

# **DRM/KMS, FB and V4L2: How to Select a Graphics and Video API**

Embedded Linux Conference Europe 2012

Laurent Pinchart  
[laurent.pinchart@ideasonboard.com](mailto:laurent.pinchart@ideasonboard.com)



Personal opinion  
inside

Flame war possible  
Handle with care

IDEAS  
ON BOARD

**Disclaimer**



# Problem Definition



# Problem Definition

display / graphics /  
video



---

**Problem - Purpose**

format  
memory / deep pipeline  
device / CPU



---

**Problem - Source**

rotation  
scaling  
composing



---

**Problem - Processing**

X11  
Wayland  
DirectFB  
Raw API



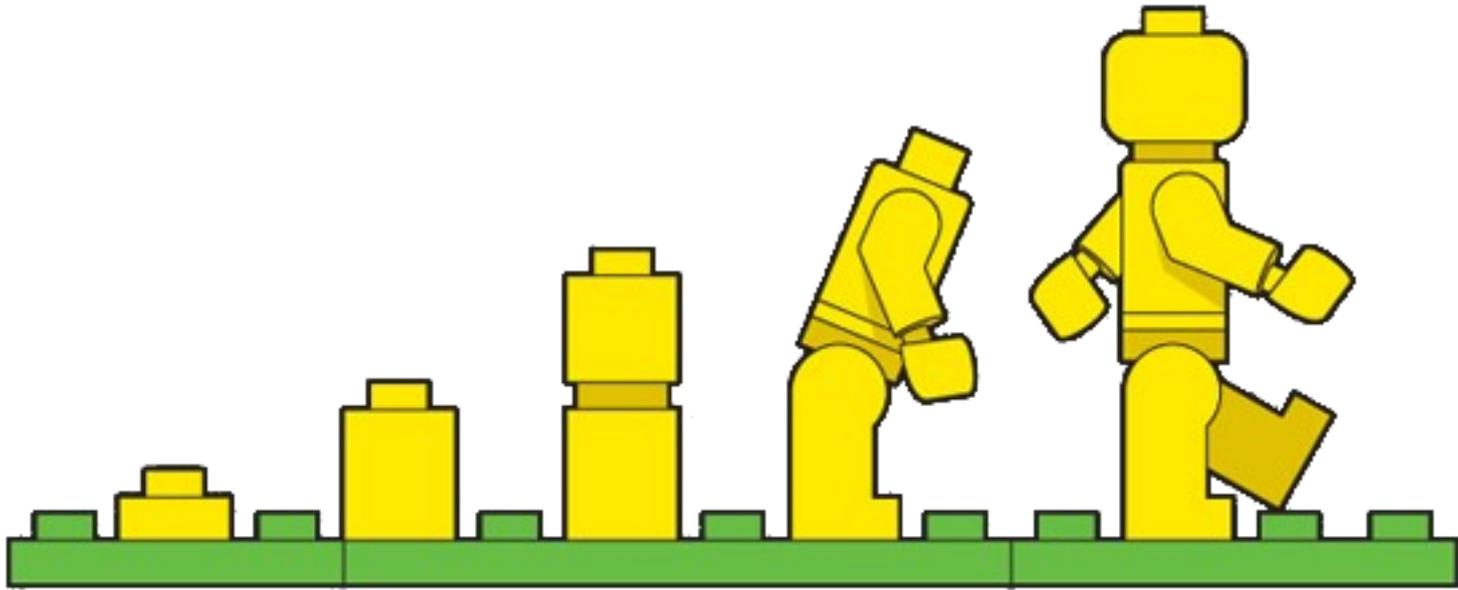
---

**Problem - Stack**

# DRM FBDEV V4L2

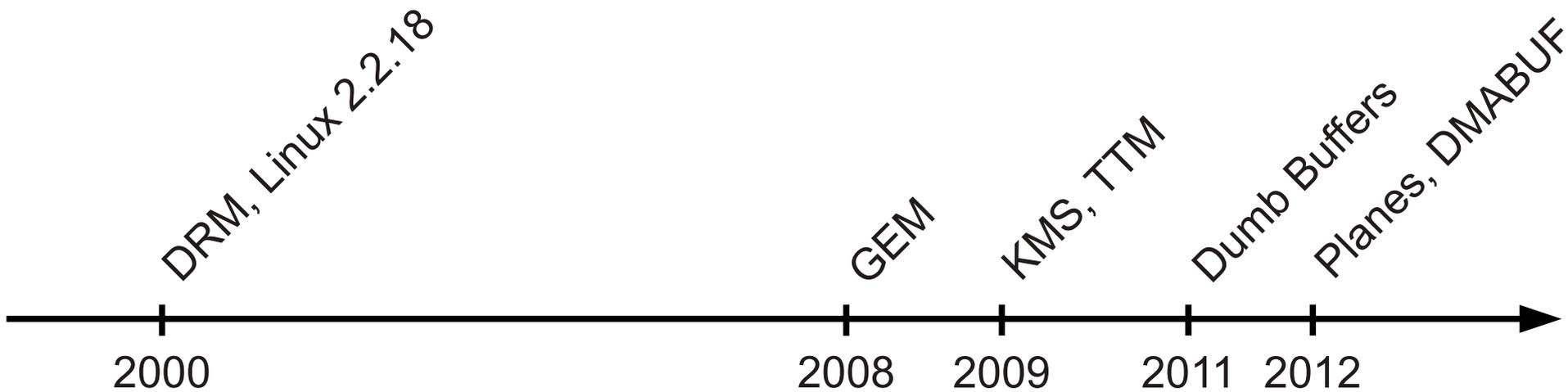


**Problem - API**

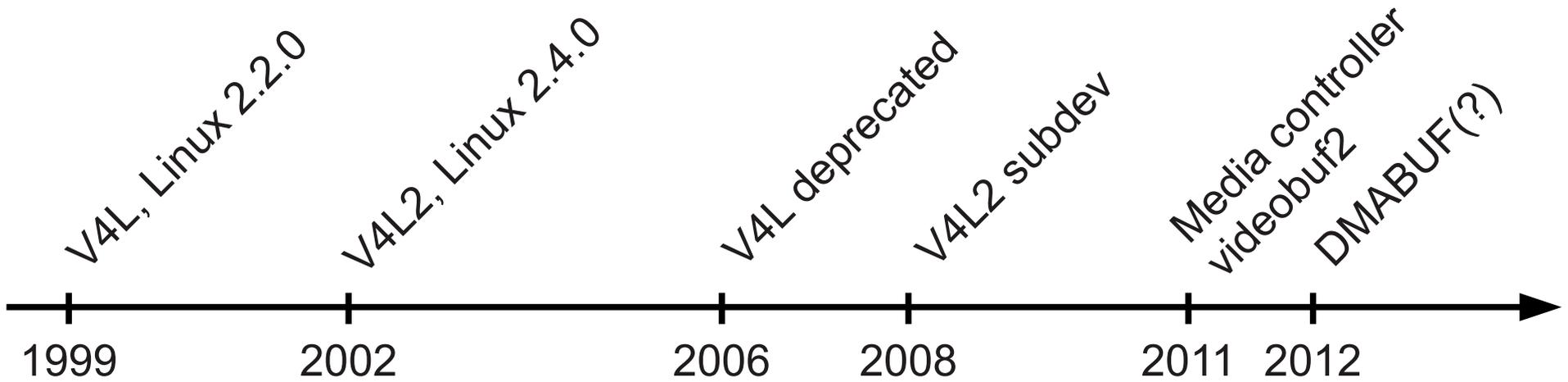


IDEAS  
ON BOARD

# Origins



# Origins – DRM/KMS



## Origins – V4L2

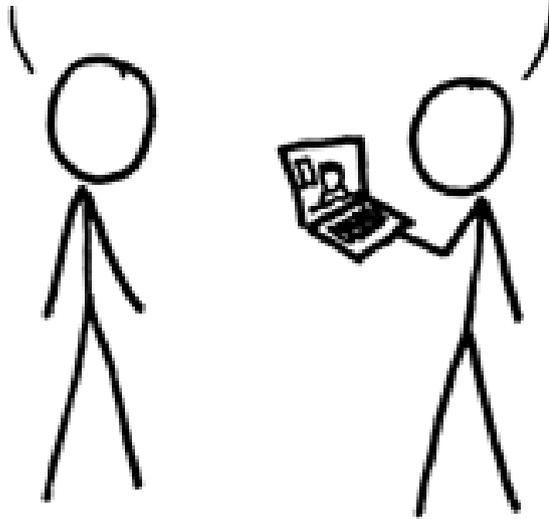


# Origins – FBDEV

IT TOOK A LOT OF WORK, BUT THIS  
LATEST LINUX PATCH ENABLES SUPPORT  
FOR MACHINES WITH 4,096 CPUs,  
UP FROM THE OLD LIMIT OF 1,024.

DO YOU HAVE SUPPORT FOR SMOOTH  
FULL-SCREEN FLASH VIDEO YET?

NO, BUT WHO USES THAT?



# Features

	DRM	FB	V4L2
<b>Dynamic Allocation</b>	Yes	No	Yes
<b>Multiple Buffers</b>	Yes	panning	Yes
<b>Import</b>	dmabuf	No	userptr
<b>Export</b>	dmabuf mmap	mmap	mmap



# Memory Management

	DRM	FB	V4L2
Formats	4CC	RGB 4CC	4CC
Enumeration	Planes	No	Yes
Negotiation	No	No	Yes
Atomicity	Yes	No	No

