
RL78 Family C compiler CC-RL Programming Techniques

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Introduction

This application note describes how to reduce the code size, increase the execution speed, and programming techniques to avoid bugs when using the C compiler CC-RL.

The following versions of the integrated development environments are supported.

- CS+ V4.01.00
- e² studio V4.0.0.26
- RL78 Family C compiler CC-RL V1.03.00

Target Device

RL78 Family

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1. Code Size Reduction

1.1 Size of Variables

When using variables, specify the type having the minimum allowable size.
 This is because the RL78 devices excel in handling small-type variables.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>void main(void) { signed int i; for (i=0; i < 10; i++) { NOP(); } }</pre>	<pre>void main(void) { signed char i; for (i=0; i < 10; i++) { NOP(); } }</pre>

Figure 1.1 C Source Code

Before Change		After Change	
movw ax, #0x000A	3	mov a, #0x0A	2
.BB@LABEL@1_1:		.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
nop	1	nop	1
addw ax, #0xFFFF	3	dec a	1
bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
.BB@LABEL@1_2:		.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
ret	1	ret	1
10 bytes		7 bytes	

Figure 1.2 Output Assembler

1.2 Unsigned Variables

Add “unsigned” for all data that never handle negative values.
 This is because the RL78 devices excel in handling unsigned variables.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>signed int data0; signed int data1; void main(void) { if (data0 > 10) { data1++; } }</pre>	<pre>unsigned int data0; unsigned int data1; void main(void) { if (data0 > 10) { data1++; } }</pre>

Figure 1.3 C Source Code

Before Change		After Change	
movw ax, !LOWW(_data0)	3	movw ax, !LOWW(_data0)	3
xor a, #0x80	2		
cmpw ax, #0x800B	3	cmpw ax, #0x000B	3
skc	2	skc	2
.BB@LABEL@1_1: incw !LOWW(_data1)	3	.BB@LABEL@1_1: incw !LOWW(_data1)	3
13 bytes		11 bytes	

Figure 1.4 Output Assembler

1.3 saddr Area

Use the `__saddr` qualifier or `#pragma saddr` declaration for frequently used external variables and static variables within functions.

Allocating variables in the `saddr` area improves the code.

For a one-bit field especially, the `__saddr` qualifier or `#pragma saddr` declaration can be expected to have a large effect.

Alternatively, the variables/functions information file can be used to allocate variables to the `saddr` area.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>typedef struct { unsigned char b0:1; unsigned char b1:1; unsigned char b2:1; unsigned char b3:1; unsigned char b4:1; unsigned char b5:1; unsigned char b6:1; unsigned char b7:1; } BITF; BITF data0, data1; void main(void) { data0.b4 = data1.b1; }</pre>	<pre>typedef struct { unsigned char b0:1; unsigned char b1:1; unsigned char b2:1; unsigned char b3:1; unsigned char b4:1; unsigned char b5:1; unsigned char b6:1; unsigned char b7:1; } BITF; __saddr BITF data0, data1; void main(void) { data0.b4 = data1.b1; }</pre>

Figure 1.5 C Source Code

Before Change		After Change	
<code>movw hl, #LOWW(_data1)</code>	3		
<code>mov1 CY, [hl].1</code>	2	<code>mov1 CY, _data1.1</code>	3
<code>movw hl, #LOWW(_data0)</code>	3		
<code>mov1 [hl].4, CY</code>	2	<code>mov1 _data0.4, CY</code>	3
10 bytes		6 bytes	

Figure 1.6 Output Assembler

1.4 callt Function

Use the `__callt` qualifier or `#pragma callt` declaration for frequently called functions.

The addresses of the functions to be called are stored in the callt table area [80H-BFH], and the functions are called with a smaller-size code than for direct function calls.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>void func_sub(void) { ... } void func(void) { func_sub(); : func_sub(); }</pre>	<pre>__callt void func_sub(void) { ... } void func() { func_sub(); : func_sub(); }</pre>

Figure 1.7 C Source Code

Before Change		After Change	
		<code>.SECTION .callt0,CALLT0</code>	
		<code>@_func_sub:</code>	
		<code>.DB2 _func_sub</code>	2
<code>.SECTION .textf,TEXTF</code>		<code>.SECTION .textf,TEXTF</code>	
<code>_func:</code>		<code>_func:</code>	
<code>call \$_func_sub</code>	4	<code>callt [@_func_sub]</code>	2
<code>call \$_func_sub</code>	4	<code>callt [@_func_sub]</code>	2
8 bytes		6 bytes	

Figure 1.8 Output Assembler

Notes:

- A table of addresses for function calls is generated (`.callt0`).
- Due to generation of this table, code size reduction is effective for a function called only once.
- The `CALLT` instruction requires more clock cycles for execution than the `CALL` instruction.
- Alternatively, the variables/functions information file can be used to specify declarations of the functions of the functions to be called through the `CALLT` instruction.

1.5 Alignment of Structure Members

In the RL78family of devices, reading or writing in word units cannot start from an odd address;

Data for alignment is inserted by the default option setting so that 2-bytes or larger members are allocated to even addresses.

Therefore, take care regarding the alignment of structure members and do not leave unused space between members.

Before Change	After Change
<pre> struct { signed char a; signed int b; signed char c; struct { signed int d; signed int e; } f; } data; </pre>	<pre> struct { signed char a; signed char c; signed int b; struct { signed int d; signed int e; } f; } data; </pre>

Figure 1.9 C Source Code

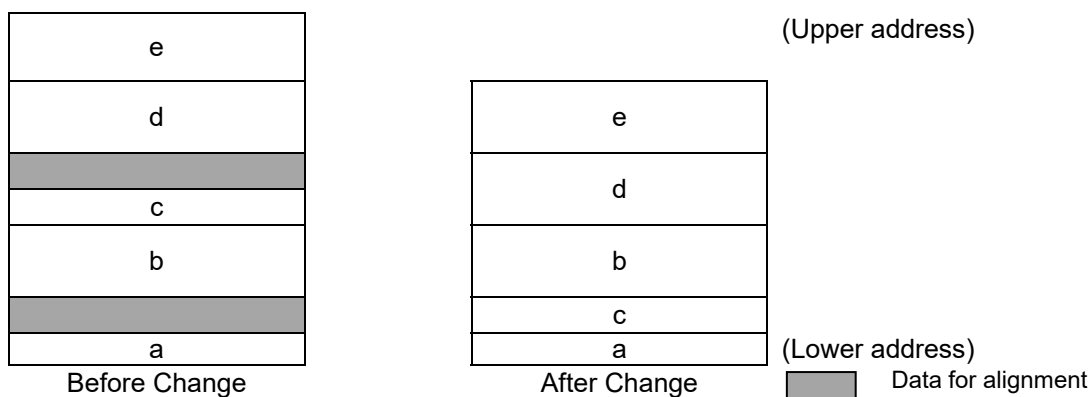


Figure 1.10 Data Allocation in Memory

1.6 Bit Fields and 1-Byte Variable

When the size of bit-field member is two or more bits, use the char type instead of a bit field (two or more bits). Note that the size of RAM area used will increase when this is done.

