Arm[®] Streamline

Version 7.4

Target Setup Guide for Android



Arm® Streamline

Target Setup Guide for Android

Copyright © 2019, 2020 Arm Limited or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

Release Information

Document History

Issue	Date	Confidentiality	Change
0701-00	25 September 2019	Non-Confidential	New document for v7.1.
0701-01	30 October 2019	Non-Confidential	Updated document for v7.1.
0702-00	14 February 2020	Non-Confidential	New document for v7.2.
0703-00	29 May 2020	Non-Confidential	New document for v7.3.
0704-00	21 August 2020	Non-Confidential	New document for v7.4.

Non-Confidential Proprietary Notice

This document is protected by copyright and other related rights and the practice or implementation of the information contained in this document may be protected by one or more patents or pending patent applications. No part of this document may be reproduced in any form by any means without the express prior written permission of Arm. **No license, express or implied, by estoppel or otherwise to any intellectual property rights is granted by this document unless specifically stated.**

Your access to the information in this document is conditional upon your acceptance that you will not use or permit others to use the information for the purposes of determining whether implementations infringe any third party patents.

THIS DOCUMENT IS PROVIDED "AS IS". ARM PROVIDES NO REPRESENTATIONS AND NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, SATISFACTORY QUALITY, NON-INFRINGEMENT OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE WITH RESPECT TO THE DOCUMENT. For the avoidance of doubt, Arm makes no representation with respect to, and has undertaken no analysis to identify or understand the scope and content of, third party patents, copyrights, trade secrets, or other rights.

This document may include technical inaccuracies or typographical errors.

TO THE EXTENT NOT PROHIBITED BY LAW, IN NO EVENT WILL ARM BE LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, HOWEVER CAUSED AND REGARDLESS OF THE THEORY OF LIABILITY, ARISING OUT OF ANY USE OF THIS DOCUMENT, EVEN IF ARM HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

This document consists solely of commercial items. You shall be responsible for ensuring that any use, duplication or disclosure of this document complies fully with any relevant export laws and regulations to assure that this document or any portion thereof is not exported, directly or indirectly, in violation of such export laws. Use of the word "partner" in reference to Arm's customers is not intended to create or refer to any partnership relationship with any other company. Arm may make changes to this document at any time and without notice.

If any of the provisions contained in these terms conflict with any of the provisions of any click through or signed written agreement covering this document with Arm, then the click through or signed written agreement prevails over and supersedes the conflicting provisions of these terms. This document may be translated into other languages for convenience, and you agree that if there is any conflict between the English version of this document and any translation, the terms of the English version of the Agreement shall prevail.

The Arm corporate logo and words marked with [®] or TM are registered trademarks or trademarks of Arm Limited (or its subsidiaries) in the US and/or elsewhere. All rights reserved. Other brands and names mentioned in this document may be the trademarks of their respective owners. Please follow Arm's trademark usage guidelines at *http://www.arm.com/company/policies/trademarks*.

Copyright © 2019, 2020 Arm Limited (or its affiliates). All rights reserved.

Arm Limited. Company 02557590 registered in England.

110 Fulbourn Road, Cambridge, England CB1 9NJ.

(LES-PRE-20349)

Confidentiality Status

This document is Non-Confidential. The right to use, copy and disclose this document may be subject to license restrictions in accordance with the terms of the agreement entered into by Arm and the party that Arm delivered this document to.

Unrestricted Access is an Arm internal classification.

Product Status

The information in this document is Final, that is for a developed product.

Web Address

developer.arm.com

Contents Arm[®] Streamline Target Setup Guide for Android

Preface

1-10 1-11
1-10 1-11
1-11
1-13
1-14
2-16
2-20
3-22
3-23
4-25
4-26
4-27
ox-A-29

A.2	Building gatord yourself	Appx-A-30
A.3	gatord command-line options	Appx-A-31

Preface

This preface introduces the Arm[®] Streamline Target Setup Guide for Android.

It contains the following:

• *About this book* on page 7.

About this book

This book describes how to set up Arm® Streamline on an Android target.

Using this book

This book is organized into the following chapters:

Chapter 1 Target Setup

Set up your target and host devices ready to use Streamline for application or system profiling by following the instructions in this chapter.

Chapter 2 Application profiling on an Android device

Profile your application while it is running on a non-rooted Android device.

