

Embedded Linux Pitfalls

Sean Hudson Embedded Linux Architect Embedded Systems Division





Outline

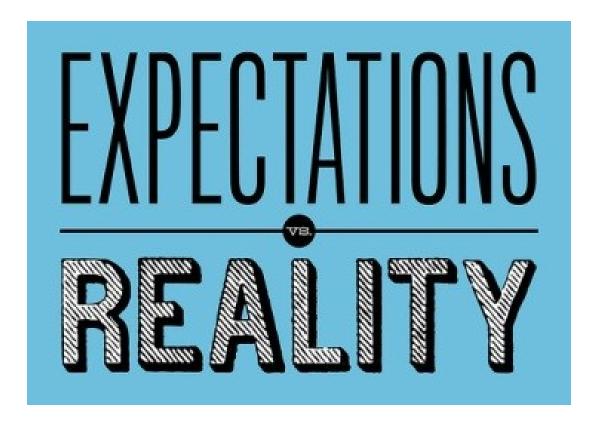
Introduction
A bit o' perspective
Pitfalls
Conclusions
Q&A





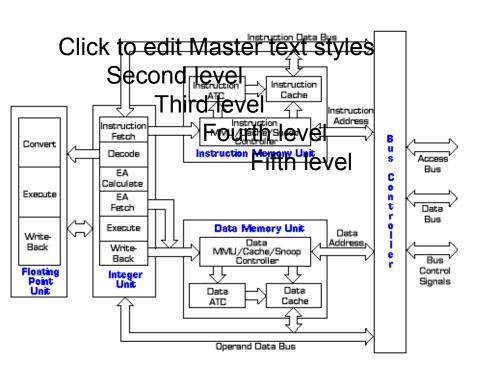
Introduction

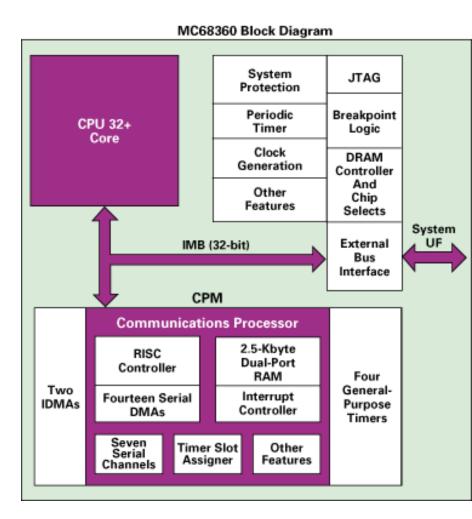
Setting expectations



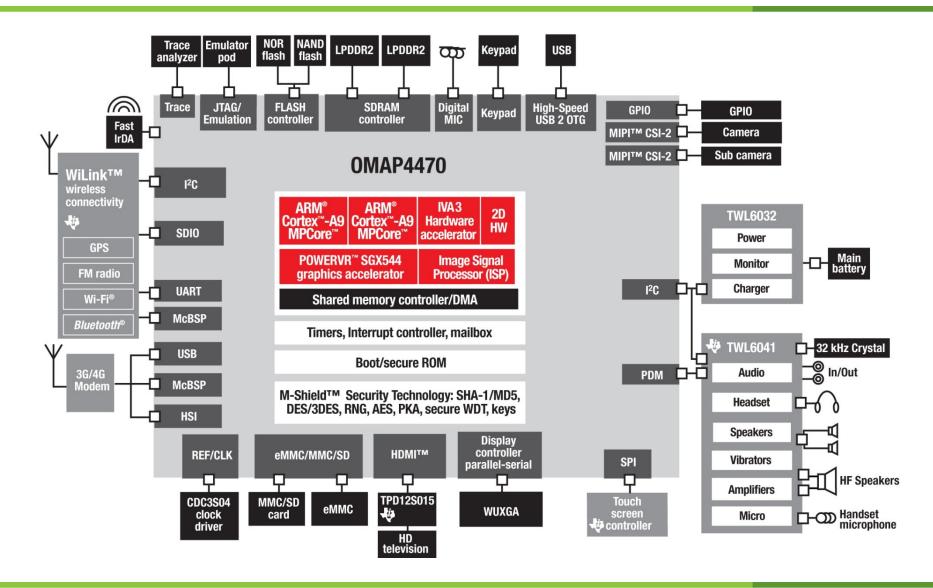


A bit o' perspective (History)





A bit o' perspective (History)





Pitfalls

Hardware and software: an impedance mismatch?

