

# RIOT Hands-on Tutorial

Martine Lenders

Starting the RIOT

# Preparations

For links go to <https://github.com/RIOT-OS/Tutorials>

## **Quick Setup** (Using a Virtual Machine)

- ▶ Install and set up git
- ▶ Install VirtualBox & VirtualBox Extension Pack
- ▶ Install Vagrant
- ▶ `git clone --recursive https://github.com/RIOT-OS/Tutorials`
- ▶ Run the Vagrant RIOT Setup

## **Recommended Setup** (Without Using a VM)

- ▶ Install and set up git
- ▶ Install the build-essential packet (make, gcc etc.). This varies based on the operating system in use.
- ▶ Install Native dependencies
- ▶ Install OpenOCD
- ▶ Install GCC Arm Embedded Toolchain
- ▶ On OS X: install Tuntap for OS X
- ▶ additional tweaks necessary to work with the targeted hardware (ATSAMR21)
- ▶ Install netcat with IPv6 support (if necessary)  
`sudo apt-get install netcat-openbsd`
- ▶ `git clone --recursive https://github.com/RIOT-OS/Tutorials`

# Running RIOT

- ▶ Applications in RIOT consist at minimum of
  - ▶ a Makefile
  - ▶ a C-file, containing a `main()` function
- ▶ To see the code go to the task-01 directory:

```
cd task-01
```

```
ls
```

# Your first application – The Makefile

```
# name of your application
```

```
APPLICATION = Task01
```

```
# If no BOARD is found in the environment, use this default:
```

```
BOARD ?= native
```

```
# This has to be the absolute path to the RIOT base directory:
```

```
RIOTBASE ?= $(CURDIR)/../../RIOT
```

```
# Comment this out to disable code in RIOT that does safety checking
```

```
# which is not needed in a production environment but helps in the
```

```
# development process:
```

```
CFLAGS += -DDEVELHELP
```

```
# Change this to 0 show compiler invocation lines by default:
```

```
QUIET ?= 1
```

```
# Modules to include:
```

```
USEMODULE += shell
```

```
USEMODULE += shell_commands
```

```
USEMODULE += ps
```

```
include $(RIOTBASE)/Makefile.include
```

## Your first application – The C-file

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

#include "shell.h"

int main(void)
{
    puts("This is Task-01");

    char line_buf[SHELL_DEFAULT_BUFSIZE];
    shell_run(NULL, line_buf, SHELL_DEFAULT_BUFSIZE);

    return 0;
}
```

## Task 1.1: Run your first application as Linux process

1. Compile & run on native: `make all term`
2. Type `help`
3. Type `ps`
4. Modify your application:
  - ▶ Add a `printf("This application runs on %s", RIOT_BOARD);` *before* `shell_run()`
  - ▶ Recompile and restart `make all term`
  - ▶ Look at the result

## Task 1.2: Run your first application on real hardware

1. Compile, flash and run on samr21-xpro  
BOARD=samr21-xpro make all flash term  
(or other BOARD if available)
2. Verify output of RIOT\_BOARD



Custom shell commands

## Writing a shell handler

- ▶ Shell command handlers in RIOT are functions with signature

```
int cmd_handler(int argc, char **argv);
```

- ▶ argv: array of strings of arguments to the command

```
print hello world    # argv == {"hello", "world"}
```

- ▶ argc: length of argv

## Adding a shell handler to the shell

- ▶ Shell commands need to be added manually to the shell on initialization

```
#include "shell.h"
```

```
static const shell_command_t shell_commands[] = {  
    { "command name", "command description", cmd_handler },  
    { NULL, NULL, NULL }  
};
```

```
/* ... */  
    shell_run(commands, line_buf, SHELL_DEFAULT_BUFSIZE)  
/* ... */
```

## Task 2.1 – A simple echo command handler

- ▶ Go to task-02 directory (`cd ../task-02`)
- ▶ Write a simple echo command handler in `main.c`:
  - ▶ First argument to the echo command handler shall be printed to output

```
> echo "Hello World"
Hello World
> echo foobar
foobar
```

## Task 2.2 – Control the hardware

- ▶ `board.h` defines a macro `LED0_TOGGLE` to toggle the primary LED on the board.
- ▶ Write a command handler `toggle` in `main.c` that toggles the primary LED on the board

# Multithreading

# Threads in RIOT

- ▶ Threads in RIOT are functions with signature

```
void *thread_handler(void *arg);
```

- ▶ Use `thread_create()` from `thread.h` to start:

```
pid = thread_create(stack, sizeof(stack),  
                    THREAD_PRIORITY_MAIN - 1,  
                    THREAD_CREATE_STACKTEST,  
                    thread_handler,  
                    NULL, "thread");
```

# RIOT kernel primer

## **Scheduler:**

- ▶ Tick-less scheduling policy ( $O(1)$ ):
  - ▶ Highest priority thread runs until finished or blocked
  - ▶ ISR can preempt any thread at all time
  - ▶ If all threads are blocked or finished:
    - ▶ Special IDLE thread is run
    - ▶ Goes into low-power mode

## **IPC** (not important for the following task):

- ▶ Synchronous (default) and asynchronous (optional, by IPC queue initialization)



## Task 3.1 – Start a thread

- ▶ Go to task-03 directory (`cd ../task-03`)
- ▶ Open `main.c`
- ▶ Reminder:

