$Microchip\ U ext{-}Boot:$

Howto Guide

for release 2023.06 14. December 2023

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1 U-Boot

This document conserns U-Boot and has been written with release 2023.06 in mind.

Chapter 2 is about SparX5 / arm64 (64bit), and chapter 3 is about lan966x / arm (32bit). The chapter are as identical as they can be. The main difference is, that lan966x has secure boot which means it must be wrapped into ARM Trusted Firmware¹ (TF-A).

It is assumed, that Docker is installed. This is described in the BSP documentation². You can also run the script mchp-get-docker.sh³ which has automated the process. The documentation is in the file.

The command

\$ dr make ...

means that make is run in the docker environment and all the necessary tools is available. If you have installed the tools on your build machine and do not want to run docker then you just have to leave out the dr part.

¹ https://www.trustedfirmware.org/projects/tf-a

http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/public_root/bsp/mscc-brsdk-doc-latest.html

https://github.com/microchip-ung/misc-scripts. The instructions are in the script, but you only need to run step 1 and 2 as described in the script, since that will install docker.

Docker has been tested on ubuntu 20.04 and ubuntu 22.04.2 LTS. If it does not work on your build machine, then goto the BSP documentation for details.

2 U-Boot for SparX5 / arm64

- Section 2.1 is about how to find the U-Boot image in the BSP binary. If you just need to program/update the default U-Boot image on an evaluation board, then this is where to look.
- Section 2.2 describe how to build U-Boot from the BSP source with buildroot.
- Section 2.3 describe how to make your own U-Boot configuration (defconfig) and build it within buildroot
- Section 2.4 describe how build U-Boot outside of buildroot. If you want to do U-Boot development, then this is a more feasible methode than doing it inside buildroot as describe in section 2.3.
- Section 2.5-2.6 describe how to build a DDR parameter file.
- Section 2.7 describe how to program/update U-Boot when a working U-Boot is in the NOR flash already.
- Section 2.8 short on U-Boot environment variables.

It is assumed that the binary BSP and toolchain is installed¹.

2.1 U-Boot in the BSP binary

The BSP provide the standard U-Boot binary. For SparX5 the mscc-brsdk-arm64-2023.06.tar.gz² need to be installed and installed with

```
$ sudo mkdir -p /opt/mscc
```

```
$ sudo tar xzf mscc-brsdk-arm64-2023.06.tar.gz -C /opt/mscc
```

The easiest way to find the U-Boot images is to run

```
$ find /opt/mscc/mscc-brsdk-arm64-2023.06 -name "u-boot*"
```

In this specific case the following U-Boot images are listed³

```
\begin{array}{lll} u\text{-boot-sparx5\_pcb13x\_emmc.bin} \\ u\text{-boot-sparx5\_pcb13x\_nand.bin} \end{array}
```

Depending on whether the board in question has NAND or eMMC flash, one or the other need to be used.

This is described in the BSP documentation, but for quick reference we state it here also.

¹ If it is not then run the commands

^{\$} sudo mkdir -p /opt/mscc

^{\$} wget http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/public_root/bsp/\
mscc-brsdk-arm64-2023.06.tar.gz

^{\$} sudo tar xzf mscc-brsdk-arm64-2023.06.tar.gz -C /opt/mscc

^{\$} wget http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/public_root/toolchain/\
mscc-toolchain-bin-2023.02.101.tar.gz

^{\$} sudo tar xzf mscc-toolchain-bin-2023.02.101.tar.gz -C /opt/mscc

Download this file from http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-website-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/?prefix=public_root/bsp/

 $^{^{3}}$ Others are also listed, but they are not for the evaluations boards.

