

OpenFDE

A New Exploration for the Linux Desktop Environment

- Bridging the Gap Between Linux and Android Ecosystems



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01

The Linux Desktop Challenge

背景与痛点

Understanding the fundamental challenges facing the Linux Desktop ecosystem and why current solutions fail to bridge the application gap.

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14 September 2018

The "App Gap" Paradox

Linux dominates servers, but where are the apps?



Server vs. Desktop Paradox

Cloud Market Share

96%

Desktop Adoption

<5%

While Linux powers the vast majority of cloud infrastructure, its desktop presence remains minimal.



The App Gap

3M+

Android Apps

~5,000

Linux Native Apps

The Linux Desktop app ecosystem is stagnating while mobile platforms thrive.



"Mobile-First" Exclusion

Modern collaboration tools prioritize mobile and web platforms, **completely skipping native Linux releases.**

Figma

Notion

TikTok Studio



Developer Reality

- ✗ Fragmented ecosystem: GTK/Qt/WxWidgets
- ✗ Distribution packaging hell
- ✗ No commercial incentive for developers

Why Existing Android-on-Linux Solutions Fall Short?

现有方案为何不够好？



Virtual Machines

The Fortress Problem



8GB+ RAM

Just for lightweight apps



GPU Passthrough

Unstable and unreliable



Broken Workflow

Copy-paste breaks flow



Translation Layers

The Lottery



70% Compatibility

Random app failures



Random Crashes

Especially after updates



Conventional Emulators

The Glass Wall



Window-in-Window

Chaotic UX experience



No Shared Clipboard

Isolated environments



Hardware Blackholes

Camera/Bluetooth broken



The Core Issue: All existing solutions treat Android apps as "guests" rather than native citizens, creating artificial barriers that break the user experience.

Beyond Just "Running Apps"

Reimagining Linux as a Creation Platform, Not Just a Host

“To make Linux a first-class citizen for modern application ecosystems.”

”



Seamless Fusion

Invisible Integration

- ✓ Apps share the exact same **filesystem**
- ✓ Unified **clipboard** across ecosystems
- ✓ Direct **hardware access** for all apps

"Apps don't know they're guests"



Unified Development

One SDK to Rule Them

- ✓ Stop fighting **fragmentation**
- ✓ Use **Android Studio** toolchain
- ✓ Build for Linux with **zero extra cost**

"Mature toolchain, mature results"



Performance First

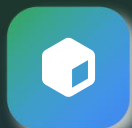
Bare-Metal Speed

- ✓ Direct **hardware access**
- ✓ No **emulation tax**
- ✓ Full **GPU acceleration**

"Native speed, native experience"

Meet OpenFDE

正式引入项目



Core Definition

OpenFDE is not just a software; it is an **Open Fusion Desktop Environment**.

→ A revolutionary approach to desktop computing



Technical Path

It deeply embeds the **AOSP (Android Open Source Project)** window management and graphics stack into a standard Linux distribution.



