

Flash programming in the TMP91FY22F

Used Features:

- ✓ Programming the on-chip flash memory
- ✓ Communications through the UART
- ✓ Running code in RAM
- ✓ Motorola S-record format

Introduction

This application note describes how to erase and program the on-chip flash memory of the TMP91FY22 microcontroller.

It features a simple command line serial interface that can be used to re-program the on-chip flash memory. There are a number of commands available, including ones for erasing flash memory blocks, writing to flash memory, calculating checksums, and also returning the contents of flash memory. All program and read operations are carried out using Motorola S-records. Communications can be made with the microcontroller using a serial communications package such as Windows HyperTerminal.

The example is based on the TOPAS 900/L1 starter kit.

Application Note Category

- ☐ Software Algorithm
- ☐ MCU specific
- ☒ System Solution
- ☐ Basic Design Technique

By:
Toshiba Electronics Europe GmbH
European LSI Design Eng. Center -
ELDEC
Support-MCU@tee.toshiba.de

Functional Description

On reset, the application code is copied into RAM, and then run from there from that point onwards, with no further calls back to code in flash memory. This potentially means that all of the on-chip flash memory can be erased and programmed without any undue effect.

All flash memory operations are carried out through either serial I/O channel 0 or 1 on the microcontroller. This depends upon whether you are using a ROM monitor version of the software (`_MONITOR` is defined) or not. For a ROM monitor version, operations are carried out through channel 0, which corresponds to the serial communications interface on the board. Otherwise, operations are carried out through channel 1, which corresponds to the USB interface. In both cases the serial channel is configured in UART mode with a baud rate of 9600, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit and no parity. One command can be issued per line, and a line is terminated with the carriage return character (0x0d). Note that this is a consequence of the way Terminal programs behave. Any following new-line character (0x0a) is treated as white space. The line buffer can hold a maximum of 32 characters before overflow occurs. Should this happen an error is reported, and the line discarded.

Once a valid line has been received it is then processed. If at the end of this no errors have occurred, any action associated with the command is performed. The list of commands that the application accepts is described below. Command keywords are case insensitive, that is the keyword "CHECKSUM" is the same as the keyword "checksum". All addresses are specified in hexadecimal notation, with a preceding "0x" or "0X" character sequence. This is similar to how hexadecimal numbers are specified in C. The space (0x20), horizontal tab (0x09) and new-line (0x0a) characters are treated as white-space.

CHECKSUM COMMAND

Format: CHECKSUM *start-address end-address*

start-address: The start address of the checksum to calculate.

end-address: The end address of the checksum to calculate.

This command calculates the checksum for a section of flash memory, and returns it as a 4 digit hexadecimal number. The checksum is calculated by simply adding up all of the bytes in the section.

ERASE COMMAND

Format: ERASE *start-address [end-address]*

start-address: The start address of the flash memory block(s) to erase.

end-address: The end address of the flash memory block(s) to erase. If the *end-address* is omitted, then it is assumed to be the same as the *start-address*.

This command erases one or more blocks of flash memory, as specified by the address range. The start and end addresses do not need to line up exactly on block address boundaries. If an address lies within a block then it is erased. The list of flash memory blocks in the TMP91FY22 is as follows.

Block Number	Start Address	End Address	Size
1	0xFC0000	0xFCFFFF	64k
2	0xFD0000	0xFDFFFF	64k
3	0xFE0000	0xFEFFFF	64k
4	0xFF0000	0xFF7FFF	32k
5	0xFF8000	0xFF9FFF	8k
6	0xFFA000	0xFFBFFF	8k
7	0xFFC000	0xFFFFFFF	16k

HELP COMMAND

Format: HELP

This command outputs a list of the commands supported by the application, along with a brief description of the command and parameters. This text is also output at start-up by the application.

PROGRAM COMMAND

Format: PROGRAM

This command programs the flash memory with a following sequence of Motorola S-records. Each record must be separated by a new-line character, and programming is terminated when an S7, S8 or S9 record is encountered. At which point the command prompt returns.

READ COMMAND

Format: READ *start-address end-address*

start-address: The start address of the flash memory to read.

End-address: The end address of the flash memory to read.

This command reads the section of flash memory and returns it as a sequence of S3 Motorola S-records. The records are terminated by an S7 record.

