WES 237A

Lab 3

What is in the SDCard?

- Two partitions
 - Boot (~100MB)
 - Filesystem (5GB<)

Boot partition



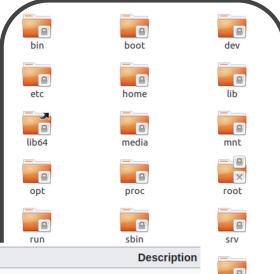
filesystem partition



Filesystem Partition

- (5GB<)
 - Linux standard filesystem hierarchy
 - A good summary:
 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filesystem_Hierarchy_Standard

filesystem partition



| Directory | Description | |
|-----------|---|------------------------|
| 1 | Primary hierarchy root and root directory of the entire file system hierarchy. | usr |
| /bin | Essential command binaries that need to be available in single user mode; for all users, e.g., cat, ls, cp. | 1 10 101 1011 |
| /boot | Boot loader files, e.g., kernels, initrd. | s_trace_data.dat |
| /dev | Device files, e.g., /dev/null, /dev/disk0, /dev/sda1, /dev/tty, /dev/random. | |

Boot Partition

- (~100MB)
 - o BOOT.BIN (657 kB)
 - o Image.ub (4.8 MB)
- Boot process
 - o ROM
 - Contains code that execute right after reset or power-on
 - Secondary Program Loader
 - Configures the memory controller and other components
 - Tertiary Program Loader
 - Contains full bootloader and allows user interaction
 - Kernel

Boot partition



Source: https://www.xilinx.com/products/design-tools/embedded-software/petalinux-sdk.html

Boot Partition

- (~100MB)
 - BOOT.BIN (657 kB)
 - First-stage boot loader (FSBL) image
 - U-boot boot loader
 - FPGA bitstream
 - Power management unit (PMU) firmware
 - ARM Trusted Firmware image
 - o Image.ub (4.8 MB)
 - Linux kernel image
 - Device-tree blob (DTB)
 - Root filesystem image

Boot partition



Source: https://www.xilinx.com/products/design-tools/embedded-software/petalinux-sdk.html
https://xilinx-wiki.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/A/pages/18842374/U-Boot+Images
https://github.com/Xilinx/u-boot-xlnx

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Boot partition



Source: https://www.xilinx.com/products/design-tools/embedded-software/petalinux-sdk.html

Boot Loader

- Load OS & runtime environment into memory.
- Key Components:
 - BIOS
 - Firmware found in the ROM

Boot Loaders



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_boot_loaders

Das U-Boot (the Universal Boot Loader)

- Primary boot loader used in embedded devices
- Available for a number of architectures: ARM, RISC-V, MicroBlaze, ...
- Can work on very limited amount of resources
- Comes with a command line tool for booting a particular kernel, manipulate device trees, download files, work with environment variables, ...

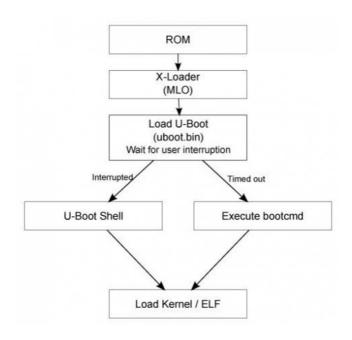


Source: https://www.denx.de/wiki/U-Boot/WebHome

Das U-Boot - Accessing Command Line Tool

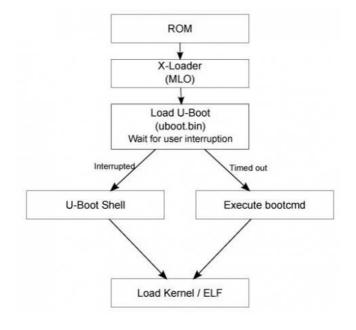
Keyboard interrupt during boot

```
In: serial@e0000000
Out: serial@e0000000
Err: serial@e0000000
Net: ZYNQ GEM: e000b000, phyaddr 1
SF: Detected s25fl128s_64k with page
MiB
Warning: ethernet@e000b000 using MAC
eth0: ethernet@e000b000
U-B00T for xilinx-pynqz2-2019.1
Hit any key to stop autoboot: 2
```



Das U-Boot (the Universal Boot Loader)

