

Integrating the Sona TI351 Wi-Fi with the BeagleBone Black (BBB)



Purpose [🔗](#)

The purpose of this document is to provide step-by-step instructions for integrating a TI AM3358-based BeagleBone black SBC with Ezurio's Sona-TI351 Wi-Fi module. We do this through the Sona TI351 DVK via a Yocto Scarthgap-based Linux image.

Hardware [🔗](#)

- Linux-based PC
- BeagleBone black, MicroSD card, cables, and power supplies
- Sona TI351 DVK (P/N 453-00200-K1)

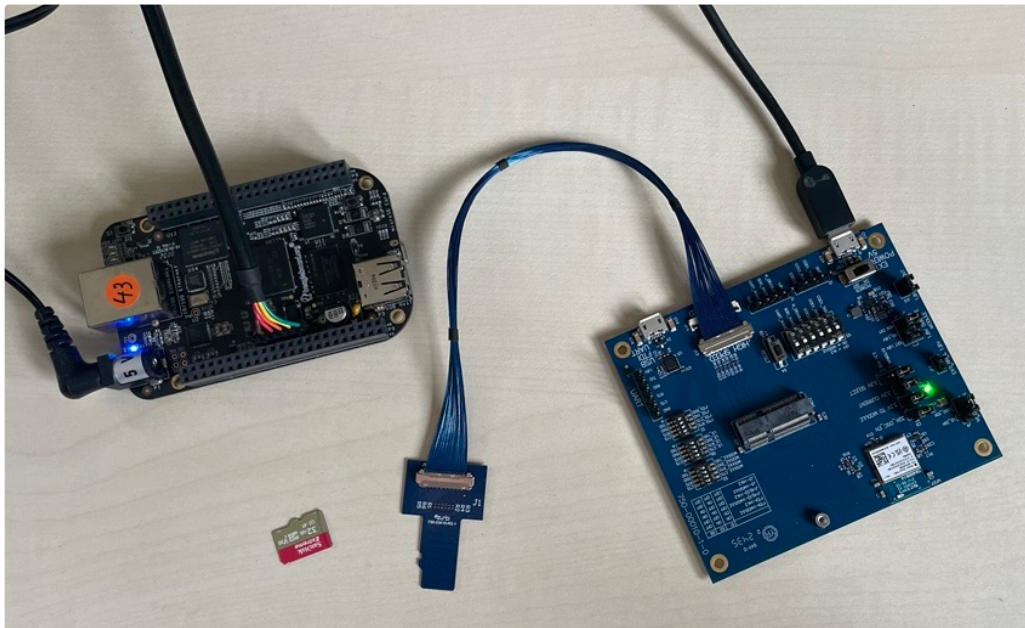


453-00200-K1 | Ezurio

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Ezurio



Building and Running the Yocto Image [↗](#)

Prerequisites on build machine [↗](#)

```
1 sudo apt-get install bc gawk wget git diffstat unzip texinfo gcc-multilib \  
2 build-essential chrpath socat cpio python3 python3-pip python3-pexpect \  
3 xz-utils debianutils iputils-ping libssl1.2-dev xterm libncurses5-dev \  
4 pkg-config socat subversion texi2html texinfo u-boot-tools\
```

Download Yocto [↗](#)

```
1 mkdir bbb  
2 cd bbb  
3 git clone git://git.yoctoproject.org/poky  
4 cd poky  
5 git checkout scarthgap
```

Download BeagleBone black BSP [↗](#)

```
1 git clone git://git.yoctoproject.org/meta-ti  
2 cd meta-ti  
3 git checkout scarthgap  
4 cd ..
```

Initialize environment [↗](#)

```
1 source oe-init-build-env build_bbb
```

Note: This creates a build directory (build_bbb) and changes to it.

Adjust bblayers.conf [↗](#)

```
1 cd conf  
2 nano bblayers.conf
```

Add the path to TI's meta-ti layer via the BBLAYERS variable:

```
1 # POKY_BBLAYERS_CONF_VERSION is increased each time build/conf/bblayers.conf  
2 # changes incompatibly  
3 POKY_BBLAYERS_CONF_VERSION = "2"  
4  
5 BBPATH = "${TOPDIR}"  
6 BBFILES ?= ""  
7  
8 BBLAYERS ?= " \  
9     /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta \  
10    /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-poky \  
11    /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-yocto-bsp \  
12    /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-ti \  
13    "
```

Note: Save the changes!

