

SMARTFUSION2 MAKER GUIDE

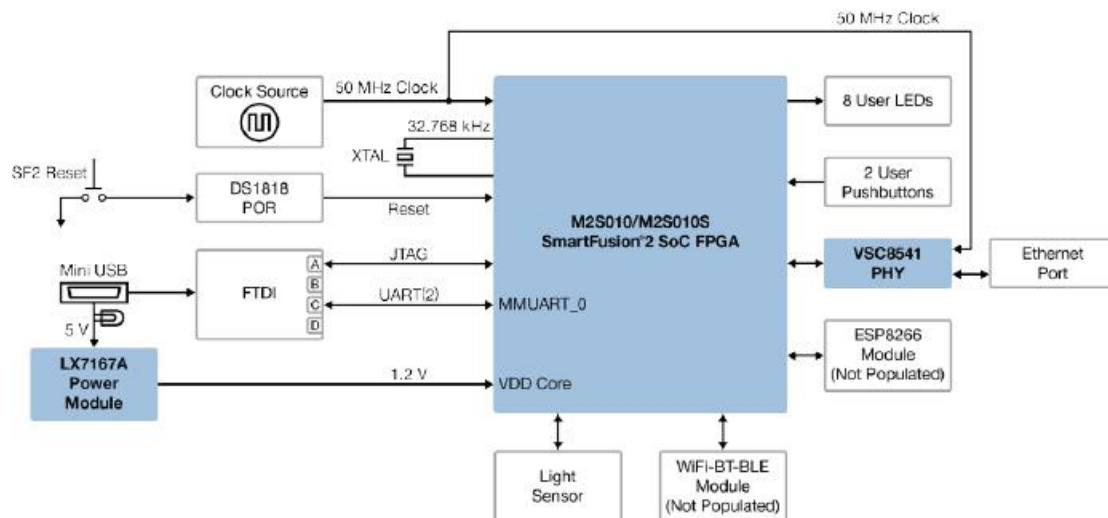
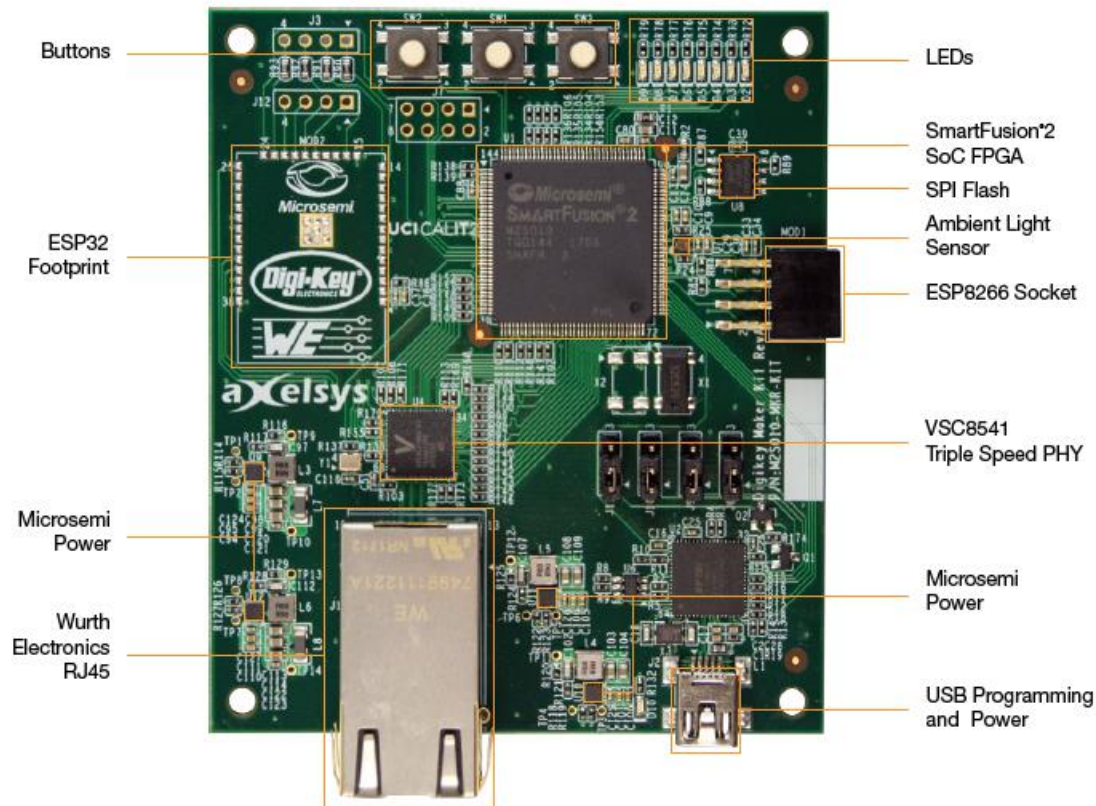
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INTRODUCTION

This lab exercise gives you the opportunity to bring up and program both the hardware and software of the Microsemi SmartFusion2 System on a Chip (SoC). To do this we will use the Digi-key SmartFusion2 Maker Kit shown below. It includes the SmartFusion2 which has 12K LE flash-based FPGA fabric, a 166 MHz ARM Cortex-M3 processor, DSP blocks, SRAM, eNVM, and general purpose GPIO interfaces. The board includes many interfaces including a USB port for JTAG programming, UART communications, and powering the board; a SPI flash; a 50 MHz clock source; 8 user LEDs; 2 user pushbuttons; a light sensor; and the VSC8541 PHY for 100 Mbps/1 Gbps Ethernet. There are also two unpopulated laid out connections—these pinouts support an ESP8266 and an ESP32 Wi-Fi/Bluetooth module (not included). You will exercise some of these interfaces in this exercise.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

For this project, the objective is for students to:

- Become familiar with the Microsemi FPGA development flow and use of the Libero
- Appreciate the capabilities of the Microsemi SmartFusion2 System on a chip
- Learn how to create hardware using the SmartDesign design tool.
- Learn how to develop Software using the SoftConsole IDE
- Learn to program the SmartFusion2 Maker Board over JTAG.
- Practice debugging hardware and software together

RESOURCES

Resources for this exercise that may be useful to you can be found on Canvas including:

- [M2S010-MKR-KIT Schematics](#) The schematics for the M2S010-MKR-KIT board can be downloaded from Digikey
- Software development files in SF2Maker.zip
- SoftConsole Release Notes
- SmartFusion2 datasheet
- SmartFusion2 Maker Kit Quick Start Guide

I. VERIFY SMARTFUSION2 MAKER BOARD

Apply power to the SmartFusion2 Maker board by connecting it to a PC using a mini-USB cable. When the Digikey SmartFusion2 Maker Board is powered on, all 8 LEDs will flash on and off repeatedly. Once user button 1 is pressed, the ambient light sensor will be continuously read. The result of the light sensor reading will be shown visually across the 8 LEDs as a bar graph. Confirm that the board behaves as expected.

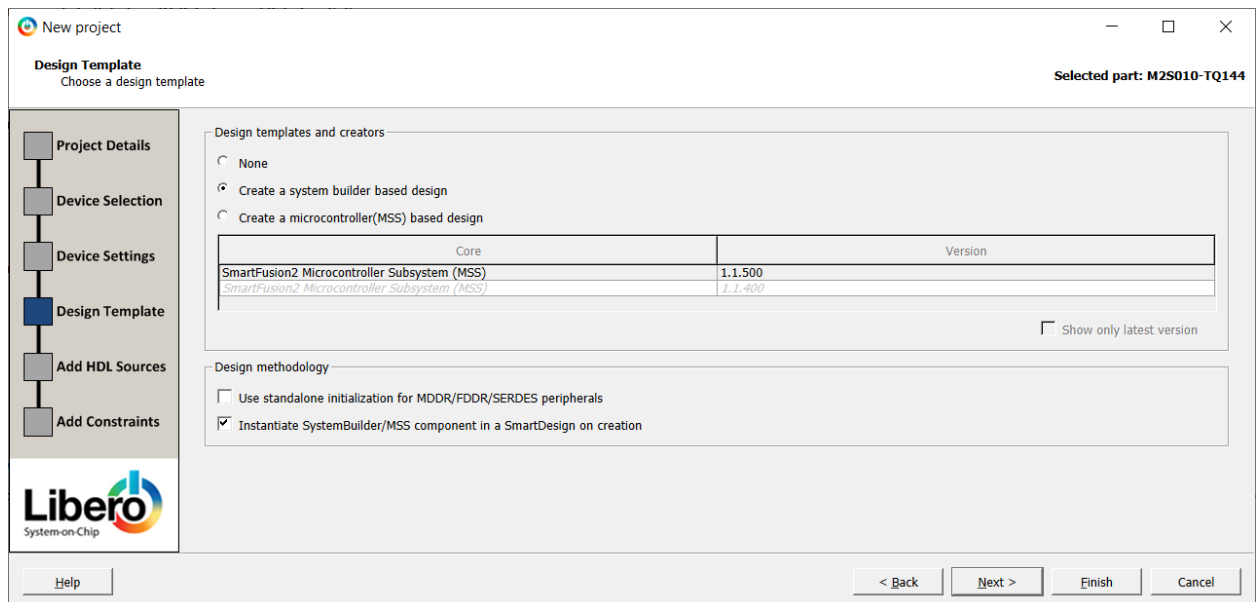
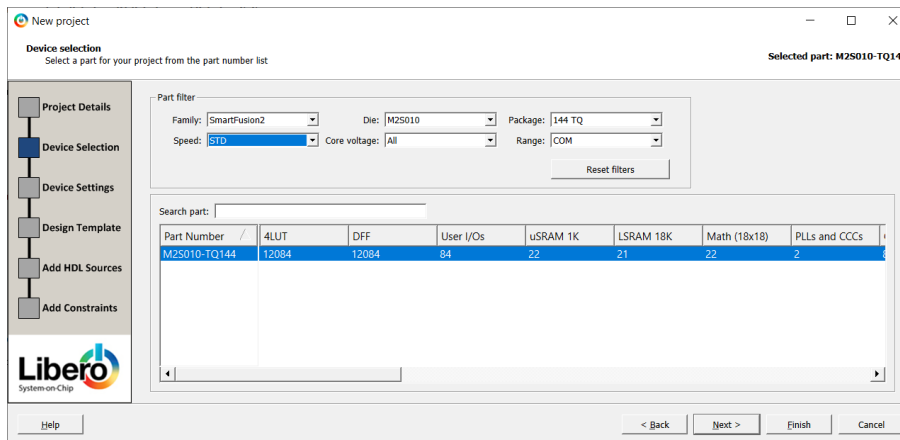
II. CREATE A HARDWARE DESIGN WITH LIBERO