2.2 U-Boot in BSP source

U-Boot can be build from the BSP source. In case changes has to be made, then this is the way to go. Download the mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06.tar.gz⁴ file and run the commands

- \$ tar xzf mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06.tar.gz
- \$ cd mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06

Now that you are in the root of the source tree, you can build

- \$ dr make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot arm64_bootloaders_defconfig
- \$ dr make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot

The first command will configure what to build, and the second will build it. When done, the result is in output/my-uboot/images. As you can see both U-Boot images, i.e. one for NAND and another for eMMC, have been build. The configuration of each of these builds are in output/my-uboot/build/mscc-muboot-xxx/configs⁵ in mscc_sparx5_pcb13x_nand_defconfig and mscc_sparx5_pcb13x_emmc_defconfig. The reason both are build is found in external/boot/mscc-muboot/mscc-muboot.mk where is can be seen, that MSCC_MUBOOT_BUILD_CMDS will build all the U-Boots listed in BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_TARGETS. If you run

\$ dr make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot menuconfig and do a search for MUBOOT, you can see, that in this particular case we have

```
BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_TARGETS = mscc_sparx5_pcb13x_emmc mscc_sparx5_pcb13x_nand
```

You can edit this entry if you want to build a different set of U-Boots. Probably you only want one, so remove the one you do not want.

2.3 Changing U-Boot configuration under buildroot

If you e.g. want to use mscc_sparx5_pcb13x_emmc but want to make some changes, one way is to make a copy like

- \$ cd output/my-uboot/build/mscc-muboot-xxx/configs
- \$ cp mscc_sparx5_pcb13x_emmc_defconfig my-uboot_defconfig

and then set

```
BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_TARGETS = my-uboot
```

Then build U-Boot with the commands discussed earlier. If you now want to change the configuration then run

- \$ cd output/my-uboot/build/mscc-muboot-xxx
- \$ make menuconfig
- \$ cp .config configs/my-uboot_defconfig

Download this file from http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-website-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/?prefix=public_root/bsp/

For release 2023.06, the xxx is 45c55b... and you can find it in external/configs/arm64_bootloaders_defconfig variable BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_VERSION. If you look in dl/mscc-muboot/ you can see, that there are more than one file that only differ in this xxx part. That is because the source code cover all targets, and here we happen only to be interested in SparX5.

and then run the build commands:

- \$ make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot mscc-muboot-rebuild
- \$ make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot

The first forces U-Boot to be rebuild⁶ the U-Boots listed in BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_TARGETS. So if the related xxx_defconfig(s) has changed, then that will take effect. And also if the source code in output/my-uboot/build/mscc-muboot-xxx has changed.

The second command finish up the entire build as before.

You need to make the copy since MSCC_MUBOOT_BUILD_CMDS will clear the build folder for mscc-muboot-xxx and start all over from the defconfig.

2.4 Build U-Boot without buildroot

If you have the mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06 code as before and do^7

- \$ cd mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06/dl/mscc-muboot
- \$ tar xzf mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06/dl/mscc-muboot/mscc-muboot-xxx.tar.gz
- \$ cd mscc-muboot-xxx
- \$./env.sh make mscc_sparx5_pcb13x_emmc_defconfig
- \$./env.sh make

Then you have u-boot.bin.

The defconfig files, in this case mscc_sparx5_pcb13x_emmc_defconfig, are located under configs, and in this it can be seen what device-tree go into the build In this particular case we have

```
CONFIG_OF_LIST="sparx5_pcb134_emmc sparx5_pcb135_emmc" CONFIG_DEFAULT_DEVICE_TREE="sparx5_pcb135_emmc"
```

The device-trees are in arch/arm/dts. Just append a .dts to the name in CONFIG_OF_LIST to find the relecant device-tree, like e.g. sparx5_pcb135_emmc.dts.

So this is where you change device-tree if necessary. This become relevant when changing the DDR configuration in the next sections.

Code that is specific for sparx5 can be found in

```
arch/arm/mach-sparx5/
board/mscc/sparx5/
```

For example the ddr_init() is defined in ddr_umctl.c first location and called from dram.c in the second - the board folder.

Since CONFIG_OF_LIST contains a number of device trees, U-Boot must decide which one to use. Since this is a board specific thing, a guess is that the code is in board folder. In

⁶ In the buildroot manual https://buildroot.org/downloads/manual/manual.html describe how the rebuild target works. For our muboot (mulitple U-Boot) we have implemented this rebuild target.

