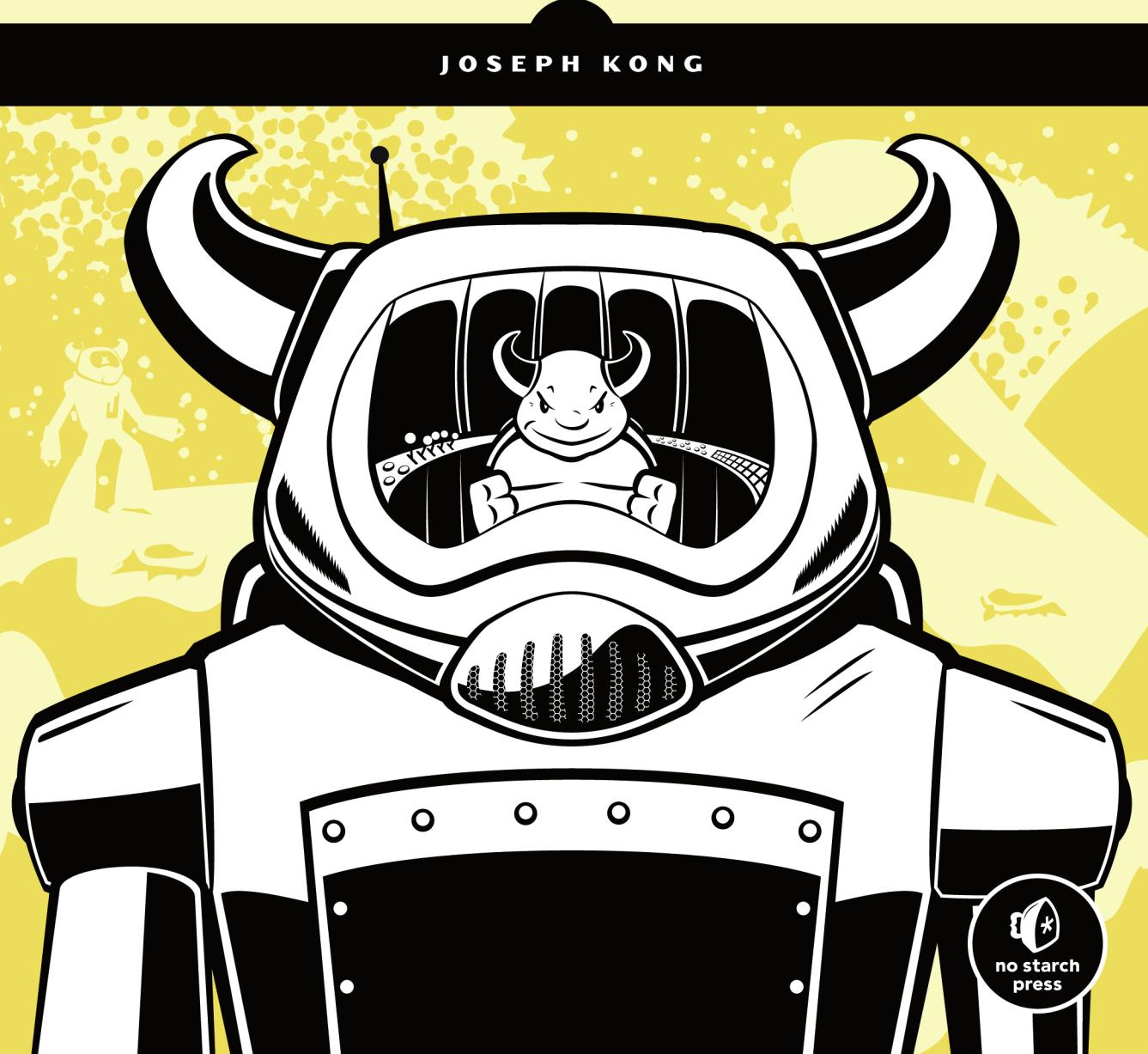


# FREEBSD® DEVICE DRIVERS

A GUIDE FOR THE INTREPID

JOSEPH KONG



## **FREEBSD DEVICE DRIVERS**



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**A Guide  
for the Intrepid**

**by Joseph Kong**



San Francisco

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This book is dedicated to the FreeBSD community.



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## **A B O U T T H E A U T H O R**

The author of *Designing BSD Rootkits* (No Starch Press), Joseph Kong works on information security, operating system theory, reverse code engineering, and vulnerability assessment. Kong is a former system administrator for the city of Toronto.

## **A B O U T T H E T E C H N I C A L R E V I E W E R**

John Baldwin has been working on various portions of the FreeBSD operating system for 12 years. His main areas of interest include SMP, PCI, ACPI, and support for *x86*. He has served as a member of both the FreeBSD core team and the release engineering team.



## **FOREWORD**

While most portions of an operating system are maintained and developed by individuals who specialize in a given operating system, device drivers are unique: They're maintained by a much broader spectrum of developers. Some device driver authors have extensive experience with a particular operating system, while others have detailed knowledge of specific hardware components and are tasked with maintaining device drivers for those components across multiple systems. Too, device drivers are often somewhat self-contained, so that a developer can maintain a device driver while viewing other parts of the system as a black box.

Of course, that black box still has an interface, and each operating system provides its own set of interfaces to device drivers. Device drivers on all systems need to perform many common tasks, such as discovering devices, allocating resources for connected devices, and managing asynchronous events. However, each operating system has its own ways of dealing with these tasks, and each differs in the interfaces it provides for higher-level tasks. The key

to writing a device driver that is both robust and efficient lies in understanding the specific details of the interfaces that the particular operating system provides.

*FreeBSD Device Drivers* is an excellent guide to the most commonly used FreeBSD device driver interfaces. You'll find coverage of lower-level interfaces, including attaching to eligible devices and managing device resources, as well as higher-level interfaces, such as interfacing with the network and storage stacks. In addition, the book's coverage of several of the APIs available in the kernel environment, such as allocating memory, timers, and synchronization primitives, will be useful to anyone working with the FreeBSD kernel. This book is a welcome resource for FreeBSD device driver authors.

John Baldwin  
Kernel Developer, FreeBSD  
New York  
March 20, 2012

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Thanks, Dad, for lending me your expertise on hardware and for lending me actual hardware, which made it possible for me to write this book. Thanks, Mom, for your love and support. I know you pray for me every day. Thanks also go to my friends for their support.

And last but not least, thanks to the open source software and FreeBSD communities for your willingness to share. Without you, I'd be a lousy programmer, and I'd have nothing to write about.

# INTRODUCTION



Welcome to *FreeBSD Device Drivers*! The goal of this book is to help you improve your understanding of device drivers under FreeBSD. By the time you finish this book, you should be able to build, configure, and manage your own FreeBSD device drivers.

This book covers FreeBSD version 8, the version recommended for production use as of this writing. Nonetheless, most of what you'll learn will apply to earlier versions and should apply to later ones as well.

## Who Is This Book For?

I wrote this book as a programmer, for programmers. As such, you'll find a heavy focus on programming, not theory, and you'll examine real device drivers (namely, ones that control hardware). Imagine trying to write a book without ever having read one. Inconceivable! The same thing goes for device drivers.

## Prerequisites

To get the most out of this book, you should be familiar with the C programming language. You should also know something about operating system design; for example, the difference between a process and a thread.

If you lack the necessary background, I recommend reading the following three books prior to this one, or just keeping them around as references:

- *The C Programming Language*, by Brian W. Kernighan and Dennis M. Ritchie (Prentice Hall PTR, 1988)
- *Expert C Programming*, by Peter van der Linden (Prentice Hall, 1994)
- *The Design and Implementation of the FreeBSD Operating System*, by Marshall Kirk McKusick and George V. Neville-Neil (Addison-Wesley Professional, 2005)

## Contents at a Glance

*FreeBSD Device Drivers* contains the following chapters.

### **Chapter 1: Building and Running Modules**

Provides an overview and introduction to basic device driver programming concepts and terminology.

### **Chapter 2: Allocating Memory**

Describes FreeBSD's kernel memory management routines.

### **Chapter 3: Device Communication and Control**

Teaches you how to communicate with and control your device drivers from user space.

### **Chapter 4: Thread Synchronization**

Discusses the problems and solutions associated with multithreaded programming and concurrent execution.

### **Chapter 5: Delaying Execution**

Describes delaying code execution and asynchronous code execution, and explains why these tasks are needed.

### **Chapter 6: Case Study: Virtual Null Modem**

Contains the first of several occasions where I walk you through a real-world device driver.

### **Chapter 7: Newbus and Resource Allocation**

Covers the infrastructure used by FreeBSD to manage the hardware devices on the system. From here on, I deal exclusively with real hardware.

### **Chapter 8: Interrupt Handling**

Discusses interrupt handling in FreeBSD.

### **Chapter 9: Case Study: Parallel Port Printer Driver**

Walks through lpt(4), the parallel port printer driver, in its entirety.

### **Chapter 10: Managing and Using Resources**

Covers port-mapped I/O and memory-mapped I/O.

## **Chapter 11: Case Study: Intelligent Platform Management Interface Driver**

Reviews the parts of `ipmi(4)`, the Intelligent Platform Management Interface driver, which uses port-mapped I/O and memory-mapped I/O.

## **Chapter 12: Direct Memory Access**

Explains how to use Direct Memory Access (DMA) in FreeBSD.

## **Chapter 13: Storage Drivers**

Teaches you how to manage storage devices, such as disk drives, flash memory, and so on.

## **Chapter 14: Common Access Method**

Provides an overview and introduction to Common Access Method (CAM), which you'll use to manage host bus adapters.

## **Chapter 15: USB Drivers**

Teaches you how to manage USB devices. It also walks through `ulpt(4)`, the USB printer driver, in its entirety.

## **Chapter 16: Network Drivers, Part 1: Data Structures**

Describes the data structures used by network drivers. It also goes over Message Signaled Interrupts (MSI).

## **Chapter 17: Network Drivers, Part 2: Packet Reception and Transmission**

Examines the packet reception and transmission components of `em(4)`, the Intel PCI Gigabit Ethernet adapter driver.

# **Welcome Aboard!**

I hope you find this book useful and entertaining. As always, I welcome feedback with comments or bug fixes to [joe@thestackframe.org](mailto:joe@thestackframe.org).

Okay, enough with the introductory stuff. Let's begin.



# 1

## BUILDING AND RUNNING MODULES



This chapter provides an introduction to FreeBSD device drivers. We'll start by describing the four different types of UNIX device drivers and how they are represented in FreeBSD. We'll then describe the basics of building and running loadable kernel modules, and we'll finish this chapter with an introduction to character drivers.

**NOTE** *If you don't understand some of the terms used above, don't worry; we'll define them all in this chapter.*

### Types of Device Drivers

In FreeBSD, a *device* is any hardware-related item that belongs to the system; this includes disk drives, printers, video cards, and so on. A *device driver* is a computer program that controls or “drives” a device (or sometimes numerous

devices). In UNIX and pre-4.0 FreeBSD, there are four different types of device drivers:

- Character drivers, which control character devices
- Block drivers, which control block devices
- Network drivers, which control network devices
- Pseudo-device drivers, which control pseudo-devices

*Character devices* provide either a character-stream-oriented I/O interface or, alternatively, an unstructured (raw) interface (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005).

*Block devices* transfer randomly accessible data in fixed-size blocks (Corbet et al., 2005). In FreeBSD 4.0 and later, block drivers are gone (for more information on this, see “Block Drivers Are Gone” on page 15).

*Network devices* transmit and receive data packets that are driven by the network subsystem (Corbet et al., 2005).

Finally, a *pseudo-device* is a computer program that emulates the behavior of a device using only software (that is, without any underlying hardware).

## Loadable Kernel Modules

A device driver can be either statically compiled into the system or dynamically loaded using a loadable kernel module (KLD).

**NOTE** Most operating systems call a loadable kernel module an LKM—FreeBSD just had to be different.

A KLD is a kernel subsystem that can be loaded, unloaded, started, and stopped after bootup. In other words, a KLD can add functionality to the kernel and later remove said functionality while the system is running. Needless to say, our “functionality” will be device drivers.

In general, two components are common to all KLDs:

- A module event handler
- A `DECLARE_MODULE` macro call

### Module Event Handler

A *module event handler* is the function that handles the initialization and shutdown of a KLD. This function is executed when a KLD is loaded into the kernel or unloaded from the kernel, or when the system is shut down. Its function prototype is defined in the `<sys/module.h>` header as follows:

---

```
typedef int (*modeventhand_t)(module_t, int /* ①modeventtype_t */, void *);
```

---

Here, ① `modeventtype_t` is defined in the `<sys/module.h>` header like so:

---

```
typedef enum modeventtype {
    ①MOD_LOAD,           /* Set when module is loaded. */
```

---

```
②MOD_UNLOAD,      /* Set when module is unloaded. */
③MOD_SHUTDOWN,   /* Set on shutdown. */
④MOD QUIESCE    /* Set when module is about to be unloaded. */
} modeventtype_t;
```

---

As you can see, `modeventtype_t` labels whether the KLD is being ① loaded into the kernel or ② unloaded from the kernel, or whether the system is about to ③ shut down. (For now, ignore the value at ④; we'll discuss it in Chapter 4.)

Generally, you'd use the `modeventtype_t` argument in a `switch` statement to set up different code blocks for each situation. Some example code should help clarify what I mean:

```
static int
modevent(module_t mod __unused, int ①event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (②event) {
        ③case MOD_LOAD:
            uprintf("Hello, world!\n");
            break;
        ④case MOD_UNLOAD:
            uprintf("Good-bye, cruel world!\n");
            break;
        ⑤default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}
```

---

Notice how the ① second argument is the ② expression for the `switch` statement. Thus, this module event handler prints “Hello, world!” when the KLD is ③ loaded into the kernel, prints “Good-bye, cruel world!” when the KLD is ④ unloaded from the kernel, and returns `EOPNOTSUPP` (which stands for *error: operation not supported*) prior to ⑤ system shutdown.

## **DECLARE\_MODULE Macro**

The `DECLARE_MODULE` macro registers a KLD and its module event handler with the system. Here is its function prototype:

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/module.h>

DECLARE_MODULE(name, moduledata_t data, sub, order);
```

---

The arguments expected by this macro are as follows.

### **name**

The `name` argument is the module name, which is used to identify the KLD.

### **data**

The `data` argument expects a filled-out `moduledata_t` structure, which is defined in the `<sys/module.h>` header as follows:

---

```
typedef struct moduledata {
    const char      ❶ *name;
    modeventhand_t ❷ evhand;
    void           ❸ *priv;
} moduledata_t;
```

---

Here, ❶ `name` is the official module name, ❷ `evhand` is the KLD's module event handler, and ❸ `priv` is a pointer to private data (if any exists).

### **sub**

The `sub` argument specifies the kernel subsystem that the KLD belongs in. Valid values for this argument are defined in the `sysinit_sub_id` enumeration, found in `<sys/kernel.h>`.

---

```
enum sysinit_sub_id {
    SI_SUB_DUMMY          = 0x0000000, /* Not executed. */
    SI_SUB_DONE            = 0x0000001, /* Processed. */
    SI_SUB_TUNABLES        = 0x0700000, /* Tunable values. */
    SI_SUB_COPYRIGHT       = 0x0800001, /* First console use. */
    SI_SUB_SETTINGS        = 0x0880000, /* Check settings. */
    SI_SUB_mtx_pool_STATIC = 0x0900000, /* Static mutex pool. */
    SI_SUB_LOCKMGR         = 0x0980000, /* Lock manager. */
    SI_SUB_VM              = 0x1000000, /* Virtual memory. */
    ...
    ❶ SI_SUB_DRIVERS        = 0x3100000, /* Device drivers. */
    ...
};
```

---

For obvious reasons, we'll almost always set `sub` to ❶ `SI_SUB_DRIVERS`, which is the device driver subsystem.

### **order**

The `order` argument specifies the KLD's order of initialization within the `sub` subsystem. Valid values for this argument are defined in the `sysinit_elem_order` enumeration, found in `<sys/kernel.h>`.

---

```
enum sysinit_elem_order {
    SI_ORDER_FIRST          = 0x0000000, /* First. */
    SI_ORDER_SECOND          = 0x0000001, /* Second. */
    SI_ORDER_THIRD          = 0x0000002, /* Third. */
    SI_ORDER_FOURTH         = 0x0000003, /* Fourth. */
};
```

---

```
❶SI_ORDER_MIDDLE      = 0x1000000,    /* Somewhere in the middle. */
    SI_ORDER_ANY        = 0xffffffff    /* Last. */  
};
```

---

In general, we'll always set order to ❶ `SI_ORDER_MIDDLE`.

## Hello, world!

You now know enough to write your first KLD. Listing 1-1 is the complete skeleton code for a KLD.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

static int
❶ hello_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        uprintf("Hello, world!\n");
        break;
    case MOD_UNLOAD:
        uprintf("Good-bye, cruel world!\n");
        break;
    default:
        error = EOPNOTSUPP;
        break;
    }

    return (error);
}

❷ static moduledata_t hello_mod = {
    "hello",
    hello_modevent,
    NULL
};

❸ DECLARE_MODULE(hello, ❹hello_mod, SI_SUB_DRIVERS, SI_ORDER_MIDDLE);
```

---

*Listing 1-1: hello.c*

This code contains a ❶ module event handler—it's identical to the one described in “Module Event Handler” on page 2—and a filled-out ❷ `moduledata_t` structure, which is passed as the ❹ second argument to the ❸ `DECLARE_MODULE` macro.

In short, this KLD is just a module event handler and a `DECLARE_MODULE` call. Simple, eh?

## Compiling and Loading

To compile a KLD, you can use the `<bsd.kmod.mk>` Makefile. Here is the complete Makefile for Listing 1-1:

---

```
❶ KMOD=    hello
❷ SRCS=    hello.c

.include <bsd.kmod.mk>
```

---

Here, ❶ `KMOD` is the KLD's name and ❷ `SRCS` is the KLD's source files. Incidentally, I'll adapt this Makefile to compile every KLD.

Now, assuming Listing 1-1 and its Makefile are in the same directory, simply type `make`, and the compilation should proceed (very verbosely) and produce an executable named `hello.ko`, as shown here:

---

```
$ make
Warning: Object directory not changed from original /usr/home/ghost/hello
@ -> /usr/src/sys
machine -> /usr/src/sys/i386/include
cc -O2 -fno-strict-aliasing -pipe -D_KERNEL -DKLD_MODULE -std=c99 -nostdinc
-I. -I@ -I@/contrib/altq -finline-limit=8000 --param inline-unit-growth=100
--param large-function-growth=1000 -fno-common -mno-align-long-strings -mpref
erred-stack-boundary=2 -mno-mmx -mno-3dnow -mno-sse -mno-sse2 -mno-sse3 -ffr
eestanding -Wall -Wredundant-decls -Wnested-externs -Wstrict-prototypes -Wmi
ssing-prototypes -Wpointer-arith -Winline -Wcast-qual -Wundef -Wno-pointer-s
ign -fformat-extensions -c hello.c
ld -d -warn-common -r -d -o hello.kld hello.o
:> export_syms
awk -f /sys/conf/kmod_syms.awk hello.kld  export_syms | xargs -J% objcopy % h
ello.kld
ld -Bshareable -d -warn-common -o hello.ko hello.kld
objcopy --strip-debug hello.ko
$ ls -F
@@          export_syms  hello.kld    hello.o
Makefile     hello.c      hello.ko*   machine@
```

---

You can then load and unload `hello.ko` with `kldload(8)` and `kldunload(8)`, respectively:

---

```
$ sudo kldload ./hello.ko
Hello, world!
$ sudo kldunload hello.ko
Good-bye, cruel world!
```

---

As an aside, with a Makefile that includes `<bsd.kmod.mk>`, you can use `make load` and `make unload` instead of `kldload(8)` and `kldunload(8)`, as shown here:

---

```
$ sudo make load
/sbin/kldload -v /usr/home/ghost/hello/hello.ko
Hello, world!
```

---

```
Loaded /usr/home/ghost/hello/hello.ko, id=3
$ sudo make unload
/sbin/kldunload -v hello.ko
Unloading hello.ko, id=3
Good-bye, cruel world!
```

---

Congratulations! You've now successfully loaded code into a live kernel. Before moving on, one additional point is also worth mentioning. You can display the status of any file dynamically linked into the kernel using `kldstat(8)`, like so:

---

```
$ kldstat
Id Refs Address      Size      Name
 1   4 0xc0400000  906518  kernel
 2   1 0xc0d07000  6a32c   acpi.ko
 3   1 0xc3301000  2000    hello.ko
```

---

As you can see, the output is pretty self-explanatory. Now, let's do something more interesting.

## Character Drivers

*Character drivers* are basically KLDs that create character devices. As mentioned previously, character devices provide either a character-stream-oriented I/O interface or, alternatively, an unstructured (raw) interface. These (*character-device*) interfaces establish the conventions for accessing a device, which include the set of procedures that can be called to do I/O operations (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). In short, character drivers produce character devices, which provide device access. For example, the `lpt(4)` driver creates the `/dev/lpto` character device, which is used to access the parallel port printer. In FreeBSD 4.0 and later, most devices have a character-device interface.

In general, three components are common to all character drivers:

- The `d_foo` functions
- A character device switch table
- A `make_dev` and `destroy_dev` function call

### ***d\_foo Functions***

The `d_foo` functions, whose function prototypes are defined in the `<sys/conf.h>` header, are the I/O operations that a process can execute on a device. These I/O operations are mostly associated with the file I/O system calls and are accordingly named `d_open`, `d_read`, and so on. A character driver's `d_foo` function is called when “foo” is done on its device. For example, `d_read` is called when a process reads from a device.

Table 1-1 provides a brief description of each `d_foo` function.

**Table 1-1:** `d_foo` Functions

Function	Description
<code>d_open</code>	Called to open the device in preparation for I/O operations
<code>d_close</code>	Called to close the device
<code>d_read</code>	Called to read data from the device
<code>d_write</code>	Called to write data to the device
<code>d_ioctl</code>	Called to perform an operation other than a read or a write
<code>d_poll</code>	Called to check the device to see whether data is available for reading or space is available for writing
<code>d_mmap</code>	Called to map a device offset into a memory address
<code>d_kqfilter</code>	Called to register the device with a kernel event list
<code>d_strategy</code>	Called to start a read or write operation and then immediately return
<code>d_dump</code>	Called to write all physical memory to the device

**NOTE** *If you don't understand some of these operations, don't worry; we'll describe them in detail later when we implement them.*

### Character Device Switch Table

A character device switch table, `struct cdevsw`, specifies which `d_foo` functions a character driver implements. It is defined in the `<sys/conf.h>` header as follows:

```
struct cdevsw {
    int                  d_version;
    u_int                d_flags;
    const char           *d_name;
    d_open_t              *d_open;
    d_fdopen_t            *d_fdopen;
    d_close_t             *d_close;
    d_read_t              *d_read;
    d_write_t             *d_write;
    d_ioctl_t             *d_ioctl;
    d_poll_t              *d_poll;
    d_mmap_t              *d_mmap;
    d_strategy_t          *d_strategy;
    dumper_t              *d_dump;
    d_kqfilter_t          *d_kqfilter;
    d_purge_t              *d_purge;
    d_spare2_t             *d_spare2;
    uid_t                 d_uid;
    gid_t                 d_gid;
    mode_t                d_mode;
    const char           *d_kind;
```

```
/* These fields should not be messed with by drivers. */
LIST_ENTRY(cdevsw)      d_list;
LIST_HEAD(, cdev)        d_devs;
int                     d_spare3;
struct cdevsw           *d_gianttrick;
};
```

---

Here is an example character device switch table for a read/write device:

```
static struct cdevsw echo_cdevsw = {
    .d_version =    D_VERSION,
    .d_open =       echo_open,
    .d_close =      echo_close,
    .d_read =       echo_read,
    .d_write =      echo_write,
    .d_name =       "echo"
};
```

---

As you can see, not every `d_foo` function or attribute needs to be defined. If a `d_foo` function is undefined, the corresponding operation is unsupported (for example, a character device switch table for a read-only device would not define `d_write`).

Unsurprisingly, `d_version` (which denotes the version of FreeBSD this driver supports) and `d_name` (which is the driver's name) must be defined. Generally, `d_version` is set to `D_VERSION`, which is a macro substitution for whichever version of FreeBSD it's compiled on.

### ***make\_dev and destroy\_dev Functions***

The `make_dev` function takes a character device switch table and creates a character device node under `/dev`. Here is its function prototype:

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/conf.h>

struct 1cdev *
make_dev(struct cdevsw *cdevsw, int minor, uid_t uid, gid_t gid,
         int perms, const char *fmt, ...);
```

---

Conversely, the `destroy_dev` function takes the `1 cdev` structure returned by `make_dev` and destroys the character device node. Here is its function prototype:

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/conf.h>

void
destroy_dev(struct cdev *dev);
```

---

## Mostly Harmless

Listing 1-2 is a complete character driver (based on code written by Murray Stokely and Søren Straarup) that manipulates a memory area as though it were a device. This pseudo (or memory) device lets you write and read a single character string to and from it.

**NOTE** Take a quick look at this code and try to discern some of its structure. If you don't understand all of it, don't worry; an explanation follows.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>

#define BUFFER_SIZE      256

/* Forward declarations. */
static d_open_t          echo_open;
static d_close_t         echo_close;
static d_read_t          echo_read;
static d_write_t         echo_write;

❶ static struct cdevsw echo_cdevsw = {
    .d_version =      D_VERSION,
    .d_open =        echo_open,
    .d_close =       echo_close,
    .d_read =        echo_read,
    .d_write =       echo_write,
    .d_name =        "echo"
};

typedef struct echo {
    ❷ char buffer[BUFFER_SIZE];
    ❸ int length;
} echo_t;

❹ static echo_t *echo_message;
❺ static struct cdev *echo_dev;

static int
❻ echo_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    uprintf("Opening echo device.\n");
    return (0);
}

static int
```

```

⑦ echo_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    uprintf("Closing echo device.\n");
    return (0);
}

static int
echo_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int error = 0;

    error = copyin(uio->uio_iov->iov_base, echo_message->buffer,
                  MIN(uio->uio_iov->iov_len, BUFFER_SIZE - 1));
    if (error != 0) {
        uprintf("Write failed.\n");
        return (error);
    }

    *(echo_message->buffer +
      MIN(uio->uio_iov->iov_len, BUFFER_SIZE - 1)) = 0;

    echo_message->length = MIN(uio->uio_iov->iov_len, BUFFER_SIZE - 1);

    return (error);
}

static int
echo_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int error = 0;
    int amount;

    amount = MIN(uio->uio_resid,
                 (echo_message->length - uio->uio_offset > 0) ?
                 echo_message->length - uio->uio_offset : 0);

    error = uiomove(echo_message->buffer + uio->uio_offset, amount, uio);
    if (error != 0)
        uprintf("Read failed.\n");

    return (error);
}

static int
echo_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        echo_message = malloc(sizeof(echo_t), M_TEMP, M_WAITOK);
        echo_dev = ⑧make_dev(&echo_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                           0600, "echo");

```

```

        uprintf("Echo driver loaded.\n");
        break;
    case MOD_UNLOAD:
        destroy_dev(echo_dev);
        free(echo_message, M_TEMP);
        uprintf("Echo driver unloaded.\n");
        break;
    default:
        error = EOPNOTSUPP;
        break;
    }
}

return (error);
}

```

---

```
DEV_MODULE(echo, echo_modevent, NULL);
```

*Listing 1-2: echo.c*

This driver starts by ❶ defining a character device switch table, which contains four `d_foo` functions named `echo_foo`, where `foo` equals to `open`, `close`, `read`, and `write`. Consequently, the ensuing character device will support only these four I/O operations.

Next, there are two variable declarations: an `echo` structure pointer named ❷ `echo_message` (which will contain a ❸ character string and its ❹ length) and a `cdev` structure pointer named ❺ `echo_dev` (which will maintain the `cdev` returned by the ❻ `make_dev` call).

Then, the `d_foo` functions ❼ `echo_open` and ⪻ `echo_close` are defined—each just prints a debug message. Generally, the `d_open` function prepares a device for I/O, while `d_close` breaks apart those preparations.

**NOTE** *There is a difference between “preparing a device for I/O” and “preparing (or initializing) a device.” For pseudo-devices like Listing 1-2, device initialization is done in the module event handler.*

The remaining bits—`echo_write`, `echo_read`, `echo_modevent`, and `DEV_MODULE`—require a more in-depth explanation and are therefore described in their own sections.

### ***echo\_write Function***

The `echo_write` function acquires a character string from user space and stores it. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
echo_write(struct cdev *dev, ❶struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int error = 0;

    error = ❷copyin(❸uio->uio iov->iov_base, ❹echo_message->buffer,
                    MIN(❺uio->uio iov->iov_len, ❻BUFFER_SIZE - 1));

```

---

```

        if (error != 0) {
            uprintf("Write failed.\n");
            return (error);
        }

    7*(echo_message->buffer +
        MIN(uio->uiodata->iov_len, BUFFER_SIZE - 1)) = 0;

    echo_message->length = MIN(uio->uiodata->iov_len, BUFFER_SIZE - 1);

    return (error);
}

```

---

Here, **①** struct uio describes a character string in motion—the variables **③** iov\_base and **⑤** iov\_len specify the character string's base address and length, respectively.

So, this function starts by **②** copying a character string from **③** user space to **④** kernel space. At most, **⑥** 'BUFFER\_SIZE - 1' bytes of data are copied. Once this is done, the character string is **⑦** null-terminated, and its length (minus the null terminator) is **⑧** recorded.

**NOTE** *This isn't the proper way to copy data from user space to kernel space. I should've used uiomove instead of copyin. However, copyin is easier to understand, and at this point, I just want to cover the basic structure of a character driver.*

### ***echo\_read Function***

The echo\_read function returns the stored character string to user space. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
echo_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uiodata, int ioflag)
{
    int error = 0;
    int amount;

    amount = ①MIN(②uiodata->uiodata_resid,
        ③(echo_message->length - ④uiodata->uiodata_offset > 0) ?
        echo_message->length - uiodata->uiodata_offset : 0);

    error = ⑤uiomove(⑥echo_message->buffer + uiodata->uiodata_offset, ⑦amount,
        ⑧uiodata);
    if (error != 0)
        uprintf("Read failed.\n");

    return (error);
}

```

---

Here, the variables **②** uiodata\_resid and **④** uiodata\_offset specify the amount of data remaining to be transferred and an offset into the character string, respectively.

So, this function first ❶ determines the number of characters to return—either the ❷ amount the user requests or ❸ all of it. Then `echo_read` ❹ transfers that ❺ number from ❻ kernel space to ❼ user space.

**NOTE** *For more on copying data between user and kernel space, see the `copy(9)` and `uio(9)` manual pages. I'd also recommend the OpenBSD `uiomove(9)` manual page.*

### ***echo\_modevent Function***

The `echo_modevent` function is the module event handler for this character driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
echo_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
        case MOD_LOAD:
            ❶echo_message = ❷malloc(sizeof(echo_t), M_TEMP, M_WAITOK);
            echo_dev = ❸make_dev(&echo_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                0600, ❹"echo");
            uprintf("Echo driver loaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            ❺destroy_dev(echo_dev);
            ❻free(echo_message, M_TEMP);
            uprintf("Echo driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}
```

---

On module load, this function first calls ❷ `malloc` to allocate `sizeof(echo_t)` bytes of memory. Then it calls ❸ `make_dev` to create a character device node named ❹ `echo` under `/dev`. Note that when `make_dev` returns, the character device is “live” and its `d_foo` functions can be executed. Consequently, if I had called `make_dev` ahead of `malloc`, `echo_write` or `echo_read` could be executed before ❶ `echo_message` points to valid memory, which would be disastrous. The point is: Unless your driver is completely ready, don't call `make_dev`.

On module unload, this function first calls ❺ `destroy_dev` to destroy the `echo` device node. Then it calls ❻ `free` to release the allocated memory.

## ***DEV\_MODULE*** Macro

The `DEV_MODULE` macro is defined in the `<sys/conf.h>` header as follows:

---

```
#define DEV_MODULE(name, evh, arg) \
static moduledata_t name##_mod = { \
    #name, \
    evh, \
    arg \
}; \
① DECLARE_MODULE(name, name##_mod, SI_SUB_DRIVERS, SI_ORDER_MIDDLE)
```

---

As you can see, `DEV_MODULE` merely wraps ① `DECLARE_MODULE`. So Listing 1-2 could have called `DECLARE_MODULE`, but `DEV_MODULE` is cleaner (and it saves you some keystrokes).

### ***Don't Panic***

Now that we've walked through Listing 1-2, let's give it a try:

---

```
$ sudo kldload ./echo.ko
Echo driver loaded.
$ ls -l /dev/echo
crw----- 1 root  wheel  0,  95 Jun  4 23:23 /dev/echo
$ su
Password:
# echo "DON'T PANIC" > /dev/echo
Opening echo device.
Closing echo device.
# cat /dev/echo
Opening echo device.
DON'T PANIC
Closing echo device.
```

---

Unsurprisingly, it works. Before this chapter is concluded, a crucial topic bears mentioning.

## **Block Drivers Are Gone**

As mentioned previously, block devices transfer randomly accessible data in fixed-size blocks; for example, disk drives. Naturally, *block drivers* provide access to block devices. Block drivers are characterized by the fact that all I/O is cached within the kernel's buffer cache, which makes block drivers unreliable, for two reasons. First, because caching can reorder a sequence of write operations, it deprives the writing process of the ability to identify the exact disk contents at any moment in time. This makes reliable crash recovery of on-disk data structures (for example, filesystems) impossible. Second,

caching can delay write operations. So if an error occurs, the kernel cannot report to the process that did the write which particular operation failed. For these reasons, every serious application that accesses block devices specifies that a character-device interface always be used. Consequently, FreeBSD dropped support for block drivers during the modernization of the disk I/O infrastructure.

**NOTE** *Obviously, FreeBSD still supports block devices. For more on this, see Chapter 13.*

## Conclusion

This chapter introduced you to the basics of FreeBSD device driver development. In the following chapters, we'll build upon the concepts described here to complete your driver toolkit. As an aside, because most FreeBSD device drivers are character drivers, don't think of them as a primary driver class—they're more like a tool used to create character device nodes.

# 2

## ALLOCATING MEMORY



In the previous chapter we used `malloc` and `free` for the allocation and release of memory. The FreeBSD kernel, however, contains a richer set of memory allocation primitives. In this chapter we'll look at the stock kernel memory management routines. This includes describing `malloc` and `free` in more detail and introducing the `malloc_type` structure. We'll finish this chapter by describing the contiguous physical memory management routines.

### Memory Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides four functions for non-pageable memory allocation and release: `malloc`, `free`, `realloc`, and `reallocf`. These functions can handle requests of arbitrary size or alignment, and they are the preferred way to allocate kernel memory.

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>

void *
malloc(unsigned long size, struct malloc_type *type, int flags);

void
free(void *addr, struct malloc_type *type);

void *
realloc(void *addr, unsigned long size, struct malloc_type *type,
       int flags);

void *
reallocf(void *addr, unsigned long size, struct malloc_type *type,
        int flags);
```

---

The `malloc` function allocates `size` bytes of memory in kernel space. If successful, a kernel virtual address is returned; otherwise, `NULL` is returned.

The `free` function releases the memory at `addr`—that was previously allocated by `malloc`—for reuse. Note that `free` doesn’t clear this memory, which means that you should explicitly zero any memory whose contents you need to keep private. If `addr` is `NULL`, then `free` does nothing.

**NOTE** *If INvariants is enabled, then free will stuff any released memory with 0xdeadcode. Thus, if you get a page fault panic and the faulting address is around 0xdeadcode, this can be a sign that you’re using freed memory.<sup>1</sup>*

The `realloc` function changes the size of the memory at `addr` to `size` bytes. If successful, a kernel virtual address is returned; otherwise, `NULL` is returned, and the memory is left alone. Note that the returned address may differ from `addr`, because when the size changes, the memory may be relocated to acquire or provide additional room. Interestingly, this implies that you should not have any pointers into the memory at `addr` when calling `realloc`. If `addr` is `NULL`, then `realloc` behaves identically to `malloc`.

The `reallocf` function is identical to `realloc` except that on failure it releases the memory at `addr`.

The `malloc`, `realloc`, and `reallocf` functions provide a `flags` argument to further qualify their operational characteristics. Valid values for this argument are shown in Table 2-1.

---

<sup>1</sup> INvariants is a kernel debugging option. For more on INvariants, see */sys/conf/NOTES*.

**Table 2-1:** malloc, realloc, and reallocf Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
M_ZERO	Causes the allocated memory to be set to zero
M_NOWAIT	Causes malloc, realloc, and reallocf to return NULL if the allocation cannot be immediately fulfilled due to resource shortage; M_NOWAIT is required when running in an interrupt context
M_WAITOK	Indicates that it is okay to wait for resources; if the allocation cannot be immediately fulfilled, the current process is put to sleep to wait for resources to become available; when M_WAITOK is specified, malloc, realloc, and reallocf cannot return NULL

The flags argument must include either M\_NOWAIT or M\_WAITOK.

## malloc\_type Structures

The malloc, free, realloc, and reallocf functions include a type argument, which expects a pointer to a malloc\_type structure; this structure describes the purpose of the allocated memory. The type argument has no impact on performance; it is used for memory profiling and for basic sanity checks.

**NOTE** You can profile kernel dynamic memory usage, sorted by type, with the `vmstat -m` command.

### **MALLOC\_DEFINE Macro**

The MALLOC\_DEFINE macro defines a new malloc\_type structure. Here is its function prototype:

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>

MALLOC_DEFINE(type, shortdesc, longdesc);
```

---

The type argument is the new malloc\_type structure's name. In general, type should begin with M\_ and be in uppercase letters; for example, M\_FOO.

The shortdesc argument expects a short description of the new malloc\_type structure. This argument is used in the output of `vmstat -m`. As a result, it shouldn't contain any spaces so that it's easier to parse `vmstat -m`'s output in scripts.

The longdesc argument expects a long description of the new malloc\_type structure.

## **MALLOC\_DECLARE Macro**

The MALLOC\_DECLARE macro declares a new `malloc_type` structure with the `extern` keyword. Here is its function prototype:

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>

MALLOC_DECLARE(type);
```

---

This macro is defined in the `<sys/malloc.h>` header as follows:

---

```
#define MALLOC_DECLARE(type) \
    extern struct malloc_type type[1]
```

---

As an aside, if you require a private `malloc_type` structure, you would prefix the MALLOC\_DEFINE call with the `static` keyword. In fact, a non-static MALLOC\_DEFINE call without a corresponding MALLOC\_DECLARE call actually causes a warning under gcc 4.x.

## **Tying Everything Together**

Listing 2-1 is a revision of Listing 1-2 that uses its own `malloc_type` structure instead of the kernel-defined `M_TEMP`.<sup>2</sup> Listing 2-1 should clarify any misunderstandings you may have about MALLOC\_DEFINE and MALLOC\_DECLARE.

**NOTE** *To save space, the functions echo\_open, echo\_close, echo\_write, and echo\_read aren't listed here, as they haven't been changed.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>

#define BUFFER_SIZE      256

❶ MALLOC_DECLARE(M_ECHO);
❷ MALLOC_DEFINE(M_ECHO, "echo_buffer", "buffer for echo driver");

static d_open_t          echo_open;
static d_close_t         echo_close;
static d_read_t          echo_read;
static d_write_t         echo_write;
```

---

<sup>2</sup>. `M_TEMP` is defined in `/sys/kern/kern_malloc.c`.

```

static struct cdevsw echo_cdevsw = {
    .d_version =    D_VERSION,
    .d_open =       echo_open,
    .d_close =      echo_close,
    .d_read =       echo_read,
    .d_write =      echo_write,
    .d_name =       "echo"
};

typedef struct echo {
    char buffer[BUFFER_SIZE];
    int length;
} echo_t;

static echo_t *echo_message;
static struct cdev *echo_dev;

static int
echo_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static int
echo_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static int
echo_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
...
}

static int
echo_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
...
}

static int
echo_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        echo_message = malloc(sizeof(echo_t), M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
        echo_dev = make_dev(&echo_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                           0600, "echo");
        uprintf("Echo driver loaded.\n");
        break;
    }
}

```

```

        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            destroy_dev(echo_dev);
            free(echo_message, ①M_ECHO);
            uprintf("Echo driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}

DEV_MODULE(echo, echo_modevent, NULL);

```

---

*Listing 2-1: echo-2.0.c*

This driver ① declares and ② defines a new `malloc_type` structure named `M_ECHO`. To use this `malloc_type` structure, `malloc` and `free` are ③ ④ adjusted accordingly.

**NOTE** *Because `M_ECHO` is used only locally, `MALLOC_DECLARE` is unnecessary—it's only included here for demonstration purposes.*

Now that Listing 2-1 uses a unique `malloc_type` structure, we can easily profile its dynamic memory usage, like so:

---

```

$ sudo kldload ./echo-2.0.ko
Echo driver loaded.
$ vmstat -m | head -n 1 && vmstat -m | grep "echo_buffer"
      Type InUse MemUse HighUse Requests   Size(s)
echo_buffer        1       1K     -       1    512

```

---

Notice that Listing 2-1 requests 512 bytes, though `sizeof(echo_t)` is only 260 bytes. This is because `malloc` rounds up to the nearest power of two when allocating memory. Additionally, note that the second argument to `MALLOC_DEFINE` (`echo_buffer` in this example) is used in the output of `vmstat` (instead of the first argument).

## Contiguous Physical Memory Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides two functions for contiguous physical memory management: `contigmalloc` and `contigfree`. Ordinarily, you'll never use these functions. They're primarily for dealing with machine-dependent code and the occasional network driver.

---

```

#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>

void *
contigmalloc(unsigned long size, struct malloc_type *type, int flags,
             vm_paddr_t low, vm_paddr_t high, unsigned long alignment,

```

```
unsigned long boundary);  
  
void  
contigfree(void *addr, unsigned long size, struct malloc_type *type);
```

---

The `contigmalloc` function allocates `size` bytes of contiguous physical memory. If `size` is 0, `contigmalloc` will panic. If successful, the allocation will reside between physical addresses `low` and `high`, inclusive.

The `alignment` argument denotes the physical alignment, in bytes, of the allocated memory. This argument must be a power of two.

The `boundary` argument specifies the physical address boundaries that cannot be crossed by the allocated memory; that is, it cannot cross any multiple of `boundary`. This argument must be 0, which indicates no boundary restrictions, or a power of two.

The `flags` argument modifies `contigmalloc`'s behavior. Valid values for this argument are shown in Table 2-2.

**Table 2-2:** `contigmalloc` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>M_ZERO</code>	Causes the allocated physical memory to be zero filled
<code>M_NOWAIT</code>	Causes <code>contigmalloc</code> to return NULL if the allocation cannot be immediately fulfilled due to resource shortage
<code>M_WAITOK</code>	Indicates that it is okay to wait for resources; if the allocation cannot be immediately fulfilled, the current process is put to sleep to wait for resources to become available

The `contigfree` function releases the memory at `addr`—that was previously allocated by `contigmalloc`—for reuse. The `size` argument is the amount of memory to release. Generally, `size` should equal the amount allocated.

## A Straightforward Example

Listing 2-2 modifies Listing 2-1 to use `contigmalloc` and `contigfree` instead of `malloc` and `free`. Listing 2-2 should clarify any misunderstandings you may have about `contigmalloc` and `contigfree`.

**NOTE** *To save space, the functions `echo_open`, `echo_close`, `echo_write`, and `echo_read` aren't listed here, as they haven't been changed.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>  
#include <sys/module.h>  
#include <sys/kernel.h>  
#include <sys/systm.h>  
  
#include <sys/conf.h>  
#include <sys/uio.h>  
#include <sys/malloc.h>
```

```

#define BUFFER_SIZE      256

MALLOC_DEFINE(M_ECHO, "echo_buffer", "buffer for echo driver");

static d_open_t          echo_open;
static d_close_t         echo_close;
static d_read_t          echo_read;
static d_write_t         echo_write;

static struct cdevsw echo_cdevsw = {
    .d_version = D_VERSION,
    .d_open = echo_open,
    .d_close = echo_close,
    .d_read = echo_read,
    .d_write = echo_write,
    .d_name = "echo"
};

typedef struct echo {
    char buffer[BUFFER_SIZE];
    int length;
} echo_t;

static echo_t *echo_message;
static struct cdev *echo_dev;

static int
echo_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static int
echo_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static int
echo_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
...
}

static int
echo_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
...
}

static int
echo_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;
}

```

```

        switch (event) {
        case MOD_LOAD:
            echo_message = ❶contigmalloc(❷sizeof(echo_t), M_ECHO,
                M_WAITOK | ❸M_ZERO, ❹0, ❺0xffffffff, ❻PAGE_SIZE,
                ❻1024 * 1024);
            echo_dev = make_dev(&echo_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                0600, "echo");
            uprintf("Echo driver loaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            destroy_dev(echo_dev);
            contigfree(echo_message, sizeof(echo_t), M_ECHO);
            uprintf("Echo driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
        }

        return (error);
}

DEV_MODULE(echo, echo_modevent, NULL);

```

---

*Listing 2-2: echo\_contig.c*

Here, ❶ `contigmalloc` allocates ❷ `sizeof(echo_t)` bytes of ❸ zero-filled memory. This memory resides between physical address ❹ 0 and ❺ `0xffffffff`, is aligned on a ❻ `PAGE_SIZE` boundary, and does not cross a ❼ 1MB address boundary.

The following output shows the results from `vmstat -m` after loading Listing 2-2:

---

```

$ sudo kldload ./echo_contig.ko
Echo driver loaded.
$ vmstat -m | head -n 1 && vmstat -m | grep "echo_buffer"
      Type InUse MemUse HighUse Requests  Size(s)
echo_buffer      1      4K      -      1

```

---

Notice that Listing 2-2 uses 4KB of memory, though `sizeof(echo_t)` is only 260 bytes. This is because `contigmalloc` allocates memory in `PAGE_SIZE` blocks. Predictably, this example was run on an *i386* machine, which uses a page size of 4KB.

## Conclusion

This chapter detailed FreeBSD's memory management routines and contiguous physical memory management routines. It also introduced the `malloc_type` structure.

Incidentally, most drivers should define their own `malloc_type` structure.



# 3

## DEVICE COMMUNICATION AND CONTROL



In Chapter 1 we constructed a driver that could read from and write to a device. In addition to reading and writing, most drivers need to perform other I/O operations, such as reporting error information, ejecting removable media, or activating self-destruct sequences. This chapter details how to make drivers do those things.

We'll start by describing the *ioctl interface*, also known as the *input/output control interface*. This interface is commonly used for device communication and control. Then we'll describe the *sysctl interface*, also known as the *system control interface*. This interface is used to dynamically change or examine the kernel's parameters, which includes device drivers.

## ioctl

The ioctl interface is the catchall of I/O operations (Stevens, 1992). Any operation that cannot be expressed using `d_read` or `d_write` (that is, any operation that's *not* a data transfer) is supported by `d_ioctl`.<sup>1</sup> For example, the CD-ROM driver's `d_ioctl` function performs 29 distinct operations, such as ejecting the CD, starting audio playback, stopping audio playback, muting the audio, and so on.

The function prototype for `d_ioctl` is defined in the `<sys/conf.h>` header as follows:

---

```
typedef int d_ioctl_t(struct cdev *dev, u_long ①cmd, caddr_t ②data,
                      int fflag, struct thread *td);
```

---

Here, ① `cmd` is an ioctl command passed from user space. *ioctl commands* are driver-defined numeric constants that identify the different I/O operations that a `d_ioctl` function can perform. Generally, you'd use the `cmd` argument in a `switch` statement to set up a code block for each I/O operation.

Any arguments required for an I/O operation are passed through ② `data`.

Here is an example `d_ioctl` function:

**NOTE** Just concentrate on the structure of this code and ignore what it does.

---

```
static int
echo_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long ①cmd, caddr_t ②data, int fflag,
           struct thread *td)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (③cmd) {
        ④case ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER:
            memset(echo_message->buffer, '\0',
                   echo_message->buffer_size);
            echo_message->length = 0;
            uprintf("Buffer cleared.\n");
            break;
        ⑤case ECHO_SET_BUFFER_SIZE:
            error = echo_set_buffer_size(*⑥(int *)data);
            if (error == 0)
                uprintf("Buffer resized.\n");
            break;
        ⑦default:
            ⑧error = ENOTTY;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}
```

---

<sup>1</sup> The `d_ioctl` function was first introduced in “`d_foo` Functions” on page 7.

Notice how the ❶ cmd argument is the ❸ expression for the switch statement. The constants ❹ ECHO\_CLEAR\_BUFFER and ❺ ECHO\_SET\_BUFFER\_SIZE are (obviously) the ioctl commands. All ioctl commands are defined using one of four macros. I'll discuss these macros in the following section.

Additionally, notice how the ❻ data argument is ❼ cast—as an integer pointer—before it is dereferenced. This is because data is fundamentally a “pointer to void.”

**NOTE** *Pointers to void can hold any pointer type, so they must be cast before they're dereferenced. In fact, you can't directly dereference a pointer to void.*

Finally, according to the POSIX standard, when an inappropriate ioctl command is received, the error code ENOTTY should be returned (Corbet et al., 2005). Hence, the ❽ default block sets ❾ error to ENOTTY.

**NOTE** *At one point in time, only TTY drivers had an ioctl function, which is why ENOTTY means “error: inappropriate ioctl for device” (Corbet et al., 2005).*

Now that you've examined the structure of a `d_ioctl` function, I'll explain how to define an ioctl command.

## Defining ioctl Commands

To define an ioctl command, you'd call one of the following macros: `_IO`, `_IOR`, `_IOW`, or `_IOWR`. An explanation of each macro is provided in Table 3-1.

**Table 3-1:** ioctl Command Macros

Macro	Description
<code>_IO</code>	Creates an ioctl command for an I/O operation that transfers no data—in other words, the data argument in <code>d_ioctl</code> will be unused—for example, ejecting removable media
<code>_IOR</code>	Creates an ioctl command for a read operation; <i>read operations</i> transfer data from the device to user space; for example, retrieving error information
<code>_IOW</code>	Creates an ioctl command for a write operation; <i>write operations</i> transfer data to the device from user space; for example, setting a device parameter
<code>_IOWR</code>	Creates an ioctl command for an I/O operation with bidirectional data transfers

`_IO`, `_IOR`, `_IOW`, and `_IOWR` are defined in the `<sys/ioccom.h>` header as follows:

---

```
#define _IO(g,n)      _IOC(IOC_VOID, (g), (n), 0)
#define _IOR(g,n,t)    _IOC(IOC_OUT,  (g), (n), sizeof(t))
#define _IOW(g,n,t)    _IOC(IOC_IN,   (g), (n), sizeof(t))
#define _IOWR(g,n,t)   _IOC(IOC_INOUT, (g), (n), sizeof(t))
```

---

The g argument, which stands for *group*, expects an 8-bit magic number. You can choose any number—just use it throughout your driver.

The `n` argument is the ordinal number. This number is used to differentiate your driver's ioctl commands from one another.

Finally, the `t` argument is the type of data transferred during the I/O operation. Obviously, the `_IO` macro does not have a `t` argument, because no data transfer occurs.

Generally, ioctl command definitions look like this:

---

```
#define FOO_DO_SOMETHING      _IO('F', 1)
#define FOO_GET_SOMETHING      _IOR('F', 2, int)
#define FOO_SET_SOMETHING      _IOW('F', 3, int)
#define FOO_SWITCH_SOMETHING   _IOWR('F', 10, struct foo)
```

---

Here, '`F`' is the magic number for these ioctl commands. Customarily, the first letter of your driver's name—in uppercase—is selected as the magic number.

Naturally, all of the ordinal numbers are unique. But they don't have to be consecutive. You can leave gaps.

Lastly, note that you can pass `①` structures as the `t` argument. Using a structure is how you'll pass multiple arguments to an ioctl-based operation.

## Implementing ioctl

Listing 3-1 is a revision of Listing 2-1 that adds in a `d_ioctl` function. As you'll see, this `d_ioctl` function handles two ioctl commands.

**NOTE** *Take a quick look at this code and try to discern some of its structure. If you don't understand all of it, don't worry; an explanation follows.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/ioccom.h>

MALLOC_DEFINE(M_ECHO, "echo_buffer", "buffer for echo driver");

① #define ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER      _IO('E', 1)
② #define ECHO_SET_BUFFER_SIZE   _IOW('E', 2, ③int)

static d_open_t      echo_open;
static d_close_t     echo_close;
static d_read_t      echo_read;
static d_write_t     echo_write;
static d_ioctl_t     echo_ioctl;

static struct cdevsw echo_cdevsw = {
```

```

        .d_version =      D_VERSION,
        .d_open =         echo_open,
        .d_close =        echo_close,
        .d_read =         echo_read,
        .d_write =        echo_write,
④ .d_ioctl =        echo_ioctl,
        .d_name =         "echo"
};

typedef struct echo {
    ❸ int buffer_size;
    char *buffer;
    int length;
} echo_t;

static echo_t *echo_message;
static struct cdev *echo_dev;

static int
echo_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    uprintf("Opening echo device.\n");
    return (0);
}

static int
echo_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    uprintf("Closing echo device.\n");
    return (0);
}

static int
echo_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int error = 0;
    int amount;

    amount = MIN(uio->uio_resid,
        (❶echo_message->buffer_size - 1 - uio->uio_offset > 0) ?
            ❷echo_message->buffer_size - 1 - uio->uio_offset : 0);
    if (amount == 0)
        return (error);

    error = uiomove(echo_message->buffer, amount, uio);
    if (error != 0) {
        uprintf("Write failed.\n");
        return (error);
    }

    echo_message->buffer[amount] = '\0';
    echo_message->length = amount;

    return (error);
}

```

```

static int
echo_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int error = 0;
    int amount;

    amount = MIN(uio->uio_resid,
                 (echo_message->length - uio->uio_offset > 0) ?
                     echo_message->length - uio->uio_offset : 0);

    error = uiomove(echo_message->buffer + uio->uio_offset, amount, uio);
    if (error != 0)
        uprintf("Read failed.\n");

    return (error);
}

static int
echo_set_buffer_size(int size)
{
    int error = 0;

    if (echo_message->buffer_size == size)
        return (error);

    if (size >= 128 && size <= 512) {
        echo_message->buffer = realloc(echo_message->buffer, size,
                                       M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
        echo_message->buffer_size = size;

        if (echo_message->length >= size) {
            echo_message->length = size - 1;
            echo_message->buffer[size - 1] = '\0';
        }
    } else
        error = EINVAL;

    return (error);
}

static int
echo_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
           struct thread *td)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (cmd) {
    case ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER:
        memset(echo_message->buffer, '\0',
               echo_message->buffer_size);
        echo_message->length = 0;
        uprintf("Buffer cleared.\n");
        break;
    }
}

```

```

        case ECHO_SET_BUFFER_SIZE:
            error = echo_set_buffer_size(*(int *)data);
            if (error == 0)
                uprintf("Buffer resized.\n");
            break;
        default:
            error = ENOTTY;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}

static int
echo_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        echo_message = malloc(sizeof(echo_t), M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
        echo_message->buffer_size = 256;
        echo_message->buffer = malloc(echo_message->buffer_size,
                                      M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
        echo_dev = make_dev(&echo_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                            0600, "echo");
        uprintf("Echo driver loaded.\n");
        break;
    case MOD_UNLOAD:
        destroy_dev(echo_dev);
        free(echo_message->buffer, M_ECHO);
        free(echo_message, M_ECHO);
        uprintf("Echo driver unloaded.\n");
        break;
    default:
        error = EOPNOTSUPP;
        break;
    }

    return (error);
}

```

---

DEV\_MODULE(echo, echo\_modevent, NULL);

*Listing 3-1: echo-3.0.c*

This driver starts by defining two ioctl commands: ❶ ECHO\_CLEAR\_BUFFER (which clears the memory buffer) and ❷ ECHO\_SET\_BUFFER\_SIZE (which takes an ❸ integer to resize the memory buffer).

**NOTE** *Usually, ioctl commands are defined in a header file—they were defined in Listing 3-1 solely to simplify this discussion.*

Obviously, to accommodate adding in a `d_ioctl` function, the character device switch table was ❸ adapted. Moreover, struct `echo` was adjusted to include a variable (❹ `buffer_size`) to maintain the buffer size (because it can be changed now). Naturally, Listing 3-1 was ❺ ❻ altered to use this new variable.

**NOTE** *Interestingly, only echo\_write had to be altered. The echo\_open, echo\_close, and echo\_read functions remain the same.*

The `echo_write`, `echo_set_buffer_size`, `echo_ioctl`, and `echo_modevent` functions call for a more in-depth explanation and are therefore described in their own sections.

### **`echo_write` Function**

As mentioned above, the `echo_write` function was altered from its Listing 2-1 (and Listing 1-2) form. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
echo_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int error = 0;
    int amount;

    amount = ❶MIN(❷uio->uio_resid,
        ❸(echo_message->buffer_size - 1 - uio->uio_offset > 0) ?
            echo_message->buffer_size - 1 - uio->uio_offset : 0);
    if (amount == 0)
        return (error);

    error = ❹uiomove(❺echo_message->buffer, ❻amount, ❻uio);
    if (error != 0) {
        uprintf("Write failed.\n");
        return (error);
    }

    echo_message->buffer[amount] = '\0';
    echo_message->length = amount;

    return (error);
}
```

---

This version of `echo_write` uses ❶ `uiomove` (as described in Chapter 1) instead of `copyin`. Note that `uiomove` decrements `uio->uio_resid` (by one) and increments `uio->uio_offset` (by one) for each byte copied. This lets multiple calls to `uiomove` effortlessly copy a chunk of data.

**NOTE** You'll recall that `uio->uio_resid` and `uio->uio_offset` denote the number of bytes remaining to be transferred and an offset into the data (that is, the character string), respectively.

This function starts by ❶ determining the number of bytes to copy—either the ❷ amount the user sent or ❸ whatever the buffer can accommodate. Then it ❹ transfers that ❺ amount from ❻ user space to ❼ kernel space.

The remainder of this function should be self-explanatory.

### ***echo\_set\_buffer\_size Function***

As its name implies, the `echo_set_buffer_size` function takes an integer to resize the memory buffer `echo_message->buffer`. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
echo_set_buffer_size(int size)
{
    int error = 0;

    ❶if (❷echo_message->buffer_size == ❸size)
        ❹return (error);

    if (size >= 128 && size <= 512) {
        echo_message->buffer = ❺realloc(echo_message->buffer, size,
                                         M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
        ❻echo_message->buffer_size = size;

        ❼if (echo_message->length >= size) {
            ❽echo_message->length = size - 1;
            ❾echo_message->buffer[size - 1] = '\0';
        }
    } else
        error = EINVAL;

    return (error);
}
```

---

This function can be split into three parts. The first part ❶ confirms that the ❷ current and ❸ proposed buffer sizes are distinct (or else ❹ nothing needs to occur).

The second part ❺ changes the size of the memory buffer. Then it ❻ records the new buffer size. Note that if the data stored in the buffer is longer than the proposed buffer size, the resize operation (that is, `realloc`) will truncate that data.

The third part comes about only ❼ if the data stored in the buffer was truncated. It begins by ❽ correcting the stored data's length. Then it ❾ null-terminates the data.

## ***echo\_ioctl Function***

The echo\_ioctl function is the d\_ioctl function for Listing 3-1. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
echo_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t ①data, int fflag,
           struct thread *td)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (cmd) {
        ②case ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER:
            ③memset(echo_message->buffer, '\0',
                    echo_message->buffer_size);
            ④echo_message->length = 0;
            uprintf("Buffer cleared.\n");
            break;
        ⑤case ECHO_SET_BUFFER_SIZE:
            error = ⑥echo_set_buffer_size(*(int *)⑦data);
            if (error == 0)
                uprintf("Buffer resized.\n");
            break;
        default:
            error = ENOTTY;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}
```

---

This function can perform one of two ioctl-based operations. The first ② clears the memory buffer. It begins by ③ zeroing the buffer. Then it ④ sets the data length to 0.

The second ⑤ resizes the memory buffer by calling ⑥ echo\_set\_buffer\_size. Note that this operation requires an ⑦ argument: the proposed buffer size. This argument is obtained from user space through ① data.

**NOTE** Remember that you must cast data before it can be dereferenced.

## ***echo\_modevent Function***

As you know, the echo\_modevent function is the module event handler. Like echo\_write, this function had to be altered to accommodate adding in echo\_ioctl. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
echo_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;
```

```

        switch (event) {
        case MOD_LOAD:
            echo_message = ❶malloc(sizeof(echo_t), M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
            echo_message->buffer_size = 256;
            echo_message->buffer = ❷malloc(echo_message->buffer_size,
                M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
            echo_dev = make_dev(&echo_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                0600, "echo");
            uprintf("Echo driver loaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            destroy_dev(echo_dev);
            free(echo_message->buffer, M_ECHO);
            free(echo_message, M_ECHO);
            uprintf("Echo driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}

```

---

This version of `echo_modevent` allocates memory for the ❶ `echo` structure and ❷ memory buffer individually—that’s the only change. Previously, the memory buffer couldn’t be resized. So, individual memory allocations were unnecessary.

