P &= \frac{DC'_{Pnorm} \times 2^{n-1} - 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{224 \times 2^{n-8}} \\
 & & B'_{norm} &= \frac{B' \times 219 \times 2^{n-8} + 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} \\
 & & R'_{norm} &= \frac{R' \times 219 \times 2^{n-8} + 16 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} \\
 & & C'_{Bnorm} &= \frac{DC'_B \times 224 \times 2^{n-8} + 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} \\
 & & C'_{Rnorm} &= \frac{DC'_R \times 224 \times 2^{n-8} + 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} \\
 & & C'_{CBnorm} &= \frac{DC'_{CB} \times 224 \times 2^{n-8} + 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} \\
 & & C'_{CRnorm} &= \frac{DC'_{CR} \times 224 \times 2^{n-8} + 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} \\
 & & C'_{Tnorm} &= \frac{DC'_T \times 224 \times 2^{n-8} + 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}} \\
 & & C'_{Pnorm} &= \frac{DC'_P \times 224 \times 2^{n-8} + 128 \times 2^{n-8}}{2^{n-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$



## “Full range” encoding

ITU-T Rec. BT.2100-1 and the current Rec. T.871 JFIF specification define the following quantization scheme that does not incorporate any reserved head-room or foot-room, which is optional and described as “full range” in BT.2100, and integral to Rec. T.871.

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### Note

Both these specifications modify a definition used in previous versions of their specifications, which is described [below](#).

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For bit depth  $n = \{8 \text{ (JFIF)}, 10, 12 \text{ (Rec.2100)}\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 DG' &= \text{Round}(G' \times (2^n - 1)) & DB' &= \text{Round}(B' \times (2^n - 1)) \\
 DY' &= \text{Round}(Y' \times (2^n - 1)) & DR' &= \text{Round}(R' \times (2^n - 1)) \\
 DY'_C &= \text{Round}(Y'_C \times (2^n - 1)) & DC'_B &= \text{Round}(C'_B \times (2^n - 1) + 2^{n-1}) \\
 DI &= \text{Round}(I \times (2^n - 1)) & DC'_R &= \text{Round}(C'_R \times (2^n - 1) + 2^{n-1}) \\
 & & DC'_{CB} &= \text{Round}(C'_{CB} \times (2^n - 1) + 2^{n-1}) \\
 & & DC'_{CR} &= \text{Round}(C'_{CR} \times (2^n - 1) + 2^{n-1}) \\
 & & DC'_T &= \text{Round}(C'_T \times (2^n - 1) + 2^{n-1}) \\
 & & DC'_P &= \text{Round}(C'_P \times (2^n - 1) + 2^{n-1})
 \end{aligned}$$

BT.2100-1 defines Round() as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Round}(x) &= \text{Sign}(x) \times \lfloor |x| + 0.5 \rfloor \\
 \text{Sign}(x) &= \begin{cases} 1, & x > 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ -1, & x < 0 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that a chroma channel value of exactly 0.5 corresponds to a quantized encoding of  $2^n$ , and must therefore be clamped to the nominal peak value of  $2^n - 1$ . **Narrow-range encoding** does not have this problem. A chroma channel value of -0.5 corresponds to a quantized encoding of 1, which is the nominal minimum peak value.

In Rec. T.871 (which defines only  $n = 8$ ), the corresponding formula is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Round}(x) &= \text{Clamp}(\lfloor |x| + 0.5 \rfloor) \\
 \text{clamp}(x) &= \begin{cases} 255, & x > 255 \\ 0, & x < 0 \\ x, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Allowing for the clamping at a chroma value of 0.5, these formulae are equivalent across the expected -0.5..0.5 range for chroma and 0.0..1.0 range for luma values.

The dequantization formulae are therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G' &= \frac{DG'}{2^n - 1} & Y' &= \frac{DY'}{2^n - 1} & Y'_C &= \frac{DY'_C}{2^n - 1} & I &= \frac{DI'}{2^n - 1} \\
 B' &= \frac{DB'}{2^n - 1} & C'_B &= \frac{DC'_B - 2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} & C'_{CB} &= \frac{DC'_{CB} - 2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} & C'_T &= \frac{DC'_T - 2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 R' &= \frac{DR'}{2^n - 1} & C'_R &= \frac{DC'_R - 2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} & C'_{CR} &= \frac{DC'_{CR} - 2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} & C'_P &= \frac{DC'_P - 2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

That is, in “full range” encoding:

| Value                          | Continuous encoding value                                            | Quantized encoding                                                        |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Black                          | $\{R', G', B', Y', Y'_C, I\} = 0.0$                                  | $\{DR', DG', DB', DY', DY'_C, DI\} = 0$                                   |
| Peak brightness                | $\{R', G', B', Y', Y'_C, I\} = 1.0$                                  | $\{DR', DG', DB', DY', DY'_C, DI\} = 2^n - 1$                             |
| Minimum color difference value | $\{C'_B, C'_R, C'_{BC}, C'_{RC}, C_T, C_P\} = -0.5$                  | $\{DC'_B, DC'_R, DC'_{BC}, DC'_{CR}, DC_T, DC_P\} = 1$                    |
| Maximum color difference value | $\{C'_B, C'_R, C'_{BC}, C'_{RC}, C_T, C_P\} = 0.5$                   | $\{DC'_B, DC'_R, DC'_{BC}, DC'_{CR}, DC_T, DC_P\} = 2^n - 1$<br>(clamped) |
| Achromatic colors              | $R' = G' = B'$<br>$\{C'_B, C'_R, C'_{BC}, C'_{RC}, C_T, C_P\} = 0.0$ | $\{DC'_B, DC'_R, DC'_{BC}, DC'_{CR}, DC_T, DC_P\} = 2^{n-1}$              |

