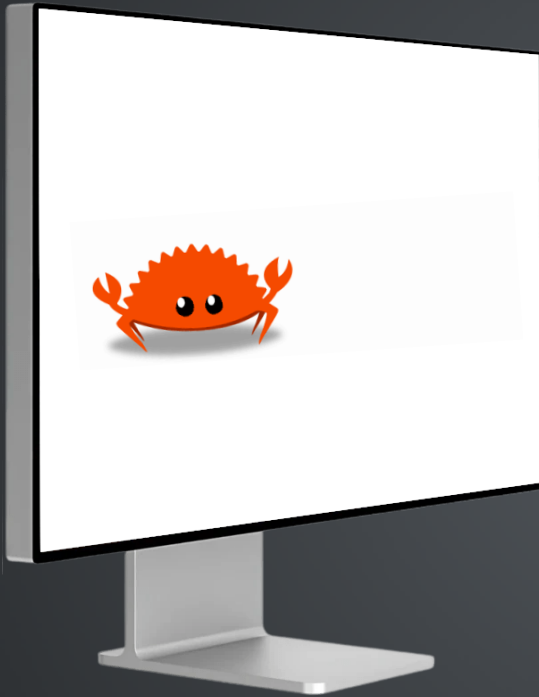


Linux support for controlling displays in Rust



Kangrejos 2025

Rahul Rameshbabu or [Binary-Eater](#)

What does
"controlling a display"
mean?

What does "controlling a display" mean?

Let's use this monitor to illustrate



What does "controlling a display" mean?

Change the brightness



What does "controlling a display" mean?

Adjust the volume of the speaker hw



What does "controlling a display" mean?

Selecting the input source



What does "controlling a display" mean?

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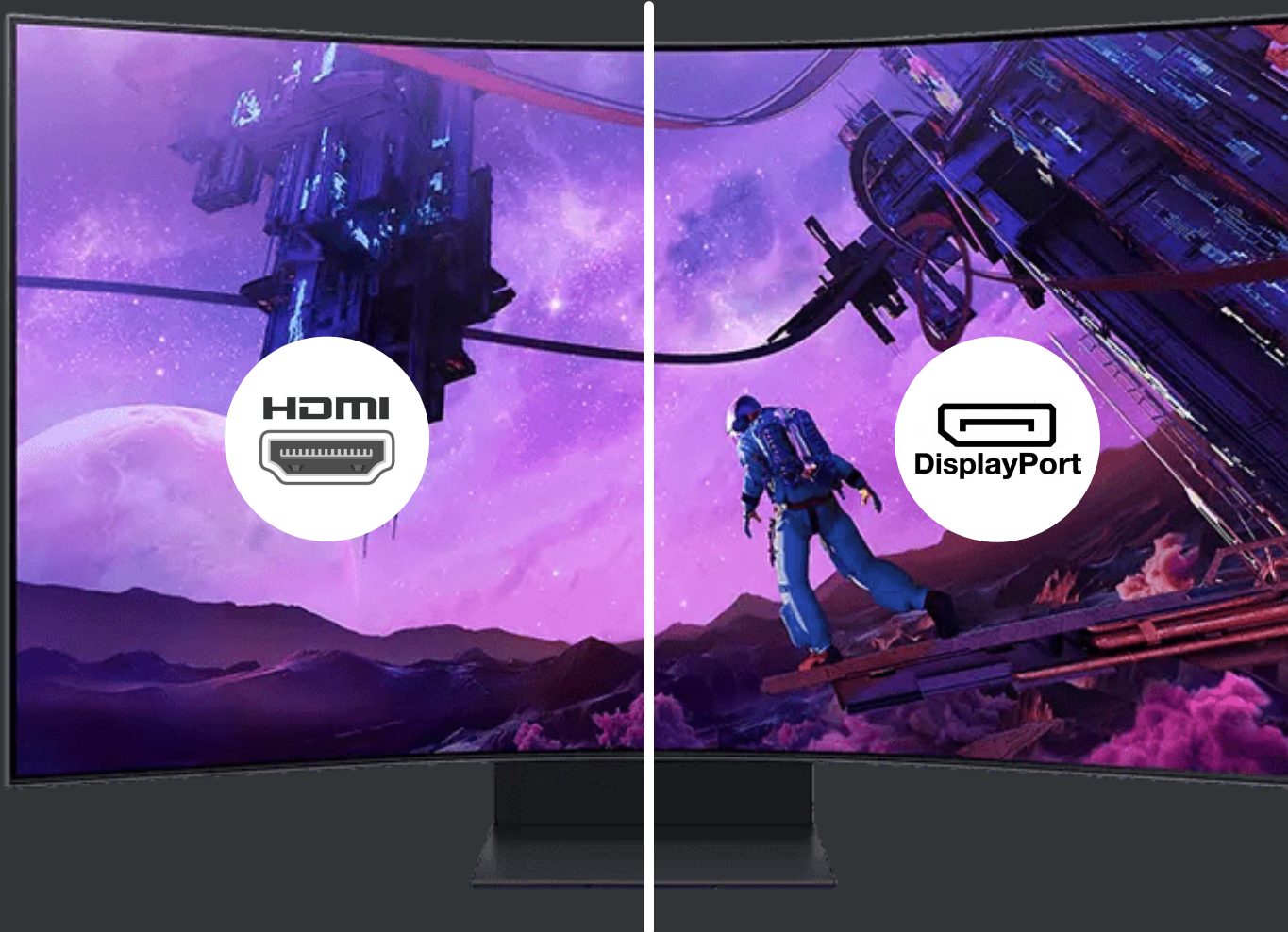
What does "controlling a display" mean?

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What does this have to do with the Linux kernel?

Isn't this what a monitor's on-screen display (OSD) is for?



Unfortunately, some monitors don't have a OSD

Introducing the Apple Studio Display and Apple Pro Display XDR

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Apple Studio Display



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Apple Pro Display XDR



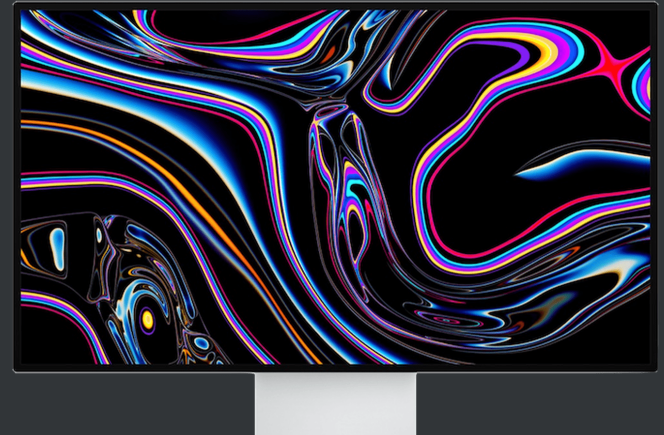
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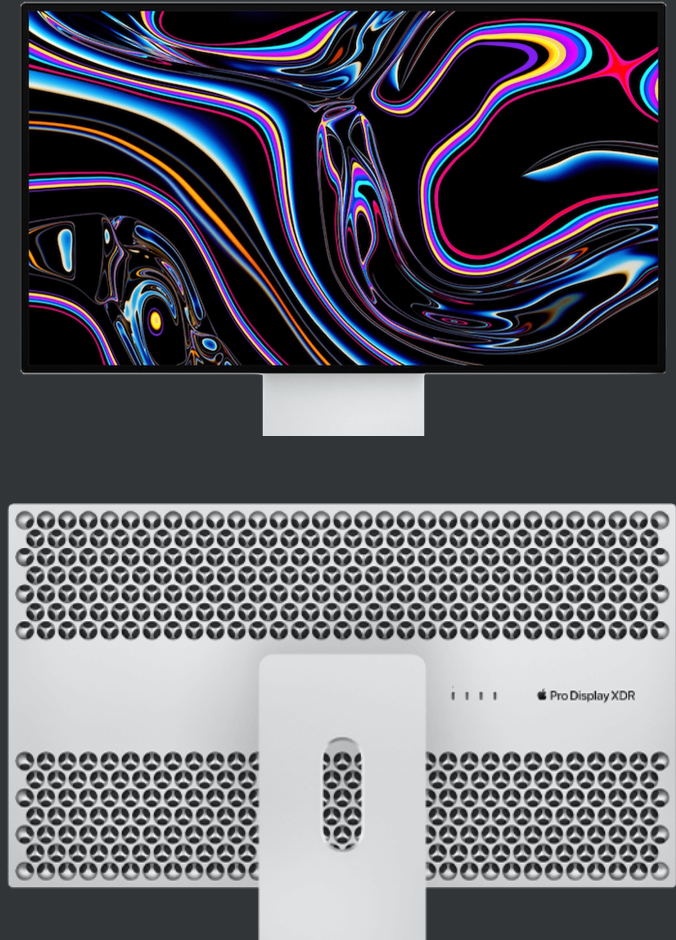
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Apple Pro Display XDR



A computer can talk
to a monitor to
change these settings

Let's delve into the mechanisms that the operating system can use to manage a monitor

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- **Monitor Control Command Set (MCCS)** describes a high-level communication protocol for controlling properties of a monitor from a host system

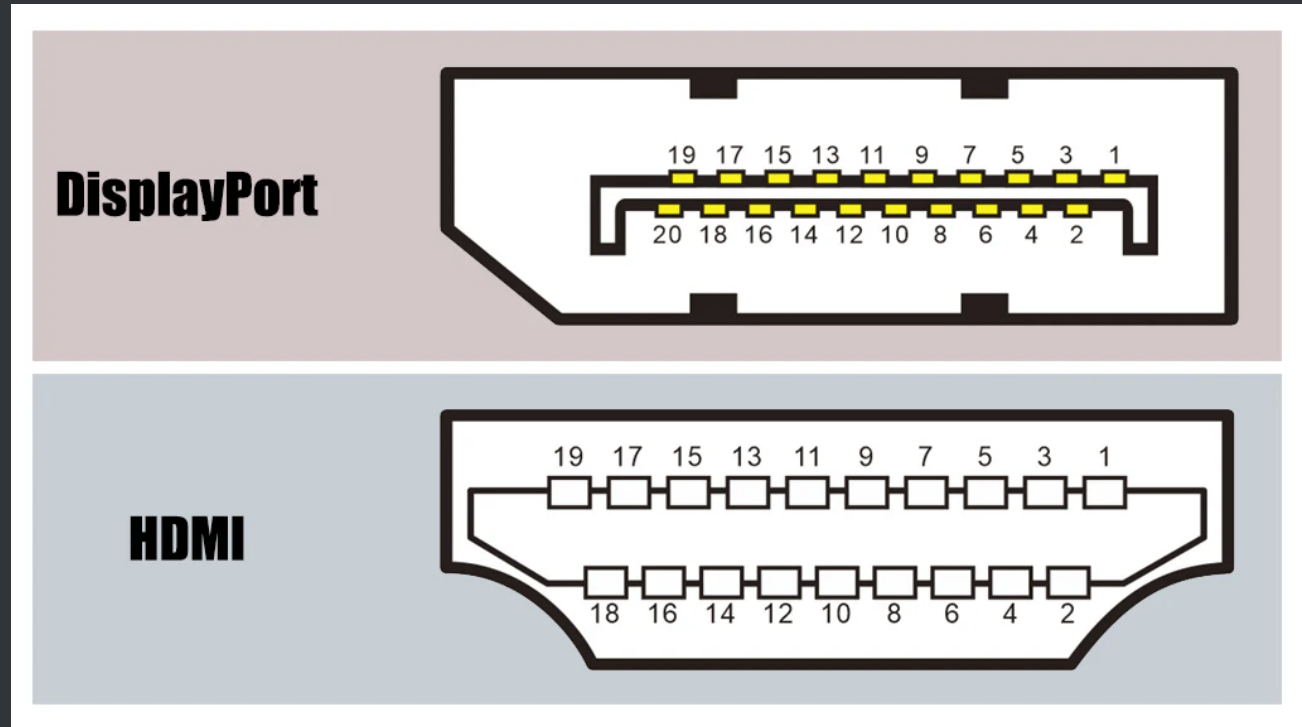
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- A **virtual control panel (VCP)** code represents a single instruction in the **MCCS** for controlling a property of the monitor

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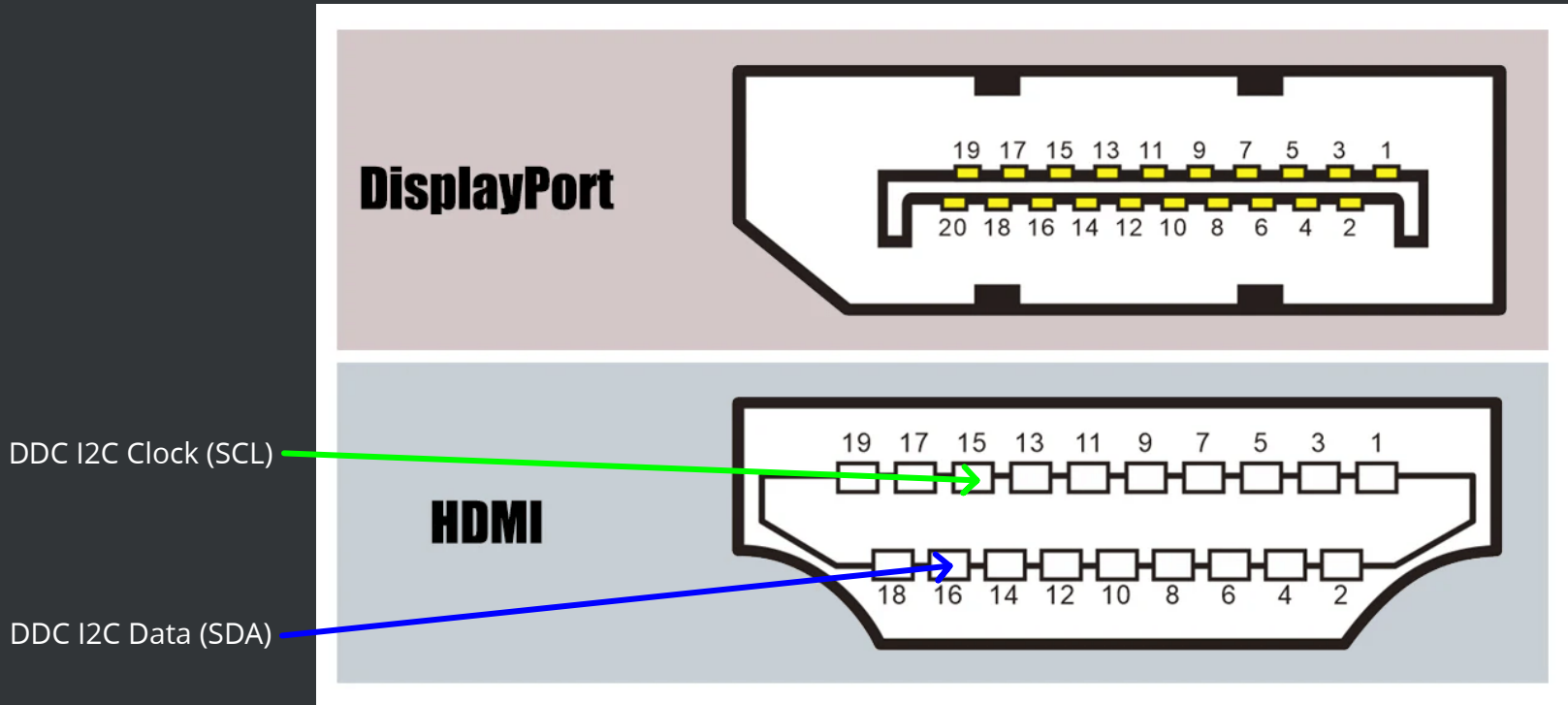
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- A **virtual control panel (VCP)** code represents a single instruction in the **MCCS** for controlling a property of the monitor
- **MCCS** is required to be implemented over an underlying bi-directional bus

Let's understand the buses available for MCCS



Display Data Channel/Common Interface (DDC/CI) is the most common bus for implementing **MCCS**. **DDC/CI** uses I2C transactions for the communication.

