

### I. LED Switch

#### Objectives

- Develop an application to control the 16-bit LEDs using 16-bit slide switches.

#### Activity Summary

1. Launch **Xilinx Vitis** after opening and exporting the hardware platform
2. Create a new application named **LedSwitch**
3. Program the FPGA, setup Run Configuration, and run the application
4. Repeat activity 3 for changes made to the application source file

#### Specifications

The application implements real-time control where each slide switch directly controls its corresponding LED.

##### Functionality:

- When a switch is turned ON (up position), the corresponding LED turns ON
- When a switch is turned OFF (down position), the corresponding LED turns OFF
- All 16 switches independently control their respective LEDs in real-time

##### Console Output:

- Initialization successful: Displays "Successfully Initialized"
- Initialization failed: Displays "Initialization Failed" and program terminates

##### Example:

- Switch 0 ON → LED 0 lights up
- Switches 0, 3, 7 ON (others OFF) → LEDs 0, 3, 7 light up (others remain OFF)
- All switches ON → All 16 LEDs light up

#### Activities

##### 1. Open and Export Hardware Design

Follow the procedure described in Lab 1 instructions to unzip and open **Lab 3 hardware Files** and export the hardware design files **Top.xsa (including bitstream)**.

**As we mentioned in Lab 1 instructions to export the hardware platform and create the XSA file:**

1. Click **File** → **Export** → **Export Hardware** (Figure 1a)
2. The Export Hardware Platform wizard opens (Figure 1b). Click **Next** to start the process.
3. In the Output window (Figure 1c), select **Include bitstream** to ensure the complete hardware implementation is included, then click **Next**.
4. In the Files window (Figure 1d), specify the XSA filename (default: "top") and export location. The system shows "The XSA will be written to: top.xsa". Click **Next**.
5. Review the summary (Figure 1e) showing that a hardware platform named 'top' will be created as top.xsa with post-implementation model and bitstream. Click **Finish** to complete the export.

The XSA file is now ready for use in Vitis IDE.

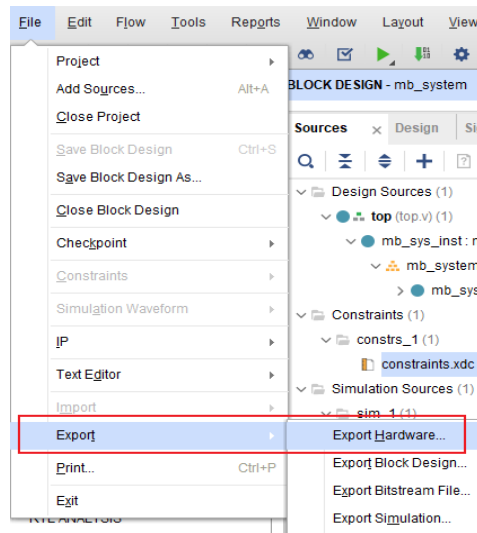


Figure 1(a)

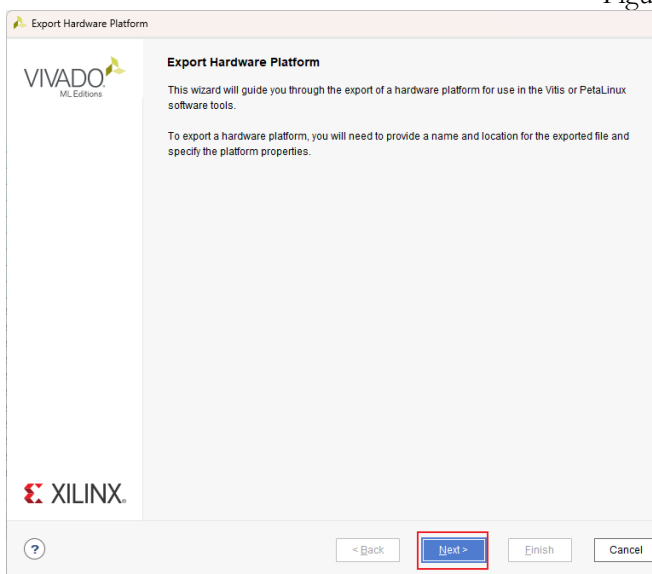


Figure 1(b)

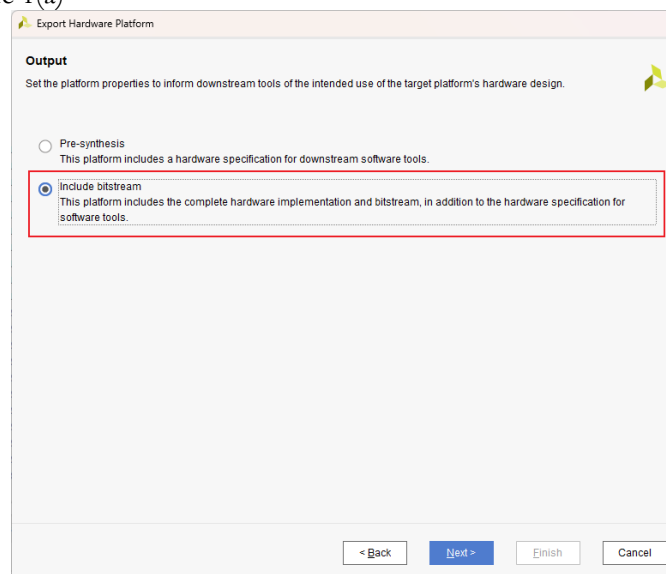


Figure 1(c)

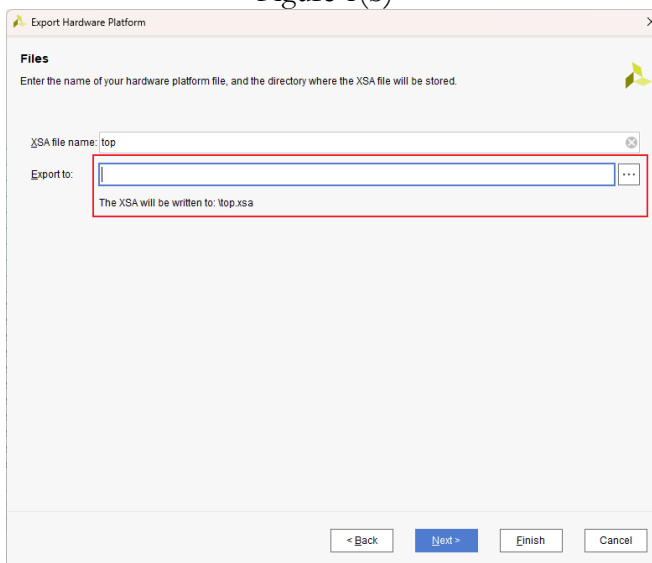


Figure 1(d)

