



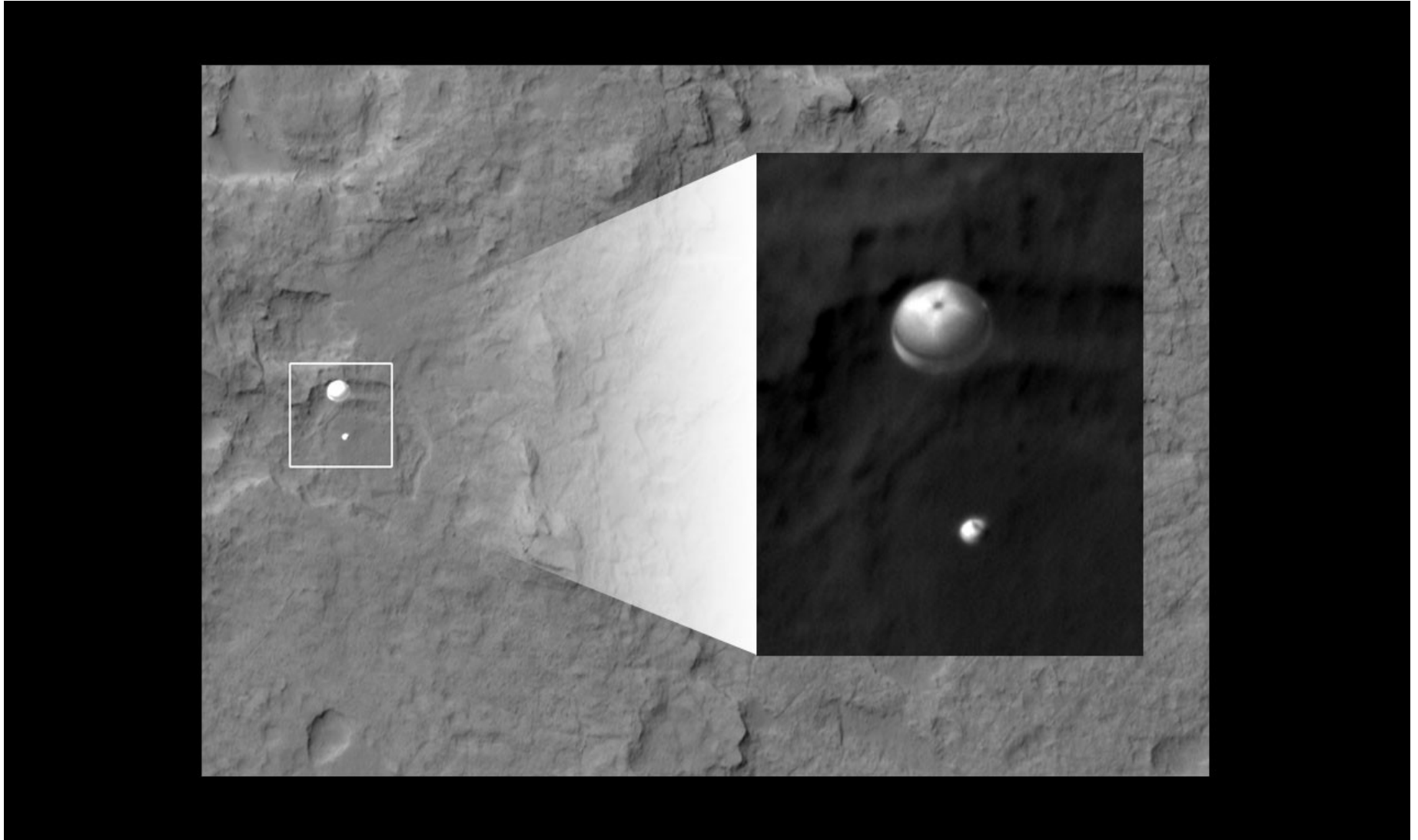
VFIO: Are we there yet?

Alex Williamson

alex.williamson@redhat.com

August 31, 2012

Almost...



Background - What is VFIO?

- Virtual Function I/O
 - But not SR-IOV specific
- Userspace driver interface
 - KVM/Qemu VM \approx userspace driver
- IOMMU required
- IOMMU group aware
- Full PCI interrupt support
- MMIO and I/O port access
- PCI config space access and virtualization



We talked about this last year, what's different?

- IOMMU groups
 - Allow the IOMMU driver to define device visibility
 - Unit of ownership
 - Devices accessible through groups
- Modular VFIO device and IOMMU drivers
 - vfio-pci allows PCI device access
 - vfio-iommu-type1 works with current IOMMU API and x86 style guest mapping
 - Open for other architectures and platforms to expose their specific IOMMU features and devices (POWER SPAPR support to follow soon)



Don't we already have PCI device assignment?

- KVM PCI device assignment
 - x86 only
 - KVM only
 - Doesn't understand IOMMU grouping
 - Relies on pci-syfs
 - Not really a device driver
 - Why attach a PCI device to a hypervisor module?

“Careful. We don't want to learn from this.”
Bill Watterson (1958 -), "Calvin and Hobbes"



Where are we?

- VFIO in Linux v3.6
 - VFIO PCI driver
 - VFIO IOMMU driver
- VFIO in QEMU ~~1.2~~ 1.3



What's next?

- QEMU integration
- Legacy PCI interrupts
- libvirt support
- POWER platform support
- PowerPC?
- Error reporting
- Better page pinning
- PRI support
- Graphics support
- Migration?



Q&A, Discussion, etc...

- Where to get it:
 - VFIO kernel drivers – Linux v3.6-rc
 - QEMU -
<https://github.com/awilliam/qemu-vfio/tree/vfio-pci-for-qemu-1.2-v3>
- How to use it:
 - Follow directions in Documentation/vfio.txt
 - Bind devices to vfio-pci to create viable groups
 - `-device vfio-pci,host=1:10.0,id=hostdev0`



Thanks



Differences from UIO

- Requires IOMMU with isolation support
 - Not available on bulk of platforms where UIO is used
 - Enables DMA access rather than PIO
- Provides access to all I/O spaces
 - Gated by above IOMMU requirement
 - Virtualized where necessary for security & convenience
- Flexible interrupt support
 - Makes use of eventfd/irqfd models
 - IOMMU protection required for MSI



IOMMU grouping examples