Before Change	After Change
<pre> struct { unsigned char b0:1; unsigned char b1:2; } data; unsigned char dummy; if (data.b1) { dummy++; } </pre>	<pre> unsigned char data; unsigned char dummy; if (data) { dummy++; } </pre>

Figure 1.11 C Source Code

Before Change		After Change	
mov a, #0x06	2		
and a, !LOWW(_data)	3	comp0, !LOWW(_data)	3
sknz	2	sknz	2
ret	1	ret	1
inc, !LOWW(_dummy)	3	inc, !LOWW(_dummy)	3
ret	1	ret	1
12 bytes		10 bytes	

Figure 1.12 Output Assembler

1.7 Type Conversion

The short type and char type variables are extended to the int type when calculated, and the unsigned short type and unsigned char type variables are extended to the unsigned int type when calculated. Therefore, many instructions that perform type conversion are generated in a program that uses these variables. When type conversion is performed in programming, instructions that perform type conversion are not generated and thus the code size is reduced.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>void main(void) { unsigned char i; for (i = 0; i <4; i++) { array[2 + i] = *(p + i); } }</pre>	<pre>void main(void) { int i; for (i = 0; i <4; i++) { array[2 + i] = *(p + i); } }</pre>

Figure 1.13 C Source Code

Remark: array[] and *p are global variables.

Before Change		After Change	
clr b a	1	movw de, #LOWW(_array+0x00004)	3
.BB@LABEL@1_1:	2	clrw ax	1
mov x, #0x02	2	.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
mov b, a	1	movw bc, ax	2
mulu x	2	addw ax, !LOWW(_p)	3
movw de, ax	2	movw hl, ax	1
addw ax, #LOWW(_array+0x00004)	2	movw ax, [hl]	1
movw hl, ax	2	movw [de], ax	1
movw ax, de	3	incw bc	1
addw ax, !LOWW(_p)	2	incw bc	1
movw de, ax	1	movw ax, bc	2
movw ax, [de]	1	cmpw ax, #0x0008	3
movw [hl], ax	1	incw de	1
inc b	2	incw de	1
mov a, b	3	bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
cmp a, #0x04	2		
bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1			
29 bytes		23 bytes	

Figure 1.14 Output Assembler

1.8 Deleting Induction Variables

A variable that controls a loop is called an induction variable. When loops are controlled using other variables, induction variables are eliminated, and thus the code size is reduced.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>int main(void) { int i; for (i = 0; *(table + i) != 0; ++i) { if (x== (*(table + i) & 0xFF)) { return(*(table +i) & 0xFF00); } } }</pre>	<pre>int main(void) { const unsigned short *p; for (p = table; *p != 0; ++p) { if (x == (*p & 0xFF)) { return(*p & 0xFF00); } } }</pre>

Figure 1.15 C Source Code

Remark: x and *table are global variables.

Before Change		After Change	
subw sp, #0x06	2		
movw hl, sp	3		
clrw ax	1		
movw [hl], ax	1		
movw [sp+0x02], ax	2	movw de, !LOWW(_table)	3
.BB@LABEL@1_1:		.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
movw bc, !LOWW(_table)	3	movw ax, [de]	1
movw ax, bc	1	movw bc, ax	1
movw [sp+0x04], ax	2		
movw ax, [hl]	1		
addw ax, bc	1		
movw de, ax	3		
movw ax, [de]	1		
cmpw ax, #0x0000	3	cmpw ax, #0x0000	3
bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_5	2	bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_5	2
.BB@LABEL@1_2:		.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
clrb a	1	clrb a	1
cmpw ax, !LOWW(_x)	3	cmpw ax, !LOWW(_x)	3
bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_4	2	bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_4	2
.BB@LABEL@1_3:		.BB@LABEL@1_3:	
movw ax, [hl]	1		
incw ax	1	incw de	1
incw ax	1	incw de	
movw [hl], ax	1		
incw [hl+0x02]	3		
br \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	br \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
.BB@LABEL@1_4:		.BB@LABEL@1_4:	
movw ax, [sp+0x02]	2		
movw bc, ax	1		
shlw bc, 0x01	2		
movw ax, [sp+0x04]	2		
addw ax, bc	1		
movw de, ax	3		
movw ax, [de]	1	movw ax, bc	1
clrb x	1	clrb x	1
addw sp, #0x06	2		
ret	1	ret	1
.BB@LABEL@1_5:		.BB@LABEL@1_5:	
clrw ax	1	clrw ax	1
addw sp, #0x06	2		
60 bytes		24 bytes	

Figure 1.16 Output Assembler

1.9 Loop Fusion

Loop fusion refers to integrating different loop statements in the same function into a single one, thus reducing the number of loop statements. Loop fusion reduces the code size and makes code run faster as well by eliminating the loop iteration overhead.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>void main(void) { uint8_t i = 0; uint8_t total = 0; uint8_t test[10] = {0}; for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) { test[i] = CSS; } for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) { total += test[i]; } }</pre>	<pre>void main(void) { uint8_t i = 0; uint8_t total = 0; uint8_t test[10] = {0}; for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) { test[i] = CSS; total += test[i]; } }</pre>

Figure 1.17 C Source Code

Before Change		After Change	
subw sp, #0x0C	2	subw sp, #0x0C	2
movw de, #0x000A	3	movw de, #0x000A	3
clrw bc	1	clrw bc	1
movw ax, sp	2	movw ax, sp	2
incw ax	1	incw ax	1
incw ax	1	incw ax	1
movw [sp+0x00], ax	2	movw [sp+0x00], ax	2
call !!_memset	4	call !!_memset	4
mov [sp+0x02], #0x00	3	mov [sp+0x02], #0x00	3
clrb b	1	clrb b	1
.BB@LABEL@1_1:		.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
mov a, 0xFFFA4	3	mov a, 0xFFFA4	3
shr a, 0x06	2	shr a, 0x06	2
and a, #0x01	2	and a, #0x01	2
mov c, a	1	mov c, a	1
pop hl	1	pop hl	1
push hl	1	push hl	1
mov a, c	1	mov a, c	1
mov [hl+b], a	2	mov [hl+b], a	2
inc b	1	inc b	1
mov a, b	1	mov a, b	1
cmp a, #0x0A	2	cmp a, #0x0A	2
bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
.BB@LABEL@1_2:			
mov a, #0x0A	2		
.BB@LABEL@1_3:			
dec a	1		
bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_3	2		
.BB@LABEL@1_4:		.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
addw sp, #0x0C	2	addw sp, #0x0C	2
ret	1	ret	1
47 bytes		42 bytes	

Figure 1.18 Output Assembler

1.10 Memory Models

The RL78 Family includes a small model that generates code with 16-bit address length and a medium model that generates code with 20-bit address length.

Model	Size	Functions	Variables
Small model	Program: 64Kbytes or smaller; Data 64Kbytes or smaller	near	near
Medium model	Program: 64Kbytes or larger; Data: 64Kbytes or smaller	far	near

Figure 1.19 Memory Model Type

If a program exceeds 64Kbytes, select the medium model. Adding the `__near` modifier to a frequently called function during programming reduces the code size.

However, when the `__near` modifier and the `__far` modifier are added, a pointer variable type handling them must match.

2. Faster Execution Speed

2.1 Consecutive Access to Array

When accessing an array consecutively in a loop, use a pointer variable. Without the use of a pointer variable, the process to obtain a real address from an array subscript may be output every time and thus the execution speed may slow down.

Note: The execution times of the programs in this chapter are all measured by using the RL78 simulator in the CS+ integrated development environment.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>int i; sum = 0; for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) { sum += array[i]; }</pre>	<pre>int i; int *p; sum = 0; p = &array[0]; for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) { sum += *p++; }</pre>

Figure 2.1 C Source Code Example

Remark: sum and array[] are global variables.

