Linux Kernel Training: Lecture 2

Booting the BEAGLEBONE BLACK

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GlobalLogic

Agenda

- 1. U-Boot Basics
- 2. IDE Considerations
- 3. Workshop: Bringing up the BBB

U-Boot Basics

Embedded Board

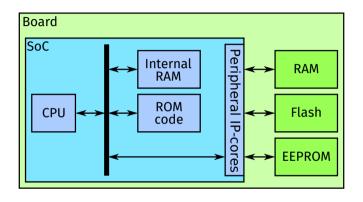


Figure 1: Simplified view of Embedded board

What is Bootloader?

ROM code has limitations:

- Doesn't know about RAM
- Doesn't know board name
- Not flexible enough

ROM code



kernel

What is Bootloader?

ROM code has limitations:

- Doesn't know about RAM
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- Not flexible enough

Bootloader to the rescue:

- Resides in flash (can be upgraded)
- Able to configure RAM
- Knows boot procedure
- Convenient features





kernel



Why U-Boot?

- Bootloader for Embedded boards
 - Popular for Android devices
 - · Adoption in automotive
- GPLv2
- 13 architectures (consider ARM)
- ~300 boards
- Device drivers, lib routines
- Resembles Linux kernel a lot
- · Scripting, extensive command set



U-Boot Features

- Boots from various sources
- Boots various OSs
- Monitor (U-Boot shell)
 - Commands
 - Environment
- 2 stage boot (SPL + U-Boot)
- "Falcon" mode (SPL only)

Two Stage Boot

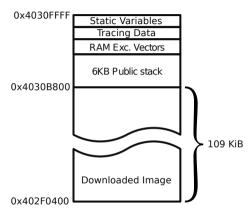


Figure 2: SRAM layout (from AM335x TRM)

Two Stage Boot

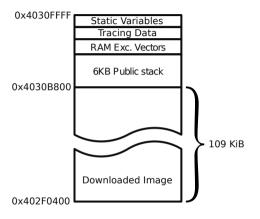


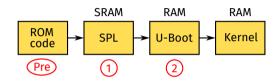
Figure 2: SRAM layout (from AM335x TRM)

But bootloader is bigger!

For **BEAGLEBONE BLACK**, **u-boot.img** is 391 KiB.

Two Stage Boot (cont'd)

Let's add an intermediate stage (SPL):

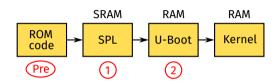


For **BeagleBone Black**:

Stage	Size
SPL	75 KiB
U-Boot	391 KiB

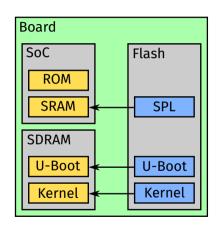
Two Stage Boot (cont'd)

Let's add an intermediate stage (SPL):



For BEAGLEBONE BLACK:

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Boot Sources

ROM code boot source is usually selected:

- Via SYSBOOT DIP switch
- By hard-wiring SYSBOOT lines (pull-up/pull-down)
- Using some USER button
- By inserting SD card ("Card Detect" pin)

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ROM code boot source is usually selected:

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U-Boot can boot kernel from:

- Flash devices (eMMC, SD card)
- Network boot (TFTP, NFS)
- Peripheral boot (USB, serial console)

Flashing Methods

Most commonly used flashing methods:

- Via USB:
 - fastboot (Android)
 - DFU
- · Via SD card

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To unbrick the board (bad U-Boot on eMMC):

- Boot from SD card and re-flash
- YMODEM boot (via UART)
- USB peripheral boot
- Use JTAG

U-Boot Shell

- U-Boot has a "monitor" program
- Command line interface
- · A set of commands is implemented
- Resembles Bash (has scripting capabilities)
- Press "Space" to get into U-Boot shell

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Most commonly used commands:

```
bdinfo, bootm, bootz, crc32, dfu, dhcp, env, fastboot, fatload, fdt, gpt, i2c, md, mmc, mw, part, ping, reset, run, tftpboot, version, ...
```

U-Boot Environment

- · Keeps all U-Boot shell variables
- Just a set of strings in key=value format

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Set default environment:

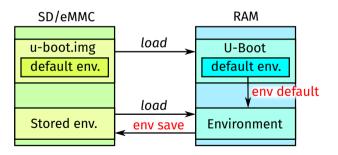
=> env default -f -a
=> env save

U-Boot Environment

- Keeps all U-Boot shell variables
- Just a set of strings in key=value format

Set default environment:

=> env default -f -a
=> env save



U-Boot Environment (cont'd)

```
=> env print
board name=A335BNLT
board rev=0A5A
board serial=1813BBBK4642
bootargs=
bootcmd=if test ${boot fit} -eq 1; then ...
fdtfile=am335x-boneblack.dtb
findfdt=if test $board name = A335BONE; then ...
partitions=uuid_disk=${uuid_gpt_disk}; ...
```

