

Laboratory
6

Expected delivery of lab_06.zip must include:

- Solutions of the exercises 1, 2, 3 and 4
- this document compiled possibly in pdf format.

1) Write a program using the ARM assembly that performs the following operations:

- Initialize registers $R1$, $R2$, and $R3$ to random signed values.
- Subtract $R2$ to $R1$ ($R2 - R1$) and store the result in $R4$.
- Sum $R2$ to $R3$ ($R2 + R3$) and store the result in $R5$.

Using the debug log window, change the values of the written program in order to set the following flags to 1, one at a time and when possible:

- carry
- overflow
- negative
- zero

Report the selected values in the table below:

	Hexadecimal representation of the obtained values			
Updated flag	R2 - R1		R2 + R3	
	R2	R1	R2	R3
Carry = 1	0x00FFFF4A	0x0000FF4A	0x0000FF4A	0xFFFF07C2
Carry = 0	0x0000FFFF	0xFFFFFFFF44	0x00FFFF4A	0x000000B2
Overflow				
Negative	0x00FFFF44	0x0000FFFF	0x0000FF4A	0xFFFF00B2
Zero	0x00000000	0x00000000	0x00000000	0x00000000

Please explain the cases where it is **not** possible to force a **single** FLAG condition:

For the zero in the subtraction case also the C flag is set to 1, which means that there is no borrow.

For the overflow it's not possible to have only V set: there is always also N set.

2) Write a program that performs the following operations:

- Initialize registers $R6$ and $R7$ to random signed values.
- Compare the two registers:
 - If they differ, store in register $R8$ the maximum among $R6$ and $R7$.
 - Otherwise, perform a logical right shift of 1 on $R6$ (is it equivalent to what? *To a division by 2 if unsigned numbers (for signed needed arithmetic shift)*), then subtract this value from $R7$ and store the result in $R4$ (i.e., $R4 = R7 - (R6 \gg 1)$).

Considering a CPU clock frequency (clk) of *16 MHz*, report the number of clock cycles (cc) and the simulation time in milliseconds (ms) in the following table:

	R6 == R7 [cc]	R6 == R7 [ms]	R6 != R7 [cc]	R6 != R7 [ms]
Program 2	<i>7</i>	<i>0.00044</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0.00063</i>

Note: you can change the CPU clock frequency by following the brief guide at the end of the document.

- 3) Write a program that calculates the leading zeros of a variable. Leading zeros are calculated by counting the zeros starting from the most significant bit and stopping at the first 1 encountered: for example, there are five leading zeros in *2_00000101*. The variable to be checked is in *R10*. After counting, if the number of leading zeros is odd, subtract *R11* from *R12*. If the number of leading zeros is even, add *R11* to *R12*. In both cases, the result is placed in *R8*.

Implement ASM code that does the following:

- Determine whether the number of leading zeros of *R10* is odd or even (**with conditional/ test instructions!**).
- The value of *R8* is then calculated as follows:
 - If the leading zeros are even, *R8* is the sum of *R11* and *R12*.
 - Otherwise, *R8* is the subtraction of *R11* and *R12*.
- Assuming a *15 MHz* clk, report the code size and execution time in the following table:

Code size [Bytes]	Execution time [μ s]	
	If the leading zeroes are even	Otherwise
<i>40</i>	<i>4.33</i>	<i>4.92</i>

- 4) Create two optimized versions of program 3 (where possible!)
- Using conditional execution.
 - Using conditional execution in IT block.

Report and compare the execution Time

Program	Code size [Bytes]	Execution time [μ s]	
		If the leading zeroes are even	Otherwise
Program 4 (baseline)	<i>40</i>	<i>4.33</i>	<i>4.92</i>
Program 4.a	<i>36</i>	<i>3.47</i>	<i>4.58</i>
Program 4.b	<i>34</i>	<i>2.93</i>	<i>3.40</i>

