

IOMMU Evaluation in Automotive use-cases

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WHO AM I ?

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- Career : 10 years experiences in embedded software development
 - Development and verification for Mobile and In-vehicle software platform
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- Business line: Design of semiconductor for both hardware and software.

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IOMMU EVALUATION IN AUTOMOTIVE USE-CASES

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AGENDA

- Motivation
- IOMMU Overview
- IOMMU support for Automotive use-cases
 - Buffer Sharing
 - Resource Isolation
- Conclusion

MOTIVATION



MOTIVATION (1/3)

- Nowadays, multiple applications or services running in parallel in a vehicle.
- The services can be implemented in multiple silicon or share the power of a single silicon.



MOTIVATION (2/3)

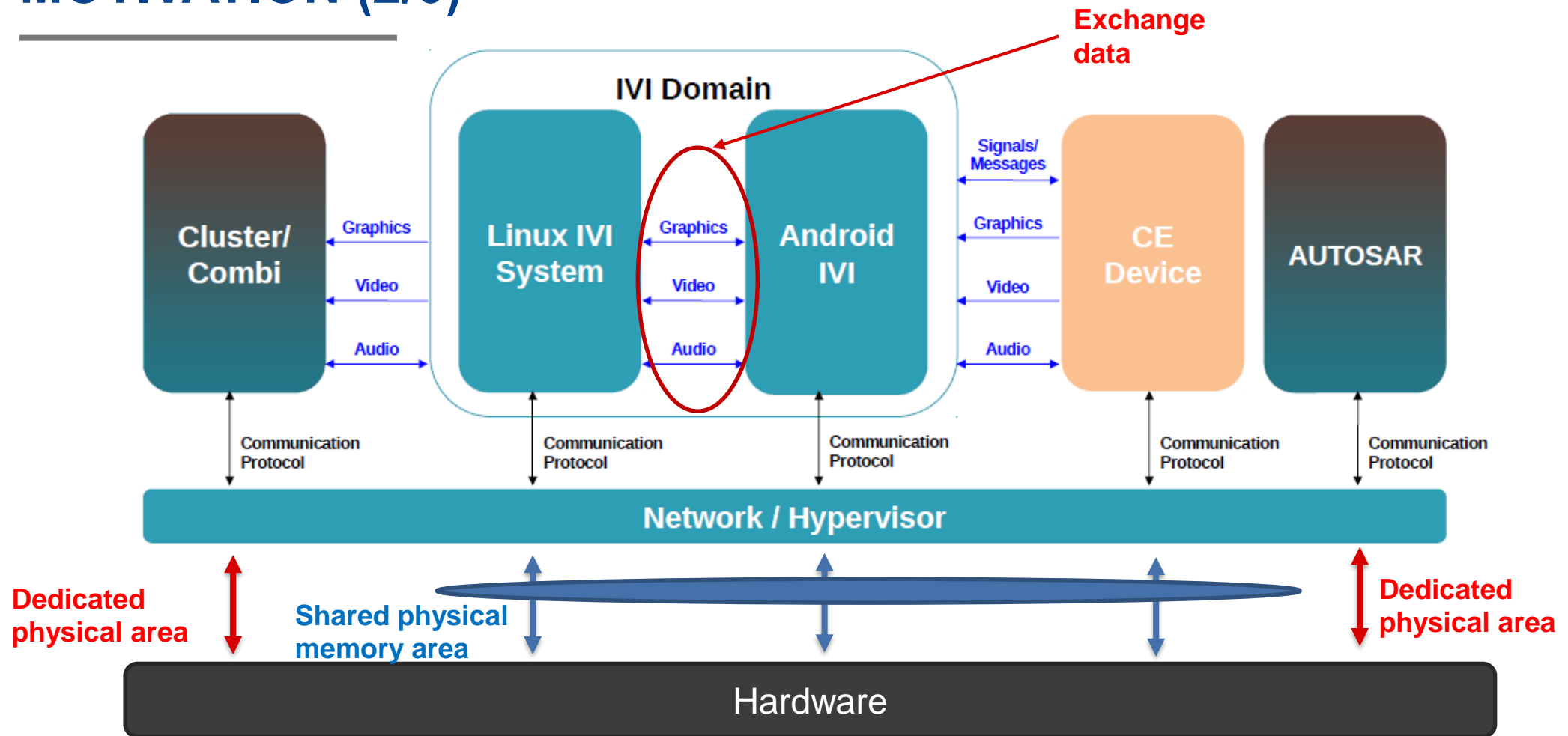
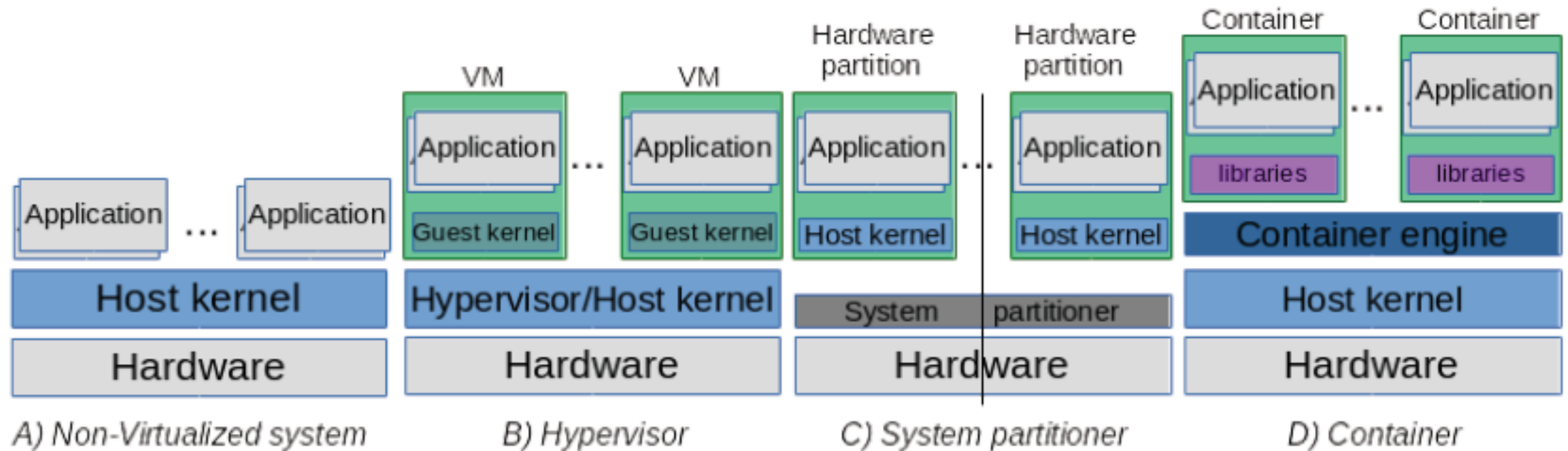


