
[Microprocessor Application]

Lab 2: Memory Access

Chester Sungchung Park

SoC Design Lab, Konkuk University

Webpage: <http://soclab.konkuk.ac.kr>

Outline

- ☐ Creating projects
- ☐ Programming C applications
- ☐ Running C applications
- ☐ Debugging C applications
- ☐ Optimizing C applications

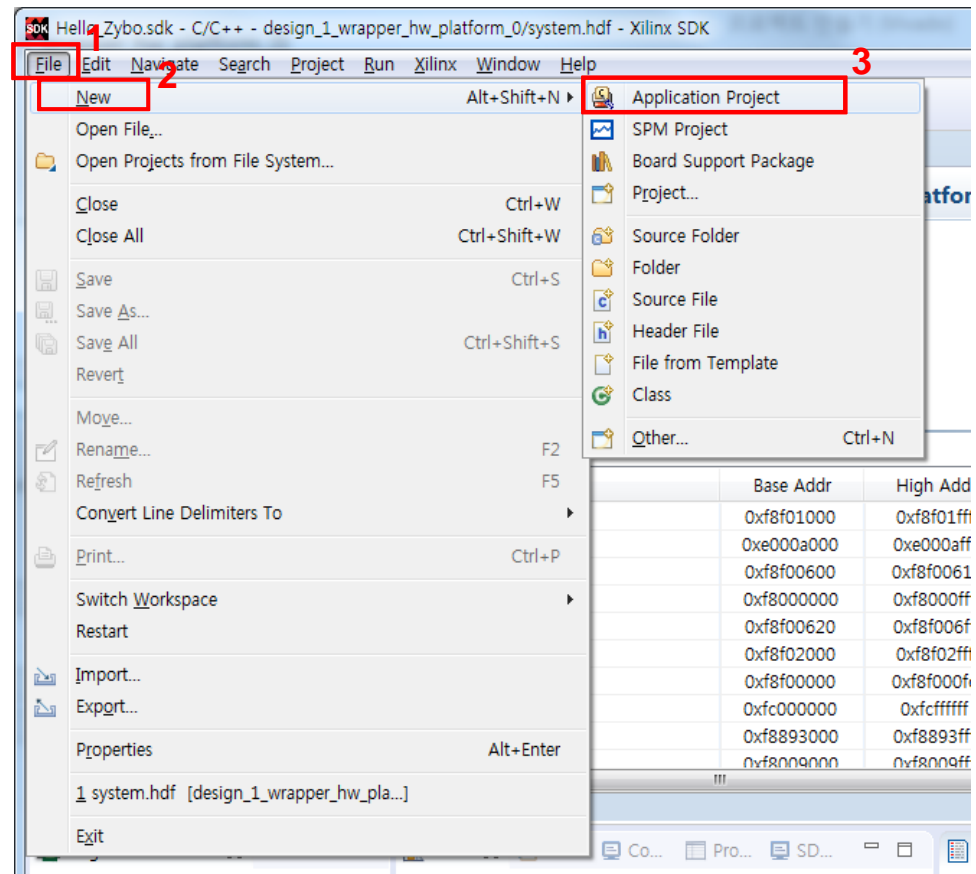
Creating Projects

- ❑ Repeat the previous steps
 - Follow pp. 4~25 of the following lab workbook:
[**Lab_MP2022_1_work.pdf**](#)

Creating C Applications

❑ Create a C application project

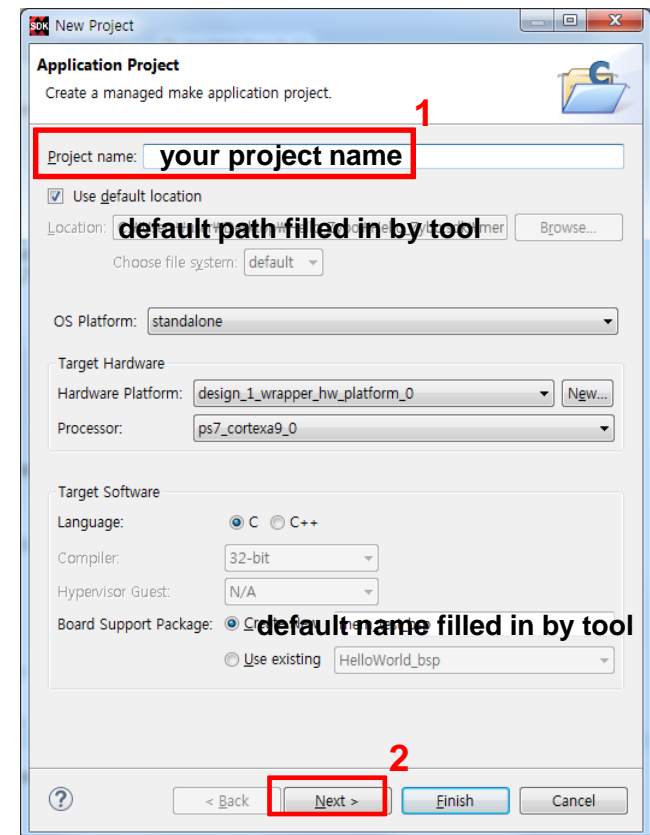
- Click '**File**' > '**New**' > '**Application Project**'



Creating C Applications

❑ Create a C application project (cont'd)

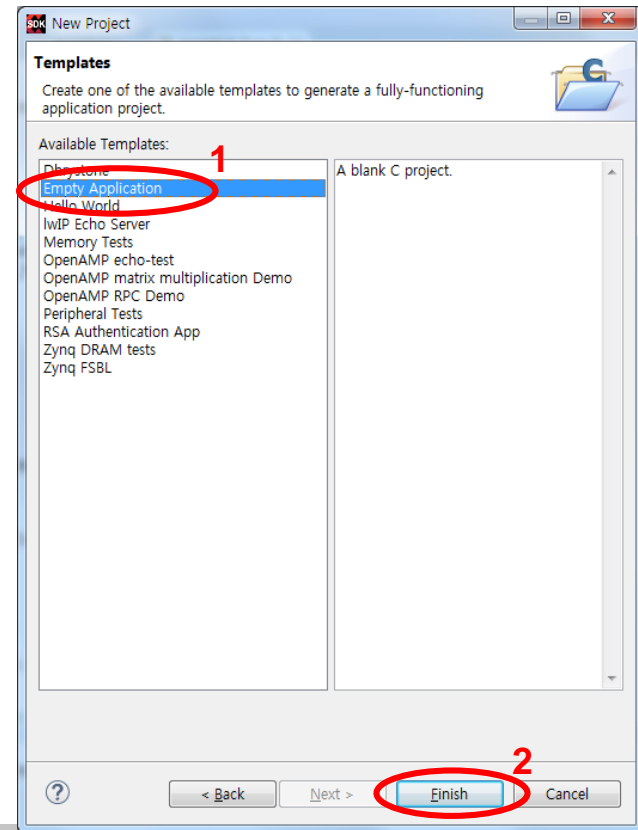
- Type **<your project name>** in the Project name field
- The **'Board Support Package'** field can be set up to use an existing BSP or a new BSP can be created based on the project name. (Do not modify)