```
pid = thread_create(stack, sizeof(stack),  
                    THREAD_PRIORITY_MAIN - 1,  
                    THREAD_CREATE_STACKTEST,  
                    thread_handler,  
                    NULL, "thread");
```

- ▶ Start the thread "thread" from within `main()`
- ▶ Check the output (might need reset/reboot)
- ▶ Check the existence of the thread using `ps` shell command

# Timers

## xtimer primer

- ▶ xtimer is the high level API of RIOT to multiplex hardware timers
- ▶ Examples for functionality:
  - ▶ `xtimer_now()` to get current system time in microseconds
  - ▶ `xtimer_sleep(sec)` to sleep sec seconds
  - ▶ `xtimer_usleep(usec)` to sleep usec microseconds

## Task 4.1 – Use xtimer

- ▶ Reminder: Functions `xtimer_now()`, `xtimer_sleep()`, and `xtimer_usleep()` were introduced
- ▶ Go to task-04 directory (`cd ../task-04`)
- ▶ Note the inclusion of `xtimer` in Makefile

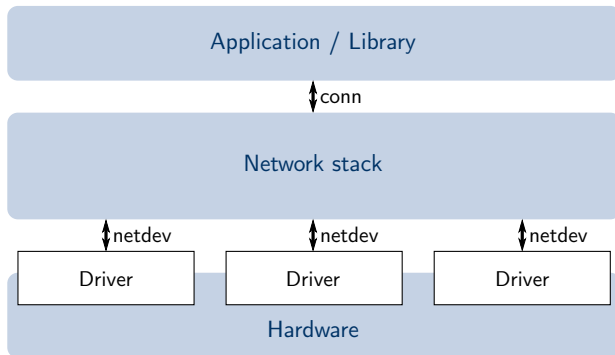
```
USEMODULE += xtimer
```

- ▶ Create a thread in `main.c` that prints the current system time every 2 seconds
- ▶ Check the existence of the thread with `ps` shell command

## General networking architecture

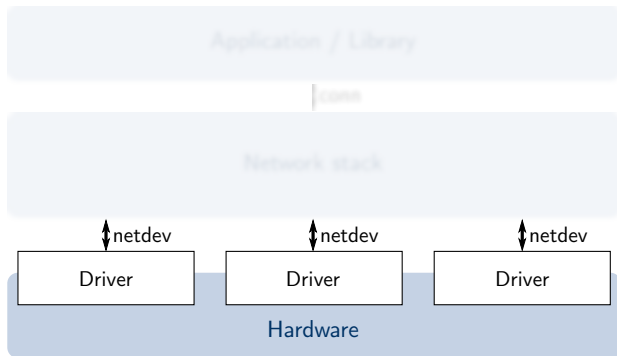
# RIOT's Networking architecture

- ▶ Devised to integrate any network stack into RIOT

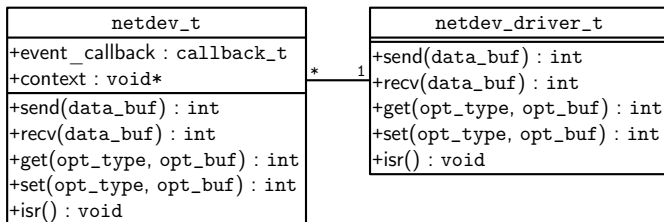


# RIOT's Networking architecture

- ▶ Devised to integrate any network stack into RIOT



► Common network device API:



► `isr()` method allows for getting out of ISR context



## Task 5.1 – Including the network device driver

- ▶ Go to task-05 directory (`cd ../task-05`)
- ▶ Note inclusion of `netdev` modules in Makefile

```
USEMODULE += gnrc_netdev_default
```

```
USEMODULE += auto_init_gnrc_netif
```

## Virtual network interface on native

- ▶ Use tapsetup script in RIOT repository:

```
../../RIOT/dist/tools/tapsetup/tapsetup -c 2
```

- ▶ Creates
  - ▶ Two TAP interfaces tap0 and tap1 and
  - ▶ A bridge between them (tapbr0 on Linux, bridge0 on OSX)
- ▶ Check with ifconfig or ip link!

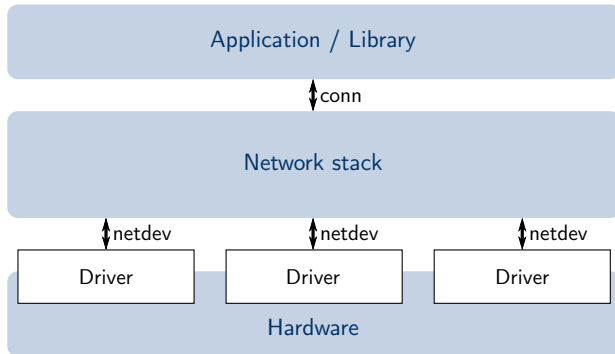
## Task 5.1 – Your first networking application

- ▶ Run the application on native: `PORT=tap0 make all term`
- ▶ Type `help`
- ▶ Run a second instance with `PORT=tap1 make all term`
- ▶ Type `ifconfig` on both to get hardware address and interface number
- ▶ Use `txtsnd` command to exchange messages between the two instances

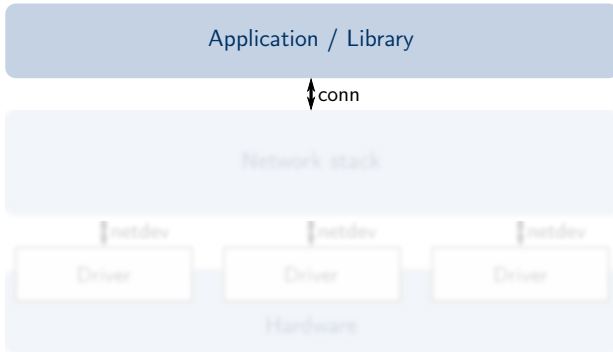
## Task 5.2 – Use your application on real hardware

- ▶ Compile, flash, and run on the board `BOARD=samr21-xpro`  
`make all flash term`
- ▶ Type `ifconfig` to get your hardware addresses
- ▶ Use `txtsnd` to send one of your neighbors a nice message

# RIOT's Networking architecture



# RIOT's Networking architecture



## conn

- ▶ collection of unified connectivity APIs to the transport layer
- ▶ What's the problem with POSIX sockets?
  - ▶ too generic for most use-cases
  - ▶ numerical file descriptors (internal storage of state required)
  - ▶ in general: too complex for usage, too complex for porting
- ▶ protocol-specific APIs:
  - ▶ `conn_ip` (raw IP)
  - ▶ `conn_udp` (UDP)
  - ▶ `conn_tcp` (TCP)
  - ▶ ...
- ▶ both IPv4 and IPv6 supported

## Task 6.1 – Use UDP for messaging

- ▶ Go to task-06 directory `cd ../task-06`
- ▶ Note the addition of `gnrc_conn_udp` to Makefile
- ▶ `udp.c` utilizes `conn_udp_sendto()` and `conn_udp_recvfrom()` to exchange UDP packets
- ▶ Compile and run on two native instances
- ▶ Type `help`
- ▶ Use `udps 8888` to start a UDP server on port 8888 on first instance (check with `ps`)
- ▶ Use `ifconfig` to get link-local IPv6 address of first instance
- ▶ Send UDP packet from second instance using `udp` command to first instance



## Task 6.2 – Communicate Linux

- ▶ Compile and run a native
- ▶ Start a UDP server on port 8888 (using udps)
- ▶ Send a packet to RIOT from Linux using netcat

