Workshop:

Audio Weaver on the STM32F407 Discovery Board

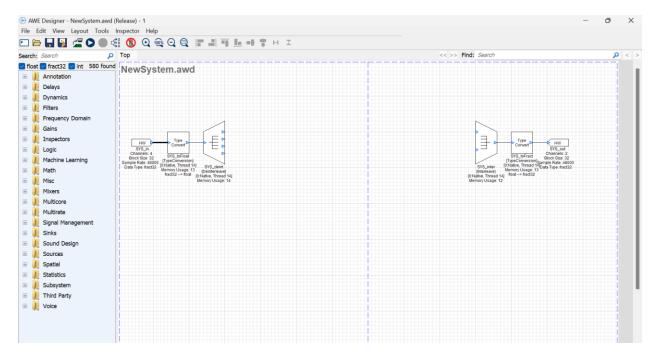
- Creating an Audio Weaver app using AWE Designer
- Developing Audio Weaver apps for PC
- Testing app on STM32F407
- Generating target files for STM32F407
- Implementing Audio Weaver app in STM32CubeIDE

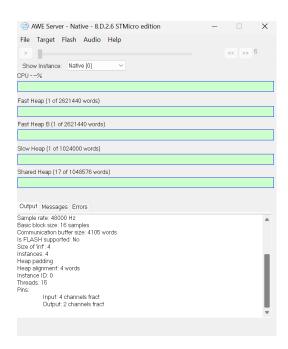
Creating an Audio Weaver app using AWE Designer

On your desktop PC, you will find an STMicro icon. This software is the ST Edition of AWE Designer, a subset of the Standard Edition, and free to users of STMicro products. Audio Weaver is a platform for developing audio applications in a graphical design framework that can generate code for standalone microcontroller projects.

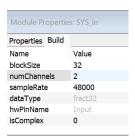


Opening AWE Designer launches two windows: the AWE Designer window and the AWE Server window.

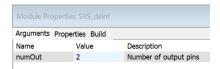




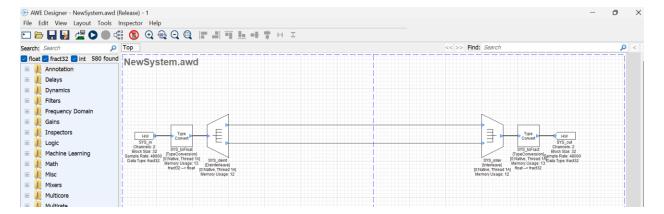
To run a stereo application, the number of input channels should be 2, not 4. Right-click on the input HW block and choose View Properties. On the Build tab, change the numChannels to 2.



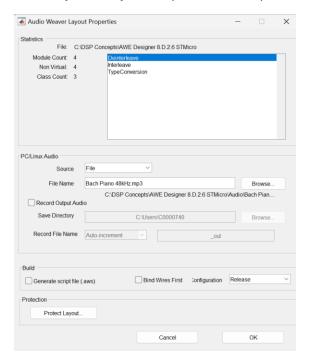
The SYS_deint deinterleaver block separates left and right stereo channels so they can be processed individually. Right-click on this block and View Properties. On the Arguments tab, change numOut to 2.



Connect two wires across from the deinterleaver block to the SYS_int interleaver block, to create a talk-through app.

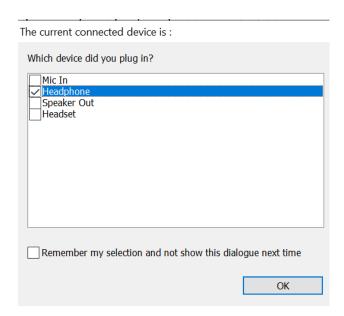


Click Layout – Layout Properties. The input source is an .mp3 file containing Bach music.



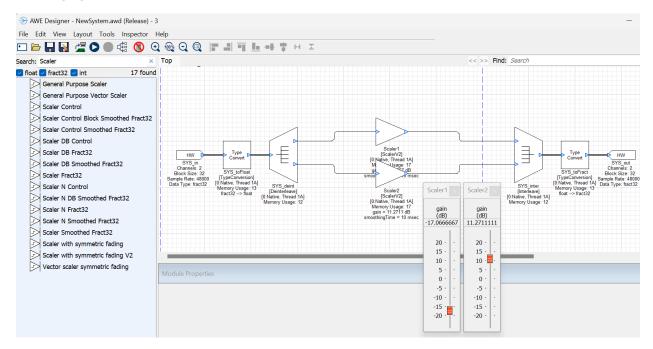
Click OK.

