



Week 7 - Interrupt

Polling

- Repeatedly checking the status of a device
- Done inside the main loop of the program
- **Disadvantage:**
 - Performance can suffer if there are many thing to perform

Interrupt

- The peripheral device signals the CPU.
- Main loop is free of polling.
- CPU can sleep, and only jump to a Interrupt Service Routine (ISR) when there is an interrupt signal.
 - CPU stops current task, does ISR, returns to previous task.

Context Management

- Context: state of the CPU and registers, program counter etc.

- Context should be saved when an interrupt is triggered so that the task can again be resumed later on.
- Complex.

Interrupt Vector Table

Holds list of interrupts along with the address of the interrupt handlers.

ATmega328p

Pri.	Address	Interrupt Source	ISR C Function Name	Description
1	0x0000	RESET		System reset (power-on)
2	0x0002	INT0	INT0_vect	External Interrupt Request 0
3	0x0004	INT1	INT1_vect	External Interrupt Request 1
4	0x0006	PCINT0	PCINT0_vect	Pin Change Interrupt Request 0
5	0x0008	PCINT1	PCINT1_vect	Pin Change Interrupt Request 1
6	0x000A	PCINT2	PCINT2_vect	Pin Change Interrupt Request 2
7	0x000C	WDT	WDT_vect	Watchdog Time-out Interrupt
8	0x000E	TIMER2 COMPA	TIMER2_COMPA_vect	Timer/Counter2 Compare Match A
9	0x0010	TIMER2 COMPB	TIMER2_COMPB_vect	Timer/Counter2 Compare Match B
10	0x0012	TIMER2 OVF	TIMER2_OVF_vect	Timer/Counter2 Overflow
11	0x0014	TIMER1 CAPT	TIMER1_CAPT_vect	Timer/Counter1 Capture Event
12	0x0016	TIMER1 COMPA	TIMER1_COMPA_vect	Timer/Counter1 Compare Match A
13	0x0018	TIMER1 COMPB	TIMER1_COMPB_vect	Timer/Counter1 Compare Match B

Examples

```

ISR(INT1_vect)      ISR(ADC_vect)
{
    //Code here    {
                    //Code here
}                  }

```

- The MSB of the SREG (status register) is used to enable or disable global interrupts.

External Interrupts

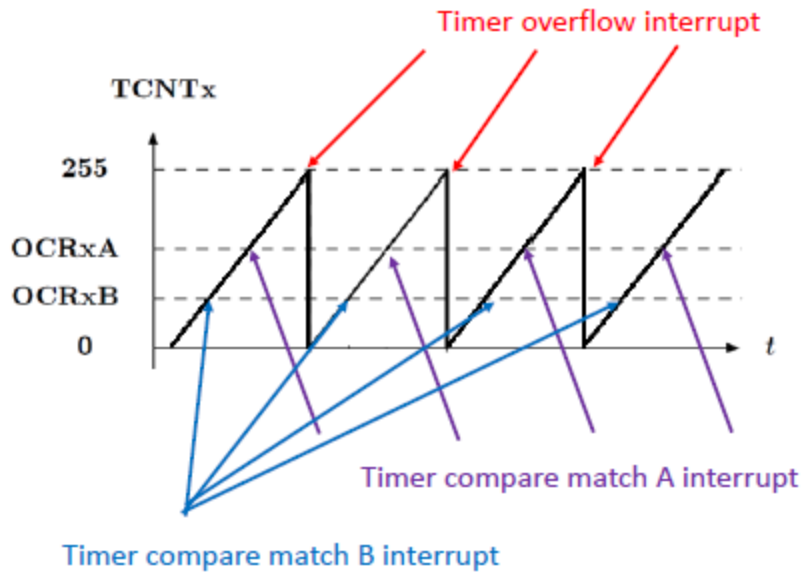
- INT0 and INT1
- 4 Modes:
 - Low level
 - any transition
 - high to low
 - low to high
- Flags are used to indicate if a specific interrupt has occurred.

Pin Change Interrupt

- Interrupt for a group of pins. If there is a change in logic level for any of the pins in the group, the interrupt can be activated.
- For example, in a security system, multiple sensors can be connected to the same group of pins so that if there is any intrusion detected, the interrupt can be activated.

Timer Interrupts

- Overflow or Matching to a OCR interrupt can be generated.



Raspberry Pi 3

- The Linux kernel handles the low-level interrupts and provides a way for the user-program to interact with the interrupt.
- Unlike ATmega, the user doesn't directly interact with the registers. The kernel handles the low level work. The user just programs using libraries.

