



Convergent camera applications for mobile Linux devices

FOSDEM 2023

Kieran Bingham
Jacopo Mondì

jacopo.mondi@ideasonboard.com

IDEAS
ON BOARD

Hello, I'm ~~Jacopo~~ Kieran

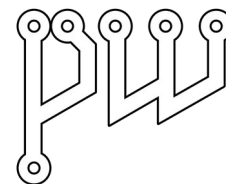
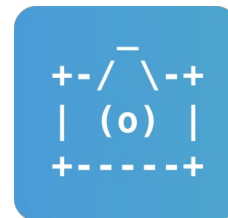
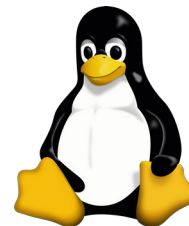
- Embedded camera engineer @ IdeasOnBoard Oy
 - *Video4Linux2*
 - *libcamera*
 - *#libcamera on OFTC.net*
 - <https://webchat.oftc.net/?channels=libcamera>
 - https://matrix.to/#/#_oftc_#libcamera:matrix.org



Hello!

A camera stack for Linux systems

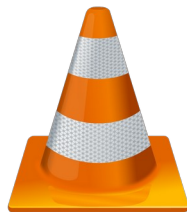
- Mainline Linux camera drivers
- libcamera
- Pipewire and xdg-portal



The Linux camera stack

A camera stack for Linux systems

- Run the same software stack on mobile and desktop Linux
- Integrate with standard multimedia tool-kits



The Linux camera stack

- Test ground for the mobile Linux ecosystem
- Rockchip RK3399
 - *complex camera* with ISP and RAW sensors
- Supported by libcamera

An advertisement for the PinePhone Pro smartphone. The background is dark blue with a yellow triangle in the bottom right corner. On the right, there are two images of the phone: one showing the back with a camera lens and another showing the front with a Linux desktop environment. The text in the center reads "PinePhone Pro by PINE64". Below this, it lists specifications: "with Rockchip 3399 hexa-core SoC operating at 1.5GHz" and "4GB LPDDR4 RAM 128GB FLASH STORAGE 13MP MAIN CAMERA".

PinePhone Pro
by PINE64

with Rockchip 3399
hexa-core SoC
operating at 1.5GHz

4GB LPDDR4 RAM
128GB FLASH STORAGE
13MP MAIN CAMERA

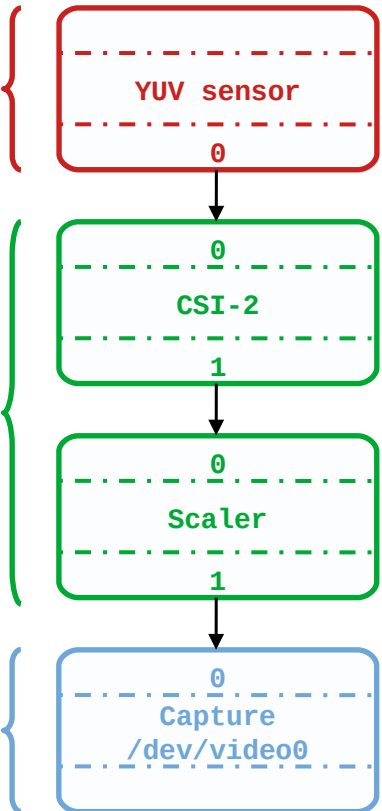


The PinePhone Pro

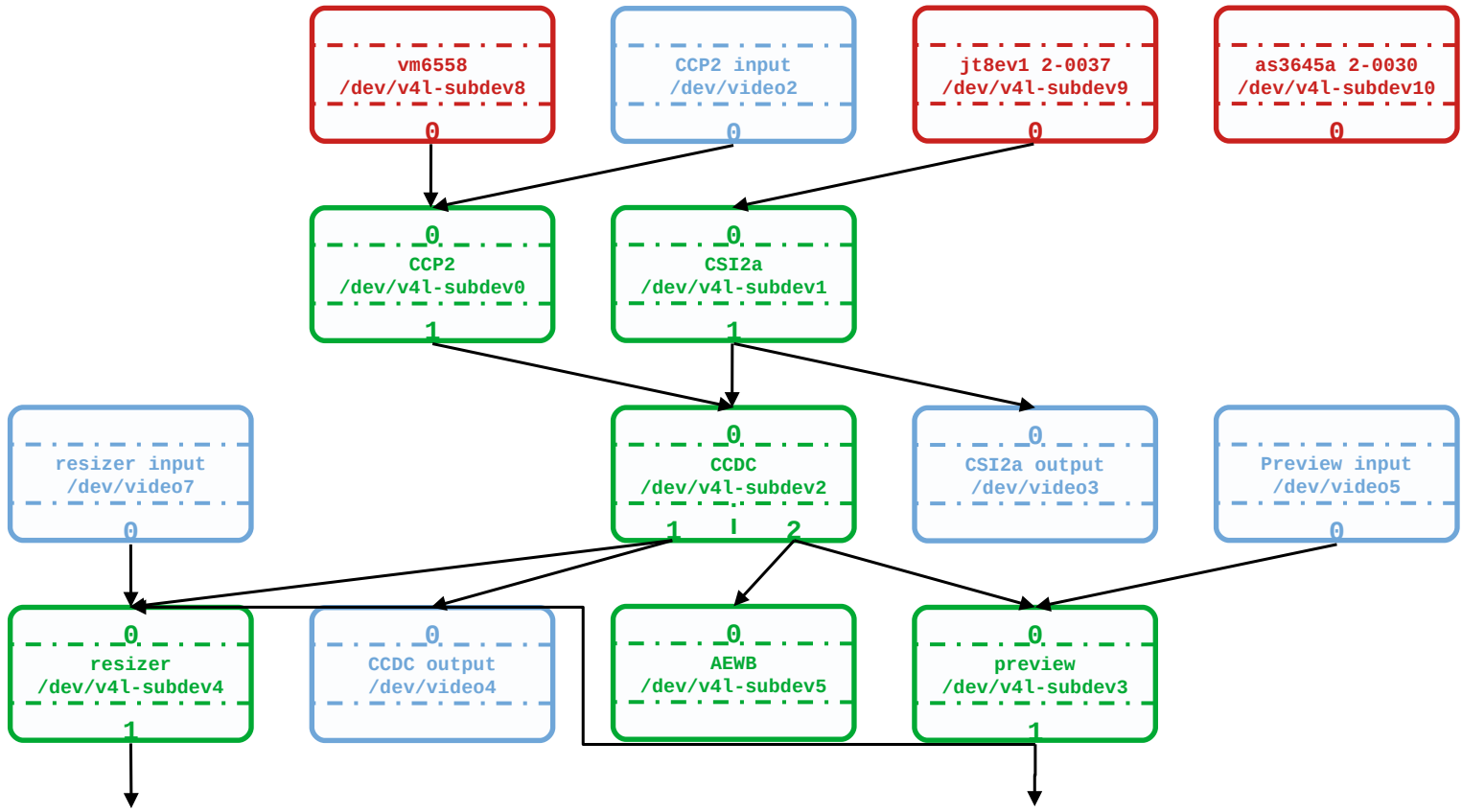
C
s
a
m
e
r
a

S
i
o
n
c
t
e
r
a
f
e
c
e

A
P
I



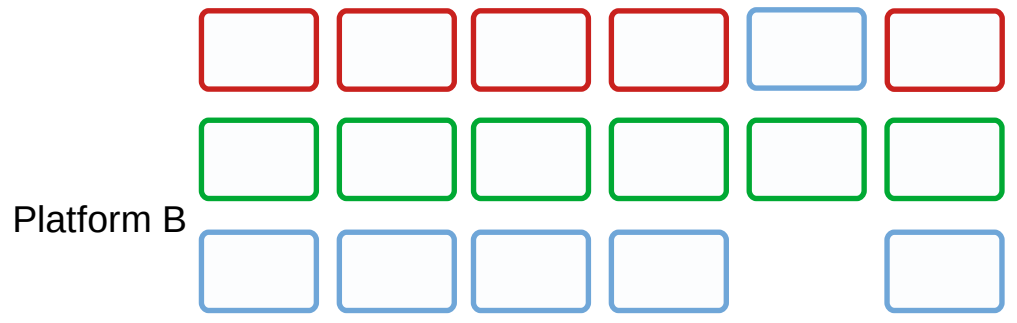
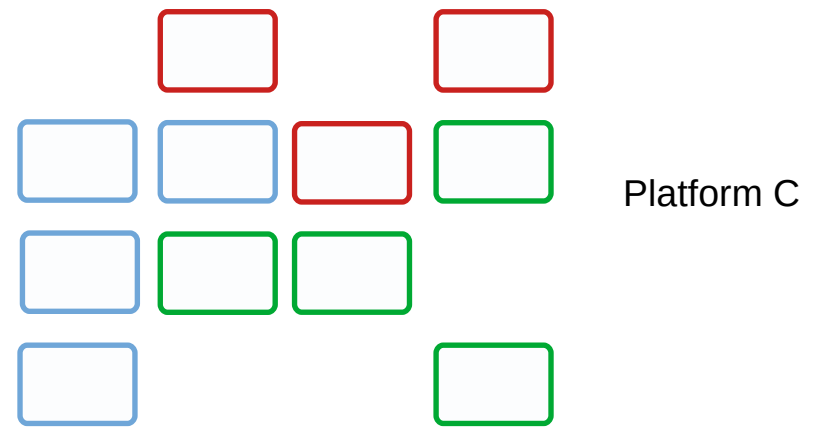
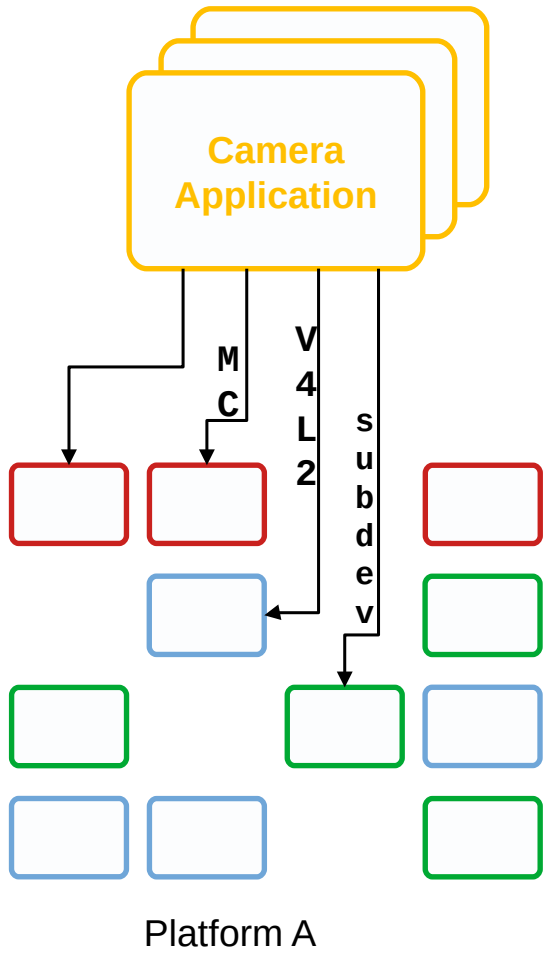
Simple camera