Chapter 3 System profiling on an Android device

Profile all applications and services that are running on a rooted Android device.

Chapter 4 Troubleshooting Common Issues

Troubleshoot common Streamline issues.

Appendix A Advanced target setup information

This appendix provides extra configuration information beyond the standard setup.

Glossary

The Arm[®] Glossary is a list of terms used in Arm documentation, together with definitions for those terms. The Arm Glossary does not contain terms that are industry standard unless the Arm meaning differs from the generally accepted meaning.

See the Arm[®] Glossary for more information.

Typographic conventions

italic

Introduces special terminology, denotes cross-references, and citations.

bold

Highlights interface elements, such as menu names. Denotes signal names. Also used for terms in descriptive lists, where appropriate.

monospace

Denotes text that you can enter at the keyboard, such as commands, file and program names, and source code.

<u>mono</u>space

Denotes a permitted abbreviation for a command or option. You can enter the underlined text instead of the full command or option name.

monospace italic

Denotes arguments to monospace text where the argument is to be replaced by a specific value.

monospace bold

Denotes language keywords when used outside example code.

<and>

Encloses replaceable terms for assembler syntax where they appear in code or code fragments. For example:

MRC p15, 0, <Rd>, <CRn>, <CRm>, <Opcode_2>

SMALL CAPITALS

Used in body text for a few terms that have specific technical meanings, that are defined in the *Arm*[®] *Glossary*. For example, IMPLEMENTATION DEFINED, IMPLEMENTATION SPECIFIC, UNKNOWN, and UNPREDICTABLE.

Feedback

Feedback on this product

If you have any comments or suggestions about this product, contact your supplier and give:

- The product name.
- The product revision or version.
- An explanation with as much information as you can provide. Include symptoms and diagnostic procedures if appropriate.

Feedback on content

If you have comments on content then send an e-mail to errata@arm.com. Give:

- The title Arm Streamline Target Setup Guide for Android.
- The number 101813_0704_00_en.
- If applicable, the page number(s) to which your comments refer.
- A concise explanation of your comments.

Arm also welcomes general suggestions for additions and improvements.

——— Note —

Arm tests the PDF only in Adobe Acrobat and Acrobat Reader, and cannot guarantee the quality of the represented document when used with any other PDF reader.

Other information

- Arm[®] Developer.
- Arm[®] Information Center.
- Arm[®] Technical Support Knowledge Articles.
- Technical Support.
- Arm[®] Glossary.

Chapter 1 Target Setup

Set up your target and host devices ready to use Streamline for application or system profiling by following the instructions in this chapter.

It contains the following sections:

- 1.1 Application and system profiling on page 1-10.
- 1.2 Compiling your application on page 1-11.
- 1.3 Set up your host machine on page 1-13.
- *1.4 Set up your target device* on page 1-14.

1.1 Application and system profiling

Streamline supports two types of profiling. Application profiling is the most common use case, but system profiling is also supported.

Application profiling

Streamline supports data capture on a non-rooted Android device. It collects CPU performance data and Arm Mali[™] GPU performance data so you can profile your game or app without device modification. Configuring Streamline to collect the right data is easy – use the templates to select the most appropriate set of counters for your target device. Identify bottlenecks and optimize your application for mobile devices faster.

System profiling

In addition to the single application profiling for non-root devices, Streamline also supports system-wide Android profiling when running on rooted devices. System profiling enables manufacturers to simultaneously monitor all applications and services running on their device, allowing identification of problematic processes or scheduling behaviors.

Related references

Chapter 2 Application profiling on an Android device on page 2-15 Chapter 3 System profiling on an Android device on page 3-21

1.2 Compiling your application

When building executables for profiling using Streamline, it is best practice to use the compiler options that are listed in this topic.

When using GCC or Clang, use the following options:

-g

Turns on the debug symbols necessary for quality analysis reports.

-fno-inline

Disables inlining and substantially improves the call path quality.

-fno-omit-frame-pointer

Compiles your EABI images and libraries with frame pointers. This option enables Streamline to record the call stack with each sample taken.

-mno-omit-leaf-frame-pointer

Keeps the frame pointer in leaf functions.

-marm

When building for AArch32, if GCC was compiled with the --with-mode=thumb option enabled, this option is required. Using the --with-mode=thumb option without -marm breaks call stack unwinding in Streamline.

