Lattice Propel 2023.1 SDK

User Guide

FPGA-UG-02186-1.0

May 2023
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## Glossary

A glossary of terms used in this document.

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<th>Terms</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASCII</td>
<td>American Standard Code for Information Interchange.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSP</td>
<td>Board Support Package, the layer of software containing hardware-specific drivers and libraries to function in a particular hardware environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUT</td>
<td>Design Under Test.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDT</td>
<td>C/C++ Development Tools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPU</td>
<td>Central Processing Unit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUI</td>
<td>Graphical User Interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FPGA</td>
<td>Field Programmable Gate Array.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDL</td>
<td>Hardware description language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBIS</td>
<td>Input Output Buffer Information System.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDE</td>
<td>Integrated Development Environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>Intellectual Property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEDEC</td>
<td>Joint Electron Device Engineering Council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCD</td>
<td>On-Chip-Debugging.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OEM</td>
<td>Original Equipment Manufacturer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenOCD</td>
<td>Open On-Chip Debugger.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspective</td>
<td>A group of views and editors in the Workbench window.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programmer</td>
<td>A tool can program Lattice FPGA SRAM and external SPI Flash through various interfaces, such as JTAG, SPI, and I²C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISC-V</td>
<td>Reduced Instruction Set Computer-V. A free and open instruction set architecture (ISA) enabling a new era of processor innovation through open standard collaboration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISC-V MC</td>
<td>Lattice RISC-V for Micro-Controller Soft IP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISC-V SM</td>
<td>Lattice RISC-V for State-Machine Soft IP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISC-V RX</td>
<td>Lattice RISC-V for RTOS Soft IP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDK</td>
<td>Software Development Kit. A set of software development tools that allows the creation of applications for software package on the Lattice embedded platform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SoC</td>
<td>System-on-Chip. An integrated circuit that integrates all components of a computer or other electronic systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRAM</td>
<td>Static Random Access Memory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UART</td>
<td>Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UI</td>
<td>User Interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UFM</td>
<td>User Flash Memory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VHDL</td>
<td>Very-High-Speed Integrated Circuit Hardware Description Language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workspace</td>
<td>The directory where stores your work, it is used as the default content area for your projects as well as for holding any required metadata.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workbench</td>
<td>The desktop development environment in Eclipse IDE platform.</td>
</tr>
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1. Introduction

Lattice Propel™ is a complete set of graphical and command-line tools to create, analyze, compile, and debug both FPGA-based hardware and software processor systems.

1.1. Purpose

Embedded system solutions play an important role in FPGA system design, allowing you to develop software for a processor in an FPGA device. It provides the flexibility for you to control various peripherals from a system bus.

To develop an embedded system on an FPGA, you need to design the System-on-Chip (SoC) with an embedded processor and develop system software on the processor. Lattice Propel helps you develop your system with a RISC-V processor, peripheral IP, and a set of tools.

The purpose of this document is to introduce Lattice Propel SDK tool and flow to help you quickly get started to build a small demo system. You can find recommended flows of using Lattice Propel SDK in this document as well.

1.2. Audience

The intended audience for this document includes embedded system designers and embedded software developers using Lattice FPGA devices. The complete list of supported devices can be found in Lattice Propel Release Notes. The technical guidelines assume readers have expertise in the embedded system area and FPGA technologies.
2. **Lattice Propel Development Suite**

Lattice Propel development suite includes:

- an integrated development environment (IDE), which is the framework of Propel;
- Lattice Propel Builder, which is for SoC design;
- Lattice Propel SDK, which is for system software development.

2.1. **Eclipse IDE**

Eclipse IDE provides the Propel development suite a platform to manage the SoC project and the Embedded C/C++ Project in the same workspace.

The SoC project, which extends from the Propel Builder project, provides easy interaction with other Lattice design tools, such as Lattice Diamond® within Propel.

The Embedded C/C++ Project provides a platform for developing or debugging application code within Eclipse IDE. The project can be created directly from the SoC project with a pre-set Board Support Package (BSP) and applications by using Propel development suite.

2.2. **Lattice Propel Builder**

Lattice Propel Builder allows you to assemble the larger functional blocks of the design hierarchy. Propel Builder enables you to instantiate modules and IP from the IP Catalog in a schematic view, and can easily connect the modules. Propel Builder also helps you customize address spaces within modules, such as a processor. In Propel development suite, Propel Builder is used to create a microprocessor integrated platform for both hardware and software development.


2.3. **Lattice Propel SDK**

Lattice Propel SDK is based on Eclipse Embedded C/C++ Development Tools (CDT). It allows you to create, build, and debug software application projects that drive the platform within the Eclipse framework.

The main features are:

- Create, build, debug, or manage embedded applications for Lattice RISC-V CPU/SoC solution.
- Provide extra build steps to generate the binary and memory files required for deployment.
- Build using the latest industry standard open source components and tools for RISC-V firmware development and debugging.
- Support Picolibc for RISC-V, and provide lightweight standard library implementation.
- Provide fully-configurable toolchain definitions.
3. Lattice Propel Tool Flows

The Propel tool flows including SoC project design flow, C/C++ project design flow, system simulation flow, and programming and On-Chip-Debugging (OCD) debugging flow, are discussed in detail in the following sections.

