



Run Control Software for the Upgrade of the ATLAS Muon to Central Trigger Processor Interface (MUCTPI)

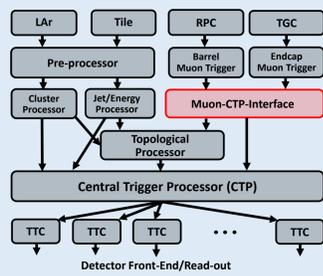
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ATLAS Experiment @ LHC

The ATLAS experiment is a general-purpose experiment at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN. It observes proton-proton collisions at an energy of 13 TeV. With about 39 interactions in every bunch crossing (BC) every 25 ns, there are more than 10^9 interactions per second. The trigger system selects those events which are interesting to physics and which can be recorded to permanent storage at a reasonable rate. The ATLAS trigger system consists of a Level-1 trigger based on custom electronics, which reduces the event rate to a maximum of 100 kHz, and a high-level trigger system based on commercial computers, which reduces the event rate to around 1 kHz.

Level-1 Trigger System

The first-level trigger uses reduced-granularity information from the calorimeters and dedicated muon trigger detectors. The trigger information is based on multiplicities and topologies of trigger candidate objects. The muon trigger is based on Resistive Plate Chambers (RPC) in the barrel region and Thin-Gap Chambers (TGC) in the end-cap region. The Muon-to-Central-Trigger-Processor Interface (MUCTPI) combines the muon candidate counts from the RPC and TGC, taking into account double counting of single muons that are detected by more than one chamber due to geometrical overlap of the muon chambers and the trajectory of the muon in the magnetic field. The MUCTPI sends the muon candidate information to the Topological Processor and the muon counts to the Central Trigger Processor (CTP), which combines the trigger information from the calorimeter trigger, the MUCTPI, and the Topological Processor in order to make the final Level-1 decision.



The Level-1 Trigger System

Upgrade of the MUCTPI

The MUCTPI upgrade is part of the overall upgrade of ATLAS on the road to High-Luminosity LHC and is in line with the development of the New Small Wheel of the muon trigger system, to be installed during the shutdown of 2019 and 2020. The new MUCTPI will use optical links to replace bulky electrical cables. Those links will allow the muon trigger detectors to send more muon candidates with more precise information. The new MUCTPI will provide improved overlap handling and full-precision information to the Topological Processor. The new MUCTPI will be built as a single ATCA blade. It will receive 208 optical links and will use two FPGAs for the overlap handling, counting of muon candidates, and sending candidates to the Topological Processor. A third FPGA will provide the total count of muon candidates to the CTP and read out data to the data acquisition system. A System-on-Chip (SoC) will provide hardware control of the new MUCTPI and integrate it into the ATLAS run control system.

Single-Board Computer



The old MUCTPI (VME)

System-on-Chip



The new MUCTPI (ATCA)

ATLAS Run Control on a System-on-Chip (with ARM processor)

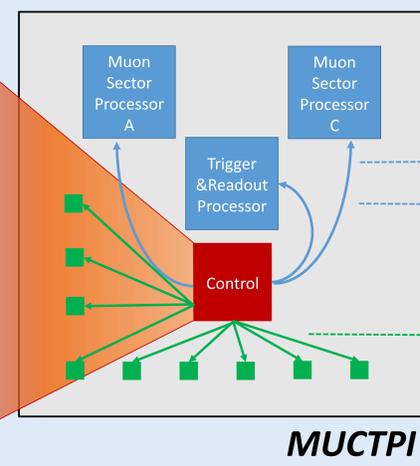
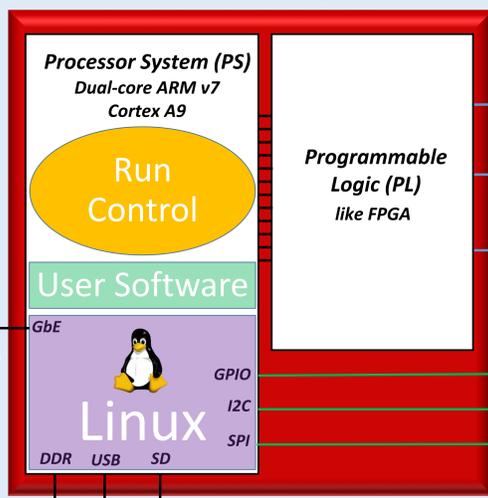
The run control system of the ATLAS experiment provides a framework for the control of the MUCTPI (e.g. start and stop commands), loading of configuration data (e.g. overlap lookup table (LUT) data), and collection of monitoring data (e.g. counter values). Due to the new technology (ATCA) new ways of communication between the MUCTPI and the run control system had to be investigated, which with the old MUCTPI were achieved using a single-board computer. An SoC, Xilinx Zynq 7Z030, with a programmable logic part and a processor part will be used for the communication with the run control system and the processing FPGAs of the MUCTPI. The programmable logic provides the communication with the processing FPGAs using Chip-2-Chip links, the configuration of the FPGAs using the Slave Serial protocol, and the configuration and monitoring of the MUCTPI hardware with its power, clock and optical modules using serial buses like I2C and SPI. The processor system runs embedded Linux and an ATLAS run control application, which uses low-level user application software developed for the access of all the hardware and processing FPGAs of the MCTPI.