SETUP

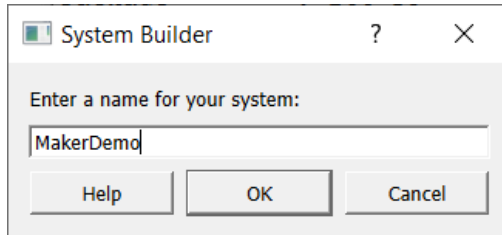
To set up your project:

1. Invoke Libero SoC. From the **Project** menu, choose **New Project**.
2. Enter SF2MakerDemo for your new project name and browse to a folder for your project location. Enter the following values for the project settings:
 - Language: Verilog
 - Family: SmartFusion2
 - Package: 144 TQFP
 - Speed: STD

- Die: M2S010
- Temperature Range: COM
- I/O: LVCMOS 2.5v
- PLL Supply Voltage: 2.5
- VDD supply ramp time: 100 ms.
- Design Templates: System Builder based Design
- HDL Source File: TBD from the file provided

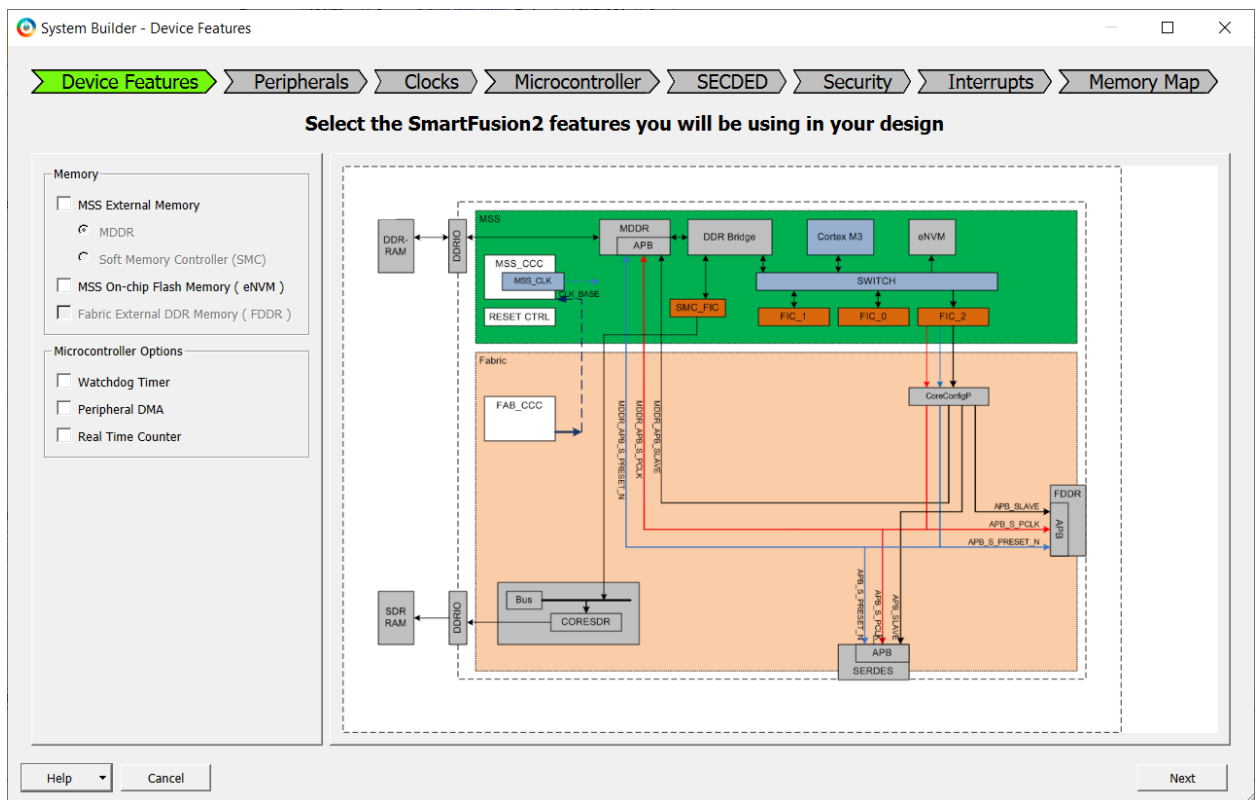


3. No HDL sources or constraints will be added at this time. Click **Finish**.
4. If you are prompted to select a constraint flow, choose **Enhanced Constraint Flow**.
5. Libero will ask you to name the system. Give it the name **MakerDemo** and click **OK**.

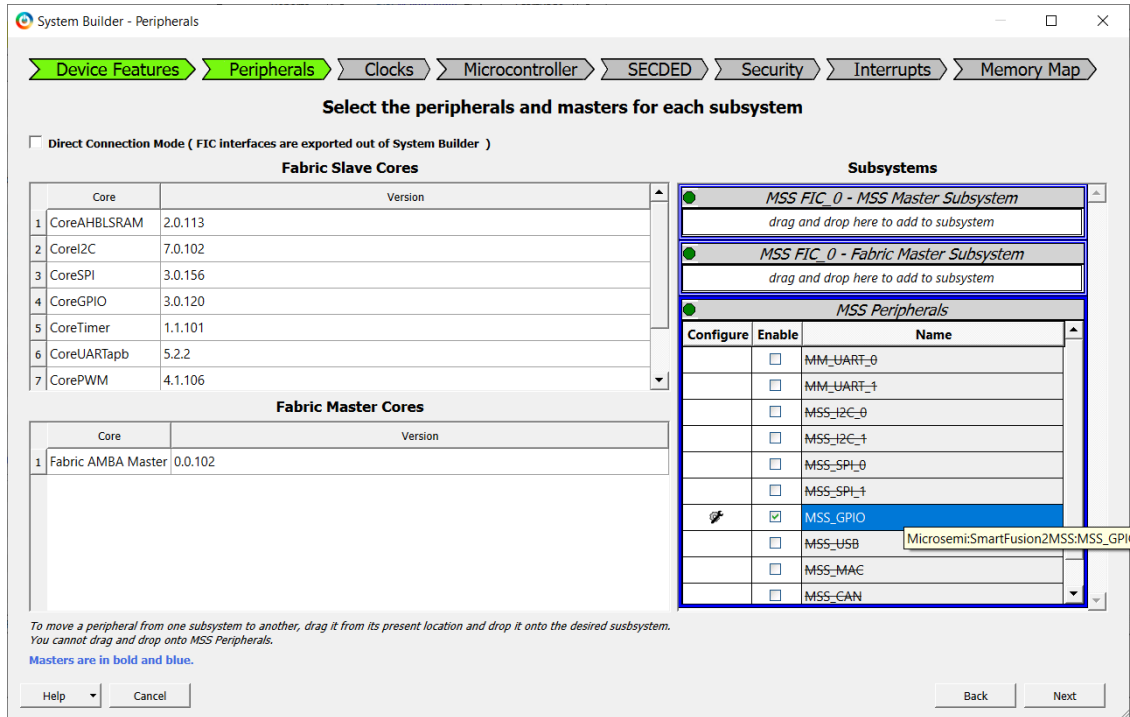


BUILD THE SYSTEM

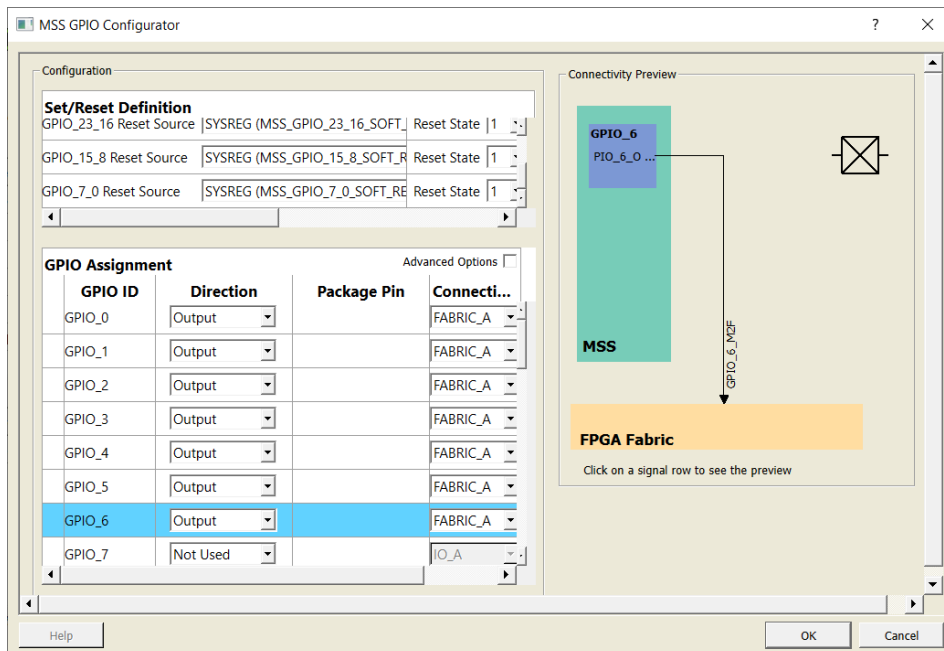
- The System Builder startup window will appear. It allows you to set up the SmartFusion2 by configuring all the devices in the MSS and the Fabric. Click **Next** to accept the defaults.



