

# Unifying Android and Mainline Kernel Graphics Stack

**Gustavo Padovan**

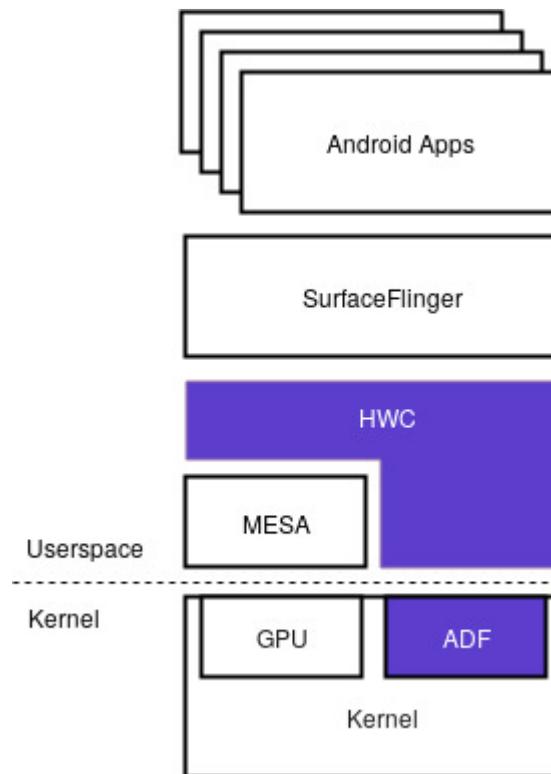
Principal Software Engineer @ Collabora Ltd

Open First

# Agenda

- The Android World
- DRM Atomic Modesetting
- Mainline Explicit Synchronization

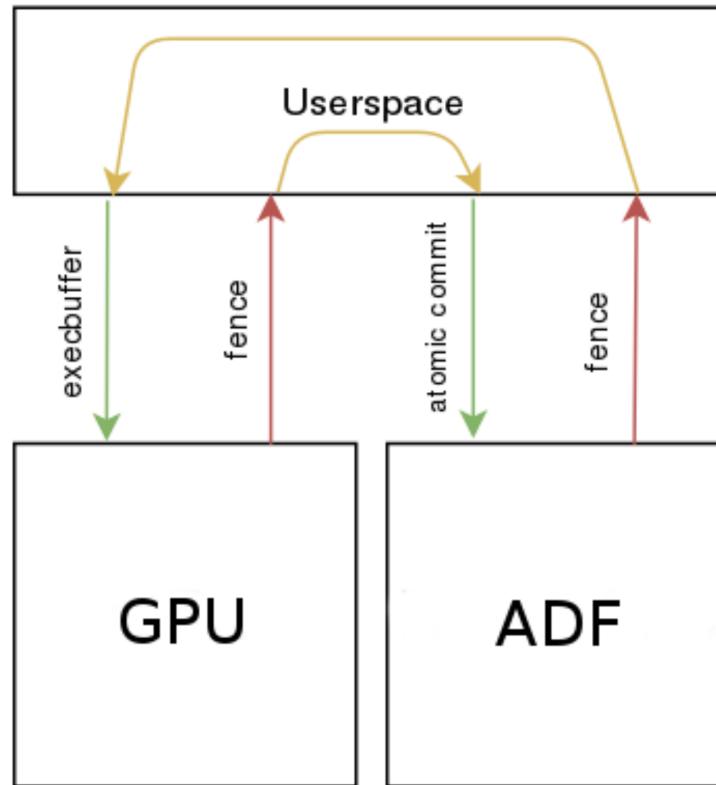
# The Android World



## Atomic Display Framework (ADF)

- Add atomic updates of planes
- Add custom Pixel Format
- Driver-specific blob
- Add explicit synchronization

# Explicit Synchronization



## Sync Framework

- Use fd for fence passing
- **Sync Timeline** to control ordering
- **Sync Point** to represent a fence
- **Sync Fence** for fd passing

