



DOCUMENTATION AND LEARNING MATERIAL

Little Vulkan Engine "Lve"



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1 Introduction

Vulkan is an open source cross platform modern graphic API used in various industry. Vulkan targets high-performance real-time 3D graphics applications. It is the successor of the famous OpenGL as both belongs to the non-profit Khronos Group. The particularities of Vulkan is that it is known have a steep learning curve and to be more complex than OpenGL as more tasks have to be taken care of by the programmer allowing for better optimisation.

This paper serves as general documentation for the little Vulkan engine I created, and it mainly focus on the "setup" of Vulkan to at least display a simple triangle, should anyone would like to learn or study this code. It is not meant to be neither a full blown or step by step tutorial. **The code I produced is by itself very much commented** (some may say a bit too much), this document is just a complement of information, it is especially useful as a complement for part of the code less commented. It is a helper document regrouping useful concepts, diagrams, code snippet, comments and implementations. It is not meant to be "stand-alone".

This code has been made through the help of various sources, but first and foremost it follows the structure of this amazing Youtube series made by Brendan Galea ¹, alongside of following the official Vulkan tutorial ². Last but not least, I extensively used the resources and information showcased on GpuOpen ³, an AMD driven platform that provides free learnings as well as samples and technologies using Vulkan and other API. In other words this last website is a gold mine of information, and will appear several times within this paper.

More than anything, it is more than useful to cross information sources, and I recommend having the "Understanding Vulkan® Objects" article ⁴ written by Adam Sawicki on GpuOpen opened at all time alongside reading this paper. A really useful object relation/diagram taken from this article is showcased on figure 1.

¹<https://www.youtube.com/c/BrendanGalea/videos>

²<https://vulkan-tutorial.com/>

³<https://gpuopen.com/>

⁴<https://gpuopen.com/learn/understanding-vulkan-objects/>

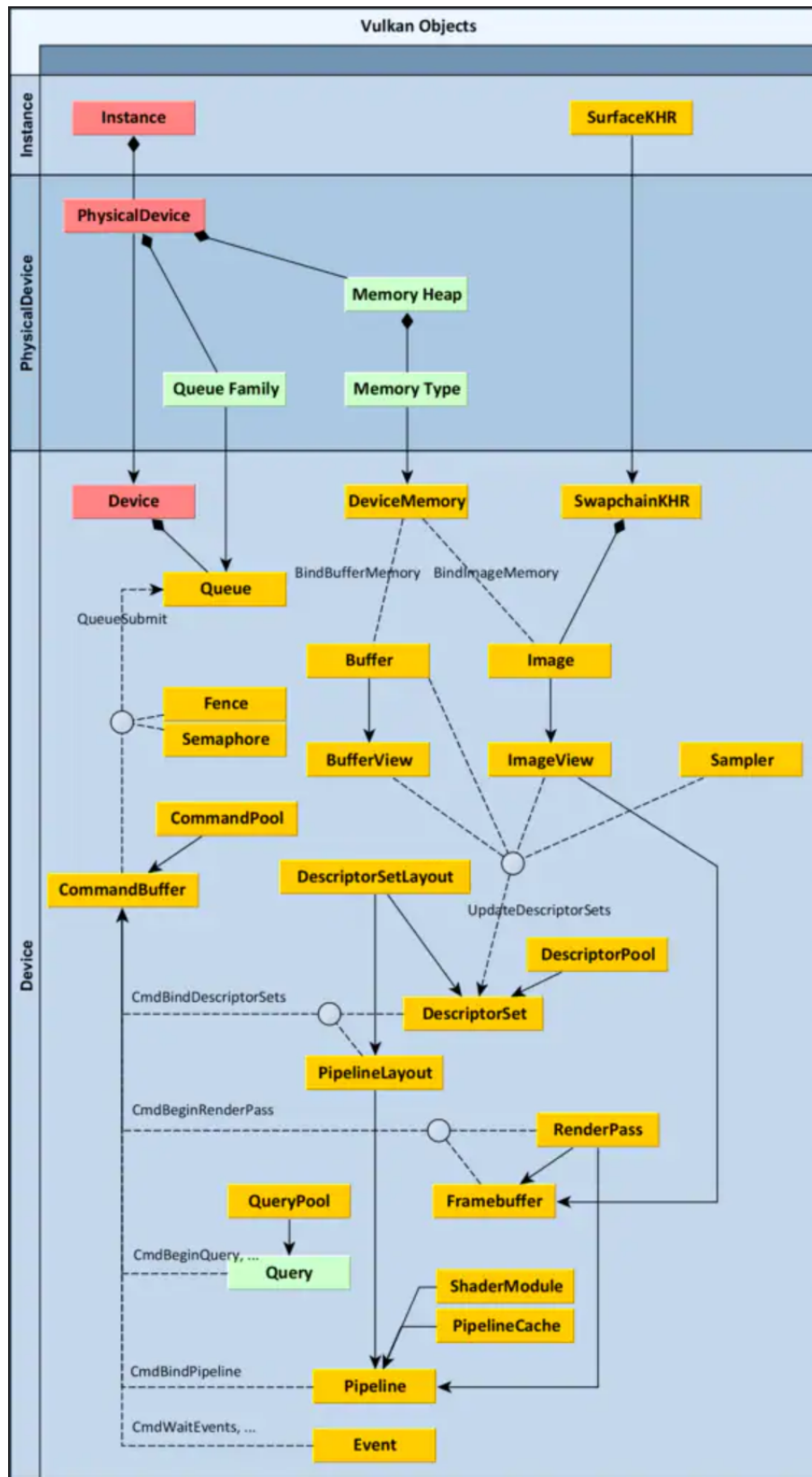


Figure 1: Vulkan object relation diagram. It is very handy to keep this diagram for reading through the code or this document. ^[3]

2 Code Overview

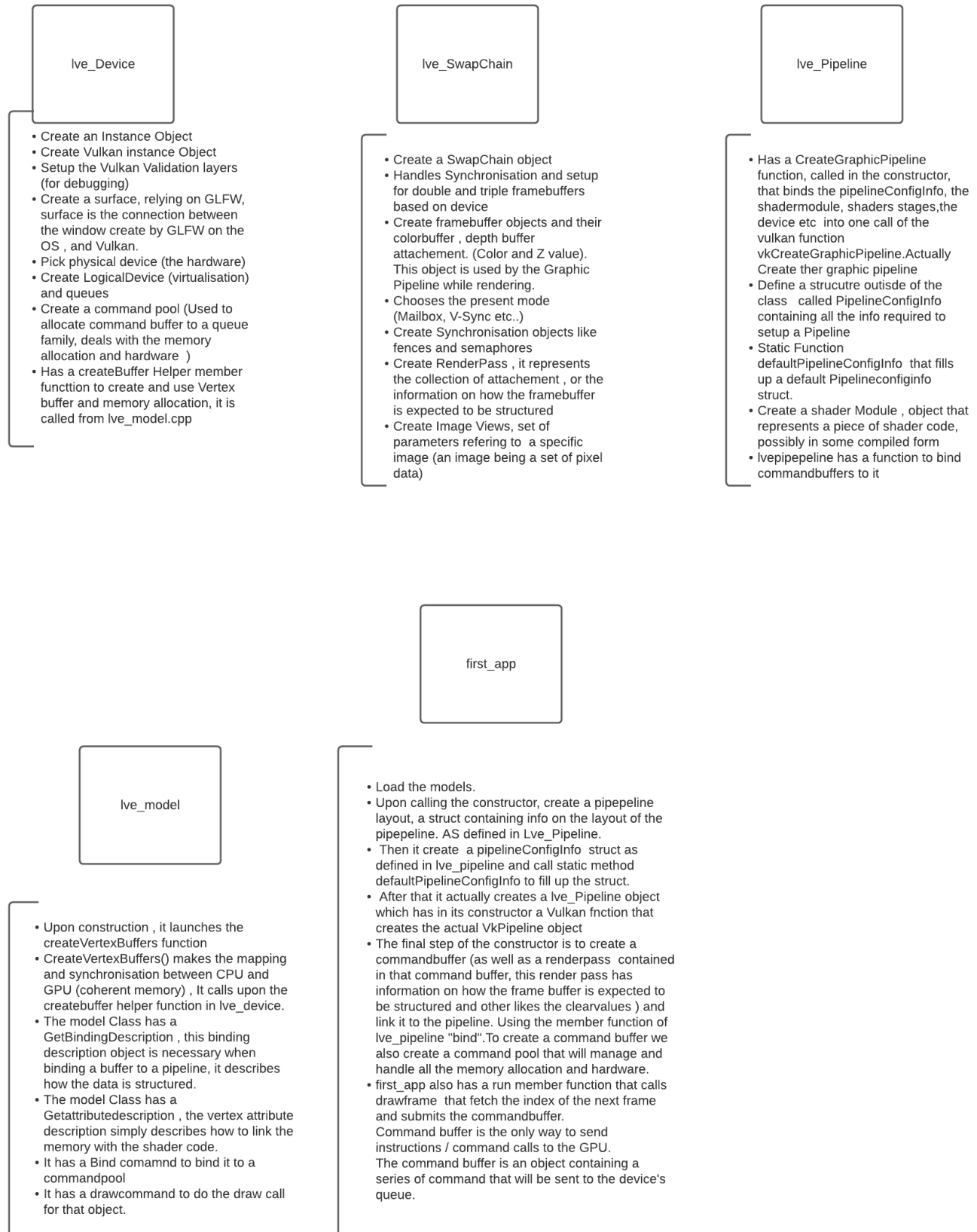


Figure 2: Classes Overview

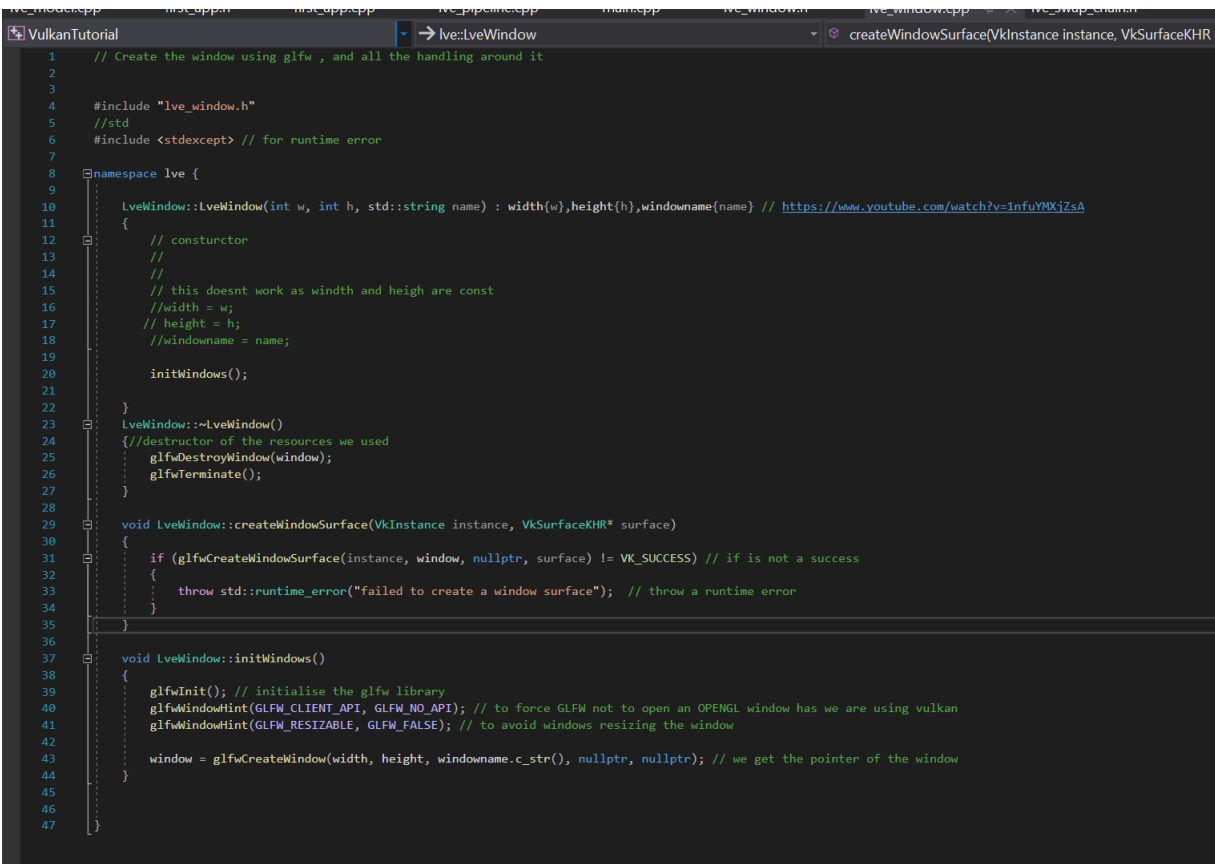
3 Lve-Window

This class, called `lveWindow`, simply has a task of creating a window using GLFW. GLFW is originally an open source API for OpenGL that is meant to provide a simple way for creating windows, contexts and surfaces, receiving input and events. It also works with Vulkan and is used here to create windows.

