

YAMS: Yet Another Machine Simulator

Reference Manual
Edition 1.4.1, for version 1.4.1 of YAMS
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1 Overview

This manual documents **YAMS** version 1.4.1.

YAMS is a machine simulator. It contains simulated CPUs, memory and IO-mapped simulated hardware devices such as disks and consoles.

The intended use of **YAMS** is to provide a platform for operating system implementation courses. **YAMS** is very much like a real machine, but it can be used as a normal UNIX process. **YAMS** has also very simple, but still realistic hardware interface. These features make it an easy platform for OS development.

2 Install

Generic installation instructions can be found in the file 'INSTALL', documentation of the options passed to 'configure' can be found in the file 'README'.

3 Configuration

3.1 Configuration Overview

The configuration files are looked (in this order):

1. in the current directory file `./yams.conf`
2. in the home directory file `$HOME/.yams.conf`
3. in `/etc/yams.conf`

Configuration file consists of four kinds of sections. Sections are separated by the following syntax

```
Section "section-name"  
    var val  
    ...  
EndSection
```

Each `var` is an identifier, consisting of letters. Values `val` are either strings (inside quotation marks) or integer values. Integers can be in decimal notation (the default), or in hexadecimal when they are preceded with "0x". E.g., 1234 is in decimal and 0xFFFF is in hexadecimal notation.

Comments begin with the hash mark '#'. Everything up to the trailing newline will be ignored.

The valid section names are:

- "simulator" (Section 3.2 [Configuring the Simulator], page 3.)
- "disk" (Section 3.3 [Configuring the Disk], page 4.)
- "tty" (Section 3.4 [Configuring the Terminal], page 4.)
- "nic" (Section 3.5 [Configuring the Network], page 5.)
- "plugin" (Section 3.6 [Configuring I/O plugins], page 6.)

The "simulator" section is mandatory. Other sections are optional and should be specified only if the corresponding devices are to be included into the simulated machine.

3.2 Configuring the Simulator

- `cpus` INTEGER

This option specifies the number of CPUs in the simulated machine. This can be an integer from 1 to 64. That is YAMS can support up to 64 different CPUs. This option is mandatory.

- `memory` INTEGER

This option specifies the amount of memory in 4 kilobytes pages. So, for example, if this option is set to 1024, this means that YAMS has totally $1024 * 4KB = 4096$ KB of memory. The maximum amount of memory YAMS supports is 512 megabytes, which is 131072 pages. This option is mandatory.

- `clock-speed` INTEGER

This option specifies the "clock rate" of YAMS simulator. This option is mandatory.

- `cpu-irq` INTEGER
This option specifies the hardware interrupt line that is used for inter-CPU interrupts.
- `big-endian`
Simulate a big-endian machine. This is the default if neither `big-endian` or `little-endian` is present in the configuration file.
- `little-endian`
Simulate a little-endian machine. Note that this feature is not tested.

3.3 Configuring the Disk

- `filename` STRING
This option specifies the file name of the disk image. The simulator reads this disk image or creates new if the file doesn't exist.
- `sector-size` INTEGER
This option specifies the sector size (in bytes) of the simulated disk device.
- `sectors` INTEGER
This option specifies the number of sectors in the simulated disk device.
- `vendor` STRING
This option specifies the vendor string of the simulated disk device. The maximum length of the string is 8 characters.
- `irq` INTEGER
This option specifies the IRQ of the simulated device. The valid values are from 0 to 4.
- `cylinders` INTEGER
This option specifies the number of cylinders in the simulated disk device. Note that the number of sectors must be a multiple of the number of cylinders.
- `rotation-time` INTEGER
This option specifies the disk rotation time in simulated milliseconds.
- `seek-time` INTEGER
This option specifies the full disk seek time in simulated milliseconds.

The options `irq`, `filename`, `sector-size` and `sectors` are mandatory, other are optional.

3.4 Configuring the Terminal

- `unix-socket` STRING
Specifies the UNIX domain socket file where the YAMS will connect to or listen for its simulated terminal. YAMS will block until the connection has been established.
The recommended TTY mode is an outbound connection to a UNIX domain socket with `yamst` on the other end, since this way YAMS can be exited and restarted without input on the other end.

- **tcp-host** STRING
Specifies the remote host name (either DNS name or IP address) of the host where to connect the simulated terminal device. YAMS will block until the connection has been established.
If **listen** is specified, this specifies which interfaces to listen at the local host. E.g. to prevent connections from other hosts one provides **localhost** as the host name. Setting the host name to the empty string "" means that all interfaces should be listened.
- **listen**
Specifies that YAMS should wait for a connection on the socket instead of making an outbound connection.
- **port** INTEGER
Specifies the TCP port where to connect YAMS or if **listen** was specified where to start the listening socket.
- **vendor** STRING
This option specifies the vendor string of the simulated terminal device. The maximum length of the string is 8 characters.
- **irq** INTEGER
This option specifies the IRQ of the simulated device. The valid values are from 0 to 4.
- **send-delay** INTEGER
The delay in milliseconds for writes to the device to complete. Value can be 0 (no delay) or greater.
The mandatory options are **irq**, either **unix-socket** or **tcp-host** and **port**.

3.5 Configuring the Network

- **mtu** INTEGER
This option specifies the MTU, maximum transfer unit of the simulated network interface card (NIC) device in bytes. The MTU must be at least 10 bytes.
- **unix-socket** STRING
This option specifies the file name of the unix domain socket, in which YAMS will connect its simulated NIC device.
- **udp-host**
Specifies the multicast address (either DNS name or IP address) where to send the network device packets.
- **port**
Specifies the udp port where the network packets will be sent.
- **send-delay** INTEGER
Specifies the send delay of the network interface card (NIC). This is in simulated milliseconds.
- **mac** INTEGER
This option specifies the MAC (Media Access Control) address of the simulated network device. The broadcast address is always 0xFFFFFFFF.

- **reliability** INTEGER
This option specifies the reliability of the network device. The range is from 0 to 100. The value zero means no reliability (everything is dropped), whereas 100 means total reliability. Note that if the UDP socket is used, 100% reliability is not guaranteed, though.
- **dma-delay** INTEGER
This option specifies the delay of the direct memory access (DMA). The unit is simulated milliseconds.
- **vendor** STRING
This option specifies the vendor string of the simulated terminal device. The maximum length of the string is 8 characters.
- **irq** INTEGER
This option specifies the IRQ of the simulated device. The valid values are from 0 to 4.

The options `mtu`, `irq` and either `unix-socket` or `udp-host` and `port` are mandatory.

3.6 Configuring I/O plugins

See [Section 6.4.4 \[I/O plugins\]](#), page 31.

- **unix-socket** STRING, **tcp-host** STRING, **listen**, **port** INTEGER
These options have the same meaning as for a TTY device. [Section 3.4 \[Configuring the Terminal\]](#), page 4
- **options** STRING
The option string sent to the plugin device(s) at initialization. YAMS does not care what this contains, interpretation is done by the plugin I/O device.
- **irq** INTEGER
Each device in a plugin connection specifies its own IRQ. However, this option may be used to force the devices to use the specified IRQ (if they use one at all).
- **async**
If this option is not specified, all devices within this connection must act synchronously, ie. only send data as a reply to a request from YAMS. If this option is specified, the devices may also send asynchronous data (e.g. keyboard or mouse input).

The mandatory options are either `unix-socket` or `tcp-host` and `port`.

3.7 Config Example

```
# Simulator config file:

Section "simulator"
    clock-speed          1000          # kHz, "milliseconds" in RTC
                                # are based on this
    memory               16384        # in 4 kB pages
    cpus                 1
EndSection
```

```

Section "disk"
    vendor            "1MB-disk"
    irq               3
    sector-size      1024
    cylinders        4
    sectors          1024
    rotation-time    10           # milliseconds
    seek-time        100         # milliseconds, full seek
    filename         "store.file"
EndSection

Section "tty"
    vendor           "Terminal"
    irq              4

    unix-socket     "tty0.socket" # path and filename
                                # to unix domain socket
    # listen         # uncomment to listen instead of connecting

    # tcp-host      ""           # listen all interfaces
    # port          9999         # at TCP port 9999
    # listen

    # tcp-host      "localhost" # connect to localhost:1234
    # port          1234

    send-delay      0           # in milliseconds

EndSection

Section "nic"
    vendor          "6Com-NIC"
    irq             2
    mtu             1324
    mac             0xF010203    # in hex
    reliability     100         # in percents
    dma-delay       1           # in milliseconds
    send-delay      1           # in milliseconds
    # unix-socket   "nic0.socket" # path and filename
                                # to unix domain socket

    udp-host        "239.255.0.0" # multicast address
    port            31337        # udp port number
EndSection

```

4 Invoking YAMS

The format for running the YAMS program is:

```
yams option ... [binary-file [opt] ...]
```

YAMS supports the following options:

`'binary-file'`

A binary file to be loaded into the memory and booted at startup (for example an operating system kernel). Binary name may be followed by one or more options, which are passed to the binary as boot arguments.

