



# Training Linux Debugging

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[TRACE32 Online Help](#)

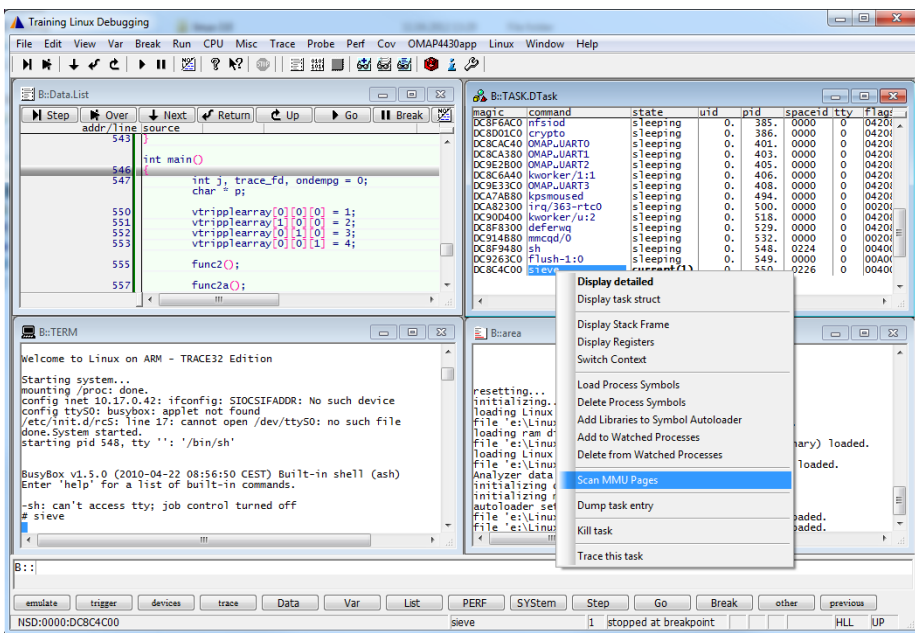
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This training will have the main subjects:

- **Basic terms on embedded Linux**
- **Building the kernel, a kernel module and a simple demo application**
- **Setting up a script for Linux-aware debugging**
- **Debugging Linux components by TRACE32 Linux menu**

## **Further TRACE32 documents related to Linux Debugging:**

This is a quick-tutorial. It will **not** introduce you to all features of the Linux Awareness. For a complete description, refer to the **"RTOS Debugger for Linux - Stop Mode"** (rtos\_linux\_stop.pdf) and to the **"RTOS Debugger for Linux - Run Mode"** (rtos\_linux\_run.pdf).

This part describes essential basics and terms related to Linux and Linux-Debugging.

1. **Linux components**
2. **The Linux Awareness**
3. **Virtual Memory Management in Linux**
4. **Run-Mode vs. Stop-Mode Debugging**

## 1.) Linux Components

---

From the point of view of a debugger, a Linux system consists of the following components:

1. Bootloader(s)
2. The Linux Kernel
3. Kernel Modules
4. Processes and Threads
5. Libraries (Shared Objects)

Moreover, we can talk about two different spaces of executed code: kernel space with privileged rights which includes the kernel and kernel modules and user space with limited rights which includes processes, threads and libraries.

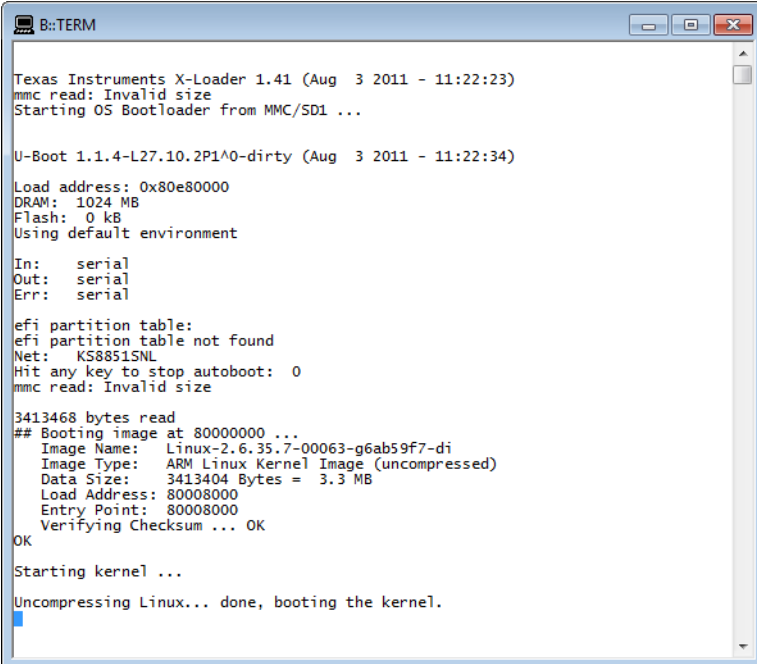
### a) Bootloader

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The bootloader is executed at the reset vector or is loaded by the Boot ROM code. It is not a part of Linux but a necessary pre-step that makes loading and starting the kernel possible. Its basic functionality consists of initializing the processor and the memory, loading the operating system from somewhere (e.g. over the network or out of Flash) and preparing/extracting the loaded image. Finally the bootloader passes important parameters (boot information) to the kernel image.

A typical example of a bootloader is U-Boot which is available for a wide range of embedded architectures and is not limited to the use for Linux only.

Some systems require more than one bootloader. E.g. on the PandaBoard, the Boot ROM code loads a first “light weighted” bootloader called X-Loader from the memory card. The X-Loader initializes enough memory for U-Boot which is then loaded from the memory card. The U-Boot makes further initialization and loads the kernel.



```
B::TERM

Texas Instruments X-Loader 1.41 (Aug  3 2011 - 11:22:23)
mmc read: Invalid size
Starting OS Bootloader from MMC/SD1 ...

U-Boot 1.1.4-L27.10.2P1^0-dirty (Aug  3 2011 - 11:22:34)

Load address: 0x80e80000
DRAM: 1024 MB
Flash: 0 kB
Using default environment

In:  serial
Out: serial
Err: serial

efi partition table:
efi partition table not found
Net:  KS8851SNL
Hit any key to stop autoboot:  0
mmc read: Invalid size

3413468 bytes read
## Booting image at 80000000 ...
Image Name:  Linux-2.6.35.7-00063-g6ab59f7-di
Image Type:  ARM Linux Kernel Image (uncompressed)
Data Size:   3413404 Bytes = 3.3 MB
Load Address: 80008000
Entry Point: 80008000
Verifying Checksum ... OK
OK

Starting kernel ...

Uncompressing Linux... done, booting the kernel.
```

## b) The Kernel

---

The Linux kernel is the most important part in a Linux system. It runs in privileged kernel space and takes care of hardware initialization, device drivers, process scheduling, interrupts, memory management... The Linux kernel is generally contained in a statically linked executable in one of the object files supported by Linux (e.g. ELF) called “vmlinux”. You can also find the kernel in compressed binary format (zImage/ulmage). You will see later in this training how to configure and compile the Linux kernel.

### Kernel Threads:

It is often useful for the kernel to perform operations in the background. The kernel accomplishes this via kernel threads. Kernel threads exist solely in kernel space. The significant difference between kernel threads and processes is that kernel threads operate in kernel space and do not have their own address space.

## c) Kernel Modules

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Kernel modules (\*.ko) are software packages that are loaded and linked dynamically to the kernel at run time. They can be loaded and unloaded from the kernel within a user shell by the commands “insmod” and “rmmod”. Typically kernel modules contain code for device drivers, ISRs, file systems etc. Kernel modules run at kernel level with kernel privilege (supervisor).

## d) Processes and Threads

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A process is an application in the midst of execution. It also includes, additionally to executed code, a set of resources such as open files, pending signals, a memory address space with one or more memory mappings...

Linux-Processes are encapsulated by memory protection. Each process has its own virtual memory which can only be accessed by this process and the kernel. Processes run in user space with limited privileges.

A process could have one or more threads of execution. Each thread includes a unique program counter, process stack and set of process registers. **To the Linux kernel, there is no concept of a thread.** Linux implements all threads as standard processes. For Linux, a thread is a processes that shares certain resources with other processes.

## e) Libraries (Shared Objects)

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Libraries (shared objects, \*.so) are commonly used software packages loaded and used by processes and linked to them at run-time. Libraries run in the context and memory space of the process that loaded them having the same limited privilege as the owning process. Same as processes also libraries are always loaded and executed as a file through a file system.

## 2.) The Linux Awareness

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The debugger need to be “aware” of the operating system used on the target. In TRACE32, this is handled by a separated file than can be loaded additionally to the debugger software. A set of additional commands, options and displays will be then available and simplify the debugging of the operating system. **The Linux Awareness is based on the file “linux.t32” which is available on the installation DVD or on request!**

To be able e.g. to read the task list or to allow process or module debugging, the Linux awareness accesses the internal kernel structures using the kernel symbols. Thus the kernel symbols must be available otherwise Linux aware debugging will be not possible. The file vmlinux has to be compiled with debugging information enabled as will be shown later.



**Linux aware debugging is not possible if the kernel symbol information is not available or if doesn't fit the executed kernel code.**

You can check the version of the loaded Linux awareness in the **VERSION.SOFTWARE** window. This information will only be shown if the Linux awareness is already loaded.

## 3.) Virtual Memory Management in Linux

Before actually going into the details on how to debug a Linux system with TRACE32, we need to look at the helping features of TRACE32, that make Linux debugging possible.

### 3.1.) MMU Support

The debugger needs to know how the MMU of the processor works to be able to translate the addresses by itself correctly at each state of the target.

#### a) MMU Tables

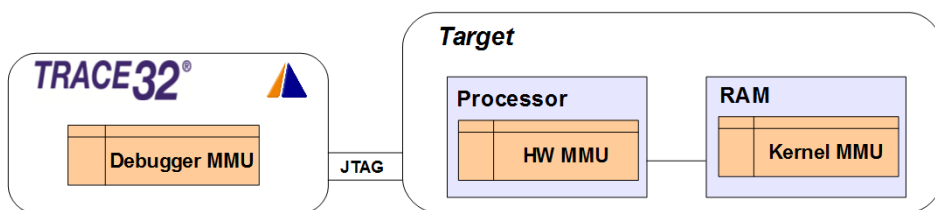
Linux operates completely in virtual memory space: all functions, variables, pointers etc. work with virtual addresses. Also, the symbols are bound to virtual addresses. However, the virtual address space doesn't cover all physical memory. **To gain access to the whole target, the debugger also needs to work with physical addresses.**

When accessing memory via the JTAG interface there can be hardware limitations. Some processor architectures (e.g. ARM) use virtual addresses, allowing easy access of current virtual addresses. If the user wants to access virtual addresses, that are currently not mapped in the hardware MMU (e.g. when accessing variables of another process), the debugger needs to execute a special handling to access this memory out of the MMU. Some other processor architectures (e.g. most PowerPC's) use always physical addresses when using JTAG. If you want to debug with virtual addresses (that's what you normally do), then the debugger must convert them first to physical addresses.

All this leads to the requirement, that the debugger needs to know the complete MMU translation tables. If this is the case, the debugger (and the user) can use any virtual or physical address, whatever is appropriate. With the use of the translation tables, the debugger then internally calculates the correct accessing method to the target.

**The processor's MMU only holds the translation table for the current operation** (e.g. for the current process plus kernel pages). Linux manages the switching of the MMU for different processes, so Linux holds several translation tables. The debugger needs to access or get a copy of all those tables.

Thus, we have **three** different MMU tables:





- **Hardware:** Usually held in the processor, this translation table holds all information necessary for the current operation (e.g. the current process). It will be extended at page faults and could completely change at a process switch. The hardware MMU usually consists of registers and/or dedicated memory areas.
- **Kernel:** The operating system holds a set of translation tables, that are necessary for the complete system run. The hardware MMU tables are usually (but not necessarily) a subset of these tables. Each process plus the kernel have an own translation table. The tables are stored in the target's memory.
- **Debugger:** The debugger needs at least a translation for kernel addresses. This should be created by the user when configuring TRACE32 for Linux Debugging. Moreover, the debugger can scan the kernel MMU tables and hold a local copy of them. However, this is not needed if TableWalk is enabled. The debugger MMU translation tables are maintained and used only inside the debugger software, and don't affect the target at all. You can see the debugger MMU translation using the **TRANSLation.List** command.

It is very important, that those three MMU tables are not mixed up.

## b) Space IDs

Under Linux different processes may use identical virtual address. To distinguish between those addresses, the debugger uses an additional identifier, the so-called space id (memory space id), that specifies, which virtual memory space an address refers to. The space id is zero for all tasks using the kernel address space (kernel threads) and for the kernel code itself. For processes using their own address space, the space id equals the lower 16bits of the process id. Threads of a particular process use the memory space of the invoking parent process. Consequently threads have the same space id as the parent process.



If you enter commands with a virtual address without the TRACE32 space id, the debugger will access the virtual address space of the current running task.

The following command enables the use of space ids in TRACE32:

**SYStem.Option MMUSPACES ON**



**SYStem.Option MMUSPACES ON** doesn't switch on the processor MMU. It just extends the addresses with space ids. This command will fail, if any symbols are loaded, because symbols are bound to space ids.

After this command, a virtual address looks like "001E:10001244", which means virtual address 0x10001244 with space id 0x1E (process id = pid = 46.).

You can now access the complete memory:

```
Data.dump 0x10002480 ; Will show the memory at virtual address
                        ; 0x10002480 of the current running task

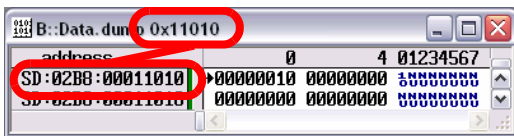
Data.List 0x2F:0x10003000 ; Will show a code window at the address
                        ; 0x10003000 of the process having the space
                        ; id 0x2F

Data.dump A:0x10002000 ; Will show the memory at physical address
                        ; 0x10002000
```

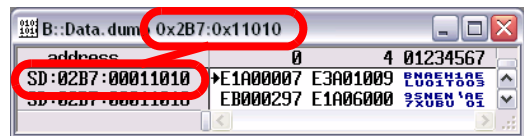
Symbols are always bound to a specific space id. When loading the symbols, you already have to specify, to which space id they should belong. See chapter “Debugging Linux Components” for details.

Because the symbols already contain the information of the space id, you don’t have to specify it manually.

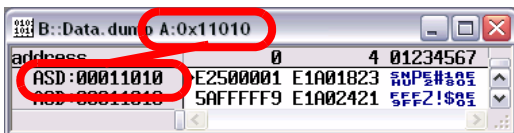
```
Data.dump myVariable ; Will show the memory at the virtual
                        ; address of “myVariable” with the space id
                        ; of the process holding this variable
```



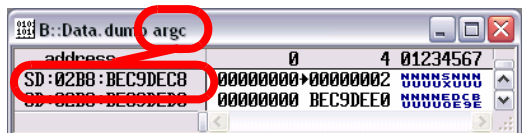
virtual address of current process 0x02B8



virtual address of specified process 0x02B7



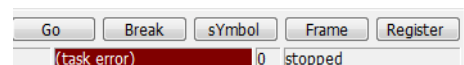
access to physical address A:0x11010



virt. addr., symbol “argc” belongs to pid 720.

If the Linux awareness is enabled, the debugger tries to get the current space id by accessing the kernel internal structures. If this fails e.g. because of wrong symbol information, an access error or because the kernel structures has not been yet initialized (e.g. if you stop at the start of the kernel), the debugger set the current space id to 0xFFFF and shows the message “task error” in the status line.

```
NSR:FFFF:C0559678 E92D45F0 start_kernel: push {r4-r8,r10,r14}
NSR:FFFF:C055967C E24DD01C sub r13,r13,#0x1C ;
```



You can ignore the “task error” message as long as the kernel has not yet booted.

## 3.2.) Virtual Memory Management for Linux components

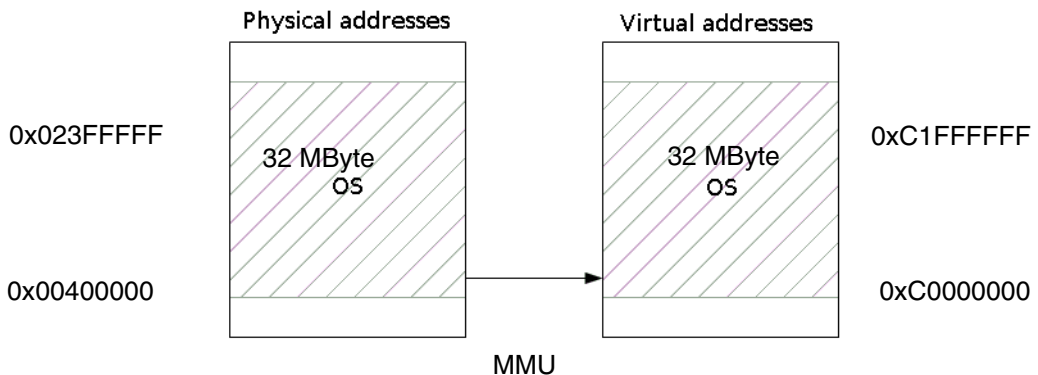
Linux uses several techniques for virtual memory management (VMM). The actual VMM used depends on the component running.

### a) Bootloader

When coming out of reset, the processor runs with disabled MMU. Thus, the bootloader starts with no VMM used. Usually **the complete bootloader runs in physical address space**, never using any virtual addressing. The MMU may be used (on some processors e.g. some MPCs it can't be switched off), but without any address translation and page fault handling.

### b) Kernel

The virtual start address of the kernel depends on the used architecture and is sometimes configurable. It is typically 0xC0000000 or 0x80000000. The end of the virtual range of the kernel is usually the virtual start address + the physical size of the RAM. The kernel is mapped in one continuous block from the virtual address range to the physical address range. Except the startup of the kernel, where the MMU tables are initialized, the kernel runs with enabled MMU.



**Example:** If the target has 32 MByte RAM at physical address 0x00400000, and the Linux' virtual kernel starts at 0xC0000000, then it will end at virtual address 0xC1FFFFFF.

### c) Kernel Modules

Kernel modules run completely in virtual address space. The address space of a kernel module is unique, it is always accessible using its virtual addresses.

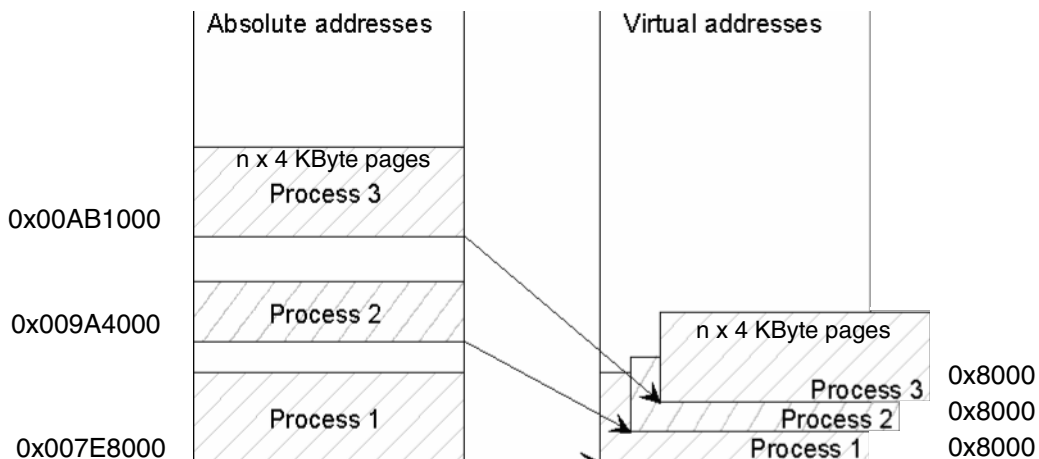
The address space of a kernel module is mapped dynamically page-by-page, when the module is loaded. **The kernel module is not mapped in one block to the physical memory but spread to free 4 KByte pages.** Of course, in virtual addressing mode, you don't realize this spreading.

The virtual address range of a kernel module usually lies above or below the virtual address range of the kernel. For the ARM architecture for example, the kernel modules are linked between the virtual end address of the user space and the kernel start address.

## d) Processes and Threads

The virtual address range for processes depends heavily on the used architecture. For ARM it is defined in `arch/arm/include/asm/memory.h` and is usually from `0x00000000` to `0xBFFFFFFF`. The virtual memory lets the process allocate and manage memory as if it alone owned all the memory of the system. Each process has one or more memory pages with a typical size of 4KBytes on 32bit architectures.

No virtual page will be mapped to physical memory before an access to the processes virtual address occurs. Only those pages, that are really used, are mapped to physical pages.



The virtual addresses of processes are **not unique** in opposite to the used physical address ranges. So it depends always on the individual process to unambiguously map it to the correct physical memory. Each process “sees” only it’s own memory and has no access to the memory of other processes (memory protection).