Window Management



Graphics Stack



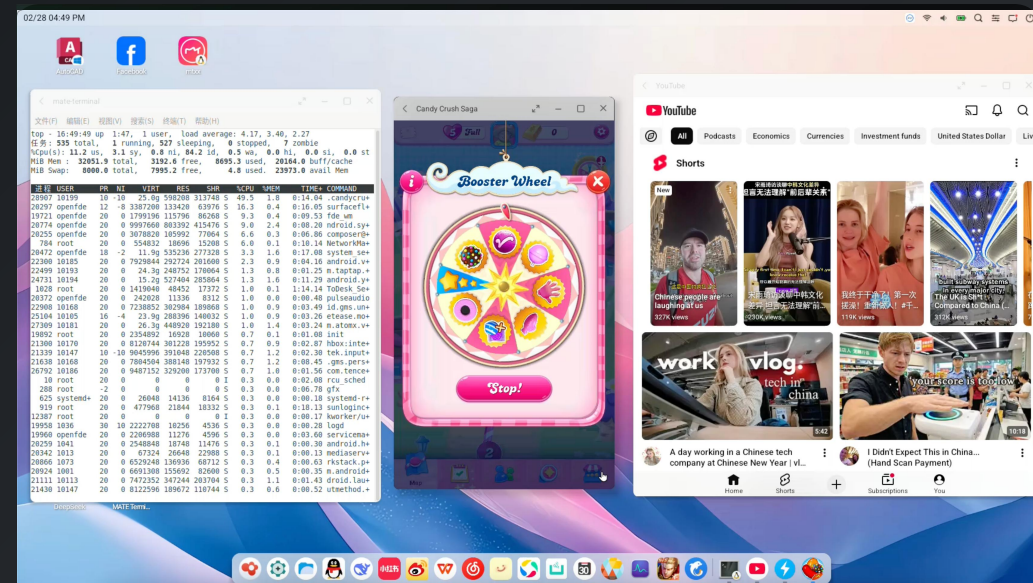
Deep Integration



Core Value

It introduces the **massive Android ecosystem** to Linux while fully retaining the **powerful underlying capabilities** of Linux.

OpenFDE Desktop



Android Apps



Linux Apps



Unified

02

Architectural Deep Dive

技术核心与架构

Exploring the innovative technical architecture that enables seamless fusion of Linux and Android ecosystems.

System Architecture Overview

整体架构



Unified Environment

Simultaneously supports both **Android** and **Linux** applications within the exact same desktop environment.



Android Apps

+



Linux Apps



Consistent UX

Unified window manager ensures no distinct difference in user experience



Universal Input

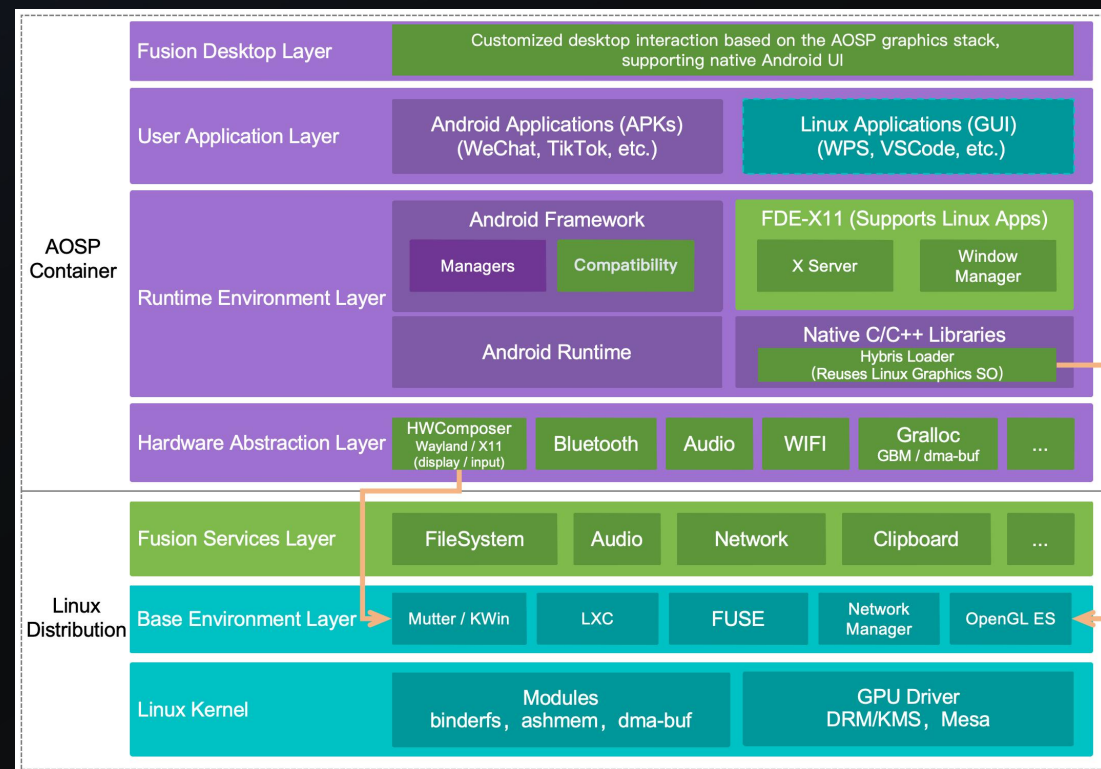
Shared input method works universally across all applications



