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Workshop Embedded systems

Linux Debug a New Paradigm

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Embedded Linux



Hardware-Assisted Debugging Tools for Kernel, Process and Application Debug

- ARM Processors -





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Why Hardware-Assist ?

- Stable platform is NOT required
- Non-Intrusive, Real-Time Code Execution
- Does not Lose Context after System Reset
- Complete System Visibility to all ASIC or ASSP devices / registers



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A new model for Linux debug

- Virtual communication port via DCC
 - Including Linux Console redirection
- Source-level kernel debug
- Process Resource Lists
- Application Debugging
- All from within the same debugger





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Virtual Communication Port

Debug Communications Channel (DCC)

- Contained in the EmbeddedICE logic (CP14 register)
- Allows target software to communicate with emulator / debugger
- 32-bit data read register, 32-bit data write register
- 6-bit communication control register for handshaking
- XScale also uses this for debug message handling

Linux DCC driver

- Implements multiple tty devices in Linux OS
- Typically built in with kernel code
- Eliminates need for other communications ports (e.g. serial, TCP/IP, USB)

	0.5 (2004.03.26- for a list of b			sh)	
/dev # cd /e /etc # ls	etc				
default		issue.net			
	inetd.conf			services shells	
	init.d		rc	sneils	
group	inittab	network	rc.a		
	inputro				
hosts ⁄etc # more	issue	pam.d	rpc		
/etc # more ::sysinit:/e					
sysinit.≠e #::askfirst:					
	'sbin∕getty -L -n	-1 (bin/ch 20)	100 /dev:/ttv:S0		
	sbin/getty -L -n sbin/getty -L -n				
	'sbin∕getty -L -n				
	bin/getty -L -n				
	bin/getty -L -n				
	bin/getty -L -n				
	bin/getty -L -n				
::respawn:/s					

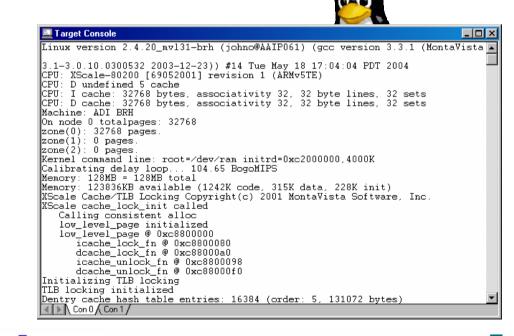
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Linux Console output via JTAG

- Output starts at boot
- No need to wait for initialization of peripheral communication
- All Linux command line messages and functionality available



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Source-Level Kernel Debug

- Use JTAG connection for communications
 - Direct connect to processor core
- "Halt Mode" debug
- Static view of processor and code
- Tool facility to program flash with kernel boot code and root file system

	PL CP15 Registers		
	; Current	Name	Value
Code: Tracking PC: C:\adi-brh-arm_xscale_be\linux-2.4.20_mvl31\arch\arm\kernel\process.c	- User/System	ID_CODE	6905200:
74 */	Fast Interrupt	CACHE_TYPE	OB1AA1A
75 void default_idle(void) 76 {	- Interrupt	CONTROL	000039FI
77 local irg disable();	Supervisor	AUX_CONTROL	0000000
78 if (!current->need_resched && !hlt_counter) { 79 TRACE PROCESS(TRACE EV PROCESS IDLE BEGIN, 0, 0);	- Abort	TRANSLATION_TABLE_BASE	C22BC000
80 arch_idle();	- Undefined	DOMAIN_ACCESS_CONTROL	00000011
81 } =>82 local irg enable();	CP0	PREFETCH_FAULT_STATUS	0000000
83 }	CP14	FAULT_ADDRESS	40018000
84. 85 /*	CP15	INVAL_I_D_CACHE	******
86 * The idle thread. We try to conserve power, while trying to keep 87 * overall latency low. The architecture specific idle is passed		INVAL_ICACHE INVAL ICACHE SGL ENTRY	******
 87 * overall latency low. The architecture specific idle is passed 88 * a value to indicate the level of "idleness" of the system. 		INVAL_ICACHE_SGL_ENTRY	******
89 */ 90 void cpu idle(void)		INVAL DCACHE SGL ENT MVA	******
91		CLEAN_DCACHE_SGL_ENT_MVA	******
92 /* endless idle loop with no priority at all */ 93		DRAIN WRITE BUFF	******
94 preempt disable(): /* needed for correct LED event operations		TNULL DTD	
95 96 while (1) { 97 void (*idle)(void) = pm idle;			
98 if (!idle)			
99 idle = default_idle; 100 leds event(led idle start);			
101 while (!need_resched())			
C00446A0 Source Go Cursor Set Break IV Track PC View PC Refresh			
merican			
There's aburate			

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Application Debug

- Linux applications are all mapped to the same address space
- Breakpoints can be set on dynamically located tasks
 - "Run Mode" or "Task Mode" Debug
 - Breakpoints stops the task, not the processor
 - Drill down from application level through the kernel to the board support package
 - Combine Run mode with Halt mode debug



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Linux Process/Application Representation

- Tasks are shown in Operating systems Resources
- Identical to "ps" output
- Attach / debug a running process
- Start and debug a new process
- Debug multiple applications simultaneously