3.1. Propel Environment

3.1.1. Running Lattice Propel

After installing Lattice Propel, you can launch Propel from the desktop shortcut icon or from the Windows Start menu. When Propel is invoked, a dialog (Figure 3.1) pops up. You can browse to select where to locate the workspace. For normal needs, just click Launch to pick the default location and continue running Propel.

![Figure 3.1. Select Workspace Dialog](image)

After the workspace location is chosen, a single workbench window is displayed using default Propel SDK perspective. The default Propel SDK perspective contains the following five functional areas (Figure 3.2).

1. Menu bar and Toolbar.
2. Project Explorer view: displays projects in the workspace.
3. Editor view: provides capability of editing source files.
4. Outline view: displays an outline of a file that is currently open in the editor area.
5. Log area includes these views: Problem view, Tasks view, Console view, Properties view, and Terminal view.
3.1.2. Importing General Projects

In Propel SDK, you can use the importing project wizard to import existing projects into workspace except for Lattice SoC design created by Lattice Prop Builder.

**Note:** You can only import projects which are created or managed by Propel SDK by choosing General > Existing Project into Workspace in Propel SDK.

1. In Lattice Propel (SDK), choose File > Import....
   
   The **Select** wizard opens (Figure 3.3).

![Figure 3.2. Propel Workbench Window](image-url)
2. Select **General > Existing Project into Workspace**. Click **Next**.

   The Import wizard switches to **Import Projects** wizard (Figure 3.4).
3. Choose either Select root directory or Select archive file, clicking the associated Browse button to locate the directory or file containing the project.

4. Select the project or projects you want to import in the Projects area.

5. Be sure to check the Copy projects into workspace option so that your original projects do not get updated.

6. Click Finish to start the importing process.

### 3.1.3. Importing Lattice SoC Design Projects

In Propel SDK, you can use the Import Wizard to import Lattice SoC design projects into workspace. Existing SoC design projects created by either Propel SDK or Propel Builder can also be imported into workspace by choosing Lattice Propel > Lattice SoC Design Projects.

1. From Lattice Propel SDK, choose File > Import....

   The Select wizard opens (Figure 3.5).
2. Select Lattice Propel > Lattice SoC Design Projects into Workspace. Click Next. The Select wizard switches to Import Lattice SoC Design Projects wizard page (Figure 3.6).

3. Locate the directory containing the projects by clicking the Browse button.
4. In Projects area, select the SoC design project or projects you want to import.
5. Click Finish to start the importing process.
3.2. SoC Project Design Flow

A new SoC design project including a Propel Builder design can be started from the Lattice Propel sets. Follow the steps below to create a new SoC design project.

3.2.1. Creating a SoC Design Project

To start a Lattice SoC Design Project from Propel:

1. In Lattice Propel, choose File > New > Lattice SoC Design Project. The Create SoC Project wizard opens (Figure 3.7).

![Figure 3.7. Create SoC Project Wizard](image)

2. Enter a project name. 
   **Note:** Do not include periods, colons, or spaces in the project name.

3. (Optional) To change the default location, clear the **Use default location** option, then browse for another location. Choose a file system.

4. Select a desired platform template design. In particular, select empty project for building system from scratch.

5. Click **Finish**.
   The SoC design project is created in workbench, and its design is opened and displayed in Propel Builder (Figure 3.10).
3.2.2. Open a SoC Design in Propel Builder

Within a SoC project, there is a Propel builder design. To open Propel Builder for a SoC project:

1. In the Project Explorer view, select a SoC project.
2. Open the SoC project in one of the following ways from Propel:
   - Choose LatticeTools > Open Design in Propel Builder (Figure 3.8).
   - Click the Propel Builder icon on the toolbar.
   - Right-click the SoC project from Project Explorer. Choose Open Design In > Propel Builder from the popup menu (Figure 3.9).
3. The SoC Design is opened and displayed in Propel Builder (Figure 3.10).
4. (Optional) Modify the design in Propel Builder as desired. Most of the templates include a functional-ready SoC design.
   
   **Note:** You can only create a SoC design using **Empty Project** template inside the Propel Builder. Refer to **Lattice Propel Builder 2023.1 User Guide (FPGA-UG-02185)** for more details on how to create a SoC design using **Empty Project** template.

### 3.2.3. Open Design in Lattice FPGA Design Software

Within a SoC project, you can create a Lattice FPGA design project including a Propel Builder design, and then open the FPGA design project in appropriate software. There are two FPGA Design Software available, Lattice Diamond and Lattice Radiant™. Depending on the device family used in the SoC project, only one of the FPGA Design software can be selected from the User Interface (UI), the other is grayed out. If the MachXO3D or LFMNX device family is used, the Lattice Diamond related menu items are active from Propel UI. If the LIFCL or LFD2NX device family is used, the Lattice Radiant related menu items are active from Propel UI.

To open FPGA Design Software for a SoC project from Propel:

1. (Optional) Set Lattice FPGA design software installation location from Propel. By default, Propel can find the proper Lattice FPGA design software installation location, usually the latest version installed on the PC. You can overwrite it following steps.