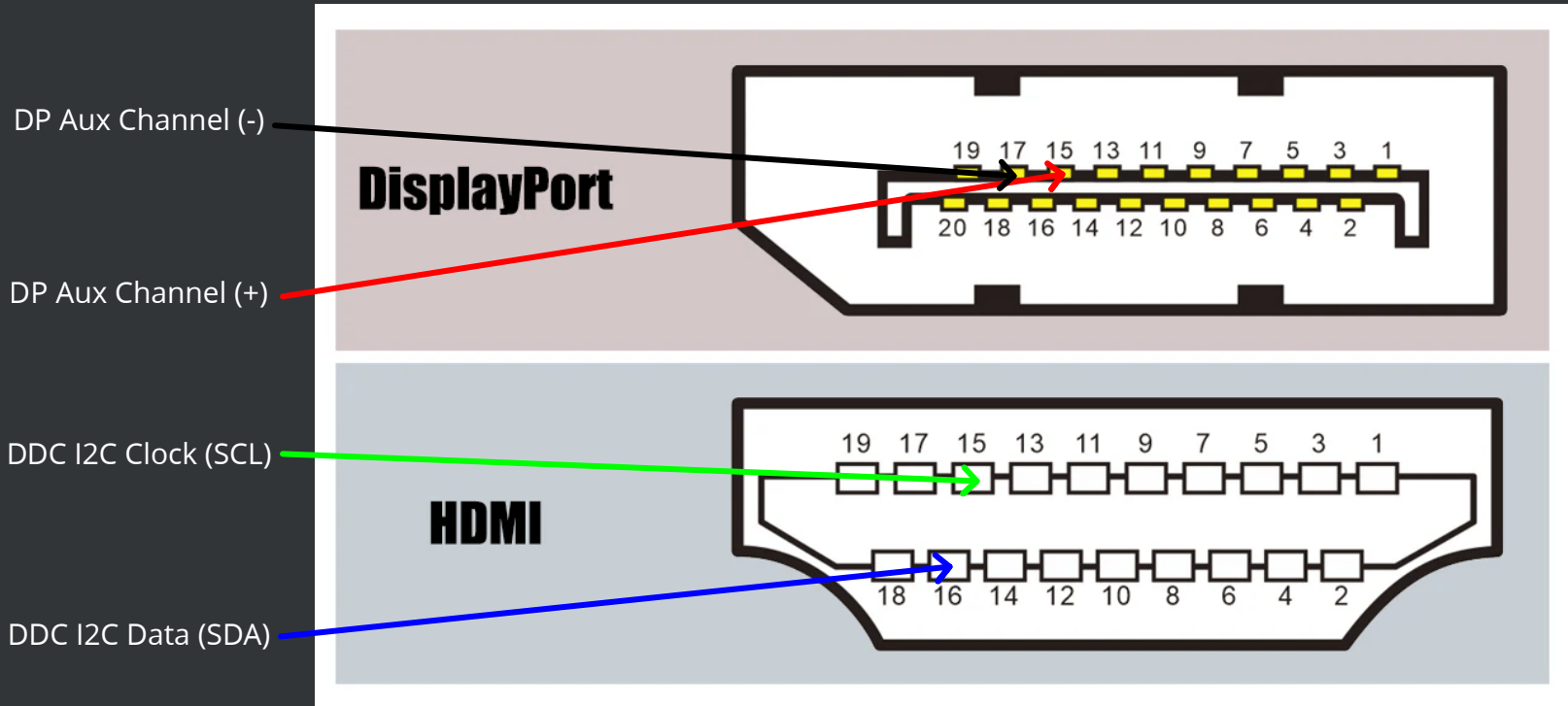
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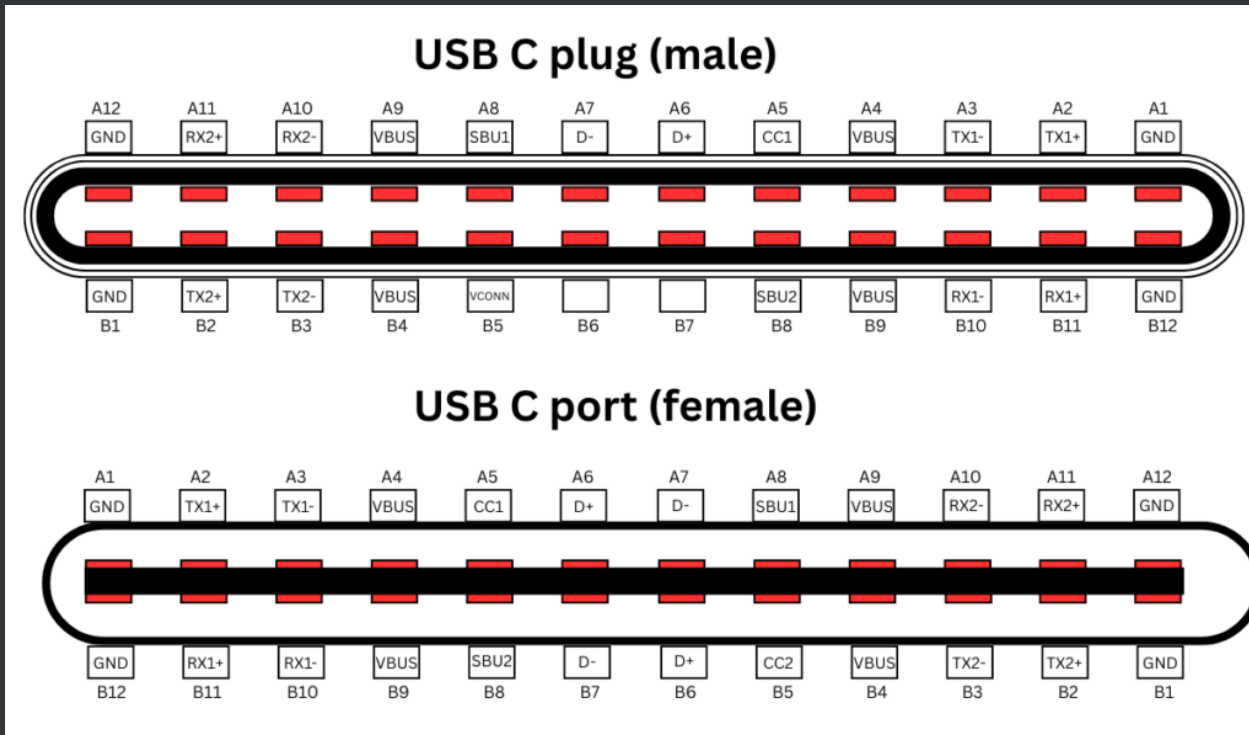
Let's understand the buses available for MCCS

NOTE: DisplayPort does not expose physical I2C, so **DDC/CI** I2C transactions are encapsulated over the DP Aux channel



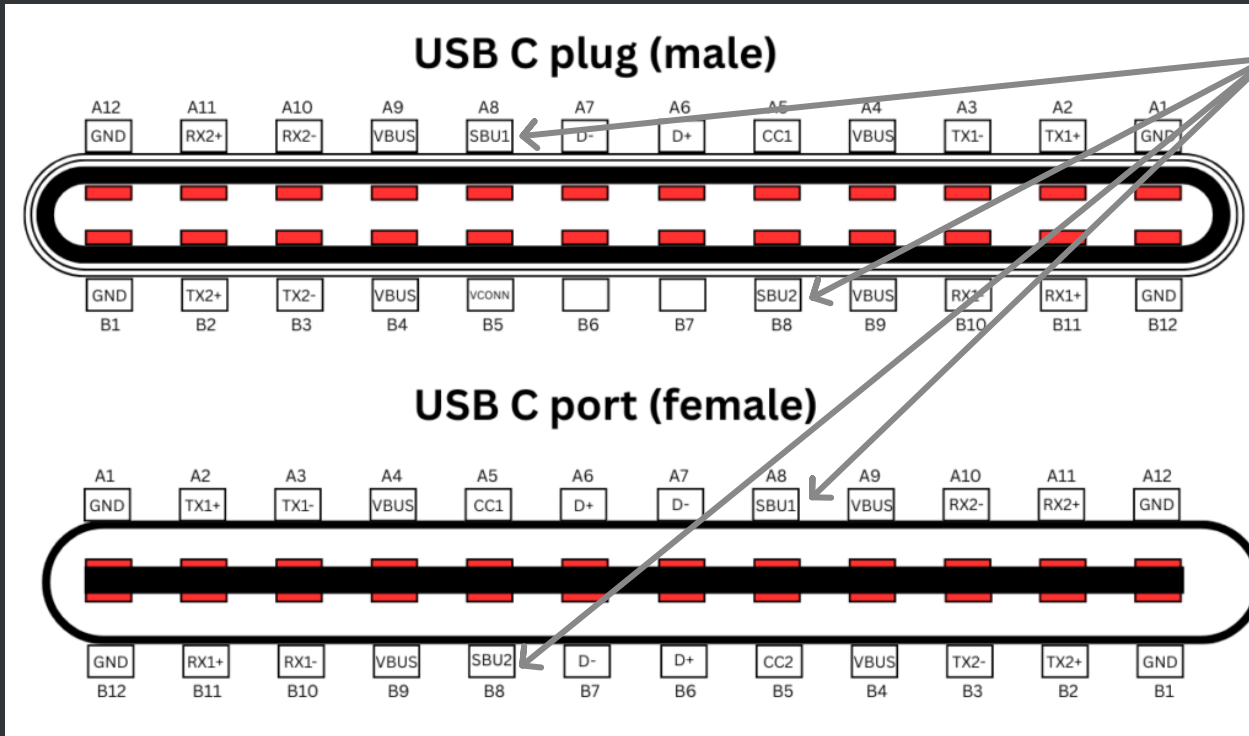
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DDC/CI over DP aux channel adds complications involving the abstraction of I2C. Back in 1998, the USB consortium came up with **USB Monitor Control Class** specification for **MCCS** over **HID**. USB-C monitors have made it relevant.

Let's understand the buses available for MCCS



DP Aux Channel (negotiated polarity)

DDC/CI is supported over the DP aux channel exposed in USB-C DisplayPort Alt Mode

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Delving into USB Monitor Control Class

Let's analyze a decoded
HID report descriptor
from an Apple Studio
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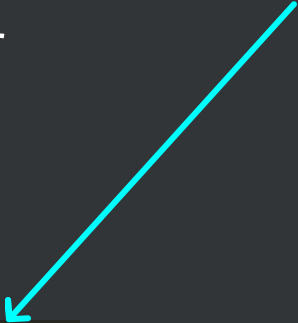
```
1 Usage Page (Monitor VESA VCP),  
2 Usage (10h, Brightness),  
3 Logical Minimum (400),  
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5 Unit (Centimeter-2 * Candela),  
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- [USB Monitor Control Class Specification](#)
- [Device Class Definition for Human Interface Devices \(HID\)](#)

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A quick peek at other OSes

- Windows has a raw [Win32 api](#) for **DDC/CI**
- Apple only implements tightly integrated support for **USB Monitor Control Class** for the external displays they sell.
- The overall state of **MCCS** usage in operating systems is not great, leading to a subpar monitor usage experience. This forces users to either have to fiddle with janky built-in monitor controls or be locked out when none exist.

What about Linux?

This question should be
split between internal and
external panels

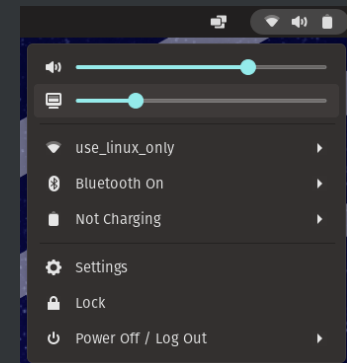
Let's start with internal panels

What does the UAPI and userspace interface look like?

```
1 /sys/class/backlight/  
2 └─ acpi_video0 -> ../../devices/pci0000:00/0000:00:02.0/backlight/acpi_video0  
3     └─ actual_brightness  
4     └─ bl_power  
5     └─ brightness  
6     └─ device -> ../../../../0000:00:02.0  
7     └─ max_brightness  
8     └─ power  
9     └─ scale  
10    └─ subsystem -> ../../../../../../class/backlight [recursive, not followed]  
11    └─ type  
12    └─ uevent
```

The sysfs interface for controlling brightness in Linux

The biggest problem with this interface is the lack of ability to identify which connector/monitor does the backlight device belong to



Let's start with internal panels

The kernel API for registering a backlight device

```
1 struct backlight_device *
2 devm_backlight_device_register(struct device *dev, const char *name,
3                               struct device *parent, void *devdata,
4                               const struct backlight_ops *ops,
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```

Helper to register
backlight device

Let's start with internal panels

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The `acpi_backlight` kernel parameter

Easily one of the most configured by laptop users

`acpi_backlight` can be configured with various values, depending on the design of the laptop

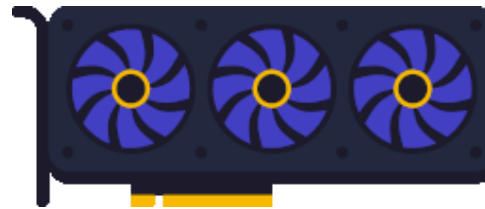
<https://docs.kernel.org/admin-guide/kernel-parameters.html>

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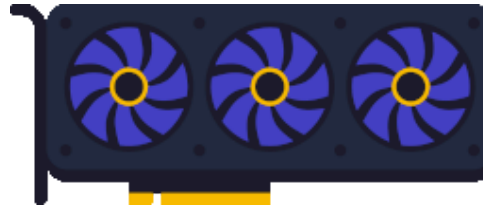
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ACPI `video.ko`

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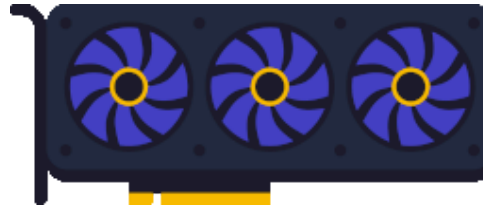
ThinkPad **SONY**
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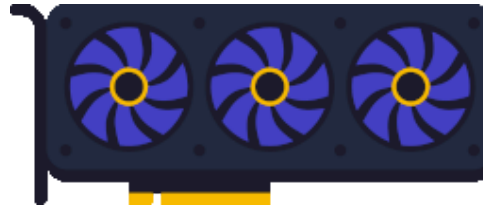
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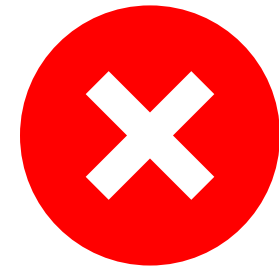
`sony_acpi.ko`

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`native`



`none`



<https://docs.kernel.org/admin-guide/kernel-parameters.html>

Let's start with internal panels

Wrinkles with VGA Switcheroo

`vga_switcheroo` handles laptop hybrid graphics

From the [kernel docs](#):

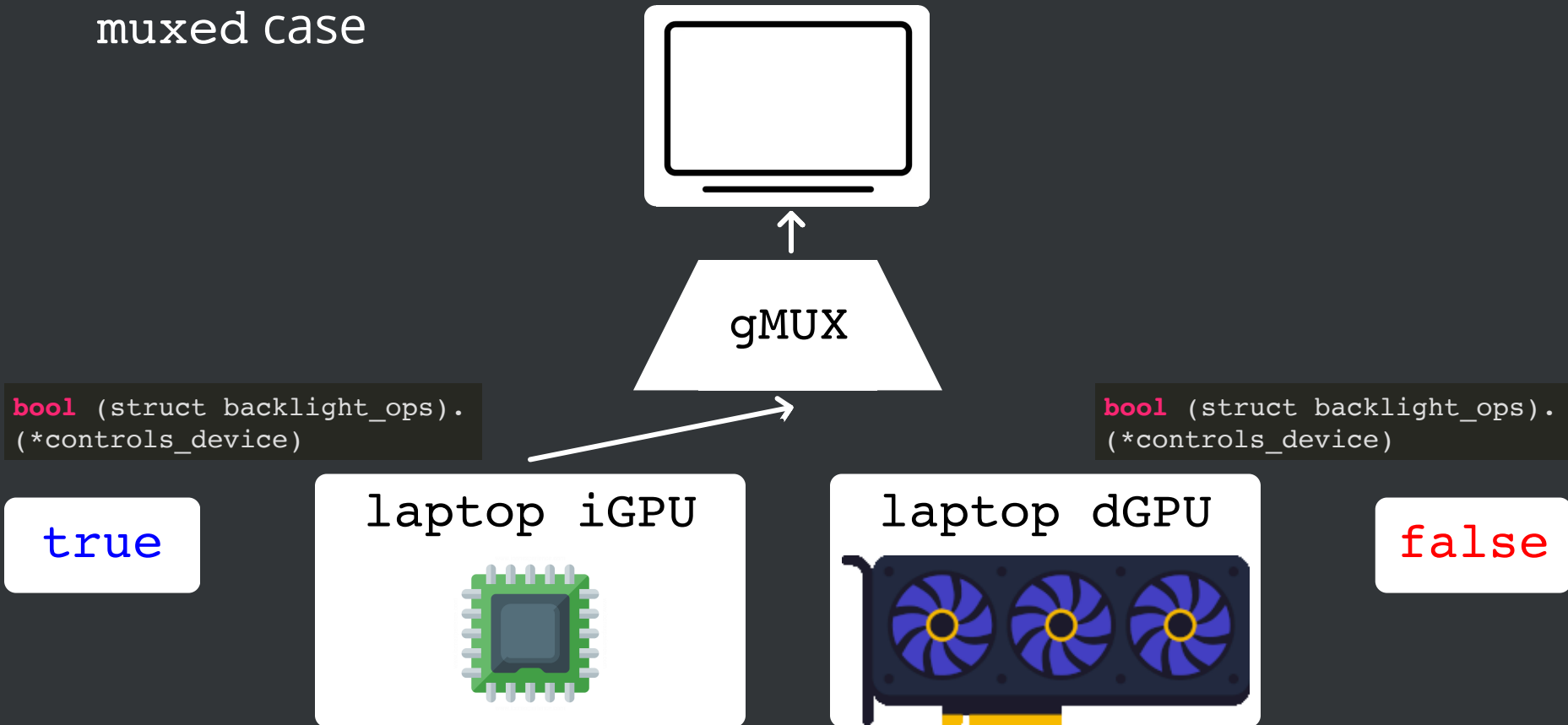
These come in two flavors:

- `mixed`: Dual GPUs with a multiplexer chip to switch outputs between GPUs.
- `mixless`: Dual GPUs but only one of them is connected to outputs. The other one is merely used to offload rendering, its results are copied over PCIe into the framebuffer. On Linux this is supported with DRI PRIME.

