

J1a

SwapForth

Reference

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ANS Forth Compliance Label

J1a SwapForth is an ANS Forth System

Providing names from the **Core Extensions** word set

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Chapter 1

Getting started



J1a SwapForth is a 16-bit version of SwapForth, intended as an interactive Forth system using minimal logic and RAM. The system currently fits on a Lattice HX20 FPGA, using 1100 logic elements and about 5Kbytes of RAM, leaving about 3K for application.

After installing the [icestorm](#) tools, you can run on a [Lattice iCEstick](#) like this

```
git clone git@github.com:jamesbowman/swapforth.git
cd swapforth/j1a
iceprog icestorm/j1a.bin
python shell.py -h /dev/ttyUSB0
```

(where `/dev/ttyUSB0` is the appropriate port your iCEstick was assigned). You should see something like

```

Contacting... established
Loaded 196 words
>

```

And you can now try the usual Forth things, e.g.

```

1 2 + .
3   ok

```

There is a fairly complete [core ANS-compatible Forth system](#) running on the board, including a compiler.

1.1 Some demos

You can control the five on-board LEDs

```

-1 leds
   ok

0 leds
   ok

```

and to make them blink

```

: blink
  32 0 do
    i leds
    100 ms
  loop
;
blink

```

There is an [Easter date calculator](#)

```
new
#include ../demos/easter.fs
```

Now you can do

```
>2015 .easter
2015 April 5   ok
```

Or even

```
>: 20easters
+ 2035 2015 do
+   cr i .easter
+ loop
+;
ok
>20easters

2015 April 5
2016 March 27
2017 April 16
2018 April 1
2019 April 21
2020 April 12
2021 April 4
2022 April 17
2023 April 9
2024 March 31
2025 April 20
2026 April 5
2027 March 28
```

```
2028 April 16
2029 April 1
2030 April 21
2031 April 13
2032 March 28
2033 April 17
2034 April 9   ok
```

1.2 Building from Scratch

After installing the icestorm tools, run

```
rm icestorm/build/*
make -C icestorm
```

This will produce `j1a.bin` - but it only contains the very bare-bones system; the rest of SwapForth still needs to be compiled. Load `j1a.bin` and start the shell:

```
$ iceprog icestorm/j1a.bin
$ python shell.py -h /dev/ttyUSB0 -p ../common/
Contacting... established
Loaded 127 words
>
```

Compile the rest of SwapForth and write the finished executable with these commands:

```
#include swapforth.fs
#flash build/nuc.hex
#bye
```

Now run `make` again - this compiles an FPGA image with the complete code base built-in.

Chapter 2

Available Words

2.1 ANS Core Words

J1a SwapForth implements most of the core ANS 94 Forth standard. Implemented words are:

```
! # #> #s ' ( * */ */mod + +! +loop , - . ." / /mod
0< 0= 1+ 1- 2! 2* 2/ 2@ 2drop 2dup 2over 2swap : ; < <# =
> >in >number >r ?dup @ abort" abs accept align aligned allot
and base begin bl c! c, c@ cell+ cells char constant count
cr create decimal depth do does> drop dup else emit evaluate
execute exit fill find fm/mod here hold i if immediate invert
j key literal loop lshift m* max min mod move negate or over
postpone quit r> r@ recurse repeat rot rshift s" s>d sign sm/rem
source space spaces state swap then type u. u< um* um/mod
unloop until variable while word xor [ ['] [char] ]
```

These core words are not implemented:

```
>body abort" char+ chars environment? leave
```

J1a SwapForth also implements the following standard words:

```
ahead dump .s /string parse-name sliteral throw words
```

2.2 Additional Words

The following words are not standard. Some are traditional Forth words, others are specific to the J1a SwapForth implementation.

.x

(n --)

display n as a 4-digit hex number

-rot

(x1 x2 x3 -- x3 x1 x2)

rotate the top three stack entries

bounds

(start cnt -- start+cnt start)

prepare to loop on a range

code@

(addr -- u)

fetch from code memory

cp

(-- a)

variable: code memory current pointer

dp

(-- a)

variable: data memory current pointer

forth

(-- a)

variable: most recent dictionary entry

io!

