

ECEN 449: Microprocessor System Design
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Laboratory Exercise #5

Introduction to Kernel Modules on Zynq Linux System

Objective

The objective of this week's lab is to build a simple 'Hello World!' kernel module on the CentOS 7 workstations, and load the module into the Linux kernel on the ZYBO Z7-10 board. You will then create a kernel module, which prints messages to the kernel's message buffer. However, this kernel module will also moderate kernel access to the multiplication peripheral created in Lab 3.

System Overview

The hardware system you will use this week is identical to the one built in Lab 4. The Linux kernel, will be utilized to allow dynamic loading of kernel modules.

Procedure

1. Boot Linux on the ZYBO Z7-10 board and mount the SD card so we can read and write files to it.

- (a) From within the ZYBO Z7-10 Linux serial console (i.e. PICOCOM on the CentOS machine), run the following commands:
\$ sudo su - (type the password as 'root')
\$ mount /dev/mmcblk0p1 /mnt/
- (b) The above command mounts the SD card to this location. There might be some warnings saying that the device is not properly unmounted.
- (c) Test out the mount operation by running the following commands in PICOCOM:

```
$ cd /mnt/  
$ ls -la
```

The first command changes the current directory to the SD card mount point. The next command lists the contents of the current directory. Do the files in the /mnt directory look familiar?

- (d) Now test the write capabilities of the SD card by creating a directory within the /mnt directory. Run the following commands in PICOCOM:

```
$ mkdir test  
$ ls -la
```

Note the date stamp on the 'test' directory. Demonstrate your progress to the TA.

- (e) We can now use the SD card to transfer files between the CentOS workstation where we will compile our kernel modules and the ZYBO Z7-10 board where we will run our kernel modules. Before removing the SD card from the ZYBO Z7-10 Linux system, we must un-mount the FAT partition on the SD card to avoid corrupting the file system. Run the following commands in PICOCOM:

```
$ cd /  
$ umount /mnt
```

The first command changes the current directory to the root directory. The purpose of this command is to move out of the mount point prior to un-mounting. The second command un-mounts the FAT partition.

- (f) Change the current directory to '/mnt' using 'cd' and examine the contents of the directory using 'ls'. What do you see?
2. At this point in lab, the ZYBO Z7-10 board has read/write access to a removable non-volatile file system. We will now cross-compile a simple kernel module using PetaLinux on the CentOS machine and load it onto the SD card.

- (a) Without turning off the power to the ZYBO Z7-10 board, remove the SD card and insert it into the CentOS machine. Examine the contents of the SD card. Note that the CentOS machine automatically mounts the SD card when inserted.
- (b) Insert the USB drive used in Lab 4 for installing PetaLinux and building the PetaLinux project.
- (c) Open a terminal and 'cd' into the PetaLinux project directory created in Lab 4:

```
$ cd <PetaLinux-project-directory>
```

- (d) Set the GCC version and source the PetaLinux environment as done in Lab 4:

```
$ scl enable devtoolset-9 bash
$ source <PetaLinux-install-directory>/settings.sh
```

- (e) Under the PetaLinux project directory, use the command below to create your module (named hello):

```
$ petalinux-create -t modules \--name hello \--enable
```

PetaLinux creates the module directory in the “<PetaLinux-project-directory>/project-spec/meta-user/recipes-modules/” directory.