Call stack unwinding

You must provide extra compiler flags for call stack unwinding to work.

For AArch64 applications, the flag -fno-omit-frame-pointer is required. -mno-omit-leaf-frame-pointer must also be set on GCC. -mno-omit-leaf-frame-pointer is not supported on Clang, therefore the caller for samples in leaf functions will be missing from the stack trace.

For AArch32 applications, the flags -fno-omit-frame-pointer, -marm, and -mapcs-frame are required.

_____ Note _____

Streamline does not support call stack unwinding for T32 (Thumb[®]) code. It also does not support call stack unwinding for code that Arm Compiler version 5 and earlier (armcc) generates.

Android

For Android, Streamline can profile OAT files that Android runtime (ART) generates, down to function level.

To enable OAT files to be built with debug symbols, ensure that dex2oat runs with the --no-strip-symbols option. This option includes function names, but not line numbers, in the OAT files. As a result, the Streamline report for the application shows function names and disassembly in the **Code** view, but not source code.

To run dex2oat with the --no-strip-symbols option, run the following command on the device and then re-install the APK file:

setprop dalvik.vm.dex2oat-flags --no-strip-symbols

To verify the options for dex2oat are set correctly, run the command:

getprop dalvik.vm.dex2oat-flags

To check whether DEX files contain .debug_* sections, you could use the GNU tools readelf command, for example:

readelf -S .../images/*.dex

Related information readelf

1.3 Set up your host machine

Streamline is available for the Arm Mobile Studio or the Arm Development Studio product suites. To use Streamline, install the necessary software and set up environment variables on your host machine.

Prerequisites

• Ensure you have a target device that is correctly configured to generate performance data. You can use many Android devices off-the-shelf. A list of the recommended consumer devices that support Streamline is available from *https://developer.arm.com/tools-and-software/graphics-and-gaming/arm-mobile-studio/support/supported-devices*.

If you are building your own device software, ensure that your kernel configuration includes the options that are described in *A.1 Kernel configuration menu options* on page Appx-A-29.

Procedure

- 1. Download and install the studio package appropriate to your host platform (Windows, Linux, or macOS).
 - Download Arm Mobile Studio from https://developer.arm.com/tools-and-software/graphics-andgaming/arm-mobile-studio/downloads.
 - Download Arm Development Studio from https://developer.arm.com/tools-and-software/ embedded/arm-development-studio/downloads.
- 2. Install the studio package.
 - Install Arm Mobile Studio using the instructions at *https://developer.arm.com/tools-and-software/graphics-and-gaming/arm-mobile-studio/installation.*
 - Install Arm Development Studio using the instructions in the *Arm Development Studio Getting Started Guide*.
- 3. Install Python 3.5 (or higher).

You need Python 3.5 or higher to run the provided gator_me.py script, which uses the gatord agent to connect Streamline to your Android target.

4. Install Android Debug Bridge (adb).

adb is available with the Android SDK platform tools, which you can download from *https:// developer.android.com/studio/releases/platform-tools*.

5. Edit your PATH environment variable to add the paths to the Python3 directory and the Android SDK platform tools directory.

The adb executable must be accessible to Streamline.

Next Steps

- 1.4 Set up your target device on page 1-14
- 2.1 Profile your application on page 2-16

1.4 Set up your target device

To use Streamline, set up a target device with the application you want to profile.

Prerequisites

1.3 Set up your host machine on page 1-13

- Note

Procedure

- Ensure that *Developer Mode* is enabled, then enable USB Debugging by selecting Settings > Developer options.
- 2. Connect the target to the host through USB. If the connection is successful, running the adb devices command on the host returns the ID of your target, and you can run adb shell.

If your target device is running Android 4.2.2 or higher, it asks whether you want to allow debugging. This security mechanism ensures that you can unlock the device before you can execute commands on it.

- 3. Build and install the debuggable application for profiling:
 - For Unity applications, select the **Development Build** option in the **Build Settings**.
 - For applications that are not built with Unity, ensure it is marked as debuggable in the Android application manifest. See how to debug your application in the *Android Studio documentation*.

Next Steps

• 2.1 Profile your application on page 2-16

Chapter 2 Application profiling on an Android device

Profile your application while it is running on a non-rooted Android device.

