



Malaga University
Electronic Technology Department



ETS Telecommunications Engineering

Bachelor's Degree in Telecommunications Systems Engineering

microcontrollers

Course 2022/2023

Practice 1: CCS Tutorial

(v2)

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document describes **Practice 1** of the course, which presents the *Code Composer Studio* (CCS) development environment used in it for the implementation of applications based on microcontrollers.

The *Code Composer Studio* development environment has been created by *Texas Instruments*, the manufacturer of the MSP430G2533 microcontroller used in the course, and can be downloaded directly from their Web:

<https://www.ti.com/tool/CCSTUDIO>

Although you can download the latest version of the development environment available, it is recommended for compatibility to use the same one that is installed in the laboratory (11.1.0.00011 of December 21, 2021), which can be obtained from the Texas Instruments website itself . :

https://software-dl.ti.com/ccs/esd/CCSv11/CCS_11_1_0/exports/CCS11.1.0.00011_win64.zip

It is also recommended to use the *offline* version of the installer, and during the installation process select only the *MSP430 ultra-low power MCUs* option to reduce the size of the installation.

To work in the laboratory, the directory “D:\USR\luC\Gxx”¹ will be used for the , where you have to replace “Gxx” degree in which the subject is studied (GTT, GST, GSE, GSI, GTm). The workspace, projects and source code files of the different practices implemented in the subject will be stored in this directory. To make a backup copy² of the work carried out in the laboratory, it is enough to copy said directory.

Finally, it is important to note that this tutorial is intended to be a simplified guide to using the *Code Composer Studio* development environment available in the laboratory, so depending on the version installed, some options and menus may differ slightly from those here described.

In addition, as it is a simplified guide, it does not intend to describe all the options available in the Code Composer Studio development environment , but only those essential options to start developing applications based on the microcontroller used in the course.

¹ If the directory does not exist, it must be created.

² **VERY IMPORTANT:** The laboratory is a space shared by numerous students from different subjects and degrees, so the files stored on each computer can be modified and/or deleted at any time. It is therefore recommended to copy the work done in each session to be able to restore it in the next session.

2. CODE COMPOSER STUDIO

The *Code Composer Studio* (CCS) tool constitutes an Integrated Development Environment or IDE (*Integrated Development Environment*), which is an application that incorporates all the necessary tools to centrally carry out the complete flow of *software* development of any application based on microcontrollers (editing, compiling, executing, debugging...).



These tools are distributed in two basic components:

- **Editor:** allows you to edit and compile source code.
- **Debugger:** Allows you to run and debug executable code.

Each of these components has its own graphical interface (menus, toolbars...), and you can switch between one and the other at any time³.

Code Composer Studio is hierarchically structured into **workspaces** and **projects**:

- **Workspaces**

Workspaces group all the projects related to each other in the implementation of a certain application. You can have as many workspaces as you want, but you can only work with one of them at a time.

A workspace can contain as many projects as you want, but you can only work with one of them at a time, which is called the active project⁴. All the operations that are carried out (assembly/compilation, linking, debugging...) are carried out on the active project⁵.

- **Projects**

The projects group all the files (both the code files and other types of files necessary to assemble/compile and link the project) that are used together to implement a certain application, which will be assembled/compiled and linked together to create a program. executable.

³ To be able to access the debugger it is necessary to have compiled code.

⁴ The active project is recognized by its name appearing in bold in the project browser together with the label "Active".

⁵ The active project in the workspace can be changed by selecting the desired project in the project explorer.

Each project has its own configuration options, among which are, for example, the type of microcontroller for which the code is developed or the programming language used (assembler or C).

Thus, an appropriate structure for working on the subject consists of declaring a single workspace⁶ (for example, “uC”), and within it, creating a project for each of the practices developed in the subject (for example, “p2.1”, “p2.2”, “p3.1”...).

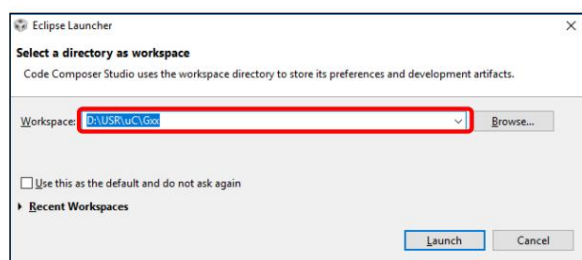
⁶ This philosophy also allows you to quickly make copies of all the work done, since all the information used by *Code Composer Studio* is stored in the directory associated with the workspace. Thus, by copying said directory you can make a backup copy of all the projects, configurations, files... developed.

3. PUBLISHER

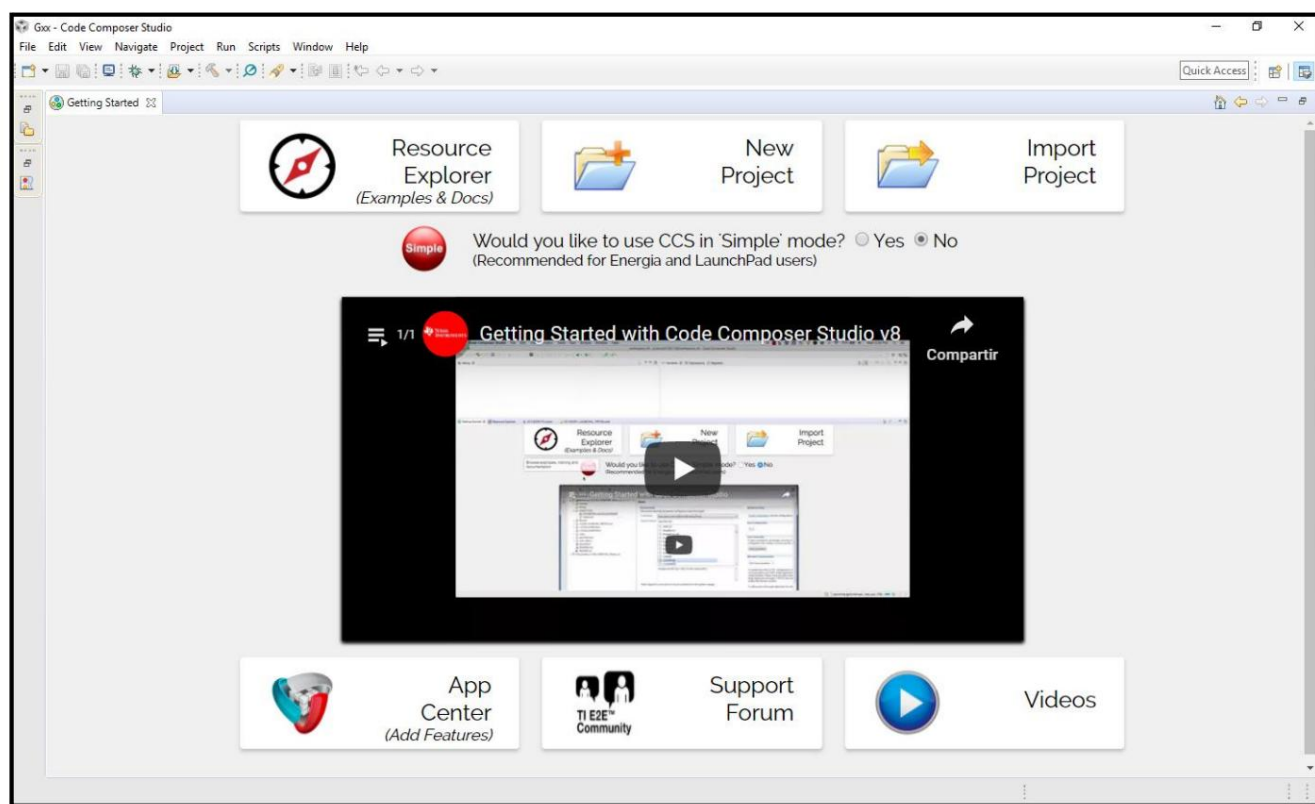
The first step in implementing microcontroller-based applications is to edit the corresponding source code. For this, the *Code Composer Studio* editor is used, following the steps indicated below.

3.1. initialization

When running *Code Composer Studio* it requests the directory⁷ where the workspace is to be located.

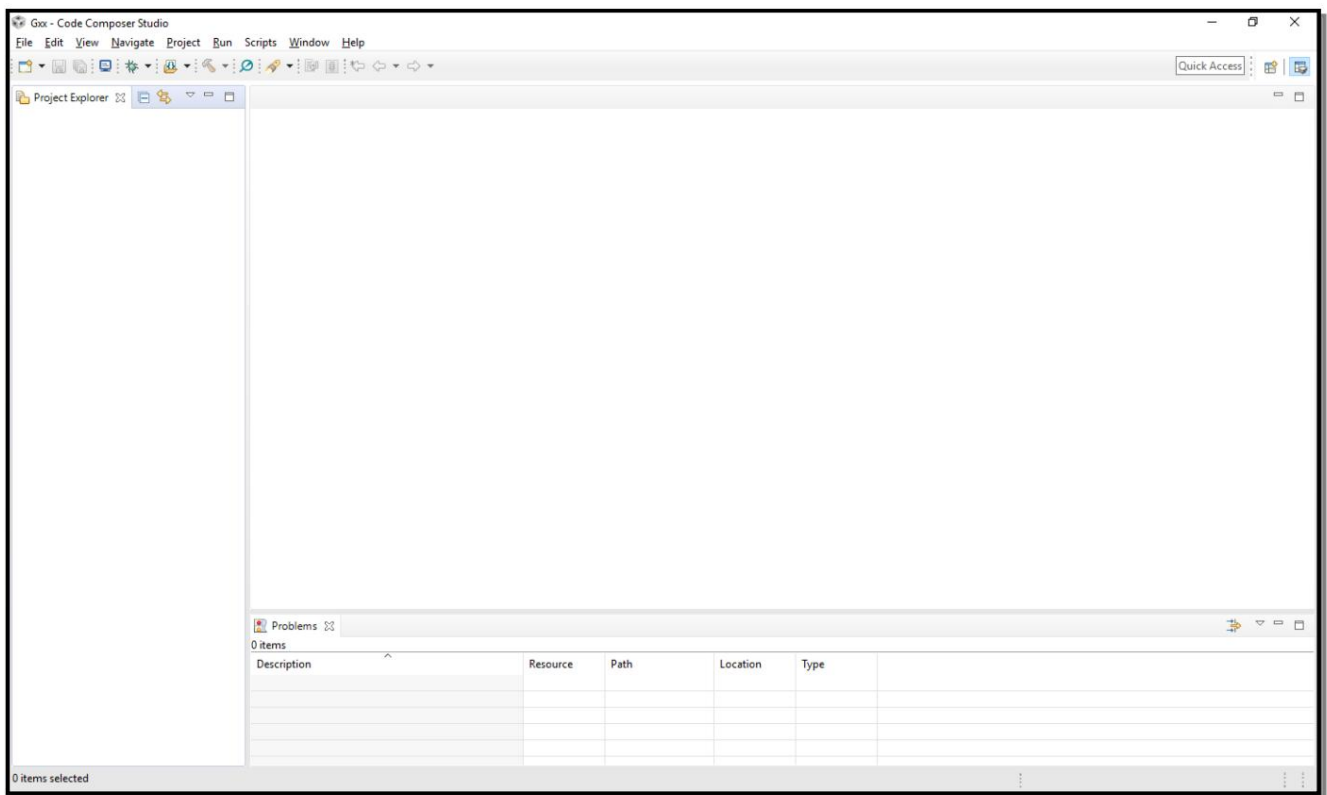


After selecting the directory, the main editor window opens, which initially shows a welcome screen.



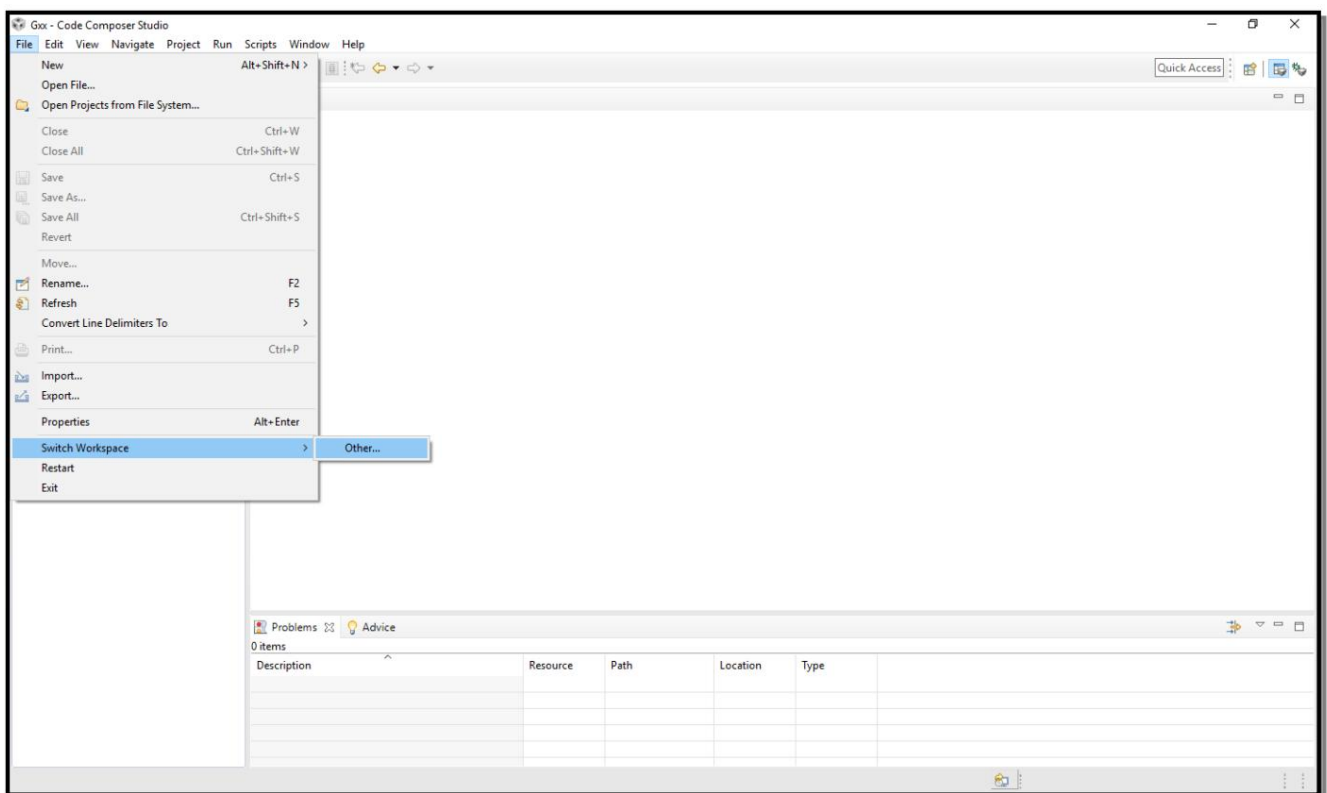
⁷ As described in the introduction, the directory "**D:\USR\uC\Gxx**" **will be used**, where "Gxx" must be replaced by the degree in which the subject is studied (GTT, GST, GSE, GSI, GTm).

Once the welcome screen is closed, the editor is shown with its main work windows (project explorer, code editor and problems).



