

Direct Memory Access

Lecture 21

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Learning Objectives

By the end of this lecture you will be able to:

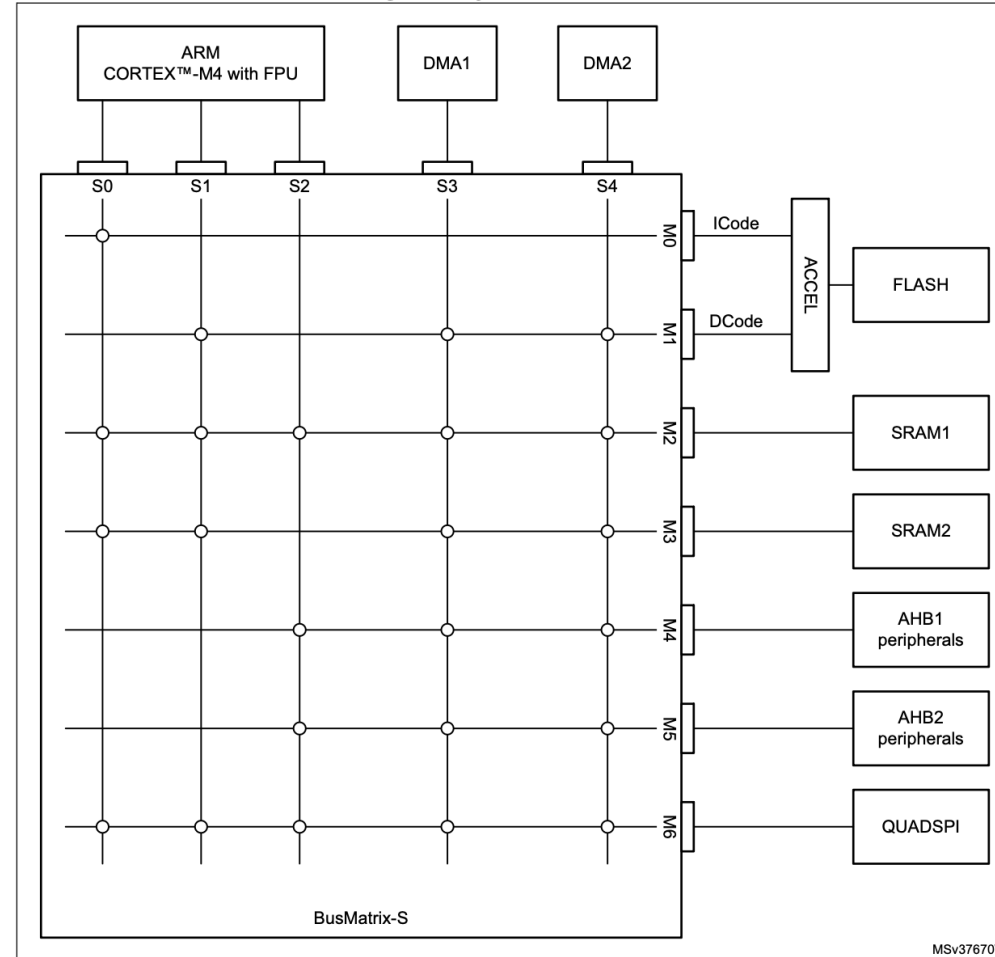
- Explain what direct memory access is used for and how it works
- Configure DMA on our MCU

