# **Exceptions**

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#### Based on

ARM System-on-Chip Architecture, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, Steve Furber

Introduction to ARM Cortex-M Microcontrollers – Embedded Systems, Jonathan W. Valvano

Digital Design and Computer Architecture, D. M. Harris and S. L. Harris

ARM assembler in Raspberry Pi Roger Ferrer Ibáñez

https://thinkingeek.com/arm-assembler-raspberry-pi/

#### Status Reg to General Reg Transfer Instructions

#### **Status Register to General Register Transfer Instructions**

MRS {<cond>} Rd, CPSR | SPSR

MRS Rd, CPSR
MRS Rd, SPSR
MRS <cond> Rd, CPSR
MRS <cond> Rd, SPSR



#### General Reg to Status Reg Transfer Instructions

#### **General Register to Status Register Transfer Instructions**

```
MSR {<cond>} CPSR_f | SPSR_f, #<32-bit immediate>
MSR {<cond>} CPSR_<field> | SPSR_<field>, Rm
```

```
_<field> is one of
_c : the control field PSR[ 7: 0]
_x : the extension field PSR[15: 8] (unused on current ARMs)
_s : the status field PSR[23:16] (unused on current ARMs)
_f : the flag field PSR[31:24]
```

```
MSR
              CPSR f, #<32-bit immediate>
MSR
              SPSR f, #<32-bit immediate>
MSR <cond>
              CPSR f, #<32-bit immediate>
MSR <cond>
              SPSR f, #<32-bit immediate>
MSR
              CPSR <field>, Rm
MSR
              SPSR <field>, Rm
MSR <cond>
              CPSR <field>, Rm
MSR <cond>
              SPSR <field>, Rm
```



#### **CPSR** and **SPSR**

31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

N Z C V F T mode

# **Saved Program Status Register (CPSR)**Saved Program Status Register (SPSR)

**N** Negative flag

**Z** Zero flag

**C** Carry flag

**V** Overflow flag

To disable Interrupt (IRQ), set I

To disable Fast Interrupt (FIQ), set F

the **T** bit shows running in the Thumb state

Usr (usr)	1	0	0	0	0
Fast Interrupt (fiq)	1	0	0	0	1
Interrupt (irq)	1	0	0	1	0
Supervisor (svc)	1	0	0	1	1
Abort (abt)	1	0	1	1	1
Undefined (und)	1	1	0	1	1
System (sys)	1	1	1	1	1

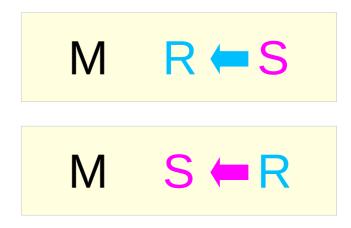
#### **CPSR** and **SPSR** Fields

31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24	23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16	15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8	7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0										
Current Program Status Register (CPSR)													
CPSR_f	CPSR_s	CPSR_x	CPSR_c										
	Saved Program Sta	tus Register (SPSR)											
SPSR_f	SPSR_s	SPSR_X	SPSR_c										
N Z C V			I F T mode										
flag field	status field	extension field	control field										

#### To a General Reg From a Status Reg



MRS Rd, CPSR MRS Rd, SPSR



#### To a Status Reg From a General Reg

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
												÷	#<3	<b>2-</b> b	it in	nme	edia	ıte>	•												
																										-					
N	Z	С	V																					I	F	Т		n	nod	9	

MSR CPSR\_f , #<32-bit immediate> MSR SPSR\_f , #<32-bit immediate> MSR CPSR\_c , #<32-bit imm> MSR SPSR\_c , #<32-bit imm>

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
															R	m															
																										_					
N	Z	С	V																					I	F	T		n	nod	е	

MSR CPSR\_f , Rm MSR SPSR\_f , Rm MSR CPSR\_c , Rm MSR SPSR\_c , Rm

#### Interrupt is an Exception

#### There are four classes of **exception**:

- interrupt
- trap
- fault
- abort

**Interrupt** is one of the classes of **exception**.

**Interrupt** occurs asynchronously and it is triggered by signal which is from I/O device that are external by processor.

After exception handler finish handling this interrupt (exception processing), handler will always return to next instruction.

#### exceptions

- interrupt
- trap
- fault
- abort

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/7295936/what-is-the-difference-between-interrupt-and-exception-context

Interrupts and exceptions both alter the program flow.

- interrupts are used to handle external events (serial ports, keyboard)
- exceptions are used to handle instruction faults (division by zero, undefined opcode).

**interrupts** are handled by the processor <u>after</u> finishing the <u>current</u> <u>instruction</u>.

If it finds a signal on its interrupt pin, it will look up the address of the interrupt handler in the interrupt table and pass that routine control.

After <u>returning</u> from the <u>interrupt handler</u> routine, it will <u>resume</u> program execution at the next instruction after the interrupted instruction.

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/7295936/what-is-the-difference-between-interrupt-and-exception-context

- interrupt
- trap
- fault
- abort

exceptions

# Exceptions vs interrupts (2)

Exceptions on the other hand are divided into three kinds.
Faults, Traps and Aborts.

**Faults** are detected and serviced by the processor before the <u>faulting instructions</u>.

**Traps** are serviced after the <u>instruction</u> causing the <u>trap</u>.

User defined interrupts go into this category and can be said to be traps;

this includes the MS- DOS **INT 21h** software interrupt, for example.

Aborts are used only to signal severe system problems, when operation is no longer possible.

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/7295936/what-is-the-difference-between-interrupt-and-exception-context

- interrupt
- trap
- fault
- abort

exceptions

# Exceptions vs interrupts (3)

#### **Trap**

It is typically a type of synchronous interrupt caused by an exceptional condition (e.g., breakpoint, division by zero, invalid memory access).

#### **Fault**

Fault exception is used in a client application to catch contractually-specified SOAP faults. By the simple exception message, you can't identify the reason of the exception, that's why a Fault Exception is useful.

#### **Abort**

It is a type of exception occurs when an instruction fetch causes an error.

SOAP (formerly an acronym for Simple Object Access Protocol) is a messaging protocol specification for exchanging structured information in the implementation of web services in computer networks.

# Exceptions vs interrupts (4)

Interrupt is one of the classes of Exception.
There are 4 classes of Exception
- interrupt, trap, fault and abort.

Even though there are many differences, interrupt belongs to exception still

In any computer, during its normal execution of a program, there could be events that can cause the CPU to temporarily halt. Events like this are called interrupts.

Interrupts can be caused by either software or hardware faults.

hardware interrupts are called Interrupts

software interrupts are called Exceptions

external, asynchronous

internal, instruction

hardware interrupt

• trap

software interrupts

• trap

• fault

• abort

# Exceptions vs interrupts (5)

The term **Interrupt** is usually reserved for hardware interrupts.

They are program control interruptions caused by external hardware events.

Here, external means external to the CPU.

Hardware interrupts usually come from many different sources

- timer chip
- peripheral devices (keyboards, mouse, etc.)
- I/O ports (serial, parallel, etc.)
- disk drives, CMOS clock
- expansion cards (sound / video card, etc)

That means hardware interrupts almost <u>never</u> occur due to some event related to the <u>executing</u> program.

https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/difference-between-interrupt-and-exception/

**Exception** is a software interrupt, which can be identified as a special handler routine.

Exception can be identified as an automatically occurring **trap**.

Generally, there are no specific instructions associated with exceptions

traps are generatedusing a specific instructionint is x86 jargon for "trap instruction"a call to a predefined interrupt handler.

So, an **exception** occurs due to an "exceptional" condition that occurs <u>during program execution</u>.

# Exceptions vs interrupts (6)

Interrupt	Exception
These are Hardware interrupts.	These are Software Interrupts.
<ul> <li>Occurrences of hardware interrupts usually disable other hardware interrupts.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>This is not a true case in terms of Exception. (does not disable other exceptions)</li> </ul>
These are <u>asynchronous</u> <u>external</u> requests for <u>service</u> (like keyboard or printer needs	<ul> <li>These are <u>synchronous</u> <u>internal</u> requests for service based upon <u>abnormal events</u></li> </ul>
service).	(think of illegal instructions, illegal address, overflow etc).
Being asynchronous, interrupts can occur at any place in the program.	<ul> <li>Being synchronous, exceptions occur when there is abnormal event in your program like, divide by zero or illegal memory location.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>These are normal events and shouldn't interfere with the normal running of a computer.</li> </ul>	These are abnormal events and often result in the termination of a program

#### Interrupt examples

An event like a key press on the keyboard, or an internal hardware timer timing out can *raise* this kind of interrupt and can *inform* the CPU that a certain device needs some attention.

the CPU will stop whatever it was doing, provides the service required by the device and will get back to the normal program.

When hardware interrupts occur and the CPU starts the **ISR**, other hardware interrupts are *disabled* (e.g. in 80×86 machines). If you need other hardware interrupts to occur
while the ISR is running,
you need to do that explicitly
by clearing the interrupt flag
with CLI / STI instruction in 80x86
with MSR in ARM

In 80×86 machines, clearing the interrupt flag will only affect hardware interrupts.

#### **Exception examples**

Division by zero, execution of an illegal opcode or memory related fault could cause exceptions.

Whenever an exception is raised, the CPU temporarily *suspends* the program it was executing and starts the **ISR**.

**ISR** will contain what to do with the exception.

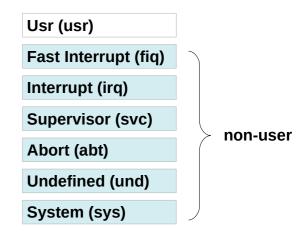
It may correct the problem or if it is not possible, it may abort the program gracefully by printing a suitable error message.

Although a *specific* instruction does *not* cause an exception, an exception will *always* be caused by an instruction.

For example, the division by zero error can only occur during the execution of the division instruction.

