Lab 1: Hello World, Blinking LED

Getting used to the lab platform and development environment Farhang Nemati, March 2016

In this lab you will learn how to build and debug programs using Visual Studio and VisualGDB for Linux platforms (Raspbbery Pi in the lab). In the lab you will write a simple "Hello World" program and run it on the Raspberry Pi. You will also write a program that makes a LED to blink. Please read document "General Instructions" first!

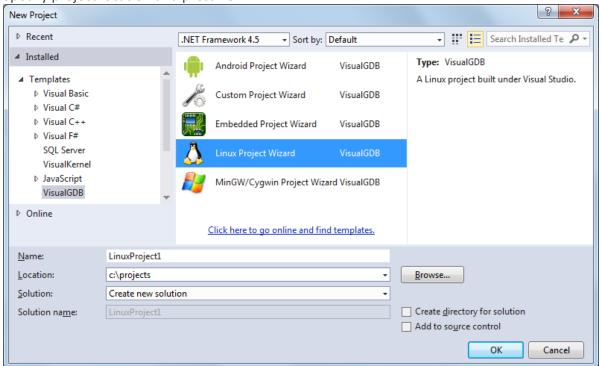
Connecting and Running the Raspberry Pi

Please be careful when working with the hardware; a failure in connecting and running the hardware may destroy it. Ask the lab assistant for help!

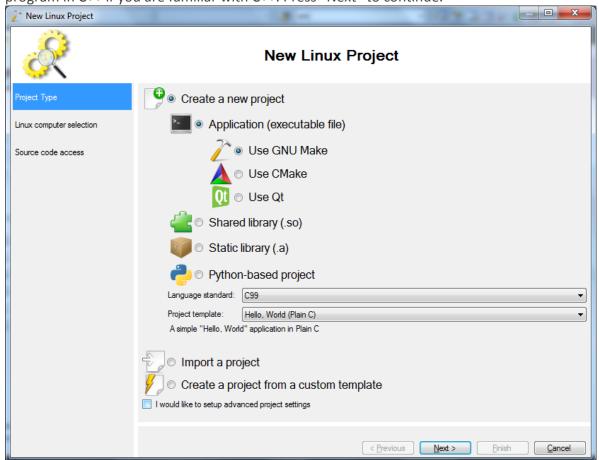
First of all you have to connect the Pi to network (e.g., using yellow network cables). Then connect the power supply adapter to the Pi and connect it to electricity. Wait until Pi is up and running. Please notice that VisualGDB is installed on only 15 computers in the lab. Make sure that you are working with a computer where VisualGDB has been installed on. Now follow the following steps to build the "Hello World!" program:

A. Create "Hello World!" Project

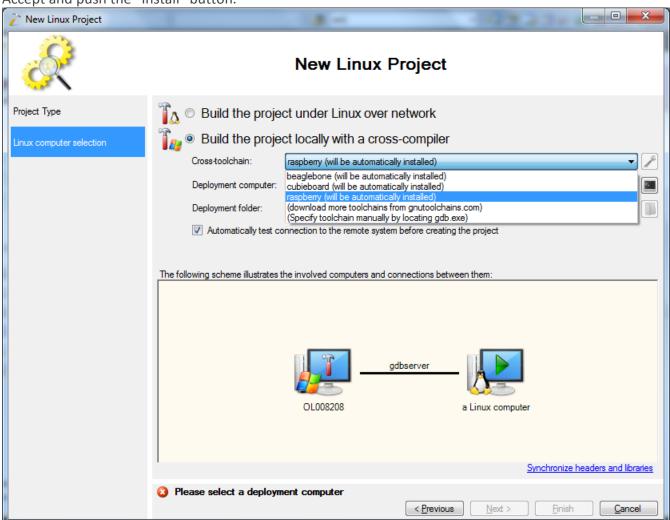
1. In Windows Visual Studio, select "File->New project". Then select "VisualGDB->Linux Project Wizard". Specify project location and press "OK".

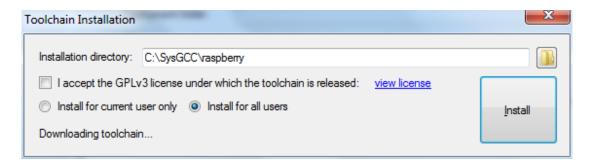


2. The VisualGDB Linux Project Wizard will start. As you are writing a simple "Hello World!" program, keep "Create a new project". Change "Project template" to "Hello, World (Plain C)". You can also write the program in C++ if you are familiar with C++. Press "Next" to continue.

