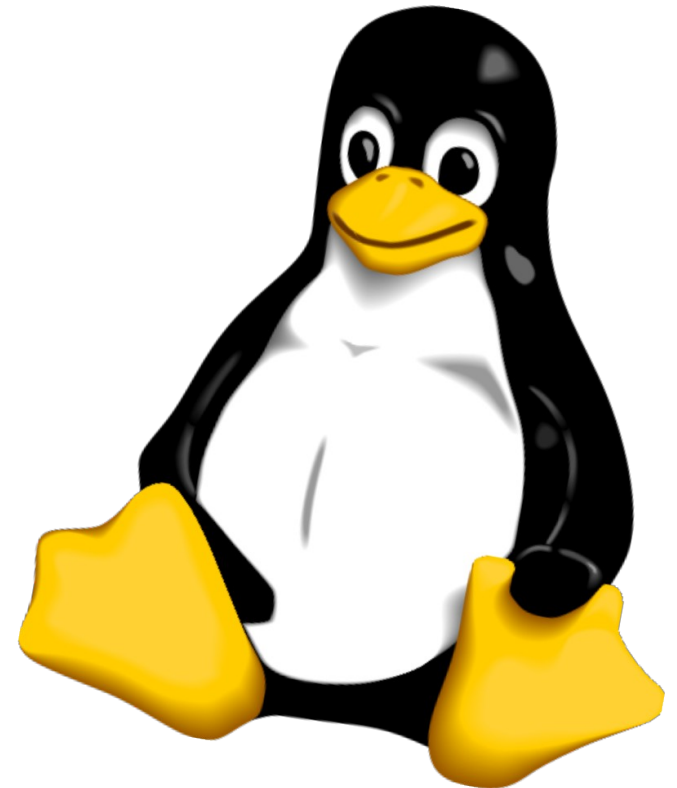


USB and Linux



SOFTIRON

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SCaLE 17x
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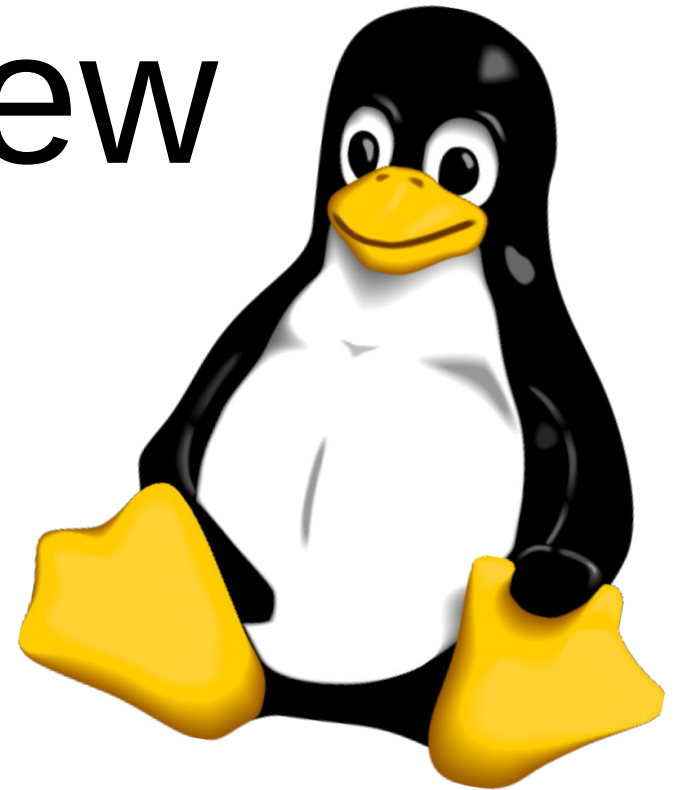


About the Presenter

- Platform Software at **SoftIron**
 - Data center appliances (storage, transcoding)
 - Ceph-based storage appliances
 - OverDrive 3000/1000 ARM servers
- **OSS Development**
 - Linux Kernel
 - Firmware
 - Training
 - USB
 - **M-Stack** USB Device Stack for PIC
 - 802.15.4 wireless



USB Overview



Universal Serial Bus

- Universal Serial Bus (USB)
- Standard for a high-speed, bi-directional, low-cost, dynamic bus.
- Created by the USB Implementers Forum (USB-IF)
 - USB-IF is a non-profit corporation formed by its member companies.
 - USB-IF develops and owns copyrights on the standards documents and logos.
 - <http://www.usb.org>



USB Bus Speeds

- **Low Speed**
 - 1.5 Mb/sec
- **Full Speed**
 - 12 Mb/sec
- **High Speed**
 - 480 Mb/sec
- **SuperSpeed**
 - 5.0 Gb/sec
- **SuperSpeed+**
 - 10Gb/sec

USB Bus Speeds

- Bus speeds are the **rate of bit transmission** on the bus
- Bus speeds are **NOT** data transfer speeds
- USB protocol can have **significant overhead**
- USB overhead **can be mitigated** if your protocol is designed correctly.

USB Standards

- USB **1.1** – 1998
 - Low Speed / Full Speed
- USB **2.0** – 2000
 - High Speed added
- USB **3.0** – 2008
 - SuperSpeed added
- USB Standards **do NOT** imply a bus speed!
 - A **USB 2.0** device can be High Speed, Full Speed, or Low Speed



Host and Device

- **Host**

- Often a PC, server, or embedded Linux system
- Responsible for **control** of the bus
- Responsible for **initiating communication** with devices
- Responsible for **enumeration** of attached devices.
- One host per bus



Host and Device

- **Device**

- Provide functionality to the host
- **Many devices** per bus
- Can connect through **hubs**
 - Hubs are transparent to the device!
 - Hubs are transparent to host APIs
 - Hub drivers are built into the OS



The Bus

- USB is a **Host-controlled** bus
 - Nothing on the bus happens without the **host** first initiating it.
 - Devices cannot initiate a transaction.
 - The USB is a **Polled Bus**
 - The Host polls each device, requesting data or sending data.
 - Devices cannot interrupt the host!

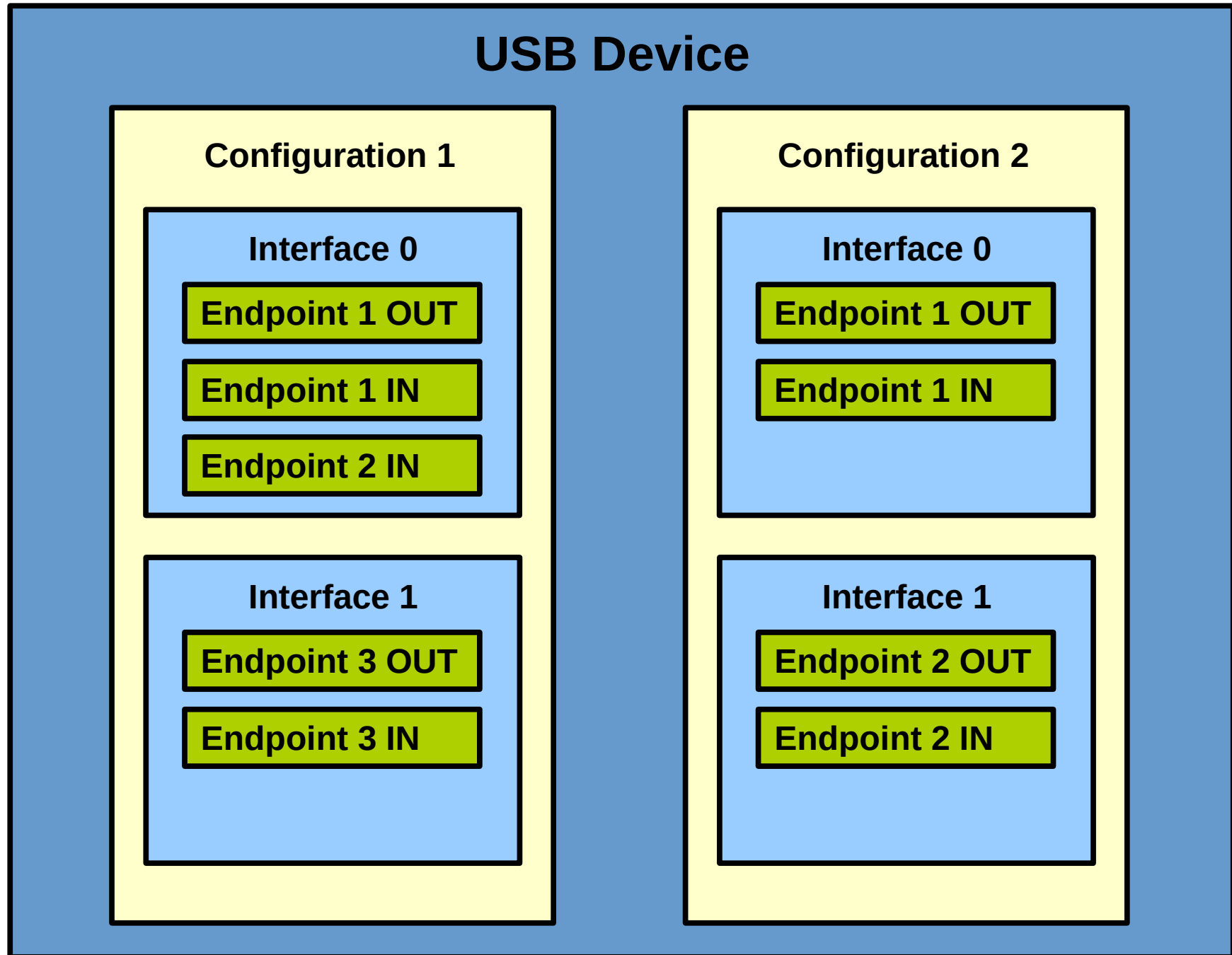


Terminology

- In/Out
 - In USB parlance, the terms **In** and **Out** indicate direction from the **Host** perspective.
 - **Out**: Host to Device
 - **In**: Device to Host