### (1) Mode of operations

- 7 modes of operation.
- most application programs execute in user mode
- Non user modes (called privileged modes) are entered to serve interrupts or exceptions

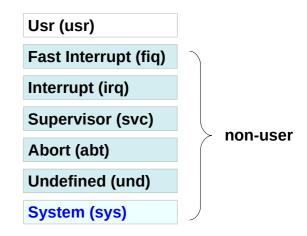


# (2) Mode of operations

 The system mode is special mode for accessing protected resources.

Because **exception handlers** in **system mode** does <u>not</u> use *registers*,

**errors** in **exception handler** <u>cannot</u> <u>corrupt</u> registers



# (3) Mode of operations

switching between modes
 can be done <u>manually</u> through modifying
 the mode bits in the CPSR register.

Usr (usr)	1	0	0	0	0
Fast Interrupt (fiq)	1	0	0	0	1
Interrupt (irq)	1	0	0	1	0
Supervisor (svc)	1	0	0	1	1
Abort (abt)	1	0	1	1	1
Undefined (und)	1	1	0	1	1
System (sys)	1	1	1	1	1



### (4) Mode of operations

Process	sor Mode	Description
USR	User	Normal program execution mode
FIQ	FIQ	Fast data processing mode
IRQ	IRQ	For general purpose interrupts
SVC	Supervisor	A protected mode for the OS
ABT	Abort	When data or instruction fetch is aborted
UND	Undefined	For undefined instructions
SYS	System	Privileged mode for OS Tasks

Switching between these modes requires saving/loading register values

### (4) Mode of operations

- User mode is an unprivileged mode, and has restricted access to system resources.
- Non-user modes
  - have full access to system resources in the <u>current</u> security state,
  - can <u>change</u> mode freely,
  - <u>execute</u> software as <u>privileged</u>.
- Non-user mode are entered
  - to service exceptions,
  - or to <u>access</u> privileged resources.

- Applications that require task protection usually execute in User mode.
- Some embedded applications might run entirely in Non-user mode.
- An application that requires full access to system resources usually executes in System mode.

https://www.keil.com/support/man/docs/armasm/armasm\_dom1359731126962.htm

# (5) Mode of operations

- Supervisor (svc) mode: A privileged mode entered whenever the CPU is reset or when an SVC instruction is executed.
- whereas System mode is the only privileged mode that is <u>not</u> entered <u>by an exception</u>.
  - It can only be entered by executing an instruction that <u>explicitly</u> writes to the **mode bits** of the Current Program Status Register (CPSR).
  - So, the exception handlers modify the CPSR to enter System mode.

- Usage: Corruption of the link register can be a problem when handling multiple exceptions of the same.
- the System mode shares the same registers as
   User mode,
   it can run tasks that require privileged access,
   and exceptions no longer overwrite the link
   register.
- Linux kernel has done it this way, so that whenever any interrupt occurs in first level IRQ handler, it copies IRQ registers to SVC registers and switch the ARM to SVC mode.

https://www.quora.com/In-ARM-processor-what-is-the-difference-in-supervisor-mode-and-system-mode

### (3) ARM Register Set

- ARM processor has 37 32-bit registers.
- 31 registers are general purpose registers.
- 6 registers are control registers
- Registers are named from R0 to R16
   with some registers banked in different modes
- R13 is the stack pointer SP (banked)
- R14 is subroutine link register LR (banked)
- R15 is program counter PC
- R16 is current program status register CPSR (banked)

R8	R9	R10	R11	R12
R8_fiq	R9 <b>_fiq</b>	R10_fiq	R11_fiq	R12_fiq

SP (R13)	LR (R14)	SPSR (R16)
SP_fiq	LR_fiq	SPSR_fiq
SP_irq	LR_irq	SPSR_irq
SP_svc	LR_svc	SPSR_svc
SP_abt	LR_abt	SPSR_abt
SP_und	LR_und	SPSR_und

#### Banked registers

#### Registers in exception handlers

- The mode change associated with an exception occurring means that as a minimum, the <u>particular</u> exception handler called will have access to
  - its own stack pointer (SP\_<mode>)
  - its own link register (LR <mode>)
  - Its own saved program status register (SPSR\_<mode>)
  - for a FIQ handler, 5 other general purpose registers (r8\_FIQ to r12\_FIQ)
  - · other registers will be <u>shared</u> with the previous mode
  - · SP\_<mode> must maintain <u>8-byte alignment</u> at external interfaces
- The exception handler must ensure that other (<u>corrupted</u>) <u>registers</u> are <u>restored</u> to their original state upon <u>exit</u>
  - · This can be done by storing the contents of any working registers
  - · on the stack and restoring them before returning

http://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/valpont/uploads/20160326012043/Exception\_handling.pdf

#### The same registers across different modes

User	System	Fast Interrupt	Interrupt	Supervisor	Abort	Undefined
R0	R0	R0	R0	R0	R0	R0
R1	R1	R1	R1	R1	R1	R1
R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2
R3	R3	R3	R3	R3	R3	R3
R4	R4	R4	R4	R4	R4	R4
R5	R5	R5	R5	R5	R5	R5
R6	R6	R6	R6	R6	R6	R6
R7	R7	R7	R7	R7	R7	R7
R8	R8	R8_fiq	R8	R8	R8	R8
R9	R9	R9_fiq	R9	R9	R9	R9
R10	R10	R10_fiq	R10	R10	R10	R10
R11	R11	R11_fiq	R11	R11	R11	R11
R12	R12	R12_fiq	R12	R12	R12	R12
R13 (SP)	R13 (SP)	R13_fiq	R13_irq	R13_svc	R13_abt	R13_und
R14 (LR)	R14 (LR)	R14_fiq	R14_irq	R14_svc	R14_abt	R14_und
R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)
CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR
		SPSR_fiq	SPSR_irq	SPSR_svc	SPSR_aht	SPSR_und

http://www.cs.otago.ac.nz/cosc440/readings/arm-syscall.pdf

### Actual number of different registers

16+1	0	7+1	2+1	2+1	2+1	2+1
R0	R0	R0	R0	R0	R0	R0
R1	R1	R1	R1	R1	R1	R1
R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2
R3	R3	R3	R3	R3	R3	R3
R4	R4	R4	31 general purp	oose registers	R4	R4
R5	R5	R5	R5	R5	R5	R5
R6	R6	R6	R6	R6	R6	R6
R7	R7	R7	R7	R7	R7	R7
R8	R8	R8_fiq	R8	R8	R8	R8
R9	R9	R9_fiq	R9	R9	R9	R9
R10	R10	R10_fiq	R10	R10	R10	R10
R11	R11	R11_fiq	R11	R11	R11	R11
R12	R12	R12_fiq	R12	R12	R12	R12
R13 (SP)	R13 (SP)	R13_fiq	R13_irq	R13_svc	R13_abt	R13_und
R14 (LR)	R14 (LR)	R14_fiq	R14_irq	R14_svc	R14_abt	R14_und
R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)
CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR
	ol registers	SPSR fig	SPSR irq	SPSR_svc	SPSR_abt	SPSR und

http://www.cs.otago.ac.nz/cosc440/readings/arm-syscall.pdf

### **ARM Processor Registers**

User	System	Fast Interrupt	Interrupt	Supervisor	Abort	Undefined
R0	R0	R0	R0	R0	R0	R0
R1	R1	R1	R1	R1	R1	R1
R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2	R2
R3	R3	R3	R3	R3	R3	R3
R4	R4	R4	R4	R4	R4	R4
R5	R5	R5	R5	R5	R5	R5
R6	R6	R6	R6	R6	R6	R6
R7	R7	R7	R7	R7	R7	R7
R8	R8	R8_fiq	R8	R8	R8	R8
R9	R9	R9_fiq	R9	R9	R9	R9
R10	R10	R10_fiq	R10	R10	R10	R10
R11	R11	R11_fiq	R11	R11	R11	R11
R12	R12	R12_fiq	R12	R12	R12	R12
R13 (SP)	R13 (SP)	R13_fiq	R13_irq	R13_svc	R13_abt	R13_und
R14 (LR)	R14 (LR)	R14_fiq	R14_irq	R14_svc	R14_abt	R14_und
R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)	R15 (PC)
CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR	CPSR
		SPSR_fiq	SPSR_irq	SPSR_svc	SPSR_abt	SPSR_und

http://www.cs.otago.ac.nz/cosc440/readings/arm-syscall.pdf

# (4) Exceptions

An exception is any condition that needs to halt normal execution of the instructions

#### **Examples**

- Resetting ARM core
- Failure of fetching instructions
- HWI
- SWI

#### exceptions

HWI • i

- interrupt
- trap

SWI

- fault
- abort

# (5) Exceptions and modes

Each exception causes the ARM core to enter a specific mode.

Exception	Mode	Purpose	
Fast Interrupt Request	FIQ	Fast Interrupt handling	- HWI
Interrupt Request	IRQ	Normal interrupt handling	
SWI and RESET	SVC	Protected mode for OS	
Pre-fetch or data abort	ABT	Memory protection handling	SWI
Undefined Instruction	UND	SW emulation of HW coprocessors	

a table of branching instructions by which the ARM core branches to the correct ISR when an exception is raised

example branching instruction

ldr pc, [pc, #\_IRQ\_handler\_offset]

0x0000 0000	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset0]</pre>	Reset
0x0000 0004	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]</pre>	Undefined Instruction
0x0000 0008	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]</pre>	Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010	ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]	Data Abort
0x0000 0014	ldr pc, [pc, #offset5]	(Reserved)
0x0000 0018	ldr pc, [pc, #offset6]	IRQ
0x0000 001C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset7]	FIQ

- Reset executed on power on
- Undef when an invalid instruction reaches the execute stage of the pipeline
- SWI when a software interrupt instruction is executed
- Prefetch when an instruction is fetched from memory that is invalid for some reason, if it reaches the execute stage then this exception is taken
- Data if a load/store instruction tries to access an invalid memory location, then this exception is taken
- **IRQ** normal interrupt
- **FIQ** fast interrupt

A	0x1C	FIQ
Ī	0x18	IRQ
	0x14	(Reserved)
	0x10	Data Abort
	0x0C	Prefetch Abort
	80x0	Software Interrupt
	0x04	<b>Undefined Instruction</b>
	0x00	Reset

Vector table may be placed at **0xFFFF0000** on ARM720T, ARM9 family and later devices

http://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/valpont/uploads/20160326012043/Exception\_handling.pdf

#### branching instructions at the vector table

- B < Add >
- LDR pc, [pc, #offset]
- LDR pc, [pc, #-0xff0]
- MOV pc, #immediate

http://classweb.ece.umd.edu/enee447.S2019/ARM-Documentation/ARM-Interrupts-3.pdf

#### • B <Addr>

used to make branching to the memory location with address "Addr" relative to the current location of the pc.