```
echo "hello" | nc -6u <RIOT-IPv6-addr>%tap0 8888
```

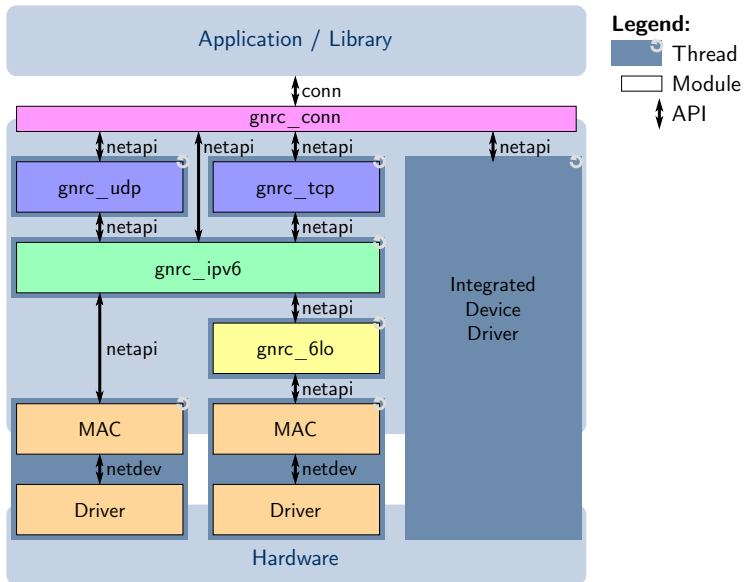
- ▶ Start a UDP server on Linux `nc -6lu 8888`
- ▶ Send a UDP packet from RIOT to Linux  
`udp <tap0-IPv6-addr> 8888 hello`

## Task 6.3 – Exchange UDP packets with your neighbors

- ▶ Compile, flash and run on the board `BOARD=samr21-xpro`  
`make all flash term`
- ▶ Send and receive UDP messages to and from your neighbors  
using `udp` and `udps`

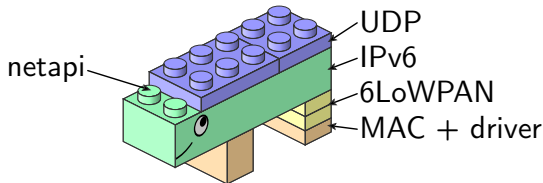
GNRC

# The components of GNRC

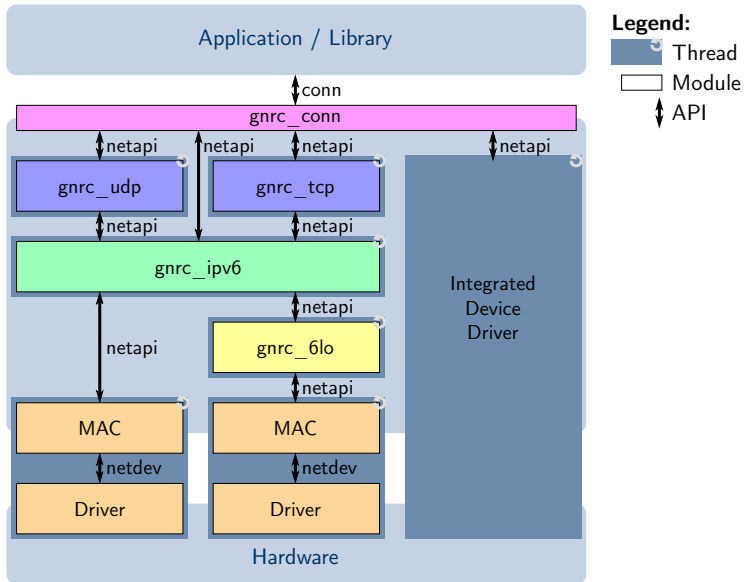


# netapi

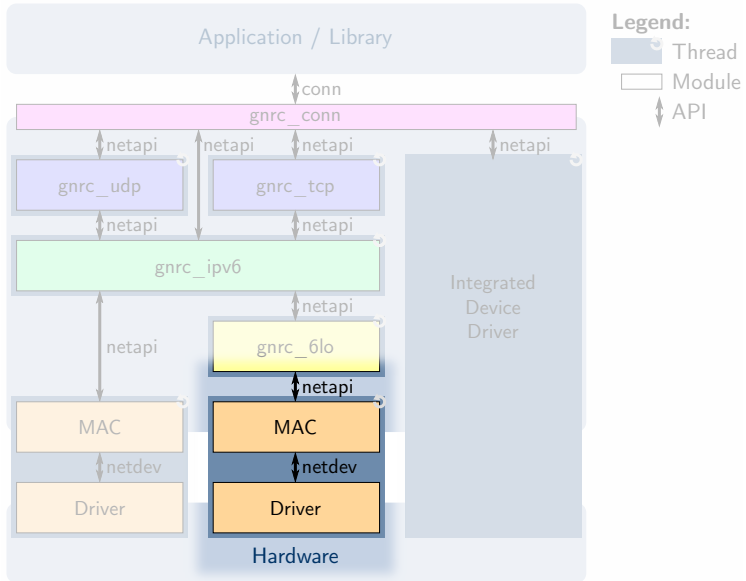
- ▶ Inter-modular API utilizing IPC
- ▶ Two asynchronous message types (don't expect reply) for data transfer:
  - ▶ GNRC\_NETAPI\_MSG\_TYPE\_SND: pass “down” the stack (send)
  - ▶ GNRC\_NETAPI\_MSG\_TYPE\_RCV: pass “up” the stack (receive)
- ▶ Two synchronous message types (expect reply) for option handling:
  - ▶ GNRC\_NETAPI\_MSG\_TYPE\_GET: get option value
  - ▶ GNRC\_NETAPI\_MSG\_TYPE\_SET: set option value
- ▶ Specification deliberately vague  
⇒ implementations can make own preconditions on data



# Network interfaces in GNRC (1)

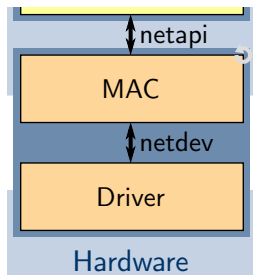


# Network interfaces in GNRC (1)



## Network interfaces in GNRC (2)

- ▶ `netapi`-capable thread as any other protocol implementation
- ▶ Implement MAC protocol
- ▶ Communication to driver via `netdev`
  - ⇐ timing requirements for e.g. TDMA-based MAC protocols





## netreg

- ▶ How to know where to send netapi messages?

## netreg

- ▶ How to know where to send netapi messages?
- ▶ Both protocol implementation and users can register to be interested in type + certain context (e.g. port in UDP)

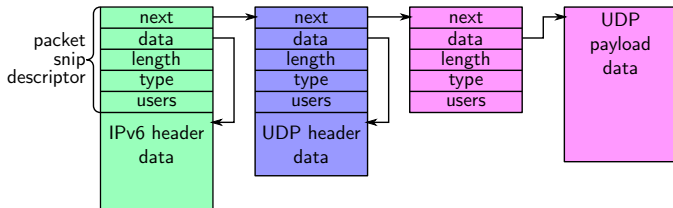
```
gnrc_netreg_t ipv6_handler = { NULL, GNRC_NETREG_DEMUX_CTX_
                                ipv6_handler_pid};
gnrc_netreg_register(GNRC_NETTYPE_IPV6, &ipv6_handler);
```