- (f) The default driver creation includes a Makefile, C-file, and README files. In this exercise, PetaLinux creates hello.c, a Makefile, and README files.
- (g) Copy the below code into the hello.c (driver file) in the module directory.

```
/* hello.c - Hello World kernel module
 *
 * Demonstrates module initialization , module release and printk .
 *
 * (Adapted from various example modules including those found in the
 * Linux Kernel Programming Guide , Linux Device Drivers book and
 * FSM's device driver tutorial)
 */

#include <linux/module.h> /* Needed by all modules */
#include <linux/kernel.h> /* Needed for KERN_* and printk */
#include <linux/init.h> /* Needed for __init and __exit macros */

/* This function is run upon module load. This is where you setup data
```

```

    structures and reserve resources used by the module. */
static int __init my_init(void)
{
    /* Linux kernel's version of printf */
    printk(KERN_INFO "Hello world!\n");

    // A non 0 return means init_module failed; module can't be loaded.
    return 0;
}

/* This function is run just prior to the module's removal from the
   system. You should release ALL resources used by your module
   here (otherwise be prepared for a reboot). */
static void __exit my_exit(void)
{
    printk(KERN_ALERT "Goodbye world!\n");
}

/* These define info that can be displayed by modinfo */
MODULE_LICENSE("GPL");
MODULE_AUTHOR("ECEN449 Student (and others)");
MODULE_DESCRIPTION("Simple Hello World Module");

/* Here we define which functions we want to use for initialization
   and cleanup */
module_init(my_init);
module_exit(my_exit);

```

- (h) Build the hello module by running the following command in the PetaLinux project directory:

```
$ petalinux-build
```

After successful compilation hello.ko file is created in the following location:

```
/tmp/<Net-ID>/sysroots-components/zynq-generic/hello/lib/modules/5.15.19-xilinx-v2022.1/extra/hello.ko
```

Copy this file to the SD card.

- (i) Properly remove the SD card from the CentOS machine and insert the card into the ZYBO Z7-10 board. To properly remove the the SD card, right click on the thumb-drive name in the 'Files' window of Linux, and click 'eject'. Do not power cycle the the ZYBO Z7-10 board.
- (j) From picocom, execute the command:

```
$ mount /dev/mmcblk0p1 /mnt/
```

- (k) At this point, we have cross-compiled our Linux kernel module and provided access to it via the

ZYBO Z7-10 board. It is now time to load the module into the Linux kernel on the ZYBO Z7-10 board. This is done with the following command:

```
$ insmod /mnt/hello.ko
```

- (l) To see the output of the ‘printk’ statement that is called when the kernel module is loaded run the following command in the terminal:

```
$ dmesg | tail
```

Demonstrate this output to the TA.

- (m) We can see what modules are loaded by running ‘lsmod’ in the terminal window. Do this and ensure the ‘hello’ module is listed.
- (n) To remove the module, run ‘rmmod hello’, and then run ‘lsmod’ to ensure that the module was removed. Also run ‘dmesg’ again to examine the output of the module during removal.
3. Compile a kernel module that reads and writes to the multiplication peripheral and prints the results to the kernel message buffer.

- (a) On the CentOS machine, open a terminal, set the GCC version, source PetaLinux environment and move into the <petalinux-project-directory>:

```
$ scl enable devtoolset-9 bash
$ source <PetaLinux-install-directory>/settings.sh
$ cd <PetaLinux-project-directory>
```

- (b) Create a module named multiply:

```
$ petalinux-create -t modules \--name multiply \--enable
```

- (c) Navigate to the ‘modules’ directory (<PetaLinux-project-directory>/project-spec/meta-user/recipes-modules/).
- (d) Copy ‘xparameters.h’ and ‘xparameters_ps.h’ to multiply/files/ (same directory as Makefile) under ‘modules’ directory. These files should be located in your “lab3/multiply_wrapper/zynq_fsbl/zynq_fsbl_bsp/ps7_cortexa9_0/include” directory. Update multiply.bb as shown in Figure 1
- (e) Copy the following skeleton code into ‘multiply.c’:

```

1 SUMMARY = "Recipe for build an external multiply Linux kernel module"
2 SECTION = "PETALINUX/modules"
3 LICENSE = "GPLv2"
4 LIC_FILES_CHKSUM = "file://COPYING;md5=12f884d2ae1ff87c09e5b7ccc2c4ca7e"
5
6 inherit module
7
8 INHIBIT_PACKAGE_STRIP = "1"
9
10 SRC_URI = "file://Makefile \
11            file://multiply.c \
12            file://COPYING \
13            file://xparameters.h \
14            file://xparameters_ps.h \
15            "
16
17 S = "${WORKDIR}"
18
19 # The inherit of module.bbclass will automatically name module packages with
20 # "kernel-module-" prefix as required by the oe-core build environment.