It contains the following sections:

- 2.1 Profile your application on page 2-16.
- 2.2 Generate a headless capture on page 2-20.

2.1 **Profile your application**

Capture a profile of a debuggable application running on an unrooted Android target with a Mali GPU.

This section contains the following subsections:

- 2.1.1 Connect Streamline to your device on page 2-16.
- 2.1.2 Choose a counter template on page 2-17.
- 2.1.3 Capture a profile on page 2-18.

2.1.1 Connect Streamline to your device

Arm provides a Python script, gator_me.py that installs a daemon, gatord, on your device. Run the script so that Streamline can connect to unrooted Android devices, and collect data.

Procedure

- 1. On your host machine, navigate to the Streamline installation directory, <install_directory>/ streamline/gator/.
- 2. To supply the path to the gatord binary to install on the device, run the gator_me.py Python script with the --daemon option.

Your installation directory contains two versions of gatord, for 32-bit or 64-bit architectures:

- <install_directory>/streamline/bin/arm/ for 32-bit architectures.
- <install_directory>/streamline/bin/arm64/ for Armv8 64-bit architectures.

For example:

```
python3 gator_me.py --daemon <install_directory>/streamline/bin/arm64/gatord
```

3. The script returns a numbered list of the Android package names for the debuggable applications that are installed on your device. Enter the number of the package you want to profile.

The gator_me.py script does the following:

- Kills and removes gatord and removes any counter configuration file that was previously created.
- Enables perf profiling.
- Copies gatord to the target.
- Runs gatord inside your Android application sandbox.
- Configures port forwarding.

– Note -

- Waits for you to configure and perform the capture in Streamline.
- When the capture is complete, it kills and removes gatord.

Alternatively, if you know the Android package name of the app you want to profile, you can specify it when running the script, using the --package option.

python3 gator_me.py --package com.mycompany.myapp --daemon <install_directory>/
streamline/bin/arm64/gatord

4. Launch Streamline:

- On Windows, from the **Start** menu, navigate to the **Arm Mobile Studio folder**, and select the **Streamline** shortcut.
- On macOS, go to the <install_directory>/streamline folder, and double-click the Streamline.app file.
- On Linux, go to the <install_directory>/streamline folder, and run the Streamline file:

cd <install_directory>/streamline
./Streamline

5. In the Start view, select your device from the list of detected targets.

Next Steps

Choose a counter template. For more information about how to find and select a counter template, see 2.1.2 Choose a counter template on page 2-17.

2.1.2 Choose a counter template

Counter templates are pre-defined sets of counters that enable you to review the performance of both CPU and GPU behavior. Choose the most appropriate template for the GPU in your target device.

Procedure

- 1. In the Start view, click Configure Counters.
- 2. Click Add counters from a template 🖹 to see a list of available templates.

• • •	Counter Configuration
Choose the target counters to collect. Connected to localhost:8080. Available Events	Events to Collect
Control of the second sec	Image: Second
0	Cancel 5

3. Select a counter template appropriate for the GPU in your target device, then Save your changes.

The number of counters in the template that your target device supports is shown next to each template. For example, here, 34 of the 38 available counters in the Mali Midgard template are supported in the connected device.



4. Optionally, in the **Start** view, click **Advanced Settings** to set more capture options, including the sample rate and the capture duration (by default unlimited). Refer to *Set capture options* in the *Arm Streamline User Guide*.

Next Steps

Capture a profile using Streamline. For more information about how to capture the behavior of your CPU and GPU performance using Streamline, see *2.1.3 Capture a profile* on page 2-18.

2.1.3 Capture a profile

Start a capture session to profile data from your application in real time. When the capture session ends, Streamline automatically opens a report for you to analyze later.

Procedure

1. In the Start view, click Start Capture to start capturing data from the target device.

Specify the name and location on the host of the capture file that Streamline will create when the capture is complete. Streamline then switches to the **Live** view and waits for you to start the application on the device.

2. Start the application that you want to profile.

The **Live** view shows charts for each counter that you selected. Below the charts is a list of running processes in your application with their CPU usage. The charts now start updating in real time to show the data that gatord captures from your running application.



3. Unless you specified a capture duration, in the **Capture Control** view, click **Stop capture and analyze** to end the capture.