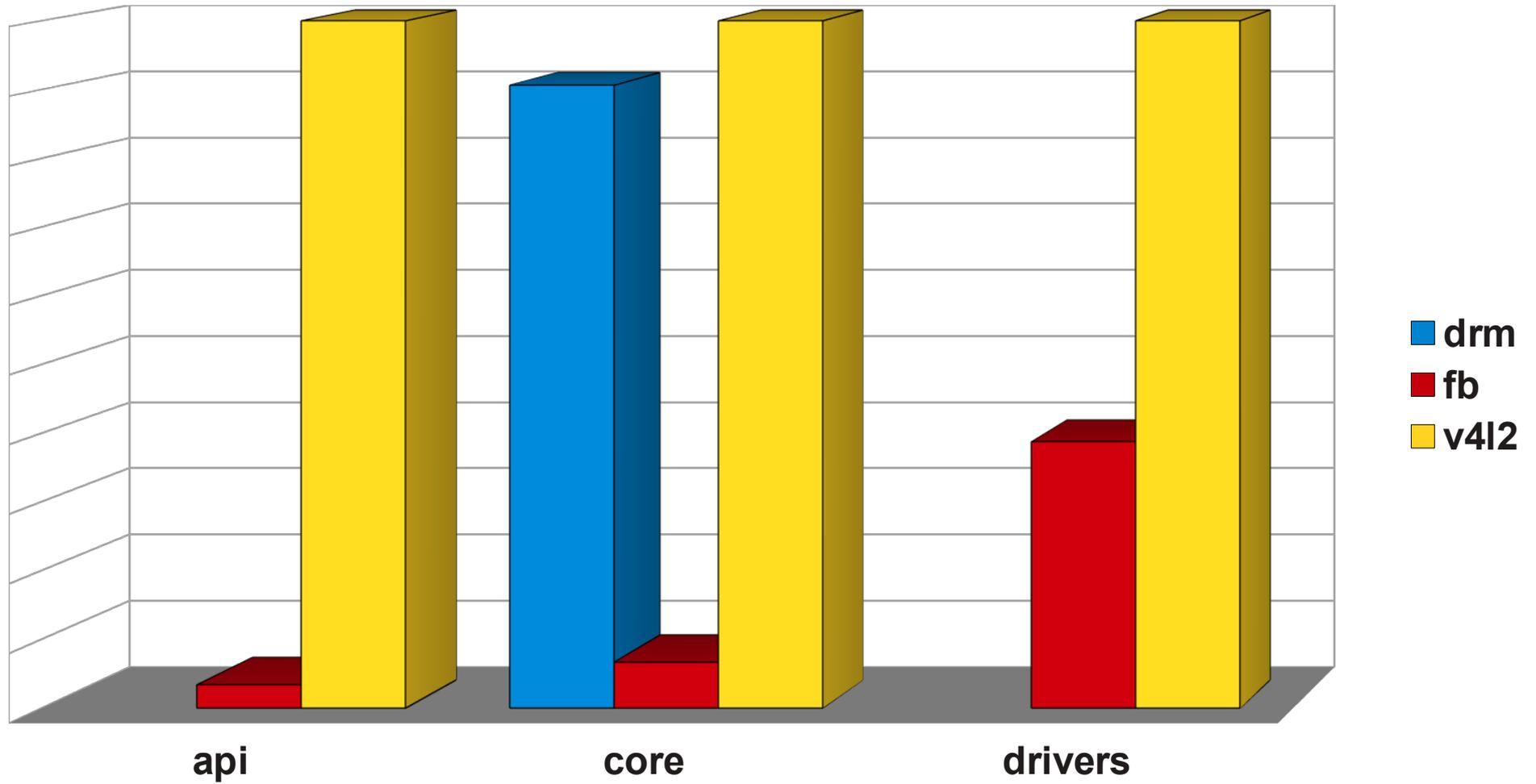


## Mode Setting

	DRM	FB	V4L2
Overlays	Yes	No	Yes
Rotation	Yes	No	Yes
Scaling	Yes	No	Yes
Cropping/Panning	Yes	Yes	Yes



# Transformations



# Documentation

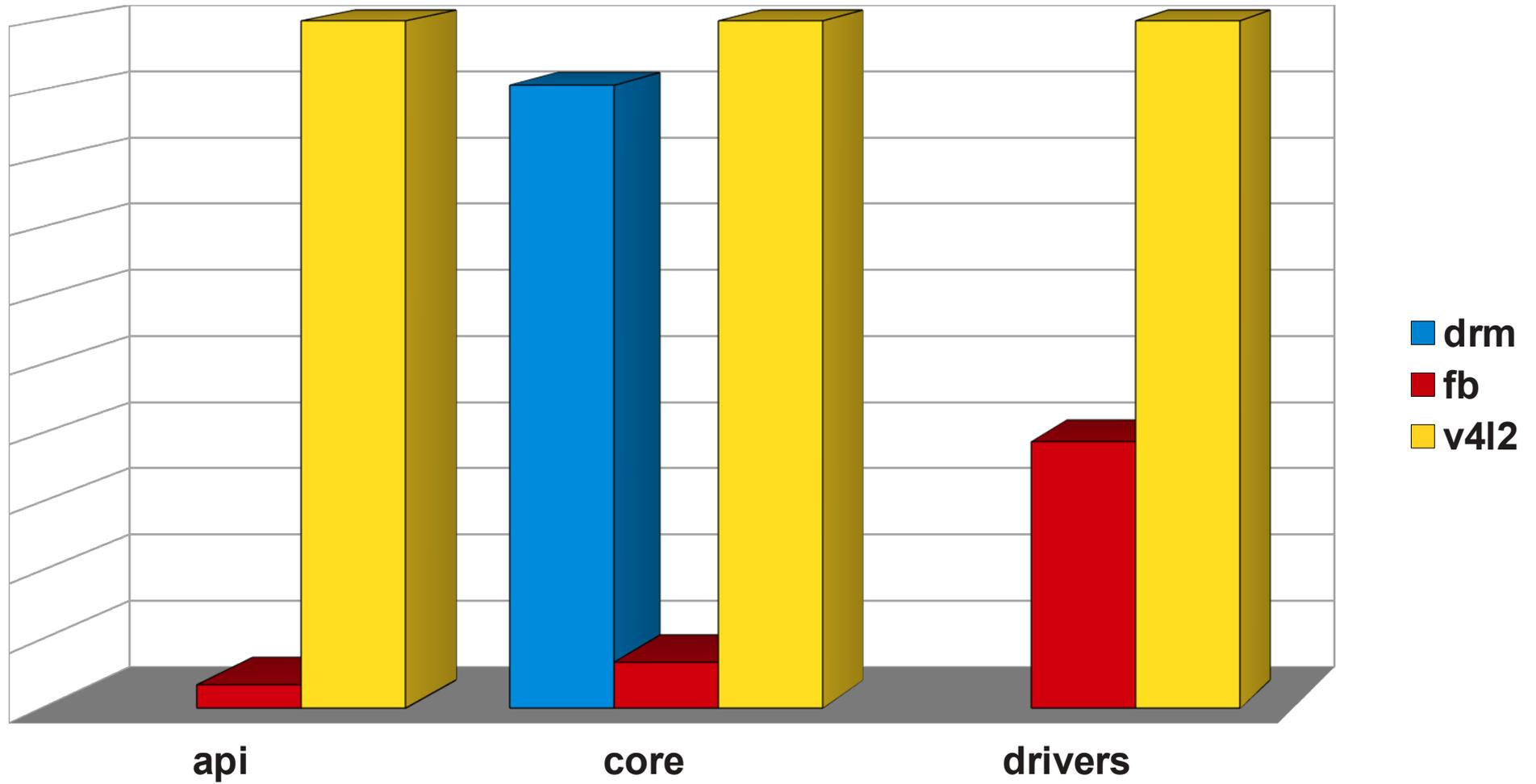
“ The DRM core exports several interfaces to applications, generally intended to be used through corresponding libdrm wrapper functions. In addition, drivers export device-specific interfaces for use by userspace drivers & device-aware applications through ioctls and sysfs files.

External interfaces include: memory mapping, context management, DMA operations, AGP management, vblank control, fence management, memory management, and output management.

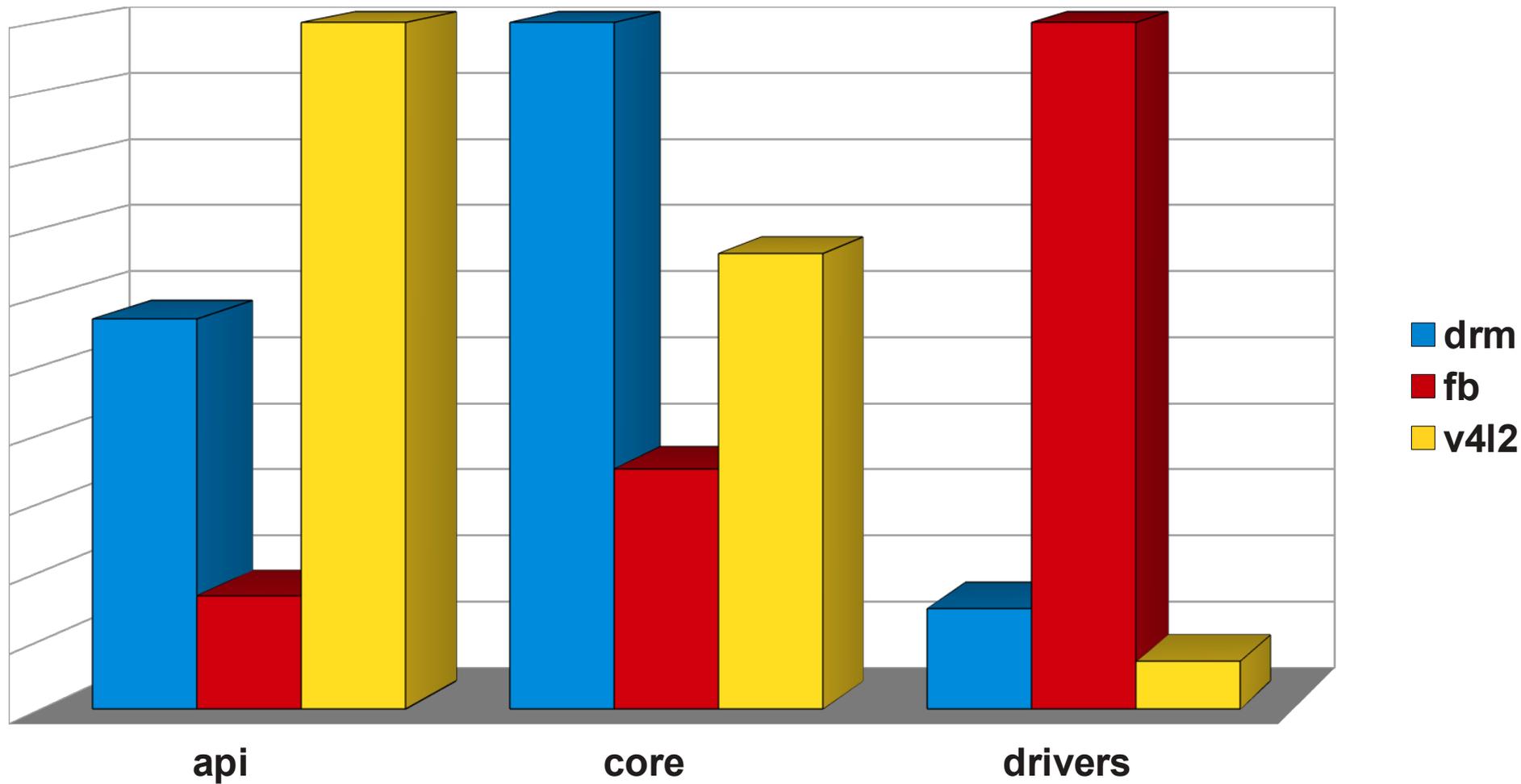
Cover generic ioctls and sysfs layout here. We only need high-level info, since man pages should cover the rest. ”