MOTOROLA S-RECORD FORMAT

The Motorola S-record format is used to encode binary information in a printable (ASCII) format. Each line in a Motorola S-record format file contains exactly one S-record. An S record starts with an ASCII 'S'. This is followed by the record type, which consists of the ASCII digits '1' to '9'. Thereafter follows binary data, with each byte encoded as a 2-character hexadecimal number. The first (ASCII) character represents the high nibble of the byte, and the second (ASCII) character represents the low nibble. The binary data encompasses the record length, address, data and checksum fields of the record.

Field	Characters	Description
Type	2	The S-record type – S0, S1, S2, S3, S5, S7, S8 or S9.
Record length	2	A count of the address, data and checksum bytes.
Address	4, 6 or 8	The address at which the binary data is to be loaded into memory. This can be a 2, 3 or 4 byte address depending upon the S-record type.
Data	0 – 2n	From 0 to n bytes of binary data.
Checksum	2	The checksum. This is calculated by taking the one's complement of the sum of the record length, address and data bytes. When validating S-records, the sum of the record length, address, data and checksum fields should be 0xFF.

The table below gives some more detailed information on the various S-records.

Field	Description
S0	Specifies header information. 2 byte address is unused.
S1	A data record containing a 2 byte address and 0 to n bytes of data residing at that address.
S2	A data record containing a 3 byte address and 0 to n bytes of data residing at that address.
S3	A data record containing a 4 byte address and 0 to n bytes of data residing at that address.
S5	Specifies a count of the previous S1, S2 and S3 records in a 2 byte address.
S7	A terminating record for a file of S-records. Only one terminating record is allowed per file, and it must be on the last line of the file. This record contains a 4 byte address specifying the program entry point (typically 0x00000000). The record contains no data bytes.
S8	A terminating record for a file of S-records. Only one terminating record is allowed per file, and it must be on the last line of the file. This record contains a 3 byte address specifying the program entry point (typically 0x000000). The record contains no data bytes.
S9	A terminating record for a file of S-records. Only one terminating record is allowed per file, and it must be on the last line of the file. This record contains a 2 byte address specifying the program entry point (typically 0x0000). The record contains no data bytes.

An example of an S-record file is shown below. This specifies the text "Hello World!" and loads it at address 0xFD0000. It makes use of S3 and S7 records.

```
S31100FD000048656C6C6F20576F726C6421B4
S70500000000FA
```

WINDOWS HYPERTERMINAL

You can use the HyperTerminal application that comes with Windows, along with other serial communications programs, to communicate with the flash programming application

One important thing to be aware of is that when connecting a serial communications program to the USB interface, you may need to remove links LK2 and LK3 from the starter kit board. If not then the program can set the BOOT and RESET pins on the microcontroller into an undesirable state.

A simple test to perform with HyperTerminal is to write the "Hello World!" example above to flash memory at address 0xFD0000. First of all simply copy the Motorola S-records to a file and save them to disk. Make sure that the S7 end record has a trailing new-line! Then in HyperTerminal type the following command.

```
> READ 0xFD0000 0xFD001F
```

This should return three lines of Motorola S-records – two S3's and an S7 containing a lot of FF's and confirming that the section of memory is blank (if not issue an ERASE 0xFD0000 command). Then in HyperTerminal type the following command.

```
> PROGRAM
```

After you have pressed ENTER select the **Send Text File** command from the **Transfer** menu. In the dialog box that is displayed locate the "Hello World!" Motorola S-record file, select it and click **Open**. The file should now be downloaded to the microcontroller and programmed to flash memory. After this is complete you should receive a confirmatory message, and the command prompt should return. Then in HyperTerminal type another READ command.

```
> READ 0xFD0000 0xFD001F
```

Flash memory should now contain the text "Hello World!" at address 0xFD0000. You can also program other Motorola S-record files in this fashion. In particular, the Toshiba 900/L1 compiler generates Motorola S-record files containing program code by default.

[illegible]

Software Description

OVERALL STRUCTURE

The C start-up code first of all copies the application code into RAM. This is performed in the macro processor file Stc91ml.mac. This ensures that the application is able to re-program all of the flash memory if required, including the memory containing itself. The _Initial function then makes a call to main, and program execution enters RAM. It will remain here until a reset (or an NMI) occurs. It is worth noting that the application from this point on cannot make any calls to standard C library functions. Any such functions used would be placed in flash memory, and hence subject to re-programming.

