# Game Engine Design



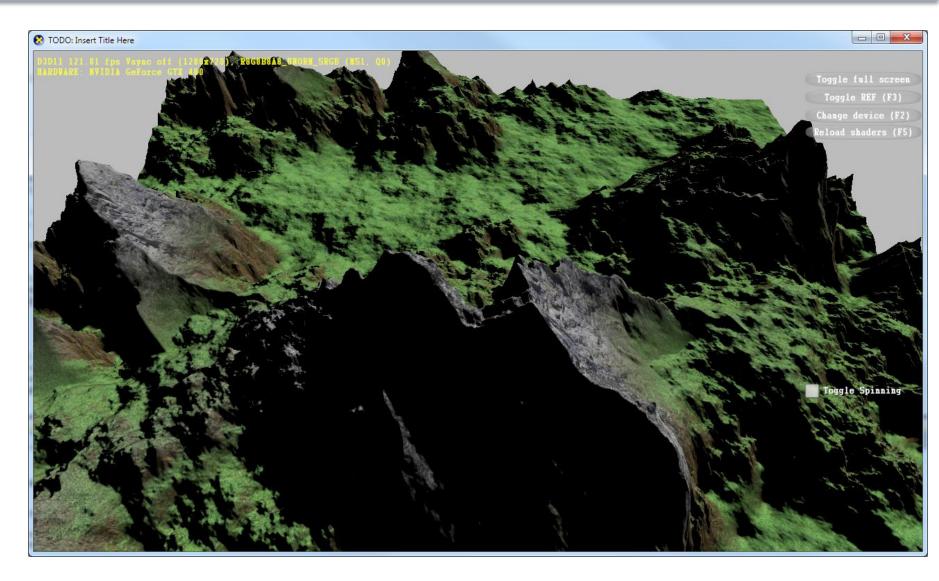






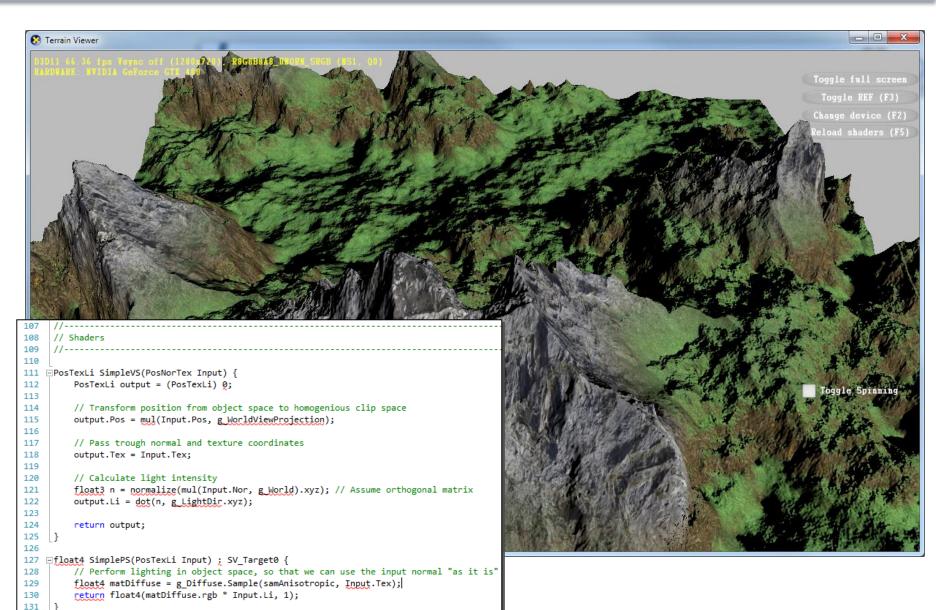
# This week: Realtime Rendering...