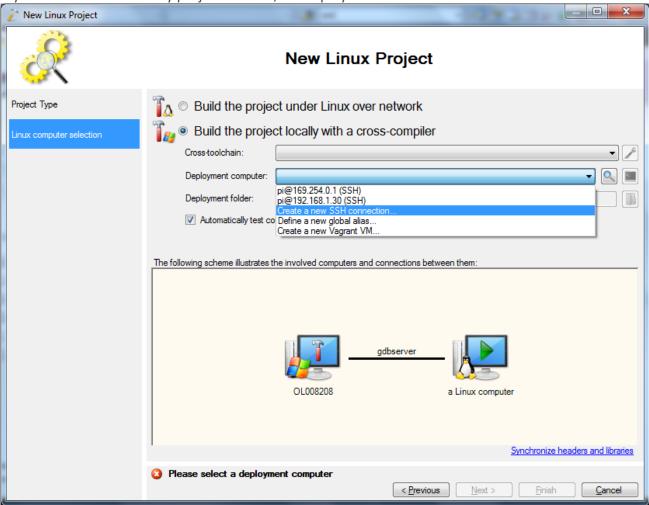


3. You can either use the native Linux on the Pi for compiling your project or compile it locally (using a cross-compiler that VisualGDB will install for you) on Window and deploy (in the folder specified in "Deployment folder") it on Pi. Here we focus on the latter option. Thus select "Build the project locally with a cross-compiler". In "Cross-toolchain" select "raspberry ...". VisualGDB then asks you to install the toolchain. Accept and push the "Install" button.

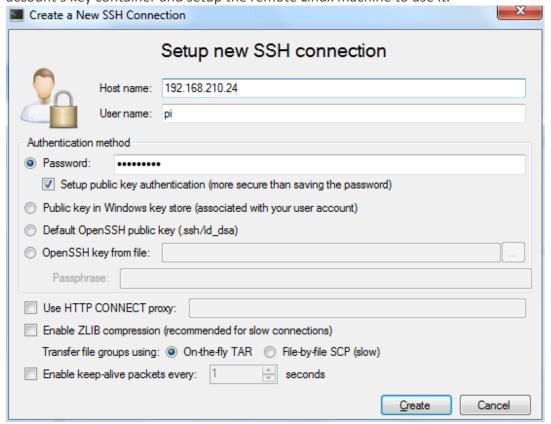




If you have not created any projects before, in "Deployment folder" select "Create a new SSH connection".

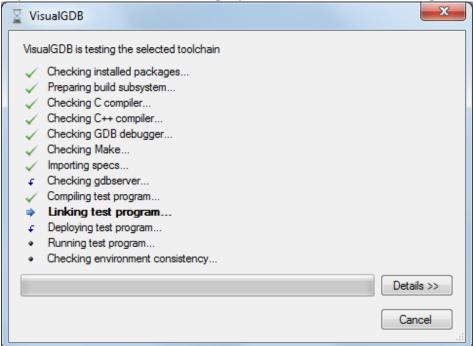


4. Provide the IP address of your Raspberry Pi; write **192.168.210.X** where **X** is written on the board. Enter "pi" as user name and "raspberry" as password. It is recommended to check the "setup public key" checkbox, so that VisualGDB will automatically generate a public/private key pair, store it in your Windows account's key container and setup the remote Linux machine to use it.

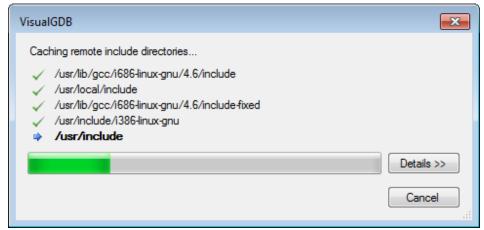


If you don't enable public key authentication, VisualGDB will remember your password for this connection. The stored passwords are encrypted using a key stored in your Windows account. Thus, the password will only be available once you login using your Windows account.

