Toradex
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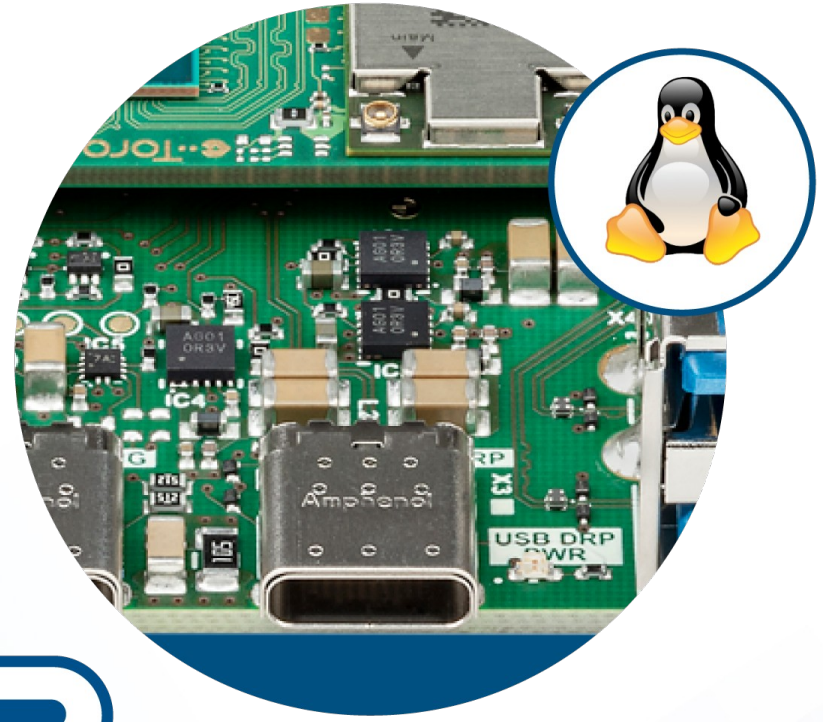
EOSS EMBEDDED OPEN SOURCE SUMMIT

USB on Embedded Linux Systems Deep Dive



USB

Presented by
Toradex

WITH YOU TODAY…

- Joined Toradex 2011
- Spearheaded Embedded Linux Adoption
- Introduced Upstream First Policy
- Top 10 U-Boot Contributor
- Top 10 Linux Kernel Arm SoC Contributor
- Industrial Embedded Linux Platform Torizon Fully Based on Mainline Technology
  - Mainline U-Boot with Distroboot
  - KMS/DRM Graphics with Etnaviv & Nouveau
  - OTA with OSTree
  - Docker resp. Podman

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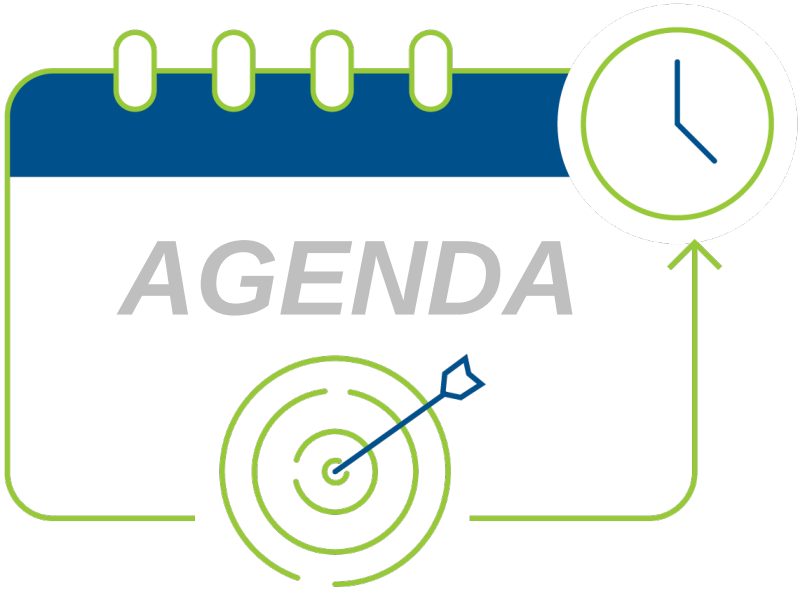
Toradex

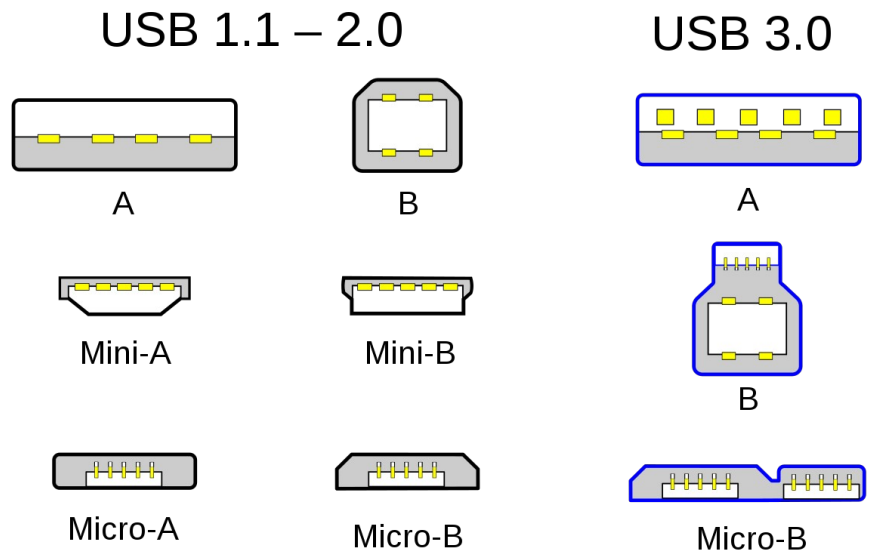
WHAT WE'LL COVER TODAY…

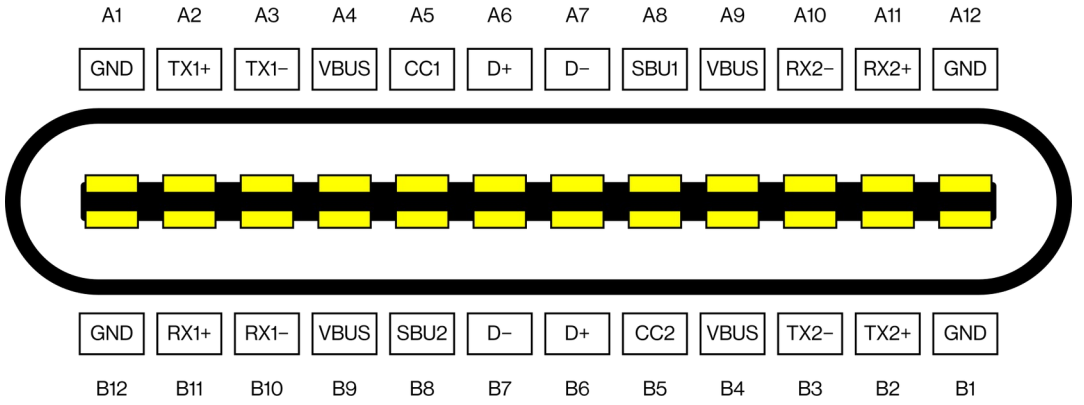
- Introduction to the USB Specification
- USB in Embedded Systems
- USB Recovery Mode
- USB in U-Boot
- USB in the Linux Kernel
- USB from Userspace
- USB Tooling
- USB Role Switching
- USB Debugging
- Live Demonstration