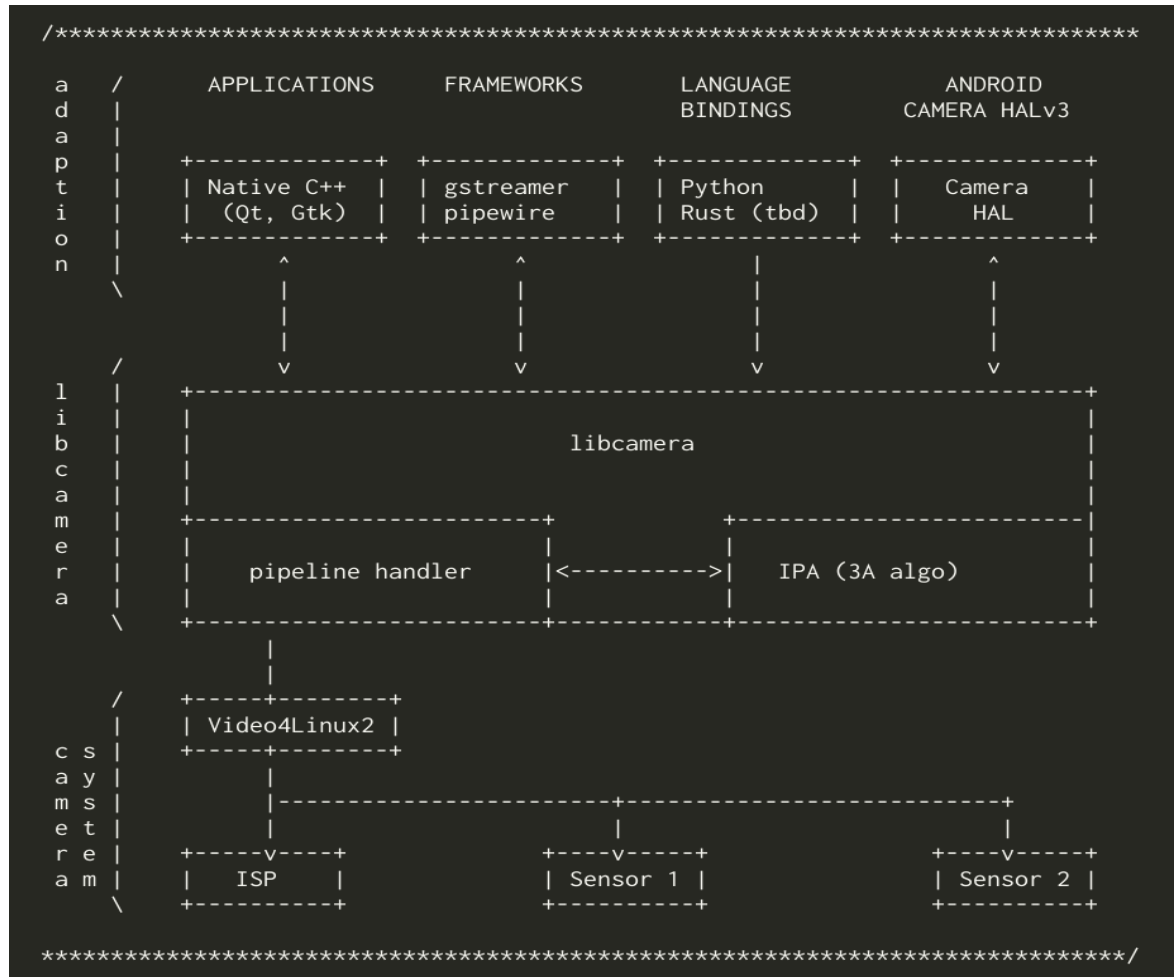
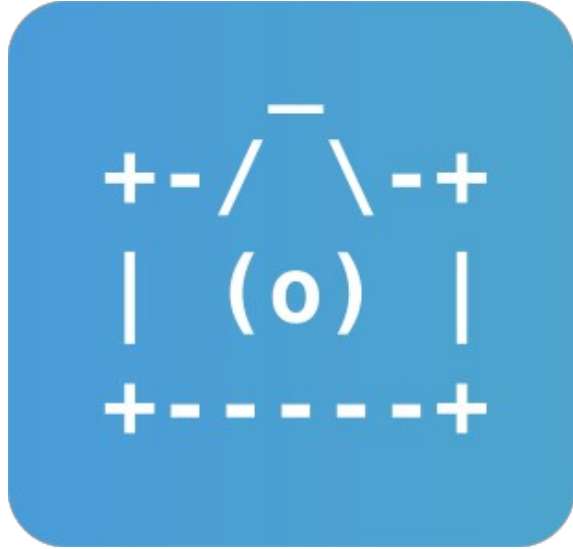
OMAP3 Camera in Nokia N900 - 2009



Cameras got complex (a long time ago..)



... and applications had to be platform-specific



libcamera fills that gap

Supported by libcamera since 2020

RockPi4



Acer Chrombook Tab 10



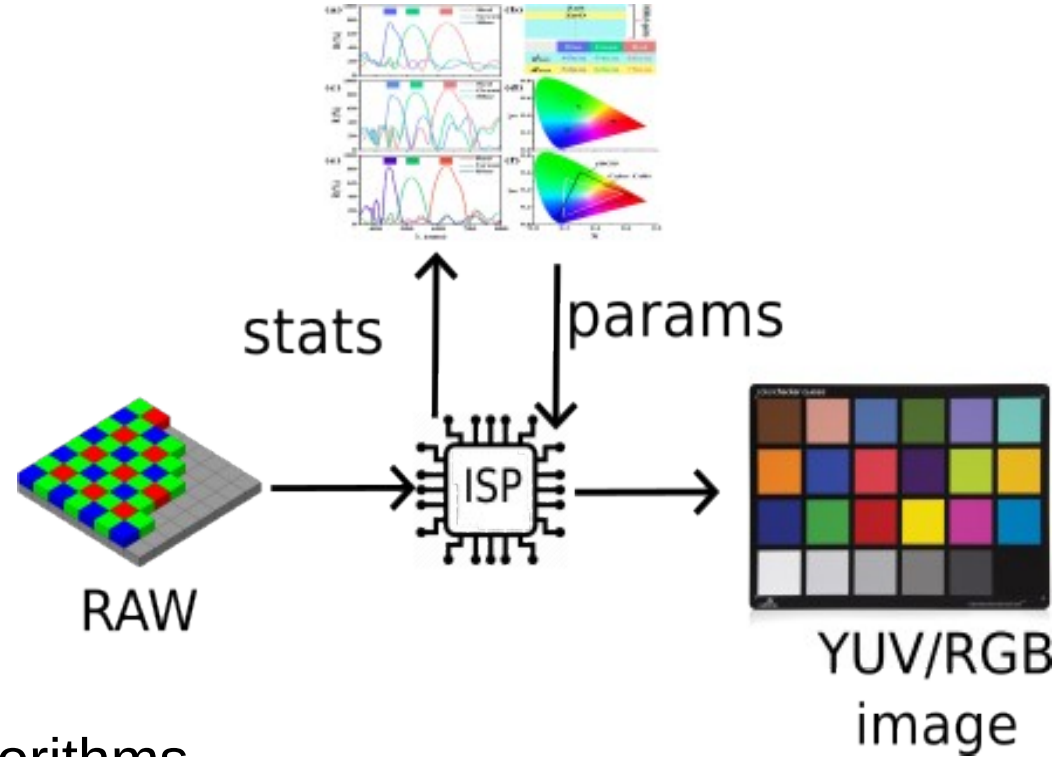
() The same, unmodified, software stack supports NXP i.MX8MP ISP*



Rockchip RK3399

An ISP:

- Fed with raw Bayer frames
- Produces statistics
- Transforms images
 - De-bayering
 - Color gains balancing
 - ...