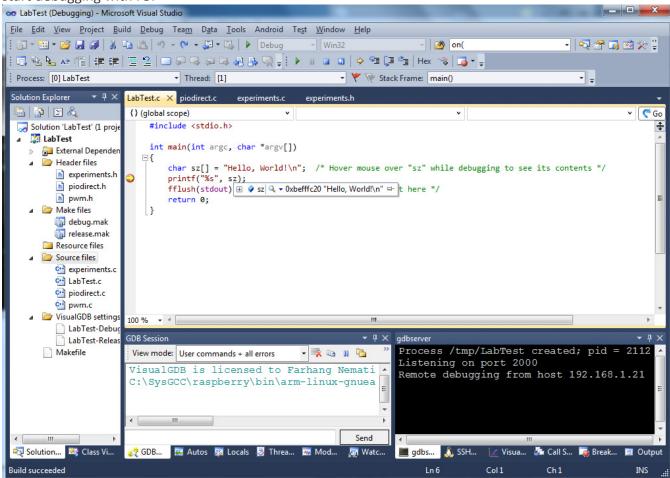
5. When you press "Next", VisualGDB will test your toolchain by trying to compile and run a trivial program. If any errors are detected at this stage, you will see a detailed error log with further information.



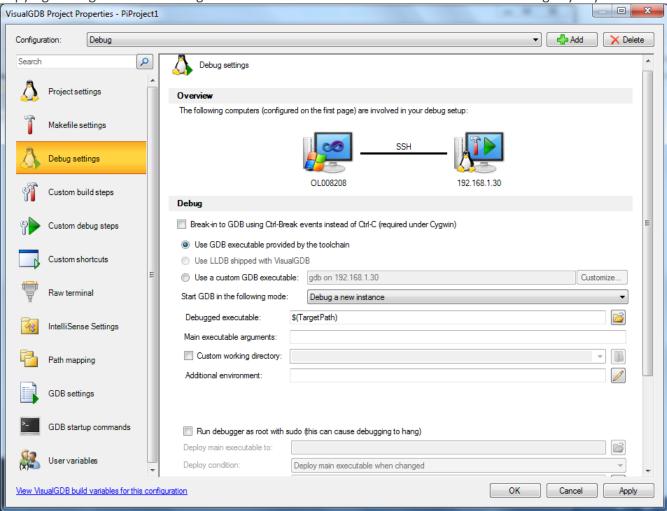
6. Press Finish to complete the wizard. If you are setting up your first project using this Raspberry Pi, VisualGDB will make local caches of the include directories to make them available through IntelliSense.



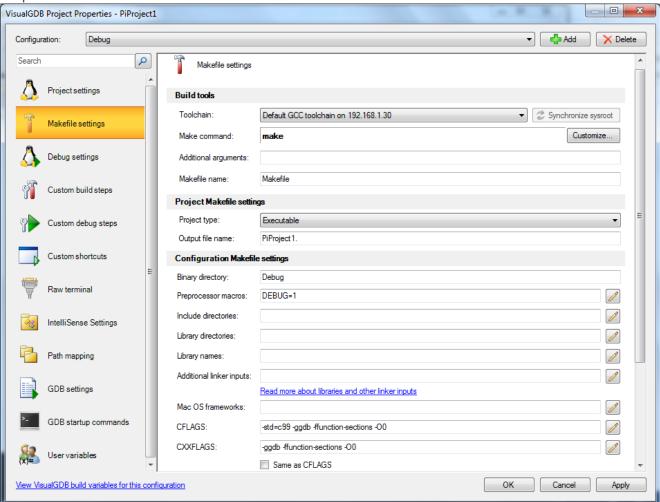
7. The project has been created. You can build your project now. Set a breakpoint on the "printf()" line and start debugging with F5.



8. You can always change various debugging settings by right-clicking at the project in Solution Explorer and selecting "VisualGDB Project Properties". The properties window allows changing various settings and also copying settings between configurations. Use the search field on the left to find settings by keywords:



9. VisualGDB uses GNU make to build your project. You can easily customize various GCC settings, such as additional include directories or compiler flags, on the Makefile Settings page of VisualGDB Project Properties:



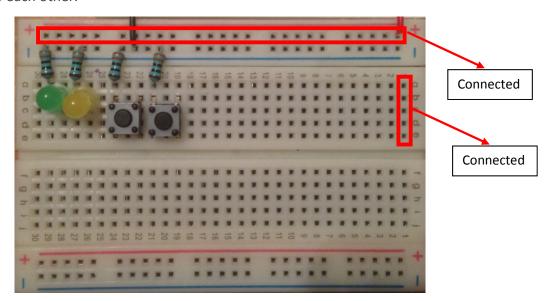
Once you click "Apply" or "OK", VisualGDB will automatically check the new settings and update IntelliSense configuration accordingly.