Streamline stores the capture file in the location that you specified previously, and then prepares the capture for analysis. When complete, the capture appears in the **Timeline** view.

- 4. IMPORTANT: Switch back to the terminal running the gator_me.py script and press any key to terminate it. The script kills all processes that it started and removes gatord from the target.
- 5. Click **Switch and manage templates** and select the same counter configuration template that you chose to create the capture.

		DT 2 4 80
	[Built-in] CPU Branching (4/4)	
	[Built-in] CPU Cache (2/6)	
d.	[Built-in] Mali Bifrost - G31 (2/93)	
ı.	[Built-in] Mali Bifrost - G51 (2/93)	
1	[Built-in] Mali Bifrost - G52 (2/95)	
4	[Built-in] Mali Bifrost - G71 (2/94)	-
	[Built-in] Mali Bifrost - G72 (2/94)	
	[Built-in] Mali Bifrost - G76 (2/95)	
	[Built-in] Mali Midgard (34/38)	
	[Built-in] Mali Utgard (0/9)	
	[Built-in] Mali Valhall - G77 (2/102)	
li A	rithmetic Pine: A instructions	-te

Next Steps

Analyze the data. For more information about how to analyze performance with Streamline, see *Analyze your capture* in the *Arm Streamline User Guide*.

Related information Capture a Streamline profile

2.2 Generate a headless capture

When integrating performance analysis into continuous integration, capturing data without having the host tool connected or a user manually controlling the GUI is often required. To capture data without the Streamline host tool connected, use the gator_me.py script in headless mode.

Prerequisites

- 2.1.1 Connect Streamline to your device on page 2-16
- 2.1.2 Choose a counter template on page 2-17
- *Export the counter configuration to a configuration.xmL file.* Create one configuration file for each device class.

Procedure

1. On the host, run the gator_me.py Python script to set up the target device for a headless data capture.

The script is in the following directory:

<install_directory>/streamline/gator/

Use the following command-line arguments:

- The Android package name of the application that you want to profile.
- The path on the host to the gatord binary to install on the device. By default, this path is the current working directory. Your installation provides two versions of gatord, in the following directories:
 - --- <install_directory>/streamline/bin/arm/ for 32-bit architectures.
 - <install_directory>/streamline/bin/arm64/ for Armv8 64-bit architectures.
- The path to the configuration file that you saved in the Prerequisites.
- The path to store the saved output file to.

Example:

python3 gator_me.py --package <your_app_package> --daemon <path_to_gatord> --config <path_to_your_configuration.xml> --headless <output.apc.zip>

- 2. Run your test scenario and exit the application when it has completed.
- 3. Wait for the script to download the data from the target, and write out the output.apc.zip file. The script stops automatically when it detects that the application is no longer running.
- 4. To view the data in the Streamline GUI, start the host application and import the APC file into the **Streamline Data** view.

Next Steps

• Analyze the data. For more information about how to analyze performance with Streamline, see *Analyze your capture* in the *Arm Streamline User Guide*.

Related information

Capture a Streamline profile

Chapter 3 System profiling on an Android device

Profile all applications and services that are running on a rooted Android device.

It contains the following sections:

- *3.1 Profile your system* on page 3-22.
- 3.2 Enabling atrace annotations on page 3-23.

3.1 **Profile your system**

Set up and run Streamline with a rooted Android target with a Mali GPU.

Prerequisites

- 1.3 Set up your host machine on page 1-13
- 1.4 Set up your target device on page 1-14

Procedure

1. Run gatord as root using the following commands:

```
adb push gatord /data/local/tmp
adb shell
cd /data/local/tmp
su
./gatord --system-wide=yes
```

2. Continue from step four of 2.1.1 Connect Streamline to your device on page 2-16.

3.2 Enabling atrace annotations

Streamline can capture Android trace points that atrace generates. It supports atrace annotations on Android targets that are running Linux kernel versions 3.10 and later.

Streamline converts application-generated atrace macros into either string annotations or counter charts. It also lists any Android ATRACE_TAG_* macros that you enable as available events in an **Atrace** section in the **Counter Configuration** dialog box. If you expect to see atrace events in this dialog box but none are displayed, click the Warnings tag to see why atrace support is disabled.

