

# AN13712

## OS08A20 ISP Sensor on i.MX 8M Plus EVK

Rev. 3 — 9 October 2024

Application note

### Document information

Information	Content
Keywords	AN13712, OS08A20 Sensor, i.MX 8M Plus EVK, i.MX 8M Plus Image Signal Processor (ISP), i.MX Yocto SDK
Abstract	This document describes the usage of the OS08A20 sensor on the i.MX 8M Plus EVK board. It provides detailed steps to enable the i.MX 8M ISP and camera on the board. The OS08A20 sensor supports image sizes of 4K, 2K, 1080p, and 720p.



## 1 Introduction

This document describes the steps for using the OS08A20 sensor on the i.MX 8M Plus ISP module. It describes the steps for building the NXP kernel and related files and enabling the ISP and camera module on the i.MX 8M Plus EVK board.

## 2 Module and board

This section describes the i.MX 8M Plus EVK board, OS08A20 sensor module, and their hardware connection.

### 2.1 i.MX 8M Plus EVK

Figure 1 shows the i.MX 8M Plus EVK board.

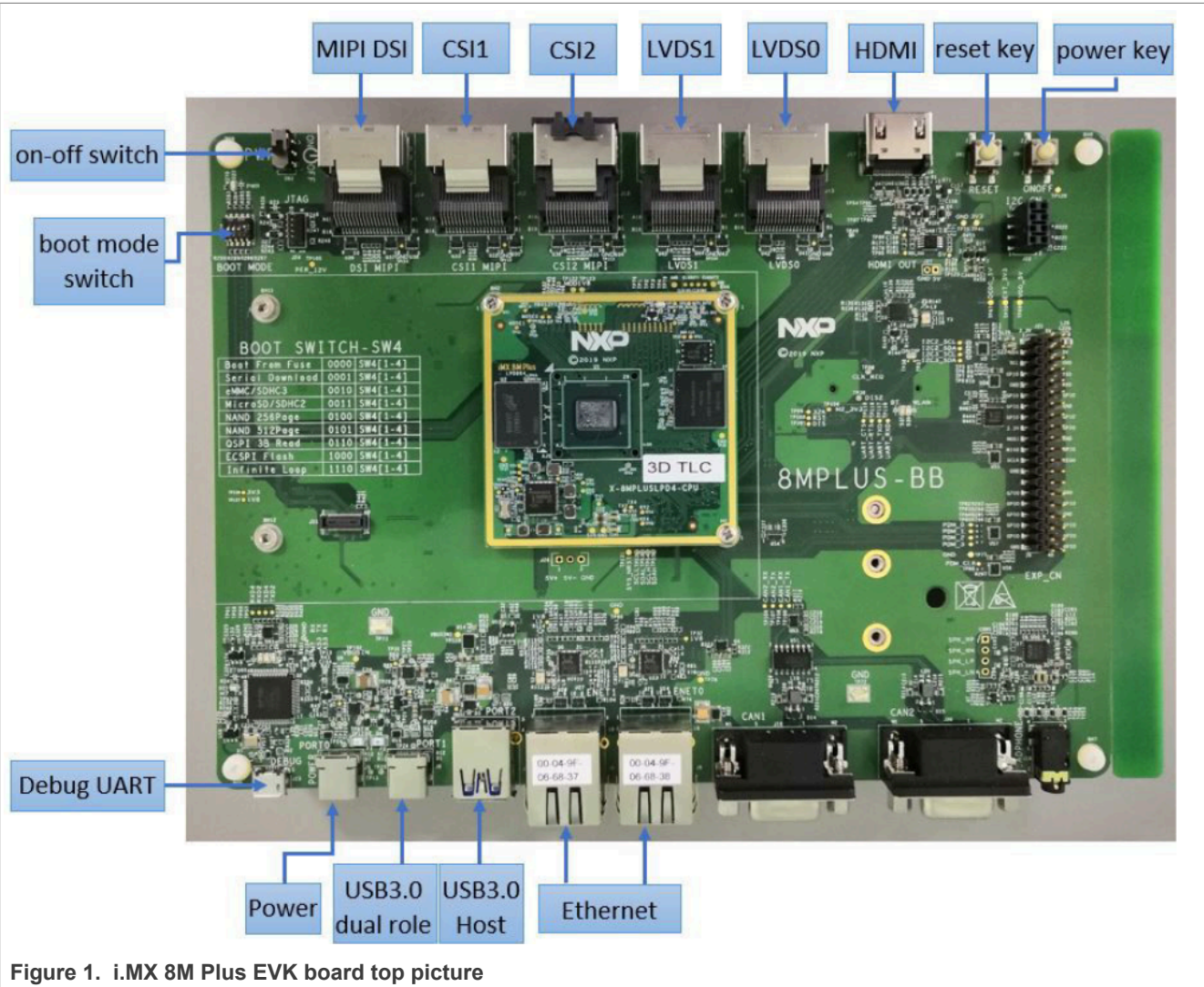


Figure 1. i.MX 8M Plus EVK board top picture

**Note:** For more information about the i.MX 8M Plus EVK board, refer to the URL: [Evaluation Kit for the i.MX 8M Plus Applications Processor](#).

## 2.2 OS08A20 sensor module

Figure 2 shows the OS08A20 sensor module.

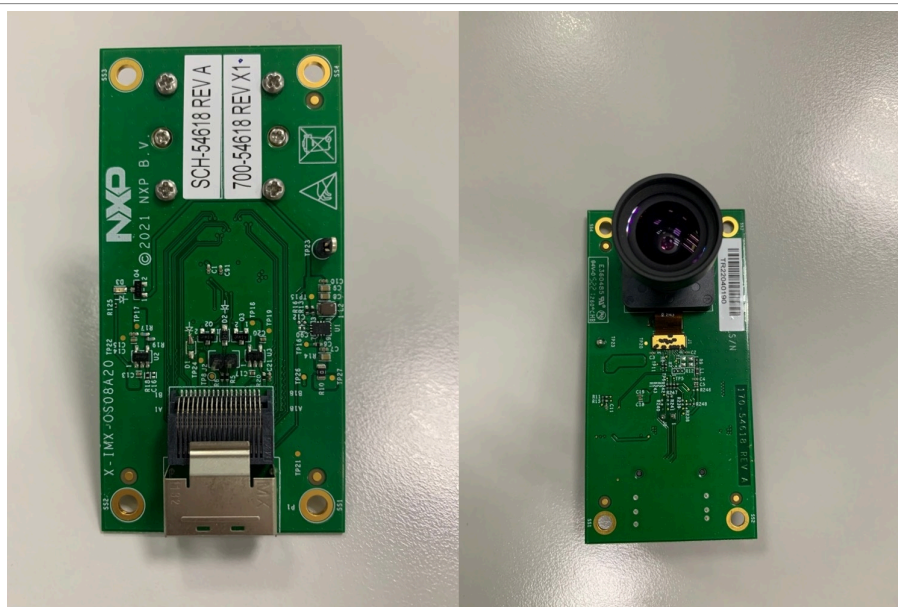
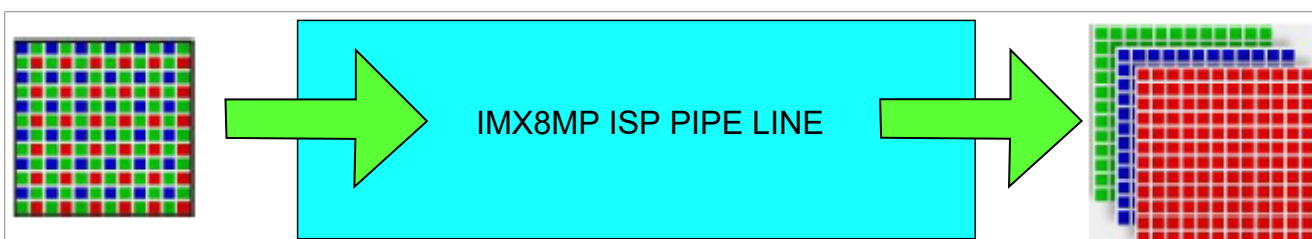


Figure 2. OS08A20 sensor module

The OS08A20 sensor supports image sizes of 4K, 2K, 1080p, and 720p. The output format is 12-bit / 10-bit RAW RGB. The sensor has 2-exposure staggered HDR and it supports the frame start input. The i.MX 8M Plus ISP has a demosaicing sensor (also known as color reconstruction sensor) for raw data processing and generating the YUV output format. The ISP also has the denoise, sharpen, and gamma modules to improve the sensor image quality.