Seamless Clipboard

Two-way clipboard communication for effortless copying and pasting between ecosystems

Architecture Diagram



● Android Stack ● Linux Stack ● Fusion Layer

The FDE-X11 Architecture

FDE-X11 机制 - Bridging X11 and AOSP Window Management



X Server Implementation

A **fully implemented X Window System server** seamlessly ported onto the AOSP framework.

- ✓ Complete X11 protocol support



Window Manager

Maps X Window **layouts, appearance, and behavior** directly to AOSP's native window management.



Layouts



Appearance

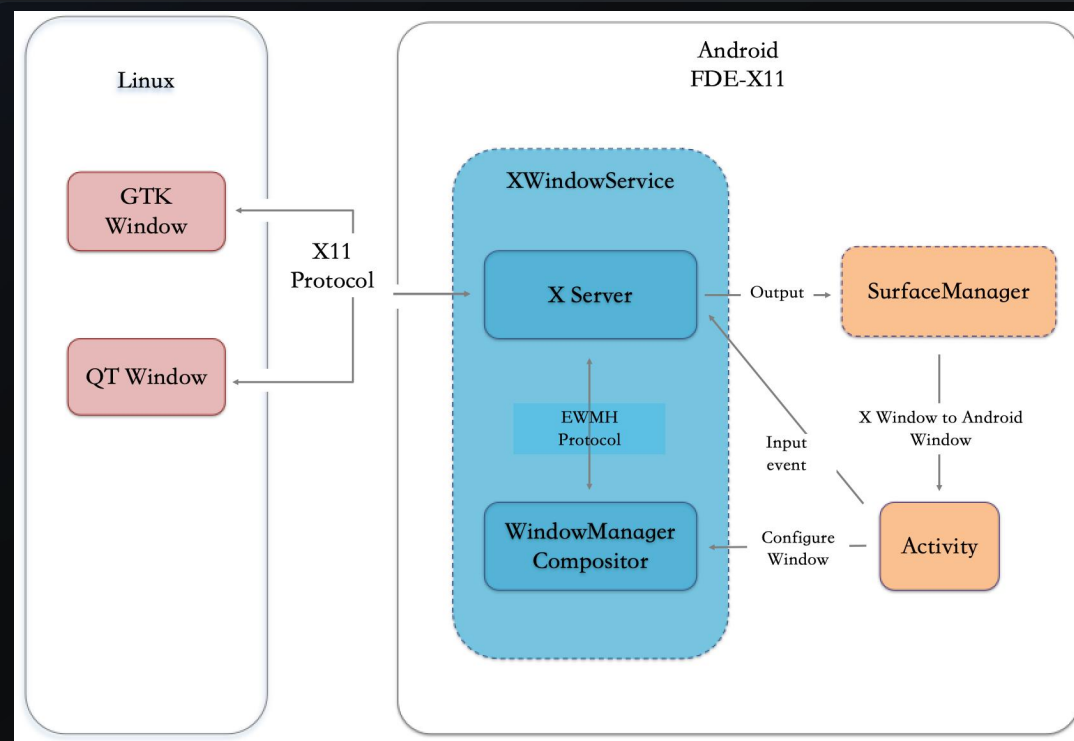


Behavior



Key Innovation: Linux apps behave exactly like Android apps in the unified environment.

Architecture Flow



</> X11 Protocol

Translation

Native WM

Graphics Rendering Acceleration

图形渲染加速 - Breaking the Bionic-Glibc Barrier



Technical Breakthrough

Modified the AOSP **Bionic C dynamic loader** to natively support loading Linux **GNU C versions** of OpenGL/ES, EGL, and related libraries.