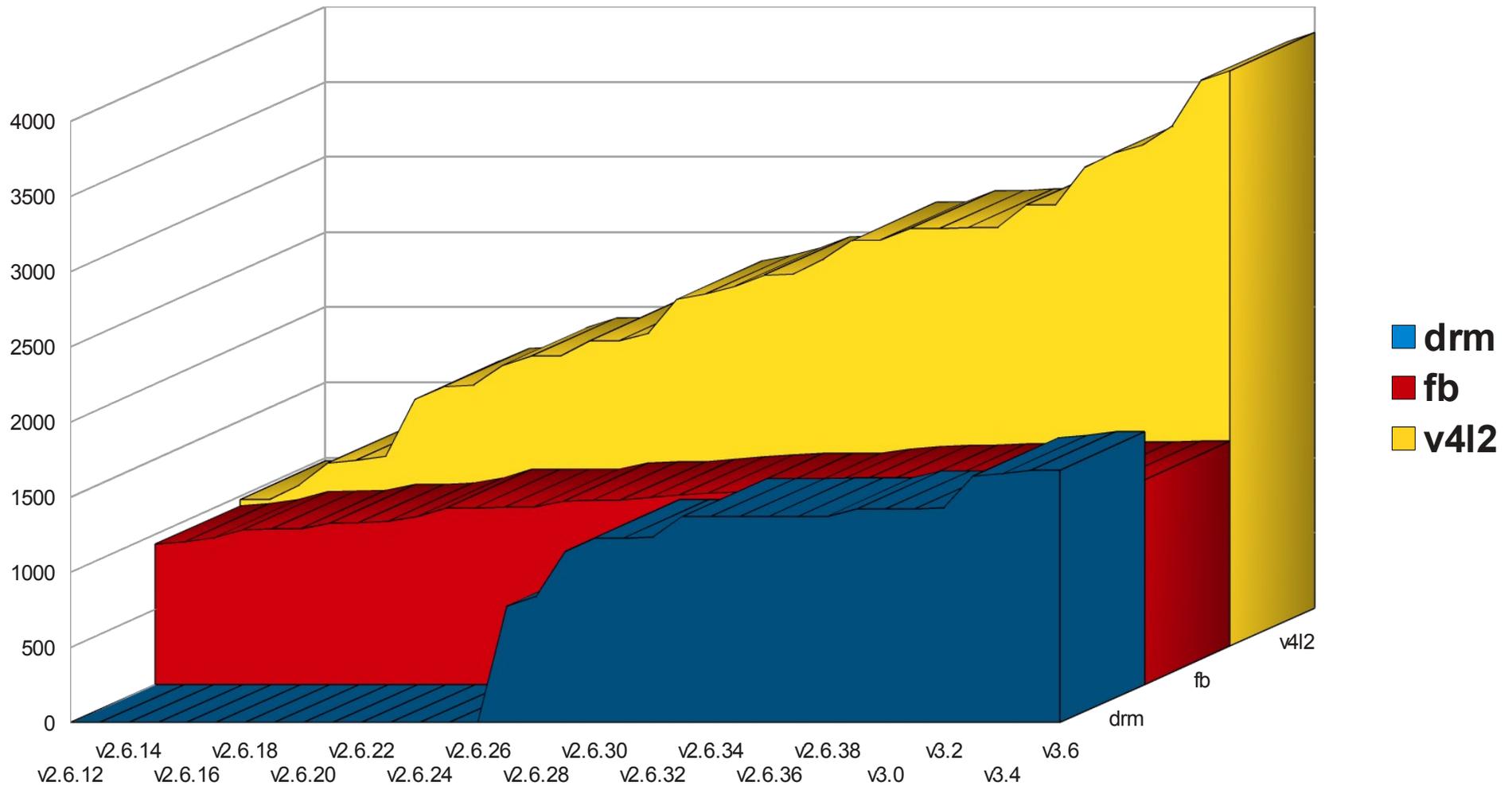
## DRM API Documentation



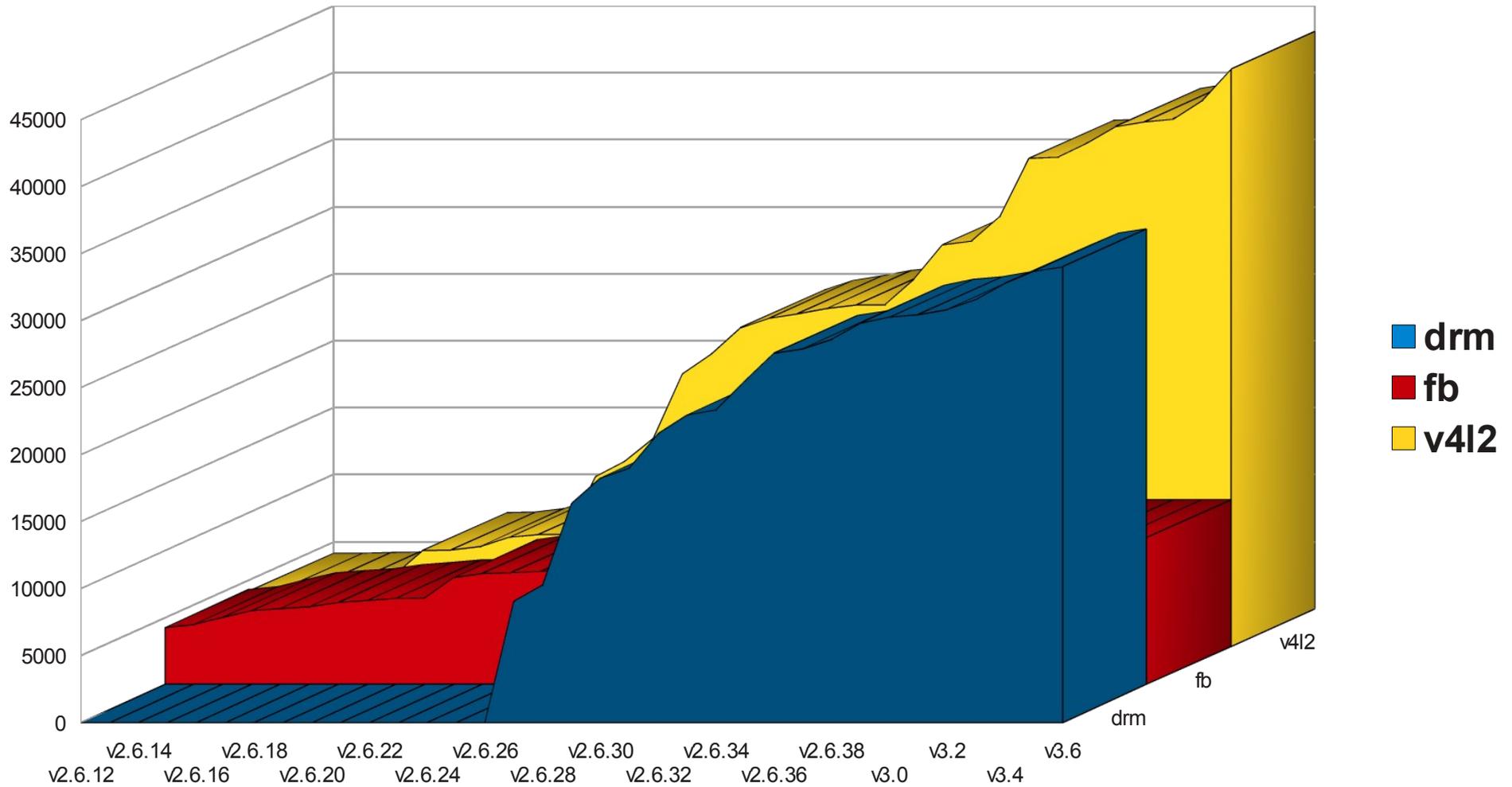
# Documentation



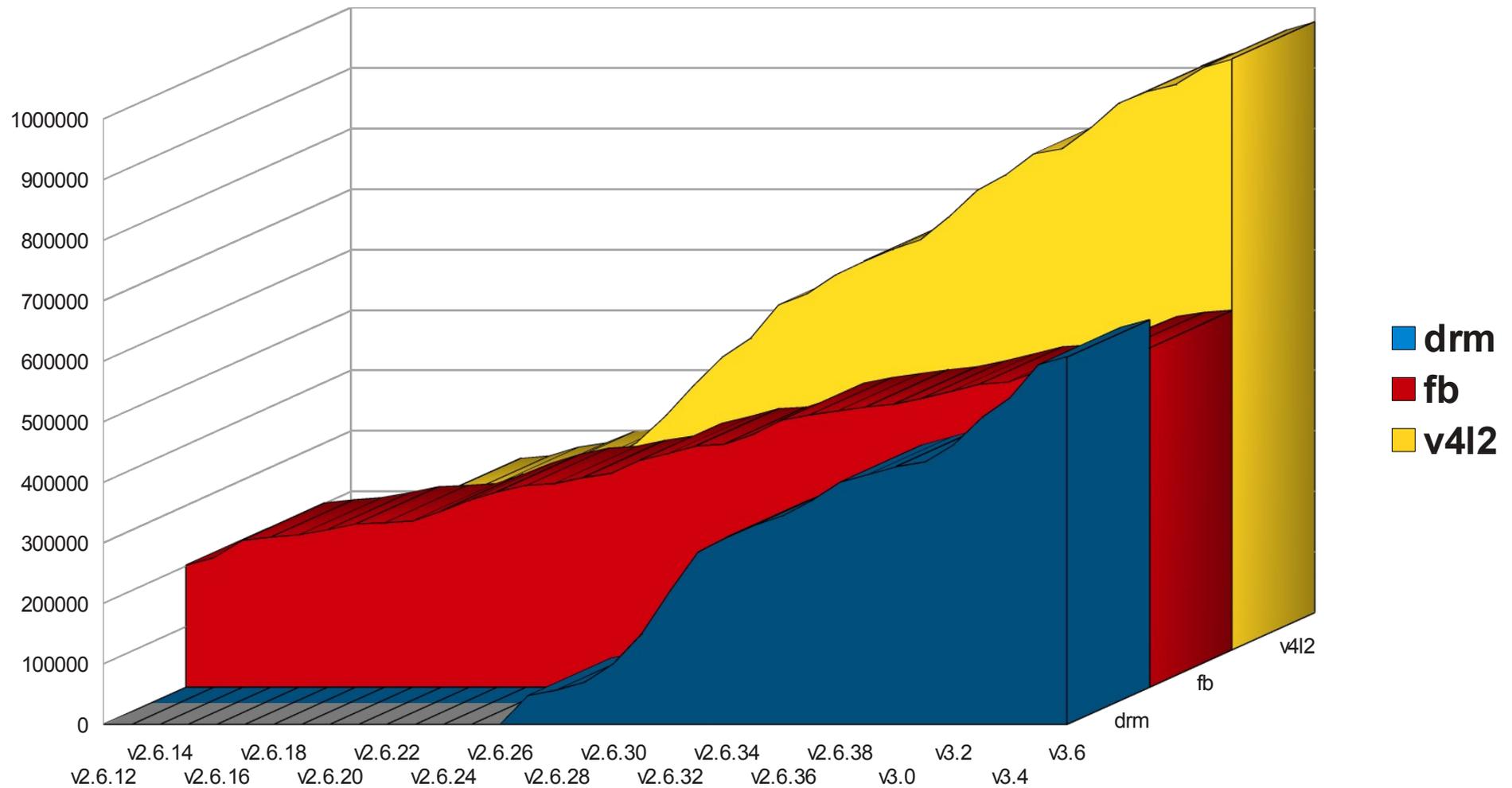
# Code Size



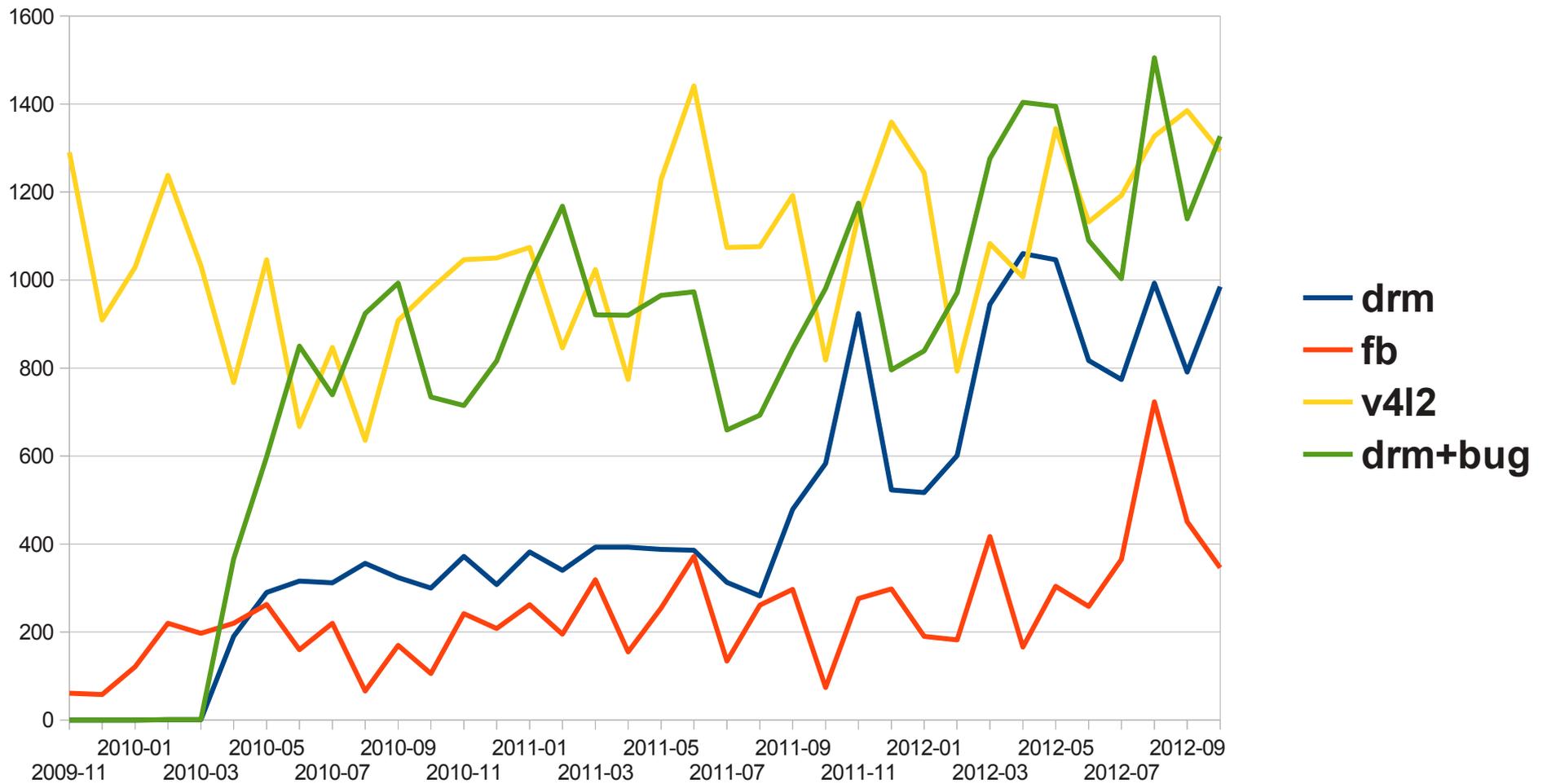
