Doc Title	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
		Version	0.4



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		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

HISTORY

Version	Date	Description	Author
0.1	12/07/2012	Initial specification draft	Lifeng Zhao
0.2	1/28/2013	Add I/O interface description	Lifeng Zhao
0.3	3/2/2013	Fix HDMI display issue	Lifeng Zhao
0.4	3/8/2013	Rewrite chapter 5 for OS installation to NAND flash	Lifeng Zhao
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Doc Title	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
		Version	0.4

INDEX

1.	Overview	4
2.	Required hardware for all samples in this user guide	7
3.	pcDuino board I/O interface description	9
4.	Required Software in this user guide	
5.	Install Ubuntu or Android on pcDuino	
6.	Use pcDuino as an mini PC platform	
7.	Use pcDuino as a high performance Arduino platform	
	1) Guide of individual Arduino samples	
	2) UART	
	3) ADC	
	4) PWM Sample	
	5) GPIO Sample	
	6) I2C Sample	
	7) SPI Sample	
8.	HDMI Overscan adjustment	
9.	GCC	
	PcDUILLO COL.	

Doc Title	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
		Version	0.4

1. Overview

pcDuino is a high performance, cost effective mini PC platform that runs PC like OS such as Ubuntu Linux. It outputs its screen to HDMI enabled TV or monitor via the built in HDMI interface. It is specially targeted for the fast growing demands from the open source community. The platform could run full blown PC like OS with easy to use tool chain and compatible with the popular Arduino ecosystem such as Arduino Shields and open source projects etc.

Items Details CPU AllWinner A10 SoC, 1GHz ARM Cortex A8 GPU OpenGL ES2.0, OpenVG 1.1 Mali 400 core DRAM 1GB 2GB Flash **Onboard Storage** Micro-SD card slot for up to 32GB Video Output HDMI OS Linux3.0 + Ubuntu12.04 Android ICS 4.0 **Extension Interface Arduino Headers** Network interface USB WiFi extension (not included) Ethernet 10/100Mbps 5V, 2A Power

The hardware specification for pcDuino is as follows:

The following are top and bottom views for pcDuino.

Doc Title		Number	WMSBB121219
	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4





pcDuino targets for two markets primarily, i.e., the Raspberry Pi mini PC market and Arduino market as open-source electronics prototyping platform. With pcDuino, user could do lots of fun stuff including but not limited to the follows:

- Learn or teach programming
- Work with hardware port
- Use Internet browser or Office from Ubuntu
- Learn Ubuntu linux
- Create media center with XBMC
- Play game
- DIY projects

Doc Title	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
		Version	0.4

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Doc Title		Number	WMSBB121219
	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

2. Required hardware for all samples in this user guide

PcDuino board



micro-USB port power adaptor (5V, 2000mA)



Display with HDMI port



USB keyboard (must) USB Hub and USB mouse (optional but strongly recommended)

Doc Title		Number	WMSBB121219
	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4



Some Dupont Lines to connect pcDuino with test devices



Micro-SD card and its card reader

Note:

Before run the following samples, Connect pcDuino with the devices correctly:

.se USB host port => USB hub => keyboard & mouse

HDMI port => HDMI cable => HDMI display

Doc Title	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
		Version	0.4

3. pcDuino board I/O interface description

Here is the list of I/O interfaces on pcDuino board.

- 1. 14 digital pins for GPIO
- 2. One UART RX, one UART TX
- 3. Two PWM pins
- 4. Six ADC pins
- 5. Four SPI pins
- 6. Two I2C pins

It supports to connect any Arduino shield with pcDuino via any of the above I/O interfaces. It allows to use pcDuino with the same code used in Arduino.



Doc Title	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
		Version	0.4

4. Required Software in this user guide

PhonixCard: a free tool which can create the production card. You can download the tool from internet and read the user manual.

Note: before using a TF card to create the production card, please backup the files on this TF card. After production, you can use PhonixCard to recover the TF card for normal use.

LiveSuit: a free tool which can upgrade firmware by USB device. To use this tool, you must install two USB drivers. You can download the tool and drivers from internet and read the user manual.

Note: LiveSuit is not very stable on Windows Vista or Windows 7, and it does not work well on 64 bits CPU. So this tool is not recommended. Please use **PhonixCard** for production and firmware upgrade as your first choice.

Hyper terminal: with the hyper-terminal tool, you can type the command in the linux shell of the device when the device is connected to the PC with USB serial cable. SecureCRT is the recommend tool.

iPerf: a free tool for network throughput test. iPerf linux version runs on the device and iPerf windows version will run on the PC.

