

Sourcery G++ Lite

MIPS ELF

Sourcery G++ Lite 2011.03-52

Getting Started



Sourcery G++ Lite: MIPS ELF: Sourcery G++ Lite 2011.03-52: Getting Started

CodeSourcery, Inc.

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Abstract

This guide explains how to install and build applications with Sourcery G++ Lite, CodeSourcery's customized and validated version of the GNU Toolchain. Sourcery G++ Lite includes everything you need for application development, including C and C++ compilers, assemblers, linkers, and libraries.

When you have finished reading this guide, you will know how to use Sourcery G++ from the command line.

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Preface

This preface introduces the Sourcery G++ Lite Getting Started guide. It explains the structure of this guide and describes the documentation conventions used.

1. Intended Audience

This guide is written for people who will install and/or use Sourcery G++ Lite. This guide provides a step-by-step guide to installing Sourcery G++ Lite and to building simple applications. Parts of this document assume that you have some familiarity with using the command-line interface.

2. Organization

This document is organized into the following chapters and appendices:

Chapter 1, “Quick Start”	This chapter includes a brief checklist to follow when installing and using Sourcery G++ Lite for the first time. You may use this chapter as an abbreviated guide to the rest of this manual.
Chapter 2, “Installation and Configuration”	This chapter describes how to download, install and configure Sourcery G++ Lite. This section describes the available installation options and explains how to set up your environment so that you can build applications.
Chapter 3, “Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF”	This chapter contains information about using Sourcery G++ Lite that is specific to MIPS ELF targets. You should read this chapter to learn how to best use Sourcery G++ Lite on your target system.
Chapter 4, “Using Sourcery G++ from the Command Line”	This chapter explains how to build applications with Sourcery G++ Lite using the command line. In the process of reading this chapter, you will build a simple application that you can use as a model for your own programs.
Chapter 5, “CS3™: The CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence”	CS3 is CodeSourcery's low-level board support library. This chapter documents the boards supported by Sourcery G++ Lite and the compiler and linker options you need to use with them. It also explains how you can use and modify CS3-provided definitions for memory maps, system startup code and interrupt vectors in your own code.
Chapter 6, “Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite”	This chapter describes the use of the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite for remote debugging. The Sprite allows you to debug programs running on a bare board without an operating system. This chapter includes information about the debugging devices and boards supported by the Sprite for MIPS ELF.
Chapter 7, “Next Steps with Sourcery G++”	This chapter describes where you can find additional documentation and information about using Sourcery G++ Lite and its components. It also provides information about Sourcery G++ subscriptions. CodeSourcery customers with Sourcery G++ subscriptions receive comprehensive support for Sourcery G++.
Appendix A, “Sourcery G++ Lite Release Notes”	This appendix contains information about changes in this release of Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF. You should read through these notes to learn about new features and bug fixes.

Appendix B, “Sourcery G++ Lite Licenses” This appendix provides information about the software licenses that apply to Sourcery G++ Lite. Read this appendix to understand your legal rights and obligations as a user of Sourcery G++ Lite.

3. Typographical Conventions

The following typographical conventions are used in this guide:

<code>> command arg ...</code>	A command, typed by the user, and its output. The “>” character is the command prompt.
<code>command</code>	The name of a program, when used in a sentence, rather than in literal input or output.
<code>literal</code>	Text provided to or received from a computer program.
<code>placeholder</code>	Text that should be replaced with an appropriate value when typing a command.
<code>\</code>	At the end of a line in command or program examples, indicates that a long line of literal input or output continues onto the next line in the document.

Chapter 1

Quick Start

This chapter includes a brief checklist to follow when installing and using Sourcery G++ Lite for the first time. You may use this chapter as an abbreviated guide to the rest of this manual.

Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF is intended for developers working on embedded applications or firmware for boards without an operating system, or that run an RTOS or boot loader. This Sourcery G++ configuration is not intended for Linux or uClinux kernel or application development.

Follow the steps given in this chapter to install Sourcery G++ Lite and build and run your first application program. The checklist given here is not a tutorial and does not include detailed instructions for each step; however, it will help guide you to find the instructions and reference information you need to accomplish each step.

You can find additional details about the components, libraries, and other features included in this version of Sourcery G++ Lite in Chapter 3, “Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF”.

1.1. Installation and Set-Up

Install Sourcery G++ Lite on your host computer. You may download an installer package from the Sourcery G++ web site¹, or you may have received an installer on CD. The installer is an executable program that pops up a window on your computer and leads you through a series of dialogs to configure your installation. When the installation is complete, it offers to launch the Getting Started guide. For more information about installing Sourcery G++ Lite, including host system requirements and tips to set up your environment after installation, refer to Chapter 2, “Installation and Configuration”.

Install drivers for your debug device. If you plan to use the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite, you may need to install drivers, libraries, or other software on your host system. Refer to Chapter 6, “Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite” for a list of supported devices and information about installing drivers and other device set-up. Sourcery G++ Lite also supports third-party debug devices that communicate via the GDB remote serial protocol. If you plan to use one of these devices, follow the manufacturer's directions to connect the device and install any required drivers or software.

1.2. Configuring Sourcery G++ Lite for the Target System

Identify your target board. On bare-metal targets, you must explicitly specify a linker script for your target board on your link command line. Supported boards are listed in Chapter 5, “CS3™: The CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence”. You can also choose a simulator as your target board.

1.3. Building Your Program

Build your program with Sourcery G++ command-line tools. Create a simple test program, and follow the directions in Chapter 4, “Using Sourcery G++ from the Command Line” to compile and link it using Sourcery G++ Lite. On bare-metal targets, you must specify a linker script using the `-T` option on your link command line. Supported boards and linker scripts are listed in Chapter 5, “CS3™: The CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence”.

1.4. Running and Debugging Your Program

The steps to run or debug your program depend on your target system and how it is configured. Choose the appropriate method for your target.

¹ http://www.codesourcery.com/gnu_toolchains/

Run or debug your program in the simulator. Sourcery G++ Lite includes an instruction-set simulator, which provides an easy way to run or debug your program without requiring target hardware. The simulator can be run directly from the command line (see Section 4.3, “Running Applications in the Simulator”) or via the debugger (see Section 4.4, “Running Applications from GDB”).

Debug your program on the target using the Debug Sprite. You can use the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite to load and execute your program on the target from the debugger. Refer to Section 4.4, “Running Applications from GDB” for instructions on using the Sprite from the GDB command line. Detailed reference material for the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite, including information about supported debug devices, can be found in Chapter 6, “Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite”.

Run your program on the target using YAMON. You can run programs built with Sourcery G++ Lite on MIPS ELF targets via the YAMON boot monitor. For instructions, refer to Section 3.5, “Using Sourcery G++ with YAMON”. Note that you must select a YAMON linker script profile when building your program.

Debug your program on the target using a third-party debug device. Sourcery G++ supports debugging programs on the remote target using third-party debug devices that can communicate via the GDB remote serial protocol. For command-line GDB instructions, see Section 4.4, “Running Applications from GDB”.

Chapter 2

Installation and Configuration

This chapter explains how to install Sourcery G++ Lite. You will learn how to:

1. Verify that you can install Sourcery G++ Lite on your system.
2. Download the appropriate Sourcery G++ Lite installer.
3. Install Sourcery G++ Lite.
4. Configure your environment so that you can use Sourcery G++ Lite.

2.1. Terminology

Throughout this document, the term *host system* refers to the system on which you run Sourcery G++ while the term *target system* refers to the system on which the code produced by Sourcery G++ runs. The target system for this version of Sourcery G++ is `mips-sde-elf`.

If you are developing a workstation or server application to run on the same system that you are using to run Sourcery G++, then the host and target systems are the same. On the other hand, if you are developing an application for an embedded system, then the host and target systems are probably different.

2.2. System Requirements

2.2.1. Host Operating System Requirements

This version of Sourcery G++ supports the following host operating systems and architectures:

- Microsoft Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7 systems using IA32, AMD64, and Intel 64 processors.
- GNU/Linux systems using IA32, AMD64, or Intel 64 processors, including Debian 3.1 (and later), Red Hat Enterprise Linux 3 (and later), and SuSE Enterprise Linux 8 (and later).

Sourcery G++ is built as a 32-bit application. Therefore, even when running on a 64-bit host system, Sourcery G++ requires 32-bit host libraries. If these libraries are not already installed on your system, you must install them before installing and using Sourcery G++ Lite. Consult your operating system documentation for more information about obtaining these libraries.

Installing on Ubuntu and Debian GNU/Linux Hosts

The Sourcery G++ graphical installer is incompatible with the `dash` shell, which is the default `/bin/sh` for recent releases of the Ubuntu and Debian GNU/Linux distributions. To install Sourcery G++ Lite on these systems, you must make `/bin/sh` a symbolic link to one of the supported shells: `bash`, `csh`, `tcsh`, `zsh`, or `ksh`.

For example, on Ubuntu systems, the recommended way to do this is:

```
> sudo dpkg-reconfigure -plow dash
Install as /bin/sh? No
```

This is a limitation of the installer and uninstaller only, not of the installed Sourcery G++ Lite toolchain.

2.2.2. Host Hardware Requirements

In order to install and use Sourcery G++ Lite, you must have at least 512MB of available memory.

The amount of disk space required for a complete Sourcery G++ Lite installation directory depends on the host operating system and the number of target libraries included. When you start the graphical installer, it checks whether there is sufficient disk space before beginning to install. Note that the graphical installer also requires additional temporary disk space during the installation process. On Microsoft Windows hosts, the installer uses the location specified by the `TEMP` environment variable for these temporary files. If there is not enough free space on that volume, the installer

prompts for an alternate location. On Linux hosts, the installer puts temporary files in the directory specified by the `IATEMPDIR` environment variable, or `/tmp` if that is not set.

2.2.3. Target System Requirements

See Chapter 3, “Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF” for requirements that apply to the target system.

2.3. Downloading an Installer

If you have received Sourcery G++ Lite on a CD, or other physical media, then you do not need to download an installer. You may skip ahead to Section 2.4, “Installing Sourcery G++ Lite”.

You can download Sourcery G++ Lite from the Sourcery G++ web site¹. This free version of Sourcery G++, which is made available to the general public, does not include all the functionality of CodeSourcery's product releases. If you prefer, you may instead purchase or register for an evaluation of CodeSourcery's product toolchains at the Sourcery G++ Portal².

Once you have navigated to the appropriate web site, download the installer that corresponds to your host operating system. For Microsoft Windows systems, the Sourcery G++ installer is provided as an executable with the `.exe` extension. For GNU/Linux systems Sourcery G++ Lite is provided as an executable installer package with the `.bin` extension. You may also install from a compressed archive with the `.tar.bz2` extension.

On Microsoft Windows systems, save the installer to the desktop. On GNU/Linux systems, save the download package in your home directory.

2.4. Installing Sourcery G++ Lite

The method used to install Sourcery G++ Lite depends on your host system and the kind of installation package you have downloaded.