```

Figure 1: Updated multiply.bb for new .h files

```

#include <linux/module.h>  /* Needed by all modules */
#include <linux/kernel.h>  /* Needed for KERN_* and printk */
#include <linux/init.h>    /* Needed for __init and __exit macros */
#include <asm/io.h>        /* Needed for IO reads and writes */

#include "xparameters.h" /*needed for physical address of multiplier*/

/*from xparameters.h*/
#define PHY_ADDR  XPAR.MULTIPLY_0.S00_AXI_BASEADDR //physical address of multiplier
/*size of physical address range for multiply*/
#define MEMSIZE  XPAR.MULTIPLY_0.S00_AXI_HIGHADDR - XPAR.MULTIPLY_0.S00_AXI_BASEADDR+1

void* virt_addr; //virtual address pointing to multiplier

/* This function is run upon module load. This is where you setup data
   structures and reserve resources used by the module. */
static int __init my_init(void)
{

    /* Linux kernel's version of printf */
    printk(KERN_INFO "Mapping virtual address...\n");

    /*map virtual address to multiplier physical address*/
    //use ioremap
    /*write 7 to register 0 */
    printk(KERN_INFO "Writing a 7 to register 0\n");
    iowrite32( 7, virt_addr+0); //base address + offset
    /* Write 2 to register 1*/
    printk(KERN_INFO "Writing a 2 to register 1\n");
    //use iowrite32
    printk("Read %d from register 0\n", ioread32(virt_addr+0));
    printk("Read %d from register 1\n", ioread32(virt_addr+4));
}

```

```

    printk("Read %d from register 2\n", ioread32(virt_addr+8));

    // A non 0 return means init_module failed; module can't be loaded.
    return 0;
}
/* This function is run just prior to the module's removal from the
   system. You should release ALL resources used by your module
   here (otherwise be prepared for a reboot). */
static void __exit my_exit(void)
{
    printk(KERN_ALERT "unmapping virtual address space ....\n");
    iounmap((void*)virt_addr);
}

/* These define info that can be displayed by modinfo */
MODULE_LICENSE("GPL");
MODULE_AUTHOR("ECEN449 Student (and others)");
MODULE_DESCRIPTION("Simple multiplier module");

/* Here we define which functions we want to use for initialization
   and cleanup */
module_init(my_init);
module_exit(my_exit);

```

- (f) Some required function calls have been left out of the code above. Fill in the necessary code. Consult *Linux Device Drivers, 3rd Edition* for help.

Note: When running Linux on the ARM processor, your code is operating in virtual memory, and 'ioremap' provides the physical to virtual address translation required to read and write to hardware from within virtual memory. 'iounmap' reverses this mapping and is essentially the clean-up function for 'ioremap'.

- (g) Add a 'printk' statement to your initialization routine that prints the physical and virtual addresses of your multiplication peripheral to the kernel message buffer.
- (h) Build your multiply module as you built hello module in step 2.
- (i) Load the 'multiply.ko' module onto the SD card and mount the card within the ZYBO Z7-10 Linux system using '/mnt' as the mount point. Consult step 1 if this is unclear.
- (j) Use 'insmod' to load the 'multiply.ko' kernel module into the ZYBO Z7-10 Linux kernel. Demonstrate your progress to the TA.

Deliverables

1. [5 points.] Demo the working kernel module to the TA.

Submit a lab report with the following items:

2. [5 points.] Correct format including an Introduction, Procedure, Results, and Conclusion.
3. [4 points.] The output of the terminal (picocom) for part 2 of lab.
4. [6 points.] Answers to the following questions:
 - (a) If prior to step 2.f, we accidentally reset the ZYBO Z7-10 board, what additional steps would be needed in step 2.g?
 - (b) What is the mount point for the SD card on the CentOS machine?
Hint: Where does the SD card lie in the directory structure of the CentOS file system.
 - (c) If we changed the name of our hello.c file, what would we have to change in the Makefile? Likewise, if in our Makefile, we specified the kernel directory from lab 4 rather than lab 5, what might be the consequences?