

# Introduction to Computer Graphics

186.832, 2021W, 3.0 ECTS



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## *Vulkan Lecture Series, Episode 1:* **Vulkan Essentials**

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TU Wien, Austria



**Which Kind of API Is It?**

**Fundamental API Usage**

**Validation**

**Instance, Physical Device, Logical Device**

**Queues**

**Extensions**



## Which Kind of API Is It?



Vulkan is a new generation graphics and compute API that provides high-efficiency, cross-platform access to modern GPUs used in a wide variety of devices from PCs and consoles to mobile phones and embedded platforms.

*The Khronos Group. Vulkan Guide <sup>1)</sup>*

- Graphics **and** compute API
- Enables high efficiency by being low-level
- A very explicit (maybe even verbose) API
- Cross-platform and cross-device category

<sup>1)</sup> <https://github.com/KhronosGroup/Vulkan-Guide>



Is it like OpenGL?

**nope!**

## ■ OpenGL

- High-level API
- Graphics API
- Released Jun 30, 1992

## ■ Vulkan

- Low-level API
- GPU API
- Released Feb 16, 2016



**Application**  
Single thread per context

**High-level Driver Abstraction**  
Layered GPU Control  
Context management  
Memory allocation  
Full GLSL compiler  
Error detection

**GPU**

A Graphics API



**Application**  
Memory allocation  
Thread management  
Explicit Synchronization  
Multi-threaded generation of command buffers

**Thin Driver**  
Explicit GPU Control

**GPU**

A GPU API

**Multiple Front-end Compilers**  
GLSL, HLSL etc.



pre-compiled shaders

**Loadable debug and validation layers**

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# Vulkan Essentials: Which Kind of API Is It?

- Derived from the Mantle API (by AMD and DICE)
- Created, maintained, and evolved by the Khronos® Group



=> SDK



**Which Kind of API Is It?**

**Fundamental API Usage**

**Validation**



*How to start:*

- Get an SDK from [LunarG's website](#)
- Getting the latest driver for your GPU is always a good idea
- You might want to get a library for window management like [GLFW](#).
- Take a look at Khronos' [Vulkan Guide on GitHub](#)
- Use Khronos' official [Vulkan Samples](#) repository!
- Keep the Vulkan specification ([HTML](#) or [PDF](#)) at hand, you'll need it a lot!
- All useful links can be found on [vulkan.org](#)





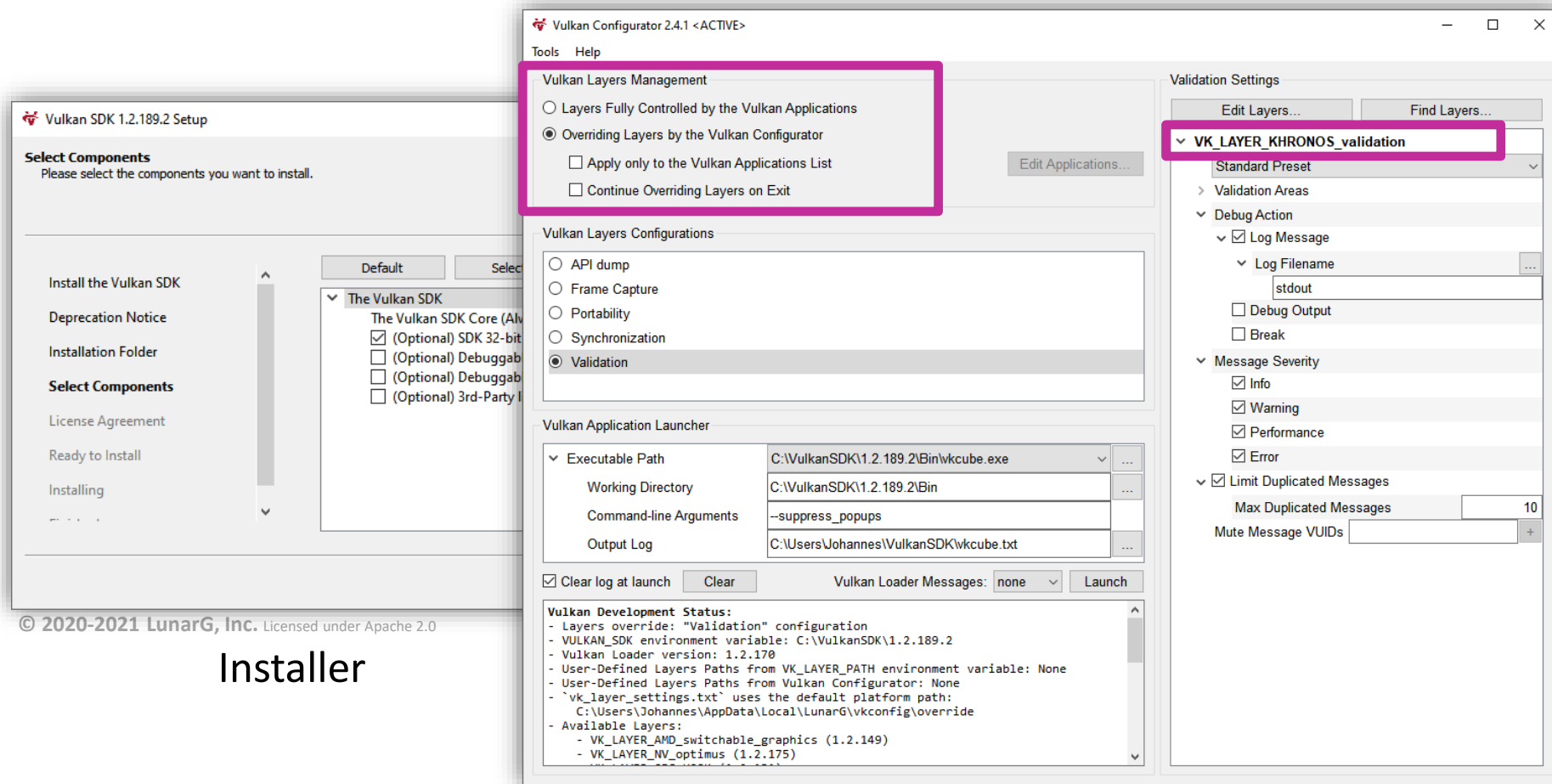
## LunarG SDK

SDK contains:

- Headers
- Libraries
- Tools

Programming  
Language Support:

- C API (native)
- C++ via [Vulkan-Hpp](#) (included in the SDK)
- Other language bindings available: see [Khronosdotorg](#) GitHub repository

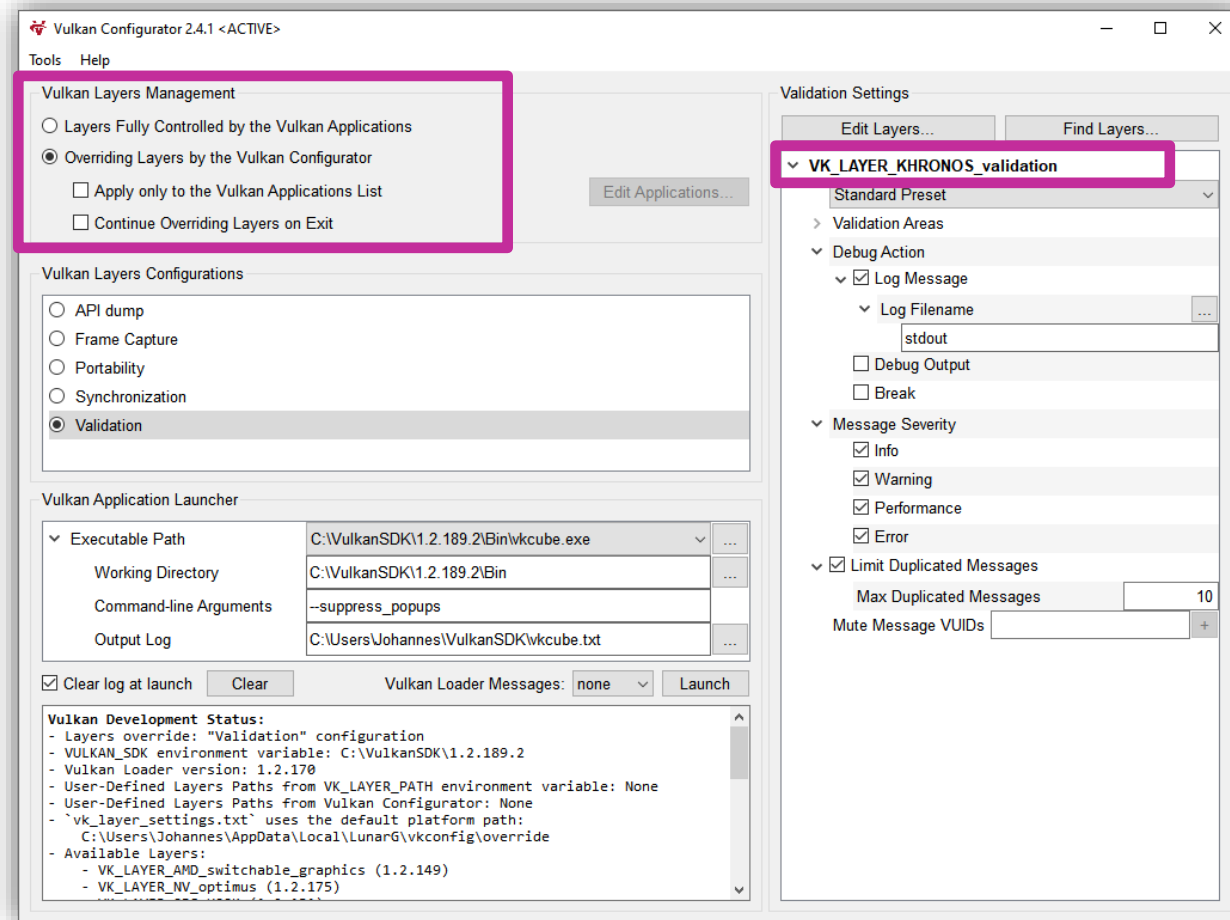


Installer

Vulkan Configurator (In Windows: VULKAN\_SDK\Tools\vkconfig.exe)



## Validation Layers are your best friends!



## Fundamental API Usage

### First Example

```
// Create a new image:
VkImageCreateInfo create_info = {};
create_info.sType              = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_CREATE_INFO;
create_info.imageType          = VK_IMAGE_TYPE_2D;
create_info.format              = VK_FORMAT_R8G8B8A8_UNORM;
create_info.extent.width       = 512;
create_info.extent.height      = 512;
create_info.arrayLayers        = 1;
create_info.mipLevels           = 1;
create_info.samples             = VK_SAMPLE_COUNT_1_BIT;

VkImage image;
VkResult result = vkCreateImage(device, &create_info, nullptr, &image);
CHECK_VULKAN_RESULT(result);
```



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create_info.mipLevels           = 1;
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VkImage image;
VkResult result = vkCreateImage(device, &create_info, nullptr, &image);
CHECK_VULKAN_RESULT(result);
```



## Validation OFF

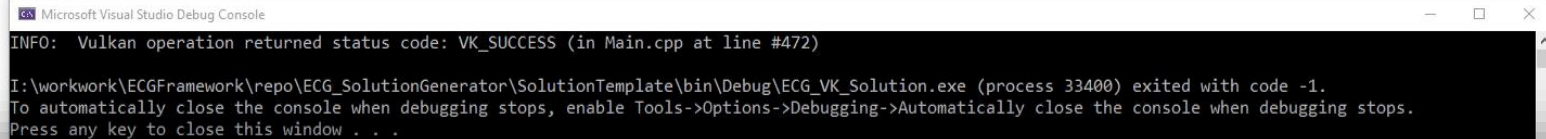
```
// Create  
VkImage  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create
```

