

12. External Interrupts

The external interrupts are triggered by the INT0 and INT1 pins or any of the PCINT23..0 pins. Observe that, if enabled, the interrupts will trigger even if the INT0 and INT1 or PCINT23..0 pins are configured as outputs. This feature provides a way of generating a software interrupt. The pin change interrupt PCI2 will trigger if any enabled PCINT23..16 pin toggles. The pin change interrupt PCI1 will trigger if any enabled PCINT14..8 pin toggles. The pin change interrupt PCI0 will trigger if any enabled PCINT7..0 pin toggles. The PCMSK2, PCMSK1 and PCMSK0 registers control which pins contribute to the pin change interrupts. Pin change interrupts on PCINT23..0 are detected asynchronously. This implies that these interrupts can be used for waking the part also from sleep modes other than Idle mode.

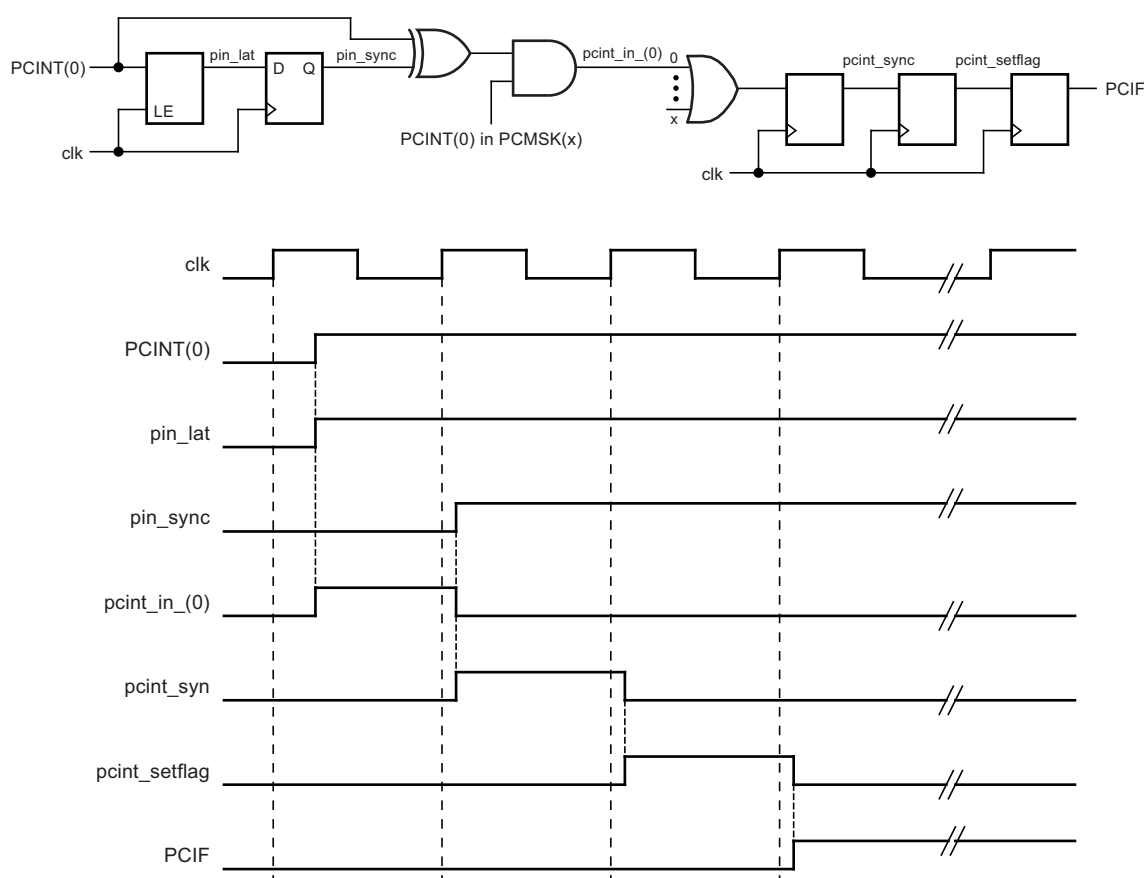
The INT0 and INT1 interrupts can be triggered by a falling or rising edge or a low level. This is set up as indicated in the specification for the external interrupt control register A – EICRA. When the INT0 or INT1 interrupts are enabled and are configured as level triggered, the interrupts will trigger as long as the pin is held low. Note that recognition of falling or rising edge interrupts on INT0 or INT1 requires the presence of an I/O clock, described in [Section 8.1 “Clock Systems and their Distribution” on page 24](#). Low level interrupt on INT0 and INT1 is detected asynchronously. This implies that this interrupt can be used for waking the part also from sleep modes other than idle mode. The I/O clock is halted in all sleep modes except Idle mode.

