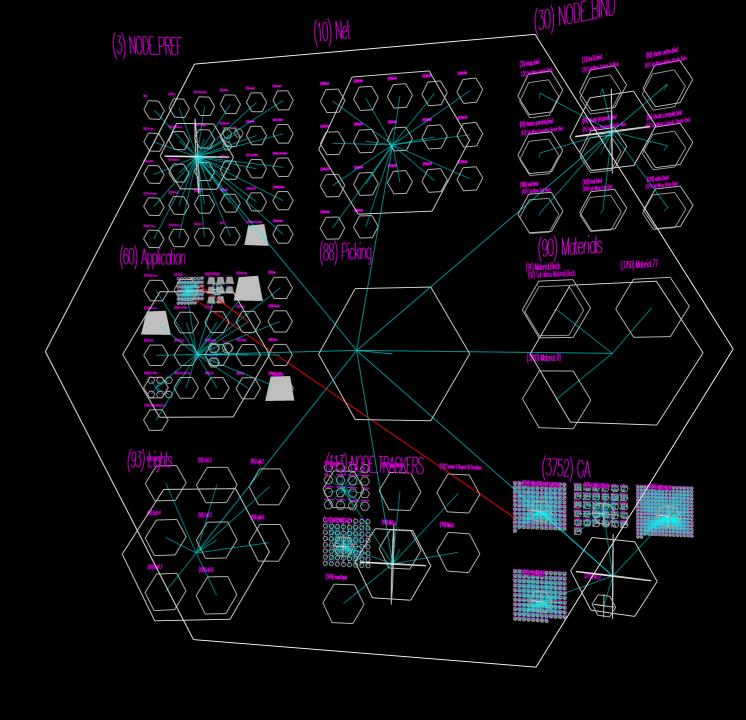


# AAASeed An introduction Part 1: In the beginning

- What is AAASeed
- Point of View
  - Artist
  - CCI
  - Developer
  - Education, Hobby
  - Usert
- Ga Bu Zo Meu



## What is AAASeed?



- A **generic toolkit** for building **real-time** processes
- Designed for:
  - Video Jockeying & Live MappingOpen data visualization

  - Interactive Art installation
- Open-source soon (MIT license), free
- Created by **Mâa**, with great help from **Franz Hildgen** Refined over 25 years real-world use
- Stabilized and improved through a European Project

https://ArtCast4d.eu **Early Adopters Program** 

AAASeed is build to last

https://AAASeed.org

# For whom is AAASeed? Artist

- BASE Reprove Doc MA I May Be Server Book MAN BE SER
- Compose and assemble blocks on the fly.
- Most blocks handle graphics processes.
- Others can manage anything, for example:
  - input (cameras, sensors)
  - Image analysis
  - Connections between elements
- Create live, graphic and interactive outputs.
- Free License

free digital support for generative/interactive artworks.

# Who is AAASeed for? Creative Cultural Industries



- Video professionals
  - Control and display videos, images, and text.
- Immersive environments
  - Multi-screen and multi-machine setups.
- Works live with existing tools:
  - Protocols: Spout, OSC, MIDI
  - Software: TouchDesigner, vvvv, Unity, Unreal, Chataigne, OBS studio...
  - Sound software: Max/MSP, Ableton Live, PureData/PlugData...
- Use cases:
  - Dance, Theater
  - TV, Digital signage, Interactive screens
  - You name it
- Free License
  - Keep your budget focused on production.
  - Long time warranty on exploitation.

# For whom is AAASeed? Developer



- On the base of an old school robust C++ rendering graph using the very fast and flexible Lua scripting language you can access the low level functionnality:
   Window system, custom C object, OpenGI,
   C++ objects, GI Shaders, OpenCI, OpenCV,
   Nvidia Flex, dlib, bullet, ...
- A rich lua virtual machine provide an interface to edit and customize realtime processes most of it happen live while processes are running extend and edit on the fly the interface

# For whom is AAASeed? Student, Hobbyist, Teacher

Dif September 1982 And September

- Have a rich, fast and complete tool
   to script graphic ideas on the fly
   learn and understand 3d graphics
   experiment and test before going further
- Use shaders
- Live coding
- Teach coding and graphic
- Experiment Mathematics
- An equivalent to processing?
   Need probably some graphic primitives to be added
- Infrastructure for research?

# User point of view

- This a Windows application for now AAASeed\_Metal.exe
- Tested against **windows 10 and 11** but should also work on Windows 8,7 even XP.
- It can run on low end machines even an executable for non Avx2 Processor (AAASeed\_Wood.exe)
- But it likes fast machines and uses the Gpu a lot
   Graphic Processor Unit
   Loves NVidia but functions on integrated Intel
   supports Amd most of the time (getting better on Amd every month)



# Shadoks point of view

"In case of problem just pump"

talking with the GA

Global Action: the top level

using BU

Box User: element of interface

**BUS** contain one or several BUs

**a** BU can contain a BUS and so this way a BU can contain other BUs

Using MEU

Module Editable Unit: functional editable blocks sometime represented in their short form the MU: Module Unit

- We lost the **ZO** but we will find it, promised («On a perdu les ZOs»)
- More on this: search Shadoks on YouTube
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sla57Zw-FN4
- Thanks to aaaproduction (https://www.aaaproduction.fr/)

#### Les devises Shadok

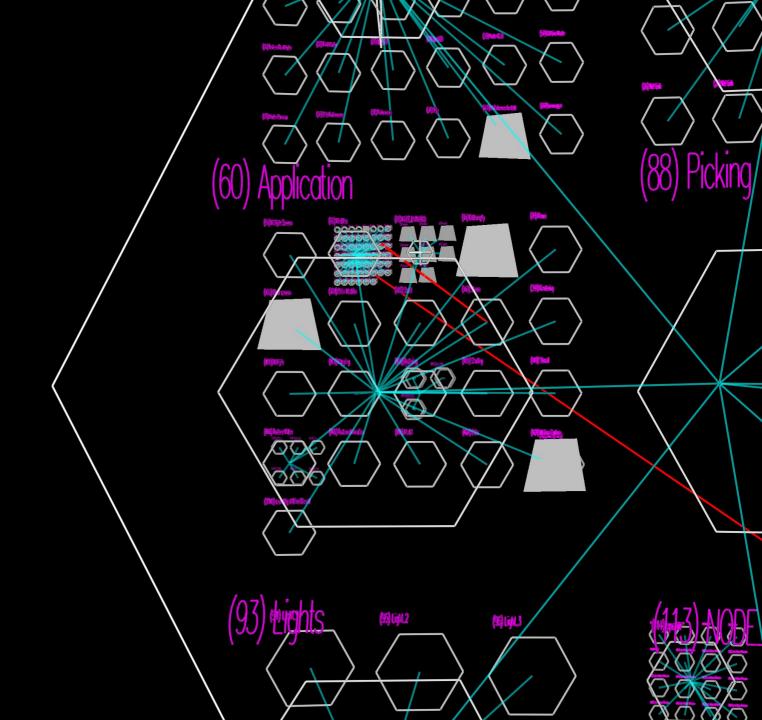


IL VAUT MIEUX POMPER MÊME S'IL NE SE PASSE RIEN QUE RISQUER QU'IL SE PASSE QUELQUE CHOSE DE PIRE EN NE POMPANT PAS.



# AAASeed An introduction Part 2: Install

- Setup AAASeed on your computer
- Folder structure
- AAASeed Sources



# Install 1/4: Required software

#### Klite Codecs

handle decompression of video (AAASeed use it through DirectShow until 2025 September at least)

https://www.codecguide.com/download\_kl.htm

we use klite Mega, but other options should function too

installed with default options all the way

#### • 7z

handle compression and decompression of 7z files

https://www.7-zip.org/

Windows 64-bit x64 version

7z ... -x64.exe : execute to install

#### Visual Studio Code

text / code editor used by AAASeed by default

NotePad++ and Sublime Text 2/3 were used and should still function Flatland/Pref/MASTER/Lua/lua\_master/editor

https://code.visualstudio.com/

Download for windows

Use extensions to color code for lua, GLSL, OpenCL

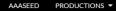
Use a workspace with the complete AAASeed folder is very practical to search and find.

## Install 2/4: Other software

- PureData and/or PlugData
  - https://puredata.info/ and/or https://plugdata.org/
  - **Needed to run patches in AAADoc/PureData:** 
    - -Midi to OSC
    - -Sound analysis to OSC
- XnView
  - Image browser with batch and conversion capabilities
  - https://www.xnview.com/en/
  - MP or Classic
- Wings3d
  - 3d Editor derived from Symbolics/Nendo.
  - Nice export tools to .obj files.
  - https://www.wings3d.com/
- Blender
  - The Open Source 3d Editor
  - https://www.blender.org/

## Install 3/4: AAASeed

**AAASeed** 



MÂA'S CORNER FILES





- Get files from https://AAASeed.org/files/
- Use the latest Installer

Install with AAASeed\_Setup.1.3.1.exe (2025 April)

Need a Reboot the first Time

Download and add libcurl.dll and cpr.dll to AAADII Folder

No updater for now

Update with the latest AAASeed.7z

- Replace previous AAASeed folder
- You can rename previous and current AAASeed folders keep different versions if you want

#### **Folders**

AAASeed stuff and your work are stored there -AAAFoundation

-AAADII Dlls associated (External software libraries), the installer define a system path to it

What The AAASeed team maintain/update/change, executables are there -AAASeed

-AAAUser Where your preferences are stored

Where you should save your APPs -APPs\_Guest

-Media Where you put content (videos, images, sounds...) with sub folder by projects

Associated installers, drivers... -Install

It is possible to install from a local drive / USB Key with no Network.

A manual install is possible too

Copying folder and adding the Dlls path to the User or System path)

#### FILES

#### AAASeed Downloads

- AAASeed Setup.1.3.1.exe current installer 2025 April 8th
- AAASeed.7z version 2025 April 30th 5pm
- AAASeed Introduction.pdf version 2025 April 30th 5pm
- Main x64 2025 April.7z separate folder with the Dlls from AAASeed Setup.1.3.1.exe
- · libcurl and cpr.7z 2 Dlls added since the installer AAASeed Setup.1.3.1.exe

# Install 4/4: Multiscreen

AAASeed supports **up to 6 screens** 

On desktop

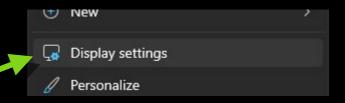
right click menu

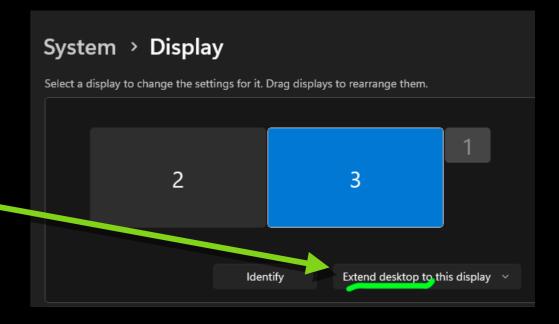
**Display Settings** item

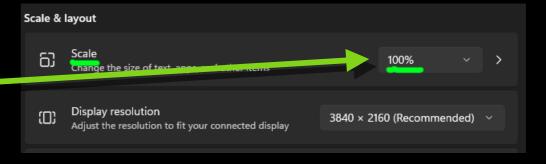
Dialog

- Set Extend desktop mode
- Be careful with the screen aligment
   Horizontal and Vertical
- Choose the **right resolution**

Was mandatory before 2025 May
Scale all screens to 100%
seems ok now, testing

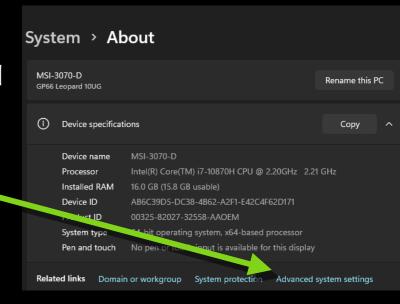


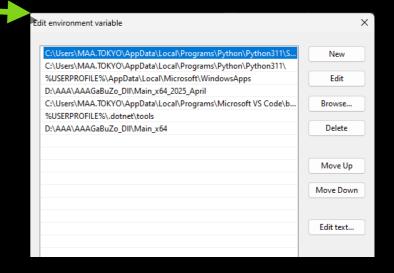




# Install TroubleShoot (Archive)

- If **AAASeed** complains about missing dll other that VC ....dll
  - Copy the DII path from the folder where they are
  - Go to PC / Properties / Advanced system settings
  - Environment Variables
  - Then User variable / Path (User or System) / Edit...
  - New
  - Paste path and eventually change order
  - Validate : Ok then Ok then Ok
  - Launch AAASeed\_Metal.exe
- If it still complains about some missing VC ... .dll
  - Execute VC\_redist\_2015\_2022 ... .exe
- If it still complains about missing VCOMP120.dll
  - Execute vcredist\_2013\_x64.exe





#### **AAASeed Folders: Inside**

AAASeed folder name can be changed

- Users use this to keep different versions

We call it the start folder

- in lua aaa.dir.get\_dir\_start()

This is what we maintain and update

- As User/Guest don't store your stuff here
- For developers: this is the Git repository

#### 2 executables

- AAASeed\_Metal.exe
- AAASeed\_Wood.exe for machine with no AVX2 Extensions
   AAASeed Metal.exe just crash at start

#### 3 files

README.md

Detail the install and tree structure

Document the start sequence

Preview in VSCode

ReleaseNotes.md

Document the evolution from version to version

Version.txt

Corresponds to the current version of the installer

#### AAASeed Folders: Inside more

- AAAAPPs Folder
  - APP is like a document

```
An App ↔ A folder with a file default.layerss_param inside Examples, Tutorials...
```

No way to save an APP for the moment: DUPLICATE FOLDER !!!

- AAAAPPS maintained by the core team
- AAADoc Folder
  - Far from finished (state in 2025 May)
  - Lua API

```
lua_aaaseed_draw.lua
lua_aaaseed_interface.lua
```

- AAAKernel Folder
  - Developer space

Some resources: lua code, shaders, OpenCl, Fonts, Textures...

- in lua aaa.dir.get\_dir\_kernel()

# AAASeed Folders: going Up

- **AAASeed** the Startup folder
- AAAUser folder
  - AAAWho.txt made of 3 lines:
    - UserName
      - Where **global stuff** are saved (pref, master, binds...)
      - in lua aaa.dir.get dir start()
    - NetName
      - Where **net stuff** is saved
        - Yes it is separated from the User stuff
      - in lua aaa.dir.get\_dir\_net()
    - UserApplicationPath
      - Used to build relative path for Application
  - **UserName** folders
  - NetName folders
- APPs\_User folder
  - APPs\_Guest by default
    - Your APPs, MEU protos, data, shaders.....
- Media folder
  - images, videos, fonts, 3d objects...
  - **Big** files are there

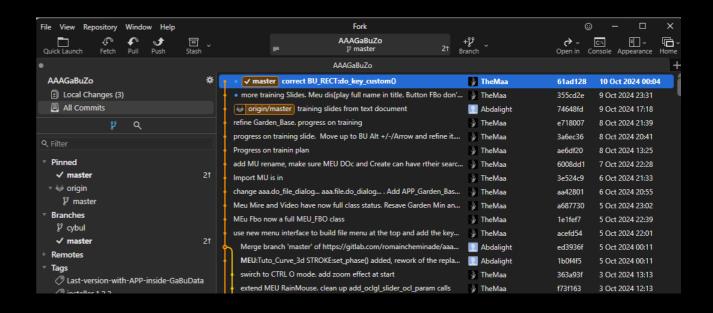
### **AAASeed Sources**

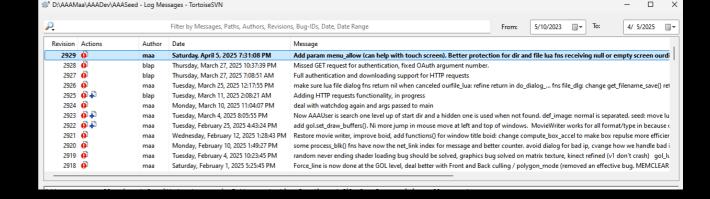
- AAASeed.org
   FILES section
- Developer access git
  - -AAASeed Folder
  - -Lua
  - -APPs

#### Svn

- -AAASeed.exe and dll
- -C++
- -will move to a git

request Mâa if you want it





# AAASeed An introduction Part 3: Baby steps

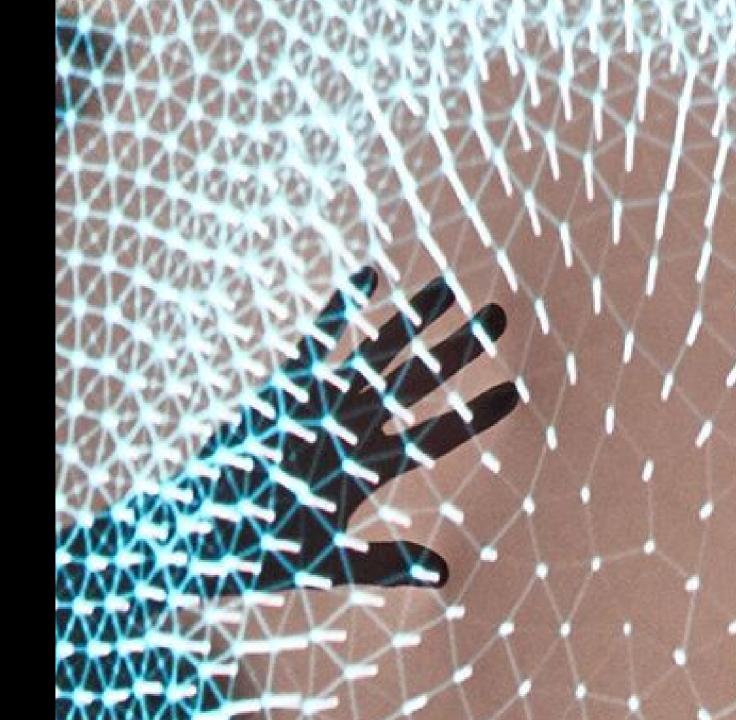
- Update AAASeed
- First steps
- Flatland 101

Example

Multi screen

Flatland

- Lua Error Dialog
- APPlications



# Update AAASeed

Get AAASeed.7z

**AAASeed.org** 

FILES section

Certain browser like Chrome (2025 July) block the download: see your browser security documentation

Replace existing AAASeed Folder

Reminder

you can rename AAASeed folders

current version (July 2025) needs 2 more dlls

libcurl.dll and cpr.dll

- Available also at AAASeed.org FILES section
- Put it in AAAFoundation/AAAD11

# First steps

- keyboard first step
  - w like (w)indow →
     switch between window and full screen Module
  - Tab → switch Flatland On and Off
     Ctrl e → like (e)dit flip edit mode (more later on this) see feedback at the top left of Flatland
     Red LOCK Green Edit leave it as Edit
- Quit, Exit ...
  - Double Esc →
     Quit with saving global stuff
  - Alt F4 or Mouse Right Button/Menu/Exit no save →
     Quit without saving global stuff
     require a confirmation





Exit no save Exit no save no shut

```
pref(59)Preferences
b-Executable->
DI Versions...
φ-Graphics Open Library->
d-Shader->
Camera Master->
4-Flatland->
 ⊢flatland (36)Flatland Pref
     -character_size_x 10.
   b-Draw...
                                  Plug Out
   d—Character...
   b−Background...
                                  Disconnect
                                  Set focus
-Render...
                                  Clipboard
                                   Print NAME
-Window...
                                  Module Plug Out
b—lmage Save...
                                  Module Plug In
                                  Global Plug Out
           Refresh...
                                  Global Plug In
Memory...
—Trax Midi OSC Net...
                                  Display
d-Verbose...
                                  Main
4-Factory & Obj...
-Misc...
 L-MASTER...
  6-Multitouch->
  d-Sound->
```

#### Flatland 101

• **Original AAASeed Ui** from previous century

Name from « Snow Crash » book by Neil Stephenson

where the C++ can be seen and used

made of **c\_obj\_ui** and param (for parameter)

Tree Made of params

developer will say render graph

a whole world we will explore later

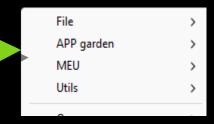
- example: change values in Flatland (next slide)
- Keys
  - Tab  $\rightarrow$  switch Flatland On and Off
  - F10 → focus flatland on Preferences
  - Ctrl F10  $\rightarrow$  focus flatland on Preferences at start
- Right Mouse Button → Menu

in Flatland → Param menu

out Flatland → Main menu

GaBuZoMeu menu

Beginning of Main menu



- Flatland have precedence for events and keyboard
- Needs to be off to use keys with GaBuZoMeu

```
Tpref(59)Preferences
⊕-Executable->
DI Versions...
φ-Graphics Open Library->
⊕-Shader->
Camera Master->
4-Flatland->
 ⊢flatland (36)Flatland Pref
     –character_size_x 10.
   b-Draw...
                                  Plug Out
   6-Character...
   Background...
                                  Disconnect
                                  Set focus
-Render...
                                  Clipboard
                                  Print NAME
-Window...
                                  Module Plug Out
b—lmage Save...
                                  Global Plug Out
           Refresh...
                                  Global Plug In
-Memory...
⊕—Trax Midi OSC Net...
                                  Display
d-Verbose...
                                  Main
4-Factory & Obj...
-Misc...
L-MASTER...
  6-Multitouch->
 ф-Sound->
```

## Flatland example

- change values character size x/y
  - F10 → Preferences
  - Wheel  $\rightarrow$  Scroll
  - Click (left Mouse Button) on Flatland
     → select / open
  - Click on character\_size\_x maintaining the mouse button down then turn around the starting point to change the value release the mouse button
  - Double Click
    - → open an edit dialog
  - Keys + -\* /→ change the value
  - Ctrl z
    - → undo (only last change 2025 July)
- Reminder

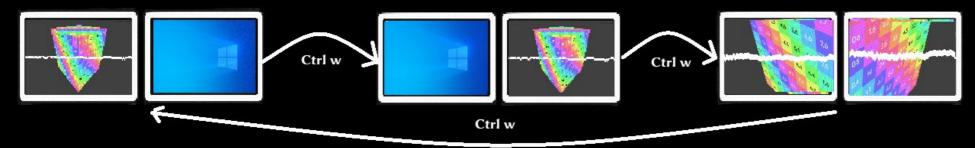
Flatland have precedence for events and keyboard

Needs to be off to use keys with GaBuZoMeu

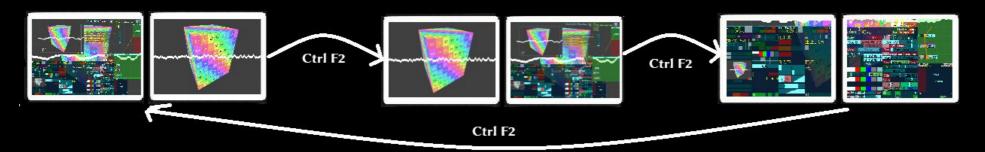
So leave it off for now → Tab

## AAASeed and Multi screen

- w like (w)indow
   → switch between window and full screen Mode
- Ctrl w → circle through all the possible full screen configurations with Shift → go the reverse way



Ctrl F2 → change UI position on screens with Shift → go the reverse way



Same principle applies with more screens (up to 6)

## Multi screen and Flatland

Flatland by default on left

of AAASeed Window

which can traverse several screens

If it is a problem

switch AAASeed window position

See previous slide

or change Flatland position

Flatland (Tab)

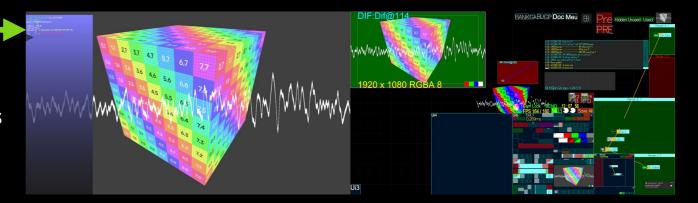
Preferences (F10)

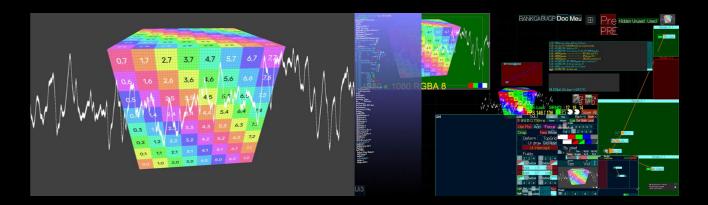
Flatland/Draw draw\_focus\_offset\_x/y

Careful it can make Flatland invisible

in some configurations

(drawn outside)







# Lua Error Dialog

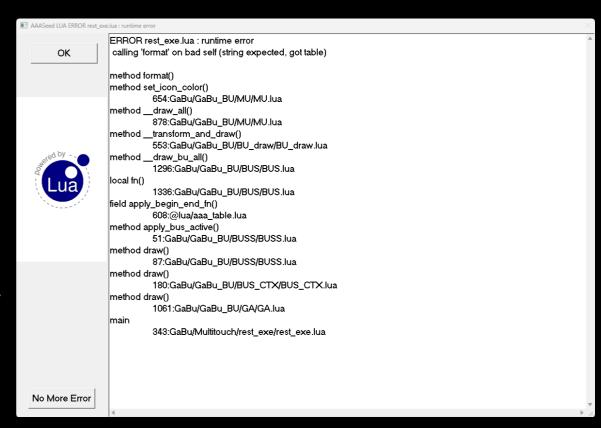
- Lua scripts run GaBuZoMeu
  - Errors can trigger an error Dialog
- Dialog
  - Display the error and its call stack, open associated editor at the error location. We use VSCode by default.
  - Correct the error in the text editor if you understand what you do. Save the modified file.
  - Click Ok

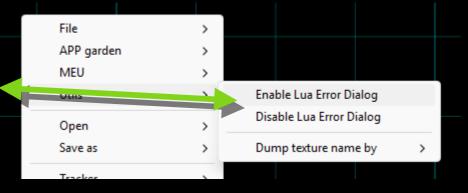
The eventually modified version will be used. Future errors will triggers this dialog.

