Hands-On Workshop: Optimizing FreeRTOS

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SECURE CONNECTIONS FOR A SMARTER WORLD

Agenda

- MCUXpresso SW & Tools Overview
- Hands-on Lab
  - Basic Debugging
  - FreeRTOS Task Aware Debugging
  - FreeRTOS Optimization
  - FreeRTOS with SystemView
  - Compiler and Linker Optimization
- Summary

MCUXpresso SW & Tools Overview

MCUXpresso Software and Tools

for LPC & Kinetis MCUs and i.MX RT crossover processors

MCUXpresso IDE

Edit, compile, debug and optimize in an intuitive and powerful IDE

MCUXpresso SDK

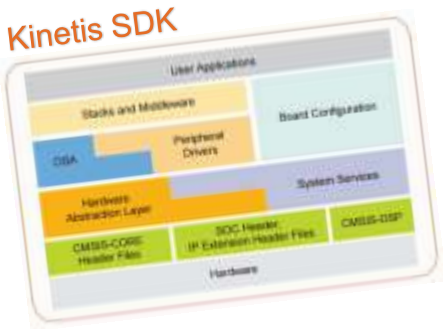
Runtime software including peripheral drivers, middleware, RTOS, demos and more

MCUXpresso Config Tools

Online and desktop tool suite for system configuration and optimization

NXP Microcontroller Enablement Consolidation

LPCOpen v2/3



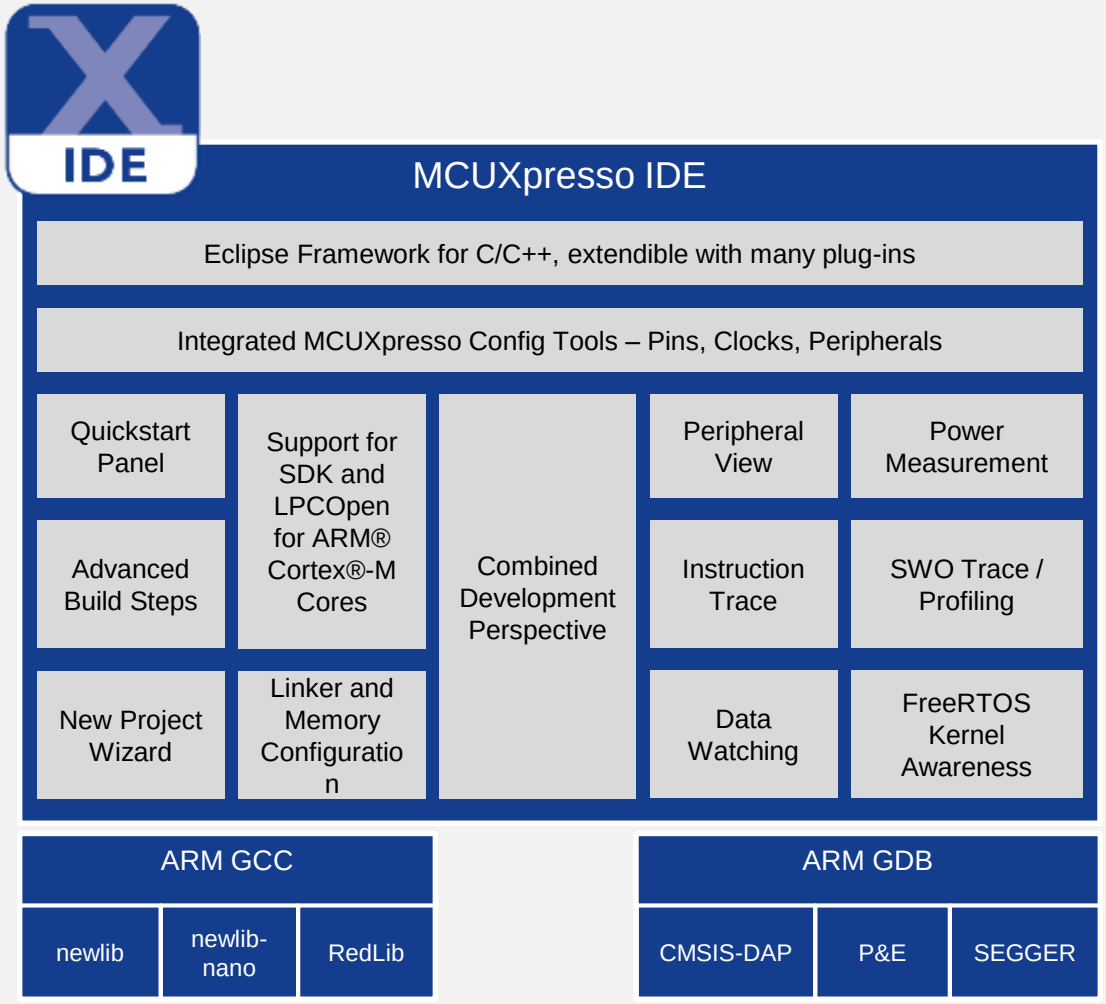
2015 – 2016

MCUXpresso Software and Tools

- IDE
- SDK
- Config Tools

For NXP Cortex-M controllers
- Kinetis MCUs
- LPC Microcontrollers
- i.MX RT Crossover Processors

2017-2018

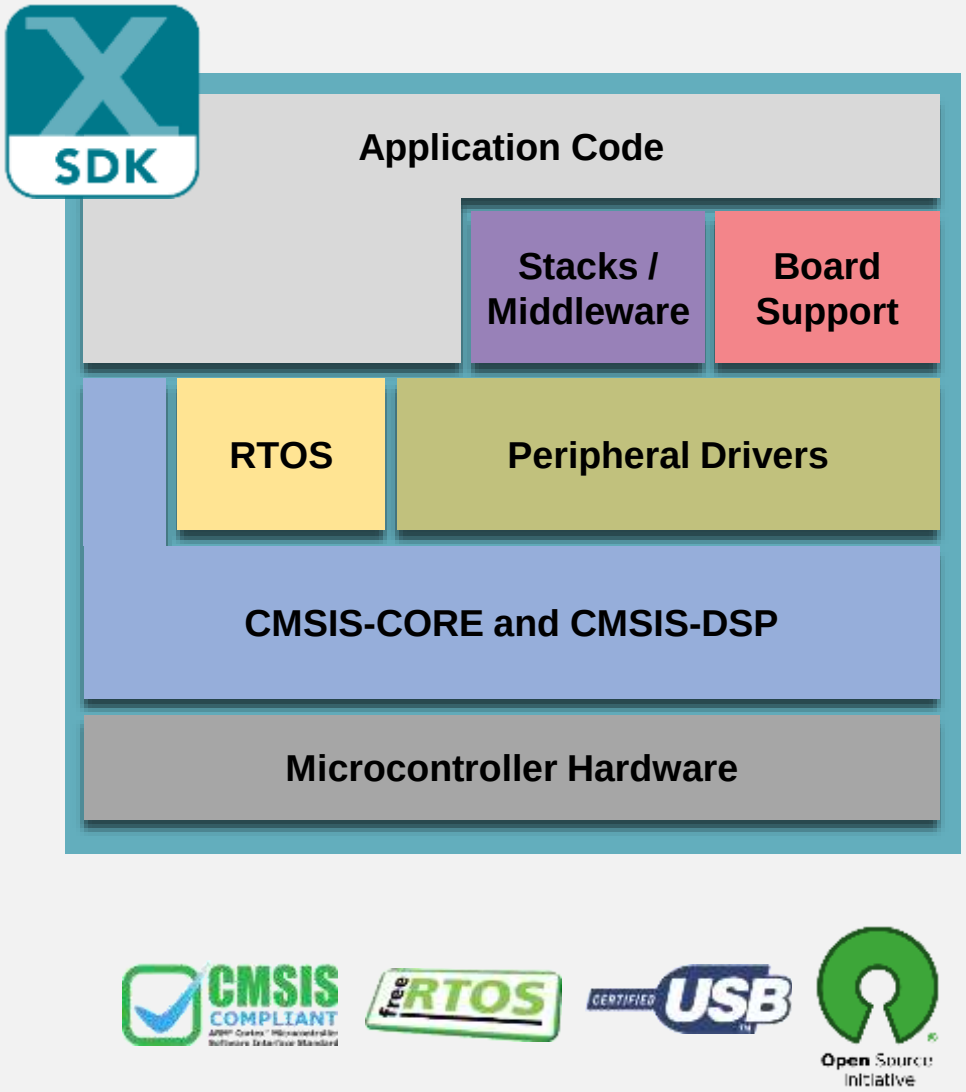


MCUXpresso IDE

Free Eclipse / GCC-based development

- **Feature-rich**, **unlimited code size**, optimized for ease-of-use, based on industry standard Eclipse framework for NXP's **Kinetis** and **LPC** MCUs and **i.MX RT** crossover processors
- Application development with Eclipse and GCC-based IDE for advanced editing, compiling and debugging
- Supports custom development boards, Freedom, Tower and LPCXpresso boards with debug probes from NXP, P&E and Segger
- **Free:** Full Featured, unlimited Code Size, no special activation needed, community based support, advanced trace capabilities, MTB and ETB instruction trace
- Works in conjunction with **MCUXpresso Config Tools** and **MCUXpresso SDK** to provide complete development environment

Learn more at: www.nxp.com/mcuxpresso/sdk



MCUXpresso SDK

Software framework and drivers

Architecture:

- CMSIS-CORE compatible
- Single driver for each peripheral
- Transactional APIs w/ optional DMA support for communication peripherals

Integrated RTOS:

- Amazon FreeRTOS
- RTOS-native driver wrappers

Integrated Stacks and Middleware:

- USB Host, Device and OTG
- lwIP, FatFS, LittleFS
- Crypto acceleration plus wolfSSL & mbedTLS
- SD and eMMC card support

Reference Software:

- Peripheral driver usage examples
- Application demos
- FreeRTOS usage demos
- AWS WiFi and lwIP examples

License:

- Clear BSD 3-clause for startup, drivers, USB stack

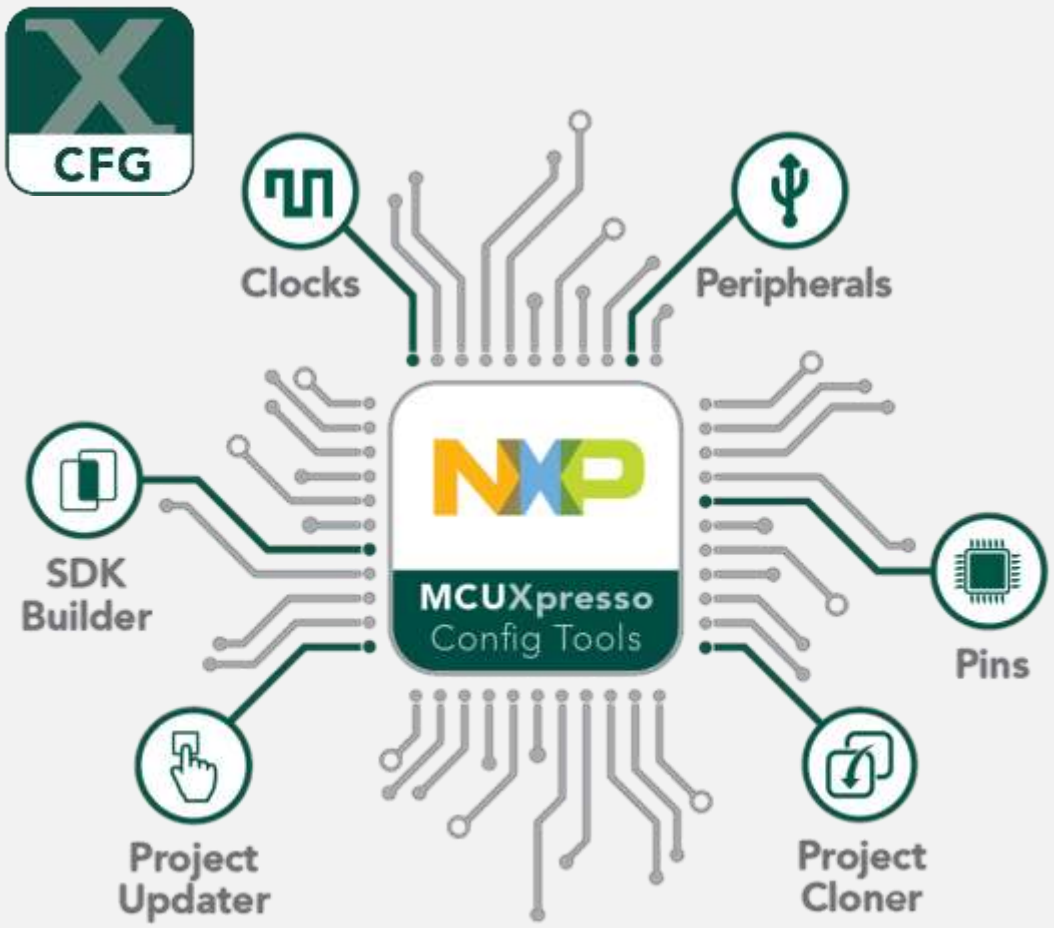
Toolchains:

- MCUXpresso IDE
- IAR®, ARM® Keil®, GCC w/ Cmake

Quality:

- Production-grade software
- MISRA 2004 compliance
- Checked with Coverity® static analysis tools

Learn more at: www.nxp.com/mcuxpresso/config



MCUXpresso Config Tools

Configuration and Code Generation

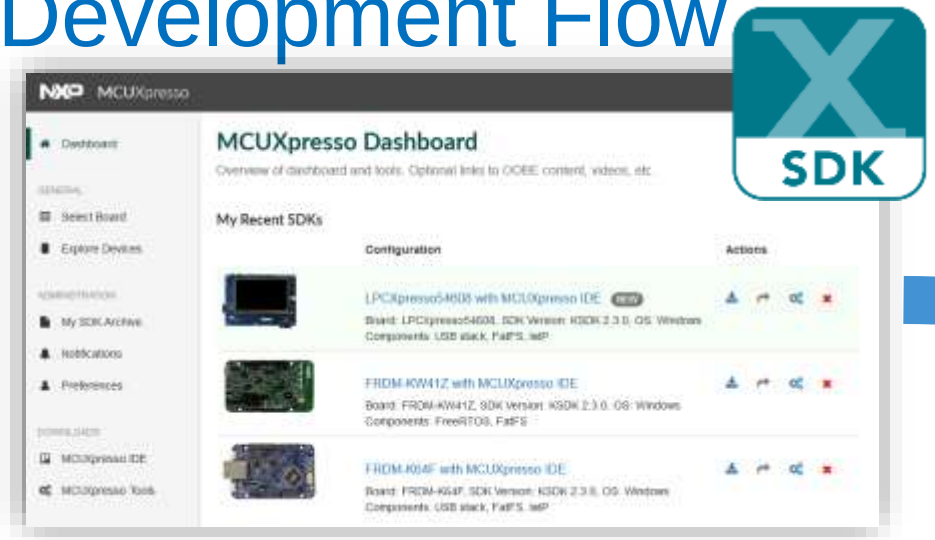
SDK Builder packages custom SDKs based on user selections of MCU, evaluation board, and optional software components.

Pins, **Clocks**, and **Peripheral** tools generate initialization C code for custom board support. Features validation of inputs and cross-tool conflict resolution.

Project Update works directly with existing SDK-based IDE projects with generated Pins, Clocks, and Peripheral source files.

Project Cloning creates a standalone SDK project based on a example application available within SDK release.

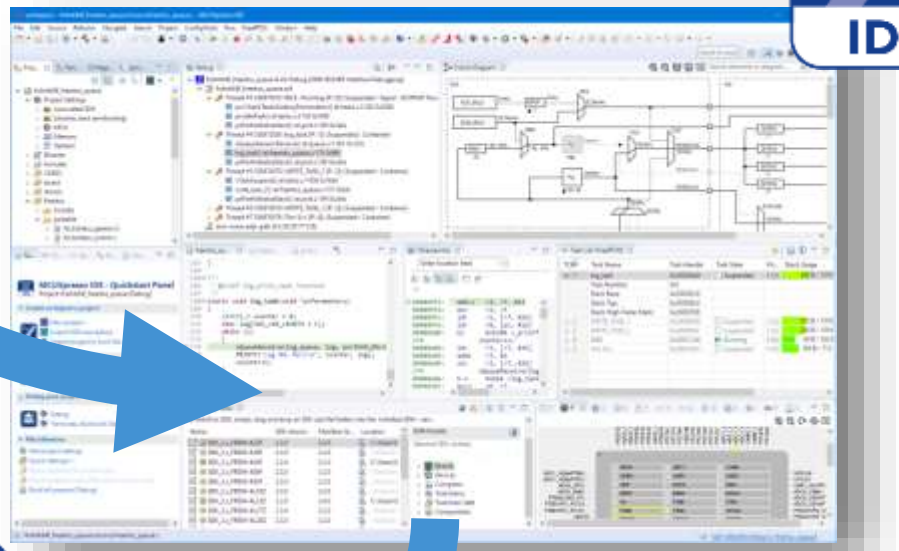
Development Flow

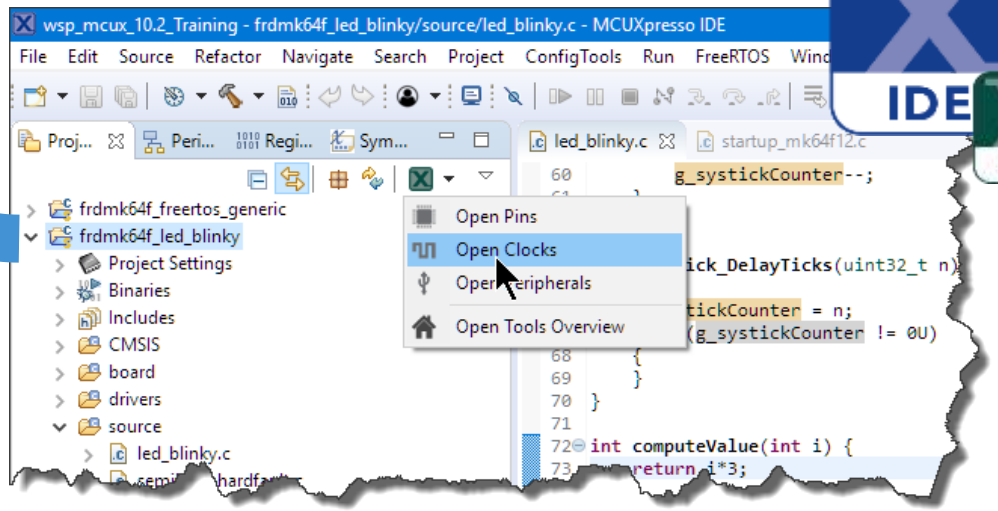


SDK

ZIP

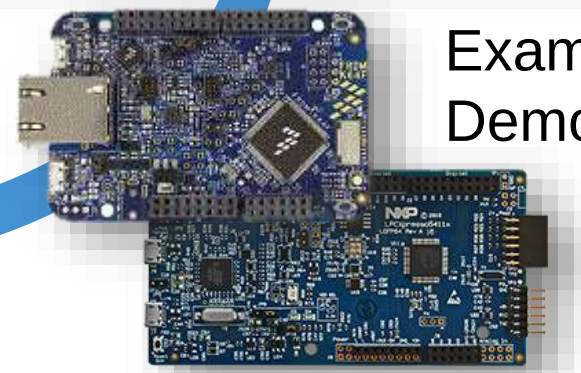
IDE





IDE

CFG



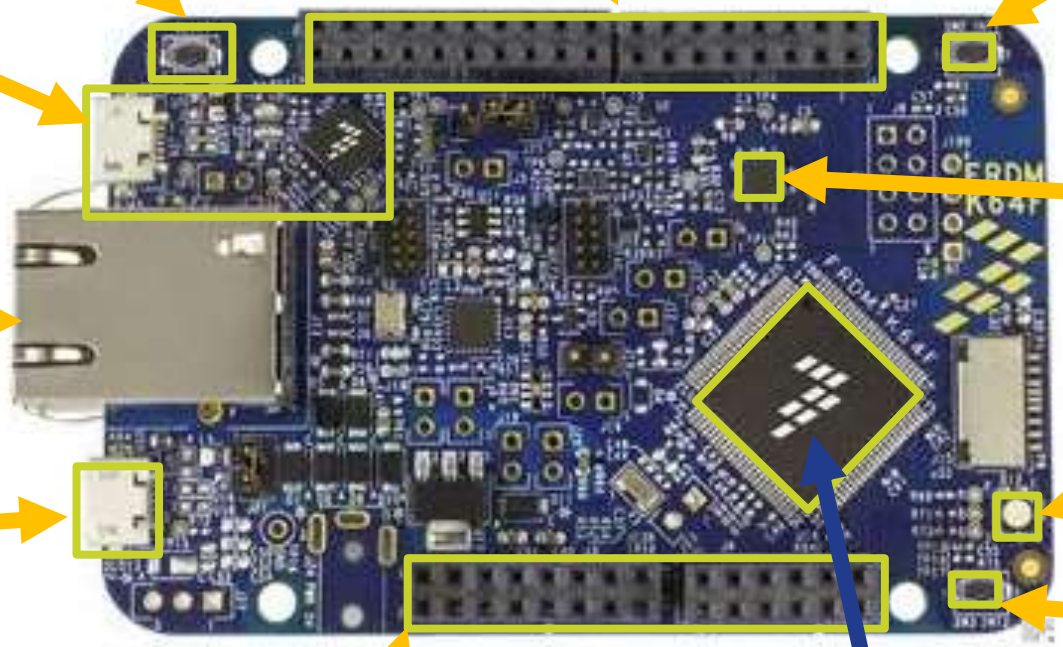
Examples,
Demo Apps

Hands-On Lab

Lab Overview

1. Creating/Cloning MCUXpresso SDK Projects in the IDE
2. Building, Basic Debugging
3. Overview FreeRTOS TAD
   - FreeRTOS Configuration settings
   - Optimization Settings
   - Static code/data size impact
   - Segger SystemView
   - Dynamic system improvements

FRDM-K64F Hardware Overview



Reset Button

Arduino Expansion Header

SW2 Push Button

OpenSDAv2 Debug

FXOS8700CQ
Accel + Mag

Ethernet Port

Tri-Color LED

K64F USB

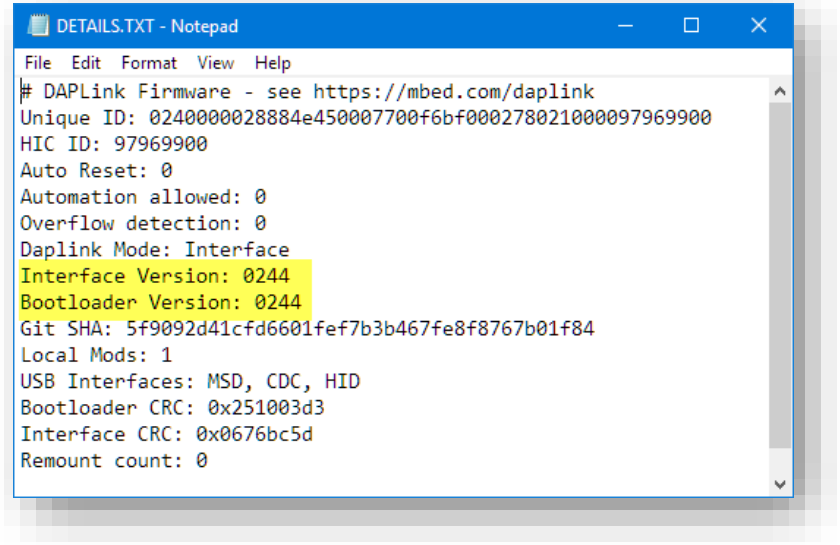
SW3 Push Button

Arduino Expansion Header

MK64FN1M0VLL12
120 MHz, Cortex-M4, 1MB Flash,
256K SRAM, USB, Ethernet, 16-bit ADC,
12-bit DAC, SDHC