Threads share the virtual memory abstraction. All threads having the same parent process share the same virtual address space. The MMU translation is valid for all threads of one process. If the demand paging mechanism loads a page for a specific thread, it becomes automatically available for all threads of this process.

## e) Libraries (Shared Objects)

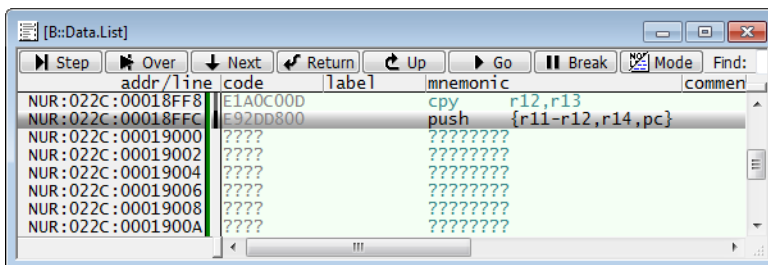
Linux loads and links libraries dynamically at run-time, when they are needed. They run in the context and virtual address space of the process, that uses them. See “Processes” for further details of the virtual memory management used. Watch out for demand paging as well!

### 3.3.) Demand Paging

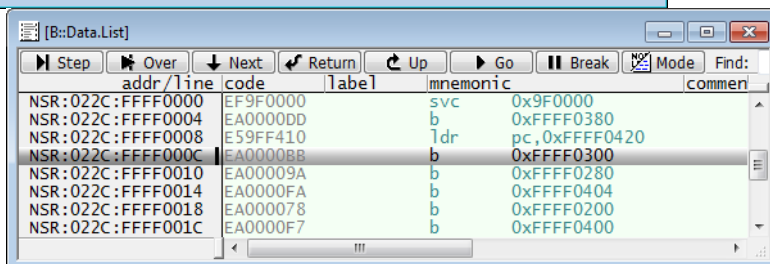
Linux is designed for heavy MMU usage with demand paging. Demand paging means, that code and data pages of processes (and libraries) are loaded first, if they are accessed. If the process tries to access a memory page, that is not yet loaded, it creates a page fault. The page fault handler then loads the appropriate page. Only the actual used pages are really loaded.

However, this demand paging disturbs the debugger a lot. As a work around, two patches are available to avoid demand paging while debugging. One is placed in the ELF loader, the other one is placed in the process handler. Please see the Linux Awareness Manual for details.

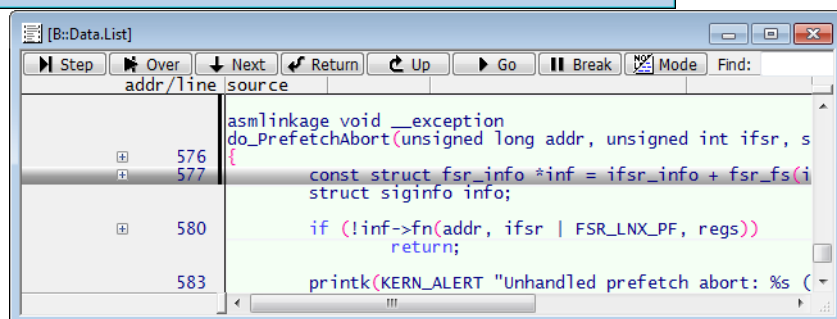
The following screen shots show an example of demand paging: the code of a process consists of more than one memory page. The program counter is at the end of the page (address 0x18FF8). The next page beginning at address 0x19000 is not yet loaded thus the debugger cannot read the memory at these addresses and shows question marks. After a single step, a PABORT exception takes place (address 0xFFFF000C) and then the kernel handler for prefetch abort (do\_PrefetchAbort) is called which loads and maps the page and finally returns to the address which caused the exception (0x19000).



addr/line	code	label	mnemonic	comment
NUR:022C:00018FF8	E1A0C00D		cpy	r12,r13
NUR:022C:00018FFC	E92DD800		push	{r11-r12,r14,pc}
NUR:022C:00019000	????		????????	
NUR:022C:00019002	????		????????	
NUR:022C:00019004	????		????????	
NUR:022C:00019006	????		????????	
NUR:022C:00019008	????		????????	
NUR:022C:0001900A	????		????????	



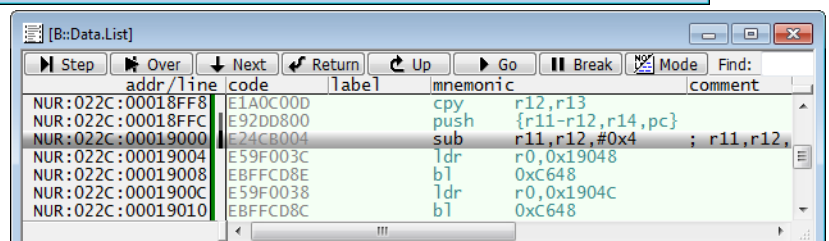
addr/line	code	label	mnemonic	comment
NSR:022C:FFFF0000	EF9F0000		svc	0x9F0000
NSR:022C:FFFF0004	EA0000DD		b	0xFFFF0380
NSR:022C:FFFF0008	E59FF410		ldr	pc,0xFFFF0420
NSR:022C:FFFF000C	EA0000BE		b	0xFFFF0300
NSR:022C:FFFF0010	EA00009A		b	0xFFFF0280
NSR:022C:FFFF0014	EA0000FA		b	0xFFFF0404
NSR:022C:FFFF0018	EA000078		b	0xFFFF0200
NSR:022C:FFFF001C	EA0000F7		b	0xFFFF0400



```
asmlinkage void _exception
do_PrefetchAbort(unsigned long addr, unsigned int ifsr, s
{
    const struct fsr_info *inf = ifsr_info + fsr_fs(i
    struct siginfo info;

    if (!inf->fn(addr, ifsr | FSR_LNX_PF, regs))
        return;

    printk(KERN_ALERT "Unhandled prefetch abort: %s (
```



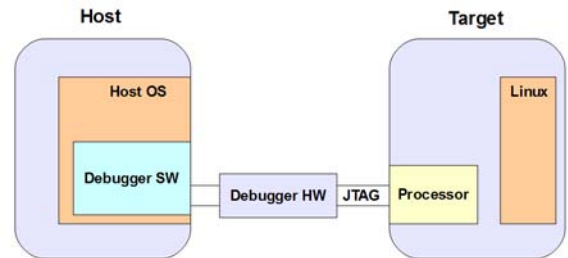
addr/line	code	label	mnemonic	comment
NUR:022C:00018FF8	E1A0C00D		cpy	r12,r13
NUR:022C:00018FFC	E92DD800		push	{r11-r12,r14,pc}
NUR:022C:00019000	E24CB004		sub	r11,r12,#0x4 ; r11,r12,
NUR:022C:00019004	E59F003C		ldr	r0,0x19048
NUR:022C:00019008	EBFFCD8E		bl	0xC648
NUR:022C:0001900C	E59F0038		ldr	r0,0x1904C
NUR:022C:00019010	EBFFCD8C		bl	0xC648

## 4.) Run-Mode vs. Stop-Mode Debugging

There are two principle alternatives of debugging a Linux target: hardware based and software based. This chapter gives a small introduction about the differences to help you understand the operation theory of the hardware based debugger TRACE32 in conjunction with a Linux target.

### a.) Hardware Based Debuggers

TRACE32 is a hardware based debugger, i.e. it uses special hardware to access target, processor and memory (e.g. by using the JTAG interface). No active target software is required, there are no software requirements at all at the target. This allows debugging of bootstraps (right from the reset vector), interrupts, and any other software. Even if the target application runs into a complete system crash, you are still able to access the memory contents (post mortem debugging).



A breakpoint is handled by hardware, too. If it is reached, the whole target system (i.e. the processor) is stopped. Neither the kernel, nor other processes will continue. When resuming the target, it continues at the exact state, as it was halted at the breakpoint. This is very handy to debug interrupts or communications. However, keep in mind that also “keep alive” routines may be stopped (e.g. watchdog handlers).

The debugger is able to access the memory physically over the complete address range, without any restrictions. All software parts are visible physically, even if they are virtually not mapped into the MMU. If the debugger knows the address translation of all processes, you gain access to any process data at any time.

The demand paging of Linux implies, that pages of the application may be physically not present in the system, as long as they are not accessed. No access of such pages is possible (including software breakpoints), as long as they are not loaded.

#### Advantages:

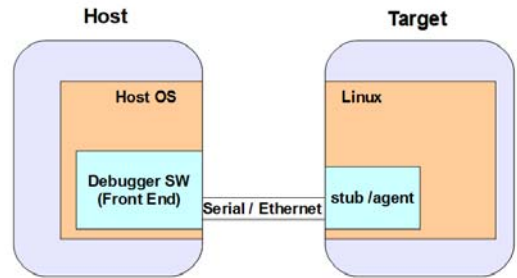
- **bootstrap, interrupt or post mortem debugging is possible**
- **no software restrictions (like memory protection, ...) apply to the debugger**
- **the full MMU table and code of all processes alive can be made visible**
- **only JTAG is required, no special communication interface as RS232 or Ethernet is needed**

#### Disadvantages:

- **halts the complete CPU, not only the desired process**
- **synchronization and communications to peripherals usually get lost**
- **debug HW and a debug interface on the target are needed**

## b) Software Based Debuggers

Software based debuggers, e.g. GDB, usually use a standard interface to the target, e.g. serial line or Ethernet. There is a small program code on the target (called “stub” or “agent”), that waits for debugging requests on the desired interface line and executes the appropriate actions. Of course, this part of the software must run, in order for the debugger to work correctly. This implies, that the target must be up and running, and at least the interrupts for the interface line must be working. Hence, no bootstrap, interrupt or post mortem debugging is possible.



When using such a debugger to debug a process, a breakpoint halts only the desired process. The kernel and all other processes in the target continue to run. This may be helpful, if e.g. protocol stacks need to continue while debugging, but hinders the debugging of inter-process communication.

Because the debugging execution engine is part of the target program, all software restrictions apply to the debugger, too. In the case of a gdbserver for example, which is a user application, the debugger can only access the resources of the currently debugged processes. In this case, it is not possible to access the kernel and other processes.

### Advantages:

- **halts only the desired process**
- **synchronization and communications to peripherals usually continue**
- **no debugger hardware and no JTAG interface are needed**

### Disadvantages:

- **no bootstrap, interrupt or post mortem debugging is possible**
- **all software restrictions apply to the debugger too (memory protection, ...)**
- **only the current MMU and code of this scheduled process is visible**
- **actions from GDB change the state of the target (e.g page faults are triggered)**
- **one RS232 or Ethernet interface of the target is blocked**



**Software based debugging is less robust and has many limitations in comparison to hardware based debugging. Thus, it is recommended to use JTAG based debugging if this is possible.**

## 5.) Building the kernel, a kernel module and a simple demo application

Before going forward with writing Linux TRACE32 scripts and debugging the different Linux components, we will show how to build the kernel, a kernel module and a demo application for our demo board.

### Building the kernel

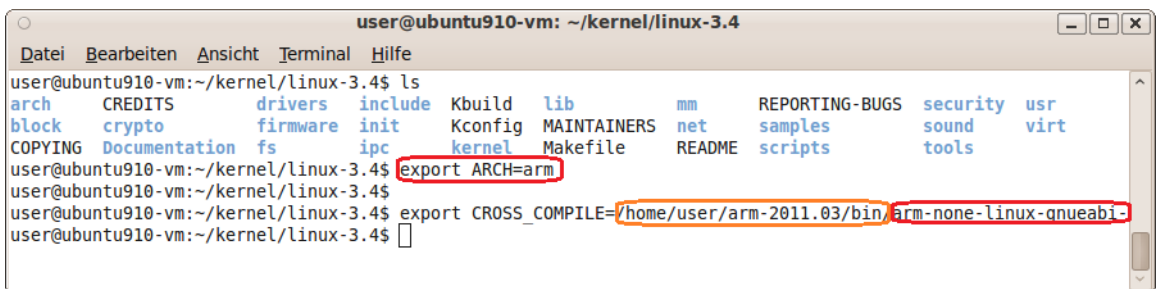
You can get the vanilla version of the kernel from <ftp://ftp.kernel.org/pub/linux/kernel>. We will download the kernel version 3.4. The kernel source code is always available in a complete tarball and an incremental patch and is distributed in both GNU zip (gzip) and bzip2 format. After downloading the kernel we will uncompress it using the following command:

```
$ tar xvjf linux-3.4.tar.bz2
```

or

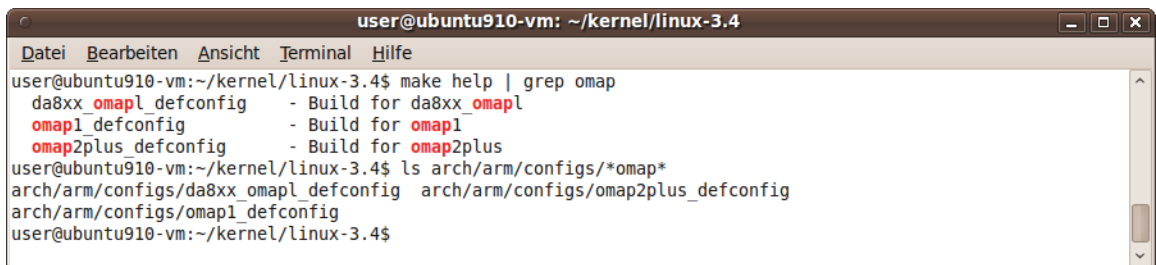
```
$ tar xvzf linux-3.4.tar.gz
```

We need to set then two environment variables used by the kernel makefiles. The variable ARCH should contain the used architecture (e.g. "arm" or "powerpc"). The other variable, CROSS\_COMPILE, specifies the prefix used for all executables used during compilation (gcc and related bin-utils).



```
user@ubuntu910-vm: ~/kernel/linux-3.4
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Hilfe
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ ls
arch  CREDITS  drivers  include  Kbuild  lib  mm  REPORTING-BUGS  security  usr
block  crypto  firmware  init  Kconfig  MAINTAINERS  net  samples  sound  virt
COPYING  Documentation  fs  ipc  kernel  Makefile  README  scripts  tools
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ export ARCH=arm
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ export CROSS_COMPILE=/home/user/arm-2011.03/bin/arm-none-linux-gnueabi-
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$
```

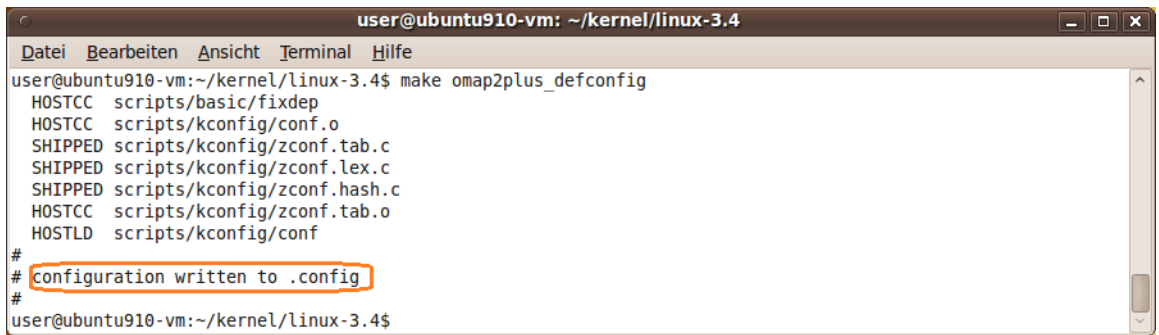
We need then to configure the kernel for our target platform. With "make help" we can get a list of all available platforms of our architecture. Each platform has a config file under arch/\$ARCH/configs. For our Pandaboard, we use the config file omap2plus\_defconfig.



```
user@ubuntu910-vm: ~/kernel/linux-3.4
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Hilfe
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ make help | grep omap
da8xx_omap1_defconfig - Build for da8xx_omap1
omap1_defconfig - Build for omap1
omap2plus_defconfig - Build for omap2plus
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ ls arch/arm/configs/*omap*
arch/arm/configs/da8xx_omap1_defconfig arch/arm/configs/omap2plus_defconfig
arch/arm/configs/omap1_defconfig
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$
```

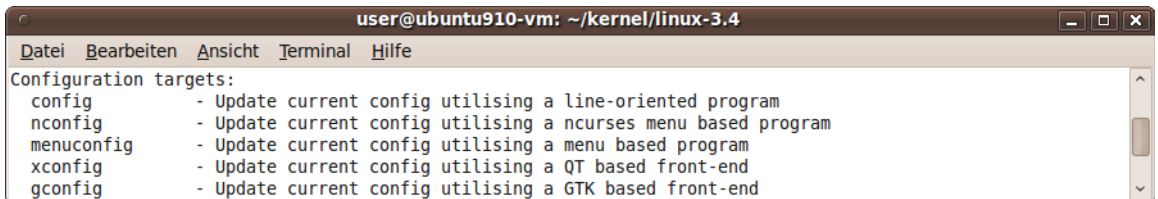


With “make omap2plus\_defconfig” we create then a configuration file (.config) for our target.

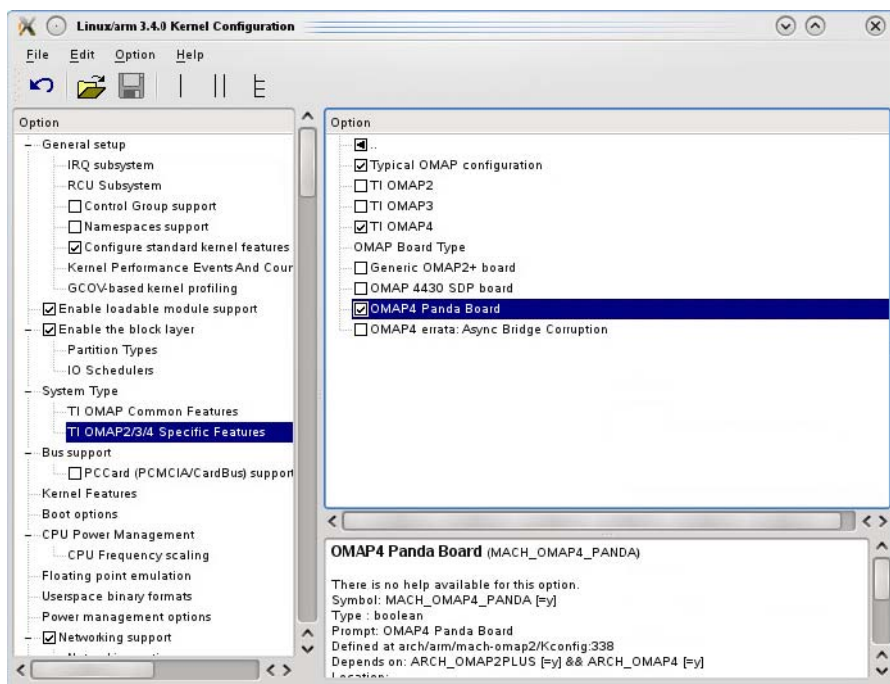


```
user@ubuntu910-vm: ~/kernel/linux-3.4
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Hilfe
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ make omap2plus_defconfig
HOSTCC scripts/basic/fixdep
HOSTCC scripts/kconfig/conf.o
SHIPPED scripts/kconfig/zconf.tab.c
SHIPPED scripts/kconfig/zconf.lex.c
SHIPPED scripts/kconfig/zconf.hash.c
HOSTCC scripts/kconfig/zconf.tab.o
HOSTLD scripts/kconfig/conf
#
# configuration written to .config
#
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$
```

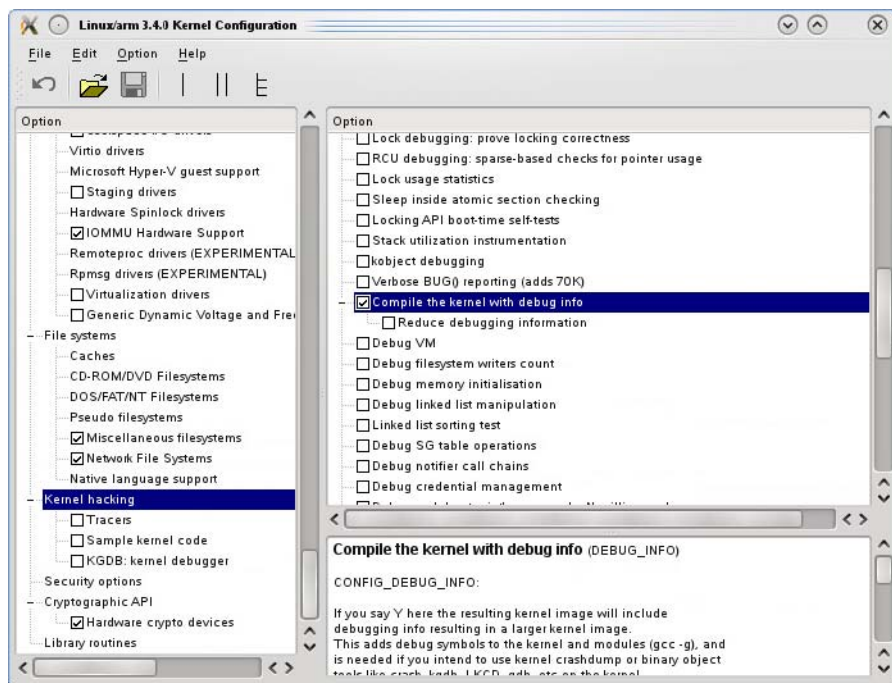
To edit this configuration, different interface and dialogs are available. We will use the (Qt) base configuration tool xconfig.



```
user@ubuntu910-vm: ~/kernel/linux-3.4
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Hilfe
Configuration targets:
config      - Update current config utilising a line-oriented program
nconfig     - Update current config utilising a ncurses menu based program
menuconfig  - Update current config utilising a menu based program
xconfig     - Update current config utilising a QT based front-end
gconfig     - Update current config utilising a GTK based front-end
```



The most important option that we have to enable here is “Compile the kernel with debug info” in “Kernel hacking”. If this option is not enabled, the kernel will be compiled without symbol information and Linux aware debugging will be not possible.



