



ARM Core  
Cortex-M3 / Cortex-M3 with ETM (AT420/AT425)  
**Errata Notice**

This document contains the errata known at the date of issue covering supported releases from r1p1 up to and including revision r2p0 of Cortex-M3 (AT420) and Cortex-M3 with ETM (AT425) products.

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General suggestion for additions and improvements are also welcome.

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## Introduction

### Scope

This document describes errata categorised by level of severity. Each description includes:

- a unique defect tracking identifier
- the current status of the defect
- where the implementation deviates from the specification and the conditions under which erroneous behavior occurs
- the implications of the erratum with respect to typical applications
- the application and limitations of a 'work-around' where possible

### Categorisation of Errata

Errata recorded in this document are split into three levels of severity:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Category 1 | Behavior that is impossible to work around and that severely restricts the use of the product in all, or the majority of applications, rendering the device unusable.   |
| Category 2 | Behavior that contravenes the specified behavior and that might limit or severely impair the intended use of specified features, but does not render the product unusable in all or the majority of applications. |
| Category 3 | Behavior that was not the originally intended behavior but should not cause any problems in applications.   |



## Errata Summary Table

The errata associated with this product affect product versions as below.

A cell shown thus **X** indicates that the defect affects the revision shown at the top of that column.

ID	Cat	Summary of Erratum	r1p1-00rel0	r1p1-01rel0	r2p0-00rel0
602117	Cat 2	LDRD with base in list may result in incorrect base register when interrupted or faulted	X	X	X
563915	Cat 2	Event Register is not set by interrupts and debug	X	X	X
531064	Impl	SWJ-DP missing POR reset sync	X	X	
511864	Cat 3	Cortex-M3 may fetch instructions using incorrect privilege on return from an exception	X	X	
532314	Cat 3	DWT CPI counter increments during sleep	X	X	
538714	Cat 3	Cortex-M3 TPIU Clock Domain crossing	X	X	
548721	Cat 3	Internal write buffer could be active whilst asleep	X	X	
463763	Cat 3	BKPT in debug monitor mode can cause DFSR mismatch	X	X	
463764	Cat 3	Core may freeze for SLEEPONEXIT single instruction ISR	X	X	
463769	Cat 3	Unaligned MPU fault during a write may cause the wrong data to be written to a successful first access	X	X	
429964	Cat 2	Async not generated if no trace in previous session	X		
429965	Cat 2	Trigger packets sometimes not inserted in trace stream	X		

## Errata present on release r2p0-00rel0

### 563915: Event Register is not set by interrupts and debug

#### Status

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 2, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0,r2p0-00rel0, Open.

#### Description

The event register used for WFE wake-up events should be set for the following conditions:

1. Event communication (including SEV on local processor)
2. Any exception entering pending state when SEVONPEND is set
3. Exception entry
4. Exception exit
5. Debug event when debug is enabled

In r0p0, r1p0, r1p1 and r2p0 versions of Cortex-M3 the event register is not set for the exception entry, exception exit or debug events.

#### Conditions

1. An interrupt or debug event occurs whilst the internal event register is clear and the core is not sleeping
2. A WFE is executed
3. No further interrupts or events occur

#### Implications

If interrupts related to a WFE sleep can be generated before the WFE is executed then it may be possible for the event to be missed. The interrupt will occur and the handler will be executed for that interrupt but the event register will not be set. When the WFE is executed it will go to sleep and not wake up if no other events or interrupts occur.

#### Workaround

An implementation time workaround is to connect up the missing events to the RXEV input of Cortex-M3. This can be achieved by decoding interrupt events using ETMINTSTAT as well as using the HALTED output. RXEV needs to be asserted whenever ETMINTSTAT is equal to 3'b001 or 3'b010 or when HALTED is asserted. Since ETMINTSTAT is part of the ETM interface the ETM interface needs to be enabled for this workaround. This is achieved by asserting the ETMPWRUP input on Cortex-M3.

A software workaround is to insert the SEV instruction at the beginning and end of all exception handlers.



**602117: LDRD with base in list may result in incorrect base register when interrupted or faulted****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 2, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0,r2p0-00rel0, Open.

