

NAME

`msr` – x86 CPU MSR access device

DESCRIPTION

`/dev/cpu/CPUNUM/msr` provides an interface to read and write the model-specific registers (MSRs) of an x86 CPU. *CPUNUM* is the number of the CPU to access as listed in `/proc/cpuinfo`.

The register access is done by opening the file and seeking to the MSR number as offset in the file, and then reading or writing in chunks of 8 bytes. An I/O transfer of more than 8 bytes means multiple reads or writes of the same register.

This file is protected so that it can be read and written only by the user *root*, or members of the group *root*.

NOTES

The *msr* driver is not auto-loaded. On modular kernels you might need to use the following command to load it explicitly before use:

```
$ modprobe msr
```

SEE ALSO

Intel Corporation Intel 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual Volume 3B Appendix B, for an overview of the Intel CPU MSRs.

COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.02 of the Linux *man-pages* project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.