Adjust local.conf [↗](#)

Find the following passage in *local.conf* and remove the '#' in front of the **beaglebone-yocto** line (line 5 below).

```
MACHINE ?= "beaglebone-yocto"
```

```
1 ...
2 There are also the following hardware board target machines included for
3 demonstration purposes:
4
5 MACHINE ?= "beaglebone-yocto"
6 #MACHINE ?= "genericarm64"
7 #MACHINE ?= "genericx86"
8 #MACHINE ?= "genericx86-64"
9 ...
```

Note: Save the changes!

Troubleshooting: Fixing missing layer.conf file error in 'meta-ti' layer [🔗](#)

You may witness the following error:

```
1 FileNotFoundError: [Errno 2] file /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-ti/conf/layer.conf not found
```

The solution to the above is as follows:

```
1 mkdir <poky-dir>/meta-ti/conf
2 touch <poky-dir>/meta-ti/conf/layer.conf
```

Build first image [🔗](#)

```
1 cd ..
2 bitbake core-image-base
```

Note: In our testing, we initially found a fetch error (gperf). The solution was to start a bitbake process again, which overcame the issue.

Flashing image to SD card [🔗](#)

The newly built image can be found at:

```
1 ../poky/build_bbb/tmp/deploy/images/beaglebone-yocto
```

Flash this image to an SD card with Linux tool "dd:"

Note: Be VERY careful to select the correct target (denoted in the of= argument below)

```
1 sudo dd if=core-image-base-beaglebone-yocto.rootfs.wic of=/dev/mmcblk0 bs=1M conv=sync
```

Insert the SD card into the BeagleBone and push the boot switch while applying power. This ensures the BeagleBone will boot from the SD card.

Gaining console access on BeagleBone black [🔗](#)

You can use the information on the following page to gain console access to the BeagleBone Black:

<https://www.dummies.com/article/technology/computers/hardware/beaglebone/how-to-connect-the-beaglebone-black-via-serial-over-usb-144981/>

Note: Other USB/Serial converters might work as well.

Flashing internal eMMC of the Beaglebone to free the SD card slot for the Sona TI351 [🔗](#)

The following command shows the available block devices on the BBB:

```
1 root@beaglebone-yocto:~# ls /dev/mmc* -al
2 brw-rw---- 1 root disk 179, 8 Jan 1 2000 /dev/mmcblk0
```

3	brw-rw----	1	root	disk	179,	9 Jan	1	2000	/dev/mmcblk0p1
4	brw-rw----	1	root	disk	179,	10 Jan	1	2000	/dev/mmcblk0p2
5	brw-rw----	1	root	disk	179,	0 Jan	1	2000	/dev/mmcblk1
6	brw-rw----	1	root	disk	179,	16 Jan	1	2000	/dev/mmcblk1boot0
7	brw-rw----	1	root	disk	179,	24 Jan	1	2000	/dev/mmcblk1boot1
8	brw-rw----	1	root	disk	179,	1 Jan	1	2000	/dev/mmcblk1p1
9	c-rw-----	1	root	root	247,	0 Jan	1	2000	/dev/mmcblk1rmpb

Line 5 above, *mmcblk1*, is the internal eMMC memory.

Write the contents of the SD card (*mmcblk0*) to the internal emmc memory (*mmcblk1*) as follows:

```
1 root@beaglebone-yocto:~# dd if=/dev/mmcblk0 of=/dev/mmcblk1 bs=1M
```

Note: Power off the Beaglebone, remove the microSD card, and restart the Beaglebone:

```
Poky (Yocto Project Reference Distro) 5.0.9 beaglebone-yocto /dev/ttyS0
beaglebone-yocto login: root

WARNING: Poky is a reference Yocto Project distribution that should be used for
testing and development purposes only. It is recommended that you create your
own distribution for production use.

root@beaglebone-yocto:~# uname -a
Linux beaglebone-yocto 6.6.21-yocto-standard #1 PREEMPT Tue Mar 19 16:42:51 UTC 2024 armv7l GNU/Linux
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
```

Adding software for the Sona-IF351 Wi-Fi module [↗](#)

Adding Ezurio's Yocto meta layer to the build environment [↗](#)