Image from [GENIVI Graphics Sharing and Distributed HMI Compositing presentation in Dec 2017](#)

MOTIVATION (3/3)



Need
IOMMU
support ?



Optional

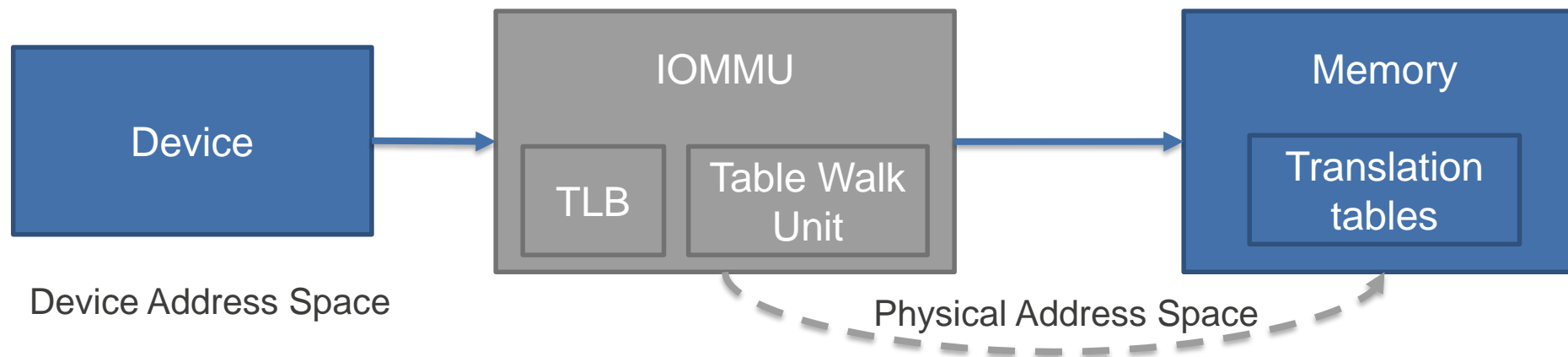
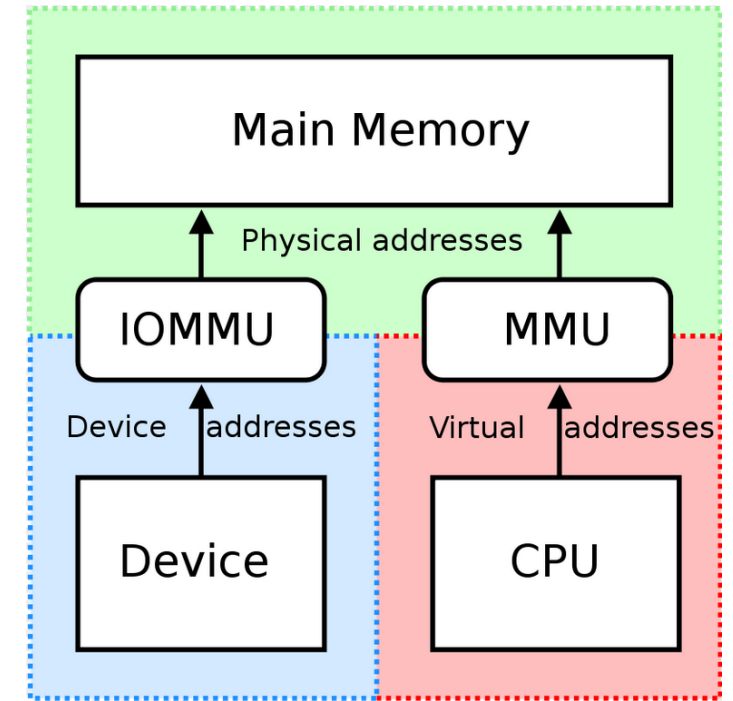
Required

Image taken from [The AGL Software Defined Connected Car Architecture white paper](#)

IOMMU OVERVIEW

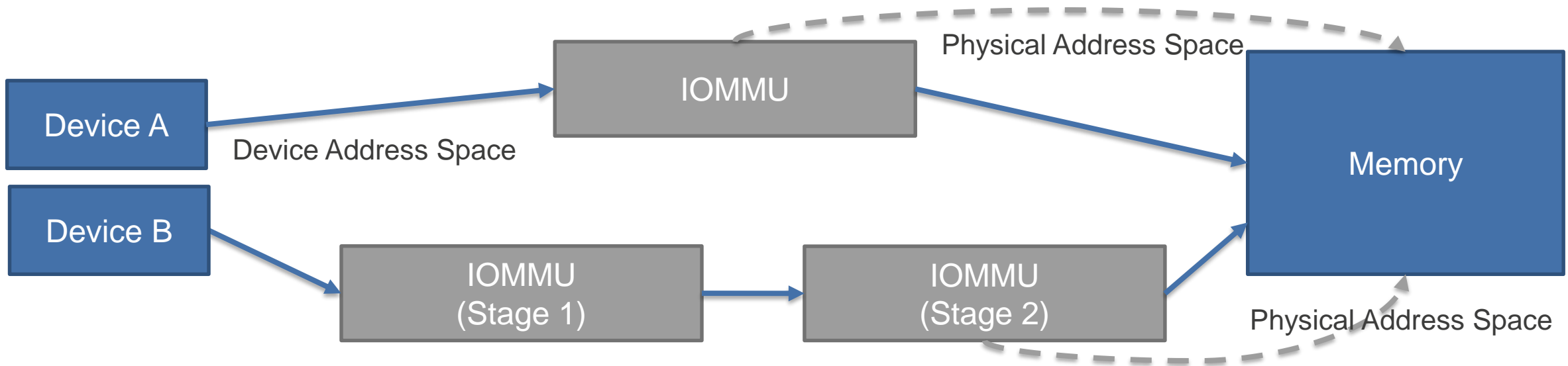
IOMMU OVERVIEW – IOMMU HARDWARE

- Have similar capability like MMU for CPU cores.
- Have been supported in recent ARM architecture, i.e. ARMv7 and ARMv8.x
 - In ARMv7, it's an optional extension called LPAE (Large Physical Address Extension), be available in ARM Cortex-A15 and newer ARMv7 cores.