The file may be either an ELF executable or a raw binary file. See hardware console command 'boot' for a detailed description of the boot process. [Section 5.16 \[boot\], page 12](#)

`'--help'`

`'-h'` Print an informative help message describing the options and then exit.

`'--version'`

`'-v'` Print the version number of YAMS. and then exit.

`'--config file'`

`'-c file'` Read configuration file *file*. This will override YAMS default configuration searching [Section 3.1 \[Configuration Overview\], page 3](#).

`'--script file'`

`'-s file'` Read commands from script *file* and after that drop to interactive prompt. This argument can be given multiple times. Up to 255 different script files are supported. The scripts are executed in the order they are specified in the command line.

`'--gdb port'`

`'-g port'` Open a tcp socket listening in *port* for the GDB remote protocol. The hardware console is unaccessible while the socket is active. When the user ends his GDB session either the hardware console is restarted or the simulation is continued depending on whether the user instructed GDB to continue the simulation or kill it.

5 Command Console

When YAMS is started for interactive use, the simulation doesn't start automatically. Instead, the system is started into hardware command console. This console can be thought as firmware code that exists in actual hardware.

The main uses of the console are data loading (kernel image loading) and simulator running state control (starting and stopping). In addition to the basic functionality, the console offers some features that are useful for debugging.

When the system is in the console mode a prompt is printed for user. The prompt looks like this:

```
YAMS [0]>
```

Console commands can only be entered when command prompt is shown. The number in parenthesis tells the number of hardware clock cycles the system has simulated so far.

The console understands the following commands:

5.1 help

Help command prints a list of available commands. If a command name is given as an argument, extended help for that command is printed instead of the list.

5.2 quit

Quit command exits YAMS. By default, YAMS exists with exit code 0, but if some other code is needed (usually when running scripted tests), exit value in range [0,255] can be given as an argument to the quit-command.

5.3 memwrite

Memwrite reads a file and writes it into simulator's memory. The first argument to memwrite command must be a valid hardware memory address (memory address relative to 0, not a segmented address) where to load the file. The second argument is the name of the file to read in quotation marks.

The following example loads file 'test-binary' into memory starting from address 0x00030000.

```
memwrite 0x00030000 "test-binary"
```

Note that no byte order conversions are done when loading the data. The binary must already be in the correct byte order (big-endian by default).

See [Section 5.4 \[memread\]](#), page 9. See [Section 5.17 \[numbers\]](#), page 13.

5.4 memread

Memread reads simulator part of simulator memory and writes it in a file. The first argument to memread command must be a valid hardware memory address (memory address relative to 0, not a segmented address) where to start the read from. The second argument is the number of bytes to read. The third argument is the name of the file to be written in quotation marks. If the file exists, it will be overwritten.

The following example dumps 4 kilobytes (one page) of memory starting from address 0x0003000 to file 'dump-test-file'.

```
memread 0x0003000 4096 "dump-test-file"
```

See [Section 5.3 \[memwrite\]](#), page 9. See [Section 5.17 \[numbers\]](#), page 13.

5.5 start

Start command starts the simulation loop. While running the simulation, YAMS doesn't take console commands. To return to console and stop the simulation, send interrupt signal to YAMS (usually by pressing CTRL-C).

The stopped simulation can be continued with a new start command.

See [Section 5.7 \[step\]](#), page 10.

5.6 tlbdump

Tlbdump command prints the contents of translation look-aside buffer for CPU 0. If numeric argument is given to the command, it specifies some other CPU than CPU 0 for printing. Example:

```
tlbdump 1
```

5.7 step

Step runs the simulator for one clock cycle and then drops back to the console. If numeric argument is given to step command, given number of clock cycles is simulated before dropping back to the console.

If premature returning is needed, YAMS can be forced to drop back to the console by sending interrupt signal (usually by pressing CTRL-C).

See [Section 5.5 \[start\]](#), page 10. See [Section 5.17 \[numbers\]](#), page 13.

5.8 break

Break command set hardware breakpoint at the address given as argument to the command. When any CPU in the system loads instruction from the given address, YAMS drops to the console.

Only one breakpoint can be active at the same time.

See [Section 5.9 \[unbreak\]](#), page 10. See [Section 5.17 \[numbers\]](#), page 13.

5.9 unbreak

Unbreak command clears hardware breakpoints.

See [Section 5.8 \[break\]](#), page 10.

5.10 regdump

Regdump command prints contents of CPU and CP0 registers. By default CPU 0 and it's co-processor 0 status is printed. If some print for some other CPU is needed, regdump takes numeric argument which specifies the processor number. Processors are numbered starting from 0.

See [Section 5.11 \[regwrite\]](#), page 11.

5.11 regwrite

CPU and CP0 registers can be written with regwrite command. The first argument for the command is the name of the register (register names can be seen with regdump command). The second argument is the new value to store in the given register.

By default CPU 0 registers are affected, but register name can be prefixed by CPU number and colon to store into some other CPU.

Some examples:

```
regwrite s0 0xdeadbeef
regwrite 1:sp 0x00030000
```

See [Section 5.10 \[regdump\]](#), page 10.

5.12 interrupt

Hardware and software interrupt lines can be raised with interrupt command. The raising will be valid only for one clock cycle. After that, CPU will automatically clear the interrupt as non-pending.

Interrupt command takes interrupt number as first argument. The second argument specifies the identification number of the CPU which should get the interrupt request. By default all requests go to CPU 0.

The interrupt number number in closed range [0,7]. The meaning of each number is (the numbers correspond to interrupt register bit-fields in CP0):

| | |
|-----|---------------------------|
| '0' | Software interrupt line 0 |
| '1' | Software interrupt line 1 |
| '2' | Hardware interrupt line 0 |
| '3' | Hardware interrupt line 1 |
| '4' | Hardware interrupt line 2 |
| '5' | Hardware interrupt line 3 |
| '6' | Hardware interrupt line 4 |
| '7' | Hardware interrupt line 5 |

5.13 dump

Contents of simulator memory can be seen with the dump command. By default, the command prints 11 words surrounding CPU 0 program counter. This is useful when stepping programs.

Dump takes the beginning address of the dump as an optional first argument. The second, also optional, argument is the number of words to dump. The address argument can be substituted by CPU register name, which may be prefixed by CPU id. Note that for segmented addresses the TLB of CPU 0 is used for translation. For direct access, use kernel unmapped segments as in example below.

Examples:


```
dump
dump v0
dump 0:v1
dump 0x80010000 20
dump 0:t2 10
```

5.14 poke

One word can be written into simulator memory by `poke` command. `Poke` takes the memory address as the first argument and value to be stored as second argument. Only full words can be written. Note that for mapped address segments the TLB of CPU 0 is used for translation.

See [Section 5.13 \[dump\]](#), page 11.

5.15 gdb

Open a tcp socket listening in a port for the GDB remote protocol. The hardware console is inaccessible while the socket is active. When the user ends his GDB session either the hardware console is restarted or the simulation is continued depending on whether the user instructed GDB to continue the simulation or kill it.

For example, to make yams listen in tcp socket 1500:

```
gdb 1500
```

5.16 boot

`Boot` command can be used to boot a kernel image. `Boot` command takes the name of the kernel image file in quotation marks as its first argument. The second argument is optional quoted string of kernel arguments.

For example, to boot Buenos kernel from "buenos.img" with arguments:

```
boot "buenos.img" "startproc=shell"
```

The exact boot process is:

1. First, check whether the image file is an ELF file. This is safe, since the ELF magic at the beginning is not a valid MIPS32 instruction.
2. If the image was an ELF file, load all program segments in the file into memory and set the program entry point (indicated here with *ENTRY*) to the one found in the file.
3. If the image file was not an ELF file, the image file is loaded into memory at location 0x00010000 in its entirety. The first 64 kB are left there for interrupt vectors, initial stack etc. This step is equivalent to command `memwrite "image" 0x00010000`. *ENTRY* is set to 0x80010000.
4. Program counters in all CPUs are set to *ENTRY*. This could be done manually by using command `regwrite pc ENTRY` for each CPU.
5. Kernel argument string is copied into its memory area. This can't be done without `boot` command.
6. Simulation is started. This step could be done manually with command `start`.