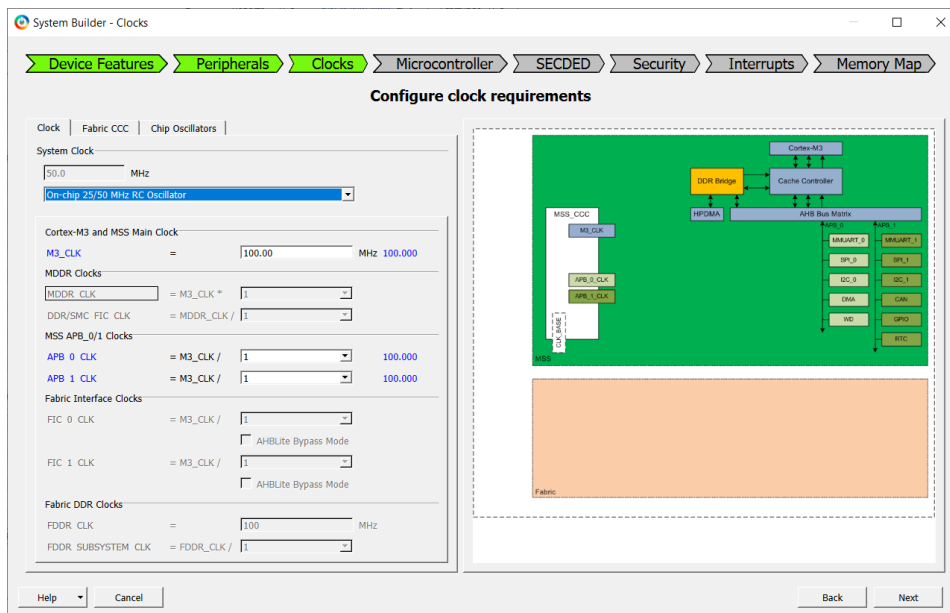
- In the **Peripherals** sub-window under System Builder, in the **Subsystems** pane, disable all peripherals. Enable **MSS_GPIO** and click the configuration button next to the **Enable** tick-box.



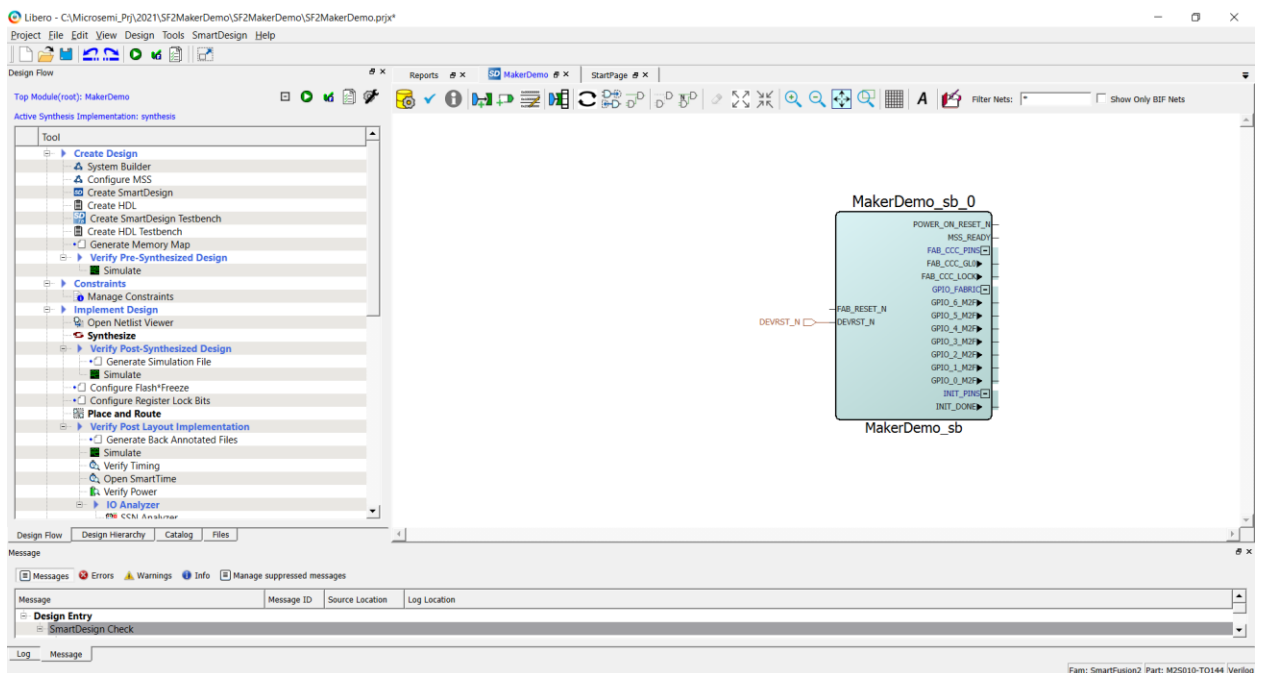
- Click on the wrench in the Configure Column next to the MSS_GPIO. Configure GPIO_0 through GPIO_7 as outputs connected to the fabric, as shown below:



- Click **OK** in the MSS GPIO Configurator window and click **Next** back in System Builder.
- In the Clocks sub-window in System Builder, select **On-chip 25/50 MHz RC Oscillator**. Leave the rest of the settings to default (M3_CLK = 100 MHz) and click **Next**.

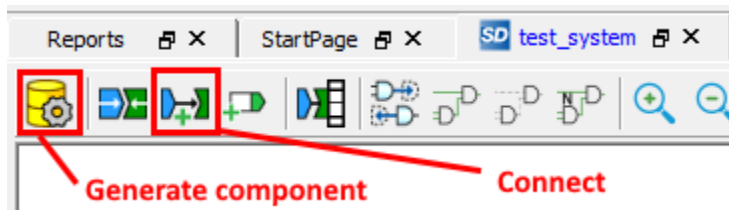


11. Click **Next** in the Microcontroller sub-window to accept the defaults.
12. Click **Next** in the SECCED sub-window to accept the defaults.
13. Click **Next** in the Security sub-window to accept the defaults.
14. Click **Next** in the Interrupts sub-window to accept the defaults.
15. Click **Finish** in the Memory Map window. The System Builder design should now be finished.
16. The generated MSS system should now appear in SmartDesign.

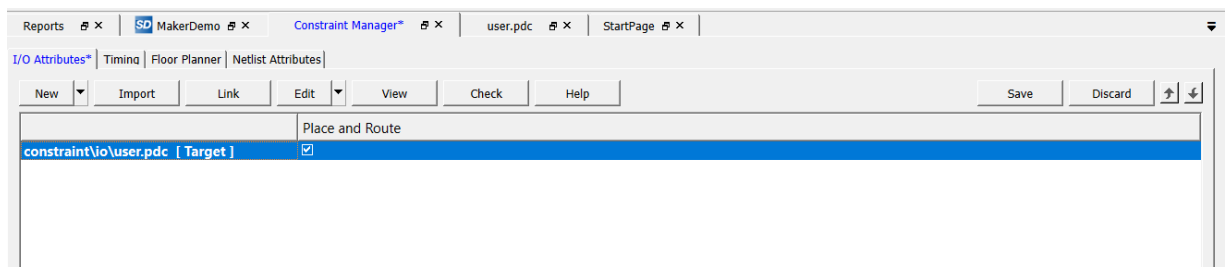


17. Click on the minus boxes on the right of the block to collapse the ports into buses.

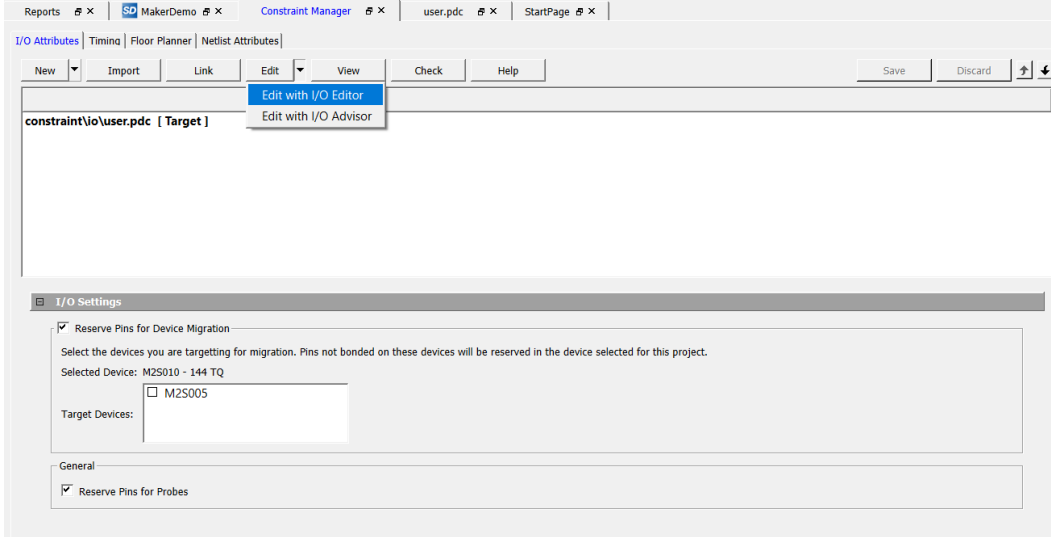
18. Select the **GPIO_FABRIC** interface, right-click and select **Promote to Top Level** in the pop-up menu. This will create an output port called **GPIO_FABRIC** and connect the MSS design to the port.
19. Expand the **FAB_CCC_PINS** and **INIT_PINS** interfaces.
20. Right-click **MSS_READY** and click **Mark Unused** in the pop-up-menu.
21. Right-click **FAB_CCC_GLO** and click **Mark Unused** in the pop-up-menu.
22. Right-click **FAB_CCC_LOCK** and click **Mark Unused** in the pop-up-menu.
23. Right-click **INIT_DONE** and click **Mark Unused** in the pop-up-menu.
24. Make a connection between the **POWER_ON_RESET_N** and **FAB_RESET_N** pins of the MSS using the **Connection mode** button in SmartDesign (alternative: **Right-click > Connection mode** within the SmartDesign window).
25. Save the design, then click the **Generate component** button in SmartDesign (alternative: **Right-click > Generate component** within the SmartDesign window).