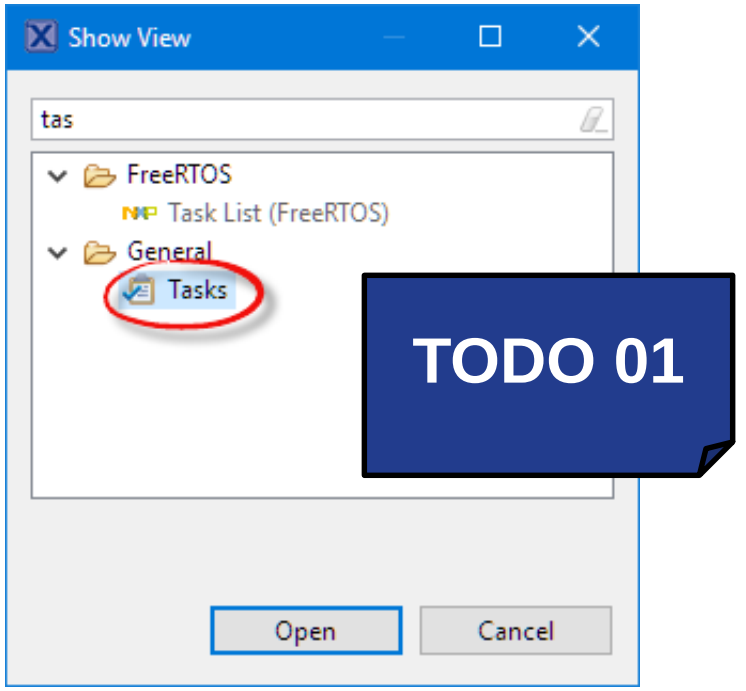
Lab Setup/Prerequisites

- MCUXpresso IDE 10.2.0 build 759
  - https://www.nxp.com/mcuxpresso/ide
- FRDM-K64 SDK V2.4.0
  - http://mcuxpresso.nxp.com/
- FRDM-K64F Board with micro-USB Cable
  - https://www.nxp.com/freedom
- FRDM-K64F Board with DAPlink/CMSIS-DAP Firmware
  - Bootloader rev0244 OpenSDA v2.2
  - DAPLink reve0244 Firmware
  - https://www.nxp.com/opensda



Lab Work Guidance

- Text in orange indicate actions/work to do
- TODO notes reference ‘Tasks/todo’ items
  - Markers in source files /* \todo .... */
  - Open Tasks View
  - Menu Window > Show View > General > Tasks
  - Double-Click on items to jump to source location

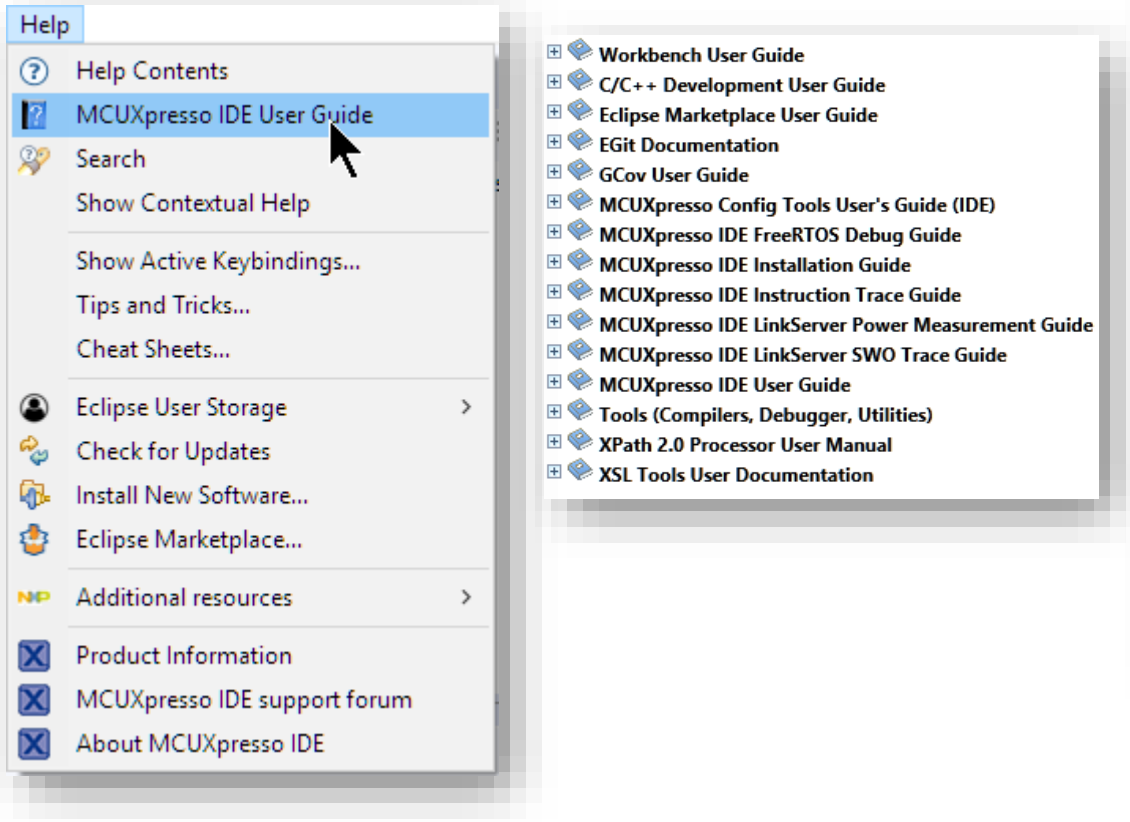


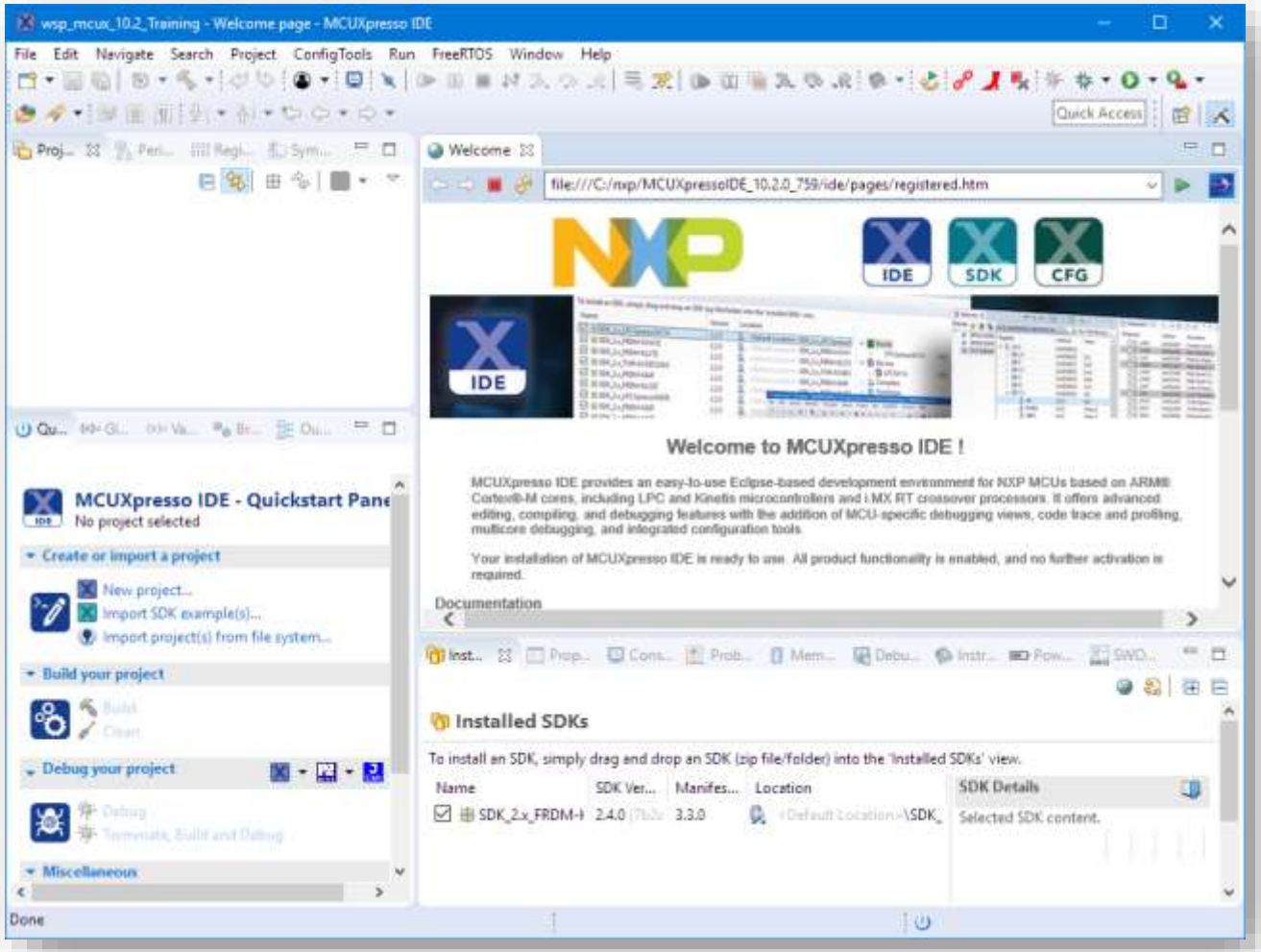
Overview: FreeRTOS and Tools

- http://www.freertos.org
  - Acquired by Amazon (29. Nov. 2017) ➔ MIT License
- Open Source, free-of-charge, royalty free
- >35 architectures, >154,000 downloads (2016)
- Portable, simple to learn and use
- Ecosystem
  - **OpenRTOS/SafeRTOS**: commercial supported versions
  - **Amazon FreeRTOS**: adds AWS and IoT use cases
  - **SEGGER SystemView**: System Visibility with Segger RTT
  - **PERCEPIO Tracealyzer**: Powerful Analysis Views
  - **NXP MCUXpresso SDK** with FreeRTOS v10
  - **NXP MCUXpresso IDE** with advanced FreeRTOS views

MCUXpresso IDE

- Start the IDE with Shortcut
- Select workspace
- Open MCUXpresso IDE User Guide

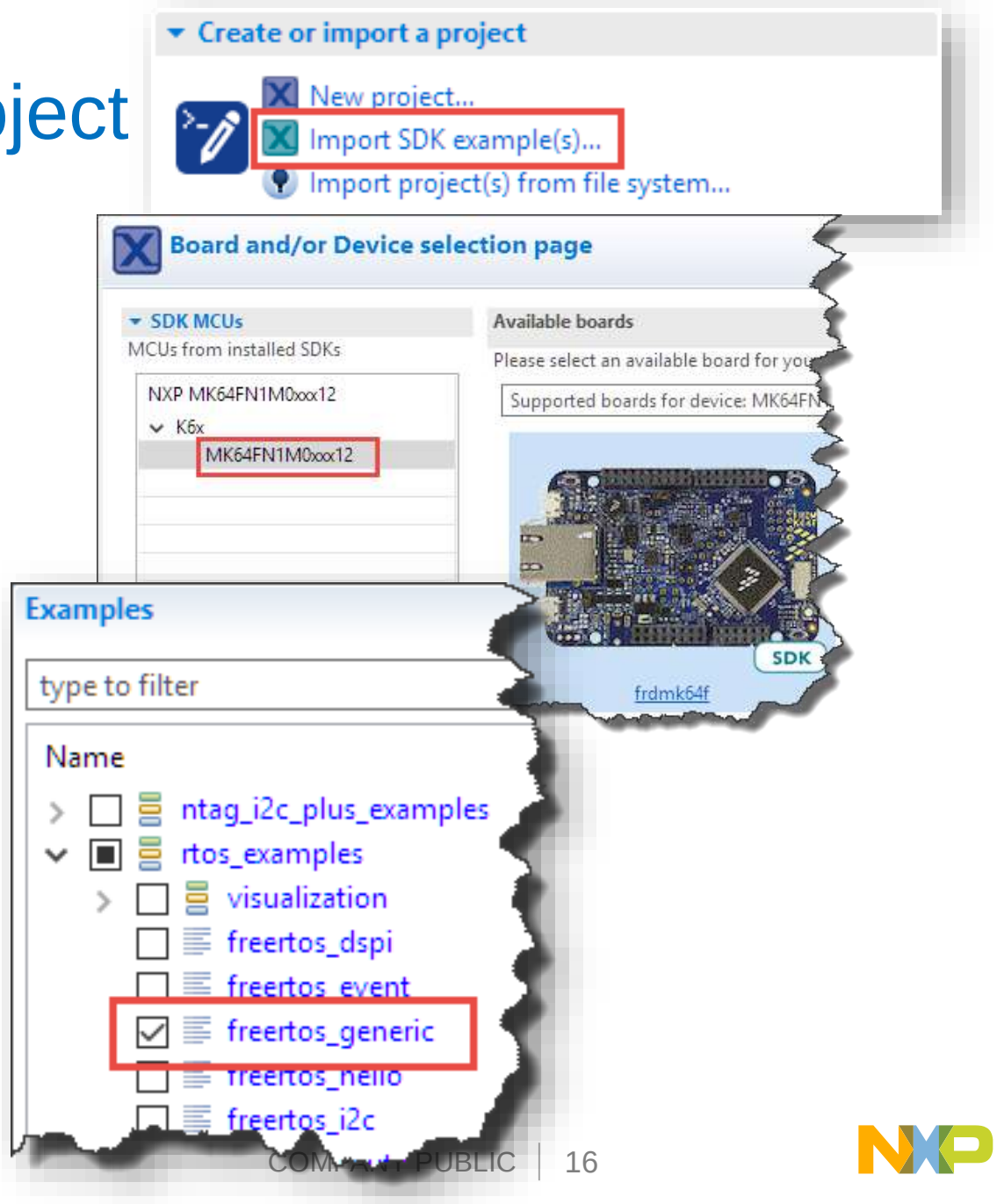




Create FreeRTOS Example Project

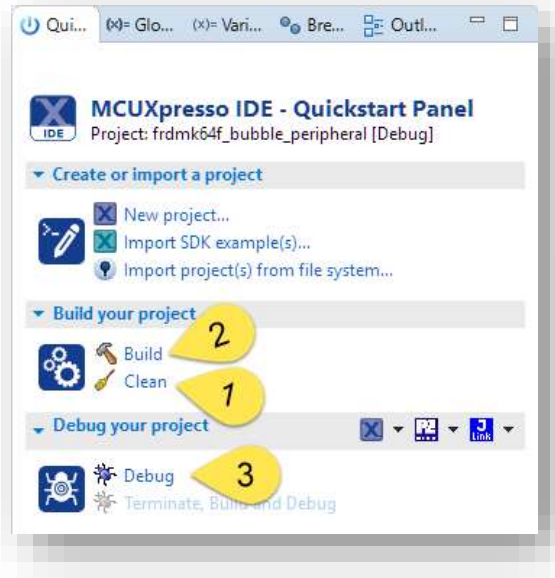
- Prerequisite:
  - SDK_2.x_FRDM-K64F installed in IDE

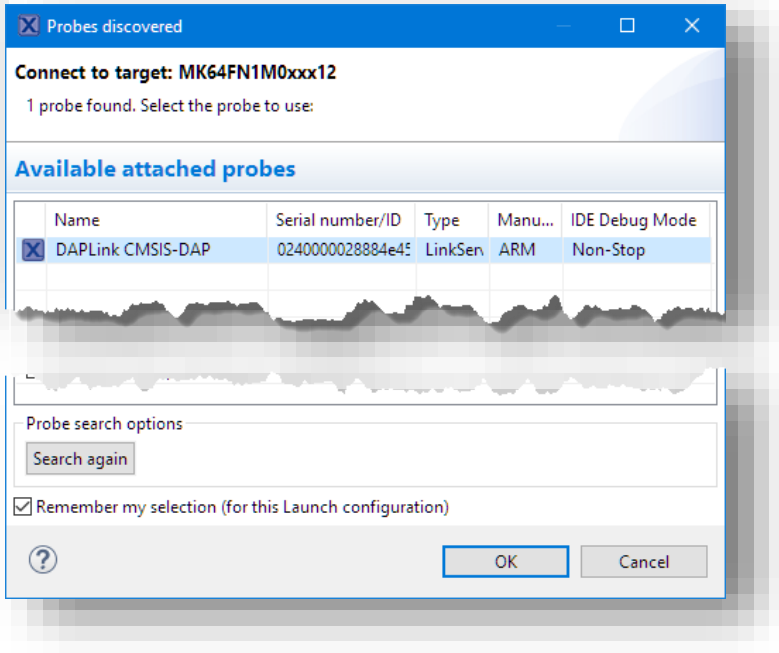
- Use Quickstart Panel with "Import SDK example(s)…"
  - Select frdmk64f board image
  - Click "Next"
  - Select "rtos_examples > freertos_generic"
  - Click "Finish"

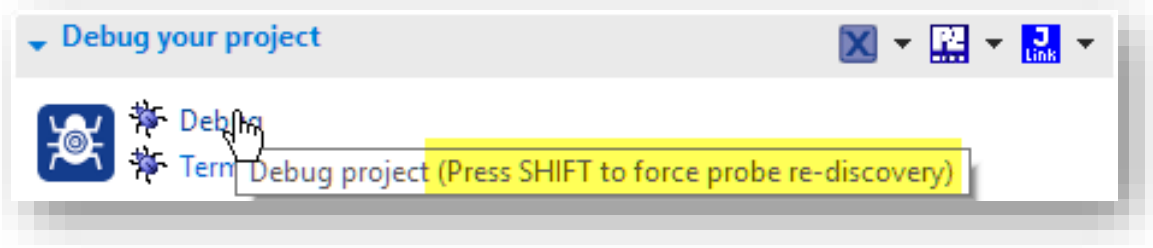


Build and Debug

- Connect FRDM-K64F board (micro USB to OpenSDA)
  - Windows may need to enumerate USB connection
- Use IDE Quickstart Panel to:
  - Clean
  - Build
  - Debug
- Debugger discovers probe
  - Use SHIFT to force probe re-discovery

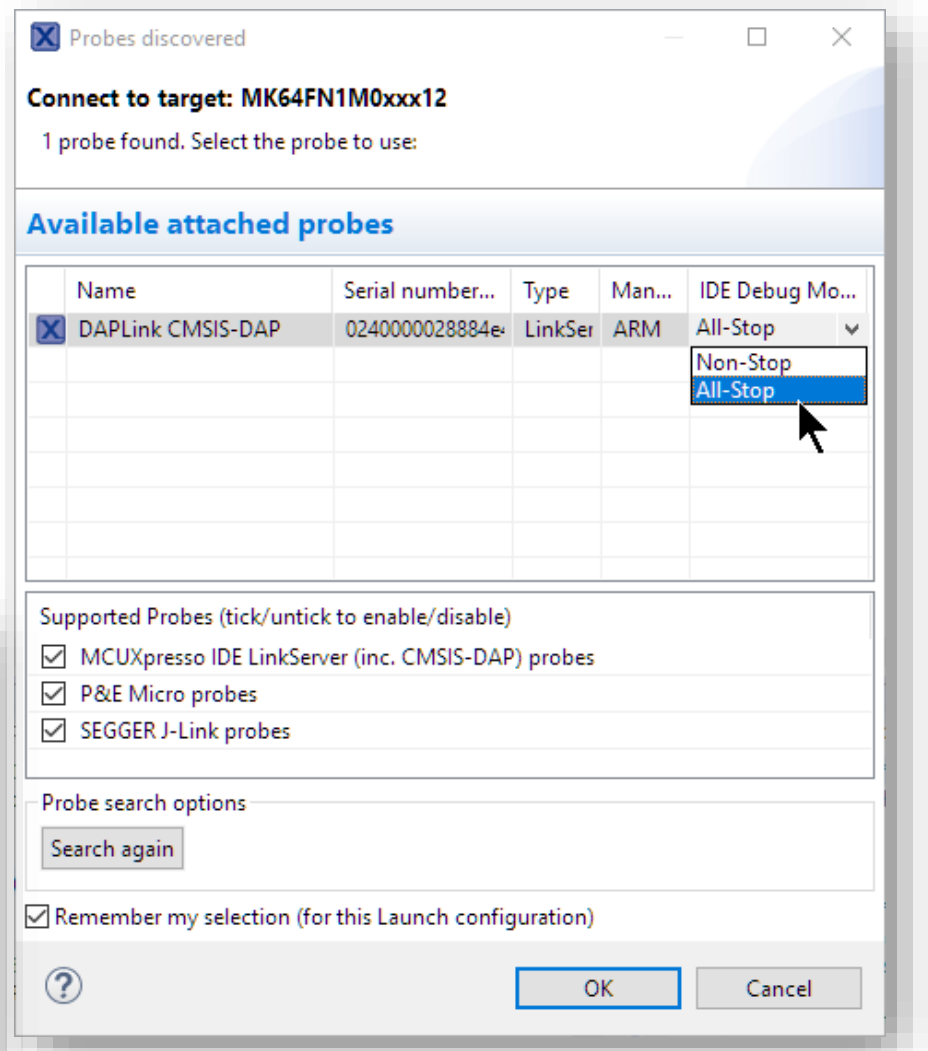


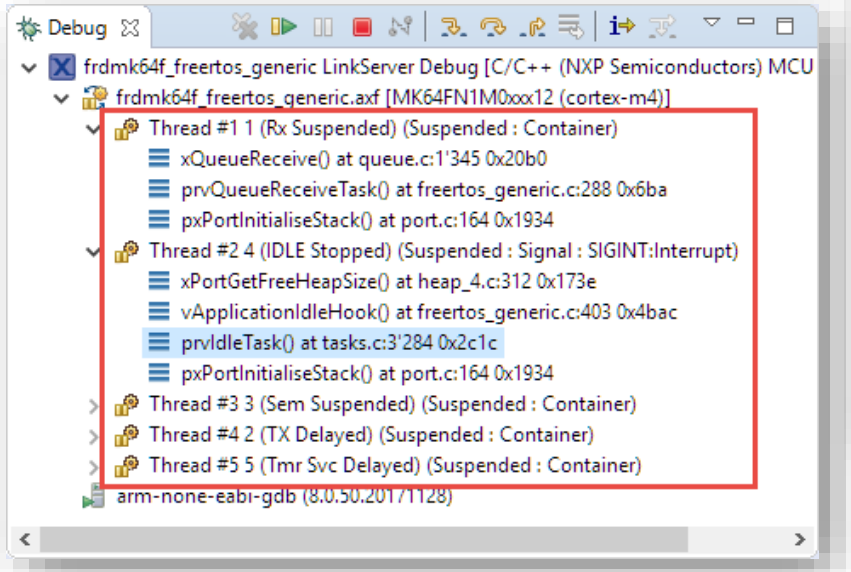




Debug Probe Connection

- Configure to use **All-Stop**
  - Allows thread aware debug view
  - Otherwise only current thread is shown
  - Note: ‘Live Variables’ not possible in All-Stop mode
- Resume, then Pause
- Application writes message counter to console

