

PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU System Design

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Associated Part Family: All PSoC® 6 MCU devices with dual CPUs

Associated Code Example: [CE216795](#)

Related Application Notes: see [Related Documents](#)

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AN215656 describes the dual-CPU architecture in PSoC 6 MCUs, which includes Arm® Cortex®-M4 and Cortex-M0+ CPUs, as well as an inter-processor communication (IPC) module. A dual-CPU architecture provides the flexibility to help improve system performance and efficiency, and reduce power consumption. The application note also shows how to build a simple dual-CPU design using the Cypress PSoC Creator™ Integrated Design Environment (IDE), and how to debug the design using various IDEs.

Contents

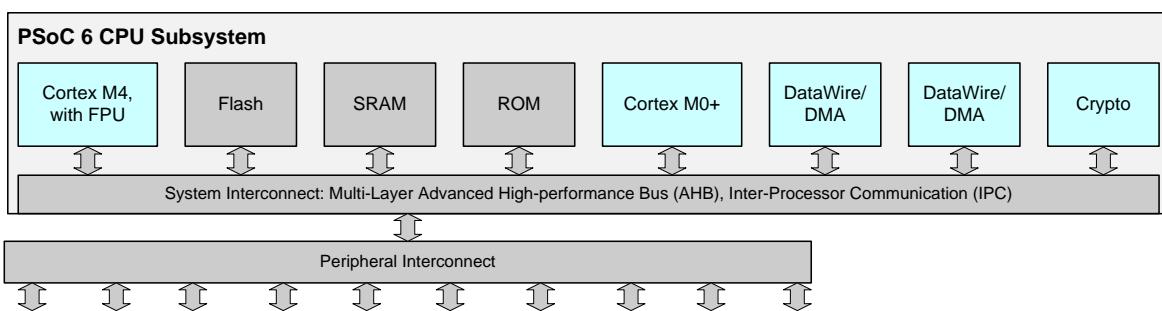
1	Introduction.....	2	4.3.4	Create IAR-EW Projects.....	23
1.1	How to Use this Document.....	2	4.3.5	Debug IAR-EW Projects	27
2	General Dual-CPU Concepts.....	3	5	Summary.....	29
3	PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU Architecture.....	4	6	Related Documents.....	30
4	PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU Development.....	6	Document History.....	31	
4.1	Resource Assignment Considerations	9	Worldwide Sales and Design Support.....	32	
4.2	Interrupt Assignment Considerations	10	Products.....	32	
4.3	Debug Considerations	11	PSoC® Solutions	32	
4.3.1	Configure PSoC Creator Project.....	12	Cypress Developer Community.....	32	
4.3.2	Create µVision Projects	13	Technical Support	32	
4.3.3	Debug µVision Projects	21			

1 Introduction

PSoC 6 MCU is Cypress' 32-bit ultra-low-power PSoC, purpose-built for the Internet of Things (IoT). It integrates low-power flash and SRAM technology, programmable digital logic, programmable analog, high-performance analog-digital conversion, low-power comparators, and standard communication and timing peripherals. For more information, see a PSoC 6 MCU [device datasheet](#) or [AN210781](#), *Getting Started with PSoC 6 MCU with Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) Connectivity*.

Of particular interest in PSoC 6 MCU is the CPU subsystem. The architecture incorporates multiple bus masters – two CPUs, two DMA controllers, and a cryptography block (Crypto) – as [Figure 1](#) shows:

Figure 1. PSoC 6 MCU Typical CPU Subsystem Architecture



Note: The contents of the block diagram in [Figure 1](#) may vary depending on the device. Some PSoC 6 MCU parts have only one CPU. See the [device datasheet](#) for details. This application note does not apply to single-CPU PSoC 6 MCU devices.

Generally, all memory and peripherals are shared by all of the bus masters. Shared resources are accessed through standard Arm multi-layer bus arbitration. Exclusive accesses are supported by an inter-processor communication (IPC) block, which implements semaphores and mutual exclusion (mutexes) in hardware.

A dual-CPU architecture, along with the DMA and cryptography (Crypto) bus masters, presents unique opportunities for system-level design and performance optimization in a single MCU. With two CPUs you can:

- Allocate tasks to CPUs so that multiple tasks may be done at the same time
- Allocate resources to CPUs so that a CPU may be dedicated to managing those resources, thus improving efficiency
- Enable and disable CPUs to minimize power draw
- Send data between the CPUs using the IPC block. For more information, see code example [CE216795](#), *PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU Basics*.

For example, the Cortex-M0+ CPU (CM0+) can “own” and manage all communication channels. The Cortex-M4 CPU (CM4) can send and receive messages from the channels via CM0+. This frees CM4 to do other tasks while CM0+ manages the communication details.

1.1 How to Use this Document

This document assumes that you are familiar with the PSoC 6 MCU architecture, and application development for PSoC devices using the Cypress PSoC Creator IDE. For an introduction to PSoC 6 MCU, see a PSoC 6 MCU [device datasheet](#) or [AN210781](#), *Getting Started with PSoC 6 MCU with Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) Connectivity*. If you are new to PSoC Creator, see the [PSoC Creator home page](#).

Note: Use PSoC Creator version 4.2 or higher for PSoC 6 MCU-based designs.

Initial sections of this application note cover general concepts for dual-CPU MCUs and how they are implemented in PSoC 6 MCU. To skip to an overview of creating a PSoC Creator project for a PSoC 6 dual-CPU MCU, go to the [PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU Development](#) section.

2 General Dual-CPU Concepts

The process of developing firmware for a dual-CPU MCU is similar to that for a single-CPU MCU, except that you write code for two CPUs instead of one. You should also consider any need for inter-processor communication.

Performance: The main advantage of having two CPUs is that you essentially multiply your CPU power and bandwidth. With PSoC 6 MCUs, that increased bandwidth comes at a price that is frequently on par with single-CPU MCUs. How to use that increased bandwidth depends on the tasks that your application must perform:

- **Single task:** A single-task application may be less of a fit for a dual-CPU MCU unless the application is large and complex. In PSoC 6 MCU you can execute the task on one of the CPUs and put the other CPU to sleep to reduce power.
- **Dual task:** This is the most obvious fit; assign each task to a CPU. Assign the task with larger computing requirements to the higher-performance CPU, i.e., Cortex M4 in PSoC 6 MCU.
- **Multiple tasks:** Again, assign each task to a CPU. In each CPU, you must include a method for executing each task in a timely fashion.
- **RTOS:** A complex multitasking system may be managed by a real-time operating system (RTOS). An RTOS basically allocates a number of CPU cycles to each task, depending on the task priority or whether a task is waiting for an event. You effectively do that yourself by assigning tasks to the CPUs. Some examples of dual-CPU RTOS architectures are:
 - Each CPU has its own RTOS and its own set of tasks. Each RTOS should include a task to manage communications with the other CPU.
 - Only one CPU (CPU 1) has an RTOS and multiple tasks. The other CPU (CPU 2) is idle until CPU 1 messages it to do a specified task. CPU 2 wakes up and does the task, then messages the result back to CPU 1. As an example, CPU 1 can be a lower-performance CPU, and it uses CPU 2, the higher-performance CPU, to do computation-intensive tasks when needed.

Power: In a dual-CPU system, firmware can start and stop the CPUs to fine-tune power usage. In the previous example, to reduce power, the high-performance CPU is placed into a sleep state until needed for a computation-intensive task.

Debug: Debugging two bodies of code at the same time may be a complex process. Usually you debug code for one CPU, then debug code for the other CPU. In addition, a device such as an oscilloscope or a logic analyzer may be useful for monitoring communication between the CPUs.

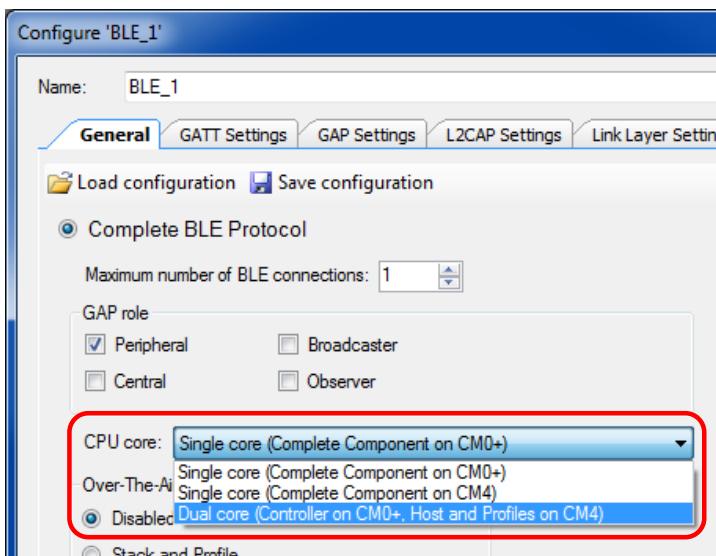
3 PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU Architecture

Figure 1 on page 2 shows the overall dual-CPU architecture in PSoC 6 MCU. (For detailed block diagrams of PSoC 6 MCU, see [AN210781](#) and the [device datasheet](#).) Specific features and other details related to dual CPUs are listed in this section. For more information, see the [Arm documentation sets for Cortex-M4](#) and [Cortex-M0+](#), and the PSoC device [technical reference manual \(TRM\)](#).

- **CPUs:** Both CPUs – Cortex M4 and Cortex M0+ – are 32-bit. CM4 runs at up to 150 MHz and has a floating-point unit (FPU). CM0+ runs at up to 100 MHz.

CM4 is the main CPU. It is designed for a short interrupt response time, high code density, and high throughput. The CM0+ CPU is secondary; it is used in PSoC 6 MCU to implement system calls and device-level security, safety, and protection features. CM0+ is also recommended for functions such as BLE communications and CapSense®. In one example, the PSoC Creator BLE Component can be configured to run on either or both CPUs, as [Figure 2](#) shows:

Figure 2. BLE Component Configuration for Execution on Multiple CPUs



- **Performance:** CM0+ typically operates at a slower clock speed than CM4. The CM0+ instruction set is more limited than that of CM4. Therefore, it may require more cycles to implement a function on CM0+, and the cycle time is longer. Keep this in mind when deciding to which CPU to allocate tasks.
- **Security:** PSoC 6 MCU has several security features; see the [TRM](#) for details. To meet security requirements, CM0+ is used as a "secure CPU". It is considered to be a trusted entity; it executes both Cypress system code and user code. The use of CM0+ for system and security tasks may limit its availability for user applications. For more information on secure systems, see [AN221111, Creating a Secure System](#).

Device system calls may be initiated by either CPU, but are always executed by CM0+.

- **Startup sequence:** After device reset, only CM0+ executes; CM4 is held in a reset state. CM0+ first executes Cypress system and security code, including SROM code, FlashBoot, and Secure Image. For more information on these code modules, see [AN221111, Creating a Secure System](#).

After CM0+ executes system and security code, it executes user code. In the user code, CM0+ may release the CM4 reset, causing CM4 to start executing its user code. PSoC Creator [auto-generates code in CM0+ main\(\)](#) to release the CM4 reset.

- **Inter-processor communication (IPC):** IPC enables the CPUs to communicate and synchronize activities. The IPC hardware contains register structures for IPC channel functions and IPC interrupts. The IPC channel registers implement mutual exclusion (mutex) lock and release mechanisms, and messaging between the CPUs. The IPC interrupt registers generate interrupts to both CPUs for messaging events and lock and release events.

- **Interrupts:** Each CPU has its own set of interrupts. A peripheral can route its interrupt output to either or both CPUs. All peripheral interrupt lines are hard-wired to specific CM4 interrupt inputs. Peripheral interrupts are also multiplexed to CM0+'s limited set of 32 interrupt inputs. See [Interrupt Assignment Considerations](#).
- **Power modes:** PSoC 6 MCU has several power modes that can affect either the whole system or just a single CPU. CPU power modes are active, sleep, and deep sleep as defined by Arm. Device system power modes are LP, ULP, deep sleep, and hibernate.
 - System Low Power (LP) mode is the default operating mode of the device after reset and provides maximum performance. While in system LP mode the CPUs may operate in any of the Arm-defined modes.
 - System Ultra Low Power (ULP) mode is identical to LP mode with a performance tradeoff made to achieve lower system current. This tradeoff lowers the core operating voltage which then requires reduced operating clock frequency, and limited high-frequency clock sources. While in system ULP mode the CPUs may operate in any of the Arm defined modes.
 - In system deep sleep mode, all high-speed clock sources are off. This in turn stops both CPUs and makes high-speed peripherals unusable. However, low-speed clock sources and peripherals continue to operate, if configured and enabled by the firmware. Interrupts from these peripherals cause the device to return to system LP or ULP mode and one or more CPUs to wake up to active mode. Each CPU has a Wakeup Interrupt Controller (WIC) to wake up the CPU.
 - System hibernate mode is the lowest power mode of the device. It is intended for applications that are in a dormant state. The device goes through a reset on wakeup from hibernate. See [Startup sequence](#).
 - In CPU active mode, the CPU executes code and all logic and memory is powered. The system must be in LP or ULP mode.
 - In CPU sleep mode, the CPU clock is turned off and the CPU halts code execution. The system must be in LP or ULP mode.
 - In CPU deep sleep mode, the CPU requests the device to go into system deep sleep mode. When the device is ready, it enters system deep sleep mode. In PSoC 6 MCU both CPUs must enter CPU deep sleep before the system transitions to deep sleep. If only one CPU has entered deep sleep mode the system remains in LP or ULP mode.

For more information on PSoC 6 MCU power modes, see [AN219528, PSoC 6 MCU Low Power Modes and Power Reduction Techniques](#).

