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Debugging

VisUAL provides step-by-step debugging functionality as well as the ability to execute code to the end of the program.

Line highlighting modes

Depending on the execution status of a line, it will be highlighted differently.

Execution Status	Highlight colour
Normal	Yellow
Predicated true	Green
Predicated false	Red
Link register instruction	Purple
Branch destination	Grey

Breakpoints

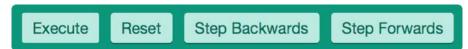
Breakpoints can be toggled on/off on any line by clicking the corresponding line number. To clear all breakpoints, right click in the line number area and select Clear All Breakpoints.

```
13 LSRS R4, R1, #16
14;-----;
15; stack visualisation
16 STMFD SP!, {R0-R5}

Clear all breakpoints #0
#0
#0
#0
#0
MOV R2, #0
20 MOV R3, #0
```

Stepping through code

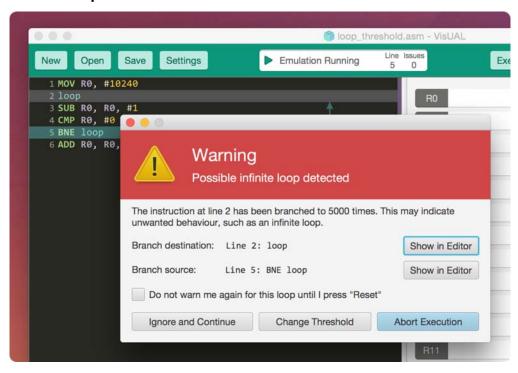
Debugging can be performed on a line-by-line basis using the debugging buttons in the main window toolbar and shown below.



Click on Step Forwards to execute he next line of code. The emualator will pause after that line of code has been executed. Click on Step Backwards to restore the program state the previous line of code. Execute will automatically step through all code until a breakpoint or the end of the file is reached.

To exit debug mode, press the Reset button. This resets the emulator and clears the register history values.

Infinite loop detection



If you accidentally write an infinite loop, or the number of loop iterations exceed <u>a specified threshold</u>, a warning message will be displayed. You have a number of options for how to proceed when you see this warning.

Option	Description
Do not warn	Warnings for this loop will be ignored until you press Reset
Ignore and Continue	Ignores this warning. The next warning will be shown when the threshold is hit again
Change Threshold	Shows a dialog to specify a new threshold to use. The warning window remains open
Abort Execution	Stops execution and resets the emulator
Show in Editor	Scrolls to the branch destination / source in the code editor. The warning window remains open