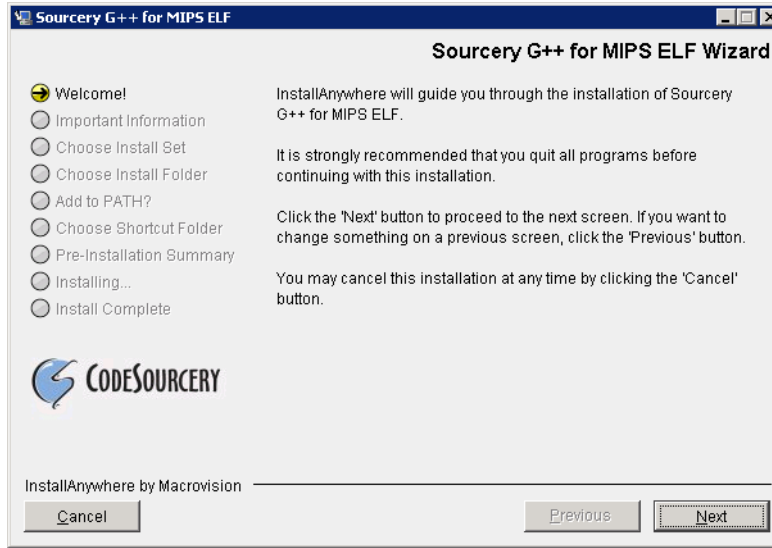
2.4.1. Using the Sourcery G++ Lite Installer on Microsoft Windows

If you have received Sourcery G++ Lite on CD, insert the CD in your computer. On most computers, the installer then starts automatically. If your computer has been configured not to automatically run CDs, open *My Computer*, and double click on the CD. If you downloaded Sourcery G++ Lite, double-click on the installer.

After the installer starts, follow the on-screen dialogs to install Sourcery G++ Lite. The installer is intended to be self-explanatory and on most pages the defaults are appropriate.

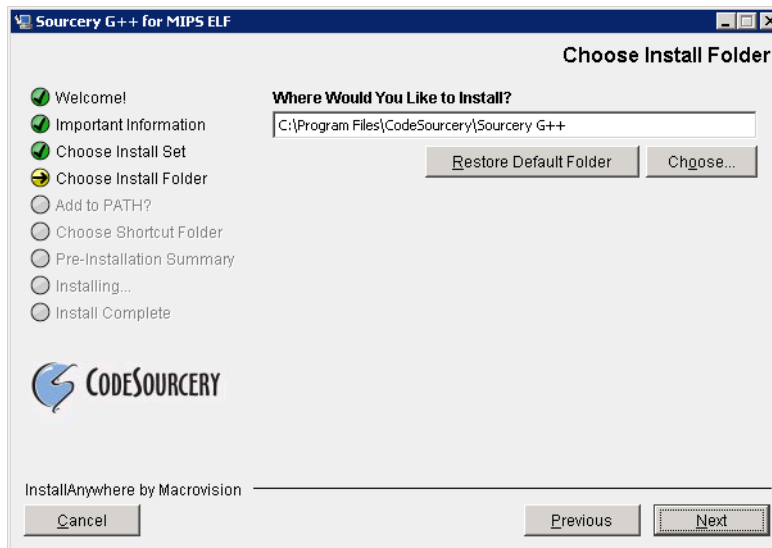
¹ http://www.codesourcery.com/gnu_toolchains/

² <https://support.codesourcery.com/GNUToolchain/>

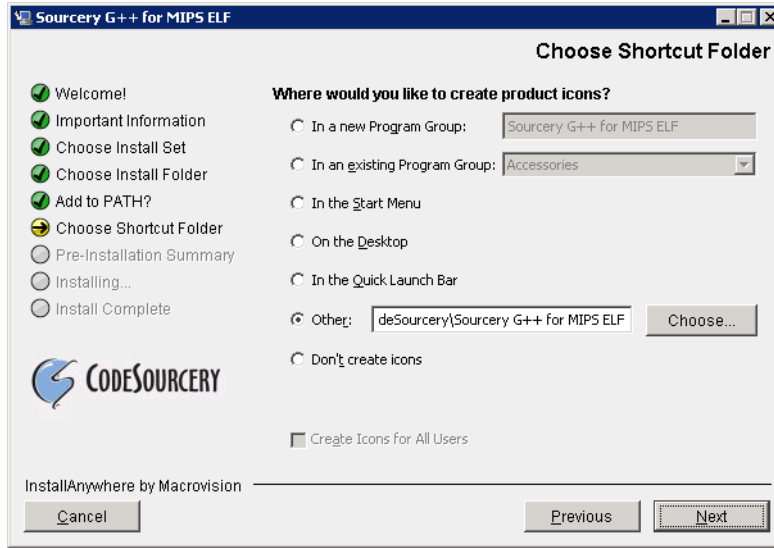


Running the Installer. The graphical installer guides you through the steps to install Sourcery G++ Lite.

You may want to change the install directory pathname and customize the shortcut installation.

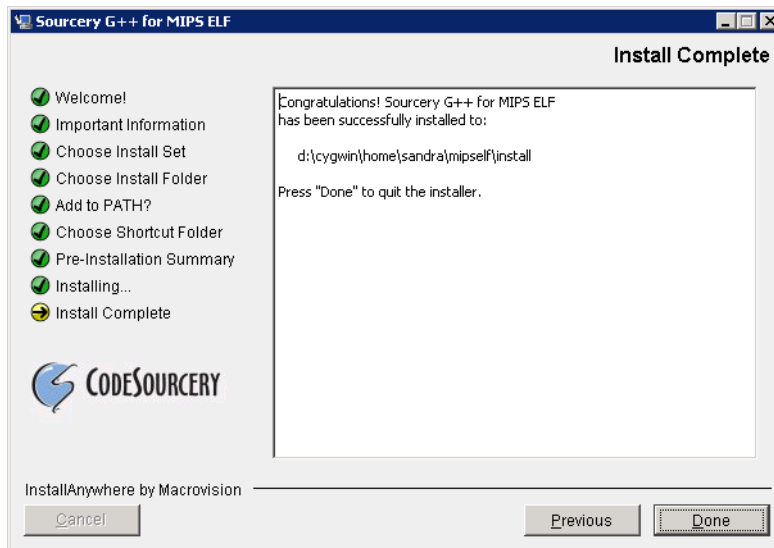


Choose Install Folder. Select the pathname to your install directory.



Choose Shortcut Folder. You can customize where the installer creates shortcuts for quick access to Sourcery G++ Lite.

When the installer has finished, it asks if you want to launch a viewer for the Getting Started guide. Finally, the installer displays a summary screen to confirm a successful install before it exits.



Install Complete. You should see a screen similar to this after a successful install.

If you prefer, you can run the installer in console mode rather than using the graphical interface. To do this, invoke the installer with the `-i console` command-line option. For example:

```
> /path/to/package.exe -i console
```

2.4.2. Using the Sourcery G++ Lite Installer on GNU/Linux Hosts

Start the graphical installer by invoking the executable shell script:

```
> /bin/sh ./path/to/package.bin
```

After the installer starts, follow the on-screen dialogs to install Sourcery G++ Lite. For additional details on running the installer, see the discussion and screen shots in the Microsoft Windows section above.

If you prefer, or if your host system does not run the X Window System, you can run the installer in console mode rather than using the graphical interface. To do this, invoke the installer with the `-i console` command-line option. For example:

```
> /bin/sh ./path/to/package.bin -i console
```

2.4.3. Installing Sourcery G++ Lite from a Compressed Archive

You do not need to be a system administrator to install Sourcery G++ Lite from a compressed archive. You may install Sourcery G++ Lite using any user account and in any directory to which you have write access. This guide assumes that you have decided to install Sourcery G++ Lite in the `$HOME/CodeSourcery` subdirectory of your home directory and that the filename of the package you have downloaded is `/path/to/package.tar.bz2`. After installation the toolchain will be in `$HOME/CodeSourcery/sourceryg++-2011.03`.

First, uncompress the package file:

```
> bunzip2 /path/to/package.tar.bz2
```

Next, create the directory in which you wish to install the package:

```
> mkdir -p $HOME/CodeSourcery
```

Change to the installation directory:

```
> cd $HOME/CodeSourcery
```

Unpack the package:

```
> tar xf /path/to/package.tar
```

2.5. Installing Sourcery G++ Lite Updates

If you have already installed an earlier version of Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF on your system, it is not necessary to uninstall it before using the installer to unpack a new version in the same location. The installer detects that it is performing an update in that case.

If you are installing an update from a compressed archive, it is recommended that you remove any previous installation in the same location, or install in a different directory.

Note that the names of the Sourcery G++ commands for the MIPS ELF target all begin with `mips-sde-elf`. This means that you can install Sourcery G++ for multiple target systems in the same directory without conflicts.

2.6. Setting up the Environment

As with the installation process itself, the steps required to set up your environment depend on your host operating system.

2.6.1. Setting up the Environment on Microsoft Windows Hosts

2.6.1.1. Setting the PATH

In order to use the Sourcery G++ tools from the command line, you should add them to your PATH. You may skip this step if you used the graphical installer, since the installer automatically adds Sourcery G++ to your PATH.

To set the PATH on a Microsoft Windows Vista system, use the following command in a `cmd.exe` shell:

```
> setx PATH "%PATH%;C:\Program Files\Sourcery G++\bin"
```

where `C:\Program Files\Sourcery G++` should be changed to the path of your Sourcery G++ Lite installation.

To set the PATH on a system running Microsoft Windows 7, from the desktop bring up the Start menu and right click on Computer. Select Properties and click on Advanced system settings. Go to the Advanced tab, then click on the Environment Variables button. Select the PATH variable and click the Edit. Add the string `;C:\Program Files\Sourcery G++\bin` to the end, and click OK. Be sure to adjust the pathname to reflect your actual installation directory.

To set the PATH on older versions of Microsoft Windows, from the desktop bring up the Start menu and right click on My Computer. Select Properties, go to the Advanced tab, then click on the Environment Variables button. Select the PATH variable and click the Edit. Add the string `;C:\Program Files\Sourcery G++\bin` to the end, and click OK. Again, you must adjust the pathname to reflect your installation directory.

You can verify that your PATH is set up correctly by starting a new `cmd.exe` shell and running:

```
> mips-sde-elf-g++ -v
```

Verify that the last line of the output contains: `Sourcery G++ Lite 2011.03-52`.

2.6.1.2. Working with Cygwin

Sourcery G++ Lite does not require Cygwin or any other UNIX emulation environment. You can use Sourcery G++ directly from the Windows command shell. You can also use Sourcery G++ from within the Cygwin environment, if you prefer.

The Cygwin emulation environment translates Windows path names into UNIX path names. For example, the Cygwin path `/home/user/hello.c` corresponds to the Windows path `c:\cygwin\home\user\hello.c`. Because Sourcery G++ is not a Cygwin application, it does not, by default, recognize Cygwin paths.