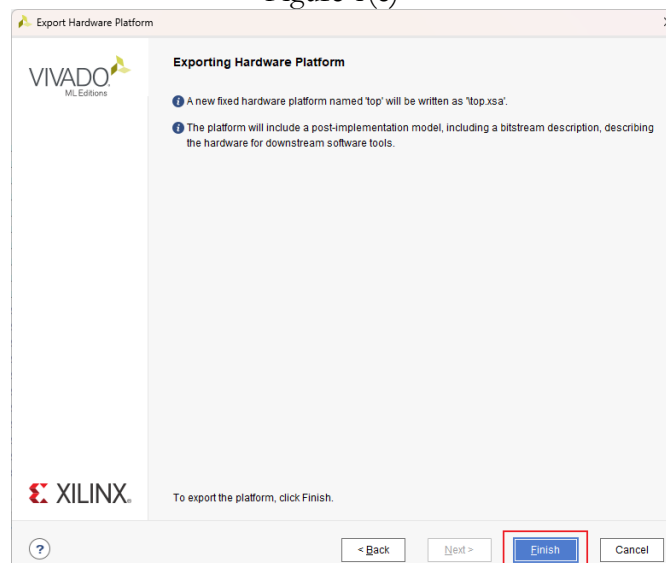


Figure 1(e)

## 2. Launch Vitis

Create the new folder in the PC, named Lab3, then open Vitis and select the file path of Lab3 as the Engineering Software 3 – School of Engineering – University of Edinburgh, UK



workspace, and select **Launch**. (Note: If you use Lab PC, please do not create the workspace on the uni-cloud, such as Desktop)

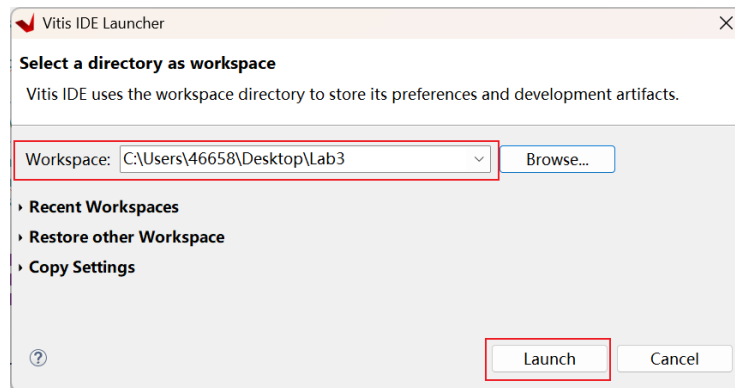


Figure 2

### 3. Create a New Application Project

Based on your images, here's the revised description for creating an application project:

#### Create a New Application Project

Launch Vitis IDE and follow these steps to create an application project:

**Step 1: Launch Vitis IDE** The Vitis IDE main interface will open (Figure 3a), displaying the welcome page. In the PROJECT section, click **Create Application Project** to create an application project.

**Step 2: Select Platform** In the New Application Project wizard (Figure 3b), select **Create a new platform from hardware (XSA)**, then click the **Browse...** button to locate the XSA file exported earlier from Vivado (the top.xsa file as shown in Figure 3c).

**Step 3: Configure Platform** On the platform selection page (Figure 3d), browse and select the top.xsa file from your project directory. The XSA file contains the hardware specification exported from Vivado.

**Step 4: Configure Application Project** On the Application Project Details page (Figure 3e), enter the application project name (such as "**LedSwitch**"). The system will automatically create an associated system project "**LedSwitch\_system**" with target processor shown as "microblaze\_0".

**Step 5: Select Domain** On the domain selection page (Figure 3f), the system displays details for the "standalone\_microblaze\_0" domain, including processor microblaze\_0 and 32-bit architecture.

**Step 6: Choose Template** On the template selection page (Figure 3g), select the **Hello World** template from the embedded software development templates. This template creates a "Hello World" program written in C.

**Step 7: Complete Creation** Click **Finish** to complete the application project creation. Vitis IDE will create the application project and open the complete development environment, displaying the project structure in the Explorer.

Once created, you can begin developing and debugging your Lab3 embedded application.

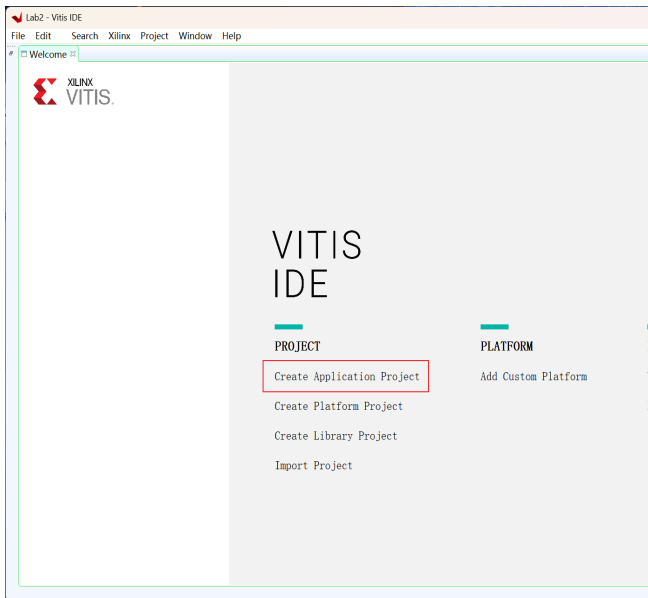


Figure 3(a)

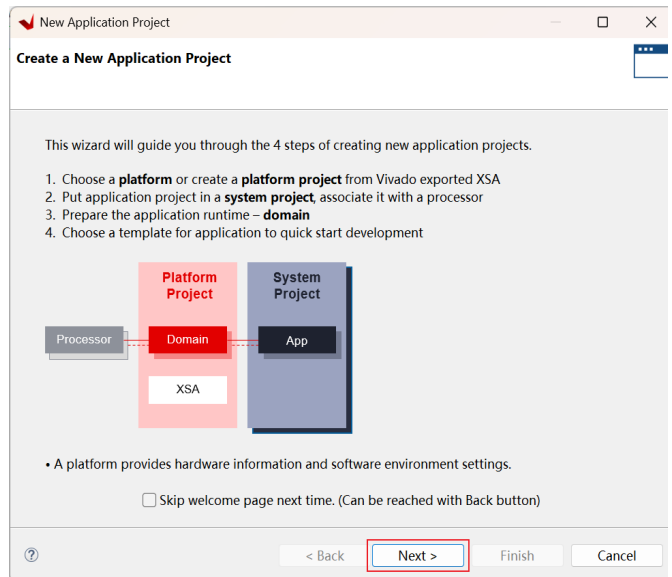


Figure 3(b)