D		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

5. Install Ubuntu or Android on pcDuino

Ubuntu is pre-installed in pcDuino's internal flash at production. But you can also upgrade the pre-installed Ubuntu or install the new Android OS to pcDuino by yourselves. The installation procedure is different for Ubuntu and Android. So please follow the following instructions carefully.

Steps to update the Linux Kernel and Ubuntu image with micro-SD card

The complete installation of the Ubuntu OS needs install both Linux kernel and Ubuntu image. The process is separated into two steps. The first step is to update Linux kernel and the second is to install Ubuntu.

Step 1: Install Linux kernel

a) Download the Linux kernel and Ubuntu image files for pcDuino

The download page is:

http://www.pcduino.com/?page_id=14

Find the Ubuntu link in this page and download it. Unzip it and get two files like these:

- a10_kernel_xxx.img
- Ubuntu.zip

The first file is used in kernel upgrade, and the second one is used to update Ubuntu in step 2.

b) Download the Phonenix Card software

The download page is:

http://www.pcduino.com/?page_id=14

Find the "Phonenix Card" link under Tools in this page and download it. Unzip it to a new folder with default name PhoenixCardV306 20120302.

c) Write Linux Kernel to micro-SD card

i. Plug your micro-SD card to your PC, run "PhoenixCard.exe". You will see something like this:

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

	12以日初 大			
😋 PhoenixCard 3.0	16			
Card and Image DiskCheck disk F:\ Img File C:\Lifeng\PCDuino\Updates\Ubuntu\a10_kernel_20130307.img Write Mode				
• Product	🔽 User Data			
C Startup !	Data Path			
Burn	Format to Normal	Clear Info	Help	Exit
Rate Option Device OK, the s	ize of the device is 3773 M.			

ii. Choose the Linux kernel image file a10_kernel_xxx.img that you've downloaded and write it to micro-SD card

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

PhoenixCard 3.06 Card and Image DiskCheck disk F:\ Img File C:\Lifeng\PCDuino\Updates\Ubuntu\a10_kernel_20130307.img	
Write Mode Product User Data C Startup / Data Path Burn Format to Normal Clear Info Help Rate	Exit
Option Device OK, the size of the device is 3773 M.	

After a few minutes, the TF card is ready to use to burn the kernel to the flash in pcDuino.

d) Burn the OS image to internal flash from micro-SD card

- a) Plug the micro-SD card to the pcDuino, power on the board, and then wait for one minute
- b) When see the RX LED stays on, and the TX LED is blinking, the kernel is updated successfully. Eject the TF card and reset the device

e) Restore the micro-SD card created in step 1, c)

The micro-SD card is specially created in step 1, c) to allow it to be recognized by the ROMBOOT of the board. To avoid the unexpected update of the kernel, use the PhoenixCard to restore it to normal and clean card

- i. Plug your micro-SD card to your PC, run PhoenixCard.exe.
- ii. Select the micro-SD card in the disk scroll window, and choose "Format to Normal" to restore the card.

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

	12 KA H / VJ 2	<u> </u>		
🜍 PhoenixCard 3.06				
Card and Image DiskCheck Img File	disk F:\ C:\Lifeng\PCDuino\Updates\U	buntu\a10_kerne1_201303	07.img	
Write Mode	Vser Data			
C Startup /	Data Path			
Burn	Format to Normal	Clear Info	Help	Exit
Rate				
Option Device OK, the siz	e of the device is 3773 M.			
		$\overline{\mathbf{O}}$		

Step 2: Install Ubuntu

a) Unzip the Ubuntu.zip file obtained in Step 1, a)

Unzip it to get three files like these:

- Update.sh: shell script for Ubuntu update
- Ubuntu_xxx.img: image file for Ubuntu
- *.tgz (released on March 2013) or *.fex (released on Feb. 2013) file depending on the version that you are using

b) Copy the three files unzipped in Step 2, a) to micro-SD card or USB flash disk

c) Burn the Ubuntu to internal flash

Plug the micro-SD card or USB flash disk to pcDuino and power on the device. If the TX LED starts to blink fast and RX LED always stays on, it indicates the Ubuntu is being burned to internal flash. Wait until both TX LED and RX LED blink slowly. It indicates that the Ubuntu is burned to internal flash successfully. Otherwise, if both TX LED and RX LED blink very fast, the Ubuntu is failed to burn to flash. If so, please make sure that you have all three files unzipped in step 2, a) in your disk and redo this step. This step usually takes around 10 minutes so be patient.