- Or Click No More Error
  - Errors will not triggers this dialog anymore not recommended of you don't know what you are doing.
  - All future errors will be displayed in the terminal window. Most likely AAASeed will start to behave strangely and you will not understand what is going on.
- Menu Utils control same lua Error Dialog preferences

Always Enable to see problems

Disable for permanent installation



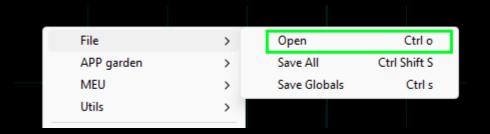


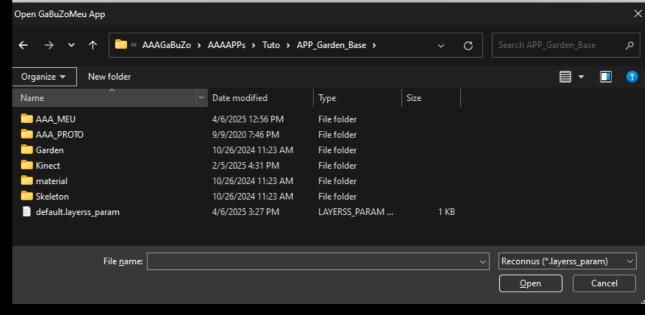
## **APPlications or APP**

- Open APPlication Garden\_Base
  - Use Main Menu File/Open or Ctrl o
- File Dialog
  - goto Start folder
  - Then AAAAPPs folder
  - <u>then **Tuto**</u> folder
  - then APP\_garden\_base
  - open default.layerss\_param
     The APP is the folder
     The folder is the APP
  - Bug:

Sometimes you need to open it again

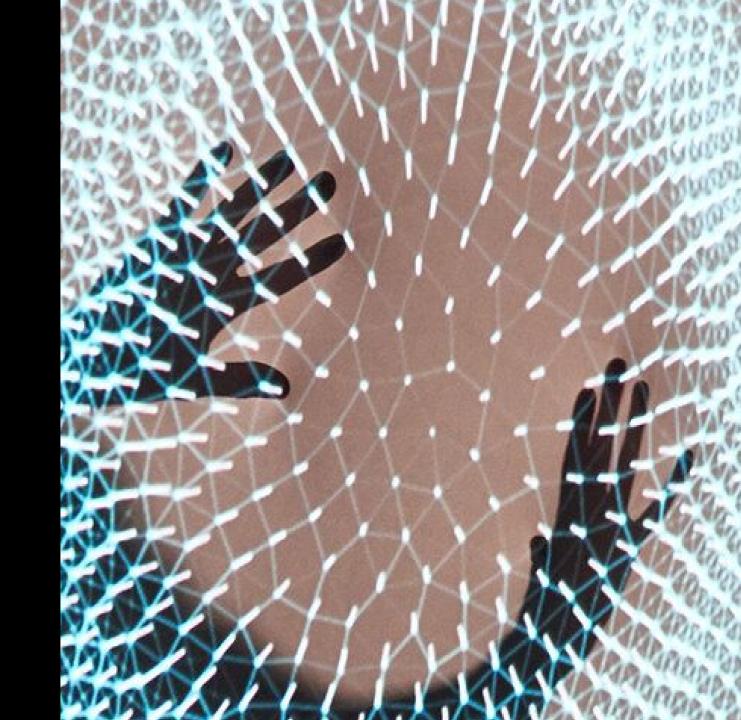
Name in the window bar





# AAASeed An introduction Part 4: BU first contact

- Basic UI
- BU = Box User
- BU Resize Move
- BU StarMenu
- Dialog
- Current BU
- BU Resize more



### Basic UI

Don't be intimidated

need to get used

UI is efficient.

- Avoid Caps Lock
   <u>it</u> can cause confusion
- F1 or Ctrl h like (h)elp
  - → Toggle **help** system On/Off
- F2
  - → Toggle GaBuZoMeu UI
- Ctrl F2
  - → Force GaBuZoMeu UI On and move it between screens (see Part 3)
- F3
  - → Toggle render process On/Off
    BU\_Alive visualize this state

    and is Clickable

the interface is still active except for the keys used by this help: F1 or CTRL h: Toggle +- | CTRL Mouse Wheel: Size Arrows Page up/Down Home End Mouse Wheel: Navigate AVOID AVOID AVOID Caps Lock: it will get you lost Use a Mouse or TouchScreen GaBuZoMeu Global Action GA BU Box User: the interface elements you can interact with unused for now (don't worry we working very very hard on it) ZO Module Editable Unit: an encapsulated functional Block MEU Module Unit: a compact MEU view used to control the execution order MU

MOUSE

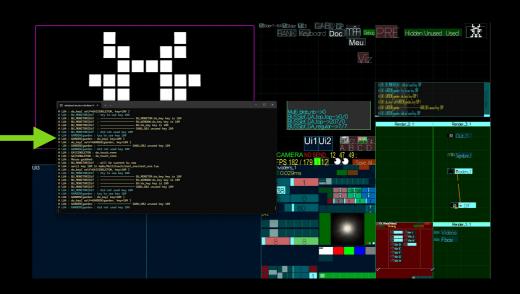
Left Button Action
Wheel Button Scroll
Right Button Menu

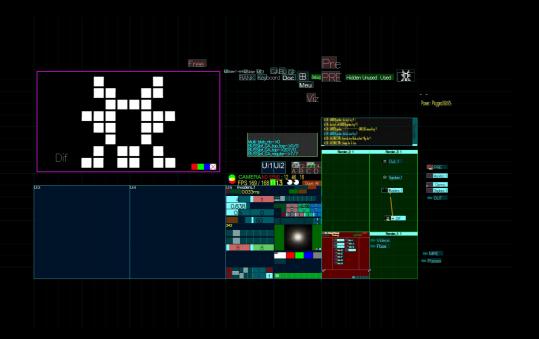
# Basic UI more

- **m** like (**m**)essage
  - → pop the **terminal window**

- Ctrl Tab
  - → Toggle between two **UI Scales**







### BU = Box User

The atomic UI element in AAASeed.

Hierarchical:

BUS contain BUS
BUS / BU / BUS / BU...

Interactive:

Click, resize, move and nest them to build Uls.

utoBU

To see this

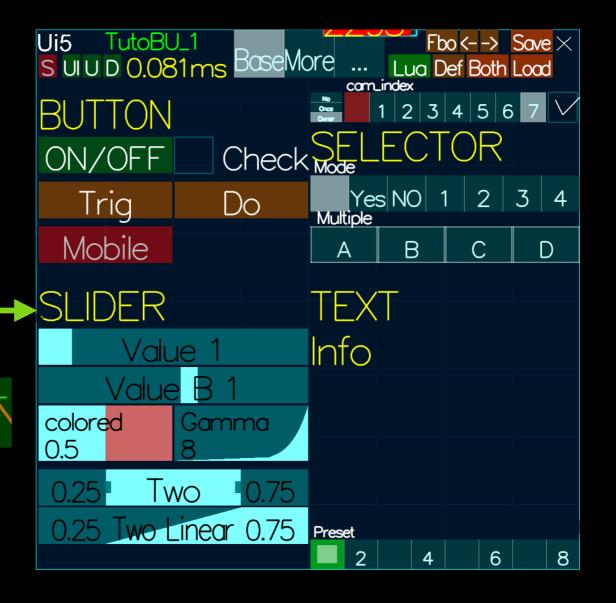
Click on the icon of TutoBU\_1

Click

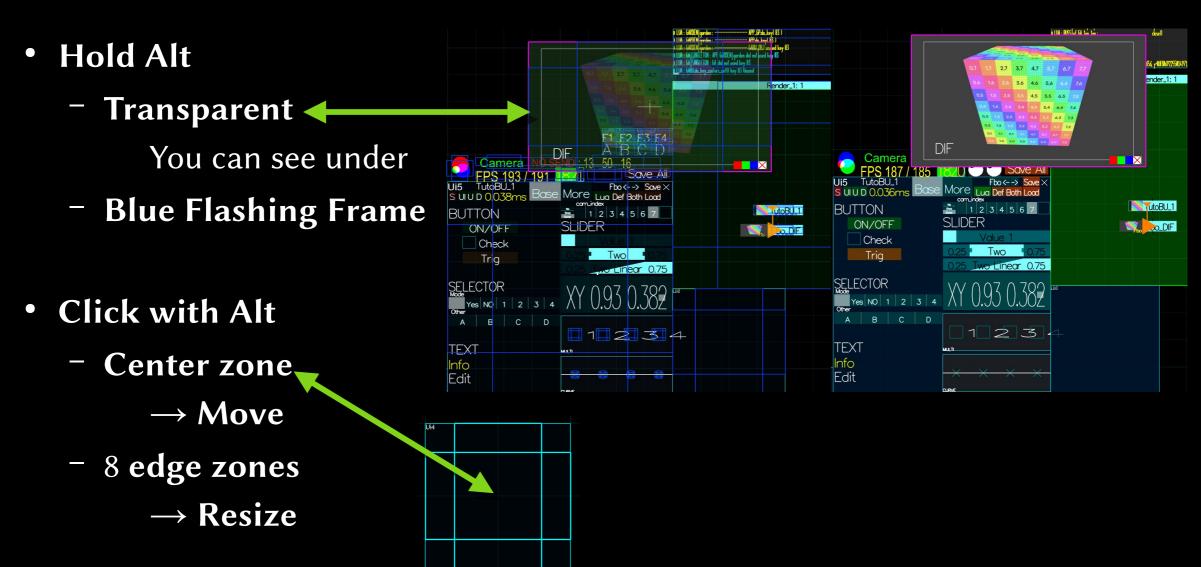
Done with **left button** 

4 types

- Simple
- Double
- **Triple** (rare)
- **Long** (stay fix with button pressed, rare)



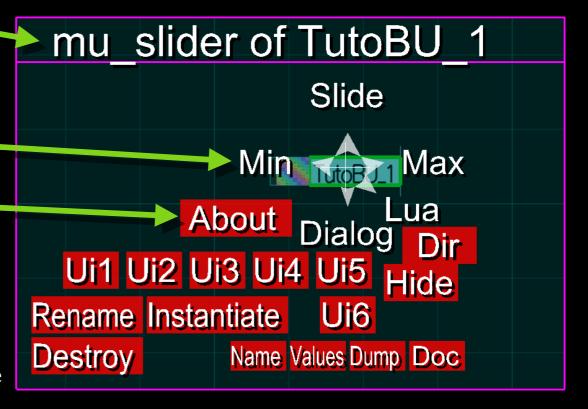
## **BU** Resize Move



### BU StarMenu

- Example:
  - Click on TutoBU\_1 slider < keeping button pushed
- StarMenu
  - Name of its BU at the top
  - Also named UIF for UI Fast
    - AAASeed proximity UI
  - It is a Contextual Menu with
  - **Zones** (White texts) go in the arrow direction
  - Button (Red rectangles) move on the button
- Quick Drag-out
  - All BU have a StarMEnu, but not all BU display their StarMenu on Click.
  - In this case, click, and with the mouse button still pressed, go quickly out of the BU rectangle: StarMenu Appears.





# Dialog

• Example:

Click on TutoBU\_1 slider

use **About** button

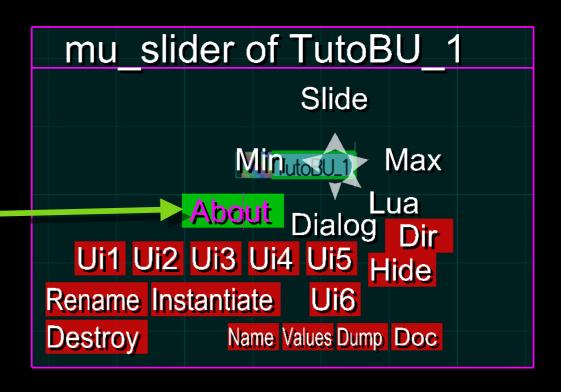
Dialog

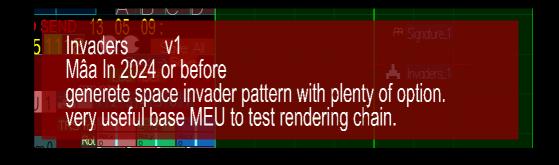
Flashing Red for attention

Move / Resize using Alt as Always

Click to dismiss

Some ask for confirmation





### **Current BU**

Clicked BU

becomes current

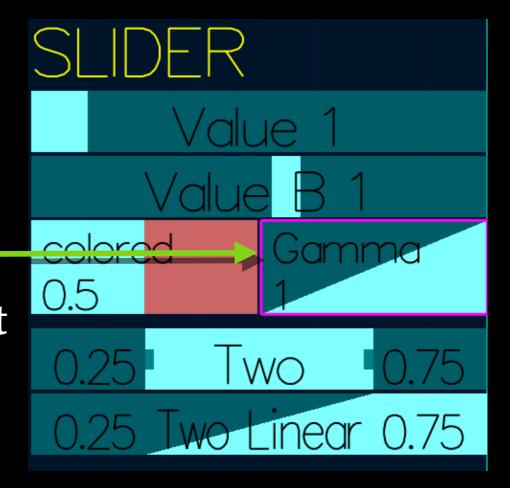
Violet frame

Receives keyboard input

• Arrows key to navigate

perhaps some bugs left

we need feedback (2025 August)

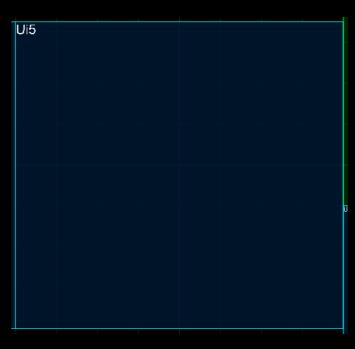


# BU Resize more

- Alt click move resize
  - Alt Arrow
    - $\rightarrow$  Move
  - Alt + \* /
    - $\rightarrow$  Size
- Some BU have 3 states (like a window)
  - Normal
  - Full (Big like the screen)
  - **Mini** (Minimized like an Icon)



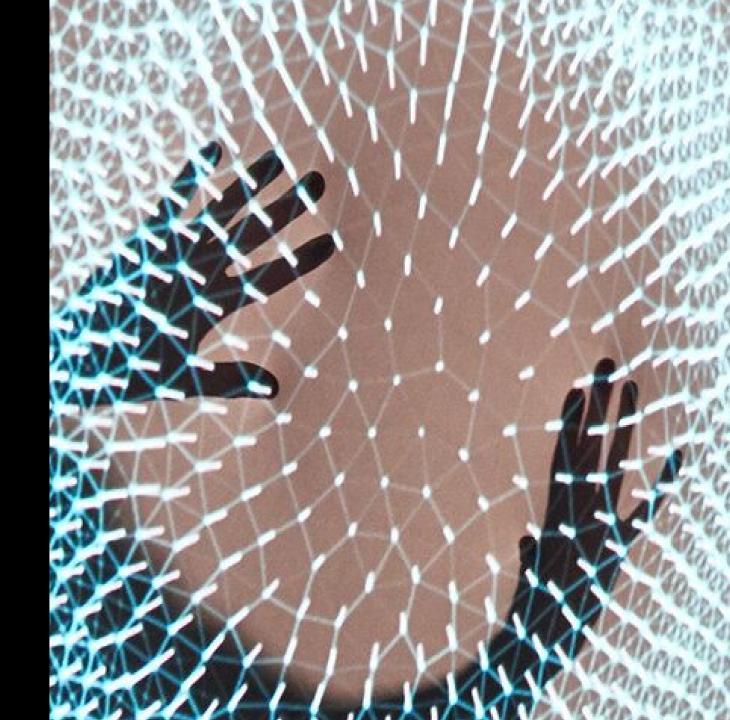
- Shortcuts
  - Double click, Space
    - $\rightarrow$  Toggle Normal  $\leftrightarrow$  Full
  - Double-click top 10%
    - $\rightarrow$  Mini
  - Ctrl Space
    - → Toggle Normal ← Mini



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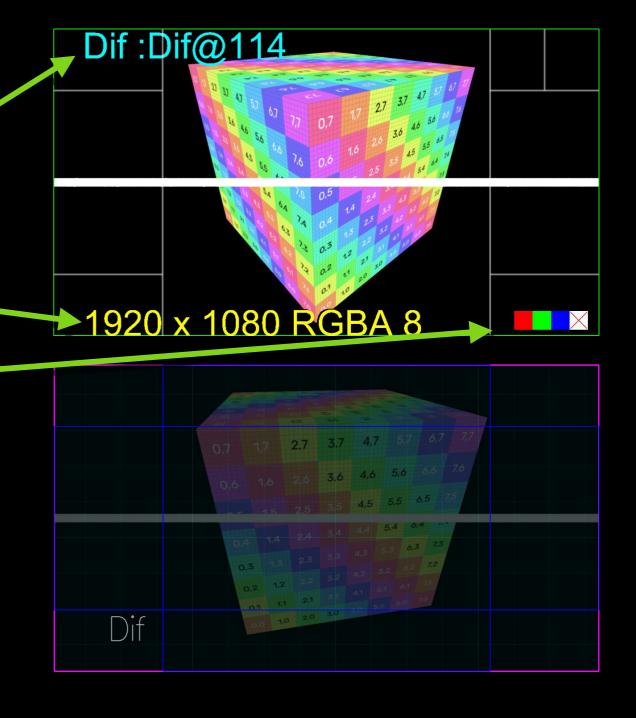
# AAASeed An introduction Part 5: BU\_MONITOR

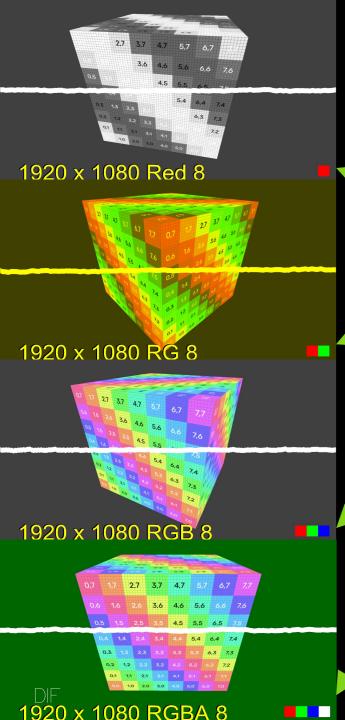
- Introduction
- Channels
- Alpha
- Click Zones
- StarMenu



# BU\_MONITOR

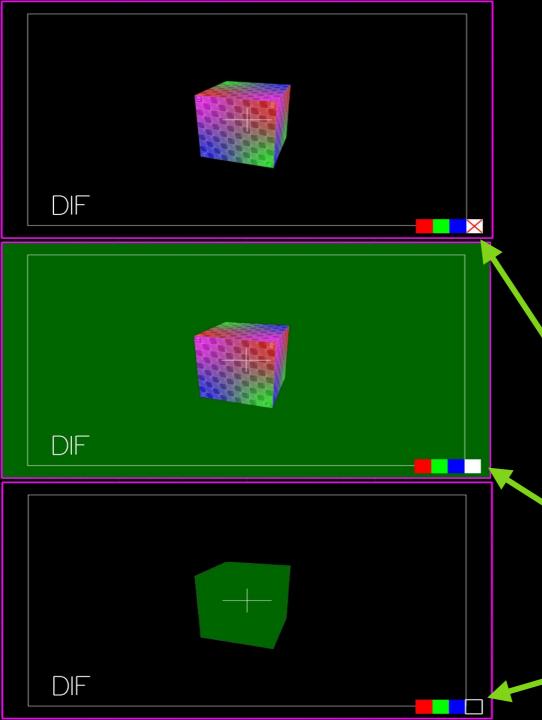
- Display Image
- When clicked
  - cyan text at top left
    texture name / location
    yellow text at bottom left
    texture format
    RGBA at bottom right
    channels used and Alpha mode
  - Display Click Zones
     the white rectangles
     See Click Zones on next slides
- When click is released
   depending where (in which Click Zone)
   a command can be executed
- Move / Resize as usual Alt...