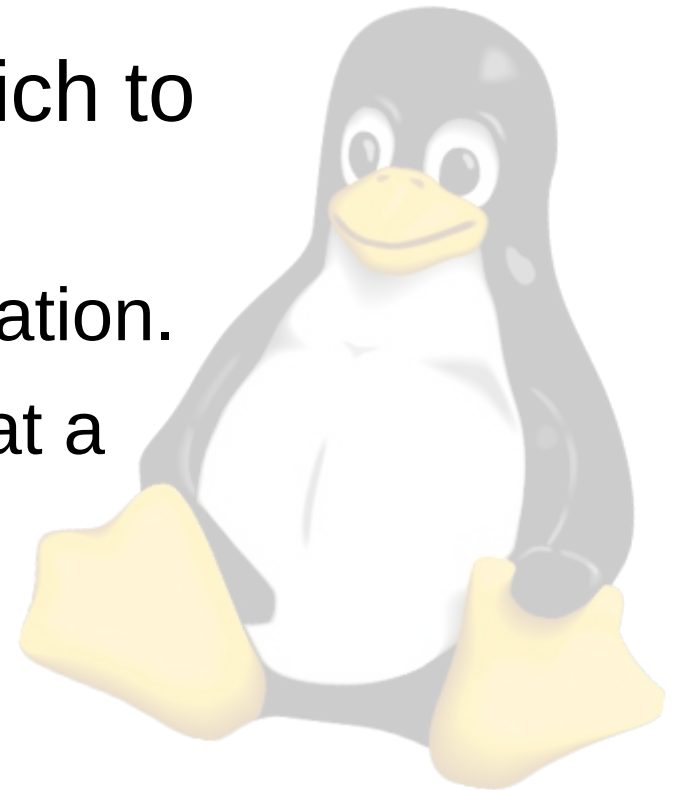


Logical USB Device



USB Terminology

- **Device** – Logical or physical entity which performs a function.
 - Thumb drive, joystick, etc.
- **Configuration** – A mode in which to operate.
 - Many devices have one configuration.
 - Only one configuration is active at a time.



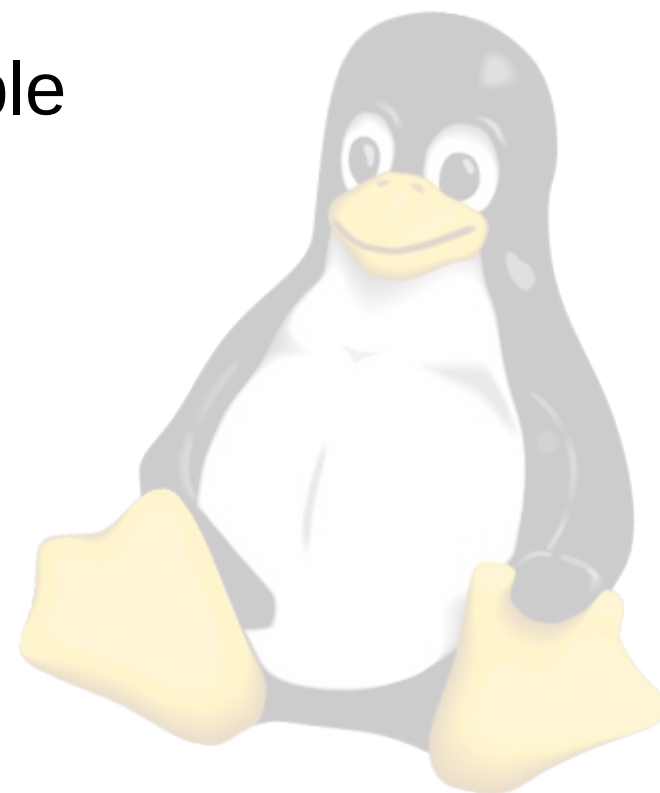
USB Terminology

- **Interface** – A related set of Endpoints which present a single feature or function to the host.
 - A configuration may have **multiple** interfaces
 - All interfaces in a configuration are **active at the same time**.
- **Endpoint** – A source or sink of data
 - Interfaces often contain **multiple endpoints**, each active all the time.



Logical USB Device

- Important to note:
 - A **device** can have multiple **configurations**.
 - Only one active at a time
 - A **configuration** can have multiple **interfaces**.
 - All active at the same time
 - An **interface** can have multiple **endpoints**.
 - All active at the same time



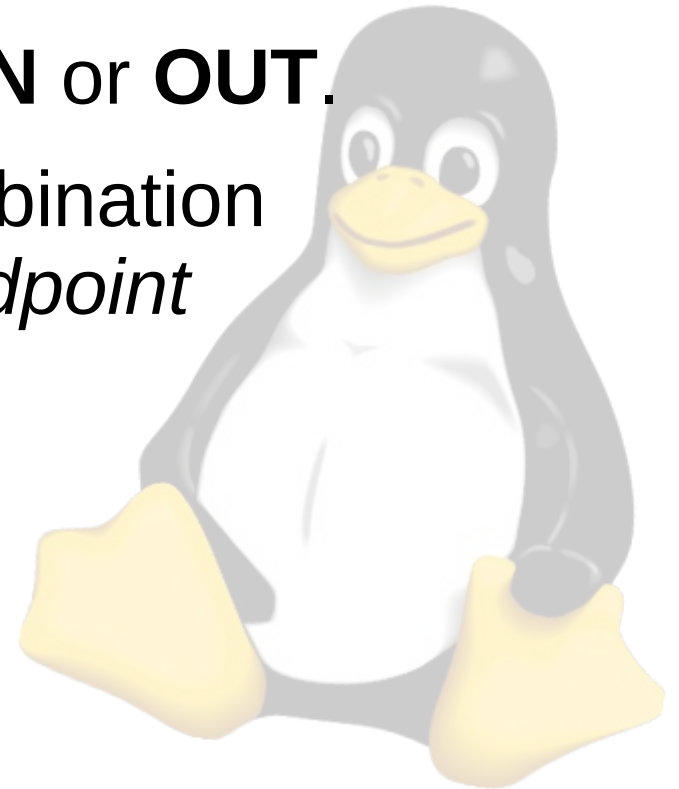
Logical USB Device

- Most USB devices only have one Configuration.
- Only **one configuration** can be active at a time.
- **All interfaces** within a configuration are active at the same time.
 - This is how **composite** devices are implemented.



Endpoint Terminology

- An **Endpoint Number** is a 4-bit integer associated with an endpoint (0-15).
- An endpoint transfers data in a **single direction**.
- An **Endpoint Direction** is either **IN** or **OUT**.
- An **Endpoint Address** is the combination of an *endpoint number* and an *endpoint direction*. Examples:
 - EP 1 IN
 - EP 1 OUT
 - EP 3 IN



Endpoint Terminology

- Endpoint addresses are encoded with the direction and number in a **single byte**.
 - **Direction** is the MSb (1=IN, 0=OUT)
 - **Number** is the lower four bits.
 - Examples:
 - EP 1 IN = 0x81
 - EP 1 OUT = 0x01
 - EP 3 IN = 0x83
 - EP 3 OUT = 0x03
 - Tools like `lsusb` will show both

