Kernel Compile

Practical Class 4

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Index

Related Resources

- **There are some resources that you might find useful:**
  - Ubuntu wiki – Build Kernel
  - Linux Kernel documentation
  - GNU GRUB Manual

- **You can learn more about Building Linux from the above links**

[1] https://git-scm.com/about/staging-area

1. Download Linux Kernel Source Code

- **There is three ways to get the Linux kernel source code:**
  - From **website** https://www.kernel.org/ to download the source code archive file
  - Use **Git** to clone the kernel code repository
  - Download the source package from **package manager**
    - In Ubuntu, run `sudo apt-cache search linux-source` to check the available versions
    - These kernel sources are distro patched

1. Download Linux Kernel Source Code

- Here we try to download source code from website:
  - https://www.kernel.org/

Protocol	Location
HTTP	https://www.kernel.org/pub/
GIT	https://git.kernel.org/
RSYNC	rsync://rsync.kernel.org/pub/

mainline:	6.0-rc6	2022-09-18	[tarball]		[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse]
stable:	5.19.10	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	5.15.69	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	5.10.144	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	5.4.214	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	4.19.259	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	4.14.294	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	4.9.329	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
linux-next:	next-20220921	2022-09-21						[browse]

1. Download Linux Kernel Source Code

❖ Download Linux Kernel Source Codes

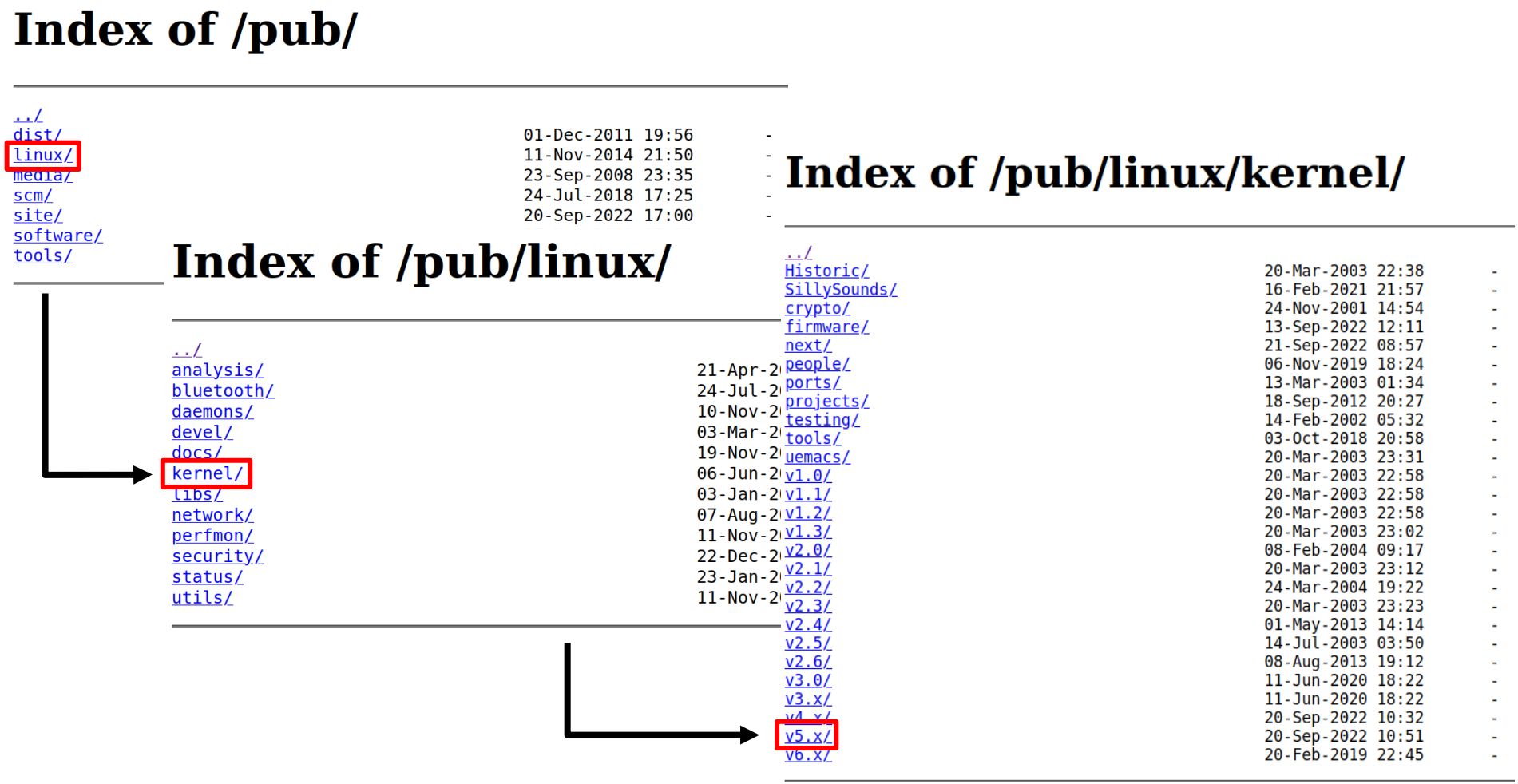
- You can find all the version of kernel from the website
- Here we will go with the latest 5.4 LTS version - **5.4.214**

Protocol	Location
HTTP	https://www.kernel.org/pub/
GIT	https://git.kernel.org/
RSYNC	rsync://rsync.kernel.org/pub/

mainline:	6.0-rc6	2022-09-18	[tarball]		[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse]
stable:	5.19.10	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	5.15.69	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	5.10.144	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	5.4.214	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	4.19.259	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	4.14.294	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
longterm:	4.9.329	2022-09-20	[tarball]	[pgp]	[patch]	[inc. patch]	[view diff]	[browse] [changelog]
linux-next:	next-20220921	2022-09-21						[browse]

1. Download Linux Kernel Source Code

- You can find other versions through:
  - https://mirrors.edge.kernel.org/pub/



2. Install Prerequisites

- **Before compiling our kernel, we should install some tools first.**
  - You can find the list of minimal requirements here.
- **Use the following commands to install these tools:**
  - These commands might be enough to build the Linux kernel

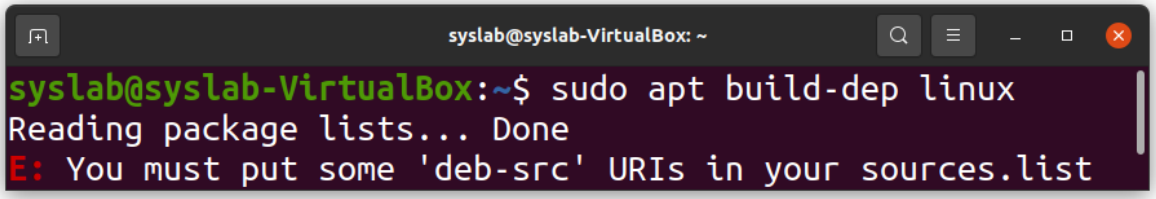
```
$ sudo apt build-dep linux
$ sudo apt install libncurses-dev
```

  - However if you have any issue with missing packages, try installing some more prerequisites