See [Section 5.3 \[memwrite\]](#), page 9. See [Section 5.11 \[regwrite\]](#), page 11. See [Section 5.5 \[start\]](#), page 10.

5.17 Entering numbers in the hardware console

When a number is needed as a part of hardware console command (either number of bytes, offset or memory address), YAMS always accepts number in either binary, decimal or hexadecimal form.

Decimal numbers (base 10) can be entered the usual way ("1234"). Binary numbers must be prefixed by letter 'b' ("b1010001"). Hexadecimal numbers must be prefixed by either '#' or '0x' ("#a02be").

All numbers must be positive integers in closed range [0, 4294967295] (or $2^{32}-1$). In hex, this range is [#0, #ffffff] and in binary [b0, b11111111111111111111111111111111].

6 Simulated Machine

YAMS simulates a machine with RISC CPUs. The instruction set of the CPU emulates MIPS32 instruction set.

Simulation environment simulates an entire computer, including memory, TLB, network interface cards, disks and console devices. Both Direct Memory Access (DMA) and Memory Mapped IO (MMIO) devices are present.

6.1 CPU

YAMS CPU emulates a big-endian MIPS32 processor. As of YAMS version 1.4.0, emulating a little-endian processor is also supported. See [Section 3.2 \[Configuring the Simulator\], page 3](#). The CPU supports all instructions of the MIPS32 instruction set architecture. The processor also contains a MIPS32 style co-processor 0. See [Section 6.2 \[CP0\], page 16](#). Coprocessor 1 (Floating Point Unit) is not implemented.

6.1.1 CPU registers

| Name | Number | Description |
|------|--------|--------------------------|
| zero | 0 | Always contains 0 |
| at | 1 | Reserved for assembler |
| v0 | 2 | Function return |
| v1 | 3 | Function return |
| a0 | 4 | Argument register |
| a1 | 5 | Argument register |
| a2 | 6 | Argument register |
| a3 | 7 | Argument register |
| t0 | 8 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| t1 | 9 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| t2 | 10 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| t3 | 11 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| t4 | 12 | Temporary (Caller saves) |

| | | |
|----|----|---|
| t5 | 13 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| t6 | 14 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| t7 | 15 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| s0 | 16 | Saved temporary (Callee saves) |
| s1 | 17 | Saved temporary (Callee saves) |
| s2 | 18 | Saved temporary (Callee saves) |
| s3 | 19 | Saved temporary (Callee saves) |
| s4 | 20 | Saved temporary (Callee saves) |
| s5 | 21 | Saved temporary (Callee saves) |
| s6 | 22 | Saved temporary (Callee saves) |
| s7 | 23 | Saved temporary (Callee saves) |
| t8 | 24 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| t9 | 25 | Temporary (Caller saves) |
| k0 | 26 | Reserved for operating system |
| k1 | 27 | Reserved for operating system |
| gp | 28 | Global pointer |
| sp | 29 | Stack pointer |
| fp | 30 | Frame pointer |
| ra | 31 | Return address |
| pc | | Program counter |
| hi | | Register used by multiply and divide instructions |
| lo | | Register used by multiply and divide instructions |

6.2 CP0

The CP0 registers discussed below are implemented in YAMS. Note that all the registers shown in the YAMS hardware console are not implemented. Note also that all the registers are writable through the hardware console. However, illegal values entered through the hardware console can result in unpredictable behavior of YAMS.

YAMS supports two operating modes, kernel mode and user mode. The processor is in kernel mode when the UM bit in the **Status** register is zero or when the EXL bit in the **Status** register is one or when the ERL bit in the **Status** register is 1. Otherwise the processor is in user mode.

6.2.1 Exceptions

When an exception occurs, the following steps are performed by the processor. The EPC register and the BD field in **Cause** register are loaded appropriately if the EXL bit in **Status** register is not set. The CE and ExcCode fields in **Cause** register are loaded. The EXL bit in **status** register is set and execution is started at the exception vector. Some exceptions load additional information to CP0 registers.

The base for the exception vector is 0x80000000 if the BEV bit in **Status** register is zero. Otherwise the base is 0xbfc00000. Note that this address is not usable for code in YAMS, so BEV should be set to zero.

The exception codes (found in field ExcCode in **Cause** register See [Section 6.2.14 \[Cause\]](#), [page 23.](#)) and vector offsets for different exceptions are as follows:

| | |
|------|---|
| 0 | |
| 0x00 | Interrupt. An interrupt has occurred. If the IV field in Cause register is zero, the vector offset is 0x180. Otherwise the vector offset is 0x200. |
| 1 | |
| 0x01 | TLB modification exception. Software has attempted to store to a mapped address but the D bit in TLB is set indicating that the page is not writable. When this exception occurs, BadVAd , Context and EntryHi registers contain the appropriate bits of the faulting address. The vector offset is 0x180. |
| 2 | |
| 0x02 | TLB exception (load or instruction fetch). The desired entry either was not in the TLB or it was not valid. When this exception occurs, BadVAd , Context and EntryHi registers contain the appropriate bits of the faulting address. If the entry was not in the TLB and the EXL bit in the Status register was zero, the vector offset is 0x000. Otherwise the vector offset is 0x180. |
| 3 | |
| 0x03 | TLB exception (store). Behaves in exactly the same way as the load or instruction fetch one. |
| 4 | |
| 0x04 | Address error exception (load or instruction fetch). An address exception occurs when memory reference was unaligned or when an attempt to reference kernel address space is made in user mode. When this exception occurs the faulting address is loaded to the BadVAd register. The vector offset is 0x180. |

| | | |
|------|--|--|
| 5 | | |
| 0x05 | | Address error exception (store). Behaves in exactly the same way as the load or instruction fetch one. |
| 6 | | |
| 0x06 | | Bus error exception (instruction fetch). Bus error exception occurs when the bus request is terminated in an error. The vector offset is 0x180. |
| 7 | | |
| 0x07 | | Bus error exception (load or store). Behaves in exactly the same way as the instruction fetch one. |
| 8 | | |
| 0x08 | | Syscall exception. A syscall instruction was executed. The vector offset is 0x180. |
| 9 | | |
| 0x09 | | Breakpoint exception. A break instruction was executed. The vector offset is 0x180. |
| 10 | | |
| 0x0a | | Reserved instruction exception. An instruction which is not defined was executed. The vector offset is 0x180. |
| 11 | | |
| 0x0b | | Coprocessor unusable exception. Software attempted to execute a coprocessor instruction but the corresponding coprocessor is not implemented in YAMS or a coprocessor 0 instruction when the processor was running in user mode. The vector offset is 0x180. |
| 12 | | |
| 0x0c | | Arithmetic overflow. Arithmetic overflow occurred when executing an arithmetic instruction. The vector offset is 0x180. |
| 13 | | |
| 0x0d | | Trap exception. The condition of a trap instruction was true. The vector offset is 0x180. |

6.2.2 TLB

YAMS TLB contains 16 entries. Each entry contains an even entry and an odd entry. For each pair of entries TLB contains the following fields:

| | | |
|------|---------|---|
| VPN2 | 19 bits | The virtual page number is actually virtual page number/2. The even entry maps the page VPN2 0 and the odd entry VPN2 1, where denotes concatenation of bits. |
| G | 1 bit | The global bit of the entry indicates if the entry is available to all processes. |

ASID 8 bits The address space id field is used to distinguish between entries of different processes. The ASID bit in the TLB entry and in the `EntrHi` register must be the same for the entry to be valid.

Both the even and the odd entry contain the following fields:

PFN 20 bits The physical page frame number.

C 3 bits The cache coherence bits. Since there is no cache in YAMS, this field is not very useful and will be ignored by the simulator.

D 1 bit Dirty bit. If this bit is zero, the page is write protected. If the bit is one, page can be written can thus get dirty.

V 1 bit Valid bit. This bit tells if the mapping is valid.

See [Section 6.2.5 \[EntLo0 and EntLo1\]](#), page 19.

See [Section 6.2.11 \[EntrHi\]](#), page 21.