If, instead of the quantized values, the input is interpreted as fixed-point values in the range 0.0..1.0, as might be the case if the values were treated as unsigned normalized quantities in a computer graphics API, the following conversions can be applied instead:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G' &= G'_{norm} & B' &= B'_{norm} \\
 & & R' &= R'_{norm} \\
 Y' &= Y'_{norm} & C'_B &= DC'_{Bnorm} - \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 & & C'_R &= DC'_{Rnorm} - \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 Y'_C &= Y'_{Cnorm} & C'_{CB} &= DC'_{CBnorm} - \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 & & C'_{CR} &= DC'_{CRnorm} - \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 I &= I'_{norm} & C'_T &= DC'_{Tnorm} - \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 & & C'_P &= DC'_{Pnorm} - \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 G'_{norm} &= G' & B'_{norm} &= B' \\
 & & R'_{norm} &= R' \\
 Y'_{norm} &= Y' & C'_{Bnorm} &= DC'_B + \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 & & C'_{Rnorm} &= DC'_R + \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 Y'_{Cnorm} &= Y'_C & C'_{CBnorm} &= DC'_{CB} + \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 & & C'_{CRnorm} &= DC'_{CR} + \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 I_{norm} &= I & C'_{Tnorm} &= DC'_T + \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1} \\
 & & C'_{Pnorm} &= DC'_P + \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n - 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Legacy “full range” encoding.

ITU-T Rec. BT.2100-0 formalized an optional encoding scheme that does not incorporate any reserved head-room or foot-room. The legacy JFIF specification similarly used the full range of 8-bit channels to represent  $Y' C_B C_R$  color. For bit depth  $n = \{8 \text{ (JFIF)}, 10, 12 \text{ (Rec.2100)}\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 DG' &= \lfloor 0.5 + G' \times 2^n \rfloor & DB' &= \lfloor 0.5 + B' \times 2^n \rfloor \\
 DY' &= \lfloor 0.5 + Y' \times 2^n \rfloor & DR' &= \lfloor 0.5 + R' \times 2^n \rfloor \\
 DY'_C &= \lfloor 0.5 + Y'_C \times 2^n \rfloor & DC'_B &= \lfloor 0.5 + (C'_B + 0.5) \times 2^n \rfloor \\
 & & DC'_R &= \lfloor 0.5 + (C'_R + 0.5) \times 2^n \rfloor \\
 & & DC'_{CB} &= \lfloor 0.5 + (C'_{CB} + 0.5) \times 2^n \rfloor \\
 DI &= \lfloor 0.5 + I \times 2^n \rfloor & DC'_{CR} &= \lfloor 0.5 + (C'_{CR} + 0.5) \times 2^n \rfloor \\
 & & DC'_T &= \lfloor 0.5 + (C'_T + 0.5) \times 2^n \rfloor \\
 & & DC'_P &= \lfloor 0.5 + (C'_P + 0.5) \times 2^n \rfloor
 \end{aligned}$$

The dequantization formulae are therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G' &= DG' \times 2^{-n} & Y' &= DY' \times 2^{-n} & Y'_C &= DY'_C \times 2^{-n} & I &= DI' \times 2^{-n} \\
 B' &= DB' \times 2^{-n} & C'_B &= DC'_B \times 2^{-n} - 0.5 & C'_{CB} &= DC'_{CB} \times 2^{-n} - 0.5 & C'_T &= DC'_T \times 2^{-n} - 0.5 \\
 R' &= DR' \times 2^{-n} & C'_R &= DC'_R \times 2^{-n} - 0.5 & C'_{CR} &= DC'_{CR} \times 2^{-n} - 0.5 & C'_P &= DC'_P \times 2^{-n} - 0.5
 \end{aligned}$$

### Note

These formulae map luma values of 1.0 and chroma values of 0.5 to  $2^n$ , for bit depth  $n$ . This has the effect that the maximum value (e.g. pure white) cannot be represented directly. Out-of-bounds values must be clamped to the largest representable value.

### Note

ITU-R BT.2100-0 dictates that in 12-bit coding, the largest values encoded should be 4092 (“for consistency” with 10-bit encoding, with a maximum value of 1023). This slightly reduces the maximum intensity which can be expressed, and slightly reduces the saturation range. The achromatic color point is still 2048 in the 12-bit case, so no offset is applied in the transformation to compensate for this range reduction.

If, instead of the quantized values, the input is interpreted as fixed-point values in the range 0.0..1.0, as might be the case if the values were treated as unsigned normalized quantities in a computer graphics API, the following conversions can be applied instead:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G' &= \frac{G'_{norm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} & B' &= \frac{B'_{norm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} & R' &= \frac{R'_{norm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} \\
 Y' &= \frac{Y'_{norm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} & C'_B &= \frac{C'_{Bnorm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} - 0.5 & C'_R &= \frac{C'_{Rnorm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} - 0.5 \\
 Y'_C &= \frac{Y'_{Cnorm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} & C'_{CB} &= \frac{C'_{CBnorm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} - 0.5 & C'_{CR} &= \frac{C'_{CRnorm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} - 0.5 \\
 I &= \frac{I'_{norm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} & C'_T &= \frac{C'_{Tnorm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} - 0.5 & C'_P &= \frac{C'_{Pnorm} \times (2^n - 1)}{2^n} - 0.5 \\
 \\ 
 G'_{norm} &= \frac{G' \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} & B'_{norm} &= \frac{B' \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} & R'_{norm} &= \frac{R' \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} \\
 Y'_{norm} &= \frac{Y' \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} & C'_{Bnorm} &= \frac{(C'_B + 0.5) \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} & C'_{Rnorm} &= \frac{(C'_R + 0.5) \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} \\
 Y'_{Cnorm} &= \frac{Y'_C \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} & C'_{CBnorm} &= \frac{(C'_{CB} + 0.5) \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} & C'_{CRnorm} &= \frac{(C'_{CR} + 0.5) \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} \\
 I_{norm} &= \frac{I' \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} & C'_{Tnorm} &= \frac{(C'_T + 0.5) \times 2^n}{2^n - 1} & C'_{Pnorm} &= \frac{(C'_P + 0.5) \times 2^n}{2^n - 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

