CE218542 - PSoC 6 MCU Custom Tick Timer Using RTC Alarm

Objective

This example demonstrates a custom tick timer using the periodic Alarm interrupt of the Real-time Clock (RTC).

Overview

This code example demonstrates how to configure the RTC registers for a periodic alarm interrupt using the Peripheral Driver Library (PDL) RTC driver API. A GPIO output is included to toggle the LED to show the period of the interrupt.

Requirements

Tool: PSoC® Creator™ 4.2; Peripheral Driver Library (PDL) 3.0.1

Programming Language: C (Arm® GCC 5.4-2016-q2-update)

Associated Parts: All PSoC 6 MCU parts

Related Hardware: CY8CKIT-062-BLE PSoC 6 BLE Pioneer Kit

Hardware Setups

This example uses the kit's default configuration. Refer to the kit guide to ensure the kit is configured correctly.

Software Setup

None

Operation

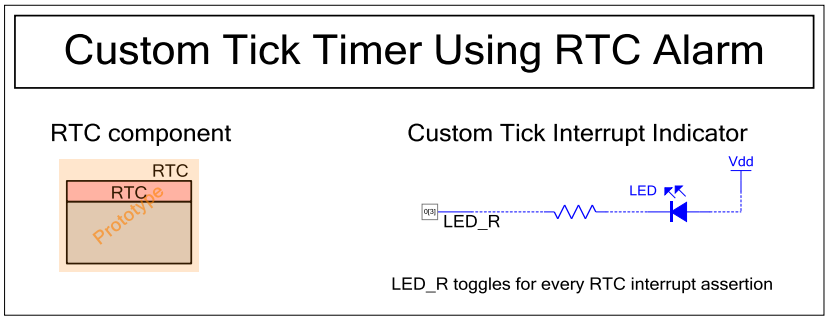
1. Open terminal software such as Tera Term and select the KitProg2's COM port with a baud rate setting of 115200 bps.
2. Build the project and program it into the PSoC 6 MCU device. Choose **Debug** > **Program**. For more information on device programming, see PSoC Creator Help. Flash for both CPUs is programmed in a single program operation.
3. Confirm that the red LED (LED_R, P0[3]) toggles every three seconds.
4. Change `TICK_INTERVAL` from (3u) to (1u) in *main_cm4.c* to make a 1-second tick timer.
5. Build the project and program the PSoC 6 MCU device.
6. Confirm that the red LED (P0[3]) toggles every one second.
7. Change the `USE_SECONDS` to (0u) and the `USE_MINUTES` to (1u) to make a 1-minute tick timer.
8. Build the project and program the PSoC 6 MCU device.
9. Confirm that the LED R (P0[3]) toggles every minute.
10. Change `TICK_INTERVAL` from (1u) to (2u) to make a 2-minute tick timer.
11. Build the project and program the PSoC 6 MCU device.
12. Confirm that the LED R (P0[3]) toggles every two minutes.

Design

This code example features one RTC and one GPIO for the indicating LED, as shown in Figure 1.

The periodic alarm is a slow timer that can be used as a custom tick timer. The custom timer can wake from either Deep Sleep or Hibernate mode. This is useful for monitoring the status of a peripheral devices over a long period.

Figure 1. Custom Tick Timer Using RTC Alarm



The alarm fields consist of second, minute, hour, day of week, date, and month. An alarm interrupt asserts when the current time fields match the alarm fields. The PDL allows you to disable the individual time fields to ignore them for alarm comparison. This is useful for making a periodic alarm. For example, if the alarm interrupt is required every morning at 7:00 AM, the second, minute, and hour fields are enabled while other time fields are disabled. The shortest interrupt period is one second because the RTC time increases every one second.

As Table 1 shows, you control the interrupt period by enabling or disabling match fields.

