Lab 1 - Model-Based Design – “HelloWorld”

Last modified by Mark Reynolds (/xwiki/bin/view/XWiki/MarkReynolds) on 2025/07/22 11:49

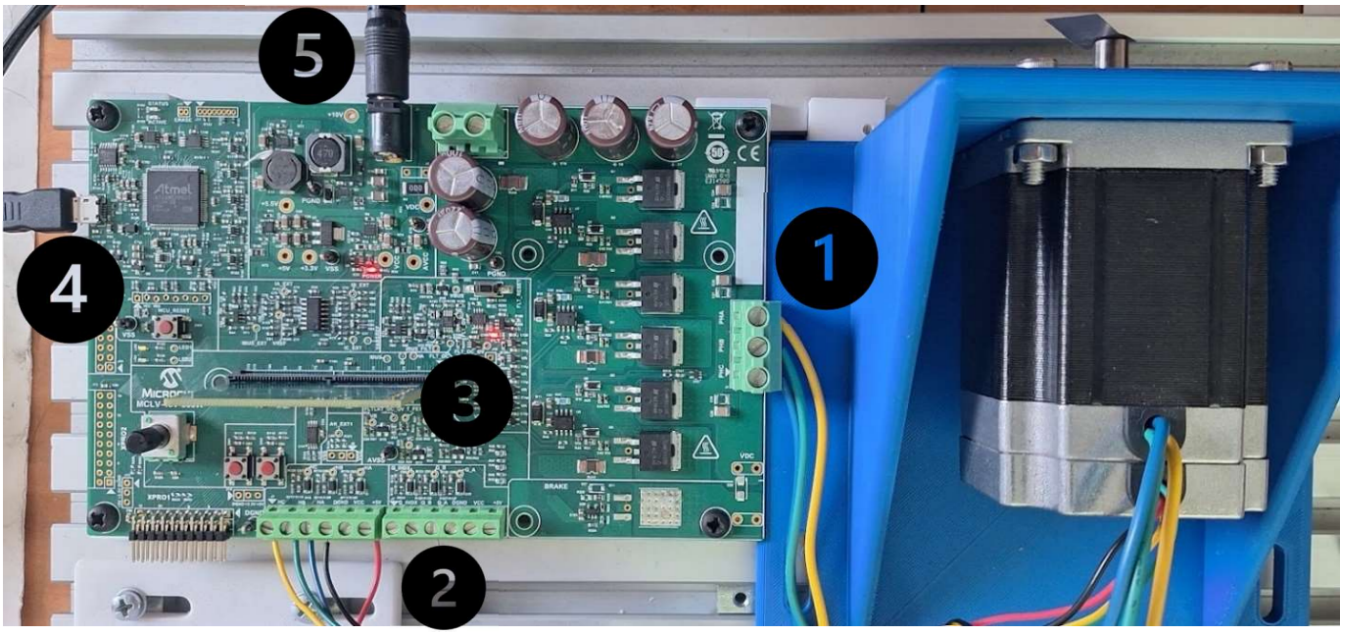
Purpose

Embedded systems hello world applications are typically a blinking LED. The goal of this lab is to simulate a blinking LED application in a model-based development environment. An instruction is given to modify the model and run a simulation. Then the final step is the verification of the designed model on a real hardware (HW) environment.

Overview of the HW Setup

The motor does not need to be connected for the first lab, but the rest of the labs will need the motor to be connected. The connected motor does not interfere with the actual blinky lab activity, therefore it can be kept connected for simplicity.

1. Motor winding connections (check the wiring order)
2. Motor HALL sensors connections (check the wiring order)
3. Dual-Inline-Module (DIM) module with dsPIC33AK128MC106
4. PICkit™ On-Board and Universal Serial Bus (USB)/Universal Asynchronous Receiver-Transmitter (UART) converter
5. 24V power supply