That is, to match the behavior described in these specifications, the inputs to color model conversion should be expanded such that the maximum representable value is that defined by the quantization of these encodings (255/256, 1023/1024 or 4095/4096), and the inverse operation should be applied to the result of the model conversion.

For example, a legacy shader-based JPEG decoder may read values in a normalized 0..1 range, where the in-memory value 0 represents 0.0 and the in-memory value 1 represents 1.0. The decoder should scale the  $Y'$  value by a factor of 255/256 to match the encoding in the **JFIF3** document, and  $C'_B$  and  $C_R$  should be scaled by 255/256 and offset by 0.5. After the model conversion matrix has been applied, the  $R'$ ,  $G'$  and  $B'$  values should be scaled by 256/255, restoring the ability to represent pure white.

## Chapter 22

# External references

### IEEE754-2008 - IEEE standard for floating-point arithmetic

IEEE Std 754-2008 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/IEEESTD.2008.4610935>, August, 2008.

### CIE Colorimetry - Part 3: CIE tristimulus values

[http://cie.co.at/index.php?i\\_ca\\_id=823](http://cie.co.at/index.php?i_ca_id=823)

### ITU-R BT.601 Studio encoding parameters of digital television for standard 4:3 and wide-screen 16:9 aspect ratios

<http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.601/en>

### ITU-R BT.709 Parameter values for the HDTV standards for production and international programme exchange

<http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.709-5-200204-I/en>

### ITU-R BT.2020 Parameter values for ultra-high definition television systems for production and international programme exchange

<http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.2020/en>

### ITU-R BT.2100 Image parameter values for high dynamic range television for use in production and international programme exchange

<http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.2100/en>

## JPEG File Interchange Format (JFIF)

<https://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-T.871/en>

Legacy version:

<https://www.w3.org/Graphics/JPEG/jfif3.pdf>

## ITU-R BT.1886: Reference electro-optical transfer function for flat panel displays used in HDTV studio production

<https://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.1886/en>

## ITU-R BT.2087 Colour conversion from Recommendation ITU-R BT.709 to Recommendation ITU-R BT.2020

<http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.2087/en>

## ITU-R BT.2390-1 High dynamic range television for production and international programme exchange

<http://www.itu.int/pub/R-REP-BT.2390-1-2016>

## ITU-R BT.470 Conventional analogue television systems

<https://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.470/en>

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### Note

BT.470-6 contains descriptions of analog broadcast systems. BT.470-7 deprecates this description in favor of BT.1700.

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### Note

Although this specification is written in English, the countries in Appendix 1 appear to be listed in alphabetical order as they would have been written in French.

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## ITU-R BT.472-3: Video-frequency characteristics of a television system to be used for the international exchange of programmes between countries that have adopted 625-line colour or monochrome systems

<http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.472/en>

## **ITU-R BT.1700: Characteristics of composite video signals for conventional analogue television systems**

<https://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.1700/en>

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### **Note**

This specification includes SMTPE170M-2004 (which describes NTSC) along with PAL and NTSC.

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## **ITU-R BT.2043: Analogue television systems currently in use throughout the world**

[https://www.itu.int/dms\\_pub/itu-r/opb/rep/R-REP-BT.2043-2004-PDF-E.pdf](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-r/opb/rep/R-REP-BT.2043-2004-PDF-E.pdf)

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### **Note**

Although this specification is written in English, the countries appear to be listed in alphabetical order as they would have been written in French.

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## **SMPTE 170m Composite analog video signal — NTSC for studio applications**

The latest version is available from <https://www.smpte.org/> and from the IEEE at:

<http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7291416/>.

SMPTE 170m-2004 is freely available as part of ITU-R BT.1700 at:

<https://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-BT.1700/en>

## **FCC 73.682 - TV transmission standards**

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/pagedetails.action?collectionCode=CFR&browsePath=Title+47%2FChapter+I%2FSubchapter+C%2F2001-title47-vol4-sec73-682&packageId=CFR-2001-title47-vol4&collapse=true&fromBrowse=true>

## **ST 240:1999 - SMPTE Standard - For Television — 1125-Line High-Definition Production Systems — Signal Parameters**

Formerly known as SMPTE240M - interim HDTV standard prior to international agreement on BT.709.

Available from the SMPTE and via IEEE:

<http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7291461/>

## **IEC/4WD 61966-2-1: Colour measurement and management in multimedia systems and equipment - part 2-1: default RGB colour space - sRGB**

<https://webstore.iec.ch/publication/6169> (specification)

<http://www.w3.org/Graphics/Color/srgb>

## IEC 61966-2-2:2003: Multimedia systems and equipment—Colour measurement and management — Part 2-2: Colour management — Extended RGB colour space — scRGB

<https://www.iso.org/standard/35876.html>

<http://webstore.iec.ch/webstore/webstore.nsf/artnum/029678>

<http://www.color.org/chardata/rgb/scrgb.xalter>

[https://webstore.iec.ch/preview/info\\_iec61966-2-2%7Bed1.0%7Den.pdf](https://webstore.iec.ch/preview/info_iec61966-2-2%7Bed1.0%7Den.pdf)

A working draft is freely available at <https://web.archive.org/web/20110725185444/http://www.colour.org/tc8-05/Docs/-colorspace/61966-2-2NPa.pdf>.