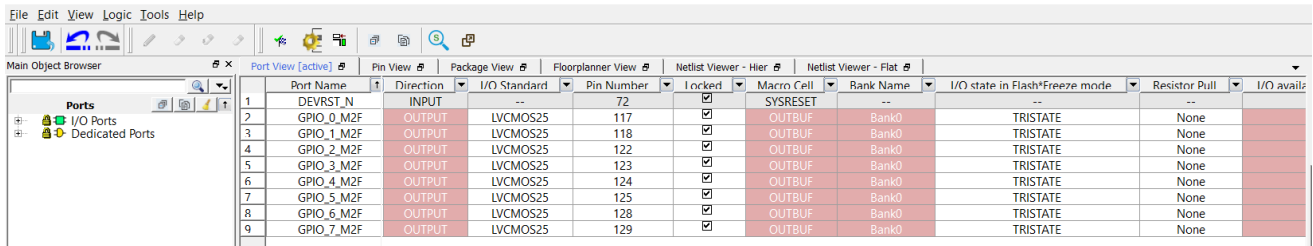
26. In the **Design Flow** pane to the left of the Libero window, double-click **Synthesize**.
27. You will see a number of warnings in the messages that refer to unused components and can be safely ignored.
28. When synthesis has completed, double-click **Manage Constraints** in the Design Flow pane.
29. Choose **New > Create New I/O Constraint from Root Module** and give the constraint a name (the one in the example design was given the name user) and click **OK**. Libero will auto-generate a constraint file populated with the top-level ports from the block diagram.
30. Back in the Constraint Manager window, right-click the new constraint and click **Set as Target**.
31. Tick the tick-box under **Place and Route** for the constraint.



32. Select **Edit > Edit with I/O Editor**.



33. You can edit the pin assignments to signals in the I/O Editor. Make the following settings in the I/O Editor window:



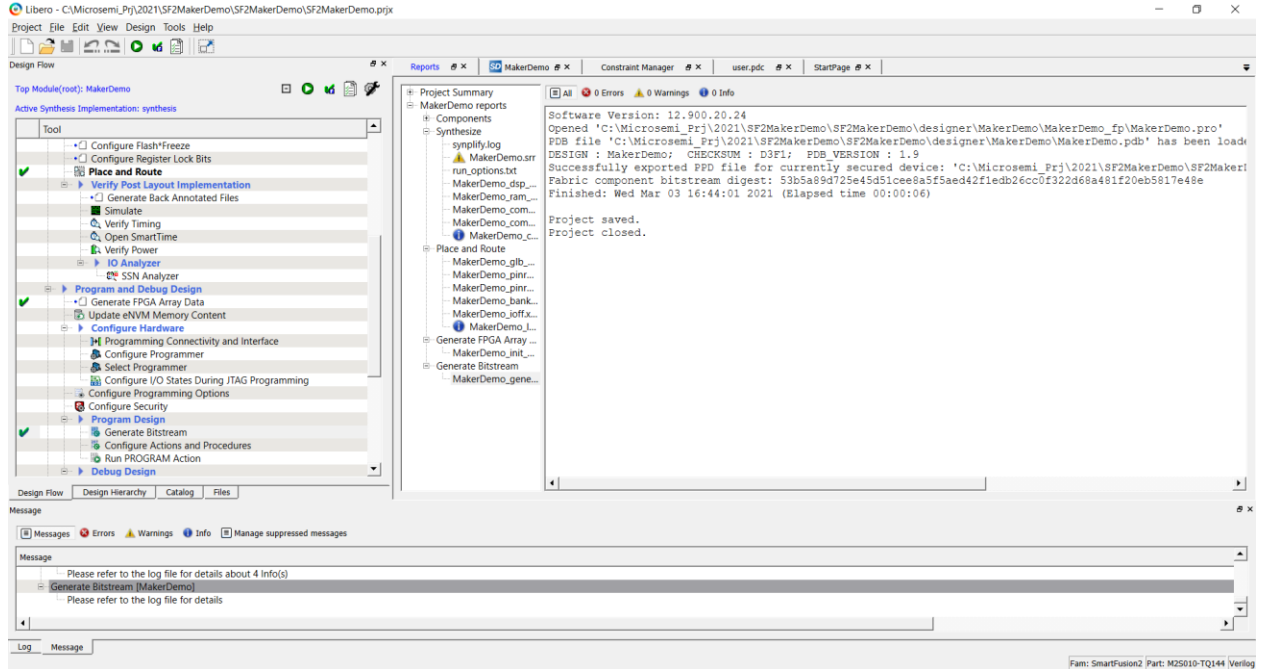
Port Name	Direction	I/O Standard	Pin Number	Locked	Macro Cell	Rank Name	I/O state in Flash/Freeze mode	Resistor Pull	I/O avail
1 DEVRST_N	INPUT	--	72	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SYSRESET	--	--	--	
2 GPIO_0_M2F	OUTPUT	LVCMS025	117	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUTBUF	Bank0	TRISTATE	None	
3 GPIO_1_M2F	OUTPUT	LVCMS025	118	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUTBUF	Bank0	TRISTATE	None	
4 GPIO_2_M2F	OUTPUT	LVCMS025	122	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUTBUF	Bank0	TRISTATE	None	
5 GPIO_3_M2F	OUTPUT	LVCMS025	123	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUTBUF	Bank0	TRISTATE	None	
6 GPIO_4_M2F	OUTPUT	LVCMS025	124	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUTBUF	Bank0	TRISTATE	None	
7 GPIO_5_M2F	OUTPUT	LVCMS025	125	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUTBUF	Bank0	TRISTATE	None	
8 GPIO_6_M2F	OUTPUT	LVCMS025	128	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUTBUF	Bank0	TRISTATE	None	
9 GPIO_7_M2F	OUTPUT	LVCMS025	129	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OUTBUF	Bank0	TRISTATE	None	

34. Save the constraints and close the I/O Editor. Select Yes to update the pdc file.

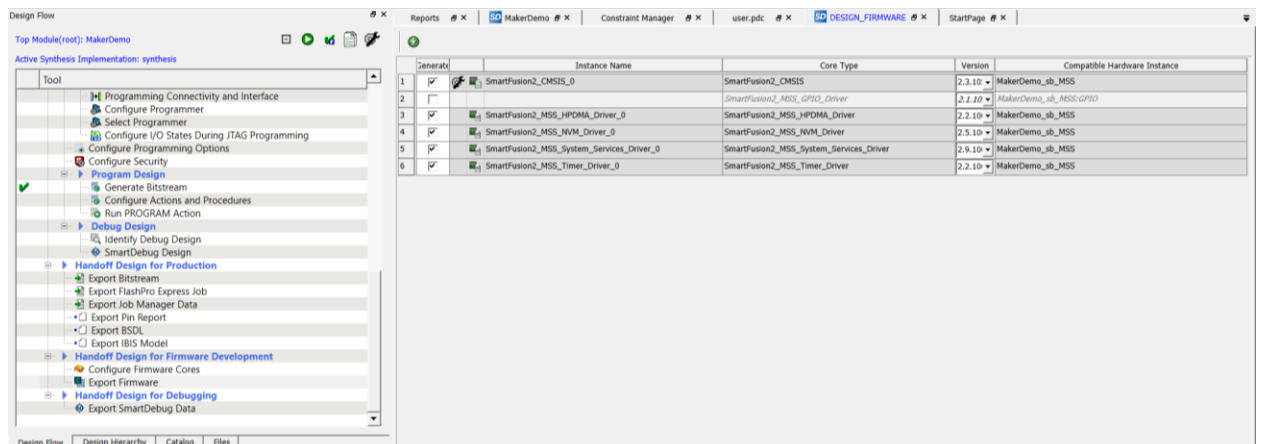
35. Back in the Design Flow pane, double-click **Place and Route**.

36. When Place and Route has completed, run **Generate FPGA Array Data**.

37. After the FPGA array data is generated, run **Generate Bitstream**.



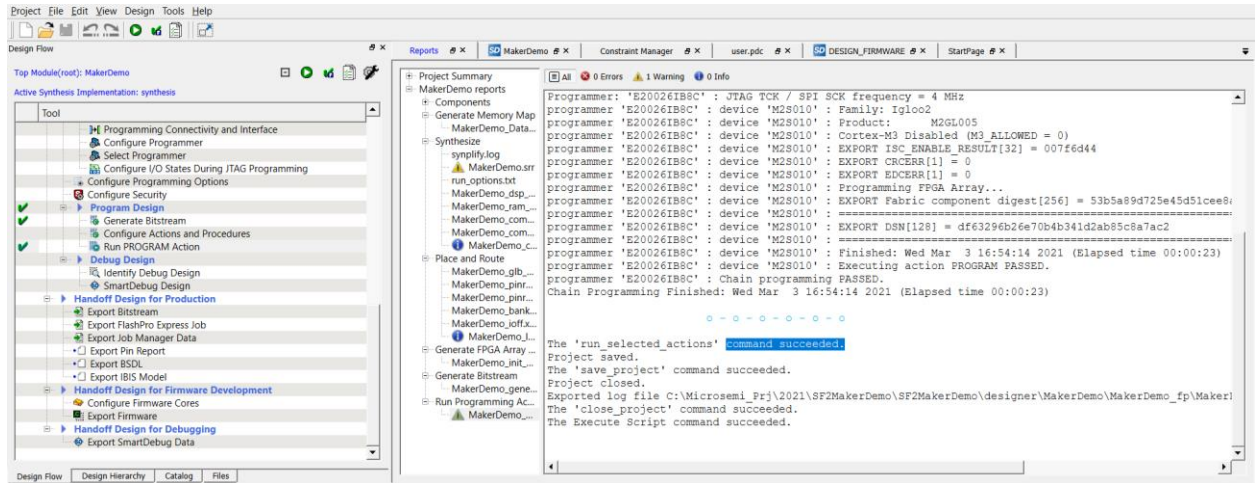
38. Near the bottom of the Design Flow pane, select **Configure Firmware Cores**.
39. Make sure all the available firmware is selected for generation. There should be one for each peripheral enabled at the beginning. Libero will ask to download any cores that are not already present on the computer.



40. From the Design Flow pane, choose **Export Firmware**. Choose a location for the export and set the Software IDE to **SoftConsole 4.0**. This automatically selects the **Export hardware configuration and firmware drivers** setting.