Needs platform specific “3A” algorithms

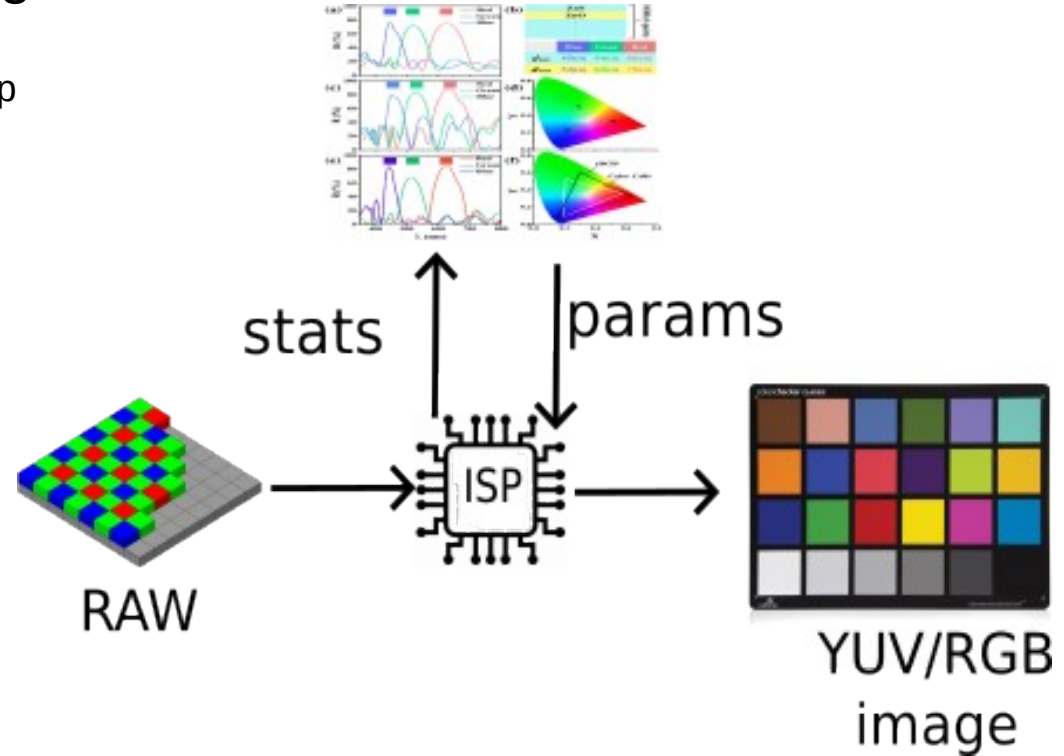


The RkISP1 ISP

Libcamera implements the 3A algorithms

```
$ ls -1 src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/*.cpp
```

```
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/agc.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/awb.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/blc.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/cproc.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/dpcc.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/dpf.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/filter.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/gsl.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/lsc.cpp
```



Linux kernel

- Staging driver since v5.6
- De-staged in v5.11

- Still actively developed

[GIT PULL FOR v5.10] rkisp1 fixes/enhancements + one cedrus fix
[GIT PULL FOR v5.20] rkisp1 misc fixes and improvements
[GIT PULL FOR v6.1] rkisp1 fixes and improvements



COLLABORA

Image Signal Processor (ISP) Drivers & How to merge one upstream

Helen Koike
Senior Software Engineer



Embedded Linux Conference
North America

The RkISP1 ISP

IDEAS
ON BOARD

- Front camera: *OmniVision OV8858*
 - No driver in mainline Linux
 - No support in libcamera
- Back camera: *Sony IMX258*
 - Driver available in mainline Linux
 - Supported in libcamera but not “tuned”



Nicholas Roth started looking into the ov8858 to support camera in Waydroid (*)

Commit Message

Nicholas Roth

Currently, libcamera does not have information for the ov8858 sensor used in the PinePhone Pro, a phone designed to run Linux.

This commit adds metadata, especially that sensor gain is reported and set in 1/16 discrete increments.

For more information, see "5.8 manual exposure compensation/ manual gain compensation" in [0] and the driver in [1].

[0] <http://www.ahdsensor.com/uploadfile/202008/55322e75316871.pdf>

[1] <https://github.com/megous/linux/blob/orange-pi-5.19/drivers/media/i2c/ov8858.c>

Signed-off-by: Nicholas Roth <nicholas@rothemail.net>

```
---
src/ipa/libipa/camera_sensor_helper.cpp | 11 ++++++++
src/libcamera/camera_sensor_properties.cpp | 14 ++++++++
2 files changed, 25 insertions(+)
```

** we'll get back to this later*



Sensor drivers: ov8858

But it was clear from the very beginning why libcamera mandates drivers to be mainlined

```
>
> +class CameraSensorHelperOv8858 : public CameraSensorHelper
> +{
> +public:
> +    CameraSensorHelperOv8858()
> +    {
> +        gainType_ = AnalogueGainLinear;
> +        gainConstants_.linear = { 1, 0, 0, 16 };
> +    }
> +};
> +REGISTER_CAMERA_SENSOR_HELPER("m00_f_ov8858", CameraSensorHelperOv8858)
```

"My OV8858 is the second on the rear." Suddenly this doesn't work.
- So we can only use "ov8858" here.



Sensor drivers: ov8858

So we went and upstreamed the driver (which will land in v6.3)

[v5,2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-16	Jacopo Mondì
[v5,1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-16	Jacopo Mondì
[v4,2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-11	Jacopo Mondì
[v4,1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-11	Jacopo Mondì
[v3,2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-09	Jacopo Mondì
[v3,1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-09	Jacopo Mondì
[v2,2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-06	Jacopo Mondì
[v2,1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-06	Jacopo Mondì
[2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-05	Jacopo Mondì
[1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add schema for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-05	Jacopo Mondì
[v2] media: i2c: ov8858 Add driver for ov8858	[v2] media: i2c: ov8858 Add driver for ov8858	2022-11-06	Nicholas Roth
media: i2c: ov8858 Add driver for ov8858	media: i2c: ov8858 Add driver for ov8858	2022-10-30	Nicholas Roth



Sensor drivers: ov8858

And merged the ov8858 support in libcamera (in release v0.0.4)

Jacopo Mondi

From: Nicholas Roth <nicholas@rothemail.net>

Support for the OmniVision OV8858 sensor is scheduled for inclusion in the Linux kernel in version v6.3.

Add support for the sensor in libcamera by providing static properties and a camera sensor helper in libipa.

The camera sensor helper expresses analogue gain increments in 1/128 step which differs from what is reported in the sensor documentation in section "5.8 manual exposure compensation/ manual gain compensation" [0]

A more detailed analysis of the sensor gain model is reported at:
<https://patchwork.linuxtv.org/project/linux-media/patch/20221106171129.166892-2-nicholas@rothemail.net/#142267>

Record with a \todo note a reference to discussion on the gain model implementation.

Signed-off-by: Nicholas Roth <nicholas@rothemail.net>

Signed-off-by: Jacopo Mondi <jacopo.mondi@ideasonboard.com>

Compared to initial Nicholas' submission:

- Change gain step to 128 (link to the driver discussion)
- Add fadeToGray test patten and adjust comment



Sensor drivers: ov8858

While a driver exists in mainline, it needs some love

- A long list of patches to be potentially upstreamed from the **RaspberryPi** kernel
- Shielded pixel correction for the PDAF-capable version of the sensor
- Potential to re-use the sensor tuning file for LSC, black level correction etc developed for RaspberryPi

```
History for linux / drivers / media / i2c / imx258.c

- Commits on Jul 4, 2022

media: i2c: imx258: Change register settings for variants of the sensor ...
6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Jul 4, 2022

- Commits on Apr 8, 2022

media: i2c: imx258: Support faster pixel rate on binned modes ...
6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022

media: i2c: imx258: Set pixel_rate range to the same as the value ...
6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022

media: i2c: imx258: Issue reset before starting streaming ...
6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022

media: i2c: imx258: Add support for long exposure modes ...
6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022

media: i2c: imx258: Correct max FRM_LENGTH_LINES value ...
6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022

media: i2c: imx258: Allow configuration of clock lane behaviour ...
6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022

media: i2c: imx258: Add get_selection for pixel array information ...
```



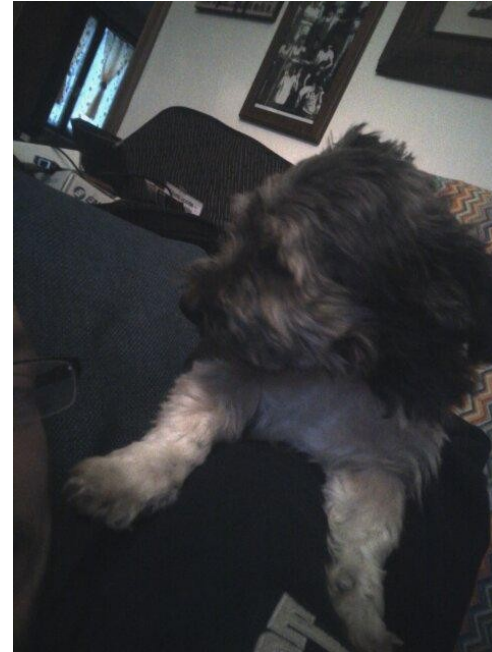
Sensor drivers: imx258

- Improve the ov8858 and imx258 drivers
 - A lot of patches to be up-ported
 - *Good opportunity to contribute upstream*
- Tuning of camera sensor and algorithms
 - Libcamera has a tuning tool named *CTT*
 - Developed by *RaspberryPi* for their ISP
 - Support for other platforms is in progress
- The pinephone community could *really* help here
 - In example, **what megi is doing** with its *ppp-cam* tuning app seems promising!
 - Get in touch with us !