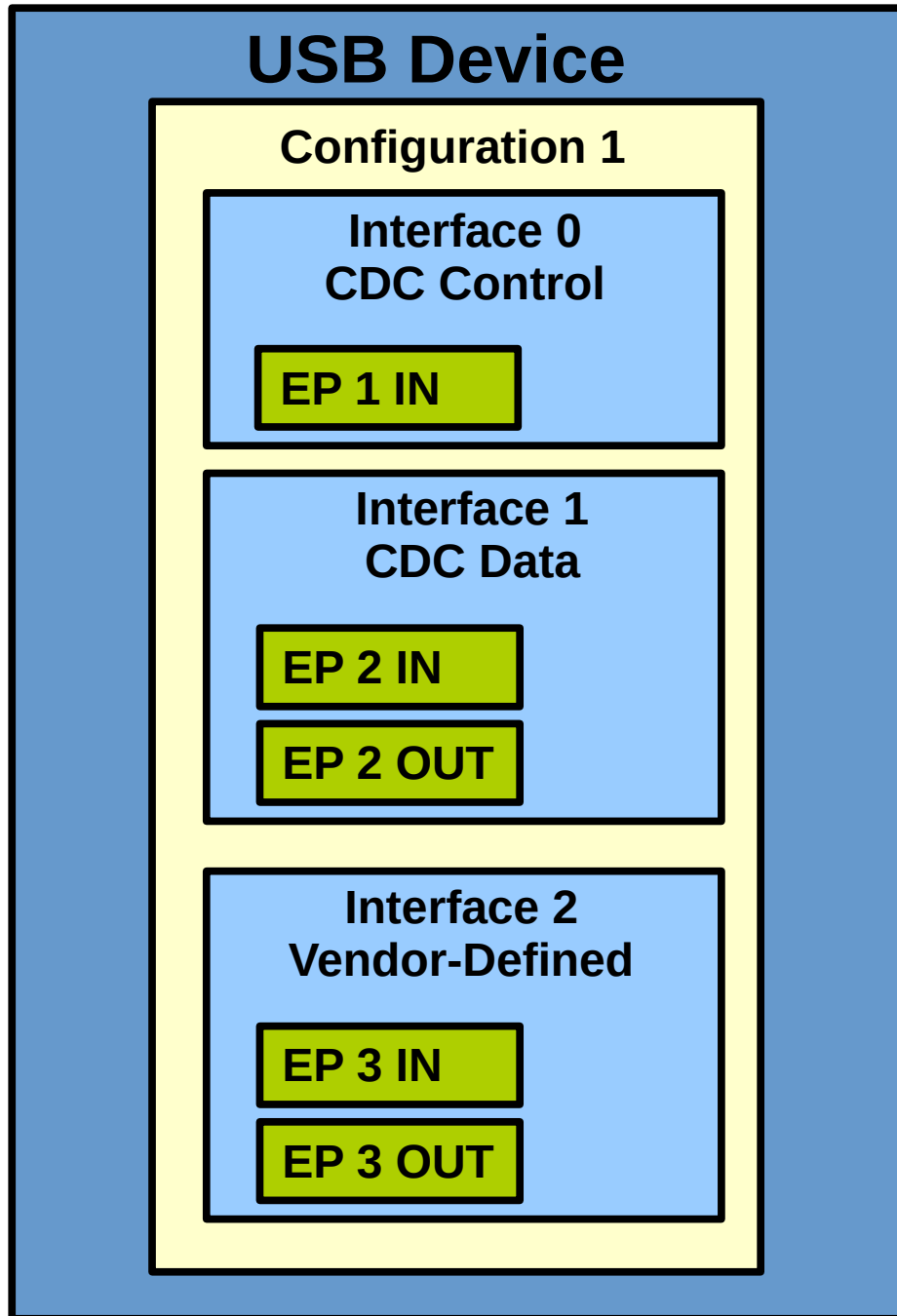


Endpoint Terminology

- Endpoint terminology is tricky (but important!)
 - A device can have up to **32 endpoints**.
 - IN and OUT endpoints for numbers 0-15.
- The same **Endpoint Number** is used to describe TWO endpoints.
 - EP 1 IN and EP 1 OUT are separate endpoints!
 - There is no such thing as a physical and logical endpoint.



Real-Life Example



- Composite Device:
 - Communication Device Class (CDC)
 - Often virtual **serial port**
 - **Two interfaces** are required for this class (control and data).
 - Vendor-Defined class
 - Can be used for generic data transfer

Descriptors

- USB is a **self-describing** bus
 - Each USB device contains all the information required for the host to be able to communicate with it (drivers aside)
 - No manual setting of baud rates, IRQ lines, base addresses, etc.
 - Plug devices in and they work
 - Devices communicate this data to the host using **descriptors**.



Descriptors

- The host will ask for a set of standard descriptors during **enumeration**, immediately upon a device being attached.
- The descriptors describe:
 - The device identifier (vendor/product IDs)
 - The logical structure of the device
 - Configurations, interfaces, endpoints
 - Which device classes are supported (if any)



Descriptors

- Typically, devices contain at least:
 - **Device** descriptor
 - **Configuration** descriptor
 - **Interface** descriptor
 - Class-specific descriptors
 - **Endpoint** descriptor
 - *Chapter 9 of the USB spec describes these standard descriptors*



Descriptors

- One tricky thing is that the host will request all descriptors which are part of a configuration as a single block.
 - This includes Configuration, Interface, class-specific, and endpoint descriptors
 - *The **Get Descriptor (Configuration)** request means all descriptors of a configuration*



Device Descriptor

```
const struct device_descriptor this_device_descriptor =  
{  
    sizeof(struct device_descriptor), // bLength  
    DESC_DEVICE, // bDescriptorType  
    0x0200, // USB Version: 0x0200 = USB 2.0, 0x0110 = USB 1.1  
    0x00, // Device class (0 = defined at interface level)  
    0x00, // Device Subclass  
    0x00, // Protocol  
    EP_0_LEN, // bMaxPacketSize0 (endpoint 0 in/out length)  
    0xA0A0, // Vendor ID (Fake VID!! Don't use this one!)  
    0x0001, // Product ID  
    0x0001, // device release (BCD 1.0)  
    1, // Manufacturer String Index  
    2, // Product String Index  
    0, // Serial Number String Index  
    NUMBER_OF_CONFIGURATIONS // NumConfigurations  
};
```

Configuration Descriptor

```
/* The Configuration Packet, in this example, consists
 * of four descriptor structs. Note that there is
 * a single configurarion, a single interface, and two
 * endpoints.
 */
```

```
struct configuration_1_packet {
    struct configuration_descriptor    config;
    struct interface_descriptor       interface;
    struct endpoint_descriptor        ep;
    struct endpoint_descriptor        ep1_out;
};
```

Configuration Descriptor (cont'd)

```
static const struct configuration_1_packet configuration_1 =  
{  
    {  
        // Members from struct configuration_descriptor  
        sizeof(struct configuration_descriptor),  
        DESC_CONFIGURATION,  
        sizeof(configuration_1), // wTotalLength (length of the whole packet)  
        1, // bNumInterfaces  
        1, // bConfigurationValue  
        2, // iConfiguration (index of string descriptor)  
        0X80, // bmAttributes  
        100/2, // 100/2 indicates 100mA  
    },  
}
```

Configuration Descriptor (cont'd)

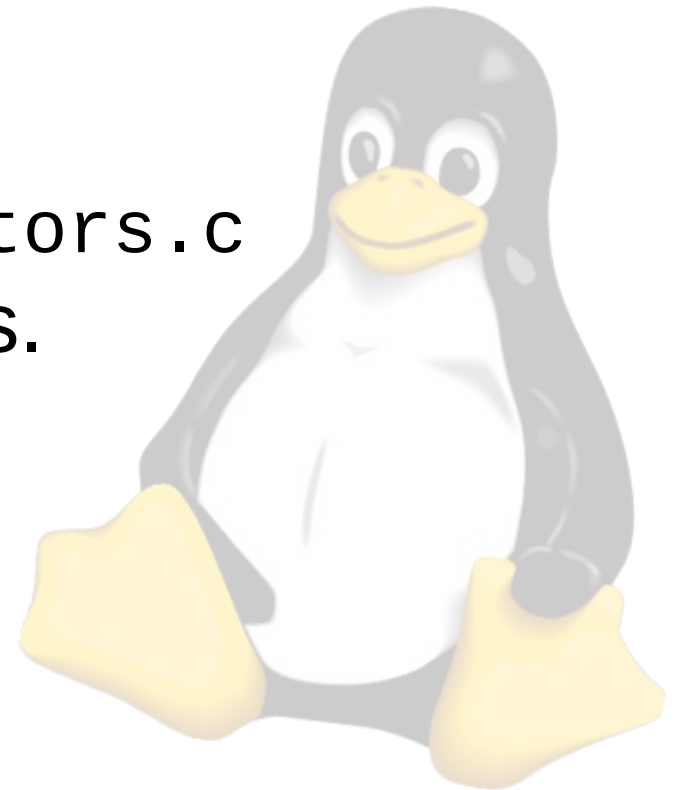
```
{  
    // Members from struct interface_descriptor  
    sizeof(struct interface_descriptor), // bLength;  
    DESC_INTERFACE,  
    0x0, // InterfaceNumber  
    0x0, // AlternateSetting  
    0x2, // bNumEndpoints (num besides endpoint 0)  
    0xff, // bInterfaceClass: 0xFF=VendorDefined  
    0x00, // bInterfaceSubclass  
    0x00, // bInterfaceProtocol  
    0x02, // iInterface (index of string describing interface)  
},
```

Configuration Descriptor (cont'd)

```
{  
    // Members of the Endpoint Descriptor (EP1 IN)  
    sizeof(struct endpoint_descriptor),  
    DESC_ENDPOINT,  
    0x01 | 0x80, // endpoint #1 0x80=IN  
    EP_BULK, // bmAttributes  
    64, // wMaxPacketSize  
    1, // bInterval in ms.  
},  
{  
    // Members of the Endpoint Descriptor (EP1 OUT)  
    sizeof(struct endpoint_descriptor),  
    DESC_ENDPOINT,  
    0x01, // endpoint #1 OUT (msb clear => OUT)  
    EP_BULK, // bmAttributes  
    64, // wMaxPacketSize  
    1, // bInterval in ms.  
},  
};
```

Configuration Descriptor

- Preceding configuration descriptor described:
 - One Configuration
 - One interface (vendor defined)
 - Two Bulk Endpoints
- See examples in `usb_descriptors.c` in any of the M-Stack examples.



Endpoints

- Four types of Endpoints
 - **Control**
 - **Bi-directional** pair of endpoints
 - **Multi-stage** transfers
 - Transfers acknowledged on the software level
 - Not just hardware!
 - Status stage can return success/failure
 - Used during **enumeration**
 - Can also be used for application
 - Mostly used for configuration items
 - Most robust type of endpoint



Endpoints

- **Interrupt**

- Transfers a **small amount** of **low-latency** data
- Reserves bandwidth on the bus
- Used for **time-sensitive** data (HID).