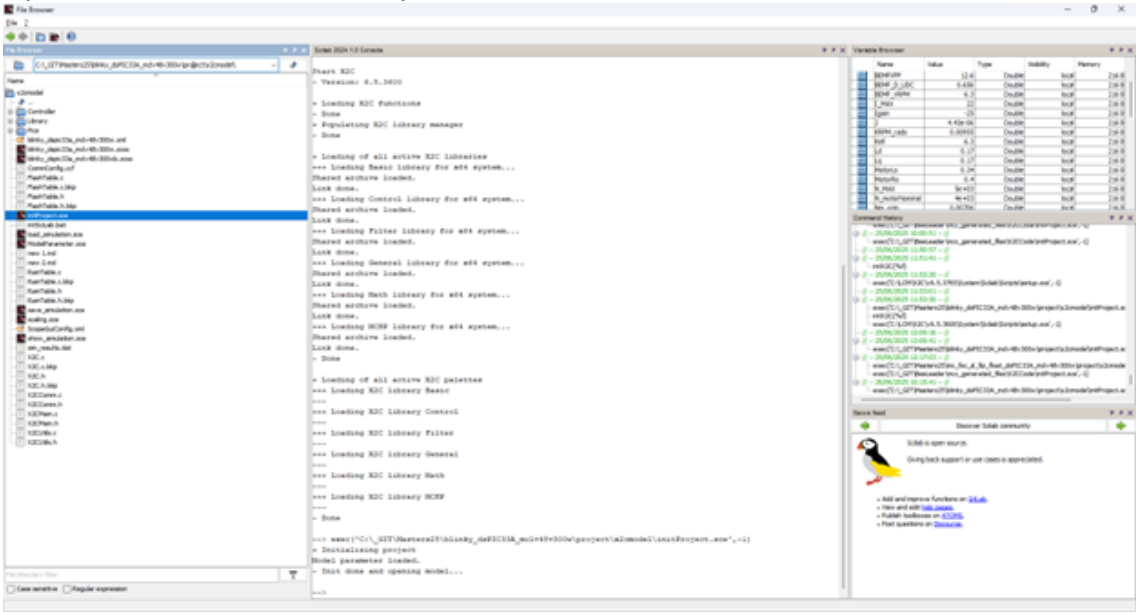
Procedure

Lab 1 Part 1: Simulation

1 Open the Project and the Model

1.1 Open the **blinky_dsPIC33A_mclv48v300w.X** project in MPLAB® X IDE.

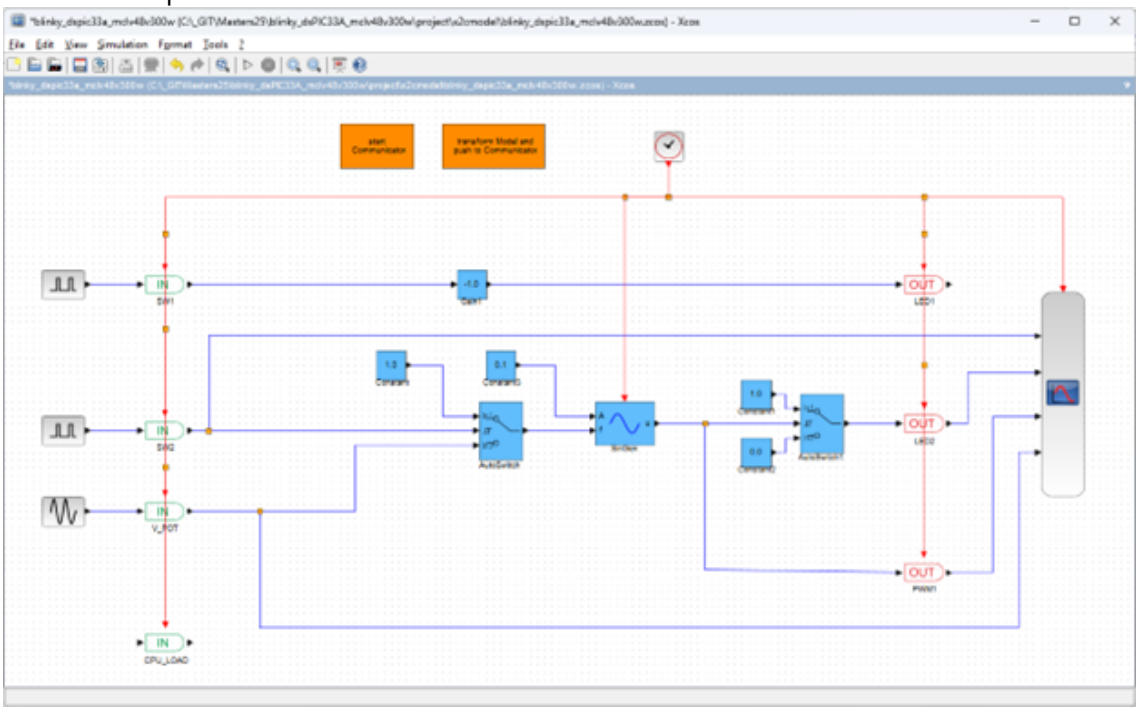
1.2 Open Scilab® 2024.1.0 (Desktop)



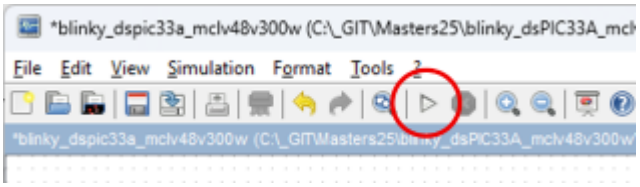
1.3 Navigate with Scilab into the model directory C:\...\blinky_dsPIC33A_mclv48v300w\project\x2cmodel

1.4 Execute the initProject.sce file

1.5 The model opens:

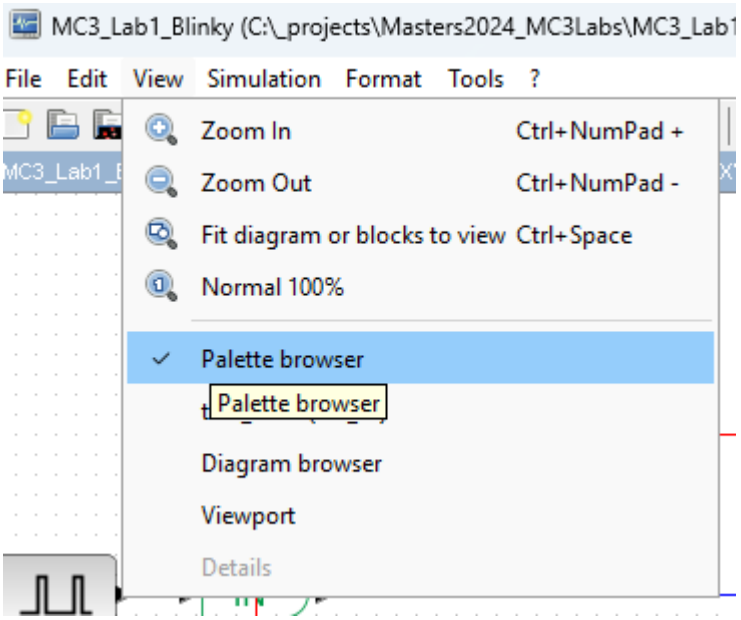


1.6 Simulate and play with parameters:

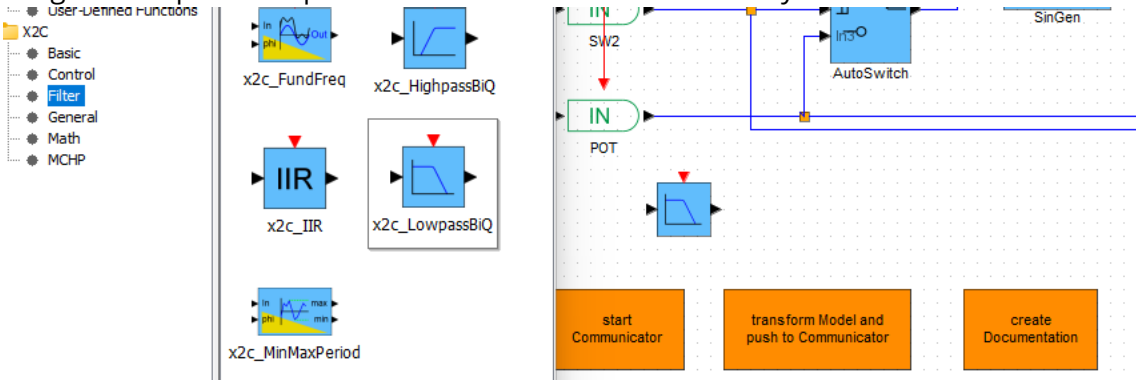


2 Modifying the Model

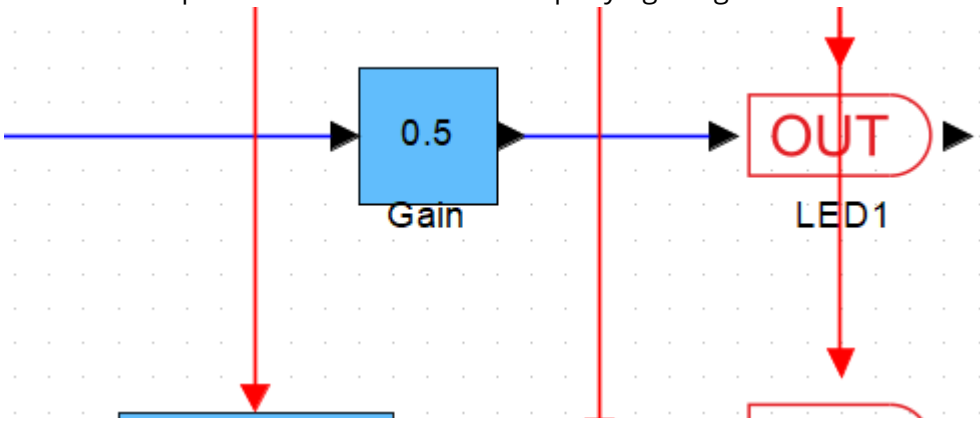
2.1 Navigate to the **Palette browser**.