What's next ?

```
$ cam -c1 --stream pixelformat=YUYV,width=1920,height=1080 -C  
8741.097455 (30.03 fps) cam0-stream0 seq: 000001 bytesused: 4147200
```



Cute dog from the back and front camera of the Pinephone Pro

Definitely need LSC correction for the imx258 and better gain handling for the ov8858



My job's done here!



Robert got in touch with the libcamera community to support the Pinephone Pro and use it as a testing ground for the Linux media stack

- *pipewire*
- *gststreamer*
- *xdg-portal*
- *gnome-camera*



Robert Mader

@rmader · User ID: 3193  · Member since April 26, 2018

 Berlin, Germany ·  Collaborator

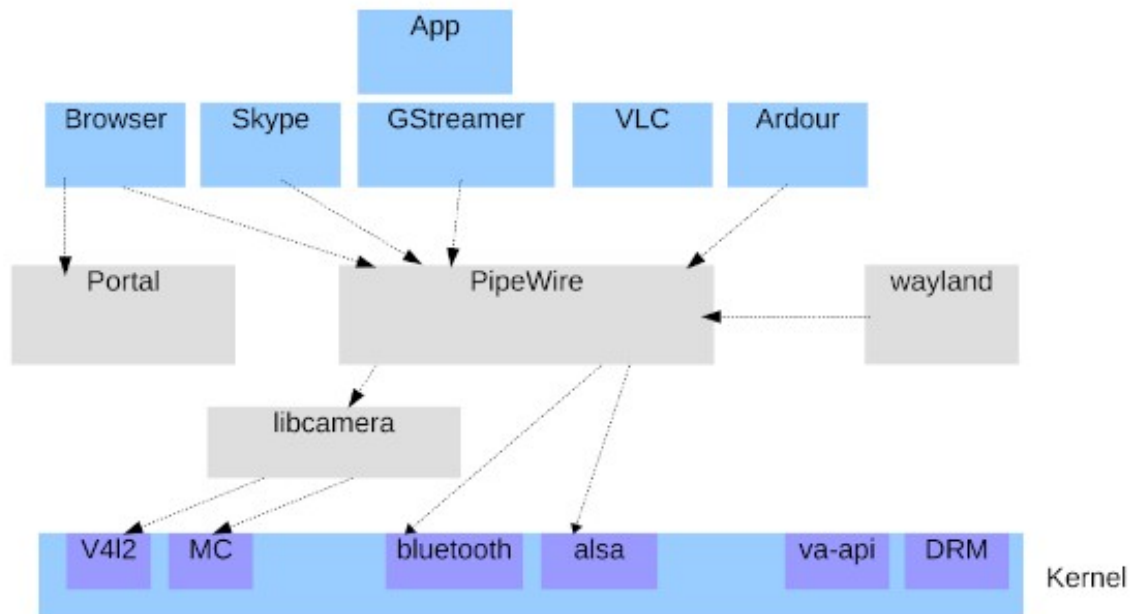
robert.mader@posteo.de

 1 follower ·  0 following



... or maybe not ?

The multimedia stack





Robert's contributions to the stack



Camera 

Project ID: 10544 

 Star

11

 53 Commits  8 Branches  0 Tags  71.4 MB Project Storage

Take photos and videos on your computer or smartphone

 README.md

Camera

Take pictures and videos on your computer, tablet, or phone

About

This is a simple camera app designed for Phosh or GNOME. It is designed to work well on mobile Linux devices (such as the PinePhone or Librem 5) but it will run on any Linux computer with a connected camera.



gnome-camera: a convergent camera app

Demo video here

Viewable at:

https://twitter.com/libcamera/status/1621558431738986496?s=20&t=a92bB_XkDIEGAgFkPFztjw



Demo

- Integration with xdg-portal enables **flatpack support**
- Application sandboxing with security checks in place

```
# Add the gnome-nightly repo
flatpak remote-add --user --if-not-exists gnome-nightly https://nightly.gnome.org/gnome-nightly.flatpakrepo

# Install the demo build
flatpak install --user camera-devel-aarch64.flatpak
# or
flatpak install --user camera-devel-x86.flatpak
```



Flatpack support

Support for *video capture through xdg-desktop-portal* merged in webRTC no longer than 2 days ago (02-02-2023)

In a few months (?) you'll be able to access cameras from your browsers !!

Change Info SHOW ALL

Submitted Yesterday at 18:20

Owner Michael Olbrich

Uploader WebRTC LUCI CQ

Reviewers Ilya Nikolaevskiy Alex Cooper Jan Grulich mark a. foltz

CC WebRTC LUCI ...

Mirko Bonadei Per Kjellander

Magnus Flodberg Kieran Bingham

Robert Mader sdk-team@ag...

zhengzhongh...

Repo | Branch [src](#) | [main](#)

Hashtags [wip](#)

Add pipewire/portal video capture support

This makes it possible to access cameras through xdg-desktop-portal and pipewire.

For pipewire, a shared state is needed between the enumeration and the creation of camera object. So a new API is needed with a shared options object that holds the state and can be used to choose which backend to try.

Bug: [webrtc:13177](#)

Change-Id: [Iaad2333b41e4e6fb112f4558ea4b623e59afcbd1](#)

Reviewed-on: <https://webrtc-review.googlesource.com/c/src/+261620>

Reviewed-by: Alexander Cooper <alcooper@chromium.org>

Commit-Queue: Alexander Cooper <alcooper@chromium.org>

Reviewed-by: Ilya Nikolaevskiy <ilnik@webrtc.org>

Cr-Commit-Position: refs/heads/main@{#39251}



WebRTC now supports xdg-portals!

Adam Piggs' **pinhole**

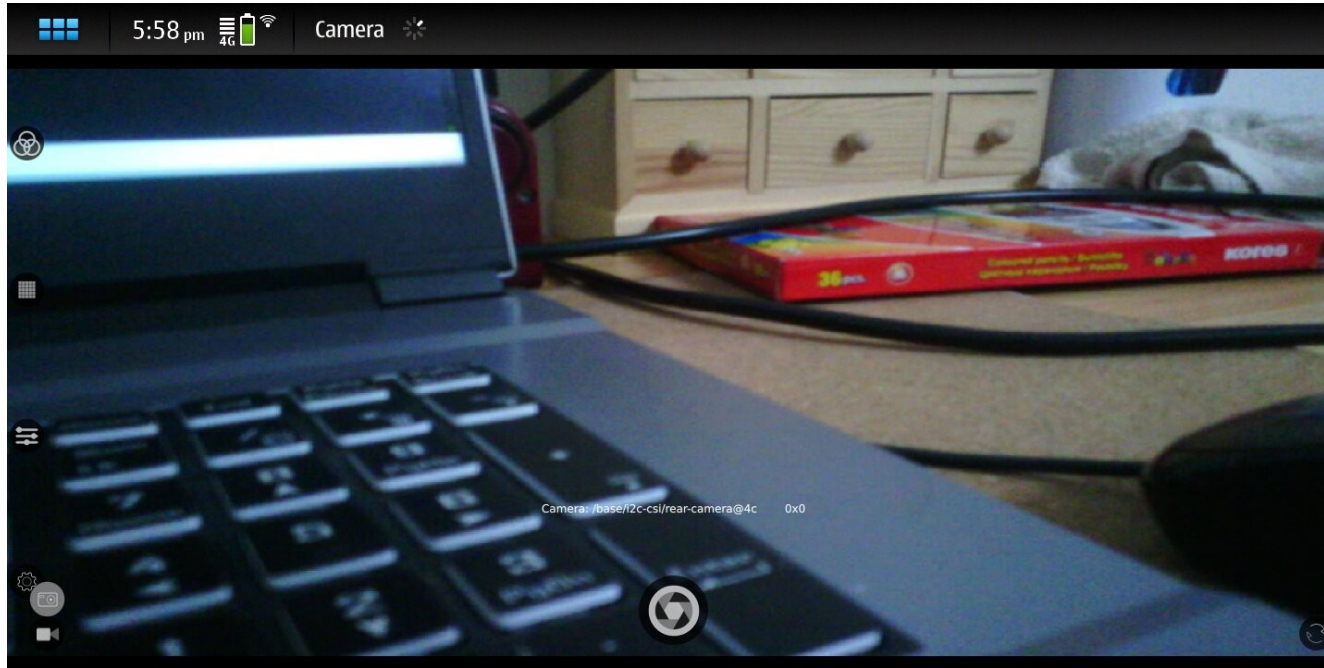


- Fork of Sailfish OS *harbour-camera*
- Qt/QML libcamera-based mobile camera application
- Developed for the original PinePhone
 - *But since it uses libcamera it runs un-modified on the Pro*
- Manual controls (exposure time, brightness etc) in the UI



