Using the Yocto Autobuilder for Build and Release Management

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My Experience

- PCB/Schematic Design
- Das U-boot
- uClinux-dist
- Linux Kernel Drivers
- Open Source Tools
- Yocto Project Tools: poky, bitbake, etc.
Talk Based on Dora Version

- Still using autobuilder from June 2014
- Technical debt due to priorities
- Bug fixes have been backported
Build and Release Management

Why Autobuilder?

Complex code requires continuous integration
• Many opportunities for mistakes
  – local.conf
  – Multiple layers
  – .bbappend’s

You need official, clean builds of your source
Yocto Project’s Autobuilder

- Buildbot adapted for use with the poky/oe-core
- Layer Retrieval
- Buildsteps for
  - Configuration files
  - Bitbake targets
  - Publishing artifacts
**Waterfall**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>last build</th>
<th>nightly failed BitbakeSelftest</th>
<th>eclipse-plugin-neon exception</th>
<th>eclipse-plugin-mars exception</th>
<th>nightly-arm build successful</th>
<th>nightly-arm64 build successful</th>
<th>nightly-arm-lsb build successful</th>
<th>nightly-mips build successful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>current activity</td>
<td>idle</td>
<td>idle</td>
<td>idle</td>
<td>idle</td>
<td>idle</td>
<td>idle</td>
<td>idle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTC</td>
<td>changes</td>
<td>nightly</td>
<td>eclipse-plugin-neon</td>
<td>eclipse-plugin-mars</td>
<td>nightly-arm</td>
<td>nightly-arm64</td>
<td>nightly-arm-lsb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:24:21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:22:50</td>
<td>Creating Current Link stdio</td>
<td>Sending QA Email stdio</td>
<td>triggered</td>
<td>trigger_buildhistory</td>
<td>trigger_buildhistory_nowait</td>
<td>Sending error reports stdio</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Controller and Workers

- One Controller commands Nine Workers

Our smaller scale project has 1:1
What is a job

builders: 'example-worker'
repos: [{'poky':
  {'repourl': 'git://git.yoctoproject.org/poky',
   'layerversion': {'core': 'meta', 'yoctobsp': 'meta-yocto-bsp', 'yocto': 'meta-yocto',
                    'poky': 'meta-poky'},
   'branch': 'master'}},
<SNIP>
steps: [{'SetDest':{}},
{'CheckOutLayers': {}},
{'RunPreamble': {}},
{'GetDistroVersion': {'distro': 'poky'}},
{'CreateAutoConf': {'machine': 'imx53qsb', 'SDKMACHINE': 'x86_64',
<SNIP>
  {'BuildImages': {'images': 'core-image-sato core-image-sato-dev core-image-sato-sdk core-image-minimal core-image-minimal-dev'}},
scheduler: [{'nightly-scheduler':
   {'type': 'Nightly', 'hour': '2', 'minute': '0',}]}]
23 example jobs on the official

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>nightly-arm.conf</th>
<th>nightly-world.conf</th>
<th>nightly-qa-pam.conf</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>nightly-deb.conf</td>
<td>nightly-x32.conf</td>
<td>nightly-qa-skeleton.conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nightly-ipk.conf</td>
<td>nightly-x86.conf</td>
<td>nightly-qa-systemd.conf</td>
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<td>nightly-rpm.conf</td>
<td>poky-tiny.conf</td>
<td>nightly-qa-targetbuilds.conf</td>
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<td>nightly-multilib.conf</td>
<td>nightly-x86-64.conf</td>
<td>buildtools.conf</td>
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<tr>
<td>nightly-oe-build-perf-test.conf</td>
<td>nightly-qa-distro.conf</td>
<td>eclipse-plugin-neon.conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nightly-oe-selftest.conf</td>
<td>nightly-qa-extras.conf</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nightly-oecore.conf</td>
<td>nightly-qa-logrotate.conf</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

images

qa

Build tools
Our Jobs

Create your own jobs based on source tree examples

- Nightly
  - Populate recipe downloads
- Qemux86
  - Sanity check
- Product image - master
- Product image - stable
- Project RPM Build
Repos: Combining Upstream and Local Layers

poky

meta-fsl-arm

meta-syntech

V1.0 20170210-1

V1.1 20170215-1

V1.2 20170221-1

dora-10.0.1 1.5
Job Example - “repos:”

- Upstream Layers (low delta)
  - Maintainers tie revisions to poky releases

```json

{"meta-fsl-arm":
  {'repourl':
    'git://github.com/Freescale/meta-fsl-arm.git',
    'hash': 'af392c22bf6b563525ede4a81b6755ff1dd2c1c6'},

- In-house Layers (high delta)

{"meta-syntech":
  {'repourl':
    'git://tux1/git/meta-syntech.git',
    'branch': 'master'}
```
Layer Checkout Scripts for Developers

- **Developer Script**
  - Matches repo section of autobuilder job
  - Clones fixed upstream and local HEAD

- **Release Script**
  - Saves SRCREV of local and upstream repos
  - Tracked in source control for reproducibility
Custom Buildstep: ReleaseSyntech.py

Automates release activities

- Convert SRCREV from PublishLayerTarballs to Release Script
- Perform Release actions on local layer copies in builds
  - Create git tags (like v1.0) for reference
  - Commit release script
  - Image version bump (within recipe)
- Release Manager pushes repo’s if autobuilder artifacts are accepted
Using `TEMPLATECONF` for Build Configuration