If you are using Sourcery G++ from Cygwin, you should set the `CYGPATH` environment variable. If this environment variable is set, Sourcery G++ Lite automatically translates Cygwin path names into Windows path names. To set this environment variable, type the following command in a Cygwin shell:

```
> export CYGPATH=cygpath
```

To resolve Cygwin path names, Sourcery G++ relies on the `cygpath` utility provided with Cygwin. You must provide Sourcery G++ with the full path to `cygpath` if `cygpath` is not in your PATH. For example:

```
> export CYGPATH=c:/cygwin/bin/cygpath
```

directs Sourcery G++ Lite to use `c:/cygwin/bin/cygpath` as the path conversion utility. The value of `CYGPATH` must be an ordinary Windows path, not a Cygwin path.

2.6.2. Setting up the Environment on GNU/Linux Hosts

If you installed Sourcery G++ Lite using the graphical installer then you may skip this step. The installer does this setup for you.

Before using Sourcery G++ Lite you should add it to your `PATH`. The command you must use varies with the particular command shell that you are using. If you are using the C Shell (`csh` or `tcsh`), use the command:

```
> setenv PATH $HOME/CodeSourcery/Sourcery_G++/bin:$PATH
```

If you are using Bourne Shell (`sh`), the Korn Shell (`ksh`), or another shell, use:

```
> PATH=$HOME/CodeSourcery/Sourcery_G++/bin:$PATH
> export PATH
```

If you are not sure which shell you are using, try both commands. In both cases, if you have installed Sourcery G++ Lite in an alternate location, you must replace the directory above with `bin` subdirectory of the directory in which you installed Sourcery G++ Lite.

You may also wish to set the `MANPATH` environment variable so that you can access the Sourcery G++ manual pages, which provide additional information about using Sourcery G++. To set the `MANPATH` environment variable, follow the same steps shown above, replacing `PATH` with `MANPATH`, and `bin` with `share/doc/sourceryg++-mips-sde-elf/man`.

You can test that your `PATH` is set up correctly by running the following command:

```
> mips-sde-elf-g++ -v
```

Verify that the last line of the output contains: `Sourcery G++ Lite 2011.03-52`.

2.7. Uninstalling Sourcery G++ Lite

The method used to uninstall Sourcery G++ Lite depends on the method you originally used to install it. If you have modified any files in the installation it is recommended that you back up these changes. The uninstall procedure may remove the files you have altered. In particular, the `mips-sde-elf` directory located in the install directory will be removed entirely by the uninstaller.

2.7.1. Using the Sourcery G++ Lite Uninstaller on Microsoft Windows

You should use the provided uninstaller to remove a Sourcery G++ Lite installation originally created by the graphical installer. Start the graphical uninstaller by invoking the Uninstall executable located in your installation directory, or use the uninstall shortcut created during installation. After the uninstaller starts, follow the on-screen dialogs to uninstall Sourcery G++ Lite.

You can run the uninstaller in console mode, rather than using the graphical interface, by invoking the Uninstall executable found in your Sourcery G++ Lite installation directory with the `-i console` command-line option.

To uninstall third-party drivers bundled with Sourcery G++ Lite, first disconnect the associated hardware device. Then use `Uninstall a program` (Vista and newer) or `Add or Remove Programs` (older versions of Windows) to remove the drivers separately. Depending on the device, you may need to reboot your computer to complete the driver uninstall.

2.7.2. Using the Sourcery G++ Lite Uninstaller on GNU/Linux

You should use the provided uninstaller to remove a Sourcery G++ Lite installation originally created by the executable installer script. Start the graphical uninstaller by invoking the executable `Uninstall` shell script located in your installation directory. After the uninstaller starts, follow the on-screen dialogs to uninstall Sourcery G++ Lite.

You can run the uninstaller in console mode, rather than using the graphical interface, by invoking the `Uninstall` script with the `-i console` command-line option.

2.7.3. Uninstalling a Compressed Archive Installation

If you installed Sourcery G++ Lite from a `.tar.bz2` file, you can uninstall it by manually deleting the installation directory created in the install procedure.

Chapter 3

Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF

This chapter contains information about features of Sourcery G++ Lite that are specific to MIPS ELF targets. You should read this chapter to learn how to best use Sourcery G++ Lite on your target system.

3.1. Included Components and Features

This section briefly lists the important components and features included in Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF, and tells you where you may find further information about these features.

Component	Version	Notes
GNU programming tools		
GNU Compiler Collection	4.5.2	Separate manual included.
GNU Binary Utilities	2.20.51	Includes assembler, linker, and other utilities. Separate manuals included.
Debugging support and simulators		
GNU Debugger	7.2.50	Separate manual included.
Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite for MIPS	2011.03-52	See Chapter 6, “Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite”.
GDB Simulator	N/A	See Section 4.3, “Running Applications in the Simulator”.
Target libraries		
CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence	2011.03-52	See Chapter 5, “CS3™: The CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence”.
Newlib C Library	1.18.0	Separate manuals included.
Other utilities		
GNU Make	N/A	Build support on Windows hosts.
GNU Core Utilities	N/A	Build support on Windows hosts.

3.2. Library Configurations

Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF includes the following library configuration.

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32	
Command-line option(s):	default
Library subdirectory:	./

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32	
Command-line option(s):	-EL
Library subdirectory:	el/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, mips16	
Command-line option(s):	-mips16
Library subdirectory:	mips16/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, fp64	
Command-line option(s):	-mfp64
Library subdirectory:	fp64/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Soft-Float, O32	
Command-line option(s):	-msoft-float
Library subdirectory:	sof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - No-Float, O32	
Command-line option(s):	-mno-float
Library subdirectory:	nof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, mips16, fp64	
Command-line option(s):	-mips16 -mfp64
Library subdirectory:	mips16/fp64/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, mips16, Soft-Float	
Command-line option(s):	-mips16 -msoft-float
Library subdirectory:	mips16/sof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, mips16, No-Float	
Command-line option(s):	-mips16 -mno-float
Library subdirectory:	mips16/nof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, mips16, code-readable=no	
Command-line option(s):	-mips16 -mcode-readable=no
Library subdirectory:	mips16/spram/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, mips16, fp64, code-readable=no	
Command-line option(s):	-mips16 -mfp64 -mcode-readable=no
Library subdirectory:	mips16/fp64/spram/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, mips16, Soft-Float, code-readable=no	
Command-line option(s):	-mips16 -msoft-float -mcode-readable=no
Library subdirectory:	mips16/sof/spram/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, mips16, No-Float, code-readable=no	
Command-line option(s):	-mips16 -mno-float -mcode-readable=no
Library subdirectory:	mips16/nof/spram/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, mips16	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mips16
Library subdirectory:	el/mips16/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, fp64	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mfp64
Library subdirectory:	el/fp64/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, Soft-Float	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -msoft-float
Library subdirectory:	el/sof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, No-Float	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mno-float
Library subdirectory:	el/nof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, mips16, fp64	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mips16 -mfp64
Library subdirectory:	el/mips16/fp64/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, mips16, Soft-Float	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mips16 -msoft-float
Library subdirectory:	el/mips16/sof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, mips16, No-Float	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mips16 -mno-float
Library subdirectory:	el/mips16/nof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, mips16, code-readable=no	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mips16 -mcode-readable=no
Library subdirectory:	el/mips16/spram/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, mips16, fp64, code-readable=no	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mips16 -mfp64 -mcode-readable=no
Library subdirectory:	el/mips16/fp64/spram/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, mips16, Soft-Float, code-readable=no	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mips16 -msoft-float -mcode-readable=no
Library subdirectory:	el/mips16/sof/spram/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, mips16, No-Float, code-readable=no	
Command-line option(s):	-EL -mips16 -mno-float -mcode-readable=no
Library subdirectory:	el/mips16/nof/spram/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, micromips	
Command-line option(s):	-mmicromips
Library subdirectory:	micromips/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Big-Endian, O32, micromips, Soft-Float	
Command-line option(s):	-mmicromips -msoft-float
Library subdirectory:	micromips/sof/

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, micromips	
Command-line option(s):	<code>-EL -mmicromips</code>
Library subdirectory:	<code>el/micromips/</code>

MIPS32 revision 2 - Little-Endian, O32, micromips, Soft-Float	
Command-line option(s):	<code>-EL -mmicromips -msoft-float</code>
Library subdirectory:	<code>el/micromips/sof/</code>

Sourcery G++ includes copies of run-time libraries that have been built with optimizations for different target architecture variants or other sets of build options. Each such set of libraries is referred to as a *multilib*. When you link a target application, Sourcery G++ selects the multilib matching the build options you have selected.

Sourcery G++ Lite's library support includes linker scripts that pull in appropriate CS3 startup code, as well as the libraries themselves. You can find these linker scripts in multilib-specific subdirectories of the `mips-sde-elf/lib` directory of your Sourcery G++ install.

3.3. CS3 Support

Sourcery G++ Lite includes CS3 linker scripts and initialization code to support three different classes of target configurations:

- Simulator targets, such as MIPSsim, running under control of the debugger.
- Malta or SEAD-3 hardware targets running in a bare-metal configuration under control of the debugger.
- Malta or SEAD-3 hardware targets running under control of the YAMON boot monitor.

You must use the appropriate linker script to match your target, since the memory layouts and startup code sequences are different in each case. Refer to Chapter 5, “CS3™: The CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence” for details on the supported boards for this version of Sourcery G++ Lite.

For simulator and bare-metal targets, CS3 provides semihosted I/O via the debugger console on the host. For instructions on loading and running code on the target from command-line GDB, see Section 4.4, “Running Applications from GDB”.

3.4. Using Sourcery G++ with MIPS Boards

The provided CS3 linker scripts for MIPS Malta and SEAD-3 boards (both bare-metal and YAMON profiles) assume a minimum amount of RAM is available on the target. Refer to the following table for the specific requirements. If your target board has less memory, you must adjust the memory layout used by the linker by specifying a custom linker script.

Board	Memory Requirement
Malta	128MB
SEAD-3 LX50	4MB
SEAD-3 LX110	128MB

Find the linker script for your selected profile, such as `mips-sde-elf/lib/malta-ram-hosted.ld`, in your Sourcery G++ Lite installation and copy it to your project

working directory. In your local copy, find the `MEMORY` directive and edit the `LENGTH` expression to match the amount of memory available on your board. Then, use the full absolute pathname of your modified linker script with the `-T` command-line option when linking your program.

3.5. Using Sourcery G++ with YAMON

For YAMON targets, CS3 provides basic I/O services via the YAMON console. This section briefly covers how to load and run programs using YAMON.

To prepare an application to run from YAMON, you must first convert the executable file to SREC format. You can do this from the command line on your host system using the `objcopy` utility provided with Sourcery G++ Lite.

```
> mips-sde-elf-objcopy -O srec prog prog.srec
```

Next, use YAMON to load the SREC image file into RAM. For example, to load via TFTP, use a command similar to:

```
YAMON> load tftp://host/path/prog.srec
```

Then, start the program from the YAMON prompt:

```
YAMON> go .
```

For more detailed information about YAMON usage and features, refer to the *YAMON User's Manual*.

