# CPE 325: Intro to Embedded Computer System

## Lab 09 Synchronous Serial Communications

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**Demonstration Deadline**: 03/24/25

#### Theory

#### **Topic 1**: SPI vs UART

- a) SPI (Serial Peripheral Interface) SPI is a serial communication protocol that uses a clock signal for data transmission. It requires four wires: MOSI (Master Out Slave In), MISO (Master In Slave Out), SCLK (Serial Clock), and SS/CS (Slave Select/Chip Select). Since it uses a clock signal, SPI operates at higher speeds compared to UART. It is commonly used for high-speed peripherals, such as SD cards, sensors, and display modules. Multiple slave devices can be connected to a single master device using CS (Chip Select) lines for each device.
- b) UART (Universal Asynchronous Receiver-Transmitter) UART is an asynchronous serial communication protocol, which does not require a clock signal. It uses two wires: TX (Transmit) and RX (Receive) for transmitting and receiving data. The devices must be set to the same baud rate for communication to work correctly. It is designed for point-to-point communication is used for simple and long-distance data transmission

#### **Topic 2**: Serial Communication Types

- a) The MSP430F5529 supports multiple serial communication protocols including SPI, UART, and I2C.
- b) SPI (Serial Peripheral Interface): A synchronous serial communication type that supports interfacing with external sensors, ADCs, DACs, and SD cards. It requires a clock signal, and uses four main signals: MOSI (Master Out Slave In), MISO (Master In Slave Out), SCLK (Serial Clock), and SS/CS (Slave Select/Chip Select). Serial data is transmitted and received by multiple devices that use a shared clock provided by the master. It supports full-duplex communication, transmitting data simultaneously in both directions.
- c) UART (Universal Asynchronous Receiver-Transmitter): UART allows for asynchronous serial communication for communicating with PCs, Bluetooth modules, GPS modules, etc. It used start and stop bits to frame data, no clock signal is required. Both devices are required to have the same baud rate. UCAxTXBUF and UCAxRXBUF are the transmit and receive buffers respectively, supporting full-duplex communication.
- d) I2C (Inter-Integrated Circuit): I2C is a widely implemented synchronous serial communication protocol used to interface with external sensors(temperature, accelerometer, etc.), EEPROMs, and other peripherals. It supports multi-master and multi-slave configuration and uses only two wires: SDA (Serial Data) and SCL (Serial Clock).

#### **Results & Observation**

#### Master:

#### **Program Description:**

The master program is a C program that interfaces with a serial monitor, slave MSP430, and LED2. It is a modified version of Lab09\_D1\_Master\_5529.c that was provided to us. The modified code had the added functionality of being able to request a frequency and cycles from the user, which it

would then use to blink LED2 as well as send a character over SPI to the slave MSP 430 to toggle its LED2. The result is that the user can set the master's and slave's LED2 to blink at a specific frequency for a certain number of cycles. The main changes that were made were the addition of UART communication so that the master could interface with a serial monitor and the addition of a timer using the watchdog timer in order to toggle LED2 at a specific frequency.

#### Slave (same as demo):

#### **Program Description:**

The sIslave program is the same program that was provided in the lab manual. It works by initializing the SPI connection as a slave and then waits until it receives a character. Once it receives a character, it toggles LED2 and echos the character back.