- **Debug:** PSoC 6 MCU has a Debug Access Port (DAP) that acts as the interface for device programming and debug. An external programmer or debugger (the "host") communicates with the DAP through the device Serial Wire Debug (SWD) or Joint Test Action Group (JTAG) interface. Through the DAP (and subject to device security restrictions), the host can access the device memory and peripherals as well as the registers in both CPUs.

Each CPU offers several debug and trace features as follows:

- CM4 supports six hardware breakpoints and four watchpoints, 4-bit embedded trace macrocell (ETM), serial wire viewer (SWV), and printf()-style debugging through the single wire output (SWO) pin.
- CM0+ supports four hardware breakpoints and two watchpoints, and a micro trace buffer (MTB) with 4 KB dedicated RAM.

PSoC 6 MCU also has an [Embedded Cross Trigger](#) for synchronized debugging and tracing of both CPUs.

PSoC Creator supports debugging a single CPU (either CM4 or CM0+) at a time. For dual-CPU debugging, use a third-party IDE; see [Debug Considerations](#) for µVision and IAR. For more information on debugging PSoC devices with PSoC Creator, refer to the PSoC Creator Help.

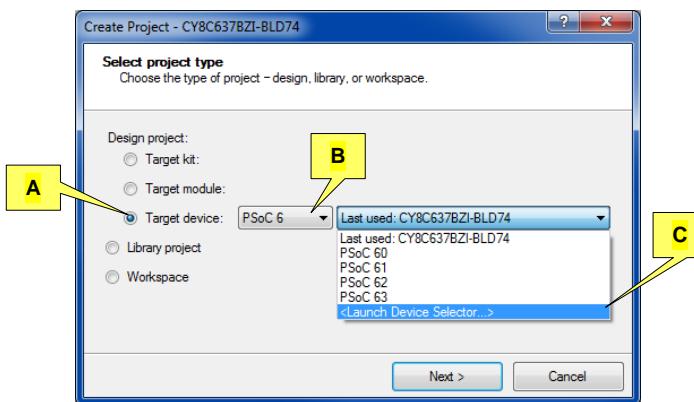
4 PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU Development

This section shows only those aspects of PSoC Creator development that are unique to PSoC 6 MCU dual-CPU devices. If you are not familiar with PSoC 6 MCU or PSoC Creator, see [AN210781, Getting Started with PSoC 6 MCU with Bluetooth Low Energy \(BLE\) Connectivity](#), or the [PSoC Creator home page](#). Use PSoC Creator version 4.2 or higher for PSoC 6 MCU-based designs.

PSoC Creator project development for a PSoC 6 MCU dual-CPU device is similar to that for any other device supported by PSoC Creator. To create a new project, select **File > New > Project**. A **Create Project** dialog is displayed, similar to [Figure 3](#).

Select **Target Device** (A), and **PSoC 6** (B). On the pull-down list (C), select **<Launch Device Selector...>** to see a list of PSoC 6 devices.

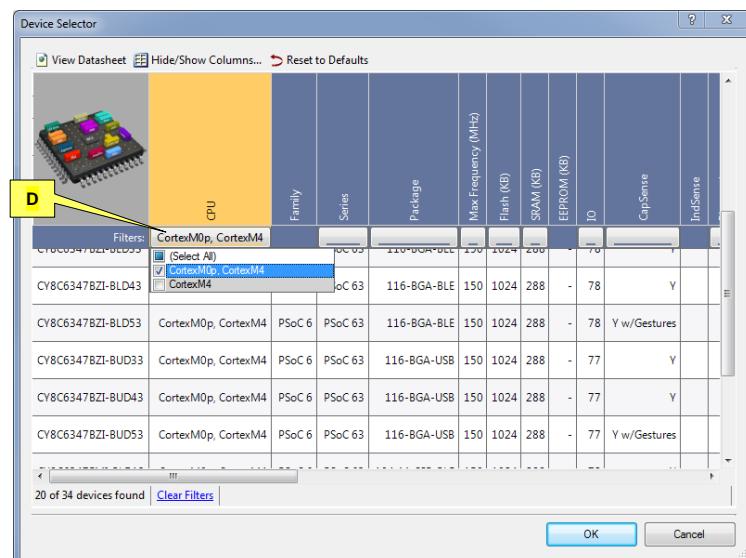
Figure 3. PSoC Creator Create Project Dialog



[Figure 4](#) shows the Device Selector dialog. To see a list of dual-CPU devices, click the **CPU** category (D) and select only **CortexM0p**, **CortexM4**.

In the PSoC 6 BLE Pioneer Kit [CY8CKIT-062-BLE](#), the PSoC 6 MCU dual-CPU device part number is CY8C6347BZI-BLD53.

Figure 4. PSoC Creator Device Selector Dialog

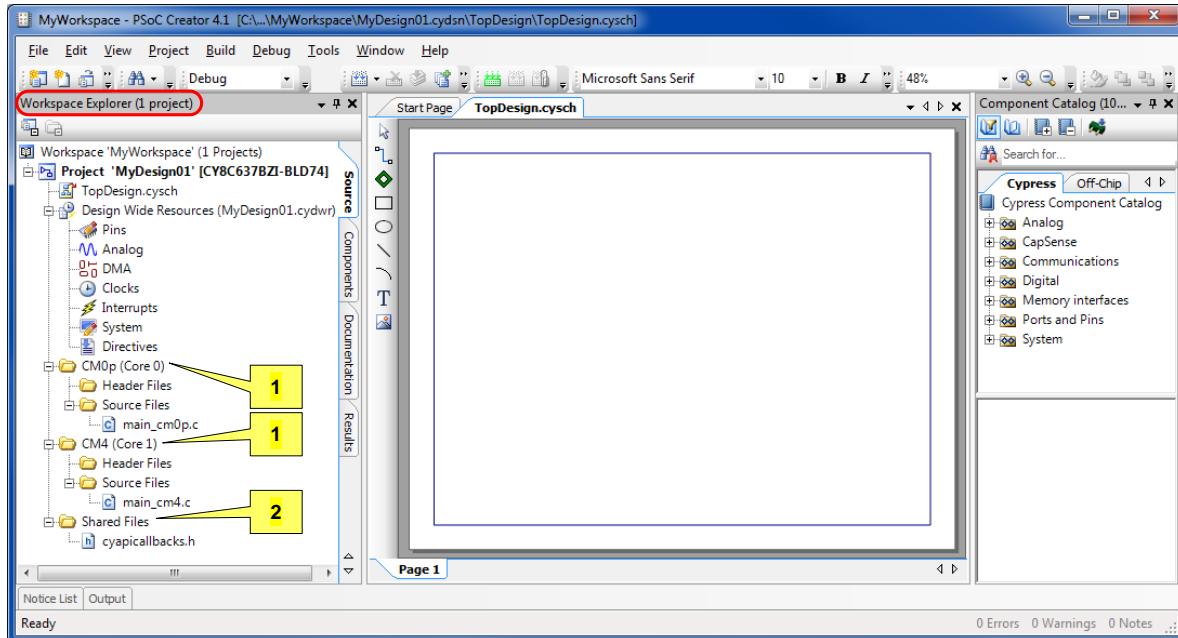


After selecting a PSoC 6 MCU part, the rest of the project creation process is the same as for other devices. Click through the rest of the **Create Project** dialogs; PSoC Creator creates the project.

The initial project windows layout (Figure 5) includes a **Workspace Explorer** window with the following features for dual-CPU devices:

1. Separate *main.c* files – *main_cm0p.c* and *main_cm4.c* – for each CPU. Sources in the folders *CM0p* (Core 0) and *CM4* (Core 1) are compiled into separate binaries for the respective CPUs.
2. A *Shared Files* folder. Source files in this folder are compiled into both binaries.

Figure 5. PSoC Creator Initial Project Layout for Dual-CPU Devices



The initial project layout also includes a TopDesign hardware schematic, along with an associated Component Catalog window.

After the project is created, implement your hardware design by dragging Components onto the schematic, and configuring and wiring them.

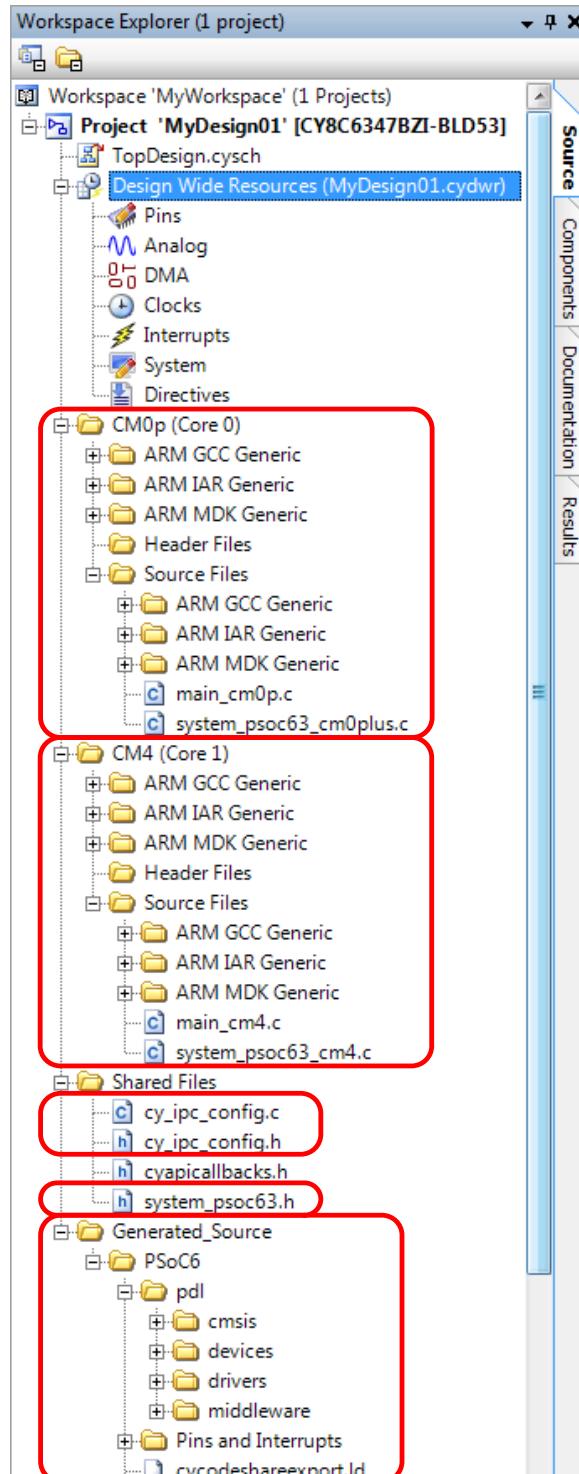
When schematic design entry is complete, select **Build > Generate Application**. This creates several system source code files and folders in the existing folders as well as in the new folder **Generated Source**, as [Figure 6](#) shows.

The generated source contains drivers for each Component on the schematic, as well as the Cypress Peripheral Driver Library (PDL). The PDL is a software development kit (SDK) that integrates device header files, startup code, and peripheral drivers. The peripheral drivers abstract the hardware functions into a set of easy-to-use APIs.

For more information on the PDL, select PSoC Creator **Help > Documentation > Peripheral Driver Library**. Also, each Component has a datasheet that documents the driver API for that Component. Right-click the Component and select **Open Datasheet....**

PSoC Creator creates several other files and folders, and places them in existing folders *CM0p (Core 0)*, *CM4 (Core 1)*, and *Shared Files*. These files generally support configuration, startup, and linking options for PSoC Creator as well as other IDEs. For more information on these files, see PSoC Creator Help article, *Generated Files (PSoC 6)*.

Figure 6. Add Generated Source to a Project



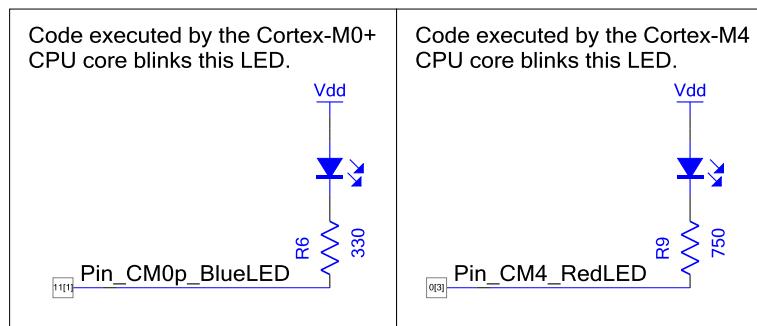
4.1 Resource Assignment Considerations

All generated Component API and PDL driver source files are available to both CPUs, same as the files in the *Shared Files* folder. If code in a CPU references any API element in a generated source file, that file is compiled into the binary for that CPU. The same file can be compiled into both binaries – see code example [CE216795](#), *PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU Basics*.

If the same source file is compiled into both binaries, then a function in that file may be executed simultaneously by both CPUs. It is also possible for a Component to be accessed by both CPUs; for example, both CPUs may send data through the same UART. Generally, Component API and PDL driver functions are “CPU-safe”, that is, can be executed simultaneously by both CPUs. However, you should make design decisions about assigning resources to each CPU. There are two ways to do this:

- **Dedicate a resource to one CPU.** A good practice is to indicate on the project schematic the CPU that “owns” the resource, as [Figure 7](#) shows. Include code to use the resource only in the firmware for the desired CPU.

Figure 7. PSoC Creator Project Schematic for Dual CPUs Controlling Separate Pin Components



- **Share resources between the CPUs.** Code example [CE216795](#) shows how the PSoC 6 MCU IPC block may be used to implement a mutex to share memory between the CPUs. Use the same technique to share a peripheral resource such as a UART.

Flash and SRAM that are allocated in a CPU’s binary are generally separate from that for the other CPU. If custom sections and section placement are defined in the CPUs’ linker scripts, you must ensure that the sections do not overlap. Conversely, another way to share memory is to define for each CPU custom sections with the same address.