Other notable developments: pinhole

Adam Piggs' **pinhole**



Maemo Leste developer rafaell2k testing pinhole on the Pinephone



Other notable developments: pinhole

Waydroid



Waydroid uses a container-based approach to boot a full Android system on a regular GNU/Linux system



Other notable developments: Waydroid

Waydroid

- Libcamera provides a *Camera HAL v3* compatibility layer
- Once the device works with libcamera, it should work on Android

- *Nicholas Roth* integrated libcamera in Waydroid
 - Frames can be captured :)

- But cannot be displayed :(
 - Mainline *mesa* does not support NV12 format
 - Need to “fix” mesa...
 - ... or support Rockchip BSP driver and use ChromeOS minigbm



Other notable developments: Waydroid

Millipixels

- *Megapixels* fork that uses libcamera
- Developed for *Purism Librem5*
- Dorota Czaplewicz is working GPU-based debayering
- Pavel Machek's fork with software-based 3A algorithms

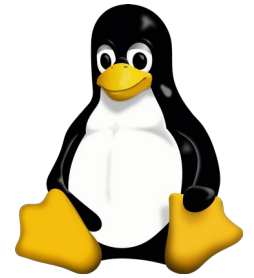
FOSDEM'23

Sharp photos and short movies on a mobile phone



Other notable developments

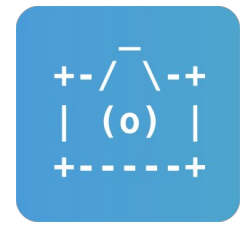
Go mainline!



- Fragmentation is *poison* for software ecosystems
 - Vendor-specific abstractions cannot be supported generically
- Mainlining requires a lot of effort
 - Moves slow compared to downstream
 - Should be planned since the very beginning



Lessons learned



libcamera

A standard consumer of the kernel interfaces is the only way to validate the implementation and design of the kernel abstractions

- For a long time kernel APIs have been implemented but not exercised consistently by userspace
- A reference userspace implementation serves to validate design choices made in kernel space
- Increase consistency and completeness of kernel drivers



Lessons learned



Thank you all for the attention

Any question ?



Pinephone Pro: ov8858

- The driver mainlining process was an occasion to (try to) clarify the sensor's gain model

```
Jacopo Mondi

To continue following up on this

I found an old version of a driver for the 8858 from a very old
android BSP, which mentions
https://android.googlesource.com/kernel/x86/+android-x86-grant-3.10-marshmallow-mr1-wear-releas

/*
 * [10:7] are integer gain, [6:0] are fraction gain. For
 * example: 0x80 is 1x gain, 0x100 is 2x gain, 0x1C0 is 3.5x
 * gain

{OV8858_8BIT, 0x3508, 0x02}, /* long gain = 0x0200 */
{OV8858_8BIT, 0x3509, 0x00}, /* long gain = 0x0200 */

Which suggests the gain format is actually Q4.7
```



Pinephone Pro support

Pinephone Pro: imx258

- **Discussion** with upstream lead to a better definition of the V4L2 API for flips rotation handling in sensor drivers and to a better implementation of the userspace handling part in libcamera

```
* [RFC] Interactions between camera sensor rotation and flip controls
@ 2023-01-25 23:12 Laurent Pinchart
   2023-01-25 23:18 ` Laurent Pinchart
      0 siblings, 1 reply; 11+ messages in thread
From: Laurent Pinchart @ 2023-01-25 23:12 UTC (permalink / raw)
To: linux-media; +Cc: Sakari Ailus, Jacopo Mondi, Dave Stevenson

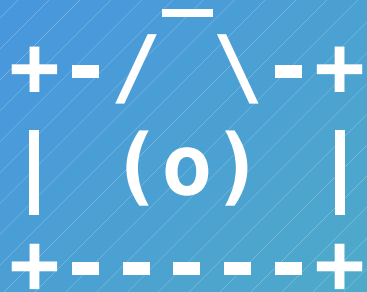
Hello,

Jacopo, Sakari and I ended up having a long discussion today about the
interactions between sensor rotation (as described in the device tree)
and the V4L2 flip controls. The conversation started from the imx258
series that Jacopo recently posted ([1]) and ended up as an in-depth
analysis of the problem.

The notes we have taken are copied below. Feedback would be appreciated,
I will then translate that into patches for the kernel documentation.
```



Pinephone Pro support



Convergent camera applications for mobile Linux devices

FOSDEM 2023

Kieran Bingham
Jacopo Mondi
jacopo.mondi@ideasonboard.com



Hello, I'm Jacopo Kieran

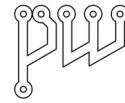
- Embedded camera engineer @ IdeasOnBoard Oy
 - *Video4Linux2*
 - *libcamera*
 - *#libcamera on OFTC.net*
 - <https://webchat.oftc.net/?channels=libcamera>
 - https://matrix.to/#/#_oftc_#libcamera:matrix.org



Hello!

A camera stack for Linux systems

- Mainline Linux camera drivers
- libcamera
- Pipewire and xdg-portal



The Linux camera stack

This is where we want to go.

A camera stack for Linux systems

- Run the same software stack on mobile and desktop Linux
- Integrate with standard multimedia tool-kits



The Linux camera stack

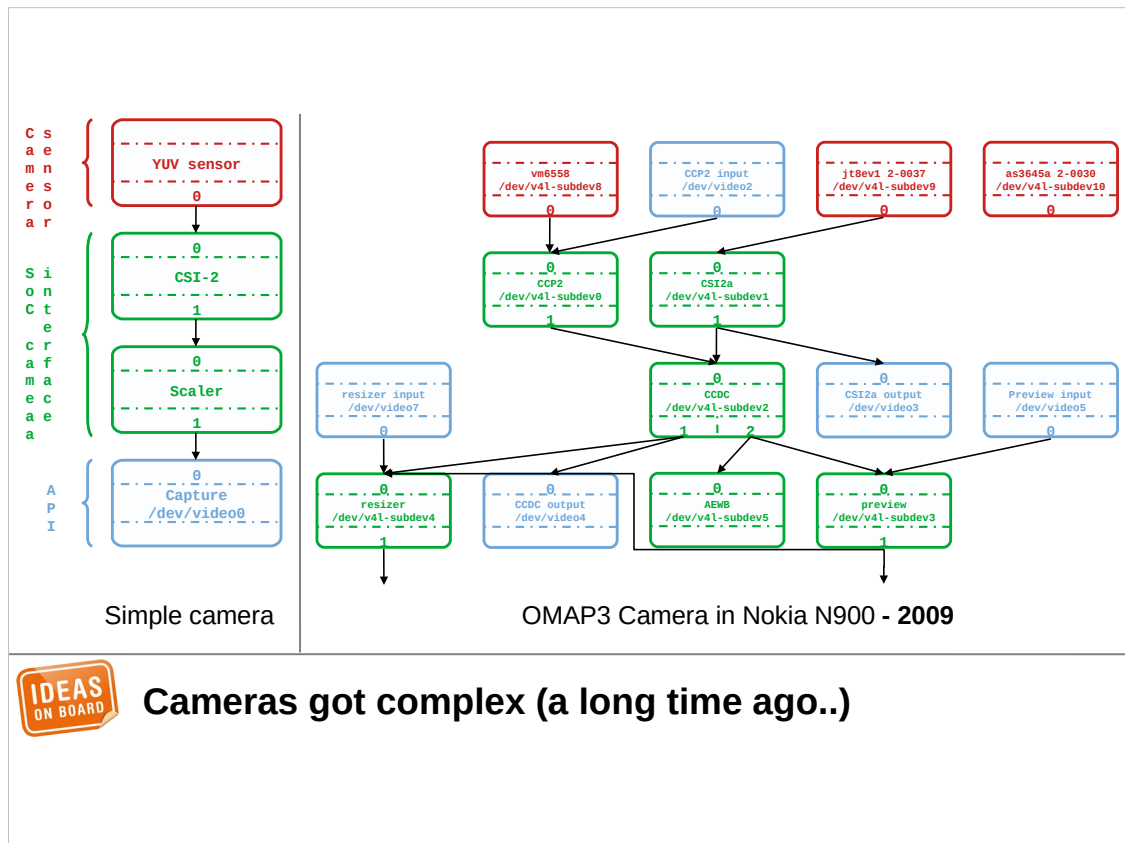
- Test ground for the mobile Linux ecosystem
- Rockchip RK3399
 - *complex camera* with ISP and RAW sensors
- Supported by libcamera



The PinePhone Pro

Why are we looking at the pine phone pro

It's a test ground device for mobile development with an SoC that has an ISP already supported by libcamera, and RAW sensors that we could support