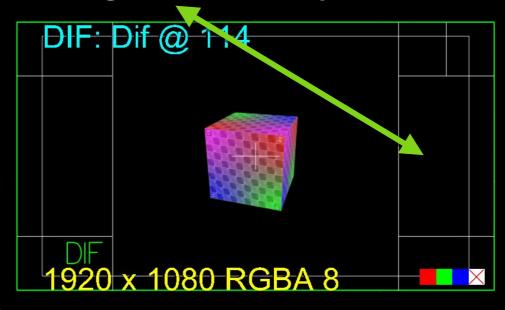
# **BU\_MONITOR Channels**

- In fact BU\_MONITOR shows textures
- Textures have a number of channels
  - 1 or R for Red showed as greyscale
  - 2 or RG for Red + Green
    - showed as **yellow** no Blue
  - 3 or RGB for Red + Green + Blue full color
  - 4 or RGBA for RGB + Alpha
     like RGB but with transparency/Opacity
     0 mean transparent, 1 Opaque
     different method to display Alpha
     Regular / Inverse / No
     See next slide



# BU\_MONITOR Alpha

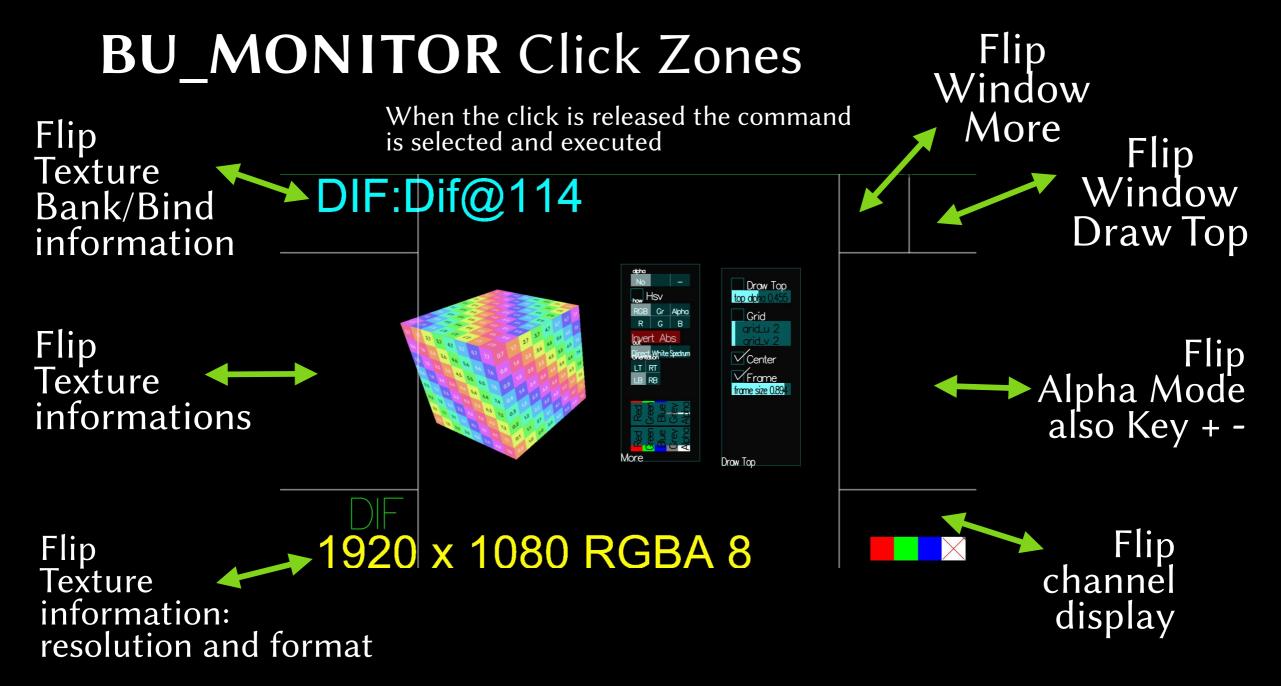
Click in Right Middle, Key + -



→ change how

alpha is displayed (only for RGBA)

- Ignored
- Used
- Used inverted



# BU\_MONITOR StarMenu

- **Use Quick drag-out** like any BU where it doesn't appear directly (defined in Part 4)
- Open

Load image(s) via a file dialog at the current bind

later on this (Part 14: Texture)

can choose several files

loaded in successive binds

Set the the filename for this bind

Clear Filename

Clear the the filename for this bind

Save

**Save the Image to** Media/AAASnapshots

How it is saved is in Flatland Prefs/Image Save

Note that Save do not use the bind filename set by Open

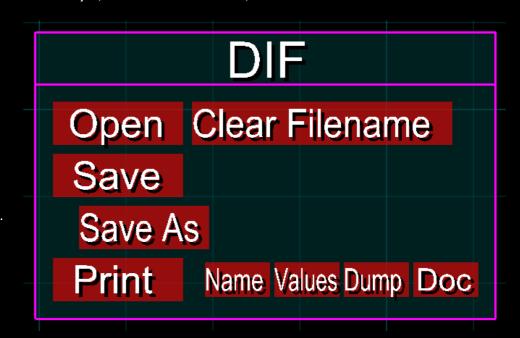
Save As

Save with a file dialog to choose location

Print

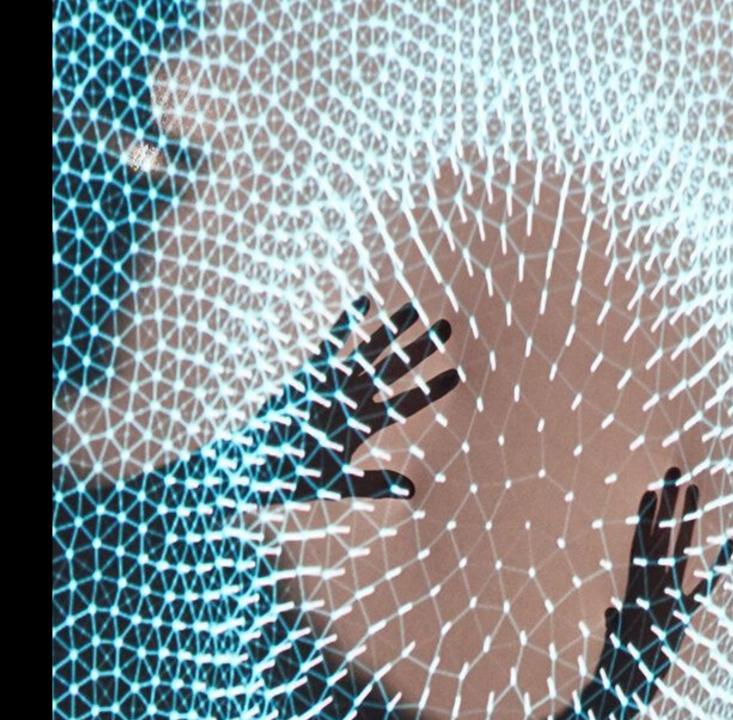
Print the image

How it is printed is in Flatland Prefs/MASTER/Print



# AAASeed An introduction Part 6: BU is all you need

- Basic BU
- BUTTON
- SLIDER
- SLIDER\_TWO
- SELECTOR
- BU\_TEXT



# **Basic BU**

Click on Train BU icon

- BUTTON
- SLIDER
- **SELECTOR**
- BU TEXT



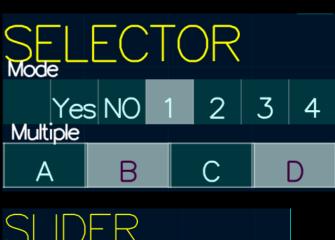
Info

Edit

Yes NO Multiple

colored

 Current BU (reminder) receives keyboard violet rectangle navigate with arrows keys

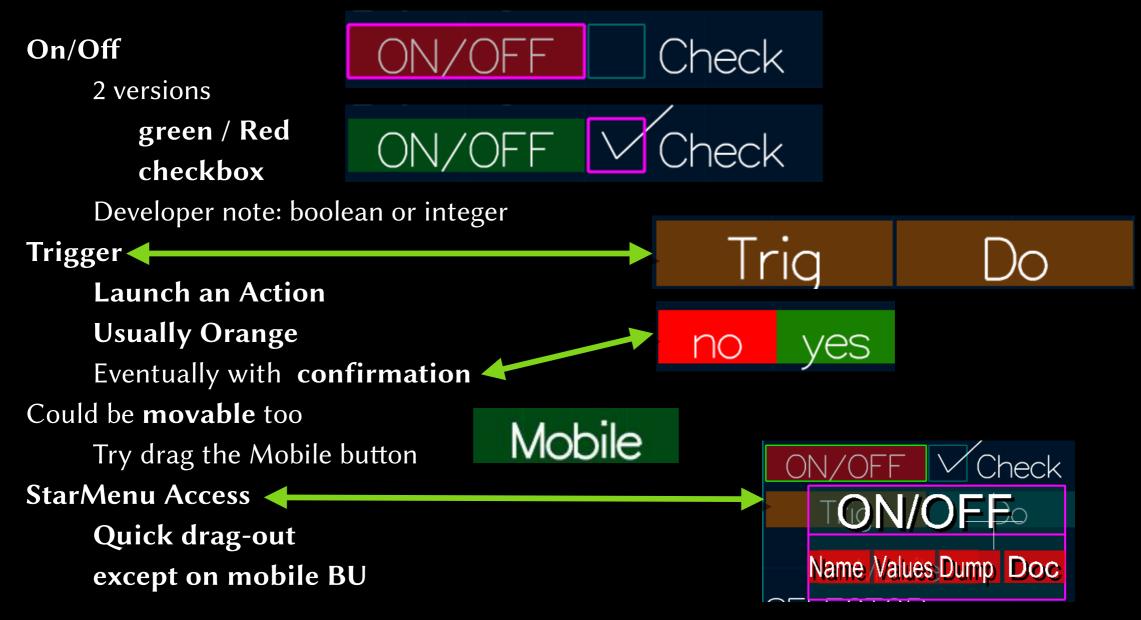


Gamma

WO

rainBU

# **BUTTON**



# SLIDER

Value 1
Value B 1
colored Gamma
0.5

- Click
  - → StarMenu
- Slide

Go up in Slide direction

Go to external circle

**External circle**→ change

Internal circle  $\rightarrow$  no change

Intermediate circle  $\rightarrow$  interpolate

Angle change value

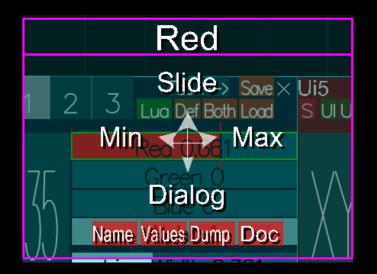
the more away from center the more precise

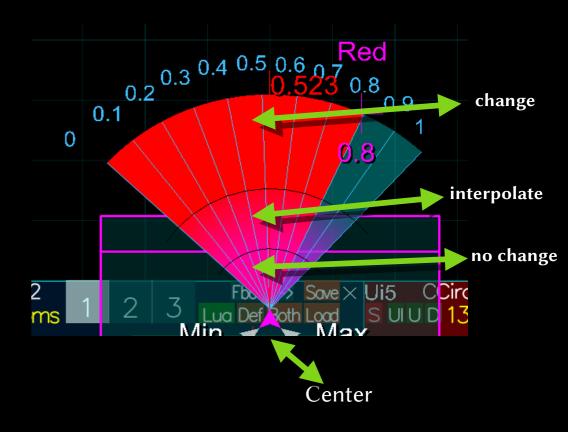
Go back to internal circle to cancel

Shift  $\rightarrow$  lock on closest default value

 $Ctrl \rightarrow smaller change from start value$ 

Ctrl Alt  $\rightarrow$  even smaller change



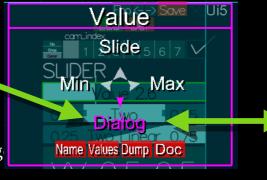


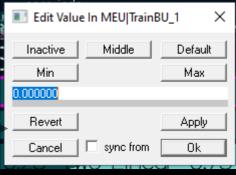
# SLIDER

- Min / Max
  - set to Min or Max values
    defined for each slider
- Dialog edit
  - Double Click or Dialog zone
- Keys (act on current BU if no Flatland)
  - $+ */ \longrightarrow change$
  - Enter  $\rightarrow$  inverse
  - .  $\rightarrow$  floor integer (round to inferior integ
  - Home → Default
  - End  $\rightarrow$  Inactive
  - PageUp → Maximum
  - PageDown → Minimum
- **slider value** can be
  - clamped to interval [Min,Max]
  - free for Min/Max limitation, in this case Min and Max as just used todisplay the slider and by the Ui
- Can be **Floating point or integer**





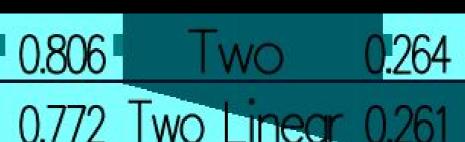




# SLIDER\_TWO

- SLIDER but 2 values
- Display as Range or Linear
- Value changed depends where you click
   Closest is selected for interaction
   Last interacted value receive keyboard input

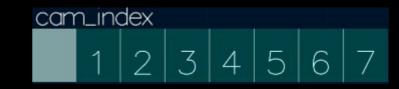




# SELECTOR

- Click
  - Keep mouse down
    Change with position
- Access to StarMenu
   like BUTTON: Quick drag-out
- Use keyboard as for a SLIDER
   + and mainly
- Multiple selection an option
   note frame around each item









# SELECTOR

Slide functions for selector too

```
then angle

Shift
lock on values

Ctrl or Ctrl Alt
sensibility
```

Keys as usual

Home / End  $\rightarrow$  Default / Default inactive

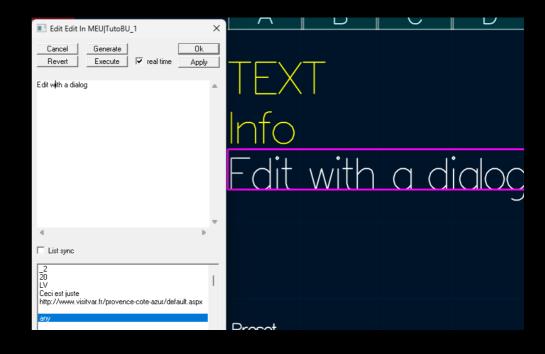


# BU\_TEXT

- BU\_TEXT info

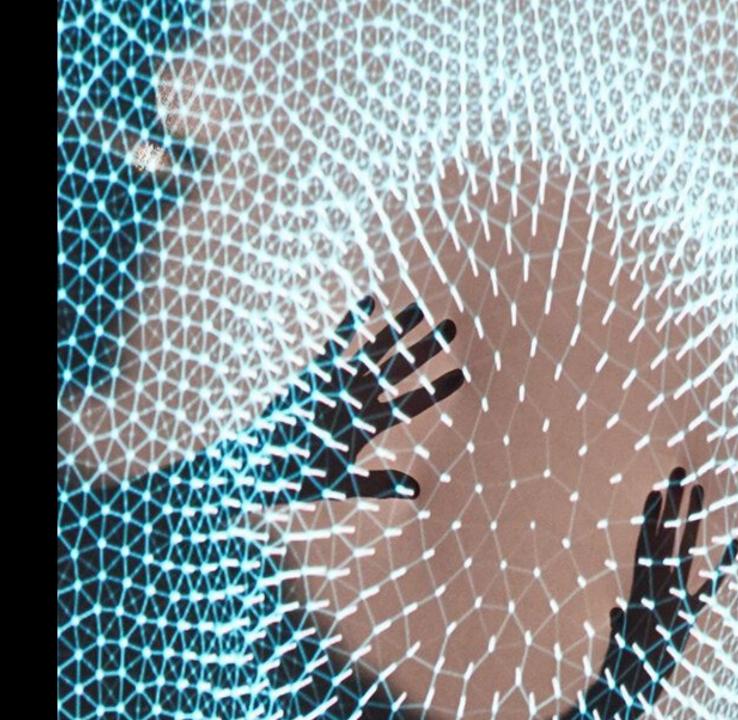
  Yellow in general
  display info, not editable
- BU\_TEXT Editable
   White in general
   Double Click → Edit
- Access to StarMenu
   like BUTTON and SELECTOR
   Quick drag-out
- will Evolve
- Edit dialog will Evolve too
- Virtual keyboard exists but not functional at the moment (2025 August)



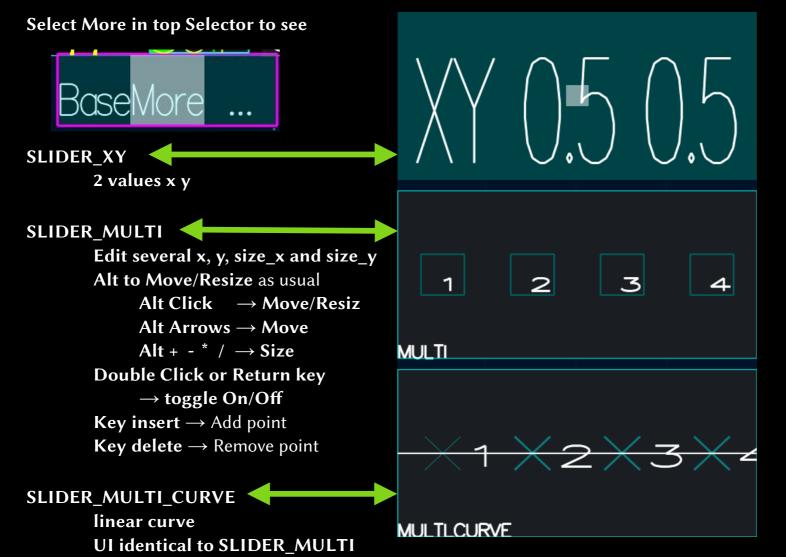


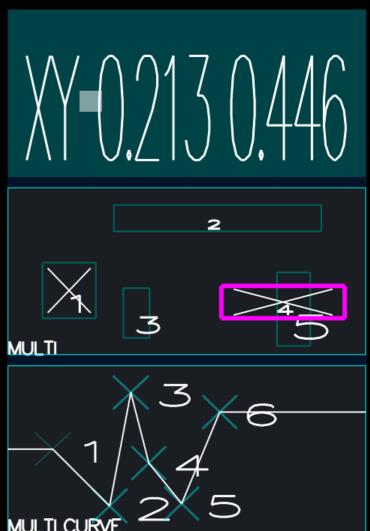
# AAASeed An introduction Part 7: Meet more BUs

- Other SLIDERs
  - SLIDER\_XY
  - SLIDER\_MULTI
  - SLIDER\_CURVE
- Composite Bus
  - BUTTON multiple
  - BUTTON menu
- Copy / Paste
- Undo / Redo



# Other **SLIDER**s





# Composite BUs

BUTTON multiple

< | > at the top

Use a hidden SELECTOR

Click left or right  $\rightarrow$  change value Same keys as selector

BUTTON menu

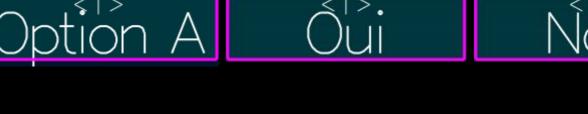
small rectangle at the top

Click

→ open a SELECTOR in a window move window to keep it open or it disappears after few seconds

Close BU at top right close the window

Same keys as selector





# Copy / Paste

- Ctrl c / Ctrl v
- Acts on current BU
- Shift extend it

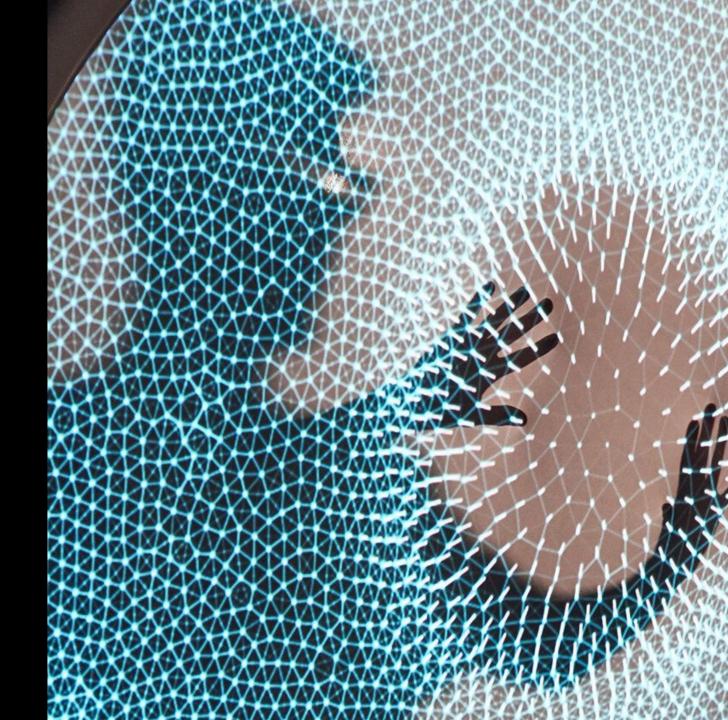
Copy / Paste not only a single BU
but a bu\_group or a MEU
see later
need to be refined and documented

## **Undo / Redo**

- Ctrl z / Ctrl y
- Deal with
   BU values
   BU size and position
- Unlimited
- One more reason not to be afraid try things then cancel
- Shift Paste Special case (2025 August) treated as a series of individual actions for now instead of a global change
- Still some bugs (2025 August)
   we need feedback to correct!

# AAASeed An introduction Part 8: Specialized BU

- BU\_WIZs (Wizard)
- BU\_MESS
- BU\_SHOW
- Window GA
- Window BU
- Window GP



# Some BU\_WIZ (Wizard)

Flip rendering (toggle with Click or F3) **BU ALIVE** 



FPS also in Flatland (top left): so we can see FPS with no UI

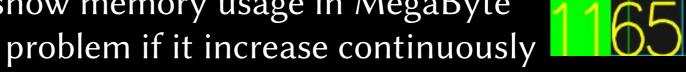
show time 23:26 58 • BU TIME

**BU EYE** show mouse direction

control camera editing CAM Locked **BU CAM** 

control synchronization between machines NO SEND **BU SEND** 

**BU MEM** show memory usage in MegaByte



**BU POWER** show power and plug status Power: Plugged 92%

\_1\_ **BU BLOB** show number of contacts

# BU\_MESS

#### **Try Double Click**

Key m for (m)essage → pop up terminal window ← Scroller is a Slider to move in the history of messages Messages color have a meaning

**Error** 

Trackers (devices plugged, sending information to AAASeed: Midi, Camera, Captors...)

Debug

Info

# BU\_SHOW (Debug Tool)

```
Multi blob_nb->0
BUSS|of_GA_top_top->0/0
BUSS|of_GA_top->220/0
BUSS|of_GA_regular->7/7
```

More and more Red Message for errors show there

```
In Lua, to show name → value line use
    aaa.show( value, name )
    self:show( value, name ) for objects
```

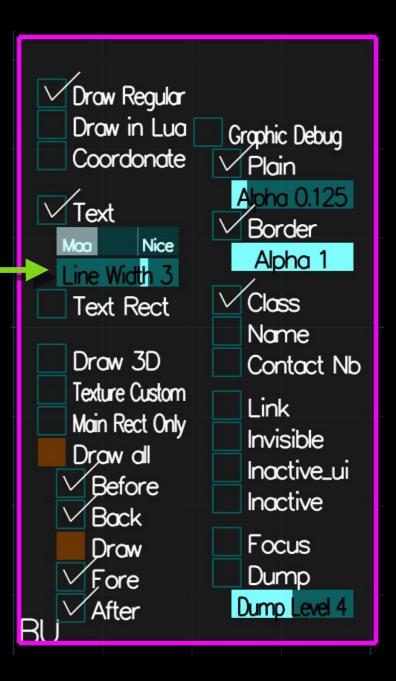
#### Window GA first look

- Global Action settings
- For now
  - UIF (UI Fast for StarMenu) → enable the StarMenu
     On Shift → Enables StarMenu on Shift Click Only
  - Help Show → same as F1 / Ctrl h
  - Grid Top → draw a 8x8 unit grid on top of the UI
  - Size → set the 2 sizes used by Ctrl Tab
  - Menu Time Alive
     how long a button menu stay on
  - BU\_SHOW Time how long an element stay in BU\_SHOW by default
  - Finger
     What we use in the tutorial videos to display the mouse position
  - Far draw Less → simplify drawing with mouse distance a way to optimize UI display
  - **Only Mouse** → discard multitouch input
- Rest will be detailed later, mainly used by developers
   Avoid if you don't know what you are doing
- Ctrl S, Esc/Esc → Save it
   file AAA\_Ga.bus in the APP folder



#### Window BU

- Box User settings
- Most of these Options for developer graphic debug
   will have a specific tutorial
- Line Width → Text line width
- Ctrl S, Esc/Esc Save it
   file AAA\_Bu.bus in the APP folder



#### Window GP

• **GP** come from **Garden Party** 

first time the MEU/MU interface was used, it was during a french company Garden Party (Utram).

Mainly drawing switches

use for debug or optimization

Render Chain

Toggle the display of the render chain (See Part 10 Render Chain)

Grid Alpha

transparency of the grid displayed under the UI drawn only if superior to 0

MEU Timings

Toggle MEU timing measurements

if an application render a lot of MEUs it could alter the frame rate, and so, setting it to off will make the rendering faster.

Also when an application is stable and in exploitation, the MEU timing measurements are just a waste.

