

[Core Image](#) / Generating an animation with a Core Image Render Destination

## Sample Code

# Generating an animation with a Core Image Render Destination

Animate a filtered image to a Metal view in a SwiftUI app using a Core Image Render Destination.

Download

iOS 15.5+ | iPadOS 15.5+ | macOS 12.0+ | Xcode 14.0+

## Overview

This sample shows how to assemble a [SwiftUI](#) app that displays a Metal view with animated images that you generate procedurally from Core Image.

To accomplish this, the sample sets up a [Scene](#) in a [WindowGroup](#) with a single content view. The sample's `ContentView` adopts the [View](#) protocol and initializes a `Renderer` using a closure to vend a [CIImage](#). It then adds a `MetalView`, with the instantiated `Renderer`, to the content [body](#).

The sample combines view update and state changes to produce the animation:

- For view update, the `MetalView` structure conforms to the [UIViewRepresentable](#) or [NSViewRepresentable](#) protocol of the SwiftUI life cycle.
- For state changes, the `Renderer` is a `StateObject` conforming to the [ObservableObject](#) protocol.

## Generate an animation

The `Renderer` class generates an image for an animation frame by conforming to the MetalKit [MTKViewDelegate](#) delegate protocol. The protocol's [draw\(in:\)](#) function commits render destination work to the GPU using a render task in a Metal command buffer.

For more information about drawing with MetalKit see [Using a Render Pipeline to Render Primitives](#).

MetalKit calls the `draw(in:)` delegate function of the `Renderer` automatically.

```
final class Renderer: NSObject, MTKViewDelegate, ObservableObject {
```

An image-supplying function parameterized by both timestamp and scale factor initializes the `Renderer`. This function combines checkerboard and hue-adjustment filters to generate animated checkerboard pattern images cropped to a fixed size.

```
// Create a Metal view with its own renderer.
let renderer = Renderer(imageProvider: { (time: CFTimeInterval, scaleFactor: CGFloat)

    var image: CIImage

    // Animate a shifting red and yellow checkerboard pattern.
    let pointsShiftPerSecond = 25.0
    let checkerFilter = CIFilter.checkerboardGenerator()
    checkerFilter.width = 20.0 * Float(scaleFactor)
    checkerFilter.color0 = CIColor.red
    checkerFilter.color1 = CIColor.yellow
    checkerFilter.center = CGPoint(x: time * pointsShiftPerSecond, y: time * pointsShiftPerSecond)
    image = checkerFilter.outputImage ?? CIImage.empty()

    // Animate the hue of the image with time.
    let colorFilter = CIFilter.hueAdjust()
    colorFilter.inputImage = image
    colorFilter.angle = Float(time)
    image = colorFilter.outputImage ?? CIImage.empty()
}
```

After the sample initializes the `Renderer`, the `Renderer` makes a command buffer and gets the currentDrawable.

```
if let commandBuffer = commandQueue.makeCommandBuffer() {

    // Add a completion handler that signals `inFlightSemaphore` when Metal and the GPU
    // finished processing the commands that the app encoded for this frame.
    // This completion indicates that Metal and the GPU no longer need the dynamic texture
    // Core Image writes to in this frame.
    // Therefore, the CPU can overwrite the buffer contents without corrupting any data.
```

```

let semaphore = inFlightSemaphore
commandBuffer.addCompletedHandler { (_ commandBuffer) -> Swift.Void in
    semaphore.signal()
}

if let drawable = view.currentDrawable {

```

The Renderer then configures a [CIRenderDestination](#) with the command buffer, current Drawable, dimensions, and pixel format, along with a closure that returns the [texture](#) for the currentDrawable.

```

// Create a destination the Core Image context uses to render to the drawable's Metal
let destination = CIRenderDestination(width: Int(dSize.width),
                                     height: Int(dSize.height),
                                     pixelFormat: view.colorPixelFormat,
                                     commandBuffer: commandBuffer,
                                     mtlTextureProvider: { () -> MTLTexture in
// Core Image calls the texture provider block lazily when starting a task to render
return drawable.texture
})

```

The sample uses the render destination to create an animation frame at a specific timestamp.