- Boot arguments can be changed at U-Boot Shell
- Bootargs examples:
 - root: root directory
 - rootfstype: file system type for root
 - console: serial port console
 - o etc.
- Default args (after boot)
 - \$ cat /proc/cmdline
 root=/dev/mmcblk0p2 rw
 earlyprintk rootfstype=ext4
 rootwait devtmpfs.mount=1
 uio_pdrv_genirq.of_id="generic-uio"
 clk ignore unused



A good summary: https://manpages.ubuntu.com/manpages/bionic/en/man7/bootparam.7.html

Lab Work 1 - Serial Connection

- Using a micro USB cable, connect your board to your laptop
- Connect to board using the serial connection

Linux: sudo screen /dev/<port> 115200,

MAC: sudo screen /dev/<port> 115200,

Windows:check

port: ttyUSB0 or ttyUSB1

port: check resources

resources

- Resources:
 - https://pynq.readthedocs.io/en/v2.0/getting_started.html
 - https://www.nengo.ai/nengo-pynq/connect.html
- After connecting to the board restart the board (\$ sudo reboot), interrupt the boot (keyboard interrupt), and list current settings (printenv)

```
Zynq> printenv
 arch=arm
autoload=no
baudrate=115200
board=zynq
board_name=zynq
boot_img=BOOT.BIN
boot_targets=mmc
bootcmd=run default_bootcmd
 bootdelav=4
 bootenv=uEnv.txt
 bootenvsize=0x20000
bootenvstart=0x500000
clobstart=0x10000000
console=console=ttyPS0,115200
cp_kernel2ram=mmcinfo && fatload mmc ${sdbootdev} ${netstart} ${kernel_img}
cpu=armv7
default_bootcmd=run uenvboot; run cp_kernel2ram && bootm ${netstart}

dfu_mmc=run dfu_mmc_info && dfu 0 mmc 0

dfu_mmc_info=set dfu_alt_info ${kernel_image} fat 0 1\\;${devicetree_image} fat 0 1\\;${ramdisk_image} fat 0 1

dfu_ram=run dfu_ram_info && dfu 0 ram 0

dfu_ram_info=set dfu_alt_info ${kernel_image} ram 0x3000000 0x500000\\;${devicetree_image} ram 0x2000000 0x20000\\;${ramdisk_image} ram 0x2000000 0x600000

dtb_img=system.dtb
dtbnetstart=0x23fff000
eraseenv=sf probe 0 && sf erase ${bootenvstart} ${bootenvsize}
ethaddr=00:05:6b:00:b6:9c
fault=echo ${img} image size is greater than allocated place - partition ${img} is NOT UPDATED
importbootenv=echo "Importing environment from SD ..."; env import -t ${loadbootenv_addr} $filesize
install_jffs2=sf probe 0 && sf erase ${jffs2start} ${jffs2size} && sf write ${clobstart} ${jffs2start} ${filesize} install_kernel=mmcinfo && fatwrite mmc ${sdbootdev} ${clobstart} ${kernel_img} ${filesize}
jffs2_img=rootfs.jffs2
kernel_img=image.ub
loadaddr=0x10000000
loadbootenv=load mmc $sdbootdev:$partid ${loadbootenv_addr} ${bootenv}
loadbootenv_addr=0x00100000
 modeboot=sdboot
netstart=0x10000000
psserlal0=setenv stdout ttyPS0;setenv stdin ttyPS0
sd_uEnvtxt_existence_test=test -e mmc $sdbootdev:$partid /uEnv.txt
sd_update_dtb=echo Updating dtb from SD; mmcinfo && fatload mmc ${sdbootdev}:1 ${clobstart} ${dtb_img} && run install_dtb
sd_update_jffs2=echo Updating jffs2 from SD; mmcinfo && fatload mmc ${sdbootdev}:1 ${clobstart} ${jffs2_img} && run install_jffs2
sdbootdev=0
serial=setenv stdout serial;setenv stdin serial
soc=zynq
stderr=serial@e0000000
stdin=serial@e0000000
stdout=serial@e0000000
test_crc=if imi ${clobstart}; then run test_img; else echo ${img} Bad CRC - ${img} is NOT UPDATED; fi
test_img=setenv var "if test ${filesize} -gt ${psize}; then run fault; else run ${installcmd}; fi"; run var; setenv var
thor_mmc=run dfu_mmc_info && thordown 0 mmc 0
thor_ram=run dfu_ram_info && thordown 0 ram 0
uenvboot=if run sd_uEnvtxt_existence_test; then run loadbootenv; echo Loaded environment from ${bootenv}; run importbootenv; fi; if test -n $uenvcmd; then echo Running uenvcmd ...; run uenvcmd; fi
 vendor=xilinx
Environment size: 2625/131068 bytes
```