Note: If you have both CPUs controlling Output Pin Components that are mapped to physical pins on the same GPIO port, use only the following functions to change the pin outputs: `GPIO_Write()`, `GPIO_Set()`, `GPIO_Clr()`, and `GPIO_Inv()`. For more information, see the PSoC Creator Pins Component datasheet or the PDL documentation.

4.2 Interrupt Assignment Considerations

An important consideration for dual-CPU designs is assigning and handling interrupts. As noted previously, all device interrupts are available to CM4, and a subset of interrupts are routed through multiplexers to CM0+. You must decide which CPU will handle each interrupt.

Let us assign interrupts in an example design. [Figure 8](#) shows a design with two interrupts; one from a PWM Component, connected to an Interrupt Component MyPWM_Int; and the other from an I2C Component.

In the **Design Wide Resources** window (file type **.cydwr**), select the **Interrupts** tab to see all of the interrupts in the design, as [Figure 9](#) shows.

In this example, the I2C Component has an interrupt embedded in it. That interrupt is not shown on the schematic in [Figure 8](#); it is shown in the Design-Wide Resources window as MyI2C_SCB_IRQ.

Check or uncheck the boxes in the **ARM CM0+ Enable** and **ARM CM4 Enable** columns to assign interrupts to the respective CPUs.

Figure 8. Example Schematic Design with Two Interrupts

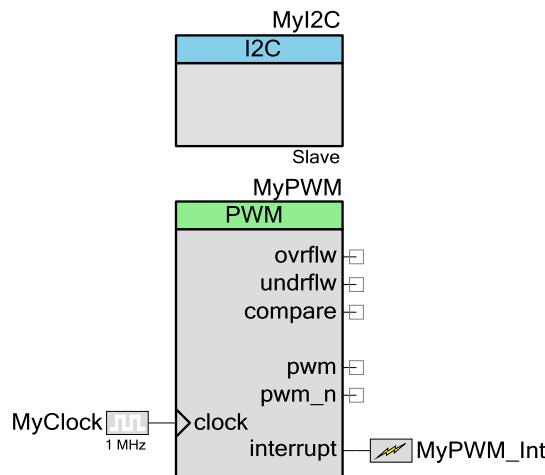
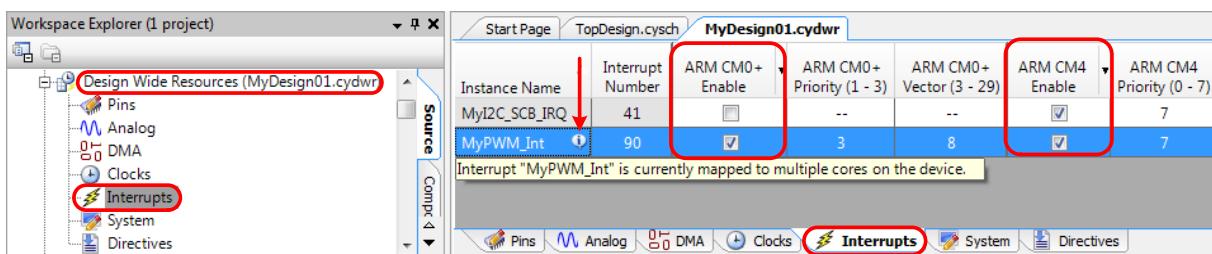


Figure 9. Assign Interrupts to the CPUs



Instance Name	Interrupt Number	ARM CM0+ Enable	ARM CM0+ Priority (1 - 3)	ARM CM0+ Vector (3 - 29)	ARM CM4 Enable	ARM CM4 Priority (0 - 7)
MyI2C_SCB_IRQ	41	<input type="checkbox"/>	--	--	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7
MyPWM_Int	90	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7

Each peripheral interrupt is hard-wired to CM4, so the **Interrupt Number** is automatically assigned by PSoC Creator when you build the project. Because interrupts are routed through multiplexers to CM0+, you can select an **ARM CM0+ Vector** for each interrupt.

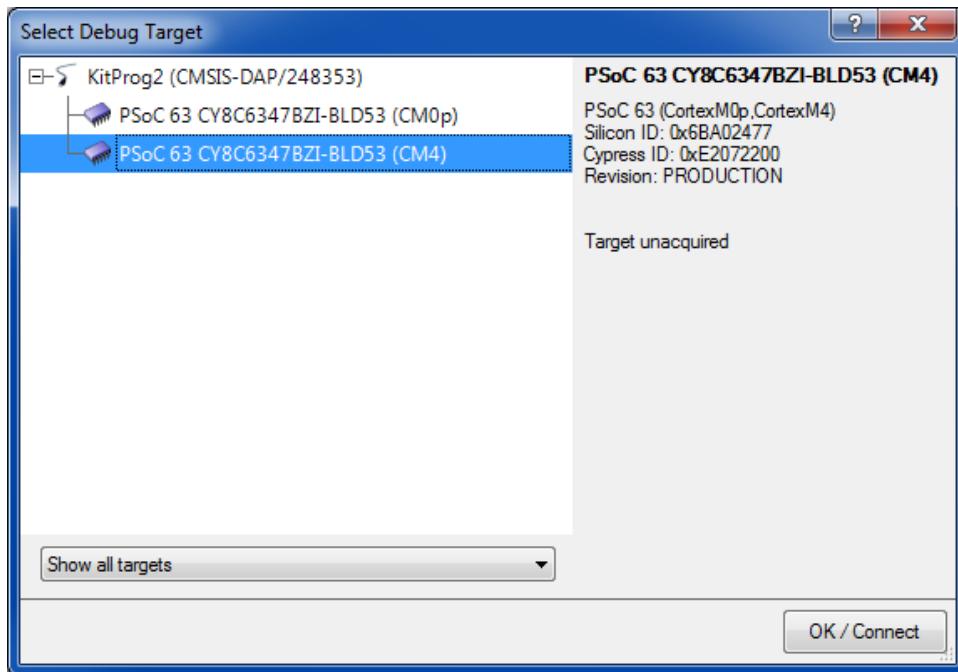
Note: A warning symbol and tooltip are displayed if an interrupt is assigned to both CPUs. This is generally not recommended; however an interrupt can be used to wake up one or both CPUs from their [sleep modes](#).

For more information, see application note [AN217666, PSoC 6 MCU Interrupts](#).

4.3 Debug Considerations

As noted [previously](#), PSoC Creator supports debugging just one CPU at a time. Before starting a debug session with PSoC 6 MCU, select the desired debug target (**Debug > Select Debug Target...**), as [Figure 10](#) shows. Select the desired CPU and click **OK / Connect**. To debug the other CPU, you must exit the debugger and then re-enter it with a connection to that CPU.

Figure 10. PSoC Creator Select CPU for Debug



Recommended: develop and debug first the portions of code where the CPUs communicate with each other. After that, code executed by an individual CPU can be debugged separately. For example, when the shared memory project in [CE216795](#) was developed, the portion where CM0+ sends an initial message to CM4 was developed and debugged before subsequent portions of code were developed.

You can debug both CPUs simultaneously by using other IDEs such as µVision or IAR. To do so, you must export your PSoC Creator project to the other IDE. PSoC Creator documents this topic in the help articles *Integrating into 3rd Party IDEs*, *PSoC 6 Designs*. Review the instructions in the help articles; the general steps are summarized in the following sections.

4.3.1 Configure PSoC Creator Project

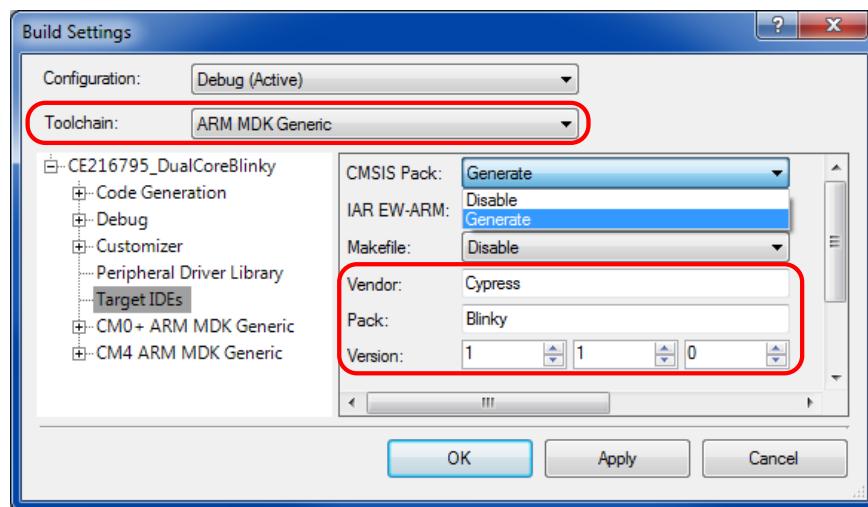
Update the **Target IDEs** settings in the project Build Settings, as [Figure 11](#) shows.

For µVision, select **CMSIS Pack: > Generate**. Enter appropriate identifying text for the CMSIS pack in the **Vendor**, **Pack**, and **Version** fields.

Recommended: select **Toolchain: > ARM MDK Generic**.

For IAR, you only need to select **IAR EW-ARM: > Generate**. (An advanced option, **Generate without copying PDL files**, is also available.) Because IAR has its own compiler (not supported by PSoC Creator), the Toolchain selection is not relevant.

Figure 11. Build Settings for Target IDEs

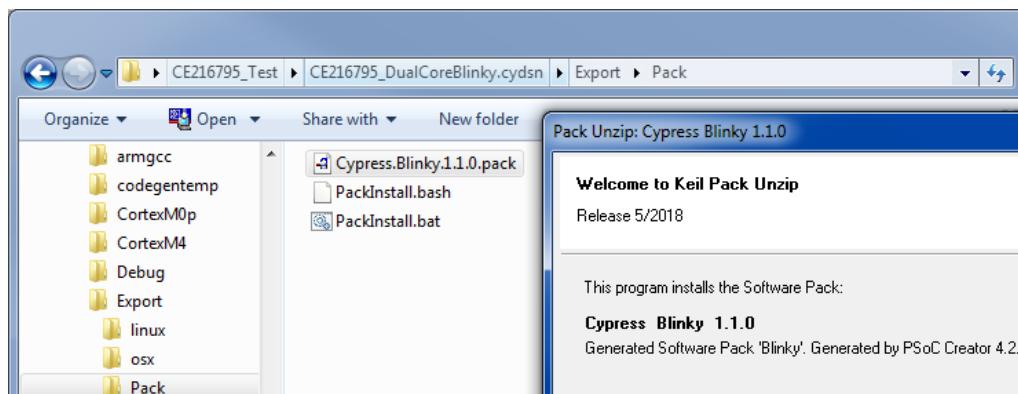


Then build your PSoC Creator project in the usual manner. A folder *Export* is created in your *<project>.cydsn* folder, which contains relevant files for exporting to the selected IDE or IDEs.

For µVision, after the PSoC Creator project is built, find the corresponding .pack file in the folder *Export \ Pack*. Double-click the file to install it as a µVision pack, as [Figure 12](#) shows.

Note: Do not use the µVision Pack Installer Wizard File Import function to install this pack.

Figure 12. Install µVision Pack from PSoC Creator Project



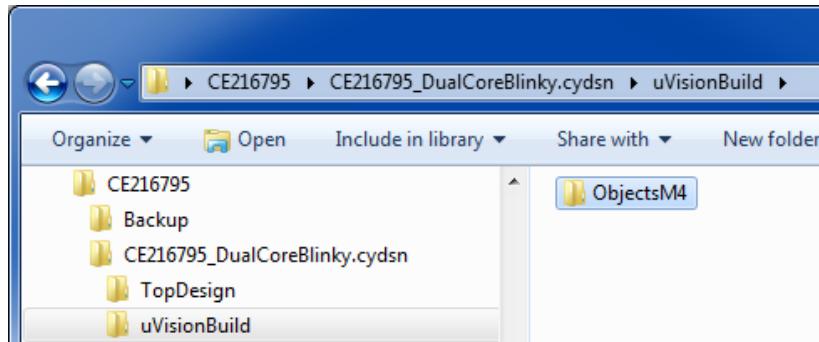
Note: if you update the PSoC Creator project, consider changing the µVision pack version number (see [Figure 11](#)) and installing the new pack.