(x a --)

store x to IO port a

io@

(a -- x)

fetch from IO port a

leds

(x --)

write x to the onboard LEDs

new

(--)

restore code and data pointers to the power-up state

s,

(a u --)

add u-character the string a to the data space

serialize

(--)

display all of current memory in base 36

tth

(-- a)

variable: tethered mode

Chapter 3

The SwapForth Shell

3.1 Command reference

3.2 Tethered Mode

J1a SwapForth supports *tethered mode*, which makes the UART protocol easier to use for host programs. The SwapForth shell uses tethered mode. To enter tethered mode, write one to the variable **tth** :

```
1 tth !
```

In tethered mode, **accept** transmits byte value 30 (hex **1e**, ASCII code RS). This allows the listening program to know that the target machine is ready to accept a line of input. In addition, **accept** does not echo characters as they are typed.

Chapter 4

Memory

4.1 RAM Types

The J1a implementation uses 8Kbytes of RAM in a split configuration.

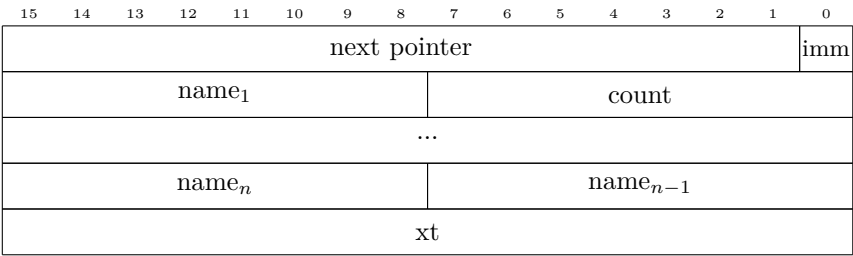
The lower 4K is for code. This RAM is writable, and executable, but not (directly) readable. The variable **CP** (code pointer) points into this area. To read from this region, use the special word **code@**.

The upper 4K is for data. This RAM is writable and readable. The dictionary and all variables are located in this section. The variable **DP** points into this area.

4.2 Dictionary Layout

The SwapForth dictionary is a linked list; the variable **forth** holds the start of this list. Each dictionary entry contains:

- **next pointer** - address of the next dictionary entry, or zero for the last dictionary entry
- **imm** - immediate bit
- **count** - length of the name, in characters, 1-31
- **name₁ - name_n** - characters in name. If the length of the name is even, then a padding byte is appended
- **xt** - execution token for the word



Chapter 5

iCEstick Hardware interface



The J1a for iCEstick includes connections to the iCEstick peripherals:

- SPI flash
- LEDs
- IrDA transceiver
- Pmod connector
- prototyping connectors
- UART

Access to peripherals is via the `io@` and `io!` words. Peripherals are port-mapped into a 16-bit IO address space.

Most ports are either read-only or write-only. For read-only ports, writing to the port has no effect. For write-only ports, reading from the port gives zero.

As an example of direct port access, this word blinks the on-board LEDs when a signal on IrDA is detected.

```

: x
  begin
    $2000 io@      \ read from input port
    8 and 0=       \ true if bit 3 (IrDA RXD) is 0
    $0004 io!      \ write to LEDS
  again
;

```

5.1 Port Map

5.1.1 \$0001: Pmod data

Not yet implemented.

5.1.2 \$0002: Pmod direction

Not yet implemented.

5.1.3 \$0008: PIO output

Write-only port \$0008 controls the flash and IrDA outputs.

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
											IrDA SD	IrDA TXD	flash SCK	flash MOSI	flash CS

5.1.4 \$0004: LEDs

The five on-board LEDS are controlled by write-only port at address \$0004. Setting a bit to 1 lights the corresponding LED.

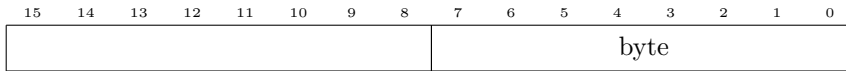
15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
											LED5	LED4	LED3	LED2	LED1

Built-in word **leds** writes to this port.

5.1.5 \$1000: UART data

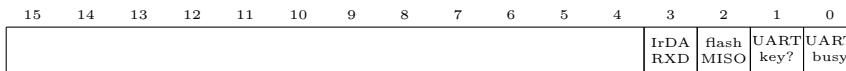
The read-write port at address \$1000 is for UART transmission or reception. Writing to the port starts transmission of a byte, reading the port returns the incoming byte.

Standard words **key** , **key?** and **emit** can be used to access this port.



5.1.6 \$2000: IrDA, flash and UART inputs

Read-only port \$2000 contains the input signals from the IrDA receiver, SPI flash, and UART.



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