### ***Don't Panic***

Now that we’ve walked through Listing 3-1, let’s give it a try:

---

```

$ sudo kldload ./echo-3.0.ko
Echo driver loaded.
$ su
Password:
# echo "DON'T PANIC" > /dev/echo
Opening echo device.
Closing echo device.
# cat /dev/echo
Opening echo device.
DON'T PANIC
Closing echo device.

```

---

Apparently it works. But how do we invoke `echo_ioctl`?

## **Invoking ioctl**

To invoke a `d_ioctl` function, you’d use the `ioctl(2)` system call.

---

```
#include <sys/ioctl.h>

int
ioctl(int d, unsigned long request, ...);
```

---

The `d` argument, which stands for *descriptor*, expects a file descriptor for a device node. The `request` argument is the `ioctl` command to be issued (for example, `ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER`). The remaining argument (...) is a pointer to the data that'll be passed to the `d_ioctl` function.

Listing 3-2 presents a command-line utility designed to invoke the `echo_ioctl` function in Listing 3-1:

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/ioctl.h>

#include <err.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <limits.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>

❶ #define ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER      _IO('E', 1)
❷ #define ECHO_SET_BUFFER_SIZE   _IOW('E', 2, int)

static enum {UNSET, CLEAR, SETSIZE} action = UNSET;

/*
 * The usage statement: echo_config -c | -s size
 */

static void
usage()
{
    /*
     * Arguments for this program are "either-or." That is,
     * 'echo_config -c' and 'echo_config -s size' are valid; however,
     * 'echo_config -c -s size' is invalid.
     */

    fprintf(stderr, "usage: echo_config -c | -s size\n");
    exit(1);
}

/*
 * This program clears or resizes the memory buffer
 * found in /dev/echo.
 */

int
main(int argc, char *argv[])
```

```

{
    int ch, fd, i, size;
    char *p;

    /*
     * Parse the command-line argument list to determine
     * the correct course of action.
     *
     * -c:      clear the memory buffer
     * -s size: resize the memory buffer to size.
     */

    while ((ch = getopt(argc, argv, "cs:")) != -1)
        switch (ch) {
            case 'c':
                if (action != UNSET)
                    usage();
                action = CLEAR;
                break;
            case 's':
                if (action != UNSET)
                    usage();
                action = SETSIZE;
                size = (int)strtol(optarg, &p, 10);
                if (*p)
                    errx(1, "illegal size -- %s", optarg);
                break;
            default:
                usage();
        }

    /*
     * Perform the chosen action.
     */
}

if (action == CLEAR) {
    fd = open("/dev/echo", O_RDWR);
    if (fd < 0)
        err(1, "open(/dev/echo)");

    i = ioctl(fd, ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER, NULL);
    if (i < 0)
        err(1, "ioctl(/dev/echo)");

    close (fd);
} else if (action == SETSIZE) {
    fd = open("/dev/echo", O_RDWR);
    if (fd < 0)
        err(1, "open(/dev/echo)");

    i = ioctl(fd, ECHO_SET_BUFFER_SIZE, &size);
    if (i < 0)
        err(1, "ioctl(/dev/echo)");

    close (fd);
}

```

```
    } else
        usage();

    return (0);
}
```

---

*Listing 3-2: echo\_config.c*

**NOTE** Listing 3-2 is a fairly standard command-line utility. As such, I won't cover its program structure. Instead, I'll concentrate on how it invokes `echo_ioctl`.

This program begins by redefining ❶ `ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER` and ❷ `ECHO_SET_BUFFER_SIZE`.<sup>2</sup> To issue an ioctl command, Listing 3-2 starts by ❸ ❹ opening `/dev/echo`. Then it ❺ ❻ calls `ioctl(2)` with the appropriate arguments.

Note that since `ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER` doesn't transmit any data, ❼ `NULL` is passed as the third argument to `ioctl(2)`.

The following shows the results from executing Listing 3-2 to clear the memory buffer:

---

```
$ sudo cat /dev/echo
Opening echo device.
DON'T PANIC
Closing echo device.
$ sudo ./echo_config -c
Opening echo device.
Buffer cleared.
Closing echo device.
$ sudo cat /dev/echo
Opening echo device.
Closing echo device.
```

---

The following shows the results from executing Listing 3-2 to resize the memory buffer:

---

```
$ sudo ./echo_config -s 128
Opening echo device.
Buffer resized.
Closing echo device.
```

---

## sysctl

As mentioned earlier, the `sysctl` interface is used to dynamically change or examine the kernel's parameters, which includes device drivers. For example, some drivers let you enable (or disable) debug options using `sysctls`.

**NOTE** This book was written under the assumption that you know how to work with `sysctls`; if you don't, see the `sysctl(8)` manual page.

---

<sup>2</sup> This step could have been avoided by defining those ioctl commands in a header file.

Unlike with previous topics, I'm going to take a holistic approach to explain sysctl. That is, I'm going to show an example first, and then I'll describe the sysctl functions. I found this to be the easiest way to grok implementing sysctls.

## Implementing sysctls, Part 1

Listing 3-3 is a complete KLD (based on code written by Andrzej Bialecki) that creates multiple sysctls.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

static long a = 100;
static int b = 200;
static char *c = "Are you suggesting coconuts migrate?";

static struct sysctl_ctx_list clist;
static struct sysctl_oid *poid;

static int
❶ sysctl_pointless_procedure(SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS)
{
    char *buf = "Not at all. They could be carried.";
    return (sysctl_handle_string(oidp, buf, strlen(buf), req));
}

static int
pointless_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        ❷ sysctl_ctx_init(&clist);

        poid = ❸SYSCTL_ADD_NODE(&clist,
                               SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN(/* tree top */), OID_AUTO,
                               "example", CTLFLAG_RW, 0, "new top-level tree");
        if (poid == NULL) {
            uprintf("SYSCTL_ADD_NODE failed.\n");
            return (EINVAL);
        }
        ❹SYSCTL_ADD_LONG(&clist, SYSCTL_CHILDREN(poid), OID_AUTO,
                         "long", CTLFLAG_RW, &a, "new long leaf");
        ❺SYSCTL_ADD_INT(&clist, SYSCTL_CHILDREN(poid), OID_AUTO,
                         "int", CTLFLAG_RW, &b, 0, "new int leaf");

        poid = ❻SYSCTL_ADD_NODE(&clist, SYSCTL_CHILDREN(poid),
                               OID_AUTO, "node", CTLFLAG_RW, 0,
```

```

        "new tree under example");
    if (poid == NULL) {
        uprintf("SYSCTL_ADD_NODE failed.\n");
        return (EINVAL);
    }
    ❷SYSCTL_ADD_PROC(&clist, SYSCTL_CHILDREN(poid), OID_AUTO,
                      "proc", CTLFLAG_RD, 0, 0, sysctl_pointless_procedure,
                      "A", "new proc leaf");

    poid = ❸SYSCTL_ADD_NODE(&clist,
                           SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN(_debug), OID_AUTO, "example",
                           CTLFLAG_RW, 0, 0, "new tree under debug");
    if (poid == NULL) {
        uprintf("SYSCTL_ADD_NODE failed.\n");
        return (EINVAL);
    }
    ❹SYSCTL_ADD_STRING(&clist, SYSCTL_CHILDREN(poid), OID_AUTO,
                        "string", CTLFLAG_RD, c, 0, "new string leaf");

    uprintf("Pointless module loaded.\n");
    break;
case MOD_UNLOAD:
    if (@sysctl_ctx_free(&clist)) {
        uprintf("sysctl_ctx_free failed.\n");
        return (ENOTEMPTY);
    }
    uprintf("Pointless module unloaded.\n");
    break;
default:
    error = EOPNOTSUPP;
    break;
}

return (error);
}

static moduledata_t pointless_mod = {
    "pointless",
    pointless_modevent,
    NULL
};

DECLARE_MODULE(pointless, pointless_mod, SI_SUB_EXEC, SI_ORDER_ANY);

```

---

*Listing 3-3: pointless.c*

On module load, Listing 3-3 starts by ❷ initializing a sysctl context named `clist`. Generally speaking, *sysctl contexts* are responsible for keeping track of dynamically created sysctls—this is why `clist` gets passed to every `SYSCTL_ADD_*` call.

The first ❸ `SYSCTL_ADD_NODE` call creates a new top-level category named `example`. The ❹ `SYSCTL_ADD_LONG` call creates a new sysctl named `long` that handles a long variable. Notice that `SYSCTL_ADD_LONG`'s second argument is

SYSCTL\_CHILDREN(*poid*)<sup>3</sup> and that *poid* contains the return value from SYSCTL\_ADD\_NODE. Thus, *long* is placed under *example*, like so:

---

```
example.long
```

The **5** SYSCTL\_ADD\_INT call creates a new sysctl named *int* that handles an integer variable. For reasons identical to those for SYSCTL\_ADD\_LONG, *int* is placed under *example*:

---

```
example.long  
example.int
```

The second **6** SYSCTL\_ADD\_NODE call creates a new subcategory named *node*, which is placed under *example*, like so:

---

```
example.long  
example.int  
example.node
```

The **7** SYSCTL\_ADD\_PROC call creates a new sysctl named *proc* that employs a **1** function to handle its read and write requests; in this case, the function simply prints some flavor text. You'll note that SYSCTL\_ADD\_PROC's second argument is also SYSCTL\_CHILDREN(*poid*). But *poid* now contains the return value from the second SYSCTL\_ADD\_NODE call. So, *proc* is placed under *node*:

---

```
example.long  
example.int  
example.node.proc
```

The third **8** SYSCTL\_ADD\_NODE call creates a new subcategory named *example*. As you can see, its second argument is SYSCTL\_STATIC\_CHILDREN(\_debug),<sup>4</sup> which puts *example* under *debug* (which is a static top-level category).

---

```
debug.example  
example.long  
example.int  
example.node.proc
```

The **9** SYSCTL\_ADD\_STRING call creates a new sysctl named *string* that handles a character string. For obvious reasons, *string* is placed under *debug.example*:

---

```
debug.example.string  
example.long  
example.int  
example.node.proc
```

3. The SYSCTL\_CHILDREN macro is described on page 47.

4. The SYSCTL\_STATIC\_CHILDREN macro is described on page 47.

On module unload, Listing 3-3 simply passes `clist` to `⑩ sysctl_ctx_free` to destroy every sysctl created during module load.

The following shows the results from loading Listing 3-3:

---

```
$ sudo kldload ./pointless.ko
Pointless module loaded.
$ sysctl -A | grep example
debug.example.string: Are you suggesting coconuts migrate?
example.long: 100
example.int: 200
example.node.proc: Not at all. They could be carried.
```

---

Now, let's discuss in detail the different functions and macros used in Listing 3-3.

## sysctl Context Management Routines

As mentioned previously, sysctl contexts manage dynamically created sysctls. A sysctl context is initialized via the `sysctl_ctx_init` function.

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

int
sysctl_ctx_init(struct sysctl_ctx_list *clist);
```

---

After a sysctl context is initialized, it can be passed to the various `SYSCTL_ADD_*` macros. These macros will update the sysctl context with pointers to the newly created sysctls.

Conversely, the `sysctl_ctx_free` function takes a sysctl context and destroys every sysctl that it has a pointer to.

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

int
sysctl_ctx_free(struct sysctl_ctx_list *clist);
```

---

If a sysctl cannot be destroyed, all the sysctls that were associated with the sysctl context are reinstated.

## Creating Dynamic sysctls

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following 10 macros for creating sysctls during runtime:

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>
```

---

```

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_OID(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
               struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
               int kind, void *arg1, int arg2, int (*handler) (SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS),
               const char *format, const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_NODE(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
                struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
                int access, int (*handler) (SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS), const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_STRING(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
                   struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
                   int access, char *arg, int len, const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_INT(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
               struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
               int access, int *arg, int len, const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_UINT(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
                 struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
                 int access, unsigned int *arg, int len, const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_LONG(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
                 struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
                 int access, long *arg, const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD ULONG(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
                  struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
                  int access, unsigned long *arg, const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_OPAQUE(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
                   struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
                   int access, void *arg, int len, const char *format,
                   const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_STRUCT(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
                  struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
                  int access, void *arg, STRUCT_NAME, const char *descr);

struct sysctl_oid *
SYSCTL_ADD_PROC(struct sysctl_ctx_list *ctx,
                struct sysctl_oid_list *parent, int number, const char *name,
                int access, void *arg, int len,
                int (*handler) (SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS), const char *format,
                const char *descr);

```

---

The `SYSCTL_ADD_OID` macro creates a new sysctl that can handle any data type. If successful, a pointer to the sysctl is returned; otherwise, `NULL` is returned.

The other `SYSCTL_ADD_*` macros are alternatives to `SYSCTL_ADD_OID` that create a sysctl that can handle a specific data type. These macros are explained in Table 3-2.

**Table 3-2:** `SYSCTL_ADD_*` Macros

Macro	Description
<code>SYSCTL_ADD_NODE</code>	Creates a new node (or category) to which child nodes may be added
<code>SYSCTL_ADD_STRING</code>	Creates a new sysctl that handles a null-terminated character string
<code>SYSCTL_ADD_INT</code>	Creates a new sysctl that handles an integer variable
<code>SYSCTL_ADD_UINT</code>	Creates a new sysctl that handles an unsigned integer variable
<code>SYSCTL_ADD_LONG</code>	Creates a new sysctl that handles a long variable
<code>SYSCTL_ADD ULONG</code>	Creates a new sysctl that handles an unsigned long variable
<code>SYSCTL_ADD_OPAQUE</code>	Creates a new sysctl that handles a chunk of opaque data; the size of this data is specified by the <code>len</code> argument
<code>SYSCTL_ADD_STRUCT</code>	Creates a new sysctl that handles a structure
<code>SYSCTL_ADD_PROC</code>	Creates a new sysctl that uses a function to handle its read and write requests; this “handler function” is normally used to process the data before importing or exporting it

In most cases, you should use a `SYSCTL_ADD_*` macro instead of the generic `SYSCTL_ADD_OID` macro.

The arguments for the `SYSCTL_ADD_*` macros are described in Table 3-3.

**Table 3-3:** `SYSCTL_ADD_*` Arguments

Argument	Description
<code>ctx</code>	Expects a pointer to a sysctl context
<code>parent</code>	Expects a pointer to the parent sysctl’s list of children; more on this later
<code>number</code>	Expects the sysctl’s number; this should always be set to <code>OID_AUTO</code>
<code>name</code>	Expects the sysctl’s name
<code>access</code>	Expects an access flag; <code>access flags</code> specify whether the sysctl is read-only ( <code>CTLFLAG_RD</code> ) or read-write ( <code>CTLFLAG_RW</code> )
<code>arg</code>	Expects a pointer to the data that the sysctl will manage (or <code>NULL</code> )
<code>len</code>	Set this to 0 unless you’re calling <code>SYSCTL_ADD_OPAQUE</code>
<code>handler</code>	Expects a pointer to the function that will handle the sysctl’s read and write requests (or 0)
<code>format</code>	Expects a format name; <code>format names</code> identify the type of data that the sysctl will manage; the complete list of format names is: “N” for node, “A” for char *, “I” for int, “IU” for unsigned int, “L” for long, “LU” for unsigned long, and “S,foo” for struct foo
<code>descr</code>	Expects a textual description of the sysctl; this description is printed by <code>sysctl -d</code>

A sysctl created by a `SYSCTL_ADD_*` macro must be connected to a parent sysctl. This is done by passing `SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN` or `SYSCTL_CHILDREN` as the `parent` argument.

### **`SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN Macro`**

The `SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN` macro is passed as parent when connecting to a static node. A *static node* is part of the base system.

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

struct sysctl_oid_list *
SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN(struct sysctl_oid_list OID_NAME);
```

---

This macro takes the name of the parent sysctl preceded by an underscore. And all dots must be replaced by an underscore. So to connect to `hw.usb`, you would use `_hw_usb`.

If `SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN(/* no argument */)` is passed as parent to `SYSCTL_ADD_NODE`, a new top-level category will be created.

### **`SYSCTL_CHILDREN Macro`**

The `SYSCTL_CHILDREN` macro is passed as parent when connecting to a dynamic node. A *dynamic node* is created by a `SYSCTL_ADD_NODE` call.

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

struct sysctl_oid_list *
SYSCTL_CHILDREN(struct sysctl_oid *oidp);
```

---

This macro takes as its sole argument the pointer returned by a `SYSCTL_ADD_NODE` call.

## **Implementing sysctls, Part 2**

Now that you know how to create sysctls during runtime, let's do some actual device control (as opposed to quoting Monty Python).

Listing 3-4 is a revision of Listing 3-1 that employs a sysctl to resize the memory buffer.

**NOTE** *To save space, the functions `echo_open`, `echo_close`, `echo_write`, and `echo_read` aren't listed here, as they haven't been changed.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>
```

---

```

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/ioccom.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

MALLOC_DEFINE(M_ECHO, "echo_buffer", "buffer for echo driver");

#define ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER _IO('E', 1)

static d_open_t      echo_open;
static d_close_t     echo_close;
static d_read_t      echo_read;
static d_write_t     echo_write;
static d_ioctl_t     echo_ioctl;

static struct cdevsw echo_cdevsw = {
    .d_version = D_VERSION,
    .d_open = echo_open,
    .d_close = echo_close,
    .d_read = echo_read,
    .d_write = echo_write,
    .d_ioctl = echo_ioctl,
    .d_name = "echo"
};

typedef struct echo {
    int buffer_size;
    char *buffer;
    int length;
} echo_t;

static echo_t *echo_message;
static struct cdev *echo_dev;

static struct sysctl_ctx_list clist;
static struct sysctl_oid *poid;

static int
echo_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static int
echo_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static int
echo_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
...
}

```

```

static int
echo_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    ...
}

static int
echo_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
           struct thread *td)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (cmd) {
        case ECHO_CLEAR_BUFFER:
            memset(echo_message->buffer, '\0',
                   echo_message->buffer_size);
            echo_message->length = 0;
            uprintf("Buffer cleared.\n");
            break;
        default:
            error = ENOTTY;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}

static int
sysctl_set_buffer_size(SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS)
{
    int error = 0;
    int size = echo_message->buffer_size;

    error = sysctl_handle_int(oidp, &size, 0, req);
    if (error || !req->newptr || echo_message->buffer_size == size)
        return (error);

    if (size >= 128 && size <= 512) {
        echo_message->buffer = realloc(echo_message->buffer, size,
                                         M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
        echo_message->buffer_size = size;

        if (echo_message->length >= size) {
            echo_message->length = size - 1;
            echo_message->buffer[size - 1] = '\0';
        }
    } else
        error = EINVAL;

    return (error);
}

static int
echo_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)

```

```

{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
        case MOD_LOAD:
            echo_message = malloc(sizeof(echo_t), M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
            echo_message->buffer_size = 256;
            echo_message->buffer = malloc(echo_message->buffer_size,
                M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
            sysctl_ctx_init(&clist);
            poid = SYSCTL_ADD_NODE(&clist,
                SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN(/* tree top */), OID_AUTO,
                "echo", CTLFLAG_RW, 0, "echo root node");
            SYSCTL_ADD_PROC(&clist, SYSCTL_CHILDREN(poid), OID_AUTO,
                "buffer_size", CTLTYPE_INT | CTLFLAG_RW,
                ①&echo_message->buffer_size, 0, ②sysctl_set_buffer_size,
                "I", "echo buffer size");
            echo_dev = make_dev(&echo_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                0600, "echo");
            uprintf("Echo driver loaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            destroy_dev(echo_dev);
            sysctl_ctx_free(&clist);
            free(echo_message->buffer, M_ECHO);
            free(echo_message, M_ECHO);
            uprintf("Echo driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}

DEV_MODULE(echo, echo_modevent, NULL);

```

---

*Listing 3-4: echo-4.0.c*

On module load, Listing 3-4 creates a sysctl named `echo.buffer_size` that manages the ① size of the memory buffer. Moreover, this sysctl uses a ② handler function named `sysctl_set_buffer_size` to resize the memory buffer.

### ***sysctl\_set\_buffer\_size Function***

As stated above, the `sysctl_set_buffer_size` function resizes the memory buffer. Before I describe this function, let's identify its arguments.

---

```

static int
sysctl_set_buffer_size(①SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS)

```

---

The constant ❶ SYSCTL\_HANDLER\_ARGS is defined in <sys/sysctl.h> like so:

---

```
#define SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS struct sysctl_oid *oidp, void *arg1, \
    int arg2, struct sysctl_req *req
```

---

Here, ❶ oidp points to the sysctl, ❷ arg1 points to the data that the sysctl manages, ❸ arg2 is the length of the data, and ❹ req depicts the sysctl request.

Now, keeping these arguments in mind, let's examine the function `sysctl_set_buffer_size`.

---

```
static int
sysctl_set_buffer_size(SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS)
{
    int error = 0;
    ❶ int size = echo_message->buffer_size;

    error = ❷ sysctl_handle_int(oidp, ❸ &size, 0, req);
    ❹ if (❺ error || ❻ !req->newptr || echo_message->buffer_size == size)
        return (error);

    if (size >= 128 && size <= 512) {
        echo_message->buffer = realloc(echo_message->buffer, size,
            M_ECHO, M_WAITOK);
        echo_message->buffer_size = size;

        if (echo_message->length >= size) {
            echo_message->length = size - 1;
            echo_message->buffer[size - 1] = '\0';
        }
    } else
        error = EINVAL;

    return (error);
}
```

---

This function first sets ❶ `size` to the current buffer size. Afterward, ❷ `sysctl_handle_int` is called to obtain the new sysctl value (that is, the proposed buffer size) from user space.

Note that the ❸ second argument to `sysctl_handle_int` is `&size`. See, this function takes a pointer to the original sysctl value and overwrites it with the new sysctl value.

This ❹ `if` statement ensures that the new sysctl value was obtained successfully. It works by verifying that `sysctl_handle_int` returned ❺ `error` free and that ❻ `req->newptr` is valid.

The remainder of `sysctl_set_buffer_size` is identical to `echo_set_buffer_size`, which was described on page 35.

## **Don't Panic**

Now, let's give Listing 3-4 a try:

---

```
$ sudo kldload ./echo-4.0.ko
Echo driver loaded.
$ sudo sysctl echo.buffer_size=128
echo.buffer_size: 256 -> 128
```

---

Success!

## **Conclusion**

This chapter has described the traditional methods for device communication and control: sysctl and ioctl. Generally, sysctls are employed to adjust parameters, and ioctls are used for everything else—that's why ioctls are the catchall of I/O operations. Note that if you find yourself creating a device node just for ioctl requests, you should probably use sysctls instead.

Incidentally, be aware that it's fairly trivial to write user-mode programs that interact with drivers. Thus, your drivers—*not* your user-mode programs (for example, Listing 3-2)—should always validate user input.

# 4

## THREAD SYNCHRONIZATION



This chapter deals with the problem of data and state corruption caused by concurrent threads. When multiple threads executing on different CPUs simultaneously modify the same data structure, that structure can be corrupted. Similarly, when a thread gets interrupted and another thread manipulates the data that the first thread was manipulating, that data can be corrupted (Baldwin, 2002).

Fortunately, FreeBSD provides a set of synchronization primitives to deal with these issues. Before I describe what synchronization primitives do, you'll need an in-depth understanding of the abovementioned concurrency issues, also known as synchronization problems. To that end, let's analyze a few.

## A Simple Synchronization Problem

Consider the following scenario in which two threads increment the same global variable. On *i386*, this operation might utilize the following processor instructions:

---

```
movl    count,%eax      # Move the value of count into a register (eax).
addl    $0x1,%eax       # Add 1 to the value in the register.
movl    %eax,count      # Move the value of the register into count.
```

---

Imagine that *count* is currently 0 and that the first thread manages to load the current value of *count* into *%eax* (that is, it completes the first instruction) just before the second thread preempts it. As part of the thread switch, FreeBSD saves the value of *%eax*, which is 0, into the outgoing thread's context. Now, suppose that the second thread manages to complete all three instructions, thereby incrementing *count* from 0 to 1. If the first thread preempts the second thread, FreeBSD will restore its thread context, which includes setting *%eax* to 0. The first thread, which resumes execution at the second instruction, will now proceed to add 1 to *%eax* and then store the result in *count*. At this point, *count* equals 1 when it should equal 2. Thus, because of a synchronization problem, we lost an update. This can also occur when the two threads are executing concurrently but just slightly out of step (that is, one thread begins executing the first instruction when the other thread begins executing the second instruction).

## A More Complex Synchronization Problem

Listing 4-1 is a complete character driver that lets you manipulate a doubly linked list through its *d\_ioctl* function. You can add or remove an item from the list, determine whether an item is on the list, or print every item on the list. Listing 4-1 also contains some synchronization problems.

**NOTE** Take a quick look at this code and try to identify the synchronization problems.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/iocomm.h>
#include <sys/queue.h>
#include "race_ioctl.h"

MALLOC_DEFINE(M_RACE, "race", "race object");

struct race_softc {
    LIST_ENTRY(race_softc) list;
```

```

    ❷int unit;
};

static ❸LIST_HEAD(, race_softc) race_list =
    ❹LIST_HEAD_INITIALIZER(&race_list);

static struct race_softc *      race_new(void);
static struct race_softc *      race_find(int unit);
static void                      race_destroy(struct race_softc *sc);
static d_ioctl_t                 race_ioctl;

❺ static struct cdevsw race_cdevsw = {
    .d_version =      D_VERSION,
    .d_ioctl =        race_ioctl,
    .d_name =        ❻RACE_NAME
};

static struct cdev *race_dev;

static int
❻ race_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
            struct thread *td)
{
    struct race_softc *sc;
    int error = 0;

    switch (cmd) {
    case RACE_IOC_ATTACH:
        sc = race_new();
        *(int *)data = sc->unit;
        break;
    case RACE_IOC_DETACH:
        sc = race_find(*(int *)data);
        if (sc == NULL)
            return (ENOENT);
        race_destroy(sc);
        break;
    case RACE_IOC_QUERY:
        sc = race_find(*(int *)data);
        if (sc == NULL)
            return (ENOENT);
        break;
    case RACE_IOC_LIST:
        uprintf(" UNIT\n");
        LIST_FOREACH(sc, &race_list, list)
            uprintf(" %d\n", sc->unit);
        break;
    default:
        error = ENOTTY;
        break;
    }

    return (error);
}

```

```

static struct race_softc *
race_new(void)
{
    struct race_softc *sc;
    int unit, max = -1;

    LIST_FOREACH(sc, &race_list, list) {
        if (sc->unit > max)
            max = sc->unit;
    }
    unit = max + 1;

    sc = (struct race_softc *)malloc(sizeof(struct race_softc), M_RACE,
        M_WAITOK | M_ZERO);
    sc->unit = unit;
    LIST_INSERT_HEAD(&race_list, sc, list);

    return (sc);
}

static struct race_softc *
race_find(int unit)
{
    struct race_softc *sc;

    LIST_FOREACH(sc, &race_list, list) {
        if (sc->unit == unit)
            break;
    }

    return (sc);
}

static void
race_destroy(struct race_softc *sc)
{
    LIST_REMOVE(sc, list);
    free(sc, M_RACE);
}

static int
race_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        race_dev = make_dev(&race_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
            0600, RACE_NAME);
        uprintf("Race driver loaded.\n");
        break;
    }
}

```

```

        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            destroy_dev(race_dev);
            uprintf("Race driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD QUIESCE:
            if (!LIST_EMPTY(&race_list))
                error = EBUSY;
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}

DEV_MODULE(race, race_modevent, NULL);

```

---

*Listing 4-1: race.c*

Before I identify Listing 4-1’s synchronization problems, let’s walk through it. Listing 4-1 begins by ❸ defining and ❹ initializing a doubly linked list of `race_softc` structures named `race_list`. Each `race_softc` structure contains a (unique) ❻ unit number and a ❼ structure that maintains a pointer to the previous and next `race_softc` structure in `race_list`.

Next, Listing 4-1’s ❽ character device switch table is defined. The constant ❾ `RACE_NAME` is defined in the `race_ioctl.h` header as follows:

---

```
#define RACE_NAME          "race"
```

---

Note how Listing 4-1’s character device switch table doesn’t define `d_open` and `d_close`. Recall, from Chapter 1, that if a `d_foo` function is undefined the corresponding operation is unsupported. However, `d_open` and `d_close` are unique; when they’re undefined the kernel will automatically define them as follows:

---

```

int
nullop(void)
{
    return (0);
}
```

---

This ensures that every registered character device can be opened and closed.

**NOTE** Drivers commonly forgo defining a `d_open` and `d_close` function when they don’t need to prepare their devices for I/O—like Listing 4-1.

Next, Listing 4-1's `d_ioctl` function, named ❷ `race_ioctl`, is defined. This function is like the `main` function for Listing 4-1. It uses three helper functions to do its work:

- `race_new`
- `race_find`
- `race_destroy`

Before I describe `race_ioctl`, I'll describe these functions first.

### ***race\_new Function***

The `race_new` function creates a new `race_softc` structure, which is then inserted at the head of `race_list`. Here is the function definition for `race_new` (again):

---

```
static struct race_softc *
race_new(void)
{
    struct race_softc *sc;
    int unit, max = -1;

    ❶LIST_FOREACH(sc, &race_list, list) {
        if (sc->unit > max)
            ❷max = sc->unit;
    }
    unit = ❸max + 1;

    sc = (struct race_softc *)❹malloc(sizeof(struct race_softc), M_RACE,
        M_WAITOK | M_ZERO);
    sc->unit = ❺unit;
    ❻LIST_INSERT_HEAD(&race_list, sc, list);

    ❼return (sc);
}
```

---

This function first ❶ iterates through `race_list` looking for the largest unit number, which it stores in ❷ `max`. Next, `unit` is set to ❸ `max` plus one. Then `race_new` ❹ allocates memory for a new `race_softc` structure, assigns it the unit number ❺ `unit`, and ❻ inserts it at the head of `race_list`. Lastly, `race_new` ❼ returns a pointer to the new `race_softc` structure.

### ***race\_find Function***

The `race_find` function takes a unit number and finds the associated `race_softc` structure on `race_list`.

---

```
static struct race_softc *
race_find(int unit)
{
    struct race_softc *sc;

    LIST_FOREACH(sc, &race_list, list) {
```

---

```

        if (sc->unit == unit)
            break;
    }

    return (sc);
}

```

---

If `race_find` is successful, a pointer to the `race_softc` structure is returned; otherwise, `NULL` is returned.

### ***race\_destroy Function***

The `race_destroy` function destroys a `race_softc` structure on `race_list`. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static void
race_destroy(❶struct race_softc *sc)
{
    ❷LIST_REMOVE(sc, list);
    ❸free(sc, M_RACE);
}

```

---

This function takes a **❶** pointer to a `race_softc` structure and **❷** removes that structure from `race_list`. Then it **❸** frees the allocated memory for that structure.

### ***race\_ioctl Function***

Before I walk through `race_ioctl`, an explanation of its ioctl commands, which are defined in `race_ioctl.h`, is needed.

---

<code>#define RACE_IOC_ATTACH</code>	<code>_IOR('R', 0, int)</code>
<code>#define RACE_IOC_DETACH</code>	<code>_IOW('R', 1, int)</code>
<code>#define RACE_IOC_QUERY</code>	<code>_IOW('R', 2, int)</code>
<code>#define RACE_IOC_LIST</code>	<code>_IO('R', 3)</code>

---

As you can see, three of `race_ioctl`'s ioctl commands transfer an integer value. As you'll see, this integer value is a unit number.

Here is the function definition for `race_ioctl` (again):

---

```

static int
race_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
           struct thread *td)
{
    struct race_softc *sc;
    int error = 0;

    switch (cmd) {
        ❶case RACE_IOC_ATTACH:
            sc = ❷race_new();
            ❸*(int *)data = sc->unit;
            break;
    }
}

```

---

```

❹case RACE_IOC_DETACH:
    sc = race_find(*(int *)data);
    if (sc == NULL)
        return (ENOENT);
    race_destroy(sc);
    break;
❺case RACE_IOC_QUERY:
    sc = race_find(*(int *)data);
    if (sc == NULL)
        return (ENOENT);
    break;
❻case RACE_IOC_LIST:
    uprintf("  UNIT\n");
    LIST_FOREACH(sc, &race_list, list)
        uprintf("  %d\n", sc->unit);
    break;
default:
    error = ENOTTY;
    break;
}

return (error);
}

```

---

This function can perform one of four ioctl-based operations. The first, ❶ RACE\_IOC\_ATTACH, ❷ creates a new race\_softc structure, which is then inserted at the head of race\_list. Afterward, the unit number of the new race\_softc structure is ❸ returned.

The second operation, ❹ RACE\_IOC\_DETACH, removes a user-specified race\_softc structure from race\_list.

The third operation, ❺ RACE\_IOC\_QUERY, determines whether a user-specified race\_softc structure is on race\_list.

Lastly, the fourth operation, ❻ RACE\_IOC\_LIST, prints the unit number of every race\_softc structure on race\_list.

### ***race\_modevent Function***

The race\_modevent function is the module event handler for Listing 4-1. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
race_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        race_dev = make_dev(&race_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                           0600, RACE_NAME);
        uprintf("Race driver loaded.\n");
        break;
    }

```

```

        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            destroy_dev(race_dev);
            uprintf("Race driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
    ❶ case MOD QUIESCE:
        ❷ if (!LIST_EMPTY(&race_list))
            error = EBUSY;
        break;
    default:
        error = EOPNOTSUPP;
        break;
    }

    return (error);
}

```

---

As you can see, this function includes a new case: ❶ MOD QUIESCE.

**NOTE** Because MOD\_LOAD and MOD\_UNLOAD are extremely rudimentary and because you've seen similar code elsewhere, I'll omit discussing them.

When one issues the kldunload(8) command, MOD QUIESCE is run before MOD\_UNLOAD. If MOD QUIESCE returns an error, MOD\_UNLOAD does not get executed. In other words, MOD QUIESCE verifies that it is safe to unload your module.

**NOTE** The kldunload -f command ignores every error returned by MOD QUIESCE. So you can always unload a module, but it may not be the best idea.

Here, MOD QUIESCE ❷ guarantees that race\_list is empty (before Listing 4-1 is unloaded). This is done to prevent memory leaks from any potentially unclaimed race\_softc structures.

## The Root of the Problem

Now that we've walked through Listing 4-1, let's run it and see if we can identify its synchronization problems.

Listing 4-2 presents a command-line utility designed to invoke the race\_ioctl function in Listing 4-1:

---

```

#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/ioctl.h>

#include <err.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <limits.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include "../race/race_ioctl.h"

static enum {UNSET, ATTACH, DETACH, QUERY, LIST} action = UNSET;

```

```

/*
 * The usage statement: race_config -a | -d unit | -q unit | -l
 */

static void
usage()
{
    /*
     * Arguments for this program are "either-or." For example,
     * 'race_config -a' or 'race_config -d unit' are valid; however,
     * 'race_config -a -d unit' is invalid.
     */
    fprintf(stderr, "usage: race_config -a | -d unit | -q unit | -l\n");
    exit(1);
}

/*
 * This program manages the doubly linked list found in /dev/race. It
 * allows you to add or remove an item, query the existence of an item,
 * or print every item on the list.
*/
int
main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int ch, fd, i, unit;
    char *p;

    /*
     * Parse the command line argument list to determine
     * the correct course of action.
     *
     *      -a:      add an item.
     *      -d unit: detach an item.
     *      -q unit: query the existence of an item.
     *      -l:      list every item.
     */
    while ((ch = getopt(argc, argv, "ad:q:l")) != -1)
        switch (ch) {
            case 'a':
                if (action != UNSET)
                    usage();
                action = ATTACH;
                break;
            case 'd':
                if (action != UNSET)
                    usage();
                action = DETACH;
                unit = (int)strtol(optarg, &p, 10);
                if (*p)
                    errx(1, "illegal unit -- %s", optarg);
                break;
        }
}

```

```

        case 'q':
            if (action != UNSET)
                usage();
            action = QUERY;
            unit = (int)strtol(optarg, &p, 10);
            if (*p)
                errx(1, "illegal unit -- %s", optarg);
            break;
        case 'l':
            if (action != UNSET)
                usage();
            action = LIST;
            break;
        default:
            usage();
    }

/*
 * Perform the chosen action.
 */
if (action == ATTACH) {
    fd = open("/dev/" RACE_NAME, O_RDWR);
    if (fd < 0)
        err(1, "open(/dev/%s)", RACE_NAME);

    i = ioctl(fd, RACE_IOC_ATTACH, &unit);
    if (i < 0)
        err(1, "ioctl(/dev/%s)", RACE_NAME);
    printf("unit: %d\n", unit);

    close (fd);
} else if (action == DETACH) {
    fd = open("/dev/" RACE_NAME, O_RDWR);
    if (fd < 0)
        err(1, "open(/dev/%s)", RACE_NAME);

    i = ioctl(fd, RACE_IOC_DETACH, &unit);
    if (i < 0)
        err(1, "ioctl(/dev/%s)", RACE_NAME);

    close (fd);
} else if (action == QUERY) {
    fd = open("/dev/" RACE_NAME, O_RDWR);
    if (fd < 0)
        err(1, "open(/dev/%s)", RACE_NAME);

    i = ioctl(fd, RACE_IOC_QUERY, &unit);
    if (i < 0)
        err(1, "ioctl(/dev/%s)", RACE_NAME);

    close (fd);
}

```

```

    } else if (action == LIST) {
        fd = open("/dev/" RACE_NAME, O_RDWR);
        if (fd < 0)
            err(1, "open(/dev/%s)", RACE_NAME);

        i = ioctl(fd, RACE_IOC_LIST, NULL);
        if (i < 0)
            err(1, "ioctl(/dev/%s)", RACE_NAME);

        close (fd);
    } else
        usage();

    return (0);
}

```

---

*Listing 4-2: race\_config.c*

**NOTE** Listing 4-2 is a bog-standard command-line utility. As such, I won't cover its program structure.

The following shows an example execution of Listing 4-2:

---

```

$ sudo kldload ./race.ko
Race driver loaded.
$ sudo ./race_config -a & sudo ./race_config -a &
[1] 2378
[2] 2379
$ unit: 0
unit: 0

```

---

Above, two threads simultaneously add a `race_softc` structure to `race_list`, which results in two `race_softc` structures with the “unique” unit number 0—this is a problem, yes?

Here's another example:

---

```

$ sudo kldload ./race.ko
Race driver loaded.
$ sudo ./race_config -a & sudo kldunload race.ko &
[1] 2648
[2] 2649
$ unit: 0
Race driver unloaded.

[1]- Done           sudo ./race_config -a
[2]+ Done           sudo kldunload race.ko
$ dmesg | tail -n 1
Warning: memory type race leaked memory on destroy (1 allocations, 16 bytes
leaked).

```

---

Above, one thread adds a `race_softc` structure to `race_list` while another thread unloads `race.ko`, which causes a memory leak. Recall that `MOD QUIESCE` is supposed to prevent this, but it didn't. Why?

The problem, in both examples, is a race condition. *Race conditions* are errors caused by a sequence of events. In the first example, both threads check `race_list` simultaneously, discover that it is empty, and assign 0 as the unit number. In the second example, `MOD_QUIESCE` returns error-free, a `race_softc` structure is then added to `race_list`, and finally `MOD_UNLOAD` completes.

**NOTE** *One characteristic of race conditions is that they’re hard to reproduce. Ergo, the results were doctored in the preceding examples. That is, I caused the threads to context switch at specific points to achieve the desired outcome. Under normal conditions, it would have taken literally millions of attempts before those race conditions would occur, and I didn’t want to spend that much time.*

## Preventing Race Conditions

Race conditions are prevented using locks. *Locks*, also known as *synchronization primitives*, are used to serialize the execution of two or more threads. For example, the race conditions in Listing 4-1, which are caused by concurrent access to `race_list`, can be prevented by using a lock to serialize access to `race_list`. Before a thread can access `race_list`, it must first acquire the `foo` lock. Only one thread can hold `foo` at a time. If a thread cannot acquire `foo`, it cannot access `race_list` and must wait for the current owner to relinquish `foo`. This protocol guarantees that at any moment in time only one thread can access `race_list`, which eliminates Listing 4-1’s race conditions.

There are several different types of locks in FreeBSD, each having its own characteristics (for example, some locks can be held by more than one thread). The remainder of this chapter describes the different types of locks available in FreeBSD and how to use them.

## Mutexes

*Mutex locks (mutexes)* ensure that at any moment in time, only one thread can access a shared object. Mutex is an amalgamation of mutual and exclusion.

**NOTE** *The `foo` lock described in the previous section was a mutex lock.*

FreeBSD provides two types of mutex locks: spin mutexes and sleep mutexes.

### Spin Mutexes

*Spin mutexes* are simple spin locks. If a thread attempts to acquire a spin lock that is being held by another thread, it will “spin” and wait for the lock to be released. *Spin*, in this case, means to loop infinitely on the CPU. This spinning can result in deadlock if a thread that is holding a spin lock is interrupted or if it context switches, and all subsequent threads attempt to acquire that lock. Consequently, while holding a spin mutex all interrupts are blocked on the local processor and a context switch cannot be performed.

Spin mutexes should be held only for short periods of time and should be used only to protect objects related to nonpreemptive interrupts and low-level scheduling code (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). Ordinarily, you'll never use spin mutexes.

### Sleep Mutexes

*Sleep mutexes* are the most commonly used lock. If a thread attempts to acquire a sleep mutex that is being held by another thread, it will context switch (that is, sleep) and wait for the mutex to be released. Because of this behavior, sleep mutexes are not susceptible to the deadlock described above.

Sleep mutexes support priority propagation. When a thread sleeps on a sleep mutex and its priority is higher than the sleep mutex's current owner, the current owner will inherit the priority of this thread (Baldwin, 2002). This characteristic prevents a lower priority thread from blocking a higher priority thread.

**NOTE** *Sleeping (for example, calling a \*sleep function, which is discussed in Chapter 5) while holding a mutex is never safe and must be avoided; otherwise, there are numerous assertions that will fail and the kernel will panic (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005).*

## Mutex Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following seven functions for working with mutexes:

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>

void
mtx_init(struct mtx *mutex, const char *name, const char *type,
        int opts);

void
mtx_lock(struct mtx *mutex);

void
mtx_lock_spin(struct mtx *mutex);

int
mtx_trylock(struct mtx *mutex);

void
mtx_unlock(struct mtx *mutex);

void
mtx_unlock_spin(struct mtx *mutex);
```

---

```
void
mtx_destroy(struct mtx *mutex);
```

---

The `mtx_init` function initializes the mutex ❶ `mutex`. The ❷ `name` argument is used during debugging to identify `mutex`. The ❸ `type` argument is used during lock-order verification by `witness(4)`. If `type` is `NULL`, `name` is used instead.

**NOTE** You'll typically pass `NULL` as `type`.

The ❹ `opts` argument modifies `mtx_init`'s behavior. Valid values for `opts` are shown in Table 4-1.

**Table 4-1:** `mtx_init` Symbolic Constants

---

Constant	Description
<code>MTX_DEF</code>	Initializes <code>mutex</code> as a sleep mutex; this bit or <code>MTX_SPIN</code> must be present
<code>MTX_SPIN</code>	Initializes <code>mutex</code> as a spin mutex; this bit or <code>MTX_DEF</code> must be present
<code>MTX_RECURSE</code>	Specifies that <code>mutex</code> is a recursive lock; more on recursive locks later
<code>MTX_QUIET</code>	Instructs the system to <i>not</i> log the operations done on this lock
<code>MTX_NOWITNESS</code>	Causes <code>witness(4)</code> to ignore this lock
<code>MTX_DUPOK</code>	Causes <code>witness(4)</code> to ignore duplicates of this lock
<code>MTX_NOPROFILE</code>	Instructs the system to <i>not</i> profile this lock

---

Threads acquire sleep mutexes by calling `mtx_lock`. If another thread is currently holding ❺ `mutex`, the caller will sleep until `mutex` is available.

Threads acquire spin mutexes by calling `mtx_lock_spin`. If another thread is currently holding ❻ `mutex`, the caller will spin until `mutex` is available. Note that all interrupts are blocked on the local processor during the spin, and they remain disabled following the acquisition of `mutex`.

A thread can recursively acquire ❻ `mutex` (with no ill effects) if `MTX_RECURSE` was passed to ❹ `opts`. A recursive lock is useful if it'll be acquired at two or more levels. For example:

---

```
static void
foo()
{
...
    mtx_lock(&mutex);
...
    foo();
...
    mtx_unlock(&mutex);
...
}
```

---

By using a recursive lock, lower levels don't need to check if `mutex` has been acquired by a higher level. They can simply acquire and release `mutex` as needed (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005).

**NOTE** I would avoid recursive mutexes. You'll learn why in "Avoid Recursing on Exclusive Locks" on page 81.

The `mtx_trylock` function is identical to `mtx_lock` except that if another thread is currently holding ❷ `mutex`, it returns 0 (that is, the caller does not sleep).

Threads release sleep mutexes by calling `mtx_unlock`. Note that recursive locks "remember" the number of times they've been acquired. Consequently, each successful lock acquisition must have a corresponding lock release.

Threads release spin mutexes by calling `mtx_unlock_spin`. The `mtx_unlock_spin` function also restores the interrupt state to what it was before ❸ `mutex` was acquired.

The `mtx_destroy` function destroys the mutex ❹ `mutex`. Note that `mutex` can be held when it is destroyed. However, `mutex` cannot be held recursively or have other threads waiting for it when it is destroyed or else the kernel will panic (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005).

## Implementing Mutexes

Listing 4-3 is a revision of Listing 4-1 that uses a mutex to serialize access to `race_list`.

**NOTE** To save space, the functions `race_ioctl`, `race_new`, `race_find`, and `race_destroy` aren't listed here, as they haven't been changed.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/iocomm.h>
#include <sys/queue.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>
#include "race_ioctl.h"

MALLOC_DEFINE(M_RACE, "race", "race object");

struct race_softc {
    LIST_ENTRY(race_softc) list;
    int unit;
};

static LIST_HEAD(, race_softc) race_list = LIST_HEAD_INITIALIZER(&race_list);
❶ static struct mtx race_mtx;

static struct race_softc *      race_new(void);
static struct race_softc *      race_find(int unit);
```

```

static void race_destroy(struct race_softc *sc);
static d_ioctl_t race_ioctl_mtx;
static d_ioctl_t race_ioctl;

static struct cdevsw race_cdevsw = {
    .d_version = D_VERSION,
    ②.d_ioctl = race_ioctl_mtx,
    .d_name = RACE_NAME
};

static struct cdev *race_dev;

static int
③ race_ioctl_mtx(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
    struct thread *td)
{
    int error;

    ④mtx_lock(&race_mtx);
    error = ⑤race_ioctl(dev, cmd, data, fflag, td);
    ⑥mtx_unlock(&race_mtx);

    return (error);
}

static int
race_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
    struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static struct race_softc *
race_new(void)
{
...
}

static struct race_softc *
race_find(int unit)
{
...
}

static void
race_destroy(struct race_softc *sc)
{
...
}

static int
race_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;
    struct race_softc *sc, *sc_temp;

```

```

        switch (event) {
        case MOD_LOAD:
            mtx_init(&race_mtx, "race config lock", NULL, ⑦MTX_DEF);
            race_dev = make_dev(&race_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                                0600, RACE_NAME);
            uprintf("Race driver loaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            destroy_dev(race_dev);
            mtx_lock(&race_mtx);
            if (!LIST_EMPTY(&race_list)) {
                LIST_FOREACH_SAFE(sc, &race_list, list, sc_temp) {
                    LIST_REMOVE(sc, list);
                    free(sc, M_RACE);
                }
            }
            mtx_unlock(&race_mtx);
            mtx_destroy(&race_mtx);
            uprintf("Race driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD QUIESCE:
            mtx_lock(&race_mtx);
            if (!LIST_EMPTY(&race_list))
                error = EBUSY;
            mtx_unlock(&race_mtx);
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}

DEV_MODULE(race, race_modevent, NULL);

```

---

*Listing 4-3: race\_mtx.c*

This driver ① declares a mutex named `race_mtx`, which gets initialized as a ⑦ sleep mutex in the module event handler.

**NOTE** As you'll see, a mutex is not the ideal solution for Listing 4-1. However, for now, I just want to cover how to use mutexes.

In Listing 4-1, the main source of concurrent access to `race_list` is the `race_ioctl` function. This should be obvious, because `race_ioctl` manages `race_list`.

Listing 4-3 remedies the race conditions caused by `race_ioctl` by serializing its execution via the ③ `race_ioctl_mtx` function. `race_ioctl_mtx` is defined as the ② `d_ioctl` function. It begins by ④ acquiring `race_mtx`. Then ⑤ `race_ioctl` is called and subsequently `race_mtx` is ⑥ released.

As you can see, it takes just three lines (or one mutex) to serialize the execution of `race_ioctl`.

### ***race\_modevent Function***

The `race_modevent` function is the module event handler for Listing 4-3. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
race_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;
    struct race_softc *sc, *sc_temp;

    switch (event) {
        case MOD_LOAD:
            ❶ mtx_init(&race_mtx, "race config lock", NULL, ❷MTX_DEF);
            race_dev = ❸make_dev(&race_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                                  0600, RACE_NAME);
            uprintf("Race driver loaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            ❹destroy_dev(race_dev);
            mtx_lock(&race_mtx);
            ❺if (!LIST_EMPTY(&race_list)) {
                LIST_FOREACH_SAFE(sc, &race_list, list, sc_temp) {
                    LIST_REMOVE(sc, list);
                    ❻free(sc, M_RACE);
                }
            }
            mtx_unlock(&race_mtx);
            ❼mtx_destroy(&race_mtx);
            uprintf("Race driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD QUIESCE:
            ❽mtx_lock(&race_mtx);
            ❾if (!LIST_EMPTY(&race_list))
                error = EBUSY;
            ❿mtx_unlock(&race_mtx);
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}
```

---

On module load, this function ❶ initializes `race_mtx` as a ❷ sleep mutex. Then it ❸ creates Listing 4-3's device node: `race`.

On `MOD QUIESCE`, this function ❽ acquires `race_mtx`, ❾ confirms that `race_list` is empty, and then ❿ releases `race_mtx`.

On module unload, this function first calls ❸ `destroy_dev` to destroy the race device node.

**NOTE** *The `destroy_dev` function does not return until every `d_foo` function currently executing completes. Consequently, one should not hold a lock while calling `destroy_dev`; otherwise, you could deadlock your driver or panic your system.*

Next, `race_modevent` ❹ confirms that `race_list` is still empty. See, after the execution of `MOD QUIESCE`, a `race_softc` structure could have been added to `race_list`. So, `race_list` is checked again and every `race_softc` structure found is ❺ released. Once this is done, `race_mtx` is ❻ destroyed.

As you can see, every time `race_list` was accessed, `mtx_lock(&race_mtx)` was called first. This was necessary in order to serialize access to `race_list` throughout Listing 4-3.

## Don't Panic

Now that we've examined Listing 4-3, let's give it a try:

---

```
$ sudo kldload ./race_mtx.ko
Race driver loaded.
$ sudo ./race_config -a & sudo ./race_config -a &
[1] 923
[2] 924
$ unit: 0
unit: 1

...
$ sudo kldload ./race_mtx.ko
Race driver loaded.
$ sudo ./race_config -a & sudo kldunload race_mtx.ko &
[1] 933
[2] 934
$ Race driver unloaded.
race_config: open(/dev/race): No such file or directory

[1]- Exit 1           sudo ./race_config -a
[2]+ Done            sudo kldunload race_mtx.ko
```

---

Unsurprisingly, it works. Yet using a mutex has introduced a new problem. See, the function definition for `race_new` contains this line:

---

```
sc = (struct race_softc *)malloc(sizeof(struct race_softc), M_RACE,
❶M_WAITOK | M_ZERO);
```

---

Here, ❶ `M_WAITOK` means that it's okay to sleep. But it's *never* okay to sleep while holding a mutex. Recall that sleeping while holding a mutex causes the kernel to panic.

There are two solutions to this problem: First, change `M_WAITOK` to `M_NOWAIT`. Second, use a lock that can be held while sleeping. As the first solution changes the functionality of Listing 4-1 (that is, currently, `race_new` never fails), let's go with the second.

## Shared/Exclusive Locks

*Shared/exclusive locks* (*sx locks*) are locks that threads can hold while asleep. As the name implies, multiple threads can have a *shared hold* on an sx lock, but only one thread can have an *exclusive hold* on an sx lock. When a thread has an exclusive hold on an sx lock, other threads cannot have a shared hold on that lock.

sx locks do not support priority propagation and are inefficient compared to mutexes. The main reason for using sx locks is that threads can sleep while holding one.

## Shared/Exclusive Lock Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following 14 functions for working with sx locks:

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/sx.h>

void
sx_init(struct sx *sx, const char *description);

void
sx_init_flags(struct sx *sx, const char *description, int opts);

void
sx_slock(struct sx *sx);

void
sx_xlock(struct sx *sx);

int
sx_slock_sig(struct sx *sx);

int
sx_xlock_sig(struct sx *sx);

int
sx_try_slock(struct sx *sx);

int
sx_try_xlock(struct sx *sx);

void
sx_sunlock(struct sx *sx);
```

```

void
sx_xunlock(struct sx *sx);

void
sx_unlock(struct sx *sx);

int
sx_try_upgrade(struct sx *sx);

void
sx_downgrade(struct sx *sx);

void
sx_destroy(struct sx *sx);

```

---

The `sx_init` function initializes the `sx` lock ❶. The ❷ `description` argument is used during debugging to identify `sx`.

The `sx_init_flags` function is an alternative to `sx_init`. The ❸ `opts` argument modifies `sx_init_flags`'s behavior. Valid values for `opts` are shown in Table 4-2.

**Table 4-2:** `sx_init_flags` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>SX_NOADAPTIVE</code>	If this bit is passed and the kernel is compiled without options <code>NO_ADAPTIVE_SX</code> , then threads holding <code>sx</code> will spin instead of sleeping.
<code>SX_RECURSE</code>	Specifies that <code>sx</code> is a recursive lock
<code>SX QUIET</code>	Instructs the system to <i>not</i> log the operations done on this lock
<code>SX_NOWITNESS</code>	Causes <code>witness(4)</code> to ignore this lock
<code>SX_DUPOK</code>	Causes <code>witness(4)</code> to ignore duplicates of this lock
<code>SX_NOPROFILE</code>	Instructs the system to <i>not</i> profile this lock

Threads acquire a shared hold on `sx` by calling `sx_slock`. If another thread currently has an exclusive hold on `sx`, the caller will sleep until `sx` is available.

Threads acquire an exclusive hold on `sx` by calling `sx_xlock`. If any threads currently have a shared or exclusive hold on `sx`, the caller will sleep until `sx` is available.

The `sx_slock_sig` and `sx_xlock_sig` functions are identical to `sx_slock` and `sx_xlock` except that when the caller sleeps it can be woken up by signals. If this occurs, a nonzero value is returned.

**NOTE** *Normally, threads sleeping on locks cannot be woken up early.*

The `sx_try_slock` and `sx_try_xlock` functions are identical to `sx_slock` and `sx_xlock` except that if `sx` cannot be acquired, they return 0 (that is, the caller does not sleep).

Threads release a shared hold on `sx` by calling `sx_sunlock`, and they release an exclusive hold by calling `sx_xunlock`.

The `sx_unlock` function is a front end to `sx_sunlock` and `sx_xunlock`. This function is used when the hold state on `sx` is unknown.

Threads can upgrade a shared hold to an exclusive hold by calling `sx_try_upgrade`. If the hold cannot be immediately upgraded, 0 is returned. Threads can downgrade an exclusive hold to a shared hold by calling `sx_downgrade`.

The `sx_destroy` function destroys the `sx` lock ❸ `sx`. Note that `sx` cannot be held when it is destroyed.

## Implementing Shared/Exclusive Locks

Listing 4-4 is a revision of Listing 4-3 that uses an `sx` lock instead of a mutex.

**NOTE** *To save space, the functions `race_ioctl`, `race_new`, `race_find`, and `race_destroy` aren't listed here, as they haven't been changed.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/systm.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/iocomm.h>
#include <sys/queue.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
❶ #include <sys/sx.h>
#include "race_ioctl.h"

MALLOC_DEFINE(M_RACE, "race", "race object");

struct race_softc {
    LIST_ENTRY(race_softc) list;
    int unit;
};

static LIST_HEAD(, race_softc) race_list = LIST_HEAD_INITIALIZER(&race_list);
❷ static struct sx race_sx;

static struct race_softc *      race_new(void);
static struct race_softc *      race_find(int unit);
static void                      race_destroy(struct race_softc *sc);
static d_ioctl_t                 race_ioctl_sx;
static d_ioctl_t                 race_ioctl;

static struct cdevsw race_cdevsw = {
    .d_version =     D_VERSION,
    .d_ioctl =       race_ioctl_sx,
    .d_name =        RACE_NAME
};
```

```

static struct cdev *race_dev;

static int
race_ioctl_sx(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
    struct thread *td)
{
    int error;

    ❸sx_xlock(&race_sx);
    error = race_ioctl(dev, cmd, data, fflag, td);
    ❹sx_xunlock(&race_sx);

    return (error);
}

static int
race_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
    struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static struct race_softc *
race_new(void)
{
...
}

static struct race_softc *
race_find(int unit)
{
...
}

static void
race_destroy(struct race_softc *sc)
{
...
}

static int
race_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    int error = 0;
    struct race_softc *sc, *sc_temp;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        ❺sx_init(&race_sx, "race config lock");
        race_dev = make_dev(&race_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
            0600, RACE_NAME);
        uprintf("Race driver loaded.\n");
        break;
    }
}

```

```

        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            destroy_dev(race_dev);
            ⑥sx_xlock(&race_sx);
            if (!LIST_EMPTY(&race_list)) {
                LIST_FOREACH_SAFE(sc, &race_list, list, sc_temp) {
                    LIST_REMOVE(sc, list);
                    free(sc, M_RACE);
                }
            }

            ⑦sx_xunlock(&race_sx);
            ⑧sx_destroy(&race_sx);
            uprintf("Race driver unloaded.\n");
            break;
        case MOD QUIESCE:
            ⑨sx_xlock(&race_sx);
            if (!LIST_EMPTY(&race_list))
                error = EBUSY;
            ⑩sx_xunlock(&race_sx);
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
    }

    return (error);
}

DEV_MODULE(race, race_modevent, NULL);

```

---

*Listing 4-4: race\_sx.c*

Listing 4-4 is identical to Listing 4-3 except that every mutex management function has been replaced by its sx lock equivalent.

**NOTE** *The numbered balls in Listing 4-4 highlight the differences.*

Here are the results from interacting with Listing 4-4:

---

```

$ sudo kldload ./race_sx.ko
Race driver loaded.
$ sudo ./race_config -a & sudo ./race_config -a &
[1] 800
[2] 801
$ unit: 0
unit: 1

...
$ sudo kldload ./race_sx.ko
Race driver loaded.
$ sudo ./race_config -a & sudo kldunload race_sx.ko &
[1] 811
[2] 812
$ unit: 0

```

```
kldunload: can't unload file: Device busy  
[1]- Done sudo ./race_config -a  
[2]+ Exit 1 sudo kldunload race_sx.ko
```

---

Naturally, everything works, and no new problems were introduced.

## Reader/Writer Locks

*Reader/writer locks (rw locks)* are basically mutexes with sx lock semantics. Like sx locks, threads can hold rw locks as a *reader*, which is identical to a shared hold, or as a *writer*, which is identical to an exclusive hold. Like mutexes, rw locks support priority propagation and threads cannot hold them while sleeping (or the kernel will panic).

rw locks are used when you need to protect an object that is mostly going to be read from instead of written to.