### ...using shaders





# Assignment 5



#### Goal:

 Write the vertex shader and the pixel shader programs, which control how the graphics card renders your terrain

- Vertex Shader:
  - Calculation of the Vertex Positions (instead of vertex buffer)
  - Transformation
- Pixel Shader:
  - (Simple) Texturing
  - (Simple) Normal-Mapping
  - (Simple) Lighting

#### Terrain Renderer Old vs. New



#### "Fixed Function"

#### CPU

- calculate 3D vertex positions from heightmap
- calculate 3D vertex normals from heightmap
- calculate texture coordinates
- triangulate terrain with index buffer
- feed geometry as vertex- and index-buffer to the graphics pipeline

#### GPU: Vertex Processing

- transform vertex position and normal
- calculate per-vertex lighting
- GPU: Fragment Processing
  - sample color texture
  - combine vertex color (lighting) with texture color (material)

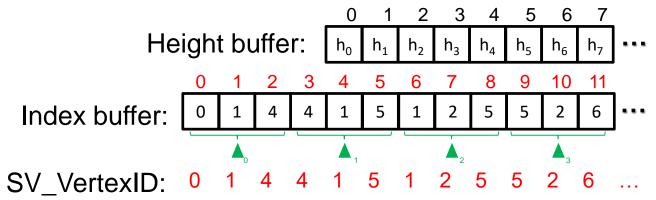
#### **Programmable**

#### CPU

- triangulate terrain with index buffer, but don't calculate any vertex positions
- bind terrain maps to the graphics pipeline (height, normal, color)
- tell the graphics pipeline what indices to draw, but don't feed any geometry
- GPU: Vertex Shader
  - calculate 3D vertex position from heightmap
  - transform vertex position
  - calculate texture coordinates
- GPU: Pixel Shader
  - sample color and normal texture
  - calculate per-pixel lighting
  - Combine light color with texture color (material)

#### Vertex Displacement in Shader



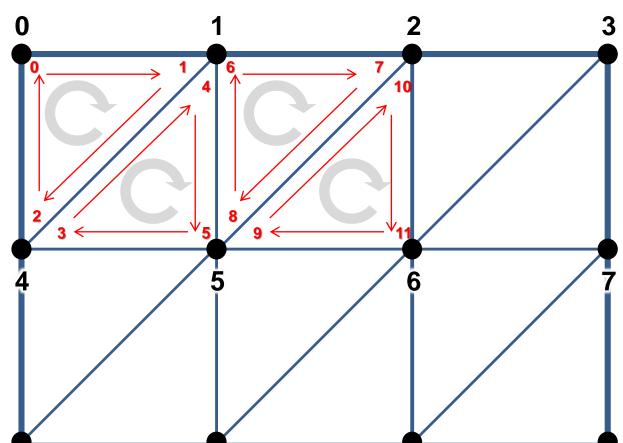


Bind **no** vertex buffer, only system-generated values needed

#### For each Vertex:

- Calc x / z position
- Look up height value
- Calculate world position
- Transform to clip space

Index buffer stays the same!

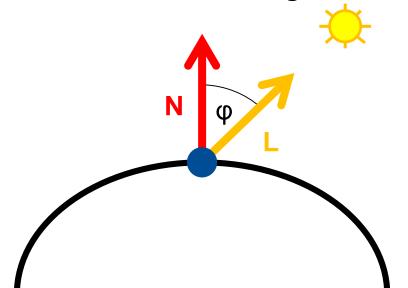


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Mathias Kanzler, Prof. Dr. R. Westermann

# $N \cdot L$ Lighting



- Most simple lighting in computer graphics
- More on lighting later this semester
- For now:
  - N is the normal vector of the surface
  - L is the direction vector to the light
  - The scalar product (= dot product) between two normalized vectors yields the cosine of the angle between them



# **Rendering Effects**



- In Direct3D most of the rendering state is specified in a Rendering Effect
- Each rendering effect is stored in a separate effect source code file (.fx)
- The FX compiler ("fxc") converts an effect source code file into a compiled effect file (.fxo)
- The function D3DX11CreateEffectFromMemory creates an effect object from a compiled effect in main memory
  - This already happens in the template

# **Rendering Effects**



- A rendering effect can contain multiple *Effect Techniques* to achieve the same rendering effect
  - The effect member function GetTechniqueByName retrieves a handle to an effect technique
- An effect technique can contain multiple Render Passes to achieve a certain rendering effect
  - The technique member function GetPassByName retrieves a handle to a render pass
- A render pass defines the state of the graphics pipeline during a draw
  - It sets the state of the fixed function stages of the graphics pipeline
  - It controls which Shaders are used in the programmable stages