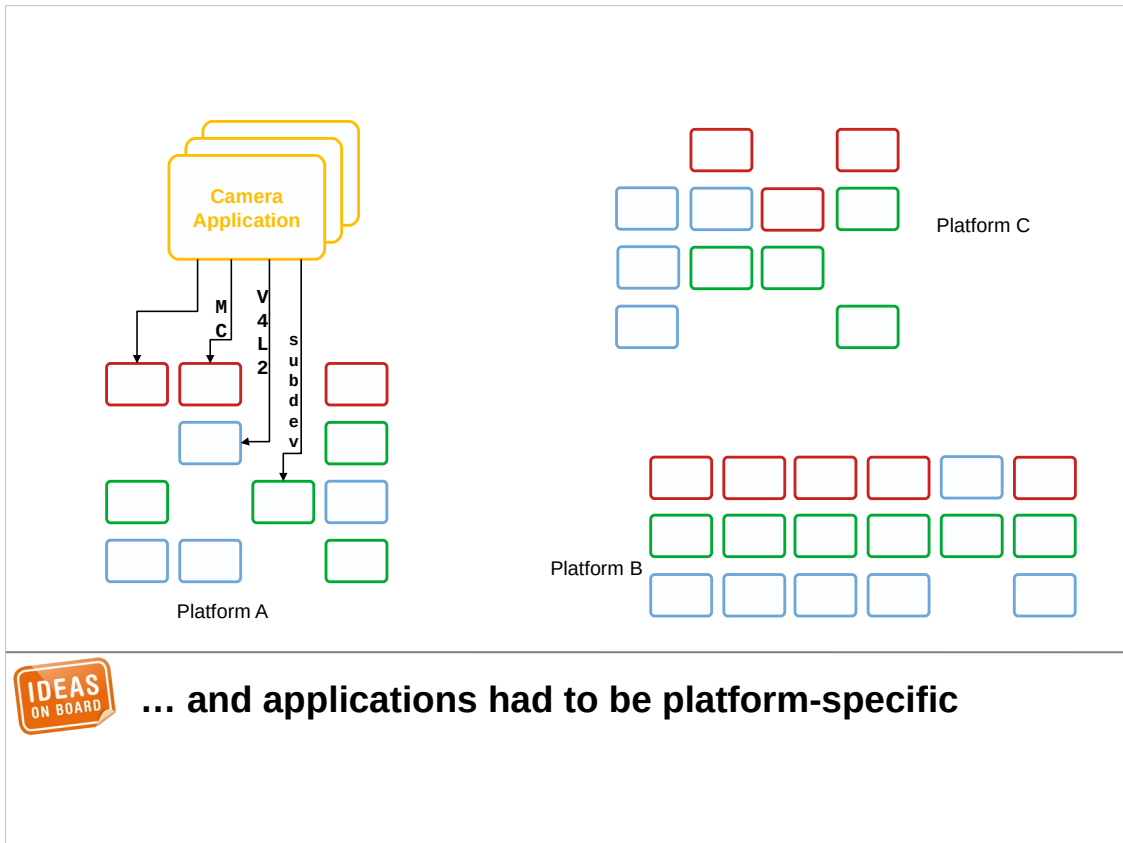
Cameras got complex (a long time ago..)

Cameras started out simple. UVC, or simple grabbers are exposed in the kernel with a single interface. A V4L2 VideoDevice.

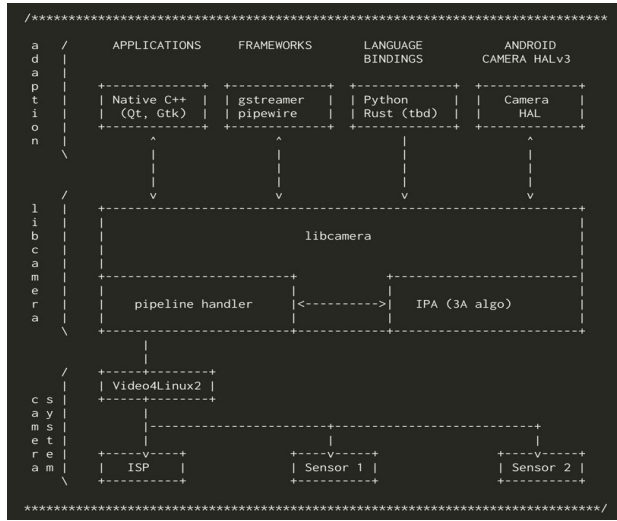
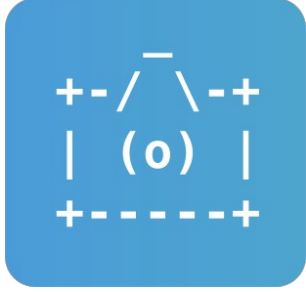
(Well, they used to be a single, even UVC has also become more complex, now with a second 'metadata' video node)

As YUV sensors and CSI2 receivers were introduced, this pipeline grew in complexity - and it didn't stop.

Multiple sensors, multiple ancillary devices, scalers, dewarp engines, ISPs with multiple dma engines as outputs...



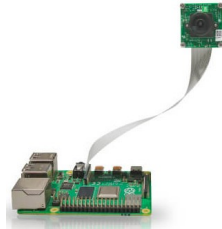
Each platform will have its own building blocks.
 And each device configuration or product on a platform can have yet more differences.



libcamera fills that gap

Supported by libcamera since 2020

RockPi4



Acer Chrombook Tab 10



() The same, unmodified, software stack supports NXP i.MX8MP ISP*



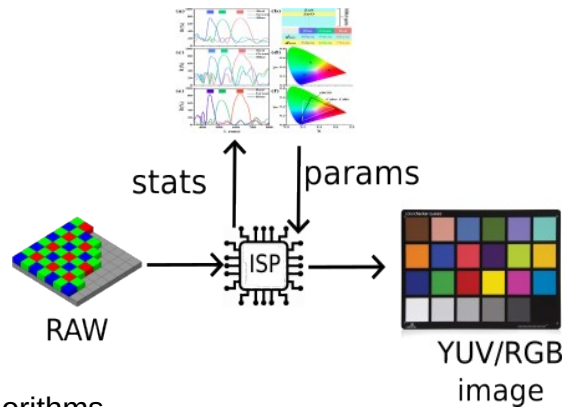
Rockchip RK3399

We started supporting the RK3399 early on in the development of libcamera, with the Acer Chromebook

It's also widely available on small board computers

An ISP:

- Fed with raw Bayer frames
- Produces statistics
- Transforms images
 - De-bayering
 - Color gains balancing
 - ...



Needs platform specific "3A" algorithms



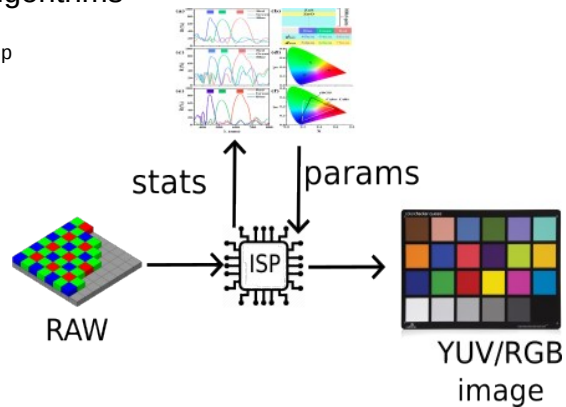
The RkISP1 ISP

Very quickly, what is an ISP – it's a component that can operate on the large volume of data produced by a RAW sensor and manage that in realtime.

Libcamera implements the 3A algorithms

```
$ ls -1 src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/*.cpp
```

```
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/aggc.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/awb.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/blc.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/cproc.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/dpcc.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/dpf.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/filter.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/gsl.cpp  
src/ipa/rkisp1/algorithms/lsc.cpp
```



The RkISP1 ISP

And these algorithms live in a module component called the IPA in libcamera.

The IPA is a key and core part of libcamera allowing the implementation of these algorithms to live in a common location for the platform support of the camera pipeline

Linux kernel

- Staging driver since v5.6
- De-staged in v5.11



- Still actively developed

```
[GIT PULL FOR v5.10] rkisp1 fixes/enhancements + one cedrus fix  
[GIT PULL FOR v5.20] rkisp1 misc fixes and improvements  
[GIT PULL FOR v6.1] rkisp1 fixes and improvements
```



The RkISP1 ISP

Merged as a staging driver in march 2020, and destaged in February 2021.

- Front camera: *Omnivision OV8858*
 - No driver in mainline Linux
 - No support in libcamera
- Back camera: *Sony IMX258*
 - Driver available in mainline Linux
 - Supported in libcamera but not “tuned”



PinephonePro: sensor drivers

Nicholas Roth started looking into the ov8858 to support camera in Waydroid (*)

Commit Message

Nicholas Roth

Currently, libcamera does not have information for the ov8858 sensor used in the PinePhone Pro, a phone designed to run Linux.

This commit adds metadata, especially that sensor gain is reported and set in 1/16 discrete increments.

For more information, see "5.8 manual exposure compensation/ manual gain compensation" in [0] and the driver in [1].

[0] <http://www.ahdsensor.com/uploadfile/202008/55322e75316871.pdf>
[1] <https://github.com/megous/linux/blob/orange-pi-5.19/drivers/media/i2c/ov8858.c>

Signed-off-by: Nicholas Roth <nicholas@rothemail.net>

```
---
src/ipa/libipa/camera_sensor_helper.cpp | 11 ++++++++
src/libcamera/camera_sensor_properties.cpp | 14 ++++++++
2 files changed, 25 insertions(+)
```

** we'll get back to this later*



Sensor drivers: ov8858

But it was clear from the very beginning why libcamera mandates drivers to be mainlined

```
>
> +class CameraSensorHelperOv8858 : public CameraSensorHelper
> +{
> +public:
> +    CameraSensorHelperOv8858()
> +    {
> +        gainType_ = AnalogueGainLinear;
> +        gainConstants_.linear = { 1, 0, 0, 16 };
> +    }
> +};
> +REGISTER_CAMERA_SENSOR_HELPER("m00_f_ov8858", CameraSensorHelperOv8858)
```

"My OV8858 is the second on the rear." Suddenly this doesn't work.
- So we can only use "ov8858" here.