Plug a set of headphones into your PC's headphone jack. If your PC asks, select Headphone.



In Audio Weaver, click the blue arrow to Run your app. You should hear Bach music. Click the red square to Halt.

In the left pane of AWE Designer, type Scaler into the Search box. Add a General Purpose Scaler for each channel. Double-click to open. Run your app. Vary the gains for each channel as you listen. One excellent feature of Audio Weaver is that you can change values of variables in real time. You can apply an extremely low gain to one of the channels to effectively remove it from the output. With high gain you will hear distortion in the output.



Remember to save any Audio Weaver app that you may want to use again later. By default apps are saved to C:\DSP Concepts\AWE Designer 8.D.2.6 STMicro.

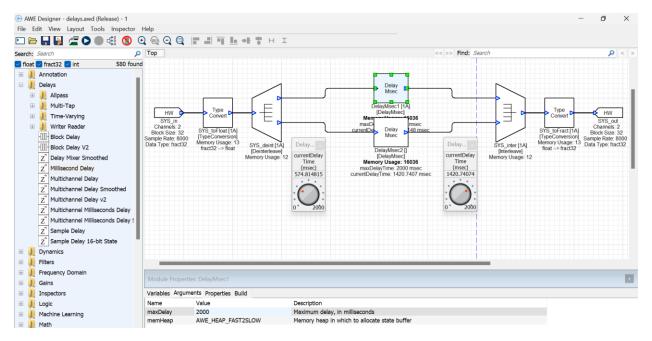
Developing Audio Weaver apps for PC

AWE Designer has many processing blocks to choose from. For example, you can also experiment with the Millisecond Delay block. In the properties for the block change the default Maximum Delay from 500 msec to a larger number, perhaps 1500 msec.

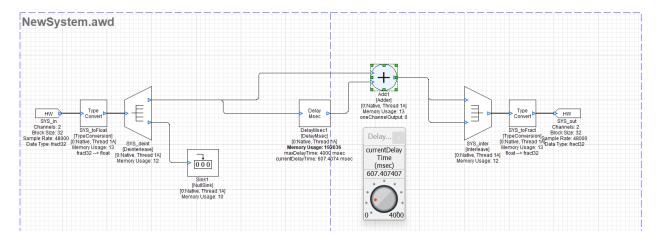


Place one Millisecond Delay block for each channel. Double-click the block to open it. Set different delays for each channel. Run your app. Can you hear different delays for left and right channels? Try varying the delays for each channel while you listen.

Save your delay app.



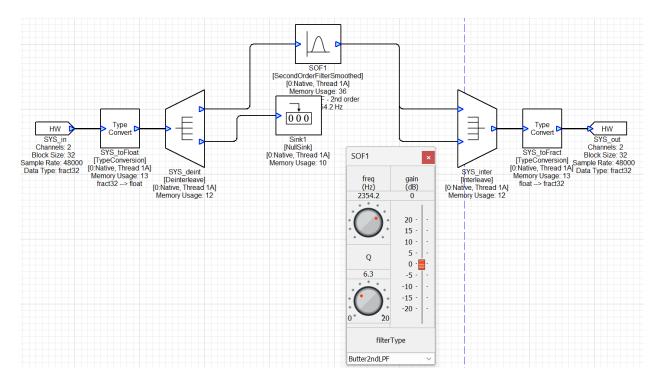
You can create an echo of an input by summing the original signal with a delayed version of itself. In this example, a Null Sink is used to remove the right channel, an Adder is used to sum two signals, and the Adder output is sent to both left and right outputs. Additional echoes can be created with more delay blocks, and the properties of the Adder block can be modified to permit more inputs.



Save your echo app.

Set up a new app. The Second Order Filter block is a useful block to experiment with. Add a filter block for the left channel. Send the right channel to Null Sink so you can hear the filter effects more clearly. Initially the Filter Type is set to Bypass. Change Filter Type to Butter2ndLPF (Butterworth second order low pass filter). Run your app. Vary the frequency, which is the cutoff frequency of your filter. When the cutoff frequency is low, the low pass filter is removing all of the signal except very low frequencies. You should hear very muffled sound. When the cutoff frequency is high, very little of the signal is removed by the low pass filter.