   Choose **Window > Preferences**. The Preferences dialog opens (**Figure 3.11**).

   Select **Propel Setting** from the left pane. Click the **Browse** button to pick up the installation location of Diamond or Radiant. Or, leave the **Radiant Location** and **Diamond Location** fields blank, as default. Propel can find the location automatically.

   ![Figure 3.11. Propel Preferences Dialog](image)

2. In the **Project Explorer** view from the Propel main Graphical User Interface (GUI), select a SoC project.

3. Open the SoC project in one of the following ways:
   
   - Choose **LatticeTools > Generate and Open Diamond Project**; Or, choose **LatticeTools > Generate and Open Radiant Project**.
   
   - Click the **Diamond** icon ![Diamond Icon] or the **Radiant** icon ![Radiant Icon] from the toolbar.
- Right-click a SoC project from the Project Explorer. Choose Open Design In > Diamond. Or, choose Open Design In > Radiant from the right-click menu.

4. The Diamond/Radiant project for SoC is generated at background and is launched (Figure 3.12/Figure 3.13).

![Figure 3.12. Diamond Project](image)

![Figure 3.13. Radiant Project](image)
5. (Optional) From the File List view of the Diamond/Radiant software:
   - modify the top-level RTL file (<proj_name>_Top.v) to match the SoC design, presupposition of which is that there is a top-level RTL file in your SoC design; or
   - create a top-level RTL file (<proj_name>_Top.v) to match the SoC design, if the SoC design is created from an Empty Project template and there is no top-level RTL file in your SoC design.

6. (Optional) Modify constraint file (<proj_name>.lpf/<proj_name>.pdc) to match the SoC design, if you have modified the SoC design.
   **Note:** This step is a must for the SoC design created from the Empty Project template.

7. Process the design in Lattice Diamond/Radiant.

In Diamond software, switch to Process view of the project (Figure 3.14). Make sure at least one file, IBIS Model, Verilog Simulation File, VHDL Simulation File, Bitstream File, or JEDEC file, is checked in the Export Files section for programming. Choose Process > Run.

![Image of Lattice Diamond software](image)

**Figure 3.14. Generate Programming File in Lattice Diamond**

In Radiant software, from the Process Toolbar, click Export Files (Figure 3.15).
3.2.4. Generating System Environment by Building Project

System environment package including the system environment file and the BSP package is required for the embedded C/C++ project.

To generate system environment package from Propel:
1. In the Project Explorer view, select a SoC project.
2. Choose Project > Build Project.
3. Check the building result in the Console view (Figure 3.16).

3.2.5. About SoC Design Project

The SoC project creating starts with a functional-ready SoC design and a default simulation environment. In the Project Explorer view, open a SoC project folder and all its sub-folders. The project contains (but is not limited to) the following files (Figure 3.17), some of which may vary upon your opening the SoC design project in Diamond or Radiant software:
• <proj_name>: Folder contains a Propel Builder design including the .sbx file.
• <proj_name>/application: Folder contains functional-ready embedded application source codes.
• impl1: Folder contains the implementation of Diamond/Radiant project.
• sge: Folder contains generated package necessary for creating C/C++ project.
• verification: Folder contains the SoC verification project.
• verification/sim: Folder contains the simulation environment.
• <proj_name>.ldf: Diamond project file.
• <proj_name>.lpf: Diamond project logical preference file.
• <proj_name>.rdf: Radiant project file.
• <proj_name>.pdc: Radiant project post-synthesis constraints.
• <proj_name>.txt: Description file from the template.

Figure 3.17. Contents of SoC Project
3.3. C/C++ Project Design Flow

3.3.1. Creating a Lattice C/C++ Project

To start a Lattice C/C++ Project from Propel:

   The C/C++ Project wizard opens with the Load System and BSP page (Figure 3.18).

   ![Figure 3.18. Load System and BSP Dialog](image)

2. Browse to the SoC project folder and select the system environment file sys_env.xml.
   All system environment files available in the current workspace can be selected from the System env: drop-down menu.

3. If the platform has more than one processor, choose one core.

4. Choose the project type, C or C++.

5. Enter a project name. Suggest not using periods, colons, or spaces in your project name. Though spaces are allowed, they may cause certain issue with some tools.

6. By default, the Use default location option is checked. The default file system is selected automatically. Suggest using the default location unless you have special need to a special location.
7. Click **Next**.
   The **Lattice Toolchain Setting** dialog opens (Figure 3.19).

![Figure 3.19. Lattice Toolchain Setting Dialog](image)

8. By default, two toolchain configuration modes, **Debug** and **Release**, can be chosen from the Configuration drop-down menu.
   - **Debug** configuration creates executables containing additional debug information that lets the debugger make direct associations between the source code and the binary files generated from the original source.
   - **Release** configuration provides the tools with options setting to create an application with the best performance.

You can modify frequently-used library, compiler, and linker options for each configuration. For a complete toolchain setting, go to project properties after creating the project. Refer to the **Advanced Tool Chain Setting** section.

