IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2

Getting Started with XL C/C++

Version 13.1.2

SC27-4257-01

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Note
Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in "Notices" on page 59.

First edition

This edition applies to IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 (Program 5765-J07; 5725-C72) and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in new editions. Make sure you are using the correct edition for the level of the product.

Contents

About this document

This document contains overview and basic usage information for the IBM® XL C/C++ for AIX®, V13.1.2 compiler.

Who should read this document

This document is intended for C and C++ developers who are looking for introductory overview and usage information for XL C/C++. It assumes that you have some familiarity with command-line compilers, basic knowledge of the C and C++ programming languages, and basic knowledge of operating system commands. Programmers new to XL C/C++ can use this document to find information about the capabilities and features unique to XL C/C++.

How to use this document

Unless indicated otherwise, all of the text in this reference pertains to both C and C++ languages. Where there are differences between languages, these are indicated through qualifying text and icons, as described in "Conventions."

Throughout this document, the **xlc** and **xlC** compiler invocations are used to describe the behavior of the compiler. You can, however, substitute other forms of the compiler invocation command if your particular environment requires it, and compiler option usage remains the same unless otherwise specified.

While this document covers information such as configuring the compiler environment, and compiling and linking C or C++ applications using the XL C/C++ compiler, it does not include the following topics:

- Compiler installation: see the *XL C/C++ Installation Guide*.
- Compiler options: see the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for detailed information about the syntax and usage of compiler options.
- The C or C++ programming language: see the *XL C/C++ Language Reference* for information about the syntax, semantics, and IBM implementation of the C or C++ programming language.
- Programming topics: see the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide* for detailed information about developing applications with XL C/C++, with a focus on program portability and optimization.

Conventions

Typographical conventions

The following table shows the typographical conventions used in the IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 information.

Table 1. Typographical conventions

Typeface	Indicates	Example
bold	Lowercase commands, executable names, compiler options, and directives.	The compiler provides basic invocation commands, **xlc** and **xlC** (**xlc++**), along with several other compiler invocation commands to support various C/C++ language levels and compilation environments.
italics	Parameters or variables whose actual names or values are to be supplied by the user. Italics are also used to introduce new terms.	Make sure that you update the *size* parameter if you return more than the *size* requested.
underlining	The default setting of a parameter of a compiler option or directive.	nomaf | maf
`monospace`	Programming keywords and library functions, compiler builtins, examples of program code, command strings, or user-defined names.	To compile and optimize myprogram.c, enter: `xlc myprogram.c -O3`.

Qualifying elements (icons)

Most features described in this information apply to both C and C++ languages. In descriptions of language elements where a feature is exclusive to one language, or where functionality differs between languages, this information uses icons to delineate segments of text as follows:

Table 2. Qualifying elements

Qualifier/Icon	Meaning
C only begins   C only ends	The text describes a feature that is supported in the C language only; or describes behavior that is specific to the C language.
C++ only begins   C++ only ends	The text describes a feature that is supported in the C++ language only; or describes behavior that is specific to the C++ language.
IBM extension begins   IBM extension ends	The text describes a feature that is an IBM extension to the standard language specifications.

Table 2. Qualifying elements (continued)

Qualifier/Icon	Meaning
C11 begins C11 C11 C11 ends	The text describes a feature that is introduced into standard C as part of C11.
C++11 begins C++11 C++11 C++11 ends	The text describes a feature that is introduced into standard C++ as part of C++11.

Syntax diagrams

Throughout this information, diagrams illustrate XL C/C++ syntax. This section helps you to interpret and use those diagrams.

- Read the syntax diagrams from left to right, from top to bottom, following the path of the line.

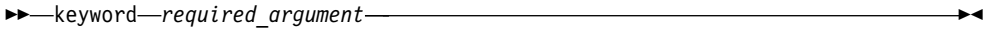
  The ▸▸— symbol indicates the beginning of a command, directive, or statement.

  The —▸ symbol indicates that the command, directive, or statement syntax is continued on the next line.

  The ▸— symbol indicates that a command, directive, or statement is continued from the previous line.

  The —▸◂ symbol indicates the end of a command, directive, or statement.