4.3.2 Create µVision Projects

For µVision, you must create two projects: one for each PSoC 6 MCU CPU: CM0+ and CM4. Do the following:

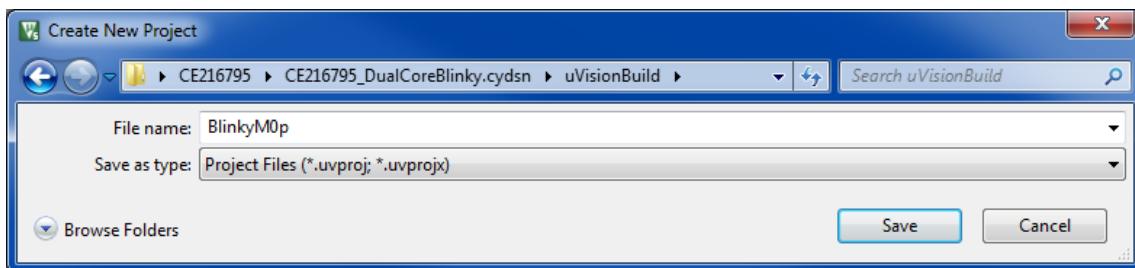
Recommended: create a new folder (e.g. *uVisionBuild*) within your PSoC Creator *<project>.cydsn* folder to store all µVision project files separately from the PSoC Creator files (this is different from the [IAR instructions](#)). Within that folder, create another new folder for CM4 object files (e.g., *ObjectsM4*), as [Figure 13](#) shows:

Figure 13. New Folders for µVision Projects



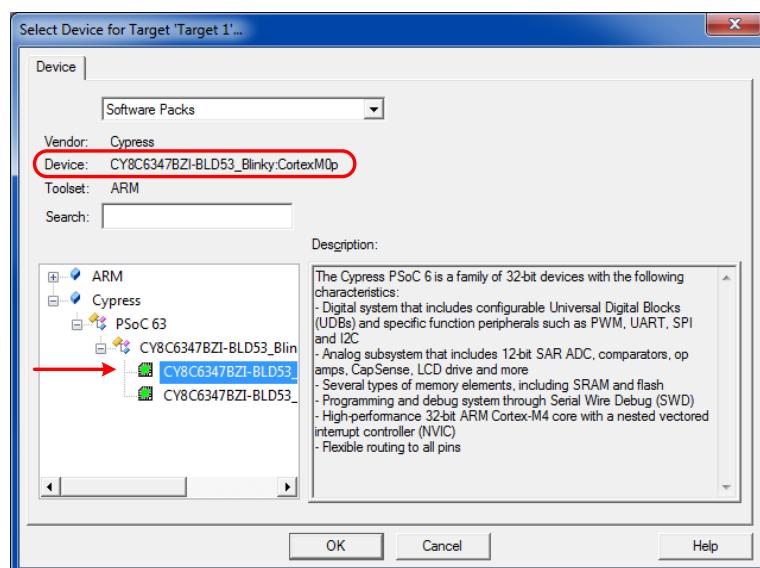
Open µVision 5.25 or later, and create a new project ([Project > New µVision Project...](#)) in the *uVisionBuild* folder. **Recommended:** name the project based on the original PSoC Creator project name and the target CPU. For example, for the [CE216795](#) dual-CPU blinky project, create a µVision project *BlinkyM0p* for the CM0+ CPU, as [Figure 14](#) shows:

Figure 14. Create a µVision Project for CM0+



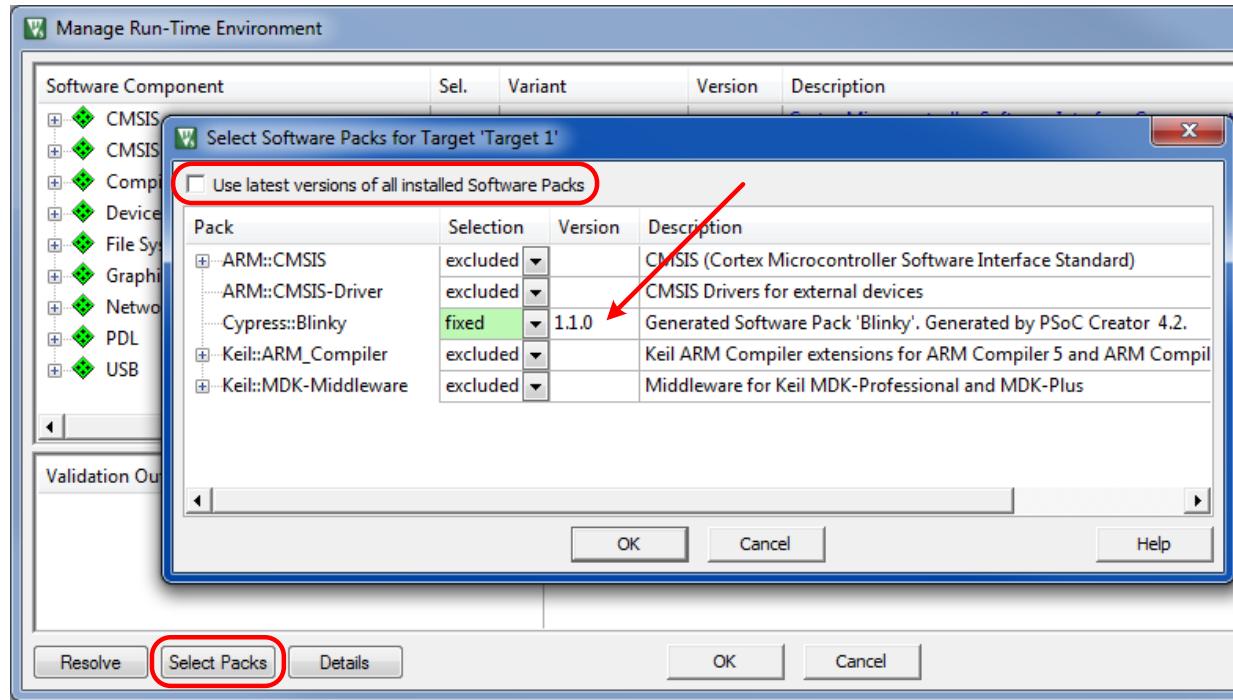
After you click **Save**, a **Select Device for Target 'Target 1'**... dialog box is displayed. The two PSoC 6 MCU CPUs that were defined in the previously installed pack ([Figure 12](#)) are displayed. Select the CM0+ CPU, as [Figure 15](#) shows. Click **OK**.

Figure 15. Select CM0+ as the Project Device



Next, a **Manage Run-Time Environment** dialog box is displayed. Click **Select Packs**, and uncheck **Use latest versions of all installed Software Packs**. Select the pack from the PSoC Creator project, as Figure 16 shows:

Figure 16. Select the PSoC Creator Project Pack



Click **OK**; the **Manage Run-Time Environment** dialog changes as Figure 17 shows. Select the Device Startup and PDL Drivers, and click **OK**. The project is created, with a Target 1, a Source Group 1, and Device startup and PDL files, as Figure 18 shows.

Figure 17. Select Pack Startup and PDL Driver Files

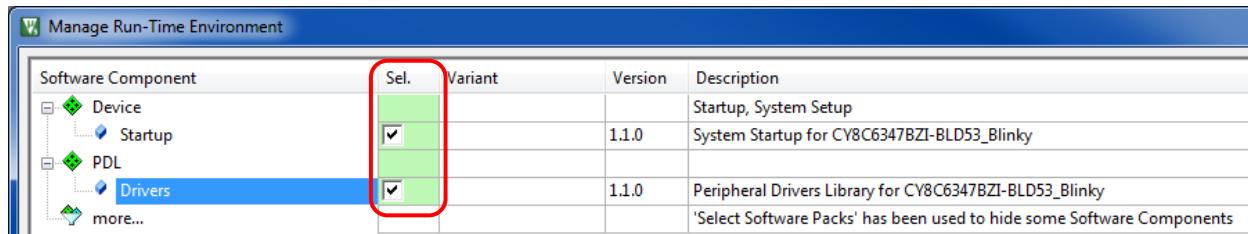
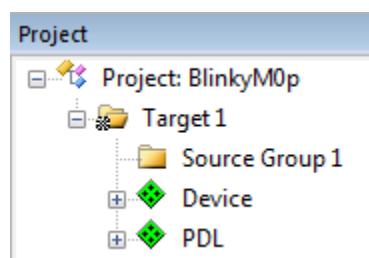
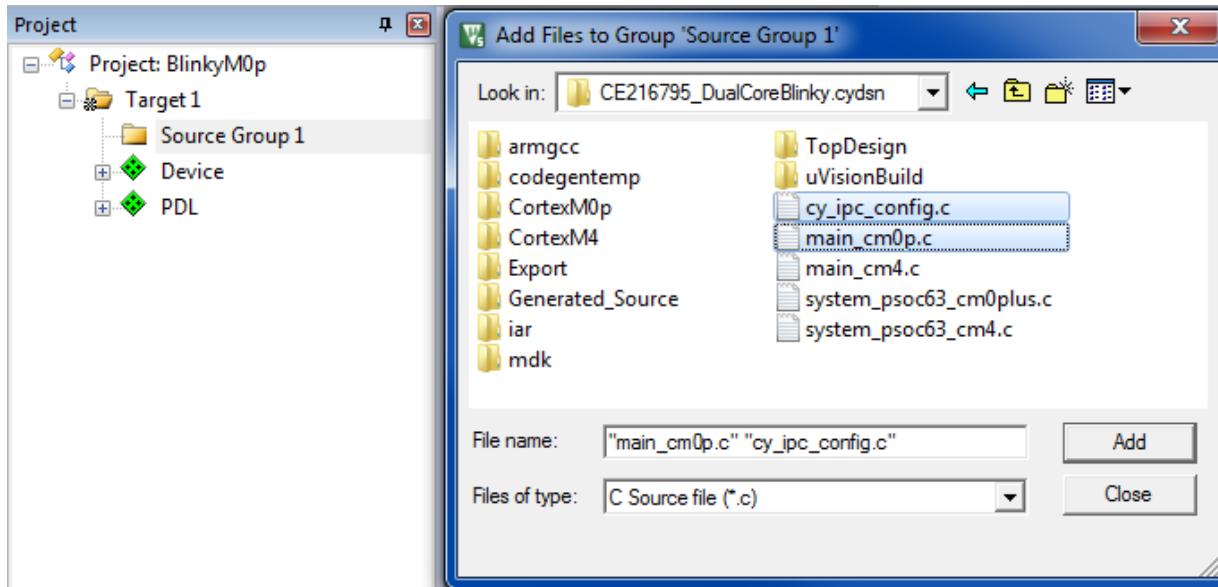


Figure 18. Initial Project Creation



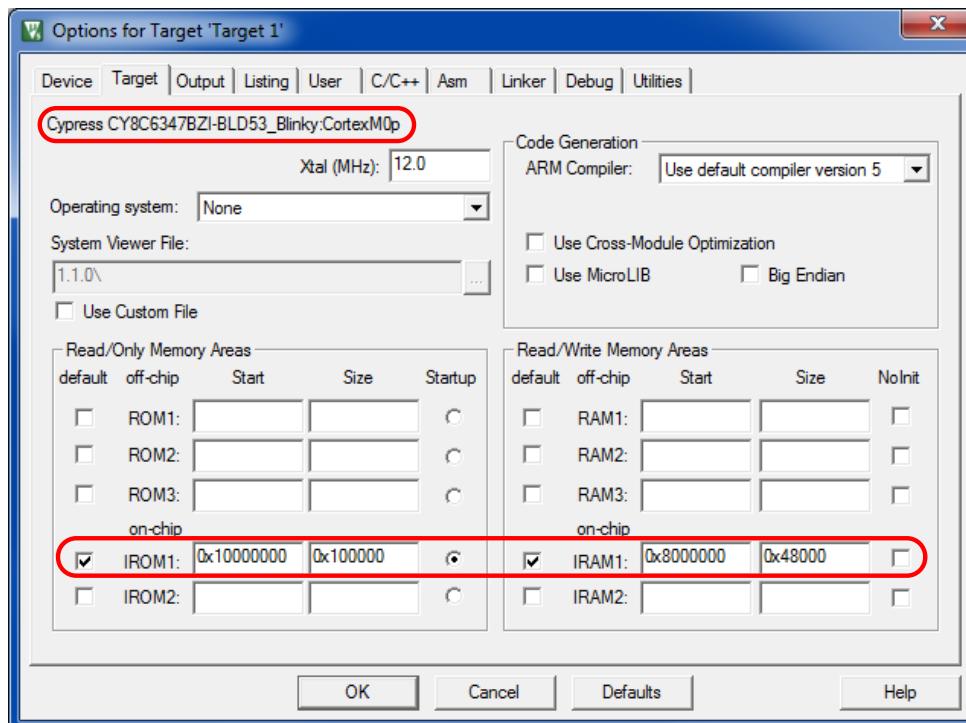
Right-click **Source Group 1**, and select **Add Existing Files to Group 'Source Group 1'**.... Navigate to your PSoC Creator project folder and select *main_cm0p.c*, *cy_ipc_config.c*, and all other non-system .c and assembler files needed for your project, as [Figure 19](#) shows. You do not have to add any .h files, startup, or system .c, or assembler files. Click **Add**; the files are added to the source group in the µVision project. Click **Close**.

Figure 19. Add PSoC Creator Project C Source Files to the Source Group



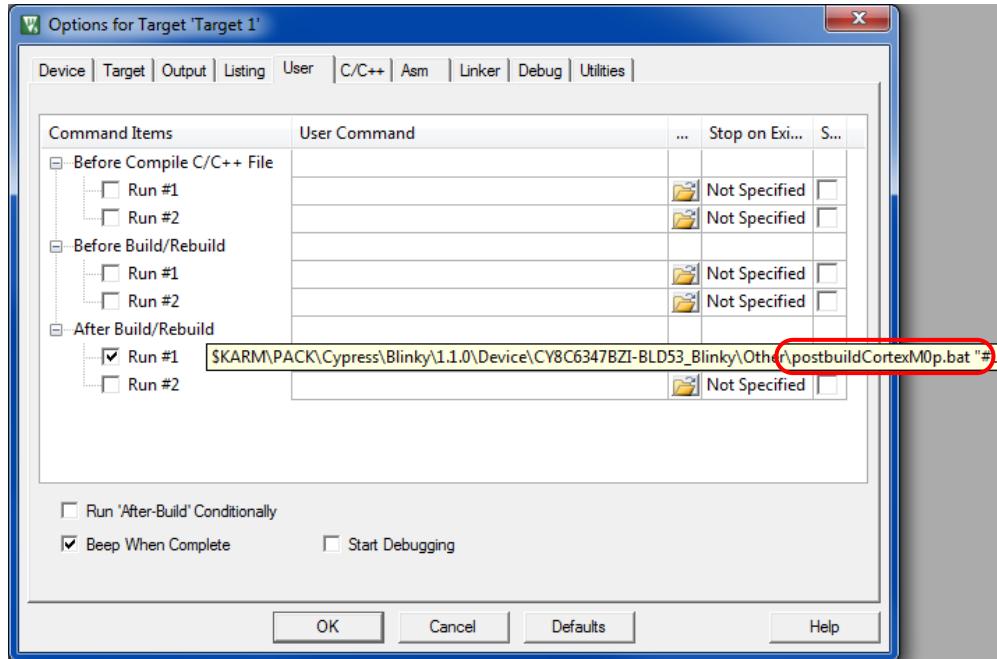
Now that the project is created, you must set its options. Right-click **Target 1**, and select **Options for Target 'Target 1'**.... Confirm in the **Target** tab that the device, CPU, IROM1, and IRAM1 are correct for your PSoC 6 MCU device, as [Figure 20](#) shows. Updating other fields such as Xtal (MHz) and Operating system is optional.