Creating C Applications

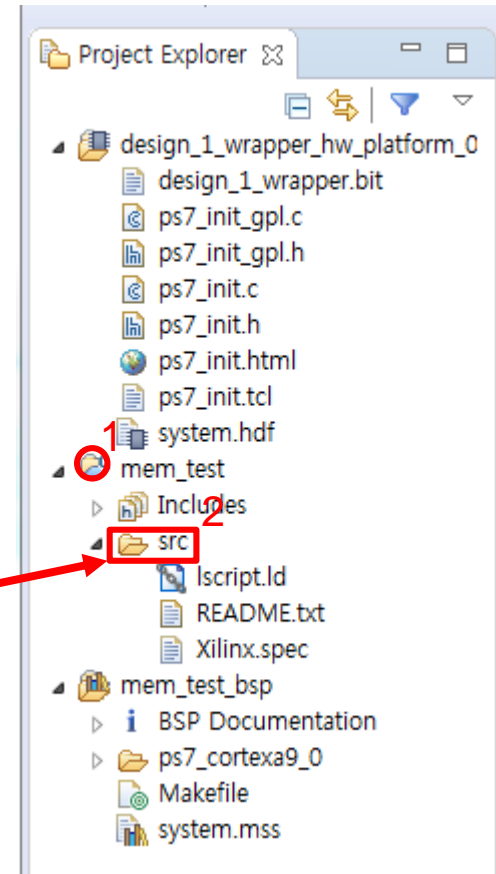
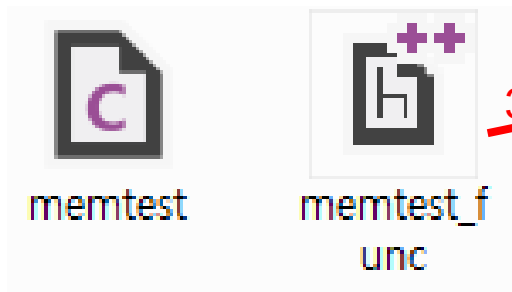
❑ Create a C application project (cont'd)

- Select '**Empty Application**' from the template list
- Click '**Finish**'



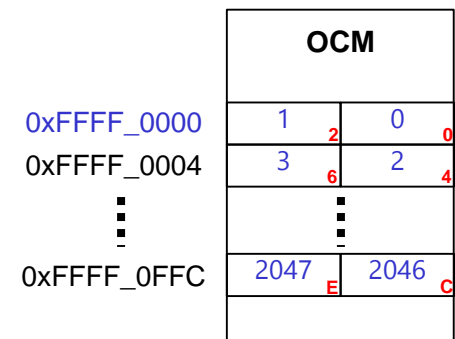
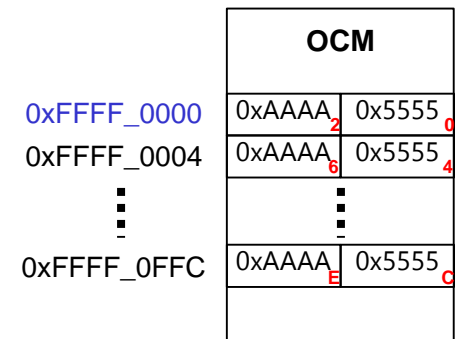
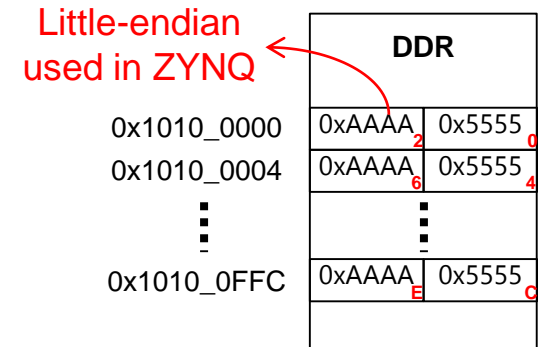
Creating C Applications

- ❑ Add and change source files
 - Unfold your project and select '**src**' folder
 - Copy **memtest.c**, **memtest_func.h** and paste into the '**src**' folder
 - Double-click '**memorytest.c**' to review the source files



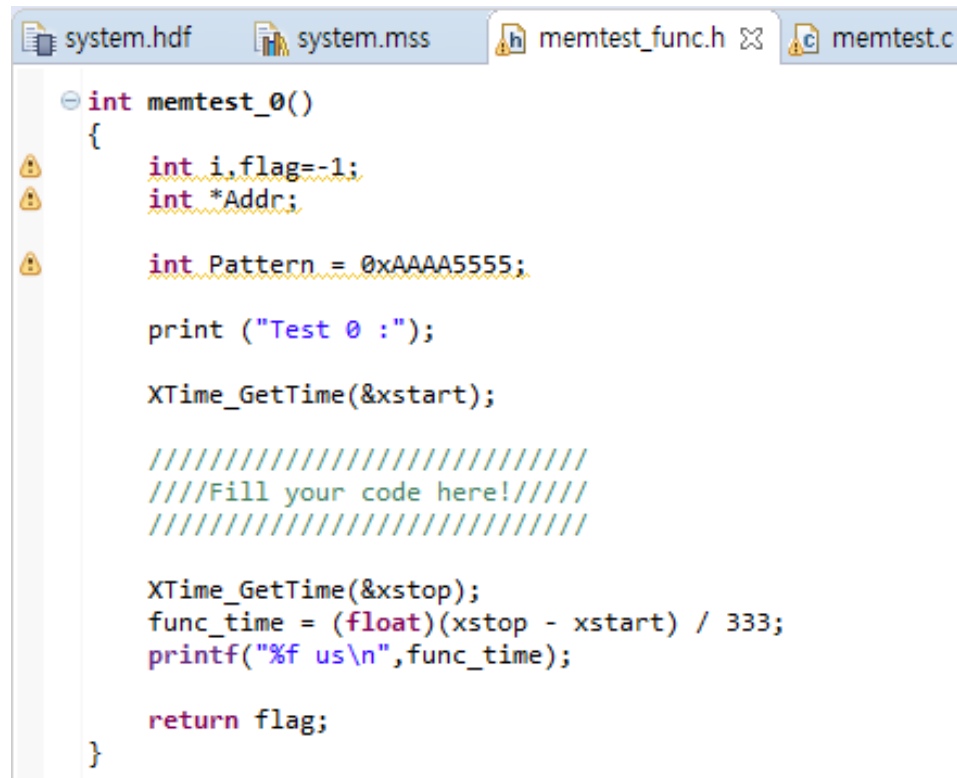
Programming C Applications

- ❑ memtest_example()
 - Access size: 32 bits (word)
 - Pattern: 0xAAAA_5555 (1024 words)
 - Region: 0x1010_0000 ~ 0x1010_0FFC (DDR)
- ❑ memtest_0()
 - Access size: 32 bits (word)
 - Pattern: 0xAAAA_5555 (1024 words)
 - Region: 0xFFFF_0000 ~ 0xFFFF_0FFC (OCM)
- ❑ memtest_1()
 - Access size: 16 bits (halfword)
 - Pattern: 0xAAAA_5555 (1024 words)
 - Region: 0xFFFF_0000 ~ 0xFFFF_0FFC (OCM)
- ❑ memtest_2()
 - Access size: 16 bits (halfword)
 - Pattern: halfword offset (0 ~ 2047)
 - Region: 0xFFFF_0000 ~ 0xFFFF_0FFC (OCM)