```
gnrc_netreg_t dns_handler = { NULL, PORT_DNS,
                               dns_handler_pid};
gnrc_netreg_register(GNRC_NETTYPE_UDP, &dns_handler);
```

⇒ Find handler for packets in registry

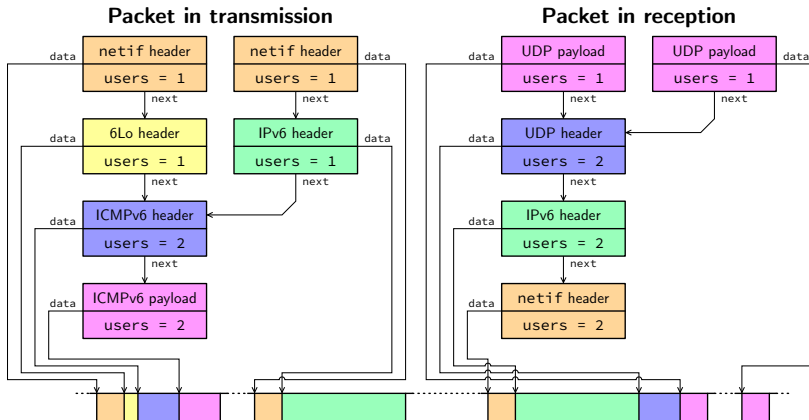
## pktbuf

- ▶ Data packet stored in pktbuf
- ▶ Representation: list of variable-length “packet snips”
- ▶ Protocols can *mark* sections of data to create new snip
- ▶ Keeping track of referencing threads: reference counter users
  - ▶ If users == 0: packet removed from packet buffer
  - ▶ If users > 1 and write access requested: packet duplicated (*copy-on-write*)



## pktbuf – keeping duplication minimal

- ▶ Only copy up to most *current* packet snip
  - ⇒ Packets become tree-like
  - ⇒ Reverse order for received packets to only have one pointer



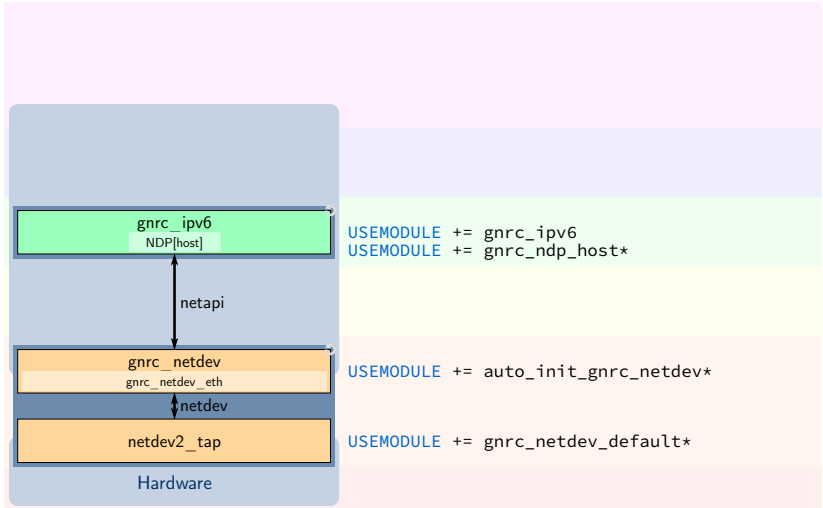
## RIOT examples

The remaining slides utilize the RIOT examples:

```
cd ../RIOT/examples/  
ls
```

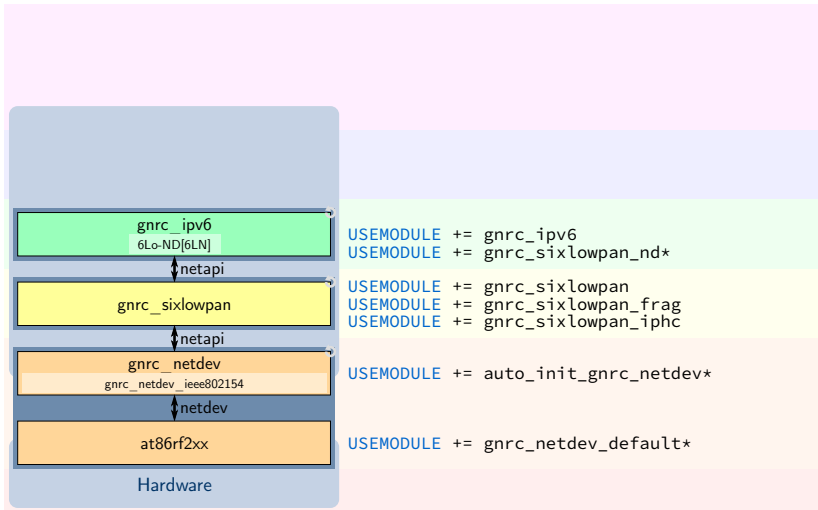
# gnrc\_minimal example (native)

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



# gnrc\_minimal example (samr21-xpro)

- ▶ \* name might be subject to change



## Some short-cuts (Makefile.dep)

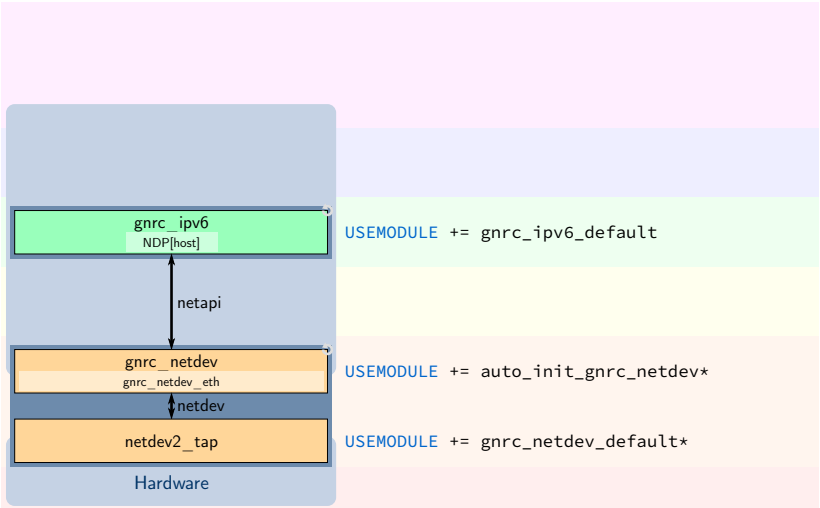
### Pseudo-module dependencies

- ▶ `gnrc_sixlowpan_default`:
  - ▶ `gnrc_sixlowpan`
  - ▶ `gnrc_sixlowpan_frag`
  - ▶ `gnrc_sixlowpan_iphc`
- ▶ `gnrc_ipv6_default`:
  - ▶ `gnrc_ipv6`
  - ▶ `gnrc_ndp_host` (if non-6Lo interface present)
  - ▶ `gnrc_sixlowpan_default` (if 6Lo interface present)
  - ▶ `gnrc_sixlowpan_nd` (if 6Lo interface present)



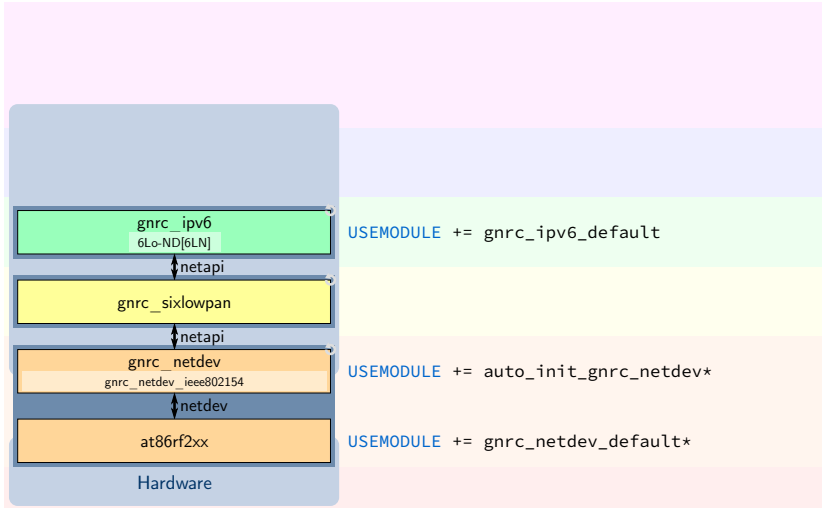
# gnrc\_minimal example (native)

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



# gnrc\_minimal example (samr21-xpro)

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



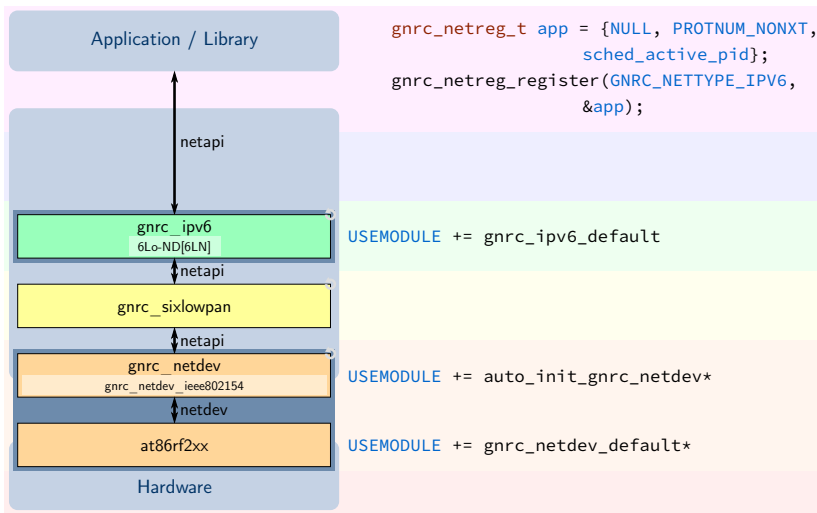
## Task 7.1 – Compile the gnrc\_minimal application

- ▶ Go to the gnrc\_minimal application (`cd gnrc_minimal`)
- ▶ Compile and run on native
- ▶ Should print something like My address is  
fe80::d403:24ff:fe89:2460
- ▶ Ping RIOT instance from Linux:

```
ping6 <RIOT-IPv6-addr>%tap0
```

# gnrc\_minimal example (samr21-xpro)

- ▶ Adding a simple application
- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



## Task 7.2 – Extend gnrc\_minimal application

- ▶ Add the gnrc\_udp module to the application
- ▶ Register for UDP packets of port 8888

```
/* include "sched.h" and "net/gnrc/netreg.h"! */
unsigned int count = 0; msg_t msg;
gnrc_netreg_t server = {NULL, 8888, sched_active_pid};
gnrc_netreg_register(GNRC_NETTYPE_UDP, &app);

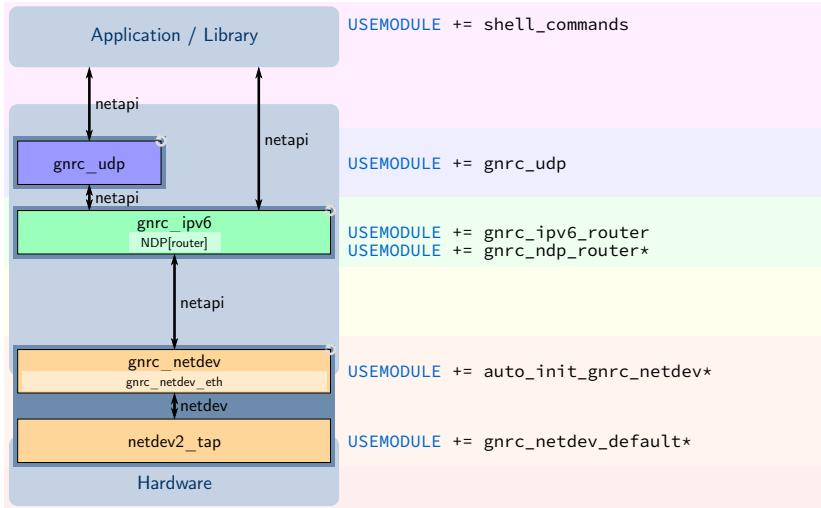
while (1) {
    msg_receive(&msg);
    printf("Received %u UDP packets\n", ++count);
}
```

- ▶ Compile and run on native
- ▶ Send UDP packet to RIOT node using netcat