Introduction to the USB Specification

- Connectors
  - USB-A: USB 2.0 and 3.0 variants
  - USB-B: Fullsize, mini, micro and USB 3.0 variants
  - USB-C: One size fits all, right?
- USB transfer speed
  - Low-speed: up to 1.5 Mbps
    - Since USB 1.0
  - Full-speed: up to 12 Mbps
    - Since USB 1.1
  - High-speed: up to 480 Mbps
    - Since USB 2.0
  - SuperSpeed: up to 5 Gbps
    - Since USB 3.0
  - ...





Introduction to the USB Specification (cont.)

- USB protocol
  - Device: Entity connected to the bus
  - Configuration: State of a device
    - Initialisation, standby, active
    - Bundles a bunch of interfaces
  - Interface: Logical device
    - Each interface encapsulates a single high-level function (e.g. webcam: video stream, audio stream, buttons)
    - One driver is needed for each interface!
    - Alternate settings: Each USB interface may have different parameter settings (e.g. for different bandwidth)
    - The initial state is always in the first setting (number 0)
    - Alternate settings often used for isochronous endpoints (endpoints use different amounts of reserved bandwidth)

Introduction to the USB Specification (cont.)

- Endpoint: Unidirectional communication pipe
  - Control endpoints
    - For configuration, get information, send commands, and retrieve status information
    - Simple, small data transfers
    - Every device has a control endpoint (endpoint 0)
    - USB protocol guarantees corresponding data transfers will always have enough (reserved) bandwidth
  - Interrupt endpoints
    - Transfer small amounts of data at a fixed rate
    - Guaranteed, reserved bandwidth
    - For devices requiring guaranteed response time, such as USB human interface devices (HID) e.g. mice and keyboards
    - Note: Different from hardware interrupts, really requires constant polling from the host

Introduction to the USB Specification (cont.)

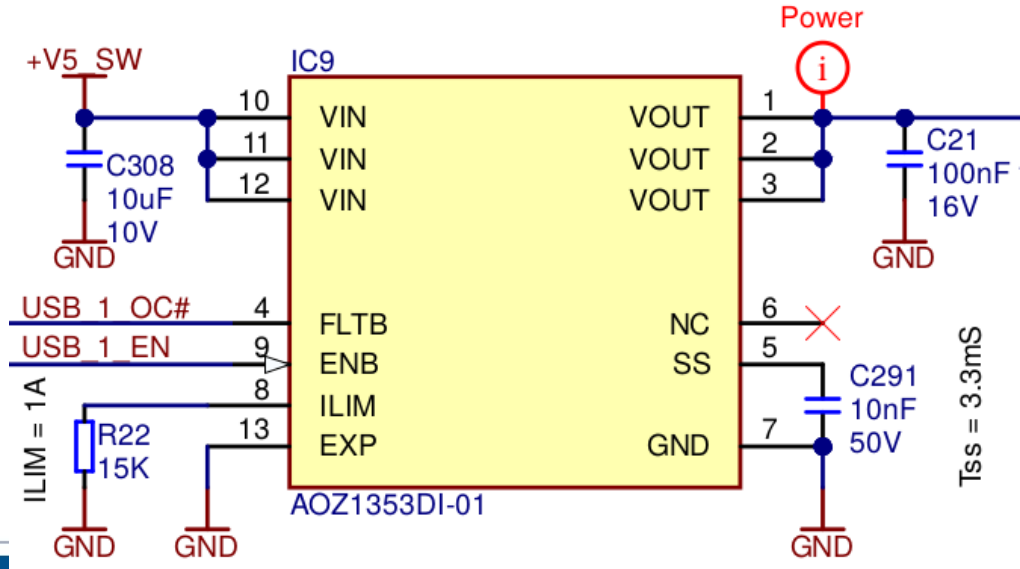
- Endpoints: Unidirectional communication pipes (cont.)
  - Bulk endpoints
    - Large sporadic data transfers
    - Using all remaining available bandwidth
    - However, no guarantee on bandwidth or latency
    - Only guarantee that no data is lost
    - Typically used when there is no quality of service requirement (Network, printer, storage devices et al.)
  - Isochronous endpoints
    - Also for large amounts of data
    - Guaranteed speed (often but not necessarily as fast as possible).
    - No guarantee that all data makes it through
    - Used by real-time data transfers (typically for audio and video devices with quality of service requirements)

Introduction to the USB Specification (cont.)

- USB request blocks (URBs)
  - Communication between host and device done asynchronously using URBs
  - Similar to packets in network communication
  - Every endpoint can handle a queue of URBs
  - Every URB has a completion handler
  - A driver may allocate many URBs for a single endpoint or reuse same URB for different endpoints
  - See Documentation/usb/URB.txt in kernel sources
- URB scheduling interval
  - For interrupt and isochronous transfers
  - Low-speed and full-speed devices: The interval unit is frames (ms)
  - Hi-speed devices: The interval unit is microframes (1/8 ms)