Programming C Applications

- ❑ Modify the C source code ('**memtest_func.h**')
 - Add lines to '**Fill your code here**' in the functions, memtest_0(), memtest_1() and memtest_2()



```
system.hdf  system.mss  memtest_func.h  memtest.c

int memtest_0()
{
    int i, flag=-1;
    int *Addr;

    int Pattern = 0xAAAA5555;

    print ("Test 0 :");

    XTime_GetTime(&xstart);

    ///////////////////////////////////
    ////Fill your code here!////
    ///////////////////////////////////

    XTime_GetTime(&xstop);
    func_time = (float)(xstop - xstart) / 333;
    printf("%f us\n", func_time);

    return flag;
}
```

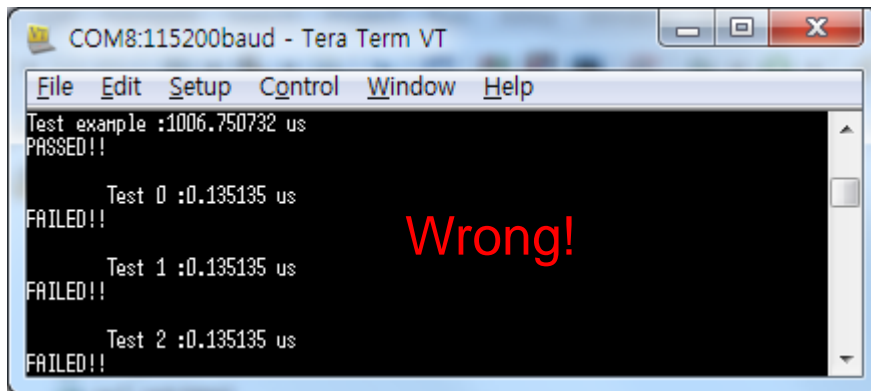
Running C Applications

- ❑ Repeat the previous steps
 - Follow pp. 30~33 of the following lab workbook:
[Lab_MP2022_1_work.pdf](#)

Running C Applications

❑ Run the application

- Check the output on '*Tera Term*'
 - ✓ Whether all memory tests are done correctly
 - ✓ How long each memory test takes



COM8:115200baud - Tera Term VT

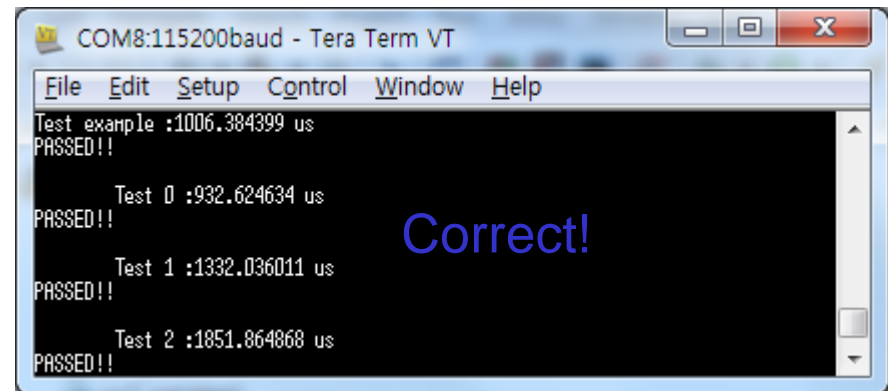
```
File Edit Setup Control Window Help
Test example :1006.750732 us
PASSED!!

Test 0 :0.135135 us
FAILED!!

Test 1 :0.135135 us
FAILED!!

Test 2 :0.135135 us
FAILED!!
```

Wrong!



COM8:115200baud - Tera Term VT

```
File Edit Setup Control Window Help
Test example :1006.384399 us
PASSED!!

Test 0 :932.624634 us
PASSED!!

Test 1 :1332.036011 us
PASSED!!

Test 2 :1851.864868 us
PASSED!!
```

Correct!

Running C Applications

❑ Modify the application

D-Cache *Disabled*

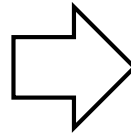
```
memtest.c X memtest_func.h xi
+ Copyright (c) 2017 SoC Design Labora

#include <stdio.h>
void print(char *str);
#include "memtest_func.h"

int main()
{
    int status;

    Xil_ICacheEnable();
    Xil_DCacheDisable();
    //Xil_DCacheEnable();

    status = memtest_example();
    if (status)
        print("FAILED!!\n\n");
    else
```



D-Cache *Enabled*

```
memtest.c X memtest_func.h xi
+ Copyright (c) 2017 SoC Design Labora

#include <stdio.h>
void print(char *str);
#include "memtest_func.h"

int main()
{
    int status;

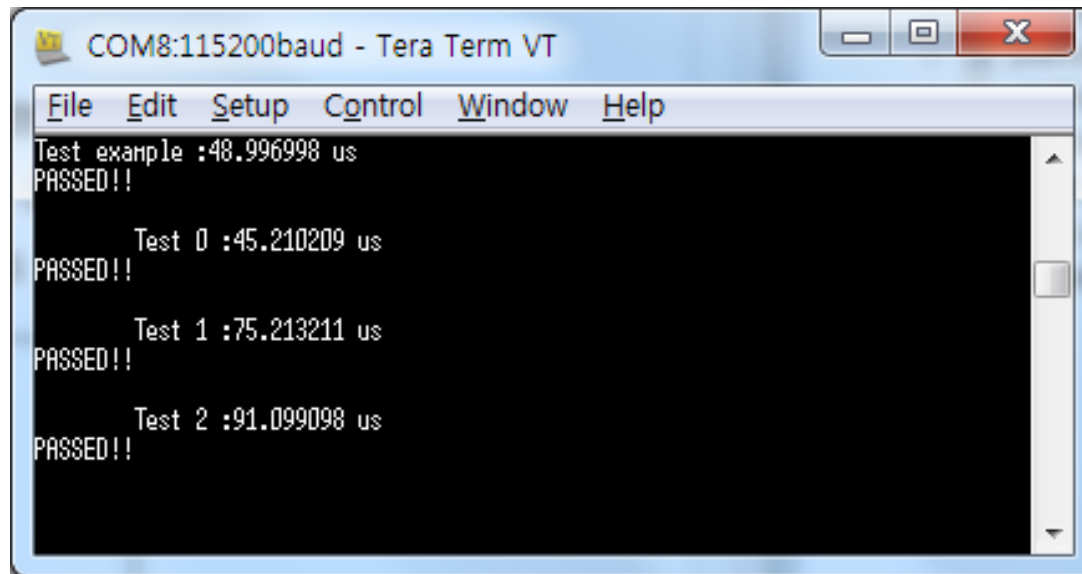
    Xil_ICacheEnable();
    //Xil_DCacheDisable();
    Xil_DCacheEnable();

    status = memtest_example();
    if (status)
        print("FAILED!!\n\n");
    else
```