Let's start with internal panels

Wrinkles with VGA Switcheroo

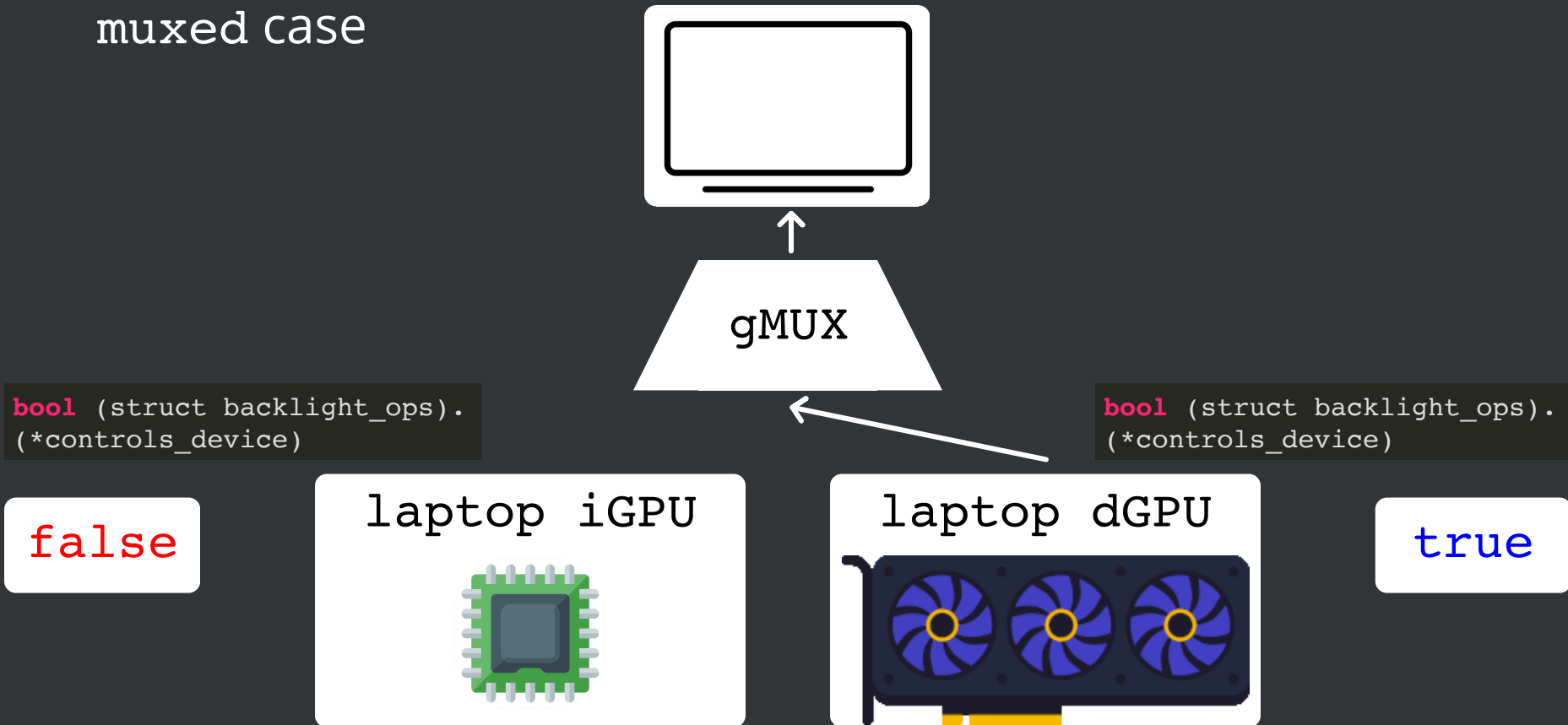
For the discussion of backlight, we only care about the muxed case



Let's start with internal panels

Wrinkles with VGA Switcheroo

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So what makes internal internal panels so different from external panels?



Modern laptop panels use **Embedded DisplayPort (eDP)**, replacing **low-voltage differential signaling (LVDS)**

The goal of **eDP** is to re-use the **DisplayPort** protocol for internal panels

eDP is not so magical

On **DisplayPort**, we can do the following with **i2c** over the **DP Aux channel**

i2c address

Functionality

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DDC/CI

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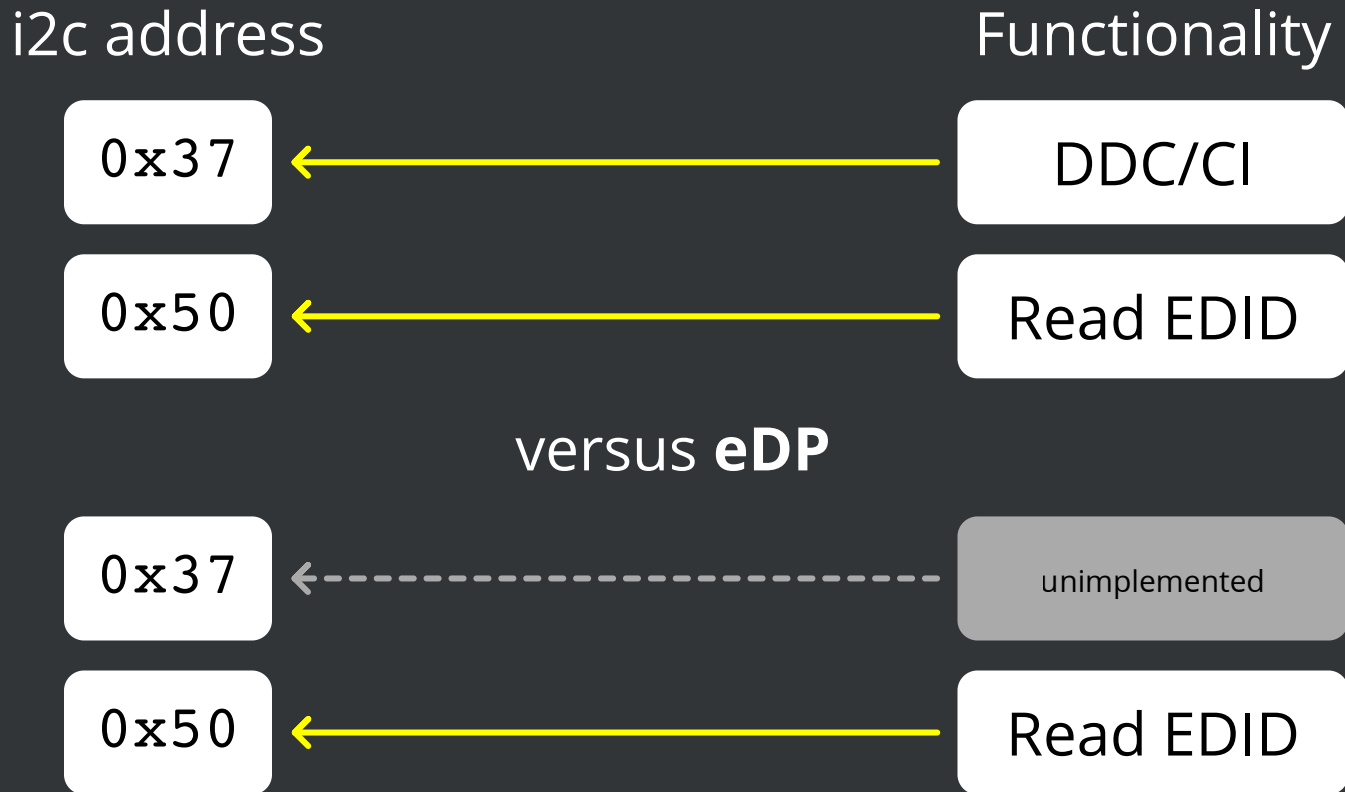
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0x50

Read EDID

eDP is not so magical

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eDP does not implement **DDC/CI**, like **LVDS**, meaning the panel needs custom programming to control

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Only DDC/CI is supported in the kernel API in a very raw manner

```
1 /**
2  * ...
3  *
4  * Ensures that the ddc field of the connector is correctly set.
5  *
6  * ...
7  */
8 int drm_connector_init_with_ddc(struct drm_device *dev,
9                               struct drm_connector *connector,
10                              const struct drm_connector_funcs *funcs,
11                              int connector_type,
12                              struct i2c_adapter *ddc);
13 int drmm_connector_init(struct drm_device *dev,
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These two helper functions just call into other DRM connector initialization helper functions.

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Only DDC/CI is supported in the kernel API in a very raw manner

Just gets assigned to
connector->ddc for
bookkeeping purposes

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State of Linux for controlling external panels

Let's look at how amdgpu handles setting up DDC/CI

```
1 /*
2  * detect_link_and_local_sink() - Detect if a sink is
3  * attached to a given link
4  *
5  * link->local_sink is created or destroyed as needed.
6  *
7  * This does not create remote sinks.
8  */
9
10 static bool detect_link_and_local_sink(struct dc_link *link,
11                                       enum dc_detect_reason reason)
12 {
13     /* code omitted */
14
15     /* From Disconnected-to-Connected. */
16     switch (link->connector_signal) {
17     case SIGNAL_TYPE_HDMI_TYPE_A: {
18         sink_caps.transaction_type =
19         DDC_TRANSACTION_TYPE_I2C;
20         if (aud_support->hdmi_audio_native)
21             sink_caps.signal = SIGNAL_TYPE_HDMI_TYPE_A;
22         else
23             sink_caps.signal =
24             SIGNAL_TYPE_DVI_SINGLE_LINK;
25         break;
26     }
27 }
```

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Let's look at how amdgpu handles setting up DDC/CI

```
4  * link->local_sink is created or destroyed as needed.
5  *
6  * This does not create remote sinks.
7  */
8  static bool detect_link_and_local_sink(struct dc_link *link,
9                                         enum dc_detect_reason reason)
10 {
11     /* code omitted */
12
13     /* From Disconnected-to-Connected. */
14     switch (link->connector_signal) {
15     case SIGNAL_TYPE_HDMI_TYPE_A: {
16         sink_caps.transaction_type =
17         DDC_TRANSACTION_TYPE_I2C;
18         if (aud_support->hdmi_audio_native)
19             sink_caps.signal = SIGNAL_TYPE_HDMI_TYPE_A;
20         else
21             sink_caps.signal =
22             SIGNAL_TYPE_DVI_SINGLE_LINK;
23         break;
24     }
25     case SIGNAL_TYPE_DVI_SINGLE_LINK: {
26         sink_caps.transaction_type =
27         DDC_TRANSACTION_TYPE_I2C;
28         sink_caps.signal = SIGNAL_TYPE_DVI_SINGLE_LINK;
```

For a number of signal types like HDMI, amdgpu identifies DDC transactions to be type i2c.

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Let's look at how amdgpu handles setting up DDC/CI

```
62     }
63
64     case SIGNAL_TYPE_DISPLAY_PORT: {
65
66         /* wa HPD high coming too early*/
67         if (link->ep_type == DISPLAY_ENDPOINT_PHY &&
68             link->link_enc-
69 >features.flags.bits.DP_IS_USB_C == 1) {
70
71             /* if alt mode times out, return false */
72             if (!wait_for_entering_dp_alt_mode(link))
73                 return false;
74         }
75
76         if (!detect_dp(link, &sink_caps, reason)) {
77
78             if (prev_sink)
79                 dc_sink_release(prev_sink);
80             return false;
81         }
82
83         /* Active SST downstream branch device unplug*/
84         if (link->type == dc_connection_sst_branch &&
85             link->dpcd_caps.sink_count.bits.SINK_COUNT ==
86             0) {
87
88             if (prev_sink)
```

DisplayPort gets complicated. We will discuss this soon.

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Let's look at how amdgpu handles setting up DDC/CI

```
<dpcd_caps.usb4_dp_tun_info.dp_tun_cap.bits.dpia_bw_alloc
105         && link-
>dpcd_caps.usb4_dp_tun_info.driver_bw_cap.bits.driver_bw_allo
c_support) {
106         if
(link_dpia_enable_usb4_dp_bw_alloc_mode(link) == false)
107         link-
>dpcd_caps.usb4_dp_tun_info.dp_tun_cap.bits.dpia_bw_alloc =
false;
108     }
109     break;
110 }
111
112 default:
113     DC_ERROR("Invalid connector type! signal:%d\n",
link->connector_signal);
114     if (prev_sink)
115
dc_sink_release(prev_sink);
116     return false;
117 } /* switch() */
118
119 /* code omitted */
120
121
122 set_ddc_transaction_type(link->ddc,
sink_caps.transaction_type);
123
```

Finally,
amdgpu sets the
transaction type
for the link itself.

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Let's explore the DisplayPort case for amdgpu

```
1 static bool detect_dp(struct dc_link *link,
2                       struct display_sink_capability *sink_caps,
3                       enum dc_detect_reason reason)
4 {
5     struct audio_support *audio_support = &link->dc->res_pool-
6     >audio_support;
7     sink_caps->signal = link_detect_sink_signal_type(link,
8     reason);
9     sink_caps->transaction_type =
10     get_ddc_transaction_type(sink_caps->signal);
11     if (sink_caps->transaction_type ==
12     DDC_TRANSACTION_TYPE_I2C_OVER_AUX) {
13         sink_caps->signal = SIGNAL_TYPE_DISPLAY_PORT;
14         if (!detect_dp_sink_caps(link)) {
15             return false;
16         }
17         if (is_dp_branch_device(link))
18             /* DP SST branch */
19             link->type = dc_connection_sst_branch;
20     } else {
21         if (link->dc->debug.disable_dp_plus_plus_wa &&
22             link->link_enc-
```

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Let's explore the DisplayPort case for amdgpu

```
1 static bool detect_dp(struct dc_link *link,  
2                      struct display_sink_capability *sink_caps,  
3                      enum dc_detect_reason reason)  
4 {  
5     struct audio_support *audio_support = &link->dc->res_pool->  
6     >audio_support;  
7     sink_caps->signal = link_detect_sink_signal_type(link,  
8     reason);  
9     sink_caps->transaction_type =  
10    get_ddc_transaction_type(sink_caps->signal);  
11    if (sink_caps->transaction_type ==  
12    DDC_TRANSACTION_TYPE_I2C_OVER_AUX) {  
13        sink_caps->signal = SIGNAL_TYPE_DISPLAY_PORT;  
14        if (!detect_dp_sink_caps(link)) {  
15            return false;  
16        }  
17        if (is_dp_branch_device(link))  
18            /* DP SST branch */  
19            link->type = dc_connection_sst_branch;  
20    } else {  
21        if (link->dc->debug.disable_dp_plus_plus_wa &&  
22            link->link_enc-
```

amdgpu determines if the **i2c** transactions are native or goes over **DP Aux** based on if the signal is **DisplayPort** or is being passively converted due to features like **DP++**.

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Let's explore the DisplayPort case for amdgpu