6.2.3 Index

- Register number: 0
- Selection field: 0

The `Index` register contains the index of the TLB used by the `TLBP`, `TLBWI` and `TLBR`. There are two fields in the `Index` register:

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|--------|--|
| P | 31 | Probe Failure. This field is written by hardware during the <code>TLBP</code> instruction to indicate whether the entry is found in TLB (1) or not (0). This field is not writable by software. |
| Index | 3..0 | The index to the TLB. Written by software to give the TLB index used by <code>TLBW</code> and <code>TLBR</code> instructions. Written by hardware during the <code>TLBP</code> instruction if a matching entry is found. This is a read-write field. |
| | 30...4 | Must be written as zero, returns zero when reading. |

6.2.4 Random

- Register number: 1
- Selection field: 0

The value of `Random` register is used to index the TLB by the `TLBWR` instruction. `Random` register is a read-only register. The `YAMS` hardware updates the value of `Random` register after each `TLBWR` instruction. The value of `Random` register varies between 15 (number of TLB entries minus one) and the lower bound set by the `Wired` register. See [Section 6.2.8 \[Wired\]](#), page 20. At start-up and, when the `Wired` register is written, `Random` register is initialized to its upper bound, 15. There is only one field in the `Random` register:

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|-------|---|
| Random | 3..0 | The random index to the TLB. This is a read-only field. |
| | 31..4 | Must be written as zero, returns zero when reading. |

6.2.5 EntLo0 and EntLo1

- Register number: 2 and 3
- Selection field: 0

The `EntLo` registers are used in the TLB instructions. The data is either moved from TLB to these registers or vice versa. The fields of `EntLo0` and `EntLo1` registers are the same.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|--------|---|
| PFN | 25..6 | Page frame number. This is a read-write field. |
| C | 5..3 | Cache coherency bits. These are not very useful in <code>YAMS</code> since there is no cache. This is a read-write field. This field is ignored by <code>YAMS</code> |
| D | 2 | Dirty bit. The page is writable if this bit is set. Otherwise the page is not writable. This is a read-write field. Note that write protected pages can't get dirty. |
| V | 1 | Valid bit. Indicates whether the entry is valid. This is a read-write field. |
| G | 0 | Global bit. Indicates whether this entry is usable for all processes. When writing an entry to the TLB the G bit has to set in both <code>EntLo0</code> and <code>EntLo1</code> registers for the G bit to be set in the TLB. This is a read-write field. |
| | 31..26 | Ignored when writing, returns zero when reading. |

6.2.6 Contxt

- Register number: 4
- Selection field: 0

Contxt register can be used by the operating system to reference a page table entry array, if the size of the entry is 16 bytes.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|---------|--|
| PTEBase | 31...23 | The base address of the page table entry array. This field should be written by software. |
| BadVPN2 | 22...4 | This field contains the upper 19 bits of the virtual address that caused a TLB exception. This field is written by hardware when a TLB exception occurs and from the software's point of view it is read-only. |
| | 3..0 | Must be written as zero, returns zero when reading. |

6.2.7 PgMask

- Register number: 5
- Selection field: 0

The **PgMask** (PageMask) register is used in the MIPS32 architecture to allow variable page sizes. Since YAMS only supports 4 kB pages the **PgMask** register is a read-only register containing the value 0.

6.2.8 Wired

- Register number: 6
- Selection field: 0

The **Wired** register specifies the lower bound for **Random** register contents. Thus, TLB indexes less than the **Wired** cannot be replaced with the **TLBWR** instruction. **TLBWI** instruction can be used to replace the wired entries. The **Wired** register is initialized to zero.

There is only one field in the **Wired** register:

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|--------|---|
| Wired | 31...0 | The boundary of wired TLB entries. |
| | 31...4 | Must be written as zero, returns zero when reading. |

6.2.9 BadVAd

- Register number: 8

- Selection field: 0

The read-only register **BadVAd** is written by YAMS when address error, TLB refill, TLB invalid or TLB modified exception occur.

The fields of the **BadVAd** are as follows:

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|--------|---|
| BadVAddr | 31...0 | Bad virtual address. This field is read-only. |

6.2.10 Count

- Register number: 9
- Selection field: 0

The **Count** register is a timer, which is incremented by YAMS on every cycle. The **Count** register is a read-write register.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Count | 31...0 | Counter. This is a read-write field. |

6.2.11 EntrHi

- Register number: 10
- Selection field: 0

The **EntrHi** register contains the data used for matching a TLB entry when writing to, reading from or accessing the TLB.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|---------|---|
| VPN2 | 31...13 | The upper 19 bits of the virtual address. |
| ASID | 7...0 | Address space identifier. |
| | 12...8 | Must be written as zero, returns zero when reading. |

6.2.12 Compar

- Register number: 11
- Selection field: 0

The **Compar** register implements a timer and timer interrupt together with the **Count** register. An interrupt is raised when the values of **Count** and **Compar** registers are equal. The timer interrupt uses interrupt line 5. The timer interrupt is cleared by writing a value to the **Compar** register.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|--------|--|
| Comapre | 31...0 | Counter compare value. This is a read-write field. |

6.2.13 Status

- Register number: 12
- Selection field: 0

The **Status** register contains various fields to indicate the current status of the processor.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|--------|---|
| CU | 28 | Indicates whether access to the co-processor 0 is enabled. This field is initialized to one, indicating access to co-processor 0. This bit is a read-write bit. |
| BEV | 22 | Controls the locations of the exception vectors. The value of this field is zero when normal exception vectors are used and one when bootstrap exception vectors are used. This bit is a read-write bit. |
| IM | 15...8 | Interrupt mask. Controls the enabling of individual interrupt lines. This field is a read-write field. If bit is set, the interrupt is enabled. The first two bits correspond to the two software interrupts and the rest are used for the 5 possible hardware interrupts. |
| UM | 4 | Indicates the base operating mode of the processor. The encoding is zero for kernel mode and one for user mode. This field is a read-write field. |
| ERL | 2 | The error level field. The value of this field is zero when YAMS is operating in normal level and one when YAMS is operating in error level. When this bit is set the processor is running in kernel mode, all interrupts are disabled and ERET instruction will use the ErrEPC instead of the EPC register for return address. This field is a read-write field. |

| | | |
|-----|---|--|
| EXL | 1 | The exception level field. The value of this field is zero when YAMS is running in normal level and one when in exception level. When the EXL bit is set, the processor is running in kernel mode, all interrupts are disabled, the TLB Refill exceptions use the general exception vector instead of the TLB Refill vector and the EPC register and the BD field of the Cause register will not be updated. This field is a read-write field. |
| IE | 0 | Interrupt enable. When this bit is zero all interrupts are disabled. |
| | 18 | Must be written as zero, returns zero when reading. |
| | 31..29, 27...23, 21...19, 17...16, 7...5, 3 | Ignored when writing, returns zero when reading. |

6.2.14 Cause

- Register number: 13
- Selection field: 0

The Cause register can be used to query the cause of the most recent exception. There are also fields which control software interrupt requests and the entry vector for interrupts.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|------|--|
| BD | 31 | This bit is set if the last exception occurred in branch delay slot. Otherwise this bit is zero. The BD field is not updated if the EXL bit in Status register is set. This field is read-only. |
| CE | 29 | This field contains the number of the faulting coprocessor when a coprocessor unusable exception occurs. This field is read-only. |
| IV | 23 | This field can be used to control the entry vector for interrupt exceptions. When this bit is set, interrupt exceptions are vectored to the special interrupt vector (0x200). When this bit is not set, the interrupt exceptions are vectored to the general exception vector (0x180). This is a read-write field. |

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| HardIP | 15...10 | This field indicates which interrupts are pending. Bit 15 is for hardware interrupt 5, bit 14 for hardware interrupt 4 and so on. This field is read-only. |
| SoftIP | 9...8 | This field controls the requests for software interrupts. Bit 9 is for software interrupt 1 and bit 8 for software interrupt 0. This is a read-write field. |
| ExcCode | 6...2 | This read-only field contains the exception code. See Section 6.2.1 [Exceptions] , page 16. |
| | 22 | Ignored when writing, returns zero when reading. |
| | 30, 27...24, 21...16, 7, 1...0 | Must be written as zero, returns zero when reading. |

6.2.15 EPC

- Register number: 14
- Selection field: 0

The read-write register **EPC** (Exception Program Counter) contains the address at which the execution of a program will continue after an exception is serviced. The **EPC** register contains the virtual address of the instruction that caused the exception or, if that instruction is in branch delay slot, the virtual address of the branch or jump instruction preceding that instruction. When the **EXL** bit in **Status** register is set, **YAMS** will not write to the **EPC** register.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|--------|--|
| EPC | 31...0 | Exception Program Counter. This is a read-write field. |

6.2.16 PRId

- Register number: 15
- Selection field: 0

The read-only register **PRId** (Processor id) contains information about the processor.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------------|---------|--|
| Processor number | 31...24 | The number of the processor in this installation. The first processor is numbered zero, the second one and so on. The last processor's number is the number of processors minus one. |

| | | |
|--------------|---------|--|
| Company ID | 23...16 | The company ID number for YAMS is 255. |
| Processor ID | 15...8 | The processor ID number for YAMS is 0. |
| Revision | 7...0 | The revision number for YAMS is 0. |

