Delegated Compositing -Utilizing Wayland Protocols for Chromium on ChromeOS

Maksim Sisov - msisov@igalia.com

Fosdem 2024 - 04/02/2024



Agenda

- Chromium/Wayland in ChromeOS Goals and Motivation
- What is LaCrOS?
- Chromium Display Compositor
- Delegated Compositing
- Wayland Protocols
- A Big Picture



Chromium/Wayland in ChromeOS



Goals and Motivation

- Improve maintainability
- Let more users receive browser updates (old devices)





How?

- Decouple the browser from OS (LaCrOS project)
 - ChromeOS (system UI and Ash Window Manager)
 and Chrome are tied together
- Use Wayland



Why Wayland?

- ChromeOS has a Wayland server implementation called exosphere
 - Used by ARC (Android apps) and Crostini (Linux apps)
- Chromium is a Wayland client
 - Use Wayland for graphics and event handling
 - Stable Wayland protocols and custom extensions
 - Use crosapi (Mojo IPC) for higher-level features
 (e.g. file picking)

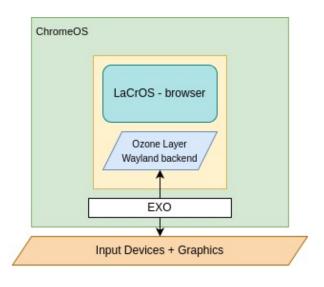
What is LaCrOS?

A project to decouple the

Chrome Browser from
the ChromeOS Window

Manager (Ash) and

System UI





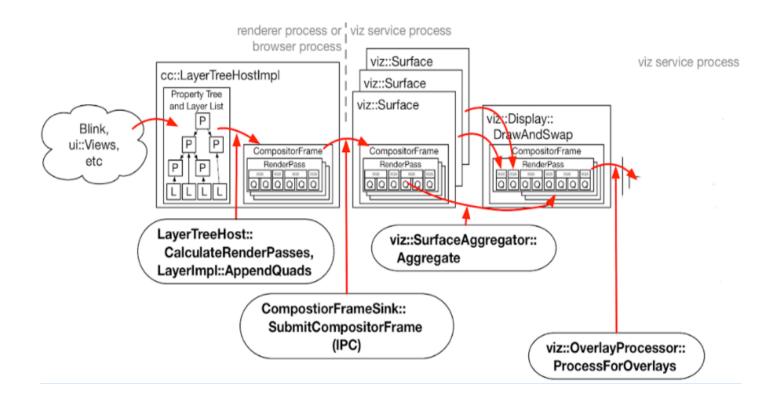
This split results in performance/resource cost.

- Why?
- How to mitigate that?

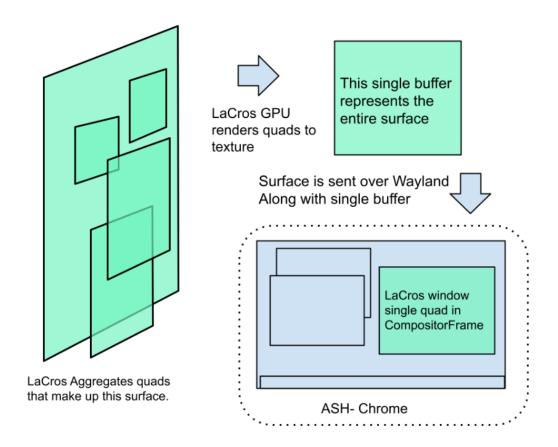


Chromium Display Compositor











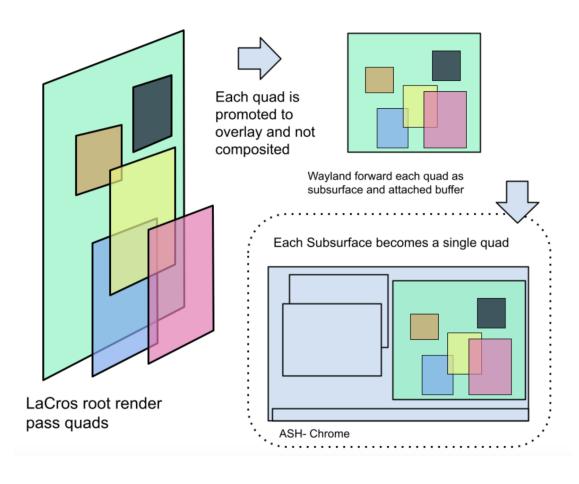
Double compositing and bigger resources overhead



How to Fix That?



Delegated Compositing





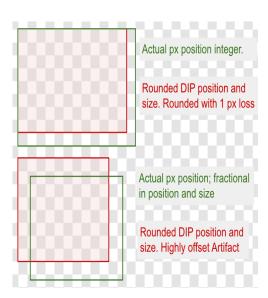
Wayland Protocols

- wl_subsurface Each quad/overlay is represented by own surface
- wl_buffer Can be attached to multiple subsurfaces
- linux_explicit_synchronization Fence for each quad's buffer
- Additional protocols:
 - surface-augmenter extending wl_surface (rounded corners and clipping, pixel precision)
 - single-pixel-buffer for color buffers



surface-augmenter

- wl_subsurface::set_position
- wp_viewport::set_destination



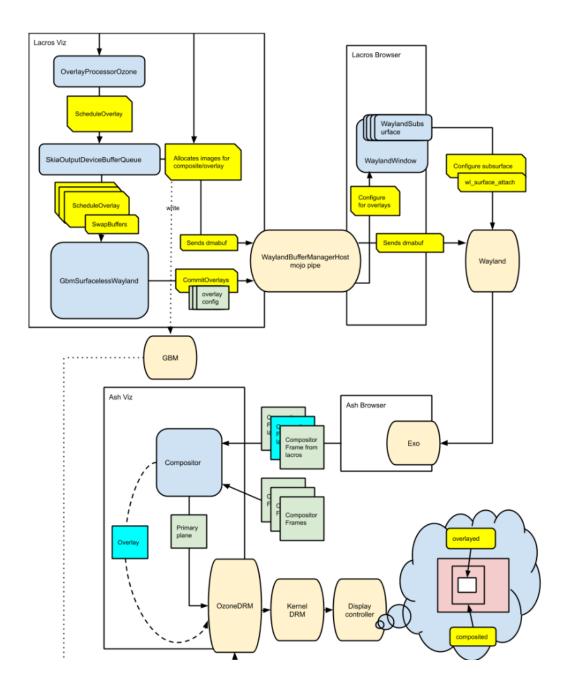




augmented_surface::set_transform

augmented_surface::set_trusted_damage







Thank you





