

# ARM-Embedded-Path

## LED - UART

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# Overview

- Introduction
- SysTick & UART
- Practice

# CMSIS Training: UART & Timing

## **Task: The "Morse-Bot"**

From UART input to timed LED signal

# Recap: What was CMSIS?

- **Problem:** Each ARM chip has different peripheral addresses (GPIO, Timer...).
- **CMSIS-Core (Cortex-M):** Unified access to core functions (e.g., interrupts, SysTick).
- **CMSIS-Device (STM32F103):** Provides header files (stm32f103x6.h).

## What we learned (Blinky):

1. Enable peripheral clock (Port C): RCC→APB2ENR
2. Configure GPIO pin (PC13): GPIOC→CRH
3. Toggle pin: GPIOC→ODR (or BSRR)

**Today:** Same principle for UART + Timing.

# From Arduino to CMSIS: Serial & delay

## Arduino world (Abstraction):

- `Serial.begin(9600);` *Magic?*
- `char c = Serial.read();` *Blocking? Interrupt?*
- `delay(100);` *How? Active waiting? Timer?*

## CMSIS/Bare-Metal world (Control):

- We must configure EVERYTHING ourselves:
  1. **Clock** for UART (e.g., 8MHz from HSI).
  2. **GPIO pins** (PA9/PA10) for "Alternate Function" (AF).
  3. **Baud rate** (9600) manually calculated and written to BRR (Baud Rate Register).
  4. **UART** itself enabled (Transmit/Receive).
- For `delay()` we use a standard Cortex-M timer: The **SysTick**.

# Architecture 1: Timing with SysTick Timer

- **What is SysTick?** A simple 24-bit "countdown" timer located *directly in the Cortex-M core* (not with peripherals).
- **What for?** Ideal as a "time base" for a system (e.g., for an RTOS or, as here, for a simple delay function).
- **CMSIS-Core function:** `SysTick_Config(uint32_t ticks)`

## The idea:

1. We configure SysTick to trigger an interrupt exactly **1000 times per second** (every 1ms).
2. `SysTick_Config(SystemCoreClock / 1000);`
3. `SystemCoreClock` is a global variable (from `system_stm32f10xx.c`) containing our CPU clock (8MHz HSI).
4.  $8,000,000/1000 = 8000$  ticks.
5. SysTick counts down from 8000 to 0, triggers an **interrupt**, and restarts.

## Architecture 2: What is UART (Bare-Metal)?

- **UART:** Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter.
- **STM32F103:** Has USART1, USART2, USART3. We use USART1.

### Step 1: Clock (RCC)

- USART1 is on the APB2 bus.
- GPIOA (for pins) is also on the APB2 bus.
- We need clock for: USART1, GPIOA and AFIO (Alternate Function IO).
- Register: RCC→APB2ENR

### Step 2: GPIO (Pins)

- "Blue Pill" uses PA9 (TX) and PA10 (RX) for USART1.
- These pins must be configured:
  - PA9 (TX): **Alternate Function, Push-Pull**, 50MHz
  - PA10 (RX): **Input, Floating** (or Pull-up)
- Register: GPIOA→CRH (Control Register High, for pins 9 & 10)

## Architecture 2: UART (Cont.)

### Step 3: Baud Rate (BRR)

- Formula (from RM0008 Ref. Manual):
- $\text{Baud} = f_{CLK} / (16 \times \text{USARTDIV})$
- $f_{CLK}$  (clock for APB2/USART1) = 8MHz (HSI)
- $\text{USARTDIV} = 8,000,000 / (16 \times 9600) \approx 52.083$
- Mantissa = 52. Fraction =  $0.083 \times 16 \approx 1$ .
- Register: `USART1->BRR = (52 << 4) | 1;`

### Step 4: Activation (CR1)

- Enable UART (UE), enable transmit (TE), enable receive (RE).
- Register: `USART1->CR1`



# Practice: SysTick (Part 1: Globals & ISR)

We need a global variable that increments in the interrupt.

```
// IMPORTANT: volatile! Tells the compiler:  
// "This variable can change at any time."  
volatile uint32_t g_msTicks = 0;
```

## The Interrupt Service Routine (ISR) in main.c:

```
// This is the "callback" from the SysTick  
interrupt  
// The name is predefined in the startup code (  
vector table).  
void SysTick_Handler(void) {  
    g_msTicks++; // Every millisecond +1  
}
```

# Practice: SysTick (Part 2: Delay\_ms())

Our delay function:

```
void Delay_ms(uint32_t ms) {  
    uint32_t start = g_msTicks;  
  
    // Wait until target difference is reached  
    while ((g_msTicks - start) < ms) {  
        // Active waiting (Polling)  
        // Better (energy saving): __WFI(); (Wait  
        For Interrupt)  
    }  
}
```

# Practice: SysTick (Part 2: Delay\_ms())

**Initialization in main():**

```
// SystemCoreClock is (hopefully) 8000000  
SysTick_Config(SystemCoreClock / 1000); // 1ms  
Tick
```