3.6. Profiling Support

Sourcery G++ Lite includes CS3 support for code profiling on MIPS ELF targets using `gprof`. To enable profiling, compile your program with the `-pg` option. You must also build your program with a hosted linker script.

You can run a program built with profiling from the debugger the same as you would any other hosted application. While your program is running, profiling data is saved in buffers in the heap memory area on the target. This may affect the amount of memory available to your application, and it is also possible that the profiler itself may run out of memory. Profiling data is written to a file on the host (`gmon.out`) only when your application exits. Since many embedded applications are structured to run indefinitely rather than exit, you may need to add an explicit `exit` call in order to collect profiling data.

For instructions on using the `mips-sde-elf-gprof` utility to process the collected `gmon.out` data, refer to the GNU Profiler (`gprof`) manual included with Sourcery G++ Lite.

3.7. Using Flash Memory

Sourcery G++ Lite supports development and debugging of applications loaded into flash memory on MIPS ELF targets. There are three steps involved:

1. You must use an appropriate linker script that identifies the ROM memory region on your target board, and locates the program text within that region. Refer to Chapter 5, “CS3™: The Code-Sourcery Common Startup Code Sequence” for information about the boards supported by Sourcery G++.

2. Next, load your program into the flash memory on your target board. You must use third-party tools to program the flash memory.
3. Finally, when debugging a program in flash memory, GDB must be told about the ROM region so that it knows where it must use hardware breakpoints to control program execution. If you are using the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite to debug your program, the Sprite does this automatically, using the memory map provided in the board configuration file. Otherwise, you must provide this information explicitly.

When using GDB from the command line, you can mark the flash memory as read-only by using the command:

```
(gdb) mem start end ro
```

where *start* and *end* define the address range of the read-only memory region.

In addition to GDB's automatic use of hardware breakpoints in the ROM region, you can also set hardware breakpoints explicitly from the debugger. However, on many targets the number of available hardware breakpoints is very small. Furthermore, GDB also uses hardware breakpoints internally to implement commands such as `step`, `next`, and `finish`. Thus the number of breakpoints you can explicitly set in ROM may be fewer than the number of hardware breakpoints supported by the target system.

Chapter 4

Using Sourcery G++ from the Command Line

This chapter demonstrates the use of Sourcery G++ Lite from the command line.

4.1. Building an Application

This chapter explains how to build an application with Sourcery G++ Lite using the command line. As elsewhere in this manual, this section assumes that your target system is mips-sde-elf, as indicated by the `mips-sde-elf` command prefix.

Using an editor (such as notepad on Microsoft Windows or `vi` on UNIX-like systems), create a file named `main.c` containing the following simple factorial program:

```
#include <stdio.h>

int factorial(int n) {
    if (n == 0)
        return 1;
    return n * factorial (n - 1);
}

int main () {
    int i;
    int n;
    for (i = 0; i < 10; ++i) {
        n = factorial (i);
        printf ("factorial(%d) = %d\n", i, n);
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Compile and link this program using the command:

```
> mips-sde-elf-gcc -o factorial main.c -T script
```

Sourcery G++ requires that you specify a linker script with the `-T` option to build applications for bare-board targets. Linker errors like undefined reference to ``read'` are a symptom of failing to use an appropriate linker script. Default linker scripts are provided in `mips-sde-elf/lib`. Refer to Chapter 5, “CS3™: The CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence” for information about the boards and linker scripts supported by Sourcery G++ Lite. You must also add the processor options for your board, as documented in that chapter, to your compile and link command lines.

There should be no output from the compiler. (If you are building a C++ application, instead of a C application, replace `mips-sde-elf-gcc` with `mips-sde-elf-g++`.)

4.2. Running Applications on the Target System

Consult your target board documentation for instructions on loading programs onto the target, and running them. Alternatively, you can use the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite from within GDB to download and run programs on the target via a supported hardware debugging device.

4.3. Running Applications in the Simulator

Sourcery G++ Lite includes a simulator that you can use on the host system to run programs compiled for the target system. Since you do not need target hardware, this is the easiest way to try out Sourcery G++.

To use the simulator run:

```
> mips-sde-elf-run factorial
```

You should see the expected output:

```
factorial(0) = 1
factorial(1) = 1
factorial(2) = 2
factorial(3) = 6
factorial(4) = 24
factorial(5) = 120
factorial(6) = 720
factorial(7) = 5040
factorial(8) = 40320
factorial(9) = 362880
```

You can also use the simulator to execute target programs when debugging with GDB. See Section 4.4, “Running Applications from GDB” for more information.

The simulator supports the MIPS32r2 instruction set, including the MIPS16e, MIPS DSP and DSP Revision 2, SmartMIPS, and MIPS-3D ASEs. It can also emulate earlier variants of the MIPS architecture.

4.4. Running Applications from GDB

You can run GDB, the GNU Debugger, on your host system to debug programs running remotely on a target board or system. You can also run and debug programs using the GDB simulator.

When starting GDB, give it the pathname to the program you want to debug as a command-line argument. For example, if you have built the factorial program as described in Section 4.1, “Building an Application”, enter:

```
> mips-sde-elf-gdb factorial
```

While this section explains the alternatives for using GDB to run and debug application programs, explaining the use of the GDB command-line interface is beyond the scope of this document. Please refer to the GDB manual for further instructions.

4.4.1. Connecting to the GDB Simulator

GDB includes a simulator that allows you to debug MIPS ELF applications without target hardware. To start and connect to the simulator from within GDB, use this command:

```
(gdb) target sim
```

4.4.2. Connecting to the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite

The Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite is a program that runs on the host system to support hardware debugging devices. You can use the Debug Sprite to run and debug programs on a target board without an operating system, or to debug an operating system kernel. See Chapter 6, “Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite” for detailed information about the supported devices.

You can start the Sprite directly from within GDB:

```
(gdb) target remote | mips-sde-elf-sprite arguments
```

Refer to Section 6.3, “Invoking Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite” for a full description of the Sprite arguments.

4.4.3. Connecting to an External GDB Server

From within GDB, you can connect to a running `gdbserver` or other debugging stub that uses the GDB remote protocol using:

```
(gdb) target remote host:port
```

where *host* is the host name or IP address of the machine the stub is running on, and *port* is the port number it is listening on for TCP connections.

4.4.4. Loading and Running Applications

Connecting to a bare-metal target or simulator from GDB does not cause your program to be loaded into target memory. You must do this explicitly from GDB after you connect:

```
(gdb) load
```

Alternatively, you can use third-party tools to load your application into flash memory before starting GDB.

To begin execution of your application, you should generally use the `continue` command:

```
(gdb) continue
```

However, you should use `run` instead of `continue` to start your program if you used `target sim` to connect:

```
(gdb) run
```

Chapter 5

CS3™: The CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence

CS3 is CodeSourcery's low-level board support library. This chapter documents the boards supported by Sourcery G++ Lite and the compiler and linker options you need to use with them. It also explains how you can use and modify CS3-provided definitions for memory maps, system startup code and interrupt vectors in your own code.

Many developers turn to the GNU toolchain for its cross-platform consistency: having a single system support so many different processors and boards helps to limit risk and keep learning curves gentle. Historically, however, the GNU toolchain has lacked a consistent set of conventions for processor- and board-level initialization, language run-time setup, and interrupt and trap handler definition.

The CodeSourcery Common Startup Code Sequence (CS3) addresses this problem. For each supported system, CS3 provides a set of linker scripts describing the system's memory map, and a board support library providing generic reset, startup, and interrupt handlers. These scripts and libraries all follow a standard set of conventions across a range of processors and boards.

In addition to providing linker support, CS3's functionality is fully integrated with the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite. For each supported board, CS3 provides the board file containing the memory map and initialization sequence required for debugging applications on the board via the Sprite, as documented in Section 6.7, "Supported Board Files".

This chapter is organized in two parts. The first part explains CS3 concepts:

- Section 5.1, "Linker Scripts" provides basic information you need to know in order to select an appropriate CS3-provided linker script for your MIPS ELF board.
- CS3's program startup and termination model is discussed in Section 5.2, "Program Startup and Termination".
- Section 5.3, "Memory Layout" discusses the mapping from program sections to memory regions. It also explains how you can refer to memory regions using CS3-provided symbolic names from C, assembly language, or the linker script, and customize placement of code or data in your program.

The second part provides details about the CS3 implementation for MIPS ELF:

- Section 5.5, "Supported Boards for MIPS ELF" lists the boards supported by CS3 for MIPS ELF, and the available linker scripts for them.

5.1. Linker Scripts

When you build programs for MIPS ELF targets, you must use a linker script. The linker script serves several purposes:

- It determines the memory addresses for placement of code and data sections.
- It defines symbolic names for memory regions present on the board, which you can use programmatically within your code.
- It provides appropriate program startup and termination code, and causes the linker to pull in any low-level board support libraries that are required to run code on the target.
- It optionally provides a *hosting* library for basic I/O functionality.
- It provides a default interrupt vector appropriate for the target processor.

When invoking the Sourcery G++ linker from the command line, you must explicitly supply a linker script using the `-T` option; otherwise a link error results.

CS3 may provide multiple linker scripts for different configurations using the same board. For example, on some boards CS3 may support running the program from either RAM or ROM (flash). Some CS3 link configurations are also designed to co-exist with, or be run from, a boot monitor on

the target board. Simulator targets typically require different startup code configurations than hardware targets. In CS3 terminology, each of these different configurations is referred to as a *profile*.

The remainder of this section discusses profile and hosting selection considerations in more detail. You can find the full list of supported boards and linker scripts included in this release of Sourcery G++ Lite in Section 5.5, “Supported Boards for MIPS ELF”.

5.1.1. Program and Data Placement

Many boards have both RAM and ROM (flash) memory devices. CS3 provides distinct linker scripts to place the application either entirely in RAM, or to place code and read-only data in ROM.

Some boards have very small amounts of RAM memory. If you use large library functions (such as `printf` and `malloc`), you may overflow the available memory. You may need to use the ROM-based profile for such programs, so that the program itself is stored in ROM. You may be able to reduce the total amount of memory used by your program by replacing portions of the Sourcery G++ runtime library and/or startup code.

5.1.2. Hosting and Semihosting

CS3 is designed to support boards without an operating system. To allow functions like `open` and `write` to work without operating system support, a *semihosting* feature is supported, in conjunction with the debugger.

With semihosting enabled, these system calls are translated into equivalent function calls on your host system. You can only use these function calls while connected to the debugger; if you try to use them when disconnected from the debugger, you will get a hardware exception.

Semihosting requires support from the remote GDB debugging stub or agent, as well as the debugger itself. The Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite implements semihosting for all supported devices. Semihosting is also supported by the GDB Simulator included with Sourcery G++ Lite. However, semihosting may not be supported by debugging stubs provided by third parties. If you are using a debug device that communicates with GDB using the GDB remote protocol, check the documentation for your device to see whether semihosting is supported.

A good use of semihosting is to display debugging messages. For example, this program prints a message on the debugger console on the host:

```
#include <unistd.h>

int main () {
    write (STDERR_FILENO, "Hello, world!\n", 14);
    return 0;
}
```

The hosted CS3 linker scripts provide the semihosting support, and as such programs linked with them may only be run with the debugger. For production code, or programs where memory usage is tightly constrained, use the unhosted CS3 linker scripts instead. These scripts provide stub versions of the system calls, which return an appropriate error value in `errno`. If such a stub system call is required in the executable, the linker also produces a warning. Such a warning may indicate that you have left debugging code active, or that your program contains unused code.

As an alternative to semihosting via the debugger, some targets supported by CS3 can run a boot monitor that provides console I/O services and other basic system calls. CS3 can also provide hosting

via these facilities; where a boot monitor is supported, this is noted in the board tables below. Unlike semihosting, hosting via the boot monitor can be used when running programs outside of the debugger.

5.1.3. Specifying a Linker Script

When using Sourcery G++ from the command line or from a `Makefile`, you must add `-T script` to your linking command, where `script` is the appropriate linker script. For example, to target MIPS Malta boards, you could link with `-T malta-ram-hosted.ld`.

5.2. Program Startup and Termination

This section documents CS3's model for target initialization prior to invoking the `main` function of your program, and aspects of program termination that are left unspecified in the C and C++ standards. It explains how you can customize or override the default behavior for your application.

CS3 divides the startup sequence into three phases:

- The *hard reset phase* (`__cs3_reset`) includes actions such as initializing the memory controller and setting up the memory map.
- The *assembly initialization phase* (`__cs3_start_asm`) prepares the stack to run C code, and jumps to the C initialization function.
- The *C initialization phase* (`__cs3_start_c`) is responsible for initializing the data areas, running constructors for statically-allocated objects, and calling `main`.

The hard reset and assembly initialization phases are necessarily written in assembly language; at reset, there may not yet be stack to hold compiler temporaries, or perhaps even any RAM accessible to hold the stack. These phases do the minimum necessary to prepare the environment for running simple C code. Then, the code for the final phase may be written in C; CS3 leaves as much as possible to be done at this point.

The CodeSourcery board support library provides default code for all three phases. The hard reset phase is implemented by board- and profile-specific code. The assembly initialization phase is implemented by profile-specific code. The C initialization phase is implemented by generic code.

5.2.1. The Hard Reset Phase

This phase, which begins at `__cs3_reset`, is responsible for initializing board-specific registers, such as memory base registers and DRAM controllers, or scanning memory to check the available size. It is written in assembler and ends with a jump to `__cs3_start_asm`, which is where the assembly initialization phase begins.

The hard reset code is in a section named `.cs3.reset`. CS3 linker scripts define `__cs3_reset` as an alias for a board- and profile-specific entry point. You may override the CS3-provided reset code by defining your own `__cs3_reset` entry point in the `.cs3.reset` section.

Program execution always begins at `__cs3_reset`, whether the program is started from the reset vector, the debugger, or a boot monitor. However, the `__cs3_reset` code linked into the application is typically non-empty only for ROM-based profiles. For example, in a RAM-based profile, resetting the memory controllers would overwrite the code being executed.

When using the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite, the Sprite is responsible for carrying out the hard reset actions before the program is loaded onto the target. This is performed prior to execution of both RAM- and ROM-profile applications from the debugger. Thus, when debugging a ROM-profile ap-

plication, hard reset is actually performed twice — once by the Sprite, and once by the application itself.

5.2.2. The Assembly Initialization Phase

This phase is responsible for initializing the stack pointer and creating an initial stack frame. The symbol `__cs3_start_asm` marks the entry point of the assembly initialization code. The assembly initialization phase ends with a call or jump to `__cs3_start_c`.

The assembly initialization phase is profile-specific. For example, while bare-board applications typically must initialize the stack themselves, CS3 also supports boot-monitor profiles where the stack is initialized by the boot monitor before it launches the application. Likewise, some simulators automatically initialize the stack pointer and initial stack frame on startup, while others require a supervisory operation on startup to determine the amount of available memory. Each of these scenarios requires different assembly initialization behavior.

Note that on bare-board targets setting the stack pointer explicitly in the assembly initialization phase is required even if the processor itself initializes the stack pointer automatically on reset. This is to support running programs from the debugger as well as from processor reset.

For backwards compatibility with previous versions of CS3, on RAM and ROM profiles the symbol `__cs3_start_asm` is actually an alias for a symbol named `_start`. However, referencing or defining `_start` directly is now deprecated.

The value of the symbol `__cs3_stack` provides the initial value of the stack pointer for profiles that must set it explicitly. The CodeSourcery linker scripts provide a default value for this symbol, which you may override by defining `__cs3_stack` yourself. See Section 5.3.3, “Heap and Stack Placement” for an example of a custom stack.

The initial stack frame is created for the use of ordinary C and C++ calling conventions. The stack should be initialized so that backtraces stop cleanly at this point; this might entail zeroing a dynamic link pointer, or providing hand-written DWARF call frame information.

The last action of the assembly initialization phase is to call the C function `__cs3_start_c`. This function never returns, and `__cs3_start_asm` need not be prepared to handle a return from it.

As with the hard reset code, the CodeSourcery board support library provides reasonable default assembly initialization code. However, you may provide your own code by providing a definition for `__cs3_start_asm`, either in an object file or a library.

5.2.3. The C Initialization Phase

Finally, C code can be executed. The C startup function is declared as follows:

```
void __cs3_start_c (void) __attribute__((noreturn));
```

This function performs the following steps:

- Initialize all `.data`-like sections by copying their contents. For example, ROM-profile linker scripts use this mechanism to initialize writable data in RAM from the read-only data program image.
- Clear all `.bss`-like sections.
- Run constructors for statically-allocated objects, recorded using whatever conventions are usual for C++ on the target architecture.

CS3 reserves priorities from 0 to 100 for use by initialization code. You can handle tasks like enabling interrupts, initializing coprocessors, pointing control registers at interrupt vectors, and so on by defining constructors with appropriate priorities.

- Call `main` as appropriate.
- Call `exit`, if it is available.

As with the hard reset and assembly initialization code, the CodeSourcery board support library provides a reasonable definition for the `__cs3_start_c` function. You may override this by providing a definition for `__cs3_start_c`, either in an object file or in a library.

5.2.4. Arguments to `main`

The CodeSourcery-provided definition of `__cs3_start_c` can pass command-line arguments to `main` using the normal C `argc` and `argv` mechanism if the board support package provides corresponding definitions for `__cs3_argc` and `__cs3_argv`. For example:

```
int __cs3_argc;  
char **__cs3_argv;
```

These variables should be initialized using a constructor function, which is run by `__cs3_start_c` after it initializes the data segment. Use the `constructor` attribute on the function definition:

```
__attribute__((constructor))  
static void __cs3_init_args (void) {  
    __cs3_argc = ...;  
    __cs3_argv = ...;  
}
```

The constructor function may have an arbitrary name; `__cs3_init_args` is used only for illustrative purposes here.

If definitions of `__cs3_argc` and `__cs3_argv` are not provided, then the default `__cs3_start_c` function invokes `main` with zero as the `argc` argument and a null pointer as `argv`.

5.2.5. Program Termination

A program running on an embedded system is usually designed never to exit — it runs until the system is powered down. The C and C++ standards leave it unspecified as to whether `exit` is called at program termination. If the program never exits, then there is no reason to include `exit`, facilities to run functions registered with `atexit`, or global destructors. This code would never be run and would therefore just waste space in the application.

The CS3 startup code, by itself, does not cause `exit` to be present in the application. It dynamically checks whether `exit` is present, and only calls it if it is. If you require `exit` to be present, either refer to it within your application, or add `-Wl, -u, exit` to the linking command line.

Similarly, code to register global destructors is only invoked when `atexit` is already in the executable; CS3, by itself, does not cause `atexit` to be present. If you require `atexit`, either refer to it within your application, or add `-Wl, -u, atexit` to the linking command line.

5.3. Memory Layout

Boards supported by CS3 can have multiple banks or regions of memory with different characteristics. This section describes how program sections are mapped onto memory regions, and how you can use these CS3 features to customize placement of your program's code or data in memory. CS3 also provides a uniform set of symbolic names for each region, allowing you to programmatically refer to each region's address range from C or assembly language as well as from the linker script.

5.3.1. Memory Regions and Program Sections

The regions that are available on a particular board are listed in the table for that board in Section 5.5, “Supported Boards for MIPS ELF”, below. There are two kinds of regions: those documented as “Memory regions”, which are general-purpose memory banks that can be used for program or data storage; and those documented as “Other regions”, which typically correspond to memory-mapped control registers or other special-purpose storage.

CS3 supports boards that include both `ram` and `rom` memory regions. The `ram` region holds the `.data` and `.bss` sections, and the `.text` section in RAM profiles. In ROM profiles, the `rom` region holds the `.text` section and initialization values for the writable data sections.

In addition, all regions documented as “Memory regions” correspond to similarly-named program sections. For example, the linker script assigns the `.ram` section to the `ram` region.

More generally, for a memory region named `R`, CS3 linker scripts define a section named `.R`, which may contain initialized data or code. There is also a section named `.bss.R` for zero-initialized data (BSS), which is placed after the initialized data section for this region.

You can explicitly locate data or code in a section corresponding to a particular memory region using section attributes in your source C or C++ code. Section attributes are especially useful on code compiled for boards that include special memory banks, such as a fast on-chip cache memory, in addition to the default `ram` and/or `rom` regions. CS3's start-up code arranges for additional data-like sections to be initialized in the same way as the default `.data` section.

As an example to illustrate the attribute syntax, you can put a variable `v` in the `.ram` section using:

```
int v __attribute__((section (".ram")));
```

To declare a function `f` in this section, use:

```
int f (void) __attribute__((section (".ram"))) {...}
```

For more information about attribute syntax, see the GCC manual.

In addition to the `.R` and `.bss.R` sections, CS3 places a `.cs3.region-head.R` section at the beginning of each region `R`. Explicitly placing data in `.cs3.region-head.R` sections is discouraged, because CS3 itself may want to place items (like interrupt vector tables) at these locations. If there is a conflict, CS3 raises an error at link time.

Regions documented as “Other regions” in the tables in Section 5.5, “Supported Boards for MIPS ELF” do not have corresponding program sections. Typically, these regions contain memory-mapped control and I/O registers and cannot be used for general data or program storage. If your program needs to manipulate data in these regions, you can use the CS3 memory map access interface declared in `cs3.h`, as described in Section 5.3.2, “Programmatic Access to the CS3 Memory Map”.

Memory maps for boards supported by Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF are documented in the linker scripts in the `mips-sde-elf/lib/` subdirectory of your Sourcery G++ installation directory.

5.3.2. Programmatic Access to the CS3 Memory Map

CS3 makes C declarations describing the memory regions on the target board available to your program via the header file `cs3.h`, which you can find in the `mips-sde-elf/include` directory within your install.

For each region named *R*, `cs3.h` declares a byte array variable `__cs3_region_start_R` at the region's start address, and a `size_t` variable `__cs3_region_size_R` to represent the total size of the region. These symbols are defined by the linker script and so may also be referenced from assembly language. Note that all regions are aligned on eight-byte boundaries and sizes are also multiples of eight bytes.

For memory regions that can correspond to program sections (as described in Section 5.3.1, “Memory Regions and Program Sections”), there are additional symbols `__cs3_region_init_R` and `__cs3_region_init_size_R` that describe constant data used to initialize the region. During the C initialization phase (Section 5.2, “Program Startup and Termination”), this data is copied into the lower part of the memory region. The symbol `__cs3_region_zero_size_R` represents the size of the zero-initialized `.bss.R` section following the initialized data. Any of these identifiers may actually be defined as a preprocessor macro that expands to an expression of the appropriate type and value.

To perform the memory region initializations during startup, CS3 internally uses the array variable `__cs3_regions`, which contains descriptors for all of the writable (RAM) memory regions. These descriptors are also exposed in `cs3.h`; refer to the header file for details.

5.3.3. Heap and Stack Placement

CS3 linker scripts provide default placement of the heap and stack in the RAM region. However, you can override the defaults by providing your own definitions of the associated CS3 variables. For example, you may put the heap and/or stack in some other memory region.

Heap placement is controlled by defining the symbol `__cs3_heap_start` at the beginning of the heap, and either the symbol `__cs3_heap_end` or the pointer variable `__cs3_heap_limit` to mark the end of the heap. For example, this fragment of C code places the heap in a region named `extsram`:

```
#define HEAPSIZ... /* However big you want to make it. */
unsigned char __cs3_heap_start[HEAPSIZ...
    __attribute__((section(".bss.extsram"), aligned(8)));
unsigned char *__cs3_heap_limit = __cs3_heap_start + HEAPSIZ...
```

The default initial stack pointer for bare-metal profiles is given by the symbol `__cs3_stack`, and the stack grows downward from this address. Stack initialization is discussed in more detail in Section 5.2.2, “The Assembly Initialization Phase”.

You can find C declarations for the CS3 heap and stack symbols in the header file `cs3.h`.

The `cs3.h` header file also defines a macro for creating a custom stack. The custom stack is created as a block of RAM in the zero-initialized data section (BSS). The specified size must be a compile-time constant. To account for alignment, the final size of the stack may be a few bytes less than the requested size. The symbol `__cs3_stack` is initialized to point to the last extent of the stack block, and is 16-byte aligned. For example, the following fragment of C code creates a stack of 8192 bytes:

```
#include <cs3.h>
CS3_STACK(2 * 4096);
```

As indicated in Section 5.2.2, “The Assembly Initialization Phase”, there are cases where a boot monitor or simulator overrides a custom stack.

5.4. Interrupt Vectors and Handlers

CS3 provides standard handlers for interrupts, exceptions and traps, but also allows you to define your own handlers as needed. In this section, we use the term *interrupt* as a generic term for this entire class of events.

Different processors handle interrupts in various ways, but there are two general approaches:

- Some processors fetch an address from an array indexed by the interrupt number, and jump to that address. We call these *address vector* processors.
- Others multiply the interrupt number by some constant factor, add a base address, and jump directly to that address. Here, the interrupt vector consists of blocks of code, so we call these *code vector* processors.
- Still other processors use a more complicated descriptor mechanism for the interrupt table.

MIPS processors use the code vector model. The remainder of this section assumes that you have some understanding of the specific requirements for your target; refer to the architecture manuals if necessary.

5.4.1. MIPS ELF Interrupt Vector Implementation

On MIPS ELF targets, CS3 provides interrupt and exception handling support using the MIPS SDE library interface, which is integrated with the exception support provided by the YAMON boot monitor. The interfaces are modelled on the POSIX signal handling mechanism and are declared in the C header file `mips/xcpt.h`.

5.4.2. Writing Interrupt Handlers

Interrupt handlers typically require special call/return and register usage conventions that are target-specific and beyond the scope of this document. In many cases, normal C functions cannot be used as interrupt handlers.

As an alternative to writing interrupt handlers in assembly language, on MIPS targets they may be written in C using the `interrupt` attribute. This tells the compiler to generate appropriate function entry and exit sequences for an interrupt handler. There are additional MIPS-specific attributes you can specify to modify the behavior of the interrupt handler. Refer to the GCC manual for more details about attribute syntax and usage.

5.5. Supported Boards for MIPS ELF

CS3 provides support for the following boards on MIPS ELF targets.

MIPS Malta		
Processor name:	unspecified	
Processor options:	none	
Memory regions:	ram	
Linker scripts:	RAM Hosted	malta-ram-hosted.ld
	RAM Unhosted	malta-ram.ld
	YAMON	malta-yamon.ld

MIPS SEAD-3 LX110		
Processor name:	unspecified	
Processor options:	none	
Memory regions:	ram	
Linker scripts:	RAM Hosted	sead3-lx110-ram-hosted.ld
	RAM Unhosted	sead3-lx110-ram.ld
	YAMON	sead3-lx110-yamon.ld

MIPS SEAD-3 LX50		
Processor name:	unspecified	
Processor options:	none	
Memory regions:	ram, isram (64K Instruction SRAM), dsram (64K Data SRAM)	
Linker scripts:	RAM Hosted	sead3-lx50-ram-hosted.ld
	RAM Unhosted	sead3-lx50-ram.ld
	Dual SRAM Hosted	sead3-lx50-dual-sram-hosted.ld
	Dual SRAM Unhosted	sead3-lx50-dual-sram.ld
	YAMON	sead3-lx50-yamon.ld
	YAMON Dual SRAM	sead3-lx50-yamon-dual-sram.ld

MIPSSim		
Processor name:	unspecified	
Processor options:	none	
Memory regions:	ram	
Linker scripts:	Simulator Hosted	mipssim-hosted.ld
	Simulator Unhosted	mipssim.ld

Chapter 6

Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite

This chapter describes the use of the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite for remote debugging. The Sprite allows you to debug programs running on a bare board without an operating system. This chapter includes information about the debugging devices and boards supported by the Sprite for MIPS ELF.

Sourcery G++ Lite contains the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite for MIPS ELF. This Sprite is provided to allow debugging of programs running on a bare board. You can use the Sprite to debug a program when there is no operating system on the board, or for debugging the operating system itself. If the board is running an operating system, and you wish to debug a program running on that OS, you should use the facilities provided by the OS itself (for instance, using `gdbserver`).

The Sprite acts as an interface between GDB and external debug devices and libraries. Refer to Section 6.3, “Invoking Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite” for information about the specific devices supported by this version of Sourcery G++ Lite.

Important

The Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite is not part of the GNU Debugger and is not free or open-source software. You may use the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite only with the GNU Debugger. You may not distribute the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite to any third party.

6.1. Probing for Debug Devices

Before running the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite for the first time, or when attaching new debug devices to your host system, it is helpful to verify that the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite recognizes your debug hardware. From the command line, invoke the Sprite with the `-i` option:

```
> mips-sde-elf-sprite -i
```

This prints out a list of supported device types. For devices that can be autodetected, it additionally probes for and prints out a list of attached devices. For instance:

```
Sourcery CodeBench Debug Sprite for MIPS (Sourcery G++ Lite \
2011.03-52)
mdi: [lib=<file>&cfg=<file>&rst=<n>] MDI device
  mdi:/23/1 - 24KE      (Instruction)/24KE LE
  mdi:/23/2 - 24KE      (Instruction)/24KE BE
  mdi:/24/1 - 24KE      (Cycle)/24KE LE
  mdi:/24/2 - 24KE      (Cycle)/24KE BE
  mdi:/$Target/$Device - Generic MDI target/device
```

This shows that MDI (Microprocessor Debug Interface) devices are supported. Four MIPSsim devices have been autodetected. Note that additional configuration steps for the MDI library are required to allow the Sprite to autodetect devices; see Section 6.5, “MDI Devices”.

6.2. Debug Sprite Example

Start by compiling and linking a simple test program for your target board, following the instructions in Chapter 4, “Using Sourcery G++ from the Command Line”. Use the `-g` option to tell the compiler to generate debugging information.

For example, to build the `factorial` program to run on MIPSsim, use:

```
> mips-sde-elf-gcc -g -Tmipsim-hosted.ld main.c -o factorial
```

Next start the debugger on your host system:

```
> mips-sde-elf-gdb factorial
```

To connect GDB to the MDI target, use a command similar to:

```
(gdb) target remote | mips-sde-elf-sprite mdi:/23/2 mipssim
```

Refer to Section 6.5, “MDI Devices” for additional set-up required to use the Sprite with MDI devices.

The Sprite prints some status messages as it connects to your debug device and target board. If the connection is successful, you should see output similar to:

```
mips-sde-elf-sprite:Target reset
0x00008936 in ?? ()
(gdb)
```

Next, use GDB to load your program onto the target board.

```
(gdb) load
```

At this point you can use GDB to control the execution of your program as required. For example:

```
(gdb) break main
(gdb) continue
```

6.3. Invoking Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite

The Debug Sprite is invoked as follows:

```
> mips-sde-elf-sprite [options] device-url board-file
```

The *device-url* specifies the debug device to use to communicate with the board. It follows the standard format:

```
scheme:scheme-specific-part[?device-options]
```

Most device URL schemes also follow the regular format:

```
scheme: [//hostname:[port]]/path[?device-options]
```

The meanings of *hostname*, *port*, *path* and *device-options* parts depend on the *scheme* and are described below. The following schemes are supported in Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF:

mdi Use a Microprocessor Debug Interface (MDI) debugging device. Refer to Section 6.5, “MDI Devices”.

The optional *?device-options* portion is allowed in all schemes. These allow additional device-specific options of the form *name=value*. Multiple options are concatenated using *&*.

The *board-file* specifies an XML file that describes how to initialize the target board, as well as other properties of the board used by the debugger. If *board-file* refers to a file (via a relative or absolute pathname), it is read. Otherwise, *board-file* can be a board name, and the toolchain's board directory is searched for a matching file. See Section 6.7, “Supported Board Files” for the list of supported boards, or invoke the Sprite with the *-b* option to list the available board files. You can also write a custom board file; see Section 6.8, “Board File Syntax” for more information about the file format.

Both the *device-url* and *board-file* command-line arguments are required to correctly connect the Sprite to a target board.

6.4. Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite Options

The following command-line options are supported by the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite:

- b Print a list of *board-file* files in the board config directory.
- h Print a list of options and their meanings. A list of *device-url* syntaxes is also shown.
- i Print a list of the accessible devices. If a *device-url* is also specified, only devices for that device type are scanned. Each supported device type is listed along with the options that can be appended to the *device-url*. For each discovered device, the *device-url* is printed along with a description of that device.
- l [*host*]:*port* Specify the host address and port number to listen for a GDB connection. If this option is not given, the Debug Sprite communicates with GDB using stdin and stdout. If you start the Sprite from within GDB using the `target remote | mips-sde-elf-sprite . . .` command, you do not need this option.
- m Listen for multiple sequential connections. Normally the Debug Sprite terminates after the first connection from GDB terminates. This option instead makes it listen for a subsequent connection. To terminate the Sprite, open a connection and send the string `END\n`.
- q Do not print any messages.
- v Print additional messages.

If any of `-b`, `-i` or `-h` are given, the Debug Sprite terminates after providing the information rather than waiting for a debugger connection.

6.5. MDI Devices

The Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite for MIPS supports MDI (Microprocessor Debug Interface) devices. Each MDI device is identified by a target number and device number; these form the *path* part of the device URL, and the *hostname* and *port* must be empty or omitted. Thus, the *device-url* has the form:

```
mdi:///targetnum/devicenum[?device-options]
```

You can also use the environment variables `GDBMDITARGET` and `GDBMDIDEVICE` to provide defaults for the *targetnum* and *devicenum*.

The following *device-options* are permitted:

- `lib=filename` This option specifies the MDI library to load. It is equivalent to setting the `GDBMDILIB` environment variable.
- `cfg=filename` Some MDI target libraries, such as `MIPSSim`, require a configuration file. (This is distinct from the Sprite's own *board-file*.) You can use this option to specify the file. It is equivalent to setting the `GDBMIPSSIMCONFIG` environment variable.

<code>rst=seconds</code>	<p>This option can be used to specify a delay after the target is reset by the Sprite. If the value of <code>seconds</code> is greater than zero, then execution is resumed for the specified number of seconds; this can be used to allow power-on firmware to initialize the memory controller and peripherals. Then the target is halted again and queried for configuration.</p> <p>If the value of <code>seconds</code> is <code>-1</code>, then the target is queried immediately without reset. This is the same effect as passing the <code>-a</code> command-line option to the Sprite, which allows the Sprite to attach to a running program.</p> <p>This option is equivalent to setting the <code>GDBMDICONNRST</code> environment variable. If neither the option nor the environment variable are provided, the default is to reset the target and query it immediately unless the <code>-a</code> option is specified.</p>
<code>group=/targetn/devicen</code>	<p>This option may be specified multiple times and is cumulative. Each of the specified devices is opened and queried and they are all treated as threads of execution, subject to being enabled or active; if a device is disabled or has no active thread contexts associated with it, it is not visible to GDB but is still under control of the Sprite in case its state changes. This option cannot be used in combination with the <code>team=</code> option.</p>
<code>team=/targetn/devicen</code>	<p>This option may be specified multiple times and is cumulative. The specified devices are not opened, but are associated with the base device by means of the MDI team mechanism for the purpose of synchronization. The specified devices may still be opened and controlled by another debugger (such as another instance of the Debug Sprite) independently. This option cannot be used in combination with the <code>group=</code> option.</p>

Before you can connect to a target using the MDI API, you must tell the Debug Sprite which shared library or DLL to load for your simulator or device. On Linux hosts you should add the directory containing the shared library files to your `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` environment variable. On Windows hosts, add the directory containing the DLLs to your `PATH` environment variable. Then, either set the environment variable `GDBMDILIB` to the base name of the MDI library before starting the Debug Sprite, or use the `lib=` device option to specify the library to load.

Similarly, the `-i` command-line option can only probe for devices if you have set the `PATH` or `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` environment variable appropriately, and specify an MDI library using either the `GDBMDILIB` environment variable or the `lib=` device option. Otherwise, it reports only the generic `device-url` syntax.

For example, to use an FS2 probe on a Windows host to debug a MIPS Malta board, first add the directory containing the MDI DLLs to your `PATH`. Then you can invoke the Sprite from GDB using a command line similar to:

```
(gdb) target remote | mips-sde-elf-sprite \
'mdi:/2/2?lib=jnetfs2mdilib.dll&rst=7' malta
```

The quotes are required to prevent special characters in the `device-url` from being interpreted by the shell.

In the above command, the `rst=7` option provides for a sufficient delay for the board's reset code to execute on connection. Since this takes several seconds, GDB may time out waiting for the Sprite to respond. You can prevent this by issuing this command before you connect to the Sprite:

```
(gdb) set remotetimeout 10
```

To use the Sprite with MIPSsim, a configuration file is required. The configuration files provided with the MIPSsim distribution are intended for use with standalone execution from the command line, rather than running the program from the debugger. So, make a copy and comment out the `APP_FILE` setting. It is also recommended that you comment out `TRACE_FILE` as well, since the trace files can be very large.

To connect to MIPSsim using the Sprite on a Linux host, first set your `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` and `GDBMDILIB` as described above. You can run the Sprite from the shell to probe for devices to verify that your setup is correct:

```
> mips-sde-elf-sprite -i
```

Then, from GDB, use a command similar to:

```
(gdb) target remote | mips-sde-elf-sprite \  
'mdi:/23/2?cfg=24KE.cfg&rst=-1' mipsim
```

Fill in your target and device numbers as reported by the probe output, and the full pathname to your configuration file. The `rst=-1` option is required, as MIPSsim does not support reset.

This section describes only the basic MDI usage; refer to the documentation for your MDI simulator or debug device for details specific to that target. Note, in particular, that some MDI targets may require you to set up a license in addition to the steps given here.

6.6. Debugging a Remote Board

You can run the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite on a different machine from the one on which GDB is running. For example, if your board is connected to a machine in your lab, you can run the debugger on your laptop and connect to the remote board. The Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite must run on the machine that is connected to the target board. You must have Sourcery G++ installed on both machines.

To use this mode, you must start the Sprite with the `-l` option and specify the port on which you want it to listen. For example:

```
> mips-sde-elf-sprite -l :10000 device-url board-file
```

starts the Sprite listening on port 10000.

When running GDB from the command line, use the following command to connect GDB to the remote Sprite:

```
(gdb) target remote host:10000
```

where *host* is the name of the remote machine. After this, debugging is just as if you are debugging a target board connected to your host machine.

For more detailed instructions on using the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite in this way, please refer to the Sourcery G++ Knowledge Base¹.

6.7. Supported Board Files

The Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite for MIPS ELF includes support for the following target boards. Specify the appropriate *board-file* as an argument when invoking the Sprite from the command line.

Board	Config
MIPS Malta	malta
MIPS SEAD-3 LX110	sead3-lx110
MIPS SEAD-3 LX50	sead3-lx50
MIPSSim	mipssim

6.8. Board File Syntax

The *board-file* can be a user-written XML file to describe a non-standard board. The Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite searches for board files in the `mips-sde-elf/lib/boards` directory in the installation. Refer to the files in that directory for examples.

The file's DTD is:

```
<!-- Board description files

    Copyright (c) 2007-2009 CodeSourcery, Inc.

    THIS FILE CONTAINS PROPRIETARY, CONFIDENTIAL, AND TRADE
    SECRET INFORMATION OF CODESOURCERY AND/OR ITS LICENSORS.

    You may not use or distribute this file without the express
    written permission of CodeSourcery or its authorized
    distributor.  This file is licensed only for use with
    Sourcery G++.  No other use is permitted.
-->

<!ELEMENT board
  (properties?, feature?, initialize?, memory-map?)>
<!ELEMENT properties
  (description?, property*)>
<!ELEMENT initialize
  (write-register | write-memory | delay
   | wait-until-memory-equal | wait-until-memory-not-equal)* >
<!ELEMENT write-register EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST write-register
  address CDATA #REQUIRED
  value CDATA #REQUIRED
```

¹ <https://support.codesourcery.com/GNUToolchain/kbentry132>

```

        bits    CDATA    #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT write-memory EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST write-memory
        address CDATA    #REQUIRED
        value   CDATA    #REQUIRED
        bits    CDATA    #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT delay EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST delay
        time CDATA    #REQUIRED>
<!ELEMENT wait-until-memory-equal EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST wait-until-memory-equal
        address CDATA    #REQUIRED
        value   CDATA    #REQUIRED
        timeout CDATA    #IMPLIED
        bits    CDATA    #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT wait-until-memory-not-equal EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST wait-until-memory-not-equal
        address CDATA    #REQUIRED
        value   CDATA    #REQUIRED
        timeout CDATA    #IMPLIED
        bits    CDATA    #IMPLIED>

<!ELEMENT memory-map (memory-device)*>
<!ELEMENT memory-device (property*, description?, sectors*)>
<!ATTLIST memory-device
        address CDATA    #REQUIRED
        size    CDATA    #REQUIRED
        type    CDATA    #REQUIRED
        device  CDATA    #IMPLIED>

<!ELEMENT description (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT property (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST property name CDATA #REQUIRED>
<!ELEMENT sectors EMPTY>
<!ATTLIST sectors
        size CDATA #REQUIRED
        count CDATA #REQUIRED>