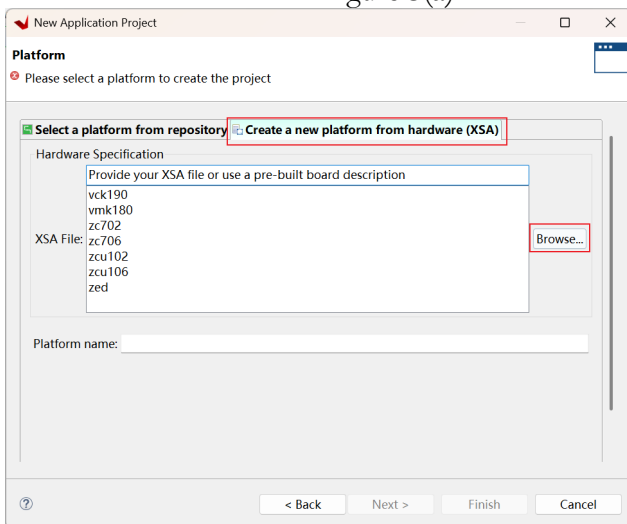


Figure 3(c)

ew3_hw_lab3.cache	2025/9/22 13:44
ew3_hw_lab3.gen	2025/9/22 13:44
ew3_hw_lab3.hw	2025/9/22 13:44
ew3_hw_lab3.ip_user_files	2025/9/22 13:44
ew3_hw_lab3.runs	2025/9/22 13:44
ew3_hw_lab3.sim	2025/9/15 17:14
ew3_hw_lab3.srscs	2025/9/22 13:44
ew3_hw_lab3.xpr	2025/9/15 17:14
top.xsa	2025/9/17 15:41

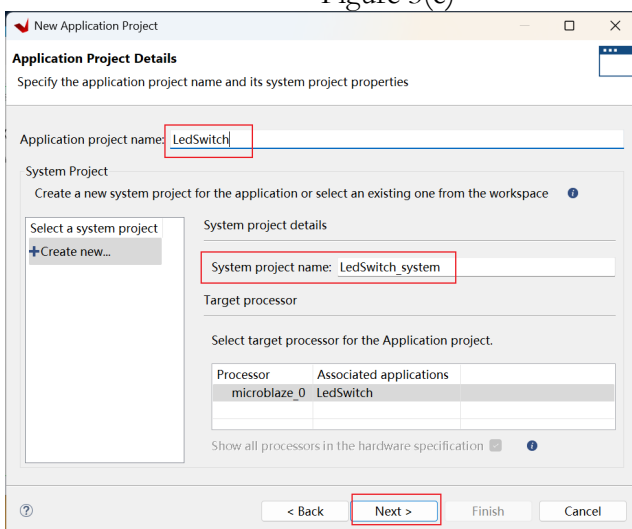


Figure 3(d)

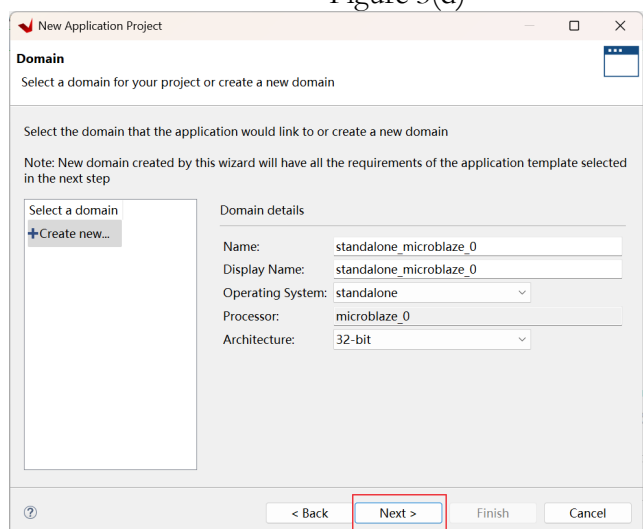


Figure 3(e)

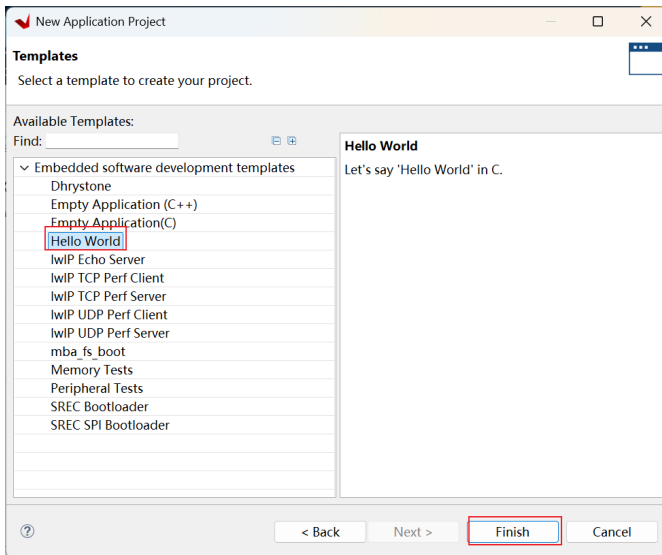


Figure 3(f)

Figure 3(g)

#### 4. Create and Rename the Source File

- As shown in the Figure 4, in **Project Explorer**, expand the **LedSwitch** → **src** folder.
- Right-click on helloworld.c, select **Rename...**, and rename the file to led\_switch.c.

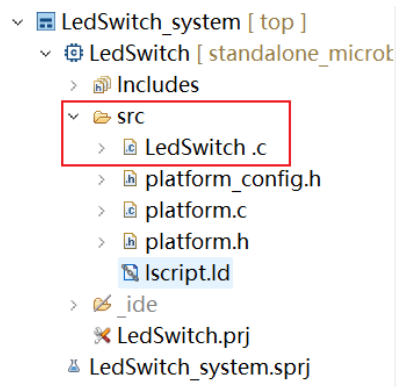


Figure 4.

#### 5. Include Required Header Files

- Open led\_switch.c.
- Remove the following two lines of code:
 

```
print("Hello World\n\r");
print("Successfully ran Hello World application");
```
- As shown in Figure 5, add the following `#include` directives at the top of the file:
 

```
#include "stdio.h"    // For standard I/O functions (printf, scanf, etc.)
#include "platform.h" // For platform initialization and cleanup functions
#include "xgpio.h"    // For GPIO driver functions and XGpio structure definitions
```

XStatus initGpio(void);           // Function: Initialize GPIO

XGpio SLIDE\_SWITCHES;           // Variable: GPIO object for slide switches

XGpio LED\_OUT;                 // Variable: GPIO object for LEDs

XGpio\_DiscreteRead() - Function: Reads data from the specified GPIO channel

XGpio\_DiscreteWrite() - Function: Writes data to the specified GPIO channel

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "platform.h"
#include "xgpio.h"