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

Steps to update the Android image with micro-SD card (RECOMMEND)

1. Download the Android operating system for pcDuino

The download link is:

http://www.pcduino.com/?page_id=14

Find the link for Android image, download it and get one file with .img extension.

2. Download the Phonenix Card software

The download page is:

http://www.pcduino.com/?page_id=14

Find the "Phonenix Card" link under Tools in this page and download it. Unzip it to a new folder with default name PhoenixCardV306_20120302.

3. Write pcDuino Android image to micro-SD card

(a) Plug your micro-SD card to your PC, run "PhoenixCard.exe". You will see something like this:

C PhoenixCard 3.06			
Card and Image DiskCheck disk Img File C:\Lifeng\PCDuino\Updates\AndroidOS\pcduino_android_20130308.img			
Write Mode © Product User Data © Startup ! Data Path			
Burn Format to Normal Clear Info Help	Exit		
Option Device OK, the size of the device is 3773 M. NOT Found Removable Disk !			

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

(b) Choose the Android image file pcduino_Android_ xxx.img that you've downloaded and write it to the micro-SD card

🕥 PhoenixCard 3.06					
Card and Image DiskCheck Img File	disk F:\ 💌 C:\Lifeng\PCDuino\Updates\	AndroidOS\pcduino_android_2	0130308.img		
Write Mode © Product C Startup !	Write Mode © Product User Data C Startup ! Data Path				
Burn Rate Option Device OK, the size NOT Found Removable Device OK	Format to Normal of the device is 3773 M. Disk !	Clear Info	<u>Help</u>	Exit	

After a few minutes, the micro-SD card is ready to use.

4. Burn the OS image to internal flash from micro-SD card

- a) Plug the micro-SD card to the pcDuino and then power on the board. Wait for about four minutes
- b) Eject the micro-SD card and reset the device

* We have a catch in step (a). We don't have any LED to indicate when the boot image is burned completely unless you connect the hyperterminal to pcDuino, so please wait for four minutes patiently. Moreover, please eject the TF card before resetting the device. Otherwise, it will start to burn the OS image again if the TF card is inserted.

5. Restore the micro-SD card created in step 3

The micro-SD card is specially created in step 3 to allow it to be recognized by the ROMBOOT of the board. To avoid the unexpected update of the Android OS, use the PhoenixCard to restore it to normal and clean card

- iii. Plug your micro-SD card to your PC, run "PhoenixCard.exe".
- iv. Select the micro-SD card in the disk scroll window, and choose "Format to Normal" to restore the card.

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

V PhoenixCard 3.06
Card and Image
DiskCheck disk F:\
Img File C:\Lifeng\PCDuino\Updates\Ubuntu\a10_kernel_20130307.img
W
(• Froduct) User Data
C Startup / Data Path
Burn (Format to Normal) Clear Info Help Exit
Rate
Device OK, the size of the device is 3773 M.
]
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		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

Steps to update software from USB disk

Over time, we will have the bug fix or provide new features to pcDuino board. Most of the time, users do not need to update the whole operating system. Instead, we could add software patch to accomplish this. The procedure is simply like these:

- 1. Copy update package to USB disk (for example: update.sh, update.tgz)
- 2. Power on pcDuino board
- 3. Plugin the USB disk to USB host port
- 4. Open a terminal after login to Ubuntu
- Run commands to update the package \$ cd /media/*/

\$ bash ./update.sh

Note:

If the USB disk has more than one partition, enter the whole path which the partition including update package is mounted, for example "cd /media/Volumn". If you don't know which partition to choose, open "File Manager" to check it.

The name of update script (update.sh) and update package (update.tgz) may be different for the individual purpose.

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		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

6. Use pcDuino as an mini PC platform

1) pcDuino and Ubuntu

pcDuino & Ubuntu support customized Ubuntu linux 12.04 that is specially optimized for running on ARM cortex platform with limited DRAM and NAND flash support. The device could be operated with the USB mouse and keyboard. The supported application list consists of the follows:

Items	Details		
Terminal	 Use build in "LXTerminal" application from desktop 		
	• Launch terminal application, run standard linux commands or vi editor etc.		
	 Launch C/C++ compile (use gcc), assembly and execution 		
File browser	 Use build in File Manager from desktop 		
	 Used for typical file management 		
Internet browser	Use chromium web browser from desktop		
	Support HTML5		
Office	 Use Document Viewer from desktop for PDF file view 		
	 Use Gnumeric from desktop for Excel file view and edit 		
	 Use AbiWord from desktop for Word file view and edit 		
Movie player	Use MPlayer from desktop		
	 Could playback audio, video and image 		

Note:

The root user and password are "ubuntu".