Changing bootargs During Boot - Default args

- Default parameters
 - https://github.com/Xilinx/PYNQ/blob/master/sdbuild/boot/meta-pyng/recipes-bsp/device-tree/files/pyng_bootargs.dtsi
 - bootargs = 'root=/dev/mmcblk0p2 rw earlyprintk rootfstype=ext4 rootwait devtmpfs.mount=1 uio pdrv genirq.of id="generic-uio" clk ignore unused'
- To apply changes:
 - Interrupt the boot
 - Edit boot arguments:
 - \$ editenv bootargs
 - Insert arguments included the quotations all in one line:
 - Default args at "copypaste.txt"
 - \$ boot

Scheduler Options - isolcpus

- Remove the specified CPUs, as defined by the *cpu_number* values.
- These are set of CPUs that the kernel process scheduler will not interact.

Lab Work 3 - Changing Bootargs

- Custom for WES237A-Lab3 (lab work)
 - o add isolcpus to bootargs
 - bootargs = 'console=ttyPS0,115200 root=/dev/mmcblk0p2 rw earlyprintk rootfstype=ext4 rootwait devtmpfs.mount=1 uio_pdrv_genirq.of_id="generic-uio" clk_ignore_unused isolcpus=1 && bootz 0x03000000 0x02A00000'
 - After boot, by using htop command monitor the CPU utilization
 - o To exit from *htop*, press "q" or "Control + C".

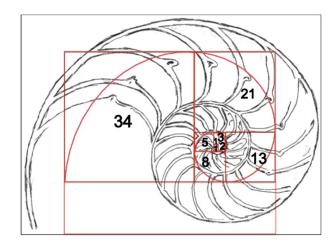
To apply changes:

- Interrupt the boot
- Edit boot arguments:
 - \$ editenv bootargs
 - Insert arguments included the quotations all in one line:
 - isolcpus args at "copypaste.txt"
 - \$ boot

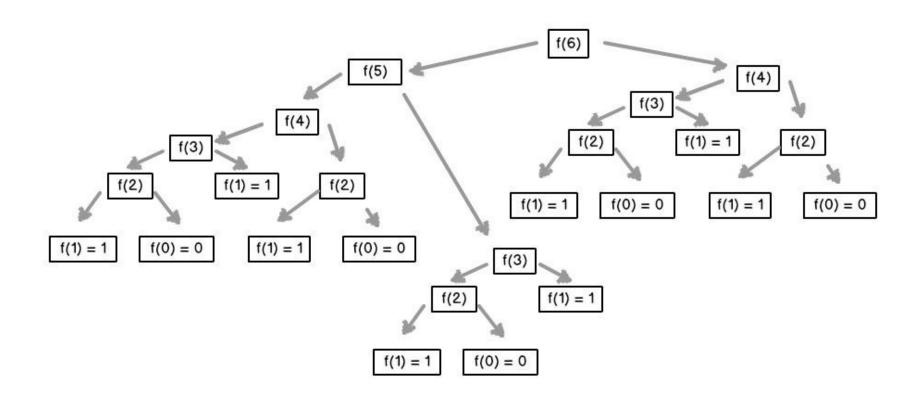
Fibonacci Sequence

```
F_0=0, \quad F_1=1, and F_n=F_{n-1}+F_{n-2}, for n\geq 1. 0,\; 1,\; 1,\; 2,\; 3,\; 5,\; 8,\; 13,\; 21,\; 34,\; 55,\; 89,\; 144,\; \ldots
```