```
echo "hello" | nc -6u <RIOT-IPv6-addr>%tap0 8888
```

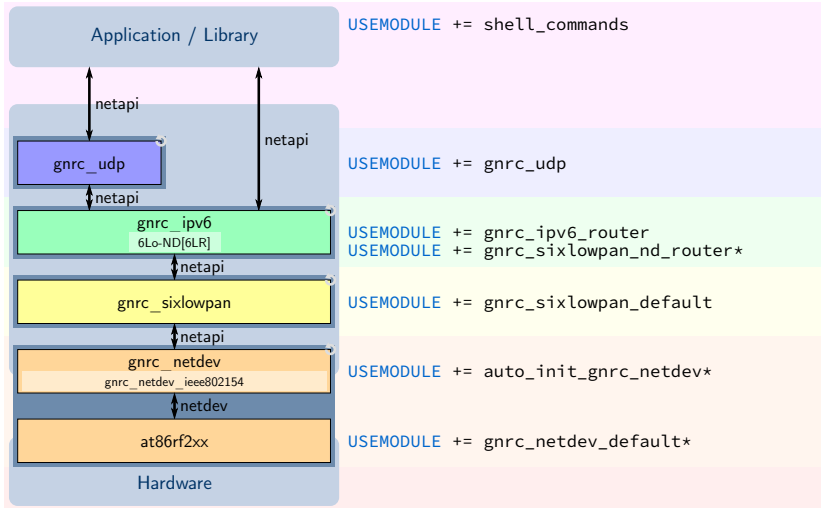
# gnrc\_networking example (native)

- \* = name might be subject to change



# gnrc\_networking example (samr21-xpro)

- \* = name might be subject to change



# More short-cuts (Makefile.dep)

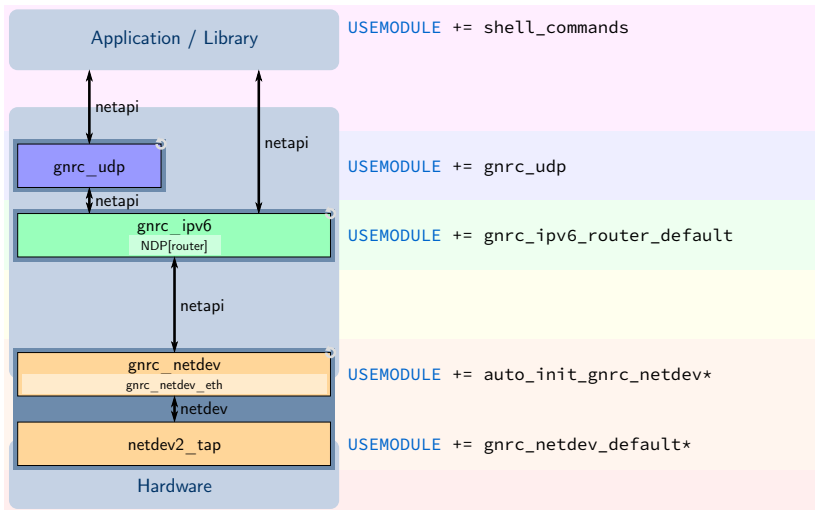
## Pseudo-module dependencies

- ▶ `gnrc_ipv6_router_default`:
  - ▶ `gnrc_ipv6`
  - ▶ `gnrc_ndp_router` (if non-6Lo interface present)
  - ▶ `gnrc_sixlowpan_default` (if 6Lo interface present)
  - ▶ `gnrc_sixlowpan_nd_router` (if 6Lo interface present)



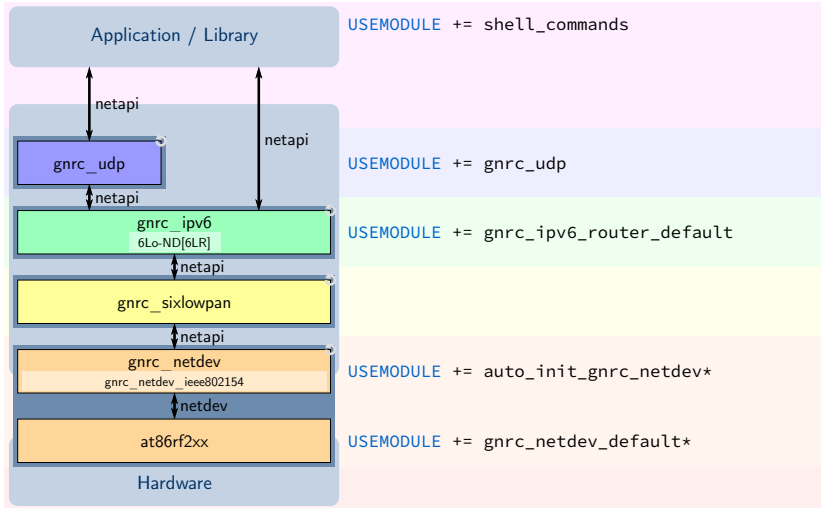
# gnrc\_networking example (native)

- \* = name might be subject to change



# gnrc\_networking example (samr21-xpro)

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change

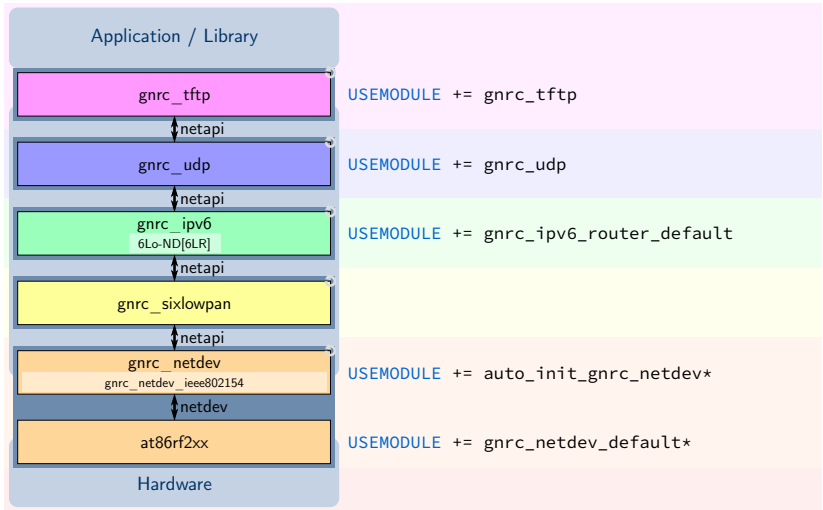


