

Around revision [900], MutekH got support for Flattened device trees.

Rationale

Flattened device trees (FDT) are useful to get a list of all available hardware where no hardware-based enumeration exists (aka PnP, like PCI, USB, ... provides).

FDT provides normalized representation of the hardware platform without adding specific initialization code.

The normalization comes from IEEE1275 (aka Open Firmware); while Open Firmware also defined heavy things (like a Forth interpreter), we only use the FDT information.

Using FDT is mainstream, and is also used by Linux and BSD, supported is U-Boot and other bootloaders.

References

- You may learn many things ?googling for "flattened device tree".
- The `dtc` utility used to compile `.dts` files in MutekH is maintained at ?<http://git.jdl.com/>. You may:
 - ♦ Browse the git there ?<http://git.jdl.com/gitweb/>
 - ♦ Download a snapshot ?<http://git.jdl.com/software/> This repository also includes some documentation and a reference library for handling FDTs.
- The Linux kernel documentation tree contains ?an useful document about device trees (Documentation/powerpc/booting-without-of.txt)

Implementation and example

In MutekH, FDT is handled through an hardware enumerator device driver, it behaves like the other enumerators (PCI, ISAPnP).

Drivers may export themselves as FDT-aware, and define which device name string to match. For instance, the following subtree defines a tty device:

```
ttym0 {
    device_type = "soclib:ttym";
    tty_count = <1>;
    reg = <0x90600000 0x10>;
    icudev = &{/icu0};
    irq = <1>;
};
```

In turn, the SoCLib tty driver declares itself (in source:trunk/mutekh/drivers/device/char/tty-soclib/tty-soclib.c#L146) as:

```
static const struct deventum_ident_s    tty_soclib_ids[] =
{
    DEVENTUM_FDTNAME_ENTRY("soclib:ttym", 0, 0),
    { 0 }
};

const struct driver_s    tty_soclib_drv =
{
    .class                = device_class_char,
    .id_table             = tty_soclib_ids,
    .f_init               = tty_soclib_init,
    .f_cleanup            = tty_soclib_cleanup,
```

```

        .f_irq                      = tty_soclib_irq,
        .f.chr = {
            .f_request              = tty_soclib_request,
        }
    };

```

This will make the FDT enumerator use the correct driver, matching "soclib:tty"

MutekH-Specific Node syntax quick reference

Processors

Processor nodes look like:

```

Mips,32@0 {
    name = "Mips,32";
    device_type = "cpu";
    reg = <0>;
};

```

reg

This is the CPU identification number

device_type

must be "cpu"

Memories

Memory nodes look like:

```

memory@0 {
    device_type = "memory";
    cached;
    reg = <0x61100000 0x00100000>;
};

```

device_type

must be "memory"

reg

must be a couple of <address size> with both the values respecting #address-cells and #size-cells.

There are two optional attributes:

cached

The memory is cacheable

coherent

The memory is cached and coherent (cached is implied, setting it is optional)

References to interrupt controllers

Interrupts controller are referenced from one node to another in order to describe the interrupt tree. References are handled through the following properties:

icudev

Must be a path to an existing ICU device, enclosing in &{ } is syntactic

irq

Is the irq number in icudev.

Parameter structure construction for calling `_init` functions

Some devices require a structure containing parameters in order to correctly initialize them. This case is handled in the FDT description. Let's see the example of the `soclib:xicu` component. It needs a structure containing:

```
struct soclib_xicu_param_s
{
    size_t output_line_no;
};
```

In the driver, the id definition is:

```
static const struct driver_param_binder_s xicu_param_binder[] =
{
    PARAM_BIND(struct soclib_xicu_param_s, output_line_no, PARAM_DATATYPE_INT),
    { 0 }
};

static const struct deventum_ident_s xicu_soclib_ids[] =
{
    DEVENTUM_FDTNAME_ENTRY("soclib:xicu", sizeof(struct soclib_xicu_param_s), xicu_param_binder,
    { 0 }
};
```

This informs the FDT parser this device will need a parameter structure, with the parameters described in the `xicu_param_binder` correctly filled-in.

In this table, there is one entry telling the `output_line_no` parameter is an integer.

Available data types are:

`PARAM_DATATYPE_INT`

a simple integer

`PARAM_DATATYPE_DEVICE_PTR`

a device reference (&{/node/path} in the device tree source), which will be transparently translated to a `struct device_s *` before filling the structure. Device must exist in the tree.

`PARAM_DATATYPE_ADDR`

an address, #address-cells will be honored

`PARAM_DATATYPE_BOOL`

a simple boolean, i.e. a property with no value, if present it is true, if absent it is false (like the `cached` attribute in memory nodes)