```
5     struct audio_support *audio_support = &link->dc->res_pool-
>audio_support;
6
7     sink_caps->signal = link_detect_sink_signal_type(link,
reason);
8     sink_caps->transaction_type =
9         get_ddc_transaction_type(sink_caps->signal);
10
11     if (sink_caps->transaction_type ==
DDC_TRANSACTION_TYPE_I2C_OVER_AUX) {
12         sink_caps->signal = SIGNAL_TYPE_DISPLAY_PORT;
13         if (!detect_dp_sink_caps(link)) {
14             return false;
15         }
16
17         if (is_dp_branch_device(link))
18             /* DP SST branch */
19             link->type = dc_connection_sst_branch;
20     } else {
21         if (link->dc->debug.disable_dp_plus_plus_wa &&
22             link->link_enc-
>features.flags.bits.IS_UHBR20_CAPABLE)
23             return false;
24
25         /* DP passive dongles */
26         sink_caps->signal = dp_passive_dongle_detection(link-
```

The logic when the
signal is pure
DisplayPort.

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Let's explore the DisplayPort case for amdgpu

```
15     }
16
17     if (is_dp_branch_device(link))
18         /* DP SST branch */
19         link->type = dc_connection_sst_branch;
20 } else {
21     if (link->dc->debug.disable_dp_plus_plus_wa &&
22         link->link_enc-
23 >features.flags.bits.IS_UHBR20_CAPABLE)
24         return false;
25
26     /* DP passive dongles */
27     sink_caps->signal = dp_passive_dongle_detection(link-
28 >ddc,
29     sink_caps,
30     audio_support);
31     link->dpcd_caps.dongle_type = sink_caps->dongle_type;
32     link->dpcd_caps.is_dongle_type_one = sink_caps-
33 >is_dongle_type_one;
34
35     link->dpcd_caps.dpcd_rev.raw = 0;
36     link->dpcd_caps.usb4_dp_tun_info.dp_tun_cap.raw = 0;
37 }
38
39 return true;
40 }
```

DisplayPort is really complex due to **DP++** and **USB4 DP tunneling**.

State of Linux for controlling external panels

amdgpu creates an i2c_adapter interface for DDC/CI

```
1 static struct amdgpu_i2c_adapter *
2 create_i2c(struct ddc_service *ddc_service, bool oem)
3 {
4     struct amdgpu_device *adev = ddc_service->ctx-
>driver_context;
5     struct amdgpu_i2c_adapter *i2c;
6
7     i2c = kzalloc(sizeof(struct amdgpu_i2c_adapter),
GFP_KERNEL);
8     if (!i2c)
9         return NULL;
10    i2c->base.owner = THIS_MODULE;
11    i2c->base.dev.parent = &adev->pdev->dev;
12    i2c->base.algo = &amdgpu_dm_i2c_algo;
13    if (oem)
14        snprintf(i2c->base.name, sizeof(i2c->base.name),
"AMDGPU DM i2c OEM bus");
15    else
16        snprintf(i2c->base.name, sizeof(i2c->base.name),
"AMDGPU DM i2c hw bus %d",
17                ddc_service->link->link_index);
18    i2c_set_adapdata(&i2c->base, i2c);
19    i2c->ddc_service = ddc_service;
20    i2c->oem = oem;
21
22    return i2c;
23 }
```

amdgpu creates
an i2c_adapter
for DDC/CI that
will be either a
pure i2c interface
or i2c over DP
Aux.

State of Linux for controlling external panels

amdgpu plumbs the i2c_adapter to the drm_connector

```
1 /*
2  * Note: this function assumes that dc_link_detect() was called
3  * for the
4  * dc_link which will be represented by this aconnector.
5  */
6 static int amdgpu_dm_connector_init(struct
7     amdgpu_display_manager *dm,
8     struct amdgpu_dm_connector *aconnector,
9     u32 link_index,
10    struct amdgpu_encoder *aencoder)
11 {
12     int res = 0;
13     int connector_type;
14     struct dc *dc = dm->dc;
15     struct dc_link *link = dc_get_link_at_index(dc,
16     link_index);
17     struct amdgpu_i2c_adapter *i2c;
18
19     /* Not needed for writeback connector */
20     link->priv = aconnector;
21
22     i2c = create_i2c(link->ddc, false);
23     if (!i2c) {
24         drm_err(audev_to_drm(dm->audev), "Failed to create i2c
25     adapter data\n");
26     }
27     return -ENOMEM;
28 }
```

State of Linux for controlling external panels

amdgpu plumbs the `i2c_adapter` to the `drm_connector`

```
19
20     i2c = create_i2c(link->ddc, false);
21     if (!i2c) {
22         drm_err(adev_to_drm(dm->adev), "Failed to create i2c
adapter data\n");
23         return -ENOMEM;
24     }
25
26     aconnector->i2c = i2c;
27     res = i2c_add_adapter(&i2c->base);
28
29     if (res) {
30         drm_err(adev_to_drm(dm->adev), "Failed to register hw
i2c %d\n", link->link_index);
31         goto out_free;
32     }
33
34     connector_type = to_drm_connector_type(link-
>connector_signal);
35
36     res = drm_connector_init_with_ddc(
37         dm->ddev,
38         &aconnector->base,
39         &amdgpu_dm_connector_funcs,
40         connector_type,
41         &i2c->base);
42
```

The created `i2c_adapter` gets passed to the DRM connector initialization helper

State of Linux for controlling external panels

Userspace use of the `i2c_adapter`

`ddcutil` reads and writes `/dev/i2c*` device nodes. Either the user can specify an explicit bus to use or `ddcutil` will crawl through the exposed nodes to see which ones are for **DDC/CI**

NOTE: `ddcutil` also support **USB Monitor Control Class**