 $^{^{7}}$ The env.sh is

^{#!/}bin/sh

ARCH=arm64 CROSS_COMPILE=/opt/mscc/mscc-brsdk-arm64-2023.06/arm64-armv8_a-linux-gnu/\xstax/release/x86_64-linux/usr/bin/aarch64-linux-\$@

so it just setup the ARCH and $CROSS_COMPILE$ environment variables for make so that is can use the correct cross compiler.

sparx5.c you will find the funciton embedded_dtb_select(), and it is enabled if CONFIG_DTB_RESELECT is defined. If you check the .config file, you will see that it is. In this function you can see, that it detect of U-Boot is running on pcb134 or pcb135.

2.5 DDR configuration

U-Boot has the resonsibility of configuring the DDR memory. This is done via device-trees. In the root mscc-muboot-xxx of the U-Boot source tree, the .dts files are in arch/arm/dts. List the relevant files with

```
$ ls *sparx5*
```

For example the sparx5_pcb135_emmc.dts is used for the SparX5 evaluation board PCB135 w. eMMC. This file will in turn include mscc,sparx5_ddr3.dtsi that with &ddr provide the DDR configuration.

2.6 DDR tool

The DDR tool⁸ is used to generate the dtsi file with the &ddr configuration. As an example, we can generate the a dtsi with the same &ddr configuration as in the mscc,sparx5_ddr3.dtsi

```
$ ./scripts/gen_cfg.rb -f devicetree configs/profiles/pcb135_ddr3.yaml \
> my-pcb135_ddr3_config.dtsi
```

You can diff the file you generated with the one in the release

```
diff my-pcb135_ddr3_config.dtsi ~/p2/bsp/mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06/dl/\
    mscc-muboot/mscc-muboot-45xx/arch/arm/dts/mscc,sparx5_ddr3.dtsi
8c8
<
       microchip,mem-name = "pcb135_ddr3 2023-09-21-13:23:10 236061e";
>
       microchip, mem-name = "pcb135_ddr3 2023-05-11-12:52:54 00e206508b93";
53,55c53,55
<
                0x00181818
                                /* addrmap1 */
                                /* addrmap2 */
<
                0x0000000
                                /* addrmap3 */
<
                0x0000000
>
                0x00040401
                                /* addrmap1 */
                                /* addrmap2 */
>
                0x01010100
                                /* addrmap3 */
                0x13131303
```

From this you can see, that in the ddr-umctl source tree, I happen to be on git tag 236061e which can be verify with

```
$ git log
```

⁸ https://github.com/microchip-ung/ddr-umctl.

It is checked out with

^{\$} git clone https://github.com/microchip-ung/ddr-umctl

^{\$} cd ddr-umctl

The mscc,sparx5_ddr3.dtsi in the BSP source tree has been generated with 00e206508b93. If I want to generate the same thing, then I can say

```
$ git checkout 00e206508b93
$ ./scripts/gen_cfg.rb -f devicetree configs/profiles/pcb135_ddr3.yaml \
> my-pcb135_ddr3_config.dtsi
```

We then get the above diff

```
8c8
```

```
< microchip,mem-name = "pcb135_ddr3 2023-09-20-17:16:30 00e2065";</pre>
```

> microchip, mem-name = "pcb135_ddr3 2023-05-11-12:52:54 00e206508b93"; since the build time stamp is different, but everything else is the same, as it should be.

In order to build U-Boot with a new DDR configuration, the approach in section 2.4 is suggested.

2.7 Programming U-Boot

If you have a working system, then the new U-Boot can be programmed from the existing by stoppeing the boot process and running the commands

```
m => dhcp <TFTP-IP>:u-boot.bin
m => sf probe
m => sf update ${loadaddr} 0 ${filesize}
```

Now you can start the new U-Boot by power cycling the board or by saying

```
m => reset
```

When the new U-Boot start it is suggested to stop it by pressing a key, and then reset the environment variables

```
m => env default -a
m => save
```

You may want to take a copy of the old environment before doing this, if you have configured proprotaily things.

If the NOR is empty, or you have programmed a broken image, then a flash programmer must be used.