<http://www.color.org/sycc.pdf> - sYCC (the  $Y'C_B C_R$  variant of sRGB)

<https://webstore.iec.ch/corrigenda/iec61966-2-2-cor1%7Bed1.0%7Den.pdf> - Annex B: Non-linear encoding for scRGB : scRGB-nl and its YCC Transformation: scYCC-nl

## DCI P3 color space

- SMPTE 428-1: D-Cinema Distribution Master — Image Characteristics  
<http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7290876/>
- SMPTE EG 432-1: Digital Source Processing — Color Processing for D-Cinema  
<http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7289763/>
- SMPTE RP 431-2: D-Cinema Quality — Reference Projector and Environment  
<http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7290729/>

The latest version is available from <https://www.smpte.org/>

<https://developer.apple.com/reference/coregraphics/cgcolorspace/1408916-displayp3> describes Apple's Display P3 color space.

## Academy Color Encoding System

<http://www.oscars.org/science-technology/sci-tech-projects/aces/aces-documentation>

The international standard for ACES, [SMPTE ST 2065-1:2012 - Academy Color Encoding Specification \(ACES\)](#), is available from the SMPTE, and also from [the IEEE](#).

[TB-2014-004: Informative Notes on SMPTE ST 2065-1 – Academy Color Encoding Specification \(ACES\)](#) is freely available and contains a draft of the international standard.

[ACEScc — A Logarithmic Encoding of ACES Data for use within Color Grading Systems](#)

[ACEScct — A Quasi-Logarithmic Encoding of ACES Data for use within Color Grading Systems](#)

## Sony S-Log

[https://pro.sony.com/bbsccms/assets/files/mkt/cinema/solutions/slog\\_manual.pdf](https://pro.sony.com/bbsccms/assets/files/mkt/cinema/solutions/slog_manual.pdf) - S-Log description

[https://pro.sony.com/bbsccms/assets/files/micro/dmpc/training/S-Log2\\_Technical\\_PaperV1\\_0.pdf](https://pro.sony.com/bbsccms/assets/files/micro/dmpc/training/S-Log2_Technical_PaperV1_0.pdf) - S-Log2 description

<http://www.sony.co.uk/pro/support/attachment/1237494271390/1237494271406/technical-summary-for-s-gamut3-cine-s-log3-and-s-gamut3-s-log3.pdf> - S-Log3 description



## Adobe RGB (1998)

<https://www.adobe.com/digitalimag/pdfs/AdobeRGB1998.pdf>

<https://www.adobe.com/digitalimag/adobergb.html>

## Chapter 23

# Example format descriptors

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                | Byte 1                    | Byte 2                     | Byte 3 (MSB)                        |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 92 (total_size)                             |                           |                            |                                     |
| 0 (vendor_id)                               |                           | 0 (descriptor_type)        |                                     |
| 0 (version number)                          |                           | 88 (descriptor_block_size) |                                     |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                        | BT709 (color_primaries)   | SRGB (transfer_function)   | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)               |
| 0                                           | 0                         | 0                          | 0                                   |
| (texel_block_dimension_0)                   | (texel_block_dimension_1) | (texel_block_dimension_2)  | (texel_block_dimension_3)           |
| 4 (bytes_plane_0)                           | 0 (bytes_plane_1)         | 0 (bytes_plane_2)          | 0 (bytes_plane_3)                   |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                           | 0 (bytes_plane_5)         | 0 (bytes_plane_6)          | 0 (bytes_plane_7)                   |
| <b>Sample information for first sample</b>  |                           |                            |                                     |
| 0 (bit_offset)                              |                           | 8 (bit_length)             | 0 (channel_type) (red)              |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)     | 0 (sample_position_2)      | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                           |                            |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                           |                            |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for second sample</b> |                           |                            |                                     |
| 8 (bit_offset)                              |                           | 8 (bit_length)             | 1 (channel_type) (green)            |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)     | 0 (sample_position_2)      | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                           |                            |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                           |                            |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for third sample</b>  |                           |                            |                                     |
| 16 (bit_offset)                             |                           | 8 (bit_length)             | 2 (channel_type) (blue)             |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)     | 0 (sample_position_2)      | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                           |                            |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                           |                            |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for fourth sample</b> |                           |                            |                                     |
| 24 (bit_offset)                             |                           | 8 (bit_length)             | 31 (channel_type)<br>(alpha+linear) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)     | 0 (sample_position_2)      | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                           |                            |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                           |                            |                                     |

Table 23.1: Four co-sited 8-bit sRGB channels, assuming premultiplied alpha

| Byte 0 (LSB)                               | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                   |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 44 (total_size)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (vendor_id)                              |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                |
| 0 (version number)                         |                                | 40 (descriptor_block_size)     |                                |
| YUVSDA (color_model)                       | BT709 (color_primaries)        | ITU (transfer_function)        | ALPHA_STRAIGHT (flags)         |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)             | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3) |
| 4 (bytes_plane_0)                          | 0 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)              |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                          | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)              |
| <b>Sample information for first sample</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (bit_offset)                             |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (Y)           |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                      | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                           |                                |                                |                                |
| 255 (sample_upper)                         |                                |                                |                                |