```
VkImage  
VkResult  
CHECK_
```



## Validation ON

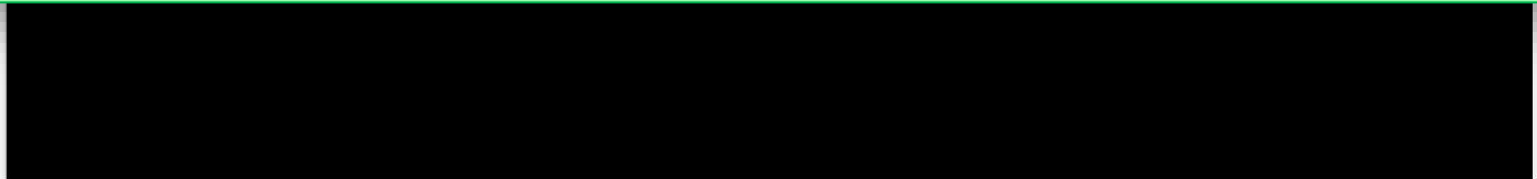
```
// Create  
VkImage  
create
```



```
Microsoft Visual Studio Debug Console  
INFO: Vulkan operation returned status code: VK_SUCCESS (in Main.cpp at line #472)  
I:\workwork\ECGFramework\repo\ECG_SolutionGenerator\SolutionTemplate\bin\Debug\ECG_VK_Solution.exe (process 33400) exited with code -1.  
To automatically close the console when debugging stops, enable Tools->Options->Debugging->Automatically close the console when debugging stops.  
Press any key to close this window . . .
```

vkCreateImage(): if pCreateInfo->imageType is  
VK\_IMAGE\_TYPE\_2D, pCreateInfo->extent.depth must be 1. The  
Vulkan spec states: If imageType is VK\_IMAGE\_TYPE\_2D,  
extent.depth must be 1  
(<https://vulkan.lunarg.com/doc/view/1.2.189.2/windows/1.2-extensions/vkspec.html#VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-imageType-00957>)

```
VkResult  
CHECK_
```

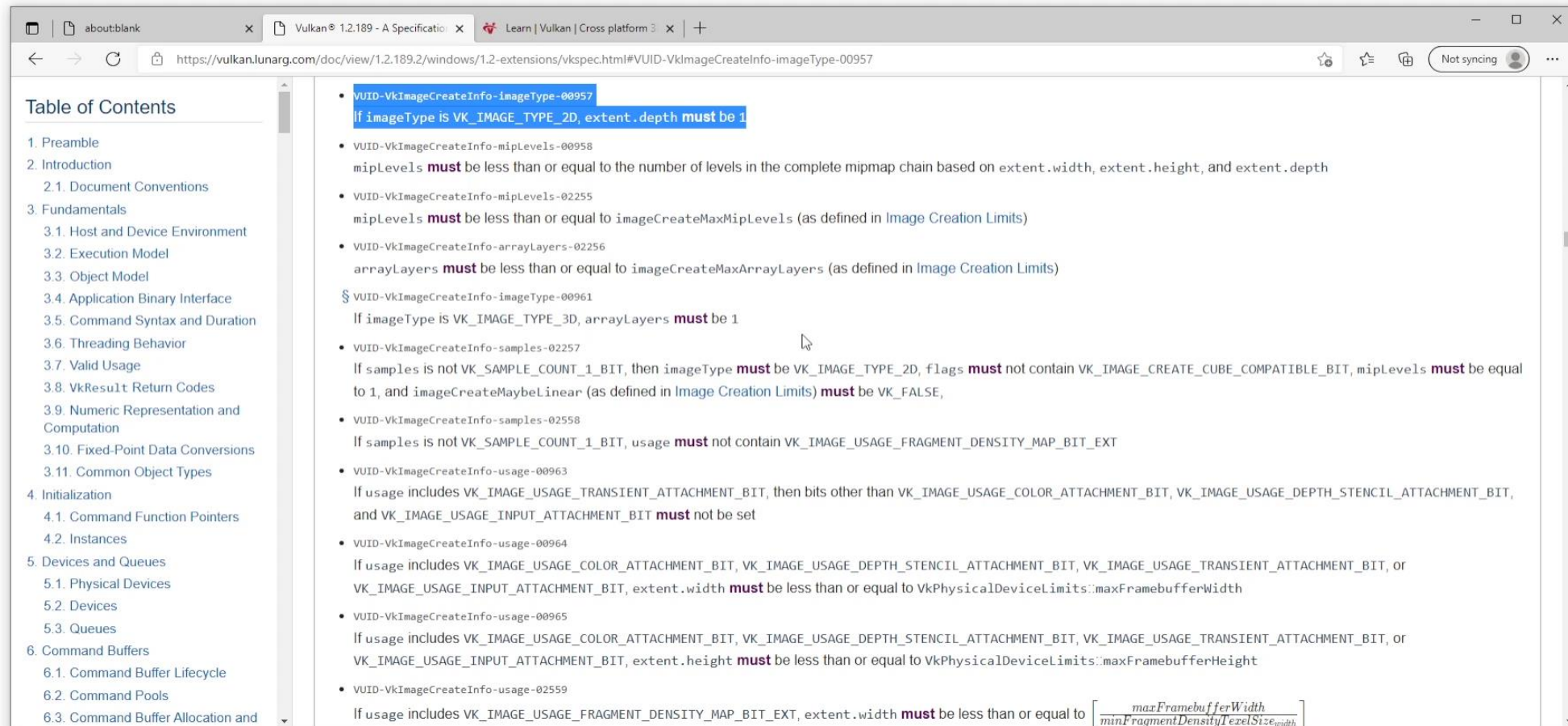




## The Vulkan Specification is your best friend, too!

```
// Create VkImage  
createImage  
createImage  
createImage  
createImage  
createImage  
createImage  
createImage
```

```
VkImage  
VkResult  
CHECK_
```



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Vulkan Specification website. The address bar shows the URL: <https://vulkan.lunarg.com/doc/view/1.2.189.2/windows/1.2-extensions/vkspec.html#VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-imageType-00957>. The page has a sidebar with a "Table of Contents" and a main content area. The "Table of Contents" lists sections from 1. Preamble to 6.3. Command Buffer Allocation and... The main content area displays a list of Vulkan IDs and their descriptions. The first entry is highlighted: **VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-imageType-00957** If imageType is VK\_IMAGE\_TYPE\_2D, extent.depth **must** be 1. Other entries include VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-mipLevels-00958, VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-mipLevels-02255, VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-arrayLayers-02256, VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-imageType-00961, VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-samples-02257, VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-samples-02558, VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-usage-00963, VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-usage-00964, VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-usage-00965, and VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-usage-02559.



## The Vulkan Specification

is very explicit.

```
// Create a new image:
```

```
VkImageCreateInfo create_info = {};
```

```
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_CREATE_INFO;
```

```
create_info.imageType = VK_IMAGE_TYPE_2D;
```

```
create_info.format = VK_FORMAT_R8G8B8A8_UNORM;
```

```
create_info.usage = VK_IMAGE_USAGE_SAMPLED_BIT;
```

```
create_info.initialLayout = VK_IMAGE_LAYOUT_UNDEFINED;
```

```
create_info.flags = 0;
```

```
create_info.pNext = NULL;
```

```
create_info.pNext = NULL;
```

vkCreateImage: value of pCreateInfo->usage must not be 0.  
The Vulkan spec states: usage must not be 0  
(<https://vulkan.lunarg.com/doc/view/1.2.189.2/windows/1.2-extensions/vkspec.html#VUID-VkImageCreateInfo-usage-requiredbitmask>)

```
VkImage image;
```

```
VkResult result = vkCreateImage(device, &create_info, nullptr, &image);
```

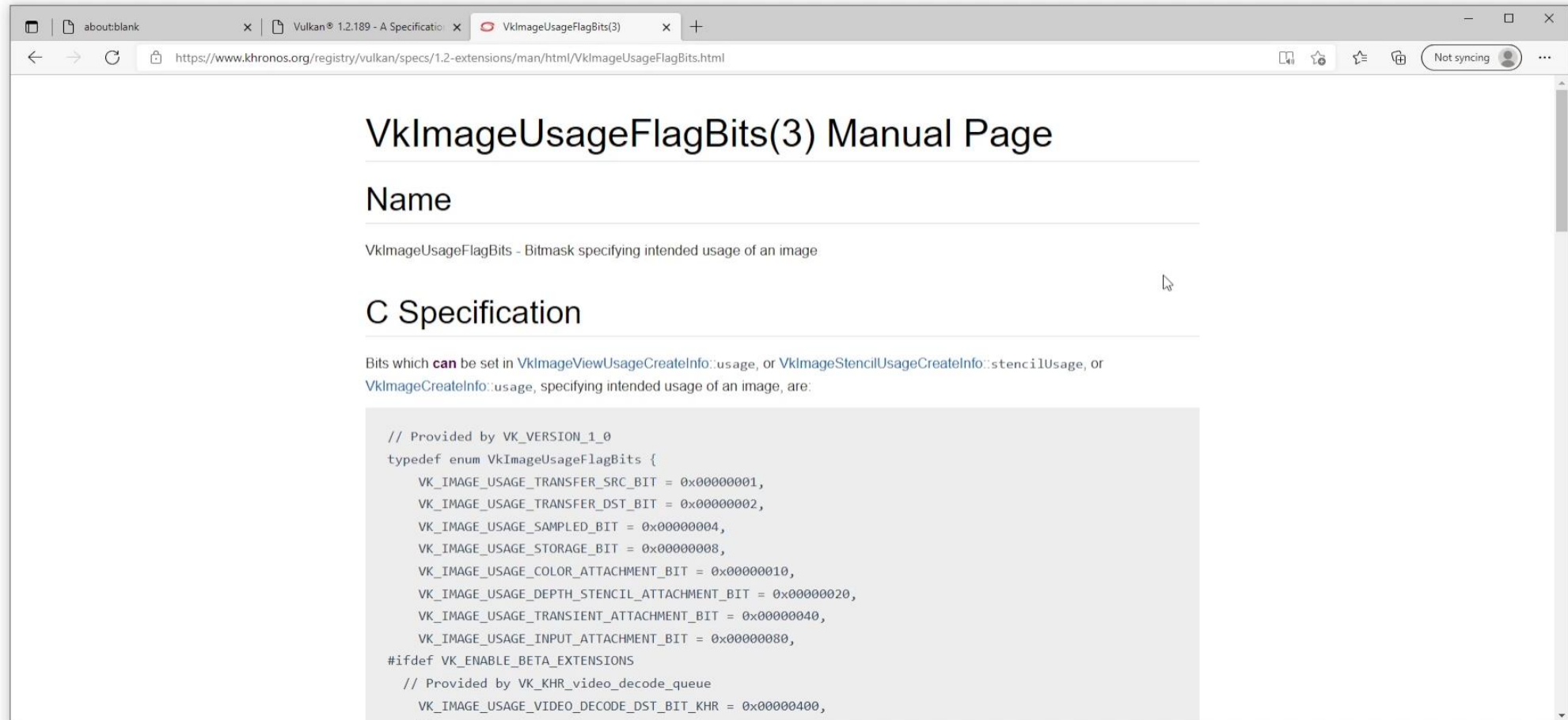
```
CHECK_VULKAN_RESULT(result);
```



## The Vulkan Specification has all the information.

