Kernel Testing: Tool and Techniques

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Overview

- Why?
- Frameworks
- Lab Tools
- Tools
- Techniques (or Test Cases)
- What Else?



It's a BOF!

- This is an interactive session
- I want feedback and ideas along the way
- All ideas will be captured and documented on the elinux.org wiki



Why?

- Everybody's Level of Test Sucks
- Need a test for every line of code we write.
- It'll never be perfect, but we can be better.
- Working smarter applies to testing.



Frameworks

- Not all test frameworks have the same goals
 - Local unit tests
 - Build/test system validation
- LAVA
- OpenTest
- Autotest
- Jenkins
- Ktest
- ...



LAVA

- Linaro's Test Framework
 - https://launchpad.net/lava
- Several components
 - Server
 - Dashboard
 - Displays test results
 - Scheduler
 - Dispatcher
 - Interacts with target hardware
 - Test Shell
 - Execute test plans and returns results to the Dashboard



Opentest

- TI's Test Framework
 - http://arago-project.org/wiki/index.php/Opentest
- Several components
 - Test Management System TestLink
 - http://sourceforge.net/projects/testlink/
 - Test Management Controller
 - Dispatcher
 - Resource Manager
 - Writer Manage test results
 - Service Providers
 - Build Execution Engines
 - Test Execution Engines
- CLI and Web UI



Autotest

- Autotest
 - http://autotest.github.com/
 - Designed for kernel testing but is a full automated test system for any kind of tests
 - Test cases written in python
 - CLI and web driven
 - Used by Chromium OS



Jenkins

- CI Server
 - http://jenkins-ci.org/
 - Usually consider a heavy weight corporate CI/build engine
 - Can be used with a variety of plugins for
 - nightly build/tests
 - regression testing triggered by branch push
 - Remote monitoring via mobile device



ktest.pl

- Simple, upstream kernel test tool
- tools/testing/ktest/
 - Build and bisect tests
 - Launch tests on and gather results from a target system
- Snowball example shows how this tool works well for embedded linux testing



Automation Hardware Tools

- Lava-Imp
 - https://wiki.linaro.org/People/AndyGreen/Lava-Imp
 - Hardware tool to automate testing of various peripherals
 - SD muxing, USB OTG/host hotplus, SATA/eSATA hotplug, Ethernet hotplug, light sensors, etc
 - Design and PCB layout available.
 - Digiloggers LPC Power Controllers
 - http://www.digital-loggers.com/lpc.html
 - 8 port network controlled power switch, 129 USD
 - USB serial dongle for console server or pick up a used one on eBay
 - Alternative is to build a console server from a cheap developer board with many serial ports for RS-232.



Automation Software Tools

Conmux

- https://github.com/autotest/autotest/wiki/Conmux
- Aggregate various serial consoles under one interface (USB connected, traditional serial, console server ports)
- Control power or relays from escape command scripts
- Ttypersist
 - https://github.com/russdill/ttypersist
 - Hides disconnection of usb serial devices



Test Cases

- LTP
 - http://ltp.cvs.sourceforge.net/viewvc/ltp/ltp/testcases/kernel/
 - Filled with test cases but here in particular general kernel tests
- LTP-DDT
 - http://processors.wiki.ti.com/index.php/LTP-DDT
 - Lots of kernel driver test cases
- Lava-test
 - http://lava-test.readthedocs.org/en/latest/tests.html



Build Our Own Test Cases

- Networking
 - Iperf
 - Netpef
 - Ping -f
- Block I/O
 - Bonnie++
 - Fstress
 - Dt (Data Test)
- SPI
 - Spidev + spidev_test.c (external loopback)
 - 7



Build Our Own Test Cases (continued)

- I2C
- GPIO
 - Loopback?
 - Interrupts?
- DMA
 - Other device drivers dmatest.ko
- PCle
 - Random cards
 - Bus analyzer / exercisers



Getting Creative - sigrok

- In what ways can we use a general purpose data logging tool like sigrok for test?
 - http://sigrok.org
- Consider a PWM driver
 - Testing with a servo or LED for qualitative results is insuffcient
 - Setting a PWM for a full range of supported values and verifying the exact expected results using an sigrok capture from a logic analyzer is real test coverage.

```
$ sigrok-cli --samples 1000 -0 bits
Acquisition with 8/8 probes at 200 KHz
```



Getting Creative – spi slave zero

- In what ways can we get better at testing SPI drivers? One way is to build a universal spi slave device.
- The problem with SPI driver testing is always that we can't test every device.
 - But we can come closer if we have one device that exercises all spi protocol modes
- SPI Slave Zero is inspired by USB Gadget Zero
 - http://elinux.org/SpiSlaveZero
- SSZ is defined to do the following:
 - Reset and configure to polarity/phase via GPIOs
 - Handle commands to query max frequency, configure test mode word width, and set test mode
 - Test modes then allow read of a test pattern, sink of writes, and optionally write store and read back of stored data for data integrity testing.



What Else?

- Are there topics we missed?
- Other areas you've done creative tests?
- What works, what doesn't?
- Everything will be recorded and added to elinux.org wiki