Halt your app. Change Filter Type to Butter2ndHPF (Butterworth second order high pass filter). Run your app. The high pass filter removes the frequencies above the cutoff frequency. When the cutoff frequency is low, the filter will have very little effect on your signal; when the cutoff frequency is high, you should hear only very high frequency remains of your signal.



Save your filtering app.

Testing app on STM32F407

Up until now, Audio Weaver apps have been running on the PC. This is called Native connection. The apps can also run standalone on the STM32F407 Discovery board.

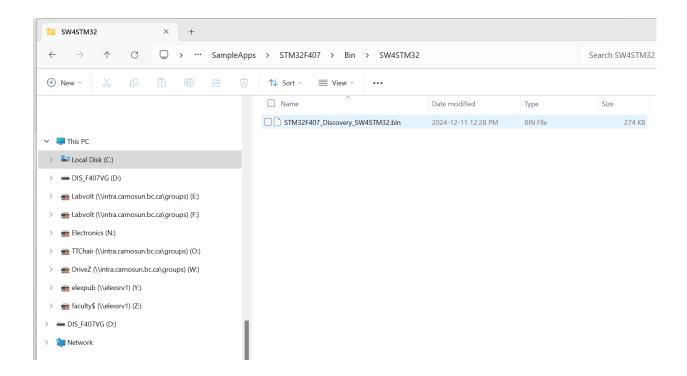
As an intermediate step to standalone operation, Audio Weaver can run code on the Discovery board, but still allow real time control from the PC. The value of this step is to verify that the app fits within the memory available on the board.

Plug a micro USB cable into one end of the Discovery board and a mini USB cable into the other end. Plug both USB cables into your PC.

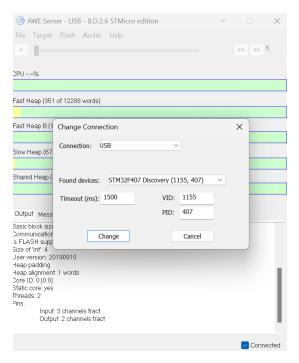
In the File Explorer on your PC, navigate to:

C:\DSP Concepts\AWECore ST_EVAL_CortexM4 Release8.D.2.7\SampleApps\STM32F407\Bin\SW4STM32

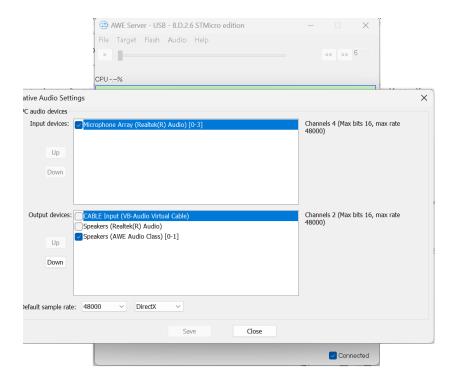
Drag the file STM32F407_Discovery_SW4STM32.bin to the icon for the Discovery board in the left pane, DIS F407VG.



To run your Audio Weaver app on the Discovery board, go to the AWE Server window and choose Target – Change Connection. Select USB.



Still in AWE Server, choose File – Native Audio Settings. Speakers (AWE Audio Class) and a microphone input should be checked off. The Discovery board appears to your PC like speakers. Uncheck other outputs.



Plug a set of headphones into the jack on the Discovery board.

Play something on YouTube. Because you are running on the Discovery board, inputs can no longer come from the Bach piano file.

Run your Audio Weaver delay (or echo) app. You may find that your app, with a sampling frequency of 48 kHz, and maximum delays of 2 seconds on each channel, will not run. You may get an error declaring that the heap allocation request is too large.

```
Audio Weaver Error

Server Command Failure:

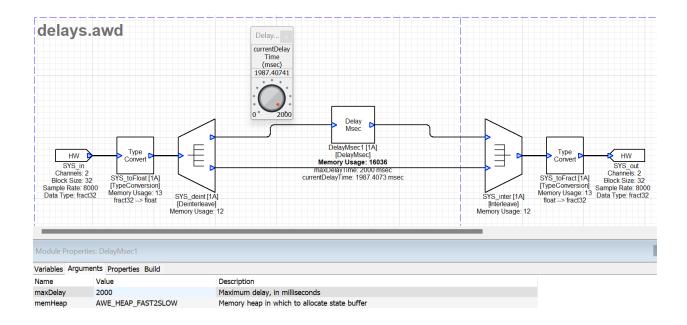
Command sent to server: 0,create_module,DelayMsec1,ModuleDelayMsec,1,1,0,wire4,wire6,2000.0,1987.40735,561

Server response: failed,heap allocation request too large

OK
```

