



**University  
of Victoria**

*Department of Electrical and  
Computer Engineering*

# **CENG 455**

## **REAL TIME COMPUTER SYSTEMS**

### **DESIGN PROJECTS**

**Introduction and Project 1**

## **Acknowledgement**

The collection of 455 Real Time Computer Systems Design Projects is the result of the hard work of numerous individuals. Without their effort, time, and ideas over the years, it would not have been possible to provide our students the best possible learning experience.

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering would like to express its gratitude to these people who have contributed to the design projects in a major way: A. Jooya, S. Khoshbakht, N. Agarwal, S. Campbell, N.J. Dimopoulos, J. Dorocicz, K. Jones, T. Kroeker, E. Laxdal, K.F. Li, L. Palmer, N. Rebenich, T. Torres-Bonet, B. Zakeri, and D. Zhao.

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## 1. Introduction

The CENG 455 Laboratory component consists of one simple introduction project and two medium-sized design projects. The purpose of the projects is to introduce you to designing and implementing hardware and software for applications in a real time, multitasking environment.

### 1.1 Marking

The mark distribution for the laboratory component is:

Project 1	5
Project 2	45
Project 3	50
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Total	100

### 1.2 Time Table

The timeline and milestones for the projects are given in Table 1.

*Table 1. Time table*

Date	Description
<b>First scheduled lab</b>	Project 1 must be demonstrated by 5:30 PM; no late Project 1 will be accepted. No report is required for Project 1. Project 2 will be assigned.
<b>Fourth scheduled lab</b>	Project 2 must be demonstrated by 5:30 PM; any Project 2 demonstrated after this time will be subjected to an initial penalty of -1 mark, and an additional -1 mark for every 24 hours. Project 3 will be announced.
<b>72 hours after the Fourth scheduled lab</b>	The last day for demonstrating a late Project 2. After 5:30 PM, no demonstrations of Project 2 will be accepted, and a failing grade for the COURSE will be given.
<b>One week after Fourth scheduled lab</b>	Reports for Project 2 must be handed in by 5:30 PM. Late reports will be penalized the same way as late demonstration.
<b>72 hours after above deadline</b>	The last day for submitting reports for Project 2.
<b>Eighth scheduled lab</b>	‘Demo days’ for Project 3. (Late penalties as Project 2).
<b>One week after the Demo</b>	Reports for Project 3 due. (Late penalties as Project 2).

### 1.3 Notes

- All three projects must be demonstrated to the lab instructor, and for Project 3, to the course instructor as well, in order to have a mark assigned. A project report without a demonstration will result in a 0 mark, and thus a **failing grade for the COURSE**. An acceptable demonstration is one that presents to the lab/course instructors how much of your project works according to specification, and shows the project source code. You can demonstrate the project even if it is not working completely or correctly. Be prepared to answer questions.
  - The stated deadlines are firm and will not be extended.
  - The projects must be performed in groups of no more than three.
  - The lab instructor will in general not be available outside of the lab session hours. If you want to see the lab instructor outside of the lab session you must arrange it via e-mail. The lab instructor will not be available on a drop-in basis.

## 2. Overview

This section gives a general overview of the hardware and software development platform used in the lab.

### 2.1 The Development Environment

No setup of the development environment should be required. The PCs in the lab run Windows. You login to Windows using your UNIX username and password, the home directory of your UNIX account will be mounted automatically as “*drive M*”. It is a good practice to save your work to your “*M drive*” regularly. Atollic TrueSTUDIO® for STM32 is available on your workstation.

### 2.2 Hardware

The hardware platform includes the STM32F4 Discovery board. Relevant manuals and references can be found on the course ([www.ece.uvic.ca/~ceng455](http://www.ece.uvic.ca/~ceng455)) and the lab ([www.ece.uvic.ca/~ceng455l](http://www.ece.uvic.ca/~ceng455l)) web pages.

## 2.3 Software

The software development platform Atollic TrueSTUDIO® for STM32 is used to build, run, and debug your FreeRTOS applications. Relevant manuals and references can be found on the course and the lab web pages.

# Project 1

## Introduction to TrueSTUDIO and FreeRTOS

The purpose of this project is to introduce you to Atollic TrueSTUDIO IDE and FreeRTOS.