Now we are ready to compile the kernel. We will compile the bare kernel by calling “make vmlinux”. After the compile process finishes, we will get a statically linked Elf file.

```

user@ubuntu910-vm: ~/kernel/linux-3.4
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Hilfe
LD      .tmp_vmlinux1
KSYM    .tmp_kallsyms1.S
AS       .tmp_kallsyms1.o
LD      .tmp_vmlinux2
KSYM    .tmp_kallsyms2.S
AS       .tmp_kallsyms2.o
LD      vmlinux
SYSMAP  System.map
SYSMAP  .tmp_System.map
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ file vmlinux
vmlinux: ELF 32-bit LSB executable, ARM, version 1 (SYSV), statically linked, not stripped
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ cp vmlinux vmlinux.stripped
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ /home/user/arm-2011.03/bin/arm-none-linux-gnueabi-strip vmlinux.stripped

user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ file vmlinux.stripped
vmlinux.stripped: ELF 32-bit LSB executable, ARM, version 1 (SYSV), statically linked, stripped
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$

```

If you also need the stripped version of the kernel, you can use the strip command. **Do not compile the kernel twice, with and without debugging information enabled!**

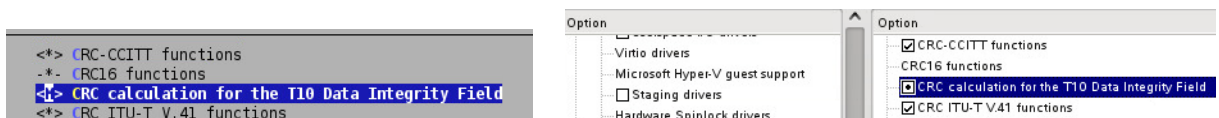
You can also compile the U-Boot wrapped image of the kernel (ulmage) with “make ulmage”. **If you use both files ulmage and vmlinux (e.g. downloading ulmage with the bootloader and loading the kernel symbols from vmlinux) you need to take care that both files come from the same compiling process.**

You will find the ulmame under arch/arm/boot.

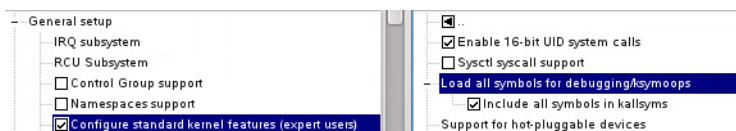
```
user@ubuntu910-vm: ~/kernel/linux-3.4
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Hilfe
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ make uImage
CHK include/linux/version.h
CHK include/generated/utsrelease.h
make[1]: »include/generated/mach-types.h« ist bereits aktualisiert.
CALL scripts/checksyscalls.sh
CHK include/generated/compile.h
CHK kernel/config_data.h
OBJCOPY arch/arm/boot/Image
Kernel: arch/arm/boot/Image is ready
AS arch/arm/boot/compressed/head.o
GZIP arch/arm/boot/compressed/piggy.gzip
AS arch/arm/boot/compressed/piggy.gzip.o
CC arch/arm/boot/compressed/misc.o
CC arch/arm/boot/compressed/decompress.o
CC arch/arm/boot/compressed/string.o
SHIPPED arch/arm/boot/compressed/lib1funcs.S
AS arch/arm/boot/compressed/lib1funcs.o
SHIPPED arch/arm/boot/compressed/ashldi3.S
AS arch/arm/boot/compressed/ashldi3.o
LD arch/arm/boot/compressed/vmlinux
OBJCOPY arch/arm/boot/zImage
Kernel: arch/arm/boot/zImage is ready
UIMAGE arch/arm/boot/uImage
Image Name: Linux-3.4.0
Created: Thu Jul 12 11:21:32 2012
Image Type: ARM Linux Kernel Image (uncompressed)
Data Size: 3659352 Bytes = 3573.59 kB = 3.49 MB
Load Address: 0x80008000
Entry Point: 0x80008000
Image arch/arm/boot/uImage is ready
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ ls arch/arm/boot/
bootp compressed dts Image install.sh Makefile uImage zImage
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$ file arch/arm/boot/uImage
arch/arm/boot/uImage: u-boot/PPCBoot image
user@ubuntu910-vm:~/kernel/linux-3.4$
```

## Building a kernel module

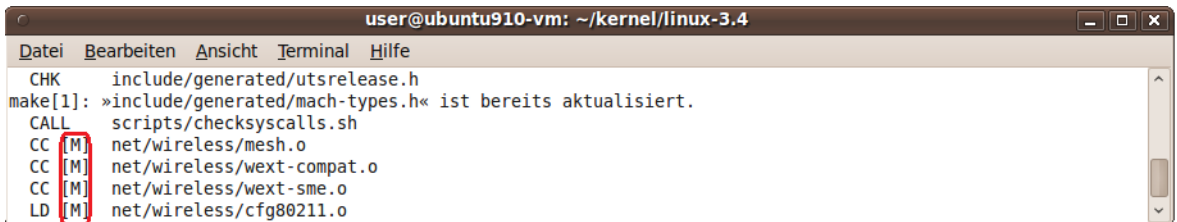
If the kernel module is in kernel source tree then you can select to compile it as module in the kernel configuration dialog (e.g. using xconfig or meuconfig:).



The kernel contains all section information if it has been configured with CONFIG\_KALLSYMS=y. When configuring the kernel, set the option “General Setup”-> “Configure standard kernel features” -> “Load all symbols” to yes. Without KALLSYMS, no section information is available and debugging kernel modules is not possible.



You can compile the modules by calling “make modules”.



```
user@ubuntu910-vm: ~/kernel/linux-3.4
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Hilfe
CHK include/generated/utsrelease.h
make[1]: »include/generated/mach-types.h« ist bereits aktualisiert.
CALL scripts/checksyscalls.sh
CC [M] net/wireless/mesh.o
CC [M] net/wireless/wext-compat.o
CC [M] net/wireless/wext-sme.o
LD [M] net/wireless/cfg80211.o
```

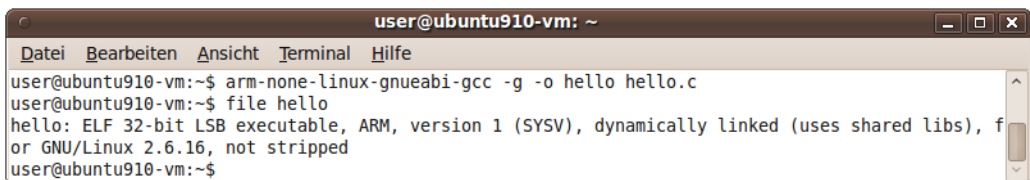
If the module “lives” outside the kernel source tree, you need to create a Makefile where you instruct make how to find the kernel source files.

```
obj-m += demomod.o
EXTRA_CFLAGS := -g
all:
> make -C /home/user/linux-3.4 ARCH=arm CROSS_COMPILE=arm-none-linux-gnueabi- M=/home/user/mod/procfs modules
clean:
> make -C /home/user/linux-3.4 ARCH=arm CROSS_COMPILE=arm-none-linux-gnueabi- M=/home/user/mod/procfs clean
```

## Building a user application

When compiling an application, you need to use the “-g” compiler option to enable debug information:

```
$ arm-none-linux-gnueabi-gcc -g -o hello hello.c
```



```
user@ubuntu910-vm: ~
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Terminal Hilfe
user@ubuntu910-vm:~$ arm-none-linux-gnueabi-gcc -g -o hello hello.c
user@ubuntu910-vm:~$ file hello
hello: ELF 32-bit LSB executable, ARM, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked (uses shared libs), for GNU/Linux 2.6.16, not stripped
user@ubuntu910-vm:~$
```

# Setting up a script for Linux-aware debugging

---

This chapter will tell about the **typical steps** how to prepare a Linux target and the TRACE32 debugger **for convenient Linux-Debugging**. The used target for the explanation is a Pandaboard with a OMAP4430 (dual Cortex-A9).

The following pages will show the setup by now step by step:

1. **Capture of commands for a script**
2. **Linux Setup-Steps and -Commands**
3. **Example Linux Setup-Script file**
4. **Linux Debugging Dialog**

## 1.) Capture of commands for a script

---

It can be an advantage to record the commands and wanted settings used inside the TRACE32 graphical user interface (GUI) right from the start. So you should open first a LOG-file:

<b>LOG.OPEN</b> <file>	Create and open a file for the commands to be logged. The default extension for LOG-files is ( <b>.log</b> )
<b>LOG.CLOSE</b>	Close the LOG-file

The advantage of this log file is it records all commands TRACE32 provides till you close it. Even menu selections and mouse-clicks. Whereas the ClipSTORE and STORE <file> commands save only specified parameters (e.g SYStem settings) to be reactivated by the automatically generated script later.

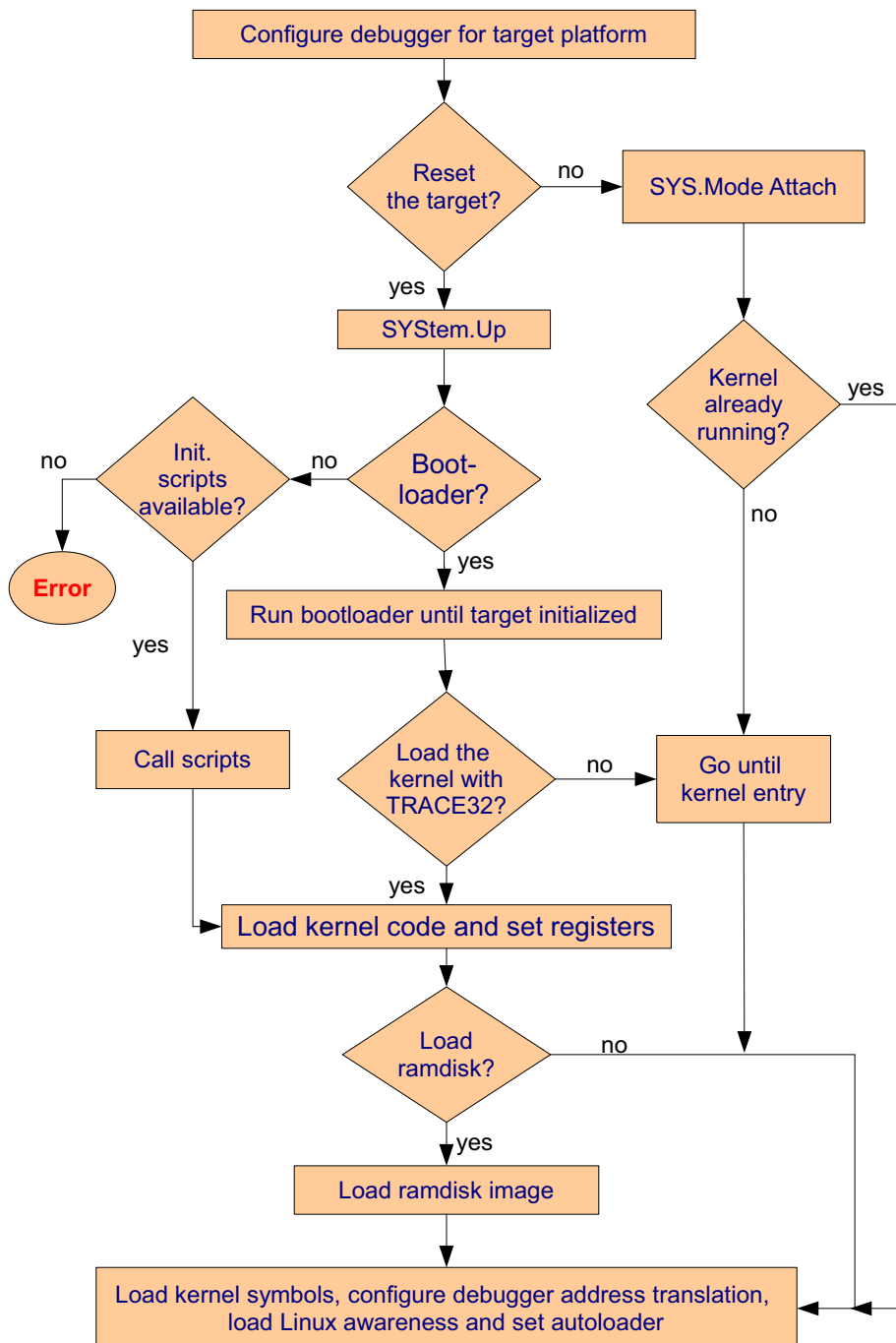
<b>STOre</b> <file> <b>SYStem</b>	Create a batch to restore the SYStem settings
<b>ClipSTOre</b> <b>SYStem</b>	Provide the commands to restore the SYStem settings in the cliptext

The HISTory command only samples the commands from the command line. But it offers a quick access to the commands used already. Use the cursor-up key or mouse to select commands form the HISTory list.

<b>HISTory.type</b>	Display the command history
---------------------	-----------------------------

## 2.) Linux Setup-Steps and -Commands

For writing a correct startup script, different steps are needed depending on how Linux is loaded and started. The commonly used steps are summarized in the following diagram:



So, typically, a Linux script consists of

- Debugger Reset.
- Chip-related debugger setup.
- Target setup (if needed).
- Download the kernel code and setting kernel start parameters (if needed)
- Download the filesystem (if needed).
- Loading kernel symbols
- Setup debugger MMU translation.
- Setup Linux awareness.
- Setup the symbol autoloader

The numbering scheme goes as follows: Numbers are for sequential steps. Letters are for alternate and conditional steps.

## 1) Debugger Reset for Linux Debugging

---

Especially if you restart debugging during a debug session you are not sure about the state the debugger was in. So use command **RESet** for a complete restart or the specific resets for each debugger function.

### 1.a) Complete Reset

---

```
RESet                ; reset debugger completely
```

### 1.b) Individual Resets

---

```
SYStem.Down          ; stops debugger target connection
TASK.RESet           ; reset Linux awareness
Break.Delete         ; remove any left breakpoints
MAP.RESet            ; reset debugger's memory mapping
TRANSlation.RESet    ; reset debugger's MMU translation
sYmbol.RESet         ; reset debugger's symbols table
SYStem.RESet         ; reset debugger's system settings
```

The above sequence are the **minimal** statements you should use for resetting the system.

## 2) Debugger Setup

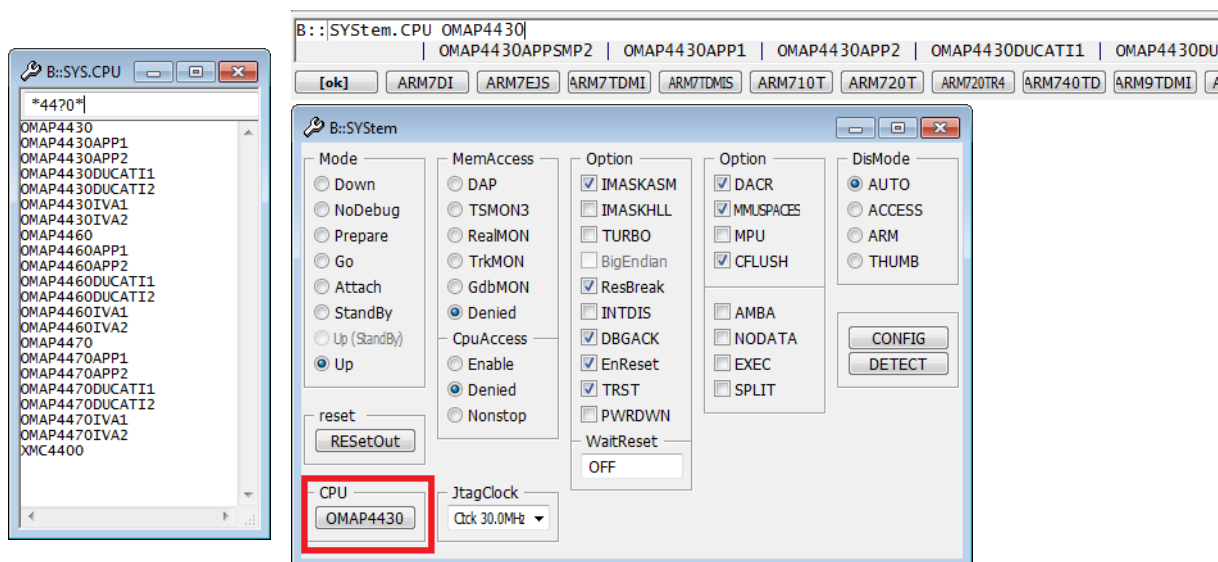
First you need to setup the debugger to be able to connect to the target platform. This includes e.g. selecting the appropriated CPU, setting the JTAG clock and selecting target-specific debugger options. Moreover, some additional options related to Linux debugging have to be enabled like address extension. Finally, you need to connect to the target using **SYStem.Up** or **SYStem.Mode Attach**.

### 2.a) Debugger setup for the OMAP4430 target

This tutorial shows the needed command sequence for an OMAP4430 from Texas Instruments. These steps will be similar for other target platforms. If you have a different target platform or architecture you may need other debugger settings.

#### CPU selection

You need to select a CPU to debug your target.



You can use the search field in the **SYStem.CPU** window to find your CPU name. Alternatively, you can use the command line to write the CPU name partially to be completed by pressing the tabulator key on the keyboard. This way also the amount of displayed CPUs is reduced temporarily:

```
SYStem.CPU OMAP4430 ; OMAP4430 target to be debugged
```

#### JTAG Clock

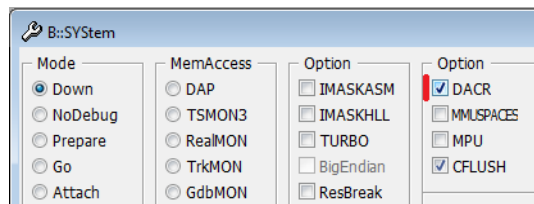
Using the command **SYStem.JtagClock** you can select an appropriated JTAG clock for you target. This could be necessary if the default clock set by the debugger is for example too high. You can see the selected JTAG clock in the **SYStem** window. For our Pandaboard we use the clock CTCK 30MHz.

```
SYStem.JtagClock CTCK 30MHz ;
```



## DACR option

If you have an ARM target, you need to set the DACR Option to ON to grant write access to all memory domains for the debugger. Because the target MMU usually write protects some memory areas (e.g. code pages). But the debugger needs write access for example to set software breakpoints..



```
SYStem.Option DACR ON
```

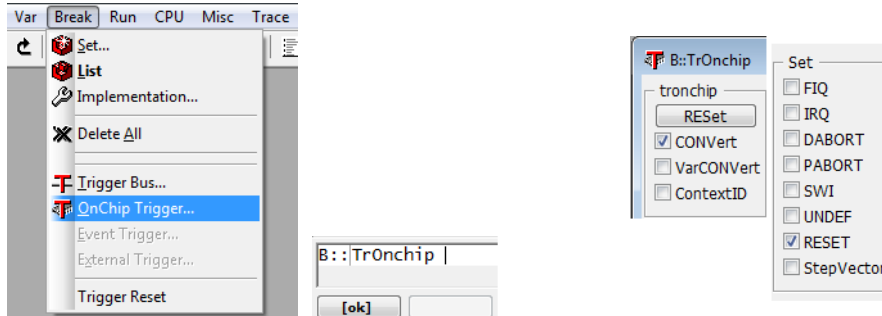
```
; give Debugger global write permissions
```



**Different targets may need some hardware related settings. Please check the specific [Processor Architecture Manual](#) (“`debugger_<architecture>.pdf`”) for possible options.**

## Onchip Trigger

You can configure the debugger to halt or not on exceptions. For ARM cores, TRACE32 setup the target to halts on most of the exception routines. Linux uses some of these exceptions, so the debugger's detection has to be switched off. Debugging MIPS cores for example doesn't need this.



```
TrOnchip.Set DABORT OFF
```

```
TrOnchip.Set PABORT OFF
```

```
TrOnchip.Set UNDEF OFF
```

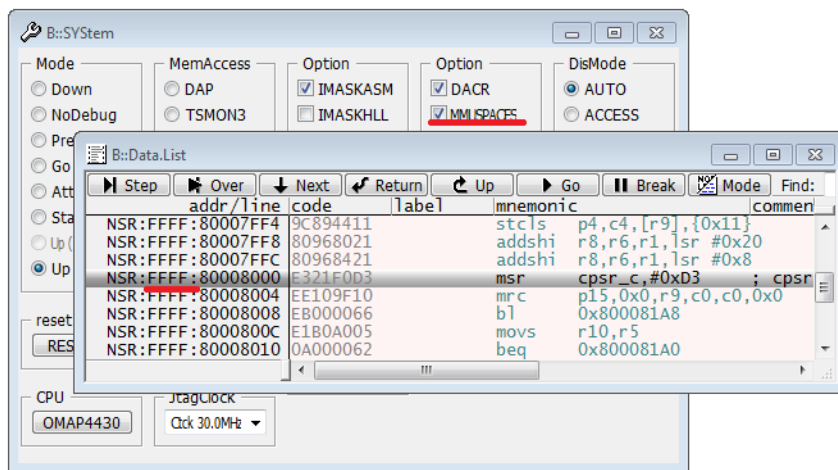
```
; used by Linux for data page misses!
```

```
; used by Linux for program page misses!
```

```
; might be used by Linux for FPU detection
```

## Address extension

Switch on the debugger's virtual address extension to use space ids (needed to differ e.g. several “main” functions of different processes). The addresses in the Data.List and Data.dump windows will be extended with a space id (e.g. **FFFF:800080000**).



```
SYSystem.Option MMUSPACES ON ; enable space ids to virtual addresses
```

**Remark:** Older documentation and TRACE32-SW uses “SYSystem.Option MMU ON” instead of “MMUSPACES”. Please use only the new naming.