An adjusted layout might delay just one channel and reduce the sampling frequency to 8 kHz, or delay both channels but reduce maximum delay for each. Make some changes to your layout until it will run on the Discovery board without errors. This is not yet standalone operation, so you will still be able to control the delays from your PC.

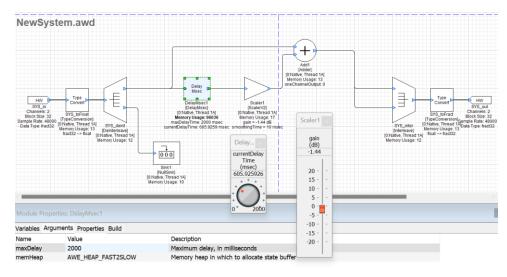
Change your sampling rate in the properties for the HW input block. The sampling rate for the output block will change as soon as you re-run your app.



If the volume of your output is too high, add an overall Scaler and set the gain below 0 dB.

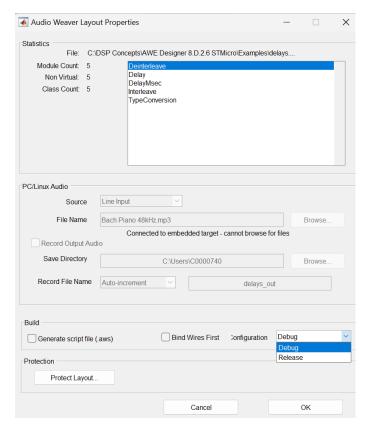
While you are testing, be sure something is playing on YouTube. If you are using a filter, an online tone generator https://www.szynalski.com/tone-generator/ might be useful. To hear delays and echoes, spoken sources might be more helpful than music, for example, a newscast.

Experiment with running your delay, echo or filtering app on the Discovery board until you have strong and obvious effects in the output signal, e.g. noticeable delays, low cutoff frequency for low pass filter, high cutoff frequency for high pass filter. You will generate code for standalone operation, but once the app code is on the board, the variables are fixed at the values they had when you generated code, and they can no longer be varied in real time. The ability to change the variables of your app on the Discovery board in real time is the topic of another workshop.



Generating target files for STM32F407

In AWE Designer, go to Layout – Layout Properties. Change Build Configuration from Release to Debug, and click OK.

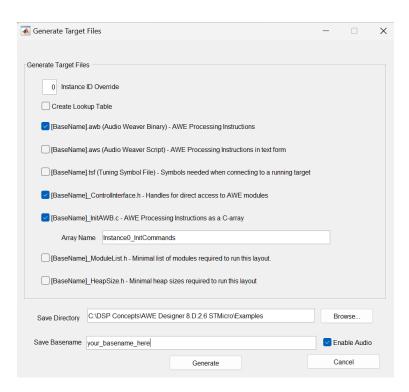


Next, choose Tools – Generate Target Files.

Be sure BaseName.awb, BaseName_ControlInterface.h, and BaseName_InitAWB.c are all selected. Also ensure that Enable Audio is checked. The Save Directory should be:

C:\DSP Concepts\AWE Designer 8.D.2.6 STMicro\Examples

Choose a Basename that will help you recognize the files you are looking for.



Click Generate. This will produce a group of files in your Save Directory. For example, with basename = your basename here you will see:

your_basename_here.awb
your_basename_here_ControlInterface.h
your_basename_here_ControlInterface_AWE6.h
your_basename_here_InitAWB.c
your basename here InitAWB.h

After successful generation of target files, go to your Save Directory. Copy the five files to:

```
C:\DSP Concepts\AWECore ST_EVAL_CortexM4 Release-
8.D.2.7\SampleApps\STM32F407\Source
```

If a previous set of target files are present, they may be removed.

