

## STMicroelectronics 10/100/1000 Synopsys Ethernet driver

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Author: Giuseppe Cavallaro <peppe.cavallaro@st.com>

This is the driver for the MAC 10/100/1000 on-chip Ethernet controllers (Synopsys IP blocks); it has been fully tested on STLinux platforms.

Currently this network device driver is for all STM embedded MAC/GMAC (7xxx SoCs).

DWC Ether MAC 10/100/1000 Universal version 3.41a and DWC Ether MAC 10/100 Universal version 4.0 have been used for developing the first code implementation.

Please, for more information also visit: [www.stlinux.com](http://www.stlinux.com)

### 1) Kernel Configuration

The kernel configuration option is STMMAC\_ETH:

Device Drivers ---> Network device support ---> Ethernet (1000 Mbit) --->  
STMicroelectronics 10/100/1000 Ethernet driver (STMMAC\_ETH)

### 2) Driver parameters list:

- debug: message level (0: no output, 16: all);
- phyaddr: to manually provide the physical address to the PHY device;
- dma\_rxsize: DMA rx ring size;
- dma\_txsize: DMA tx ring size;
- buf\_sz: DMA buffer size;
- tc: control the HW FIFO threshold;
- tx\_coe: Enable/Disable Tx Checksum Offload engine;
- watchdog: transmit timeout (in milliseconds);
- flow\_ctrl: Flow control ability [on/off];
- pause: Flow Control Pause Time;
- tmrate: timer period (only if timer optimisation is configured).

### 3) Command line options

Driver parameters can be also passed in command line by using:

stmmaceth=dma\_rxsize:128,dma\_txsize:512

### 4) Driver information and notes

#### 4.1) Transmit process

The xmit method is invoked when the kernel needs to transmit a packet; it sets the descriptors in the ring and informs the DMA engine that there is a packet ready to be transmitted.

Once the controller has finished transmitting the packet, an interrupt is triggered; So the driver will be able to release the socket buffers.

By default, the driver sets the NETIF\_F\_SG bit in the features field of the net\_device structure enabling the scatter/gather feature.

#### 4.2) Receive process

When one or more packets are received, an interrupt happens. The interrupts are not queued so the driver has to scan all the descriptors in the ring during the receive process.

This is based on NAPI so the interrupt handler signals only if there is work to be

done, and it exits.

Then the poll method will be scheduled at some future point.

The incoming packets are stored, by the DMA, in a list of pre-allocated socket buffers in order to avoid the memcpy (Zero-copy).

#### 4.3) Timer-Driver Interrupt

Instead of having the device that asynchronously notifies the frame receptions, the

driver configures a timer to generate an interrupt at regular intervals.

Based on the granularity of the timer, the frames that are received by the device

will experience different levels of latency. Some NICs have dedicated timer device to perform this task. STMMAC can use either the RTC device or the TMU channel 2 on STLinux platforms.

The timers frequency can be passed to the driver as parameter; when change it, take care of both hardware capability and network stability/performance impact. Several performance tests on STM platforms showed this optimisation allows to spare

the CPU while having the maximum throughput.

#### 4.4) WOL

Wake up on Lan feature through Magic Frame is only supported for the GMAC core.

#### 4.5) DMA descriptors

Driver handles both normal and enhanced descriptors. The latter has been only tested on DWC Ether MAC 10/100/1000 Universal version 3.41a.

#### 4.6) Ethtool support

Ethtool is supported. Driver statistics and internal errors can be taken using: `ethtool -S ethX` command. It is possible to dump registers etc.

#### 4.7) Jumbo and Segmentation Offloading

Jumbo frames are supported and tested for the GMAC.

The GSO has been also added but it's performed in software.

LRO is not supported.

#### 4.8) Physical

The driver is compatible with PAL to work with PHY and GPHY devices.

#### 4.9) Platform information

Several information came from the platform; please refer to the driver's Header file in `include/linux` directory.

```
struct plat_stmmacenet_data {
    int bus_id;
    int pbl;
    int has_gmac;
    void (*fix_mac_speed)(void *priv, unsigned int speed);
    void (*bus_setup)(unsigned long ioaddr);
#ifdef CONFIG_STM_DRIVERS
    struct stm_pad_config *pad_config;
#endif
    void *bsp_priv;
};
```

Where:

- pbl (Programmable Burst Length) is maximum number of beats to be transferred in one DMA transaction. GMAC also enables the 4xPBL by default.
- fix\_mac\_speed and bus\_setup are used to configure internal target registers (on STM platforms);
- has\_gmac: GMAC core is on board (get it at run-time in the next step);
- bus\_id: bus identifier.

```
struct plat_stmmacphy_data {
    int bus_id;
    int phy_addr;
    unsigned int phy_mask;
    int interface;
    int (*phy_reset)(void *priv);
    void *priv;
};
```

Where:

- bus\_id: bus identifier;
- phy\_addr: physical address used for the attached phy device; set it to -1 to get it at run-time;
- interface: physical MII interface mode;
- phy\_reset: hook to reset HW function.

TODO:

- Continue to make the driver more generic and suitable for other Synopsys Ethernet controllers used on other architectures (i.e. ARM).
- 10G controllers are not supported.
- MAC uses Normal descriptors and GMAC uses enhanced ones. This is a limit that should be reviewed. MAC could want to use the enhanced structure.
- Checksumming: Rx/Tx csum is done in HW in case of GMAC only.
- Review the timer optimisation code to use an embedded device that seems to be available in new chip generations.