## Sync Timeline



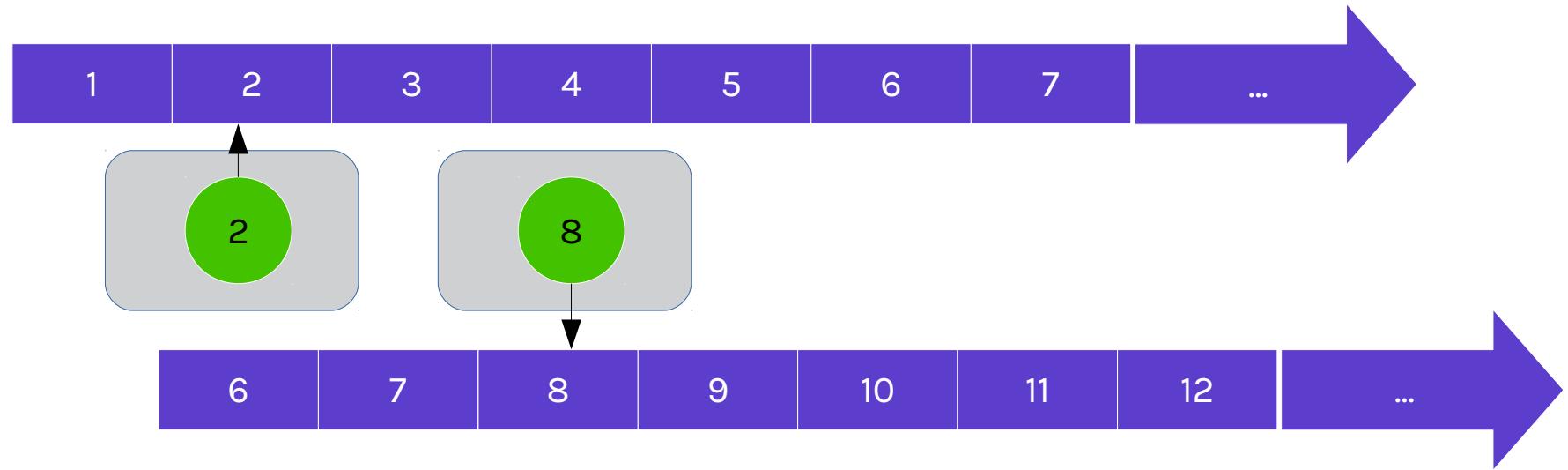
- Monotonically increasing counter
- Usually one timeline per driver context

# Sync Point



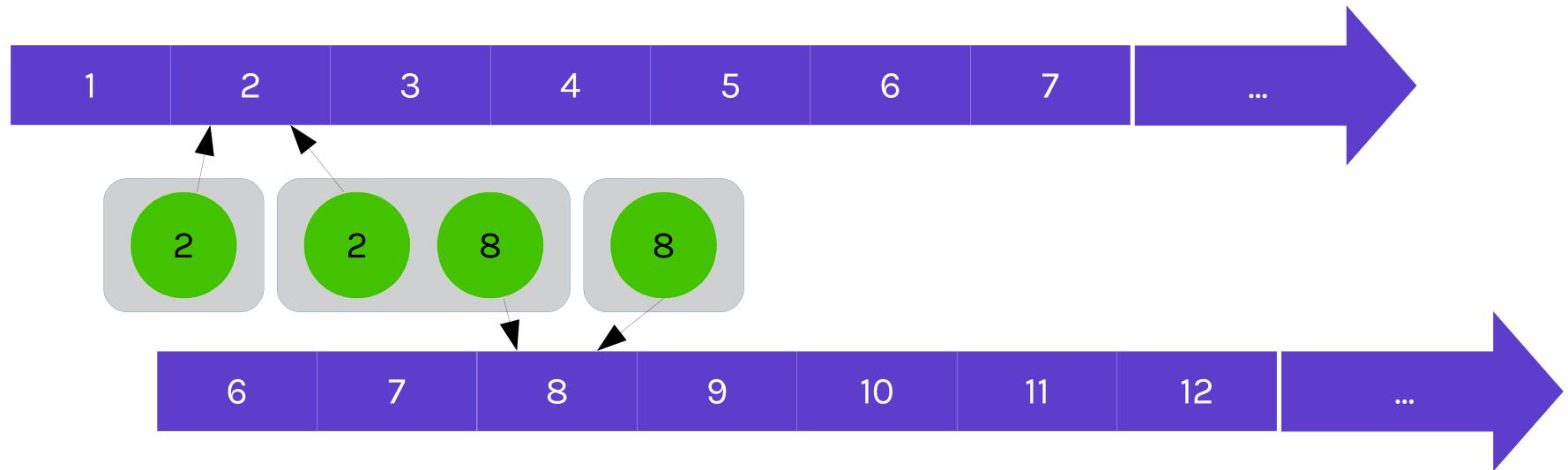
- It is the fence
- Represents a value on the timeline
- Three states: active, signaled and error