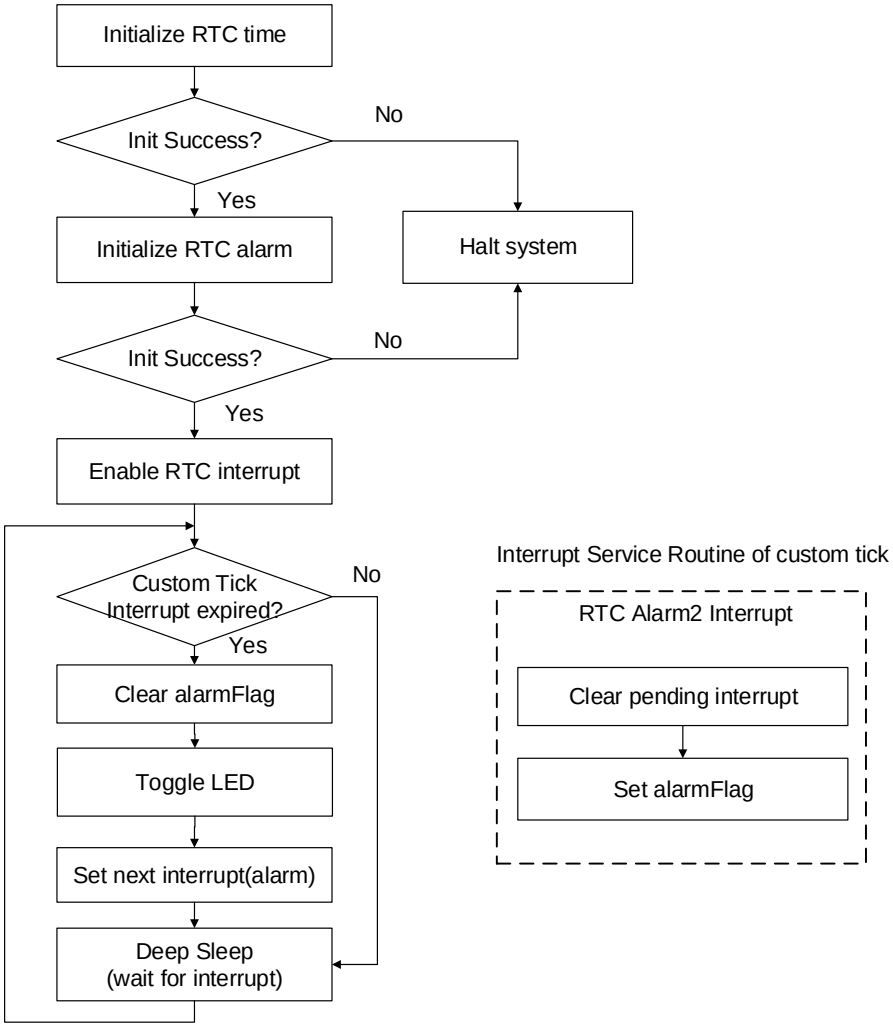
Table 1. Interrupt Period vs. Alarm Field configuration

Interrupt every…	Alarm function	Month	Date	Day of Week	Hour	Minute	Second
Second	**Enabled**	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled
Minute	**Enabled**	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	**Enabled**
Hour	**Enabled**	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	**Enabled**	**Enabled**

Although slightly counterintuitive, to have an alarm repeat at any given period, the match for that period is disabled. For an hourly alarm, the alarm goes off when the second and minute fields match, regardless of the hour. So, you do not want to match the hour.

Figure 2 shows the firmware flow of this code example.

Figure 2. Flowchart for the Custom Tick Timer Using RTC Alarm



Design Considerations

This code example runs on CY8CKIT-062-BLE, which has a PSoC 6 MCU device.

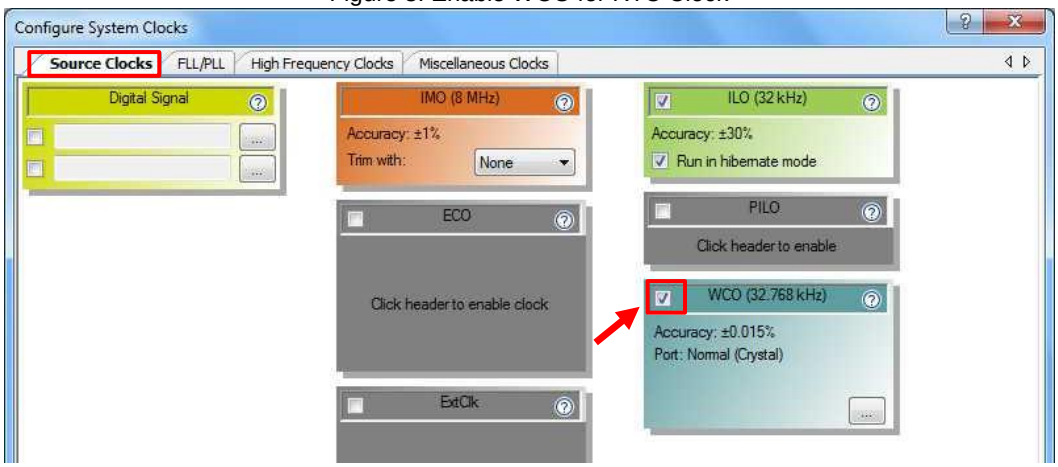
It is necessary to have a 32.768-kHz clock source for the RTC function in the backup power domain. For accurate RTC operation, it is recommended that you use a Watch Crystal Oscillator (WCO).