In the world of Vulkan, the equivalent object representing a window is called a Surface, as seen on figure 3.

One exception to the obligation to allocate and bind DeviceMemory for every Image is the creation of a Swapchain. This is a concept used to present the final image on the screen or inside the window you're drawing into on your operating system. As such, the way of creating it is platform dependent. If you already have a window initialized using a system API, **you first need to create a `SurfaceKHR` object**. It needs the Instance object, as well as some system-dependent parameters. For example, on Windows these are: instance handle (`HINSTANCE`) and window handle (`HWND`). **You can imagine `SurfaceKHR` object as the Vulkan representation of a window.**

Figure 3: The Vulkan equivalent of a window to display is called a Surface. ^[3]



```
1 // Create the window using glfw , and all the handling around it
2
3
4 #include "lve_window.h"
5 //std
6 #include <stdexcept> // for runtime error
7
8 namespace lve {
9
10     LveWindow::LveWindow(int w, int h, std::string name) : width(w), height(h), windowname{name} // https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=InFuYMXjZsA
11     {
12         // constructor
13         //
14         //
15         // this doesnt work as width and height are const
16         //width = w;
17         // height = h;
18         //windowname = name;
19
20         initWindows();
21
22     }
23
24     LveWindow::~LveWindow()
25     { //destructor of the resources we used
26         glfwDestroyWindow(window);
27         glfwTerminate();
28     }
29
30     void LveWindow::createWindowSurface(VkInstance instance, VkSurfaceKHR* surface)
31     {
32         if (glfwCreateWindowSurface(instance, window, nullptr, surface) != VK_SUCCESS) // if is not a success
33         {
34             throw std::runtime_error("failed to create a window surface"); // throw a runtime error
35         }
36     }
37
38     void LveWindow::initWindows()
39     {
40         glfwInit(); // initialise the glfw library
41         glfwWindowHint(GLFW_CLIENT_API, GLFW_NO_API); // to force GLFW not to open an OPENGL window as we are using vulkan
42         glfwWindowHint(GLFW_RESIZABLE, GLFW_FALSE); // to avoid windows resizing the window
43
44         window = glfwCreateWindow(width, height, windowname.c_str(), nullptr, nullptr); // we get the pointer of the window
45     }
46
47 }
```

Figure 4: `lve-window.cpp` deals with the creating of a window thanks to the GLFW library.

4 Lve-Device

The main role of that class is as follow, when constructed it automatically do the following:

- Creating a device object.
- Creating a Vulkan Instance object and Vulkan device object.
- Setting up Validation layers , by default the Vulkan API doesn't have a validation layer in order to improve performance, it has to be enabled manually.
- Creating a surface , relying on GLFW and the lve-window class of section 1.
- Pick a physical device (the GPU hardware , there could be many GPU available in one computer).
- Create a Logical Device (virtualisation).
- Create a command pool (used to allocate command buffers to a queue family, also deals with the memory allocation and the hardware).

The header on figure5 can give a rough idea of the different tasks achieved through LveDevice. It is especially useful to have a look at the constructor on figure 6.

```

1  #pragma once
2
3  #include "lve_window.h"
4
5  // std lib headers
6  #include <string>
7  #include <vector>
8
9
10 namespace lve {
11
12     struct SwapChainSupportDetails {
13         VkSurfaceCapabilitiesKHR capabilities;
14         std::vector<VkSurfaceFormatKHR> formats;
15         std::vector<VkPresentModeKHR> presentModes;
16     };
17
18     struct QueueFamilyIndices {
19         uint32_t graphicsFamily;
20         uint32_t presentFamily;
21         bool graphicsFamilyHasValue = false;
22         bool presentFamilyHasValue = false;
23         bool isComplete() { return graphicsFamilyHasValue && presentFamilyHasValue; }
24     };
25
26     class LveDevice {
27     public:
28         #ifdef NDEBUG
29             const bool enableValidationLayers = false;
30         #else
31             const bool enableValidationLayers = true;
32         #endif
33
34         LveDevice(LveWindow &window);
35         ~LveDevice();
36
37         // not copyable or movable
38         LveDevice(const LveDevice &) = delete;
39         void operator=(const LveDevice &) = delete;
40         LveDevice(LveDevice &&) = delete;
41         LveDevice &operator=(LveDevice &&) = delete;
42
43         VkCommandPool getCommandPool() { return commandPool; }
44         LveDevice device() { return device_; }
45         VkSurfaceKHR surface() { return surface_; }
46         VkQueue graphicsQueue() { return graphicsQueue_; }
47         VkQueue presentQueue() { return presentQueue_; }
48
49         SwapChainSupportDetails getSwapChainSupport() { return querySwapChainSupport(physicalDevice); }
50         uint32_t findMemoryType(uint32_t typeFilter, VkMemoryPropertyFlags properties);
51         QueueFamilyIndices findPhysicalQueueFamilies() { return findQueueFamilies(physicalDevice); }
52         VkFormat findSupportedFormat(const std::vector<VkFormat> &candidates, VkImageTiling tiling, VkFormatFeatureFlags features);
53
54         // Buffer Helper Functions
55         void createBuffer(
56             VkDeviceSize size,
57             VkBufferUsageFlags usage,
58             VkMemoryPropertyFlags properties,
59             VkBuffer &buffer,
60             VkDeviceMemory &bufferMemory);
61         VkCommandBuffer beginSingleTimeCommands();
62         void endSingleTimeCommands(VkCommandBuffer commandBuffer);
63         void copyBuffer(VkBuffer srcBuffer, VkBuffer dstBuffer, VkDeviceSize size);
64         void copyBufferToImage(
65             VkBuffer buffer, VkImage image, uint32_t width, uint32_t height, uint32_t layerCount);
66
67         void createImageWithInfo(
68             const VkImageCreateInfo &imageInfo,
69             VkMemoryPropertyFlags properties,
70             VkImage &image,
71             VkDeviceMemory &imageMemory);
72
73         VkPhysicalDeviceProperties properties;
74
75     private:
76         void createInstance();
77         void setupDebugMessenger();
78         void createSurface();
79         void pickPhysicalDevice();
80         void createLogicalDevice();
81         void createCommandPool();
82
83         // helper functions
84         bool isDeviceSuitable(VkPhysicalDevice device);
85         std::vector<const char *> getRequiredExtensions();
86         bool checkValidationLayerSupport();
87         QueueFamilyIndices findQueueFamilies(VkPhysicalDevice device);
88         void populateDebugMessengerCreateInfo(VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT &createInfo);
89         void hasGfxRequiredInstanceExtensions();
90         bool checkDeviceExtensionSupport(VkPhysicalDevice device);
91         SwapChainSupportDetails querySwapChainSupport(VkPhysicalDevice device);
92
93         VkInstance instance;
94         VkDebugUtilsMessengerEXT debugMessenger;
95         VkPhysicalDevice physicalDevice = VK_NULL_HANDLE;
96         LveWindow &window;
97         VkCommandPool commandPool;
98
99         VkDevice device_;
100        VkSurfaceKHR surface_;
101        VkQueue graphicsQueue_;
102        VkQueue presentQueue_;
103
104        const std::vector<const char *> validationLayers = {"VK_LAYER_KHRONOS_validation"};
105        const std::vector<const char *> deviceExtensions = {"VK_KHR_SWAPCHAIN_EXTENSION_NAME"};
106    };
107
108 } // namespace lve

```

Figure 5: lve-device.h Overview of the device class.


```

66 // class member functions
67 LveDevice::LveDevice(LveWindow &window) : window(window) { // CONSTRUCTOR
68     createInstance(); // CREATE A VULKAN INSTANCE , initnlise the vulkan library and is the connectio0n between or application and vulkan
69     setupDebugMessenger(); // Validation layers , by default the vulkan API has very smal validation layer and error handling ,
70     //small error wont get caught and ends up in crash , for debugging this shold be enabled , and disabled for realease
71     createSurface(); // create surface relying on GLFW , connection between the window i created and vulkan ability to display result
72     pickPhysicalDevice(); // pick the physical device , is the graphic hardware
73     createLogicalDevice(); // create logical device , what features of our physical device we want to use
74     createCommandPool(); // convenient to create a command pool for later use , help for command buffer allocation later on
75 }
76
77 LveDevice::~LveDevice() {
78     vkDestroyCommandPool(device_, commandPool, nullptr);
79     vkDestroyDevice(device_, nullptr);
80
81     if (enableValidationLayers) {
82         DestroyDebugUtilsMessengerEXT(instance, debugMessenger, nullptr);
83     }
84
85     vkDestroySurfaceKHR(instance, surface_, nullptr);
86     vkDestroyInstance(instance, nullptr);
87 }
88

```

Figure 6: The constructor of LveDevice.cpp. It follows the same flow as the bullet points above.

4.1 Creating an Instance

The createInstance member function called at the construction of Lve-device is showcased on figure 7.

```
89 void LveDevice::createInstance() {
90     if (enableValidationLayers && !checkValidationLayerSupport()) {
91         throw std::runtime_error("validation layers requested, but not available!");
92     }
93
94     VkApplicationInfo appInfo = {};
95     appInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_APPLICATION_INFO;
96     appInfo.pApplicationName = "LittleVulkanEngine App";
97     appInfo.applicationVersion = VK_MAKE_VERSION(1, 0, 0);
98     appInfo.pEngineName = "No Engine";
99     appInfo.engineVersion = VK_MAKE_VERSION(1, 0, 0);
100    appInfo.apiVersion = VK_API_VERSION_1_0;
101
102    VkInstanceCreateInfo createInfo = {};
103    createInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_INSTANCE_CREATE_INFO;
104    createInfo.pApplicationInfo = &appInfo;
105
106    auto extensions = getRequiredExtensions();
107    createInfo.enabledExtensionCount = static_cast<uint32_t>(extensions.size());
108    createInfo.ppEnabledExtensionNames = extensions.data();
109
110    VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT debugCreateInfo;
111    if (enableValidationLayers) {
112        createInfo.enabledLayerCount = static_cast<uint32_t>(validationLayers.size());
113        createInfo.ppEnabledLayerNames = validationLayers.data();
114
115        populateDebugMessengerCreateInfo(debugCreateInfo);
116        createInfo.pNext = (VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT *)&debugCreateInfo;
117    } else {
118        createInfo.enabledLayerCount = 0;
119        createInfo.pNext = nullptr;
120    }
121
122    if (vkCreateInstance(&createInfo, nullptr, &instance) != VK_SUCCESS) {
123        throw std::runtime_error("failed to create instance!");
124    }
125
126    hasGlfwRequiredInstanceExtensions();
127 }
```

Figure 7: Creating a Vulkan Instance object. Check for validation layers availability.

