

Voxel Ray Tracing Project Design



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The goal is to ray-trace each pixel

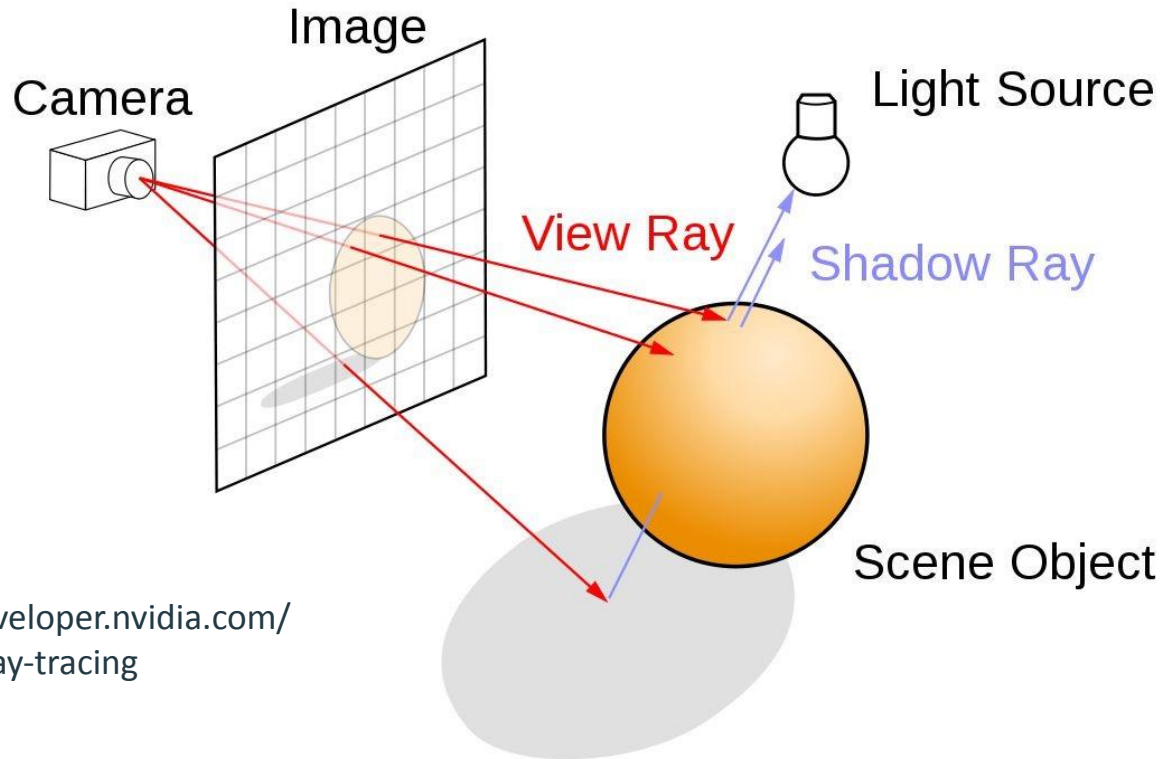


Image:
<https://developer.nvidia.com/discover/ray-tracing>