The “SYSystem.Option MMUSPACES” can only be changed if NO debug symbols are loaded!

## Connect to the target

The command **SYSystem.Up** resets the target (if supported by the JTAG interface) and enters debug mode.

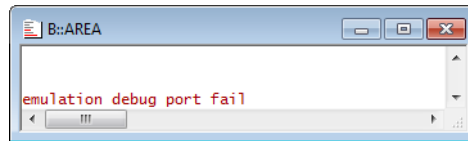
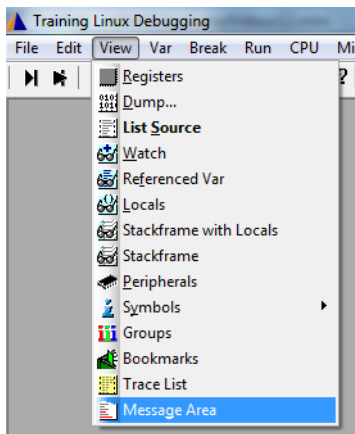
```
SYSystem.Up ; activates the JTAG communication
```

The command **SYSystem.Mode Attach** attaches to the target without resetting the cores.

```
SYSystem.Mode Attach ; attach to the cores
```

At this stage the Linux awareness has not yet been enable, so if a problem occurs then it is related to the debugger settings or to a problem on the target. Please check in this case the AREA window for errors and warnings.

```
AREA.view [<area>]
```



## 2.b) Examples of specific settings for other processors

**PPC:** Some of the PowerPC processors have an adjustable IO base address. If this base address can not be determined from the processor by the debugger itself, you need to tell the debugger it's address. You may either set it manually, or let the debugger try to get the reset configuration word.

```
SYStem.Option BASE AUTO           ; get reset io base address
```

On some PowerPC architectures (especially PowerQUICC II and III), a JTAG memory access to an area, that is not covered by a chip select, may cause a processor deadlock. Only a complete reset recovers this state. To prevent the debugger from accessing those memory areas, explicitly prohibit the access.

```
MAP.DenyAccess 0x01000000--0xffffffff ; deny access to non-existent
                                           ; memory
```

**MIPS** (e.g. AU1200): Also for MIPS cores the debugger needs extra access permissions to get write access to all memory areas.

```
SYStem.Option UnProtect ON        ; give Debugger global write permissions
```

Some CPUs have a special mode to transfer data faster via the debug interface. You can use this opportunity to speed up the download of the Linux kernel or the RAM-Disk to the target. This option usually needs to be undone after the transfer to enable normal debugging.

```
SYStem.Option TURBO ON           ; activate special CPU JTAG speed
```

```
SYStem.Option TURBO OFF          ; disable TURBO option for safety
```

## 2.c) Set Single Step Behavior

---

While single stepping, external interrupts may occur. On some architectures, this leads with the next single step into the interrupt handler. This effect disturbs normally during debugging. The following sequence masks external interrupts while executing assembler single steps. Keep interrupts enabled during HLL single steps, to allow paging while stepping through source code.

```
SETUP.IMASKASM ON      ; lock interrupts while assembler single stepping
SETUP.IMASKHLL OFF     ; allow interrupts while HLL single stepping
```



**If a assembler single step causes a page fault** the single step will jump into the page fault handler, regardless of the above setting. The debugger will restore the interrupt mask to the value before the single step. So it might be wrong at this state and cause an unpredictable behavior of the target.

## 3) Target Setup

### 3.1) Basic Board Setup

Of course the actual target setup depends on your individual target and should arrange to have the necessary knowledge about your target characteristics. The most important target initialization is to bring the processor in a well-defined state and initialize the board to get access to the RAM. There are two ways to initialize your target:

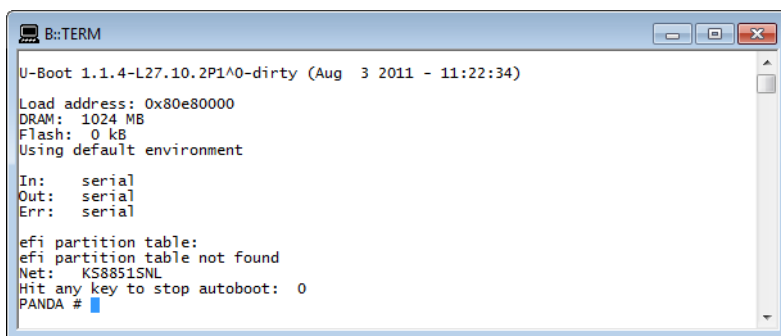
- Target initialization by a bootloader
- Target initialization by the debugger

#### 3.1.a) Target initialization by a bootloader

Let the bootloader run as long as it needs to initialize the hardware and stop it before it begins loading the kernel.

```
Go ; start the bootloader as long as necessary
WAIT 5.s ; to initialize the target
Break ; stop before loading the kernel
```

Usually the bootloader prints a countdown message in the serial terminal window after target initialization is finished.



You can use the terminal window “**TERM**” provided by TRACE32.

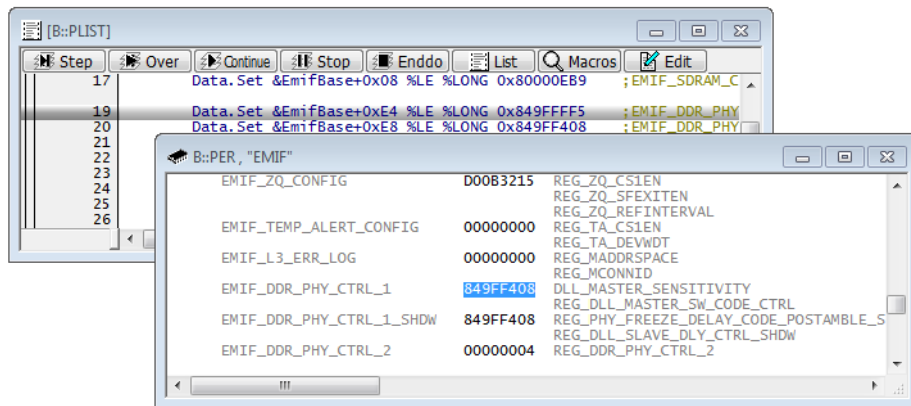
```
TERM.RESet ; reset old and set new definitions
TERM.METHOD COM com4 115200. 8 NONE 1STOP NONE
; for com10 use \\.\com10
TERM.SIZE 80 1000 ; define capacity of the TERM window
TERM.SCROLL ON ; scrolling follows to the TERM cursor
TERM.Mode VT100 ; or ASCII (default), STRING, HEX ...
WINPOS 50% 0% 50% 100% term_win ; define next window position and size
TERM.view ; open the TERM window
SCREEN.ALways ; TERM window always updated
```

### 3.1.b) Target initialization by the debugger

You can set all processor **peripheral registers** explicitly by the debugger to the configuration required by the board. For sure this should finally be done by a script. It's a better style to call the scripts for own topics (e.g. board\_setup.cmm) within your main setup script for Linux-Debugging (e.g. linux.cmm):

```
; main setup script linux.cmm
; ...
DO board_setup.cmm ; run the special setup by a call
```

Inside the script for the target initialization the parameters are set by command Data.Set or PER.Set:



### 3.2) Additional Setup

Additional setup steps might be needed for individual requirements. E.g. the setup of the ARM ETM trace ports could be managed by the script "init\_etm.cmm".

```
DO init_etm ; setup of the ARM ETM trace ports
```

## 4) Download the kernel

---

Loading and booting the Linux kernel can also be done by two different procedures:

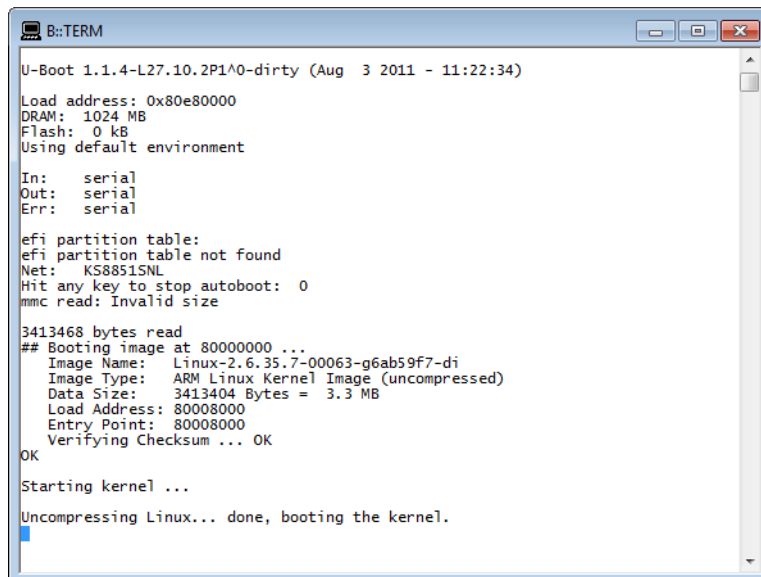
a) Downloading and booting the kernel by the bootloader

b) Downloading and booting the kernel by the debugger

### 4.a) Downloading and booting the kernel by the bootloader

---

The can let the bootloader load the kernel into the RAM, decompress it (if compressed) and start it from there. In this case you need to configure the bootloader using its command line. The kernel will be typically loaded from flash memory, a memory card or over the network. The bootloader will also take care of setting the kernel start parameters.



```
B::TERM
U-Boot 1.1.4-L27.10.2P1^0-dirty (Aug  3 2011 - 11:22:34)

Load address: 0x80e80000
DRAM: 1024 MB
Flash: 0 kB
Using default environment

In: serial
Out: serial
Err: serial

efi partition table:
efi partition table not found
Net: KS8851SNL
Hit any key to stop autoboot:  0
mmc read: Invalid size

3413468 bytes read
## Booting image at 80000000 ...
   Image Name:   Linux-2.6.35.7-00063-g6ab59f7-di
   Image Type:   ARM Linux Kernel Image (uncompressed)
   Data Size:    3413404 Bytes =  3.3 MB
   Load Address: 80008000
   Entry Point:  80008000
   Verifying Checksum ... OK
OK

Starting kernel ...

Uncompressing Linux... done, booting the kernel.
```

You can set an onchip breakpoint at the entry point of the kernel to debug the kernel startup.

### 4.b) Downloading and booting the kernel by the debugger

---

You can use the debugger to download and start Linux. In this case, you have to set the correct initial values for the processor registers.

At this stage, the target MMU is still disabled, so you need to download the kernel code using physical addresses. However, the kernel ELF “vmlinux”, which is usually used for the kernel, contains virtual addresses. Thus you need to subtract the virtual address base from the physical address base. For

example, if the kernel has the virtual start address 0xC0000000 (which is a typical value) and should be downloaded on the RAM starting at the physical address 0x80000000, the command to download the kernel would be:

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux 0x80000000-0xC0000000 /NoSymbol
```

Please note that “0x80000000-0xC0000000” is not an address range. Both addresses are separated here by a single minus sign.

In our example here, if you simply try to download the kernel using the command

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /NoSymbol
```

The debugger will try to download the kernel code using the virtual addresses as physical ones which is wrong and could result on a fatal error on the target.

Some architectures (e.g. SH and MIPS) use the same virtual and physical start address for the kernel. In this case you can simply download the kernel code and load the symbols using:

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux
```



**When shifting the kernel image from virtual to physical start address (e.g 0x80000000-0xC0000000) you have to only load the kernel code without symbols using the option /NoSymbol. Otherwise, the kernel symbols will be loaded on wrong addresses. The symbols are then loaded separately.**

Sometime, it is also necessary to restrict the download to a RAM area range due to wrong information by some gcc versions in the Elf file:

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux 0x80000000-0xC0000000 0x80000000--0x8FFFFFFF  
/NoSymbol
```

When downloading the kernel using the debugger, you need also to take care of setting the program counter at the entry point of the kernel and the kernel start parameters in the general purpose registers. For the ARM architecture, the kernel get two start parameters. The first one, which should be written in R1, is a machine specific code. The second one should be written in R2 and is a pointer to a structure in the memory which contains information about the RAM start and size, the boot command line... You need also to setup this structure. Other architectures have different kernel start parameters.



```
Register.RESet
Register.Set PC 0x80008000 ; set PC on start address of image
Register.Set R1 2791. ; Set machine type in R1 (2791.)
Register.Set R2 0x80000100
```

The code for the machine type can be found in the list “mach-types” inside the controller specific tool folder.

## 5.) Download the filesystem

---

You can configure the bootloader to load the filesystem (e.g. from flash memory or over the network) or configure the kernel to mount a network filesystem (nfs). Alternatively you can download a ramdisk image to the RAM for example:

```
Data.LOAD.Binary ramdisk.image.gz 0x81600000 /NoClear /NosYmbol
```

## 6.) Loading kernel symbols

---

Kernel symbols are very important when debugging a Linux system. Without kernel symbols, no Linux aware debugging is possible. You need to load the kernel symbols even if you only debug user applications and do not debug the kernel code.

The kernel debug information is included in the file “vmlinux”. This file has to be compiled with debugging information enabled as already explained. You can load the kernel symbols using the following command:

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /NoCODE ; load only kernel debug symbols
```

The option /NOCODE should be used to only load the symbols without kernel code.

The symbols of the vmlinux file contain empty structure definitions (forward declarations in the source files). These may confuse the Linux Awareness. To remove those structure definitions, execute a **sYmbol.CLEANUP** right after loading the symbols into the debugger.

## 7.) Setup debugger MMU translation

---

The debugger needs to have some information about the format of the MMU tables used by the kernel and the kernel address translation. This is configured using the command **MMU.FORMAT**

```
MMU.FORMAT LINUX swapper_pg_dir 0xc0000000--0xc1ffffff 0x80000000
```

The first argument of this command is the format of the MMU tables which could be e.g. “LINUX” or “LINUXSWAP”. Please check `rtos_linux_stop.pdf` for actual format specifier. The second argument is a kernel symbol for the kernel page table and is usually called `swapper_pg_dir`. The third parameter is the virtual to physical kernel address mapping.



**If you get the error message “invalid combination” after the `MMU.FORMAT` command, check if you have enabled the `MMUSPACES`.**

Moreover, you need to set the common address range with the command `TRANSLation.COMMON`. This is actually the common address range for all processes and is everything above the process address range e.g.

```
TRANSLation.COMMON 0xbf000000--0xffffffff ;for kernel modules below the
                                           ;kernel
TRANSLation.COMMON 0xc0000000--0xffffffff ;for kernel modules above the
                                           ;kernel
```

Finally you need to enable the MMU table walk with `TRANSLation.TableWalk ON` and enable the debugger address translation with the command `TRANSLation.ON`.

```
TRANSLation.TableWalk ON
TRANSLation.ON
```

If the table walk is enabled, when accessing a virtual address which has no mapping in the debugger local address translation list, the debugger tries to access the kernel MMU tables to get the corresponding physical address. In this case, scanning the MMU is no longer necessary.

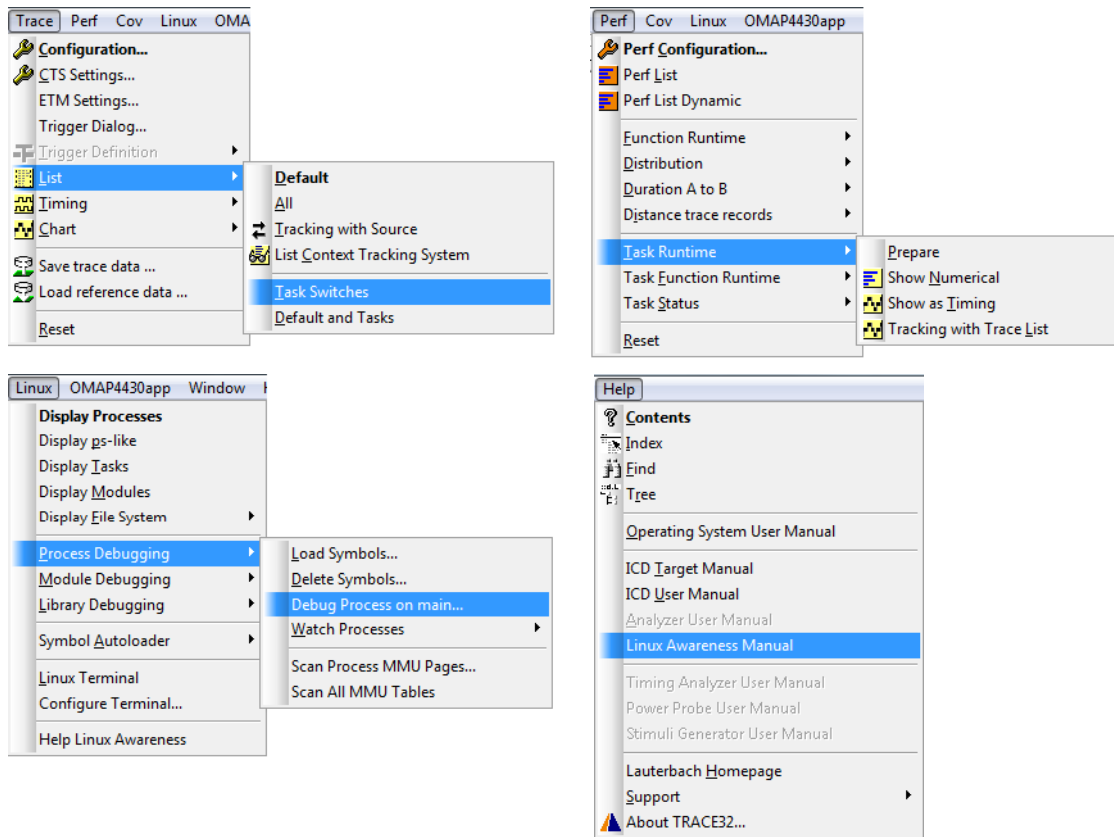
## 8.) Setup Linux awareness

The TRACE32 Linux awareness based on file `linux.t32` (updates only on CD or on request) should be loaded now. Load the awareness and its menu and add the Linux awareness manual to the help filter.