**Description**

LDRD with the base register in the list of the form `LDRD Ra, Rb, [Ra, #imm]` may not complete after the load of the first destination register due to an interrupt before the completion of the second load or due to the second load getting a bus fault or an MPU fault. Since the base register has been updated the base register must be restored to its original value before entering the appropriate interrupt or fault handler so that the instruction can restart correctly upon return from the handler. In certain circumstances this may not occur as required.

When the LDRD is interrupted in between the two loads then the base register may not be restored as required. This can only happen when the instructions are being executed from the system bus (address 0x20000000 and above) and the loaded data is also being read from the system bus.

For the fault case where the second load gets a bus fault or an MPU fault then the base register is never restored and there is no dependence on which bus the instructions are being executed from.

When the base register is the second register in the LDRD list, of the form `LDRD Rb, Ra, [Ra, #imm]`, then this erratum cannot occur.

You will not be affected by this erratum if:

1. you do not execute code from the system bus and if your code bus does not generate bus faults and you do not execute LDRD's that cross MPU boundaries, or
2. if your compiler does not generate LDRD's

**Conditions**

Either:

1. An LDRD is being executed where the base register is in the list and write-back is not used:  
`LDRD Ra, Rb, [Ra, #imm]`
2. Instructions and data are both being fetched via the system bus. This occurs for locations in memory greater than 0x20000000.
3. The first LDRD address is prioritised and issued to the system bus, whilst the instruction fetch is internally waited. The instruction fetch is issued to the system bus upon completion of the first part of the LDRD. The second part of the LDRD is issued to the system bus upon completion of the instruction fetch.
4. An interrupt occurs in between the two load operations.

Or:

1. An LDRD is being executed where the base register is in the list and write-back is not used:  
`LDRD Ra, Rb, [Ra, #imm]`
2. A bus fault or MPU fault occurs for the second load.

## Implications

The base register will not be restored as expected preventing the instruction from being restarted correctly upon return from the interrupt service routine or from the fault handler.

## Workaround

There are two workarounds for this erratum. However, if the instructions are always executed from the code space and faults cannot occur then a workaround is not required.

The first workaround is to replace the LDRD instruction affected by this erratum with other suitable instructions.

```
LDRD Ra, Rb, [Ra, #imm]
```

may be directly replaced by two LDR instructions which will produce exactly the same functionality:

```
LDR Rb, [Ra, #imm + 4]
```

```
LDR Ra, [Ra, #imm]
```

Alternatively, an LDRD with base in list may still be used if the base register is the second register in the list:

```
LDRD Rb, Ra, [Ra, #imm]
```

However, in order to achieve the same functionality this requires that the data at the two addresses are swapped, or that the following instructions using Ra or Rb swap their source registers.

The second workaround can be applied when using Cortex-M3 r2p0. It is possible to prevent this erratum occurring for the interrupt case by setting DISMCYCINT (bit[0]) in the Auxiliary Control Register which is located at address 0xE000E008. This bit prevents the interruption of multi-cycle instructions and will therefore increase the interrupt latency of Cortex-M3.

Setting DISMCYCINT does not prevent the second load being faulted which means that the base will still be incorrect for bus faults or MPU faults.

Due to the performance impact of workaround two, and because workaround two does not address the fault conditions of this erratum, ARM recommends that workaround one is used.

## Errata fixed on release r2p0-00rel0

### 531064: SWJ-DP missing POR reset sync

#### Status

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Impl, Present in: r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0, Fixed in r2p0-00rel0.

#### Description

In Cortex-M3 r0p0 and r1p0, the SWJ-DP has an internal reset synchronizer for the power on reset signal. Version r1p1 was upgraded to a newer version of SWJ-DP and this SWJ-DP did not have the same reset synchronizer inside. As a result of that the timing of the power on reset could potentially be a problem.

#### Implications

none

#### Workaround

The r1p1 CortexM3Integration level can be modified to add the reset synchronizer.

The signal which has the problem is the nPOTRST input on SWJ-DP. Add a few new signals:

```

reg nPOTRSTQ; // DFF #1
reg nPOTRSTQQ; // DFF #2
wire inPOTRST; // reset bypass MUX
// Add the synchroniser DFFs:
always @ (posedge SWCLKTCK or negedge PORESETn) // nPOTRST synchroniser
  if (!PORESETn) begin
    nPOTRSTQ <= 1'b0;
    nPOTRSTQQ <= 1'b0;
  end
  else begin
    nPOTRSTQ <= 1'b1;
    nPOTRSTQQ <= nPOTRSTQ;
  end
// And a reset bypass MUX:
assign inPOTRST = RSTBYPASS ? PORESETn : nPOTRSTQQ;
// And connect the MUX output inPOTRST to the nPOTRST input of SWJ-DP:
DAPSWJDP uDAPSWJDP
  (// Inputs
    .nPOTRST      (inPOTRST),

```

**511864: Cortex-M3 may fetch instructions using incorrect privilege on return from an exception****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 3, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0, Fixed in r2p0-00rel0.