## Reader/Writer Lock Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following 11 functions for working with rw locks:

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/rwlock.h>

void
rw_init(struct rwlock *rw, const char *name);

void
rw_init_flags(struct rwlock *rw, const char *name, int opts);

void
rw_rlock(struct rwlock *rw);

void
rw_wlock(struct rwlock *rw);

int
rw_try_rlock(struct rwlock *rw);

int
rw_try_wlock(struct rwlock *rw);

void
rw_runlock(struct rwlock *rw);

void
rw_wunlock(struct rwlock *rw);

int
rw_try_upgrade(struct rwlock *rw);
```

```

void
rw_downgrade(struct rwlock *rw);

void
rw_destroy(struct rwlock *rw);

```

---

The `rw_init` function initializes the `rw` lock ❶ `rw`. The ❷ `name` argument is used during debugging to identify `rw`.

The `rw_init_flags` function is an alternative to `rw_init`. The ❸ `opts` argument modifies `rw_init_flags`'s behavior. Valid values for `opts` are shown in Table 4-3.

**Table 4-3:** `rw_init_flags` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>RW_RECURSE</code>	Specifies that <code>rw</code> is a recursive lock
<code>RW QUIET</code>	Instructs the system to <i>not</i> log the operations done on this lock
<code>RW_NOWITNESS</code>	Causes <code>witness(4)</code> to ignore this lock
<code>RW_DUPOK</code>	Causes <code>witness(4)</code> to ignore duplicates of this lock
<code>RW_NOPROFILE</code>	Instructs the system to <i>not</i> profile this lock

Threads acquire a shared hold on `rw` by calling `rw_rlock`. If another thread currently has an exclusive hold on `rw`, the caller will sleep until `rw` is available.

Threads acquire an exclusive hold on `rw` by calling `rw_wlock`. If any threads currently have a shared or exclusive hold on `rw`, the caller will sleep until `rw` is available.

The `rw_try_rlock` and `rw_try_wlock` functions are identical to `rw_rlock` and `rw_wlock` except that if `rw` cannot be acquired, they return 0 (that is, the caller does not sleep).

Threads release a shared hold on `rw` by calling `rw_runlock`, and they release an exclusive hold by calling `rw_wunlock`.

Threads can upgrade a shared hold to an exclusive hold by calling `rw_try_upgrade`. If the hold cannot be immediately upgraded, 0 is returned. Threads can downgrade an exclusive hold to a shared hold by calling `rw_downgrade`.

The `rw_destroy` function destroys the `rw` lock ❹ `rw`. Note that `rw` cannot be held when it is destroyed.

At this point, you should be comfortable with locks—there's really nothing to them. So, I'm going to omit discussing an example that uses `rw` locks.

## Condition Variables

*Condition variables* synchronize the execution of two or more threads based upon the value of an object. In contrast, locks synchronize threads by controlling their access to objects.

Condition variables are used in conjunction with locks to “block” threads until a condition is true. It works like this: A thread first acquires the `foo` lock. Then it examines the condition. If the condition is false, it sleeps on the `bar` condition variable. While asleep on `bar`, threads relinquish `foo`. A thread that causes the condition to be true wakes up the threads sleeping on `bar`. Threads woken up in this manner reacquire `foo` before proceeding.

## Condition Variable Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following 11 functions for working with condition variables:

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/proc.h>
#include <sys/condvar.h>

void
cv_init(struct cv *1*cvp, const char *2*d);

const char *
cv_wmesg(struct cv *3*cvp);

void
cv_wait(struct cv *4*cvp, 5lock);

void
cv_wait_unlock(struct cv *6*cvp, 7lock);

int
cv_wait_sig(struct cv *cvp, lock);

int
cv_timedwait(struct cv *cvp, lock, int 8timo);

int
cv_timedwait_sig(struct cv *cvp, lock, int timo);

void
cv_signal(struct cv *cvp);

void
cv_broadcast(struct cv *cvp);

void
cv_broadcastpri(struct cv *cvp, int 9pri);

void
cv_destroy(struct cv *10*cvp);
```

---

The `cv_init` function initializes the condition variable **❶** `cvp`. The **❷** `d` argument describes `cvp`.

The `cv_wmesg` function gets the **❸** description of **❹** `cvp`. This function is primarily used in error reporting.

Threads sleep on **❺** `cvp` by calling `cv_wait`. The **❻** `lock` argument demands a sleep mutex, sx lock, or rw lock. Threads must hold `lock` before calling `cv_wait`. Threads must not sleep on `cvp` with `lock` held recursively.

The `cv_wait_unlock` function is a variant of `cv_wait`. When threads wake up from sleeping on **❻** `cvp`, they forgo reacquiring **❼** `lock`.

The `cv_wait_sig` function is identical to `cv_wait` except that when the caller is asleep it can be woken up by signals. If this occurs, the error code `EINTR` or `ERESTART` is returned.

**NOTE** *Normally, threads sleeping on condition variables cannot be woken up early.*

The `cv_timedwait` function is identical to `cv_wait` except that the caller sleeps at most **❽** `timo / hz` seconds. If the sleep times out, the error code `EWOULDBLOCK` is returned.

The `cv_timedwait_sig` function is like `cv_wait_sig` and `cv_timedwait`. The caller can be woken up by signals and sleeps at most `timo / hz` seconds.

Threads wake up one thread sleeping on `cvp` by calling `cv_signal`, and they wake up every thread sleeping on `cvp` by calling `cv_broadcast`.

The `cv_broadcastpri` function is identical to `cv_broadcast` except that all threads woken up have their priority raised to **❾** `pri`. Threads with a priority higher than `pri` do not have their priority lowered.

The `cv_destroy` function destroys the condition variable **❿** `cvp`.

**NOTE** *We'll walk through an example that uses condition variables in Chapter 5.*

## General Guidelines

Here are some general guidelines for lock usage. Note that these aren't hard-and-fast rules, just things to keep in mind.

### Avoid Recursing on Exclusive Locks

When an exclusive hold or lock is acquired, the holder usually assumes that it has exclusive access to the objects the lock protects. Unfortunately, recursive locks can break this assumption in some cases. As an example, suppose function `F1` uses a recursive lock `L` to protect object 0. If function `F2` acquires `L`, modifies 0, leaving it in an inconsistent state, and then calls `F1`, `F1` will recursively acquire `L` and falsely assume that 0 is in a consistent state.<sup>1</sup>

One solution to this problem is to use a nonrecursive lock and to rewrite `F1` so that it does not acquire `L`. Instead, `L` must be acquired before calling `F1`.

---

<sup>1</sup>. This paragraph is adapted from *Locking in the Multithreaded FreeBSD Kernel* by John H. Baldwin (2002).

### ***Avoid Holding Exclusive Locks for Long Periods of Time***

Exclusive locks reduce concurrency and should be released as soon as possible. Note that it is better to hold a lock for a short period of time when it is not needed than to release the lock only to reacquire it (Baldwin, 2002). This is because the operations to acquire and release a lock are relatively expensive.

## **Conclusion**

This chapter dealt with the problem of data and state corruption caused by concurrent threads. In short, whenever an object is accessible by multiple threads, its access must be managed.

# 5

## DELAYING EXECUTION



Often, drivers need to delay their execution in order to give their device(s), the kernel, or a user the time to accomplish some task.

In this chapter, I'll detail the different functions available for achieving these delays. In the process, I'll also describe asynchronous code execution.

### **Voluntary Context Switching, or Sleeping**

*Voluntary context switching, or sleeping*, is done when a driver thread must await the availability of a resource or the arrival of an event; for example, a driver thread should sleep after it requests data from an input device, such as a terminal (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). A driver thread sleeps by calling a `*sleep` function.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/sysm.h>
#include <sys/proc.h>
```

```

int
tsleep(void *chan, int priority, const char *wmesg, int timo);

void
wakeup(void *chan);

void
wakeup_one(void *chan);

void
pause(const char *wmesg, int timo);

#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>

int
mtx_sleep(void *chan, struct mtx *mtx, int priority, const char *wmesg,
          int timo);

#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>
#include <sys/proc.h>

int
msleep_spin(void *chan, struct mtx *mtx, const char *wmesg, int timo);

#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/sx.h>

int
sx_sleep(void *chan, struct sx *sx, int priority, const char *wmesg,
          int timo);

#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/rwlock.h>

int
rw_sleep(void *chan, struct rwlock *rw, int priority, const char *wmesg,
          int timo);

```

---

A thread voluntarily context switches (or sleeps) by calling `tsleep`. The arguments for `tsleep` are common to the other `*sleep` functions and are described in the next few paragraphs.

The `chan` argument is the channel (that is to say, an arbitrary address) that uniquely identifies the event that the thread is waiting for.

The `priority` argument is the priority for the thread when it resumes. If `priority` is 0, the current thread priority is used. If `PCATCH` is OR'ed into `priority`, signals are checked before and after sleeping.

The `wmesg` argument expects a concise description of the sleeping thread. This description is displayed by user-mode utilities, such as `ps(1)`, and has no real impact on performance.

The `timo` argument specifies the sleep timeout. If `timo` is nonzero, the thread will sleep for at most `timo / hz` seconds. Afterward, `tsleep` returns the error code `EWOULDBLOCK`.

The `wakeup` function wakes up every thread asleep on the channel `chan`. Generally speaking, threads woken from sleep should re-evaluate the conditions they slept on.

The `wakeup_one` function is a variant of `wakeup` that only gets up the first thread that it finds asleep on `chan`. The assumption is that when the awakened thread is done, it calls `wakeup_one` to wake up another thread that's asleep on `chan`; this succession of `wakeup_one` calls continues until every thread asleep on `chan` has been awakened (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). This reduces the load in cases when numerous threads are asleep on `chan`, but only one thread can do anything meaningful when made runnable.

The `pause` function puts the calling thread to sleep for `timo / hz` seconds. This thread cannot be awoken by `wakeup`, `wakeup_one`, or signals.

The remaining \*sleep functions—`mtx_sleep`, `msleep_spin`, `sx_sleep`, and `rw_sleep`—are variants of `tsleep` that take a particular lock. This lock is dropped before the thread sleeps and is reacquired before the thread awakes; if `PDROP` is OR'ed into `priority`, this lock is not reacquired.

Note that the `msleep_spin` function does not have a `priority` argument. Consequently, it cannot assign a new thread priority, catch signals via `PCATCH`, or drop its spin mutex via `PDROP`.

## Implementing Sleeps and Condition Variables

Listing 5-1 (which is based on code written by John Baldwin) is a KLD designed to demonstrate sleeps and condition variables. It works by obtaining “events” from a `sysctl`; each event is then passed to a thread, which performs a specific task based on the event it received.

**NOTE** *Take a quick look at this code and try to discern some of its structure. If you don't understand all of it, don't worry; an explanation follows.*

---

```
#define INVARIANTS
#define INVARIANT_SUPPORT

#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/kthread.h>
#include <sys/proc.h>
#include <sys/sched.h>
#include <sys/unistd.h>
```

```

#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>
#include <sys/condvar.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

❶ #define MAX_EVENT 1

❷ static struct proc *kthread;
❸ static int event;
❹ static struct cv event_cv;
❺ static struct mtx event_mtx;

static struct sysctl_ctx_list clist;
static struct sysctl_oid *poid;

static void
❻ sleep_thread(void *arg)
{
    int ev;

    for (;;) {
        mtx_lock(&event_mtx);
        while ((ev = event) == 0)
            cv_wait(&event_cv, &event_mtx);
        event = 0;
        mtx_unlock(&event_mtx);

        switch (ev) {
        case -1:
            kproc_exit(0);
            break;
        case 0:
            break;
        case 1:
            printf("sleep... is alive and well.\n");
            break;
        default:
            panic("event %d is bogus\n", event);
        }
    }
}

static int
❼ sysctl_debug_sleep_test(SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS)
{
    int error, i = 0;

    error = sysctl_handle_int(oidp, &i, 0, req);
    if (error == 0 && req->newptr != NULL) {
        if (i >= 1 && i <= MAX_EVENT) {
            mtx_lock(&event_mtx);
            KASSERT(event == 0, ("event %d was unhandled",
                event));
            event = i;
            cv_signal(&event_cv);
        }
    }
}

```

```

        mtx_unlock(&event_mtx);
    } else
        error = EINVAL;
    }

    return (error);
}

static int
❸ load(void *arg)
{
    int error;
    struct proc *p;
    struct thread *td;

    error = kproc_create(sleep_thread, NULL, &p, RFSTOPPED, 0, "sleep");
    if (error)
        return (error);

    event = 0;
    mtx_init(&event_mtx, "sleep event", NULL, MTX_DEF);
    cv_init(&event_cv, "sleep");

    td = FIRST_THREAD_IN_PROC(p);
    thread_lock(td);
    TD_SET_CAN_RUN(td);
    sched_add(td, SRO_BORING);
    thread_unlock(td);
    kthread = p;

    sysctl_ctx_init(&clist);
    poid = SYSCTL_ADD_NODE(&clist, SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN(_debug),
        OID_AUTO, "sleep", CTLFLAG_RD, 0, "sleep tree");
    SYSCTL_ADD_PROC(&clist, SYSCTL_CHILDREN(poid), OID_AUTO, "test",
        CTLTYPE_INT | CTLFLAG_RW, 0, 0, sysctl_debug_sleep_test, "I",
        "");

    return (0);
}

static int
❹ unload(void *arg)
{
    sysctl_ctx_free(&clist);
    mtx_lock(&event_mtx);
    event = -1;
    cv_signal(&event_cv);
    mtx_sleep(kthread, &event_mtx, PWAIT, "sleep", 0);
    mtx_unlock(&event_mtx);
    mtx_destroy(&event_mtx);
    cv_destroy(&event_cv);

    return (0);
}

```

```

static int
❶ sleep_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg)
{
    int error = 0;

    switch (event) {
    case MOD_LOAD:
        error = load(arg);
        break;
    case MOD_UNLOAD:
        error = unload(arg);
        break;
    default:
        error = EOPNOTSUPP;
        break;
    }

    return (error);
}

static moduledata_t sleep_mod = {
    "sleep",
    sleep_modevent,
    NULL
};

DECLARE_MODULE(sleep, sleep_mod, SI_SUB_SMP, SI_ORDER_ANY);

```

---

*Listing 5-1: sleep.c*

Near the beginning of Listing 5-1, a constant named ❶ `MAX_EVENT` is defined as 1, and a struct `proc` pointer named ❷ `kthread` is declared. For now, ignore these two objects; I'll discuss them later.

Next, there are two variable declarations: an integer named ❸ `event` and a condition variable named ❹ `event_cv`. These variables are used to synchronize Listing 5-1's threads. Obviously, the ❺ `event_mtx` mutex is used to protect `event`.

The remaining parts—❻ `sleep_thread`, ❼ `sysctl_debug_sleep_test`, ❽ `load`, ❾ `unload`, and ❿ `sleep_modevent`—require a more in-depth explanation and are therefore described in their own sections.

To make things easier to follow, I'll describe the abovementioned parts in the order they execute, rather than in the order they appear. Thus, I'll begin with Listing 5-1's module event handler.

### ***sleep\_modevent Function***

The `sleep_modevent` function is the module event handler for Listing 5-1. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
sleep_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg)
{
    int error = 0;

```

```

        switch (event) {
        case MOD_LOAD:
            error = ❶load(arg);
            break;
        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            error = ❷unload(arg);
            break;
        default:
            error = EOPNOTSUPP;
            break;
        }

        return (error);
}

```

---

On module load, this function simply calls the ❶ `load` function. On module unload, it calls the ❷ `unload` function.

### ***load Function***

The `load` function initializes this KLD. Here is its function definition (again):

```

static int
load(void *arg)
{
    int error;
    struct proc *p;
    struct thread *td;

    error = ❶kproc_create(❷sleep_thread, NULL, ❸&p, ❹RFSTOPPED, 0,
                          "sleep");
    if (error)
        return (error);

❺event = 0;
mtx_init(❻&event_mtx, "sleep event", NULL, MTX_DEF);
cv_init(❼&event_cv, "sleep");

td = FIRST_THREAD_IN_PROC(p);
thread_lock(td);
TD_SET_CAN_RUN(td);
❽sched_add(td, SRO_BORING);
thread_unlock(td);
❾kthread = p;

sysctl_ctx_init(&clist);
poid = SYSCTL_ADD_NODE(&clist, SYSCTL_STATIC_CHILDREN(_debug),
                      OID_AUTO, "sleep", CTLFLAG_RD, 0, "sleep tree");
SYSCTL_ADD_PROC(&clist, SYSCTL_CHILDREN(poid), OID_AUTO, "test",
                 CTLTYPE_INT | CTLFLAG_RW, 0, ❿sysctl_debug_sleep_test, "I",
                 "");

return (0);
}

```

---

This function can be split into four parts. The first ❶ creates a kernel process to execute the function ❷ `sleep_thread`. A handle to this process is saved in ❸ `p`. The constant ❹ `RFSTOPPED` puts the process in the stopped state. The second part initializes the ❺ `event`, ❻ `event_mtx`, and ❼ `event_cv` variables. The third part ❽ schedules the new process to execute `sleep_thread`. It also saves the process handle in ❾ `kthread`.

**NOTE** *Processes are executed at thread granularity, which is why this code is thread centric.*

The fourth part creates a sysctl named `debug.sleep.test`, which uses a handler function named ❿ `sysctl_debug_sleep_test`.

### ***sleep\_thread Function***

The `sleep_thread` function receives events from the `sysctl_debug_sleep_test` function. It then performs a specific task based on the event received. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static void
sleep_thread(void *arg)
{
    int ev;

    ❶for (;;) {
        ❷mtx_lock(&event_mtx);
        ❸while ((ev = event) == 0)
            ❹cv_wait(&event_cv, &event_mtx);
        ❺event = 0;
        ❻mtx_unlock(&event_mtx);

        ❼switch (ev) {
        ❽case -1:
            ❾kproc_exit(0);
            break;
        case 0:
            break;
        case 1:
            printf("sleep... is alive and well.\n");
            break;
        default:
            panic("event %d is bogus\n", event);
        }
    }
}
```

---

As you can see, the execution of `sleep_thread` is contained within a ❶ forever loop. This loop begins by ❷ acquiring `event_mtx`. Next, the value of `event` is ❸ saved in `ev`. If `event` is equal to 0, `sleep_thread` ❹ waits on `event_cv`. See, `event` is only 0 if `sleep_thread` has yet to receive an event. If an event has been received, `sleep_thread` ❺ sets `event` to 0 to prevent reprocessing it. Next,

event\_mtx is ⑥ released. Finally, the received event is processed by a ⑦ switch statement. Note that if the received event is ⑧ -1, sleep\_thread ⑨ self-terminates via kproc\_exit.

### ***sysctl\_debug\_sleep\_test Function***

The sysctl\_debug\_sleep\_test function obtains events from the sysctl debug.sleep.test. It then passes those events to the sleep\_thread function.

---

```
static int
sysctl_debug_sleep_test(SYSCTL_HANDLER_ARGS)
{
    int error, i = 0;

    error = ①sysctl_handle_int(oidp, ②&i, 0, req);
    ③if (error == 0 && req->newptr != NULL) {
        ④if (i >= 1 && i <= MAX_EVENT) {
            ⑤mtx_lock(&event_mtx);
            ⑥KASSERT(event == 0, ("event %d was unhandled",
                event));
            ⑦event = i;
            ⑧cv_signal(&event_cv);
            ⑨mtx_unlock(&event_mtx);
        } else
            error = EINVAL;
    }

    return (error);
}
```

---

This function begins by ① obtaining an event from debug.sleep.test and ② storing it in i. The following ③ if statement ensures that the event was obtained successfully. Next, a ④ range check is performed on i. If i is in the allowable range, event\_mtx is ⑤ acquired and event is ⑥ queried to ensure that it equals 0.

**NOTE** *If event does not equal 0, something has gone horribly wrong. And if INVARIANTS is enabled, the kernel panics.*

Finally, event is ⑦ set to i and sleep\_thread is ⑧ unblocked to process it.

### ***unload Function***

The unload function shuts down this KLD. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
unload(void *arg)
{
    ①sysctl_ctx_free(&clist);
    mtx_lock(&event_mtx);
    ②event = -1;
    ③cv_signal(&event_cv);
```

---

```

④mtx_sleep(❸kthread, &event_mtx, PWAIT, "sleep", 0);
    mtx_unlock(&event_mtx);
❶mtx_destroy(&event_mtx);
❷cv_destroy(&event_cv);

        return (0);
}

```

---

This function begins by ❶ tearing down the sysctl `debug.sleep.test`. Afterward, event is ❷ set to -1 and `sleep_thread` is ❸ unblocked to process it.

Recall that if event is -1, `sleep_thread` self-terminates via `kproc_exit`. Note that `kproc_exit` executes `wakeup` on its caller's process handle before returning. This is why unload ❹ sleeps on the channel ❺ `kthread`, because it contains `sleep_thread`'s process handle.

**NOTE** Recall that `load` saved `sleep_thread`'s process handle in `kthread`.

As `unload` sleeps (at ❻) until `sleep_thread` exits, it cannot destroy ❾ `event_mtx` and ❿ `event_cv` while they're still in use.

### ***Don't Panic***

Here are the results from loading and unloading Listing 5-1:

---

```

$ sudo kldload ./sleep.ko
$ sudo sysctl debug.sleep.test=1
debug.sleep.test: 0 -> 1
$ dmesg | tail -n 1
sleep... is alive and well.
$ sudo kldunload ./sleep.ko
$

```

---

Naturally, it works. Now, let's look at some other ways to delay execution.

## **Kernel Event Handlers**

*Event handlers* allow drivers to register one or more functions to be called when an event occurs. As an example, before halting the system, every function that is registered with the event handler `shutdown_final` is called. Table 5-1 describes every event handler that is available.

**Table 5-1:** Kernel Event Handlers

Event Handler	Description
<code>acpi_sleep_event</code>	Registered functions are called when the system is sent to sleep.
<code>acpi_wakeup_event</code>	Registered functions are called when the system is woken up.
<code>dev_clone</code>	Registered functions are called when a solicited item under <code>/dev</code> does not exist; in other words, these functions create device nodes on demand.

**Table 5-1:** Kernel Event Handlers (continued)

Event Handler	Description
ifaddr_event	Registered functions are called when an address is set up on a network interface.
if_clone_event	Registered functions are called when a network interface is cloned.
ifnet_arrival_event	Registered functions are called when a new network interface appears.
ifnet_departure_event	Registered functions are called when a network interface is taken down.
power_profile_change	Registered functions are called when the system's power profile changes.
process_exec	Registered functions are called when a process issues an exec operation.
process_exit	Registered functions are called when a process exits.
process_fork	Registered functions are called when a process forks.
shutdown_pre_sync	Registered functions are called when the system is shut down before any filesystems are synchronized.
shutdown_post_sync	Registered functions are called when the system is shut down after every filesystem is synchronized.
shutdown_final	Registered functions are called before halting the system.
vm_lowmem	Registered functions are called when virtual memory is low.
watchdog_list	Registered functions are called when the watchdog timer is reinitialized.

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following three macros for working with event handlers:

---

```
#include <sys/eventhandler.h>

❶ eventhandler_tag
EVENTHANDLER_REGISTER(❷name, ❸func, ❹arg, ❺priority);

EVENTHANDLER_DEREGISTER(❻name, ❼tag);

EVENTHANDLER_INVOKE(❽name, ...);
```

---

The EVENTHANDLER\_REGISTER macro registers the function ❸ func with the event handler ❷ name. If successful, an ❶ eventhandler\_tag is returned. When func is called, ❹ arg will be its first argument. Functions registered with name are called in order of ❺ priority. priority can be 0 (which is the highest priority) to 20000 (which is the lowest priority).

**NOTE** *Generally, I use the constant EVENTHANDLER\_PRI\_ANY, which equals 10000, for priority.*

The EVENTHANDLER\_DEREGISTER macro deletes the function associated with ❼ tag from the event handler ❻ name (where tag is an ❶ eventhandler\_tag).

The `EVENTHANDLER_INVOKE` macro executes every function registered with the event handler **❸** name. Note that you'll never call `EVENTHANDLER_INVOKE`, because each event handler has threads dedicated to do just that.

**NOTE** We'll walk through an example that uses event handlers in Chapter 6.

## Callouts

*Callouts* allow drivers to asynchronously execute a function after a specified amount of time (or at regular intervals). These functions are known as *callout functions*.

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following seven functions for working with callouts:

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

typedef void timeout_t (void *);

void
callout_init(struct callout *c, int mpsafe);

void
callout_init_mtx(struct callout *c, struct mtx *mtx, int flags);

void
callout_init_rw(struct callout *c, struct rwlock *rw, int flags);

int
callout_stop(struct callout *c);

int
callout_drain(struct callout *c);

int
callout_reset(struct callout *c, int ticks, timeout_t *func,
    void *arg);

int
callout_schedule(struct callout *c, int ticks);
```

---

The `callout_init` function initializes the `callout` structure **❶** `c`. The **❷** `mpsafe` argument denotes whether the callout function is “multiprocessor safe.” Valid values for this argument are shown in Table 5-2.

**Table 5-2:** callout\_init Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
0	The callout function is <i>not</i> multiprocessor safe; the Giant mutex is acquired before executing the callout function, and it's dropped after the callout function returns.
CALLOUT_MPSAFE	The callout function is multiprocessor safe; in other words, race conditions are dealt with by the callout function itself.

**NOTE** *Here, Giant is acquired and dropped by the callout subsystem. Giant primarily protects legacy code and should not be used by contemporary code.*

The callout\_init\_mtx function is an alternative to callout\_init. The mutex **③** mtx is acquired before executing the callout function and it's dropped after the callout function returns (mtx is acquired and dropped by the callout subsystem). After callout\_init\_mtx returns, mtx is associated with the callout structure c and its callout function.

The **④** flags argument modifies callout\_init\_mtx's behavior. Table 5-3 displays its only valid value.

**Table 5-3:** callout\_init\_mtx Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
CALLOUT_RETURNUNLOCKED	Indicates that the callout function will drop mtx itself; in other words, mtx is not dropped after the callout function returns, but during.

The callout\_init\_rw function is an alternative to callout\_init. The rw lock **⑤** rw is acquired, as a writer, before executing the callout function and it's dropped after the callout function returns (rw is acquired and dropped by the callout subsystem). After callout\_init\_rw returns, rw is associated with the callout structure c and its callout function.

The **⑥** flags argument modifies callout\_init\_rw's behavior. Table 5-4 displays its only valid value.

**Table 5-4:** callout\_init\_rw Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
CALLOUT_SHAREDLOCK	Causes rw to be acquired as a reader

The callout\_stop function cancels a callout function that's currently pending. If successful, a nonzero value is returned. If 0 is returned, the callout function is either currently executing or it has already finished executing.

**NOTE** You must exclusively hold the lock associated with the callout function that you’re trying to stop before calling `callout_stop`.

The `callout_drain` function is identical to `callout_stop` except that if the callout function is currently executing, it waits for the callout function to finish before returning. If the callout function that you’re trying to stop requires a lock and you’re exclusively holding that lock while calling `callout_drain`, deadlock will result.

The `callout_reset` function schedules the function `❾ func` to be executed, one time, after `❸ ticks / hz` seconds; negative values for ticks are converted to 1. When `func` is called, `❿ arg` will be its first and only argument. After `callout_reset` returns, `func` is the callout function for the callout structure `❷ c`.

The `callout_reset` function can also reschedule a pending callout function to execute at a new time.

**NOTE** You must exclusively hold the lock associated with the callout or callout function that you’re trying to establish or reschedule before calling `callout_reset`.

The `callout_schedule` function reschedules a pending callout function to execute at a new time. This function is simply a convenience wrapper for `callout_reset`.

**NOTE** You must exclusively hold the lock associated with the callout function that you’re trying to reschedule before calling `callout_schedule`.

## Callouts and Race Conditions

Because callout functions execute asynchronously, it’s possible for a callout function to be called while another thread attempts to stop or reschedule it; thus creating a race condition. Fortunately, there are two simple solutions available for solving this problem:

### Use `callout_init_mtx`, `callout_init_rw`, or `callout_init(foo, 0)`

Callout functions associated with a lock are exempt from the race condition described above—as long as the associated lock is held before calling the callout management functions.

### Use `callout_drain` to permanently cancel a callout function

Use `callout_drain` instead of `callout_stop` to permanently cancel a callout function. See, by waiting for the callout function to finish, you can’t destroy any objects that it might need.

**NOTE** We’ll walk through an example that uses callouts in Chapter 6.

## Taskqueues

*Taskqueues* allow drivers to schedule the asynchronous execution of one or more functions at a later time. These functions are known as *tasks*. Taskqueues are primarily used for deferred work.

**NOTE** Taskqueues are like callouts except that you can't specify the time to execute your functions.

Taskqueues work by having tasks queued on them. Intermittently, these tasks get executed.

## Global Taskqueues

FreeBSD runs and maintains four global taskqueues:

### taskqueue\_swi

The taskqueue\_swi taskqueue executes its tasks in the context of an interrupt. Interrupt handlers typically defer their computationally expensive work to this taskqueue. This taskqueue lets interrupt handlers finish sooner, thereby reducing the amount of time spent with interrupts disabled. Interrupt handlers are discussed in detail in Chapter 8.

### taskqueue\_swi\_giant

The taskqueue\_swi\_giant taskqueue is identical to taskqueue\_swi except that it acquires the Giant mutex before executing its tasks. Contemporary code should avoid this taskqueue.

### taskqueue\_thread

The taskqueue\_thread taskqueue is the general-purpose taskqueue. It executes its tasks in the context of a kernel thread (which is the same context that drivers execute in). You can use this taskqueue when you have code that executes without a thread context (such as an interrupt handler) that needs to execute code that requires a thread context.

### taskqueue\_fast

The taskqueue\_fast taskqueue is identical to taskqueue\_thread except that it acquires a spin mutex before executing its tasks. Use this taskqueue when your tasks cannot sleep.

## Taskqueue Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following macro and functions for working with taskqueues:

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/queue.h>
#include <sys/taskqueue.h>

typedef void (*task_fn_t)(void *context, int pending);

struct task {
    STAILQ_ENTRY(task)      ta_link;          /* Link for queue. */
    u_short                ta_pending;        /* # of times queued. */
    u_short                ta_priority;       /* Task priority. */
    task_fn_t               ta_func;          /* Task handler function. */
    void                   *ta_context;        /* Argument for handler. */
};
```

```
TASK_INIT(struct task *task, int priority, task_fn_t func,
          void *context);

int
taskqueue_enqueue(struct taskqueue *queue, struct task *task);

void
taskqueue_run(struct taskqueue *queue);

void
taskqueue_drain(struct taskqueue *queue, struct task *task);
```

---

The `TASK_INIT` macro initializes the task structure **2** `task`. The **3** `priority` argument is `task`'s position on a `taskqueue`. The **4** `func` argument is the function to be executed (one time). When `func` is called, **5** `context` will be its first argument and the value of **1** `ta_pending` will be its second.

The `taskqueue_enqueue` function puts **7** `task` on the `taskqueue` **6** `queue` right before the first task structure that has a lower `priority` value. If `taskqueue_enqueue` gets called to put `task` on `queue` again, `task`'s `ta_pending` value is incremented—another copy of `task` is *not* put on `queue`.

The `taskqueue_run` function executes every task on the `taskqueue` **8** `queue` in the order of the task's `priority` value. After each task finishes, its task structure is removed from `queue`. Then its `ta_pending` value is zeroed and `wakeup` is called on its task structure. Note that you'll never call `taskqueue_run`, because each `taskqueue` has threads dedicated to do just that.

The `taskqueue_drain` function waits for **10** `task`, which is on **9** `queue`, to finish executing.

**NOTE** We'll walk through an example that uses `taskqueues` in Chapter 6.

## Conclusion

This chapter covered the four different methods for delaying execution:

**Sleeping** Sleeping is done when you must wait for something to occur before you can proceed.

**Event Handlers** Event handlers let you register one or more functions to be executed when an event occurs.

**Callouts** Callouts let you perform asynchronous code execution. Callouts are used to execute your functions at a specific time.

**Taskqueues** Taskqueues also let you perform asynchronous code execution. Taskqueues are used for deferred work.

# 6

## CASE STUDY: VIRTUAL NULL MODEM



This chapter is the first of several case studies that'll guide you through a real-world device driver. The purpose of these case studies is to expose you to genuine driver code—warts and all—and to consolidate the information presented in earlier chapters.

In this chapter, we'll go through `nmdm(4)`, the virtual null modem terminal driver. This driver creates two `tty(4)` devices that are connected by a virtual null modem cable. In other words, the output of one `tty(4)` device is the input for the other `tty(4)` device, and vice versa. I chose to profile `nmdm(4)` because it uses event handlers, callouts, and taskqueues, all of which were described, but not demonstrated, in Chapter 5.

## Prerequisites

Before I can walk you through `nmdm(4)`, you'll need to grok the following functions:

---

```
#include <sys/tty.h>

struct tty *
tty_alloc_mutex(struct ttydevsw *tsw, void *softc, struct mtx *mtx);

void
tty_makedev(struct tty *tp, struct ucred *cred, const char *fmt, ...);

void *
tty_softc(struct tty *tp);
```

---

The `tty_alloc_mutex` function creates a TTY device. The `tsw` argument expects a pointer to a TTY device switch table, which is like a character device switch table, but for TTY devices. The `softc` argument is the software context (or instance variables) for the TTY device. The `mtx` argument specifies the mutex that'll protect the TTY device.

**NOTE** *At some point in the near future, the `tty_alloc_mutex` function is supposed to be deprecated and removed.*

The `tty_makedev` function creates a TTY device node under `/dev`. The `tp` argument expects a pointer to a TTY device (for example, the return value from `tty_alloc_mutex`). The `cred` argument is the credentials for the device node. If `cred` is `NULL`, `UID_ROOT` and `GID_WHEEL` are used. The `fmt` argument specifies the name for the device node.

The `tty_softc` function returns the software context of the TTY device `tp`.

## Code Analysis

Listing 6-1 provides a terse, source-level overview of `nmdm(4)`.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/systm.h>

#include <sys/tty.h>
#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/eventhandler.h>
#include <sys/limits.h>
#include <sys/serial.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/queue.h>
#include <sys/taskqueue.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>
```

---

```

MALLOC_DEFINE(M_NMDM, "nullmodem", "nullmodem data structures");

struct nmdm_part {
    struct tty                  *np_tty;
    struct nmdm_part           *np_other;
    struct task                np_task;
    struct callout              np_callout;
    int                         np_dcd;
    int                         np_rate;
    u_long                      np_quota;
    int                         np_credits;
    u_long                      np_accumulator;
};

#define QS 8                      /* Quota shift. */
};

struct nmdm_softc {
    struct nmdm_part           ns_partA;
    struct nmdm_part           ns_partB;
    struct mtx                 ns_mtx;
};

static tsw_outwakeups_t      nmdm_outwakeups;
static tsw_inwakeups_t       nmdm_inwakeups;
static tsw_params_t          nmdm_params;
static tsw_modems_t          nmdm_modems;

static struct ttydevsw nmdm_class = {
    .tsw_flags =               TF_NOPREFIX,
    .tsw_outwakeup =           nmdm_outwakeups,
    .tsw_inwakeup =           nmdm_inwakeups,
    .tsw_param =                nmdm_params,
    .tsw_modem =                 nmdm_modems
};

static int nmdm_count = 0;

static void
nmdm_timeout(void *arg)
{
    ...
}

static void
nmdm_task_tty(void *arg, int pending __unused)
{
    ...
}

static struct nmdm_softc *
nmdm_alloc(unsigned long unit)
{
    ...
}

```

```

static void
nmdm_clone(void *arg, struct ucred *cred, char *name, int len,
           struct cdev **dev)
{
...
}

static void
nmdm_outwakeup(struct tty *tp)
{
...
}

static void
nmdm_inwakeup(struct tty *tp)
{
...
}

static int
bits_per_char(struct termios *t)
{
...
}

static int
nmdm_param(struct tty *tp, struct termios *t)
{
...
}

static int
nmdm_modem(struct tty *tp, int sigo, int sigoff)
{
...
}

static int
nmdm_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
...
}



---


DEV_MODULE(nmdm, nmdm_modevent, NULL);

```

*Listing 6-1: nmdm.c*

Listing 6-1 is provided as a convenience; as I go through the code for `nmdm(4)` you can refer to it to see how `nmdm(4)`'s functions and structures are laid out.

To make things easier to understand, I'll detail the functions and structures in `nmdm(4)` in the order I would've written them (instead of in the order they appear). To that end, we'll begin with the module event handler.

## **nmdm\_modevent Function**

The `nmdm_modevent` function is the module event handler for `nmdm(4)`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
nmdm_modevent(module_t mod __unused, int event, void *arg __unused)
{
    static eventhandler_tag tag;

    switch (event) {
        case MOD_LOAD:
            tag = 1EVENTHANDLER_REGISTER(2dev_clone, 3nmdm_clone, 0,
                                         1000);
            if (tag == NULL)
                return (ENOMEM);
            break;
        case MOD_SHUTDOWN:
            break;
        case MOD_UNLOAD:
            4if (nmdm_count != 0)
                5return (EBUSY);
            6EVENTHANDLER_DEREGISTER(dev_clone, tag);
            break;
        default:
            return (EOPNOTSUPP);
    }

    return (0);
}
```

---

On module load, this function **1** registers the function **3** `nmdm_clone` with the event handler **2** `dev_clone`.

**NOTE** *The `dev_clone` event handler was described in Table 5-1 on page 92.*

Recall that functions registered with `dev_clone` are called when a solicited item under `/dev` does not exist. So when a `nmdm(4)` device node is accessed for the first time, `nmdm_clone` will be called to create the device node on the fly. Interestingly, this on-the-fly device creation lets one create an unlimited number of `nmdm(4)` device nodes.

On module unload, this function begins by **4** checking the value of `nmdm_count`.

**NOTE** *The variable `nmdm_count` is declared near the beginning of Listing 6-1 as an integer initialized to 0.*

`nmdm_count` counts the number of active `nmdm(4)` device nodes. If it equals 0, `nmdm_clone` is **6** removed from the event handler `dev_clone`; otherwise, `EBUSY` (which stands for *error: device busy*) is **5** returned.

## ***nmdm\_clone* Function**

As mentioned in the previous section, `nmdm_clone` creates `nmdm(4)` device nodes on the fly. Note that all `nmdm(4)` device nodes are created in pairs named `nmdm%lu%c`, where `%lu` is the unit number and `%c` is either A or B. Here is the function definition for `nmdm_clone`:

---

```
static void
nmdm_clone(void *arg, struct ucred *cred, char *name, int len,
           struct cdev **dev)
{
    unsigned long unit;
    char *end;
    struct nmdm_softc *ns;

    ❶if (*dev != NULL)
        return;
    ❷if (strncmp(name, "nmdm", 4) != 0)
        return;

    /* Device name must be "nmdm%lu%c", where %c is "A" or "B". */
    name += 4;
    unit = ❸strtoul(name, &end, 10);
    ❹if (unit == ULONG_MAX || name == end)
        return;
    ❺if ((end[0] != 'A' && end[0] != 'B') || end[1] != '\0')
        return;

    ns = ❻nmdm_alloc(unit);

    if (end[0] == 'A')
        ❼*dev = ns->ns_partA.np_tty->t_dev;
    else
        ❽*dev = ns->ns_partB.np_tty->t_dev;
}
```

---

This function first ❶ checks the value of `*dev` (which is a character device pointer). If `*dev` does not equal `NULL`, which implies that a device node already exists, `nmdm_clone` exits (because no nodes need to be created). Next, `nmdm_clone` ❷ ensures that the first four characters in `name` are equal to `nmdm`; otherwise it exits (because the solicited device node is for another driver). Then the fifth character in `name`, which should be a unit number, is ❸ converted to an unsigned long and stored in `unit`. The following ❹ if statement checks that the conversion was a success. Afterward, `nmdm_clone` ❺ ensures that following the unit number (in `name`) is the letter A or B; otherwise it exits. Now, having confirmed that the solicited device node is indeed for this driver, ❻ `nmdm_alloc` is called to actually create the device nodes. Finally, `*dev` is set to the solicited device node (either ❼ `nmdm%luA` or ❽ `nmdm%luB`).

Note that since `nmdm_clone` is registered with `dev_clone`, its function prototype must conform to the type expected by `dev_clone`, which is defined in `<sys/conf.h>`.

## **nmdm\_alloc** Function

As mentioned in the previous section, `nmdm_alloc` actually creates `nmdm(4)`'s device nodes. Before I describe this function, an explanation of `nmdm_class` is needed.

**NOTE** *The data structure `nmdm_class` is declared near the beginning of Listing 6-1 as a TTY device switch table.*

---

```
static struct ttydevsw nmdm_class = {
    .tsw_flags =      ①TF_NOPREFIX,
    .tsw_outwakeup = nmdm_outwakeup,
    .tsw_inwakeup =  nmdm_inwakeup,
    .tsw_param =     nmdm_param,
    .tsw_modem =    nmdm_modem
};
```

---

The flag ① `TF_NOPREFIX` means *don't prefix tty to the device name*. The other definitions are the operations that `nmdm_class` supports. These operations will be described as we encounter them.

Now that you're familiar with `nmdm_class`, let's walk through `nmdm_alloc`.

---

```
static struct nmdm_softc *
nmdm_alloc(unsigned long unit)
{
    struct nmdm_softc *ns;

    ①atomic_add_int(&nmdm_count, 1);

    ns = ②malloc(sizeof(*ns), M_NMDM, M_WAITOK | M_ZERO);
    ③mtx_init(&ns->ns_mtx, "nmdm", NULL, MTX_DEF);

    /* Connect the pairs together. */
    ④ns->ns_partA.np_other = &ns->ns_partB;
    ⑤TASK_INIT(&ns->ns_partA.np_task, 0, nmdm_task_tty, &ns->ns_partA);
    ⑥callout_init_mtx(&ns->ns_partA.np_callout, &ns->ns_mtx, 0);

    ⑦ns->ns_partB.np_other = &ns->ns_partA;
    ⑧TASK_INIT(&ns->ns_partB.np_task, 0, nmdm_task_tty, &ns->ns_partB);
    ⑨callout_init_mtx(&ns->ns_partB.np_callout, &ns->ns_mtx, 0);

    /* Create device nodes. */
    ns->ns_partA.np_tty = tty_alloc_mutex(&nmdm_class, &ns->ns_partA,
                                           &ns->ns_mtx);
    tty_makedev(ns->ns_partA.np_tty, NULL, "nmdm%luA", unit);

    ns->ns_partB.np_tty = tty_alloc_mutex(&nmdm_class, &ns->ns_partB,
                                           &ns->ns_mtx);
    tty_makedev(ns->ns_partB.np_tty, NULL, "nmdm%luB", unit);

    return (ns);
}
```

---

This function can be split into four parts. The first ❶ increments `nmdm_count` by one via the `atomic_add_int` function. As its name implies, `atomic_add_int` is atomic. Consequently, we don't need a lock to protect `nmdm_count` when we increment it.

The second part ❷ allocates memory for a new `nmdm_softc` structure. After that, its mutex is ❸ initialized. Besides a mutex, `nmdm_softc` contains two additional member variables: `ns_partA` and `ns_partB`. These variables are `nmdm_part` structures and will maintain data relating to `nmdm%luA` or `nmdm%luB`.

**NOTE** *struct nmdm\_softc* is defined near the beginning of Listing 6-1.

The third part ❾ ❿ connects the member variables `ns_partA` and `ns_partB`, so that given `ns_partA` we can find `ns_partB`, and vice versa. The third part also initializes `ns_partA`'s and `ns_partB`'s ❻ ❽ task and ❾ ❽ callout structures.

Finally, the fourth part creates `nmdm(4)`'s device nodes (that is, `nmdm%luA` and `nmdm%luB`).

### ***nmdm\_outwakeup Function***

The `nmdm_outwakeup` function is defined in `nmdm_class` as the `tsw_outwakeup` operation. It is executed when output from `nmdm%luA` or `nmdm%luB` is available. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
nmdm_outwakeup(struct tty *tp)
{
    struct nmdm_part *np = tty_softc(tp);

    /* We can transmit again, so wake up our side. */
    ❶taskqueue_enqueue(❷taskqueue_swi, ❸&np->np_task);
}
```

---

This function ❶ queues `ns_partA`'s or `ns_partB`'s ❸ task structure on ❷ `taskqueue_swi` (that is to say, it defers processing the output from `nmdm%luA` and `nmdm%luB`).

### ***nmdm\_task\_tty Function***

The `nmdm_task_tty` function transfers data from `nmdm%luA` to `nmdm%luB`, and vice versa. This function is queued on `taskqueue_swi` by `nmdm_outwakeup` (for verification, see the third argument to `TASK_INIT` in `nmdm_alloc`). Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
nmdm_task_tty(void *arg, int pending __unused)
{
    struct tty *tp, *otp;
    struct nmdm_part *np = arg;
    char c;
```

```

        tp = np->np_tty;
        tty_lock(tp);

        otp = np->np_other->np_tty;
        KASSERT(otp != NULL, ("nmdm_task_tty: null otp"));
        KASSERT(otp != tp, ("nmdm_task_tty: otp == tp"));

①if (np->np_other->np_dcd) {
    ②if (!tty_opened(tp)) {
        ③np->np_other->np_dcd = 0;
        ④ttydisc_modem(otp, 0);
    }
⑤} else {
    ⑥if (tty_opened(tp)) {
        np->np_other->np_dcd = 1;
        ttydisc_modem(otp, 1);
    }
}

while (⑦ttydisc_rint_poll(otp) > 0) {
    if (np->np_rate && !np->np_quota)
        break;
    if (⑧ttydisc_getc(tp, &c, 1) != 1)
        break;
    np->np_quota--;
    ⑨ttydisc_rint(otp, c, 0);
}
ttydisc_rint_done(otp);

tty_unlock(tp);
}

```

---

**NOTE** In this function's explanation, "our TTY" refers to the TTY device (that is, `nmdm%luA` or `nmdm%luB`) that queued this function on `taskqueue_swi`.

This function is composed of two parts. The first changes the connection state between the two TTYs to match the status of our TTY. If our TTY is **②** closed and the other TTY's Data Carrier Detect (DCD) flag is **①** on, we **③** turn off that flag and **④** switch off their carrier signal. On the other hand, if our TTY has been **⑥** opened and the other TTY's DCD flag is **⑤** off, we turn on that flag and switch on their carrier signal. In short, this part ensures that if our TTY is closed (that is, there is no data to transfer), the other TTY will not have a carrier signal, and if our TTY has been opened (that is, there is data to transfer), the other TTY will have a carrier signal. A carrier signal indicates a connection. In other words, loss of the carrier equates to termination of the connection.

The second part transfers data from our TTY's output queue to the other TTY's input queue. This part first **⑦** polls the other TTY to determine whether it can accept data. Then one character is **⑧** removed from our TTY's output queue and **⑨** placed in the other TTY's input queue. These steps are repeated until the transfer is complete.

## **nmdm\_inwakeup Function**

The `nmdm_inwakeup` function is defined in `nmdm_class` as the `tsw_inwakeup` operation. It is called when input for `nmdm%luA` or `nmdm%luB` can be received again. That is, when `nmdm%luA`'s or `nmdm%luB`'s input queue is full and then space becomes available, this function is executed. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
nmdm_inwakeup(struct tty *tp)
{
    struct nmdm_part *np = tty_softc(tp);

    /* We can receive again, so wake up the other side. */
    ❶taskqueue_enqueue(❷taskqueue_swi, ❸&np->np_other->np_task);
}
```

---

**NOTE** In this function's explanation, "our TTY" refers to the TTY device (that is, `nmdm%luA` or `nmdm%luB`) that executed this function.

This function ❶ queues the other TTY's ❸ task structure on ❷ `taskqueue_swi`. In other words, when input for our TTY can be received again, our TTY tells the other TTY to transfer data to it.

## **nmdm\_modem Function**

The `nmdm_modem` function is defined in `nmdm_class` as the `tsw_modem` operation. This function sets or gets the modem control line state. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
nmdm_modem(struct tty *tp, int sigo, int sigoff)
{
    struct nmdm_part *np = tty_softc(tp);
    int i = 0;

    /* Set modem control lines. */
    ❶if (sigo || sigoff) {
        ❷if (sigo & SER_DTR)
            ❸np->np_other->np_dcd = 1;
        ❹if (sigoff & SER_DTR)
            ❺np->np_other->np_dcd = 0;

        ❻ttydisc_modem(np->np_other->np_tty, np->np_other->np_dcd);

        return (0);
    /* Get state of modem control lines. */
    } else {
        ❻if (np->np_dcd)
            ❽i |= SER_DCD;
        ❾if (np->np_other->np_dcd)
            ❿i |= SER_DTR;
    }
}
```

---

```
        return (i);
    }
}
```

---

**NOTE** In this function's explanation, "our TTY" refers to the TTY device (that is, `nmdm%1uA` or `nmdm%1uB`) that executed this function.

This function sets the modem control lines when the `sigon` (signal on) or the `sigoff` (signal off) argument is ❶ nonzero. If `sigon` ❷ contains the Data Terminal Ready (DTR) flag, the other TTY's DCD flag is ❸ turned on. If `sigoff` ❹ contains the DTR flag, the other TTY's DCD flag is ❺ turned off. The other TTY's carrier signal is ❻ turned on or off alongside its DCD flag.

If the preceding discussion didn't make any sense to you, this should help: A null modem connects the DTR output of each serial port to the DCD input of the other. The DTR output is kept off until a program accesses the serial port and turns it on; the other serial port will sense this as its DCD input turning on. Thus, the DCD input is used to detect the readiness of the other side. This is why when our TTY's DTR is `sigon`'d or `sigoff`'d, the other TTY's DCD flag and carrier signal are also turned on or off.

This function gets the modem control line state when `sigon` and `sigoff` are 0. If our TTY's DCD flag is ❻ on, `SER_DCD` is ❽ returned. If the other TTY's DCD flag is ❾ on, indicating that our TTY's DTR flag is on, `SER_DTR` is ❿ returned.

### `nmdm_param` Function

The `nmdm_param` function is defined in `nmdm_class` as the `tsw_param` operation. This function sets up `nmdm_task_tty` to be executed at regular intervals. That is, it sets `nmdm%1uA` to periodically transfer data to `nmdm%1uB`, and vice versa. This periodic data transfer requires flow control to prevent one side from overrunning the other with data. Flow control works by halting the sender when the receiver can't keep up.

Here is the function definition for `nmdm_param`:

```
static int
nmdm_param(struct tty *tp, struct termios *t)
{
    struct nmdm_part *np = tty_softc(tp);
    struct tty *otp;
    int bpc, rate, speed, i;

    otp = np->np_other->np_tty;

❶ if (!((t->c_cflag | otp->t_termios.c_cflag) & CDSR_OFLOW)) {
        np->np_rate = 0;
        np->np_other->np_rate = 0;
        return (0);
    }

❷ bpc = imax(bits_per_char(t), bits_per_char(&otp->t_termios));
```

```

        for (i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
            /* Use the slower of their transmit or our receive rate. */
            ❸ speed = imin(otp->t_termios.c_ospeed, t->c_ispeed);
            if (speed == 0) {
                np->np_rate = 0;
                np->np_other->np_rate = 0;
                return (0);
            }

            speed <= QS;           /* bits per second, scaled. */
            speed /= bpc;          /* char per second, scaled. */
            rate = (hz << QS) / speed;    /* hz per callout. */
            if (rate == 0)
                rate = 1;

            speed *= rate;
            speed /= hz;           /* (char/sec)/tick, scaled. */

        ❹ np->np_credits = speed;
        np->np_rate = ❺ rate;
        callout_reset(&np->np_callout, ❻ rate, ❼ nmdm_timeout, np);

        /* Swap pointers for second pass--to update the other end. */
        np = np->np_other;
        t = &otp->t_termios;
        otp = tp;
    }

    return (0);
}

```

---

This function can be split into three parts. The first ❶ determines whether flow control is disabled. If it is, ns\_partA's and ns\_partB's np\_rate variable is zeroed and nmdm\_param exits. The np\_rate variable is the rate at which nmdm\_task\_tty will be executed. This rate can differ for nmdm%luA and nmdm%luB.

The second part calculates the ❷ value for np\_rate. This calculation takes into consideration the ❸ speed of nmdm%luA and nmdm%luB and the ❹ number of bits per character. The second part also determines the ❺ maximum number of characters to transfer per execution of nmdm\_task\_tty.

Lastly, the third part causes ❼ nmdm\_timeout to execute one time after ❽ rate / hz seconds. The nmdm\_timeout function queues nmdm\_task\_tty on taskqueue\_swi.

The second and third parts are executed twice, once for nmdm%luA and once for nmdm%luB.

## **nmdm\_timeout Function**

As indicated in the previous section, the `nmdm_timeout` function queues `nmdm_task_tty` on `taskqueue_swi` at regular intervals. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
nmdm_timeout(void *arg)
{
    struct nmdm_part *np = arg;

    ❶if (np->np_rate == 0)
        return;

    /*
     * Do a simple Floyd-Steinberg dither to avoid FP math.
     * Wipe out unused quota from last tick.
     */
    np->np_accumulator += np->np_credits;
    np->np_quota = ❷np->np_accumulator >> QS;
    np->np_accumulator &= ((1 << QS) - 1);

    ❸taskqueue_enqueue(❹taskqueue_swi, &np->np_task);
    ❺callout_reset(&np->np_callout, ❻np->np_rate, ❼nmdm_timeout, np);
}
```

---

This function first ❶ checks the value of `np_rate`. If it equals 0, `nmdm_timeout` exits. Next, `ns_partA`'s or `ns_partB`'s `np_quota` variable is assigned the ❷ maximum number of characters to transfer (if you return to “`nmdm_task_tty` Function” on page 106, it should be obvious how `np_quota` is used). Once this is done, `nmdm_task_tty` is ❸ queued on ❹ `taskqueue_swi` and ❼ `nmdm_timeout` is ❽ rescheduled to execute after ❻ `np_rate / hz` seconds.

The `nmdm_param` and `nmdm_timeout` functions are used to emulate the TTYs' baud rate. Without these two functions, data transfers would be slower.

## **bits\_per\_char Function**

The `bits_per_char` function returns the number of bits used to represent a single character for a given TTY. This function is used only in `nmdm_param`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
bits_per_char(struct termios *t)
{
    int bits;

    ❶bits = 1;           /* start bit. */
    ❷switch (t->c_cflag & CSIZE) {
```

```

        case CS5:
            bits += 5;
            break;
        case CS6:
            bits += 6;
            break;
        case CS7:
            bits += 7;
            break;
        case CS8:
            bits += 8;
            break;
    }
    ❸bits++; /* stop bit. */
    ❹if (t->c_cflag & PARENB)
        bits++;
    ❺if (t->c_cflag & CSTOPB)
        bits++;

    return (❻bits);
}

```

---

Notice that the ❻ return value takes into account the ❷ variable character size, ❸ start bit, ❹ stop bit, ❺ parity enabled bit, and ❻ second stop bit.

### ***Don't Panic***

Now that we've walked through `nmdm(4)`, let's give it a try:

---

```

$ sudo kldload ./nmdm.ko
$ sudo /usr/libexec/getty std.9600 nmdmOA &
[1] 936
$ sudo cu -l /dev/nmdmOB
Connected

FreeBSD/i386 (wintermute.phub.net.cable.rogers.com) (nmdmOA)

login:

```

---

Excellent. We're able to connect to `nmdmOA`, which is running `getty(8)`, from `nmdmOB`.

## **Conclusion**

This chapter described the entire code base of `nmdm(4)`, the virtual null modem terminal driver. If you noticed the complete lack of locking in this driver and are alarmed, don't be. The `ns_mtx` mutex, which gets initialized in `nmdm_alloc`, is implicitly acquired by the TTY subsystem before `nmdm_outwakeup`, `nmdm_inwakeup`, `nmdm_modem`, and `nmdm_param` are called. In short, every operation between `nmdm%luA` and `nmdm%luB` is serialized.

# 7

## NEWBUS AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION



Until now, we've examined only pseudo-devices, which provide a superb introduction to driver writing. However, most drivers need to interact with real hardware. This chapter shows you how to write drivers that do just that.

I'll start by introducing *Newbus*, which is the infrastructure used in FreeBSD to manage the hardware devices on the system (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). I'll then describe the basics of a Newbus driver, and I'll conclude this chapter by talking about hardware resource allocation.

### Autoconfiguration and Newbus Drivers

*Autoconfiguration* is the procedure carried out by FreeBSD to enable the hardware devices on a machine (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). It works by systematically probing a machine's I/O buses in order to identify their child

devices. For each identified device, an appropriate Newbus driver is assigned to configure and initialize it. Note that it's possible for a device to be unidentifiable or unsupported. As a result, no Newbus driver will be assigned.

A *Newbus driver* is any driver in FreeBSD that controls a device that is bound to an I/O bus (that is, roughly every driver that is not a pseudo-device driver).

In general, three components are common to all Newbus drivers:

- The `device_foo` functions
- A device method table
- A `DRIVER_MODULE` macro call

### ***device\_foo Functions***

The `device_foo` functions are, more or less, the operations executed by a Newbus driver during autoconfiguration. Table 7-1 briefly introduces each `device_foo` function.

**Table 7-1:** `device_foo` Functions

<b>Function</b>	<b>Description</b>
<code>device_identify</code>	Add new device to I/O bus
<code>device_probe</code>	Probe for specific device(s)
<code>device_attach</code>	Attach to device
<code>device_detach</code>	Detach from device
<code>device_shutdown</code>	Shut down device
<code>device_suspend</code>	Device suspend requested
<code>device_resume</code>	Resume has occurred

The `device_identify` function adds a new device (instance) to an I/O bus. This function is used only by buses that cannot directly identify their children. Recall that autoconfiguration begins by identifying the child devices on each I/O bus. Modern buses can directly identify the devices that are connected to them. Older buses, such as ISA, have to use the `device_identify` routine provided by their associated drivers to identify their child devices (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). You'll learn how to associate a driver with an I/O bus shortly.

All identified child devices are passed to every Newbus driver's `device_probe` function. A `device_probe` function tells the kernel whether its driver can handle the identified device.

Note that there may be more than one driver that can handle an identified child device. Thus, `device_probe`'s return value is used to specify how well its driver matches the identified device. The `device_probe` function that returns

the highest value denotes the best Newbus driver for the identified device. The following excerpt from `<sys/bus.h>` shows the constants used to indicate success (that is, a match):

---

```
#define BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC      0      /* Only I can use this device. */
#define BUS_PROBE_VENDOR        (-10)   /* Vendor-supplied driver. */
#define BUS_PROBE_DEFAULT       (-20)   /* Base OS default driver. */
#define BUS_PROBE_LOW_PRIORITY  (-40)   /* Older, less desirable driver. */
#define BUS_PROBE_GENERIC       (-100)  /* Generic driver for device. */
#define BUS_PROBE_HOOVER        (-500)  /* Driver for all devices on bus. */
#define BUS_PROBE_NOWILDCARD    (-2000000000) /* No wildcard matches. */
```

---

As you can see, success codes are values less than or equal to zero. The standard UNIX error codes (that is, positive values) are used as failure codes.

Once the best driver has been found to handle a device, its `device_attach` function is called. A `device_attach` function initializes a device and any essential software (for example, device nodes).

The `device_detach` function disconnects a driver from a device. This function should set the device to a sane state and release any resources that were allocated during `device_attach`.

A Newbus driver's `device_shutdown`, `device_suspend`, and `device_resume` functions are called when the system is shut down, when its device is suspended, or when its device returns from suspension, respectively. These functions let a driver manage its device as these events occur.

## **Device Method Table**

A device method table, `device_method_t`, specifies which `device_foo` functions a Newbus driver implements. It is defined in the `<sys/bus.h>` header.

Here is an example device method table for a fictitious PCI device:

---

```
static device_method_t foo_pci_methods[] = {
    /* Device interface. */
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,          foo_pci_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,        foo_pci_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,        foo_pci_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};
```

---

As you can see, not every `device_foo` function has to be defined. If a `device_foo` function is undefined, the corresponding operation is unsupported.

Unsurprisingly, the `device_probe` and `device_attach` functions must be defined for every Newbus driver. For drivers on older buses, the `device_identify` function must also be defined.