Before Change		After Change	
clr b a	1	mov d, #0x00	2
mov c, a	1	movw hl, #LOWW(_array)	3
mov b, a	1	movw bc, #0x000A	3
.BB@LABEL@1_1:		.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
mov a, c	1	mov a, d	1
shrw ax, 8+0x00000	2		
addw ax, #LOWW(_array)	3		
movw hl, ax	3		
mov a, b	1		
add a, [hl]	1	add a, [hl]	1
mov b, a	1	mov d, a	1
mov !LOWW(_sum), a	3	mov !LOWW(_sum), a	3
mov a, c	1	movw ax, bc	1
inc a	1	addw ax, #0xFFFF	3
mov c, a	1	movw bc, ax	3
cmp a, #0x0A	2	incw hl	1
bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
.BB@LABEL@1_2:		.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
ret	1	ret	1
26 bytes		25 bytes	
Execution Time: 636 cycles / 19.875 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time: 476 cycles / 14.875 μs (at 32MHz)	

Figure 2.2 Output Assembler

2.2 Access to Global Variable

Do not use a global variable in a loop if possible.

If used, the address calculation and memory access (load/store instruction) may be output every time; replace a global variable with a local variable.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>int i; int *p; sum = 0; p = &array[0]; for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) { sum += *p++; } </pre>	<pre>int i; int *p; int tmp; tmp = 0; p = &array[0]; for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) { tmp += *p++; } sum = tmp; </pre>

Figure 2.3 C Source Code Example

Remark: sum and array[] are global variables.

Before Change		After Change	
mov d, #0x00	2	mov d, #0x00	2
movw hl, #LOWW(_array)	3	movw hl, #LOWW(_array)	3
movw bc, #0x000A	3	movw bc, #0x000A	3
.BB@LABEL@1_1:		.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
mov a, d	1	mov a, d	1
add a, [hl]	1	add a, [hl]	1
mov d, a	1	mov d, a	1
mov !LOWW(_sum), a	3		
movw ax, bc	1	movw ax, bc	1
addw ax, #0xFFFF	3	addw ax, #0xFFFF	3
movw bc, ax	3	movw bc, ax	3
incw hl	1	incw hl	1
bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
.BB@LABEL@1_2:		.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
		mov a, d	1
		mov !LOWW(_sum), a	3
ret	1	ret	1
25 bytes		26 bytes	
Execution Time: 476 cycles / 14.875 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time:444 cycles / 13.875 μs (at 32MHz)	

Figure 2.4 Output Assembler

2.3 if Statement in Loop

The use of an if statement in the loop processing should be avoided if possible.
 The execution speed may slow down due to the if statement processing output for each loop.

Before Change	After Change
<pre> int i = 0; int j = 0; for (i = 0; i < N; i++) { for (j = 0; j < N; j++) { if (i != j) { A[i][j] = B[i][j]; } else { A[i][j] = 1; } } } </pre>	<pre> int i = 0; int j = 0; for (i = 0; i < N; i++) { for (j = 0; j < N; j++) { A[i][j] = B[i][j]; } } for (i=0; i < N; i++) { A[i][i] = 1U; } </pre>

Figure 2.5 C Source Code Example

Remark: A[][] and B[][] are global variables and N is 10.

Before Change		After Change	
push hl	1	mov d, #0x00	2
clrb a	1	.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
br \$.BB@LABEL@1_9	2	mov a, !LOWW(_N)	3
.BB@LABEL@1_1: ; bb44		mov h, a	1
cmp a, !LOWW(_N)	3	cmp d, a	2
bnc \$.BB@LABEL@1_10	2	bc \$.BB@LABEL@1_6	2
.BB@LABEL@1_2:		.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
clrb a	1	clrb a	1
.BB@LABEL@1_3:		.BB@LABEL@1_3:	
mov e, a	1	mov l, a	1
.BB@LABEL@1_4:		.BB@LABEL@1_4:	
cmp a, !LOWW(_N)	3	cmp a, h	2
bnc \$.BB@LABEL@1_8	2	bnc \$.BB@LABEL@1_11	2
.BB@LABEL@1_5:		.BB@LABEL@1_5:	
mov a, d	1	shrw ax, 8+0x00000	2
mov x, #0x0A	2	movw de, ax	3
mulu x	1	push de	1
movw bc, ax	3	pop bc	1
mov a, e	1	shlw bc, 0x03	2
shrw ax, 8+0x00000	2	movw ax, de	2
addw ax, bc	1	addw ax, ax	1
movw [sp+0x00], ax	2	addw ax, bc	1
mov a, e	1	addw ax, #LOWW(_A)	3
cmp d, a	2	addw ax, de	1
oneb b	1	movw de, ax	2
bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_7	2	mov [de+0x00], #0x01	3
.BB@LABEL@1_6:		mov a, l	1
pop bc	1	inc a	1
push bc	1	br \$.BB@LABEL@1_3	2
mov a, LOWW(_B)[bc]	3	.BB@LABEL@1_6:	
mov b, a	1	clrb a	1
.BB@LABEL@1_7:		.BB@LABEL@1_7:	
movw ax, [sp+0x00]	2	mov e, a	1
xchw ax, bc	1	.BB@LABEL@1_8:	
mov LOWW(_A)[bc], a	3	cmp a, !LOWW(_N)	3
mov a, e	1	bnc \$.BB@LABEL@1_10	2
inc a	1	.BB@LABEL@1_9:	
br \$.BB@LABEL@1_3	2	mov a, d	1
.BB@LABEL@1_8:		mov x, #0x0A	2
mov a, d	1	mulu x	1
inc a	1	movw bc, ax	3
.BB@LABEL@1_9:		mov a, e	1
mov d, a	1	shrw ax, 8+0x00000	2
br \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	addw ax, bc	1
.BB@LABEL@1_10:		movw bc, ax	3
pop hl	1	mov a, LOWW(_B)[bc]	3
ret	1	mov LOWW(_A)[bc], a	3
		mov a, e	1
		inc a	1
		br \$.BB@LABEL@1_7	2
		.BB@LABEL@1_10:	
		inc d	1
		br \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
		.BB@LABEL@1_11:	
		ret	1
58 bytes		77 bytes	
Execution Time: 12600 cycles / 393.75 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time: 9596 cycles / 299.875 μs (at 32MHz)	

Figure 2.6 Output Assembler

2.4 End Condition for Loop

If a comparison expression with 0 is used as an end condition for a loop, the calculation of the end condition for one loop may become faster. In addition, the number of registers used may decrease.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>int i; int Height; int Width; int *p; int s; p = &array[0][0]; s = Height * Width; for (i = 0; i < s; i++) { *p++ = 0; }</pre>	<pre>int i; int Height; int Width; int *p; p = &array[0][0]; for (i = Height * Width; i > 0; i--) { *p++ = 0; }</pre>

Figure 2.7 C Source Code Example

Remark: array[][] is a global variable.

Before Change		After Change	
movw de, #LOWW(_array)	3	movw de, #LOWW(_array)	3
clr ax	1		
.BB@LABEL@1_1:			
cmpw ax, #0x0032	3	movw ax, #0x0032	3
bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_3	2		
.BB@LABEL@1_2:		.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3	mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3
incw ax	1	addw ax, #0xFFFF	3
incw de	1	incw de	1
br \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
.BB@LABEL@1_3:		.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
ret	1	ret	1
17 bytes		16 bytes	
Execution Time: 1812 cycles / 56.625 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time: 1392 cycles / 43.5 μs (at 32MHz)	

Figure 2.8 Output Assembler

2.5 Optimizing Pointer Variables

Optimizing pointer variables speeds up the calculation.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>int i; int *p; p = array; for (i = N >> 2; i > 0; i--) { *p++ = 0; *p++ = 0; *p++ = 0; *p++ = 0; } for (i = N & 3; i > 0; i--) { *p++ = 0; }</pre>	<pre>int i; int *p; p = array; for (i = N >> 2; i > 0; i--) { *(p+0) = 0; *(p+1) = 0; *(p+2) = 0; *(p+3) = 0; } for (i = N & 3; i > 0; i--) { *p++ = 0; }</pre>

Figure 2.9 C Source Code Example

Remark: array[] is a global variable and N is 10.

