

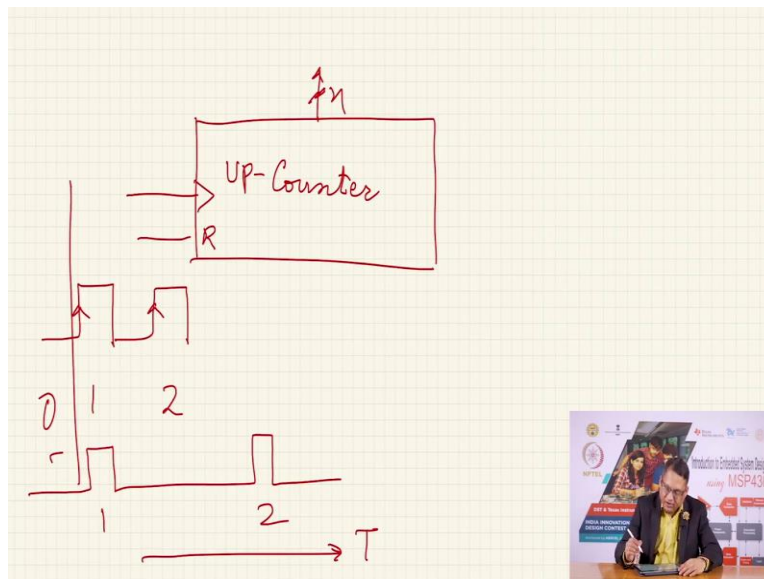
Introduction to Embedded System Design
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Lecture 29

MSP430 Timer module: Introduction and Timer Capture

Hello and welcome to a new session for this online course on Introduction to Embedded system design. I am your instructor, Dhananjay Gadre and in this session I am going to cover a very very important aspects of embedded systems which is the ability to count time, measure time, count events so on and so forth.

And the basic building block peripheral, critical peripheral in any micro controller ecosystem is the ability to count time without the intervention of the micro, the CPU and such a peripheral is called Timer and often times it is called Counter/Timer which means it can count as well as count events as well as count time. The basic building block in counter timer is actually a counter. Now, what is a counter?

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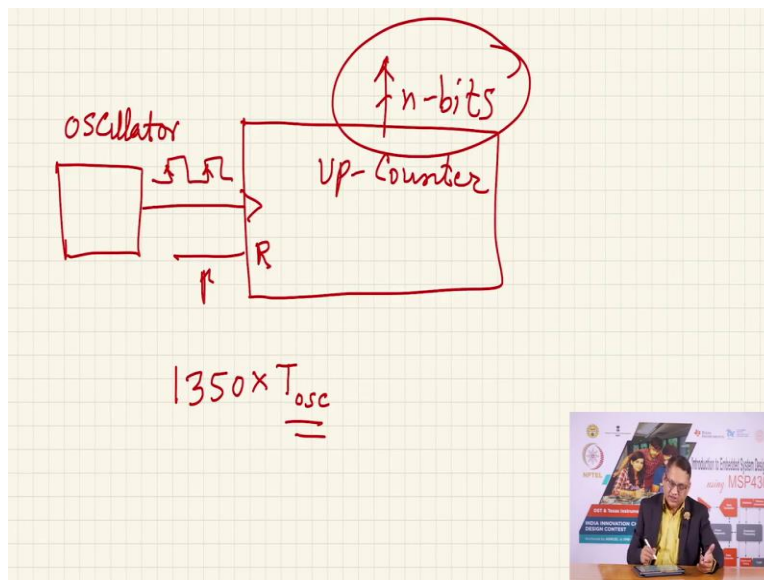


If I show you n-bit counter and typically what you will have n-bits going out. And you would have a clock input, may be you will have a reset pin so when will assert the reset signal, all the n outputs of this counter. So, this is a counter or reset to 0. Thereafter for the given configuration of the clock signal, every time there is a rising edge, the count will increment by 1.

If this was a down counter, then it will decrement by 1. So let us say, this is an up counter and so on. So, if from here if the initial value before this was 0 then and this was an up counter, the count will be 1 here and it will be 2 here. Now, whether the signals which are applied to the clock are like this or like this.

Here it will be one and it will be 2 at this point of time. these are the time and these are the pulses you are getting. If the frequency of the signal which is connected to the clock pin of the counter. We do not know the frequency then we cannot say that how much time is elapsed. All we can say how many events have come, how many clock signals have come and in such a case you are operating this building block as a counter.

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On the other hand, if I use the same hardware. I still have a n-bit counter, n-bits and let us say it is a up-counter. You have a clock signal, you have reset signal but now instead of an external signal which is generating some pulses, if this connected to a oscillator, rectangular output oscillator something like this whose frequency is fixed and after reset assert reset on this pin. It will count these pulses.

And if I query, if I am able to read this n-bits and I find let us say the count is 1030 1350. If I find that the count is 1350, then I can also tell how much time is elapsed since the time I reset this counter. How much time is elapsed? It is 1350 into the T oscillator that is the period of the

clock signal. Once I know this by performing this small calculation, I would be able to estimate the time it has elapsed since the time I reset this counter.

So, the basic building block in a micro controller is the time is the counter. If you connect the clock input of that counter to that external pin and expect external signals to be used for clocking the counter, you are maintaining a counter. On the other hand, if the clock input of this counter is derived from an internally generated clock then and if you know the frequency of that clock then you would have converted this counter into a timer. And MSP430 is immensely capable in providing various functions of this timer counter. Let us investigate what all we have.

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Why Timer?

- Timers are used for time-specific tasks like generating delays, baud rates or for counting events in fixed intervals of time.
- A dedicated hardware timer frees up the processor so that it can perform more non-time critical process.
- Software delay loops are a waste of the processor's capabilities. Also, delays written in C are not precise. So, a hardware timer peripheral inside a microcontroller helps!
- MSP430G2553 has 2 16-Bit Timer_A: Timer0_A and Timer1_A.