#### • LDR pc, [pc, #offset]

used to load in the PC register the old PC value + an offset value

#### • LDR pc, [pc, #-0xff0]

used only when an interrupt controller is available, to load a <u>specific</u> ISR address from the vector table.

The vector interrupt controller (VIC) is

placed at memory address 0xfffff000 this is the base address of the VIC.

The ISR address is always located at 0xfffff030.

#### • MOV pc, #immediate

Load in the PC the value "immediate".

http://classweb.ece.umd.edu/enee447.S2019/ARM-Documentation/ARM-Interrupts-3.pdf

#### Branch Instruction B <Addr>

direct branch always to handler address label
The handler must be within 32MB of the branch instruction,
which may not be possible with some memory organizations

#### Move PC instruction MOV pc, #immediate

directly load the PC with a handler address label located on applicable address boundary Address must be able to be stored in 8-bits, rotated right an even number of places

Load PC instruction LDR pc, [pc, #offset] LDR pc, [pc, #-0xff0]

The PC is forced directly to the handler's address by storing the address in a suitable memory location (within 4KB of the vector address). loading the vector with an instruction which loads the PC with the contents of the chosen memory location.

http://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/valpont/uploads/20160326012043/Exception\_handling.pdf

# (6) Vector table

Note that the Load PC cannot be written using MOV because the address location of the Undef handler cannot be generated using 8-bits rotated right an even number of places.

for the Move PC example the value 0x03 is rotated right four bits which is stored as two lots of 2 bits and is hence encoded as 0xA30F203

# IRQ with VIC (1)

the startup assembly file in the Keil environment

Exception vectors should be linked and programmed correctly. This is usually managed by the linker.

Also appropriate handlers need to be programmed at the respective locations.

For instance at the IRQ vector (0x18) the following instruction should exist if the ISR address is read directly from the **VIC** Vector Address Register (register address: 0xFFFFF030)

LDR PC [PC,#-0xFF0]

0x18 + 0x8 - 0xff0 = -0xfd0 = 0xFFFFF030

the base address of the VIC 0xfffff000

the ISR address is always at at 0xfffff030.

offset address = -0xFF0

= 0xFFFFF010

address = 0xFFFFF030

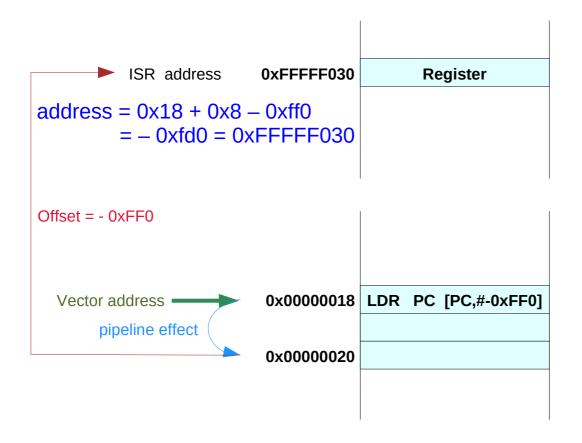
vector address = 0x00000018

pipeline effect = 0x00000008

```
0x0000 0000
              Idr pc, [pc, #offset0]
                                     Reset
0x0000 0004
              ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]
                                    Undefined Instruction
              ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]
0x0000 0008
                                     Software Interrupt
              ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]
0x0000 000C
                                     Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010 | ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]
                                    Data Abort
0x0000 0014
              Idr pc, [pc, #offset5]
                                    (Reserved)
              ldr pc, [pc, #-0x0ff0]
                                    IRO 🛑
0x0000 0018
0x0000 001C | Idr pc, [pc, #offset7]
                                    FIO
```

https://www.nxp.com/docs/en/application-note/AN10381.pdf

# IRQ with VIC (2)



the base address of the VIC 0xfffff000

the register address is always at at 0xfffff030.

offset address = -0xFF0

= 0xFFFFF010

address = 0xFFFFF030

vector address = 0x00000018

pipeline effect = 0x00000008

Offset = (address location - vector address - pipeline effect)  
= 
$$-0xFD0 - 0x18 - 0x8 = -0xFF0$$

https://www.nxp.com/docs/en/application-note/AN10381.pdf

# Undef with VIC (1)

```
LDR PC, [PC+offset]
LDR pc, [pc, #-0xff0]
```

#### offset address

- = (address location vector address pipeline effect)
- = 0xFFC 0x4 0x8
- = 0xFF0

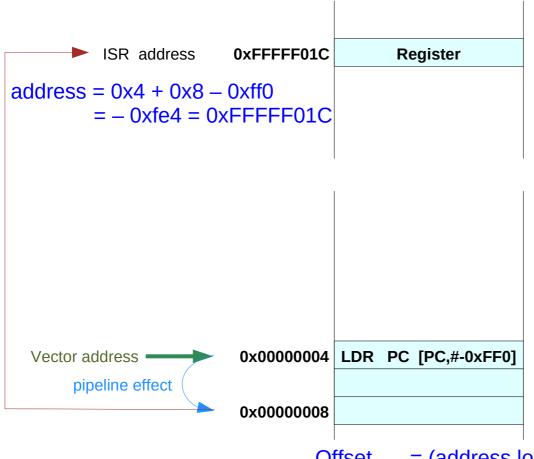
```
0x4 + 0x8 - 0xff0 = 
- 0xfe4 = 0xFFFFF01C
```

the base address of the VIC 0xfffff000

the ISR address is always at 0xfffff030.

```
0x0000 0000
              Idr pc, [pc, #offset0]
                                     Reset
0x0000 0004 ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]
                                    Undefined Instruction
0x0000 0008
              ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]
                                     Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C | Idr pc, [pc, #offset3]
                                     Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010 | Idr pc, [pc, #offset4]
                                    Data Abort
0x0000 0014
              Idr pc, [pc, #offset5]
                                    (Reserved)
0x0000 0018
              Idr pc, [pc, #-0x0ff0]
                                    IRO
0x0000 001C | Idr pc, [pc, #offset7]
                                    FIO
```

# Undef with VIC (2)



the base address of the VIC 0xfffff000

the ISR address is always at at 0xfffff01C.

offset address = -0xFF0

= 0xFFFFF010

address = 0xFFFFF01C

vector address = 0x00000004

pipeline effect = 0x00000008

Offset = (address location - vector address - pipeline effect) = -0xFE4 - 0x4 - 0x8 = -0xFF0

https://www.nxp.com/docs/en/application-note/AN10381.pdf

# (6) Vector table

- 3. Stack pointers should be programmed correctly for FIQ and IRQ.
- 4. The VIC is programmed correctly with the ISR address. This needs to be handled in the application.
- 5. Compiler supported keywords are used for the Interrupt handlers. For instance in Keil, an ISR function could have the following form. void IRQ\_Handler()\_\_irq

  More details on compiler keywords is provided in the next section.

https://www.nxp.com/docs/en/application-note/AN10381.pdf

#### **ARM Interrupt Controller**

When a peripheral or device <u>requires</u> <u>attention</u>, it <u>raises</u> an interrupt to the processor.

```
An interrupt controller provides
a programmable governing policy
software to determine
which peripheral or device can
interrupt the processor
at any specific time
by setting the appropriate bits
in the interrupt controller registers.
```

There are two types of interrupt controller available for the ARM processor:

- standard interrupt controller
- vector interrupt controller (VIC).

### Standard Interrupt Controller

The **standard** interrupt controller sends an interrupt signal to the processor core when an <u>external</u> <u>device</u> requests servicing.

It can be programmed to <u>ignore</u> or <u>mask</u> an individual device or set of devices.

The interrupt handler <u>determines</u>
which device requires servicing
by reading a <u>device bitmap register</u>
in the interrupt controller.

### Vector Interrupt Controller

The VIC is more powerful than the standard interrupt controller because it <u>prioritizes</u> interrupts and <u>simplifies</u> the determination of which device caused the interrupt.

After <u>associating</u> a <u>priority</u> and a <u>handler address</u> with <u>each interrupt</u>, the VIC only <u>asserts</u> an interrupt signal to the core if the priority of a <u>new interrupt</u> is <u>higher</u> than the <u>currently</u> executing interrupt handler.

#### Depending on its type, the VIC will

- either call the standard interrupt exception handler, which can <u>load</u> the handler address for the device from the VIC, or
- make the core jump directly to the handler for the device

### Vector Interrupt Controller – multiple ISR handlers

Usually, if you take the older controllers, they will have <u>only</u> <u>one</u> ISR for multiple interrupt sources.

In that ISR, we have to check the particular register and find the source – who is interrupting the processor.

So, the interrupt latency will increase if we do that in this way.

To sort this issue, ARM has come up with an idea of a vector interrupt controller (VIC) where each interrupt can have <u>separate</u> ISR functions and <u>those addresses</u> will be stored in the Vector table.

### Vector Interrupt Controller – vector address

The VIC provides a software interface to the interrupt system.

In a system with an interrupt controller, software must determine the source that is requesting service where its ISR is loaded.

