Graphics stack updates for Raspberry Pi devices

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Who we are

- Chema Casanova (@txenoo@fosstodon.org)
- Juan A. Suarez (@jsuarezr@floss.social)
 - Working at Igalia graphics team on Raspberry Pi graphics stack for 4 years, and previously on Intel GPU.





Bookworm Raspberry Pi OS



Bullseye Raspberry Pi OS (November 2021)



Bookworm Raspberry Pi OS (October 2023)



Terminology

Kernel Driver	Mesa Driver	HW	GPU
vc4 (display+render)	vc4(GL/ES)	Raspberry Pi 1/2/3	VideoCore 4
vc4 (display) v3d (render)	v3d (GL/ES) v3dv(Vulkan)	Raspberry Pi 4/5	VideoCore 6/7



Raspberry Pi 5

- GPU Broadcom V3D 7.1.6, same VideoCore architecture
- Higher clock rate, up to 8 RTs, better support for subgroup operations, better instruction-level parallelism (but a bit more register pressure!), ...
- Driver code merged into existing v3d and v3dv drivers in Mesa 23.3 and Linux Kernel 6.8.
- Same high-level feature support as Raspberry Pi 4:
- Conformant OpenGL ES 3.1 and Vulkan 1.2.
- Non-Conformant OpenGL 3.1



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From OpenGL 2.1 to 3.1

- Important for users on Raspberry Pi platform.
 - Most apps target OpenGL instead of OpenGL ES.
- 35 new extensions
- Missing HW features, not fully conformant
 - 8 Render Targets (supported in Raspberry Pi 5)
 - Non-seamless cubemap filtering
 - Required RGBA16 render formats not supported
 - ...but we can support everything else



From Vulkan 1.0 to 1.2

- Exposed 80 new extensions
 - Subgroups
 - Geometry Shaders
- Improved performance mostly in the shader compiler.
 - It improves the v3d OpenGL driver too.
- Zink (OpenGL on Vulkan) works with v3dv
- Support for Android (thanks to Roman Stratiienko)





Kernel CPU jobs

- For v3dv some Vulkan commands cannot be performed by the GPU alone.
 - Timestamp queries, performance queries, indirect CSD jobs.
- This was initially implemented in user space (Mesa) stalling the GPU job submissions.
- Moving CPU jobs to kernel space, allows DRM schedule to queue, not stalling the submission, providing more efficient usage of the GPU.



Kernel GPU stats

- Expose the GPU usage stats per process and global.
- Per process stats uses standard DRM client usage stats (gputop)



- Global stats are exposed using sysfs.
- We measure the accumulated amount of GPU usage using submit and finish timestamps of GPU jobs.



From Xserver to Wayland

- On Bullseye Raspberry Pi OS desktop was running Xserver with Mutter on the Raspberry Pi 4.
 - Openbox was used for previous HW generations.
- When bookworm was released Wayfire became the default wayland compositor on Raspberry Pi 4 & 5 devices.
 - On previous generations, Raspberry Pi [123] Xserver & Openbox is still the default desktop experience.



Wayland on Raspberry Pi 4/5

- Wayfire uses OpenGL wlroots backend and OpenGL for the plugins.
- Wayland desktop **environment looks the same** than bullseye desktop that used Mutter. (Huge effort, thanks to Simon Long)





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spl@raspberrypi: ~ 🗧 galculator

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Desktop on Raspberry Pi 1-3

- Xserver+Openbox is still default desktop on bookworm.
- In bullseye initial release, desktop software rendering was used
 - Glamor off
 - No HW accelerated OpenGL/ES applications
- During the bullseye cycle
 - We enabled HW accelerated applications.
 - msdri3: We implemented Xserver DRI3 without Glamor.
 - No more desktop crashes due GPU memory (CMA) exhaustion.

Wayland on Raspberry Pi 1-3?

- For wayland we need software rendering composition that allows HW accelerated applications.
- Wayfire uses OpenGL through wlroots backend or directly (plugins)
 - wlroots already has a pixman backend. \rightarrow Use it.
 - Reimplemented Wayfire plugins using pixman rendering logic.
 - Enabled non-coherent kernel buffers \rightarrow Faster CPU blending.
- For HW accelerated apps we enabled dmabufs with modifiers in wlroots pixman backend.





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Questions ?



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