## Task 7.3 – Send your neighbor some messages again

- ▶ Go to gnrc\_networking example: `cd ../gnrc_networking`
- ▶ Have a look in `udp.c` how packets are constructed and send
- ▶ Compile, flash, and run on the board `BOARD=samr21-xpro`  
`make all flash term`
- ▶ Type `help`
- ▶ Start UDP server on port 8888 using `udp server 8888`
- ▶ Get your IPv6 address using `ifconfig`
- ▶ Send your neighbor some messages using `udp send`

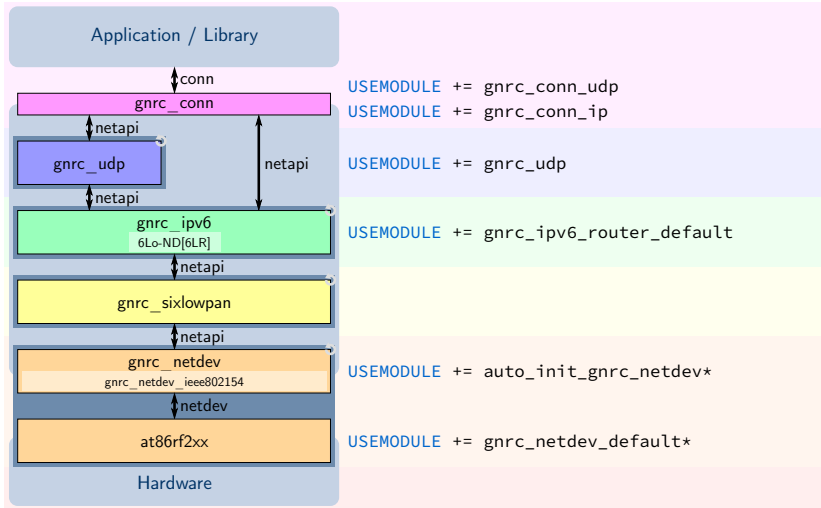
## gnrc\_tftp example

- ▶ for simplicity only the samr21-xpro examples from now on
- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



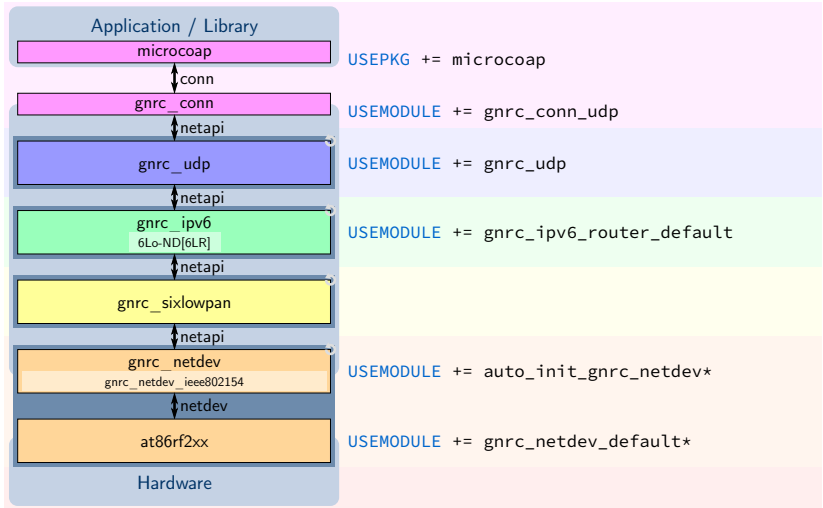
# Make your application stack independent

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



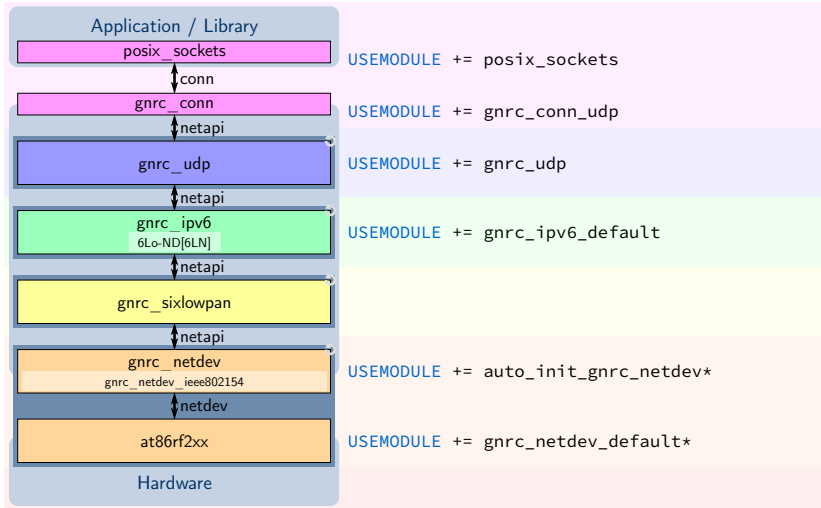
# microcoap example

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



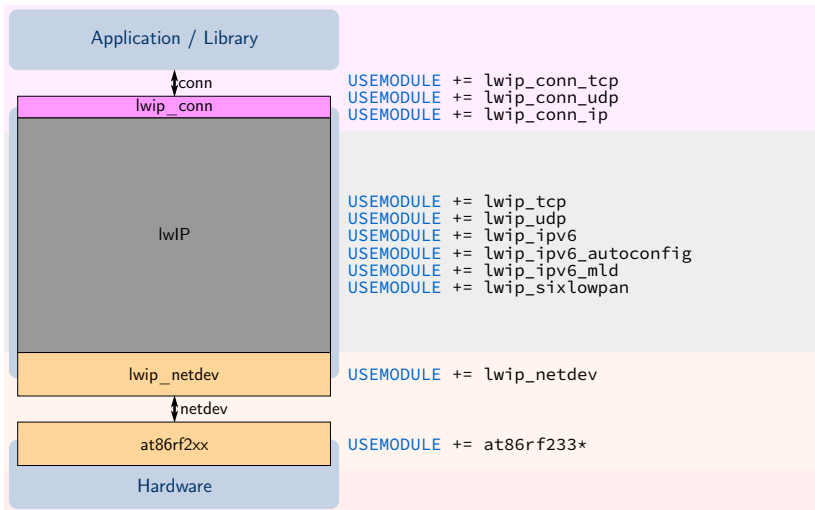