2.8 Running U-Boot

When U-Boot start up, you can stop the boot process by pressing a key. It will at some point print

```
Hit any key to stop autoboot: <count-down>
```

If you do that you get an m => prompt. You can give the command printenv in order to print the U-Boot environment variables. The most interesting variable is bootcmd which is the one that will be run, if you do not stop the boot process.

3 U-Boot for LAN966x / arm

- Section 3.1 is about how to find the U-Boot image in TF-A. If you just need to program/update the default U-Boot image on an evaluation board, then this is where to look.
- Section 3.2 is about how to find the U-Boot image in the BSP binary and wrap it into TF-A, i.e. generating a Firmware Image Package¹ (.fip).
- Section 3.3 describe how to build U-Boot from the BSP source with buildroot.
- Section 3.4 describe how to make your own U-Boot configuration (defconfig) and build it withing buildroot
- Section 3.5 describe how build U-Boot outside of buildroot. If you want to do U-Boot development, then this is a more feasible methode than doing it inside buildroot as describe in section 2.3.
- Section 3.6 describe how to build a DDR parameter file.
- Section 3.7 describe how to program/update U-Boot when work U-Boot is in the NOR flash already.

It is assumed that the binary BSP and toolchain is installed².

3.1 TF-A (TrustedFirmware-A)

A programmable boot image is not provided directly in the BSP, but can be found on https://github.com/microchip-ung/arm-trusted-firmware. This procedure is described in AN4905³.

You need lan966x_b0-release-bl2normal-auth.fip⁴. The reason U-Boot is not directly in the BSP is, that LAN966x revision B support TF-A⁵ so U-Boot need to be wrapped into this secure software. The .fip file above is the U-Boot binary wrapped into TF-A as describe in the next section.

This is described in the BSP documentation, but for quick reference we state it here also.

https://trustedfirmware-a.readthedocs.io/en/latest/getting_started/image-terminology.html# firmware-image-package-fip

² If it is not then run the commands

^{\$} sudo mkdir -p /opt/mscc

^{\$} wget http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/public_root/bsp/\
mscc-brsdk-arm-2023.06.tar.gz

^{\$} sudo tar xzf mscc-brsdk-arm-2023.06.tar.gz -C /opt/mscc

^{\$} wget http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/public_root/toolchain/\
mscc-toolchain-bin-2023.02.101.tar.gz

^{\$} sudo tar xzf mscc-toolchain-bin-2023.02.101.tar.gz -C /opt/mscc

³ This can be found on https:/www.microchip.com. Search for LAN9662 and click on Document. The page jumps a little around and then click on Documentation. The first in this list is called "Collateral documents for device". Click on the Link on the right side of this item. You need to have access to these documents.

⁴ https://github.com/microchip-ung/arm-trusted-firmware/releases/tag/mchp_v1.0.5

⁵ See https://www.trustedfirmware.org

3.2 Building a TF-A/fip image from U-Boot

The BSP provide the U-Boot binary, but without the TF-A wrapping. For LAN966x the mscc-brsdk-arm-2023.06.tar.gz need to be installed⁶. The easiest way to find the U-Boot images is to run

\$ find /opt/mscc/mscc-brsdk-arm-2023.06 -name "u-boot*"

In this specific case the following U-Boot image is listed⁷

```
u-boot-mchp_lan966x_evb.bin
```

In order to build a .fip image from this, it is suggested to run the mchp-get-tfa.sh⁸.

If you want to wrap U-Boot into TF-A by yourself, then it is probably because of one or both of the following reasons

- You want to configure U-Boot differently or modify the code. In this case you'll need to build U-Boot. See section 3.3 and 3.4 for two approaches.
- You are using a different DDR RAM setup, and need TF-A to configure it differently. See section 3.6.

If this is not the case, then you may want to take the approach in section 3.1.

3.3 U-Boot in BSP source

What is described here is automated in the script build-uboot-2023.06-lan966x.sh⁹. You may find it more instructive to download this script an run it, and then just read through the script to see the steps taken.