Sensor drivers: ov8858

So we went and upstreamed the driver (which will land in v6.3)

[v5,2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-16	Jacopo Mondì
[v5,1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-16	Jacopo Mondì
[v4,2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-11	Jacopo Mondì
[v4,1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-11	Jacopo Mondì
[v3,2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-09	Jacopo Mondì
[v3,1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-09	Jacopo Mondì
[v2,2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-06	Jacopo Mondì
[v2,1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-06	Jacopo Mondì
[2/2] media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-05	Jacopo Mondì
[1/2] dt-bindings: media: Add schema for OmniVision OV8858	media: i2c: Add driver for OmniVision OV8858	2023-01-05	Jacopo Mondì
[v2] media: i2c: ov8858 Add driver for ov8858	[v2] media: i2c: ov8858 Add driver for ov8858	2022-11-06	Nicholas Roth
media: i2c: ov8858 Add driver for ov8858	media: i2c: ov8858 Add driver for ov8858	2022-10-30	Nicholas Roth



Sensor drivers: ov8858

And merged the ov8858 support in libcamera (in release v0.0.4)

Jacopo Mondì

From: Nicholas Roth <nicholas@rothemail.net>

Support for the OmniVision OV8858 sensor is scheduled for inclusion in the Linux kernel in version v6.3.

Add support for the sensor in libcamera by providing static properties and a camera sensor helper in libipa.

The camera sensor helper expresses analogue gain increments in 1/128 step which differs from what is reported in the sensor documentation in section "5.8 manual exposure compensation/ manual gain compensation" [0]

A more detailed analysis of the sensor gain model is reported at:
<https://patchwork.linuxtv.org/project/linux-media/patch/20221106171129.166892-2-nicholas@rothemail.net/#142267>

Record with a \todo note a reference to discussion on the gain model implementation.

Signed-off-by: Nicholas Roth <nicholas@rothemail.net>

Signed-off-by: Jacopo Mondì <jacopo.mondi@ideasonboard.com>

Compared to initial Nicholas' submission:
- Change gain step to 128 (link to the driver discussion)
- Add fadeToGray test patten and adjust comment



Sensor drivers: ov8858

While a driver exists in mainline, it needs some love

- A long list of patches to be potentially upstreamed from the **RaspberryPi** kernel
- Shielded pixel correction for the PDAF-capable version of the sensor
- Potential to re-use the sensor tuning file for LSC, black level correction etc developed for RaspberryPi

```
History for linux / drivers / media / i2c / imx258.c
- Commits on Jul 4, 2022
  media: i2c: imx258: Change register settings for variants of the sensor
  6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Jul 4, 2022
- Commits on Apr 8, 2022
  media: i2c: imx258: Support faster pixel rate on binned modes
  6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022
  media: i2c: imx258: Set pixel_rate range to the same as the value
  6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022
  media: i2c: imx258: Issue reset before starting streaming
  6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022
  media: i2c: imx258: Add support for long exposure modes
  6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022
  media: i2c: imx258: Correct max FRM_LENGTH_LINES value
  6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022
  media: i2c: imx258: Allow configuration of clock lane behaviour
  6by9 authored and pelwell committed on Apr 8, 2022
  media: i2c: imx258: Add get_selection for pixel array information
```



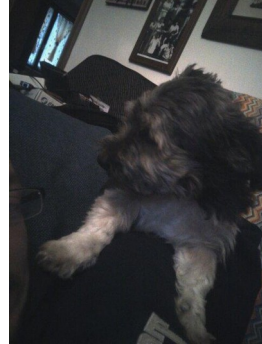
Sensor drivers: imx258

- Improve the ov8858 and imx258 drivers
 - A lot of patches to be up-ported
 - *Good opportunity to contribute upstream*
- Tuning of camera sensor and algorithms
 - Libcamera has a tuning tool named *CTT*
 - Developed by *RaspberryPi* for their ISP
 - Support for other platforms is in progress
- The pinephone community could *really* help here
 - In example, **what megi is doing** with its *ppp-cam* tuning app seems promising!
 - Get in touch with us !



What's next ?


```
$ cam -c1 --stream pixelformat=YUYV,width=1920,height=1080 -C  
8741.097455 (30.03 fps) cam0-stream0 seq: 000001 bytesused: 4147200
```



Cute dog from the back and front camera of the Pinephone Pro


Definitely need LSC correction for the imx258 and better gain handling for the ov8858



My job's done here!

Robert got in touch with the libcamera community to support the Pinephone Pro and use it as a testing ground for the Linux media stack

- *pipewire*
- *gstreamer*
- *xdg-portal*
- *gnome-camera*

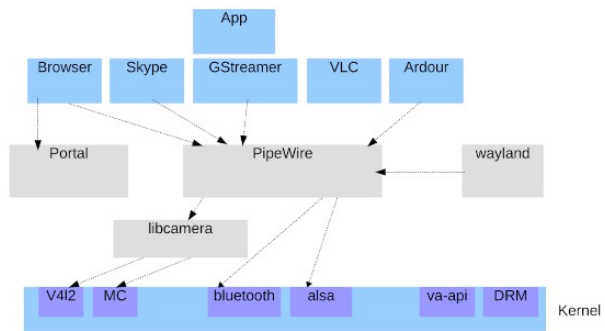


Robert Mader
@rmader · User ID: 3193 · Member since April 26, 2018
Berlin, Germany · Collaborator
robert.mader@posteo.de
1 follower · 0 following



... or maybe not ?

The multimedia stack

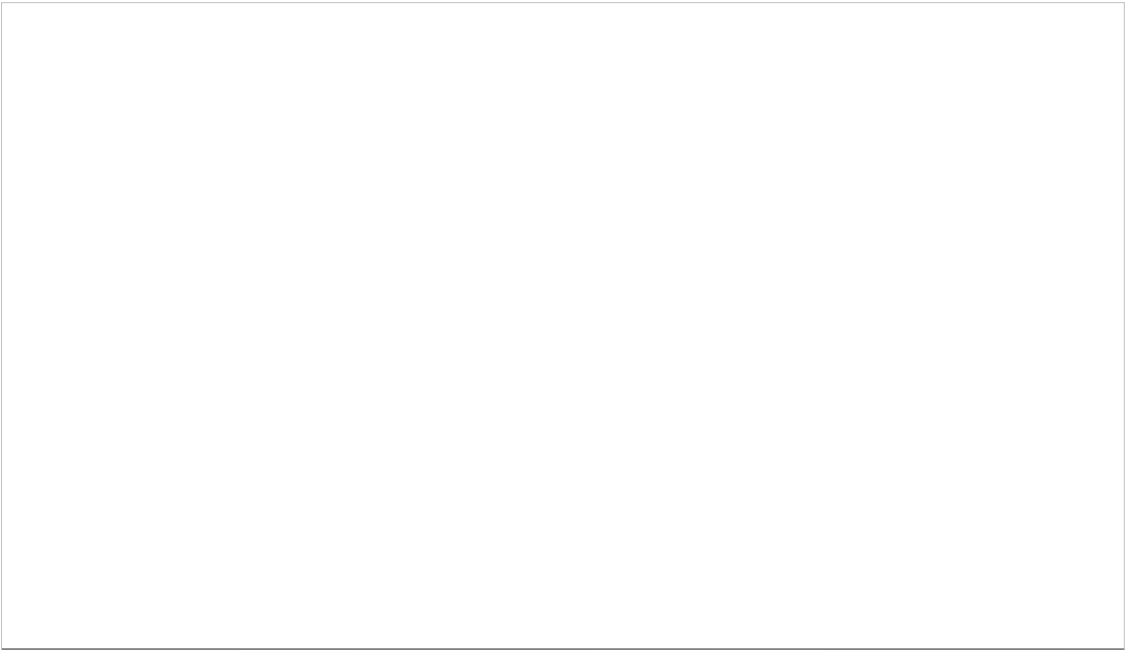


8

PipeWire | Wim Taymans



The Linux media stack



Robert's contributions to the stack



James Westman > Camera



Camera

Project ID: 10544

☆ Star 11

53 Commits 8 Branches 0 Tags 71.4 MB Project Storage

Take photos and videos on your computer or smartphone

README.md

Camera

Take pictures and videos on your computer, tablet, or phone

About

This is a simple camera app designed for Phosh or GNOME. It is designed to work well on mobile Linux devices (such as the PinePhone or Librem 5) but it will run on any Linux computer with a connected camera.



gnome-camera: a convergent camera app

Demo video here

Viewable at:

https://twitter.com/libcamera/status/1621558431738986496?s=20&t=a92bB_XkDIEGAgFkPFztjw



Demo

- Integration with xdg-portal enables **flatpack support**
- Application sandboxing with security checks in place

```
# Add the gnome-nightly repo
flatpak remote-add --user --if-not-exists gnome-nightly https://nightly.gnome.org/gnome-nightly.flatpakrepo

# Install the demo build
flatpak install --user camera-devel-aarch64.flatpak
# or
flatpak install --user camera-devel-x86.flatpak
```



Flatpack support

Support for *video capture through xdg-desktop-portal* merged in *webRTC* no longer than 2 days ago (02-02-2023)

In a few months (?) you'll be able to access cameras from your browsers !!