Table 23.2: A single 8-bit monochrome channel

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                 | Byte 1                      | Byte 2                      | Byte 3 (MSB)                |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 156 (total_size)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                |                             | 0 (descriptor_type)         |                             |
| 0 (version number)                           |                             | 152 (descriptor_block_size) |                             |
| YUVSDA (color_model)                         | BT709 (color_primaries)     | ITU (transfer_function)     | ALPHA_STRAIGHT (flags)      |
| 7 (texel_block_dimension_0)                  | 0 (texel_block_dimension_1) | 0 (texel_block_dimension_2) | 0 (texel_block_dimension_3) |
| 1 (bytes_plane_0)                            | 0 (bytes_plane_1)           | 0 (bytes_plane_2)           | 0 (bytes_plane_3)           |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                            | 0 (bytes_plane_5)           | 0 (bytes_plane_6)           | 0 (bytes_plane_7)           |
| <b>Sample information for first sample</b>   |                             |                             |                             |
| 0 (bit_offset)                               |                             | 1 (bit_length)              | 0 (channel_type) (Y)        |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                        | 0 (sample_position_1)       | 0 (sample_position_2)       | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0 (sample_lower)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (sample_upper)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| <b>Sample information for second sample</b>  |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (bit_offset)                               |                             | 1 (bit_length)              | 0 (channel_type) (Y)        |
| 2 (sample_position_0)                        | 0 (sample_position_1)       | 0 (sample_position_2)       | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0 (sample_lower)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (sample_upper)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| <b>Sample information for third sample</b>   |                             |                             |                             |
| 2 (bit_offset)                               |                             | 1 (bit_length)              | 0 (channel_type) (Y)        |
| 4 (sample_position_0)                        | 0 (sample_position_1)       | 0 (sample_position_2)       | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0 (sample_lower)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (sample_upper)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| <b>Sample information for fourth sample</b>  |                             |                             |                             |
| 3 (bit_offset)                               |                             | 1 (bit_length)              | 0 (channel_type) (Y)        |
| 6 (sample_position_0)                        | 0 (sample_position_1)       | 0 (sample_position_2)       | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0 (sample_lower)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (sample_upper)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| <b>Sample information for fifth sample</b>   |                             |                             |                             |
| 4 (bit_offset)                               |                             | 1 (bit_length)              | 0 (channel_type) (Y)        |
| 8 (sample_position_0)                        | 0 (sample_position_1)       | 0 (sample_position_2)       | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0 (sample_lower)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (sample_upper)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| <b>Sample information for sixth sample</b>   |                             |                             |                             |
| 5 (bit_offset)                               |                             | 1 (bit_length)              | 0 (channel_type) (Y)        |
| 10 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)       | 0 (sample_position_2)       | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0 (sample_lower)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (sample_upper)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| <b>Sample information for seventh sample</b> |                             |                             |                             |
| 6 (bit_offset)                               |                             | 1 (bit_length)              | 0 (channel_type) (Y)        |
| 12 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)       | 0 (sample_position_2)       | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0 (sample_lower)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (sample_upper)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| <b>Sample information for eighth sample</b>  |                             |                             |                             |
| 7 (bit_offset)                               |                             | 1 (bit_length)              | 0 (channel_type) (Y)        |
| 14 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)       | 0 (sample_position_2)       | 0 (sample_position_3)       |
| 0 (sample_lower)                             |                             |                             |                             |
| 1 (sample_upper)                             |                             |                             |                             |

Table 23.3: A single 1-bit monochrome channel, as an 8×1 texel block to allow byte-alignment

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                   |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 92 (total_size)                             |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (vendor_id)                               |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                |
| 0 (version number)                          |                                | 88 (descriptor_block_size)     |                                |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                        | BT709 (color_primaries)        | SRGB (transfer_function)       | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)          |
| 1<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)              | 1<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3) |
| 2 (bytes_plane_0)                           | 2 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)              |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                           | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)              |
| <b>Sample information for first sample</b>  |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (bit_offset)                              |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (red)         |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for second sample</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 8 (bit_offset)                              |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 1 (channel_type) (green)       |
| 2 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for third sample</b>  |                                |                                |                                |
| 16 (bit_offset)                             |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 1 (channel_type) (green)       |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 2 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for fourth sample</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 24 (bit_offset)                             |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 2 (channel_type) (blue)        |
| 2 (sample_position_0)                       | 2 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                                |                                |                                |

Table 23.4: 2×2 Bayer pattern: four 8-bit distributed sRGB channels, spread across two lines (so two planes)

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                                     | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 108 (total_size)                                                 |                                |                                |                                     |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                                    |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                     |
| 0 (version number)                                               |                                | 104 (descriptor_block_size)    |                                     |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                                             | BT709 (color_primaries)        | SRGB (transfer_function)       | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)               |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)                                   | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3)      |
| 0 (bytes_plane_0)                                                | 4 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)                   |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                                                | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)                   |
| <b>Sample information for the palette index</b>                  |                                |                                |                                     |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                                   |                                | 3 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type)<br>(irrelevant)    |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                            | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                 |                                |                                |                                     |
| 4 (sample_upper)—this specifies that there are 5 palette entries |                                |                                |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for first sample</b>                       |                                |                                |                                     |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                                   |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (red)              |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                            | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                 |                                |                                |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                                               |                                |                                |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for second sample</b>                      |                                |                                |                                     |
| 8 (bit_offset)                                                   |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 1 (channel_type) (green)            |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                            | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                 |                                |                                |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                                               |                                |                                |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for third sample</b>                       |                                |                                |                                     |
| 16 (bit_offset)                                                  |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 2 (channel_type) (blue)             |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                            | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                 |                                |                                |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                                               |                                |                                |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for fourth sample</b>                      |                                |                                |                                     |
| 24 (bit_offset)                                                  |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 31 (channel_type)<br>(alpha+linear) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                            | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                 |                                |                                |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                                               |                                |                                |                                     |