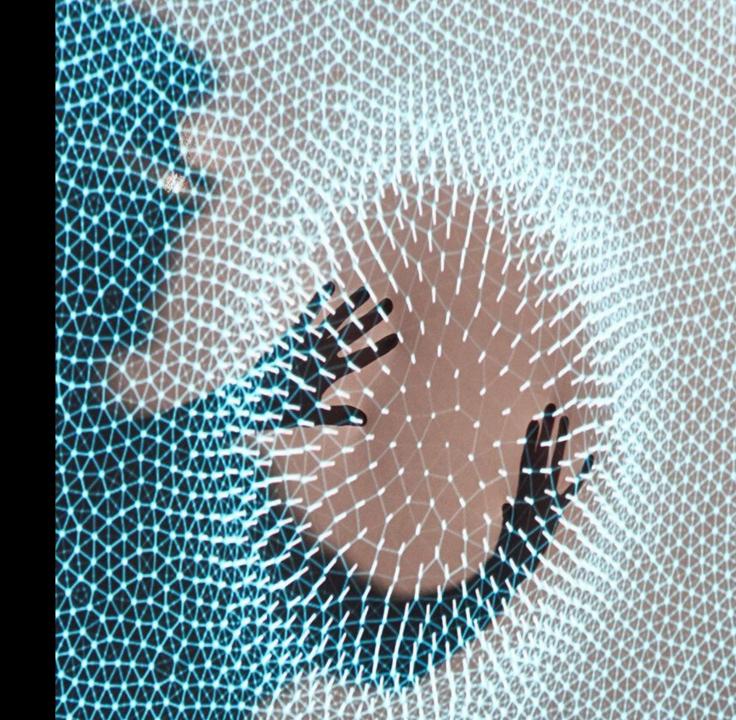


• Ctrl S, Esc/Esc  $\rightarrow$  Save it

file AAA Gp.bus in the APP folder

# AAASeed An introduction Part 9: MEU

- MEU Module Editable Unit
   MU Module Unit
- MEU and Uix
- More on MEU
- MEU Bar
- MEU Preset
- MEU StarMenu



#### MEU Module Editable Unit MU Module Unit

- **MEU** is the base to encapsulate and manipulate functionality
- MU compact part of the MEU







- Click on icon
  - $\rightarrow$  Drag to move
  - → MU become current BU
- Click on slider
  - → StarMenu
  - → slider become current BU
- slider value is the alpha of the MEU/MU

Slider value more than  $0 \rightarrow On$ 

Value control **transparency** when applicable

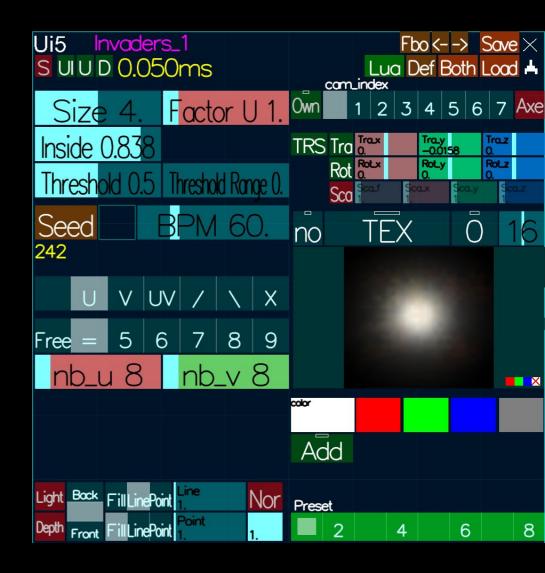
Double Click  $\rightarrow$  slider edit dialog

**State and Position** of the **MUs** control the rendering process

see next chapter

vertical position first then horizontal position:

bottom to top then left to right



#### MEU and Uix

- Click on MU icon
  - → open MEU interface in Ui5 / Ui6
     Ui5 is the default
     Ui6 is the default for MEU DIRs
- Link shows corresponding MEU / MU
- MU StarMenu to choose Uix
- MEU StarMenu click on backgound of Uix nearly the same as MU StarMenu
- Close BU at top right detach MEU from its Uix window
- Red Background ↔ not rendered
- Uix are technically BU\_MEU
- Drawing change with distance this is a speed optimization





## More on MEU

MEU is a module of functionality,
 in computer terms it is an object
 it usually renders but can d other tasks:
 receives/send data
 analyses image
 control a device (e.g. plotter, projector, Dmx, Arduino...)
 ...

- 2 main methods (functions) are called every frame by a render() method
  - update () prepare so draw will be as fast as possible
  - Draw()
- 1 method is called when the MEU Ui is visible
  - update ui()

# MEU real nature, a peek for now

· It is a Lua object

Name is MeuType\_InstanceName
a lua Script for each Type (people say also class or prototype)

• It can uses C++ AAASeed Objects (c\_obj\_ui)

c\_layers or c\_module most of the time

Accessible via its flatland parameters and some dedicated lua methods

Focus Button in StarMenu

· It lives in a directory

Everything is readable and can be edited

less and less needed

but some like it

Dir Button in StarMenu





- TutoBU\_1 **Title** (white or Violet if MU is current BU) Meu's name made of type (left) and instance (right): TutoBU\_1 means MEU of type TutoBU instance 1
- SUUD buttons

Switches to activate/deactivate call to methods Send, update\_UI, Update, and Draw

- 0.032ms **Execution time** in millisecond
- BoseMore ... is a SELECTOR named TAB switch between different block of MEU Ui
- X Close button detach the MEU from its Uix





- **Open** the **lua** script that the meu use in an associated text editor
- Load
- Load only this meu state
- Save only this meu state
- Trigger a **Def**inition, in fact a **redefinition** of the **MEU** (its Ui in particular)
- Trigger a re**Def**inition and a **Load**

- Open the used **Fbo** (more soon on Fbo) in the previous **Uix**
- lets you navigate in the render chain (more soon)

#### **MEU Preset**

- At the bottom right of the meu
- Load/Save the state of a meu

in fact load/save the values of meu's **BU**s not always all, at the author discretion

- Click  $\rightarrow$  Load
- Ctrl Click  $\rightarrow$  Save
- Ctrl Alt Click → Delete
- Fixed number by MEU Type defined in the code (2025 August)

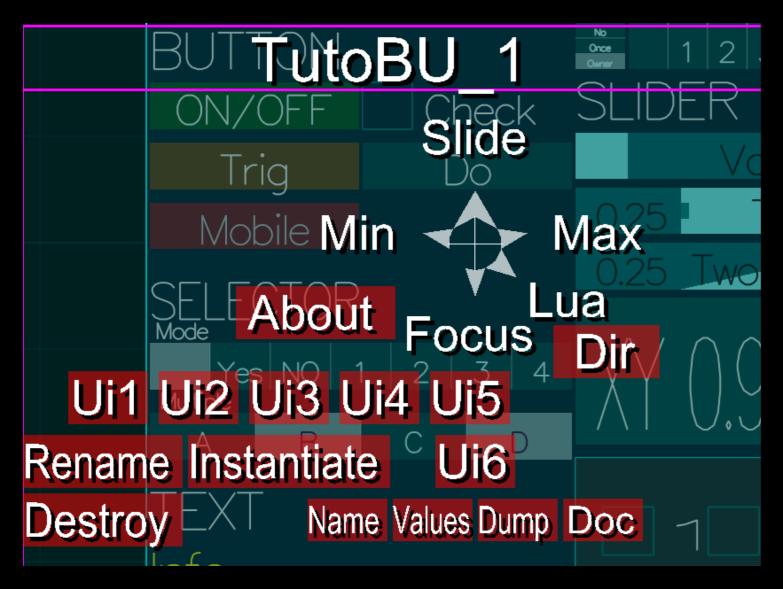






Developer Note: here the code is meu: get preset nb() return 24 end

# MEU StarMenu



- Click MEU background or MU slider Slide
  - $\rightarrow$  Adjust the alpha
  - → control the MU Slider

**Focus** 

→ Access to FlatlandC++ part of the MEU

Lua

→ Access to the **Lua script**Using **default editor** 

Dir

→ Opens the **Instance folder** 

Uix

- → Choose which **Uix window get the MEU**
- Described in Part 11

Rename

Type can't be changed

Destroy

with Confirmation Dialog

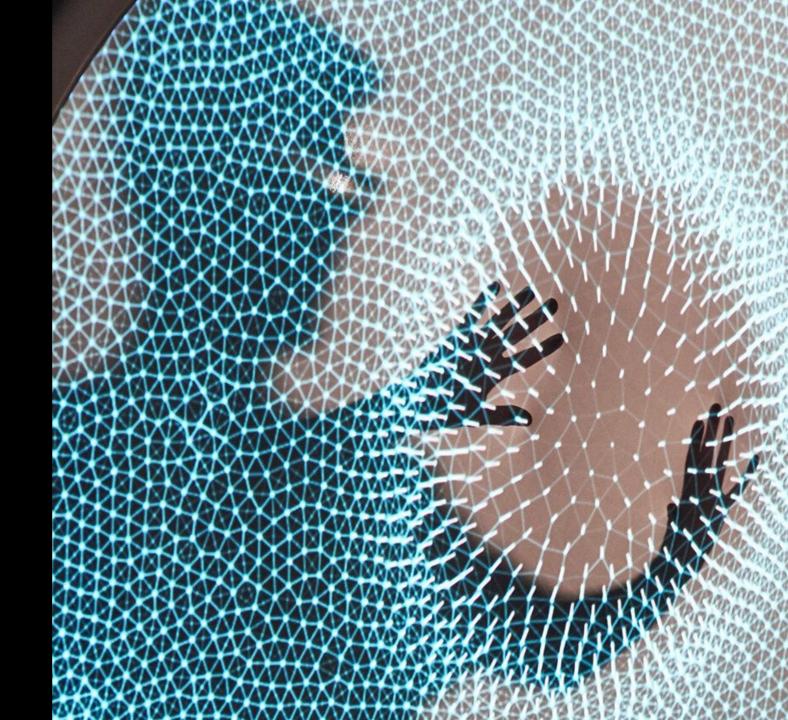
Instantiate

**Duplicate the MEU/MU** 

Type can't be changed

# AAASeed An introduction Part 10: Render chain

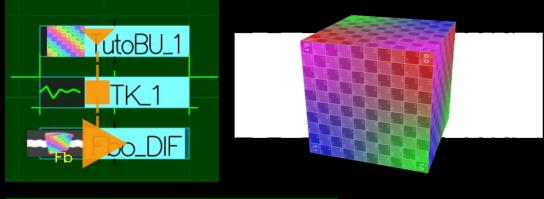
- Render chain
  - Order
  - Alpha / Opacity
  - Visualization
- BU\_RECT
  - Order
  - Value
  - StarMenu
  - Move

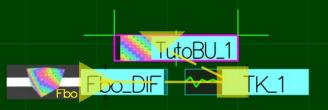


# Render chain: Order

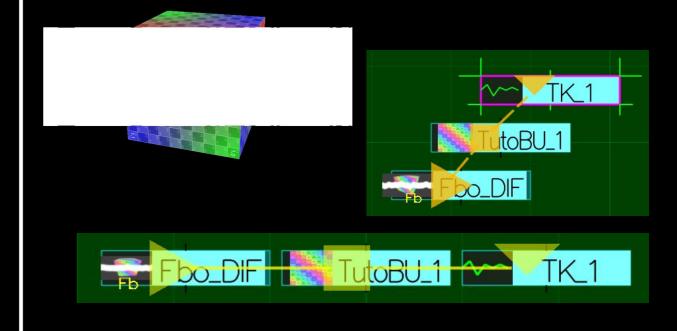
- Position of the mu control the execution/rendering order
- bottom to top, then left to right

TK\_1 rendered first, then TutoBU\_1





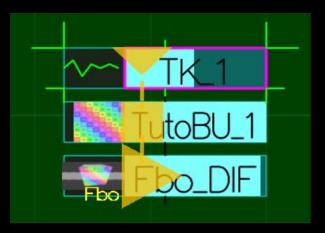
TutoBU 1 rendererd first, then TK 1

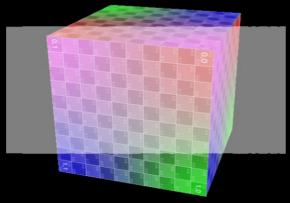


# Render chain: Alpha/Opacity

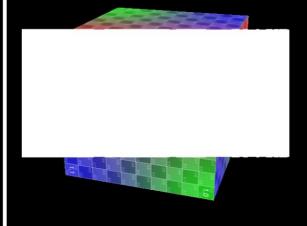
- mu slider value is the Alpha of the meu's rendering
  - Alpha 1
     → 100% opaque
     meu is On
  - Alpha 0.75
    - → 75% opaque same as 25% transparent meu is On
  - Alpha 0
    - ightarrow 0% opaque same as 100% transparen meu is Off

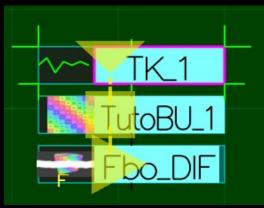
TK\_1 is 50% opaque





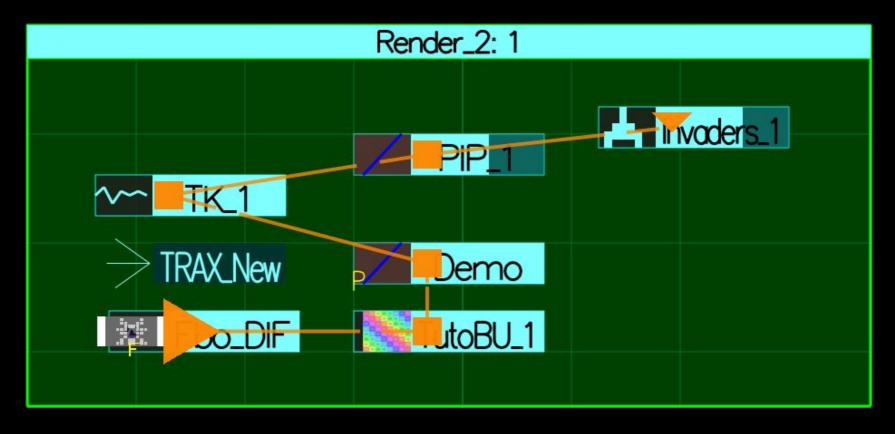
TK\_1 is 100% opaque





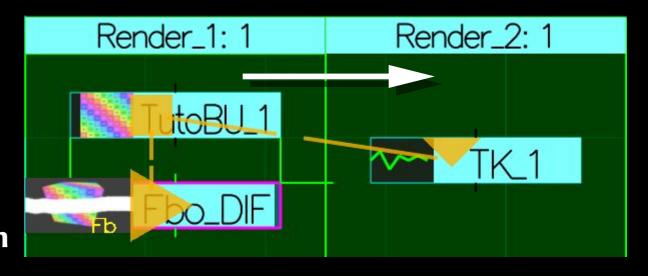
# Render chain: Visualization

- Orange line **Shows** the render chain (the execution order)
- · Just a visualization not a cable!

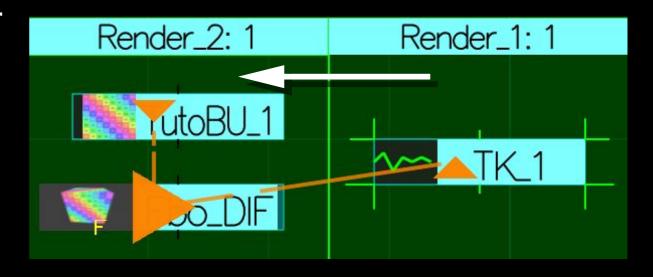


# BU\_RECT Order

First: Order of the BU\_RECTs
 the number in the name
 to change it
 StarMenu
 Keyboard Ctrl Up / Down



Second: order inside BU\_RECT
 Bottom to top
 then
 left to right



# BU\_RECT Value

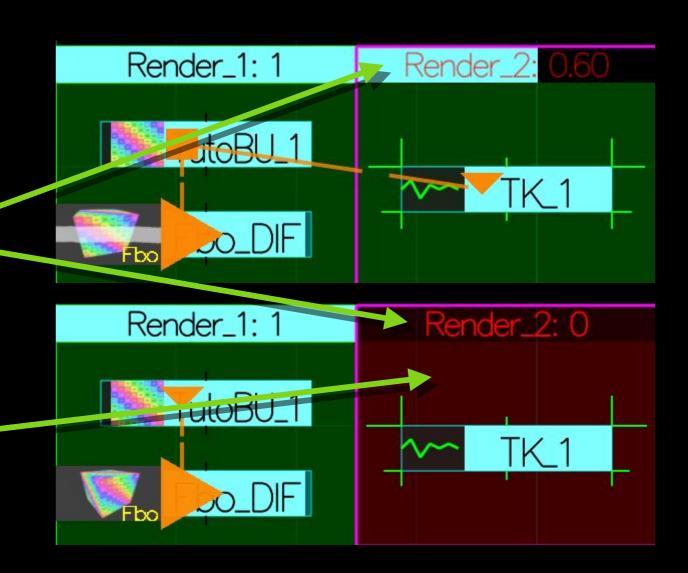
• Control all mu inside:

it multiply their Alpha.

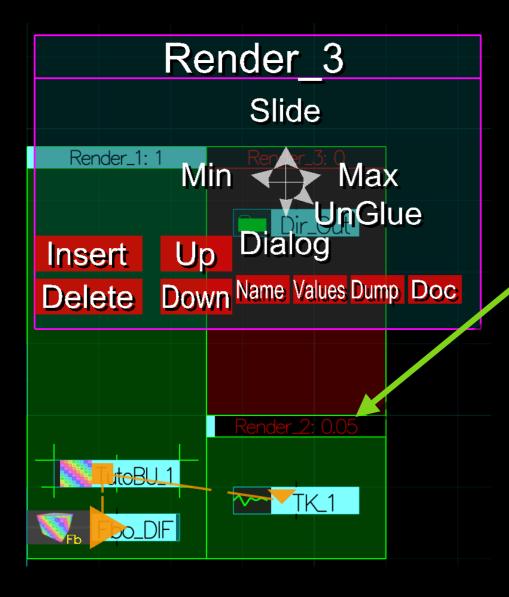
Act as a group Alpha.

Alpha different from 1
 → red text

inferior or less then 0
 no mu rendered 
 red background



# BU\_RECT StarMenu

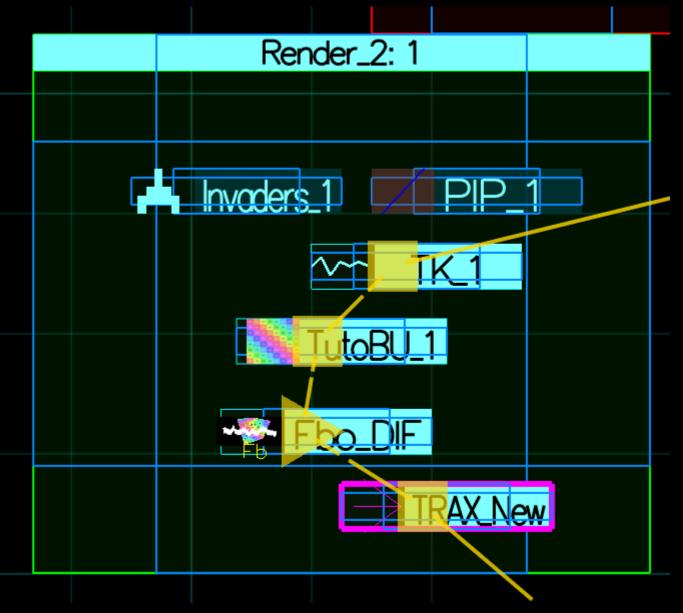


Slide to change value
 value is Alpha for BU\_RECT
 shown like a Slider at the BU\_RECT top
 Red when not 1

- when current BU, receive keys
  same keys as a slider
  Ctrl Insert / Delete → Insert / Delete
  Ctrl Arrow Up / Do → Up / Down Order
- Glue / UnGlue
  Affect MUs inside when moved (next slide)

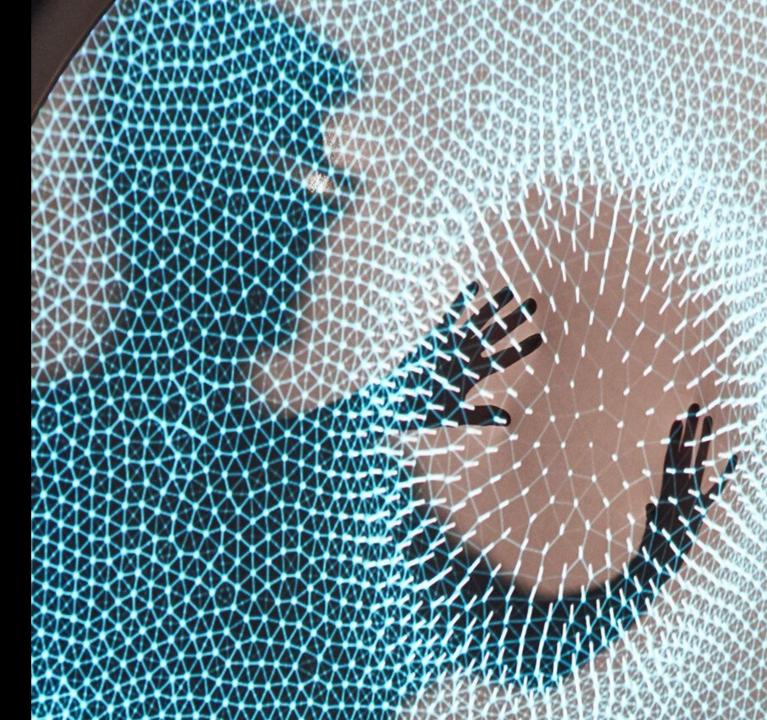
# BU\_RECT Move Resize

- Move Resize as always
   Hold Alt
   Drag in Zone
   Keys\*+ / and Arrows
- Mu inside BU\_RECT
   center of Mu inside
   On Move
   Glue mode
   Mu move
   UnGlue mode
   Mu stay in place
   On Resize
   Mu stay in place



# AAASeed An introduction Part 11: MEU manipulation

- Seeing MU
- Finding MU
- Moving MU
- MEU\_DIR
- MEU name
- MEU Instance operation
  - Rename
  - Destroy
  - Instantiate
- Meu Save
  - **Save All**
- Create New APP



# Seeing MU



3 Buttons to select what MU are drawn

Simplify the display while keeping Mu around

These **buttons** are **movable** 

**Unused Button Position is special** 

New meu appears under (more later)



to change MU hide attribute

MU StarMenu Hide/Unhide Button

Shift Ctrl on Icon

Hide On → red background on MU

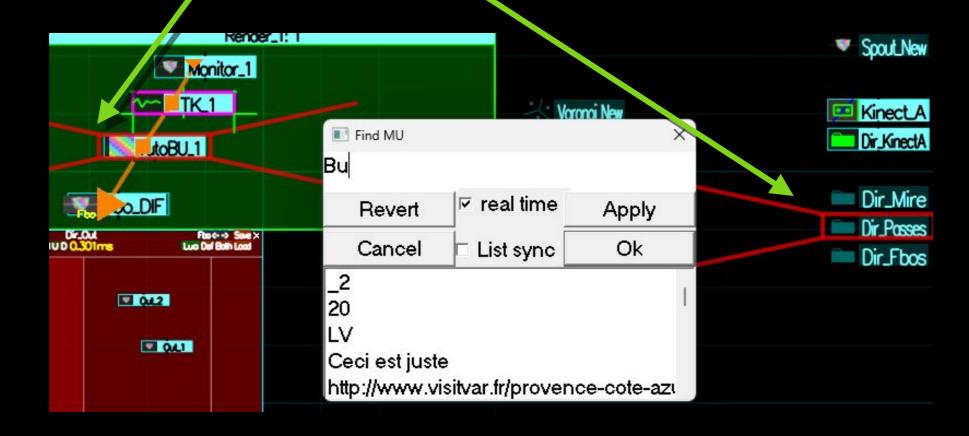




- Unused button controls display of MU unused (not rendered)
- Used button controls display of MU used (rendered)

# Finding MU

- Ctrl  $F \rightarrow (F)$ ind MU dialog
- highlights matching MU or folder containing matching MU
  matching is case insensitive inclusion of text in MU



# Moving MU (reminder)

Move Resize as always
 Hold Alt
 Drag in Zone
 Keys\*+ / - and Arrows

- Move by dragging the MU Icon
- Move by moving containing BU\_RECT in Glue mode

# MEU\_DIR

Encapsulates other MEUs

regroup

simplify the display,

while keeping MU around

It have a local Render chain

same order as for BU\_RECT:

Bottom to top then left to right

• Open in Ui6 by default

More easy to navigate the MU inside

They open in Ui5 so the MEU\_DIR Ui stay open

No BU RECT inside

a central green area

2 optional areas A and B with a switch

rest is storage for MU

- Drag MU out → move MU Out
- Drag MU in → Move MU In
- MEU\_DIR use a local folder AAAMEU to store its MEUs





# MEU name

- Structure of MEU name is
   MeuType\_InstanceName
   first'\_' separate Type and Instance
   we can say Type\_Instance for simplicity
- Each Type (we say class or prototype too) have its own Lua Script and so its own interface and behavior.
- Each Instance of a Type is a lua object (it have it's own data) use the same lua script: one lua script by meu Type.
- Only letters, Numbers and underscore
- The Meu have a corresponding folder in the file system using the same name Type\_Instance.
  - So Meu name have to be unique in a same directory
  - StarMenu"Dir" to open it in the file explorer
    - for example you will find the preset file there

# MEU Instance operation

• StarMenu

Rename

change the name of the Instance

Type part can't be changed

**Destroy** 

delete permanentlt the instance with Confirmation Dialog

Instantiate

**Duplicate, create a copy with another name**Type Name can't be changed

Really want to destroy TK\_1
No Undo here for now

Rename Instantiate
Destroy Name N

Can't instantiate MEU of type TK with a diferent type name Ts

No Destroy

MEU|TK\_1 Can't rename MEU of type tk with a different type name tee

Drag by the icon and hold Ctrl when releasing the mouse Button  $\rightarrow$  Instantiate In the same folder

an instance is created adding the number of instances of this MEU type to the name