To notify running applications that atrace annotation tags have been enabled, the file notify.dex must be installed on the target in the same directory as gatord. The Java source code for notify.dex is available in the following locations:

- <install_directory>/streamline/gator/notify/
- https://github.com/ARM-software/gator/tree/master/notify

Chapter 4 Troubleshooting Common Issues

Troubleshoot common Streamline issues.

It contains the following sections:

- 4.1 Troubleshooting target connection issues on page 4-25.
- 4.2 Troubleshooting Android issues on page 4-26.
- 4.3 Troubleshooting gatord issues on page 4-27.

4.1 Troubleshooting target connection issues

You might have problems when trying to start a capture session, for example when you click **Start Capture**. Use these solutions to solve common target connection issues.

Problem	Solution
Error message generated: Unable to connect to the gator daemon at	Make sure gatord is running on your target. Enter the following command in the shell of your target:
<target_address>.</target_address>	ps ax grep gatord
Please verify that the target is reachable and that you are running gator daemon v17 or later. Installation instructions can be found in: streamline/gator/README.md.	If this command returns no results, gatord is not active. Start it by navigating to the directory that contains gatord and entering the following command:
If connecting over WiFi, please try again	sudo ./gatord &
or use a wired connection.	Try connecting to the target again.
	If gatord is active and you still receive this error message, try disabling any firewalls on your host machine that might be interfering with communication between it and the target.
	In addition, if you are running Android on your target, make sure that the ports are accessible by using the adb forward command. For example:
	adb forward tcp:8080 tcp:8080
Error message generated: Unknown host	Make sure that you have correctly entered the name or IP address of the target in the Address field. If you have entered a name, try entering an IP address instead.
When using event-based sampling, Streamline fails to find the PMU.	The PMU on your hardware might not be correctly configured to allow the processor interrupts necessary for Streamline to use event-based sampling. Test on alternate hardware or disable event-based sampling in the Counter Configuration dialog box.
The target is running a firewall, which prevents Streamline from connecting to gatord.	 There are several possible ways to resolve this issue: Update the firewall to allow connections to gatord, which defaults to using port 8080. Use local captures. If the target accepts SSH connections, you can establish an SSH tunnel by using the ssh command on the host. For example:
	ssh <user>@<target> -L 8080:localhost:8080 -N</target></user>
	In this example, replace <user> with the username to log in as and <target> with the hostname of the target. On the target, use localhost as the hostname. Note An SSH tunnel requires extra processing on the target.</target></user>
	 Reverse SSH tunnels are also possible by running ssh from the target to the host. For example:
	ssh <user>@<host> -R 8080:localhost:8080 -N</host></user>

4.2 Troubleshooting Android issues

Problem	Solution	
run-as command fails on Android.	Make sure that the application is debuggable and the target device is running the latest software update.	
Capture fails on startup, usually showing no events captured.	This problem usually indicates a failure to configure the perf API. Run the following command: adb shell setprop security.perf_harden 0	
	 Reduce the set of events that are captured or try capturing only a limited set of perf software events. The following issues can cause this error: Exceeding the limit for the number of open file descriptors. The target device does not have a correctly configured PMU driver. 	
Hardware counters read as zero.	This error is usually a sign of misconfigured PMU. It is not usually possible to work around.	
When running non-root on Android, gatord exits with the message: Error creating server TCP socket	 To enable use of UDS socket instead of TCP socket, run gatord -p uds To configure port forwarding, execute adb forward tcp:<some-port> localabstract:streamline-data on your host.</some-port> Set the target address as localhost:<some-port> in the Start view.</some-port> 	

Android has the following known issues:

4.3 Troubleshooting gatord issues

 Problem
 Solution

 Annotations do not work on Android.
 Use application profiling.

 If you must use system profiling, disable SELinux by running # setenforce 0.

Consult the following table for solutions to issues related to gatord.

Appendix A **Advanced target setup information**

This appendix provides extra configuration information beyond the standard setup.

It contains the following sections:

- *A.1 Kernel configuration menu options* on page Appx-A-29.
- A.2 Building gatord yourself on page Appx-A-30.
- *A.3 gatord command-line options* on page Appx-A-31.

A.1 Kernel configuration menu options

You must enable certain kernel configuration options to run Streamline.

