

# Defining Colorspaces in V4L2

In V4L2 colorspaces are defined by four values. The first is the colorspace identifier (enum `:c.type:'v4l2_colorspace'`) which defines the chromaticities, the default transfer function, the default Y'CbCr encoding and the default quantization method. The second is the transfer function identifier (enum `:c.type:'v4l2_xfer_func'`) to specify non-standard transfer functions. The third is the Y'CbCr encoding identifier (enum `:c.type:'v4l2_ycbcr_encoding'`) to specify non-standard Y'CbCr encodings and the fourth is the quantization identifier (enum `:c.type:'v4l2_quantization'`) to specify non-standard quantization methods. Most of the time only the colorspace field of struct `:c.type:'v4l2_pix_format'` or struct `:c.type:'v4l2_pix_format_mplane'` needs to be filled in.

**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l] colorspaces-defs.rst, line 7); [backlink](#)

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**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l] colorspaces-defs.rst, line 7); [backlink](#)

Unknown interpreted text role "c:type".

**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l] colorspaces-defs.rst, line 7); [backlink](#)

Unknown interpreted text role "c:type".

**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l] colorspaces-defs.rst, line 7); [backlink](#)

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**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l] colorspaces-defs.rst, line 7); [backlink](#)

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**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l] colorspaces-defs.rst, line 7); [backlink](#)

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On [ref](#) HSV formats `<hsv-formats>` the *Hue* is defined as the angle on the cylindrical color representation. Usually this angle is measured in degrees, i.e. 0-360. When we map this angle value into 8 bits, there are two basic ways to do it: Divide the angular value by 2 (0-179), or use the whole range, 0-255, dividing the angular value by 1.41. The enum `:c.type:'v4l2_hsv_encoding'` specifies which encoding is used.

**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l] colorspaces-defs.rst, line 24); [backlink](#)

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**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l] colorspaces-defs.rst, line 24); [backlink](#)

Unknown interpreted text role "c:type".

## Note

The default R'G'B' quantization is full range for all colorspace. HSV formats are always full range.

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 34)**

Unknown directive type "tabularcolumns".

```
.. tabularcolumns:: |p{6.7cm}|p{10.8cm}|
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 36)**

Unknown directive type "c:type".

```
.. c:type:: v4l2_colorspace
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 38)**

Unknown directive type "flat-table".

```
.. flat-table:: V4L2 Colorspaces
   :header-rows: 1
   :stub-columns: 0

   * - Identifier
     - Details
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_DEFAULT``
     - The default colorspace. This can be used by applications to let
       the driver fill in the colorspace.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_SMPTE170M``
     - See :ref:`col-smpte-170m`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_REC709``
     - See :ref:`col-rec709`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_SRGB``
     - See :ref:`col-srgb`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_OPRGB``
     - See :ref:`col-oprgb`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_BT2020``
     - See :ref:`col-bt2020`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_DCI_P3``
     - See :ref:`col-dcip3`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_SMPTE240M``
     - See :ref:`col-smpte-240m`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_470_SYSTEM_M``
     - See :ref:`col-sysm`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_470_SYSTEM_BG``
     - See :ref:`col-sysbg`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_JPEG``
     - See :ref:`col-jpeg`.
   * - ``V4L2_COLORSPACE_RAW``
     - The raw colorspace. This is used for raw image capture where the
       image is minimally processed and is using the internal colorspace
       of the device. The software that processes an image using this
       'colorspace' will have to know the internals of the capture
       device.
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 76)**

Unknown directive type "c:type".

```
.. c:type:: v4l2_xfer_func
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 78)**

Unknown directive type "tabularcolumns".

```
.. tabularcolumns:: |p{5.5cm}|p{12.0cm}|
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 80)**

Unknown directive type "flat-table".

```
.. flat-table:: V4L2 Transfer Function
:header-rows: 1
:stub-columns: 0

* - Identifier
  - Details
* - ``V4L2_XFER_FUNC_DEFAULT``
  - Use the default transfer function as defined by the colorspace.
* - ``V4L2_XFER_FUNC_709``
  - Use the Rec. 709 transfer function.
* - ``V4L2_XFER_FUNC_SRGB``
  - Use the sRGB transfer function.
* - ``V4L2_XFER_FUNC_OPRGB``
  - Use the opRGB transfer function.
* - ``V4L2_XFER_FUNC_SMPTE240M``
  - Use the SMPTE 240M transfer function.
* - ``V4L2_XFER_FUNC_NONE``
  - Do not use a transfer function (i.e. use linear RGB values).
* - ``V4L2_XFER_FUNC_DCI_P3``
  - Use the DCI-P3 transfer function.
* - ``V4L2_XFER_FUNC_SMPTE2084``
  - Use the SMPTE 2084 transfer function. See :ref:`xf-smp2084`.
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 105)**

Unknown directive type "c.type".

```
.. c:type:: v4l2_ycbcr_encoding
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 107)**

Unknown directive type "tabularcolumns".