PROGRAMMING THE FPGA USING LIBERO

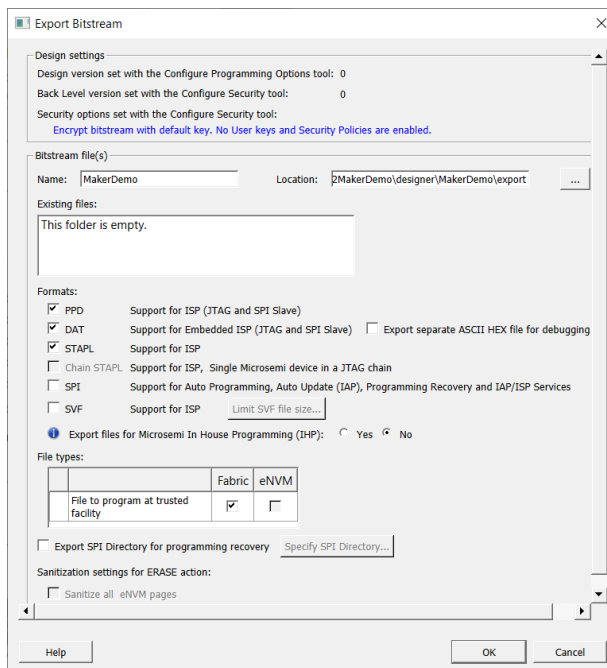
1. Connect the M2S010-MKR-KIT to your computer using a USB cable.
2. Choose **Run PROGRAM Action** from the Design Flow pane to load the configuration onto the board.
3. Make sure the report appearing in the **Reports** window returns a success.



EXPORTING THE BITSTREAM FOR PROGRAMMING USING FLASHPRO

Follow these steps:

1. In the Design Flow pane, double-click **Export Bitstream** under **Handoff Design for Production**.
2. The Export Bitstream window will appear. Select a location where the file should be exported to and make sure **STAPL** and **Fabric** are ticked. You may optionally add a suffix for the name by typing in some text in the text box.



3. Click OK. After a while, the bitstream is exported into a STAPL (.stp) file to the location of your choice. This STAPL file can be used by anyone to program the bitstream using FlashPro.
4. Verify the report appearing in the Reports window returns a success.

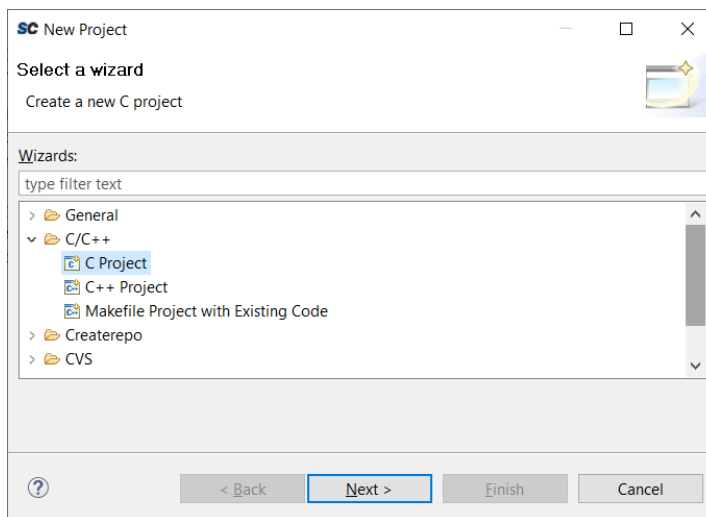
III. CREATE SOFTWARE USING SOFTCONSOLE

Using the MSS system generated in the steps above, we can now proceed to writing some firmware to light the LEDs. We will use the firmware generated from Libero in the steps above along with some custom code to blink the LEDs on the M2S010-MKR-KIT.

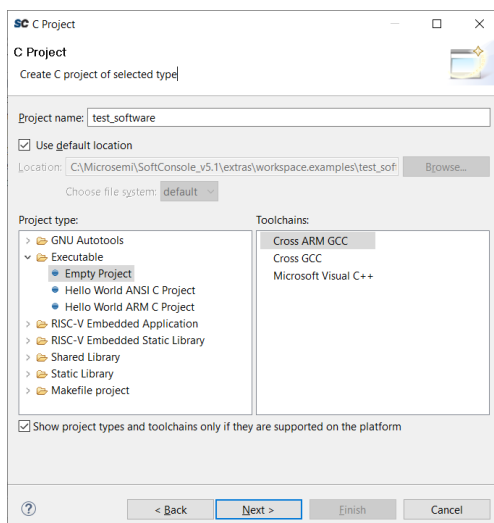
CREATING YOUR FIRST SOFTCONSOLE PROJECT

Follow these steps:

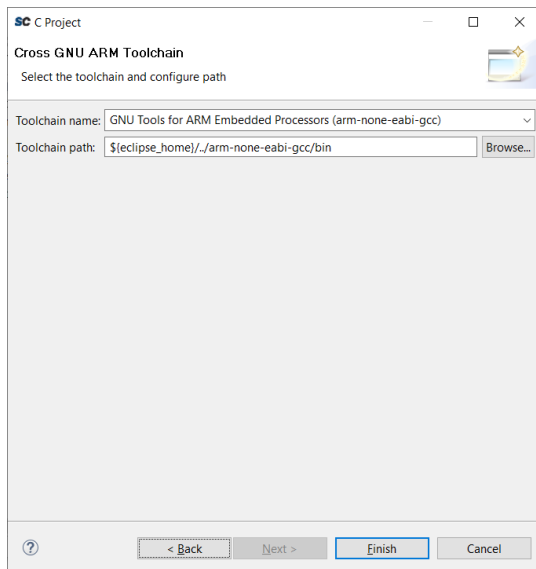
1. Open SoftConsole and choose a convenient directory as the workspace.
2. In SoftConsole, select **File > New > Project...**
3. In the window that opens, select **C Project** and click **Next**.



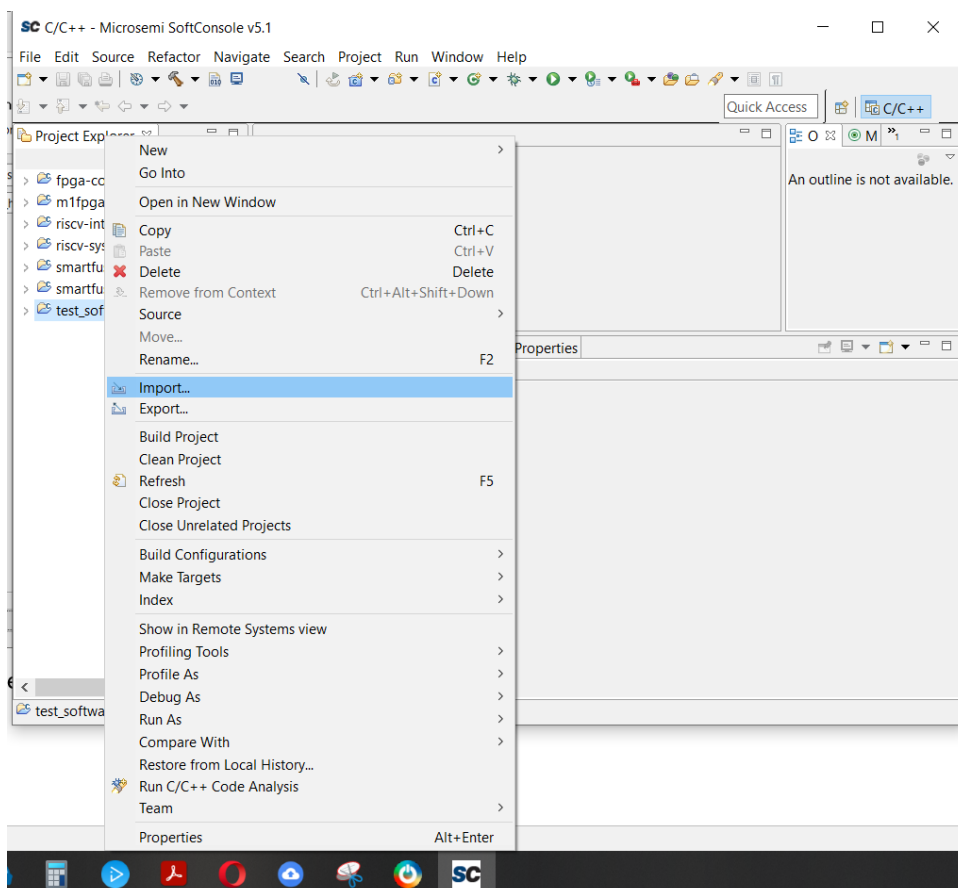
4. Name your software `test_software` and choose a location for the project. Click **Next** to create an Empty project using ARM Cross-GCC toolchain.



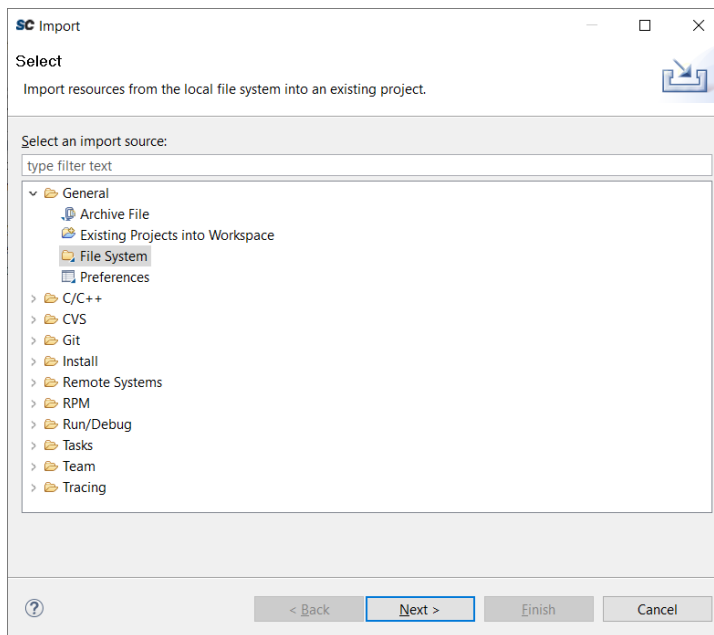
5. Click **Next** to add the default Debug and Release configurations to the project.
6. Click **Finish** to accept the default Toolchain settings.