IOMMU OVERVIEW – IOMMU HARDWARE

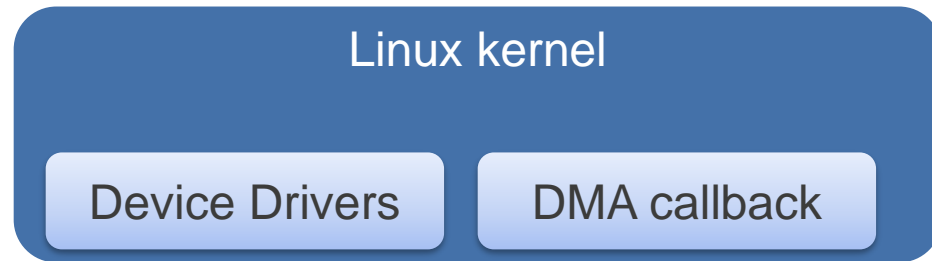
- Support 03 translation granule type.
 - 4KB, 16KB and 64KB
- Support 1-stage address translation and 2-stage address translation.
 - 1 stage (Physical Address <-> Virtual Address)
 - 2 stage (Physical Address <-> Immediate Physical Address <-> Virtual Address)



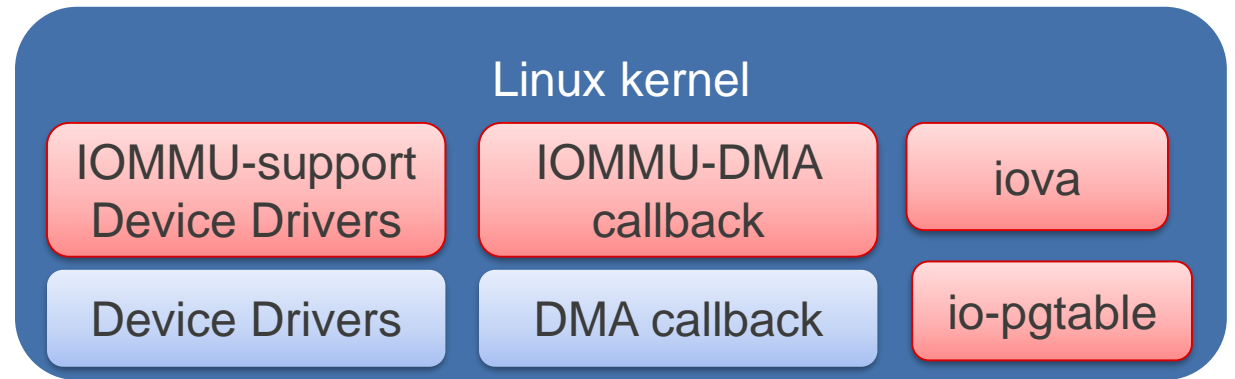
IOMMU OVERVIEW – IOMMU FRAMEWORK

- Be a part of Linux kernel for a long time (dated back to 2007).
- Support 4KB (default configuration) page size, 16KB and 64KB.
- Support managing address translation for Linux device drivers.
 - Initialize the translation contexts (MMU pagetables)
 - Initialize the memory mapping, physical to virtual, and register DMA callback handlers for each device attached to the contexts.
 - Re-mapping the buffers when sharing buffers are triggered across the contexts.

IOMMU OVERVIEW – IOMMU FRAMEWORK



Without IOMMU support



With IOMMU support

IOMMU SUPPORT FOR AUTOMOTIVE USE-CASES

IOMMU SUPPORT FOR AUTOMOTIVE USE-CASES

HOW IOMMU SUPPORT AUTOMOTIVE USE-CASES ?