```
// Create  
VkImage  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create  
create
```

```
VkImage  
VkResu  
CHECK
```



## Fundamental API Usage

First Example With Validation Errors Fixed

```
// Create a new image:
VkImageCreateInfo create_info = {};
create_info.sType              = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_CREATE_INFO;
create_info.imageType          = VK_IMAGE_TYPE_2D;
create_info.format              = VK_FORMAT_R8G8B8A8_UNORM;
create_info.extent.width       = 512;
create_info.extent.height      = 512;
create_info.extent.depth       = 1;
create_info.arrayLayers        = 1;
create_info.mipLevels           = 1;
create_info.samples             = VK_SAMPLE_COUNT_1_BIT;
create_info.usage               = VK_IMAGE_USAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_BIT;

VkImage image;
VkResult result = vkCreateImage(device, &create_info, nullptr, &image);
CHECK_VULKAN_RESULT(result);
```



## Fundamental API Usage

First Example With Validation Errors Fixed

```
// Create a new image:
```

```
VkImageCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_IMAGE_CREATE_INFO;  
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create_info.extent.width = 512;  
create_info.extent.height = 512;  
create_info.extent.depth = 1;  
create_info.arrayLayers = 1;  
create_info.mipLevels = 1;  
create_info.samples = VK_SAMPLE_COUNT_1_BIT;  
create_info.usage = VK_IMAGE_USAGE_COLOR_ATTACHMENT_BIT;
```

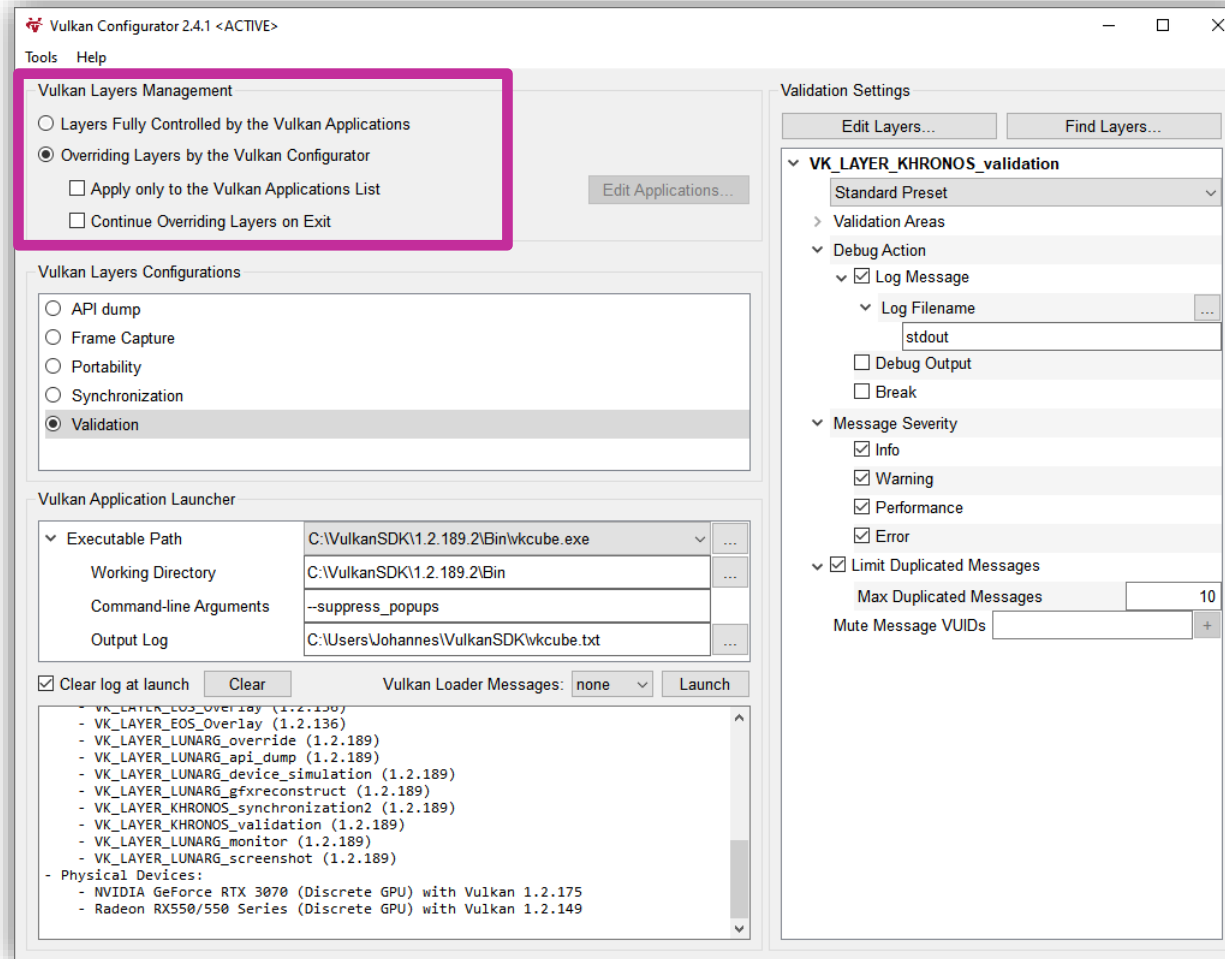
**Important:** Either zero-initialize, or set every member!

**Caution:** Don't forget to set the structure type! This member is present in almost all Vulkan API structs and a valid value starts with `VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_*`

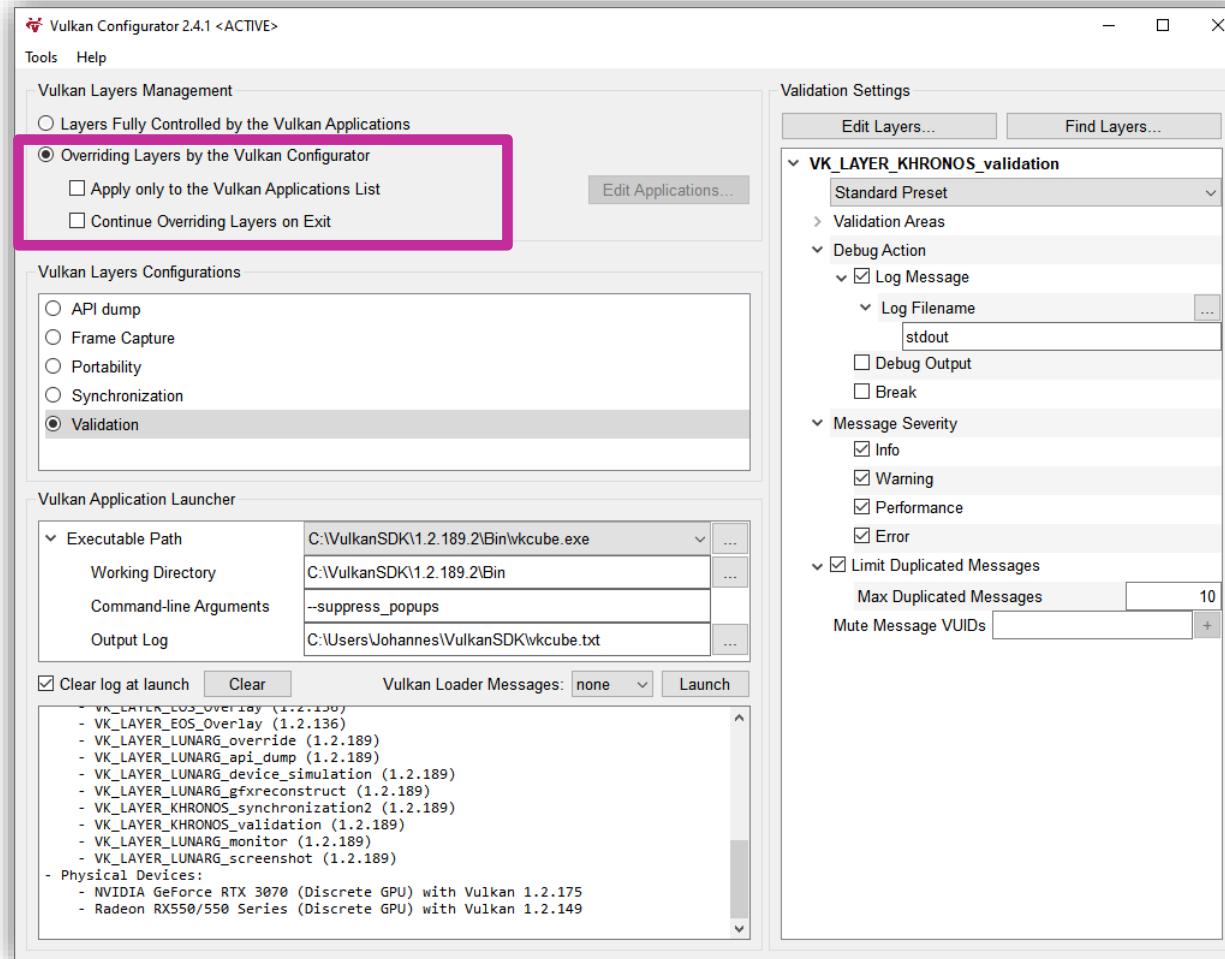
```
VkImage image;  
VkResult result = vkCreateImage(device, &create_info, nullptr, &image);  
CHECK_VULKAN_RESULT(result);
```



## Validation Layers are your best friends!



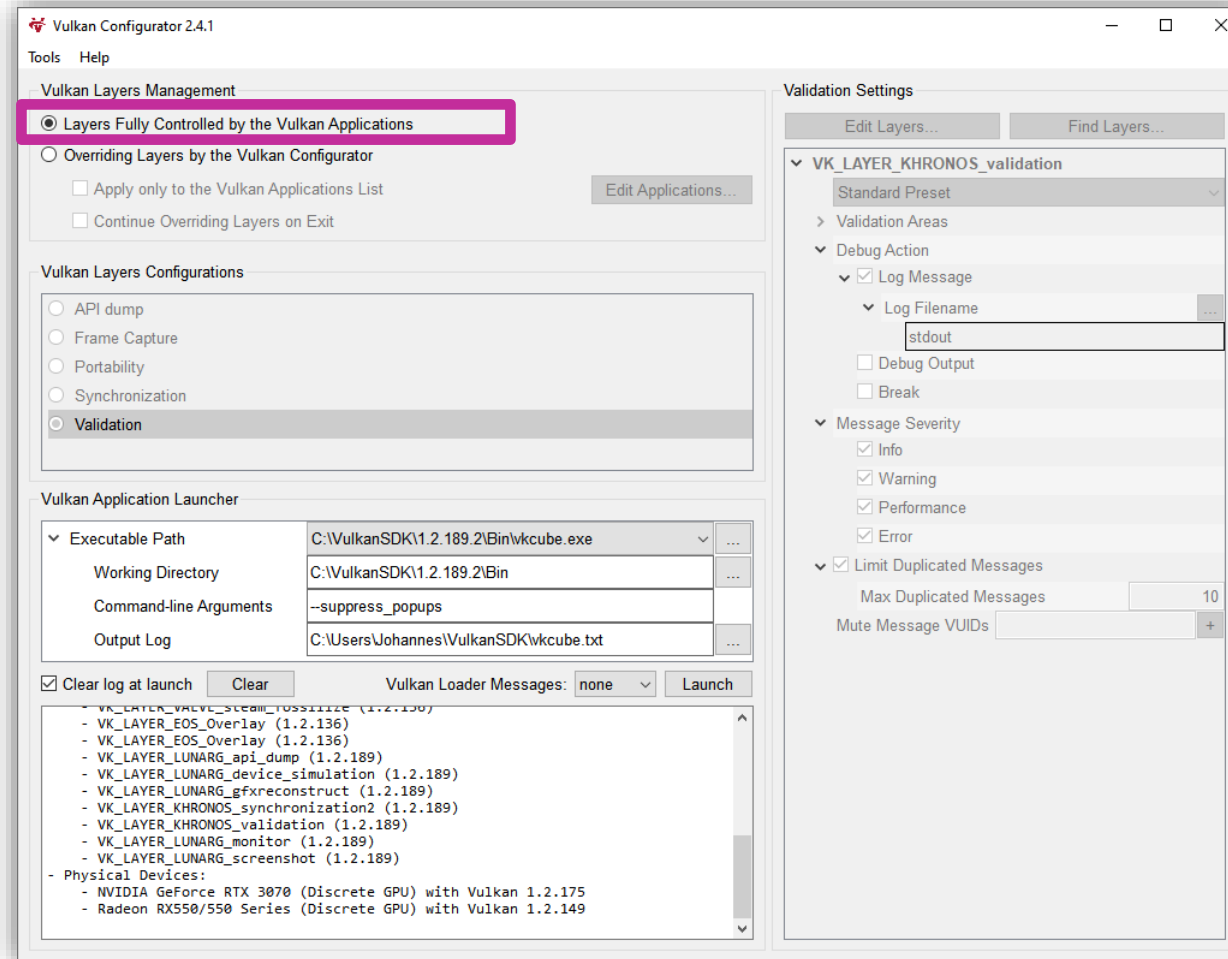
## Validation Layers are your best friends!





## Validation Layers

can also be fully controlled by applications.





## Validation Layers

can also be fully controlled by applications.

Use `vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT` to install a callback, which gets invoked whenever the validation layers have something to report.

### C Specification

A debug messenger triggers a debug callback with a debug message when an event of interest occurs. To create a debug messenger which will trigger a debug callback, call:

```
// Provided by VK_EXT_debug_utils
VkResult vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT(
    VkInstance          instance,
    const VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT* pCreateInfo,
    const VkAllocationCallbacks* pAllocator,
    VkDebugUtilsMessengerEXT* pMessenger);
```

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Best way to approach this: Follow the official Khronos example [Debug Utilities](#) for the best practice-approach!



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VkResult vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT(
    VkInstance instance,
    const VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT* pCreateInfo,
    const VkAllocationCallbacks* pAllocator,
    VkDebugUtilsMessengerEXT* pMessenger);
```

Also in this case, a “CreateInfo” configuration struct is used.