   - In **Lib Setting** tab, standard C library can be reconfigured. Picolibc (C Libraries for Smaller Embedded Systems) is selected by default and it supports different printf levels.
   - In **C/C++ Compiler** tab, optimization level and debug level can be reconfigured for each toolchain configuration.
   - In **C/C++ Linker** tab, Remove unused code (--gc-sections) is checked by default for garbage collection of unused code.

9. Click **Finish**.
The Lattice C/C++ project is created and is displayed using the Propel SDK perspective. A perspective is a collection of tool views for a particular purpose. The Propel SDK perspective is for creating Lattice C/C++ programs.

3.3.2. Updating a Lattice C/C++ Project

When you make changes to a SoC project, sometimes you want to synchronize the changes to an existing Lattice C/C++ project instead of creating a new Lattice C/C++ project. In this case, you can use the update C/C++ project feature.

**Note:** This feature overwrites the corresponding files or settings of your existing C/C++ project. Be sure to back up your C/C++ project before using this feature.

To update a Lattice C/C++ Project from Propel:

1. Generate the latest system environment package according to the Generating System Environment by Building Project section.
2. In the Project Explorer view, select a C/C++ project.
3. Choose Project > Update Lattice C/C++ Project....
   *The C/C++ Project wizard opens for updating system and BSP (Figure 3.20).*

4. Browse to the SoC project folder and select the system environment file sys_env.xml.
5. Select the checkbox for what you can update:
   - Re-generate toolchain parameters and linker script: check this option if you want to modify CPU or memory in the system.
   - Update BSP package: check this option if you want to add additional IP components into the system.
6. Click Update to make changes for the selected C/C++ project.

![Figure 3.20. Update System and BSP Dialog](image-url)
3.3.3. Building a Lattice C/C++ Project

To build a Lattice C/C++ project in Propel:

1. In the **Project Explorer** view, select a C/C++ project.
2. Follow steps below if you want to change the active build configuration:
   a. Choose **Project > Build Configurations > Manage**.... Or, click the **Configuration** icon on the toolbar.
   b. The Manage Configurations dialog opens (Figure 3.21) for choosing active configuration. By default, a **Debug** configuration creates executables containing additional debug information that lets the debugger make direct associations between the source code and the binary files generated from the original source. A **Release** configuration provides the tools with options setting to create an application with the best performance.

![Figure 3.21. Manage Configurations Dialog](image)

3. Choose **Project > Build Project**. Or, click the **Build** icon on the toolbar.
4. The results of the build command are displayed in the **Console** view (Figure 3.22).

![Figure 3.22. Build Result of C/C++ Project](image)

3.3.4. About Lattice C/C++ Project

The Lattice C/C++ project starts with source code. In the Project Explorer view, open a C/C++ project folder and all its sub-folders. The project contains:

- **src/bsp/driver**: Folder contains driver codes from the IP in the platform.
- **src/bsp/sys_platform.h**: Header file that defines DEVICE_FAMILY (the Lattice FPGA), address mapping, and any IP parameters that can be used by the drivers.
- **src/main.c**: Source file contains the main routine, which is the entry-point of a C/C++ program.
- **src/cpu0.svd**: System view description file used for peripherals registers view at debug perspective.
• src/cpu0.yaml: Processor description file used at debugging time.
• src/linker.ld: Linker script file.
• src/sys_env.xml: System environment file describing aspects of the platform, such as memory spaces.

After building the project, the build output can be found in each build configuration folder, the Debug folder or the Release folder (Figure 3.23). The Debug or Release folder contains:
• <proj_name>.elf: Executable file used in on-chip debugging.
• <proj_name>.bin: Binary file used in deploying the application to flash memory.
• <proj_name>.lst: Extended listing file generated by tool objdump.
• <proj_name>.map: Linker map file.
• <proj_name>.mem: Lattice system memory initialization file used in System_Memory IP.

Note: Some of the files listed in Figure 3.23 are intermediate files that you do not need to take care of.

3.3.5. Writing Code

Lattice Propel is based on Eclipse IDE. You can write application code following the process and usage of the same tools as any in Eclipse IDE. You can get more detailed information regarding Eclipse IDE from the Propel online help.
For writing code, Lattice Propel SDK provides two extra aids:

- **Lattice System Platform**: An overview of the processor platform can be displayed (Figure 3.24).
- **Linker Editor**: An overview of the memory regions of linker script can be displayed. You can modify key linker parameters via the graphical interface (Figure 3.25).

![Figure 3.24. Lattice System Platform](image1)

![Figure 3.25. Linker Editor](image2)
3.3.6. Advanced Tool Chain Setting

Follow the process below to modify the tool chain settings of a C/C++ project.

To change tool chain setting in Project Properties in Propel:

1. In the Project Explorer view of Propel, select a C/C++ project.
2. Choose Project > Properties. The Properties for current project opens (Figure 3.26).
3. Select Settings of C/C++ Build category from the left pane. Select the Tool Settings tab.

4. Customize the tools and tool options. All your customization can be resulted in the build configuration in the Tool Settings properties tab. The build configuration is used during your C/C++ project building.

   **Note:** The setting for each configuration, Debug or Release, is independent.

5. Click Apply and Close to save the change.

   **Note:** You may need to clean the project to make the new setting take effect for the whole project.
3.4. System Simulation Flow

The SoC Project created from template has a default simulation environment for you to setup and start functional simulation. It is generated automatically along with the SoC project creation. You can use it as a start point and customize accordingly.