Note that if a level triggered interrupt is used for wake-up from power-down, the required level must be held long enough for the MCU to complete the wake-up to trigger the level interrupt. If the level disappears before the end of the start-up time, the MCU will still wake up, but no interrupt will be generated. The start-up time is defined by the SUT and CKSEL fuses as described in [Section 8. “System Clock and Clock Options” on page 24](#).

12.1 Pin Change Interrupt Timing

An example of timing of a pin change interrupt is shown in [Figure 12-1](#).

Figure 12-1. Timing of Pin Change Interrupts



12.2 Register Description

12.2.1 EICRA – External Interrupt Control Register A

The external interrupt control register A contains control bits for interrupt sense control.

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0x69)	–	–	–	–	ISC11	ISC10	ISC01	ISC00	EICRA
Read/Write	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7..4 – Res: Reserved Bits**

These bits are unused bits in the Atmel® ATmega328P, and will always read as zero.

- **Bit 3, 2 – ISC11, ISC10: Interrupt Sense Control 1 Bit 1 and Bit 0**

The external interrupt 1 is activated by the external pin INT1 if the SREG I-flag and the corresponding interrupt mask are set. The level and edges on the external INT1 pin that activate the interrupt are defined in [Table 12-1](#). The value on the INT1 pin is sampled before detecting edges. If edge or toggle interrupt is selected, pulses that last longer than one clock period will generate an interrupt. Shorter pulses are not guaranteed to generate an interrupt. If low level interrupt is selected, the low level must be held until the completion of the currently executing instruction to generate an interrupt.

Table 12-1. Interrupt 1 Sense Control

ISC11	ISC10	Description
0	0	The low level of INT1 generates an interrupt request.
0	1	Any logical change on INT1 generates an interrupt request.
1	0	The falling edge of INT1 generates an interrupt request.
1	1	The rising edge of INT1 generates an interrupt request.

- **Bit 1, 0 – ISC01, ISC00: Interrupt Sense Control 0 Bit 1 and Bit 0**

The external interrupt 0 is activated by the external pin INT0 if the SREG I-flag and the corresponding interrupt mask are set. The level and edges on the external INT0 pin that activate the interrupt are defined in [Table 12-2](#). The value on the INT0 pin is sampled before detecting edges. If edge or toggle interrupt is selected, pulses that last longer than one clock period will generate an interrupt. Shorter pulses are not guaranteed to generate an interrupt. If low level interrupt is selected, the low level must be held until the completion of the currently executing instruction to generate an interrupt.

Table 12-2. Interrupt 0 Sense Control

ISC01	ISC00	Description
0	0	The low level of INT0 generates an interrupt request.
0	1	Any logical change on INT0 generates an interrupt request.
1	0	The falling edge of INT0 generates an interrupt request.
1	1	The rising edge of INT0 generates an interrupt request.

12.2.2 EIMSK – External Interrupt Mask Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0x1D (0x3D)	–	–	–	–	–	–	INT1	INT0	EIMSK
Read/Write	R	R	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7..2 – Res: Reserved Bits**

These bits are unused bits in the Atmel® ATmega328P, and will always read as zero.