```
TASK.CONFIG ~/demo/<arch>/kernel/linux/linux.t32 ; load the awareness
MENU.ReProgram ~/demo/<arch>/kernel/linux/linux.men ; load Linux menu
HELP.FILTER.Add rtoslinux ; add linux awareness manual to help filter
```

The files are located in your TRACE32 installation directory under “`demo\<arch>\kernel\linux\`” where `<arch>` is e.g. `arm` for the ARM architecture. The Linux menu file includes many useful menu items developed for the TRACE32-GUI to ease Linux-Debugging.

All menus are based on the script “linux.men”. We will have a look on this script later to see what is done by TRACE32 if you use them.



## 9.) Setup symbol autoloader

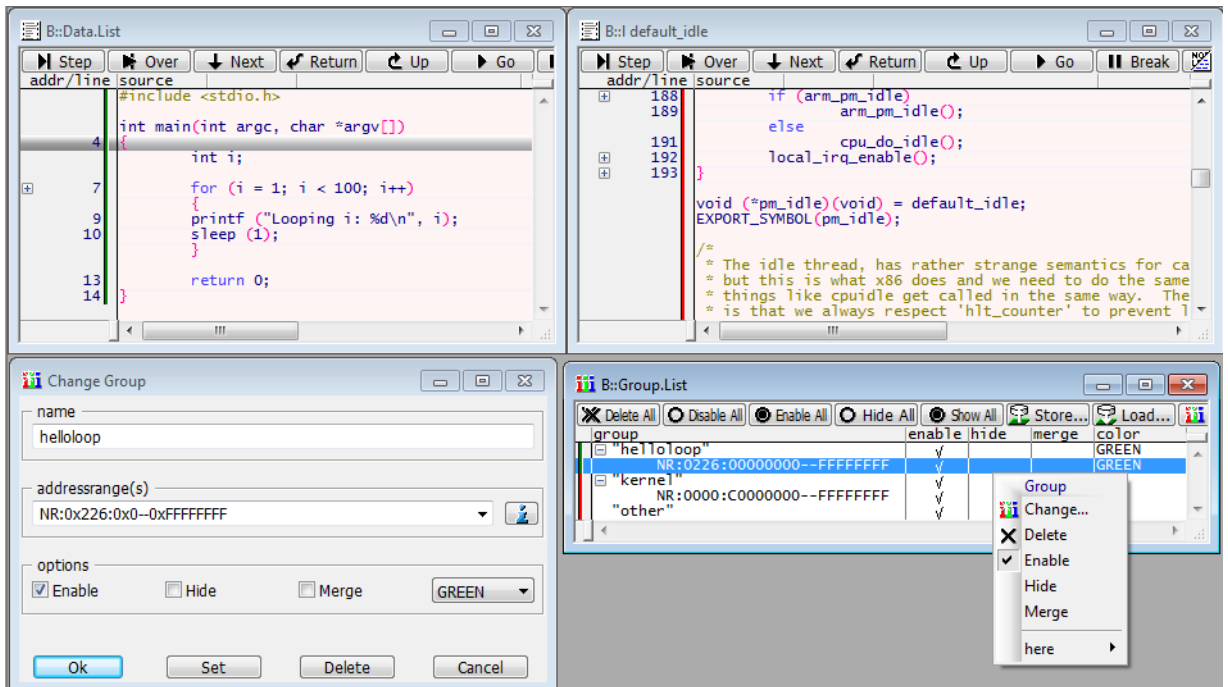
You can specify a script that will be called when a process, kernel module or library is loaded the first time, to load the corresponding symbols. This script, “autoload.cmm” is provided by Lauterbach and is located under “\demo\<arch>\kernel\linux\”. You can use the following command to setup the autoloader script. **Don’t erase the blank behind “autoload”**.

```
sSymbol.AutoLoad.CHECKLINUX "do ~/demo/<arch>/kernel/linux/autoload "
```

## 10.) Mark the Kernel Address Space

For better visibility, you can mark the kernel address space to be displayed with a red bar. Application addresses can only be marked if the process has started, the process MMU table is valid and the process id (pid) / TRACE32 space id has been assigned!

```
GROUP.Create "kernel"      0x0000:0xC0000000--0xFFFFFFFF /RED
GROUP.Create "helloloop"   0x02BF:0x00000000--0xFFFFFFFF /GREEN
```



## 11.) Boot Linux

Everything is set up now. If the kernel is not already running and if you are not interested in debugging the kernel boot, you can let Linux run as long as it needs to boot completely (e.g. 10 seconds).

```
Go
WAIT 10.s
Break
```

If the kernel boots correctly, you should get a prompt shell in the serial terminal window:

```
B::TERM
init started: BusyBox v1.5.0 (2010-04-22 08:56:50 CEST) multi-call binary
starting pid 533, tty '': '/etc/inimmc0: host does not support reading read-only
t.d/rcS'

Welcome to Linux on ARM - TRACE3mmc0: new high speed SDHC card at address b368
2 Edition

mmcblk0: mmc0:b368 SMI 3.76 GiB

mounting /proc: done.
config inet 10.17.0.42: ifconfig: SIOCSET mmcbk0: p1 p2
FADDR: No such device
config ttyS0: busybox: applet not found
/etc/init.d/rcS: line 17: cannot open /dev/ttyS0: no such file
done.System started.
starting pid 548, tty '': '/bin/sh'

BusyBox v1.5.0 (2010-04-22 08:56:50 CEST) Built-in shell (ash)
Enter 'help' for a list of built-in commands.

-sh: can't access tty; job control turned off
#
```

### 3.) Example Linux setup-script

You can find here an example Linux script for the Pandaboard. We connect here to the target with SYStem.Up, we use the bootloader to initialize the target, we download the kernel and ramdisk image with the debugger and set the initial values for the CPU registers.

```
RESet

; setup of ICD
PRINT "initializing..."
SYStem.CPU OMAP4430
SYStem.JtagClock CTCK 30MHz
SYStem.Option DACR ON           ; give Debugger global write permissions
TrOnchip.Set DABORT OFF        ; used by Linux for page miss!
TrOnchip.Set PABORT OFF        ; used by Linux for page miss!
TrOnchip.Set UNDEF OFF         ; my be used by Linux for FPU detection
SYStem.Option MMUSPACES ON     ; enable space ids to virtual addresses
SYStem.Up

; Open a serial terminal window
TERM.METHOD COM COM1 115200. 8 NONE 1STOP NONE
TERM.MODE VT100
TERM.SCROLL ON
TERM.SIZE 80. 1000
WINPOS 76.0 25.0 80. 24. 0. 0. TermWin
SCREEN.ALWAYS
TERM

SETUP.IMASKASM ON              ; lock interrupts while single stepping

; Let the boot monitor setup the board
Go
PRINT "target setup..."
WAIT 1.s
Break

; Load the Linux kernel
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux 0x80008000-0xc0008000 /GNU /NoSymbol /NoREG

Register.RESet

; Set PC on start address of image
Register.Set PC 0x80008000

; Set machine type in R1; see arch/arm/tools/mach-types
Register.Set R1 2791. ; omap4_panda

DO atag_list.cmm ; call script to set R2 and init. the atag structure
```

continued on next page.

continued:

```
; Loading RAM disk
Data.LOAD.Binary ramdisk.image.gz 0x81600000 /NoClear /NoSymbol

; Load the Linux kernel symbols into the debugger
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /GNU /NoCODE /STRIPPART 3.

; Open a Code Window -- we like to see something
WINPOS 0. 0. 75. 20.
Data.List
SCREEN

PRINT "initializing debugger MMU..."
MMU.FORMAT LINUX swapper_pg_dir 0xc0000000--0xdfffffff 0x80000000
TRANSLATION.COMMON 0xbf000000--0xffffffff
TRANSLATION.TableWalk ON
TRANSLation.ON

; Initialize Linux Awareness
PRINT "initializing multi task support..."
TASK.CONFIG ~/demo/arm/kernel/linux/linux ; loads Linux awareness
MENU.ReProgram ~/demo/arm/kernel/linux/linux ; loads Linux menu
HELP.FILTER.Add rtoslinux ; add linux awareness manual to help filter

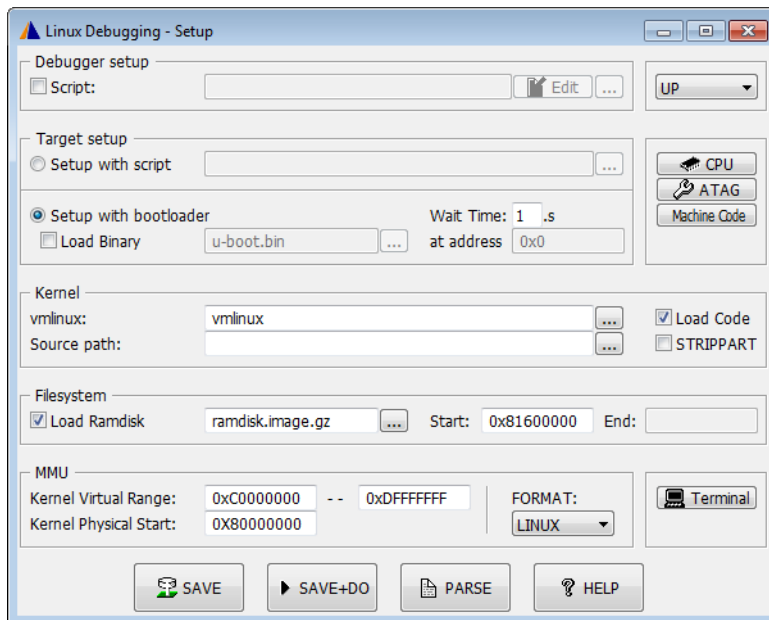
sYmbol.Autoload.CHECKLINUX "do ~/demo/arm/kernel/linux/autoload.cmm "

Go
WAIT 5.s
Break
```

## 4.) Linux Debugging Dialog

The Linux script can be setup using the Linux Debugging dialog. This dialog can be opened by calling the script `linux_dialog.cmm` that can be found under `demo\<arch>\kernel\linux` e.g.

```
DO ~~\demo\arm\kernel\linux\linux_dialog.cmm
```



This chapter will show how to debug the different Linux components explained in the previous chapters. First you will see the easy handling by the special included Linux menu. Then we will have a look on the script “linux.men” which builds the Linux menu to explain how it works. It will give a deeper understanding what happens when you use items of this menu. This might help to understand what is necessary to do if the results are not as expected.

1. Debugging Linux Components
2. Linux specific Windows and Features
3. The Linux Menu Script

## Displaying the source code

Before going through debugging the different Linux components, we will show first an issue which is common to all these components and which is **displaying the source code for loaded symbols**. If you are not running TRACE32 on the host where you compiled your object files (e.g. bootloader, kernel..) the debugger, which uses per default the compile path to find the source files, will not find these files. Thus, the debugger needs to be set up to be able to find the source code. Two options are available in the **Data.LOAD** command for this purpose: **/STRIPPART** and **/SourcePATH**. With the option **/STRIPPART** you can remove parts of the path stored in the object file. With the option **/SourcePATH** you can specify a basis directory for the source files. The debugger will take the rest of the compile path (without the stripped part) and will append it to the specified source path. The source path can also be set using the command **sYmbol.SourcePATH**.

For example, if you compiled our kernel on a Linux machine in the directory `/home/user/linux-kernel/linux-3.4` and you are running TRACE32 on a Windows machine where you have the kernel source files tree under `C:\Debugging\Linux\Sources\linux-3.4`, you can for example load the kernel symbols with

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /NoCODE /STRIPPART "linux-kernel"  
/SourcePATH C:\Debugging\Linux\Sources
```

or

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /NoCODE /STRIPPART 4.  
/SourcePATH C:\Debugging\Linux\Sources
```

or

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /NoCODE /STRIPPART 4.  
sYmbol.SourcePATH C:\Debugging\Linux\Sources
```



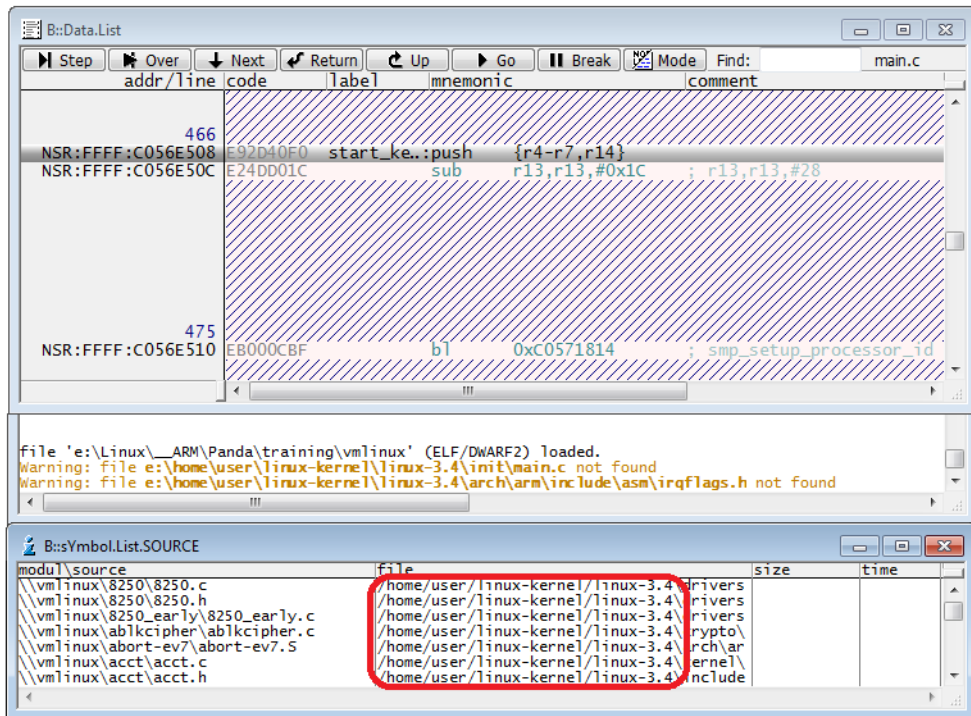
In our case we get the same result if we use the /STRIPPART option with the parameter "linux-kernel" or 4. ("+"home"+"user"+"linux-kernel/").

To look for the source file init/main.c the debugger will here use the path

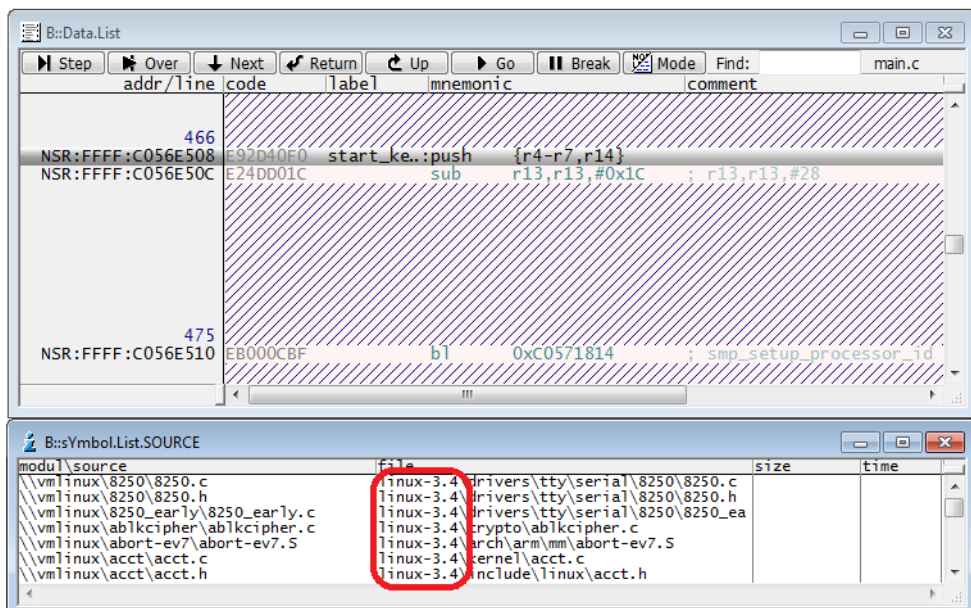
C:\Debugging\Linux\Sources\ + /home/user/linux-kernel/linux-3.4/init/ thus

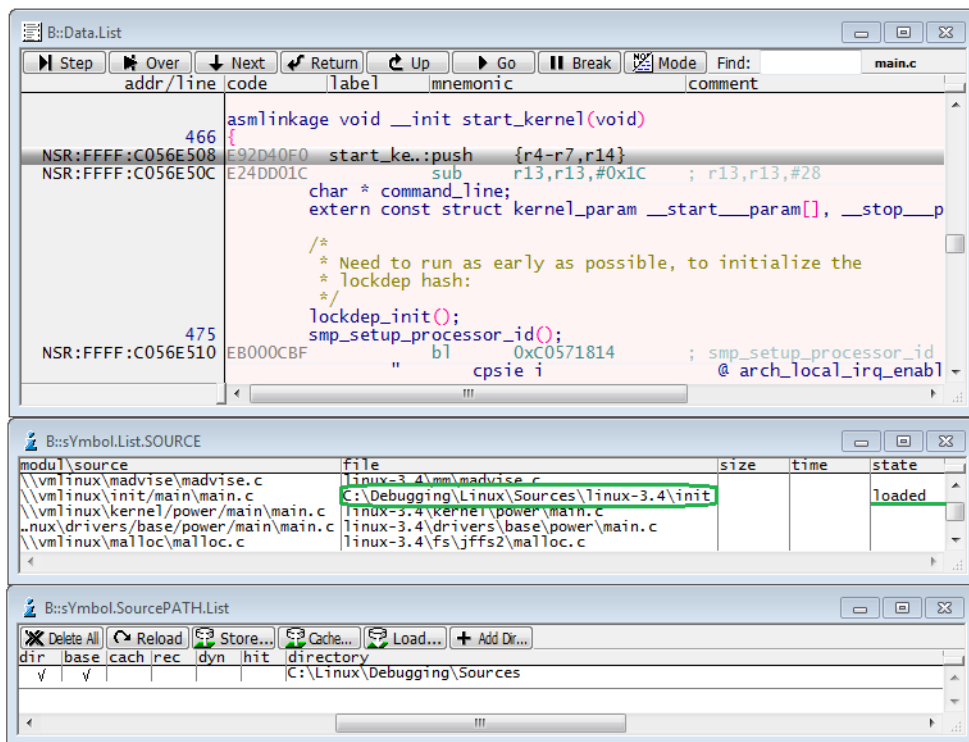
C:\Debugging\Linux\Sources\linux-3.4\init

## 1. Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /NoCODE



## 2. Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /NoCODE /STRIPPART 4.





For more information about displaying the source core, please refer to the ICD manual (training\_icd.pdf).

## 1.) Debugging Linux Components

Each of the components used to build a Linux system needs a different handling for debugging. This chapter describes in detail, how to set up the debugger for the individual components. If you want to debug different components at once, you have to aggregate the commands for the components.

When using several symbol files at once (e.g. kernel, processes and libraries), it is convenient to use the **GROUP** command to mark each component with an own color. Find some example settings below.

The "**RTOS Debugger for Linux - Stop Mode**" (rtos\_linux\_stop.pdf) gives additional detailed instructions.

## a) Bootloader

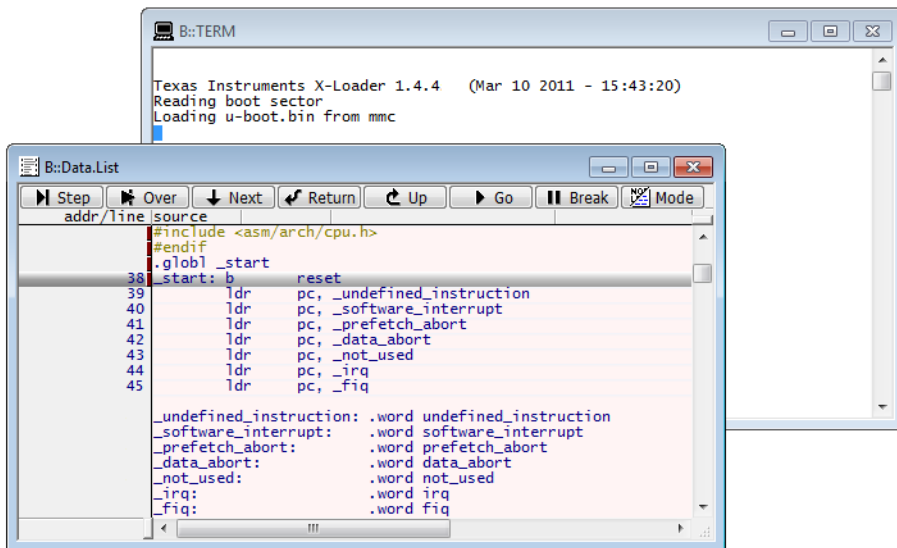
Debugging the bootloader is an easy task. The bootloader is usually stored in Flash and runs in physical address space. It is built as one complete linked image, containing everything you need. Of course you need to build an image containing debug symbols for debugging on High-Level-Language (HLL). Convert this image into a file format suitable for burning into the flash and burn it.

Right after initializing your debugger, load the symbols (only) into the debugger. If you are debugging inside a Flash memory range, remember to map onchip breakpoints for the range or use onchip breakpoints there. A simple debugger startup with the boot loader in Flash could look like this:

```
MAP.BOnchip 0xff000000--0xffffffff ; use on-chip breakpoints in Flash
SYStem.Up ; initialize debugger and reset CPU
Data.LOAD.Elf u-boot /NoCODE ; load symbols of boot loader
```

Moreover, on an SMP system the bootloader runs only on the first core. The other cores generally wait until they are started by the kernel.