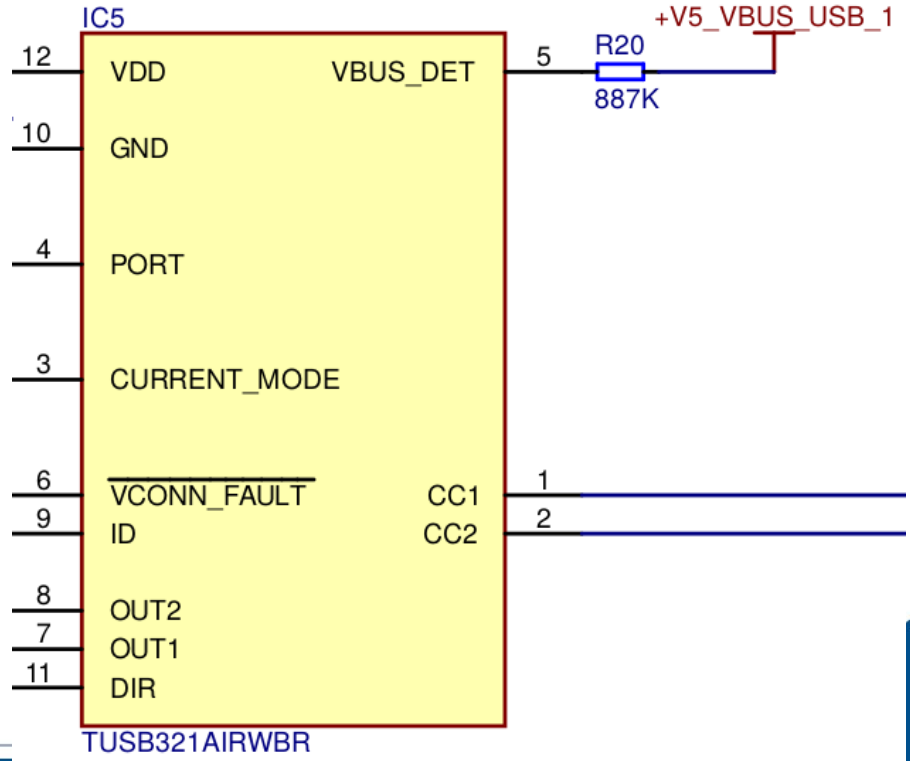
USB in Embedded Systems

- Most modern SoCs feature at least one USB port often with accompanying PHY
- Dedicated differential signals
  - D+/D- for up to USB 2.0 low/full/high-speed
  - SSRX+/SSRX- and SSTX+/SSTX- for SuperSpeed beginning with USB 3.0
- Supporting signals
  - May be dedicated or realised by regular GPIOs
  - ID: usually low for host and not connected (pulled-up) for device
  - OverCurrent: device draws too much VBUS current (output from USB power switch chips)
  - VBUS
    - Input in device role
    - May influence connection/suspend state
    - Often not 5 volt tolerant requiring a voltage divider
  - VBUS enable
    - Output in host role (enable for USB power switch chips)

