

Working with assembler

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Assembler Baby Steps

- Write the program in C
- Add an assembler module to the project
- Write a routine in assembler
- Call it from C
 - Remember to declare it as extern in the C module
 - Declare it as public in assembler

Simple C program

```
#include "msp430.h"

int main( void )
{
    int counter;
    // Stop watchdog timer to prevent time out reset
    WDTCTL = WDTPW + WDTCTL;
    // enables the gpio on the 4133
    // PM5CTL0 &=~LOCKLPM5;
    P1DIR = 0x01;
    while (1)
    {
        if (counter++ < 0) P1OUT = 0x00;
        else P1OUT = 0x01;
    }
}
```

Add some assembler

- Create a new assembler file setup.asm
- Add setup.asm to the project
 - Project → Add files
- Start with an empty file, make sure it compiles and runs
- Then start moving over code

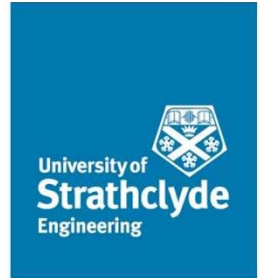
Simple C program

```
#include "io430.h"

extern void setup();

int main( void )
{
    int counter;
    // Stop watchdog timer to prevent time out reset
    WDTCTL = WDTPW + WDTCTL;
    // enables the gpio for the 4133
    // PM5CTL0 &=~LOCKLPM5;
    setup();
    P1DIR = 0x01;
    while (1)
    {
        if (counter++ < 0) P1OUT = 0x00;
        else P1OUT = 0x01;
    }
}
```

Initial asm routine file



```
#include "msp430.h"                ; #define controlled include file

NAME      setup                    ; module name

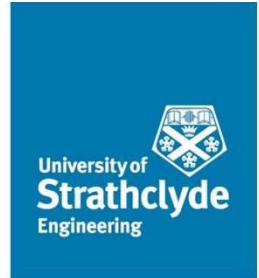
PUBLIC    setup                    ; make the setup label visible
                                   ; outside this module

RSEG      CODE                     ; place routine in 'CODE' segment

setup:    NOP                      ; do nothing
          RET                      ; then return

END
```

Start transferring code



```
#include "msp430.h"                ; #define controlled include file

NAME      setup                    ; module name

PUBLIC    setup                    ; make the main label visible
                                   ; outside this module

RSEG      CODE                     ; place routine in 'CODE' segment

setup:    MOV.B    #0x1, P1DIR      ; Set DDR for P1.0 output
          RET                      ; then return

END
```

Updated C program

```
#include "io430.h"

extern void setup();

int main( void )
{
    int counter;
    // Stop watchdog timer to prevent time out reset
    WDTCTL = WDTPW + WDTHOLD;
    // enables the gpio for the 4133
    // PM5CTL0 &=~LOCKLPM5;
    setup();
    while (1)
    {
        if (counter++ < 0) P1OUT = 0x00;
        else P1OUT = 0x01;
    }
}
```


More transferring

```
#include "msp430.h"                ; #define controlled include file

NAME      setup

PUBLIC    setup                    ; make the setup label visible
                                   ; outside this module

PUBLIC    flash                    ; and make flash visible outside

EXTERN    counter                  ; bring in the counter variable from c

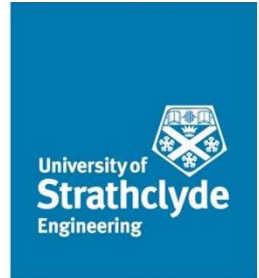
RSEG      CODE                    ; place routine in 'CODE' segment

setup:    MOV.B    #0x1, P1DIR      ; Set DDR for P1.0 output
          RET                      ; then return

flash:    NOP                      ; Do nothing
          RET                      ; then return

END
```

Updated C program



```
#include "io430.h"

extern void setup();

int counter;           // counter now a global variable so the assembler can see it

int main( void )
{
    // Stop watchdog timer to prevent time out reset
    WDTCTL = WDTPW + WDTHOLD;
    // enables the gpio for the 4133
    // PM5CTL0 &=~LOCKLPM5;
    // initialize the IO
    setup();
    while (1)
    {
        flash();
        if (counter++ < 0) P1OUT = 0x00;
        else P1OUT = 0x01;
    }
}
```

Move the functionality

```
#include "msp430.h"                ; #define controlled include file

NAME      setup

PUBLIC    setup                    ; make the setup label visible
                                ; outside this module
PUBLIC    flash                    ; and make flash visible outside

EXTERN    counter                  ; bring in the counter variable from c

RSEG      CODE                    ; place routine in 'CODE' segment

setup:    MOV.B    #0x1, P1DIR      ; Set DDR for P1.0 output
          RET                      ; then return

flash:    INC.W    counter          ; is incremented counter negative?
          JN    led_on              ; if not, turn LED off
          MOV.B    #0x1,P1OUT      ; then return
          RET

led_on:   MOV.B    #0x0,P1OUT      ; if so, turn it on
          RET                      ; then return

END
```

Updated C program

```
#include "io430.h"

extern void setup();
int counter;

int main( void )
{
    // Stop watchdog timer to prevent time out reset
    WDTCTL = WDTPW + WDTHOLD;
    // enables the gpio for the 4133
    // PM5CTL0 &=~LOCKLPM5;
    // initialize the IO
    setup();
    while (1)
    {
        flash();
    }
}
```

Conclusions

- This very simple example could have been done in assembler from the start
- Most large programs use assembler selectively
 - For speed
 - For memory efficiency
 - For control
- Getting things working in C, then optimizing modules using assembler is a good approach



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