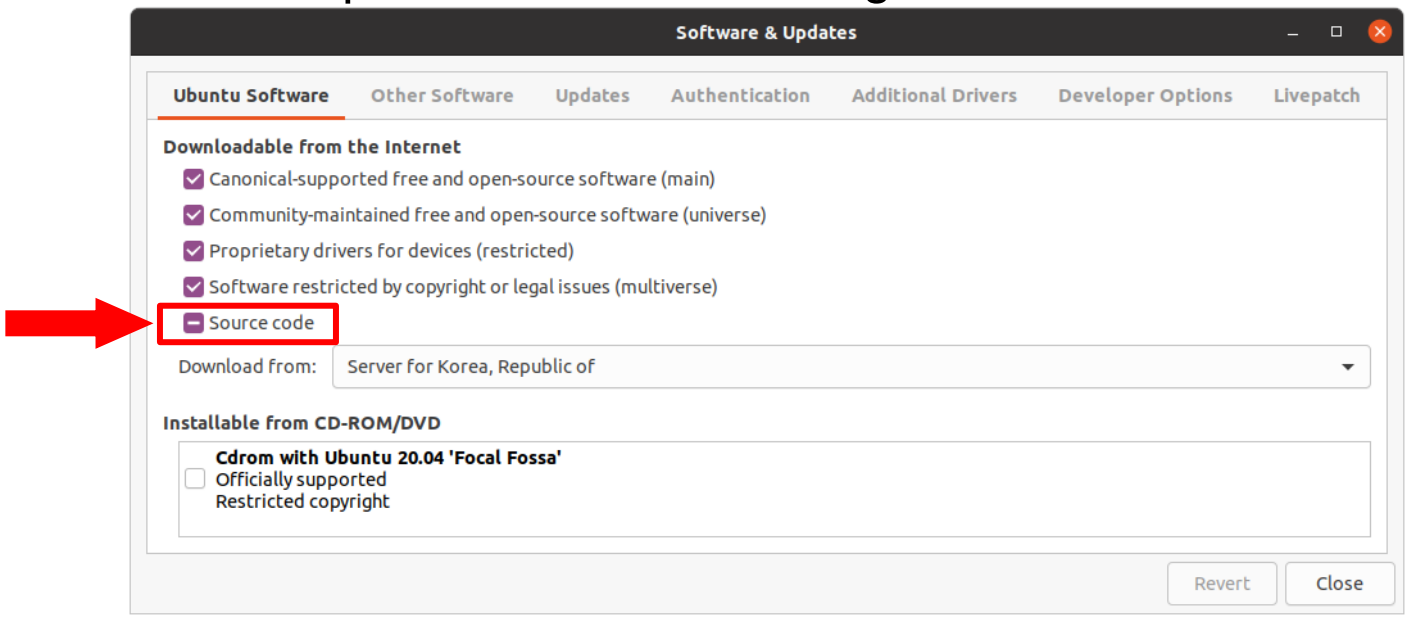
```
$ sudo apt build-dep linux linux-image-$(uname -r)
$ sudo apt install libncurses-dev gawk flex bison
openssl libssl-dev dkms libelf-dev libudev-dev
libpci-dev libiberty-dev autoconf llvm
```

2. Install Prerequisites

- **There may be an error like this when you use the first command:**



- **To solve this problem:**
  1. Go to system's **Software & Updates** setting and check the "**Source code**" option. It will generate the source URIs.
  2. Then run previous commands again.



2. Install Prerequisites

- **cf) For Ubuntu Server**
  - You can also edit **`/etc/apt/sources.list`** by yourself
  - Simply uncomment "**`deb-src`**" lines
  - Don't forget to run **`apt-get update`** after adding sources

```
 1 # deb cdrom:[Ubuntu 20.04.4 LTS _Focal Fossa_ - Release amd64 (20220223)]/ focal main restricted
 2 deb-src http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu focal main restricted #Added by software-properties
 3
 4 # See http://help.ubuntu.com/community/UpgradeNotes for how to upgrade to
 5 # newer versions of the distribution.
 6 deb http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal main restricted
 7 deb-src http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal restricted universe main multiverse
 8
 9 ## Major bug fix updates produced after the final release of the
10 ## distribution.
11 deb http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal-updates main restricted
12 deb-src http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal-updates restricted universe main multiverse
13
14 ## N.B. software from this repository is ENTIRELY UNSUPPORTED by the Ubuntu
15 ## team. Also, please note that software in universe WILL NOT receive any
16 ## review or updates from the Ubuntu security team.
17 deb http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal universe
18 # deb-src http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal universe
19 deb http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal-updates universe
20 # deb-src http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal-updates universe
21
22 ## N.B. software from this repository is ENTIRELY UNSUPPORTED by the Ubuntu
23 ## team, and may not be under a free licence. Please satisfy yourself as to
24 ## your rights to use the software. Also, please note that software in
25 ## multiverse WILL NOT receive any review or updates from the Ubuntu
26 ## security team.
27 deb http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal multiverse
28 # deb-src http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal multiverse
29 deb http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal-updates multiverse
30 # deb-src http://kr.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/ focal-updates multiverse
31
32 ## N.B. software from this repository may not have been tested as
33 ## extensively as that contained in the main release, although it includes
34 ## newer versions of some applications which may provide useful features.
35 ## Also, please note that software in backports WILL NOT receive any review
36 ## or updates from the Ubuntu security team.
"/etc/apt/sources.list" 52 lines --1%--                                  1,1           Top
```

3. Kernel Configuration

- **Before compiling the kernel, we should do some configurations**
  - Find the kernel source code archive file that we downloaded previously, and unzip it:
    - Double click is OK
    - Or use command: `tar -xvf <tar file>`

```
syslab@syslab-VirtualBox:~$ wget https://cdn.kernel.org/pub/linux/kernel/v5.x/linux-5.4.214.tar.xz
--2022-09-22 16:56:45--  https://cdn.kernel.org/pub/linux/kernel/v5.x/linux-5.4.214.tar.xz
Resolving cdn.kernel.org (cdn.kernel.org)... 151.101.1.176, 151.101.65.176, 151.101.129.176, ...
Connecting to cdn.kernel.org (cdn.kernel.org)|151.101.1.176|:443... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: 112943292 (108M) [application/x-xz]
Saving to: ‘linux-5.4.214.tar.xz’

linux-5.4.214.tar.xz     100%[===================================>] 107.71M  11.3MB/s    in 9.6s

2022-09-22 16:56:55 (11.2 MB/s) - ‘linux-5.4.214.tar.xz’ saved [112943292/112943292]

syslab@syslab-VirtualBox:~$ tar -xf linux-5.4.214.tar.xz
syslab@syslab-VirtualBox:~$ ls
linux-5.4.214  linux-5.4.214.tar.xz
syslab@syslab-VirtualBox:~$
```

3. Kernel Configuration

- **Configuration is stored in the `.config` file under the source code root directory**

- **There are three ways to get a `.config` file**
  - Use the previously used `.config` files
    - Under `/boot` directory
  - Create a new one by yourself
    - By **`make config`** or **`make menuconfig`**
  - Use the ARCH default .config file
    - By **`make defconfig`**

3. Kernel Configuration

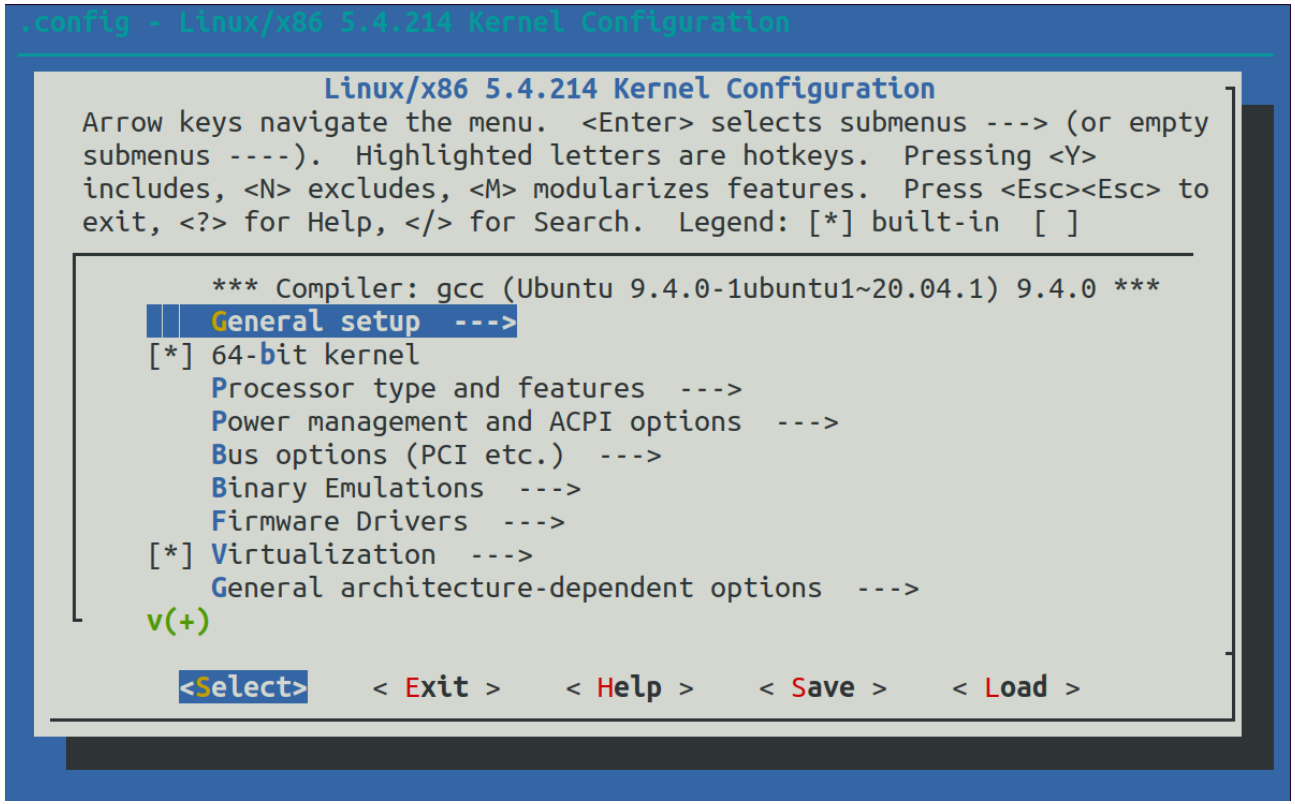
- **Here, as a practice, we will create a new `.config` file and only change the version name of the kernel.**
- **In the kernel code directory, use command:**

```
/[kernel source directory]$ make menuconfig
```