```
sudo strace -e openat ddcutil probe |& grep /dev/i2c
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-5", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-6", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-7", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-8", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-9", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-10", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-11", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-12", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-13", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-14", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-15", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-16", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-17", O_RDWR) = 3
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/dev/i2c-14", O_RDWR) = 3
```

How do we improve
the situation with
regards to monitor
control on Linux?

A high-level overview

userspace



A high-level overview

userspace

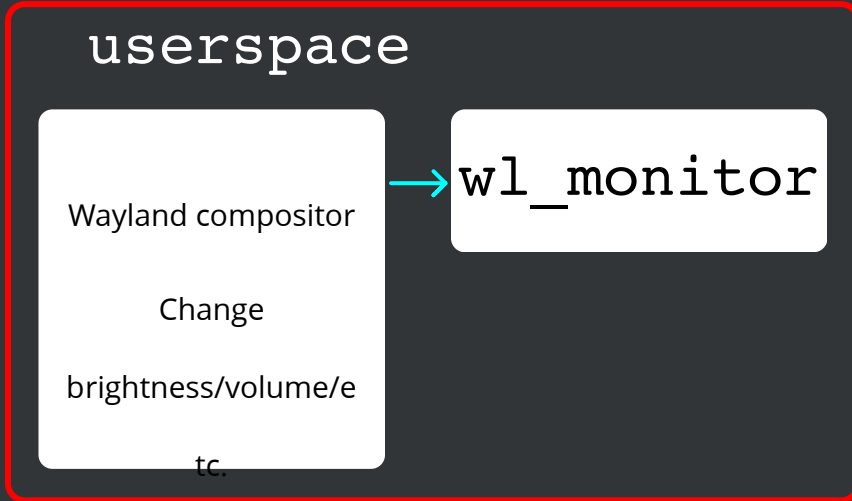
Wayland compositor

Change

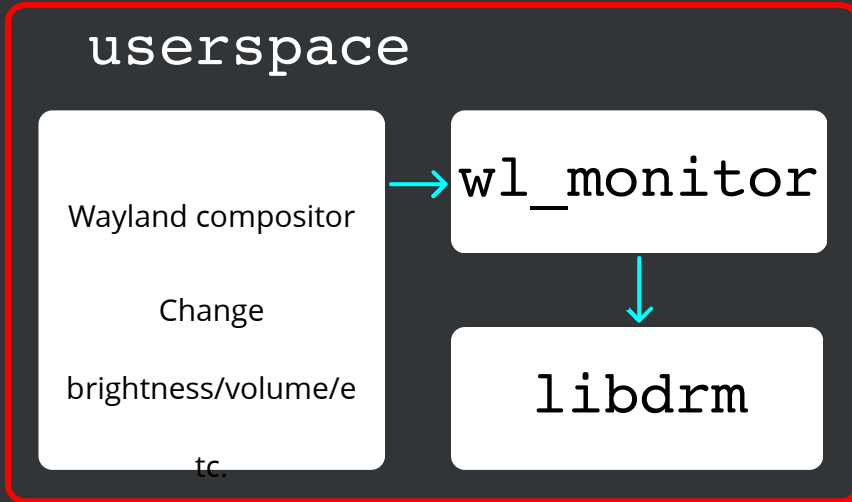
brightness/volume/e

tc.

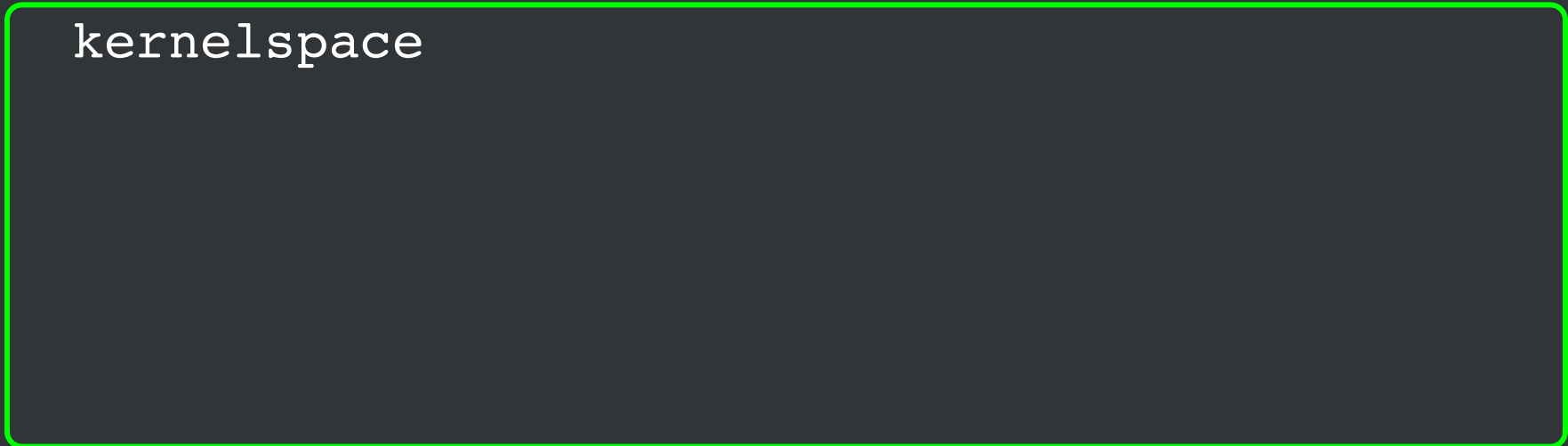
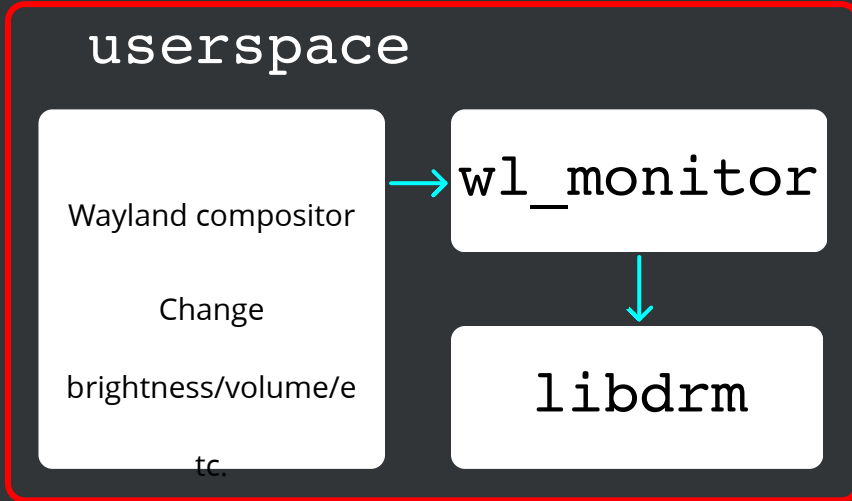
A high-level overview



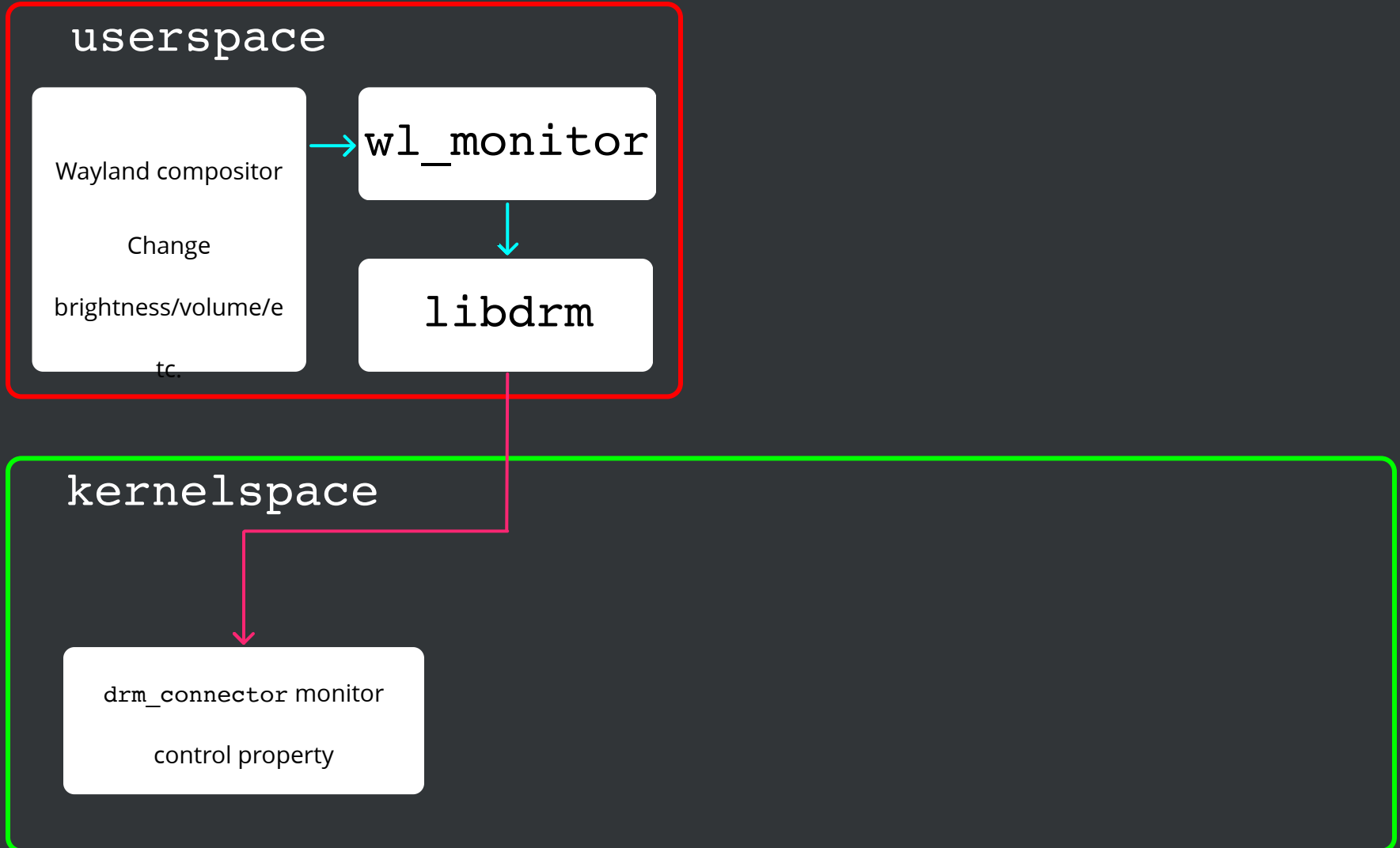
A high-level overview



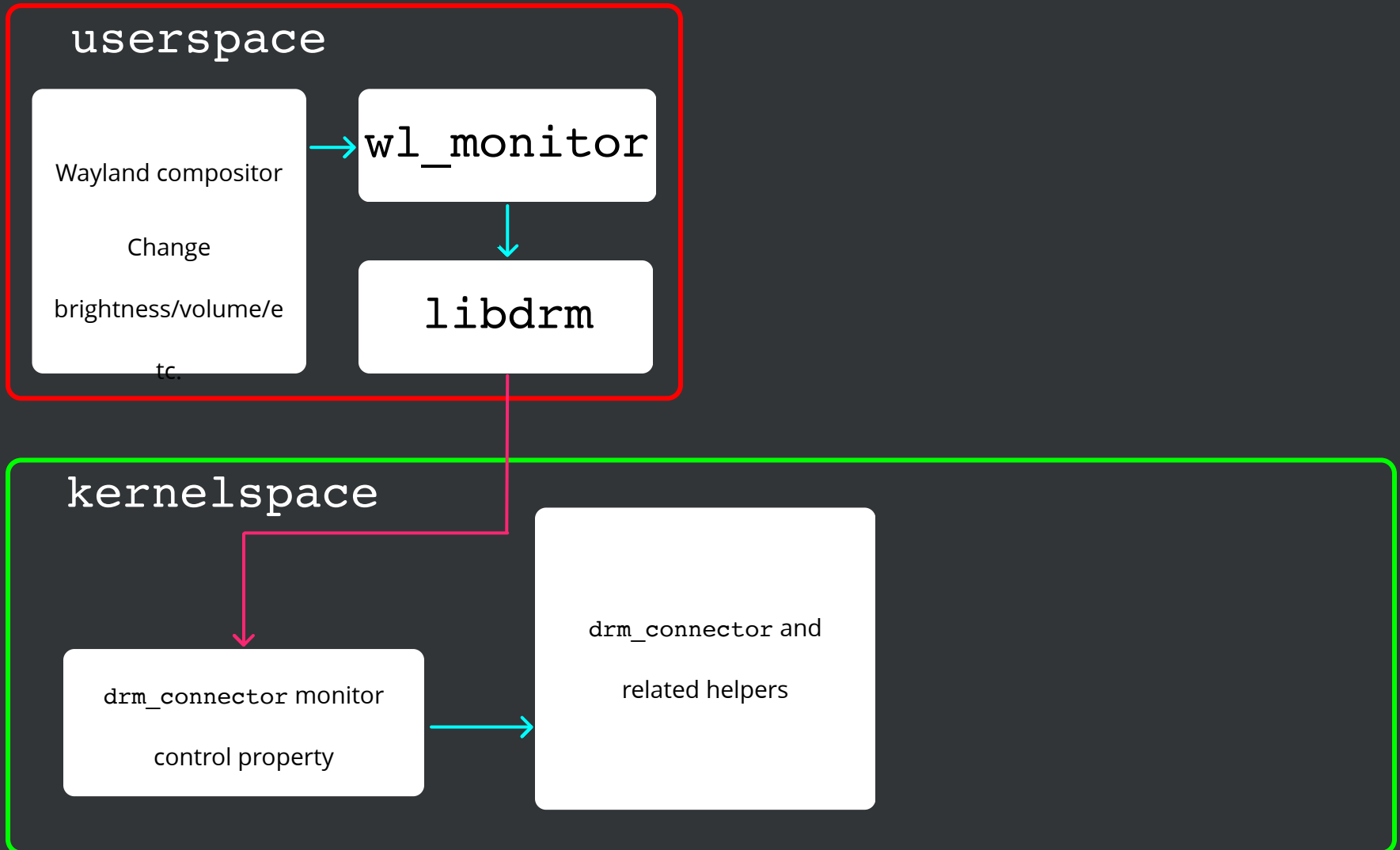
A high-level overview



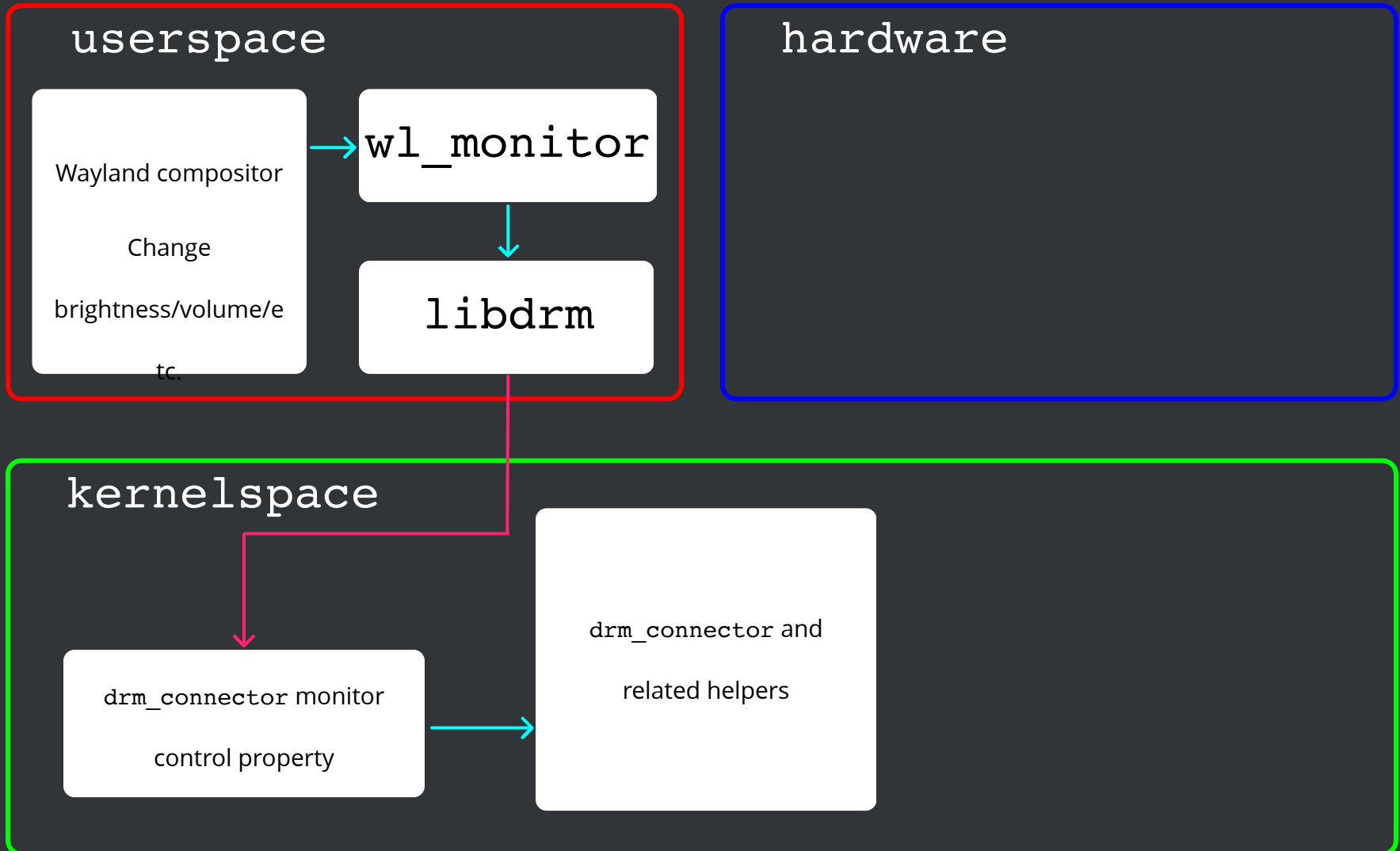
A high-level overview



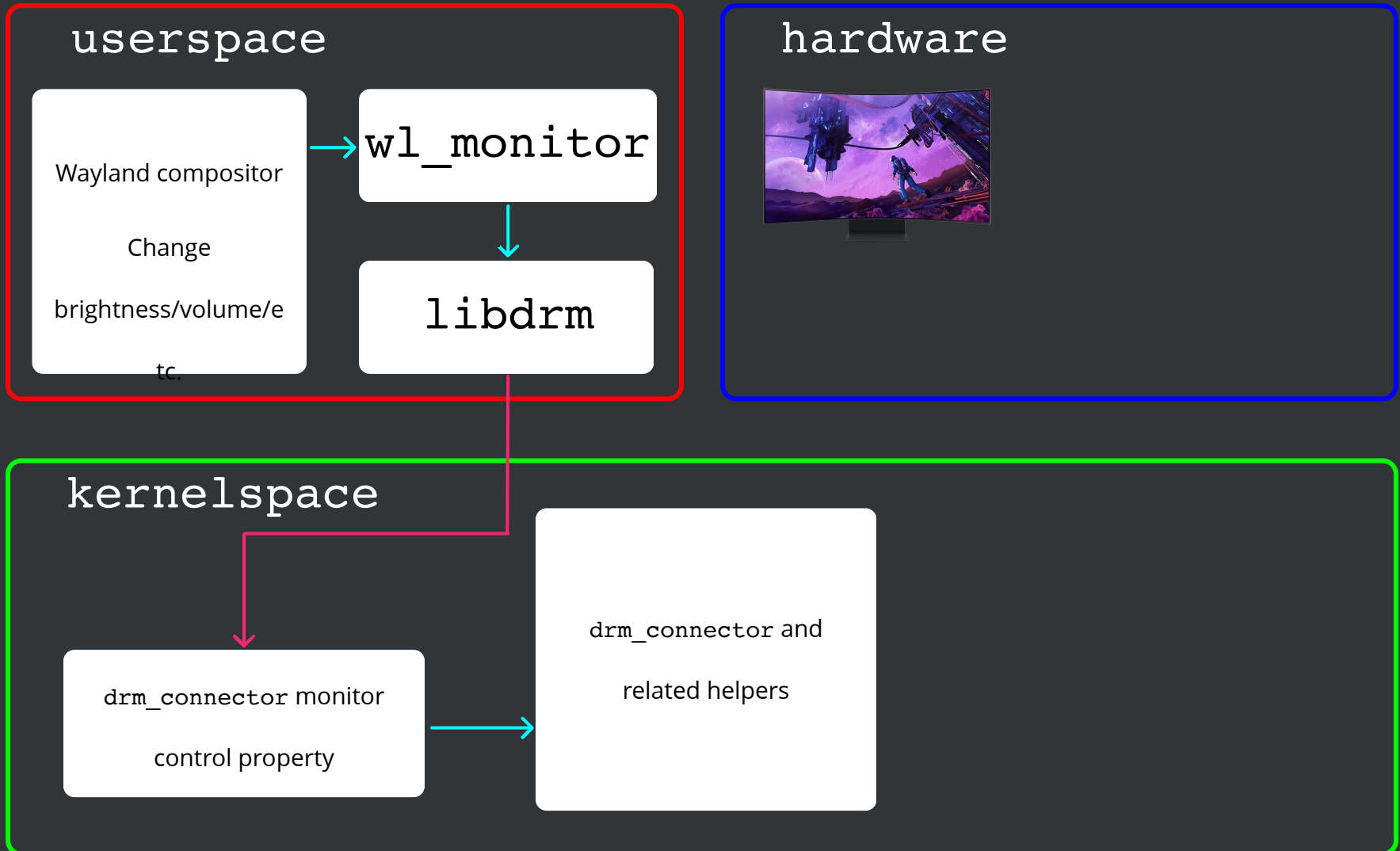
A high-level overview



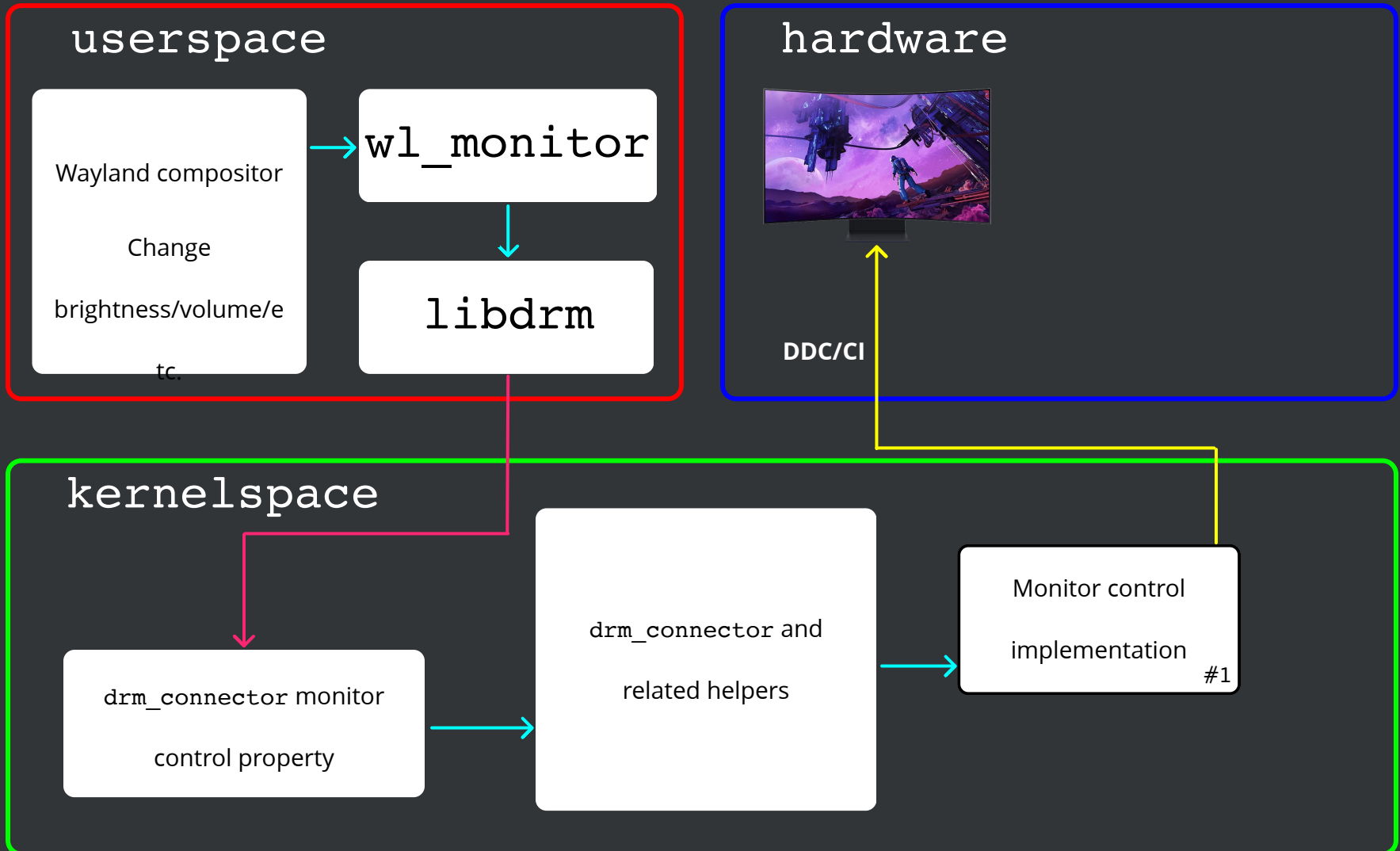
A high-level overview



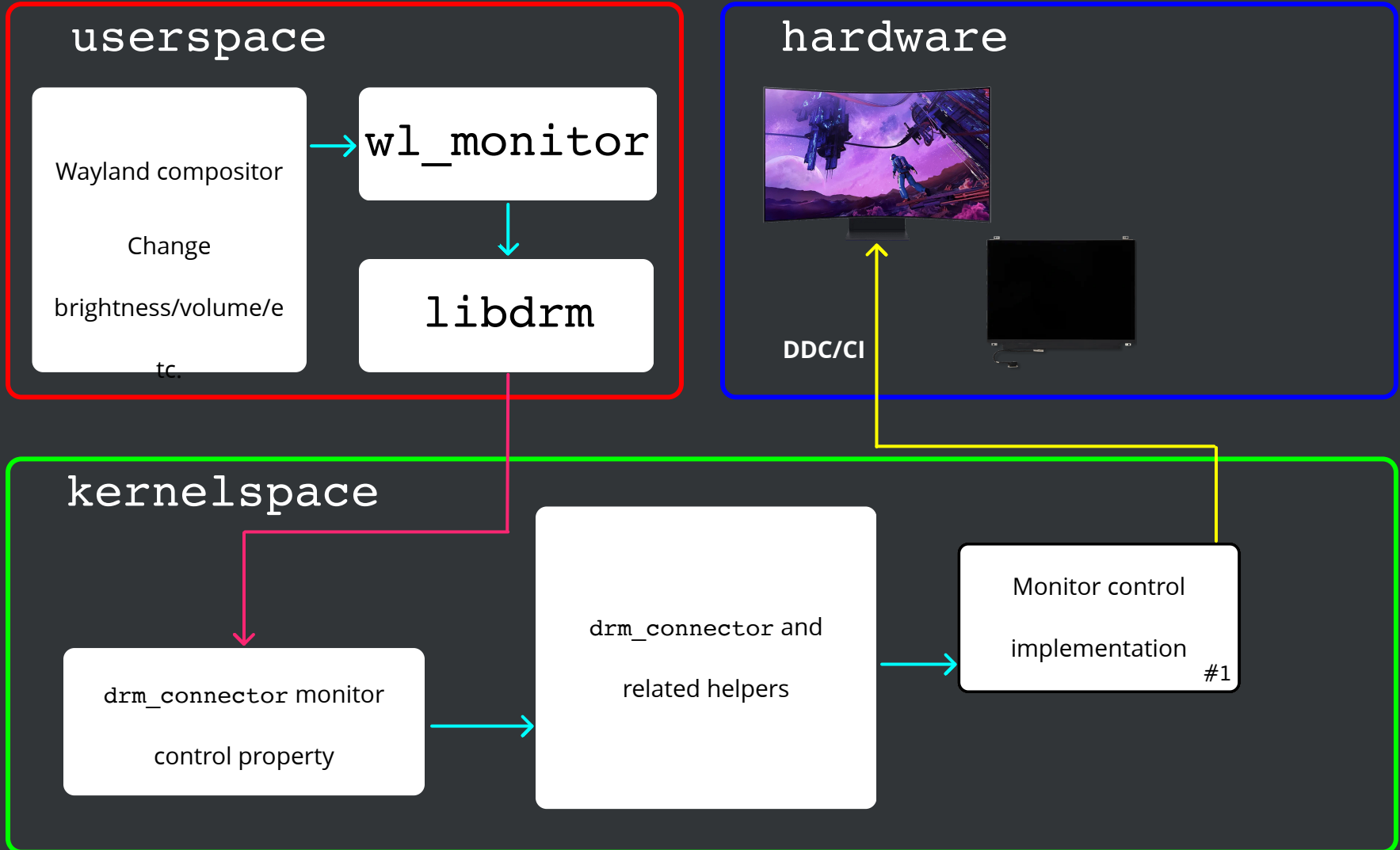
A high-level overview



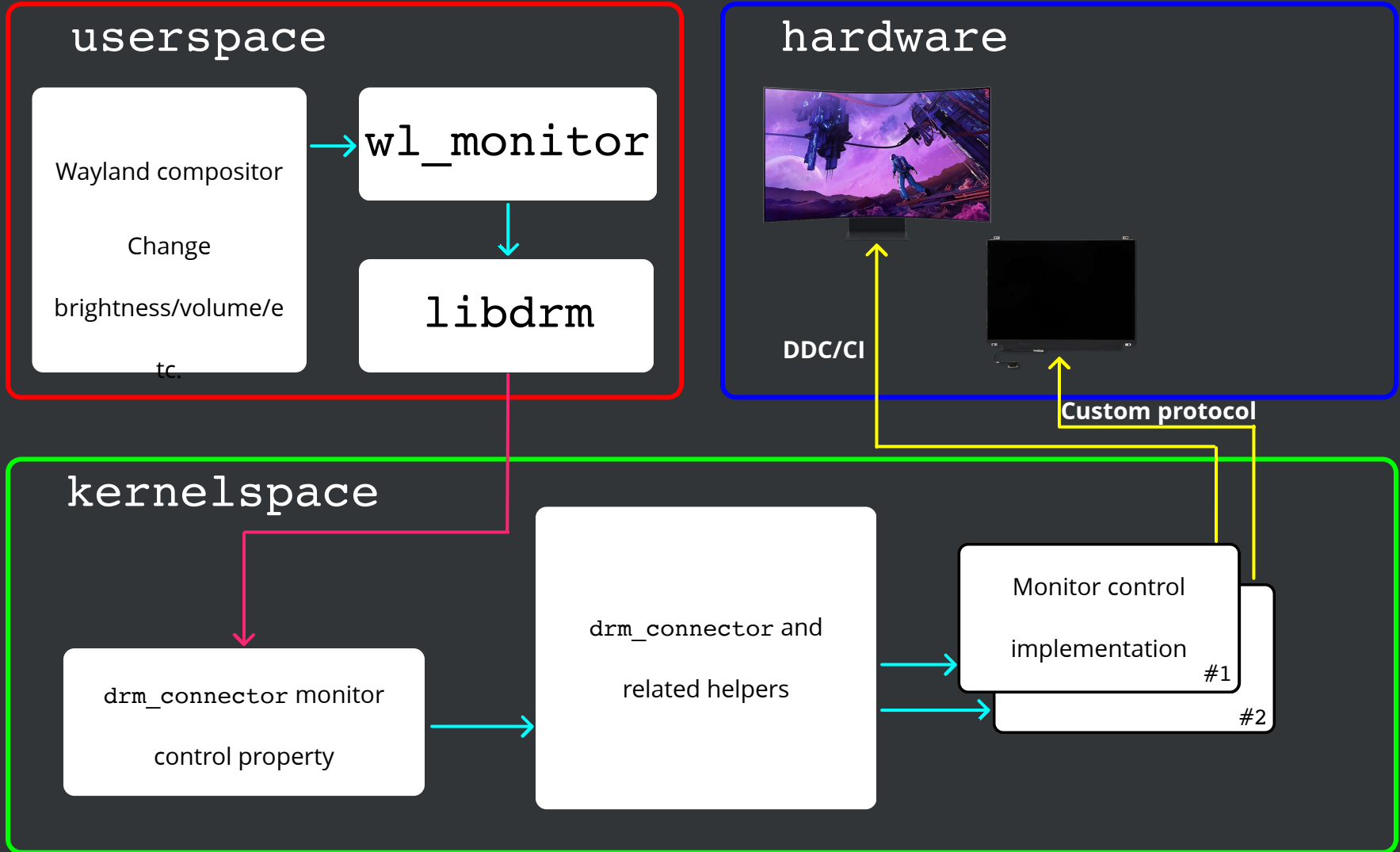
A high-level overview



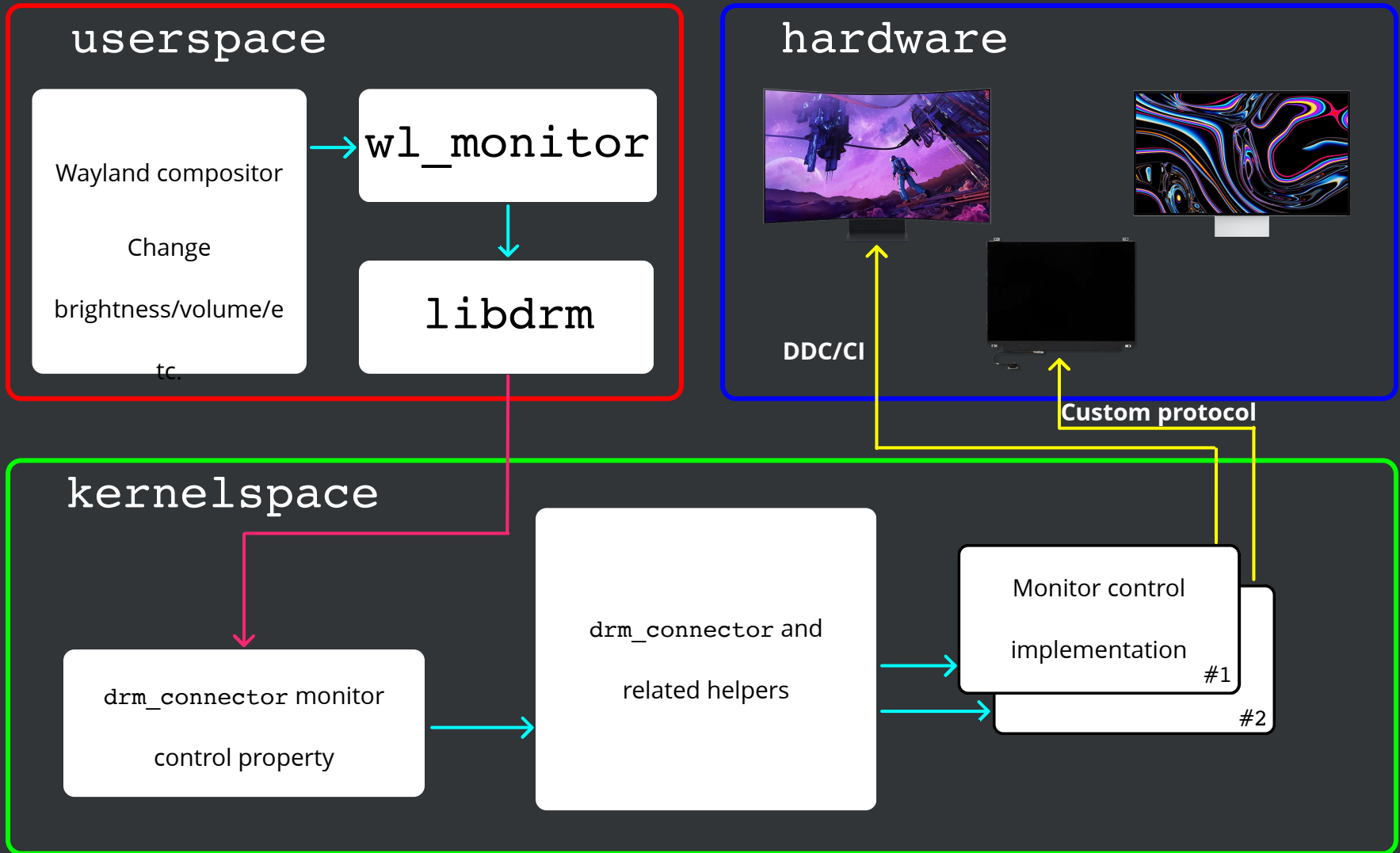