A VIC does both of these in hardware.

It supplies the starting address, or vector address, of the ISR corresponding to the <u>highest priority</u> requesting interrupt <u>source</u>.

## Vector Interrupt Controller – a single FIQ source

In an ARM system, two levels of interrupts are available:

Fast Interrupt reQuest (FIQ) – For fast, low latency interrupt handling. Interrupt ReQuest (IRQ) – For more general interrupts.

Generally, you only use a <u>single</u> FIQ source at a time in a system to provide a true <u>low-latency</u> interrupt. This has the following benefits:

- you can <u>execute</u> the interrupt service routine <u>directly</u> <u>without determining the source</u> of the interrupt.
- It reduces interrupt latency.
- You can use the banked registers available for FIQ interrupts more efficiently, because you do <u>not</u> require a <u>context save</u>.

### Vector Interrupt Controller – 3 categories

The Vectored Interrupt Controller (VIC) takes 32 interrupt request inputs and programmably assigns them into 3 categories,

- FIQ
- vectored IRQ
- non-vectored IRQ.

### Vector Interrupt Controller

the sequence for the vectored interrupt flow:

- VICVectAddr Register
  read to branch to the interrupt service routine.
  write to clear the respective interrupt
- VICSoftIntClear Register
   if the request was generated by a software interrupt.

### Vector Interrupt Controller

#### the sequence for the vectored interrupt flow:

- When an interrupt occurs, The ARM processor <u>branches</u> to either the IRQ or FIQ interrupt vector.
- If the interrupt is an IRQ, read the VICVectAddr Register and branch to the interrupt service routine.
- Stack the workspace so that you can re-enable IRQ interrupts.
- Enable the IRQ interrupts so that a higher priority can be serviced.
- Execute the Interrupt Service Routine (ISR).
- Clear the requesting interrupt in the peripheral, or write to the VICSoftIntClear Register if the request was generated by a software interrupt.
- Disable the interrupts and restore the workspace.
- Write to the VICVectAddr Register.
   This clears the respective interrupt in the internal interrupt priority hardware.
- Return from the interrupt. This re-enables the interrupts.

### Nested Vectored Interrupt Controller

A <u>nested</u> vectored interrupt controller is used to manage the interrupts from multiple interrupt sources.

NVIC is closely integrated with the processor core to achieve low-latency interrupt processing and efficient processing of late arriving interrupts.

#### **NVIC** features in cortex M

- External interrupts, configurable from 1 to 240.
- Bits of priority, configurable from 3 to 8.
- A dynamic reprioritization of interrupts.
- Priority grouping. This enables the selection of preempting interrupt levels and non-preempting interrupt levels.
- Support for tail-chaining and late arrival of interrupts.
   This enables back-to-back interrupt processing without the overhead of state saving and restoration between interrupts.
- Processor state <u>automatically</u> <u>saved</u> on interrupt entry, and restored on interrupt exit, with no instruction overhead.
- Optional Wake-up Interrupt Controller (WIC), providing ultra-low-power sleep mode support.
- Vector table can be located in either RAM or flash.

All interrupts including the core exceptions are managed by the NVIC. The NVIC maintains knowledge of the stacked, or nested, interrupts to enable tail-chaining of interrupts.

#### **NVIC** features in cortex M

In a controller we enable every interrupt with certain priority levels and the interrupt is serviced/processed w.r.t the priority level.

Servicing/ processing the interrupt means the processing of line of codes inside the IRQ handler of the respective interrupt.

#### Example:

Priority 1- highest

Priority 2- Second highest

There are two different interrupts X and Y with priority levels 1 and 2 respectively.

https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-difference-between-ARMs-nested-vectored-interrupt-controller-and-an-interrupt-vector-table-which-seems-to-be-used-by-the-other-processors

### **NVIC** handling

- If interrupts X and Y occur at the same time.
   First X (P1) is processed, Y (P2) is put on hold.
   After processing X, Y is processed.
- If interrupt Y (P2) has occured first and
  the controller is in the mid-way of processing it
  and interrupt X (P1) occurs at that time.
  Then, the controller puts the interrupt Y's IRQ handler on hold
  and processes interrupt X's IRQ handler completely
  and then the program counter comes back
  to interrupt Y's handler to process it.
- So, it processes interrupt by nesting them within each other.

https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-difference-between-ARMs-nested-vectored-interrupt-controller-and-an-interrupt-vector-table-which-seems-to-be-used-by-the-other-processors

### **VIC** handling

- If interrupts X (P1) and Y (P2) occur at the same time.
   First X is processed, Y is put on hold.
   After processing X, Y is processed.
- If interrupt Y has occured first and the controller is
  in the mid-way of processing it and
  interrupt X occurs at that time.
   Then, the controller processes interrupt Y's IRQ handler completely
  and then the program counter comes to interrupt Xs handler to process it.

https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-difference-between-ARMs-nested-vectored-interrupt-controller-and-an-interrupt-vector-table-which-seems-to-be-used-by-the-other-processors

### Interrupt Vector Table

- Interrupt vector table contains the address of the IRQ handlers of every interrupt.
- They point the program counter where to go, if an interrupt occurs.
- Priorly VIC was referred as Interrupt vector table, because they just point the address when an interrupt occurs. They don't completely handle them as per priority.

https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-difference-between-ARMs-nested-vectored-interrupt-controller-and-an-interrupt-vector-table-which-seems-to-be-used-by-the-other-processors

# Vectored meaning (1)

**Vectored** means that the CPU is <u>aware</u> of the <u>address</u> of the ISR when the interrupt occurs

Non-Vectored means that
CPU doesn't know the address of the ISR
nor the source of the IRQ
when the interrupt occurs
it needs to be supplied with the ISR address.

For the Vectored Interrupt Controller, the system internally maintains a table IVT (Interrupt Vector Table) which contains the information about Interrupts sources and their corresponding ISR address.

IRQ source 1ISR 1 addressIRQ source 2ISR 2 addressIRQ source 3ISR 3 address

.. ...

# Vectored meaning (2)

the 'magnitude': the interrupt source ID the 'source' of the currently pending IRQ

the 'direction': the corresponding ISR vectored IRQ 'points to' its own unique ISR

Non-Vectored IRQs doesn't point to a unique ISR Instead, default / common ISR that needs to be executed when the interrupt occurs.

In LPC214x, 'VICDefVectAddr' register is used
The user must assign the address of the default ISR

# Vectored meaning (3)

VIRQ (Vectored IRQ) has
dedicated IRQ service routine for each Vectored interrupt source
NVIRQ (Non-Vectored IRQ) has
the same IRQ service routine for all Non-Vectored Interrupts.

VIC (in ARM CPUs & MCUs), as per its design, can take 32 interrupt request inputs but only 16 requests can be assigned to Vectored IRQ interrupts in its LCP2148 ARM7 Implementation.

We are given a set of 16 vectored IRQ slots to which we can assign any of the 32 requests that are available in LPC2148.

The slot numbering goes from 0 to 15 with slot no. 0 having highest priority and slot no. 15 having lowest priority.

# Vectored meaning (4)

For example if you working with 2 interrupt sources UARTO and TIMERO.

Now if you want to give TIMER0 a higher priority than UART0 then assign TIMER0 interrupt a lower number slot than UART0.

eg. TIMER0 to slot 0 and UART0 to slot 1 or TIMER0 to slot 4 and UART to slot 9 and so on.

The number of the slot doesn't matter as long TIMER0 slot is lower than UART0 slot.

## Vectored meaning (5)

VIC has plenty of registers.

Most of the registers that are used to <u>configure</u> interrupts or <u>read</u> status

each bit corresponds to a particular interrupt source and this correspondence is same for <u>all</u> of these <u>registers</u>.

#### For example

bit 0 in these registers corresponds to Watch dog timer interrupt,

bit 4 corresponds to TIMER0 interrupt,

bit 6 corresponds to UARTO interrupt .. and so on.

### Vectored meaning (5)

```
1) VICIntSelect (R/W): used to select an interrupt as IRQ or as FIQ
2) VICIntEnable (R/W): used to enable interrupts
3) VICIntEnClr (R/W): used to disable interrupts
4) VICIRQStatus (R): used for reading the current status of the enabled IRQ interrupts.
5) VICFIQStatus (R): used for reading the current status of the enabled FIQ interrupts
6) VICSoftInt: used to generate interrupts using software i.e the program itself
7) VICSoftIntClear: used to clear the interrupt request that was triggered(forced) using VICSoftInt.
8) VICVectCntl0 ~15: used to assign a particular interrupt source to a particular slot.
9) VICVectAddr0 ~15: store the address of the function that must be called when an interrupt occurs
10) VICVectAddr: stores the address of the "default/common" ISR for a Non-Vectored IRQ occurs
```

# Vectored meaning (5)

Bit 0: WDT	
Bit 1: N/A	
Bit 2: ARMC0	
Bit 3: ARMC1	
Bit 4: TIMR0	
Bit 5: TIMR1	
Bit 6: UART0	
Bit 7: UART1	
Bit 8: PWM	
Bit 9: I2C0	
Bit10 : I2C0	

Bit11: SPI1/SSP
Bit12 : PLL
Bit13: RTC
Bit14: EINT0
Bit15: EINT1
Bit16: EINT2
Bit17: EINT3
Bit18 : AD0
Bit19: I2C1
Bit20 : BOD
Bit21 : AD1
Bit22 : USB

#### VICVectCntl Registers

31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

**E** Int source

VICVectCntl0 ~ 15 : used to <u>assign</u> a particular interrupt source to a <u>particular slot</u>.