## **DRIVER\_MODULE Macro**

The `DRIVER_MODULE` macro registers a Newbus driver with the system. This macro is defined in the `<sys/bus.h>` header. Here is its function prototype:

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <sys/module.h>

DRIVER_MODULE(name, busname, driver_t driver, devclass_t devclass,
modeventhand_t evh, void *arg);
```

---

The arguments expected by this macro are as follows.

### **name**

The `name` argument is used to identify the driver.

### **busname**

The `busname` argument specifies the driver's I/O bus (for example, `isa`, `pci`, `usb`, and so on).

### **driver**

The `driver` argument expects a filled-out `driver_t` structure. This argument is best understood with an example:

---

```
static driver_t foo_pci_driver = {
    ①"foo_pci",
    ②foo_pci_methods,
    ③sizeof(struct foo_pci_softc)
};
```

---

Here, ① `"foo_pci"` is this example driver's official name, ② `foo_pci_methods` is its device method table, and ③ `sizeof(struct foo_pci_softc)` is the size of its software context.

### **devclass**

The `devclass` argument expects an uninitialized `devclass_t` variable, which will be used by the kernel for internal bookkeeping.

### **evh**

The `evh` argument denotes an optional module event handler. Generally, we'll always set `evh` to 0, because `DRIVER_MODULE` supplies its own module event handler.

### **arg**

The `arg` argument is the `void *` argument for the module event handler specified by `evh`. If `evh` is set to 0, `arg` must be too.

## Tying Everything Together

You now know enough to write your first Newbus driver. Listing 7-1 is a simple Newbus driver (based on code written by Murray Stokely) for a fictitious PCI device.

**NOTE** Take a quick look at this code and try to discern some of its structure. If you don't understand all of it, don't worry; an explanation follows.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/bus.h>

#include <dev/pci/pcireg.h>
#include <dev/pci/pcivar.h>

❶ struct foo_pci_softc {
    ❷ device_t          device;
    ❸ struct cdev      *cdev;
};

static d_open_t        foo_pci_open;
static d_close_t       foo_pci_close;
static d_read_t        foo_pci_read;
static d_write_t       foo_pci_write;

❹ static struct cdevsw foo_pci_cdevsw = {
    .d_version = D_VERSION,
    .d_open =     foo_pci_open,
    .d_close =    foo_pci_close,
    .d_read =     foo_pci_read,
    .d_write =    foo_pci_write,
    .d_name =     "foo_pci"
};

❺ static devclass_t foo_pci_devclass;

static int
foo_pci_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc;

    sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_printf(sc->device, "opened successfully\n");
    return (0);
}
```

```

static int
foo_pci_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc;

    sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_printf(sc->device, "closed\n");
    return (0);
}

static int
foo_pci_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc;

    sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_printf(sc->device, "read request = %dB\n", uio->uio_resid);
    return (0);
}

static int
foo_pci_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc;

    sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_printf(sc->device, "write request = %dB\n", uio->uio_resid);
    return (0);
}

static struct _pcsid {
    uint32_t      type;
    const char    *desc;
} pci_ids[] = {
    { 0x1234abcd, "RED PCI Widget" },
    { 0x4321fedc, "BLU PCI Widget" },
    { 0x00000000, NULL }
};

static int
foo_pci_probe(device_t dev)
{
    uint32_t type = pci_get_devid(dev);
    struct _pcsid *ep = pci_ids;

    while (ep->type && ep->type != type)
        ep++;
    if (ep->desc) {
        device_set_desc(dev, ep->desc);
        return (BUS_PROBE_DEFAULT);
    }

    return (ENXIO);
}

```

```

static int
foo_pci_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int unit = device_get_unit(dev);

    sc->device = dev;
    sc->cdev = ⑥make_dev(&foo_pci_cdevsw, unit, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
                         0600, "foo_pci%d", unit);
    sc->cdev->si_drv1 = sc;

    return (0);
}

static int
foo_pci_detach(device_t dev)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

    destroy_dev(sc->cdev);
    return (0);
}

static device_method_t foo_pci_methods[] = {
    /* Device interface. */
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,          foo_pci_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,        foo_pci_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,        foo_pci_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t foo_pci_driver = {
    "foo_pci",
    foo_pci_methods,
    sizeof(struct foo_pci_softc)
};

⑦ DRIVER_MODULE(foo_pci, pci, foo_pci_driver, ⑧foo_pci_devclass, 0, 0);

```

---

*Listing 7-1: foo\_pci.c*

This driver begins by defining its ① software context, which will maintain a ② pointer to its device and the ③ cdev returned by the ⑥ make\_dev call.

Next, its ④ character device switch table is defined. This table contains four d\_foo functions named foo\_pci\_open, foo\_pci\_close, foo\_pci\_read, and foo\_pci\_write. I'll describe these functions in "d\_foo Functions" on page 121.

Then a ⑤ devclass\_t variable is declared. This variable is passed to the ⑦ DRIVER\_MODULE macro as its ⑧ devclass argument.

Finally, the d\_foo and device\_foo functions are defined. These functions are described in the order they would execute.

## ***foo\_pci\_probe*** Function

The `foo_pci_probe` function is the `device_probe` implementation for this driver. Before I walk through this function, a description of the `pci_ids` array (found around the middle of Listing 7-1) is needed.

---

```
static struct _pcsid {
    ❶uint32_t          type;
    ❷const char        *desc;
} pci_ids[] = {
    { 0x1234abcd, "RED PCI Widget" },
    { 0x4321fedc, "BLU PCI Widget" },
    { 0x00000000, NULL }
};
```

---

This array is composed of three `_pcsid` structures. Each `_pcsid` structure contains a ❶ PCI ID and a ❷ description of the PCI device. As you might have guessed, `pci_ids` lists the devices that Listing 7-1 supports.

Now that I've described `pci_ids`, let's walk through `foo_pci_probe`.

---

```
static int
foo_pci_probe(device_t ❶dev)
{
    uint32_t type = ❷pci_get_devid(dev);
    struct _pcsid *ep = ❸pci_ids;

    ❹while (ep->type && ep->type != type)
        ep++;
    if (ep->desc) {
        ❺device_set_desc(dev, ep->desc);
        ❻return (BUS_PROBE_DEFAULT);
    }

    return (ENXIO);
}
```

---

Here, ❶ `dev` describes an identified device found on the PCI bus. So this function begins by ❷ obtaining the PCI ID of `dev`. Then it ❹ determines if `dev`'s PCI ID is listed in ❸ `pci_ids`. If it is, `dev`'s verbose description is ❺ set and the success code `BUS_PROBE_DEFAULT` is ❻ returned.

**NOTE** *The verbose description is printed to the system console when `foo_pci_attach` executes.*

## ***foo\_pci\_attach*** Function

The `foo_pci_attach` function is the `device_attach` implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
foo_pci_attach(device_t ❶dev)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc = ❷device_get_softc(dev);
```

---

```

        int unit = ③device_get_unit(dev);

        sc->device = ④dev;
        sc->cdev = ⑤make_dev(&foo_pci_cdevsw, unit, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
            0600, "foo_pci%d", unit);
        sc->cdev->si_drv1 = ⑥sc;

        return (0);
}

```

---

Here, ① dev describes a device under this driver's control. Thus, this function starts by getting dev's ② software context and ③ unit number. Then a character device node is ⑤ created and the variables sc->device and sc->cdev->si\_drv1 are set to ④ dev and ⑥ sc, respectively.

**NOTE** *The d\_foo functions (described next) use sc->device and cdev->si\_drv1 to gain access to dev and sc.*

### **d\_foo Functions**

Because every d\_foo function in Listing 7-1 just prints a debug message (that is to say, they're all basically the same), I'm only going to walk through one of them: foo\_pci\_open.

---

```

static int
foo_pci_open(struct cdev ①*dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc;

    ②sc = dev->si_drv1;
    ③device_printf(sc->device, "opened successfully\n");
    return (0);
}

```

---

Here, ① dev is the cdev returned by the make\_dev call in foo\_pci\_attach. So, this function first ② obtains its software context. Then it ③ prints a debug message.

### **foo\_pci\_detach Function**

The foo\_pci\_detach function is the device\_detach implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
foo_pci_detach(device_t ①dev)
{
    struct foo_pci_softc *sc = ②device_get_softc(dev);

    ③destroy_dev(sc->cdev);
    return (0);
}

```

---

Here, ❶ dev describes a device under this driver's control. Thus, this function simply obtains dev's ❷ software context to ❸ destroy its device node.

### Don't Panic

Now that we've discussed Listing 7-1, let's give it a try:

---

```
$ sudo kldload ./foo_pci.ko
$ kldstat
Id Refs Address      Size     Name
 1   3 0xc0400000  c9f490  kernel
 2   1 0xc3af0000  2000    foo_pci.ko
$ ls -l /dev/foo*
ls: /dev/foo*: ❶No such file or directory
```

---

Of course, it ❶ fails miserably, because `foo_pci_probe` is probing for fictitious PCI devices. Before concluding this chapter, one additional topic bears mentioning.

## Hardware Resource Management

As part of configuring and operating devices, a driver might need to manage hardware resources, such as interrupt-request lines (IRQs), I/O ports, or I/O memory (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). Naturally, Newbus includes several functions for doing just that.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/bus.h>

#include <machine/bus.h>
#include <sys/rman.h>
#include <machine/resource.h>

struct resource *
bus_alloc_resource(device_t dev, int type, int *rid, u_long start,
                  u_long end, u_long count, u_int flags);

struct resource *
bus_alloc_resource_any(device_t dev, int type, int *rid,
                      u_int flags);

int
bus_activate_resource(device_t dev, int type, int rid,
                      struct resource *r);

int
bus_deactivate_resource(device_t dev, int type, int rid,
                        struct resource *r);

int
bus_release_resource(device_t dev, int type, int rid,
                     struct resource *r);
```

---

The `bus_alloc_resource` function allocates hardware resources for a specific device to use. If successful, a `struct resource` pointer is returned; otherwise, `NULL` is returned. This function is normally called during `device_attach`. If it is called during `device_probe`, all allocated resources must be released (via `bus_release_resource`) before returning. Most of the arguments for `bus_alloc_resource` are common to the other hardware resource management functions. These arguments are described in the next few paragraphs.

The `dev` argument is the device that requires ownership of the hardware resource(s). Before allocation, resources are owned by the parent bus.

The `type` argument represents the type of resource `dev` wants allocated. Valid values for this argument are listed in Table 7-2.

**Table 7-2:** Symbolic Constants for Hardware Resources

Constant	Description
<code>SYS_RES_IRQ</code>	Interrupt-request line
<code>SYS_RES_IOPORT</code>	I/O port
<code>SYS_RES_MEMORY</code>	I/O memory

The `rid` argument expects a resource ID (RID). If `bus_alloc_resource` is successful, a RID is returned in `rid` that may differ from what you passed. You'll learn more about RIDs later.

The `start` and `end` arguments are the start and end addresses of the hardware resource(s). To employ the default bus values, simply pass `0ul` as `start` and `~0ul` as `end`.

The `count` argument denotes the size of the hardware resource(s). If you used the default bus values for `start` and `end`, `count` is used only if it is larger than the default bus value.

The `flags` argument details the characteristics of the hardware resource. Valid values for this argument are listed in Table 7-3.

**Table 7-3:** `bus_alloc_resource` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>RF_ALLOCATED</code>	Allocate hardware resource, but don't activate it
<code>RF_ACTIVE</code>	Allocate hardware resource and activate resource automatically
<code>RF_SHAREABLE</code>	Hardware resource permits contemporaneous sharing; you should always set this flag, unless the resource cannot be shared
<code>RF_TIMESHARE</code>	Hardware resource permits time-division sharing

The `bus_alloc_resource_any` function is a convenience wrapper for `bus_alloc_resource` that sets `start`, `end`, and `count` to their default bus values.

The `bus_activate_resource` function activates a previously allocated hardware resource. Naturally, resources must be activated before they can be used. Most drivers simply pass `RF_ACTIVE` to `bus_alloc_resource` or `bus_alloc_resource_any` to avoid calling `bus_activate_resource`.

The `bus_deactivate_resource` function deactivates a hardware resource. This function is primarily used in bus drivers (so we'll never call it).

The `bus_release_resource` function releases a previously allocated hardware resource. Of course, the resource cannot be in use on release. If successful, 0 is returned; otherwise, the kernel panics.

**NOTE** *We'll cover an example that employs IRQs in Chapters 8 and 9, and I'll go over an example that requires I/O ports and I/O memory in Chapters 10 and 11.*

## Conclusion

This chapter introduced you to the basics of Newbus driver development—working with real hardware. The remainder of this book builds upon the concepts described here to complete your understanding of Newbus.

# 8

## INTERRUPT HANDLING



Hardware devices often have to perform (or deal with) external events, such as spinning disk platters, winding tapes, waiting for I/O, and so on. Most of these external events occur in a timeframe that is much slower than the processor's—that is, if the processor were to wait for the completion (or arrival) of these events, it would be idle for some time. To avoid wasting the processor's valuable time, interrupts are employed. An *interrupt* is simply a signal that a hardware device can send when it wants the processor's attention (Corbet et al., 2005). For the most part, a driver only needs to register a handler function to service its device's interrupts.

### Registering an Interrupt Handler

The following functions, declared in `<sys/bus.h>`, register or tear down an interrupt handler:

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/bus.h>
```

```

int
bus_setup_intr(device_t dev, struct resource *r, int flags,
    driver_filter_t filter, driver_intr_t ithread, void *arg,
    void **cookiep);

int
bus_teardown_intr(device_t dev, struct resource *r, void *cookiep);

```

---

The `bus_setup_intr` function registers an interrupt handler with an IRQ. This IRQ must be allocated beforehand with `bus_alloc_resource`, as described in “Hardware Resource Management” on page 122.

The `bus_setup_intr` function is normally called during `device_attach`. The arguments for this function are described in the next few paragraphs.

The `dev` argument is the device whose interrupts are to be handled. This device must have an IRQ.

The `r` argument demands the return value from the successful `bus_alloc_resource` call that assigned an IRQ for `dev`.

The `flags` argument classifies the interrupt handler and/or the interrupt. Valid values for this argument are defined in the `intr_type` enumeration, found in `<sys/bus.h>`. Table 8-1 describes the more commonly used values.

**Table 8-1:** `bus_setup_intr` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>INTR_MPSAFE</code>	Indicates that the interrupt handler is multiprocessor safe and does not need to be protected by Giant—that is, any race conditions are to be handled by the interrupt handler itself; contemporary code should always pass this flag
<code>INTR_ENTROPY</code>	Indicates that the interrupt is a good source of entropy and may be employed by the entropy device <code>/dev/random</code>

The `filter` and `ithread` arguments specify the filter and ithread routines for the interrupt handler. For now, don’t worry about these arguments; I’ll discuss them in the following section.

The `arg` argument is the sole argument that gets passed to the interrupt handler. Generally, you’ll always set `arg` to `dev`’s software context.

The `cookiep` argument expects a pointer to `void *`. If `bus_setup_intr` is successful, a cookie is returned in `cookiep`; this cookie is needed to destroy the interrupt handler.

As you would expect, the `bus_teardown_intr` function tears down an interrupt handler.

## Interrupt Handlers in FreeBSD

Now that you know how to register an interrupt handler, let’s discuss how interrupt handlers are implemented.

In FreeBSD, interrupt handlers are composed of a filter routine, an ithread routine, or both. A *filter routine* executes in primary interrupt context (that is, it does not have its own context). Thus, it cannot block or context

switch, and it can use only spin mutexes for synchronization. Due to these constraints, filter routines are typically used only with devices that require a nonpreemptive interrupt handler.

A filter routine may either completely handle an interrupt or defer the computationally expensive work to its associated ithread routine, assuming it has one. Table 8-2 details the values that a filter routine can return.

**Table 8-2:** Filter Routine Return Values

Constant	Description
FILTER_STRAY	Indicates that the filter routine can't handle this interrupt; this value is equivalent to an error code.
FILTER_HANDLED	Indicates that the interrupt has been completely handled; this value is equivalent to a success code.
FILTER_SCHEDULE_THREAD	Schedules the ithread routine to execute; this value can be returned if and only if the filter routine has an associated ithread routine.

An *ithread routine*, unlike a filter routine, executes in its own thread context. You can do whatever you want in an ithread routine, except voluntarily context switch (that is, sleep) or wait on a condition variable. Because filter routines are nonpreemptive, most interrupt handlers in FreeBSD are just ithread routines.

## Implementing an Interrupt Handler

Listing 8-1 is a contrived Newbus driver designed to demonstrate interrupt handlers. Listing 8-1 sets up an interrupt handler on the parallel port; on read, it sleeps until it receives an interrupt.

**NOTE** *Take a quick look at this code and try to discern some of its structure. If you don't understand all of it, don't worry; an explanation follows.*

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>

#include <machine/bus.h>
#include <sys/rman.h>
#include <machine/resource.h>

#include <dev/ppbus/ppbconf.h>
#include "ppbus_if.h"
#include <dev/ppbus/ppbio.h>
```

```

#define PINT_NAME          "pint"
#define BUFFER_SIZE        256

struct pint_data {
    int             sc_irq_rid;
    struct resource *sc_irq_resource;
    void            *sc_irq_cookie;
    device_t         sc_device;
    struct cdev      *sc_cdev;
    short           sc_state;
#define PINT_OPEN          0x01
    char            *sc_buffer;
    int             sc_length;
};

static d_open_t          pint_open;
static d_close_t         pint_close;
static d_read_t          pint_read;
static d_write_t         pint_write;

static struct cdevsw pint_cdevsw = {
    .d_version = D_VERSION,
    .d_open =     pint_open,
    .d_close =    pint_close,
    .d_read =     pint_read,
    .d_write =    pint_write,
    .d_name =     PINT_NAME
};

static devclass_t pint_devclass;

static int
pint_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(pint_device);
    int error;

    ppb_lock(ppbus);

    if (sc->sc_state) {
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (EBUSY);
    } else
        sc->sc_state |= PINT_OPEN;

    error = ppb_request_bus(ppbus, pint_device, PPB_WAIT | PPB_INTR);
    if (error) {
        sc->sc_state = 0;
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (error);
    }
}

```

```

    ppb_wctr(ppbus, 0);
    ppb_wctr(ppbus, IRQENABLE);

    ppb_unlock(ppbus);
    return (0);
}

static int
pint_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(pint_device);

    ppb_lock(ppbus);

    ppb_wctr(ppbus, 0);
    ppb_release_bus(ppbus, pint_device);
    sc->sc_state = 0;

    ppb_unlock(ppbus);
    return (0);
}

static int
pint_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;
    int amount, error = 0;

    amount = MIN(uio->uio_resid,
                 (BUFFER_SIZE - 1 - uio->uio_offset > 0) ?
                     BUFFER_SIZE - 1 - uio->uio_offset : 0);
    if (amount == 0)
        return (error);

    error = uiomove(sc->sc_buffer, amount, uio);
    if (error) {
        device_printf(pint_device, "write failed\n");
        return (error);
    }

    sc->sc_buffer[amount] = '\0';
    sc->sc_length = amount;

    return (error);
}

static int
pint_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(pint_device);

```

```

        int amount, error = 0;

        ppb_lock(ppbus);
        error = ppb_sleep(ppbus, pint_device, PPBPRI | PCATCH, PINT_NAME, 0);
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        if (error)
            return (error);

        amount = MIN(uio->uio_resid,
                     (sc->sc_length - uio->uio_offset > 0) ?
                         sc->sc_length - uio->uio_offset : 0);

        error = uiomove(sc->sc_buffer + uio->uio_offset, amount, uio);
        if (error)
            device_printf(pint_device, "read failed\n");

        return (error);
    }

    static void
pint_intr(void *arg)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = arg;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;

#ifndef INVARIANTS
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(pint_device);
    ppb_assert_locked(ppbus);
#endif

    wakeup(pint_device);
}

static void
pint_identify(driver_t *driver, device_t parent)
{
    device_t dev;

    dev = device_find_child(parent, PINT_NAME, -1);
    if (!dev)
        BUS_ADD_CHILD(parent, 0, PINT_NAME, -1);
}

static int
pint_probe(device_t dev)
{
    /* probe() is always OK. */
    device_set_desc(dev, "Interrupt Handler Example");

    return (BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC);
}

static int
pint_attach(device_t dev)
{

```

```

        struct pint_data *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
        int error, unit = device_get_unit(dev);

        /* Declare our interrupt handler. */
        sc->sc_irq_rid = 0;
        sc->sc_irq_resource = bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ,
            &sc->sc_irq_rid, RF_ACTIVE | RF_SHAREABLE);

        /* Interrupts are mandatory. */
        if (!sc->sc_irq_resource) {
            device_printf(dev,
                "unable to allocate interrupt resource\n");
            return (ENXIO);
        }

        /* Register our interrupt handler. */
        error = bus_setup_intr(dev, sc->sc_irq_resource,
            INTR_TYPE_TTY | INTR_MPSAFE, NULL, pint_intr,
            sc, &sc->sc_irq_cookie);
        if (error) {
            bus_release_resource(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ, sc->sc_irq_rid,
                sc->sc_irq_resource);
            device_printf(dev, "unable to register interrupt handler\n");
            return (error);
        }

        sc->sc_buffer = malloc(BUFFER_SIZE, M_DEVBUF, M_WAITOK);

        sc->sc_device = dev;
        sc->sc_cdev = make_dev(&pint_cdevsw, unit, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL, 0600,
            PINT_NAME "%d", unit);
        sc->sc_cdev->si_drv1 = sc;

        return (0);
    }

    static int
    pint_detach(device_t dev)
    {
        struct pint_data *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

        destroy_dev(sc->sc_cdev);

        bus_teardown_intr(dev, sc->sc_irq_resource, sc->sc_irq_cookie);
        bus_release_resource(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ, sc->sc_irq_rid,
            sc->sc_irq_resource);

        free(sc->sc_buffer, M_DEVBUF);

        return (0);
    }

    static device_method_t pint_methods[] = {
        /* Device interface. */
        DEVMETHOD(device_identify,      pint_identify),

```

```

        DEVMETHOD(device_probe,           pint_probe),
        DEVMETHOD(device_attach,         pint_attach),
        DEVMETHOD(device_detach,         pint_detach),
        { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t pint_driver = {
    PINT_NAME,
    pint_methods,
    sizeof(struct pint_data)
};

DRIVER_MODULE(pint, ppbus, pint_driver, pint_devclass, 0, 0);
MODULE_DEPEND(pint, ppbus, 1, 1, 1);

```

---

*Listing 8-1: `pint.c`*

To make things easier to understand, I'll describe the functions in Listing 8-1 in the order they were written, instead of in the order they appear. To that end, I'll begin with the `pint_identify` function.

### **`pint_identify` Function**

The `pint_identify` function is the `device_identify` implementation for this driver. Logically, this function is required because the parallel port cannot identify its children unaided.

Here is the function definition for `pint_identify` (again):

---

```

static void
pint_identify(driver_t *driver, device_t parent)
{
    device_t dev;

    dev = ❶device_find_child(parent, ❷PINT_NAME, -1);
    if (!dev)
        ❸BUS_ADD_CHILD(parent, 0, PINT_NAME, -1);
}

```

---

This function first ❶ determines whether the parallel port has (ever) identified a child device named ❷ `PINT_NAME`. If it has not, then `pint_identify` ❸ adds `PINT_NAME` to the parallel port's list of identified children.

### **`pint_probe` Function**

The `pint_probe` function is the `device_probe` implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
pint_probe(device_t dev)
{
    /* probe() is always OK. */
    device_set_desc(dev, "Interrupt Handler Example");
}

```

---

```
❶return (BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC);  
}
```

---

As you can see, this function always ❶ returns the success code `BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC`, so Listing 8-1 attaches to every device it probes. This may seem erroneous, but it is the correct behavior, as devices identified by a `device_identify` routine, using `BUS_ADD_CHILD`, are probed only by drivers with the same name. In this case, the identified device and driver name is `PINT_NAME`.

### ***pint\_attach Function***

The `pint_attach` function is the `device_attach` implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

```
static int  
pint_attach(device_t dev)  
{  
    struct pint_data *sc = device_get_softc(dev);  
    int error, unit = device_get_unit(dev);  
  
    /* Declare our interrupt handler. */  
    sc->sc_irq_rid = 0;  
    sc->sc_irq_resource = ❶bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ,  
        &sc->sc_irq_rid, RF_ACTIVE | RF_SHAREABLE);  
  
    /* Interrupts are mandatory. */  
    if (!sc->sc_irq_resource) {  
        device_printf(dev,  
            "unable to allocate interrupt resource\n");  
    ❷return (ENXIO);  
    }  
  
    /* Register our interrupt handler. */  
    error = ❸bus_setup_intr(dev, sc->sc_irq_resource,  
        INTR_TYPE_TTY | INTR_MPSAFE, NULL, ❹pint_intr,  
        sc, &sc->sc_irq_cookie);  
    if (error) {  
        bus_release_resource(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ, sc->sc_irq_rid,  
            sc->sc_irq_resource);  
        device_printf(dev, "unable to register interrupt handler\n");  
        return (error);  
    }  
  
    sc->sc_buffer = ❺malloc(BUFFER_SIZE, M_DEVBUF, M_WAITOK);  
  
    ❻sc->sc_device = dev;  
    sc->sc_cdev = ❼make_dev(&pint_cdevsw, unit, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,  
        0600, PINT_NAME "%d", unit);  
    ❼sc->sc_cdev->si_drv1 = sc;  
  
    return (0);  
}
```

---

This function first ❶ allocates an IRQ. If unsuccessful, the error code ENXIO (which stands for *error: device not configured*) is ❷ returned. Next, the ❸ `pint_intr` function is ❹ set up as the interrupt handler for `dev` (in this case, the interrupt handler is just an ithread routine). Afterward, a buffer of `BUFFER_SIZE` bytes is ❺ allocated. Then `sc->sc_device` is ❻ set to `dev`, Listing 8-1's character device node is ❼ created, and a pointer to the software context (`sc`) is ❽ saved in `sc->sc_cdev->si_drv1`.

### ***pint\_detach Function***

The `pint_detach` function is the `device_detach` implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
pint_detach(device_t dev)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

    ❶destroy_dev(sc->sc_cdev);

    ❷bus_teardown_intr(dev, sc->sc_irq_resource, sc->sc_irq_cookie);
    ❸bus_release_resource(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ, sc->sc_irq_rid,
                          sc->sc_irq_resource);

    ❹free(sc->sc_buffer, M_DEVBUF);

    return (0);
}
```

---

This function starts by ❶ destroying Listing 8-1's device node. Once this is done, it ❷ tears down `dev`'s interrupt handler, ❸ releases `dev`'s IRQ, and ❹ frees the allocated memory.

### ***pint\_open Function***

The `pint_open` function is defined in `pint_cdevsw` (that is, Listing 8-1's character device switch table) as the `d_open` operation. Recall that `d_open` operations prepare the device for I/O.

Here is the function definition for `pint_open` (again):

---

```
static int
pint_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(pint_device);
    int error;

    ❶ppb_lock(ppbus);

    ❷if (sc->sc_state) {
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
```

---

```

    ❸return (EBUSY);
} else
    ❹sc->sc_state |= PINT_OPEN;

error = ❺ppb_request_bus(ppbus, pint_device, PPB_WAIT | PPB_INTR);
if (error) {
    sc->sc_state = 0;
    ppb_unlock(ppbus);
    return (error);
}

❻ppb_wctr(ppbus, 0);
❼ppb_wctr(ppbus, IRQENABLE);

ppb_unlock(ppbus);
return (0);
}

```

---

This function first ❶ acquires the parallel port mutex. Then the value of `sc->sc_state` is ❷ examined. If it does not equal 0, which indicates that another process has opened the device, the error code `EBUSY` is ❸ returned; otherwise, `pint_open` ❹ “opens” the device. Opening the device, in this case, means setting `sc->sc_state` to `PINT_OPEN`. Afterward, the `ppb_request_bus` function is ❺ called to mark `pint_device` as the owner of the parallel port. Naturally, `pint_device` is our device (that is, it points to `dev` from `pint_attach`).

**NOTE** *Owning the parallel port lets a device transfer data to and from it.*

Finally, before ❼ enabling interrupts, `pint_open` ❽ clears the parallel port’s control register.

### `pint_close` Function

The `pint_close` function is defined in `pint_cdevsw` as the `d_close` operation. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
pint_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(pint_device);

    ❶ppb_lock(ppbus);

    ❷ppb_wctr(ppbus, 0);
    ❸ppb_release_bus(ppbus, pint_device);
    ❹sc->sc_state = 0;

    ppb_unlock(ppbus);
    return (0);
}

```

---

This function first ❶ acquires the parallel port mutex. Then interrupts on the parallel port are ❷ disabled (for all intents and purposes, clearing the control register, which is what the above code does, disables interrupts). Next, the `ppb_release_bus` function is ❸ called to relinquish ownership of the parallel port. Finally, `sc->sc_state` is ❹ zeroed, so that another process can open this device.

### ***pint\_write Function***

The `pint_write` function is defined in `pint_cdevsw` as the `d_write` operation. This function acquires a character string from user space and stores it.

Here is the function definition for `pint_write` (again):

---

```
static int
pint_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;
    int amount, error = 0;

    amount = MIN(uio->uio_resid,
                 (BUFFER_SIZE - 1 - uio->uio_offset > 0) ?
                     BUFFER_SIZE - 1 - uio->uio_offset : 0);
    if (amount == 0)
        return (error);

    error = uiomove(sc->sc_buffer, amount, uio);
    if (error) {
        device_printf(pint_device, "write failed\n");
        return (error);
    }

    sc->sc_buffer[amount] = '\0';
    sc->sc_length = amount;

    return (error);
}
```

---

This function is fundamentally identical to the `echo_write` function described on page 34. Consequently, I won't walk through it again here.

### ***pint\_read Function***

The `pint_read` function is defined in `pint_cdevsw` as the `d_read` operation. This function sleeps on entry. It also returns the stored character string to user space.

Here is the function definition for `pint_read` (again):

---

```
static int
pint_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
```

---

```

        struct pint_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
        device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;
        device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(pint_device);
        int amount, error = 0;

❶ ppb_lock(ppbus);
        error = ❷ ppb_sleep(ppbus, ❸ pint_device, PPBPRI | PCATCH,
                           PINT_NAME, 0);
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        if (error)
            return (error);

        amount = MIN(uio->uio_resid,
                     (sc->sc_length - uio->uio_offset > 0) ?
                     sc->sc_length - uio->uio_offset : 0);

        error = uiomove(sc->sc_buffer + uio->uio_offset, amount, uio);
        if (error)
            device_printf(pint_device, "read failed\n");

        return (error);
}

```

---

This function begins by ❶ acquiring the parallel port mutex. Then it ❷ sleeps on the channel ❸ `pint_device`.

**NOTE** *The `ppb_sleep` function releases the parallel port mutex before sleeping. Of course, it also reacquires the parallel port mutex before returning to its caller.*

The remnants of this function are basically identical to the `echo_read` function described on page 13, so we won't discuss them again here.

### ***pint\_intr Function***

The `pint_intr` function is the interrupt handler for Listing 8-1. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static void
pint_intr(void *arg)
{
    struct pint_data *sc = arg;
    device_t pint_device = sc->sc_device;

#ifndef INVARIANTS
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(pint_device);
    ppb_assert_locked(ppbus);
#endif

❶ wakeup(pint_device);
}

```

---

As you can see, this function simply ❶ wakes up every thread sleeping on `pint_device`.

**NOTE** Parallel port interrupt handlers are unique, because they get invoked with the parallel port mutex already held. Conversely, normal interrupt handlers need to explicitly acquire their own locks.

### Don't Panic

Now that we've walked through Listing 8-1, let's give it a try:

---

```
$ sudo kldload ./pint.ko
$ su
Password:
# echo "DON'T PANIC" > /dev/pinto
# cat /dev/pinto &
[1] 954
# ps | head -n 1 && ps | grep "cat"
PID  TT  STAT      TIME COMMAND
 954  v1   I      0:00.03 cat /dev/pinto
```

---

Apparently it works. But how do we generate an interrupt to test our interrupt handler?

## Generating Interrupts on the Parallel Port

Once interrupts are enabled, the parallel port generates an interrupt whenever the electrical signal at pin 10, dubbed the *ACK bit*, changes from low to high (Corbet et al., 2005).

To toggle the electrical signal at pin 10, I connected pin 10 to pin 9 (using a resistor) and then I executed the program shown in Listing 8-2.

---

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <machine/cpufunc.h>

#include <err.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>

❶ #define BASE_ADDRESS    0x378

int
main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int fd;

    fd = open("/dev/io", O_RDWR);
    if (fd < 0)
        err(1, "open(/dev/io)");

    outb(BASE_ADDRESS, 0x00);
    outb(BASE_ADDRESS, 0xff);
    outb(BASE_ADDRESS, 0x00);
```

```
        close(fd);
        return (0);
}
```

---

*Listing 8-2: tint.c*

Here, ❶ `BASE_ADDRESS` denotes the base address of the parallel port. On most contemporary PCs, `0x378` is the base address of the parallel port. However, you can check your machine’s BIOS to be sure.

This program changes the electrical signal at pin 9 of the parallel port from ❷ low to ❸ high.

**NOTE** *If you’re curious, pin 9 is the most significant bit of the parallel data byte (Corbet et al., 2005).*

Here are the results from executing Listing 8-2:

---

```
# echo "DON'T PANIC" > /dev/pinto
# cat /dev/pinto &
[1] 1056
# ./tint
DON'T PANIC
```

---

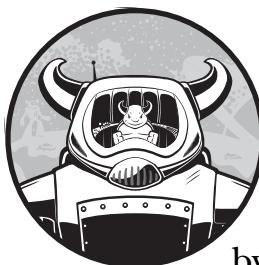
## Conclusion

This chapter focused primarily on implementing an interrupt handler. In Chapter 9, we’ll build upon the concepts and code described here to write a nontrivial, interrupt-driven driver.



# 9

## CASE STUDY: PARALLEL PORT PRINTER DRIVER



This chapter is the second case study in this book. In this chapter, we'll go through `lpt(4)`, the parallel port printer driver. `lpt(4)`, by default, is configured to be interrupt-driven, which gives us an opportunity to go through a nontrivial interrupt handler. Aside from this, I chose to profile `lpt(4)` because it uses almost every topic described in the previous chapters. It's also relatively short.

**NOTE** *To improve readability, some of the variables and functions presented in this chapter have been renamed and restructured from their counterparts in the FreeBSD source.*

### Code Analysis

Listing 9-1 provides a terse, source-level overview of `lpt(4)`.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
```

```

#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysm.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/syslog.h>

#include <machine/bus.h>
#include <sys/rman.h>
#include <machine/resource.h>

#include <dev/ppbus/ppbconf.h>
#include "ppbus_if.h"
#include <dev/ppbus/ppbio.h>
#include <dev/ppbus/ppb_1284.h>

#include <dev/ppbus/lpt.h>
#include <dev/ppbus/lptio.h>

#define LPT_NAME      "lpt"          /* official driver name. */
#define LPT_INIT_READY 4             /* wait up to 4 seconds. */
#define LPT_PRI        (PZERO + 8)   /* priority. */
#define BUF_SIZE       1024          /* sc_buf size. */
#define BUF_STAT_SIZE 32            /* sc_buf_stat size. */

struct lpt_data {
    short           sc_state;
    char            sc_primed;
    struct callout  sc_callout;
    u_char          sc_ticks;
    int             sc_irq_rid;
    struct resource *sc_irq_resource;
    void            *sc_irq_cookie;
    u_short         sc_irq_status;
    void            *sc_buf;
    void            *sc_buf_stat;
    char            *sc_cp;
    device_t        sc_dev;
    struct cdev     *sc_cdev;
    struct cdev     *sc_cdev_bypass;
    char            sc_flags;
    u_char          sc_control;
    short           sc_transfer_count;
};

/* bits for sc_state. */
#define LP_OPEN        (1 << 0)      /* device is open. */
#define LP_ERROR       (1 << 2)      /* error received from printer. */
#define LP_BUSY        (1 << 3)      /* printer is busy writing. */
#define LP_TIMEOUT     (1 << 5)      /* timeout enabled. */
#define LP_INIT        (1 << 6)      /* initializing in lpt_open. */
#define LP_INTERRUPTED (1 << 7)     /* write call was interrupted. */
#define LP_HAVEBUS     (1 << 8)     /* driver owns the bus. */

```

```

/* bits for sc_ticks. */
#define LP_TOUT_INIT    10          /* initial timeout: 1/10 sec.   */
#define LP_TOUT_MAX     1           /* max timeout: 1/1 sec.       */

/* bits for sc_irq_status. */
#define LP_HAS_IRQ      0x01        /* we have an IRQ available.  */
#define LP_USE_IRQ      0x02        /* our IRQ is in use.         */
#define LP_ENABLE_IRQ    0x04        /* enable our IRQ on open.   */
#define LP_ENABLE_EXT    0x10        /* enable extended mode.     */

/* bits for sc_flags. */
#define LP_NO_PRIME     0x10        /* don't prime the printer.  */
#define LP_PRIME_OPEN    0x20        /* prime on every open.      */
#define LP_AUTO_LF       0x40        /* automatic line feed.      */
#define LP_BYPASS        0x80        /* bypass printer ready checks. */

/* masks to interrogate printer status. */
#define LP_READY_MASK    (LPS_NERR | LPS_SEL | LPS_OUT | LPS_NBSY)
#define LP_READY         (LPS_NERR | LPS_SEL | LPS_OUT | LPS_NBSY)

/* used in polling code. */
#define LPS_INVERT       (LPS_NERR | LPS_SEL | LPS_NACK | LPS_NBSY)
#define LPS_MASK         (LPS_NERR | LPS_SEL | LPS_OUT | LPS_NACK | LPS_NBSY)
#define NOT_READY(bus)   ((ppb_rstr(bus) ^ LPS_INVERT) & LPS_MASK)
#define MAX_SPIN         20          /* wait up to 20 usec.        */
#define MAX_SLEEP        (hz * 5)    /* timeout while waiting.   */

static d_open_t          lpt_open;
static d_close_t         lpt_close;
static d_read_t          lpt_read;
static d_write_t         lpt_write;
static d_ioctl_t         lpt_ioctl;

static struct cdevsw lpt_cdevsw =
{
    .d_version =          D_VERSION,
    .d_open =              lpt_open,
    .d_close =             lpt_close,
    .d_read =              lpt_read,
    .d_write =             lpt_write,
    .d_ioctl =             lpt_ioctl,
    .d_name =              LPT_NAME
};

static devclass_t lpt_devclass;

static void
lpt_identify(driver_t *driver, device_t parent)
{
    ...
}

static int
lpt_request_ppbus(device_t dev, int how)
{

```

```
...
}

static int
lpt_release_ppbus(device_t dev)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_port_test(device_t ppbus, u_char data, u_char mask)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_detect(device_t dev)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_probe(device_t dev)
{
...
}

static void
lpt_intr(void *arg)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_attach(device_t dev)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_detach(device_t dev)
{
...
}

static void
lpt_timeout(void *arg)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
```

```

{
...
}

static int
lpt_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_push_bytes(struct lpt_data *sc)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
...
}

static int
lpt_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
          struct thread *td)
{
...
}

static device_method_t lpt_methods[] = {
    DEVMETHOD(device_identify,      lpt_identify),
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,         lpt_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,        lpt_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,        lpt_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t lpt_driver = {
    LPT_NAME,
    lpt_methods,
    sizeof(struct lpt_data)
};

DRIVER_MODULE(lpt, ppbus, lpt_driver, lpt_devclass, 0, 0);
MODULE_DEPEND(lpt, ppbus, 1, 1, 1);

```

---

*Listing 9-1: lpt.c*

Listing 9-1 is provided as a convenience; as I go through the code for lpt(4) you can refer to it to see how lpt(4)'s functions and structures are laid out.

To make things easier to follow, I'll analyze the functions in lpt(4) in the approximate order they would execute in (rather than in the order they appear). To that end, I'll begin with the `lpt_identify` function.

### ***lpt\_identify Function***

The `lpt_identify` function is the `device_identify` implementation for lpt(4). Logically, this function is required because the parallel port cannot identify its children unaided.

Here is the function definition for `lpt_identify`:

---

```
static void
lpt_identify(driver_t *driver, device_t parent)
{
    device_t dev;

    dev = ❶device_find_child(parent, ❷LPT_NAME, -1);
    if (!dev)
        ❸BUS_ADD_CHILD(parent, 0, LPT_NAME, -1);
}
```

---

This function first ❶ determines whether the parallel port has (ever) identified a child device named ❷ `LPT_NAME`. If it has not, then `lpt_identify` ❸ adds `LPT_NAME` to the parallel port's list of identified children.

### ***lpt\_probe Function***

The `lpt_probe` function is the `device_probe` implementation for lpt(4). Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
lpt_probe(device_t dev)
{
    if (!❶lpt_detect(dev))
        return (ENXIO);

    device_set_desc(dev, "Printer");

    return (BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC);
}
```

---

This function simply calls ❶ `lpt_detect` to detect (that is, probe for) the presence of a printer.

## ***lpt\_detect Function***

As mentioned in the previous section, lpt\_detect detects the presence of a printer. It works by writing to the parallel port's data register. If a printer is present, it can read back the value just written.

Here is the function definition for lpt\_detect:

---

```
static int
lpt_detect(device_t dev)
{
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(dev);
    ❶ static u_char test[18] = {
        0x55,           /* alternating zeros. */
        0xaa,           /* alternating ones. */
        0xfe, 0xfd, 0xfb, 0xf7,
        0xef, 0xdf, 0xbf, 0x7f, /* walking zero. */
        0x01, 0x02, 0x04, 0x08,
        0x10, 0x20, 0x40, 0x80 /* walking one. */
    };
    int i, error, success = 1;      /* assume success. */
    ❷ ppb_lock(ppbus);

    error = ❸ lpt_request_ppbus(dev, PPB_DONTWAIT);
    if (error) {
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        device_printf(dev, "cannot allocate ppbus (%d)!\n", error);
        return (0);
    }

    for (i = 0; i < 18; i++)
        if (!❹ lpt_port_test(ppbus, test[i], 0xff)) {
            success = 0;
            break;
        }
    ❺ ppb_wdtr(ppbus, 0);
    ❻ ppb_wctr(ppbus, 0);

    ❼ lpt_release_ppbus(dev);
    ❽ ppb_unlock(ppbus);

    return (success);
}
```

---

This function first ❷ acquires the parallel port mutex. Next, lpt(4) is ❸ assigned ownership of the parallel port. Then ❹ lpt\_port\_test is called to write to and read from the parallel port's data register. The values written to this 8-bit register are housed in ❶ test[] and are designed to toggle all 8 bits.

Once this is done, the parallel port's ❸ data and ❹ control registers are cleared, ownership of the parallel port is ❺ relinquished, and the parallel port mutex is ❻ released.

### ***lpt\_port\_test Function***

The lpt\_port\_test function is called by lpt\_detect to determine whether a printer is present. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
lpt_port_test(device_t ppbus, ❶u_char data, u_char mask)
{
    int temp, timeout = 10000;

    data &= mask;
    ❷ppb_wdtr(ppbus, data);

    do {
        DELAY(10);
        temp = ❸ppb_rdtr(ppbus) & mask;
    } while (temp != data && --timeout);

    ❹return (temp == data);
}
```

---

This function takes an ❶ 8-bit value and ❷ writes it to the parallel port's data register. Then it ❸ reads from that register and ❹ returns whether the value written and read match.

### ***lpt\_attach Function***

The lpt\_attach function is the device\_attach implementation for lpt(4). Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
lpt_attach(device_t dev)
{
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(dev);
    struct lpt_data *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int error, unit = device_get_unit(dev);

    ❶sc->sc_primed = 0;
    ❷ppb_init_callout(ppbus, &sc->sc_callout, 0);

    ppb_lock(ppbus);
    error = lpt_request_ppbus(dev, PPB_DONTWAIT);
    if (error) {
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        device_printf(dev, "cannot allocate ppbus (%d)!\n", error);
        return (0);
    }
}
```

---

```

③ppb_wctr(ppbus, LPC_NINIT);

    lpt_release_ppbus(dev);
    ppb_unlock(ppbus);

    /* Declare our interrupt handler. */
    sc->sc_irq_rid = 0;
    sc->sc_irq_resource = bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ,
        &sc->sc_irq_rid, RF_ACTIVE | RF_SHAREABLE);

    /* Register our interrupt handler. */
    if (sc->sc_irq_resource) {
        error = bus_setup_intr(dev, sc->sc_irq_resource,
            INTR_TYPE_TTY | INTR_MPSAFE, NULL, ④lpt_intr,
            sc, &sc->sc_irq_cookie);
        if (error) {
            bus_release_resource(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ,
                sc->sc_irq_rid, sc->sc_irq_resource);
            device_printf(dev,
                "unable to register interrupt handler\n");
            return (error);
        }

        ⑤sc->sc_irq_status = LP_HAS_IRQ | LP_USE_IRQ | LP_ENABLE_IRQ;
        device_printf(dev, "interrupt-driven port\n");
    } else {
        sc->sc_irq_status = 0;
        device_printf(dev, "polled port\n");
    }

⑥sc->sc_buf = malloc(BUF_SIZE, M_DEVBUF, M_WAITOK);
⑦sc->sc_buf_stat = malloc(BUF_STAT_SIZE, M_DEVBUF, M_WAITOK);

    sc->sc_dev = dev;

    sc->sc_cdev = make_dev(&lpt_cdevsw, unit, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL, 0600,
        LPT_NAME "%d", unit);
    sc->sc_cdev->si_drv1 = sc;
    sc->sc_cdev->si_drv2 = 0;

    sc->sc_cdev_bypass = make_dev(&lpt_cdevsw, unit, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL,
        0600, LPT_NAME "%d.ctl", unit);
    sc->sc_cdev_bypass->si_drv1 = sc;
    sc->sc_cdev_bypass->si_drv2 = (void *)⑧LP_BYPASS;

    return (0);
}

```

---

This function can be split into five parts. The first ① sets `sc->sc_primed` to 0 to indicate that the printer needs to be primed. It also ② initializes `lpt(4)`'s callout structure. The second part essentially ③ changes the electrical signal at pin 16, dubbed *nINIT*, from high to low causing the printer to initiate an internal reset.

**NOTE** As most signals are active high, the n in nINIT denotes that the signal is active low.

The third part registers the function ❸ `lpt_intr` as the interrupt handler. If successful, the variable `sc->sc_irq_status` is ❹ assigned `LP_HAS_IRQ`, `LP_USE_IRQ`, and `LP_ENABLE_IRQ` to indicate that the printer is interrupt-driven. The fourth part allocates memory for two buffers: ❺ `sc->sc_buf` (which will maintain the data to be printed) and ❻ `sc->sc_buf_stat` (which will maintain the printer's status). Finally, the fifth part creates `lpt(4)`'s device nodes: `lpt%d` and `lpt%d.ctl`, where `%d` is the unit number. Note that `lpt%d.ctl` contains the ❻ `LP_BYPASS` flag, while `lpt%d` does not. In the `d_foo` functions, `LP_BYPASS` is used to tell `lpt%d.ctl` from `lpt%d`. As you'll see, the `lpt%d` device node represents the printer, while `lpt%d.ctl` is used solely to change the printer's mode of operation (via `lpt(4)`'s `d_ioctl` routine).

### ***lpt\_detach Function***

The `lpt_detach` function is the `device_detach` implementation for `lpt(4)`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
lpt_detach(device_t dev)
{
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(dev);
    struct lpt_data *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

    ❶destroy_dev(sc->sc_cdev_bypass);
    ❷destroy_dev(sc->sc_cdev);

    ppb_lock(ppbus);
    ❸lpt_release_ppbus(dev);
    ppb_unlock(ppbus);

    ❹callout_drain(&sc->sc_callout);

    if (sc->sc_irq_resource) {
        ❺bus_teardown_intr(dev, sc->sc_irq_resource,
                           sc->sc_irq_cookie);
        ❻bus_release_resource(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ, sc->sc_irq_rid,
                           sc->sc_irq_resource);
    }

    ❼free(sc->sc_buf_stat, M_DEVBUF);
    ❼free(sc->sc_buf, M_DEVBUF);

    return (0);
}
```

---

This function begins by ❶ ❷ destroying `lpt(4)`'s device nodes. Once this is done, it ❸ relinquishes ownership of the parallel port, ❹ drains `lpt(4)`'s callout function, ❺ tears down `lpt(4)`'s interrupt handler, ❻ releases `lpt(4)`'s IRQ, and ❼ ❼ frees the allocated memory.

## ***lpt\_open Function***

The `lpt_open` function is defined in `lpt_cdevsw` (that is, `lpt(4)`'s character device switch table) as the `d_open` operation. Recall that `d_open` operations prepare the device for I/O.

Here is the function definition for `lpt_open`:

---

```
static int
lpt_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct lpt_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t lpt_dev = sc->sc_dev;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(lpt_dev);
    int try, error;

    if (!sc)
        return (ENXIO);

    ppb_lock(ppbus);
    ❶if (sc->sc_state) {
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (EBUSY);
    } else
        sc->sc_state |= LP_INIT;

    ❷sc->sc_flags = (uintptr_t)dev->si_drv2;
    if (sc->sc_flags & LP_BYPASS) {
        sc->sc_state = LP_OPEN;
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (0);
    }

    error = lpt_request_ppbus(lpt_dev, PPB_WAIT | PPB_INTR);
    if (error) {
        sc->sc_state = 0;
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (error);
    }

    /* Use our IRQ? */
    if (sc->sc_irq_status & LP_ENABLE_IRQ)
        sc->sc_irq_status |= LP_USE_IRQ;
    else
        sc->sc_irq_status &= ~LP_USE_IRQ;

    /* Reset printer. */
    if ((sc->sc_flags & LP_NO_PRIME) == 0)
        if (((sc->sc_flags & LP_PRIME_OPEN) || sc->sc_primed == 0) {
            ❸ppb_wctr(ppbus, 0);
            sc->sc_primed++;
            DELAY(500);
        }
    }
```

```

❶ppb_wctr(ppbus, LPC_SEL | LPC_NINIT);

/* Wait until ready--printer should be running diagnostics. */
try = 0;
❷do {
    /* Give up? */
    if (try++ >= (LPT_INIT_READY * 4)) {
        lpt_release_ppbus(lpt_dev);
        sc->sc_state = 0;
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (EBUSY);
    }

    /* Wait 1/4 second. Give up if we get a signal. */
    if (ppb_sleep(ppbus, lpt_dev, LPT_PRI | PCATCH, "lpt_open",
                  hz / 4) != EWOULDBLOCK) {
        lpt_release_ppbus(lpt_dev);
        sc->sc_state = 0;
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (EBUSY);
    }
} ❸while ((ppb_rstr(ppbus) & LP_READY_MASK) != LP_READY);

❹sc->sc_control = LPC_SEL | LPC_NINIT;
if (sc->sc_flags & LP_AUTO_LF)
    ❺sc->sc_control |= LPC_AUTOL;
if (sc->sc_irq_status & LP_USE IRQ)
    ❻sc->sc_control |= LPC_ENA;

ppb_wctr(ppbus, sc->sc_control);

sc->sc_state &= ~LP_INIT;
sc->sc_state |= LP_OPEN;
sc->sc_transfer_count = 0;

if (sc->sc_irq_status & LP_USE IRQ) {
    sc->sc_state |= LP_TIMEOUT;
    sc->sc_ticks = hz / LP_TOUT_INIT;
    callout_reset(&sc->sc_callout, sc->sc_ticks,
                  ❾lpt_timeout, sc);
}

lpt_release_ppbus(lpt_dev);
ppb_unlock(ppbus);

return (0);
}

```

---

This function can be split into six parts. The first ❶ checks the value of `sc->sc_state`. If it does not equal 0, which implies that another process has opened the printer, the error code `EBUSY` is returned; otherwise, `sc->sc_state` is assigned `LP_INIT`. The second part ❷ checks the value of `dev->si_drv2`.

If it contains the LP\_BYPASS flag, which indicates that the device node is lpt%d.ctl, sc->sc\_state is set to LP\_OPEN and lpt\_open exits. Recall that lpt%d.ctl is used solely to change the printer's mode of operation, hence the minute amount of preparatory work. The third part ❸ primes the printer and then ❹ selects and resets the printer (a printer prepares to receive data when it's selected, which occurs when the electrical signal at pin 17, dubbed *nSELIN*, changes from high to low). The fourth part ❺ waits for the printer to ❻ finish its internal reset. The fifth part ❼ selects and resets the printer, ❽ enables automatic line feed if requested,<sup>1</sup> and ❾ enables interrupts if the printer is interrupt-driven. The fifth part also assigns LP\_OPEN to sc->sc\_state and zeroes the variable sc->sc\_transfer\_count.

**NOTE** *Automatic line feed is enabled when the electrical signal at pin 14, dubbed nAUTOF, changes from high to low. As you would expect, this causes the printer to automatically insert a line feed after each line.*

Finally, the sixth part causes ❻ lpt\_timeout to execute one time after sc->sc\_ticks / hz seconds. The lpt\_timeout function is used alongside the interrupt handler lpt\_intr. I'll discuss these functions shortly.

### ***lpt\_read Function***

The lpt\_read function retrieves the printer's status. Users can get the printer's status by applying the cat(1) command to the device node lpt%d.

Here is the function definition for lpt\_read:

---

```
static int
lpt_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    struct lpt_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t lpt_dev = sc->sc_dev;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(lpt_dev);
    int num, error = 0;

❶if (sc->sc_flags & LP_BYPASS)
    return (EPERM);

    ppb_lock(ppbus);
    error = ❷ppb_1284_negociate(ppbus, ❸PPB_NIBBLE, 0);
    if (error) {
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (error);
    }

    num = 0;
    while (uio->uio_resid) {
        error = ❹ppb_1284_read(ppbus, PPB_NIBBLE, ❺sc->sc_buf_stat,
                               min(BUF_STAT_SIZE, uio->uio_resid), ❻&num);
        if (error)
            goto end_read;
```

---

1. Curiously enough, it's currently impossible to request automatic line feed.

```

⑦if (!num)
    goto end_read;

ppb_unlock(ppbus);
error = ⑧uiomove(⑨sc->sc_buf_stat, num, ⑩uio);
ppb_lock(ppbus);
if (error)
    goto end_read;
}

end_read:
ppb_1284_terminate(ppbus);
ppb_unlock(ppbus);
return (error);
}

```

---

This function first ① checks the value of `sc->sc_flags`. If it contains the `LP_BYPASS` flag, which indicates that the device node is `lpt%d.ct1`, the error code `EPERM` (which stands for *error: operation not permitted*) is returned. Next, the function ② `ppb_1284_negociate` is called to put the parallel port interface into ③ nibble mode.

**NOTE** *Nibble mode is the most common way to retrieve data from a printer. Normally, pins 10, 11, 12, 13, and 15 are used by the printer as external status indicators; however, in nibble mode these pins are used to send data to the host (4 bits at a time).*

The remainder of this function transfers data from the printer to user space. The data in this case is the printer's status. Here, ④ `ppb_1284_read` transfers data from the printer to ⑤ kernel space. The number of bytes transferred is saved in ⑥ `num`. If `num` ⑦ equals 0, `lpt_read` exits. The ⑧ `uiomove` function then moves the data from ⑨ kernel space to ⑩ user space.

### ***lpt\_write Function***

The `lpt_write` function acquires data from user space and stores it in `sc->sc_buf`. This data is then sent to the printer to be printed.

Here is the function definition for `lpt_write`:

---

```

static int
lpt_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    struct lpt_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t lpt_dev = sc->sc_dev;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(lpt_dev);
    register unsigned num;
    int error;

    if (sc->sc_flags & LP_BYPASS)
        return (EPERM);

    ppb_lock(ppbus);
    error = lpt_request_ppbus(lpt_dev, PPB_WAIT | PPB_INTR);

```

```

        if (error) {
            ppb_unlock(ppbus);
            return (error);
        }

❶ sc->sc_state &= ~LP_INTERRUPTED;
    while (❷ (num = min(BUF_SIZE, uio->uio_resid))) {
        sc->sc_cp = sc->sc_buf;

        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        error = ❸ uiomove(sc->sc_cp, num, uio);
        ppb_lock(ppbus);
        if (error)
            break;

❹ sc->sc_transfer_count = num;

❺ if (sc->sc_irq_status & LP_ENABLE_EXT) {
        error = ❻ ppb_write(ppbus, sc->sc_cp,
                           sc->sc_transfer_count, 0);
        switch (error) {
            case 0:
                sc->sc_transfer_count = 0;
                break;
            case EINTR:
                sc->sc_state |= LP_INTERRUPTED;
                ppb_unlock(ppbus);
                return (error);
            case EINVAL:
                log(LOG_NOTICE,
                    "%s: extended mode not available\n",
                    device_get_nameunit(lpt_dev));
                break;
            default:
                ppb_unlock(ppbus);
                return (error);
        }
    } else while ((sc->sc_transfer_count > 0) &&
❻ (sc->sc_irq_status & LP_USE_IRO)) {
        if (!(sc->sc_state & LP_BUSY))
            ❾ lpt_intr(sc);

        if (sc->sc_state & LP_BUSY) {
            error = ❿ ppb_sleep(ppbus, lpt_dev,
                               LPT_PRI | PCATCH, "lpt_write", 0);
            if (error) {
                sc->sc_state |= LP_INTERRUPTED;
                ppb_unlock(ppbus);
                return (error);
            }
        }
    }
}

if (!(sc->sc_irq_status & LP_USE_IRO) &&
    (sc->sc_transfer_count)) {

```

```

        error = ⑩lpt_push_bytes(sc);
        if (error) {
            ppb_unlock(ppbus);
            return (error);
        }
    }

    lpt_release_ppbus(lpt_dev);
    ppb_unlock(ppbus);

    return (error);
}

```

---

Like `lpt_read`, this function starts by checking the value of `sc->sc_flags`. If it contains the `LP_BYPASS` flag, the error code `EPERM` is returned. Next, the `LP_INTERRUPTED` flag is ① removed from `sc->sc_state` (as you'll see, `LP_INTERRUPTED` is added to `sc->sc_state` whenever a write operation is interrupted). The following while loop contains the bulk of `lpt_write`. Note that its ② expression determines the amount of data to ③ copy from user space to kernel space. This amount is saved in ④ `sc->sc_transfer_count`, which is decremented each time a byte is sent to the printer.

Now, there are three ways to transfer data from kernel space to the printer. First, if extended mode is ⑤ enabled, `lpt_write` can ⑥ write directly to the printer.

**NOTE** *Extended mode refers to either Enhanced Parallel Port (EPP) or Extended Capabilities Port (ECP) mode. EPP and ECP modes are designed to transmit data faster and with less CPU overhead than normal parallel port communications. Most parallel ports support one or both of these modes.*

Second, if the printer is ⑦ interrupt-driven and the `LP_BUSY` flag is cleared in `sc->sc_state`, `lpt_write` can call ⑧ `lpt_intr` to transfer data to the printer. Looking at the function definition for `lpt_intr` in the following section, you'll see that `LP_BUSY` is set during `lpt_intr`'s execution, and that `LP_BUSY` is not cleared until `sc->sc_transfer_count` is 0. This prevents `lpt_write` from issuing another interrupt-driven transfer until the current one completes, which is why `lpt_write` ⑨ sleeps.

Finally, if the first and second options are unavailable, `lpt_write` can issue a polled transfer by calling ⑩ `lpt_push_bytes`, which is described in “`lpt_push_bytes` Function” on page 158.

### ***lpt\_intr Function***

The `lpt_intr` function is `lpt(4)`'s interrupt handler. This function transfers 1 byte from `sc->sc_buf` to the printer and then it exits. When the printer is ready for another byte, it will send an interrupt. Note that in `lpt_intr`, `sc->sc_buf` is accessed via `sc->sc_cp`.

Here is the function definition for lpt\_intr:

---

```
static void
lpt_intr(void *arg)
{
    struct lpt_data *sc = arg;
    device_t lpt_dev = sc->sc_dev;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(lpt_dev);
    int i, status = 0;

    ❶for (i = 0; i < 100 &&
        ((status = ppb_rstr(ppbus)) & LP_READY_MASK) != LP_READY; i++)
        ;           /* nothing. */

    if ((status & LP_READY_MASK) == LP_READY) {
        ❷sc->sc_state = (sc->sc_state | LP_BUSY) & ~LP_ERROR;
        ❸sc->sc_ticks = hz / LP_TOUT_INIT;

        if (sc->sc_transfer_count) {
            ❹ppb_wdtr(ppbus, *sc->sc_cp++);
            ❺ppb_wctr(ppbus, sc->sc_control | LPC_STB);
            ppb_wctr(ppbus, sc->sc_control);

            if (--(sc->sc_transfer_count) > 0)
                ❻return;
        }
    }

    ❼sc->sc_state &= ~LP_BUSY;

    if (!(sc->sc_state & LP_INTERRUPTED))
        ❽wakeup(lpt_dev);

    return;
} else {
    if (((status & (LPS_NERR | LPS_OUT)) != LPS_NERR) &&
        (sc->sc_state & LP_OPEN))
        sc->sc_state |= LP_ERROR;
}
}
```

---

This function first ❶ checks ad nauseam that the printer is online and ready for output. If it is, the ❷ `LP_BUSY` flag is added to `sc->sc_state` and the `LP_ERROR` flag, which denotes a printer error, is removed. Next, `sc->sc_ticks` is ❸ reset. Then 1 byte from `sc->sc_buf` is ❹ written to the parallel port's data register and subsequently ❺ sent to the printer (data on the parallel port interface is sent to the printer when the electrical signal at pin 1, dubbed *nSTROBE*, changes from high to low). If there is more data to send (that is, `sc->sc_transfer_count` is greater than 0), `lpt_intr` ❻ exits, because it is protocol to wait for an interrupt before sending another byte. If there is no more data to send, `LP_BUSY` is ❼ cleared from `sc->sc_state` and `lpt_write` is ❽ woken up.

## ***lpt\_timeout Function***

The `lpt_timeout` function is the callout function for `lpt(4)`. It is designed to deal with missed or unhandled interrupts. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
lpt_timeout(void *arg)
{
    struct lpt_data *sc = arg;
    device_t lpt_dev = sc->sc_dev;

    ❶if (sc->sc_state & LP_OPEN) {
        sc->sc_ticks++;
        if (sc->sc_ticks > hz / LP_TOUT_MAX)
            sc->sc_ticks = hz / LP_TOUT_MAX;
    ❷callout_reset(&sc->sc_callout, sc->sc_ticks,
                  lpt_timeout, sc);
    } else
        sc->sc_state &= ~LP_TIMEOUT;

    if (sc->sc_state & LP_ERROR)
        ❸sc->sc_state &= ~LP_ERROR;

    ❹if (sc->sc_transfer_count)
        ❺lpt_intr(sc);
    else {
        sc->sc_state &= ~LP_BUSY;
        wakeup(lpt_dev);
    }
}
```

---

This function first ❶ checks whether `lpt%d` is open. If so, `lpt_timeout` ❷ reschedules itself to execute. Next, `LP_ERROR` is ❸ removed from `sc->sc_state`. Now if `lpt(4)` has ❹ missed an interrupt, ❺ `lpt_intr` is called to restart transferring data to the printer.