To have a better understanding of what is an Vulkan instance object, it's one of the first Vulkan object to be created on figure 1. See the definition of an instance on Vulkan on figure 8.

Instance is the first object you create. It represents the connection from your application to the Vulkan runtime and therefore only should exist once in your application. It also stores all application specific state required to use Vulkan. Therefore you must specify all layers (like the Validation Layer) and all extensions you want to enable when creating an Instance.

Figure 8: The instance Object.^[3]

When the instance is created, required Extensions for the good functioning of Vulkan are also fetched as seen on figure 9

```

281 std::vector<const char*> LveDevice::getRequiredExtensions() {
282     uint32_t glfwExtensionCount = 0;
283     const char** glfwExtensions;
284     glfwExtensions = glfwGetRequiredInstanceExtensions(&glfwExtensionCount);
285
286     std::vector<const char*> extensions(glfwExtensions, glfwExtensions + glfwExtensionCount);
287
288     if (enableValidationLayers) {
289         extensions.push_back(VK_EXT_DEBUG_UTILS_EXTENSION_NAME);
290     }
291
292     return extensions;
293 }
294
295 void LveDevice::hasGlfwRequiredInstanceExtensions() {
296     uint32_t extensionCount = 0;
297     vkEnumerateInstanceExtensionProperties(nullptr, &extensionCount, nullptr);
298     std::vector<VkExtensionProperties> extensions(extensionCount);
299     vkEnumerateInstanceExtensionProperties(nullptr, &extensionCount, extensions.data());
300
301     std::cout << "available extensions:" << std::endl;
302     std::unordered_set<std::string> available;
303     for (const auto &extension : extensions) {
304         std::cout << "\t" << extension.extensionName << std::endl;
305         available.insert(extension.extensionName);
306     }
307
308     std::cout << "required extensions:" << std::endl;
309     auto requiredExtensions = getRequiredExtensions();
310     for (const auto &required : requiredExtensions) {
311         std::cout << "\t" << required << std::endl;
312         if (available.find(required) == available.end()) {
313             throw std::runtime_error("Missing required glfw extension");
314         }
315     }
316 }
317
318 bool LveDevice::checkDeviceExtensionSupport(VkPhysicalDevice device) {
319     uint32_t extensionCount;
320     vkEnumerateDeviceExtensionProperties(device, nullptr, &extensionCount, nullptr);
321
322     std::vector<VkExtensionProperties> availableExtensions(extensionCount);
323     vkEnumerateDeviceExtensionProperties(
324         device,
325         nullptr,
326         &extensionCount,
327         availableExtensions.data());
328
329     std::set<std::string> requiredExtensions(deviceExtensions.begin(), deviceExtensions.end());
330
331     for (const auto &extension : availableExtensions) {
332         requiredExtensions.erase(extension.extensionName);
333     }
334
335     return requiredExtensions.empty();
336 }
337

```

Figure 9: Extension check at Instance creation.

4.2 Setup Debug Messenger and Validation layer

By default Vulkan doesn't run validation layers, in order to maximise performance, those must be enabled manually for while working on a debug build and disabled for finished products.

```

247 void LveDevice::SetupDebugMessenger() {
248     if (!enableValidationLayers) return;
249     VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT createInfo;
250     populateDebugMessengerCreateInfo(createInfo);
251     if (CreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT(instance, &createInfo, nullptr, &debugMessenger) != VK_SUCCESS) {
252         throw std::runtime_error("failed to set up debug messenger!");
253     }
254 }
255

```

Figure 10: Validation Layer Setup.

This function also sets up the debug messenger to communicate with the programmer.

4.3 Creating a Surface

This section is really simple, as the surface creation processes has been done on section 3, Lve-window.

```

213
214 void LveDevice::createSurface() { window.createWindowSurface(instance, &surface_); }
215

```

Figure 11: Create a surface, simple call to the window object of section 3

4.4 Pick Physical Device

Here again, it is quite self-explanatory. The programs looks for Vulkan suitable devices.

```

128
129 void LveDevice::pickPhysicalDevice() {
130     uint32_t deviceCount = 0;
131     vkEnumeratePhysicalDevices(instance, &deviceCount, nullptr);
132     if (deviceCount == 0) {
133         throw std::runtime_error("failed to find GPUs with Vulkan support!");
134     }
135     std::cout << "Device count: " << deviceCount << std::endl;
136     std::vector<VkPhysicalDevice> devices(deviceCount);
137     vkEnumeratePhysicalDevices(instance, &deviceCount, devices.data());
138
139     for (const auto &device : devices) {
140         if (isDeviceSuitable(device)) {
141             physicalDevice = device;
142             break;
143         }
144     }
145
146     if (physicalDevice == VK_NULL_HANDLE) {
147         throw std::runtime_error("failed to find a suitable GPU!");
148     }
149
150     vkGetPhysicalDeviceProperties(physicalDevice, &properties);
151     std::cout << "physical device: " << properties.deviceName << std::endl;
152 }

```

Figure 12: Pick a physical device.

PhysicalDevice represents a specific Vulkan-compatible device, like a graphics card. You enumerate these from "Instance" and you can then query them for their `vendorID`, `deviceID`, and supported features, as well as other properties and limits.

PhysicalDevice can enumerate all available types of **Queue Families**. The graphics queue is the main one, but you may also have additional ones that support only Compute or Transfer.

PhysicalDevice can also enumerate Memory Heaps and Memory Types inside them. A **Memory Heap** represents a specific pool of RAM. It may abstract your system RAM on the motherboard or a certain memory space in video RAM on a dedicated graphics card, or any other host- or device-specific memory the implementation wants to expose. You must specify the **Memory Type** when allocating memory. It holds specific requirements for the memory blob like visible to the host, coherent (between CPU and GPU) and cached. There may be an arbitrary combination of these, depending on the device driver.

Figure 13: What is a physical device in Vulkan.^[3]

4.5 Create Logical device

This next function creates a logical device (virtualisation layer) and setup its queues.

```

153
154 void LveDevice::createLogicalDevice() {
155     QueueFamilyIndices indices = findQueueFamilies(physicalDevice);
156
157     std::vector<VkDeviceQueueCreateInfo> queueCreateInfos;
158     std::set<uint32_t> uniqueQueueFamilies = {indices.graphicsFamily, indices.presentFamily};
159
160     float queuePriority = 1.0f;
161     for (uint32_t queueFamily : uniqueQueueFamilies) {
162         VkDeviceQueueCreateInfo queueCreateInfo = {};
163         queueCreateInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_QUEUE_CREATE_INFO;
164         queueCreateInfo.queueFamilyIndex = queueFamily;
165         queueCreateInfo.queueCount = 1;
166         queueCreateInfo.pQueuePriorities = &queuePriority;
167         queueCreateInfos.push_back(queueCreateInfo);
168     }
169
170     VkPhysicalDeviceFeatures deviceFeatures = {};
171     deviceFeatures.samplerAnisotropy = VK_TRUE;
172
173     VkDeviceCreateInfo createInfo = {};
174     createInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;
175
176     createInfo.queueCreateInfoCount = static_cast<uint32_t>(queueCreateInfos.size());
177     createInfo.pQueueCreateInfos = queueCreateInfos.data();
178
179     createInfo.pEnabledFeatures = &deviceFeatures;
180     createInfo.enabledExtensionCount = static_cast<uint32_t>(deviceExtensions.size());
181     createInfo.ppEnabledExtensionNames = deviceExtensions.data();
182
183     // might not really be necessary anymore because device specific validation layers
184     // have been deprecated
185     if (enableValidationLayers) {
186         createInfo.enabledLayerCount = static_cast<uint32_t>(validationLayers.size());
187         createInfo.ppEnabledLayerNames = validationLayers.data();
188     } else {
189         createInfo.enabledLayerCount = 0;
190     }
191
192     if (vkCreateDevice(physicalDevice, &createInfo, nullptr, &device_) != VK_SUCCESS) {
193         throw std::runtime_error("failed to create logical device!");
194     }
195
196     vkGetDeviceQueue(device_, indices.graphicsFamily, 0, &graphicsQueue_);
197     vkGetDeviceQueue(device_, indices.presentFamily, 0, &presentQueue_);
198
199

```

Figure 14: Create a logical device

Device can be thought of as a logical device, or opened device. It is the main object that represents an initialized Vulkan device that is ready to create all other objects. This is a similar concept to the Device object in DirectX®. During device creation, you need to specify which features you want to enable, and some of them are fundamental like anisotropic texture filtering. You also must state all queues that will be in use, their number and their Queue Families.

Queue is an object representing a queue of commands to be executed on the device. All the actual work to be done by the GPU is requested by filling CommandBuffers and submitting them to Queues, using the function `vkQueueSubmit`. If you have multiple queues like the main graphics queue and a compute queue, you can submit different CommandBuffers to each of them. This way you can enable asynchronous compute, which can lead to a substantial speed up if done right.

Figure 15: Explanation on Vulkan Device and Queues. ^[3]

4.6 Create command pool

Create a command pool, it is used to allocate command buffer to a queue family, deals with the memory allocation and hardware.

CommandPool is a simple object that is used to allocate CommandBuffers. It's connected to a specific Queue Family.

Figure 16: Command Pool. ^[3]

```

200 void LveDevice::createCommandPool() {
201     QueueFamilyIndices queueFamilyIndices = findPhysicalQueueFamilies();
202
203     VkCommandPoolCreateInfo poolInfo = {};
204     poolInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_COMMAND_POOL_CREATE_INFO;
205     poolInfo.queueFamilyIndex = queueFamilyIndices.graphicsFamily;
206     poolInfo.flags =
207         VK_COMMAND_POOL_CREATE_TRANSIENT_BIT | VK_COMMAND_POOL_CREATE_RESET_COMMAND_BUFFER_BIT;
208
209     if (vkCreateCommandPool(device_, &poolInfo, nullptr, &commandPool) != VK_SUCCESS) {
210         throw std::runtime_error("failed to create command pool!");
211     }
212 }
213

```

Figure 17: Command pool initialisation.