At any time you can switch to another workspace to work in with the option:

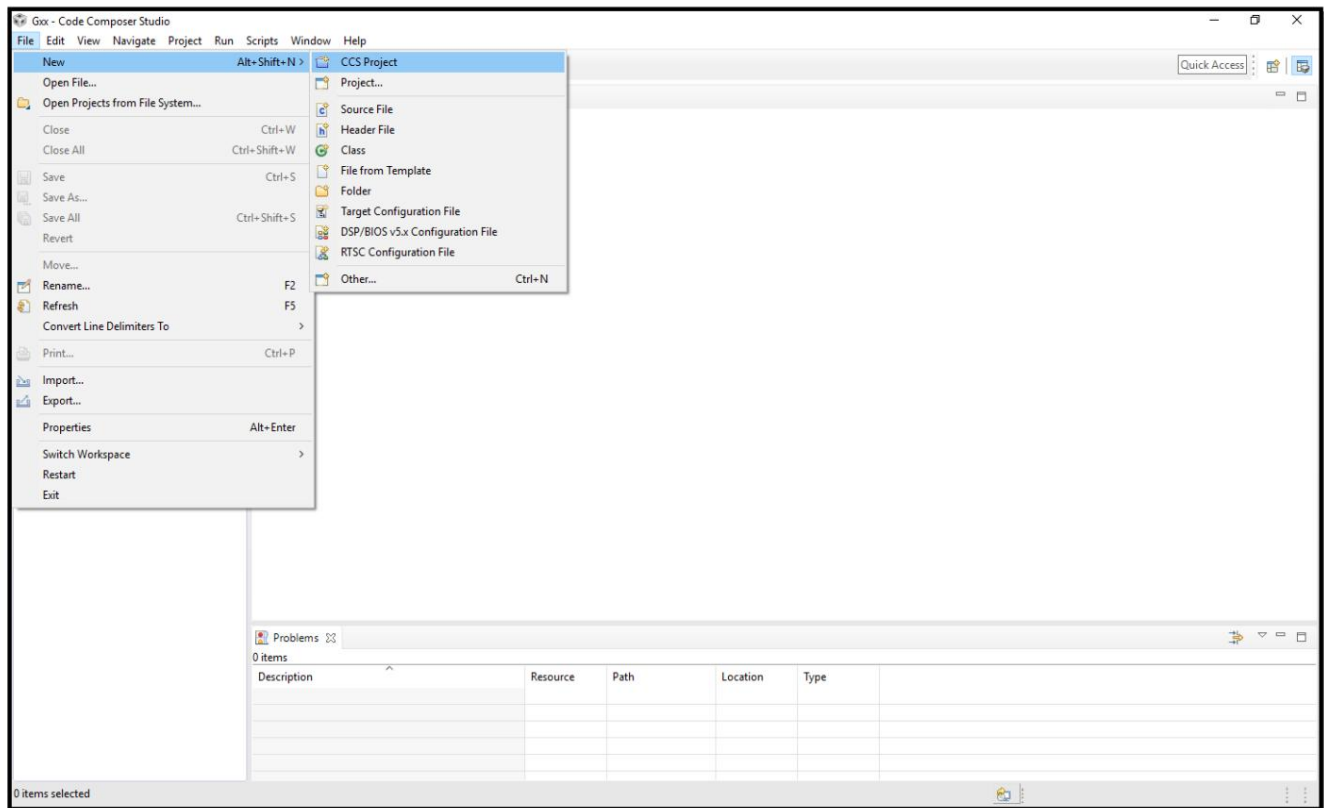
– **File** > **Switch Workspace** > **Other...**



3.2. Project creation and configuration

To start editing the source code, it is first necessary to create and configure a project in which to locate said source code, so that it can be correctly compiled. To do this, you must choose the option:

– File › New › CCS Project

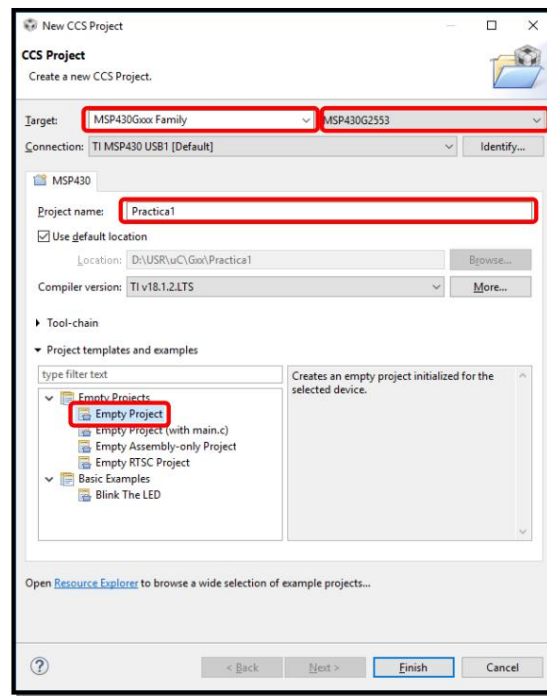


and select the following options to configure the project:

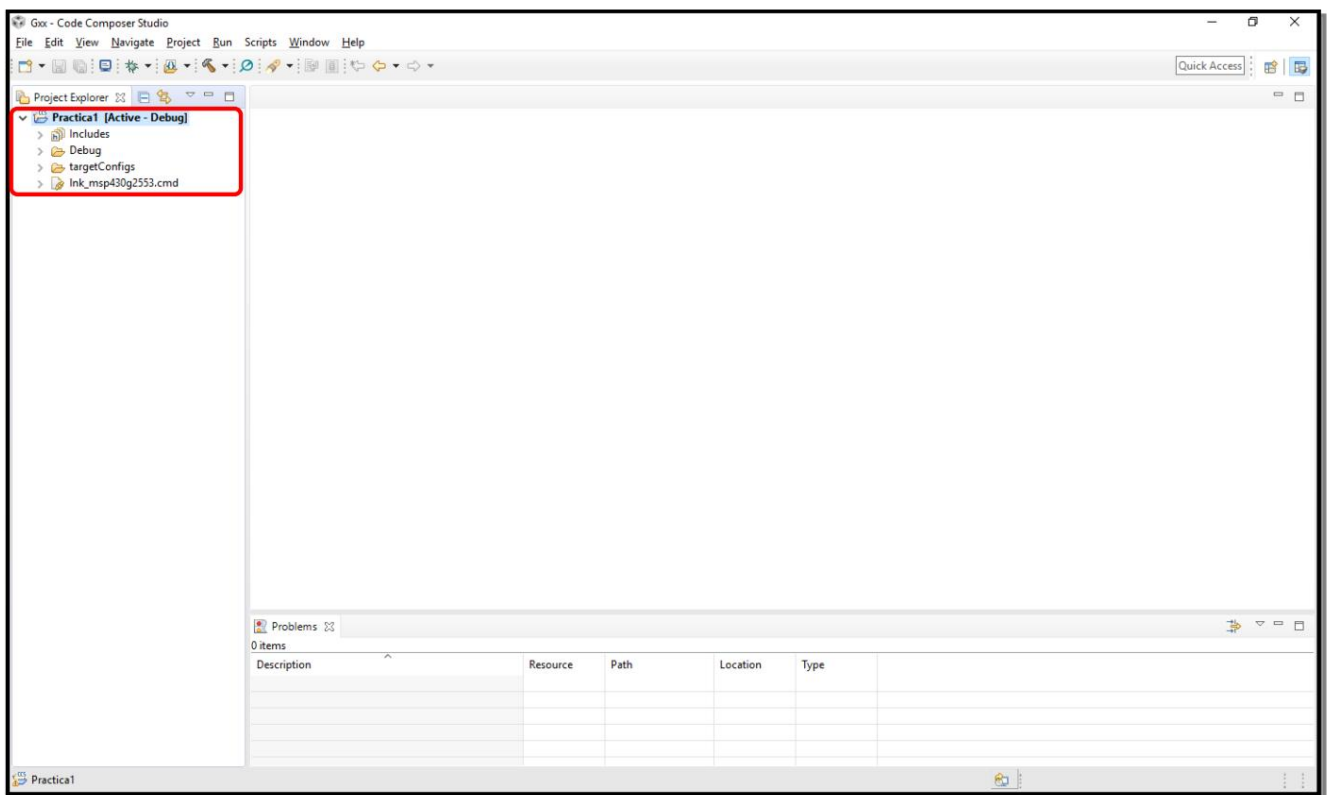
– **Target: MSP430Gxxx Family › MSP430G2553**

– **Project Name: Practice1**

– **Project Template: Empty Project**



Once created and configured the project will appear in the project explorer.



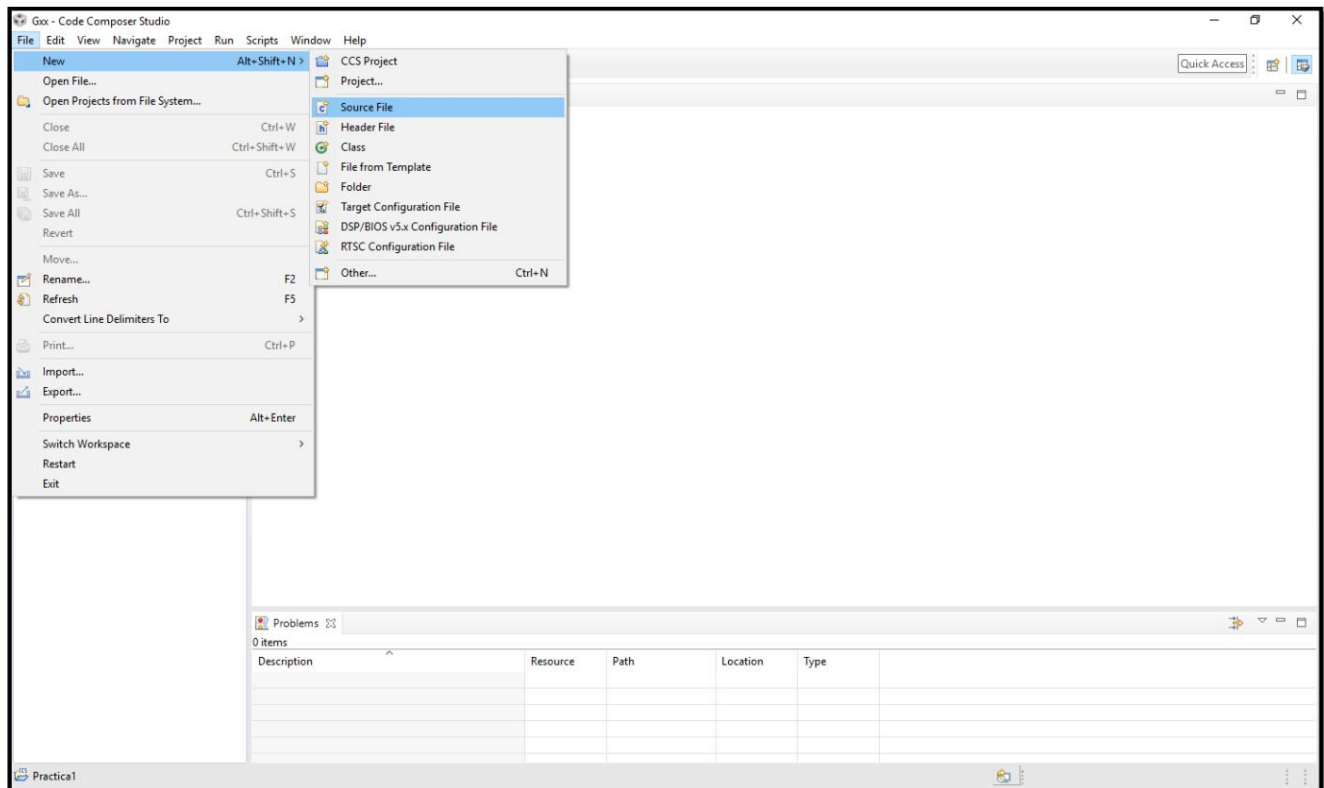
3.3. Editing the source code

After creating and configuring the project, you have to edit the source code to be developed. There are two options for carry out this task:

3.3.1. new file

If you want to create the source code from the beginning in a new file, you must select the option:

– **File → New → Source File**

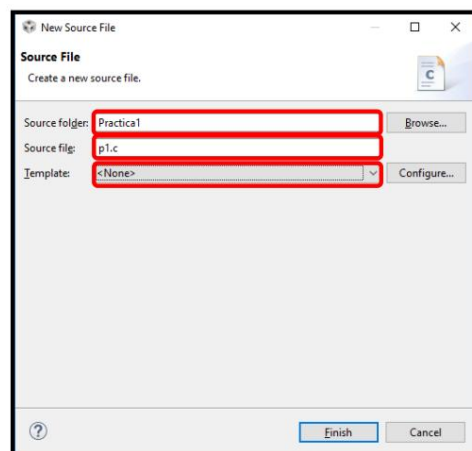


and select the following options to create the file:

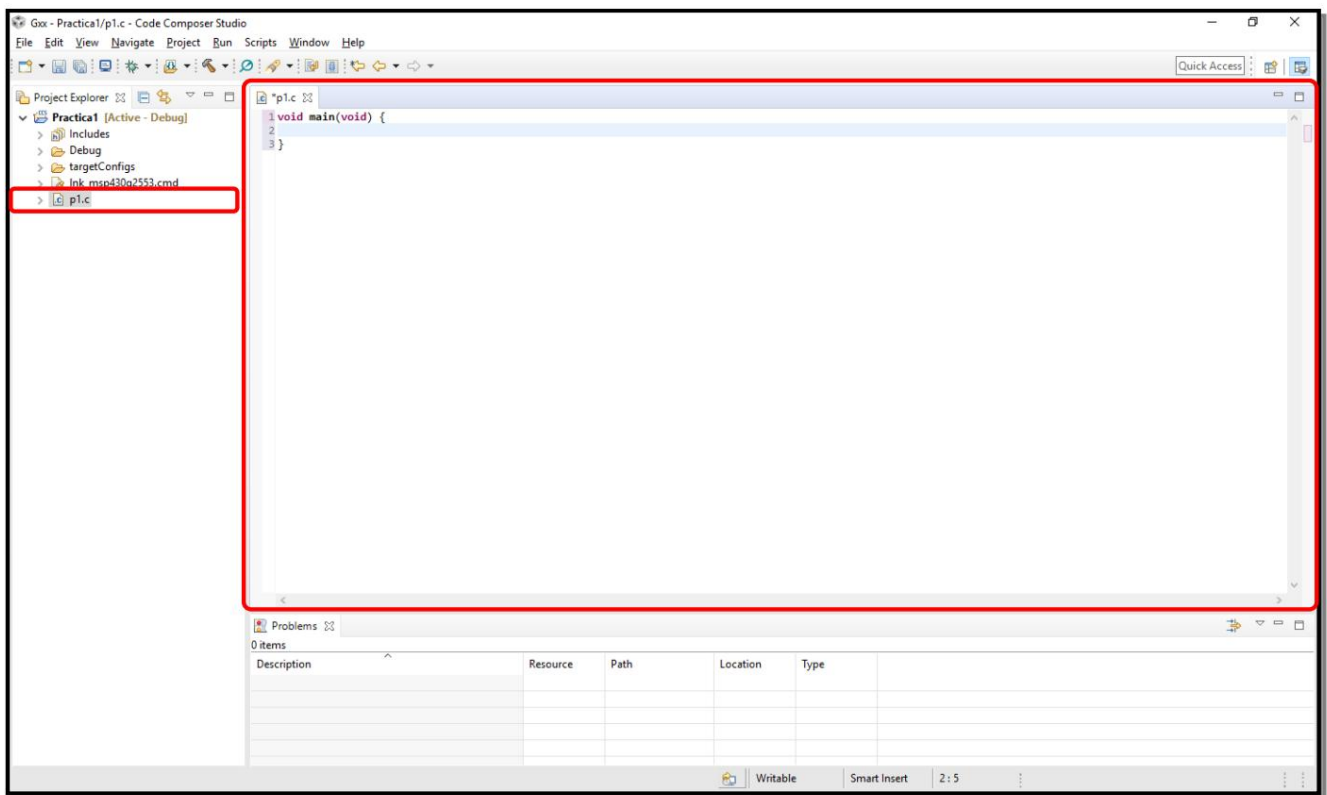
– **Source folder: Practice1**

– **Source file: p1.c**

– **Template: None**



Once the file has been created, it appears both in the project explorer and in the editor, making it possible to start editing it:

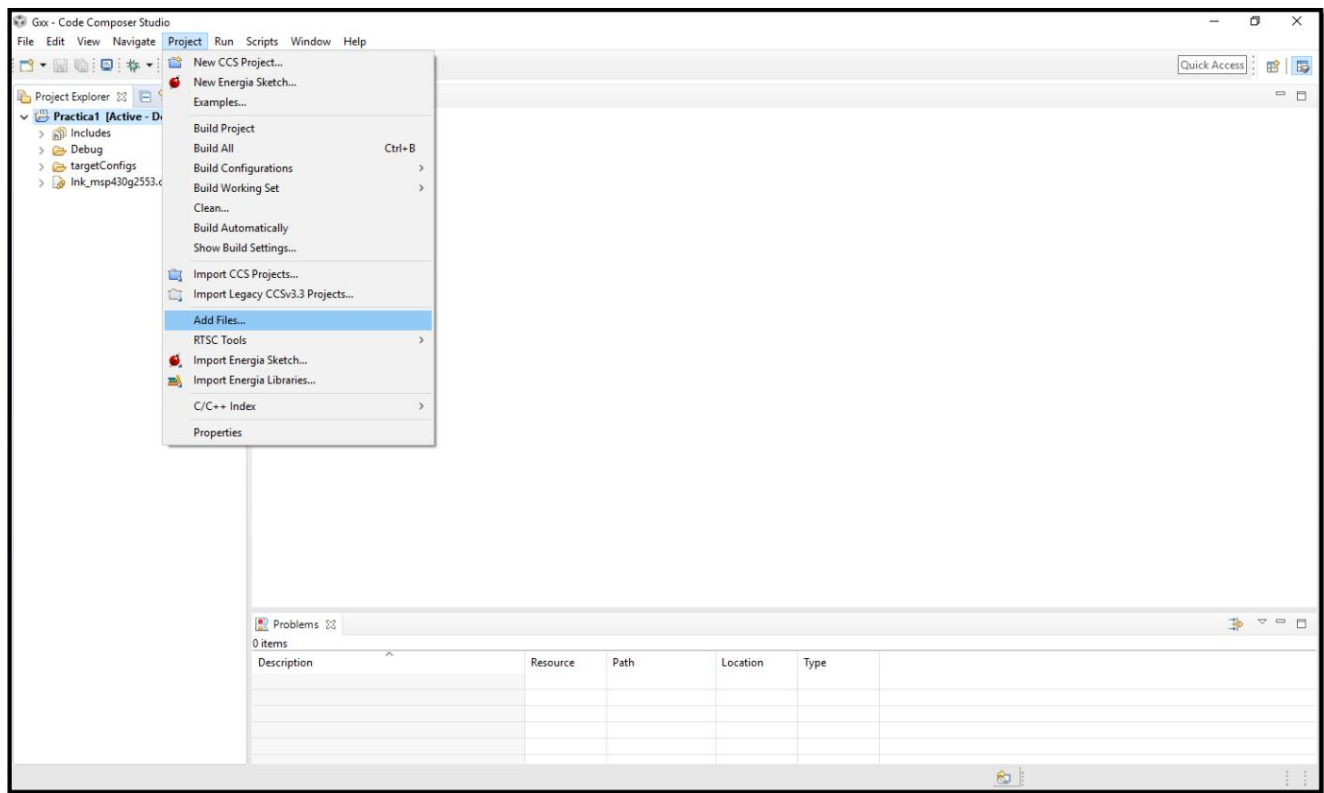


3.3.2. existing file

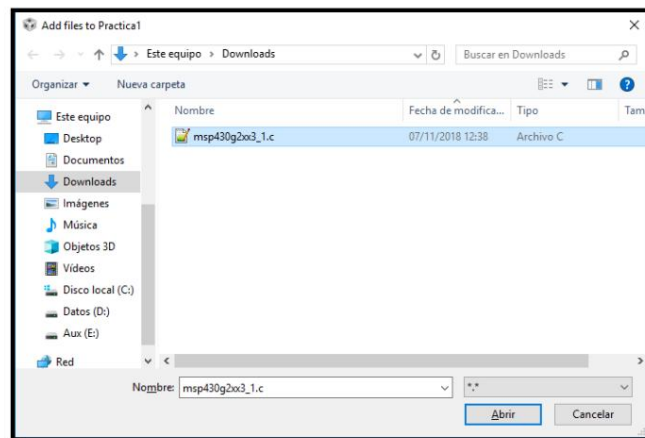
If you want to use an existing source code file⁸ you simply have to incorporate it into the project using the option:

–Project > Add Files...

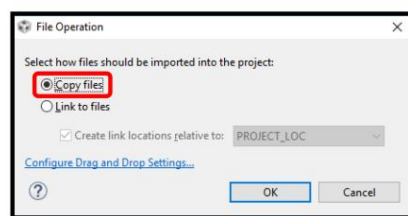
⁸ In order to show the complete code editing and debugging process of the *Code Composer Studio* development environment, the file "msp430g2xx3_1.c" will be used as source code, which corresponds to one of the examples of use of the microcontroller provided by *Texas Instruments*. Both the examples of use and the file "msp430g2xx3_1.c" are available on the Virtual Campus of the subject.



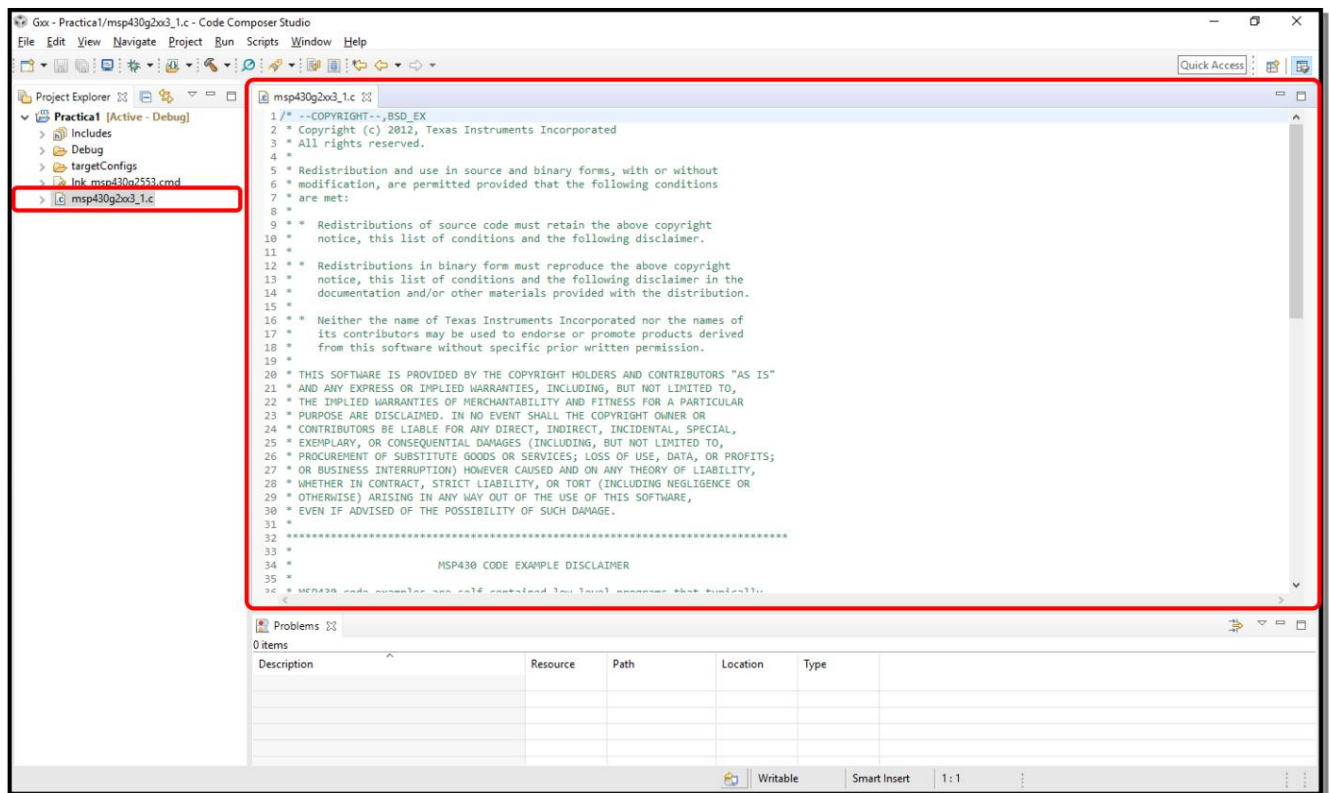
and select the file that you want to include in the project:

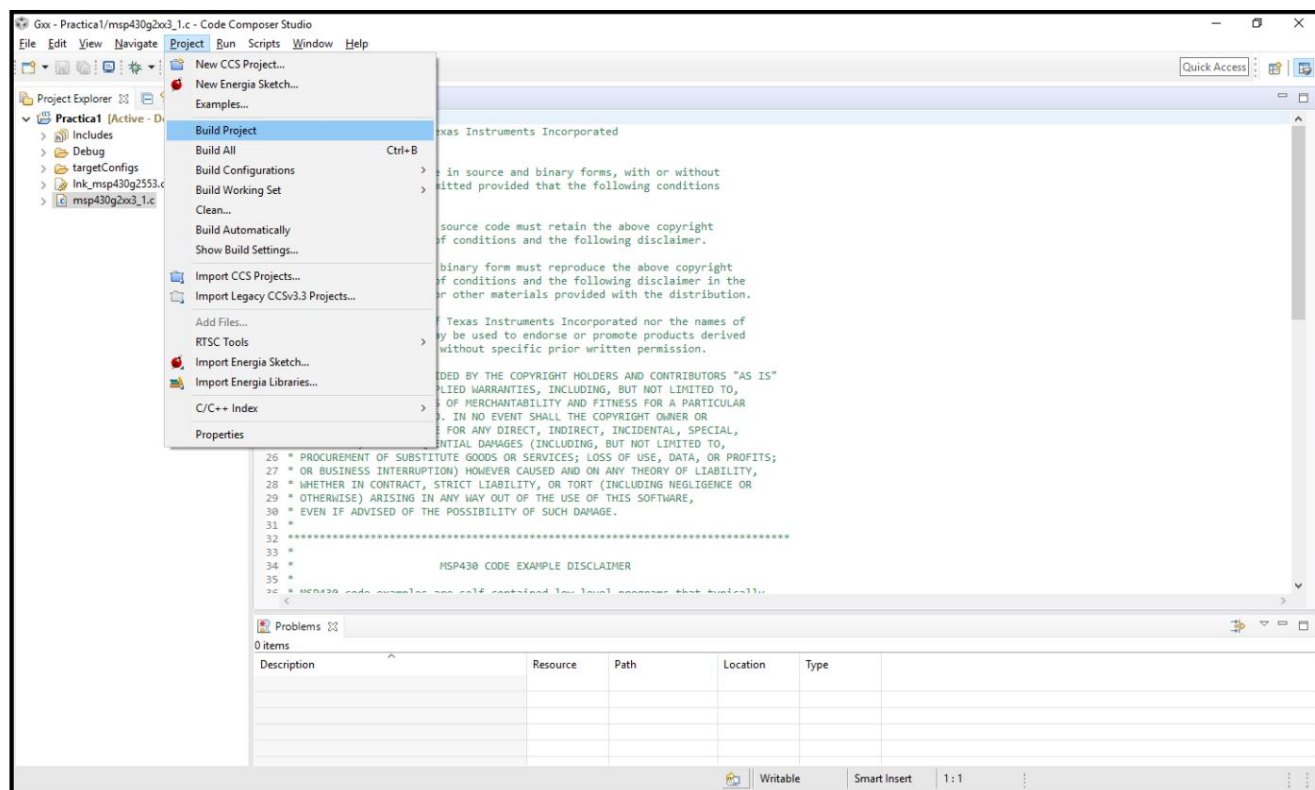


indicating to copy the file into the workspace:

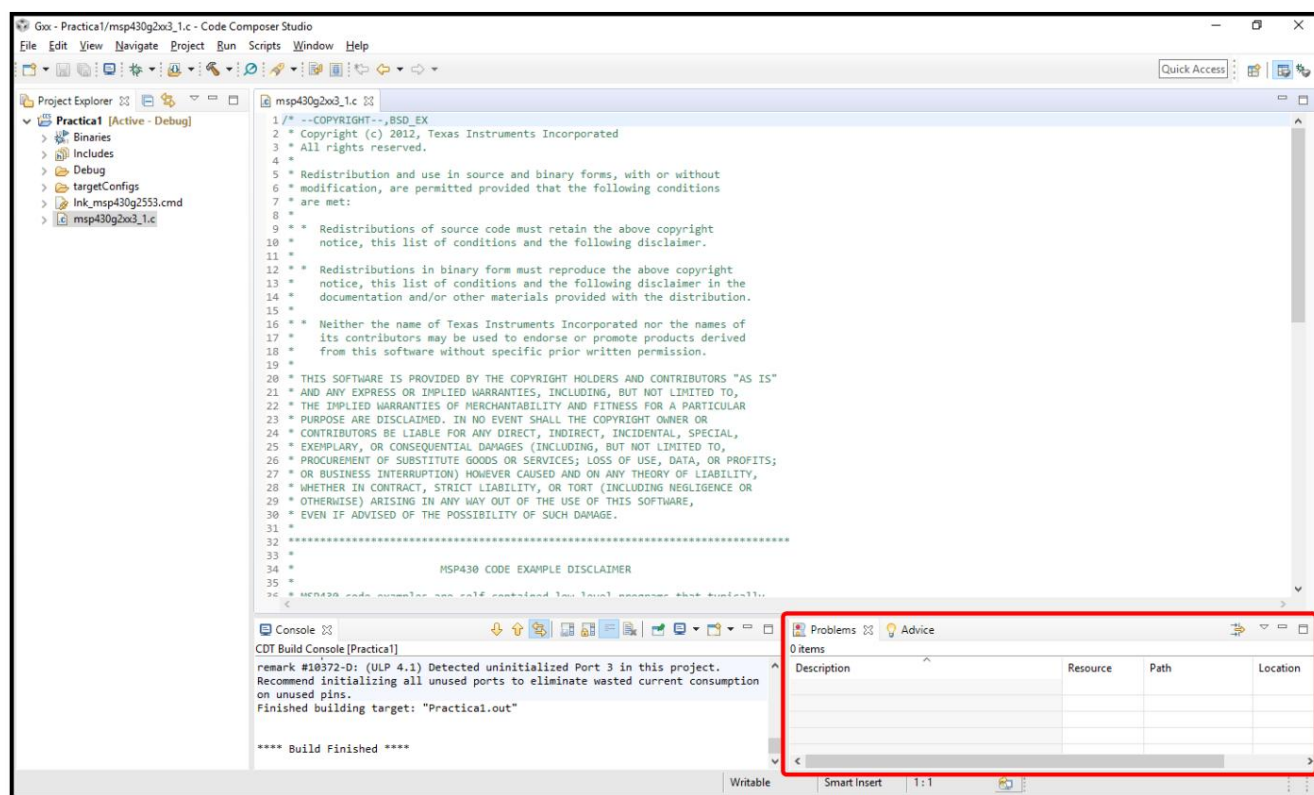


After carrying out this process, the file appears in the project explorer, and double- *clicking* on it opens it in the editor:





If there are no errors in the source code, the compilation process is carried out, generating the corresponding executable code. If there are errors in the source code they are shown in the problems window.