Note that without the if block at ❹, `lpt(4)` would hang waiting for an interrupt that's been sent and lost.

## ***lpt\_push\_bytes Function***

The `lpt_push_bytes` function uses polling to transfer data to the printer. This function is called (by `lpt_write`) only if extended mode is disabled and the printer is not interrupt-driven.

Here is the function definition for `lpt_push_bytes`:

---

```
static int
lpt_push_bytes(struct lpt_data *sc)
{
    device_t lpt_dev = sc->sc_dev;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(lpt_dev);
    int error, spin, tick;
    char ch;
```

---

```

❶while (sc->sc_transfer_count > 0) {
    ch = *sc->sc_cp;
    sc->sc_cp++;
    sc->sc_transfer_count--;

❷for (spin = 0; NOT_READY(ppbus) && spin < MAX_SPIN; spin++)
    DELAY(1);

    if (spin >= MAX_SPIN) {
        tick = 0;
        while (NOT_READY(ppbus)) {
            tick = tick + tick + 1;
            if (tick > MAX_SLEEP)
                tick = MAX_SLEEP;

        error = ❸ppb_sleep(ppbus, lpt_dev, LPT_PRI,
                            "lpt_poll", tick);
        if (error != EWOULDBLOCK)
            return (error);
    }
}

❹ppb_wdtr(ppbus, ch);
❺ppb_wctr(ppbus, sc->sc_control | LPC_STB);
    ppb_wctr(ppbus, sc->sc_control);
}

return (0);
}

```

---

This function first ❶ verifies that there is data to transfer. Then it ❷ polls the printer to see if it is online and ready for output. If the printer is not ready, `lpt_push_bytes` ❸ sleeps for a short period of time and then repolls the printer when it wakes up. This cycle of sleeping and polling is repeated until the printer is ready. If the printer is ready, 1 byte from `sc->sc_buf` is ❹ written to the parallel port's data register and then ❺ sent to the printer. This entire process is repeated until all of the data in `sc->sc_buf` is transferred.

### ***lpt\_close Function***

The `lpt_close` function is defined in `lpt_cdevsw` as the `d_close` operation. Here is its function definition:

---

```

static int
lpt_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    struct lpt_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t lpt_dev = sc->sc_dev;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(lpt_dev);
    int error;

    ppb_lock(ppbus);

```

```

❶if (sc->sc_flags & LP_BYPASS)
    goto end_close;

    error = lpt_request_ppbus(lpt_dev, PPB_WAIT | PPB_INTR);
    if (error) {
        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        return (error);
    }

❷if (!(sc->sc_state & LP_INTERRUPTED) &&
    ❸(sc->sc_irq_status & LP_USE_IRQ))
    while ((ppb_rstr(ppbus) & LP_READY_MASK) != LP_READY ||
        ❹sc->sc_transfer_count)
        if (ppb_sleep(ppbus, lpt_dev, LPT_PRI | PCATCH,
            "lpt_close", hz) != EWOULDBLOCK)
            break;

❺sc->sc_state &= ~LP_OPEN;
❻callout_stop(&sc->sc_callout);
❼ppb_wctr(ppbus, LPC_NINIT);

    lpt_release_ppbus(lpt_dev);

❽ end_close:
    ❾sc->sc_state = 0;
    ❿sc->sc_transfer_count = 0;
    ppb_unlock(ppbus);
    return (0);
}

```

---

Like `lpt_read` and `lpt_write`, this function first ❶ checks the value of `sc->sc_flags`. If it contains the `LP_BYPASS` flag, `lpt_close` jumps to ❸ `end_close`. Next, `lpt(4)` is assigned ownership of the parallel port. The following ❷ `if` block ensures that if there is ❹ still data to transfer and the printer is ❼ interrupt-driven, the transfer is completed before closing `lpt%d`. Then, `LP_OPEN` is ❺ removed from `sc->sc_state`, `lpt_timeout` is ❻ stopped, the printer is ❼ reset, and ownership of the parallel port is relinquished. Lastly, ❾ `sc->sc_state` and ❿ `sc->sc_transfer_count` are zeroed.

### ***lpt\_ioctl Function***

The `lpt_ioctl` function is defined in `lpt_cdevsw` as the `d_ioctl` operation. Before I describe this function, an explanation of its `ioctl` command, `LPT_IRQ`, is needed. `LPT_IRQ` is defined in the `<dev/ppbus/lptio.h>` header as follows:

---

```
#define LPT_IRQ      _IOW('p', 1, ❶long)
```

---

As you can see, `LPT_IRQ` requires a ❶ `long int` value.

---

```
static int
lpt_ioctl(struct cdev *dev, u_long cmd, caddr_t data, int fflag,
```

```

        struct thread *td)
{
    struct lpt_data *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    device_t lpt_dev = sc->sc_dev;
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(lpt_dev);
    u_short old_irq_status;
    int error = 0;

    switch (cmd) {
①case LPT_IRQ:
        ppb_lock(ppbus);
        if (sc->sc_irq_status & LP_HAS_IRQ) {
            old_irq_status = sc->sc_irq_status;
            switch (*(②int *)③data) {
                case 0:
                    ④sc->sc_irq_status &= ~LP_ENABLE_IRQ;
                    break;
                case 1:
                    sc->sc_irq_status &= ~LP_ENABLE_EXT;
                    ⑤sc->sc_irq_status |= LP_ENABLE_IRQ;
                    break;
                case 2:
                    sc->sc_irq_status &= ~LP_ENABLE_IRQ;
                    ⑥sc->sc_irq_status |= LP_ENABLE_EXT;
                    break;
                case 3:
                    ⑦sc->sc_irq_status &= ~LP_ENABLE_EXT;
                    break;
                default:
                    break;
            }
        }

        if (old_irq_status != sc->sc_irq_status)
            log(LOG_NOTICE,
                "%s: switched to %s %s mode\n",
                device_get_nameunit(lpt_dev),
                (sc->sc_irq_status & LP_ENABLE_IRQ) ?
                "interrupt-driven" : "polled",
                (sc->sc_irq_status & LP_ENABLE_EXT) ?
                "extended" : "standard");
    } ⑧ else
        error = EOPNOTSUPP;

        ppb_unlock(ppbus);
        break;
    default:
        error = ENODEV;
        break;
    }

    return (error);
}

```

---

Based on the ❷ argument given to ❶ `LPT_IRQ`, `lpt_ioctl` either ❸ disables interrupt-driven mode (which enables polled mode), ❹ enables interrupt-driven mode, ❺ enables extended mode, or ❻ disables extended mode (which enables standard mode). Note that interrupt-driven mode and extended mode conflict with each other, so if one is enabled, the other is disabled.

**NOTE** To run this function, you'd use the `lptcontrol(8)` utility, whose source code I suggest you take a quick look at.

### ***lpt\_request\_ppbus Function***

The `lpt_request_ppbus` function sets `lpt(4)` as the owner of the parallel port. Recall that owning the parallel port lets a device (such as `lpt%d`) transfer data to and from it.

Here is the function definition for `lpt_request_ppbus`:

---

```
static int
lpt_request_ppbus(device_t dev, int how)
{
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(dev);
    struct lpt_data *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int error;

    ppb_assert_locked(ppbus);

    ❶if (sc->sc_state & LP_HAVEBUS)
        ❷return (0);

    error = ❸ppb_request_bus(ppbus, dev, how);
    if (!error)
        ❹sc->sc_state |= LP_HAVEBUS;

    return (error);
}
```

---

This function begins by ❶ checking the value of `sc->sc_state`. If it contains `LP_HAVEBUS`, which indicates that `lpt(4)` currently owns the parallel port, `lpt_request_ppbus` ❷ exits. Otherwise, ❸ `ppb_request_bus` is called to set `lpt(4)` as the owner of the parallel port and `sc->sc_state` is ❹ assigned `LP_HAVEBUS`.

### ***lpt\_release\_ppbus Function***

The `lpt_release_ppbus` function causes `lpt(4)` to relinquish ownership of the parallel port. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
lpt_release_ppbus(device_t dev)
{
    device_t ppbus = device_get_parent(dev);
    struct lpt_data *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int error = 0;
```

```
ppb_assert_locked(ppbus);

❶if (sc->sc_state & LP_HAVEBUS) {
    error = ❷ppb_release_bus(ppbus, dev);
    if (!error)
        ❸sc->sc_state &= ~LP_HAVEBUS;
}

return (error);
}
```

---

This function first ❶ verifies that lpt(4) currently owns the parallel port. Next, it calls ❷ ppb\_release\_bus to relinquish ownership of the parallel port. Then LP\_HAVEBUS is ❸ removed from sc->sc\_state.

## Conclusion

This chapter described the entire code base of lpt(4), the parallel port printer driver.



# 10

## MANAGING AND USING RESOURCES



In Chapter 7 we discussed how to allocate IRQs, I/O ports, and I/O memory. Chapter 8 focused on using IRQs for interrupt handling. This chapter details how to use I/O ports for port-mapped I/O (PMIO) and I/O memory for memory-mapped I/O (MMIO). Before I describe PMIO and MMIO, some background on I/O ports and I/O memory is needed.

### I/O Ports and I/O Memory

Every peripheral device is controlled by reading from and writing to its registers (Corbet et al., 2005), which are mapped to either I/O ports or I/O memory. The use of I/O ports or I/O memory is device and architecture dependent. For example, on the *i386*, most ISA devices will map their registers to I/O ports; however, PCI devices tend to map their registers to I/O

memory. As you may have guessed, reading and writing to a device's registers, which are mapped to either I/O ports or I/O memory, is called PMIO or MMIO.

## ***Reading from I/O Ports and I/O Memory***

After a driver has called `bus_alloc_resource` to allocate the range of I/O ports or I/O memory it needs, it can read from those I/O regions using one of the following functions:

---

```
#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <machine/bus.h>

u_int8_t
bus_read_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset);

u_int16_t
bus_read_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset);

u_int32_t
bus_read_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset);

u_int64_t
bus_read_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset);

void
bus_read_multi_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_multi_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_multi_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_multi_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_region_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_region_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_region_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t *datap, bus_size_t count);
```

```
void  
bus_read_region_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,  
    u_int64_t *datap, bus_size_t count);
```

---

The `bus_read_N` functions (where  $N$  is 1, 2, 4, or 8) read  $N$  bytes from an offset in `r` (where `r` is the return value from a successful `bus_alloc_resource` call that allocated an I/O region).

The `bus_read_multi_N` functions read  $N$  bytes from an offset in `r`, `count` times, and store the reads into `datap`. In short, `bus_read_multi_N` reads from the same location multiple times.

The `bus_read_region_N` functions read `count`  $N$ -byte values starting from an offset in `r`, and store the reads into `datap`. In other words, `bus_read_region_N` reads consecutive  $N$ -byte values from an I/O region (that is, an array).

## ***Writing to I/O Ports and I/O Memory***

A driver writes to an I/O region using one of the following functions:

```
#include <sys/bus.h>  
#include <machine/bus.h>  
  
void  
bus_write_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,  
    u_int8_t value);  
  
void  
bus_write_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,  
    u_int16_t value);  
  
void  
bus_write_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,  
    u_int32_t value);  
  
void  
bus_write_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,  
    u_int64_t value);  
  
void  
bus_write_multi_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,  
    u_int8_t *datap, bus_size_t count);  
  
void  
bus_write_multi_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,  
    u_int16_t *datap, bus_size_t count);  
  
void  
bus_write_multi_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,  
    u_int32_t *datap, bus_size_t count);
```

```
void
bus_write_multi_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_region_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_region_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_region_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_region_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_multi_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_multi_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_multi_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_multi_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_region_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_region_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_region_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_region_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t value, bus_size_t count);
```

---

The `bus_write_N` functions (where  $N$  is 1, 2, 4, or 8) write an  $N$ -byte value to an offset in `r` (where `r` is the return value from a `bus_alloc_resource` call that allocated an I/O region).

The `bus_write_multi_N` functions take `count`  $N$ -byte values from `datap` and write them to an offset in `r`. In short, `bus_write_multi_N` writes multiple values to the same location.

The `bus_write_region_N` functions take `count`  $N$ -byte values from `datap` and write them to a region in `r`, starting at `offset`. Each successive value is written at an offset of  $N$  bytes after the previous value. In short, `bus_write_region_N` writes consecutive  $N$ -byte values to an I/O region (that is, an array).

The `bus_set_multi_N` functions write an  $N$ -byte value to an offset in `r`, `count` times. That is, `bus_set_multi_N` writes the same value to the same location multiple times.

The `bus_set_region_N` functions write an  $N$ -byte value, `count` times, throughout a region in `r`, starting at `offset`. In other words, `bus_set_region_N` writes the same value consecutively to an I/O region (that is, an array).

## **Stream Operations**

All of the preceding functions handle converting to and from host byte order and bus byte order. In some cases, however, you may need to avoid this conversion. Fortunately, FreeBSD provides the following functions for such an occasion:

---

```
#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <machine/bus.h>

u_int8_t
bus_read_stream_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset);

u_int16_t
bus_read_stream_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset);

u_int32_t
bus_read_stream_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset);

u_int64_t
bus_read_stream_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset);

void
bus_read_multi_stream_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_multi_stream_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_multi_stream_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t *datap, bus_size_t count);
```

```
void
bus_read_multi_stream_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_region_stream_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_region_stream_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_region_stream_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_read_region_stream_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_stream_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t value);

void
bus_write_stream_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t value);

void
bus_write_stream_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t value);

void
bus_write_stream_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t value);

void
bus_write_multi_stream_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_multi_stream_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_multi_stream_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_multi_stream_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t *datap, bus_size_t count);
```

```

void
bus_write_region_stream_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_region_stream_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_region_stream_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_write_region_stream_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t *datap, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_multi_stream_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_multi_stream_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_multi_stream_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_multi_stream_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_region_stream_1(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int8_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_region_stream_2(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int16_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_region_stream_4(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int32_t value, bus_size_t count);

void
bus_set_region_stream_8(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset,
    u_int64_t value, bus_size_t count);

```

---

These functions are identical to their nonstream counterparts, except that they don't perform any byte order conversions.

## Memory Barriers

Sequences of read and write instructions can often be executed more quickly if run in an order that's different from the program text (Corbet et al., 2005). As a result, modern processors customarily reorder read and write instructions. However, this optimization can foul up drivers performing PMIO and MMIO. To prevent instruction reordering, memory barriers are employed. *Memory barriers* ensure that all instructions before the barrier conclude before any instruction after the barrier. For PMIO and MMIO operations, the `bus_barrier` function provides this ability:

---

```
#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <machine/bus.h>

void
bus_barrier(struct resource *r, bus_size_t offset, bus_size_t length,
            int flags);
```

---

The `bus_barrier` function inserts a memory barrier that enforces the ordering of read or write operations on a region in `r`, which is described by the `offset` and `length` arguments. The `flags` argument specifies the type of operation to be ordered. Valid values for this argument are shown in Table 10-1.

**Table 10-1:** `bus_barrier` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>BUS_SPACE_BARRIER_READ</code>	Synchronizes read operations
<code>BUS_SPACE_BARRIER_WRITE</code>	Synchronizes write operations

Note that these flags can be ORed to enforce ordering on both read and write operations. An exemplary use of `bus_barrier` looks something like this:

---

```
bus_write_1(r, 0, data0);
bus_barrier(r, 0, 1, BUS_SPACE_BARRIER_WRITE);
bus_write_1(r, 0, data1);
bus_barrier(r, 0, 2, BUS_SPACE_BARRIER_READ | BUS_SPACE_BARRIER_WRITE);
data2 = bus_read_1(r, 1);
bus_barrier(r, 1, 1, BUS_SPACE_BARRIER_READ);
data3 = bus_read_1(r, 1);
```

---

Here, the calls to `bus_barrier` guarantee that the writes and reads conclude in the order written.

## Tying Everything Together

Listing 10-1 is a simple driver for an i-Opener's LEDs (based on code written by Warner Losh). An i-Opener includes two LEDs that are controlled by bits 0 and 1 of the register located at 0x404c. Hopefully, this example will clarify any misunderstandings you may have about PMIO (and MMIO).

**NOTE** Take a quick look at this code and try to discern some of its structure. If you don't understand all of it, don't worry; an explanation follows.

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/systm.h>

#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>

#include <machine/bus.h>
#include <sys/rman.h>
#include <machine/resource.h>

❶ #define LED_IO_ADDR          0x404c
❷ #define LED_NUM               2

struct led_softc {
    int                      sc_io_rid;
    struct resource          *sc_io_resource;
    struct cdev              *sc_cdev0;
    struct cdev              *sc_cdev1;
    u_int32_t                sc_open_mask;
    u_int32_t                sc_read_mask;
    struct mtx                sc_mutex;
};

static devclass_t led_devclass;

static d_open_t            led_open;
static d_close_t           led_close;
static d_read_t             led_read;
static d_write_t            led_write;

static struct cdevsw led_cdevsw = {
    .d_version =             D_VERSION,
    .d_open =                 led_open,
    .d_close =                led_close,
    .d_read =                 led_read,
    .d_write =                led_write,
    .d_name =                 "led"
};

static int
led_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    int led = dev2unit(dev) & 0xff;
    struct led_softc *sc = dev->si_drv1;
```

```

        if (led >= LED_NUM)
            return (ENXIO);

        mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
        if (sc->sc_open_mask & (1 << led)) {
            mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);
            return (EBUSY);
        }
        sc->sc_open_mask |= 1 << led;
        sc->sc_read_mask |= 1 << led;
        mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);

        return (0);
    }

static int
led_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    int led = dev2unit(dev) & 0xff;
    struct led_softc *sc = dev->si_drv1;

    if (led >= LED_NUM)
        return (ENXIO);

    mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
    sc->sc_open_mask &= ~(1 << led);
    mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);

    return (0);
}

static int
led_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int led = dev2unit(dev) & 0xff;
    struct led_softc *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    u_int8_t ch;
    int error;

    if (led >= LED_NUM)
        return (ENXIO);

    mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
    /* No error EOF condition. */
    if (!(sc->sc_read_mask & (1 << led))) {
        mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);
        return (0);
    }
    sc->sc_read_mask &= ~(1 << led);
    mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);

    ch = bus_read_1(sc->sc_io_resource, 0);
    if (ch & (1 << led))
        ch = '1';
}

```

```

        else
            ch = '0';

        error = uiomove(&ch, 1, uio);
        return (error);
    }

static int
led_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int led = dev2unit(dev) & 0xff;
    struct led_softc *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    u_int8_t ch;
    u_int8_t old;
    int error;

    if (led >= LED_NUM)
        return (ENXIO);

    error = uiomove(&ch, 1, uio);
    if (error)
        return (error);

    old = bus_read_1(sc->sc_io_resource, 0);
    if (ch & 1)
        old |= (1 << led);
    else
        old &= ~(1 << led);

    bus_write_1(sc->sc_io_resource, 0, old);

    return (error);
}

static void
led_identify(driver_t *driver, device_t parent)
{
    device_t child;

    child = device_find_child(parent, "led", -1);
    if (!child) {
        child = BUS_ADD_CHILD(parent, 0, "led", -1);
        bus_set_resource(child, SYS_RES_IOPORT, 0, LED_IO_ADDR, 1);
    }
}

static int
led_probe(device_t dev)
{
    if (!bus_get_resource_start(dev, SYS_RES_IOPORT, 0))
        return (ENXIO);

    device_set_desc(dev, "I/O Port Example");
    return (BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC);
}

```

```

static int
led_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct led_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

    sc->sc_io_rid = 0;
    sc->sc_io_resource = bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, SYS_RES_IOPORT,
                                                &sc->sc_io_rid, RF_ACTIVE);
    if (!sc->sc_io_resource) {
        device_printf(dev, "unable to allocate resource\n");
        return (ENXIO);
    }

    sc->sc_open_mask = 0;
    sc->sc_read_mask = 0;
    mtx_init(&sc->sc_mutex, "led", NULL, MTX_DEF);

    sc->sc_cdevo = make_dev(&led_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL, 0644,
                           "ledo");
    sc->sc_cdev1 = make_dev(&led_cdevsw, 1, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL, 0644,
                           "led1");
    sc->sc_cdevo->si_drv1 = sc;
    sc->sc_cdev1->si_drv1 = sc;

    return (0);
}

static int
led_detach(device_t dev)
{
    struct led_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

    destroy_dev(sc->sc_cdevo);
    destroy_dev(sc->sc_cdev1);

    mtx_destroy(&sc->sc_mutex);

    bus_release_resource(dev, SYS_RES_IOPORT, sc->sc_io_rid,
                        sc->sc_io_resource);

    return (0);
}

static device_method_t led_methods[] = {
    /* Device interface. */
    DEVMETHOD(device_identify,      led_identify),
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,         led_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,        led_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,        led_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t led_driver = {
    "led",

```

```
    led_methods,  
    sizeof(struct led_softc)  
};  
  
DRIVER_MODULE(led, isa, led_driver, led_devclass, 0, 0);
```

---

*Listing 10-1: led.c*

Before I describe the functions defined in Listing 10-1, note that the constant ❶ LED\_IO\_ADDR is defined as 0x404c and that the constant ❷ LED\_NUM is defined as 2.

The following sections describe the functions defined in Listing 10-1 in the order they would roughly execute.

### ***led\_identify Function***

The led\_identify function is the device\_identify implementation for this driver. This function is required because the ISA bus cannot identify its children unaided. Here is the function definition for led\_identify (again):

---

```
static void  
led_identify(driver_t *driver, device_t parent)  
{  
    device_t child;  
  
    child = ❶device_find_child(parent, ❷"led", -1);  
    if (!child) {  
        child = ❸BUS_ADD_CHILD(parent, 0, "led", -1);  
        ❹bus_set_resource(child, SYS_RES_IOPORT, 0, LED_IO_ADDR, 1);  
    }  
}
```

---

This function first ❶ determines if the ISA bus has identified a child device named ❷ "led". If it has not, then "led" is ❸ appended to the ISA bus's catalog of identified children. Afterward, ❹ bus\_set\_resource is called to specify that I/O port access for "led" starts at LED\_IO\_ADDR.

### ***led\_probe Function***

The led\_probe function is the device\_probe implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int  
led_probe(device_t dev)  
{  
    ❶if (!bus_get_resource_start(dev, SYS_RES_IOPORT, 0))  
        return (ENXIO);  
  
    ❷device_set_desc(dev, "I/O Port Example");  
    ❸return (BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC);  
}
```

---

This function first ❶ checks if "led" can acquire I/O port access. Afterward, the verbose description of "led" is ❷ set and the success code ❸ `BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC` is returned.

### ***led\_attach Function***

The `led_attach` function is the `device_attach` implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
led_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct led_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

    sc->sc_io_rid = 0;
    sc->sc_io_resource = ❶bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, SYS_RES_IOPORT,
                                                &sc->sc_io_rid, RF_ACTIVE);
    if (!sc->sc_io_resource) {
        device_printf(dev, "unable to allocate resource\n");
        ❷return (ENXIO);
    }

❸sc->sc_open_mask = 0;
❹sc->sc_read_mask = 0;
mtx_init(❺&sc->sc_mutex, "led", NULL, MTX_DEF);

sc->sc_cdev0 = ❻make_dev(&led_cdevsw, 0, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL, 0644,
                           "ledo");
sc->sc_cdev1 = ❼make_dev(&led_cdevsw, 1, UID_ROOT, GID_WHEEL, 0644,
                           "led1");
sc->sc_cdev0->si_drv1 = sc;
sc->sc_cdev1->si_drv1 = sc;

    return (0);
}
```

---

This function begins by ❶ acquiring an I/O port. If unsuccessful, the error code ❷ `ENXIO` is returned. Then the member variables ❸ `sc_open_mask` and ❹ `sc_read_mask` are zeroed; in the `d_foo` functions, these variables will be protected by ❺ `sc_mutex`. Finally, `led_attach` creates a ❻ ❼ character device node for each LED.

### ***led\_detach Function***

The `led_detach` function is the `device_detach` implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
led_detach(device_t dev)
{
```

```

        struct led_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

❶destroy_dev(sc->sc_cdevo);
❷destroy_dev(sc->sc_cdev1);

❸mtx_destroy(&sc->sc_mutex);

❹bus_release_resource(dev, SYS_RES_IOPORT, sc->sc_io_rid,
                      sc->sc_io_resource);

        return (0);
}

```

---

This function begins by ❶ ❷ destroying its device nodes. Once this is done, it ❸ destroys its mutex and ❹ releases its I/O port.

### ***led\_open Function***

The `led_open` function is defined in `led_cdevsw` (that is, the character device switch table) as the `d_open` operation. Here is its function definition (again):

```

static int
led_open(struct cdev *dev, int oflags, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    ❶int led = dev2unit(dev) & 0xff;
    struct led_softc *sc = dev->si_drv1;

    ❷if (led >= LED_NUM)
        ❸return (ENXIO);

    mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
    ❹if (sc->sc_open_mask & (1 << led)) {
        mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);
        ❺return (EBUSY);
    }
    ❻sc->sc_open_mask |= 1 << led;
    ❼sc->sc_read_mask |= 1 << led;
    mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);

    return (0);
}

```

---

This function first ❶ stores in `led` the unit number of the device node being opened. If `led` is ❷ greater than or equal to `LED_NUM`, then `ENXIO` is ❸ returned. Next, the value of `sc_open_mask` is ❹ examined. If its `led` bit does not equal 0, which indicates that another process has opened the device, then `EBUSY` is ❺ returned. Otherwise, `sc_open_mask` and `sc_read_mask` are ❻ ❼ set to include `1 << led`. That is, their `led` bit will be changed to 1.

## ***led\_close Function***

The led\_close function is defined in led\_cdevsw as the d\_close operation. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
led_close(struct cdev *dev, int fflag, int devtype, struct thread *td)
{
    int led = dev2unit(dev) & 0xff;
    struct led_softc *sc = dev->si_drv1;

    if (led >= LED_NUM)
        return (ENXIO);

    mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
❶ sc->sc_open_mask &= ~(1 << led);
    mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);

    return (0);
}
```

---

As you can see, this function simply ❶ clears sc\_open\_mask's led bit (which allows another process to open this device).

## ***led\_read Function***

The led\_read function is defined in led\_cdevsw as the d\_read operation. This function returns one character indicating whether the LED is on (1) or off (0). Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static int
led_read(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int led = dev2unit(dev) & 0xff;
    struct led_softc *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    u_int8_t ch;
    int error;

    if (led >= LED_NUM)
        return (ENXIO);

    mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
    /* No error EOF condition. */
❶ if (!(sc->sc_read_mask & (1 << led))) {
        mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);
❷ return (0);
    }
    sc->sc_read_mask &= ~(1 << led);
    mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);
```

---

```

③ch = bus_read_1(sc->sc_io_resource, 0);
④if (ch & (1 << led))
    ch = '1';
else
    ch = '0';

error = ⑤uiomove(&ch, 1, uio);
return (error);
}

```

---

This function first ① checks that `sc_read_mask`'s led bit is set; otherwise, it ② exits. Next, 1 byte from the LED's control register is ③ read into `ch`. Then `ch`'s led bit is ④ isolated and its value is ⑤ returned to user space.

### ***led\_write Function***

The `led_write` function is defined in `led_cdevsw` as the `d_write` operation. This function takes in one character to turn on (1) or off (0) the LED. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
led_write(struct cdev *dev, struct uio *uio, int ioflag)
{
    int led = dev2unit(dev) & 0xff;
    struct led_softc *sc = dev->si_drv1;
    u_int8_t ch;
    u_int8_t old;
    int error;

    if (led >= LED_NUM)
        return (ENXIO);

    error = ①uiomove(&ch, 1, uio);
    if (error)
        return (error);

    ②old = bus_read_1(sc->sc_io_resource, 0);
    ③if (ch & 1)
        ④old |= (1 << led);
    else
        ⑤old &= ~(1 << led);

    ⑥bus_write_1(sc->sc_io_resource, 0, old);

    return (error);
}

```

---

This function first ❶ copies one character from user space to ch. Next, 1 byte from the LED’s control register is ❷ read into old. Then, based on the ❸ value from user space, old’s led bit is turned ❹ on or ❺ off. Afterward, old is ❻ written back to the LED’s control register.

## Conclusion

This chapter described all of the functions provided by FreeBSD for performing PMIO and MMIO (that is, for accessing a device’s registers). The next chapter discusses using PMIO and MMIO with PCI devices, which are more involved than what’s been shown here.

# 11

## CASE STUDY: INTELLIGENT PLATFORM MANAGEMENT INTERFACE DRIVER



This chapter examines parts of `ipmi(4)`, the Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) driver. The IPMI specification defines a standard for monitoring and managing system hardware.

**NOTE** *For our purposes, this description of IPMI is sufficient, as the point of this chapter is to demonstrate how PCI drivers such as `ipmi(4)` employ PMIO and MMIO.*

The code base for `ipmi(4)` is composed of 10 source files and 1 header file. In this chapter, we'll walk through one of these files, `ipmi_pci.c`, which contains code that's related to the PCI bus.

### Code Analysis

Listing 11-1 provides a terse, source-level overview of `ipmi_pci.c`.

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
```

```

#include <sys/sysm.h>

#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <sys/condvar.h>
#include <sys/eventhandler.h>
#include <sys/selinfo.h>

#include <machine/bus.h>
#include <sys/rman.h>
#include <machine/resource.h>

#include <dev/pci/pcireg.h>
#include <dev/pci/pcivar.h>

#include <dev/ipmi/ipmivars.h>

static struct ipmi_ident {
    u_int16_t vendor;
    u_int16_t device;
    char *description;
} ipmi_identifiers[] = {
    { 0x1028, 0x000d, "Dell PE2650 SMIC interface" },
    { 0, 0, 0 }
};

const char *
ipmi_pci_match(uint16_t vendor, uint16_t device)
{
...
}

static int
ipmi_pci_probe(device_t dev)
{
...
}

static int
ipmi_pci_attach(device_t dev)
{
...
}

static device_method_t ipmi_methods[] = {
    /* Device interface. */
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,           ipmi_pci_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,         ipmi_pci_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,        ipmi_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t ipmi_pci_driver = {
    "ipmi",
    ipmi_methods,
    sizeof(struct ipmi_softc)
}

```

```

};

❶ DRIVER_MODULE(ipmi_pci, pci, ipmi_pci_driver, ipmi_devclass, 0, 0);

static int
ipmi2_pci_probe(device_t dev)
{
    ...
}

static int
ipmi2_pci_attach(device_t dev)
{
    ...
}

static device_method_t ipmi2_methods[] = {
    /* Device interface. */
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,          ipmi2_pci_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,        ipmi2_pci_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,        ipmi_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t ipmi2_pci_driver = {
    "ipmi",
    ipmi2_methods,
    sizeof(struct ipmi_softc)
};

❷ DRIVER_MODULE(ipmi2_pci, pci, ipmi2_pci_driver, ipmi_devclass, 0, 0);

```

---

*Listing 11-1: ipmi\_pci.c*

Before I describe the functions in Listing 11-1, note that it contains two ❶ ❷ DRIVER\_MODULE calls. In other words, Listing 11-1 declares two Newbus drivers; each designed to handle a distinct group of devices (as you'll soon see).

Now let's discuss the functions found in Listing 11-1.

### ***ipmi\_pci\_probe Function***

The ipmi\_pci\_probe function is the device\_probe implementation for the first Newbus driver found in Listing 11-1. Here is its function definition:

---

```

static int
ipmi_pci_probe(device_t ❶dev)
{
    const char *desc;

    ❷if (ipmi_attached)
        ❸return (ENXIO);

```

---

```

desc = ❸ipmi_pci_match(pci_get_vendor(dev), pci_get_device(dev));
if (desc != NULL) {
    device_set_desc(dev, desc);
    return (BUS_PROBE_DEFAULT);
}

return (ENXIO);
}

```

---

This function first ❷ checks the value of the global variable `ipmi_attached`. If it is nonzero, which signifies that `ipmi(4)` is currently in use, the error code ❸ `ENXIO` is returned; otherwise, ❹ `ipmi_pci_match` is called to determine whether this driver can handle ❺ `dev`.

### ***ipmi\_pci\_match Function***

The `ipmi_pci_match` function takes in a PCI Vendor ID/Device ID (VID/DID) pair and verifies whether it recognizes those IDs. Before I define (and subsequently walk through) this function, a description of the `ipmi_identifiers` array is needed. This array is defined near the beginning of Listing 11-1 like so:

---

```

static struct ipmi_ident {
    ❶u_int16_t      vendor;
    ❷u_int16_t      device;
    ❸char          *description;
} ipmi_identifiers[] = {
    { 0x1028, 0x000d, "Dell PE2650 SMIC interface" },
    { 0, 0, 0 }
};

```

---

As you can see, the `ipmi_identifiers` array is composed of `ipmi_ident` structures. Each `ipmi_ident` structure includes a ❶ ❷ VID/DID pair and a ❸ description of the PCI device. As you may have guessed, `ipmi_identifiers` lists the devices that the first Newbus driver in Listing 11-1 supports.

Now that we've discussed `ipmi_identifiers`, let's walk through `ipmi_pci_match`.

---

```

const char *
ipmi_pci_match(uint16_t vendor, uint16_t device)
{
    struct ipmi_ident *m;

    ❶for (m = ipmi_identifiers; m->vendor != 0; m++)
        ❷if (m->vendor == vendor && m->device == device)
            ❸return (m->description);

    return (NULL);
}

```

---

This function determines whether a specific ❷ VID/DID pair is listed in ❶ `ipmi_identifiers`. If so, its ❸ description is returned.

## *ipmi\_pci\_attach Function*

The ipmi\_pci\_attach function is the device\_attach implementation for the first Newbus driver found in Listing 11-1. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
ipmi_pci_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct ipmi_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    struct ipmi_get_info info;
    const char *mode;
    int error, type;

❶ if (!ipmi_smbios_identify(&info))
    return (ENXIO);

    sc->ipmi_dev = dev;

❷ switch (info.iface_type) {
    case KCS_MODE:
        mode = "KCS";
        break;
    case SMIC_MODE:
        mode = "SMIC";
        break;
    case BT_MODE:
        device_printf(dev, "BT mode is unsupported\n");
        return (ENXIO);
    default:
        device_printf(dev, "No IPMI interface found\n");
        return (ENXIO);
}

device_printf(dev,
    "%s mode found at %s 0x%jx alignment 0x%jx on %s\n",
    mode,
    info.io_mode ? "I/O port" : "I/O memory",
    (uintmax_t)info.address,
    info.offset,
    device_get_name(device_get_parent(dev)));

if (info.io_mode)
    ❸ type = SYS_RES_IOPORT;
else
    ❹ type = SYS_RES_MEMORY;

sc->ipmi_io_rid = ❺ PCIR_BAR(0);
sc->ipmi_io_res[0] = bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, type,
    ❻ &sc->ipmi_io_rid, RF_ACTIVE);
sc->ipmi_io_type = type;
sc->ipmi_io_spacing = info.offset;
```

```

        if (sc->ipmi_io_res[0] == NULL) {
            device_printf(dev, "could not configure PCI I/O resource\n");
            return (ENXIO);
        }

        sc->ipmi_irq_rid = 0;
        sc->ipmi_irq_res = bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ,
            &sc->ipmi_irq_rid, RF_SHAREABLE | RF_ACTIVE);

        switch (info.iface_type) {
        case KCS_MODE:
            error = ipmi_kcs_attach(sc);
            if (error)
                goto bad;
            break;
        case SMIC_MODE:
            error = ipmi_smic_attach(sc);
            if (error)
                goto bad;
            break;
        }

        error = ipmi_attach(dev);
        if (error)
            goto bad;

        return (0);

bad:
        ipmi_release_resources(dev);
        return (error);
    }

```

---

This function begins by ❶ retrieving the IPMI data structure stored in the computer’s *System Management BIOS (SMBIOS)*, which is responsible for maintaining hardware configuration information.

Based on the SMBIOS data, `ipmi_pci_attach` determines `ipmi(4)`’s ❷ mode of operation and whether it requires ❸ I/O port or ❹ I/O memory access. Currently, `ipmi(4)` supports only Keyboard Controller Style (KCS) and Server Management Interface Chip (SMIC) modes. These modes dictate how IPMI messages are transferred. For our purposes, you won’t need to understand the specifics of either mode.

The next block of code acquires I/O region access for `ipmi(4)`. Before I describe this code, some background on PCI devices is needed. After bootup, PCI devices can remap their device registers to a different location, thus avoiding address conflicts with other devices. Because of this, PCI devices store the size and current location of their I/O-mapped registers in their base address registers (BARs). Thus, this block of code first calls ❺ `PCIR_BAR(0)` to get the address of the first BAR. Then it passes that address as the ❻ `rid` argument to `bus_alloc_resource_any`, thereby acquiring I/O access to the device’s registers.

**NOTE** To be accurate, the `PCIR_BAR(x)` macro returns the RID of the *x*th BAR.

The remainder of `ipmi_pci_attach` ⑦ acquires an IRQ, starts up ⑧ KCS or ⑨ SMIC mode, and calls ⑩ `ipmi_attach` to finish initializing the device.

### ***ipmi2\_pci\_probe Function***

The `ipmi2_pci_probe` function is the `device_probe` implementation for the second Newbus driver found in Listing 11-1. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
ipmi2_pci_probe(device_t dev)
{
    if (pci_get_class(dev) == PCIC_SERIALBUS &&
        pci_get_subclass(dev) == ①PCIS_SERIALBUS_IPMI) {
        ②device_set_desc(dev, "IPMI System Interface");
        ③return (BUS_PROBE_GENERIC);
    }

    return (ENXIO);
}
```

---

This function determines if `dev` is a ① generic IPMI device on the PCI bus. If so, its verbose description is ② set, and the success code ③ `BUS_PROBE_GENERIC` is returned. In short, this driver handles any standard IPMI device on the PCI bus.

As you may have guessed, the first Newbus driver is a hack (that is to say, a workaround) for the Dell PE2650, because it does not adhere to the IPMI specification.

### ***ipmi2\_pci\_attach Function***

The `ipmi2_pci_attach` function is the `device_attach` implementation for the second Newbus driver found in Listing 11-1. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
ipmi2_pci_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct ipmi_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int error, iface, type;

    sc->ipmi_dev = dev;

    ①switch (pci_get_progif(dev)) {
        case PCIP_SERIALBUS_IPMI_SMIC:
            iface = SMIC_MODE;
            break;
        case PCIP_SERIALBUS_IPMI_KCS:
            iface = KCS_MODE;
            break;
        case PCIP_SERIALBUS_IPMI_BT:
            device_printf(dev, "BT interface is unsupported\n");
            return (ENXIO);
    }
}
```

---

```

default:
    device_printf(dev, "unsupported interface: %d\n",
                  pci_get_progid(dev));
    return (ENXIO);
}

sc->ipmi_io_rid = ②PCIR_BAR(0);
③if (PCI_BAR_IO(pci_read_config(dev, PCIR_BAR(0), 4)))
    ④type = SYS_RES_IOPORT;
else
    ⑤type = SYS_RES_MEMORY;
sc->ipmi_io_type = type;
sc->ipmi_io_spacing = 1;
sc->ipmi_io_res[0] = ⑥bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, type,
                                             &sc->ipmi_io_rid, RF_ACTIVE);
if (sc->ipmi_io_res[0] == NULL) {
    device_printf(dev, "could not configure PCI I/O resource\n");
    return (ENXIO);
}

sc->ipmi_irq_rid = 0;
sc->ipmi_irq_res = ⑦bus_alloc_resource_any(dev, SYS_RES_IRQ,
                                             &sc->ipmi_irq_rid, RF_SHAREABLE | RF_ACTIVE);

switch (iface) {
case KCS_MODE:
    device_printf(dev, "using KCS interface\n");

    if (!ipmi_kcs_probe_align(sc)) {
        device_printf(dev,
                      "unable to determine alignment\n");
        error = ENXIO;
        goto bad;
    }

    error = ⑧ipmi_kcs_attach(sc);
    if (error)
        goto bad;
    break;
case SMIC_MODE:
    device_printf(dev, "using SMIC interface\n");

    error = ⑨ipmi_smic_attach(sc);
    if (error)
        goto bad;
    break;
}

error = ⑩ipmi_attach(dev);
if (error)
    goto bad;

return (0);

```

```
bad:  
    ipmi_release_resources(dev);  
    return (error);  
}
```

---

This function begins by ❶ examining `dev`'s programming interface to determine `ipmi(4)`'s mode of operation (either SMIC or KCS). Then ❷ `PCIR_BAR()` is called to obtain the address of the first BAR. From this BAR, `ipmi2_pci_attach` ❸ identifies whether `ipmi(4)` requires ❹ I/O port or ❺ I/O memory access before ❻ acquiring it. Lastly, `ipmi2_pci_attach` ❼ obtains an IRQ, starts up ❽ KCS or ❾ SMIC mode, and calls ❿ `ipmi_attach` to finish initializing `dev`.

## Conclusion

This chapter examined the PCI code base for `ipmi(4)` and introduced two fundamentals. First, a single source file can contain more than one driver. Second, to acquire I/O region access, PCI drivers must first call `PCIR_BAR`.



# 12

## DIRECT MEMORY ACCESS



*Direct Memory Access (DMA)* is a feature of modern processors that lets a device transfer data to and from main memory independently of the CPU. With DMA, the CPU merely initiates the data transfer (that is to say, it does not complete it), and then the device (or a separate DMA controller) actually moves the data. Because of this, DMA tends to provide higher system performance as the CPU is free to perform other tasks during the data transfer.

**NOTE** *There is some overhead in performing DMA. Accordingly, only devices that move large amounts of data (for example, storage devices) use DMA. You wouldn't use DMA just to transfer one or two bytes of data.*

# Implementing DMA

Unlike with previous topics, I'm going to take a holistic approach here. Namely, I'm going to show an example first, and then I'll describe the DMA family of functions.

The following pseudocode is a `device_attach` routine for a fictitious device that uses DMA.

---

```
static int
foo_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct foo_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int error;

    bzero(sc, sizeof(*sc));

    if (bus_dma_tag_create(bus_get_dma_tag(dev), /* parent      */
                          1,                      /* alignment   */
                          0,                      /* boundary   */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR,     /* lowaddr    */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR,     /* highaddr   */
                          NULL,                  /* filter     */
                          NULL,                  /* filterarg  */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXSIZE_32BIT,/* maxsize    */
                          BUS_SPACE_UNRESTRICTED,/* nsegments  */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXSIZE_32BIT,/* maxsegsize */
                          0,                      /* flags      */
                          NULL,                  /* lockfunc   */
                          NULL,                  /* lockfuncarg */
                          ①&sc->foo_parent_dma_tag)) {
        device_printf(dev, "Cannot allocate parent DMA tag!\n");
        return (ENOMEM);
    }

    if (bus_dma_tag_create(②sc->foo_parent_dma_tag, /* parent      */
                          1,                      /* alignment   */
                          0,                      /* boundary   */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR,     /* lowaddr    */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR,     /* highaddr   */
                          NULL,                  /* filter     */
                          NULL,                  /* filterarg  */
                          MAX_BAZ_SIZE,          /* maxsize    */
                          MAX_BAZ_SCATTER,       /* nsegments  */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXSIZE_32BIT,/* maxsegsize */
                          0,                      /* flags      */
                          NULL,                  /* lockfunc   */
                          NULL,                  /* lockfuncarg */
                          ③&sc->foo_baz_dma_tag)) {
        device_printf(dev, "Cannot allocate baz DMA tag!\n");
        return (ENOMEM);
    }

    if (bus_dmamap_create(sc->foo_baz_dma_tag,      /* DMA tag      */
                         0,                      /* flags      */
                         /* ... */)
```

```

❶&sc->foo_baz_dma_map)) {
    device_printf(dev, "Cannot allocate baz DMA map!\n");
    return (ENOMEM);
}

bzero(sc->foo_baz_buf, BAZ_BUF_SIZE);

error = ❷bus_dmamap_load(sc->foo_baz_dma_tag, /* DMA tag */
                         ❸sc->foo_baz_dma_map, /* DMA map */
                         ❹sc->foo_baz_buf, /* buffer */
                         BAZ_BUF_SIZE, /* buffersize */
                         ❺foo_callback, /* callback */
                         &sc->foo_baz_busaddr, /* callbackarg */
                         BUS_DMA_NOWAIT); /* flags */
if (error || sc->foo_baz_busaddr == 0) {
    device_printf(dev, "Cannot map baz DMA memory!\n");
    return (ENOMEM);
}
}

...
}

```

---

This pseudocode begins by calling ❶ `bus_dma_tag_create` to create a DMA tag named ❷ `foo_parent_dma_tag`. At heart, *DMA tags* describe the characteristics and restrictions of DMA transactions.

Next, `bus_dma_tag_create` is called again. Notice that `foo_parent_dma_tag` is this call's ❸ first argument. See, DMA tags can inherit the characteristics and restrictions of other tags. Of course, child tags cannot loosen the restrictions set up by their parents. Consequently, the DMA tag ❹ `foo_baz_dma_tag` is a “draconian” version of `foo_parent_dma_tag`.

The next statement, `bus_dmamap_create`, creates a DMA map named ❺ `foo_baz_dma_map`. Loosely speaking, *DMA maps* represent memory areas that have been allocated according to the properties of a DMA tag and are within device visible address space.

Finally, ❻ `bus_dmamap_load` loads the buffer ❽ `foo_baz_buf` into the device visible address associated with the DMA map ❾ `foo_baz_dma_map`.

**NOTE** Any arbitrary buffer can be used for DMA. However, buffers are inaccessible to devices until they've been loaded (or mapped) into a device visible address (that is, a DMA map).

Note that `bus_dmamap_load` requires a ❾ callback function, which typically looks something like this:

---

```

static void
❶ foo_callback(void *arg, bus_dma_segment_t *segs, int nseg, int error)
{
    if (error)
        ❷return;

    *(bus_addr_t *)❸arg = ❹segs[0].ds_addr;
}

```

---

Here, ❷ arg dereferences to the sixth argument passed to `bus_dmamap_load`, which was `foo_baz_busaddr`.

This callback function executes after the buffer-load operation completes. If successful, the ❸ address where the buffer was loaded is returned in ❹ arg. If unsuccessful, ❺ `foo_callback` does ❻ nothing.

## ***Initiating a DMA Data Transfer***

Assuming the buffer-load operation completed successfully, one can initiate a DMA data transfer with something like this:

**NOTE** *Most devices just require the device visible address of a buffer to be written to a specific register to start a DMA data transfer.*

---

❶`bus_write_4(sc->foo_io_resource, ❷FOO_BAZ, ❸sc->foo_baz_busaddr);`

---

Here, the ❸ device visible address of a buffer is ❶ written to a ❷ device register. Recall that the `foo_callback` function described in the previous section returns in ❸ `foo_baz_busaddr` the device visible address of `foo_baz_buf`.

## ***Dismantling DMA***

Now that you know how to implement DMA, I'll demonstrate how to dismantle it.

---

```
static int
foo_detach(device_t dev)
{
    struct foo_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

    if (sc->foo_baz_busaddr != 0)
        bus_dmamap_unload(sc->foo_baz_dma_tag, sc->foo_baz_dma_map);

    if (sc->foo_baz_dma_map != NULL)
        bus_dmamap_destroy(sc->foo_baz_dma_tag, sc->foo_baz_dma_map);

    if (sc->foo_baz_dma_tag != NULL)
        bus_dma_tag_destroy(sc->foo_baz_dma_tag);

    if (sc->foo_parent_dma_tag != NULL)
        bus_dma_tag_destroy(sc->foo_parent_dma_tag);

    ...
}
```

---

As you can see, this pseudocode simply tears down everything in the opposite order that it was built up.

Now, let's discuss in detail the different functions encountered here and in the previous two sections.

## Creating DMA Tags

As mentioned earlier, DMA tags describe the characteristics and restrictions of DMA transactions and are created by using the `bus_dma_tag_create` function.

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

int
bus_dma_tag_create(bus_dma_tag_t parent, bus_size_t alignment,
    bus_size_t boundary, bus_addr_t lowaddr, bus_addr_t highaddr,
    bus_dma_filter_t *filtfunc, void *filtfuncarg, bus_size_t maxsize,
    int nsegments, bus_size_t maxsegsz, int flags,
    bus_dma_lock_t *lockfunc, void *lockfuncarg, bus_dma_tag_t *dmat);
```

---

Here, the `parent` argument identifies the parent DMA tag. To create a top-level DMA tag, pass `bus_get_dma_tag(device_t dev)` as `parent`.

The `alignment` argument denotes the physical alignment, in bytes, of each DMA segment. Recall that DMA maps represent memory areas that have been allocated according to the properties of a DMA tag. These memory areas are known as *DMA segments*. If you return to the `foo_callback` function described in “Implementing DMA” on page 194, you’ll see that `arg` is actually assigned the address of a DMA segment.

The `alignment` argument must be 1, which denotes no specific alignment, or a power of two. As an example, drivers that require DMA buffers to begin on a multiple of 4KB would pass 4096 as `alignment`.

The `boundary` argument specifies the physical address boundaries that cannot be crossed by each DMA segment; that is, they cannot cross any multiple of `boundary`. This argument must be 0, which indicates no boundary restrictions, or a power of two.

The `lowaddr` and `highaddr` arguments outline the address range that cannot be employed for DMA. For example, devices incapable of DMA above 4GB would have `0xFFFFFFFF` as `lowaddr` and `BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR` as `highaddr`.

**NOTE** *0xFFFFFFFF equals 4GB, and the constant BUS\_SPACE\_MAXADDR signifies the maximum addressable memory for your architecture.*

The `filtfunc` and `filtfuncarg` arguments denote an optional callback function and its first argument, respectively. This function is executed for every attempt to load (or map) a DMA buffer between `lowaddr` and `highaddr`. If there’s a device-accessible region between `lowaddr` and `highaddr`, `filtfunc` is supposed to tell the system. Here is the function prototype for `filtfunc`:

---

```
int filtfunc(void *filtfuncarg, bus_addr_t ❶addr)
```

---

This function must return 0 if the address ❶ `addr` is device-accessible or a nonzero value if it’s inaccessible.

If `filtfunc` and `filtfuncarg` are NULL, the entire address range from `lowaddr` to `highaddr` is considered inaccessible.

The `maxsize` argument denotes the maximum amount of memory, in bytes, that may be allocated for a single DMA map.

The `nsegments` argument specifies the number of scatter/gather segments allowed in a single DMA map. A *scatter/gather segment* is simply a memory page. The name comes from the fact that when you take a set of physically discontinuous pages and virtually assemble them into a single contiguous buffer, you must “scatter” your writes and “gather” your reads. Some devices require blocks of contiguous memory; however sometimes a large enough block is not available. So the kernel “tricks” the device by using a buffer composed of scatter/gather segments. Every DMA segment is a scatter/gather segment.

The `nsegments` argument may be `BUS_SPACE_UNRESTRICTED`, which indicates no number restriction. DMA tags made with `BUS_SPACE_UNRESTRICTED` cannot create DMA maps; they can only be parent tags, because the system cannot support DMA maps composed of an unlimited number of scatter/gather segments.

The `maxsegz` argument denotes the maximum size, in bytes, of an individual DMA segment within a single DMA map.

The `flags` argument modifies `bus_dma_tag_create`’s behavior. Table 12-1 displays its only valid value.

**Table 12-1:** `bus_dma_tag_create` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>BUS_DMA_ALLOCNOW</code>	Preallocates enough resources to handle at least one buffer-load operation; if sufficient resources are unavailable, <code>ENOMEM</code> is returned.

The `lockfunc` and `lockfuncarg` arguments denote an optional callback function and its first argument, respectively. Remember how `bus_dmamap_load` requires a callback function? Well, `lockfunc` executes right before and after that function to acquire and release any necessary synchronization primitives. Here is `lockfunc`’s function prototype:

---

```
void lockfunc(void *lockfuncarg, bus_dma_lock_op_t op)
```

---

When `lockfunc` executes, ❶ `op` contains either `BUS_DMA_LOCK` or `BUS_DMA_UNLOCK`. That is, `op` dictates what lock operation to perform.

The `dmat` argument expects a pointer to `bus_dma_tag_t`; assuming `bus_dma_tag_create` is successful, this pointer will store the resulting DMA tag.

## Tearing Down DMA Tags

DMA tags are torn down by the `bus_dma_tag_destroy` function.

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

int
bus_dma_tag_destroy(bus_dma_tag_t dmat);
```

---

This function returns EBUSY if there are any DMA maps still associated with `dmat`.

## DMA Map Management Routines, Part 1

As mentioned earlier, DMA maps represent memory areas (that is to say, DMA segments) that have been allocated according to the properties of a DMA tag and are within device visible address space.

DMA maps can be managed with the following functions:

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

int
bus_dmamap_create(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, int flags, bus_dmamap_t *mapp);

int
bus_dmamap_destroy(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, bus_dmamap_t map);
```

---

The `bus_dmamap_create` function creates a DMA map based on the DMA tag `dmat` and stores the result in `mapp`. The `flags` argument modifies `bus_dmamap_create`'s behavior. Table 12-2 displays its only valid value.

**Table 12-2: `bus_dmamap_create` Symbolic Constants**

Constant	Description
<code>BUS_DMA_COHERENT</code>	Causes cache synchronization operations to be as cheap as possible for your DMA buffers; this flag is implemented only on <i>sparc64</i> .

The `bus_dmamap_destroy` function tears down the DMA map `map`. The `dmat` argument is the DMA tag that `map` was based on.

## Loading (DMA) Buffers into DMA Maps

The FreeBSD kernel provides four functions for loading a buffer into the device visible address associated with a DMA map:

- `bus_dmamap_load`
- `bus_dmamap_load_mbuf`
- `bus_dmamap_load_mbuf_sg`
- `bus_dmamap_load_uio`

Before I describe these functions, an explanation of `bus_dma_segment` structures is needed.

### ***bus\_dma\_segment Structures***

A `bus_dma_segment` structure describes a single DMA segment.

---

```
typedef struct bus_dma_segment {
    bus_addr_t      ❶ds_addr;
    bus_size_t      ❷ds_len;
} bus_dma_segment_t;
```

---

The ❶ `ds_addr` field contains its device visible address and ❷ `ds_len` contains its length.

### ***bus\_dmamap\_load Function***

We first discussed the `bus_dmamap_load` function in “Implementing DMA” on page 194.

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

int
bus_dmamap_load(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, bus_dmamap_t map, void *buf,
    bus_size_t buflen, bus_dmamap_callback_t *callback,
    void *callbackarg, int flags);
```

---

This function loads the buffer `buf` into the device visible address associated with the DMA map `map`. The `dmat` argument is the DMA tag that `map` is based on. The `buflen` argument is the number of bytes from `buf` to load. `bus_dmamap_load` returns immediately and never blocks for any reason.

The `callback` and `callbackarg` arguments denote a callback function and its first argument, respectively. `callback` executes after the buffer-load operation completes. If resources are lacking, the buffer-load operation and `callback` will be deferred. If `bus_dmamap_load` returns `EINPROGRESS`, this has occurred. Here is `callback`'s function prototype:

---

```
void callback(void *callbackarg, bus_dma_segment_t ❶*segs, int ❷nseg,
    int ❸error)
```

---

When `callback` executes, ❸ `error` discloses the success (0) or failure (`EFBIG`) of the buffer-load operation (the error code `EFBIG` stands for *error: file too large*). The ❶ `segs` argument is the array of DMA segments that `buf` has been loaded into; ❷ `nseg` is this array's size.

The following pseudocode is an example `callback` function:

---

```
static void
foo_callback(void *callbackarg, bus_dma_segment_t *segs, int nseg, int error)
{
    struct foo_softc *sc = callbackarg;
    int i;

    if (error)
        return;

    sc->sg_num = nseg;
    ❶for (i = 0; i < nseg; i++)
```

```
    sc->sg_addr[i] = ❷segs[i].ds_addr;  
}
```

---

This function ❶ iterates through `segs` to return the ❷ device visible address of each DMA segment that `buf` has been loaded into.

**NOTE** If `buf` can fit into one DMA segment, the `foo_callback` function described in “Implementing DMA” on page 194 may be used as callback.

The `flags` argument modifies `bus_dmamap_load`’s behavior. Valid values for this argument are shown in Table 12-3.

**Table 12-3:** `bus_dmamap_load` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>BUS_DMA_NOWAIT</code>	If memory resources are lacking, the buffer-load operation and callback will not be deferred.
<code>BUS_DMA_NOCACHE</code>	Prevents caching the DMA buffer, thereby causing all DMA transactions to be executed without reordering; this flag is implemented only on <code>sparc64</code> .

### ***bus\_dmamap\_load\_mbuf Function***

The `bus_dmamap_load_mbuf` function is a variant of `bus_dmamap_load` that loads mbuf chains (you’ll learn about mbuf chains in Chapter 16).

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

int
bus_dmamap_load_mbuf(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, bus_dmamap_t map,
    struct mbuf *mbuf, bus_dmamap_callback2_t *callback2,
    void *callbackarg, int flags);
```

---

Most of these arguments are identical to their `bus_dmamap_load` counterparts except for:

- The `mbuf` argument, which expects an mbuf chain
- The `callback2` argument, which requires a different callback function
- The `flags` argument, which implicitly sets `BUS_DMA_NOWAIT`

Here is `callback2`’s function prototype:

---

```
void callback2(void *callbackarg, bus_dma_segment_t *segs, int nseg,
    bus_size_t ❶mapsize, int error)
```

---

`callback2` is like `callback`, but it returns the ❶ amount of data loaded.

### ***bus\_dmamap\_load\_mbuf\_sg Function***

The `bus_dmamap_load_mbuf_sg` function is an alternative to `bus_dmamap_load_mbuf` that does not use `callback2`.

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

int
bus_dmamap_load_mbuf_sg(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, bus_dmamap_t map,
    struct mbuf *mbuf, bus_dma_segment_t *seg, int nseg, int flags);
```

---

As you can see, this function directly and immediately returns ❶ segs and ❷ nseg.

### ***bus\_dmamap\_load\_uio Function***

The `bus_dmamap_load_uio` function is identical to `bus_dmamap_load_mbuf` except that it loads the buffers from within a `uio` structure.

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

int
bus_dmamap_load_uio(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, bus_dmamap_t map,
    struct uio *uio, bus_dmamap_callback2_t *callback2,
    void *callbackarg, int flags);
```

---

### ***bus\_dmamap\_unload Function***

The `bus_dmamap_unload` function unloads the buffers from a DMA map.

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

void
bus_dmamap_unload(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, bus_dmamap_t map);
```

---

## **DMA Map Management Routines, Part 2**

This section describes an alternative set of functions used to manage DMA maps.