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## Validation Layers

can also be fully controlled by applications.

Use `vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT` to install a callback, which gets invoked whenever the validation layers have something to report.

### C Specification

The definition of `VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT` is:

```
// Provided by VK_EXT_debug_utils
typedef struct VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT {
    VkStructureType             sType;
    const void*                 pNext;
    VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateFlagsEXT flags;
    VkDebugUtilsMessageSeverityFlagsEXT messageSeverity;
    VkDebugUtilsMessageTypeFlagsEXT messageType;
    PFN_vkDebugUtilsMessengerCallbackEXT pfnUserCallback;
    void*                       pUserData;
} VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT;
```

There's the callback function

Also in this case, a "CreateInfo" configuration struct is used.

### C Specification

A debug messenger triggers a debug callback with a debug message when an event of interest occurs. To create a debug messenger which will trigger a debug callback, call:

```
// Provided by VK_EXT_debug_utils
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    VkInstance instance,
    const VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT* pCreateInfo,
    const VkAllocationCallbacks* pAllocator,
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```

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## Validation Layers

can also be fully controlled by applications.

Use `vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT` to install a callback, which gets invoked whenever the validation layers have something to report.

It is an extension, that's why it is suffixed with "EXT".

### C Specification

A debug messenger triggers a debug callback with a debug message when an event of interest occurs. To create a debug messenger which will trigger a debug callback, call:

```
// Provided by VK_EXT_debug_utils
VkResult vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT(
    VkInstance instance,
    const VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT* pCreateInfo,
    const VkAllocationCallbacks* pAllocator,
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```

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The definition of `VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT` is:

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typedef struct VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT {
    VkStructureType sType;
    const void* pNext;
    VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateFlagsEXT flags;
    VkDebugUtilsMessageSeverityFlagsEXT messageSeverity;
    VkDebugUtilsMessageTypeFlagsEXT messageType;
    PFN_vkDebugUtilsMessengerCallbackEXT pfnUserCallback;
    void* pUserData;
} VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT;
```

There's the callback function

Also in this case, a "CreateInfo" configuration struct is used.



**Which Kind of API Is It?**

**Fundamental API Usage**

**Validation**

**Instance, Physical Device, Logical Device**



Main handles to access the Vulkan API:

- Vulkan instance: [VkInstance](#)
- Physical device: [VkPhysicalDevice](#)  
It represents one Vulkan-capable hardware device, e.g., a GPU.
- Logical device: [VkDevice](#)
  - Main interface between your application and the physical device
  - Configuration in which your application runs on the physical device:
    - Which extensions are enabled for your application
    - Queue configuration which your application utilizes
    - Multiple logical devices (~applications) per physical device



## Instance Creation

```
VkApplicationInfo application_info = {};  
application_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_APPLICATION_INFO;  
application_info.apiVersion = VK_API_VERSION_1_2;  
  
const char* instance_extensions[2] = { "VK_KHR_surface", "VK_KHR_win32_surface" };  
const char* enabled_layers[1] = { "VK_LAYER_KHRONOS_validation" };  
  
VkInstanceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_INSTANCE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.pApplicationInfo = &application_info;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 2;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = instance_extensions;  
create_info.enabledLayerCount = 1;  
create_info.ppEnabledLayerNames = enabled_layers;  
  
VkInstance instance;  
VkResult result = vkCreateInstance(&create_info, nullptr, &instance);  
CHECK_VULKAN_RESULT(result);
```



## Instance Creation


```
VkApplicationInfo application_info = {};  
application_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_APPLICATION_INFO;  
application_info.apiVersion = VK_API_VERSION_1_2;  
  
const char* instance_extensions[2] = { "VK_KHR_surface", "VK_KHR_win32_surface" };  
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VkInstanceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_INSTANCE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.pApplicationInfo = &application_info;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 2;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = instance_extensions;  
create_info.enabledLayerCount = 1;  
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VkInstance instance;  
VkResult result = vkCreateInstance(&create_info, nullptr, &instance);  
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## Instance Creation

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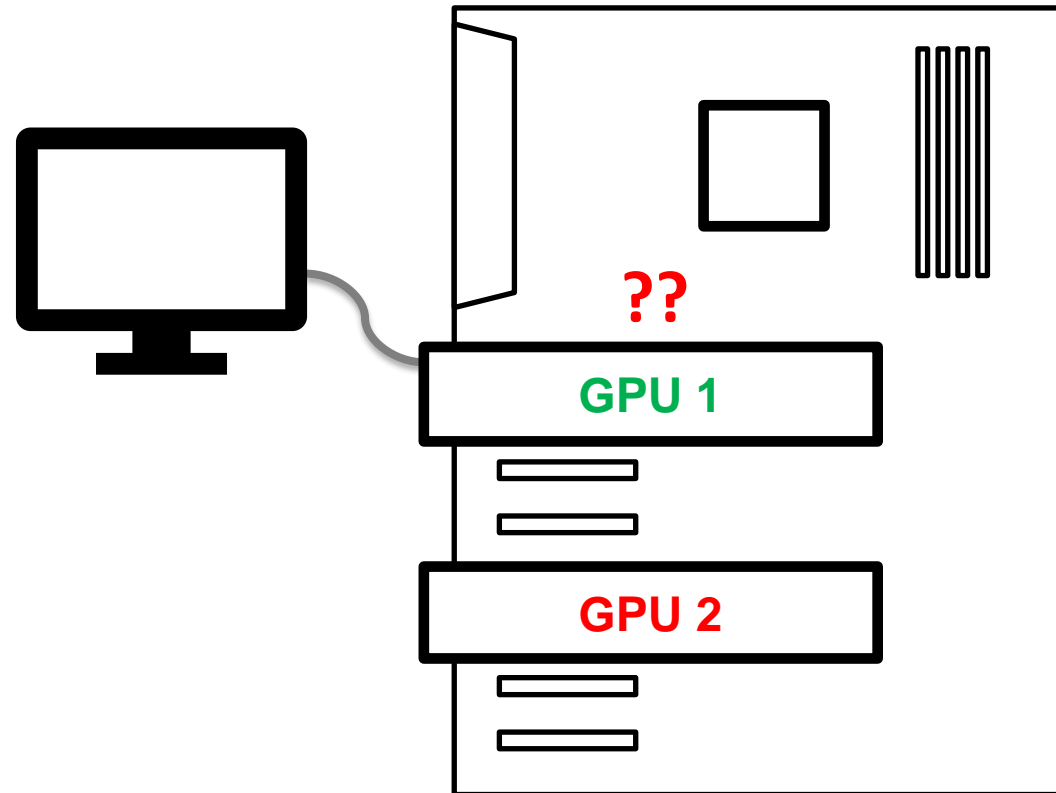
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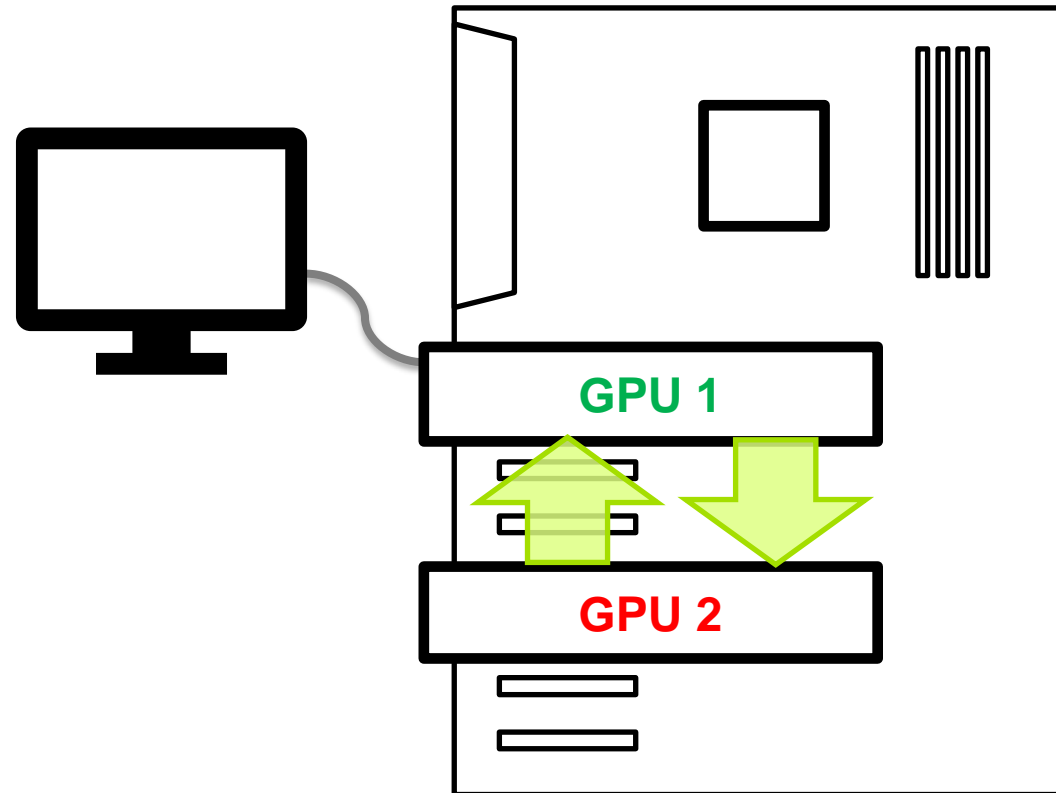
## Physical Device Selection

If you have two GPUs, which GPU does the rendering?



## Physical Device Selection

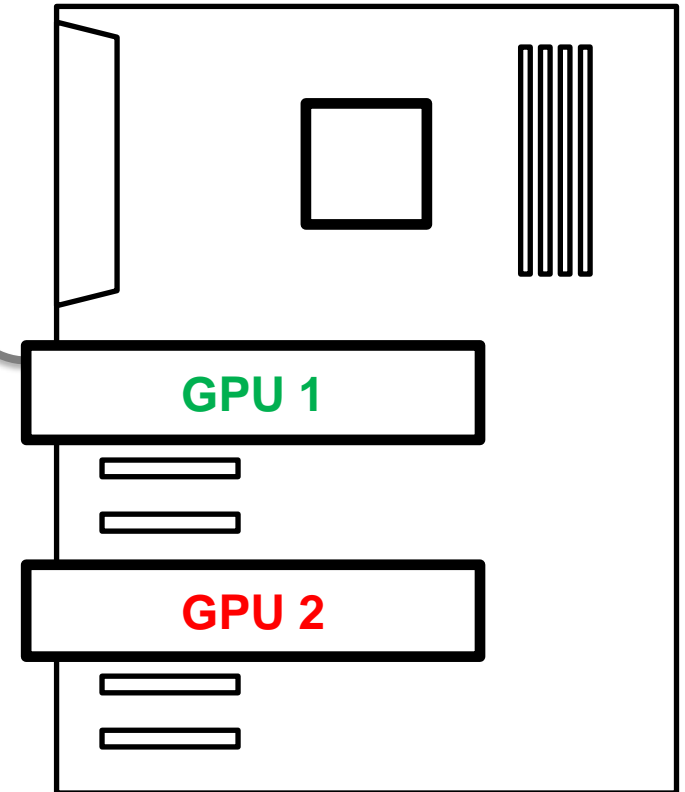
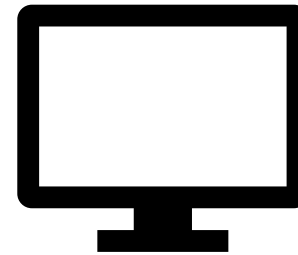
The (expressive and verbose) Vulkan way:  
Explicitly express which GPU does what.