Back on the build machine, in the Poky layer, execute the following command:

```
1 alex@bigNUC:~/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky$ git clone https://github.com/Ezurio/meta-summit-radio/
2 Cloning into 'meta-summit-radio'...
3 remote: Enumerating objects: 4715, done.
4 remote: Counting objects: 100% (229/229), done.
5 remote: Compressing objects: 100% (96/96), done.
6 remote: Total 4715 (delta 164), reused 171 (delta 128), pack-reused 4486 (from 1)
7 Receiving objects: 100% (4715/4715), 936.14 KiB | 5.38 MiB/s, done.
8 Resolving deltas: 100% (3003/3003), done.
9
10 alex@bigNUC:~/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky$ cd meta-summit-radio/
11 alex@bigNUC:~/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-summit-radio$ git checkout lrd-12.103.8.x
12 Branch 'lrd-12.103.8.x' set up to track remote branch 'lrd-12.103.8.x' from 'origin'.
13 Switched to a new branch 'lrd-12.103.8.x'
```

Adjust *bblayers.conf* to add 'meta-summit-radio' layer [↗](#)

```
1 alex@bigNUC:~/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/build_bbb/conf$ nano bblayers.conf
```

```
1 POKY_BBLAYERS_CONF_VERSION is increased each time build/conf/bblayers.conf
2 changes incompatibly
3
4 POKY_BBLAYERS_CONF_VERSION = "2"
5
6 BBPATH = "${TOPDIR}"
7 BBFILES ?= ""
8
9 BBLAYERS ?= " \
10 /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta \
```

```

11 /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-poky \
12 /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-yocto-bsp \
13 /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-ti \
14 /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-summit-radio/meta-summit-radio \
15 "

```

Note: Save the changes!

Adjust local.conf file to include Ezurio and other required or useful recipes [🔗](#)

Add to *local.conf*:

```

1 # added by user for Ezurio:
2 CORE_IMAGE_EXTRA_INSTALL += "\
3 pulseaudio \
4 ethtool \
5 iw \
6 openssh \
7 kernel-module-ti-backports \
8 ti351-firmware \
9 summit-supPLICANT-ti \
10
11 PREFERRED_RPROVIDER_wpa-supPLICANT = "summit-supPLICANT-ti"
12 PREFERRED_RPROVIDER_wpa-supPLICANT-cli = "summit-supPLICANT-ti"
13 PREFERRED_RPROVIDER_wpa-supPLICANT-passphrase = "summit-supPLICANT-ti"
14 PREFERRED_RPROVIDER_wireless-regdb-static = "wireless-regdb"

```

Note: Save the changes!

Fixing missing layer.conf file error in 'meta-summit-radio' layer [🔗](#)

You may witness the following error:

```

1 FileNotFoundError: [Errno 2] file /home/alex/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/meta-summit-radio/conf/layer.conf
  not found

```

The solution to the above is as follows::

```

1 mkdir <poky-dir>/meta-summit-radio/conf
2 touch <poky-dir>/meta-summit-radio/conf/layer.conf

```

Prepare kernel config for Ezurio backports [🔗](#)