- **Bulk**

- Used for **large, time-insensitive** data (Network packets, Mass Storage, etc).
- Does not reserve bandwidth on bus
 - Uses whatever time is left over



Endpoints

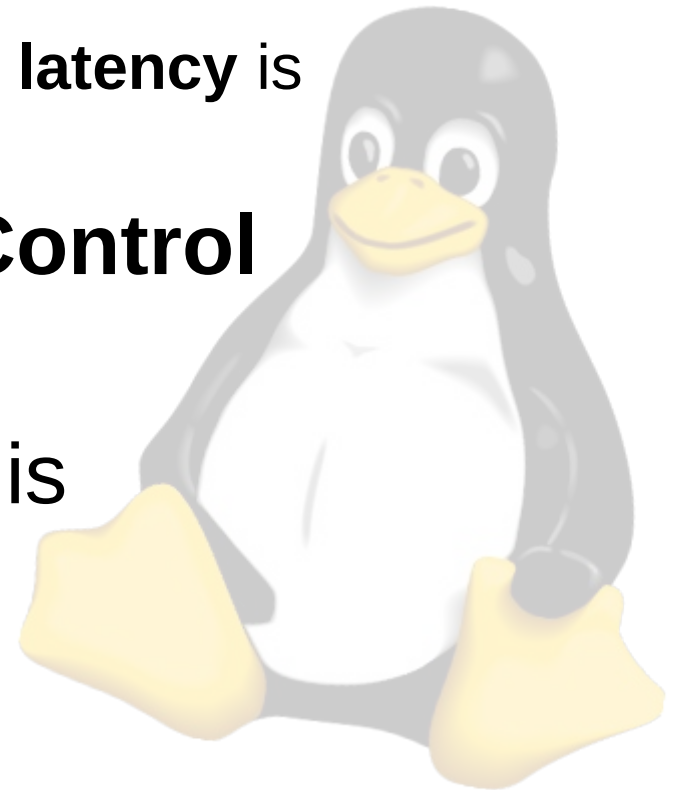
- **Isochronous**

- Transfers a **large amount** of **time-sensitive** data
- Delivery is **not guaranteed**
 - **No ACKs** are sent
- Used for Audio and Video streams
 - Late data is as good as no data
 - Better to drop a frame than to delay and force a re-transmission



Endpoints

- **Reserved Bandwidth**
 - Different endpoint types will cause the bus to **reserve bandwidth** when devices are connected.
 - This is how **guaranteed, bounded latency** is implemented.
- **Interrupt, Isochronous, and Control** endpoints reserve bandwidth.
- **Bulk** gets whatever bandwidth is left unused each frame.



Endpoints

- **Endpoint Length**

- The **maximum amount of data** an endpoint can support sending or receiving **per transaction**.
- Max endpoint sizes:
 - Full-speed:
 - Bulk/Interrupt: **64**
 - Isoc: **1024**
 - High-Speed:
 - Bulk: **512**
 - Interrupt: **3072**
 - Isoc: **1024 x3**



Transactions

- Basic process of moving data to and from a device.
- USB is **host-controlled**. All transactions are initiated by the host.
 - Much like everything else in USB
- A single transaction on an endpoint can move bytes up to the **Endpoint Length**



Transactions and Transfers

- **Transaction**

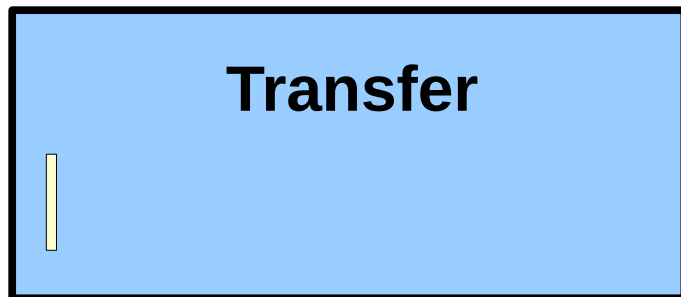
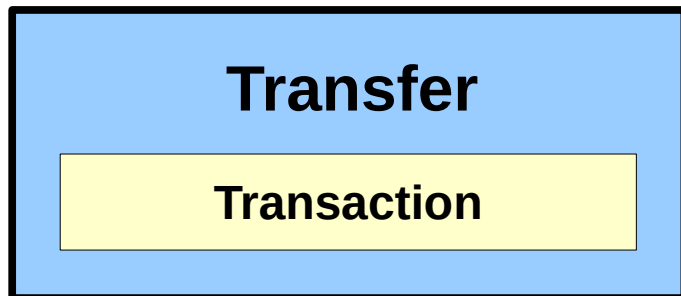
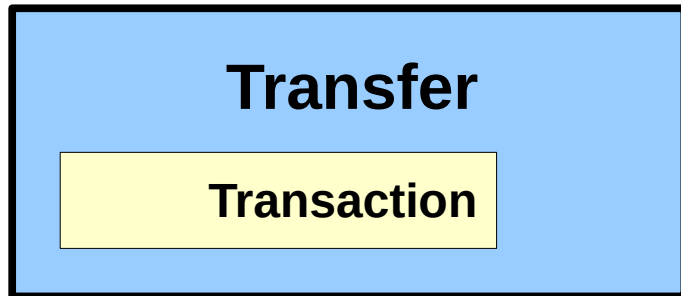
- Delivery of service to an endpoint
- Max data size: **Endpoint length**

- **Transfer**

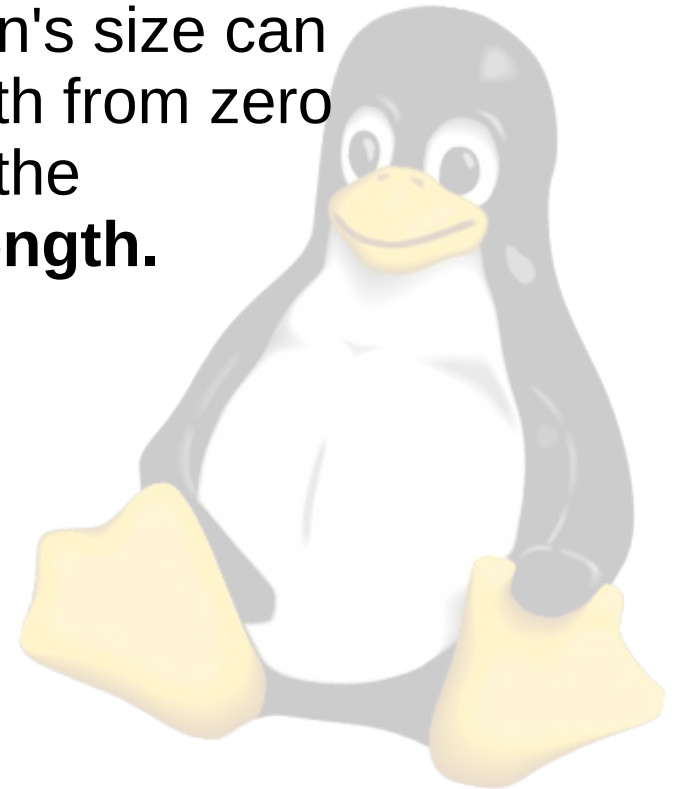
- **One or more** transactions moving information between host and device.
- *Transfers can be large, even on small endpoints!*



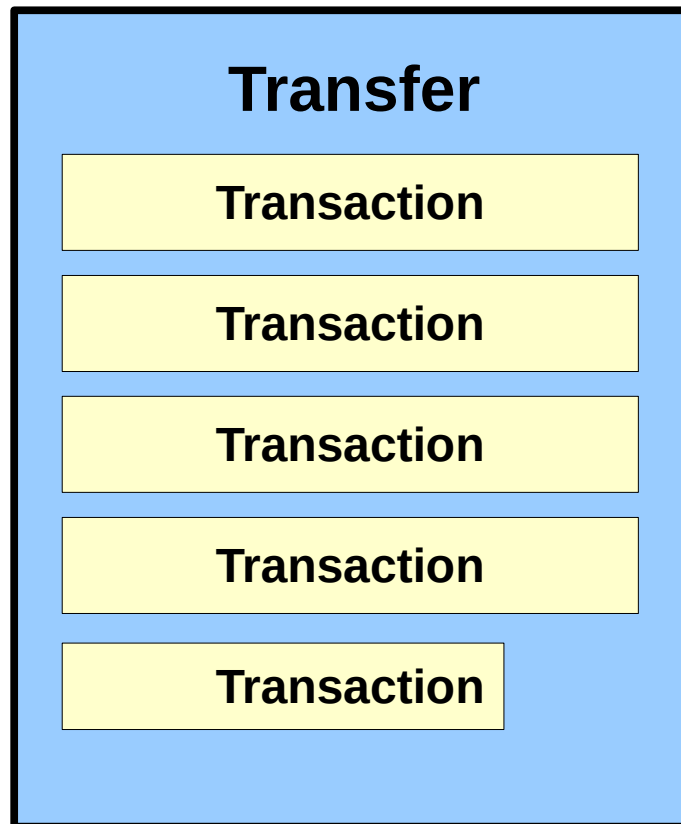
Small Transfers



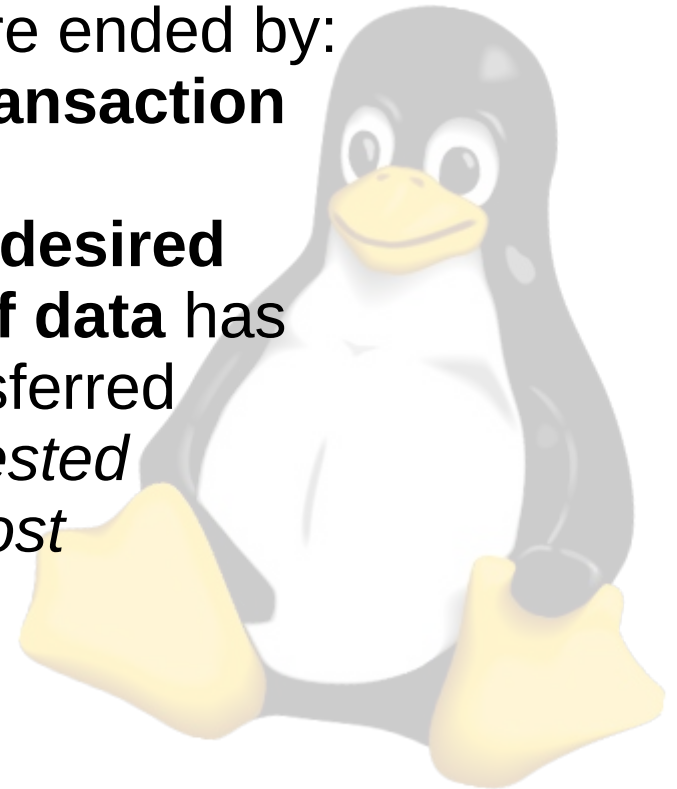
- The simplest transfer contains a **single transaction**.
- A transaction's size can be any length from zero bytes up to the **endpoint length**.