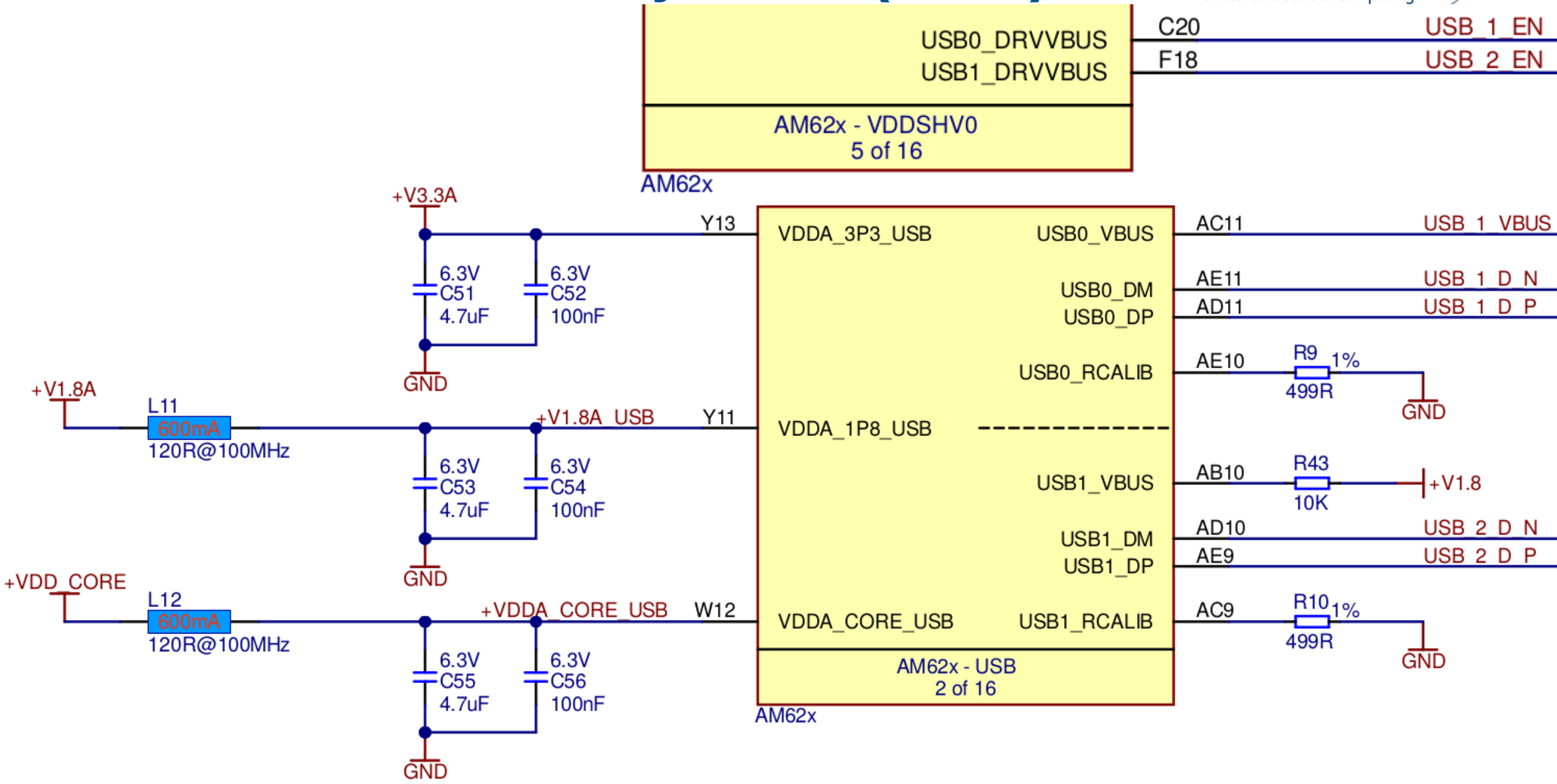


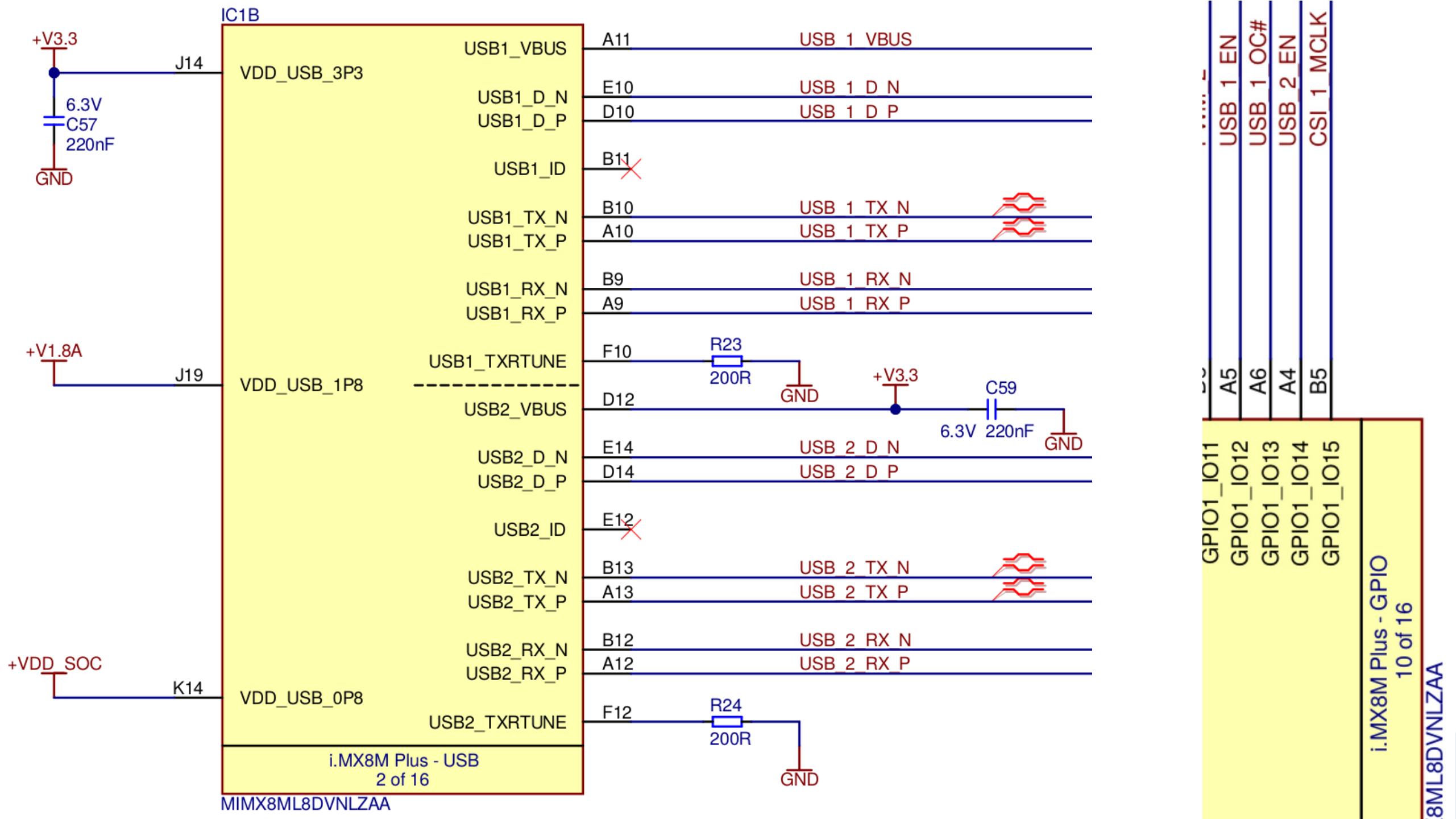
USB in Embedded Systems (cont.)

- External hub and/or PHY chips
- Designed-in chips
  - USB-to-Ethernet bridges
  - USB-to-serial adapters
  - ...
- USB-C
  - Special companion chips taking care of signalling details
  - Either compatible to legacy signalling (e.g. ID and VBUS)
  - Or using out-of-band signalling
    (e.g. I2C or SPI) mandating special driver
  - May further take care of power delivery requirements
  - Blog posts and webinars from Toradex about the topic (see references)



USB in Embedded Systems (cont.)




IC1B
+V3.3
J14
VDD_USB_3P3
6.3V
C57
220nF
GND
+V1.8A
J19
VDD_USB_1P8
+VDD_SOC
K14
VDD_USB_0P8
USB1_VBUS
A11
USB_1_VBUS
USB1_D_N
E10
USB_1_D_N
USB1_D_P
D10
USB_1_D_P
USB1_ID
B11
USB1_TX_N
B10
USB_1_TX_N
USB1_TX_P
A10
USB_1_TX_P
USB1_RX_N
B9
USB_1_RX_N
USB1_RX_P
A9
USB_1_RX_P
USB1_TXRTUNE
F10
R23
200R
GND
USB2_VBUS
D12
+V3.3
C59
6.3V
220nF
GND
USB2_D_N
E14
USB_2_D_N
USB2_D_P
D14
USB_2_D_P
USB2_ID
E12
USB2_TX_N
B13
USB_2_TX_N
USB2_TX_P
A13
USB_2_TX_P
USB2_RX_N
B12
USB_2_RX_N
USB2_RX_P
A12
USB_2_RX_P
USB2_TXRTUNE
F12
R24
200R
GND
i.MX8M Plus - USB
2 of 16
MIMX8ML8DVNLZAA
USB_1_EN
A5
USB_1_OC#
A6
USB_2_EN
A4
CSI_1_MCLK
B5
GPIO1_IO11
GPIO1_IO12
GPIO1_IO13
GPIO1_IO14
GPIO1_IO15
i.MX8M Plus - GPIO
10 of 16
8ML8DVNLZAA

USB Recovery Mode

- Most modern SoCs allow multiple so-called “boot modes”
- Selected by either strapping pins or fusing (done during production)
- Functionality of the Boot ROM aka initial program loader (IPL)
- Once initial “stage” is loaded/executed other mechanisms may be used to load/execute later “stages”
- NXP i.MX 6/7/8 and Vybrid support USB serial download protocol (SDP)
  - Basically former serial aka UART download protocol encapsulated in USB
  - Two implementations thereof exist:
    - imx_loader aka imx_usb
    - mfgtools 3.0 aka universal update utility (uuu)

USB Recovery Mode (cont.)

- TI AM62x Sitara support USB device firmware upgrade (DFU)
  - Official USB device class
  - Relatively low transfer speed for large files
  - Imposed utilization of only EP0 for transfer
  - Host side implementation: dfu-util
- For convenience further configuration/scripting may be required
  - What USB vendor/product ID to act upon
  - What binaries to use for what “stages”
- Toradex easy installer uses those mechanisms to allow loading full fledged Linux/Qt based installer