## Physical Device Selection

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Explicitly express which GPU does what.

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// Query the number of physical devices:  
uint32_t count;  
vkEnumeratePhysicalDevices(instance, &count, nullptr);  
assert(count > 0);  
  
// Get all physical device handles:  
VkPhysicalDevice* physical_devices = new VkPhysicalDevice[count];  
vkEnumeratePhysicalDevices(instance, &count, physical_devices);  
  
// Select a physical device:  
VkPhysicalDevice physical_device = physical_devices[0];  
  
vkEnumerateDeviceExtensionProperties(physical_device, ...);  
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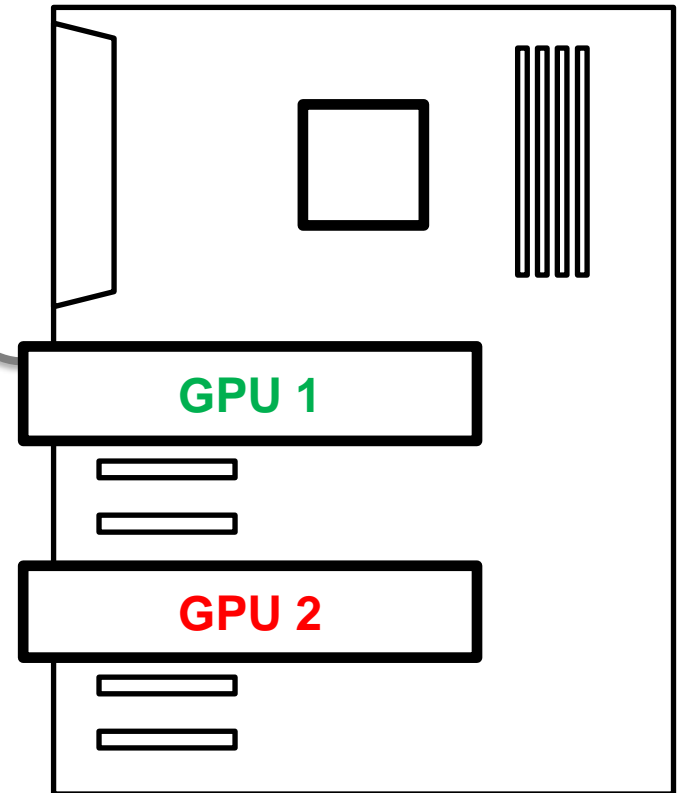
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## Physical Device Selection

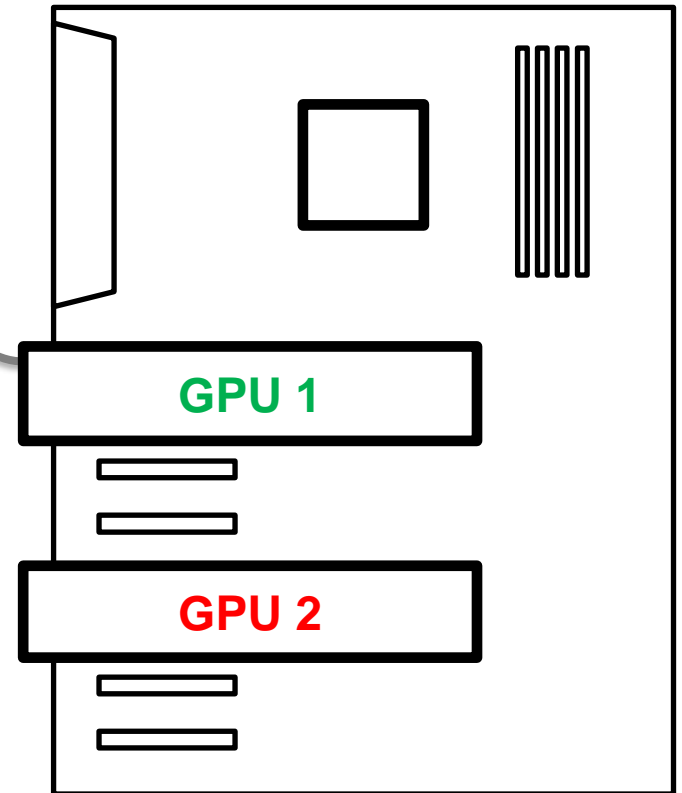
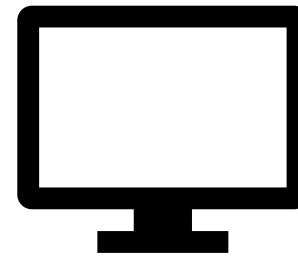
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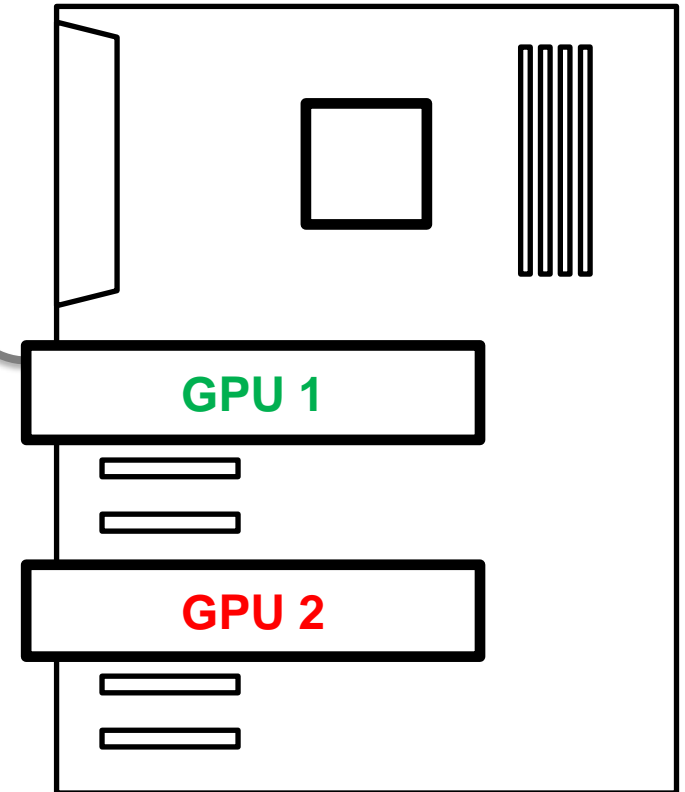
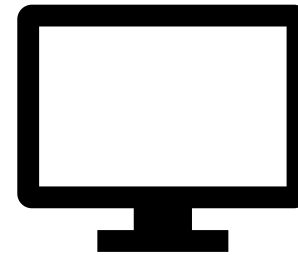
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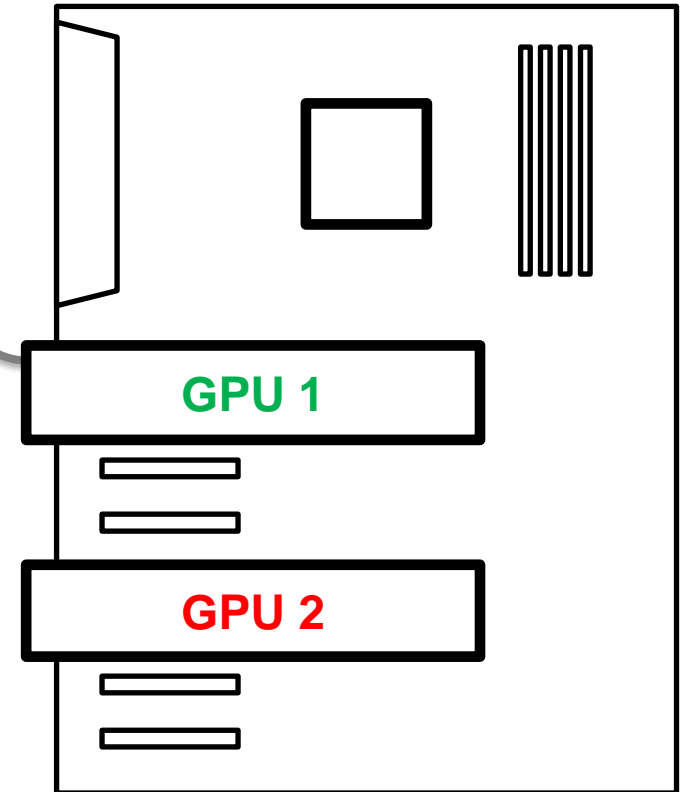
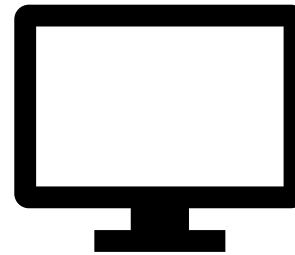
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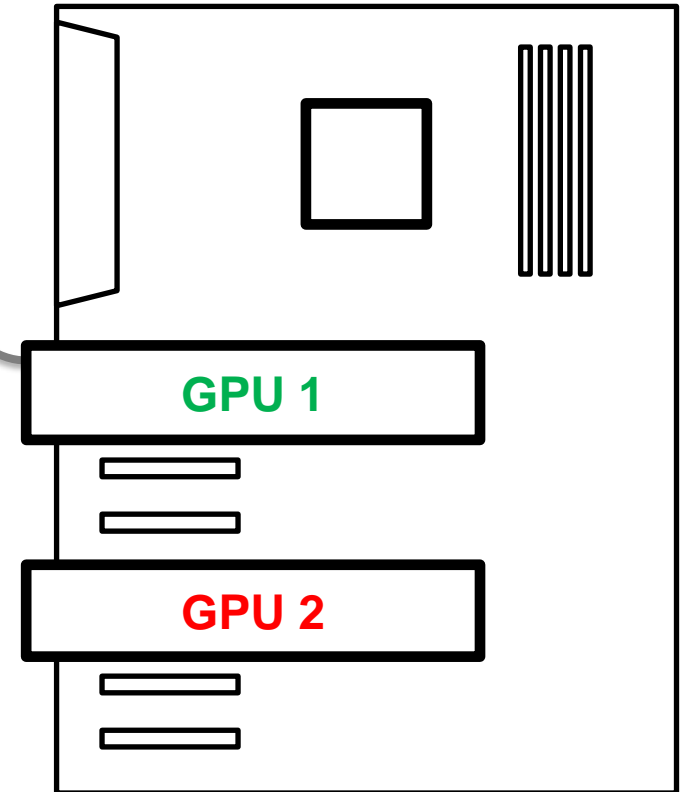
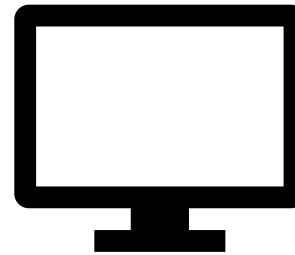




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## Logical Device Creation

```
float priority = 1.0f;
VkDeviceQueueCreateInfo queue_create_info = {};
queue_create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_QUEUE_CREATE_INFO;
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const char* enabled_extensions[1] = { "VK_KHR_swapchain" };

VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;
create_info.queueCreateInfoCount = 1;
create_info.pQueueCreateInfos = &device_queue_create_info;
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VkDevice device;
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**Which Kind of API Is It?**

**Fundamental API Usage**

**Validation**

**Instance, Physical Device, Logical Device**

**Queues**



# Vulkan Essentials: Queues

- A queue receives commands which are to be processed by the physical device.
- Commands (more precisely: command buffers) are queued for processing.
- Commands start being processed in submission order; can complete out of order

## QUEUE



CMD 1



# Vulkan Essentials: Queues

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## QUEUE

CMD 1

CMD 2



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CMD 1

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## QUEUE

CMD 1

CMD 2

CMD 3



## QUEUE 1

CMD 1

CMD 2

## QUEUE 2

CMD 3

CMD 4





## Logical Device Creation

```
float priority = 1.0f;
VkDeviceQueueCreateInfo queue_create_info = {};
queue_create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_QUEUE_CREATE_INFO;
queue_create_info.queueFamilyIndex = 0;
queue_create_info.queueCount = 1;
queue_create_info.pQueuePriorities = &priority;
```

```
const char* enabled_extensions[1] = { "VK_KHR_swapchain" };
```

```
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;
create_info.queueCreateInfoCount = 1;
create_info.pQueueCreateInfos = &device_queue_create_info;
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 1;
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;
```