- First step "`. oe-init-build-env" pulls default `bblayers.conf` and `local.conf`
- Control `local.conf` and `bblayers.conf` in source control
- From dir `poky`:

  `TEMPLATECONF=../meta-syntech-bsp/conf . oe-init-build-env`

- From layer specified in `TEMPLATECONF`:
  - `local.conf.sample` → `build/conf/local.conf`
  - `bblayers.conf.sample` → `build/conf/bblayers.conf`
TEMPLATECONF:
Buildstep: RunPreamble

• RunPreamble
  – Calls . oe-init-build-env

• RunPreambleSyntech
  – Customizes by adding TEMPLATECONF
  – There is a new altcmd in RunPreamble (post dora)

• Note: auto.conf allows autobuilder specific config
  – Comes before settings in local.conf
Bulk of the code is for the official autobuilder

```python
for artifact in self.artifacts:
    ...
    if artifact == "adt-installer":
        ...
    elif "eclipse-plugin" in artifact:
        ...
    else:
        command += self.generateMD5cmd(artifact, deploy_image_dir)
        if "beagle" in artifact:
```
PublishArtifactsSyntech.py

- Much of the Yocto code is N/A to our needs
- Deploys everything in deploy/images by default
  - core-image-sato-mx6sabresd.ext3 →
    core-image-sato-mx6sabresd-20170217152000.ext3
- For release, we only use a subset of the build artifacts
  - U-boot binary
  - Device tree
  - Linux Kernel
  - Specific File System Image
Buildstep Coding Tips
Mapping Config to Buildsteps

• Code Path from Environment to Python
  – config/autobuilder.conf
  – autobuilder/buildset.py (converts ENV to python)
  – buildsteps/SomeAction.py

• yocto-autobuilder-setup matches many searches, but it’s all placeholders
Buildstep Coding Tips
The Shell Code Within

• Typical buildstep shell code
command = "cd " + self.workdir + ";
command += "cp * " + self.output + ";"

• Output is viewable on autobuilder buildstep logs

• Example output (off the browser screen):
  cd /home/jate/yocto-autobuilder/yocto-worker/example ; cp *
Buildstep Coding Tips
The Shell Code Within

• Add carriage returns for readability

```python
command = "cd " + self.workdir + "\n"
command += "cp * " + self.output + "\n"
```

• Improved output:

```bash
cd /home/jate/yocto-autobuilder/yocto-worker/example
cp * /tmp/yab/output
```
Speed Builds by Populating Premirrors with Yocto Autobuilder

- Pre-Mirror sstate_cache/downloads treated as read-only by developer builds
- Developer builds symlink to premirror first
- autobuilder.conf: Tell YAB to use premirror SSTATE_CACHE and DL_DIR
- Autobuilder jobs will populate the pre-mirrors
Autobuilder Maintenance
Disk Space

• Cronjob to clean

  * 6 * * * clean.sh

  find /tmp/publish/machine -maxdepth 1 -type d
  -ctime +5d -exec rm -rf {} \;

• Cleaning of sstate-cache

  sstate-cache-management.sh

• Protip: Windows does not support symbolic links, and makes full copies
Configuration Storage

Store your configuration in the autobuilder git tree

- buildset-config.syntech
- controller.cfg
  - Web GUI accounts
- autobuilder.conf
  - Environment variables
Tips & Tricks
Trigger Build Off Project GIT

Nightly Image Builds Were Too Infrequent

- Added git-poller Scheduler (backported 4 commits)
- auto.conf hack: Change recipe to pull from the master of its SRC_URI

```json
{ 'CreateAutoConf': {...
    'atextappend': ...
    'SRCREV_pn-recipe = "${AUTOREV}\n"
    'PV_append_pn-recipe = "+git${SRCPV}\n"

(Bitbake order of variable flags)```
Tips & Tricks
buildhistory

- Buildhistory bbclass outputs build data to a git repository
  - File name, sizes, modes
  - Package Data
- Add a tag for comparison between versions
Future Tasks
Deal With External Layer Outages

• External Layer Repositories
  – github.com/Freescale
  – git.freescale.com
  – git.yoctoproject.org

• Network Problems
  – Attack on DNS github.com
  – Local IT Issues
Future Tasks
Mirror for External Layers

- config/autobuilder.conf
  - OGIT_MIRROR_DIR

- ResolveLayers.py, Buildset.py
  - Did not support mirrors

- CheckOutLayers
  - {'CheckOutLayers': {'clobberOnFailure': True}}
    - Updates, but hacked _fetch function to allow git fetch failure

- Work In Progress
  - Method = fresh, mode = full?
  - Need to populate the mirror directory
Future Tasks
Combine “repos:” and checkout scripts

- Avoid errors converting between the two
- Simple conversion between “repo:” section and checkout script
- Utilize bitbake or buildbot yoctogit libraries
Future Tasks
PR Service

- Autobuilder ideal as the source for package feeds
- Run the service bitbake-prserv
- Specify PRSERV_HOST in auto.conf
- Back up database using
  - bitbake-prserver-tool export
Future Tasks
Automated Runtime Testing

- Mega Manual Section: Performing Automated Runtime Testing
- Runs QA tests like Yocto Project’s Autobuilder Does
- Dora: Python code executes commands on a QEMU instance
- Newer releases allow you to run on target hardware
Thank You

Questions?