USB in U-Boot

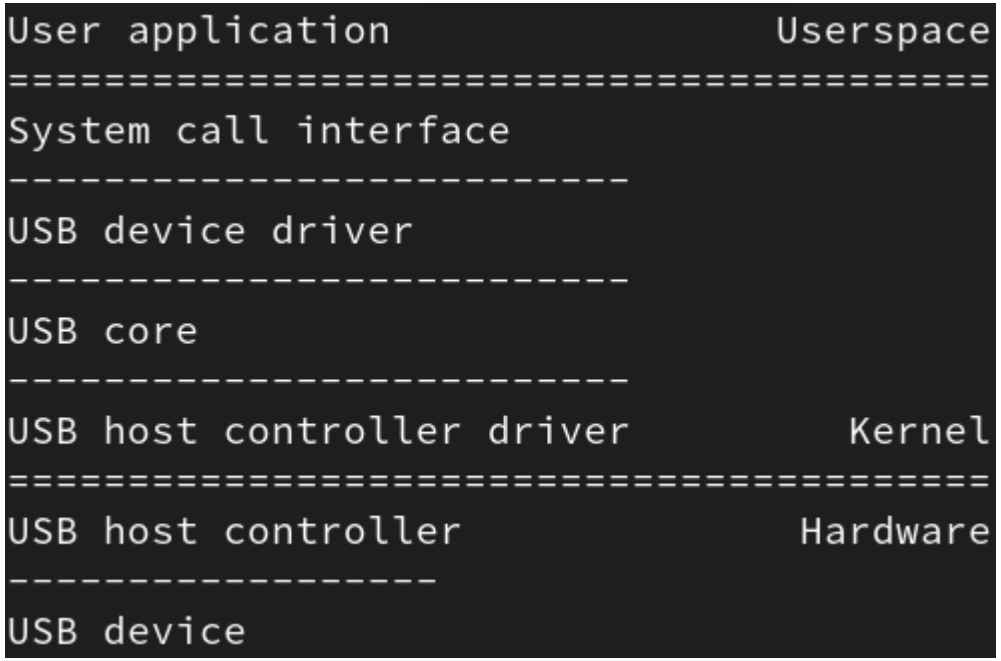
- Device side aka gadget
  - Manually start one functionality at a time: DFU, Fastboot, UMS
  - Device Firmware Upgrade (DFU)
    - CONFIG_DFU and CONFIG_CMD_DFU plus at least one backend like CONFIG_DFU_RAM
    - Environment variable dfu_alt_info_ram=tispl.bin ram 0x80080000 0x200000;u-boot.img ram 0x81000000 0x400000;loadaddr ram 0x88200000 0x80000;scriptaddr ram 0x90280000 0x80000;ramdisk_addr_r ram 0x90300000 0x8000000
    - dfu <USB_controller> [<interface> <dev>] [<timeout>]
  - Android Fastboot
    - CONFIG_USB_FUNCTION_FASTBOOT depends on CONFIG_USB_GADGET_DOWNLOAD, CONFIG_USB_GADGET_VENDOR_NUM, CONFIG_USB_GADGET_PRODUCT_NUM and CONFIG_USB_GADGET_MANUFACTURER
    - Requires large memory buffer via CONFIG_FASTBOOT_BUF_ADDR and CONFIG_FASTBOOT_BUF_SIZE
    - Further configuration like partition aliases, raw partition descriptors and variable overrides possible
    - fastboot usb 0

USB in U-Boot (cont.)

- Device side aka gadget (cont.)
  - USB mass storage class (ums): shares a U-Boot block device via USB
    - CONFIG_CMD_USB_MASS_STORAGE depends on CONFIG_USB_USB_GADGET and CONFIG_BLK
    - ums <dev> [<interface>] <devnum[:partnum]>
    - Where <dev> is the USB gadget device number (usually zero unless multiple device controller instances)
    - Further arguments are specific to the block device
- Host side
  - CONFIG_CMD_USB depends on a low-level host controller driver
  - USB is NOT automatically started during start-up due to potential interference with OS e.g. Linux kernel boot
  - Therefore requires manually starting it with “usb start” and stopping with “usb stop”
  - Enumeration is also rather slow due to timeouts
  - “usb tree” shows all USB devices in a tree like display
  - Supports keyboards, storage as well as USB-to-Ethernet adapters (with their resp. configs)

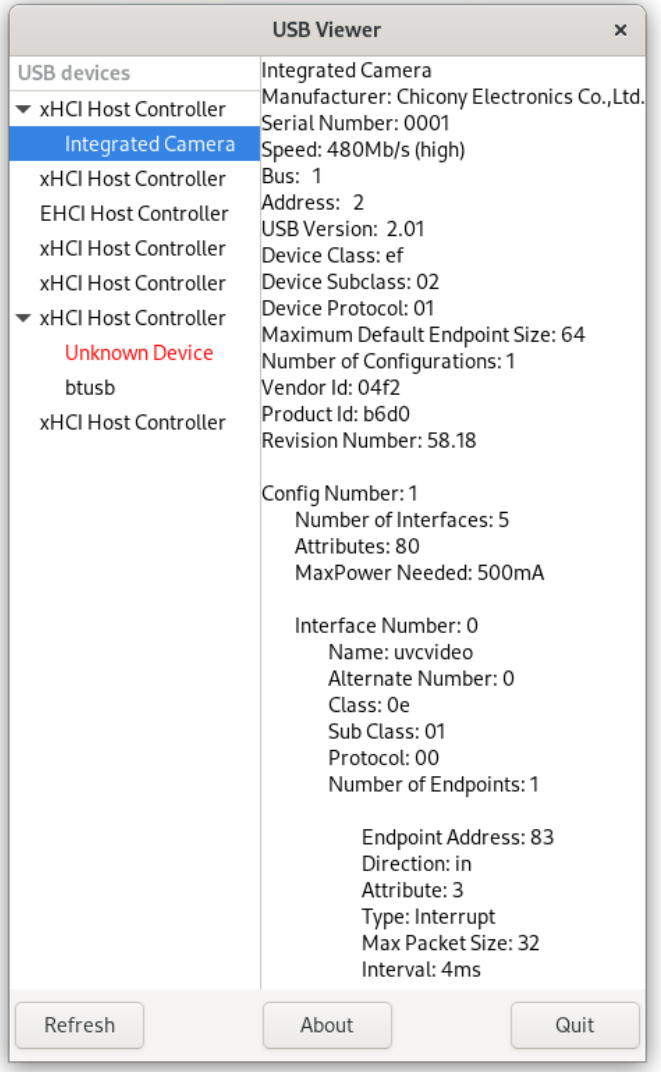
USB in the Linux Kernel

- USB core: Implements the USB bus specification
  - Architecture independent kernel subsystem
- USB host controller drivers
  - Architecture and platform dependent
  - Different driver depending on USB host controller hardware (OHCI/UHCI, EHCI, xHCI et al.)
- USB device drivers
  - Platform independent
  - Drivers for specific peripheral on the USB bus
- USB device controller (UDC) drivers
  - Architecture and platform dependent
  - Different driver depending on USB device controller hardware
- USB gadget drivers
  - Platform independent
  - Different driver depending on peripheral functionality to provide (Ethernet, serial, storage et al.)



USB from Userspace

- /proc/bus/usb/devices
- usbutils: Utilities for inspecting devices connected to a USB bus
  - lsusb: List USB devices, tree like view with -t resp. --tree
  - usb-devices: Print USB device details
  - usbhid-dump: Dump USB HID device report descriptors and streams
- usbview: Display information on USB devices
  - GTK+ 3.x graphical application

