What is "Embedded - Microcontrollers"?

"Embedded - Microcontrollers" refer to small, integrated circuits designed to perform specific tasks within larger systems. These microcontrollers are essentially compact computers on a single chip, containing a processor core, memory, and programmable input/output peripherals. They are called "embedded" because they are embedded within electronic devices to control various functions, rather than serving as standalone computers. Microcontrollers are crucial in modern electronics, providing the intelligence and control needed for a wide range of applications.

Applications of "Embedded - Microcontrollers"

Details

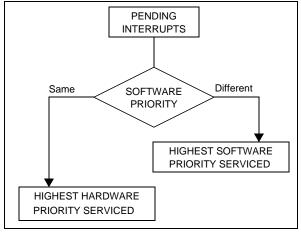|	
Product Status	Obsolete
Core Processor	ST7
Core Size	8-Bit
Speed	8MHz
Connectivity	SCI, SPI
Peripherals	LVD, POR, PWM, WDT
Number of I/O	32
Program Memory Size	16KB (16K x 8)
Program Memory Type	FLASH
EEPROM Size	-
RAM Size	512 x 8
Voltage - Supply (Vcc/Vdd)	3.8V ~ 5.5V
Data Converters	A/D 12x10b
Oscillator Type	Internal
Operating Temperature	-10°C ~ 85°C (TA)
Mounting Type	Through Hole
Package / Case	42-DIP (0.600", 15.24mm)
Supplier Device Package	-
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/stmicroelectronics/st72f324j4b5

INTERRUPTS (Cont'd)

Servicing Pending Interrupts

As several interrupts can be pending at the same time, the interrupt to be taken into account is determined by the following two-step process:

– the highest software priority interrupt is serviced,

– if several interrupts have the same software priority then the interrupt with the highest hardware priority is serviced first.

Figure 18 describes this decision process.

Figure 18. Priority Decision Process

When an interrupt request is not serviced immediately, it is latched and then processed when its software priority combined with the hardware priority becomes the highest one.

Note 1: The hardware priority is exclusive while the software one is not. This allows the previous process to succeed with only one interrupt.
Note 2: RESET and TRAP can be considered as having the highest software priority in the decision process.

Different Interrupt Vector Sources

Two interrupt source types are managed by the ST7 interrupt controller: the non-maskable type (RESET,TRAP) and the maskable type (external or from internal peripherals).

Non-Maskable Sources

These sources are processed regardless of the state of the I1 and I0 bits of the CC register (see Figure 17). After stacking the PC, X, A and CC registers (except for RESET), the corresponding vector is loaded in the PC register and the I1 and I0 bits of the CC are set to disable interrupts (level 3). These sources allow the processor to exit HALT mode.

TRAP (Non Maskable Software Interrupt)

This software interrupt is serviced when the TRAP instruction is executed. It will be serviced according to the flowchart in Figure 17.

RESET

The RESET source has the highest priority in the ST7. This means that the first current routine has the highest software priority (level 3) and the highest hardware priority.
See the RESET chapter for more details.

Maskable Sources

Maskable interrupt vector sources can be serviced if the corresponding interrupt is enabled and if its own interrupt software priority (in ISPRx registers) is higher than the one currently being serviced (I1 and I0 in CC register). If any of these two conditions is false, the interrupt is latched and thus remains pending.

External Interrupts

External interrupts allow the processor to exit from HALT low power mode. External interrupt sensitivity is software selectable through the External Interrupt Control register (EICR).
External interrupt triggered on edge will be latched and the interrupt request automatically cleared upon entering the interrupt service routine.
If several input pins of a group connected to the same interrupt line are selected simultaneously, these will be logically ORed.

Peripheral Interrupts

Usually the peripheral interrupts cause the MCU to exit from HALT mode except those mentioned in the "Interrupt Mapping" table. A peripheral interrupt occurs when a specific flag is set in the peripheral status registers and if the corresponding enable bit is set in the peripheral control register.
The general sequence for clearing an interrupt is based on an access to the status register followed by a read or write to an associated register.
Note: The clearing sequence resets the internal latch. A pending interrupt (i.e. waiting for being serviced) will therefore be lost if the clear sequence is executed.

7 INTERRUPTS

7.1 INTRODUCTION

The ST7 enhanced interrupt management provides the following features:

Hardware interrupts

Software interrupt (TRAP)

Nested or concurrent interrupt management with flexible interrupt priority and level management:

– Up to 4 software programmable nesting levels

– Up to 16 interrupt vectors fixed by hardware

– 2 non maskable events: RESET, TRAP

This interrupt management is based on:

– Bit 5 and bit 3 of the CPU CC register (I1:0),

– Interrupt software priority registers (ISPRx),

– Fixed interrupt vector addresses located at the high addresses of the memory map (FFE0h to FFFFh) sorted by hardware priority order.

This enhanced interrupt controller guarantees full upward compatibility with the standard (not nested) ST7 interrupt controller.

7.2 MASKING AND PROCESSING FLOW

The interrupt masking is managed by the I1 and I0 bits of the CC register and the ISPRx registers which give the interrupt software priority level of each interrupt vector (see Table 6). The processing flow is shown in Figure 17

When an interrupt request has to be serviced:

– Normal processing is suspended at the end of the current instruction execution.

– The PC, X, A and CC registers are saved onto the stack.

– I1 and I0 bits of CC register are set according to the corresponding values in the ISPRx registers of the serviced interrupt vector.

– The PC is then loaded with the interrupt vector of the interrupt to service and the first instruction of the interrupt service routine is fetched (refer to "Interrupt Mapping" table for vector addresses).

The interrupt service routine should end with the IRET instruction which causes the contents of the saved registers to be recovered from the stack.

Note: As a consequence of the IRET instruction, the I1 and I0 bits will be restored from the stack and the program in the previous level will resume.

Table 6. Interrupt Software Priority Levels

Interrupt software priority	Level	I1	I0
Level 0 (main)	Low	1	0
Level 1		0	1
Level 2		0	0
Level 3 (= interrupt disable)	High	1	1

Figure 17. Interrupt Processing Flowchart