- Techniques combine multiple rendering passes
  - A rendering pass specifies which shaders to use (vertex, pixel, geometry, ...)
  - May also specify pipeline states (Rasterizer, DepthStencil, Blend...)

```
//---
// Techniques
//----
technique11 Render
{
   pass P0
   {
      SetVertexShader(CompileShader(vs_4_0, TerrainVS()));
      SetGeometryShader(NULL);
      SetPixelShader(CompileShader(ps_4_0, TerrainPS()));

      SetRasterizerState(rsCullNone);
      SetDepthStencilState(EnableDepth, 0);
      SetBlendState(NoBlending, float4(0.0f, 0.0f, 0.0f, 0.0f), 0xFFFFFFFF);
   }
}
```



- A shader is a program that is executed on the GPU
- The same shader program is executed for many elements of graphics data in parallel
  - Vertex Shader
  - Pixel Shader
  - etc.
  - SIMD = Single Instruction Multiple Data
- In Direct3D, shaders are written in HLSL (High Level Shading Language)
- Major DirectX versions correspond to major HLSL versions (DirectX 10 -> HLSL 4, DirectX 11 -> HLSL 5)
- HLSL Documentation
  - "Programming Guide for HLSL" and "Reference for HLSL" in the "Windows DirectX Graphics Documentation " help file



In HLSL, shaders are defined very similar to functions

```
// Helper functions
☐ float CalcLightingNDotL(float3 n, float3 l) {
     return dot(n, 1);
 // Shaders
 //-----
□PosTexLi SimpleVS(PosNorTex Input) {
     PosTexLi output = (PosTexLi) 0;
     // Transform position from object space to homogenious clip space
     output.Pos = mul(Input.Pos, g WorldViewProjection);
     // Pass trough normal and texture coordinates
     output.Tex = Input.Tex;
     // Calculate light intensity
     float3 n = normalize(mul(Input.Nor, g World).xyz); // Assume orthogonal matrix
     output.Li = CalcLightingNDotL(n, g LightDir.xyz);
     return output;

—float4 SimplePS(PosTexLi Input) : SV Target0 {
     // Perform lighting in object space, so that we can use the input normal "as it is"
     float4 matDiffuse = g Diffuse.Sample(samAnisotropic, Input.Tex);
     return float4(matDiffuse.rgb * Input.Li, 1);
```

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- Syntax similar to C++
- Special vector datatypes: float2, float4, int2...
  - Component access .x, .y, .xyzw...
  - Swizzling: .xzy...
  - Operators +-/\*% for vector x vector and scalar x vector
    - int2 v = int2(10, 10) % 5
  - Common vector operations like dot(), cross(), normalize()...
    - Check the documentation before you write your own function!
- Special matrix types: float4x4
  - mul(float4, float4x4) to apply matrix transformation to a vector

#### **Shader Semantics**



 Data exchange between pipeline stages is controlled by semantics

```
float4 MyVertexShader(in float4 pos: POSITION): SV_POSITION

{
    // Just pass the position
    return pos;
}

Semantic of the input parameter "pos"

Semantic of the return value
```

- A pipeline stage's output is the next one's input
- Semantics are arbitrary, but must match between stages
  - Input assembler must output a float4 with semantic POSITION
  - This is defined in the input layout!
- Predefined system values SV\_\*
  - SV\_POSITION, SV\_TARGETO, SV\_VERTEXID...

#### **Shader Semantics**



#### Alternative 1:

```
void MyVertexShader(in float4 posIn: POSITION, out float4 posOut: SV_POSITION)
{
    // Just pass the position
    posOut = posIn;
}
```

#### Alternative 2:

```
struct MyVertex
{
     float4 pos: POSITION;
};

struct MyFragment
{
     float4 pos: SV_POSITION;
};

void MyVertexShader(in MyVertex input, out MyFragment output)
{
     output = (MyFragment)0;

     // Just pass the position
     output.pos = input.pos;
}
```

#### **Effect variables**



- Effect variables are used to pass information from your C++ CPU code to your HLSL shader code
- In the .fx file on HLSL side, texture and buffer resources are defined as global variables while simpler types are combined to constant buffers

In the shaders, both types can be accessed like global variables though

```
// Transform position from object space to homogenious clip space
output.Pos = mul(Input.Pos, g_WorldViewProjection);
```

#### **Effect variables**



 In the .cpp file on C++ side: effect variables act as "pointers" to the variables in the HLSL shader on the GPU

```
ID3DX11EffectMatrixVariable* g_WorldEV = NULL; // World matrix effect variable

ID3DX11EffectMatrixVariable* g_WorldViewProjectionEV = NULL; // WorldViewProjection matrix effect variable

ID3DX11EffectShaderResourceVariable* g_DiffuseEV = NULL; // Effect variable for the diffuse color texture

ID3DX11EffectVectorVariable* g_LightDirEV = NULL; // Light direction in object space
```