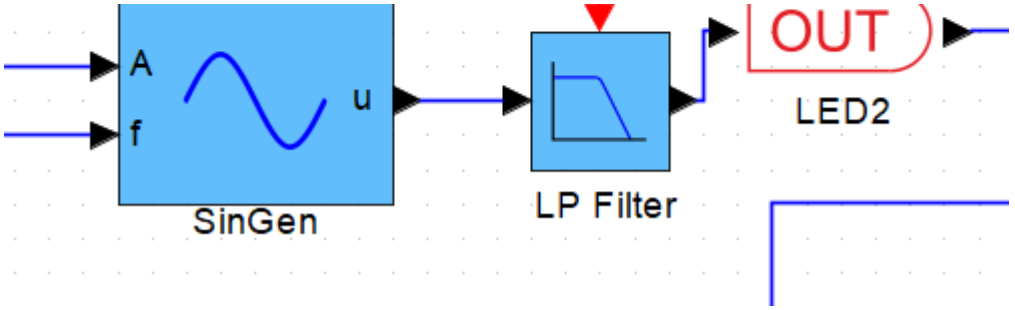


2.2 Drag and drop the low pass filter block from the block library to the model.



2.3 Connect the block ports as shown in the accompanying image.



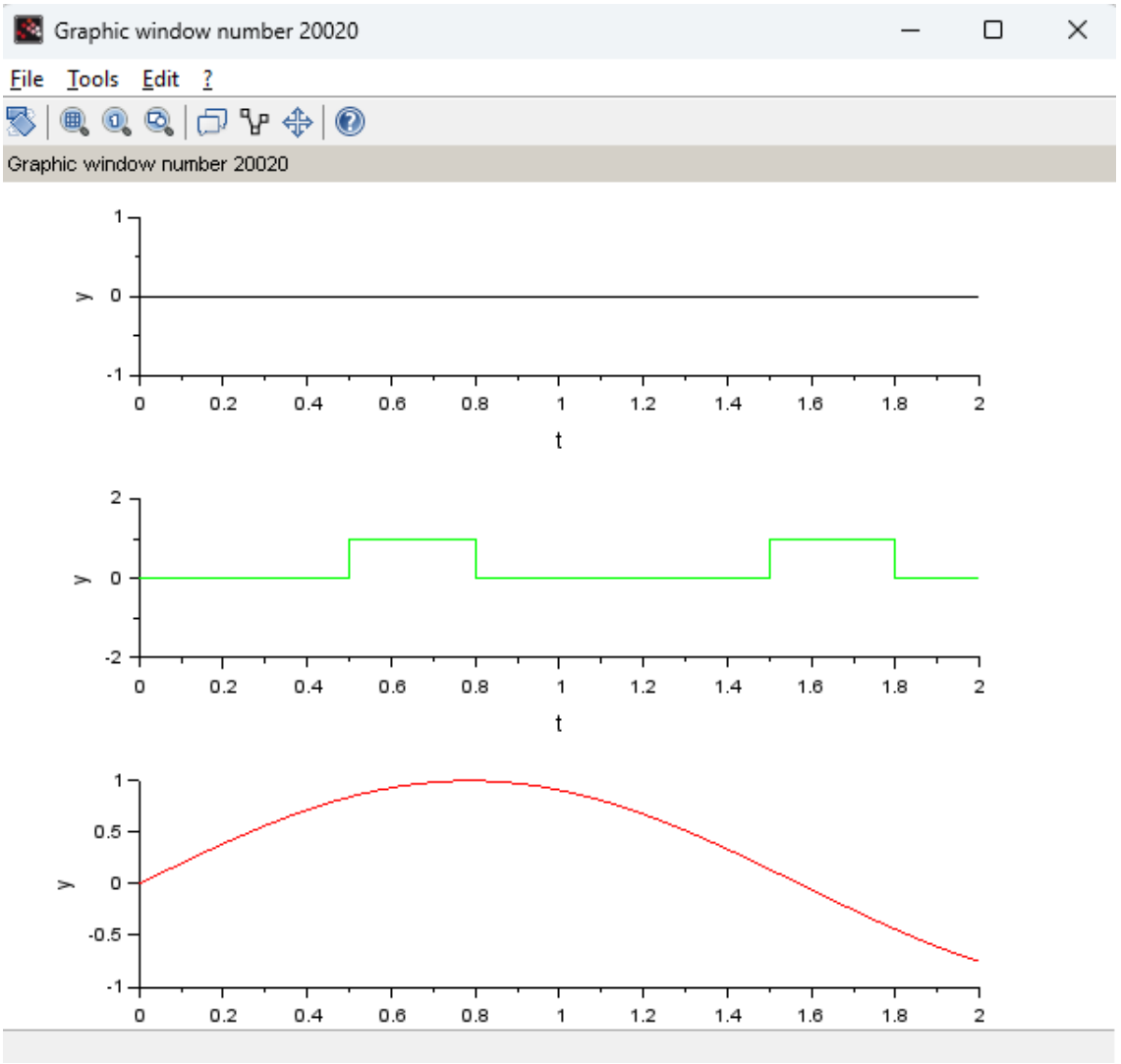


2.4 Optionally, label the block “LP Filter”. Select the block and press **F2**.

> The block label and block names are different! The name must be unique, whereas the label is simply a descriptor. Double-clicking on the block opens the block parameters, allowing you to rename it.

3 Simulation

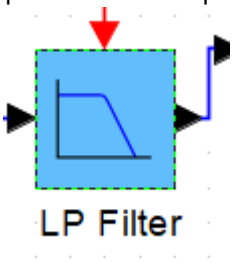
3.1 Click the **play** button ▷ to start the simulation.



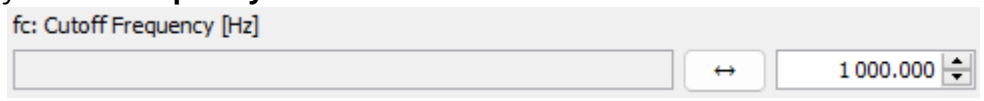
3.2 After the simulation is done, the scope window should open automatically.