MAIN LOOP

The main function first initialises the UART and the communications handler. At this point, after initialisation, it would be common to enable interrupts. However, since the application does not make use of interrupts, and it is possible to re-program the flash memory containing the interrupt vectors and default interrupt handlers, they remain disabled.

The main function then outputs the start-up text and enters the main loop. The main loop then calls the Comms_OnHandle function repeatedly to process incoming commands. The command handler simply collects characters received from the UART in a buffer until it encounters a new line. If this forms a valid command, and no errors are encountered then the command, whatever it might be, is executed.

SOFTWARE FEATURES

This section describes some of the more interesting features of the application software that may be useful for designers of other or similar applications.

RE-PROGRAMMING THE ON-CHIP FLASH MEMORY

It is a necessity when programming the on-chip flash memory that the functions that are doing the programming (or erasing) are run from RAM. This application takes this one step further and copies the entire application to RAM. This ensures that all of the on-chip flash memory can be re-programmed. Another necessity when programming the on-chip flash memory is that interrupts are disabled. The occurrence and acceptance of an interrupt during a re-programming operation would cause the interrupt vector address to be looked up from flash memory. Not a good thing to happen.

The flash memory re-programming functions are located in the file Flash.c. If you have an application that say stores application data to one of the flash memory blocks, then it is only the code in this file that you would need to run from RAM. You would also need to remember to disable interrupts prior to calling the functions.

RUNNING CODE IN RAM

In order to run code in RAM you need to do three main things to your application source files.

- 1) You need to wrap the section of code that you want to run in RAM with a pair of **#pragma section code** and **#pragma section const** statements, and specify a name for both sections at the top. For example.

```
#pragma section code RAM_CODE
#pragma section const RAM_CONST
// functions (and constant data)
#pragma section const
#pragma section code
```

- 2) You need to specify the position in RAM where the code and constant data is to be mapped to. This is done in the linker command file. Below is an example linker command file that does this.

```
memory {
    IO(RW)      : origin=0x000000, length=0x001000
    IROM(RWX)   : origin=0x001000, length=0x004000
    IROM(RX)    : origin=0xfc0000, length=0x03ff00
    INTTBL(R)   : origin=0xffff00, length=0x000100
}

sections {
    near_area    org=0x001000
                  : {*(n_area)}
    far_area     org=org(near_area)+sizeof(near_area)
                  : {*(f_area)}
    far_code     org=0xfc0000
                  : {*(f_code)}
    far_const    org=org(far_code)+sizeof(far_code)
                  : {*(f_const)}
    near_data    org=org(far_const)+sizeof(far_const)
                  addr=addr(far_area)+sizeof(far_area)
                  : {*(n_data)}
    far_data     org=org(near_data)+sizeof(near_data)
                  addr=addr(near_data)+sizeof(near_data)
                  : {*(f_data)}

    ram_code     org=org(far_data)+sizeof(far_data)
                  addr=addr(far_data)+sizeof(far_data)
                  : {*(RAM_CODE)}
    ram_const    org=org(ram_code)+sizeof(ram_code)
                  addr=addr(ram_code)+sizeof(ram_code)
                  : {*(RAM_CONST)}

    __NearDataAddr = addr(near_data);
    __FarDataAddr  = addr(far_data);
    __RamCodeAddr  = addr(ram_code);
    __RamConstAddr = addr(ram_const);
}
```

This should look fairly similar to other linker command files. There is though the addition of the extra `ram_code` and `ram_const` sections, and the definition of the `__RamCodeAddr` and `__RamConstAddr` labels. Firstly, the `ram_code` section states that the section will be placed just after the far data initialiser section in flash memory. This is the `org` part of the section definition. The `ram_code` section then states that the section will be relocated to just after the far data section in RAM. This is the `addr` part of the section definition. Note that the linker handles all of the address relocation for you regarding function calls automatically. Finally, the section will contain any code that is marked as `RAM_CODE`. Similarly, the `ram_const` section is located just after the `ram_code` section in both flash memory and RAM, and contains any code marked as `RAM_CONST`.

The `__RamCodeAddr` and `__RamConstAddr` labels then define the start addresses of the relocated code and constant data sections in RAM.