Figure 20. Project Target Options



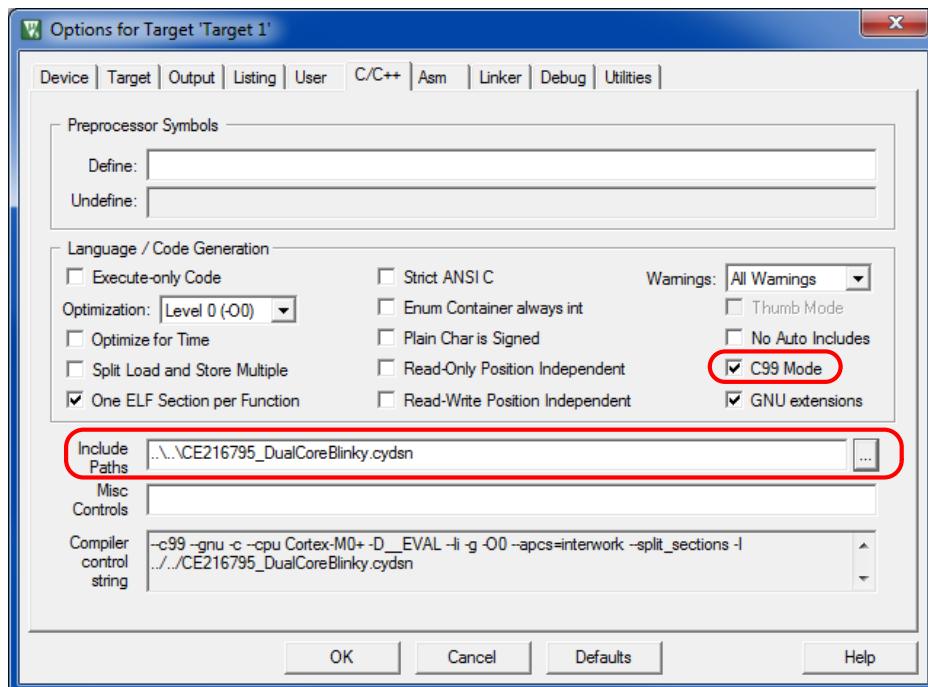
In the **User** tab, verify that the correct post-build batch file from the pack is being called. Hover the cursor over the **User Command** field and confirm that *postbuildCortexM0p.bat* is called, as [Figure 21](#) shows. Add other pre- and post-build batch files, and select other options, as needed.

Figure 21. Project User Options



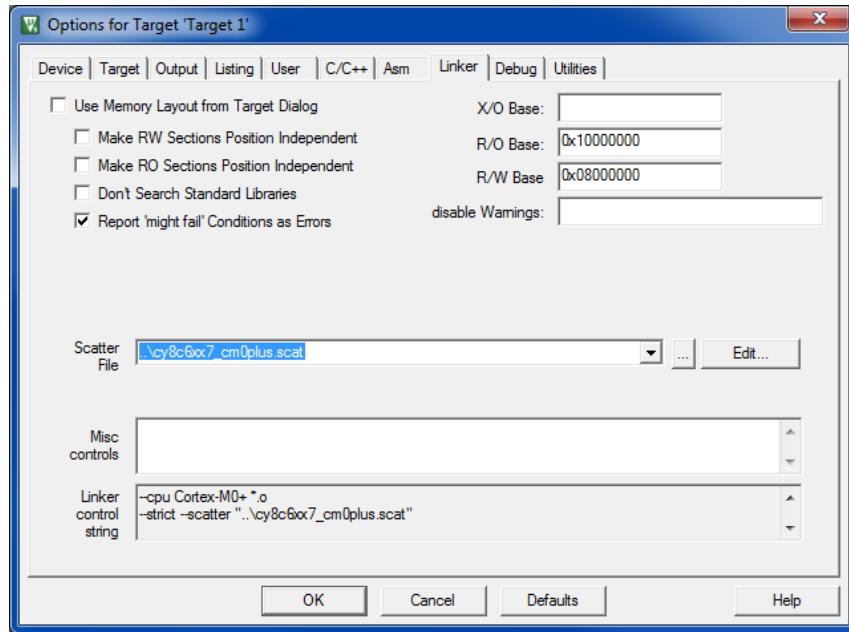
Confirm in the **C/C++** tab that the **C99 mode** option is checked, as [Figure 22](#) shows. (PDL is developed based on C99.) Add the PSoC Creator *<project>.cydsn* folder to the **Include Paths**; this provides a link to the .h files in the PSoC Creator project. Update other options and fields as needed.

Figure 22. Project C/C++ Options



Confirm in the **Linker** tab that the **R/O Base** and **R/W Base** fields are correct for your PSoC 6 MCU device, as [Figure 23](#) shows. Select the appropriate **Scatter File** from your PSoC Creator project folder.

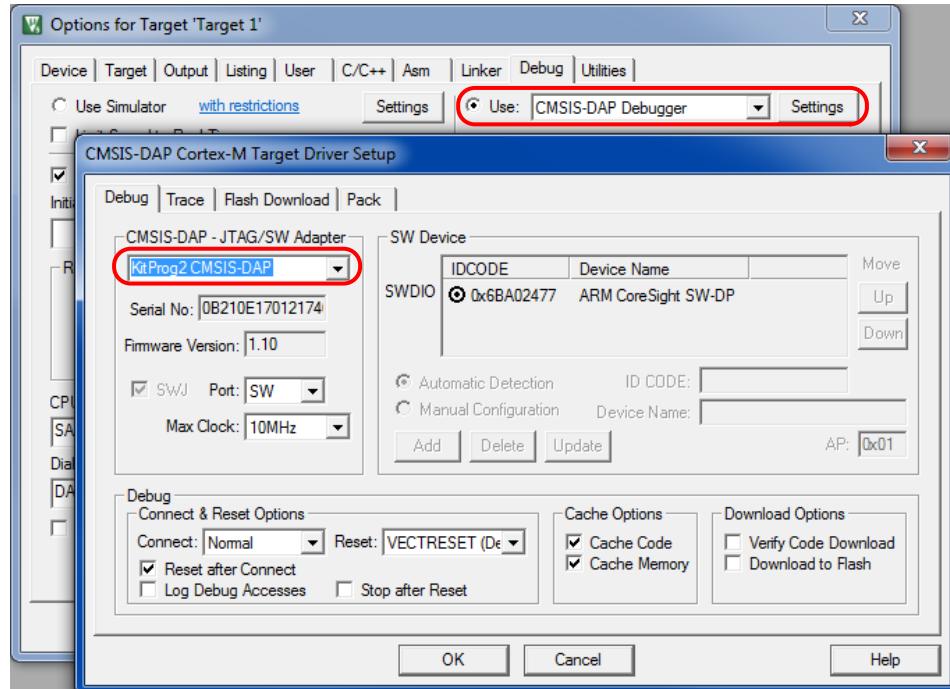
Figure 23. Project Linker Options



Connect the CY8CKIT-062-BLE USB port to your computer. Press the kit button SW3 to put KitProg2 into CMSIS-DAP mode; see the kit guide for details. This allows debugging without using any external probes.

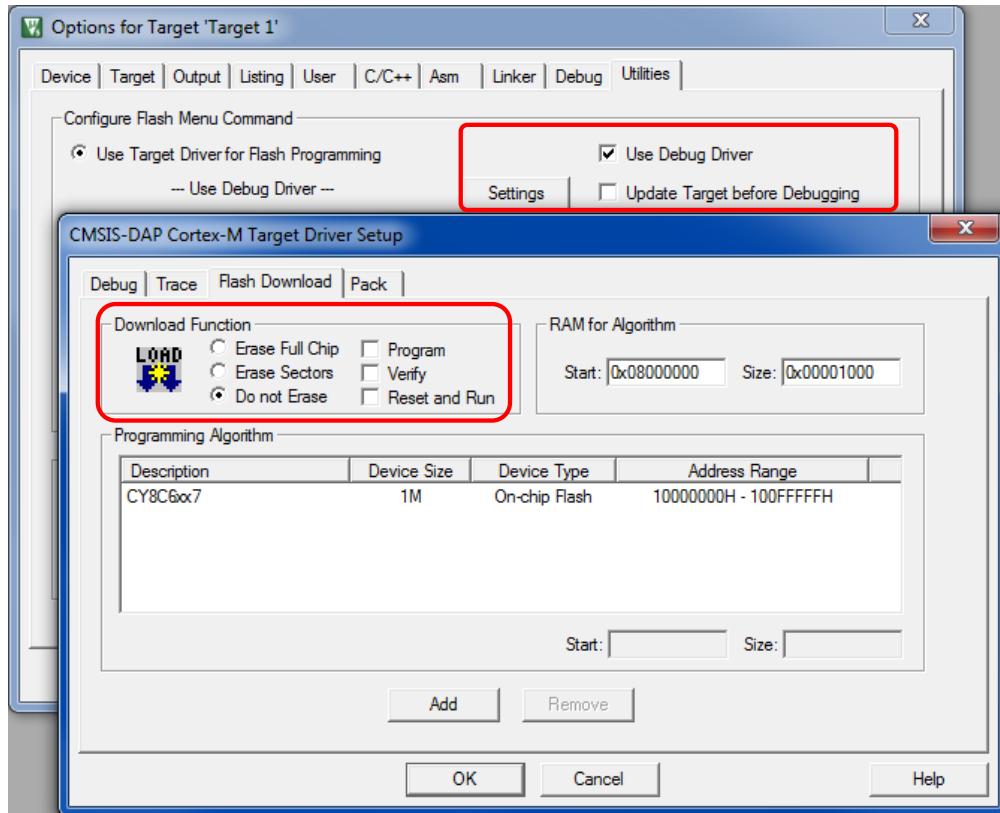
In the **Debug** tab, select **Use CMSIS-DAP Debugger**, as [Figure 24](#) shows. Click **Settings**, select **KitProg2 CMSIS-DAP**, and confirm that all other settings are at the defaults shown. Click **OK** and go back to the Options dialog.

Figure 24. Project Debug Options



In the **Utilities** tab, confirm that Use Debug Driver is checked, and then uncheck **Update Target before Debugging**. Click **Settings**, and uncheck all **Download Function** boxes, as Figure 25 shows. Click **Do not Erase**. Click **OK** and go back to the **Options** dialog. A warning “Nothing to do ...” is displayed; click **OK**. The application will be loaded by the CM4 project. Click **OK** to save and close the options settings.

Figure 25. Project Utilities Options



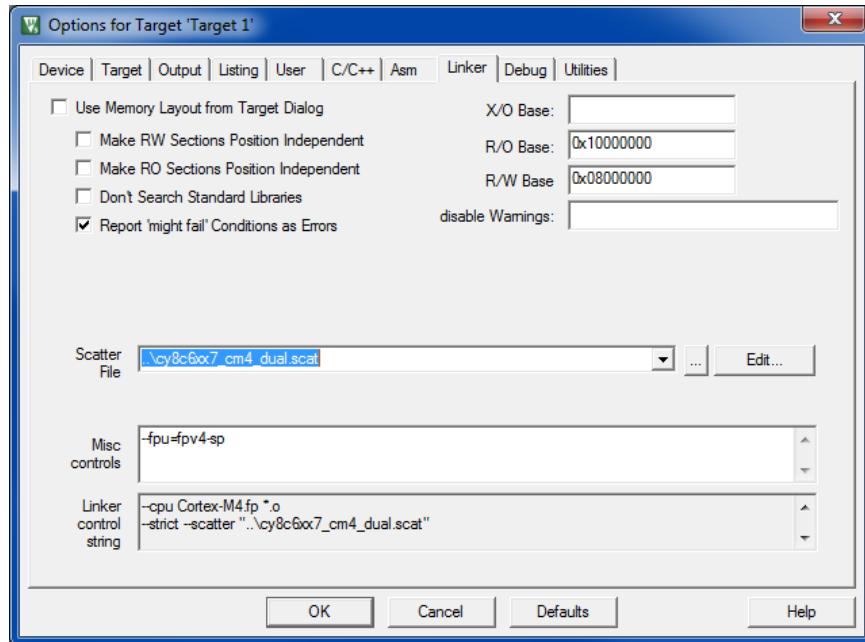
Repeat the previous steps and create a second project for CM4.

Recommended: name the project based on the original PSoC Creator project name and the target CPU. For example, for the [CE216795](#) dual-CPU blinky project, create *μVision* project *BlinkyM4p*; see [Figure 14](#). Configure the project in the same manner as the CM0+ project, with the following differences:

- The CM4 project must be in the same folder as the CM0+ project; in this case, *uVisionBuild*. See [Figure 14](#).
- Select the CM4 CPU from the previously installed pack; see [Figure 15](#).
- Navigate to your PSoC Creator project folder and select *main_cm4.c*, *cy_ipc_config.c*, and all other non-system *.c* and assembler files needed for your project, as [Figure 19](#) shows. You do not have to add any *.h* files, startup, system *.c*, or assembler files.
- In the **Options** dialog, **Output** tab, click **Select Folder for Objects...**, and select the *ObjectsM4* folder that you created; see [Figure 13](#).
- In the **Options** dialog, **C/C++** tab, add `--fpu=fpv4-sp` to **Misc Controls**; see [Figure 22](#).