In a different folder

a new instance is created with the same name that the original

## **MEU Save**

Button Save at the top right of MEU bar

Save this Instance of the MEU

- the C objects (c\_obj\_ui) associated with the MEU in file fx.aaa layers all
- The state of the BU making the interface of the MEU
   in file preset\_0.plua
   other preset are saved or deleted at the time the action is performed on preset
- Whatever associated data the C object or the Lua deal with
- If MEU is a MEU\_DIR all instance inside are saved too
- It is an unusual strategy but it prouved very useful
  you can experiment and save only what you want
  eventually use Load on some MEU to reset them to their saved state
- Button Save All

Can be anywhere (this is a mobile Button)
Same as doing a Save on every MEU instance in the App
Useful when you want to make sure to save everything



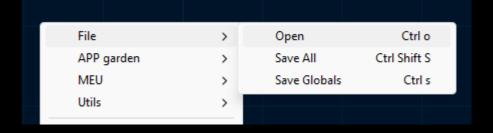
- Do a Ctrl S or a Menu/Save Globals or Quit with Double escape\
  - $\rightarrow$  save the rest:

the global level everything not in a MEU



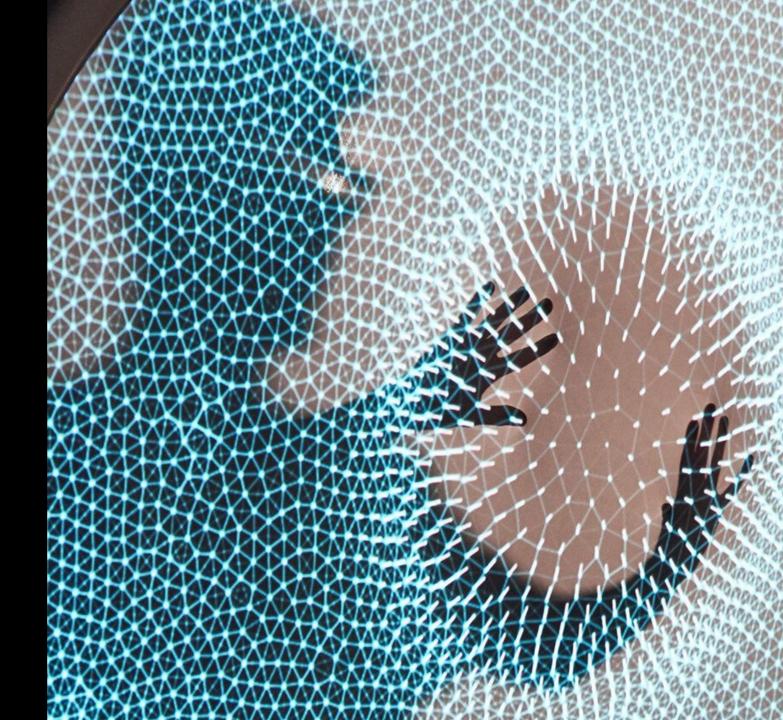
# Create New APP: Duplicate folder

- APP are stored in a folder
- Example: duplicate APP\_Garden\_Base
   Copy AAAAPPs\Tuto\APP\_Garden\_Base
   Into APPs\_Guest
   Rename APP\_Garden\_Base
   Open AAASeed
  - Open renamed APP



# AAASeed An introduction Part 12: Cameras & Axe

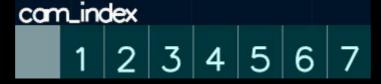
- MEU's Cameras
- Camera Selector
- Axes Units
- Rotation
- Camera Edit
- Cameras Params



# MEU's Cameras Own 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Axe

- No → No camera defined: use current camera the last one defined in the render chain (Own see below)
- Once → use camera only for this MEU
   then go back to current camera
- Own → Own the camera
   it becomes the current camera
   for this Meu and the next Meus in the render chain
- Camera selector

No / Once / Own

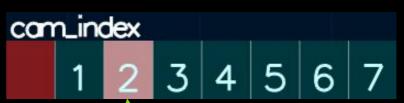


Button AxeToggle Axes



Reminder: StarMenu to see the BUs name

# Camera Selector



• 8 cameras by default, 16 sometimes

- Click  $\rightarrow$  Select camera
- Ctrl Click → Copy the last camera clicked
- Ctrl C/Ctrl V  $\rightarrow$  Copy / Paste
- Double Click  $\rightarrow$  Edit in flatland
- Shift Click → Flip Lock / Unlock

Locked camera are shown with a red background Locked camera can't be edited with mouse and keyboard only using flatland.

# Camera Axes Units

- Right Hand System like OpenGl not left hand
- Z in your face2d : XY facing you
- X|Red | left to right
- Y Green bottom to top Vertical
- Z|Blue back to front
- No unit: Mathematics not physics

  Back of the pyramid on axes aligned with the unit

# Rotation

- Unit is Turn / Revolution No radians, degrees or gradians.
  - 1 full turn
  - 0.5 half turn
  - 0.25 quarter turn
  - -0.25 quarter turn reverse
  - Canonical aspect
    - [0.,1.] map full circle
- Rotation direction use Trigonometric direction Counter Clockwise

# Camera Edit

Middle Click → Start Editing

BU\_CAM will manifest if camera edit is locked

- BU\_CAM itself can be locked
- or camera is locked

### When editing

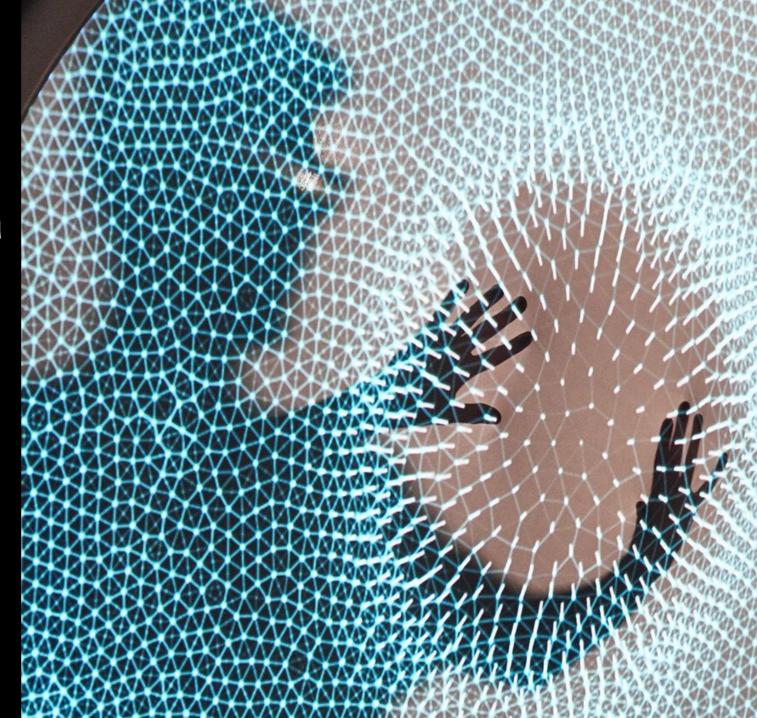
- Wheel → Dolly in perspective, Size in orthogonal mode
- Mouse  $\rightarrow$  Rotate
- Middle Click Drag → Move
- Key o → Flip (o)rthogonal vs perspective
- Key  $x \mid X \mid Y \mid X \mid Z \longrightarrow Align front \mid back$
- Ctrl Shift F4  $\rightarrow$  Reset
- F4 → Focus in Flatland
- end with Left Click  $\rightarrow$  accept edit
- end with Right Click → cancel edit: go back to position at beginning of edit

# Camera Params

To be added

# AAASeed An introduction Part 13: Flatland and Param

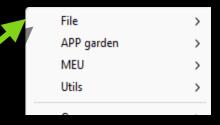
- Flatland 101 reminder
- Param
- Navigate
- Focus
- Param Edit
  - Keyboard
  - Mouse



```
¬pref(59)Preferences
b-Executable→
DI Versions...
ф_Graphics Open Library->
d-Shader->
Lamera Master->
4-Flatland->
 inflatland (36)Flatland Pref
     -character_size_x 10.
   b-Draw...
                                 Plug Out
   6-Character...
   d—Background...
                                 Disconnect
-Render...
                                 Clipboard
-Window...
                                 Module Plug Out
b—lmage Save...
                                 Global Plug In
d—Memory...
—Trax Midi OSC Net...
                                 Display
d-Verbose...
                                 Main
ф—Factory & Obj...
-Misc...
₽₩ASTER...
  6-Multitouch->
 d-Sound->
```

# Flatland 101 reminder

- Original AAASeed Ui from previous century
   Name from « Snow Crash » book by Neil Stephenson
   where the C++ can be seen and used
   made of c\_obj\_ui and param (for parameter)
   Tree Made of params
   developer will say render graph
- Tab → switch flatland On/Off
- Right Mouse Button  $\rightarrow$  Menu
  - in Flatland → Param menu
     out Flatland → Main menu
     GaBuZoMeu menu
     Beginning of Main menu



- Flatland have precedence for events and keyboard
- Needs to be off to use keys with GaBuZoMeu

```
□-seedcam(9223)Camera
  -Base...
  -Viewport Stuff... RENDER
   -perspective
   _focal_horizontal
           link_to_target_dist
          forced_height 0
   –lookat
          _target Center
   —flyina
   -orbiting
    –axe_visible
    -draw
          _axe
 4-Where...
    -position_x
     rof_center_x V
```

# Param

Short for **parameter** 

### Param have Type:

e.g. bool, integer, float, text, filename...

### Param draw:

- Box → something under
   Big Box → Object
- Param name
  - for C++ obj name is class\_name (id) human\_name

prsub\_viewport

φ\_Viewport St. # RENDER

Drviewport (9668) Viewport

Jortho\_size\_x 16.

\_axe

y 8.

- lacksquare Pinkish / Red param ightarrow Unused in this configuration
- no characters at beginning when same then previous line
- Param value

for bool OFF ON

Yellow → Comment / Sum Up

### Param more info:

- Big triangle pointing left just before name
   parameter is generated by C obj it can't be edited
- Small triangle pointing right at beginning reference is defined

```
Fps 169.2|159.1
□-seedcam(9223)Camera
 d-Base...
  -Viewport Stuff... RENDER
  d—Stereo...
   —perspective
   —focal_horizontal OFF
          link_to_target_dist
          forced_height 0
          _target Center
   —flying
   -orbiting
   —ui_lock
   —axe_visible
    -draw
          _axe
 4-Where...
    -position_x 🛭
   _center_x 0
            offset_use OF
    -sca_x 1
    -rof_center_x 0
```

# Navigate Params

- mouse wheel
  - $\rightarrow$  Scroll
- Click

Left

- → Set current param
- → Open / Close if possible

Right

- → Menu depends on position
- Arrow key Up/Down
  - → Change current param Up/Down
- Space
  - → Open/Close if possible

```
Fps 169.21159.1
 -Viewport Stuff... RENDER
         link_to_target_dist
         forced_height 0
  —lookat
         _target Center
 l—flying
  -orbiting
   -draw
4-Where...
   -posiTion_x 🗸
```

# Flatland Focus

- focus means the object shown in Flatland the root of the tree
- Keys set focus on

```
- F4 → current camera
```

- F10 → Preferences
- Double F10 → Start preferences
- **Triple F10 or 0**  $\rightarrow$  **Application**
- $\rightarrow$  current c\_layers
- Triple n  $\rightarrow$  (n)etwork preferences
- Arrow key Left / Right
  - → Navigate in Focus history

```
Fps 169.2|159.1
□-seedcam(9223)Camera
 Base...
  -Viewport Stuff... RENDER
  -Stereo...
   -perspective 🐘
   —'focal 60.
   —focal_horizontal OFF
          link_to_target_dist
          forced_height 0
          _target Center
  _flyinq
   -orbiting
   —ui_lock
   _axe_visible
    -draw
         _axe
 4-Where...
    -position_x 🛭
           offset_use OFF
   -sca_x 1
    rof_center_x 0
```

# Param Edit: Keyboard

Similar to BU change value

→ Change

- Enter

→ Inverse

\_ .

→ Floor integer

- Home

→ Default

- End

 $\rightarrow$  Inactive

- PageUp

→ **Max**imum

- PageDown

→ **Min**imum

```
Fps 169.21159.1
□-seedcam(9223)Camera
 d-Base...
  -Viewport Stuff... RENDER
  -Stereo...
   —perspective
   —focal 60.
   —focal_horizontal OFF
          link_to_target_dist OFF
          forced_height 0
          _target Center
  _flying
   -orbiting
   —ui⊿ock
   -axe_visible
   -draw
         _axe
 4-Where...
    -position_x 🛭
   _center_x 0
           offset_use OFF
   -sca_x 1
         factor 1
    -rot_center_x 0
```

# Param Edit: Mouse

**Bool**ean **Drag left and Right** param\_trig Just click it Integer, Float Hold click while turning around click point clockwise to increase counter clockwise to decrease do as much turn you want Change sensibility  $\rightarrow$  Slower Ctrl Ctrl Tab  $\rightarrow$  Even Slower Shift Ctrl  $\rightarrow$  Faster Shift Ctrl Tab  $\rightarrow$  Even Faster **Double Click** 

→ trigger Dialog or Action if available for param

Developer note

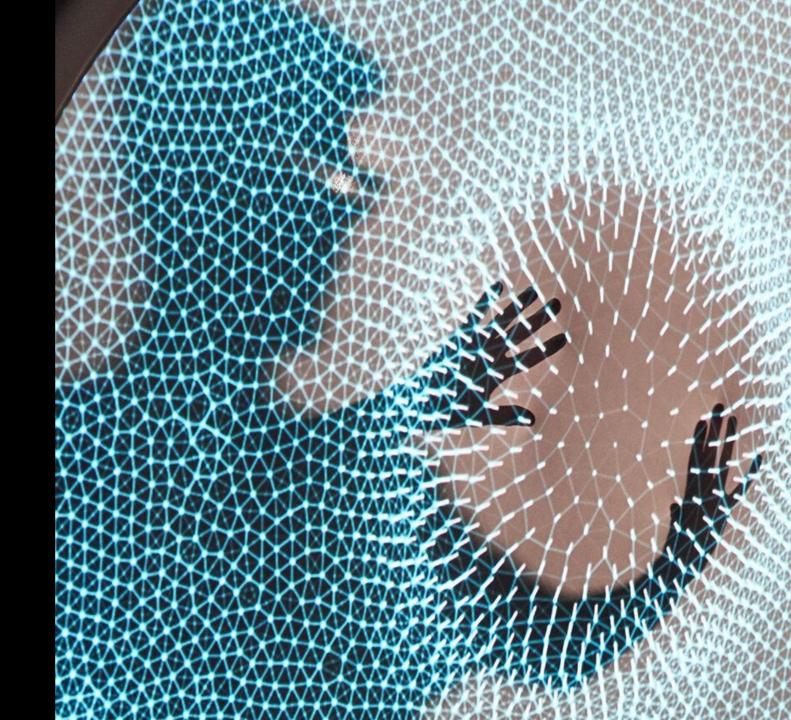
Alt Middle Click → flip debug view for param

# AAASeed An introduction Part 14: Texture

- Image and texture
- CPU and GPU Memory
- Texture channels
- Channel type
- Banks of Binds:

### **Texture Slots**

- BU\_BANK
- BU\_BANK Edit
- BU\_MONITOR StarMenu



# Image and Texture

### • Image

2d grid of pixel

On the CPU side

CPU mean Central Processing Unit

The Intel or AMD processor used on your computer

CPU side mean CPU Memory

e.g, when a jpg file is read it is first moved to CPU memory then decoded by the CPU and stored there.

### Texture

Same as an image but on the GPU side

GPU mean **Graphics Processing Unit** 

The massively parallel Graphics processor on your computer Nvidia or AMD graphics card

or a less powerful « integrated Graphic Card »

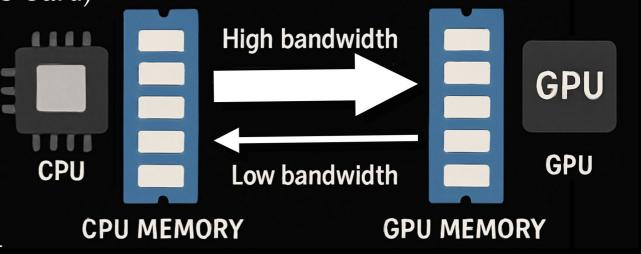
e.g. the image decoded from from a jpg file stored on the CPU side is moved to the GPU side so it can be drawn by the GPU

 In fact we want you to understand that there is two different memory and that data have to be in the right memory to used by the ad hoc processor.

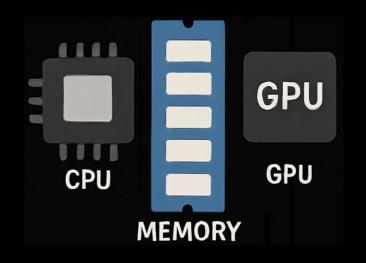
# CPU and GPU Memory

Separate Memory (Discrete Graphics Card)

Memory Transfer to do
CPU to GPU transfer is fast
GPU to CPU transfer is slower
can cost a lot
developer note
it stall the pipeline
GPU memory can be really fast



Unified Memory (Integrated Graphics)
 No memory transfer
 Memory is slower
 than dedicated GPU memory



# 1920 x 1080 Red 8 1920 x 1080 RG 8 1920 x 1080 RGB 8

# Texture channels

See BU\_MONITOR part

- 1 or R for Red showed as greyscale
- 2 or RG for Red + Green showed as yellow no Blue
  - 3 or RGB for Red + Green + Blue full color
  - 4 or RGBA for RGB + Alpha
     like RGB but with transparency/Opacity
     0 mean transparent, 1 Opaque

### Channel type

- AAASeed support texture where all channel (component) have the same type
  - \_ Integer 8 bits (8) → 256 values, from 0. to 1., about 2 decimal digits precision Compact, used if no more requirements.
  - Integer 16 bits (16)  $\rightarrow$  65 536 values, from 0. to 1.,about 5 decimal digits precision Use when more precision is needed (e.g. HDR).
  - Float 16 bits (16fp) → from -65 536. to 65 536., about 3 decimal digits precision
     Also called half for half precision floating point
     Fix floating point format,
     Use when 0. to 1. is not enough.
  - Float 32 bits (32fp)→ wide range, about 7 decimal digits precision
     Fix floating point format,
     Use when its precision or range is needed.
- Smaller is faster
- AAASeed support others channel type
   e.g. Depth/Z buffer 24bits, compressed format, YUV ...
   but you can ignore this for the moment

# Banks of Binds : 2048 Banks of 32 Binds → 65 536 Texture Slots

• Texture are referenced at low level from 0 to 65 535 we say flat bind

Texture are referenced most of the time with a bank index [0, 2047] and a bind index [0,31] flat bind = bank \* 32 + bind

Some Texture are referenced by a texture name more in Part Texture More

Each slot can store a file name

when a bind/slot is accessed if there is no texture and a file name is defined AAASeed try to load in the slot.

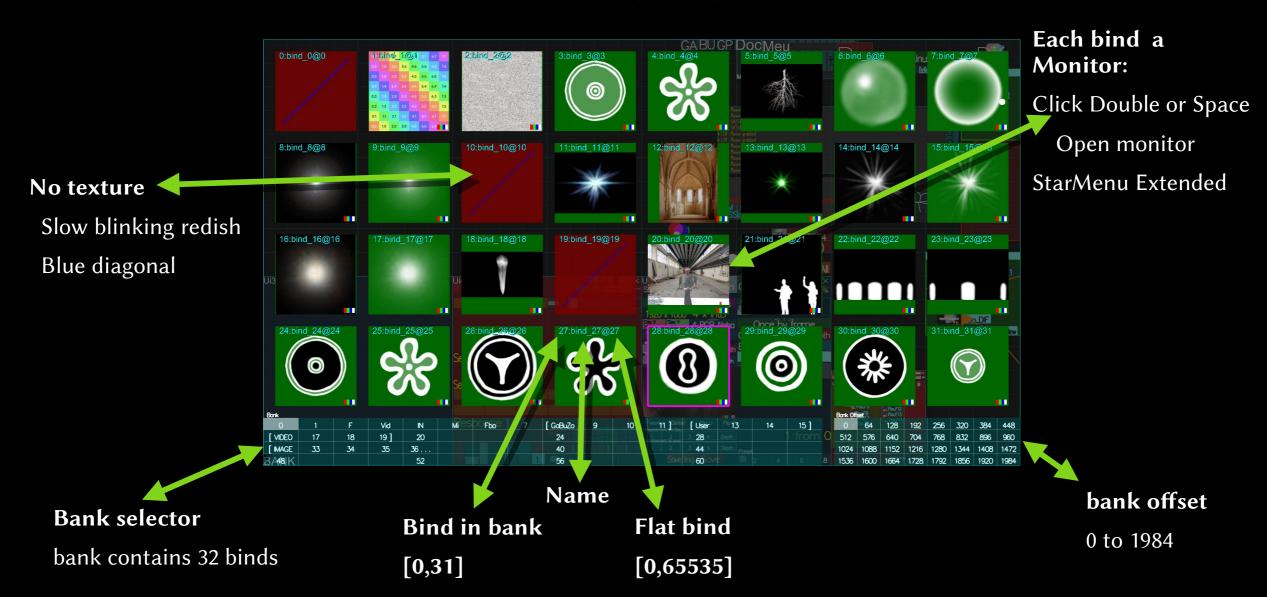
This is how you already have certain texture when you start AAASeed

Flatland then key 0 to focus on app/Bind\_list/Image/bind if you want to see the list of filename

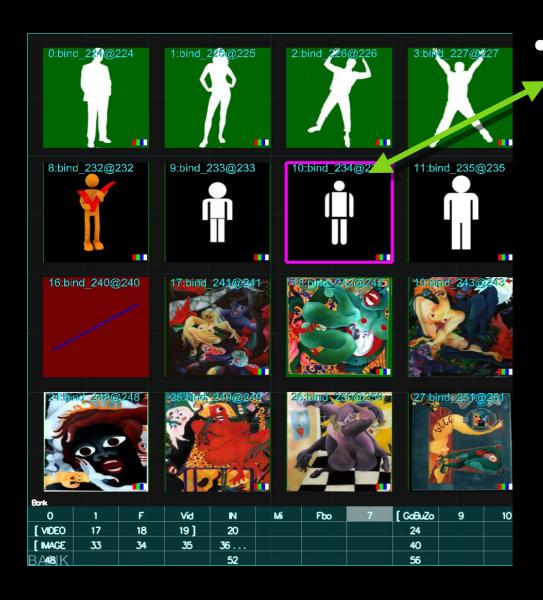
Save as global in User Pref (Double Esc or Ctrl S) with a .image\_bind extension

### BU\_BANK





### **BU\_BANK Edit**



When a BU\_BANK monitor is the current BU and flatland is off (reminder)

Ctrl Arrow

Swap texture and filename with the bind in the arrow direction Stay in the current bank

Ctrl C/Ctrl V
Copy/Paste texture and filename
Can be done across bank

# BU\_MONITOR StarMenu reminder

- Click and drag out quickly (Quick drag-out like any BU where it doesn't appear directly)
- Open

Load an image via a file dialog
at the current bind
can choose several files
loaded in successive binds

Set the the filename for this bind

Clear Filename

Clear the the filename for this bind

Save

**Save the Image to** Media/AAASnapshots

How it is saved in Flatland Prefs/Image Save

Note: Save do not use the bind filename set by Open

this is not a bug but a feature

Save As

Save with a file dialog to choose location

Print

**Print the image** 

How it is printed in Flatland Prefs/MASTER/Print



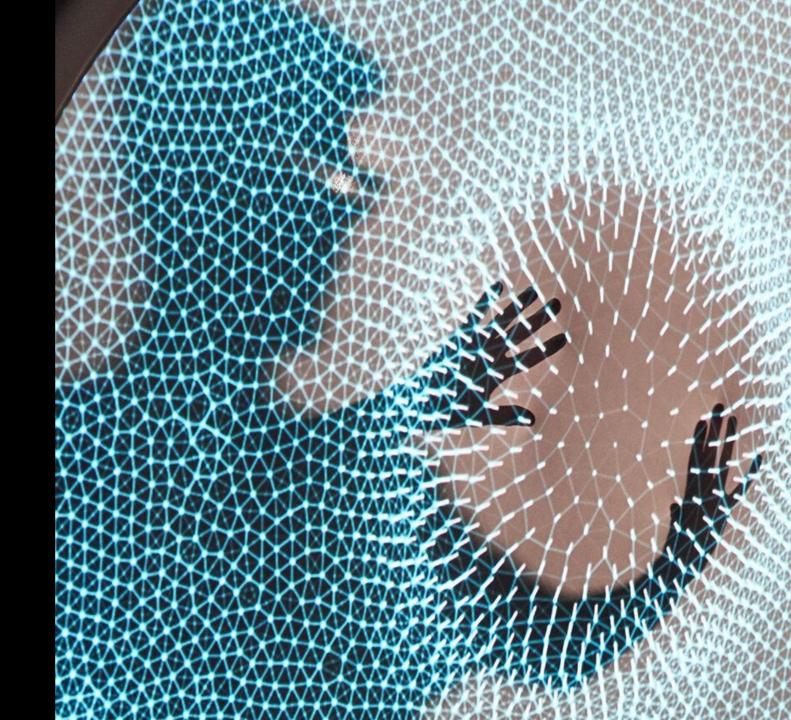
# BU\_MONITOR BU\_BANK StarMenu

- Quick drag-out like
- Erase
   Destroy the image in this bind
   Clear the filename too
- Dec
  - (Dec)rement the texture index in fact swap with the previous one
- Inc
  - (Inc)rement the texture index in fact swap with the next one