Before Change		After Change	
subw sp, #0x06	2	mov a, !LOWW(_N)	3
mov a, !LOWW(_N)	3	mov b, a	1
mov [sp+0x02], a	2	shr a, 0x02	2
shr a, 0x02	2	mov x, a	1
shrw ax, 8+0x00000	2	clrb a	1
movw hl, ax	3	.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
clrw bc	1	cmp a, x	2
movw ax, #LOWW(_array)	4	bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_3	2
movw [sp+0x00], ax	2	.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
.BB@LABEL@1_1:		clrb !LOWW(_array)	3
movw ax, bc	1	clrb !LOWW(_array+0x00001)	3
shlw ax, 0x02	2	clrb !LOWW(_array+0x00002)	3
movw [sp+0x04], ax	2	clrb !LOWW(_array+0x00003)	3
movw ax, bc	2	inc a	1
cmpw ax, hl	1	br \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2
bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_3	2	.BB@LABEL@1_3:	
.BB@LABEL@1_2:		mov a, b	1
pop de	1	and a, #0x03	2
push de	1	shrw ax, 8+0x00000	2
mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3	movw bc, ax	1
incw de	1	movw de, #LOWW(_array)	3
mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3	clrw ax	1
incw de	1	.BB@LABEL@1_4:	
mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3	cmpw ax, bc	1
movw ax, [sp+0x00]	2	bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_6	2
addw ax, #0x0003	3	.BB@LABEL@1_5:	
movw de, ax	1	mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3
mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3	incw ax	1
movw ax, [sp+0x00]	2	incw de	1
addw ax, #0x0004	3	br \$.BB@LABEL@1_4	2
movw [sp+0x00], ax	2	.BB@LABEL@1_6:	
incw bc	1	ret	1
br \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2		
.BB@LABEL@1_3:			
mov a, [sp+0x02]	2		
and a, #0x03	2		
shrw ax, 8+0x00000	2		
movw hl, ax	1		
clrw ax	1		
movw de, ax	1		
.BB@LABEL@1_4:			
movw ax, de	1		
cmpw ax, hl	1		
bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_6	2		
.BB@LABEL@1_5:			
movw ax, [sp+0x04]	2		
addw ax, de	1		
movw bc, ax	1		
mov LOWW(_array)[bc], #0x00	4		
incw de	1		
br \$.BB@LABEL@1_4	2		
.BB@LABEL@1_6:			
addw sp, #0x06	2		
ret	1		
90 bytes		48 bytes	
Execution Time: 400 cycles / 12.5 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time: 228 cycles / 7.125 μs (at 32MHz)	

Figure 2.10 Output Assembler

2.6 Faster Execution Using Level of optimization in Integrated Development Environment

The execution speed can be improved by using the appropriate level of optimization in the integrated development environment.

2.6.1 Settings in e² studio Integrated Development Environment

- 1 Select a project from Project Explorer in the e² studio integrated development environment and right-click the project to show the menu, and then click [Properties].

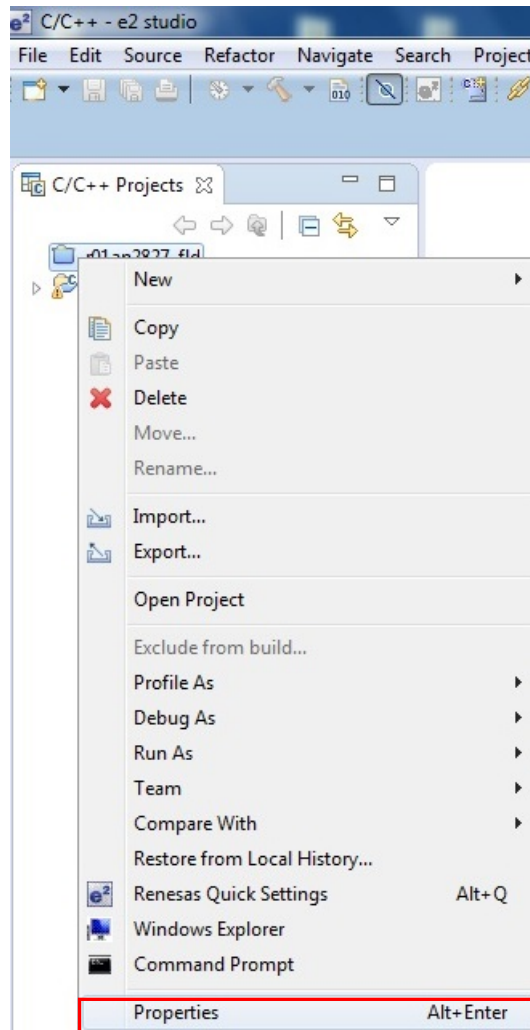


Figure 2.11 Project Explorer

- Click [Settings] in [C/C++ Build] and open the Settings window. Choose [Compiler] → [Optimization] and change the [Level of optimization] item to [Speed Precedence].

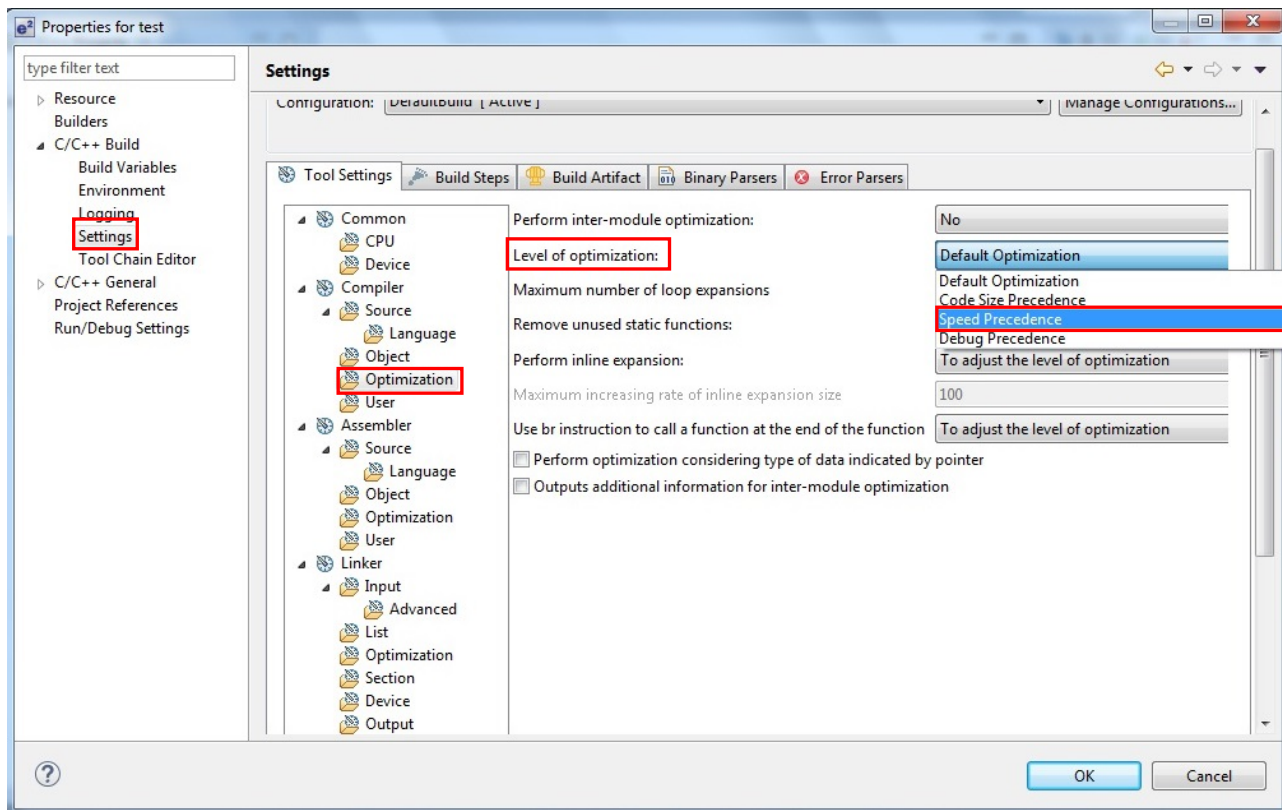


Figure 2.12 Properties

3 Execution Example

The following shows the output assembler codes, as reference examples, when the level of optimization in the e² studio integrated development environment is actually changed for the same source code (Figure 2.13 C Source Code) and the build is performed.