Zero-Copy Execution

Enables a **direct, high-performance bridge** between the Android runtime environment and the native GNU glibc runtime.



No Overhead

Direct library loading



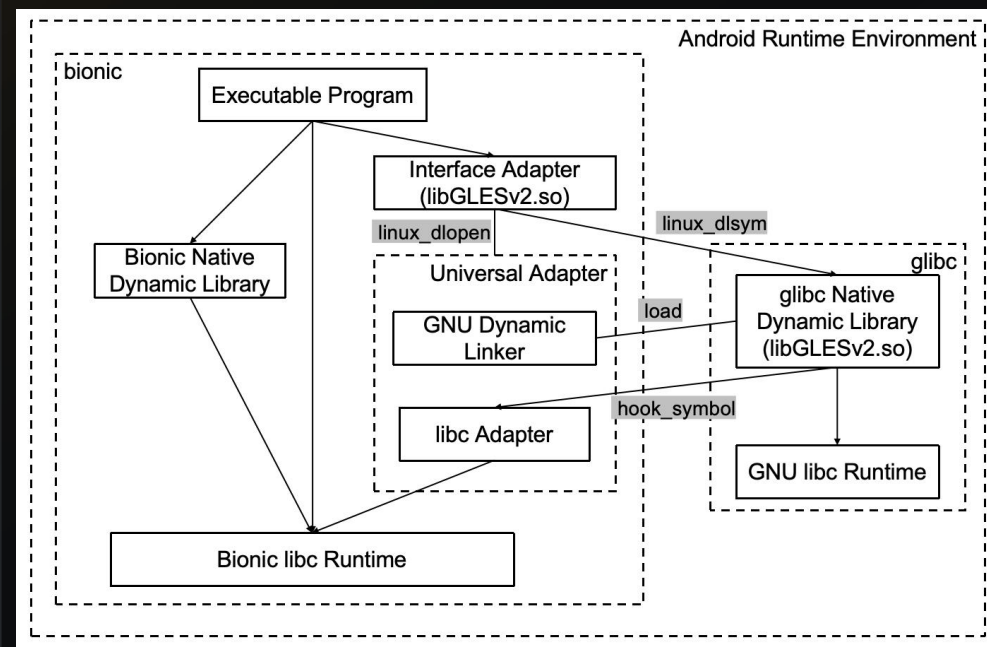
GPU Native

Full acceleration



Performance Gain: Eliminates 30-40% emulation tax for graphics-intensive applications.

Library Bridge



Direct Bridge

Comprehensive Device Bridging

设备硬件桥接 - Hardware Reuse & Unified Access



Hardware Reuse

Reuses hardware devices that are already adapted for the **Linux system**.

- ✓ No additional drivers needed



Network Bridging

Shares the same **network configuration**.
VPN enabled in Android is usable by Linux apps.

- ✓ Unified VPN access



Audio Bridging

Shares all **audio input/output devices** with unified volume control.