Implementing Audio Weaver app in STM32CubeIDE

STM32CubeIDE is an advanced C/C++ development platform with peripheral configuration, code generation, code compilation, and debug features for STM32 microcontrollers.

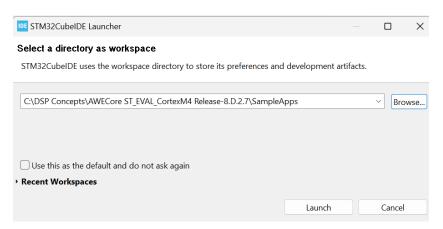
Ensure a micro USB cable is plugged into one end of the Discovery board and a mini USB cable is plugged into the other end. Plug both USB cables into your PC.

Open STM32CubeIDE by clicking on the STM32CubeIDE 1.17.0 icon.

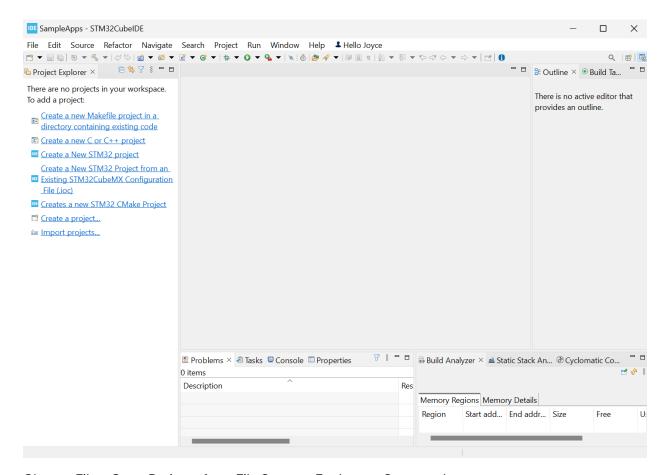


For the workspace directory, enter:

C:\DSP Concepts\AWECore ST_EVAL_CortexM4 Release-8.D.2.7\SampleApps
Click Launch.



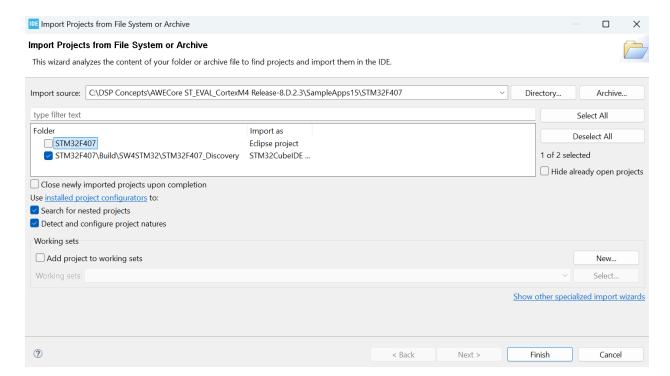
Click x to close the Information Center window. Your window now looks like:



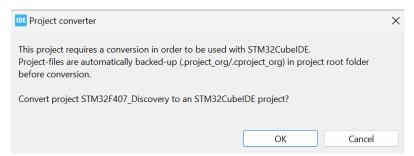
Choose File - Open Projects from File System. For Import Source, choose:

C:\DSP Concepts\AWECore ST_EVAL_CortexM4 Release8.D.2.7\SampleApps\STM32F407

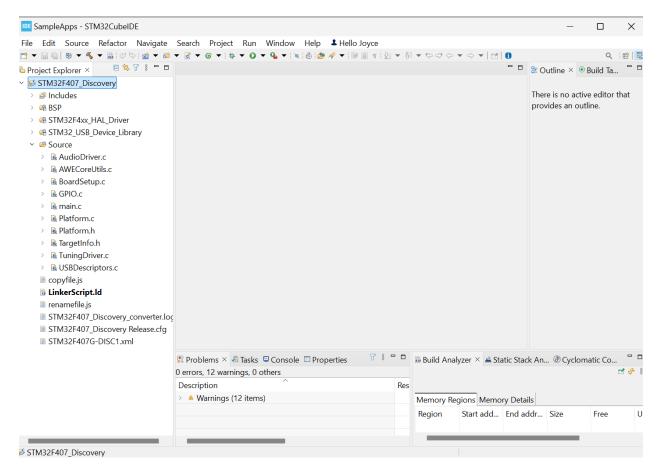
Uncheck all folders except STM32F407_Discovery\Build\SW4STM32F407_Discovery. At the bottom of the window, click Finish.