VICVectCntl0 - the highest priority VICVectCntl15 - the lowest priority

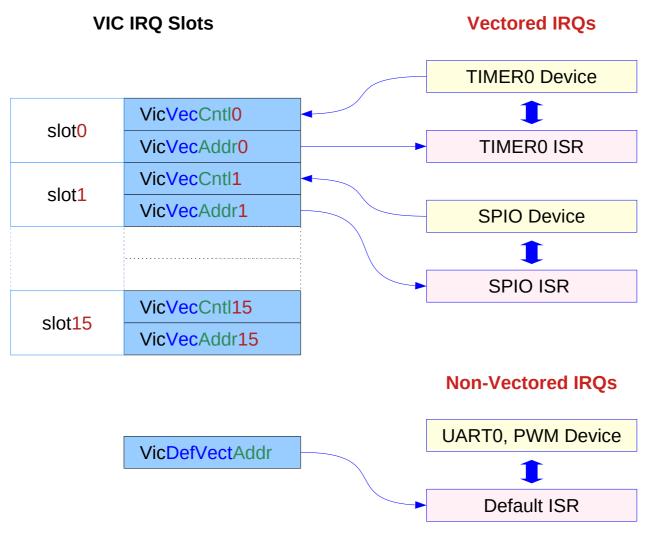
Bit4 ~ Bit0 contain the number of the interrupt request which is assigned to this slot.

Bit5 is used to <u>enable</u> the <u>vectored</u> IRQ slot by writing a 1

WDT	: 0
N/A	: 1
ARMC0	: 2
ARMC1	: 3
TIMR0	: 4
TIMR1	: 5
UART0	: 6
UART1	: 7
PWM	: 8
I2C0	: 9
12C0	: 10

SPI1/SSP	: 11
PLL	: 12
RTC	: 13
EINT0	: 14
EINT1	: 15
EINT2	: 16
EINT3	: 17
AD0	: 18
I2C1	: 19
BOD	: 20
AD1	: 21
USB	: 22

## Defining the ISR for Timers



### Defining the ISR for Timers

#### defining the ISR

explicitly tell the compiler that the function is not a normal function but an ISR

a special keyword called "\_\_irq": a function qualifier.

use this keyword with the function definition

an example of defining an ISR in Keil:

```
__irq void myISR (void) {
....
}

// or equivalently

void myISR (void) __irq
{
....
}
```

#### Setup the interrupt for Timers

```
for ARM based microcontrollers like lpc2148.

in order to assign TIMER0 IRQ and ISR to slot X.

Assign TIMER0 Interrupt to Slot number 0

// Enable TIMER0 IRQ

// 5th bit must 1 to enable the slot

// Vectored-IRQ for TIMER0 has been configured

VICIntEnable |= (1<<4);

VICVectCntl0 = (1<<5) | 4;

VICVectAddr0 = (unsigned) myISR;
```

```
Bit 0 : WDT

Bit 1 : N/A

Bit 2 : ARMC0

Bit 3 : ARMC1

Bit 4 : TIMR0

Bit 5 : TIMR1

Bit 6 : UART0

Bit 7 : UART1

Bit 8 : PWM

Bit 9 : I2C0

Bit10 : I2C0
```

- 2) VICIntEnable (R/W): used to enable interrupts
- 8) VICVectCntl0 ~15 : used to assign a particular interrupt source to a particular slot.
- 9) VICVectAddr0 ~15 : store the address of the function that must be called when an interrupt occurs

## Programming the ISR

consider two simple cases for coding an ISR

Use TIMER0 for generating IRQs

#### **Case #1)**

only one 'internal' source of interrupt in TIMER0 i.e an MR0 match event which raises an IRQ.

#### **Case #2)**

<u>multiple</u> 'internal' source of interrupt in TIMER0 i.e. say a match <u>event</u> for MR0 , MR1 & MR2 which raise an IRQ.

#### **TOIR** for TIMER0 T0's Interrupt Register

```
regVal = T0IR;

* * * MR0 * * *

T0IR = regval;
```

```
regVal = TOIR;

if( TOIR & MROI_FLAG ) {
          * * * MRO match * * *
} else if ( TOIR & MR1I_FLAG ) {
          * * * MRO match * * *
} else if ( TOIR & MR2I_FLAG ) {
          * * * MRO match * * *
}

TOIR = regval;
```

### Only one interrupt source

```
Since only one source is triggering an interrupt
we don't need to identify it
- though its a good practice to explicitly identify it.
  irq void myISR(void)
      long int regVal;
      // read the current value in T0's Interrupt Register
      regVal = TOIR;
      //... MR0 match event has occured
      // .. do something here
      // write back to clear the interrupt flag
      TOIR = regval;
      VICVectAddr = 0x0; // The ISR has finished!
```

#### Multiple interrupt sources

Even in case #2 things are simple unless we need to identify the 'actual' source of interrupt.

```
#define MR0I FLAG (1<<0)
#define MR1I FLAG (1<<1)
#define MR2I FLAG (1<<2)
 irq void myISR(void)
     long int regVal;
     // read the current value in T0's Interrupt Register
     regVal = TOIR;
     // write back to clear the interrupt flag
     TOIR = regVal;
     // Acknowledge that ISR has finished execution
     VICVectAddr = 0x0;
```

```
if( TOIR & MROI_FLAG ) {
    //do something for MR0 match
} else if ( TOIR & MR1I_FLAG ) {
    //do something for MR1 match
} else if ( TOIR & MR2I_FLAG ) {
    //do something for MR2 match
}
```

# Only one interrupt source

Case #2 actually provides a general method of using Timers as PWM generators!

You can use any one of the match registers as PWM Cycle generator and then use other 3 match registers to generate 3 PWM signals!

Since LPC214x already has PWM generator blocks on chip I don't see any use of Timers being used as PWM generators.

But for MCUs which don't have PWM generator blocks this is very useful.

Both of them deal with IRQs from <u>different blocks</u>: TIMERO and UARTO.

#### **Case #3)**

<u>Multiple Vectored IRQs</u> from <u>different</u> devices. Hence <u>Priority</u> comes into picture here.

#### **Case #4)**

Multiple Non-Vectored IRQs from different devices.

**TOIR** for TIMER0 T0's Interrupt Register

**U0IIR** for UART0 U0's Interrupt Id Register

#### Case #3

TIMERO and UARTO generating interrupts with TIMERO having higher priority.

2 different Vectored ISRs– one for TIMERO and one for UARTO.

assume only 1 internal source inside both TIMER0 and UART0

```
irq void myTimer0_ISR(void)
    long int regVal;
    regVal = TOIR;
    TOIR = regval;
    VICVectAddr = 0x0;
irq void myUart0_ISR(void)
    long int regVal;
    regVal = U0IIR;
    //Something inside UARTO has raised an IRQ
    VICVectAddr = 0x0;
```

For Case #4 too we have TIMER0 and UART0 generating interrupts.

But here both of them are Non-Vectored and hence will be serviced by a common Non-Vectored ISR.

Hence, here we will need to check the actual source i.e device which triggered the interrupt and proceed accordingly.

This is quite similar to Case #2.

T0's Interrupt Register
U0's(Uart 0) Interrupt Identification Register

```
irq void myDefault ISR(void)
    long int TORegVal, U0RegVal;
    TORegVal = TOIR; // read the current value
    U0RegVal = U0IIR; // read the current value
    if(TOIR)
          //do something for TIMERO Interrupt
          TOIR = TORegVal;
                                // write back to clear
                                // the interrupt flag
    if(!(U0RegVal & 0x1))
          // do something for UARTO Interrupt
          // No need to write back to UOIIR
          // since reading it clears it
    }
    VICVectAddr = 0x0; // The ISR has finished!
```

Attention Plz!: Note than UARTO's Interrupt Register is a lot different than TIMERO's. The first Bit in U0IIR indicates whether any interrupt is pending or not and its Active LOW! The next 3 bits give the Identification for any of the 4 Interrupts if enabled. There is more to it which I'll explain in detail in Upcoming Dedicated Tutorial on Uarts and Interrupt Programming related to it.

### Interrupt Register (IR)

The IR can be read to identify which of 8 possible interrupt sources are pending.

The IR can be written to clear interrupts.

TIMER/ COUNTER0 TOIR
TIMER/ COUNTER1 T1IR

The Interrupt Register consists of four bits for the match interrupts and four bits for the capture interrupts.

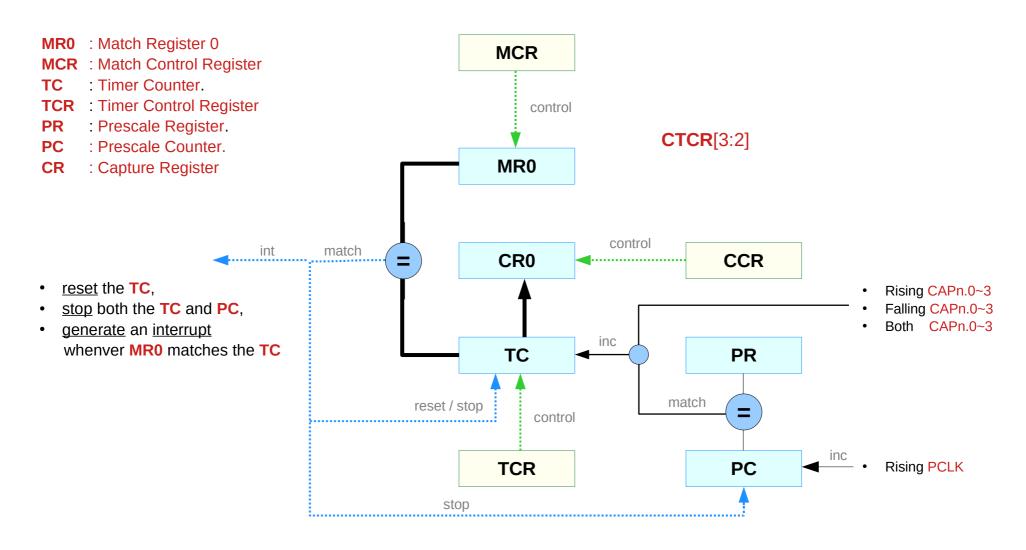
If an interrupt is generated then the corresponding bit in the IR will be high. Otherwise, the bit will be low.