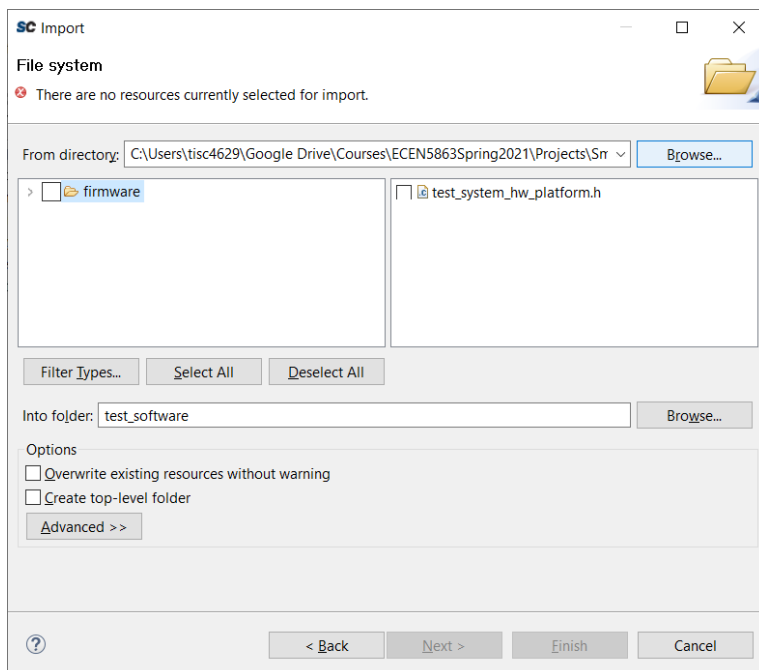
7. Your new project is created. Right-click it in the **Project Explorer** pane and click **Import...**

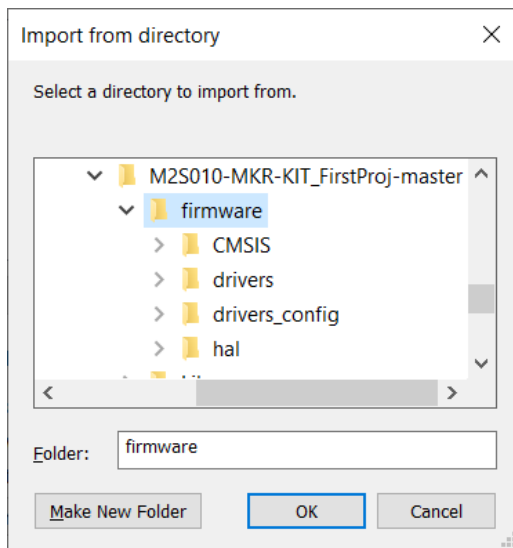


8. In the Import window that opens, under General select **File System** and click **Next**.

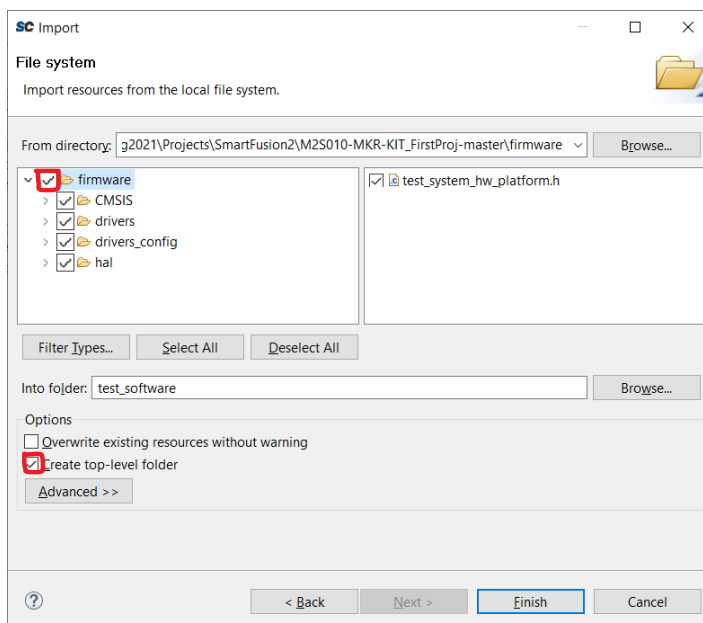


9. Unzip M2S010-MKR-KIT_FirstProj-master.zip. Browse to the firmware/ directory under the M2S010-MKR-KIT_FirstProj-master project directory, select it and click **OK**.

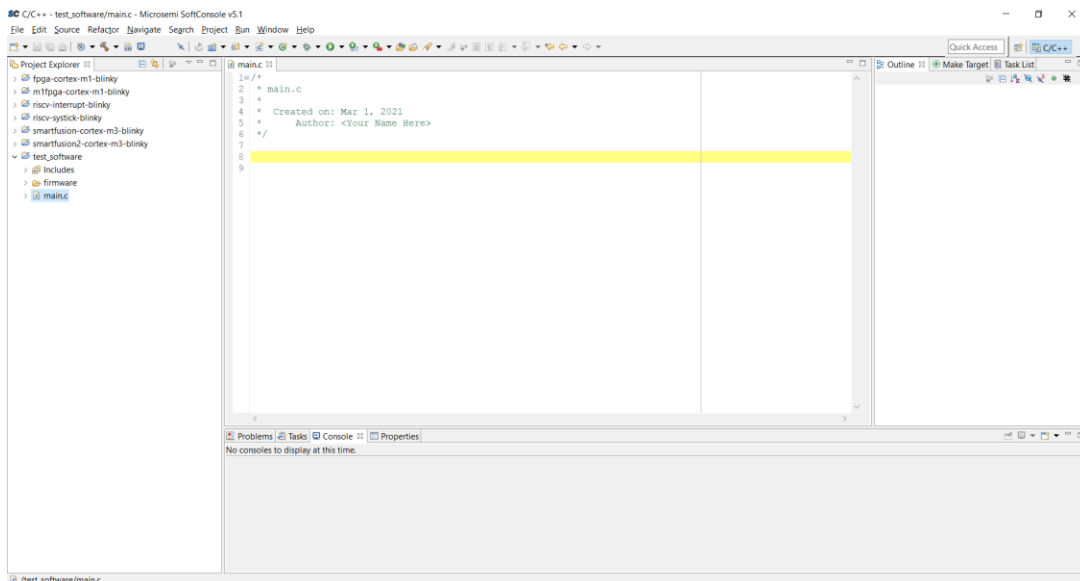
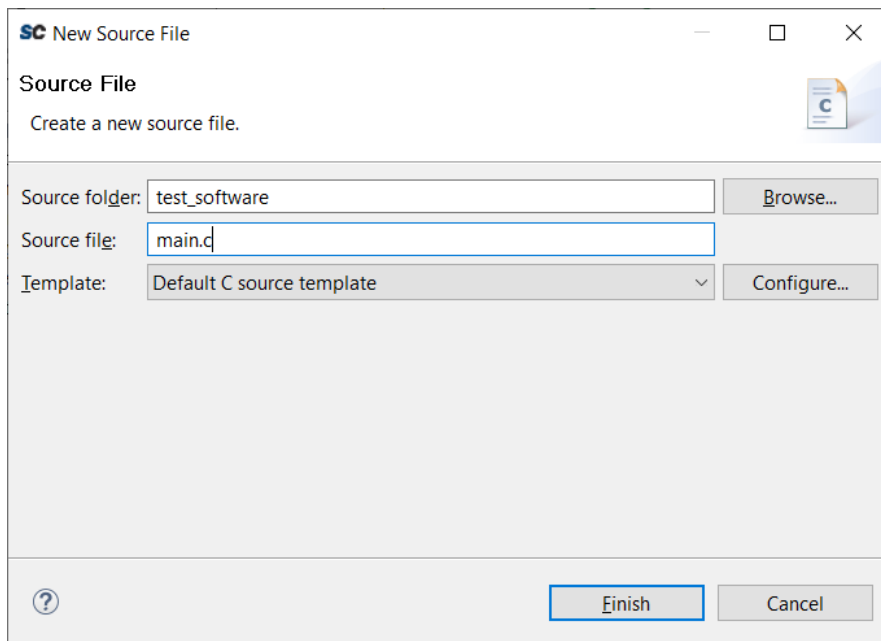




10. Click the **firmware** folder tick-box in the Import window, click the **Create top-level folder** tick-box and click **Finish**.



11. Your **test_software** project is now ready for writing some code to blink the LEDs. It is time to create a C file to contain our main() function. In the main menu of SoftConsole, Select **File > New > Source file**.
12. In the window that appears, give the file the name main.c and make sure it lies under the "**test_software**" folder. Click **Finish**.