<!ENTITY % gdbtarget SYSTEM "gdb-target.dtd">
%gdbtarget;

```

All values can be provided in decimal, hex (with a 0x prefix) or octal (with a 0 prefix). Addresses and memory sizes can use a K, KB, M, MB, G or GB suffix to denote a unit of memory. Times must use a ms or us suffix.

The following elements are available:

- <board> This top-level element encapsulates the entire description of the board. It can contain <properties>, <feature>, <initialize> and <memory-map> elements.
- <properties> The <properties> element specifies specific properties of the target system. This element can occur at most once. It can contain a <description> element.

<code><initialize></code>	The <code><initialize></code> element defines an initialization sequence for the board, which the Sprite performs before downloading a program. It can contain <code><write-register></code> , <code><write-memory></code> and <code><delay></code> elements.
<code><feature></code>	This element is used to inform GDB about additional registers and peripherals available on the board. It is passed directly to GDB; see the GDB manual for further details.
<code><memory-map></code>	This element describes the memory map of the target board. It is used by GDB to determine where software breakpoints may be used and when flash programming sequences must be used. This element can occur at most once. It can contain <code><memory-device></code> elements.
<code><memory-device></code>	This element specifies a region of memory. It has four attributes: <code>address</code> , <code>size</code> , <code>type</code> and <code>device</code> . The <code>address</code> and <code>size</code> attributes specify the location of the memory device. The <code>type</code> attribute specifies that device as <code>ram</code> , <code>rom</code> or <code>flash</code> . The <code>device</code> attribute is required for <code>flash</code> regions; it specifies the flash device type. The <code><memory-device></code> element can contain a <code><description></code> element.
<code><write-register></code>	This element writes a value to a control register. It has three attributes: <code>address</code> , <code>value</code> and <code>bits</code> . The <code>bits</code> attribute, specifying the bit width of the write operation, is optional; it defaults to 32.
<code><write-memory></code>	This element writes a value to a memory location. It has three attributes: <code>address</code> , <code>value</code> and <code>bits</code> . The <code>bits</code> attribute is optional and defaults to 32. Bit widths of 8, 16 and 32 bits are supported. The address written to must be naturally aligned for the size of the write being done.
<code><delay></code>	This element introduces a delay. It has one attribute, <code>time</code> , which specifies the number of milliseconds, or microseconds to delay by.
<code><description></code>	This element encapsulates a human-readable description of its enclosing element.
<code><property></code>	The <code><property></code> element allows additional name/value pairs to be specified. The property name is specified in a <code>name</code> attribute. The property value is the body of the <code><property></code> element.

Chapter 7

Next Steps with Sourcery G++

This chapter describes where you can find additional documentation and information about using Sourcery G++ Lite and its components.

7.1. Sourcery G++ Knowledge Base

The Sourcery G++ Knowledge Base is available to registered users at the Sourcery G++ Portal¹. Here you can find solutions to common problems including installing Sourcery G++, making it work with specific targets, and interoperability with third-party libraries. There are also additional example programs and tips for making the most effective use of the toolchain and for solving problems commonly encountered during debugging. The Knowledge Base is updated frequently with additional entries based on inquiries and feedback from customers.

7.2. Example Programs

Sourcery G++ Lite includes some bundled example programs. You can find the source code for these examples in the `share/sourceryg++-mips-sde-elf-examples` directory of your Sourcery G++ installation.

The subdirectories contain a number of small, target-independent test programs. You may find these programs useful as self-contained test cases when experimenting with configuring the correct compiler and debugger settings for your target, or when learning how to use the debugger or other features of the Sourcery G++ toolchain.

7.3. Manuals for GNU Toolchain Components

Sourcery G++ Lite includes the full user manuals for each of the GNU toolchain components, such as the compiler, linker, assembler, and debugger. Most of the manuals include tutorial material for new users as well as serving as a complete reference for command-line options, supported extensions, and the like.

When you install Sourcery G++ Lite, links to both the PDF and HTML versions of the manuals are created in the `shortcuts` folder you select. If you elected not to create shortcuts when installing Sourcery G++ Lite, the documentation can be found in the `share/doc/sourceryg++-mips-sde-elf/` subdirectory of your installation directory.

In addition to the detailed reference manuals, Sourcery G++ Lite includes a Unix-style manual page for each toolchain component. You can view these by invoking the `man` command with the pathname of the file you want to view. For example, you can first go to the directory containing the man pages:

```
> cd $INSTALL/share/doc/sourceryg++-mips-sde-elf/man/man1
```

Then you can invoke `man` as:

```
> man ./mips-sde-elf-gcc.1
```

Alternatively, if you use `man` regularly, you'll probably find it more convenient to add the directory containing the Sourcery G++ man pages to your `MANPATH` environment variable. This should go in your `.profile` or equivalent shell startup file; see Section 2.6, "Setting up the Environment" for instructions. Then you can invoke `man` with just the command name rather than a pathname.

Finally, note that every command-line utility program included with Sourcery G++ Lite can be invoked with a `--help` option. This prints a brief description of the arguments and options to the program and exits without doing further processing.

¹ <https://support.codesourcery.com/GNUToolchain/>

Appendix A

Sourcery G++ Lite Release Notes

This appendix contains information about changes in this release of Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF. You should read through these notes to learn about new features and bug fixes.

A.1. Changes in Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF

This section documents Sourcery G++ Lite changes for each released revision.

A.1.1. Changes in Sourcery G++ Lite 2011.03-52

Interprocedural stack optimization. The compiler has a new experimental optimization that generates code that claims less stack space. To switch this optimization on, use `-mframe-header-opt`.

MIPS32r2 floating-point multiply-accumulate restrictions lifted. Following clarifications to the MIPS architecture specification, GCC has been updated to allow floating-point multiply-accumulate instructions on MIPS32r2 processors in all configurations.

Interprocedural register optimization. The compiler has a new experimental optimization that generates better code for functions that only call functions in the same object. To switch this optimization on, use `-fuse-caller-save`.

Incorrect C++ warning fixed. A bug in GCC has been fixed that caused spurious warnings about lambda expressions in C++ code that does not use them.

C++ constructor bug fix. A compiler bug has been fixed that caused incorrect code for C++ constructors for some class hierarchies that use virtual inheritance and include empty classes. At runtime, the incorrect constructors resulted in memory corruption or other errors.

Improved DSP code. The compiler now makes better use of DSP accumulator registers when compiling with `-mdsp` or `-mdspr2`.

microMIPS branches. A compiler bug that caused sub-optimal branch instructions to be generated in microMIPS mode has been fixed.

Addr2line bug fix. A bug has been fixed that caused Addr2line to print `?:?:0` for any address instead of file and line number.

24K Errata. The `-mfix-24k` assembler option has been extended to work around Errata E48: Lost Data on Stores During Refill. In addition, GCC now accepts this command-line option and passes it through to the assembler.

CS3 linker script changes. CS3 linker scripts for RAM profiles have been changed to reserve only 4K at the start of memory for interrupt vectors, rather than 1M to also preserve memory used by YAMON. This change affects RAM-profile linker scripts for all supported boards, including Malta and SEAD-3 boards. YAMON-profile linker scripts for these boards are unchanged.

A.1.2. Changes in Sourcery G++ Lite 2011.03-12

Compiler optimization improvements. The compiler has been enhanced with a number of optimization improvements, including:

- Smaller and faster code for compound conditionals.
- Improved filling of branch delay slots.
- Removal of superfluous sign and zero extensions.

GCC version 4.5.2. Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF is now based on GCC version 4.5.2.

New `-fstrict-volatile-bitfields` option. The compiler has a new option, `-fstrict-volatile-bitfields`, which forces access to a volatile structure member using the width that conforms to its type. Refer to the GCC manual for details.

GCC code generation bug for casts to volatile types. A compiler bug has been fixed that sometimes caused incorrect code for references to pointers to types with `volatile` casts.

Improvements to synchronization primitives. GCC's `__sync` built-in functions have been improved to make better use of MIPS atomic instructions.

Incorrect optimization fix. An optimizer bug that in rare cases caused incorrect code to be generated for complex AND and OR expressions containing redundant subexpressions has been fixed.

GCC microMIPS code size improvement. GCC has been improved to generate smaller code around function calls.

GCC bug where accesses to volatile structure fields are optimized away. A bug has been fixed where accesses to volatile fields of a structure were sometimes incorrectly optimized away if the structure instance was defined as non-volatile.

Linker debug information fix. A bug in linker processing of debug information has been fixed. The bug sometimes prevented the Sourcery G++ debugger from displaying source code if the executable was linked with the `--gc-sections` option.

microMIPS linker code size optimization bug fix. A bug has been fixed that sometimes caused the linker to generate incorrect code when the `--relax` option is used to enable certain code size optimizations.

microMIPS DSP ASE. The assembler now supports microMIPS encodings for the DSP ASE instructions.

MCU ASE instructions assembler bug fixes. Bugs have been fixed that caused the assembler to sometimes generate incorrect code for the MCU ASE `ACLR`, `ASET` and `IRET` instructions.

COP2 instruction bug fix. A bug in handling of the `COP2` instruction's argument has been fixed in the assembler and disassembler.

GDB microMIPS disassembler bug fix. A bug in GDB has been fixed that caused some microMIPS instructions to disassemble incorrectly.

Debugger warnings quieted. GDB no longer prints `RMT ERROR` diagnostics on connection to the Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite. In spite of the alarming appearance of the messages, they were not actually indicative of a serious problem.

A.1.3. Changes in Sourcery G++ Lite 2010.09-28

Changes to Sourcery G++ version numbering. Sourcery G++ product and Lite toolchains now uniformly use a version numbering scheme of the form 2011.03-52. The major and minor parts of the version number, in this case 2011.03, identify the release branch, while the final component is a build number within the branch. There are also new preprocessor macros defined by the compiler for the version number components so that you may conditionalize code for Sourcery G++ or particular Sourcery G++ versions. Details are available in the [Sourcery G++ Knowledge Base](#)¹.

¹ <https://support.codesourcery.com/GNUToolchain/kbentry1>

Alignment attributes. A bug has been fixed that caused the compiler to ignore alignment attributes of C++ static member variables where the attribute was present on the definition, but not the declaration.

Compiler optimization improvements. The compiler has been enhanced with a number of optimization improvements, including:

- More efficient assignment for structures containing bitfields.
- Better code for initializing C++ arrays with explicit element initializers.
- Improved logic for eliminating/combining redundant comparisons in code with nested conditionals.
- Better selection of loop variables, resulting in fewer temporaries and more efficient register usage.
- Better code when constant addresses are used as arguments to inline assembly statements.
- Better code for copying small constant strings.

GCC version 4.5.1. Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF is now based on GCC version 4.5.1. For more information about changes from GCC version 4.4 that was included in previous releases, see <http://gcc.gnu.org/gcc-4.5/changes.html>.

Archiver bug fix. A bug has been fixed in the `ar` utility, which sometimes caused it to produce unrecognizable 64-bit files. The bug also caused similar problems in the `strip` and `objcopy` utilities when processing 64-bit archives.

Fix for incorrect MIPS16 and microMIPS relocations. An assembler bug has been fixed that caused incorrect relocation information to be produced for MIPS16 and microMIPS code, diagnosed by a `Can't find matching L016 reloc` linker warning.

Additional validation in the assembler. The assembler now diagnoses an error, instead of producing an invalid object file, when directives such as `.hidden` are missing operands.

Binutils update. The binutils package has been updated to version 2.20.51.20100809 from the FSF trunk. This update includes numerous bug fixes.

Additional alignment in CS3-defined linker scripts. Sourcery G++ now ensures 8-byte alignment at additional points in CS3-defined linker scripts. Previously, placing a symbol in certain sections broke the initialization of the `.data` and/or `.bss` sections.

Newlib update. The Newlib package has been updated to version 1.18.0, with additions from the community CVS trunk as of 2010-08-12. This update provides additional wide-character functions, along with other bug fixes and enhancements.

GDB update. The included version of GDB has been updated to 7.2.50.20100908. This update adds numerous bug fixes and new features, including improved C++ language support, a new command to save breakpoints to a file, a new convenience variable `$_thread` that holds the number of the current thread, among many other improvements.

GDB crash fix. A bug has been fixed that caused GDB to crash on launch if the environment variable `CYGPATH` is set to a program that does not exist or cannot be executed.

Debug Sprite abnormal termination bug fix. The Sourcery G++ Debug Sprite no longer terminates abnormally if GDB is killed while the target is waiting for semihosted I/O to complete. The bug was only triggered when running GDB on a Windows host.

A.1.4. Changes in Older Releases

For information about changes in older releases of Sourcery G++ Lite for MIPS ELF, please refer to the Getting Started guide packaged with those releases.

Appendix B

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