Writing a logic <u>one</u> to the corresponding IR bit will <u>reset</u> the <u>interrupt</u>.

Writing a zero has no effect

Bit 0 : MR0 Interrupt	flag for match channel 0
Bit 1 : MR1 Interrupt	flag for match channel 1
Bit 2 : MR2 Interrupt	flag for match channel 2
Bit 3 : MR3 Interrupt	flag for match channel 3
Bit 0 : CR0 Interrupt	flag for capture channel 0 event
Bit 1 : CR1 Interrupt	flag for capture channel 1 event
Bit 2 : CR2 Interrupt	flag for capture channel 2 event
Bit 3 : CR3 Interrupt	flag for capture channel 3 event

A high bit signifies the interrupt is generated



#### MR0-MR3

The Match register values are continuously compared to the Timer Counter value.

When the two values are <u>equal</u>, <u>actions</u> can be <u>triggered</u> <u>automatically</u>.

The possible actions are to generate an interrupt, reset the Timer Counter, or stop the timer.

Actions are controlled by the MCR register.

#### MR0 (Match Register 0)

can be <u>enabled</u> through the MCR
to <u>reset</u> the TC,
stop both the TC and PC,
and/or <u>generate</u> an <u>interrupt</u>
whenver MR0 matches the TC

**TC** Timer Counter

The 32-bit **TC** is incremented every **PR+1** cycles of **PCLK**.

The **TC** is <u>controlled</u> through the **TCR** 

**PR** : Prescale Register.

The Prescale Counter is equal to this value, the next clock <u>increments</u> the **TC** and clears the **PC** 

PC: Prescale Counter.

The 32-bit **PC** is a counter which is <u>incremented</u> to the value stored in **PR**.

When the value in **PR** is <u>reached</u>, the **TC** is incremented and the **PC** is cleared.

The **PC** is <u>observable</u> and <u>controllable</u> through the bus interface

#### Capture Register

Each capture register is associated with a device pin and may be loaded with the **Timer Counter** value when a specified <u>event</u> occurs on that pin.

The settings in the Capture Control Register register determine whether the capture function is <u>enabled</u>, and whether a capture event <u>happens</u> on the rising edge of the associated pin, the falling edge, or on both edges.

**CR0**: Capture Register 0.

CR0 is <u>loaded</u> with the value of TC when there is an event on the CAPn.0

CAP0.0 for TIMER0
CAP1.0 for TIMER1, respectively

TIMER0

Match MR0, MR1, MR2, MR3 Capture CR0, CR1, CR2, CR3

TIMER1

Match MR0, MR1, MR2, MR3 Capture CR0, CR1, CR2, CR3

#### Counter Control Register

#### The Count Control Register (CTCR) is used

- 1) to select between Timer and Counter mode
- 2) to select the pin (Bits 3:2) and edge(s) (Bits 1:0) for counting in Counter mode

00	Timer mode,	rising PCLK
01	Counter mode,	rising CAP input
10	Counter mode.	falling CAP input

11 Counter mode, both CAP input

#### Bits 3:2 Count Input Select

00 CAPn.0

01 CAPn.1

10 CAPn.2

11 CAPn.3

for TIMER0	for TIMER1
CAP <sub>0.0</sub>	CAP1.0
CAP <sub>0.1</sub>	CAP1.1
CAP <sub>0.2</sub>	CAP1.2
CAP0.3	CAP1.3

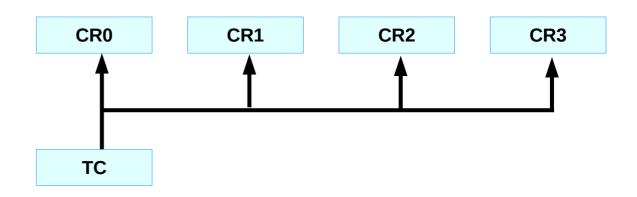
#### Timer / Counter Capture Pins

#### Capture Signals -

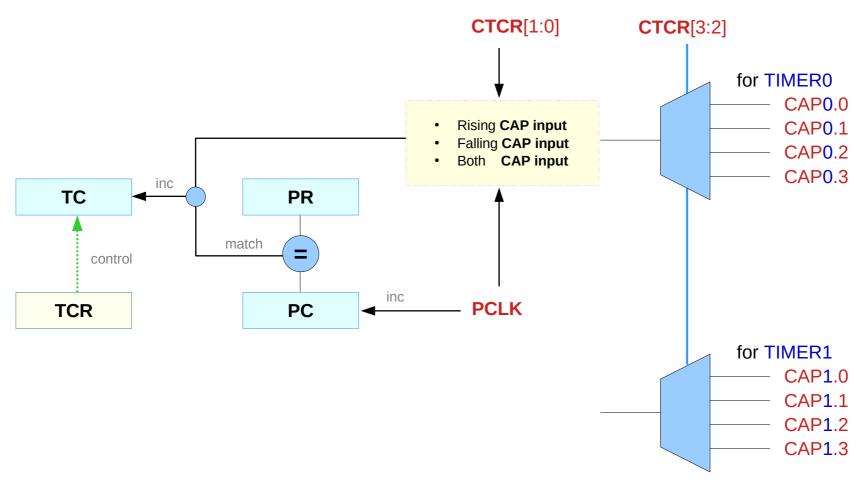
A transition on a capture pin can be configured to load one of the Capture Registers with the value in the Timer Counter and optionally to generate an interrupt.

Capture functionality can be selected from a number of pins. (physically more than one pin can exist)

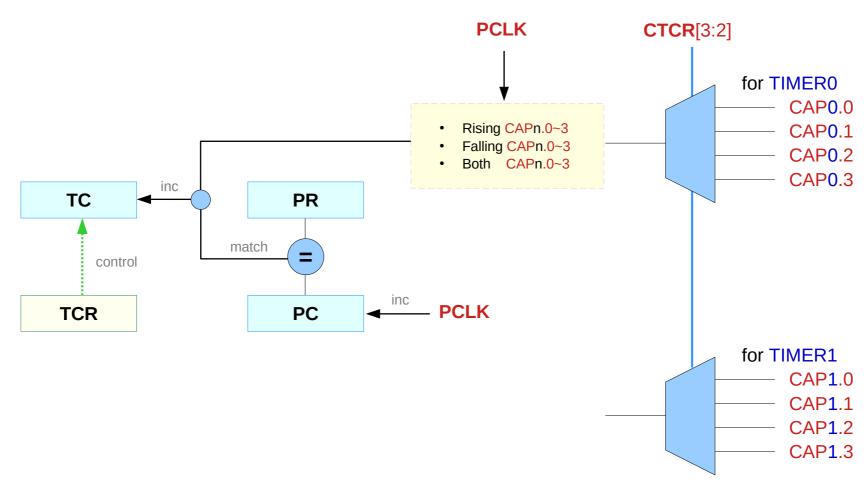
- CAP0.0 (3 pins)
- CAP0.1 (2 pins)
- CAP0.2 (3 pin)
- CAP0.3 (1 pin)
- CAP1.0 (1 pin)
- CAP1.1 (1 pin)
- CAP1.2 (2 pins)
- CAP1.3 (2 pins)



### Timer / Counter Capture Pins



### Timer / Counter Capture Pins



#### Timer / Coutner Pins

When more than one pin is <u>selected</u> for a Capture input on a single TIMER0/1 channel, the pin with the lowest Port number is used.

If for example pins 30 (P0.6) and 46 (P0.16) are selected for CAP0.2, only pin 30 will be used by TIMER0 to perform CAP0.2 function.

Here is the list of all CAPTURE signals, together with pins on where they can be selected:

```
• CAP0.0 (3 pins) : P0.2, P0.22 and P0.30
```

- CAP0.1 (2 pins) : P0.4 and P0.27
- CAP0.2 (3 pin) : P0.6, P0.16 and P0.28
- CAP0.3 (1 pin) : P0.29
- CAP1.0 (1 pin) : P0.10 • CAP1.1 (1 pin) : P0.11
- CAP1.2 (2 pins) : P0.17 and P0.19 • CAP1.3 (2 pins) : P0.18 and P0.21

#### Counter Control Register

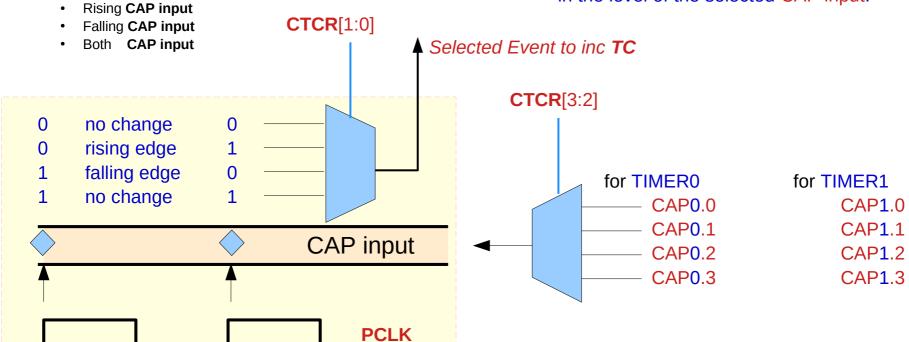
When Counter Mode is chosen,

(CTCR Bits 1:0 = 01, 10, 11)

the CAP input (selected by the CTCR bits 3:2)
is sampled on every rising edge of the PCLK clock.

After comparing <u>two consecutive samples</u> of this CAP input, one of the following four events is recognized:

rising edge, falling edge, either of edges or no changes in the level of the selected CAP input.