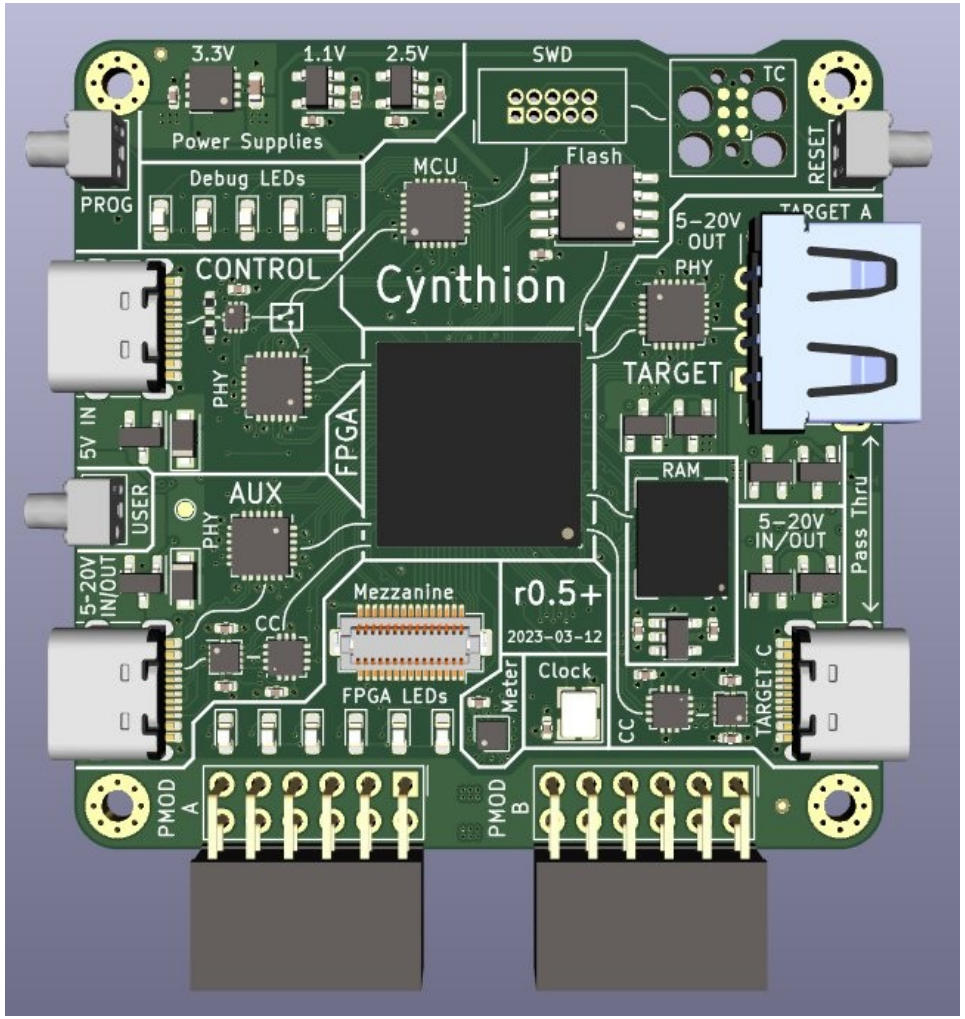


USB from Userspace (cont.)

- libusb: A cross-platform user library to access USB devices
  - C library providing generic access to USB devices
  - Intended to be used by developers to facilitate the production of applications that communicate with USB hardware
  - Portable: Using a single cross-platform API on Android, Linux, macOS, Windows, etc.
  - User-mode: No special privilege or elevation is required for the application to communicate with a device
- uhubctl: USB hub per-port power control
  - Utility to control USB power per-port on smart USB hubs
  - Smart hub defined as one that implements per-port power switching

USB Tooling

- FTDI USB-to-serial aka UART adapters
- USB analyzer
  - BEAGLE
  - Cynthion (formerly Luna)
    - A multi-tool for building, analyzing, and hacking USB devices
    - Completely open source hardware and software
- USB CAN analyzer
- USB logic analyzer
  - DreamSourceLab DSLogic
  - Saleae Logic
- USB oscilloscope
  - DreamSourceLab DSCope



USB Role Switching

- Device/host resp. on-the-go (OTG) or dual role device (DRD) switching
- Fixed in device tree
  - dr_mode property
    - May be host, otg (usually defaults to peripheral) or peripheral
- USB GPIO extcon device driver (e.g. as used on Colibri iMX6/7)
  - Documentation/devicetree/bindings/extcon/extcon-usb-gpio.txt
  - Virtual device used to generate USB cable states from USB ID pin connected to a GPIO pin (obsolete)
  - CONFIG_EXTCON_USB_GPIO
  - drivers/extcon/extcon-usb-gpio.c
  - compatible = "linux,extcon-usb-gpio";
  - id-gpio and/or vbus-gpio
  - Reference it in actual USB node
  - Here zero means no VBUS detection capability, ID pin aka device/host only

```
/* Verdin USB_2 */
&usbss1 {
        ti,vbus-divider;
        status = "disabled";
};

&usb1 {
        pinctrl-names = "default";
        pinctrl-0 = <&pinctrl_usb1>;
        dr_mode = "host";
        status = "disabled";
};
```

```
extcon_usbc_det: usbc-det {
        compatible = "linux,extcon-usb-gpio";
        /* SODIMM 137 / USBC_DET */
        id-gpio = <&gpio7 12 GPIO_ACTIVE_HIGH>;
        pinctrl-names = "default";
        pinctrl-0 = <&pinctrl_usbc_det>;
};

/* Colibri USBC */
&usbotg {
        dr_mode = "otg";
        extcon = <0>, <&extcon_usbc_det>;
        status = "disabled";
};
```

USB Role Switching (cont.)

- USB connector subsystem (e.g. as used on Verdin iMX8M Plus)
- Documentation/devicetree/bindings/connector/usb-connector.yaml
- USB GPIO based connection detection driver
  - CONFIG_USB_CONN_GPIO
  - drivers/usb/common/usb-conn-gpio.c
- Simple GPIO VBUS sensing driver for B peripheral devices
  - CONFIG_USB_GPIO_VBUS
  - drivers/usb/phy/phy-gpio-vbus-usb.c
- compatible = "gpio-usb-b-connector", "usb-b-connector";
- label = "Type-C";
- type: mini/micro in case of non-fullsize connector
- self-powered and more optional power related properties
- id-gpio and/or vbus-gpio
- vbus-supply


```
/* Verdin USB_1 */
&usb3_0 {
        fsl,disable-port-power-control;
        fsl,over-current-active-low;
        pinctrl-names = "default";
        pinctrl-0 = <&pinctrl_usb_1_oc_n>;
};

&usb_dwc3_0 {
        /* dual role only, not full featured OTG */
        adp-disable;
        dr_mode = "otg";
        hnp-disable;
        maximum-speed = "high-speed";
        role-switch-default-mode = "peripheral";
        srp-disable;
        usb-role-switch;

        connector {
                compatible = "gpio-usb-b-connector",
                             "usb-b-connector";
                id-gpios = <&gpio2 10
                            GPIO_ACTIVE_HIGH>;
                label = "Type-C";
                pinctrl-names = "default";
                pinctrl-0 = <&pinctrl_usb_1_id>;
                self-powered;
                type = "micro";
                vbus-supply = <&reg_usb1_vbus>;
        };
};
```