Use-case: Format eMMC

Using **gpt** command:

=> gpt write mmc 1 \$partitions

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=> fastboot 0

\$ fastboot oem format

Use-case: Format eMMC

Using **gpt** command:

=> gpt write mmc 1 \$partitions

or Android way:

=> fastboot 0
\$ fastboot oem format

- Consider \$partitions variable...
- · Check with part list mmc 1

Use-case: Flashing eMMC

Via DFU:

```
=> setenv dfu_alt_info $dfu_alt_info_emmc
=> dfu 0 mmc 1
$ dfu-util -D MLO -a MLO.raw
```

Use-case: Flashing eMMC

Via DFU:

```
=> setenv dfu_alt_info $dfu_alt_info_emmc
=> dfu 0 mmc 1
$ dfu-util -D MLO -a MLO.raw
```

Via fastboot (Android way):

```
=> fastboot 0
$ fastboot flash rootfs rootfs.img
```

Use-case: Boot Linux

- => setenv mmcdev 1
- => setenv bootpart 1:2
- => run findfdt
- => run mmcboot

Use-case: Boot Linux

```
=> seteny mmcdey 1
=> setenv bootpart 1:2
=> run findfdt
=> run mmcboot
mmcboot =
  mmc dev ${mmcdev}; mmc rescan;
  load mmc ${bootpart} ${loadaddr} /boot/zImage
  load mmc ${bootpart} ${fdtaddr} /boot/${fdtfile}
  setenv bootargs console=tty00,115200n8 root=... rw ...
  bootz ${loadaddr} - ${fdtaddr}
```

Boot Sequence

```
do bootm linux() calls:
  · 1:
      boot prep linux()
      boot setup linux()
      image setup libfdt()

    Populates /chosen node with bootargs, initrd-start, etc.

  · 2:
      boot jump linux()
      kernel entry(0, machid, r2)
      • FDT blob address is passed to kernel via r2
```

Boot Methods Table

Boot method	Description
SD card boot	- Unbrick the board - Doesn't touch eMMC
eMMC boot	- Regular boot - Fastest and easiest for user
TFTP boot	- Network boot
	Doesn't touch eMMCVolatile RootFS (RAM disk)
NFS boot	- Network boot
	Transparent RootFS (from host)Useful for kernel development

IDE Considerations

IDE for Kernel Development: Vim

Pros:

- Very fast
- Available everywhere
- · A lot of kernel hackers using it

Indexing example (simplified):

Cons:

- Learning curve rather steep
- · Some functionality is missing
- Requires some configuration

make ARCH=arm SUBARCH=omap2 cscope tags

Details: https://stackoverflow.com/a/33682137/3866447

IDE for Kernel Development: Vim (cont'd)

```
gpio-max732x.c (~/repos/linux-mainline/drivers/gpio) - VIM
Press ? for help 147
                                                                                                             max732x id
                              struct max732x chip *chip = devid:
                                                                                                             -max732x of table
                                                                                                         functions
                                                                                                             -is group a(struct ma
Documentation/
                                                                                                             -max732x_gpio_direct
                                                                                                             max732x gpio_direct
firmware/
                 1485 Secretion IRO HANDLED:
                                                                                                             -max732x gpio get va
fragments/
                                                                                                             max732× opio set ma:
                                                                                                             max732x gpio set mu
                                      ·level = ffs(nending)
                                                                                                             max732x onio set va
                                                                                                             max732x init(void)
                                                                                                             max732x iro bus sun
                                      pending &= ~(1 << level);
                                                                                                             max732x_irg_handler
                             -) while (pending):
                                                                                                             may732v iro mask(st
                                                                                                             max732x irg pending
                             return IRQ HANDLED:
                                                                                                             max732x_irq_set_typ
                                                                                                             -max732x irg set wak
                                                                                                             max732x iro setup(s
                                                   const struct i2c device id *id)
                                                                                                             max732x iro unmask(
                                                                                                             max732x iro update
                                                                                                             max732x probe(struc
                             struct max732x platform data *pdata = dev get platdata(&client->dev):
                                                                                                             -max732x_readb(struc
                              int has irg = max732x features[id->driver data] >> 32:
                             int ico base = 0
                                                                                                             -max732x setup gpio(:
                             if (((pdata && pdata->irg base) || client->irg)
                                                                                                             -max732x writew(stru
                                              -88 has iro != INT NONE) (
                                                                                                             of apio max732x(stru
Makefile
                                      if (odata)
Module.sumvers
                                              ing base = pdata->ing base:
modules.builtin
                                     max732x ico bandler() < c
                                                                  632 489: 1 mixed-indent[499] Name gnig-max732x
```

IDE for Kernel Development: Eclipse

Pros:

- Easy to use
- Nice tools (indexing, macro unwrapping, etc)

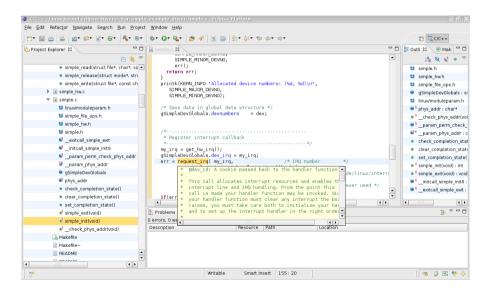
Cons:

- Very slow
- Uses a lot of resources
- · Not available on servers, etc.