Source Code Used
<pre> int i; int Height; int Width; int *p; int s; p = &array[0][0]; s = Height * Width; for (i = 0; i < s; i++) { *p++ = 0; } </pre>

Figure 2.13 C Source Code Example

Remark: array[][] is a global variable.

Code Size Precedence		Speed Precedence		Debug Precedence	
movw de, #0xf900	3	push hl	1	subw sp, #6	2
clr ax	1	movw ax, #0xf900	3	mov [sp], #0	3
cmpw ax, #50	3	movw [sp], ax	2	mov [sp+2], #10	3
bz \$0x220 <main+16>	2	movw bc, #25	4	mov [sp+3], #5	3
mov [de], #0	3	pop de	1	mov [sp+1], #0	3
incw ax	1	push de	1	movw ax, #0xf900	3
incw de	1	mov [de], #0	3	movw [sp+4], ax	2
br \$0x214 <main+4>	2	incw de	1	mov a, [sp+3]	2
ret	1	mov [de], #0	3	mov x, a	2
		movw ax, [sp]	2	mov a, [sp+2]	2
		addw ax, #2	3	mulu x	1
		movw [sp], ax	2	mov a, x	2
		movw ax, bc	1	mov [sp+1], a	2
		addw ax, #0xffff	3	mov [sp], #0	3
		movw bc, ax	1	br \$0x26e <main+49>	2
		bnz \$0x219 <main+9>	2	movw ax, [sp+4]	2
		pop hl	1	movw de, ax	1
		ret	1	mov [de], #0	3
				movw ax, [sp+4]	2
				incw ax	1
				movw [sp+4], ax	2
				mov a, [sp]	2
				inc a	1
				mov [sp], a	2
				mov a, [sp+1]	2
				shrw ax, 8	2
				movw bc, ax	1
				mov a, [sp]	2
				shrw ax, 8	2
				cmpw ax, bc	1
				bc \$0x25e <main+33>	2
				addw sp, #6	2
				ret	1
17 bytes		35 bytes		66 bytes	
Execution Time: 1802 cycles / 56.3125 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time: 1694 cycles / 52.9375 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time: 2942 cycles / 91.9375 μs (at 32MHz)	

Figure 2.14 Output Assembler

2.6.2 Settings in CS+ Integrated Development Environment

- 1 .Select [CC-RL (Build Tool)] from Project Tree in the CS+ integrated development environment and right-click it to show the menu, and then click [Property].

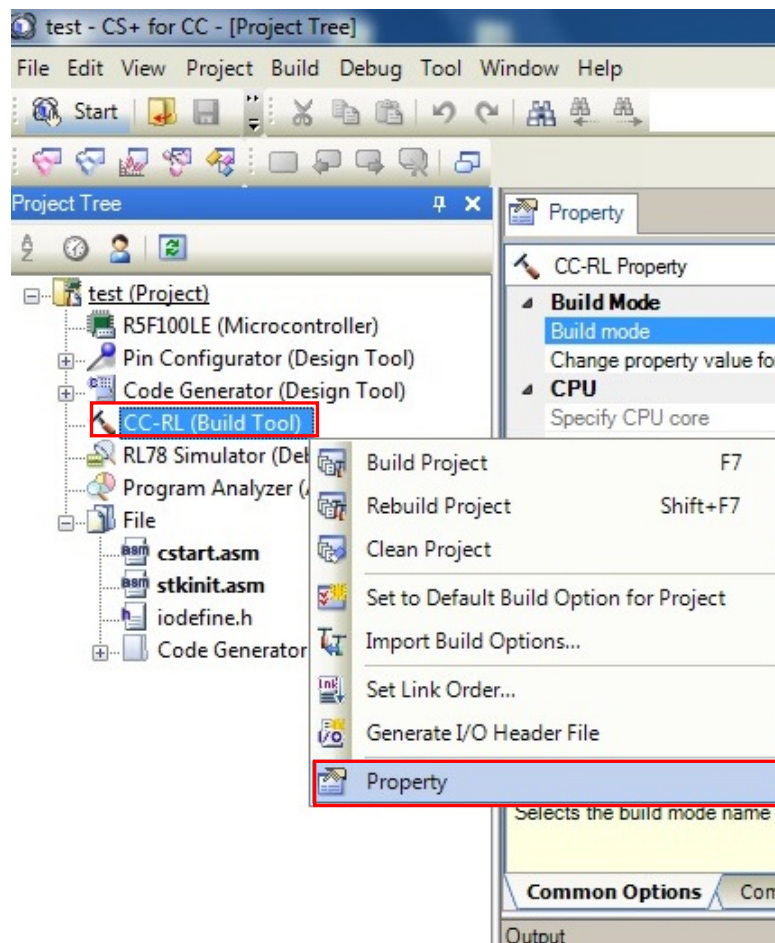


Figure 2.15 Project Tree

2. Select the [Compile Options] tab in [Property] of CC-RL and change the [Level of optimization] item in [Optimization] to [Speed precedence(-Ospeed)].

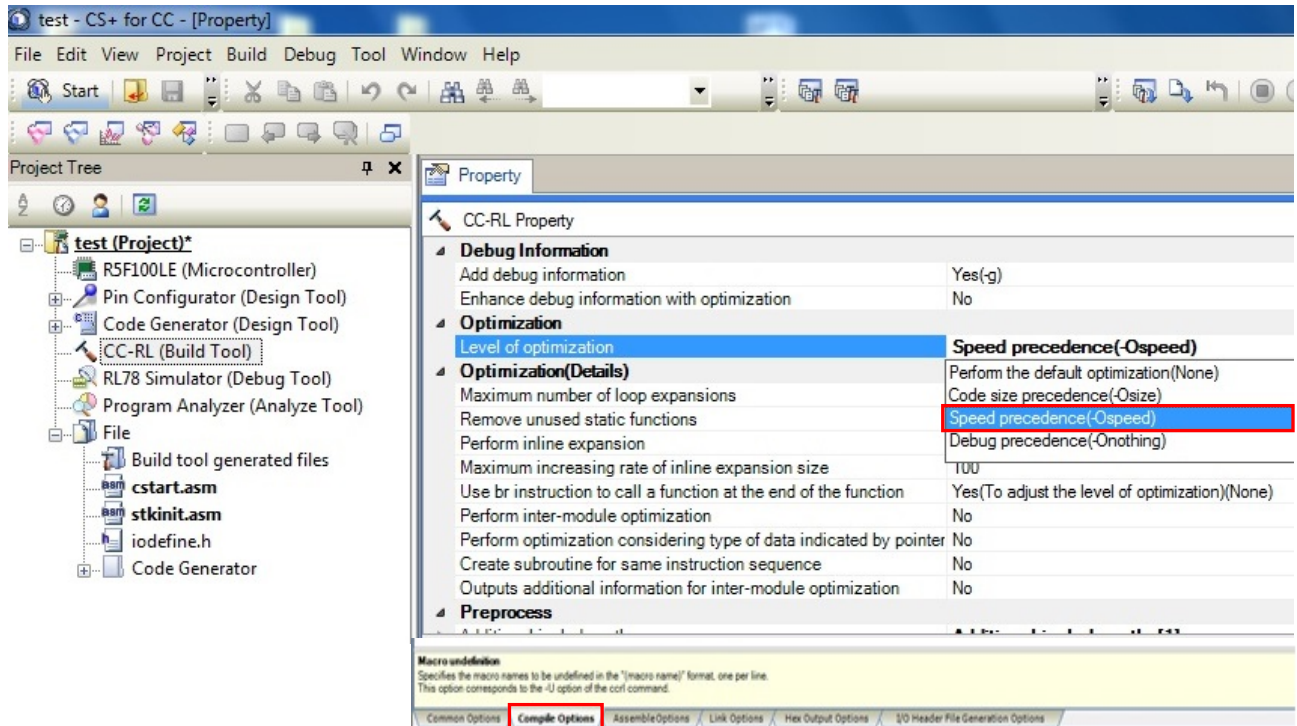


Figure 2.16 Compile Option

3. The level of optimization for each file can also be individually changed by setting [Level of optimization] to other than [Perform the default optimization(None)] in the setting of 2.