 The "GetVariableByName" method of the rendering effect is used to bind the CPU variable to its GPU counterpart

```
g_WorldViewProjectionEV = g_Effect->GetVariableByName("g_WorldViewProjection")->AsMatrix();
if(!g_WorldViewProjectionEV) return E_FAIL;
```

 The "Set\*" method of an effect variable tells the effect framework the updated value for a variable

```
XMFLOAT4X4 w;
XMStoreFloat4x4(&w, worldViewProj);
V(g_gameEffect.worldViewProjectionEV->SetMatrix((float*)&w));
```

 The upload of the updated values to the GPU happens when the rendering pass is applied

```
// Apply the rendering pass in order to submit the necessary render state changes to the device
g_PassO->Apply(0, pd3dImmediateContext);
```

# D3D11\_RESOURCE\_VIEW\_DESC



Direct3D can create resource views for textures without further information

device->CreateShaderResourceView(diffuseTexture, NULL, &diffuseTextureSRV)

- This time, we'll need to pass a description
  - D3D11\_SHADER\_RESOURCE\_VIEW\_DESC
     <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/ff476211(v=vs.85).aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/ff476211(v=vs.85).aspx</a>
  - ViewDimension: D3D11\_SRV\_DIMENSION\_BUFFER
  - Format: DXGI\_FORMAT\_R32\_FLOAT
  - Exactly **one** of the remaining structs needs to be filled
    - Buffer in our case
    - FirstElement = 0
    - NumElements = res \* res

```
typedef struct D3D11 SHADER RESOURCE VIEW DESC {
  DXGI FORMAT
                      Format;
  D3D11 SRV DIMENSION ViewDimension;
  union {
                            Buffer;
    D3D11 BUFFER SRV
    D3D11 TEX1D SRV
                            Texture1D;
    D3D11_TEX1D_ARRAY_SRV
                            Texture1DArray;
    D3D11 TEX2D SRV
                            Texture2D;
    D3D11 TEX2D ARRAY SRV
                            Texture2DArray;
    D3D11 TEX2DMS SRV
                            Texture2DMS;
    D3D11_TEX2DMS_ARRAY_SRV Texture2DMSArray;
    D3D11 TEX3D SRV
                            Texture3D;
    D3D11 TEXCUBE SRV
                            TextureCube;
    D3D11_TEXCUBE_ARRAY_SRV TextureCubeArray;
    D3D11 BUFFEREX SRV
                            BufferEx;
} D3D11_SHADER_RESOURCE_VIEW DESC;
```

# **Shader Editing Tips**



- The template project is configured to compile .fx files with FXC when you build the project
  - If your shader doesn't compile, the build fails
  - Double-click the error message to jump into the shader file
  - The compiled .fxo effect is loaded when the programm starts
  - You can also compile the .fx file manually (Strg + F7)
- The template project includes a "Reload Shader" button (F5) which allows shader editing at runtime
  - Loads the compiled .fxo effect at runtime and immediately uses the updated shader for rendering
  - This only works if all effect variables are retrieved in "ReloadShader()" and updated ("Set\*()") after the reload
  - Compiling doesn't work during debugging, so start without debugging (Strg+F5) if you work on your shader code