Running C Applications

❑ Run the application

- Check the output on '*Tera Term*'
 - ✓ Whether all the memory tests are done correctly
 - ✓ How long each memory test takes



The screenshot shows a Tera Term window titled "COM8:115200baud - Tera Term VT". The window has a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "Setup", "Control", "Window", and "Help". The main text area displays the following output:

```
Test example :48.996998 us
PASSED!!

      Test 0 :45.210209 us
PASSED!!

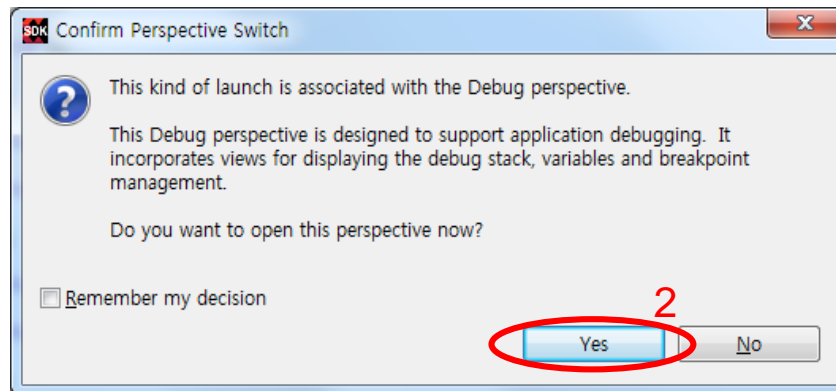
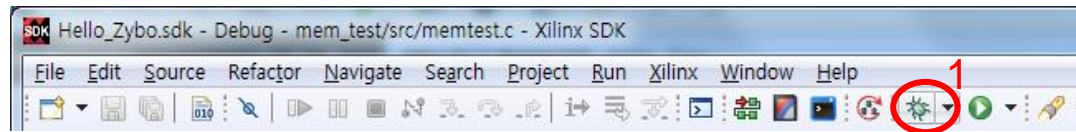
      Test 1 :75.213211 us
PASSED!!

      Test 2 :91.099098 us
PASSED!!
```

Debugging C Applications

❑ Debug the application

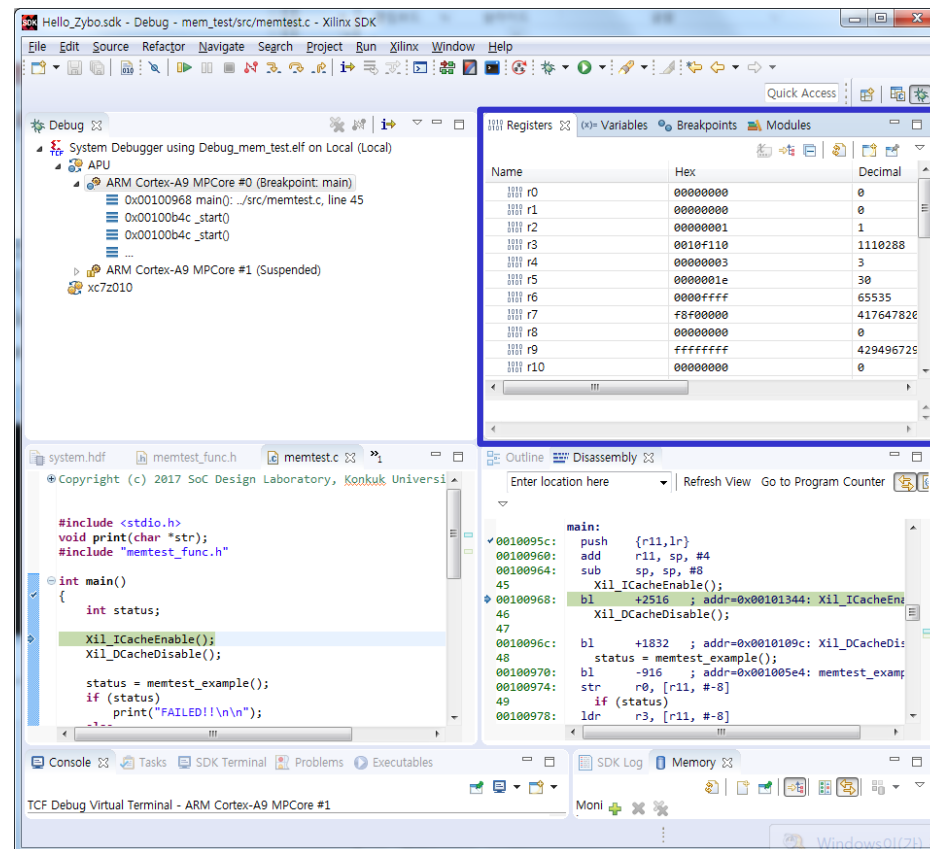
- Click the '**Debug System Debugger**' icon and then click '**Yes**'



Debugging C Applications

❑ Debug the application (cont'd)