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

int
bus_dmamem_alloc(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, void **vaddr, int flags,
    bus_dmamap_t *mapp);

void
bus_dmamem_free(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, void *vaddr, bus_dmamap_t map);
```

---

The `bus_dmamem_alloc` function creates a DMA map based on the DMA tag `dmat` and stores the result in `mapp`. This function also allocates `maxsize` bytes of contiguous memory (where `maxsize` is defined by `dmat`). The address of this memory is returned in `vaddr`. As you'll soon see, this contiguous memory

will eventually become your DMA buffer. The `flags` argument modifies `bus_dmamem_alloc`'s behavior. Valid values for this argument are shown in Table 12-4.

**Table 12-4:** `bus_dmamem_alloc` Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>BUS_DMA_ZERO</code>	Causes the allocated memory to be set to zero
<code>BUS_DMA_NOWAIT</code>	Causes <code>bus_dmamem_alloc</code> to return <code>ENOMEM</code> if the allocation cannot be immediately fulfilled due to resource shortage
<code>BUS_DMA_WAITOK</code>	Indicates that it is okay to wait for resources; if the allocation cannot be immediately fulfilled, the current process is put to sleep to wait for resources to become available.
<code>BUS_DMA_COHERENT</code>	Causes cache synchronization operations to be as cheap as possible for your DMA buffer; this flag is implemented only on <i>arm</i> and <i>sparc64</i> .
<code>BUS_DMA_NOCACHE</code>	Prevents caching the DMA buffer, thereby causing all DMA transactions to be executed without reordering; this flag is implemented only on <i>amd64</i> and <i>i386</i> .

**NOTE** *bus\_dmamem\_alloc* is used when you require a physically contiguous DMA buffer.

The `bus_dmamem_free` function releases the memory at `vaddr` that was previously allocated by `bus_dmamem_alloc`. Then it tears down the DMA map `map`.

## A Straightforward Example

The following pseudocode is a `device_attach` routine for a fictitious device that requires DMA. This pseudocode should demonstrate how to use `bus_dmamem_alloc`.

---

```
static int
foo_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct foo_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int size = BAZ_SIZE;
    int error;

    bzero(sc, sizeof(*sc));

    if (bus_dma_tag_create(bus_get_dma_tag(dev), /* parent      */
                          1,           /* alignment   */
                          0,           /* boundary   */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR, /* lowaddr    */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR, /* highaddr   */
                          NULL,        /* filter     */
                          NULL,        /* filterarg  */
                          BUS_SPACE_MAXSIZE_32BIT, /* maxsize    */
                          BUS_SPACE_UNRESTRICTED, /* nsegments  */
                          /* ... */)
```

```

        BUS_SPACE_MAXSIZE_32BIT, /* maxsegsize */
        0,                      /* flags */
        NULL,                  /* lockfunc */
        NULL,                  /* lockfuncarg */
        &sc->foo_parent_dma_tag)) {
    device_printf(dev, "Cannot allocate parent DMA tag!\n");
    return (ENOMEM);
}

if (bus_dma_tag_create(sc->foo_parent_dma_tag, /* parent */
                      64,                      /* alignment */
                      0,                       /* boundary */
                      BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR_32BIT, /* lowaddr */
                      BUS_SPACE_MAXADDR,       /* highaddr */
                      NULL,                   /* filter */
                      NULL,                   /* filterarg */
                      ❶size,                 /* maxsize */
                      ❷1,                     /* nsegments */
                      ❸size,                 /* maxsegsize */
                      0,                      /* flags */
                      NULL,                   /* lockfunc */
                      NULL,                   /* lockfuncarg */
                      &sc->foo_baz_dma_tag)) {
    device_printf(dev, "Cannot allocate baz DMA tag!\n");
    return (ENOMEM);
}

if (❹bus_dmamem_alloc(sc->foo_baz_dma_tag,      /* DMA tag */
                      ❺(void **)&sc->foo_baz_buf, /* vaddr */
                      BUS_DMA_NOWAIT,           /* flags */
                      ❻&sc->foo_baz_dma_map)) {
    device_printf(dev, "Cannot allocate baz DMA memory!\n");
    return (ENOMEM);
}

bzero(sc->foo_baz_buf, size);

error = ❼bus_dmamap_load(sc->foo_baz_dma_tag, /* DMA tag */
                          ❽sc->foo_baz_dma_map, /* DMA map */
                          ❾sc->foo_baz_buf,     /* buffer */
                          size,                  /* buffersize */
                          ❿foo_callback,         /* callback */
                          &sc->foo_baz_busaddr, /* callbackarg */
                          BUS_DMA_NOWAIT);       /* flags */
if (error || sc->foo_baz_busaddr == 0) {
    device_printf(dev, "Cannot map baz DMA memory!\n");
    return (ENOMEM);
}

...
}

```

---

Although ❸ `bus_dmamem_alloc` allocates ❹ memory and creates a ❺ DMA map, ❻ loading that ❹ memory into the ❺ DMA map still needs to occur.

Also, since `bus_dmamem_alloc` allocates contiguous memory, the `nsegments` argument must be ❻ 1. Likewise, the ❻ `maxsize` and ❽ `maxsegsz` arguments must be identical.

Lastly, since `nsegments` is 1, ❾ `callback` can be the `foo_callback` function shown in “Implementing DMA” on page 194.

## Synchronizing DMA Buffers

DMA buffers must be synchronized after each write completed by the CPU/driver or a device. The exact reason why is beyond the scope of this book. But it’s basically done to ensure that the CPU/driver and device have a consistent view of the DMA buffer.

DMA buffers are synchronized with the `bus_dmamap_sync` function.

---

```
#include <machine/bus.h>

void
bus_dmamap_sync(bus_dma_tag_t dmat, bus_dmamap_t map, bus_dmasync_op_t op);
```

---

This function synchronizes the DMA buffer currently loaded in the DMA map `map`. The `dmat` argument is the DMA tag that `map` is based on. The `op` argument identifies the type of synchronization operation to perform. Valid values for this argument are shown in Table 12-5.

**Table 12-5:** `bus_dmamap_sync` Symbolic Constant

Constant	Description
<code>BUS_DMASYNC_PREWRITE</code>	Used to synchronize after the CPU/driver writes to the DMA buffer
<code>BUS_DMASYNC_POSTREAD</code>	Used to synchronize after a device writes to the DMA buffer

## Conclusion

This chapter detailed FreeBSD’s DMA management routines. These routines are primarily used by storage and network drivers, which are discussed in Chapters 13, 16, and 17.



# 13

## STORAGE DRIVERS



In FreeBSD, *storage drivers* provide access to devices that transfer randomly accessible data in blocks (such as disk drives, flash memory, and so on). A *block* is a fixed-size chunk of data (Corbet et al., 2005). In this chapter I'll discuss how to manage devices that employ block-centric I/O. To that end, some familiarity with `disk` and `bio` structures is needed, so that is where we'll start.

### disk Structures

A `disk` structure is the kernel's representation of an individual disk-like storage device. It is defined in the `<geom/geom_disk.h>` header as follows:

---

```
struct disk {
    /* GEOM Private Data */
    struct g_geom      *d_geom;
    struct devstat     *d_devstat;
```

```

int          d_destroyed;

/* Shared Objects */
struct bio_queue_head *d_queue;
struct mtx           *d_lock;

/* Descriptive Fields */
const char        *d_name;
u_int             d_unit;
u_int             d_flags;

/* Storage Device Methods */
disk_open_t       *d_open;
disk_close_t      *d_close;
disk_strategy_t   *d_strategy;
disk_ioctl_t      *d_ioctl;
dumper_t          *d_dump;

/* Mandatory Media Properties */
u_int             d_sectorsize;
off_t              d_mediasize;
u_int             d_maxsize;

/* Optional Media Properties */
u_int             d_fwsectors;
u_int             d_fwheads;
u_int             d_stripesize;
u_int             d_stripeoffset;
char              d_ident[DISK_IDENT_SIZE];

/* Driver Private Data */
void              *d_drv1;
};


```

---

Many of the fields in `struct disk` must be initialized by a storage driver. These fields are described in the following sections.

### **Descriptive Fields**

The `d_name` and `d_unit` fields specify the storage device's name and unit number, respectively. These fields must be defined in every disk structure.

The `d_flags` field further qualifies the storage device's characteristics. Valid values for this field are shown in Table 13-1.

**Table 13-1:** disk Structure Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>DISKFLAG_NEEDSGIANT</code>	Indicates that the storage device needs to be protected by Giant
<code>DISKFLAG_CANDELETE</code>	Indicates that the storage device wants to be notified when a block is no longer required so that it can perform some special handling (for example, drivers for solid-state drives that support the TRIM command employ this flag)
<code>DISKFLAG_CANFLUSHCACHE</code>	Indicates that the storage device can flush its local write cache

The `d_flags` field is optional and may be undefined.

## **Storage Device Methods**

The `d_open` field identifies the storage device's open routine. If no function is provided, open will always succeed.

The `d_close` field identifies the storage device's close routine. If no function is provided, close will always succeed. The `d_close` routine should always terminate anything set up by the `d_open` routine.

The `d_strategy` field identifies the storage device's strategy routine.

*Strategy routines* are called to process block-centric reads, writes, and other I/O operations. Accordingly, `d_strategy` must be defined in every disk structure. I'll discuss block-centric I/O and strategy routines in greater detail later.

The `d_ioctl` field identifies the storage device's ioctl routine. This field is optional and may be undefined.

The `d_dump` field identifies the storage device's dump routine. *Dump routines* are called after a kernel panic to record the contents of physical memory to a storage device. Note that `d_dump` is optional and may be undefined.

## **Mandatory Media Properties**

The `d_sectorsize` and `d_mediasize` fields specify the storage device's sector and media size in bytes, respectively. These fields must be defined in every disk structure.

The `d_maxsize` field denotes the maximum size in bytes that an I/O operation, for the storage device, can be. This field must be defined in every disk structure.

Note that you can safely modify the values for `d_sectorsize`, `d_mediasize`, and `d_maxsize` in the `d_open` routine.

## **Optional Media Properties**

The `d_fwsectors` and `d_fwheads` fields identify the number of sectors and heads on the storage device. These fields are optional and may be undefined; however, certain platforms require these fields for disk partitioning.

The `d_stripesize` field specifies the width of any natural request boundaries for the storage device (for example, the size of a stripe on a RAID-5 unit), and the `d_stripeoffset` field represents the location or offset to the first stripe. These fields are optional and may be undefined. For more on `d_stripesize` and `d_stripeoffset`, see </sys/geom/notes>.

The `d_ident` field denotes the storage device's serial number. This field is optional and may be undefined, but it's good practice to define it.

Note that you can safely modify the abovementioned fields in the `d_open` routine.

## **Driver Private Data**

The `d_drv1` field may be used by the storage driver to house data. Typically, `d_drv1` will contain a pointer to the storage driver's `softc` structure.

## **disk Structure Management Routines**

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following functions for working with disk structures:

---

```
#include <geom/geom_disk.h>

struct disk *
disk_alloc(void);

void
disk_create(struct disk *disk, int version);

void
disk_destroy(struct disk *disk);
```

---

A disk structure is a dynamically allocated structure that's owned by the kernel. That is, you cannot allocate a `struct disk` on your own. Instead, you must call `disk_alloc`.

Allocating a disk structure does not make the storage device available to the system. To do that, you must initialize the structure (by defining the necessary fields) and then call `disk_create`. The `version` argument must always be `DISK_VERSION`.

Note that as soon as `disk_create` returns, the device is “live” and its routines can be called at any time. Therefore, you should call `disk_create` only when your driver is completely ready to handle any operation.

When a disk structure is no longer needed, it should be freed with `disk_destroy`. You can destroy an opened disk structure. Of course, you'll need to free any resources that were allocated during `d_open` afterward, as `d_close` can no longer be called.

## **Block I/O Structures**

A `bio` structure represents a block-centric I/O request. Loosely speaking, when the kernel needs to transfer some data to or from a storage device, it puts together a `bio` structure to describe that operation; then it passes that structure to the appropriate driver.

`struct bio` is defined in the `<sys/bio.h>` header as follows:

---

```
struct bio {
    uint8_t bio_cmd;           /* I/O operation.          */
    uint8_t bio_flags;         /* General flags.          */
    uint8_t bio_cflags;        /* Private use by the consumer. */
    uint8_t bio_pflags;        /* Private use by the provider. */
```

---

```

        struct cdev *bio_dev;          /* Device to perform I/O on. */
        struct disk *bio_disk;         /* Disk structure. */
        off_t   bio_offset;           /* Requested position in file. */
        long    bio_bcount;           /* Number of (valid) bytes. */
        caddr_t bio_data;             /* Data. */
        int     bio_error;            /* Error number for BIO_ERROR. */
        long    bio_resid;             /* Remaining I/O (in bytes). */
        void (*bio_done)(struct bio *); /* biodone() handler function. */

        void    *bio_driver1;          /* Private use by the provider. */
        void    *bio_driver2;          /* Private use by the provider. */
        void    *bio_caller1;          /* Private use by the consumer. */
        void    *bio_caller2;          /* Private use by the consumer. */

        TAILQ_ENTRY(bio) bio_queue;    /* bioq linkage. */
        const char *bio_attribute;    /* For BIO_[GS]ETATTR. */
        struct g_consumer *bio_from;  /* GEOM linkage. */
        struct g_provider *bio_to;    /* GEOM linkage. */

        off_t   bio_length;            /* Like bio_bcount. */
        off_t   bio_completed;         /* Opposite of bio_resid. */
        u_int   bio_children;          /* Number of spawned bios. */
        u_int   bio_inbed;             /* Number of children home. */
        struct bio *bio_parent;        /* Parent pointer. */
        struct bintime bio_to;         /* Time I/O request started. */

        bio_task_t *bio_task;          /* bio_taskqueue() handler function. */
        void    *bio_task_arg;          /* bio_task's argument. */
        void    *bio_classifier1;       /* Classifier tag. */
        void    *bio_classifier2;       /* Classifier tag. */

        daddr_t bio_pblkno;           /* Physical block number. */

};

/* Bits for bio_cmd. */
#define BIO_READ      0x01
#define BIO_WRITE     0x02
#define BIO_DELETE    0x04
#define BIO_GETATTR   0x08
#define BIO_FLUSH     0x10
#define BIO_CMD0      0x20      /* For local hacks. */
#define BIO_CMD1      0x40      /* For local hacks. */
#define BIO_CMD2      0x80      /* For local hacks. */

/* Bits for bio_flags. */
#define BIO_ERROR     0x01
#define BIO_DONE      0x02
#define BIO_ONQUEUE   0x04

```

---

We'll examine `struct bio` in greater detail later. In the interim, you just need to remember that strategy routines are called to process newly received `bio` structures.

## Block I/O Queues

All storage drivers maintain a *block I/O queue* to house any pending block-centric I/O requests. Generally speaking, these requests are stored in increasing or decreasing device-offset order so that when they are processed, the disk head will move in a single direction (instead of bouncing around) to maximize performance.

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following functions for working with block I/O queues:

---

```
#include <sys/bio.h>

void
bioq_init(struct bio_queue_head *head);

void
bioq_disksort(struct bio_queue_head *head, struct bio *bp);

struct bio *
bioq_first(struct bio_queue_head *head);

struct bio *
bioq_takefirst(struct bio_queue_head *head);

void
bioq_insert_head(struct bio_queue_head *head, struct bio *bp);

void
bioq_insert_tail(struct bio_queue_head *head, struct bio *bp);

void
bioq_remove(struct bio_queue_head *head, struct bio *bp);

void
bioq_flush(struct bio_queue_head *head, struct devstat *stp, int error);
```

---

A block I/O queue is a statically allocated structure that's owned by the driver. To initialize a block I/O queue, you must call `bioq_init`.

To perform an ordered insertion, call `bioq_disksort`. To return the head of the queue (that is, the next request to process), use `bioq_first`. Lastly, to return and remove the head of the queue, call `bioq_takefirst`.

The abovementioned functions are the main methods for managing a block I/O queue. If a queue is manipulated using only these functions, it will contain at most one inversion point (that is, two sorted sequences).

The `bioq_insert_head` function inserts a request at the head of the queue. Additionally, it creates a “barrier” so that all subsequent insertions performed using `bioq_disksort` will end up after this request.

The `bioq_insert_tail` function is similar to `bioq_insert_head`, but it inserts the request at the end of the queue. Note that `bioq_insert_tail` also creates a barrier.

Generally speaking, you'd utilize a barrier to ensure that all preceding requests are serviced before continuing.

The `bioq_remove` function removes a request from the queue. If `bioq_remove` is invoked on the head of the queue, its effect is identical to `bioq_takefirst`.

If a block I/O queue is manipulated using `bioq_insert_head`, `bioq_insert_tail`, or `bioq_remove`, it may contain multiple inversion points.

The `bioq_flush` function expunges all of the queued requests and causes them to return the error code `error`.

**NOTE** *For storage devices that incorporate request scheduling (such as SATA Native Command Queuing, SCSI Tagged Command Queuing, and so on), `bioq_disksort` is essentially pointless, as the devices will (re)sort the requests internally. In those cases, a straightforward FIFO block I/O queue that uses `bioq_insert_tail` will suffice.*

## Tying Everything Together

Now that you've gained some familiarity with disk and bio structures, let's dissect a real-world storage driver.

Listing 13-1 is the storage driver for Atmel's AT45D series of DataFlash chips. DataFlash is Atmel's serial interface for flash memory, employed on the Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI) bus. In short, Listing 13-1 is a storage driver for flash memory on the SPI bus.

**NOTE** *Take a quick look at this code and try to discern some of its structure. If you don't understand all of it, don't worry; an explanation follows.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysm.h>

#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/bio.h>
#include <sys/kthread.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>
#include <geom/geom_disk.h>

#include <dev/spibus/spi.h>
#include "spibus_if.h"

#define MANUFACTURER_ID          0x9f
#define STATUS_REGISTER_READ      0xd7
#define CONTINUOUS_ARRAY_READ_HF  0x0b
#define PROGRAM_THROUGH_BUFFER   0x82

struct at45d_softc {
    device_t           at45d_dev;
    struct mtx         at45d_mtx;
    struct intr_config_hook at45d_ich;
```

```

        struct disk           *at45d_disk;
        struct bio_queue_head at45d_bioq;
        struct proc            *at45d_proc;
    };

    static devclass_t at45d_devclass;

    static void             at45d_delayed_attach(void *);
    static void             at45d_task(void *);
    static void             at45d_strategy(struct bio *);

    static int
❶ at45d_probe(device_t dev)
{
    device_set_desc(dev, "AT45 flash family");
    return (BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC);
}

static int
at45d_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct at45d_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int error;

    sc->at45d_dev = dev;
    mtx_init(&sc->at45d_mtx, device_get_nameunit(dev), "at45d", MTX_DEF);

    sc->at45d_ich.ich_func = at45d_delayed_attach;
    sc->at45d_ich.ich_arg = sc;
    error = config_intrhook_establish(&sc->at45d_ich);
    if (error)
        device_printf(dev, "config_intrhook_establish() failed!\n");

    return (0);
}

static int
❷ at45d_detach(device_t dev)
{
    return (EIO);
}

static int
at45d_get_info(device_t dev, uint8_t *r)
{
    struct spi_command cmd;
    uint8_t tx_buf[8], rx_buf[8];
    int error;

    memset(&cmd, 0, sizeof(cmd));
    memset(tx_buf, 0, sizeof(tx_buf));
    memset(rx_buf, 0, sizeof(rx_buf));

    tx_buf[0] = MANUFACTURER_ID;
    cmd.tx_cmd = &tx_buf[0];
}

```

```

        cmd.rx_cmd = &rx_buf[0];
        cmd.tx_cmd_sz = 5;
        cmd.rx_cmd_sz = 5;
        error = SPIBUS_TRANSFER(device_get_parent(dev), dev, &cmd);
        if (error)
            return (error);

        memcpy(r, &rx_buf[1], 4);
        return (0);
    }

static uint8_t
at45d_get_status(device_t dev)
{
    struct spi_command cmd;
    uint8_t tx_buf[8], rx_buf[8];

    memset(&cmd, 0, sizeof(cmd));
    memset(tx_buf, 0, sizeof(tx_buf));
    memset(rx_buf, 0, sizeof(rx_buf));

    tx_buf[0] = STATUS_REGISTER_READ;
    cmd.tx_cmd = &tx_buf[0];
    cmd.rx_cmd = &rx_buf[0];
    cmd.tx_cmd_sz = 2;
    cmd.rx_cmd_sz = 2;
    SPIBUS_TRANSFER(device_get_parent(dev), dev, &cmd);

    return (rx_buf[1]);
}

static void
at45d_wait_for_device_ready(device_t dev)
{
    while ((at45d_get_status(dev) & 0x80) == 0)
        continue;
}

static void
at45d_delayed_attach(void *arg)
{
    struct at45d_softc *sc = arg;
    uint8_t buf[4];

    at45d_get_info(sc->at45d_dev, buf);
    at45d_wait_for_device_ready(sc->at45d_dev);

    sc->at45d_disk = disk_alloc();
    sc->at45d_disk->d_name = "at45d";
    sc->at45d_disk->d_unit = device_get_unit(sc->at45d_dev);
    sc->at45d_disk->d_strategy = at45d_strategy;
    sc->at45d_disk->d_sectorsize = 1056;
    sc->at45d_disk->d_mediasize = 8192 * 1056;
    sc->at45d_disk->d_maxsize = DFLTPHYS;
    sc->at45d_disk->d_drv1 = sc;
}

```

```

    bioq_init(&sc->at45d_bioq);
    kproc_create(&at45d_task, sc, &sc->at45d_proc, 0, 0, "at45d");

    disk_create(sc->at45d_disk, DISK_VERSION);
    config_intrhook_disestablish(&sc->at45d_ich);
}

static void
at45d_strategy(struct bio *bp)
{
    struct at45d_softc *sc = bp->bio_disk->d_drv1;

    mtx_lock(&sc->at45d_mtx);
    bioq_disksort(&sc->at45d_bioq, bp);
    wakeup(sc);
    mtx_unlock(&sc->at45d_mtx);
}

static void
at45d_task(void *arg)
{
    struct at45d_softc *sc = arg;
    struct bio *bp;
    struct spi_command cmd;
    uint8_t tx_buf[8], rx_buf[8];
    int ss = sc->at45d_disk->d_sectorsize;
    daddr_t block, end;
    char *vaddr;

    for (;;) {
        mtx_lock(&sc->at45d_mtx);
        do {
            bp = bioq_first(&sc->at45d_bioq);
            if (bp == NULL)
                mtx_sleep(sc, &sc->at45d_mtx, PRIBIO,
                          "at45d", 0);
            } while (bp == NULL);
        bioq_remove(&sc->at45d_bioq, bp);
        mtx_unlock(&sc->at45d_mtx);

        end = bp->bio_pblkno + (bp->bio_bcount / ss);
        for (block = bp->bio_pblkno; block < end; block++) {
            vaddr = bp->bio_data + (block - bp->bio_pblkno) * ss;
            if (bp->bio_cmd == BIO_READ) {
                tx_buf[0] = CONTINUOUS_ARRAY_READ_HF;
                cmd.tx_cmd_sz = 5;
                cmd.rx_cmd_sz = 5;
            } else {
                tx_buf[0] = PROGRAM_THROUGH_BUFFER;
                cmd.tx_cmd_sz = 4;
                cmd.rx_cmd_sz = 4;
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```

        /* FIXME: This works only on certain devices. */
        tx_buf[1] = ((block >> 5) & 0xff);
        tx_buf[2] = ((block << 3) & 0xf8);
        tx_buf[3] = 0;
        tx_buf[4] = 0;
        cmd.tx_cmd = &tx_buf[0];
        cmd.rx_cmd = &rx_buf[0];
        cmd.tx_data = vaddr;
        cmd.rx_data = vaddr;
        cmd.tx_data_sz = ss;
        cmd.rx_data_sz = ss;
        SPIBUS_TRANSFER(device_get_parent(sc->at45d_dev),
                        sc->at45d_dev, &cmd);
    }
    biodone(bp);
}
}

static device_method_t at45d_methods[] = {
    /* Device interface. */
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,           at45d_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,         at45d_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,         at45d_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t at45d_driver = {
    "at45d",
    at45d_methods,
    sizeof(struct at45d_softc)
};

DRIVER_MODULE(at45d, spibus, at45d_driver, at45d_devclass, 0, 0);

```

---

*Listing 13-1: at45d.c*

The following sections describe the functions defined in Listing 13-1 roughly in the order they would execute.

Incidentally, because ❶ `at45d_probe` and ❷ `at45d_detach` are extremely rudimentary and because you've seen similar code elsewhere, I'll omit discussing them.

### ***at45d\_attach Function***

The `at45d_attach` function is the `device_attach` implementation for this storage driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
at45d_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct at45d_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    int error;

```

---

```

        sc->at45d_dev = dev;
❶ mtx_init(&sc->at45d_mtx, device_get_nameunit(dev), "at45d",
           MTX_DEF);

        sc->at45d_ich.ich_func = ❷at45d_delayed_attach;
        sc->at45d_ich.ich_arg = sc;
        error = ❸config_intrhook_establish(&sc->at45d_ich);
        if (error)
            device_printf(dev, "config_intrhook_establish() failed!\n");

        return (0);
}

```

---

This function first ❶ initializes the mutex `at45d_mtx`, which will protect `at45d`'s block I/O queue. Then it ❸ schedules ❷ `at45d_delayed_attach` to execute when interrupts are enabled.

**NOTE** *During the initial autoconfiguration phase (that is, right after the system boots), interrupts are disabled. However, some drivers (such as `at45d`) require interrupts for device initialization. In those cases, you'd use `config_intrhook_establish`, which schedules a function to execute as soon as interrupts are enabled but before root is mounted; if the system has already passed this point, the function is called immediately.*

### ***at45d\_delayed\_attach Function***

The `at45d_delayed_attach` function is, loosely speaking, the second half of `at45d_attach`. That is, it completes the device's initialization. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static void
at45d_delayed_attach(void *arg)
{
    struct at45d_softc *sc = arg;
    uint8_t buf[4];

❶ at45d_get_info(sc->at45d_dev, buf);
❷ at45d_wait_for_device_ready(sc->at45d_dev);

    sc->at45d_disk = ❸disk_alloc();
    sc->at45d_disk->d_name = "at45d";
    sc->at45d_disk->d_unit = device_get_unit(sc->at45d_dev);
    sc->at45d_disk->d_strategy = at45d_strategy;
    sc->at45d_disk->d_sectorsize = 1056;
    sc->at45d_disk->d_mediasize = 8192 * 1056;
    sc->at45d_disk->d_maxsize = DFLTPHYS;
    sc->at45d_disk->d_drv1 = sc;

❹ bioq_init(&sc->at45d_bioq);
❺ kproc_create(❻&at45d_task, sc, &sc->at45d_proc, 0, 0, "at45d");

```

```
    7disk_create(sc->at45d_disk, DISK_VERSION);
    8config_intrhook_disestablish(&sc->at45d_ich);
}
```

---

This function can be split into multiple parts. The first ❶ gets the device's manufacturer ID. Then `at45d_delayed_attach` ❷ hangs until the device is ready. These two actions require interrupts to be enabled.

The second part ❸ allocates and defines `at45d`'s disk structure, ❹ initializes `at45d`'s block I/O queue, and ❺ creates a new kernel process (to execute the ❻ `at45d_task` function).

Finally, `at45d`'s device node is ❻ created, and `at45d_delayed_attach` is ❽ torn down.

**NOTE** *During the boot process—before root is mounted—the system stalls until every function scheduled via `config_intrhook_establish` completes and tears itself down. In other words, if `at45d_delayed_attach` didn't call `config_intrhook_disestablish`, the system would hang.*

### ***at45d\_get\_info* Function**

The `at45d_get_info` function gets the storage device's manufacturer ID. Here is its function definition (again):

```
static int
at45d_get_info(device_t dev, uint8_t *r)
{
    struct spi_command cmd;
    uint8_t tx_buf[8], rx_buf[8];
    int error;

    memset(&cmd, 0, sizeof(cmd));
    ❶memset(tx_buf, 0, sizeof(tx_buf));
    ❷memset(rx_buf, 0, sizeof(rx_buf));

    ❸tx_buf[0] = MANUFACTURER_ID;
    ❹cmd.tx_cmd = &tx_buf[0];
    ❺cmd.rx_cmd = &rx_buf[0];
    ❻cmd.tx_cmd_sz = 5;
    ❼cmd.rx_cmd_sz = 5;
    error = ❾SPIBUS_TRANSFER(device_get_parent(dev), dev, &cmd);
    if (error)
        return (error);

    ❿memcpy(r, &rx_buf[1], 4);
    return (0);
}
```

---

This function begins by zeroing its ❶ transmit and ❷ receive buffers.

**NOTE** Every SPI data transfer is a full-duplex data transmission. That is, it always requires a transmit and receive buffer, because the master and slave both transmit data—even if the data to be sent is meaningless or garbage, it’s still transferred.

The remainder of this function ❸ places MANUFACTURER\_ID in the transmit buffer, sets up the spi\_command structure (which denotes the ❹ transmit and ❺ receive buffers and their ❻ ❼ data lengths), ❽ initiates the data transfer, and finally ❾ returns the manufacturer ID to the caller.

### ***at45d\_wait\_for\_device\_ready Function***

The at45d\_wait\_for\_device\_ready function “spins” until the storage device is ready. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static void
at45d_wait_for_device_ready(device_t dev)
{
    ❶while ((at45d_get_status(dev) & 0x80) == 0)
        continue;
}
```

---

This function continually calls ❶ at45d\_get\_status until 0x80, which designates that the device is not busy and is ready to accept the next command, is returned.

### ***at45d\_get\_status Function***

The at45d\_get\_status function gets the storage device’s status. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static uint8_t
at45d_get_status(device_t dev)
{
    struct spi_command cmd;
    uint8_t tx_buf[8], rx_buf[8];

    memset(&cmd, 0, sizeof(cmd));
    memset(tx_buf, 0, sizeof(tx_buf));
    memset(rx_buf, 0, sizeof(rx_buf));

    ❶tx_buf[0] = STATUS_REGISTER_READ;
    cmd.tx_cmd = &tx_buf[0];
    cmd.rx_cmd = &rx_buf[0];
    cmd.tx_cmd_sz = 2;
    cmd.rx_cmd_sz = 2;
    SPIBUS_TRANSFER(device_get_parent(dev), dev, &cmd);

    return (rx_buf[1]);
}
```

---

As you can see, this function is nearly identical to the `at45d_get_info` function, except that it ❶ employs a different command. As such, I'll omit walking through it.

### ***at45d\_strategy Function***

The `at45d_strategy` function is defined in `at45d_delayed_attach` as the `d_strategy` routine; it is executed anytime `at45d` receives a `bio` structure. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static void
at45d_strategy(❶struct bio *bp)
{
    struct at45d_softc *sc = bp->bio_disk->d_drv1;

    mtx_lock(&sc->at45d_mtx);
    ❷bioq_disksort(&sc->at45d_bioq, bp);
    ❸wakeup(sc);
    mtx_unlock(&sc->at45d_mtx);
}
```

---

This function simply takes a ❶ `bio` structure and ❷ adds it to `at45d`'s block I/O queue. Then it ❸ gets `at45d_task` to actually process the `bio` structure(s).

**NOTE** *Most strategy routines do something similar. That is to say, they don't actually process the bio structures; they only place them on the block I/O queue, and another function or thread sees to them.*

### ***at45d\_task Function***

As mentioned in the previous section, the `at45d_task` function processes the `bio` structures on `at45d`'s block I/O queue. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```
static void
at45d_task(void *arg)
{
    struct at45d_softc *sc = arg;
    struct bio *bp;
    struct spi_command cmd;
    uint8_t tx_buf[8], rx_buf[8];
    int ss = sc->at45d_disk->d_sectorsize;
    daddr_t block, end;
    char *vaddr;

    for (;;) {
        mtx_lock(&sc->at45d_mtx);
        do {
            bp = ❶bioq_first(&sc->at45d_bioq);
            if (bp == NULL)
                ❷mtx_sleep(sc, &sc->at45d_mtx, PRIBIO,
                           "at45d", 0);
        }
    }
}
```

---

```

    } while (bp == NULL);
③bioq_remove(&sc->at45d_bioq, bp);
mtx_unlock(&sc->at45d_mtx);

end = bp->bio_pblkno + (bp->bio_bcount / ss);
for (block = bp->bio_pblkno; block < end; block++) {
    ④vaddr = bp->bio_data +
        (block - bp->bio_pblkno) * ss;
    ⑤if (bp->bio_cmd == BIO_READ) {
        tx_buf[0] = CONTINUOUS_ARRAY_READ_HF;
        cmd.tx_cmd_sz = 5;
        cmd.rx_cmd_sz = 5;
    ⑥} else {
        tx_buf[0] = PROGRAM_THROUGH_BUFFER;
        cmd.tx_cmd_sz = 4;
        cmd.rx_cmd_sz = 4;
    }
/* FIXME: This works only on certain devices. */
tx_buf[1] = ((block >> 5) & 0xff);
tx_buf[2] = ((block << 3) & 0xf8);
tx_buf[3] = 0;
tx_buf[4] = 0;
cmd.tx_cmd = &tx_buf[0];
cmd.rx_cmd = &rx_buf[0];
cmd.tx_data = vaddr;
cmd.rx_data = vaddr;
cmd.tx_data_sz = ss;
cmd.rx_data_sz = ss;
⑦SPIBUS_TRANSFER(device_get_parent(sc->at45d_dev),
                  sc->at45d_dev, &cmd);
}
⑧biодone(bp);
}

```

---

This function can be split into four parts. The first ① determines whether at45d’s block I/O queue is empty. If so, at45d\_task ② sleeps; otherwise, it ③ acquires (and removes) the head of the queue. The second part determines whether the block-centric I/O request is a ⑤ read or a ⑥ write.

**NOTE** *Block-centric I/O requests are seen from the driver’s point of view. So, BIO\_READ means reading from the device.*

The second part also ④ calculates the offset in `bio_data` (that is, the location in main memory) to read from or write to. This is crucial because each I/O operation transmits 1 block of data, not 1 byte (that is, the abovementioned offset is a multiple of 1 block).

In case you have trouble following the offset calculation, here is a brief description of each variable involved: The `ss` variable is the device’s sector size. The `bio_pblkno` variable is the first block of device memory to read from or write to, `end` is the last block, and `block` is the current block at45d\_task is working with.

The third part sets up the `spi_command` structure and ⑦ initiates the data transfer. Finally, the fourth part ⑧ tells the kernel that the block-centric I/O request `bp` has been serviced.

## Block I/O Completion Routines

As seen in the previous section, after processing a block-centric I/O request, you must inform the kernel with:

---

```
#include <sys/bio.h>

void
biodone(struct bio *bp);

void
biofinish(struct bio *bp, struct devstat *stat, int error);
```

---

The `biodone` function tells the kernel that the block-centric I/O request `bp` has been serviced successfully.

The `biofinish` function is identical to `biodone`, except that it sets `bp` to return the error code `error` (that is to say, `biofinish` can tell the kernel that `bp` was invalid, successful, or unsuccessful).

**NOTE** *Typically, the `stat` argument is set to `NULL`. For more on `struct devstat`, see the `devstat(9)` manual page (though it's somewhat antiquated).*

## Conclusion

This chapter focused on implementing and understanding storage drivers. You learned how to manage both `disk` and `bio` structures and studied a real-world storage driver.



# 14

## COMMON ACCESS METHOD



*Common Access Method (CAM)* is an ANSI standard. Although primarily used for SCSI, CAM is a method for separating host bus adapter (HBA) drivers from storage drivers. HBAs are devices (that is, a card or integrated circuit) that connect the host to other devices. For example, USB HBAs allow the host to communicate with USB devices.

By separating HBA drivers from storage drivers, CAM reduces the complexity of individual drivers. Furthermore, this separation enables storage drivers (such as CD-ROM and tape drivers) to control their devices on any I/O bus (such as IDE, SCSI, and so on) as long as an appropriate HBA driver is available. In other words, CAM modularizes HBA and storage drivers.

In CAM vernacular, HBA drivers are known as software interface modules (SIMs), and storage drivers are known as peripheral modules. Incidentally, the storage drivers discussed in Chapter 13 are not under CAM. To avoid confusion, I'll refer to storage drivers under CAM as peripheral modules from now on.

The FreeBSD CAM implementation contains SIMs for SCSI Parallel Interface (SPI), Fibre Channel (FC), USB Mass Storage (UMASS), FireWire (IEEE 1394), and Advanced Technology Attachment Packet Interface (ATAPI). It has peripheral modules for disks (da), CD-ROMs (cd), tapes (sa), tape changers (ch), processor type devices (pt), and enclosure services (ses). Also, it provides a “pass-through” interface that allows user applications to send I/O requests directly to any CAM-controlled device (McKusick and Neville-Neil, 2005). This interface is, fundamentally, a SIM (as you’ll soon see).

In this chapter you’ll learn how to manage HBAs using CAM. Of course, before you can do that, you’ll need to know how CAM interfaces peripheral modules with SIMs. Because peripheral modules are just storage drivers with some CAM-related code, they’re only briefly discussed in this chapter.

## How CAM Works

CAM is most easily understood by tracing an I/O request through it.

In Figure 14-1,<sup>1</sup> the kernel passes a block-centric I/O request to the da(4) peripheral module. As you would expect, this causes da(4)’s strategy routine (`dastrategy`) to execute.

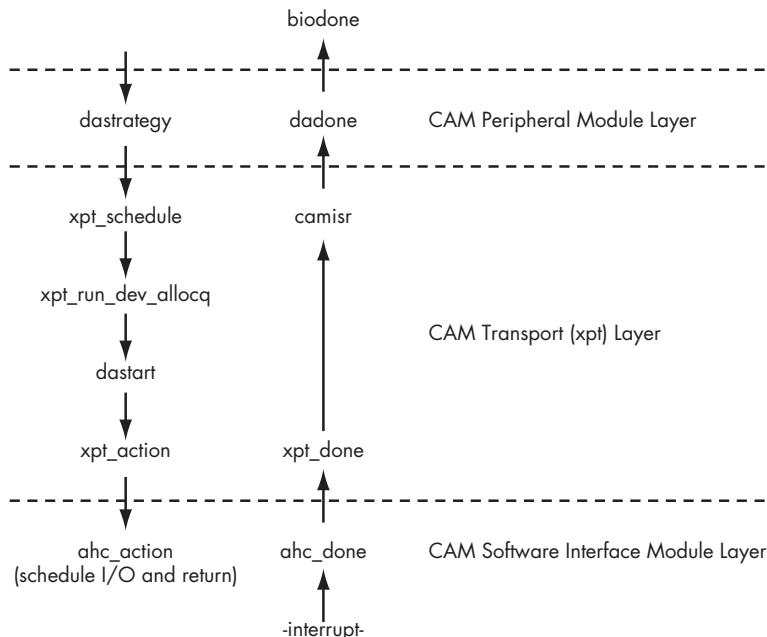


Figure 14-1: The path of an I/O request through the CAM subsystem

The `dastrategy` function gets the block-centric I/O request and inserts it on the appropriate block I/O queue via `bioq_disksort`. It concludes by calling the `xpt_schedule` function. (The da(4) peripheral module supports every SCSI disk. Consequently, it manages multiple block I/O queues.)

1. Figure 14-1 is adapted from *The Design and Implementation of the FreeBSD Operating System* by Marshall Kirk McKusick and George V. Neville-Neil (Addison-Wesley, 2005).

The `xpt_schedule` function, by and large, schedules a peripheral module to receive a *CAM Control Block (CCB)*. A CCB describes the location (or path) to the target device (that is, the intended recipient of the I/O request). The `xpt_schedule` function concludes by calling the `xpt_run_dev_allocq` function. (Note that my definition of CCB isn't complete. I'll expand this definition throughout this chapter.)

The `xpt_run_dev_allocq` function allocates and constructs a CCB. Afterward, it calls the peripheral module's start routine (`dastart` in this example).

The `dastart` function takes the first block-centric I/O request off the appropriate block I/O queue and converts that into a SCSI command. This command is stored in the CCB constructed by `xpt_run_dev_allocq`. The `dastart` function ends by calling the `xpt_action` function.

The `xpt_action` function uses the path information stored in the CCB to determine the SIM to which the SCSI command should be sent. It then calls that SIM's action routine (`ahc_action` in this case).

**NOTE** *A SIM was pseudo-randomly chosen for this example, so the fact that it's `ahc(4)` is irrelevant.*

The `ahc_action` function gets the CCB and translates the SCSI command into a hardware-specific command. This hardware-specific command is then passed to the device to be executed. Afterward, `ahc_action` returns back to the caller of `dastrategy`.

As soon as the device completes the hardware-specific command (which may involve DMA), it sends an interrupt, which causes `ahc(4)`'s done routine (`ahc_done`) to execute.

The `ahc_done` function appends the completion status (that is, successful or unsuccessful) to the CCB related to the completed hardware-specific command. It then calls the `xpt_done` function.

The `xpt_done` function gets the completed CCB and sets it up for processing by `camisr`, the CAM interrupt service routine. It then schedules `camisr` to run.

Loosely speaking, the `camisr` function carries out some "housekeeping" on the CCB. It ends by calling the CCB's specified completion function (`dadone` in this example).

The `dadone` function, more or less, tells the kernel that the block-centric I/O request has been serviced by calling `biodone`.

## A (Somewhat) Simple Example

Now that you're familiar with the CAM subsystem, let's work through some code. After that, I'll detail the different CAM-related functions.

Listing 14-1 is a SIM for a pseudo-HBA (taken from the `mfi(4)` code base).

**NOTE** *Take a quick look at this code and try to discern some of its structure. If you don't understand all of it, don't worry; an explanation follows.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
```

```

#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/selinfo.h>
#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/bio.h>
#include <sys/malloc.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>

#include <cam/cam.h>
#include <cam/cam_ccb.h>
#include <cam/cam_debug.h>
#include <cam/cam_sim.h>
#include <cam/cam_xpt_sim.h>
#include <cam/scsi/scsi_all.h>

#include <machine/md_var.h>
#include <machine/bus.h>
#include <sys/rman.h>

#include <dev/mfi/mfireg.h>
#include <dev/mfi/mfi_ioctl.h>
#include <dev/mfi/mfivar.h>

#define ccb_mfip_ptr           sim_priv.entries[0].ptr

struct mfip {
    device_t          dev;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;
    struct cam_devq  *devq;
    struct cam_sim   *sim;
    struct cam_path  *path;
};

static devclass_t      mfip_devclass;

static void             mfip_action(struct cam_sim *, union ccb *);
static void             mfip_poll(struct cam_sim *);
static void             mfip_start(void *);
static void             mfip_done(struct mfi_command *);

static int
① mfip_probe(device_t dev)
{
    device_set_desc(dev, "SCSI pass-through bus");
    return (BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC);
}

static int
mfip_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

```

```

sc = device_get_softc(dev);
if (sc == NULL)
    return (EINVAL);

mfi = device_get_softc(device_get_parent(dev));
sc->dev = dev;
sc->mfi = mfi;
mfi->mfi_cam_start = mfip_start;

if ((sc->devq = cam_simq_alloc(MFI_SCSI_MAX_CMDS)) == NULL)
    return (ENOMEM);

sc->sim = cam_sim_alloc(mfip_action, mfip_poll, "mfi", sc,
    device_get_unit(dev), &mfi->mfi_io_lock, 1, MFI_SCSI_MAX_CMDS,
    sc->devq);
if (sc->sim == NULL) {
    cam_simq_free(sc->devq);
    device_printf(dev, "cannot allocate CAM SIM\n");
    return (EINVAL);
}

mtx_lock(&mfi->mfi_io_lock);
if (xpt_bus_register(sc->sim, dev, 0) != 0) {
    device_printf(dev,
        "cannot register SCSI pass-through bus\n");
    cam_sim_free(sc->sim, FALSE);
    cam_simq_free(sc->devq);
    mtx_unlock(&mfi->mfi_io_lock);
    return (EINVAL);
}
mtx_unlock(&mfi->mfi_io_lock);

return (0);
}

static int
mfip_detach(device_t dev)
{
    struct mfip *sc;

    sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    if (sc == NULL)
        return (EINVAL);

    if (sc->sim != NULL) {
        mtx_lock(&sc->mfi->mfi_io_lock);
        xpt_bus_deregister(cam_sim_path(sc->sim));
        cam_sim_free(sc->sim, FALSE);
        mtx_unlock(&sc->mfi->mfi_io_lock);
    }

    if (sc->devq != NULL)
        cam_simq_free(sc->devq);

    return (0);
}

```

```

}

static void
mfip_action(struct cam_sim *sim, union ccb *ccb)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

    sc = cam_sim_softc(sim);
    mfi = sc->mfi;
    mtx_assert(&mfi->mfi_io_lock, MA_OWNED);

    switch (ccb->ccb_h.func_code) {
    case XPT_PATH_INQ:
    {
        struct ccb_pathinq *cpi;

        cpi = &ccb->cpi;
        cpi->version_num = 1;
        cpi->hba_inquiry = PI_SDTR_ABLE | PI_TAG_ABLE | PI_WIDE_16;
        cpi->target_sprt = 0;
        cpi->hba_misc = PIM_NOBUSRESET | PIM_SEQSCAN;
        cpi->hba_eng_cnt = 0;
        cpi->max_target = MFI_SCSI_MAX_TARGETS;
        cpi->max_lun = MFI_SCSI_MAX_LUNS;
        cpi->initiator_id = MFI_SCSI_INITIATOR_ID;
        strncpy(cpi->sim_vid, "FreeBSD", SIM_IDLEN);
        strncpy(cpi->hba_vid, "LSI", HBA_IDLEN);
        strncpy(cpi->dev_name, cam_sim_name(sim), DEV_IDLEN);
        cpi->unit_number = cam_sim_unit(sim);
        cpi->bus_id = cam_sim_bus(sim);
        cpi->base_transfer_speed = 150000;
        cpi->protocol = PROTO_SCSI;
        cpi->protocol_version = SCSI_REV_2;
        cpi->transport = XPORT_SAS;
        cpi->transport_version = 0;

        cpi->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        break;
    }
    case XPT_RESET_BUS:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        break;
    case XPT_RESET_DEV:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        break;
    case XPT_GET_TRAN_SETTINGS:
    {
        struct ccb_trans_settings_sas *sas;

        ccb->cts.protocol = PROTO_SCSI;
        ccb->cts.protocol_version = SCSI_REV_2;
        ccb->cts.transport = XPORT_SAS;
        ccb->cts.transport_version = 0;
        sas = &ccb->cts.xport_specific.sas;
    }
}

```

```

        sas->valid &= ~CTS_SAS_VALID_SPEED;
        sas->bitrate = 150000;

        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        break;
    }
    case XPT_SET_TRAN_SETTINGS:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_FUNC_NOTAVAIL;
        break;
    case XPT_SCSI_IO:
    {
        struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
        struct ccb_scsio *csio = &ccb->csio;

        ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INPROG;
        if (csio->cdb_len > MFI_SCSI_MAX_CDB_LEN) {
            ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
            break;
        }
        if ((ccb_h->flags & CAM_DIR_MASK) != CAM_DIR_NONE) {
            if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_DATA_PHYS) {
                ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
                break;
            }
            if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_SCATTER_VALID) {
                ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
                break;
            }
        }
    }

    ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr = sc;
    TAILQ_INSERT_TAIL(&mfi->mfi_cam_ccbq, ccb_h, sim_links.tqe);
    mfi_startio(mfi);

    return;
}
default:
    ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
    break;
}

xpt_done(ccb);
return;
}

static void
mfip_poll(struct cam_sim *sim)
{
    return;
}

static struct mfi_command *
mfip_start(void *data)
{

```

```

union ccb *ccb = data;
struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
struct ccb_scsio *csio = &ccb->csio;
struct mfip *sc;
struct mfi_command *cm;
struct mfi_pass_frame *pt;

sc = ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr;

if ((cm = mfi_dequeue_free(sc->mfi)) == NULL)
    return (NULL);

pt = &cm->cm_frame->pass;
pt->header.cmd = MFI_CMD_PD_SCSI_IO;
pt->header.cmd_status = 0;
pt->header.scsi_status = 0;
pt->header.target_id = ccb_h->target_id;
pt->header.lun_id = ccb_h->target_lun;
pt->header.flags = 0;
pt->header.timeout = 0;
pt->header.data_len = csio->dxfer_len;
pt->header.sense_len = MFI_SENSE_LEN;
pt->header.cdb_len = csio->cdb_len;
pt->sense_addr_lo = cm->cm_sense_busaddr;
pt->sense_addr_hi = 0;
if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_CDB_POINTER)
    bcopy(csio->cdb_io.cdb_ptr, &pt->cdb[0], csio->cdb_len);
else
    bcopy(csio->cdb_io.cdb_bytes, &pt->cdb[0], csio->cdb_len);

cm->cm_complete = mfip_done;
cm->cm_private = ccb;
cm->cm_sg = &pt->sgl;
cm->cm_total_frame_size = MFI_PASS_FRAME_SIZE;
cm->cm_data = csio->data_ptr;
cm->cm_len = csio->dxfer_len;
switch (ccb_h->flags & CAM_DIR_MASK) {
case CAM_DIR_IN:
    cm->cm_flags = MFI_CMD_DATAIN;
    break;
case CAM_DIR_OUT:
    cm->cm_flags = MFI_CMD_DATAOUT;
    break;
case CAM_DIR_NONE:
default:
    cm->cm_data = NULL;
    cm->cm_len = 0;
    cm->cm_flags = 0;
    break;
}

TAILQ_REMOVE(&sc->mfi->mfi_cam_ccbq, ccb_h, sim_links.tqe);
return (cm);
}

```

```

static void
mfip_done(struct mfi_command *cm)
{
    union ccb *ccb = cm->cm_private;
    struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
    struct ccb_scsio *csio = &ccb->csio;
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_pass_frame *pt;

    sc = ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr;
    pt = &cm->cm_frame->pass;

    switch (pt->header.cmd_status) {
    case MFI_STAT_OK:
    {
        uint8_t command, device;

        ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;

        if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_CDB_POINTER)
            command = ccb->csio.cdb_io.cdb_ptr[0];
        else
            command = ccb->csio.cdb_io.cdb_bytes[0];

        if (command == INQUIRY) {
            device = ccb->csio.data_ptr[0] & 0x1f;
            if ((device == T_DIRECT) || (device == T_PROCESSOR))
                csio->data_ptr[0] =
                    (device & 0xe0) | T_NODEVICE;
        }
        break;
    }
    case MFI_STAT_SCSI_DONE_WITH_ERROR:
    {
        int sense_len;

        ccb_h->status = CAM_SCSI_STATUS_ERROR | CAM_AUTOSNS_VALID;
        csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;

        sense_len = min(pt->header.sense_len,
                        sizeof(struct scsi_sense_data));
        bzero(&csio->sense_data, sizeof(struct scsi_sense_data));
        bcopy(&cm->cm_sense->data[0], &csio->sense_data, sense_len);
        break;
    }
    case MFI_STAT_DEVICE_NOT_FOUND:
        ccb_h->status = CAM_SEL_TIMEOUT;
        break;
    case MFI_STAT_SCSI_IO_FAILED:
        ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP_ERR;
        csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;
        break;
    }
}

```

```

        default:
            ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP_ERR;
            csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;
            break;
    }

    mfi_release_command(cm);
    xpt_done(ccb);
}

static device_method_t mfip_methods[] = {
    /* Device interface. */
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,          mfip_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,         mfip_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,         mfip_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t mfip_driver = {
    "mfip",
    mfip_methods,
    sizeof(struct mfip)
};

DRIVER_MODULE(mfip, mfi, mfip_driver, mfip_devclass, 0, 0);
MODULE_DEPEND(mfip, cam, 1, 1, 1);
MODULE_DEPEND(mfip, mfi, 1, 1, 1);

```

---

*Listing 14-1: mfi\_cam.c*

The following sections describe the functions defined in Listing 14-1 roughly in the order they would execute.

As an aside, because ❶ `mfip_probe` is extremely rudimentary and because we've examined similar code elsewhere, I'll omit discussing it.

### ***mfip\_attach Function***

The `mfip_attach` function is the `device_attach` implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
mfip_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

    sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    if (sc == NULL)
        return (EINVAL);

    mfi = device_get_softc(device_get_parent(dev));
    sc->dev = dev;
    sc->mfi = mfi;
    mfi->mfi_cam_start = mfip_start;

```

```

        if ((sc->devq = ❶cam_simq_alloc(MFI_SCSI_MAX_CMDS)) == NULL)
            return (ENOMEM);

        sc->sim = ❷cam_sim_alloc(mfip_action, mfip_poll, "mfip", sc,
            device_get_unit(dev), &mfip->mfi_io_lock, 1, MFI_SCSI_MAX_CMDS,
            sc->devq);
        if (sc->sim == NULL) {
            cam_simq_free(sc->devq);
            device_printf(dev, "cannot allocate CAM SIM\n");
            return (EINVAL);
        }

        mtx_lock(&mfip->mfi_io_lock);
        if (❸xpt_bus_register(sc->sim, dev, 0) != 0) {
            device_printf(dev,
                "cannot register SCSI pass-through bus\n");
            cam_sim_free(sc->sim, FALSE);
            cam_simq_free(sc->devq);
            mtx_unlock(&mfip->mfi_io_lock);
            return (EINVAL);
        }
        mtx_unlock(&mfip->mfi_io_lock);

        return (0);
}

```

---

This function first calls ❶ `cam_simq_alloc` to allocate a SIM queue. Loosely speaking, *SIM queues* ensure that HBAs cannot be swamped by I/O requests. See, I/O requests from peripheral modules are housed on SIM queues to await service. When a queue becomes full, any additional requests are rejected.

Next, ❷ `cam_sim_alloc` is called to allocate a SIM (or bus) descriptor. Note that if an HBA implements multiple buses (or channels), each bus requires its own descriptor.

Finally, ❸ `xpt_bus_register` takes the descriptor returned by `cam_sim_alloc` and registers it with the CAM subsystem.

### ***mfip\_detach Function***

The `mfip_detach` function is the `device_detach` implementation for this driver. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static int
mfip_detach(device_t dev)
{
    struct mfip *sc;

    sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    if (sc == NULL)
        return (EINVAL);

    if (sc->sim != NULL) {
        mtx_lock(&sc->mfi_io_lock);

```

---

```

❶xpt_bus_deregister(cam_sim_path(sc->sim));
❷cam_sim_free(sc->sim, FALSE);
    mtx_unlock(&sc->mfi->mfi_io_lock);
}

if (sc->devq != NULL)
    ❸cam_simq_free(sc->devq);

return (0);
}

```

---

This function starts by ❶ deregistering and ❷ freeing its SIM descriptor. Afterward, its SIM queue is ❸ freed.

### ***mfip\_action Function***

The `mfip_action` function is defined in `mfip_attach` as the action routine (for verification, see the first argument to `cam_sim_alloc`). *Action routines* are executed every time a SIM receives a CCB.

**NOTE** Recall that a CCB houses an I/O request (or command) to perform along with the identity of the target device (that is, the intended recipient of the I/O request).

Fundamentally, `mfip_action` is akin to the `ahc_action` function shown in Figure 14-1. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static void
mfip_action(struct cam_sim *sim, ❶union ccb *ccb)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

    sc = cam_sim_softc(sim);
    mfi = sc->mfi;
    mtx_assert(&mfi->mfi_io_lock, MA_OWNED);

    ❷switch (ccb->ccb_h.func_code) {
        ❸case XPT_PATH_INQ:
        {
            struct ccb_pathinq *cpi;

            cpi = &ccb->cpi;
            cpi->version_num = 1;
            cpi->hba_inquiry = PI_SDTR_ABLE | PI_TAG_ABLE | PI_WIDE_16;
            cpi->target_sprt = 0;
            cpi->hba_misc = PIM_NOBUSRESET | PIM_SEQSCAN;
            cpi->hba_eng_cnt = 0;
            cpi->max_target = MFI_SCSI_MAX_TARGETS;
            cpi->max_lun = MFI_SCSI_MAX_LUNS;
            cpi->initiator_id = MFI_SCSI_INITIATOR_ID;
            strncpy(cpi->sim_vid, "FreeBSD", SIM_IDLEN);
            strncpy(cpi->hba_vid, "LSI", HBA_IDLEN);
            strncpy(cpi->dev_name, cam_sim_name(sim), DEV_IDLEN);
        }
    }
}

```

```

        cpi->unit_number = cam_sim_unit(sim);
        cpi->bus_id = cam_sim_bus(sim);
        cpi->base_transfer_speed = 150000;
        cpi->protocol = PROTO_SCSI;
        cpi->protocol_version = SCSI_REV_2;
        cpi->transport = XPORT_SAS;
        cpi->transport_version = 0;

        cpi->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        break;
    }
④case XPT_RESET_BUS:
    ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
    break;
⑤case XPT_RESET_DEV:
    ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
    break;
⑥case XPT_GET_TRAN_SETTINGS:
{
    struct ccb_trans_settings_sas *sas;

    ccb->cts.protocol = PROTO_SCSI;
    ccb->cts.protocol_version = SCSI_REV_2;
    ccb->cts.transport = XPORT_SAS;
    ccb->cts.transport_version = 0;
    sas = &ccb->cts.xport_specific.sas;
    sas->valid &= ~CTS_SAS_VALID_SPEED;
    sas->bitrate = 150000;

    ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
    break;
}
⑦case XPT_SET_TRAN_SETTINGS:
    ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_FUNC_NOTAVAIL;
    break;
⑧case XPT_SCSI_IO:
{
    struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
    struct ccb_scsio *csio = &ccb->csio;

    ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INPROG;
    if (csio->cdb_len > MFI_SCSI_MAX_CDB_LEN) {
        ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
        break;
    }
    if ((ccb_h->flags & CAM_DIR_MASK) != CAM_DIR_NONE) {
        if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_DATA_PHYS) {
            ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
            break;
        }
        if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_SCATTER_VALID) {
            ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
            break;
        }
    }
}

```

```

ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr = sc;
TAILQ_INSERT_TAIL(&mfi->mfi_cam_ccbq, ccb_h, sim_links.tqe);
mfi_startio(mfi);

return;
}
default:
ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
break;
}

xpt_done(ccb);
return;
}

```

---

Most action routines simply take a ❶ CCB and ❷ branch according to the `ccb_h.func_code` variable, which denotes the I/O operation to perform.

For now, I'm going to focus on the structure of `mfip_action` and avoid its specifics. An in-depth explanation of `mfip_action` appears in “Action Routines” on page 243.

As you can see, this function can perform one of six I/O operations: it can ❸ return the SIM and HBA properties, reset a ❹ bus or ❺ device, ❻ get or ❼ set the transfer settings, or ❽ issue a SCSI command to a device.

### ***mfip\_poll Function***

The `mfip_poll` function is defined in `mfip_attach` as the poll routine (for verification, see the second argument to `cam_sim_alloc`). Customarily, *poll routines* wrap a SIM's interrupt handler. See, when interrupts are unavailable (for example, after a kernel panic) the CAM subsystem will use poll routines to run its interrupt handlers.

The following is the function definition for `mfip_poll` (again):

---

```

static void
mfip_poll(struct cam_sim *sim)
{
    ❶return;
}

```

---

Because this SIM does not implement an interrupt handler, `mfip_poll` just ❶ returns.

### ***mfip\_start Function***

The `mfip_start` function transforms a SCSI command into a hardware-specific command. This function is called exclusively by `mfi_startio`.

**NOTE** The `mfi_startio` function is defined in `mfi.c` (which is not described in this book). `mfi_startio` is called by `mfip_action` (described in “`mfip_action Function`” on page 236) to issue a SCSI command to a device.

Here is the function definition for `mfip_start` (again):

---

```
static struct mfi_command *
mfip_start(void *data)
{
    union ccb *ccb = data;
    struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
    struct ccb_scsiod *csio = &ccb->csio;
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_command *cm;
    struct mfi_pass_frame *pt;

    sc = ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr;

    if ((cm = mfi_dequeue_free(sc->mfi)) == NULL)
        return (NULL);

    pt = &cm->cm_frame->pass;
    pt->header.cmd = MFI_CMD_PD_SCSI_IO;
    pt->header.cmd_status = 0;
    pt->header.scsi_status = 0;
    pt->header.target_id = ccb_h->target_id;
    pt->header.lun_id = ccb_h->target_lun;
    pt->header.flags = 0;
    pt->header.timeout = 0;
    pt->header.data_len = csio->dxfer_len;
    pt->header.sense_len = MFI_SENSE_LEN;
    pt->header.cdb_len = csio->cdb_len;
    pt->sense_addr_lo = cm->cm_sense_busaddr;
    pt->sense_addr_hi = 0;
    if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_CDB_POINTER)
        bcopy(csio->cdb_io.cdb_ptr, &pt->cdb[0], csio->cdb_len);
    else
        bcopy(csio->cdb_io.cdb_bytes, &pt->cdb[0], csio->cdb_len);

    cm->cm_complete = ①mfip_done;
    cm->cm_private = ccb;
    cm->cm_sg = &pt->sgl;
    cm->cm_total_frame_size = MFI_PASS_FRAME_SIZE;
    cm->cm_data = csio->data_ptr;
    cm->cm_len = csio->dxfer_len;
    switch (ccb_h->flags & CAM_DIR_MASK) {
    case CAM_DIR_IN:
        cm->cm_flags = MFI_CMD_DATAIN;
        break;
    case CAM_DIR_OUT:
        cm->cm_flags = MFI_CMD_DATAOUT;
        break;
    }
```

```

        case CAM_DIR_NONE:
    default:
        cm->cm_data = NULL;
        cm->cm_len = 0;
        cm->cm_flags = 0;
        break;
    }

    TAILQ_REMOVE(&sc->mfi->mfi_cam_ccbq, ccb_h, sim_links.tqe);
    return (cm);
}

```

---

As you can see, this function is fairly straightforward—it's just a bunch of assignments. Until we've examined `struct ccb_scsio` and `struct ccb_hdr`, which occurs in "XPT\_SCSI\_IO" on page 250, I'm going to postpone walking through this function.

Note that ❶ `mfpip_done` is set as the done routine for the hardware-specific command.

### ***mfpip\_done Function***

As implied previously, the `mfpip_done` function is the done routine for this SIM. It is executed by `mfi_intr` immediately after a device completes a hardware-specific command.