6.2.17 Conf0

- Register number: 16
- Selection field: 0

The `Conf0` register is a read-only register providing information about the processor. All fields of the `Conf0` register are constant.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|---------|---|
| M | 31 | Tells that <code>Conf1</code> is implemented at a select field 1. The value of this field is one. |
| BE | 15 | Denotes the endianness of the processor. The value of this field is one for a big-endian processor (YAMS default) and zero for a little-endian processor. |
| AT | 14...13 | Indicates that YAMS emulates the MIPS32 architecture. The value of this field is zero. |
| AR | 12...10 | Indicates that YAMS emulates the revision 1 of the MIPS32 architecture. The value of this field is zero. |
| MT | 9...7 | Indicates the MMU type used by YAMS. Since YAMS emulates the standard TLB model of the MIPS32 architecture, the value of this field is one. |

6.2.18 Conf1

- Register number: 16
- Selection field: 1

The read-only `Conf1` register provides more information about the capabilities of the processor.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|------|--|
| M | 31 | The value of this field is zero indicating that there is no <code>Conf2</code> register. |

| | | |
|----------|---------|---|
| MMU size | 30...25 | Number of TLB entries minus one. Thus 15 for YAMS. |
| IS | 24...22 | Icache setes per way. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support caches. |
| IL | 21...19 | Icache line size. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support caches. |
| IA | 18...16 | Icache associativity. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support caches. |
| DS | 15...13 | Dcache sets per way. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support caches. |
| DL | 12...10 | Dcache line size. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support caches. |
| DA | 9...7 | Dcache associativity. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support caches. |
| C2 | 6 | Indicates whether co-processor 2 is implemented. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support co-processor 2. |
| PC | 4 | Indicates whether performance counter registers are implemented. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support peroramnce counter registers. |
| WR | 3 | Indicates whether watch registers are implemented. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support watch registers. |
| CA | 2 | Indicates whether code compression is implemented. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support code compression. |
| EP | 1 | Indicates whether EJTAG is implemented. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support EJTAG. |
| FP | 0 | Indicates whether FPU is implemented. The value of this field is zero, because YAMS does not support FPU. |

6.2.19 LLAddr

- Register number: 17
- Selection field: 0

The **LLAddr** register contains the physical address referenced by the most recent LL instruction. This register is not used by software in normal operation and should be considered read-only.

6.2.20 ErrEPC

- Register number: 30
- Selection field: 0

The read-write register **ErrEPC** functions like the **EPC** register except that it is used on error exceptions.

| Field name | Bits | Description |
|------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| ErrorEPC | 31..0 | Error exception program counter |

6.3 Memory

6.3.1 Architecture

YAMS provides 2^{32} bytes (4 gigabytes) virtual address space. Virtual address space is divided in five segments shown in table below.

| Virtual Address Range | Size | Description |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| 0xE0000000 - 0xFFFFFFFF | 512 MB | Kernel Mapped |
| 0xC0000000 - 0xDFFFFFFF | 512 MB | Supervisor Mapped |
| 0xA0000000 - 0xBFFFFFFF | 512 MB | Kernel Unmapped Uncached |
| 0x80000000 - 0x9FFFFFFF | 512 MB | Kernel Unmapped |
| 0x00000000 - 0x7FFFFFFF | 2 GB | User Mapped |

Addresses in mapped segments are translated through TLB. Unmapped kernel segments generate physical addresses to lowest 512 MB of physical memory. Cache is not implemented so there are no differences between the two kernel unmapped segments.

6.3.2 Kernel Unmapped Uncached Segment

Kernel unmapped segment is further divided into following memory areas:

| Virtual Address Range | Description |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 0xB0008000 - 0xBFFFFFFF | Memory mapped device IO-area |
| 0xB0001000 - 0xB0001FFF | Kernel Boot parameters string |
| 0xB0000000 - 0xB0000FFF | Device descriptors |

0xA0000000 - 0xFFFFFFFF

Kernel binary and stack

6.3.3 Accessing segments

All segments are accessible while processor is in kernel mode. In user mode only User mapped segment is accessible. Accessing other segments generates Address Error. Since no supervisor mode is implemented Supervisor Mapped segment is accessible only in kernel mode.

6.3.4 Address Translation

Unmapped Segments

Kernel Unmapped segments generate physical addresses in the following way:

| Segment | Virtual Address | Physical Address |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Kernel Unmapped Uncached | 0xA0000000 - 0xFFFFFFFF | 0x00000000 - 0x0FFFFFFF |
| Kernel Unmapped | 0x80000000 - 0x9FFFFFFF | 0x00000000 - 0x1FFFFFFF |

Addresses 0xB0000000-0xBFFFFFFF are used in memory mapped io-devices and are not threatened as normal physical memory.

TLB-address translation

See [Section 6.2.11 \[EntrHi\]](#), page 21.

See [Section 6.2.5 \[EntLo0 and EntLo1\]](#), page 19.

See [Section 6.2.2 \[TLB\]](#), page 17.

See [Section 6.2.1 \[Exceptions\]](#), page 16.

Memory is mapped in 4096-byte pages in YAMS. Bits 31-12 of the virtual address refer to the page. Bits 11-0 are used indexing inside the page. Address translation is performed in the following way:

- 1 Find TLB-entry, whose VPN2 field matches to the bits 31-13 of the virtual address and G bit is set or ASID field matches the current process ASID (obtained from EntryHi register). If TLB-entry is not found and reference type is load raise TLB exception 0x02. Otherwise, if TLB-entry is not found, raise TLB exception 0x03.
- 2 Check bit 12 (EvenOddBit) in virtual address. If zero use mapping for even page (TLB-entry fields PFN0, C0, D0, V0), otherwise use mapping for odd page (TLB-entry fields PFN1, C1, D1, V1).
- 3 Check validity bit of page (V-field of even/odd page mapping in TLB-entry). If one page is valid and access to the page is permitted. Otherwise raise TLB exception 0x02 (load) or 0x03 (store).
- 4 Check dirty bit of page (D-field of even/odd page mapping in TLB-entry). If zero and reference type is store, raise TLB modification exception 0x01. Note that dirty bit is also write protection bit.
- 5 Generate physical address by concatenating bits 19-0 of PFN-field and bits 11-0 of virtual address.

6.4 Memory mapped I/O devices

All I/O operations in YAMS are memory-mapped. The I/O address space is the upper half of the kernel unmapped uncached segment, ie. the first byte is at the address 0xb0000000 and the last byte at 0xbfffffff. Reads or writes to this area will not cause an exception provided that the CPU is in kernel mode and the read/write is naturally aligned.

Reads from unused portions of the I/O area return 0. However, the operating system should not rely this to be so and instead consider the result undefined. Writes to unused portions have no effect.

Reads from the I/O area function just as normal memory reads. However, writing anything other than a word (e.g. a byte or a half word) to an I/O 'port' of a device will give unpredictable results. So writing to I/O ports should be restricted to whole words. Some devices may have an additional memory mapped I/O area, where the result of writing bytes or half-words depends on the device.

The I/O address space is partitioned as follows:

0xb0000000 - 0xb0000fff

This area holds the 128 device descriptors which describe the hardware devices that are available in the system. For details: See [Section 6.4.1 \[Device descriptors\]](#), page 29. This area is read-only, meaning that writes have no effect.

0xb0001000 - 0xb0001fff

This area holds the kernel boot parameters as a 0-terminated (C-style) string. This area is read-only, meaning that writes have no effect.

0xb0002000 - 0xb0007fff

This area is reserved for future use. This area is read-only, meaning that writes have no effect.

0xb0008000 - 0xbfffffff

This area holds the actual I/O ports and any additional memory areas for the devices. Whether writing to a certain address has any effect depends on the device and port/area in question.

Each of the I/O devices is documented in the following sections:

6.4.1 Device descriptors

In the memory range from 0xb0000000 to 0xb0000fff are located 128 device descriptors that describe the hardware devices. Each of the descriptors is 32 bytes long and has the following structure:

| OFFSET | SIZE | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|--------|---|
| 0x00 | 1 word | Device type code. Type code 0 is not used by any devices, and it means that this descriptor is unused and should be ignored. See Section 6.4.2 [Device type codes] , page 30. |
| 0x04 | 1 word | Device I/O address base. All I/O port offsets of a device are relative to this address. |

| | | |
|------|---------|---|
| 0x08 | 1 word | The length of the device's I/O address area in bytes. This will always be a multiple of 4, since all ports are 32 bits wide. |
| 0x0C | 1 word | The number of the IRQ that the device generates. Possible values are from 0 to 5. A value of -1 (0xffffffff) means the device will not generate any IRQs. |
| 0x10 | 8 bytes | Vendor string. These bytes are used to describe the model of the device or some other information intended to be read by humans. The operating system may safely ignore the contents of these bytes. These bytes may contain any values and need not be 0-terminated. |
| 0x18 | 2 words | Reserved. The contents of these word should be considered undefined. |

When starting, the operating system should read through *all* device descriptors, ignoring those with device type code of 0. In practise there will be no more devices after the first descriptor with type code 0, but the OS must not rely on this as it may very well change in the future.