The slide includes a diagram of a square wave pulse entering a rectangular box representing a timer. In the bottom right corner, there is a small inset image of a presenter in a suit sitting at a desk with a laptop, with a presentation slide titled 'Introduction to Embedded System Design using MSP430' visible behind him.

Now, why do we need timers? We can also use the program to count time. The reason why we want to use timers is that we can use the peripheral function to generate timing events. We can use them for generating delays. We can use them for creating what we called as baud rates which we are going to cover in a serial communication lecture subsequently. Or you can use these timers as mentioned for counting the external events and so on.

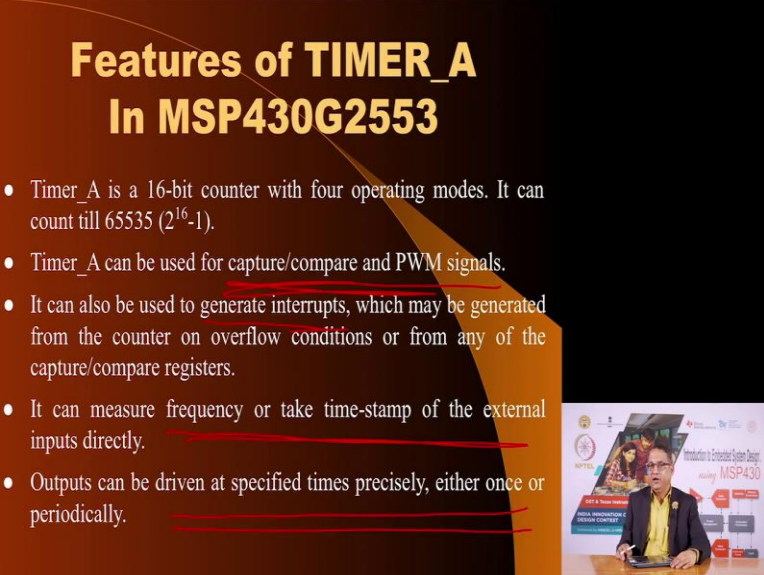
Having a dedicated hardware for performing this function frees the CPU from performing the task. You can also use the CPU, for example one of the pod pins could be connected to a external signal where you are getting pulses and you can write a program saying, if this pulses high wait for it to be low. Once it goes low, one pulse has been received you can count it and so on. But if

you did that your entire CPU life is going to be spent only counting pulses, you would not be able to do any other activity at the same time.

By off loading this counting business to a counter, your CPU can perform other functions and keep on finding out from the counter. How much, how many events have happened. This is what the infrastructure related to a counter and a timer micro controller usually allows you to do. And MSP430 is no exception. If you use a program to use generate leads as we have seen how we can write a delay function, again the delay function depends on the accuracy of the CPU clock. And if it is not very accurate the delay period will not be very accurate.

On the other hand, if you use the timer, you can use a external crystal oscillator like we have on the MSP430 to provide clock to the timer and then it can generate very accurate delay periods. MSP430G2553 has 2 16-bit Timer A and they are label timer as 0A and Timer1A. and this is over and above the watchdog timer that it has which can also function as a Timer.

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**Features of TIMER_A
In MSP430G2553**

- Timer_A is a 16-bit counter with four operating modes. It can count till 65535 ($2^{16}-1$).
- Timer_A can be used for capture/compare and PWM signals.
- It can also be used to generate interrupts, which may be generated from the counter on overflow conditions or from any of the capture/compare registers.
- It can measure frequency or take time-stamp of the external inputs directly.
- Outputs can be driven at specified times precisely, either once or periodically.

The slide includes a small video inset in the bottom right corner showing a person presenting at a desk with various logos and a presentation slide titled 'Introduction to Embedded System Design using MSP430'.

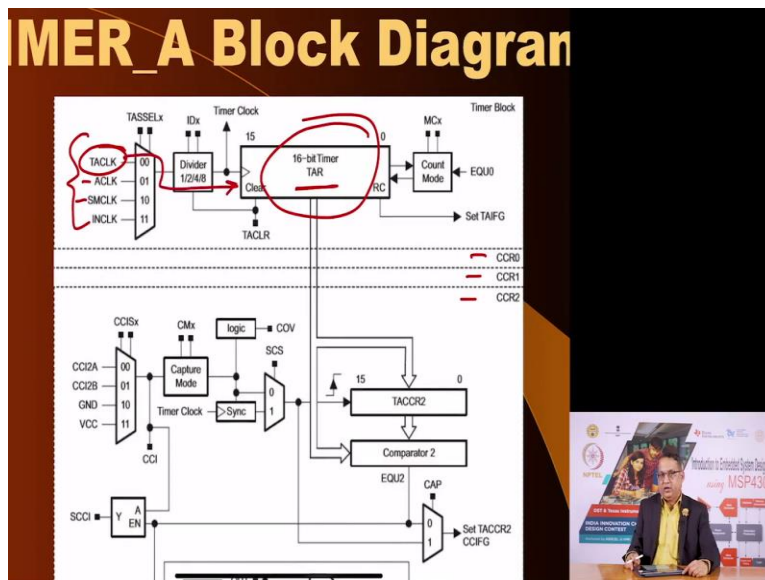
The timers on the MSP430 are 16-bit counter which means they can count from 0 to 65535 which means they can count a very large number. The timers can be used for capture and compare functions. I will come to this feature shortly. And it can also used to generate Pulse Width Modulation signal which we have briefly mentioned in a previous lecture.