The DDA algorithm implements ray tracing for voxel grids

Grid

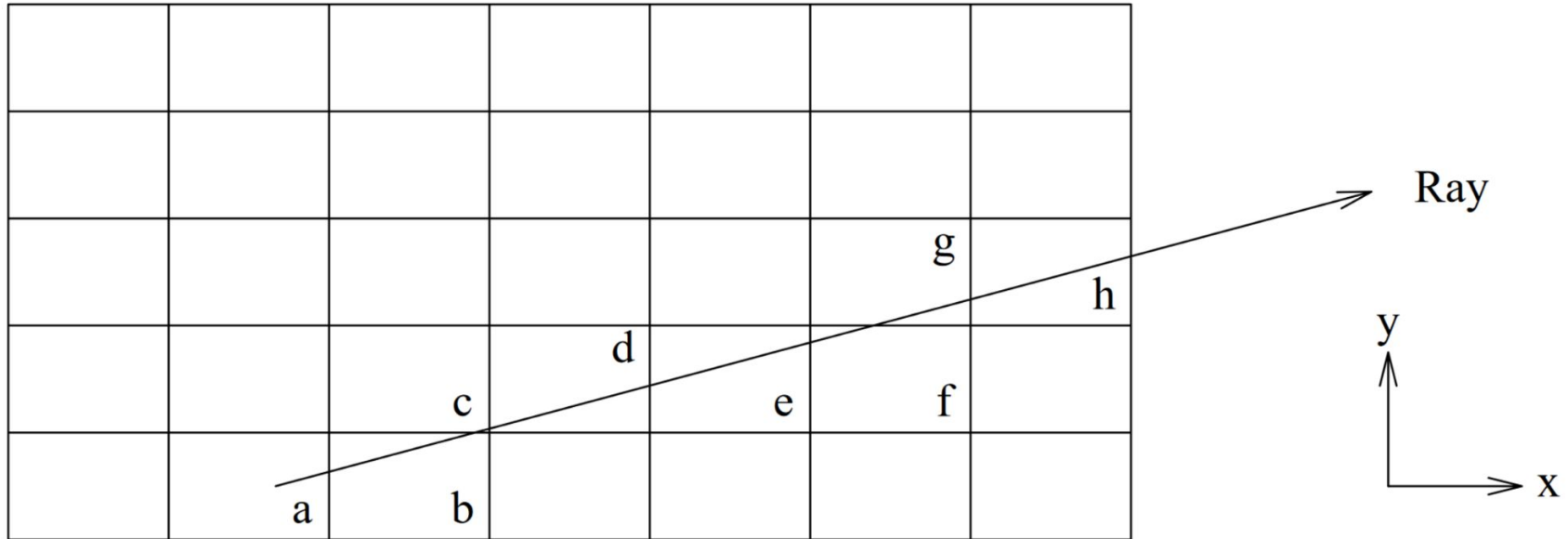