6.4.2 Device type codes

A device is identified by its type code. The type codes have the following meaning and grouping:

| | |
|-------|--|
| 0x100 | The 0x100 series is for so-called meta-devices, such as those that are integrated into the motherboard chipset. |
| 0x101 | System memory information. See Section 6.4.5 [Meminfo] , page 31. |
| 0x102 | System real-time clock device (RTC). See Section 6.4.6 [RTC] , page 31. |
| 0x103 | System software shutdown device. See Section 6.4.7 [Shutdown] , page 31. |
| 0x200 | The 0x200 series is for TTYs and other character-buffered devices. |
| 0x201 | The basic TTY as described in this document. See Section 6.4.9 [Terminals] , page 33. |
| 0x300 | The 0x300 series is for disks and other block-buffered devices. |
| 0x301 | Hard disk as described in this document. See Section 6.4.10 [Disks] , page 34. |
| 0x400 | The 0x400 series is for network devices. |
| 0x401 | NIC as described in this document. See Section 6.4.11 [NIC] , page 36. |
| 0x500 | The 0x500 series is for devices that have both character- and block-buffered characteristics. |
| 0xC00 | CPU status "devices". The last two hexadecimal digits indicate the number of the CPU, from 0 to 255. See Section 6.4.8 [CPU status] , page 32. |

6.4.3 Hardware interrupts

Interrupts (IRQs) caused by hardware devices are distributed evenly to all CPUs since they are not CPU specific (unlike other exceptions).

If YAMS is configured with more than one CPU, the operating system *must* support all processors and initialize them symmetrically or some device IRQs may be lost (more correctly never noticed or handled rather than lost).

See [Section 3.2 \[Configuring the Simulator\], page 3](#).

6.4.4 I/O plugins

YAMS supports user-supplied I/O devices in the form of pluggable I/O devices, or I/O plugins. An I/O plugin is a separate program which communicates with YAMS over a stream (unix or TCP) socket, responding to writes to and reads from the I/O area(s) of the device.

The documentation of the I/O ports and possible memory mapped I/O area should be provided with the plugin device.

If you want to implement your own I/O plugin, the protocol is specified in the file 'README.PLUGIO'.

See [Section 3.6 \[Configuring I/O plugins\], page 6](#).

6.4.5 System memory information device

The system memory information device has device type code 0x101 and it has the following port:

| OFFSET | NAME | R/W | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|-------|-----|--|
| 0x00 | PAGES | R | This port contains the number of physical memory pages in the system. Each page is 4096 bytes (4kB) in size. |

6.4.6 System real-time clock device

The RTC device (device type code 0x102) contains information about the speed and uptime of the system. It has the following ports:

| OFFSET | NAME | R/W | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|--------|-----|---|
| 0x00 | MSEC | R | Milliseconds elapsed since the machine started. |
| 0x04 | CLKSPD | R | Machine clock speed in Hz. |

The milliseconds are calculated from elapsed clock cycles and the simulator's virtual clock speed, and have no relation whatsoever with real world time.

See [Section 3.2 \[Configuring the Simulator\], page 3](#).

6.4.7 Software shutdown device

The software shutdown device (device type code 0x103) is used to exit from YAMS from within the running program (OS). It has the following port:

| OFFSET | NAME | R/W | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|--------|-----|---|
| 0x00 | SHUTDN | W | Writing the magic word to this port will shut down the machine. |

The magic word is 0x0badf00d. Writing the magic word to the port will immediately (after the clock cycle is finished) cause the simulator to exit.

If magic word 0xdeadc0de is written to the same port, YAMS will not exit, but will drop to command console. This feature is useful for kernel panic routines, because after error condition, the state of the system can be inspected.

6.4.8 CPU status devices

Each CPU in the system has a status metadvice associated with it. The device type codes for CPU status devices range from 0xC00 to 0xC3F, the last two hexadecimal digits indicating the number of the CPU. The device has the following two ports:

| OFFSET | NAME | R/W | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|---------|-----|--|
| 0x00 | STATUS | R | CPU status word. |
| 0x04 | COMMAND | W | CPU command port for inter-CPU interrupts. |

The STATUS word contains the following information:

| BIT | NAME | DESCRIPTION |
|-----|---------|--|
| 0 | RUNNING | If the CPU is running this bit has the value 1. Since all CPUs are always running in YAMS this bit always has the value 1. |
| 1 | IRQ | This bit indicates whether this CPU status device has a pending interrupt request. |
| 31 | ICOMM | The last command issued to this device was incorrect. |

The command port is used to generate and clear inter-CPU interrupts on the CPU of the CPU status device. The command port accepts the following commands:

| COMMAND | DESCRIPTION |
|---------|---------------------|
| 0x00 | Generate interrupt |
| 0x01 | Clear the interrupt |

Caution: Since the maximum number of device descriptors is 128, configuring YAMS with too many processors will cause undesirable effects.

See [Section 3.2 \[Configuring the Simulator\]](#), page 3.

6.4.9 Terminal devices

Only terminals with device type code 0x201 are covered in this section.

A terminal (TTY) is a character buffered I/O device from which data can be read when it is available and to which data can be written in certain speed. Reads and writes are done one byte (character) at a time (use the lowest 8 bits of a word). A terminal device has the following ports:

| OFFSET | NAME | R/W | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|---------|-----|---|
| 0x00 | STATUS | R | Status bits for the TTY device. |
| 0x04 | COMMAND | W | Port for giving commands to the TTY device. |
| 0x08 | DATA | RW | Data port for reading from and writing to the TTY. Only the 8 lowest bits are used. |

Operating the TTY is based mostly on interpreting the status bits, which are described in the following table. Reading from or writing to DATA will update the status bits before the next clock cycle.

| BIT | NAME | DESCRIPTION |
|-----|--------|---|
| 0 | RAVAIL | There is meaningful (read: real) data available in DATA. If this bit is not set, reads from DATA will return 0. |
| 1 | WBUSY | The TTY is writing out its internal buffer. When this bit is set, all writes to DATA will be ignored. |
| 2 | RIRQ | The TTY has pending IRQ because new data became available. |
| 3 | WIRQ | The TTY has pending IRQ because WBUSY has been cleared. |
| 4 | WIRQE | Write interrupt generation is enabled if this is 1, disabled if 0. |
| 29 | ICOMM | The last command issued to the COMMAND port was unrecognized. |
| 30 | EBUSY | The last command issued to the COMMAND port could not be handled because the TTY was busy. |
| 31 | ERROR | Undefined error in the device. The TTY is to be considered unusable if this bit is set. |

The following commands are available to control a TTY device:

| | |
|------|---|
| 0x01 | Reset RIRQ. Will zero the RIRQ bit, indicating that the IRQ generated has been handled. |
| 0x02 | Reset WIRQ. Acts similarly to the RIRQ resetting. |
| 0x03 | Enables Write IRQs. |
| 0x04 | Disables Write IRQs. |

Reading from a TTY device by the operating system would typically be done as follows.

When there is input data available, the TTY will raise an IRQ. The handler should check just in case that RAVAIL is really set (should always be if RIRQ is set) before reading. It will then read one byte from DATA into its own buffer. After reading the byte, it should check if more data is available by checking the RAVAIL bit. Data can be read as long as RAVAIL is set, and all of it should be read too or the IRQ will be raised again after exiting the handler. When all available data is read, the handler should reset the RIRQ bit (command 0x01) and check once more that no data arrived before RIRQ reset. Every incoming byte raises RIRQ only once.

Writing to a TTY device would typically be implemented by the OS as follows.

First check WBUSY. If WBUSY is set, the thread should go to sleep. When WBUSY is cleared an interrupt is raised. The handler should wake up the writing thread and reset WIRQ (command 0x02). The writing thread should write the output one byte at a time as long as WBUSY is not set. When WBUSY becomes set, the thread should go to sleep again. This cycle is repeated until all output is written. If multiple bytes is written in interrupt handler, write IRQs must be disabled while writing so that other CPUs won't end up in the interrupt handler when clearly not needing to do so.