#### **Program Output:**

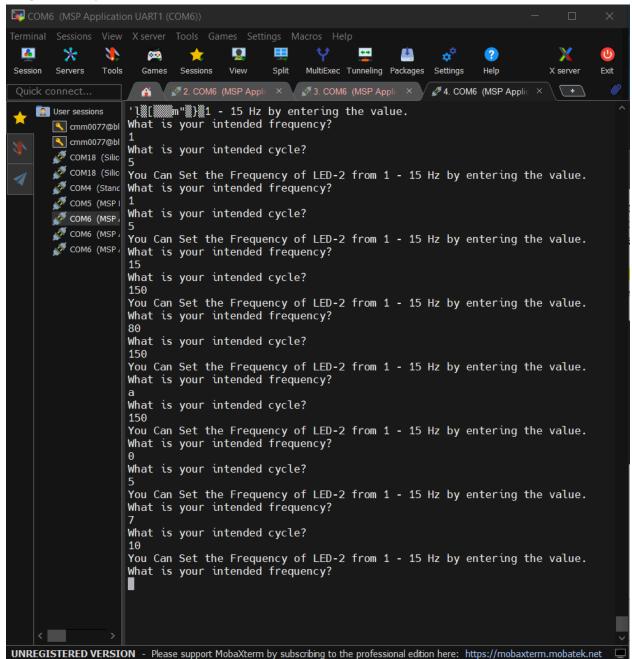


Figure 01: Program output

#### **Program Flowchart:**

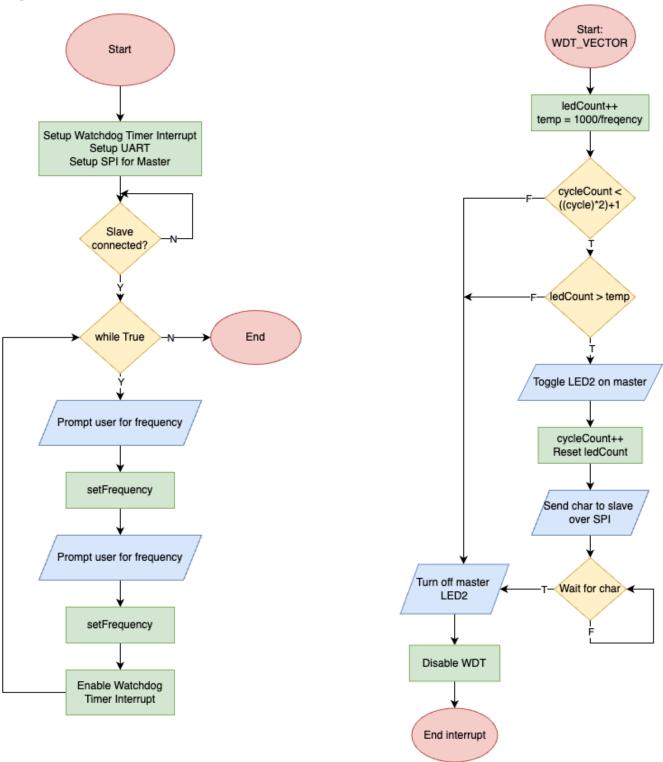


Figure 02: Program Master Flowchart

Table 01: Program Master source code

```
/*-----
 * File: main.c
 * Description: Prompts the user to input a frequency value and cycle value
              It then uses these values to blink LED2 at that frequency
              for that many cycles. In addition, each time it toggles LED2
              a character is sent over SPI to the slave MSP430 causing
              LED2 to toggle on the slave. This results in LED2 blinking
              at the same time on the master and slave board.
* Board: 5529
* Input: UART serial monitor
* Output: UART serial input, SPI output to slave MSP430, LED2
* Author(s): Charles Marmann, Anshika Sinha
* Date: March 23, 2025
                       _____
#include <msp430.h>
#include <stdint.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
unsigned char MST Data, SLV Data;
char askFreq[] = "You Can Set the Frequency of LED-2 from 1 - 15 Hz by
entering the value.\n\rWhat is your intended frequency?\n\r"; //
char askCycle[] = "What is your intended cycle?\n\r"; //
char strIn[10]; // Holds the value of the read string
int frequency = 1; // Frequency that the LEDs should blink at
int cycle = 0; // Number of cycles that the LEDs should blink
int cycleCount = 1; // Number of cycles completed
int ledCount = 0;  // Iterator for the WDT ISR
void UART setup(void) {
   //P3SEL |= BIT3 | BIT4; // Set UCOTXD and UCORXD to transmit and
receive data
   P4SEL |= BIT4 + BIT5; // Set USCI_A1 RXD/TXD to receive/transmit data
   UCA1CTL1 |= UCSWRST; // Set software reset during initialization
                       // USCI_A1 control register
   UCA1CTL0 = 0;
   UCA1CTL1 |= UCSSEL 2; // Clock source SMCLK
   machine
}
void SPI Master UCB0 Setup(void) {
  P3SEL |= BIT0+BIT1+BIT2;
                                             // P3.0,1,2 option select
for SIMO, SOMI and CLK
   UCB0CTL1 |= UCSWRST;
                                        // **Put state machine in
reset**
```

```
UCBOCTLO |= UCMST+UCSYNC+UCCKPL+UCMSB;  // 3-pin, 8-bit SPI master
                                          // SMCLK
   UCBOCTL1 |= UCSSEL 2;
   UCBOBRO = 18;
   UCBOBR1 = 0;
   UCB0CTL1 &= ~UCSWRST;
                                          // **Initialize USCI state
machine**
void WDT setup()
   WDTCTL = WDT MDLY 0 5; // Set WDT to all an interrupt every 0.5 ms
void SPI sendChar(char bip)
   while (!(UCB0IFG&UCTXIFG)); // USCI A0 TX buffer ready?
   UCBOTXBUF = bip; // Transmit first character
void UART sendChar(char bip)
   // USCI A0 TX buffer ready?
// UART code from lab 8
//
char UART getChar()
   while (!(UCA1IFG&UCRXIFG));
   if (UCA1RXBUF == '\r')
      UART sendChar('\r');
      UART sendChar('\n');
   }
   else
      UART sendChar(UCA1RXBUF);
   return UCA1RXBUF;
void UART sendString(char* str)
   int i = 0;
   while(str[i] != '\0')
      UART sendChar(str[i]);
      i++;
   }
void UART getLine(char* buf, int limit)
```

```
int i = 0;
    while (limit != 0)
        char temp = UART getChar();
        if (temp == '\r')
           break;
        buf[i] = temp;
        i++;
       limit--;
   // Add null character at the end
   buf[i] = ' \0';
// Restrict both frequency and cycle
void setFreq(int input)
   if (input > 15)
      frequency = 15;
    else if (input < 1)
      frequency = 1;
    }
    else
       frequency = input;
void setCycle(int input)
   if (input < 0)
      cycle = 0;
    }
    else
      cycle = input;
   cycleCount = 1;
int main() {
   WDT setup();
    UART setup();
                               // Initialize USCI A0 module in UART mode
    SPI Master UCBO Setup();
    // Setup LEDs
    P1OUT = 0;
    P1DIR |= BIT0;
```

```
P4DIR |= BIT7;
   P4OUT &= ~BIT7;
   P1IN &= ~BIT2;
   // Initialize interrupts
   EINT();
   P1DIR \mid= BIT0;
                             // Set P1.0 to output direction
   while (!(P1IN&BIT2)); // wait for the slave to connect
   while(1)
   {
      UART_sendString(askCycle); // Ask for cycle
       UART_getLine(strIn,10);  // Receive cycles
setCycle(atoi(strIn));  // Convert to int, reset cycleCount
                               // Enable WDT interrupt
      SFRIE1 |= WDTIE;
   }
#pragma vector=WDT VECTOR
 interrupt void watchdog timer(void) {
                                    // Increment ledCount
   ledCount++;
   int temp = 1000/frequency;  // 2 * 1000 * 0.5 ms = 1s
   if (cycleCount < ((cycle)*2)+1) // If the number of cycles ran is less
than the desired ammount of cycles
       if (ledCount > temp) {
          P4OUT ^= BIT7;
                                  // Toggle master LED
          slave LED
          while(!(UCB0IFG&UCRXIFG)); // Wait for a character to come back
   }
   else
                                   // All cycles completed
                                  // Turn off master LED
       P4OUT &= ~BIT7;
                                   // Disable WDT ISR
      SFRIE1 &= ~WDTIE;
}
```