Finally, the sample composites the render destination's centered image on a background and submits work to the GPU to render and present the result.

```

// Create a displayable image for the current time.
let time = CFTimeInterval(CFAbsoluteTimeGetCurrent() - self.startTime)
var image = self.imageProvider(time, contentScaleFactor, headroom)

// Center the image in the view's visible area.
let iRect = image.extent
let backBounds = CGRect(x: 0, y: 0, width: dSize.width, height: dSize.height)
let shiftX = round((backBounds.size.width + iRect.origin.x - iRect.size.width) * 0.5)
let shiftY = round((backBounds.size.height + iRect.origin.y - iRect.size.height) * 0.5)
image = image.transformed(by: CGAffineTransform(translationX: shiftX, y: shiftY))

// Blend the image over an opaque background image.
// This is needed if the image is smaller than the view, or if it has transparent pixels.
image = image.composited(over: self.opaqueBackground)

// Start a task that renders to the texture destination.

```

```

_ = try? self.cicontext.startTask(toRender: image, from: backBounds,
                                  to: destination, at: CGPoint.zero)

// Insert a command to present the drawable when the buffer has been scheduled for e
commandBuffer.present(drawable)

// Commit the command buffer so that the GPU executes the work that the Core Image F
    }
}

```

## Add an EDR effect

The sample adds an EDR effect, a shiny ripple with a bright specular highlight, to the rendered checkerboard animation in three steps:

1. Opt into EDR support for the view and set an accommodating color space and pixel format.
2. Query the EDR headroom for each frame and pass headroom to the image provider closure for the `Renderer`.
3. Set the peak specular highlight value to the maximum value of white with respect to the current headroom, or a reasonable default value.

For more information about adding an EDR effect, see [Display EDR content with Core Image, Metal, and SwiftUI](#).

## Configure the view for EDR support

The `MetalView` opts into EDR support setting `wantsExtendedDynamicRangeContent` to true on the backing `CAMetalLayer`. When enabled, the layer uses a wide gamut `colorspace` to render colors beyond SDR range. Similarly, the `MTKView` sets a wide gamut `colorPixelFormat` to render the generated EDR image.

```

if let layer = view.layer as? CAMetalLayer {
    // Enable EDR with a color space that supports values greater than SDR.
    if #available(iOS 16.0, *) {
        layer.wantsExtendedDynamicRangeContent = true
    }
    layer.colorspace = CGColorSpace(name: CGColorSpace.extendedLinearDisplayP3)
    // Ensure the render view supports pixel values in EDR.
    view.colorPixelFormat = MTLPixelFormat.rgb16Float
}

```



```

let shading = gradient.outputImage?.cropped(to: CGRect(x: 0, y: 0,
                                                    width: 200, height: 200))

// Add a shiny ripple effect to the image.
let ripple = CIFilter.rippleTransition()
ripple.inputImage = image
ripple.targetImage = image
ripple.center = CGPoint(x: 256.0 * scaleFactor,
                        y: 192.0 * scaleFactor)
ripple.time = Float(fmod(time * 0.25, 1.0))
ripple.shadingImage = shading
image = ripple.outputImage ?? CIImage()

return image.cropped(to: CGRect(x: 0, y: 0,
                                width: 512.0 * scaleFactor,
                                height: 384.0 * scaleFactor))

```

## See Also

### Custom Render Destination

**class** CIRenderDestination

A specification for configuring all attributes of a render task's destination and issuing asynchronous render tasks.

**class** CIRenderInfo

An encapsulation of a render task's timing, passes, and pixels processed.

**class** CIRenderTask

A single render task.

**enum** CIRenderDestinationAlphaMode

Different ways of representing alpha.