OS08A20 sensor

Figure 3. OS08A20 sensor

Following are the features of the OS08A20 sensor:

- Supports dual OS08A20 modules
- Support three ISP output formats:
  - YUV422
  - NV16
  - NV12
- Supports four sensor modes:
  - 1920x1080 10-bit linear mode
  - 1920x1080 10-bit HDR mode
  - 3840x2160 12-bit linear mode
  - 3840x2160 10-bit HDR mode

**Note:** For more information about the IMX-OS08A20 sensor module, refer to the URL: <https://www.nxp.com/part/IMX-OS08A20>

## 2.3 Hardware connection

The sensor is connected to the switch board. The switch board uses the MiniSas cable to connect to the CSI1 or CSI2 connectors on the i.MX 8M Plus EVK board.

For details about the hardware connection, refer to the Application Note [AN13736](#) "Using IMX-OS08A20 Camera Module on i.MX 8M Plus Evaluation Kit".

### 3 Configuring the software

This section describes how to configure the software for the sensor module.

#### 3.1 OS08A20 SDK HAL source code

The OS08A20 SDK HAL source code is shown below:

```
├── OS08a20
│   ├── calib
│   │   ├── OS08a20_8M_10_1080p_linear.xml
│   │   ├── OS08a20_8M_10_1080p_hdr.xml
│   │   ├── OS08a20_8M_10_4k_linear.xml
│   │   └── OS08a20_8M_10_4k_hdr.xml
│   ├── source
│   │   └── OS08a20.c
│   └── dewarp
│       ├── sensor_dwe_os08a20_1080P_config.json
│       └── sensor_dwe_os08a20_4K_config.json
```

#### 3.2 OS08A20 kernel driver source code

The OS08A20 kernel driver source code is as follows:

```
├── os08a20
│   ├── os08a20_mipi_v3.c
│   ├── os08a20_regs_1080p.h
│   ├── os08a20_regs_1080p_hdr.h
│   ├── os08a20_regs_4k.h
│   └── os08a20_regs_4k_hdr.h
```

#### 3.3 Sensor mode table

[Table 1](#) describes the sensor modes.

Table 1. Sensor mode table

Mode	Index	Data format
1080P_linear	0	RAW10
1080P_hdr0	1	RAW10
4K_linear	2	RAW12
4K_hdr	3	RAW10

The `"/opt/imx8-isp/bin/start_isp.sh"` file has a mode-select parameter.

## 4 Building and testing

This section describes building and testing the demo using the hardware setup described earlier.

### 4.1 Creating the i.MX Yocto SDK and installing the toolchain

This section describes how to create the i.MX Yocto SDK and install the toolchain on the i.MX 8M Plus EVK board.

#### 4.1.1 Downloading the repository (if required)

Use the below commands to download the repository (in case the bin folder does not exist already):

```
$ mkdir ~/bin (this step may not be needed if the bin folder already exists)
$ curl https://storage.googleapis.com/git-repo-downloads/repo > ~/bin/repo
$ chmod a+x ~/bin/repo
$ export PATH=~/bin:$PATH
```

#### 4.1.2 Setting up Git (if required)

Use the below commands to setup the git repository (if not already done):

```
$ git config --global user.name "Your Name"
$ git config --global user.email "Your Email"
$ git config -list
```

#### 4.1.3 Creating the Yocto build environment

Use the commands below to create the Yocto build environment:

```
$ mkdir imx-yocto-bsp
$ cd imx-yocto-bsp
$ repo init -u https://github.com/nxp-imx/imx-manifest -b imx-linux-nanbiel -m
imx-6.6.3-1.0.0.xml
$ repo sync
$ DISTRO=fsl-imx-xwayland MACHINE=imx8mp-lpddr4-evk source imx-setup-release.sh
-b build
$ bitbake imx-image-full -c populate_sdk
```

#### 4.1.4 Installing the toolchain

To install the toolchain, perform the following steps:

1. From the "build" folder, run the ". /tmp/deploy/sdk/fsl-imx-xwayland-glibc-x86\_64-imx-image-full-armv8a-imx8mp-lpddr4-evk-toolchain-6.6-nanbiel.sh" file.
2. The default directory of the toolchain is "/opt/fsl-imx-xwayland/6.6-nanbiel.sh". If you install the toolchain in another location, replace the default path in the following sessions with your own path.