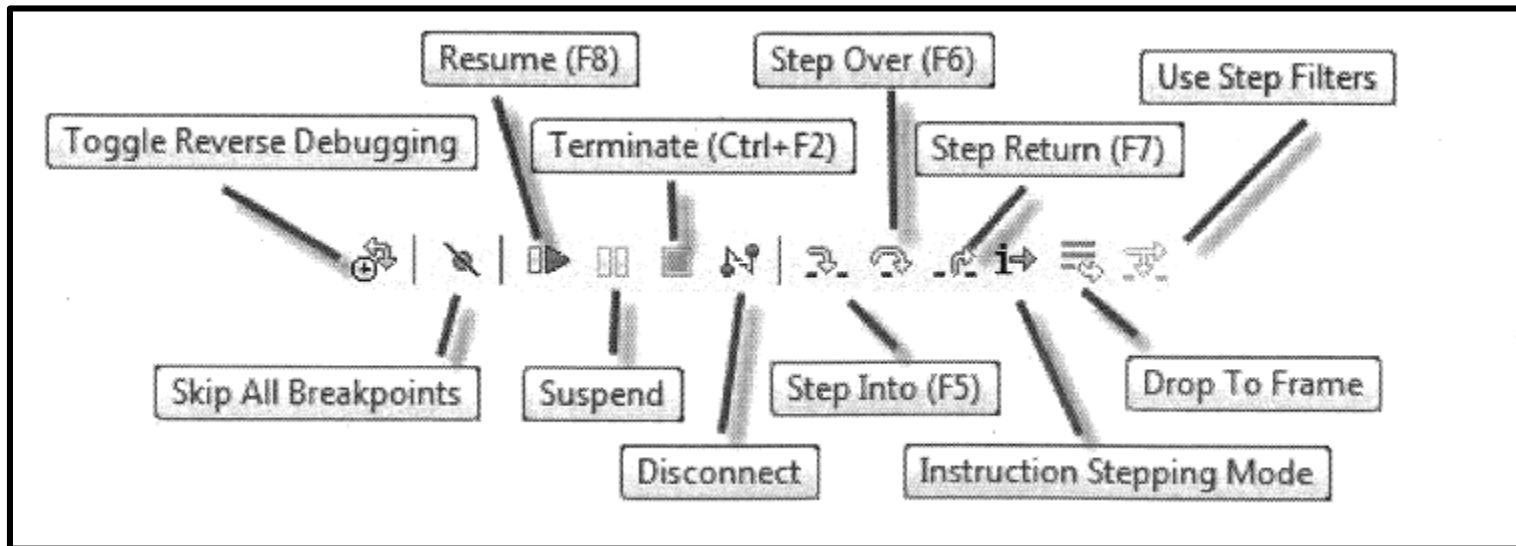
- Choose the '**Registers**' or '**Variable**' tab



Debugging C Applications

❑ Debug the application (cont'd)

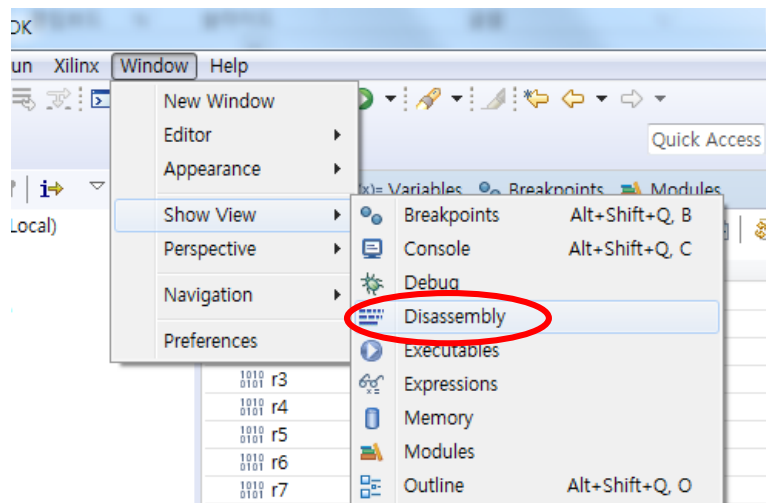
Debug Tool Bar



Debugging C Applications

❑ Review the disassembly

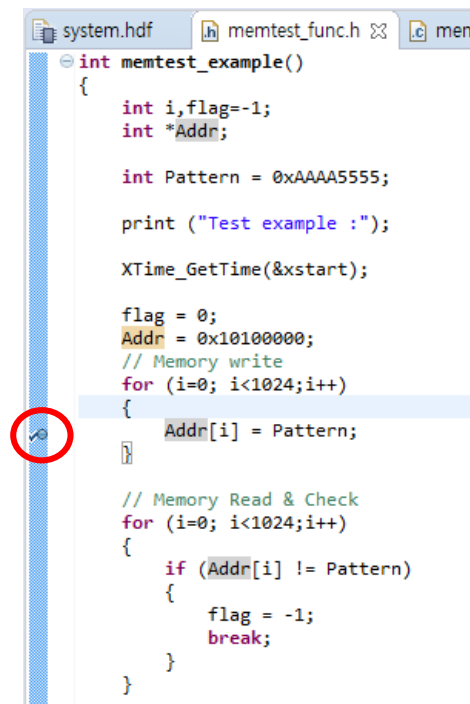
- Open the '**Window**' > '**Show View**' menu and then click '**Disassembly**'

A screenshot of the Xilinx IDE's 'Disassembly' window. The window title is 'Disassembly'. It shows assembly code for a program named 'main'. The code includes instructions like 'push {r11,lr}', 'add r11, sp, #4', 'sub sp, sp, #8', 'Xil_ICacheEnable()', 'Xil_DCacheDisable()', 'bl +2516 ; addr=0x00101344: Xil_ICacheEna', 'bl +1832 ; addr=0x0010109c: Xil_DCacheDis', 'status = memtest_example()', 'bl -916 ; addr=0x001005e4: memtest_examp', 'str r0, [r11, #-8]', 'if (status)', 'ldr r3, [r11, #-8]', 'cmp r3, #0', 'beq +12 ; addr=0x00100994: main + 0x0000', 'print("FAILED!!\n\n");', 'else', 'movw r0, #57924', 'movt r0, #16', 'bl +172 ; addr=0x00100a40: print', 'b +8 ; addr=0x001009a0: main + 0x0000', 'print("PASSED!!\n\n");', 'movw r0, #57936', 'movt r0, #16', 'bl +156 ; addr=0x00100a40: print', 'status = memtest_0()', 'bl -616 ; addr=0x00100740: memtest_0'. The code is displayed in a monospaced font with syntax highlighting.

Debugging C Applications

□ Review the disassembly (cont'd)

- Double-click on the left side of a code line to add a breakpoint
- Click the '**Resume**' icon to continue debugging



```
int memtest_example()
{
    int i, flag=-1;
    int *Addr;

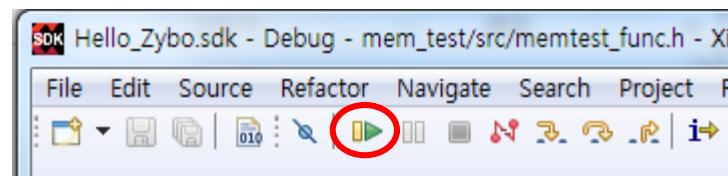
    int Pattern = 0xAAAA5555;

    print ("Test example :");

    XTime_GetTime(&xstart);

    flag = 0;
    Addr = 0x10100000;
    // Memory write
    for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
    {
        Addr[i] = Pattern;

        // Memory Read & Check
        for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
        {
            if (Addr[i] != Pattern)
            {
                flag = -1;
                break;
            }
        }
    }
}
```



Debugging C Applications

□ Review the disassembly (cont'd)

The image shows two side-by-side windows from an IDE. The left window displays the C source code for a memory test function. The right window displays the disassembly of the same function. A blue arrow points from the line `Addr[i] = Pattern;` in the C code to the assembly instruction `str r3, [r11, #-8]` in the disassembly window.