Table 02: Program Slave source code (same as demo)

```
//*********************
    MSP430F552x Demo - USCI AO, SPI 3-Wire Slave Data Echo
//
  Description: SPI slave demo using 3-wire mode. Incrementing
//
//
   data is sent by the master starting at 0x01. Received data is expected
//
    to be same as the previous transmission. Initialize SPI Slave mode, as \ensuremath{/}
follows: 3-wire mode, clock polarity is high, MSB is sent first.
//
    Slave generated a logic high pulse on P1.2 indicating it is ready.
//
   Communication is handled in the infinite loop, as follows:
//
    Once a new character is received it is echoed if TXBUF is ready.
//
// LED2 is toggled providing visual indication of communication.
//
                     MSP430F552x
//
                  -----
          LED1<-|P1.0
//Slave is Ready<-|P1.2</pre>
//
//
//
//
                               P3.0 | <- Data In (UCAOSIMO)
//
//
//
                                P3.1|-> Data Out (UCAOSOMI)
//
                                P3.2|-> Serial Clock Out (UCBOCLK)
//
//
   Author: A. Milenkovic, milenkovic@computer.org
//
// Date: October 2022
//****************************
nclude <msp430.h>
void SPI_Slave_UCB0_Setup(void) {
  P3SEL |= BIT0+BIT1+BIT2; // P3.3,4 option select
  //P2SEL |= BIT7; // P2.7 option select
  UCB0CTL1 |= UCSWRST; // **Put state machine in reset**
  UCBOCTLO |= UCSYNC+UCCKPL+UCMSB; // 3-pin, 8-bit SPI slave,
  // Clock polarity high, MSB
  UCBOCTL1 &= ~UCSWRST; // **Initialize USCI state machine**
```

```
int main(void) {
  WDTCTL = WDTPW+WDTHOLD;
  SPI_Slave_UCB0_Setup();
  P1DIR |= BIT2 + BIT0; // Set P1.0 and P1.2 as outputs
  P1OUT |= BIT2 + BIT0; // LED1 is on, P1.2 is set
  __delay_cycles(100);
  //P10UT &= \simBIT2; // LED is on, P1.2 is off
  // P4.7 is heartbeat of the application (toggles on each received char)
  P4DIR |= BIT7;
  P4OUT = 0;
  for(;;) {
      while(!(UCB0IFG&UCRXIFG)); // wait for a new character
      while(!(UCB0IFG&UCTXIFG)); // new character is received, is TXBUF
ready?
      UCBOTXBUF = UCBORXBUF;  // echo character back if ready
      P4OUT ^= BIT7;
```

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