## 4.2 Building the NXP kernel

This section describes how to build the NXP kernel.

### 4.2.1 Downloading the latest version of NXP kernel

Download the latest version of the NXP kernel using the command below:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/nxp-imx/linux-imx.git -b lf-6.6.3-1.0.0
```

### 4.2.2 Building the kernel

Use the commands below to build the kernel:

```
$ source /opt/6.6-nanbiel/environment-setup-armv8a-poky-linux
$ make mrproper
$ make ARCH=arm64 imx_v8_defconfig O=./build_v8
$ cd build_v8/
$ make ARCH=arm64 -j8
```

### 4.3 Building the isp-imx

This section describes how to build the isp-imx.

#### 4.3.1 Downloading the latest version of isp-imx

Download the latest version of `isp-imx` using the commands below:

```
$ wget https://www.nxp.com/lgfiles/NMG/MAD/YOCTO/isp-imx-4.2.2.24.1.bin
$ chmod +x isp-imx-4.2.2.24.1.bin
$ ./isp-imx-4.2.2.24.1.bin
```

In Yocto, "isp-imx" is located in the path: "tmp/work/aarch64-mx8mp-poky-linux/isp-imx".

#### 4.3.2 Building the SDK

Build the SDK using the commands below:

```
$ source /opt/6.6-nanbiel/environment-setup-armv8a-poky-linux
$ ./build-all-isp.sh release partial
```

### 4.4 Building the isp-vvcam

This section describes how to build the isp-vvcam.

#### 4.4.1 Downloading the latest version of isp-vvcam

Download the latest version of `isp-vvcam` using the commands below:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/nxp-imx/isp-vvcam.git -b lf-6.6.3-1.0.0
```

In Yocto, "isp-vvcam" is located in the directory "build-wayland-8mp/tmp/work/imx8mpevk-poky-linux/kernel-module-isp-vvcam".

#### 4.4.2 Building the vvcam

Build the `vvcam` file using the commands below:

```
$ source /opt/6.6-nanbiel/environment-setup-armv8a-poky-linux
$ export KERNEL_SOURCE_DIR = [the build path of the NXP kernel]
$ ./build-all-vvcam.sh
```



## 4.5 Storing useful files

This section describes how to store useful files.

### 4.5.1 Copying useful files to the output directory

Perform the following steps to copy useful files to the output directory:

1. Copy the kernel files to the build-out directory:

```
$ cp linux-imx/build_v8/arch/arm64/boot/dts/freescale/imx8mp-evk-*.dtb [your
build-out directory]/boot
$ cp linux-imx/build_v8/arch/arm64/boot/Image [the build-out directory]/boot
$ cp linux-imx/build_v8/drivers/staging/media/imx/imx8-media-dev.ko [the
build-out directory]/sdk
```

2. Copy the isp-imx files to the build-out directory:

```
$ cp -r ./isp-imx-4.2.2.24.1/build_output_release_partial/blob/* [the build-
out directory]/sdk
```

3. Copy the isp-vvcam files to the build-out directory:

```
$ cp ./isp-vvcam/modules/* [the build-out directory]/sdk
```

### 4.5.2 Sending a file to a board

```
$ scp -r [the build out directory]/sdk/* root@$EVK_IP_Address:/home/root/[your
test directory in root]
$ scp [the build out directory]/boot/* root@$EVK_IP_Address:/run/media/boot-
mmcblk1p1/
```