# Cumulative Changes - API



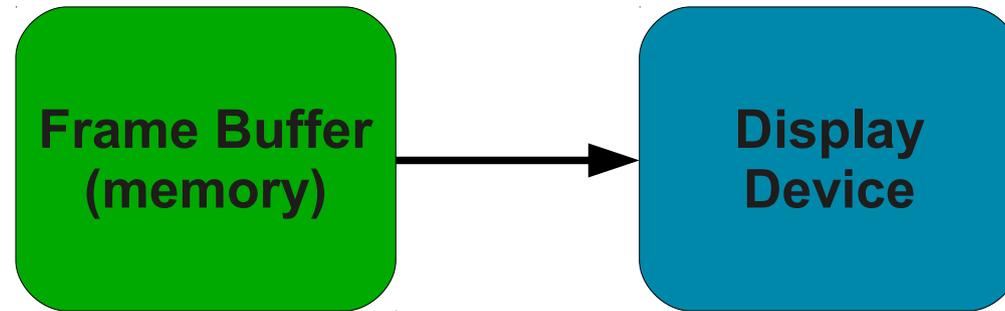
# Cumulative Changes - Core



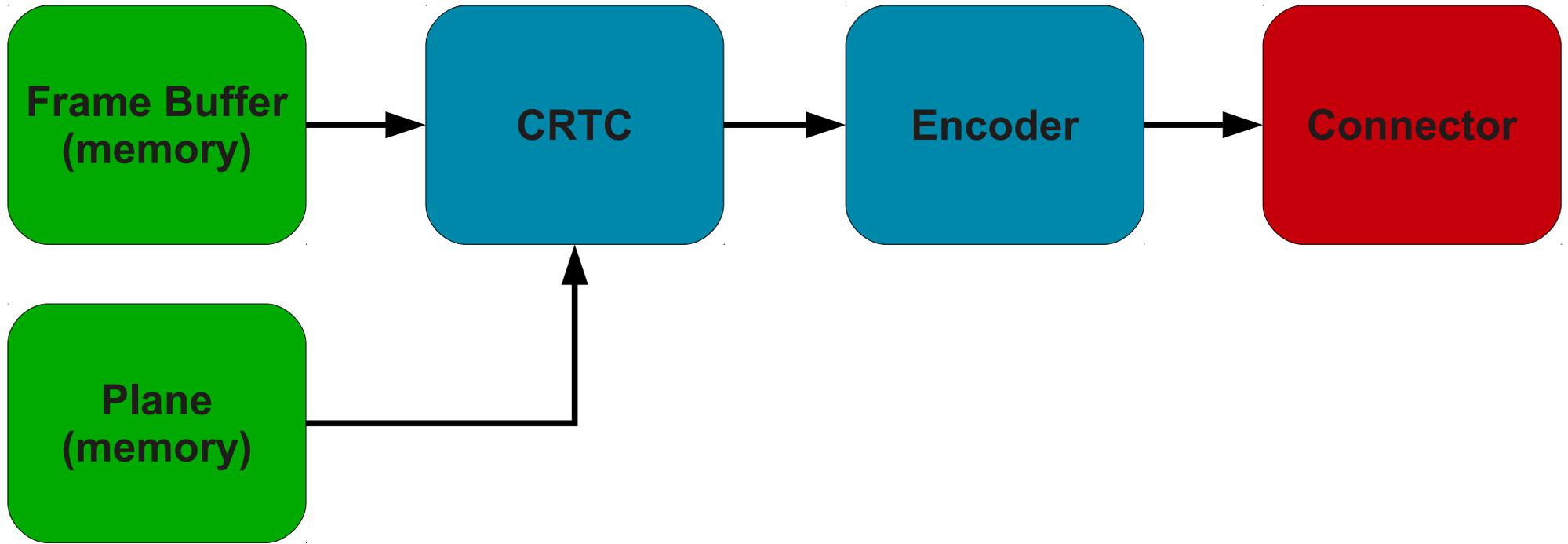
# Cumulative Changes - Drivers



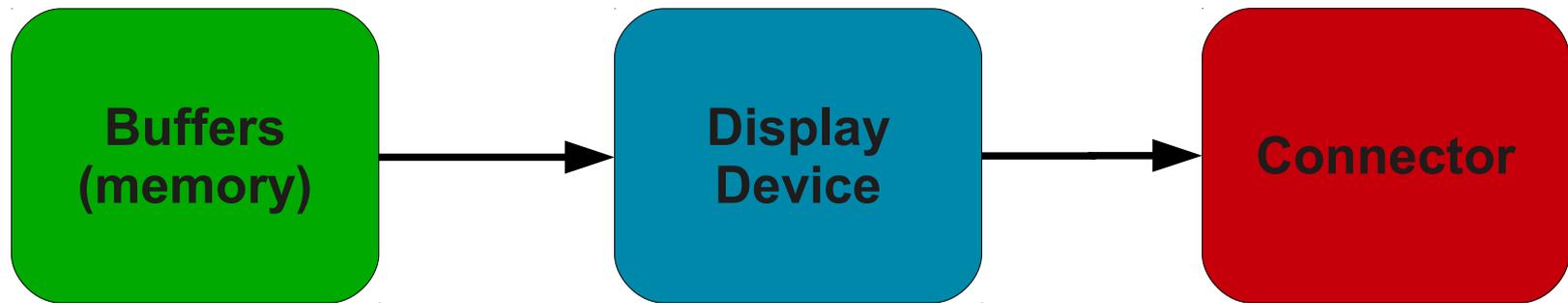
# Mailing List Traffic



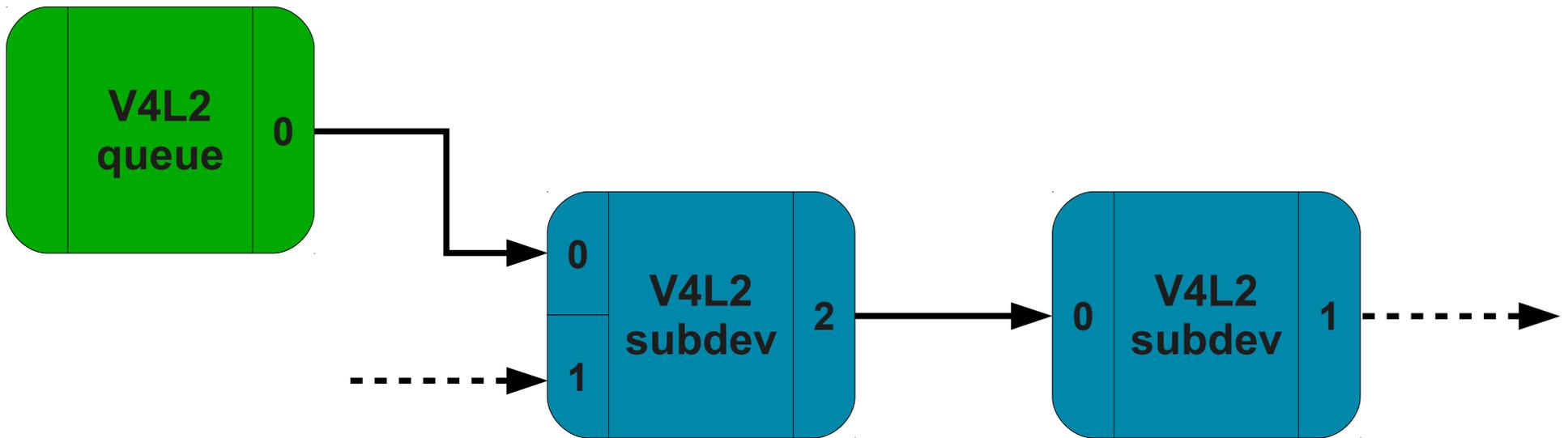