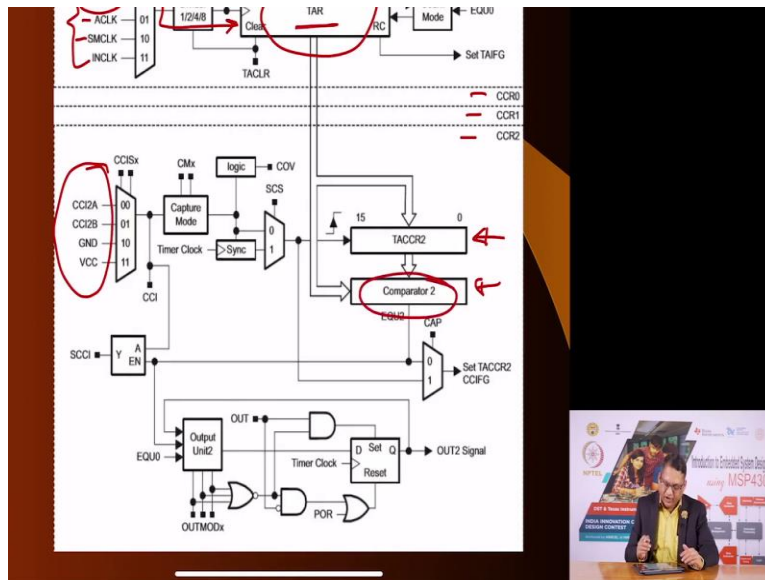
The timers can be used to generate interrupts on a timely fashion. You want to generate interrupt every one second or every 100 mille seconds, you can employ a timer by appropriately programming it, it can generate very accurate interrupt events which you can used to do some housekeeping jobs.

You remember in a previous lecture we said, we want to connect 4 7-segment displays and we want to multiplex them and multiplexing requires that you refresh the display which means one digit which was on you have to turn it off. And after a pre-determined period of time you have to turn second digit on.

Now, you can do the job with the help of the interrupted generated by the timer. You can also use the timer infrastructure to measure frequency of the external signals. You can use it to measure period of external pulses. And you can use it to output information on pins on pre-determined intervals. So, these are the features of the timer.

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Here is a block diagram and I am going to broadly tell you that any timer has actually two parts the timer part that is the counterpart and the rest of the parts which allow you to compare the value of the timer to pre-determined value. So, that you know you have started the timer from 0, I want the notification when the count reaches 5000. So, you are going to compare the value of the timer with the value in a register which you write 5000 whenever that match happens, it will inform you.

So, here is the 16-bit timer. This is called TAR which means Timer register and then you have 3 compare capture channels, they are called CCR0 Capture Compare Register 0. Capture Compare Register 1 and Capture Compare Register 2. So, with one timer, you have 3 channels of capture and compare features. Of course, you can either capture or compare and by choosing a appropriate function whether we want to capture or compare.

What is the meaning of capture? You have to capture the value in the timer. What is the meaning of the compare? You have to compare the value of the timer register with the pre-determined value stored in that compare register. And using these two compare and capture registers; you can do amazing things with the timer.

The for this counter, although it says the timer as I mentioned. Its basic building block is the counter. The clock of the timer can be derived from these sources as you see here, you can have the A- clock, oscillatory clock or you can have SM clock and TA clock in this case is actually a

pin which means the signal of the pin is used to clock the counter and these feature can be used when you want to count the external pulses, when you want to count external events.

You may remember in one of the previous lectures, suppose in this room we have to count how many people have entered, you can easily install the censor which detects human presence and when it detects the human presence it will generate a pulse. This pulse can be connected to the TA clock pin and it will increment the timer. And you can query the timer at any given point of time after resetting at onset that what is the value at this point of time and you know how many people have entered the room.

So, this is then A clock and SM clock allows you to operate the timer in the timer mode. Why? Because A clock and SM clock is locally generated clock signals and you know the frequency of these clock generator. So, the count in the timer will tell you how much time is elapsed, since time you have started the timer.

Now, when do you compare and when do you capture, you can do that based on signals on micro-controller as well as events within the micro-controller. You can use it to capture the value of the timer. You can use it to compare the value of the timer, using the value written in the comparator. And are going to use this feature to see various activities. So, this is the basic block diagram. You have another timer so this is TimerA0 and TimerA1. And both of them have these three channels which allow you to do multiple things.


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TIMER_A Major Components

- Timer A counter register - TAR
 - This is a 16-bit register whose value increments or decrements with every rising edge of clock signal.
 - Behaviour (increment or decrement) of TAR register can be selected by configuring the mode of the timer.

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
TARx							
rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
TARx							
rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)

TARx Bits 15-0 Timer_A register. The TAR register is the count of Timer_A.



So, the major components of the timer are Timer Counter register as we have seen TAR in both the timers we had they all 16 bit registers. They all read-write registers.


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TIMER_A Major Components

- Timer A capture/compare register (TACCRx)
 - There are three capture/compare registers in each timer:
 - TA0CCR0, TA0CCR1, TA0CCR2 for Timer0_A
 - TA1CCR0, TA1CCR1, TA1CCR2 for Timer1_A.
 - All the three channels share the same TAR.

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
TACCRx							
rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
TACCRx							
rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)

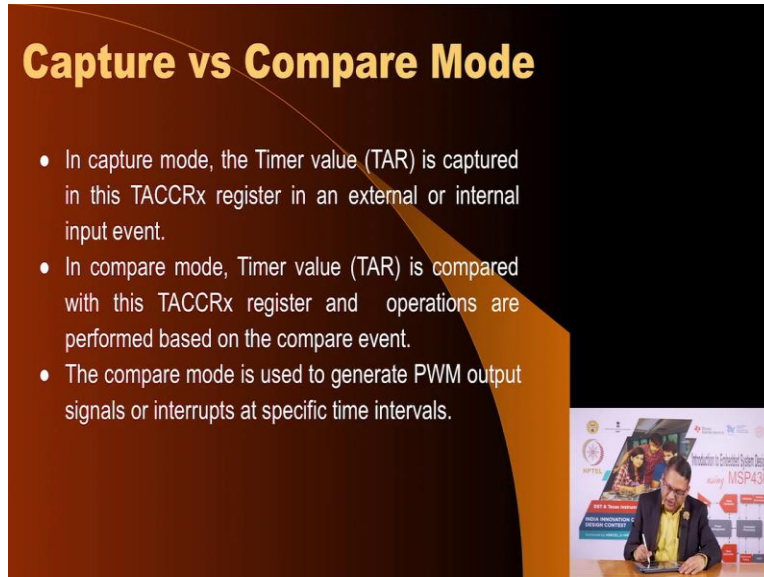
TACCRx Bits 15-0 Timer_A capture/compare register.
Compare mode: TACCRx holds the data for the comparison to the timer value in the Timer_A Register, TAR.
Capture mode: The Timer_A Register, TAR, is copied into the TACCRx register when a capture is performed.