The output directory should contain the following files:

```
root@imx8mpevk:~/build-out-guest# ls
OS08A20_8M_10_1080p_hdr.xml      liba3dnnr.so      libbufsync_ctrl.so      libdewarp_hal.so      liboslayer.so
OS08A20_8M_10_1080p_linear.xml   libadpcc.so      libcam_calbdb.so       libebase.so          libson_ctrl.so
OS08A20_8M_10_4k_hdr.xml         libadpf.so       libcam_device.so       libfpga.so           libversion.so
OS08A20_8M_10_4k_linear.xml      libaec.so        libcam_engine.so       libhpal.so           libvom_ctrl.so
Sensor0_Entry.cfg                libaee.so        libcamerica_drv.so     libi2c_drv.so        libvdisplay_shared.so
Sensor0_Entry_os08a20.cfg        libaf.so         libcamerica_reg_drv.so libibid.so            os08a20_drv
Sensor1_Entry.cfg                libaflt.so       libcin_ctrl.so         libisi.so             os08a20.ko
Sensor1_Entry_os08a20.cfg        libahdr.so       libcommon.so           libjsoncpp.so         ov2775.ko
VSI_Monitor.cfg                 libappshell_ebase.so libcppnetlib-client-connections.so libjsoncpp.so.1.9.0  run.sh
basler-camera-driver-vvcam.ko    libappshell_hal.so libcppnetlib-client-connections.so.0 libjsoncpp.so.21    start_isp.sh
dewarp_config                   libappshell_ibd.so libcppnetlib-client-connections.so.0.13.0 libmedia_server.so  tuningext
imx8-media-dev.ko                libappshell_oslayer.so libcppnetlib-server-parsers.so libmim_ctrl.so      video_test
imx8mp-evk-revA3-8mic-revE.dtb   libavs.so        libcppnetlib-server-parsers.so.0 libmipi_drv.so       vvcam-dwe.ko
imx8mp-evk-revb4-hifiberry-dacplusadc.dtb libawb.so        libcppnetlib-server-parsers.so.0.13.0 libmon_ctrl.so      vvcam-isp.ko
imx8mp-evk-rpmsg.dtb             libawdr3.so      libcppnetlib-uri.so     libos08a20.so        vvcam-video.ko
isp_media_server                 libbase64.so     libcppnetlib-uri.so.0   libos08a20.so.1      vtext
liba2dnnr.so                    libbufferpool.so libcppnetlib-uri.so.0.13.0 libos08a20.so.1.0.0
```

Figure 4. Output directory

## 4.6 Selecting a device tree

To select a device tree, perform the following steps:

1. "imx8mp-evk-os08a20.dtb" - # single os08a20, connect to CSI1.
2. "imx8mp-evk-dual-os08a20.dtb" - # dual os08a20, connect to CSI1 and CSI2.
3. "imx8mp-evk-os08a20-ov5640.dtb" - # ov5640 and os08a20 (os08a20 -> CSI1, ov5640 -> CSI2).

## 4.7 Editing the sensor-configuration file and selecting the correct mode

The below example shows how to edit a sensor-configuration file and select the correct mode.

**Sensor0\_Entry.cfg (example):**

```
name="os08a20" drv = "os08a20.drv"
mode= 2
[mode.0]
xml = "OS08a20_8M_10_1080p_linear.xml"
dwe = "dewarp_config/sensor_dwe_os08a20_1080P_config.json"
[mode.1]
xml = "OS08a20_8M_10_1080p_hdr.xml"
dwe = "dewarp_config/sensor_dwe_os08a20_1080P_config.json"
[mode.2]
xml = " OS08a20_8M_10_4k_linear.xml"
dwe = "dewarp_config/sensor_dwe_os08a20_4K_config.json"
[mode.3]
xml = " OS08a20_8M_10_4k_hdr.xml"
dwe = "dewarp_config/sensor_dwe_os08a20_4K_config.json"
```

## 4.8 Enabling the ISP and camera on the board

This section describes how to enable the ISP and camera module on the board.

### 4.8.1 Adding to a path

Use the below command to add a path:

```
$ export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$pwd:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
```

### 4.8.2 Stopping the default ISP

Use the below command to

```
$ systemctl stop imx8-isp.service
```

### 4.8.3 Removing existing modules

Use the below command to remove existing modules.

```
$ rmmod vvcam-dwe  
$ rmmod vvcam-isp  
$ rmmod vvcam-video  
$ rmmod imx8-media-dev.ko  
$ rmmod os08a20.ko
```

### 4.8.4 Installing modules

Use the below command to install modules:

```
$ insmod vvcam-dwe  
$ insmod vvcam-isp  
$ insmod vvcam-video  
$ insmod imx8-media-dev.ko  
$ insmod os08a20.ko
```

### 4.8.5 Starting the ISP media server

To start the ISP media server (**Single sensor**), use the below command:

```
$ ./isp_media_server CAMERA0&
```

To start the ISP media server (**Dual sensor**), use the below command:

```
$ ./isp_media_server DUAL_CAMERA&
```

## 4.9 OS08A20 test cases

The following section describes the OS08A20 sample test cases for single sensor and dual sensor modes.