- 3) You need to copy the code and constant data sections from flash memory to RAM prior to calling any of the functions. This can be done anywhere, although in this case we will place the necessary code in the C start-up file, along with the near and far data section initialisation.

```

extern large __RamCodeAddr
extern large __RamConstAddr

RAM_CODE section code large align=2,2
RAM_CONST section romdata large align=2,2

; initialisation of ram code section
ld xde,__RamCodeAddr
ld xhl,startof(RAM_CODE)
ld xbc,sizeof(RAM_CODE)
or xbc,xbc
j z,RAM_CODE_1
ldirb (xde+),(xhl+)
cp qbc,0
j eq,RAM_CODE_1
ld wa,qbc
RAM_CODE_2:
ldirb (xde+),(xhl+)
djnz wa,RAM_CODE_2
RAM_CODE_1:

; initialisation of ram const section
ld xde,__RamConstAddr
ld xhl,startof(RAM_CONST)
ld xbc,sizeof(RAM_CONST)
or xbc,xbc
j z,RAM_CONST_1
ldirb (xde+),(xhl+)
cp qbc,0
j eq,RAM_CONST_1
ld wa,qbc
RAM_CONST_2:
ldirb (xde+),(xhl+)
djnz wa,RAM_CONST_2
RAM_CONST_1:

```

Here, in the RAM code section initialisation, XDE is loaded with the start address of the code in RAM, XHL is loaded with the start address of the code in flash memory, and XBC is loaded with the size of the section. The code is then copied from flash memory (XHL+) to RAM (XDE+) until the section size decrements to zero. This is repeatedly similarly for the RAM const section initialisation.

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OVERSEAS SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES

Toshiba Electronics Europe GmbH

Düsseldorf Head Office

Hansaallee 181, D-40549 Düsseldorf
Germany
Tel: (0211)5296-0 Fax: (0211)5296-400

München Office

Büro München Hofmannstrasse 52,
D-81378, München, Germany
Tel: (089)748595-0 Fax: (089)748595-42

Toshiba Electronics France SARL

Immeuble Robert Schumann 3 Rue de Rome,
F-93561, Rosny-Sous-Bois, Cedex, France
Tel: (1)48-12-48-12 Fax: (1)48-94-51-15

Toshiba Electronics Italiana S.R.L.

Centro Direzionale Colleoni
Palazzo Perseo Ingr. 2-Piano 6,
Via Paracelso n.12, I-20041 Agrate Brianza
Milan, Italy
Tel: (039)68701 Fax: (039)6870205

Toshiba Electronics España, S.A

Parque Empresarial San Fernando Edificio Europa,
1a Planta, ES-28831 Madrid, Spain
Tel: (91)660-6700 Fax: (91)660-6799

Toshiba Electronics(UK) Limited

Riverside Way, Camberley Surrey,
GU15 3YA, U.K.
Tel: (01276)69-4600 Fax: (01276)69-4800

Toshiba Electronics Scandinavia AB

Gustavslundsvägen 12, 2nd Floor
S-161 15 Bromma, Sweden
Tel: (08)704-0900 Fax: (08)80-8459

Toshiba Electronics Asia

(Singapore) Pte. Ltd.

Singapore Head Office
438B Alexandra Road, #06-08/12 Alexandra
Technopark, Singapore 119968
Tel: (278)5252 Fax: (271)5155

Bangkok Office

135 Moo 5 Bangkadi Industrial Park,
Tivanon Rd.,Bangkadi Amphur Muang
Pathumthani, Bangkok, 12000, Thailand
Tel: (02)501-1635 Fax: (02)501-1638

Toshiba Electronics Trading

(Malaysia)Sdn. Bhd.
Kuala Lumpur Head Office
Suite W1203, Wisma Consplant, No.2,
Jalan SS 16/4, Subang Jaya, 47500 Petaling
Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia
Tel: (3)731-6311 Fax: (3)731-6307

Penang Office

Suite 13-1, 13th Floor, Menard Penang
Garden,
26th Floor, Citibank Tower, Valero Street,
Makati, Manila, Philippines
Tel: (02)750-5510 Fax: (02)750-5511

Toshiba Electronics Philippines, Inc.

26th Floor, Citibank Tower, Valero Street,
Makati, Manila, Philippines
Tel: (02)750-5510 Fax: (02)750-5511

Toshiba America Electronic Components, Inc.