4.7 Buffer Helper function

The device object also has a helper function that is used later in the Model.cpp class to help create a memory allocation (and Vk memory object) for the vertex buffer.

```

void LveDevice::createBuffer( // Helper function used in Model.cpp, it's a out function , you pass buffer and bufferMemory in and they will be changed
    // When we will integrate a memory allocator we will need to rewrite this function
    VkDeviceSize size,
    VkBufferUsageFlags usage,
    VkMemoryPropertyFlags properties,
    VkBuffer &buffer,
    VkDeviceMemory &bufferMemory) {
    VkBufferCreateInfo bufferInfo{};
    bufferInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_BUFFER_CREATE_INFO;
    bufferInfo.size = size;
    bufferInfo.usage = usage;
    bufferInfo.sharingMode = VK_SHARING_MODE_EXCLUSIVE;

    if (vkCreateBuffer(device_, &bufferInfo, nullptr, &buffer) != VK_SUCCESS) { // Create/ fill in the  the vkbuffer object
        throw std::runtime_error("failed to create vertex buffer!");
    }

    VkMemoryRequirements memRequirements; // Create memory of proper size
    vkGetBufferMemoryRequirements(device_, buffer, &memRequirements);

    VkMemoryAllocateInfo allocInfo{}; // with all its appropriate properties
    allocInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_MEMORY_ALLOCATE_INFO;
    allocInfo.allocationSize = memRequirements.size;
    allocInfo.memoryTypeIndex = findMemoryType(memRequirements.memoryTypeBits, properties);

    if (vkAllocateMemory(device_, &allocInfo, nullptr, &bufferMemory) != VK_SUCCESS) { // Create/fill in the Vkmemory object
        throw std::runtime_error("failed to allocate vertex buffer memory!");
    }

    vkBindBufferMemory(device_, buffer, bufferMemory, 0); // Bind the buffer to the memory we just allocated
}

```

Figure 18: Buffer memory allocation helper function.

5 Lve-Swapchain

From the surface created in section 4, we can now create a SwapChain. See the definition onn figure 20.

The main role of that class is as follow :

- Creating a SwapChain object (from a device object).
- Handles Synchronisation and setup for double or triple frame buffering based on device capabilities.
- Creating Framebuffer objects and their attachement (Color and Z value). This object is used by the graphic pipeline while rendering.
- Choose the present mode ⁵.
- Create Synchronisation objects like fences and semaphores.
- Create RenderPass , it represents the collection of attachments, in other words it contains the information on how the frame buffer is structured.
- Create ImageViews , a set of parameters referring to a specific image (an image being a set of pixel data).

⁵For more information on those check the official documentation <https://www.khronos.org/registry/vulkan/specs/1.3-extensions/man/html/VkPresentModeKHR.html>

```

1  #pragma once
2
3  #include "lve_device.h"
4
5  // vulkan headers
6  #include <vulkan/vulkan.h>
7
8  // std lib headers
9  #include <string>
10 #include <vector>
11
12 namespace lve {
13
14     //This deals handles the synchronisation and setup for double and triple framebuffers based on device , also create framebuffer objects and their colorbuffer and depth attachment for our
15     //graphic pipeline to use while rendering
16
17     // Will come back to it for advacned subject like offscreen frame buffer for shadows redninding
18
19
20     class LveSwapChain {
21     public:
22         static constexpr int MAX_FRAMES_IN_FLIGHT = 2; // WE CAN AT MOST HAVE TWO COMMAND BUFFER IN THE PENDING STATE
23
24         LveSwapChain(LveDevice &deviceRef, VkExtent2D windowExtent);
25         ~LveSwapChain();
26
27         LveSwapChain(const LveSwapChain &) = delete;
28         void operator=(const LveSwapChain &) = delete;
29
30         VkFramebuffer getFramebuffer(int index) { return swapChainFramebuffers[index]; }
31         VkRenderPass getRenderPass() { return renderPass; }
32         VkImageView getImageView(int index) { return swapChainImageViews[index]; }
33         size_t imageCount() { return swapChainImages.size(); }
34         VkFormat getSwapChainImageFormat() { return swapChainImageFormat; }
35         VkExtent2D getSwapChainExtent() { return swapChainExtent; }
36         uint32_t width() { return swapChainExtent.width; }
37         uint32_t height() { return swapChainExtent.height; }
38
39         float extentAspectRatio() {
40             return static_cast<float>(swapChainExtent.width) / static_cast<float>(swapChainExtent.height);
41         }
42         VkFormat findDepthFormat();
43
44         VkResult acquireNextImage(uint32_t *imageIndex);
45         VkResult submitCommandBuffers(const VkCommandBuffer *buffers, uint32_t *imageIndex);
46
47     private:
48         void createSwapChain();
49         void createImageViews();
50         void createDepthResources();
51         void createRenderPass();
52         void createFramebuffers();
53         void createSyncObjects();
54
55         // Helper functions
56         VkSurfaceFormatKHR chooseSwapSurfaceFormat(
57             const std::vector<VkSurfaceFormatKHR> &availableFormats);
58         VkPresentModeKHR chooseSwapPresentMode(
59             const std::vector<VkPresentModeKHR> &availablePresentModes);
60         VkExtent2D chooseSwapExtent(const VkSurfaceCapabilitiesKHR &capabilities);
61
62         VkFormat swapChainImageFormat;
63         VkExtent2D swapChainExtent;
64
65         std::vector<VkFramebuffer> swapChainFramebuffers; // that will be the swapchain we create
66         VkRenderPass renderPass;
67
68         std::vector<VkImage> depthImages; // this will be the image depth
69         std::vector<VkDeviceMemory> depthImageMemories;
70         std::vector<VkImageView> depthImageViews;
71         std::vector<VkImage> swapChainImages; // color buffer
72         std::vector<VkImageView> swapChainImageViews;
73
74         LveDevice &device;
75         VkExtent2D windowExtent;
76
77         VkSwapchainKHR swapChain;
78
79         std::vector<VkSemaphore> imageAvailableSemaphores;
80         std::vector<VkSemaphore> renderFinishedSemaphores;
81         std::vector<VkFence> inFlightFences;
82         std::vector<VkFence> imagesInFlight;
83         size_t currentFrame = 0;
84     };
85
86 } // namespace lve
87

```

Figure 19: SwapChain header file.

One exception to the obligation to allocate and bind DeviceMemory for every Image is the creation of a Swapchain. This is a concept used to present the final image on the screen or inside the window you're drawing into on your operating system. As such, the way of creating it is platform dependent. If you already have a window initialized using a system API, you first need to create a **SurfaceKHR** object. It needs the Instance object, as well as some system-dependent parameters. For example, on Windows these are: instance handle (`HINSTANCE`) and window handle (`HWND`). You can imagine SurfaceKHR object as the Vulkan representation of a window.

From it you can create **SwapchainKHR**. This object requires a Device. It represents a set of images that can be presented on the Surface, e.g. using double- or triple-buffering. From the swapchain you can query it for the Images it contains. These images already have their backing memory allocated by the system.

Figure 20: SwapChain definition. ^[3]

```
21  LveSwapChain::LveSwapChain(LveDevice &deviceRef, VkExtent2D extent)
22      : device{deviceRef}, windowExtent{extent} {
23      createSwapChain();
24      createImageViews();
25      createRenderPass();
26      createDepthResources();
27      createFramebuffers();
28      createSyncObjects();
29  }
30
```

Figure 21: Lve-SwapChain Constructor. It follows the same steps as described above.

5.1 Creating the SwapChain Object

When creating the Vulkan SwapChain object, a few present mode can be chosen (FIFO, V-Sync etc...)⁶.

⁶For more information on those check the official documentation <https://www.khronos.org/registry/vulkan/specs/1.3-extensions/man/html/VkPresentModeKHR.html>

```

128
129 void LveSwapChain::createSwapChain() {
130     SwapChainSupportDetails swapChainSupport = device.getSwapChainSupport();
131
132     VkSurfaceFormatKHR surfaceFormat = chooseSwapSurfaceFormat(swapChainSupport.formats);
133     VkPresentModeKHR presentMode = chooseSwapPresentMode(swapChainSupport.presentModes); // depending on our graphic device it is settup to choose the mailbox present mode per default
134     //and Vsync as fallback
135     // present mode define how our swap chain handle synchroniation with the display
136     // by default it will be vsyn " FIFO" see explanation https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUVH74Mqx0A https://vulkan-tutorial.com/Drawing\_a\_triangle/Presentation/Swap\_chain
137     VkExtent2D extent = chooseSwapExtent(swapChainSupport.capabilities);
138
139     uint32_t imageCount = swapChainSupport.capabilities.minImageCount + 1;
140     if (swapChainSupport.capabilities.maxImageCount > 0 &&
141         imageCount > swapChainSupport.capabilities.maxImageCount) {
142         imageCount = swapChainSupport.capabilities.maxImageCount;
143     }
144
145     VkSwapchainCreateInfoKHR createInfo = {};
146     createInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_SWAPCHAIN_CREATE_INFO_KHR;
147     createInfo.surface = device.surface();
148
149     createInfo.minImageCount = imageCount;
150     createInfo.imageFormat = surfaceFormat.format;
151     createInfo.imageColorSpace = surfaceFormat.colorSpace;
152     createInfo.imageExtent = extent;
153     createInfo.imageArrayLayers = 1;
154     createInfo.imageUsage = VK_IMAGE_USAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_BIT;
155
156     QueueFamilyIndices indices = device.findPhysicalQueueFamilies();
157     uint32_t queueFamilyIndices[] = {indices.graphicsFamily, indices.presentFamily};
158
159     if (indices.graphicsFamily != indices.presentFamily) {
160         createInfo.imageSharingMode = VK_SHARING_MODE_CONCURRENT;
161         createInfo.queueFamilyIndexCount = 2;
162         createInfo.pQueueFamilyIndices = queueFamilyIndices;
163     } else {
164         createInfo.imageSharingMode = VK_SHARING_MODE_EXCLUSIVE;
165         createInfo.queueFamilyIndexCount = 0; // Optional
166         createInfo.pQueueFamilyIndices = nullptr; // Optional
167     }
168
169     createInfo.preTransform = swapChainSupport.capabilities.currentTransform;
170     createInfo.compositeAlpha = VK_COMPOSITE_ALPHA_OPAQUE_BIT_KHR;
171
172     createInfo.presentMode = presentMode;
173     createInfo.clipped = VK_TRUE;
174
175     createInfo.oldSwapchain = VK_NULL_HANDLE;
176
177     if (vkCreateSwapchainKHR(device.device(), &createInfo, nullptr, &swapChain) != VK_SUCCESS) {
178         throw std::runtime_error("failed to create swap chain!");
179     }
180
181     // we only specified a minimum number of images in the swap chain, so the implementation is
182     // allowed to create a swap chain with more. That's why we'll first query the final number of
183     // images with vkGetSwapchainImagesKHR, then resize the container and finally call it again to
184     // retrieve the handles.
185     vkGetSwapchainImagesKHR(device.device(), swapChain, &imageCount, nullptr);
186     swapChainImages.resize(imageCount);
187     vkGetSwapchainImagesKHR(device.device(), swapChain, &imageCount, swapChainImages.data());
188
189     swapChainImageFormat = surfaceFormat.format;
190     swapChainExtent = extent;
191 }
192

```

Figure 22: createSwapChain() function. Creates the Vulkan SwapChain object.

```

384 VkPresentModeKHR LveSwapChain::chooseSwapPresentMode(
385     const std::vector<VkPresentModeKHR> &availablePresentModes) {
386     for (const auto &availablePresentMode : availablePresentModes) {
387         if (availablePresentMode == VK_PRESENT_MODE_MAILBOX_KHR) { // depending on our graphic device it is settup to choose the mailbox present mode per default and Vsync as fallback
388             std::cout << "Present mode: Mailbox" << std::endl; // present mode define how our swap chain handle synchroniation with the display
389             return availablePresentMode; // by default it will be vsyn " FIFO" see explanation https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUVH74Mqx0A https://vulkan-tutorial.com/Drawing\_a\_triangle/P
390         }
391     }
392     // to Alwasy use V-sync comment out those lines
393     // for (const auto &availablePresentMode : availablePresentModes) {
394     //     if (availablePresentMode == VK_PRESENT_MODE_IMMEDIATE_KHR) {
395     //         std::cout << "Present mode: Immediate" << std::endl;
396     //         return availablePresentMode;
397     //     }
398     // }
399
400     std::cout << "Present mode: V-Sync" << std::endl;
401     return VK_PRESENT_MODE_FIFO_KHR;
402 }
403

```

Figure 23: PresentMode selection. By Default , the "mailbox" option will be selected as it is most likely to work with most devices.