  - **P.S.** In real situations, using the distro-defined previous `.config` file is preferred.
    - This is because distros may support some different functionalities

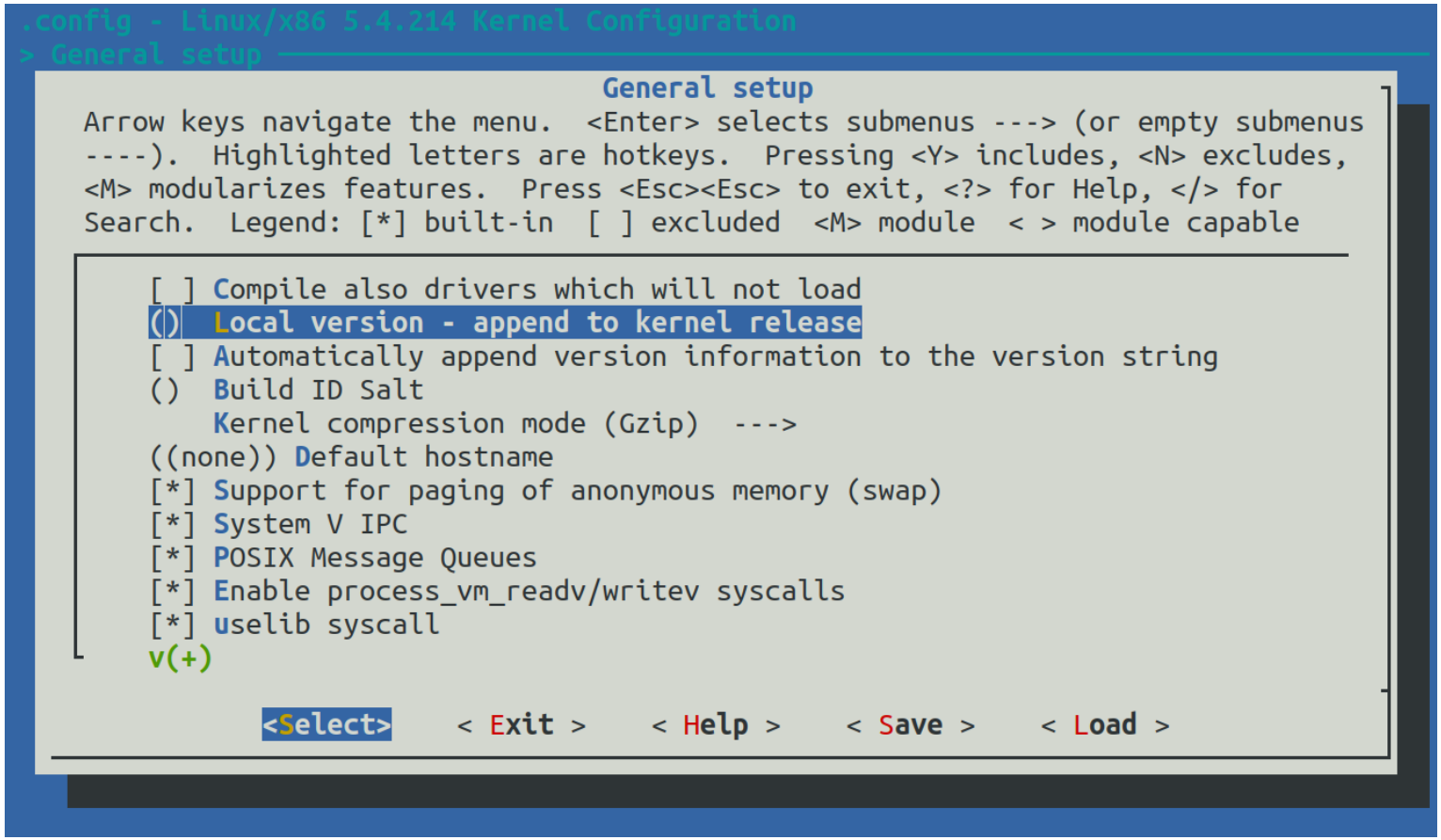
3. Kernel Configuration

- **This is the configuration window**
  - Use **<Enter>** to get into the submenus
  - Use **<Esc><Esc>** to go back
  - Use **<Tab>** to choose the last line operations