U-Boot can be build from the BSP source. Download the mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06.tar.gz¹⁰ file and run the commands

```
$ tar xzf mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06.tar.gz
```

\$ cd mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06

Now that you are in the root of the source tree, you can build U-Boot in the buildroot framework with

\$ dr make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot

Oownload this file from http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-website-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/?prefix=public_root/bsp/ and installed with

^{\$} sudo mkdir -p /opt/mscc

^{\$} sudo tar xzf mscc-brsdk-arm-2023.06.tar.gz -C /opt/mscc

⁷ Others are also listed, but they are not for the evaluations board.

⁸ The mchp-get-tfa.sh can be downloaded from https://github.com/microchip-ung/misc-scripts. The instructions are in the file.

⁹ Go to https://github.com/microchip-ung/misc-scripts and get build-uboot-2023.06-lan966x.sh. The documentation is in this script.

¹⁰ Download this file from http://mscc-ent-open-source.s3-website-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/?prefix=public_root/bsp/

The first command will configure what to build, and the second will build it. When done, the results are in output/my-uboot/images. In general more than one U-Boot image is build as listed in the BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_TARGETS variable. In this specific case we have

```
BR2\_MSCC\_MUBOOT\_TARGETS = mchp\_lan966x\_evb mchp\_lan966x\_svb
```

The configuration of each of these builds are in output/my-uboot/build/mscc-muboot-xxx/configs¹¹ in mchp_lan966x_evb_defconfig and mchp_lan966x_svb_defconfig. You may want to remove the latter from the list since that is for an internal test target. This is done by running

```
$ make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot menuconfig
and search for MUBOOT. Then you can see where this variable is and change it.
```

The reason both are build can be found in external/boot/mscc-muboot.mk where is can be seen, that MSCC_MUBOOT_BUILD_CMDS will build all the U-Boots listed in BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_TARGETS.

3.4 Changing U-Boot configuration under buildroot

If you want to use mchp_lan966x_evb but want to make some changes, one way is to make a copy like

```
cd output/my-uboot/build/mscc-muboot-xxx/configs
cp mchp_lan966x_evb_defconfig my-uboot_defconfig
and then set
BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_TARGETS = my-uboot
```

Then build uboot with the commands discussed earlier.

If you now want to change the configuration then run

```
$ cd output/my-uboot/build/mscc-muboot-xxx
```

- \$ make menuconfig
- \$ cp .config configs/my-uboot_defconfig

and then run the build commands:

```
$ make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot mscc-muboot-rebuild
```

\$ make BR2_EXTERNAL=./external O=output/my-uboot

The first forces U-Boot to be rebuild¹² the U-Boots listed in BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_TARGETS. So if the related xxx_defconfig(s) has changed, then that will take effect. And also if the source code in output/my-uboot/build/mscc-muboot-xxx has changed.

The second command finish up the entire build as before.

When done, the image is in output/my-uboot/images. Then you have wrap it into TF-A as described in 3.2.

¹¹ For release 2023.06, the xxx is 45c55b... and you can find it in external/configs/arm_bootloaders_lan966x_defconfig variable BR2_MSCC_MUBOOT_VERSION. If you look in dl/mscc-muboot/ you can see, that there are more than one file that only differ in this xxx part. That is because the source code cover all targets, and here we happen only to be intereseted in SparX5.

¹² In the buildroot manual https://buildroot.org/downloads/manual/manual.html describe how the rebuild target works. For our muboot (multiple U-Boot) we have implemented this rebuild target.

3.5 Build U-Boot without buildroot

If you have the mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06 code as before and do¹³

```
$ cd mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06/dl/mscc-muboot
```

```
$ tar xzf mscc-brsdk-source-2023.06/dl/mscc-muboot/mscc-muboot-xxx.tar.gz
```

- \$ cd mscc-muboot-xxx
- \$./env.sh make mchp_lan966x_evb_defconfig
- \$./env.sh make

Then you have u-boot.bin, which you need to wrap into TF-A as described in 3.2.

3.6 DDR configuration

If you have done what is explained in section 3.2, i.e. have run the mchp-get-tfa.sh script, then you can go into the TF-A code.