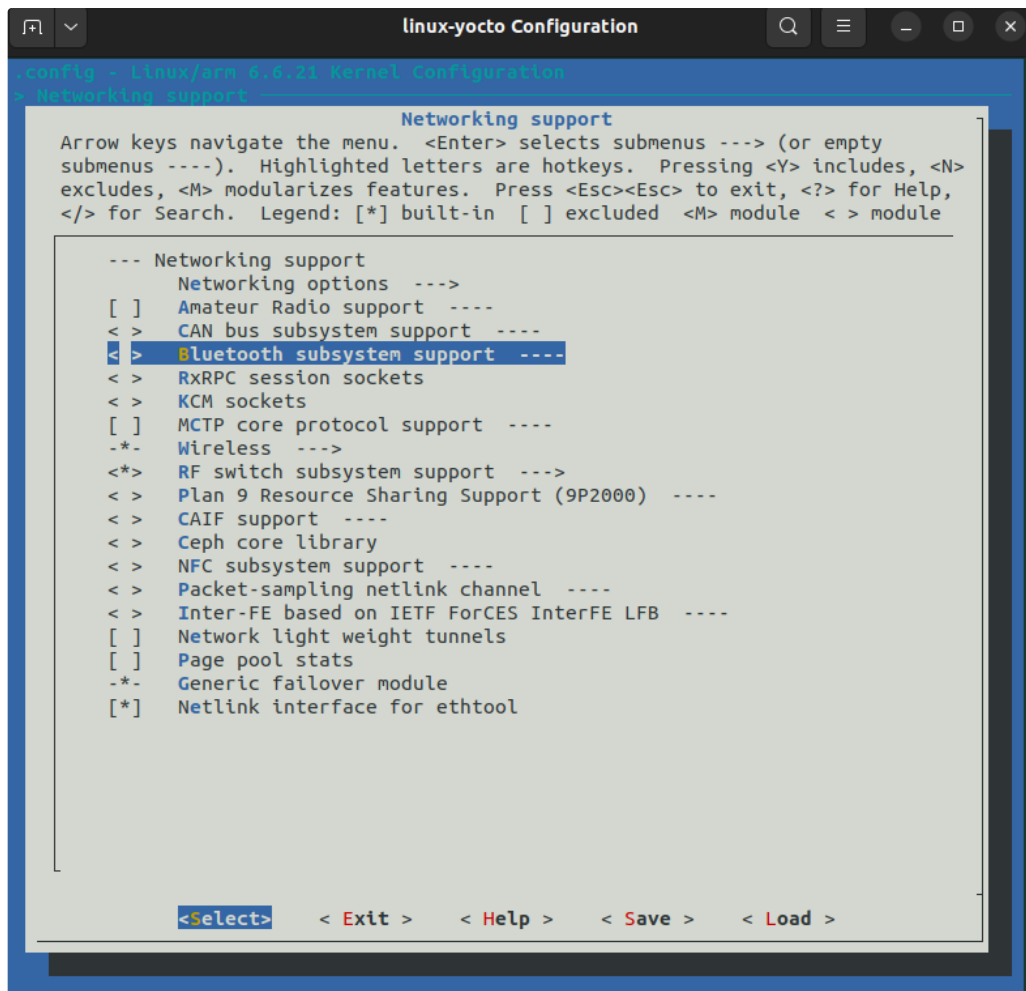
Run the following command:

```

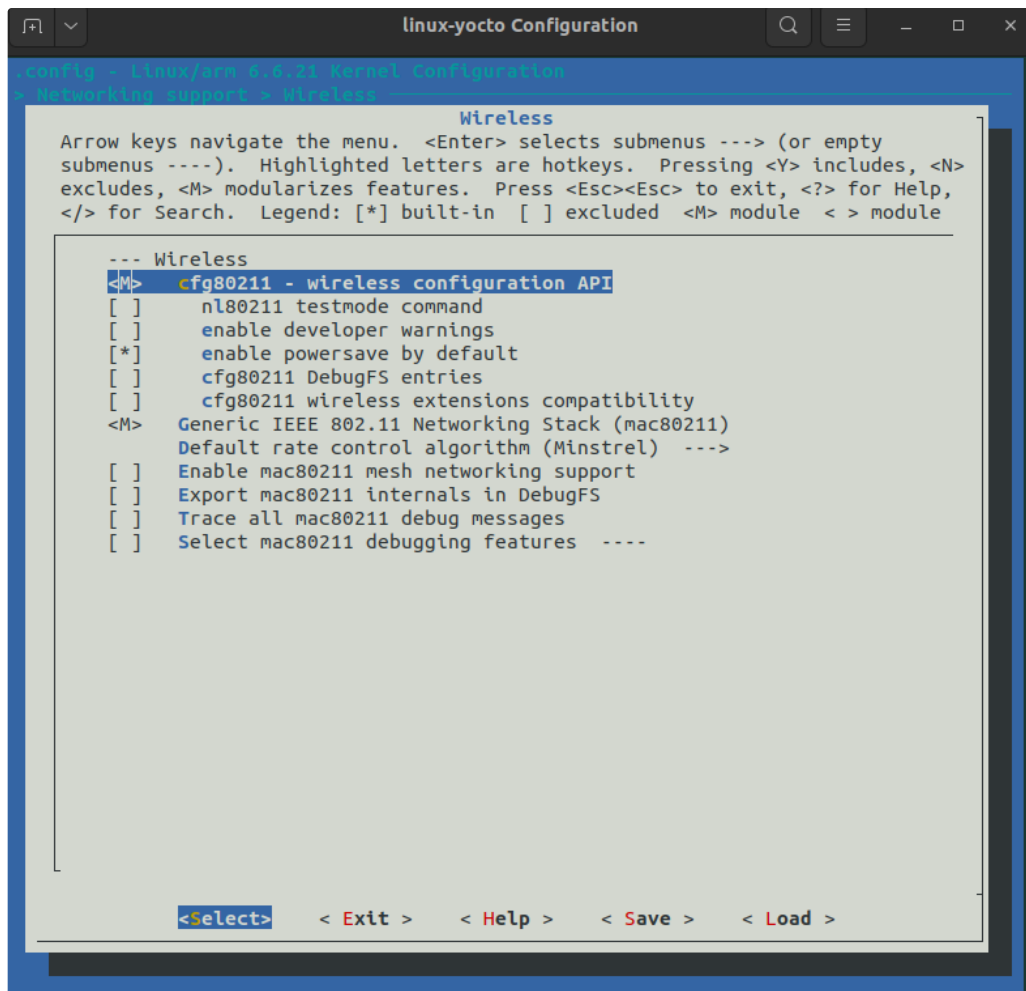
1 bitbake -c menuconfig virtual/kernel