A high-level overview



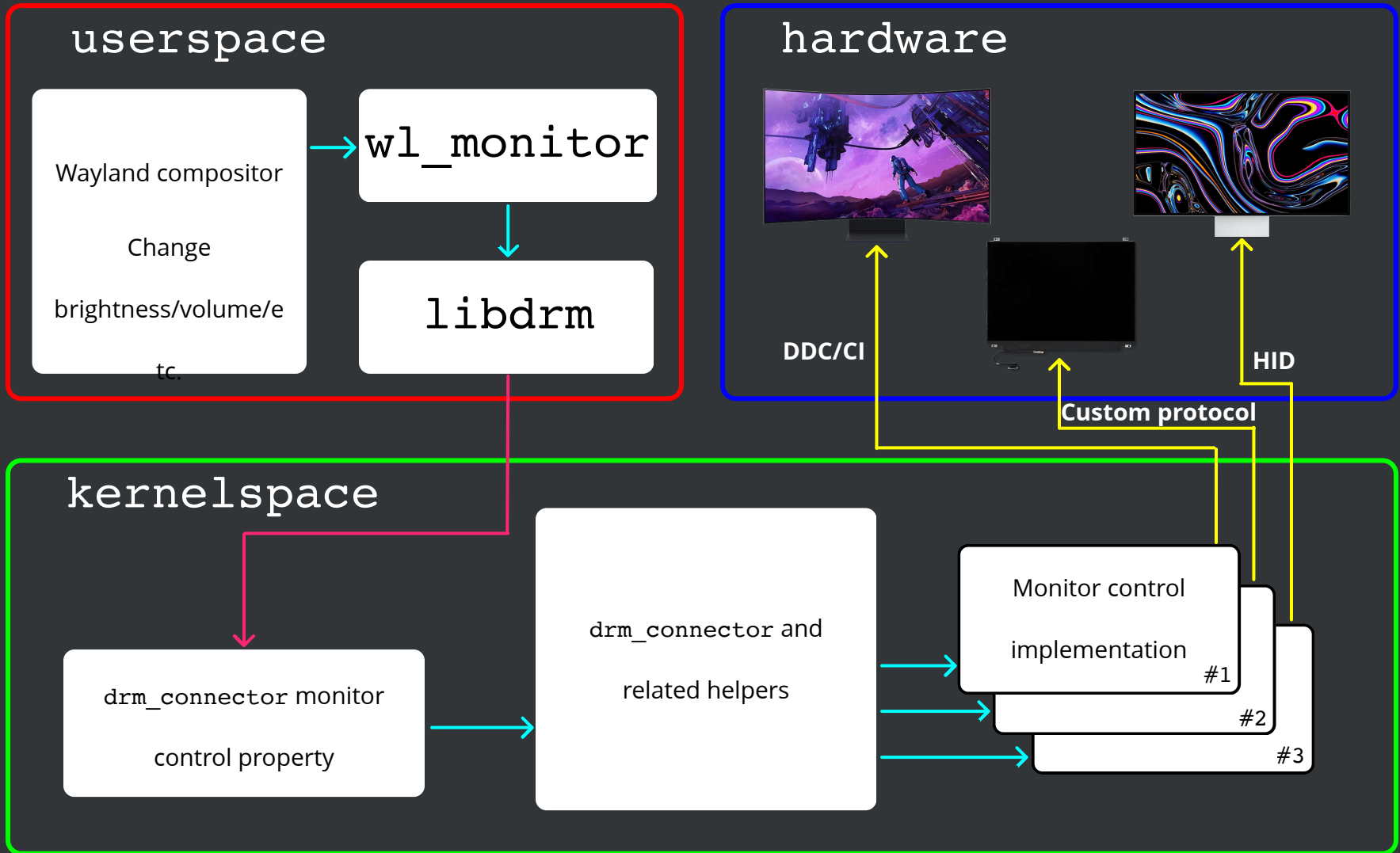
A high-level overview



A high-level overview



A high-level overview



Minor caveats

- For certain panels, the ability to have some kind of policy mechanism for control implementations will be necessary.
- In particular, laptop panels can have a variety of implementations for brightness control, and monitors can support both **USB Monitor Control Class** and **DDC/CI**.
- Scoping the API at the `drm_connector` level works well with mux-able hybrid graphics. One caveat is when the **gMUX** or an external controller controls the brightness. Being able to attach implementations to a `drm_connector` solves this issue.

Ok, what does any of
this have to do with
Rust for Linux?

My ambitions

The work I have posted so far to the rust-for-linux mailing list is intended as building blocks to implement the architecture I discussed in Rust.

- I plan to implement the **USB Monitor Control Class** support for USB monitors in Rust
- I have posted **HID** abstractions to use for this effort
 - <https://lore.kernel.org/rust-for-linux/20250808061223.3770-1-sergeantsagara@protonmail.com/>
- I have proposed a means for extending functionality of `drm_connector` in Rust
 - <https://lore.kernel.org/rust-for-linux/20250818050251.102399-2-sergeantsagara@protonmail.com/>
- In the next couple of slides, I will discuss these efforts

HID Abstractions in Rust

To begin with, I have created a simple Rust reference driver, `GLoriousRust`, for making the Glorious Model O mouse function correctly.

Without this type of "fixup" driver, the inputs of the mouse will be ignored by the core HID handling in the kernel.

Let's delve into the Rust driver code.



HID Abstractions in Rust

Analyzing the GloriousRust driver

