Porting Python to run without an OS

Josh Triplett josh@joshtriplett.org

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We ported Python to GRUB to run on BIOS and EFI.

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- Many demos along the way

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- As an exploratory environment

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- Additional modules for platform support: CPU, SMP, ACPI, EFI...
- Test suite and exploratory tools, all written in Python

>>> import demo

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- Provide functions expected by Python

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 - Had to fix bugs (%%)

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- zipimport

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- Implemented line editing, history, and completion in pure Python
- Set PyOS_ReadlineFunctionPointer to a C function that calls a previously set Python callback

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- configfile (python)/menu.cfg

bits module

- Various functions to access hardware functionality:
- CPUID
- MSRs
- Memory-mapped I/O
- I/O ports

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- Python can easily correlate data across CPUs (dict, set)

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- >>> import acpi
- >>> acpi.dump("_HID")
- More detailed hardware exploration demoed elsewhere

EFI

- Extensible Firmware Interface
- Replacement for classic PC BIOS
- "Extensible":
 - Everything's a "protocol"
 - Protocols include native C functions to call
- >>> import efi

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- No C code required

efi_file

- File-like object built on EFI_FILE_PROTOCOL
- Make directories, write files
- efi.get_boot_fs().mkdir("dir").create("f").write("Hi")

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BIOS Implementation Test Suite (BITS) http://biosbits.org/