B. Blinking LED

In previous section you learned how to create a project and run/debug it on the Pi using Visual Studio and VisualGDB. Now you are going to write a program that makes a LED blink. The negative pin of the LED has to be connected to GDN and its positive pin has to be connected to a GPIO pin which will be set as "output" pin. To ease working with the Pi we have attached a breadboard next to it. The GND pins are connected to GND of Pi and the positive pins of the breadboard are connected to 3.3V pin on GPIO header of the Pi.

A breadboard makes it easy and convenient to connect devices to a Raspberry Pi. A Breadboard usually consists of 4 parts (called strips); 2 power supply strips on the sides (called Bus strips), and 2 parts in the middle (the main areas) to connect devices. A bus strip is used to supply power to electronic devices connected to the Pi. All pins along each positive column (red line) and negative column (blue line) are inter-

connected. On each of the middle parts the pins on each row are connected. However the 2 parts in middle are not connected to each other.

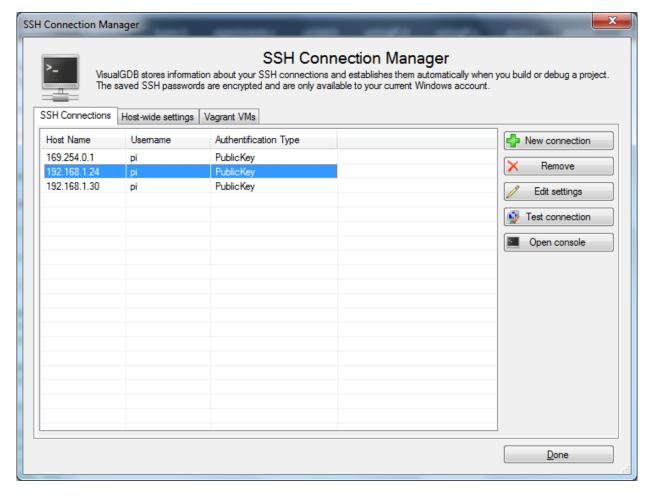


- 1. We have already installed 2 LEDs and 2 buttons (You will practice with the buttons in the next lab) on the breadboard next to the Pi. The negative pins of the LEDs are already connected to the GND. You need to connect the positive pin of a LED that you want to use in this lab to a GPIO pin (preferably connect it to a pin with a number as its name, e.g., 17). Use a Male-Male jump wire for the connection. Ask the lab assistant for helping to connect the LED if you are not sure how to do it. Please notice that failure in connecting and working with pins can destroy them.
- 2. Create a project like the one for "Hello World!" program.
- 3. Download *piodirect.h* and *piodirect.c* from Blackboard (at "Kursmaterial/Labs/Helper Code") and add them to your project.
- 4. In the program create an output GPIO pin with output option. Use the same pin name as parameter for the create function that you have connected to the LED to. For example if you have connected the LED to pin 17 you have to enter _17 as pin in function create(). When the output pin is high the LED will turn on and when it is low it will turn off.
- The program has to execute in following sequence 10 times:
 Turns on the LED, waits for 1 second, turns it off, wait for 1 second.
 Hint: use function sleep(sec) to delay for sec seconds.
- 6. Don't forget to call function destroy() on the pin before exiting the program.

Running the Program

To run the Blinking LED program on the Pi, you have to first connect to the Pi by opening a terminal. Perform the following steps:

- 1. In Visual Studio select "Tools->SSH Host Manager".
- 2. In the opened window select the host name of the Pi you are working with (for example 192.168.210.12).



- 3. Push the "Open console" button.
- 4. Change to the folder that your program is deployed in (the default is /tmp if you didn't change it).
- 5. To access GPIOs the program has to run as root (use *sudo*). Assuming that you have given name "IOPrj" to your project, in the folder use the following command:

pi@navio-rpi /tmp \$ sudo ./IOPrj

Examination

To pass the lab hand in your code (only in Blackboard!) and demonstrate the program for the lab assistant in one of the lab sessions. The lab assistant may ask you questions related to lab task.