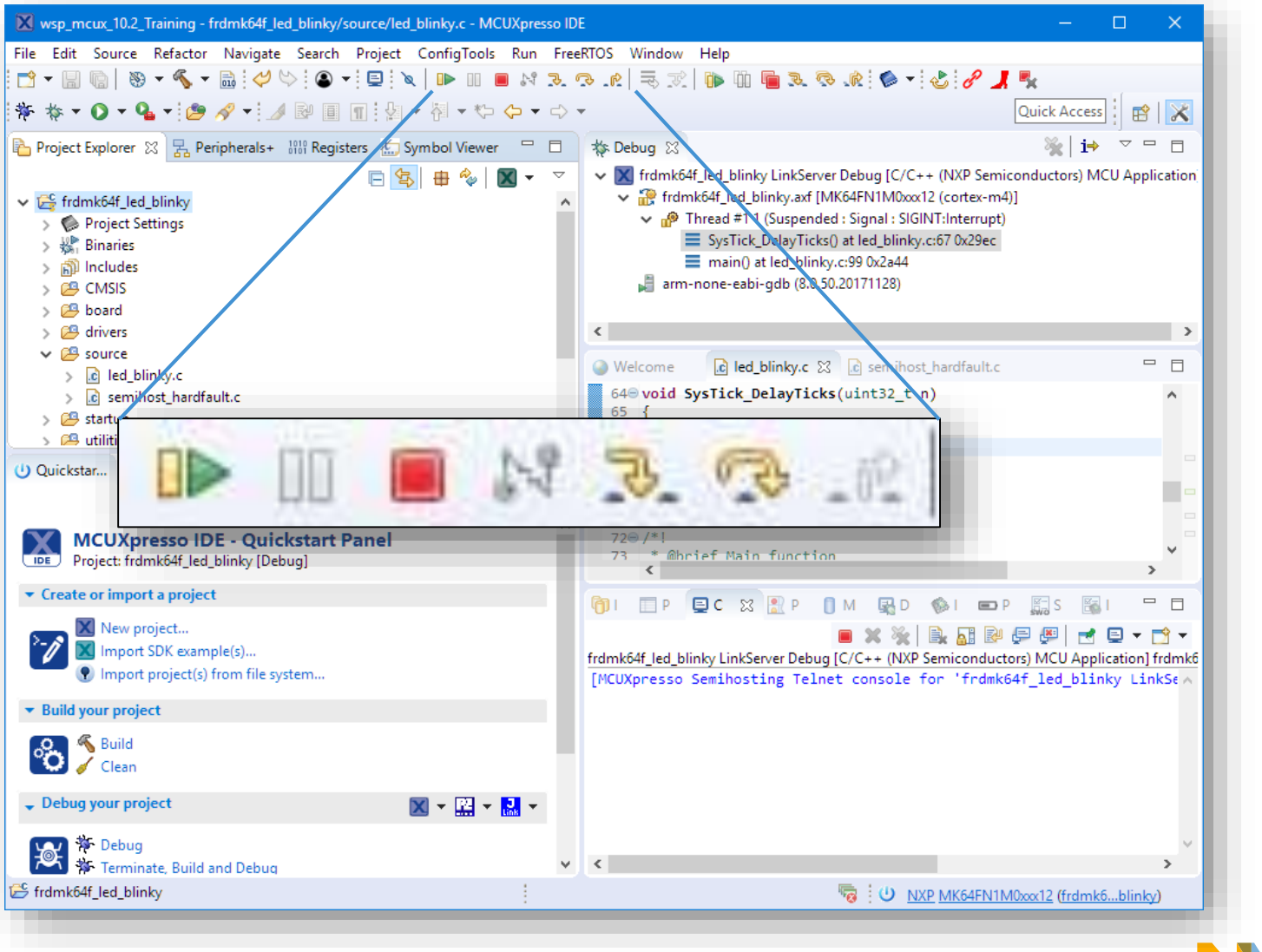





```
Receive message counter: 1.
Receive message counter: 2.
Receive message counter: 3.
Receive message counter: 4.
Receive message counter: 5.
Receive message counter: 6.
Receive message counter: 7.
Receive message counter: 8.
```

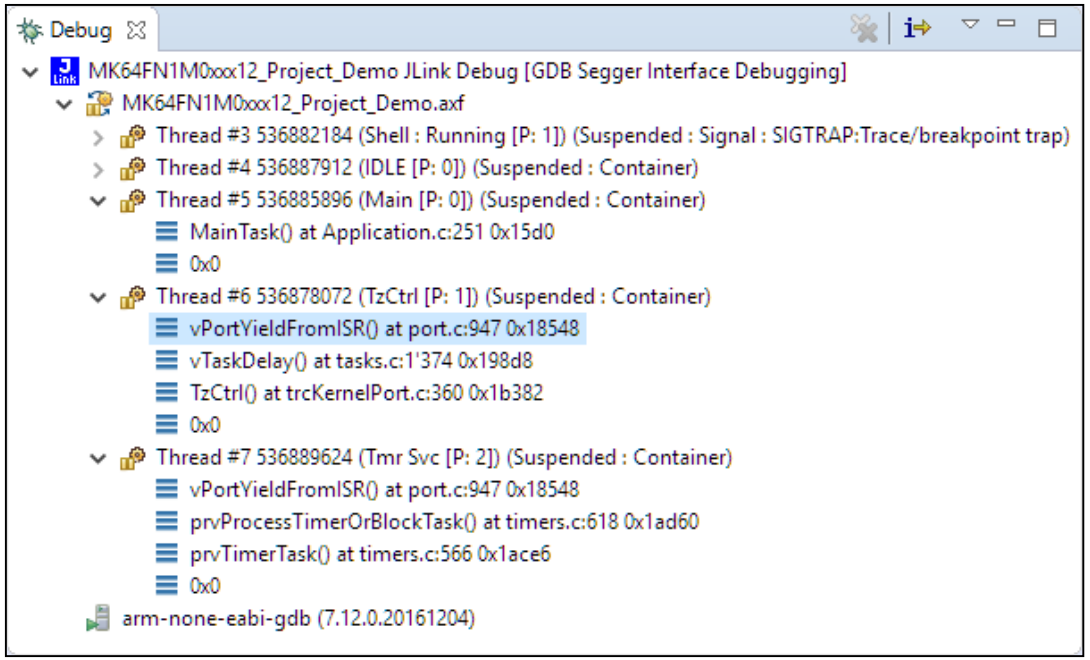
Debugger Run Control

- Resume/Run
- Suspend/Pause
- Terminate/Stop
- (Disconnect)
- Step Into
- Step Over
- Step Out
- Step trough the code



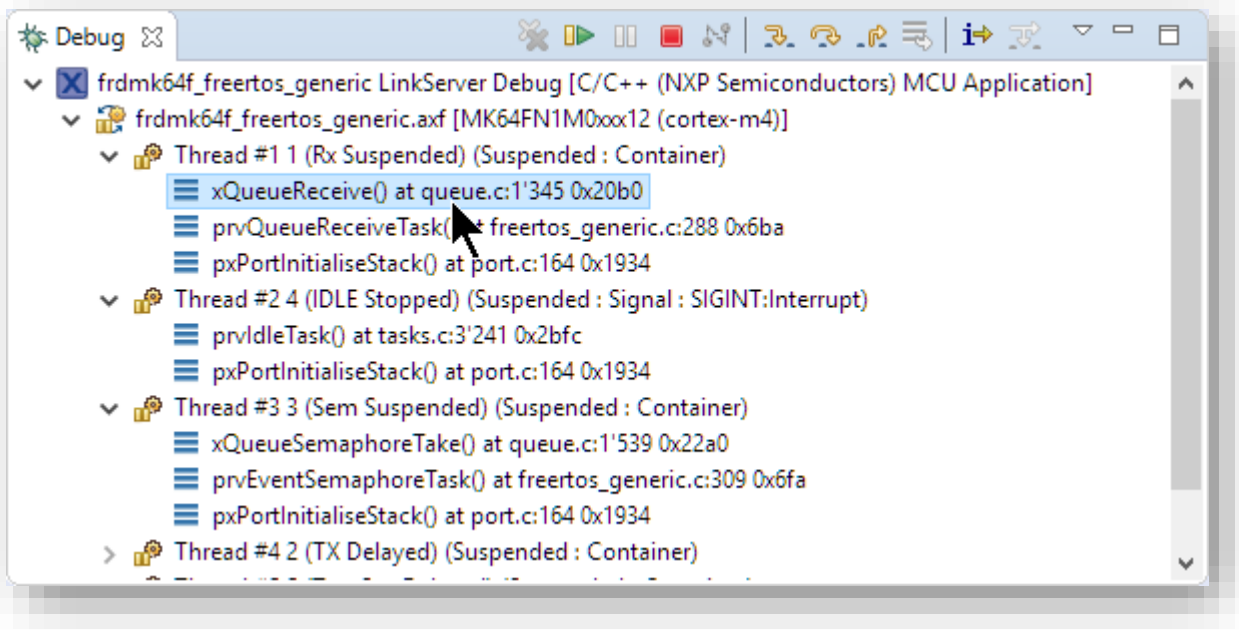
FreeRTOS Thread Aware Debugging

- Part of MCUXpresso IDE
- Show and debug FreeRTOS Tasks/Threads
- **LinkServer** (LPC-Link, LPC-Link2, CMSIS-DAP)
  - Uses ‘freertos_tasks_c_additions.h’
  - Uses GDB ‘**all-stop mode**’
  - See ‘FreeRTOS_Thread_Aware_Setup.pdf’
- **P&E** (Multilink, OpenSDA)
  - automatically supported/enabled
- **Segger** (J-Link, OpenSDA)
  - Uses GDB server option:
    -rtos GDBServer/RTOSPlugin_FreeRTOS



Thread Aware Debug View

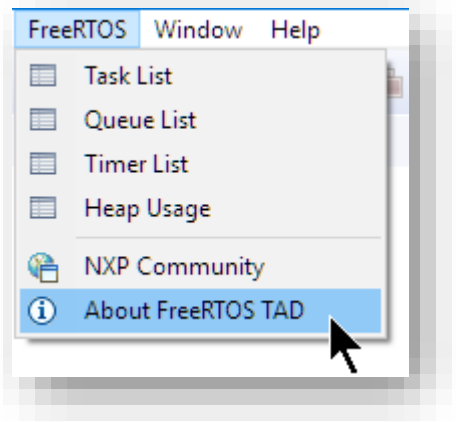
- Lists all FreeRTOS **tasks** with stacks
  - LinkServer: Requires ‘All-Stop’ mode!
  - Switch debug context to thread
  - Context, registers, stack
- Click on function (top) of a thread
- Debug it (step out, step over)
- Switch to another thread

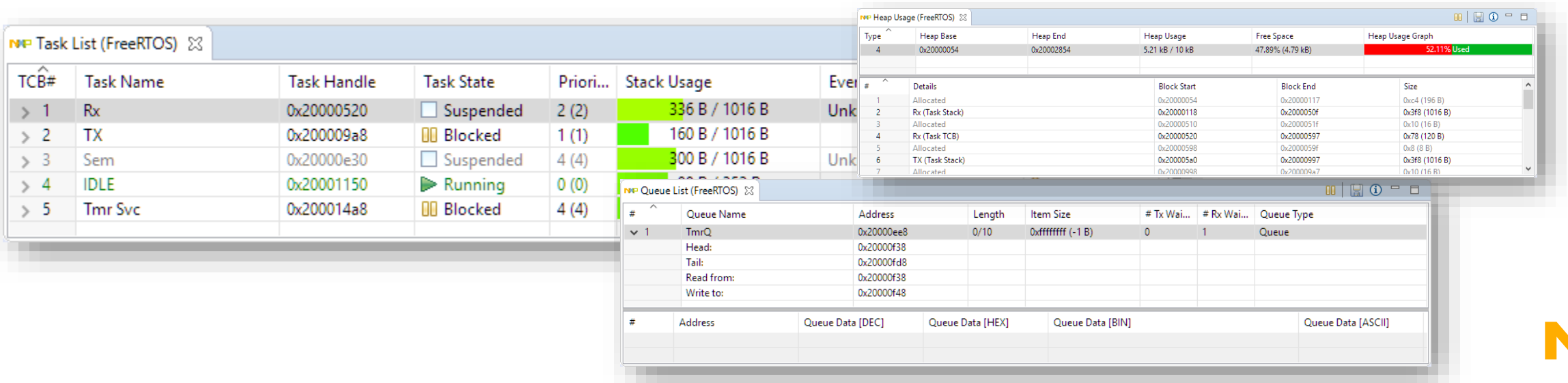


FreeRTOS TAD

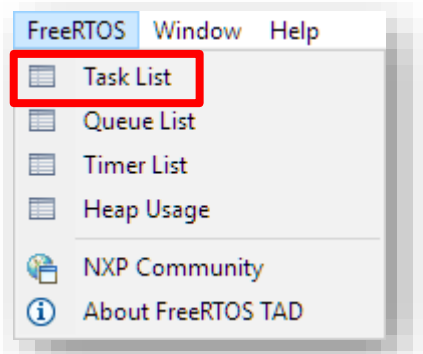
FreeRTOS TAD

- Thread Aware Debugging
  - Show and switch between threads in Debug View
  - Views to inspect status of the RTOS
- Views read RTOS data structures while target is haltet
- Debugger needs extra information:
  <IDE Installation Path>\MCUXpresso_IDE_FreeRTOS_Debug_Guide.pdf
  - SDK projects should be updated for this

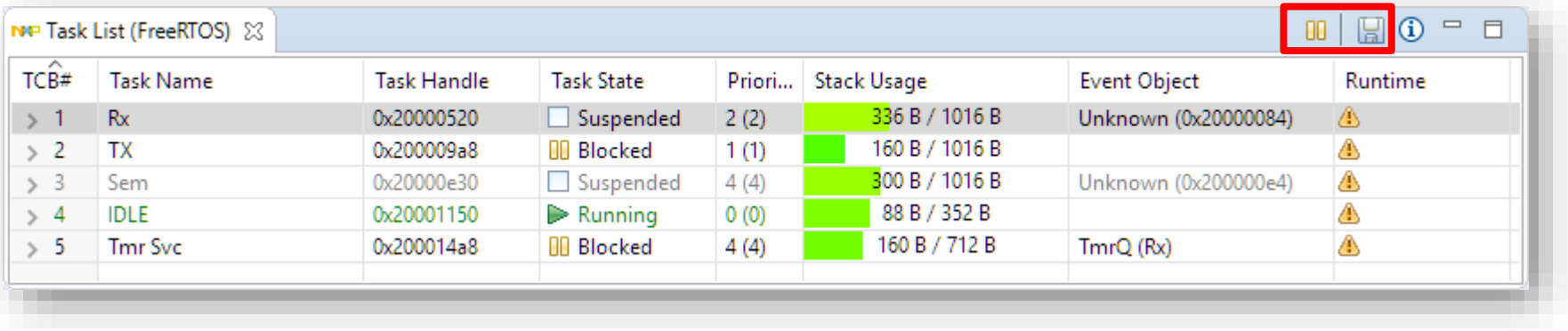




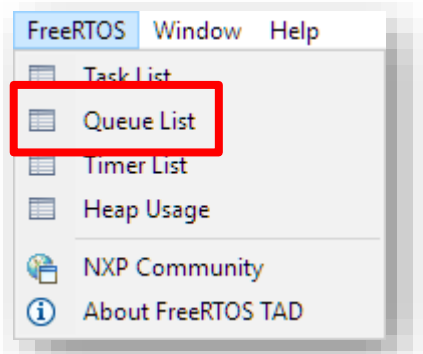
Task List



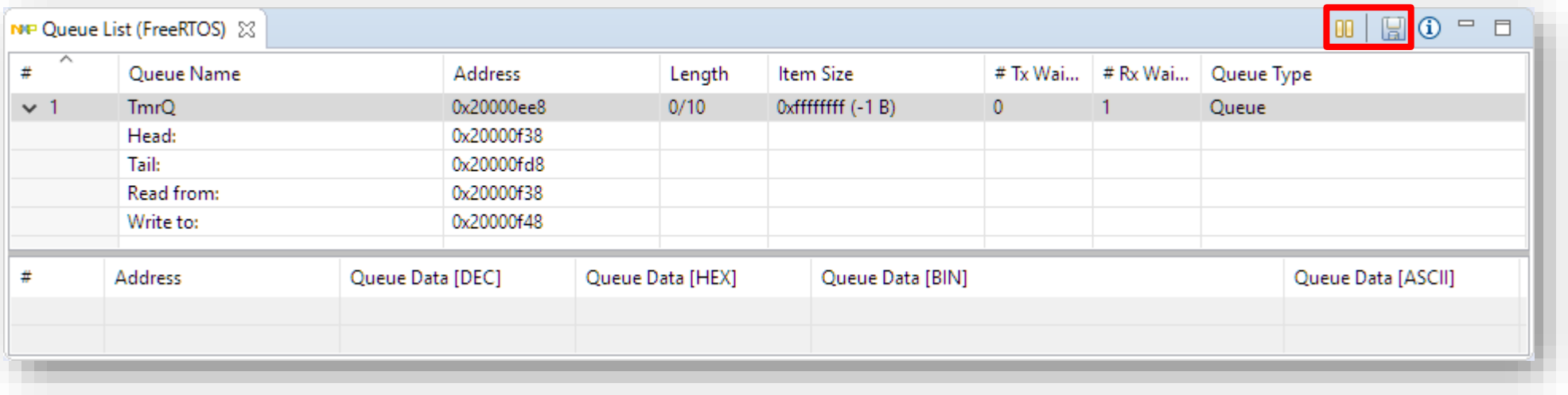
- Start debugging your FreeRTOS application
- Lists FreeRTOS Tasks in the System
- Menu FreeRTOS > Task List
- **Pause** Button: do not update data when target is stopped
- **Save** Button: Store information as .csv file



Queue List

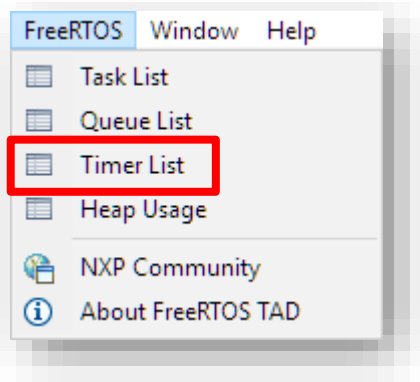


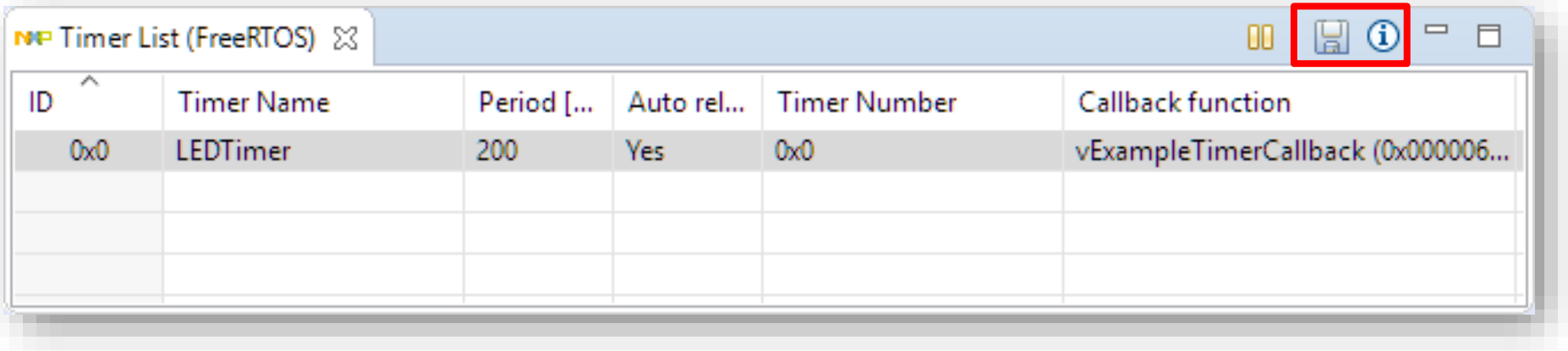
- Lists all FreeRTOS **Queues**
- Menu FreeRTOS > Queue List
- **Pause** Button: do not update data when target is stopped
- **Save** Button: Store information as .csv file



Queue Timer

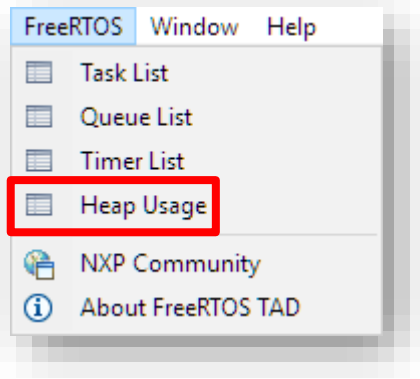
- Lists all FreeRTOS **Software Timer**
- Menu FreeRTOS > Queue List
- **Pause** Button: do not update data when target is stopped
- **Save** Button: Store information as .csv file

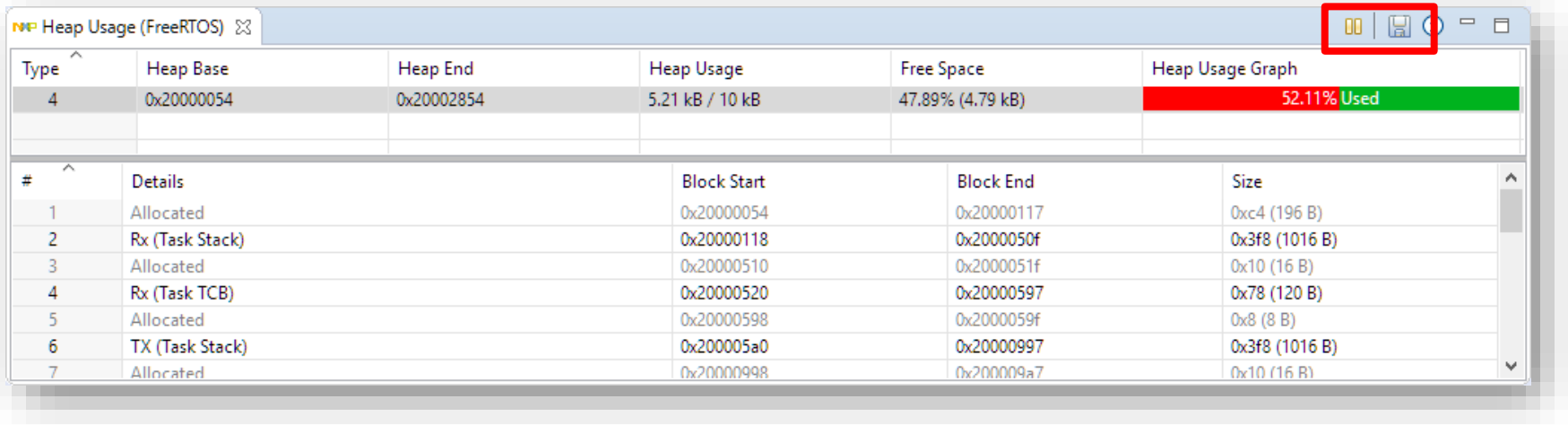




Heap Usage

- Status of FreeRTOS **Heap** and **Memory Allocation**
- Menu FreeRTOS > Heap Usage
- **Pause** Button: do not update data when target is stopped
- **Save** Button: Store information as .csv file





Type	Heap Base	Heap End	Heap Usage	Free Space	Heap Usage Graph
4	0x20000054	0x20002854	5.21 kB / 10 kB	47.89% (4.79 kB)	52.11% Used

#	Details	Block Start	Block End	Size
1	Allocated	0x20000054	0x20000117	0xc4 (196 B)
2	Rx (Task Stack)	0x20000118	0x2000050f	0x3f8 (1016 B)
3	Allocated	0x20000510	0x2000051f	0x10 (16 B)
4	Rx (Task TCB)	0x20000520	0x20000597	0x78 (120 B)
5	Allocated	0x20000598	0x2000059f	0x8 (8 B)
6	TX (Task Stack)	0x200005a0	0x20000997	0x3f8 (1016 B)
7	Allocated	0x20000998	0x200009a7	0x10 (16 B)

