ACPI on ARM64: Challenges Ahead

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- ACPI : Why on ARM64 ?
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ACPI (Advanced Configuration and Power Interface): Introduction

- First released in December 1996
- Originally developed by Intel, Microsoft and Toshiba with HP and Phoenix joining later
- Slowly gained wider adoption with many OS and processor architectures
- In October 2013, ACPI standards were transferred to the UEFI Forum
- ACPI v5.1 was the first release enabling ARM systems
- ACPI v6.0 was published by the UEFI Forum in April 2015



Platform Description + High-Level Interface

ACPI: Few main functional areas

- Processor Power, Performance and Thermal Management
- System and Device Power Management
- System Event Management
- Configuration of Devices
- Enumeration and Plug 'n' Play
- Flexible Platform Architecture Support



ACPI: Component Architecture(ACPICA)



Reference: http://gauss.ececs.uc.edu/Courses/c4029/doc/acpica-reference.doc



ACPI: Motivations

- SoC/Platform Vendors, OS distributions
 - Platform-agnostic OS/kernel images
 - No platform specific code for every platform
 - Need not worry about shipping and maintaining separate binaries
- Linux Kernel Ecosystem
 - No platform specific code to maintain
- Platform Designers
 - Reduce effort required to port to new platform
- Other software developers
 - Unification of description/reduced duplication across multiple layers of software stack



ACPI: an enhanced + dynamic DT ?

Device Tree

- Data only, more in kernel/drivers
- Suitable in embedded and mobile
- Scope for more optimization in kernel
- Primarily for Linux(though OS agnostic)
- More flexible for changes
- Community driven

ACPI

- More platform abstraction, more in firmware
- Suitable for enterprise
- No micro-optimization for ease of long maintenance
- OS agnostic standard
- Less flexible for changes
- UEFI ASWG (ACPI Specification Working Group) driven

ACPI: Format + Example



ACPI Flat Tables



```
ACPI Source Language(ASL) Example
DefinitionBlock (
"forbook.aml", // Output Filename
"DSDT", // Signature
0x02. // DSDT Compliance Revision
"OEM", // OEMID
"forbook", // TABLE ID
Ox1000 // OEM Revision)
{ // start of definition block
 OperationRegion(\GIO, SystemIO, 0x125, 0x1)
 Field(\GIO, ByteAcc, NoLock, Preserve) {CT01, 1,}
 Scope(\_SB) {
  Device(PCIO) {
   PowerResource(FET0, 0, 0) {
     Method ( ON)
       Store (Ones, CT01)
       Sleep (30)
     Method ( OFF) {
        Store (Zero, CT01)
     Method (STA) {
       Return (CT01)
 } // end of device
} // end of scope
} // end of definition block
```



DT: Format + Example



```
Device Tree Source(DTS) Example
/ {
 node1 {
   a-string-property = "A string";
   a-string-list-property = "first string", "second string";
   /* each number (cell) is a uint32 */
    a-cell-property = <1 2 3 4>;
   child-node1 {
     first-child-property;
     second-child-property = <1>;
     a-string-property = "Hello, world";
   }:
   child-node2 {
   }:
 1:
 node2 {
   an-empty-property:
   a-byte-data-property = [0x01 0x23 0x34 0x56];
   child-node1 {
   }:
 };
};
```



ACPI: System Description Table



| DSDT | Differentiated System Description Table |
|------|---|
| FADT | Fixed ACPI Description Table |
| GTDT | Generic Timer Description Table |
| MADT | Multiple APIC Description Table |
| MCFG | Memory-mapped ConFiGuration space |
| RSDP | Root System Description Pointer |
| SRAT | System Resource Affinity Table |
| SSDT | Secondary System Description Table |
| XSDT | eXtended System Description Table |
| | |



ACPI: Why on ARM ?