```
VkDevice device;
VkResult result = vkCreateDevice(physical_device, &create_info, nullptr, &device);
CHECK_VULKAN_RESULT(result);
```



## Logical Device Creation

```
float priority = 1.0f;
VkDeviceQueueCreateInfo queue_create_info = {};
queue_create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_QUEUE_CREATE_INFO;
queue_create_info.queueFamilyIndex = 0;
queue_create_info.queueCount = 1;
queue_create_info.pQueuePriorities = &priority;

const char* enabled_extensions[1] = { "VK_KHR_swapchain" };

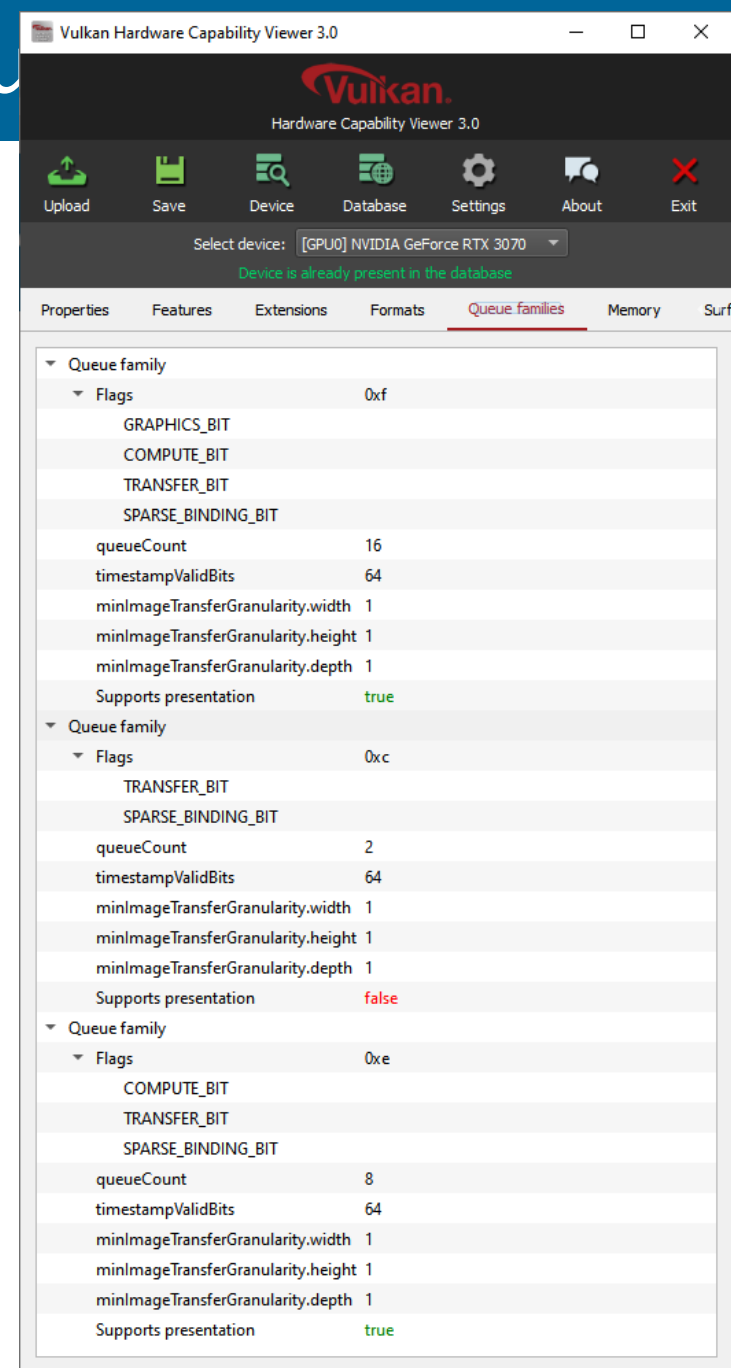
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;
create_info.queueCreateInfoCount = 1;
create_info.pQueueCreateInfos = &device_queue_create_info;
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 1;
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;