# posix\_sockets example

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



# LwIP instead of GNRC

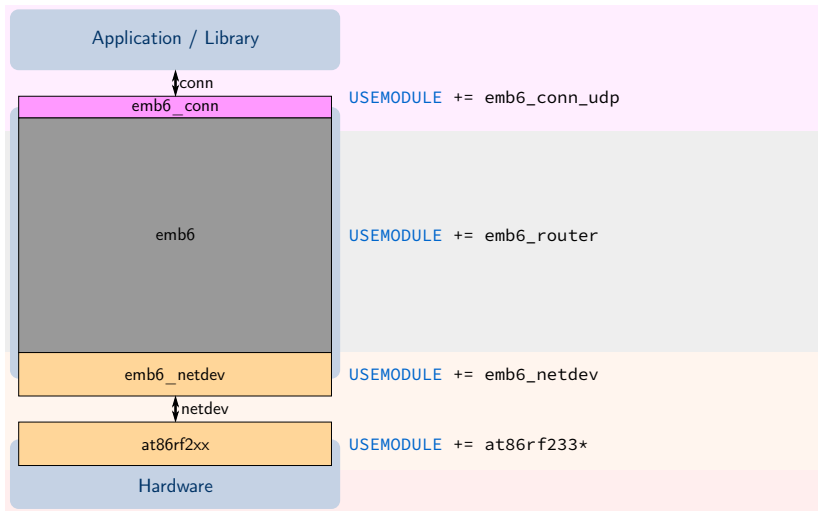
- ▶ \* = name might differ on other devices





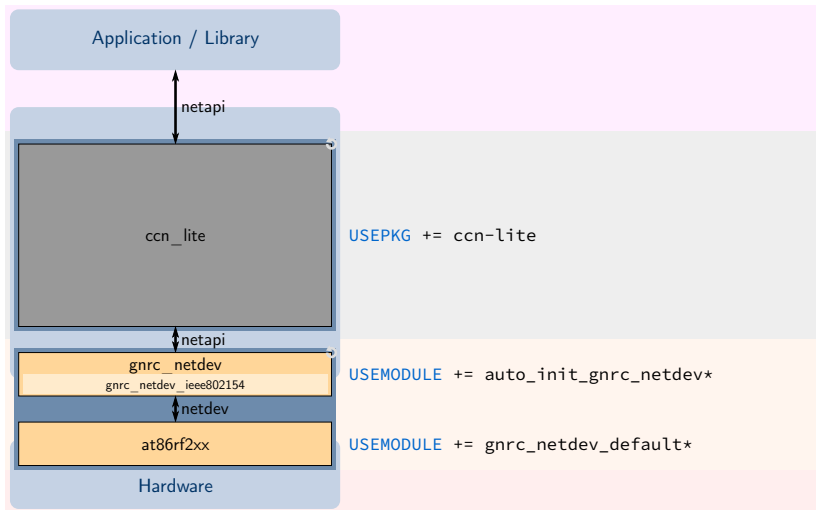
# emb6 (uIP-fork) instead of GNRC

- ▶ \* = name might differ on other devices



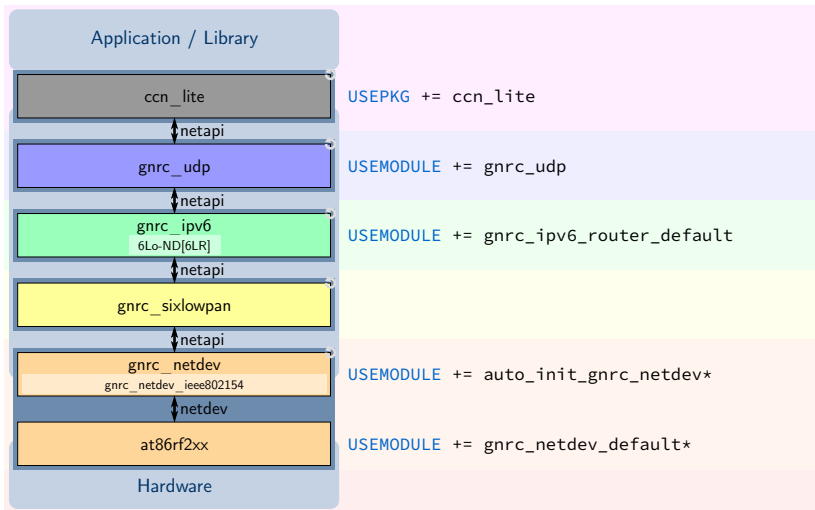
# ccn\_lite\_relay example

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



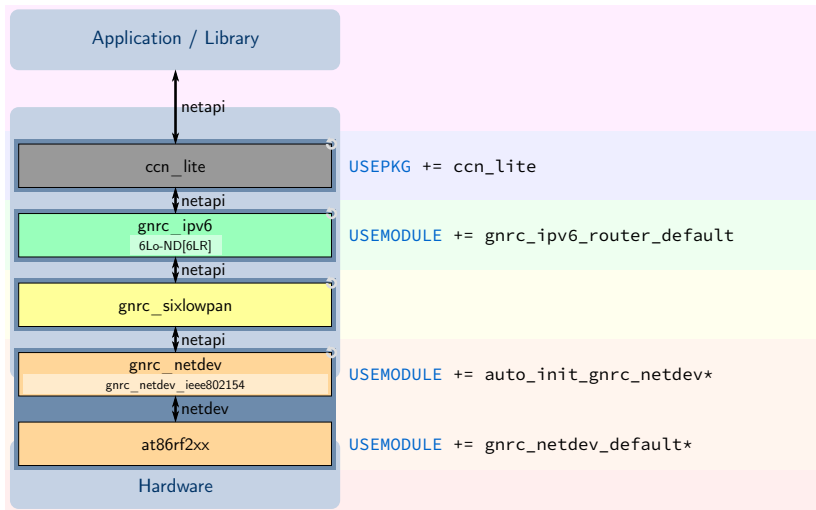
# CCN-lite over UDP example

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



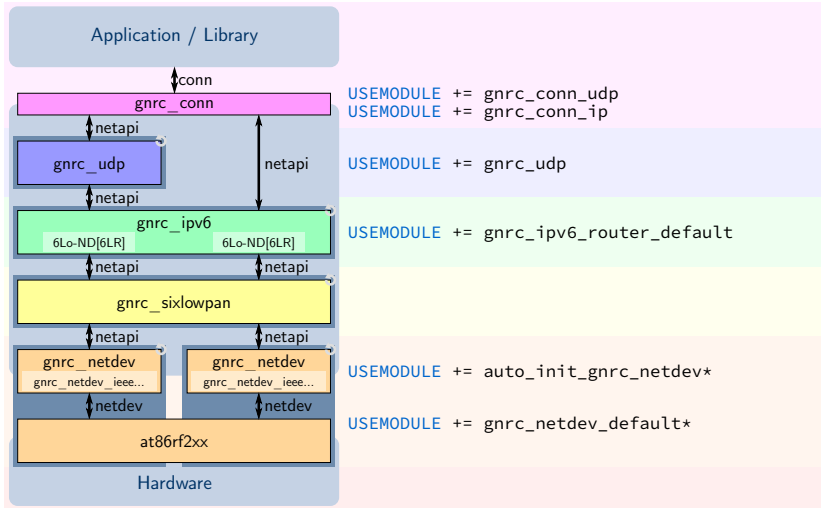
# CCN-lite over IPv6 example

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



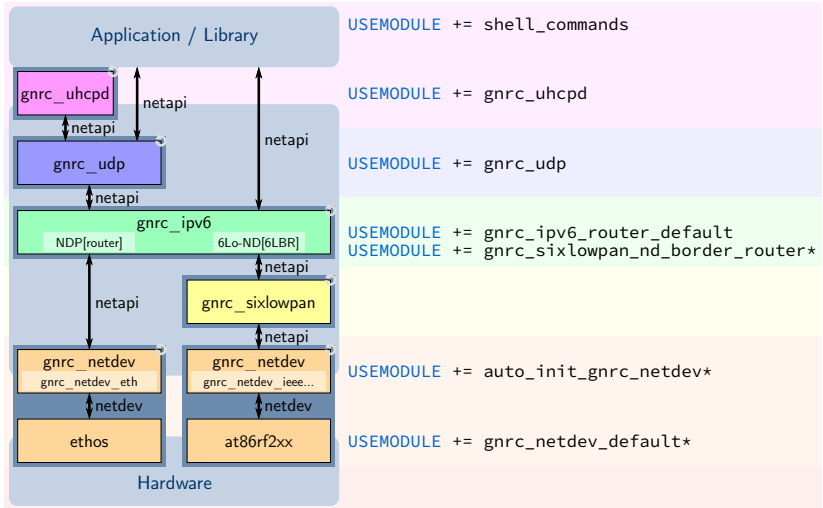
# Example: multiple radios of the same type

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



# gnrc\_border\_router example

- ▶ \* = name might be subject to change



Now go out and make something!