5.2 Create ImageViews

According to GpuOpen,^[3] ImageViews "is a set of parameters referring to a specific image. There you can interpret pixels as having some other (compatible) format, swizzle any components, and limit the view to a specific range of MIP levels or array layers."

```
193 void LveSwapChain::createImageViews() {
194     swapChainImageViews.resize(swapChainImages.size());
195     for (size_t i = 0; i < swapChainImages.size(); i++) {
196         VkImageViewCreateInfo viewInfo{};
197         viewInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_VIEW_CREATE_INFO;
198         viewInfo.image = swapChainImages[i];
199         viewInfo.viewType = VK_IMAGE_VIEW_TYPE_2D;
200         viewInfo.format = swapChainImageFormat;
201         viewInfo.subresourceRange.aspectMask = VK_IMAGE_ASPECT_COLOR_BIT;
202         viewInfo.subresourceRange.baseMipLevel = 0;
203         viewInfo.subresourceRange.levelCount = 1;
204         viewInfo.subresourceRange.baseArrayLayer = 0;
205         viewInfo.subresourceRange.layerCount = 1;
206
207         if (vkCreateImageView(device.device(), &viewInfo, nullptr, &swapChainImageViews[i]) !=
208             VK_SUCCESS) {
209             throw std::runtime_error("failed to create texture image view!");
210         }
211     }
212 }
213 }
```

Figure 24: Creation of ImageViews.

5.3 Create a render pass

Here the render pass is being initialised.

In other graphics APIs you can take the immediate mode approach and just render whatever comes next on your list. This is not possible in Vulkan. Instead, you need to plan the rendering of your frame in advance and organize it into passes and subpasses. Subpasses are not separate objects, so we won't talk about them here, but they're an important part of the rendering system in Vulkan. Fortunately, you don't need to know all the details when preparing your workload. For example, you can specify the number of triangles to render on submission. The crucial part when defining a **RenderPass** in Vulkan is the number and formats of attachments that will be used in that pass.

Figure 25: Why a render pass.^[3]

```

214 void LveSwapChain::createRenderPass() {
215     VkAttachmentDescription depthAttachment{};
216     depthAttachment.format = findDepthFormat();
217     depthAttachment.samples = VK_SAMPLE_COUNT_1_BIT;
218     depthAttachment.loadOp = VK_ATTACHMENT_LOAD_OP_CLEAR;
219     depthAttachment.storeOp = VK_ATTACHMENT_STORE_OP_DONT_CARE;
220     depthAttachment.stencilLoadOp = VK_ATTACHMENT_LOAD_OP_DONT_CARE;
221     depthAttachment.stencilStoreOp = VK_ATTACHMENT_STORE_OP_DONT_CARE;
222     depthAttachment.initialLayout = VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_UNDEFINED;
223     depthAttachment.finalLayout = VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_OPTIMAL;
224
225     VkAttachmentReference depthAttachmentRef{};
226     depthAttachmentRef.attachment = 1;
227     depthAttachmentRef.layout = VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_OPTIMAL;
228
229     VkAttachmentDescription colorAttachment = {};
230     colorAttachment.format = getSwapChainImageFormat();
231     colorAttachment.samples = VK_SAMPLE_COUNT_1_BIT;
232     colorAttachment.loadOp = VK_ATTACHMENT_LOAD_OP_CLEAR;
233     colorAttachment.storeOp = VK_ATTACHMENT_STORE_OP_STORE;
234     colorAttachment.stencilStoreOp = VK_ATTACHMENT_STORE_OP_DONT_CARE;
235     colorAttachment.stencilLoadOp = VK_ATTACHMENT_LOAD_OP_DONT_CARE;
236     colorAttachment.initialLayout = VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_UNDEFINED;
237     colorAttachment.finalLayout = VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_PRESENT_SRC_KHR;
238
239     VkAttachmentReference colorAttachmentRef = {};
240     colorAttachmentRef.attachment = 0;
241     colorAttachmentRef.layout = VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OPTIMAL;
242
243     VkSubpassDescription subpass = {};
244     subpass.pipelineBindPoint = VK_PIPELINE_BIND_POINT_GRAPHICS;
245     subpass.colorAttachmentCount = 1;
246     subpass.pColorAttachments = &colorAttachmentRef;
247     subpass.pDepthStencilAttachment = &depthAttachmentRef;
248
249     VkSubpassDependency dependency = {};
250     dependency.srcSubpass = VK_SUBPASS_EXTERNAL;
251     dependency.srcAccessMask = 0;
252     dependency.srcStageMask =
253         VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT | VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_EARLY_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT;
254     dependency.dstSubpass = 0;
255     dependency.dstStageMask =
256         VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_OUTPUT_BIT | VK_PIPELINE_STAGE_EARLY_FRAGMENT_TESTS_BIT;
257     dependency.dstAccessMask =
258         VK_ACCESS_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT | VK_ACCESS_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_WRITE_BIT;
259
260     std::array<VkAttachmentDescription, 2> attachments = {colorAttachment, depthAttachment};
261     VkRenderPassCreateInfo renderPassInfo = {};
262     renderPassInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_RENDER_PASS_CREATE_INFO;
263     renderPassInfo.attachmentCount = static_cast<uint32_t>(attachments.size());
264     renderPassInfo.pAttachments = attachments.data();
265     renderPassInfo.subpassCount = 1;
266     renderPassInfo.pSubpasses = &subpass;
267     renderPassInfo.dependencyCount = 1;
268     renderPassInfo.pDependencies = &dependency;
269
270     if (vkCreateRenderPass(device.device(), &renderPassInfo, nullptr, &renderPass) != VK_SUCCESS) {
271         throw std::runtime_error("failed to create render pass!");
272     }
273 }
274

```

Figure 26: Creation of renderpass.

5.4 Create depth resources

In this code, the depth attribute of the image is being defined. Figure 27.

```
299
300 void LveSwapChain::createDepthResources() {
301     VkFormat depthFormat = findDepthFormat();
302     VkExtent2D swapChainExtent = getSwapChainExtent();
303
304     depthImages.resize(imageCount());
305     depthImageMemorys.resize(imageCount());
306     depthImageViews.resize(imageCount());
307
308     for (int i = 0; i < depthImages.size(); i++) {
309         VkImageCreateInfo imageInfo{};
310         imageInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_CREATE_INFO;
311         imageInfo.imageType = VK_IMAGE_TYPE_2D;
312         imageInfo.extent.width = swapChainExtent.width;
313         imageInfo.extent.height = swapChainExtent.height;
314         imageInfo.extent.depth = 1;
315         imageInfo.mipLevels = 1;
316         imageInfo.arrayLayers = 1;
317         imageInfo.format = depthFormat;
318         imageInfo.tiling = VK_IMAGE_TILING_OPTIMAL;
319         imageInfo.initialLayout = VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_UNDEFINED;
320         imageInfo.usage = VK_IMAGE_USAGE_DEPTH_STENCIL_ATTACHMENT_BIT;
321         imageInfo.samples = VK_SAMPLE_COUNT_1_BIT;
322         imageInfo.sharingMode = VK_SHARING_MODE_EXCLUSIVE;
323         imageInfo.flags = 0;
324
325         device.createImageWithInfo(
326             imageInfo,
327             VK_MEMORY_PROPERTY_DEVICE_LOCAL_BIT,
328             depthImages[i],
329             depthImageMemorys[i]);
330
331         VkImageViewCreateInfo viewInfo{};
332         viewInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_VIEW_CREATE_INFO;
333         viewInfo.image = depthImages[i];
334         viewInfo.viewType = VK_IMAGE_VIEW_TYPE_2D;
335         viewInfo.format = depthFormat;
336         viewInfo.subresourceRange.aspectMask = VK_IMAGE_ASPECT_DEPTH_BIT;
337         viewInfo.subresourceRange.baseMipLevel = 0;
338         viewInfo.subresourceRange.levelCount = 1;
339         viewInfo.subresourceRange.baseArrayLayer = 0;
340         viewInfo.subresourceRange.layerCount = 1;
341
342         if (vkCreateImageView(device.device(), &viewInfo, nullptr, &depthImageViews[i]) != VK_SUCCESS) {
343             throw std::runtime_error("failed to create texture image view!");
344         }
345     }
346 }
347
```

Figure 27: Creation of depth resources.

5.5 Create Frame Buffer

Here again we can get a clearer explanation on what is the frame buffer from GpuOpen ^[3] on figure 28.

Framebuffer (not to be confused with `SwapchainKHR`) represents a link to actual Images that can be used as attachments (render targets). You create a Framebuffer object by specifying the `RenderPass` and a set of `ImageViews`. Of course, their number and formats must match the specification of the `RenderPass`. Framebuffer is another layer on top of Images and basically groups these `ImageViews` together to be bound as attachments during rendering of a specific `RenderPass`. Whenever you begin rendering of a `RenderPass`, you call the function `vkCmdBeginRenderPass` and you also pass the Framebuffer to it.

Figure 28: Definition of Frame buffer.^[3]

```

275 void LveSwapChain::createFramebuffers() {
276     swapChainFramebuffers.resize(imageCount());
277     for (size_t i = 0; i < imageCount(); i++) {
278         std::array<VkImageView, 2> attachments = {swapChainImageViews[i], depthImageViews[i]};
279
280         VkExtent2D swapChainExtent = getSwapChainExtent();
281         VkFramebufferCreateInfo framebufferInfo = {};
282         framebufferInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_FRAMEBUFFER_CREATE_INFO;
283         framebufferInfo.renderPass = renderPass;
284         framebufferInfo.attachmentCount = static_cast<uint32_t>(attachments.size());
285         framebufferInfo.pAttachments = attachments.data();
286         framebufferInfo.width = swapChainExtent.width;
287         framebufferInfo.height = swapChainExtent.height;
288         framebufferInfo.layers = 1;
289
290         if (vkCreateFramebuffer(
291             device.device(),
292             &framebufferInfo,
293             nullptr,
294             &swapChainFramebuffers[i]) != VK_SUCCESS) {
295             throw std::runtime_error("failed to create framebuffer!");
296         }
297     }
298 }
299

```

Figure 29: Creation of frame buffer.

5.6 Create Sync Objects

The sync object definition is provided on figure 31.

A **Semaphore** is created without configuration parameters. It can be used to control resource access across multiple queues. It can be signaled or waited on as part of command buffer submission, also with a call to `vkQueueSubmit`, and it can be signaled on one queue (e.g. compute) and waited on other (e.g. graphics).

An **Event** is also created without parameters. It can be waited on or signaled on the GPU as a separate command submitted to `CommandBuffer`, using the functions `vkCmdSetEvent`, `vkCmdResetEvent`, and `vkCmdWaitEvents`. It can also be set, reset and waited upon (via polling calls to `vkGetEventStatus` from one or more CPU threads. `vkCmdPipelineBarrier` can also be used for a similar purpose if synchronization occurs at a single point on the GPU, or **subpass** dependencies can be used within a render pass.