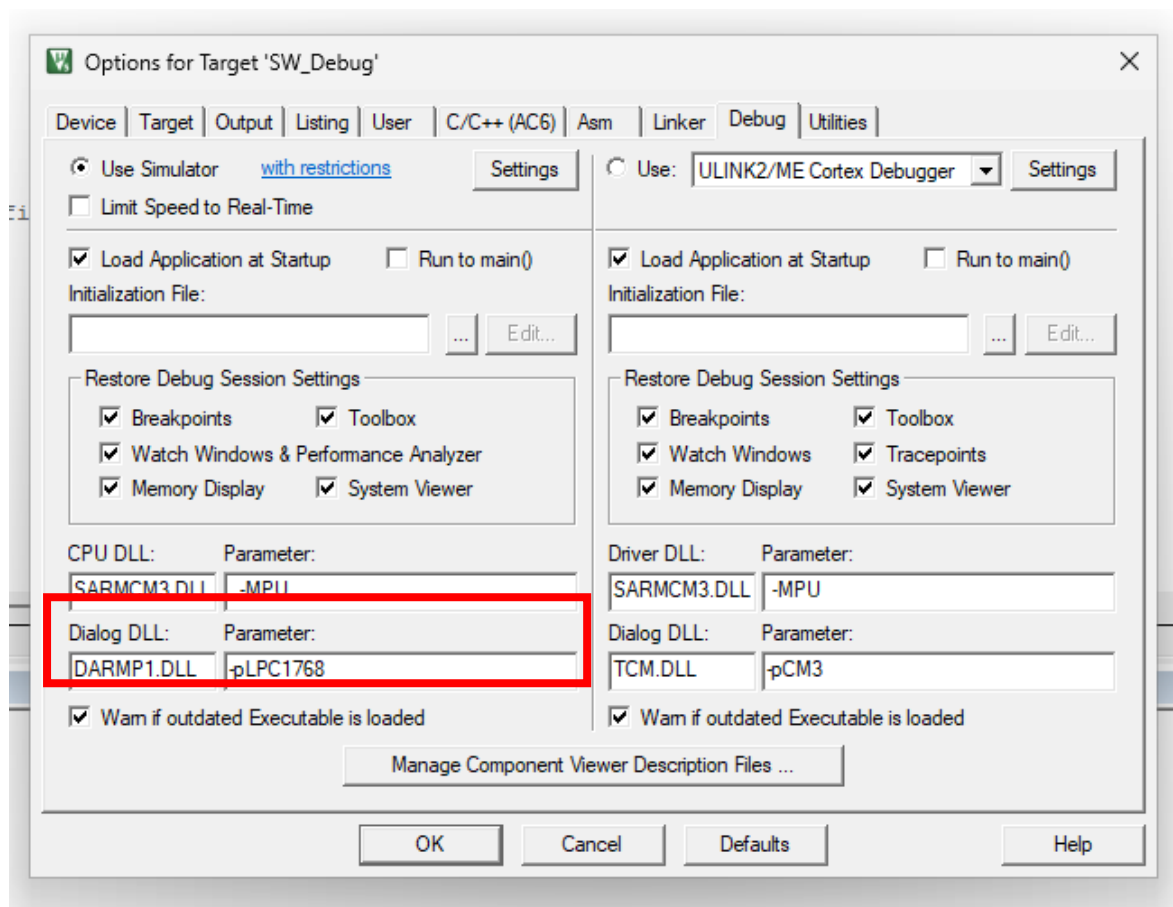
ANY USEFUL COMMENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD ABOUT YOUR SOLUTION:

By progressively changing the implementation of the code, thus passing from conditional branches made with AND, CMP and BNE, to conditional branches with TST and BNE, and finally to a mix of this last solution and IT blocks, the code size decreased along with the execution time.

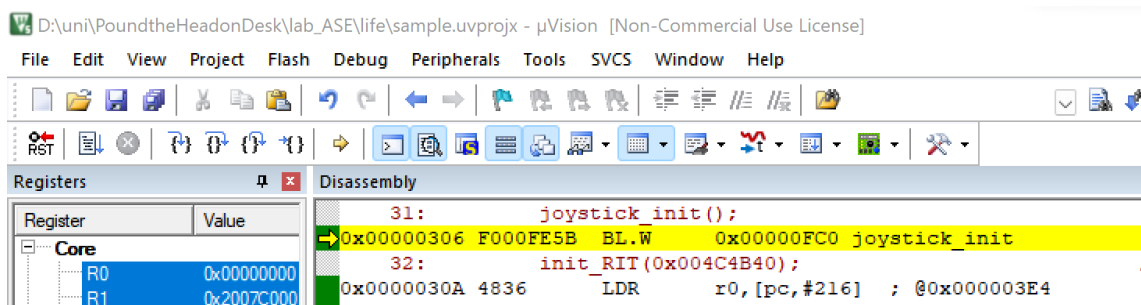
The last solution is the best I could find, since I put together both IT blocks and TST comparison: originally I substituted both comparisons + conditional branches with IT blocks, but then realised that the first block didn't make much sense, since with it 3 instructions were executed both if the condition was true or not and thus it was convenient to jump over all 3 of them if the condition was false.

