

Lab 3: Interrupts

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For this lab, the main focus was on interrupts and how the ARM architecture handles them. We continued using the vector table, learned what interrupts were, and how they related to hardware buttons. We kept learning about the different registers, and how they may be affected by interrupts.

The vector table again played a major part in this lab. For completeness, the vector table addresses were listed in the *startup.s* file, see the example below. Make sure to note the SysTick_Handler as it comes up later in the program.

DC32	Stack	; 0x00000000	0—Stack Pointer
DC32	__iar_program_start	; 0x00000004	1—Reset Handler
DC32	NMI_Handler	; 0x00000008	2—NMI Handler
DC32	HardFault_Handler	; 0x0000000C	3—Hard Fault Handler
DC32	MemManage_Handler	; 0x00000010	4—MPU Fault Handler
DC32	BusFault_Handler	; 0x00000014	5—Bus Fault Handler
DC32	UsageFault_Handler	; 0x00000018	6—Usage Fault Handler
DC32	SVC_Handler	; 0x0000002C	11—SVCall Handler
DC32	DebugMon_Handler	; 0x00000030	12—Debug Monitor Handler
DC32	PendSV_Handler	; 0x00000038	14—PendSV Handler
DC32	SysTick_Handler	; 0x0000003C	15—SysTick Handler

Figure 1: A selection of the vector table values.

To start, we had a program that simply looped for ever.

B . ; *Pretend the processor is gainfully occupied.*

As the comment implies, this is to simulate a computer performing actions, like running another program, or receiving input from a keyboard.

Before the infinite loop, the program did a few other tasks, like initializing the GPIO ports, and the interrupts associated with those ports.

To see how ports are initialized, lets inspect the *GPIOF_Init* branch. It starts by using the *LDR* instruction to move `SYSCTL_GPIOHBCTL_R` into `R0`.

Continuing through the rest of this branch, it continues to set different values which are essentially defaults to set up the Input Output controller for the switch we want.

Next, we need the Interrupts for our button to be configured. An interrupt is [TODO!!!!]. The configuration for our interrupt happens in the *GPIOF_Interrupt_Init* branch.