Figure 30: Definition of semaphores and fences in vulkan.^[3]

```

348 void LveSwapChain::createSyncObjects() {
349     imageAvailableSemaphores.resize(MAX_FRAMES_IN_FLIGHT);
350     renderFinishedSemaphores.resize(MAX_FRAMES_IN_FLIGHT);
351     inFlightFences.resize(MAX_FRAMES_IN_FLIGHT);
352     imagesInFlight.resize(imageCount(), VK_NULL_HANDLE);
353
354     VkSemaphoreCreateInfo semaphoreInfo = {};
355     semaphoreInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_SEMAPHORE_CREATE_INFO;
356
357     VkFenceCreateInfo fenceInfo = {};
358     fenceInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_FENCE_CREATE_INFO;
359     fenceInfo.flags = VK_FENCE_CREATE_SIGNALED_BIT;
360
361     for (size_t i = 0; i < MAX_FRAMES_IN_FLIGHT; i++) {
362         if (vkCreateSemaphore(device.device(), &semaphoreInfo, nullptr, &imageAvailableSemaphores[i]) !=
363             VK_SUCCESS ||
364             vkCreateSemaphore(device.device(), &semaphoreInfo, nullptr, &renderFinishedSemaphores[i]) !=
365             VK_SUCCESS ||
366             vkCreateFence(device.device(), &fenceInfo, nullptr, &inFlightFences[i]) != VK_SUCCESS) {
367             throw std::runtime_error("failed to create synchronization objects for a frame!");
368         }
369     }
370 }

```

Figure 31: Implementation of semaphores and fences

6 Lve-Pipeline

The main role of the Lve-Pipeline class is as follow:

- Define a structure outside of the class, called PipelineConfigInfo containing all the info required to setup a Pipeline
- Has a static function defaultPipelineConfigInfo that fills up a default PipelineConfigInfo struct passed as argument.
- Create a shader Module, object that represents a piece of shader code, possibly in some compiled form.
- Lve-Pipeline has a function to bind commandbuffers to it.
- When the constructor is called, it calls upon CreateGraphicPipelinefunction that take as argument the PipelineConfigInfo , shaderModule , shaders stages, device etc... and bind them together into one call of the Vulkan function vkCreateGraphicPipeline. This Actually create the Vulkan graphic pipeline object.

You can see on figure 32 , the header file for Lve-pipeline.

```
1  #pragma once
2
3  #include <string>
4  #include <vector>
5  #include "lve_device.h"
6
7  namespace lve {
8
9      // lets create a structure that will hold our data used to configure our pipeline, it's a helper structure
10     struct PipelineConfigInfo
11     {
12         // we will explicitly set the different value of each stage of our pipeline and how it will work
13         // this will be initialised in the defaultPipelineConfigInfo function !
14         //REALLY INTERESTING AND IMPORANT TO UNDERSTAND THOSE
15         PipelineConfigInfo(const PipelineConfigInfo&) = delete; // delete copy constructor
16         PipelineConfigInfo& operator=(const PipelineConfigInfo&) = delete;
17         PipelineConfigInfo() = default; // default constructor
18         VkPipelineViewportStateCreateInfo viewportInfo;
19         VkViewport viewport;
20         VkRect2D scissor;
21         //VkPipelineViewportStateCreateInfo viewportInfo; Fixing mistake
22         VkPipelineInputAssemblyStateCreateInfo inputAssemblyInfo;
23         VkPipelineRasterizationStateCreateInfo rasterizationInfo;
24         VkPipelineMultisampleStateCreateInfo multisampleInfo;
25         VkPipelineColorBlendAttachmentState colorBlendAttachment;
26         VkPipelineColorBlendStateCreateInfo colorBlendInfo;
27         VkPipelineDepthStencilStateCreateInfo depthStencilInfo;
28         VkPipelineLayout pipelineLayout = nullptr; // we dont provide any default fir this members and we will set them outside of defaultPipelineConfigInfo
29         VkRenderPass renderPass = nullptr; // we dont provide any default fir this members and we will set them outside of defaultPipelineConfigInfo
30         uint32_t subpass = 0; // we dont provide any default fir this members and we will set them outside of defaultPipelineConfigInfo
31     };
32
33     // The reason it's out of pipeline class is because we want our application layer to be easily able to reach and configure a pipeline compeltely as well as to sahre
34     // the configuration between mutiple pilenine
35
36     class LvePipeline {
37     public:
38         LvePipeline(LveDevice& device, const std::string& vertFilepath, const std::string& fragFilepath, const PipelineConfigInfo& configInfo); //constructor
39         ~LvePipeline(); // destructor
40
41         LvePipeline(const LvePipeline&) = delete; // delete the default copy constructor https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BvRlPgzzr38&t=598s
42         // we want to avoid duplicating the pointer to our vulkan object by mistake
43         void operator=(const LvePipeline&) = delete;
44
45         void bind(VkCommandBuffer commandBuffer); // bind graphic pipeline to a commandBuffer
46
47         static void defaultPipelineConfigInfo(PipelineConfigInfo& configInfo, uint32_t width, uint32_t height); // static function to create a default PipelineConfigInfo structure
48
49     private:
50         static std::vector<char> readFile(const std::string& filepath); // returns a string of char , takes in a ref of a string
51         void createGraphicPipeline(const std::string& vertFilepath, const std::string& fragFilepath, const PipelineConfigInfo& configInfo);
52         void createShaderModule(const std::vector<char>& code, VkShaderModule* shaderModule); //takes as input the shader code as a vector of carachter , shaderModule is a pointer to a pointer !
53
54         LveDevice& lveDevice; // private member variable storing the device reference, could be memory unsafe if our device is released from memory before the pipeline ,
55         //we could try to dereference a dangling pointer, would crash the program.
56         //This is a reference type member variable , it should implicitly outlive the class it lives on it .
57         VkPipeline graphicsPipeline; // handle to vulkan pipeline object , it's a pointer !
58         VkShaderModule vertShaderModule; // shader module variable for vert shader
59         VkShaderModule fragShaderModule; // shader module variable for frag shader
60     };
61 }
```

Figure 32: Lve-Pipeline.h

To see the definition of the Vulkan pipeline object, check figure 33.

Pipeline is the big one, as it composes most of the objects listed before. It represents the configuration of the whole pipeline and has a lot of parameters. One of them is PipelineLayout – it defines the layout of descriptors and push constants. There are two types of Pipelines – ComputePipeline and GraphicsPipeline. ComputePipeline is the simpler one, because all it supports is compute-only programs (sometimes called compute shaders). GraphicsPipeline is much more complex, because it encompasses all the parameters like vertex, fragment, geometry, compute and tessellation where applicable, plus things like vertex attributes, primitive topology, backface culling, and blending mode, to name just a few. All those parameters that used to be separate settings in much older graphics APIs (DirectX 9, OpenGL), were later grouped into a smaller number of state objects as the APIs progressed (DirectX 10 and 11) and must now be baked into a single big, immutable object with today's modern APIs like Vulkan. For each different set of parameters needed during rendering you must create a new Pipeline. You can then set it as the current active Pipeline in a CommandBuffer by calling the function `vkCmdBindPipeline`.

Figure 33: Definition of the Vulkan pipeline object. ^[3]

6.1 Config Info Structure

That `configInfoStruct` is visible in the pipeline header on figure 32. This struct is use to hold the parameters of the soon to be created pipeline. Notice how the struct is defined outside of the Pipeline class.

6.2 Static Function `defaultPipelineConfigInfo`

This static function takes as input a `configInfoStruct` of section 6.1 and fills it up with default values. This function is extremely long and extensively commented within the code, as such I decided not to showcase it here. Nevertheless it is very much worth taking the time to analyze is as it contains many parameters regarding rasterisation, anti aliasing, tessellation etc...

6.3 Create a `shaderModule` object

Create a shader Module, object that represents a piece of shader code, in SPV compiled format.

```

162 void LvePipeline::createShaderModule(const std::vector<char>& code, VkShaderModule* shaderModule) { // CREATE A SHADER MODULE
163     VkShaderModuleCreateInfo createInfo{}; //we create local Vk shader module
164     //common pattern instead of calling a function with a bunch of parameter, we configure a struct and call a function with a pointer to the struct
165     createInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_SHADER_MODULE_CREATE_INFO; // the type of that structure is a VK structure shader module create info
166     createInfo.codeSize = code.size(); // the code size is the size of the array
167     createInfo.pCode = reinterpret_cast<const uint32_t*>(code.data()); // a uint32 and charcter are not the same size so we gotta be careful with it
168     //we need to cast the code from being char to being uint32 as vulkan expect it to be uint32
169     // because our data is stored in a vector, this cast will work, however C style character array that wouldnt be a valid cast.
170
171
172     if (vkCreateShaderModule(lveDevice.device(), &createInfo, nullptr, shaderModule) != VK_SUCCESS) // lveDevice.device() is a getter to the device handle that our device class encapsulate
173     { // pointer to createinfo, nullptr is function callbacks
174         throw std::runtime_error("failed to create shader module");//runtime error
175     }
176
177 }
178
179

```

Figure 34: ShaderModule creation

6.4 Bind Function

This function is important as it allows to bind a `commandBuffer` to the pipeline.

6.5 Object Creation and Constructor call

The `Lve-Pipeline` constructor takes as input argument the device, the vertex and fragment shader, and the `configInfo` struct described in section 6.1. That config info struct should have been initialised and given default values before being passed here. From there the constructor calls upon the `createGraphicPipeline` function and bind them together into one call of the Vulkan function `vkCreateGraphicsPipelines`. This Actually create the Vulkan graphic pipeline object.

This `createGraphicPipeline` function, as it takes as argument the file path to the vertex and fragment shader, calls upon the `createShaderModule` function of section 6.3.

```

namespace lve {

    LvePipeline::LvePipeline( // constructor
        LveDevice& device,
        const std::string& vertFilepath,
        const std::string& fragFilepath,
        const PipelineConfigInfo& configInfo ) : lveDevice{ device } // the variable lveDevice = the value entered in the constructor as device
    { //constructor
        createGraphicPipeline(vertFilepath, fragFilepath , configInfo);
    }

}

```

Figure 35: The constructor for Lve-Pipeline. Notice the arguments

Here Again, the function **createGraphicPipeline** is really long and extensively commented, it would require to talk a few pages and I therefore chose not showcase it this document. Although it is very important to read it carefully and understand it. Notice on figure 32 and 35 the function definition.

7 First-app

This class, is the "orchestrator " of the code, it is the one that will call most of the other constructor. The only function above is the main function that is simply used to run First-app (for now).

