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Application Engineering
TechNote

Jennifer Ediyanto

Running GDB Commands From File

The GNU debugger allows us to define our own debugger (GDB) commands and store the commands in a file. The purpose of defining and storing GDB commands in a file is for easy retrieving some common used commands. This paper will provide sample files that contain predefined GDB commands.

In the following, we set the program counter (pc) to address H'8000 and define the command as restart.

In a file called **Start.gdb**:

```
define restart
set $pc=0x8000
end
```

In the following, we define testing as a series of GDB commands: connect the GDB to simulator, load a program named Test.x, read the symbol from Test.x, and run the program. Test.x is an absolute file for a program named Test.c, which is a program that prints 'Hello World' to the screen.

In a file called **Test.gdb**:

```
define testing
target sim
load test.x
file test.x
run
end
```

We invoke the GDB by using the following command:

```
C:\H8300\BIN>  GDB
```

The debugger will have (GDB) as its prompt. We can type the following commands:

```
(GDB) source start.gdb
(GDB) source test.gdb
(GDB) testing
Connected to the simulator
.text:    0x8000..0xa372  ***
.data:  0xa372..0xa48c  *
.stack: 0xf000..0xf014    *
Hello World!
(GDB) restart
(GDB)
```

At this point, we can load another program by using load command.

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