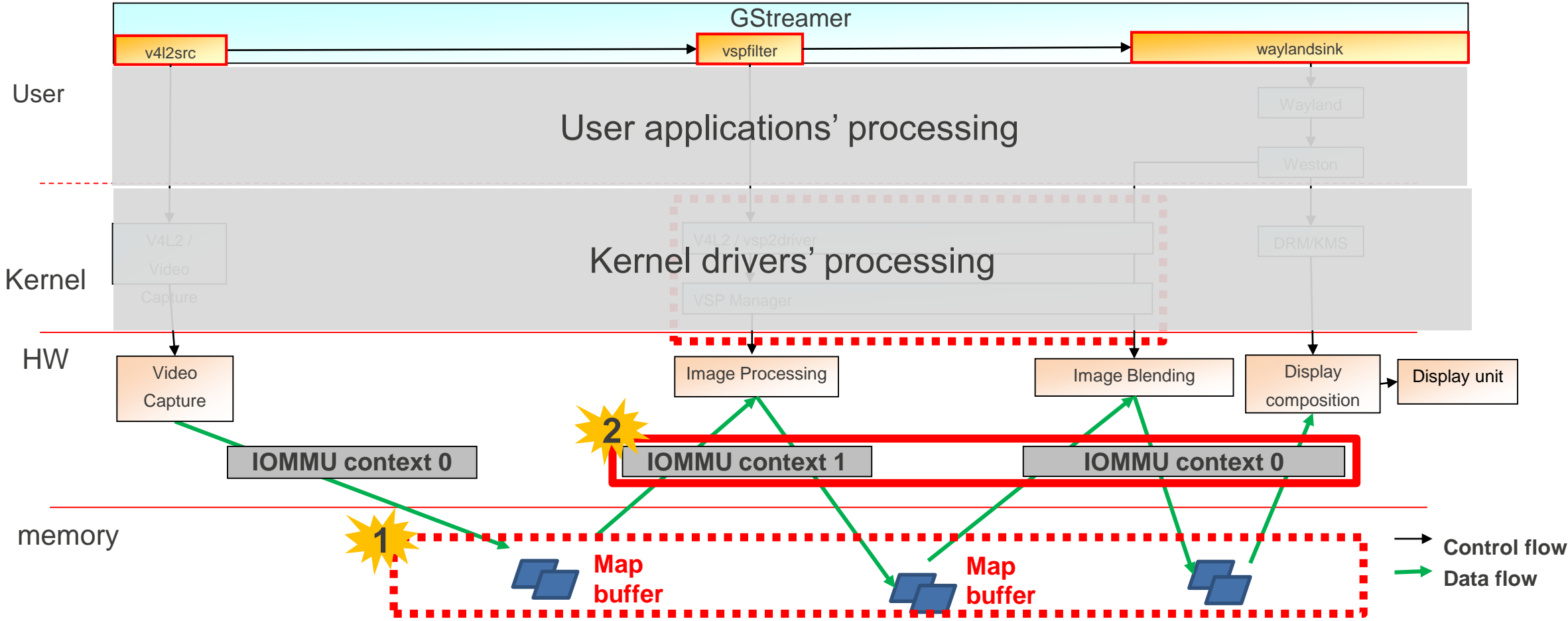
- Guarantee the correct and efficient dataflow among the devices.
- **Buffer sharing**
 - Among devices in same contexts
 - Among devices in different contexts
 - Between non-IOMMU-supported devices and IOMMU-supported devices
- **Resource isolation**
 - Create different memory mapping to grant access or block the access to specific memory areas.

BUFFER SHARING

VIDEO CAPTURE: PROCESSING FLOW AND ISSUES

1 Demand for BIG buffer allocation

2 Sharing data between IOMMU contexts



BUFFER SHARING

BIG BUFFER ALLOCATION - USE CONTIGUOUS DMA BUFFER – 1/3

- Why ?
 - The multimedia use-cases require a lot of CMA buffers.
 - With the default kernel allocation (4KB per allocation), it takes time to map/re-map big CMA buffers (e.g 2MB, 4MB, etc).
 - Should use CMA contiguous allocation for big buffer allocation.
 - Improve the performance
 - Buffer sharing among two or more devices with different memory requirements.