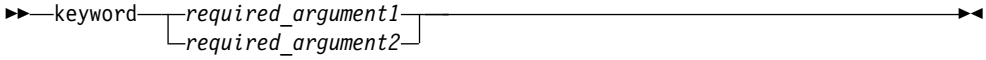
  Fragments, which are diagrams of syntactical units other than complete commands, directives, or statements, start with the |— symbol and end with the —| symbol.
- Required items are shown on the horizontal line (the main path):



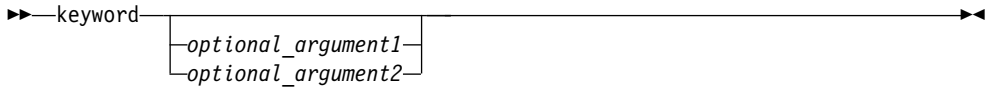
- Optional items are shown below the main path:

- If you can choose from two or more items, they are shown vertically, in a stack.

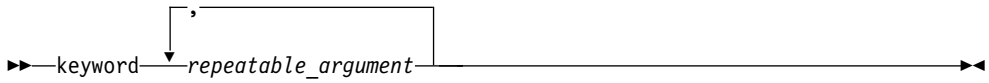
  If you *must* choose one of the items, one item of the stack is shown on the main path.



  If choosing one of the items is optional, the entire stack is shown below the main path.



- An arrow returning to the left above the main line (a repeat arrow) indicates that you can make more than one choice from the stacked items or repeat an item. The separator character, if it is other than a blank, is also indicated:

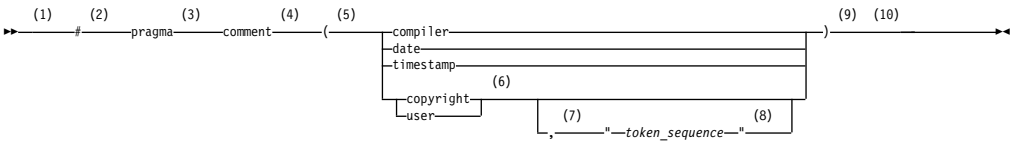


- The item that is the default is shown above the main path.

- Keywords are shown in nonitalic letters and should be entered exactly as shown.
- Variables are shown in italicized lowercase letters. They represent user-supplied names or values.
- If punctuation marks, parentheses, arithmetic operators, or other such symbols are shown, you must enter them as part of the syntax.

Sample syntax diagram

The following syntax diagram example shows the syntax for the **#pragma comment** directive.



Notes:

1 This is the start of the syntax diagram.

2 The symbol # must appear first.

3 The keyword `pragma` must appear following the # symbol.

4 The name of the pragma `comment` must appear following the keyword `pragma`.

5 An opening parenthesis must be present.

6 The comment type must be entered only as one of the types indicated: `compiler`, `date`, `timestamp`, `copyright`, or `user`.

7 A comma must appear between the comment type `copyright` or `user`, and an optional character string.

8 A character string must follow the comma. The character string must be enclosed in double quotation marks.

9 A closing parenthesis is required.

10 This is the end of the syntax diagram.

The following examples of the **#pragma comment** directive are syntactically correct according to the diagram shown above:

```
#pragma comment(date)
#pragma comment(user)
#pragma comment(copyright,"This text will appear in the module")
```

Example of a syntax statement

```
EXAMPLE char_constant {a|b}[c|d]e[,e]... name_list{name_list}...
```

The following list explains the syntax statement:

- Enter the keyword EXAMPLE.
- Enter a value for *char_constant*.
- Enter a value for *a* or *b*, but not for both.
- Optionally, enter a value for *c* or *d*.
- Enter at least one value for *e*. If you enter more than one value, you must put a comma between each.
- Optionally, enter the value of at least one *name* for *name_list*. If you enter more than one value, you must put a comma between each *name*.

Note: The same example is used in both the syntax-statement and syntax-diagram representations.

Examples in this information

The examples in this information, except where otherwise noted, are coded in a simple style that does not try to conserve storage, check for errors, achieve fast performance, or demonstrate all possible methods to achieve a specific result.

The examples for installation information are labelled as either *Example* or *Basic example*. *Basic examples* are intended to document a procedure as it would be performed during a basic, or default, installation; these need little or no modification.