In the file plat/microchip/lan966x/common/common.mk the two files related to DDR configuration are

```
ddr_umctl.c
lan966x_ddr_config.c
```

In the first file, the lan966x_ddr_init() function can be found, and that is the entry point for setting up the DDR. It uses the variable lan966x_ddr_config which come from the second file. It contains the parameters.

This parameter file lan966x_ddr_config.c is generated with the DDR tool.

The DDR tool¹⁴ is used to generate this parameter file. and run it with

```
$ ./scripts/gen_cfg.rb -f source configs/profiles/lan966x.yaml \
> my-lan966x_ddr_config.c
```

You can compare the configuration that you have generated with the one in the TFA source tree:

\$ diff my-lan966x_ddr_config.c ../sw-arm-trusted-firmware/plat/microchip/\
lan966x/common/lan966x_ddr_config.c

In my case I get:

#!/bin/sh

so it just setup the ARCH and CROSS_COMPILE environment variables for make so that is can use the correct cross compiler.

It is checked out with

```
$ git clone https://github.com/microchip-ung/ddr-umctl
```

 $^{^{13}}$ The env.sh is

 $^{^{14}\ {\}rm https://github.com/microchip-ung/ddr-umctl.}$

^{\$} cd ddr-umctl

From this you can see, that in the ddr-umctl source tree, I happen to be on git tag 236061e which can be verify with

```
$ git log
```

The lan966x_ddr_config.c in the TFA source tree has been generated with 00e206508b93. If I want to generate the same thing, then I can say

since the build time stamp is different, but everything else is the same, as it should be.

3.7 Programming U-Boot

If you have a working system, then the new U-Boot can be programmed from the existing by stoppeing the boot process and running the commands

```
m => dhcp <TFTP-IP>:u-boot.bin
m => sf probe
m => sf update ${loadaddr} 0 ${filesize}
```

Now you can start the new U-Boot by power cycling the board or by saying

```
m => reset
```

When the new U-Boot start it is suggested to stop it by pressing a key, and then reset the environment variables

```
m => env default -a
m => save
```

You may want to take a copy of the old environment before doing this, if you have configured proprotain things.

If the NOR is empty, or you have programmed a broken image, then a flash programmer can be used.

If you have access to FlexCom3 (FC3) serial port, then the ${\tt fwu.html}^{15}$ tool can be used. This will e.g. work on EVB-LAN9662 / UNG8291 board. In the LAN9662 datasheet look

 $^{^{15} \ \}text{https://github.com/microchip-ung/arm-trusted-firmware/releases/download/mchp_v1.0.5/fwu.} \\ \text{html}$

at table 2-8 or search for BOOTLOADER STRAP DESCRIPTION. Set the vcore to "Monitor at FC3" i.e. vcore[3:0]=1000.

If you do that, disconnect any terminalt to the board and reboot it, then you can connect fwu.html to the board.

Run fwu.html with Chrome and java enabled.

- When it starts press Connect device and then select MCP2221 from the menu and press Connect.
- Now you should be presented a new page. Press Download BL2U. This will upload a small program to the LAN9662.
- When it is done and started, you will presented a new page. Press Choose File and e.g. select a .fip image, e.g. lan966x_b0-release-bl2normal-auth.fip from section 3.1.
- Press Upload file This will upload the lan966x_b0-release-bl2normal-auth.fip to the LAN9662.
- To the right of the Write FIP Image button change the dropdown box to "NOR flash". and then press the Write FIP Image button.
- Change the vcore[3:0]=0001, i.e. boot from NOR and boot the device.

As mentioned earlier, you should default the environemt variables when a new U-Boot is programmed, i.e. run

```
m => env default -a
m => save
```

3.8 Running U-Boot

When U-Boot start up, you can stop the boot process by pressing a key. It will at some point print

```
Hit any key to stop autoboot: <count-down>
```

If you do that you get an m => prompt. You can give the command printerv in order to print the U-Boot environment variables. The most interesting variable is bootcmd which is the one that will be run, if you do not stop the boot process.