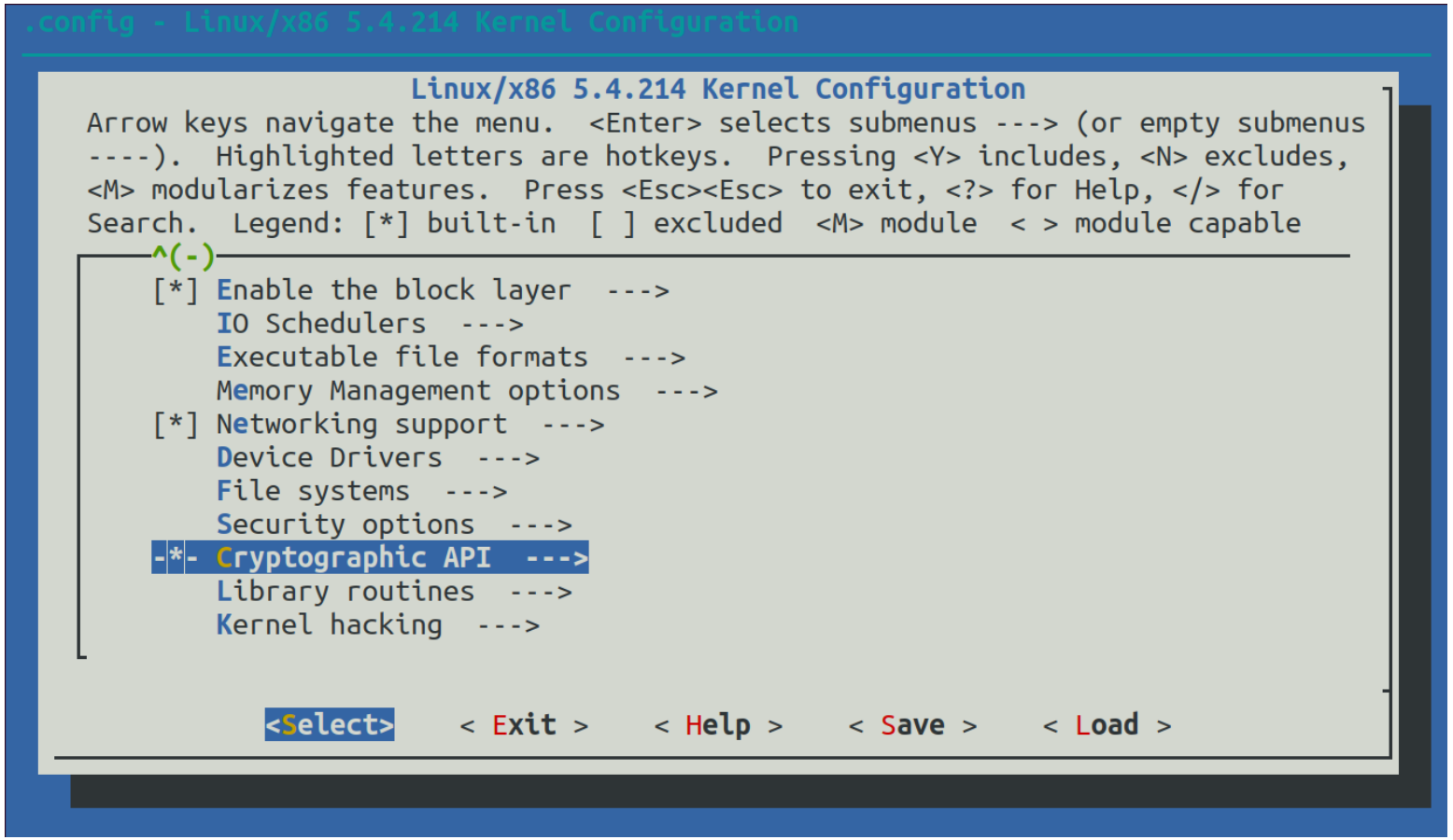
3. Kernel Configuration

- **In the `General setup` submenu**
  - Select `Local version` option
  - We can set the name of the local kernel version here



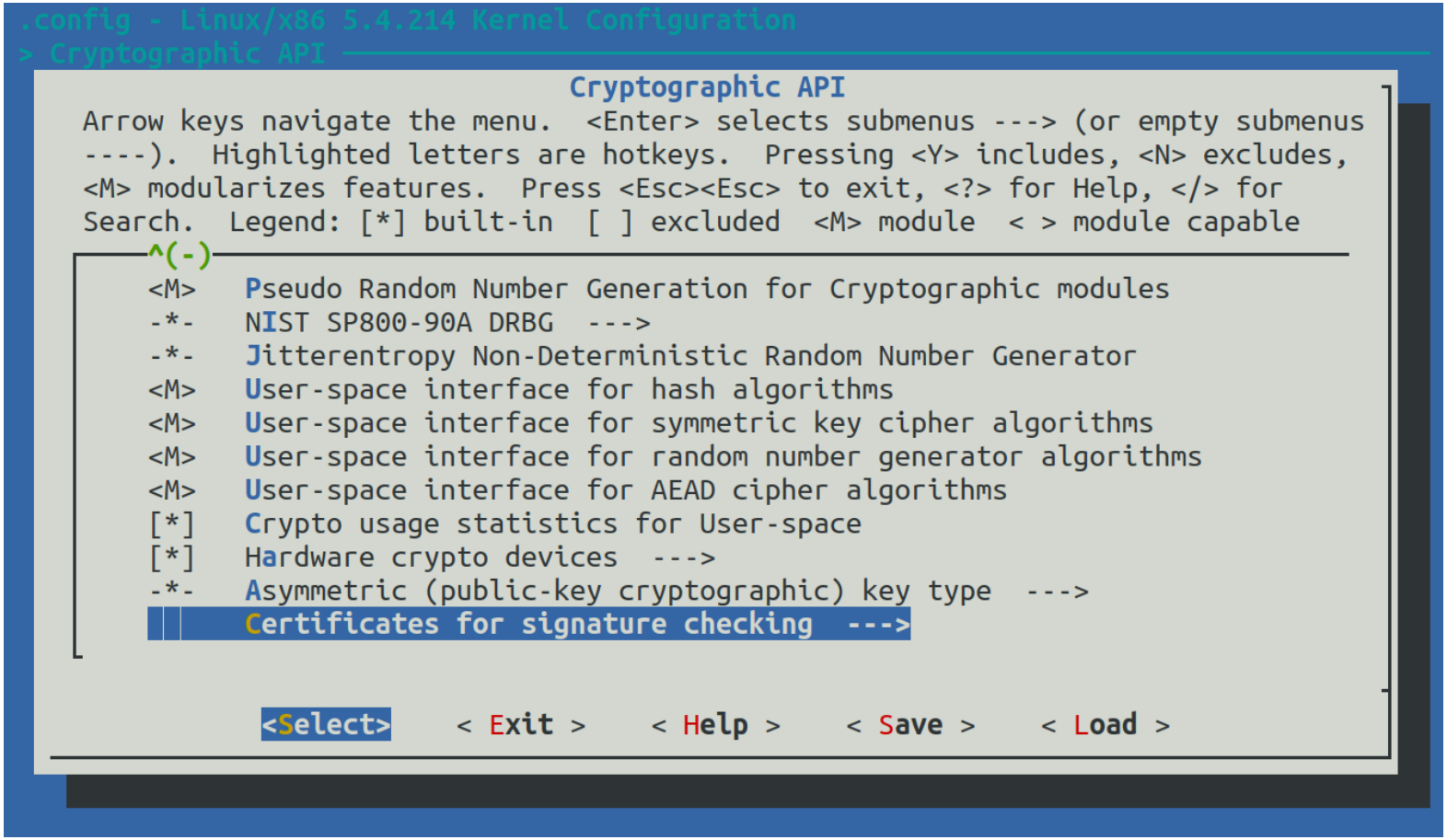
3. Kernel Configuration

- **We need to disable `Additional X.509 keys for system keyring` option**
  - Select `Cryptographic API` from the top menu