### P1.1 Marking

This project is worth 5% of your Lab mark. This mark will be given if you demonstrate a successful implementation of the project before the end of the first lab session. There is no write up required for this project.

### P1.2 Introduction to TrueSTUDIO and FreeRTOS

In this section you will learn how to use TrueSTUDIO IDE to create a new project, compile, build and debug it. To do this, you will develop a code based on FreeRTOS and practice some of the basic concepts of real time operating system.

TrueSTUDIO is built on Eclipse and the interface and menus is the same as of Eclipse which you are already familiar with.

1. Run Atollic TrueSTUDIO for STM32 using the  icon shortcut on the desktop. Note the workspace path and click OK.
2. Go to **File** menu, select **new**, then select **Download new example project from TrueSTORE** and wait for Atollic TrueSTORE window to appear on the screen.
3. Select **FreeRTOS**, select **STM32F4\_Discovery** and select the **STM32F4\_Discovery\_FreeRTOS\_Simple\_Demo**. Make sure that the option “build project after download” is checked (see Figure1). Click on Finish button.

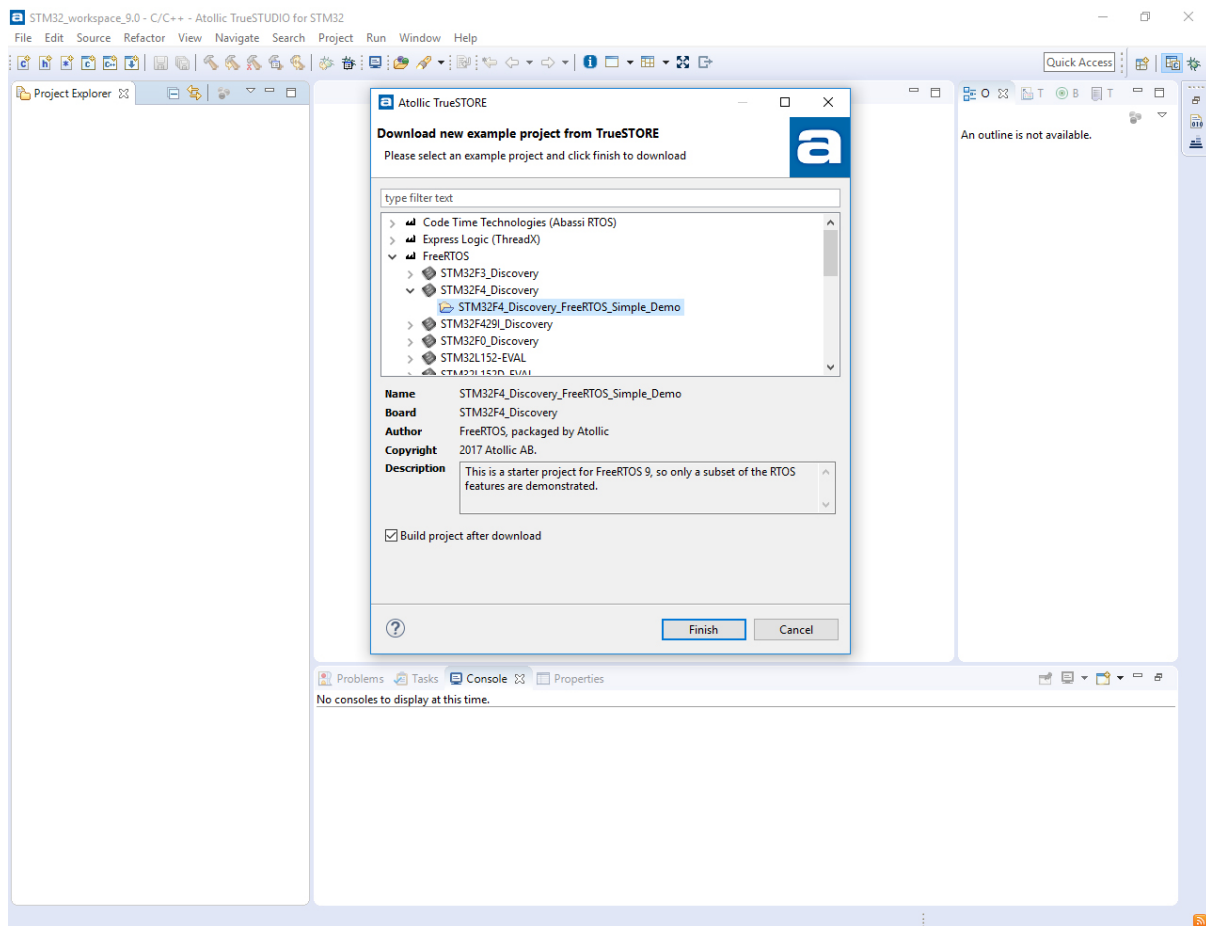


Figure 1. Download a sample FreeRTOS project from TrueSTORE.