See [Section 3.4 \[Configuring the Terminal\]](#), page 4.

6.4.10 Hard disk devices

Only disks with device type code 0x301 are covered in this section.

A disk device transfers data between disk and memory using DMA. It generates interrupts when it has completed a DMA transfer. The data is stored on an image file in the directory from where YAMS is run.

A disk device has the following I/O ports:

| OFFSET | NAME | R/W | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|---------|-----|--|
| 0x00 | STATUS | R | Status bits for the disk device. |
| 0x04 | COMMAND | W | Port for issuing commands to the disk. |
| 0x08 | DATA | R | Return value port for query commands. The data will be available before the next clock cycle after the query command is written to the COMMAND port. |
| 0x0C | TSECTOR | RW | Number of the disk sector which should be read/written. |

| | | | |
|------|---------|----|---|
| 0x10 | DMAADDR | RW | Start address of the memory buffer which will be used for sector reads and writes. The size of the buffer is the same as the size of the disk sector and addressing is 0x00000000-based unmapped. |
|------|---------|----|---|

The following table describes the status bits of a disk device:

| BIT | NAME | DESCRIPTION |
|-----|-------|--|
| 0 | RBUSY | The disk is busy reading from disk to memory. |
| 1 | WBUSY | The disk is busy writing from memory to disk. |
| 2 | RIRQ | The disk has finished a read operation and generated an IRQ. The IRQ line is held raised by the disk while this bit is set. |
| 3 | WIRQ | The disk has finished a write operation and generated an IRQ. The IRQ line is held raised by the disk while this bit is set. |
| 27 | ISECT | The sector number given to a read/write request is invalid. |
| 28 | IADDR | The address given to a read/write request did not reside entirely in physical memory. |
| 29 | ICOMM | The last command issued to the COMMAND port was unrecognized. |
| 30 | EBUSY | The last command issued to the COMMAND port could not be handled because the disk was busy. |
| 31 | ERROR | Undefined error in the device. The disk is to be considered unusable if this bit is set. |

The commands that can be issued to a disk device through the COMMAND port are listed in the following table. Status changes caused by the command will be visible in the status register before the next clock cycle (like in normal memory writes on MIPS32 architecture).

| | |
|------|--|
| 0x01 | Begin read operation. Will begin a transfer from the sector TSECTOR to the buffer addresses by DMAADDR. An IRQ is generated on completion. |
| 0x02 | Begin write operation. Will begin a transfer from the buffer addressed by DMAADDR to the sector TSECTOR. An IRQ is generated on completion. |
| 0x03 | Reset RIRQ. Will clear the RIRQ bit, indicating that the IRQ generated has been handled. This will cause the disk to not raise the IRQ line any further unless there is another IRQ pending (should never happen). |
| 0x04 | Reset WIRQ. Acts similarly to the RIRQ resetting. |

| | |
|------|---|
| 0x05 | Get number of sectors in the disk, returned in DATA. |
| 0x06 | Get sector size in bytes, returned in DATA. |
| 0x07 | Get sectors per cylinder, returned in DATA. |
| 0x08 | Get disk rotation period in simulated milliseconds, returned in DATA. |
| 0x09 | Get disk full seek time in simulated milliseconds, returned in DATA. |

Using a disk in the OS is very simple. A thread wanting to write to a disk will first reserve the disk for itself. Then it will write the disk sector and the DMA transfer buffer address to TSECTOR and DMAADDR and issue a request for write operation to COMMAND. It should then check if there were any errors. If no errors occurred, the thread will go to sleep.

When the operation is finished, the disk will raise an interrupt. The interrupt handler should then wake up the thread that has reserved the disk and reset the WIRQ bit. The thread will then release the disk reservation and go about its business.

Reading from the disk is done similarly.

See [Section 3.3 \[Configuring the Disk\]](#), page 4.

6.4.11 Network interface cards

Only network cards with device type code 0x401 are covered in this section.

A network interface card functions very much like the disk, except of course it will make IRQs on its own when packets arrive.

A NIC is "fully full duplex", meaning it has both a receive and a send buffer which can be used simultaneously ie. a frame can be received while sending is in progress. When a frame is received in the receive buffer it must be then DMA transferred to main memory before the next frame can be received.

A network interface card has the following I/O ports:

| OFFSET | NAME | R/W | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|---------|-----|--|
| 0x00 | STATUS | R | Status bits for the network device. |
| 0x04 | COMMAND | W | Port for issuing commands to the NIC. |
| 0x08 | HWADDR | R | Link level address of the NIC. |
| 0x0C | MTU | R | Maximum transfer unit of the NIC in bytes. |
| 0x10 | DMAADDR | RW | Start address of the memory buffer which will be used for frame sends and receives. The size of the buffer is the size of the MTU and addressing is 0x00000000-based unmapped. |

The frames (or packets, since there is no trailer, but the term frame is used in this document) send to the network have the structure defined in the following table. Note that

the addresses are in network byte order, which is big-endian (since YAMS is also big-endian by default, this is no problem).

| OFFSET | SIZE | NAME | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|--------|---------|--|
| 0x00 | 1 word | DSTADDR | Link level address of the destination in network byte order. |
| 0x04 | 1 word | SRCADDR | Link level address of the sender in network byte order. |
| 0x08 | MTU-8 | PAYLOAD | Link level payload, can be up to MTU - 8 bytes. The payload length is not defined here, it can be defined in the headers of the higher level protocol. The full MTU is always transferred by the hardware. |

Network device status bits are described in the following table

| BIT | NAME | DESCRIPTION |
|-----|---------|---|
| 0 | RXBUSY | The receive buffer is either receiving a frame or one has been received but not yet transferred to memory. If this bit is set new frames cannot be received. This bit must be cleared manually with the ready to receive command. |
| 1 | RBUSY | The NIC is transferring a frame from the receive buffer to memory. |
| 2 | SBUSY | The NIC is transferring a frame from memory to the send buffer. |
| 3 | RXIRQ | The NIC has received a frame and generated an IRQ. The frame is ready to be transferred from the receive buffer. |
| 4 | RIRQ | A DMA transfer from the receive buffer to memory has completed and an IRQ was generated. |
| 5 | SIRQ | A DMA transfer from memory to the send buffer was completed and an IRQ was generated. |
| 6 | PROMISC | The NIC is in promiscuous mode, receiving all frames instead of just those addressed to it. |

| | | |
|----|---------|--|
| 27 | NOFRAME | There is no frame available in the receive buffer but a read transfer was requested. |
| 28 | IADDR | The DMA address given did not reside entirely in physical memory. |
| 29 | ICOMM | The last command issued to the COMMAND port was unrecognized. |
| 30 | EBUSY | The last command issued to the COMMAND port could not be handled because the NIC was busy. |
| 31 | ERROR | Undefined error in the device. The NIC is to be considered unusable if this bit is set. |

When a DMA transfer from memory to the send buffer is requested, the NIC will wait for the send buffer to be available (the previous transmit completed) before doing the actual transfer and then begin transmitting the transferred frame. That is why there is no IRQ after the frame has actually been transmitted into the network.

Available commands for a NIC are listed in the following table

| | |
|------|---|
| 0x01 | Start a DMA transfer from the receive buffer to the memory buffer addressed by DMAADDR. |
| 0x02 | Start a DMA transfer from the memory buffer addressed by DMAADDR into the send buffer. |
| 0x03 | Clear the RXIRQ bit, indicating that the interrupt has been handled and the NIC need not generate it any more for this frame. |
| 0x04 | Clear the RIRQ bit. |
| 0x05 | Clear the SIRQ bit. |
| 0x06 | Clear the RXBUSY bit. This tells the NIC that it can now receive a new frame into the receive buffer. |
| 0x07 | Enter promiscuous mode. |
| 0x08 | Exit promiscuous mode. |

A typical interrupt handler for a NIC works as follows. When a frame is received (RXIRQ) the handler will request a DMA transfer from the NIC into the memory buffer allocated for incoming frames. It will then clear the RXIRQ bit. When the DMA transfer is completed and the NIC generates an IRQ (RIRQ), the handler will do with the received frame whatever it needs to and then clear both RXBUSY and RIRQ bits.

When a frame needs to be sent, the sending thread will reserve the NIC and check if SBUSY bit is set. If set, the thread will go to sleep. When SBUSY is cleared (frame send complete), the interrupt handler will wake up the waiting thread. The thread will then request a send operation and check for errors. It can then exit, there is no need for the sending thread to wait for anything after this.

See [Section 3.5 \[Configuring the Network\]](#), page 5.