# Practice: UART Configuration Part 1 (Clock & GPIO)

## Excerpt for UART1\_Init():

```
// 1. Enable clocks (RCC)  
// RM0008, Section 7.3.7 (APB2 peripheral clock  
enable register)  
RCC->APB2ENR |= RCC_APB2ENR_USART1EN | // UART1  
Clock  
RCC_APB2ENR_IOPAEN | // GPIOA Clock  
RCC_APB2ENR_AFIOEN; // Alternate Function Clock
```

# Practice: UART Configuration Part 1 (Clock & GPIO)

```
// 2. GPIOs (PA9 TX, PA10 RX)
// RM0008, Section 9.2.2 (GPIO port configuration
// register high)

// PA9 (TX): AF Push-Pull, 50MHz (Mode: 11, CNF:
10 -> 1011)
GPIOA->CRH &= ~(0xF << 4); // Clear bits for pin
9
GPIOA->CRH |= (0xB << 4); // Set 1011

// PA10 (RX): Input Floating (Mode: 00, CNF: 01
-> 0100)
GPIOA->CRH &= ~(0xF << 8); // Clear bits for pin
10
GPIOA->CRH |= (0x4 << 8); // Set 0100
```

# Practice: UART Configuration Part 2 (Baud Rate & Activation)

## Excerpt for UART1\_Init() (Cont.):

```
// 3. Baud rate (BRR) - RM0008, Section 27.3.4  
// 8MHz HSI / (16 * 9600) = 52.083  
// Mantissa = 52 (0x34), Fraction = 1 (0x1)  
USART1->BRR = (0x34 << 4) | 0x01;
```

```
// 4. Enable UART (CR1) - RM0008, Section 27.3.7  
USART1->CR1 |= USART_CR1_UE | // Enable UART  
USART_CR1_TE | // Enable Transmitter  
USART_CR1_RE; // Enable Receiver
```

# Practice: UART Polling (Part 1: Flags)

**Polling:** We actively check the status bits (flags).

**Flags in USART1->SR (Status Register):**

- USART\_SR\_TXE (Transmit Data Register Empty): *"Transmit buffer is empty, you may send the next byte."*
- USART\_SR\_RXNE (Read Data Register Not Empty): *"Attention! A new byte is in the receive buffer!"*

# Practice: UART Polling (Part 2: Functions)

Functions (e.g., in main.c or uart.c):

```
// Send a single character (blocking)
void UART1_SendChar(char c) {
    // Wait until transmit register is empty (TXE
flag)
    while (!(USART1->SR & USART_SR_TXE));
    USART1->DR = c; // Write data to Data
Register
}
```

```
// Receive a single character (blocking)
char UART1_GetChar(void) {
    // Wait until data is received (RXNE flag)
    while (!(USART1->SR & USART_SR_RXNE));
    return (char)(USART1->DR & 0xFF); // Read
data and return it
}
```



# Exercise: "Morse-Bot" (Part 1: Rules)

**Goal:** Combine all parts.

**Base Timing:**

- $\text{DIT\_MS} = 100$  (e.g., 100 milliseconds)

**Morse Rules:**

- **Dit (Dot):** LED ON ( $1 * \text{DIT\_MS}$ ), LED OFF ( $1 * \text{DIT\_MS}$ )
- **Dah (Dash):** LED ON ( $3 * \text{DIT\_MS}$ ), LED OFF ( $1 * \text{DIT\_MS}$ )
- **Pause (Letters):** ( $3 * \text{DIT\_MS}$ )
- **Pause (Word/Space):** ( $7 * \text{DIT\_MS}$ )

## Exercise: "Morse-Bot" (Part 2: Tasks)

### Tasks:

1. Create GPIO init for PC13 (as in Exercise 1).
2. Create SysTick init and Delay\_ms function.
3. Create UART1\_Init, SendChar, GetChar functions.
4. Write functions: morse\_dit() and morse\_dah() (use Delay\_ms).
5. Write a function morse\_char(char c) using a switch statement (e.g., for 'A', 'B', 'C', 'S', 'O').
6. **Main Loop:** Read a character with UART1\_GetChar(), send it back via UART1\_SendChar() (echo!) and call morse\_char().

# Recap: What we learned

1. SysTick is the CMSIS standard for timing bases (e.g., delay).
2. `volatile` is essential for shared variables between ISR and Main Loop.
3. Peripheral configuration (UART) always follows the pattern:
  - **Clock (RCC) → Pins (GPIO) → Peripheral Config**
4. Register programming requires constant reference to the **Reference Manual (RM0008)**.

# Outlook: Problems & Next Steps

## Problem with current solution:

- `UART1_GetChar()` is **blocking**. The CPU only waits and cannot do anything else (e.g., Morse).
- `Delay_ms()` is **blocking**. The CPU only waits and cannot receive UART characters during that time.

## Outlook (Part 3):

- Efficient reception with **UART Interrupts** (The `RXNE` flag triggers an ISR).
- We fill a buffer (ring buffer) in the background.
- We build a "Non-Blocking" Morse machine (State Machine).