XStatus initGpio(void);
XGpio SLIDE_SWITCHES;
XGpio LED_OUT;
u32 XGpio_DiscreteRead (XGpio *InstancePtr, unsigned Channel);
void XGpio_DiscreteWrite (XGpio *InstancePtr, unsigned Channel, u32 Mask);
```

Figure 5

xgpio.h defines the XGpio struct and the function prototypes for GPIO operations.

#### Reference:

General-Purpose Input/Output [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General-purpose\\_input/output](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General-purpose_input/output)

MicroBlaze with Basys3 GPIO using Vivado/Vitis <https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/mxp-fpga/home/vivado-notes/xilinx-vivado16-2-and-embedded-processing-using-microblaze-and-basys3/xilinx-vivado16-2-and-embedded-processing-using-microblaze-with-basys3-gpio>

## 6. Obtain Device IDs

- In **Project Explorer**, locate the **LedSwitch\_bsp** folder.
- Expand top → microblaze\_0 → standalone\_microblaze\_0 → bsp → microblaze\_0 → include.
- Open xparameters.h.
- As shown in Figure 6, Search for the LED definition (typically named XPAR\_GPIO\_LEDS\_DEVICE\_ID).

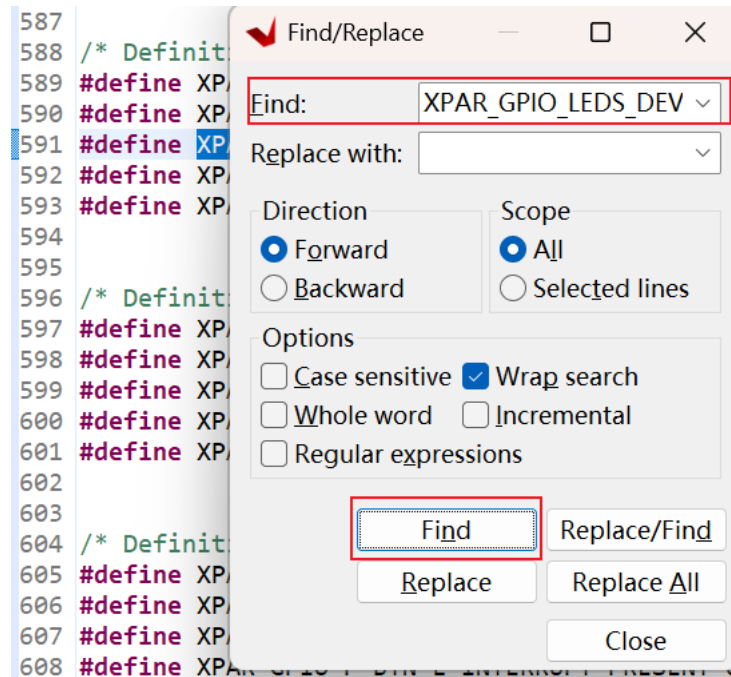


Figure 6.

- Confirm XPAR\_GPIO\_LEDS\_DEVICE\_ID device ID Number, As shown in Figure 7, the ID Number is 2 (**#define XPAR\_GPIO\_LEDS\_DEVICE\_ID 2**).

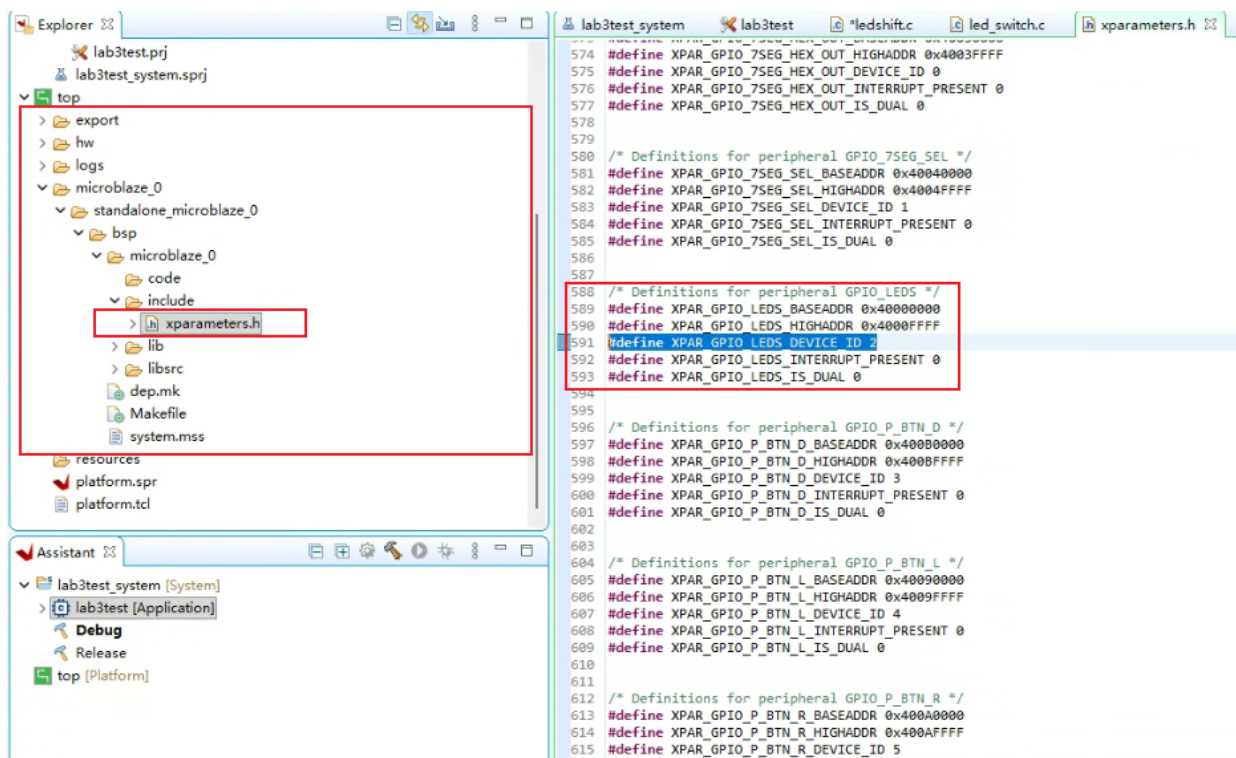


Figure 7.

## 7. Create the initGpio() Function

- Define a **Function** `initGpio()` in **global scope** (not inside `main()`).

- As shown in Figure 8, Declare an XGpio instance for each device you intend to access (e.g., LEDs and switches).

```
XGpio_Initialize(&LED_OUT, 2)
```

```
XGpio_Initialize(&SLIDE_SWITCHES,7)
```

```
XStatus initGpio(void)
{
    XStatus Status;
    Status = XGpio_Initialize(&LED_OUT, 2);
    if (Status != XST_SUCCESS){
        return XST_FAILURE;
    }
    Status = XGpio_Initialize(&SLIDE_SWITCHES,7);
    if (Status != XST_SUCCESS){
        return XST_FAILURE;
    }
    return Status;
}
```

Figure 8.

- If the return value is not XST\_SUCCESS, **return** XST\_FAILURE to terminate the program.

```
if (Status != XST_SUCCESS){

    return XST_FAILURE;

}
```

## 8. Modify main() Function

- As shown on Figure 9, Inside main(), ensure all user code is between init\_platform(); and cleanup\_platform();.
- Call initGpio() before performing any GPIO operations.