Outline

- What is Direct Memory Access?
- How does DMA work on the MCU?
- Activity

Recall STM32L432KC System Architecture

Figure 1. System architecture



Direct Memory Access

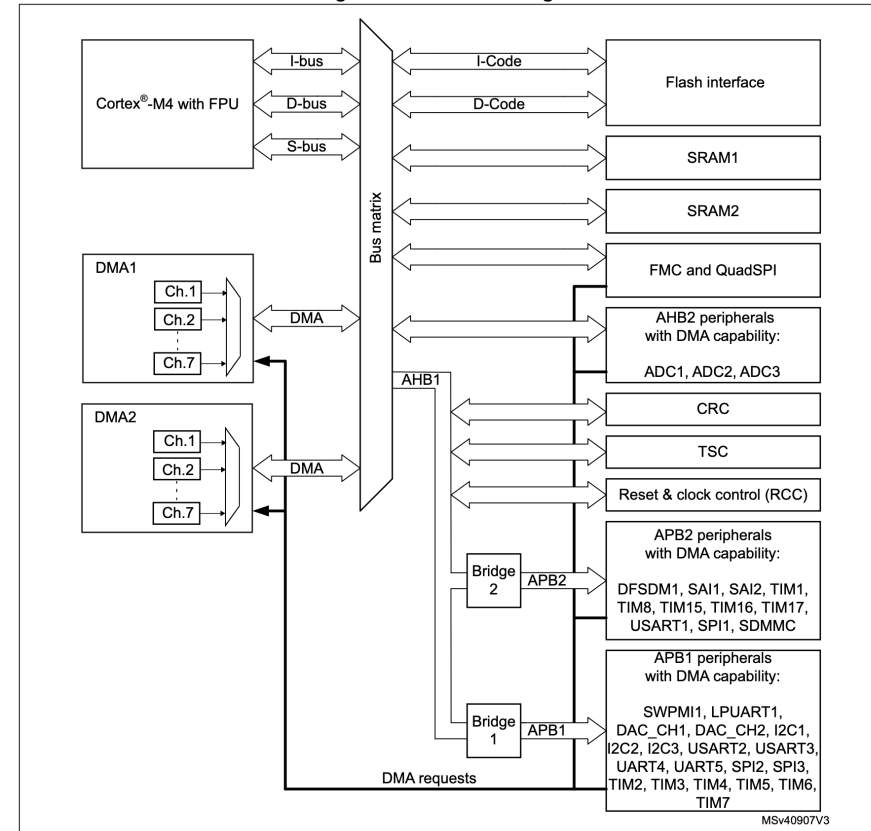
- Used to provide high-speed data transfer between peripherals and memory without CPU action
- DMA controller connects to the AHB bus
- The MCU has two DMA controllers with 7 channels each (total of 14 channels)
- Each channel has a mux which enables various DMA request sources to be selected

DMA Block Diagram

4 modes

- Peripheral-to-memory
- Peripheral-to-peripheral
- Memory-to-peripheral
- Memory-to-memory

Figure 27. DMA block diagram



Activity

The goal of this example project is to use the direct memory access (DMA) controller on the MCU to enable automatic printing of data to the computer terminal via UART without the need for processor intervention. We will be designing a system to meet the following requirements.

Specifications

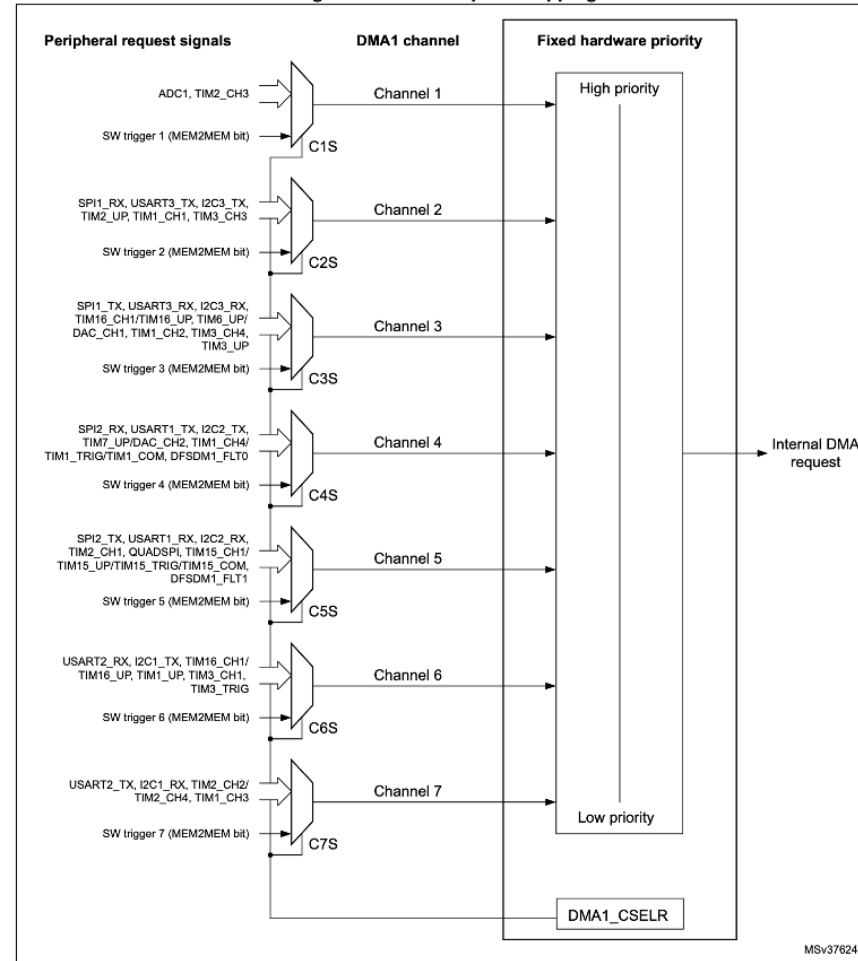
1. Print out a single character from a specified character array at a frequency of ~10 Hz (one character every 100 milliseconds).
2. Use a UART baud rate of 9600.
3. Use update events from Timer 2 (TIM2) to trigger the DMA requests.
4. Use DMA Controller 1 (DMA1) to handle the direct memory transfers from the character array to the UART peripheral.