The default simulation environment is with the following features:

- Provides similar user experience as real board-level debugging, such as for Hello World SoC, key components including RISC-V MC, System memory, and UART.
- Simulates user-modified template SoC with extended HDL designs.
- Simulates the whole system using real C/C++ projects as stimulus with the necessary modification and with all the details for debugging.
- Supports user extension with a friendly and flexible approach.

3.4.1. Launch Simulation

To launch simulation:

1. In Propel Builder, update the SoC design to enable simulation features.
   - Enable the checkbox for Simulation Mode, and disable the checkbox for Debug Enable for RISC-V MC IP module in the General area (Figure 3.27).

![Figure 3.27. Configure Module RISC-V MC](image)
Enable the checkbox for **Initialize Memory** for `system_memory` IP module from the **Initialization** area of the **General** tab, and set **Initialization File** generated from the corresponding C/C++ project (Figure 3.28).

![Module/IP Block Wizard](image)

**Figure 3.28. Configure Module System Memory**

2. Click the **Switch** icon on the toolbar to switch between SoC design and SoC verification project (Figure 3.29).

3. After the SoC design is switched to a SoC verification project, click the **Generate** icon to generate the simulation environment for OEM ModelSim. Click the **Launch Simulation** icon (Figure 3.29).
4. ModelSim is launched running simulation for the SoC verification project. The corresponding waveform of the SoC verification project for the Hello World project is shown (Figure 3.30). Check the waveform.

![Figure 3.29. SoC Verification Project](image)

### 3.4.2. Simulation Details

The default simulation environment is located at the generated sim folder inside the SoC verification project in Propel. It contains:

- `[sim]` -- generated simulation environment
- `[hd1_header]` -- register definitions of all the components in DUT/SOC
- `soc_regs.v` -- base address, user settings of all the components in DUT/SOC
- `sys_platform.v` -- all the mem, hex, txt files will be copied here
- `flist.f` -- file list for HDLs
- `msim.do` -- do script for simulator, it can be qsim for Questasim
- `wave.do` -- do script for adding signals in waveform window
- `<project_name>.sv` -- top testbench, SystemVerilog based

You can extend more verification features in the top testbench.
3.5. Programming and On-Chip-Debugging Flow

This section describes the process of testing and debugging application code on the actual hardware including the Lattice FPGA with the hardware design installed. Debugging with Propel SDK follows the same process and uses of the same tools of any of those in Eclipse IDE.

Before debugging, download the hardware design created from Diamond/Radiant Programmer. Refer to the User Guide of the specific evaluation board for more details on the evaluation board.

3.5.1. Creating a Debug Launch Configuration

To debug a program, a debug launch configuration must be created. Most of the settings for a debug launch configuration can be automatically entered. Only a few settings need to be manually configured.

To create a debug launch configuration:

1. In the Project Explorer view of Propel, select a C/C++ project.
2. Build the project and ensure the executable file is available. Refer to the Building a Lattice C/C++ Project section for details on the process.
3. Choose Run > Debug Configurations...

The Debug Configurations dialog opens (Figure 3.31).

Figure 3.31. Debug Configurations Page
4. Double-click **GDB OpenOCD Debugging** to create a new launch configuration.
   
   A multi-tab page is displayed. The Main tab should already be filled in with the project name, application file name, and location.

5. Select the **CableConn tab** (Figure 3.32). This tab enables you to select a specific device on a specific cable port.
   
   - Click the **Detect Cable** button. Select the specific cable port from the **Port** drop-down list. By default, the first available cable port: FTUSB-0 is selected.
   
   - Click the **Scan Device** button. Select the specific device from **Device** drop-down list. By default, the first available device on selected cable port is selected.
   
   - Select the jtag channel number from **Channel** drop-down list. By default, channel 14 is selected with the same value as the processor preset.
   
   - Keep the cable speed so that you can use the default clock divider.

![Debug Configurations](image)

**Figure 3.32. CableConn Tab of Debug Configurations**

6. Select the **Debugger tab** (Figure 3.33). It is critical that the **Config options** field contains the correct command line options to be passed to OpenOCD.
   
   - `-c "set port ${PORT}"` is required for the selection connected to the Lattice cable. The value of variable “${PORT}” comes from the cable settings of the **CableConn** tab.
   
   - `-c "set target ${DEVICE}"` is required for the selection of a specific device on the Lattice cable. The value of variable “${DEVICE}” comes from the device settings of **CableConn** tab.
   
   - `-c "set channel ${CHANNEL}"` is required for setting the JTAG channel. The value of variable “${CHANNEL}” comes from the jtag channel setting of the **CableConn** tab.
   
   - `-c "set tck ${TCKDIV}"` is required for setting the clock divider of the Lattice cable. The value of variable “${TCKDIV}” comes from the speed setting of the **CableConn** tab.
7. (Optional) Select the **Common** tab (Figure 3.34). The **Save as > Local file** option is selected by default. This causes the debug launch configuration to be saved into the workspace.