# AAASeed An introduction Part 15: Texture More

- An apology
- BU\_BANK and BU\_TEXTURE
- Texture Name
  - More
- BU\_TEXTURE
  - Shortcut

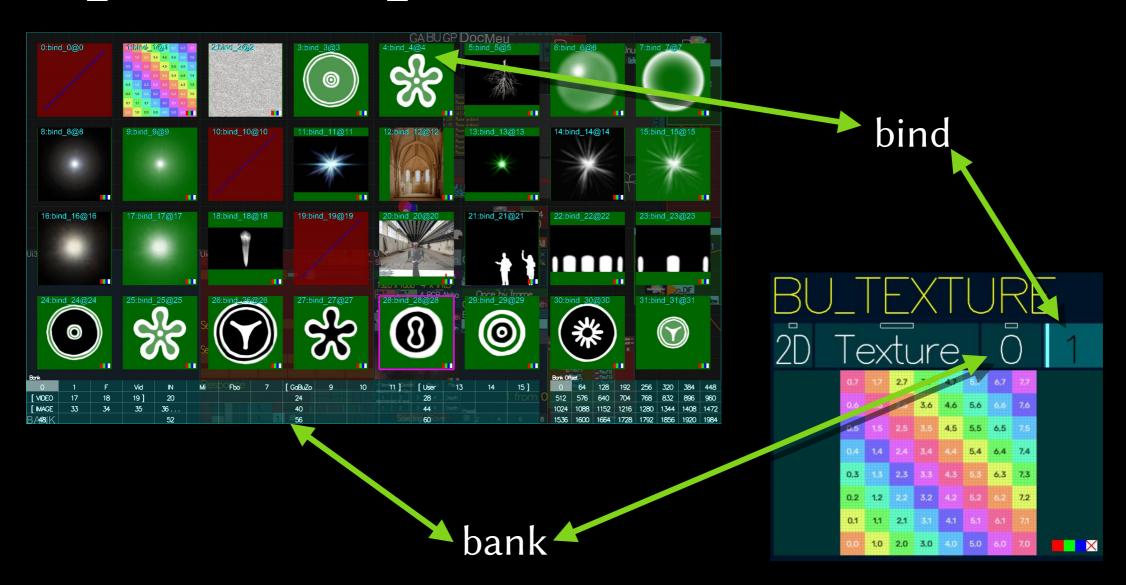


### Disclaimer on current texture architecture

- It is a problem Mâa apologize deeply
- We now it, it is tricky Bank fixed size No User Bank
- We could not change it before the end of the ArtCast4d project
  There will be MEU Bank to define and edit them
  Future Banks will have names (not only number) and each their own bind size
- We have to live with it for a while (2025)
  - This is stable and solid.

The new texture architecture will probably keep the current structure at the bottom and build on top of it.

### **BU\_BANK** and **BU\_TEXTURE**



### Texture Name

Bank and bind was too abstract

Texture Name concept was added

• Each App have a set of names

corresponding each to a flat bind index

a name  $\rightarrow$  a flat bind  $\rightarrow$  names

e.g names A to P used in general for 16 Videos slots

name are made of alphanumeric character and dot (.)

- Ui in particular BU\_MONITOR use and display name when they exist.
- Names are defined case sensitive (for a nice display) but search is case insensitive.
- A name is eventually associated with

a short name

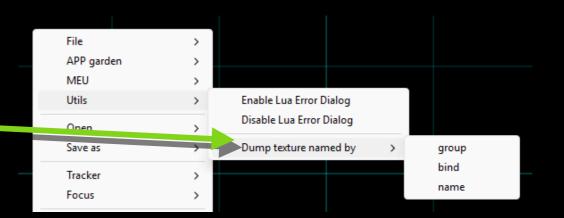
a synonym.

any of these can be used.

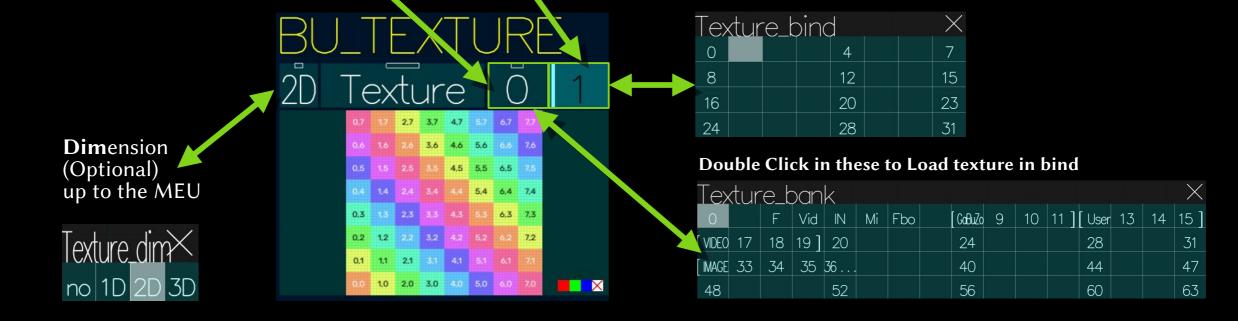
- Texture name are regrouped in groups.
- One texture can be referenced by several names.

### **Texture Name more**

- If you want to see all the texture names used in an App use the Utils SubMenu
   All names will be printed in the terminal window.
- Main groups
  - F1 to F24 24 binds from bank 2 (or F) used by MEU\_Video in general
  - A to P 16 binds from bank 3 (or Vid)
     used by MEU\_Fbo in general
  - In1 to In32 32 binds of bank 4 (or IN)
     used as Input in general
  - Mi1 to Mi16 16 binds from bank 5 (or Mi)
     used by MEU\_Mire in general (Pattern in french)
  - M1 to M32 32 binds of bank 11 used for Monitors
  - A pass group use for multipass rendering
     this will be treated in separate document
     e.g. Albedo, Normal, Specular, Emissive, Light, Fxaa ...
- A lot of these names appear in the shortcut menu in the next slide
- A texture name DIF is defined
  - \_\_\_ This bind is often use by default to draw in (see FBO part)

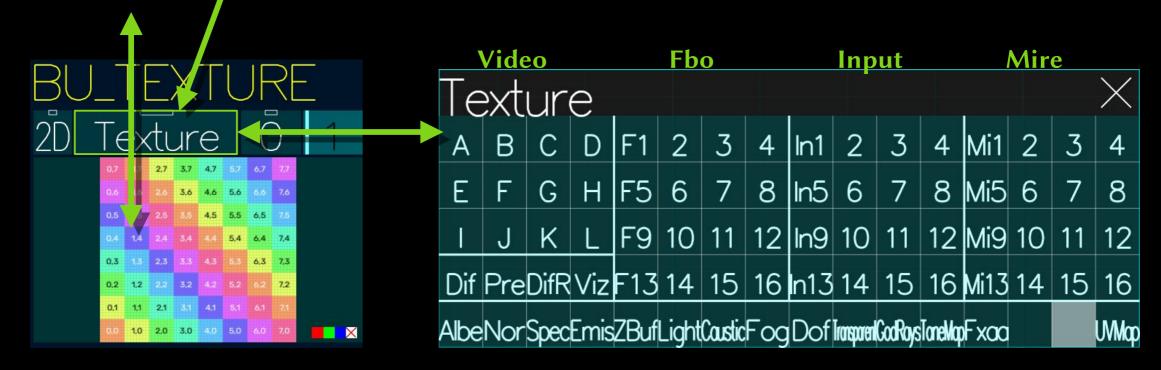


- BU\_TEXTURE choose a texture
- A bank BU to choose the bank click open a selector
- A slider to choose the bind
   click open a selector and starMenu



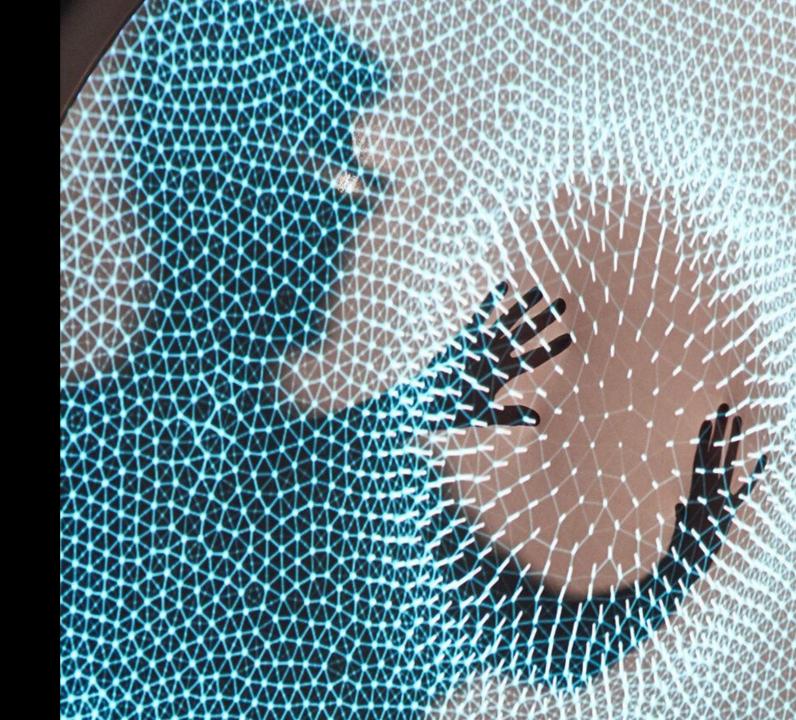
### • BU\_TEXTURE Shortcut Menu

- A shortcut Menu simplify the manipulation click open a selector with the most used texture name bank and bind are change in accordance
- Monitor can be used here too (Click zones, StarMenu, Keyboard)



## **AAASeed** An introduction **Part 16:** Fbo

- **Frame Buffer** 
  - Canvas
- Fbo/Frame buffer object
  - Attachments
- Fbo render chain
   No Fbo
   MultiPass example
- **MEU Fbo name** 
  - **DIF** name
- MEU Fbo Ui
  - tab Main
  - tab Copy



### Frame Buffer

- Concept from Computer Graphics and Video
- Frame = Image

A frame is a single complete image in a sequence—like a frame in a video.

- A framebuffer is a memory buffer that stores the color values of each pixel before they are displayed on the screen.
- Think of it as a digital canvas

**The GPU draws into this canvas**. It's where rendering results are stored—either for display or further processing.

where the pixel are written and stored to be displayed or reused later

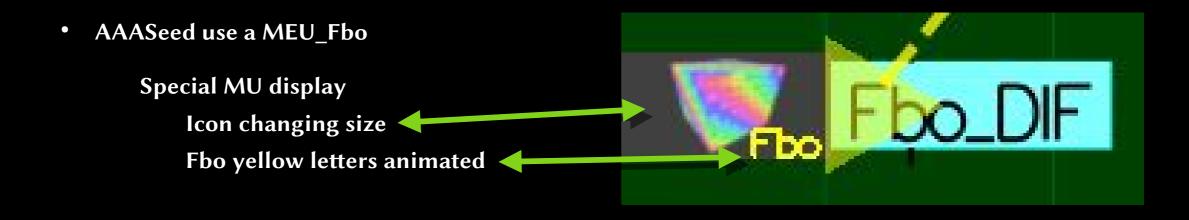
• Used in Effects and Multi-Pass Rendering, Framebuffers aren't just for final output:

Effects like shadows, reflections, bloom, and motion blur often render to intermediate framebuffers.

**These act as scratchpads**—temporary storage used to build up complex visual effects over multiple rendering passes.

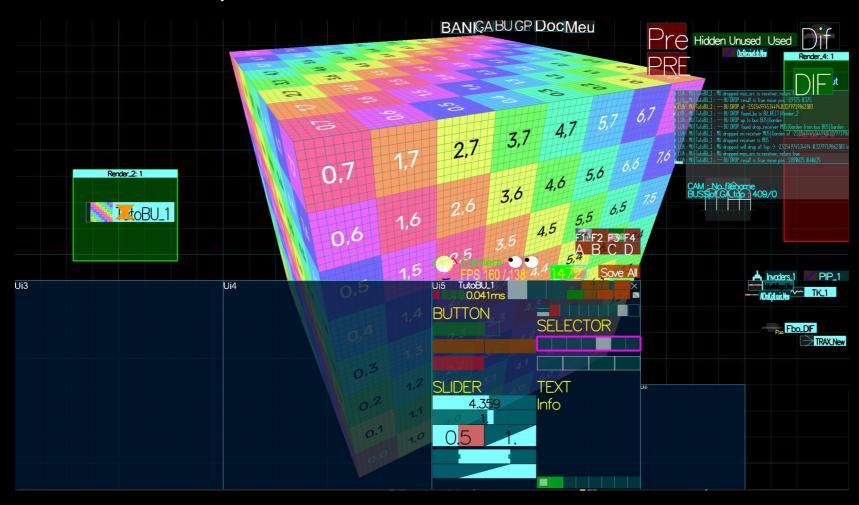
### Fbo / Frame buffer object

- In AAASeed Frame Buffer are Fbo
- A Fbo regroups textures (images) of the same size called attachments.
  - Color attachments we use 1 most of the time, but AAASeed deal with up to 8 if needed.
  - -Depth attachment (used to do z-Bufferring)
- Fbo are needed to draw into textures.



### Meu\_Fbo and render chain: No Fbo

At the beginning of the render chain there is no Fbo defined yet So AAASeed draw directly to the back of the window, under the Ui.



### Meu\_Fbo and render chain: Multi pass example

As soon a MEU\_Fbo is executed in the render chain

All the successive Meu in the render chain use it

until a new Meu\_Fbo is executed and set the current
Fbo

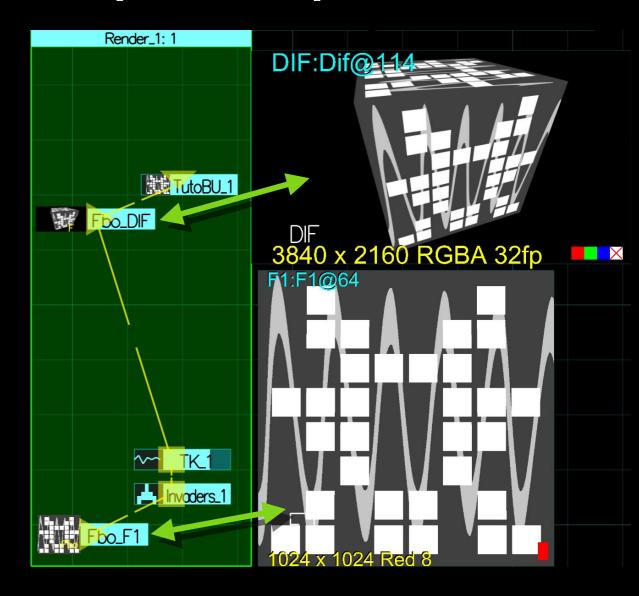
**Here** (bottom to top)

- 1- Meu Fbo\_F1 is executed
  it defines a 1024 x1024 texture 1 channel 8 bits
  it erases itself in grey and become the current Fbo
- 2- Meu Invaders is drawn in the current Fbo: F1
- 3- Meu TK\_1 is drawn in the current Fbo: F1
- 4- Meu Fbo\_DIF is executed

  it defines a 4K texture with 4 channels 32fp

  it erases itself in black and become the current Fbo
- 5- Meu TutoBU\_1 is drawn in the current Fbo: DIF
  In fact TutoBU\_1 use texture F1 (attached to Meu Fbo\_F1)
  to map on the faces of the cube.

This is an example where a Meu\_Fbo is used to draw to a texture (F1) and then this texture is used later by another pass.



### **MEU Fbo name**

There is two ways to setup a Fbo

Manually using Flatland

Not recommended to new users

Meu Fbo eventually would get extended Ui for this

At creation or renaming

If the instance name of the MEU correspond to a texture name this texture is set up as the color attachment 1 for the fbo

The DIF texture name and Fbo\_DIF

**DIF** stands for **DIFfusion**, this is often the Fbo we render at the end and display to the public. It comes from TV control room lingo.

when AAASeed is used live we often have **plenty of graphics processed running**, Some are not even visible to the public, but drawn into Fbos and visualized using BU\_MONITOR or output control monitors. **This way we can prepare**, **tweak and adjust**. **At some point we will move a process to be displayed in the DIF**.

Sometimes before displaying the DIF, we add elements (logo, ticker, signature...) to it, or process it with some dedicated MEU (name often Ndc...) to adjust color, reduce the aliasing, add a reference grid...

It is also common practice to have a high definition DIF (4K or 8K) to render, but output at a lower resolution to have a smoother image. This remark apply to any Fbo used for an intermediate pass.

### MEU Fbo Ui Main Tab

- Active → if it is Off: the Fbo is not used
- Focus → Open flatland focused on the c\_fbo object
- Size in pixels

of attachments (all the same)

Color format

of color attachments

in the MEU Ui they are **all the same**use flatland if you need more control

4 x Int8 4 RGB Alpha Integer 8 bit

Attachments

active Color(4) and Depth attachment

select which one you see in the monitor below

**Local monitor** to see the selected attachment

Double Click to open external monitor

Control monitor and texture display

Allow Monitor for attachment 1

Center monitor, flip texture display

Select which Gpu to Cpu transfer happen

when the render chain is done with this fbo, an automatic transfer to the Cpu can be trigger

Select which attachment are saved (see below)

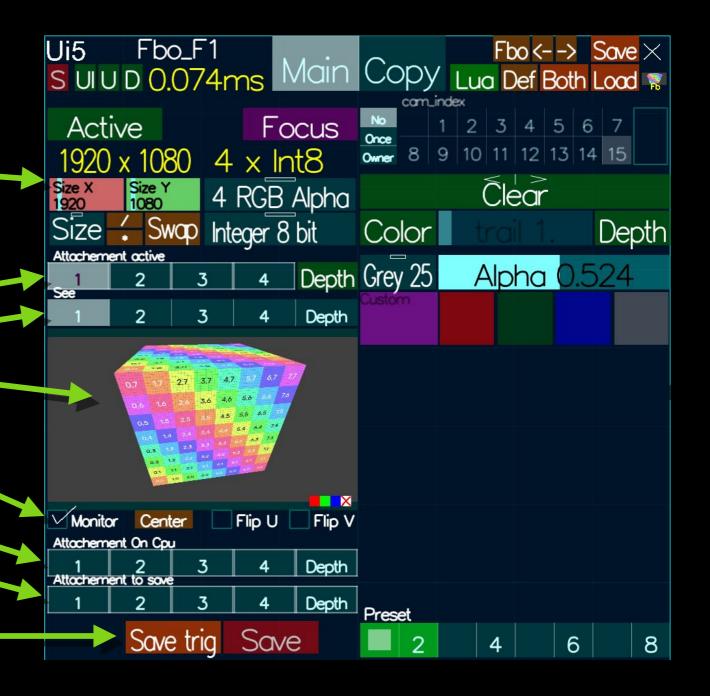
if no selection attachment 1 always saved

Save, in Media AAASnapshots

Depth attachment are not save for now (2025 July)

Save Trig  $\rightarrow$  save One frame

Save → save Each frame



### MEU Fbo Ui Copy Tab



#### Cameras

sometimes we want all the next MEUs in the render chain to use the same camera. So we can use a camera defined in this MEU.

#### Clear

control globally if we erase and how we erase

can be done every time or only once by frame rendered (Meu can be used several time in a frame)

#### Depth

control erasing of the depth attachment

#### Color

control erasing of the color attachments

#### Trail

when we don't erase we can have a trail effect. We specify its **length** here.

Long trail (> 2) require pixel type bigger than 8 bits

#### **Alpha**

the value we want to set when we erase use 0 for transparent background

#### **Erase Color**

a set of predefined colors and a Custom color **Custom color** components RGB + a grey factor

### MEU Fbo Ui Copy Tab (developer only)



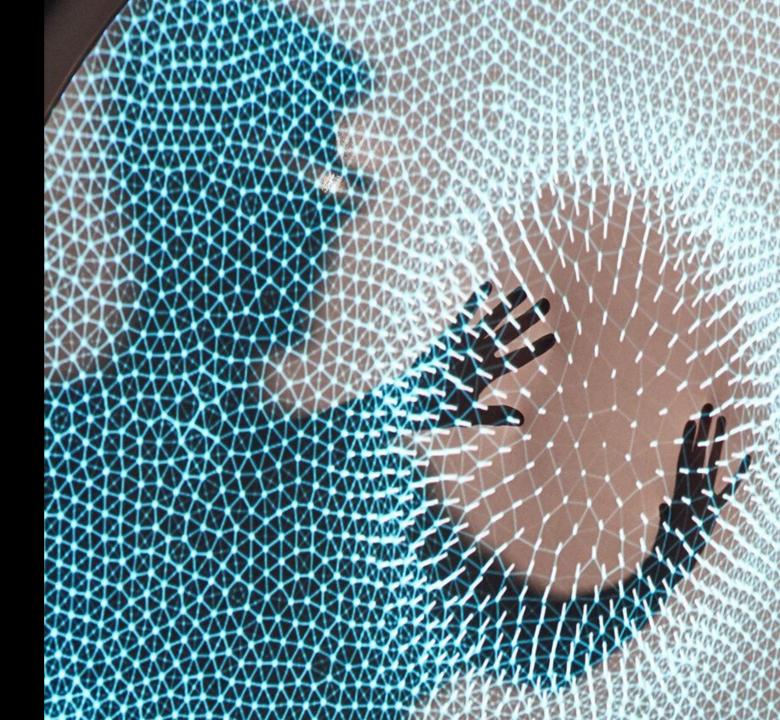
- Do not touch any of these BUs if you don't know what you do
- This need to be simplified later (2025 July)
- it is used by other MEUs

to render in a succession of textures to keep few frame of history (e.g. do a difference for a camera input with MEU NdcMerge)

deal with fbo « flipFlop » required by some other MEUs (e.g. ReactDif, JumpFlood, Branching)

# AAASeed An introduction Part 17: Meu Monitor

- Display Fbo attachment
- Copy Fbo attachment
- Ui
- A "texture plug"

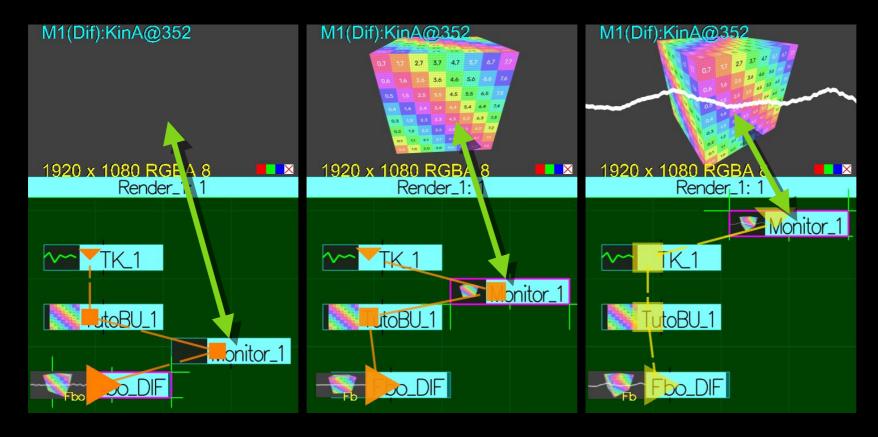


### MEU Monitor Display Fbo attachment

Display state of current Fbo in the render chain

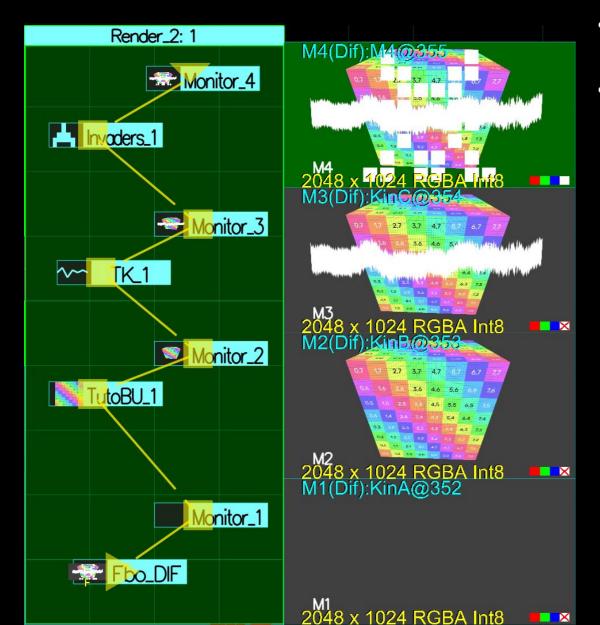
See what is going on in the render chain

Provide control monitor for stahes in the control chain



Copy texture attachment in its current state to a texture linked with the MEU Monitor

### MEU Monitor Copy Fbo attachment



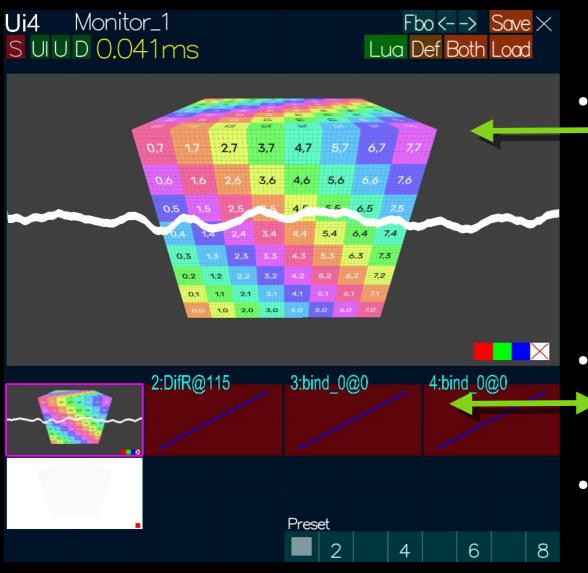
- Here 4 MEUs Monitor let us see how MEUs in the render chain draw one by one in the same fbo.
- In fact each MEU Monitor also save a copy of the attachment (texture) in is own texture bind

M1, M2, M3 and M4

352, 353, 354 and 355 in term of flat bind.