# Sync Fence



- Wrap Sync Point into a file
- Also have active, signaled and error states
- Shared via fd-passing to/from userspace

## Sync Fence



- Sync fences can be merged!
- It can contain many Sync Points

## Sync Framework – userspace API

- sync\_wait(fd, timeout)
- fd3 = sync\_merge(fd1, fd2)
- sync\_fence\_info(fd, info)

## ADF and Mainline

- Single update queue
- No atomic operation for modeset
- Inflexible mid-layer
- Driver specific blob
- New and not generic userspace API

## DRM Atomic Modesetting

- Atomic plane updates
- Atomic modesets
- Single IOCTL using property infrastructure
- Check and commit phases
- DRM\_ATOMIC\_TEST\_ONLY flag
- Easily extensible through helpers

## Sync Framework de-staging

- Android Sync added to staging in 2013
- Mainly need for fd-passing
- Removed Sync Timeline
- Removed Sync Point
- Reworked Sync Fence

## Sync File

- Renamed Sync Fence to Sync File
- Changed ioctl API
  - Provided patch to Android's libsync
- Removed internal kernel API
- Used strictly for fd-passing
  - `sync_file = sync_file_create(fence)`
  - `fence = sync_file_get_fence(fd)`

## DRM/KMS Explicit Synchronization

- Entirely in DRM Core
- Only available for Atomic Modesetting
- Extended DRM Properties
- In-fences: fences to wait before scanout
- Out-fences: fences create and signaled by KMS
- It is on Linux v4.10

## DRM/KMS: in-fences

- Fences to wait on before scanout
- IN\_FENCE\_FD property on each DRM Plane
- Receive sync\_file fds carrying fences
- drm\_atomic\_helper\_wait\_for\_fences()

## DRM/KMS: out-fences

- Fences created and signaled by KMS
- OUT\_FENCE\_PTR property on each DRM CRTC
- It signals at CRTC scanout (VSYNC)
  - The **previous** buffer can be reused

## DRM/renderer

- Similar to KMS side
- Extends execbuf ioctl on each driver
- Add sync\_file/fences support on each driver
- Done on Freedreno
- WIP on i915, virgl and others

## Android HWComposer API

- HAL to abstract the display driver
- HWC1.x supported speculative fences
- HWC2 supports non-speculative fences

## drm\_hwcomposer

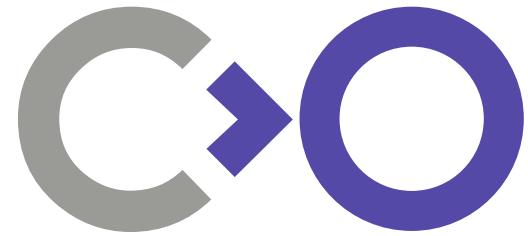
- HWC that uses DRM Atomic Modesetting
- Ongoing work to support Explicit Fences
- [git://git.collabora.com/git/user/robertfoss/drm\\_hwcomposer.git](git://git.collabora.com/git/user/robertfoss/drm_hwcomposer.git)

## Mesa

- EGL\_ANDROID\_native\_fence\_sync
  - Receive out-fence fd
- EGL\_ANDROID\_wait\_sync
  - Wait for in-fence to signal

## Thank you to everyone involved

Daniel Vetter, Rob Clark, Greg KH, Daniel Stone,  
Robert Foss, Sean Paul, Stéphane Marchesin, Greg  
Hackmann, Jesse Hall, Maarten Lankhorst, Chris  
Wilson, Christian König and others.



# Thank you!

Gustavo Padovan

[gustavo@padovan.org](mailto:gustavo@padovan.org)

[www.padovan.org](http://www.padovan.org)

[www.collabora.com](http://www.collabora.com)