4. TrueSTUDIO will download and build the demo project. Make sure the build process was successful.
5. Download the “Lab1.c” from coursespaces and replace the content of the main.c file with the code in “Lab1.c”.
6. Open the “FreeRTOSConfig.h” file and make the following change:
 

```
#define configUSE_TICK_HOOK      1
```
7. Build the project and make sure that the built process was successful.
8. Spend 15 minutes to read the code and discuss it with your teammate. Ask your TA if you have any question.
9. Inform your TA that you have read the code and ready to move to the next step. Your TA may ask you question related to the code to make sure that you have fully understood the code.
10. On the left panel, right click on the *src* folder, from the pop-up menu, select *new* and then select *other....* On the new screen, open *System calls* and choose *Minimum System*

*Calls Implementation as in Figure2.*

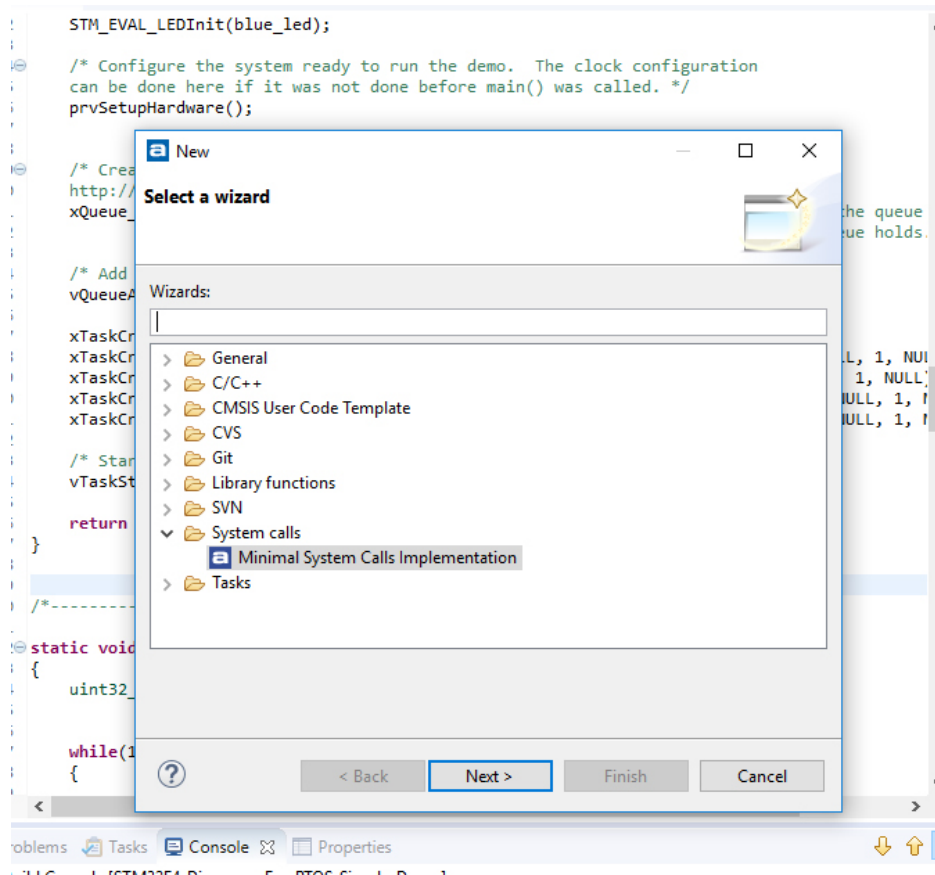


Figure 2. Adding a system call file to the project.