Related information

The following sections provide related information for XL C/C++:

IBM XL C/C++ information

XL C/C++ provides product information in the following formats:

- Quick Start Guide

  The Quick Start Guide (`quickstart.pdf`) is intended to get you started with IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2. It is located by default in the XL C/C++ directory and in the `\quickstart` directory of the installation DVD.
- README files

  README files contain late-breaking information, including changes and corrections to the product information. README files are located by default in the XL C/C++ directory and in the root directory of the installation DVD.
- Installable man pages

  Man pages are provided for the compiler invocations and all command-line utilities provided with the product. Instructions for installing and accessing the man pages are provided in the *IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 Installation Guide*.
- Online product documentation

The fully searchable HTML-based documentation is viewable in IBM Knowledge Center at http://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSGH3R_13.1.2/com.ibm.compilers.aix.doc/welcome.html.

- PDF documents

  PDF documents are available on the web at http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27036618.

  The following files comprise the full set of XL C/C++ product information:

Table 3. XL C/C++ PDF files

Document title	PDF file name	Description
IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 Installation Guide, SC27-4258-01	`install.pdf`	Contains information for installing XL C/C++ and configuring your environment for basic compilation and program execution.
Getting Started with IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2, SC27-4257-01	`getstart.pdf`	Contains an introduction to the XL C/C++ product, with information about setting up and configuring your environment, compiling and linking programs, and troubleshooting compilation errors.
IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 Compiler Reference, SC27-4259-01	`compiler.pdf`	Contains information about the various compiler options, pragmas, macros, environment variables, and built-in functions, including those used for parallel processing.
IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 Language Reference, SC27-4260-01	`langref.pdf`	Contains information about the C and C++ programming languages, as supported by IBM, including language extensions for portability and conformance to nonproprietary standards.
IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 Optimization and Programming Guide, SC27-4261-01	`proguide.pdf`	Contains information about advanced programming topics, such as application porting, interlanguage calls with Fortran code, library development, application optimization and parallelization, and the XL C/C++ high-performance libraries.
Standard C++ Library Reference, SC27-4262-01	`standlib.pdf`	Contains reference information about the standard C++ runtime libraries and headers.
C/C++ Legacy Class Libraries Reference, SC09-7652-00	`legacy.pdf`	Contains reference information about the USL I/O Stream Library and the Complex Mathematics Library.

  To read a PDF file, use Adobe Reader. If you do not have Adobe Reader, you can download it (subject to license terms) from the Adobe website at http://www.adobe.com.

More information related to XL C/C++, including IBM Redbooks® publications, white papers, and other articles, is available on the web at http://www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27036618.

For more information about C/C++, see the C/C++ café at https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/community/groups/service/html/communityview?communityUuid=5894415f-be62-4bc0-81c5-3956e82276f3.

Standards and specifications

XL C/C++ is designed to support the following standards and specifications. You can refer to these standards and specifications for precise definitions of some of the features found in this information.

- *Information Technology - Programming languages - C, ISO/IEC 9899:1990*, also known as *C89*.
- *Information Technology - Programming languages - C, ISO/IEC 9899:1999*, also known as *C99*.
- *Information Technology - Programming languages - C, ISO/IEC 9899:2011*, also known as *C11*. (Partial support)
- *Information Technology - Programming languages - C++, ISO/IEC 14882:1998*, also known as *C++98*.
- *Information Technology - Programming languages - C++, ISO/IEC 14882:2003*, also known as *Standard C++*.
- *Information Technology - Programming languages - C++, ISO/IEC 14882:2011*, also known as *C++11* (Partial support).
- *Draft Technical Report on C++ Library Extensions, ISO/IEC DTR 19768*. This draft technical report has been submitted to the C++ standards committee, and is available at http://www.open-std.org/JTC1/SC22/WG21/docs/papers/2005/n1836.pdf.
- *AltiVec Technology Programming Interface Manual*, Motorola Inc. This specification for vector data types, to support vector processing technology, is available at http://www.freescale.com/files/32bit/doc/ref_manual/ALTIVECPIM.pdf.
- *Information Technology - Programming Languages - Extension for the programming language C to support decimal floating-point arithmetic, ISO/IEC WDTR 24732*. This draft technical report has been submitted to the C standards committee, and is available at http://www.open-std.org/JTC1/SC22/WG14/www/docs/n1176.pdf.
- *Decimal Types for C++: Draft 4* http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2006/n1977.html
- *ANSI/IEEE Standard for Binary Floating-Point Arithmetic, ANSI/IEEE Std 754-1985*.
- *OpenMP Application Program Interface Version 3.1* (full support) and *OpenMP Application Program Interface Version 4.0 (partial support)*, available at http://www.openmp.org