## Device Model – FBDEV



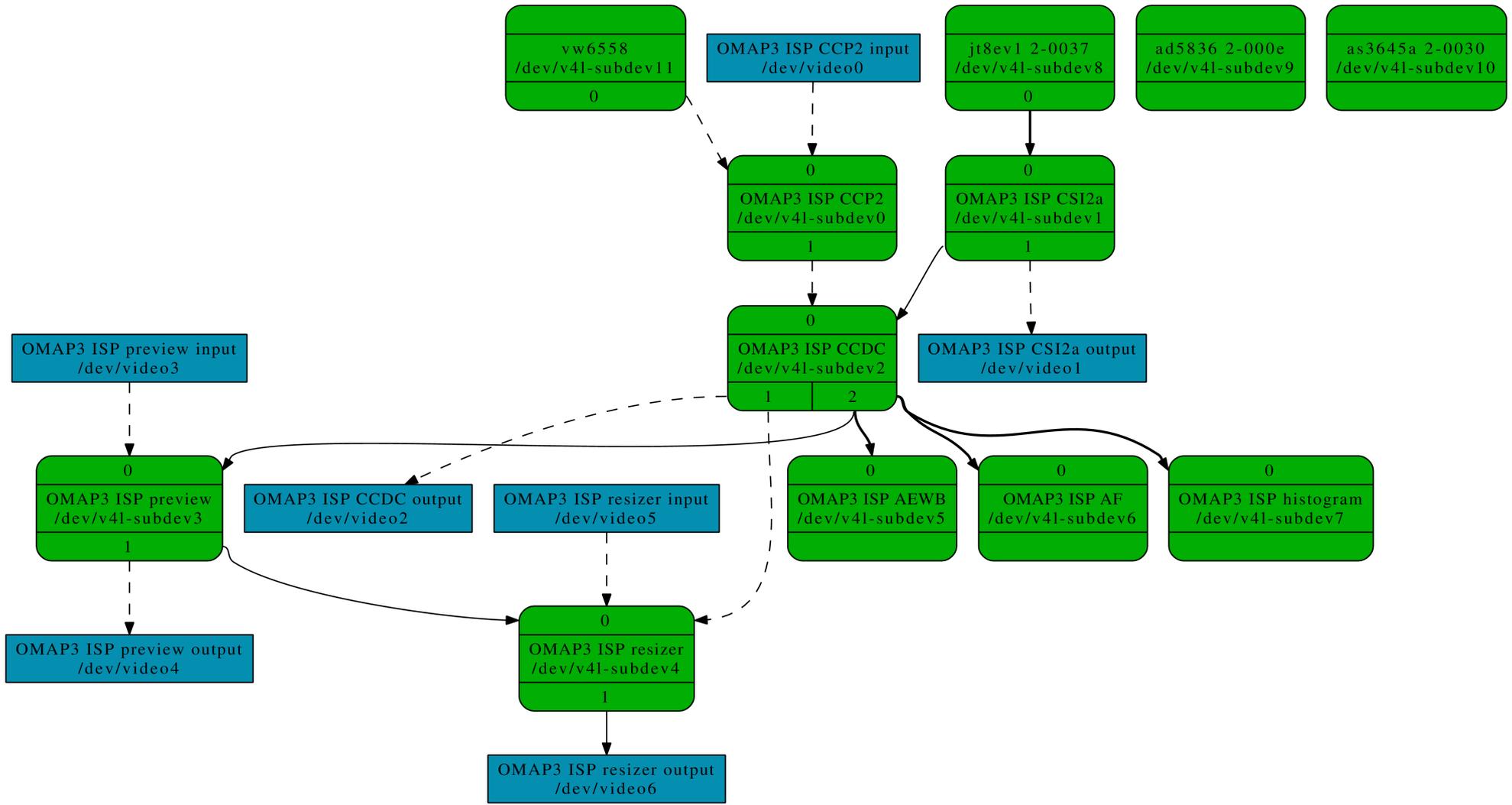
# Device Model – DRM/KMS



# Device Model – V4L2

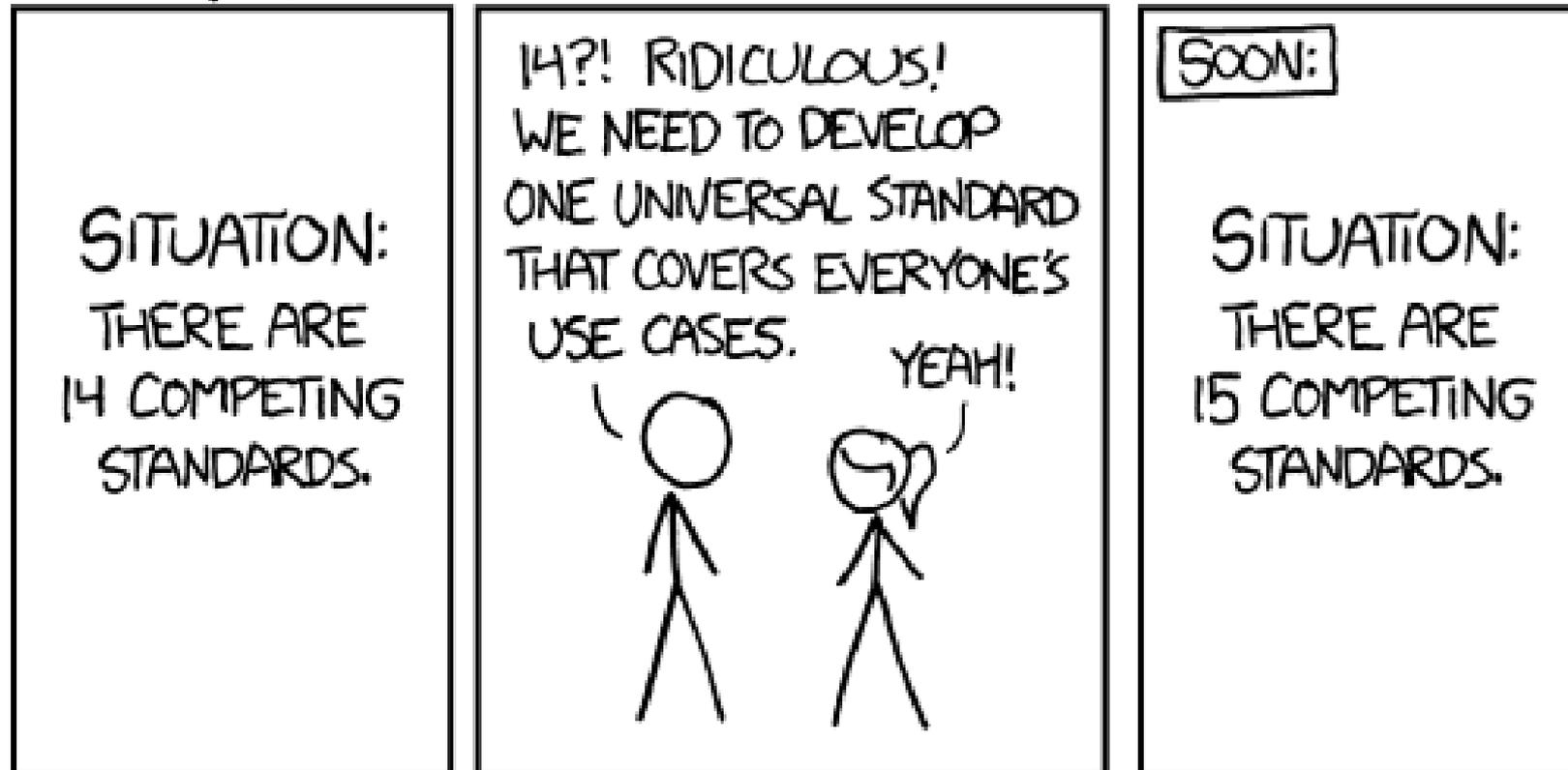


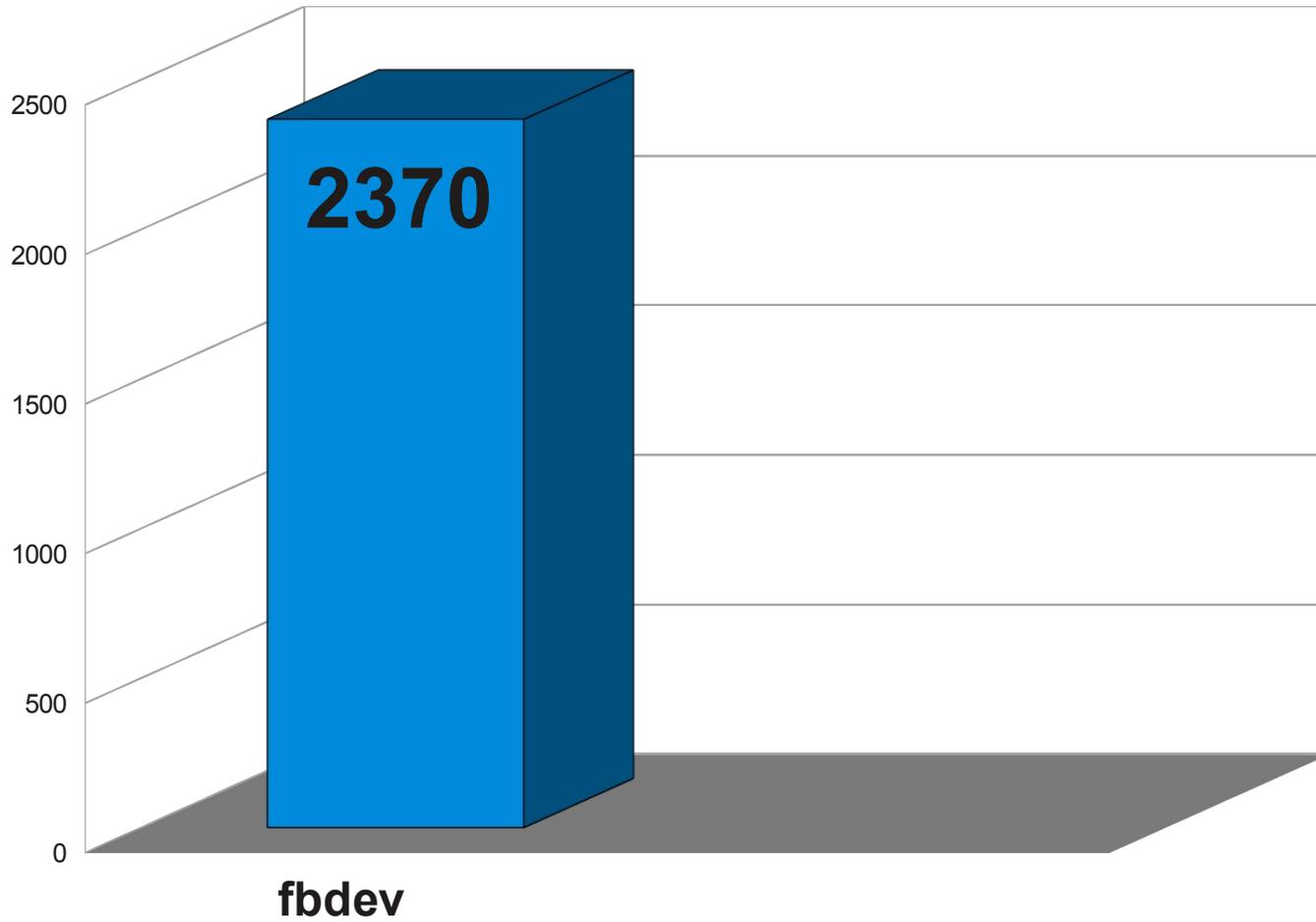
# Device Model – V4L2/MC



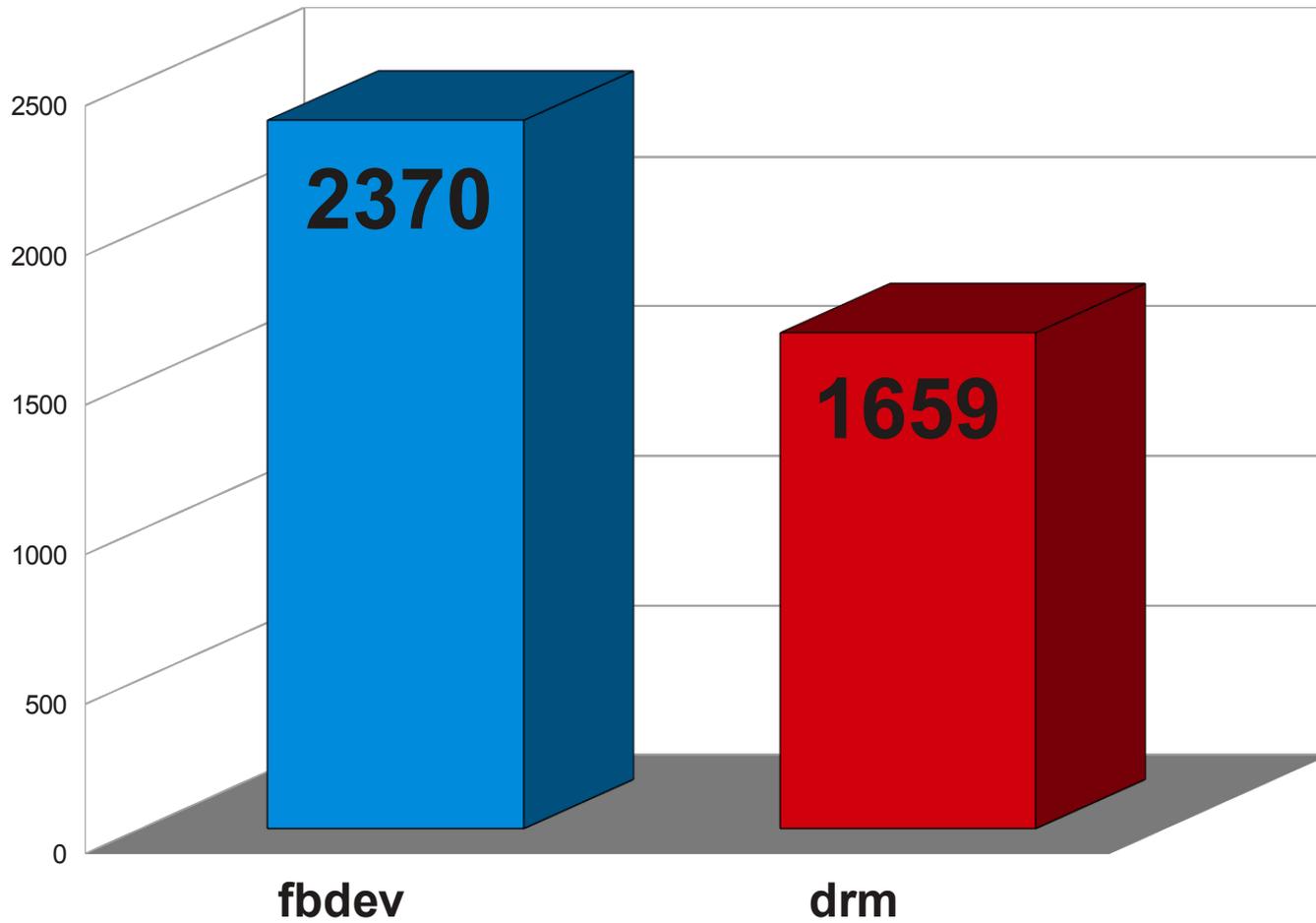
# Device Model – V4L2/MC

HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:  
(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)





# FB vs. DRM - sloccount



# FB vs. DRM - sloccount



---

# Use Cases - FBDEV

(that's it...)