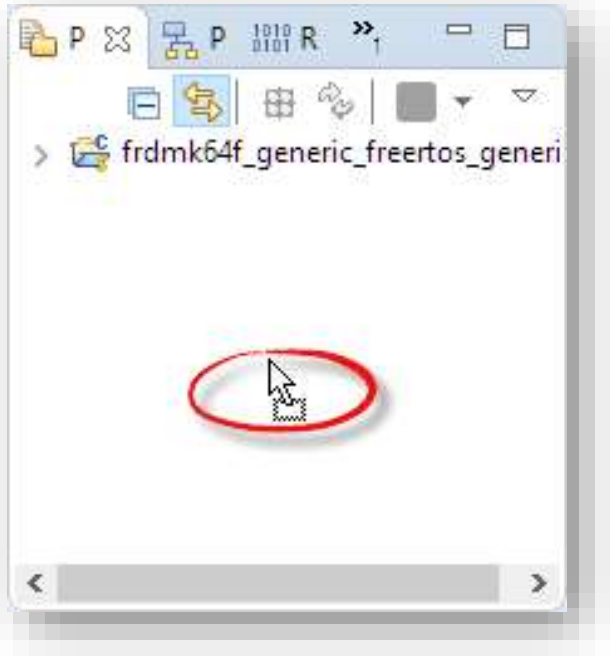
FreeRTOS Optimization

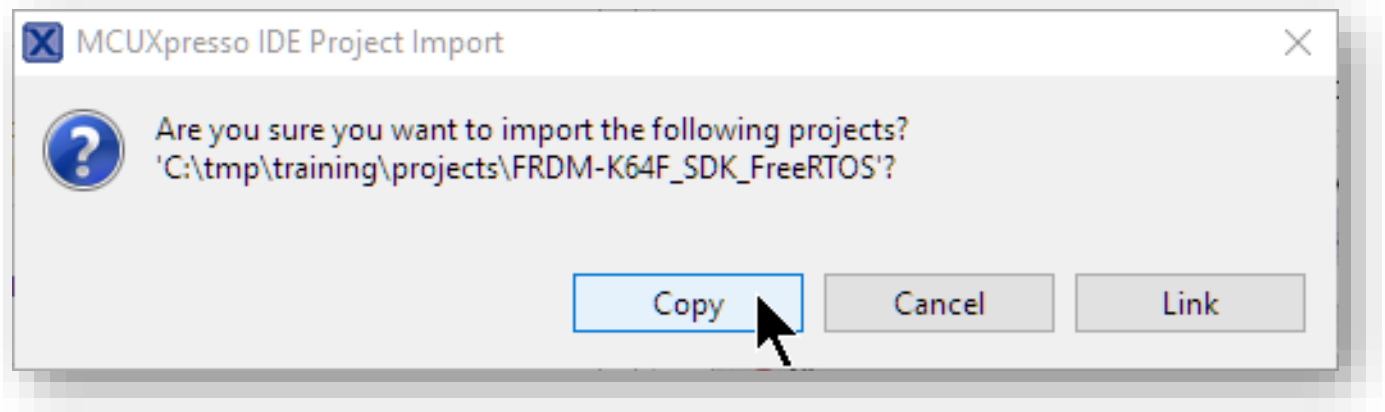
FreeRTOS Application Optimization Approach

- Static
  - FreeRTOS Configuration
    - Only enable what is necessary
  - Compiler/Linker
    - Enable higher level of optimizations (-O3, -flto)
    - Use optimized libraries (no semihosting/no-host, RedLib, newlib-nano)
- Dynamic
  - FreeRTOS Runtime Statistics
  - Segger SystemView
  - *Percepio Tracealyzer* ***(not covered in this lab, see backup slides)***

FRDM-K64F_SDK_FreeRTOS

- Import '**FRDM-K64F_SDK_FreeRTOS**' project
  - Drag Folder into 'Project Explorer' view
  - Drage into 'empty' space on bottom of view
  - Use 'Copy'
- Project uses FreeRTOS features with SEGGER RTT/SystemView





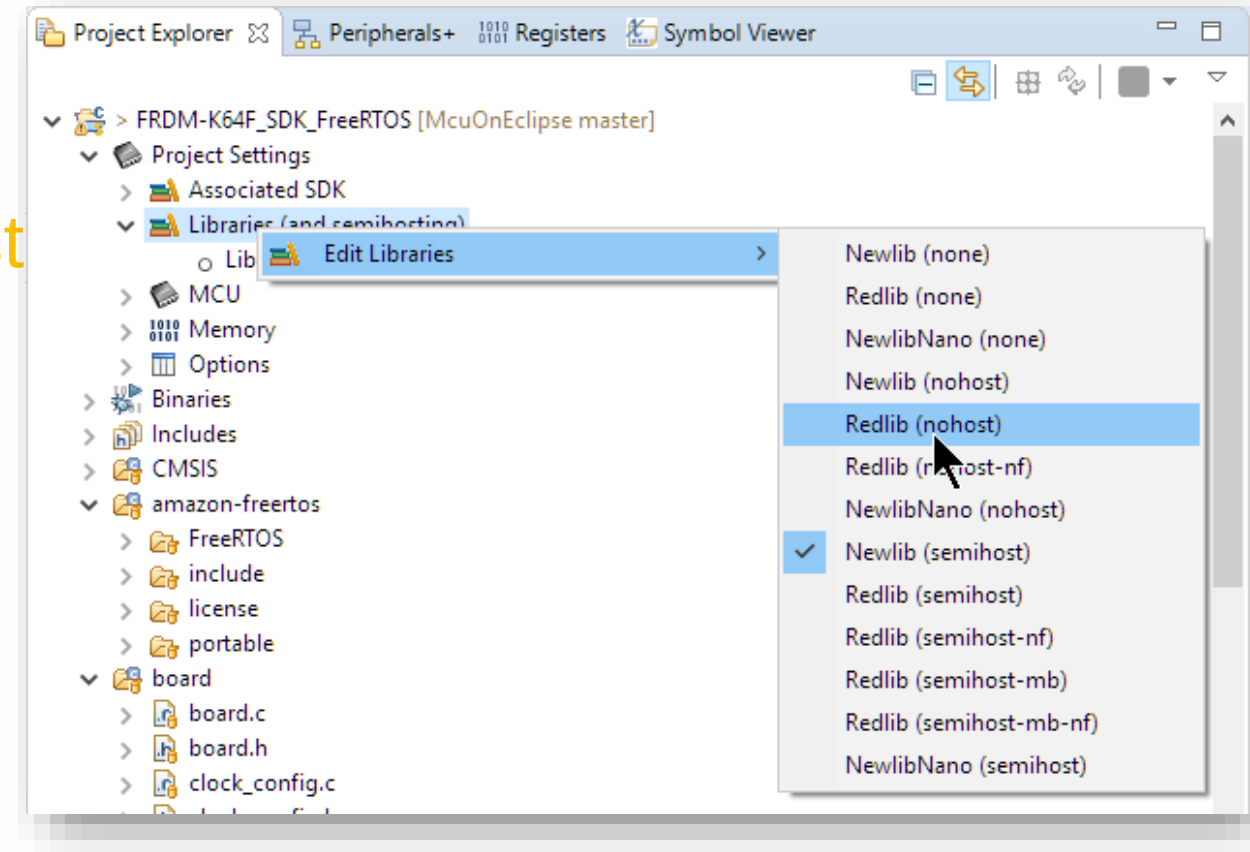
Base Code and Data Size

- Build Project
- Inspect Console view
- Note the initial code and data size needed

```
Memory region         Used Size  Region Size  %age Used
   PROGRAM_FLASH:       56840 B        1 MB      5.42%
      SRAM_UPPER:       46800 B      192 KB     23.80%
      SRAM_LOWER:          0 GB       64 KB      0.00%
        FLEX_RAM:          0 GB        4 KB      0.00%
```

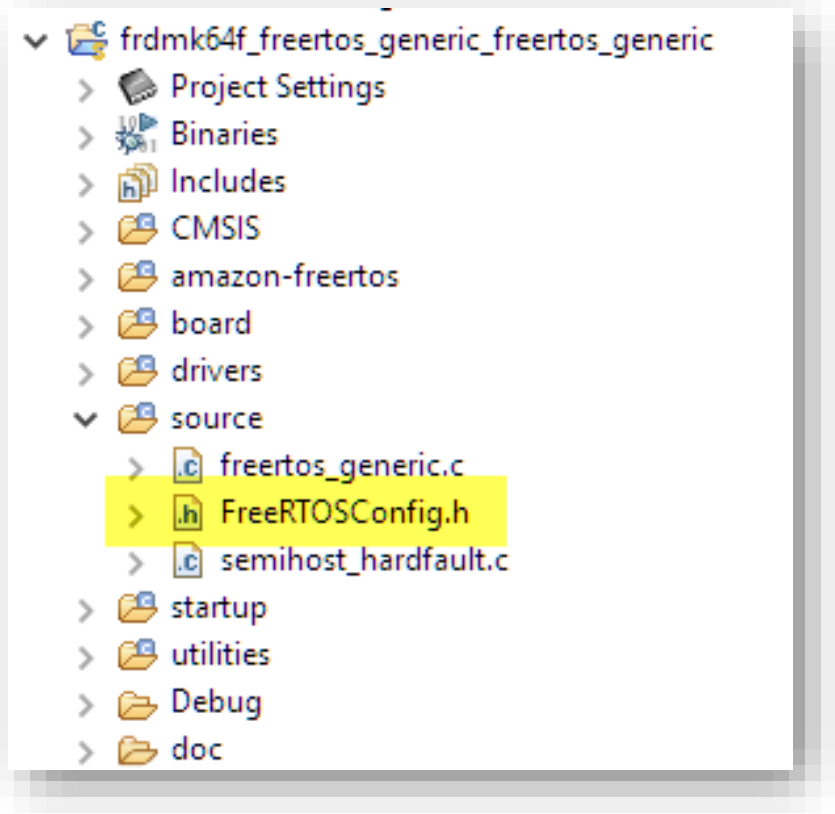
Libraries and Printf()/semihosting

- Avoid semihosting/printf (➔ nohost)
- Use smaller library
  ➔ newlib-nano ➔ RedLib (nohost
  - ‘nohost’ maps printf to empty functions
- Rebuild
- Check code size impact



FreeRTOS Configuration File

- **FreeRTOSConfig.h**
- Header file configuring the RTOS
  - Features
  - API functionality
  - Diagnostics
  - Performance analysis
  - Hardware configuration and interrupts



- *Recommendation*
  - *Only enable what is needed!*
  - *Requires knowledge of application and RTOS functionality (will cover in next sections)*

Assertions

```
#define configASSERT(x) if((x) == 0) \
        {taskDISABLE_INTERRUPTS(); for (;;);}
```

TODO 01

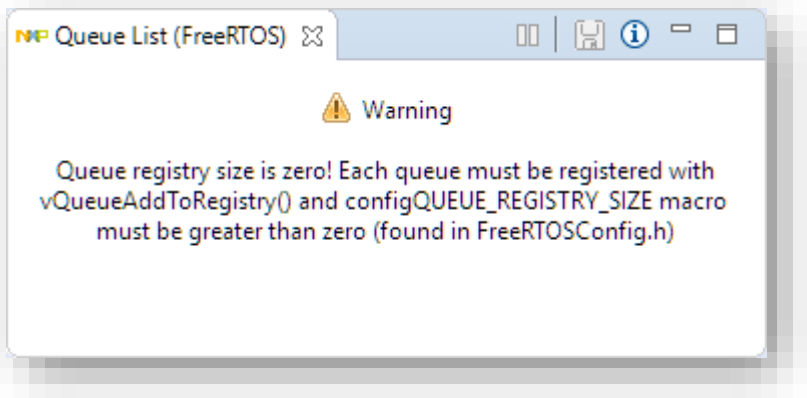
- *Recommendation*
  - *Turn on during development*
  - *Disable for ‘release’ version (define as ‘empty’)*
  - *Impact: reduced code size*
- Rebuild
- Check code size impact

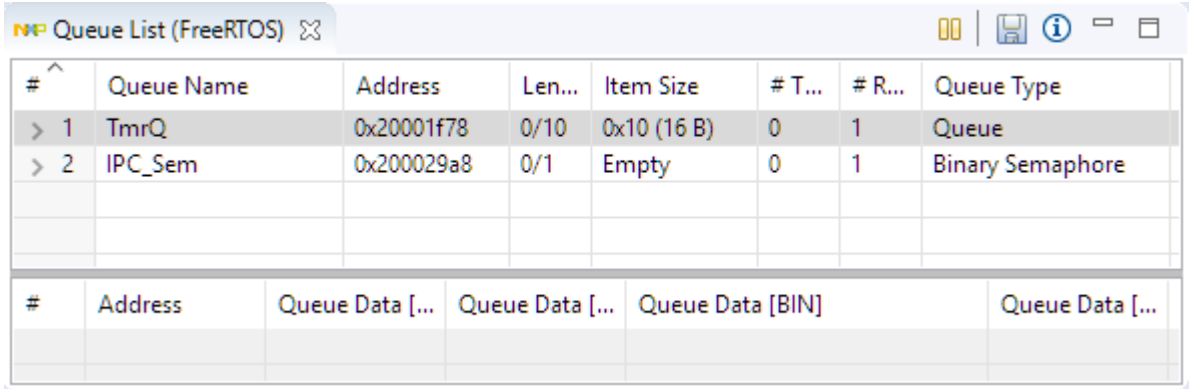
Queue Registry

```
#define configQUEUE_REGISTRY_SIZE                0
```

- Registry to store names for queues, semaphore and mutex
- *Recommendation*
  - *As small as possible, or 0 to disable*
  - *Impact: reduced RAM size, reduced code size, no names for queues/semaphore/mutex*
- Set queue registry size to 2 (better 3) and verify in the debugger

TODO 02



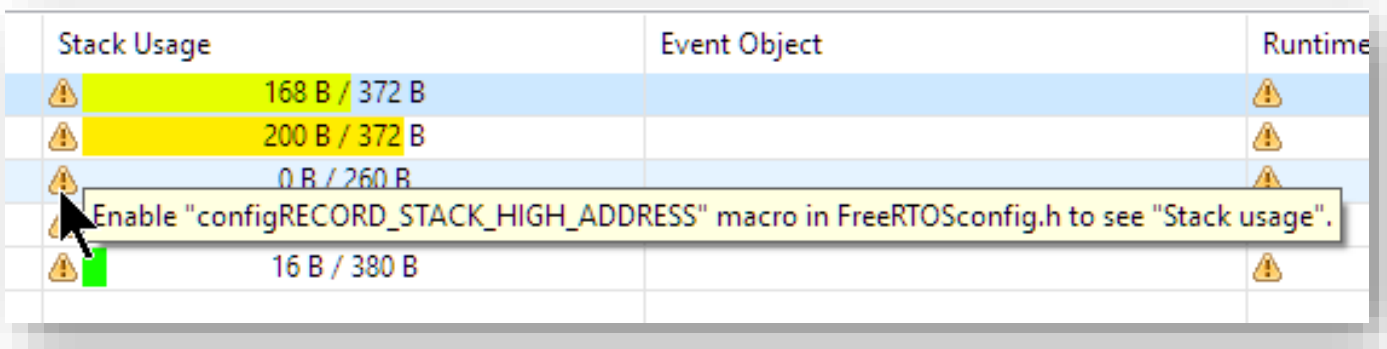


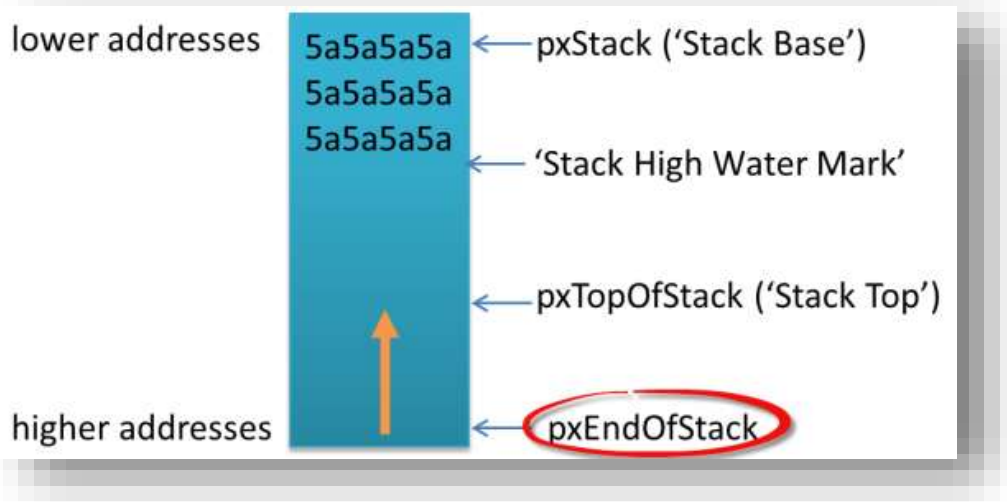
Stack High Address

```
#define configRECORD_STACK_HIGH_ADDRESS      0
```

- Stores stack end address in task control block (TCB)
- *Recommendation*
  - *Enable for debugging, disable for release*
  - *Impact: better stack size debugging, less RAM usage*
  - Details see this article
- Enable recording of stack end address

TODO 03



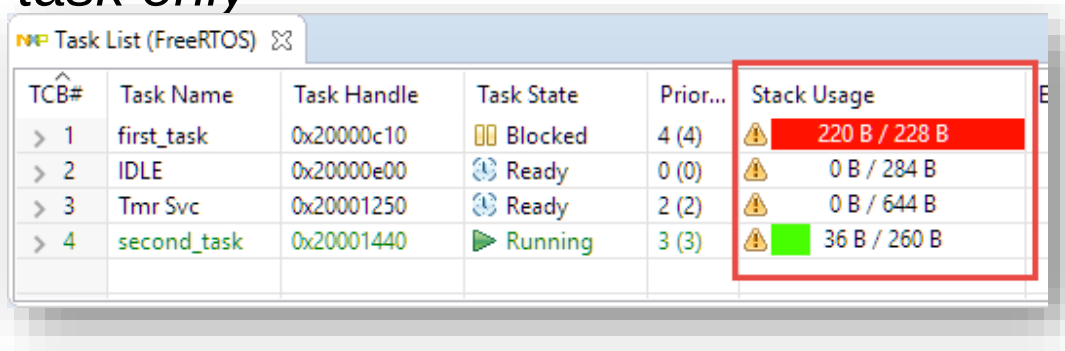


Task Stack Size

```
#define configMINIMAL_STACK_SIZE       ((unsigned short)200)
```

- Stack units on ARM: 32bits!
  - Used by IDLE task, dedicated macro for timer task
  - Often used for task stacks

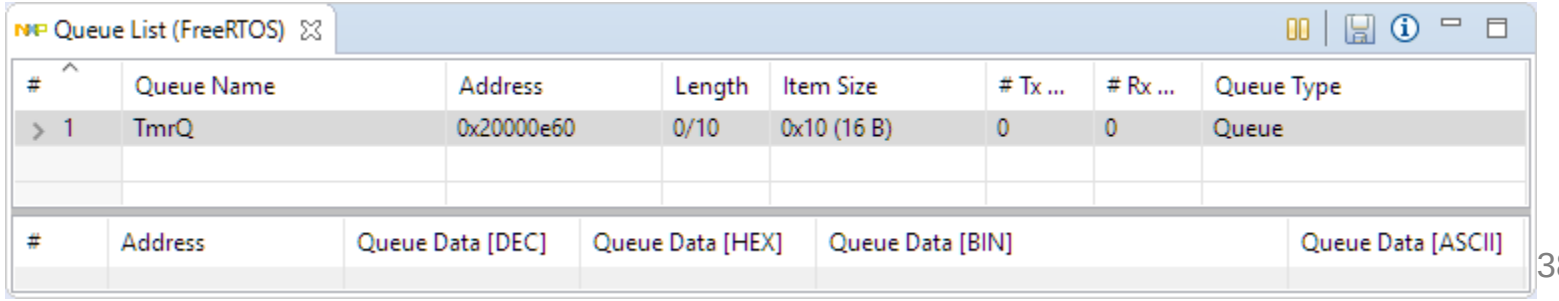
- *Recommendation*
  - *Use **`configMINIMAL_STACK_SIZE`** for IDLE task only*
  - *Timer Task: use dedicated size*
  - *Value as small as possible (use Stack Usage)*
  - *Impact: reduced RAM and Heap*



RTOS Timers

```
#define configUSE_TIMERS                 1
#define configTIMER_TASK_PRIORITY        2
#define configTIMER_QUEUE_LENGTH        10
#define configTIMER_TASK_STACK_DEPTH    (configMINIMAL_STACK_SIZE * 2)
```

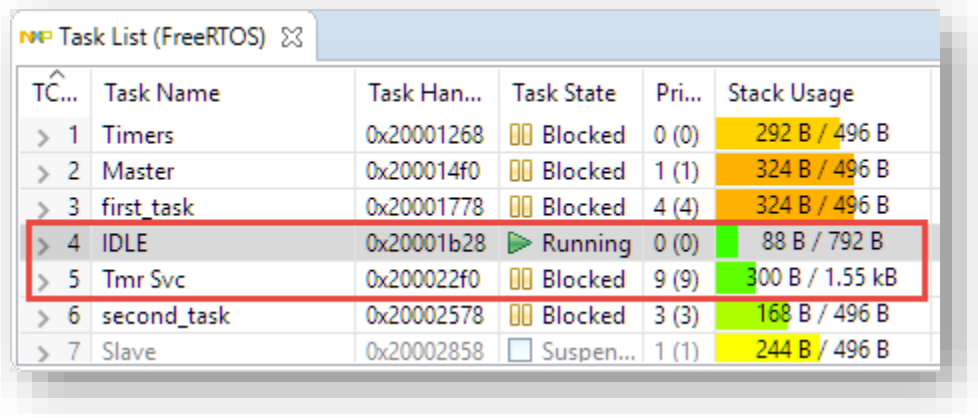
- Software timer, implemented with Daemon task and message queue
- *Recommendation*
  - *Disable if not used, or use values as small as possible*
  - *Use FreeRTOS timers for low power applications instead of HW timers*
  - *Use reduced command queue length*
  - *Impact: reduced RAM size, reduced code size*



Timer and IDLE Stack Size

- Check current stack usage
- Reduce stack size needed for IDLE task
  - Hint: Number is for 32bit entities
- Reduce stack size needed for TmrSvc task
  - Hint: Should be more than for IDLE task
  - Hint: queue operations
- Reduce Timer Queue Length
  - Hint: number of timer commands (3 should be ok)

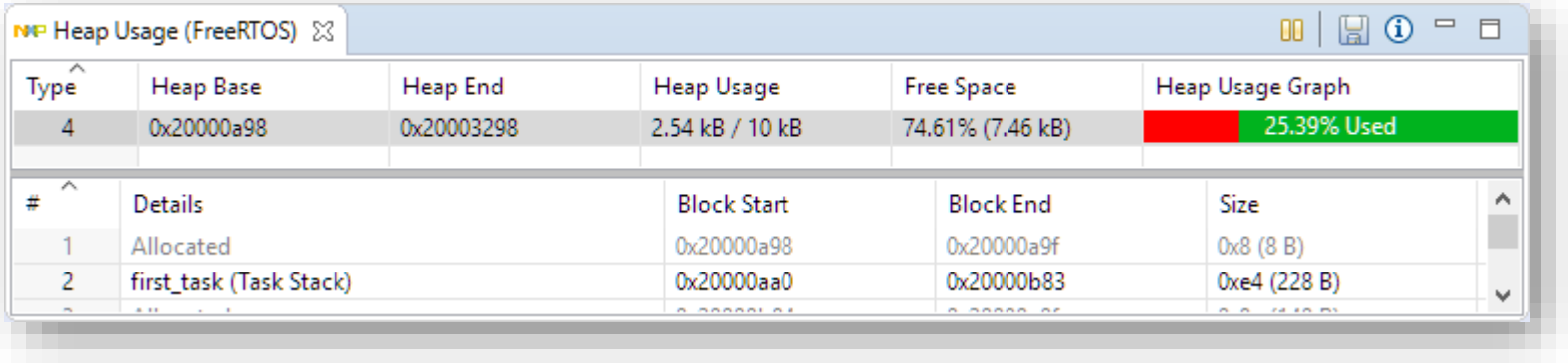
TODO 04
TODO 05
TODO 06



Heap Scheme

```
#define configFRTOS_MEMORY_SCHEME                4
```

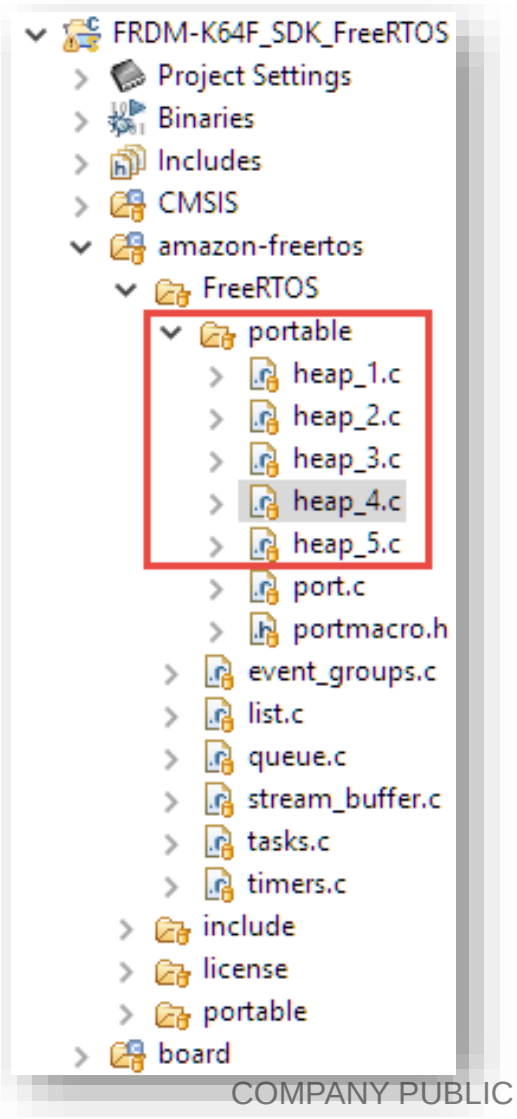
- 1: allocate only, 2: no block merge, 3: malloc()/free(), 4: merges blocks, 5: multiple memory areas
- *Recommendation*
  - *Use scheme 1, 3 if middleware uses malloc()/free(), otherwise 4*
  - *Use static allocation (*configSUPPORT_STATIC_ALLOCATIO 1*) with no dynamic allocation (*configSUPPORT_DYNAMIC_ALLOCATION 0*)*
  - *Impact: reduced RAM size, reduced code size*