4. DEBUGGER

Once the executable code has been generated, its operation can be analyzed using the *Code Composer Studio debugger*, following the steps indicated below¹⁰.

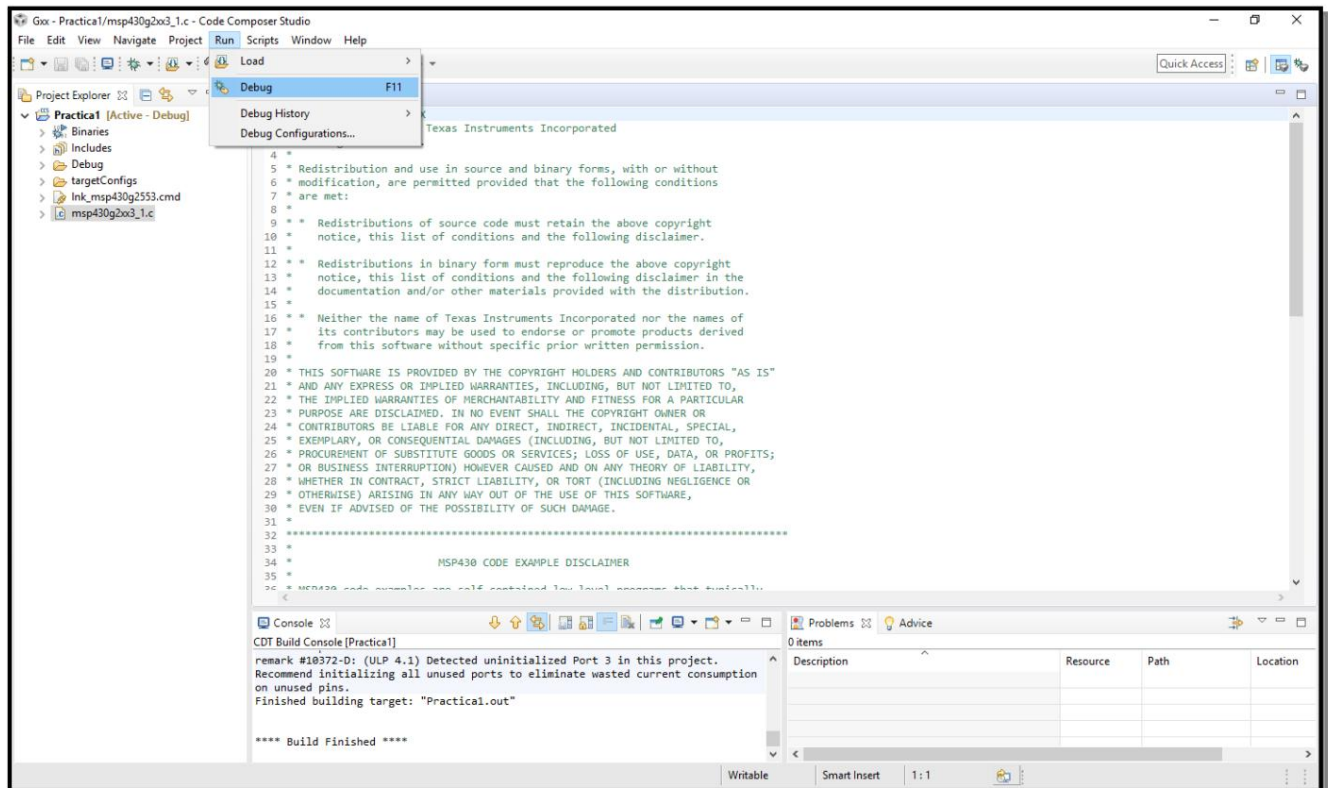
VERY IMPORTANT: *Code Composer Studio* has a bug reported by *Texas Instruments* in code debugging, which causes a crash during debugging when the code uses interrupts (erroneously disables the GIE bit of the SR register under certain circumstances, so interrupts They stop working). To prevent this error from affecting code debugging, the following rules must be followed:

1. Only use **a breakpoint when debugging code**. If it is necessary to use several breakpoints, the breakpoint must be deactivated and activated throughout the code, guaranteeing that a single breakpoint is always maintained.
2. **Do not use functions** in the code (except for the RTIs, which can be used without problem).

4.1. initialization

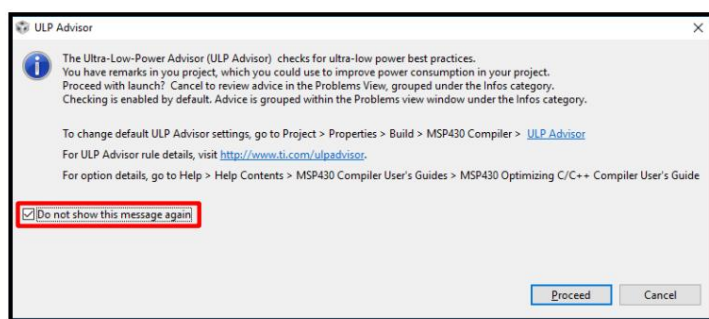
To open the debugger you have to choose the option:

-Run > Debug 

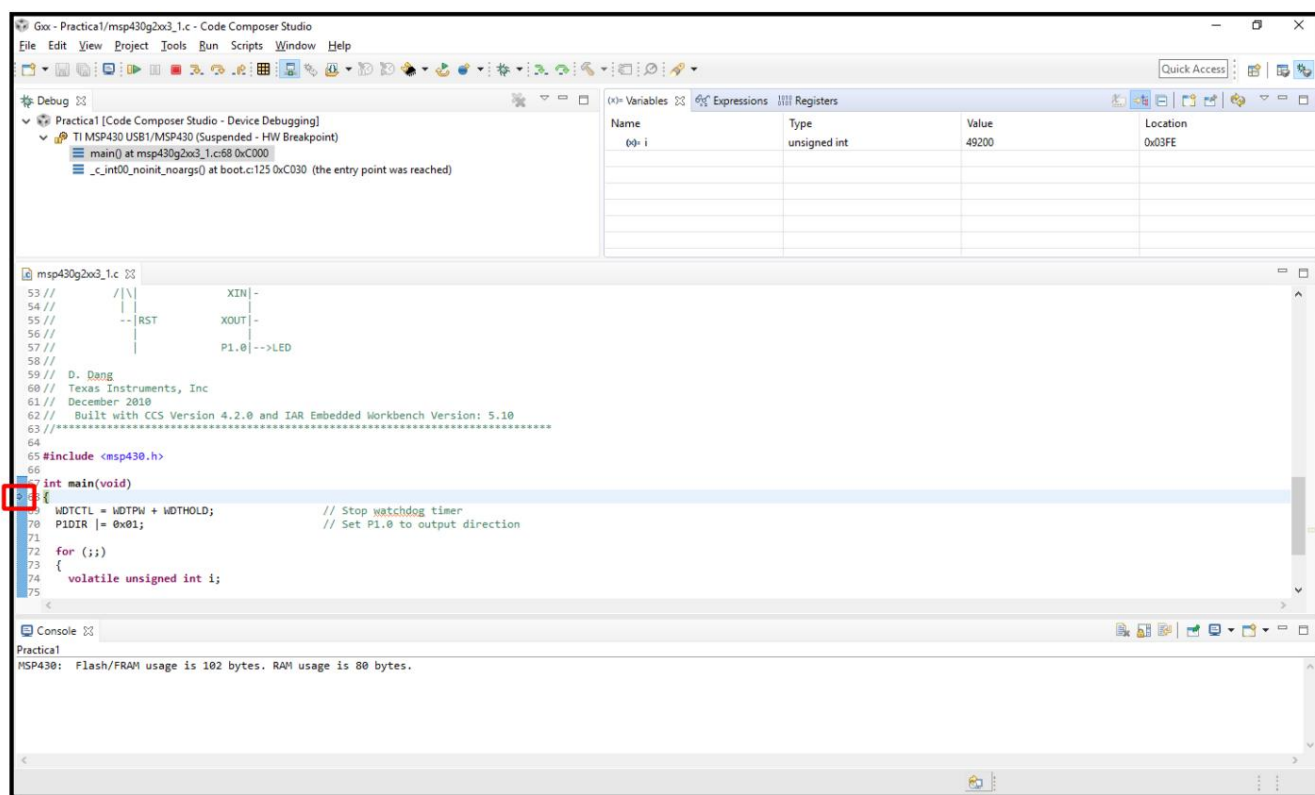


¹⁰ To start debugging it is necessary to transfer the executable code to the microcontroller, so you have to connect the Development Kit to the PC before you can continue.

An informative message may then appear reminding you that there are consumption optimizations pending analysis (*ULP Advisor*). You can ignore these optimizations and check the option not to show again:



Finally, the executable code is transferred to the microcontroller, starting debugging. During the debugging process, the code statement to be executed next is always displayed, identified by the symbol



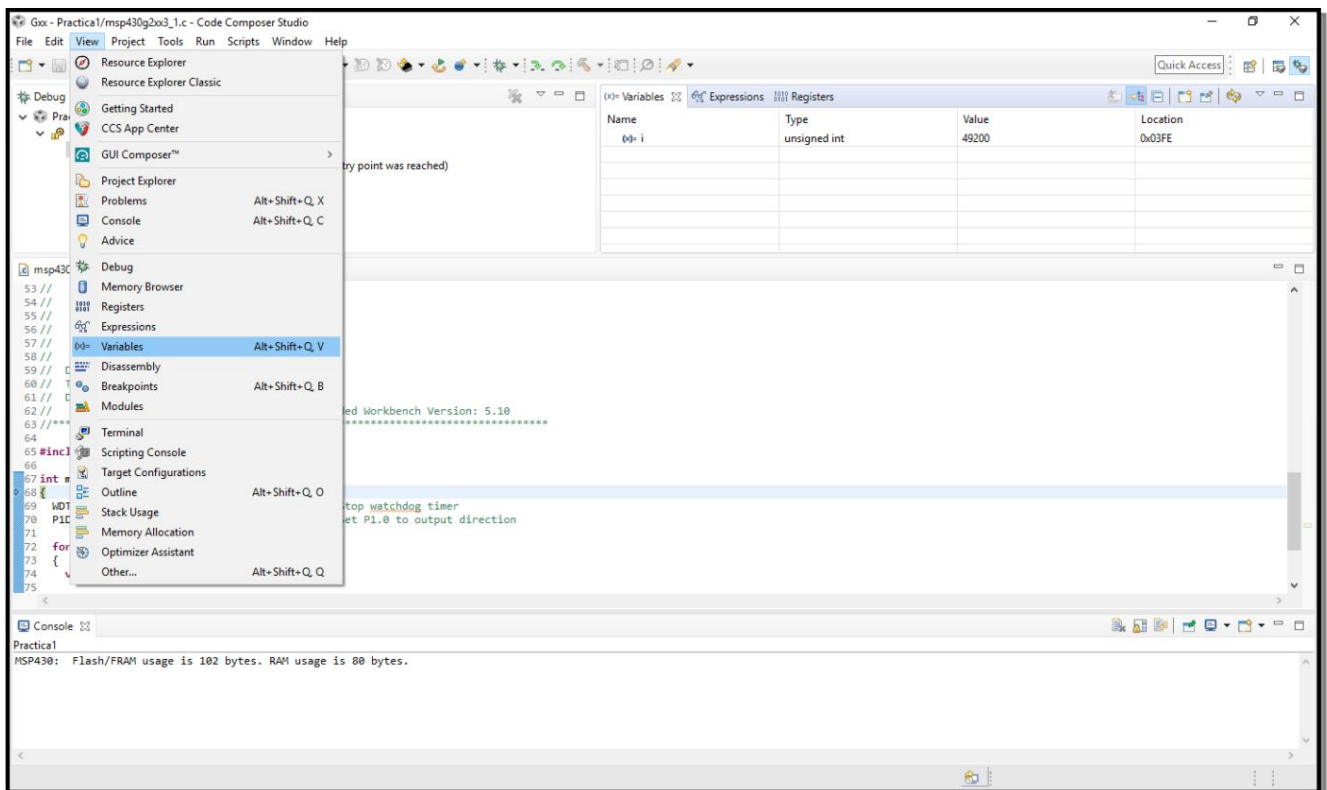
4.2. Visualización

From the debugger it is possible to view any microcontroller resource (code, variables, peripherals, memory...) at any time. The main visualization tools are described below.

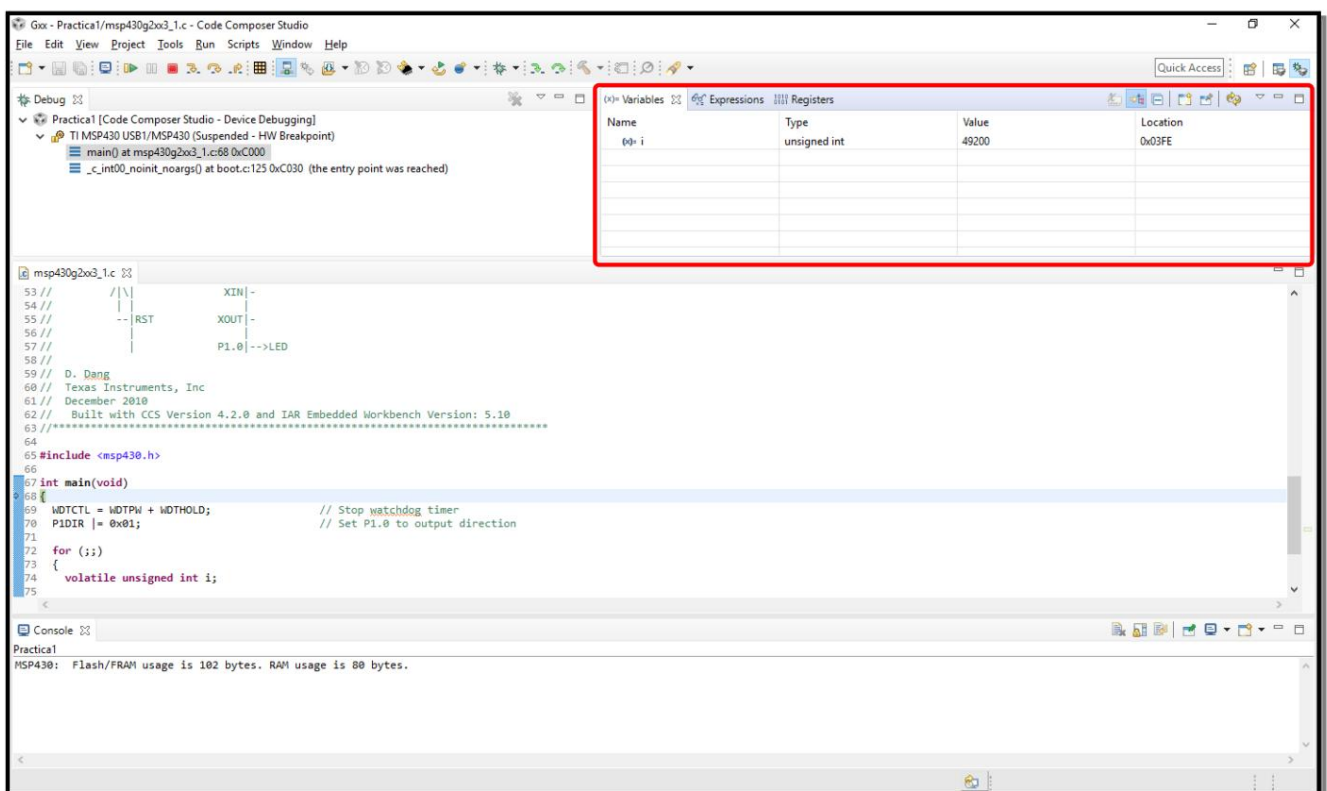
4.2.1. variables

The variables window allows you to control the variables of the code. To show the variables window it may be necessary to enable it with the option:

– View **Variables**



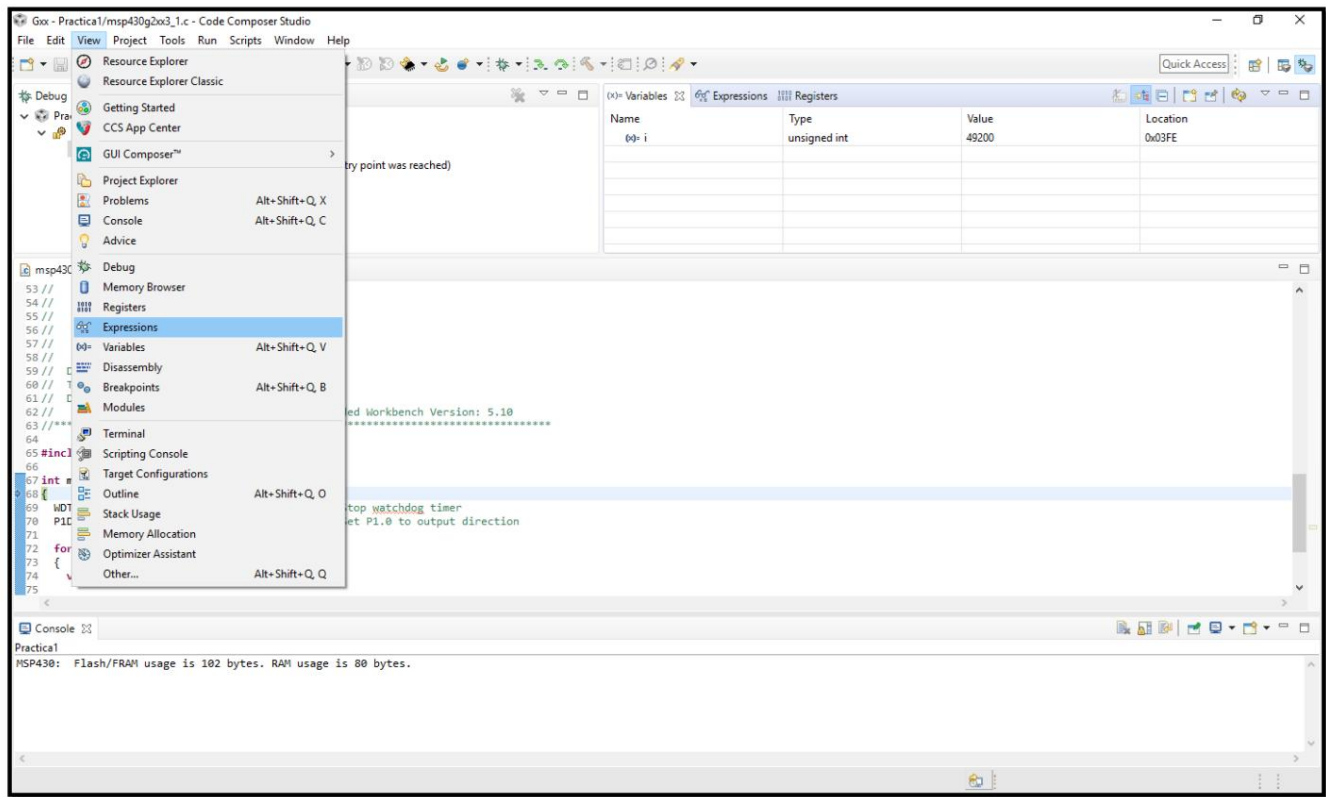
Once the variables window is displayed, the different variables existing in the code are presented.



— In the variables window, only the variables local to the function being executed are represented, which in this case is the function "main" that has the variable "i" defined.

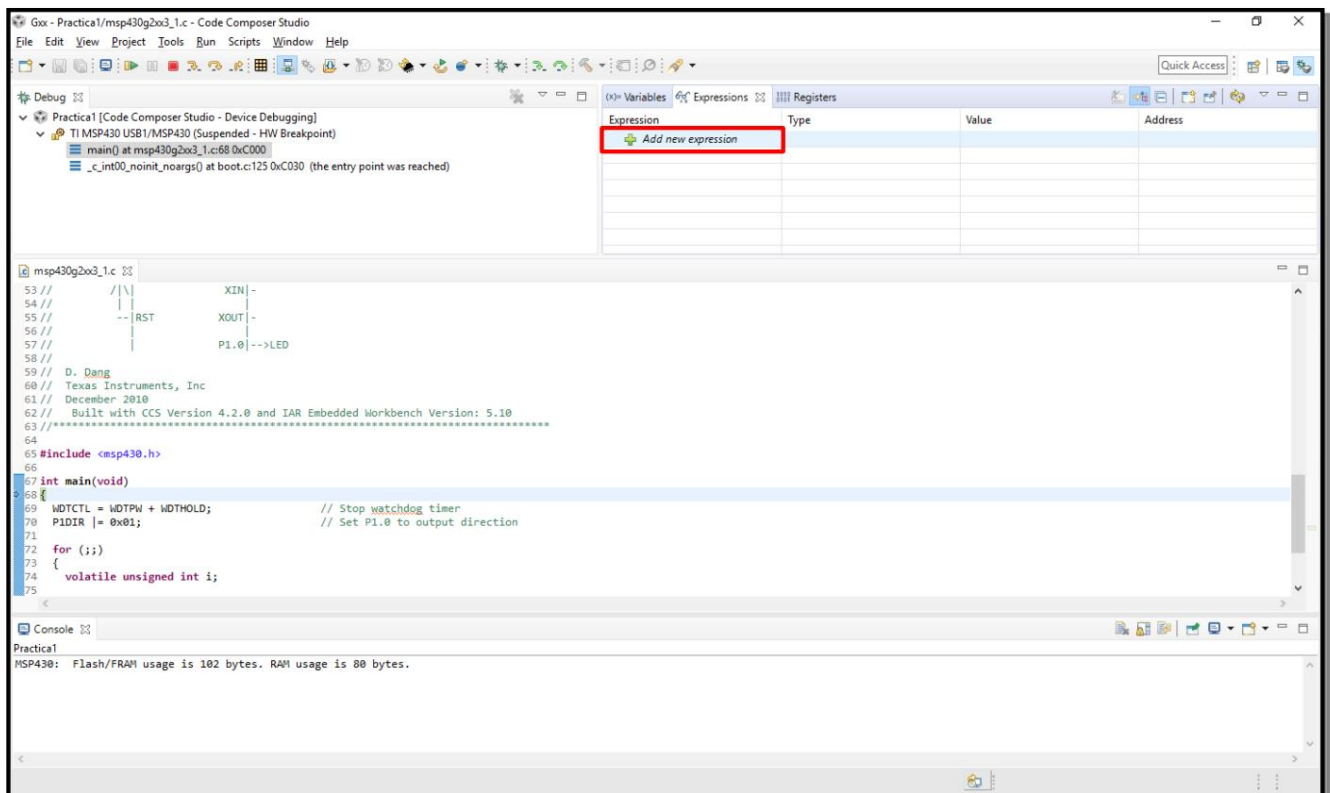
If you want to inspect any other variable not shown¹² in the variables window, you must use the expressions window. To show the expressions window it may be necessary to enable it with the option:

-View > Expressions

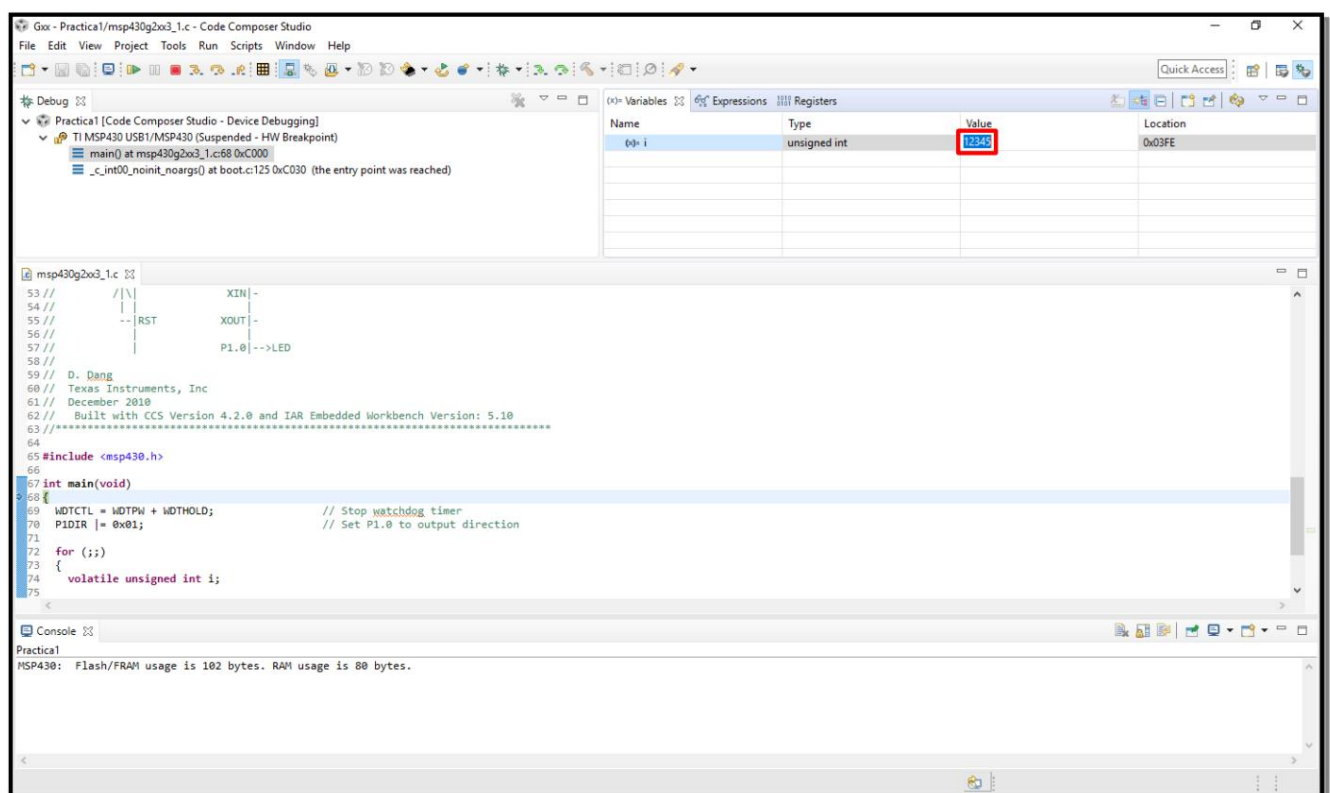


Once the expressions window is displayed, you can enter any other variable (or expression) to be displayed with the “Add new expression” field.

¹² Among the variables that are not shown by default in the “Variables” window are the global variables defined in the code.

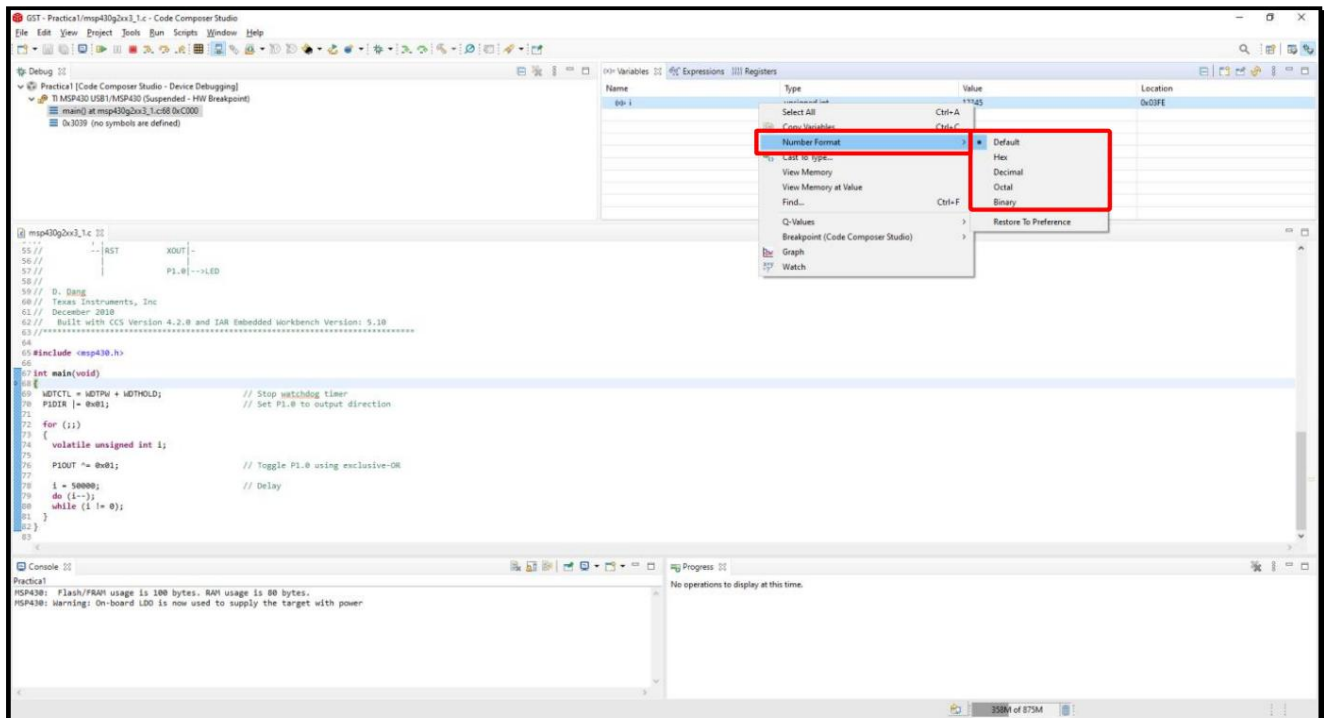


Both in the variables window and in the expressions window it is possible to view and modify the value of any variable at any time. To modify it, simply select the value to be modified and enter a new one:



It is also possible to modify the format in which the data is displayed (decimal, hexadecimal, binary...), by clicking the right mouse button on the variable and selecting the desired format from the contextual menu that appears:

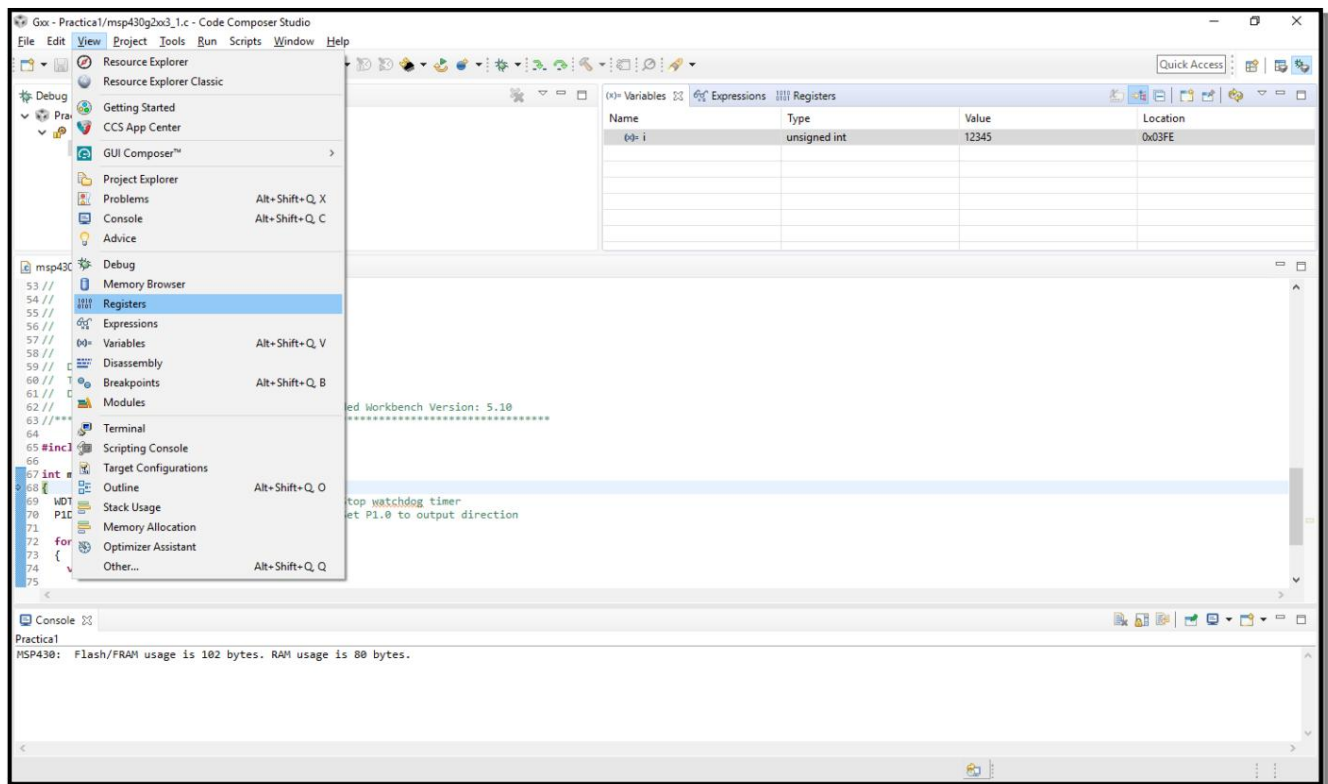
– Number Format ÷ Default / Hex / Decimal / Octal / Binary



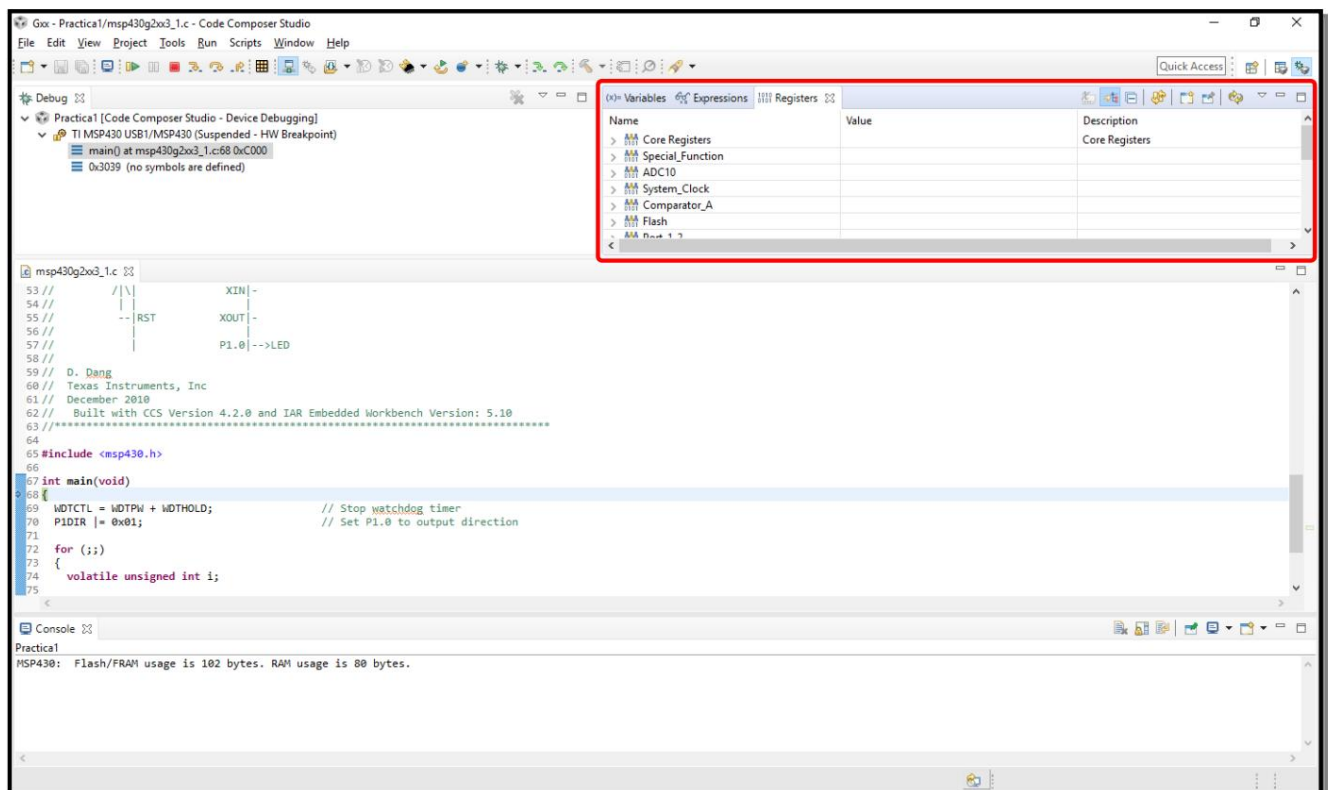
4.2.2. records

It is also possible to view the value of all existing registers in the microcontroller, which include the peripheral configuration registers. To show the logs window it may be necessary to enable it with the option:

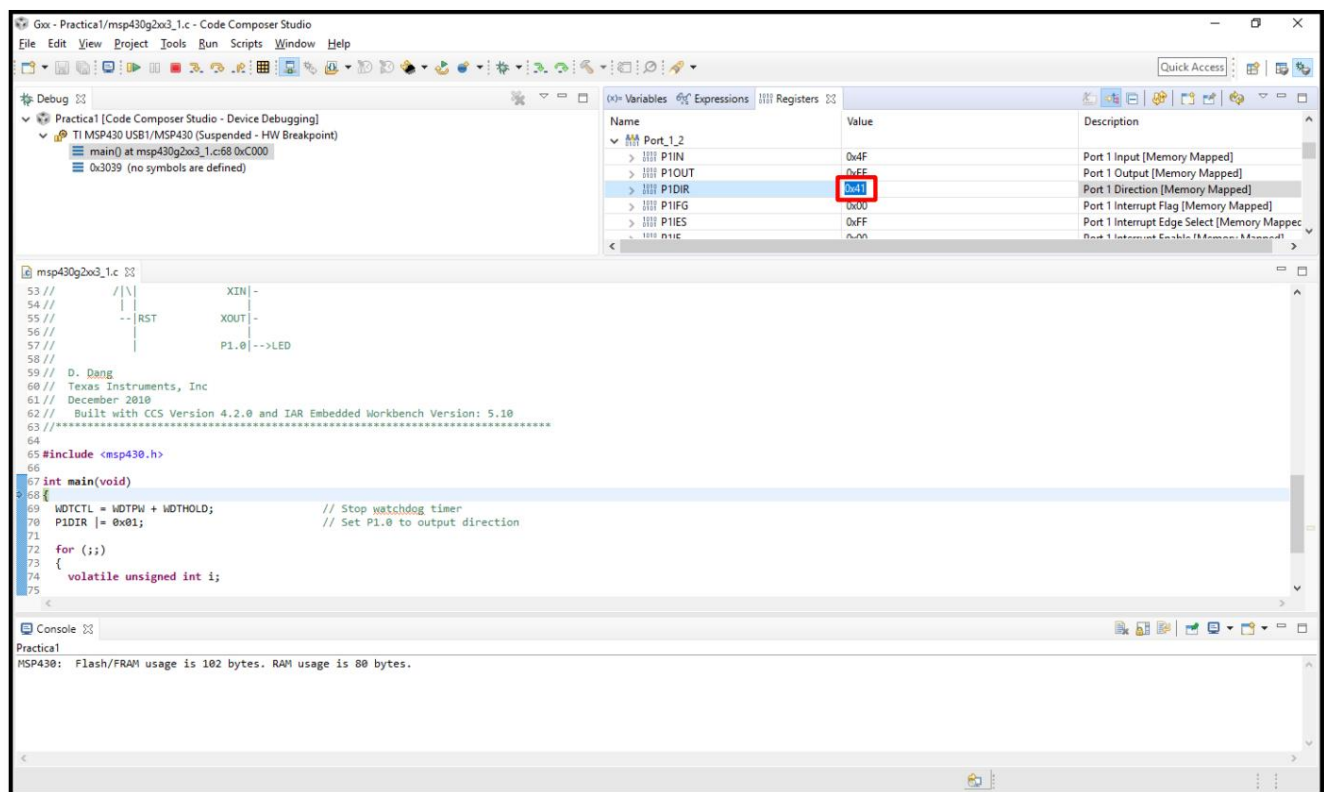
–View ÷ Registers



Once the registers window is displayed, the existing registers in the microcontroller are presented.

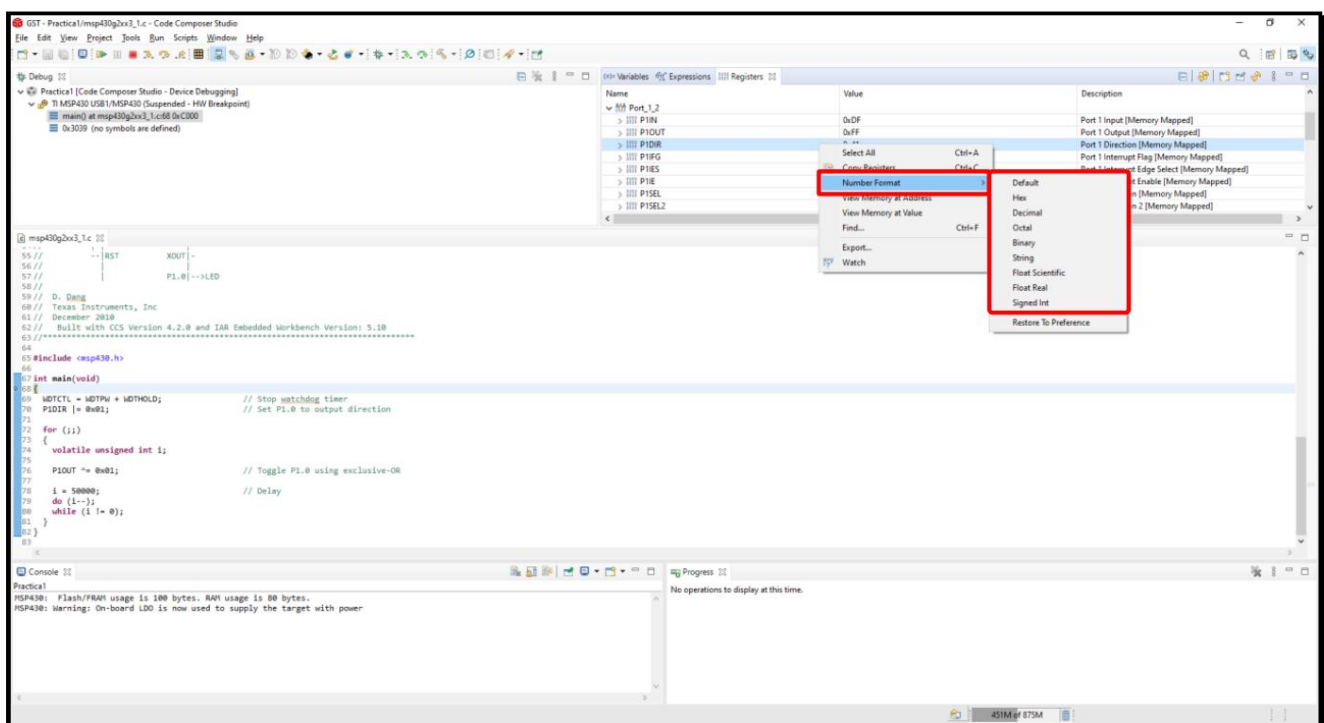


It is possible both to view and modify the value of any record at any time. To modify it, simply select the value to be modified and enter a new one:



It is also possible to modify the format in which the data is displayed (decimal, hexadecimal, binary...), by clicking the right mouse button on the record and selecting the desired format from the contextual menu that appears:

– **Number Format** ÷ Default / Hex / Decimal / Octal / Binary



4.3. Execution

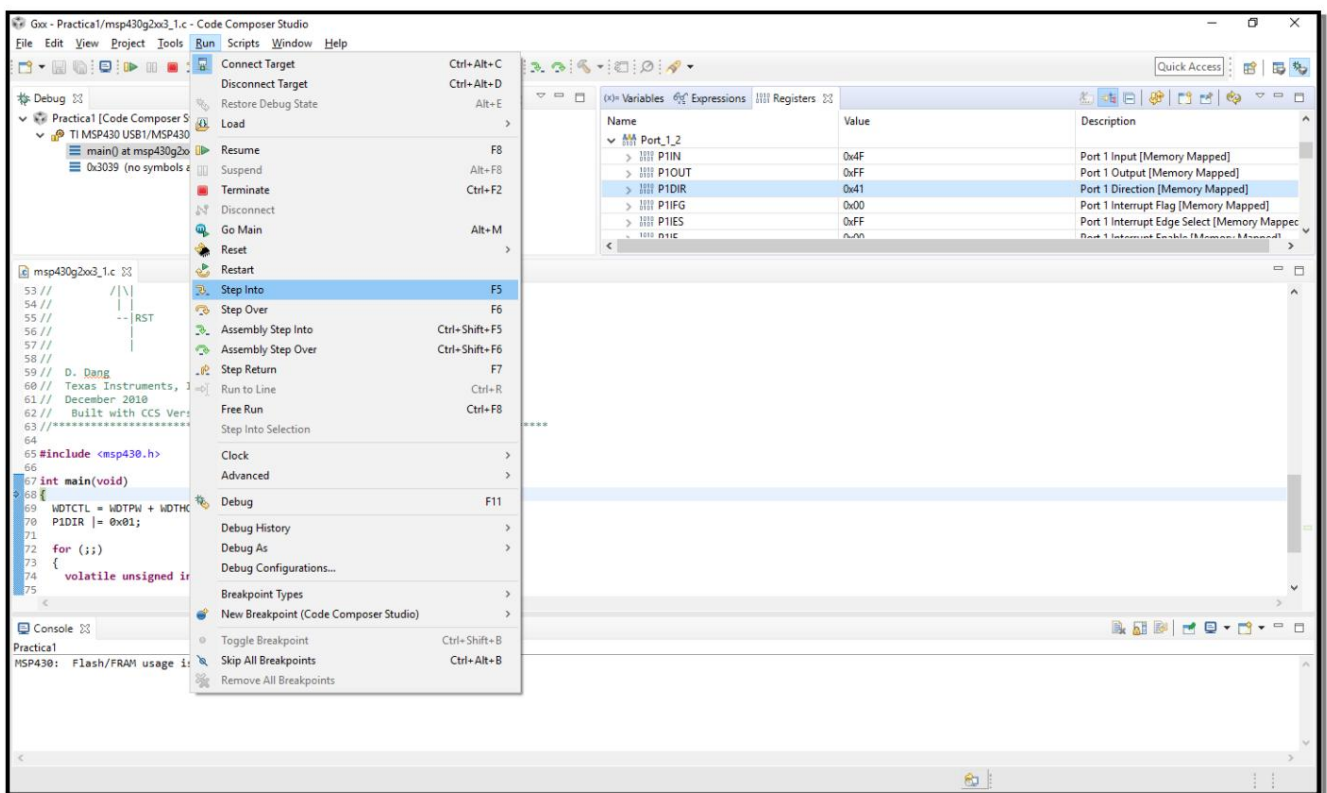
The debugger enables controlled code execution, making it easy to view and modify variables and registers during code execution. The main execution tools are described below.