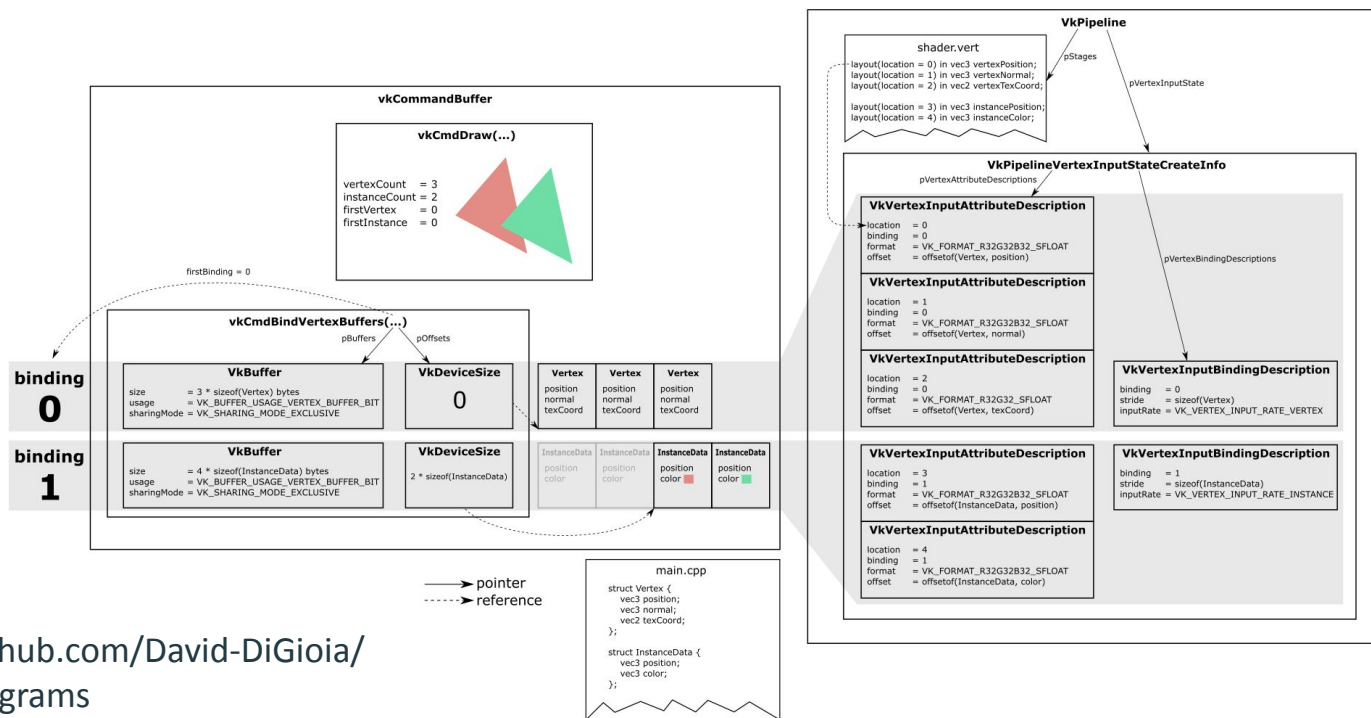
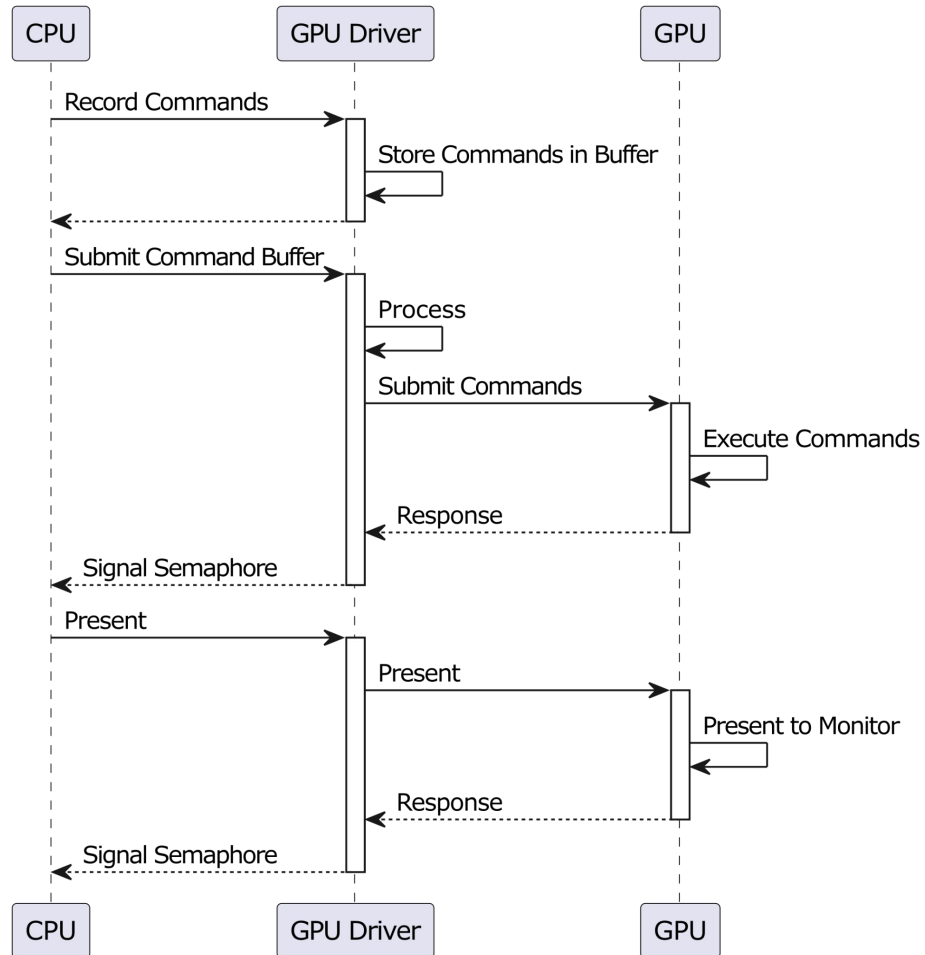
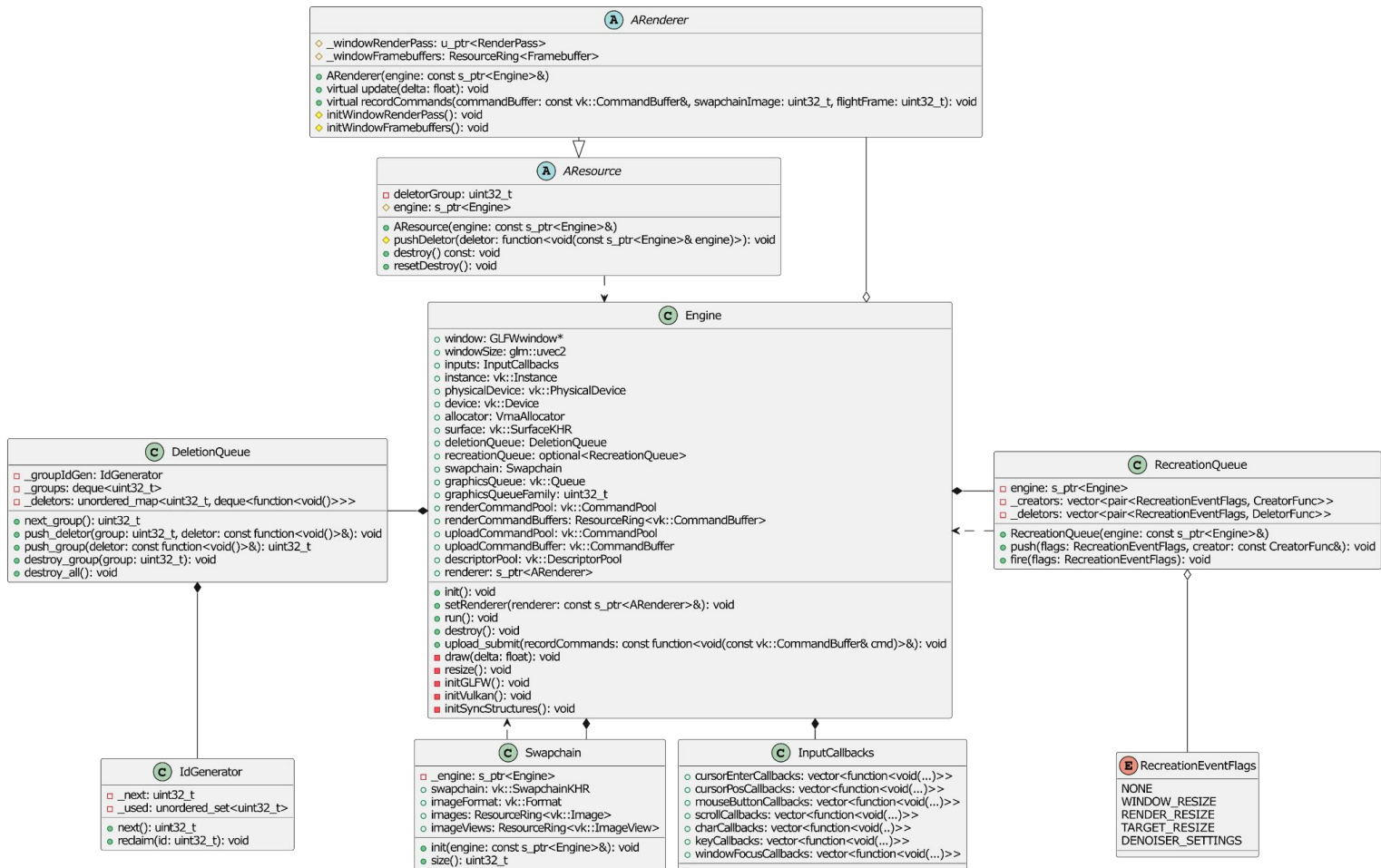