Table 23.5: Four co-sited 8-bit channels in the sRGB color space described by an 5-entry, 3-bit palette

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                  | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                   |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 124 (total_size)                              |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                 |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                |
| 0 (version number)                            |                                | 120 (descriptor_block_size)    |                                |
| YUVSDA (color_model)                          | BT709 (color_primaries)        | ITU (transfer_function)        | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)          |
| 1<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)                | 1<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3) |
| 2 (bytes_plane_0)                             | 2 (bytes_plane_1)              | 1 (bytes_plane_2)              | 1 (bytes_plane_3)              |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                             | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)              |
| <b>Sample information for first Y sample</b>  |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (Y)           |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                         | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 16 (sample_lower)                             |                                |                                |                                |
| 235 (sample_upper)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for second Y sample</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 8 (bit_offset)                                |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (Y)           |
| 2 (sample_position_0)                         | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 16 (sample_lower)                             |                                |                                |                                |
| 235 (sample_upper)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for third Y sample</b>  |                                |                                |                                |
| 16 (bit_offset)                               |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (Y)           |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                         | 2 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 16 (sample_lower)                             |                                |                                |                                |
| 235 (sample_upper)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for fourth Y sample</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 24 (bit_offset)                               |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (Y)           |
| 2 (sample_position_0)                         | 2 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 16 (sample_lower)                             |                                |                                |                                |
| 235 (sample_upper)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for U sample</b>        |                                |                                |                                |
| 32 (bit_offset)                               |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 1 (channel_type) (U)           |
| 1 (sample_position_0)                         | 1 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 16 (sample_lower)                             |                                |                                |                                |
| 240 (sample_upper)                            |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for V sample</b>        |                                |                                |                                |
| 36 (bit_offset)                               |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 2 (channel_type) (V)           |
| 1 (sample_position_0)                         | 1 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 16 (sample_lower)                             |                                |                                |                                |
| 240 (sample_upper)                            |                                |                                |                                |

Table 23.6: Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub> 4:2:0: BT.709 reduced-range data, with C<sub>B</sub> and C<sub>R</sub> aligned to the midpoint of the Y samples.

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                                                                       | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 92 (total_size)                                                                                    |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                                                                      | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                |                                |
| 0 (version number)                                                                                 | 88 (descriptor_block_size)     |                                |                                |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                                                                               | BT709 (color_primaries)        | SRGB (transfer_function)       | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)          |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)                                                                     | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3) |
| 2 (bytes_plane_0)                                                                                  | 0 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)              |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                                                                                  | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)              |
| <b>Sample information for first sample: bit 0 belongs to green, bits 0..2 of channel in 13..15</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 13 (bit_offset)                                                                                    | 3 (bit_length)                 |                                | 1 (channel_type) (green)       |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                                              | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                                                   |                                |                                |                                |
| 63 (sample_upper)                                                                                  |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for second sample: bits 3..5 of green in 0..2</b>                            |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                                                                     | 3 (bit_length)                 |                                | 1 (channel_type) (green)       |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                                              | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower) — ignored, taken from first sample                                                |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (sample_upper) — ignored, taken from first sample                                                |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for third sample</b>                                                         |                                |                                |                                |
| 3 (bit_offset)                                                                                     | 5 (bit_length)                 |                                | 2 (channel_type) (blue)        |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                                              | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                                                   |                                |                                |                                |
| 31 (sample_upper)                                                                                  |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for fourth sample</b>                                                        |                                |                                |                                |
| 8 (bit_offset)                                                                                     | 5 (bit_length)                 |                                | 1 (channel_type) (red)         |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                                              | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                                                   |                                |                                |                                |
| 31 (sample_upper)                                                                                  |                                |                                |                                |

Table 23.7: 565 RGB format as represented on a big-endian architecture



| Byte 0 (LSB)                                           | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 124 (total_size)                                       |                                |                                |                                   |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                          |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                   |
| 0 (version number)                                     |                                | 120 (descriptor_block_size)    |                                   |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                                   | BT709 (color_primaries)        | ITU (transfer_function)        | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)             |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)                         | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3)    |
| 4 (bytes_plane_0)                                      | 0 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)                 |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                                      | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)                 |
| <b>Sample information for R mantissa</b>               |                                |                                |                                   |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                         |                                | 9 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (red)            |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)             |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                   |
| 256 (sample_upper) - mantissa at 1.0 (no implicit “1”) |                                |                                |                                   |
| <b>Sample information for R exponent</b>               |                                |                                |                                   |
| 27 (bit_offset)                                        |                                | 5 (bit_length)                 | 32 (channel_type)<br>(R+exponent) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)             |
| 15 (sample_lower) - exponent bias                      |                                |                                |                                   |
| 31 (sample_upper) - no infinity/NaN support            |                                |                                |                                   |
| <b>Sample information for G mantissa</b>               |                                |                                |                                   |
| 16 (bit_offset)                                        |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 1 (channel_type) (green)          |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)             |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                   |
| 256 (sample_upper) - mantissa at 1.0 (no implicit “1”) |                                |                                |                                   |
| <b>Sample information for G exponent</b>               |                                |                                |                                   |
| 27 (bit_offset)                                        |                                | 5 (bit_length)                 | 33 (channel_type)<br>(G+exponent) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)             |
| 15 (sample_lower) - exponent bias                      |                                |                                |                                   |
| 31 (sample_upper) - no infinity/NaN support            |                                |                                |                                   |
| <b>Sample information for B mantissa</b>               |                                |                                |                                   |
| 32 (bit_offset)                                        |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 2 (channel_type) (blue)           |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)             |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                   |
| 256 (sample_upper) - mantissa at 1.0 (no implicit “1”) |                                |                                |                                   |
| <b>Sample information for B exponent</b>               |                                |                                |                                   |
| 27 (bit_offset)                                        |                                | 5 (bit_length)                 | 34 (channel_type)<br>(B+exponent) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)             |
| 15 (sample_lower) - exponent bias                      |                                |                                |                                   |
| 31 (sample_upper) - no infinity/NaN support            |                                |                                |                                   |