#### Counter Control Register

Only if the identified event corresponds to the one selected by bits 1:0 in the CTCR register, the Timer Counter register will be incremented

Bits 1:0	Cou	nter / Timer Mode	)
	00	Timer mode,	rising PCLK
	01	Counter mode,	rising CAP input
	10	Counter mode,	falling CAP input
	11	Counter mode,	both CAP input
Bits 3:2	Cou	nt Input Select	
	00	CAPn.0	
	01	CAPn.1	

CAPn.2

CAPn.3

10

11

### Counter Control Register – Counter / Timer Mode

Bits	Mode	This field selects which
1:0	Timer /	rising PCLK edges can increment Timer's Prescale Counter (PC),
	Counter	or <u>clear</u> <b>PC</b> and <u>increment</u> Timer Counter ( <b>TC</b> ).
00	Timer Mode	every rising PCLK edge
01	Counter Mode	TC is incremented on rising edges on the CAP input selected by bits 3:2.
10	Counter Mode	TC is incremented on falling edges on the CAP input selected by bits 3:2.
11	Counter Mode	TC is incremented on both edges on the CAP input selected by bits 3:2
	Timer Mode	PC is incremented on rising PCLK
	Counter Mode	TC is incremented on rising, falling, both edges on the CAP input

- Rising PCLK
- Rising CAPn.0~3
- Falling CAPn.0~3
- Both CAPn.0~3

### Counter Control Register – CAP Select

Bits 3:2	Select Counter Input	When bits 1:0 in this register are <u>not</u> 00 (Timer Mode), these bits <u>select</u> which CAP pin is sampled for clocking:
00	CAPn.0	CAP0.0 for TIMER0 and CAP1.0 for TIMER1
01	CAPn.1	CAP0.1 for TIMER0 and CAP1.1 for TIMER1
10	CAPn.2	CAP0.2 for TIMER0 and CAP1.2 for TIMER1
11	CAPn.3	CAP0.3 for TIMER0 and CAP1.3 for TIMER1

Note: If Counter mode is selected for a particular CAPn input in the TnCTCR, the 3 bits for that input in the Capture Control Register (TnCCR) must be programmed as 000.

However, capture and/or interrupt can be selected for the other 3 CAPn inputs in the same timer.

#### **UOIIR**

The **UOIIR** provides a status code that denotes the priority and source of a pending interrupt

the interrupts are frozen during an **UOIIR** access.

if an <u>interrupt</u> occurs during an **UOIIR** <u>access</u>, the <u>interrupt</u> is <u>recorded</u> for the <u>next</u> **UOIIR** <u>access</u>

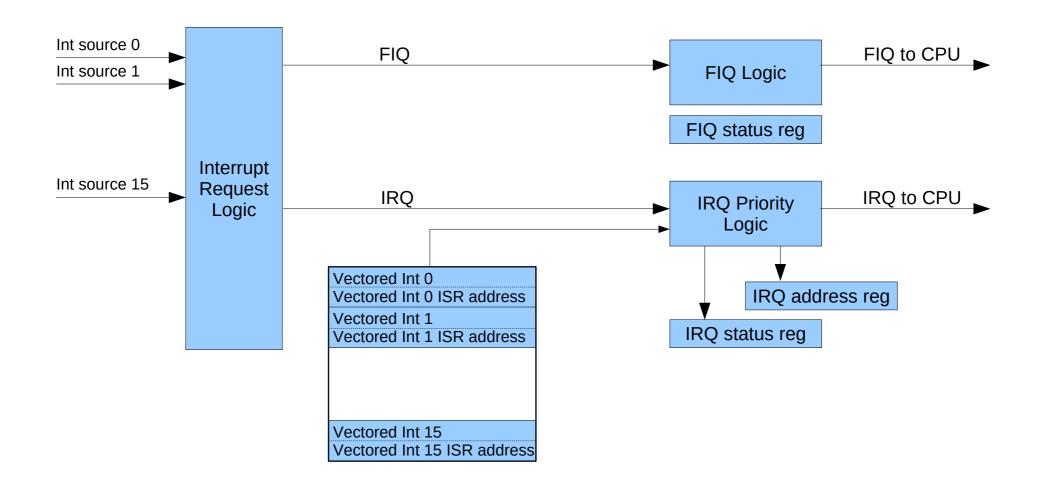
given the status of U0IIR[3:0], an interrupt handler routine can determine the cause of the interrupt and how to clear the active interrupt.

The **UOIIR** must be read in order to clear the interrupt prior to exiting the ISR

#### **U0IIR**

Bit0	Interrupt Pending	Note that U0IIR[0] is active low. The pending interrupt can be determined by evaluating U0IIR[3:1].
Bit3:1	Interrupt Identification	U0IER[3:1] identifies an interrupt corresponding to the UART0 Rx FIFO. All other combinations of U0IER[3:1] not listed above are reserved (000,100,101,111).
Bit5:4	-	Reserved, user software should not write ones to reserved bits. The value read from a reserved bit is not defined.
Bit7:6	FIFO Enable	These bits are equivalent to U0FCR[0].
Bit8	ABEOInt	End of auto-baud interrupt. True if auto-baud has finished successfully and interrupt is enabled.
Bit9	ABTOInt	Auto-baud time-out interrupt. True if auto-baud has timed out and interrupt is enabled.
Bit31:10	-	Reserved, user software should not write ones to reserved bits. The value read from a reserved bit is not defined.

# **VIC** operation



 $https://www.st.com/resource/en/application\_note/an 2593-str91x-interrupt-management-stmicroelectronics.pdf$ 

#### **Exception Return Instructions**

```
AREA vectors, CODE, READONLY ENTRY
```

```
Vector Table
  LDR
        pc, reset addr
  LDR
       pc, undef addr
  LDR pc, swi addr
  LDR
       pc, prefetch addr
       pc, abort addr
  LDR
  NOP
       : Reserved
  LDR
        pc, irq addr
FIQ Handler
  ; FIQ handler code, < 4kB in size
```

reset\_addr DCD Reset\_Handler undef\_addr DCD Undef\_Handler swi addr DCD Swi Handler One typical approach is to use a literal pool for all of the addresses, so that they can be modified later if necessary

You can include the FIQ handler at the end of the vector table (assuming it's < 4kB) but move the other handlers around to any location in the memory map. If you use LDR pc, ... from a literal pool, you won't suddenly find that it breaks your vector table instructions if the handlers change location.

http://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/valpont/uploads/20160326012043/Exception\_handling.pdf

#### Vector table

a table of addresses that the ARM core branches to when an exception is raised there is always **branching instructions** that direct the core to the **ISR**.

#### ldr pc, [pc, #\_IRQ\_handler\_offset]

0x0000 0000	ldr pc, [pc, #offset0]	Reset
0x0000 0004	ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]	Undefined Instruction
0x0000 0008	ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]	Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010	ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]	Data Abort
0x0000 0014	ldr pc, [pc, #offset5]	(Reserved)
0x0000 0018	ldr pc, [pc, #offset6]	IRQ
0x0000 001C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset7]	FIQ

https://www.ic.unicamp.br/~celio/mc404-2013/arm-manuals/ARM\_exception\_slides.pdf

# Vector table (2)

Reset vector is the <u>location</u> of the <u>first instruction</u> executed by the processor when <u>power</u> is applied. This instruction <u>branches</u> to the <u>initialization code</u>.

Undefined instruction vector is used when the processor <u>cannot decode</u> an instruction.

Software interrupt vector is called when you execute a **SWI** instruction. The SWI instruction is frequently used to <u>invoke</u> an <u>operating system routine</u>.

0x0000 0000	ldr pc, [pc, #offset0]	Reset
0x0000 0004	ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]	<b>Undefined Instruction</b>
0x0000 0008	ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]	Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010	ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]	Data Abort
0x0000 0014	ldr pc, [pc, #offset5]	(Reserved)
0x0000 0018	ldr pc, [pc, #offset6]	IRQ
0x0000 001C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset7]	FIQ

https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/computer-science/exception-vector-table

# Vector table (3)

Prefetch abort vector occurs when the processor attempts to fetch an <u>instruction</u> from an address <u>without</u> the <u>correct access permissions</u>. The actual abort occurs in the decode stage.

0x0000 0000	ldr pc, [pc, #offset0]	Reset
0x0000 0004	ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]	<b>Undefined Instruction</b>
0x0000 0008	ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]	Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010	ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]	Data Abort
0x0000 0014	ldr pc, [pc, #offset5]	(Reserved)
0x0000 0018	ldr pc, [pc, #offset6]	IRQ
0x0000 001C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset7]	FIQ

Data abort vector is <u>similar</u> to a <u>prefetch abort</u> but is raised when an instruction attempts to access <u>data</u> memory <u>without</u> the <u>correct access permissions</u>.

Interrupt request vector is used by <u>external hardware</u> to interrupt the normal execution flow of the processor. It can only be raised if **IRQ**s are <u>not masked</u> in the CPSR.

Fast interrupt request vector is <u>similar</u> to the interrupt request but is reserved for hardware requiring <u>faster response times</u>. It can only be raised if **FIQ**s are <u>not masked</u> in the CPSR.

https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/computer-science/exception-vector-table

```
AREA vectors, CODE, READONLY
        ENTRY
Vector Table
        LDR pc, Reset Addr
        LDR pc, Undefined Addr
        LDR pc, SVC Addr
        LDR pc, Prefetch Addr
        LDR pc, Abort Addr
        NOP
                 ; Reserved vector
        LDR pc, IRQ Addr
FIQ_Handler
        ; FIQ handler code - max 4kB in size
Reset_Addr
                 DCD Reset Handler
Undefined Addr
                 DCD Undefined Handler
                 DCD SVC Handler
SVC Addr
                 DCD Prefetch Handler
Prefetch Addr
Abort Addr
                 DCD Abort Handler
                 DCD<sub>0</sub>
                                 :Reserved vector
                 DCD IRQ Handler
IRQ_Addr
        END
```

0x0000 0000	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset0]</pre>	Reset
0x0000 0004	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]</pre>	<b>Undefined Instruction</b>
0x0000 0008	ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]	Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010	ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]	Data Abort
0x0000 0014	ldr pc, [pc, #offset5]	(Reserved)
0x0000 0018	ldr pc, [pc, #offset6]	IRQ
0x0000 001C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset7]	FIQ

https://jianjiandudu.wordpress.com/2016/12/20/interrupt4-vector-table/

- when the processor is **reset** then hardware sets the pc to 0x0000 and starts executing by <u>fetching</u> the instruction <u>at 0x0000</u>.
- when an undefined instruction is executed or tries to be executed the hardware responds by setting the pc to 0x0004 and starts executing the instruction at 0x0004.
- when irq interrupt happens, the hardware <u>finishes</u> the instruction it is executing starts <u>executing</u> the instruction <u>at address 0x0018</u>. and so on.