USB Device Functionality

- USB gadget functions configurable through configfs

```
--- USB Gadget Support
[ ]   Debugging messages (DEVELOPMENT)
[ ]   Debugging information files (DEVELOPMENT)
[ ]   Debugging information files in debugfs (DEVELOPMENT)
(2)   Maximum VBUS Power usage (2-500 mA)
(2)   Number of storage pipeline buffers
[ ]   Serial gadget console support
      USB Peripheral Controller  --->
<M>   USB Gadget functions configurable through configfs
[*]     Generic serial bulk in/out
[*]     Abstract Control Model (CDC ACM)
[*]     Object Exchange Model (CDC OBEX)
[*]     Network Control Model (CDC NCM)
[*]     Ethernet Control Model (CDC ECM)
[*]     Ethernet Control Model (CDC ECM) subset
[*]     RNDIS
[*]     Ethernet Emulation Model (EEM)
[*]     Mass storage
[ ]     Loopback and sourcesink function (for testing)
[*]     Function filesystem (FunctionFS)
[ ]     Audio Class 1.0
[ ]     Audio Class 1.0 (legacy implementation)
[ ]     Audio Class 2.0
[ ]     MIDI function
[ ]     HID function
[ ]     USB Webcam function
[ ]     Printer function
      USB Gadget precomposed configurations  --->
```

configfs

- Userspace-driven kernel object configuration
- Ram-based filesystem that provides the converse of sysfs's functionality
- Where sysfs is a filesystem-based view of kernel objects, configfs is a filesystem which allows userspace instantiation of kernel objects, or config_items
- Two types of configfs attributes
  - Normal attributes: Small ASCII text files
  - Binary attributes
- USB Gadget ConfigFS: Interface that allows definition of arbitrary functions and configurations to define an application specific USB composite device from userspace
  - Create gadget device and bind to a UDC driver from userspace

configfs (cont.)

- First needs to be mounted
- If USB gadget configfs support enabled usb_gadget subdirectory present
- By creating the g1 directory instantiated new gadget device filled by template
- Write our vendor/product IDs
- Instantiate English language strings

```
~# mount -t configfs none /sys/kernel/config
~# cd /sys/kernel/config/
/sys/kernel/config# ls
pci_ep  usb_gadget
/sys/kernel/config# cd usb_gadget/

/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget# mkdir g1
/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget# cd g1/
/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# ls
UDC              bDeviceSubClass  bcdUSB     idProduct  os_desc
bDeviceClass     bMaxPacketSize0  configs    idVendor   strings
bDeviceProtocol  bcdDevice        functions  max_speed  webusb

/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# echo "0x1b67" > idVendor
/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# echo "0x4058" > idProduct

/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# mkdir strings/0x409
/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# ls strings/0x409/
manufacturer  product  serialnumber
```

configfs (cont.)

- Write our manufacturer, product and serialnumber descriptor strings
- Create function instances
- Note: Multiple function instances of the same type must have a unique extension
- Create configuration instance
- Create English language strings and write description for this device configuration
- Bind each of our function instances to this configuration
- Check which UDC instances available
- Attach created gadget device to desired UDC

```
# echo "Toradex" > strings/0x409/manufacturer
# echo "verdin-imx8mp" > strings/0x409/product
# echo "07106916" > strings/0x409/serialnumber

/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# mkdir functions/ncm.usb0

/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# mkdir configs/c.1
/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# ls configs/c.1/
MaxPower  bmAttributes  strings

# mkdir configs/c.1/strings/0x409/
/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# ls configs/c.1/strings/0x409/
configuration
# echo "WINNCM" > configs/c.1/strings/0x409/configuration

# ln -s functions/ncm.usb0 configs/c.1/

/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# ls /sys/class/udc/
38100000.usb

/sys/kernel/config/usb_gadget/g1# echo "38100000.usb" > UDC
```

configfs (cont.)

- libusbgx
- Library providing C API to USB gadget configfs
- Basically programmatic way to go about creation and removal of gadgets

USB Host Functionality

- USB device class drivers

```
      *** USB Device Class drivers ***
<M>   USB Modem (CDC ACM) support
< >   USB Printer support
< >   USB Wireless Device Management support
< >   USB Test and Measurement Class support
      *** NOTE: USB_STORAGE depends on SCSI but BLK_DEV_SD may ***
      *** also be needed; see USB_STORAGE Help for more info ***
<*>   USB Mass Storage support
[ ]     USB Mass Storage verbose debug
< >     Realtek Card Reader support
< >     Datafab Compact Flash Reader support
< >     Freecom USB/ATAPI Bridge support
< >     ISD-200 USB/ATA Bridge support
< >     USBAT/USBAT02-based storage support
< >     SanDisk SDDR-09 (and other SmartMedia, including DPCM) support
< >     SanDisk SDDR-55 SmartMedia support
< >     Lexar Jumpshot Compact Flash Reader
< >     Olympus MAUSB-10/Fuji DPC-R1 support
< >     Support OneTouch Button on Maxtor Hard Drives
< >     Support for Rio Karma music player
< >     SAT emulation on Cypress USB/ATA Bridge with ATACB
< >     USB ENE card reader support
< >     USB Attached SCSI
      *** USB Imaging devices ***
< >   USB Mustek MDC800 Digital Camera support
< >   Microtek X6USB scanner support
< >   USB/IP support
```

Debugging USB

- usbmon
  - Linux kernel facility used to collect traces of I/O on the USB bus
  - May be compiled as built-in or Linux kernel module requiring separate loading
  - Analogous to packet socket used by network monitoring tools such as tcpdump
  - As a matter of fact tcpdump comes with support for usbmon: tcpdump --list-interfaces
- Virtual USB Analyzer
  - Tool for visualizing logs of USB packets from hardware or software USB sniffer tools
  - Developed at VMware
  - Python 2.7 PyGTK based
  - Probably abandoned rather obsolete project
- Wireshark
  - Has built-in USB analysis functionality
  - But how to do that on an Embedded device?
  - ssh <target> “tcpcump -i usbmon2 -U -w -” | flatpak run --filesystem=host --file-forwarding=host --share=network org.wireshark.Wireshark -k -i -

Debugging USB (cont.)