13. The new source file should open. If it doesn't, open it by double-clicking it in the Project Explorer pane. Copy the following code to the file (identical to that in [the main.c source file from the repository](#)):

```
#include "firmware/drivers/mss_gpio/mss_gpio.h"
#include "firmware/CMSIS/system_m2sxxx.h"

static const mss_gpio_id_t LED[8] = {
    MSS_GPIO_0, MSS_GPIO_1, MSS_GPIO_2, MSS_GPIO_3,
    MSS_GPIO_4, MSS_GPIO_5, MSS_GPIO_6, MSS_GPIO_7,
};
```



```
void delay()
{
    int d = SystemCoreClock / 128;

    while (d-- > 0)
        ;
}

int main(void)
{
    int i, current_val;

    MSS_GPIO_init();

    /* Init & turn on all LEDs */
    for (i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
        MSS_GPIO_config(LED[i], MSS_GPIO_OUTPUT_MODE);
        MSS_GPIO_set_output(LED[i], 0);
    }
    delay();
    delay();
    delay();
    delay();

    /* Blink all LEDs on start up */
    for (i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
        for (current_val = 0; current_val < 8; ++current_val)
            MSS_GPIO_set_output(LED[current_val], 1);
        delay();
        for (current_val = 0; current_val < 8; ++current_val)
            MSS_GPIO_set_output(LED[current_val], 0);
        delay();
    }

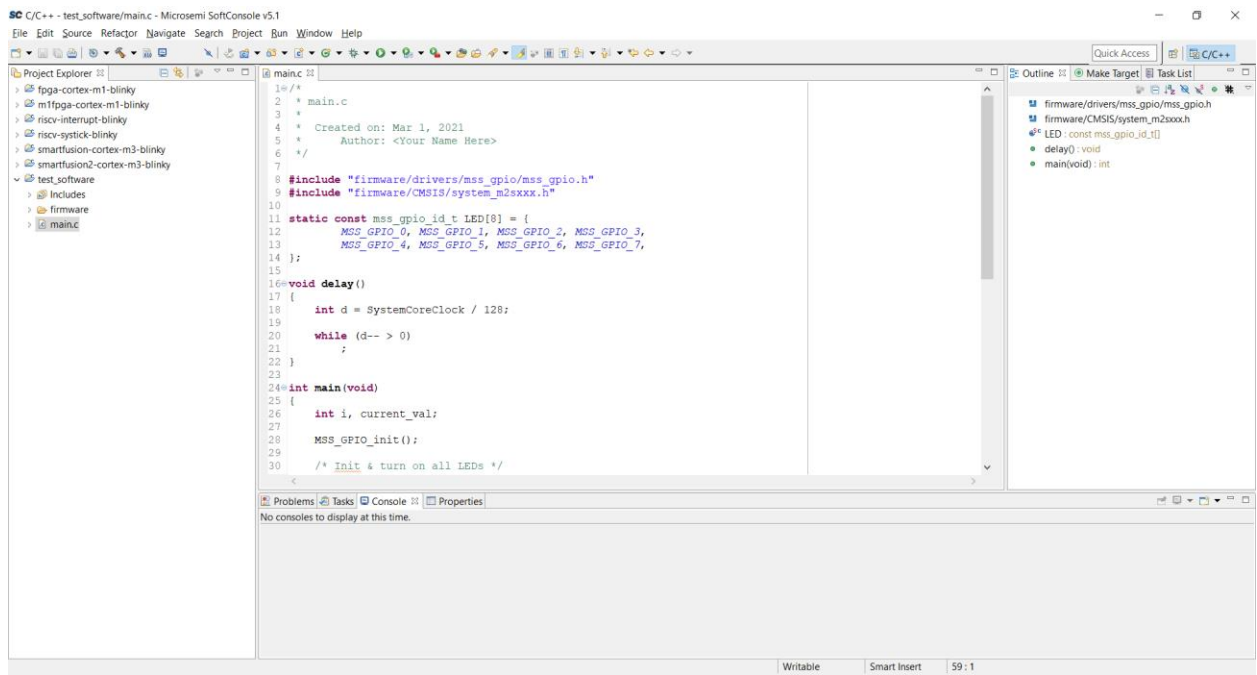
    /* Sequence-blink */
    for (;;) {
```

```

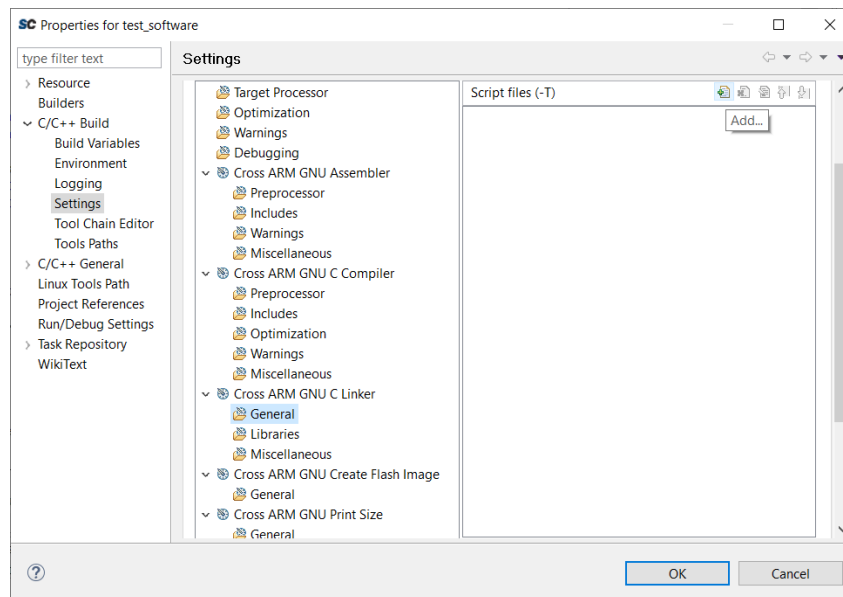
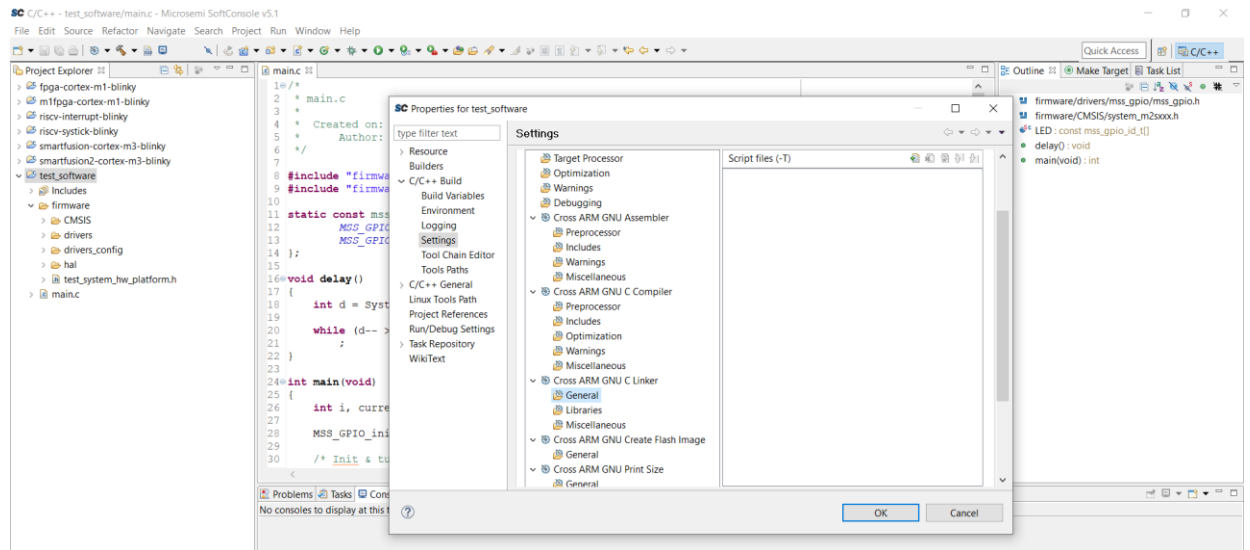
        for (i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
            current_val = (MSS_GPIO_get_outputs() & (1 << LED[i])) ? 1
: 0;

            MSS_GPIO_set_output(LED[i], current_val ^ 1);
            delay();
        }
    }
}

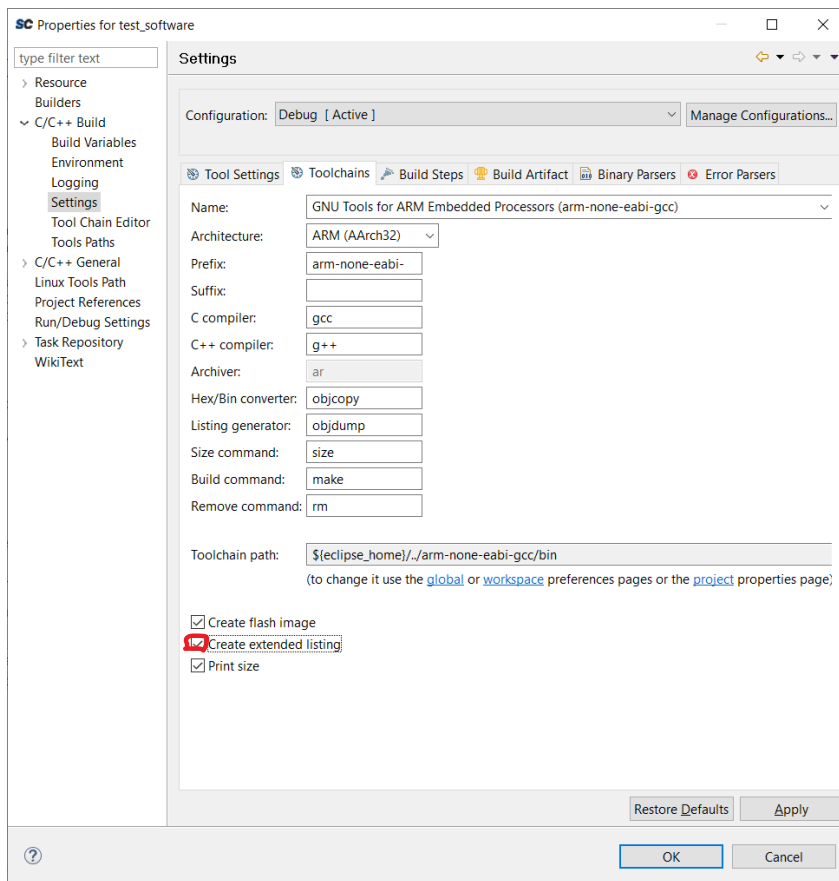
```



14. Right-click the project in the Project Explorer pane and click **Properties**.
15. In the Properties window that opens up, navigate to **C/C++ Build > Settings**.
16. In the **Tool Settings** tab, navigate to **GNU ARM Cross C Linker > General** and click the **Add** button under **Script files (-T)**:

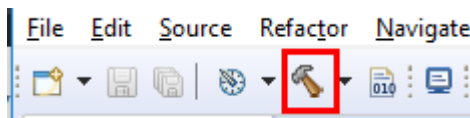


17. In the window that opens up, add the relative path to the linker script:
`../firmware/CMSIS/startup_gcc/debug-in-microsemi-smartfusion2-esram.ld`
18. Under **GNU ARM Cross C Linker > Miscellaneous**, tick the **Use newlib-nano (--specs=nano.specs)** tick-box.
19. Under **GNU ARM Cross C Compiler > Miscellaneous**, fill in the following in the **Other compiler flags** field:
`--specs=cmsis.specs`
20. In the **Toolchains** tab, tick **Create extended listing**.