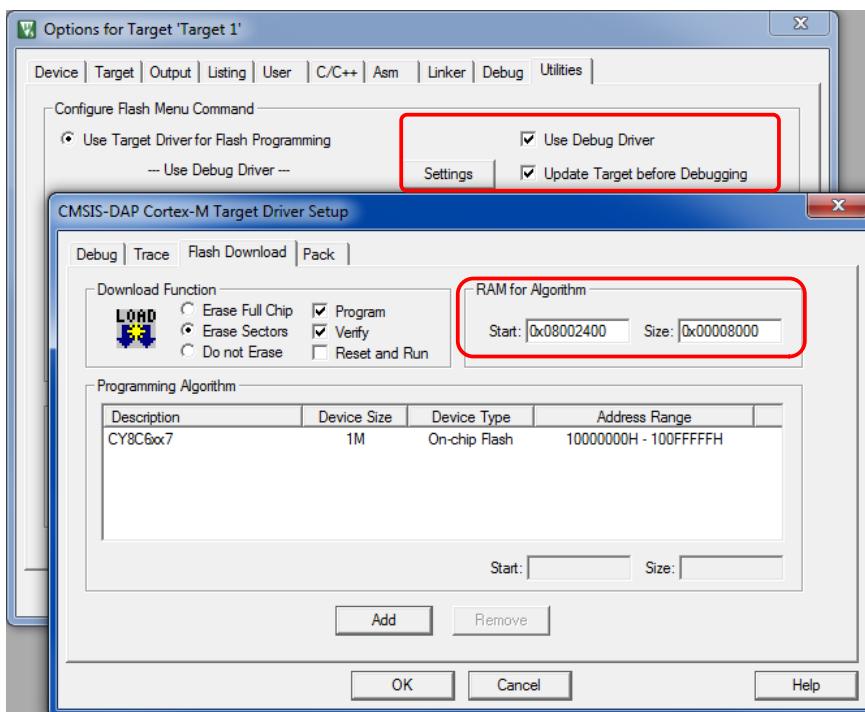
- In the **Options** dialog, **Linker** tab, select the “cm4_dual” scatter file, as [Figure 26](#) shows. The CM4 project will contain code for both CPUs. Add `--fpu=fpv4-sp` to **Misc Controls**.

Figure 26. Linker Options for CM4 Project



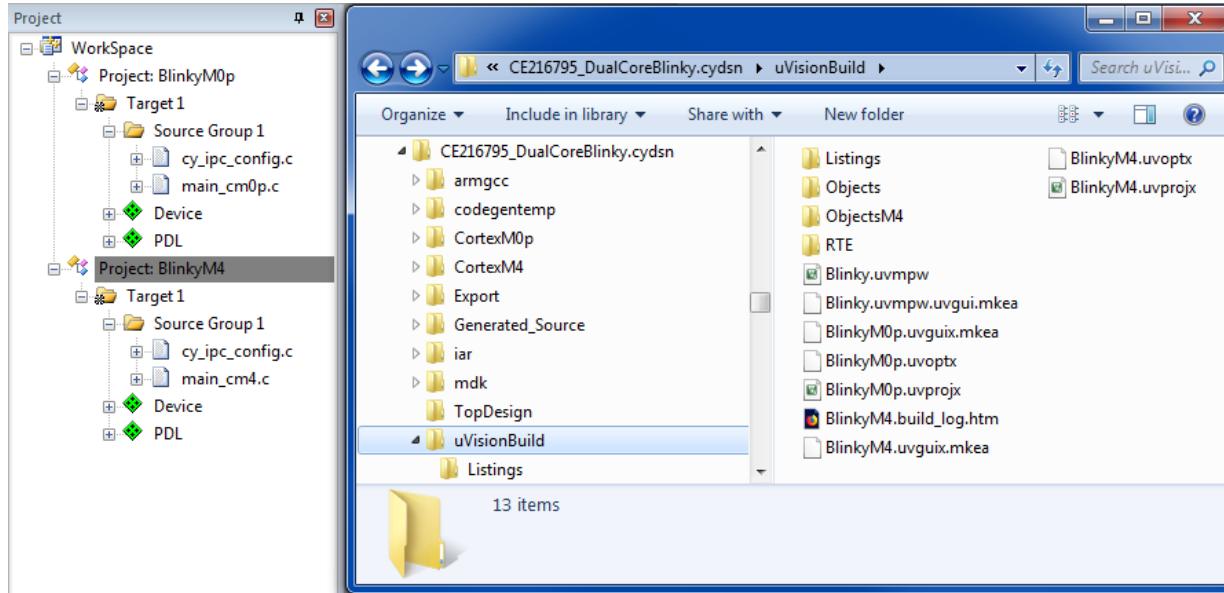
- In the **Options** dialog, **Debug** tab, Target Driver Setup, select VECTRESET for the **Reset** option; see [Figure 24](#).
- In the **Options** dialog, **Utilities** tab, confirm that **Update Target before Debugging** is checked, as [Figure 27](#) shows. Set the RAM for Algorithm values as indicated. Checking **Reset and Run** is optional but convenient.

Figure 27. Utilities Options for CM4 Project



Finally, create a **μVision workspace** (**Project > New Multi-Project Workspace...**), named for example *Blinky*, in the *uVisionBuild* folder. Add the two created projects to that workspace. The created workspace and projects, and the corresponding files, should be similar to [Figure 28](#).

Figure 28. Resultant **μVision Project Window** and **Project Files**



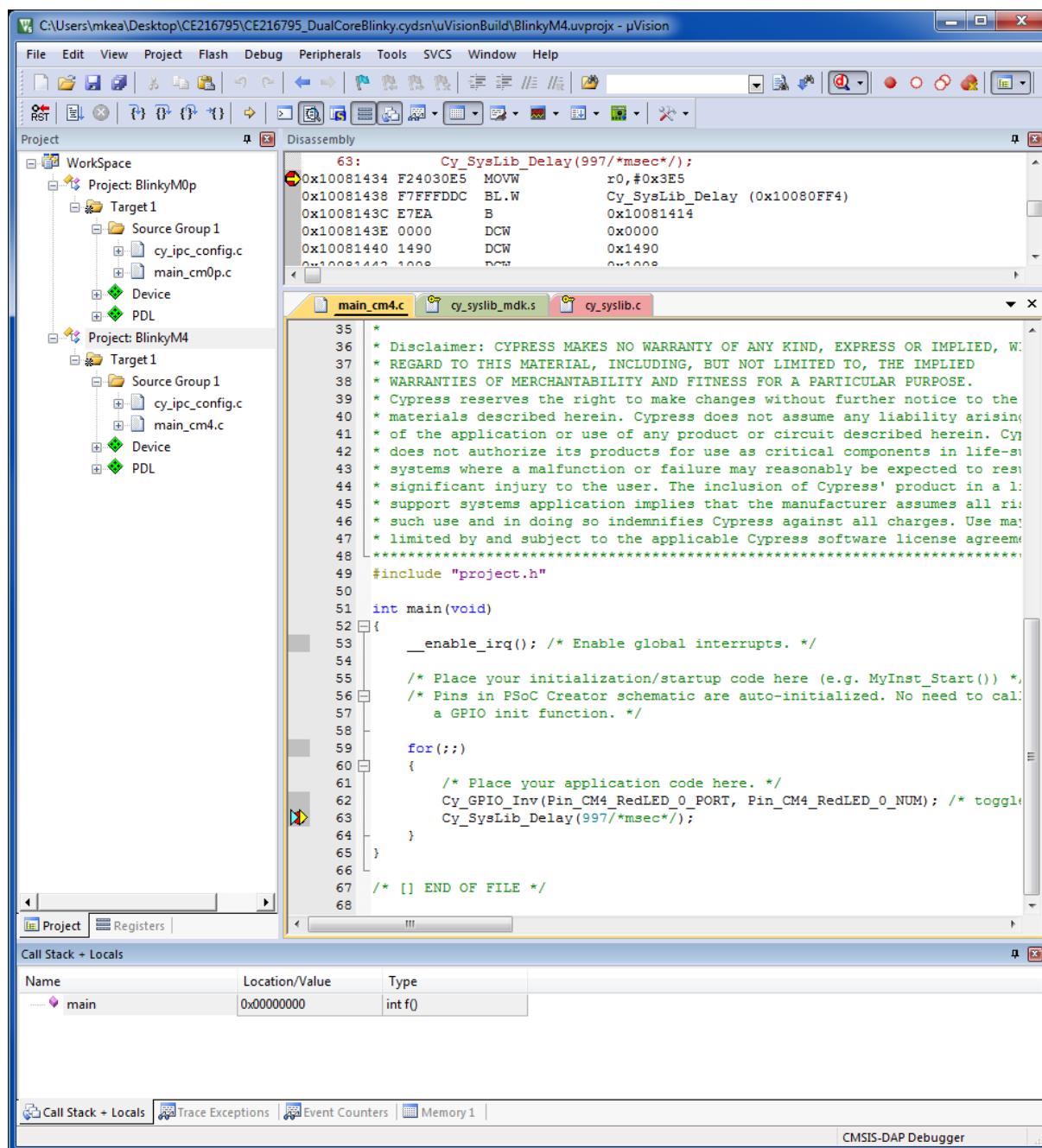
Build the projects in sequence; build the CM0+ project first. Note that **μVision** has a batch build feature to automate the process. After building is successfully completed, right-click the BlinkyM4 project and set it as the active project. Then test your build options by (1) erasing flash (**Flash > Erase**), and (2) downloading the project (**Flash > Download**) and confirming correct operation. If you did not select Reset and Run (see [Figure 27](#)), you must press the kit reset button (RST / SW1) to start operation.

Note: If you change any code in the CM0+ project, you must rebuild both projects. Note that **μVision** has a batch build feature to automate the process.

4.3.3 Debug µVision Projects

Start debugging with the CM4 project – downloading the CM4 project installs code for both CPUs. Set the CM4 project as the active project, download it if needed, and click **Debug > Start/Stop Debug Session** to start debugging. The µVision window appears similar to Figure 29:

Figure 29. CM4 Debug Window



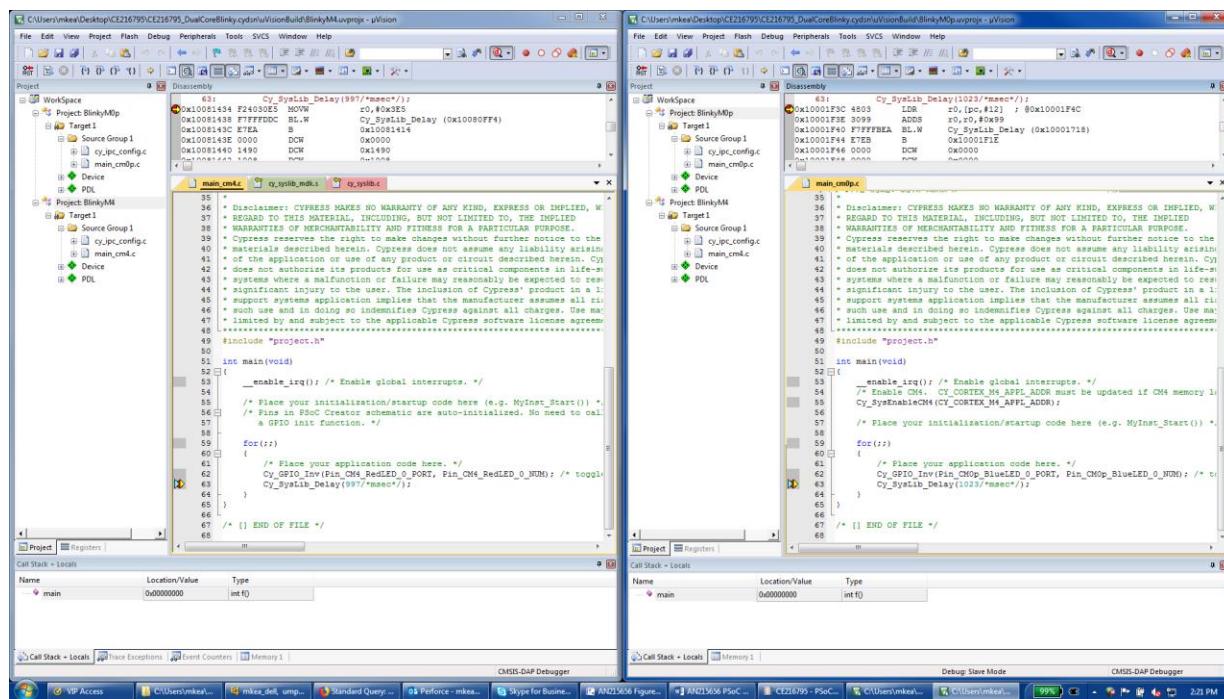
If you are running the [CE216795](#) dual-CPU blinky project, set a breakpoint at line 63, `Cy_Syslib_Delay()`. Then repeatedly click **Debug > Run**, and the red LED toggles on each stop at the breakpoint.

Now open a second instance of µVision and load the same workspace. Both instances share the kit connection and the PSoC 6 MCU debug access port (DAP). Make the CM0+ project active, and start a debug session. Set a breakpoint at line 63, Cy_Syslib_Delay(). Then repeatedly click **Debug > Run**, and the blue LED toggles on each stop at the breakpoint.

Note: Executing the Cy_SysEnableCM4() function call at line 55 causes CM4 to start running again. Go to the CM4 window, click **Debug > Stop**, then **Debug > Run**. CM4 runs to the breakpoint again.

It helps to place the instance windows side by side on your desktop. The windows appear similar to [Figure 30](#). Click in the appropriate window to perform a debug operation on the desired CPU. Note that breakpoints can be set separately for each CPU. You can read and update the same memory addresses from either window.