4 .Select a file of which you want to change the level of optimization from Project Tree and right-click the file to show the menu, and then click [Property].

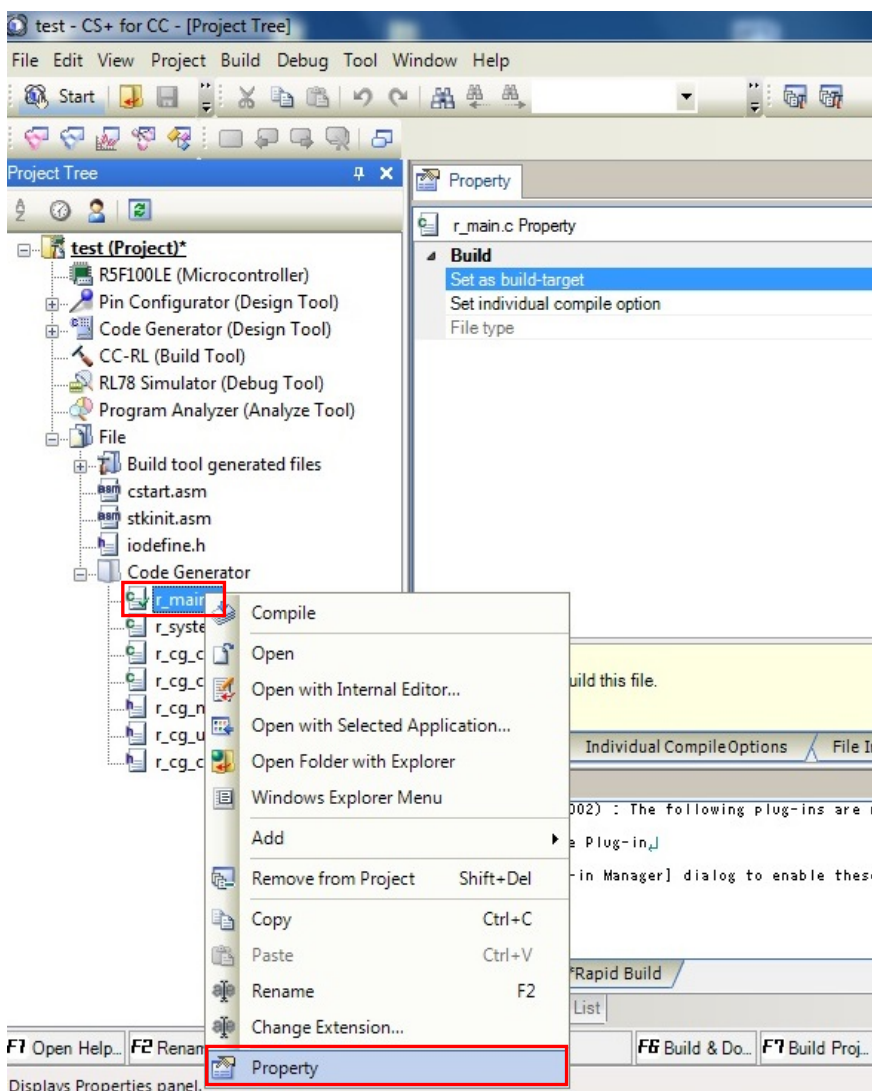


Figure 2.17 Project Tree

5 .In the [Build Settings] tab, set a build item of [Set individual compile option] to [Yes].

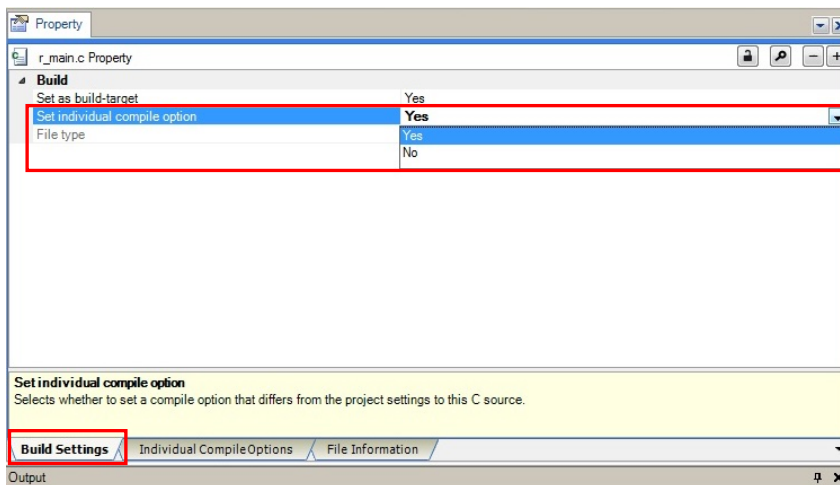


Figure 2.18 File Property

6 .Select the added [Individual Compile Options] tab and change the [Level of optimization] item in [Optimization] to [Speed precedence(-Ospeed)].

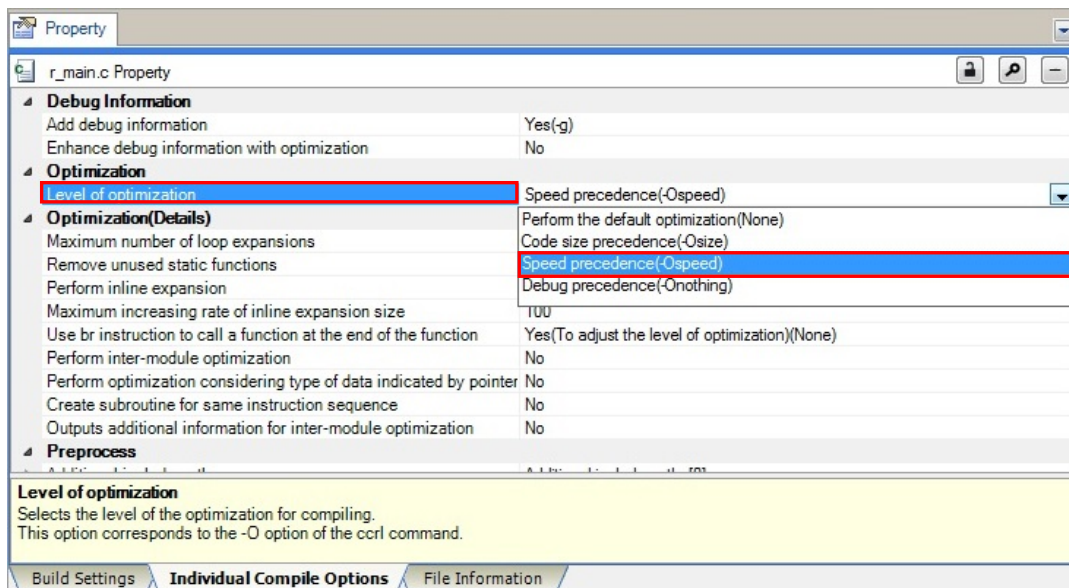


Figure 2.19 Individual Compile Option

7 .Execution Example

The following shows the output assembler codes, as reference examples, when the compile option in the CS+ integrated development environment is actually changed for the same source code (Figure 2.20) and the build is performed.

