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Subject: Re: IDLgrWindow, IDLgrVolume and alpha channel (more details)

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Thu, 30 Jan 2003 18:21:19 GMT

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"Karl Schultz" wrote >

> "Sebastian" wrote

>> Is there a difference between using a IDLgrBuffer and IDLgrWindow for this

>> problem?

>

> No. Both IDLgrBuffer::Read and IDLgrWindow::Read return RGB arrays. I

> suppose that IDLgrBuffer could be fixed up to use destination alpha and

> return RGBA with Read, but I think that getting the data from IDLgrVolume

> addresses your need more directly. Remember that the destination alpha

> values you would pull out of the frame buffer may not correspond directly

> to

> the source alpha values of your primitive (volume). They might, if the

> blend equations were just right and there were no other primitives in the

> scene. Anyway, my point is that trying to derive the original alpha

> values

> by getting them from the device frame buffer is a roundabout way of doing

> it.

If we're throwing around feature requests I want to get in!

I think that fixing IDLgrBuffer to use destination alpha is a good idea.

Recently I have been procedurally creating textures (rendering to a buffer then texmapping) and although I haven't had a need for the alpha channel yet, I can see the possibilities.

But I wouldn't want this to get in the way of that new renderer you are working on. You know, the one that handles order-independent transparency? :)

-Rick

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