



Seamless debugging of emulated applications with LLDB



Pavel Labath

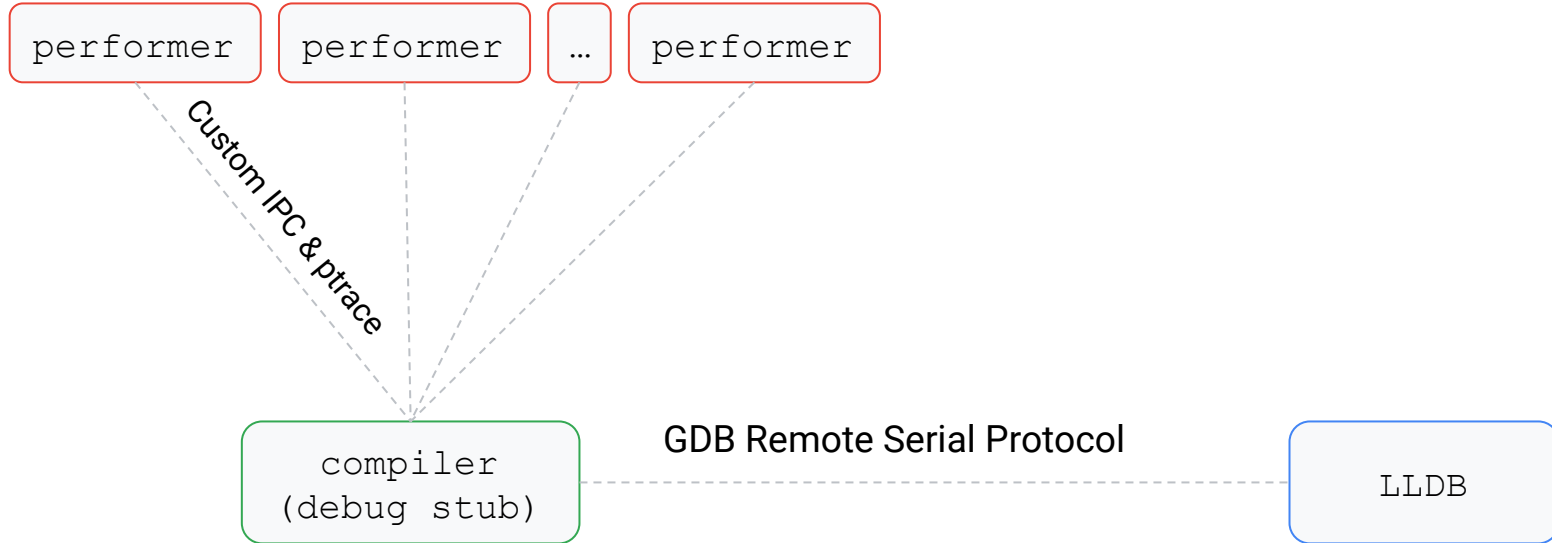
GEMU

Proprietary AArch64 (linux) user space emulator, with a focus on accurate emulation and first class debugging support.