- ✓ Single volume control

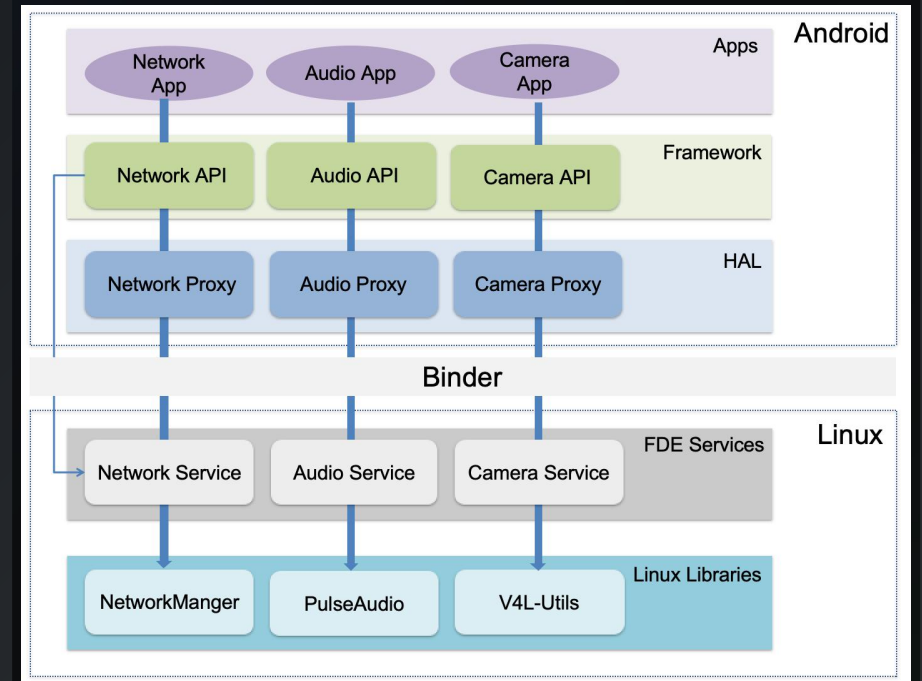


Peripheral Fusion

Complete integration for **Camera** and **Bluetooth** functionality.

- ✓ Camera ✓ Bluetooth

Device Integration



✓ No isolation

✓ Native access

Compatibility Framework

兼容性框架 - User-Configurable Solutions



User Configurable

Provides **user-configurable compatibility solutions** that adapt to different application requirements.

10

Pre-built Configurations Compatibility Items

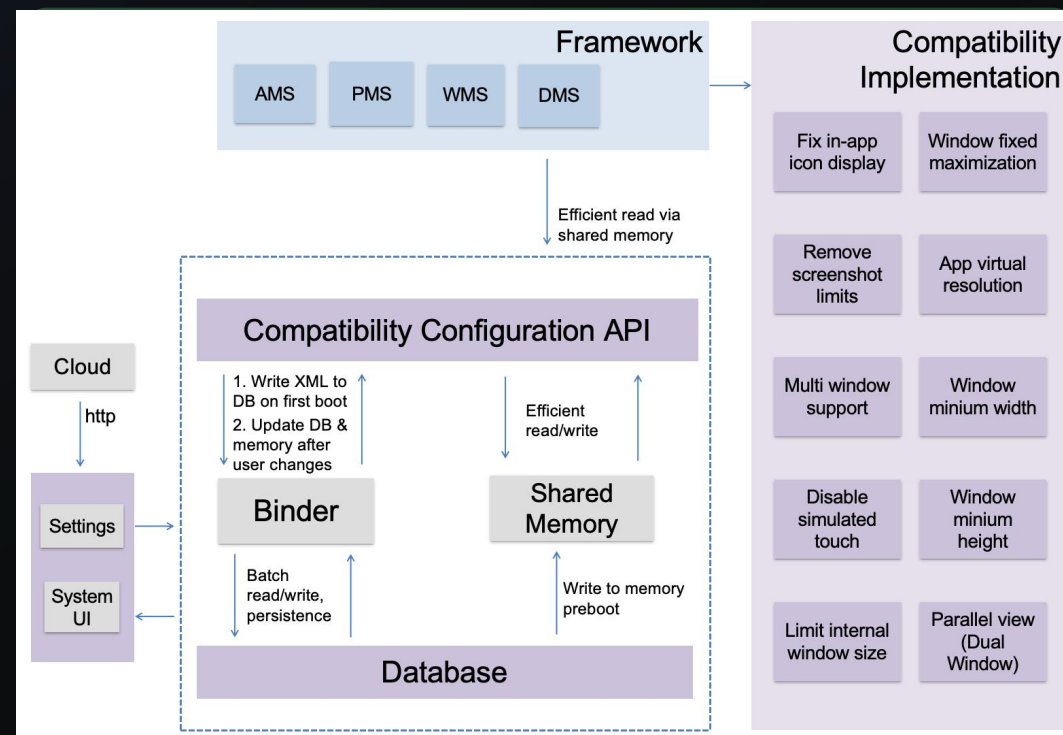
Currently implements **10 distinct compatibility configuration items** covering common app issues.