- **Bit 1 – INT1: External Interrupt Request 1 Enable**

When the INT1 bit is set (one) and the I-bit in the status register (SREG) is set (one), the external pin interrupt is enabled. The interrupt sense control1 bits 1/0 (ISC11 and ISC10) in the external interrupt control register A (EICRA) define whether the external interrupt is activated on rising and/or falling edge of the INT1 pin or level sensed. Activity on the pin will cause an interrupt request even if INT1 is configured as an output. The corresponding interrupt of external interrupt request 1 is executed from the INT1 interrupt vector.

- **Bit 0 – INT0: External Interrupt Request 0 Enable**

When the INT0 bit is set (one) and the I-bit in the status register (SREG) is set (one), the external pin interrupt is enabled. The interrupt sense control0 bits 1/0 (ISC01 and ISC00) in the external interrupt control register A (EICRA) define whether the external interrupt is activated on rising and/or falling edge of the INT0 pin or level sensed. Activity on the pin will cause an interrupt request even if INT0 is configured as an output. The corresponding interrupt of external interrupt request 0 is executed from the INT0 interrupt vector.

12.2.3 EIFR – External Interrupt Flag Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0x1C (0x3C)	–	–	–	–	–	–	INTF1	INTF0	EIFR
Read/Write	R	R	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7..2 – Res: Reserved Bits**

These bits are unused bits in the Atmel ATmega328P, and will always read as zero.

- **Bit 1 – INTF1: External Interrupt Flag 1**

When an edge or logic change on the INT1 pin triggers an interrupt request, INTF1 becomes set (one). If the I-bit in SREG and the INT1 bit in EIMSK are set (one), the MCU will jump to the corresponding interrupt vector. The flag is cleared when the interrupt routine is executed. Alternatively, the flag can be cleared by writing a logical one to it. This flag is always cleared when INT1 is configured as a level interrupt.

- **Bit 0 – INTF0: External Interrupt Flag 0**

When an edge or logic change on the INT0 pin triggers an interrupt request, INTF0 becomes set (one). If the I-bit in SREG and the INT0 bit in EIMSK are set (one), the MCU will jump to the corresponding interrupt vector. The flag is cleared when the interrupt routine is executed. Alternatively, the flag can be cleared by writing a logical one to it. This flag is always cleared when INT0 is configured as a level interrupt.

12.2.4 PCICR – Pin Change Interrupt Control Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0x68)	–	–	–	–	–	PCIE2	PCIE1	PCIE0	PCICR
Read/Write	R	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7..3 - Res: Reserved Bits**

These bits are unused bits in the Atmel® ATmega328P, and will always read as zero.

- **Bit 2 - PCIE2: Pin Change Interrupt Enable 2**

When the PCIE2 bit is set (one) and the I-bit in the status register (SREG) is set (one), pin change interrupt 2 is enabled. Any change on any enabled PCINT23..16 pin will cause an interrupt. The corresponding interrupt of pin change interrupt request is executed from the PCI2 interrupt vector. PCINT23..16 pins are enabled individually by the PCMSK2 register.

- **Bit 1 - PCIE1: Pin Change Interrupt Enable 1**

When the PCIE1 bit is set (one) and the I-bit in the status register (SREG) is set (one), pin change interrupt 1 is enabled. Any change on any enabled PCINT14..8 pin will cause an interrupt. The corresponding interrupt of pin change interrupt request is executed from the PCI1 interrupt vector. PCINT14..8 pins are enabled individually by the PCMSK1 register.

- **Bit 0 - PCIE0: Pin Change Interrupt Enable 0**

When the PCIE0 bit is set (one) and the I-bit in the status register (SREG) is set (one), pin change interrupt 0 is enabled. Any change on any enabled PCINT7..0 pin will cause an interrupt. The corresponding interrupt of pin change interrupt request is executed from the PCI0 interrupt vector. PCINT7..0 pins are enabled individually by the PCMSK0 register.

