

Linux Network Drivers Development (3 Days)

Custom Training Institute

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Linux Network Drivers Development (CTI 314)

This course focuses on the aspects of the Linux Kernel related to the development of network device drivers. It gives a general introduction to Linux driver development which enables students to have a basic understanding of how any kind of hardware device could be integrated into the Kernel. The course focuses on network-related device drivers.

Prerequisites: Knowledge of the C programming language. Knowledge of the UNIX/Linux shell commands and a common UNIX editor such as vi or emacs. Experience with the data structures and basic functions used in the Linux Kernel.

Minimum software requirements: A Linux distribution. (Red Hat 7.0 is recommended.) The Linux-2.4.0 Kernel source tree.

Minimum hardware requirements: Pentium 233 mHz or better; 64Mb RAM; 3GB disk; Linux-compatible network cards hooked together for a local Ethernet network (10BaseT or better). A second Ethernet card.

Microsoft PowerPoint installed at instructor's workstation for presentation purposes.

Module 1: Introduction to Linux Network Driver Development

Introduction and Environmental Setup
Kernel Versions and Compatibility
Components of the Kernel
Aims of Driver Development
Development of a Driver
How Device Drivers Work
Stability and Security Issues

Module 2: Device Drivers

Description of the Elements of a Driver
Benefits and Drawbacks
Classes of Drivers

Module 3: Linux Kernel Facilities

System Calls
Data Structures
Functions

Module 4: Modules

Benefits of Using Modules
Module-Related Tools
Compiling, Loading and Unloading
Module Implementation
Automatic Module Loading

Module 5: Character Devices

Accessing the Device
File and Inode Structure
File Operations
Reading and Writing
IOCTLS
Example of a Character Device

Module 6: Hardware Aspects

Accessing Memory
Direct Memory Access
I/O Management
PCI and ISA

Module 7: Block Drivers

Registration
The blk.h Header
Requests and Mounting

Module 8: Network

Layer Model
Network Communications
Implementation of the TCP/IP Stack
Data Structure
Socket
sk_buff
Inet socket
proto
ARP and IP Protocols
IP Filters
UDP
TCP

Module 9: Network Devices

Network Drivers
Integration in the Kernel
Ethernet Devices
SLIP and PPP
Loopback
Dummy Devices
Loading Network Drivers
Transmitting and Receiving Packets
Device Configuration
Statistics

Module 9: Network Devices

Printing with printk
Queries
/proc Entries
Tracing and Debuggers