- ACPI allows the platform to encode run-time behavior while DT is just static data
- ACPI defines a OSPM model that has constraints but allows for flexibility in hardware
- ACPI has already proven bindings such as for RAS, NUMA,...etc
- Support multiple OSes, including Linux and Windows
- ASWG provides both the HW vendors and OS vendors a common platform for discussion

Compliance to ARM SBSA (Server Base System Architecture) and SBBR (Server Base Boot Requirements) is mandated on ARM64 servers to support ACPI



ACPI and Linux Kernel

- Initially, ACPI was not an obvious win on other architectures (i.e x86)
- The standard was new and actual implementations were unreliable
- Booting with ACPI disabled was the first response for any problems
- Basic ACPI support for ARM64 was merged in v4.1
- Multiple instances of ARMv8-A HW claims to support ACPI are they really ready?
- We need to avoid repeating mistakes and leverage from x86 learnings



ACPI on ARM64: Current Status(I)

ACPI Specification

- New to ARM Linux world at-least
- ACPI v5.0 lacked support for quite a lot in SBSA
- GICv2m, virtualization on GIC, generic timer, watchdog, GICv3
- ACPI v5.1 fixed the above
- ACPI v6.0 added GICv3, IO topology + SMMU (companion IORT spec) and Lower power idle(LPI) states

ARM Ecosystem

- Lack of experience with ACPI within the ARM community
- Includes ARM Linux kernel developers, firmware authors, hardware designers



ACPI on ARM64: Current Status(2)

- Core ARM64 support upstreamed in v4.1
 - SMP boot (PSCI only)
 - Generic Timer and GIC support
- Minor updates and bug fixes in v4.2
- Work in Progress
 - GICv2m/GICv3 support
 - PCI support
 - cpufreq(CPPC) and cpuidle(_LPI)



ACPI: General Challenges

- ACPI is a complicated specification
- ACPI is "trying" to define an entire interface for abstracting hardware details to enable booting on diverse platforms
- Simply impossible to define the complete behavior
- Doesn't explicitly state the behavior if the spec is violated
- On x86, ACPI systems shipped with Windows helped to ensure the firmware is validated well enough



ACPI: Challenges on ARM64

- ACPI development itself is mostly x86 driven and more aligned to it
- ACPI firmware testing is the main challenge
 - Firmware development by ARM vendors who are completely new to it
 - LUV (Linux UEFI Validation) bu Intel and Iuv0S (Yocto Project)
- Growing interest in ACPI within ARM ecosystem
 - Need to take (more strict?) steps to enforce standardization

In order to avoid regressions especially in the variety of ARM systems

- Commit to never modifying the ACPI behavior of Linux (impractical)
- Interface indicating ACPI behavior a specific kernel implements



Real examples(I): Static ACPI Table + DT

```
[Multiple APIC Description Table (MADT)]
           Signature : "APIC"
        Table Length : 00000224
            Revision · 03
            Checksum · BD
            [Other header entries]
        Subtable Type : OB [Generic Interrupt Controller]
              Length : 4C
            Reserved : 0000
Local GIC Hardware ID : 00000002
       Processor HID · 0000000
Flags (decoded below) : 00000001
   Processor Enabled : 1
Parking Protocol Ver : 00000000
Performance Interrupt : 00000032
      Parked Address : 0000000000000000
         Base Address : 000000002C02F000
     [Above entry for all the cpus follows]
        Subtable Type : OC [Generic Interrupt Distributor]
              Length : 18
            Reserved · 0000
Local GIC Hardware ID · 0000000
         Base Address : 000000002C010000
       Interrupt Base : 00000000
            Reserved · 00000000
```

```
gic: interrupt-controller@2c010000 {
  compatible = "arm,gic-400", "arm,cortex-a15-gic";
  reg = \langle 0x0 \ 0x2c010000 \ 0 \ 0x1000 \rangle
        <0x0 0x2c02f000 0 0x2000>.
        <0x0 0x2c04f000 0 0x2000>,
        <0x0 0x2c06f000 0 0x2000>:
  #address-cells = <2>:
  #interrupt-cells = <3>;
  \#size-cells = <2>:
  interrupt-controller:
  interrupts = <GIC_PPI 9 (GIC_CPU_MASK_SIMPLE(6)</pre>
                    | IRQ TYPE LEVEL HIGH)>;
  ranges = <0 0 0 0x2c1c0000 0 0x40000>:
  v2m 0: v2m@0 {
    compatible = "arm.gic-v2m-frame":
    msi-controller:
    reg = \langle 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0x1000 \rangle;
  }:
}:
```



Real examples(2): ACPI AML Table + DT



ACPI: _DSD (Device Specific Data)