Heap Scheme

TODO 07

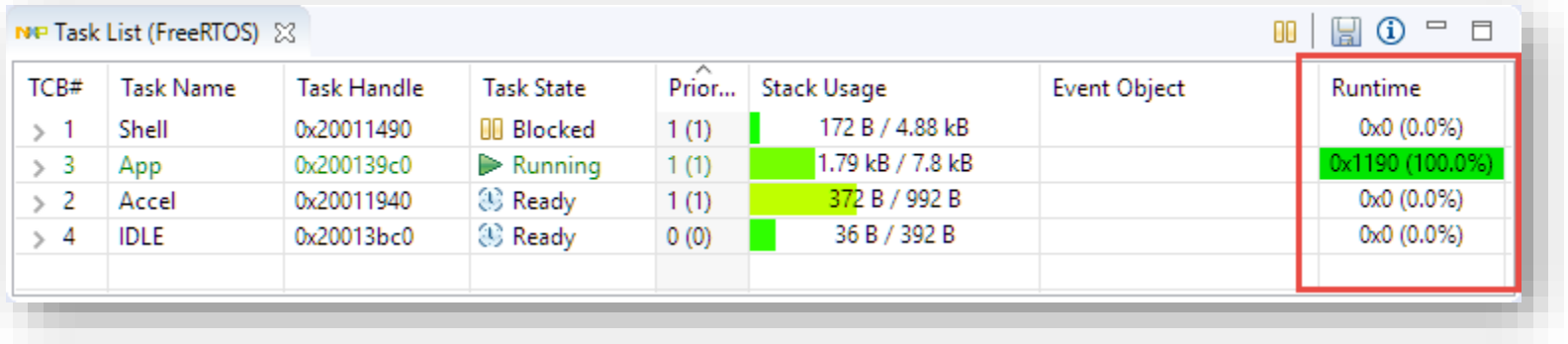
- Change **`configFRTOS_MEMORY_SCHEME`** to 1 (alloc only)
- Build
- Observe code/data size change
- Note
  - macro selects which heap file is used (heap_1.c, ... heap_5.c)



Runtime Statistics

```
#define configGENERATE_RUN_TIME_STATS          0
#define configUSE_TRACE_FACILITY               1
#define configUSE_STATS_FORMATTING_FUNCTIONS   0
```

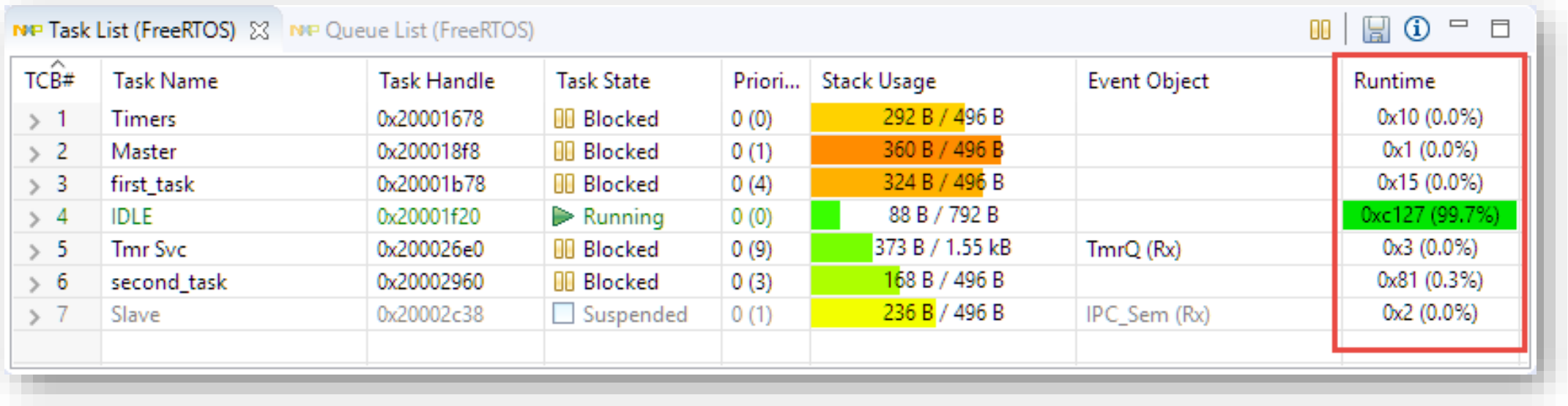
- Collects runtime statistics
- *Recommendation*
  - *Turn off for release*
  - *Impact: reduced RAM size, reduced code size, improved performance, no statistics*



Task Runtime

TODO 08

- Enable configGENERATE_RUN_TIME_STATS
  - Application has setup a 0.1 ms timer to measure task execution time
- Build and Debug
- Can you spot (and fix) a performance problem in your application?
  - Hint: Press SW3 and keep it pressed



TCB#	Task Name	Task Handle	Task State	Priori...	Stack Usage	Event Object	Runtime
1	Timers	0x20001678	Blocked	0 (0)	292 B / 496 B		0x10 (0.0%)
2	Master	0x200018f8	Blocked	0 (1)	360 B / 496 B		0x1 (0.0%)
3	first_task	0x20001b78	Blocked	0 (4)	324 B / 496 B		0x15 (0.0%)
4	IDLE	0x20001f20	Running	0 (0)	88 B / 792 B		0xc127 (99.7%)
5	Tmr Svc	0x200026e0	Blocked	0 (9)	373 B / 1.55 kB	TmrQ (Rx)	0x3 (0.0%)
6	second_task	0x20002960	Blocked	0 (3)	168 B / 496 B		0x81 (0.3%)
7	Slave	0x20002c38	Suspended	0 (1)	236 B / 496 B	IPC_Sem (Rx)	0x2 (0.0%)

FreeRTOS with SystemView

FreeRTOS Trace Hooks

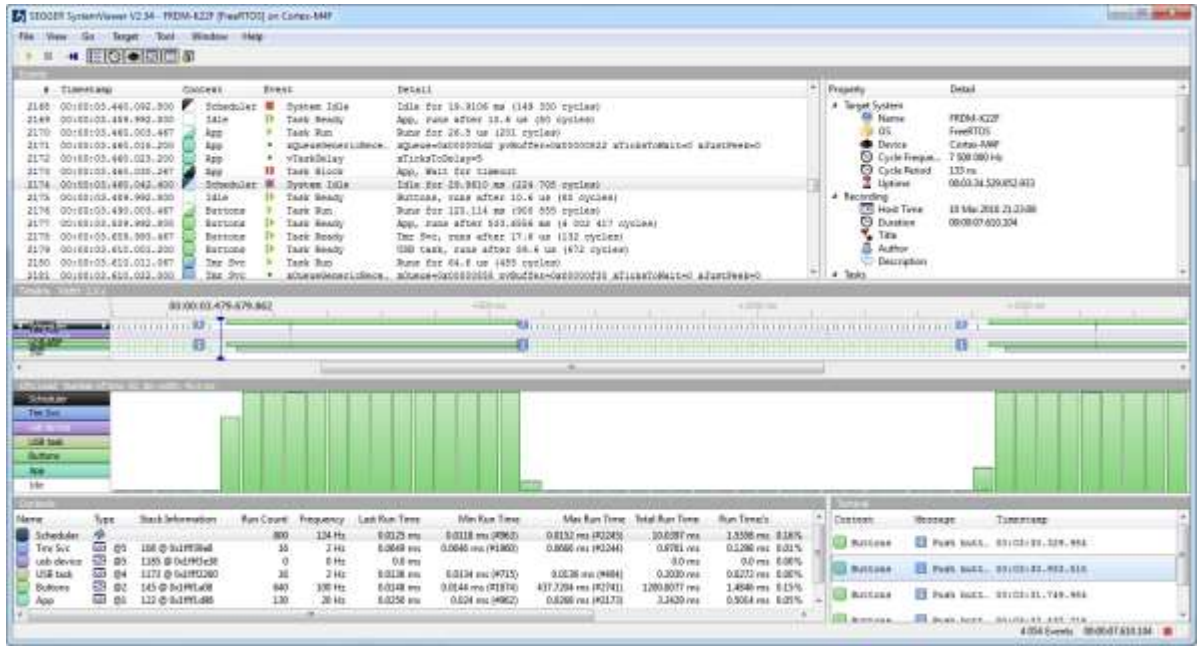
```
#ifndef traceTASK_SWITCHED_OUT
  /* Called before a task has been selected to run.  pxCurrentTCB holds a pointer
  to the task control block of the task being switched out. */
  #define traceTASK_SWITCHED_OUT()
#endif
```

- Instruments Kernel with additional trace hooks
- Macros provided by user or trace library
  - Percepio Tracalyzer
  - Segger SystemView

- *Recommendation*
  - *Disable for release version, use for application tuning and debugging*
  - *Impact: improved application performance*

Segger SystemView

- Free-of-Charge, requires Segger debug interface
- Uses Segger RTT (Real Time Transfer)
- Realtime data recording and time measurement
- **Continuous**, Single-Shot and Post-Mortem recording
- Uses Cortex M4 Cycle count register, SysTick on M0+
- http://mcuoneclipse.com/2015/11/16/segger-systemview

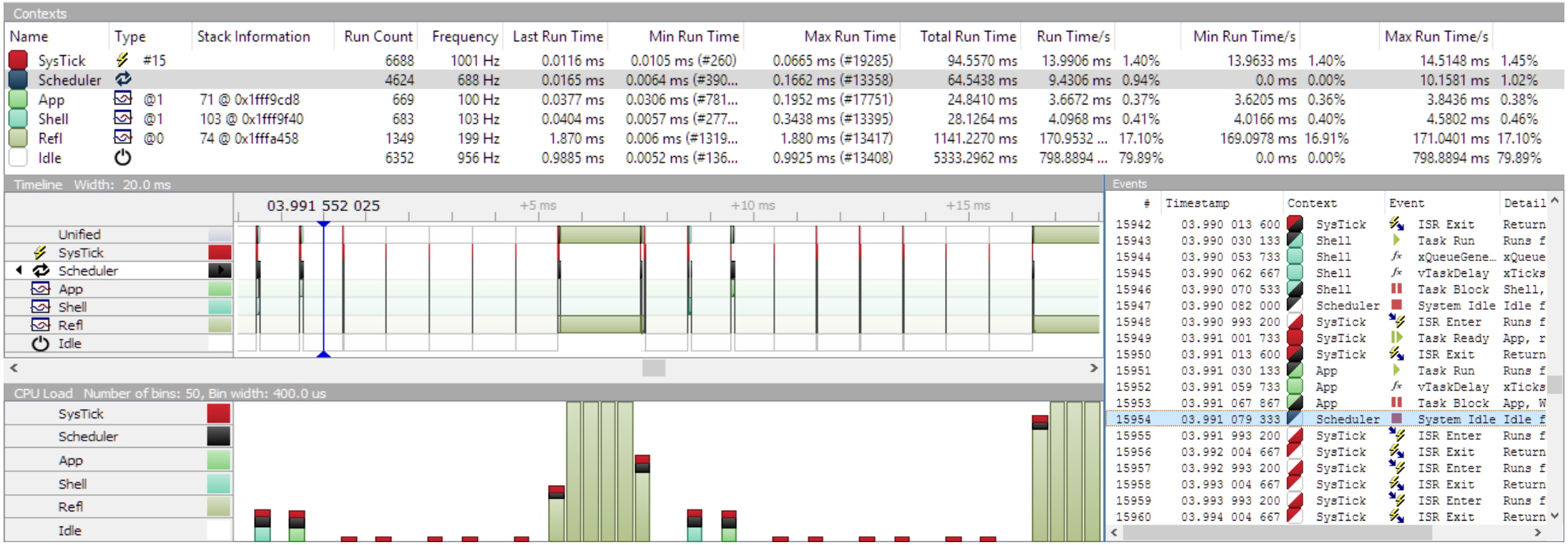


Segger SystemView

- https://www.segger.com/jlink-software.html
- https://www.segger.com/systemview.html

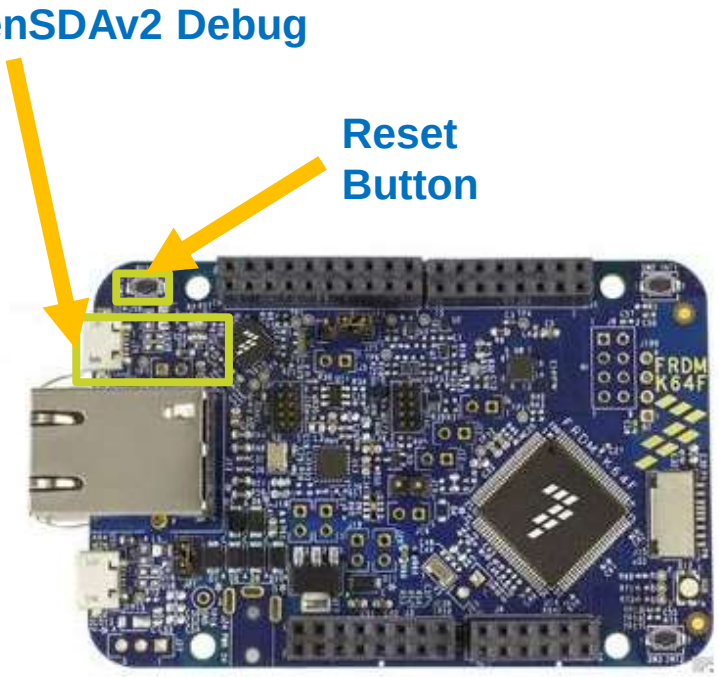
SEGGER SystemView

- Install SystemView
  - SEGGER\Setup_SystemView_V240.exe



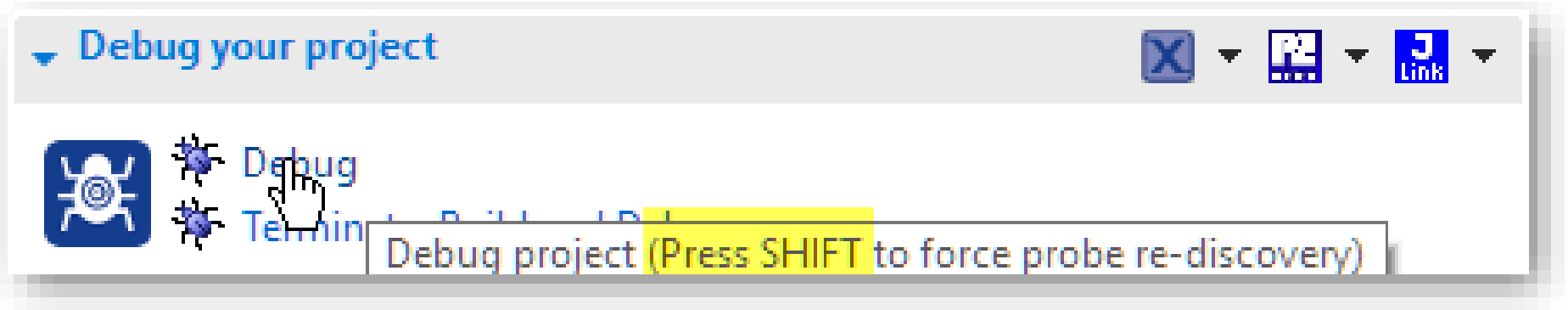
OpenSDA with Segger J-Link Firmware

- SystemView uses SEGGER RTT
  - Install SEGGER OpenSDA firmware on board
- Press (and hold) Reset Button
- Power board with OpenSDAv2 Debug USB connector
- Board enumerates as MAINTENANCE drive
- Copy **OpenSDA\SEGGER_02_OpenSDA_FRDM-K64F.bin** to drive
- Unplug USB cable
- Power/plug the USB cable



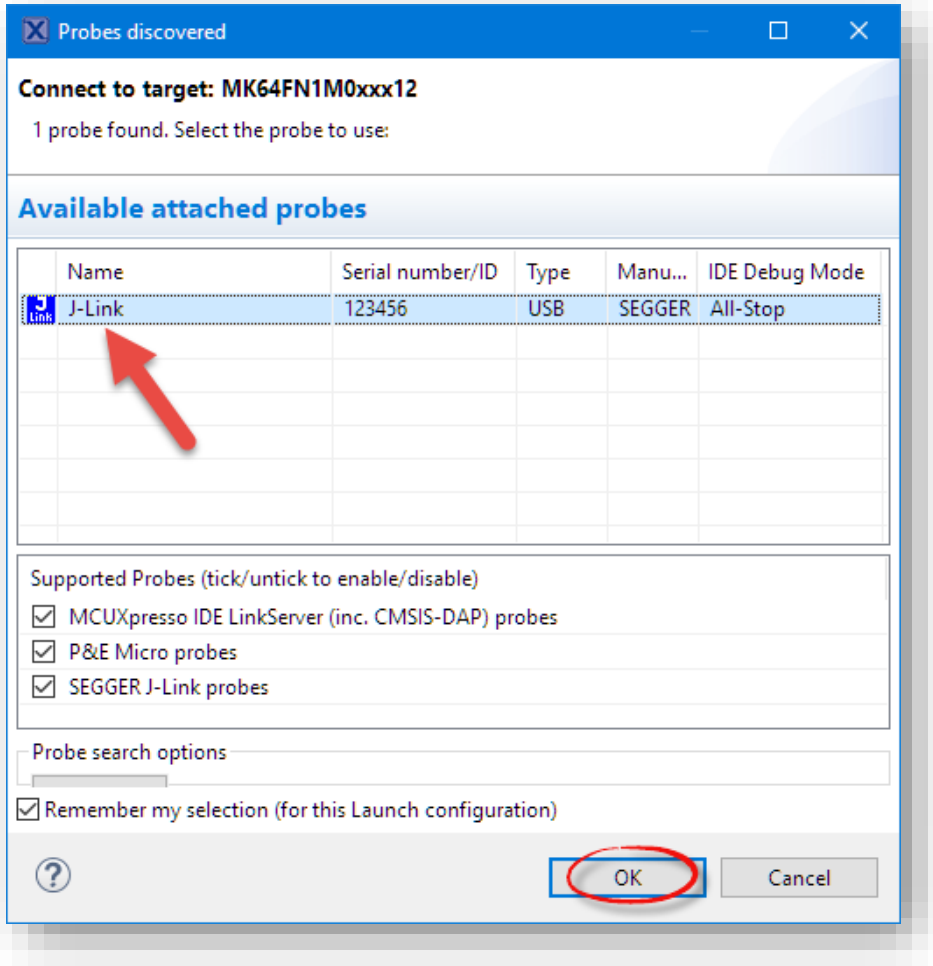
Force Probe Re-Discovery

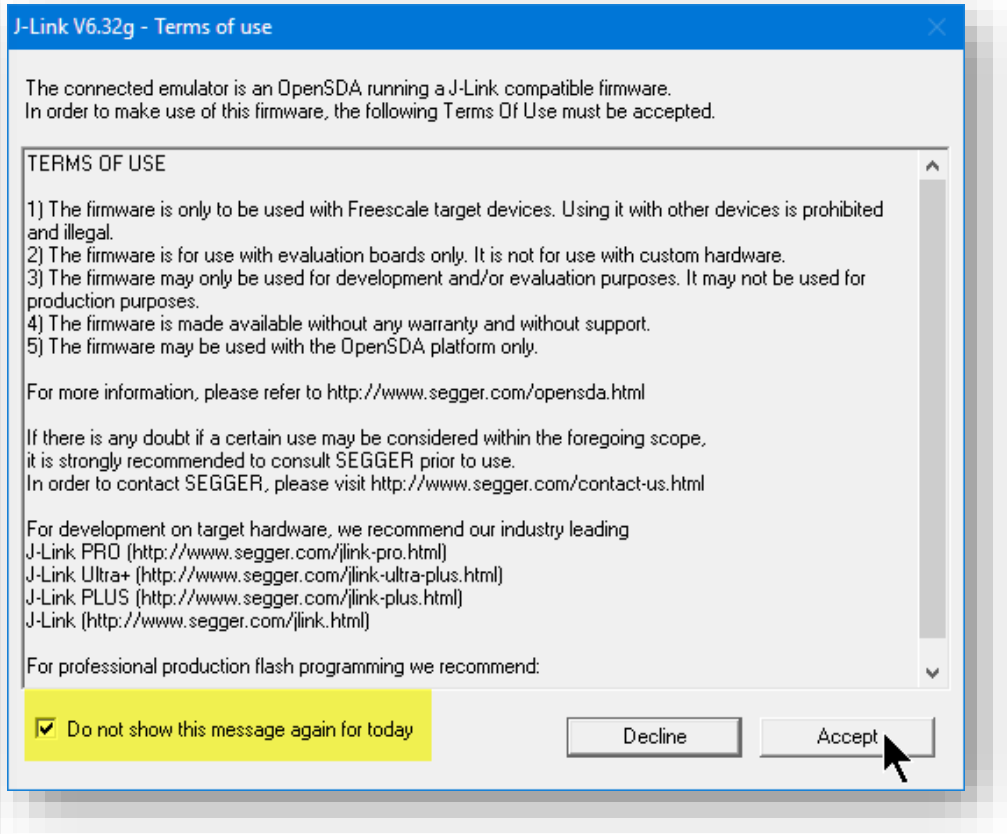
- To debug board with different probe connection ➔ force re-discovery
- Press SHIFT while using Quickstart Debug icon