Perform the following steps to configure the RTC clock source (BakClk) as WCO.

1. Double-click "**locks**" in Design Wide Resources".
2. Click **Edit Clock…** and open **Configure System Clocks**.

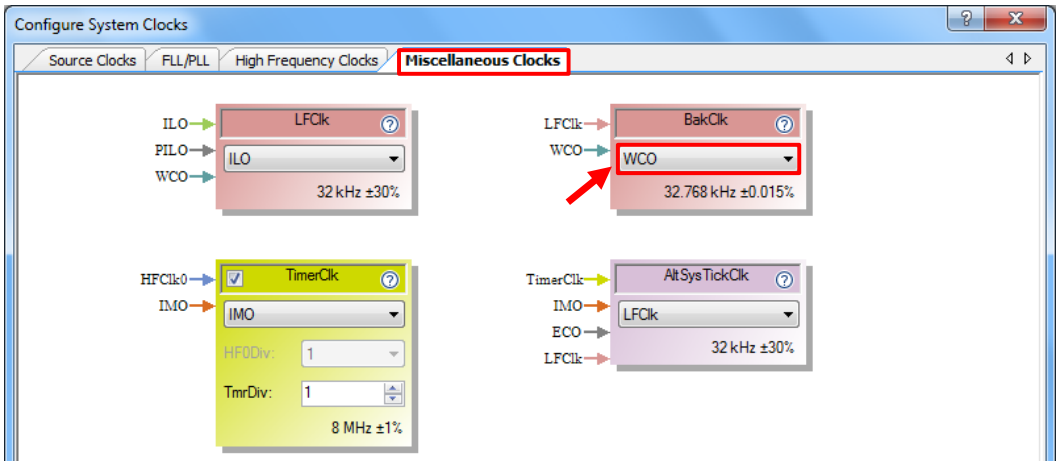
   Enable WCO clock for the backup clock source in **Source Clocks**, as Figure 3 shows.

Figure 3. Enable WCO for RTC Clock



3. Select WCO for BakClk in “Miscellaneous Clocks”, as Figure 4 shows.

Figure 4. Set the Backup Clock Source to WCO



Components

Table 2 lists the PSoC Creator Components used in this example, as well as hardware resources used by each.

Table 2. List of PSoC Creator Components

Component	Instance Name	Purpose	Parameter
Real Time Clock (RTC)	RTC	Provide current date and time information, and alarm functionality.	**[General tab]:** Enable Interrupt : Check
Digital Output Pin	LED_R	Provide visual feedback	**[General tab]:** HW connection: Uncheck Drive Mode: Strong Drive Initial drive state: High (1)

Design-Wide Resources

Assign pin P0[3] to LED_R pin.

Reusing This Example

This example is designed for the CY8CKIT-062-BLE pioneer kit. To port the design to a different PSoC 6 MCU device and/or kit, change the target device using the Device Selector and update the pin assignments in the Design Wide Resources Pins settings as needed. For single-core PSoC 6 MCU devices, port the code from *main_cm4.c* to *main.c*.

Related Documents

Application Notes	
AN210781 – Getting Started with PSoC 6 MCU with Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) Connectivity	Introduction of PSoC 6 MCU with Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE)
PSoC Creator Component Datasheets	
Pins	Supports connection of hardware resources to physical pins
RTC	Component provides an application interface for keeping track of time and date
Device Documentation	
PSoC 6 MCU: PSoC 63 with BLE Datasheet	PSoC 6 MCU: PSoC 63 with BLE Architecture Technical Reference Manual PSoC 6 MCU: PSoC 63 with BLE Registers Technical Reference Manual
Development Kit (DVK) Documentation	
CY8CKIT-062-BLE Pioneer Kit	

Document History

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*A	5993957	AJYA	12/14/2017	Initial Public Release

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