4 Modify Block Parameters

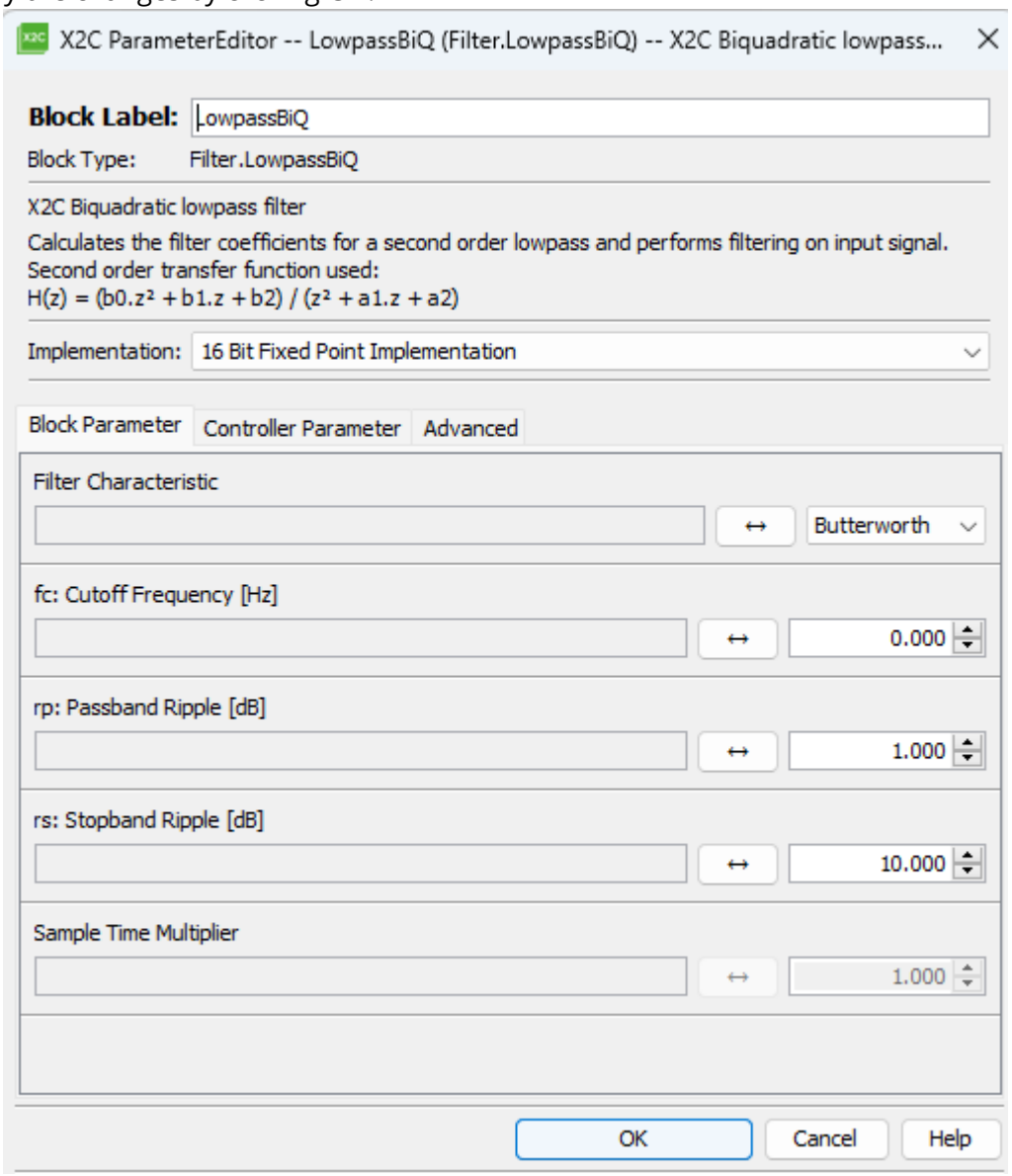
4.1 Double-click on **LP Filter** block. It opens the block parameter window.



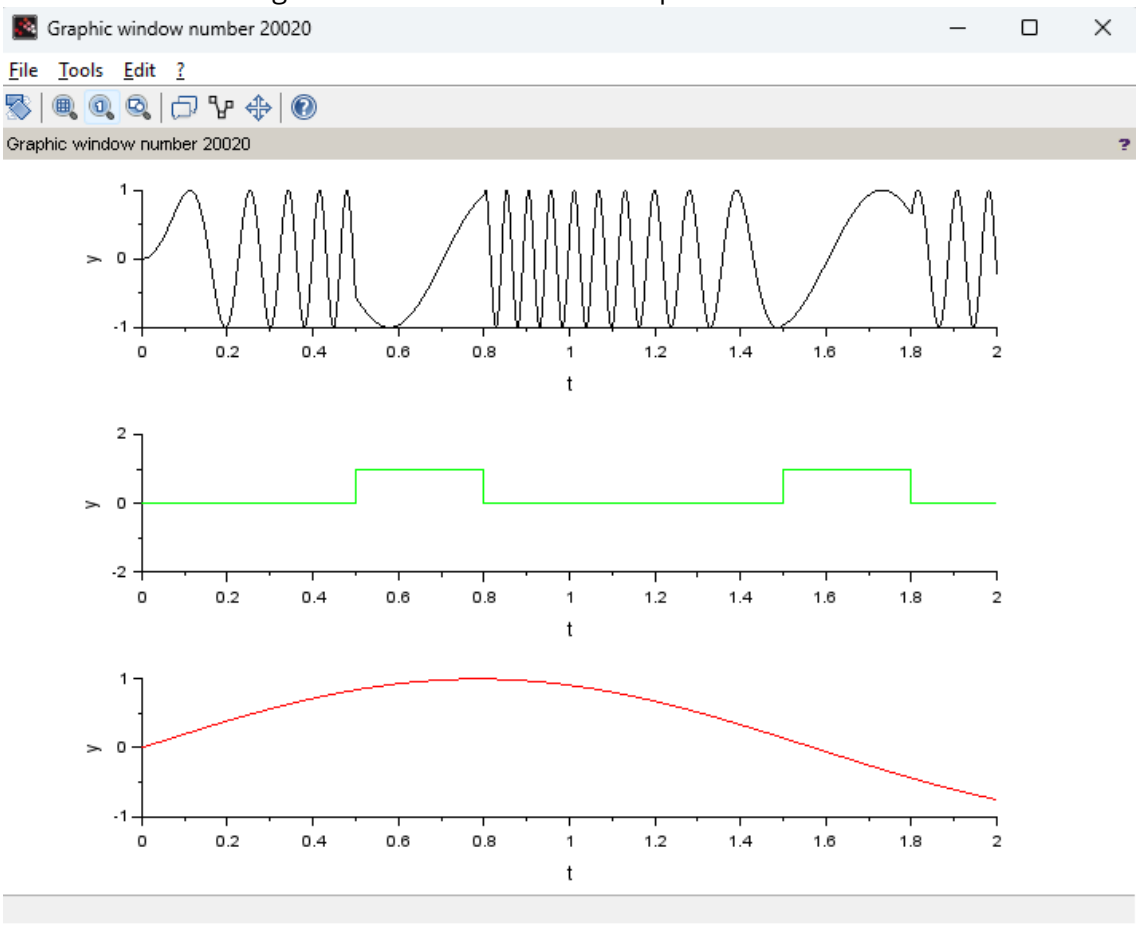
4.2 Modify **Cutoff Frequency** to **1000Hz**.