7 How to build cross-compiling GCC

Building a cross compiler has really nothing to do with YAMS. Since one is needed to generate code for YAMS unless a native MIPS32 compiler is used, here are short instructions for building GCC 4.0.2 as a cross-compiler for MIPS32 (actually MIPS ISA 2).

7.1 How to build a GCC cross-compiler and binutils

To build binaries for the YAMS simulator, a C compiler and assembler is needed. These are provided by the GNU binutils (<http://sources.redhat.com/binutils/>) and GCC (<http://gcc.gnu.org/>) packages. Binutils is needed mainly for the GNU assembler and linker, but the others can be quite useful too.

You do not necessarily need a cross compiler to create code for YAMS, any native compiler generating 32-bit big-endian MIPS code should do the job.

These instructions are tested on binutils 2.16 and 2.16.1, gcc 3.4.3 and 4.0.2; they should work for newer versions also. The use of GNU make (gmake) is recommended, the build may fail if using other make. Since we only need a C compiler for Buenos, the gcc-core package is used here. The full package can also be used with these instructions, but enabling other languages may or may not work.

Download the tarballs to a suitable empty directory and do the following:

```
#!/bin/sh

# Extract the packages
gunzip -c binutils-2.16.1.tar.gz | tar xf -
gunzip -c gcc-core-4.0.2.tar.gz | tar xf -

TARGET=mips-elf
PREFIX=/u/projects/buenos/util/sparc

# Build in a separate directory
mkdir build-binutils
cd build-binutils
../binutils-2.16.1/configure --target=$TARGET --prefix=$PREFIX -v
gmake all

gmake install

PATH=$PREFIX/bin:$PATH
export PATH

cd ..
mkdir build-gcc
cd build-gcc
../gcc-4.0.2/configure --with-gnu-ld --with-gnu-as --without-nls
```

```
--enable-languages=c --disable-multilib --target=$TARGET --prefix=$PREFIX -v  
gmake all
```

```
gmake install
```

As can be seen, the format chosen for the object files is ELF, since it is about the only one supported by gcc on MIPS target. You may of course choose any format you like. However, YAMS only supports loading ELF executables or raw binary files, and ELF is the format used by Buenos userland programs.

PREFIX is naturally the directory under which the software should be installed. When installed, the cross-compiler binaries are found as "\$PREFIX/\$TARGET/bin/*" and "\$PREFIX/bin/\$TARGET-*". TARGET is the architecture/platform to cross-compile to. Specifying mips-elf will produce MIPS big-endian code in ELF format, mipsel-elf would produce MIPS little-endian code in ELF.

PREFIX should be same for both binutils and GCC. If you want to use different prefixes you must also give configure the option '--with-as=\$BINUTILPREFIX/bin/mips-elf-as' when building GCC.

8 GDB remote debugging interface

GDB remote debugging interface allows you to use GDB debugging facilities with a process (e.g., `buenos`) run inside YAMS simulator. The GDB interface is partly an alternative to the YAMS command console. See [Chapter 5 \[Command Console\]](#), page 9.

8.1 Setup

First, obtain the GDB source code. The official home page is <http://www.gnu.org/software/gdb/>. We have tested GDB version 7.2. After fetching the source code and unpacking you have to compile GDB with the target `mips-elf`:

```
$ tar zxvf gdb-7.2.tar.gz
$ cd gdb-7.2
$ ./configure --target=mips-elf --prefix=/path/to/your/target/dir
$ make
$ make install
```

If the compilation and installation was successful, there should be a `mips-elf-gdb` binary in your `prefix/bin` directory.

8.2 Starting

The GDB remote debugging interface is executed by giving a command line switch to `yams` once the binary is started. The remote debugging is enabled by starting `yams` binary with the switch `-gdb port`, where `port` is the tcp port where `yams` listens to tcp connections from GDB. After this you have to start the `mips-elf-gdb` and setup the connection. For example, here is how you would start the debugging session with `buenos` and `yams` listening in tcp port 1500 for remote GDB connections.

```
$ cd buenos
$ yams --gdb 1500 buenos testconsole
YAMS - Yet Another Machine Simulator 1.3.0
```

```
Copyright (C) 2002-2006 Juha Aatrokoski, Timo Lilja, Leena Salmela,
  Teemu Takanen, Aleksi Virtanen
```

```
Yams comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY; This is free software,
and you are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions;
see the file COPYING for details.
```

```
Starting on a little endian host.
Simulating big endian machine.
Reading configuration from
'/home/tlilja/work/buenos/buenos/buenos/yams.conf'
Connecting to TTY at Unix Domain Socket 'tty0.socket'
TTY connection established
gdb interface listening on port 1500
```

The last line from YAMS indicates that the simulation is stopped and the gdb interface is listening on tcp port 1500. Now we can start the gdb with buenos binary as its argument. We have to give gdb the command `target remote:port` so that the gdb can contact yams.

```
$ cd buenos
$ mips-elf-gdb buenos
GNU gdb 6.4
Copyright 2005 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
GDB is free software, covered by the GNU General Public License, ...
[...]
This GDB was configured as "--host=i686-pc-linux-gnu --target=mips-elf"...
(gdb) target remote localhost:1500
Remote debugging using localhost:1500
0x80010004 in _start () at init/_boot.S:47
47          _FETCH_CPU_NUM(t0)
```

From the last line you can see that the YAMS simulator has been interrupted when the kernel was in the `_start`. See the next section for more examples on how to use the gdb interface. See [Section 8.3 \[Using\], page 42](#).

8.3 Using

Refer to the GDB manual for details on using the debugger. Here we give brief overview of few of the features available.

Yams supports number of concurrent CPUS that are mapped to threads in GDB, you can access them with `info threads` command, the active thread is marked with `'*'`:

```
(gdb) info threads
 4 Thread 4  0x80010004 in _start () at init/_boot.S:47
 3 Thread 3  0x80010004 in _start () at init/_boot.S:47
 2 Thread 2  0x80010004 in _start () at init/_boot.S:47
 * 1 Thread 1  0x80010004 in _start () at init/_boot.S:47
```

You can switch active CPU with `thread` command and show the contents of the registers with `info` command:

```
(gdb) thread 2
[...]
(gdb) info registers
      zero      at      v0      v1      a0      a1      a2      a3
R0  00000000  00000000  00000000  00000000  00000000  00000000  00000000  00000000
[...]

```

To show the source code, use the `list` command:

```
(gdb) l
2          .ent    _start
43
44     _start:
45         # If we are running on another CPU than 0, wait until CPU 0
46         # has initialized the system
47         _FETCH_CPU_NUM(t0)
```

```

48          bnez    t0, init_wait_loop
49
50          # Only CPU 0 runs these
51          li      sp, 0x8000fffc    # Initialize SP

```

To set a hardware breakpoint and continue execution until the breakpoint is hit use `hbreak` and `continue` commands (Note that only a single HW breakpoint are currently supported):

```

(gdb) hbreak scheduler_schedule
Hardware assisted breakpoint 1 at 0x80012400: file kernel/scheduler.c, line 192.
(gdb) cont
Continuing.
Can't send signals to this remote system.  SIGHUP not sent.

Program received signal SIGTRAP, Trace/breakpoint trap.
0x80011624 in interrupt_handle (cause=16384) at kernel/interrupt.c:171
171          if (interrupt_handlers[i].device == NULL)

```

The GDB reports only the active CPU's position when the breakpoint is hit, use `info threads` to verify that they are actually in `scheduler_schedule`.

To examine a variables value, use the `print` command:

```

(gdb) p thread_table
$1 = {{context = 0x0, user_context = 0x0, state = THREAD_FREE, sleeps_on = 0,
      pagetable = 0x0, process_id = 0, next = 0, dummy_alignment_fill = {0, 0,
      0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0}} <repeats 32 times>}

```

To kill the simulation:

```

(gdb) kill
Kill the program being debugged? (y or n) y

```

This will also exit `yams` simulation.

8.4 Shortcomings

- Signals and exceptions (e.g. division by zero exception) are not caught or reported to the gdb interface
- Only single hardware breakpoint is supported due to the limitations of `yams`
 - since signals cannot be reported to the GDB there is no way to support software breakpoints or data watch points
- There is no access for the MIPS CP0, use `yams` hardware console for that
- CTRL-C does not work in YAMS console if GDB interface is run but you can use CTRL-C or break signal in GDB to stop the simulation and trap the control to the GDB
- Buenos should be compiled with `-O0` flag or the optimizations will clobber GDB's source display
- Single-stepping via `step` or `next` commands are not working
- GDB `detach` is not supported

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