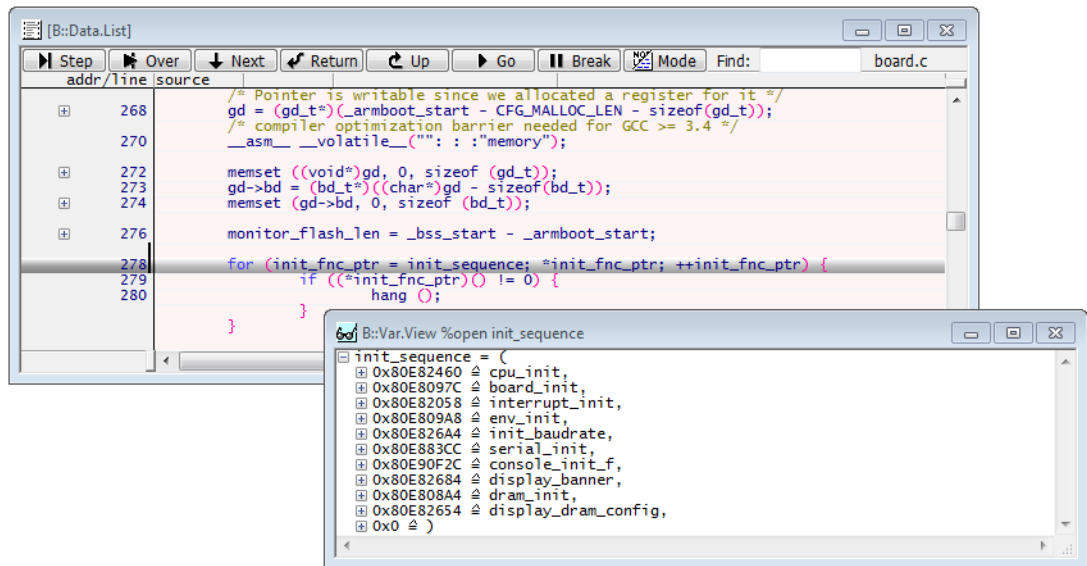
On our Pandaboard, after **SYStem.Up**, the first core is stopped at the Boot ROM which tries to load from the SD card the first bootloader (X-Loader) into the SRAM. The X-Loader initializes then the SDRAM and loads u-boot from the SD card there. The following screen shot shows the first instruction of the u-boot:



The script we use here to debug u-boot is pretty simple:

```
SYStem.CPU OMAP4430
SYStem.Up
Data.LOAD.Elf u-boot /NoCODE /STRIPPART 3.
Go _start /ONCHIP
```

You can e.g. debug the bootloader to check the hardware initialization



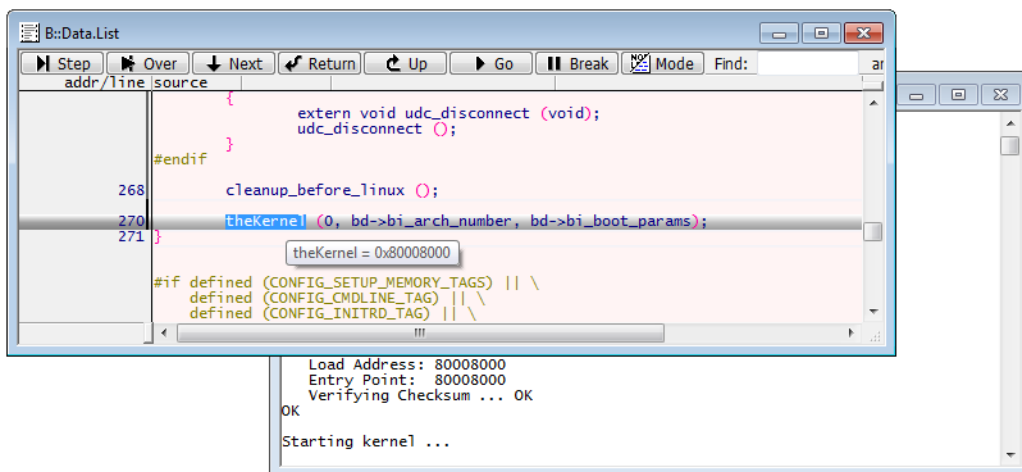
The screenshot shows a debugger window with the source code of `board.c`. The code is as follows:

```
268 /* Pointer is writable since we allocated a register for it */
269 gd = (gd_t*)(_armboot_start - CFG_MALLOC_LEN - sizeof(gd_t));
270 /* compiler optimization barrier needed for GCC >= 3.4 */
271 __asm__ __volatile__ ("": ::"memory");
272
273 memset((void*)gd, 0, sizeof(gd_t));
274 gd->bd = (bd_t*)(char*)gd - sizeof(bd_t);
275 memset(gd->bd, 0, sizeof(bd_t));
276
277 monitor_flash_len = _bss_start - _armboot_start;
278
279 for (init_fnc_ptr = init_sequence; *init_fnc_ptr; ++init_fnc_ptr) {
280     if ((*init_fnc_ptr)() != 0) {
281         hang();
282     }
283 }
```

The variable view window shows the `init_sequence` array:

```
B::Var.View %open init_sequence
init_sequence = (
0x80E82460 @ cpu_init,
0x80E8097C @ board_init,
0x80E82058 @ interrupt_init,
0x80E809A8 @ env_init,
0x80E826A4 @ init_baudrate,
0x80E883CC @ serial_init,
0x80E90F2C @ console_init_f,
0x80E82684 @ display_banner,
0x80E808A4 @ dram_init,
0x80E82654 @ display_dram_config,
0x0 @ )
```

After initializing the target and loading the kernel, the bootloader jumps to the kernel start



The screenshot shows a debugger window with the source code of `board.c`. The code is as follows:

```
268 cleanup_before_linux();
270 theKernel(0, bd->bi_arch_number, bd->bi_boot_params);
271 }
```

The console window shows the following output:

```
Load Address: 80008000
Entry Point: 80008000
Verifying Checksum ... OK
OK
Starting kernel ...
```

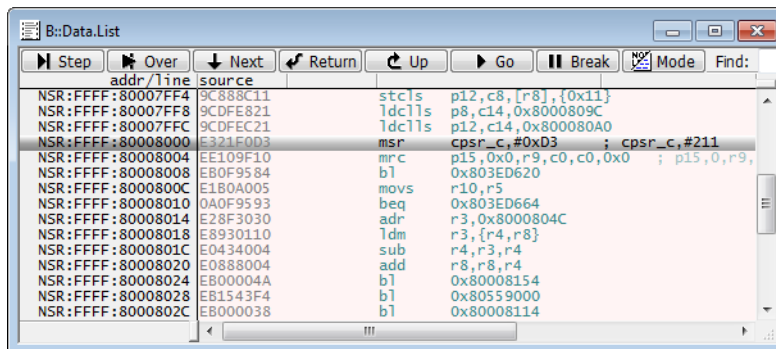


It is not unusual that the bootloader relocates its code. In this case, you need to take care that the symbols are loaded on the correct addresses otherwise breakpoints could fail: onchip breakpoints will not hit and software breakpoints will hit but you will see a “bkpt #0x0” instruction and no source code.

### Kernel startup

The bootloader jumps into the kernel startup routine. It starts at physical address space, does some initialization and sets up the MMU. **Finally the kernel startup switches into virtual address space** and does the rest of the initialization.

The complete kernel startup is part of the vmlinux image. As a such, it's symbols are bound to virtual addresses. So if you load the kernel symbols without specifying any address, you will see no symbol information:



To debug the tiny startup sequence running in physical address range, you need to relocate the virtual symbols to the physical addresses:

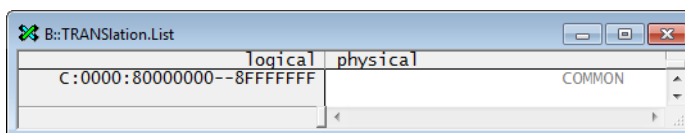
```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux <phys. start addr>-<virtual start addr> /NoCODE
```

E.g., if the kernel runs in virtual address 0xC0000000, and the physical memory starts at 0x80000000, you have to shift the addresses by 0x80000000-0xC0000000:

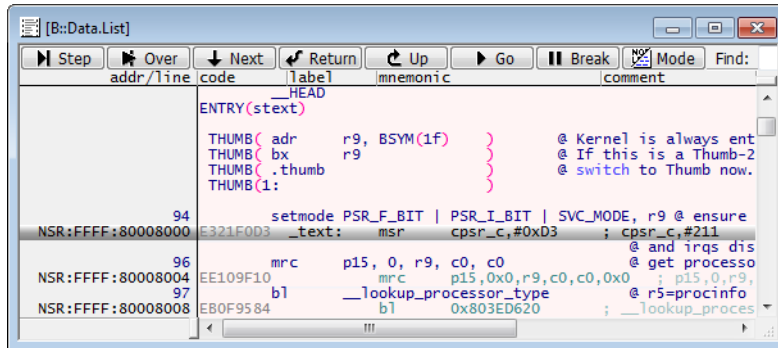
```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux 0x80000000-0xC0000000 /NoCODE
```

If the address extension has already been enabled (**SYStem.Option MMUSPACES ON**), then you need to declare the startup of the kernel as common area in the debugger translation table to be able to see the debug information. However, you have to undo this after the MMU is enabled.

```
TRANSLation.COMMON 0x80000000--0x8fffffff
```



Now, you can see the symbol information:



Please note, that as long as the debugger MMU is not set up, it is recommended to use onchip breakpoints:

```
Break.Set rest_init /Onchip
```

## Kernel Boot

After enabling the MMU, the kernel startup code switches to virtual addresses. From now on, the Linux kernel runs completely in virtual address space. The symbols are all bound to these virtual addresses, so simply load the Linux symbols as they are. As already noted in a previous chapter, some structure information needs to be fixed by a “clean-up”

```
Data.LOAD.Elf vmlinux /NoCODE ; load the kernel symbols
sYmbol.CLEANUP ; get rid of useless symbols
```

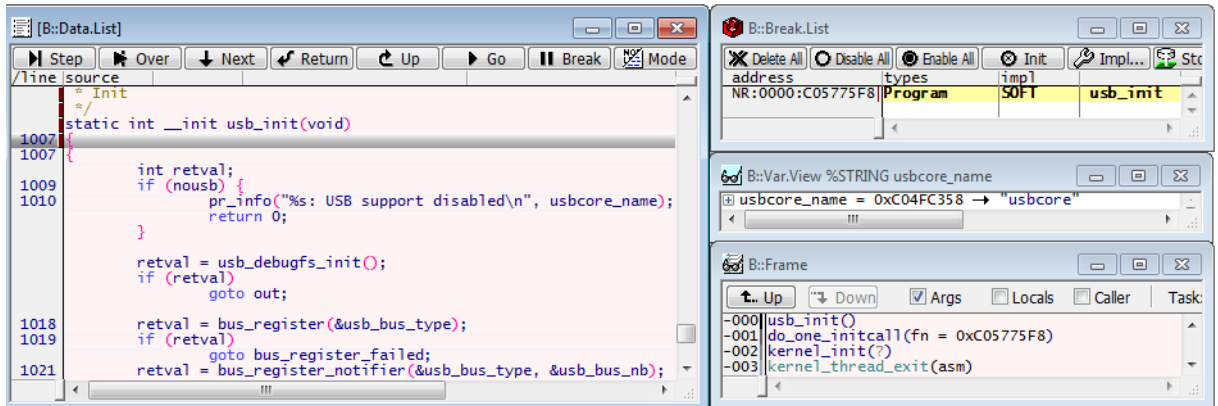
As already explained, the debugger needs to know the MMU translation map for the kernel, the address of the kernel translation table and the MMU format used by the kernel. By declaring the kernel range as COMMON, the loaded symbols will be displayed for all space ids.

```
MMU.FORMAT Linux swapper_pg_dir 0xC0000000--0xC1FFFFFF 0x00000000
TRANSLation.COMMON 0xC0000000--0xFFFFFFFF
TRANSLation.ON
```

For your convenience, you may mark the complete kernel address space with a red bar:

```
GROUP.Create "kernel" 0xC0000000--0xFFFFFFFF /RED
```

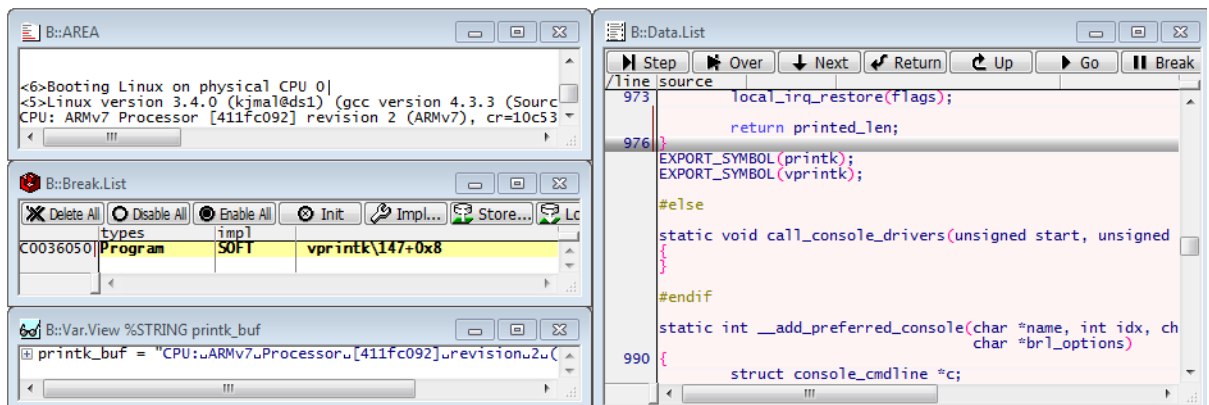
You can use here software breakpoints since all the kernel code is already loaded and has a translation map.



If your kernel does not boot correctly, you can look for the last message in the terminal window and debug the corresponding function. If you have no terminal output because the error happens before the serial console has been initialized or because there is a problem in the serial driver, you can set a breakpoint at the end of the `vprintk` function and watch the `printk_buf` buffer. You can for example print the buffer to the AREA window using the following script.

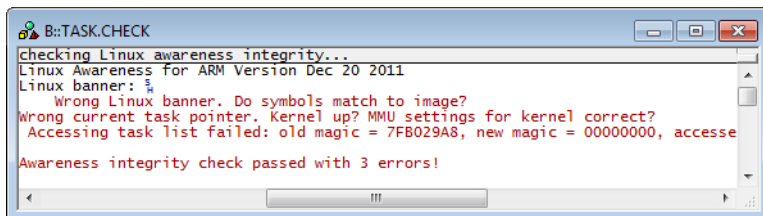
```

Break.Delete
Break.Set SYMBOL.EXIT(vprintk)
Go
AREA.CLEAR
ON.PBREAK GOSUB
(
    Var.PRINT %STRING printk_buf
    SCREEN
    Go
)
STOP
  
```



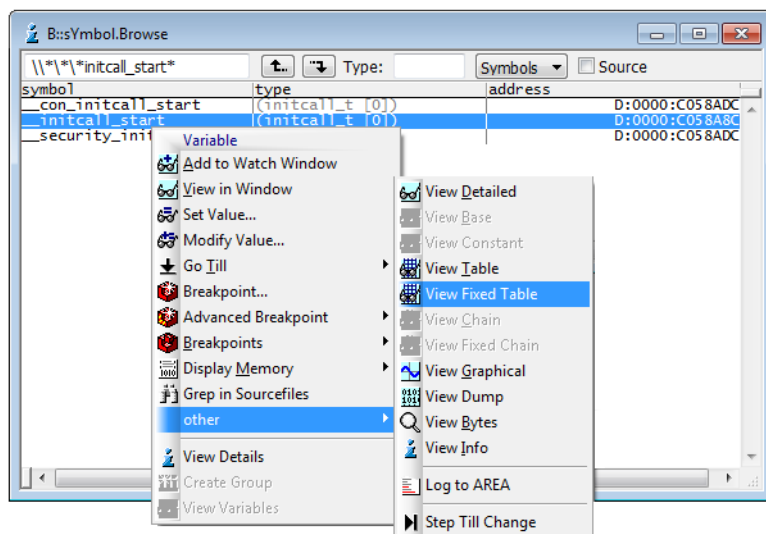
It is very important that the kernel running on the target is from the **very same build** than the symbol file loaded into the debugger. A typical error is to have a ulmage loaded by the bootloader (e.g. from a memory card) and a vmlinux and both files are not from the same build. This can lead to very strange results.

You can check if the kernel code matches the loaded symbols using the **TASK.CHECK** command. First let the kernel boot, stop the target and then execute **TASK.CHECK**. When the symbols does not match the kernel code, you will get an error message in this window:



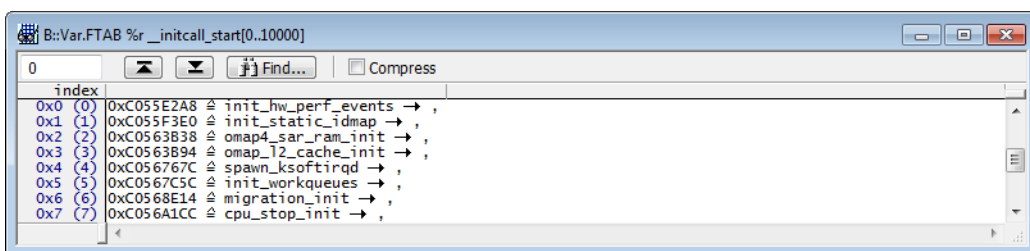
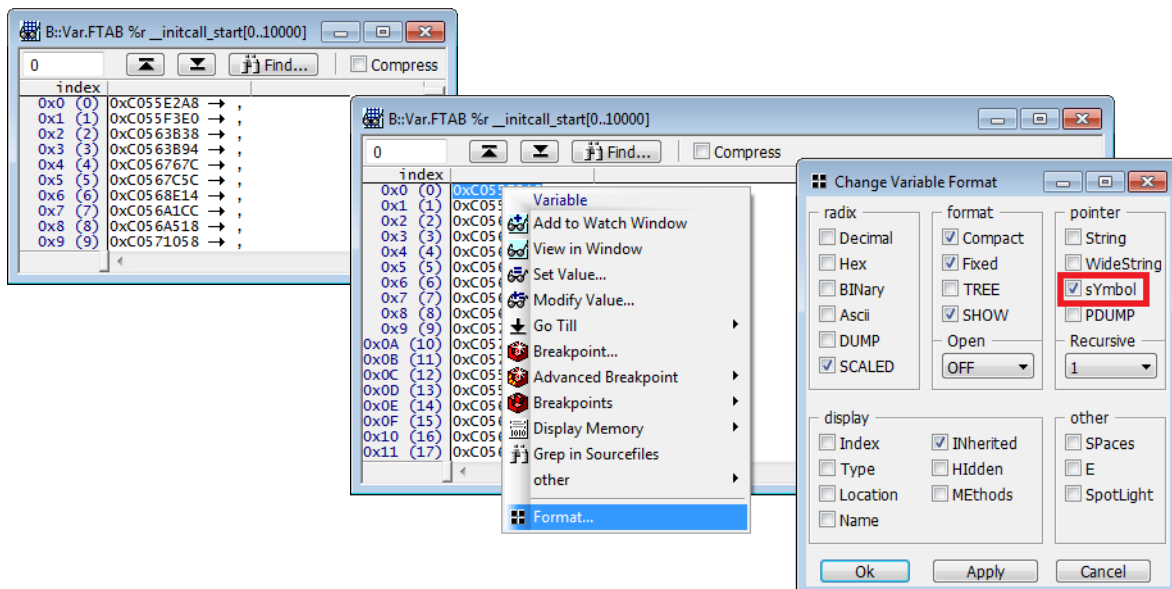
### Example: debugging built-in device drivers

Most of the built-in device drivers are registered in the initcall table. You can search for the `__initcall_start` label in the **sYmbol.Browse** window and view it as a fixed table:

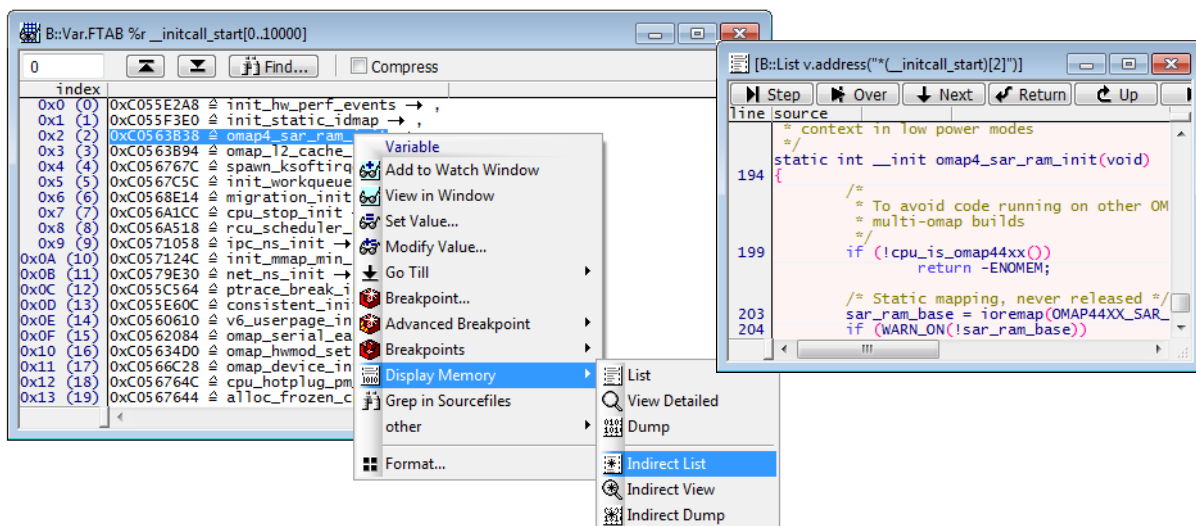




You will get a table with the start addresses of the device drivers init functions you can display the names of the functions by checking the sYmbol item in “pointer” category:



By selecting “Display Memory” -> “Indirect List”, you can display the source code of a specific function in the list:

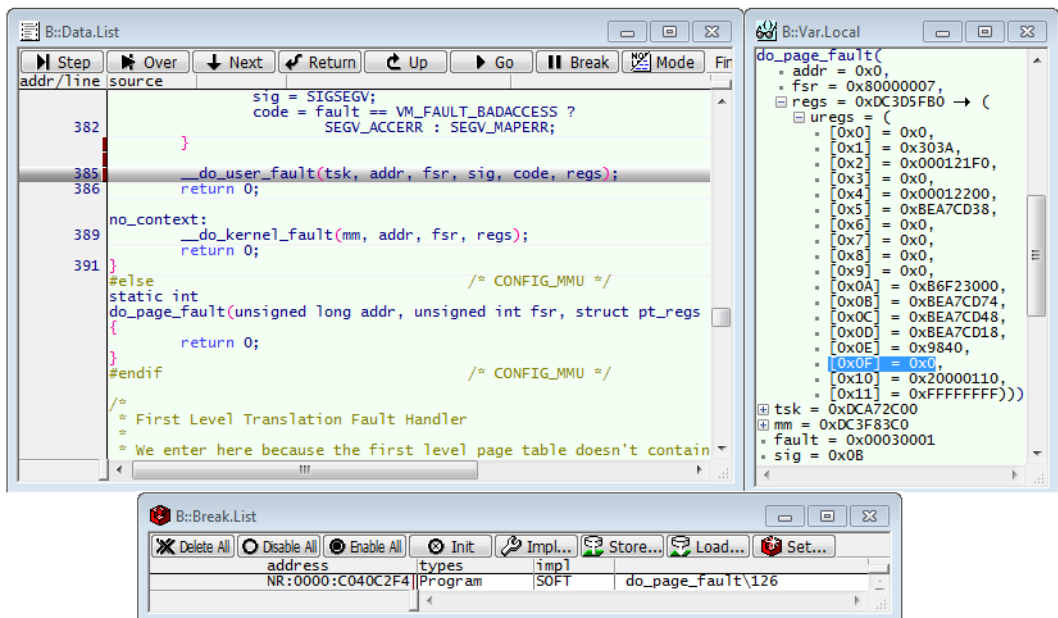


## Example: trapping segmentation violation

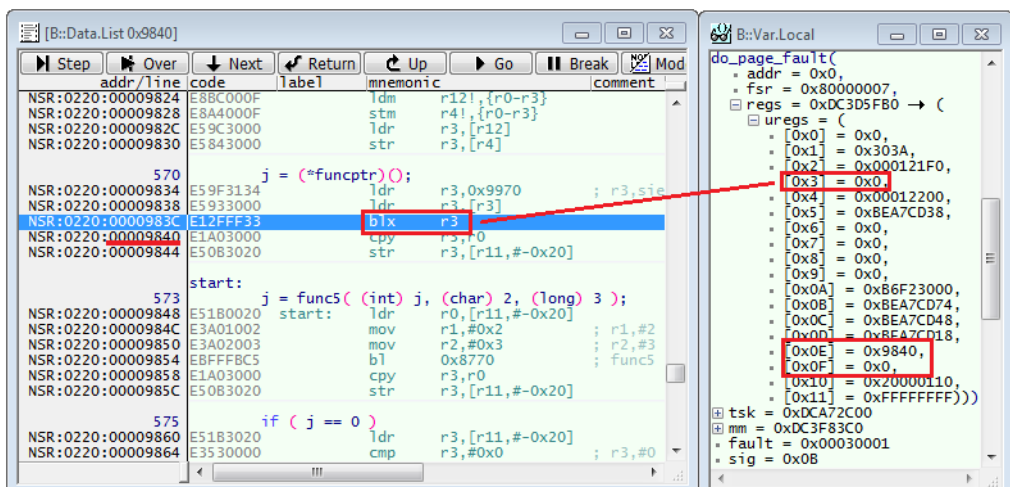
Segmentation violation happens if the code tries to access a memory location that cannot be mapped in an appropriate way. E.g. if a process tries to write to a read-only area or if the kernel tries to read from a non-existent address. A segmentation violation is detected inside the kernel routine “do\_page\_fault”.

Depending on the kernel version, if the mapping of the page fails, the kernel jumps to the label “bad\_area” or “\_\_do\_user\_fault”/“\_\_do\_kernel\_fault”.

To trap segmentation violation, we set a breakpoint in our example onto the label “do\_page\_fault” before “\_\_do\_user\_fault” is called and look to the structure “regs” which contains the complete register set at the location where the fault occurred.

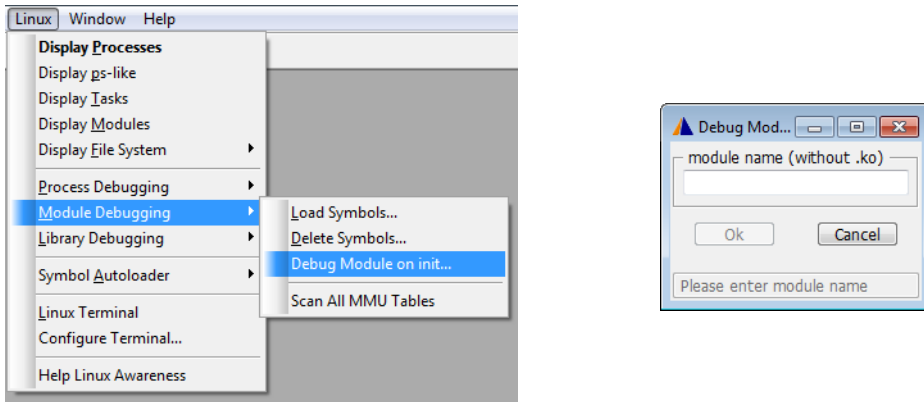


The register with the index 15 is the program counter which caused the segmentation violation and the register with the index 14 contains the return address. In out case the segmentation violation is caused by a branch to the address 0x0 which is caused by a zero function pointer.

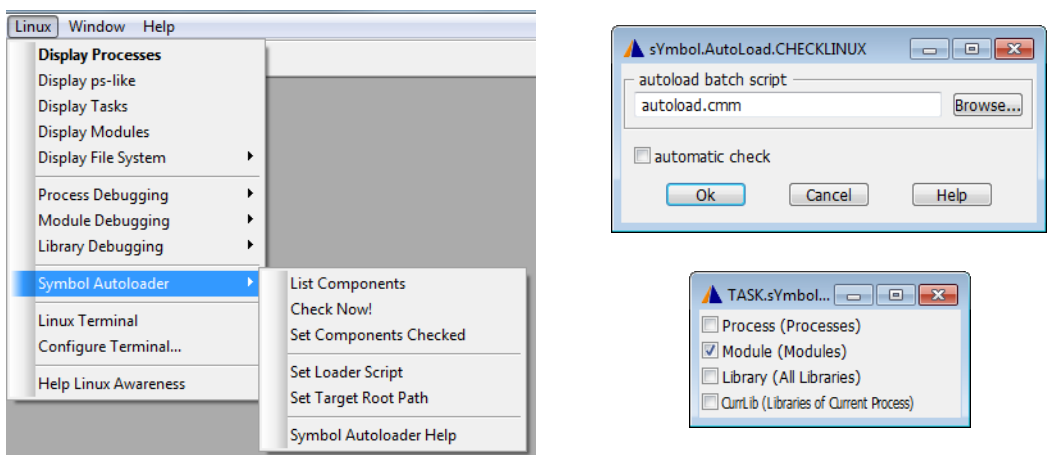


## c) Kernel Modules

Kernel modules are loaded and linked into the kernel at run-time. To ease the debugging of kernel modules the enhanced Linux menu offers item “Debug Module on init...” which waits until a module is loaded, and loads the symbols if the init function belongs to the wanted module name



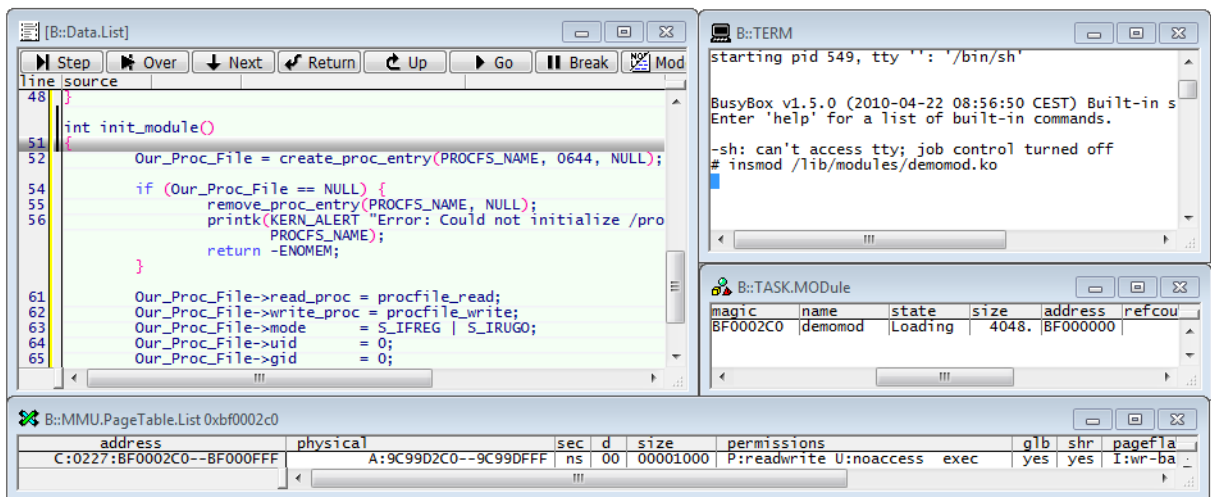
This “**Module Debugging**” menu depends on the “autoloader” function of the TRACE32 Linux Awareness based on the script “demo\arm\kernel\linux\autoload.cmm”..



Remember, that **the kernel modules are part of the kernel address range and should be covered by TRANSlation.COMMON.**

Please note, that the section addresses (and with them the possibility to debug kernel modules) for Linux kernel version 2.4 are only available under certain circumstances! See the Linux Awareness Manual, how to set up these prerequisites, and how to debug the initialization routine of a kernel module.

After loading for example the kernel module demomod by calling “insmod demomod.ko” entered into a terminal window you will see the code and source of “demomod” at the address of the modules init function.



If you remove a kernel module from the kernel (with “rmmod”), you **should** remove the symbols of the module from the debugger.

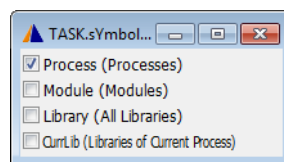
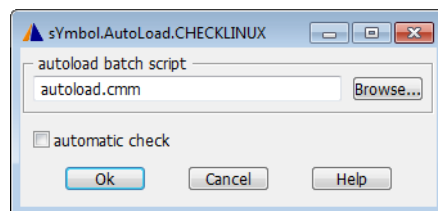
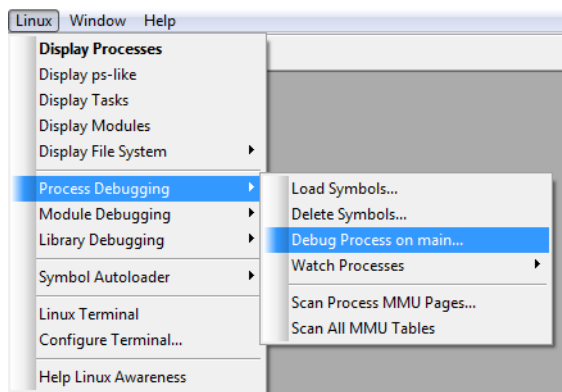
```
TASK.sYmbol.DELEteMod "demomod" ; erase obsolete module symbols
```

The demo directory contains a script file called “mod\_debug.cmm” which has the same functionality as the menu item “Debug Module on init...”:

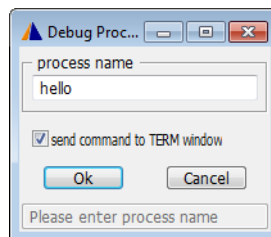
```
DO ~~\demo\arm\kernel\linux\mod_debug.cmm demomod
```

### Debugging a Process not started yet

You can configure the debugger to debug a process from its start. **The Linux menu** provides a comfortable way to debug processes from main. The process will be stopped right after the instruction at main is executed. (Due to the page fault handling the needed page could not be available until the CPU wants to execute the instruction at main.)



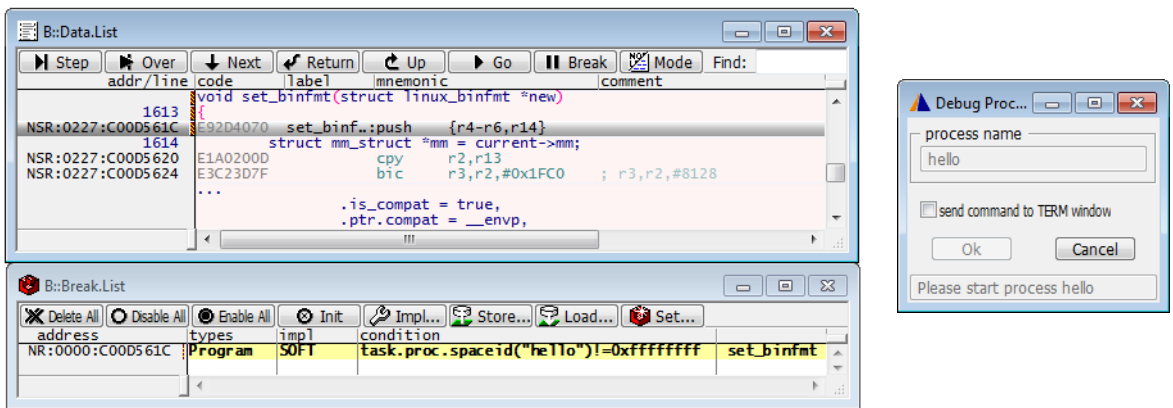
Enter the name of the process to be  
(without parameters).  
By checking the “send command to TERM  
window”, the process will be started from  
the TERM window.



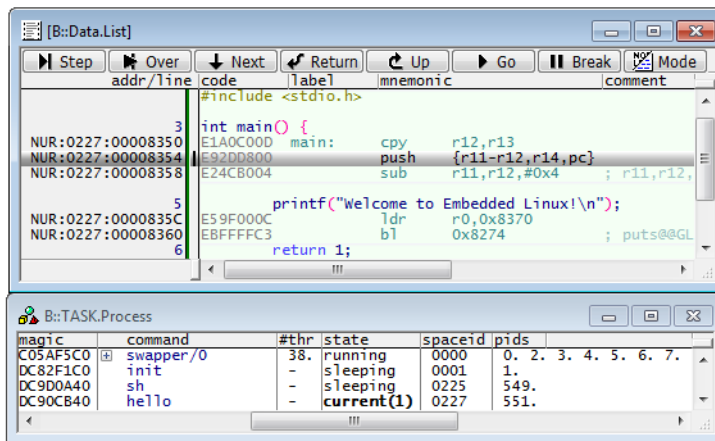
You can also use the script `app_debug.cmm` available under `demo\<arch>\kernel\linux` to debug processes on main e.g.

```
DO ~~\demo\arm\kernel\linux\app_debug.cmm hello
```

Now after this preparation you can wait till the application reaches main of the given process. Internally a conditional software breakpoint is set on kernel function “set\_binfmt”. When this breakpoint is hit, TRACE32 checks if the specified process is already loaded. If so the debugger extracts the space id and loads the symbols. At this stage, the code of the process has not yet been loaded so we can't set software breakpoints on the process' code. We use instead here an onchip breakpoint to the first instruction after `main()` (e.g. `main+4`).



As soon as the process is started, the code will be loaded and executed and the breakpoint will be hit. Now, we are able to scan the process' MMU and to set software breakpoints.



The supporting dialog of "Debug Process on main" is closed (if used: app\_debug.cmm is finished) and all breakpoints used for this aim are erased.

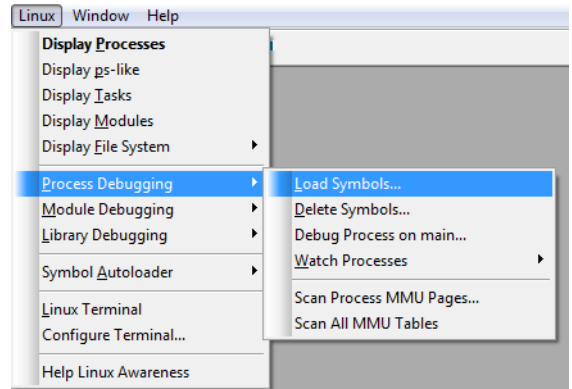
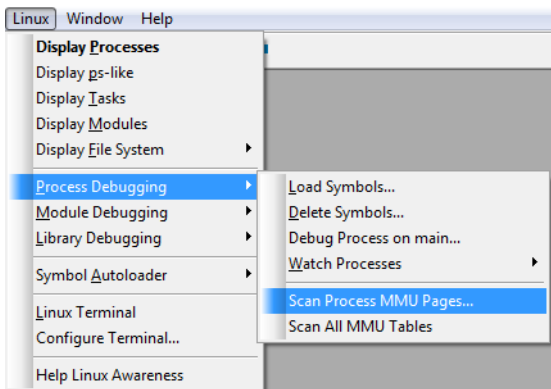
For your convenience, you may define groups of processes and they'll be marked by colored bars:

```
GROUP.Create "myprocgrp" 0x2C0:0x0--0xffffffff /GREEN
```

You can continue now debugging your process.

## Debugging a Process started already

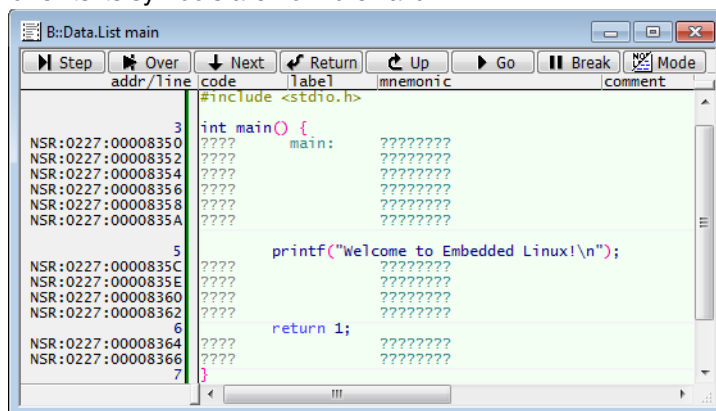
If the process is already running it is **not possible to work with** the comfortable menu item “**Debug Process on main**”! Because the feature works with 2 breakpoint on addresses that will not be used again: “set\_binfmt” from kernel and “main+0x4 at early start of your process. Actually, the process MMU tables already exist and the code of the process is accessible. We just need to load the symbols.



If you activated the **TRANSlation.TableWalk** and initialized the symbol autoloader you can just stop anywhere and the debugger will be automatically updated to the new target state.

