

Simulation Driver Driver Development

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How, When, ... Why?

- Test driven development is great!
- How to do this with hardware drivers?
- Cost/benefit?

Case studies

- HPI 6012/6016 radiation monitor
 - Tx only serial/ethernet
- FEED (*FPGA Embedded Ethernet Driver*)
 - UDP request/response
- CaenELS PICO8
 - uTCA
- MRF EVR/EVG
 - VME

HPI 6012/6016

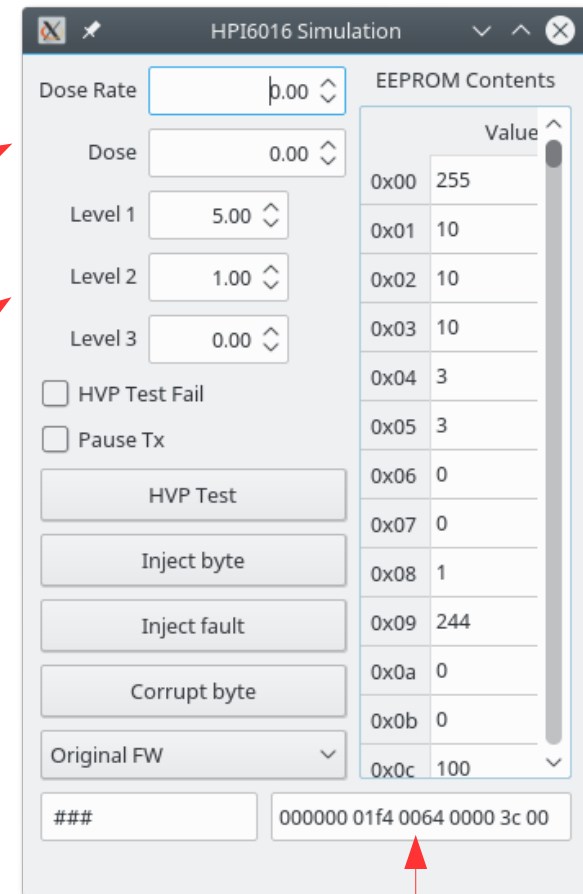
- Counter for use with various detector chambers
- Sends one line of text at 1Hz
- Simple right?

HPI 6012/6016 (2)

- Safety “related” device
- Closely scrutinized
 - NSLS2 beam mis-steering incident
- Develop simulator and driver concurrently
- Cross-test driver with simulator and real HW
 - Can test “impossible” faults
 - Part of (re)validation after driver changes

HPI 6012/6016 (3)

- Simulator
 - TCP server
 - GUI interface
- Simulate
 - Dose
 - Device alarms
 - Comm. faults



Output text

HPI 6012/6016 (4)

Testing process

=====

Initial testing uses the hpisim3.py software device simulation.

Repeat for both Original FW and Integrated Dose modes

...

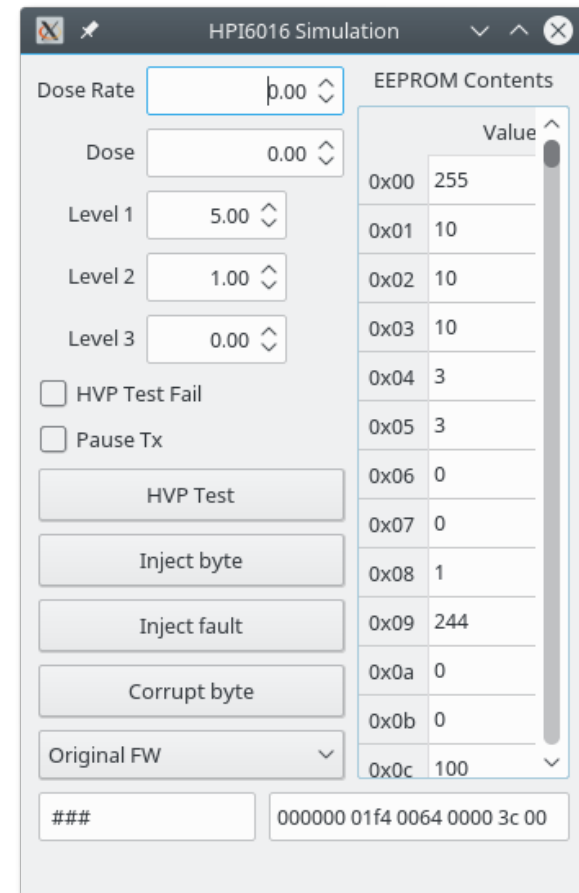
Return the dose rate to 0

Verify that alarms clear

Reduce simulation dose rate to -0.05

Verify that the fail holdoff counter begins counting down

Verify that \$(P)Alm:Fail-Sts becomes active when the counter reaches zero.



FEED *(FPGA Embedded Ethernet Driver)*

- UDP/IP request → response
- Register based
- Introspect device to get register name ↔ address mapping.
 - Compressed JSON encoded in ROM
- Develop simulator and driver concurrently
- Cross-test driver with simulator and real HW
 - Help identify FW (doc) issues
 - Test (re)connection and timeout behavior
 - Limited access to shared test stand

FEED Packet Format

- 8 byte header echoed
- 26 bit address space
- Only 4 byte access
- Read and Write formats identical

	0x0	0x1	0x2	0x3
0x00	Header/Tag			
0x04				
0x08	Bits	Address 1		
0x0C	Data 1			
0x10	Bits	Address 2		
0x14	Data 2			
	...			

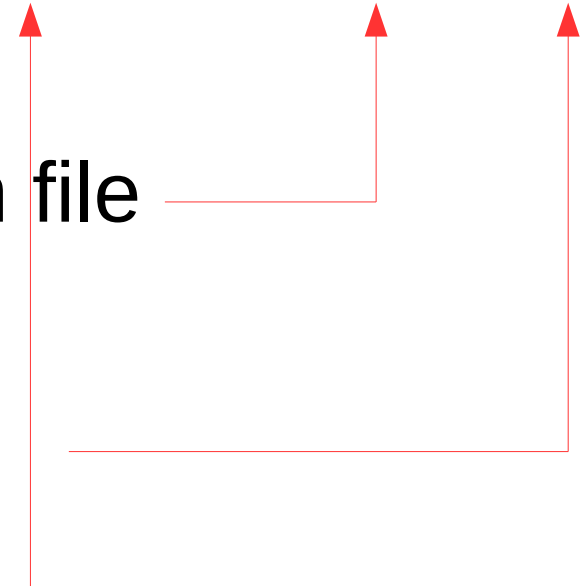
FEED simulator

`./bin/linux-x86_64/feedsim -h`

Usage: `./bin/linux-x86_64/feedsim [-hd] [-H <iface>[:<port>]] [-L none|rfs] [-S <sec>] <json_file> [initials_file]`

- Load register description from file
- Optionally
 - Provide initial register values
 - Firmware specific logic

eg. waveform arm/wait/readout sequence



CaenELS PICO8

- uTCA fast digitizer (pico ammeter)
 - PCIe w/ interrupts and DMA
- Develop simulator and driver(s) concurrently
 - Update Linux kernel module
 - Create EPICS driver
- FW bug in DMA handling
 - Developed driver (mostly) in advance of working HW

QEMU Device Models

- QEMU emulator provides callbacks on MMIO
 - static uint64_t sis_read(void *opaque, hwaddr addr, unsigned size) { ...
 - static void sis_write(void *opaque, hwaddr addr, uint64_t val, unsigned size) { ...
 - Lots of helpers for PCI device mechanics
- “Ultimate” bus analyzer Everything except (most) timing!

```
$ qemu-system-x86_64 -device amc-pico-8,?
```

```
...
```

```
amc-pico-8.addr=int32 (Slot and optional function number, example: 06.0 or 06)
```

```
amc-pico-8.frib=bool
```

```
...
```

```
$ qemu-system-x86_64 -device amc-pico-8 ...
```

	Language	files	blank	comment	code
Models interrupts and Scatter DMA	C	1	108	71	549

https://github.com/mdavidsaver/qemu/blob/vme/hw/misc/caen_pico8.c

MRF EVR/EVG

- Event timing cards
 - Various PCI/PCle and VME
- Develop simulator with existing driver(s)
- Validate driver changes w/o access to HW

MVME3100 with QEMU

- Modeling MVME3100
 - e500v2 CPU already supported
 - Start from existing mpc8544ds
 - Add I²C controller, eeprom, and RTC
 - Bootloader w/ RTEMS
- Modeling TSI148 PCI ↔ VME bridge
 - Really complicated device!
 - VME bus infrastructure

How, When, Why

- How?
 - Sockets (Serial) is easy
 - MMIO w/ emulator
- When?
 - Need to exercise handling of uncommon errors
 - Lack access to (working) hardware
 - Low-level tracing
 - More predictable, but longer, development time
 - \$\$\$
- Why?
 -

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- Why?
 - Simulator is my bubble!

