

Lab 1 - Implement ACTIVE, IDLE, STANDBY, OFF power mode

Purpose:

After completing Lab 1, you will understand how to use low power modes in SAML10 device which can be used to optimize the power consumption of any application. We will also analyze the SAM L10 Xplained Pro board's power consumption using Data Visualizer tool in MPLAB X IDE.

Overview:

The goal of this hands on is to describe and illustrate the different low power modes available in the SAML10 device and it will also demonstrate various low power techniques which can be used to optimize the power consumption of any application:

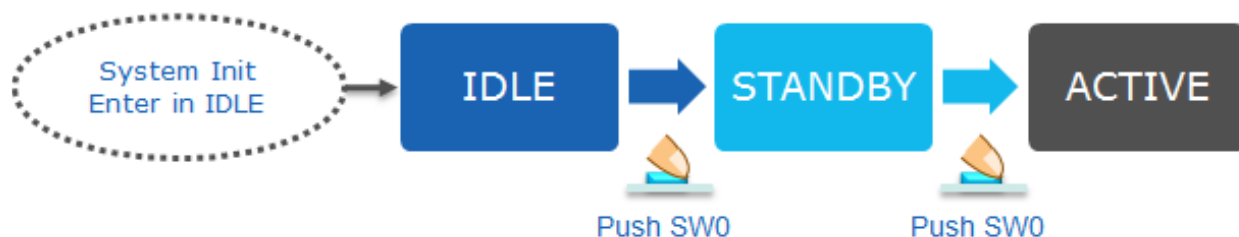
- Flexible clock architecture
- Regulators architecture with embedded BUCK converter
- Dynamic voltage scaling using SAM L10 Performance Levels
- Clock and Power domain gating

The application uses:

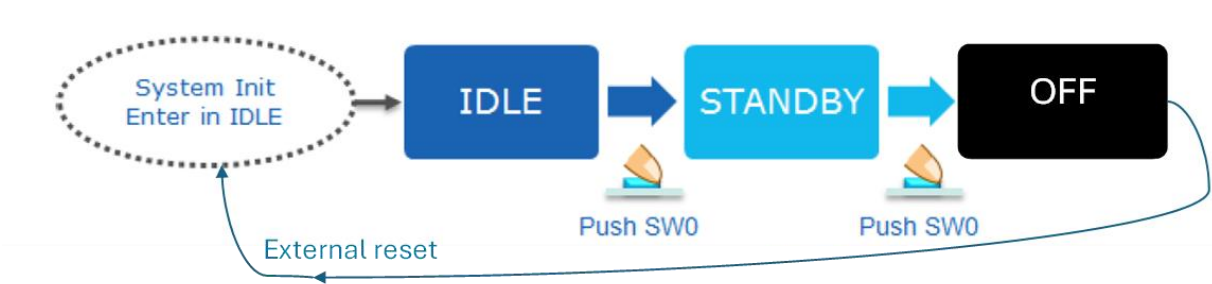
- EIC to control the user button SW0
- PM and Supply Controller (SUPC) peripheral libraries to configure Low Power modes.

Flowchart

Lab 1.a



Lab 1.b



Procedure:

This lab is completed in the following steps:

Lab 1.a

Part 1: Create project and configure SAML10

STEP 1: Install the MPLAB® Code Configurator (MCC) Plugin in the MPLAB X IDE

STEP 2: Create MCC Harmony Project using MPLAB X IDE

Part 2: Configure Oscillators and the clocks, Add and configure External interrupt controller peripheral

STEP 3: Configure clock peripheral

STEP 4: Configure EIC and select pins

Part 3: Implement active idle and standby mode with PM, SUPC and NVMCTRL configurations.

STEP 5: Configure PM, SUPC and NVMCTRL as required

STEP 6: Generate code

Part 4: Add code and observe output.

STEP 7: Add code to your application

STEP 8: Build and Run the Application

Lab 1.b

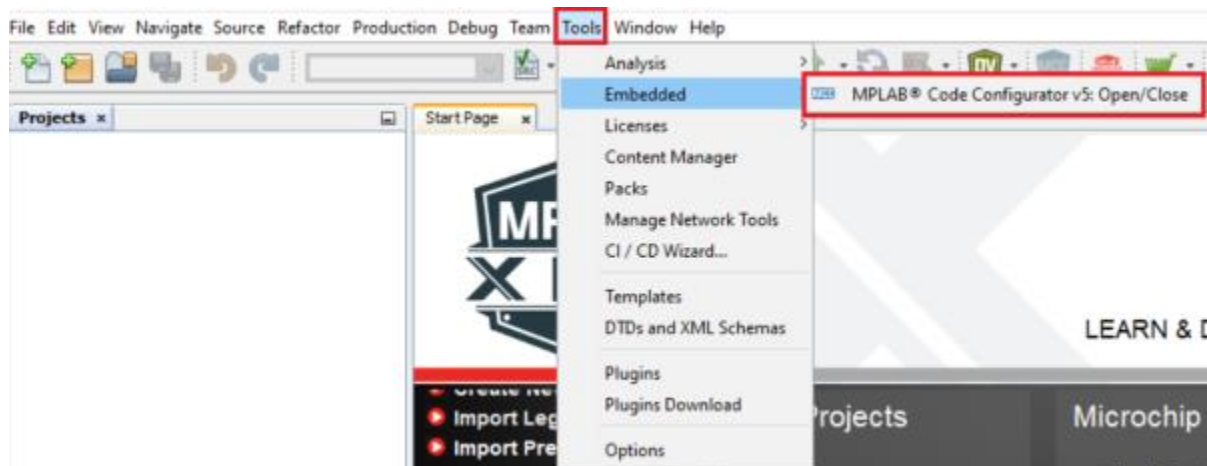
Part 5: Add code for OFF mode and observe output.

STEP 9: Add code to your application, build and run

Procedure:

STEP 1: Install the MPLAB® Code Configurator (MCC) Plugin in the MPLAB X IDE

- Launch MPLAB X IDE from the Windows® Start Menu. Close any projects and files that are currently open
- Go to **Tools > Embedded**.
- You will see MPLAB® Code Configurator in the menu. If you don't see it in the menu, please **Install MCC**



Note:

- When you launch MCC for the first time, it displays a prompt asking for the mode in which you would like to use MCC.
 - Standalone mode (as a separate window)
 - Native mode (as an embedded window in MPLAB X IDE)
- Standalone mode is the default mode.
- MCC will launch in the operating mode selected the first time, every time you launch MCC.
- For this lab, MCC is configured to operate in Standalone mode.

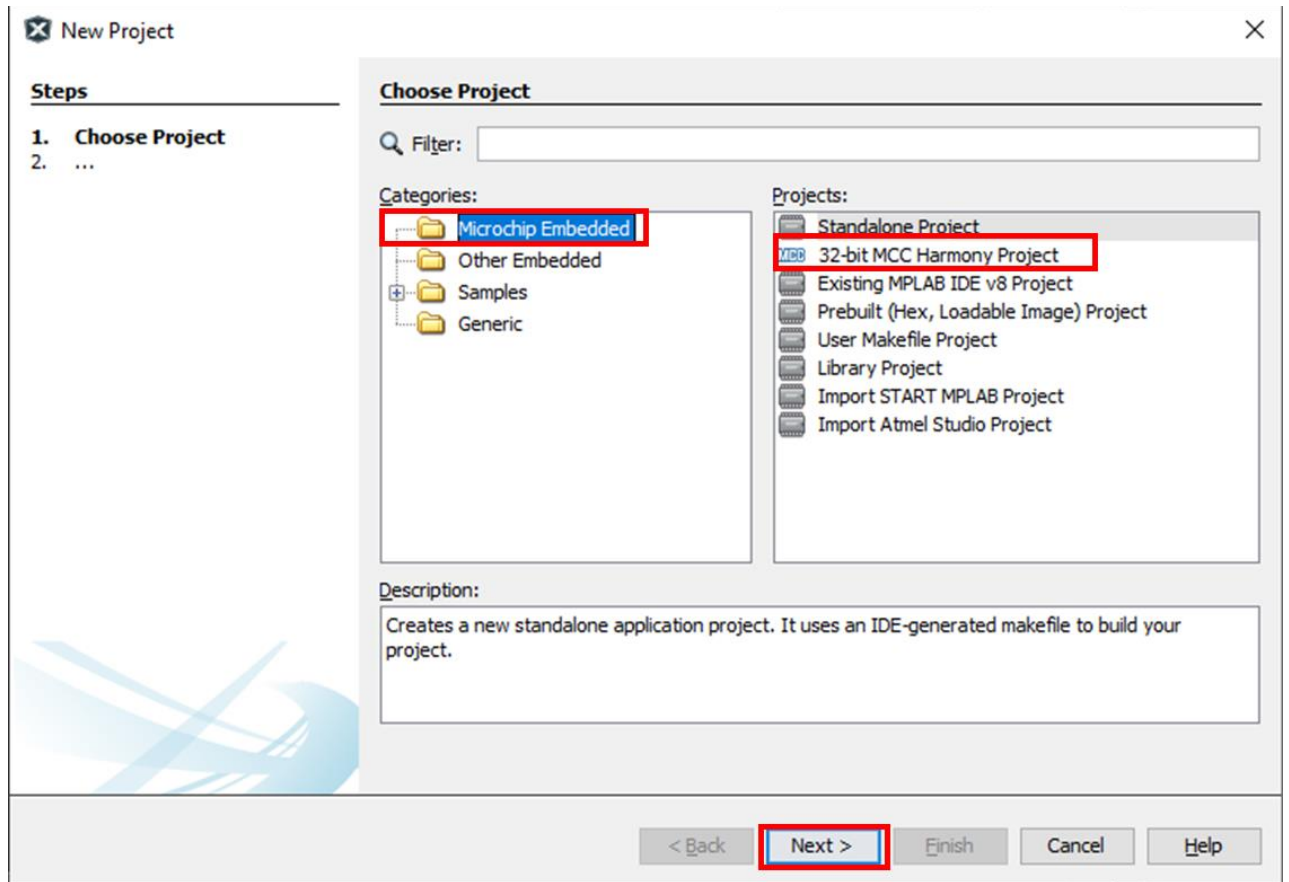
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STEP 2: Create MPLAB Harmony Project using MPLAB X IDE

Step 2a: Close any currently Opened project in MPLAB IDE

Step 2b: Select **File > New Project** from the main IDE menu.

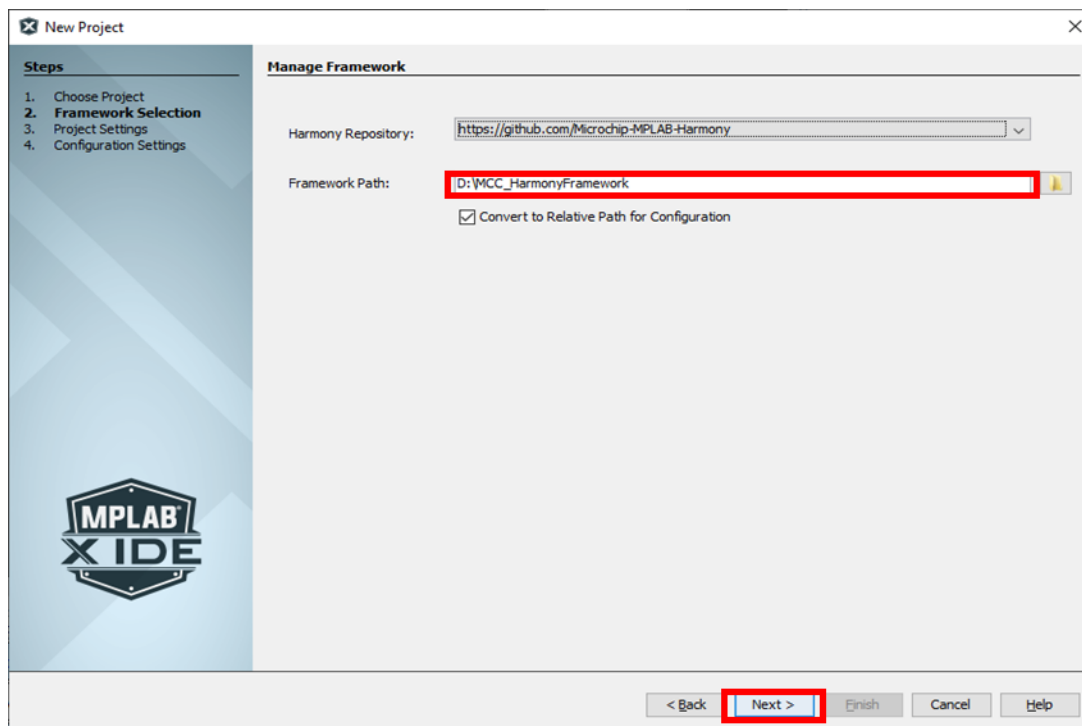
Step 2c: In the Categories pane of the New Project dialog, select **Microchip Embedded**. In the Projects pane, select **32-bit MCC Harmony Project**, and then click **Next**.



Note: If “32-Bit MCC Harmony Project” is not displayed, please download and install the MCC before continuing with further steps. Refer Step 1 for details.

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Step 2d: In “Framework Path” edit box, enter the path to the folder in which MPLAB Harmony 3 packages are downloaded. For Example: “D:\microchip\harmony_3”.



Step 2e: In the New Project window, perform the following settings:

- **Location:** Indicates the path to the root folder of the new project. All project files will be placed inside this folder. The project location can be any valid path, for example:

“D:\microchip\harmony_3\lab_work\labs”.

- **Folder:** Indicates the name of the MPLABX .X folder. Enter “sam_I10_xpro” to create a sam_I10_xpro.X folder.

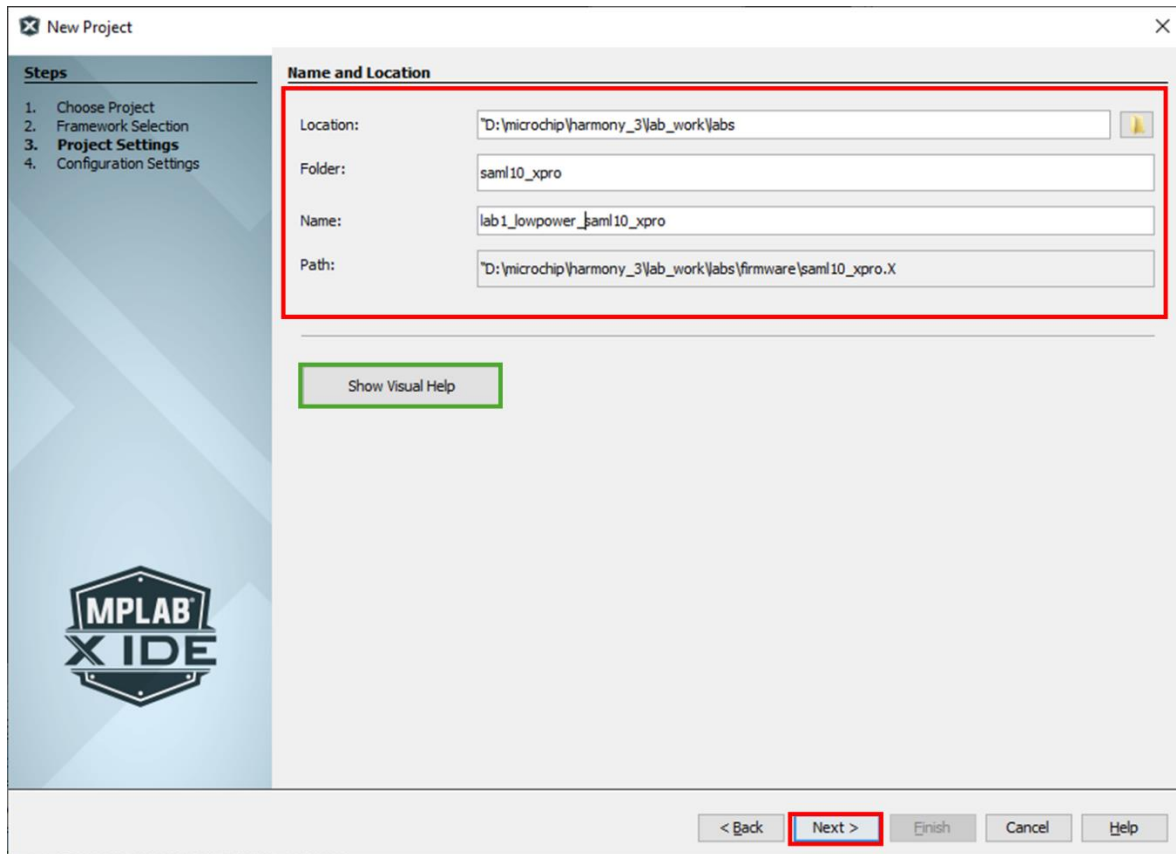
Note: This must be a valid directory name for your operating system.

- **Name:** Enter the project’s logical name as “lab1_lowpower_sam_I10_xpro.X”. This is the name that will be shown from within the MPLAB X IDE.

Note: The *Path* box is read-only. It will update as you make changes to the other entries.

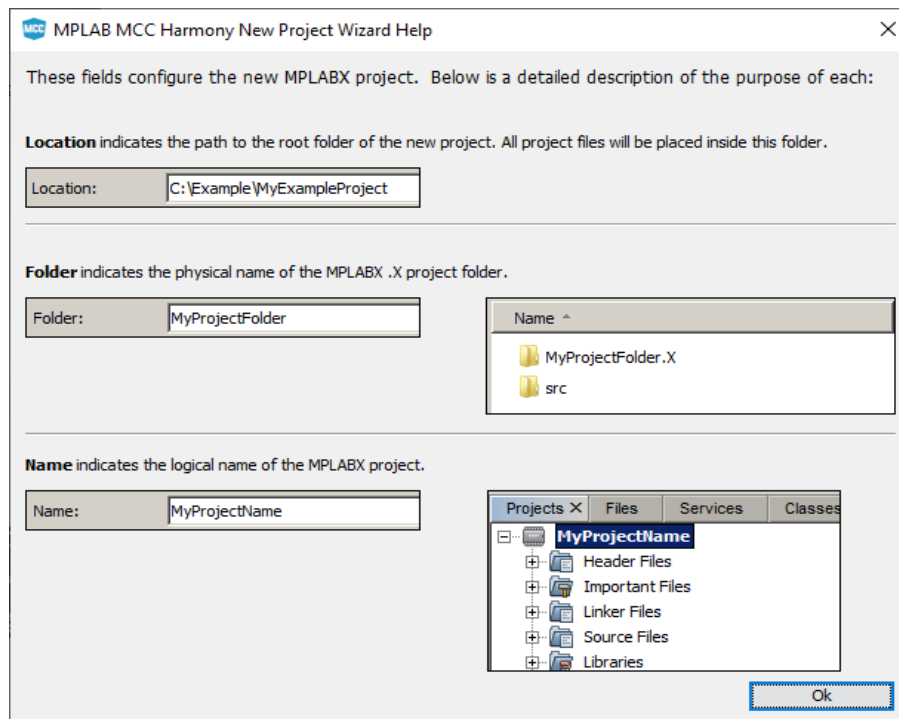
- Click **Next** to proceed to Configuration Settings.

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The image shows the 'New Project' dialog box in the MPLAB X IDE. On the left, a 'Steps' panel lists: 1. Choose Project, 2. Framework Selection, 3. Project Settings (highlighted), and 4. Configuration Settings. The main area is titled 'Name and Location' and contains four text input fields: 'Location' (D:\microchip\harmony_3\lab_work\abs), 'Folder' (saml10_xpro), 'Name' (lab1_lowpower_saml10_xpro), and 'Path' (D:\microchip\harmony_3\lab_work\abs\firmware\saml10_xpro.X). A red rectangle highlights these four fields. Below them is a 'Show Visual Help' button, also highlighted with a green rectangle. At the bottom right, there are navigation buttons: '< Back', 'Next >' (highlighted with a red rectangle), 'Finish', 'Cancel', and 'Help'. The MPLAB X IDE logo is visible in the bottom left corner.

Note: Clicking on the “Show Visual Help” button will open a help window providing a detailed description of the various fields in the *Project Settings* window.



The image shows the 'MPLAB MCC Harmony New Project Wizard Help' window. It provides detailed descriptions for the fields in the 'Name and Location' section of the 'New Project' dialog. The text states: 'These fields configure the new MPLABX project. Below is a detailed description of the purpose of each:'. It then describes the 'Location' field (path to the root folder), the 'Folder' field (physical name of the project folder), and the 'Name' field (logical name of the project). Each description is followed by a text input field showing an example value: 'Location' (C:\Example\MyExampleProject), 'Folder' (MyProjectFolder), and 'Name' (MyProjectName). To the right of the 'Folder' and 'Name' fields are two tree views. The 'Folder' tree shows 'MyProjectFolder.X' and 'src'. The 'Name' tree shows a project structure with 'MyProjectName' selected, containing 'Header Files', 'Important Files', 'Linker Files', 'Source Files', and 'Libraries'. An 'Ok' button is at the bottom right.

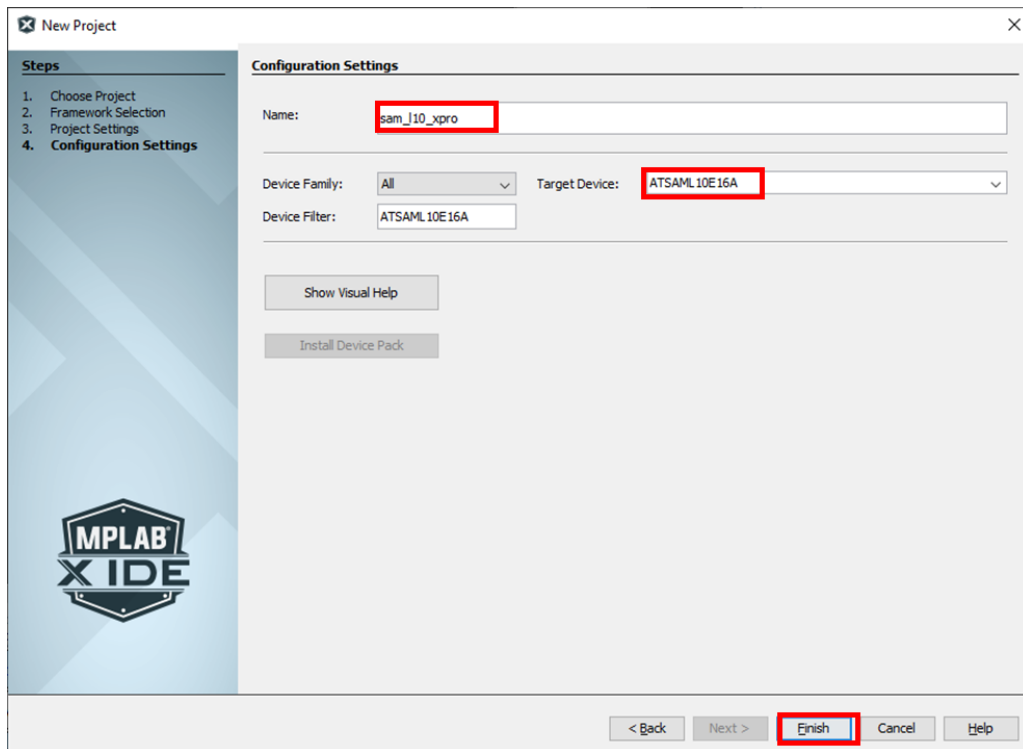
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Step 2f: Follow the below steps to setup the project's *Configuration Settings*

- **Name:** Enter the configuration name as “**sam_l10_xpro**”.
- **Target Device:** Select “**ATSAML10E16A**” as the target device.

Note: You can select the Device Family or enter a partial device name to filter the list in Target Devices in order to make it easier to find the desired device.

- After selecting the target device, click **Finish** to launch the project



The screenshot shows the 'New Project' dialog box in MPLAB X IDE, specifically the 'Configuration Settings' step. The 'Steps' pane on the left lists: 1. Choose Project, 2. Framework Selection, 3. Project Settings, and 4. Configuration Settings (which is highlighted). The main area contains the following fields and buttons:

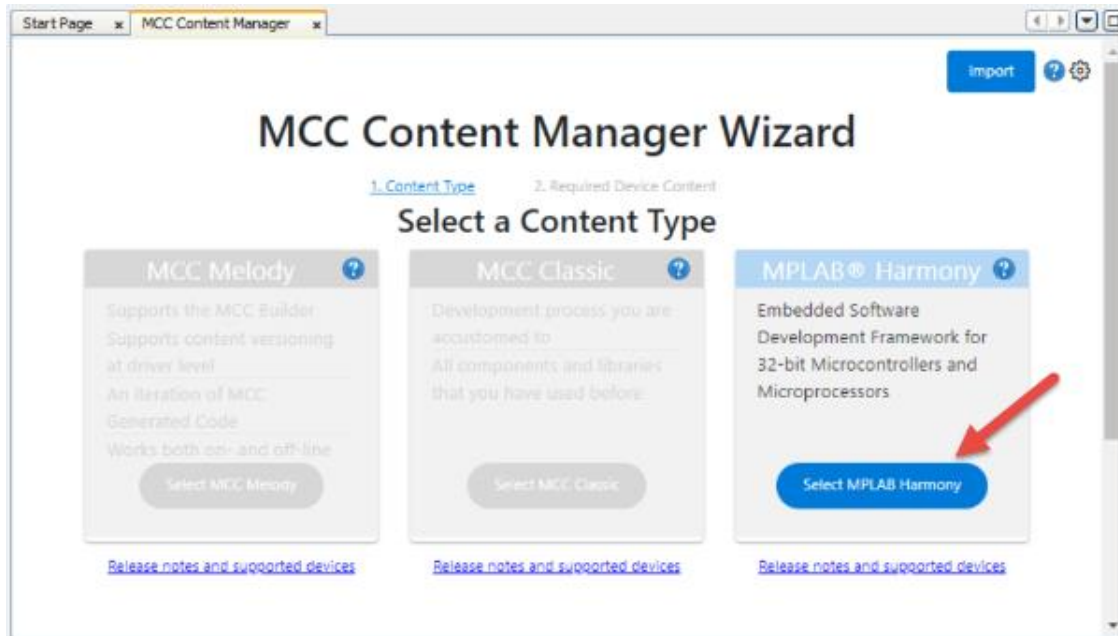
- Name:** A text field containing 'sam_l10_xpro'.
- Device Family:** A dropdown menu set to 'All'.
- Target Device:** A dropdown menu set to 'ATSAML10E16A'.
- Device Filter:** A text field containing 'ATSAML10E16A'.
- Show Visual Help:** A button.
- Install Device Pack:** A button.
- Navigation buttons at the bottom:** '< Back', 'Next >', 'Finish', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

The MPLAB X IDE logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the dialog.

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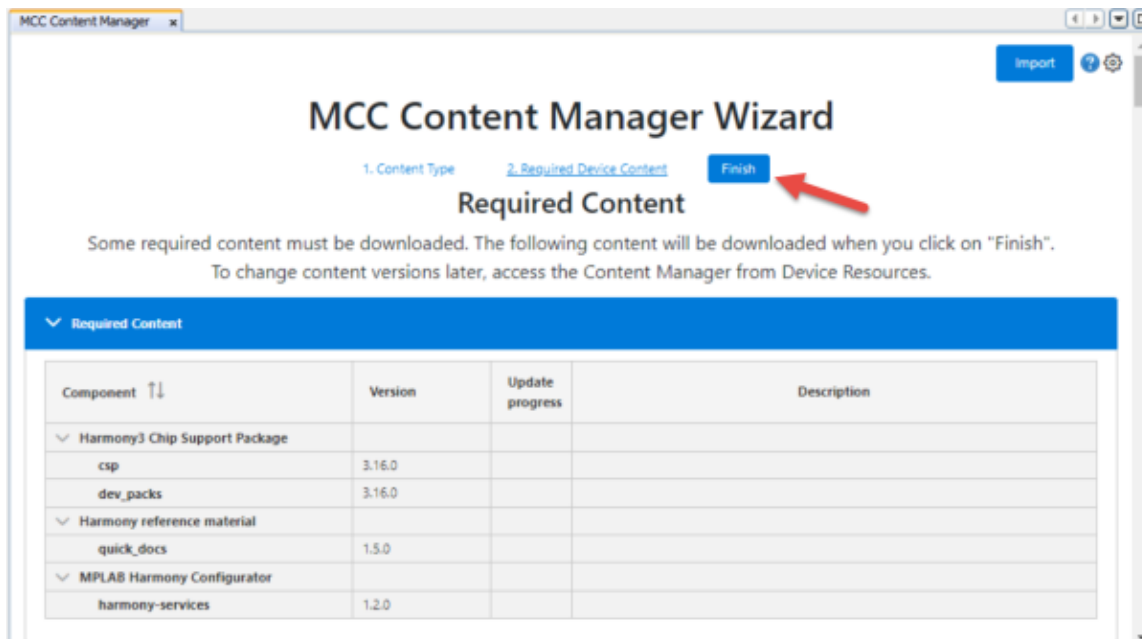
Step 2g: Download the MPLAB Harmony framework (if using the first time)

When the project opens, the MCC Content Manager Wizard window will be displayed. Click the **Select MPLAB Harmony** button to select which MPLAB Harmony framework components you want to download.



The MCC Content Manager Wizard will compare the Harmony Repository with the Framework Path (as specified above), and provide you with a list of components you may want to download. This list will include updated components and never-downloaded components.

If this is your first time downloading the framework or if you've chosen a new framework path, the required components will already be selected for you. To keep your first Harmony project simple, just click **Finish** to download only the required components (about 5 GB):

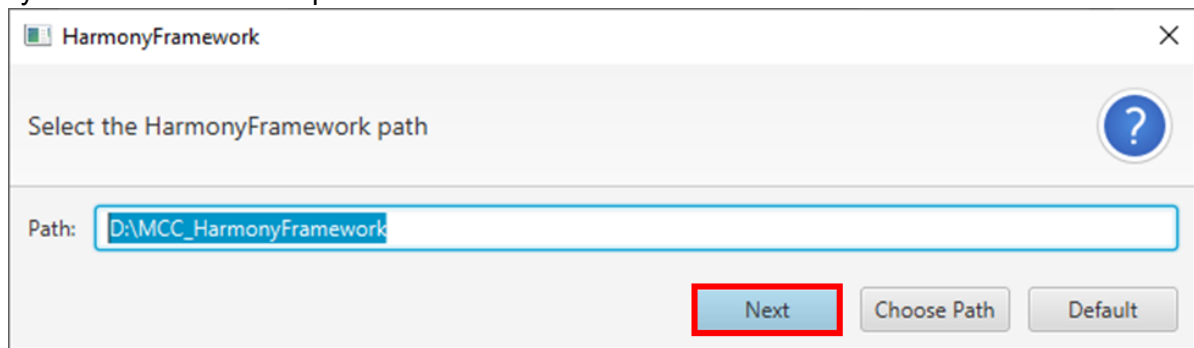


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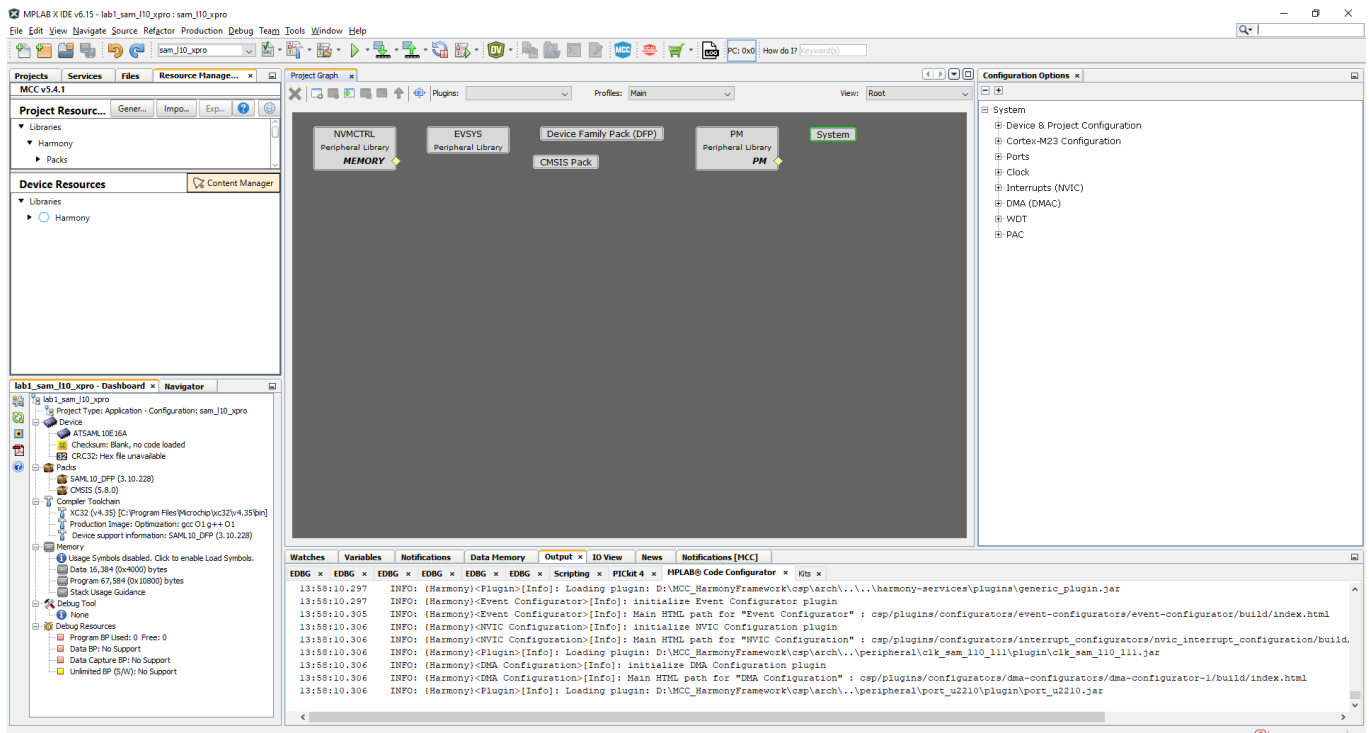
- Harmony 3 Chip Support Package
 - csp (Chip Support Package includes low-level Harmony Peripheral Libraries (PLIBs))
 - dev_packs (includes ARM CMSIS and Microchip Device Family Packs)
- Harmony reference material
 - quick_docs component provides Harmony help through standalone HTML pages
- MPLAB Harmony Configurator
 - harmony-services provides all Harmony plugins for the MPLAB X IDE

MCC will automatically start after the download (about 5 GB) completes.

If already installed confirm the path as shown below

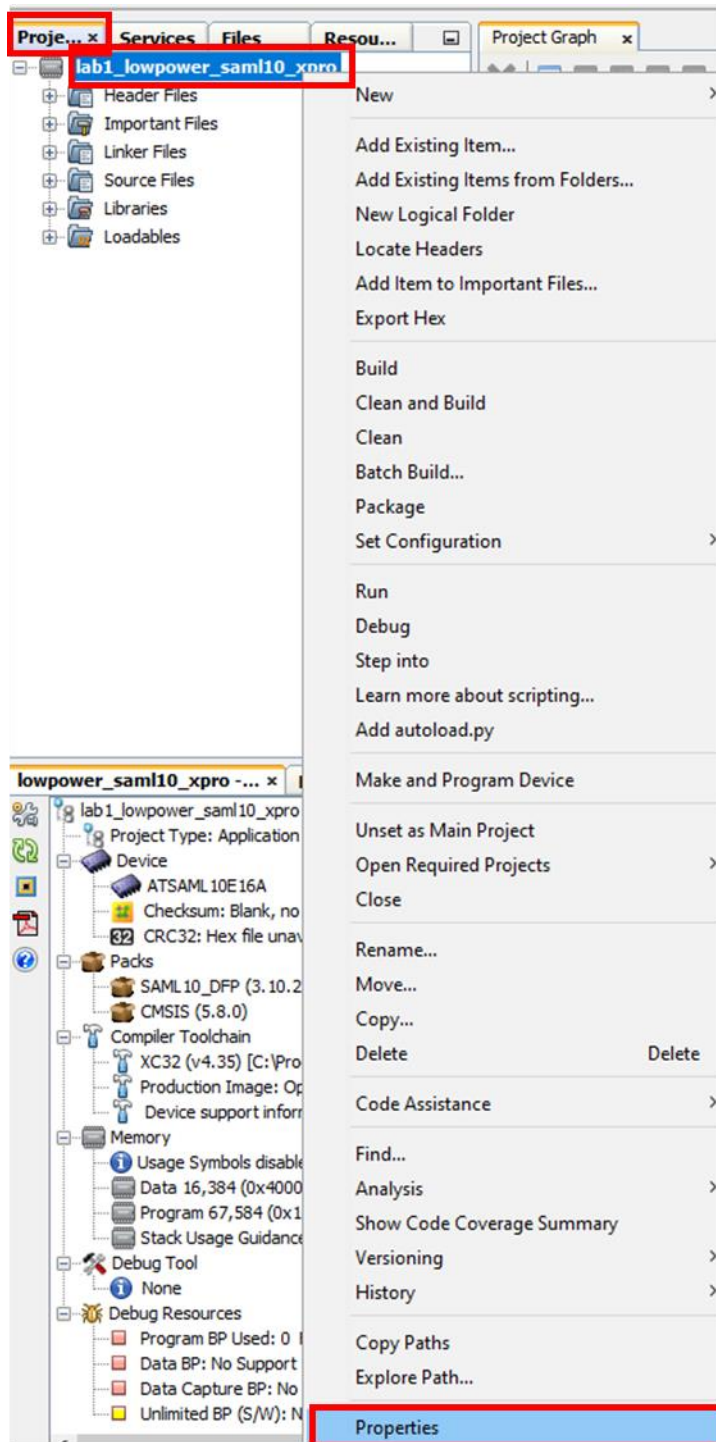


Step 2h: The MCC plugin's main window for the project will be displayed.



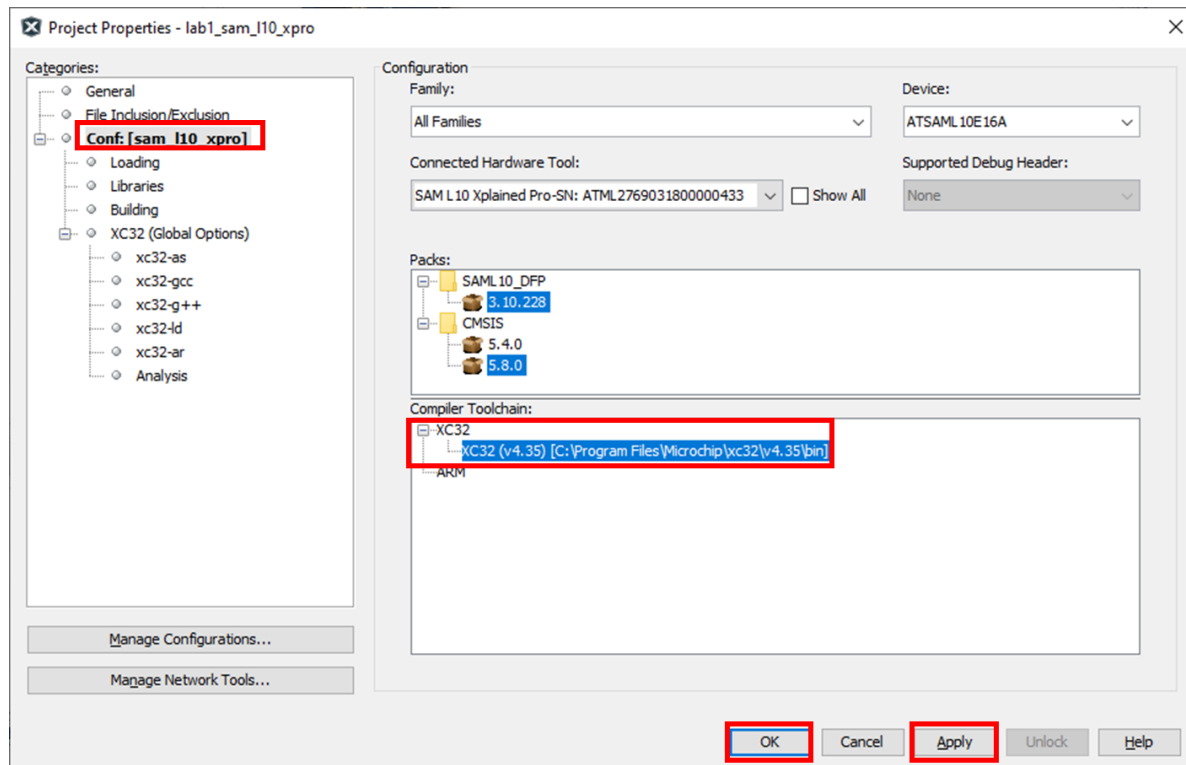
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Step 2i: Before proceeding, setup the compiler toolchain. Click on the “Projects” tab on the top left pane. Right click on the project name “lab1_lowpower_saml10_xpro” and go to “Properties”.



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Make sure that **XC32 (v4.35)** is selected as the Compiler Toolchain.
Click on **Apply** and then click on **OK**.



Tool Tip: - If you closed the Project graph accidentally, and would like to open it again, go to *Tools ► Embedded ► MPLAB Code Configurator v5:Open/Close*

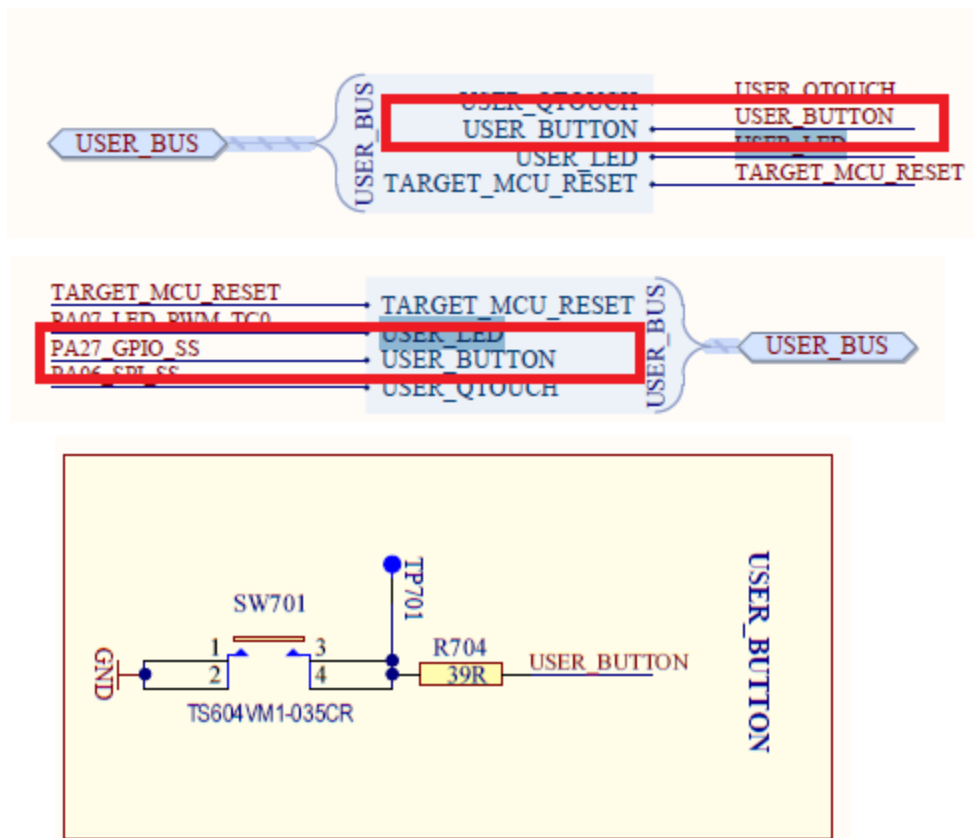
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To measure the current consumptions in the different low power modes, we will setup our clocks and oscillators in the following conditions:

- OSC16M is used as main clock source running at 8MHz (PL0 mode)
- XOSC, XOSC32K, DFLL are stopped
- All AHB & APB clocks enabled (reset values)
- CPUDIV=1 (CPU Clocks Dividers)

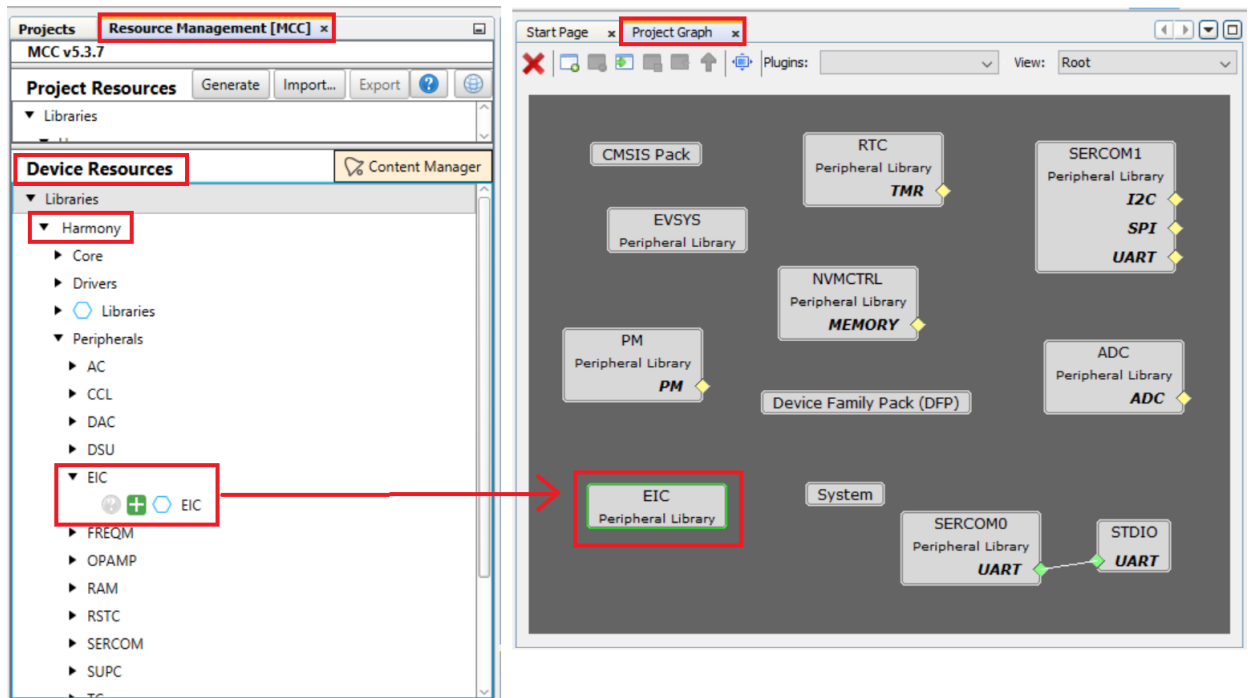
STEP 4: Add and configure EIC, select pins

In this step, the switch button will be configured as per the following USER_BUTTON design schematic on SAM L10 Xplained Ultra Evaluation Kit.

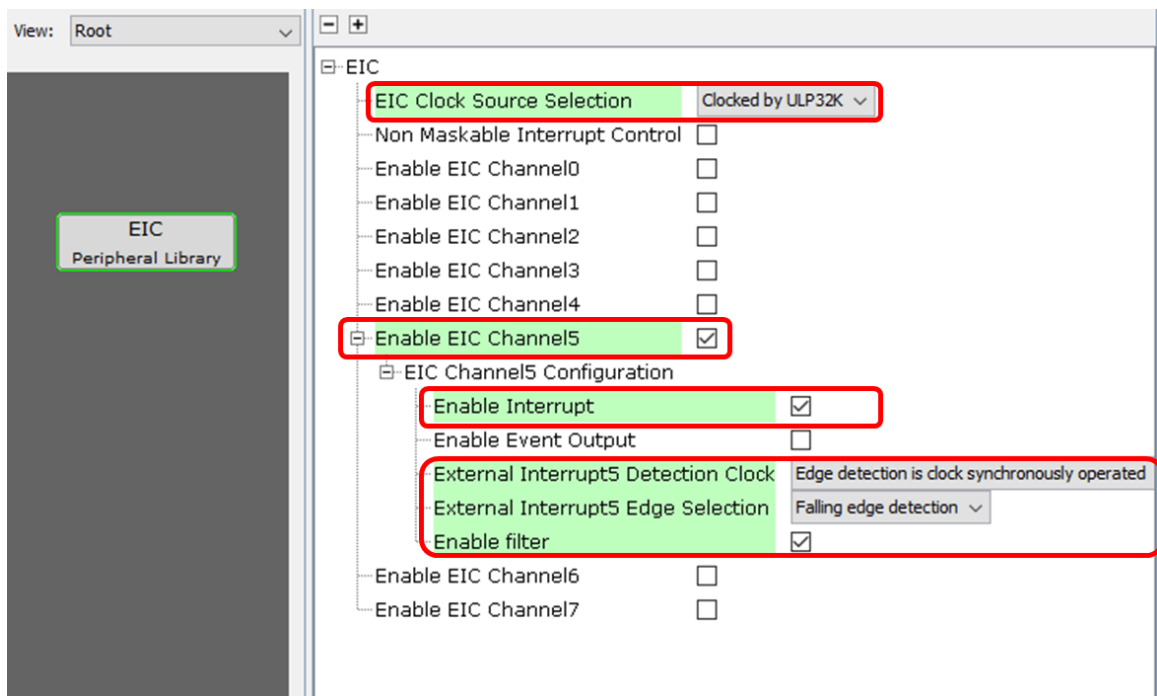


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Step 4a: Under the **Device Resources** tab, expand **Harmony > Peripherals > EIC**. Select and double click on **EIC** to add the EIC module to the project.



Step 4b: Configure the EIC block to generate an interrupt every time the user presses the switch SW0 as shown in the accompanying figure, and enable filter functionality to avoid electrical noise on switch pin.

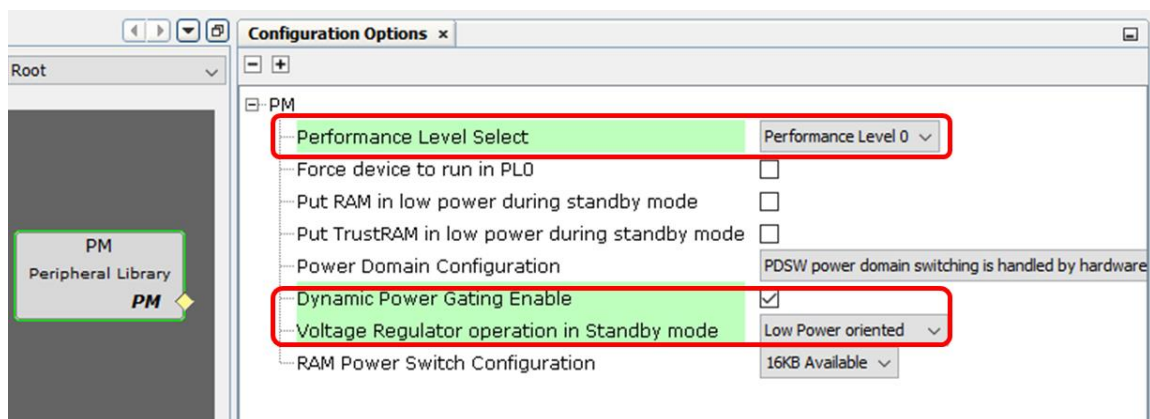


Part 3: Implement active idle and standby mode with PM, SUPC and NVMCTRL configurations.

STEP 5: Configure PM and SUPC as required

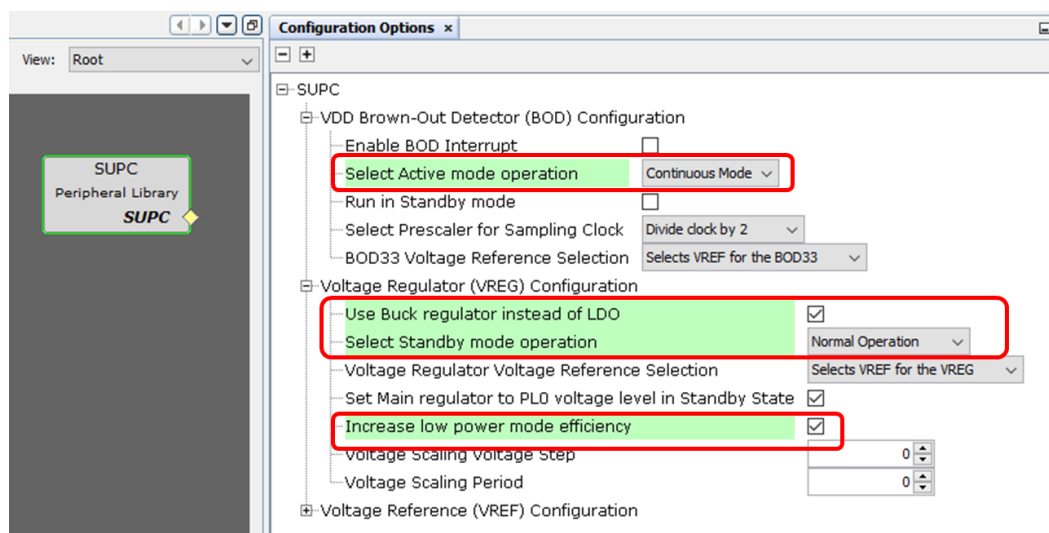
Step 5a: The Power Manager (PM) is added by default to the project graph. Select the **PM** peripheral library in the **Project Graph** window and configure it as shown below.

- Set the Performance Level Select to **Performance Level 0** to reduce the power consumption of the device during Standby mode.
- Enable **Dynamic Power Gating**: These options allow the device to turn off a power domain during Standby mode if no peripheral contained in this power domain requests its clock.
- Set the Voltage Regulator operation in Standby Mode to operate in **Low Power oriented** mode during standby to reduce the power consumption of the device even more.



Step 5b: Select the **SUPC** peripheral library and configure it as shown below.

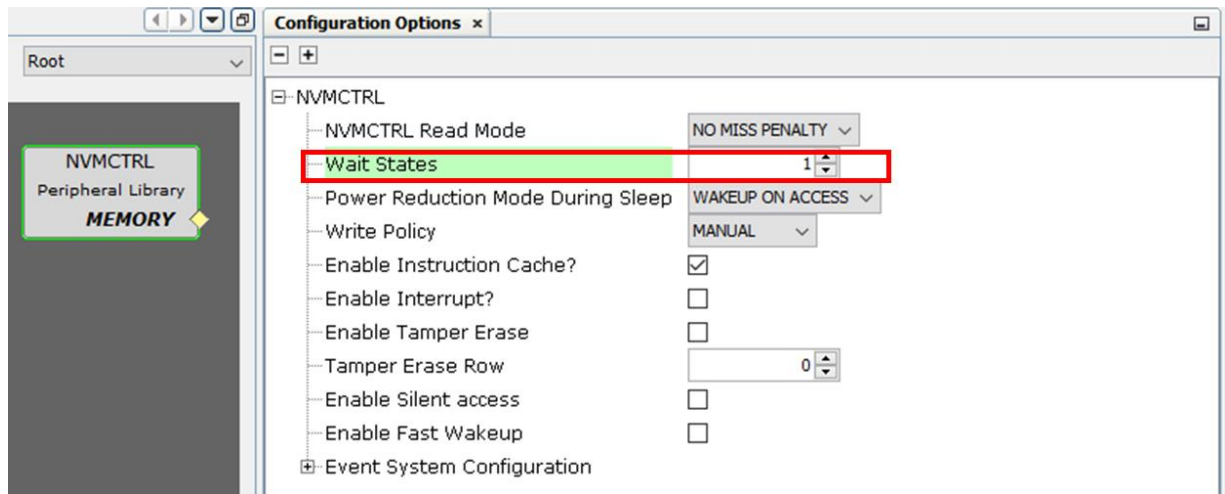
- Enable the **Increase low power mode efficiency** bit to optimize and reduce power consumption in Standby mode.



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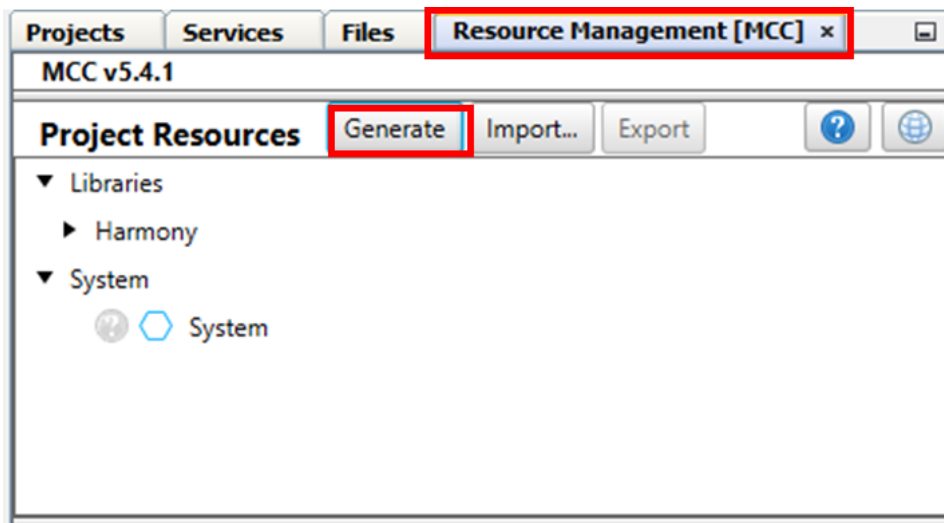
Step 5c: The Non-volatile Memory Controller (NVMCTRL) is added by default to the project graph. Select the **NVMCTRL** peripheral library and configure it as shown below.

- Set Wait States to 1 to read the non-volatile memory. When the device is put in performance level 0, the device clock frequency cannot exceed 8 MHz and one wait-state is required.



STEP 6: Generate code

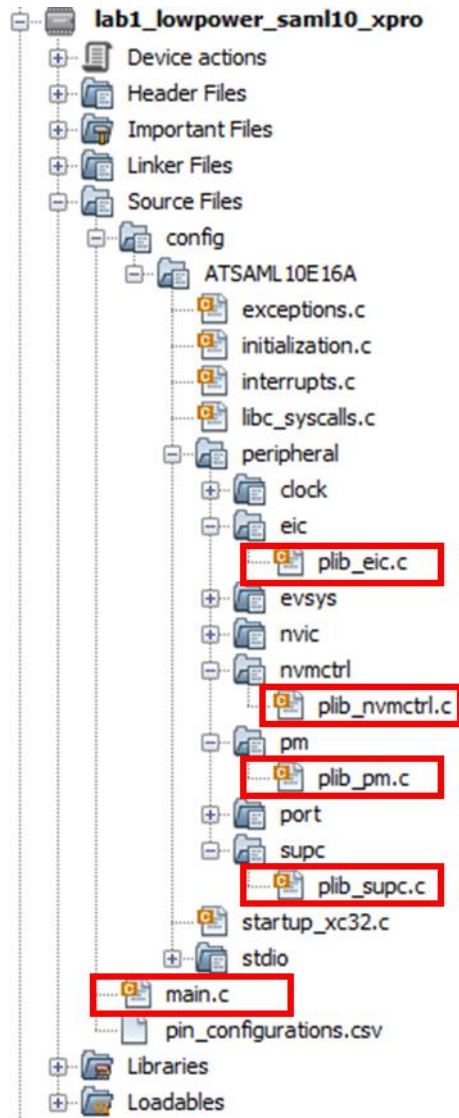
Step 6a: Click on the **Generate** button in the Generate icon on Resource management[MCC] window, as shown below.



Note: The MCC will include all the MPLAB® Harmony library files and generate the code based on the selections.


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The generated code will add files and folders in your Harmony project as shown below.



Among the generated code notice the source and header files generated for PM, SUPC, NVMCTRL and EIC peripherals. MCC also generates the template main file.

Note: Navigate to **Projects** tab to view the project tree structure.

Step 6c: Build the code by clicking on the "Clean and Build" icon  and verify the project builds successfully.

At this point you are ready to start implementing your application code.

Part 4: Add code and observe output.

STEP 7: Add code to your application

Step 7a: Open **main.c** file. Register an event handler (callback) with the EIC PLIB

```
/* Initialize the EIC callback register */  
EIC_CallbackRegister (EIC_PIN_5, EIC_User_Handler, 0);
```

Step 7b: Add code to implement the EIC event handler. The event handler is called when SW0 is pressed.

```
/* Handler for button switch interrupt using EIC peripheral */  
static void EIC_User_Handler (uintptr_t context)  
{  
    /* Handle interrupt from button press */  
}
```

Step 7c: Finally, add the following code for the MCU to go in standby and Idle mode

```
PM_IdleModeEnter();
```

```
PM_StandbyModeEnter();
```

STEP 8: Build and Run the Application

Step 8a: Clean and build your application by clicking on the “Clean and Build” button as shown below.



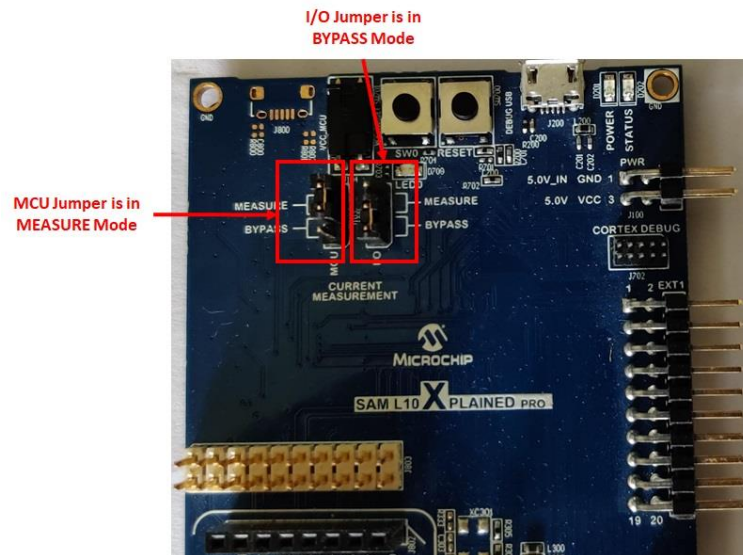
Step 8b: Program your application to the device, by clicking on the “Make and Program” button as shown below.



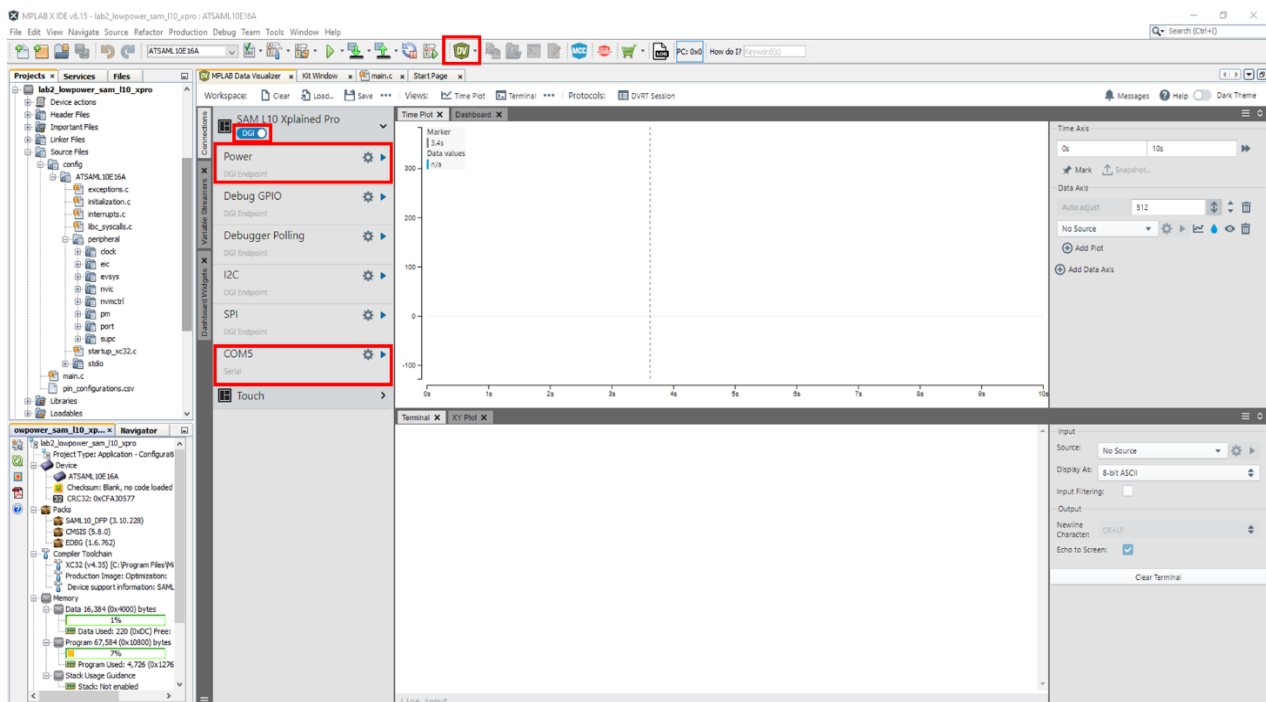
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Results:

- Ensure that the jumpers for Current Measurement on the SAM L10 Xplained Pro are set to **MEASURE** for the MCU and **BYPASS** for the I/Os.

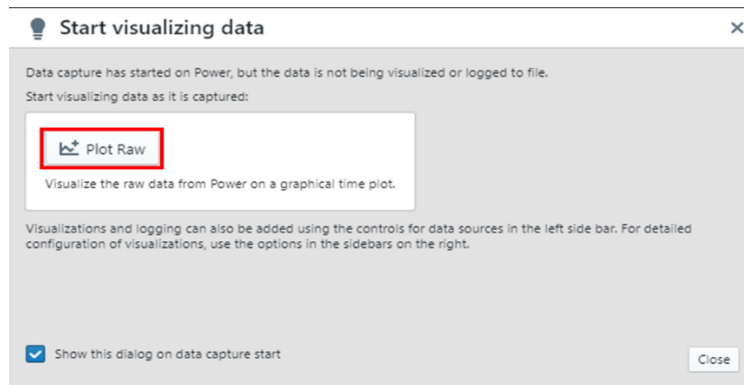


- Open the **Data Visualizer** application from your PC and select the connected **SAM L10 Xplained Pro** board on the **DGI Control Panel**, then click on **Connect**. The Data Visualizer will then start searching for protocols from the SAM L10 Xplained Pro board through the EDBG.

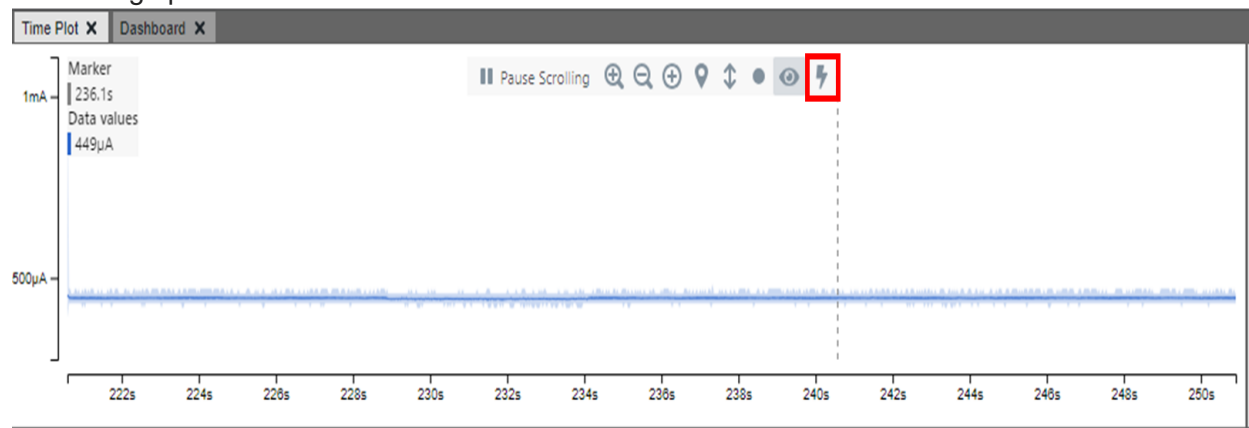


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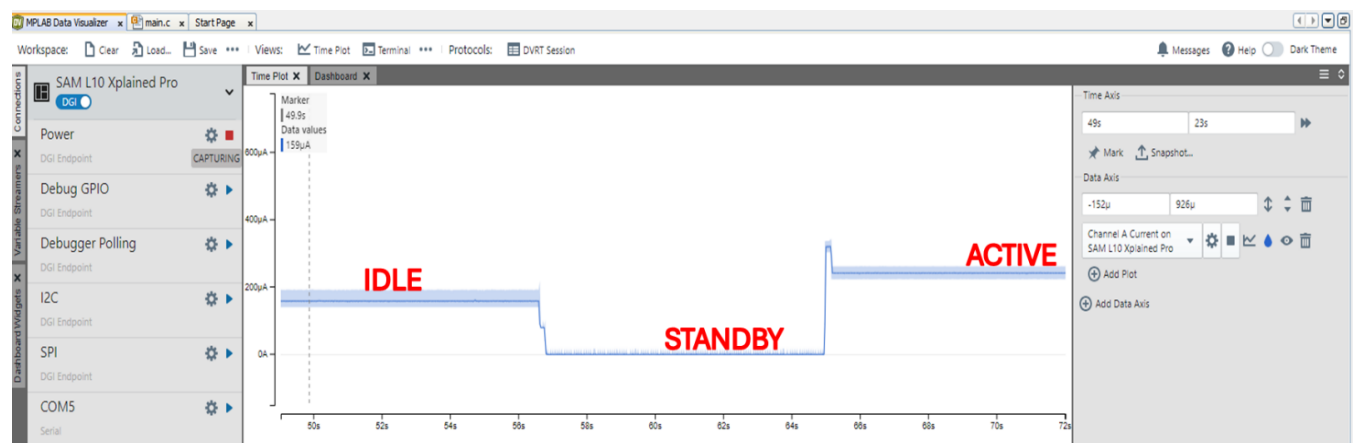
On clicking power icon, a pop up is displayed to plot values, Select plot raw option and close it.



The Power Analysis window will appear on the Data Visualizer tool interface as follows. To measure the average power click the icon.

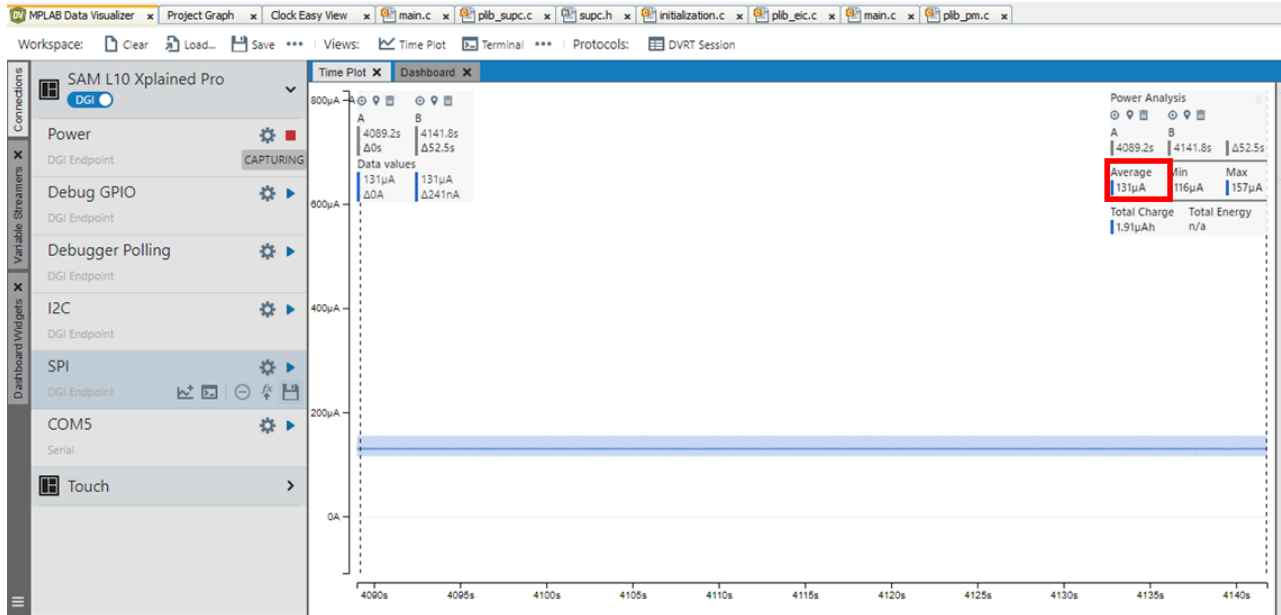


As you press the SW0 the following result is observed



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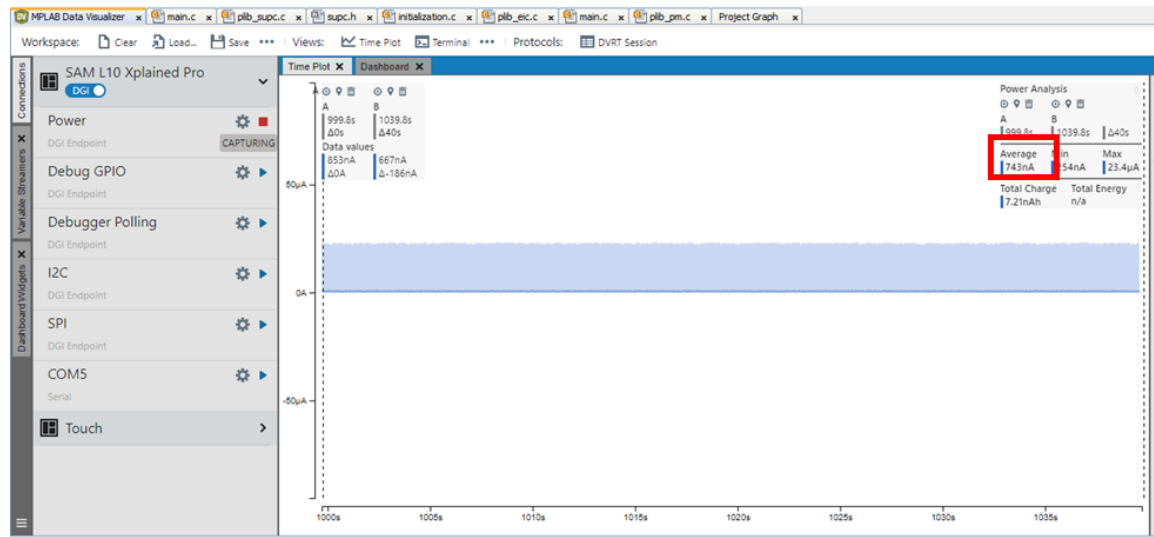
Idle Mode



- Current Consumption (IDLE mode): **131 µA**
- µA/MHz ratio (f = 8MHz): **16.375 µA/MHz**

IDLE	-	BUCK	PL2	DFLLULP at 32 MHz	1.8V	14.3	19
					3.3V	14.4	19
			PL0	DFLLULP at 4.88 MHz	1.8V	15.1	32
					3.3V	12.3	24
				OSC 8 MHz	1.8V	15.5	24
					3.3V	15.2	21
			PL2	OSC 4 MHz	1.8V	21.3	39
					3.3V	21.6	35
				FDPLL96M at 32 MHz	1.8V	14.9	19
					3.3V	9.1	12
				DFLLULP at 26.78 MHz	1.8V	11.2	16
					3.3V	7.2	10

Standby Mode

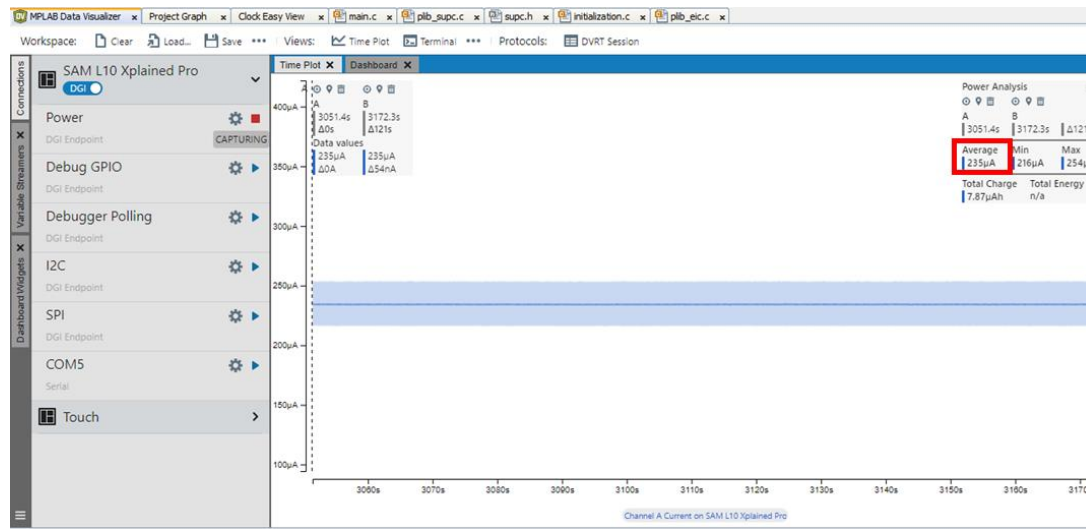


- Current Consumption (STANDBY mode): **743 nA** = (0.743 µA)

STANDBY	All 16 kB RAM retained, PDSW domain in retention	LPVREG with LPEFF Disable	1.8V	25°C	0.6	1.1	µA
				85°C	5.1	14.9	
		LPVREG with LPEFF Enable	3.3V	25°C	0.5	1.0	
				85°C	4.3	12.1	
		BUCK in standby with MAINVREG in PL0 mode (VREG.RUNSTDBY=1 and VREG.STDBYPL0=1)	1.8V	25°C	0.8	1.1	
				85°C	4.3	11.9	
			3.3V	25°C	0.8	1.5	
				85°C	3.4	8.5	

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Active mode:



- Current Consumption (ACTIVE mode): **235 µA**
- µA/MHz ratio (f = 8MHz): **29.37 µA/MHz**

Mode	Conditions	Regulator	PL	CPU Clock	Vcc	Ta	Typ.	Max	Units
ACTIVE	WHILE1	BUCK	PL0	DFLLULP at 4.88 MHz	1.8V		32.4	49	
					3.3V		22.8	34	
				OSC 8 MHz	1.8V		32.2	41	
					3.3V		25.3	32	
			PL2	OSC 4 MHz	1.8V		38.4	57	
					3.3V		31.9	45	
				FDPLL96M at 32 MHz	1.8V		41.5	46	
					3.3V		24.6	28	
				DFLLULP at 26.78 MHz	1.8V		38.3	48	
					3.3V		23.1	29	

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Part 5: Add code for OFF mode and observe output.

STEP 9: Add code to your application, build and run

Step 9a: Open `main.c` file. Add the following line

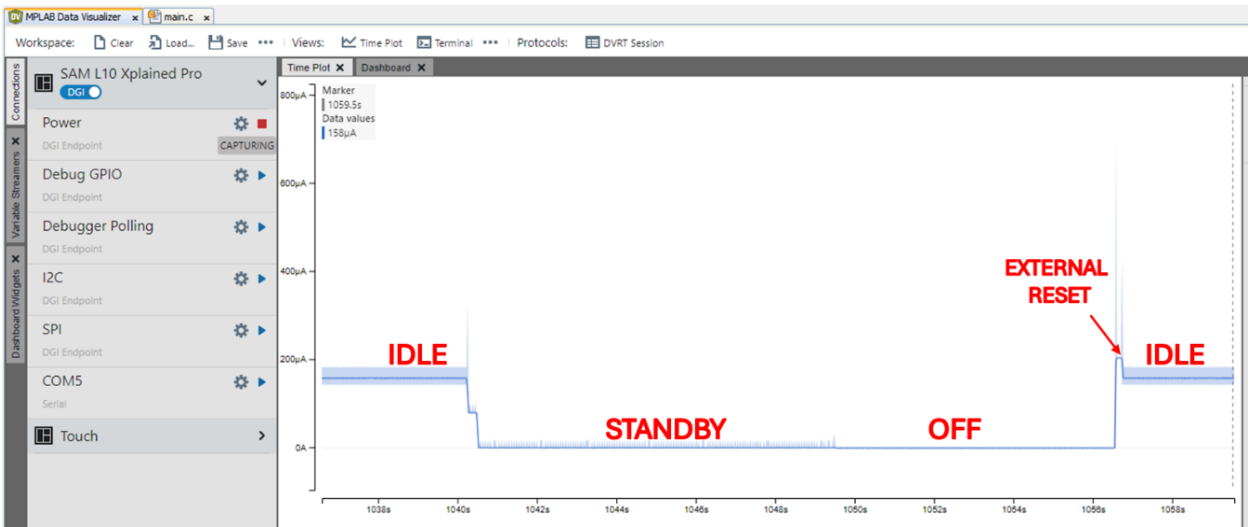
```
PM_OffModeEnter();
```

Step 9b: Compile and run as per step 8

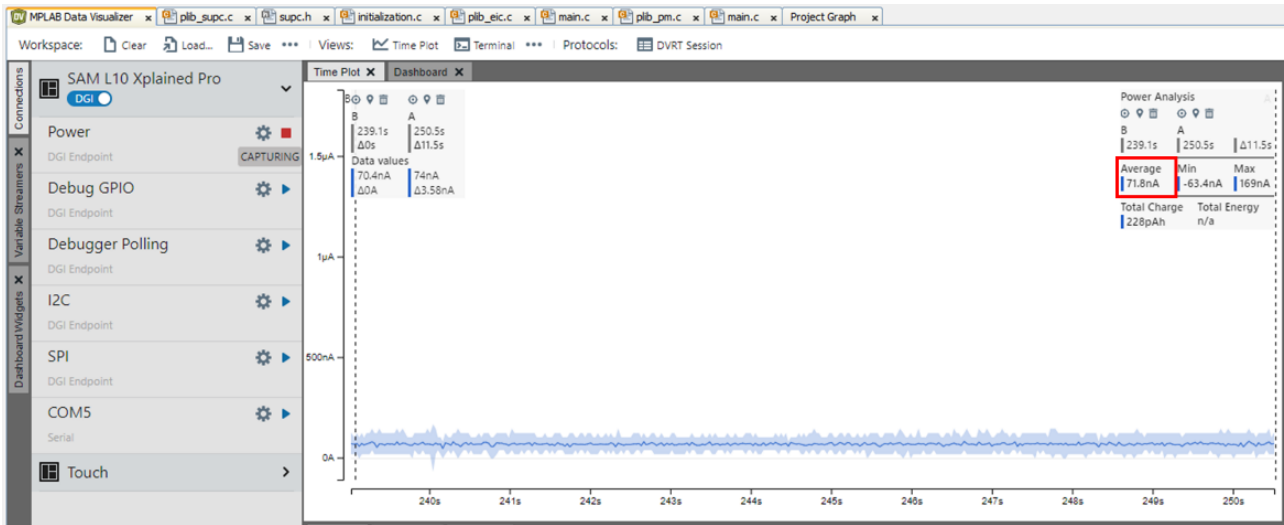
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Results:

As SW0 is pressed each time, the mode changes as shown in the diagram below:



OFF mode



- Current Consumption (STANDBY mode): 71.8 nA

OFF	1.8V	25°C	34.6	54.4	nA
		85°C	595.7	1197.3	
	3.3V	25°C	61.2	89.1	
		85°C	796.1	1622.8	

***Lab Manual for Creating Low Power Embedded Applications with 32-bit MCUs/MPUs
using the MPLAB® Harmony Software Framework***

Fill the measured and calculated values and check if they match as per data sheet

Mode	Avg power measured in visualizer	Calculated	As per datasheet
Active			Typ: 25.3 μ A/MHz Max: 32 μ A/MHz
Idle			Typ: 15.2 μ A/MHz Max: 21 μ A/MHz
Standby			Typ: 0.5 μ A Max: 1 μ A
Off			Typ: 61.2 nA Max: 89.1 nA

Summary:

After completing it, you should now:

- Have a clear picture of most of the SAM L10 key power optimization features.
- Know how to use low power features.
- Know how to analyze power consumption on the SAM L10 Xplained with Data Visualizer tool.

We have demonstrated some of the SAM L10 low power techniques which can be used to optimize the power consumption of any application:

- The three different voltage regulators to optimize the device power consumption depending on the system load in the different active and sleep modes
- The BUCK converter power efficient mode
- The Performance Level capability (dynamic voltage scaling) to adjust regulator output voltage against operating frequency
- The flexible sleep modes: IDLE, STANDBY and OFF.

In addition, the SAM L10 brings a unique low power technique dedicated to the STANDBY sleep mode: the Power Gating feature. This technique allows you to automatically turn off unused power domain supplies individually while keeping others powered up.

This technique combined with the Sleepwalking feature (capability for a device in sleep mode, to temporarily wake-up clocks for a peripheral to perform a task without waking-up the CPU) allows to reduce the overall power consumption of the device in STANDBY mode. This will be demonstrated in the next lab.