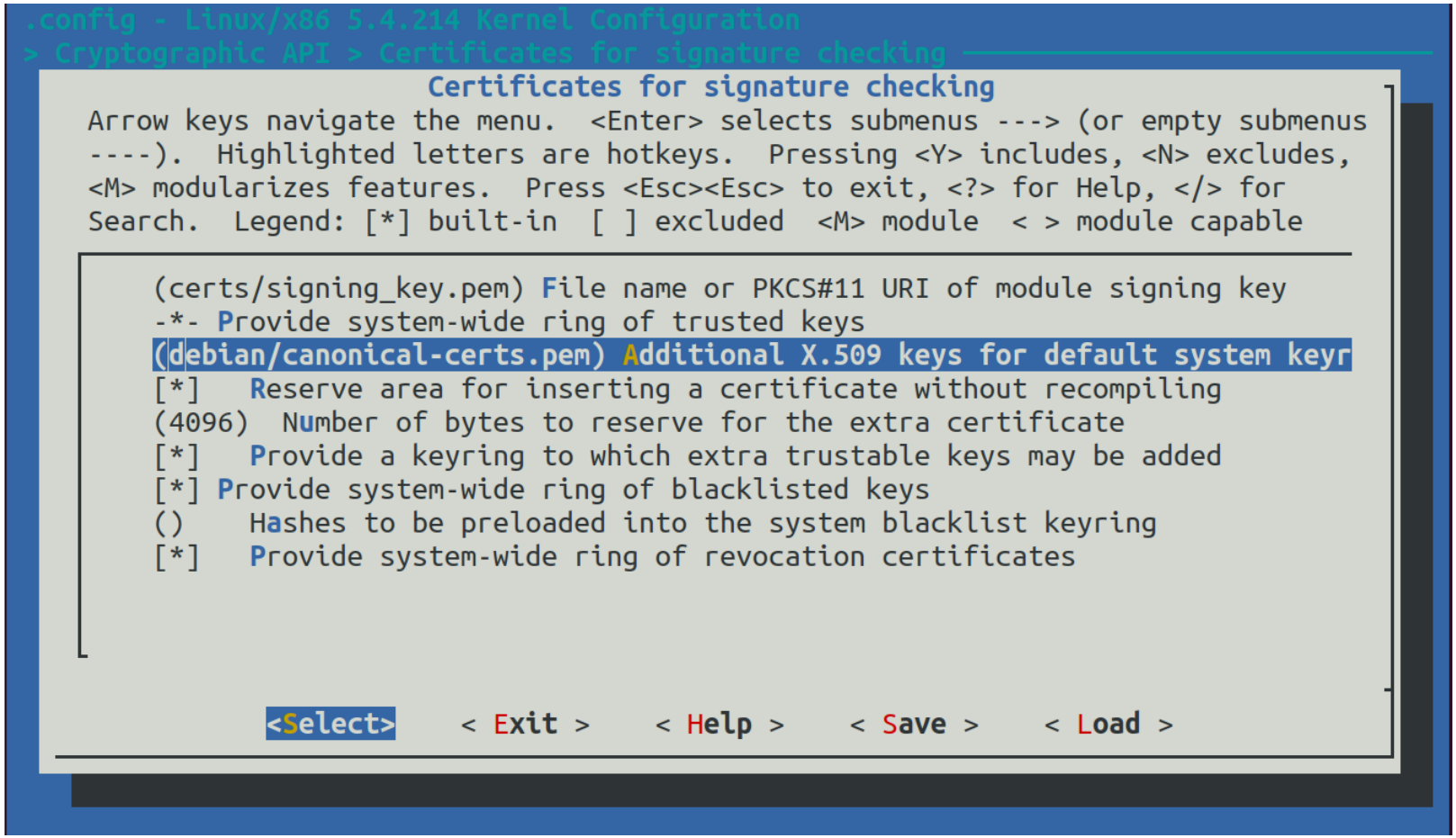
3. Kernel Configuration

- **In the `Cryptographic API` submenu**
  - Select `Certificates for signature checking` (last entry)



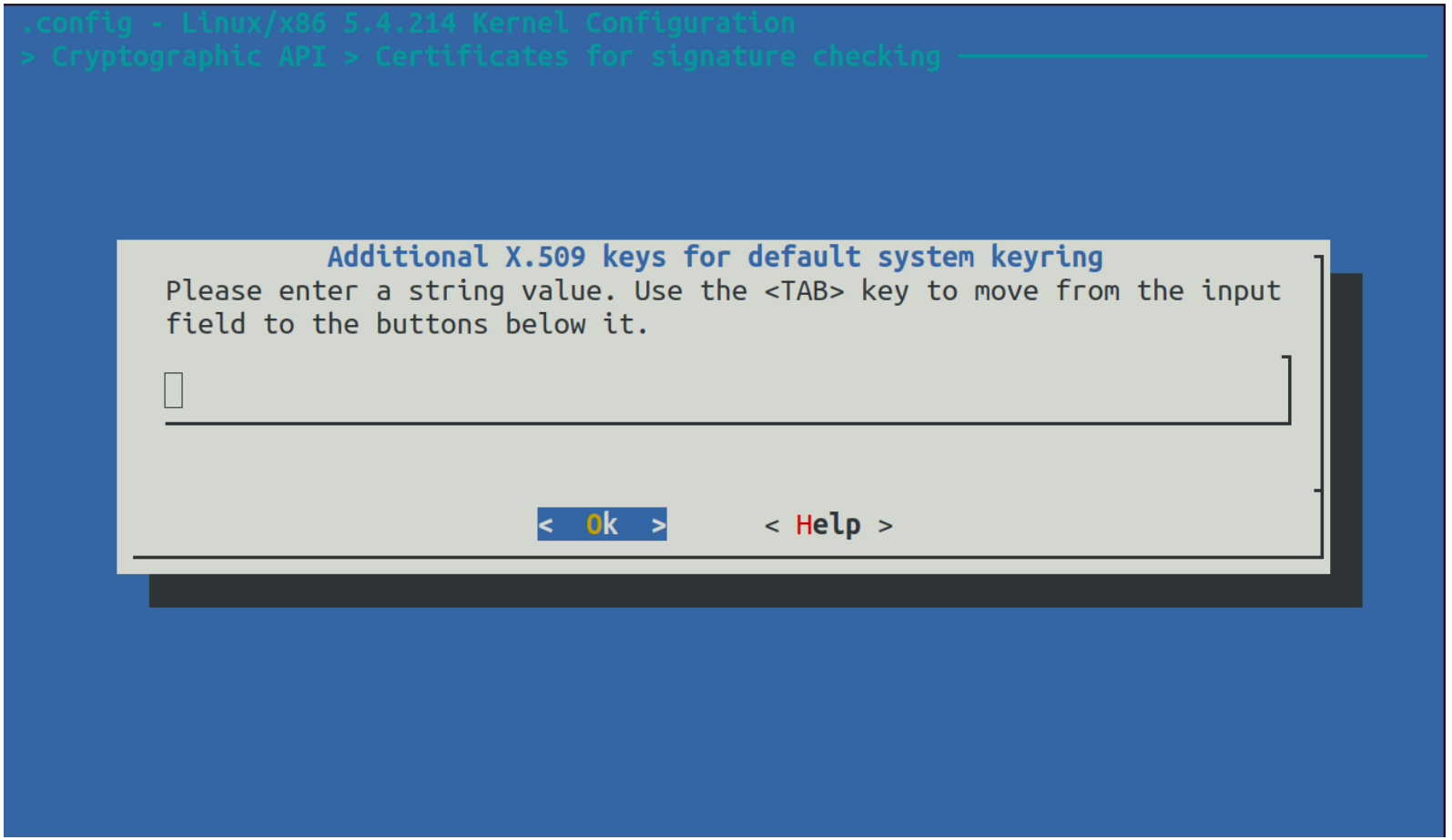
3. Kernel Configuration

- In the `Certificates for signature checking` submenu
  - Select `Additional X.509 keys for default system keyring`



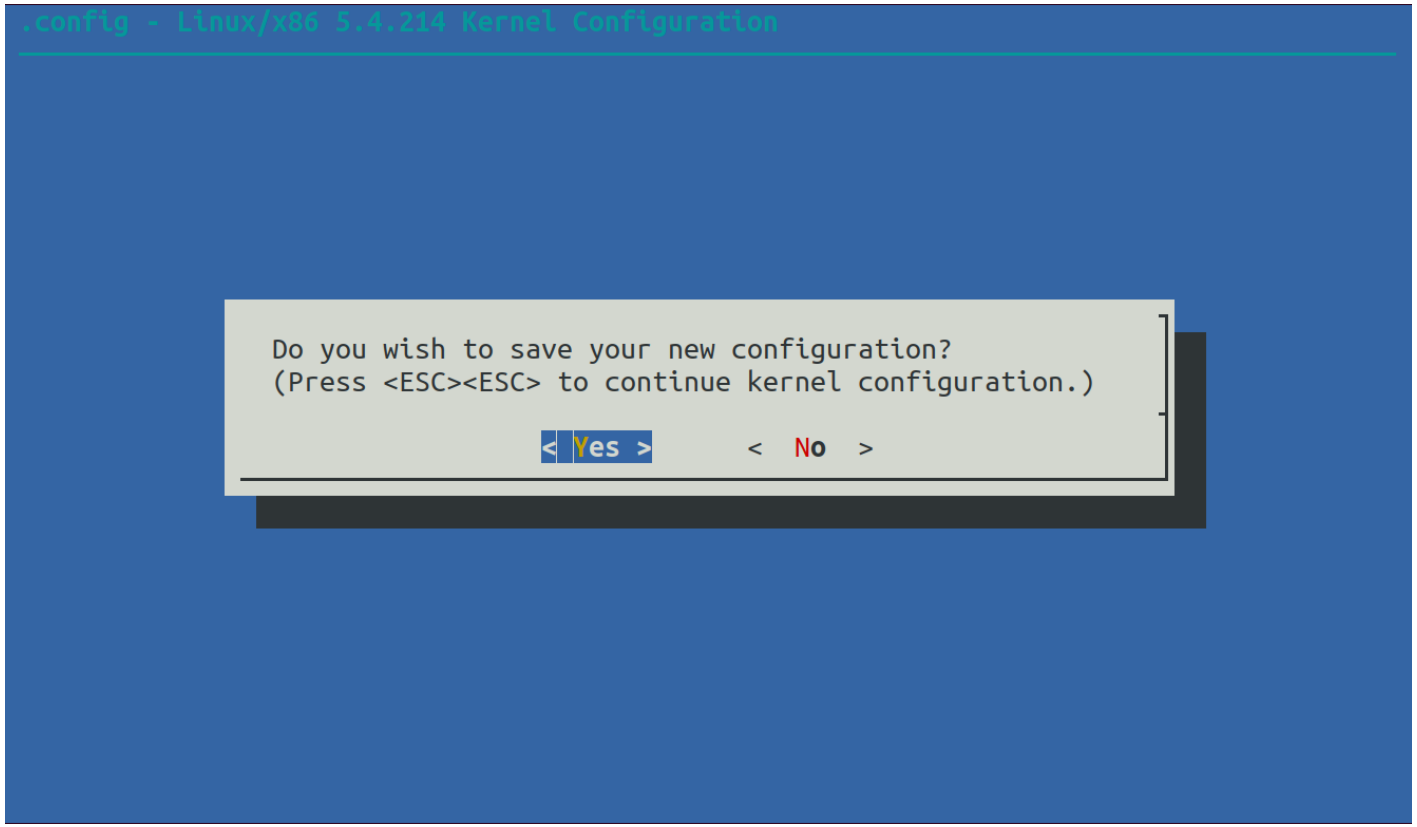
3. Kernel Configuration

- Remove string “debian/canonical-certs.pem”