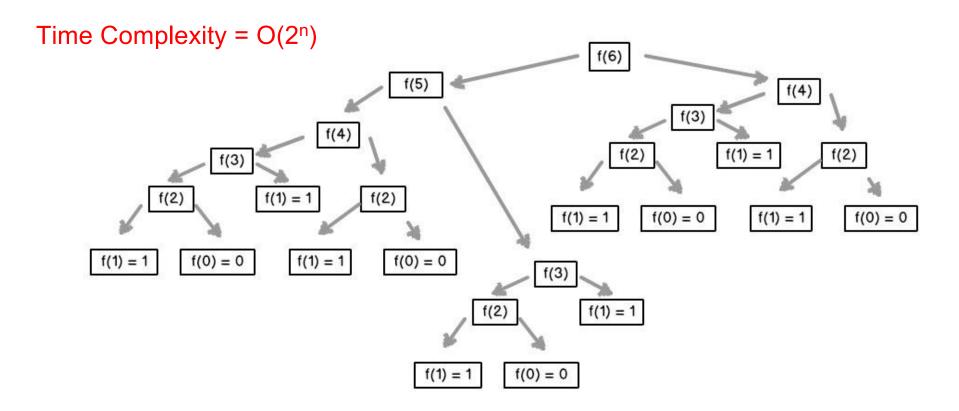
```
def recur_fibo(n):
    if n <= 1:
        return n
    else:
        return(recur_fibo(n-1) + recur_fibo(n-2))</pre>
```



Time is a very computational heavy algorithm



Time is a very computational heavy algorithm



Lab Work 2 - Heavy CPU Utilization

- Download fib.py. This is a recursive implementation for generating Fibonacci sequence. We just do not print the results.
- Make sure your board is booted with custom bootargs including isolcpus=1
 - 1) Open two terminals (Jupyter):
 - Terminal 1: run htop to monitor CPU utilization
 - Terminal 2: run \$ python3 fib.py and monitor CPU utilization and time spent for running the script (set terms to lower than 40)
 - 2) Repeat the previous part, but this time use taskset to use CPU1:
 - Terminal 2: run \$ taskset -c 1 python3 fib.py and monitor CPU utilization and time spent for running the script
 - 3) Heavy Utilization on CPU0:
 - Open another terminal and run \$ dd if=/dev/zero of=/dev/null
 - Repeat parts 1 and 2

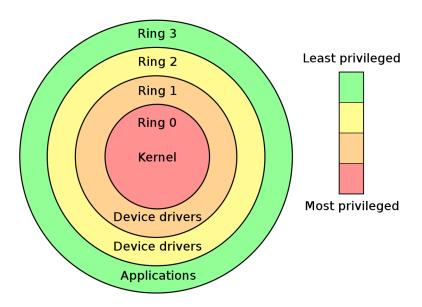
ARM Performance Monitoring Unit (PMU)

- PMU is an event counting hardware which can be used to profile and benchmark code
- Cortex-A9 PMU provides six counters
- Each counter can count any of the 58 events available in the Cortex-A9 processor
- These counters can be accessed through debugging tools or directly through the CP15 registers

Reference: https://developer.arm.com/docs/101392/latest/part-c-debug-descriptions/performance-monitor-unit/pmu-events

Accessing ARM PMU

- By default user space (applications), do not have access to PMU
- Kernel has access to PMU



Providing Access to PMU for Applications

A kernel object can enable user-mode for PMU

kernel_modules/CPUcntr.c

```
#include <linux/module.h>
#include <linux/kernel.h>
#include <linux/init.h>
MODULE LICENSE("GPL");
MODULE AUTHOR("Alireza Khodamoradi");
MODULE_DESCRIPTION("This module enables users to access performance counter");
static int   init CPUcntr init(void){
 asm ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c14, 0\n\t" :: "r"(1));
 // disable counter overflow interrupts
 asm ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c14, 2\n\t" :: "r"(0x8000000f));
 printk(KERN_INFO "CPU clock counter is enabled.\n");
  return 0;
static void exit CPUcntr clean(void){
 // disable user-mode access to the performance counter
 asm ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c14, 0\n\t" :: "r"(0));
  printk(KERN_INFO "CPU clock counter is disabled.\n");
module_init(CPUcntr_init);
module_exit(CPUcntr_clean);
```

Reference: https://developer.arm.com/docs/100511/latest/performance-monitoring-unit/pmu-register-summary

Move to Coprocessor from ARM Register (MCR)



Lab Work 3 - Accessing ARM PMU

- PMU is a coprocess
- Assembly code to transfer between coprocess and ARM register
 - MCR: ARM register to Co-process
 - https://www.keil.com/support/man/docs/armasm/armasm_dom1361289877204.htm
 - MRC: Co-process to ARM register
 - https://www.keil.com/support/man/docs/armasm/armasm_dom1361289880404.htm
- PMU coprocID is p15
- Steps to access PMU
 - Write a kernel object which can call these commands
 - Compile an insert kernel object
 - Include asm() commands in a 'C' header for a 'C' program
 - In the c-code, initialize the counter and then read from the counter to get cycle count

Think .ko as .so, but in the kernel space.