```

int main()
{
    init_platform();

    XStatus status;
    u16 slideSwithIn;

    status = initGpio();

    if (status == XST_SUCCESS) {
        print("Susscessfully Initialized");
    }
    else {
        print ("Iinitilization Failed");
    }

    cleanup_platform();
    return 0;
}

while (1) {

    slideSwithIn = XGpio_DiscreteRead (&SLIDE_SWITCHES, 1);
    XGpio_DiscreteWrite (&LED_OUT,1,slideSwithIn);
}
}

```

Figure 9.

As shown in Figure 10, the code defines `XStatus initGpio(void)`, a function that initializes GPIO devices and returns a status code (`XStatus`) indicating success or failure. It also declares two `XGpio` instances: `SLIDE_SWITCHES` for reading slide switch inputs and `LED_OUT` for controlling LED outputs. The function `XGpio_DiscreteRead()` reads the current state of a specified GPIO channel, returning 32-bit data where each bit represents a pin's high/low state. Meanwhile, `XGpio_DiscreteWrite()` writes 32-bit mask data to a specified channel to control output pin states. A typical application initializes the GPIO using `initGpio()`, then uses `XGpio_DiscreteRead()` to read switch positions and `XGpio_DiscreteWrite()` to control corresponding LEDs, implementing switch-controlled LED functionality.

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include "platform.h"
#include "xgpio.h"

XStatus initGpio(void);
XGpio SLIDE_SWITCHES;
XGpio LED_OUT;
u32 XGpio_DiscreteRead (XGpio *InstancePtr, unsigned Channel);
void XGpio_DiscreteWrite (XGpio *InstancePtr, unsigned Channel, u32 Mask);

```

Figure 10

- Once you have completed writing the **LedSwitch.c** code, Vitis IDE will display the complete development environment. The project structure shows both the system project and application project. First, you need to program the FPGA with the hardware design by right-clicking on the **LedSwitch** project and selecting **Program Device** from the context menu (Figure 11a). This step configures the FPGA with the hardware bitstream containing the MicroBlaze processor and other peripherals. Next, to build the application, right-click on the **LedSwitch** project and select **Build Project** from the context menu (Figure 11b). This compiles the C source code into an executable file (.elf) that can run on the MicroBlaze processor.

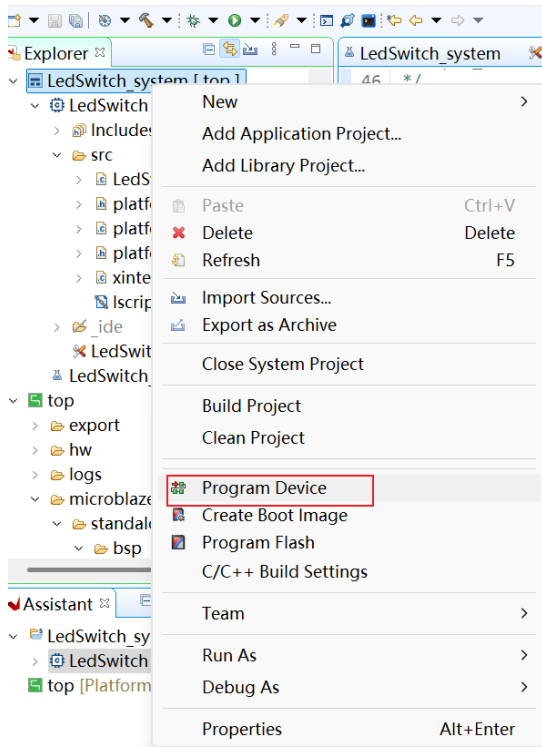


Figure 11(a)

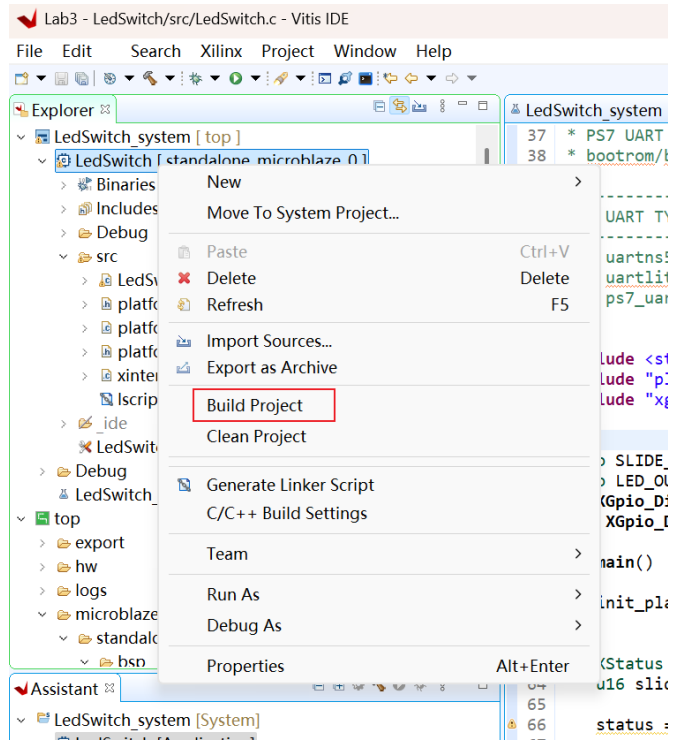


Figure 11(b)

10. **Figure 12** shows what the Console should look like when the application is successfully run, displaying "Successfully Initialized" if GPIO initialization succeeds. Toggle the slide switches to control the corresponding LEDs in real-time. To view the output and run the application, follow **Section 4 Steps 5-8** of Lab 1 instructions (also illustrated in **Figure 13(a)-(d)**): open the Terminal view, configure the Serial Terminal settings, and set up the run/debug configuration. If the activity on Ledswitch operations has been successfully completed, proceed to **Section 2 LED Shifting**.

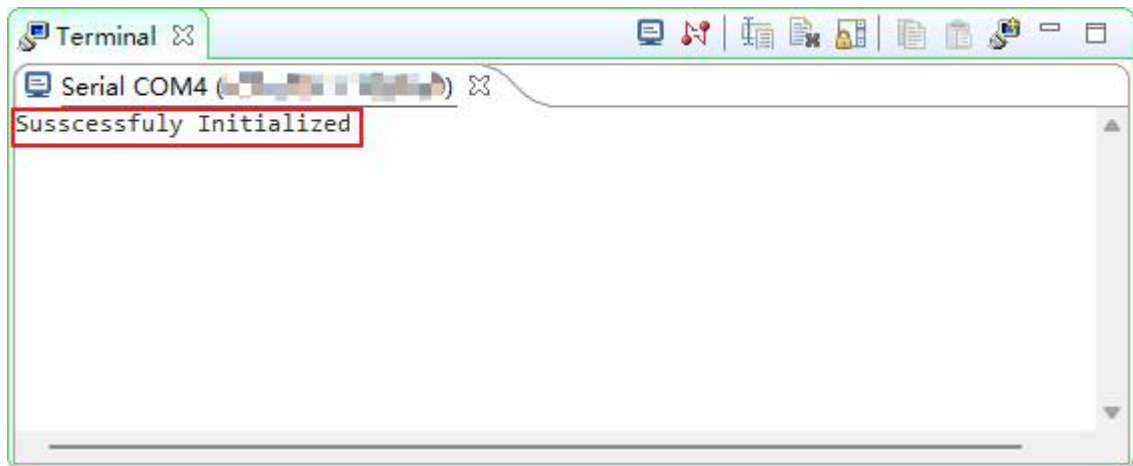


Figure 12

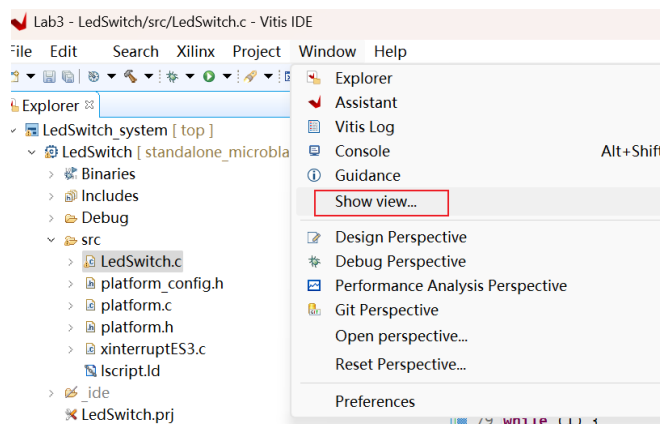


Figure 13(a)