Image: Amantides & Woo "A Fast Voxel Traversal Algorithm for Ray Tracing"

The GPU driver implements Vulkan to manage executing shaders







Initializing a Vulkan resource is tedious

```
vk::DeviceSize imageSize = width * height * depth * pixelSize;

// Create CPU-side buffer to hold data
Buffer stagingBuffer(engine, imageSize, vk::BufferUsageFlags::eTransferSrc, VMA_MEMORY_USAGE_CPU_ONLY);

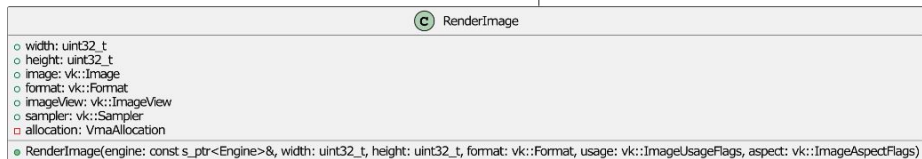
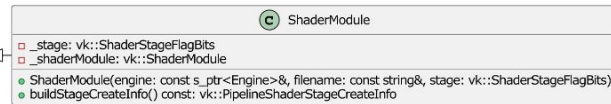
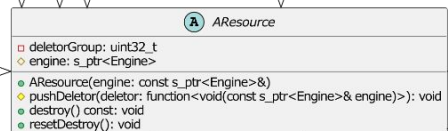
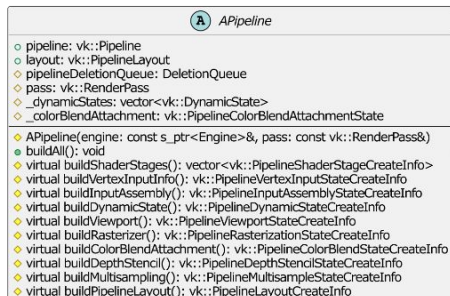
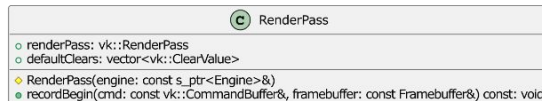
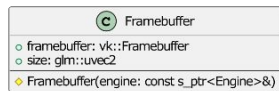