Table 23.8: R9G9B9E5 shared-exponent format

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                           | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 124 (total_size)                                       |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                          |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                |
| 0 (version number)                                     |                                | 120 (descriptor_block_size)    |                                |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                                   | BT709 (color_primaries)        | ITU (transfer_function)        | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)          |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)                         | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3) |
| 1 (bytes_plane_0)                                      | 0 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)              |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                                      | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)              |
| <b>Sample information for R tint (shared low bits)</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                         |                                | 2 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (red)         |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (sample_upper) - ignored, not unique                 |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for R unique (high) bits</b>     |                                |                                |                                |
| 2 (bit_offset)                                         |                                | 2 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (red)         |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                |
| 15 (sample_upper) - unique R upper value               |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for G tint (shared low bits)</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                         |                                | 2 (bit_length)                 | 1 (channel_type) (green)       |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (sample_upper) - ignored, not unique                 |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for G unique (high) bits</b>     |                                |                                |                                |
| 4 (bit_offset)                                         |                                | 2 (bit_length)                 | 1 (channel_type) (green)       |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                |
| 15 (sample_upper) - unique G upper value               |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for B tint (shared low bits)</b> |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                         |                                | 2 (bit_length)                 | 2 (channel_type) (blue)        |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (sample_upper) - ignored, not unique                 |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Sample information for B unique (high) bits</b>     |                                |                                |                                |
| 6 (bit_offset)                                         |                                | 2 (bit_length)                 | 2 (channel_type) (blue)        |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                       |                                |                                |                                |
| 15 (sample_upper) - unique B upper value               |                                |                                |                                |

Table 23.9: Acorn 256-color format (2 bits each independent RGB, 2 bits shared “tint”)

| Byte 0 (LSB)         | Byte 1                  | Byte 2                                  | Byte 3 (MSB)            |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 220 (total_size)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 0 (vendor_id)        |                         | 0 (descriptor_type)                     |                         |
| 0 (version number)   |                         | 216 (descriptor_block_size)— 12 samples |                         |
| YUVSDA (color_model) | BT709 (color_primaries) | ITU (transfer_function)                 | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)   |
| 5 (dimension_0)      | 0 (dimension_1)         | 0 (dimension_2)                         | 0 (dimension_3)         |
| 16 (bytes_plane_0)   | 0 (bytes_plane_1)       | 0 (bytes_plane_2)                       | 0 (bytes_plane_3)       |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)    | 0 (bytes_plane_5)       | 0 (bytes_plane_6)                       | 0 (bytes_plane_7)       |
| 0 (bit_offset)       |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 1 (channel_type) (U0+1) |
| 1 (assume mid-sited) | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 10 (bit offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 0 (channel_type) (Y0)   |
| 0                    | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 20 (bit_offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 2 (channel_type) (V0+1) |
| 1 (assume mid-sited) | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 32 (bit offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 0 (channel_type) (Y1)   |
| 2                    | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 42 (bit_offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 1 (channel_type) (U2+3) |
| 5 (assume mid-sited) | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 52 (bit offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 0 (channel_type) (Y2)   |
| 4                    | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 64 (bit_offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 2 (channel_type) (V2+3) |
| 5 (assume mid-sited) | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 74 (bit offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 0 (channel_type) (Y3)   |
| 6                    | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 84 (bit_offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 1 (channel_type) (U4+5) |
| 9 (assume mid-sited) | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 96 (bit offset)      |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 0 (channel_type) (Y4)   |
| 8                    | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 106 (bit_offset)     |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 2 (channel_type) (V4+5) |
| 9 (assume mid-sited) | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |
| 116 (bit offset)     |                         | 10 (bit_length)                         | 0 (channel_type) (Y5)   |
| 10                   | 0                       | 0                                       | 0                       |
| 0 (sample_lower)     |                         |                                         |                         |
| 1023 (sample_upper)  |                         |                                         |                         |

Table 23.10: V210 format (full-range Y'C<sub>B</sub>C<sub>R</sub>)