3. Kernel Configuration

- **After done, <Save> and <Exit> the configuration program**
  - Once we get the `.config` file, we can now compile the kernel



4. Compile the Kernel

- **Kernel compiling is very simple, there is already a `Makefile` in the kernel code directory**

1. **The only thing we need to do is run the `make` command**

```
/[kernel source dir]$ make -j<number of processors>
```

   - You can use **`-j`** option to specify the number of jobs to run simultaneously
     - Number of jobs depends on your processor
   - Compiling the kernel may take a while

5. Kernel installation

2. **Once the kernel compiling is finished, we use the following command to build kernel modules**

```
$ make -j<number of processors> modules
```

3. **Install kernel modules that we built**

```
$ sudo make -j<number of processors> modules_install
```

4. **And Install the kernel**

```
$ sudo make -j<number of processors> install
```

5. **When they are finished successfully, Kernel installation is done**
   - Now, if you reboot your machine, it will automatically use the latest (highest) version of the kernel.
     - But we will do some modifications to our **GRUB** boot loader before reboot.

6. Grub Configuration

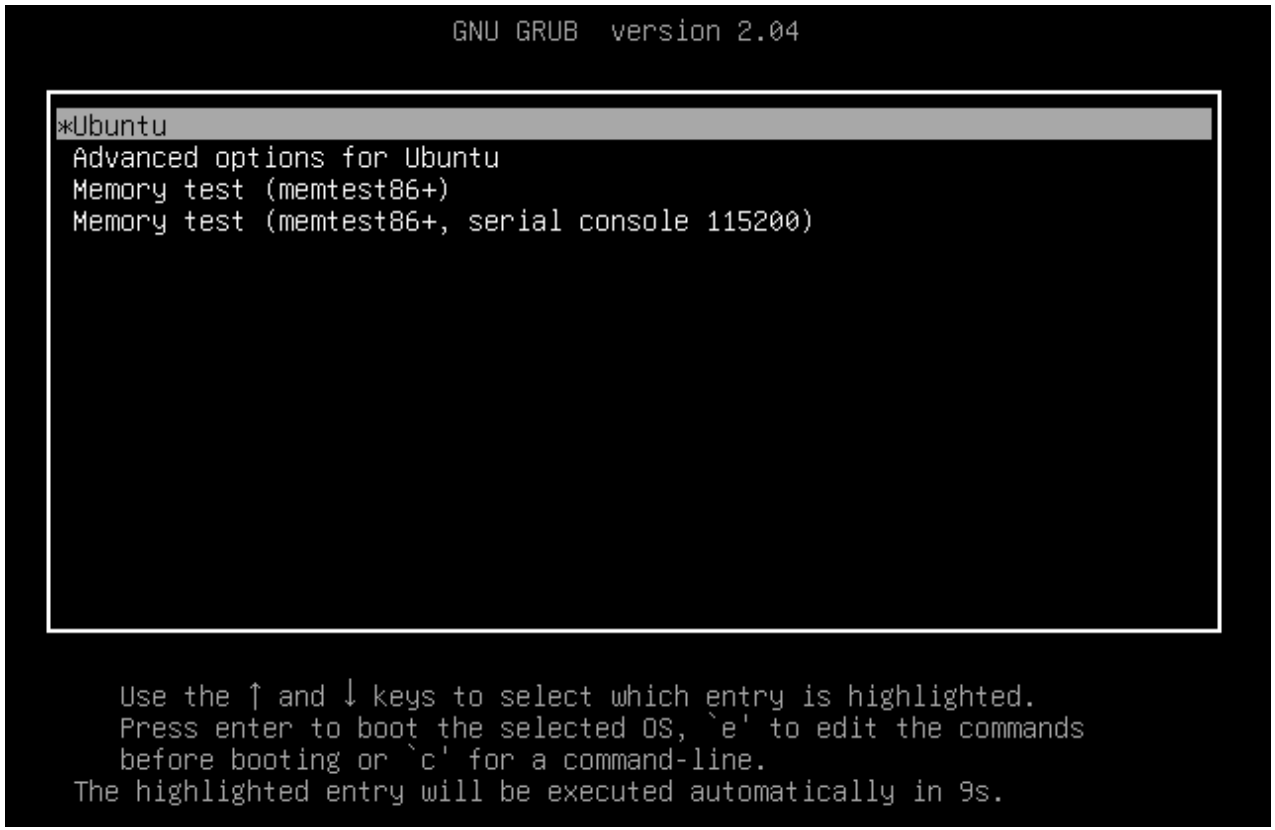
- **`sudo vim /etc/default/grub`:**
  - Comment out **`GRUB_TIMEOUT_STYLE`**
    - ✓ **`GRUB_TIMEOUT_STYLE=hidden`** → **`#GRUB_TIMEOUT_STYLE=hidden`**
  - Set **`GRUB_TIMEOUT`**, the unit is second
  - Save the changes with **`:wq`** (you need root permission here)
  - Run command **`sudo update-grub`** every time you change this file

```
GRUB_DEFAULT=0
#GRUB_TIMEOUT_STYLE=hidden
GRUB_TIMEOUT=10
GRUB_DISTRIBUTOR=`lsb_release -i -s 2> /dev/null || echo Debian`
GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX_DEFAULT="quiet splash"
GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX=""
```

- This setting can let us choose which kernel to use during the booting process
- If we did something wrong with the kernel, we can still use the old kernel to boot up the system

6. Grub Configuration

- Now, if we reboot the machine, we will see this kind of menu during the booting process.
- In the Advanced options for Ubuntu submenu, we can choose different kernels



6. Grub Configuration

❖ Default booting kernel

- When multiple kernels exist, it may be cumbersome to choose the kernel every time we boot our machine.

- We can use `/etc/default/grub` file's `GRUB_DEFAULT` option to set the default kernel

- (You DO NOT need to do this if you do not need to change the default booting kernel)

6. Grub Configuration

- **In file `/boot/grub/grub.cfg` file, we can find the GRUB menu entries**
  - If you use vim to open the file, you can use the search command to find the entry very easily:

```
/^menuentry
```

```
menuentry 'Ubuntu' --class ubuntu --class gnu-linux --class gnu --class os $menuentry_id_option 'gnulinux-simple-cda87
        recordfail
        load_video
        gfxmode $linux_gfx_mode
        insmod gzio
        if [ x$grub_platform = xxen ]; then insmod xzio; insmod lzopio; fi
        insmod part_msdos
        insmod ext2
        set root='hd0,msdos5'
        if [ x$feature_platform_search_hint = xy ]; then
          search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root --hint-bios=hd0,msdos5 --hint-efi=hd0,msdos5 --hint-baremetal=ahci0,
        else
          search --no-floppy --fs-uuid --set=root cda8761e-d0d7-4956-9fde-bcdb6c36c924
        fi
        linux   /boot/vmlinuz-5.15.0-48-generic root=UUID=cda8761e-d0d7-4956-9fde-bcdb6c36c924 ro  quiet splash $vt_ha
        initrd  /boot/initrd.img-5.15.0-48-generic
}
submenu 'Advanced options for Ubuntu' $menuentry_id_option 'gnulinux-advanced-cda8761e-d0d7-4956-9fde-bcdb6c36c924' {
        menuentry 'Ubuntu, with Linux 5.15.0-48-generic' --class ubuntu --class gnu-linux --class gnu --class os $menu
/^menuentry
```