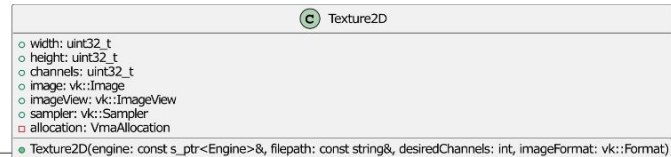
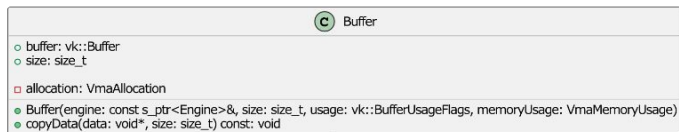
// Copy data to buffer
stagingBuffer.copyData(imageData, static_cast<size_t>(imageSize));

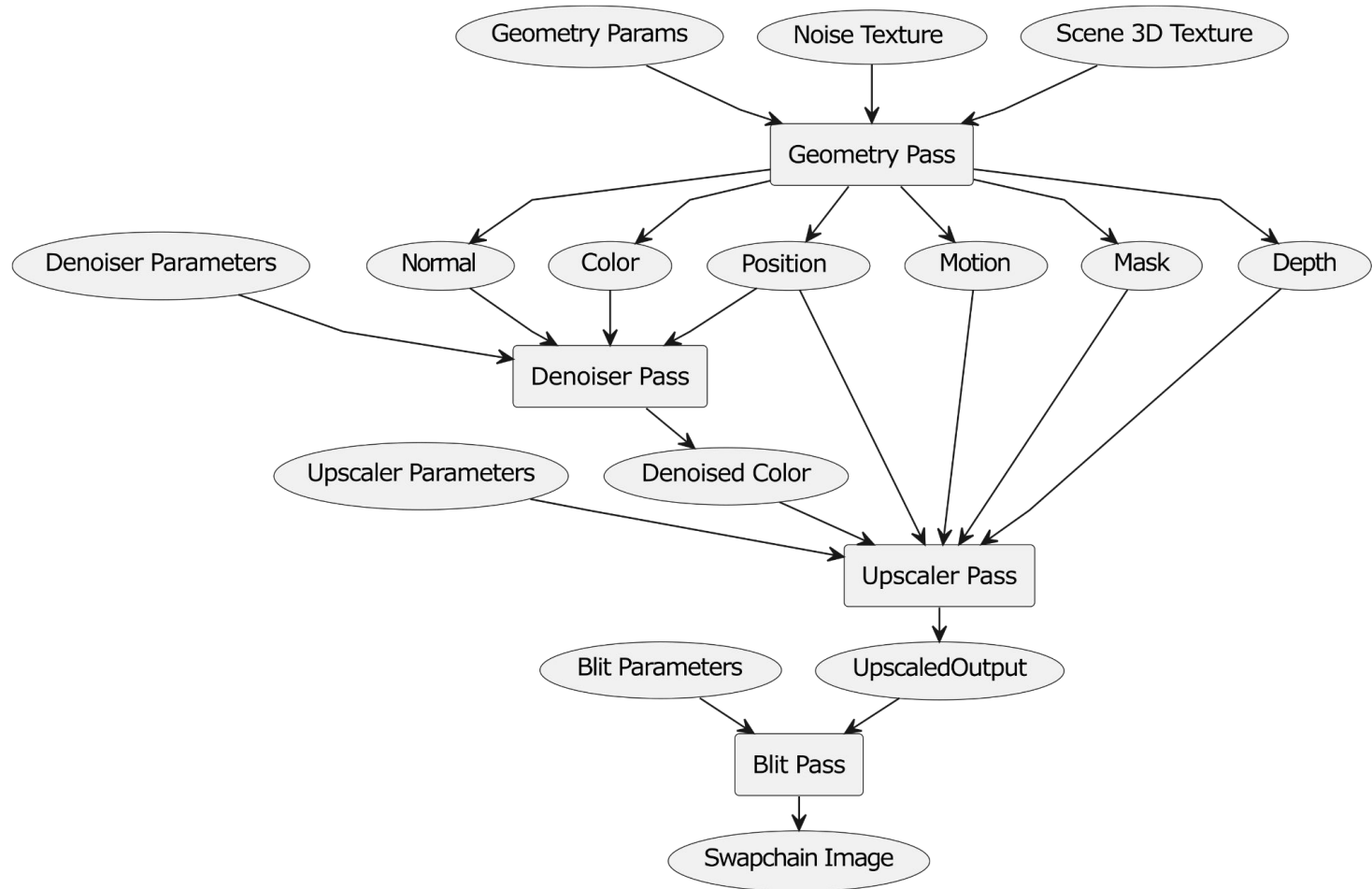
// Extents
vk::Extent3D imageExtent;
imageExtent.width = static_cast<uint32_t>(width);
imageExtent.height = static_cast<uint32_t>(height);
imageExtent.depth = static_cast<uint32_t>(depth);

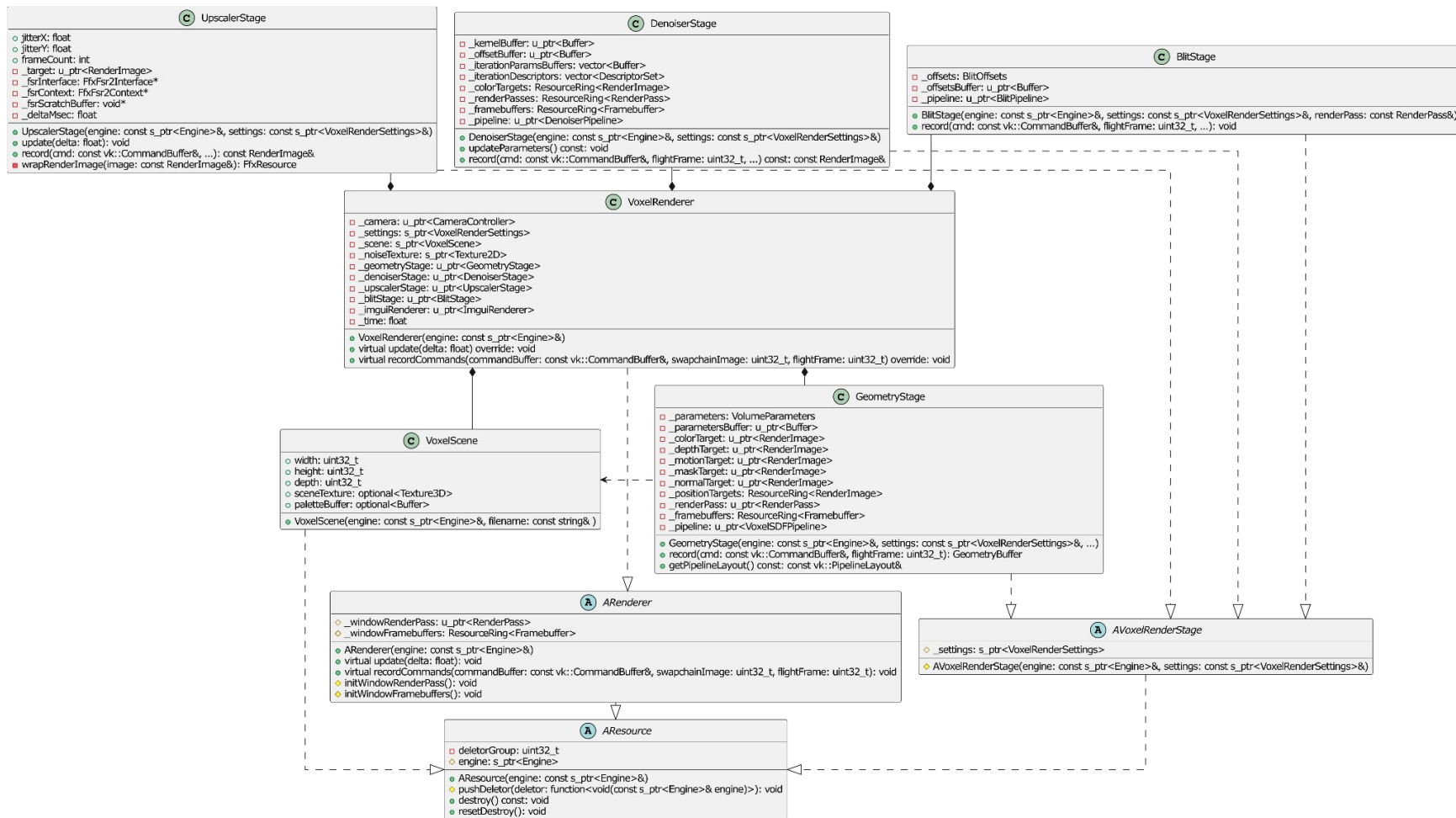
// Image create info
vk::ImageCreateInfo imageInfo = {};
imageInfo.imageType = vk::ImageType::e3D;
imageInfo.extent = imageExtent;
imageInfo.format = imageFormat;
imageInfo.usage = vk::ImageUsageFlags::eSampled | vk::ImageUsageFlags::eTransferDst;