12.2.5 PCIFR – Pin Change Interrupt Flag Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0x1B (0x3B)	–	–	–	–	–	PCIF2	PCIF1	PCIF0	PCIFR
Read/Write	R	R	R	R	R	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7..3 - Res: Reserved Bits**

These bits are unused bits in the Atmel ATmega328P, and will always read as zero.

- **Bit 2 - PCIF2: Pin Change Interrupt Flag 2**

When a logic change on any PCINT23..16 pin triggers an interrupt request, PCIF2 becomes set (one). If the I-bit in SREG and the PCIE2 bit in PCICR are set (one), the MCU will jump to the corresponding interrupt vector. The flag is cleared when the interrupt routine is executed. Alternatively, the flag can be cleared by writing a logical one to it.

- **Bit 1 - PCIF1: Pin Change Interrupt Flag 1**

When a logic change on any PCINT14..8 pin triggers an interrupt request, PCIF1 becomes set (one). If the I-bit in SREG and the PCIE1 bit in PCICR are set (one), the MCU will jump to the corresponding interrupt vector. The flag is cleared when the interrupt routine is executed. Alternatively, the flag can be cleared by writing a logical one to it.

- **Bit 0 - PCIF0: Pin Change Interrupt Flag 0**

When a logic change on any PCINT7..0 pin triggers an interrupt request, PCIF0 becomes set (one). If the I-bit in SREG and the PCIE0 bit in PCICR are set (one), the MCU will jump to the corresponding interrupt vector. The flag is cleared when the interrupt routine is executed. Alternatively, the flag can be cleared by writing a logical one to it.

12.2.6 PCMSK2 – Pin Change Mask Register 2

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0x6D)	PCINT23	PCINT22	PCINT21	PCINT20	PCINT19	PCINT18	PCINT17	PCINT16	PCMSK2
Read/Write	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7..0 – PCINT23..16: Pin Change Enable Mask 23..16**

Each PCINT23..16-bit selects whether pin change interrupt is enabled on the corresponding I/O pin. If PCINT23..16 is set and the PCIE2 bit in PCICR is set, pin change interrupt is enabled on the corresponding I/O pin. If PCINT23..16 is cleared, pin change interrupt on the corresponding I/O pin is disabled.

12.2.7 PCMSK1 – Pin Change Mask Register 1

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0x6C)	–	PCINT14	PCINT13	PCINT12	PCINT11	PCINT10	PCINT9	PCINT8	PCMSK1
Read/Write	R	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7 – Res: Reserved Bit**

This bit is an unused bit in the Atmel® ATmega328P, and will always read as zero.

- **Bit 6..0 – PCINT14..8: Pin Change Enable Mask 14..8**

Each PCINT14..8-bit selects whether pin change interrupt is enabled on the corresponding I/O pin. If PCINT14..8 is set and the PCIE1 bit in PCICR is set, pin change interrupt is enabled on the corresponding I/O pin. If PCINT14..8 is cleared, pin change interrupt on the corresponding I/O pin is disabled.

12.2.8 PCMSK0 – Pin Change Mask Register 0

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
(0x6B)	PCINT7	PCINT6	PCINT5	PCINT4	PCINT3	PCINT2	PCINT1	PCINT0	PCMSK0
Read/Write	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	R/W	
Initial Value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

- **Bit 7..0 – PCINT7..0: Pin Change Enable Mask 7..0**

Each PCINT7..0 bit selects whether pin change interrupt is enabled on the corresponding I/O pin. If PCINT7..0 is set and the PCIE0 bit in PCICR is set, pin change interrupt is enabled on the corresponding I/O pin. If PCINT7..0 is cleared, pin change interrupt on the corresponding I/O pin is disabled.