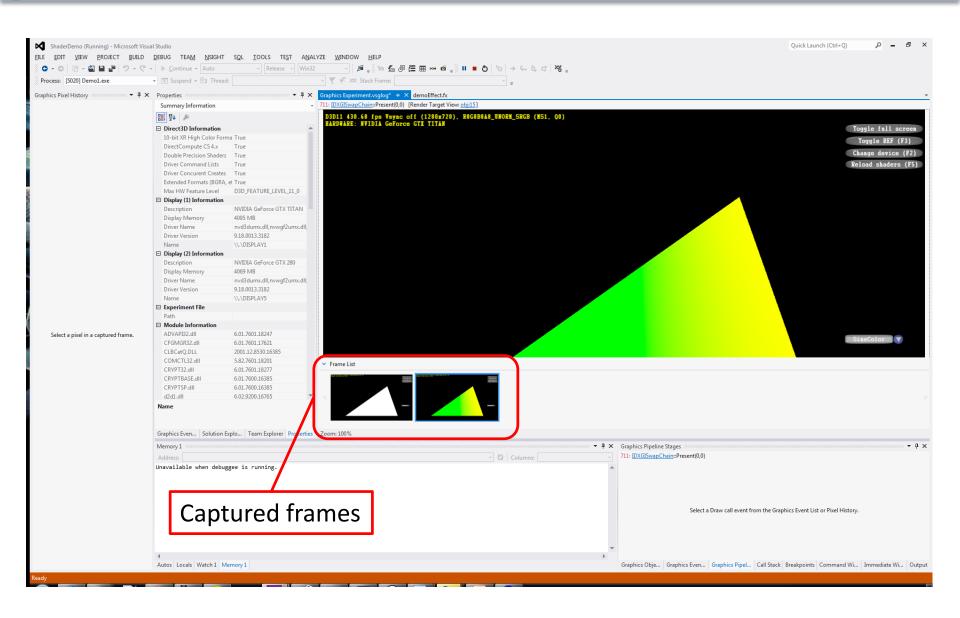


Visual Studio 2012 contains a Graphics Debugger!

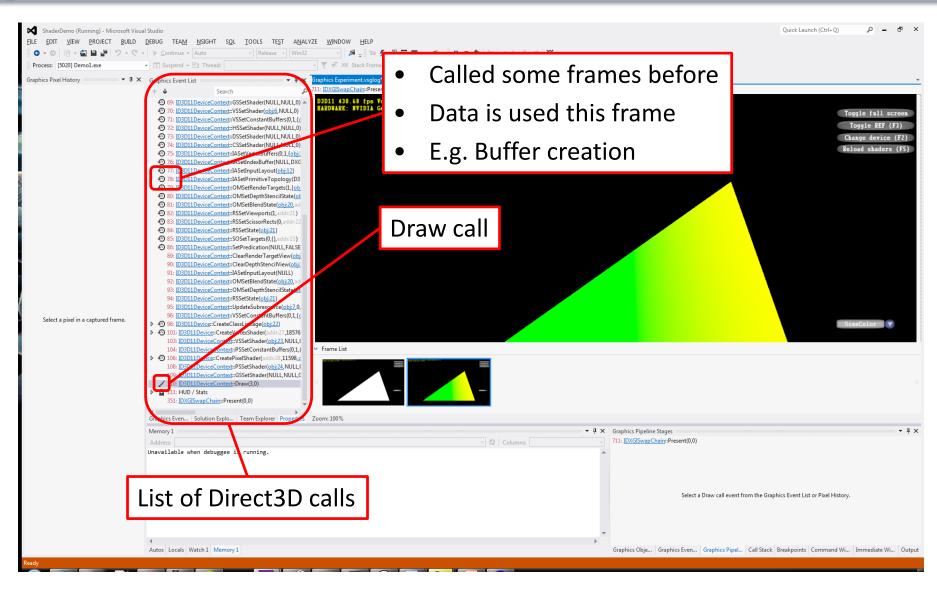
- "Post mortem" debugging
  - You need to explicitly select a rendered frame for debugging
  - All pipeline states, resources etc. are downloaded to the CPU
  - Each draw call can now be investigated step by step

- Start your program from "Debug -> Graphics -> Start Diagnostics" (or hit Alt + F5)
  - Press "Print" to capture the last rendered frame