VkDevice device;
VkResult result = vkCreateDevice(physical_device, &create_info, nullptr, &device);
CHECK_VULKAN_RESULT(result);
```



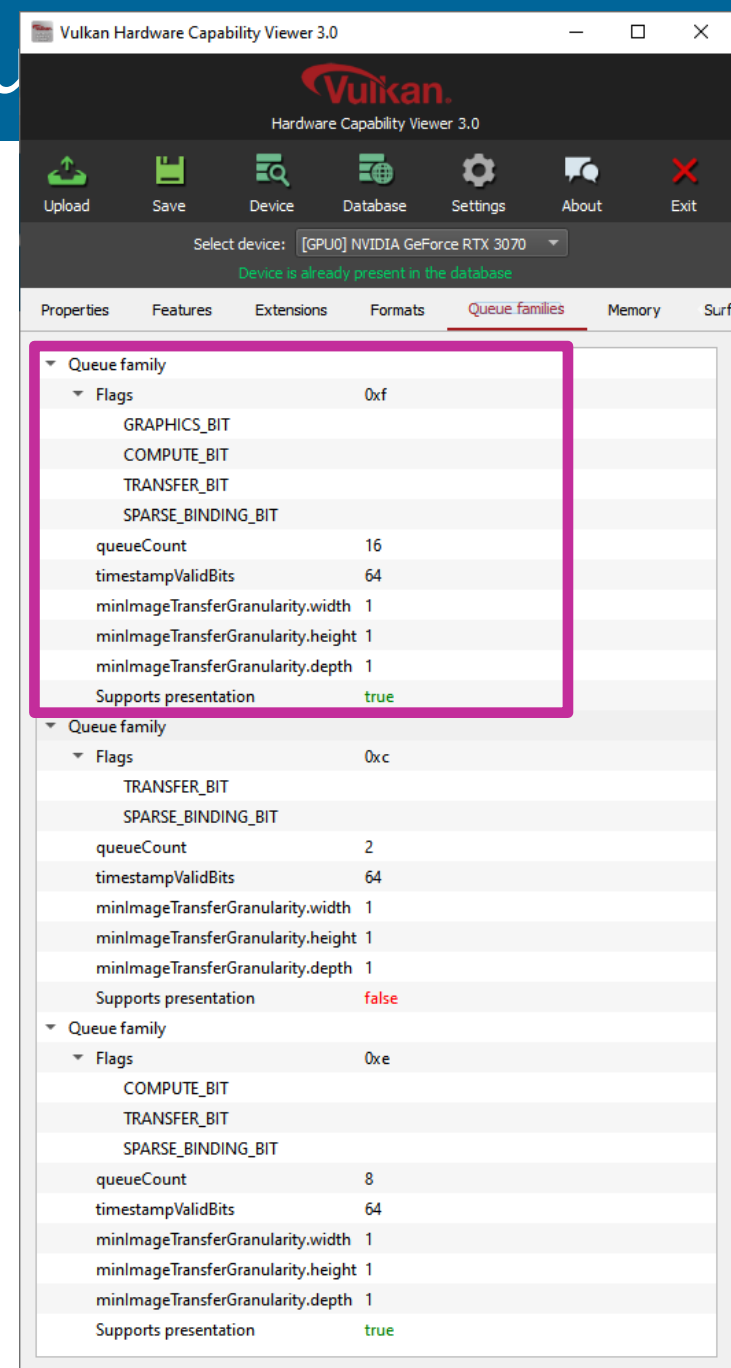
- A **queue** always belongs to a **queue family**.
- Queue families
  - A physical device **can** support different queue families ... or only one.
  - Different queue families have different properties.
  - Multiple queues of the same queue family **can** be created and used.
- Why use multiple queues?
  - Increase concurrency
  - (Potentially) increase performance with specialized queues:
    - e.g., a “transfer queue”
    - e.g., an “async compute queue”

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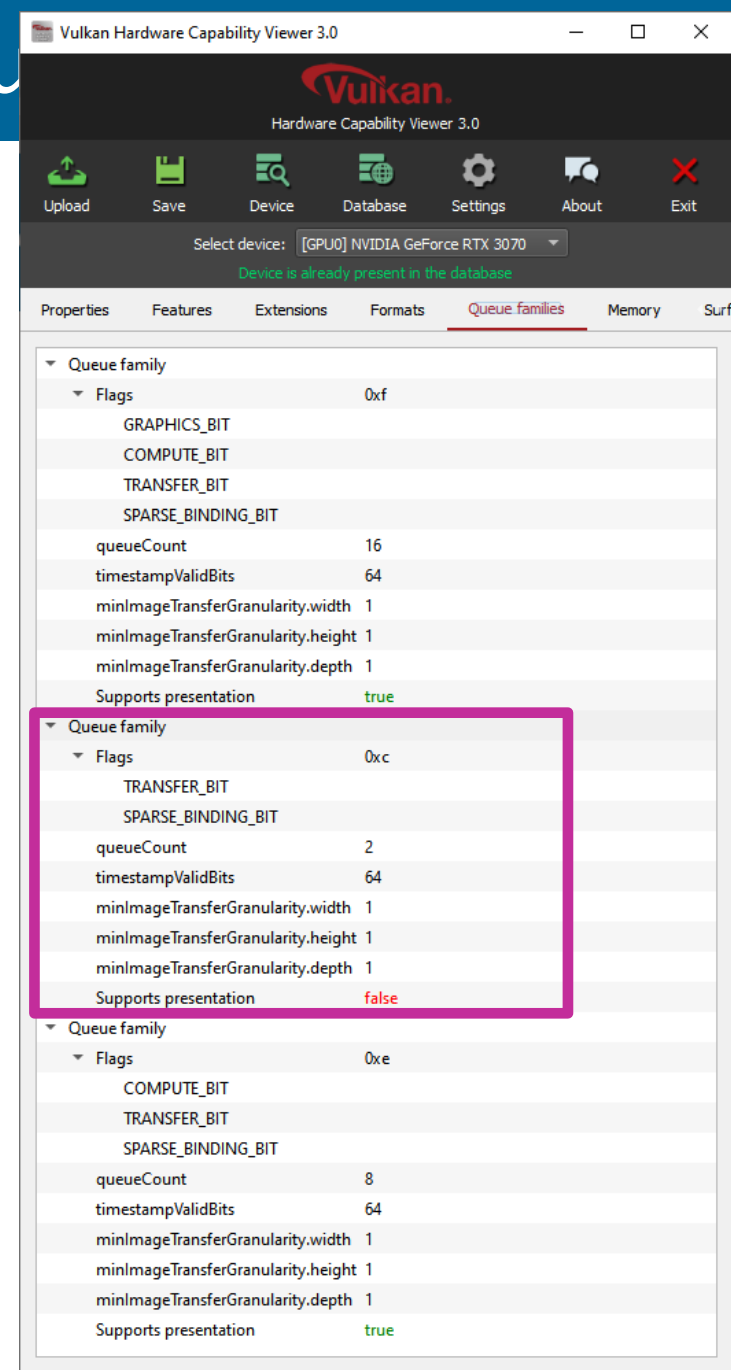
- A **queue** always belongs to a **queue family**.
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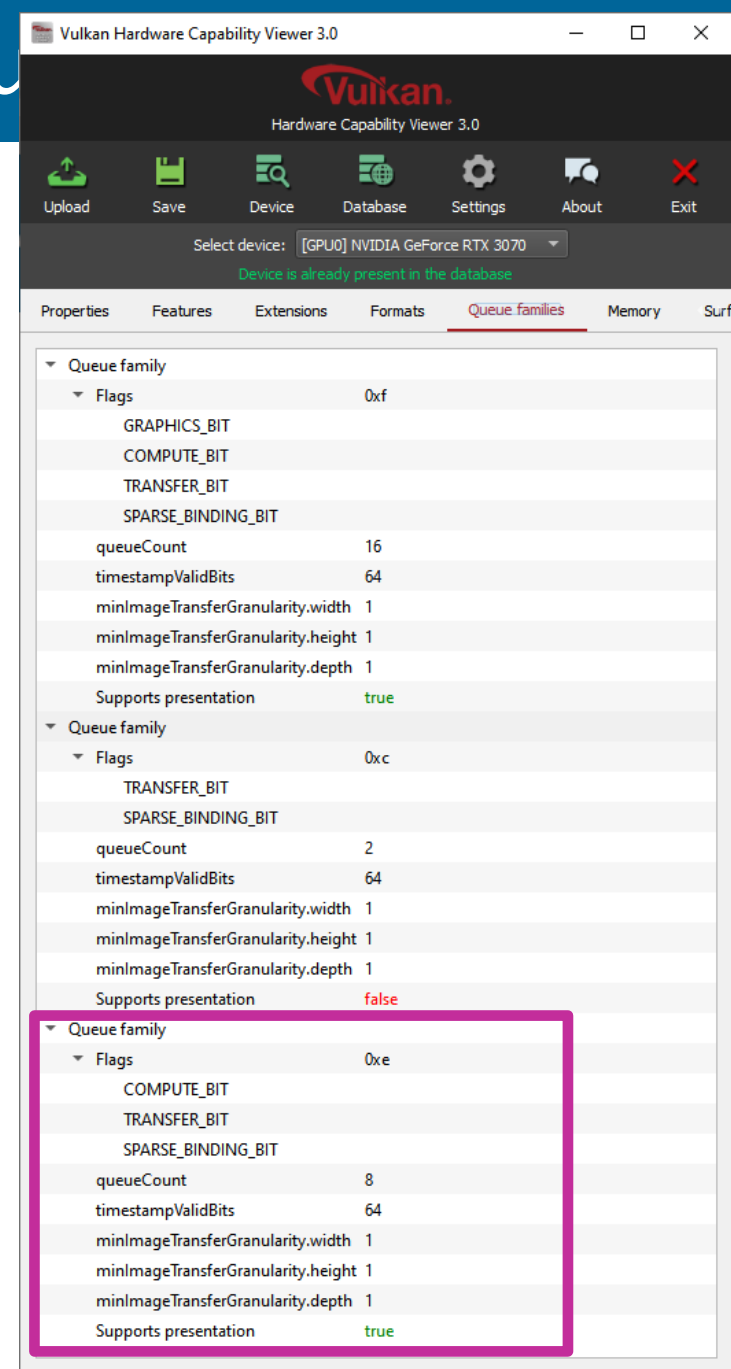
- A **queue** always belongs to a **queue family**.
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  - A physical device **can** support different queue families ... or only one.
  - Different queue families have different properties.
  - Multiple queues of the same queue family **can** be created and used.
- Why use multiple queues?
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    - e.g., a “transfer queue”
    - e.g., an “async compute queue”

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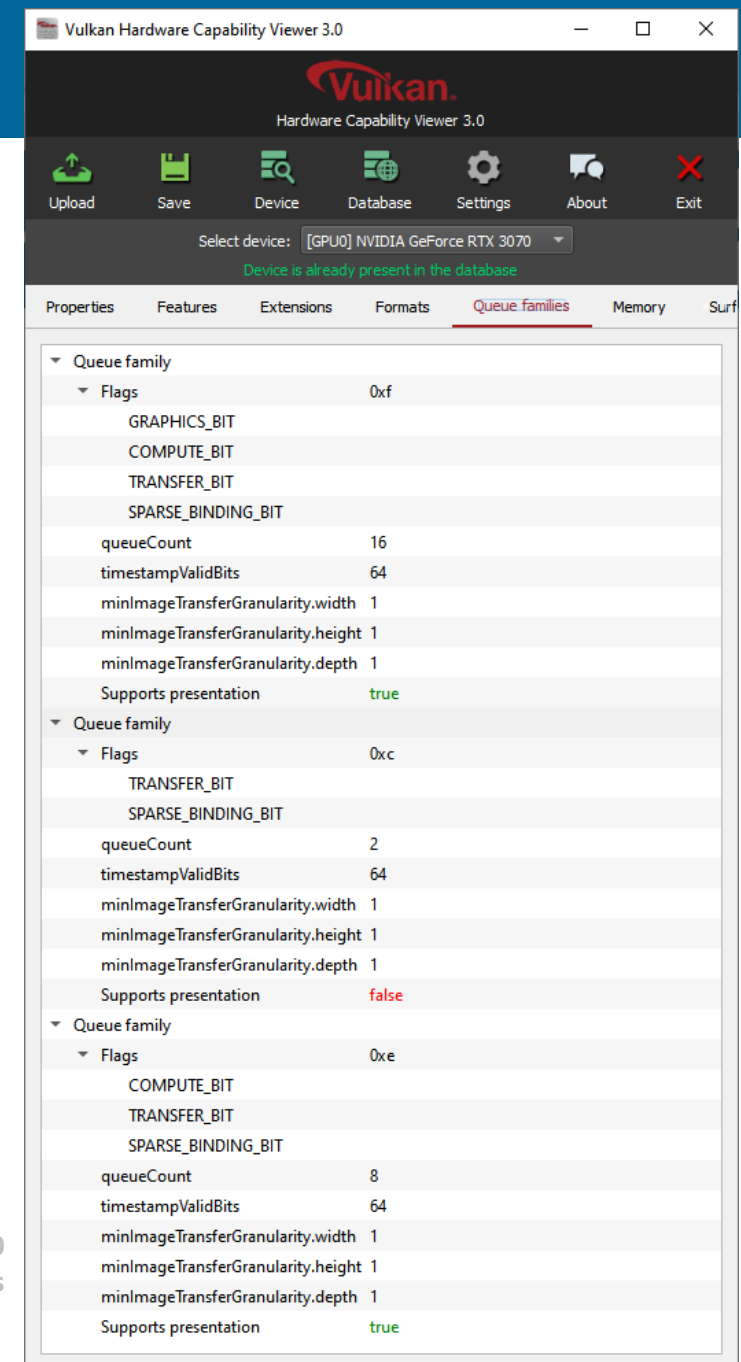
- A **queue** always belongs to a **queue family**.
- Queue families
  - A physical device **can** support different queue families ... or only one.
  - Different queue families have different properties.
  - Multiple queues of the same queue family **can** be created and used.
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  - Increase concurrency
  - (Potentially) increase performance with specialized queues:
    - e.g., a “transfer queue”
    - e.g., an “async compute queue”

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- Vulkan Hardware Capability Viewer:
  - <https://www.saschawillems.de/creations/vulkan-hardware-capability-viewer>
  - <https://github.com/SaschaWillems/VulkanCapsViewer>
- Data can be uploaded into the GPUinfo database
  - <https://vulkan.gpuinfo.org>
  - Browse the results!
  - Check if a GPU supports Vulkan, queue families, extensions, image formats, etc.
- Thank you, Sascha Willems! :)

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**Which Kind of API Is It?**

**Fundamental API Usage**

**Validation**

**Instance, Physical Device, Logical Device**

**Queues**

**Extensions**





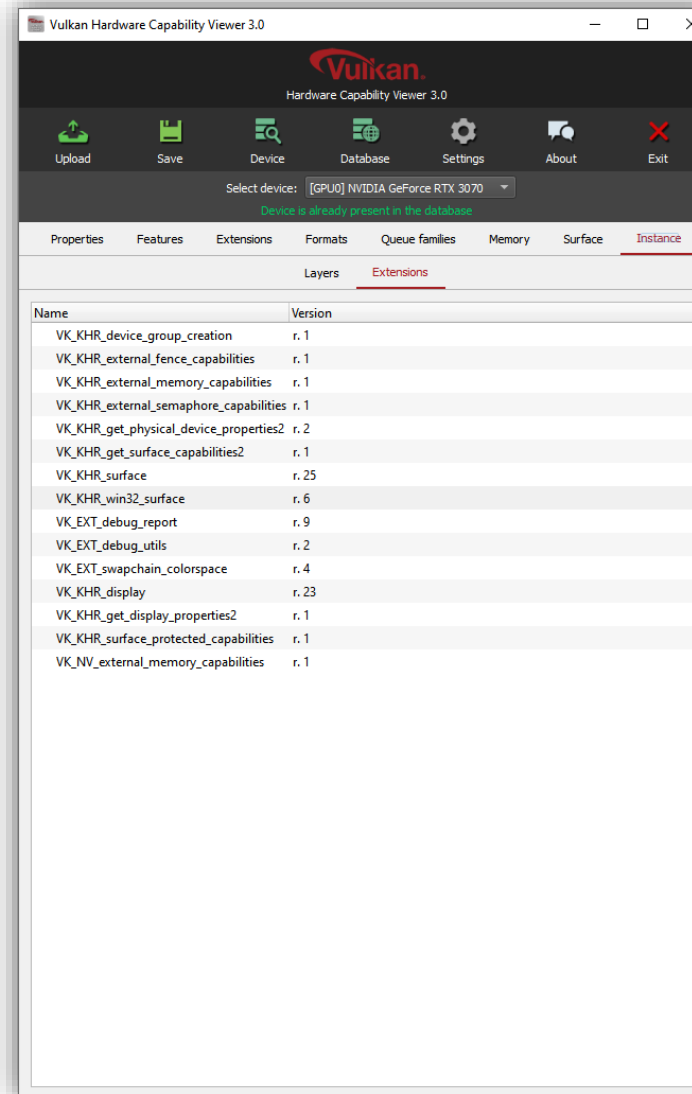
Two extension types:

- Instance Extensions (left)  
**w.r.t the Vulkan installation**

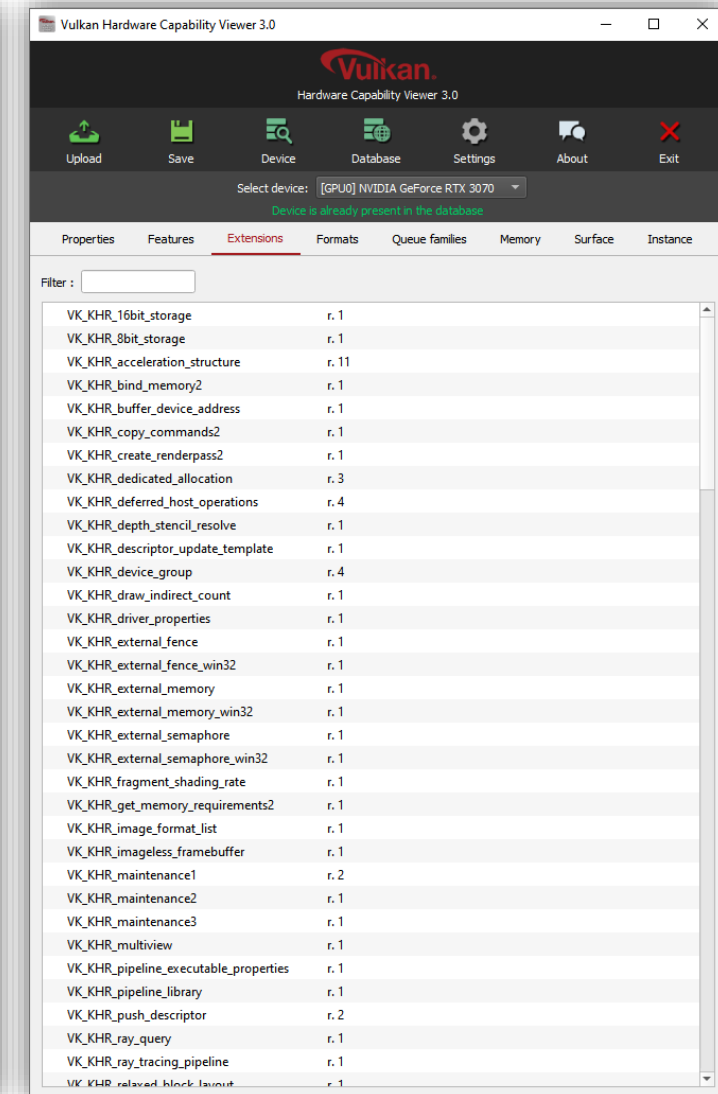
- Debug features
- OS-specific features
- Cross-device/instance/  
process memory

- Device Extensions (right)  
**w.r.t. a specific device**

- Capabilities of a physical  
device or driver



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## Instance Extensions

Use `vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT` to install a callback, which gets invoked whenever the validation layers have something to report.

It is an extension, that's why it is suffixed with "EXT".

### C Specification

A debug messenger triggers a debug callback with a debug message when an event of interest occurs. To create a debug messenger which will trigger a debug callback, call:

```
// Provided by VK_EXT_debug_utils
VkResult vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT(
    VkInstance
    const VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT* pCreateInfo,
    const VkAllocationCallbacks* pAllocator,
    VkDebugUtilsMessengerEXT* pMessenger);
```

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Best way to approach this: Follow the official Khronos example [Debug Utilities](#) for the best practice-approach!



# Vulkan Essentials: Extensions

## Instance Extensions

// During instance creation:

```
const char* instance_extensions[2] = {
    "VK_KHR_surface",
    "VK_KHR_win32_surface"
};
```

```
VkInstanceCreateInfo create_info = {};
// Set further create_info properties.
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 2;
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames
    = instance_extensions;
```

```
// Use create_info with
// vkCreateInstance ...
```

Use `vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT` to install a callback, which gets invoked whenever the validation layers have something to report.

It is an extension, that's why it is suffixed with "EXT".

### C Specification

A debug messenger triggers a debug callback with a debug message when an event of interest occurs. To create a debug messenger which will trigger a debug callback, call:

```
// Provided by VK_EXT_debug_utils
VkResult vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT(
    VkInstance
    const VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT*
    const VkAllocationCallbacks*
    VkDebugUtilsMessengerEXT*
    instance,
    pCreateInfo,
    pAllocator,
    pMessenger);
```

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Best way to approach this: Follow the official Khronos example [Debug Utilities](#) for the best practice-approach!



## Instance Extensions

// During instance creation:

```
const char* instance_extensions[3] = {  
    "VK_KHR_surface",  
    "VK_KHR_win32_surface"  
    , "VK_EXT_debug_utils"  
};
```

```
VkInstanceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
// Set further create_info properties.  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 3;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames  
    = instance_extensions;
```

```
// Use create_info with  
// vkCreateInstance ...
```

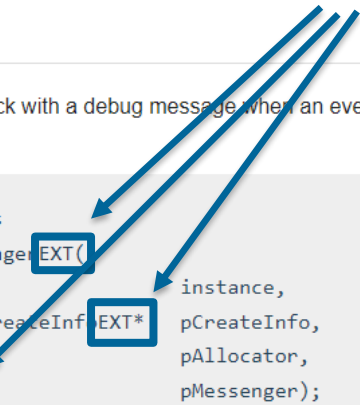
Use `vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT` to install a callback, which gets invoked whenever the validation layers have something to report.

It is an extension, that's why it is suffixed with "EXT".

### C Specification

A debug messenger triggers a debug callback with a debug message when an event of interest occurs. To create a debug messenger which will trigger a debug callback, call:

```
// Provided by VK_EXT_debug_utils  
VkResult vkCreateDebugUtilsMessengerEXT(  
    VkInstance  
    const VkDebugUtilsMessengerCreateInfoEXT*  
    const VkAllocationCallbacks*  
    VkDebugUtilsMessengerEXT*  
    instance,  
    pCreateInfo,  
    pAllocator,  
    pMessenger);
```



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Best way to approach this: Follow the official Khronos example [Debug Utilities](#) for the best practice-approach!



## Device Extensions

For example, how to enable real-time ray tracing?

- Its support depends on the GPU
  - Therefore, it must be a device extension.
- Which extension to use?
  - "VK\_NV\_ray\_tracing" ?
  - "VK\_KHR\_ray\_tracing" ?
  - "VK\_KHR\_ray\_tracing\_pipeline" ?
- Turns out that "VK\_KHR\_ray\_tracing\_pipeline" is the way to go, but has additional dependencies.
  - Check the specification!

"VK\_KHR\_ray\_tracing\_pipeline"  
requires the following extensions in addition:

"VK\_KHR\_acceleration\_structure",  
"VK\_EXT\_descriptor\_indexing",  
"VK\_KHR\_buffer\_device\_address",  
"VK\_KHR\_deferred\_host\_operations"



```
const char* enabled_extensions[5]    = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info      = {};  
create_info.sType                   = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount    = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
const char* enabled_extensions[5]    = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info      = {};  
create_info.sType                  = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount   = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
  
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```





```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;
```

```
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



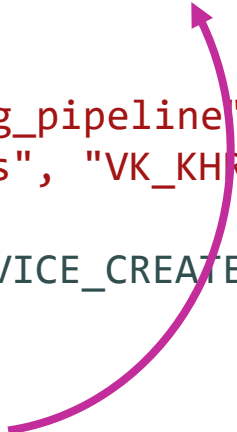
```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
  
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
  
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
  
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
as_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_ACCELERATION_STRUCTURE_FEATURES_KHR;  
as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;
```

```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;
```

```
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };
```

```
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;
```

```
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
as_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_ACCELERATION_STRUCTURE_FEATURES_KHR;  
as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;
```

```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;
```

```
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
as_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_ACCELERATION_STRUCTURE_FEATURES_KHR;  
as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;
```

```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
rt_pipe_features.pNext = &as_features;
```

```
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };
```

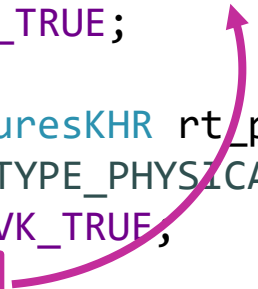
```
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;
```

```
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
as_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_ACCELERATION_STRUCTURE_FEATURES_KHR;  
as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;
```

```
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
rt_pipe_features.pNext = &as_features;
```



```
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };
```

```
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;
```

```
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```





```
VkPhysicalDeviceVulkan12Features vulkan12_features = {};  
vulkan12_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_VULKAN_1_2_FEATURES;  
vulkan12_features.descriptorIndexing = VK_TRUE;  
vulkan12_features.bufferDeviceAddress = VK_TRUE;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
as_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_ACCELERATION_STRUCTURE_FEATURES_KHR;  
as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
rt_pipe_features.pNext = &as_features;  
  
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



```
VkPhysicalDeviceVulkan12Features vulkan12_features = {};  
vulkan12_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_VULKAN_1_2_FEATURES;  
vulkan12_features.descriptorIndexing = VK_TRUE;  
vulkan12_features.bufferDeviceAddress = VK_TRUE;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
as_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_ACCELERATION_STRUCTURE_FEATURES_KHR;  
as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
rt_pipe_features.pNext = &as_features;  
  
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



# Vulkan Essentials: Extensions

```
VkPhysicalDeviceVulkan12Features vulkan12_features = {};  
vulkan12_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_VULKAN_1_2_FEATURES;  
vulkan12_features.descriptorIndexing = VK_TRUE;  
vulkan12_features.bufferDeviceAddress = VK_TRUE;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
as_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_ACCELERATION_STRUCTURE_FEATURES_KHR;  
as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
rt_pipe_features.pNext = &as_features;  
  
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
create_info.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_DEVICE_CREATE_INFO;  
create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```

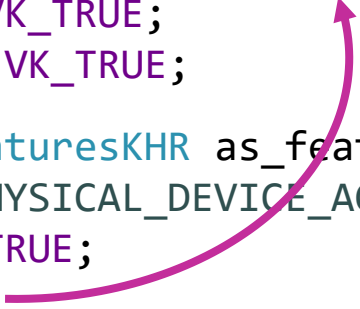


```
VkPhysicalDeviceVulkan12Features vulkan12_features = {};  
vulkan12_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_VULKAN_1_2_FEATURES;  
vulkan12_features.descriptorIndexing = VK_TRUE;  
vulkan12_features.bufferDeviceAddress = VK_TRUE;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
as_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_ACCELERATION_STRUCTURE_FEATURES_KHR;  
as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;  
as_features.pNext = &vulkan12_features;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
rt_pipe_features.pNext = &as_features;  
  
const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
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```



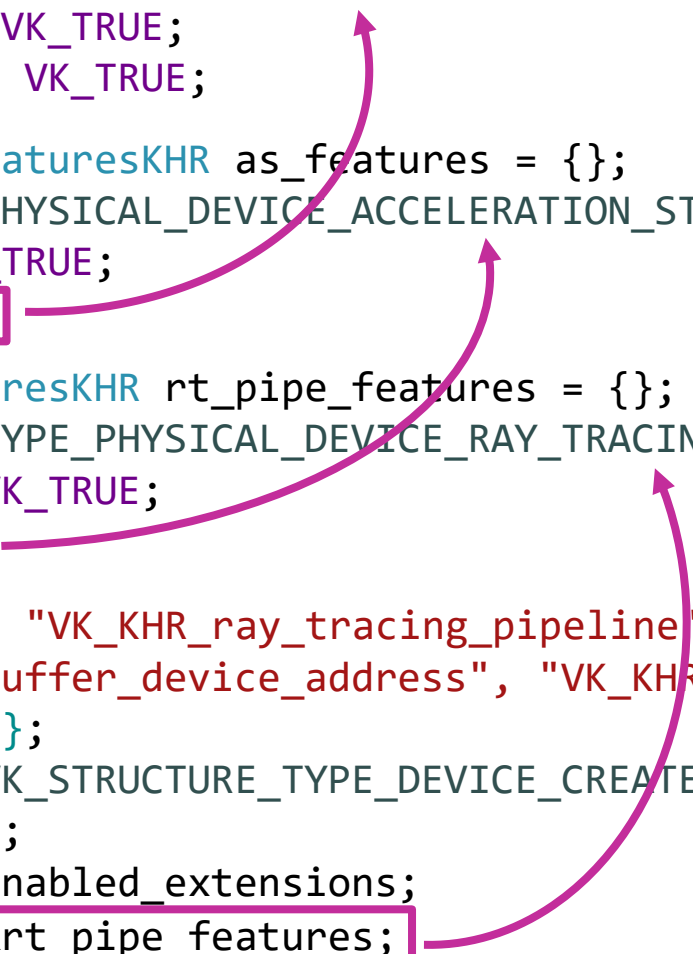
# Vulkan Essentials: Extensions

```
VkPhysicalDeviceVulkan12Features vulkan12_features = {};  
vulkan12_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_VULKAN_1_2_FEATURES;  
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vulkan12_features.bufferDeviceAddress = VK_TRUE;  
  
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as_features.accelerationStructure = VK_TRUE;  
as_features.pNext = &vulkan12_features;  
  
VkPhysicalDeviceRayTracingPipelineFeaturesKHR rt_pipe_features = {};  
rt_pipe_features.sType = VK_STRUCTURE_TYPE_PHYSICAL_DEVICE_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_FEATURES_KHR;  
rt_pipe_features.rayTracingPipeline = VK_TRUE;  
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const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
VkDeviceCreateInfo create_info = {};  
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create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



# Vulkan Essentials: Extensions

```
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vulkan12_features.descriptorIndexing = VK_TRUE;  
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VkPhysicalDeviceAccelerationStructureFeaturesKHR as_features = {};  
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const char* enabled_extensions[5] = { "VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline", "VK_KHR_acceleration_structure",  
"VK_EXT_descriptor_indexing", "VK_KHR_buffer_device_address", "VK_KHR_deferred_host_operations" };  
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create_info.enabledExtensionCount = 5;  
create_info.ppEnabledExtensionNames = enabled_extensions;  
create_info.pNext = &rt_pipe_features;  
  
// Use create_info with vkCreateDevice ...
```



- Two different types: instance-level, and (physical) device-level extensions
- Query if an extension is supported
  - For instance extensions: `vkEnumerateInstanceExtensionProperties`
  - For device extensions: `vkEnumerateDeviceExtensionProperties`
- Sometimes, a `pNext` chain can be necessary for configuration.
- Different types of extensions:
  - Khronos extensions: `VK_KHR_*`
  - Vendor-specific extensions: `VK_AMD_*`, `VK_INTEL_*`, `VK_NV_*`, ...
  - Multivendor extensions: `VK_EXT_*`
- Use predefined macros instead of extension names directly:  
`VK_KHR_RAY_TRACING_PIPELINE_EXTENSION_NAME` instead of `"VK_KHR_ray_tracing_pipeline"`



**Which Kind of API Is It?**

**Fundamental API Usage**

**Validation**

**Instance, Physical Device, Logical Device**

**Queues**

**Extensions**







# Introduction to Computer Graphics

186.832, 2021W, 3.0 ECTS

**Thank you for your attention!**

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