

# Adding support for PoE

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## Embedded Linux engineer at Bootlin

- Embedded Linux, U-Boot, Linux kernel, Yocto, Buildroot expertise
- Development, consulting and training
- Strong open-source focus
- Open-source contributor
- Living in Toulouse, France



### Introduction to Power over Ethernet

- Principles and advantages
- IEEE 802.3 Standards
- Hardware description
- PSE Basic processes
- Power classification and class detection
- Adding support for PoE in Linux
  - What's existing?
  - Linux Netlink UAPI
  - Linux Devicetree Bindings
  - Usage of regulators framework
- Future features in the pipeline



# What is Power over Ethernet

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- Power a device on twisted Ethernet pairs alongside data
- Remove the needs of power cable for Ethernet devices like VoIP Phone, IP Camera, router ...
- Power can be applied over 2 Ethernet pairs or 4 Ethernet pairs (PoE4 - 802.3bt standard)





- Cost saving: no electricians needed anymore!
- Simple and flexible: one cable!
- No AC external power needed -> safer and no need for electrical certification!
- Reset easily the powered devices



Powered Device (PD)



## Clause 33

- Power over 2 Ethernet pairs
- IEEE 802.3af-2003
  - Power up to 15.4 W
- IEEE 802.3at-2009
  - Power up to 25.5 W for Type 2 and Class 4 devices
- Initially named Power via Media Dependent Interface
- Renamed to Power over Ethernet in IEEE 802.3 2022
- Clause 145
  - Power over 4 Ethernet pairs
  - IEEE 802.3bt-2018
    - Power up to 71.3 W for Type 4 and Class 8 devices

Hardware Power Sourcing Equipment (PSE) description

- Power source over 2/4 Ethernet pairs
  - One/two wire pair(s) for source current
  - One/two wire pair(s) for return current
- Ethernet are designed to work over long distance
  - Isolation transformers may be used on each pair to avoid disturbance



Hardware Powered Devices (PD) description

- Always 4 ports devices to be able to receive power on either pairset in either polarity
- Single signature if bridge outputs are combined, dual signature if separated (less common)



Power Interface (PI) pairsets and polarity

## RJ45 (8P8C)

- 8 connectors -> 4 pairs (4 colors)
- Straight-throught cable or Crossover cable



Power Interface (PI) pairsets and polarity

## RJ45 (8P8C)

- 8 connectors -> 4 pairs (4 colors)
- Straight-throught cable or Crossover cable
- Pairset: one wire pair for source current, one wire pair for return current
- 4 configurations possible with PoE2, plus two considering PoE4
- Pairsets references to Mode A or Mode B on PD side

Conductor	Alternative A (MDI-X)	Alternative A (MDI)	Alternative B(X)	Alternative B(S)
1	Negative V <sub>PSE</sub>	Positive V <sub>PSE</sub>		-
2	Negative V <sub>PSE</sub>	Positive V <sub>PSE</sub>		
3	Positive V <sub>PSE</sub>	Negative V <sub>PSE</sub>		-
4	_	-	Negative V <sub>PSE</sub>	Positive V <sub>PSE</sub>
5	_		Negative VPSE	Positive VPSE
6	Positive V <sub>PSE</sub>	Negative V <sub>PSE</sub>		_
7	-	-	Positive V <sub>PSE</sub>	Negative V <sub>PSE</sub>
8	-		Positive V <sub>PSE</sub>	Negative V <sub>PSE</sub>



### Ethernet Devices plugged

- Discriminating Powered Devices from other devices that might be damaged if PoE voltages were applied
- Assessing the basic power requirements
- Conducting mutual discovery and power negotiation
- Supporting surge (or inrush) power required to start up the PD
- Powered Devices at runtime
  - Supporting peak power demands from the PD
  - Supporting link-layer (LLPD) for specific configurations
  - Reacting to PD's that are drawing more power than they should
  - Supporting unbalanced load currents between pairsets
  - Limiting maximum possible current for safety
- Ethernet Devices unplugged
  - Remove power quickly enough



## PoE detection and classification

### Detection

- Periodic low-voltage pulse between 2.8V and 10V
- Measurement of Rdet





## PoE detection and classification

## Detection

- Periodic low-voltage pulse between 2.8V and 10V
- Measurement of Rdet
- Classification
  - Series of one to five short pulses called "class events" between 15.5V and 20.5V
  - Current draw variation of the PD on these pulses