Use DMA_ATTR_FORCE_CONTIGUOUS

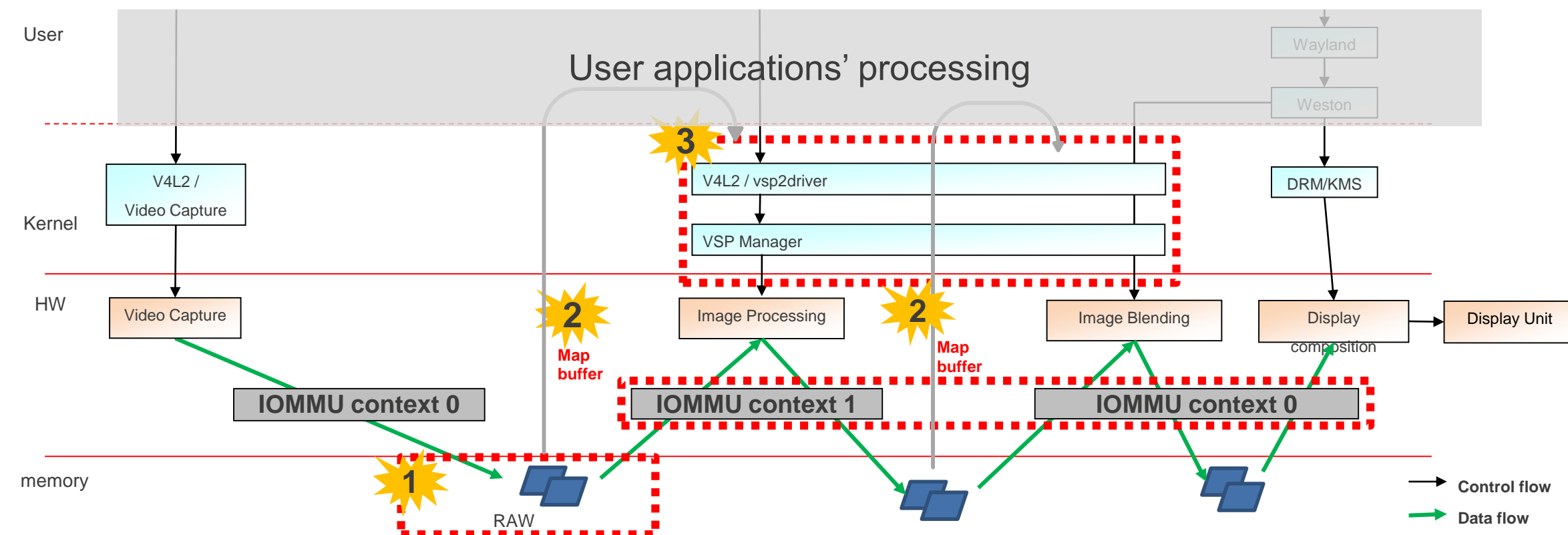
- The IOMMU support for ARM64 architecture has been available since Linux kernel v4.12.

* See <https://www.kernel.org/doc/Documentation/DMA-attributes.txt> for more detail

BUFFER SHARING

BIG BUFFER ALLOCATION - USE CONTIGUOUS DMA BUFFER – 2/3

- 1** ▪ CMA buffer allocation (in one function call)
- 2** ▪ Map the buffer to corresponding IOMMU pagetable (in one function call)
- 3** ▪ Buffer is shared via DMA Buffer sharing Framework



BUFFER SHARING

BIG BUFFER ALLOCATION - PHYSICALLY CONTIGUOUS DMA BUFFER – 3/3

- Below shows the performance between non-IOMMU and IOMMU environment

| No. | Video capture | non-IOMMU | IOMMU enabled + use contiguous CMA Buffers |
|-----|--|-----------|---|
| 1 | Video capture (1080p) | 60 fps | 60 fps |
| 2 | Video capture with scaling (input/output: 1080p/720p) | 60 fps | 60 fps |

CONCLUSION



CONCLUSION

- IOMMU can support buffer sharing and resource isolation, which are important criteria of implementing complex Automotive use-cases.
- To guarantee the system performance when IOMMU is enabled,
 - Use contiguous CMA buffer allocation for sharing big buffers.
 - Handle the address translation and dataflow across devices with different view of system memory.
- Future work
 - Check the dataflow and consider the solution to ensure the system performance in other automotive use-cases.

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Thanks for your attention.

Q&A



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