Source Code Used
<pre> int i; int Height; int Width; int *p; int s; p = &array[0][0]; s = Height * Width; for (i = 0; i < s; i++) { *p++ = 0; } </pre>

Figure 2.20 C Source Code Example

Remark: array[][] is a global variable.

Code Size Precedence		Speed Precedence		Debug Precedence	
movw de, #LOWW(_array)	3	push hl	1	subw sp, #0x06	2
clr ax	1	movw ax, #LOWW(_array)	3	mov [sp+0x00], #0x00	3
.BB@LABEL@1_1:		movw [sp+0x00], ax	2	.BB@LABEL@1_1:	
cmpw ax, #0x0032	3	movw bc, #0x0032	4	mov [sp+0x02], #0x05	3
bz \$.BB@LABEL@1_3	2	.BB@LABEL@1_1:		.BB@LABEL@1_2:	
.BB@LABEL@1_2:		pop de	1	mov [sp+0x03], #0x0A	3
mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3	push de	1	.BB@LABEL@1_3:	
incw ax	1	mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3	mov [sp+0x01], #0x00	3
incw de	1	incw de	1	.BB@LABEL@1_4:	
br \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3	movw ax, #LOWW(_array)	3
.BB@LABEL@1_3:		movw ax, [sp+0x00]	2	movw [sp+0x04], ax	2
ret	1	addw ax, #0x0002	3	.BB@LABEL@1_5:	
		movw [sp+0x00], ax	2	mov a, [sp+0x03]	2
		movw ax, bc	1	mov x, a	2
		addw ax, #0xFFFF	3	mov a, [sp+0x02]	2
		movw bc, ax	1	mulw x	1
		bnz \$.BB@LABEL@1_1	2	mov a, x	2
		.BB@LABEL@1_2:		mov [sp+0x01], a	2
		pop hl	1	.BB@LABEL@1_6:	
		ret	1	mov [sp+0x00], #0x00	3
				br \$.BB@LABEL@1_8	2
				.BB@LABEL@1_7:	
				movw ax, [sp+0x04]	2
				movw de, ax	1
				mov [de+0x00], #0x00	3
				movw ax, [sp+0x04]	2
				incw ax	1
				movw [sp+0x04], ax	2
				mov a, [sp+0x00]	2
				inc a	1
				mov [sp+0x00], a	2
				.BB@LABEL@1_8:	
				mov a, [sp+0x01]	2
				shrw ax, 8+0x0000	2
				movw bc, ax	1
				mov a, [sp+0x00]	2
				shrw ax, 8+0x0000	2
				cmpw ax, bc	1
				bc \$.BB@LABEL@1_7	2
				.BB@LABEL@1_9:	
				addw sp, #0x06	2
				ret	1
17 bytes		35 bytes		66 bytes	
Execution Time: 1812 cycles / 56.625 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time: 1500 cycles / 46.875 μs (at 32MHz)		Execution Time: 4088 cycles / 127.75 μs (at 32MHz)	

Figure 2.21 Output Assembler

3. Programming Techniques to Avoid Bugs

3.1 Writing Conditional Expression's Value on Left Side of Operator

It is not recommended to write a variable on the left side of the operator in the conditional expression as in Figure 3.1.

```
#define VAL_OK 1

if (ret == VAL_OK)
{
    sub();
}
```

Figure 3.1 Bad Description Example (1)

This is because a description mistake may be overlooked. As in Figure 3.2, even if the assignment operator (=) is placed instead of the equality operator (==), a compile error does not occur during compilation (a warning occurs) and an execution file is generated.

```
#define VAL_OK 1

if (ret = VAL_OK)
{
    sub();
}
```

Figure 3.2 Bad Description Example (2)

In order to avoid a case like the above, it is recommended to write a value for the conditional expression on the left side of the operator.

```
#define VAL_OK 1

if (VAL_OK == ret)
{
    sub();
}
```

Figure 3.3 Good Description Example

If written as in Figure 3.3, a change from the equality operator (==) to the assignment operator (=) can be noticed as a programming mistake because a compile error is produced during compilation.

3.2 Magic Number

It is recommended to define a constant that has meaning as a macro and use it and not to use a magic number (immediate value). The meaning of a constant can be clearly indicated by defining it as a macro. Especially, when changing a constant used in multiple locations, only one macro needs to be changed. This prevents a mistake from happening in advance.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>if (8 == cnt) { cnt++; }</pre>	<pre>#define CNTMAX 8 if (CNTMAX == cnt) { cnt++; }</pre>

Figure 3.4 C Source Code Example

3.3 Calculation That Might Cause Information Loss

Attention is required when variables of different types are calculated. A variable value may be changed (information might be lost). When intentionally assigning a value to a different type, write a type conversion to explicitly indicate that intention.

If the calculation results in a value outside the value range that can be expressed in the type, an unintended value may be produced. It is recommended to confirm before the calculation that the calculation result is within the value range that can be expressed in the type. Or convert to a type that can handle a bigger value before the calculation.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>/* Assignment example */ short s; long l; void main(void) { s = l; s = s + 1; }</pre> <pre>/* Calculation example */ unsigned int n; unsigned int m; n = 0x8000; m = 0x8000; if (0xffff < (n + m)) { ... }</pre>	<pre>/* Assignment example */ short s; long l; void main(void) { s = (short)l; s = (short)(s + 1); }</pre> <pre>/* Calculation example */ unsigned int n; unsigned int m; n = 0x8000; m = 0x8000; if (0xffff < ((long)n + m)) { ... }</pre>

Figure 3.5 C Source Code Example

3.4 Type Conversion to Remove const and volatile

Because the areas modified by const or volatile are the areas that are only referenced and are not allowed to be optimized, attention is required when accessing these areas. If a cast is performed on pointer variables pointing to these areas to remove const or volatile, the compiler may not be able to check a program for erroneous descriptions, or unintended optimization may be performed.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>void sub(char *); const char *p; void main(void) { sub((char*)p); ... }</pre>	<pre>void sub(char *); const char *p; void main(void) { sub(p); ... }</pre>

Figure 3.6 C Source Code Example

3.5 Prohibition of Recursive Call

A function is not allowed to call the function itself irrespective of whether it is direct or indirect (prohibition of recursive call). Because the stack size to be used during execution cannot be predicted for a recursive call, it may cause a stack overflow.

```
unsigned int calc(unsigned int n)
{
    if (1 >= n)
    {
        return (1);
    }
    else
    {
        return (n * calc(n-1));
    }
}
```

Figure 3.7 Bad Description Example

3.6 Localizing Access Range and Related Data

1 .Declare a variable accessed from multiple functions in the same file as a static variable.

The fewer the number of global functions is, the more the readability in understanding the entire program improves. Include a static specifier so that the number of global functions do not increase unnecessarily.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>int n; void func1(void) { ... n = 0; ... } void func2(void) { if (0 == n) { n++; } ... }</pre>	<pre>static int n; void func1(void) { ... n = 0; ... } void func2(void) { if (0 == n) { n++; } ... }</pre>

Figure 3.8 C Source Code Example

Remark: n is a variable that cannot be accessed from other files.

2 .If a function is referenced only by a function defined in the same file, write it as a static function.