Creating a Kernel Object

- A kernel object can be created from C code (CPUcntr.c)
 - kernel modules/README

```
*** Make sure `pwd` does not contain any space ***
To compile:
    make -C /lib/modules/$(uname -r)/build M=$(pwd) modules
To clean:
    make -C /lib/modules/$(uname -r)/build M=$(pwd) clean
To insert module:
    insmod CPUcntr.ko
To remove module:
    rmmod CPUcntr.ko
To check module:
    dmesg | tail -1
```

Check the module insertion using the \$ dmesg command

Reference: https://developer.arm.com/docs/100511/latest/performance-monitoring-unit/pmu-register-summary

Interacting with PMU

- A program written in C can read from PMU
 - clock_example/include/cycletime.h

```
_
Author = "Alireza Khodamoradi"
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <fcntl.h>
 static inline unsigned int get_cyclecount(void){
  unsigned int value;
  asm volatile ("MRC p15, 0, %0, c9, c13, 0\n\t" : "=r"(value));
  return value:
 static inline void init_counters(int32_t do_reset, int32_t enable_divider){
  int32_t value = 1;
  if(do_reset)
   value |= 6; // reset all counters to zero.
  if(enable_divider)
   value |= 8;
  value |= 16;
  // Program the performance-counter control-register
  asm volatile ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c12, 0\n\t" :: "r"(value));
  // Enable all counters
  asm volatile ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c12, 1\n\t" :: "r"(0x8000000f));
  asm volatile ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c12, 3\n\t" :: "r"(0x8000000f));
```

Volatile, what does this mean?

Reference: https://usermanual.wiki/Document/armv7armanual.23331929/view

Interacting with PMU

- A program written in C can read from PMU
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 return value:
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   value |= 8;
 value |= 16;
  // Program the performance-counter control-register
  asm volatile ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c12, 0\n\t" :: "r"(value));
 // Enable all counters
 asm volatile ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c12, 1\n\t" :: "r"(0x8000000f));
  asm volatile ("MCR p15, 0, %0, c9, c12, 3\n\t" :: "r"(0x8000000f));
```

Volatile, what does this mean?

Compiler should not optimize this. The writes could not be collapsed and the accesses should be done in the same order as how they appeared in the code execution.

Reference: https://usermanual.wiki/Document/armv7armanual.23331929/view

Interacting with PMU

- A program written in C to read from PMU
 - clock_example/src/main.cpp

```
#include "main.h"
#include "cycletime.h"
#include "timer.h"
#include <unistd.h>
using namespace std;
int main(int argc, const char * argv[])
    float cpu_timer;
   unsigned int delay = 1;
   cout << "WES237A lab 4" << endl;</pre>
   char key=0;
    // 1 argument on command line: delay = arg
    if(argc >= 2)
       delay = atoi(argv[1]);
           declare 2 cpu_count variables: 1 for before sleeping, 1 for after sleeping (see cpu_timer)
           initialize the counter
    //TODO: get the cyclecount before sleeping
    usleep(delay);
    //TODO: get the cyclecount after sleeping
           subtract the before and after cyclecount
           print the cycle count (see the print statement for the cpu_timer below)
   LinuxTimer t;
   usleep(delay);
   t.stop();
   cpu_timer = t.getElapsed();
   cout << "Timer: " << (double)cpu_timer/1000000000.0 << endl;</pre>
    return 0;
```

Lab Work 3 (cont) - Example Code

- Navigate to clock_example directory. And build the example code by running \$ make
- By using taskset, run the elf file (\$ taskset -c <0,1> ./lab3) on both CPUs

A Simple Trick to Enable PMU on Both Cores

- Instructions are at kernel_modules/README
- Remove CPUcntr object from kernel
- Insert CPUcntr.ko to CPU0
- Remove CPUcntr.ko from CPU1
- Insert CPUcntr.ko to CPU1
- Now try to run lab3 on both CPUs

Summary

- Lab Work 1 + 2: Serial Connection and Boot Args
- Lab Work 3: Heavy CPU Utilization and Accessing ARM PMU