```
1 // SPDX-License-Identifier: GPL-2.0
2
3 // Copyright (C) 2025 Rahul Rameshbabu <sergeantsagara@protonmail.com>
4
5 //! Rust reference HID driver for Glorious Model O and O- mice.
6
7 use kernel::{self, bindings, device, hid, prelude::*};
8
9 struct GloriousRust;
10
11 kernel::hid_device_table!(
12     HID_TABLE,
13     MODULE_HID_TABLE,
14     <GloriousRust as hid::Driver>::IdInfo,
15     [(
16         hid::DeviceId::new_usb(
17             hid::Group::Generic,
18             bindings::USB_VENDOR_ID_SINOWEALTH,
19             bindings::USB_DEVICE_ID_GLORIOUS_MODEL_O,
20         ),
21         (),
22     )]
23 );
24
25 #[vtable]
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Analyzing the GloriousRust driver

1. Declare the device table for matching devices to the driver

```
5  //! Rust reference HID driver for Glorious Model O and O- mice.
6
7  use kernel::{self, bindings, device, hid, prelude::*};
8
9  struct GloriousRust;
10
11 kernel::hid_device_table!(
12     HID_TABLE,
13     MODULE_HID_TABLE,
14     <GloriousRust as hid::Driver>::IdInfo,
15     [(
16         hid::DeviceId::new_usb(
17             hid::Group::Generic,
18             bindings::USB_VENDOR_ID_SINOWEALTH,
19             bindings::USB_DEVICE_ID_GLORIOUS_MODEL_O,
20         ),
21         (),
22     )]
23 );
24
25 #[vtable]
26 impl hid::Driver for GloriousRust {
27     type IdInfo = ();
28     const ID_TABLE: hid::IdTable<Self::IdInfo> = &HID_TABLE;
29 }
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Analyzing the GloriousRust driver

2. Use the macro that sets up the kernel module

```
36         && (rdesc[84] == 129 && rdesc[85] == 3)
37         && (rdesc[112] == 129 && rdesc[113] == 3)
38         && (rdesc[140] == 129 && rdesc[141] == 3)
39     {
40         dev_info!(
41             hdev.as_ref(),
42             "patching Glorious Model 0 consumer control report descriptor\n"
43         );
44
45         rdesc[85] = hid::MAIN_ITEM_VARIABLE | hid::MAIN_ITEM_RELATIVE;
46         rdesc[113] = hid::MAIN_ITEM_VARIABLE | hid::MAIN_ITEM_RELATIVE;
47         rdesc[141] = hid::MAIN_ITEM_VARIABLE | hid::MAIN_ITEM_RELATIVE;
48     }
49
50     rdesc
51 }
52 }
53
54 kernel::module_hid_driver! {
55     type: GloriousRust,
56     name: "GloriousRust",
57     authors: ["Rahul Rameshbabu <sergeantsagara@protonmail.com>"],
58     description: "Rust reference HID driver for Glorious Model 0 and 0- mice",
59     license: "GPL",
60 }
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Analyzing the GloriousRust driver

3. Implement the `hid::Driver` trait's `report_fixup` to make the mouse

```
29                                     usable
30     /// Fix the Glorious Model O and O- consumer input report descriptor to use
31     /// the variable and relative flag, while clearing the const flag.
32     ///
33     /// Without this fixup, inputs from the mice will be ignored.
34     fn report_fixup<'a, 'b: 'a>(hdev: &hid::Device<device::Core>, rdesc: &'b mut
[u8]) -> &'a [u8] {
35         if rdesc.len() == 213
36             && (rdesc[84] == 129 && rdesc[85] == 3)
37             && (rdesc[112] == 129 && rdesc[113] == 3)
38             && (rdesc[140] == 129 && rdesc[141] == 3)
39         {
40             dev_info!(
41                 hdev.as_ref(),
42                 "patching Glorious Model O consumer control report descriptor\n"
43             );
44
45             rdesc[85] = hid::MAIN_ITEM_VARIABLE | hid::MAIN_ITEM_RELATIVE;
46             rdesc[113] = hid::MAIN_ITEM_VARIABLE | hid::MAIN_ITEM_RELATIVE;
47             rdesc[141] = hid::MAIN_ITEM_VARIABLE | hid::MAIN_ITEM_RELATIVE;
48         }
49
50         rdesc
51     }
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Rust language features that would help

1. Wrap `bindings::HID_GROUP_*` as a Group enum with `#[repr(u16)]`

```
1 /// HID device groups are intended to help categories HID devices based on a set
2 /// of common quirks and logic that they will require to function correctly.
3 #[repr(u16)]
4 pub enum Group {
5     Any = bindings::HID_GROUP_ANY as u16,
6     Generic = bindings::HID_GROUP_GENERIC as u16,
7     Multitouch = bindings::HID_GROUP_MULTITOUCH as u16,
8     SensorHub = bindings::HID_GROUP_SENSOR_HUB as u16,
9     MultitouchWin8 = bindings::HID_GROUP_MULTITOUCH_WIN_8 as u16,
10    RMI = bindings::HID_GROUP_RMI as u16,
11    Wacom = bindings::HID_GROUP_WACOM as u16,
12    LogitechDJDevice = bindings::HID_GROUP_LOGITECH_DJ_DEVICE as u16,
13    Steam = bindings::HID_GROUP_STEAM as u16,
14    Logitech27MHzDevice = bindings::HID_GROUP_LOGITECH_27MHZ_DEVICE as u16,
15    Vivaldi = bindings::HID_GROUP_VIVALDI as u16,
16 }
17
18 // TODO: use `const_trait_impl` once stabilized:
19 //
20 // ```
21 // impl const From<Group> for u16 {
22 //     /// [`Group`] variants are represented by [`u16`] values.
23 //     fn from(value: Group) -> Self {
24 //         value as Self
25 //     }
26 }
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Rust language features that would help

2. Need to convert Group to u16 for bindings::hid_device_id

```
18 // TODO: use `const_trait_impl` once stabilized.
19 //
20 // ```
21 // impl const From<Group> for u16 {
22 //     /// [`Group`] variants are represented by [`u16`] values.
23 //     fn from(value: Group) -> Self {
24 //         value as Self
25 //     }
26 // }
27 // ```
28 impl Group {
29     /// Internal function used to convert [`Group`] variants into [`u16`].
30     const fn into(self) -> u16 {
31         self as u16
32     }
33 }
34
35 /// Abstraction for the HID device ID structure `struct hid_device_id`.
36 #[repr(transparent)]
37 #[derive(Clone, Copy)]
38 pub struct DeviceId(bindings::hid_device_id);
39
40 impl DeviceId {
41     /// Equivalent to C's `HID_USB_DEVICE` macro.
42     ///
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Rust language features that would help

3. `new_usb` can be used in `const` contexts

```
37 #[derive(Clone, Copy)]
38 pub struct DeviceId(bindings::hid_device_id);
39
40 impl DeviceId {
41     /// Equivalent to C's `HID_USB_DEVICE` macro.
42     ///
43     /// Create a new `hid::DeviceId` from a group, vendor ID, and device ID
44     /// number.
45     pub const fn new_usb(group: Group, vendor: u32, product: u32) -> Self {
46         Self(bindings::hid_device_id {
47             bus: 0x3, // BUS_USB
48             group: group.into(),
49             vendor,
50             product,
51             driver_data: 0,
52         })
53     }
54 }
55
56 // ... Driver implementation
57
58 kernel::hid_device_table!(
59     HID_TABLE,
60     MODULE_HID_TABLE,
61     <Clone> <Copy> <DeviceId> <hid::DeviceId> <TIdToG>
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Rust language features that would help

4. This declarative macro expands such that `new_usb` is called from a `const` context

```
46         Self(bindings::hid_device_id {
47             bus: 0x3, // BUS_USB
48             group: group.into(),
49             vendor,
50             product,
51             driver_data: 0,
52         })
53     }
54 }
55
56 // ... Driver implementation
57
58 kernel::hid_device_table!(
59     HID_TABLE,
60     MODULE_HID_TABLE,
61     <GloriousRust as hid::Driver>::IdInfo,
62     [(
63         hid::DeviceId::new_usb(
64             hid::Group::Generic,
65             bindings::USB_VENDOR_ID_SINOWEALTH,
66             bindings::USB_DEVICE_ID_GLORIOUS_MODEL_0,
67         ),
68     )],
69 )]
70 ):
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Rust language features that would help

5. Cannot implement From trait due to lack of const_trait_impl

```
10     RMI = bindings::HID_GROUP_RMI as u16,
11     Wacom = bindings::HID_GROUP_WACOM as u16,
12     LogitechDJDevice = bindings::HID_GROUP_LOGITECH_DJ_DEVICE as u16,
13     Steam = bindings::HID_GROUP_STEAM as u16,
14     Logitech27MHzDevice = bindings::HID_GROUP_LOGITECH_27MHZ_DEVICE as u16,
15     Vivaldi = bindings::HID_GROUP_VIVALDI as u16,
16 }
17
18 // TODO: use `const_trait_impl` once stabilized:
19 //
20 // ```
21 // impl const From<Group> for u16 {
22 //     /// [`Group`] variants are represented by [`u16`] values.
23 //     fn from(value: Group) -> Self {
24 //         value as Self
25 //     }
26 // }
27 // ```
28 impl Group {
29     /// Internal function used to convert [`Group`] variants into [`u16`].
30     const fn into(self) -> u16 {
31         self as u16
32     }
33 }
34
35 // Abstraction for the HID device ID structure `struct hid_device_id`
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Quickly going over the core code

A lot of it uses Danilo's common infrastructure for driver bindings, compared to my [initial RFC](#).

```
1 // SPDX-License-Identifier: GPL-2.0
2
3 // Copyright (C) 2025 Rahul Rameshbabu <sergeantsagara@protonmail.com>
4
5 //! Abstractions for the HID interface.
6 //!
7 //! C header: [`include/linux/hid.h`](srctree/include/linux/hid.h)
8
9 use crate::{device, device_id::RawDeviceId, driver, error::*, prelude::*,
10 types::Opaque};
11 use core::{
12     marker::PhantomData,
13     ptr::{addr_of_mut, NonNull},
14 };
15 /// Indicates the item is static read-only.
16 ///
17 /// Refer to [Device Class Definition for HID 1.11]
18 /// Section 6.2.2.5 Input, Output, and Feature Items.
19 ///
20 /// [Device Class Definition for HID 1.11]:
21 https://www.usb.org/sites/default/files/hid1_11.pdf
22 pub const MAIN_ITEM_CONSTANT: u8 = bindings::HID_MAIN_ITEM_CONSTANT as u8;
23
24 /// Indicates the item represents data from a physical control.
```

I plan to discuss this topic in much greater detail at [LPC 2025](#), including the shortcomings of this implementation.

HID Abstractions in Rust

Difficulties making progress

NOTE: This is just my own interpretation from our mailing list discussions, and I apologize if this summary is inaccurate in any way.

Miguel expressed preference that the patches go through the HID tree and make its way to Linus through HID merge requests

Jiri Kosina (HID maintainer) has expressed preference for the work to go straight to the rust-for-linux tree without his involvement

Deadlock

Benjamin Tissoires (HID maintainer) has expressed preference to be added for code reviews but not necessarily have the patches go through the linux-input mailing list or hid tree

HID Abstractions in Rust

Maintenance with being out-of-tree

```
1 diff --git a/rust/kernel/hid.rs b/rust/kernel/hid.rs
2 index a93804af8b78..588483bf7204 100644
3 --- a/rust/kernel/hid.rs
4 +++ b/rust/kernel/hid.rs
5 @@ -246,7 +246,7 @@ fn as_ref(&self) -> &device::Device<Ctx> {
6     let dev = unsafe { addr_of_mut!((*self.as_raw()).dev) };
7
8     // SAFETY: `dev` points to a valid `struct device`.
9 -     unsafe { device::Device::as_ref(dev) }
10 +     unsafe { device::Device::from_raw(dev) }
11 }
12 }
13
14 @@ -297,12 +297,6 @@ pub fn product(&self) -> u32 {
15 // * `DRIVER_DATA_OFFSET` is the offset to the `driver_data` field.
16 unsafe impl RawDeviceId for DeviceId {
17     type RawType = bindings::hid_device_id;
18 -
19 -     const DRIVER_DATA_OFFSET: usize = core::mem::offset_of!(bindings::hid_device_id,
20 driver_data);
21 -
22 -     fn index(&self) -> usize {
23 -         self.0.driver_data
24     }
25 }
26 /// [IdTable] type for HID.
```

HID Abstractions in Rust

Questions for follow-up work

HID Abstractions in Rust

Questions for follow-up work

- Should I start developing more changes on top of the patches out on the mailing list?

HID Abstractions in Rust

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- Should I start developing more changes on top of the patches out on the mailing list?
- If so, should I start sending those out for review to the mailing list as well?

HID Abstractions in Rust

Questions for follow-up work

- Should I start developing more changes on top of the patches out on the mailing list?
- If so, should I start sending those out for review to the mailing list as well?
- Are there any alternative methods for handling the patches that would make all maintainers happy?
Maybe I send out the patches to rust-for-linux with Benjamin CCed, and I send merge requests to Linus's tree after going through the appropriate reviews?

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

C domain

```
struct drm_connector
```

...

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

C domain

```
struct drm_connector
```

```
...
```

```
void *rust;
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

C domain

```
struct drm_connector
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```
...
```

```
void *rust;
```

← An opaque handle to the Rust extension of `struct drm_connector` used to signal when the Rust instance should be `drop`-ed

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

C domain

```
struct drm_connector
```

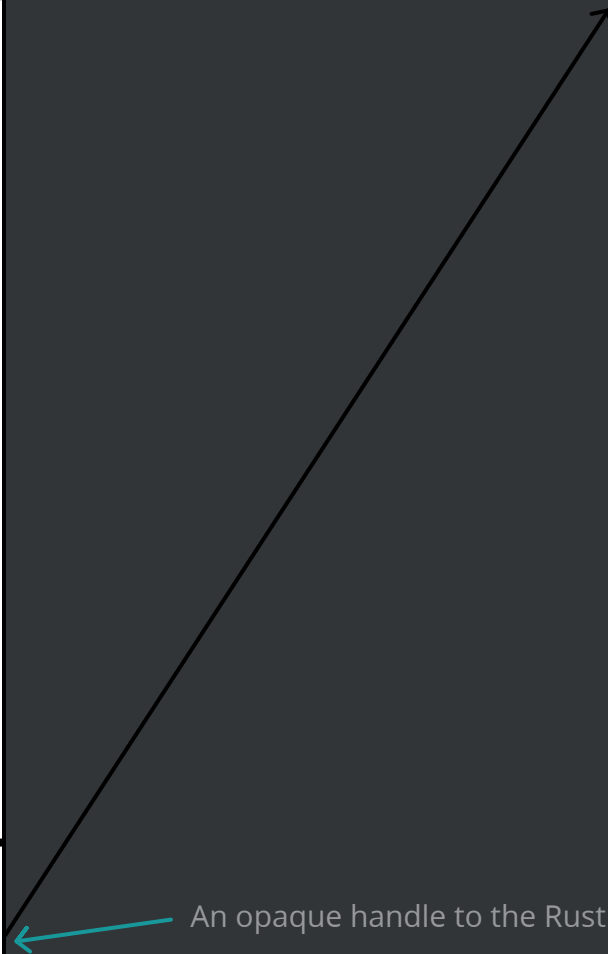
...