You can change the setting of the **Save as** field to **Shared file**. In this way, the debug launch configuration is saved into the project and this aids the project portability.
3.5.2. Starting a Debug Session

Before starting a debug session, be sure that:

- The Lattice cable is connected to the computer.
- The target device is power ON.
- The hardware design has a debug enabled processor module and already programming into the target device.

With the above steps completed properly, follow the steps below to start the debug session from Propel.

1. Choose Run > Debug Configurations...
2. If necessary, expand the GDB OpenOCD Debugging group.
3. Select the newly-defined configuration.
4. Click the Debug button (Figure 3.34).

Alternatively, for later sessions, use the Debug icon on the toolbar. Do not click the Debug icon directly. Instead, click the down arrow beside the Debug icon. Select the desired debug configuration from the drop-down menu (Figure 3.35).

Figure 3.34. Common Tab of Debug Configurations

8. Remain settings as default. Do not change the settings unless necessary, or unless you understand what effect these changes may bring.
9. Click Apply to keep the current settings.
10. Click Close.
5. Wait for a few seconds for switching to debug perspective, starting the server, connecting to the target device, starting the gdb client, downloading the application and starting the debugging session.

6. The Propel Window displays, as shown in Figure 3.36. The execution stops right at the beginning of the `main()` function.

![Figure 3.36. Debug Perspective](image)

3.5.3. Peripherals Registers View

Peripherals registers view provides an easy-to-use interface for examining or modifying the values of peripheral registers during a debug session.

To use peripherals registers view in Propel (Figure 3.37):

1. Make sure an active debug session is run and shown in the debug perspective.

2. Find the Peripherals view which is in the same window with the Variables and Breakpoints views. For any reason, if this view is not found, re-open it from Window > Show View > Peripherals.

   The Peripherals view lists all peripherals available in the system view description svd file within the C/C++ Project.

3. Selecting a peripheral in the Peripherals view can open a Memory Monitor that is mapped to the corresponding peripheral memory area.

4. You can examine and modify the value of the peripherals register in the Memory view.

![Figure 3.35. Debug Icon on Toolbar](image)
3.5.4. Serial Terminal Tool

Serial port communication is frequently used during the microcontroller debugging. Propel SDK provides a built-in terminal tool including serial support for debugging.

To launch a serial terminal:

1. Find the Terminal view nested to the Console view. If this view is not found, re-open it from Window > Show View > Terminal.

2. In the Terminal view, click the Open a Terminal icon. The Launch Terminal dialog opens (Figure 3.38).

3. Choose the Serial Terminal and configure the Serial port with Baud rate.

![Figure 3.37. Peripherals View in Debug Perspective](image)

![Figure 3.38. Launch Terminal Dialog](image)
4. Click **OK**. A connection opens.

5. (Optional) Click the **Toggle Command Input** icon that adds an edit box to enter text (Figure 3.39).

![Figure 3.39. Terminal View](image)

**Figure 3.39. Terminal View**
4. Propel Tutorial – Hello World

This “Hello World” project can be found from the template. The “Hello World” project provides a template of using hardware and software design with the minimal resource required.

Following this tutorial, you can easily create a hardware and software project. After that, you can run the project on your evaluation board.

The tutorial uses a MachXO3D breakout board for demonstration. It uses RS232 UART function. To enable RS232 UART function on the MachXO3D breakout board, the following reworks on the board are required.

1. Hardware reworks on MachXO3D breakout board.
   Short R14 and R15 using 0 Ω resistors, as shown in Figure 4.1.

![Figure 4.1. MachXO3D Breakout Board](image-url)
2. Configure the FTDI device with FT_Prog software to enable the UART function.
   Connect the MachXO3D breakout board to host PC and power ON.
   Open the FT_Prog software. Select **DEVICES > Program**.
   Make sure Port B is configured as RS232 UART in Hardware and Virtual COM Port in Driver. See **Figure 4.2**.
   Select **DEVICES > Program** from the FT_Prog software again. From the opened Program Devices dialog, click **Program**.

   ![Figure 4.2 Configure the FTDI Device](image)

3. All the reworks for the MachXO3D breakout board are completed.

4.1. Creating SoC Design Project and Preparing Hardware Design

To start a SoC Design Project from Propel:

1. Choose **File > New > Lattice SoC Design Project**.
2. The **Create SoC Project** wizard opens (**Figure 4.3**). Enter a project name, such as **HelloWorldSoC**. Select the Hello World Project template.
3. Click **Finish**. A SoC project is created.
4. The created SoC project can be found in the workbench. Its design is opened and displayed in Propel Builder for review (Figure 4.4).
5. (Optional) In Propel Builder, update the SoC design to set the preloaded software. Enable the checkbox for **Initialize Memory** for `system_memory` IP module from the **Initialization** area of the **General** tab, and set **Initialization File** (**Figure 4.5**) generated from the corresponding Hello World C project in the **Creating Hello World C Project** section.

**Figure 4.4. Propel Builder Window**

**Figure 4.5. Configure Module System Memory**
4.2. Launching Lattice Diamond
Launch Lattice Diamond from the created SoC project. To do that:

1. In Propel Project Explorer view, select the SoC project HelloWorldSoC.

2. Click the Diamond icon on the toolbar. A Diamond project is created and thus opened automatically in Lattice Diamond.

3. Switch to Process view of the Diamond project and make sure Bitstream File or JEDEC File is checked in the Export Files section (Figure 4.6).