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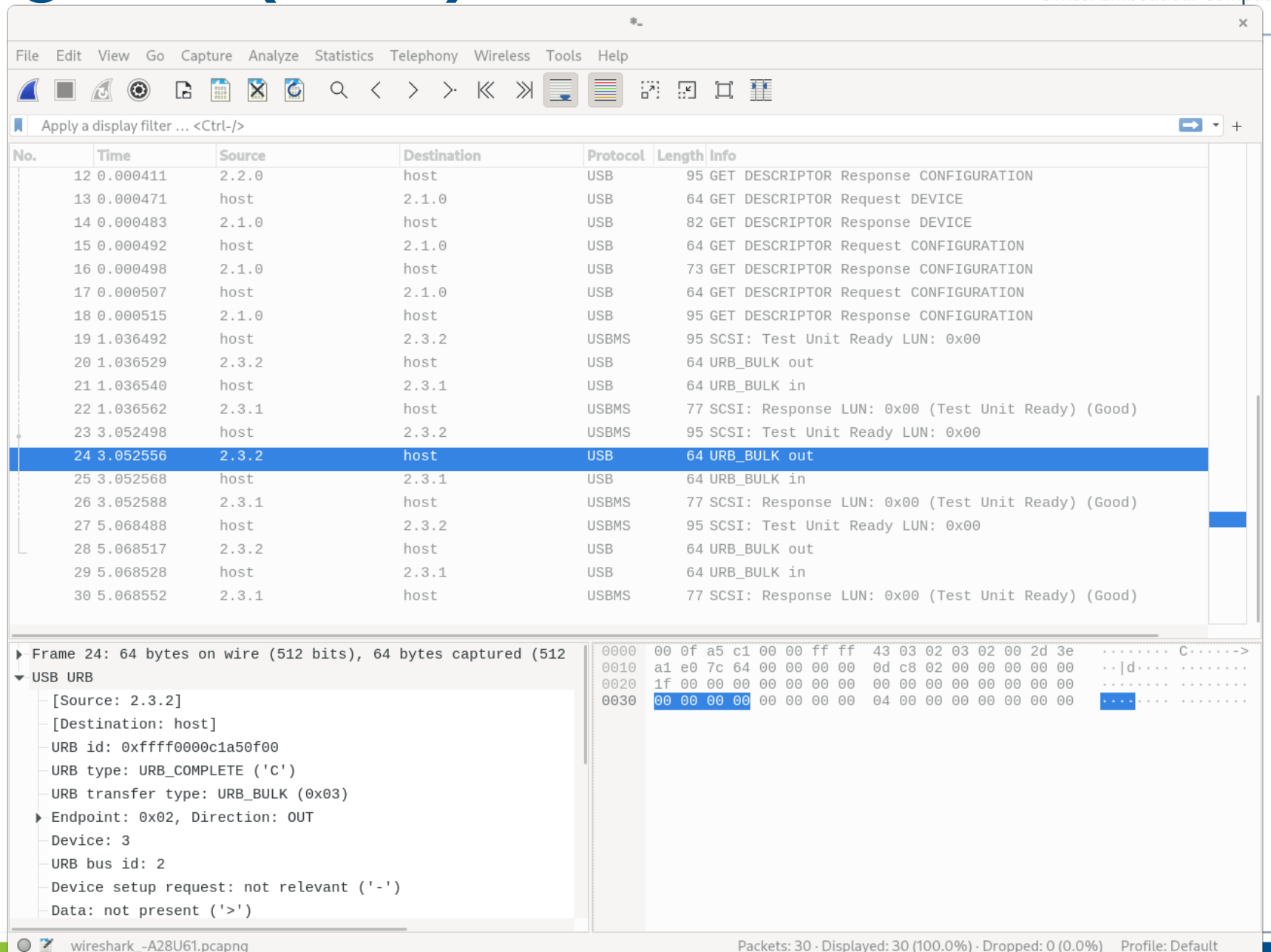
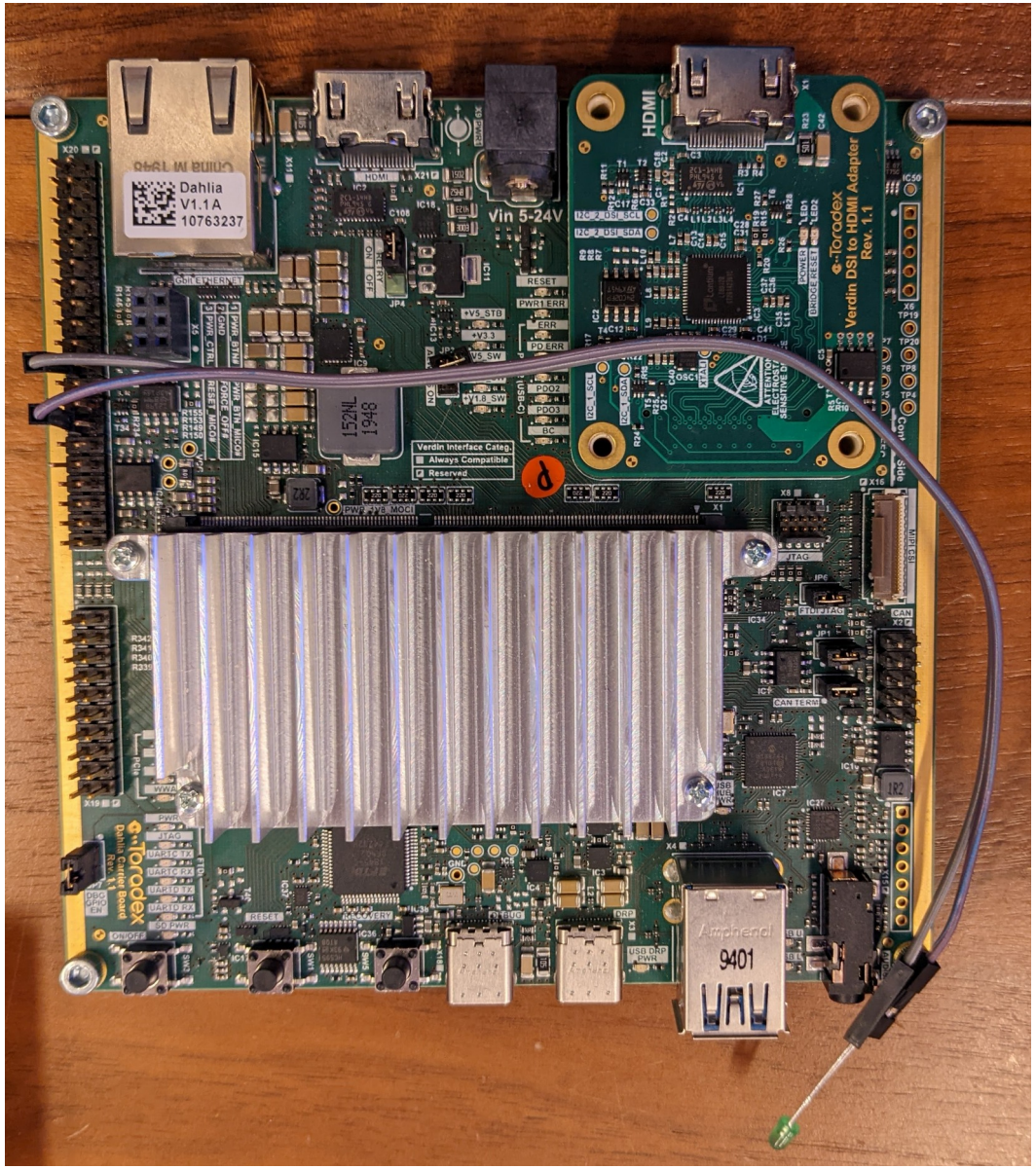


NXP PLATINUM PARTNER

Live Demonstration

- Nothing fancy, just a regular Toradex board in the wild running upstream Linux (;-p)



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Q&A

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