Large Transfers



- Transfers can contain **more than one transaction.**
- Transfers are ended by:
 - A **short transaction**
 - OR
 - When the **desired amount of data** has been transferred
 - *As requested by the host*



Linux USB Gadget



USB Gadget Subsystem

- In addition to providing the USB **host** subsystem you are familiar with, Linux also provides a **device** subsystem, called **gadget**.
 - Gadget is a Linux-specific name.
- The gadget subsystem provides a framework for creating USB devices using a Linux system.
 - ...if the hardware supports it. Most embedded USB controllers do.



USB Gadget Subsystem

- USB gadget subsystem provides:
 - Framework
 - **USB Device Controller (UDC)** drivers
 - Hardware drivers
 - **USB device class** implementations
 - Software drivers (so to speak)
 - Configuration through **configs**
 - Pseudo-filesystem for configuring certain kernel services



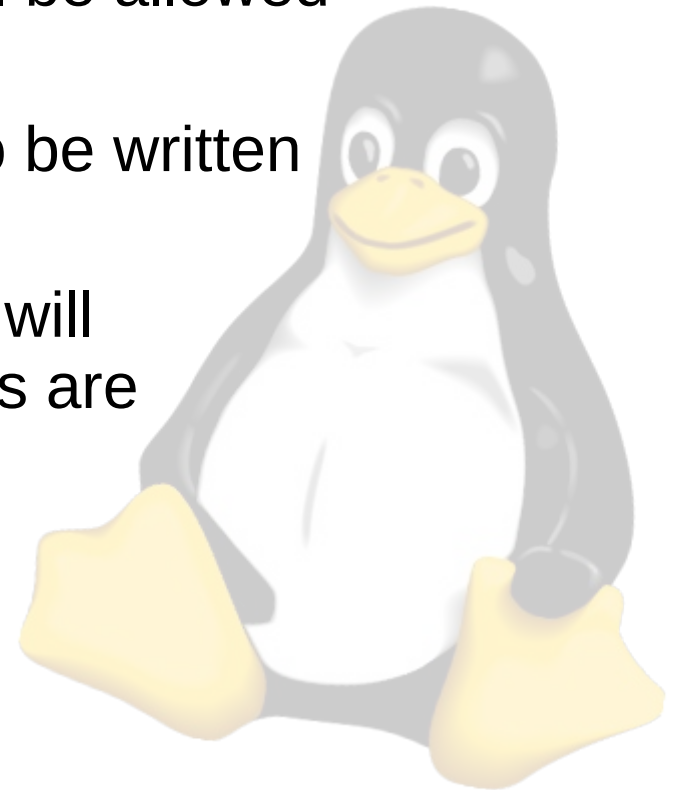
Configs

- Configfs is a pseudo-filesystem used to manage kernel objects.
 - Pseudo-filesystems contain files which are not present on any disk.
 - The files are backed by objects in the running kernel.
 - Creating, deleting, or changing files and directories will immediately have an effect in the kernel
 - Kernel callback functions are called



Configs

- Configs (cont'd)
 - Data integrity is enforced by mechanism.
 - Only valid file / directory names will be allowed to be created
 - Invalid values will not be allowed to be written to files
 - System calls (read/write/mkdir,etc) will simply fail if invalid names or values are used.
 - *This is far better than silent failure*



USB Gadget

- To configure your USB Gadget:
 - Mount configs (if not already done)
 - Create a directory for the gadget
 - Set the vid/pid/strings
 - Create a directory for the **configuration**
 - Create a directory for the **function**
 - Mass storage, HID, CDC/ACM, etc.
 - **Link** the function to the configuration
 - Enable the gadget



Simple Example – ACM Device

```
#!/bin/sh -ex
```

```
modprobe libcomposite
```

```
# Mount configfs locally
```

```
mkdir -p config
```

```
mount none config -t configfs
```

```
# Create the USB gadget configuration
```

```
mkdir -p config/usb_gadget/
```

```
cd config/usb_gadget/
```

```
# Create a gadget called g1
```

```
mkdir g1
```

```
cd g1
```

```
# Set the VID/PID/Strings
```

```
echo 0x1a0a >idVendor
```

```
echo 0xbadd >idProduct
```

```
mkdir strings/0x409
```



Simple Example – ACM Device

```
# Set the VID/PID/Strings (cont'd)
echo 12345 >strings/0x409/serialnumber
echo "Signal 11" >strings/0x409/manufacturer
echo "Test" >strings/0x409/product

# Create a configuration called c.1
mkdir configs/c.1
mkdir configs/c.1/strings/0x409
echo "Config1" >configs/c.1/strings/0x409/configuration

# Create a function (tty CDC/ACM) named usb0
mkdir functions/acm.usb0

# Link that function to configuration c.1
ln -s functions/acm.usb0 configs/c.1

# Enable the USB device. Find the device
# name in /sys/class/udc/ .
echo musb-hdrc.0 >UDC
```



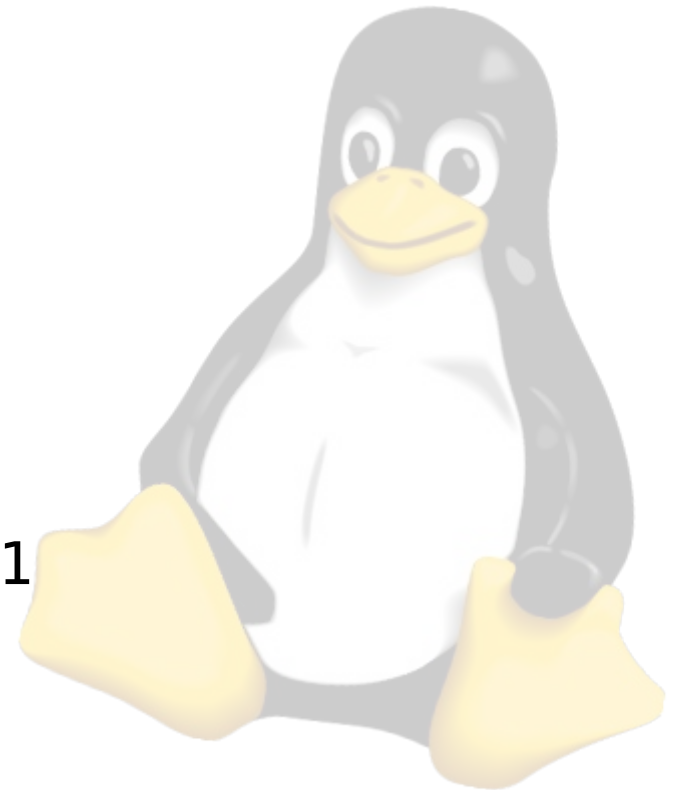
Simple Example - Device

- The above example will create a CDC/ACM device.
 - A Linux host will identify this device as `/dev/ttyACMn`.
 - The device/gadget side will create a device node at `/dev/ttyGS0`.
 - Read and write to/from this node from the gadget to communicate with the host.



Simple Example – ACM Device

- Lab #1
 - On the device:
 - Run `./acm_setup.sh`
 - On the host, run:
 - `dmesg`
 - Check for the new device name
 - `sudo screen /dev/ttyACMn`
 - On the device, run:
 - `echo "some text" >/dev/ttyGS1`
 - `cat /dev/ttyGS1`



Simple Example – ACM Device

- In theory, the device can be disabled, changed, and re-enabled.
- In practice, on many parts, this is fraught with oopses, hangups, and other peril.
- Generally, you will want to setup your gadget and leave it.