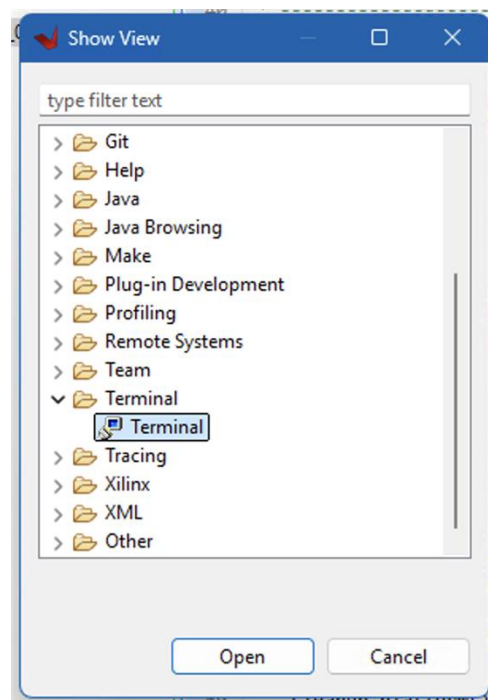


Figure 13(b)

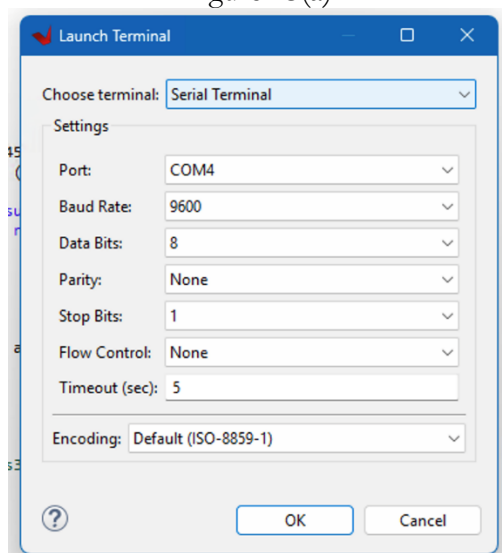


Figure 13(c)

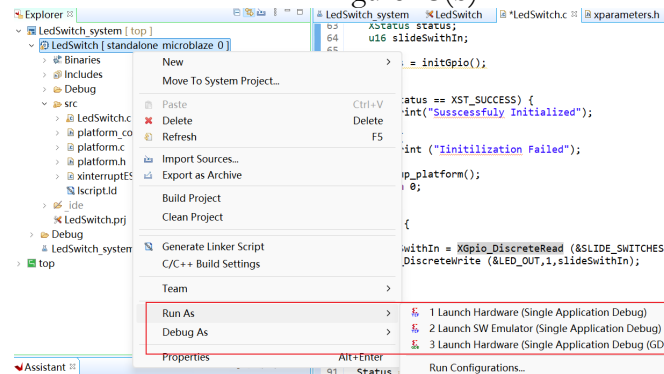


Figure 13(d)

If you run the application successfully, the Console will display "Successfully Initialized" as shown in Figure 12, and you can toggle the slide switches to control the corresponding LEDs.

## II.

## LED Shifting

### Objectives

- Create an application to shift LED positions
- Implement interrupt-based execution
- Learn and understand the role and necessity of interrupts in FPGA-based systems (BASYS 3 + MicroBlaze).

### Activity Summary

1. Create a new application project called LedShift
2. Write the LED shifting code
3. Program the FPGA, setup Run Configuration, and run the application
4. Repeat activity 3 for changes made to the application source file

### Specifications

The LED Shifting application creates a single LED that moves from right to left across the 16-bit LED display with automatic rotation. The functionality is as follows:

**Initial State:** Start with LED pattern 0000000000000001 (rightmost LED ON)

**Shift Direction:** Left shift with zero padding on the right

**Shift Speed:** One position shift every 0.1 seconds (controlled by hardware timer interrupt)

**Rotation:** When the LED reaches the leftmost position, it wraps around to the rightmost position

#### Example Sequence:

0000000000000001 → (0.1s) →  
0000000000000010 → (0.1s) →  
0000000000000100 → (0.1s) →  
0000000000001000 → (0.1s) →  
... continuing left ...  
1000000000000000 → (0.1s) →  
0000000000000001 → (repeats cycle)

### Activities

The activities here involve shifting the position of the end LED from the first LED on the Basys3 board. Follow the steps below:

1. As shown in Figure 14, Create a new application with the name **LedShift** and rename **helloworld.c** to **led\_shift.c**.

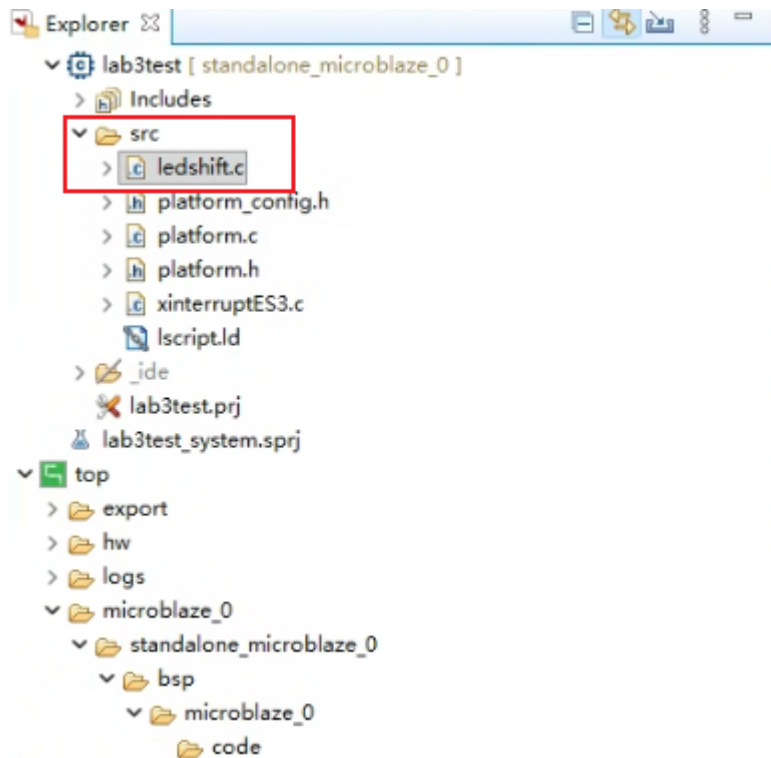


Figure 14

2. As shown in Figure 15, open the led\_shift.c file and declare an unsigned 16-bit integer (ledValue) and load it with the value 0x0001. Remember to declare ledValue as a **volatile**