Activity Steps and Hints

- Work through worksheet.
- After completing worksheet, create a new project and import demo source code.

DMA Channel Selection

Figure 25. DMA1 request mapping



DMA1 Request Mapping Table

Table 41. DMA1 requests for each channel

CxS[3:0]	Channel 1	Channel 2	Channel 3	Channel 4	Channel 5	Channel 6	Channel 7
0000	ADC1	ADC2 ⁽¹⁾	-	-	DFSDM1_FLT0 ⁽²⁾	DFSDM1_FLT1 ⁽²⁾	-
0001	-	SPI1_RX	SPI1_TX	SPI2_RX ⁽³⁾	SPI2_TX ⁽³⁾	SAI2_A ⁽⁴⁾	SAI2_B ⁽⁴⁾

Table 41. DMA1 requests for each channel (continued)

CxS[3:0]	Channel 1	Channel 2	Channel 3	Channel 4	Channel 5	Channel 6	Channel 7
0010	-	USART3_TX ⁽³⁾	USART3_RX ⁽³⁾	USART1_TX	USART1_RX	USART2_RX	USART2_TX
0011	-	I2C3_TX	I2C3_RX	I2C2_TX ⁽³⁾	I2C2_RX ⁽³⁾	I2C1_TX	I2C1_RX
0100	TIM2_CH3	TIM2_UP	TIM16_CH1 TIM16_UP	-	TIM2_CH1	TIM16_CH1 TIM16_UP	TIM2_CH2 TIM2_CH4
0101	-	TIM3_CH3 ⁽²⁾	TIM3_CH4 ⁽²⁾ TIM3_UP ⁽²⁾	TIM7_UP. DAC_CH2 ⁽⁵⁾	QUADSPI	TIM3_CH1 ⁽²⁾ TIM3_TRIG ⁽²⁾	-
0110	-	-	TIM6_UP DAC_CH1	-	-	-	-
0111	-	TIM1_CH1	TIM1_CH2	TIM1_CH4 TIM1_TRIG TIM1_COM	TIM15_CH1 TIM15_UP TIM15_TRIG TIM15_COM	TIM1_UP	TIM1_CH3

DMA Channel Configuration Register

11.6.3 DMA channel x configuration register (DMA_CCRx)

Address offset: $0x08 + 0x14 * (x - 1)$, ($x = 1$ to 7)

Reset value: $0x0000\ 0000$

The register fields/bits MEM2MEM, PL[1:0], MSIZE[1:0], PSIZE[1:0], MINC, PINC, and DIR are read-only when EN = 1.

The states of MEM2MEM and CIRC bits must not be both high at the same time.

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16
Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.
15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Res.	MEM2 MEM	PL[1:0]		MSIZE[1:0]		PSIZE[1:0]		MINC	PINC	CIRC	DIR	TEIE	HTIE	TCIE	EN
	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw

DMA Channel Selection Register

11.6.7 DMA channel selection register (DMA_CSELR)

Address offset: 0xA8

Reset value: 0x0000 0000

This register is used to manage the mapping of DMA channels as detailed in [Section 11.3.2: DMA request mapping](#).

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16
Res.	Res.	Res.	Res.	C7S[3:0]				C6S[3:0]				C5S[3:0]			
				rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw
15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
C4S[3:0]				C3S[3:0]				C2S[3:0]				C1S[3:0]			
rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw	rw

Summary

- DMA enables efficient and low-latency access between memory and peripherals
- Need to configure DMA controller, then configure DMA requests from the peripheral (timer, USART, SPI, etc.)
- Use interrupts to handle and reset flags as necessary