The main tasks for this class are the following :

- The first function call when calling the constructor is to load the models. It is there for testing purposes.
- Upon calling the constructor, first-app calls `createPipelineLayout()` a function that creates a `pipelineLayout`, a Vulkan struct called `VkPipelineLayoutCreateInfo` containing info on the layout of the pipeline. This could be well be done within the Pipeline class but for ease of access it has been taken out in the first-app.
- Next, `createPipeline()` is called , creating a `pipelineConfigInfo` struct from section 6.1, this is possible as this struct is defined outside of the Lve-Pipeline class, initialising it thanks to the static function of Lve-Pipeline described on section 6.2. Within this function the constructor of Lve-Pipeline is called, thus a Vulkan pipeline is created. See the pipeline section.
- The final step of the constructor is to create a `commandbuffer` (as well as a `renderpass` contained in that command buffer, this render pass has information on how the frame buffer is expected to be structured and other likes the clearvalues) and link it to the pipeline. Using the member function of lve-pipeline "bind". To create a command buffer we also create a command pool that will manage and handle all the memory allocation and hardware.
- First-app also has a `run` member function that calls `drawframe` that fetch the index of the next frame and submits the `commandbuffer`. Command buffer is the only way to send instructions / command calls to the GPU. The command buffer is an object containing a series of command that will be sent to the device's queue.

```
10 FirstApp::FirstApp()
11 {
12     loadModels();
13     createPipelineLayout();
14     createPipeline();
15     createCommandBuffers();
16 }
17
18
19 FirstApp::~FirstApp()
20 {
21     vkDestroyPipelineLayout(lveDevice.device(), pipelineLayout, nullptr);
22 }
23
24
```

Figure 36: The constructor of First-app.

```

4 #include "lve_window.h"
5 #include "lve_pipeline.h"
6 #include "lve_device.h"
7 #include "lve_swap_chain.h"
8
9 // include for memory
10 //STD
11 #include <memory> // to access smart pointers
12 #include <vector>
13 namespace lve {
14
15 class FirstApp {
16 public:
17     static constexpr int WIDTH = 800;
18     static constexpr int HEIGHT = 600;
19     FirstApp(); // constructor
20     ~FirstApp(); // destructor
21     // We will delete the copy constructor and copy destructor from our window class, bc we use a pointer to the glfw window
22     FirstApp(const FirstApp&) = delete; // https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVR1Pgzr38
23     FirstApp& operator = (const FirstApp&) = delete;
24     // see shallow and deep copies ,
25
26     void run();
27
28 private:
29
30     void loadModels();
31     void createPipelineLayout();
32     void createPipeline();
33     void createCommandBuffers(); // in vulkan , no directly command with function calls , we use a command buffer that stores instruction and goes in a device queue to be executed , this allow for sequences of command to be recorded
34     void drawFrame();
35
36     lveWindow lveWindow( WIDTH, HEIGHT, "Hello Vulkan!" ); // https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=InfuVWk75a , https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXHALSHwEY&list=PL1rATfBNQZ98duwN4SyfGuldgQDS4FFB&index=25
37     // not using a pointer or any dynamic memory allocation
38     // here he put {} instead of () , this is a way to initialise value with the constructor ! calling a constructor from a header file
39     // is this due to C++ 17 ? https://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/language/constructor
40
41     lveDevice lveDevice( lveWindow );
42     lveSwapChain lveSwapChain( lveDevice , lveWindow.getExtent() ); // HERE ORDER MATTERS ! variables initialised top to bottom
43
44     std::unique_ptr<lvePipeline> lvePipeline; // Smart pointer https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U087-B2Hfw8 , automate the new , delete thing to allocate memory on the stack.
45     // Unique pointer is a scoped pointer , when we going out of scope this pointer is deleted , you cant copy a unique pointer , stack allocator object
46     VkPipelineLayout pipelineLayout;
47     std::vector<VkCommandBuffer> commandBuffers;
48     std::unique_ptr<lveModel> lveModel; // creating a smart pointer , allocate on the heap , memory gets freed automatically by the smart pointer,
49
50 };
51
52

```

Figure 37: Header file of first-app

7.1 LoadModels

This function simply loads 3 vertices for testing purposes.

7.2 Create Pipeline Layout

Upon calling the constructor, first-app calls createPipelineLayout() a function that creates a pipelineLayout, a Vulkan struct called VkPipelineLayoutCreateInfo containing info on the layout of the pipeline. This could be well be done within the Pipeline class but for ease of access it has been taken out in the first-a

```

52 void FirstApp::createPipelineLayout()
53 { // Empty layout
54     VkPipelineLayoutCreateInfo pipelineLayoutInfo{};
55     pipelineLayoutInfo.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PIPELINE_LAYOUT_CREATE_INFO;
56     pipelineLayoutInfo.setLayoutCount = 0;
57     pipelineLayoutInfo.pSetLayouts = nullptr; // Pipelinesetlayout is used to pass data other than vertex data to our vertex and fragment shaders, like texture and uniforms buffer objects
58     pipelineLayoutInfo.pushConstantRangeCount = 0;
59     pipelineLayoutInfo.pushConstantRanges = nullptr; // a way to very efficiently send a small data to our shader program ( see tutorial 8)
60     if (vkCreatePipelineLayout(lveDevice.device(), &pipelineLayoutInfo, nullptr, &pipelineLayout) != VK_SUCCESS) {
61         throw std::runtime_error("failed to create pipeline layout!");
62     }
63 }
64

```

Figure 38: createPipelineLayout() function, it is used to create a pipeline layout struct that contains info on the layout of the soon to be initialised pipeline.

7.3 Create Pipeline

```
void FirstApp::createPipeline()
{
    PipelineConfigInfo pipelineConfig();
    LvePipeline::defaultPipelineConfigInfo(
        pipelineConfig,
        lveSwapChain.width(),
        lveSwapChain.height()); // important to get the width and height of the swapchain as it doesn't necessarily match the window, for example apple retina display of apple, the window in screen coordinate is smaller than actual resolution

    pipelineConfig.renderPass = lveSwapChain.getRenderPass(); // default render pass created from the swapchain code, render pass describes structure and format of our frame buffer object and its attachment, example attachment 0 is color buffer
    pipelineConfig.pipelineLayout = pipelineLayout;
    lvePipeline = std::make_unique<LvePipeline>( // Smartpointer CALL THE CONSTRUCTOR OF lve_pipeline, the constructor launches a function that creates the graphic pipeline.
        lveDevice,
        "shaders/simple_shader.vert.spv",
        "shaders/simple_shader.frag.spv",
        pipelineConfig
    );
}
```

Figure 39: when `createPipeline()` is called, it is creating a `pipelineConfigInfo` struct from section 6.1, this is possible as this struct is defined outside of the `Lve-Pipeline` class, initialising it thanks to the static function of `Lve-Pipeline` described on section 6.2. Within this function the constructor of `Lve-Pipeline` is called, thus a Vulkan pipeline is created. See the pipeline section.

7.4 Create Command Buffer

This function is used to create a command buffer (as well as a render pass contained in that command buffer, this render pass has information on how the frame buffer is expected to be structured and other likes the clear values) and link it to the pipeline. Using the member function of `Lve-pipeline` "bind". To create a command buffer we also create a command pool that will manage and handle all the memory allocation and hardware.

This part of the code is pretty lengthy, and once again really well commented, I decided once again not to include it here as it would require several pages and screenshots.

7.5 Run function

This function is pretty self-explanatory, once called by `main`, it will call `drawFrame` and display the result of our code.

```
25 void FirstApp::run()
26 {
27
28     while (!lveWindow.shouldClose()) // see if the window wants to close or not
29     {
30         // while we do not want to close
31         glfwPollEvents(); // check if event like key stroke user click to dismiss the window
32         drawFrame();
33     }
34
35     vkDeviceWaitIdle(lveDevice.device()); // with this the CPU will block up until the GPU is done, so that when
36     // we close the window, it's not in the middle of GPU calculation
37
38 }
39
```

Figure 40: The run function, pretty straight forward and self-explanatory.

```

155 void FirstApp::drawFrame()
156 {
157     uint32_t imageIndex;
158     auto result = lvSwapChain.acquireNextImage(&imageIndex); // fetch the index of the frame that is rendered next and automatically handles the CPU / GPU synchronisation for double or triple buffering
159     if (result != VK_SUCCESS && result != VK_SUBOPTIMAL_KHR)
160     {
161         throw std::runtime_error("failed to acquire swap chain image !"); // in the futur we will need to handle this situation as this happens when a window is resized
162     }
163
164     result = lvSwapChain.submitCommandBuffers(&commandBuffers[imageIndex], &imageIndex); // pointer at the commandBuffer at image index and pointer of image index , this function submits the command buffer to the device graphic queue
165     if (result != VK_SUCCESS )
166     {
167         throw std::runtime_error("failed to acquire swap chain image !"); // in the futur we will need to handle this situation as this happens when a window is resized
168     }
169 }
170
171
172
173

```

Figure 41: The draw frame function, it fetches the index of the next frame and submits the command-buffer. Command buffers are the only way to send instructions / command calls to the GPU. The command buffer is an object containing a series of command that will be sent to the device's queue.

8 Lve-model

The goal of Lve-model is to create and link a vertex buffer, so that vertices would not need to be hard coded within the buffer.

- Upon construction, it launches the createVertexBuffers() CreateVertexBuffers() makes the mapping and synchronisation between CPU and GPU (coherent memory).It calls upon the createbuffer helper function in lve-device.
- The model class has a GetBindingDescription() , this binding description object is necessary when binding a buffer to a pipeline, it describes how the data is structured.
- The model Class has a Getattributedescription() , the vertex attribute description simply describes how to link the memory with the shader code.
- It has a Bind command to bind it to a commandpool
- It has a draw command to do the draw call for that object.

```
13
14 #include <vector>
15
16 namespace lve
17 {
18     class LveModel
19     {
20         //The purpose of this class it to take vertex data created by and read from a file from the CPU
21         //and then allocate the memory on the GPU and copy the data over there for efficient reading
22
23     public:
24
25         struct Vertex
26         {
27             glm::vec2 position;
28             static std::vector<VkVertexInputBindingDescription> getBindingDescriptions();
29             static std::vector<VkVertexInputAttributeDescription> getAttributeDescriptions();
30         };
31
32         LveModel(LveDevice& device, const std::vector<Vertex>& vertices); // constructor
33         ~LveModel(); // destructor
34
35
36         //We will delete the copy constructor and copy destructor from our LveModelclass , as it deals with memory of vulkan , if we
37         //make copies it might corrupt the memory
38         LveModel(const LveModel&) = delete; //https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BvR1Pgzzr38
39         LveModel& operator = (const LveModel&) = delete;
40         // see shallow and deep copies ,
41
42         void bind(VkCommandBuffer commandBuffer);
43         void draw(VkCommandBuffer commandBuffer);
44
45     private:
46
47         void createVertexBuffers(const std::vector<Vertex>& vertices);
48
49
50         LveDevice& lveDevice;
51         VkBuffer vertexBuffer; // The buffer
52         VkDeviceMemory vertexBufferMemory; // The assigned memory of the buffer , 2 separate objects !
53         // The memory is not automatically assigned , so us , the programmer is in controll of memory management
54         uint32_t vertexCount;
55
56     }; // namespace lve
57
58
59
60 }
```

Figure 42: Header of Lve-Model, notice the vertex structure containing the the vertices.

```

// constructor
LveModel::LveModel(LveDevice& device, const std::vector<Vertex>& vertices) : lveDevice{device}
{
    createVertexBuffers(vertices);
}

// destructor
LveModel::~LveModel()
{
    vkDestroyBuffer(lveDevice.device(), vertexBuffer, nullptr);
    vkFreeMemory(lveDevice.device(), vertexBufferMemory, nullptr);
    //allocation of memory
    // The reason why the allocation of buffer and memory is separated is taht allocating memory takes time
    // Also there is a hard limit on the total number of active allocation at once depending on the GPU
    //The maximum number of valid memory allocations that can exist simultaneously within a VkDevice may be restricted by implementation- or platform-dependent limits.
    // https://www.khronos.org/registry/vulkan/specs/1.2-extensions/man/html/vkAllocateMemory.html
    // Better then to allocae bigger chunks of memory and assign pieces for different models
    //Best practice is to use the Vulkan Memory Allocator libray ! VMA https://gpuopen.com/vulkan-memory-allocator/
    // How to make a memory allocator by ourselve http://kylehalladay.com/blog/tutorial/2017/12/13/Custom-Allocators-Vulkan.html
}