4.3 Apply the changes by clicking **OK**.



4.4 Run the simulation again and observe the new output:



5 Experiment Simulation Features

> The following steps are optional and can be used to experiment with different scilab features for simulation.

5.1 Try to change base frequency of the sine generator, **SineGen** block.

5.2 Add new scope to the simulation, “CSCOPE”.

5.3 Extend the simulation time. Note the scope window overflow.

5.4 Extend the scope window to fit the longer simulation time. See Scilab's help page, "*CMSCOPE (https://help.scilab.org/CMSCOPE.html)* ."

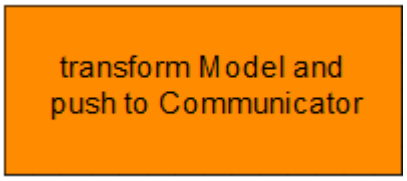
5.5 Add new scope input.

Lab 1 Part 2: Run the Model on the HW

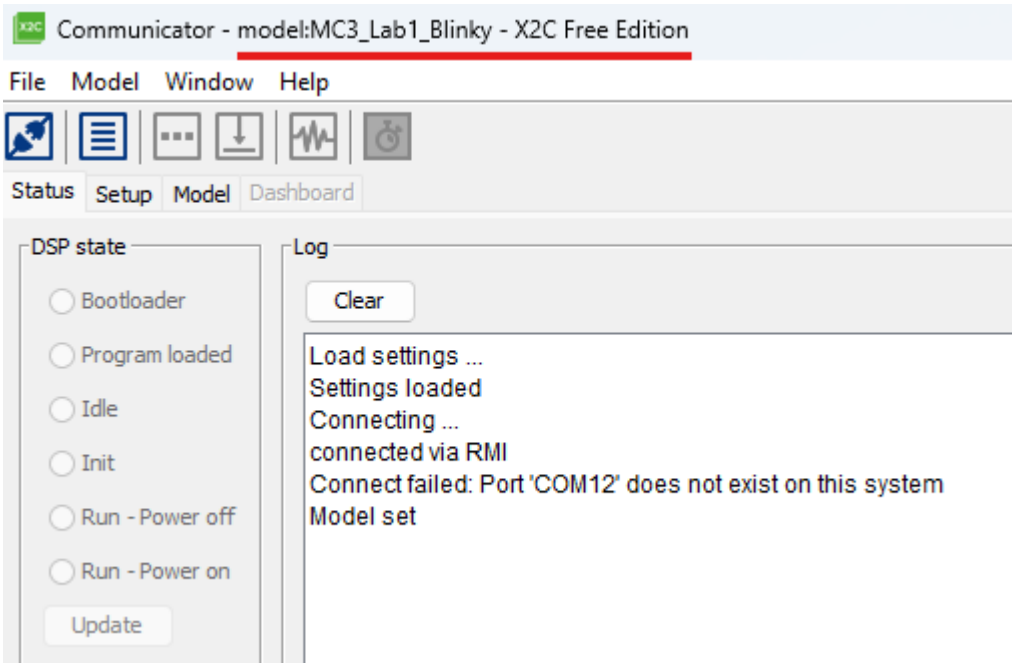
1 Generating Code

1.1 Double-click on the **start Communicator** block.

1.2 Wait for the communicator to start then double-click **transform Model and push to Communicator**.



1.3 Verify that the communicator and the Scilab model are connected via Remote Method Invocation (RMI). To do so, check that the Communicator window title shows the model name.

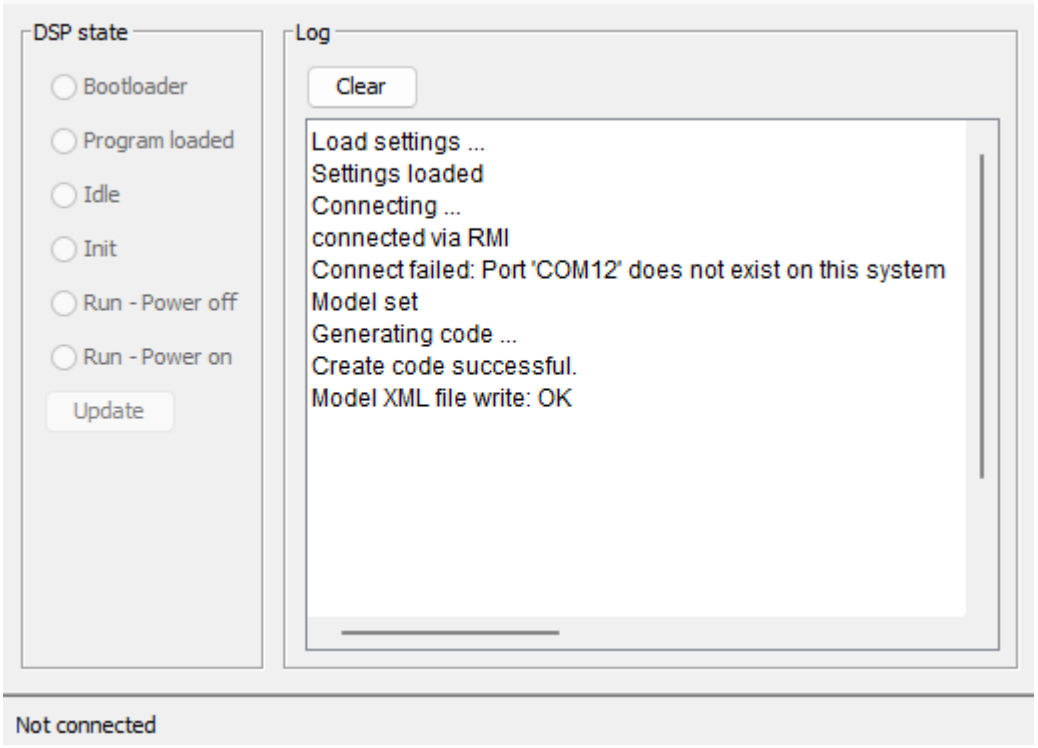


If the Communicator *does not* show the model name in the title:

1. Close the **Communicator**.
2. Start the process from Step 1.1.

> ❗ Only one instance of X2C Communicator is allowed to run. Do not start the Communicator twice!