				PID	PPID	TTΥ	Uid	Size	State	Command
				1	0	?	root	1828k	Sleep	init
Target Console				2	1	?	root	Ok	Sleep	[keventd]
				3	1	?	root	Ok	Running	[ksoftirqd_CPU0
etc #				4	1	?	root	Ok	Sleep	[kswapd]
etc# étc#				5	1	?	root	0k	Sleep	[bdflush]
etc # ′etc # ps				6	1	?	root	Ok	Sleep	[kupdated]
etc#ps PID TTY Uid	Circ	State	e Command	7	1	?	root	Ok	Sleep	[mtdblockd]
1 root	51ZE 3 1828	State	e command init	38	1	tts∕0	root	1900k	Sleep	/bin/sh
	1828	S		39	1	tts/1	root	1900k	Sleep	/bin/sh
2 root			[keventd]	40	1	ttyDCC0	root	1908k	Sleep	/bin/sh
3 root	0 0	R S	[ksoftirqd_CPU0]	41		ttyDCC1	root	1908k	Sleep	/bin/sh
4 root 5 root	U 0	S	[kswapd]	42	1	ttyDCC2	root	1900k	Sleep	/bin/sh
	0		[bdflush]	43	1	ttyDCC3	root	1900k	Sleep	/bin/sh
	U 0	S S	[kupdated]	57	1	ttyDCC2	root	1392k	Sleep	/home/gdbserver
7 root		S	[mtdblockd]	58	57	ttyDCC2	root	120k	Trace	∕home/jbasic
38 ttyS0 root	1900		/bin/sh	59	42	ttyDCC2	root	1816k	Sleep	sh
39 ttyS1 root	1900	S	/bin/sh	60	59	ttyDCC2	root	1444k	Running	/home/dccwrap
40 ttyS8 root	1908	S S	∕bin∕sh ∕bin∕sh							
41 ttyS9 root	1908	S		Tasks	/	_	•			
42 ttyS10 root 43 ttyS11 root	1900 1900	S	∕bin∕sh ∕bin∕sh	Idana/						
	1900	S	/bin/sh /home/qdbserver /da		4					
		5		BV/ttypees /	/home/jbasi	ے ا				
58 ttyS10 root	1348 0	17	∕home⁄jbasic							
59 ttyS10 root	1888	Z R	[sh]							
62 ttyS9 root	1990	к	ps							
′etc #										
	- /									
▲ Con 0 Con 1 Con 0	5/									
	_									
ame		-								
										G

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Linux Process Debugging

- Step through / set breakpoints in application code, kernel keeps running
- Examine / modify memory and process(or) registers
- Examine / modify application variables (global/local/stack)
- Full control of application code
- Highlighted Task List as the Focus Context
- Seamless transition in and out of kernel and process debug

	// Program Starts Here		🛕 Operating System Resources						
01	int main()	PID	PPID	ΠΥ	Uid	Size	State	Command	
2	{	1	0	?	root	1828k	Sleep	init	
3	head = NULL; // Initialize Intern	2	1	?	root	0k	Sleep	[keventd]	
1	PC = 0;	3	1	?	root	0k	Running	[ksoftirqd_CPU0	
	pPC = NULL;	4	1	?	root	0k	Sleep	[kswapd]	
	SP = &stack[0];	5	1	?	root	0k	Sleep	[bdflush]	
	<pre>trace_flag = 0;</pre>	6	1	?	root	0k	Sleep	[kupdated]	
		7	1	?	root	0k	Sleep	[mtdblockd]	
	<pre>memset((void *)ht, 0, sizeof(ht));</pre>	38	1	tts∕0	root	1900k	Sleep	/bin/sh	
)	- vist f ("**-> v> v " = h = 1 = C = v = i = h + > v	39	1	tts/1	root	1900k	Sleep	/bin/sh	
	printf("%s\n\n", helpCopyright);	40	1	ttvDCC0	root	1908k	Sleep	/bin/sh	
j.	if (initialProgram)	41	1	ttyDCC1	root	1908k	Sleep	/bin/sh	
	copyInitialProgram();	42	1	ttyDCC2	root	1900k	Sleep	/bin/sh	
5	copy infordific gram();	43	1	ttvDCC3	root	1900k	Sleep	/bin/sh	
	while (1) {	57	1	ttvDCC2	root	1392k	Sleep	/home/qdbserver	
i i	<pre>printf(">"); // Prompt</pre>	58	57	ttvDCC2	root	120k	Trace	∕home/jbasic	
3	gets(currentLine); // Get Line	59	42	ttyDCC2	root	1816k	Sleep	sh	
)	linePtr = currentLine;	60	59	ttvDCC2	root	1444k	Running	/home/dccwrap	
) [<pre>tokenText[0] = 0;</pre>						-	-	
	if (! setjmp(error)) { // Set Error Vector	The Tanks of			•				
2	Lex (); // Prime Parser	Tasks /							



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Practical use cases

"Headless" embedded systems

- no CRT, serial, ethernet or other console port available
 - DCC redirects console port over JTAG

No-stop debugging

- It is technically impossible or not desired to STOP the processor
 - Stop only the process you are debugging, keep your system running
- Concurrent debug of kernel, processes and applications
 - While debugging the application, you encounter a problem at the kernel
 - step down to kernel using the same debugger and session

Linux as development system

- Develop and debug your application from a linux host
 - Linux native version of the debugger available

Basically:

Any Linux project on ARM / Xscale

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