Exercise - Pushbutton Interrupt

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3

# Import the RPi.GPIO library to control the GPIO pins
import RPi.GPIO as GPIO

# Import the time library to allow the main loop to sleep
import time

# --- Configuration ---

# Define the GPIO pin number that the LED is connected to.
```

```

# We are using the BCM (Broadcom) numbering scheme, where 18 refers to GPIO
# On the physical header, this is pin 12.
LED_PIN = 18

# Define the GPIO pin number that the Button is connected to.
# We are using the BCM numbering scheme, where 23 refers to GPIO23.
# On the physical header, this is pin 16.
BUTTON_PIN = 23

# Define a variable to help with debouncing the button press.
# Buttons aren't perfect switches; they can 'bounce' when pressed or released,
# causing multiple rapid high/low transitions.
# bouncetime is specified in milliseconds (ms). 300ms is a reasonable value.
BUTTON_BOUNCETIME = 300 # milliseconds

# --- Callback Function (Interrupt Service Routine equivalent in user space) ---

# This function will be called by the RPi.GPIO library when the event
# (button press) is detected on the specified pin.
# It takes one argument, 'channel', which is the pin number that triggered the event
def button_callback(channel):
    """
    Callback function executed when the button is pressed (falling edge detected)
    Toggles the state of the LED.
    """
    print(f"--- Button pressed on channel {channel}! ---") # Verbose print statement

    # Read the current state of the LED pin.
    current_led_state = GPIO.input(LED_PIN)

    # Determine the new state for the LED.
    # If the LED is currently HIGH (ON), set it to LOW (OFF).
    # If the LED is currently LOW (OFF), set it to HIGH (ON).
    new_led_state = GPIO.LOW if current_led_state == GPIO.HIGH else GPIO.HIGH

    # Set the LED pin to the new state.

```

```

GPIO.output(LED_PIN, new_led_state)

# Add a print statement to confirm the LED state change.
print(f"LED state toggled to { 'ON' if new_led_state == GPIO.HIGH else 'OFF' }").

# --- Main Program Execution ---

def main():
    """
    Main function to set up GPIO, register interrupt event, and run the main loop.
    """
    print("Setting up GPIO for button and LED...")

    # Set the GPIO mode.
    # GPIO.BCM: Refers to the Broadcom SOC channel names (GPIO numbers). Th
    # GPIO.BOARD: Refers to the physical pin numbers on the header (less recomr
    GPIO.setmode(GPIO.BCM)

    # --- Configure GPIO Pins ---

    # Set up the LED pin as an output.
    # We can specify an initial value (optional), here we ensure it's OFF initially.
    GPIO.setup(LED_PIN, GPIO.OUT, initial=GPIO.LOW)
    print(f"GPIO {LED_PIN} (LED) configured as output, initially LOW.")

    # Set up the Button pin as an input.
    # We configure an internal pull-up resistor because the button is connected to
    # This ensures the pin is HIGH when the button is not pressed.
    GPIO.setup(BUTTON_PIN, GPIO.IN, pull_up_down=GPIO.PUD_UP)
    print(f"GPIO {BUTTON_PIN} (Button) configured as input with internal pull-up.")

    # --- Register the Event Detection ---

    # This is the core of the "interrupt-based" approach in user space.
    # We tell the library to call our 'button_callback' function

```

```

# whenever a falling edge is detected on the BUTTON_PIN.
# GPIO.FALLING: Detects transition from HIGH to LOW (happens when button i
# GPIO.RISING: Detects transition from LOW to HIGH.
# GPIO.BOTH: Detects any change (rising or falling edge).
# callback=button_callback: Specifies the function to call when the event occur
# bouncetime=BUTTON_BOUNCETIME: Ignores further transitions for this duration
#                               helping to prevent multiple triggers from a single button press
GPIO.add_event_detect(
    BUTTON_PIN,
    GPIO.FALLING,
    callback=button_callback,
    bouncetime=BUTTON_BOUNCETIME
)
print(f"Event detection added on GPIO {BUTTON_PIN} for FALLING edge with callback {button_callback}")
print("Ready! Press the button to toggle the LED. Press Ctrl+C to exit.")

# --- Main Program Loop ---

# The main loop simply keeps the script running.
# The actual work of responding to the button press is handled asynchronously
# by the RPi.GPIO library calling the 'button_callback' function.
# We use a try/except block to catch a KeyboardInterrupt (Ctrl+C) to allow graceful
try:
    # In a real application, this loop could be performing other tasks.
    # For this example, we just make it sleep to prevent it from
    # consuming excessive CPU while waiting for button presses.
    while True:
        # Sleep for a short duration. This loop is not doing any polling itself.
        time.sleep(1)
        # print("Main loop is running (doing other stuff or sleeping)...") # Optional

except KeyboardInterrupt:
    # This block is executed if the user presses Ctrl+C.
    print("\nCtrl+C detected. Exiting gracefully.")

finally:

```

```
# This block is executed when the try or except block finishes.  
# It's crucial to clean up the GPIO settings to release the pins.  
# This prevents issues with future scripts using the same pins.  
GPIO.cleanup()  
print("GPIO cleaned up. Goodbye!")
```

```
# Check if the script is being run directly  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    # Call the main function to start the program  
    main()
```