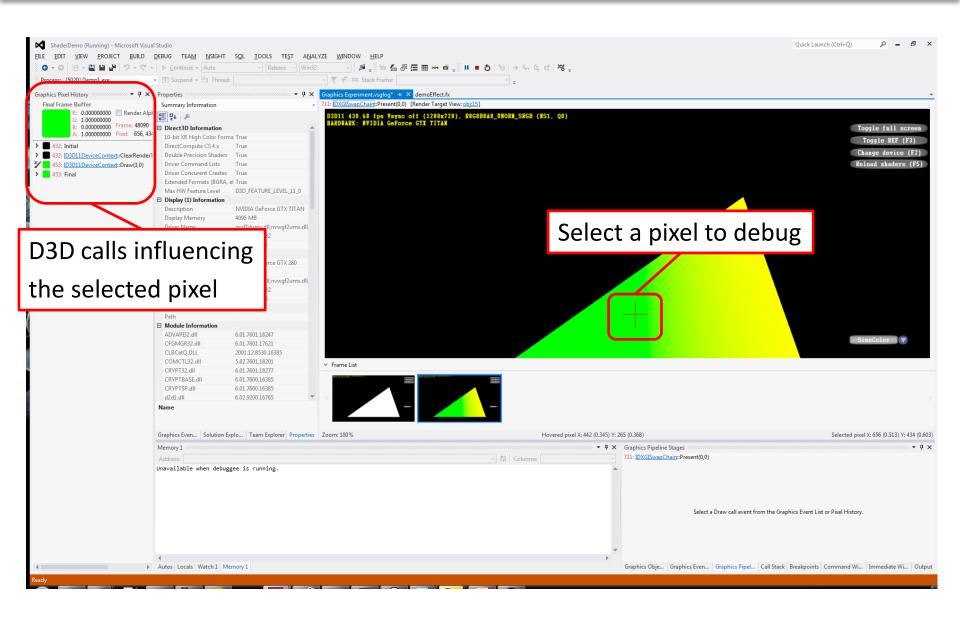




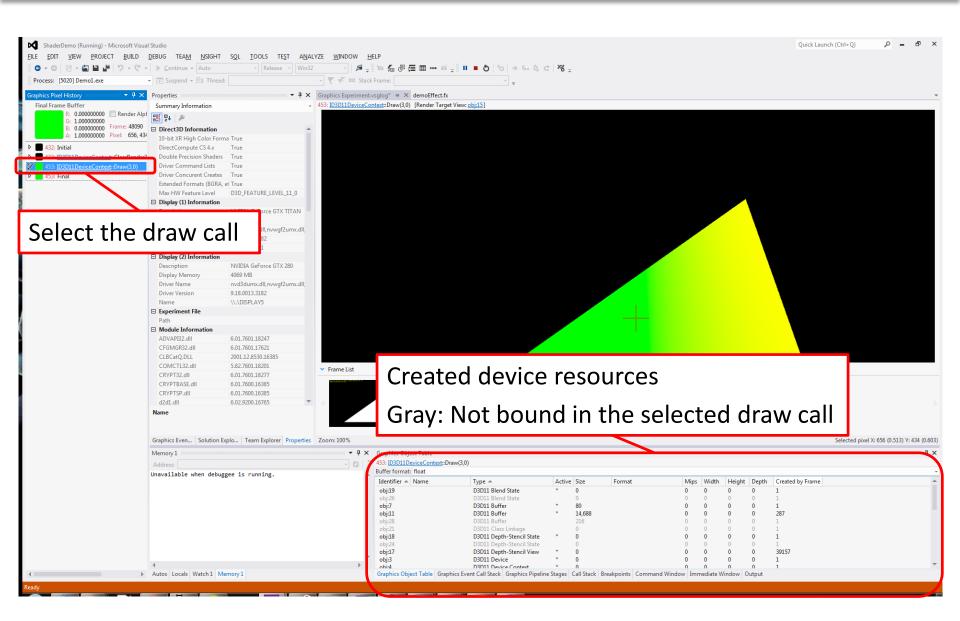




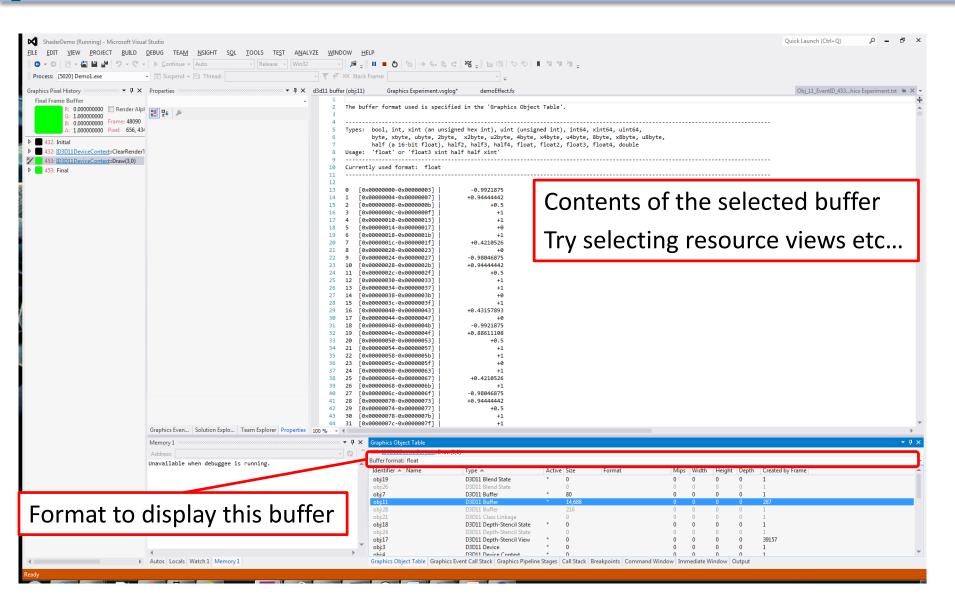