C Source Code (memtest.c):

```
int memtest_example()
{
    int i, flag=-1;
    int *Addr;

    int Pattern = 0xAAAA5555;

    print ("Test example :");

    XTime_GetTime(&xstart);

    flag = 0;
    Addr = 0x10100000;
    // Memory write
    for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
    {
        Addr[i] = Pattern;
    }

    // Memory Read & Check
    for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
    {
        if (Addr[i] != Pattern)
        {
            flag = -1;
            break;
        }
    }

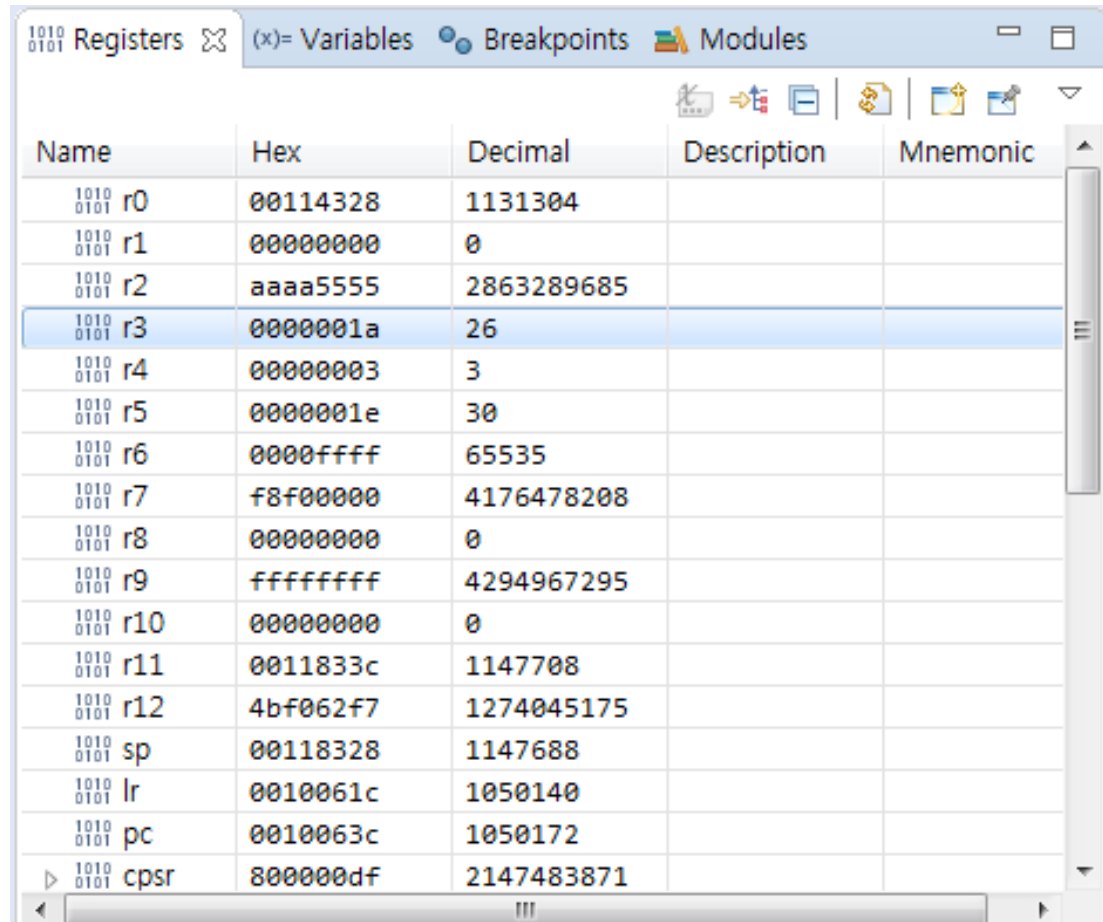
    XTime_GetTime(&xstop);
    func_time = (float)(xstop - xstart) / 333;
    printf("%f us\n", func_time);
}
```

Disassembly:

```
59      for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
60      {
00100630:  mov    r3, #0
00100634:  str    r3, [r11, #-8]
00100638:  b       +32 ; addr=0x00100660: memtest_exam
61      Addr[i] = Pattern;
62      }
63
64      // Memory Read & Check
0010063c:  ldr    r3, [r11, #-8]
00100640:  lsl    r3, r3, #2
00100644:  ldr    r2, [r11, #-20]
00100648:  add    r3, r2, r3
0010064c:  ldr    r2, [r11, #-16]
00100650:  str    r2, [r3]
59      for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
60      {
00100654:  ldr    r3, [r11, #-8]
00100658:  add    r3, r3, #1
0010065c:  str    r3, [r11, #-8]
00100660:  ldr    r3, [r11, #-8]
00100664:  cmp    r3, #1024
00100668:  blt    -52 ; addr=0x0010063c: memtest_exam
65      for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
66      {
0010066c:  mov    r3, #0
00100670:  str    r3, [r11, #-8]
00100674:  b       +52 ; addr=0x001006b0: memtest_exam
67      if (Addr[i] != Pattern)
68      {
```