J-Link Probe Discovery

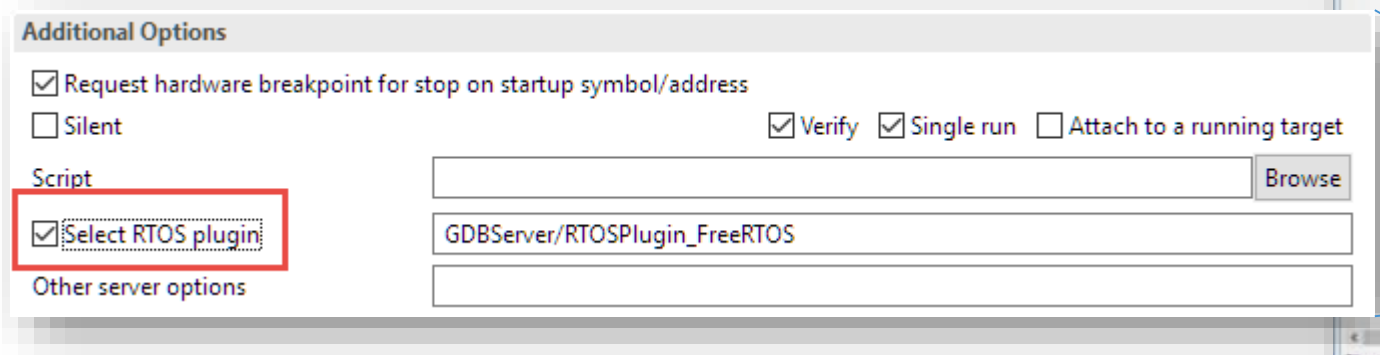
- Discovers attached debug probes
- Accept Terms of use (check for only once a day)

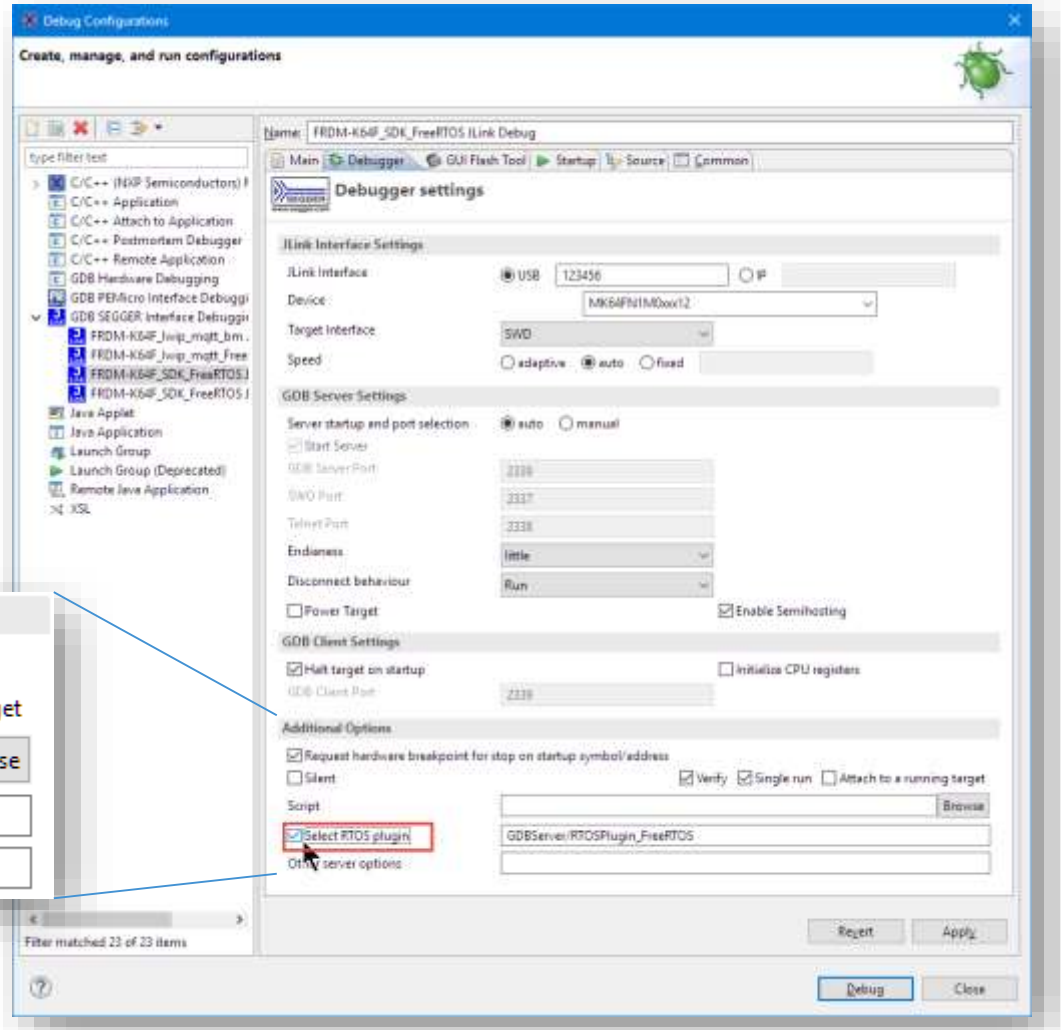




FreeRTOS Thread Awareness with J-Link

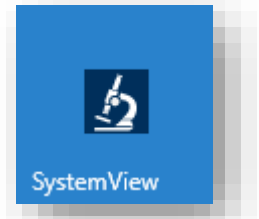
- Menu Run > Debug Configurations
- Enable Select RTOS plugin

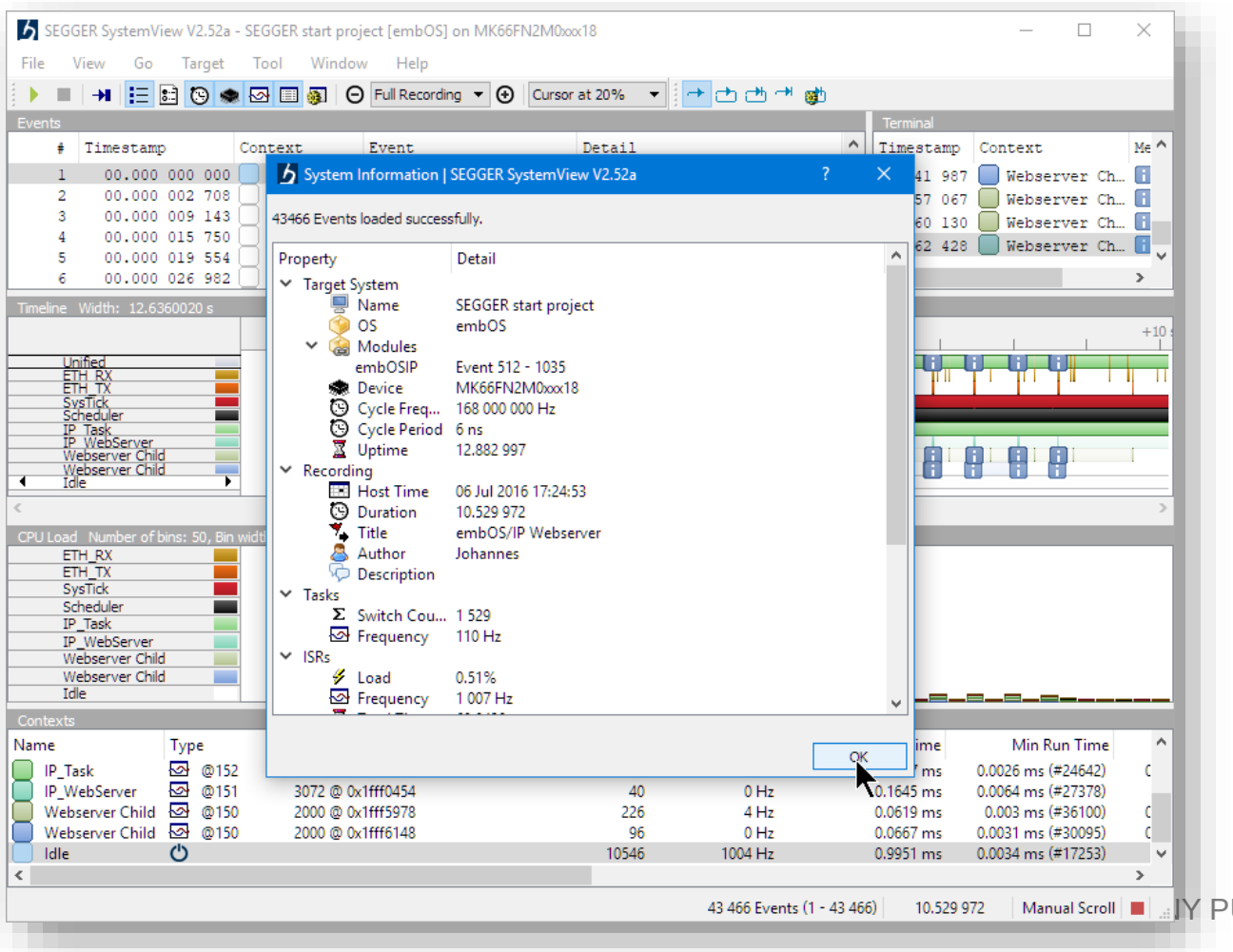




Running SystemView

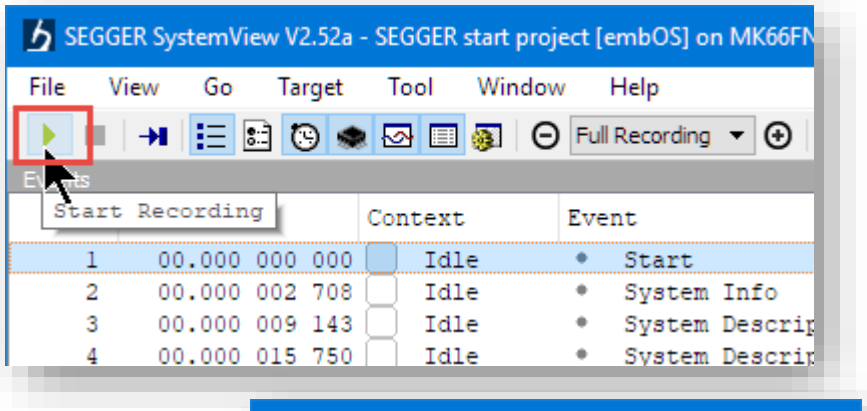
- Launch SystemView (Shortcut)
- Click OK on System Information Dialog

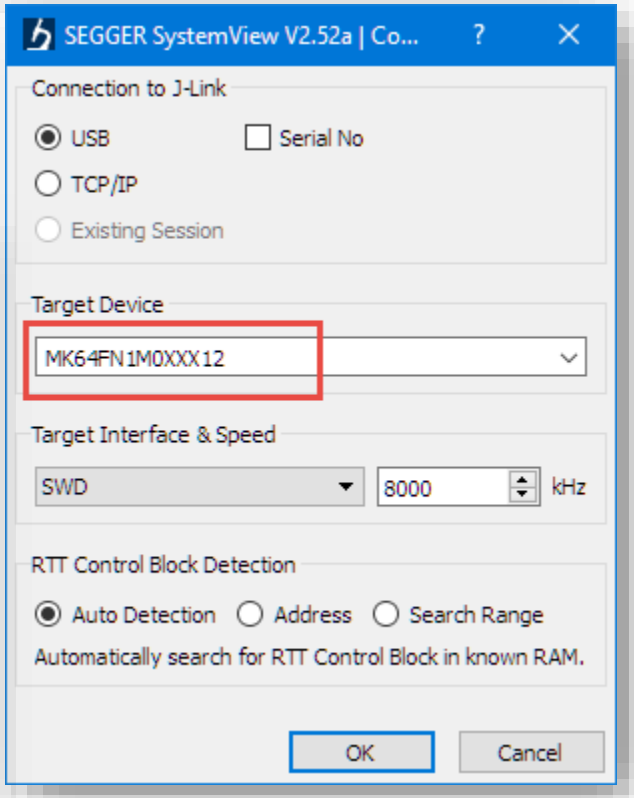


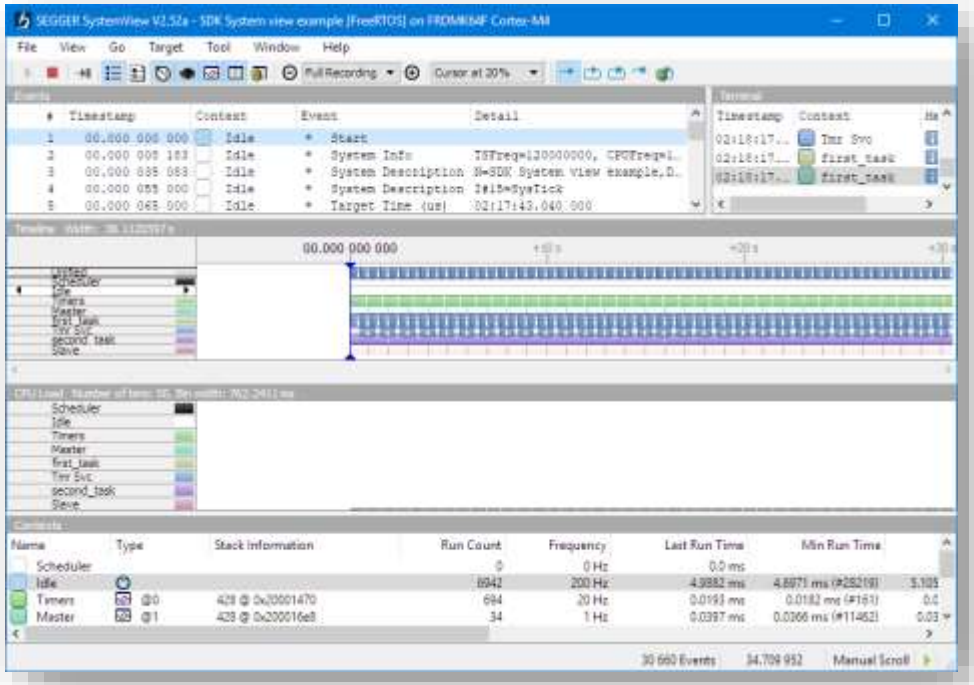


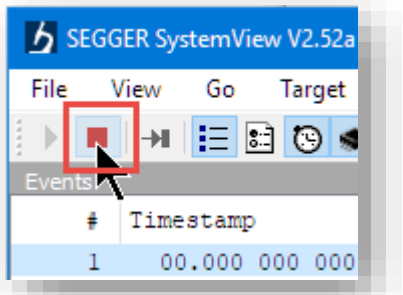
Collecting Data

- Run FreeRTOS application with Debugger
- Press ‘Start Recording’
- Specify target device
  - MK64FN1M0XXX12
- Records data
- Press ‘Stop Recording’



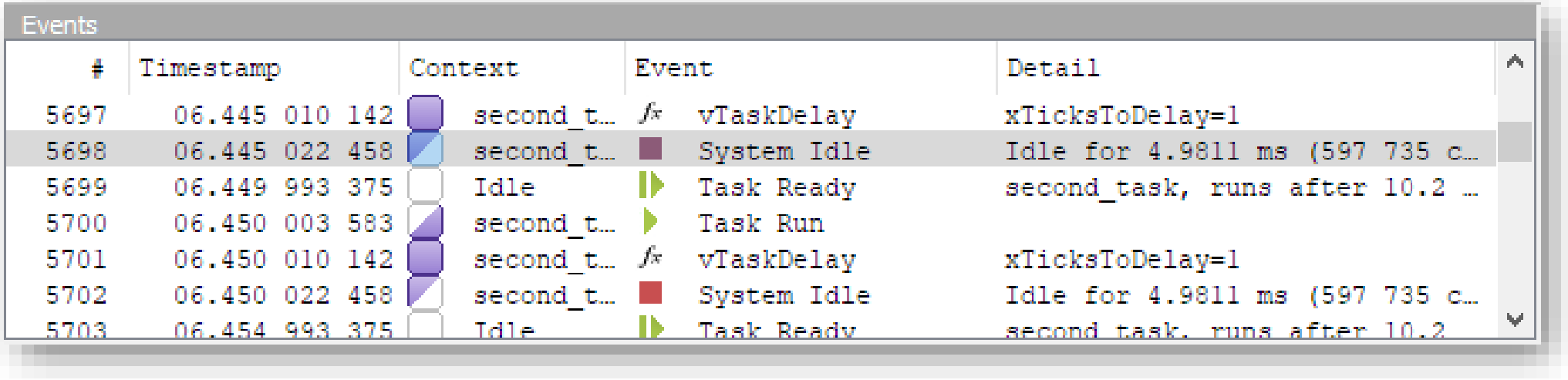






Events

- List of Events recorded
- Click to show in Timeline



Terminal

- Messages produced by application
- Click to show in Timeline

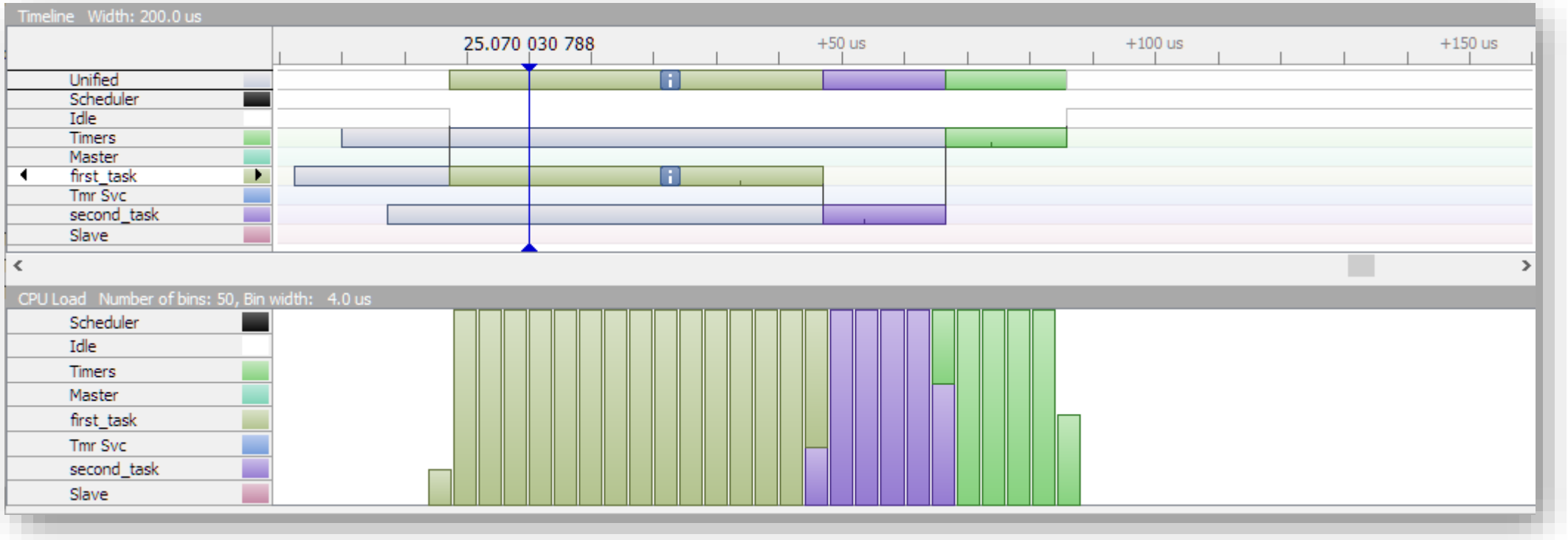
```c
static void first_task(void *pvParameters) {
  if (xTaskCreate(second_task, "second_task", 500/sizeof(StackType_t), NULL, 3, NULL) != pdPASS) {
      PRINTF("Task creation failed!.\r\n");
      vTaskSuspend(NULL);
  }
  /* dummy code, print counter and delay */
  for (int counter = 0;; counter++) {
#if APP_CONFIG_USE_SEGGER_SYSTEMVIEW
      SEGGER_SYSVIEW_PrintfTarget("first task counter: %d ", counter++);
#endif
      vTaskDelay(pdMS_TO_TICKS(100));
  }
}
```

Terminal

Timestamp	Context	Message
02:19:50.…	first_task	first task counter: 33562
02:19:51.…	Tmr Svc	1 Sec Timer (ID 0) expired
02:19:51.…	first_task	first task counter: 33564
02:19:51.…	first_task	first task counter: 33566
02:19:52.…	Tmr Svc	1 Sec Timer (ID 0) expired
02:19:52.…	first_task	first task counter: 33568

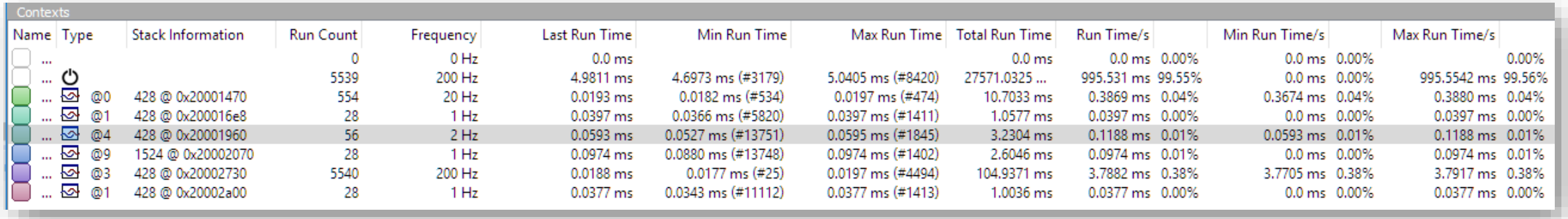
Timeline & CPU Load

- Shows task sequence and CPU load
- Use mouse wheel to zoom in/out
- Use mouse to move



Contexts

- List of Tasks with priorities
- Run count, stack size, task frequency, runtime statistics



Contexts

Name	Type	Stack Information	Run Count	Frequency	Last Run Time	Min Run Time	Max Run Time	Total Run Time	Run Time/s		Min Run Time/s		Max Run Time/s	
...			0	0 Hz	0.0 ms			0.0 ms	0.0 ms	0.00%	0.0 ms	0.00%		0.00%
...			5539	200 Hz	4.9811 ms	4.6973 ms (#3179)	5.0405 ms (#8420)	27571.0325 ...	995.531 ms	99.55%	0.0 ms	0.00%	995.5542 ms	99.56%
...	@0	428 @ 0x20001470	554	20 Hz	0.0193 ms	0.0182 ms (#534)	0.0197 ms (#474)	10.7033 ms	0.3869 ms	0.04%	0.3674 ms	0.04%	0.3880 ms	0.04%
...	@1	428 @ 0x200016e8	28	1 Hz	0.0397 ms	0.0366 ms (#5820)	0.0397 ms (#1411)	1.0577 ms	0.0397 ms	0.00%	0.0 ms	0.00%	0.0397 ms	0.00%
...	@4	428 @ 0x20001960	56	2 Hz	0.0593 ms	0.0527 ms (#13751)	0.0595 ms (#1845)	3.2304 ms	0.1188 ms	0.01%	0.0593 ms	0.01%	0.1188 ms	0.01%
...	@9	1524 @ 0x20002070	28	1 Hz	0.0974 ms	0.0880 ms (#13748)	0.0974 ms (#1402)	2.6046 ms	0.0974 ms	0.01%	0.0 ms	0.00%	0.0974 ms	0.01%
...	@3	428 @ 0x20002730	5540	200 Hz	0.0188 ms	0.0177 ms (#25)	0.0197 ms (#4494)	104.9371 ms	3.7882 ms	0.38%	3.7705 ms	0.38%	3.7917 ms	0.38%
...	@1	428 @ 0x20002a00	28	1 Hz	0.0377 ms	0.0343 ms (#11112)	0.0377 ms (#1413)	1.0036 ms	0.0377 ms	0.00%	0.0 ms	0.00%	0.0377 ms	0.00%