You also have timer capture and compare register and there are three capture and compare register for each of the timer. Timer A0CCR0 Timer capture compare register 0, Capture compare register 1, register 2 for Timer 0A and capture compare register 0, 1 and 2 for Timer 1A. And both these three channels for say for this will use a given timer. These three channels

will use a second timer register and you can write values in this, you can read values from this to know whether you want to capture or you want to compare and so on.

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Capture vs Compare Mode

- In capture mode, the Timer value (TAR) is captured in this TACCRx register in an external or internal input event.
- In compare mode, Timer value (TAR) is compared with this TACCRx register and operations are performed based on the compare event.
- The compare mode is used to generate PWM output signals or interrupts at specific time intervals.


The slide features a dark background with a curved orange and black graphic on the left. A small inset image in the bottom right shows a man in a suit sitting at a desk with a laptop, with a presentation slide visible behind him. The presentation slide includes logos for 'MSP430' and 'Texas Instruments'.

In the capture mode, the value of the timer is stored and captured in the capture register and you can read it thereafter. In the compare mode, you load a value in the register and wait for timer value to reach that number. When that number is reached some event will happen. And usually a flag will be set and if you want a interrupt will be generated and these feature is used to generate Pulse width modulated signal.

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Clock Source for Timer_A

- The timer clock can be sourced from ACLK, SMCLK, or externally via TACLK or INCLK (For Timer1_A in case of MSP430G2553, TACLK and INCLK is not present).
- The clock source is selected with the TASSELx bits.
- The selected clock source may be passed directly to the timer or divided by 2, 4, or 8, using the IDx bits.
- The timer clock divider is reset when TACLR is set.




The source of the timer can be A clock or SM clock and you can source it from an external pin like TA clock. The clock source is selected with the help of the registers in this these register bits and once you have selected the source of clock, you can also further divide it, so you can divide it by 1, 2, 4 or 8 and so on.

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Timer Modes

Timer's operation mode can be selected by configuring 'MCx' bits in the Timer Control TACTL register

MC	Mode	Description
00	Stop	Timer is stopped. ←
01	Up ↗	Timer repeatedly counts from zero to value stored in TACCR0 Register ↗
10	Continuous	Timer repeatedly counts from zero to 0xFFFF hex. ↗
11	Up/Down ↕	Timer repeatedly counts from zero to value stored in TACCR0 and then back to zero. ↕

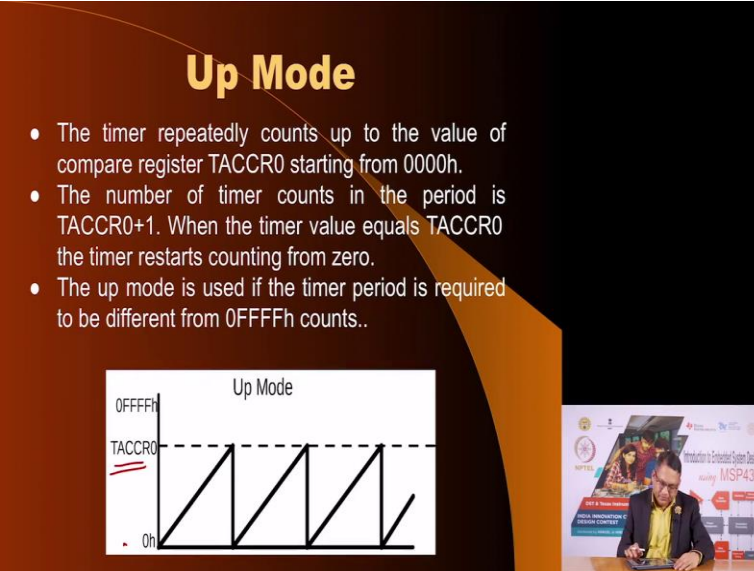


These are the modes of the timer, the basic timer that is the TAR works in 4 modes. You can stop the timer which means once you stop it, it can hold the value. Or you can use it in the up mode means it can count from 0 and it will keep on counting till a highest value but the highest value

in the capture compare register are 0. The other second mode of operation is what is called as the continues mode in which it will go from 0 count upto the maximum count which is FFF and again reset to 0 and again keep on counting.

And then you have an up down mode where it goes from 0, counts upto maximum value and decrements from maximum value to 0. And so on and so forth. So, you will see in up count it will goes like a ram and in the continuous mode it also goes to ram but the value the maximum value is FFF. In the up down mode it goes like a triangle way form. Will see this in diagrams here.

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Up Mode

- The timer repeatedly counts up to the value of compare register TACCR0 starting from 0000h.
- The number of timer counts in the period is TACCR0+1. When the timer value equals TACCR0 the timer restarts counting from zero.
- The up mode is used if the timer period is required to be different from 0FFFFh counts..

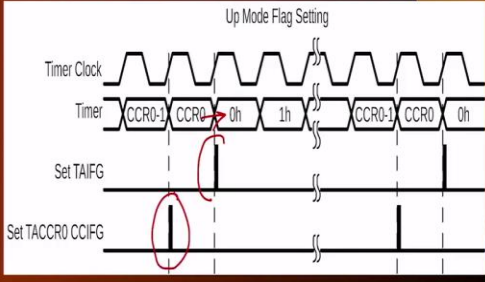
The slide includes a graph titled "Up Mode" showing a sawtooth waveform. The vertical axis is labeled with 0h at the origin, TACCR0 at a dashed horizontal line, and 0FFFFh at the top. The waveform starts at 0h, rises linearly to TACCR0, then resets to 0h and repeats. In the bottom right corner, there is a small inset image of a person sitting at a desk with a laptop, with a presentation slide in the background that includes the text "Introduction to Embedded System Design using MSP430" and "MBA IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS" and "MBA IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS" and "MBA IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS".