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                        |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 92 (total_size)                             |                                |                                |                                     |
| 0 (vendor_id)                               |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                     |
| 0 (version number)                          |                                | 88 (descriptor_block_size)     |                                     |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                        | BT709 (color_primaries)        | LINEAR<br>(transfer_function)  | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)               |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)              | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3)      |
| 1 (bytes_plane_0)                           | 0 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)                   |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                           | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)                   |
| <b>Sample information for first sample</b>  |                                |                                |                                     |
| 0 (bit_offset)                              |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 0 (channel_type) (red)              |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                                |                                |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                                |                                |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for second sample</b> |                                |                                |                                     |
| 0 (bit_offset)                              |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 1 (channel_type) (green)            |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                                |                                |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                                |                                |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for third sample</b>  |                                |                                |                                     |
| 0 (bit_offset)                              |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 2 (channel_type) (blue)             |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                                |                                |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                                |                                |                                     |
| <b>Sample information for fourth sample</b> |                                |                                |                                     |
| 0 (bit_offset)                              |                                | 8 (bit_length)                 | 31 (channel_type)<br>(alpha+linear) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                       | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)               |
| 0 (sample_lower)                            |                                |                                |                                     |
| 255 (sample_upper)                          |                                |                                |                                     |

Table 23.11: Intensity-alpha format showing aliased samples

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                                           | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 76 (total_size)                                                        |                                |                                |                                  |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                                          |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                  |
| 0 (version number)                                                     |                                | 72 (descriptor_block_size)     |                                  |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                                                   | BT709 (color_primaries)        | LINEAR<br>(transfer_function)  | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)            |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)                                         | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3)   |
| 6 (bytes_plane_0)                                                      | 0 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)                |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                                                      | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)                |
| <b>Sample information for first sample</b>                             |                                |                                |                                  |
| 32 (bit_offset)                                                        |                                | 16 (bit_length)                | 64 (channel_type) (red   signed) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)            |
| 0 (sample_lower) - ignored, overridden by second sample                |                                |                                |                                  |
| 0 (sample_upper) - ignored, overridden by second sample                |                                |                                |                                  |
| <b>Sample information for second sample</b>                            |                                |                                |                                  |
| 16 (bit_offset)                                                        |                                | 16 (bit_length)                | 64 (channel_type) (red   signed) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)            |
| 0xFFFFFFFF (sample_lower) - bottom 32 bits of sample_lower             |                                |                                |                                  |
| 0xFFFFFFFF (sample_upper) - bottom 32 bits of sample_upper             |                                |                                |                                  |
| <b>Sample information for third sample</b>                             |                                |                                |                                  |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                                         |                                | 16 (bit_length)                | 64 (channel_type) (red   signed) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)            |
| 0xFFFFFFFF (sample_lower) - top 16 bits of sample_lower, sign-extended |                                |                                |                                  |
| 0x7FFF (sample_upper) - top 16 bits of sample_upper                    |                                |                                |                                  |

Table 23.12: Three co-sited 16-bit samples with the high word first, comprising a single 48-bit signed red channel

| Byte 0 (LSB)                                                           | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 76 (total_size)                                                        |                                |                                |                                    |
| 0 (vendor_id)                                                          |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                    |
| 0 (version number)                                                     |                                | 72 (descriptor_block_size)     |                                    |
| RGBSDA (color_model)                                                   | BT709 (color_primaries)        | LINEAR<br>(transfer_function)  | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)              |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)                                         | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3)     |
| 2 (bytes_plane_0)                                                      | 0 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)                  |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)                                                      | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)                  |
| <b>Sample information for first sample (mantissa)</b>                  |                                |                                |                                    |
| 0 (bit_offset)                                                         |                                | 10 (bit_length)                | 0 (channel_type) (red)             |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)              |
| 0 (sample_lower)                                                       |                                |                                |                                    |
| 2048 (sample_upper) - implicit 1                                       |                                |                                |                                    |
| <b>Sample information for second sample (sign bit)</b>                 |                                |                                |                                    |
| 15 (bit_offset)                                                        |                                | 1 (bit_length)                 | 64 (channel_type) (red   signed)   |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)              |
| 0xFFFFFFFF (sample_lower)                                              |                                |                                |                                    |
| 0x0 (sample_upper)                                                     |                                |                                |                                    |
| <b>Sample information for third sample (exponent)</b>                  |                                |                                |                                    |
| 10 (bit_offset)                                                        |                                | 5 (bit_length)                 | 32 (channel_type) (red   exponent) |
| 0 (sample_position_0)                                                  | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)              |
| 15 (sample_lower) - bias                                               |                                |                                |                                    |
| 30 (sample_upper) - support for infinities (because 31 can be encoded) |                                |                                |                                    |

Table 23.13: A single 16-bit floating-point red value, described explicitly (example only!)

| Byte 0 (LSB)                    | Byte 1                         | Byte 2                         | Byte 3 (MSB)                   |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 44 (total_size)                 |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (vendor_id)                   |                                | 0 (descriptor_type)            |                                |
| 0 (version number)              |                                | 40 (descriptor_block_size)     |                                |
| RGBSDA (color_model)            | BT709 (color_primaries)        | LINEAR<br>(transfer_function)  | PREMULTIPLIED (flags)          |
| 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_0)  | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_1) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_2) | 0<br>(texel_block_dimension_3) |
| 2 (bytes_plane_0)               | 0 (bytes_plane_1)              | 0 (bytes_plane_2)              | 0 (bytes_plane_3)              |
| 0 (bytes_plane_4)               | 0 (bytes_plane_5)              | 0 (bytes_plane_6)              | 0 (bytes_plane_7)              |
| <b>Sample information</b>       |                                |                                |                                |
| 0 (bit_offset)                  |                                | 10 (bit_length)                | 0 (channel_type) (red)         |
| 0 (sample_position_0)           | 0 (sample_position_1)          | 0 (sample_position_2)          | 0 (sample_position_3)          |
| 0xbf80000 (sample_lower) = -1.0 |                                |                                |                                |
| 0x3f80000 (sample_upper) = 1.0  |                                |                                |                                |

Table 23.14: A single 16-bit floating-point red value, described normally