Course Content

Linux Kernel Driver

- Introduction of Linux Device Drivers
 - The role of the device driver
 - Splitting the kernel
 - Classes of devices and modules
 - Joining the kernel development community
- Building and running modules
 - Setting up your test system
 - The Hello World Module
 - Kernel modules versus applications
 - Compiling and Loading
 - The kernel symbol table
 - Initialization and shutdown

• Char drivers

- Major and minor numbers
- Some important data structures
- Char devices registration
- o open and release
- o scull' s Memory Usage
- o read and write
- Playing with the new devices

• Debugging Techniques

- Debugging support in the kernel
- Debugging by Printing
- Debugging by querying
- Debugging by Watching
- Debugging System Faults
- Debugging and related tools

• Concurrency and race conditions

- o Pitfalls in scull
- Concurrency and its management
- Semaphores and mutexes
- Completions
- Spinlocks
- Locking Traps
- Advanced char driver operations
- Time, Delays, and Deferred work
 - Measuring Time Lapses
 - Knowing the Current Time
 - Delaying Execution
 - Kernel Timers
 - Tasklets

Allocating memory

• The Real Story of kmalloc

- o Get_free_page and Friends
- o vmalloc and Friends
- Per-CPU Variables
- Obtaining Large Buffers

• Communicating with hardware

- Input/Output Ports and Input/Output Memory
- Using I/O Ports
- An I/O Port Example
- Using I/O Memory

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• Interrupt Handling

- Preparing the Parallel Port
- Installing an Interrupt Handler
- Top and Bottom Halves
- Interrupt Sharing
- Implementing a Handler

• Data types in kernel

- Use of Standard C Types
- o Assigning an Explicit Size to Data Items
- o Interface-Specific Types
- Other Portability Issues
- Linked Lists

• PCI drivers

- The PCI Interface
- o A Look Back: ISA
- o PC/104 and PC/104+
- Other PC Buses
- o SBus
- o NuBus

• USB Driver

- USB Device Basics
- USB and Sysfs
- Writing a USB Driver
- USB Transfers Without Urbs
- Concept related to USB drivers

• The linux device model

- o Kobjects, Ksets, and Subsystems
- Low-Level Sysfs Operations
- Hotplug Event Generation
- Buses, Devices, and Drivers
- Putting It All Together
- Hotplug
- Dealing with Firmware

• Memory mapping and DMA

- Memory Management in Linux
- The mmap Device Operation

- Performing Direct Input/Output
- Direct Memory Access

Network Drivers

- How snull Is Designed
- Connecting to the Kernel
- The net_device Structure in Detail
- Opening and Closing
- Packet Transmission
- Packet Reception
- Receive Interrupt Mitigation
- Changes in Link State
- The Socket Buffers

• TTY driver

- o A Small TTY Driver
- tty_driver Function Pointers
- TTY Line Settings
- o ioctls
- o proc and sysfs Handling of TTY Devices
- The tty_driver Structure in Detail
- The tty_operations Structure in Detail
- The tty_struct Structure in Detail

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