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "platform.h"
#include "xil_types.h" // Added for integer type definitions
#include "xgpio.h" // Added for xgpio object definitions

// Function declarations
int setUpInterruptSystem();
void hwTimerISR(void *CallbackRef);
XStatus initGpio(void);
volatile u8 shiftLeft = TRUE;

// Declaration of GPIO object
XGpio LED_OUT; // Device ID is 2 (confirm this yourself)

volatile u16 ledValue = 0x0001;
```

Figure 15

// Declaration of GPIO object

XGpio LED\_OUT; // Device ID is 2 (confirm this yourself)

volatile u16 ledValue = 0x0001; // Start with rightmost LED ON, will shift left progressively(binary: 0000000000000001)

3. Initialize the GPIOs, check if the general-purpose IOs in the hardware are successfully initialized similar to Section 1 LedSwitch application.
4. As shown in Figure 16, in the main(), output the content of the ledValue variable to the LED port.

```

int main()
{
    init_platform();

    XStatus status;
    // Initialize the GPIOs
    status = initGpio();

    //Setup the Interrupt System.
    status = setUpInterruptSystem();

    /* The following codes check if the general-purpose IOs in the hardware
    * are successfully initialized. If not, the program is terminated.
    */
    if (status == XST_SUCCESS) {
        print("GPIOs successfully initialized!\n\r");
    }
    else {
        print("GPIOs initialization failed!\n\r");
        cleanup_platform();
        return 0;
    }

    // Loop forever
    while (1) {

        XGpio_DiscreteWrite(&LED_OUT, 1, ledValue);

    }

    cleanup_platform();
    return 0;
}

```

Figure 16

- As shown in Figure 17, copy the **xinterruptES3.c** file to the **src** folder. As shown in Figure 18, write an **hwTimerISR**, which rotates the content of **ledValue** to the left every interrupt event using the shift instruction. **Note that the hardware timer gives an interrupt every 0.1 second.**

### Why Use Interrupts for LED Shifting?

Interrupts allow the system to perform LED shifting at precise time intervals without blocking the main program. The hardware timer generates an interrupt every 0.1 seconds, triggering the Interrupt Service Routine (ISR) **hwTimerISR()**. This approach enables:

- Precise timing: Hardware timer ensures accurate 0.1-second intervals
- Non-blocking operation: Main program can perform other tasks while waiting
- Efficient resource usage: CPU is not constantly checking the timer

### How Interrupt-Based Shifting Works:

- Timer Interrupt: Hardware timer triggers every 0.1 seconds
- ISR Execution: **hwTimerISR()** decrements the counter
- Counter Check: Main loop checks if counter reaches zero
- LED Rotation: When counter = 0, LED pattern shifts left and counter resets
- Repeat: Process continues indefinitely

**Reference:** What is ISR? <https://embeddedwala.com/EmbeddedSystems/embedded-c/what-is-isr>

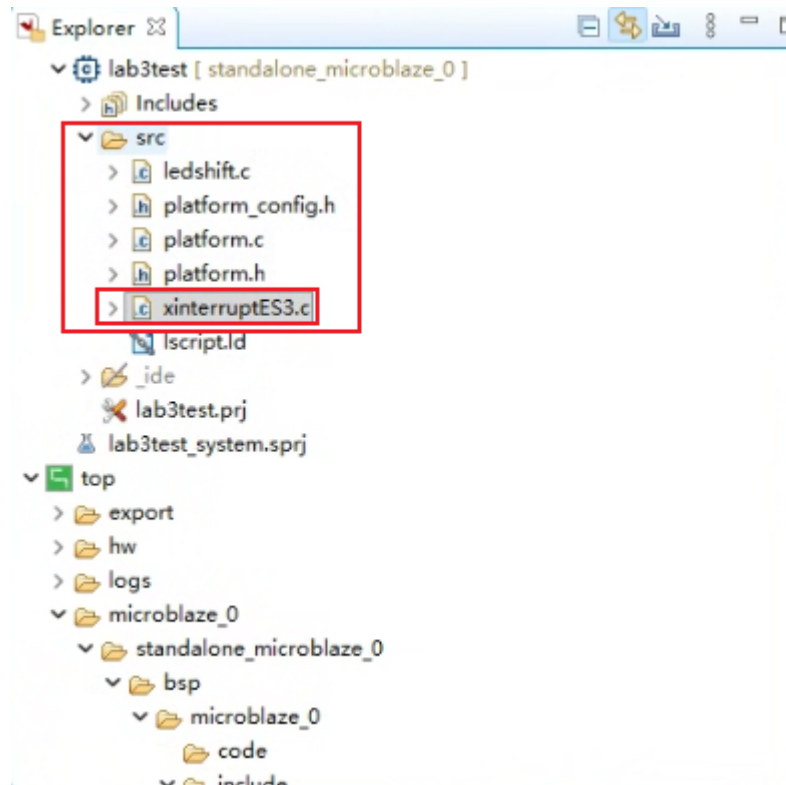


Figure 17.

```
void hwTimerISR(void *CallbackRef)
{
    /*
     * Hardware Timer ISR - called every 0.1 seconds
     * Controls LED shifting direction based on position
     */

    if (shiftLeft) { // Currently shifting left
        if (ledValue < 0x8000) { // Check if LED hasn't reached leftmost position (bit 15)
            ledValue = ledValue << 1; // Shift LED one position to the left
        }
        else { // LED has reached leftmost position
            shiftLeft = FALSE; // Change direction to right
            ledValue = ledValue >> 1; // Shift LED one position to the right
        }
    }
    else { // Currently shifting right
        if (ledValue > 0x0001) { // Check if LED hasn't reached rightmost position (bit 0)
            ledValue = ledValue >> 1; // Shift LED one position to the right
        }
        else { // LED has reached rightmost position
            shiftLeft = TRUE; // Change direction to left
            ledValue = ledValue << 1; // Shift LED one position to the left
        }
    }

    return;
}

XStatus initGpio(void)
{
    XStatus Status;

    // Initialize LED_OUT GPIO with device ID 2
    Status = XGpio_Initialize(&LED_OUT, 2);