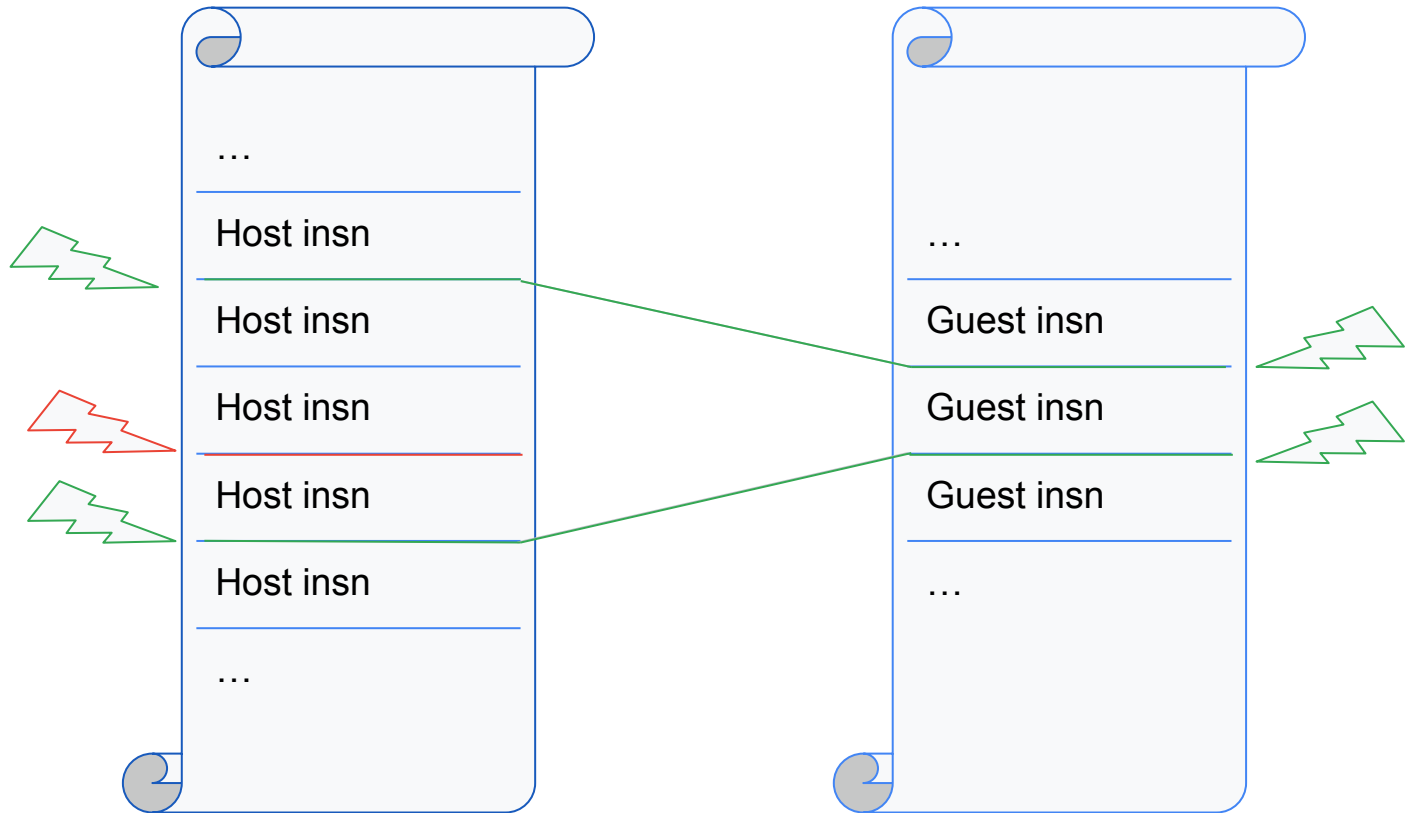
GEMU vs. QEMU

Feature	GEMU	QEMU
Performance	Comparable	Comparable
Multithreaded debugging	Yes	Crashes
Expression evaluation (w/LLDB)	Yes	Almost works
Attach	Yes	No
Other host/target combinations	No	Yes
Full system emulation	No	Yes