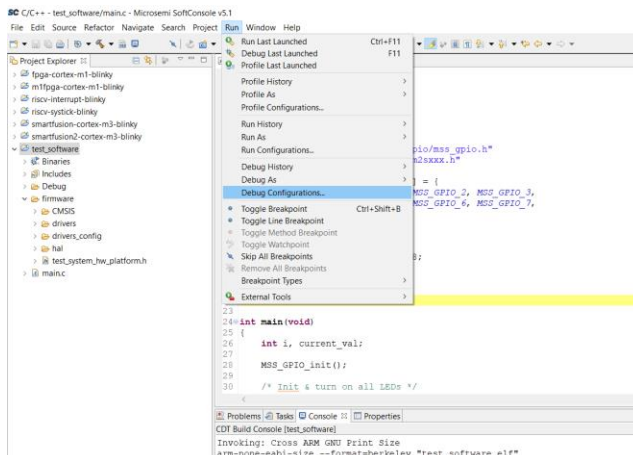


21. Click **Apply** and **OK**.

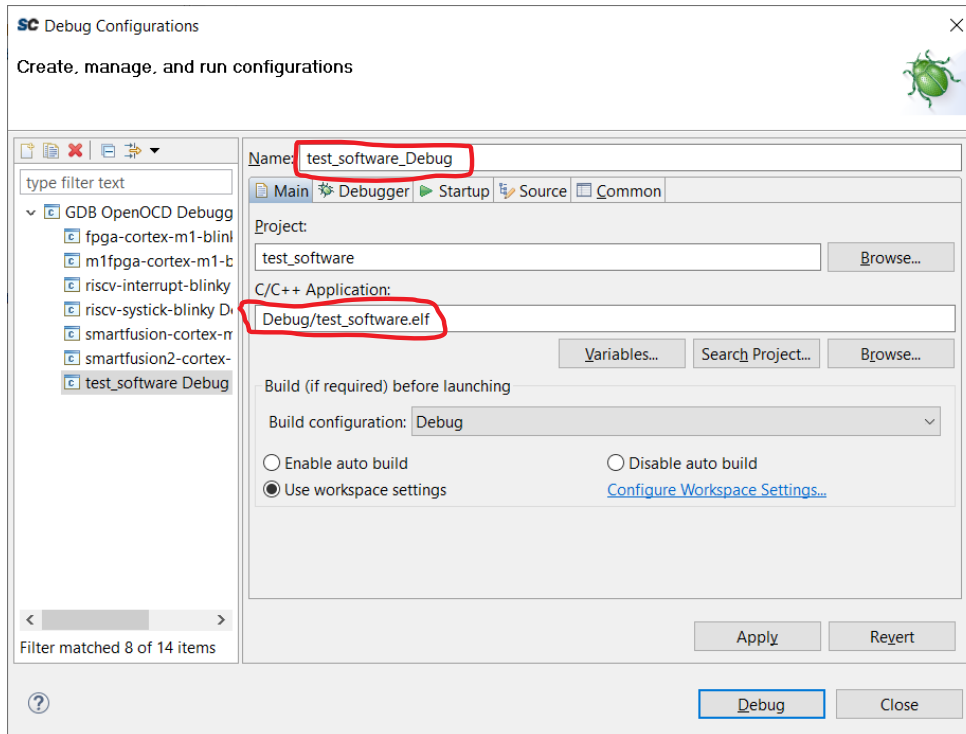
22. Build the project by hitting **Ctrl+B** on your keyboard, or clicking the build button. The project should build successfully.



23. In the file menu, click **Run > Debug Configurations....**



24. Double-click **GDB OpenOCD Debugging**. In the **Main** tab, name the new configuration `test_software_Debug` and replace the backslash with a forward slash in the **C/C++ Application** text box (this is to make the project portable on Linux).

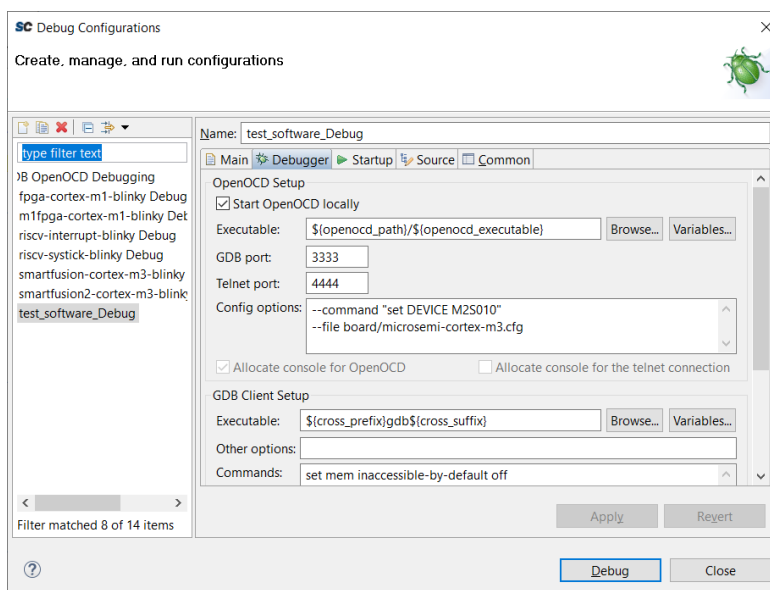


25. In the **Debugger** tab, add the following text under **Config options**:

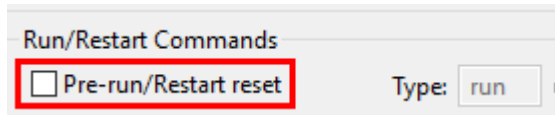
--command "set DEVICE M2S010"

--file board/microsemi-cortex-m3.cfg

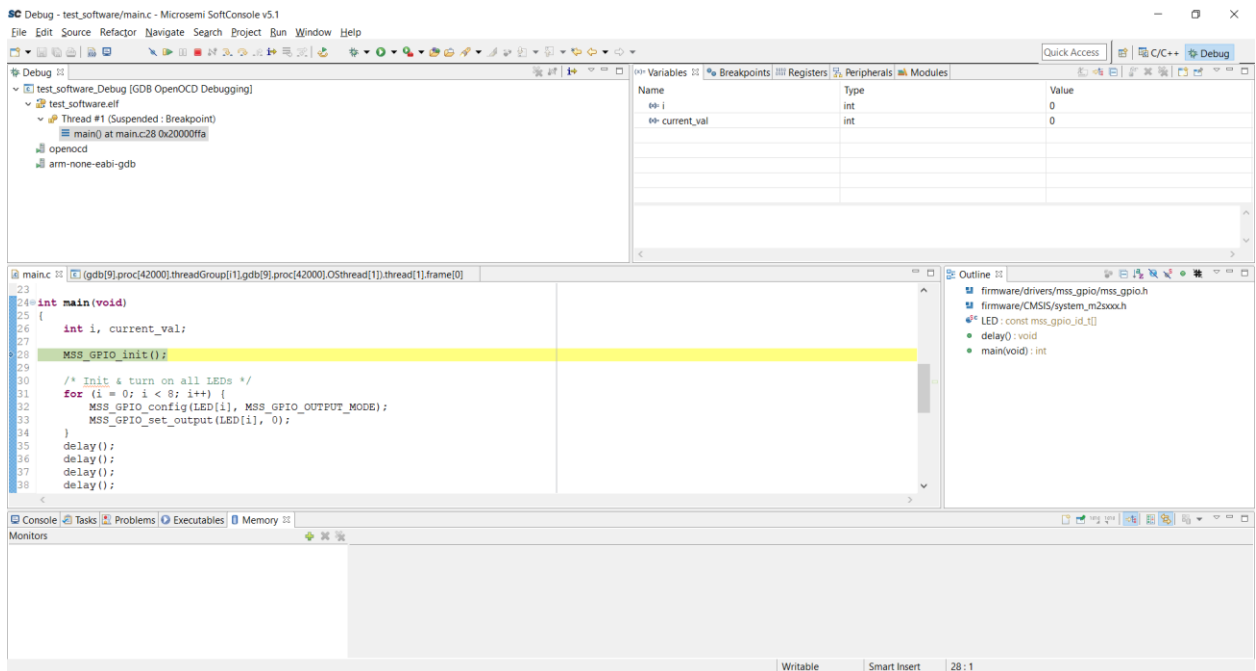
Delete all other commands present in this box.



26. In the **Startup** tab, scroll down to the **Run/Restart Commands** section and make the **Pre-run/Restart reset** tick-box is not checked.



27. Plug the M2S010-MKR-KIT into a USB port and click **Debug**.
28. The **Debug** window should appear (Click Yes if it asks) and a breakpoint is set on entry to the main() function.



29. Click the **Resume** button to run the program.



29. The LEDs should now be blinking. At first all LEDs will blink simultaneously, then they will be turned on and off sequentially.
30. Play around in the code to see changes taking effect. For example, change the division factor in the delay() function, build and debug the project again. Note that the build step is necessary prior to debugging.

BONUS (10 points): Change the hardware and software so that the light pattern switches direction when one of the user buttons is pressed.

PROGRAMMING THE ENVM FROM SOFTCONSOLE

In order to have the firmware running on startup, it must be programmed into the eNVM (embedded non-volatile memory) of the SmartFusion2 FPGA. This is done by simply changing the linker script in step 17 above to the eNVM linker script,

debug-in-microsemi-smartfusion2-envm.ld

The full process to do this follows:

1. Right-click the project in the Project Explorer pane and click **Properties**.
2. In the Properties window that opens up, navigate to **C/C++ Build > Settings**.
3. In the **Tool Settings** tab, navigate to **GNU ARM Cross C Linker > General** and click the **Add** button under **Script files (-T)**.
4. In the window that opens up, add the relative path to the linker script:

../firmware/CMSIS/startup_gcc/debug-in-microsemi-smartfusion2-envm.ld

The next time debug runs, code will be downloaded to the eNVM and will start executing upon subsequent power-ups.

NB: The linker script shown here is a demonstration for the example project. For your own project, a release build should be compiled and downloaded to the eNVM.