imageInfo.mipLevels = 1;
imageInfo.arrayLayers = 1;
imageInfo.samples = vk::SampleCountFlags::e1;
imageInfo.tiling = vk::ImageTiling::eOptimal;

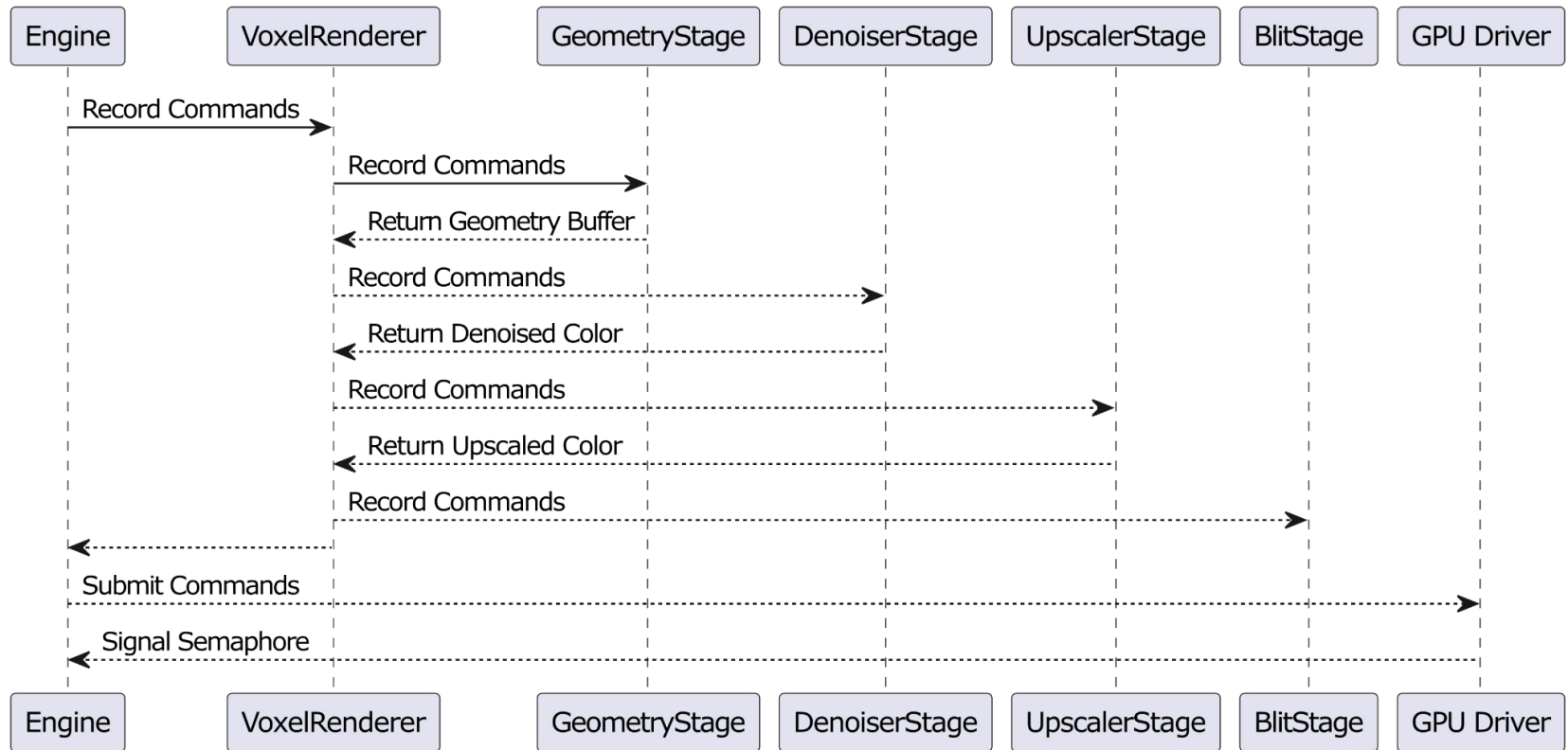
// Allocation info
VmaAllocationCreateInfo imageAllocInfo = {};
imageAllocInfo.usage = VMA_MEMORY_USAGE_GPU_ONLY;

// Actually create the image
VkImageCreateInfo imageInfoC = VkImageCreateInfo(imageInfo);
VkImage imageC;
auto res = vmaCreateImage(engine->allocator, &imageInfoC, &imageAllocInfo, &imageC, &allocation, nullptr);
vk::resultCheck(vk::Result(res), "Error creating image");
image = vk::Image(imageC);
```







