**Document information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Info</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>Example for programming NAND flash on an EA3131 (EA3152) board.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Revision history

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rev</th>
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<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact information

For additional information, please visit: [http://www.nxp.com](http://www.nxp.com)

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1. Introduction

This application note briefly covers the necessary steps required to:

- Load the APEX bootloader via UART
- Store a binary image of an application into the EA3131’s NAND flash
- Configure the EA3131 to boot from NAND flash

It is assumed that user is familiar on how to create a binary that is executable on the EA3131 and therefore it will not be covered in this application note.

Note that the bootable binary (Boot ROM) has a size restriction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Execution Part</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program code: The maximum size of the image allowed by boot ROM is 128 kB (including header). For LPC3130 restrict the size to 80 kB. The final image has to be padded to the nearest 512 byte boundary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig 1. Boot ROM size restriction

Although this application note refers to the EA3131 specifically, the same details apply to the EA3152. The ordered process remains the same but the APEX bootloader itself would however be compiled for the EA3152.

2. Configuring the EA3131 board

2.1 EA3131 board configuration

In terms of jumper configurations the EA3131 development board is highly customizable. Fig 2 shows the location of the jumpers that may need modification.

Fig 2. EA3131 jumpers that may need modifications
Table 1. Jumper descriptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jumpers</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Boot Config | These jumpers will determine in which boot mode the LPC313x will enter upon reset.  
UART Boot will attempt to boot an application from the UART interface.  
NAND Boot will attempt to boot an application from external NAND flash. |
| UART Selection | The UART selector routes the UART Tx/Rx pins to either the USB-to-UART chip or the RS-232 / XBee jumpers.                                      |
| RS-232 / XBee | If the UART Tx/Rx pins are routed to these jumpers they can be then re-routed to either the RS-232 interface or the XBee module.  
XBee is not used in this application note; therefore select the RS-232 interface. |
| DBUF_EN   | Enables or disables some control lines to the LCD and Ethernet modules.  
The LCD and Ethernet modules need to be disabled to avoid a bus contention during the NAND flash boot.  
This applies to LPC31xx Base Board versions 1.x and 2.0 |

2.1.1 Boot config

Fig 3 shows the boot configurations for UART and NAND boot.

```
Fig 3. Jumper settings for the boot configuration
```

a. UART Boot b. NAND Boot

2.1.2 UART selection

Fig 4 shows the jumper settings to route the UART’s Tx/Rx pins to either the UART-to-USB chip or the RS-232 / XBee jumpers.

```
Fig 4  shows the jumper settings to route the UART’s Tx/Rx pins to either the UART-to-USB chip or the RS-232 / XBee jumpers.
```

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Application note Rev. 01 — 5 January 2010 4 of 15
2.1.3 RS-232 / XBeex

XBeex isn’t used in this application note; therefore, only the RS-232 configuration is shown.

2.1.4 DBUF_EN

To avoid a bus contention during the NAND boot the LCD and Ethernet modules need to be disabled. After the boot process, this jumper can be re-enabled if the LPC3131 has been initialized properly.
2.1.4.1 Optional hardware fix

Instead of having to open the “DBUF_EN” jumper, the user may choose to perform a hardware fix for the NAND flash boot option. The AND gate (U11) can be replaced by a XNOR gate.

2.2 UART Settings

Regardless if UART is to be connected via USB or the RS-232 interface, the default UART configurations are as follows: 115200kbps, 8, N, 1

2.2.1 UART via USB

The USB port shown in Fig 2 has a dual function for this application note.

1. It provides electrical power to the EA3131 development board.
2. It allows for a serial UART connection to the LPC313x using a USB channel.

To configure the EA3131 board to use the UART via USB, ensure that the UART selection jumpers are set for “USB”. See Fig 4a.
Connect the EA3131 to a windows workstation and install the drivers available from the Embedded Artist website.

Once the USB drivers have been installed, determine which COM port was assigned to this connection by viewing the available ports in the “Device Manager”.

Start→Settings→Control Panel→System→"Hardware” Tab→Device Manager

![Fig 8. Window’s Device Manager](image)

By using the COM port shown in the “Device Manager” you can now use a serial terminal application to communicate to the EA3131.

**Note:** Once the USB drivers have been installed, it is recommended to consistently use the same physical USB port on that workstation. If connected to a different USB port the next time, USB drivers will automatically be re-installed for that particular port – creating a new serial COM port.

### 2.2.2 UART via RS-232

To use UART via the RS-232 interface, we would simply re-route the UART Tx/Rx pins to the RS-232 / XBee headers as shown in Fig 4b. Assuming that the RS-232 interface is selected as shown in Fig 5, we can simply attach a RS-232 cable onto the male DB-9 connector shown in Fig 2.
2.3 Booting the EA3131 from UART
Configure the “Boot Config” jumpers to UART mode. See Fig 3a.

2.4 Booting the EA3131 from NAND flash
Configure the “Boot Config” jumpers to NAND mode. See Fig 3b.
Disable the “DBUF_EN” jumper. See Fig 6.
Disabling “DBUF_EN” only applies to the LPC31xx Base Board versions 1.x and 2.0.