Simple Example – ACM Device

- The previous example is designed to be as simple as possible
 - No source code, even!
- CDC/ACM is the best solution for emulating a serial port, and that's all.
- Don't use CDC/ACM as an arbitrary solution for connectivity
 - It's inefficient
 - Its burdensome on the end user



USB Gadget

- We showed ACM, but what other protocols are implemented?
 - Start in Kernel source at:
`Documentation/filesystems/gadget_configfs.txt`
 - Which references:
`Documentation/ABI/testing`
 - Where you can: `ls *usb-gadget*`



USB Gadget

As of 4.15, these gadgets are documented:

<code>configfs-usb-gadget</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-phonet</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-acm</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-printer</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-ecm</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-rndis</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-eem</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-serial</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-ffs</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-sourcesink</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-hid</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-subset</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-loopback</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-tcm</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-mass-storage</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-uac1</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-midi</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-uac2</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-ncm</code>	<code>configfs-usb-gadget-uvic</code>
<code>configfs-usb-gadget-obex</code>	

See these files in: `Documentation/ABI/testing/`



USB Gadget

- Briefly, some supported functions are:
 - acm – CDC/ACM virtual serial port
 - ecm/eem/ncm/phonet/rndis/subset – Virtual network device
 - ffs – function filesystem
 - Define a custom class from userspace
 - hid – Human interface device
 - loopback – for testing
 - mass-storage – present drives to the host

USB Gadget

- Supported functions (cont'd):
 - midi – musical instrument
 - printer – printers
 - serial – serial interface on the gadget side, but bulk interface on the host side
 - sourcesink – source and sink for testing
 - tcm – USB-attached SCSI
 - uac1/2 – USB audio class, v1 and v2
 - uvc - video

USB Gadget

- Find more information about each gadget in it's respective source file:
`drivers/usb/gadget/function/f_*.c`
- As usual in the kernel, documentation is hit-or-miss

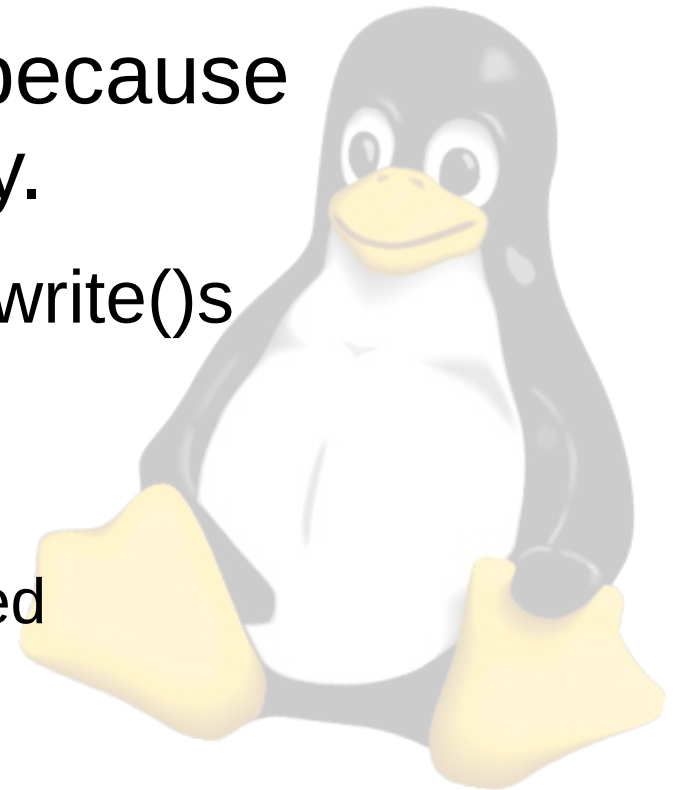
FunctionFS

- The gadget subsystem provides a function called FunctionFS, which allows complete configuration of the device through a user space application.
- The user space application provides:
 - All the descriptors/strings
- Functionfs will then use the descriptors to create **device nodes** for each endpoint.



FunctionFS

- The user space application can then read and write to/from these device nodes to move data across the bus.
- This is better than using ACM because there is no TTY layer in the way.
 - The TTY layer will chop up your write()s
 - Using FFS, one write() is one USB transfer.
 - This can get you close to wire speed



FunctionFS

- Modifying the previous script which (which creates an ACM device), use the ffs function instead of the acm function.
- After this, mount the FunctionFS pseudo-filesystem for your device.
 - This filesystem will give you an ep0 pseudo-file.
 - Writing to this ep0 file with descriptors will configure your device



FunctionFS

- Start your user space program which will write to the ep0 file and configure the gadget.
 - Based on your configuration (the descriptors) FunctionFS will then create a pseudo-file for each endpoint.
- Enable the USB device
- Read/write the endpoint pseudo-files to transfer data.



FunctionFS Example

```
# Setup the function, FunctionFS (named usb0)
```

```
mkdir functions/ffs.usb0
```

```
ln -s functions/ffs.usb0 configs/c.1
```

```
# Mount the function filesystem for usb0
```

```
cd ../../../../
```

```
mkdir -p ffs
```

```
mount usb0 ffs -t functionfs
```

```
# From inside the mounted ffs directory, run your
```

```
# user space program and wait until it's started.
```

```
cd ffs
```

```
../ffs-test/ffs-test & # from the Linux kernel
```

```
sleep 3
```

```
cd ..
```

```
# Enable the USB device
```

```
echo musb-hdrc.0 >config/usb_gadget/g1/UDC
```



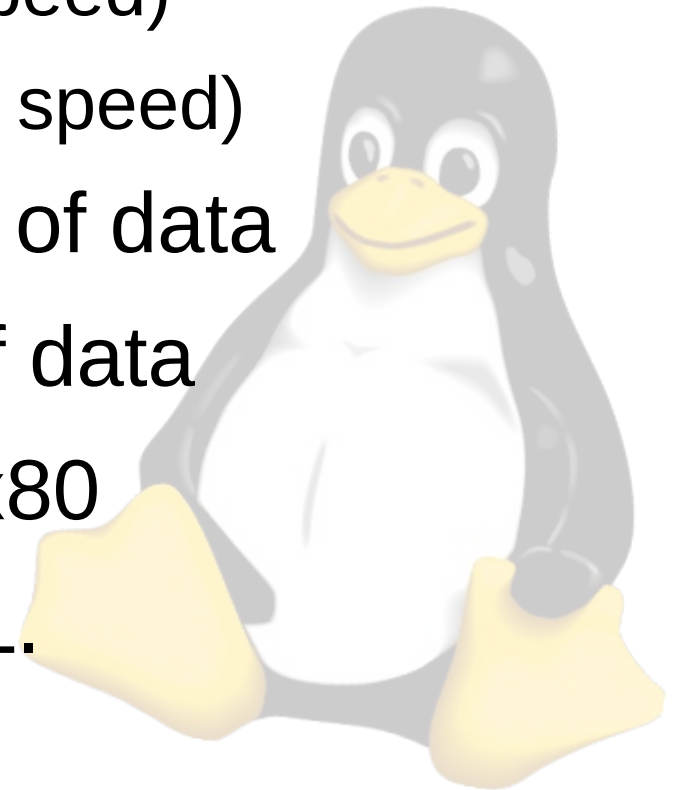
FunctionFS Example

- The kernel provides a sample user space program for FunctionFS.
- Unfortunately, it's more of a test program than an example to learn from.
 - Few comments
 - Complex design and indirection
 - Ambiguous naming
- Find it in:
`tools/usb/ffs-test.c`



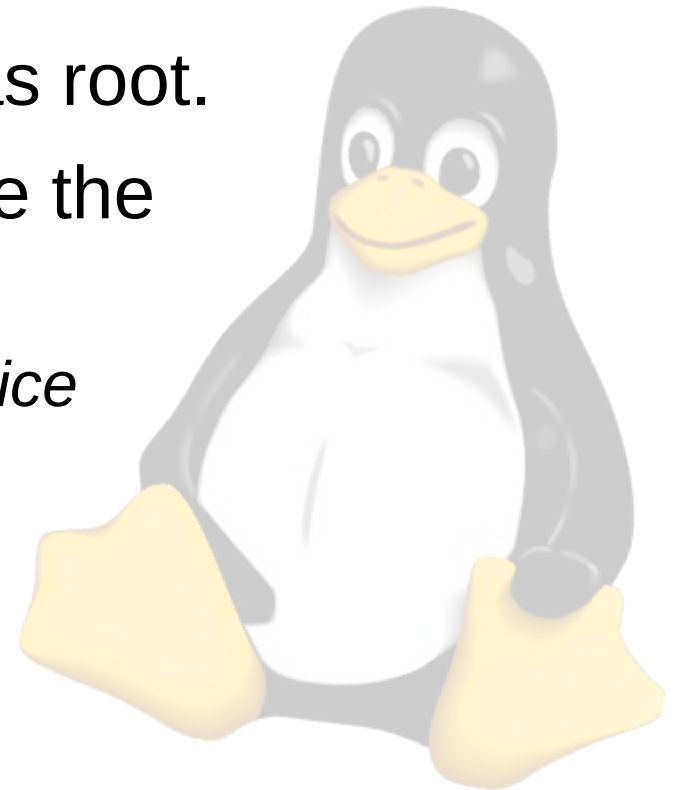
FunctionFS Example

- The kernel sample creates:
 - ep0 (unused for this example)
 - ep1 – Bulk IN, 512 bytes (high speed)
 - ep2 – Bulk OUT, 512 bytes (high speed)
- ep1 creates an endless source of data
- ep2 sinks an endless stream of data
- ep1/2 are address 0x81 and 0x80
- Also note that it's explicitly GPL.