Problem Resolution

Successfully resolves **widespread application compatibility issues** out-of-the-box.

Configuration Framework



Out-of-the-box Compatibility

03

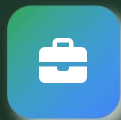
Real-World Scenarios

效果展示

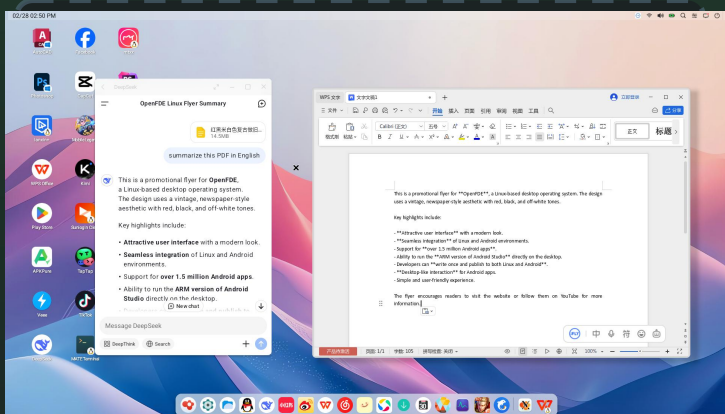
Visual demonstrations of OpenFDE in action across daily productivity, entertainment, gaming, and development scenarios.

Daily Scenarios

日常使用场景 - Productivity, Entertainment & Gaming



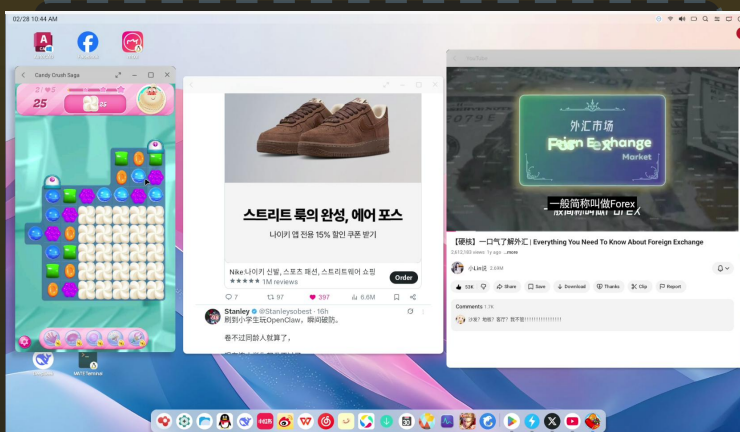
Office Productivity



Use the **DeepSeek Android app** to analyze a PDF
Seamlessly copy and edit results into **LibreOffice**
natively on Linux



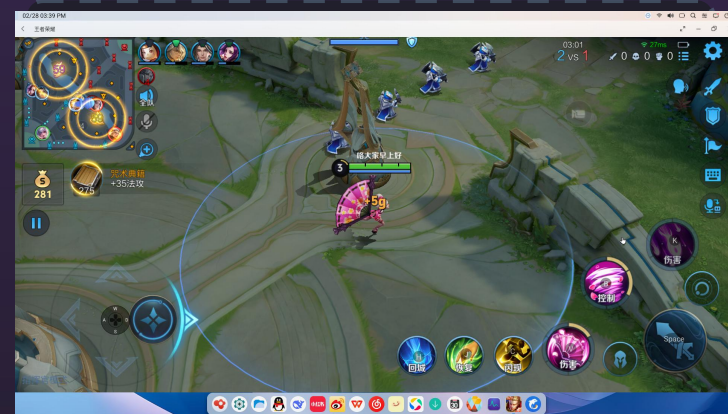
Entertainment



Flawlessly streaming short-form video on **TikTok**
High-definition content on **YouTube** without any
emulation lag



Gaming



Utilizing **key-mapping assistants** for desktop
gaming
Play intense mobile games like "**Honor of Kings**"
(王者荣耀) directly on desktop



Native Performance



Unified Experience



Seamless Integration

For Developers

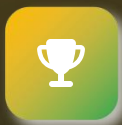
Developer Empowerment

开发者赋能 - Native Android Development on Linux



Native Android Development

Develop and natively debug applications using **Android Studio** directly on the Linux desktop.