Other IBM information

- *Parallel Environment for AIX: Operation and Use*
- The IBM Systems Information Center, at http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/systems/index.jsp?topic=/com.ibm.aix.doc/doc/base/aixparent.htm, is a resource for AIX information.

  You can find the following books for your specific AIX system:
  - *AIX Commands Reference, Volumes 1 - 6*
  - *Technical Reference: Base Operating System and Extensions, Volumes 1 & 2*
  - *AIX National Language Support Guide and Reference*
  - *AIX General Programming Concepts: Writing and Debugging Programs*
  - *AIX Assembler Language Reference*

Other information

- *Using the GNU Compiler Collection* available at http://gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs

Technical support

Additional technical support is available from the XL C/C++ Support page at http://www.ibm.com/support/entry/portal/Overview/Software/Rational/XL_C~C++_for_AIX. This page provides a portal with search capabilities to a large selection of Technotes and other support information.

If you cannot find what you need, you can send an email to compinfo@ca.ibm.com.

For the latest information about XL C/C++, visit the product information site at http://www.ibm.com/software/products/us/en/xlcpp-aix/.

How to send your comments

Your feedback is important in helping to provide accurate and high-quality information. If you have any comments about this information or any other XL C/C++ information, send your comments by email to compinfo@ca.ibm.com.

Be sure to include the name of the manual, the part number of the manual, the version of XL C/C++, and, if applicable, the specific location of the text you are commenting on (for example, a page number or table number).

Chapter 1. Introducing XL C/C++

IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 is an advanced, high-performance compiler that can be used for developing complex, computationally intensive programs, including interlanguage calls with C and Fortran programs.

This section contains information about the features of the XL C/C++ compiler at a high level. It is intended for people who are evaluating the compiler and for new users who want to find out more about the product.

Commonality with other IBM compilers

IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 is part of a larger family of IBM C, C++, and Fortran compilers. XL C/C++, together with XL C and XL Fortran, comprises the family of XL compilers.

These compilers are derived from a common code base that shares compiler function and optimization technologies for a variety of platforms and programming languages. Programming environments include IBM AIX, IBM Blue Gene®/Q, IBM i, selected Linux distributions, IBM z/OS®, and IBM z/VM®. The common code base, along with compliance with international programming language standards, helps support consistent compiler performance and ease of program portability across multiple operating systems and hardware platforms.

Operating system and hardware support

This section describes the operating systems and hardware that IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 supports.

IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 supports the following operating systems:

- AIX V6.1 TL 2 Service Pack 5 or later
- AIX V7.1
- IBM i V7.1 PASE V7.1
- IBM i V7.2 PASE V7.2

See the README file and "Before installing XL C/C++" in the *XL C/C++ Installation Guide* for a complete list of requirements.

The compiler, its libraries, and its generated object programs run on POWER5, POWER5+, POWER6®, POWER7®, POWER7+™, and POWER8® systems with the required software and disk space.

To exploit the various supported hardware configurations, the compiler provides options to tune the performance of applications according to the hardware type that runs the compiled applications.

A highly configurable compiler

You can use a variety of compiler invocation commands and options to tailor the compiler to your unique compilation requirements.

Compiler invocation commands

XL C/C++ provides several commands to invoke the compiler, for example, **xlC**, **xlc++**, and **xlc**. Compiler invocation commands are provided to support most standardized C/C++ language levels and many popular language extensions.

The compiler also provides corresponding "**_r**" versions of most invocation commands, for example, **xlc_r** and **xlC_r**. The "**_r**" invocations instruct the compiler to link and bind object files to threadsafe components and libraries, and produce threadsafe object code for compiler-created data and procedures.

