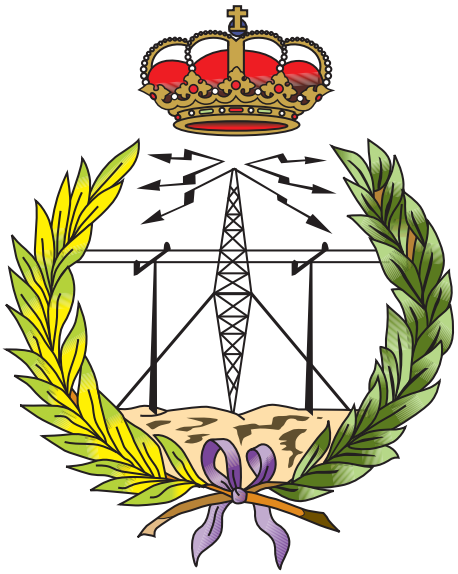
TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MADRID
SCHOOL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND ENGINEERING

Semester Project



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BeagleBone Black Project

ADVANCED DIGITAL ARCHITECTURES

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1. Embedded Linux

Whole project was done using Ubuntu GNOME 14.04.5 LTS Trusty Tahr, running in VMware Workstation 14.1.1, hosted by Kali Linux 2017.2. First we had to compile embedded Linux using Buildroot maintained by Peter Korsgaard, a tool simplifying and automating the building process of bootable Linux system for embedded solutions using cross-compilation for architectural independence. When using Buildroot we followed instructions given us in the document for lab. We set parameters accordingly to our build target BeagleBone Black which uses Texas Instruments Sitara AM3358, an ARMv7-A processor with one Cortex-A8 core. Our build uses custom Linux kernel 3.12 which includes patches for Texas Instruments SoCs. Linux is booted using U-Boot 2016.03 for processors from AM335x series. Build includes gdbserver for remote debugging, openssh for remote connection and set of elementary programs BusyBox.

After successful compilation we created two partitions on SD card: FAT32 boot partition which includes the X-Loader (MLO), U-boot binary (u-boot.bin), Linux kernel (zImage) and device tree binaries (*.dtb), and Linux filesystem partition which is created from rootfs.ext2 file. This was one of the tricky parts and required several attempts.

When BBB successfully booted, several settings was changed using root user. Firstly, in settings of ssh deamon root user was allowed to login with password. Secondly, device was configured to use static IP address for direct connection to VM in order to use remote debugging.

2. Application and sensors

First step in connecting the TCS34725 RGB colour sensor and the L3GD20H 3-axis gyroscope was soldiering them onto HAT for practical reasons. Sensors use ground aka pins 1 and 2, 3.3 V from pins 3 and 4 for power, pins 17 and 19 for I^2C clock line and pins 18 and 20 for I^2C data line.

For development we used Eclipse Oxygen from October 2017. We set up remote debugging and cross compiling according to instructions for lab document.