**Use Cases - FBDEV**

# Video



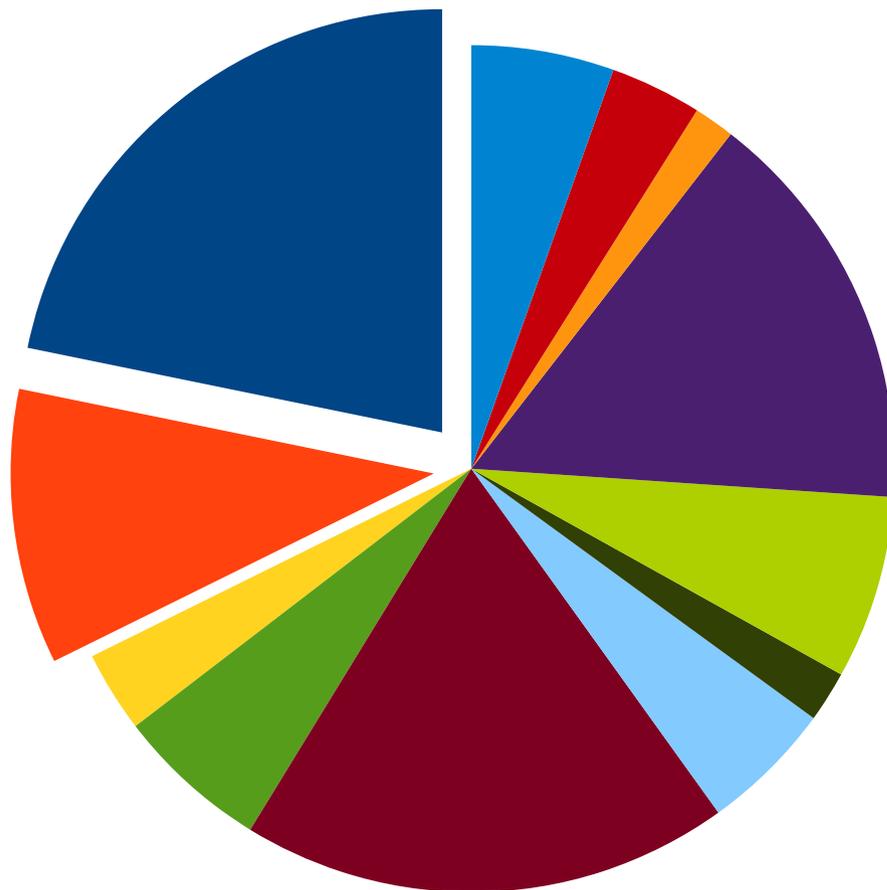
**Use Cases - V4L2**

# Everything else



---

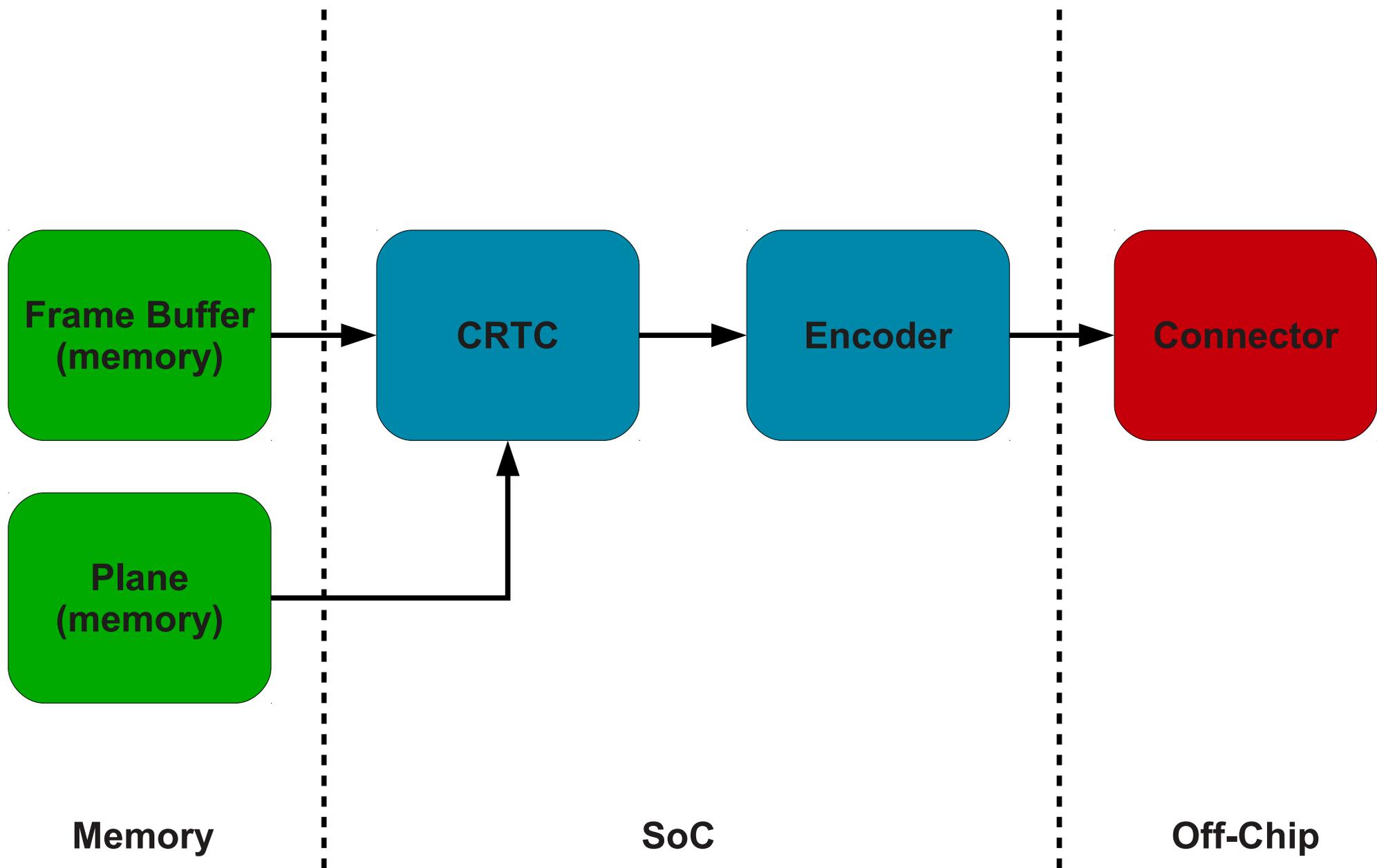
**Use Cases – DRM/KMS**



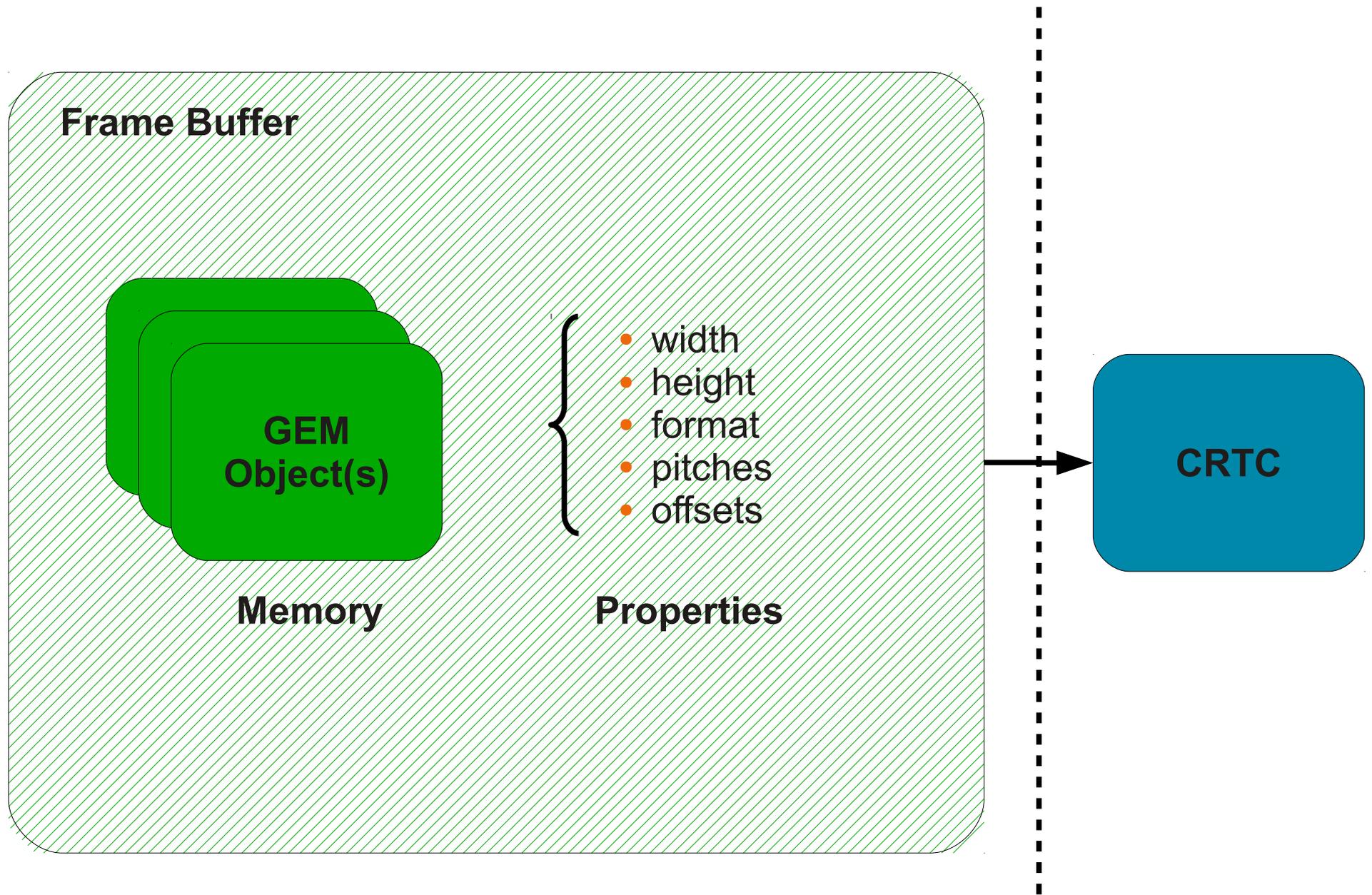
- drm
- kms
- exynos
- i810
- i915
- mga
- nouveau
- r128
- radeon
- savage
- sis
- via