So, this is the up mode, it goes from 0 but the maximum value you set in the Timer A capture compare register 0. So, the point to note is the value in capture compare register is very important. That is the register which decides upto what value the timer will count.


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Timer Interrupts in Up Mode

- The TACCR0 CCIFG interrupt flag is set when the timer counts to the TACCR0 value.
- The TAIFG interrupt flag is set when the timer counts from TACCR0 to zero.



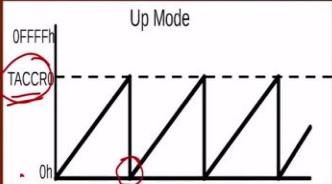
The diagram illustrates the timing of interrupt flag setting in Up Mode. It shows a periodic square wave for the Timer Clock. The Timer signal is a sawtooth wave that counts up from 0h to TACCR0-1, then resets to 0h. The Set TAIFG signal is a pulse that occurs at the moment the timer resets to 0h. The Set TACCR0 CCIFG signal is a pulse that occurs at the moment the timer reaches the TACCR0 value. Red circles highlight the rising edges of the Set TAIFG and Set TACCR0 CCIFG signals.




A small inset image shows a speaker at a podium with a presentation slide titled "Introduction to Embedded System Design using MSP430". The slide includes logos for Texas Instruments, IIT Bombay, and other institutions, along with the text "MCA, Hyderabad" and "MCA, Hyderabad".

Up Mode

- The timer repeatedly counts up to the value of compare register TACCR0 starting from 0000h.
- The number of timer counts in the period is TACCR0+1. When the timer value equals TACCR0 the timer restarts counting from zero.
- The up mode is used if the timer period is required to be different from 0FFFFh counts..



The graph shows the timer value in Up Mode. The vertical axis represents the timer value, ranging from 0h to 0xFFFFh. The horizontal axis represents time. The timer value starts at 0h and increases linearly until it reaches the value TACCR0. At this point, the timer resets to 0h and starts counting again. This cycle repeats. Red circles highlight the TACCR0 value on the vertical axis and the reset point on the horizontal axis.



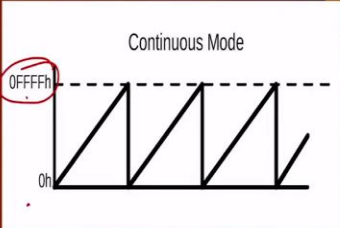
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In this mode, you can use it to generate interrupt at two times. One once when it reaches this value and once when it resets to 0, when it become 0. As you see here, you have generate a interrupt here when it goes from here to here and when it is here. So, there are two times this counting process when interrupts can be generated.


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Continuous Mode

- In the continuous mode, the timer repeatedly counts up to FFFFh and restarts from zero.



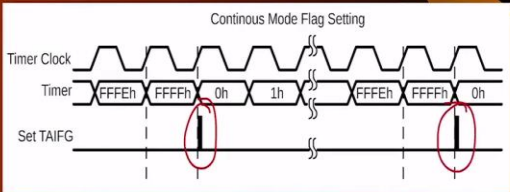
The diagram, titled "Continuous Mode", shows a sawtooth waveform representing the timer's count. The vertical axis is labeled with "0h" at the bottom and "0xFFFF" at the top. The waveform starts at 0h, rises linearly to 0xFFFF, then drops sharply back to 0h, and repeats this cycle. A dashed horizontal line marks the 0xFFFF level. A red circle highlights the 0xFFFF value on the y-axis.




A small inset image shows a man in a dark suit and yellow shirt sitting at a table, presenting. Behind him is a banner for "Introduction to Embedded System Design using MSP430" with logos for "MSP430" and "DIGITAL INNOVATION BY DESIGN CENTER".

Timer Interrupts in Continuous Mode

- The TAIFG interrupt flag is set when the timer counts from FFFFh to zero.



The timing diagram, titled "Continuous Mode Flag Setting", shows three signals over time: "Timer Clock", "Timer", and "Set TAIFG". The "Timer Clock" is a regular square wave. The "Timer" signal shows a sawtooth pattern with values: FFFFh, FFFFh, 0h, 1h, followed by a break symbol, then FFFFh, FFFFh, 0h. The "Set TAIFG" signal shows a pulse that occurs at the transition from FFFFh to 0h in the timer signal. Two red circles highlight these transition points.



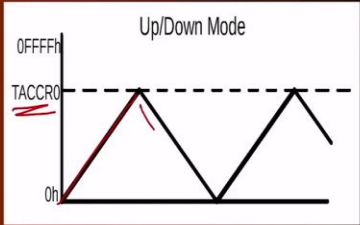
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Then you have the continuous mode, very similar to the continuous mode except the value the maximum value will be this. It will start from 0 and it will go to maximum capability of the timer and it will reset to 0. And when it resets to 0, it will generate an interrupt as you see here. When it resets to 0, it is generating an interrupt.


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Up/Down Mode

- The timer repeatedly counts up to the value of compare register TACCR0 and back down to zero.
- The up/down mode is used if the timer period must be different from 0FFFFh counts, and if a symmetrical pulse generation is needed.



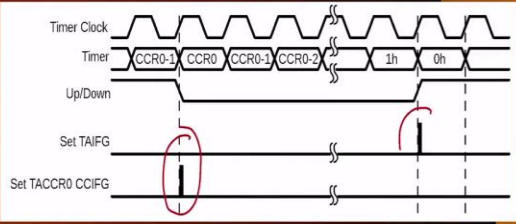
The graph shows a sawtooth waveform representing the timer's count. The vertical axis is labeled with 0h at the bottom, TACCR0 in the middle, and 0FFFFh at the top. A dashed horizontal line is drawn at the TACCR0 level. The waveform starts at 0h, rises linearly to the TACCR0 level, then falls linearly back to 0h, and repeats this cycle. A red arrow points to the peak of the first cycle.




A small inset image shows a man in a suit sitting at a desk, presenting a slide titled 'Introduction to Embedded System Design using MSP430'.