**Description**

Whilst unstacking registers on return from an exception to a User-privilege thread, Cortex-M3 attempts to simultaneously prefetch the thread's instruction stream. Before the register unstacking is complete, upto the first three memory transactions used to perform instruction prefetching may be erroneously marked as Privileged. This may allow between three and six instructions from a Privileged-access-only region to be executed by a User-privilege thread.

Once fetched, the instructions are executed with User-privilege. Instruction fetches performed after register unstacking has completed will be performed with User-privilege. Both the register unstacking, and any data-transactions generated by executing the erroneously executed instructions will be performed and correctly marked as User-privilege.

**Conditions**

1. Exception return is executed
2. The exception return is to user code

**Implications**

User-privileged code may contrive a situation in order to allow execution of up to three words worth of instructions intended to be accessible to Privileged-only execution; however, execution of said instructions will always be performed with User-privilege, thus there are no additional capabilities provided to User-privilege through this erratum.

There exists a theoretical possibility that User-privilege code could use this erratum to allow limited extraction of code and or data from Privileged-access only memory.

Note that read sensitive Privileged-access only peripherals should always be placed in an XN region either via the default memory map, or via the optional memory-protection-unit. Alternatively such peripherals should ignore transactions with HPROT[0] indicating that the transaction is an instruction fetch.

**Workaround**

None.

**532314: DWT CPI counter increments during sleep****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 3, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0, Fixed in r2p0-00rel0.

**Description**

The DWT contains a number of counters for the profiling of applications. The CPI counter is used to indicate the total number of clock cycles beyond the first cycle of each instruction. The counter is specified to not increment whilst the core is sleeping but for previous revisions it does increment. This results in sleep cycles being counted as program execution cycles.

**Conditions**

1. The CPI counter in the DWT is enabled
2. Core sleeps during profiling

**Implications**

Profiling information could be calculated incorrectly if the following calculation is used:

$\text{InstructionCount} = \text{CycleCount} - (\text{CPIcount} + \text{LSUcount} + \text{INTcount} + \text{SLEEPcount}) + \text{FOLDcount}$

**Workaround**

The number of sleep cycles given by SLEEPcnt can be subtracted from the CPI cycle count to obtain the correct CPI cycle information. Use the following equation:

$\text{InstructionCount} = \text{CycleCount} - (\text{CPIcount} + \text{LSUcount} + \text{INTcount}) + \text{FOLDcount}$

---

**538714: Cortex-M3 TPIU Clock Domain crossing****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 3, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0, Fixed in r2p0-00rel0.

**Description**

Combinatorial paths exist in control signals crossing the asynchronous clock boundary between FCLK and TRACECLKIN.

Some of these signals control the reading and writing of data in the trace data FIFO on both sides of the FCLK and TRACECLKIN clock boundary and therefore could cause old data to be repeated or new data to be lost.

Conditions

1. FCLK/HCLK is asynchronous to TRACECLKIN

**Implications**

When FCLK and TRACECLKIN are asynchronous and depending on the silicon implementation of the block, trace data might become corrupted.

**Workaround**

This is a workaround for system implementers. System implementers should make FCLK and TRACECLKIN operate synchronously. To avoid the possibility of corrupted trace data, the Trace Port must be fed with a clock synchronous to FCLK. Any crossing to an asynchronous TRACECLKIN domain should be done externally before the TPIU via a separate ATB asynchronous bridge.

**548721: Internal write buffer could be active whilst asleep****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 3, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0, Fixed in r2p0-00rel0.

**Description**

If a store immediate that is marked as not strongly ordered is used immediately before a WFE or WFI then the store may still be in progress when the core has asserted the SLEEPING signal. This will only occur if wait-states are applied to the store operation. This will not cause a problem unless the location that the store was accessing was using a free-running clock whilst a clock-gating cell has been used to gate FCLK to form HCLK.