The screenshot shows a Gerrit change page with the following details:

- Change Info** (SHOW ALL):
 - Submitted: Yesterday at 18:20
 - Owner: Michael Olbrich
 - Uploader: WebRTC LUCI CQ
 - Reviewers: Ilya Nikolaevs..., Alex Cooper, Jan Grulich, mark a. foltz, WebRTC LUCI...
 - CC: Mirko Bonadel, Per Kjellander, Magnus Flod..., Kieran Bingham, Robert Mader, sdk-team@ag..., zhengzhongh...
 - Repo | Branch: src | main
 - Hashtags: wip
- Change Title:** Add pipewire/portals video capture support
- Description:** This makes it possible to access cameras through xdg-desktop-portal and pipewire. For pipewire, a shared state is needed between the enumeration and the creation of camera object. So a new API is needed with a shared options object that holds the state and can be used to choose which backend to try.
- Metadata:**
 - Bug: [webrtc:13177](#)
 - Change-Id: [Iaad2333b41e4e6fb112f4558ea4b623e59afcbd1](#)
 - Reviewed-on: <https://webrtc-review.googlesource.com/c/src/+261620>
 - Reviewed-by: Alexander Cooper <alcooper@chromium.org>
 - Commit-Queue: Alexander Cooper <alcooper@chromium.org>
 - Reviewed-by: Ilya Nikolaevskiy <ilnik@webrtc.org>
 - Cr-Commit-Position: refs/heads/main@{#39251}



WebRTC now supports xdg-portals!

Adam Piggs' **pinhole**

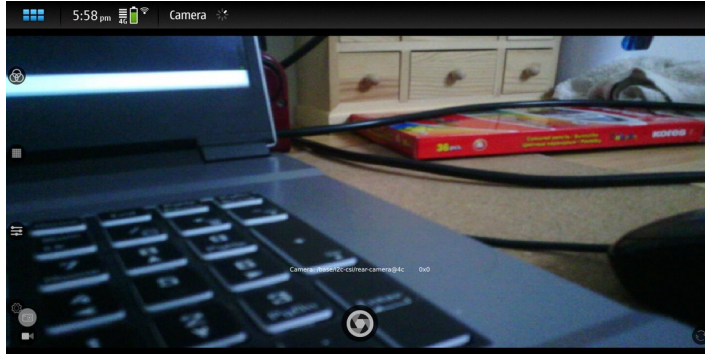


- Fork of Sailfish OS *harbour-camera*
- Qt/QML libcamera-based mobile camera application
- Developed for the original PinePhone
 - *But since it uses libcamera it runs un-modified on the Pro*
- Manual controls (exposure time, brightness etc) in the UI



Other notable developments: **pinhole**

Adam Piggs' pinhole



Maemo Leste developer rafael2k testing pinhole on the Pinephone



Other notable developments: pinhole

Waydroid



Waydroid uses a container-based approach to boot a full Android system on a regular GNU/Linux system



Other notable developments: Waydroid

Waydroid

- Libcamera provides a *Camera HAL v3* compatibility layer
- Once the device works with libcamera, it should work on Android

- *Nicholas Roth* integrated libcamera in Waydroid
 - Frames can be captured :)

- But cannot be displayed :(
 - Mainline *mesa* does not support NV12 format
 - Need to “fix” mesa...
 - ... or support Rockchip BSP driver and use ChromeOS minigbm



Other notable developments: Waydroid

Millipixels

- *Megapixels* fork that uses libcamera
- Developed for *Purism Librem5*
- Dorota Czaplejewicz is working GPU-based debayering

- Pavel Machek's fork with software-based 3A algorithms

FOSDEM'23

Sharp photos and short movies on a mobile phone



Other notable developments

Go mainline!



- Fragmentation is *poison* for software ecosystems
 - Vendor-specific abstractions cannot be supported generically
- Mainlining requires a lot of effort
 - Moves slow compared to downstream
 - Should be planned since the very beginning



Lessons learned

libcamera

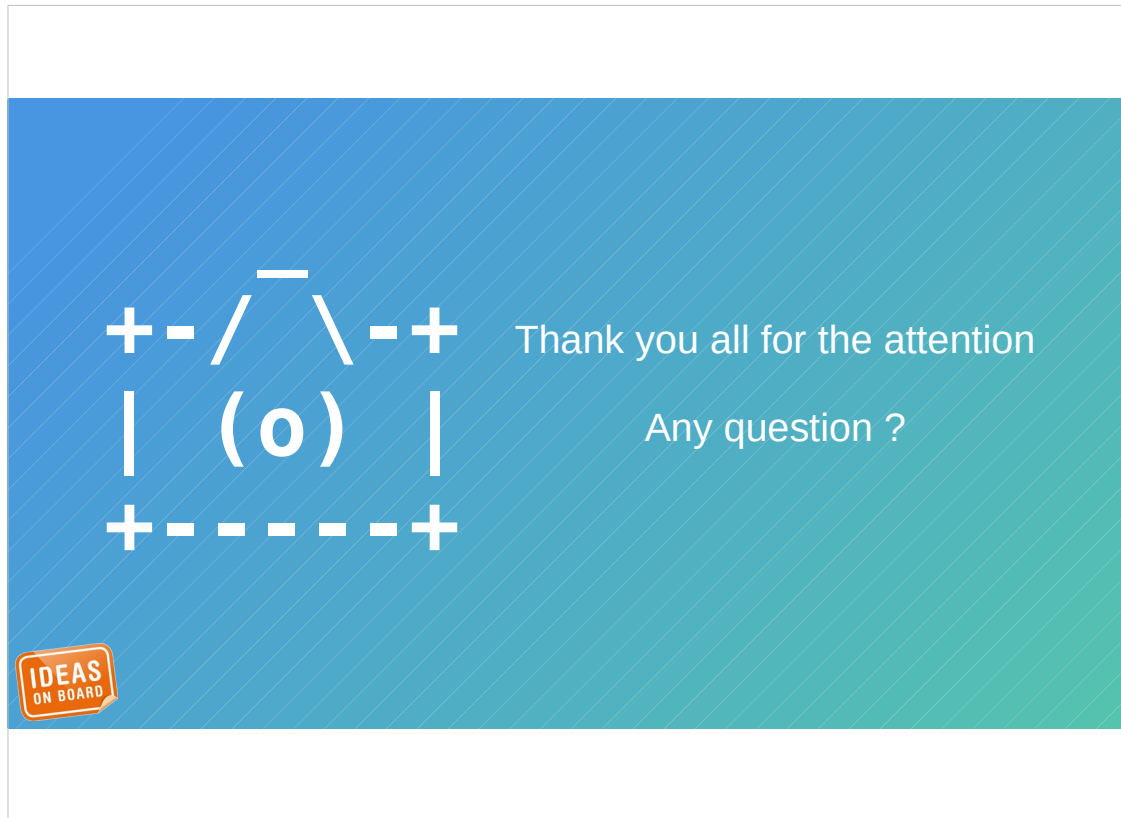


A standard consumer of the kernel interfaces is the only way to validate the implementation and design of the kernel abstractions

- For a long time kernel APIs have been implemented but not exercised consistently by userspace
- A reference userspace implementation serves to validate design choices made in kernel space
- Increase consistency and completeness of kernel drivers



Lessons learned



Hello everybody, and welcome to this presentation about libcamera. For those of you who are lucky enough to join us live from Seattle today, thank you for waking up early. This is the first slot of the day, so I know how difficult it can be.

My name is Laurent Pinchart. I'm the chief architect and project manager of libcamera. Today I'm going to take you on libcamera's fabulous journey.

So let's dive in the subject.

Pinephone Pro: ov8858

- The driver mainlining process was an occasion to (try to) clarify the sensor's gain model

```
jacopo Mondì
To continue following up on this

I found an old version of a driver for the 8858 from a very old
android BSP, which mentions
https://android.googlesource.com/kernel/x86/+android-x86-grant-3.10-marshmallow-mr1-wear-relea

/*
 * [10:7] are integer gain, [6:0] are fraction gain. For
 * example: 0x80 is 1x gain, 0x100 is 2x gain, 0x1C0 is 3.5x
 * gain
 */
{OV8858_8BIT, 0x3508, 0x02}, /* long gain = 0x0200 */
{OV8858_8BIT, 0x3509, 0x00}, /* long gain = 0x0200 */

Which suggests the gain format is actually Q4.7
```



Pinephone Pro support

Pinephone Pro: imx258

- **Discussion** with upstream lead to a better definition of the V4L2 API for flips rotation handling in sensor drivers and to a better implementation of the userspace handling part in libcamera

```
* [RFC] Interactions between camera sensor rotation and flip controls
@ 2023-01-25 23:12 Laurent Pinchart
2023-01-25 23:18 ` Laurent Pinchart
0 siblings, 1 reply; 11+ messages in thread
From: Laurent Pinchart @ 2023-01-25 23:12 UTC (permalink / raw)
To: linux-media; +Cc: Sakari Ailus, Jacopo Mondi, Dave Stevenson

Hello,

Jacopo, Sakari and I ended up having a long discussion today about the
interactions between sensor rotation (as described in the device tree)
and the V4L2 flip controls. The conversation started from the imx258
series that Jacopo recently posted ([1]) and ended up as an in-depth
analysis of the problem.

The notes we have taken are copied below. Feedback would be appreciated,
I will then translate that into patches for the kernel documentation.
```



Pinephone Pro support