The Milestone

OpenFDE is the **first platform** to publicly support compilation for the **ARM Linux version of Android Studio** and its **full toolchain**.

★ First in Industry

ARM Linux Android Studio

✂ Full Toolchain

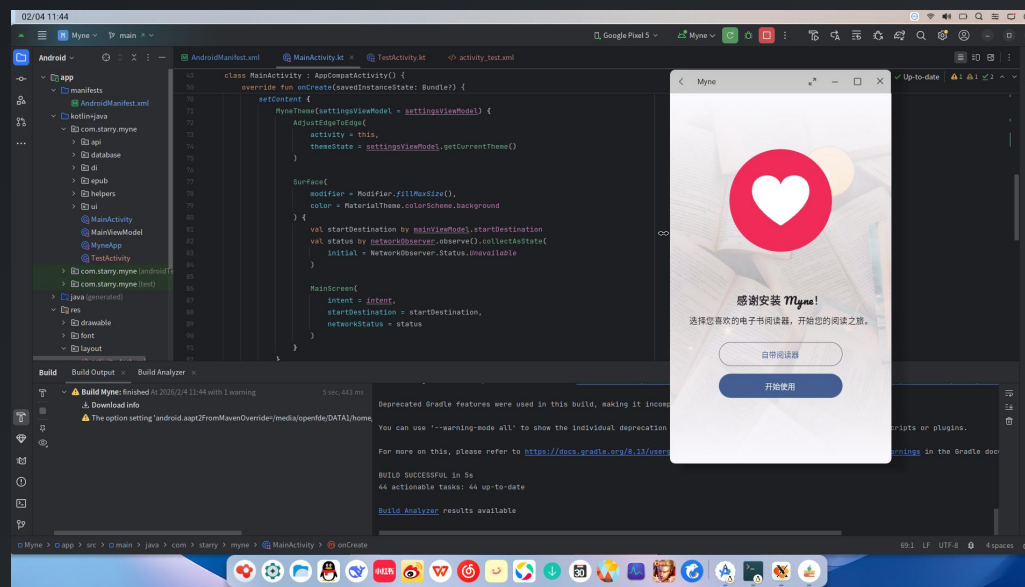
Complete compilation support



Developer Benefit: Build, test, and deploy Android apps without leaving the Linux environment.