- Name(KEY0, "value0")
 - limits names ("KEY0") to 4 characters
 - maintenance issue + minimizing re-use
 - no registry for valid property values
 - backward compatibility as new hardware comes out
- DSD (Device Specific Data) introduced in ACPI 5.1
- Device Properties UUID: daffd814-6eba-4d8c-8a91-bc9bbf4aa301

```
Name (_DSD, Package () {
   ToUUID("daffd814-6eba-4d8c-8a91-bc9bbf4aa301"), // Format identifier
   Package () {
      Package {"a-string-property", "A string"},
      Package {"a-string-list-property", Package {"first string", "second string"}};
   Package {"a-cell-property", Package {1, 2, 3, 4}};
   }
}
```



Real example: ACPI AML with _DSD

```
Device(ETH0) {
 Name( HID, "ARMH9118")
 Name( UID, Zero)
 Name(_CRS, ResourceTemplate() {
   Memory32Fixed(ReadWrite, 0x1A000000, 0x1000)
    Interrupt(ResourceConsumer, Level, ActiveHigh,
                   Exclusive) { 192 }
 }) // CRS()
 Name(_DSD, Package() {
    ToUUID("daffd814-6eba-4d8c-8a91-bc9bbf4aa301").
    Package() {
      Package(2) {"phy-mode", "mii"}.
      Package(2) {"reg-io-width", 4 },
      Package(2) {"smsc.irg-active-high".1}.
      Package(2) {"smsc.irg-push-pull".1}
    }
}) // DSD()
} // Device()
```

}:

ARM

ACPI Driver lookup





Unified (ACPI + DT) Driver lookup





_DSD: Few Do's and Don'ts

Examples where _DSD can be used:

 MAC address or PHY for a networking device

Examples where _DSD must not be used include:

- dynamic device configurations(including hotplug)
- hardware abstraction through control methods
- power, performance and thermal management
- RAS interfaces

```
Device (FOO) {
  Name (_CRS, ResourceTemplate () {
    GpioIo (Exclusive, ..., IoRestrictionOutputOnly,
      "\\ SB.GPIO") {15} // red
    GpioIo (Exclusive, ..., IoRestrictionOutputOnly,
      "\\_SB.GPI0") {16} // green
    GpioIo (Exclusive, ..., IoRestrictionOutputOnly,
      "\\ SB.GPIO") {17} // blue
    GpioIo (Exclusive, ..., IoRestrictionOutputOnly,
      "\\ SB.GPIO") {1} // power
 3)
  Name ( DSD, Package () {
    ToUUID("daffd814-6eba-4d8c-8a91-bc9bbf4aa301"),
    Package () {
      Package () {
        "led-gpios".
        Package () {
          ^FOO, 0, 0, 1,
          ^FOO. 1. 0. 1.
          ^FOO. 2. 0. 1.
      Ъ.
      Package () {
        "power-gpios",
        Package () {^FOO, 3, 0, 0}.
      }.
    3
 })
```

_DSD: Don'ts (contd..)

- ACPI must not use kernel clock and regulator framework
- _DSD must not be used to represent data when they can provided using existing ACPI objects

Device Control Methods for PM

- _PSx method for entry to power state Dx and _ON/_OFF methods
- _PRx specifies which power resources a device needs in Dx

```
Device (BTKL)
{
  Name (_HID, "INT3420")
  Method (_PS0, 0, Serialized) // Power State 0
  {
    GLOA &= 0x7F
  }
  Method (_PS3, 0, Serialized) // Power State 3
    GLOA |= 0x80
  }
  Method (_PSW, 1, NotSerialized) //Power State Wake
  {
    PSW (Arg0, 0x02)
  }
}
```

Conclusions / Recommendations

Formalise _DSD proposal, review and maintenance process

- New mailing list is setup : dsd@acpica.org
- https://lists.acpica.org/pipermail/dsd/2015-September/000026.html
- Reporting, discussion and resolution of firmware issues
- SBSA/SBBR compliance check ?
- Limiting platform quirks
- More involvement of platform designers, firmware authors and kernel developers in specification



References

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- Server Base System Architecture
- Server Base Boot Requirements, System Software on ARM Platforms
- Linux UEFI Validation
- IuvOS on ARM64 Linaro Wiki
- Documentation/arm64/arm-acpi.txt: Kernel Documentation ACPI on ARMv8 Servers



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