```

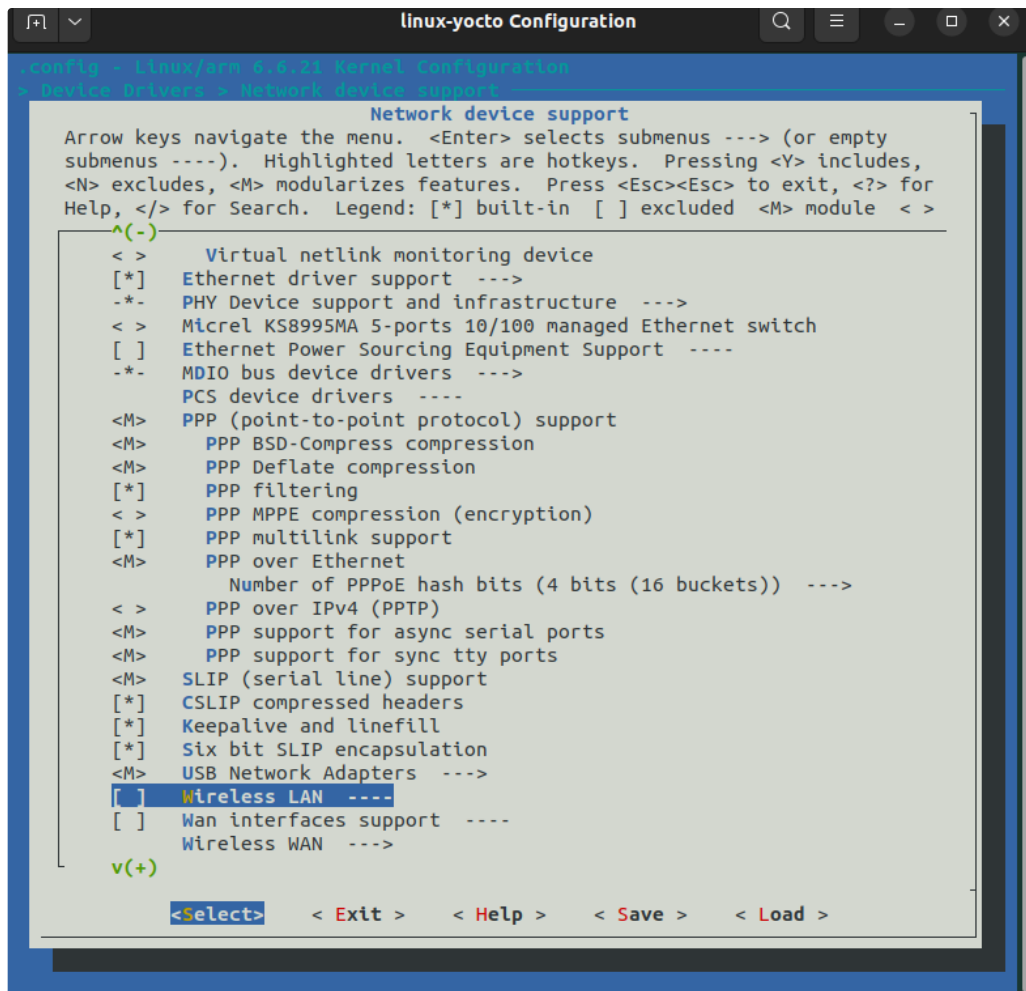
Remove the Bluetooth subsystem:



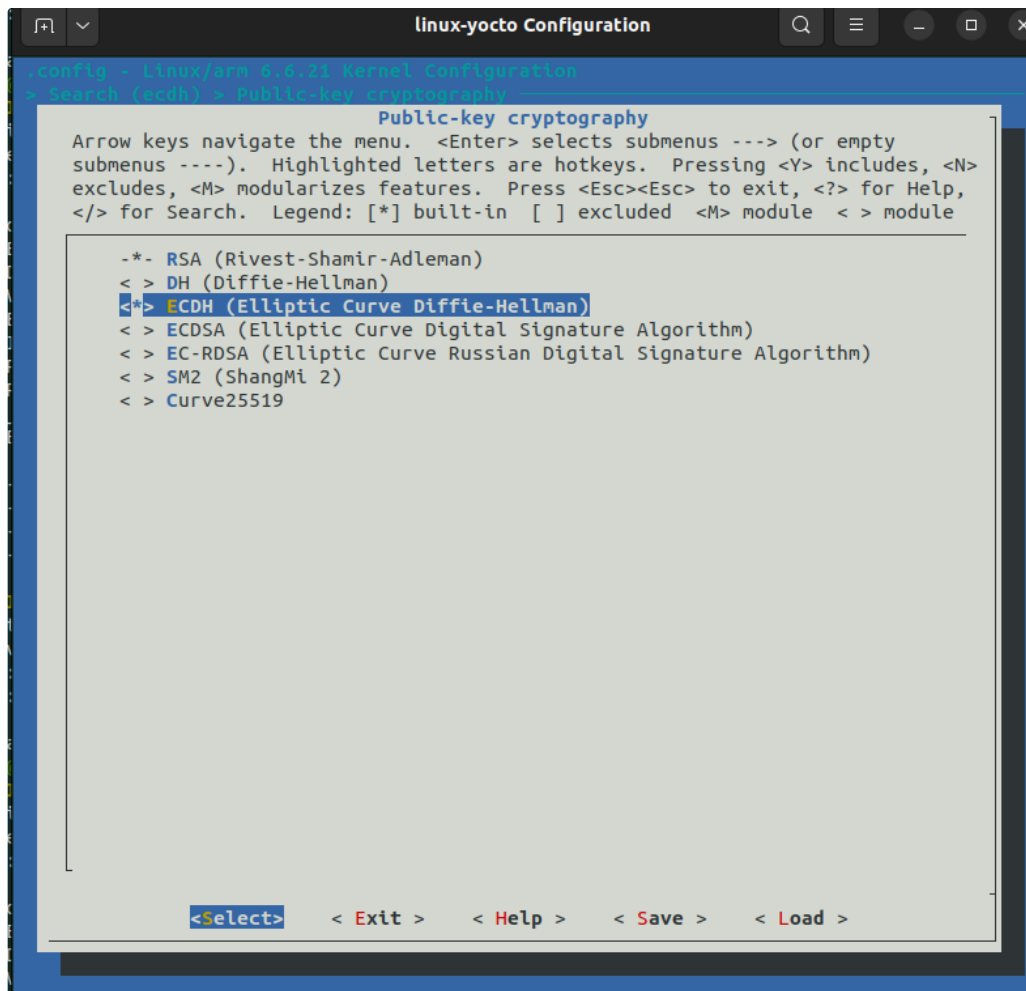
Set 'Wireless' to <M>:



Remove Wireless LAN driver as highlighted below:



Add ECDH support as highlighted below:



Note: Save the changes!

Adjust BBB device tree for TI351 [↗](#)

In the following directory:

```
../poky/build_bbb/tmp/work-shared/beaglebone-yocto/kernel-source/arch/arm/boot/dts/ti/omap$
```

...add this to the file 'am335x-bone-common.dtsi'

```

1  vmmc-supply = <&reg_usdhc1_vmmc>;
2  max-frequency = <50000000>;
3  cap-power-off-card;
4
5  #address-cells = <1>;
6  #size-cells = <0>;
7
8  wlcore: wlcore@2 {
9      compatible = "ti,cc33xx";
10     reg = <2>;
11 };

```

under node:

```

1  &mmc1 {
2      status = "okay";
3      bus-width = <0x4>;

```

```

4     pinctrl-names = "default";
5     pinctrl-0 = <&mmc1_pins>;
6     cd-gpios = <&gpio0 6 GPIO_ACTIVE_LOW>;
7
8     vmmc-supply = <&reg_usdhc1_vmmc>;
9     max-frequency = <50000000>;
10    cap-power-off-card;
11
12    #address-cells = <1>;
13    #size-cells = <0>;
14
15    wlcore: wlcore@2 {
16        compatible = "ti,cc33xx";
17        reg = <2>;
18    };
19 };
20