    // Check if initialization was successful
    if (Status != XST_SUCCESS) {
        return XST_FAILURE; // Return failure status if initialization failed
    }

    return Status; // Return success status
}
```

Figure 18

6. Test the LED shifting on the Basys3 board by running the application. The light should rotate every 0.1 second across the LEDs from right to left.

### III.

## LED Advanced Shifting

### Objectives

- Create an application with variable LED shifting and speed changes.

### Activity Summary

1. Create a new application named **LedAdvancedShift**
2. Implement advanced LED shifting logic with varying speed
3. Program the FPGA, setup Run Configuration, and run the application
4. Repeat activity 3 for changes made to the application source file

### Specifications

The LED Advanced Shifting application implements a progressively accelerating LED chasing pattern that automatically resets. The functionality is as follows:

**Initial State:** Start with LED pattern 0000000000000001 (rightmost LED ON)

**Shift Direction:** Left circular shift (same as Section II)

**Variable Speed Control:** LED shifting speed progressively increases, then resets

**Speed Progression:**

Stage 1: One shift every 2.7 seconds (counter = 27, timer interrupt every 0.1s)

Stage 2: One shift every 0.9 seconds (counter = 9)

Stage 3: One shift every 0.3 seconds (counter = 3)

Stage 4: One shift every 0.1 seconds (counter = 1)

Reset: After Stage 4, speed resets to Stage 1 and cycle repeats

#### Example Behavior Timeline:

Time 0.0s: 0000000000000001 (wait 2.7s, Stage 1)

Time 2.7s: 0000000000000010 (wait 0.9s, Stage 2)

Time 3.6s: 0000000000000100 (wait 0.3s, Stage 3)

Time 3.9s: 0000000000001000 (wait 0.1s, Stage 4)

Time 4.0s: 0000000000010000 (wait 2.7s, Reset to Stage 1)

Time 6.7s: 0000000000100000 (wait 0.9s, Stage 2)

Time 7.6s: 0000000001000000 (wait 0.3s, Stage 3)

... continues with repeating 4-stage speed cycle ...

**Visual Effect:** Creates a dynamic chasing light that accelerates progressively, then suddenly slows down to create a periodic pulsing acceleration pattern

### Activities

1. As shown in Figure 19, in order to control the speed of led shifting, a **rotate function** has been written for you (see **rotate.c** in the Lab3 – Codes folder). There are two functions in this file. Use the rotateLeft() function. Try and see if you can explain how these functions work.

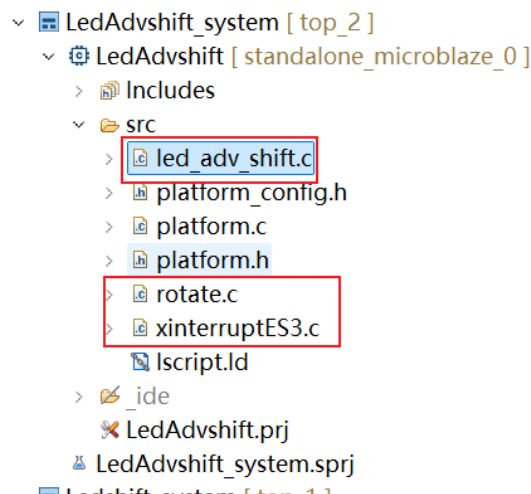




Figure 19.

- As shown in Figure 20 the rotateLeft function declaration takes a 16-bit unsigned integer value and an 8-bit shift parameter, performing left circular bit shifting to create LED pattern effects like chasing or flowing lights. The volatile counter variable is initialized to 27.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "platform.h"
#include "xil_types.h" // Added for integer type definitions
#include "xgpio.h" // Added for xgpio object definitions

// Function declarations
int setUpInterruptSystem();
void hwTimerISR(void *CallbackRef);
XStatus initGpio(void);
u16 rotateLeft(u16 value, u8 shift);

// Declaration of GPIO object
XGpio LED_OUT; // Device ID is 2 (confirm this yourself)

volatile u16 ledValue = 0x0001;
// << Declare counter variable here >>
volatile u8 counter = 27;
```

Figure 20

- As shown in Figure 21, repeat this code creates a LED chasing light effect. It sets a timer limit to 27 and initializes a counter. When the counter reaches zero, it rotates the LED value left by one position using rotateLeft function, outputs it to GPIO, then speeds up the rotation by dividing the limit by 3. When the limit becomes zero, it resets to 27 to restart the cycle, creating a progressively faster LED chasing effect that periodically resets to the original speed.

```
int main()
{
    init_platform();
    XStatus status;

    status = initGpio();
    if (status != XST_SUCCESS) {
        print("GPIOs initialization failed!\n\r");
        cleanup_platform();
        return 0;
    }

    //Setup the Interrupt System
    status = setUpInterruptSystem();
    if (status != XST_SUCCESS) {
        print("Interrupt system setup failed!\n\r");
        cleanup_platform();
        return 0;
    }

    u8 limit = 27;
    counter = limit;

    XGpio_DiscreteWrite(&LED_OUT, 1, ledValue);
    while (1) {
        if (counter == 0) {
            // Rotate ledValue to the left
            ledValue = rotateLeft(ledValue, 1);
            // Output the rotated value to the LED port
            XGpio_DiscreteWrite(&LED_OUT, 1, ledValue);
            //Divide limit by 3
            limit = limit / 3;
            // If new limit is zero, reset it to 27
            if (limit == 0) {
                limit = 27;
            }
            // Reassign counter with the value of new limit
            counter = limit;
        }
    }

    cleanup_platform();
    return 0;
}
```

Figure 21

4. As shown in Figure 21, the hwTimerISR function needs to be modified to be counter-controlled.

```
void hwTimerISR(void *CallbackRef)
{
    counter--; // Decrease counter by 1 (occurs every 0.1 second)
    return;    // Exit ISR and return to main program
}

XStatus initGpio(void)
{
    XStatus Status; // Variable to store initialization status

    // Initialize LED_OUT GPIO device with device ID 2
    Status = XGpio_Initialize(&LED_OUT, 2);

    // Check if GPIO initialization was successful
    if (Status != XST_SUCCESS) {
        return XST_FAILURE; // Return failure code if initialization failed
    }

    return Status; // Return success status (XST_SUCCESS)
}
```

Figure 21

5. This code implements a counter-controlled LED shifting system with the following logic:
- Counter Check:** When the counter reaches zero, execute the following operations
  - LED Rotation:** Rotate ledValue to the left and output the result to the LED port using the rotate function from the previous LedShift application
  - Speed Control:** Divide the limit value by 3 using a custom division subroutine to increase the shifting speed
  - Reset Mechanism:** If the new limit becomes zero, reset it to 27 (1B in hex) to prevent infinite acceleration
  - Counter Update:** Reassign the counter with the new limit value
  - Overall Effect:** This creates a dynamic LED chasing light that progressively accelerates with each cycle, automatically resetting to the original speed when reaching maximum velocity, producing a visually appealing periodic acceleration pattern.
6. Test the LedAdvshift, the LED rotating speed starts with one shift after 2.7 seconds, and increases every time an interrupt occurs (respectively to one shift after 0.9 second, one shift every 0.3 second, and one shift every 0.1 second). After 4 interrupts, the period is reset to its original value and the above process restarts again.

## References:

You can go to the lab3 reference in the learn section, or directly copy the link to your browser:

- General-Purpose Input/Output [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General-purpose\\_input/output](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General-purpose_input/output)
- MicroBlaze with Basys3 GPIO using Vivado/Vitis <https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/mxp-fpga/home/vivado-notes/xilinx-vivado16-2-and-embedded-processing-using-microblaze-and-basys3/xilinx-vivado16-2-and-embedded-processing-using-microblaze-with-basys3-gpio>
- What is ISR? <https://embeddedwala.com/EmbeddedSystems/embedded-c/what-is-isr>