The following menuconfig menus have options that are required for Streamline:

```
_____ Note _____
```

- If these options are not set correctly, you must change them and rebuild your kernel. If they are set correctly, you are ready to build and install the gator driver.
- The location of these options might change between releases. If so, use the search option in menuconfig to find them.
- Extra options are required to enable Mali GPU support.

General Setup

Enable the **Profiling Support** option CONFIG_PROFILING, and the **Kernel performance events and counters** option CONFIG_PERF_EVENTS. CONFIG_PERF_EVENTS is required for kernel versions 3.0 and later. Enable the **Timers subsystem** > **High Resolution Timer Support** option CONFIG_HIGH_RES_TIMERS.

Kernel Features

The Enable hardware performance counter support for perf events option CONFIG_HW_PERF_EVENTS. CONFIG_HW_PERF_EVENTS is required for kernel versions 3.0 and later. If you are using Symmetric MultiProcessing (SMP), enable the Use local timer interrupts option CONFIG_LOCAL_TIMERS. If you are running on Linux version 3.12 or later, the CONFIG_LOCAL_TIMERS option is not necessary.

CPU Power Management

Optionally enable the **CPU Frequency scaling** option CONFIG_CPU_FREQ to enable the CPU Freq **Timeline** view chart. gatord requires kernel version 2.6.38 or greater to enable this chart.

Kernel hacking

If other trace configuration options are enabled, the **Trace process context switches and events** option CONFIG_ENABLE_DEFAULT_TRACERS might not be visible in menuconfig as an option. Enabling one of these other trace configurations, for example CONFIG_GENERIC_TRACER, CONFIG_TRACING, or CONFIG_CONTEXT_SWITCH_TRACER, is sufficient to enable tracing. Optionally enable the **Compile the kernel with debug info** option CONFIG_DEBUG_INFO. This option is only required for profiling the Linux kernel.

– Caution

Kernel versions before 4.6, with CONFIG_CPU_PM enabled, produce invalid results. For example, counters not showing any data, large spikes, and non-sensible values for counters. This issue is a result of the kernel PMU driver not saving state when the processor is powered down, or not restoring state when it is powered up. To avoid this issue, upgrade to the latest version of the kernel, or apply the patch found at *https://git.kernel.org/pub/scm/linux/kernel/git/torvalds/linux.git/commit/*?

id=da4e4f18afe0f3729d68f3785c5802f786d36e34. This patch applies cleanly to version 4.4, and it might also be possible to back port it to other versions. If you apply the patch, you might also need to apply the patch at *https://git.kernel.org/pub/scm/linux/kernel/git/torvalds/linux.git/commit/? id=cbcc72e037b8a3eb1fad3c1ae22021df21c97a51*.

A.2 Building gatord yourself

To build gatord, follow the steps in this topic.

_____ Note _____

It is not possible to build gatord on a Windows host.

Prerequisites

Install the Android NDK appropriate for your target. For more information, see the Android NDK website, *https://developer.android.com/ndk/*.

Procedure

- 1. Either download the gatord source from *https://github.com/ARM-software/gator*, or copy the source that is supplied in <install_directory>/sw/streamline/gator/daemon/.
- 2. Change to the daemon directory by using either of the following commands:
 - For Linux, enter:

cd daemon

• For Android, enter:

mv daemon jni

3. Issue the commands to build gatord.

<NDK_install_directory>/ndk-build

Results: gatord is now located in libs/armeabi.

_____ Note _____

To build gatord for AArch64, edit jni/Application.mk and replace armeabi-v7a with arm64-v8a.

4. Make gatord executable by entering the following command:

chmod +x gatord

A.3 gatord command-line options

gatord must be running before you can capture trace data. The command-line options configure how gatord captures events and how it communicates with Streamline running on your host.

gatord has two modes of operation:

Daemon mode (the default mode)

Sends captured events to a host running Streamline.

Local capture mode

Writes the capture to a file then exits. To enable this mode, specify an output directory with the --output flag.