```

Build the image that includes Sona-TI351 software and adjusted device tree [↗](#)

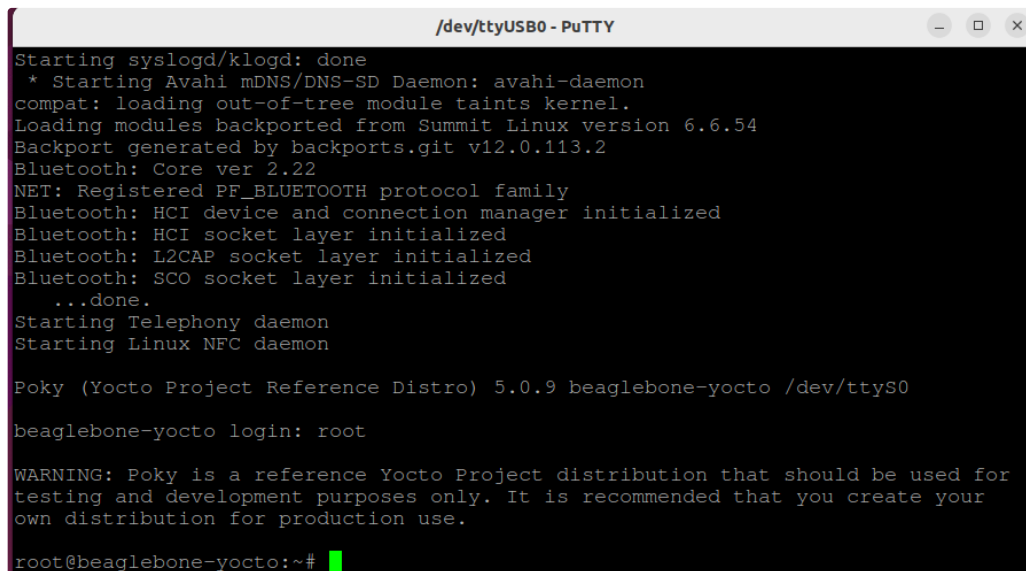
Compile the device tree as follows:

```
1 alex@bigNUC:~/Projects/yocto/bbb/poky/build_bbb$ bitbake linux-yocto -f -c compile
```

Repeat the steps for building the Yocto image, and flashing the emmc memory of the BB via SD card.

Final results [↗](#)

Boot the BeagleBone and log in:



```

/dev/ttyUSB0 - PuTTY
Starting syslogd/klogd: done
* Starting Avahi mDNS/DNS-SD Daemon: avahi-daemon
compat: loading out-of-tree module taints kernel.
Loading modules backported from Summit Linux version 6.6.54
Backport generated by backports.git v12.0.113.2
Bluetooth: Core ver 2.22
NET: Registered PF_BLUETOOTH protocol family
Bluetooth: HCI device and connection manager initialized
Bluetooth: HCI socket layer initialized
Bluetooth: L2CAP socket layer initialized
Bluetooth: SCO socket layer initialized
...done.
Starting Telephony daemon
Starting Linux NFC daemon

Poky (Yocto Project Reference Distro) 5.0.9 beaglebone-yocto /dev/ttyS0

beaglebone-yocto login: root

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own distribution for production use.

root@beaglebone-yocto:~#

```

Observe the correct placement of the TI351 firmware:

```
/dev/ttyUSB0 - PuTTY
Bluetooth: HCI socket layer initialized
Bluetooth: L2CAP socket layer initialized
Bluetooth: SCO socket layer initialized
...done.
Starting Telephony daemon
Starting Linux NFC daemon

Poky (Yocto Project Reference Distro) 5.0.9 beaglebone-yocto /dev/ttyS0

beaglebone-yocto login: root

WARNING: Poky is a reference Yocto Project distribution that should be used for
testing and development purposes only. It is recommended that you create your
own distribution for production use.

root@beaglebone-yocto:~# ls /lib/firmware/ti-connectivity/ -al
drwxr-xr-x  2 root    root      1024 Mar  9 12:34 .
drwxr-xr-x  3 root    root      1024 Mar  9 12:34 ..
lrwxrwxrwx  1 root    root        17 Mar  9 12:34 cc33xx-conf.bin -> ti35
1-conf_WW.bin
-rw-r--r--  1 root    root     70212 Mar  9 12:34 cc33xx_2nd_loader.bin
-rw-r--r--  1 root    root    514080 Mar  9 12:34 cc33xx_fw.bin
-rw-r--r--  1 root    root     1129 Mar  9 12:34 ti351-conf_WW.bin
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
```