Be sure to configure CDT for kernel development. Details:

https://wiki.eclipse.org/HowTo_use_the_CDT_to_navigate_Linux_kernel_source

IDE for Kernel Development: Eclipse (cont'd)



IDE for Kernel Development: Other Choices

Other possible IDEs:

- Emacs
- KDevelop
- QtCreator

Kernel source web-browser (very useful):

• elixir.bootlin.com

Questions so far?

Take Five

Workshop: Bringing up the BBB

Short Quiz

- 1. Who didn't manage to build all the SW?
- 2. Who doesn't have a laptop along?

Training Centre Infrastructure

Training Centre PC info:

- Press F9 on boot (show boot menu)
- Select second drive (TS64GSSD370S, 64 GB)
- · Login: Lin-Ker
- Password: 123

What does it have?

- · Ubuntu 18.04, internet connection, prepared environment
- Toolchains (/opt/*)
- U-Boot, Linux kernel, BusyBox (see ~/repos/*)
- · Missing: TRM, datasheet, schematic, BBB instructions guide

Training Centre Infrastructure (cont'd)

Notes:

- · Better to use home laptop to keep the single environment
- We only have one card reader :(

Hardware Equipment

• The board: BEAGLEBONE BLACK (Rev C)

• Serial cable: TTL-232R-3V3

• OTG USB cable: mini-USB to USB

• micro-SD card + adapter: 8 GB, class 10

• Ethernet patch cord: for network boot and networking tasks

· Development kit: a set of hardware, will be used later

ESD Safety Note



- · Discharge before touching
- Use ESD mat and wrist strap
- Don't wear ESD unsafe clothes
- · Remove power before touching



Connectivity: Overview

Now we are going to:

- Connect mini-USB cable
 - Powering the board (low consumption use-case)
 - Flashing (fastboot, dfu-util)
- Connect serial console cable (white dot = black wire = GROUND)
 - Will be used via minicom tool
- Insert SD card to the slot (once it's flashed with software)

Connectivity: Serial Console



Figure 3: BEAGLEBONE BLACK serial connection



Figure 4: TTL-232R-3V3 FTDI cable

Connectivity: Serial Console (cont'd)

- Board uses UART port (TTL levels, 3.3V) to communicate:
 - Rx line for receiving characters from host
 - Tx line for transceiving characters to host
- Chip in adapter cable converts UART <-> USB
 - FT232R (FTDI): reliable, recommended
 - PL2303: cheap alternative
- Chip driver exposes /dev/ttyUSB file (char device)
- minicom (or similar tool) allows user to interact with board via /dev/ttyUSB

Connectivity: Client USB (OTG)

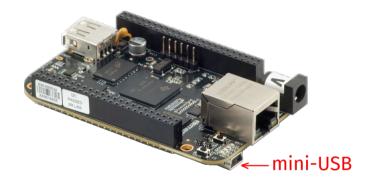


Figure 5: BEAGLEBONE BLACK USB connection

Configure and Run minicom

• Run minicom configuration:

```
$ sudo minicom -s
```

· Select "Serial port setup" menu item and choose next settings:

Serial Device: /dev/ttyUSB0

Bps/Par/Bits: 115200 8N1

Hardware Flow Control: No

Then select "Save setup as dfl" and "Exit from Minicom"

· Run minicom:

\$ sudo minicom

Configure and Run minicom (cont'd)

```
ioe@ioe-pc: ~
Welcome to minicom 2.7.1
OPTIONS: I18n
Compiled on May 6 2018, 08:02:47.
Port /dev/ttyUSB0, 04:11:20
Press CTRL-A Z for help on special keys
U-Boot SPL 2018.05-rc2-00035-ga35747b5e1 (Apr 21 2018 - 12:59:31 +0300)
Trying to boot from MMC2
Loading Environment from FAT... Card did not respond to voltage select!
** Bad device mmc 0 **
Failed (-5)
Loading Environment from MMC... OK
U-Boot 2018.05-rc2-00035-ga35747b5e1 (Apr 21 2018 - 12:59:31 +0300)
CPU : AM335X-GP rev 2.1
I2C: readu
DRAM: 512 MiB
No match for driver 'omap_hsmmc'
```