#### 00000000 < start>:

```
0: ea00000d b 3c <_reset>
4: e59ff014 | Idr pc, [pc, #20] ; 20 <_undefined_instruction>
8: e59ff014 | Idr pc, [pc, #20] ; 24 <_software_interrupt>
c: e59ff014 | Idr pc, [pc, #20] ; 28 <_prefetch_abort>
10: e59ff014 | Idr pc, [pc, #20] ; 2c <_data_abort>
14: e59ff014 | Idr pc, [pc, #20] ; 30 <_not_used>
18: e59ff014 | Idr pc, [pc, #20] ; 34 <_irq>
1c: e59ff014 | Idr pc, [pc, #20] ; 38 < fiq>
```

0x0000 0000	<pre>Idr pc, [pc, #offset0]</pre>	Reset
0x0000 0004	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]</pre>	<b>Undefined Instruction</b>
0x0000 00008	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]</pre>	Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010	ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]	Data Abort
0x0000 0014	ldr pc, [pc, #offset5]	(Reserved)
0x0000 0018	<pre>Idr pc, [pc, #offset6]</pre>	IRQ
0x0000 001C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset7]	FIQ

```
00000020 < undefined instruction>:
 20: 00000000 andeg r0, r0, r0
00000024 < software interrupt>:
 24: 00000000 andeg r0, r0, r0
00000028 < prefetch abort>:
 28: 00000000 andeg r0, r0, r0
0000002c < data abort>:
 2c: 00000000 andeq r0, r0, r0
00000030 < not used>:
 30: 00000000 andeg r0, r0, r0
00000034 < irq>:
 34: 00000000 andeq r0, r0, r0
00000038 < fig>:
 38: 00000000 andeg r0, r0, r0
0000003c < reset>:
 3c: 00000000 andeg r0, r0, r0
```

```
0: ea00000d b 3c <_reset>
4: e59ff014 ldr pc, [pc, #20] ; 20 <_undefined_instruction>
8: e59ff014 ldr pc, [pc, #20] ; 24 <_software_interrupt>
c: e59ff014 ldr pc, [pc, #20] ; 28 <_prefetch_abort>
10: e59ff014 ldr pc, [pc, #20] ; 2c <_data_abort>
14: e59ff014 ldr pc, [pc, #20] ; 30 <_not_used>
18: e59ff014 ldr pc, [pc, #20] ; 34 <_irq>
1c: e59ff014 ldr pc, [pc, #20] ; 38 <_fiq>
```

- change the pc
- start execution at <u>these addresses</u>
- save the state of the machine
- switch processor modes if necessary
- start executing at <u>the new address</u>
   from the vector table

one word, one instruction for each location.

if we <u>never</u> expect to have any of these <u>exceptions</u>,
we do not need a <u>branch</u> instruction at address <u>zero</u>
for example you can just have your program start,
there is nothing magic about the memory at these addresses.

If you expect to have these exceptions, then you have two choices for instructions that are one word and can jump out of the way of the exception that follows.

- branch
- load pc.

```
    0: ea00000d b 3c <_reset>
    4: e59ff014 | Idr pc, [pc, #20] ; 20 <_undefined_instruction>
```

When the hardware takes an exception,

- the PC is automatically set to the address of the relevant exception vector
- the processor begins executing the instruction at that address.
- When the processor comes out of reset, the PC is automatically set to base+0.
- An undefined instruction sets the PC to base+4, etc.

The base address of the vector table (base) is either 0x00000000, 0xFFFF0000, or VBAR depending on the processor and configuration.

Note that this provides limited flexibility in where the vector table gets placed and you'll need to consult the ARM documentation in conjunction with the reference manual for the device that you are using to get the right value to be used.

0x0000 0000	ldr pc, [pc, #offset0]	Reset
0x0000 0004	ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]	<b>Undefined Instruction</b>
0x0000 0008	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]</pre>	Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	<b>Prefetch Abort</b>
0x0000 0010	ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]	Data Abort
0x0000 0014	ldr pc, [pc, #offset5]	(Reserved)
0x0000 0018	ldr pc, [pc, #offset6]	IRQ
0x0000 001C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset7]	FIQ

0xFFFF 0000	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset0]</pre>	Reset
0xFFFF 0004	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]</pre>	<b>Undefined Instruction</b>
0xFFFF 0008	<pre>Idr pc, [pc, #offset2]</pre>	Software Interrupt
0xFFFF 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	Prefetch Abort
0xFFFF 0010	<pre>ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]</pre>	<b>Data Abort</b>
0xFFFF 0014	<pre>Idr pc, [pc, #offset5]</pre>	(Reserved)
0xFFFF 0018	ldr pc, [pc, #offset6]	IRQ
0xFFFF 001C	ldr pc. [pc. #offset7]	FIO

The layout of the table (4 bytes per exception) makes it necessary to immediately branch from the vector to the *actual* exception handler.

The reasons for the LDR PC, label approach are twofold

- because a PC-relative branch is limited to (24 << 2) bits (+/-32MB) using B would constrain the layout of the code in memory somewhat;
- by loading an absolute address (LDR PC, label)
   the handler can be located anywhere in memory.
- it makes it very simple to <u>change</u>
   exception handlers <u>at runtime</u>,
   by simply writing a different address to that location,
   rather than having to assemble and
   hotpatch a branch instruction.

0x0000 0000	ldr pc, [pc, #offset0]	Reset
0x0000 0004	ldr pc, [pc, #offset1]	<b>Undefined Instruction</b>
0x0000 0008	ldr pc, [pc, #offset2]	Software Interrupt
0x0000 000C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset3]	Prefetch Abort
0x0000 0010	ldr pc, [pc, #offset4]	Data Abort
0x0000 0014	ldr pc, [pc, #offset5]	(Reserved)
0x0000 0018	ldr pc, [pc, #offset6]	IRQ
0x0000 001C	ldr pc, [pc, #offset7]	FIQ

There's little value to having a remappable reset vector in this way, however, which is why you tend to see that one implemented as a simple branch to skip over the rest of the vectors to the real entry point code.

# (7) Exception priorities

<b>Priority</b>	I bit	F bit
1	1	1
2	1	-
3	1	1
4	1	-
5	1	-
6	1	-
6	1	_
	1 2 3 4	1 1 2 1 3 1 4 1

Exception	Mode	Priority
Fast Interrupt Request	FIQ	3
Interrupt Request	IRQ	4
SWI and RESET	SVC	6, 1
Pre-fetch or data abort	ABT	5, 2
Undefined Instruction	UND	6

Priority decides which of the currently raised exceptions is more important

I bit and **F** bit decide if the exception handler itself can be interrupted during execution or not?

SWI and Undefined instruction : both are caused by an instruction entering the execution stage of the ARM instruction pipeline

https://www.ic.unicamp.br/~celio/mc404-2013/arm-manuals/ARM\_exception\_slides.pdf

#### CPSR and SPSR – I bit and F bit

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
N	Z	С	٧																					I	F	Т		n	nod	е	

#### **Current Program Status Register (CPSR)**

**Saved Program Status Register (SPSR)** 

<b>Exception</b>	<b>Priority</b>	I bit	F bit	Mode
Reset	1	1	1	SVC
Data Abort	2	1	-	ABT
FIQ	3	1	1	FIQ
IRQ	4	1	-	IRQ
Prefetch	5	1	_	ABT
SWI	6	1	-	SVC
Undefined	6	1	-	UND

To disable Interrupt (IRQ), set I

To disable Fast Interrupt (FIQ), set F

the T bit shows running in the Thumb state

I bit and **F** bit decide if the exception handler itself can be <u>interrupted</u> during execution or not?

# (8) Link register offset

Link Register is used to return the **PC** to the appropriate place in the interrupted task since this is not always the old **PC** value. It is modified depending on the type of exception.

The **PC** has advanced beyond the instruction which caused the exception.

Upon exit of the prefetch abort exception handler, software must re-load the **PC** back one instruction

from the **PC** saved at the time of the exception

Exception	<b>Returning Address</b>
Reset	None
Data Abort	<b>LR</b> - 8
FIQ, IRQ, prefetch Abort	<b>LR</b> - 4
SWI, Undefined Instruction	LR

https://www.ic.unicamp.br/~celio/mc404-2013/arm-manuals/ARM\_exception\_slides.pdf

#### CPSR and SPSR - I bit and F bit

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
N	Z	С	V																					I	F	Т		n	nod	е	

#### **Current Program Status Register (CPSR)**

#### **Saved Program Status Register (SPSR)**

<b>Exception</b>	<b>Priority</b>	I bit	F bit	Mode	Return						
Reset	1	1	1	SVC	None						
Data Abort	2	1	-	ABT	LR – 8						
FIQ	3	1	1	FIQ	LR – 4						
IRQ	4	1	-	IRQ	LR – 4						
Prefetch	5	1	-	ABT	LR – 4						
SWI	6	1	-	SVC	LR						
Undefined	6	1	-	UND	LR						

#### References

- [1] http://wiki.osdev.org/ARM\_RaspberryPi\_Tutorial\_C
- [2] http://blog.bobuhiro11.net/2014/01-13-baremetal.html
- [3] http://www.valvers.com/open-software/raspberry-pi/
- [4] https://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/projects/raspberrypi/tutorials/os/downloads.html