```
.. tabularcolumns:: |p{7.2cm}|p{10.3cm}|
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v4l\linux-master [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v4l]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 109)**

Unknown directive type "flat-table".

```
.. flat-table:: V4L2 Y'CbCr Encodings
:header-rows: 1
:stub-columns: 0

* - Identifier
  - Details
* - ``V4L2_YCBCR_ENC_DEFAULT``
  - Use the default Y'CbCr encoding as defined by the colorspace.
* - ``V4L2_YCBCR_ENC_601``
  - Use the BT.601 Y'CbCr encoding.
```

```

* - ``V4L2_YCBCR_ENC_709``
  - Use the Rec. 709 Y'CbCr encoding.
* - ``V4L2_YCBCR_ENC_XV601``
  - Use the extended gamut xvYCC BT.601 encoding.
* - ``V4L2_YCBCR_ENC_XV709``
  - Use the extended gamut xvYCC Rec. 709 encoding.
* - ``V4L2_YCBCR_ENC_BT2020``
  - Use the default non-constant luminance BT.2020 Y'CbCr encoding.
* - ``V4L2_YCBCR_ENC_BT2020_CONST_LUM``
  - Use the constant luminance BT.2020 Yc'CbCrCrc encoding.
* - ``V4L2_YCBCR_ENC_SMPTE_240M``
  - Use the SMPTE 240M Y'CbCr encoding.

```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v41\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v41]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 134)**

Unknown directive type "c.type".

```
.. c:type:: v4l2_hsv_encoding
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v41\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v41]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 136)**

Unknown directive type "tabularcolumns".

```
.. tabularcolumns:: |p{6.5cm}|p{11.0cm}|
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v41\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v41]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 138)**

Unknown directive type "flat-table".

```

.. flat-table:: V4L2 HSV Encodings
   :header-rows: 1
   :stub-columns: 0

   * - Identifier
     - Details
   * - ``V4L2_HSV_ENC_180``
     - For the Hue, each LSB is two degrees.
   * - ``V4L2_HSV_ENC_256``
     - For the Hue, the 360 degrees are mapped into 8 bits, i.e. each
       LSB is roughly 1.41 degrees.

```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v41\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v41]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 152)**

Unknown directive type "c.type".

```
.. c:type:: v4l2_quantization
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\userspace-api\media\v41\[linux-master] [Documentation] [userspace-api] [media] [v41]colorspaces-defs.rst, line 154)**

Unknown directive type "tabularcolumns".

```
.. tabularcolumns:: |p{6.5cm}|p{11.0cm}|
```

**System Message: ERROR/3 (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-**

Unknown directive type "flat-table".

```
.. flat-table:: V4L2 Quantization Methods
   :header-rows: 1
   :stub-columns: 0

   * - Identifier
     - Details
   * - ``V4L2_QUANTIZATION_DEFAULT``
     - Use the default quantization encoding as defined by the
       colorspace. This is always full range for R'G'B' and HSV.
       It is usually limited range for Y'CbCr.
   * - ``V4L2_QUANTIZATION_FULL_RANGE``
     - Use the full range quantization encoding. I.e. the range [0â€¦1] is
       mapped to [0â€¦255] (with possible clipping to [1â€¦254] to avoid the
       0x00 and 0xff values). Cb and Cr are mapped from [-0.5â€¦0.5] to
       [0â€¦255] (with possible clipping to [1â€¦254] to avoid the 0x00 and
       0xff values).
   * - ``V4L2_QUANTIZATION_LIM_RANGE``
     - Use the limited range quantization encoding. I.e. the range [0â€¦1]
       is mapped to [16â€¦235]. Cb and Cr are mapped from [-0.5â€¦0.5] to
       [16â€¦240]. Limited Range cannot be used with HSV.
```