Arguments available to all modes:

Option	Description
-h,help	Lists all the available gatord command-line options.
<pre>-c,config-xml <config_xml></config_xml></pre>	Specify the path and filename of the configuration.xml file that defines the capture options. In daemon mode, the list of counters is written to this file. In local capture mode, the list of counters is read from this file.
<pre>-e,events-xml <events_xml></events_xml></pre>	Specify the path and filename of the events.xml file. events.xml defines all the counters that Streamline collects during the capture session.
<pre>-E,append-events-xml <events_xml></events_xml></pre>	Specify the path and filename of events.xml to append.
-P,pmus-xml <pmu_xml></pmu_xml>	Specify path and filename of pmu.xml to append.
-v,version	Print version information.
-d,debug	Enable debug messages.
-A,app <cmd> <args></args></cmd>	Specify the command to execute when the capture starts. This argument must be the last argument that is passed to gatord. All subsequent arguments are passed to the launched application.
-S,system-wide <yes no></yes no>	Specify whether to capture the whole system.
	In daemon mode, no is only applicable whenallow-command is specified. In this mode, you must enter a command in the Start view.
	Defaults to yes, unlessapp,pid, orwait-process is specified.
-u,call-stack-unwinding <yes no></yes no>	Enable or disable call stack unwinding. Defaults to yes.
-r,sample-rate <low normal></low normal>	Specify sample rate for capture. Defaults to normal.
-t,max-duration <s></s>	Specify the maximum duration that the capture can run for in seconds. Defaults to 0 , meaning unlimited.
-f,use-efficient-ftrace <yes no></yes no>	Enable efficient ftrace data collection mode. Defaults to yes.
-w,app-cwd <path></path>	Specify the working directory for the application that gatord launches. Defaults to the current directory.
<pre>-x,stop-on-exit <yes no></yes no></pre>	Stop capture when launched application exits. Defaults to no, unlessapp, pid, orwait-process is specified.
-Q,wait-process <command/>	Wait for a process matching the specified command to launch before starting capture. Attach to the specified process and profile it.
-Z,mmap-pages <n></n>	The maximum number of pages to map per mmaped perf buffer is equal to <n+1>. n must be a power of two.</n+1>

Arguments available in daemon mode only:

Option	Description
<pre>-p,port <port_number></port_number></pre>	Set the port number that gatord uses to communicate with the host. The default is 8080.
	If you use the argument uds, the TCP socket is disabled and an abstract Unix domain socket is created. This socket is named streamline-data. If you use Android, creating a Unix domain socket is useful because gatord is prevented from creating a TCP server socket. Alternatively, you can connect to localhost: <local_port> in Streamline using:</local_port>
	adb forward tcp: <local_port> localabstract:streamline-data</local_port>
-a,allow-command	Allows you to run a command on the target during profiling. Specify the command in the Start view.
	Caution
	If you use this option, an unauthenticated user could run arbitrary commands on the target using Streamline.

Arguments available to local capture mode only:

Option	Description
-s,session-xml <session_xml></session_xml>	Specify the session.xml file that the configuration is taken from. Any additional arguments override values that are specified in this file.
-o,output <apc_dir></apc_dir>	Specifies the path and filename of the output file (.apc) for a local capture.
-i,pid <pids></pids>	A comma-separated list of process IDs to profile
-C,counters <counters></counters>	A comma-separated list of counters to enable. This option can be specified multiple times.
-X,spe <id>[:events=<indexes>] [:ops=<types>][:min_latency=<lat>]</lat></types></indexes></id>	 Enable Statistical Profiling Extension (SPE). Where: <id> is the name of the SPE properties that are specified in the events.xml or pmus.xml file. It uniquely identifies the available events and counters for the SPE hardware.</id> <indexes> is a comma-separated list of event indexes to filter the sampling by. A sample is only recorded if all events are present.</indexes> <types> is a comma-separated list of operation types to filter the sampling by. If a sample is any of the types in <types>, it is recorded. Valid types are LD for load, ST for store and B for branch.</types></types> <lat> is the minimum latency. A sample is only recorded if its latency is greater than or equal to this value. The valid range is [0,4096).</lat>

Argument usage examples

Using --pmus-xml and --append-events-xml to add support for a new PMU without having to rebuild gatord.

-P, --pmus-xml specifies an XML file that defines a new PMU to add to the list of PMUs that gatord has built-in support for. The list of built-in PMUs is defined in pmus.xml, which is located in the gatord source directory.

-E, --append-events-xml specifies an XML file that defines one or more event counters to append to the events.xml file. This option allows you to add new events to gatord without having to rebuild gatord or to entirely replace events.xml.

The events.xml file must include the XML header and elements that are shown in the following example: