ac6

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This course covers the e5500 core present in 64-bit QorIQ SoCs

Objectives

- This course provides a detailed description of the e5500 internal architecture as well as the associated low level routines.
- Coherency mechanisms required in multiple e5500 platforms are explained through sequences.
- All mechanisms required in a multiple core system are described: atomic sequence through lwarx/stwxc. instruction pair, doorbell interrupts.
- The course focuses on the benefits of the hypervisor: running several operating systems, partitioning, load balancing and virtualization.
- The operation of the MMU is studied, particularly the TLB software reload routines.
- The course details the interrupt proxy unit and provides guidelines to implement nesting.
- Note that for on-site course, the contents can be tailored to specific customer needs.

- This course has been designed in collaboration with NXP

A more detailed course description is available on request at formation@ac6-formation.com

Prerequisites

- Experience of a 32-bit processor or DSP is mandatory.

Exercise: *The environment used to build and debug software labs are based on the GNU compiler / linker and the debugger from Lauterbach*

Course Environment

- Theoretical course
  - PDF course material (in English) supplemented by a printed version for face-to-face courses.
  - Online courses are dispensed using the Teams video-conferencing system.
  - The trainer answers trainees' questions during the training and provide technical and pedagogical assistance.
- At the start of each session the trainer will interact with the trainees to ensure the course fits their expectations and correct if needed

Target Audience

- Any embedded systems engineer or technician with the above prerequisites.

Evaluation modalities

- The prerequisites indicated above are assessed before the training by the technical supervision of the traineein his company, or by the trainee himself in the exceptional case of an individual trainee.
- Trainee progress is assessed by quizzes offered at the end of various sections to verify that the trainees have assimilated the points presented
- At the end of the training, each trainee receives a certificate attesting that they have successfully completed the course.
  - In the event of a problem, discovered during the course, due to a lack of prerequisites by the trainee a different or additional training is offered to them, generally to reinforce their prerequisites,in agreement with their company manager if applicable.

Plan

e5500 CORE OVERVIEW

- Highlighting data path and instruction path
- Changes from e500mc to e5500

e5500 HYPERVISOR STATE

- Processor privilege levels state machine, user, guest OS, hypervisor
- Bare-metal operation
- Collaboration between guest OS and hypervisor to reload TLBs
- Directed interrupts
- Messaging within a coherency domain
- Filtering incoming messages

PIPELINE

- Instruction pipeline operation, dual issue, out of order execution
- Issue queue resource requirements
- Dispatch conditions, completion conditions
- Execution and context serializations, purpose of the isync instruction
- Branch management: dynamic prediction, BTB
- Link stack
- Segment target index cache (STIC) and segment target address cache (STAC)
- Guarded memory

DATA AND INSTRUCTION PATHS

- Implementation of a spin lock routine
- Decorated storage facility
- Memory barriers
- List insertion in a multicore system

COMPUTATION MODES

- Selecting 32-bit thread mode or 64-bit thread mode
- Computing effective addresses
- 64-bit arithmetic instructions

FLOATING POINT UNIT

- FPU operation: FPSCR register, IEEE vs non-IEEE mode
- Float load / store instructions
- Float arithmetic instructions
- Convert instructions
- Fully pipelined FPU

THE EXCEPTION MECHANISM

- Exception management: building the handler table through IVPR,IVOR registers
- Recoverable vs non recoverable exceptions
- Requirements to support exception nesting
- Exception priorities
- Interrupt proxy
- Multicore exceptions, doorbells and messages
- Integrated timers
- Reset sequence, initialization requirements

THE MEMORY MANAGEMENT UNIT

- MMU objectives definition
- Address translation, understanding the interim 48-bit virtual address
- Process protection through TID
- Two-level MMU architecture, level-1 TLBs and level-2 TLBs
- TLB organization, TLB software management, MAS registers
- Software TLB reload, clarifying the hardware assistance to select the victim in L2TLB0
- Managing a page descriptor table in a SMP system, tlbivax instruction
- Virtualization fault, managing the MMU at hypervisor level
- External PID load and store instructions
- TLB parity protection, multiple-hit detection

L1 AND L2 CACHES, SNOOPING

- e5500 L1 cache
- L2 cache organization
- Hit under miss and miss under miss
- Store miss merging
- Dynamic Harvard implementation
- Write shadow mode
- MESI snooping sequences involving two e5500 and a PCI Express master
- Data & instruction prefetch instructions
- Cache entry locking
- Stashing capability
- L1 and L2 error checking and correction, error injection

DEBUG

- Performance monitor
- Nexus debug unit
- Instruction and data breakpoints, programming address ranges
- Debug data acquisition message
- Debug Notify Halt instruction
- Nexus trace

POWER MANAGEMENT

- Connection to platform PM unit
- Power states
- Wake-up interrupt

Renseignements pratiques

Inquiry : 3 days