Timer Interrupts in Up/Down Mode

- The TACCR0 CCIFG interrupt flag is set when the timer counts from TACCR0 - 1 to TACCR0
- TAIFG is set when the timer completes counting down from 0001h to 0000h.



The timing diagram shows five signals over time: Timer Clock, Timer, Up/Down, Set TAIFG, and Set TACCR0 CCIFG. The Timer signal shows a sawtooth pattern with labels CCR0-1, CCR0, CCR0-1, CCR0-2, 1h, and 0h. The Up/Down signal is a square wave that is high during the rising and falling edges of the timer. The Set TAIFG signal has a pulse at the end of each timer cycle. The Set TACCR0 CCIFG signal has a pulse at the top of each timer cycle. Red circles highlight the Set TAIFG pulse and the Set TACCR0 CCIFG pulse.




A small inset image shows a man in a suit sitting at a desk, presenting a slide titled 'Introduction to Embedded System Design using MSP430'.

In the up down mode, it goes from 0 to the maximum value set in this register. And once it reaches there it decrements it till it reached 0. In this mode, it is going to generate when it is just reaching that and when it is reaching 0.

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TIMER_A Registers

1. Timer_A control - TACTL
2. Timer_A counter - TAR
3. Timer_A capture/compare control 0 - TACCTL0
4. Timer_A capture/compare 0 - TACCR0
5. Timer_A capture/compare control 1 - TACCTL1
6. Timer_A capture/compare 1 - TACCR1
7. Timer_A capture/compare control 2 - TACCTL2
8. Timer_A capture/compare 2 - TACCR2
9. Timer_A Interrupt vector - TAIV




These are the registers associated with the timer. And I strongly recommend you to go through the data sheet to understand each of these. The best understanding will come when you write a program and play with the various features.

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TACTL, Timer_A Control Register

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
Unused						TASSELx	
rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
IDx	MCx		Unused	TACLx	TAIE	TAIFG	
rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)




This is the timer control register. And as you see these are the bits which allow you to turn the timer on and off. These are the bits which allow you to enable the interrupts.

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TACTL Continued

TASSELx	Bits 9-8	Timer_A clock source select
	00	TACLK
	01	ACLK
	10	SMCLK
	11	INCLK (INCLK is device-specific and is often assigned to the inverted TBCLK) (see the device-specific data sheet)
IDx	Bits 7-6	Input divider. These bits select the divider for the input clock.
	00	/1
	01	/2
	10	/4
	11	/8
MCx	Bits 5-4	Mode control. Setting MCx = 00h when Timer_A is not in use conserves power.
	00	Stop mode: the timer is halted.
	01	Up mode: the timer counts up to TACCR0.
	10	Continuous mode: the timer counts up to 0FFFFh.
	11	Updown mode: the timer counts up to TACCR0 then down to 0000h.
Unused	Bit 3	Unused
TACLRL	Bit 2	Timer_A clear. Setting this bit resets TAR, the clock divider, and the count direction. The TACLRL bit is automatically reset and is always read as zero.
TAIE	Bit 1	Timer_A interrupt enable. This bit enables the TAIFG interrupt request.
	0	Interrupt disabled
	1	Interrupt enabled
TAIFG	Bit 0	Timer_A interrupt flag
	0	No interrupt pending
	1	Interrupt pending




I recommend you again to go through these registers.

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TACCTLx, Capture/Compare Control Register

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
CMx	CCISx	SCS	SCCI	Unused	CAP		
rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	r	r0	rw-(0)
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
OUTMODx	CCIE	CCI	OUT	COV	CCIFG		
rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	r	rw-(0)	rw-(0)	rw-(0)

Timer_A has 3 channels each being controlled by TACCTLx. Each channel has its TACCRx register.



This is the capture control register. This are the values, bits which you can decide which mode of the timer whether it is going to operate in the capture mode or the compare mode.

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TAIV, Timer_A Interrupt Vector Register

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
r0	r0	r0	r0	r0	r0	r0	r0
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	TAIVx		0	0
r0	r0	r0	r0	r-(0)	r-(0)	r-(0)	r0

TAIVx Bits 15-0 Timer_A interrupt vector value

TAIV Contents	Interrupt Source	Interrupt Flag	Interrupt Priority
00h	No interrupt pending	-	
02h	Capture/compare 1	TACCR1 CCIFG	Highest
04h	Capture/compare 2 ⁽¹⁾	TACCR2 CCIFG	
06h	Reserved	-	
08h	Reserved	-	
0Ah	Timer overflow	TAIFG	
0Ch	Reserved	-	
0Eh	Reserved	-	Lowest

⁽¹⁾ Not implemented in MSP430x20xx devices




And this is the interrupt vector for the interrupts that will be generated because of the Timer A operation and as you see, many of the interrupts are shared. Here is the interrupt of capture compare 1 and this is the interrupt of the capture compare 2. This is the interrupt of the timer overflow for a given timer.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:30)