**Conditions**

1. A store with immediate offset is executed
2. The store operation is allowed to be bufferable
3. The store is followed immediately by a WFI or WFE
4. Wait-states are used to delay the data-phase of the store
5. A clock-gate is used to produce HCLK which is gated when SLEEPING is asserted
6. The location the store was to is using a free-running version of the core clock (FCLK)

**Implications**

An imprecise error response could be missed if it is issued by the peripheral whilst the core is asleep when the peripheral is not using a gated clock but the core is. The stored data will be correct as the core will hold HWDATA at the correct value until it wakes from sleep and completes the transaction.

**Workaround**

A software workaround is to insert DSB instructions before any WFE and WFI instructions in the application code.

**463763: BKPT in debug monitor mode can cause DFSR mismatch****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 3, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0, Fixed in r2p0-00rel0.

**Description**

A BKPT may be executed in debug monitor mode which will cause the debug monitor handler to be run but the Debug Fault Status Register (DFSR) at address 0xE000ED30 will not have bit 1 set to indicate the cause was a BKPT instruction. This will only occur if an interrupt other than the Debug Monitor is already being processed just before the BKPT is executed.

**Conditions**

1. C\_DEBUGEN (bit 0) in the Debug Halting Control and Status Register at address 0xE000EDF0 is 0.
2. MON\_EN (bit 16) in the Debug Exception and Monitor Control Register at address 0xE000EDFC is 1.
3. An enabled interrupt occurs two cycles before the BKPT is executed that causes a pre-emption.

**Implications**

The Debug Monitor handler may be entered without the DFSR revealing the cause of the handler being entered.

**Workaround**

Should a workaround be required, it can be deduced that if the DFSR does not have any bits set when the debug monitor has been entered then the cause must be due to this corner case and that it was the result of a BKPT.



**463764: Core may freeze for SLEEPONEXIT single instruction ISR****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 3, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0, Fixed in r2p0-00rel0.

**Description**

The SLEEPONEXIT functionality causes the core to enter the sleep mode when the exit from the sole active interrupt occurs. This means that there are no more interrupts active and the exit would have caused a return to the thread.

It is possible for the core to become frozen if the SLEEPONEXIT functionality is used and the interrupt service routine (ISR) concerned only contains a single instruction. This freezing may occur if only one interrupt is active and it is pre-empted by an interrupt whose handler only contains the single instruction. This instruction must be a legal ISR exit instruction that takes one cycle to execute (either a BX or a BLX). In this case the unstacking would occur after the single instruction had been executed as normal to return to the now only active interrupt handler. However, once it has returned no more instructions will be processed and the core will be frozen. Any new pre-empting interrupt will unfreeze the processor.

**Conditions**

1. SLEEPONEXIT (bit 1) in the System Control Register at address 0xE000ED10 is set.
2. An interrupt occurs that causes a pre-emption of the current ISR which is the only interrupt that is currently active.
3. The interrupt service routine that is entered consists of only one instruction (either BX or BLX) which causes a legal exit from that ISR.

**Implications**

The core may freeze and stop processing instructions when it returns to the only currently active ISR. Note that a new interrupt that causes a pre-emption would cause the core to become unfrozen and behave correctly again.

**Workaround**

If the SLEEPONEXIT functionality is required then do not allow an ISR to contain only one instruction. If an empty ISR is used then insert a NOP before the exit instruction.

**463769: Unaligned MPU fault during a write may cause the wrong data to be written to a successful first access****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3, Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 3, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0,r1p1-01rel0, Fixed in r2p0-00rel0.

**Description**

When an unaligned store is executed by Cortex-M3 the transaction is split up into either two or three aligned transactions forming constituent parts of the larger transaction. The MPU will check that these transactions are permitted and will block them if necessary. If an unaligned transaction occurs where it overlaps two MPU regions then each region relating to the part of the transaction that hits that region will be checked.

If an unaligned store occurs that crosses an MPU region boundary and has an MPU permission fault for the second region check but not for the first region then it is possible for the second component's data to be written for the first successful transaction in place of the first transaction's data. This can occur for writes to either the D-Code or system bus but will only occur if one or more wait-states are applied for the first component of the store.

**Conditions**

1. The full MPU is present and enabled with at least one region programmed and enabled.
2. An unaligned store is executed by the processor. The store can be to either the D-Code or the System bus.
3. The store crosses an MPU region boundary.
4. The first region lookup passes, the second region lookup fails.
5. One or more wait states are applied via HREADY or HREADYD.