### 4.9.1 Single sensor

#### **Mode 0: 1080p linear:**

- Change "Sensor0\_Entry.cfg" to mode 0:

```
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video3 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=1920,height=1080" ! queue ! waylandsink
```

#### **Mode 1: 1080p HDR:**

- Change "Sensor0\_Entry.cfg" to mode 1:

```
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video3 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=1920,height=1080" ! queue ! waylandsink
```

#### **Mode 2: 4K linear:**

- Change "Sensor0\_Entry.cfg" to mode 2:

```
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video3 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=3840,height=2160" ! queue ! waylandsink
```

#### **Mode 3: 4K linear:**

- Change "Sensor0\_Entry.cfg" to mode 3:

```
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video3 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=3840,height=2160" ! queue ! waylandsink
```

### 4.9.2 Dual sensor

#### **Mode 0: 1080p linear:**

- Change "Sensor0\_Entry.cfg" and "Sensor1\_Entry.cfg" to mode 0:

```
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video3 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=1920,height=1080" ! queue ! waylandsink window-width=640 window-height=480 --no-position &  
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video4 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=1920,height=1080" ! queue ! waylandsink window-width=640 window-height=480 --no-position &
```

#### **Mode 1: 1080p HDR:**

- Change "Sensor0\_Entry.cfg" and "Sensor1\_Entry.cfg" to mode 1:

```
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video3 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=1920,height=1080" ! queue ! waylandsink window-width=640 window-height=480 --no-position &  
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video4 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=1920,height=1080" ! queue ! waylandsink window-width=640 window-height=480 --no-position &
```

#### **Mode 2: 4K linear:**

- Change "Sensor0\_Entry.cfg" and "Sensor1\_Entry.cfg" to mode 2:

```
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video3 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=3840,height=2160" ! queue ! waylandsink window-width=640 window-height=480 --no-position &
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video4 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=3840,height=2160" ! queue ! waylandsink window-width=640 window-height=480 --no-position &
```

**Mode 3: 4K linear:**

- Change "Sensor0\_Entry.cfg" and "Sensor1\_Entry.cfg" to mode 3:

```
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video3 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=3840,height=2160" ! queue ! waylandsink window-width=640 window-height=480 --no-position &
$ gst-launch-1.0 -v v4l2src device=/dev/video4 ! "video/x-raw,format=YUY2,width=3840,height=2160" ! queue ! waylandsink window-width=640 window-height=480 --no-position &
```

## 4.10 Disabling or bypassing dewarp functionality

To bypass the dewarp configuration, set the "dewarp bypass" parameter in the dewarp configuration file to "true".

```
{
  "dewarpConfigArray" : [
    {
      "source_image": {
        "width" : 1920,
        "height" : 1080
      },
      "?dewarpType": "LENS_CORRECTION, FISHEYE_EXPAND, SPLIT_SCREEN",
      "dewarpType": "FISHEYE_DEWARP",
      "scale": {
        "roix" : 0,
        "roiy" : 0,
        "factor" : 1.0
      },
      "split": {
        "horizon_line" : 540,
        "vertical_line_up" : 960,
        "vertical_line_down": 960
      },
      "bypass" : true,
      "hflip" : false,
      "vflip" : false,
      "camera_matrix" : [1.9584556270377586e+003,0.0, 9.6819933899253533e+002,
        "distortion_coeff": [-1.2839656060464022e-001, 1.4121087523973114e-001, 2
```

Figure 5. Disabling or bypassing the dewarp parameter

To disable the dewarp functionality, run the following command after starting "isp\_media\_server", and before running the "gststream" command:

```
$ v4l2-ctl -d 2 -c viv_ext_ctrl='{<id>:<pipeline.s.dwe.onoff>;<enable>:false}'
```

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6 Revision history

[Table 2](#) summarizes the changes done to this document.

Table 2. Revision history

Document ID	Release date	Description
AN13712 v.3.0	9 October 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updated the kernel version and resolution of the sensor modes.</li><li>• Added dual sensor mode test cases in <a href="#">Section 4.9.2</a>.</li></ul>
AN13712 v.2	4 September 2023	Updated the Linux kernel version to 6.1.22.
AN13712 v.1	29 November 2022	Updated <a href="#">Section 1</a> .
AN13712 v.0	24 August 2022	Initial release.

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