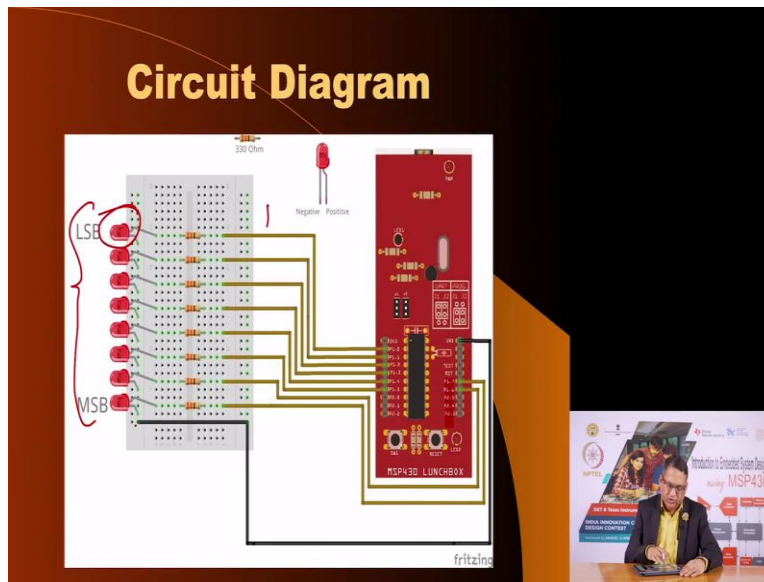
TIMER_A Interrupts

- Timer Overflow sets the flag TAIFG in TACTL.
- Interrupt vectors associated with the 16-bit Timer_A module:
 - TACCR0 interrupt vector for TACCR0 CCIFG.
 - TAIV interrupt vector for all other CCIFG flags and TAIFG.
- In capture mode any CCIFG flag is set when a timer value is captured in the associated TACCRx register.
- In compare mode, any CCIFG flag is set if TAR counts to the associated TACCRx value.
- Software may also set or clear any CCIFG flag. All CCIFG flags request an interrupt when their corresponding CCIE bit and the GIE bit are set.



And there are many many sources of interrupts for these timers. I again very strongly recommend you that you go through the slides as well as the data sheets.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:42)



Now, we are going to run a little program to illustrate what can be achieved with the timer. Now, in a previous exercise, we saw that we can use a delay function to toggle LED at a certain rate by changing the delay period, you can slow down the toggling rate or you can make it fast. Here, we can do that except we are not just toggling a single LED, we are actually counting, the count on 8 LEDs which we connected to port 1 bits.


We have connected 8 LEDs, as you see this part of the LED is grounded all these LEDs are grounded which means whenever this bit is one that LED is going to glow. Now, we are going to have an internal counter which will count from 0 to 255. When the value 0 all the LED will be off. When it is 1, one LED will be on, when it is 2, the first LED will turn off, the second will turn on and so on and so forth. So, you will see the counter value in a binary form.

But who is changing the count, the count is changing at every one second but that one second duration is not being achieved by some delay loop. And instead we have used a timer to generate an interrupt at every one second. And at every one second interval, we are incrementing the count and outputting the count onto the port 1 register. So, that you will see the LEDs blinking or rather counting information at the rate of one second. There is no other interaction; there is no switch anything like that. Once you load the program and download it and power it up, you will see the LEDs blinking.

(Refer Slide Time: 20:40)

Example Code : Hello_Timer

```
1#include <msp430.h>
2#include <inttypes.h>
3
4volatile char count = 0;
5volatile unsigned int i;
6
7/**
8 * @brief
9 * These settings are wrt enabling GPIO on Lunchbox
10 **/
11void register_settings_for_GPIO()
12{
13    P1DIR |= 0xFF;           //P1.0 to P1.7 are set as Output
14    P1OUT |= 0x00;         //Initially they are set to logic zero
15}
16
17/**
18 * @brief
19 * These settings are w.r.t enabling TIMER0 on Lunch Box
20 **/
21void register_settings_for_TIMER0()
22{
23    CCTL0 = CCIE;           // CCR0 interrupt enabled
24    TACTL = TASSSEL_1 + MC_1; // ACLK = 32768 Hz, upmode
25    CCR0 = 32768;          // 1 Hz
26}
```



So, here in this program, we have certain registers, we have certain sub-routines. These sub-routines simply determines that all the pins of the port 1 should be set as output and their initial value set to 0. So, that when you turn on the values will be 0. Here, we are choosing the timer various modes of timer 0. What we are doing is, we are saying that we want to generate a interrupt on capture compare register 0.

The clock for the timer is A clock. And A clock is source from the low frequency crystal as you know on our MSP430 lunchbox, there is 32.768 kilohertz crystal. The frequency of that crystal will be use to drive this counter, drive this timer and we want to compare when that count reaches 32768 by loading the capture counter register to 32768.

When it reaches 32768 that means 32,768 pulses from the oscillator have elapsed. And since the frequency is 32.768 kilohertz that means one second has elapsed. Upon that event it will generate an interrupt.

(Refer Slide Time: 22:06)

```
27
28 /*@brief entry point for the code*/
29 void main(void)
30 {
31     WDCTL = WDTPW + WDTHOLD; // Stop Watch dog (Not recommended for code in production and devices working in f
32
33     do{
34         IFG1 &= ~OFIFG; // Clear oscillator fault flag
35         for (i = 50000; i; i--); // Delay
36     } while (IFG1 & OFIFG); // Test osc fault flag
37
38     register_settings_for_TIMER0();
39     register_settings_for_GPIO();
40     _BIS_SR(LPM3_bits + GIE); // Enter LPM3 w/ interrupt
41 }
42
43 /*@brief entry point for TIMER0 interrupt vector*/
44 #pragma vector= TIMER0_A0_VECTOR
45 __interrupt void Timer_A (void)
46 {
47     count++;
48     P1OUT = count; //Assign value of Count to PORT 1 to represent it as binary number
49 }
```


See let us see the program, what we are doing as we always do. This is the main void and we have disabled the watchdog timer. Now, you remember when we were discussing about the clocks, the ACLK clock derived out of low frequency oscillator as well as low frequency low frequency crystal oscillator. Both have to start working.

They are not very fast oscillators which means they will not start working right away after reset. It may take some time to oscillators to build and stabilize and to do that you have to check for this flag as we have seen in the previous lecture. We are just repeating that code here. We are waiting in this loop to make sure that our oscillator is stable, was that oscillator stable. We are calling this sub routine which we have seen previously here. Here we are here we are feeding that A clock to timer 0 A0.

