



АВРОРА
СВОЯ СИСТЕМА

Lab 3 Booting the Kernel

Ildar Kamaletdinov – team lead, Open Mobile Platform

with Dmitrii Alekhin – junior software developer as TA



АВРОПА
СВОЯ СИСТЕМА

Compiling and running u-boot

What is u-boot?

- › Das U-boot (Universal Bootloader) is an open source primary (1st-stage) bootloader commonly used on embedded devices
- › Source code: <https://github.com/u-boot/u-boot>
- › It supports many architectures along with booting Linux Kernel or 2nd-stage bootloaders (GRUB/systemd-boot)
- › It has support for many storage devices, basic I/O, networking, file transfer and so on.



What is qemu?

- › QEMU (Quick Emulator) is a generic and open source machine emulator and virtualizer
- › Source code: <https://github.com/qemu/qemu>
- › It supports a lot of architectures, custom modules, any kind of device emulation
- › It also supports hardware-assisted accelerators (KVM, HVF), kernel subsystems for I/O virtualization and device pass-through (virtio, VFIO)



Step-by-step guide part 1 😊



- › 1. Install qemu, qemu-system-arm, GNU cross toolchain
- › 2. Clone U-boot repo and checkout latest stable version

```
git clone https://github.com/u-boot/u-boot/  
git checkout v2022.01
```

- › 4. Compile u-boot for vexpress dev board (you can make optional configurations too)

```
export ARCH=arm  
export CROSS_COMPILE=arm-linux-gnueabihf-  
make vexpress_ca9x4_defconfig  
make
```

- › 5. Check if your u-boot image works

```
qemu-system-arm -M vexpress-a9 -kernel u-boot -m 512M
```

Step-by-step guide part 2 😊

- › 6. Compile Linux Kernel for vexpress board

```
export ARCH=arm  
export CROSS_COMPILE=arm-linux-gnueabihf-  
make vexpress_defconfig  
make zImage  
make modules  
make dtbs
```

- › 7. Check if your kernel works in qemu

```
sudo qemu-system-arm -M vexpress-a9 -m 512M -kernel arm/boot/zImage -append "console=ttyAMA0" -dtb  
arch/arm/boot/dts/vexpress-v2p-ca9.dtb
```



TASK, part 1

- › Setup development environment:
 1. Install **git** and **qemu-system-arm** packages
 2. Download a mainline *linux kernel* sources
 3. Download a 1st-stage bootloader (any of *u-boot*, *coreboot*, etc.) sources
 4. Download an embeddable toolset of UNIX programs (*busybox*, *u-root*, etc.)
 5. Download a GNU cross toolchain

TASK, part 2

- › For a **vexpress-a9** qemu target:
 1. Build bootloader for ARM arch (u-boot, coreboot, etc.)
 2. Prepare initrd/initramfs (busybox, u-root, etc.)
 3. Prepare rootfs (also can be done using busybox, u-root, etc.)
 4. Build the mainline linux
 5. Run everything in qemu
- › Boot into rootfs using booting flow: bootloader -> initramfs -> rootfs (important!)
- › Write a PDF report with the full demonstration and description of the boot flow
- › Graded output: report including screenshots. (in PDF)

Acceptance criteria

- › A (20 points) – boot flow is correct. Student can describe the usage of initramfs.
- › B (15-19 points) – minor issues but the boot flow is correct.
- › C (10-14 points) – one of boot stage is missing (usually students miss initramfs).



АВРОРА
СВОЯ СИСТЕМА

Thanks for your attention!

About US

Open Mobile Platform, LLC

Shortly:

- › Founded in 2016
- › Offices in Moscow, Nizhny Novgorod, Innopolis and St.Petersburg
- › 300+ qualified IT specialists

Main products:

- › OS Aurora + Aurora SDK
- › Cloud Platform
Aurora Center (Enterprise Mobility Management)
- › Aurora TEE & Trusted Boot