4. Choose Process > Run. Wait for generating programming file successfully. You can see a green checkmark before each successfully completed process.

4.3. Programming the Target Device
Once the programming file is exported successfully in last section, it is ready to program the target device. Make sure the evaluation board is powered ON and connect correctly to the host PC before performing the following procedure.

1. Click the Programmer icon on the toolbar of the Lattice Diamond Project Explorer.

2. The Programmer: Getting Started dialog pops up (Figure 4.7). Click OK.

Figure 4.6. Generate Programming File
3. Review the **Device Family**, **Device**, **Operation**, and **File Name** in the Programmer window (as shown below).

4. Click the **Program** icon 🔄 to download the programming data file to the device.

### 4.4. Creating Hello World C Project

Creating C project requires a system environment from SoC project as input.

1. In Propel **Project Explorer** view, select the SoC project **HelloWorldSoC**.
2. Choose **Project > Build Project**.

   System environment of the select SoC project is generated under the SoC project folder. Check the result from the **Console** view (Figure 4.8).

3. Choose **File > New > Lattice C/C++ Project**.
The C/C++ Project wizard opens with the Load System and BSP page (Figure 4.9).

![Figure 4.9. Load System and BSP Page](image)

4. Select the system environment file just generated (Figure 4.9).
5. Enter the project name **HelloWorld** (Figure 4.9). Click **Next**. Then click **Finish**.
   The C project is created and displayed in the workbench.
6. Choose **Project** > **Build Project**.
7. Check the build result from the **Console** view (Figure 4.10).
4.5. Running Demo on MachXO3D Breakout Board – Hello world

1. Find the Terminal view nest to the Console view. If this view is not found, re-open it from Window > Show View > Terminal.

2. In the Terminal view, click the Open a Terminal icon.

3. Choose the Serial Terminal and configure the Serial port with Baud rate 115200 (Figure 4.11).
   
   **Note:** The serial port number depends on specific PC.

4. Click OK. A serial connection communicate with UART is ready.

5. In the Project Explorer view, select the C project HelloWorld.

6. Choose Run > Debug Configurations...

7. Double-click GDB OpenOCD Debugging to create a new launch configuration (Figure 4.12).

8. Click the Debug button.

   Wait for a few seconds for switching to the debug perspective, to start the server, and to allow it to connect to the target device, start the gdb client, download the application, and then start the debugging session.

   **Note:** This demo uses the default debug configuration options.
9. Click the **Resume** icon on the toolbar. The serial terminal outputs **Hello RISC-V world!** (Figure 4.13).

![Figure 4.12. Debug Configurations Page](image1)

![Figure 4.13. Run Result of Hello World Project](image2)
Appendix A. Linker Script and System Memory Deployment

During the Lattice C/C++ Project creation, Propel SDK generates a linker script file, linker.ld, within the project. This linker script file contains a memory region list parsing from the corresponding SoC design.

**Note:** Illegal memory regions are not imported to linker script. A memory region is considered illegal if it has any of the following conditions:
- No connection to CPU
- Address space conflict

Each memory region has a list of attributes to specify whether or not use a particular memory region for an input section (*Figure A.1*).
- r: Read-only section.
- w: Read/Write section indicating the memory region is connected to the data port of CPU.
- x: Executable section indicating the memory region is connected to the instruction port of CPU.

![Figure A.1. Memory Regions in Linker Script](image)

The generated linker script contains a mapping table of section pointing to the memory region (*Figure A.2*). Depending on the attributes of each memory region, code section and data section can point to the same or different memory regions.

![Figure A.2. Section to Memory Region Mapping](image)

During the Lattice C/C++ Project building, Propel SDK generates Lattice system memory initialization files. Depending on the number of the memory regions used, it generates single memory initialization file or multiple memory initialization files. The following picture (*Figure A.3*) shows an example of multiple memory files being generated, separated for code and data segments.
If you modify the linker script manually after the Lattice C/C++ project creation, especially changing the number of the used memory regions, the number of memory files generated during project building cannot be changed automatically. You can re-configure the generation of memory files in Propel through the following ways:

1. In the **Project Explorer** view of Propel, select a C/C++ project.
2. Choose **Project > Properties**. The Properties dialog opens showing the properties of the current project.
3. Select **Settings of C/C++ Build** category from the left pane. Select the **Toolchains** tab (Figure A.4).
   - Check **Create memory file**, if you point the code and data segments to the same memory region. Or, check **Create multiple memory files**, if you point the code and data segments to separate memory regions.
4. Click **Apply**.

---

**Figure A.3. Linker Script and Generated Memory Files**

![Diagram of Linker Script and Generated Memory Files](image)
5. Go back to the **Tool Settings** tab. The relevant Lattice memory deployment tools can be found (Figure A.5). Customize the tool options as needed.