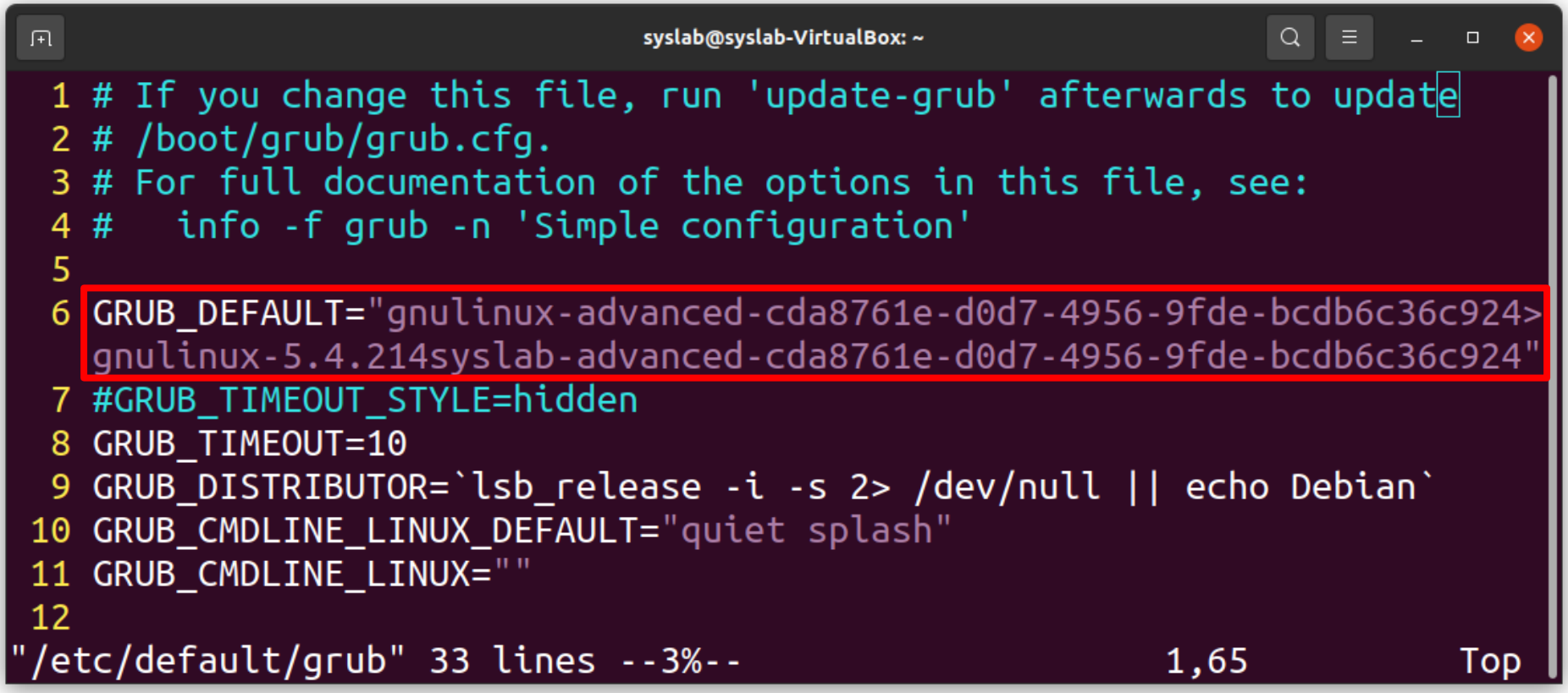
6. Grub Configuration

```
submenu 'Advanced options for Ubuntu' $menuentry_id_option 'gnulinux-advanced-cda8761e-d0d7-4956-9fde-bcdb6c36c924'
 {
        menuentry 'Ubuntu, with Linux 5.15.0-48-generic' --class ubuntu --class gnu-linux --class gnu --class os
$menuentry_id_option 'gnulinux-5.15.0-48-generic-advanced-cda8761e-d0d7-4956-9fde-bcdb6c36c924' {
```

- Everything start with `menuentry` is a single entry
- Here, we can know the first entry of the submenu `Advanced options for Ubuntu` is `'Ubuntu, with Linux 5.15.0-48-generic'`
- The string after `$menuentry_id_option` is the id of the entry
- To use this kernel as a default booting kernel, change `GRUB_DEFAULT` option to `"submenu_id>entry_id"` **(use > to connect)**
  - For example, here to use the first kernel as the default kernel, we change the setting (**`sudo vim /etc/default/grub`**) to:
    - `GRUB_DEFAULT="gnulinux-advanced-cda8761e-d0d7-4956-9fde-bcdb6c36c924>gnulinux-5.15.0-48-generic-advanced-cda8761e-d0d7-4956-9fde-bcdb6c36c924"`
- Do not forget to `sudo update-grub` after the modification.

6. Grub Configuration

- After you modify `/etc/default/grub`, the file would look like this:

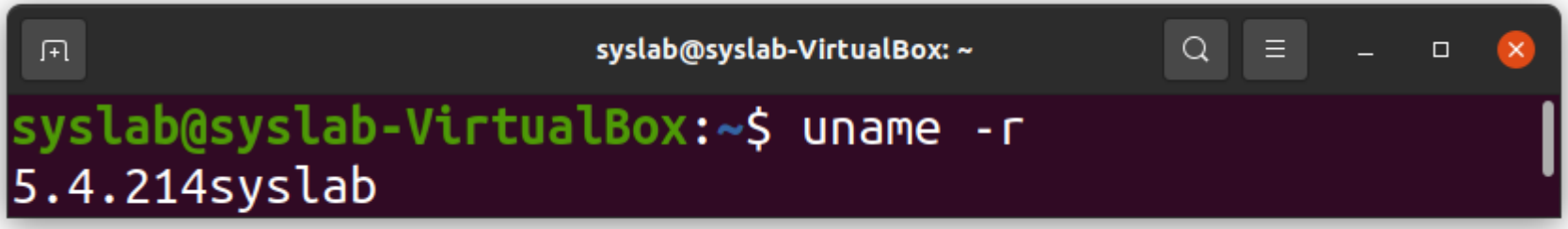



```
        menuentry 'Ubuntu, with Linux 5.4.214syslab' --class ubuntu --class gnu-linux --class gnu --class os
$menuentry_id_option 'gnulinux-5.4.214syslab-advanced-cda8761e-d0d7-4956-9fde-bcdb6c36c924' {
```