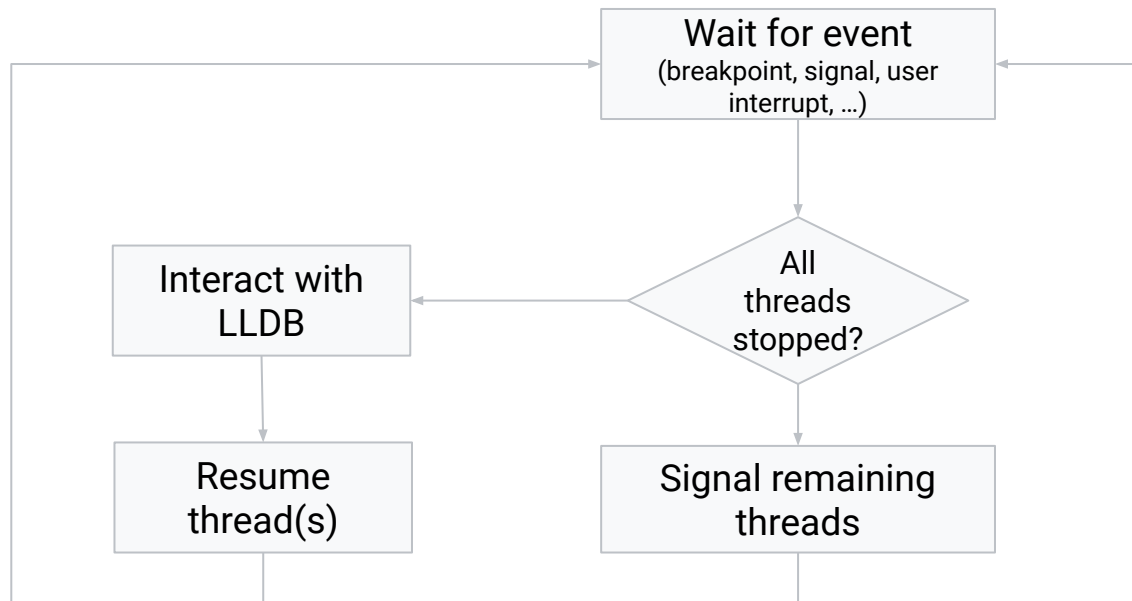
GEMU Architecture



GEMU Architecture: Signal handling



GEMU debug stub operation



LLDB Integration

Initial state

```
term1$ gemu -gemu_args... ../binary -binary_args...
```

...

```
term2$ lldb -O "platform select remote-linux" ../binary -o "settings set  
target.exec-search-paths ..." -o ... -o "process connect ..."
```

```
(lldb) ...
```


Solution: Platform plugin

A plug-in interface definition class for debug platform that includes many platform abilities such as:

- *getting platform information such as supported architectures, supported binary file formats and more*
- *launching new processes*
- *attaching to existing processes*
- *download/upload files*
- *execute shell commands*
- *listing and getting info for existing processes*
- *attaching and possibly debugging the platform's kernel*

Source: lldb/include/lldb/Target/Platform.h, see also: lldb/source/Plugins/Platform/QemuUser/PlatformQemuUser.h

Solution: Platform plugin

```
std::vector<ArchSpec>
PlatformGemuUser::GetSupportedArchitectures( ... ) {
    return {ArchSpec("aarch64-unknown-linux-gnu")};
}
```

Launch

```
PlatformGemuUser::DebugProcess(ProcessLaunchInfo &launch_info, ...) {  
    ...  
    launch_info.SetArguments(adjust(launch_info.GetArguments(), true);  
    ...  
    error = Host::LaunchProcess(launch_info);  
    ...  
    error = process_sp->ConnectRemote(socket_path);  
}
```

Attach

```
bool PlatformGemuUser::GetProcessInfo(lldb::pid_t pid, ...)
```

- **Combine emulator-provided info from** `unix-abstract://gemu/processinfo/$PID`, with `Host::GetProcessInfo(pid)`.

```
lldb::ProcessSP PlatformGemuUser::Attach(ProcessAttachInfo &attach_info, ...)
```

- `process_sp->ConnectRemote("unix-abstract://gemu/processes/$PID")`
- **Read additional data (library paths) from** `unix-abstract://gemu/processinfo/$PID`

Make platform default (optional)

```
# Invoked from lldbinit

# Currently, there is no way to associate a platform with a debugger without
# selecting it, so set our platform as selected, and then immediately go back
# to the old one.

old_platform = debugger.GetSelectedPlatform()
debugger.SetSelectedPlatform(lldb.SBPlatform( "gemu-user" ))
debugger.SetSelectedPlatform(old_platform)
```

Thank you