**NOTE** *The `mfi_intr` function is `mfi(4)`'s interrupt handler. It is defined in `mfi.c`.*

Fundamentally, `mfpip_done` is akin to the `ahc_done` function shown in Figure 14-1. Here is its function definition (again):

---

```

static void
mfpip_done(❶struct mfi_command *cm)
{
    union ccb *ccb = cm->cm_private;
    struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
    struct ccb_scsio *csio = &ccb->csio;
    struct mfpip *sc;
    struct mfi_pass_frame *pt;

    sc = ccb_h->ccb_mfpip_ptr;
    pt = &cm->cm_frame->pass;

    switch (pt->header.cmd_status) {
    case MFI_STAT_OK:
    {
        uint8_t command, device;

        ❷ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;

        if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_CDB_POINTER)
            command = ccb->csio.cdb_io.cdb_ptr[0];
    }
}

```

```

        else
            command = ccb->csio.cdb_io.cdb_bytes[0];

        if (command == INQUIRY) {
            device = ccb->csio.data_ptr[0] & 0x1f;
            if ((device == T_DIRECT) || (device == T_PROCESSOR))
                csio->data_ptr[0] =
                    (device & 0xe0) | T_NODEVICE;
        }

        break;
    }
    case MFI_STAT_SCSI_DONE_WITH_ERROR:
    {
        int sense_len;

    ③ccb_h->status = CAM_SCSI_STATUS_ERROR | CAM_AUTOSNS_VALID;
        csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;

        sense_len = min(pt->header.sense_len,
                        sizeof(struct scsi_sense_data));
        bzero(&csio->sense_data, sizeof(struct scsi_sense_data));
        bcopy(&cm->cm_sense->data[0], &csio->sense_data, sense_len);
        break;
    }
    case MFI_STAT_DEVICE_NOT_FOUND:
    ④ccb_h->status = CAM_SEL_TIMEOUT;
        break;
    case MFI_STAT_SCSI_IO_FAILED:
    ⑤ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP_ERR;
        csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;
        break;
    default:
    ⑥ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP_ERR;
        csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;
        break;
    }

    mfi_release_command(cm);
    ⑦xpt_done(ccb);
}

```

---

Commonly, done routines take a ❶ hardware-specific command and append the completion status (that is, successful or unsuccessful) to its associated ❷ ❸ ❹ ❺ ❻ CCB. Once this is done, ❼ `xpt_done` is called to process the completed CCB.

**NOTE** *The `mfi(4)` code base uses DMA to acquire the completion status from a device.*

Now that you're familiar with Listing 14-1, I'll expound on the different functions, structures, and constructs it employs.

## SIM Registration Routines

As alluded to previously, registering a SIM with the CAM subsystem involves three functions:

- `cam_simq_alloc`
- `cam_sim_alloc`
- `xpt_bus_register`

### ***cam\_simq\_alloc Function***

The `cam_simq_alloc` function allocates a SIM queue.

---

```
#include <cam/cam_sim.h>
#include <cam/cam_queue.h>

struct cam_devq *
cam_simq_alloc(u_int32_t max_sim_transactions);
```

---

Here, `max_sim_transactions` denotes the size of the SIM queue. Normally, it is calculated like so:

---

```
max_sim_transactions = number_of_supported_devices *
    number_of_commands_that_can_be_concurrently_processed_per_device;
```

---

### ***cam\_sim\_alloc Function***

The `cam_sim_alloc` function allocates a SIM (or bus) descriptor.

**NOTE** *If an HBA implements multiple buses (or channels), each bus requires its own descriptor.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>

#include <cam/cam_sim.h>
#include <cam/cam_queue.h>

struct cam_sim *
cam_sim_alloc(sim_action_func sim_action, sim_poll_func sim_poll,
    const char *sim_name, void *softc, u_int32_t unit, struct mtx *mtx,
    int max_dev_transactions, int max_tagged_dev_transactions,
    struct cam_devq *queue);
```

---

Because the first six arguments to `cam_sim_alloc` are fairly obvious—they’re exactly what their name implies—I’ll omit discussing them.

The `max_dev_transactions` argument specifies the maximum number of concurrent transactions per device. This argument applies only to devices that do not support SCSI Tagged Command Queuing (SCSI TCQ). Generally, `max_dev_transactions` is always set to 1.

The `max_tagged_dev_transactions` argument is identical to `max_dev_transactions`, but it applies only to devices that support SCSI TCQ.

The `queue` argument expects a pointer to a SIM queue (that is, `cam_simq_alloc`'s return value).

### ***xpt\_bus\_register Function***

The `xpt_bus_register` function registers a SIM with the CAM subsystem.

---

```
#include <cam/cam_sim.h>
#include <cam/cam_xpt_sim.h>

int32_t
xpt_bus_register(struct cam_sim *sim, device_t parent, u_int32_t bus)
```

---

Here, `sim` specifies the SIM to register (that is, `cam_sim_alloc`'s return value) and `bus` denotes its bus number. The `parent` argument is currently unused.

**NOTE** *If an HBA implements multiple buses (or channels), each bus needs its own unique bus number.*

## Action Routines

As mentioned previously, action routines are executed every time a SIM receives a CCB. You can think of action routines like the “main function” for a SIM.

Here is the function prototype for an action routine (taken from the `<cam/cam_sim.h>` header):

---

```
typedef void (*sim_action_func)(struct cam_sim *sim, union ccb *ccb);
```

---

Recall that action routines switch according to the `ccb->ccb_h.func_code` variable, which contains a constant that symbolizes the I/O operation to perform. For the rest of this chapter, I'll detail the most common constants/operations.

**NOTE** *For the complete list of constants/operations, see the `xpt_opcode` enumeration defined in the `<cam/cam_ccb.h>` header.*

### ***XPT\_PATH\_INQ***

The `XPT_PATH_INQ` constant specifies a path inquiry operation, which returns the SIM and HBA properties. Action routines that are passed `XPT_PATH_INQ` simply fill in a `ccb_pathinq` structure and then return.

`struct ccb_pathinq` is defined in the `<cam/cam_ccb.h>` header as follows:

---

```
struct ccb_pathinq {
    struct ccb_hdr ccb_h;           /* Header information fields. */
    u_int8_t    version_num;        /* Version number. */
    u_int8_t    hba_inquiry;        /* Imitate INQ byte 7. */
```

---

```

        u_int8_t    target_sprt;          /* Target mode support flags. */
        u_int8_t    hba_misc;            /* Miscellaneous HBA features. */
        u_int16_t   hba_eng_cnt;         /* HBA engine count. */

        u_int8_t    vuhba_flags[VUHBALEN]; /* Vendor unique capabilities. */
        u_int32_t   max_target;          /* Maximum supported targets. */
        u_int32_t   max_lun;             /* Maximum supported LUN. */
        u_int32_t   async_flags;         /* Asynchronous handler flags. */
        path_id_t   hpath_id;            /* Highest path ID in the subsystem. */
        target_id_t initiator_id;       /* HBA ID on the bus. */

        char sim_vid[SIM_IDLEN];        /* SIM vendor ID. */
        char hba_vid[HBA_IDLEN];        /* HBA vendor ID. */
        char dev_name[DEV_IDLEN];        /* SIM device name. */

        u_int32_t   unit_number;         /* SIM unit number. */
        u_int32_t   bus_id;              /* SIM bus ID. */
        u_int32_t   base_transfer_speed; /* Base bus speed in KB/sec. */

        cam_proto   protocol;           /* CAM protocol. */
        u_int       protocol_version;   /* CAM protocol version. */
        cam_xport   transport;          /* Transport (e.g., FC, USB). */
        u_int       transport_version;  /* Transport version. */

        union {
            struct ccb_pathinq_settings_spi spi;
            struct ccb_pathinq_settings_fc fc;
            struct ccb_pathinq_settings_sas sas;
            char ccb_pathinq_settings_opaque[PATHINO_SETTINGS_SIZE];
        } xport_specific;

        u_int maxio;      /* Maximum supported I/O size (in bytes). */
};


```

---

Here is an example XPT\_PATH\_INQ operation (taken from Listing 14-1):

```

static void
mfip_action(struct cam_sim *sim, union ccb *ccb)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

    sc = cam_sim_softc(sim);
    mfi = sc->mfi;
    mtx_assert(&mfi->mfi_io_lock, MA_OWNED);

    switch (ccb->ccb_h.func_code) {
    case XPT_PATH_INQ:
    {
        struct ccb_pathinq *cpi;

        cpi = ①&ccb->cpi;
        cpi->version_num = 1;
        cpi->hba_inquiry = PI_SDTR_ABLE | PI_TAG_ABLE | PI_WIDE_16;
        cpi->target_sprt = 0;
    }
}

```

```

        cpi->hba_misc = PIM_NOBUSRESET | PIM_SEQSCAN;
        cpi->hba_eng_cnt = 0;
        cpi->max_target = MFI_SCSI_MAX_TARGETS;
        cpi->max_lun = MFI_SCSI_MAX_LUNS;
        cpi->initiator_id = MFI_SCSI_INITIATOR_ID;
        strncpy(cpi->sim_vid, "FreeBSD", SIM_IDLEN);
        strncpy(cpi->hba_vid, "LSI", HBA_IDLEN);
        strncpy(cpi->dev_name, cam_sim_name(sim), DEV_IDLEN);
        cpi->unit_number = cam_sim_unit(sim);
        cpi->bus_id = cam_sim_bus(sim);
        cpi->base_transfer_speed = 150000;
        cpi->protocol = PROTO_SCSI;
        cpi->protocol_version = SCSI_REV_2;
        cpi->transport = XPORT_SAS;
        cpi->transport_version = 0;

    ❷ cpi->ccb_h.status = ❸CAM_REQ_CMP;
        break;
    }
    ...
    default:
        ❹ ccb->ccb_h.status = ❺CAM_REQ_INVALID;
        break;
    }

    xpt_done(ccb);
    return;
}

```

---

Notice that the `ccb_pathinq` structure is provided by the ❶ CCB. Moreover, notice that the ❸ success or ❺ failure of any operation is returned in ❷ ❹ `ccb_h.status`.

## XPT\_RESET\_BUS

The `XPT_RESET_BUS` constant specifies a bus reset operation. As you'd expect, `XPT_RESET_BUS` is horrifically hardware specific. Here is a minimalist implementation (taken from Listing 14-1):

---

```

static void
mfip_action(struct cam_sim *sim, union ccb *ccb)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

    sc = cam_sim_softc(sim);
    mfi = sc->mfi;
    mtx_assert(&mfi->mfi_io_lock, MA_OWNED);

    switch (ccb->ccb_h.func_code) {
    ...
    case XPT_RESET_BUS:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = ❻CAM_REQ_CMP;

```

```

        break;
...
    default:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
        break;
    }

    xpt_done(ccb);
    return;
}

```

---

Here, ❶ `sim` is the bus to reset. Unsurprisingly, minimalist implementations forgo any “real” work and simply return ❷ `success`.

Many SIMs use a minimalist implementation. A “proper” implementation is out of the scope of this book.

## XPT\_GET\_TRAN\_SETTINGS

The `XPT_GET_TRAN_SETTINGS` constant denotes an I/O operation that returns the current transfer settings or the user-defined upper limits. Action routines that are passed `XPT_GET_TRAN_SETTINGS` simply fill in a `ccb_trans_settings` structure and then return.

`struct ccb_trans_settings` is defined in `<cam/cam_ccb.h>` like so:

```

typedef enum {
    CTS_TYPE_CURRENT_SETTINGS,      /* Current transfer settings. */
    CTS_TYPE_USER_SETTINGS         /* User-defined upper limits. */
} cts_type;

struct ccb_trans_settings {
    struct ccb_hdr ccb_h;          /* Header information fields. */
    cts_type type;                /* Current or user settings? */
    cam_proto protocol;           /* CAM protocol. */
    u_int protocol_version;       /* CAM protocol version. */
    cam_xport transport;          /* Transport (e.g., FC, USB). */
    u_int transport_version;       /* Transport version. */

❶union {
    u_int valid;                  /* Which field(s) to honor. */
    struct ccb_trans_settings_scsi scsi;
} proto_specific;

❷union {
    u_int valid;                  /* Which field(s) to honor. */
    struct ccb_trans_settings_spi spi;
    struct ccb_trans_settings_fc fc;
    struct ccb_trans_settings_sas sas;
    struct ccb_trans_settings_ata ata;
    struct ccb_trans_settings_sata sata;
} xport_specific;
};

```

---

As you can see, `ccb_trans_settings` marshals a ❶ protocol structure and five ❷ transport-specific structures. These structures are defined in `<cam/cam_ccb.h>` like so:

---

```

struct ccb_trans_settings_scsi {
    u_int           valid;          /* Which field(s) to honor. */
#define CTS_SCSI_VALID_TQ          0x01
    u_int           flags;
#define CTS_SCSI_FLAGS_TAG_ENB     0x01
};

struct ccb_trans_settings_spi {
    u_int           valid;          /* Which field(s) to honor. */
#define CTS_SPI_VALID_SYNC_RATE   0x01
#define CTS_SPI_VALID_SYNC_OFFSET 0x02
#define CTS_SPI_VALID_BUS_WIDTH   0x04
#define CTS_SPI_VALID_DISC        0x08
#define CTS_SPI_VALID_PPR_OPTIONS 0x10
    u_int           flags;
#define CTS_SPI_FLAGS_DISC_ENB    0x01
    u_int           sync_period;    /* Sync period. */
    u_int           sync_offset;    /* Sync offset. */
    u_int           bus_width;      /* Bus width. */
    u_int           ppr_options;    /* Parallel protocol request. */
};

struct ccb_trans_settings_fc {
    u_int           valid;          /* Which field(s) to honor. */
#define CTS_FC_VALID_WWNN         0x8000
#define CTS_FC_VALID_WWPN         0x4000
#define CTS_FC_VALID_PORT         0x2000
#define CTS_FC_VALID_SPEED        0x1000
    u_int64_t        wwnn;          /* World wide node name. */
    u_int64_t        wwpn;          /* World wide port name. */
    u_int32_t        port;          /* 24-bit port ID (if known). */
    u_int32_t        bitrate;        /* Mbps. */
};

struct ccb_trans_settings_sas {
    u_int           valid;          /* Which field(s) to honor. */
#define CTS_SAS_VALID_SPEED       0x1000
    u_int32_t        bitrate;        /* Mbps. */
};

struct ccb_trans_settings_ata {
    u_int           valid;          /* Which field(s) to honor. */
#define CTS_ATA_VALID_MODE        0x01
#define CTS_ATA_VALID_BYTCOUNT    0x02
#define CTS_ATA_VALID_ATAPI       0x20
    int             mode;          /* Mode. */
    u_int           bytcount;       /* PIO transaction length. */
    u_int           atapi;          /* ATAPI CDB length. */
};

```

```

struct ccb_trans_settings_sata {
    u_int           valid;          /* Which field(s) to honor.      */
#define CTS_SATA_VALID_MODE          0x01
#define CTS_SATA_VALID_BYTCOUNT     0x02
#define CTS_SATA_VALID_REVISION     0x04
#define CTS_SATA_VALID_PM           0x08
#define CTS_SATA_VALID_TAGS         0x10
#define CTS_SATA_VALID_ATAPI        0x20
#define CTS_SATA_VALID_CAPS         0x40
    int             mode;           /* Legacy PATA mode.           */
    u_int           bytecount;      /* PIO transaction length.     */
    int             revision;       /* SATA revision.              */
    u_int           pm_present;    /* PM is present (XPT->SIM). */
    u_int           tags;           /* Number of allowed tags.     */
    u_int           atapi;          /* ATAPI CDB length.          */
    u_int           caps;           /* Host and device SATA caps. */
#define CTS_SATA_CAPS_H            0x0000ffff
#define CTS_SATA_CAPS_H_PMREQ      0x00000001
#define CTS_SATA_CAPS_H_APST       0x00000002
#define CTS_SATA_CAPS_H_DMAAA     0x00000010
#define CTS_SATA_CAPS_D            0xfffff000
#define CTS_SATA_CAPS_D_PMREQ      0x00010000
#define CTS_SATA_CAPS_D_APST       0x00020000
};


```

---

Here is an example XPT\_GET\_TRAN\_SETTINGS operation (taken from Listing 14-1):

```

static void
mfip_action(struct cam_sim *sim, union ccb *ccb)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

    sc = cam_sim_softc(sim);
    mfi = sc->mfi;
    mtx_assert(&mfi->mfi_io_lock, MA_OWNED);

    switch (ccb->ccb_h.func_code) {
...
    case XPT_GET_TRAN_SETTINGS:
    {
        struct ccb_trans_settings_sas *sas;

        ①ccb->②cts.protocol = PROTO_SCSI;
        ccb->cts.protocol_version = SCSI_REV_2;
        ccb->cts.transport = XPORT_SAS;
        ccb->cts.transport_version = 0;
        sas = &ccb->cts.xport_specific.sas;
        sas->valid &= ~CTS_SAS_VALID_SPEED;
        sas->bitrate = 150000;
    }
}


```

```

        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        break;
    }
    ...
    default:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
        break;
    }
}

xpt_done(ccb);
return;
}

```

---

Notice that the ❷ `ccb_trans_settings` structure is provided by the ❶ CCB. Naturally, only the fields applicable to the HBA are filled in.

## XPT\_SET\_TRAN\_SETTINGS

As you'd expect, `XPT_SET_TRAN_SETTINGS` is the opposite of `XPT_GET_TRAN_SETTINGS`. That is, `XPT_SET_TRAN_SETTINGS` changes the current transfer settings based on a `ccb_trans_settings` structure. Unsurprisingly, not all SIMs support this operation. For example:

```

static void
mfip_action(struct cam_sim *sim, union ccb *ccb)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

    sc = cam_sim_softc(sim);
    mfi = sc->mfi;
    mtx_assert(&mfi->mfi_io_lock, MA_OWNED);

    switch (ccb->ccb_h.func_code) {
    ...
    case XPT_SET_TRAN_SETTINGS:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = ❶CAM_FUNC_NOTAVAIL;
        break;
    ...
    default:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
        break;
    }

    xpt_done(ccb);
    return;
}

```

---

This function states that `XPT_SET_TRAN_SETTINGS` is ❶ not available. Note that a "proper" implementation is hardware specific and not covered in this book.

## XPT\_SCSI\_IO

The XPT\_SCSI\_IO constant denotes an I/O operation that issues a SCSI command to a device. The particulars of this SCSI command are stored in two structures: `ccb_scslio` and `ccb_hdr`.

`struct ccb_scslio` is defined in `<cam/cam_ccb.h>` like so:

---

```
struct ccb_scslio {
    struct ccb_hdr ccb_h;           /* Header information fields. */
    union ccb *next_ccb;           /* Next CCB to process. */
    u_int8_t *req_map;             /* Mapping information. */
    u_int8_t *data_ptr;             /* Data buffer or S/G list. */
    u_int32_t dxfer_len;           /* Length of data to transfer. */

    /* Sense information (used if the command returns an error). */
    struct scsi_sense_data sense_data;

    u_int8_t sense_len;             /* Sense information length. */
    u_int8_t cdb_len;               /* SCSI command length. */
    u_int16_t sglist_cnt;           /* Number of S/G segments. */
    u_int8_t scsi_status;           /* SCSI status (returned by device). */
    u_int8_t sense_resid;           /* Residual sense information length. */
    u_int32_t resid;                /* Residual data length. */
    cdb_t cdb_io;                  /* SCSI command. */
    u_int8_t *msg_ptr;              /* Message. */
    u_int16_t msg_len;              /* Message length. */
    u_int8_t tag_action;             /* Tag action? */

    /*
     * tag_action should be the constant below to send a non-tagged
     * transaction or one of the constants in scsi_message.h.
     */
#define CAM_TAG_ACTION_NONE          0x00
    u_int tag_id;                  /* Tag ID (from initiator). */
    u_int init_id;                  /* Initiator ID.
};


```

---

`struct ccb_hdr` is also defined in `<cam/cam_ccb.h>`, like so:

---

```
struct ccb_hdr {
    cam_pinfo pinfo;                /* Priority scheduling. */
    camq_entry xpt_links;            /* Transport layer links. */
    camq_entry sim_links;            /* SIM layer links. */
    camq_entry periph_links;         /* Peripheral layer links. */
    u_int32_t retry_count;           /* Retry count. */

    /* Pointer to peripheral module done routine. */
    void (*cbfcnp)(struct cam_periph *, union ccb *);

    xpt_opcode func_code;            /* I/O operation to perform. */
    u_int32_t ①status;               /* Completion status. */
    struct cam_path *path;            /* Path for this CCB. */
    path_id_t path_id;                /* Path ID for the request. */
    target_id_t target_id;            /* Target device ID. */
    lun_id_t target_lun;              /* Target logical unit number. */


```

---

```

    u_int32_t      flags;          /* CCB flags.          */
    ccb_ppriv_area periph_priv;   /* Private use by peripheral. */
    ccb_spriv_area sim_priv;     /* Private use by SIM. */
    u_int32_t      timeout;       /* Timeout value.      */

    /* Deprecated. Don't use!          */
    struct callout_handle timeout_ch;
};



---



```

struct `ccb_hdr` should seem familiar—it's used to return the ❶ completion status in every I/O operation.

The following is an example `XPT_SCSI_IO` operation (taken from Listing 14-1):

```

#define ccb_mfip_ptr           sim_priv.entries[0].ptr
...
static void
mfip_action(struct cam_sim *sim, union ccb *ccb)
{
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_softc *mfi;

    sc = cam_sim_softc(sim);
    mfi = sc->mfi;
    mtx_assert(&mfi->mfi_io_lock, MA_OWNED);

    switch (ccb->ccb_h.func_code) {
...
    case XPT_SCSI_IO:
    {
        struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
        struct ccb_scsio *csio = &ccb->csio;

        ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INPROG;
        ❶if (csio->cdb_len > MFI_SCSI_MAX_CDB_LEN) {
            ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
            break;
        }
        ❷if ((ccb_h->flags & CAM_DIR_MASK) != CAM_DIR_NONE) {
            ❸if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_DATA_PHYS) {
                ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
                ❹break;
            }
            ❺if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_SCATTER_VALID) {
                ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
                ❻break;
            }
        }
        ❼ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr = sc;
        TAILQ_INSERT_TAIL(&mfi->mfi_cam_ccbq, ccb_h, sim_links.tqe);
        ❽mfi_startio(mfi);

        return;
    }
}

```

```

    }
    default:
        ccb->ccb_h.status = CAM_REQ_INVALID;
        break;
    }

    xpt_done(ccb);
    return;
}

```

---

This operation begins by ❶ checking that the SCSI command length is acceptable. Then it determines whether the SCSI command uses ❸ physical addresses or ❹ scatter/gather segments to ❷ transfer data. If either is used, this operation ❺ ❻ exits (as it's received invalid arguments). Then `ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr` is ❽ set to the software context and `mfi_startio` is ❾ called.

**NOTE** *The `mfi_startio` function is what actually issues the SCSI command.*

Recall from “`mfip_start` Function” on page 238 that `mfi_startio` calls `mfip_start` to transform the SCSI command into a hardware-specific command.

```

static struct mfi_command *
mfip_start(void *data)
{
    union ccb *ccb = data;
    struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
    struct ccb_scsio *csio = &ccb->csio;
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_command *cm;
    struct mfi_pass_frame *pt;

    sc = ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr;

    if ((cm = mfi_dequeue_free(sc->mfi)) == NULL)
        return (NULL);

    pt = &cm->cm_frame->pass;
    pt->header.cmd = MFI_CMD_PD_SCSI_IO;
    pt->header.cmd_status = 0;
    pt->header.scsi_status = 0;
    pt->header.target_id = ❶ccb_h->target_id;
    pt->header.lun_id = ❷ccb_h->target_lun;
    pt->header.flags = 0;
    pt->header.timeout = 0;
    pt->header.data_len = csio->dxfer_len;
    pt->header.sense_len = MFI_SENSE_LEN;
    pt->header.cdb_len = csio->cdb_len;
    pt->sense_addr_lo = cm->cm_sense_busaddr;
    pt->sense_addr_hi = 0;
    if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_CDB_POINTER)
        bcopy(❸csio->cdb_io.cdb_ptr, &pt->cdb[0], ❹csio->cdb_len);

```

```

        else
            bcopy(❸csio->cdb_io.cdb_bytes, &pt->cdb[0], csio->cdb_len);

            cm->cm_complete = mfip_done;
            cm->cm_private = ccb;
            cm->cm_sg = &pt->sgl;
            cm->cm_total_frame_size = MFI_PASS_FRAME_SIZE;
            cm->cm_data = ❹csio->data_ptr;
            cm->cm_len = ❺csio->dxfer_len;
            switch (ccb_h->flags & CAM_DIR_MASK) {
                ❻case CAM_DIR_IN:
                    cm->cm_flags = MFI_CMD_DATAIN;
                    break;
                ❼case CAM_DIR_OUT:
                    cm->cm_flags = MFI_CMD_DATAOUT;
                    break;
                ➋case CAM_DIR_NONE:
                    default:
                        cm->cm_data = NULL;
                        cm->cm_len = 0;
                        cm->cm_flags = 0;
                        break;
            }
        }

        TAILQ_REMOVE(&sc->mfi->mfi_cam_ccbq, ccb_h, sim_links.tqe);
        return (cm);
}

```

---

Notice that struct `ccb_hdr` lists the target’s ❶ device ID and ❷ logical unit number. It also lists whether the SCSI command transfers data ❸ in, ❹ out, or ➋ nothing. Note that `XPT_SCSI_I0` operations are seen from the SIM’s point of view. Therefore, “in” means from the device, and “out” means to the device.

The `ccb_scslio` structure maintains the ❾ data to transfer and its ❿ length. It also maintains the SCSI command (through a ❻ pointer or a ❼ buffer) and the command’s ❽ length.

**NOTE** *Once more, the hardware-specific command constructed above is issued to the target device via `mfi_startio`.*

Recall that as soon as a device completes a hardware-specific command, it sends an interrupt, which causes the done routine (`mfip_done` in this case) to execute.

---

```

static void
mfip_done(struct mfi_command *cm)
{
    union ccb *ccb = cm->cm_private;
    struct ccb_hdr *ccb_h = &ccb->ccb_h;
    struct ccb_scslio *cslio = &ccb->cslio;
    struct mfip *sc;
    struct mfi_pass_frame *pt;

    sc = ccb_h->ccb_mfip_ptr;

```

```

    pt = &cm->cm_frame->pass;

    switch (pt->header.cmd_status) {
    case MFI_STAT_OK:
    {
        uint8_t command, device;

        ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP;
        csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;

        if (ccb_h->flags & CAM_CDB_POINTER)
            command = ccb->csio.cdb_io.cdb_ptr[0];
        else
            command = ccb->csio.cdb_io.cdb_bytes[0];

        if (command == INQUIRY) {
            device = ccb->csio.data_ptr[0] & 0x1f;
            if ((device == T_DIRECT) || (device == T_PROCESSOR))
                csio->data_ptr[0] =
                    (device & 0xe0) | T_NODEVICE;
        }
    }

    break;
}
①case MFI_STAT_SCSI_DONE_WITH_ERROR:
{
    int sense_len;

    ccb_h->status = CAM_SCSI_STATUS_ERROR | CAM_AUTOSNS_VALID;
    csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;

    sense_len = min(pt->header.sense_len,
                    sizeof(struct scsi_sense_data));
    bzero(&csio->sense_data, sizeof(struct scsi_sense_data));
    ②bcopy(③&cm->cm_sense->data[0], ④&csio->sense_data,
            sense_len);
    break;
}
case MFI_STAT_DEVICE_NOT_FOUND:
    ccb_h->status = CAM_SEL_TIMEOUT;
    break;
case MFI_STAT_SCSI_IO_FAILED:
    ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP_ERR;
    csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;
    break;
default:
    ccb_h->status = CAM_REQ_CMP_ERR;
    csio->scsi_status = pt->header.scsi_status;
    break;
}

mfi_release_command(cm);
xpt_done(ccb);
}

```

---

Notice that if the hardware-specific command ❶ returns an error, the ❸ error information (or sense data) is ❷ copied to the `ccb_scsio` structure's ❹ `sense_data` field.

At this point in the game, the unexplained parts of this function should be obvious.

## XPT\_RESET\_DEV

The `XPT_RESET_DEV` constant specifies a device reset operation. Unsurprisingly, `XPT_RESET_DEV` is fairly hardware specific. Here is a simple `XPT_RESET_DEV` operation (taken from `bt.c`):

**NOTE** *The bt.c source file is part of the bt(4) code base.*

---

```
static void
btaction(struct cam_sim *sim, union ccb *ccb)
{
    struct bt_softc *bt;

    bt = (struct bt_softc *)cam_sim_softc(sim);

    switch (ccb->ccb_h.func_code) {
        case XPT_RESET_DEV:
            ❶/* FALLTHROUGH */
        case XPT_SCSI_IO:
            {
                ...
            }
    }
}
```

---

Given that a hardware-specific command must be issued to reset this device, `XPT_RESET_DEV` simply ❶ cascades into `XPT_SCSI_IO`.

While not shown here, it should be stressed that all operations conclude by appending their completion status to their CCB and then calling `xpt_done(ccb)`.

## Conclusion

This chapter concentrated heavily on HBA drivers, or SIMs, because they're the most commonly written CAM-related driver. Of course, there's more to CAM than what's been shown here. You could conceivably write an entire book on CAM!



# 15

## USB DRIVERS



*Universal Serial Bus (USB)* is a connection protocol between a host controller (such as a personal computer) and a peripheral device. It was designed to replace a wide range of slow buses—the parallel port, serial port, and PS/2 connector—with a single bus that all devices could connect to (Corbet et al., 2005).

As described in the official USB documentation, available at <http://www.usb.org/developers/>, USB devices are hideously complex. Fortunately, FreeBSD provides a *USB module* to handle most of the complexity. This chapter describes the interactions between the USB module and drivers. But first, some background on USB devices is needed.

### About USB Devices

Communication between a USB host controller and a USB device occurs through a pipe (Orwick and Smith, 2007). A *pipe* connects the host controller to an endpoint on a device. USB devices can have up to 32 endpoints.

Each *endpoint* performs a specific communication-related operation for a device, such as receiving commands or transferring data. An endpoint can be one of four types:

- Control
- Interrupt
- Bulk
- Isochronous

*Control endpoints* are used to send and receive information of a control nature (Oney, 2003). They are commonly used for configuring the device, issuing device commands, retrieving device information, and so on. Control transactions are guaranteed to succeed by the USB protocol. All USB devices have a control endpoint named endpoint 0.

*Interrupt endpoints* transfer small amounts of data at a fixed rate. See, USB devices cannot interrupt their host in the traditional sense—they don't have an asynchronous interrupt. Instead, USB devices provide interrupt endpoints, which are polled periodically. These endpoints are the main transport method for USB keyboards and mice (Corbet et al., 2005). Interrupt transactions are guaranteed to succeed by the USB protocol.

*Bulk endpoints* transfer large amounts of data. Bulk transactions are lossless. However, they are not guaranteed by the USB protocol to complete in a specific amount of time. Bulk endpoints are common on printers, mass storage devices, and network devices.

*Isochronous endpoints* periodically transfer large amounts of data. Isochronous transactions can be lossy. As such, these endpoints are used in devices that can handle data loss but rely on keeping a constant stream of data flowing, such as audio and video devices (Corbet et al., 2005).

## More About USB Devices

The endpoints on a USB device are grouped into *interfaces*. For example, a USB speaker might define one group of endpoints as the interface for the buttons and another group of endpoints as the interface for the audio stream.

All interfaces have one or more alternate settings. An *alternate setting* defines the parameters of the interface. For example, a lossy audio stream interface may have several alternate settings that provide increasing levels of audio quality at the cost of additional bandwidth. Naturally, only one alternate setting can be active at a time.

**NOTE** *The term “alternate setting” is kind of a misnomer, as the default interface setting is the first alternate setting.*

Figure 15-1 depicts the relationship between endpoints, interfaces, and alternate settings.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Figure 15-1 is adapted from *Developing Drivers with the Windows Driver Foundation* by Penny Orwick and Guy Smith (Microsoft Press, 2007).

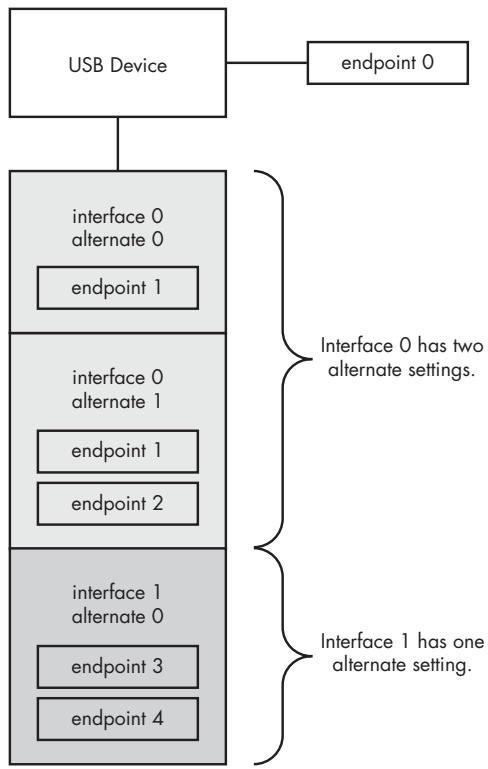


Figure 15-1: An example USB device layout

As you can see, an endpoint cannot be shared among interfaces, but it can be used in multiple alternate settings within one interface. Also, each alternate setting can have a different number of endpoints. Note that endpoint 0, the default control endpoint, is not part of any interface.

A group of interfaces is known as a *device configuration*, or simply a *configuration*.

## USB Configuration Structures

In FreeBSD, `usb_config` structures are used to find and communicate with individual endpoints. `struct usb_config` is defined in the `<dev/usb/usbdi.h>` header as follows:

---

```
struct usb_config {
    /* USB Module Private Data */
    enum usb_hc_mode      usb_mode;

    /* Mandatory Fields */
    uint8_t            type;
    uint8_t            endpoint;
    uint8_t            direction;
    usb_callback_t     *callback;
```

```

        usb_frlength_t      bufsize;

        /* Optional Fields */
        usb_timeout_t       timeout;
        usb_timeout_t       interval;
        usb_frcount_t       frames;
        uint8_t              ep_index;
        uint8_t              if_index;

        /* USB Transfer Flags */
        struct usb_xfer_flags flags;
};


```

---

Many of the fields in `struct usb_config` must be initialized by a USB driver. These fields are described in the following sections.

### **Mandatory Fields**

The `type` field specifies the endpoint type. Valid values for this field are `UE_CONTROL`, `UE_BULK`, `UE_INTERRUPT`, and `UE_ISOCRONOUS`.

The `endpoint` field specifies the endpoint number. A value of `UE_ADDR_ANY` suggests that the endpoint number is unimportant—the other fields are used to find the correct endpoint.

The `direction` field specifies the endpoint direction. Valid values for this field are shown in Table 15-1.

**Table 15-1:** USB Endpoint Direction Symbolic Constants

Constant	Description
<code>UE_DIR_IN</code>	Stipulates that the endpoint be an IN endpoint; that is, the endpoint transfers data to the host from the device
<code>UE_DIR_OUT</code>	Stipulates that the endpoint be an OUT endpoint; that is, the endpoint transfers data to the device from the host
<code>UE_DIR_ANY</code>	Stipulates that the endpoint support bidirectional transfers

**NOTE** *The direction of an endpoint is from the host’s perspective.*

The `callback` field denotes a mandatory callback function. This function is executed before and after the endpoint specified by `type`, `endpoint`, and `direction` transfers data. We’ll discuss this function further in “USB Transfers (in FreeBSD)” on page 262.

The `bufsize` field denotes the buffer size for the endpoint specified by `type`, `endpoint`, and `direction`. As you would expect, `bufsize` is used for `type` transactions.

As this section’s heading implies, the preceding fields must be defined in every `usb_config` structure.

### **Optional Fields**

The `timeout` field sets the transaction timeout in milliseconds. If `timeout` is 0 or undefined and `type` is `UE_ISOCRONOUS`, then a timeout of 250 ms will be used.

The interval field’s meaning is based on the value of type. Table 15-2 details interval’s purpose (based on type).

**Table 15-2:** interval’s Purpose (Based on Endpoint Type)

Endpoint Type	What interval Does
UE_CONTROL	interval sets the transaction delay in milliseconds; in other words, interval milliseconds must pass before a control transaction can occur
UE_INTERRUPT	interval sets the polling rate in milliseconds; in other words, the host controller will poll the interrupt endpoint every interval milliseconds; if interval is 0 or undefined, then the endpoint’s default polling rate will be used
UE_BULK	interval does nothing for bulk endpoints
UE_ISOCRONOUS	interval does nothing for isochronous endpoints

The frames field denotes the maximum number of USB frames that the endpoint specified by type, endpoint, and direction supports. In FreeBSD, *USB frames* are simply “data packets” that travel to or from an endpoint. USB frames are composed of one or more *USB packets*, which actually contain the data.

The ep\_index field demands a non-negative integer. If multiple endpoints are identified by type, endpoint, and direction—which can occur when endpoint is UE\_ADDR\_ANY—the value of ep\_index will be used to select one.

The if\_index field specifies the interface number (based on the ifaces argument passed to usbd\_transfer\_setup, which is described in “USB Configuration Structure Management Routines” on page 264).

## USB Transfer Flags

The flags field sets the transactional properties for the endpoint specified by type, endpoint, and direction. This field expects a usb\_xfer\_flags structure.

struct usb\_xfer\_flags is defined in the <dev/usb/usbdi.h> header as follows:

---

```
struct usb_xfer_flags {
    uint8_t force_short_xfer : 1;
    uint8_t short_xfer_ok   : 1;
    uint8_t short_frames_ok : 1;
    uint8_t pipe_bof        : 1;
    uint8_t proxy_buffer    : 1;
    uint8_t ext_buffer      : 1;
    uint8_t manual_status   : 1;
    uint8_t no_pipe_ok      : 1;
    uint8_t stall_pipe      : 1;
};
```

---

All of the fields in struct usb\_xfer\_flags are optional. These fields are 1-bit and function as flags. They are detailed in Table 15-3.

**Table 15-3:** USB Transfer Flags

Flag	Description
force_short_xfer	Causes a short transfer; <i>short transfers</i> basically dispatch a short USB packet, which tends to indicate “end of transaction;” this flag can be set anytime
short_xfer_ok	Indicates that it is okay to receive short transfers; this flag can be set anytime
short_frames_ok	Indicates that it is okay to receive gobs of short USB frames; this flag can only affect UE_INTERRUPT and UE_BULK endpoints; it can be set anytime
pipe_bof	Causes any failed USB transactions to remain first in their queue; this guarantees that all transactions complete in FIFO order; this flag can be set anytime
proxy_buffer	Rounds bufsize up to the maximum USB frame size; this flag cannot be set after driver initialization
ext_buffer	Indicates that an external DMA buffer will be used for all transactions; this flag cannot be set after driver initialization
manual_status	Stops the handshake/status stage from occurring in control transactions; this flag can be set anytime
no_pipe_ok	Causes USB_ERR_NO_PIPE errors to be ignored; this flag cannot be set after driver initialization
stall_pipe	Causes the endpoint specified by type, endpoint, and direction to “stall” before each transaction; this flag can be set anytime

**NOTE** If you don’t understand some of these descriptions, don’t worry; I’ll expand on them later.

## USB Transfers (in FreeBSD)

Recall that callback is executed before and after the endpoint specified by type, endpoint, and direction transfers data. Below is its function prototype:

---

```
typedef void (usb_callback_t)(❶struct usb_xfer *, usb_error_t);
```

---

Here, ❶ struct usb\_xfer \* contains the transfer state:

---

```
struct usb_xfer {
    ...
    uint8_t          usb_state;
    /* Set when callback is executed before a data transfer. */
#define USB_ST_SETUP          0
    /* Set when callback is executed after a data transfer. */
#define USB_ST_TRANSFERRED    1
    /* Set when a transfer error occurs. */
#define USB_ST_ERROR          2
    ...
};
```

---

Generally, you'd use `struct usb_xfer *` in a switch statement to provide a code block for each transfer state. Some example code should help clarify what I mean.

**NOTE** Just concentrate on the structure of this code and ignore what it does.

```
static void
ulppt_status_callback(❶struct usb_xfer *transfer, usb_error_t error)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usbd_xfer_softc(transfer);
    struct usb_device_request req;
    struct usb_page_cache *pc;
    uint8_t current_status, new_status;

    switch (❷USB_GET_STATE(transfer)) {
❸case USB_ST_SETUP:
        req.bmRequestType = UT_READ_CLASS_INTERFACE;
        req.bRequest = UREQ_GET_PORT_STATUS;
        USETW(req.wValue, 0);
        req.wIndex[0] = sc->sc_iface_num;
        req.wIndex[1] = 0;
        USETW(req.wLength, 1);

        pc = usbd_xfer_get_frame(transfer, 0);
        usbd_copy_in(pc, 0, &req, sizeof(req));
        usbd_xfer_set_frame_len(transfer, 0, sizeof(req));
        usbd_xfer_set_frame_len(transfer, 1, 1);
        usbd_xfer_set_frames(transfer, 2);
❹usbd_transfer_submit(transfer);

        break;
❺case USB_ST_TRANSFERRED:
        pc = usbd_xfer_get_frame(transfer, 1);
        usbd_copy_out(pc, 0, &current_status, 1);

        current_status = (current_status ^ LPS_INVERT) & LPS_MASK;
        new_status = current_status & ~sc->sc_previous_status;
        sc->sc_previous_status = current_status;

        if (new_status & LPS_NERR)
            ❻log(LOG_NOTICE, "%s: output error\n",
                device_get_nameunit(sc->sc_dev));
        else if (new_status & LPS_SELECT)
            ❼log(LOG_NOTICE, "%s: offline\n",
                device_get_nameunit(sc->sc_dev));
        else if (new_status & LPS_NOPAPER)
            ❽log(LOG_NOTICE, "%s: out of paper\n",
                device_get_nameunit(sc->sc_dev));

        break;
    }
}
```

```
        default:
            break;
    }
}
```

---

Notice how ❶ struct `usb_xfer` \* is used as the ❷ expression for the switch statement (as you would expect, the macro `USB_GET_STATE` returns the transfer state).

The constant ❸ `USB_ST_SETUP` is set when `callback` is executed before a data transfer. This case handles any pre-transfer operations. It always ends with ❹ `usbd_transfer_submit`, which starts the data transfer.

The constant ❺ `USB_ST_TRANSFERRED` is set when `callback` is executed after a data transfer. This case performs any post-transfer actions, such as ❻ ❼ ❽ printing log messages.

## USB Configuration Structure Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following functions for working with `usb_config` structures:

---

```
#include <dev/usb/usb.h>
#include <dev/usb/usbd.h>
#include <dev/usb/usbd_util.h>

usb_error_t
usbd_transfer_setup(struct usb_device *udev, const uint8_t *ifaces,
    ❶struct usb_xfer **pxfer, ❷const struct usb_config *setup_start,
    ❸uint16_t n_setup, void *priv_sc, struct mtx *priv_mtx);

void
usbd_transfer_unsetup(❹struct usb_xfer **pxfer, ❺uint16_t n_setup);

void
usbd_transfer_start(❻struct usb_xfer *xfer);

void
usbd_transfer_stop(❼struct usb_xfer *xfer);

void
usbd_transfer_drain(struct usb_xfer *xfer);
```

---

The `usbd_transfer_setup` function takes an ❷ array of `usb_config` structures and sets up an ❶ array of `usb_xfer` structures. The ❸ `n_setup` argument denotes the number of elements in the arrays.

**NOTE** As you'll see, a `usb_xfer` structure is required to initiate a USB data transfer.

The `usbd_transfer_unsetup` function destroys an ❹ array of `usb_xfer` structures. The ❺ `n_setup` argument denotes the number of elements in the array.

The `usbd_transfer_start` function takes a ❻ `usb_xfer` structure and starts a USB transfer (that is, it executes `callback` with `USB_ST_SETUP` set).

The `usbd_transfer_stop` function stops any transfers associated with the **7** `xfer` argument (that is, it executes callback with `USB_ST_ERROR` set).

The `usbd_transfer_drain` function is like `usbd_transfer_stop`, but it waits for callback to complete before returning.

## USB Methods Structure

A `usb_fifo_methods` structure defines a USB driver's entry points. You can think of `struct usb_fifo_methods` as `struct cdevsw`, but for USB drivers.

`struct usb_fifo_methods` is defined in the `<dev/usb/usbd.h>` header as follows:

---

```
struct usb_fifo_methods {
    /* Executed Unlocked */
    usb_fifo_open_t      *f_open;
    usb_fifo_close_t     *f_close;
    usb_fifo_ioctl_t     *f_ioctl;
    usb_fifo_ioctl_t     *f_ioctl_post;

    /* Executed With Mutex Locked */
    usb_fifo_cmd_t       *f_start_read;
    usb_fifo_cmd_t       *f_stop_read;
    usb_fifo_cmd_t       *f_start_write;
    usb_fifo_cmd_t       *f_stop_write;
    usb_fifo_filter_t    *f_filter_read;
    usb_fifo_filter_t    *f_filter_write;

    const char           *basename[4];
    const char           *postfix[4];
};
```

---

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following functions for working with `usb_fifo_methods` structures:

---

```
#include <dev/usb/usb.h>
#include <dev/usb/usbd.h>
#include <dev/usb/usbd_util.h>

int
usb_fifo_attach(struct usb_device *udev, void *priv_sc,
    struct mtx *priv_mtx, struct usb_fifo_methods *pm,
①struct usb_fifo_sc *f_sc, uint16_t unit, uint16_t subunit,
    uint8_t iface_index, uid_t uid, gid_t gid, int mode);

void
usb_fifo_detach(②struct usb_fifo_sc *f_sc);
```

---

The `usb_fifo_attach` function creates a USB device node under `/dev`. If successful, a magic cookie is saved in **①** `f_sc`.

The `usb_fifo_detach` function takes a **②** cookie created by `usb_fifo_attach` and destroys its associated USB device node.

## Tying Everything Together

Now that you’re familiar with the `usb_*` structures and their management routines, let’s dissect a real-world USB driver.

Listing 15-1 provides a terse, source-level overview of `ulpt(4)`, the USB printer driver.

**NOTE** *To improve readability, some of the variables and functions presented in this section have been renamed and restructured from their counterparts in the FreeBSD source.*

---

```
#include <sys/param.h>
#include <sys/module.h>
#include <sys/kernel.h>
#include <sys/sysctl.h>

#include <sys/conf.h>
#include <sys/bus.h>
#include <sys/lock.h>
#include <sys/mutex.h>
#include <sys/syslog.h>
#include <sys/fcntl.h>

#include <dev/usb/usb.h>
#include <dev/usb/usbd.h>
#include <dev/usb/usbd_util.h>

#define ULPT_BUF_SIZE          (1 << 15)
#define ULPT_IFQ_MAX_LEN        2

#define UREQ_GET_PORT_STATUS    0x01
#define UREQ_SOFT_RESET          0x02

#define LPS_NERR                 0x08
#define LPS_SELECT                0x10
#define LPS_NOPAPER               0x20
#define LPS_INVERT                (LPS_NERR | LPS_SELECT)
#define LPS_MASK                  (LPS_NERR | LPS_SELECT | LPS_NOPAPER)

enum {
    ULPT_BULK_DT_WR,
    ULPT_BULK_DT_RD,
    ULPT_INTR_DT_RD,
    ULPT_N_TRANSFER
};

struct ulpt_softc {
    device_t           sc_dev;
    struct usb_device *sc_usb_device;
    struct mtx         sc_mutex;
    struct usb_callout sc_watchdog;
    uint8_t            sc_iface_num;
    struct usb_xfer    *sc_transfer[ULPT_N_TRANSFER];
    struct usb_fifo_sc sc_fifo;
```

```

        struct usb_fifo_sc      sc_fifo_no_reset;
        int                      sc_fflags;
        struct usb_fifo          *sc_fifo_open[2];
        uint8_t                  sc_zero_length_packets;
        uint8_t                  sc_previous_status;
    };

    static device_probe_t      ulpt_probe;
    static device_attach_t     ulpt_attach;
    static device_detach_t     ulpt_detach;

    static usb_fifo_open_t     ulpt_open;
    static usb_fifo_open_t     unlpt_open;
    static usb_fifo_close_t    ulpt_close;
    static usb_fifo_ioctl_t   ulpt_ioctl;
    static usb_fifo_cmd_t     ulpt_start_read;
    static usb_fifo_cmd_t     ulpt_stop_read;
    static usb_fifo_cmd_t     ulpt_start_write;
    static usb_fifo_cmd_t     ulpt_stop_write;

    static void                ulpt_reset(struct ulpt_softc *);
    static void                ulpt_watchdog(void *);

    static usb_callback_t      ulpt_write_callback;
    static usb_callback_t      ulpt_read_callback;
    static usb_callback_t      ulpt_status_callback;

❶ static struct usb_fifo_methods ulpt_fifo_methods = {
    .f_open =                 &ulpt_open,
    .f_close =                &ulpt_close,
    .f_ioctl =                &ulpt_ioctl,
    .f_start_read =           &ulpt_start_read,
    .f_stop_read =            &ulpt_stop_read,
    .f_start_write =          &ulpt_start_write,
    .f_stop_write =           &ulpt_stop_write,
    .basename[0] =             ❷"ulpt"
};

❷ static struct usb_fifo_methods unlpt_fifo_methods = {
    .f_open =                 &unlpt_open,
    .f_close =                &ulpt_close,
    .f_ioctl =                &ulpt_ioctl,
    .f_start_read =           &ulpt_start_read,
    .f_stop_read =            &ulpt_stop_read,
    .f_start_write =          &ulpt_start_write,
    .f_stop_write =           &ulpt_stop_write,
    .basename[0] =             ❸"unlpt"
};

static const struct usb_config ulpt_config[ULPT_N_TRANSFER] = {
❹[ULPT_BULK_DT_WR] = {
    .callback =               &ulpt_write_callback,
    .bufsize =                ULPT_BUF_SIZE,
    .flags =                  {.pipe_bof = 1, .proxy_buffer = 1},
}

```

```

        .type =          UE_BULK,
        .endpoint =      UE_ADDR_ANY,
        .direction =     UE_DIR_OUT
    },
    ❸[ULPT_BULK_DT_RD] = {
        .callback =      &ulpt_read_callback,
        .bufsize =       ULPT_BUF_SIZE,
        .flags =         { .short_xfer_ok = 1, .pipe_bof = 1,
                           .proxy_buffer = 1 },
        .type =          UE_BULK,
        .endpoint =      UE_ADDR_ANY,
        .direction =     UE_DIR_IN
    },
    ❹[ULPT_INTR_DT_RD] = {
        .callback =      &ulpt_status_callback,
        .bufsize =       sizeof(struct usb_device_request) + 1,
        .timeout =       1000, /* 1 second. */
        .type =          UE_CONTROL,
        .endpoint =      0x00,
        .direction =     UE_DIR_ANY
    }
};

static int
ulpt_open(struct usb_fifo *fifo, int fflags)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_reset(struct ulpt_softc *sc)
{
...
}

static int
unlpt_open(struct usb_fifo *fifo, int fflags)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_close(struct usb_fifo *fifo, int fflags)
{
...
}

static int
ulpt_ioctl(struct usb_fifo *fifo, u_long cmd, void *data, int fflags)
{
...
}

```

```
static void
ulpt_watchdog(void *arg)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_start_read(struct usb_fifo *fifo)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_stop_read(struct usb_fifo *fifo)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_start_write(struct usb_fifo *fifo)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_stop_write(struct usb_fifo *fifo)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_write_callback(struct usb_xfer *transfer, usb_error_t error)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_read_callback(struct usb_xfer *transfer, usb_error_t error)
{
...
}

static void
ulpt_status_callback(struct usb_xfer *transfer, usb_error_t error)
{
...
}

static int
ulpt_probe(device_t dev)
{
...
}
```

```

static int
ulpt_attach(device_t dev)
{
    ...
}

static int
ulpt_detach(device_t dev)
{
    ...
}

static device_method_t ulpt_methods[] = {
    /* Device interface. */
    DEVMETHOD(device_probe,          ulpt_probe),
    DEVMETHOD(device_attach,        ulpt_attach),
    DEVMETHOD(device_detach,        ulpt_detach),
    { 0, 0 }
};

static driver_t ulpt_driver = {
    "ulpt",
    ulpt_methods,
    sizeof(struct ulpt_softc)
};

static devclass_t ulpt_devclass;

DRIVER_MODULE(ulpt, uhub, ulpt_driver, ulpt_devclass, 0, 0);
MODULE_DEPEND(ulpt, usb, 1, 1, 1);
MODULE_DEPEND(ulpt, ucom, 1, 1, 1);

```

---

*Listing 15-1: ulpt.c*

Note that Listing 15-1 defines three `usb_config` structures. Therefore, `ulpt(4)` communicates with three endpoints: a ❸ bulk OUT, a ❹ bulk IN, and the ❻ default control endpoint.

Also, note that Listing 15-1 defines two ❶ ❷ `usb_fifo_methods` structures. So, `ulpt(4)` provides two device nodes: ❸ `ulpt%d` and ❹ `unlpt%d` (where `%d` is the unit number). As you'll see, the `ulpt%d` device node resets the printer when opened, whereas `unlpt%d` does not.

Now, let's discuss the functions found in Listing 15-1.

### ***ulpt\_probe Function***

The `ulpt_probe` function is the `device_probe` implementation for `ulpt(4)`. Here is its function definition:

---

```

static int
ulpt_probe(device_t dev)
{
    ❶ struct usb_attach_arg *uaa = device_get_ivars(dev);

```

```

②if (uaa->usb_mode != USB_MODE_HOST)
    return (ENXIO);

③if ((uaa->info.bInterfaceClass == UICLASS_PRINTER) &&
    (uaa->info.bInterfaceSubClass == UISUBCLASS_PRINTER) &&
    ((uaa->info.bInterfaceProtocol == UIPROTO_PRINTER_UNI) ||
     (uaa->info.bInterfaceProtocol == UIPROTO_PRINTER_BI) ||
     (uaa->info.bInterfaceProtocol == UIPROTO_PRINTER_1284)))
    return (BUS_PROBE_SPECIFIC);

        return (ENXIO);
}

```

---

This function first ② ensures that the USB host controller is in host mode, which is needed to initiate data transfers. Then `ulpt_probe` ③ determines whether `dev` is a USB printer.

Incidentally, ① `struct usb_attach_arg` contains the printer's instance variables.

### ***ulpt\_attach Function***

The `ulpt_attach` function is the `device_attach` implementation for `ulpt(4)`. Here is its function definition:

```

static int
ulpt_attach(device_t dev)
{
    struct usb_attach_arg *uaa = device_get_ivars(dev);
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);
    struct usb_interface_descriptor *idesc;
    struct usb_config_descriptor *cdesc;
    uint8_t alt_index, iface_index = uaa->info.bIfaceIndex;
    int error, unit = device_get_unit(dev);

    sc->sc_dev = dev;
    sc->sc_usb_device = uaa->device;
    ①device_set_usb_desc(dev);
    mtx_init(&sc->sc_mutex, "ulpt", NULL, MTX_DEF | MTX_RECURSE);
    ②usb_callout_init_mtx(&sc->sc_watchdog, &sc->sc_mutex, 0);

    idesc = usbd_get_interface_descriptor(uaa->iface);
    alt_index = -1;
    for (;;) {
        if (idesc == NULL)
            break;

        if ((idesc->bDescriptorType == UDESC_INTERFACE) &&
            (idesc->bLength >= sizeof(*idesc))) {
            if (idesc->bInterfaceNumber != ③uaa->info.bIfaceNum)
                break;
            else {
                alt_index++;

```

```

        if ((idesc->bInterfaceClass ==
             UICLASS_PRINTER) &&
            (idesc->bInterfaceSubClass ==
             UISUBCLASS_PRINTER) &&
            (idesc->bInterfaceProtocol ==
             ④UIPROTO_PRINTER_BI))
                goto found;
    }
}

cdesc = usbd_get_config_descriptor(uaa->device);
idesc = (void *)⑤usb_desc_foreach(cdesc, (void *)idesc);
}
goto detach;

found:
if (alt_index) {
    error = ⑥usbd_set_alt_interface_index(uaa->device,
                                           iface_index, alt_index);
    if (error)
        goto detach;
}

sc->sc_iface_num = idesc->bInterfaceNumber;

error = ⑦usbd_transfer_setup(uaa->device, &iface_index,
                            sc->sc_transfer, ulpt_config, ULPT_N_TRANSFER, sc,
                            &sc->sc_mutex);
if (error)
    goto detach;

device_printf(dev, "using bi-directional mode\n");

error = ⑧usb_fifo_attach(uaa->device, sc, &sc->sc_mutex,
                         &ulpt_fifo_methods, &sc->sc_fifo, unit, -1,
                         iface_index, UID_ROOT, GID_OPERATOR, 0644);
if (error)
    goto detach;

error = ⑨usb_fifo_attach(uaa->device, sc, &sc->sc_mutex,
                         &unlp_fifo_methods, &sc->sc_fifo_no_reset, unit, -1,
                         iface_index, UID_ROOT, GID_OPERATOR, 0644);
if (error)
    goto detach;

mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
⑩ulpt_watchdog(sc);
mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);
return (0);

detach:
    ulpt_detach(dev);
    return (ENOMEM);
}

```

---

This function can be split into three parts. The first ❶ sets the verbose description of dev by calling `device_set_usb_desc(dev)`. Then it ❷ initializes `ulpt(4)`'s callout structure.

**NOTE** All USB devices contain a textual description of themselves, which is why `device_set_usb_desc` just takes a `device_t` argument.

The second part essentially ❸ iterates through the alternate settings for interface number ❹ `uaa->info.bIfaceNum`, until the alternate setting that supports ❻ bidirectional mode is found. If the alternate setting that supports bidirectional mode is not alternate setting 0, then ❼ `usbd_set_alt_interface_index` is called to instate this alternate setting. Alternate setting 0 does not need to be instated, because it's used by default.

Finally, the third part ❼ initializes the USB transfers, ❽ ❾ creates `ulpt(4)`'s device nodes, and calls ❿ `ulpt_watchdog` (which we'll walk through in “`ulpt_watchdog Function`” on page 277).

### ***ulpt\_detach Function***

The `ulpt_detach` function is the `device_detach` implementation for `ulpt(4)`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
ulpt_detach(device_t dev)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = device_get_softc(dev);

    ❶usb_fifo_detach(&sc->sc_fifo);
    ❷usb_fifo_detach(&sc->sc_fifo_no_reset);

    mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
    ❸usb_callout_stop(&sc->sc_watchdog);
    mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);

    ❹usbd_transfer_unsetup(sc->sc_transfer, ULPT_N_TRANSFER);
    ❺usb_callout_drain(&sc->sc_watchdog);
    ❻mtx_destroy(&sc->sc_mutex);

    return (0);
}
```

---

This function starts by ❶ ❷ destroying its device nodes. Then it ❸ stops the callout function, ❹ tears down the USB transfers, ❺ drains the callout function, and ❻ destroys its mutex.

### ***ulpt\_open Function***

The `ulpt_open` function is the `ulpt%d` device node's open routine. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
ulpt_open(struct usb_fifo *fifo, int fflags)
```

---

---

```

{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usb_fifo_softc(fifo);

    if (sc->sc_fflags == 0)
        ❶ulpt_reset(sc);

    return (❷unlpt_open(fifo, fflags));
}

```

---

This function first calls ❶ `ulpt_reset` to reset the printer. Then ❷ `unlpt_open` is called to (actually) open the printer.

### ***ulpt\_reset Function***

As mentioned in the previous section, the `ulpt_reset` function resets the printer. Here is its function definition:

---

```

static void
ulpt_reset(struct ulpt_softc *sc)
{
    ❶struct usb_device_request req;
    int error;

    req.bRequest = ❷UREQ_SOFT_RESET;
    USETW(req.wValue, 0);
    USETW(req.wIndex, sc->sc_iface_num);
    USETW(req.wLength, 0);

    mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);

    req.bmRequestType = ❸UT_WRITE_CLASS_OTHER;
    error = ❹usbd_do_request_flags(sc->sc_usb_device, &sc->sc_mutex,
        &req, NULL, 0, NULL, 2 * USB_MS_HZ);
    ❺if (error) {
        req.bmRequestType = ❻UT_WRITE_CLASS_INTERFACE;
        ❼usbd_do_request_flags(sc->sc_usb_device, &sc->sc_mutex,
            &req, NULL, 0, NULL, 2 * USB_MS_HZ);
    }

    mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);
}

```

---

This function starts by defining a ❶ `usb_device_request` structure to ❷ reset the printer. It then ❹ transmits the reset request to the printer.

Note that some printers typify a reset request as ❸ `UT_WRITE_CLASS_OTHER` and some typify it as ❾ `UT_WRITE_CLASS_INTERFACE`. Thus, `ulpt_reset` transmits the reset request a ❿ second time if the first request ❺ fails.

## ***unlpt\_open Function***

The `unlpt_open` function is the `unlpt%d` device node's open routine. Here is its function definition:

**NOTE** You'll recall that this function is also called at the end of `ulpt_open`.

---

```
static int
unlpt_open(struct usb_fifo *fifo, int fflags)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usb_fifo_softc(fifo);
    int error;

    ❶if (sc->sc_fflags & fflags)
        return (EBUSY);

    ❷if (fflags & FREAD) {
        mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
        ❸usbd_xfer_set_stall(sc->sc_transfer[ULPT_BULK_DT_RD]);
        mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);

        error = ❹usb_fifo_alloc_buffer(fifo,
            usbd_xfer_max_len(sc->sc_transfer[ULPT_BULK_DT_RD]),
            ULPT_IFQ_MAX_LEN);
        if (error)
            return (ENOMEM);

    ❺sc->sc_fifo_open[USB_FIFO_RX] = fifo;
}

    ❻if (fflags & FWRITE) {
        mtx_lock(&sc->sc_mutex);
        ❼usbd_xfer_set_stall(sc->sc_transfer[ULPT_BULK_DT_WR]);
        mtx_unlock(&sc->sc_mutex);

        error = ❽usb_fifo_alloc_buffer(fifo,
            usbd_xfer_max_len(sc->sc_transfer[ULPT_BULK_DT_WR]),
            ULPT_IFQ_MAX_LEN);
        if (error)
            return (ENOMEM);

    ❾sc->sc_fifo_open[USB_FIFO_TX] = fifo;
}

    ❿sc->sc_fflags |= fflags & (FREAD | FWRITE);
    return (0);
}
```

---

This function first ❶ tests the value of `sc->sc_fflags`. If it does not equal 0, which implies that another process has opened the printer, the error code `EBUSY` is returned. Next, `unlpt_open` determines whether we're opening the printer to ❷ read from or ❸ write to it—the answer is ❾ stored in `sc->sc_fflags`. Then, a clear-stall request is ❻ ❽ issued to the appropriate endpoint.

**NOTE** Any errors that a USB device detects in its own functionality, not counting transmission errors, cause the device to “stall” the endpoint for its current transaction (Oney, 2003). Control endpoints clear their stalls automatically, but other endpoint types require a clear-stall request. Naturally, stalled endpoints cannot perform any transactions.

Next, memory for the read or write is ❻ ❽ allocated. Afterward, the `fifo` argument is ❾ ❿ stored in `sc->sc_fifo_open`.

### ***ulpt\_close Function***

The `ulpt_close` function is the close routine for `ulpt%d` and `unlpt%d`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
ulpt_close(struct usb_fifo *fifo, int fflags)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usb_fifo_softc(fifo);

    ❶sc->sc_fflags &= ~(fflags & (FREAD | FWRITE));

    if (fflags & (FREAD | FWRITE))
        ❷usb_fifo_free_buffer(fifo);
}
```

---

This function starts by ❶ clearing `sc->sc_fflags`. Then it ❷ releases the memory allocated in `unlpt_open`.