Android Studio on ARM Linux

MILESTONE



ARM Architecture



Linux Native



Full Toolchain



Build



Debug



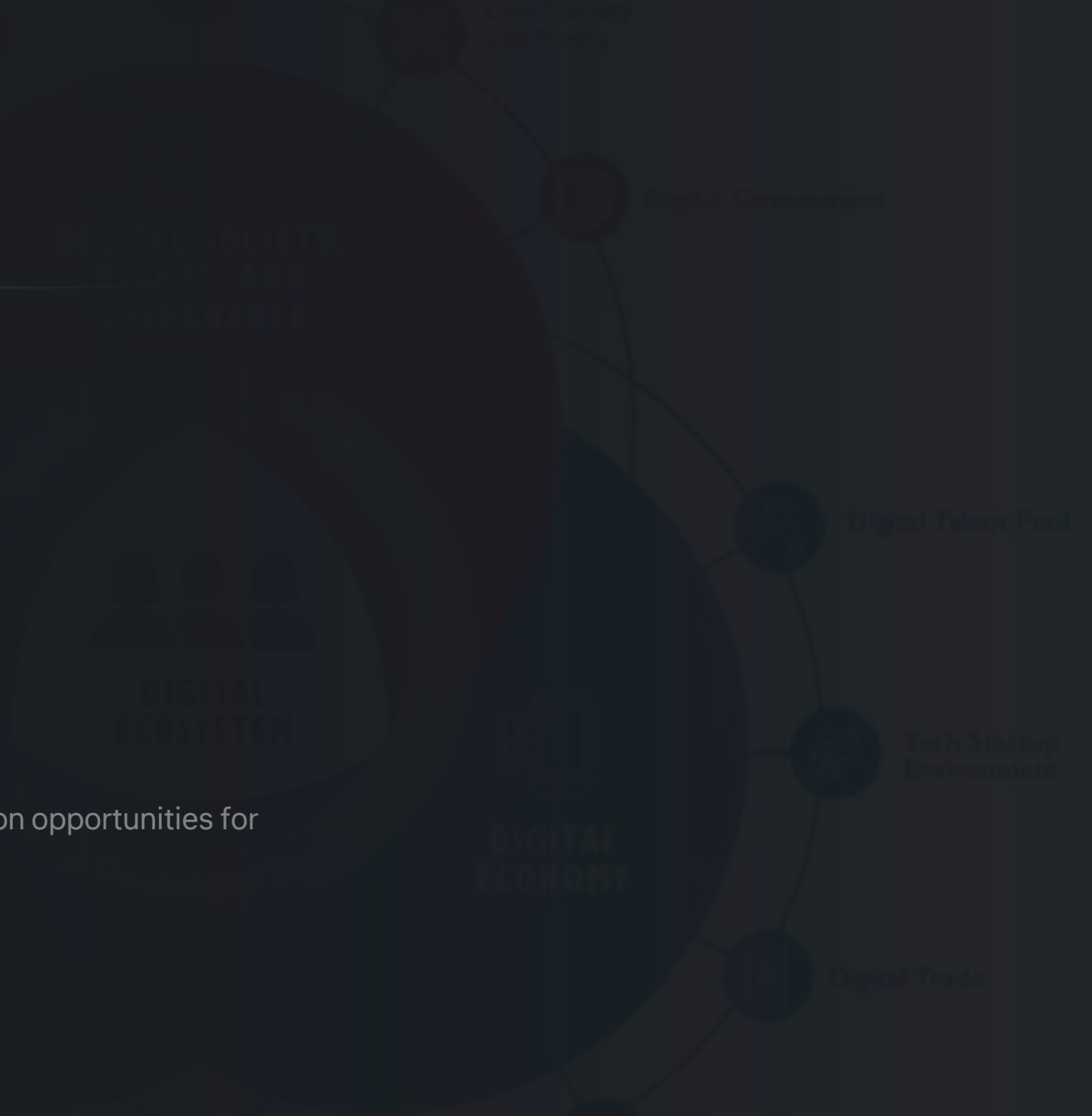
Deploy

04

Roadmap & Community

未来与协作

Future development plans and community collaboration opportunities for OpenFDE.



Future and Plans

未来规划 - What's Next for OpenFDE

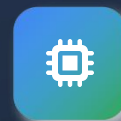


Multi-Monitor Setup

Native multi-display support

Implementation of **native multi-display support** for enhanced productivity workflows.

- ✓ Extended desktop experience



Hardware Acceleration

Expanding GPU support

Expanding GPU support through **Hybris** for broader hardware compatibility.

- ✓ More GPU vendors supported



System Upgrades

AOSP 17 Adaptation

Adapting the core to **AOSP 17** for latest Android features and security updates.

- ✓ Latest Android features



Continuous Polish

Ongoing optimization

Ongoing optimization of **user experience** and **feature set** based on community feedback.

- ✓ Community-driven improvements



Active Development



Community Driven



Regular Releases



Community Introduction

Join the OpenFDE Community



Official Website

openfde.com

Visit for documentation, downloads, and detailed information.



GitHub Repository

github.com/openfde

Access source code, contribute, and report issues.



twitter

[@openfde123](https://twitter.com/openfde123)

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YouTube Channel

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Watch running effects and live demonstration videos.



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OpenFDE

Open Fusion Desktop Environment