(Refer Slide Time: 23:08)


Hello_Timer

```
27
28 /*@brief entry point for the code*/
29 void main(void)
30 {
31     WDCTL = WDTPW + WDTHOLD; // Stop Watch dog (Not recommended for code in production and devices working in f
32
33     do{
34         IFG1 &= ~OFIFG; // Clear oscillator fault flag
35         for (i = 50000; i; i--); // Delay
36     } while (IFG1 & OFIFG); // Test osc fault flag
37
38     register_settings_for_TIMER0();
39     register_settings_for_GPIOD();
40     _BIS_SR(LPM3_bits + GIE); // Enter LPM3 w/ interrupt
41 }
42
43 /*@brief entry point for TIMER0 interrupt vector*/
44 #pragma vector= TIMER0_AB_VECTOR
45 int main(void) {
```



Hello_Timer

```
27
28 /*@brief entry point for the code*/
29 void main(void)
30 {
31     WDCTL = WDTPW + WDTHOLD; // Stop Watch dog (Not recommended for code in production and devices working in f
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33     do{
34         IFG1 &= ~OFIFG; // Clear oscillator fault flag
35         for (i = 50000; i; i--); // Delay
36     } while (IFG1 & OFIFG); // Test osc fault flag
37
38     register_settings_for_TIMER0();
39     register_settings_for_GPIOD();
40     _BIS_SR(LPM3_bits + GIE); // Enter LPM3 w/ interrupt
41 }
42
43 /*@brief entry point for TIMER0 interrupt vector*/
44 #pragma vector= TIMER0_AB_VECTOR
45 int main(void) {
```



```
17
18 /*@brief entry point for the code*/
19 void main(void)
20 {
21     WDTCTL = WDTPW + WDTHOLD; //! Stop Watch dog (Not recommended for code in production and devices working in f
22
23     do{
24         IFG1 &= ~OFIFG; // Clear oscillator fault flag
25         for (i = 50000; i; i--); // Delay
26     } while (IFG1 & OFIFG); // Test osc fault flag
27
28     register_settings_for_TIMER0();
29     register_settings_for_GPI0();
30     _BIS_SR(LPM3_bits + GIE); // Enter LPM3 w/ interrupt
31 }
32
33 /*@brief entry point for TIMER0 interrupt vector*/
34 #pragma vector= TIMER0_A0_VECTOR
35 __interrupt void Timer_A (void)
36 {
37     count++;
38     P1OUT = count; //Assign value of Count to PORT 1 to represent it as binary number
39 }
```


And then we are calling this sub routine to make all the bits of port 1 to be turned off. Then what we are doing, then we are entering, we have loaded a value into starters register to unble the global inter flag. This is very important. But we also have chosen to use low power 3. Low power mode 3, this will disable everything except, it will keep on keep the A clock active. And since we have chosen A clock to feed the timer which means timer will keep on working.

Also, the peripheral such as the ports will keep on working. So, once you execute this instruction. Let me remove the comments here. Once you execute the comments here, you can immediately go in the low power mode 3. And you are enabling the interrupts and before that you have already enable the timer. The timer clock is selected from A clock that means once one second gets over, you are going to go in the interrupt. And this is the interrupt program. We are saying that our vector is timer is 0_A0 vector and this is the code for it. And what is the code? Simply, have a count where you are saying the count is equal to increment the count and what is count.

(Refer Slide Time: 24:41)


Hello_Timer

```
1#include <msp430.h>
2#include <inttypes.h>
3
4volatile char count = 0;
5volatile unsigned int i;
6
7/**
8 * @brief
9 * These settings are w.r.t enabling GPIO on Lunchbox
10 **/
11void register_settings_for_GPIO()
12{
13    P1DIR |= 0xFF;           //P1.0 to P1.7 are set as Output
14    P1OUT |= 0x00;         //Initially they are set to logic zero
15}
16
17/**
18 * @brief
19 * These settings are w.r.t enabling TIMER0 on Lunch Box
20 **/
21void register_settings_for_TIMER0()
22{
23    CCTL0 = CCIE;           // CCR0 interrupt enabled
24    TACTL = TASSEL_1 + MC_1; // ACLK = 32768 Hz, upmode
25    CCR0 = 32768;          // 1 Hz
26}
```



Hello_Timer

```
1#include <msp430.h>
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11void register_settings_for_GPIO()
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14    P1OUT |= 0x00;         //Initially they are set to logic zero
15}
16
17/**
18 * @brief
19 * These settings are w.r.t enabling TIMER0 on Lunch Box
20 **/
21void register_settings_for_TIMER0()
22{
23    CCTL0 = CCIE;           // CCR0 interrupt enabled
24}
```



```

    for (i = 0; i < 255; i++)
    } while (IFG1 & OFIFG); // delay // Test osc fault flag

register_settings_for_TIMER0(); ←
register_settings_for_GPIO();
_BIS_SR(LPM3_bits + GIE); // Enter LPM3 w/ interrupt

@brief entry point for TIMER0 interrupt vector*/
#pragma vector= TIMER0_A0_VECTOR ←
_interrupt void Timer_A (void)

count++; ←
P1OUT = count; //Assign value of Count to PORT 1 to r

```



If you see here the count is very important. Count is declared as volatile variable of the type `CAR` which means it is a 8 bit counter and the initial value 0. Now, volatile means whenever you increment it, it will be fetched again and again from the actual location instead of copy being read from any register, internal register. It will be read from memory because this is going to be initialized in memory.

So, we have declared this variable as volatile. And in that variable, we are incrementing and that value incremented value simply outputting on the port 1 bits. So, once you compile, rebuild and download this program. What you should see that every one second, the 8 bits LEDs will start working like a binary counter and it will keep on counting from 0, it will reach all the LEDs are, at 0 all the LEDs will be off.

Then as it gets every one second it will increment and at 255 seconds, you will see all the LEDs on. And then in next second all the LEDs will be off again. And this will keep on happening. And this is basically to show that the delay period of incrementing the LEDs, incrementing the count display on the LEDs is not being done with the help of a CPU program, with the help of the code but it is being performed by the peripheral which is the timer A_0.

And we will see more activities involving the timer such as the capture compare modes. And also how to use the timer in the PWM generation facility. We will see in our subsequent lecture. I suggest you play with this, if you want to change the frequency at the rate the clock the count is being updated, you can go into this part of the code.

And change this number to a lower value and you will see that it blinks the LEDs, it counts the LEDs faster. If you increase this you can have a slower update. So, I suggest that you play with this code, update it, modify it, download it and see how various changes to the code will impact the actual performance. Thank you very much, I will see you very soon, bye bye..