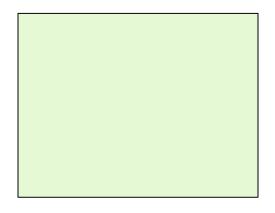


NIH syndrome



What do you mean this runs on my desktop?









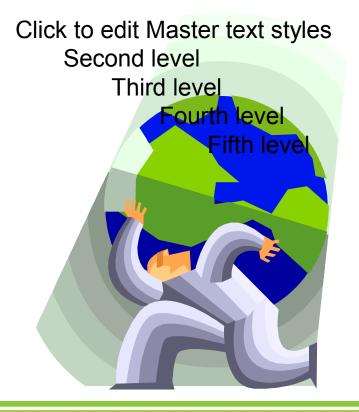
Pitfalls - Maintenance

Building the "Tower of Babel"



Pitfalls - Maintenance

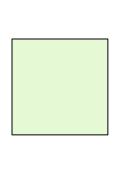
Carrying too many patches

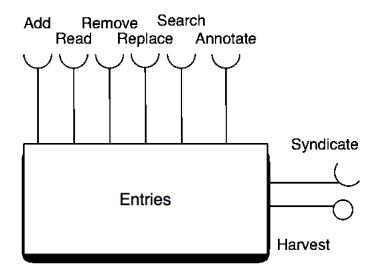


Pitfalls – System Design

Interfaces, APIs, & contracts



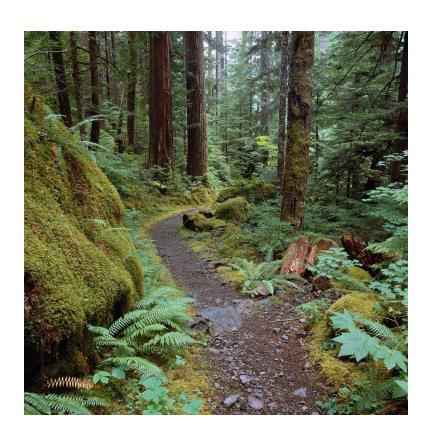






Pitfalls – System Design

Upgrade path





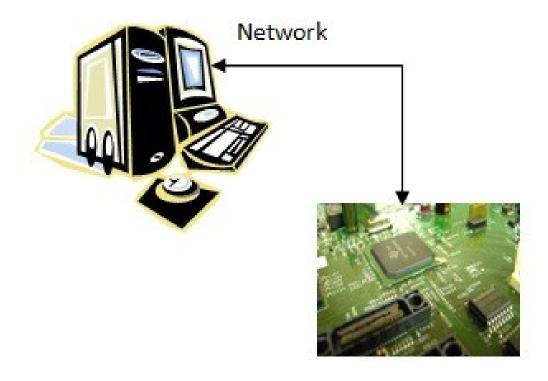
Pitfalls – Tools

Debuggers are your friend. No, really.



Pitfalls – Tools

Use NFS to mount your target rootfs



Conclusions



Questions?



Pitfalls

Fundamentals:

What do you mean that I can't use my hammer?

What do you mean this runs on my desktop?

Treating Linux the same as you would your commercial/bare metal OS

Hardware isn't a product

NIH syndrome

Planning/Design:

What's in the choice of a CPU? Know thy footprint!

Interfaces, interfaces, interfaces

Forgetting the upgrade path until the end, if at all

Hardening

Maintenance:

Building a tower of Babel

Carrying too many patches

Tools

Debugging with printf()

Are you ready to cross Canada?





Failure to learn about Linux specifics early on