1.4 Generate code by clicking the  button.

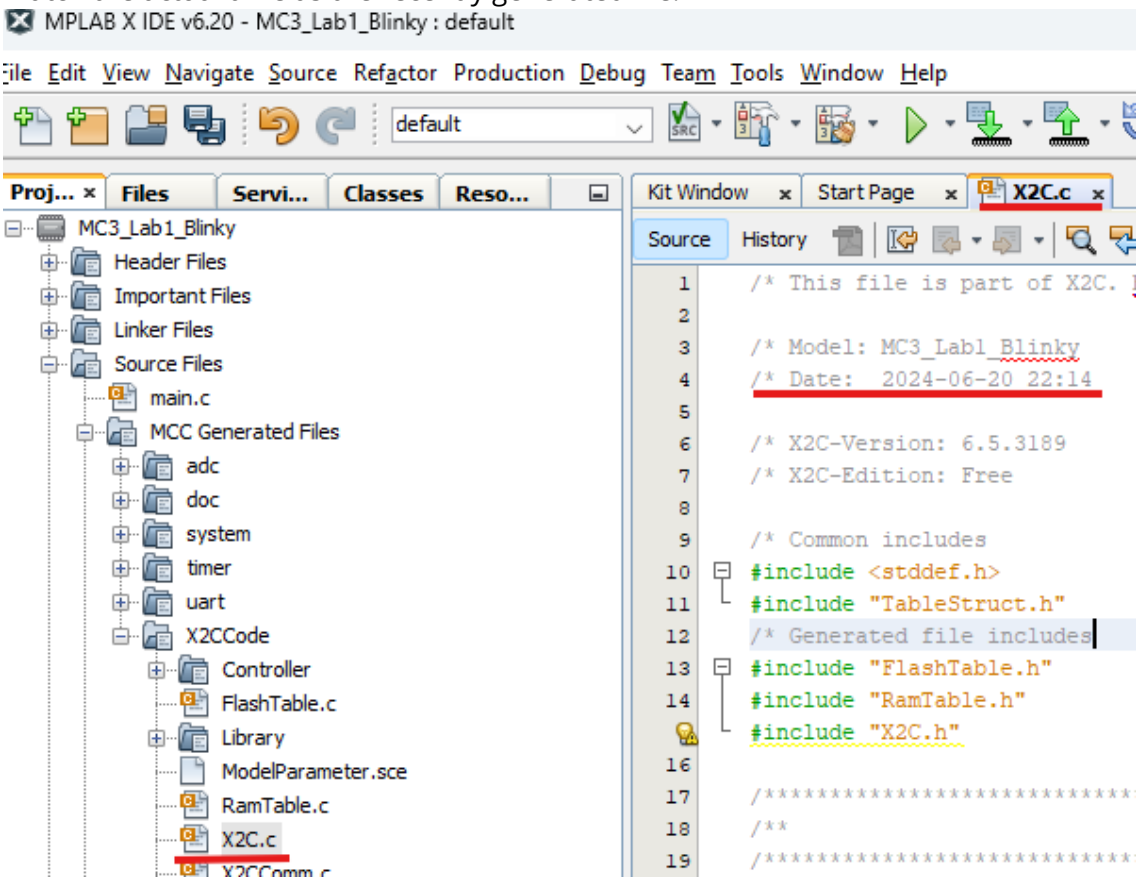


1.5 Verify in the Communicator output window that code generation was successful.

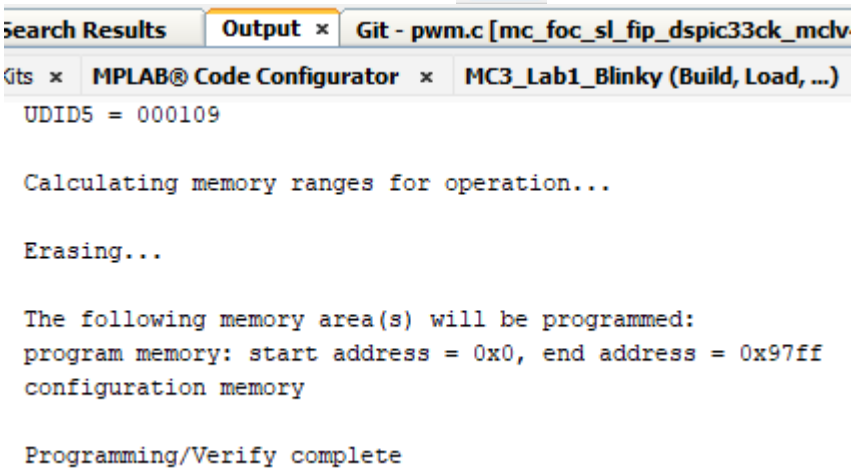
2 Compile and Program the MCLV48V Board

2.1 Go back to **MPLAB X IDE**.

2.2 Locate and open the **X2C.c** file and check the generated time stamp at line 4. It should match the actual time as the recently generated file.



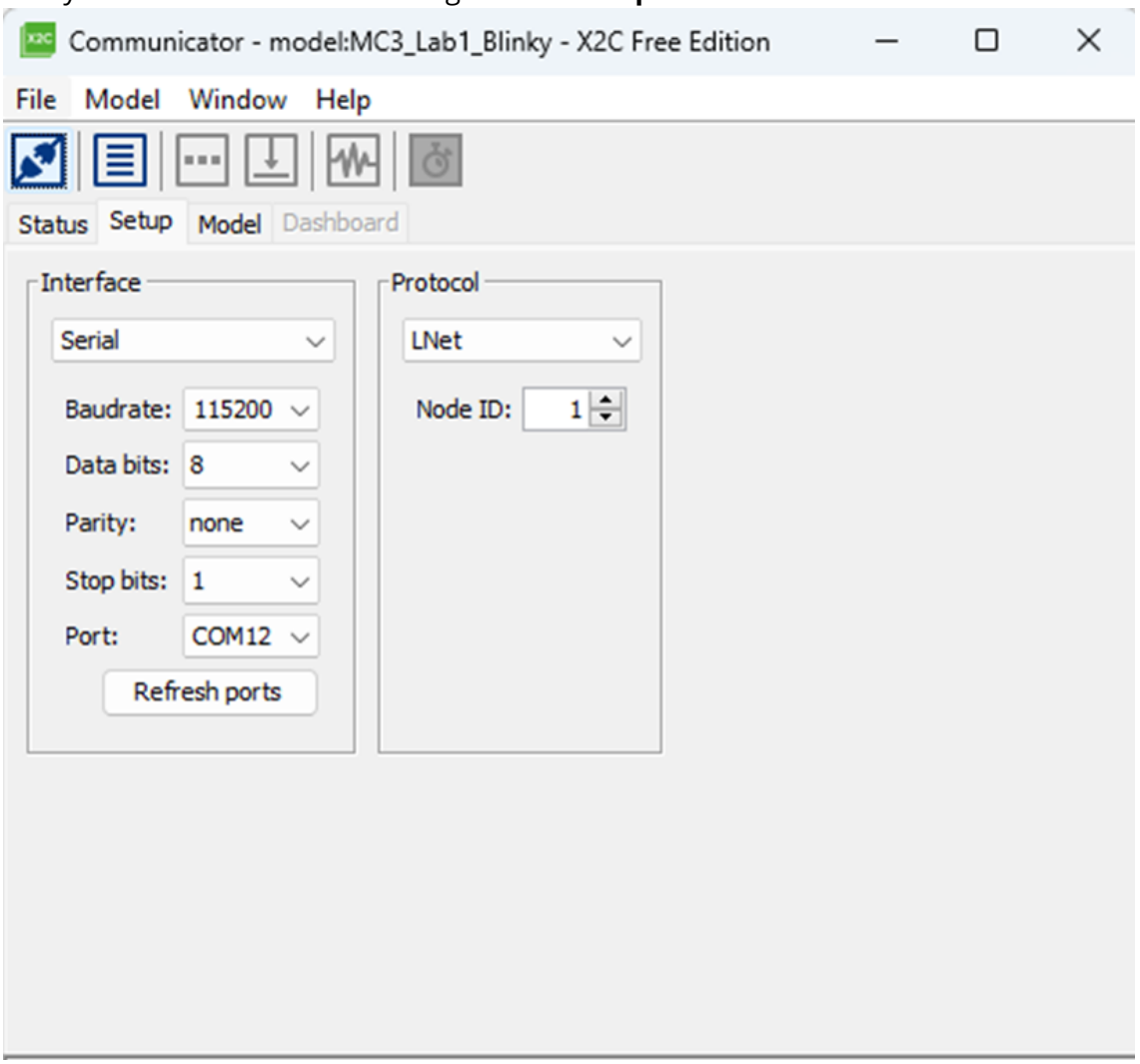
2.3 Compile and program the HW by clicking the button.