7. Boot into the Kernel

- After booting into your custom kernel, you can check the current kernel with

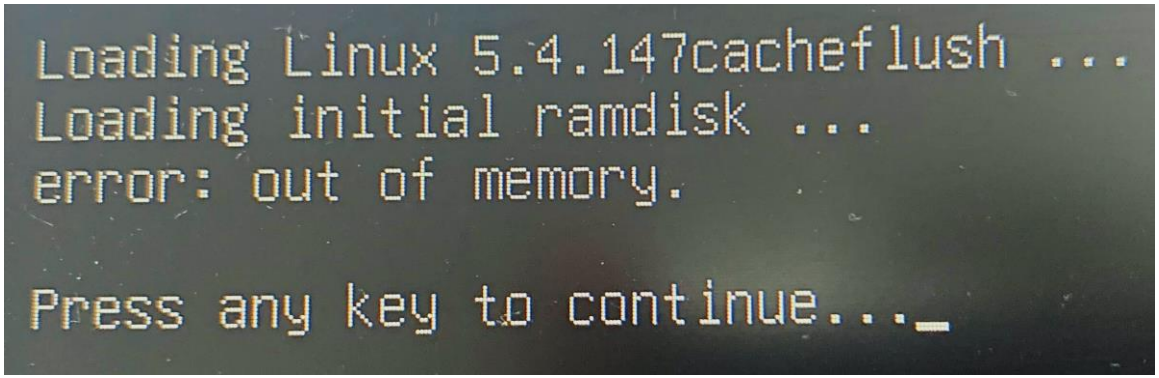
```
$ uname -r
```



Troubleshooting 1

Issue

- When tring booting into a custom kernel
- Failed while loading initial ramdisk



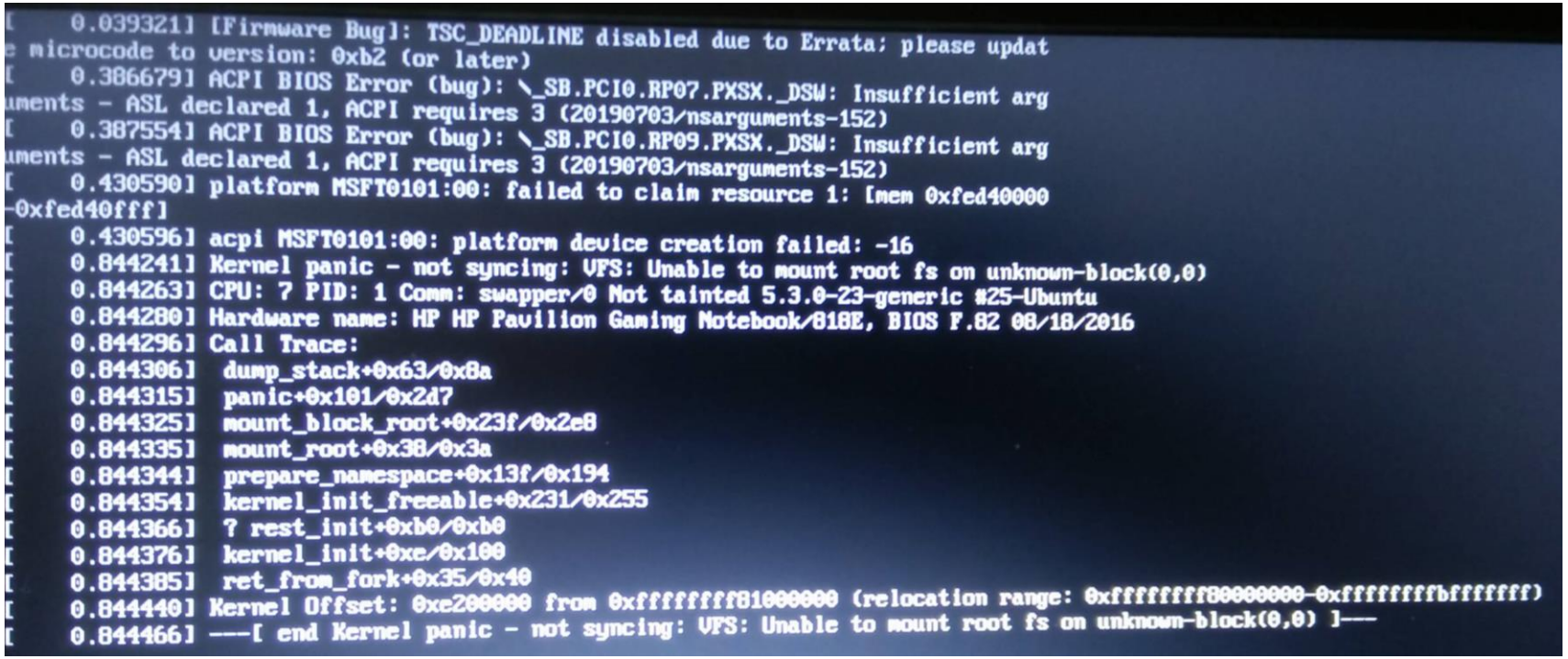
Solution

- Add option **INSTALL_MOD_STRIP** when installing built kernel modules

```
$ sudo make INSTALL_MOD_STRIP=1 -j<number of processors> modules_install
```

Troubleshooting 2

```
[0.000000] [Firmware Bug]: TSC_DEADLINE disabled due to Errata; please
update microdoce to version: 0x00 (or later)
```

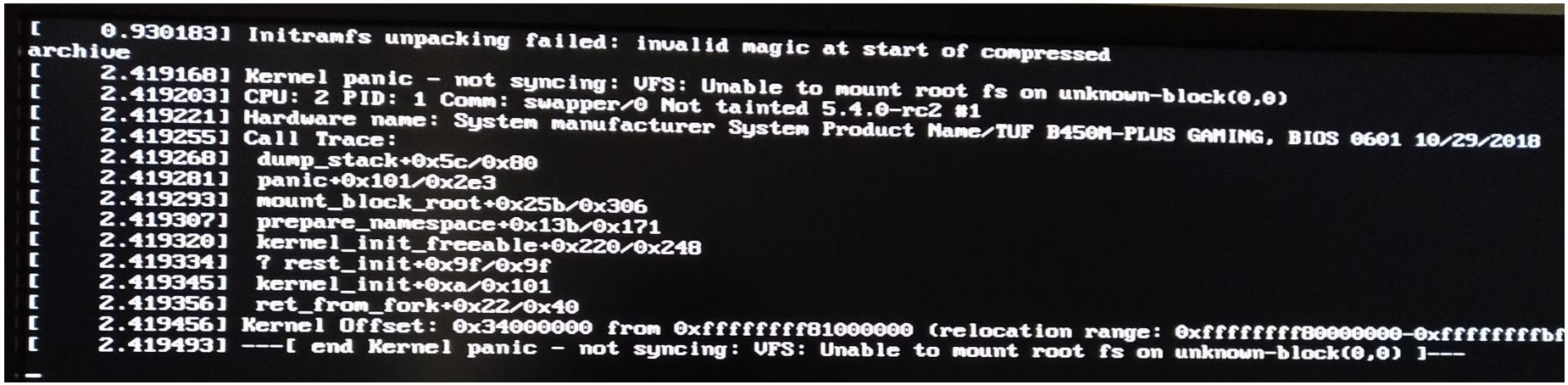


Solution

- Update motherboard **BIOS firmware** to current version

Troubleshooting 3

```
[0.000000] Initramfs unpacking failed: invalid magic at start of compressed
```



❖ Solution

`/etc/initramfs-tools/initramfs.conf`

- Change **initramfs-tools** configuration
  - COMPRESS option into "**gzip**"
  - After modification, reimage initrd with `sudo update-initramfs`

```
#
# COMPRESS: [ gzip | bzip2 | lz4 | lzma | lzop | xz | zstd ]
#

COMPRESS=gzip
```

Troubleshooting 3

- **Initial ramdisk?**
  - A scheme for loading a temporary root file system into memory, to be used as part of the Linux startup process
  - Resides in **`/boot`** directory

```
syslab@syslab-VirtualBox:~$ ls -lh /boot
total 784M
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 257K Aug  5 03:44 config-5.15.0-46-generic
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 257K Sep  2 00:43 config-5.15.0-48-generic
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 230K Sep 23 20:06 config-5.4.214syslab
drwx------ 2 root root 4.0K Jan  1  1970 efi
drwxr-xr-x 4 root root 4.0K Sep 23 20:07 grub
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root   24 Sep 23 20:07 initrd.img -> initrd.img-5.4.214syslab
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root  67M Sep 22 13:46 initrd.img-5.15.0-46-generic
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root  67M Sep 23 15:52 initrd.img-5.15.0-48-generic
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 600M Sep 23 20:07 initrd.img-5.4.214syslab
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root   28 Sep 23 20:07 initrd.img.old -> initrd.img-5.15.0-48-generic
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 179K Aug 18  2020 memtest86+.bin
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 181K Aug 18  2020 memtest86+.elf
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 181K Aug 18  2020 memtest86+_multiboot.bin
-rw------- 1 root root 6.0M Aug  5 03:44 System.map-5.15.0-46-generic
-rw------- 1 root root 6.0M Sep  2 00:43 System.map-5.15.0-48-generic
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 4.7M Sep 23 20:06 System.map-5.4.214syslab
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root   21 Sep 23 20:06 vmlinuz -> vmlinuz-5.4.214syslab
-rw------- 1 root root  11M Aug  5 03:47 vmlinuz-5.15.0-46-generic
-rw------- 1 root root  11M Sep  2 00:29 vmlinuz-5.15.0-48-generic
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root  12M Sep 23 20:06 vmlinuz-5.4.214syslab
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root   25 Sep 23 15:51 vmlinuz.old -> vmlinuz-5.15.0-48-generic
```