4.3.1. Step by Step

The instructions can be executed one by one using the options¹³:

–Run  **Step Into**

–Run  **Step Over**



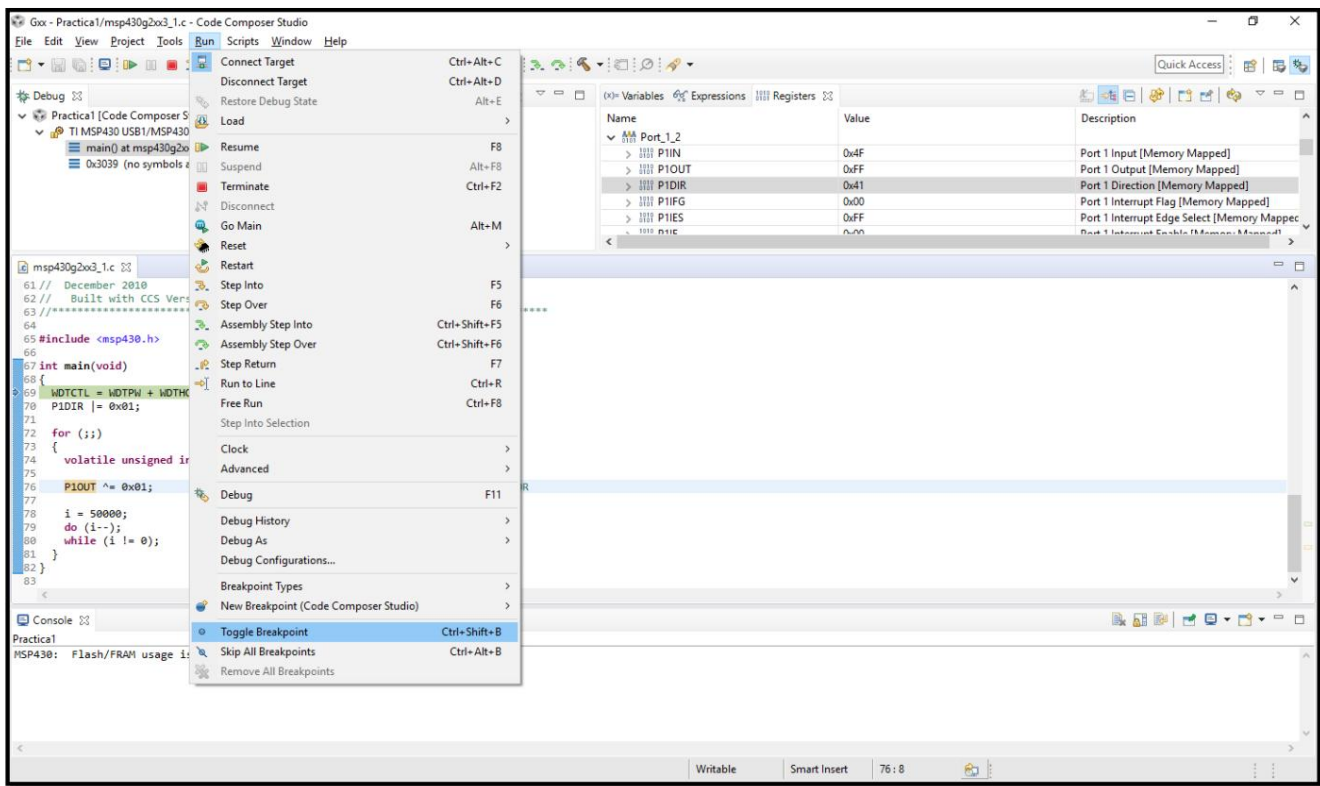
4.3.2. breaking points

Breakpoints are used to specify those statements where you want to stop code execution. To activate/deactivate a breakpoint in a given instruction, go to the line of code that contains the instruction of interest and select ¹⁴:

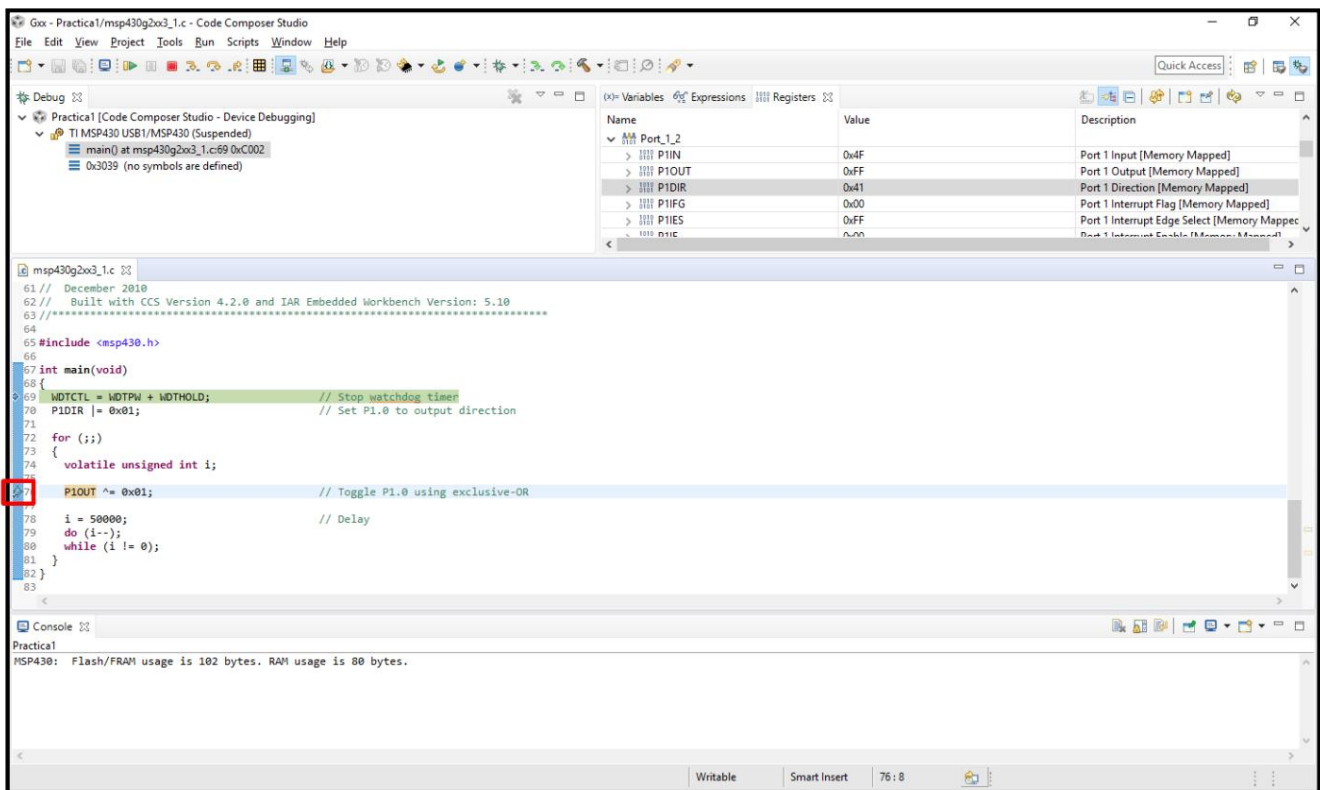
–Run  **Toggle Breakpoint**

¹³ The difference between the *Step Into* and *Step Over* options is in the functions, since the *Step Into* option steps the code associated with the functions while the *Step Over* option executes them completely as if they were a single instruction. In the rest of the instructions, both options are totally equivalent, so any of them can be used.

¹⁴ The *Toggle Breakpoint* action can also be performed by double-clicking on the left side area (shaded in grey) of the line of code where you want to activate/deactivate the breakpoint.



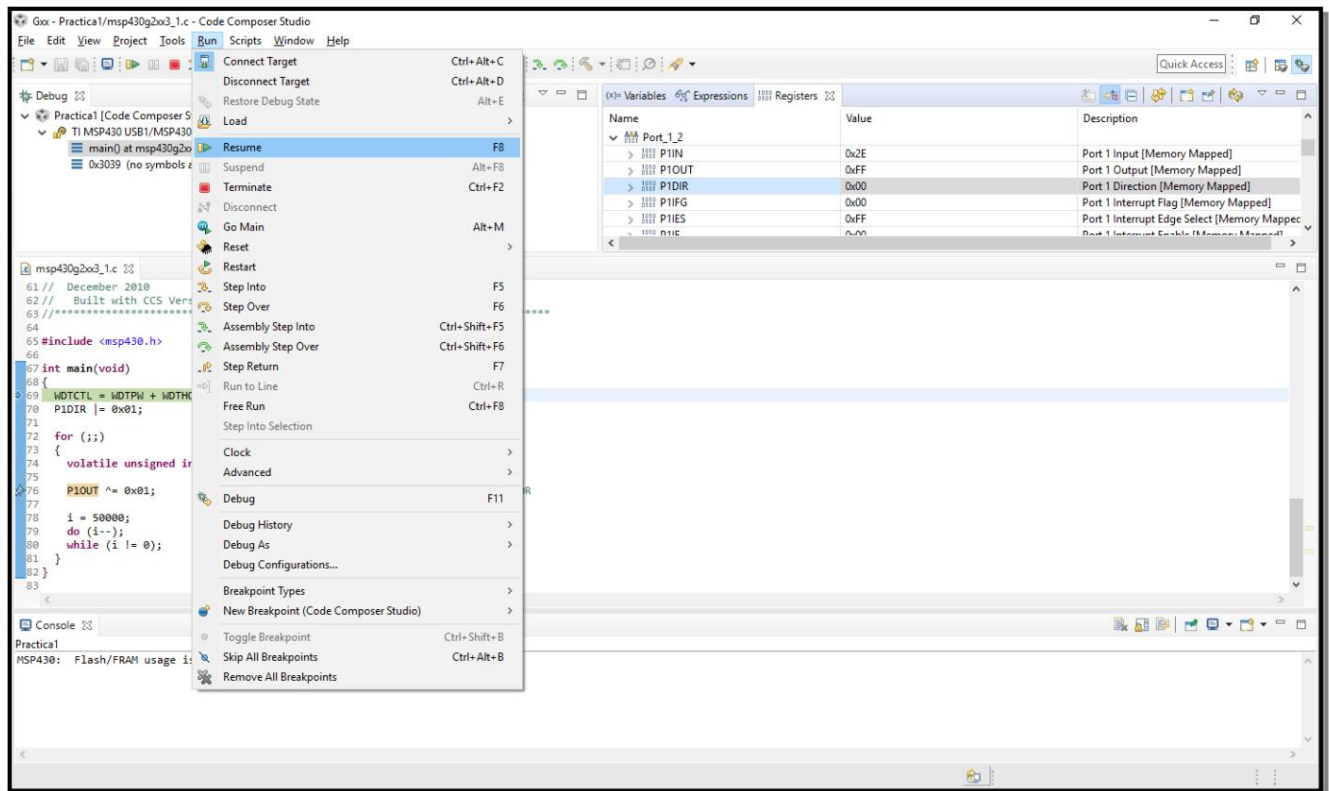
An active breakpoint is indicated by the symbol located on the left side (grey shaded) of the line of code where the breakpoint is located.



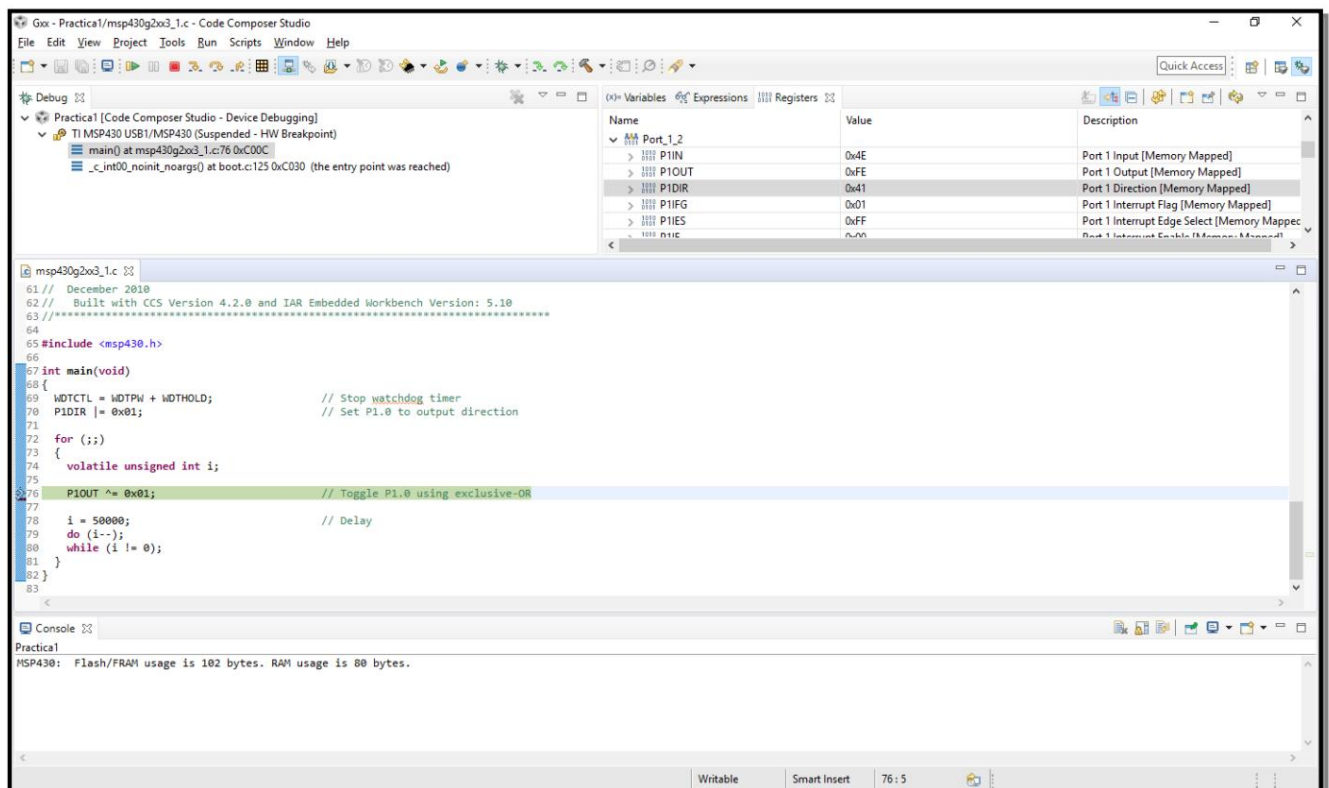
4.3.3. Keep going

To run the code continuously you have to select the option:

– Run ÿ Resume

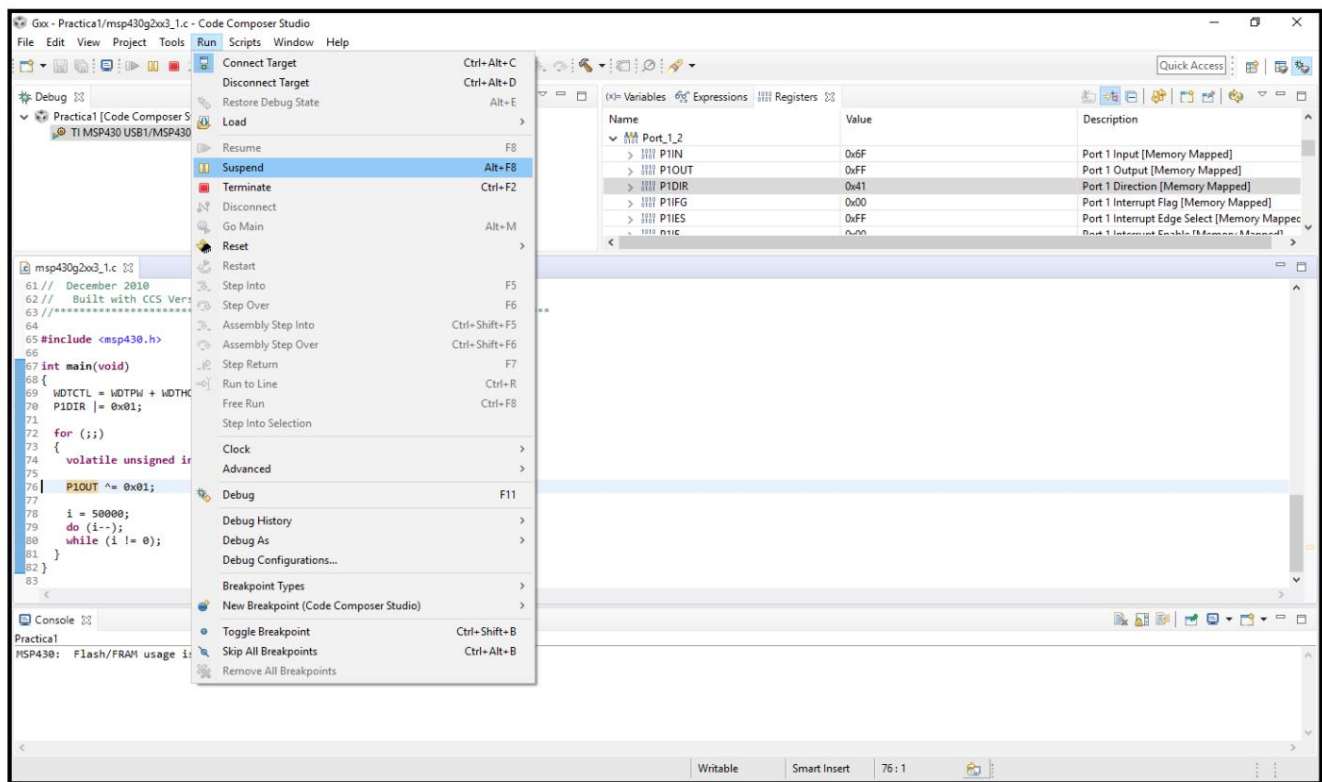


If a breakpoint has been specified in the code, the execution will stop when it is reached:

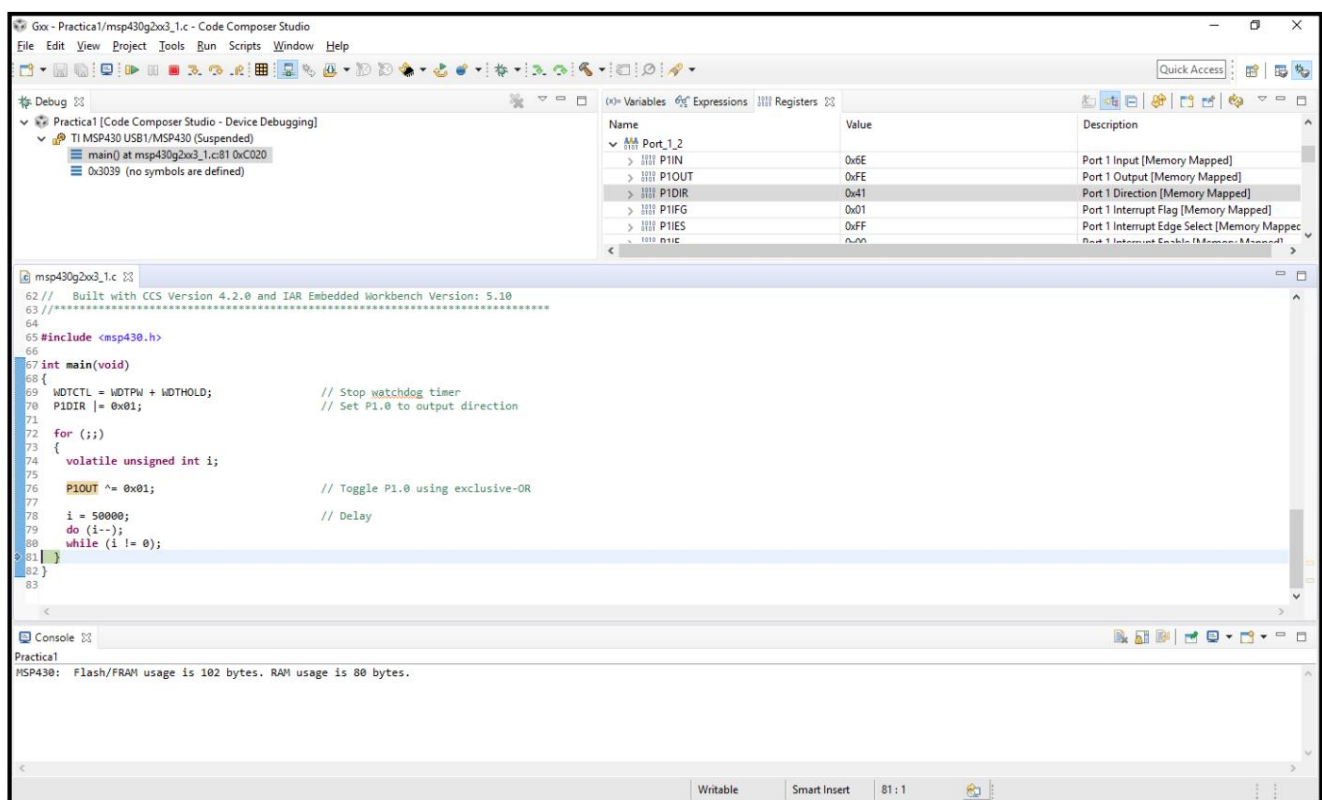


However, if no breakpoint is specified in the code, execution will continue indefinitely until the option is given:

– Run  Suspend



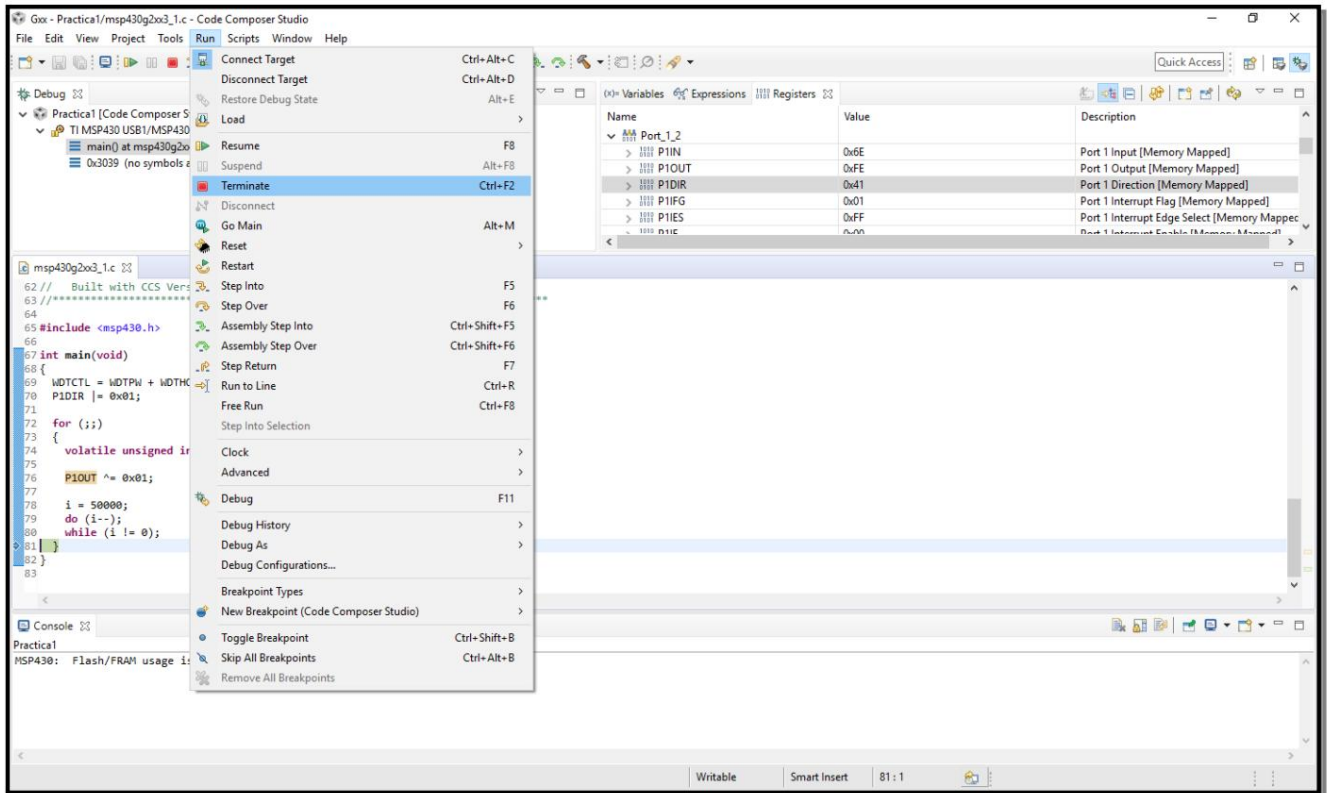
moment in which the execution of the code is stopped, showing the instruction that was going to be executed next:



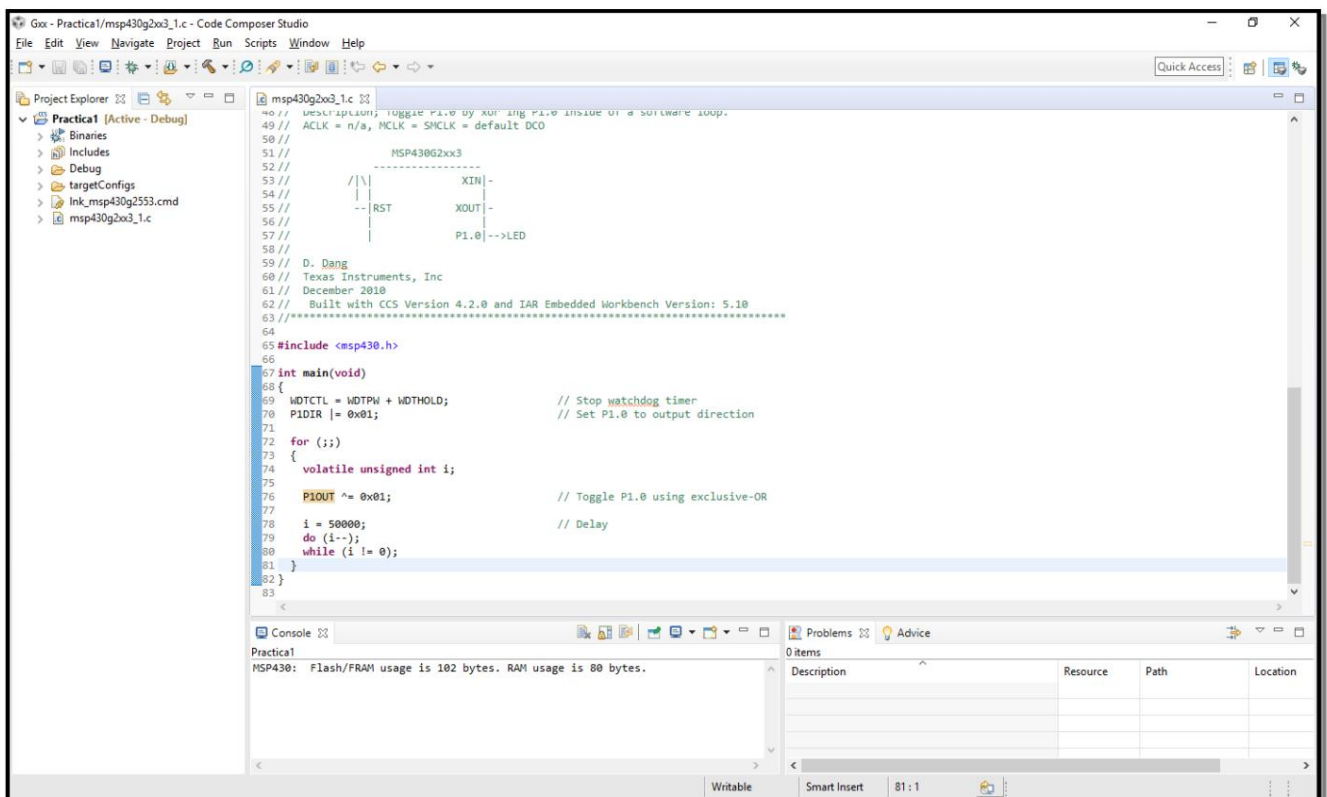
4.4. End of debugging

To end the debugging process, select the option:

–Run > Terminate



Once the debugging process is finished, we return to the editor:



5. EXERCISE

Once the use of the *Code Composer Studio* development environment used in the course has been described, the following exercise is proposed to practice the concepts described in this tutorial¹⁵:

Determine the minimum values, both in decimal and hexadecimal, taken by the variables "val" and "reg" and the register "P1IES" (which belongs to the peripheral "Port 1") throughout the code, indicating the lines where they reach said values.

```
1. // edu@uma.es - 02/18/22 (v2) 2.
3. // Debugging: Determine the minimum values, both in decimal and 4. // hexadecimal, taken by the variables "val" and "reg"
and the register "P1IES" (which 5. // belongs to the peripheral "Port 1") throughout the code, indicating the lines 6. // where these values
reach 7. 8. #include "msp430g2553.h" 9. 10. unsigned char reg = 0xFF; 11. 12. void main(void) { 13. volatile unsigned int val = 0xFFFF;
14. int temp = 0; 15. unsigned int count; 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.

21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32.

33. 34. 35. 36. 37. } // void main( void)

WDTCCTL = (WDTPW|WDTHOLD);

for (count = 0; count < 1000; count++) { temp += 12345; } //
    for (count = 0; count <
1000; count++)

val = (temp^0x7FFF); reg =
(unsigned char) (val^0x69);
P1IES = (reg^0x5A);

for (count = 1000; count > 0; count--) { temp -= 54321; } // for
    (count = 1000; count
> 0; count--)

val = (temp^0x7FFF); reg =
(unsigned char) (val^0xE9);
P1IES = (reg^0xDA);

while (1);
```

¹⁵ The code of this exercise is available in the file "Depuracion.c" of the Virtual Campus of the subject.