Figure 2.6 PD Classification under the 802.3at Specification

Pro Pr

## PoE detection and classification

## Detection

- Periodic low-voltage pulse between 2.8V and 10V
- Measurement of Rdet
- Classification
  - Series of one to five short pulses called "class events" between 15.5V and 20.5V
  - Current draw variation of the PD on these pulses
  - One long first class event for Type 3 and 4 PSEs (Class > 4)



Figure 2.7 PD Classification under the 802.3bt Specification



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PD Class	Events 1 & 2	Events 3-5	Power Request at the PD	Units
Class 1	10.5 mA		3.84	Watts Total on
Class 2	18.5 mA		6.5	2-Pairs or 4-Pairs
Class 3	28.0 mA		13.0	
Class 4	40.0 mA		25.5	
Class 5	40.0 mA	2.5 mA	40.0	Watts Total on
Class 6	40.0 mA	10.5 mA	51.0	4-Pairs
Class 7	40.0 mA	18.5 mA	62.0	
Class 8	40.0 mA	28.0 mA	71.3	
Class 1 (Dual)	10.5 mA	2.5 mA	3.94	Watts per Pairset
Class 2 (Dual)	18.5 mA	2.5 mA	6.5	
Class 3 (Dual)	28.0 mA	2.5 mA	13.0	
Class 4 (Dual)	40.0 mA	2.5 mA	25.5	
Class 5 (Dual)	40.0 mA	28.0 mA	35.6	



Class	Usage	Classification current (mA)	Power range at PD (W)	Max power from PSE (W)	Class description					
0	Default	0-5	0.44-12.94	15.4	Classification unimplemented					
1	Optional	8-13	0.44-3.84	4.00	Very Low power					
2	Optional	16-21	3.84-6.49	7.00	Low power					
3	Optional	25-31	6.49-12.95	15.4	Mid power					
4	Valid for Type 2 (802.3at) devices, not allowed for 802.3af devices	35-45	12.95-25.50	30	High power					
5	Valid for Type 3 (802.3bt)	36-44 & 1-4	40 (4-pair)	45						
6	devices	36-44 & 9-12	51 (4-pair)	60						
7	Valid for Type 4 (802.3bt)	36-44 & 17-20	62 (4-pair)	75						
8	devices	36-44 & 26-30	71.3 (4-pair)	99						

#### Power levels available<sup>[40][41]</sup>



# PoE Linux support

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## poed - https://github.com/dentproject/poed

- Userspace tool written in python
- Need to install python on the target
- Only support pd69200 controller
- ▶ No generic support of PoE, each constructor has its own example of code
- https://www.ti.com/product/TPS23881#software-development

- ▶ PoDL (IEEE 802.3 clause 30) is like PoE for Single-Pair Ethernet
- PoDL was added to Linux at the end of 2022 thanks to Oleksij Rempel
- PoDL has similar behavior as PoE in its PSE management
  - Core PSE framework support
  - Netlink UAPI description following the IEEE 802.3 standards
  - Ethtool PoDL support
- Simple PSE PoDL regulator driver and bindings added



PoE development not yet merged mainline, currently in its ninth version

- https://lore.kernel.org/r/20240417-feature\_poe-v9-0-242293fd1900@bootlin.com
- Adds support for two PSE controller drivers
  - Microchip PD692x0
  - TI TPS23881

## Linux PoE Netlink UAPI

Enhance netlink UAPI with PoE messages following the standards

```
a/include/uapi/linux/ethtool netlink.h
+++ b/include/uapi/linux/ethtool netlink.h
@@ -895,6 +895,9 @@ enum {
        ETHTOOL A PODL PSE ADMIN STATE.
                                                /* u32 */
        ETHTOOL A PODL PSE ADMIN CONTROL.
                                               /* 1132 */
        ETHTOOL A_PODL_PSE_PW_D_STATUS,
                                               /* u32 */
        ETHTOOL_A_C33_PSE_ADMIN_STATE,
                                               /* u32 */
        ETHTOOL A C33 PSE ADMIN CONTROL.
                                               /* u32 */
        ETHTOOL & C33 PSE PW D STATUS.
                                                /* u32 */
   a/include/uapi/linux/ethtool.h
+++ b/include/uapi/linux/ethtool.h
+enum ethtool_c33_pse_admin_state {
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE ADMIN STATE UNKNOWN = 1.
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE ADMIN STATE DISABLED.
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE ADMIN STATE ENABLED.
+};
+enum ethtool_c33_pse_pw_d_status {
        ETHTOOL C33_PSE_PW_D_STATUS_UNKNOWN = 1,
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE PW D STATUS DISABLED.
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE PW D STATUS SEARCHING.
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE PW D STATUS DELIVERING.
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE PW D STATUS TEST.
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE PW D STATUS FAULT.
        ETHTOOL C33 PSE PW D STATUS OTHERFAULT.
+};
```



