

CEC322 - Section 2

Lab 4 - The C and V Flags of an ARM MCU

Lab start date: 02/13/19

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Introduction:

This lab's purpose is to illustrate to students one of the limitations of working with an ARM microprocessor, the lack of distinction by the ALU between signed and unsigned numbers. To still have the same effect, the microprocessor provides the C and V flags that students can set and utilize in their logic. This lab will show students how to set these flags so that they can be properly leveraged.

Code Snippet:

```
void uint8_2_binary_str(uint8_t num, char *cPtr) {
    for(int i = 0; i < 32; i++) {
        *(cPtr + i) = 0;
    }
    for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
        *(cPtr + i) = (num & (1 << (7 - i))) == 0 ? '0' : '1';
    }
    *(cPtr + 8) = '\0';
}

void print_str_v(uint8_t num, char *cPtr_c, char *cPtr_v) {
    char *cPtr_v_original = cPtr_v;
    uint8_2_binary_str(num, cPtr_c);
    printf("0b");
    for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
        printf("%c", *(cPtr_c + i));
        if((i + 1) % 4 == 0 && i != 7) {
            printf(" ");
        }
    }
}

uint8_t sub_uint8(uint8_t x0, uint8_t x1, bool *cFlag) {
    uint8_t temp = x0 - x1;
    if(temp < 0) {
        temp += MAX_UINT8;
    } else if(temp > MAX_UINT8) {
        temp -= MAX_UINT8;
    }
    if(temp > x0) {
        *cFlag = 0;
    } else {
        *cFlag = 1;
    }
    return temp;
}

int8_t sub_int8(int8_t x0, int8_t x1, bool *vFlag) {
    int8_t temp = x0 - x1;

    if(temp < MIN_INT8) {
        temp += MAX_INT8;
    }
    else if(temp > MAX_INT8) {
        temp -= MAX_INT8;
    }

    if(x1 > 0 && x0 < 0 && temp > 0) {
        *vFlag = 1;
    } else if(x1 < 0 && x0 > 0 && temp < 0) {
        *vFlag = 1;
    } else {
        *vFlag = 0;
    }

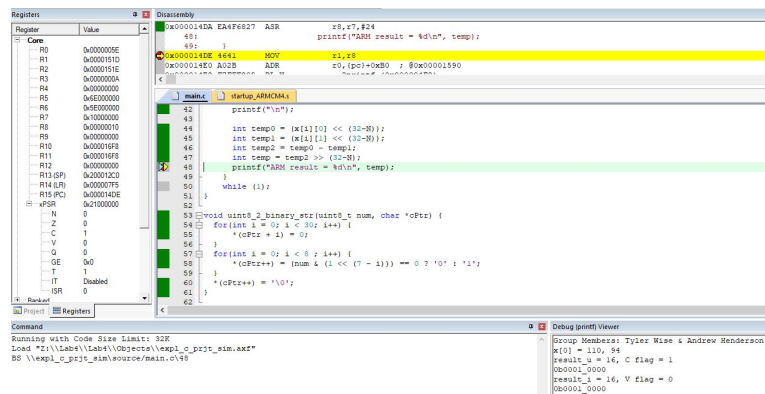
    return temp;
}
```

Discussion:

In order to generate the values of $x[i][0]$ and $x[i][1]$ for each value of i , a random integer is generated by `rand()`. In order to cap this value to the maximum value of an unsigned integer as defined by the number of bits we are using, the random value is modulated by the maximum value of an unsigned integer for the number of bits, mapping the value to the range $[0, \text{MAX_UN}]$. This is then offset by the minimum value of a signed integer to remap the values a final time to include negative values while also lowering the upper bound to match.