6. Click **Apply and Close** to save the change.

   **Note:** Setting for each configuration, **Debug** or **Release**, is independent.
Figure A.5. Tool Settings Tab of C/C++ Build Settings
Appendix B. Standard C Library Support

Propel SDK bundles Picolibc as the standard library support (https://keithp.com/picolibc/). Picolibc is a set of standard C libraries, both libc and libm, designed for smaller embedded systems with limited ROM and RAM. Picolibc includes code from Newlib (https://sourceware.org/newlib/) and AVR Libc (https://www.nongnu.org/avr-libc/).

Printf and Scanf levels in Propel SDK

Propel SDK provides three levels of printf support with the support of Picolibc, which can be selected when creating a Lattice C/C++ project (Refer to Figure B.1), or be modified in the toolchain settings in the project properties after the project is created, noting that the options in both compiler and linker need to be set (Refer to Figure B.2 and Figure B.3).

- Integer only printf. This is the default selection in Propel SDK, which removes the support for all float and double conversions to save code size.

- Float printf. It requires a special macro for float values: `printf_float`. To make it easier to switch between that and other two levels, that macro should also be correctly defined for the other two levels.

Here is a sample program to demonstrate the usage:

```c
#include <stdio.h>

void main(void) {
    printf(" 2^61 = %lld, Pi = %.17g\n", 1ll << 61, printf_float(3.141592653589793));
}
```

- Full printf. This offers full printf functionality, including both float and double conversions.

System Library Interfaces used in Propel SDK

Propel SDK provides three system library for stdio support with the help of Picolibc, which can be selected when creating a Lattice C/C++ project (refer to Figure B.1), or be modified in the toolchain settings in the project properties after the project is created, noting that only the option in linker needs to be set (refer to Figure B.3).

- Default. Use the default system library interface (UART) in BSP, this requires a UART instance inside SoC design.

- Semihosting. Semihosting is a mechanism that enables code running on the target to communicate with and use the I/O of the host computer. Propel SDK provides semihosting support in On-Chip-Debugging flow. It allows printing messages to the debugger console without relying on the UART instance.

- Dummyhosting. Dummy stdio hooks. This allows programs to link without requiring any system-dependent functions. This is only used if the program doesn't provide its own version of stdin, stdout, stderr.
Figure B.1. Lattice Toolchain Setting Dialog

Figure B.2. Properties of C/C++ Project – Compiler Options
Figure B.3. Properties of C/C++ Project – Linker Options
Appendix C. Third-party Command-line Tools in Lattice Propel SDK

The Propel SDK integrates with a number of third-party command-line tools, which can be used with Propel User Interface or as stand-alone command-line tools. You can find these command-line tools and their documentation according to the following list.

1. **Windows Build tools**
   - Version: 4.2.1-1
   - Binaries Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\build_tools\bin`
   - Documents Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\build_tools\share`

2. **OpenOCD**
   - Version: 0.10.0
   - Binaries Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\openocd\bin`
   - Documents Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\openocd\doc`

3. **GNU RISC-V Embedded GCC**
   - Version: 10.2.0-1.2
   - Binaries Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\riscv-none-embed-gcc\bin`
   - Documents Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\riscv-none-embed-gcc\share\doc`

4. **Picolibc**
   - Version: 1.7.4
   - Binaries Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\riscv-none-embed-gcc\riscv-none-embed\picolibc\riscv-none-embed\lib`
   - Documents Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\riscv-none-embed-gcc\doc`

5. **SRecord**
   - Version: 1.6.4
   - Binaries Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\tools\bin`
   - Documents Location: `<Propel Installation Location>/sdk\tools\bin`
Appendix D. Command-line Environment Setting Script in Lattice Propel SDK

Propel provides a script to set necessary environment variables for running all Propel SDK command line tools. It enables you to fast get up to using command line tools, especially for Lattice specific tools.

To use the script:

1. Run the script propel_commandline.cmd (Windows) or propel_commandline.sh (Linux) under <Propel Installation Location>.
   The message Lattice Propel Commandline is printed, and it lets you go to a new command line interface.

2. All command line tools in the Propel SDK can be run from this command line interface without any special configuration.

Here are examples of using the command line tools within this script.

Example A: Build a C project under command line.

```
$ cd <C project Location>/Debug
$ make
```

Example B: Launching openocd under command line.

```
$ cd <C project Location>
$ openocd -c "gdb_port 3333" -c "set target 0" -c "set tck 1" -c "set port FTUSB-0" -c "set RISCV_SMALL_YAML src/cpu0.yaml" -f interface/lattice-cable.cfg -f target/riscv-small.cfg
```
References

- Lattice Propel 2023.1 Release Notes (FPGA-AN-02065)
- Lattice Propel 2023.1 Installation for Linux User Guide (FPGA-AN-02066)
- Lattice Propel Builder 2023.1 Usage Guide (FPGA-UG-02185)
- MachXO3D Family Data Sheet (FPGA-DS-02026)
- MachXO3D Programming and Configuration Usage Guide (FPGA-TN-02069)
- MachXO3D Breakout Board User Guide (FPGA-UG-02084)
Technical Support Assistance
Submit a technical support case through www.latticesemi.com/techsupport.
For frequently asked questions, refer to the Lattice Answer Database at www.latticesemi.com/Support/AnswerDatabase.
## Revision History

**Revision 1.0, May 2023**

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