```
void *rust;
```

Rust domain

```
struct drm::Connector
```

...



An opaque handle to the Rust extension of `struct drm_connector` used to signal when the Rust instance should be `drop`-ed

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

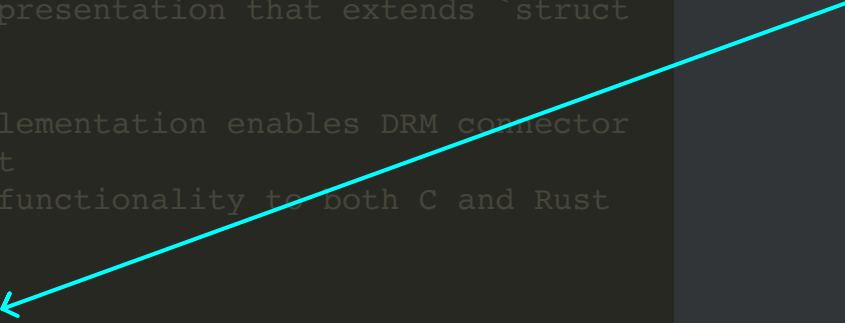
```
1  /// A DRM connector representation that extends `struct
   drm_connector`.
2  ///
3  /// This connector implementation enables DRM connector
   API development in Rust
4  /// and exposing said functionality to both C and Rust
   DRM consumers.
5  #[pin_data]
6  pub struct Connector {
7      #[pin]
8      raw_connector: Opaque<*mut bindings::drm_connector>,
9      rust_only_attribute: bool,
10
11     /// A connector needs to be pinned since it is
   referred to using a raw
12     /// pointer field `rust` in the C DRM `struct
   drm_connector` implementation.
13     #[pin]
14     _pin: PhantomPinned,
15 }
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

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  referred to using a raw
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  drm_connector` implementation.
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An appendage for C's
`struct drm_connector`



Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

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10
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13     #[pin]
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```

An appendage for C's
`struct drm_connector`

Need to make sure to pin `drm::Connector` so the memory is not moved from the handle provided to the C structure

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

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10
11     /// A connector needs to be pinned since it is
  referred to using a raw
12     /// pointer field `rust` in the C DRM `struct
  drm_connector` implementation.
13     #[pin]
14     _pin: PhantomPinned,
15 }
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An appendage for C's
`struct drm_connector`

An example field in Rust not directly
present in C's `struct drm_connector`

Need to make sure to pin `drm::Connector` so the memory is not moved from the handle provided to the C structure

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

```
1 /// A DRM connector representation that extends `struct
  drm_connector`.
2 ///
3 /// This connector implementation enables DRM connector
  API development in Rust
4 /// and exposing said functionality to both C and Rust
  DRM consumers.
5 #[pin_data]
6 pub struct Connector {
7     #[pin]
8     raw_connector: Opaque<*mut bindings::drm_connector>,
9     rust_only_attribute: bool,
10
11     /// A connector needs to be pinned since it is
  referred to using a raw
12     /// pointer field `rust` in the C DRM `struct
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14     _pin: PhantomPinned,
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```

An appendage for C's
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Pin-ing of `raw_connector` feels unnecessary to me since its a pointer to a C structure. We can move this conversation to hallway track if we are running low on time

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Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

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  drm_connector`.
2 ///
3 /// This connector implementation enables DRM connector
  API development in Rust
4 /// and exposing said functionality to both C and Rust
  DRM consumers.
5 #[pin_data]
6 pub struct Connector {
7     #[pin]
8     raw_connector: Opaque<*mut bindings::drm_connector>,
9     rust_only_attribute: bool,
10
11     /// A connector needs to be pinned since it is
  referred to using a raw
12     /// pointer field `rust` in the C DRM `struct
  drm_connector` implementation.
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14     _pin: PhantomPinned,
15 }
```

An appendage for C's

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An example field in Rust not directly

present in C's `struct drm_connector`

Need to make sure to pin `drm::Connector` so the memory is not moved from the handle provided to the C structure

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

```
1 // C entry point for initializing the Rust extension for a DRM connector.
2 //
3 // When a DRM connector is being initialized in the core C stack, the Rust
4 // `Connector` extension needs to be allocated and initialized.
5 #[export]
6 pub unsafe extern "C" fn drm_connector_init_rust(
7     raw_connector: *mut bindings::drm_connector,
8 ) -> kernel::ffi::c_int {
9     let connector = match KBox::pin_init(
10         try_pin_init!(Connector{
11             raw_connector <- Opaque::new(raw_connector),
12             rust_only_attribute: true,
13             _pin: PhantomPinned,
14         }),
15         GFP_KERNEL,
16     ) {
17         Ok(kbox) => kbox,
18         Err(_) => return -ENOMEM.to_errno(),
19     };
20
21     // Provide the C `struct drm_connector` instance a handle to the Rust
22     // `drm::connector:Connector` implementation for Rust connector APIs and the
23     // `drm_connector_cleanup_rust` cleanup call.
24     //
25     // SAFETY: `raw_connector` is a valid pointer with a `rust` field that does
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

Can be called from C code in the kernel

```
1 /// C entry point for initializing the Rust extension for a DRM connector.
2 ///
3 /// When a DRM connector is being initialized in the core C stack, the Rust
4 /// `Connector` extension needs to be allocated and initialized.
5 #[export]
6 pub unsafe extern "C" fn drm_connector_init_rust(
7     raw_connector: *mut bindings::drm_connector,
8 ) -> kernel::ffi::c_int {
9     let connector = match KBox::pin_init(
10         try_pin_init!(Connector{
11             raw_connector <- Opaque::new(raw_connector),
12             rust_only_attribute: true,
13             _pin: PhantomPinned,
14         }),
15         GFP_KERNEL,
16     ) {
17         Ok(kbox) => kbox,
18         Err(_) => return -ENOMEM.to_errno(),
19     };
20
21     // Provide the C `struct drm_connector` instance a handle to the Rust
22     // `drm::connector:Connector` implementation for Rust connector APIs and the
23     // `drm_connector_cleanup_rust` cleanup call.
24     //
25     // SAFETY: `raw_connector` is a valid pointer with a `rust` field that does
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

Pin-init a Rust `drm::Connector` that will be referred to by struct `drm_connector`

```
2 ///
3 /// When a DRM connector is being initialized in the core C stack, the Rust
4 /// `Connector` extension needs to be allocated and initialized.
5 #[export]
6 pub unsafe extern "C" fn drm_connector_init_rust(
7     raw_connector: *mut bindings::drm_connector,
8 ) -> kernel::ffi::c_int {
9     let connector = match KBox::pin_init(
10         try_pin_init!(Connector{
11             raw_connector <- Opaque::new(raw_connector),
12             rust_only_attribute: true,
13             _pin: PhantomPinned,
14         }),
15         GFP_KERNEL,
16     ) {
17         Ok(kbox) => kbox,
18         Err(_) => return -ENOMEM.to_errno(),
19     };
20
21     // Provide the C `struct drm_connector` instance a handle to the Rust
22     // `drm::connector:Connector` implementation for Rust connector APIs and the
23     // `drm_connector_cleanup_rust` cleanup call.
24     //
25     // SAFETY: `raw_connector` is a valid pointer with a `rust` field that does
26     // not already point to an initialized `drm::connector::Connector`
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

Provide a raw pointer to the pinned `drm::Connector` for struct `drm_connector`

```
6 pub unsafe extern "C" fn drm_connector_init_rust(
7     raw_connector: *mut bindings::drm_connector,
8 ) -> kernel::ffi::c_int {
9     let connector = match KBox::pin_init(
10        try_pin_init!(Connector{
11            raw_connector <- Opaque::new(raw_connector),
12            rust_only_attribute: true,
13            _pin: PhantomPinned,
14        }),
15        GFP_KERNEL,
16    ) {
17        Ok(kbox) => kbox,
18        Err(_) => return -ENOMEM.to_errno(),
19    };
20
21    // Provide the C `struct drm_connector` instance a handle to the Rust
22    // `drm::connector:Connector` implementation for Rust connector APIs and the
23    // `drm_connector_cleanup_rust` cleanup call.
24    //
25    // SAFETY: `raw_connector` is a valid pointer with a `rust` field that does
26    // not already point to an initialized `drm::connector::Connector`
27    unsafe { (*raw_connector).rust = connector.into_foreign() };
28
29    0
30 }
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the Rust code

```
1 /// C entry point for tearing down the Rust extension for a DRM connector.
2 ///
3 /// When a DRM connector is being cleaned up from the core C stack, the Rust
4 /// `Connector` extension instance needs to be dropped.
5 #[export]
6 pub unsafe extern "C" fn drm_connector_cleanup_rust(raw_connector: *mut
7     bindings::drm_connector) {
8     // SAFETY: By the safety requirements of this function, the `rust` field of
9     // `raw_connector`, a valid pointer, is initialized by the `into_foreign()`
10    // call made by `drm_connector_init_rust()`.
11    drop(unsafe { <Pin<KBox<Connector>>>::from_foreign((*raw_connector).rust) });
12 }
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the C code

In `include/drm/drm_connector.h`, declare the Rust-implemented functions. These declarations probably could

be moved into `drivers/gpu/drm/drm_connector.c`

```
1 #if IS_ENABLED(CONFIG_RUST)
2 int drm_connector_init_rust(struct drm_connector *connector);
3 void drm_connector_cleanup_rust(struct drm_connector *connector);
4 #else
5 static inline int drm_connector_init_rust(struct drm_connector *connector)
6 {
7     return 0;
8 }
9
10 static inline void drm_connector_cleanup_rust(struct drm_connector *connector)
11 {
12 }
13 #endif
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the C code

```
1 static int drm_connector_init_only(struct drm_device *dev,
2                                   struct drm_connector *connector,
3                                   const struct drm_connector_funcs *funcs,
4                                   int connector_type,
5                                   struct i2c_adapter *ddc)
6 {
7     struct drm_mode_config *config = &dev->mode_config;
8     int ret;
9     struct ida *connector_ida =
10         &drm_connector_enum_list[connector_type].ida;
11
12     WARN_ON(drm_drv_uses_atomic_modeset(dev) &&
13            (!funcs->atomic_destroy_state ||
14             !funcs->atomic_duplicate_state));
15
16     ret = __drm_mode_object_add(dev, &connector->base,
17                                DRM_MODE_OBJECT_CONNECTOR,
18                                false, drm_connector_free);
19     if (ret)
20         return ret;
21
22     connector->base.properties = &connector->properties;
23     connector->dev = dev;
24     connector->funcs = funcs;
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the C code

Call `drm_connector_init_rust` from a core DRM connector initialization helper

```
42     goto out_put_id;
43 }
44 connector->name =
45     kasprintf(GFP_KERNEL, "%s-%d",
46             drm_connector_enum_list[connector_type].name,
47             connector->connector_type_id);
48 if (!connector->name) {
49     ret = -ENOMEM;
50     goto out_put_type_id;
51 }
52
53 ret = drm_connector_init_rust(connector);
54 if (ret)
55     goto out_put_name;
56
57 /* provide ddc symlink in sysfs */
58 connector->ddc = ddc;
59
60 INIT_LIST_HEAD(&connector->head);
61 INIT_LIST_HEAD(&connector->global_connector_list_entry);
62 INIT_LIST_HEAD(&connector->probed_modes);
63 INIT_LIST_HEAD(&connector->modes);
64 mutex_init(&connector->mutex);
65 mutex_init(&connector->cec.mutex);
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the C code

```
1 void drm_connector_cleanup(struct drm_connector *connector)
2 {
3     struct drm_device *dev = connector->dev;
4     struct drm_display_mode *mode, *t;
5
6     /* The connector should have been removed from userspace long before
7      * it is finally destroyed.
8      */
9     if (WARN_ON(connector->registration_state ==
10                DRM_CONNECTOR_REGISTERED))
11         drm_connector_unregister(connector);
12
13     drm_connector_cleanup_rust(connector);
14
15     platform_device_unregister(connector->hdmi_audio.codec_pdev);
16
17     if (connector->privacy_screen) {
18         drm_privacy_screen_put(connector->privacy_screen);
19         connector->privacy_screen = NULL;
20     }
21
22     if (connector->tile_group) {
23         drm_mode_put_tile_group(dev, connector->tile_group);
24         connector->tile_group = NULL;
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Examining the C code

Call `drm_connector_cleanup_rust` from a core DRM connector cleanup function

```
1 void drm_connector_cleanup(struct drm_connector *connector)
2 {
3     struct drm_device *dev = connector->dev;
4     struct drm_display_mode *mode, *t;
5
6     /* The connector should have been removed from userspace long before
7      * it is finally destroyed.
8      */
9     if (WARN_ON(connector->registration_state ==
10                DRM_CONNECTOR_REGISTERED))
11         drm_connector_unregister(connector);
12
13     drm_connector_cleanup_rust(connector);
14
15     platform_device_unregister(connector->hdmi_audio.codec_pdev);
16
17     if (connector->privacy_screen) {
18         drm_privacy_screen_put(connector->privacy_screen);
19         connector->privacy_screen = NULL;
20     }
21
22     if (connector->tile_group) {
23         drm_mode_put_tile_group(dev, connector->tile_group);
24         connector->tile_group = NULL;
25     }
26 }
```

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Concerns shared on the mailing list

Thanks for the explanation.

I'm not sure Rust is at the point where we can use it for the framework. If we want to make this work useful, we have to make it consistent and usable across all drivers, but we do have drivers for architectures that aren't supported by Rust yet (let alone tier 1).

So it feels to me that it would be a bit premature for that work to be in Rust. If you do want to use it from a Rust driver though, feel free to write bindings for it, that would be a great addition.

Maxime

<https://lore.kernel.org/rust-for-linux/20250827-cherubic-tapir-of-wind-5cf0c4@houat/>

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Analyzing the state of Rust support in the kernel

Architecture	Toolchain Tier	Constraints
<code>arm</code>	Tier 2	ARMv7 Little Endian only.
<code>arm64</code>	Tier 1	Little Endian only.
<code>loongarch</code>	Tier 2	
<code>riscv</code>	Tier 2	<code>riscv64</code> and LLVM/Clang only.
<code>x86</code>	Tier 1	<code>x86_64</code> only.

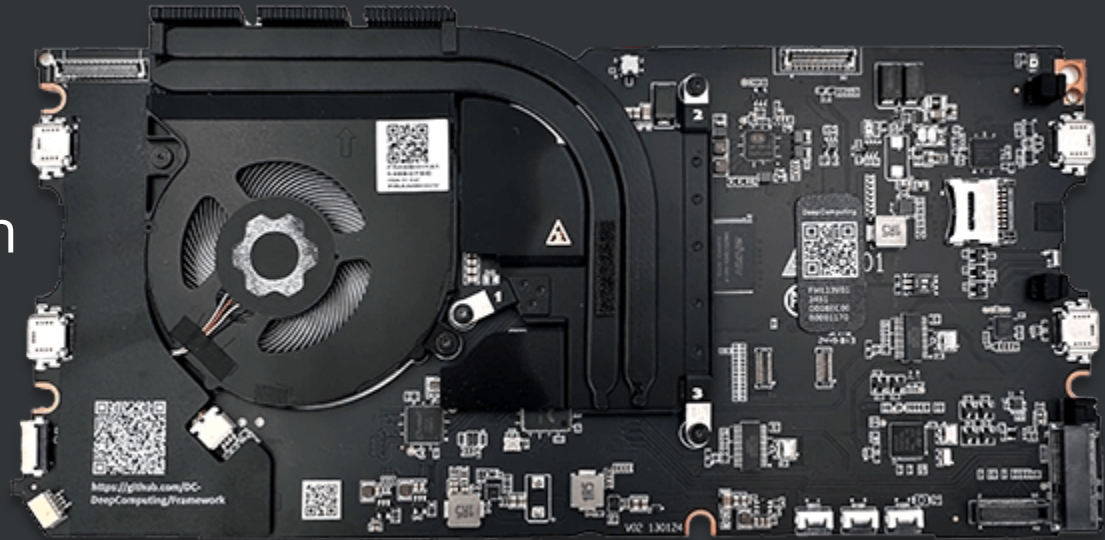
- <https://docs.kernel.org/rust/arch-support.html>
- <https://doc.rust-lang.org/rustc/platform-support.html>

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

My take on the current Rust toolchain support

Many consumer electronics platforms will run `x86_64`, `aarch64` little endian, or `RISC-V`. I, personally, have considered running a RISC-V laptop using the [DeepComputing RISC-V mainboard](#).

`RISC-V` is tier 2 in Rust toolchain support.



Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

My take on the current Rust toolchain support

I am not entirely sure the other architectures matter

I am having a hard time imagining someone hooking up consumer displays or panels to other architectures and wanting panel control support



Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

Rust for Linux distro availability

Rust support in the kernel is marked experimental

Having a feature like this require Rust support might conflict with the intent of marking support "experimental", given how it would be widely used for personal computing applications of Linux



ubuntu



`CONFIG_RUST` enabled in distro kernels

- NixOS
- Gentoo (trivial to enable)
- Arch Linux
- Ubuntu

Extending `drm_connector` in Rust

What should we do next?

First, I want to heavily discuss with folks like Maxime Ripard. I plan to start with architecture design of the feature. The topic is language-agnostic.

In parallel, I plan to share this presentation with Maxime and get a better sense of his concerns.

Based on these conversations, either I go ahead with the implementation in Rust or do the core implementation in C.

Thank yous

Miguel, Danilo, and Benno have been instrumental in my journey writing Rust patches for the Linux kernel.

I am grateful to Benjamin Tissoires and Jiri Kosina for taking the time to review my changes on the HID side of things.

Thanks, Maxime Ripard, for the feedback on the mailing list, and I am excited to share both architecture details and patches for supporting brightness control as well as other monitor control properties in the future.

I would like to thank Jason Gunthorpe for providing me help when I wanted to first contribute to the Linux kernel and for being a big inspiration for me. Jason has also been supportive of me when I want to explore these types of topics and independently contribute to the kernel.

**That was a mouthful.
Any questions?**