For more information about XL C/C++ compiler invocation commands, see "Invoking the compiler" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Compiler options

You can choose from a large selection of compiler options to control compiler behavior. You can benefit from using different options for the following tasks:

- Debugging your applications
- Optimizing and tuning application performance
- Selecting language levels and extensions for compatibility with nonstandard features and behaviors that are supported by other C or C++ compilers
- Performing many other common tasks that would otherwise require changing the source code

You can specify compiler options through a combination of environment variables, compiler configuration files, command line options, and compiler directive statements embedded in your program source.

For more information about XL C/C++ compiler options, see "Compiler options reference" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Custom compiler configuration files

The installation process creates a default plain text compiler configuration file containing stanzas that define compiler option default settings.

If you frequently specify compiler option settings other than the default settings of XL C/C++, you can use makefiles to define your settings. Alternatively, you can create custom configuration files to define your own frequently used option settings.

For more information about using custom compiler configuration files, see “Using custom compiler configuration files” on page 49.

Utilization tracking configuration file

The utilization and reporting tool can be used to detect whether your organization's use of the compiler exceeds your license entitlements.

The utilization tracking and reporting feature of the compiler has its own configuration file. The main compiler configuration file contains an entry that points to this file. The different installations of the compiler product can use a single utilization tracking configuration file to centrally manage the utilization tracking and reporting feature.

For detailed information about the utilization tracking and reporting feature, see "Tracking and reporting compiler usage" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Language standard compliance

IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 supports the following C/C++ programming language specifications.

C language specifications

- Partial support for ISO/IEC 9899:2011 (referred to as C11)
- ISO/IEC 9899:1999 (referred to as C99)
- ISO/IEC 9899:1990 (referred to as C89)

C++ language specifications

- Partial support for ISO/IEC 14882:2011 (referred to as C++11)
- ISO/IEC 14882:2003 (referred to as C++03)
- ISO/IEC 14882:1998, the first official specification of the language (referred to as C++98)

In addition to the standard language levels, XL C/C++ supports the following language extensions:

- Partial support for OpenMP Application Program Interface V4.0
- OpenMP Application Program Interface V3.1
- Language extensions to support vector programming
- A subset of GNU C and C++ language extensions

See "Language levels and language extensions" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference* for more information about C/C++ language specifications and extensions.

Compatibility with GNU

XL C/C++ supports a subset of the GNU compiler command options to facilitate porting applications that are developed with the **gcc** and **g++** compilers.

This support is available when the **gxlc** or **gxlc++** invocation command is used together with select GNU compiler options. Where possible, the compiler maps GNU options to their XL C/C++ compiler option counterparts before invoking the compiler.

The invocation commands use a plain text configuration file to control GNU-to-XL C/C++ option mappings and defaults. You can customize this configuration file to meet your unique compilation requirements. For more information, see "Reusing GNU C/C++ compiler options with gxlc and gxlc++" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Source-code migration and conformance checking

XL C/C++ provides compiler invocation commands that instruct the compiler to compile your application code to a specific language level.

You can also use the **-qlanglvl** compiler option to specify a language level. If the language or language extension elements in your program source do not conform to the specified language level, the compiler issues diagnostic messages.

See -qlanglvl in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for more information.

Libraries

XL C/C++ includes a runtime environment containing a number of libraries.

Standard C++ library

XL C/C++ ships a modified version of the Dinkum C++ Library, a conforming implementation of the Standard C++ Library. The Standard C++ Library consists of 51 headers, including 13 headers which constitute the Standard Template Library (STL). In addition, the Standard C++ Library works with the 18 headers from the Standard C Library. The functions in these headers perform essential services such as input and output. They also provide efficient implementations of frequently used operations.

For more information, see the *Standard C++ Library Reference*.

C++ library extensions

In addition to the Standard C++ Library, XL C/C++ V13.1.2 supports many extensions to the C++ language as defined by the Draft Technical Report on C++ Library Extensions (TR1).

For more information about these language extensions, see Draft Technical Report on C++ Library Extensions (TR1).

Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem library

The Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem (MASS) library consists of scalar and vector mathematical built-in functions tuned specifically for optimum performance on supported processor architectures. You can choose a MASS library to support high-performance computing on a broad range of processors, or you can select a library tuned to support a specific processor family.

The MASS library functions support both 32-bit and 64-bit compilation modes and offer improved performance over the default `libm` math library routines. These libraries are threadsafe and are called automatically when you request specific levels of optimization for your application. You can also make explicit calls to MASS library functions, whether optimization options are in effect or not.

For more information, see "Using the Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms

The Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms (BLAS) set of high-performance algebraic functions are shipped in the libxlopt library. You can use these functions to:

- Compute the matrix-vector product for a general matrix or its transpose.
- Perform combined matrix multiplication and addition for general matrices or their transposes.

For more information about using the BLAS functions, see "Using the Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Other libraries

The following libraries are also shipped with XL C/C++:

- The SMP runtime library supports both explicit and automated parallel processing. See "SMP Runtime Library" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.
- The memory debug runtime library is used for diagnosing memory leaks. See "Using memory heaps" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.
- XL C++ Runtime Library contains support routines needed by the compiler.
- UNIX System Laboratories (USL) contains stream classes for input and output capabilities for C++. This library is provided for use by old applications. For new applications, use the Standard C++ Library for portability. See *C/C++ Legacy Class Libraries Reference* for more information.
- USL contains classes for manipulating complex numbers. This library is provided for use by old applications. For new applications, use the Standard C++ Library for portability. See *C/C++ Legacy Class Libraries Reference* for more information.
- C++ The demangler library provides routines and classes for demangling linkage names created by the C++ compiler.

Support for Boost libraries

IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2 provides partial support for the Boost V1.55.0 libraries. A patch file is available that modifies the Boost V1.55.0 libraries so that they can be built and used with XL C/C++ applications. The patch or modification file does not extend nor provide additional functionality to the Boost libraries.

To access the patch file for building the Boost libraries, go to Boost Library Regression Test Summaries and select `download required Boost modification file` for your compiler release and platform.

You can download the latest Boost libraries at http://www.boost.org/.

For more information about support for libraries, search on the XL C/C++ Compiler support page at http://www.ibm.com/support/entry/portal/Overview/Software/Rational/XL_C~C++_for_AIX.

Tools, utilities, and commands

This topic introduces the main tools, utilities, and commands that are included with XL C/C++. It does not contain all compiler tools, utilities, and commands.

Tools

IBM Debugger for AIX

The IBM Debugger for AIX can help you detect and diagnose errors in programs that are running locally or remotely. You can control the execution of your programs by setting compiled language-specific breakpoints, suspending execution, stepping through your code, and examining and changing the contents of variables.

The debugger contains views and functionality specific to a given programming language. With the compiled language views, you can monitor variables, expressions, registers, memory, and application modules of the application you are debugging.

Utilization reporting tool

The utilization reporting tool generates a report describing your organization's utilization of the compiler. These reports help determine whether your organization's use of the compiler matches your compiler license entitlements. The **urt** command contains options that can be used to customize the report. For more information, see Tracking and reporting compiler usage in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Utilities

C++ **c++filt name demangling utility**

The **c++filt name demangling** utility converts the mangled names to their original source code names. When XL C/C++ compiles a C++ program, it encodes all function names and certain other identifiers to include type and scoping information. This encoding process is called mangling. For more information, see Demangling compiled C++ names in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*. C++

CreateExportList utility

The **CreateExportList** utility creates a file that contains a list of all the exportable symbols found in a given set of object files. For more information, see Exporting symbols with the CreateExportList utility in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

gxlc and gxlc++ utilities

The **gxlc** and **gxlc++** utilities translate GNU C and GNU C++ invocation commands into corresponding **xlc** and **xlc++** commands before the XL C/C++ compiler is invoked. The purpose of these utilities is to minimize the number of changes to makefiles used for existing applications built with the GNU compilers and to facilitate the transition to the XL C/C++ compiler. For more information, see Reusing GNU C/C++ compiler options with gxlc and gxlc++ in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