Headquarters-Irvine, CA

9775 Toledo Way, Irvine, CA 92618, U.S.A.
Tel: (949)455-2000 Fax: (949)859-3963

Boulder, CO

3100 Arapahoe Avenue, Ste. 500,
Boulder, CO 80303, U.S.A.
Tel: (303)442-3801 Fax: (303)442-7216

Boynton Beach, FL(Orlando)

11924 W. Forest Hill Blvd., Ste. 22-337,
Boynton Beach, FL 33414, U.S.A.
Tel: (561)374-6193 Fax: (561)374-6194

Deerfield, IL(Chicago)

One Pkwy., North, Suite 500, Deerfield,
IL 60015-2547, U.S.A.
Tel: (847)945-1500 Fax: (847)945-1044

Duluth, GA(Atlanta)

3700 Crestwood Parkway, Ste. 460,
Duluth, GA 30096, U.S.A.
Tel: (770)931-3363 Fax: (770)931-7602

Edison, NJ

2035 Lincoln Hwy. Ste. #3000, Edison
NJ 08817, U.S.A.
Tel: (732)248-8070 Fax: (732)248-8030

Orange County, CA

2 Venture Plaza, #500 Irvine, CA 92618,
U.S.A.
Tel: (949)453-0224 Fax: (949)453-0125

Portland, OR

1700 NW 167th Place, #240,
Beaverton, OR 97006, U.S.A.
Tel: (503)629-0818 Fax: (503)629-0827

Richardson, TX(Dallas)

777 East Campbell Rd., Suite 650,
Richardson,
TX 75081, U.S.A.
Tel: (972)480-0470 Fax: (972)235-4114

San Jose Engineering Center, CA

1060 Rincon Circle, San Jose, CA 95131,
U.S.A.
Tel: (408)526-2400 Fax: (408)526-2410

Wakefield, MA(Boston)

401 Edgewater Place, Suite #360, Wakefield,
MA 01880-6229, U.S.A.
Tel: (781)224-0074 Fax: (781)224-1095

Toshiba Do Brasil S.A.

Electronic Components Div.
Estrada Dos Alvarengas, 5. 500
09850-550-Sao Bernardo do campo - SP
Tel: (011)7689-7171 Fax: (011)7689-7189

Toshiba Electronics Asia, Ltd.

Hong Kong Head Office

Level 11, Top Glory Insurance Building,
Grand Century
Place, No.193, Prince Edward Road West,
Mong Kok, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: 2375-6111 Fax: 2375-0969

Beijing Office

Rm 714, Beijing Fortune Building,
No.5 Dong San Huan Bei-Lu, Chao Yang
District, Beijing, 100004, China
Tel: (010)6590-8795 Fax: (010)6590-8791

Chengdu Office

Unit F, 18th Floor, New Times Plaza, 42
Wenwu Road, Xinhua Avenue, Chengdu,
610017, China
Tel: (028)675-1773 Fax: (028)675-1065

Shenzhen Office

Rm 3010-3012, Office Tower Shun Hing
Square, Di Wang Commercial Centre, 333
ShenNan East Road, Shenzhen, 518008,
China
Tel: (0755)246-1582 Fax: (0755)246-1581

Toshiba Electronics Korea Corporation

Seoul Head Office
14/F, KEC B/D, 257-7 Yangjae-Dong,
Seocho-ku, Seoul, Korea
Tel: (02)589-4334 Fax: (02)589-4302

Gumi Office

6/F, Ssangyong Investment Securities B/D,
56 Songjung-Dong, Gumi City
Kyeongbuk, Korea
Tel: (82)54-456-7613 Fax: (82)54-456-7617

Toshiba Technology Development (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

23F, Shanghai Senmao International
Building, 101 Yin Cheng East Road, Pudong
New Area, Shanghai, 200120, China
Tel: (021)6841-0666 Fax: (021)6841-5002

Tsurong Xiamen Xiangyu Trading Co., Ltd.

8N, Xiamen SEZ Bonded Goods Market
Building, Xiamen, Fujian, 361006, China
Tel: (0592)562-3798 Fax: (0592)562-3799

Toshiba Electronics Taiwan Corporation

Taipei Head Office

17F, Union Enterprise Plaza Bldg. 109
Min Sheng East Rd., Section 3, 0446 Taipei,
Taiwan
Tel: (02)514-9988 Fax: (02)514-7892

Kaohsiung Office

16F-A, Chung-Cheng Bldg., Chung-Cheng
3Rd., 80027, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
Tel: (07)222-0826 Fax: (07)223-0046

TOSHIBA Semiconductor Websites

Europe: www.toshiba-components.com
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