Debugging C Applications

- ❑ Check the content of a register

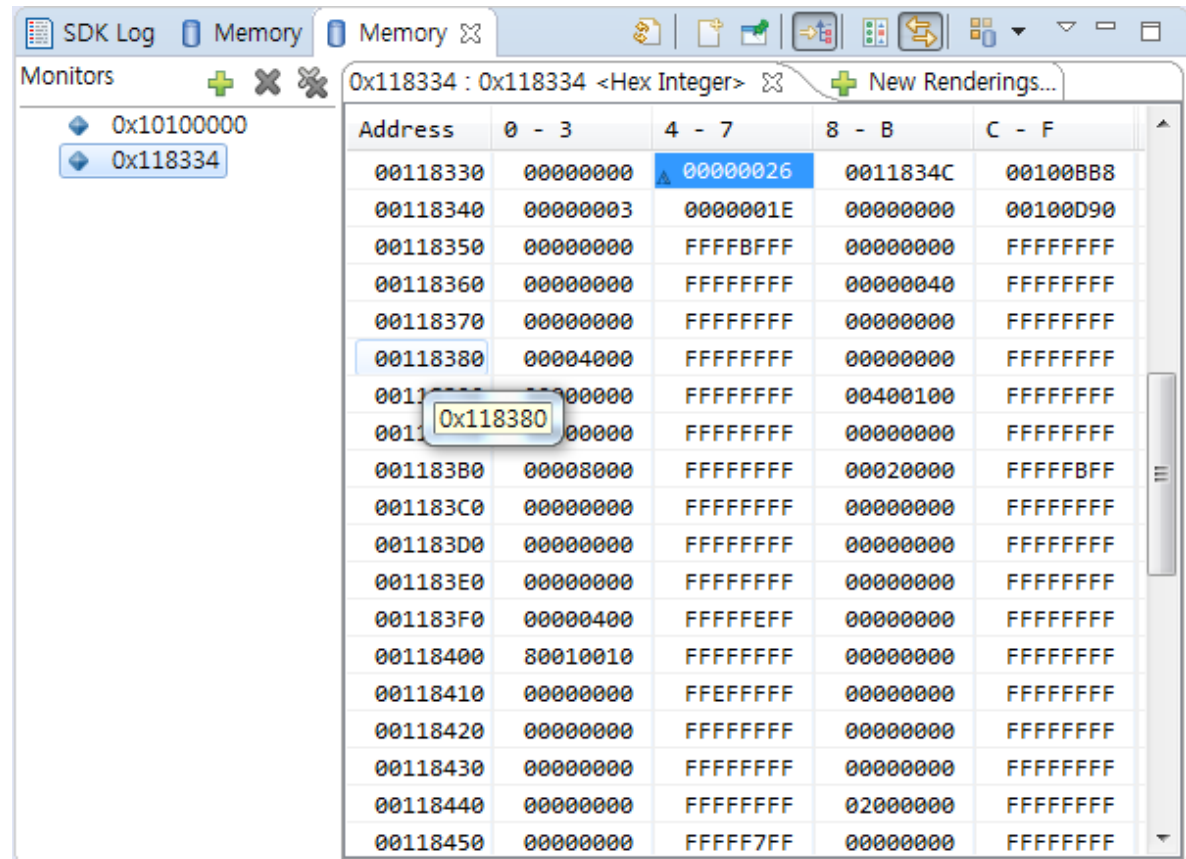


The screenshot shows a debugger window titled 'Registers'. It contains a table of registers with the following columns: Name, Hex, Decimal, Description, and Mnemonic. The registers listed are r0 through r12, sp, lr, pc, and cpsr. Register r3 is selected and highlighted in blue.

Name	Hex	Decimal	Description	Mnemonic
r0	00114328	1131304		
r1	00000000	0		
r2	aaaa5555	2863289685		
r3	0000001a	26		
r4	00000003	3		
r5	0000001e	30		
r6	0000ffff	65535		
r7	f8f00000	4176478208		
r8	00000000	0		
r9	ffffffff	4294967295		
r10	00000000	0		
r11	0011833c	1147708		
r12	4bf062f7	1274045175		
sp	00118328	1147688		
lr	0010061c	1050140		
pc	0010063c	1050172		
cpsr	800000df	2147483871		

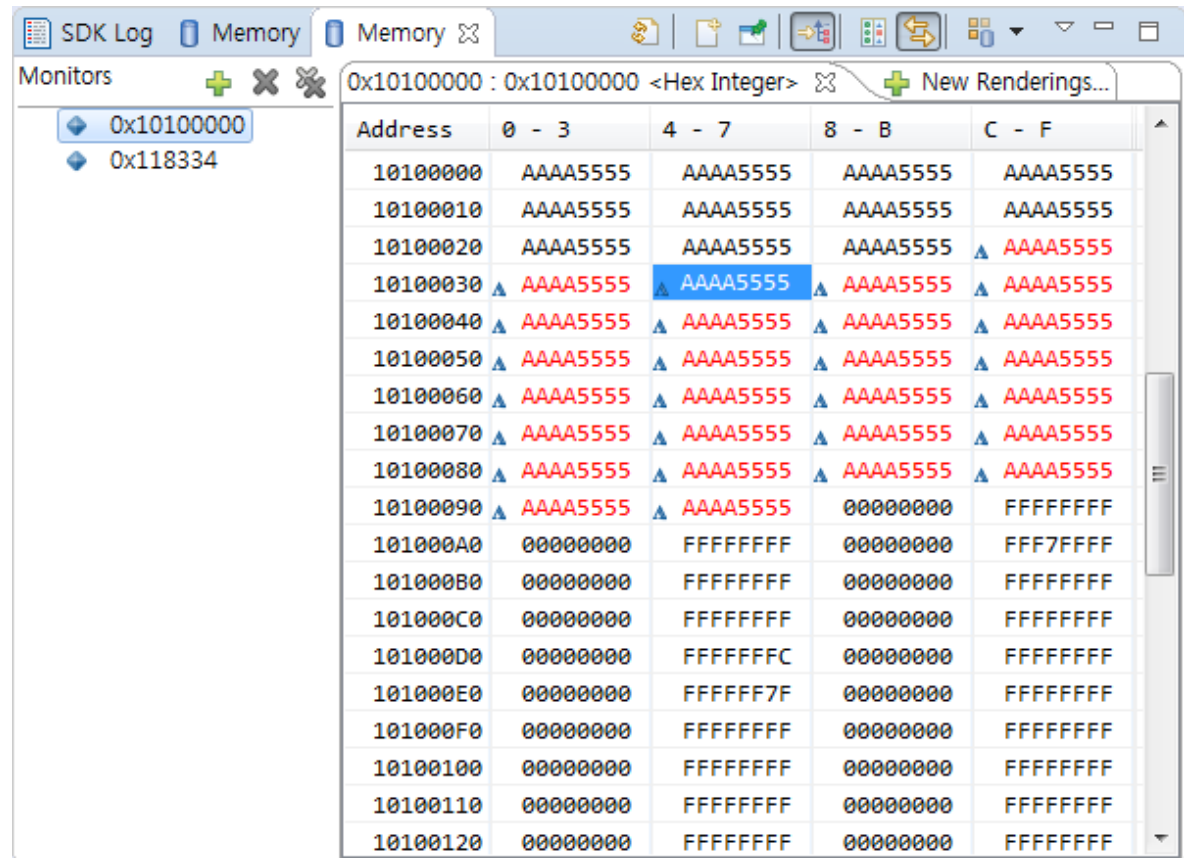
Debugging C Applications

- ❑ Check the content of a memory location
 - Location for the loop variable (i)