### **MEU Monitor Ui**



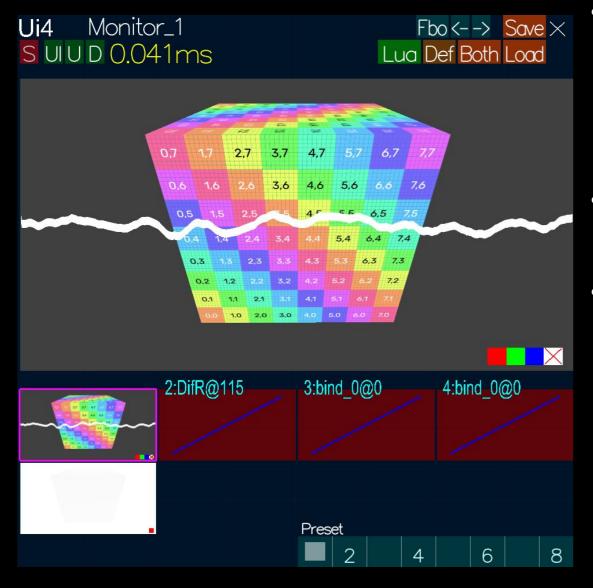
Show Selected attachment

Double Click open associated monitor.

Select which attachment is copied and displayed

Still need some adjustements before the official release

### MEU Monitor as a "texture plug"



- It really does texture copy
  yes it have a cost
  Copy time
  Done at low level
  fast so low cost
  Synchronization
- Destination is texture named M1 to M32
   Monitor should be named Monitor\_1 to Monitor\_32
- **Destination** texture can then be used

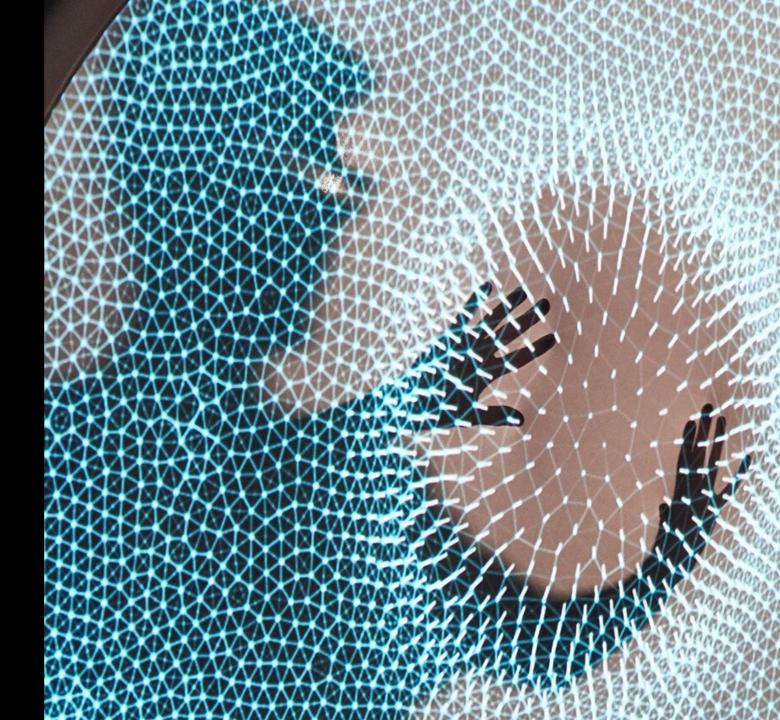
so the Fbo attachment copy can be used by other meu later in the render chain. The Monitor's MU position in the render chain can be changed on the fly, picking the texture we want without altering the rest of the render chain.

So we can "plug" any stage of the render chain as input for others Meu.

This is "an input texture plug"

# AAASeed An introduction Part 18: Create MEU

- Base MEUs
- MEU Window
- Info and selection
- MEU Import



### **Base MEUs**

- The ones we already describe in this introduction
  - Dir → Encapsulate MEUs
  - $\overline{\phantom{a}}$  Fbo Frame Buffer Object  $\rightarrow$  Canvas where we draw
  - Monitor  $\rightarrow$  Display and copy the current state of the current Fbo
- The ones we describe in rest of this introduction

  - PIP Picture In Picture → Display a texture
  - **Out** → **Ouput a Texture** for screens, multi-screen, Led wall ...
  - TRAX  $\rightarrow$  Plug BU in and out
- The ones you need

Depends on your field, what you want to do

The ones to learn

**MEU Tuto...** 

The ones you make

AAASeed let you customize and/or add your own MEUs

Another document to come

### **MEU Window**

Navigate MEU

Mouse Wheel anywhere

Scroll list

Mouse over item

**Display Type Info** 

Click on item

Open StarMenu



New

Create a new instance of this type

A dialog let you choose the instance name.



Lua

Open the lua script for this type

Dir

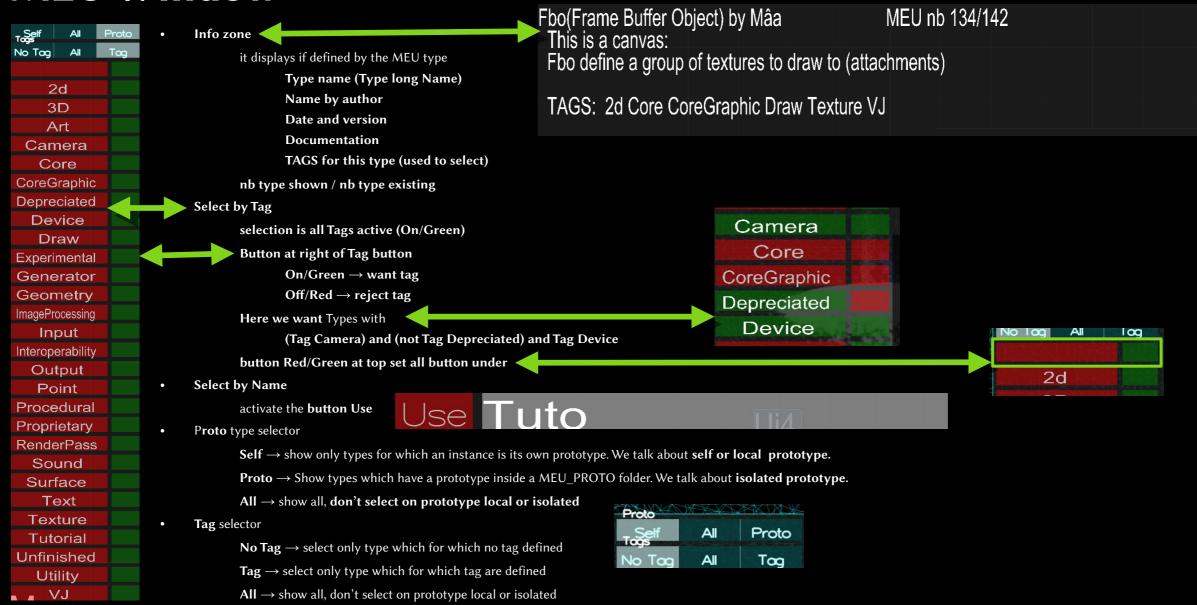
Open with the file explorer the directory where the prototype is.

Double Click on item

New like StarMenu



### **MEU Window**



### **MEU Import**

- Ways to create MEU we know already
  - 1/ Use MEU Window (previous 2 slides)
  - 2/ instantiate an existing one

StarMenu

Drag a MU and release with Control Key pressed

We can also import a MEU for another APP

Use Menu

a File dialog is opened

Navigate to an APP

Open folder AAA\_MEU

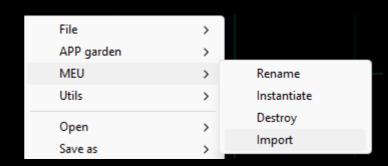
eventually if it a MEU\_DIR folder you will find again an AAA\_MEU folder inside...

Select a folder

Validate

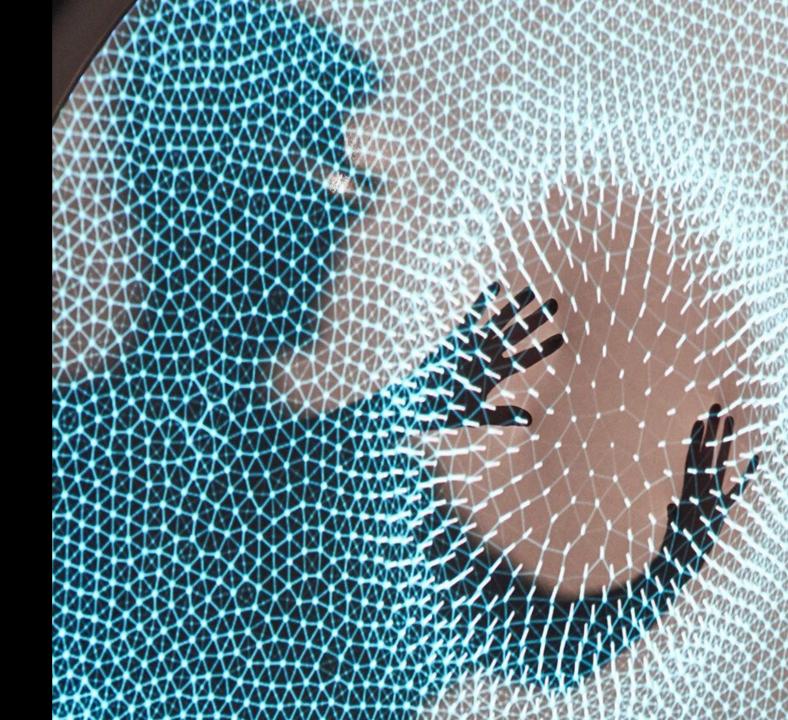
a copy of the directory is added to your current App and the instance Appear under the Unused Button



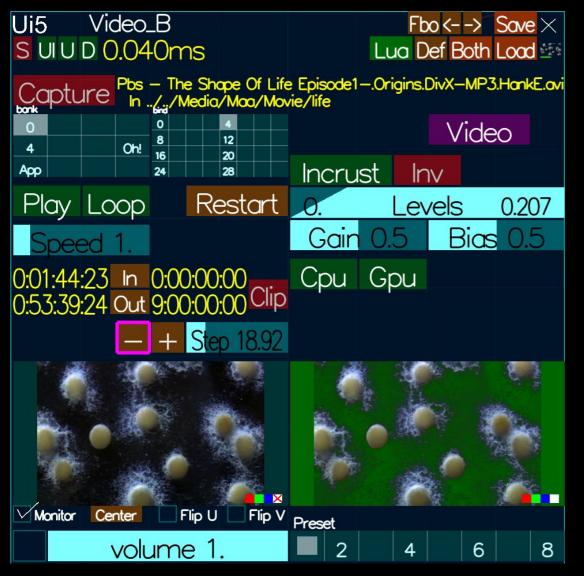


# AAASeed An introduction Part 19 Reading video

- Meu Video: Send Image stream to a texture
  - Read video File
  - Capture
- Meu Video
- Gain Bias



### Meu Video: Send an Image stream to a texture



MEU\_Video deals with an image stream:

It decompress a video file

It uses different method for that and need that codec be installed for that.

Video can be started, stoped, looped, skiped, read at different speed, clipped...

It capturs a live input

Configuration using flatland

Not the object of this document

Camera

webcam

industrial

PS<sub>3</sub>

Capture device

Cards

Usb device

Display Grabber

Can grab any part of windows screens: any software can be an image input

done on the CPU side

MEU\_Video does incrustation

**Luma (Luminence) incrustation for now (2025 September)** 

done on the CPU side too

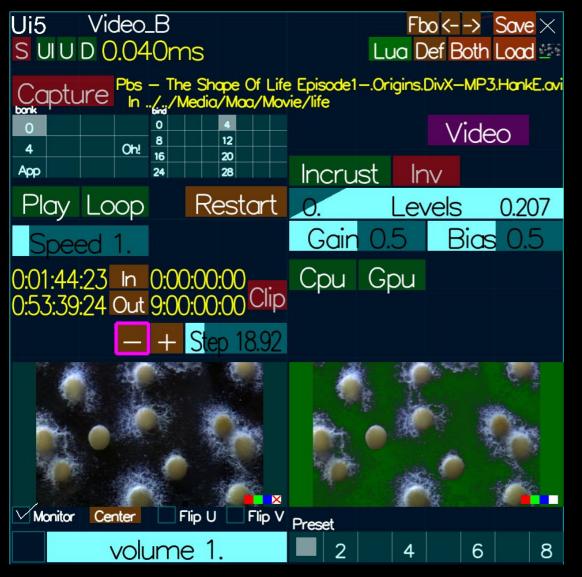
MEU\_Video transfer the image to a texture

a CPU to GPU transfer

MEU\_Video have an associated external monitor (A to L)

Can be setup in the Ui

### Meu Video



Video Name and folder

Red when there is a problem: look at terminal window

Bank / Bind like texture

12 banks of 32 binds

2 selectors

Click double

Pick a video for the bind like texture

Play / Control

In / Out / Clip → play a subpart

 $-/+ \rightarrow$  move in time by Step increment

- Monitor (Ui as MEU\_Fbo)
- Volume

On/Off button and Slider

There is a master Volume Too

• Capture → switch to capture mode

more in a separate document

- Video → a c\_tex\_video open in Flatland
- Incrustation

**Luminance Incrustation** 

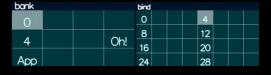
**Inv**erse  $\rightarrow$  inverse the curve

**Levels** → min max levels of incrustation

Gain / Bias alter the shape of the transfer curve (see next slide)

• Cpu / Gpu

Where we keep it

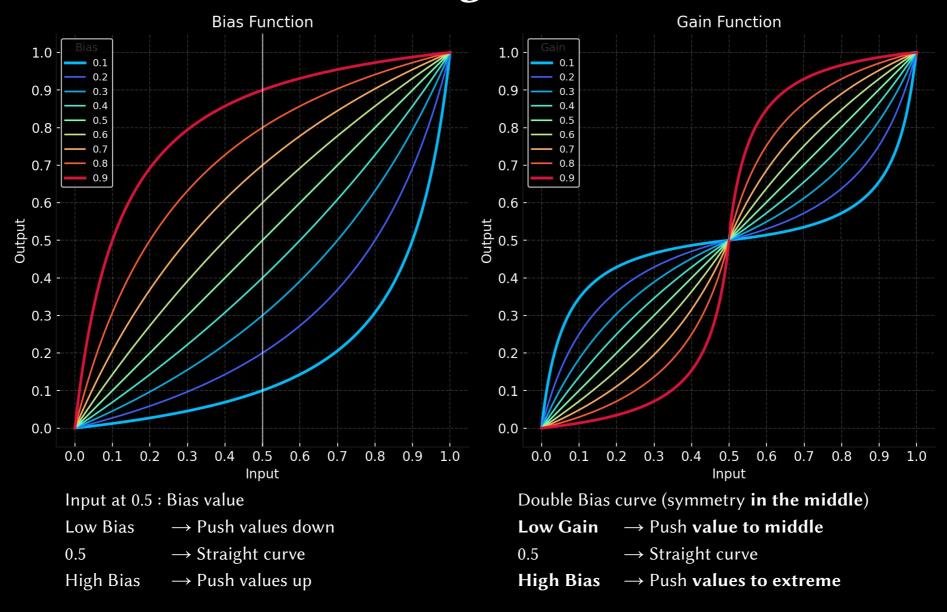






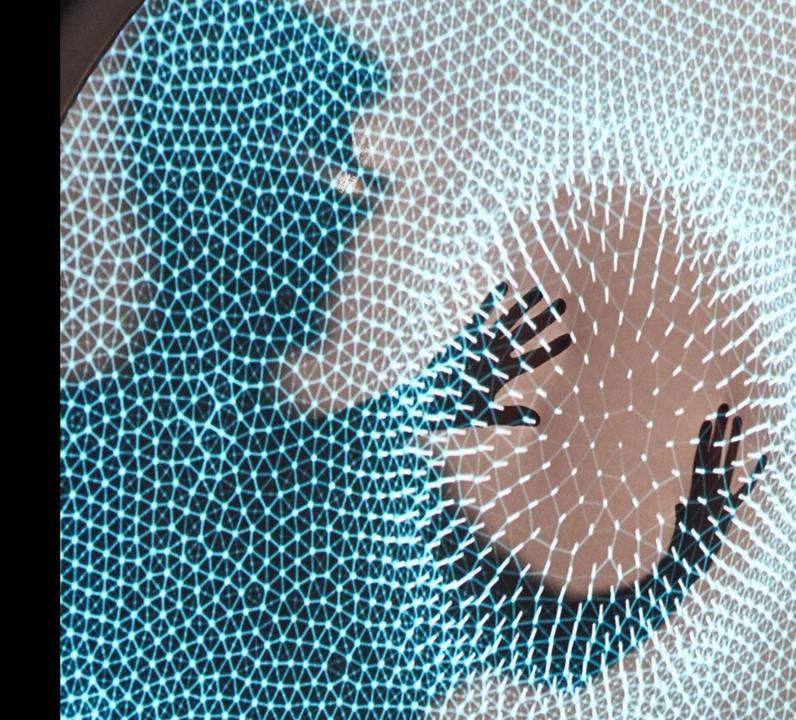


### Gain Bias an electronic heritage



# AAASeed An introduction Part 20 Drawing texture

- Meu PIP
  - Picture In Picture
- Meu PIP tab Main
- Ratio and Size
- Translate Rotate Scale
- Meu PIP tab Map
- Blending



### Meu PIP

Picture In Picture

from the video world

Drawing a video in a rectangle

- MEU\_PIP draws a texture in a rectangle
- MEU\_PIP does much more

Crop the texture used

Handles smooth transition of texture

**Performs Incrustation** 

Luma (Grey)

Color

Composes with a the **texture mask** 

using its alpha or a Remap (luma incrustation)

Sizes the rectangle

Transforms the rectangle in 3d

Recolors the output

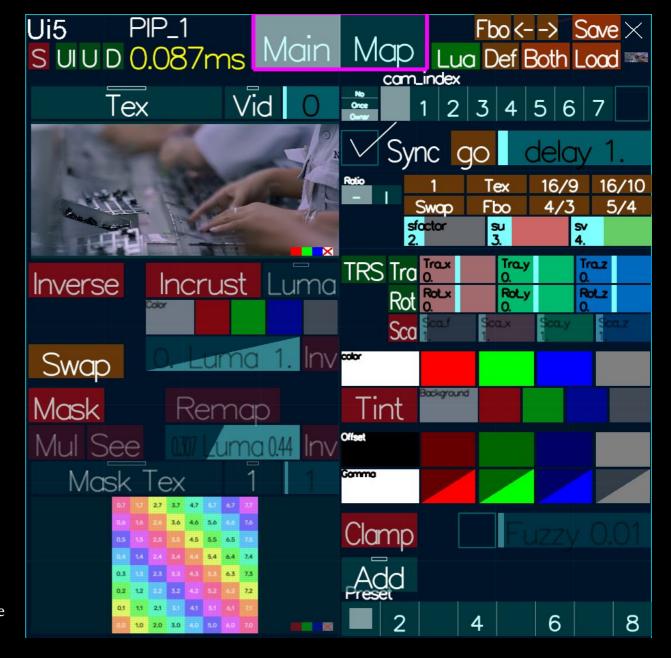
Clamp the color

Add a fuzzy edge

Composites with the Fbo

Does even more, but not the coffee or tea

• Part of its Ui are generic and used in other Meu type, and will be detailed here



#### Meu PIP tab Main

- Tex selects next Texture
- Inverse

inverse the RGB colors (negative)

Incrustation

Incrust is an active button

2 modes to produce the alpha values

Luma (Luminance)

use the grey from the texture

Color

use the distance to the color

Luma SLIDER\_TWO define the curve used to transform luma or color distance to alpha

Inv Button flip the Luma Min/Max values

If active the alpha produced replace the texture alpha

- Swap texture and Mask
- Mask

Mask is an active button

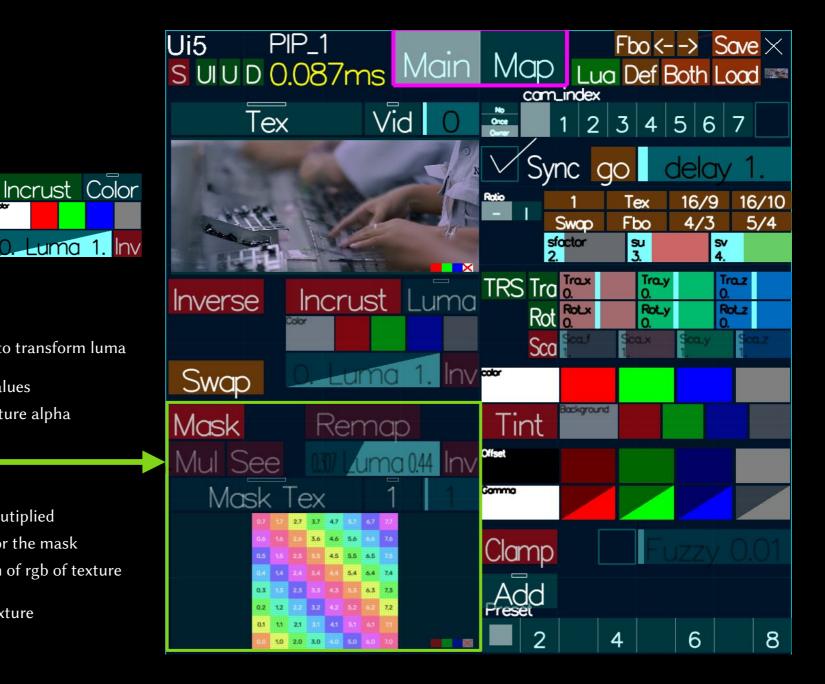
The Alpha of texture and mask are mutiplied