Tick Rate

```
#define configTICK_RATE_HZ          ((TickType_t)1000)
```

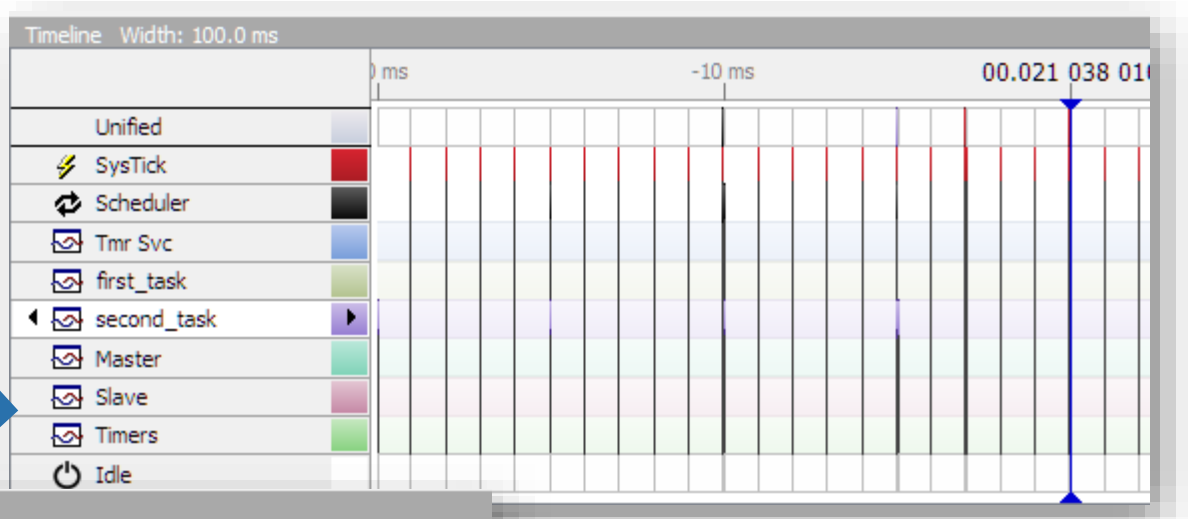
- Typical tick rates of 100 Hz, 50 Hz or 1 kHz
- All RTOS timing depends on it
- Too high: higher interrupt load
- Too low: bigger timing granularity

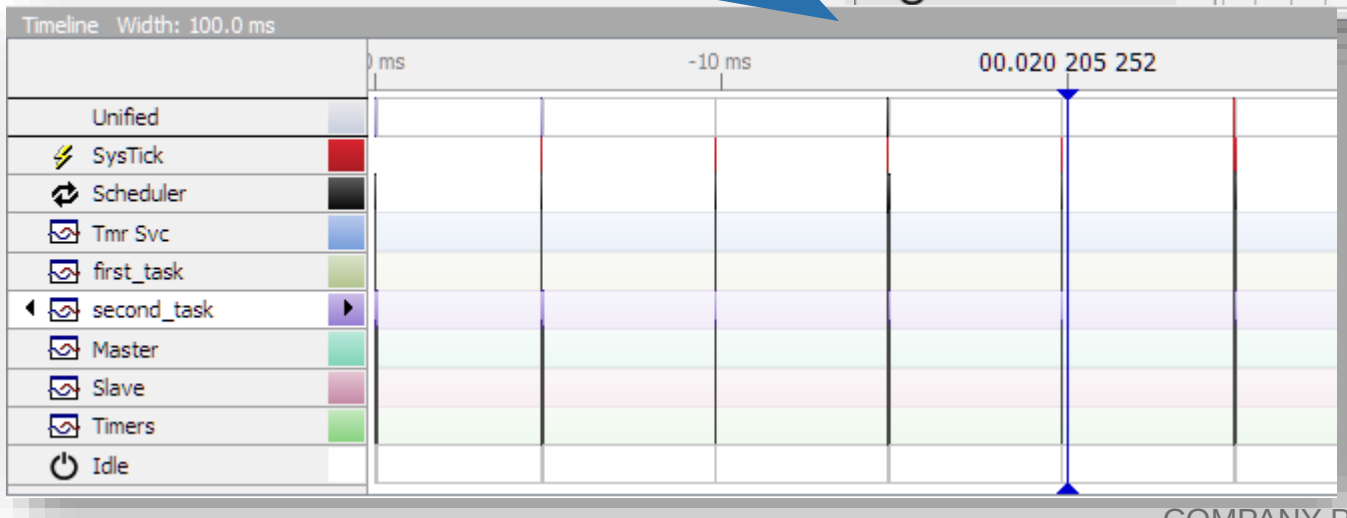
- *Recommendation*
  - *Tick rate as low as possible*
  - *Impact: System interrupt load*

Tick Rate

TODO 09

- Inspect SysTick in SystemView ➔ every 1 ms
- Application waits for 5, 50, 100 and 1000 ms
  - Can reduce tick period to 5 ms (200 Hz)
- Reduce tick rate/frequency
- Build and debug
- Check reduced tick frequency





Tickless IDLE Mode

```
#define configUSE_TICKLESS_IDLE                    0
```

- SysTick wakes up CPU from low power mode (timing, preemption)
- Extends interrupt periods to reduce interrupts for low-power applications

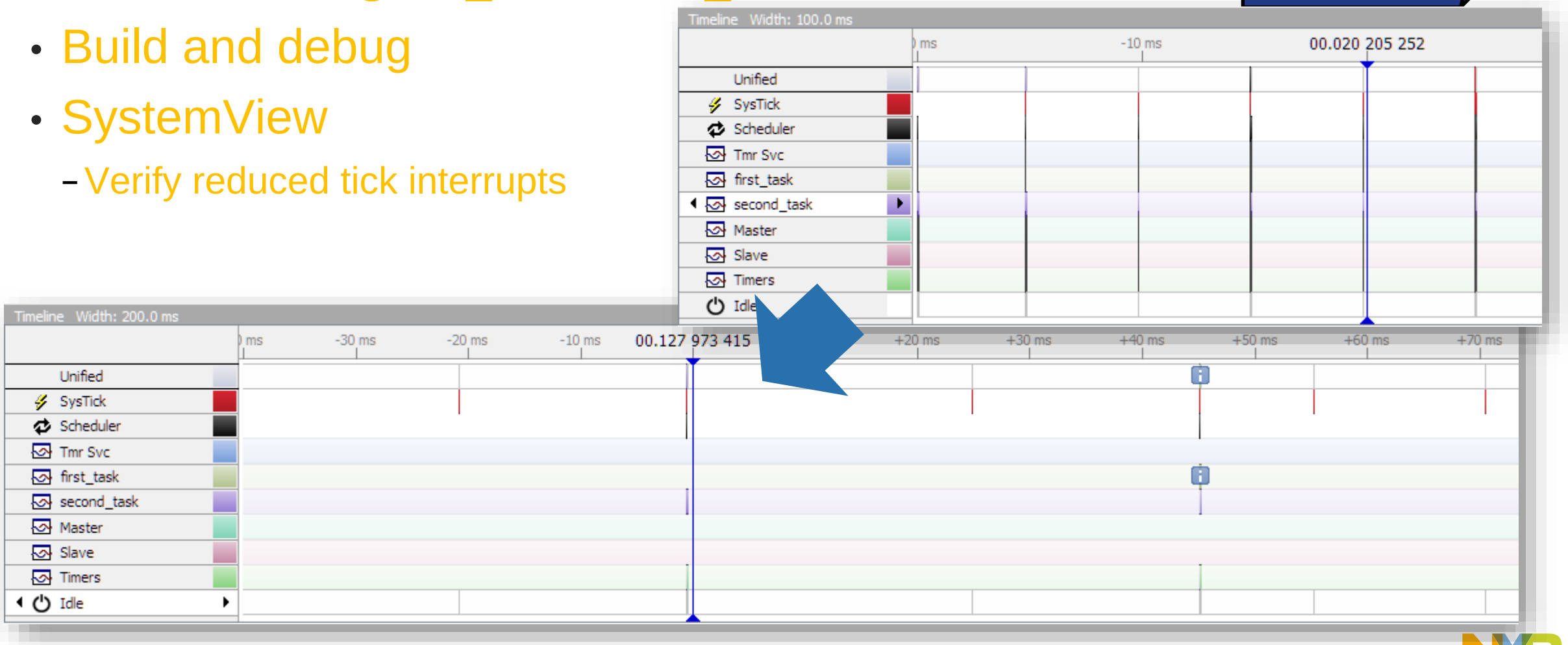
- *Recommendation*
  - *Enable for low power applications*
  - *Impact: reduced power consumption, reduced interrupt load, time slippage*

- Details: Low Power with FreeRTOS: Tickless Idle Mode

Tickless Idle Mode

- Enable `configUSE_TICKLESS_IDLE`
- Build and debug
- SystemView
  - Verify reduced tick interrupts

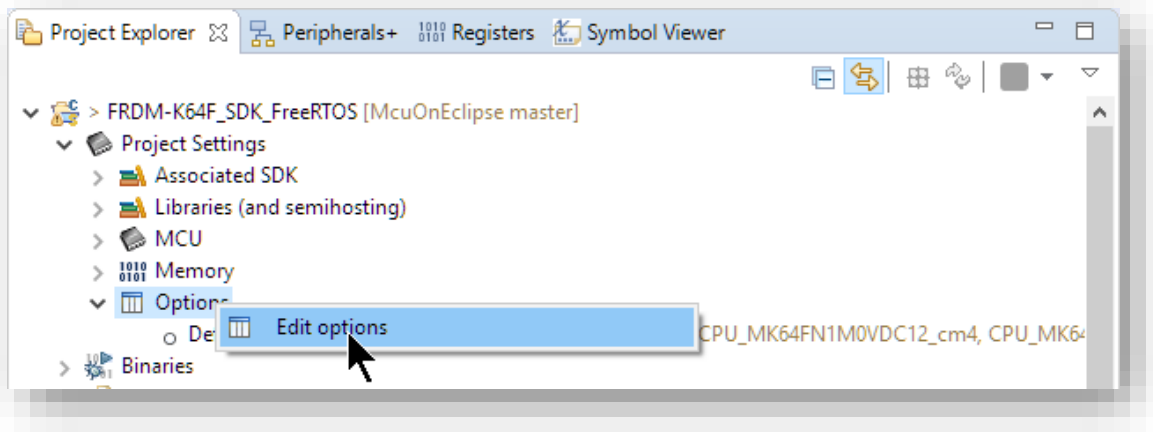
TODO 10

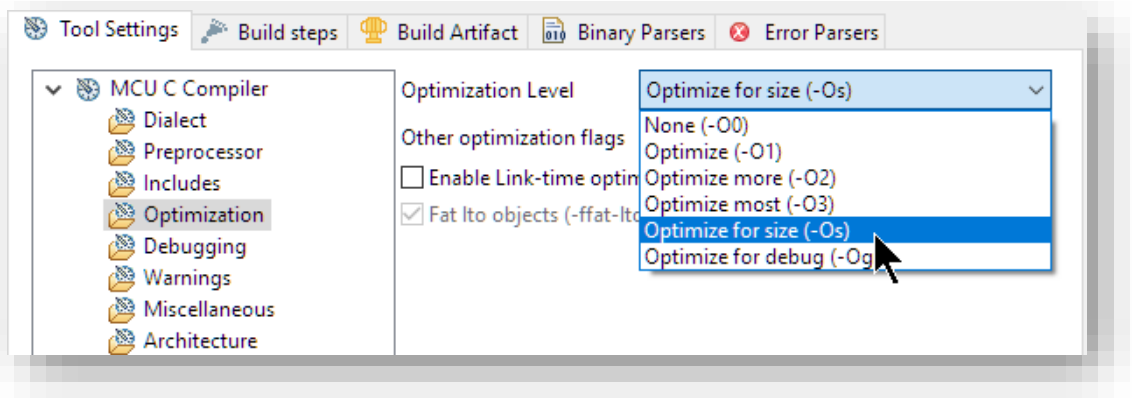


Compiler & Linker Optimizations

Compiler Optimizations

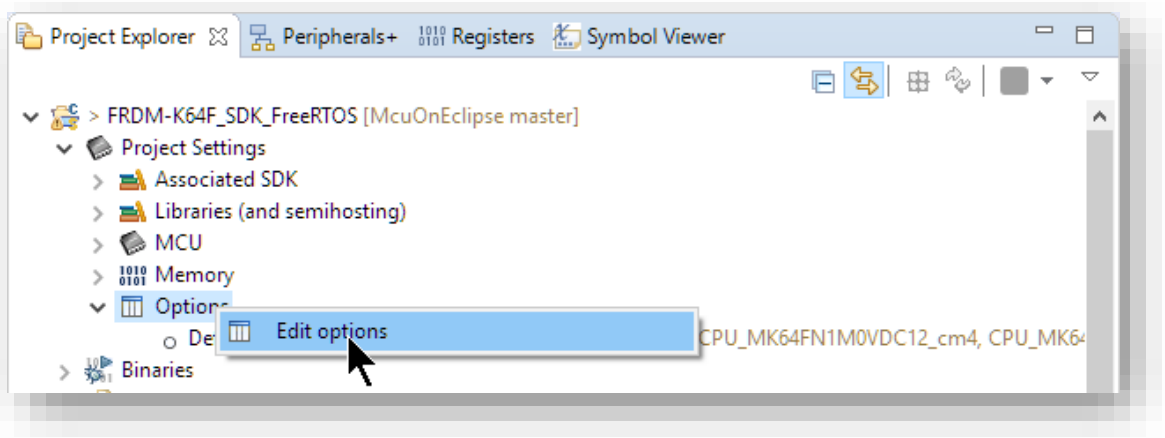
- By default, projects are typically using
  –O0
  - no optimization, easy debugging
- More aggressive optimization with
  –Os
  - Keeps variables in registers
  - Does branch tail merging
  - Might impact debugging
- Set optimization level to –Os and check code size impact

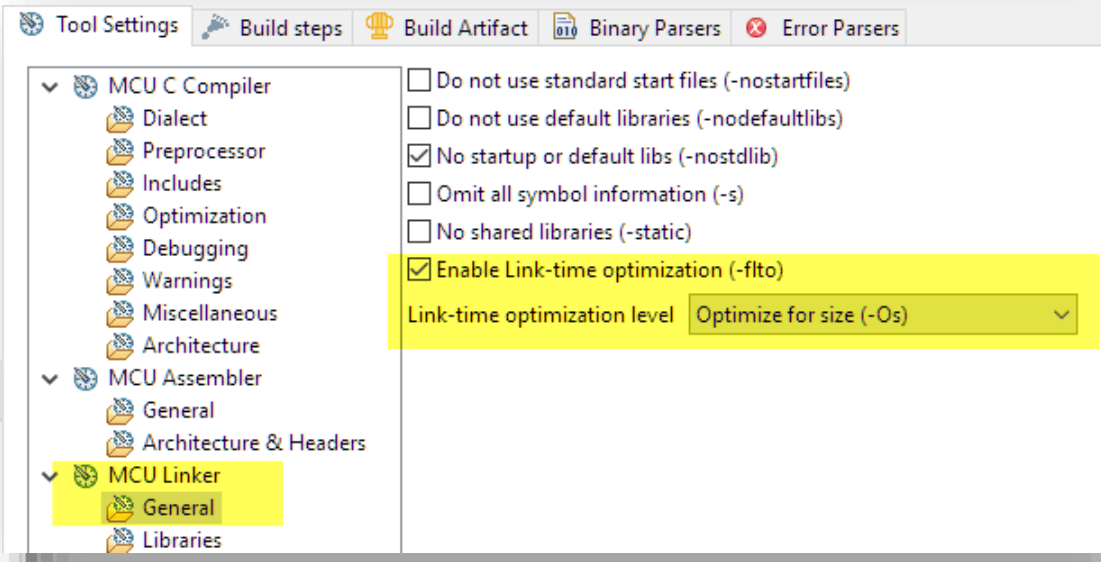


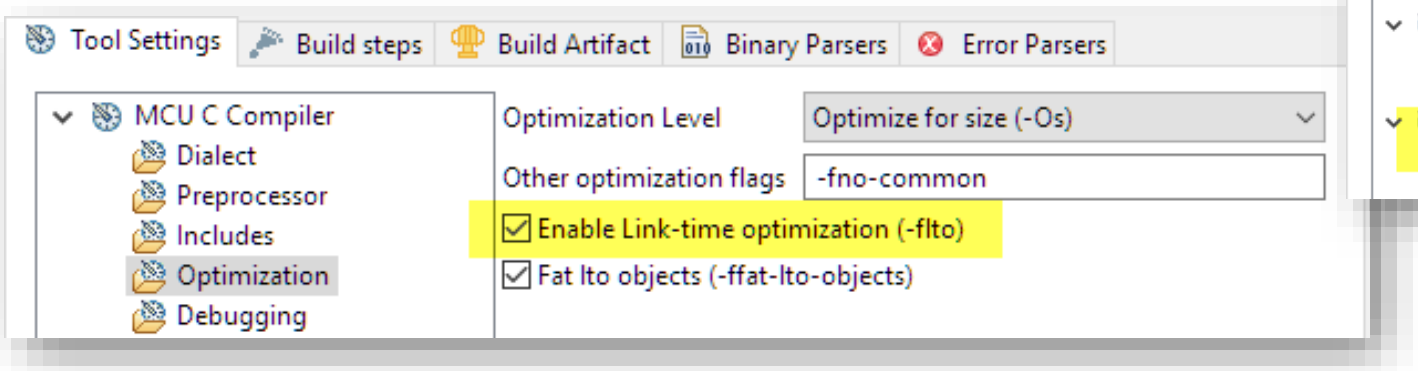


Link-Time Optimization

- Linker can optimize across multiple modules
  - Inlining, constant propagation
  - Parameter propagation
  - Might affect debugging
- Turn on **–flto** and check code size impact
  - Linker & Compiler setting
- Note: might affect debugging







Summary

Summary

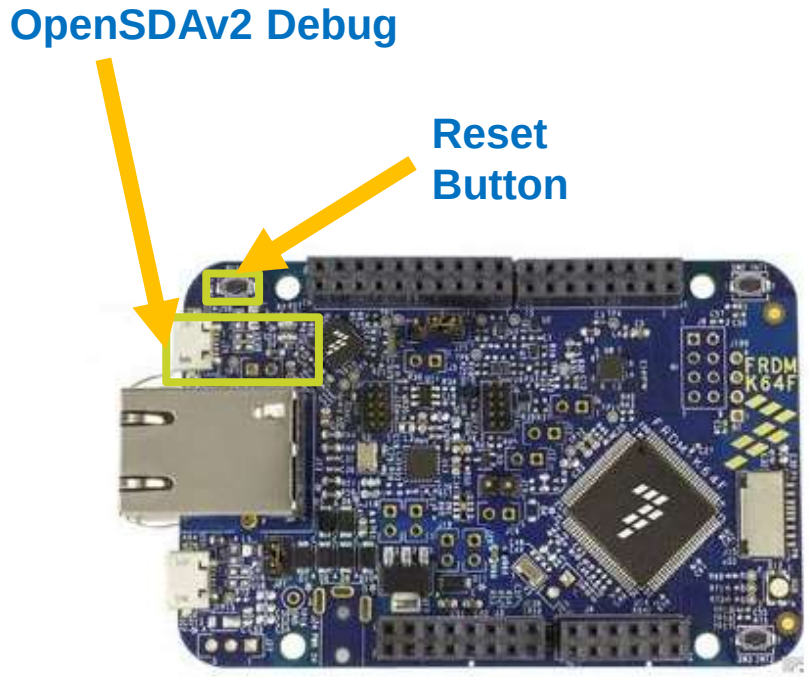
- NXP FreeRTOS Enablement
  - MCUXpresso IDE
  - MCUXpresso SDK
  - MCUXpresso Config Tools
- Optimizing FreeRTOS
  - FreeRTOS Configuration
  - Segger RTT and SystemView
  - NXP Kernel and Thread Awareness
  - Compiler and Linker Optimizations

Additional Resources

- Web pages
  - MCUXpresso Software and Tools – www.nxp.com/mcuxpresso
    - MCUXpresso SDK – www.nxp.com/mcuxpresso/sdk
    - MCUXpresso IDE – www.nxp.com/mcuxpresso/ide
    - MCUXpresso Config Tools – www.nxp.com/mcuxpresso/config
  - Supported Devices Table (Community Doc)
- Communities
  - MCUXpresso Software and Tools - https://community.nxp.com/community/mcuxpresso
    - MCUXpresso SDK - https://community.nxp.com/community/mcuxpresso/mcuxpresso-sdk
    - MCUXpresso IDE – http://www.nxp.com/mcuxpresso/ide/forum
    - MCUXpresso Config Tools - https://community.nxp.com/community/mcuxpresso/mcuxpresso-config

Restore LinkServer/CMSIS-DAP OpenSDA Firmware

- Press (and hold) Reset Button
- Power board with OpenSDAv2 Debug USB connector
- Board enumerates as MAINTENANCE drive
- Copy **DAPLINK_k20dx_frdmk64f_if_crc_legacy_0x5000.bin** to drive
- Unplug USB cable
- Power/plug the USB cable

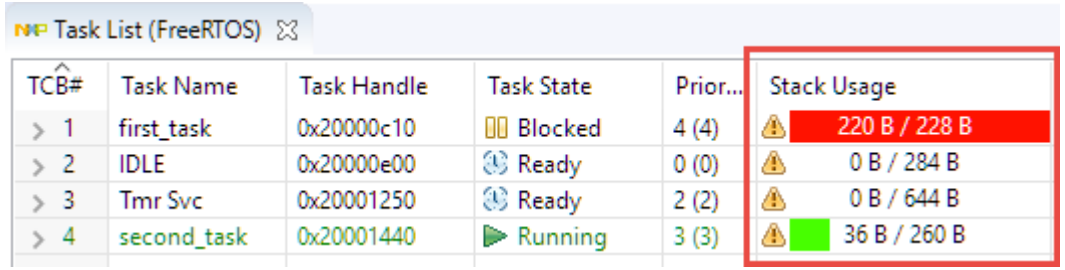


Backup

Error Hooks

```
#define configCHECK_FOR_STACK_OVERFLOW          1
#define configUSE_MALLOC_FAILED_HOOK            1
```

- Trap errors stack overflows
  - disabled (0), Method1 (1) and Method2 (2)
- Trap for ‘out of heap’



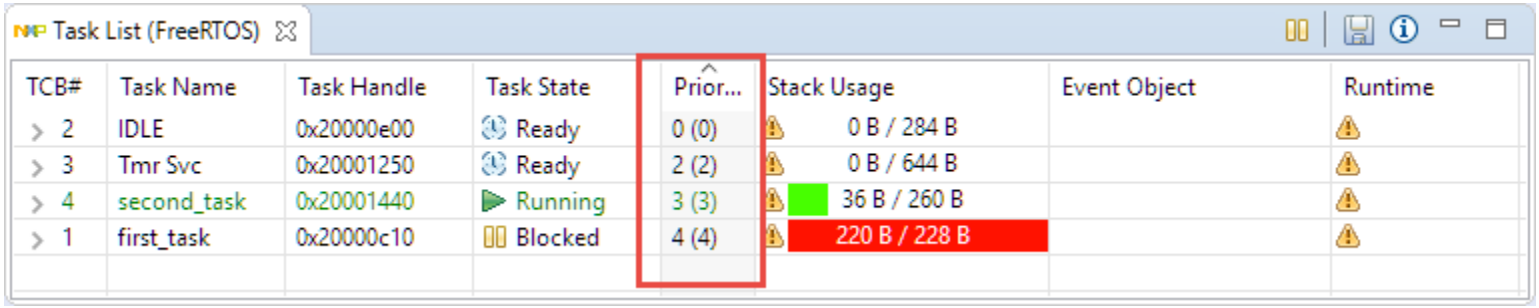
- *Recommendation*
  - *Turn on during development*
  - *Disable for ‘release’ version*
  - *Impact: reduced code size, improved context switch time*

Maximum Task Priorities

```
#define configMAX_PRIORITIES                    5
```

- Task priorities from 0 up to N-1
- Kernel maintains a list for each priority

- *Recommendation*
  - *As small as possible*
  - *No gaps in task priorities*
  - *Share priorities*
  - *Impact: reduced RAM size*

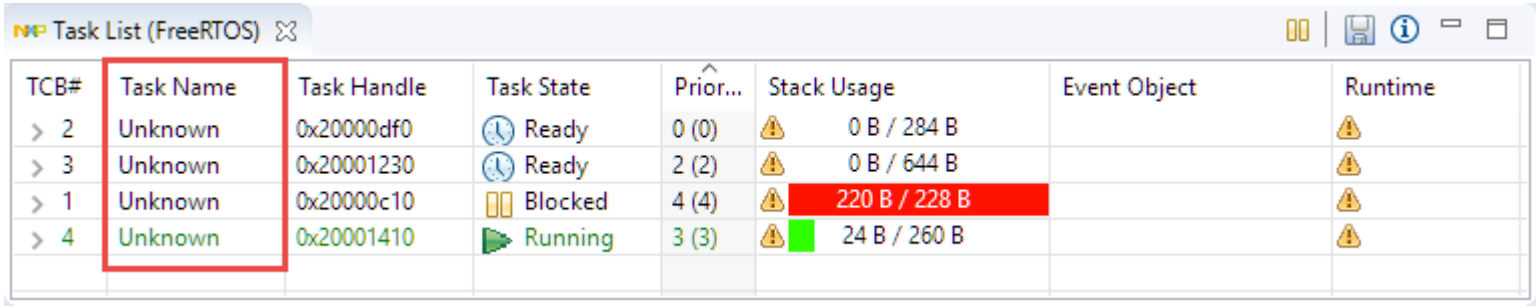


Task Name Length

```
#define configMAX_TASK_NAME_LEN                    20
```

- Used as name for tasks at creation time
- Name stored in task descriptor

- *Recommendation*
  - *As small as possible, or 1 to disable*
  - *Impact: reduced RAM size*
    Limited or no task name in Task List

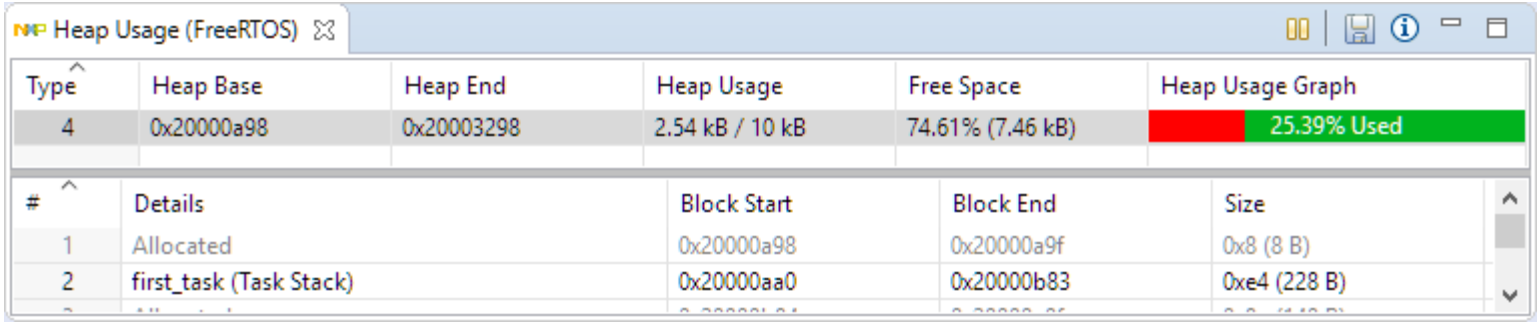


Heap Size

```
#define configSUPPORT_STATIC_ALLOCATION    0
#define configSUPPORT_DYNAMIC_ALLOCATION   1
#define configTOTAL_HEAP_SIZE              ((size_t)(10 * 1024))
```

- Dynamic memory for task stack, queues, semaphore, ...