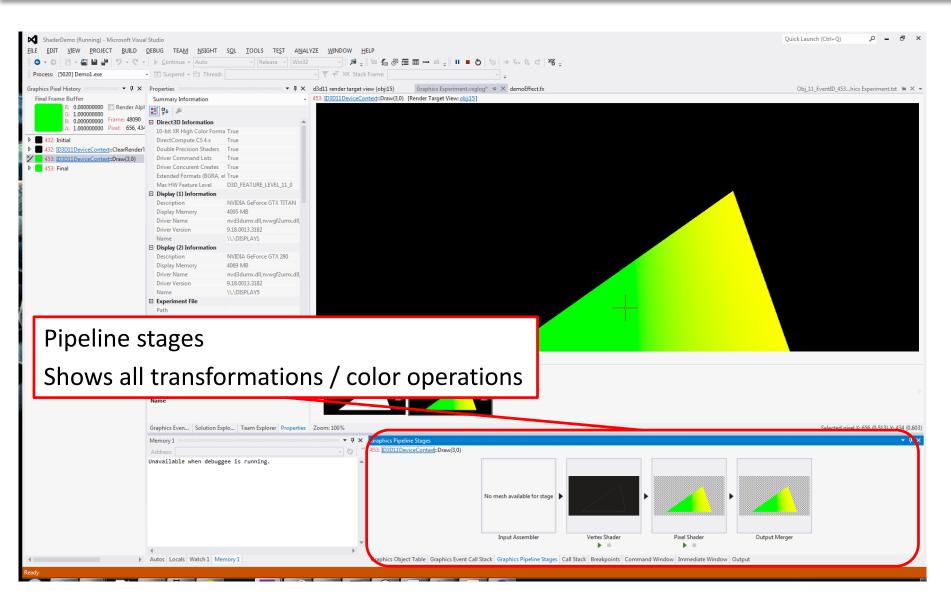




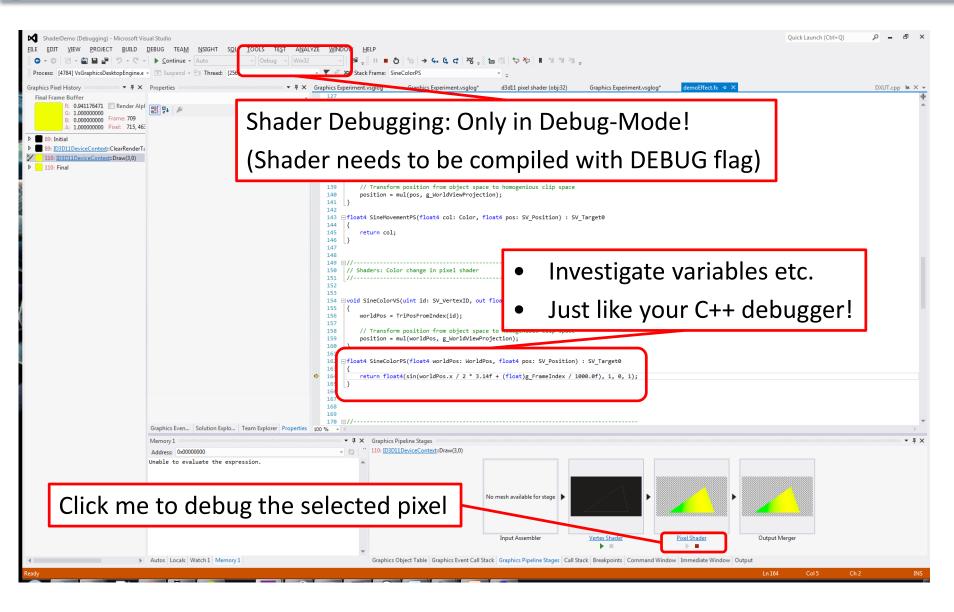
















# **Questions?**