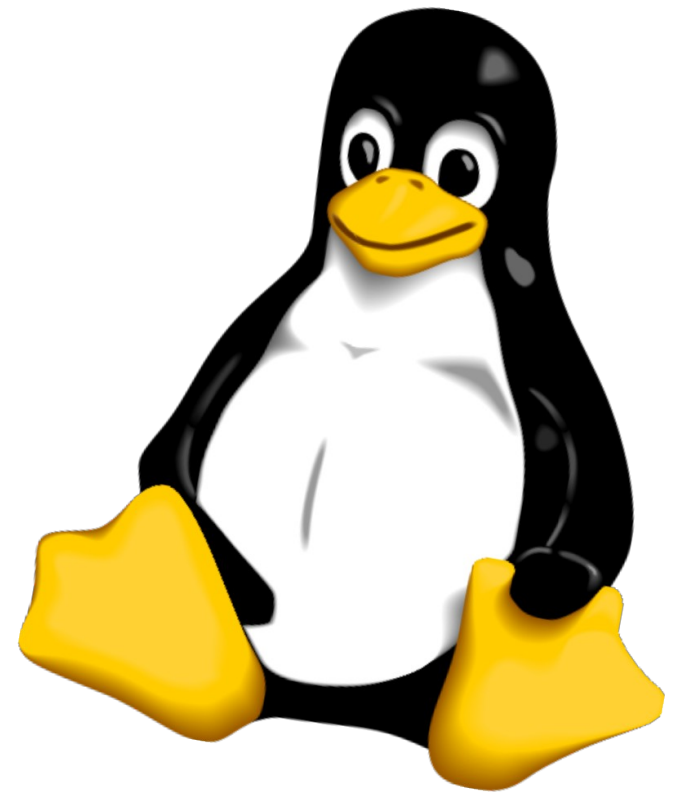


FunctionFS Lab

- Lab #2
 - Build the ffs-test program from the kernel
 - `cd ffs-test && make && cd ..`
 - Run the `./ffs_setup.sh` script as root.
 - Use **lsusb** and **dmesg** to observe the device is detected on the host.
 - *You will communicate with this device in the next lab*

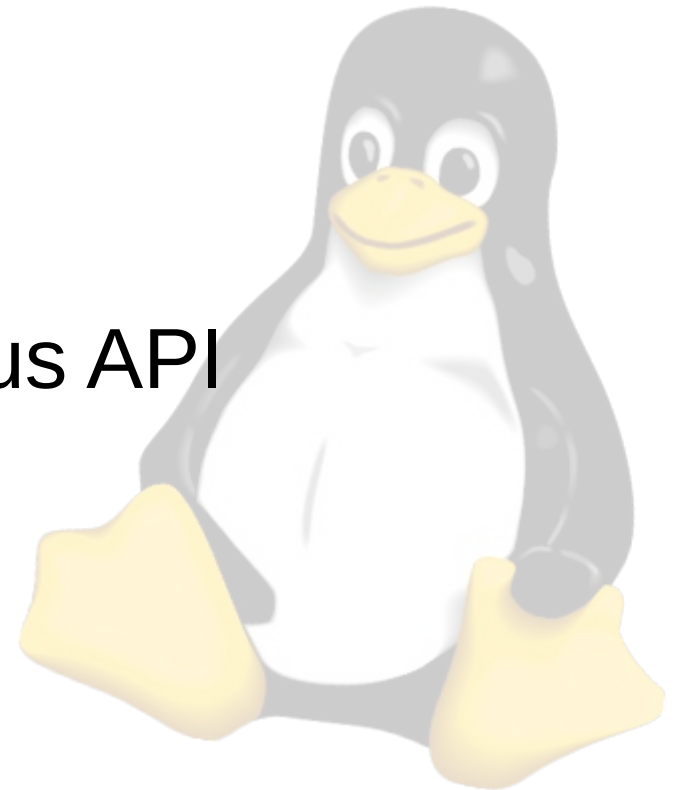


libusb



libusb

- libusb is a multi-platform host-side USB library
 - Linux, BSD, OS X, Windows, others
- Runs in user space. No kernel programming required.
- Easy to use synchronous API
- High-performance asynchronous API
- Supports all versions of USB



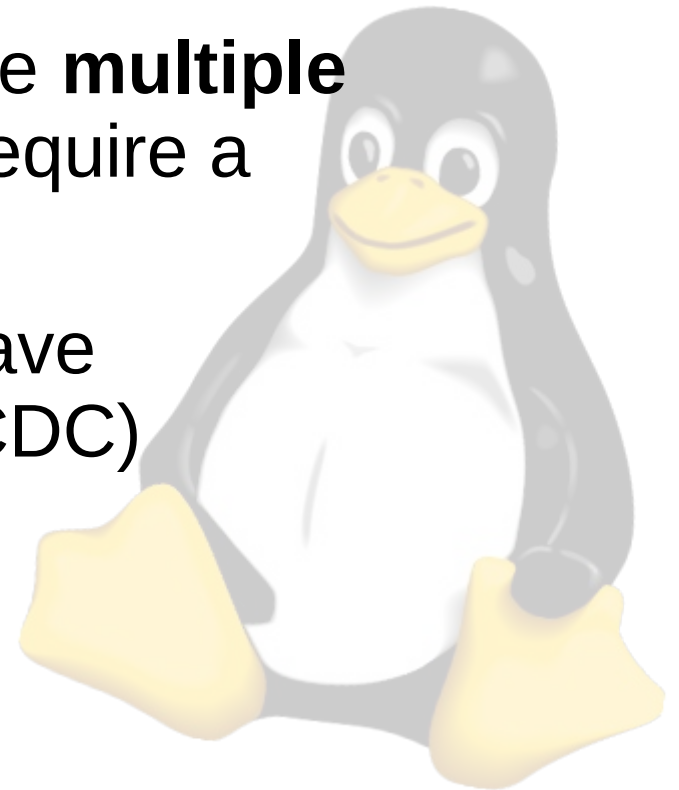
libusb

- A libusb host runs on a general purpose multi-process OS.
 - Sufficient permissions are required to open a device
 - Opening a device or interface may be exclusive (only one process at a time).



libusb

- From a host perspective, the basic unit of a USB connection is the USB **interface**, not the **device**.
 - This is because devices can have **multiple interfaces**, each of which may require a **different** driver.
 - Some composite devices may have some **standard** interfaces (eg: CDC) and also some **vendor-defined** interfaces (eg: earlier example)



libusb Example

```
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    libusb_device_handle *handle;
    unsigned char buf[64];
    int length = 64, actual_length, i, res;

    /* Init libusb */
    if (libusb_init(NULL))
        return -1;

    /* Open the device. This is a shortcut function. */
    handle = libusb_open_device_with_vid_pid(
                                                NULL, 0xa0a0, 0x0001);

    if (!handle) {
        perror("libusb_open failed: ");
        return 1;
    }

    /* Claim the interface for this process */
    res = libusb_claim_interface(handle, 0);
    if (res < 0) {
        perror("claim interface");
        return 1;
    }
}
```

libusb Example (cont'd)

```
/* Initialize the data */
my_init_data_function(buf, length);

/* Send some data to the device */
res = libusb_bulk_transfer(
    handle, 0x01, buf, length, &actual_length, 5000);
if (res < 0) {
    fprintf(stderr, "bulk transfer (out): %s\n",
            libusb_error_name(res));
    return 1;
}

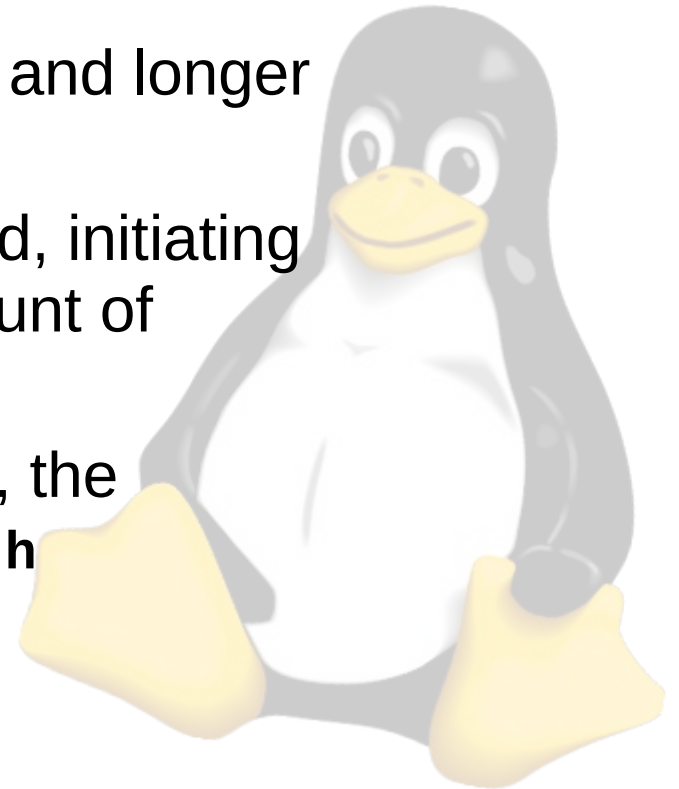
/* Receive data from the device */
res = libusb_bulk_transfer(handle, 0x81, buf, length,
    &actual_length, 5000);
if (res < 0) {
    fprintf(stderr, "bulk transfer (in): %s\n",
            libusb_error_name(res));
    return 1;
}

/* Process the data */
my_process_received_data_function(buf, &actual_length);

return 0;
}
```

libusb

- Observations:
 - `libusb`, and `libusb_bulk_transfer()` deal with **transfers**, not transactions.
 - The length can be **arbitrarily long** and longer than the endpoint length.
 - If so, `libusb` will behave as expected, initiating transactions until the required amount of data has been transferred.
 - If the device returns a short packet, the transfer will end, and `actual_length` will indicate the actual amount of data received.



libusb

- Observations (cont'd):
 - The `libusb_bulk_transfer()` function is used for both IN and OUT transfers
 - The endpoint address (which contains the direction) is used to determine whether it's an IN or OUT transfer.



libusb

- Observations (cont'd):
 - The interface must be **claimed** before it can be used.
 - If another process, or a kernel driver, is using this interface, it will kick the other driver off.
 - This can be good or bad depending on your point of view.



libusb

- Observations (cont'd):
 - The libusb functions take a **timeout** parameter.
 - This timeout is how long the device has to complete the transfer.
 - It can be any value the host desires
 - The host is in charge of the bus!
 - 5 seconds is good for general purposes, but the author recently made one over 90 seconds!
 - It all depends on the use case!



libusb

- The simple example used libusb's **synchronous API**.
 - Good for **infrequent, single** transfers.
 - Easy to use, blocking, return code
 - Bad for any kind of **performance-critical** applications.
 - Why? Remember the nature of the USB bus....