2.4 Verify that the LED on the board is blinking. This depends on the state of the switch.

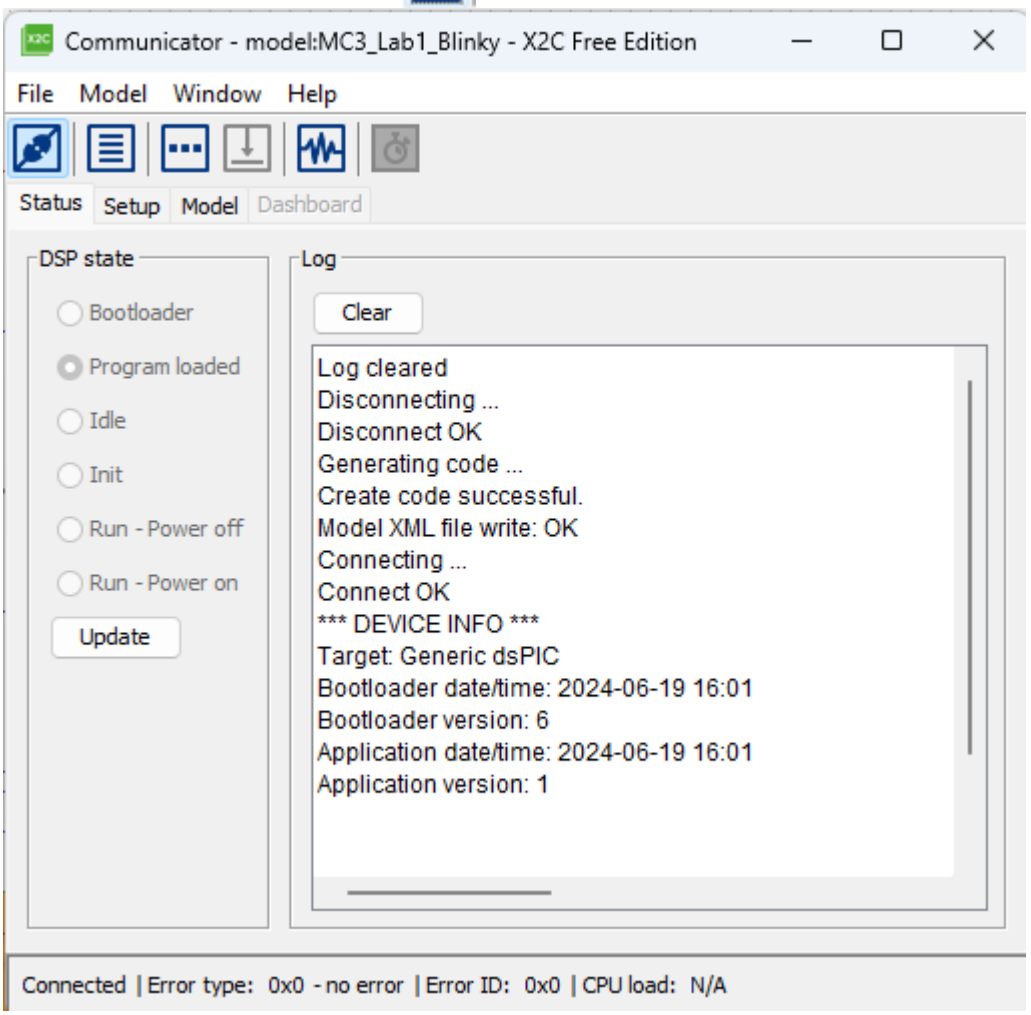
3 Use X2C Communicator to Verify the Operation

3.1 Verify the **Serial** connection settings on the **Setup** tab.



Not connected

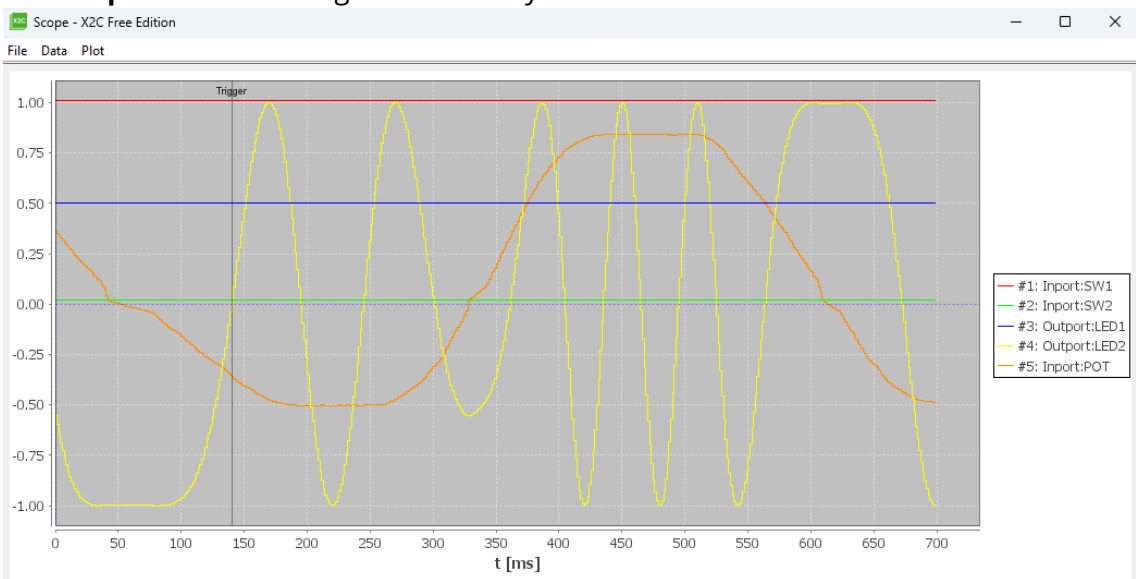
3.2 Connect to the HW by clicking the  button.