RenderDoc can measure performance

The screenshot displays the RenderDoc Event Browser interface. The 'Event Browser' window shows a list of events for Frame #528. The 'Controls' panel on the left includes a filter set to '\$action()' and a 'Settings & Help' button. The event list table has columns for EID, Name, and Duration (µs). The events include 'Capture Start', 'vkQueueSubmit(1)[0]: vkBeginC', 'Colour Pass #1 (6 Targets)', 'Colour Pass #2 (1 Targets)', 'Colour Pass #3 (1 Targets)', 'Colour Pass #4 (1 Targets)', 'Compute Pass #1', 'Colour Pass #5 (1 Targets)', 'vkQueueSubmit(1)[0]: vkEndCor', and 'vkQueuePresentKHR(Swapchain I'. The 'Texture Viewer' and 'Pipeline State' panels are also visible on the right, showing the target 'voxels_run [PID 10904]' and connection status 'Established'. A 'Captures collected:' section at the bottom right shows a thumbnail of the rendered scene and metadata: 'voxels_run', 'Vulkan', 'Frame #528 (165.83 MB)', and '2022-11-06 18:41:46'.

EID	Name	Duration (µs)
	Frame #528	0.00
0	Capture Start	
34	=> vkQueueSubmit(1)[0]: vkBeginC	
35-44	> Colour Pass #1 (6 Targets)	6853.632
45-52	> Colour Pass #2 (1 Targets)	1296.384
53-58	> Colour Pass #3 (1 Targets)	1295.36
59-64	> Colour Pass #4 (1 Targets)	1295.36
65-97	> Compute Pass #1	1881.088
98-118	> Colour Pass #5 (1 Targets)	36.864
120	=> vkQueueSubmit(1)[0]: vkEndCor	
121	vkQueuePresentKHR(Swapchain I	

Texture Viewer x Pipeline State x Me

Status

Target: voxels_run [PID 10904]
Connection Status: Established
API: **Vulkan (Active)**

Captures collected:

voxels_run
Vulkan
Frame #528 (165.83 MB)
2022-11-06 18:41:46

Progress is at ~75%

MVP ✓

- Scene storage ✓
- Ray-traced direct lighting ✓
- Ray-traced ambient occlusion ✓
- Denoiser ✓

Version 1.0

- Rendering settings GUI ✓
- Magicavoxel .vox scenes ✓
- Skybox image-based lighting
- Ray-traced reflections

Questions?

Topics:

- Abstracting Vulkan
- Voxel Ray-tracing Algorithm
- Render Passes
- Overall Architecture