Figure 6: Terminal with minicom

Formatting SD Card (page 1)

- Insert your SD card in your laptop (use adapter)
- Locate SD card device file (should be /dev/mmcblk0):
 - \$ sudo dmesg | tail
 \$ sudo fdisk -l
- Unmount SD card (mounted automatically by Ubuntu):
 - \$ sudo umount /dev/mmcblk0p1
 - \$ sudo umount /dev/mmcblk0p2
- Clear SD card MBR:
 - \$ sudo dd if=/dev/zero of=/dev/mmcblk0 bs=1M count=1

Formatting SD Card (page 2)

Create new partition table:

```
$ sudo sfdisk /dev/mmcblk0 << EOF
2048,100M,0x0c,*
,,L,-
EOF</pre>
```

Format both partitions:

```
$ sudo mkfs.vfat -F 32 -n "boot" /dev/mmcblk0p1
$ sudo mkfs.ext4 -F -L "rootfs" /dev/mmcblk0p2
```

Formatting SD Card (page 3)

Check new partitions:

```
$ sudo fdisk -l
```

You should see something like this:

```
Device Boot Start Size Id Type
/dev/mmcblk0p1 * 2048 100M c W95 FAT32 (LBA)
/dev/mmcblk0p2 206848 14.9G 83 Linux
```

Prepare Bootable SD Card (page 1)

Unmount SD card (mounted automatically by Ubuntu):

```
$ sudo umount /dev/mmcblk0p1
$ sudo umount /dev/mmcblk0p2
```

Mount partitions:

```
$ sudo mkdir /mnt/{boot,rootfs}
$ sudo mount /dev/mmcblk0p1 /mnt/boot
$ sudo mount /dev/mmcblk0p2 /mnt/rootfs
```

· Check that partitions mounted properly:

```
$ mount | grep mmcblk
```

Prepare Bootable SD Card (page 2)

- Copy U-Boot files to SD card ("boot" partition):
 - \$ cd ~/repos/u-boot
 - \$ sudo cp MLO u-boot.img /mnt/boot
- Copy rootfs files to SD card ("rootfs" partition):
 - \$ cd ~/repos/busybox/_install
 - \$ sudo cp -R . /mnt/rootfs

Prepare Bootable SD Card (page 3)

- Unmount SD card:
 - \$ sudo umount /mnt/boot
 - \$ sudo umount /mnt/rootfs
- · Remove your SD card from your laptop

Booting from SD Card

- · Unplug mini-USB cable from the board
- Insert SD card in board's slot
- Press and hold USER/BOOT button
- Plug mini-USB cable back to board
- · Release **USER/BOOT** button
- BusyBox will be loaded from SD card



Assignments

Assignment #1

- · Finish up the whole BBB guide:
 - Do all kinds of boot, using 3rd chapter (eMMC boot, TFPT boot, NFS boot)
 - Use previously built software (from lecture 1 assignment)
- Proof:
 - · Send me screenshots that prove eMMC boot works for you
 - Send me screenshots that prove NFS boot works for you

Assignment #2

- Install and configure IDE of your choice (use links from slides)
- In your IDE (work dir must be the kernel source dir):
 - · Open init/main.c file
 - Find start_kernel() function implementation
 - In start_kernel(), look for setup_arch() call
 - Jump to setup_arch() (using IDE capabilities)
 - Get back to start_kernel() (using IDE capabilities)
 - Find where **start_kernel()** is being called from (using IDE capabilities)
- · Proof: send me screenshot that shows your configured IDE

Thank you!

Appendix: Abbreviations

Abbreviations

- BBB BEAGLEBONE BLACK
- DFU Device Firmware Upgrade
- DTB Device Tree Blob
- eMMC Embedded MMC (MultiMedia Card)
- ESD Electrostatic Discharge
- FDT Flattened Device Tree (the same as DTB)
- FTDI Future Technology Devices International (company name)
- · GPIO General Purpose Input Output
- · GPT GUID Partition Table
- · IDE Integrated Development Environment
- · LED Light-Emitting Diode

Abbreviations (cont'd)

- · MBR Master Boot Record
- MLO MMC Loader (TI image format for SPL)
- NFS Network File System
- OTG USB On-The-Go
- PCB Printed Circuit Board
- PHY Physical layer chip
- PMIC Power Management IC (Integrated Circuit)
- RootFS Root File System
- · SD card Secure Digital card
- SoC System on Chip
- SPL Secondary Program Loader (first part of U-Boot)

Abbreviations (cont'd)

- TFTP Trivial File Transport Protocol
- · TRM Technical Reference Manual
- TTL Transistor-to-Transistor Logic
- · UART Universal Asynchronous Receiver-Transmitter