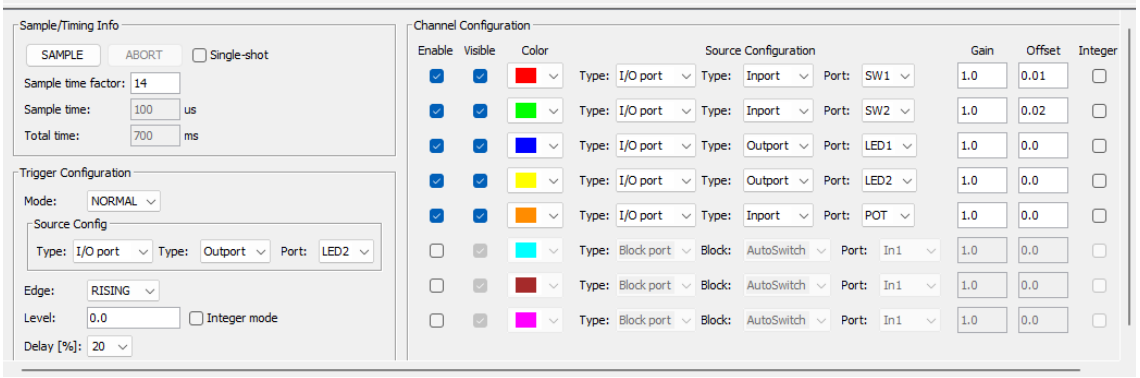


3.3 Verify the time stamps of **Application date/time**.

3.4 Start **Scope** with the  button.

3.5 Use **Scope** to check the signals and verify the HW behavior.



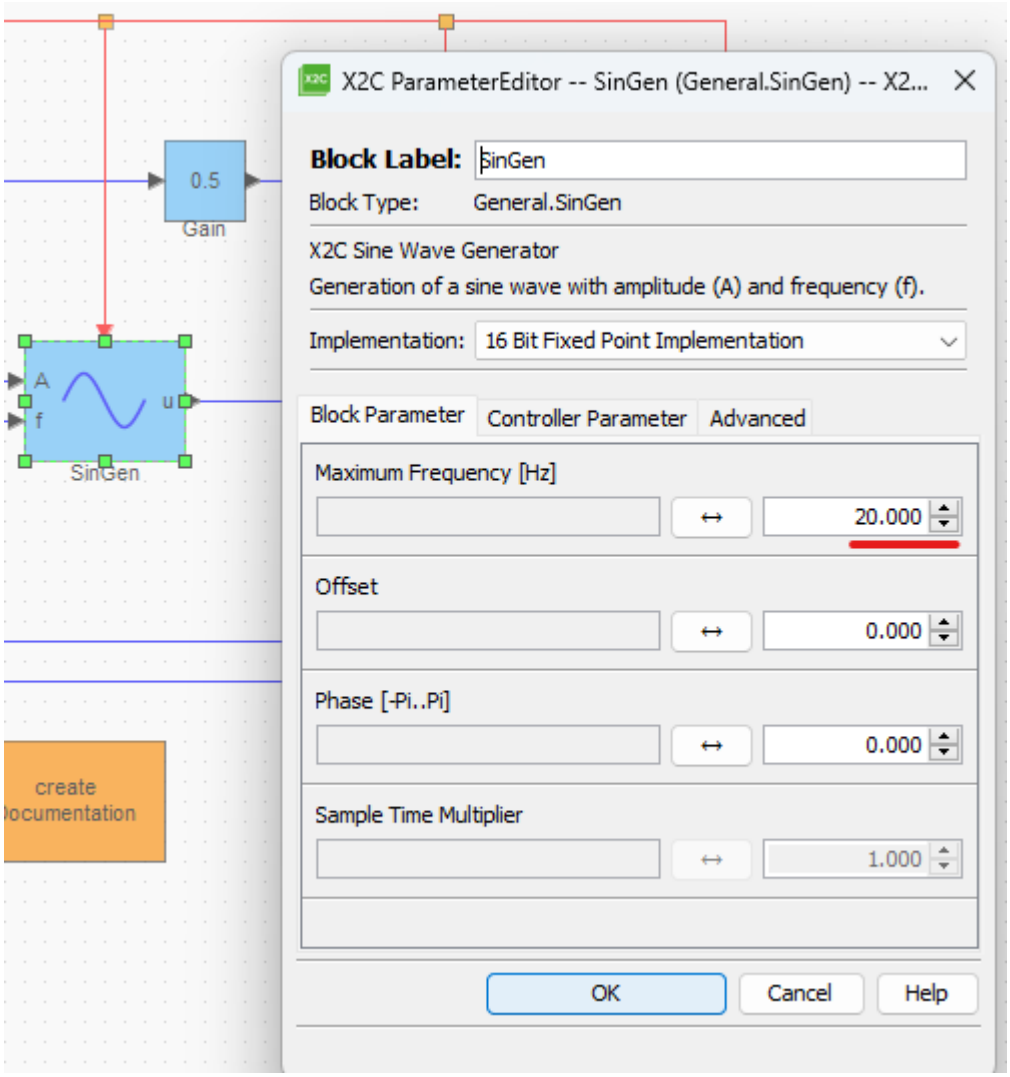


3.6 Optional: Change the scope channels and trigger points.

3.7 Navigate back to the model window.

> Do not click the Open button in MCC again! It would open new Scilab instance that would break the process. The model should be still open in the background. Use the Windows® task bar or **ALT+TAB** to go back to the model window.

3.8 Change the model parameters.



3.9 Note the block parameters are changed in run time on the HW as well.

Remember, the model is connected to the X2C Communicator via RMI. The X2C Communicator is connected to the HW via UART (Lustre Network (LNET) protocol). Therefore, if a parameter is changed in the model, it is transferred to the HW immediately at run time.

X2C Communicator is using LNET protocol to communicate to the HW. LNET is implemented for multiple peripherals and communication layers like USB Communication Device Class (CDC) , Controller Area Network (CAN), and Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP).

Next

Lab 2 - Torque Mode (/xwiki/wiki/masters/view/masters-2025-lab-manuals/25085/lab2/)

No comments for this page

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