Agree to convert the project.

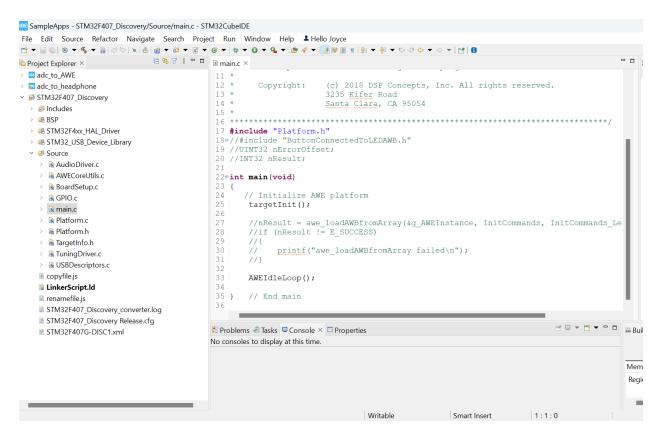


In the Project Explorer at the left, double-click on the project name STM32F407_Discovery to expand the project contents. Double-click the Source folder to open it.



At the moment your generated target files are not in this Source folder. Locate your five generated target files using your File Explorer. Copy and paste them into the Source folder in STM32CubeIDE. You should see your target files in the left pane. (Remove any target files from previous projects.)

Go to main.c in the Source folder in the left pane of STM32CubeIDE. Double-click on it to open it.



In main.c, after the line #include "Platform.h" add the line (with your basename):

```
#include "your basename here InitAWB.h"
```

Uncomment:

```
UINT32 nErrorOffset;
INT32 nResult;
```

In the main function, uncomment the lines:

Edit the first of the lines to read:

```
nResult = awe_loadAWBfromArray(&g_AWEInstance, Instance0_InitCommands,
Instance0 InitCommands Len, &nErrorOffset);
```

File - Save.

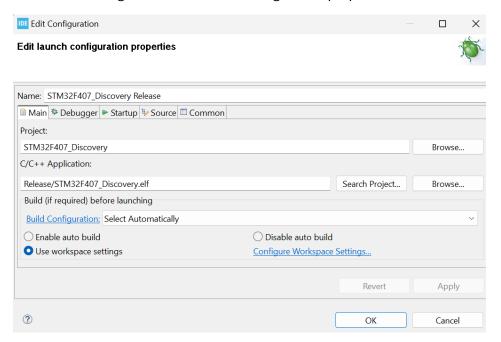
Make sure that main.c now looks like this:

```
#include "Platform.h"
#include "your basename here InitAWB.h"
```

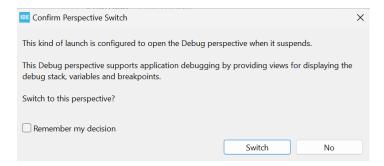
```
//#include "ButtonConnectedToLEDAWB.h"
UINT32 nErrorOffset;
INT32 nResult;
int main(void)
{
    // Initialize AWE platform
        targetInit();
    nResult = awe_loadAWBfromArray(&g_AWEInstance,
InstanceO_InitCommands, InstanceO_InitCommands_Len, &nErrorOffset);
    if (nResult != E_SUCCESS)
    {
        printf("awe_loadAWBfromArray failed\n");
    }
    AWEIdleLoop();
}
// End main
```

Click on the hammer to compile your project. Don't be concerned about warnings.

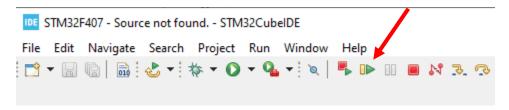
Choose Run – Debug. It will take a few minutes for the debugger to load the code onto the Discovery board. You can agree to Edit Launch configuration properties.



Confirm perspective switch.



Once program download is successful, noted in the Console window at the bottom, click Play – Resume



Make sure YouTube is playing something. You should be able to hear the effects of your app. The code is now standalone, except that power and YouTube music is coming from the PC. These could be replaced by a power bank and a smartphone, for example. You should be able to close Audio Weaver and still hear the effects.