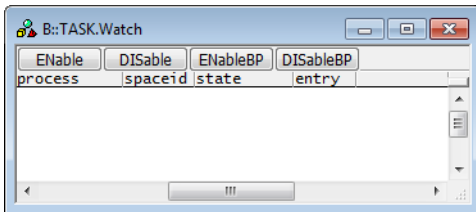
## Symbol cleanup after process termination

After the process “hello” exits its symbols are no more valid:

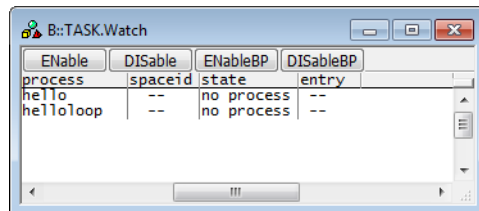
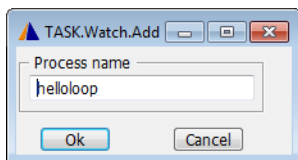
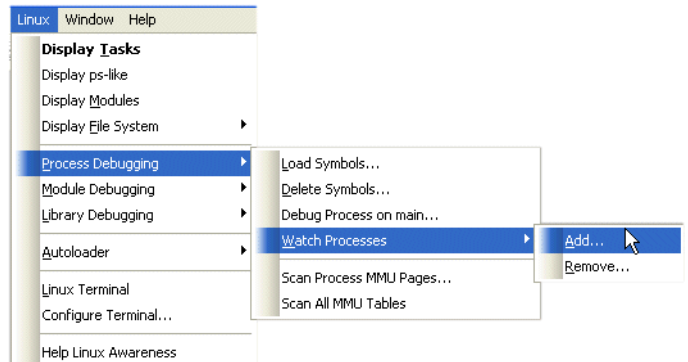


```
sYmbol.Delete \\hello ; get rid of invalid symbols
```

There is a “process watch system” available, that watches for the creation and termination of specified processes. This watch system then loads and deletes symbols automatically and keeps the MMU in sync. See “TASK.Watch” in the Linux Awareness Manual for details.



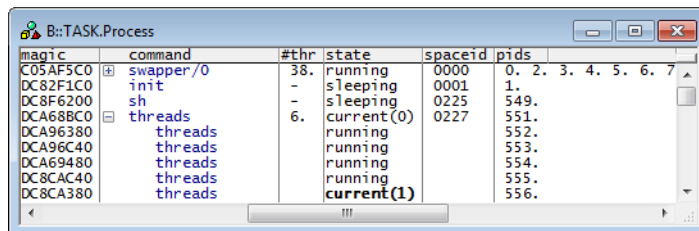
Use the watch system and the menu to add and remove processes to be observed and synchronized to.



Now that you know how to debug Linux processes the biggest part is done. But there are many Linux related TRACE32 windows offering Linux specific information you might be looking for. So **further exiting features of the TRACE32 Linux Awareness are shown in chapter “Linux specific Windows and Features”.**

## e) Threads

Threads are Linux tasks that share the same virtual memory space. The Linux Awareness assigns the space id of the creating process to all threads of this process. Because symbols are bound to a specific space id, they are automatically valid for all threads of the same process. There is no special handling for threads they are loaded when loading the process symbols. See chapter “Processes” how to load and handle these symbols.

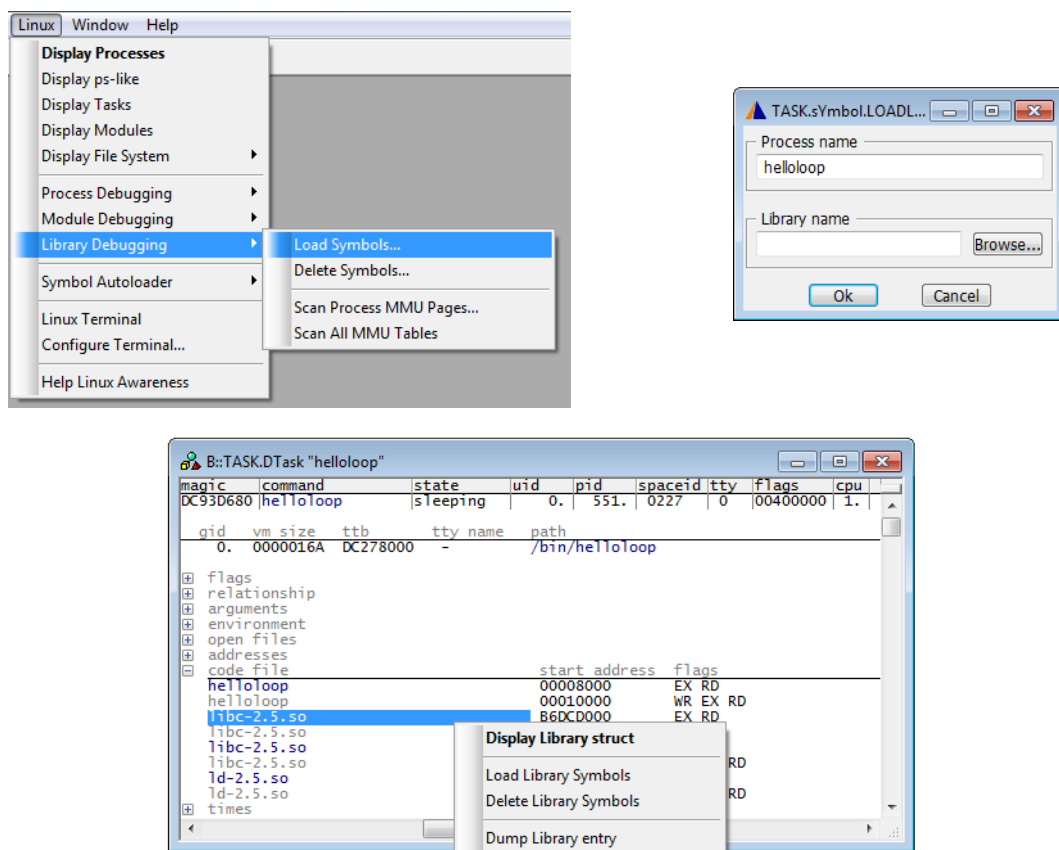




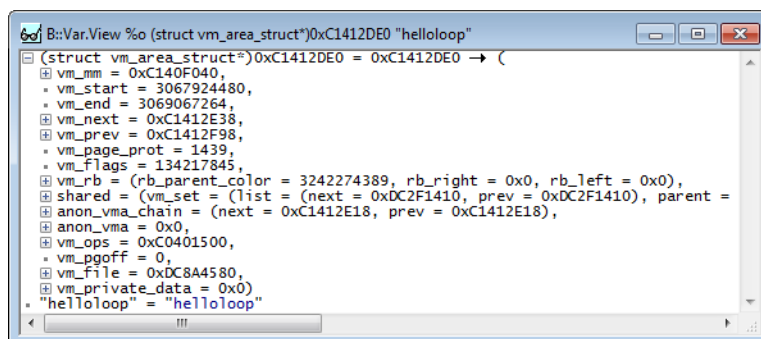
## f) Libraries

Libraries are loaded and linked dynamically to processes. Thus, they run in the virtual address space of the process and have dynamic addresses. To debug you can use the menu “Library Debugging”:

Or you display first the task list by command “Task.DTask” and then continue with double or right-clicks:



You can also show the internal kernel structure for a selected library by selecting “display library struct”.



In case you want to load or delete the symbols of the library and wish to update the MMU automatically by a script you have to use the following commands:

```
TASK.sYmbol.LOADLib "helloloop" "ld-2.2.5.so" ; load library symbols  
TASK.sYmbol.DEleteLib "\\ld-2.2.5.so" ; erase library symbols
```

**Please remember to configure the “autoloader” for libraries!**

## 2.) The Linux menu file

This topic is dedicated to persons interested in how the menus of the Linux Awareness work. Related to the previous explanations and examples you will recognize several sections and actions of the menu-building file “demo\arm\kerne\linux\linux.men” now.

By this knowledge you should be able to use command sequences of “linux.men” in you own scripts. But remember the features “Debug Process on main” and “Debug Module on init...” are available already as scripts: “app\_debug.cmm” and “mod\_debug.cmm” at “demo\arm\kerne\linux\”.

```
! Linux specific menu
add
menu
(
  popup "&Linux"
  (
    default
    menuitem "Display &Tasks"      "TASK.DTask"
    menuitem "Display ps-like"    "TASK.PS pid tty time stat cmd"
    menuitem "Display &Modules"   "TASK.MODULE"
    popup "Display &File System"
    (
      menuitem "Display FS Types"      "TASK.FS.Types"
    )
  )
# snip #
)
separator
popup "&Process Debugging"
(
  menuitem "&Load Symbols..."
  (
    dialog
    (
      header "TASK.sYmbol.LOAD"
    )
  )
# snip #
)
menuitem "Debug Process on main..."
(
  global &breakaddr
  &breakaddr=0
  if (task.watch.active()==1)
  (
    dialog.ok "Please close TASK.Watch window" "before using this menu item"
  )
  if (task.y.o(autoload)&0x1)!=1
  (
    dialog.ok "Please configure autoloader" "to check processes"
  )
  dialog
  (
    header "Debug Process on main"
  )
# snip #
)
popup "&Watch Processes"
(
  menuitem "&Add..."
  (
    dialog
    (
      header "TASK.Watch.Add"
    )
  )
# snip #
)
popup "&Library Debugging"
(
  menuitem "&Load Symbols..."
# snip #
)
popup "&Autoloader"
(
  menuitem "List Components" "sYmbol.AutoLoad.List"
  menuitem "Check Now!" "sYmbol.AutoLoad.CHECK"
  menuitem "Set Loader Script"
# snip #
)
```

### 3.) Linux specific Windows and Features

#### Display of system resources

You can display the list of running tasks, kernel modules...

Several windows are available to display e.g. the process list. TASK.PS displays the process table similar to the output of the “ps” shell command. TASK.DTask give you more detailed information. TASK.Process displays the processes with their threads. You can open all there window from the Linux menu or from the command line.

The screenshot displays three windows from the TASK utility:

- B::TASK.PS**: Shows a table of running processes with columns for pid, tty, time(ticks), state, and command. The 'helloloop' process is highlighted.
- B::TASK.DTask**: Shows a detailed view of the 'helloloop' process, including its magic, command, state, uid, pid, spaceid, tty, flags, and cpu. A context menu is open over this window, listing options like 'Display detailed', 'Display task struct', 'Display Stack Frame', 'Display Registers', 'Switch Context', 'Load Process Symbols', 'Delete Process Symbols', 'Add Libraries to Symbol Autoloader', 'Add to Watched Processes', 'Delete from Watched Processes', 'Scan MMU Pages', 'Dump task entry', 'Kill task', and 'Trace this task'.
- B::TASK.Process**: Shows a table of processes with columns for magic, command, #thr, state, spaceid, and pids. The 'helloloop' process is highlighted.

The detailed view of the 'helloloop' process in the TASK.DTask window shows the following information:

- magic: DC89F2C0
- command: helloloop
- state: sleeping
- uid: 0
- pid: 553
- spaceid: 0229
- tty: 0
- flags: 00400000
- cpu: 1

The process details section shows:

- gid: 0
- vm size: 0000016A
- ttb: DC264000
- tty name: -
- path: /bin/helloloop

The process flags section shows:

- flags: RANDOMIZE
- parent: youngest child
- younger sibling: -
- older sibling: -

The process arguments section shows:

- arguments: helloloop

The process environment section shows:

- environment: USER=root, HOME=/, TERM=vt102, PATH=/usr/bin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/sbin, SHELL=/bin/sh, PWD=/

The process open files section shows:

- open files: console

The process code section shows:

- code addr/size: 00008000 / 00000488
- data addr/size: 00010488 / 0000011C
- stack start: BE8C3EC0

The process code file section shows:

- code file: helloloop, libc-2.5.so, ld-2.5.so
- start address: 00008000, 00010000, B6E09000, B6F20000, B6F28000, B6F2A000, B6F2E000, B6F51000
- flags: EX RD, WR EX RD, EX RD, WR EX RD, EX RD, WR EX RD

The process start time section shows:

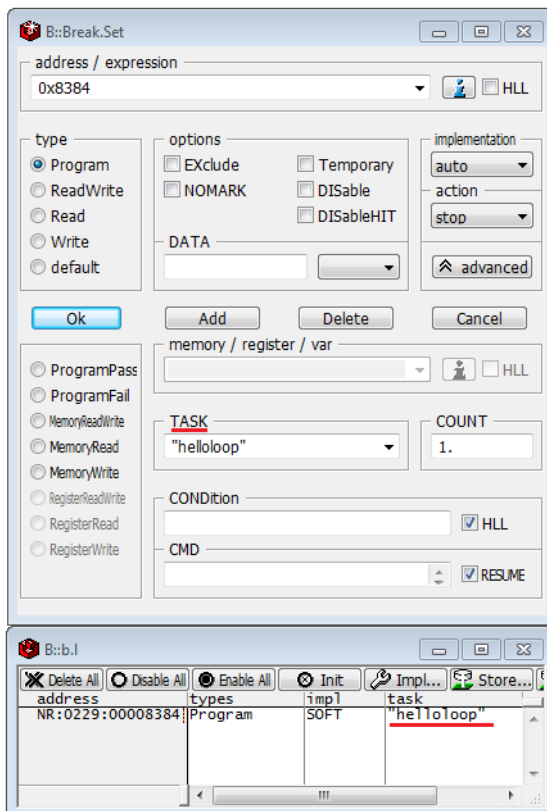
- start time: 38ECC75F
- sleep time: 000001E6
- user time: 00000000
- system time: 00000002

## Task related breakpoints

You can set conditional breakpoints on shared code halting only if hit by a specified task

```
Break.Set myfunction /TASK "mytask"
```

If task related breakpoints are not supported by the core, the debugger will always stop on the breakpoint address and resume executing if the current task is the specified one.



## Task related single stepping

If you debug shared code with HLL single step, which is based on breakpoints, a different task could hit the step-breakpoint. You can avoid this by using the following command:

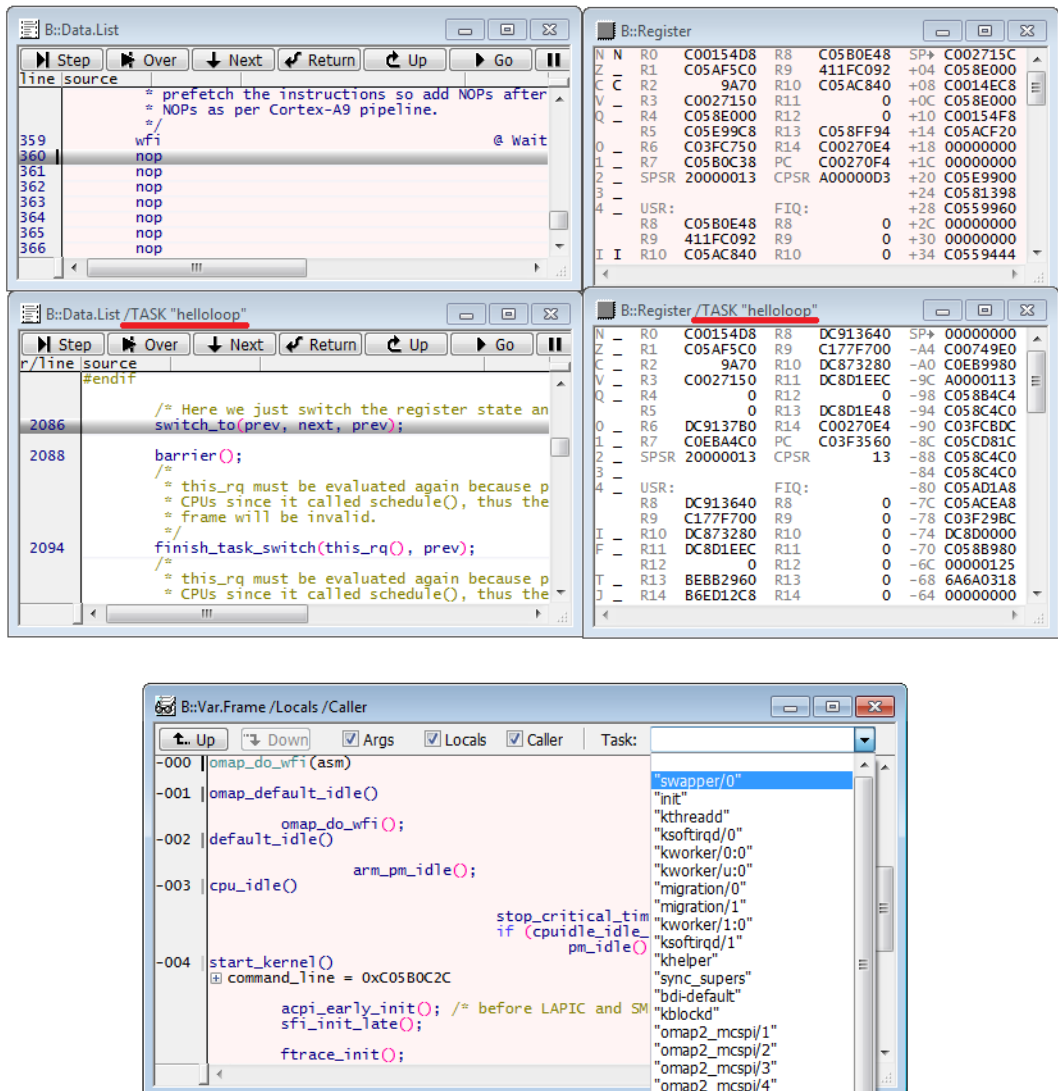
```
SETUP.StepWithinTask ON
```

Conditional breakpoints on the current task will be then used for step into / step over and you will not "leave" the task that you want to debug.

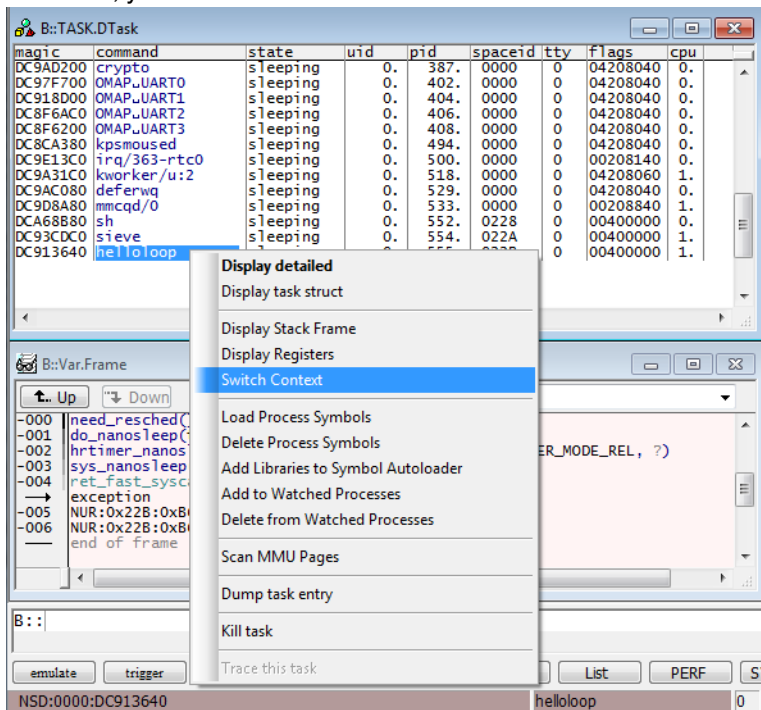
## Task context display

You can display the memory or the registers of a task which is not currently executing. Moreover, you can display the stack frame of any running task on the system.

```
Data.List /TASK "mytask"  
Register /TASK "mytask"  
Var.Frame /TASK "mytask"
```

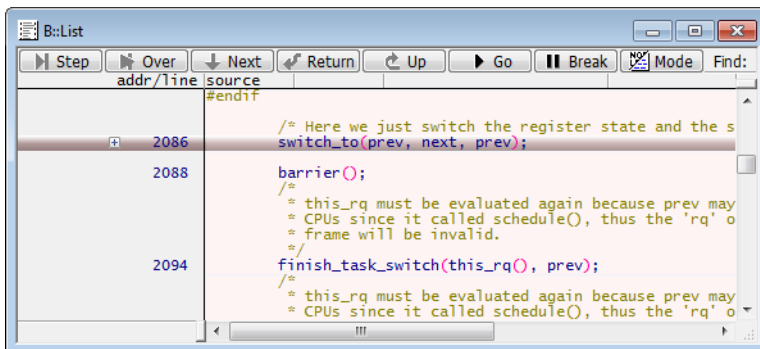


Moreover, you can switch the context also from the “DTask” window by popup menu-item “Switch Context”:



Switch to the helloloop task.

It's not the current PC from the target ("main", process "helloloop") but the PC where the task "helloloop" will be continued!



Care for the grey buttons. After the context switch you get the full wanted info. But it's not the current processor state.

There is a pseudo PC bar (light red) showing the PC where process "helloloop" will be continued.

Thank you for reading and working through this training manual. You should now be able to debug Linux targets. This tutorial was written with as much care as possible for accuracy and comprehensibility.

However, Linux is a very complex system with different and changing internal structures. Please forgive any unclear or even incorrect content. If you find any mistakes, or if you have any comments/ideas to improve this document, feel free to mail your proposals to the Linux support team at Lauterbach. Your feedback as user of our tools is the most valuable input for us.

The LAUTERBACH Team.