6.2 pcDuino and Android

pcDuino board supports customized android 4.0 that is specially optimized for HD-TV output display devices. The device could be operated with the USB mouse and keyboard. The supported application list consists of but not limited the follows:

Items	Details
File browser	Use build in File Manager
	 Used for typical file management
Internet browser	 Use web browser from desktop or Google Search widget
	Support HTML5
Calendar	Google Calendar
Gmail	Visit Gmail accounts
People	Google contacts apps
App Store	 Use Google "play store" to download third-party apps
Music	Android built-in music player
Movie player	built-in Super-HD Player to play local movies

Doc Title		Number	WMSBB121219
	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

7. Use pcDuino as a high performance Arduino platform

1) Guide of individual Arduino samples

Android:

Setting up the PC environment before run all the samples:

- a) Plugin USB-to-serial cable to PC usb port and install usb_to_serial driver
- (PL2303_Prolific_DriverInstaller_v110) 🛃 设备管理器 - 0 文件(F) 操作(A) 查看(V) 帮助(H) 🧼 🧼 📅 🚺 🖬 😣 midential 🦉 端口 (COM 和 LPT) Prolific USB-to-Serial Comm Port (COM3) 🔳 计算机 ▲ 监视器 一 键盘 🔙 人体学输入设备 b) Set uart tool on PC (baud rate 115200) for example: sercureCRT Session Options - Serial-COM3 Serial Options Flow Control COII3 115200 RTS/CTS XON/XOFF <u>S</u>erial break 100 🚔 milliseconds IMPORTANT: Any changes you make will not take effect until the next time this session connects. OK Cancel Note:

After android system power on, input the command "sh" from secureCRT window, and the system will print out a welcome message "root@android:/#" waiting for your commands.

Ubuntu:

You can run the test in the secureCRT, just like the android above. You can also run the test in the terminal shell of the ubuntu.

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

2) UART



Hardware required:

USB to serial Cable (need 2 cables for this test, one for commands, and the other one for test).



Test steps:

c) Plugin USB-to-serial cable to PC usb port and install usb_to_serial driver

Destrute	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
Doc Title		Version	0.4



d) Set uart tool on PC (baud rate 115200)

for example: sercureCRT

- Connection	Serial Options	
Logon Scripts Terminal Emulation Modes Maped Keys Advanced Mappearance Window Logo File	Pgrt: CON3 Baud rate: 115200 Data bits: 8 Parity: None Stop bits: 1	Flow Control DIR/DSR RS/CTS RS/CTS
- Printing - Advanced - Xmoden/Zmodem	Serial break 100	😴 milliseconds
	IMPORTANT: Any change until the next time t	s you make will not take effect his session connects.

- e) Connect USB-to-serial cable to pcDuino before power on
 - USB-to-serial pcDuino GND ----- GND RX ----- PIN1(TX)
- f) Run uart test sample with the following commands in the debug console window

cd /home/ubuntu/sample/test

./uart_test "ubuntu uart test"

Note: do not input the symbol "#", you can replace the message "ubuntu uart test " by your own.

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g) PC uart tool will receive messages sent by the test program



Press "Ctrl" and "C" on keyboard to stop the test process

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

3) ADC

ADC0 and ADC1 are 6 bits resolution and ADC2 ~ ADC5 are 12 bits resolution.



Test Steps:

- a) Connect the battery to pcDuino before power on
 - Battery pcDuino N ----- GND
 - P ----- ADC0 ~ ADC5
- b) Connect USB power adaptor to power on

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

c) Run adc test sample with the following commands in the debug console window
 # cd /home/ubuntu/sample/core
 # ./adc_get 0

[usage: type ./adc_get for help]

The test program will print out the raw ADC values which depend on the battery voltage.

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D T		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

4) PWM Sample

PWM

There are two hardware PWM interfaces and four PWM that is simulated by GPIO. PWM1 and PWM2 are hardware PWM and can support up to 24MHz frequency, PWM0 and PWM3~PWM5 can support up to 100 Hz frequency and may not very accurate.



Hardware required: A buzzer



Test Steps:

1. Connect the buzzer to pcDuino before power on

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

 Buzzer
 pcDuino

 GND(N)
 ----- GND

 VCC(P)
 ----- PWM1 (any pin of PWM0-PWM5)

- 2. Connect USB power adaptor to power on
- 3. pwm_get

cd /home/ubuntu/sample/core
. /pwm_get 0 0

[Usage: type ./pwm_get for help]

The test program will get the pwm's current level or max level

4. pwm_set

cd /home/ubuntu/sample/core
. /pwm_set 0 0

[Usage: type ./pwm_set for help]

The test program will make the buzzer generating audio signal, and you can hear the sound.