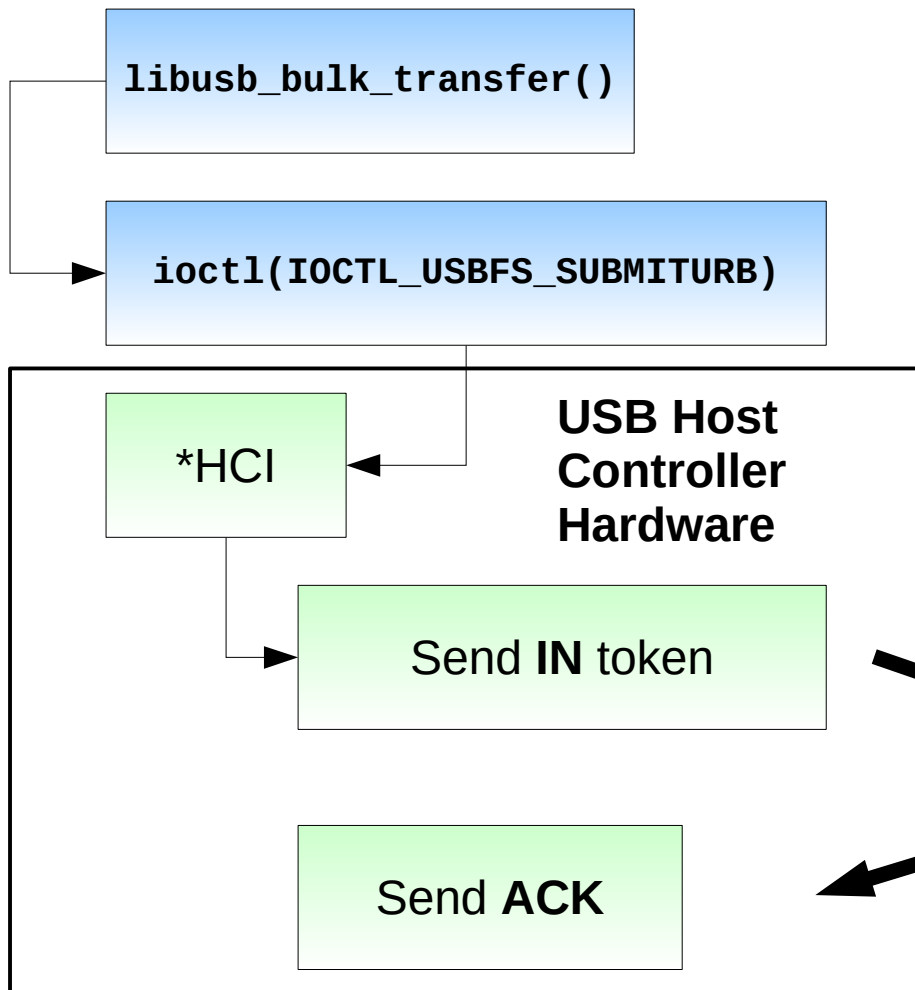
Synchronous API Issues

- The USB Bus
 - Entirely host controlled
 - Device only sends data when the host controller specifically **asks** for it.
 - The host controller will only ask for data when a **transfer is active**.
 - libusb **creates a transfer** when (in our example) `libusb_bulk_transfer()` is called.



Synchronous API Issues

Host



Device

USB Transaction

Send data packet

Synchronous API Issues

- USB Bus

- After one transfer completes, nothing happens on the bus until the next libusb transfer function is called.
- One might think it's good enough to call `libusb_bulk_transfer()` in a **tight loop**.
 - Tight loops are **not tight enough!**
 - For short transfers, time spent in software will be more than time spent in hardware!
 - All time spent in software is time a **transfer is not active!**



Asynchronous API

- Fortunately libusb and the kernel provide an **asynchronous API**.
 - Create **multiple** transfer objects
 - **Submit** transfer objects to the kernel
 - Receive a **callback** when transfers complete
- When a transfer completes, there is another (submitted) transfer already queued.
 - **No downtime** between transfers!



Asynchronous API Example

```
static struct libusb_transfer
*create_transfer(libusb_device_handle *handle, size_t length) {
    struct libusb_transfer *transfer;
    unsigned char *buf;

    /* Set up the transfer object. */
    buf = malloc(length);
    transfer = libusb_alloc_transfer(0);
    libusb_fill_bulk_transfer(transfer,
        handle,
        0x81 /*ep*/,
        buf,
        length,
        read_callback,
        NULL/*cb data*/,
        5000/*timeout*/);

    return transfer;
}
```



Asynchronous API Example (cont'd)

```
static void read_callback(struct libusb_transfer *transfer)
{
    int res;

    if (transfer->status == LIBUSB_TRANSFER_COMPLETED) {
        /* Success! Handle data received */
    }
    else {
        printf("Error: %d\n", transfer->status);
    }

    /* Re-submit the transfer object. */
    res = libusb_submit_transfer(transfer);
    if (res != 0) {
        printf("submitting. error code: %d\n", res);
    }
}
```



Asynchronous API Example (cont'd)

```
/* Create Transfers */
for (i = 0; i < 32; i++) {
    struct libusb_transfer *transfer =
        create_transfer(handle, buflen);
    libusb_submit_transfer(transfer);
}

/* Handle Events */
while (1) {
    res = libusb_handle_events(usb_context);
    if (res < 0) {
        printf("handle_events()error # %d\n",
            res);

        /* Break out of this loop only on fatal error.*/
        if (res != LIBUSB_ERROR_BUSY &&
            res != LIBUSB_ERROR_TIMEOUT &&
            res != LIBUSB_ERROR_OVERFLOW &&
            res != LIBUSB_ERROR_INTERRUPTED) {
            break;
        }
    }
}
```



Asynchronous API

- This example creates and queues **32 transfers**.
- When a transfer completes, the completed transfer object is **re-queued**.
- All the transfers in the queue can conceivably complete **without a trip to user space**.



Asynchronous API

- For All types of Endpoint:
 - The Host **will not send** any IN or OUT tokens on the bus unless a **transfer object is active**.
 - The bus is **idle** otherwise
 - Create and submit transfer objects using the functions on the preceding slides.



Performance

- For more information on USB performance, see my ELC 2014 presentation titled ***USB and the Real World***
 - <http://www.signal11.us/oss/elc2014/>
 - *Several devices and methods compared*



API Summary

- All traffic is initiated by the **Host**
- In user space, this is done from **libusb**:

- Synchronous:

```
libusb_control_transfer()  
libusb_bulk_transfer()  
libusb_interrupt_transfer()
```

- Asynchronous:

```
libusb_create_transfer()  
libusb_submit_transfer()
```



Libusb Lab

- Lab #3
 - Create a user space application to talk to the FunctionFS gadget device you created earlier
 - Remember:
 - Find the VID/PID from the script
 - ep81 is bulk IN, ep01 is bulk OUT
 - Time will probably not permit, so see the solution provided.
 - The solution is to be run on the host, not on the embedded board





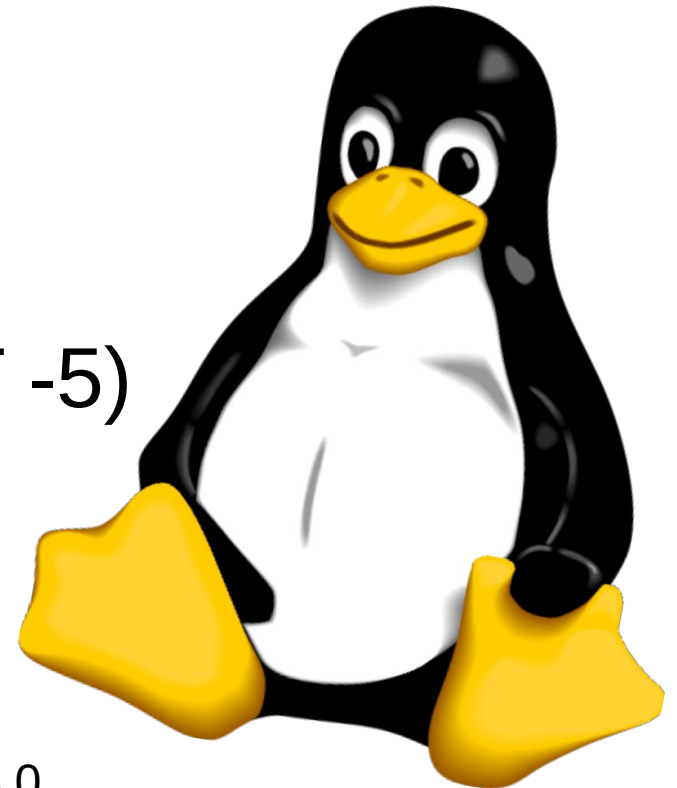
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