Figure 30. µVision Dual-CPU Debugging



4.3.4 Create IAR-EW Projects

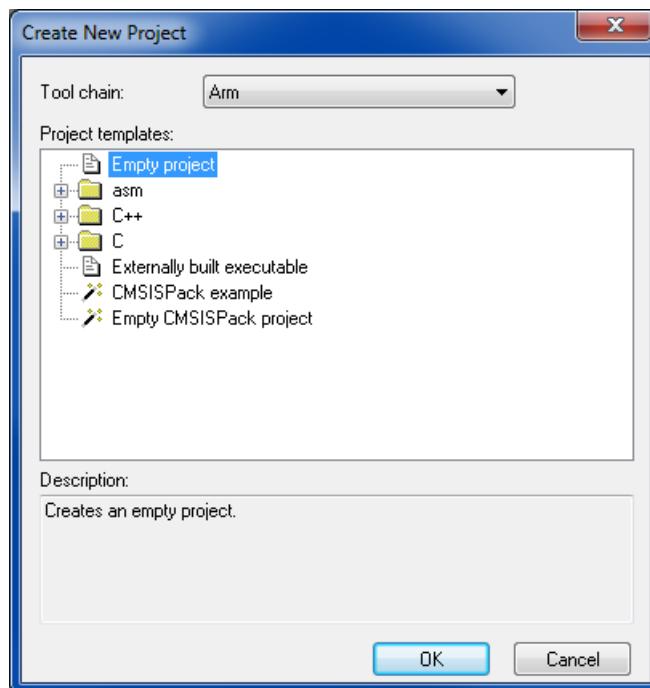
For IAR Embedded Workbench (IAR-EW), you must create two projects: one for each PSoC 6 MCU CPU: CM0+ and CM4. Do the following:

Note: The IAR-EW project files should be created in your PSoC Creator <project>.cydsn folder. Do not create a separate folder within your PSoC Creator <project>.cydsn folder (this is different from the [μVision instructions](#)).

Recommended: add a tag such as “IAR_” to each project and workspace file name, to distinguish the IAR-EW files from the PSoC Creator files in the same folder.

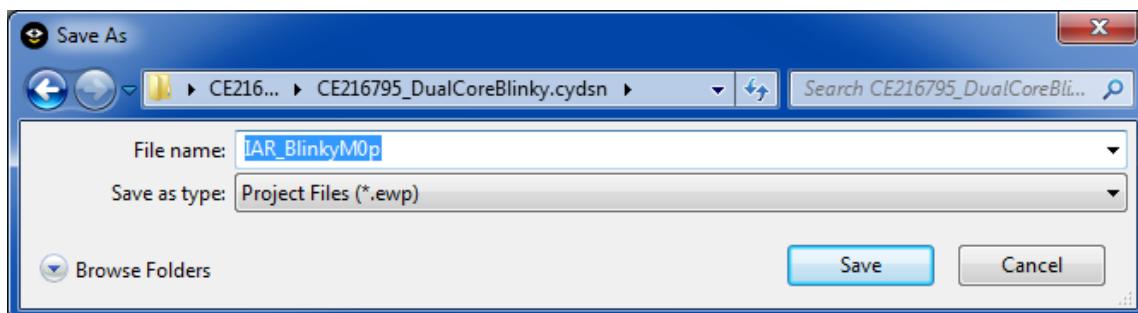
Open IAR Embedded Workbench for ARM 8.22 or later, and create a new project (**Project > Create New Project...**). In the Create New Project dialog (Figure 31), confirm that the Tool chain is **Arm**, select the **Empty project** template, then click **OK**.

Figure 31. IAR Embedded Workbench Create New Project Dialog



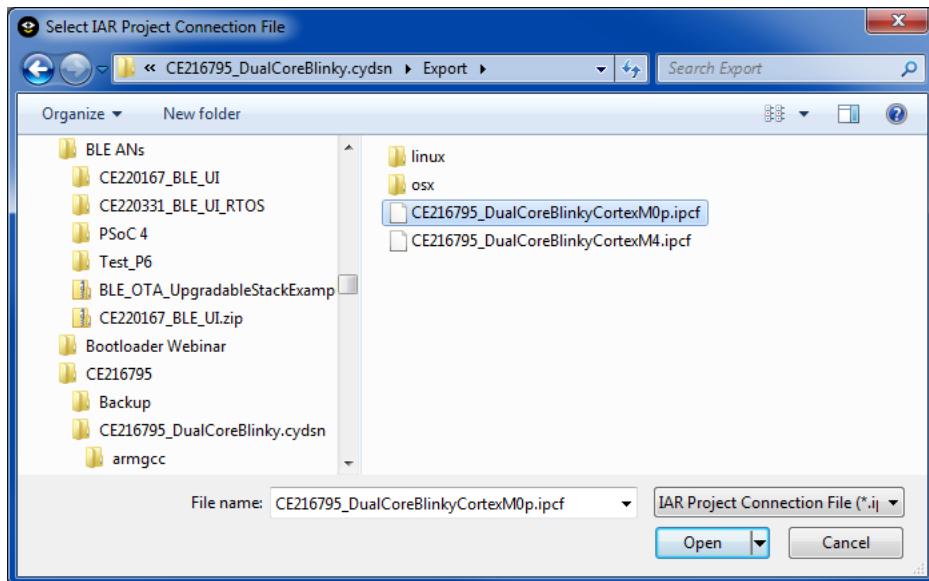
Recommended: in the Save As dialog (Figure 32), name the project based on the original PSoC Creator project name and the target CPU. For example, for the [CE216795](#) dual-CPU blinky project, create a μVision project *IAR_BlinkyM0p* for the CM0+ CPU.

Figure 32. Create an IAR Embedded Workbench Project for CM0+



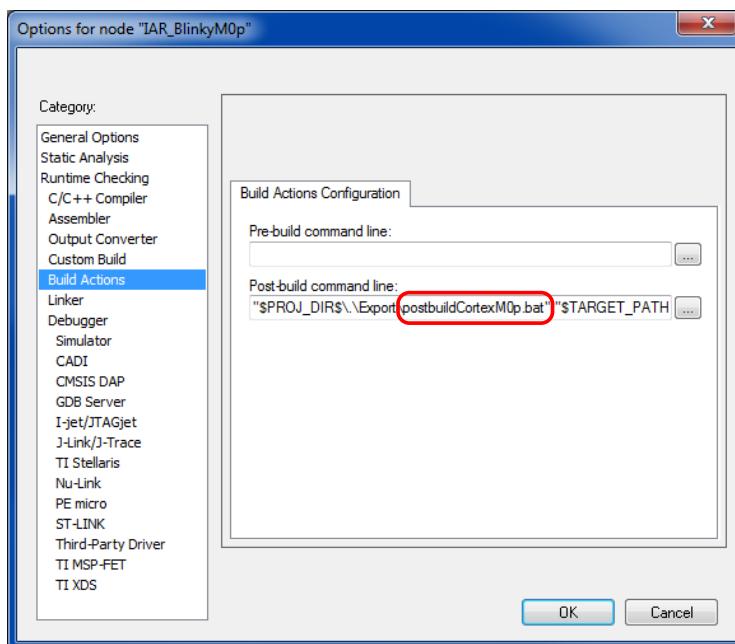
Select **Tools > Options** and make sure that **Enable project connections** is checked. Click **OK**. Then select **Project > Add Project Connection...**. In the next dialog, select Connect using **IAR Project Connection**, and click **OK**. Then select the ...*CortexM0p.ipcf* file, as [Figure 33](#) shows. Click **OK**, and several folders and files are added to the project in the Workspace window.

Figure 33. Select IAR Project Connection File from PSoC Creator Project Export Folder



Now that the project is created, you must set its options. Right-click the project, and select **Options....** Confirm in the Options dialog, **Build Actions** section that *postbuildCortexM0p.bat* is called, as [Figure 34](#) shows.

Figure 34. Select PSoC Creator Post-Build Batch File

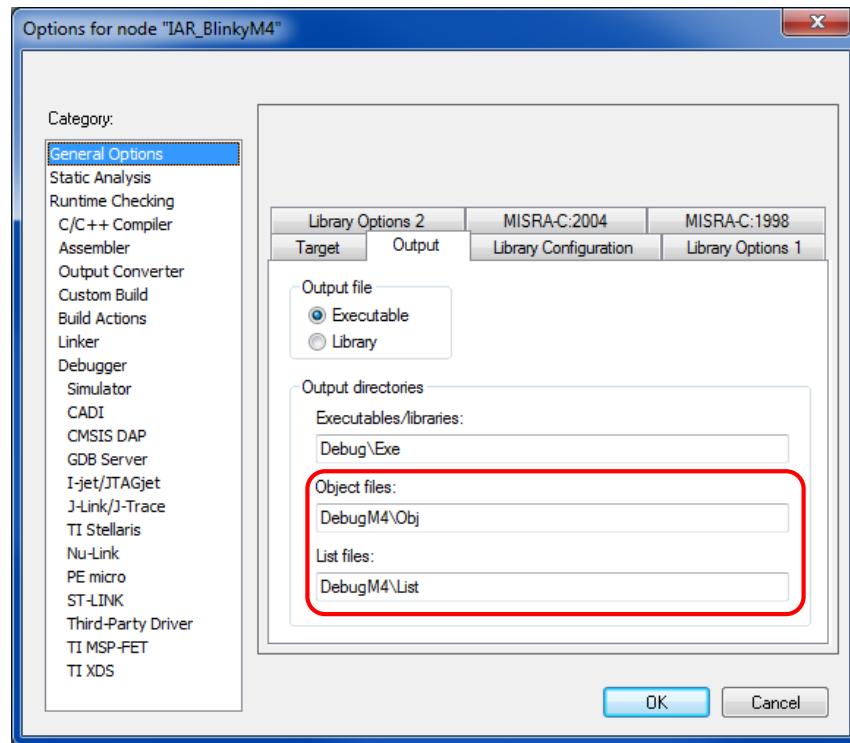


In the **Debugger** section, **Setup** tab, select the **CMSIS DAP** driver. In the **Download** tab, check **Suppress download**. In the **CMSIS DAP** section, **Setup** tab, set **Reset to Disabled (no reset)**. The application will be loaded by the CM4 project. In the **Interface** tab, select **SWD**. Click **OK**.

Repeat the previous steps and create a second project for CM4. **Recommended:** name the project based on the original PSoC Creator project name and the target CPU. For example, for the [CE216795](#) dual-CPU blinky project, create IAR-EW project *IAR_BlinkyM4*; see [Figure 32](#). Configure the project similar to the CM0+ project, with the following differences:

- The CM4 project must be in the same folder as the CM0+ project; in this case, your PSoC Creator *<project>.cydsn* folder. See [Figure 32](#).
- Select the ...*CortexM4.ipcf* file; see [Figure 33](#).
- In the **Options** dialog, **General Options** section, **Output** tab, change the output directories for object and list files, as [Figure 35](#) shows. Do not change the executables/libraries output folder.

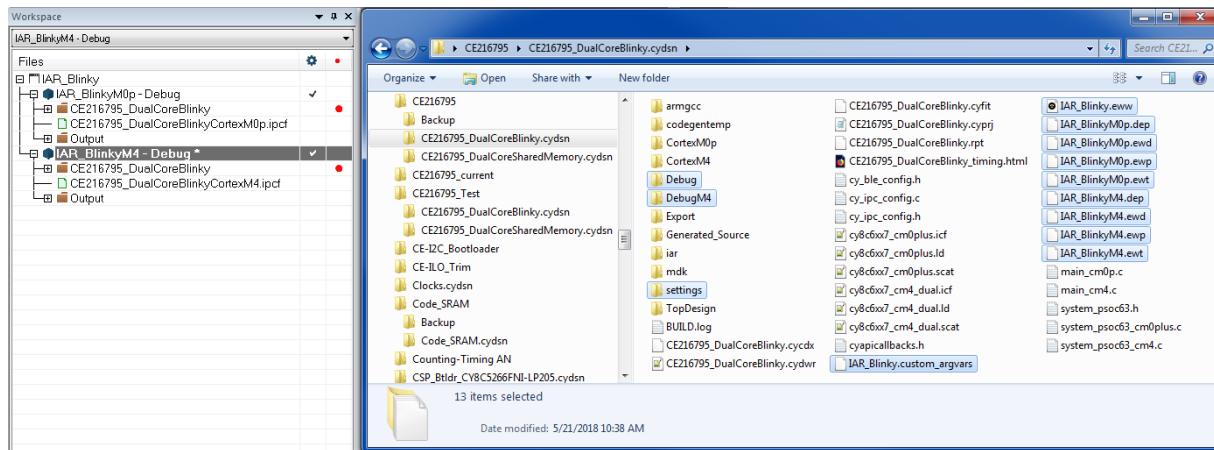
Figure 35. Unique Output Folders for CM4 Project



- In the **Build Actions** section, confirm that *postbuildCortexM4.bat* is called, see [Figure 34](#).
- In the **Debugger** section, **Setup** tab, select the **CMSIS DAP** driver. In the **CMSIS DAP** section, **Setup** tab, confirm that **Reset** is set to **System (default)**. In the **Interface** tab, select **SWD**. Click **OK**.

Select **File > Save All**. All files for both projects are saved, and a workspace file is automatically generated. In the Save Workspace As dialog, create an IAR-EW workspace, named for example *IAR_Blinky*, in your PSoC Creator <project>.cydsn folder. The created workspace and projects, and the corresponding files, should be similar to [Figure 36](#). The files and folders generated by IAR-EW are highlighted.