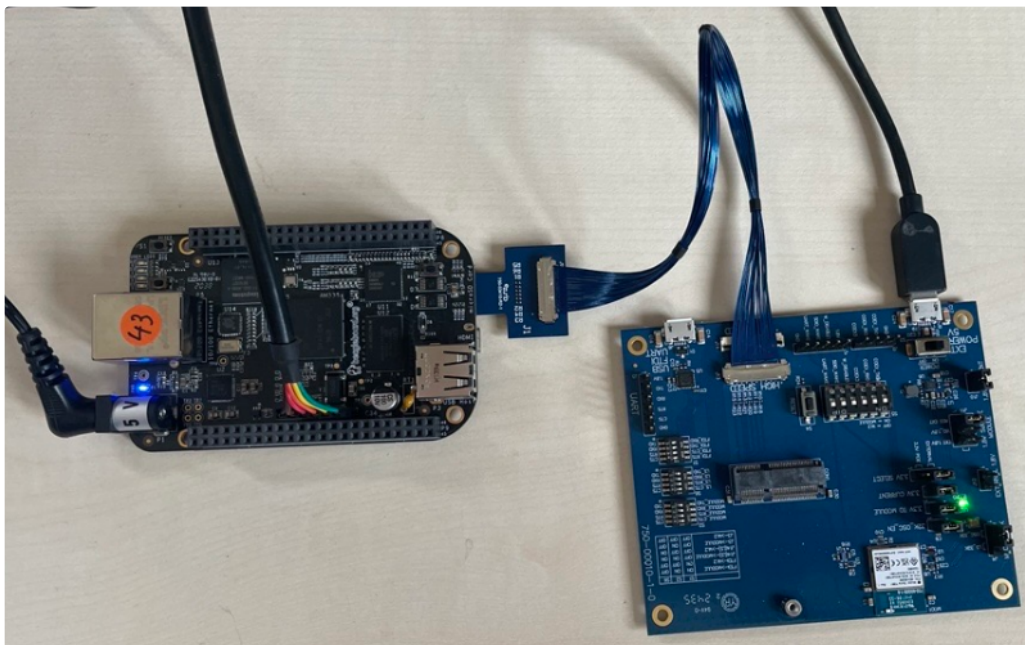
Insert the TI351 DVK into the microSD card slot and observe the following console output:

```
/dev/ttyUSB0 - PuTTY

WARNING: Poky is a reference Yocto Project distribution that should be used for
testing and development purposes only. It is recommended that you create your
own distribution for production use.

root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
root@beaglebone-yocto:~# sdhci-omap 48060000.mmc: card claims to support voltages below defi
ned range
mmc0: new high speed SDIO card at address 0001
cc33xx_sdio mmc0:0001:2: Using SDIO in-band IRQ
cc33xx_driver cc33xx.2.auto: Direct firmware load for ti-connectivity/cc33xx-nvs.bin failed
with error -2
wlcore: Wireless driver version 1.7.0.128
wlcore: Wireless firmware version 1.7.0.188
wlcore: Wireless PHY version 1.2.39.5.44.67
wlcore: loaded

root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
```



Verify the availability of the wlan0 interface:

```

/dev/ttyUSB0 - PuTTY
root@beaglebone-yocto:~# sdhci-omap 48060000.mmc: card claims to support voltages below defini
ned range
mmc0: new high speed SDIO card at address 0001
cc33xx_sdio mmc0:0001:2: Using SDIO in-band IRQ
cc33xx_driver cc33xx.2.auto: Direct firmware load for ti-connectivity/cc33xx-nvs.bin failed
with error -2
wlc0re: Wireless driver version 1.7.0.128
wlc0re: Wireless firmware version 1.7.0.188
wlc0re: Wireless PHY version 1.2.39.5.44.67
wlc0re: loaded

root@beaglebone-yocto:~#
root@beaglebone-yocto:~# iw dev
phy#0
    Interface wlan0
        ifindex 4
        wdev 0x1
        addr e4:fa:5b:ee:62:40
        type managed
        multicast TXQ:

                                qsz-byt  qsz-pkt  flows    drops    marks    overlmt  hashcol  tx-bytes  t
x-packets
                                0          0          0         0         0         0         0         0
root@beaglebone-yocto:~#

```