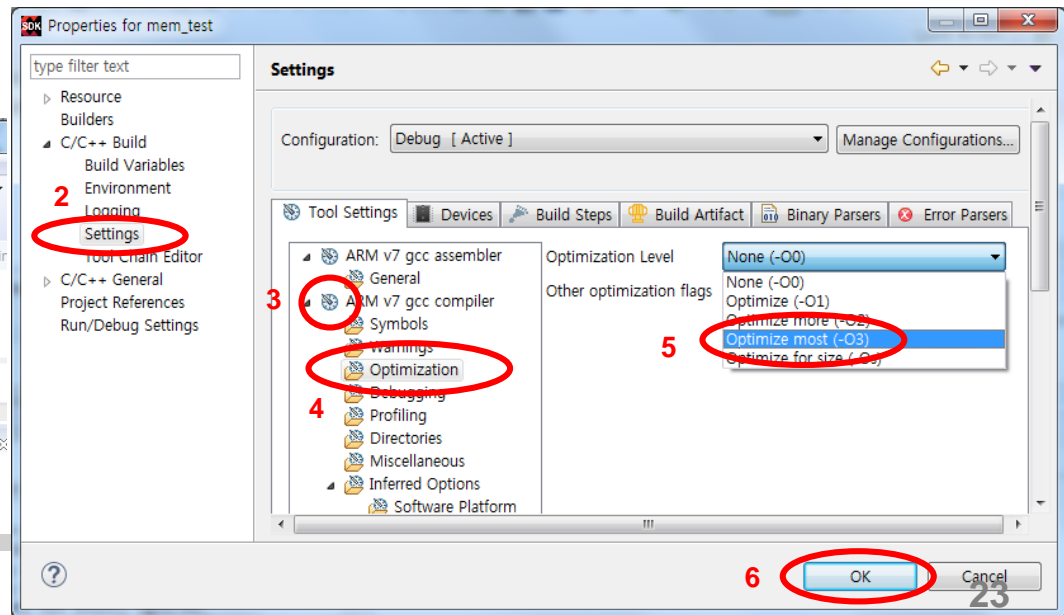
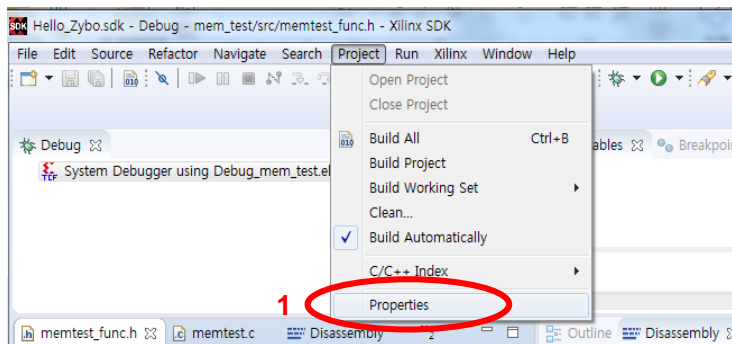
Debugging C Applications

- ❑ Check the content of a memory location
 - Location for the array (Addr)



Optimizing C Applications

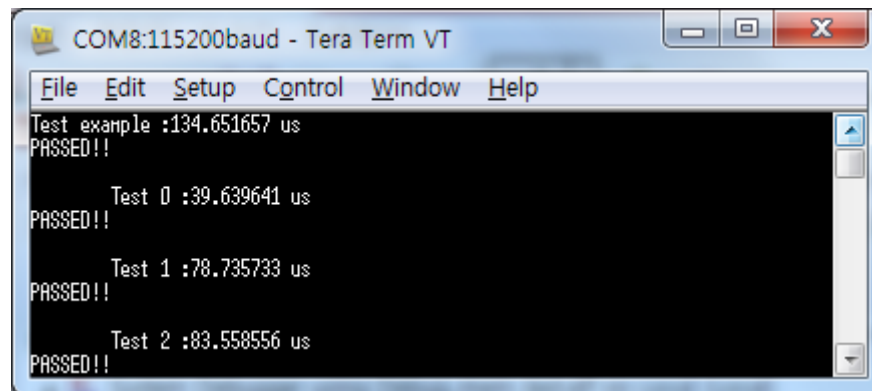
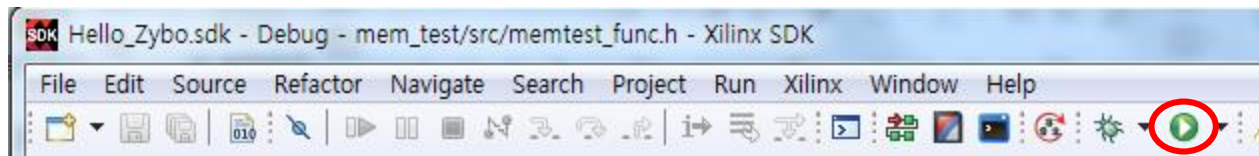
- ❑ Set the compiler optimization level
 - Open the '**Project**' menu and then click '**Properties**'
 - Select '**Settings**' tap and then click '**ARM gcc compiler**' > '**Optimization**'
 - Select '**Optimization most (-O3)**' in the dropdown menu of '**Optimization Level**'
 - Click '**OK**'



Optimizing C Applications

□ Run the application

- Click the '**Run As**' icon to run the application again
- Check the output on '**Tera Term**'
 - ✓ Check how much it accelerates the memory tests



Optimizing C Applications

❑ Debug the application

- Repeat pp.14~22 of this lab workbook to figure out the impact of the compiler optimization level on the assembly codes

The image shows a screenshot of an IDE with two windows. The left window displays the C source code for `memtest.c`. The right window displays the assembly disassembly for the same code. A blue arrow points from the C code line `Addr[i] = Pattern;` to the assembly instruction `str r3, [r11, #-8]`.

```
int memtest_example()
{
    int i, flag=-1;
    int *Addr;

    int Pattern = 0xAAAA5555;

    print ("Test example :");

    XTime_GetTime(&xstart);

    flag = 0;
    Addr = 0x10100000;
    // Memory write
    for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
    {
        Addr[i] = Pattern;
    }

    // Memory Read & Check
    for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
    {
        if (Addr[i] != Pattern)
        {
            flag = -1;
            break;
        }
    }

    XTime_GetTime(&xstop);
    func_time = (float)(xstop - xstart) / 333;
    printf("%f us\n", func_time);
}
```

```
59      for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
60      {
00100630:  mov    r3, #0
00100634:  str     r3, [r11, #-8]
00100638:  b       +32      ; addr=0x00100660: memtest_exam
61      Addr[i] = Pattern;
62      }
63
64      // Memory Read & Check
0010063c:  ldr     r3, [r11, #-8]
00100640:  lsl     r3, r3, #2
00100644:  ldr     r2, [r11, #-20]
00100648:  add     r3, r2, r3
0010064c:  ldr     r2, [r11, #-16]
00100650:  str     r2, [r3]
59      for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
60      {
00100654:  ldr     r3, [r11, #-8]
00100658:  add     r3, r3, #1
0010065c:  str     r3, [r11, #-8]
00100660:  ldr     r3, [r11, #-8]
00100664:  cmp     r3, #1024
00100668:  blt     -52      ; addr=0x0010063c: memtest_exam
65      for (i=0; i<1024;i++)
66      {
0010066c:  mov     r3, #0
00100670:  str     r3, [r11, #-8]
00100674:  b       +52      ; addr=0x001006b0: memtest_exam
67      if (Addr[i] != Pattern)
68      {
```

Demo

- ❑ Compare the (normalized) execution times of all the **four** memory tests as follows
 - Optimization level: O0
 - ✓ D-cache disabled/enabled
 - Optimization level: O3
 - ✓ D-cache disabled/enabled
- ❑ Figure out the reasons for speed up