3. Programming the NAND flash

3.1 Connect the EA313x board to the PC
Configure the EA313x board to boot from UART and then connect it via a RS-232 or USB cable to a PC.
Fig 1 shows where the male DB9 and USB connectors are.

3.2 Launch Serial Terminal Application
Configure a terminal application (which should be able to transfer files in binary mode, such as TeraTerm Pro) with 115200-8-n settings. If using the UART-to-USB bridge on EA board, the appropriate Virtual COM port has to be selected. By the time the UART-to-USB chip enumerates, the bootROM of LPC313x would have transmitted the initial string. Hence reset the board using the "reset" button after opening the terminal application.

Notes
1. The default installation of TeraTerm Pro allows only up to COM4 ports. To increase the number of COM ports accessible by TeraTerm Pro, change the following line in TERATERM.INI (C:\Program Files\TTERMPRO):

   MaxComPort=4    to    MaxComPort=10

2. Don’t use the Hyperterminal program, because it does not provide a way to send a file as binary.

3.3 Loading the APEX bootloader
The initial step is to load the APEX bootloader into memory. It is important to use APEX version 1.6.8 or higher because it includes support to program NAND flash.

Once the EA313x board is powered and connected to the PC, reset the board. Fig 9 shows the message that should appear in the terminal window:
Fig 9. Initial prompt after reset in UART boot mode

Select File → Send file option from the terminal application’s menu and the next screen will appear:

Fig 10. Binary file transfer

Select the “apex.bin” file, check the “Binary” option and press “Open” to start the file transfer. After the download, the following message will appear.
3.4 Erasing the flash memory

Before the application binary can be loaded into the NAND flash we need to erase the existing content. It is not necessary to erase the entire NAND flash, but we do need to erase the flash memory at which the boot ROM (application) will reside.

Using the apex bootloader, the NAND flash is segmented into blocks of 128 kB (bytes) in size. Since the boot ROM is limited to 128 kB (bytes), erasing the NAND flash involves only erasing NAND flash block 1. NAND boot will attempt to boot from block 1. To erase block 1 type in:

```
erase lnand:128k+128k
```

With block 1 erased the next step is to load and copy the application binary.

3.5 Download the application binary file

Load the application binary into memory (external SDRAM) by typing in:

```
xreceive 0x30008000
```
Fig 12. Receiving the application binary

Using the XMODEM (Checksum) protocol transfer the binary file.

File → Transfer → XMODEM → Send…

Fig 13. Transfer file using XModem
3.6 Flashing the application binary

The next step is to copy the contents from memory (SDRAM) into NAND flash. It is important to know how much data needs to be copied. Hence, refer to the number of bytes that have been transferred from the previous `xreceive` command.

```
copy 0x30008000+"number of bytes received" l1nand:128k
```

The `l1nand:128k` refers to NAND flash address location where the image should be copied to. In order to boot from the NAND flash the application binary needs to be stored starting at Block 1. With each block being 128kB in size, Block 1 begins at 128kB.
Lastly, reconfigure the EA3131 development board to boot from NAND flash as described in Section 2.4 and then perform a reset.

### 3.6.1 Optional methods for copying the application binary

Rather than using the UART channel, the apex bootloader also supports image transfers using an ext2 formatted SD Card and TFTP (on Base Board v2.x only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Command</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SD Card (ext2 formatted)</td>
<td><code>copy ext2://1/&lt;image&gt;.bin 0x30008000</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFTP (Base Board v2)</td>
<td><code>copy tftp://&lt;TFTP server IP address&gt;/&lt;image&gt;.bin 0x30008000</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Additional Reference

See NXP’s application note AN10860 for more details on how the NAND flash is configured and managed:

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6. Contents

1. Introduction ......................................................... 3
2. Configuring the EA3131 board........................... 3
   2.1 EA3131 board configuration............................... 3
   2.1.1 Boot config ......................................................... 4
   2.1.2 UART selection .................................................. 4
   2.1.3 RS-232 / XBee ................................................... 5
   2.1.4 DBUF_EN .......................................................... 5
   2.1.4.1 Optional hardware fix ......................................... 6
   2.2 UART Settings ................................................... 6
   2.2.1 UART via USB ................................................... 6
   2.2.2 UART via RS-232 ............................................... 7
   2.3 Booting the EA3131 from UART ......................... 8
   2.4 Booting the EA3131 from NAND flash ............... 8
3. Programming the NAND flash .............................. 8
   3.1 Connect the EA313x board to the PC .............. 8
   3.2 Launch Serial Terminal Application ............ 8
   3.3 Loading the APEX bootloader ...................... 8
   3.4 Erasing the flash memory ......................... 10
   3.5 Download the application binary file .......... 10
   3.6 Flashing the application binary ................ 12
   3.6.1 Optional methods for copying the application binary ............................................................... 13
4. Additional Reference ........................................ 13
5. Legal information .............................................. 14
   5.1 Definitions ........................................................ 14
   5.2 Disclaimers ....................................................... 14
   5.3 Trademarks ...................................................... 14
6. Contents............................................................. 15