IDEAS  
ON BOARD

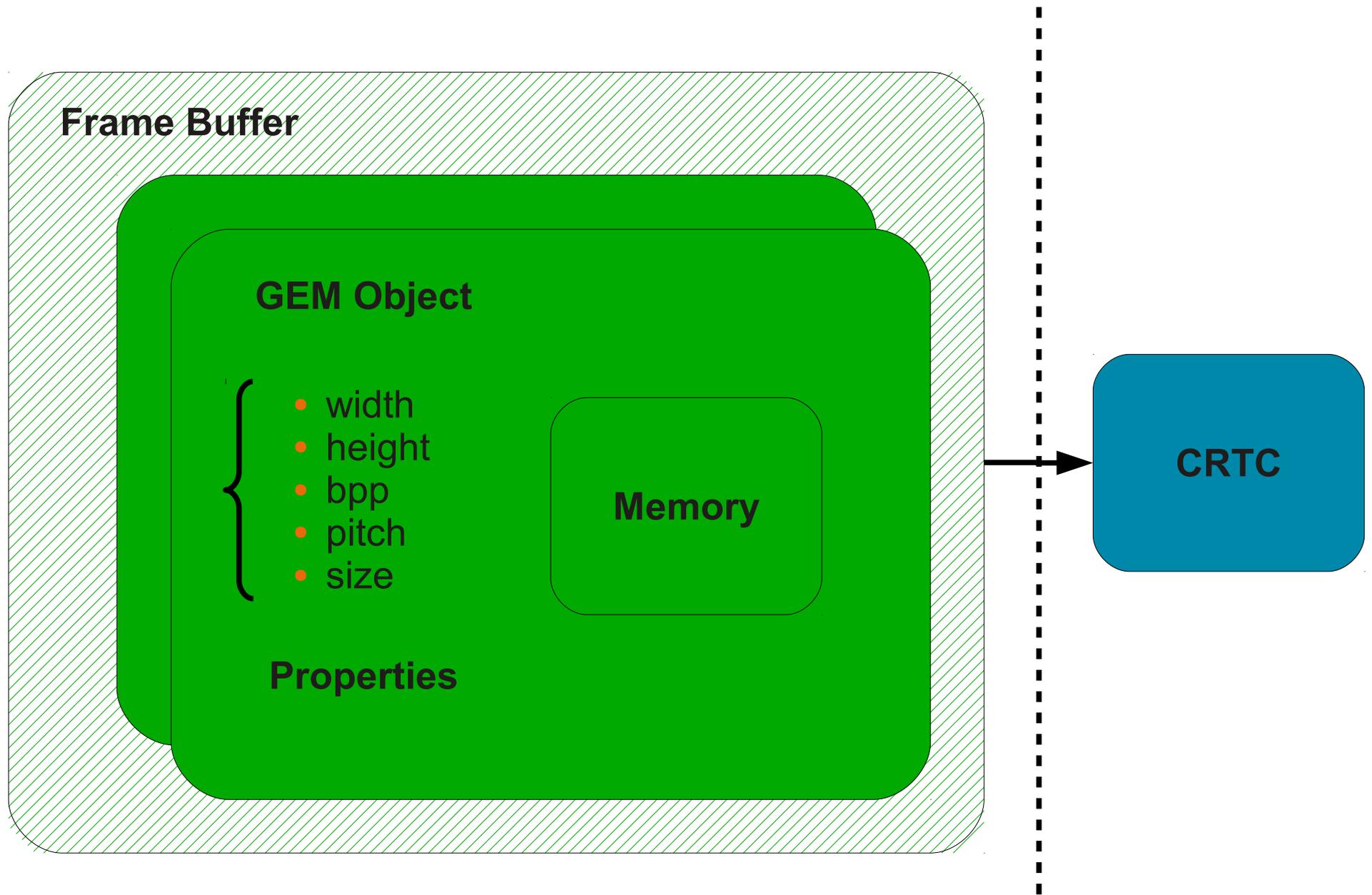
# DRM/KMS API



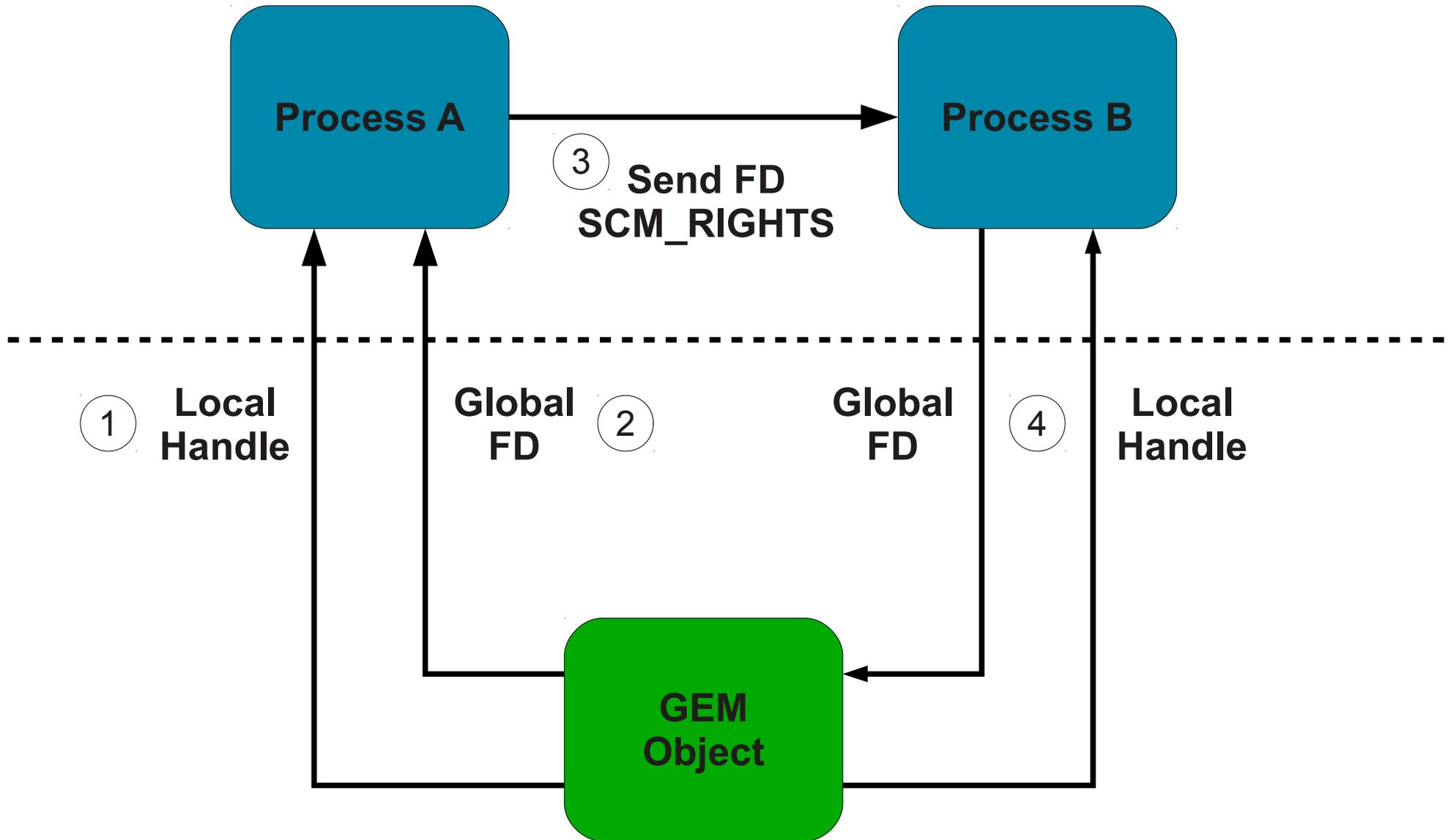
# KMS – Device Model



# KMS – Frame Buffer



# DRM/KMS – GEM Object



# DRM – Handles



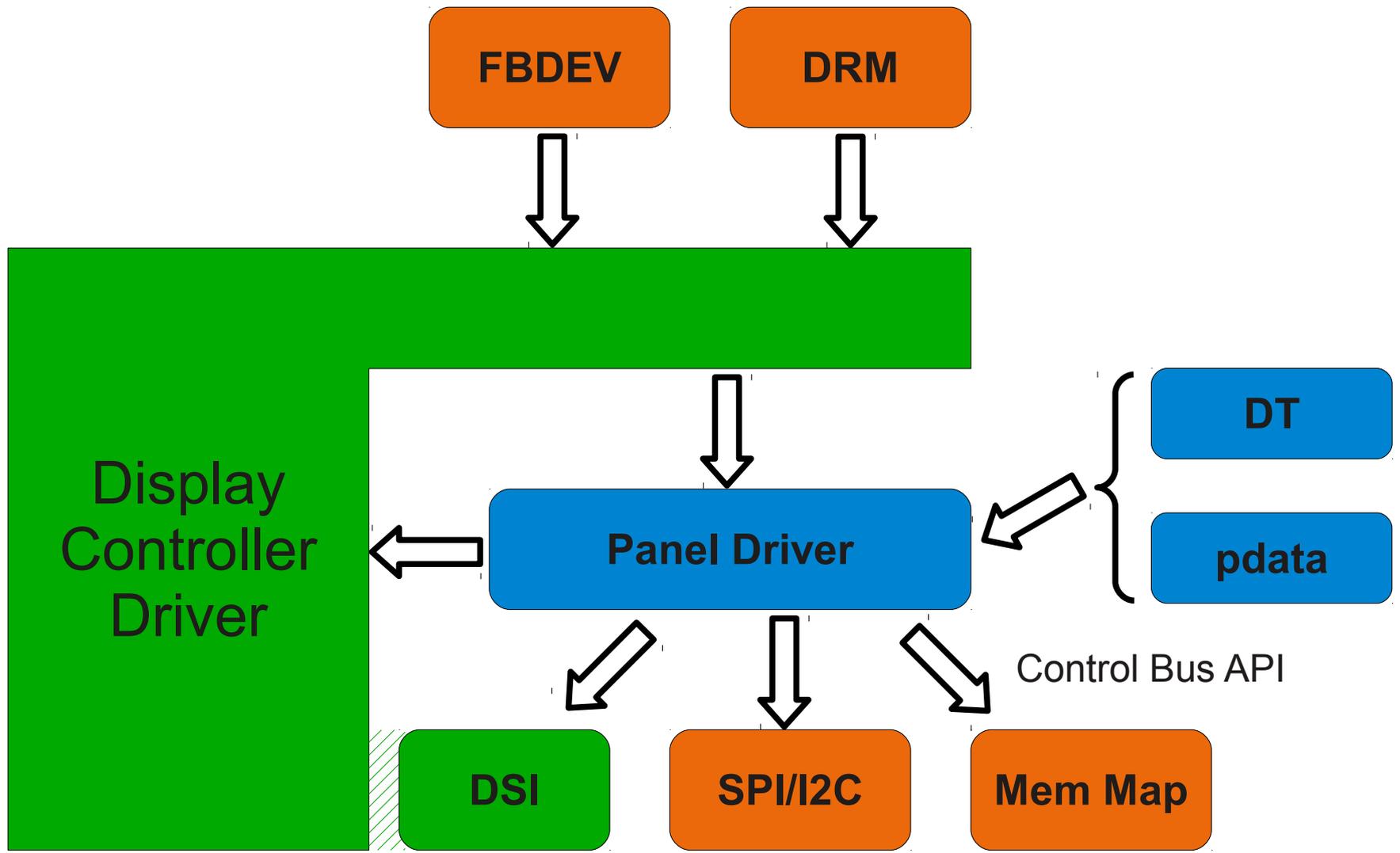
# panel & backlight

<http://lwn.net/Articles/512363/>

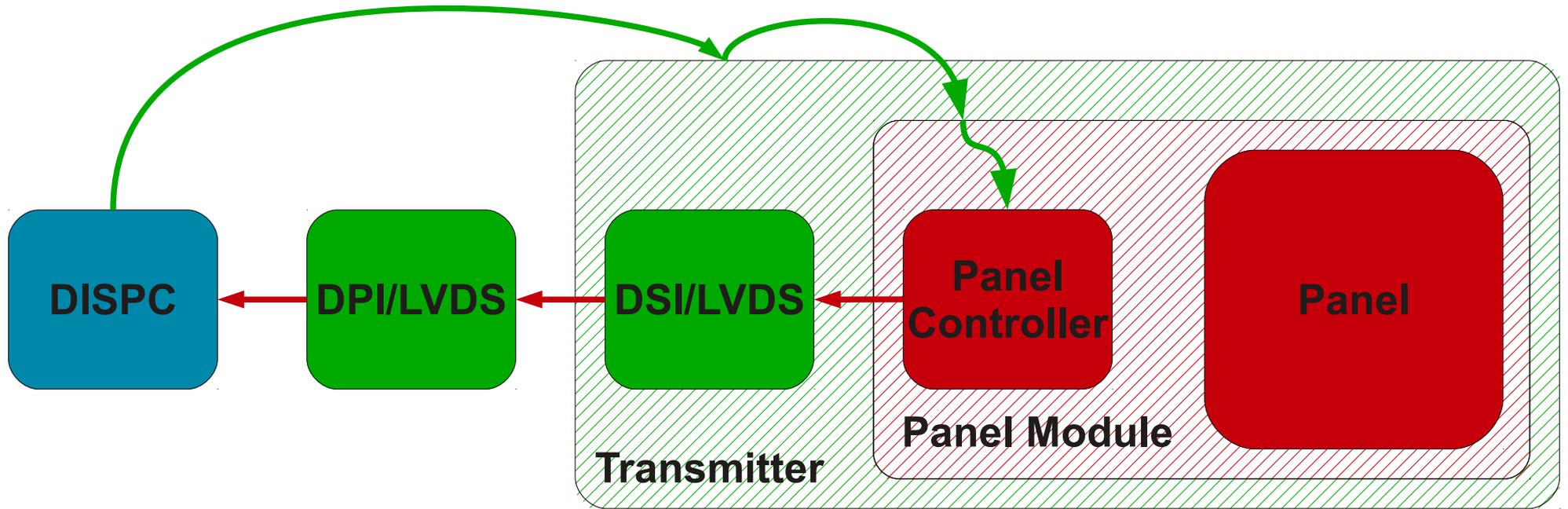


---

**Work In Progress**



# WIP – Display Framework



# WIP – Display Framework

- [dri-devel@lists.freedesktop.org](mailto:dri-devel@lists.freedesktop.org)
- [linux-fbdev@vger.kernel.org](mailto:linux-fbdev@vger.kernel.org)
- [linux-media@vger.kernel.org](mailto:linux-media@vger.kernel.org)
  
- [laurent.pinchart@ideasonboard.com](mailto:laurent.pinchart@ideasonboard.com)



---

# Contact

?

!

thx.