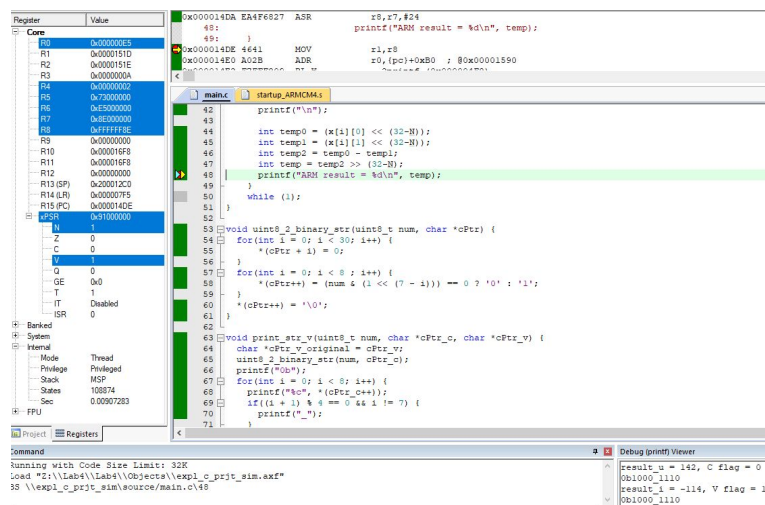
Results:

To verify the correct operation of our code, the provided snippet at the end of the for loop is used. The logic behind the calculation is also fairly simple. In order to have all of the bits in the same significant place before performing the subtraction as we do when performing it manually for ourselves, we must shift the bits over as can be seen in lines 38 and 39. Then, the actual subtraction occurs which should yield the same resulting C and V flags that we manually calculated. Then, the result of the subtraction can be shifted back to the right to get the true result of the calculation while also preserving the computed C and V flags in line 41. To verify that our code snippets operated correctly, the images below can be used.



```
Register Value
R0 0x00000000
R1 0x00000000
R2 0x00000000
R3 0x00000000
R4 0x00000000
R5 0x00000000
R6 0x00000000
R7 0x00000000
R8 0x00000000
R9 0x00000000
R10 0x00000000
R11 0x00000000
R12 0x00000000
R13 (SP) 0x00000000
R14 (LR) 0x00000000
R15 (PC) 0x00000000
CSR 0x00000000
N 0
Z 0
C 0
V 0
Q 0
GE 0x0
T 1
IT Disabled
ISR 0
```

```
0x000014DA EA4F6827 ASR r8,r7,#24
48: }
49: printf("ARM result = %d\n", temp);
4A: }
0x000014DE 4641 MOV r1,r8
0x000014E0 A02B ASR r0,(pc)+0xB0 ; 80x00001590
4C: }
4D: }
4E: }
4F: }
50: }
51: }
52: }
53: void uint8_2_binary_str(uint8_t num, char *cPtr) {
54: for(int i = 0; i < 30; i++) {
55: *(cPtr + i) = 0;
56: }
57: for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
58: *(cPtr++) = (num & (1 << (7 - i))) == 0 ? '0' : '1';
59: }
60: *(cPtr++) = '\0';
61: }
62: }
63: void print_str_v(uint8_t num, char *cPtr_c, char *cPtr_v) {
64: char *cPtr_v_original = cPtr_v;
65: uint8_2_binary_str(num, cPtr_v);
66: printf("%02x", num);
67: for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
68: printf("%c", *(cPtr_v++));
69: if(i % 10 == 0 && i != 7) {
70: printf("\n");
71: }
```



```
Register Value
R0 0x00000000
R1 0x00000000
R2 0x00000000
R3 0x00000000
R4 0x00000000
R5 0x00000000
R6 0x00000000
R7 0x00000000
R8 0x00000000
R9 0x00000000
R10 0x00000000
R11 0x00000000
R12 0x00000000
R13 (SP) 0x00000000
R14 (LR) 0x00000000
R15 (PC) 0x00000000
CSR 0x00000000
N 0
Z 0
C 0
V 0
Q 0
GE 0x0
T 1
IT Disabled
ISR 0
```

```
0x000014DA EA4F6827 ASR r8,r7,#24
48: }
49: printf("ARM result = %d\n", temp);
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0x000014DE 4641 MOV r1,r8
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4C: }
4D: }
4E: }
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50: }
51: }
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53: void uint8_2_binary_str(uint8_t num, char *cPtr) {
54: for(int i = 0; i < 30; i++) {
55: *(cPtr + i) = 0;
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57: for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
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64: char *cPtr_v_original = cPtr_v;
65: uint8_2_binary_str(num, cPtr_v);
66: printf("%02x", num);
67: for(int i = 0; i < 8; i++) {
68: printf("%c", *(cPtr_v++));
69: if(i % 10 == 0 && i != 7) {
70: printf("\n");
71: }
```