

# **ECE 271 – Microcomputer Architecture and Applications Lecture 16**

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# Announcements

- Read Chapter 11
- Midterm graded
- Lab #7 is happening



# Hand back Midterms



# Lab #7 Notes

- Access the timer, in C



# Interrupt Review

- Cortex-M has 255 interrupts. -1 to -15 built-in, 0-240 external
- When something triggers interrupt (traditionally pull a line low) stops execution and jumps to interrupt handler
- With vector interrupt handler, a vector each with an address for each handler, look up in table from interrupt number and jump
- First thing you need to do is save registers so we can use them. Cortex-M does this for you, saves R0,R1,R2,R3,



R12,PSR,LR,PC

(Note, saves on the "MSP – Main Stack Pointer". To confuse things there's also a special "PSP – Process stack pointer" but that's possibly only used if you're writing an OS)

- Then your code runs in a handler, which is much like a C function
- You may need to "ACK" the interrupt, let the hardware know you are handling things so it can stop asserting the IRQ line
- Do whatever you need to do



- Return. Can return just like a regular return (some architectures require a special return-from-irq instruction... not Cortex-M though)  
Cortex-M does weird stuff with Link Register – special value with FFFF in high bits that indicates we are returning from an IRQ handler and that the return value is on the stack (more info on this in the textbook/manual)
- Ideally the main code running on the processor doesn't even notice an interrupt happened



# Setting up/enabling Interrupts

- Note this and SysTick described in Cortex-M4 Devices Generic User Guide DUI0553.pdf not in the STM32L4 manual
- Interrupt Set Enable Register – (ISER0–ISER7) note, this is like the BSRR register, 1 means enable, 0 means do nothing
- Interrupt Clear Enable Register (ICER0–ICER7)
- Setting/clearing. Bitmask, so 32-bits

```
word_offset=irq_num>>5;    // why?  
bit_offset=irq_num&0x1f;   // why not % 32  
NVIC->ISER[word_offset]=(1<<bit_offset);
```





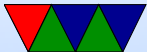
- Assembly – note byte vs word addressing

```
// irq to enable in r0
ldr r4,=NVIC_BASE

lsr r1,r0,#5    // get word_offset into r1
lsl r1,r1,#2    // change to byte offset, mulx4
add r1,r1,#NVIC_ISERO

and r2,r0,#0x1f // get bit offset in r2
mov r3,#1
lsl r3,r3,r2

str r3,[r4,r1]
```



# Setting Priority

- SHP (system handler priority)
- Byte array in the SCB (System Control Block)

```
SCB->SHP [(((uint8_t) irq)&0xf)-4] = (priority << 4) & 0xff;
```

- For the external ones, there's the IP (interrupt priority register) in the NVIC structure.

```
NVIC->IP [irq] = (priority << 4) & 0xff;
```



# Global Interrupt Enable/Disable

- CPS (change processor state) instruction – pseudo instruction that sets the PRIMASK (priority mask) register
- CPSID i – disable interrupts
- CPSID f – disable fault handlers
- CPSIE i
- CPSID f
- Can also set priority mask manually to disable interrupts above a certain level. Need MSR instruction as it's a



special register

- The way to do this is the CPSIE I assembly language instruction.
- Can we do this in C? We'll have to use inline assembly.
- On Keil, you can do this:

```
__asm("CPSIE_I");
```

- On Linux it will look like:

```
asm volatile ( "cpsie_i" );
```



# NMI – Non-maskable Interrupts

- An interrupt that cannot be stopped
- What are they useful for?
- Watchdog timers?
- Hacking, performance counters?