11. Click *next* and then *Finish*. The syscall.c file has been added to the project under *src* folder.
12. Open the syscalls.c file and add the following code to the top of the file.  

```
#include "stm32f4xx.h"
```
13. Replace the `_write` function with the following code.

```
80 int _write(int file, char *ptr, int len)
81 {
82     /* Implement your write code here, this is used by
83     puts and printf for example */
84     int i=0;
85     for(i=0 ; i<len ; i++)
86         ITM_SendChar((*ptr++));
87     return len;
88 }
```

14. Build the project. It should be built without any error or warning.
15. Connect the STM32F4\_Discovery board to the PC using a USB cable. The red power LED should light up.
16. Now you are all set to start debugging the code. From the **Run menu** select **debug configurations**. On the left panel, under **Embedded C/C++ Application**, there is a debug configuration with the same name as the project's. select the debug configuration as in Figure3.

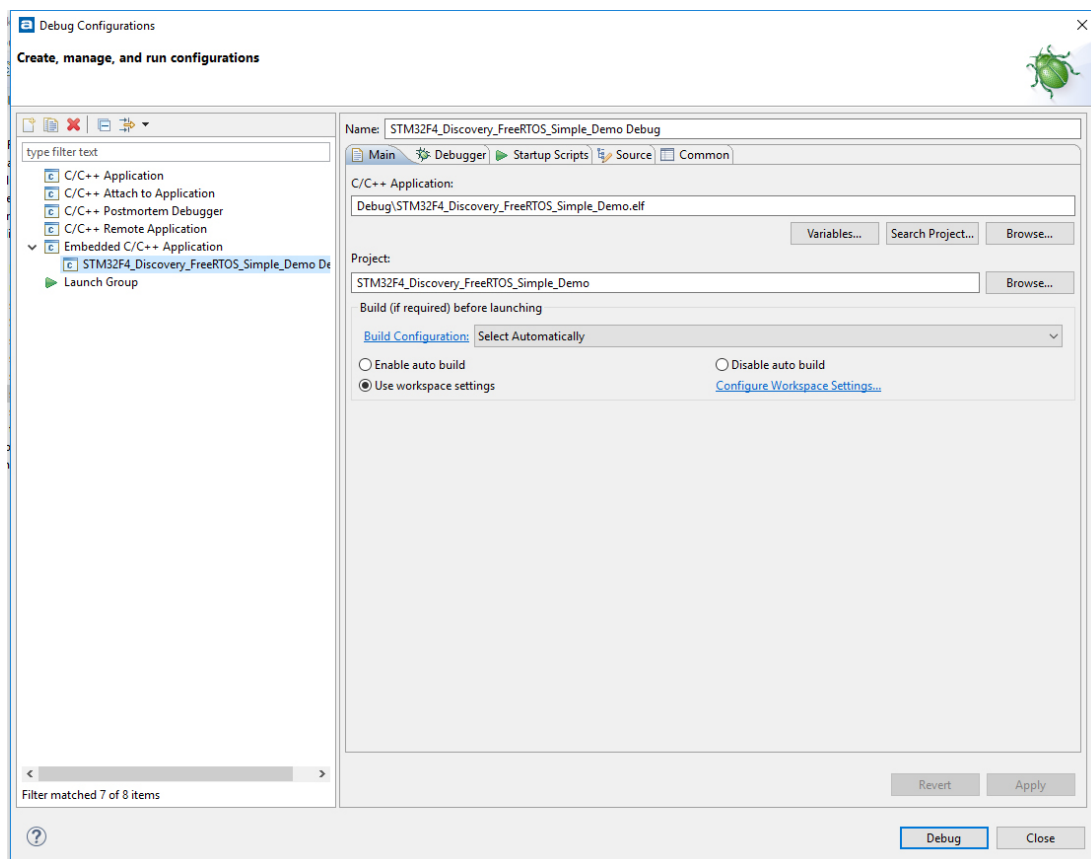


Figure 3. Debug configuration window.