Remap functions like a luma incrustation for the mask

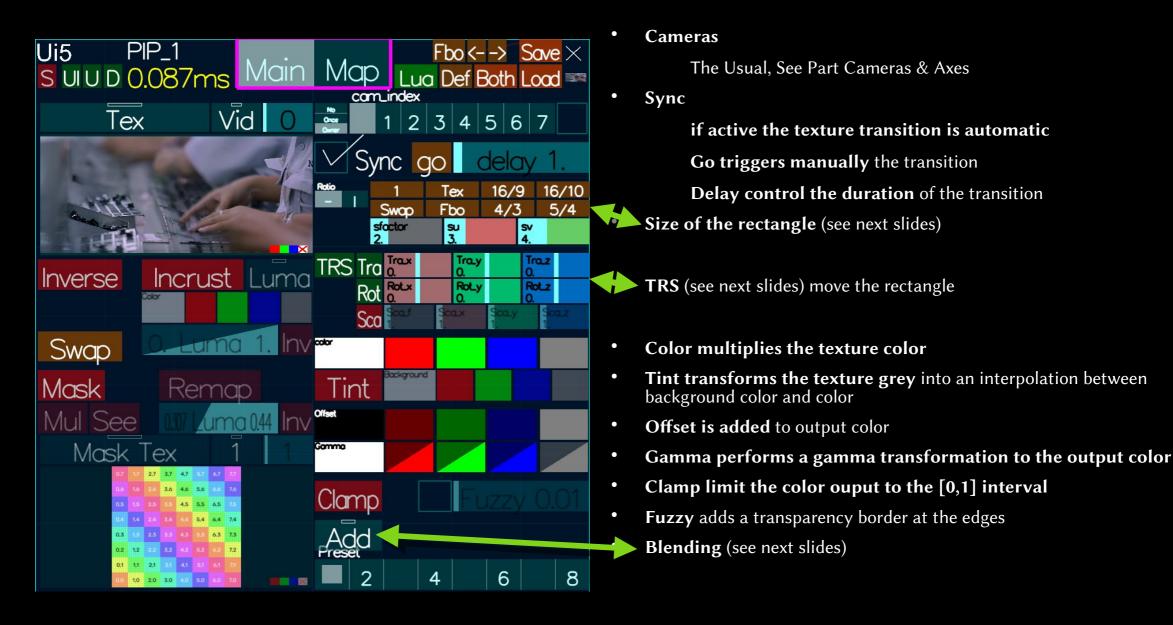
Mul is for Multiply and active mutiplication of rgb of texture by rgb of mask

See button shows the mask, ignoring the texture

Mask Tex selects texture dor mask

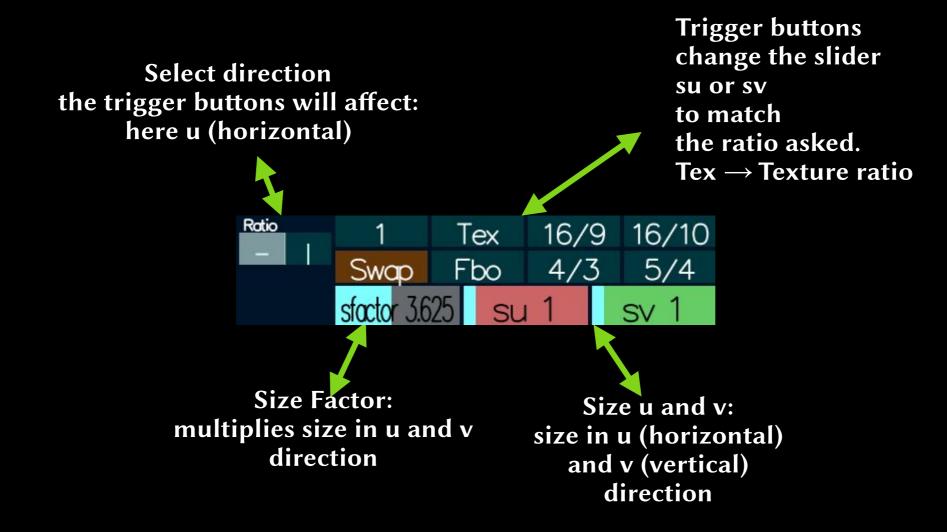


#### Meu PIP tab Main



### Ratio and size (used in other Meu type)

• This changes the sizes used by a MEU to render a rectangle



## TRS ↔ Translate Rotate Scale (used in other Meu type)

- This controls what is named in 3D: a **transformation**
- Not moving the camera
- Changing the coordonates of where an object is drawn
  - Developer note
     Alter the model (model to world) matrix
- Combine 3 Types of transformations
  - Tra → Translate
     position of the center
  - Rot  $\rightarrow$  Rotate

rotate around the center

Rotation unit in AAASeed is turn

 $0.25 \rightarrow a quarter turn$ 

 $0.5 \rightarrow a \text{ half turn}$ 

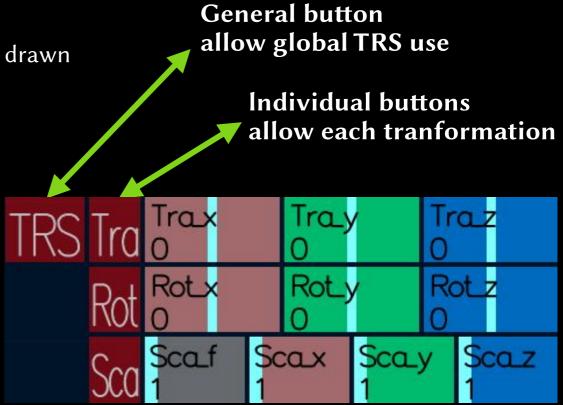
 $1 \rightarrow a$  full turn

-  $Sca \rightarrow Scale$ 

Scale around the center

Sca\_f ()scale factor) multiplies individual axe values

Better keep button TRS Off if transformation is not used



### Meu PIP tab Map

nb\_u, nb\_v

the textured vectangle drawn by Meu PIP is in fact a grid. This controls the numbers of points (and so subdivisions) of the grid in both directions

U Min/Max, V Min/Max

controls which part of the texture input is used.

Hexa

Fun mode to map with hexagonal symetry: please experiment

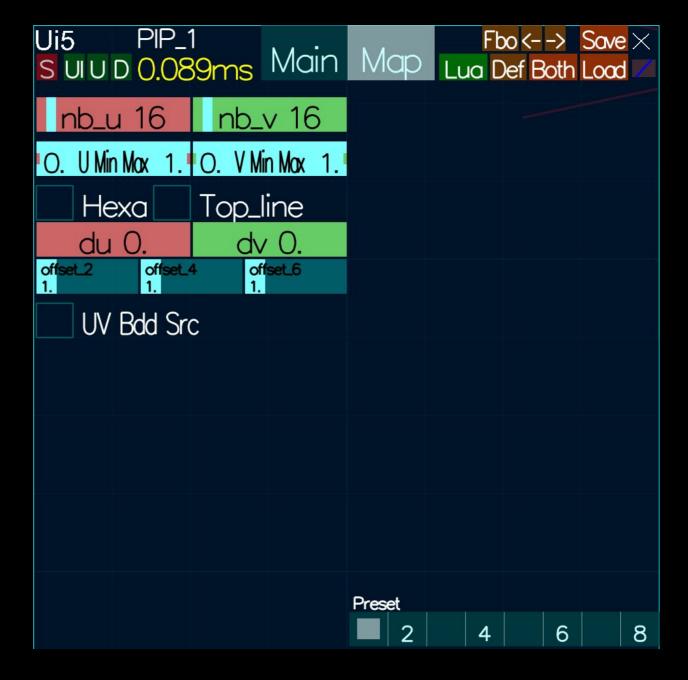
du, dv

offsets

UV Bdd Src

Allow to use UV mapping generated from a bdd, usually a c\_bdd\_grid\_adjustable used to edit a deformation in conjunction with an source image.

Uncheck if you don't know what you do



### Blending (used in other Meu type)

- This small and perhaps too discrete BU controls Blending
- Blending is how the pixel produced by the MEU (called a fragment at this stage) is applied to the Fbo. In fact it controls what is called the blending equation





Results for some modes (it applies channel by channel: RGB and Alpha)

Min: the Minimum between what you draw and what in the Fbo

Max: the Maximum between what you draw and what in the Fbo

**Add**: the Addition to the Fbo using the Alpha to do transparency

This is the default mode and what you should use in general Both BU drawn with a discrete flashing when other value is selected

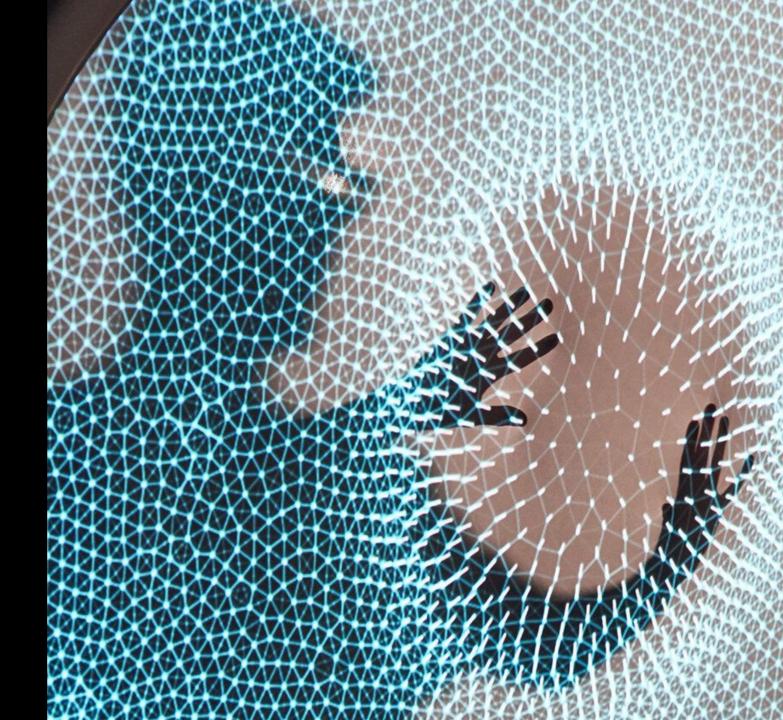
Sub: the Substraction between between what you draw and what in the Fbo

**RSub**: the **Reverse Substraction** between what you draw and what in the Fbo

- Other modes correspond to photoshop compositing modes : experiment
- More at interactive web Blending application

# AAASeed An introduction Part 21: Outputting image

- MEU Out
- tab Main
- Edit Deformation Grid
- Fuzzy edges
- Tab Map
- Rendering BUs



#### **MEU Out**

Handles Final output

to screens, projectors, Led walls

- Its main function is to set up an Ouput quickly
- MEU\_Out like MEU\_Pip draws a texture in a rectangle
- MEU\_Out

**Crop the texture** used (tab Map in next Slides)

**Draw the texture to a selected screen** (Windows screen)

Size the rectangle

Deform the rectangle

with a **real time editor** made for difficult conditions

Output pixel exact image

to deal with Led walls

Add fuzzy edges editable for each edge

Can also draw to an Fbo

nice to have deformable editable grid there

Composites the outputs

 Part of its Ui are generic and used in other Meu type, and will be detailed here



#### MEU Out tab Main

Use Fbo Button

Off draws to screen

Full 1 2 3 4 5 6

The selector under the camera control which screen is used Here we select screen 2,

numbers correspond to windows Display Settings

On draws to Fbo

Focus open Flatland with focus on c\_bdd\_deformation used

So we can change the edit grid size

Draw should be On

Or Off if the deformation is used somewhere else but should not be displayed (document on this will come)

- Crop always the crop as defined in the tab Map (see next slide)
- Force forces the display of what bis selected to its right

quick way to switch the ouput

you can see better what you do

projector can be adjusted ...

Top show a grid on top of the texture drawn

this just a helper grid not de deformation grid

- Deform Activates the deformation grid and process
- UI draw show the grid editor Ui

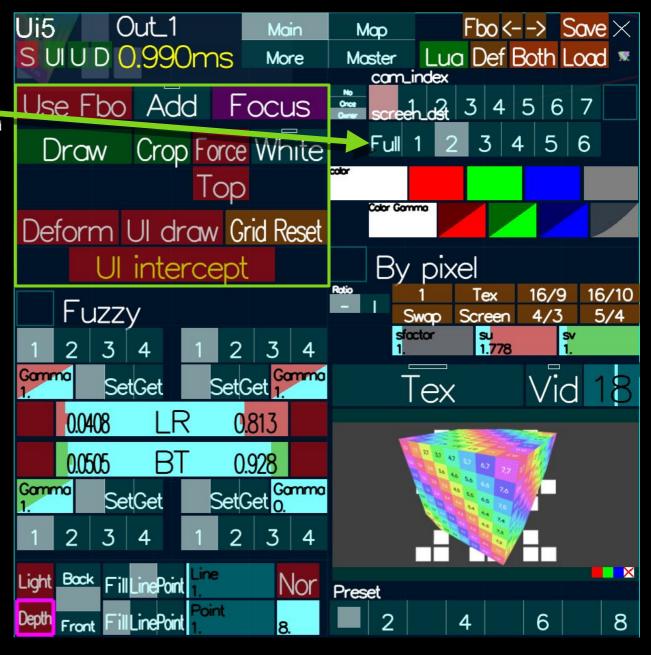
In Blue when inactive

in red and green when active

- Grid Reset resets the deformation grid after a confirmation
- Ui intercept switch the grid in edit mode

key q to exit this mode

a dedicated slide will be done on the edit process soon (2025 july)



### MEU Out Edit Deformation Grid (To be completed)

UI draw show the grid editor Ui

In Blue when inactive

in red and green when active

Ui intercept switch the grid in edit mode

key q to exit this mode

a dedicated slide will be done on the edit process soon (2025 july)

Grid Reset resets the deformation grid after a confirmation



# MEU Out Fuzzy edges (To be completed)

Definition of fuzzy edge

used to have seamless result when forming an image with several projectors, fading nicely from one to another.

- Fuzzy actives all
- 4 Edges

**Left/Right Bottom/Top** 

Size and Gamma for each



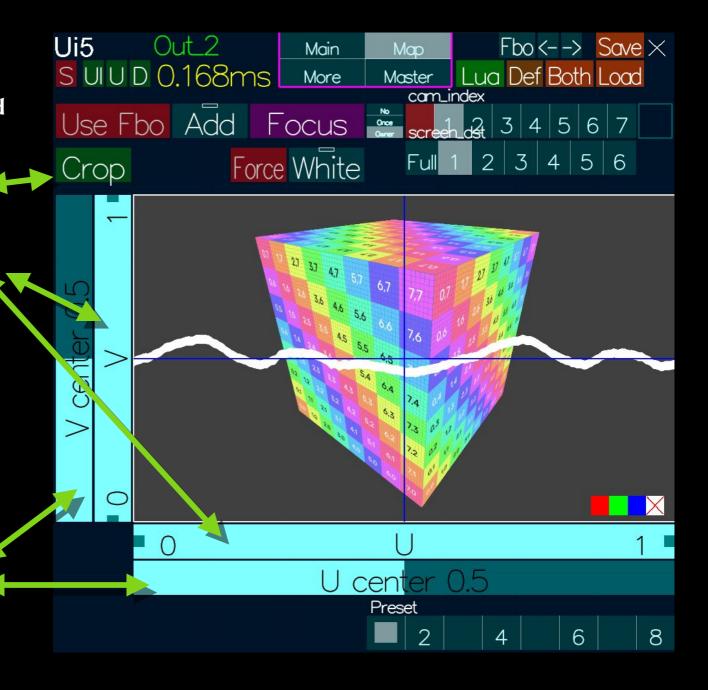
### MEU Out tab Map

Select which part of the texture is displayed

Button Crop have to be Activated to Crop

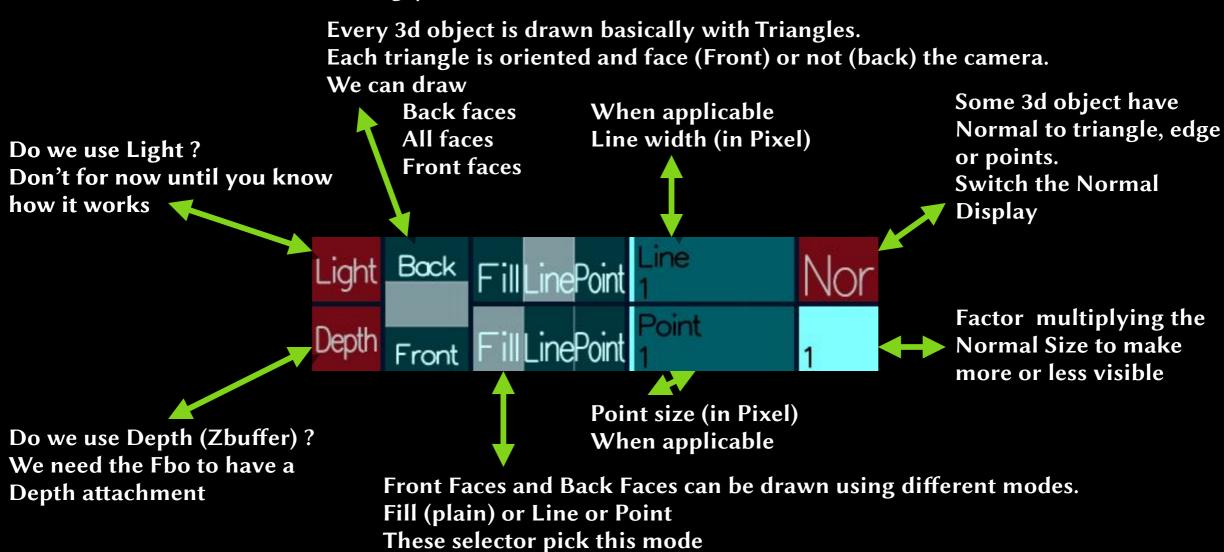
U/V SLIDER\_TWO selects the area wanted

• U/V center just display the corresponding blue lines on top of the local texture monitor.



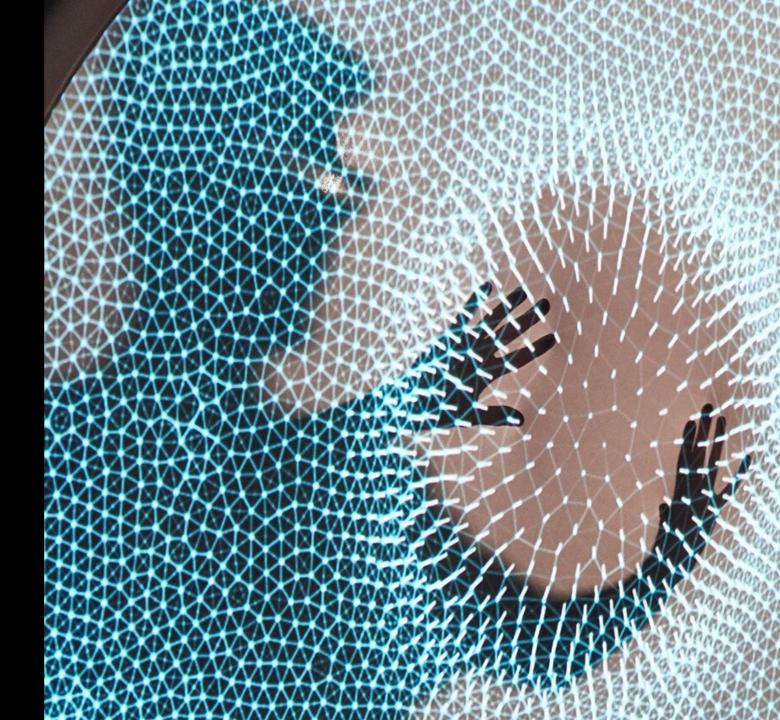
## Rendering BUs (used in other Meu type)

Control some common rendering parameters



# AAASeed An introduction Part 22: Plugging

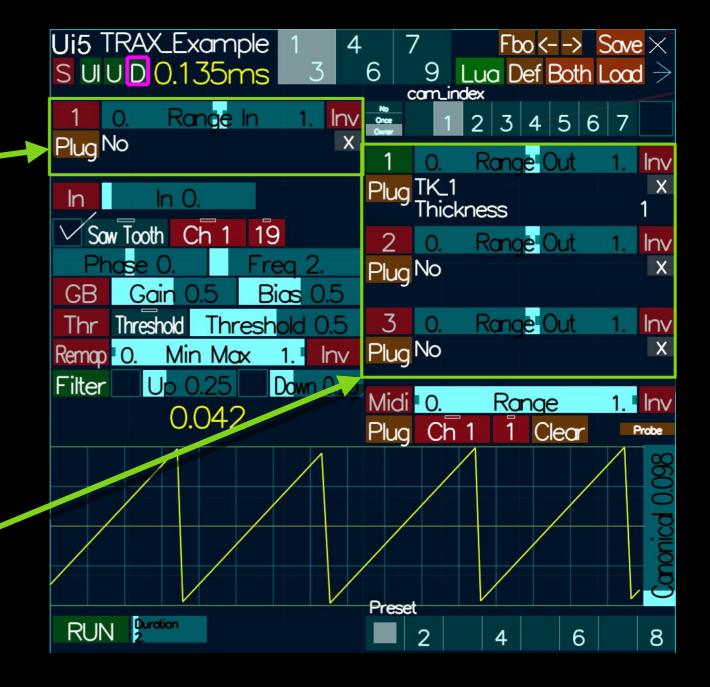
- MEU Trax function
- Plug 101
- MEU Trax UI



#### **MEU Trax**

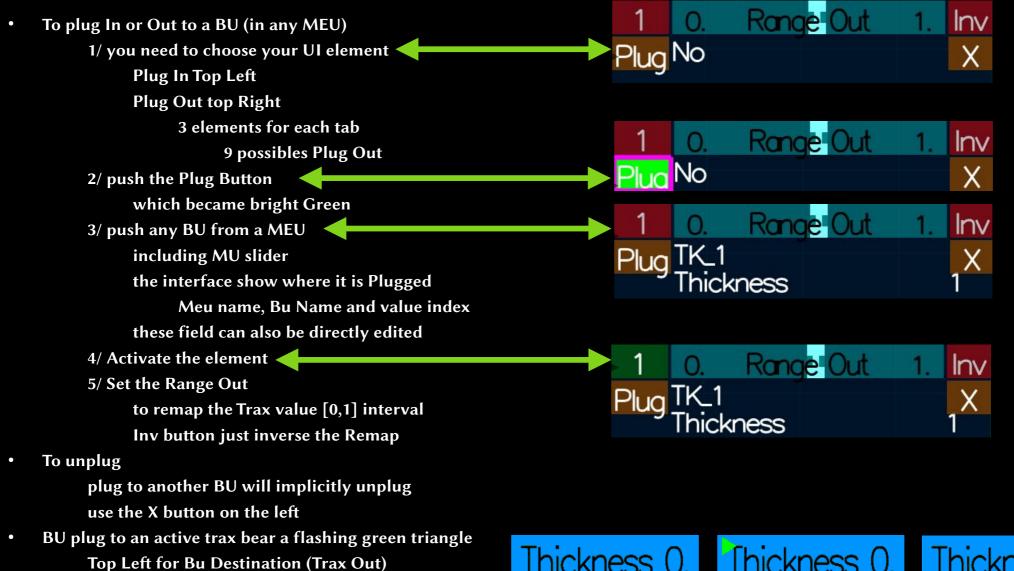
- It gets a signal/value from
  any BU in any MEU
  Plug In MEU Trax
  MIDI (controller mainly)
  mouse or keyboard
  Sound input
  Internal generators
  sinus, saw tooth, triangle, square, random, turbulence....
- Process it
- Displays it in its UI
- Draws it to current Fbo
- Propagates it to

   any BU in Any MEU
   Plug Out MEU Trax
   a AAASeed internal MIDI Controller



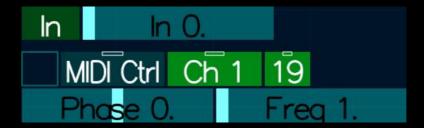
## **MEU Trax Plug 101**

**Bottom right for BU Source (TRAX In)** 



#### **MEUTRAX Ui**

**Select the input or internal Generators** 



**Process The Signal** 

GB Gain Bias (see slide for Meu Video)

**Threshold** 

Mode Flip On Up useful to transform push button in switch

Remap

Filter going Up andor Down



- Display the signal
  - Cyan input signal
  - Yellow processed signal
- Control Signal display RUN Promise



