

STR11 - STM32H7 programming

This course describe the STM32H7 architecture and practical examples

Objectives

- Understand STM32H7 (Cortex-M7 @ up to 480 MHz), AXI/TCM memory architecture, caches, and power domains.
- Configure clocks, Flash/Option Bytes (dual-bank, RDP/WRP/PCROP), and boot flow safely.
- Drive key peripherals (DMA/MDMA, timers, ADC, comms) with performance in mind.
- Apply low-power modes across D1/D2/D3 domains; measure impact.

Course Environment

- Theoretical course
 - PDF course material (in English) supplemented by a printed version for face-to-face courses.
 - Online courses are dispensed using the Teams video-conferencing system.
 - The trainer answers trainees' questions during the training and provide technical and pedagogical assistance.
- Practical activities
 - Practical activities represent from 40% to 50% of course duration.
 - Code examples, exercises and solutions
 - For remote trainings:
 - ▶ One Online Linux PC per trainee for the practical activities.
 - ▶ The trainer has access to trainees' Online PCs for technical and pedagogical assistance.
 - ▶ QEMU Emulated board or physical board connected to the online PC (depending on the course).
 - ▶ Some Labs may be completed between sessions and are checked by the trainer on the next session.
 - For face-to-face trainings:
 - ▶ One PC (Linux ou Windows) for the practical activities with, if appropriate, a target board.
 - ▶ One PC for two trainees when there are more than 6 trainees.
 - For onsite trainings:
 - ▶ An installation and test manual is provided to allow preinstallation of the needed software.
 - ▶ The trainer come with target boards if needed during the practical activities (and bring them back at the end of the course).
- Downloadable preconfigured virtual machine for post-course practical activities
- At the start of each session the trainer will interact with the trainees to ensure the course fits their expectations and correct if needed

Target Audience

- Any embedded systems engineer or technician with the above prerequisites.

Evaluation modalities

- The prerequisites indicated above are assessed before the training by the technical supervision of the trainee in his company, or by the trainee himself in the exceptional case of an individual trainee.
- Trainee progress is assessed in two different ways, depending on the course:
 - For courses lending themselves to practical exercises, the results of the exercises are checked by the trainer while, if necessary, helping trainees to carry them out by providing additional details.
 - Quizzes are offered at the end of sections that do not include practical exercises to verify that the trainees have assimilated the points presented
- At the end of the training, each trainee receives a certificate attesting that they have successfully completed the course.
 - In the event of a problem, discovered during the course, due to a lack of prerequisites by the trainee a different or additional training is offered to them, generally to reinforce their prerequisites, in agreement with their company manager if applicable.

Plan

Day 1

Cortex-M7 & memory map

- Programmer's model, exceptions/NVIC, FPU/DP.
- ITCM/DTCM vs AXI-SRAM: when to place code/data.
- I-Cache/D-Cache: coherency rules; DMA implications.
- MPU basics for safety.

Exercise: Enable caches

Exercise: Place a hot loop in ITCM

Exercise: MPU guard

AXI & DMA family (DMA1/2, BDMA, MDMA)

- AXI matrix overview; masters/targets.
- DMA vs BDMA vs MDMA roles; scatter-gather, linked lists.
- Throughput and arbitration basics.
- Cache maintenance around DMA (invalidate/clean).

Exercise: ADC & DMA stream with cache-safe buffers; MDMA move/format frames

RCC & clock tree

- HSE/HSI/PLL1..3; domain clocks (D1/D2/D3).
- Safe re-clocking; MCO for verification.
- Timer clocks vs core; prescaler pitfalls.
- Debug clock freeze effects.

GPIO & EXTI

- Speed, drive, AF mapping; EXTI lines.
- Debounce strategies; input filtering.
- Interrupt latency tips on M7.
- Simple board bring-up checklist.

Exercise: Button EXTI + LED

TIM (general-purpose/advanced)

- PWM modes, dead-time (brief), one-pulse.
- Input capture/measure; trigger chaining.
- LPTIM vs TIM for low-power.

Exercise: Timer example

Day 2

ADC

- Trigger sources; sampling time; oversampling.
- DMA to ring buffer; window stats in main.
- Internal channels (Vref, temperature).

Exercise: Timer-triggered ADC & DMA

Communications

- USART
 - Modes & framing: word length, parity, oversampling; baud tolerance.
 - DMA RX/TX (idle-line, half/full callbacks); ring buffers.
 - Flow control (RTS/CTS) and latency/throughput trade-offs.
- I²C
 - Master transfers; repeated-START; timing vs bus speed.
 - Clock stretching; timeouts; “bus busy”.
 - Bus recovery for stuck SDA/SCL
- SPI
 - CPOL/CPHA, word sizes, simplex/half/full-duplex.
 - HW NSS vs GPIO CS; inter-frame delays.
 - DMA streaming; FIFO usage; dummy bytes.

SDMMC + FatFS (optional)

- Card detect, init/clocking.
- Mount/format; file append patterns.
- Buffering/latency; wear; safe close on power loss.
- Simple log rotation.

Exercise: Log “timestamp, ADC” to CSV

PWR & low-power (D1/D2/D3)

- Run/Stop/Standby; what’s retained per domain.
- Wake sources (RTC/EXTI/LPTIM) across domains.
- Regulator choices (LDO/SMPS) basics; VCORE scaling.
- Measurement setup.

Exercise: Sleep vs Stop current table; Standby + RTC wake; log reset cause.

Day 3

Boot & Option Bytes (dual-bank aware)

- Boot sources (Flash, system memory, SRAM); vector relocation.
- Key OBs: dual-bank/boot swap (BFB2), WRP/PCROP, RDP levels.
- Safe read/modify/verify with CubeProgrammer.
- Bank-swap update concept (overview).

Exercise: Read OBs; toggle a user OB; verify after reset

Robustness: faults, MPU, watchdogs

- HardFault decoding; capture LR/PC/CFSR.
- MPU regioning: stack guards, no-exec, peripheral windows.
- IWDG vs WWDG; service windows and recovery.
- BOR levels; reset-cause logging at boot.

Tracing & logging

- ITM/SWO quick setup; timestamped printf.
- Event markers around DMA/ISR.
- Buffering vs blocking; minimal asserts.
- Measuring UART vs ITM overhead.

Exercise: ITM printf + markers; compare overhead to UART

External memory (option): FMC/OCTOSPI

- FMC vs OCTOSPI use-cases; mapping to AXI.
- Command, dummy cycles, and memory-mapped mode.
- Cache/line-fill effects on XIP; prefetch tips.

- Basic integrity/perf test templates.

Renseignements pratiques

Inquiry : 3 days