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litle	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

5) GPIO Sample

There are 14 GPIOs. Sometimes, some GPIO will be mux as other PIN, such as SPI



A Button Module

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4



Test Steps:

1. Connect the LED to pcDuino before power on

GND/- ----- GND

S GPIO1 (any pin of GPIO0-13) _____

LED pcDuino

GND/-		GND
-------	--	-----

- Fildentia S GPIO0 (any pin of GPIO0-13) _____
- 2. Connect USB power adaptor to power on
- 3. gpio_set

cd /home/ubuntu/sample/core # . /gpio_set 0 0

[Usage: type ./gpio_set for help] This test will high or low the gpio pin.

4. gpio_get # cd /home/ubuntu/sample/core # . /gpio_get 0

> [Usage: type ./gpio_get for help] This test will get the gpio pin level.

5. pin_mode

cd /home/ubuntu/sample/core # . /pin_mode 0 1

[Usage: type ./pin_mode for help] This test will set the gpio pin to input or output mode.

		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

6. Run gpio sample with the following commands in the terminal window \$ cd /home/ubuntu/sample/test

\$./io_test 10

Note:

Test program Usage:

\$./io_test BUTTON_PIN_NUM LED_PIN_NUM

do not input the symbol "\$", if the Button/LED connects to another pin, replace the BUTTON_PIN_NUM/LED_PIN_NUM with the one which the button/LED connected(example: if the Button connects to GPIO5, LED connects to GPIO10, then run "./io_test 5 10" instead).

Press/Release the button to turn on/off the LED.

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		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

6) I2C Sample

I2C (Two wire)



Hardware required: ADXL-345 Triple-Axis Analog Accelerometer



		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

Test steps:

- a) Connect the ADXL-345 device to pcDuino before power on
 - ADXL-345 pcDuino
 - GND ----- GND
 - VCC -----3.3V
 - SDA -----SDA
 - SCL -----SCL
- b) Connect usb power adaptor to power on
- c) The general i2c cmd is in /home/ubuntu/core

You can type ./i2cdetect, or ./i2cget or ./i2cset or ./i2cdump for help.

- d) Run adx1345 test sample with the following commands in the terminal window
 - \$ cd /home/ubuntu/sample/test
 - \$./adx1345_test

Note: do not input the symbol "\$"

e) The test program will print out the x, y, z value of adx1345, change the direction of the test device and the output value will change too

```
-99
1, z=95
x=0, y=1, z=108
x=9, y=45, z=116
x=1, y=59, z=10
x=0, y=0, z=0
x=10, y=0, z=95
x=0, y=0, z=8
x=0, y=0, z=7
x=0, y=0, z=99
            war -
x=0, y=0, z=95
```

D T		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

7) SPI Sample



Hardware required:

An SPI flash test module (for example: M25P16)



Note:

Doc Title	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
		Version	0.4

Some PINs of SPI bus also can be used as GPIO function, if

Test steps:

a) Connect the spi flash to pcDuino before power on

SPI Fl	ash	pcDuino
GND		GND
V3.3		3.3V
DO		SPI0_MISO
DI		SPI0_MOSI
CS		SPI0_CS
CLK		SPI0 CLK

- b) Connect USB power adaptor to power on
- c) Run SPI test sample with the following commands in the debug console window # cd /home/ubuntu/sample/test

./spi_test

- Note: do not input the symbol "#"
- d) The test program will print out the flash chip id (for M25P16, chip id is 0xef2015):
- spi flash ID=0xef2015

Note:

1. Some PADs of SPI bus are sharing with GPIO function, if you have done GPIO test but not RESET before executing "./spi_test " command, you may get invalid ID value.

D 711		Number	WMSBB121219
Doc litie	pcDunio User Guide	Version	0.4

8. HDMI Overscan adjustment

Please type ./setwindow for help. This command can adjust the windows on TV.

Usage:

setwindow percentage center x y

if center=0, use x, y related to top left corner (only support positive x and y values) if center is not 0, auto-center position, don't care x,y value

Example:

\$ sudo setwindow 95 1 0 0

re (if over sca. Auto center the window, and the original window is 95% of original size (if over scan)

The default value is ./setwindow 95 1 0 0

Doc Title	pcDunio User Guide	Number	WMSBB121219
		Version	0.4

9. GCC

The gcc toolchain is preloaded. The version is 4.6.3

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