How to set the CPU clock frequency in Keil

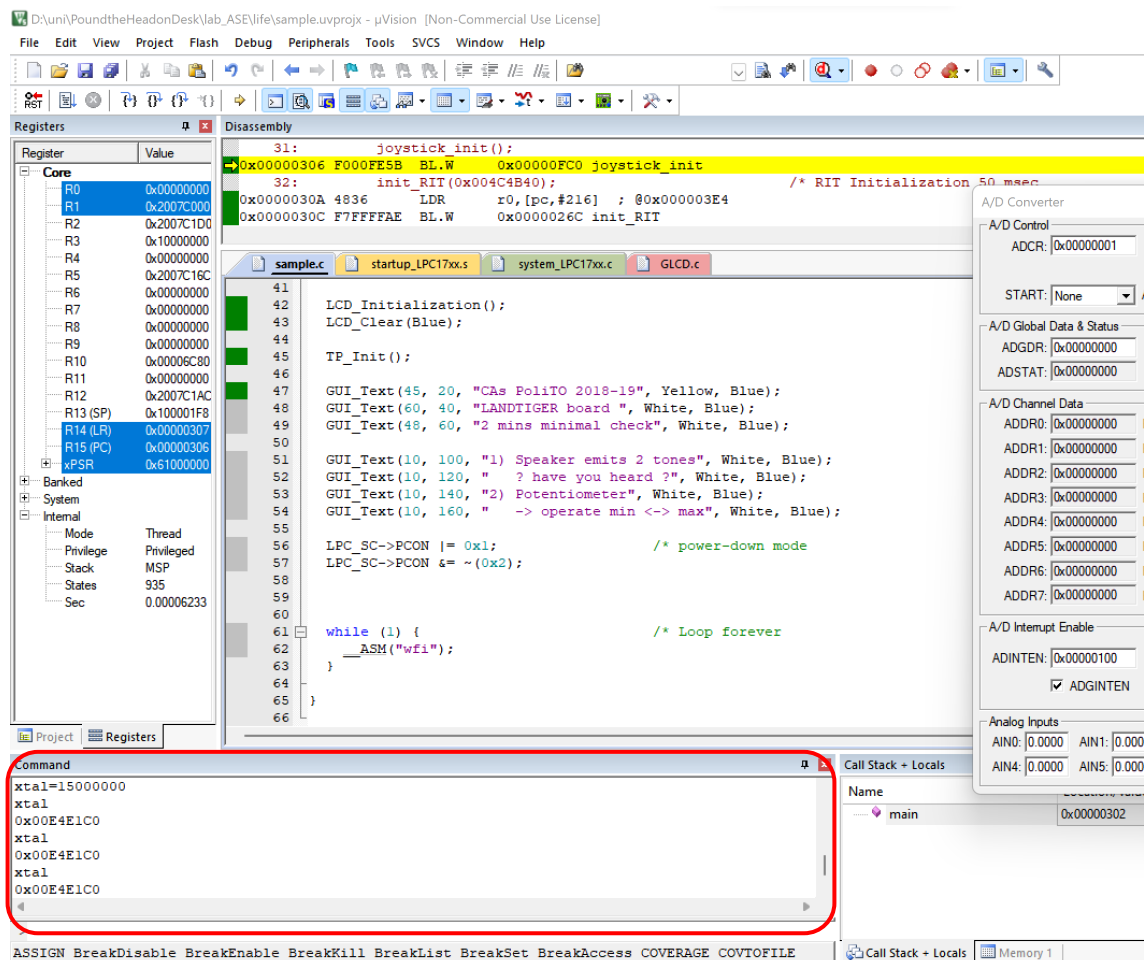
- 1) Verify that debug parameters ('Options for Target' window -> 'Debug' tab) are correctly set to match the target device (LPC1768). Modify the 'Dialog DLL' field to DARMPI.DLL and the 'Parameter' field to -pLPC1768, as shown in the image below



2) Launch the debug mode and activate the command console.



3) A window will appear:



You can type *xtal* to

check its value. To change its value, make a routine assignment, i.e., *xtal=frequency*, keeping in

mind that frequency in Hz must be entered. To set a frequency of *15 MHz*, you must write as follows: *xtal=15000000*.

- 4) After having set the frequency, reset the CPU by clicking on the RST button in the top left, above the 'Registers' window. The debug session will restart and the simulation will be executed using the desired clock frequency

