Linux I2C Device Drivers

Bill Gatliff

bgat@billgatliff.com

Freelance Embedded Systems Developer

Overview

Roadmap:

- I2C kernel API
- struct i2c_adapter
- struct i2c_client
- struct i2c_driver
- struct i2c_board_info
- Examples

12C Kernel API

Transaction-oriented:

- · More complicated than simple read, write
- Requres a bus adapter
- Sleeps while waiting for responses

No sleeping!

- Can only use in a process context
- NOT in interrupt handlers, tasklets, etc.

I2C Kernel API

"Adapter":

- I2c bus adapter
- One per bus
- · Chips always connect to adapters

12C Kernel API

"Driver":

- Associated with zero or more clients
- Matched with chips based on text names
- · Related to Device Model

"Client":

- · A.k.a. the chip
- · Always associated with an adapter
- Each chip has a bus address

I2C Kernel API

"Board Info":

· Associates a chip, adapter and driver

i2c_smbus_read_byte()

Reads a single byte:

- Host sends address, sets R (read) bit
- Target must respond with exactly one byte
- Return value is negative on error

```
s32 i2c_smbus_read_byte(
    struct i2c_client *client);
```

i2c_smbus_read_byte_data()

Also reads a single byte:

- ... from a specified register
- (Useful only if the chip works that way)

```
s32 i2c_smbus_read_byte_data(
    struct i2c_client *client, u8 reg);
```

struct i2c_client

The "client" pointer:

- · Identifies the chip, adapter
- Used by the i2c subsystem
- Generally opaque to API users

"Where does it come from?"

- Returned from i2c_new_device()
- Can be created manually in special circumstances

struct i2c_client

struct i2c_client

```
foo()
{
   struct i2c_client c;
   _s32 b;

   c.addr = ADDR;
   c.adapter = i2c_get_adapter(0);
   b = i2c_smbus_read_byte(&c);
   ...
   i2c_put_adapter(c.adapter);
}
```

struct i2c_new_device()

Adds a device to a bus:

- Associates the device and adapter
- Produces the struct i2c_client

struct i2c board info

Information about an I2C chip:

- · Associates the device and adapter
- · Captures platform-specific information

i2c_driver

```
struct i2c_driver {
  . . .
 int (*probe )(struct i2c_client *,
                   const struct i2c device id *);
 int.
       (*remove )(struct i2c client *);
 void (*shutdown)(struct i2c client *);
 int (*suspend)(struct i2c_client *,
                   pm message t mesq);
 int.
       (*resume )(struct i2c client *);
  struct device driver driver;
 const struct i2c_device_id *id_table;
};
```

i2c_driver

(Haven't I seen that before?)

The Bosch, GmbH bma250 accelerometer:

- Three-axis acceleration
- I2C interface
- Extensive on-board power management
- Optional motion-triggered interrupt

How to model this?

- An i2c_client for the low-level interface
- Attributes for each control register
- An evdev a.k.a. "input device" for X, Y, Z data
- Blocking show-attribute for interrupt event

Challenges:

- Take advantage of chip's onboard power management
- Use runtime-pm for device (model) management
- Keep code as simple as possible, but no simpler

Motivations:

- Get "first light" as quickly as possible
- Fully describe the chip to Linux
- Offer extensive, non-disruptive hooks for troubleshooting
- Absolute generalization, NO platform dependence
- Discoverable, information-oriented interfaces
- Utilize, expose unique chip features if possible
- Robust, straightforward code

Control Registers

```
enum {
   BMA250_REG_CHIP_ID = 0,

/* TODO: marked as ''reserved'' in my datasheet! */
   BMA250_REG_VERSION = 1,

   BMA250_REG_X_AXIS_LSB = 2,
   BMA250_REG_X_AXIS_MSB = 3,
   BMA250_REG_Y_AXIS_LSB = 4,
   BMA250_REG_Y_AXIS_MSB = 5,
   ...
};
```

Control Registers

```
ssize_t bma_show_CHIP_ID(struct device *dev,
                          struct device attribute *attr,
                          char *buf)
  struct bma *bma = dev_get_drvdata(dev);
  s32 ret;
  mutex_lock_interruptible(&bma->mutex);
  ret = i2c_smbus_read_byte_data(bma->client,
                                  BMA250 CHIP ID);
  mutex_unlock(&bma->mutex);
  return ret < 0 ? ret : sprintf(buf, `'%02x\n'', ret);</pre>
```

Control Registers

Note:

- The previous code won't "scale" well
- (We'll come back to this later)

Device Data Structure

Captures driver data:

- · Client pointer, for attributes and elsewhere
- Voltage regulator references
- Mutexes, completions, etc.
- · Cached values of some registers
- •

Device Data Structure

```
struct bma {
  struct i2c_client *client;
  struct regulator *vdd;
  struct regulator *vddio;
  struct mutex mutex;
  struct input_dev *input;
  ...
  int POWER, RANGE, BANDWIDTH;
  ...
}
```

Invoked at device-driver binding:

- Allocate device data structure
- Get chip under control
- Publish interfaces
- ..
- Profit!

Watch out!

Device vs. driver vs. interface

NOW schema is key!

i2c_client:

· How we are related to other devices

Attributes:

Modeling the chip data to users

input_dev:

· Uniform data protocol to users

```
bma->vdd = regulator_get(&bma->client->dev, ''VDD'');
regulator_set_voltage(bma->vdd, 1620000,36000000);
...
ret = bma_read_CHIP_ID(bma);
...
pm_runtime_enable(&bma->client->dev);
pm_runtime_resume(&bma->client->dev);
...
```

```
ret = mutex_lock_interruptible(&bma->mutex);
if (ret)
 goto err_lock_mutex;
/* NOTE: we don't need to bring the chip out of its SUSPEND
 * mode in order to merely READ register values; writes
 * require us to push the chip into ACTIVE mode */
/* read chip IDs, to make sure the chip is there */
ret = bma reg read CHIP ID(bma);
chip_id = ret;
. . .
```

```
if (pdata->irq > 0) {
  bma->irq = pdata->irq;
  /* TODO: IRQF flags should come from platform data */
  ret = request_threaded_irq(bma->irq,
            NULL, bma_irq_handler,
            pdata->irq_flags ?
            pdata->irq_flags : 0 /* TODO: */,
            bma->client->name, bma);
return 0;
```

General ideas:

- In runtime_suspend(), we are NOT in use
- After runtime_resume(), we might be

Do a state-transition diagram!

```
int bma_runtime_suspend(struct device *dev)
{
   struct i2c_client *client = to_i2c_client(dev);
   struct bma250 *bma = i2c_get_clientdata(client);
   int ret;

   ret = mutex_lock_interruptible(&bma->mutex);
   if (ret)
       goto err;
   ...
```

```
int bma_runtime_resume(struct device *dev)
{
   struct i2c_client *client = to_i2c_client(dev);
   struct bma250 *bma = i2c_get_clientdata(client);
   int ret;

   ret = mutex_lock_interruptible(&bma->mutex);
   if (ret < 0)
       return ret;

   regulator_enable(bma->vdd);
   ...
```

```
ret = __bma_reset(bma);
if (ret < 0)
  goto err_reset;
...</pre>
```

```
...
pm_runtime_get_sync(dev);
ret = mutex_lock_interruptible(&bma->mutex);
if (ret < 0)
   return ret;
...</pre>
```

Platform suspend and resume

General idea:

- On suspend, save device state and quiet the device
- On resume, put THAT state back

Linux I2C Device Drivers

Bill Gatliff

bgat@billgatliff.com

Freelance Embedded Systems Developer