Figure 36. Resultant IAR Embedded Workbench Project Window and Project Files

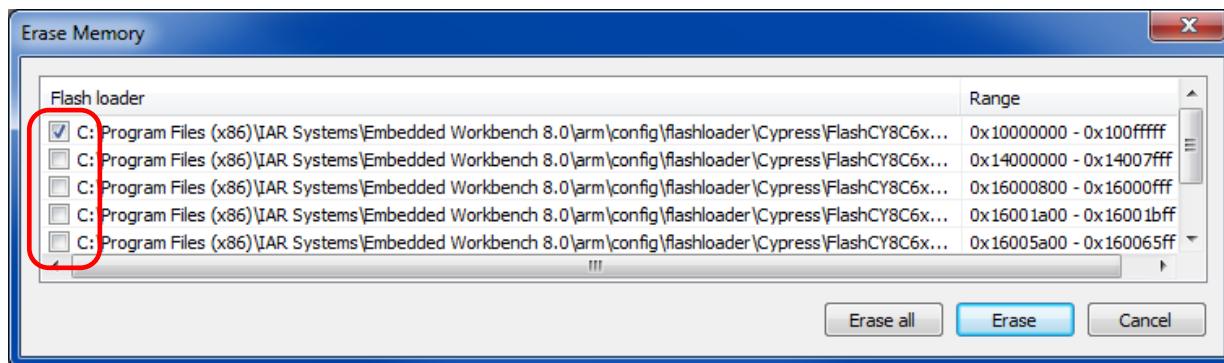


Connect the CY8CKIT-062-BLE USB port to your computer. Press kit button SW3 to put KitProg2 into CMSIS-DAP mode; see the kit guide for details. This allows debugging without using any external debug probes.

Build the projects in sequence; build the CM0+ project first. Note that IAR-EW has a batch build feature to automate the process. After building is successfully completed, right-click the BlinkyM4 project and set it as the active project. Then confirm that your build options are correct, by (1) erasing flash (**Project > Download > Erase memory**), and (2) downloading the project (**Project > Download > Download active application**) and confirming correct operation. After downloading, press the kit reset button (RST / SW1) to start operation.

Note: When erasing flash, you typically only need to erase PSoC 6 MCU application flash (0x1000 0000 – 0x100F FFFF), as [Figure 37](#) shows:

Figure 37. IAR Embedded Workbench Erase Memory Dialog for PSoC 6 MCU

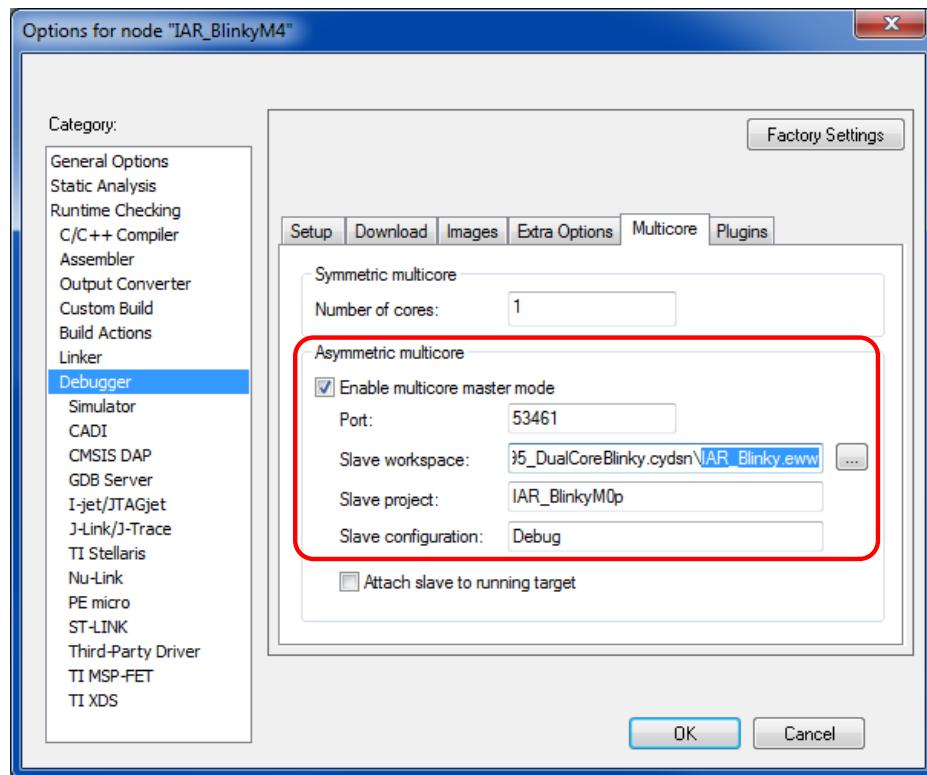


Note: If you change any code in the CM0+ project, you must rebuild both projects. Note that IAR-EW has a batch build feature to automate the process.

4.3.5 Debug IAR-EW Projects

Reopen the options for the CM4 project, and go to the **Debugger** section, **Multicore** folder. PSoC 6 MCU has different cores, i.e., CM0+ and CM4, which is referred to as "asymmetric multicore". Therefore, fill in the fields in the **Asymmetric multicore** section as Figure 38 shows. Checking **Enable multicore master mode** makes the CM4 the master for download and debugging purposes. Do not change the **Port**.

Figure 38. Set Up Multicore Debugging



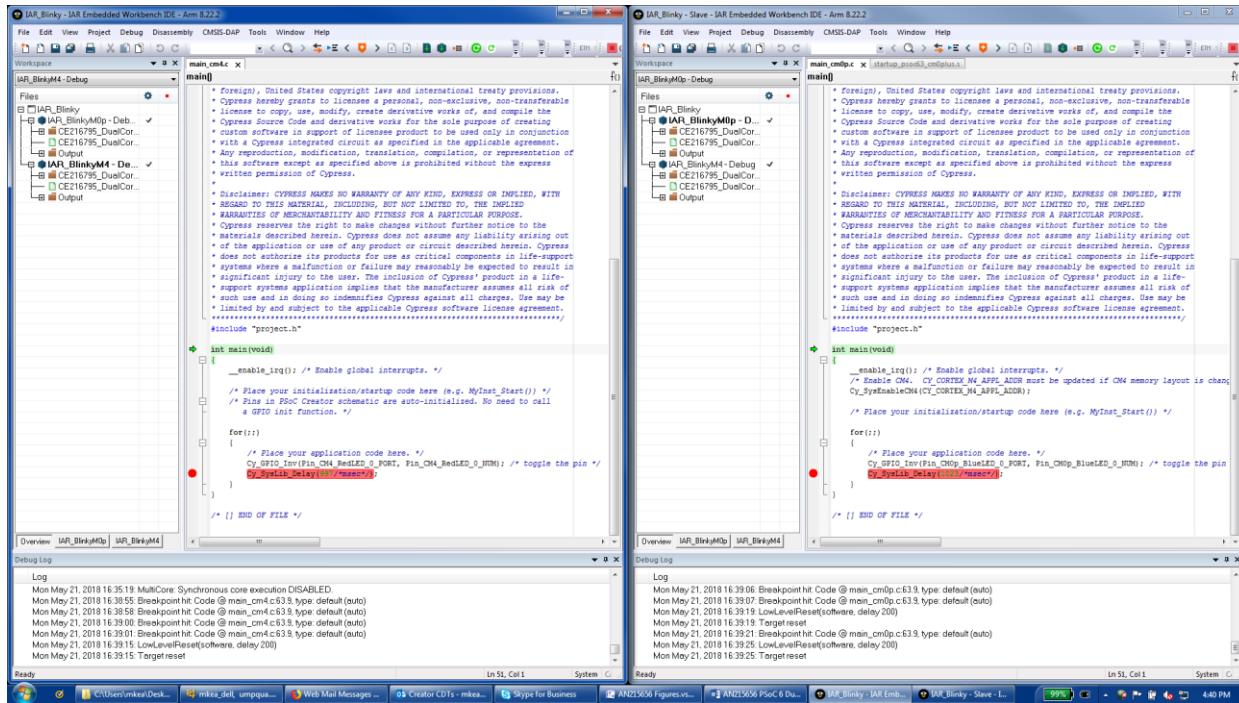
Select **File > Save All** to save the project options changes. Then start debugging by selecting either **Project > Download and Debug** or **Project > Debug without Downloading**. A second (slave) instance of IAR Embedded Workbench is automatically opened for the CM0+ project. Both instances share the kit connection and the PSoC 6 MCU debug access port (DAP).

In the slave instance, set a breakpoint at line 63, `Cy_Syslib_Delay()`. Then repeatedly click **Debug > Go**, and the blue LED toggles on each stop at the breakpoint.

Click anywhere in the CM4 instance window and repeat the process. The red LED toggles on each stop at the breakpoint.

It helps to place the instance windows side by side on your desktop. The windows appear similar to [Figure 39](#). Click in the appropriate window to perform a debug operation on the desired CPU. Note that breakpoints can be set separately for each CPU. You can read and update the same memory addresses from either window.

Figure 39. IAR Embedded Workbench Dual-CPU Debugging



You can stop debugging in either window; debugging is ended for both CPUs. Press the kit reset button (RST / SW1) to restart kit operation.

5 Summary

This application note has shown how to use and optimize your firmware and hardware designs for the dual-CPU feature in PSoC 6 MCUs.

Another way to optimize your PSoC 6 MCU design is based on the fact that the PSoC family devices are designed to be flexible, and enable you to build custom functions in programmable analog and digital blocks. For example, PSoC 6 MCU has the following peripherals that can act as “co-processors”:

- DMA Controllers. Note that the most common CPU assembler instructions output by C compilers are MOV, LDR, and STR, which implies that the CPU spends a lot of cycles just moving bytes around. Let the DMA controllers do that instead.

Note: The PSoC 6 MCU DMA controllers have an extensive set of features that enable you to construct complex data transfer and control systems that are independent of the CPUs. Software support of these features is provided by both a PSoC Creator DMA Component and an API in the PDL. For more information, see the DMA Component datasheet and the PDL documentation.

- Crypto Block. This block offers hardware acceleration for symmetric and asymmetric cryptographic methods (AES, 3DES, RSA, and ECC) and hash functions (SHA-512, SHA-256). It also has a true random number generator (TRNG) function. Software support for these features is provided by an API in the PDL; see the PDL documentation.
- Universal Digital Blocks (UDBs). There are as many as 12 UDBs, and each UDB has an 8-bit datapath that can add, subtract, and do bitwise operations, shifts, and cyclic redundancy check (CRC). Datapaths can be chained for word-wide calculations. Consider offloading CPU calculations to the datapaths.
- UDBs also have programmable logic devices (PLDs) which can be used to build state machines; see for example the Lookup Table (LUT) Component datasheet. LUTs can be an effective hardware-based alternative to programming state machines in the CPU, for example by using C switch / case statements.

In addition, two GPIO ports include Smart IO, which can be used to perform Boolean operations directly on signals going to, and coming from, GPIO pins.

- Other smart peripherals include serial communication blocks (SCB), counter/timer/PWM blocks (TCPWM), Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE), I2S/PDM audio, programmable analog, CapSense®, and energy profiler. Use these peripherals to further offload processing from the CPUs.

PSoC Creator offers many Components, and extensive APIs in the PDL, for support of the peripherals’ functions. This allows you to develop an effective multiprocessing system in a single chip, offloading a lot of functionality from the CPUs. This in turn can not only reduce code size, but by reducing the number of tasks that the CPUs must perform, presents an opportunity to reduce CPU speed and power consumption.

For example, you can implement a digital system to control multiplexed ADC inputs, and interface with DMA to save the data in SRAM, to create an advanced analog data collection system with zero usage of the CPUs.

Cypress offers extensive application note and [code example](#) support for PSoC peripherals, as well as detailed data in the device datasheets, PDL documentation, and technical reference manuals (TRMs). For more information, see [Related Documents](#).

6 Related Documents

For a comprehensive list of PSoC 6 MCU resources, see [KBA223067](#) in the Cypress community.

Application Notes	
AN210781 – Getting Started with PSoC 6 MCU with Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) Connectivity	Describes PSoC 6 MCU with BLE Connectivity devices and how to build your first PSoC Creator project
AN221111 – Creating a Secure System	Describes what is required to create a secure system, including the boot process from reset to application execution
AN217666 – PSoC 6 MCU Interrupts	A guide in developing projects that use interrupts. Includes advanced interrupt concepts such as interrupt latency, code optimization, and debug techniques.
AN219528 – PSoC 6 MCU Low Power Modes and Power Reduction Techniques	Describes how to use the PSoC 6 MCU power modes to optimize power consumption.
Code Examples	
CE216795 – PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU Basics	Demonstrates the two CPU cores in PSoC 6 MCU doing separate independent tasks, and communicating with each other using shared memory and the inter-processor communication (IPC) block.
PSoC Creator Component Datasheets	
Interrupt	Supports generating CPU interrupts from hardware signals
Device Documentation	
PSoC 6 MCU: PSoC 63 with BLE Datasheet	PSoC 6 MCU: PSoC 63 with BLE Architecture Technical Reference Manual
Development Kit Documentation	
CY8CKIT-062-BLE PSoC 6 BLE Pioneer Kit	

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*A	5653730	MKEA	03/08/2017	Updated template
*B	5777874	MKEA	06/09/2017	Updated text and screen shots for release versions of PSoC Creator 4.1 and PDL 3.0.0 Other miscellaneous edits
*C	5861685	MKEA	08/23/2017	Minor edits Ported to new application note document template Confidential tag removed
*D	6065641	MKEA	03/07/2018	Added a new Figure 2 Updated Figure 4 and associated kit device part number Updated Figures 6 and 9 for PSoC Creator 4.2 beta 2 Emphasized using CM0+ as a support CPU for tasks such as BLE and CapSense Added references to AN221111, Creating a Secure System; AN217666, PSoC 6 Interrupts; AN219528, PSoC 6 Low Power Modes; and CE216795, PSoC 6 Dual-CPU Updated power modes description Miscellaneous minor edits Ported to new application note template Changed the document title to PSoC 6 MCU Dual-CPU System Design
*E	6201597	MKEA	06/11/2018	Expanded section 4.3 to include dual-CPU debugging with µVision and IAR Embedded Workbench IDEs Updated power mode descriptions in section 3 Miscellaneous minor edits Ported to *Y application note template

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