Run Control of the MUCTPI using a System-on-Chip

System-on-Chip (SoC):
Xilinx Zynq 7Z030



Commands: e.g. start, stop
 Configuration: e.g. LUT data
 Monitoring: e.g. counter values



Configuration of FPGAs
 Read/write access of FPGAs
 Control & monitoring of power, clock, optical modules etc.

Build Linux with Yocto

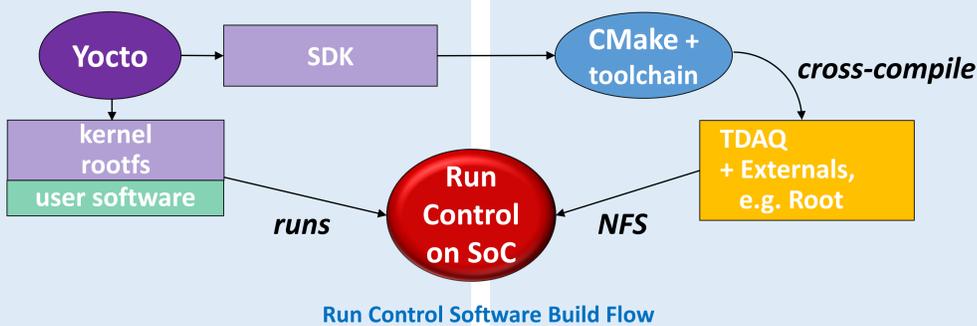
The software for the operating system, including a kernel module for accessing memory performing DMA, and all of the user software are built and maintained using the framework of the Yocto Project from the Linux Foundation, which allows one to build a complete embedded Linux system. Recipes for building the user software have been developed, in order to fetch, configure, and compile the software, and create all images necessary to boot and run the processor system.

Cross Compile Run Control

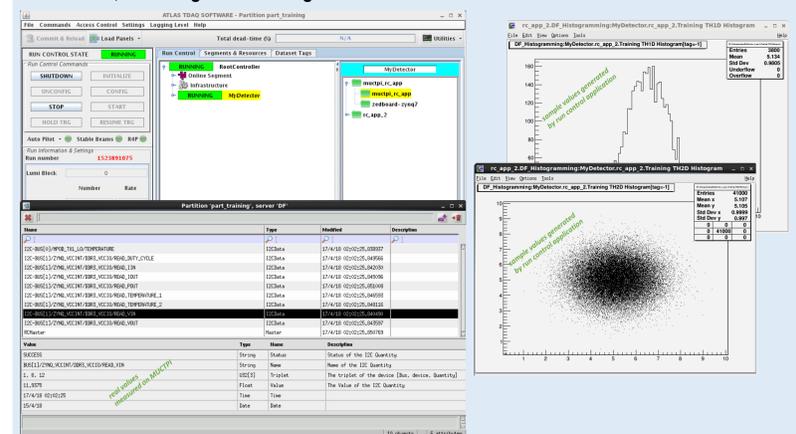
Yocto is used to provide a Software Development Kit (SDK), consisting of the cross compiler and all system libraries. These are used together with a toolchain file for cross compilation with CMake in order to build the ATLAS TDAQ software including external software packages it depends on, e.g. the WLCG ROOT. The executables and libraries are installed in a directory which is mounted on the processor system using NFS.

Operate Run Control on the SoC

An ATLAS run control application runs on the SoC. It responds to state transition commands, receives configuration data, accesses the hardware of the MUCTPI, and produces monitoring information, including ROOT histograms.



Run Control Software Build Flow



ATLAS Run Control GUI and Monitoring Displays

Summary

A System-on-Chip is successfully used to provide communication between the ATLAS run control system and the new MUCTPI. The Linux kernel and a root file system are provided by Yocto, which is also used to build the user application software, which was developed in order to access the MUCTPI hardware. With the Software Development Kit provided by Yocto, and using a toolchain file, the ATLAS run control software is cross compiled for the Processor System of the SoC. A run control application runs on the MUCTPI, which controls and configures the MCTPI, and reads monitoring information, including ROOT histograms. In the future it will be investigated to improve the building and maintenance of the software further by making use of a common Linux distribution like CERN CentOS.