17. Go to Debugger tab and check Enable under **Serial Wire Viewer (SWV)** as in Figure4.



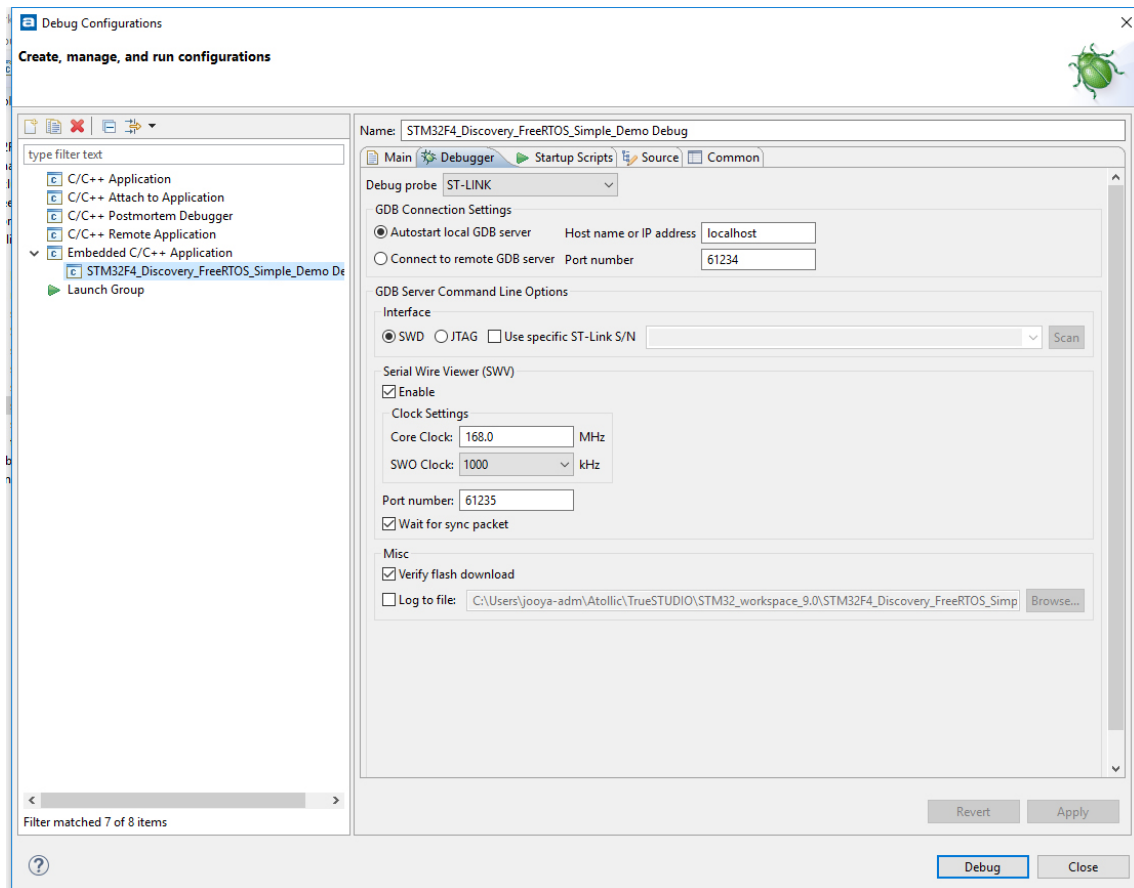


Figure 4. Enabling SWV.

18. Check the other tabs and make yourself familiar with the debugger options. Do not change other settings and click **Debug**. TrueSTUDIO switches into debug view.
19. Under **View** menu, enable the following options:
  - a. select **FreeRTOS** and enable **FreeRTOS Queues**.
  - b. select **FreeRTOS** and enable **FreeRTOS Task List**.
  - c. Select **SWV** and enable **SWV Console**.

Your debug interface should look like Figure5.

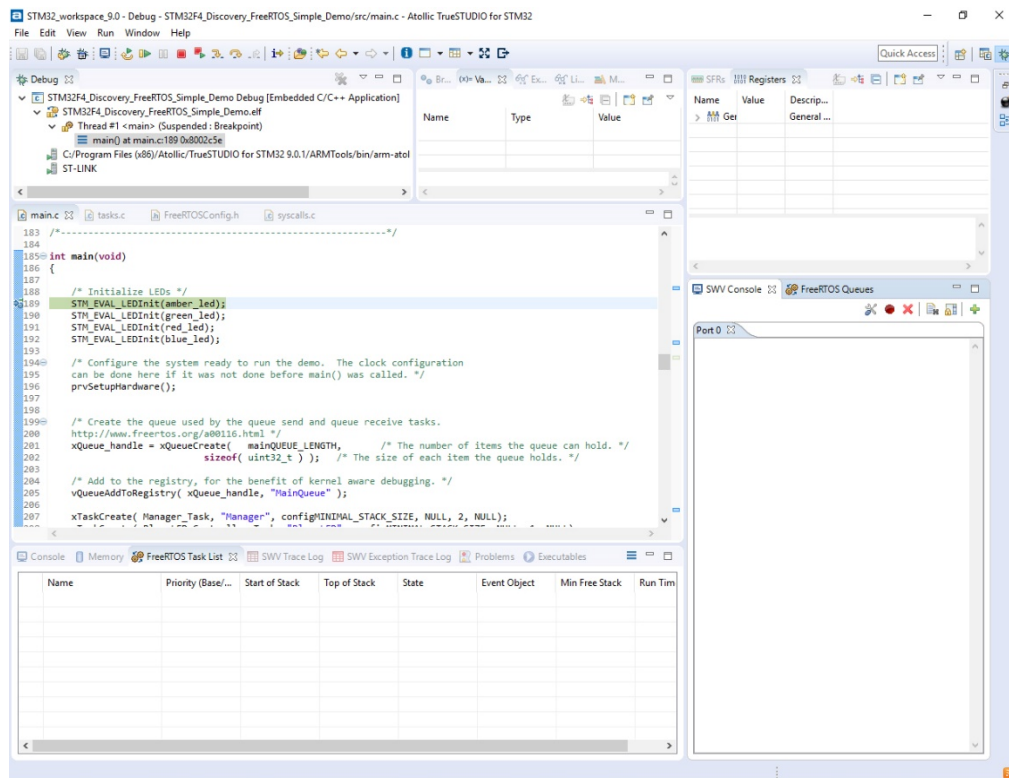



Figure 5. Debugger view with SWV console and FreeRTOS queue and task list enabled.

20. Click on the gear icon  on the **SWV Console**.
21. Check port0 box under **ITM Stimulus Ports** as shown in Figure6. Click **OK** to close the window.

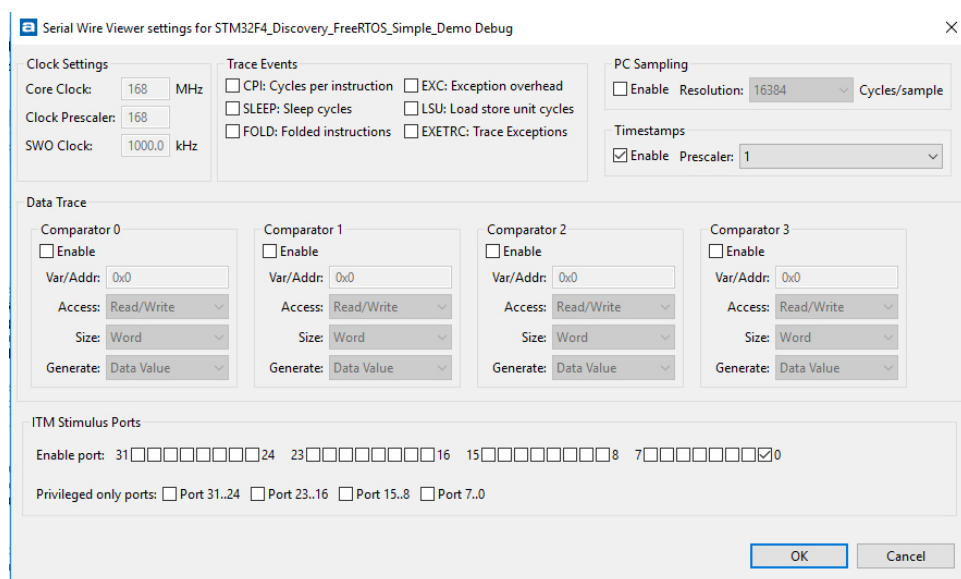



Figure 6. Enabling Port0 of ITM.

22. To validate your understanding of the code behavior, set breakpoints in different tasks before or after the print statements of queue access instructions.
23. Click on the red button  on the *SWV Console* panel and then run the debugger.
24. As you step through the code, check the print messages on *SWV Console*, the number of elements in the Queue on *FreeRTOS Queues* panel and how the program switched between tasks on *FreeRTOS Task List* panel.