```

Figure 43: Constructor and destructor of the lveModel object. Notice the comment , allocating memory takes time and there is a hard limit on the total number of active allocation at once depending on the GPU, it is then better to allocate bigger chunks of memory and assign pieces for different models. A good way to do that is to use the VMA , Vulkan Memory Allocator from AMD.^[3] It is also possible to make it from scratch.^[4]

8.1 Create Vertex Buffers

CreateVertexBuffers() makes the mapping and synchronisation between CPU and GPU (coherent memory).It calls upon the createbuffer helper function in lve-device.

```

38 void LveModel::createVertexBuffers(const std::vector<Vertex>& vertices)
39 {
40     vertexCount = static_cast<uint32_t>(vertices.size()); // cast the number of vertices
41     //let's assert that we have minimum of 3 vertices to have minimum a triangle , use assert
42     assert(vertexCount >= 3 && "vertex count must be at least 3");
43     VkDeviceSize bufferSize = sizeof(vertices[0]) * vertexCount; // sizeof gives us the byte number for one vertex , then multiply by the number of vertices we have in total and we get the buffer size
44     //next call the create buffer function , it's a helper function in the lveDevice class
45     // it's a out function , you pass buffer and buffermemory in and they will be changed
46
47     lveDevice.createBuffer(
48         bufferSize,
49         VK_BUFFER_USAGE_VERTEX_BUFFER_BIT, // this tells our device that this buffer will be to hold vertex data
50         VK_MEMORY_PROPERTY_HOST_VISIBLE_BIT | VK_MEMORY_PROPERTY_HOST_COHERENT_BIT, // | is the bitwise or operator, combines the bit flags together, the host is the CPU , device is GPU ,
51         //the host visible bit tells vulkan that we want the allocated memory to be accessible from the CPU, the coherent part is to keep the memory of GPU and CPU coherent, aka the same!
52         // if this coherent property would be absent we would need to call vk flush to propagate any change from the device to the CPU
53         vertexBuffer,
54         vertexBufferMemory
55     );
56     void* data; // local variable void pointer data
57     vkMapMemory(lveDevice.device(), vertexBufferMemory, 0, bufferSize, 0, &data); // 0 is offset , other 0 is for not providing any vk flags, and then data
58     // this function will set data to point to the memory location of the beginning of the vertex buffer memory in the GPU ! so data on the Cpu sides holds that adress
59     // this function actually creates a mapping between the CPU and GPU memory
60     // then use memcpy function
61     memcpy(data, vertices.data(), static_cast<size_t>(bufferSize)); // takes the vertices data and copy it in the host mapped memory region, because we have the host coherent bit VK_MEMORY_PROPERTY_HOST_COHERENT_BIT , the host memory will automatically
62     // be flushed into the GPU to update its memory , if this VK_MEMORY_PROPERTY_HOST_COHERENT_BIT bit wasn't there we would need to manually call flush function
63     vkUnmapMemory(lveDevice.device(), vertexBufferMemory);
64
65 }
66
67
68
69

```

Figure 44: Create the mapping between the CPU memory and GPU. Care for the comments on this particular function. As we set the coherent bit, we automate the CPU and GPU memory to be coherent, at each CPU memory update it will update the GPU. Otherwise a manual Vulkan "flush" would be required.

8.2 Get Binding description

When binding a buffer to the pipeline, it is necessary to pass pass a vertex binding description struct at pipeline creation. This struct describe how the data in the buffer is structured (interleaved or not etc...)⁷. See figure 45.

⁷For more information on data structure within the buffer , interleaving or not, check this link : <https://anteru.net/blog/2016/storing-vertex-data-to-interleave-or-not-to-interleave/>


```

85     std::vector<VkVertexInputBindingDescription> LveModel::Vertex::getBindingDescriptions()
86     {
87         //See hand notes
88         std::vector<VkVertexInputBindingDescription> bindingDescriptions(1); // local variable , vector of VkVertexInputBinding Description of size 1
89         bindingDescriptions[0].binding = 0;
90         bindingDescriptions[0].stride = sizeof(Vertex); // Sizeof gives the memory spqce in bytes
91         bindingDescriptions[0].inputRate = VK_VERTEX_INPUT_RATE_VERTEX; // other option is for instanced data
92         return bindingDescriptions; // this binding descriptions corresponds to a single vertex buffer that will occupy the first binding at index 0
93         //the stride is the size of the vertex in bytes
94     }
95
96

```

Figure 45: Binding description structure

8.3 Get Attribute description

```

97     std::vector<VkVertexInputAttributeDescription> LveModel::Vertex::getAttributeDescriptions()
98     {
99         std::vector<VkVertexInputAttributeDescription> attributeDescriptions(1);
100         attributeDescriptions[0].binding = 0; // This is for the binding 0
101         attributeDescriptions[0].location = 0; // that correspond to the location specific in the vertex shaders => layout(location=0) in vec2 position;
102         attributeDescriptions[0].format = VK_FORMAT_R32G32_SFLOAT; // specify the data type , there are 2 component and each of them are 32 bit signed floats
103         attributeDescriptions[0].offset = 0;
104         return attributeDescriptions;
105     }
106

```

Figure 46: This struct describes how to link the memory to the shader code.

8.4 Command buffer binding and Draw

```

70     void LveModel::bind(VkCommandBuffer commandBuffer)
71     {
72         VkBuffer buffers[] = { vertexBuffer }; // create a local variable that is a list
73         VkDeviceSize offsets[] = { 0 };
74         vkCmdBindVertexBuffers(commandBuffer, 0, 1, buffers, offsets); // This will record to our command buffer to bind one vertex buffer starting at binding 0 with offset of 0
75         // when we will eventually add multiple binding we can easily do so by using the variable offset and buffers !
76     }
77
78     void LveModel::draw(VkCommandBuffer commandBuffer)
79     {
80         vkCmdDraw(commandBuffer, vertexCount, 1, 0, 0);
81     }
82
83

```

Figure 47: Binding to the commandpool and draw call.

9 Current Output

Depending on the vertices created in First-app for testing purposes, we can now display some fun triangles. There is still much to do !

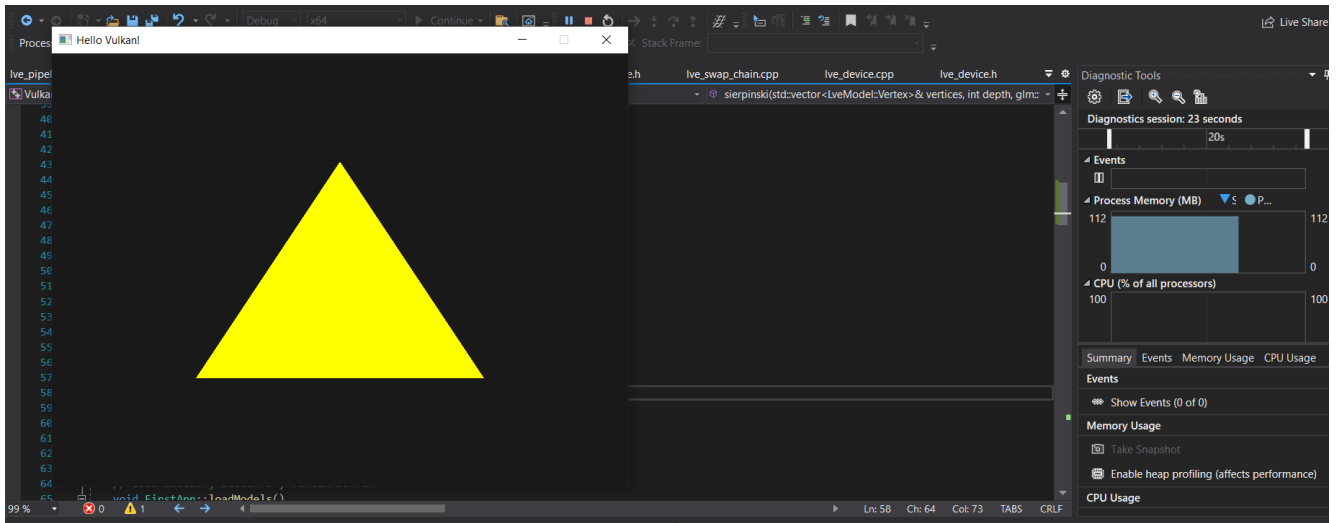


Figure 48: Simple Output with 3 vertices.

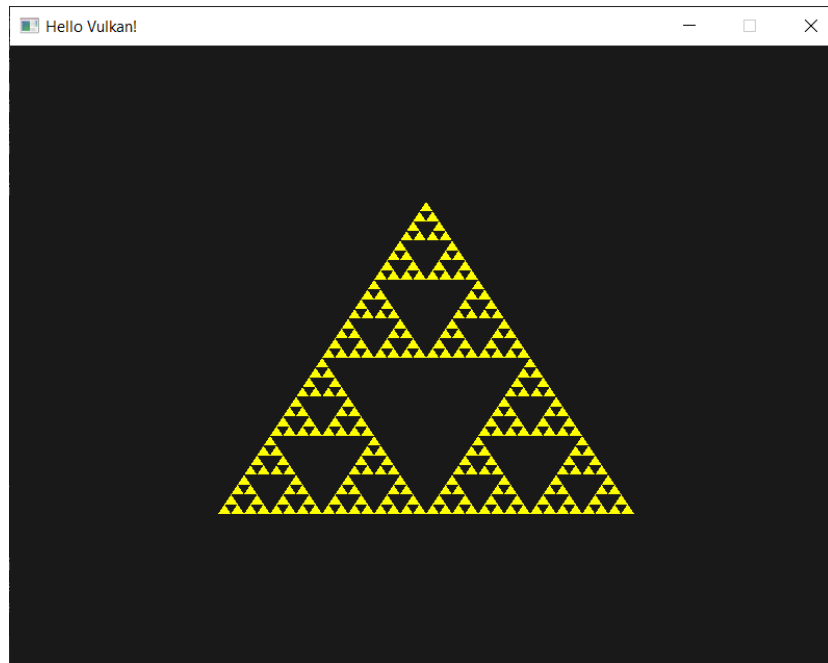


Figure 49: Sierpinski triangle solution.^[1]

References

- [1] Brendan Galea tutorial series on making a Vulkan Engine, visited on january 2022.
<https://www.youtube.com/c/BrendanGalea/videos>
- [2] The official Vulkan Tutorial , visited on january 2022.
<https://vulkan-tutorial.com/>
- [3] Understanding Vulkan Object , Adma Sawicki, visited on january 2022.
<https://gpuopen.com/learn/understanding-vulkan-objects/>
- [4] Kyle Halladay, make a custom memory allocator in Vulkan.visited on january 2022.
<http://kylehalladay.com/blog/tutorial/2017/12/13/Custom-Allocators-Vulkan.html>
- [5] Vulkan Memory Allocator , GpuOpen .visited on january 2022.
<https://gpuopen.com/vulkan-memory-allocator/>
- [6] Storing vertex data: To interleave or not to interleave? visited on january 2022. <https://anteru.net/blog/2016/storing-vertex-data-to-interleave-or-not-to-interleave/>