- *Recommendation*
  - *As small as possible, static allocation (*configSUPPORT_STATIC_ALLOCATIO 1*) with no dynamic allocation (*configSUPPORT_DYNAMIC_ALLOCATION 0*)*
  - *Impact: reduced RAM size, reduced code size*



Cortex-M Interrupts

```
#define configUSE_PORT_OPTIMISED_TASK_SELECTION  1
```

- Optimized task selection using bit instructions
- Supports up to 32 task priorities

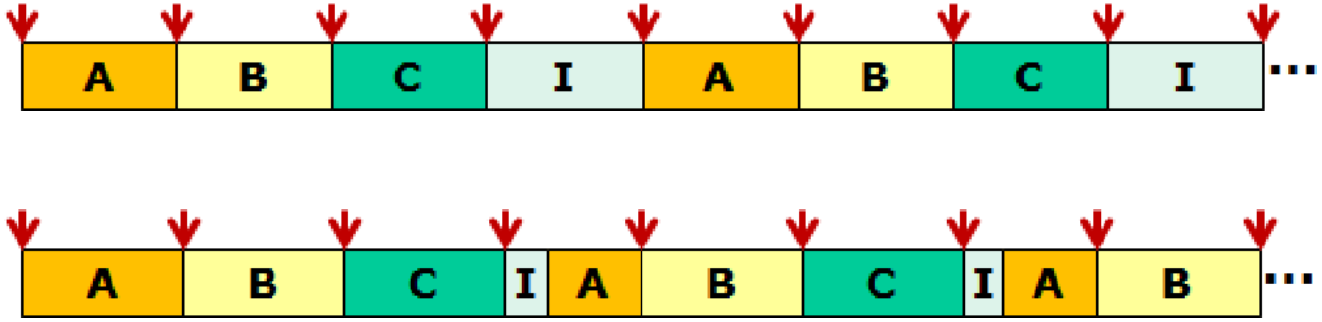
- *Recommendation*
  - *Enable for Cortex-M4/M7*
  - *Impact: improved application performance (~1%)*

Idle Yielding

```
#define configIDLE_SHOULD_YIELD                1
```

- In preemptive mode allows IDLE task to give back time to tasks

- *Recommendation*
  - *Enable IDLE yielding*
  - *Impact: improved application performance*



Application Hooks

```
#define configUSE_IDLE_HOOK                     1
#define configUSE_TICK_HOOK                     1
#define configUSE_DAEMON_TASK_STARTUP_HOOK      0
```

- Application hooks for IDLE, tick interrupt or timer daemon startup

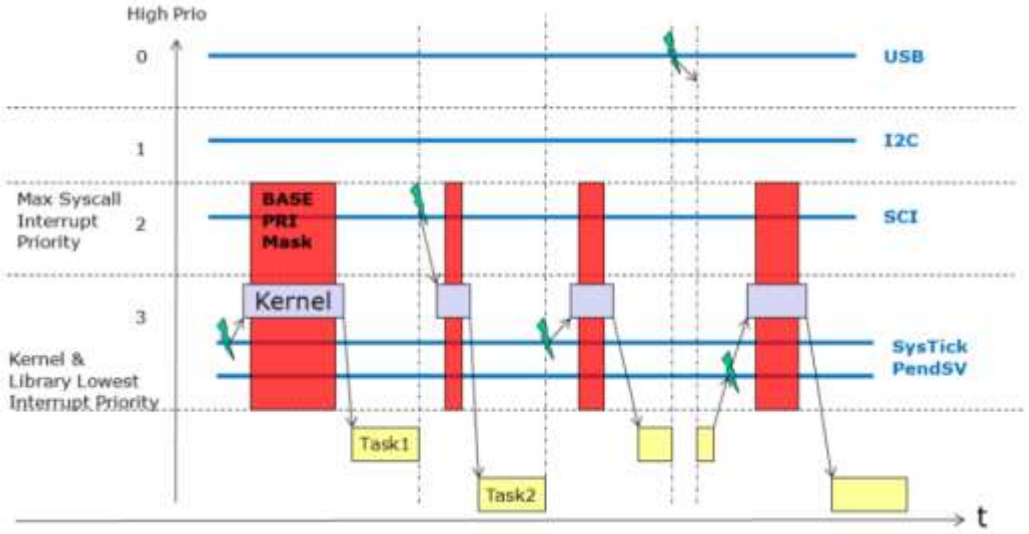
- *Recommendation*
  - *Use IDLE hook to enter low power mode*
  - *Use tick hook instead of periodic timer interrupt*
  - *Disable Daemon hook if not used*
  - *Impact: reduced code size, reduced hardware timer usage*

Cortex-M Interrupts

```
#define configLIBRARY_MAX_SYSCALL_INTERRUPT_PRIORITY 2
```

- Cortex-M0+: Scheduler masks all interrupts; Cortex-M4(F): only SYSCALL and below (less urgent)

- *Recommendation*
  - *Put interrupts which do **not** use RTOS API above SYSCALL level*
  - *Impact: improved application performance, less interrupt latency*

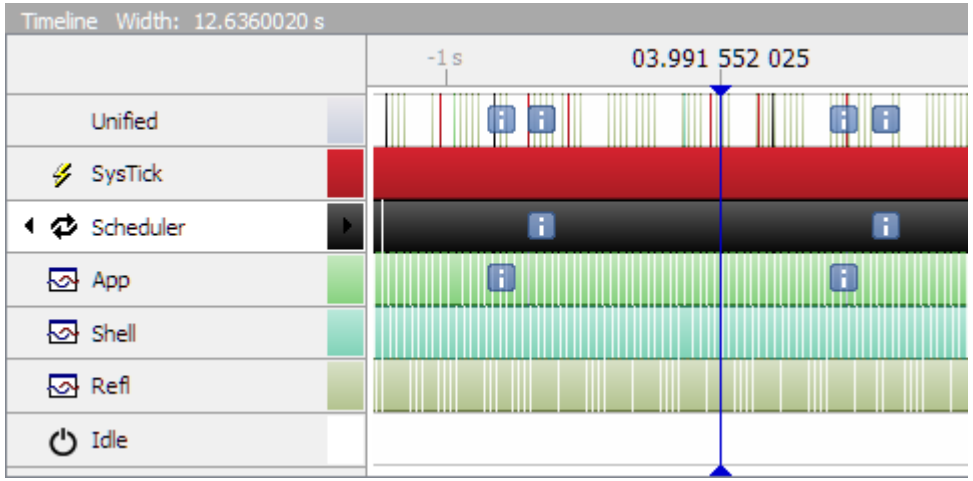


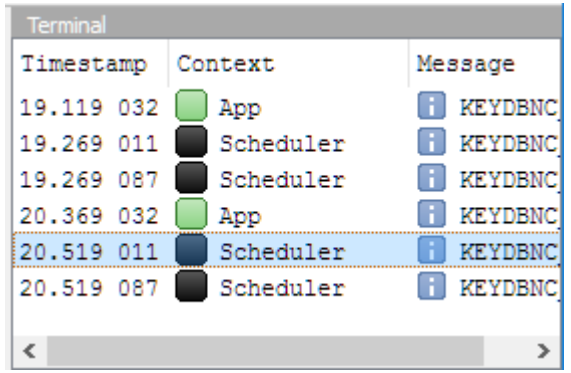
User SystemViewer Events

```
SEGGER_SYSVIEW_RecordEnterISR();
...
SEGGER_SYSVIEW_RecordExitISR();
```

- Ability to instrument application and interrupts
- Log messages and event markers

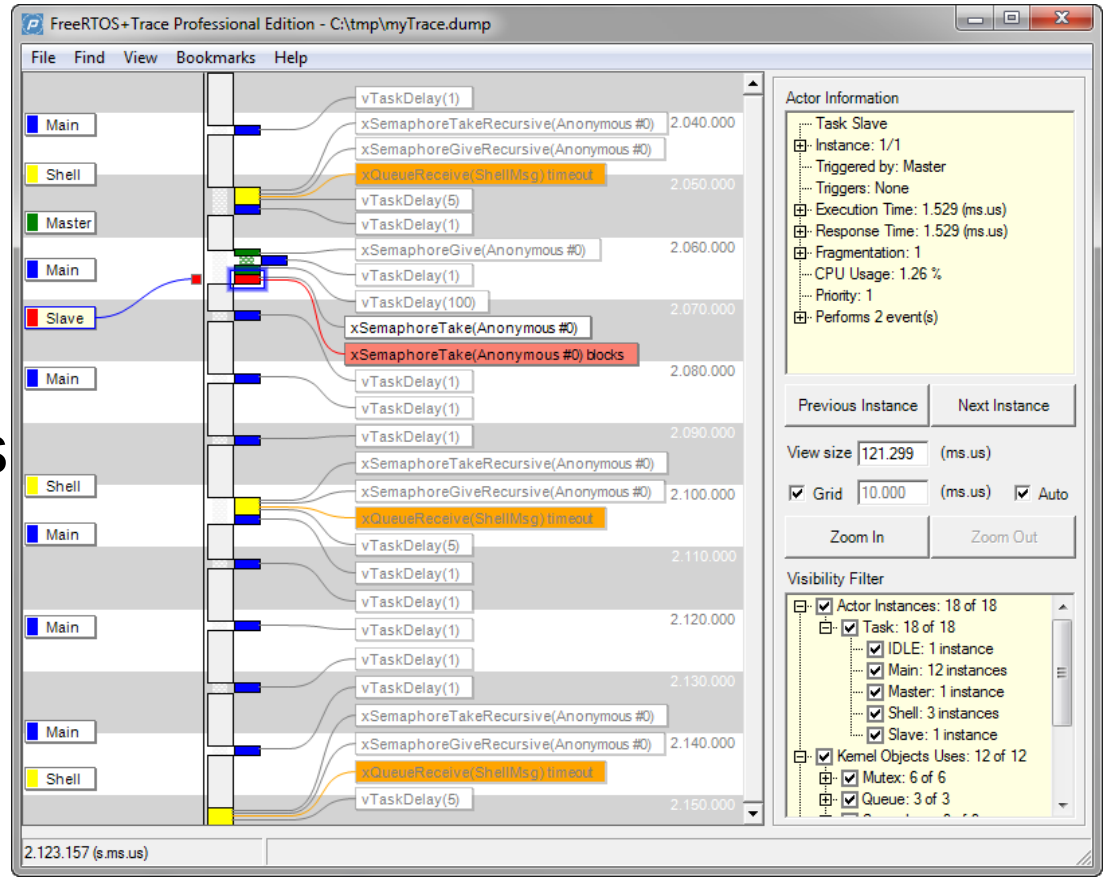
- *Recommendation*
  - *Use for measurement and debugging*
  - *Turn off for release*
  - *Impact: improved application*





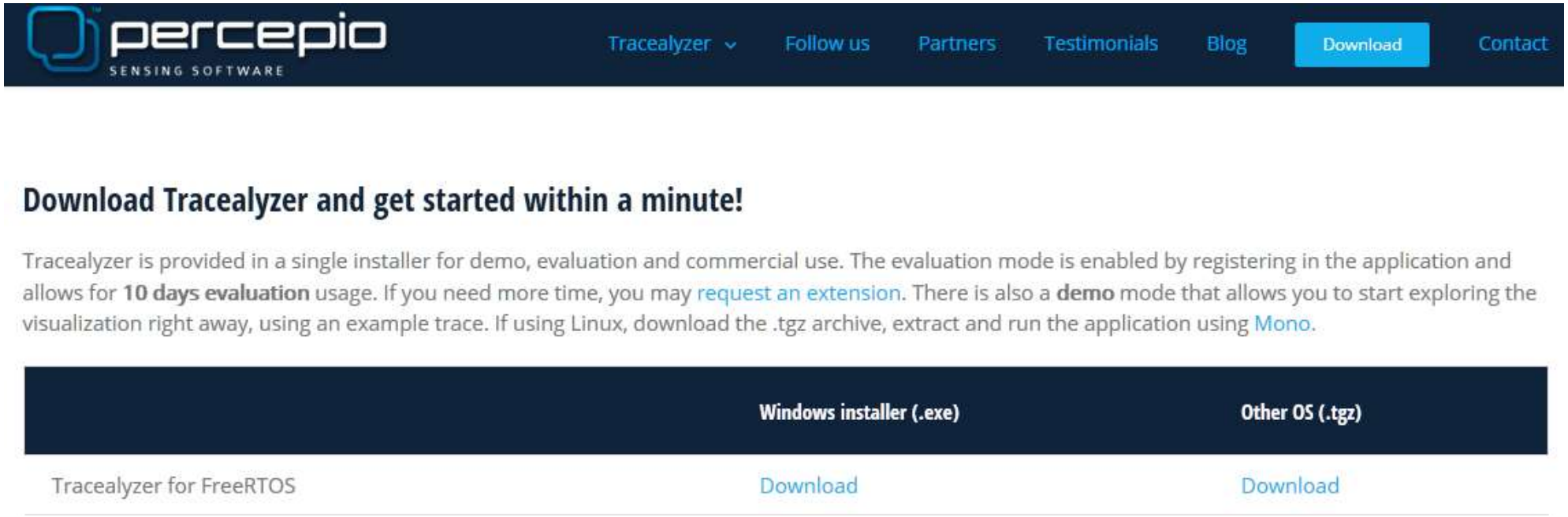
Percepio Tracealizer

- Percepio (http://www.percepio.com)
- Free/Professional (Paid) edition
- Hosts: Windows, Linux
- Over 20 graphical views
- Tasks, System Calls and User Events
- CPU Load
- Timing Variations
- Communication Flow
- Kernel Object History
- User Events, Signal Plots
- Eclipse launcher plugin



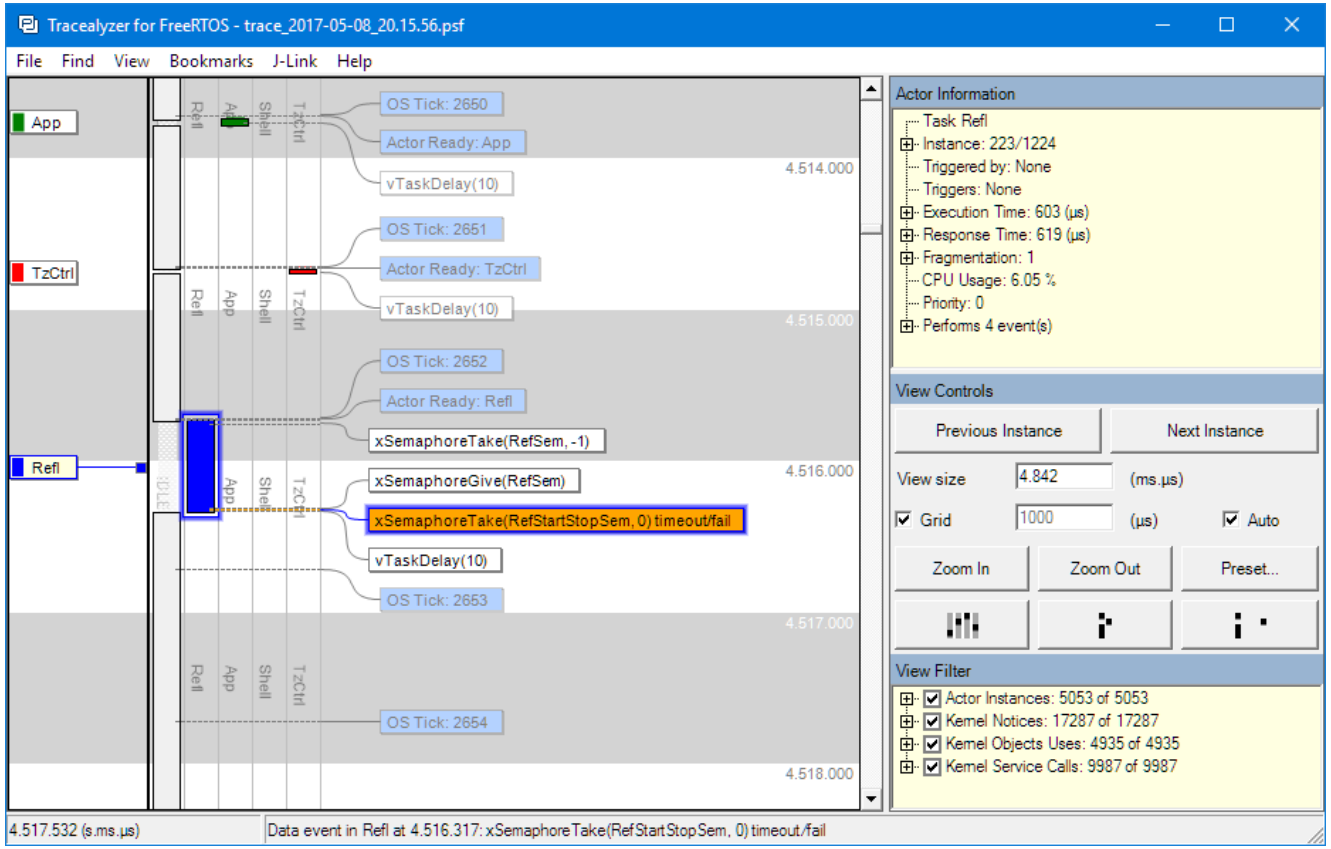
FreeRTOS+Trace Tracealyzer from Percepio

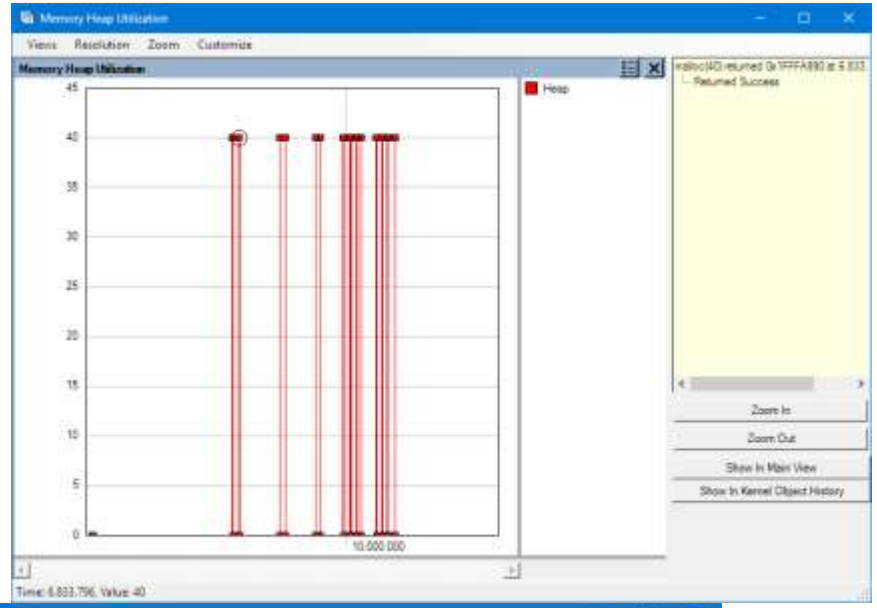
- Tracealyzer for FreeRTOS: http://percepio.com/download/
- Free version (task scheduling only)
- 30 day evaluation (Professional Edition) license

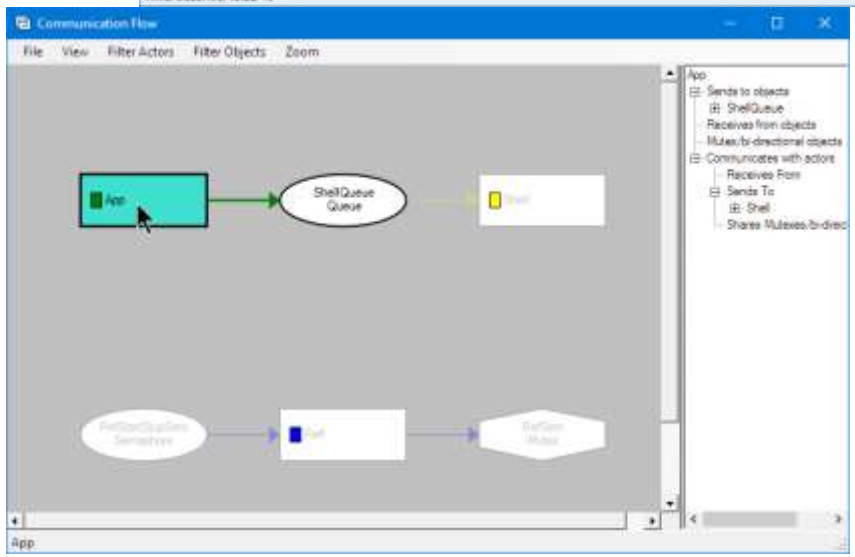


Tracealyzer Views

- Memory Heap Utilization (memory leaks)
- Communication Flow (usage of queues)
- Timeouts







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