**Implications**

The wrong data will be stored to a permitted address. However, a MemManage fault will occur immediately pointing to the instruction that caused the fault. This may lead to the instruction being re-executed and the store occurring successfully if it is for non-device memory. This would mean that the previously stored data would be overwritten and the wrong value would never be seen. This may not be true for a shared memory system.

**Workaround**

A workaround is only required if the MPU is present and enabled. Either:

1. do not allow accesses to span more than one region or
2. do not allow unaligned accesses at all or
3. program the MPU correctly if applicable

## Errata fixed on release r1p1-01rel0

### **429964: Async not generated if no trace in previous session**

#### **Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 2, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0, Fixed in r1p1-01rel0.

#### **Description**

The ETM is required to generate an alignment synchronisation packet as the first packet every time the programming bit is cleared, in order to allow the tools to synchronise with the protocol stream.

If no trace is generated in a session, the A-sync packet will be correctly generated as the progbit is cleared, but if the progbit is then set and cleared again, second and subsequent A-sync packets are not generated. No other aspects of the trace generation are affected by this, and once any other trace packet is generated the A-sync logic will be correctly reset.

#### **Conditions**

This erratum only occurs when the following sequence of events occurs:

1. The ETM is programmed and enabled
2. No instructions are traced
3. The ETM programming bit is set
4. The ETM programming bit is cleared.

The absence of any traced instructions can be due either to the Trace Enable conditions not being satisfied, or the core not executing any instructions.

#### **Implications**

This erratum only affects the trace stream which is generated by the ETM. There is no impact on the normal processing operation of the core.

The conditions which cause this erratum are expected to occur whilst debug is being performed.

The A-sync packet may be missing at the start of a trace session. All trace packets which are generated will still be correct, and there is no corruption of the trace stream. If the A-sync from a previous session was captured, it can be used for synchronisation.

Tools will typically fail to capture the trace relating to any bytes of trace before the next periodic A-sync packet is seen. For short trace sessions, it is possible to lose the whole trace session.

#### **Workaround**

There is no tools workaround.

Users may attempt to work around this erratum by forcing the generation of trace packets as part of an initialisation sequence. This is only possible if the core is not in debug state, and so may not be applicable in all cases. With this ETM it is also possible to deduce that the first byte of trace captured after the progbit is cleared will be the start of a packet, provided that the formatter in the TPIU is enabled.

**429965: Trigger packets sometimes not inserted in trace stream****Status**

Affects: product Cortex-M3 with ETM.

Fault status: Cat 2, Present in: r0p0,r1p0,r1p1,r1p1-00rel0, Fixed in r1p1-01rel0.

**Description**

It is possible to configure a trigger event for the ETM which is used to assist with trace capture and the subsequent analysis of trace by the user. The trigger condition is indicated by a pulse on the ETMTRIGOUT signal, and is also inserted in the trace stream using a special packet.

If a trigger condition occurs when there is no data in the ETM's FIFO and there are no instructions yet to be traced, the ETMTRIGOUT signal is pulsed correctly, but the trigger packet is not inserted in the trace stream.

**Conditions**

1. The ETM is enabled
2. The trace FIFO is empty
3. There are no instructions already executed but not yet entered in the trace fifo.

**Implications**

This erratum only affects the trace stream which is generated by the ETM. There is no impact on the normal processing operation of the core.

This erratum only affects the inclusion of the trigger packet in the trace stream. It does not affect the visibility of the trigger condition through the ETM's programmers model (bit 2 of the ETM Status Register, register 4).

It does not affect the indication of the trigger condition to the trace capture device, and a formatter trigger packet will be inserted if enabled.

The erratum does not occur if a trigger is generated using DWT to detect an instruction address if Trace Enable is high.

When this erratum occurs, the user will not be able to determine the location in the executed instruction sequence at which the trigger condition occurred. Due to the conditions which are required for this erratum to occur, it is more likely that the erratum occurs when an external input is being used to generate the trigger condition.

**Workaround**

There is no workaround to force the trigger packet to be included in the trace stream. If using the CoreSight formatter protocol, e.g. TPIU/ETB with trigger embedded, then the position of the embedded trigger can be used, however the location of the embedded trigger is approximate.

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