The fewer the number of global functions is, the more the readability in understanding the entire program improves. Include a static specifier so that the number of global functions do not increase unnecessarily.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>void sub(void) { } void main(void) { ... sub(); ... }</pre>	<pre>static void sub(void) { } void main(void) { ... sub(); ... }</pre>

Figure 3.9 C Source Code Example

Remark: sub is a function that is not called by other files.

3 .When defining a related constant, use enum rather than #define.

If each related constant is defined with the enum type, an undefined usage can be checked by a compiler or other software.

The macro name defined by #define is expanded as a macro and is not turned into a name processed by a compiler. On the other hand, the enum constant defined by the enum declaration is turned into a name processed by a compiler. The name processed by a compiler can be referenced during debugging, which makes debugging easier.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>#define JANUALLY 0 #define FEBRUALLY 1 #define SUNDAY 0 #define MONDAY 1 int month; int day; ... if (JANUALLY == month) { ... if (MONDAY == day) { } } if (SUNDAY == month) ← Does not cause an error { }</pre>	<pre>typedef enum { JANUALLY, FEBRUALLY, ... } month; typedef enum { SUNDAY, MONDAY, ... } day; ... if (JANUALLY == month) { ... if (MONDAY == day) { } } if (SUNDAY == month) ← Causes an error { }</pre>

Figure 3.10 C Source Code Example

3.7 Exception Processing of Branch Condition

- 1 .Place the else clause at the end of the if-else if statement. Especially when a condition of else does not usually occur, include the exception processing or a comment that was predefined by a project in the else clause.

If the else clause is not included in the if-else statement, it is not clear whether inclusion of the else clause is forgotten or whether the else clause does not occur. Even when it is known beforehand that an else condition does not occur, the program operation when an unexpected condition occurs can be predicted by including the else clause.

Before Change	After Change
<pre> if (0 == var) { ... } else if (0 < var) { ... } </pre>	<pre> if (0 == var) { ... } else if (0 < var) { ... } else { /* Description of exception processing or comment */ } </pre>

Figure 3.11 C Source Code Example

2 .Place the default clause at the end of the switch statement. Especially when a default condition does not usually occur, include the exception processing or a comment that was predefined by a project in the default clause.

If the default clause is not included in the switch statement, it is not clear whether inclusion of the default clause is forgotten or whether the default clause does not occur. Even when it is known beforehand that a default condition does not occur, the program operation when an unexpected condition occurs can be predicted by including the default clause.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>switch (var) { case 0: ... break; case 1: ... break; }</pre>	<pre>switch (var) { case 0: ... break; case 1: ... break; default: /* Description of exception processing or comment */ break; }</pre>

Figure 3.12 C Source Code Example

3 .Do not use an equality operator (==) or an inequality operator (!=) for comparing a loop counter.

If the value of a loop counter change is not 1, an infinite loop may be entered.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>void main(void) { int i = 0; for (i = 0; i != 11; i += 2) { } }</pre>	<pre>void main(void) { int i = 0; for (i = 0; i < 11; i += 2) { } }</pre>

Figure 3.13 C Source Code Example

3.8 Consideration for Special Description

1 .If intentionally writing statements that do nothing, use a comment or an empty macro to indicate the intention.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>for (;;) { } i = CNT; while (0 < (--i));</pre>	<pre>/* Example of using comment */ for (;;) { /* Interrupt wait time */ } /* Example of using empty macro */ #define NO_OPERATION i = CNT; while (0 < (--i)) { NO_OPERATION; }</pre>

Figure 3.14 C Source Code Example

2 .Specify how to write an infinite loop.

Specify how to write an infinite loop and make the writing style consistent.

Example:

- Make an infinite loop consistent using for (;;).
- Make an infinite loop consistent using while (1).
- Make an infinite loop consistent using do ... while (1).
- Use an infinite loop written as a macro.

Including infinite loops written in different writing styles in the same project may deteriorate maintainability.

3.9 Deleting Unused Description

1 .Do not define a function, variable, argument, typedef, label, macro, etc. that are not used.

As it is difficult to determine whether the definition of an unused function (such as variable/argument/label) is a description error or not, maintainability is reduced.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>void main(int n) { /* n is not used in the main function */ ... }</pre>	<pre>void main(void) { ... }</pre>

Figure 3.15 C Source Code Example

2 .Do not comment out code.

Avoid use of invalid code if possible because the code readability is lost.

However, if code needs to be disabled for debugging, etc., write code according to the predefined rule (such as enclosing with #if 0) instead of commenting out.

Before Change	After Change
<pre>... // i++ ...</pre>	<pre>... #if 0 /* Temporarily disabled for debugging */ i++ #endif ...</pre>

Figure 3.16 C Source Code Example

4. Sample Code

Sample code can be downloaded from the Renesas Electronics website.

5. Reference Documents

RL78 family User's Manual: Software (R01US0015E)

RL78 Compiler CC-RL User's Manual (R20UT3123E)

CC-RL C Compiler for RL78 Family Coding Techniques (R02UT3569E)

(The latest information can be downloaded from the Renesas Electronics website.)

Website and Support

Renesas Electronics website

<http://japan.renesas.com/>

Inquiries

<http://japan.renesas.com/inquiry>

Revision Record	RL78 Family C compiler CC-RL Programming Technique
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Rev.	Date	Description	
		Page	Summary
1.00	Sep. 20, 2016	—	First edition issued.
1.10	Apr. 10, 2017	14-28	Execution Time modification.

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General Precautions in the Handling of Microprocessing Unit and Microcontroller Unit Products

The following usage notes are applicable to all Microprocessing unit and Microcontroller unit products from Renesas. For detailed usage notes on the products covered by this document, refer to the relevant sections of the document as well as any technical updates that have been issued for the products.

1. Handling of Unused Pins

Handle unused pins in accordance with the directions given under Handling of Unused Pins in the manual.

¾ The input pins of CMOS products are generally in the high-impedance state. In operation with an unused pin in the open-circuit state, extra electromagnetic noise is induced in the vicinity of LSI, an associated shoot-through current flows internally, and malfunctions occur due to the false recognition of the pin state as an input signal become possible. Unused pins should be handled as described under Handling of Unused Pins in the manual.

2. Processing at Power-on

The state of the product is undefined at the moment when power is supplied.

¾ The states of internal circuits in the LSI are indeterminate and the states of register settings and pins are undefined at the moment when power is supplied.

In a finished product where the reset signal is applied to the external reset pin, the states of pins are not guaranteed from the moment when power is supplied until the reset process is completed. In a similar way, the states of pins in a product that is reset by an on-chip power-on reset function are not guaranteed from the moment when power is supplied until the power reaches the level at which resetting has been specified.

3. Prohibition of Access to Reserved Addresses

Access to reserved addresses is prohibited.

¾ The reserved addresses are provided for the possible future expansion of functions. Do not access these addresses; the correct operation of LSI is not guaranteed if they are accessed.

4. Clock Signals

After applying a reset, only release the reset line after the operating clock signal has become stable. When switching the clock signal during program execution, wait until the target clock signal has stabilized.

¾ When the clock signal is generated with an external resonator (or from an external oscillator) during a reset, ensure that the reset line is only released after full stabilization of the clock signal. Moreover, when switching to a clock signal produced with an external resonator (or by an external oscillator) while program execution is in progress, wait until the target clock signal is stable.

5. Differences between Products

Before changing from one product to another, i.e. to a product with a different part number, confirm that the change will not lead to problems.

¾ The characteristics of Microprocessing unit or Microcontroller unit products in the same group but having a different part number may differ in terms of the internal memory capacity, layout pattern, and other factors, which can affect the ranges of electrical characteristics, such as characteristic values, operating margins, immunity to noise, and amount of radiated noise. When changing to a product with a different part number, implement a system-evaluation test for the given product.

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