### ***ulpt\_ioctl Function***

The `ulpt_ioctl` function is the ioctl routine for `ulpt%d` and `unlpt%d`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static int
ulpt_ioctl(struct usb_fifo *fifo, u_long cmd, void *data, int fflags)
{
    ❶return (ENODEV);
}
```

---

As you can see, `ulpt(4)` does ❶ not support ioctl.

## ***ulpt\_watchdog Function***

The ulpt\_watchdog function periodically checks the printer's status. Here is its function definition:

**NOTE** You'll recall that this function is called at the end of ulpt\_attach.

---

```
static void
ulpt_watchdog(void *arg)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = arg;

    mtx_assert(&sc->sc_mutex, MA_OWNED);

    ❶if (sc->sc_fflags == 0)
        ❷usbd_transfer_start(sc->sc_transfer[❸ULPT_INTR_DT_RD]);

    ❹usb_callout_reset(&sc->sc_watchdog, ❺hz, ❻&ulpt_watchdog, sc);
}
```

---

This function first ❶ ensures that the printer is not open. Then it ❷ starts a transaction with the ❸ default control endpoint (to retrieve the printer's status). Recall that ❷ usbd\_transfer\_start just executes a callback. In this case, that callback is ulpt\_status\_callback (for confirmation, see the third usb\_config structure in Listing 15-1). Finally, ❹ ulpt\_watchdog is ❺ rescheduled to execute after ❻ 1 second.

## ***ulpt\_start\_read Function***

The ulpt\_start\_read function is executed when a process reads from ulpt%d or unlpt%d (for verification, see their usb\_fifo\_methods structures). Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
ulpt_start_read(struct usb_fifo *fifo)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usb_fifo_softc(fifo);

    ❶usbd_transfer_start(sc->sc_transfer[❷ULPT_BULK_DT_RD]);
}
```

---

This function simply ❶ starts a transaction with the printer's ❷ bulk IN endpoint. Note that the callback for a bulk IN endpoint is ulpt\_read\_callback (for confirmation, see the second usb\_config structure in Listing 15-1).

## ***ulpt\_stop\_read Function***

The `ulpt_stop_read` function is called when a process stops reading from `ulpt%d` or `unlpt%d`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
ulpt_stop_read(struct usb_fifo *fifo)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usb_fifo_softc(fifo);

    ❶usbd_transfer_stop(sc->sc_transfer[❷ULPT_BULK_DT_RD]);
}
```

---

This function ❶ stops any transactions associated with the printer's ❷ bulk IN endpoint.

## ***ulpt\_start\_write Function***

The `ulpt_start_write` function is executed when a process writes to `ulpt%d` or `unlpt%d`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
ulpt_start_write(struct usb_fifo *fifo)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usb_fifo_softc(fifo);

    ❶usbd_transfer_start(sc->sc_transfer[❷ULPT_BULK_DT_WR]);
}
```

---

This function simply ❶ starts a transaction with the printer's ❷ bulk OUT endpoint. Note that the callback for a bulk OUT endpoint is `ulpt_write_callback` (for confirmation, see the first `usb_config` structure in Listing 15-1).

## ***ulpt\_stop\_write Function***

The `ulpt_stop_write` function is executed when a process stops writing to `ulpt%d` or `unlpt%d`. Here is its function definition:

---

```
static void
ulpt_stop_write(struct usb_fifo *fifo)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usb_fifo_softc(fifo);

    ❶usbd_transfer_stop(sc->sc_transfer[❷ULPT_BULK_DT_WR]);
}
```

---

This function ❶ stops any transactions associated with the printer's ❷ bulk OUT endpoint.

## **ulpt\_write\_callback Function**

The ulpt\_write\_callback function transfers data from user space to the printer (to be printed). Recall that this function is the callback for a bulk OUT endpoint, so it's executed before and after a bulk OUT transfers data.

The following is the function definition for ulpt\_write\_callback:

---

```
static void
ulpt_write_callback(struct usb_xfer *transfer, usb_error_t error)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usbd_xfer_softc(transfer);
    struct usb_fifo *fifo = sc->sc_fifo_open[USB_FIFO_TX];
    struct usb_page_cache *pc;
    int actual, max;

    usbd_xfer_status(transfer, &actual, NULL, NULL, NULL);

    if (fifo == NULL)
        return;

    switch (USB_GET_STATE(transfer)) {
        ❶case USB_ST_SETUP:
        ❷case USB_ST_TRANSFERRED:
    setup:
        pc = usbd_xfer_get_frame(transfer, 0);
        max = usbd_xfer_max_len(transfer);
        if (❸usb_fifo_get_data(❹fifo, ❺pc, 0, ❻max,
                               ❼&actual, 0)) {
            ❻usbd_xfer_set_frame_len(transfer, 0, ❼actual);
            ❼usbd_transfer_submit(transfer);
        }
        break;
    default:
        if (error != USB_ERR_CANCELLED) {
            /* Issue a clear-stall request. */
            usbd_xfer_set_stall(transfer);
            goto setup;
        }
        break;
    }
}
```

---

This function first ❸ copies *foo* bytes from ❹ user space to ❺ kernel space. At most, ❻ *max* bytes of data are copied. The number of bytes actually copied is returned in ❼ *actual*. Next, the ❼ transfer length is ❻ set. Then, the data copied from user space is ❼ sent to the printer.

**NOTE** *In the preceding paragraph, foo is a placeholder, because I don't know how many bytes are copied until usb\_fifo\_get\_data returns.*

Note that the ❶ USB\_ST\_SETUP case and the ❷ USB\_ST\_TRANSFERRED case are identical. This is because you can print more data than the maximum transfer length. Thus, this function “loops” until all the data is sent.

### ***ulpt\_read\_callback Function***

The `ulpt_read_callback` function gets data from the printer. Recall that this function is the callback for a bulk IN endpoint, so it’s executed before and after a bulk IN transfers data.

The following is the function definition for `ulpt_read_callback`:

---

```
static void
ulpt_read_callback(struct usb_xfer *transfer, usb_error_t error)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usbd_xfer_softc(transfer);
    struct usb_fifo *fifo = sc->sc_fifo_open[USB_FIFO_RX];
    struct usb_page_cache *pc;
    int actual, max;

    usbd_xfer_status(transfer, &actual, NULL, NULL, NULL);

    if (fifo == NULL)
        return;

    switch (USB_GET_STATE(transfer)) {
        ❶case USB_ST_TRANSFERRED:
            ❷if (actual == 0) {
                ❸if (sc->sc_zero_length_packets == 4)
                    /* Throttle transfers. */
                    ❹usbd_xfer_set_interval(transfer, 500);
                else
                    sc->sc_zero_length_packets++;
            } else {
                /* Disable throttling. */
                usbd_xfer_set_interval(transfer, 0);
                sc->sc_zero_length_packets = 0;
            }
            pc = usbd_xfer_get_frame(transfer, 0);
            ❺usb_fifo_put_data(❻fifo, ❼pc, 0, actual, 1);
            /* FALLTHROUGH */

        case USB_ST_SETUP:
        setup:
            if (❻usb_fifo_put_bytes_max(fifo) != 0) {
                max = usbd_xfer_max_len(transfer);
                ❽usbd_xfer_set_frame_len(transfer, 0, max);
                ❾usbd_transfer_submit(transfer);
            }
            break;
        default:
            /* Disable throttling. */
            usbd_xfer_set_interval(transfer, 0);
            sc->sc_zero_length_packets = 0;
    }
}
```

---

```

        if (error != USB_ERR_CANCELLED) {
            /* Issue a clear-stall request. */
            usbd_xfer_set_stall(transfer);
            goto setup;
        }
        break;
    }
}

```

---

This function first ❸ ensures that there's room in user space for the printer's data. Next, the maximum transfer length is ❹ specified. Then data from the printer is ❽ retrieved.

After a transfer is ❶ complete, the printer's data is ❺ copied from ❷ kernel space to ❻ user space. Note that if ❻ nothing is returned ❼ four times in a row, transfer throttling is ❽ enabled.

**NOTE** *Some USB devices cannot handle multiple rapid transfer requests, so staggering or throttling of transfers is required.*

### ***ulpt\_status\_callback Function***

The `ulpt_status_callback` function returns the printer's current status. Recall that this function is the callback for the default control endpoint, so it's executed before and after any transactions with endpoint 0.

The following is the function definition for `ulpt_status_callback`:

---

```

static void
ulpt_status_callback(struct usb_xfer *transfer, usb_error_t error)
{
    struct ulpt_softc *sc = usbd_xfer_softc(transfer);
    struct usb_device_request req;
    struct usb_page_cache *pc;
    uint8_t current_status, new_status;

    switch (USB_GET_STATE(transfer)) {
    case USB_ST_SETUP:
        req.bmRequestType = UT_READ_CLASS_INTERFACE;
        req.bRequest = ❶UREQ_GET_PORT_STATUS;
        USETW(req.wValue, 0);
        req.wIndex[0] = sc->sc_iface_num;
        req.wIndex[1] = 0;
        USETW(req.wLength, 1);

        pc = usbd_xfer_get_frame(transfer, 0);
        ❷usbd_copy_in(❸pc, 0, ❹&req, sizeof(req));
        ❺usbd_xfer_set_frame_len(transfer, 0, sizeof(req));
        ❻usbd_xfer_set_frame_len(transfer, 1, 1);
        usbd_xfer_set_frames(transfer, ❽2);
        ❾usbd_transfer_submit(transfer);

        break;
    }
}

```

```

⑨case USB_ST_TRANSFERRED:
    pc = usbd_xfer_get_frame(transfer, 1);
    ⑩usbd_copy_out(pc, 0, &current_status, 1);

    current_status = (current_status ^ LPS_INVERT) & LPS_MASK;
    new_status = current_status & ~sc->sc_previous_status;
    sc->sc_previous_status = current_status;

    if (new_status & LPS_NERR)
        log(LOG_NOTICE, "%s: output error\n",
            device_get_nameunit(sc->sc_dev));
    else if (new_status & LPS_SELECT)
        log(LOG_NOTICE, "%s: offline\n",
            device_get_nameunit(sc->sc_dev));
    else if (new_status & LPS_NOPAPER)
        log(LOG_NOTICE, "%s: out of paper\n",
            device_get_nameunit(sc->sc_dev));

    break;
default:
    break;
}

```

---

This function first constructs a ❶ get status request. It then ❷ plunks the ❸ request into a ❹ DMA buffer. Shortly afterward, the request is ❺ sent to the printer. Interestingly, this transaction involves ❻ two USB frames. The ❽ first contains the get status request. The ❾ second will hold the printer's status.

After a transaction is ❿ complete, the printer's status is ⓫ plucked from the DMA buffer.

The remainder of this function should be self-explanatory.

## Conclusion

This chapter was basically a primer on USB devices and drivers. For more information, see the official documentation, available at <http://www.usb.org/developers/>.

# 16

## NETWORK DRIVERS, PART 1: DATA STRUCTURES



*Network devices*, or *interfaces*, transmit and receive data packets that are driven by the network subsystem (Corbet et al., 2005). In this chapter, we'll examine the data structures used to manage these devices: `ifnet`, `ifmedia`, and `mbuf`. You'll then learn about Message Signaled Interrupts, which are an alternative to traditional interrupts and are commonly used by network devices.

**NOTE** *To keep things simple, we'll examine only Ethernet drivers. Also, I won't provide a discussion on general networking concepts.*

### Network Interface Structures

An `ifnet` structure is the kernel's representation of an individual network interface. It is defined in the `<net/if_var.h>` header as follows:

---

```
struct ifnet {
    void    *if_softc;           /* Driver private data.      */
```

```

void    *if_l2com;           /* Protocol bits. */          */
struct  vnet *if_vnet;       /* Network stack instance. */      */
TAILQ_ENTRY(ifnet) if_link; /* ifnet linkage. */          */
char    if_xname[IFNAMSIZ]; /* External name. */          */
const char *if_dname;       /* Driver name. */          */
int     if_dunit;           /* Unit number or IF_DUNIT_NONE. */ */
u_int   if_refcount;        /* Reference count. */         */

/*
 * Linked list containing every address associated with
 * this interface.
 */
struct  ifaddrhead if_addrhead;

int    if_pcount;           /* Number of promiscuous listeners. */ */
struct carp_if *if_carp;    /* CARP interface. */          */
struct bpf_if *if_bpf;      /* Packet filter. */          */
u_short if_index;           /* Numeric abbreviation for interface. */ */
short   if_timer;           /* Time until if_watchdog is called. */ */
struct ifvlantrunk *if_vlantrunk; /* 802.1Q data. */          */
int    if_flags;            /* Flags (e.g., up, down, broadcast). */ */
int    if_capabilities; /* Interface features and capabilities. */ */
int    if_capenable;        /* Enabled features and capabilities. */ */
void   *if_linkmib;         /* Link specific MIB data. */          */
size_t  if_linkmiblen;      /* Length of above. */          */
struct if_data if_data;    /* Interface information. */          */
struct ifmultihead if_multiaddrs; /* Multicast addresses. */          */
int    if_amcount;          /* Number of multicast requests. */         */

/* Interface methods. */
int    (❶*if_output)
    (struct ifnet *, struct mbuf *, struct sockaddr *,
     struct route *);
void   (❷*if_input)
    (struct ifnet *, struct mbuf *);
void   (❸*if_start)
    (struct ifnet *);
int    (❹*if_ioctl)
    (struct ifnet *, u_long, caddr_t);
void   (*if_watchdog)
    (struct ifnet *);
void   (❺*if_init)
    (void *);
int    (❻*if_resolvemulti)
    (struct ifnet *, struct sockaddr **, struct sockaddr *);
void   (❽*if_qflush)
    (struct ifnet *);
int    (❾*if_transmit)
    (struct ifnet *, struct mbuf *);
void   (❿*if_reassign)
    (struct ifnet *, struct vnet *, char *);

struct vnet *if_home_vnet; /* Where we originate from. */      */
struct ifaddr *if_addr;    /* Link level address. */          */
void   *if_llsoftc;         /* Link level softc. */          */

```

```

int      if_drv_flags;           /* Driver managed status flags. */
struct  ifaltq @if_snd;         /* Output queue, includes altq. */
const u_int8_t *if_broadcastaddr; /* Link level broadcast addr. */
void    *if_bridge;             /* Bridge glue. */
struct  label *if_label;        /* Interface MAC label. */

/* Only used by IPv6. */
struct  ifprefixhead if_prefixhead;
void   *if_afdata[AF_MAX];
int    if_afdata_initialized;
struct  rwlock if_afdata_lock;
struct  task if_linktask;
struct  mtx if_addr_mtx;

LIST_ENTRY(ifnet) if_clones;     /* Clone interfaces. */
TAILQ_HEAD(, ifg_list) if_groups; /* Linked list of groups. */
void   *if_pf_kif;               /* pf(4) glue. */
void   *if_lagg;                 /* lagg(4) glue. */
u_char if_alloctype;            /* Type (e.g., Ethernet). */

/* Spare fields. */
char   if_cspare[3];            /* Spare characters. */
char   *if_description;          /* Interface description. */
void   *if_pspare[7];            /* Spare pointers. */
int    if_ispare[4];             /* Spare integers. */
};


```

---

I'll demonstrate how `struct ifnet` is used in "Hello, world!" on page 291. For now, let's look at its method fields.

The ❸ `if_init` field identifies the interface's init routine. *Init routines* are called to initialize their interface.

The ❹ `if_ioctl` field identifies the interface's ioctl routine. Characteristically, *ioctl routines* are used to configure their interface (for example, for setting the maximum transmission unit).

The ❺ `if_input` field identifies the interface's input routine. An interface sends an interrupt whenever it receives a packet. Its driver-defined interrupt handler then calls its *input routine* to process the packet. Note that this is a departure from the norm. Input routines are called by a driver, while the other routines are called by the network stack. The `if_input` field generally points to a link layer routine (for example, `ether_input`) rather than a driver-defined routine.

**NOTE** Obviously, *link layer routines are kernel defined*. Method fields that expect a link layer routine should be defined by an `*ifattach` function (such as `ether_ifattach`), not directly by a driver. `*ifattach` functions are described in "Network Interface Structure Management Routines" on page 286.

The ❻ `if_output` field identifies the interface's output routine. *Output routines* are called by the network stack to prepare an upper-layer packet for transmission. Every output routine ends by calling its interface's ❼ transmit routine. If an interface lacks a transmit routine, its ❼ start routine is called

instead. Typically, when a network driver defines a transmit routine, its start routine is undefined, and vice versa. The `if_output` field generally points to a link layer routine (for example, `ether_output`) rather than a driver-defined routine.

The ❸ `if_start` field identifies the interface's start routine. Before I describe start routines, it's important to discuss ❾ send queues. Send queues are filled by output routines. *Start routines* remove one packet from their send queue and deposit it in their interface's transmit ring. They repeat this process until the send queue is empty or the transmit ring is full. Transmit rings are simply ring buffers used for transmission. Network interfaces use ring buffers for transmission and reception.

The ❹ `if_transmit` field identifies the interface's transmit routine. *Transmit routines* are an alternative to start routines. Transmit routines maintain their own send queues. That is, they forego the ❾ predefined send queue, and output routines push packets directly to them. Transmit routines can maintain multiple send queues, which makes them ideal for interfaces with multiple transmit rings.

The ❺ `if_qflush` field identifies the interface's qflush routine. *Qflush routines* are called to flush the send queues of transmit routines. Every transmit routine must have a corresponding qflush routine.

The ❻ `if_resolvemulti` field identifies the interface's resolvemulti routine. *Resolvemulti routines* are called to resolve a network layer address into a link layer address when registering a multicast address with their interface. The `if_resolvemulti` field generally points to a link layer routine (for example, `ether_resolvemulti`) rather than a driver-defined routine.

The ❼ `if_reassign` field identifies the interface's reassign routine. *Reassign routines* are called before their interface is moved to another virtual network stack (vnet). They perform any tasks necessary before the move. The `if_reassign` field generally points to a link layer routine (for example, `ether_reassign`) rather than a driver-defined routine.

The `if_watchdog` field is deprecated and must *not* be defined. In FreeBSD version 9, `if_watchdog` will be removed.

## Network Interface Structure Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following functions for working with ifnet structures:

---

```
#include <net/if.h>
#include <net/if_types.h>
#include <net/if_var.h>

struct ifnet *
if_alloc(u_char ❶type);

void
if_initname(struct ifnet ❷*ifp, const char ❸*name, int ❹unit);
```

```
void  
if_attach(struct ifnet *ifp);  
  
void  
if_detach(struct ifnet *ifp);  
  
void  
if_free(struct ifnet *ifp);
```

---

An `ifnet` structure is a dynamically allocated structure that's owned by the kernel. That is, you cannot allocate a `struct ifnet` on your own. Instead, you must call `if_alloc`. The ❶ `type` argument is the interface type (for example, Ethernet devices are `IFT_ETHER`). Symbolic constants for every interface type can be found in the `<net/if_types.h>` header.

Allocating an `ifnet` structure does not make the interface available to the system. To do that, you must initialize the structure (by defining the necessary fields) and then call `if_attach`.

The `if_initname` function is a convenient function for setting an ❷ interface's ❸ `name` and ❹ `unit` number. (Needless to say, this function is used before `if_attach`.)

When an `ifnet` structure is no longer needed, it should be deactivated with `if_detach`, after which it can be freed with `if_free`.

### ***ether\_ifattach Function***

The `ether_ifattach` function is a variant of `if_attach` that's used for Ethernet devices.

---

```
#include <net/if.h>  
#include <net/if_types.h>  
#include <net/if_var.h>  
#include <net/ether.h>  
  
void  
ether_ifattach(struct ifnet *ifp, const u_int8_t *lla);
```

---

This function is defined in the `/sys/net/if_ether.c` source file as follows:

---

```
void  
ether_ifattach(struct ifnet ❶*ifp, const u_int8_t ❷*lla)  
{  
    struct ifaddr *ifa;  
    struct sockaddr_dl *sdl;  
    int i;  
  
    ifp->if_addrlen = ETHER_ADDR_LEN;  
    ifp->if_hdrlen = ETHER_HDR_LEN;  
    if_attach(ifp);  
    ifp->if_mtu = ETHERMTU;  
❸ifp->if_output = ether_output;  
❹ifp->if_input = ether_input;  
❺ifp->if_resolvemulti = ether_resolvemulti;
```

---

```

#ifndef VIMAGE
    ❶ ifp->if_reassign = ether_reassign;
#endif
    if (ifp->if_baudrate == 0)
        ifp->if_baudrate = IF_Mbps(10);
    ifp->if_broadcastaddr = etherbroadcastaddr;

    ifa = ifp->if_addr;
    KASSERT(ifa != NULL, ("%s: no lladdr!\n", __func__));
    sdl = (struct sockaddr_dl *)ifa->ifa_addr;
    sdl->sdl_type = IFT_ETHER;
    sdl->sdl_alen = ifp->if_addrlen;
    bcopy(lla, LLADDR(sdl), ifp->if_addrlen);

    bpfattach(ifp, DLT_EN10MB, ETHER_HDR_LEN);
    if (ng_ether_attach_p != NULL)
        (*ng_ether_attach_p)(ifp);

    /* Print Ethernet MAC address (if lla is nonzero). */
    for (i = 0; i < ifp->if_addrlen; i++)
        if (lla[i] != 0)
            break;
    if (i != ifp->if_addrlen)
        if_printf(ifp, "Ethernet address: %6D\n", lla, ":");

}

```

---

This function takes an ifnet structure, ❶ ifp, and a link layer address, ❷ lla, and sets up ifp for an Ethernet device.

As you can see, it assigns certain values to ifp, including assigning the appropriate link layer routine to ❸ if\_output, ❹ if\_input, ❺ if\_resolvemulti, and ❻ if\_reassign.

### ***ether\_ifdetach Function***

The ether\_ifdetach function is a variant of if\_detach that's used for Ethernet devices.

---

```

#include <net/if.h>
#include <net/if_types.h>
#include <net/if_var.h>
#include <net/ether.h>

void
ether_ifdetach(struct ifnet *ifp);

```

---

This function is used to deactivate an ifnet structure set up by ether\_ifattach.

## Network Interface Media Structures

An `ifmedia` structure catalogs every media type that is supported by a network interface (for example, 100BASE-TX, 1000BASE-SX, and so on). It is defined in the `<net/if_media.h>` header as follows:

---

```
struct ifmedia {
    int      ifm_mask;          /* Mask of bits to ignore. */
    int      ifm_media;         /* User-set media word. */
    struct ifmedia_entry *ifm_cur; /* Currently selected media. */

    /*
     * Linked list containing every media type supported by
     * an interface.
     */
    LIST_HEAD(, ifmedia_entry) ifm_list;

    ifm_change_cb_t ifm_change;    /* Media change callback. */
    ifm_stat_cb_t   ifm_status;    /* Media status callback. */
};
```

---

## Network Interface Media Structure Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following functions for working with `ifmedia` structures:

---

```
#include <net/if.h>
#include <net/if_media.h>

void
ifmedia_init(struct ifmedia *ifm, int ①dontcare_mask,
            ifm_change_cb_t ②change_callback, ifm_stat_cb_t ③status_callback);

void
ifmedia_add(struct ifmedia ④*ifm, int ⑤mword, int ⑥data, void ⑦*aux);

void
ifmedia_set(struct ifmedia ⑧*ifm, int ⑨mword);

void
ifmedia_removeall(struct ifmedia ⑩*ifm);
```

---

An `ifmedia` structure is a statically allocated structure that's owned by a network driver. To initialize an `ifmedia` structure, you must call `ifmedia_init`.

The ① `dontcare_mask` argument marks the bits in ⑤ ⑨ `mword` that can be ignored. Usually, `dontcare_mask` is set to 0.

The ❷ `change_callback` argument denotes a callback function. This function is executed to change the media type or media options. Here is its function prototype:

---

```
typedef int (*ifm_change_cb_t)(struct ifnet *ifp);
```

---

**NOTE** *Users can change an interface's media type or media options with ifconfig(8).*

The ❸ `status_callback` argument denotes a callback function. This function is executed to return the media status. Here is its function prototype:

---

```
typedef void (*ifm_stat_cb_t)(struct ifnet *ifp, struct ifmediareq *req);
```

---

**NOTE** *Users can query an interface's media status with ifconfig(8).*

The `ifmedia_add` function adds a media type to ❹ `ifm`. The ❺ `mword` argument is a 32-bit “word” that identifies the media type. Valid values for `mword` are defined in `<net/if_media.h>`.

Here are the `mword` values for Ethernet devices:

---

#define IFM_ETHER	0x00000020	
#define IFM_10_T	3	/* 10BASE-T, RJ45.
#define IFM_10_2	4	/* 10BASE2, thin Ethernet.
#define IFM_10_5	5	/* 10BASE5, thick Ethernet.
#define IFM_100_TX	6	/* 100BASE-TX, RJ45.
#define IFM_100_FX	7	/* 100BASE-FX, fiber.
#define IFM_100_T4	8	/* 100BASE-T4.
#define IFM_100_VG	9	/* 100VG-AnyLAN.
#define IFM_100_T2	10	/* 100BASE-T2.
#define IFM_1000_SX	11	/* 1000BASE-SX, multimode fiber.
#define IFM_10_STP	12	/* 10BASE-T, shielded twisted-pair.
#define IFM_10_FL	13	/* 10BASE-FL, fiber.
#define IFM_1000_LX	14	/* 1000BASE-LX, single-mode fiber.
#define IFM_1000_CX	15	/* 1000BASE-CX, shielded twisted-pair.
#define IFM_1000_T	16	/* 1000BASE-T.
#define IFM_HPNA_1	17	/* HomePNA 1.0 (1Mb/s).
#define IFM_10G_LR	18	/* 10GBASE-LR, single-mode fiber.
#define IFM_10G_SR	19	/* 10GBASE-SR, multimode fiber.
#define IFM_10G_CX4	20	/* 10GBASE-CX4.
#define IFM_2500_SX	21	/* 2500BASE-SX, multimode fiber.
#define IFM_10G_TWINAX	22	/* 10GBASE, Twinax.
#define IFM_10G_TWINAX_LONG	23	/* 10GBASE, Twinax long.
#define IFM_10G_LRM	24	/* 10GBASE-LRM, multimode fiber.
#define IFM_UNKNOWN	25	/* Undefined.
#define IFM_10G_T	26	/* 10GBASE-T, RJ45.
#define IFM_AUTO	0	/* Automatically select media.
#define IFM_MANUAL	1	/* Manually select media.
#define IFM_NONE	2	/* Unselect all media.
/* Shared options.		
#define IFM_FDX	0x00100000	/* Force full-duplex.

---

---

```
#define IFM_HDX      0x00200000 /* Force half-duplex. */
#define IFM_FLOW     0x00400000 /* Enable hardware flow control.*/
#define IFM_FLAG0    0x01000000 /* Driver-defined flag. */
#define IFM_FLAG1    0x02000000 /* Driver-defined flag. */
#define IFM_FLAG2    0x04000000 /* Driver-defined flag. */
#define IFM_LOOP     0x08000000 /* Put hardware in loopback. */
```

---

As an example, the `mword` value for 100BASE-TX is the following:

---

```
IFM_ETHER | IFM_100_TX
```

---

Table 16-1 describes how each bit in `mword` is used. It also displays the bit-masks that can be passed to `dontcare_mask` to ignore those bits.

**Table 16-1:** Bit-by-Bit Breakdown of `mword`

Bits	Purpose of Bits	Mask to Ignore Bits
00–04	Denotes the media type variant (for example, 100BASE-TX)	IFM_TMASK
05–07	Denotes the media type (for example, Ethernet)	IFM_NMASK
08–15	Denotes the media type specific options	IFM_OMASK
16–18	Denotes the media type mode (for multimode media only)	IFM_MMASK
19	Reserved for future use	n/a
20–27	Denotes the shared options (for example, force full-duplex)	IFM_GMASK
28–31	Denotes the <code>mword</code> instance	IFM_IMASK

The ❶ `data` and ❷ `aux` arguments allow drivers to provide metadata about `mword`. Because drivers typically have no metadata to provide, `data` and `aux` are frequently set to 0 and `NULL`, respectively.

The `ifmedia_set` function sets the default ❸ media type for ❹ `ifm`. This function is used only during device initialization.

The `ifmedia_removeall` function takes an ❽ `ifmedia` structure and removes every media type from it.

## Hello, world!

Now that you’re familiar with the `if*` structures and their management routines, let’s go through an example. The following function, named `em_setup_interface` and defined in `/sys/dev/e1000/if_em.c`, sets up `em(4)`’s `ifnet` and `ifmedia` structures. (The `em(4)` driver is for Intel’s PCI Gigabit Ethernet adapters.)

---

```
static int
em_setup_interface(device_t dev, struct adapter *adapter)
{
    struct ifnet *ifp;

    ifp = ❶adapter->ifp = ❷if_alloc(❸IFT_ETHER);
    if (ifp == NULL) {
        device_printf(dev, "cannot allocate ifnet structure\n");
```

```

        return (-1);
    }

    if_initname(ifp, device_get_name(dev), device_get_unit(dev));
    ifp->if_mtu = ETHERMTU;
    ifp->if_init = em_init;
    ifp->if_softc = adapter;
    ifp->if_flags = IFF_BROADCAST | IFF_SIMPLEX | IFF_MULTICAST;
    ifp->if_ioctl = em_ioctl;
    ifp->if_start = em_start;
    IFQ_SET_MAXLEN(&ifp->if_snd, adapter->num_tx_desc - 1);
    ifp->if_snd.ifq_drv_maxlen = adapter->num_tx_desc - 1;
    IFQ_SET_READY(&ifp->if_snd);

❸ ether_ifattach(ifp, adapter->hw.mac.addr);

ifp->if_capabilities = ifp->if_capenable = 0;

/* Enable checksum offload. */
❹ ifp->if_capabilities |= IFCAP_HWCSUM | IFCAP_VLAN_HWCSUM;
❺ ifp->if_capenable |= IFCAP_HWCSUM | IFCAP_VLAN_HWCSUM;

/* Enable TCP segmentation offload. */
ifp->if_capabilities |= IFCAP_TS04;
ifp->if_capenable |= IFCAP_TS04;

/* Enable VLAN support. */
ifp->if_data.ifi_hdrlen = sizeof(struct ether_vlan_header);
ifp->if_capabilities |= IFCAP_VLAN_HWTAGGING | IFCAP_VLAN_MTU;
ifp->if_capenable |= IFCAP_VLAN_HWTAGGING | IFCAP_VLAN_MTU;

/* Interface can filter VLAN tags. */
ifp->if_capabilities |= IFCAP_VLAN_HWFILTER;

#ifndef DEVICE_POLLING
    ifp->if_capabilities |= IFCAP_POLLING;
#endif

/* Enable Wake-on-LAN (WOL) via magic packet? */
❻ if (adapter->wol) {
    ifp->if_capabilities |= IFCAP_WOL;
    ifp->if_capenable |= IFCAP_WOL_MAGIC;
}

❼ ifmedia_init(&adapter->media, IFM_IMASK, em_media_change,
               em_media_status);

❽ if ((adapter->hw.phy.media_type == e1000_media_type_fiber) ||
      (adapter->hw.phy.media_type == e1000_media_type_internal_serdes))
{
    u_char fiber_type = IFM_1000_SX;
}

```

```

        ifmedia_add(&adapter->media,
                    IFM_ETHER | fiber_type, 0, NULL);
        ifmedia_add(&adapter->media,
                    IFM_ETHER | fiber_type | IFM_FDX, 0, NULL);
    } else {
        ifmedia_add(&adapter->media,
                    IFM_ETHER | IFM_10_T, 0, NULL);
        ifmedia_add(&adapter->media,
                    IFM_ETHER | IFM_10_T | IFM_FDX, 0, NULL);
        ifmedia_add(&adapter->media,
                    IFM_ETHER | IFM_100_TX, 0, NULL);
        ifmedia_add(&adapter->media,
                    IFM_ETHER | IFM_100_TX | IFM_FDX, 0, NULL);

        if (adapter->hw.phy.type != e1000_phy_ife) {
            ifmedia_add(&adapter->media,
                        IFM_ETHER | IFM_1000_T, 0, NULL);
            ifmedia_add(&adapter->media,
                        IFM_ETHER | IFM_1000_T | IFM_FDX, 0, NULL);
        }
    }

    ifmedia_add(&adapter->media, IFM_ETHER | IFM_AUTO, 0, NULL);
    ⑩ifmedia_set(&adapter->media, IFM_ETHER | IFM_AUTO);

    return (0);
}

```

---

This function can be split into three parts. The first **②** allocates an **③** Ethernet-specific ifnet structure and stores it in **①** adapter->ifp. Then adapter->ifp is defined and **④** activated. (Here, adapter is the name for em(4)'s softc structure.)

The second part **⑤** outlines and **⑥** enables the interface's features, such as **⑦** Wake-on-LAN (WOL). (WOL is an Ethernet standard that allows a computer to be turned on, or woken up, by a network message.)

The third part **⑧** initializes an ifmedia structure, **⑨** adds the interface's supported media to it, and **⑩** defines the default media type as *automatically select the best media*.

**NOTE** Of course, *em\_setup\_interface* is called during em(4)'s device\_attach routine.

## mbuf Structures

An mbuf structure is a memory buffer for network data. Commonly, this data spans multiple mbuf structures, which are arranged into a linked list known as an *mbuf chain*.

struct mbuf is defined in the <sys/mbuf.h> header as follows:

---

```

struct mbuf {
    ①struct m_hdr m_hdr;
    ②union {

```

---

```

        struct {
            struct pkthdr MH_pkthdr;
            union {
                struct m_ext MH_ext;
                char MH_databuf[MHLEN];
            } MH_dat;
        } MH;
        char M_databuf[MLEN];
    } M_dat;
};
```

---

Every `mbuf` structure contains a ❷ buffer for data and a ❶ header, which looks like this:

---

```

struct m_hdr {
    struct mbuf     *mh_next;          /* Next mbuf in chain.      */
    struct mbuf     *mh_nextpkt;       /* Next chain in queue/record. */
    caddr_t          mh_data;          /* Location of data.         */
    int              mh_len;           /* Data length.              */
    int              mh_flags;         /* Flags.                    */
    short            mh_type;          /* Data type.                */
    uint8_t          pad[M_HDR_PAD];   /* Padding for word alignment. */
```

---

We'll walk through an example that uses mbufs in Chapter 17. For more on mbufs, see the `mbuf(9)` manual page.

## Message Signaled Interrupts

*Message Signaled Interrupts (MSI)* and *Extended Message Signaled Interrupts (MSI-X)* are alternative ways to send interrupts. Traditionally, devices include an interrupt pin that they assert in order to generate an interrupt, but MSI- and MSI-X-enabled devices send some data, known as an *MSI message* or *MSI-X message*, to a particular memory address in order to generate an interrupt. MSI- and MSI-X-enabled devices can define multiple unique messages. Subsequently, drivers can define multiple unique interrupt handlers. In other words, MSI- and MSI-X-enabled devices can issue different interrupts, with each interrupt specifying a different condition or task. MSI- and MSI-X-enabled devices can define up to 32 and 2,048 unique messages, respectively. (MSI and MSI-X are not exclusive to network devices. They are, however, exclusive to PCI and PCIe devices.)

## Implementing MSI

Unlike with previous topics, I'm going to take a holistic approach here. Namely, I'm going to show an example first, and then I'll describe the MSI family of functions.

The following function, named `ciss_setup_msix` and defined in `/sys/dev/ciss/ciss.c`, sets up MSI for the `ciss(4)` driver.

**NOTE** This function was chosen solely because it's simple. The fact that it's from `ciss(4)` is irrelevant.

---

```
static int
ciss_setup_msix(struct ciss_softc *sc)
{
    int i, count, error;

    i = ciss_lookup(sc->ciss_dev);
    ❶if (ciss_vendor_data[i].flags & CISS_BOARD_NOMSI)
        return (EINVAL);

    count = ❷pci_msix_count(sc->ciss_dev);
    if (count < CISS_MSI_COUNT) {
        count = ❸pci_msi_count(sc->ciss_dev);
        if (count < CISS_MSI_COUNT)
            return (EINVAL);
    }

    count = MIN(count, CISS_MSI_COUNT);
    error = ❹pci_alloc_msix(sc->ciss_dev, &count);
    if (error) {
        error = ❺pci_alloc_msi(sc->ciss_dev, &count);
        if (error)
            return (EINVAL);
    }

    sc->ciss_msi = count;
    for (i = 0; i < count; i++)
        ❻sc->ciss_irq_rid[i] = i + 1;

    return (0);
}
```

---

This function is composed of four parts. The first ❶ ensures that the device actually supports MSI.

The second part determines the number of unique ❷ MSI-X or ❸ MSI messages the device maintains, and stores the answer in `count`.

The third part allocates `count` ❹ MSI-X or ❺ MSI vectors, which connect each message to a `SYS_RES_IRQ` resource with a `rid` of 1 through `count`. Thus, in order to assign an interrupt handler to the eighth message, you'd call `bus_alloc_resource_any` (to allocate a `SYS_RES_IRQ` resource) and pass 8 as the `rid` argument. Then you'd call `bus_setup_intr` as usual.

Lastly, the fourth part ❻ saves the `rid` of each MSI-X or MSI message in the `ciss_irq_rid` array.

Naturally, this function is called during `ciss(4)`'s `device_attach` routine, like so:

---

```
...
/*
 * Use MSI/MSI-X?
 */
```

```

sc->ciiss_irq_rid[0] = 0;
if (method == CISS_TRANSPORT_METHOD_PERF) {
    ciiss_printf(sc, "Performant Transport\n");

    if (ciiss_force_interrupt != 1 && ❶ciiss_setup_msix(sc) == 0)
        intr = ciiss_perf_msi_intr;
    else
        intr = ciiss_perf_intr;

    sc->ciiss_interrupt_mask =
        CISS_TL_PERF_INTR_OPQ | CISS_TL_PERF_INTR_MSI;
} else {
    ciiss_printf(sc, "Simple Transport\n");

    if (ciiss_force_interrupt == 2)
        ❷ciiss_setup_msix(sc);

    sc->ciiss_perf = NULL;
    intr = ciiss_intr;
    sc->ciiss_interrupt_mask = sqmask;
}

/*
 * Disable interrupts.
 */
CISS_TL_SIMPLE_DISABLE_INTERRUPTS(sc);

/*
 * Set up the interrupt handler.
 */
sc->ciiss_irq_resource = ❸bus_alloc_resource_any(sc->ciiss_dev,
    SYS_RES_IRQ, ❹&sc->ciiss_irq_rid[0], RF_ACTIVE | RF_SHAREABLE);
if (sc->ciiss_irq_resource == NULL) {
    ciiss_printf(sc, "cannot allocate interrupt resource\n");
    return (ENXIO);
}

error = bus_setup_intr(sc->ciiss_dev, sc->ciiss_irq_resource,
    INTR_TYPE_CAM | INTR MPSAFE, NULL, intr, sc, &sc->ciiss_intr);
if (error) {
    ciiss_printf(sc, "cannot set up interrupt\n");
    return (ENXIO);
}
...

```

---

Notice how MSI is ❶ ❷ set up before ❸ acquiring an IRQ. Additionally, notice how the ❹ rid argument is `ciiss_irq_rid`.

**NOTE** As of this writing, `ciiss(4)` supports only the first MSI-X or MSI message.

## MSI Management Routines

The FreeBSD kernel provides the following functions for working with MSI:

---

```
#include <dev/pci/pcivar.h>

int
pci_msix_count(device_t dev);

int
pci_msi_count(device_t dev);

int
pci_alloc_msix(device_t dev, int *count);

int
pci_alloc_msi(device_t dev, int *count);

int
pci_release_msi(device_t dev);
```

---

The `pci_msix_count` and `pci_msi_count` functions return the number of unique MSI-X or MSI messages maintained by the device `dev`.

The `pci_alloc_msix` and `pci_alloc_msi` functions allocate `count` MSI-X or MSI vectors based on `dev`. If there are not enough free vectors, fewer than `count` vectors will be allocated. Upon a successful return, `count` will contain the number of vectors allocated. (MSI-X and MSI vectors were described in “[Implementing MSI](#)” on page 294.)

The `pci_release_msi` function releases the MSI-X or MSI vectors that were allocated by `pci_alloc_msix` or `pci_alloc_msi`.

## Conclusion

This chapter examined `ifnet`, `ifmedia`, and `mbuf` structures, as well as MSI and MSI-X. In Chapter 17, you’ll use this information to analyze a network driver.



# 17

## NETWORK DRIVERS, PART 2: PACKET RECEPTION AND TRANSMISSION



This chapter examines the packet reception and transmission components of em(4). Predictably, em(4) uses both mbufs and MSI for packet reception and transmission.

### Packet Reception

When an interface receives a packet, it sends an interrupt. Naturally, this causes its interrupt handler to execute. For example, here is what executes in em(4):

---

```
static void
em_msix_rx(void *arg)
{
    struct rx_ring *rxr = arg;
    struct adapter *adapter = rxr->adapter;
    bool more;

    ++rxr->rx_irq;

    more = em_rxeof(rxr, adapter->rx_process_limit, NULL);
```

---

```

        if (more)
            ❸taskqueue_enqueue(rxr->tq, &rxr->rx_task);
        else
            ❹E1000_WRITE_REG(&adapter->hw, E1000_IMS, rxr->ims);
    }

```

---

This function takes a ❶ pointer to a ring buffer that contains one or more received packets, and calls ❷ `em_rx eof` to process those packets. If there are more than ❸ `rx_process_limit` packets, a task structure is ❹ queued; otherwise, this interrupt is ❺ reenabled. I'll discuss the task structure and its associated function in "em\_handle\_rx Function" on page 303.

### `em_rx eof` Function

As mentioned previously, `em_rx eof` processes received packets. Its function definition is listed below, but because this function is fairly long and involved, I'll introduce it in parts. Here is the first part:

---

```

static bool
em_rx eof(struct rx_ring *rxr, int count, int *done)
{
    struct adapter *adapter = rxr->adapter;
    struct ifnet *ifp = adapter->ifp;
    struct e1000_rx_desc *cur;
    struct mbuf *mp, *sendmp;
    u8 status = 0;
    u16 len;
    int i, processed, rxdone = 0;
    bool eop;

    EM_RX_LOCK(rxr);

    ❶for (i = rxr->next_to_check, processed = 0; count != 0; ) {
        ❷if (((ifp->if_drv_flags & ❸IFF_DRV_RUNNING) == 0)
            break;

        ❹bus_dmamap_sync(rxr->rxdma.dma_tag, ❺rxr->rxdma.dma_map,
                        BUS_DMASYNC_POSTREAD);

        mp = sendmp = NULL;
        cur = ❻&rxr->rx_base[i];
        status = cur->status;
        if ((status & ❻E1000_RXD_STAT_DD) == 0)
            break;
        len = le16toh(cur->length);
        eop = (status & ❻E1000_RXD_STAT_EOP) != 0;

        if (((cur->errors & ❻E1000_RXD_ERR_FRAME_ERR_MASK) ||
             (rxr->discard == TRUE)) {
            ++ifp->if_ierrors;
            ++rxr->rx_discarded;
            if (!eop)
                rxr->discard = TRUE;

```

```

        else
            rxr->discard = FALSE;
    ⑩em_rx_discard(rxr, i);
    goto next_desc;
}
...

```

---

This function's execution is contained primarily within a ❶ for loop. This loop begins by ❷ verifying that the ❸ interface is up and running. Then it ❹ synchronizes the DMA buffer currently loaded in ❺ `rxr->rxdma.dma_map`, which is ❻ `rxr->rx_base`.

The buffer ❻ `rxr->rx_base[i]` contains a descriptor that describes a received packet. When a packet spans multiple mbufs, `rxr->rx_base[i]` describes one mbuf in the chain.

If `rxr->rx_base[i]` lacks the ❼ `E1000_RXD_STAT_DD` flag, the for loop exits. (The `E1000_RXD_STAT_DD` flag stands for *receive descriptor status: descriptor done*. We'll see its effects shortly.)

If `rxr->rx_base[i]` describes the ❽ last mbuf in the chain, the Boolean variable `eop`, which stands for *end of packet*, is set to TRUE. (Needless to say, when a packet requires only one mbuf, that mbuf is still the last mbuf in the chain.)

If the packet described by `rxr->rx_base[i]` contains any ❾ errors, it is ❿ discarded. Note that I use the word *packet*, not *mbuf*, here, because every mbuf in the packet is discarded.

Now let's look at the next part of `em_rxeof`:

```

...
    ❶mp = rxr->rx_buffers[i].m_head;
    mp->m_len = ❷len;
    rxr->rx_buffers[i].m_head = NULL;

    ❸if (rxr->fmp == NULL) {
        mp->m_pkthdr.len = len;
        ❹rxr->fmp = ❺rxr->lmp = mp;
    } else {
        mp->m_flags &= ~M_PKTHDR;
        ❻rxr->lmp->m_next = mp;
        ❼rxr->lmp = mp;
        rxr->fmp->m_pkthdr.len += len;
    }
...

```

---

Here, ❹ `rxr->fmp` and ❺ `rxr->lmp` point to the first and last mbuf in the chain, ❻ `mp` is the mbuf described by `rxr->rx_base[i]`, and ➋ `len` is `mp`'s length.

So, this part simply ❸ identifies whether `mp` is the first mbuf in the chain. If it is not, then `mp` is ❻ ❼ linked into the chain.

Here is the next part of `em_rxeof`:

```

...
    ❶if (eop) {
        --count;
    ❷sendmp = ❸rxr->fmp;

```

```

        sendmp->m_pkthdr.rcvif = ifp;
        ++ifp->if_ipackets;
        ❸ em_receive_checksum(cur, sendmp);
❷ ifndef __NO_STRICT_ALIGNMENT
        ❶ if (adapter->max_frame_size >
            (MCLBYTES - ETHER_ALIGN) &&
            ❷ em_fixup_rx(rxr) != 0)
            goto skip;
#endif
        if (status & E1000_RXD_STAT_VP) {
            sendmp->m_pkthdr.ether_vtag =
                le16toh(cur->special) &
                E1000_RXD_SPC_VLAN_MASK;
            sendmp->m_flags |= M_VLANTAG;
        }
#endif
skip:
#endif
        ❸ rxr->fmp = ❹ rxr->lmp = ❺ NULL;
    }
...

```

---

If `mp` is the ❶ last mbuf in the chain, ❷ `sendmp` is set to the ❸ first mbuf in the chain, and the header checksum is ❹ verified.

If our architecture requires ❺ strict alignment and ❻ jumbo frames are enabled, `em_rx_eof` ❼ aligns the mbuf chain. (Jumbo frames are Ethernet packets with more than 1500 bytes of data.)

This part concludes by setting ❽ `rxr->fmp` and ❾ `rxr->lmp` to ❿ `NULL`. Here is the next part of `em_rx_eof`:

```

...
next_desc:
    cur->status = 0;
    ++rxdone;
    ++processed;

    if (❶++i == adapter->num_rx_desc)
        i = 0;

    ❷ if (sendmp != NULL) {
        rxr->next_to_check = i;
        EM_RX_UNLOCK(rxr);
        ❸ (*ifp->if_input)(ifp, ❹ sendmp);
        EM_RX_LOCK(rxr);
        i = rxr->next_to_check;
    }

    if (processed == 8) {
        ❺ em_refresh_mbufs(rxr, i);
        processed = 0;
    }
}
/* The end of the for loop. */
...

```

---

Here, `i` is ❶ incremented so that `em_rxeof` can get to the next mbuf in the ring. Then, ❷ if `sendmp` points to an mbuf chain, `em(4)`'s input routine is ❸ executed to send that ❹ chain to the upper layers. Afterward, new mbufs are ❺ allocated for `em(4)`.

**NOTE** When an mbuf chain is sent to the upper layers, drivers must not access those mbufs anymore. For all intents and purposes, those mbufs have been freed.

To sum up, this for loop simply links together every mbuf in a received packet and then sends that to the upper layers. This continues until every packet in the ring has been processed or `rx_process_limit` is hit (`rx_process_limit` was described in “Packet Reception” on page 299).

Here is the final part of `em_rxeof`:

---

```
...
    if (e1000_rx_unrefreshed(rxr))
        em_refresh_mbufs(rxr, i);

    rxr->next_to_check = i;
    if (done != NULL)
        *done = rxdone;
    EM_RX_UNLOCK(rxr);

❶return ((status & E1000_RXD_STAT_DD) ? TRUE : FALSE);
}
```

---

If there are more packets to process, `em_rxeof` ❶ returns TRUE.

### `em_handle_rx` Function

Recall that when `em_rxeof` returns TRUE, `em_msix_rx` queues a task structure (`em_msix_rx` was discussed in “Packet Reception” on page 299).

Here is that task structure’s function:

---

```
static void
em_handle_rx(void *context, int pending)
{
    struct rx_ring *rxr = context;
    struct adapter *adapter = rxr->adapter;
    bool more;

    more = ❶em_rxeof(rxr, adapter->rx_process_limit, NULL);
    if (more)
        taskqueue_enqueue(rxr->tq, &rxr->rx_task);
    else
        E1000_WRITE_REG(&adapter->hw, E1000_IMS, rxr->ims);
}
```

---

This function is nearly identical to `em_msix_rx`. When there are more packets to process, ❶ `em_rxeof` just gets called again.

# Packet Transmission

To transmit a packet, the network stack calls a driver's output routine. All output routines end by calling their interface's transmit or start routine. Here is `em(4)`'s start routine:

---

```
static void
em_start(struct ifnet *ifp)
{
    struct adapter *adapter = ifp->if_softc;
    struct tx_ring *txr = adapter->tx_rings;

    if (ifp->if_drv_flags & IFF_DRV_RUNNING) {
        ❶EM_TX_LOCK(txr);
        ❷em_start_locked(ifp, txr);
        EM_TX_UNLOCK(txr);
    }
}
```

---

This start routine ❶ acquires a lock and then calls ❷ `em_start_locked`.

## ***em\_start\_locked Function***

The `em_start_locked` function is defined as follows:

---

```
static void
em_start_locked(struct ifnet *ifp, struct tx_ring *txr)
{
    struct adapter *adapter = ifp->if_softc;
    struct mbuf *m_head;

    EM_TX_LOCK_ASSERT(txr);

    if (((ifp->if_drv_flags & (IFF_DRV_RUNNING | IFF_DRV_OACTIVE)) !=
        IFF_DRV_RUNNING)
        return;

    if (!adapter->link_active)
        return;

    ❶while (!IFQ_DRV_IS_EMPTY(&ifp->if_snd)) {
        ❷if (txr->tx_avail <= EM_TX_CLEANUP_THRESHOLD)
            ❸em_txeof(txr);

        ❹if (txr->tx_avail < EM_MAX_SCATTER) {
            ❺ifp->if_drv_flags |= IFF_DRV_OACTIVE;
            break;
        }

        ❻IFQ_DRV_DEQUEUE(❻&ifp->if_snd, ❻m_head);
        if (m_head == NULL)
            break;
    }
}
```

```

        if (@em_xmit(txr, &m_head)) {
            if (m_head == NULL)
                break;
            ifp->if_drv_flags |= IFF_DRV_OACTIVE;
            IFQ_DRV_PREPEND(&ifp->if_snd, m_head);
            break;
        }

        ETHER_BPF_MTAP(ifp, m_head);

        txr->watchdog_time = ticks;
        txr->queue_status = EM_QUEUE_WORKING;
    }
}

```

---

This function ⑥ removes one ⑧ mbuf from em(4)'s ⑦ send queue and ⑨ transmits it to the interface. This repeats until the send queue is ⑩ empty. (Send queues, as mentioned in Chapter 16, are populated by output routines.)

**NOTE** *The em\_xmit function, which actually transmits the mbufs to the interface, is not detailed in this book, because of its length. It is fairly straightforward, though, so you shouldn't have any trouble with it.*

If the number of available transmit descriptors is ② less than or equal to EM\_TX\_CLEANUP\_THRESHOLD, ③ em\_txeof is called to reclaim the used descriptors. (A transmit descriptor describes an outgoing packet. If a packet spans multiple mbufs, a transmit descriptor describes one mbuf in the chain.)

If the number of available transmit descriptors is ④ less than EM\_MAX\_SCATTER, transfers are ⑤ stopped.

### ***em\_txeof Function***

The em\_txeof function goes through the transmit descriptors and frees the mbufs for packets that have been transmitted. Its function definition is listed below, but because this function is fairly long and involved, I'll introduce it in parts. Here is the first part:

---

```

static bool
em_txeof(struct tx_ring *txr)
{
    struct adapter *adapter = txr->adapter;
    struct ifnet *ifp = adapter->ifp;
    struct e1000_tx_desc *tx_desc, *eop_desc;
    struct em_buffer *tx_buffer;
    int processed, first, last, done;

    EM_TX_LOCK_ASSERT(txr);

    if (txr->tx_avail == adapter->num_tx_desc) {
        txr->queue_status = EM_QUEUE_IDLE;
        return (FALSE);
    }
}

```

```

    processed = 0;
❶ first = txr->next_to_clean;
❷ tx_desc = &txr->tx_base[first];
❸ tx_buffer = &txr->tx_buffers[first];
❹ last = tx_buffer->next_eop;
    eop_desc = &txr->tx_base[last];

    if (++last == adapter->num_tx_desc)
        last = 0;
❺ done = last;
...

```

---

Here, ❶ `first` is the first mbuf in a chain that housed an outgoing packet, ❷ `last` is the last mbuf in that chain, and ❺ `done` is the mbuf after `last`.

**NOTE** Recall that transmit descriptors, and subsequently mbufs, are held in a ring buffer.

The variables ❷ `tx_desc` and ❸ `tx_buffer` are temporary variables for a transmit descriptor and its associated mbuf.

Now let's look at the next part of `em_txeof`:

```

...
    bus_dmamap_sync(txr->txdma.dma_tag, txr->txdma.dma_map,
                    BUS_DMASYNC_POSTREAD);

❶ while (eop_desc->upper.fields.status & E1000_TXD_STAT_DD) {
    ❷ while (first != done) {
        ❸ tx_desc->upper.data = 0;
        tx_desc->lower.data = 0;
        tx_desc->buffer_addr = 0;
        ++txr->tx_avail;
        ++processed;

        if (tx_buffer->m_head) {
            bus_dmamap_unload(txr->txtag,
                               tx_buffer->map);
        ❹ m_freem(tx_buffer->m_head);
            tx_buffer->m_head = NULL;
        }
    }

    tx_buffer->next_eop = -1;
    txr->watchdog_time = ticks;

    if (++first == adapter->num_tx_desc)
        first = 0;
    tx_buffer = &txr->tx_buffers[first];
    tx_desc = &txr->tx_base[first];
}

++ifp->if_opackets;

last = tx_buffer->next_eop;
❺ if (last != -1) {

```

```

        eop_desc = &txr->tx_base[last];
        if (++last == adapter->num_tx_desc)
            last = 0;
        done = last;
    } else
        break;
}

bus_dmamap_sync(txr->txdma.dma_tag, txr->txdma.dma_map,
    BUS_DMASYNC_PREWRITE);
...

```

---

This ❷ while loop iterates through `first` to `last`, ❸ freeing their mbufs and ❹ zeroing their transmit descriptors. (`em(4)` has a finite number of transmit descriptors. Zeroing a descriptor makes it available again.)

This ❶ while loop ❷ determines whether another mbuf chain can be freed by this ❸ while loop.

Here is the final part of `em_txeof`:

```

...
    txr->next_to_clean = first;

    if (!processed && ((ticks - txr->watchdog_time) > EM_WATCHDOG))
        txr->queue_status = EM_QUEUE_HUNG;

    ❶if (txr->tx_avail > EM_MAX_SCATTER)
        ❷ifp->if_drv_flags &= ~IFF_DRV_OACTIVE;

    if (txr->tx_avail == adapter->num_tx_desc) {
        txr->queue_status = EM_QUEUE_IDLE;
        ❸return (FALSE);
    }

    ❹return (TRUE);
}

```

---

If there are more transmit descriptors to reclaim, `em_txeof` returns ❹ TRUE; otherwise, it returns ❺ FALSE.

If the number of available transmit descriptors is ❶ greater than `EM_MAX_SCATTER`, packets ❷ can be transmitted.

## Post Packet Transmission

Whenever an interface transmits a packet, it sends an interrupt. Naturally, this causes its interrupt handler to execute. Here is what executes in `em(4)`:

```

static void
em_msix_tx(void *arg)
{
    struct tx_ring *txr = arg;
    struct adapter *adapter = txr->adapter;

```

---

```

        bool more;

        ++txr->tx_irq;

        EM_TX_LOCK(txr);
        more = ①em_txeof(txr);
        EM_TX_UNLOCK(txr);
        if (more)
            ②taskqueue_enqueue(txr->tq, &txr->tx_task);
        else
            E1000_WRITE_REG(&adapter->hw, E1000_IMS, txr->ims);
    }

```

---

**NOTE** Because of MSI, `em(4)` can use a different interrupt handler for post packet transmission and packet reception.

This function simply ① reclaims the used transmit descriptors. If there are more descriptors to reclaim, a task structure is ② queued. Here is that task structure's function:

---

```

static void
em_handle_tx(void *context, int pending)
{
    struct tx_ring *txr = context;
    struct adapter *adapter = txr->adapter;
    struct ifnet *ifp = adapter->ifp;

    EM_TX_LOCK(txr);

    ①em_txeof(txr);
    ②em_start_locked(ifp, txr);
    E1000_WRITE_REG(&adapter->hw, E1000_IMS, txr->ims);

    EM_TX_UNLOCK(txr);
}

```

---

This function first ① reclaims any used transmit descriptors, after which any packets that may have been halted due to a lack of descriptors are ② transmitted.

## Conclusion

This chapter and Chapter 16 gave a primer on network devices and drivers. If you're serious about writing network drivers, you should review `em(4)` in its entirety. I recommend beginning with its `device_attach` implementation: `em_attach`.

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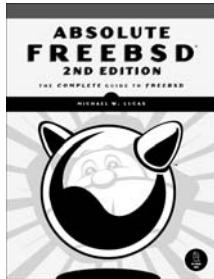
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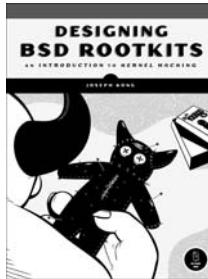
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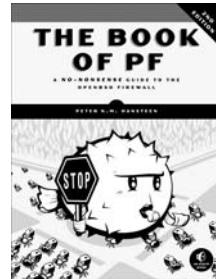
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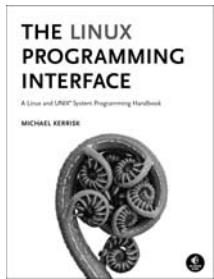
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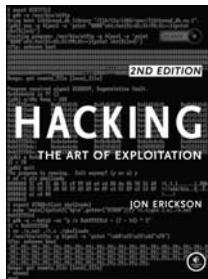
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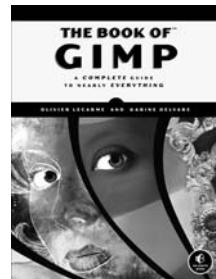
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