PoDL PI composed by only one pair -> does not need much information

The PSE port number is enough

```
pse_t1l1: ethernet-pse {
   compatible = "podl-pse-foo-controller";
   pse=supply = <&reg_t1l1>;
   #pse-cells = <1>;
};
&ethernet_phy1 {
   pses = <&pse_t1l1 0>;
}
&ethernet_phy2 {
   pses = <&pse_t1l1 1>;
}
```

Linux PSE PoE devicetree binding

The PoE PI has more information due to the 4 pairs:

PSE Port number, pairset configuration, polarity supported

```
ethernet-pse@20 {
  compatible = "ti.tps23881":
  reg = <0x20>;
  channels {
    #address-cells = <1>:
    #size-cells = <0>:
    phys0: channel@0 {
      reg = <0>:
    3:
    phys1: channel@1 {
      reg = <1>:
    3:
    phys2: channel@2 {
      reg = <2>:
```

```
pse-pis {
    #address-cells = <1>:
    #size-cells = <0>;
    pse pi0: pse-pi@0 {
      reg = <0>:
      \#pse-cells = \langle 0 \rangle:
      pairset-names = "alternative-a". "alternative-b":
      pairsets = <&phys0>, <&phys1>;
      polarity-supported = "MDI". "S":
      vpwr-supply = <&vpwr>;
    pse_pi1: pse-pi@1 {
      reg = <1>;
      \#pse-cells = <0>:
      pairset-names = "alternative-a":
      pairsets = <&phys2>:
      polarity-supported = "MDI";
      vpwr-supply = <&vpwr>:
   };
  };
&ethernet_phv0 {
  pses = <&pse_pi0>;
&ethernet_phv1 {
  pses = <&pse pi1>:
```



## PSE is like a regulator but for Ethernet devices

- Add code complexity with function wrappers
- Benefit from the already written regulator API
  - Power limit
  - Power/voltage status
  - Temperature limit
  - Sysfs description
- New features like power priorities could also benefit regulator API

Usage of regulator framework

```
static int
devm_pse_pi_regulator_register(struct pse_controller_dev *pcdev,
                               char *name, int id)
       rdesc \rightarrow id = id;
       rdesc->name = name;
       rdesc \rightarrow type = REGULATOR_CURRENT;
       rdesc->ops = &pse_pi_ops;
       rdesc->owner = pcdev->owner;
       rinit_data->constraints.valid_ops_mask = REGULATOR_CHANGE_STATUS;
       rinit_data->supply_regulator = "vpwr";
       rconfig.dev = pcdev -> dev;
       rconfig.driver_data = pcdev;
       rconfig.init_data = rinit_data;
       rdev = devm_regulator_register(pcdev->dev, rdesc, &rconfig);
       pcdev->pi[id].rdev = rdev;
       return 0:
```



Usage of regulator framework

```
static int pse_ethtool_c33_set_config(struct pse_control *psec,
                                     const struct pse_control_config *config)
       int err = 0:
       /* Look at admin state enabled status to not call regulator enable
        * or regulator_disable twice creating a regulator counter mismatch
        */
       switch (config->c33_admin_control) {
       case ETHTOOL C33 PSE ADMIN STATE ENABLED:
               if (!psec->pcdev->pi[psec->id].admin state enabled)
                       err = regulator_enable(psec->ps);
               break:
       case ETHTOOL C33 PSE ADMIN STATE DISABLED:
               if (psec->pcdev->pi[psec->id].admin_state_enabled)
                       err = regulator_disable(psec->ps);
               break:
       default.
               err = -EOPNOTSUPP:
       return err:
```



# What's next?

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Lack of a Linux Ethernet port abstraction

### Linux current state with this PoE development

- The PHY driver gets the PSE PI
- No way to get a PSE from a Network Interface Card driver
- The PSE PIs regulator provider and consumer are currently the same
- ▶ In reality the PSE PIs are only related to the RJ45 ports
- Maxime Chevallier is working on the Linux Ethernet port abstraction



- Set and read Power limit
- Read power and/or voltage status
- Read PoE class
- Read failure reason
- Configure PSE port priority
- Configure persistent configuration



## Demo time!

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- https://www.poepower.net/
- Sponsored by Dent Project

# Questions? Suggestions? Comments?

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https://bootlin.com/pub/conferences/2024/eoss/maincent-adding-support-for-poe/maincent-addingsupport-for-poe.pdf