C++ **linkxlC utility**

The **linkxlC** utility links C++ .o and .a files. It is used for linking on systems where the XL C/C++ compiler is not installed. For more information, see Linking with the linkxlC utility in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*. C++

C++ **makeC++SharedLib utility**

The **makeC++SharedLib** utility permits the creation of C++ shared libraries on systems where the XL C/C++ compiler is not installed. For more information, see Creating a shared library with the makeC++SharedLib utility in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*. C++

Commands

genhtml command

The **genhtml** command converts an existing XML diagnostic report produced by the **-qlistfmt** option. You can choose to produce XML or HTML diagnostic reports by using the **-qlistfmt** option. The report can help you find optimization opportunities. For more information about how to use this command, see **genhtml** command in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Profile-directed feedback (PDF) related commands

cleanpdf command
The **cleanpdf** command removes all the PDF files or the specified PDF files from the directory to which profile-directed feedback data is written.

mergepdf command
The **mergepdf** command provides the ability to weigh the importance of two or more PDF records when combining them into a single record. The PDF records must be derived from the same executable.

showpdf command
The **showpdf** command displays the following types of profiling information for all the procedures executed in a PDF run (compilation under the **-qpdf1** option):

- Block-counter profiling
- Call-counter profiling
- Value profiling
- Cache-miss profiling, if you specified the **-qpdf1=level=2** option during the **-qpdf1** phase.

You can view the first two types of profiling information in either text or XML format. However, you can view value profiling and cache-miss profiling information only in XML format.

For more information, see -qpdf1, -qpdf2 in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

xlCndi
The **xlCndi** script installs XL C/C++ to a nondefault directory location. For more information, see Updating an advanced installation using **xlCndi** in the *XL C/C++ Installation Guide*.

Program optimization

XL C/C++ provides several compiler options that can help you control the optimization and performance of your programs.

With these options, you can perform the following tasks:

- Select different levels of compiler optimizations.
- Control optimizations for loops, floating point, and other types of operations.
- Optimize a program for a particular class of machines or for a very specific machine configuration, depending on where the program will run.

Optimizing transformations can give your application better overall execution performance. XL C/C++ provides a portfolio of optimizing transformations tailored to various supported hardware. These transformations offer the following benefits:

- Reducing the number of instructions executed for critical operations
- Restructuring generated object code to make optimal use of the Power Architecture® processors
- Improving the usage of the memory subsystem
- Exploiting the ability of the architecture to handle large amounts of shared memory parallelization

For more information, see these related topics:

- "Optimizing your applications" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*
- "Optimizing and tuning options" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- "Compiler built-in functions" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*

64-bit object capability

The 64-bit object capability of the XL C/C++ compiler addresses increasing demand for larger storage requirements and greater processing power.

The AIX operating system provides an environment that allows you to develop and execute programs that exploit 64-bit processors through the use of 64-bit address spaces.

To support larger executables that can fit within a 64-bit address space, a separate 64-bit object format is used. The binder binds these objects to create 64-bit executables. Objects that are bound together must all be of the same object format. The following scenarios are not permitted and will fail to load, execute, or both:

- A 64-bit object or executable that has references to symbols from a 32-bit library or shared library
- A 32-bit object or executable that has references to symbols from a 64-bit library or shared library
- A 64-bit executable that explicitly attempts to load a 32-bit module
- A 32-bit executable that explicitly attempts to load a 64-bit module
- Attempts to run 64-bit applications on 32-bit platforms

On both 64-bit and 32-bit platforms, 32-bit executables will continue to run as they currently do on a 32-bit platform.

XL C/C++ supports 64-bit mode mainly through the use of the **-q64** and **-qarch** compiler options. This combination determines the bit mode and instruction set for the target architecture.

For more information, see "Using 32-bit and 64-bit modes" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*

Shared memory parallelization

XL C/C++ supports application development for multiprocessor system architectures.

You can use any of the following methods to develop your parallelized applications with XL C/C++:

- Directive-based shared memory parallelization (OpenMP, SMP)
- Instructing the compiler to automatically generate shared memory parallelization
- Message-passing-based shared or distributed memory parallelization (MPI)
- POSIX threads (Pthreads) parallelization
- Low-level UNIX parallelization using `fork()` and `exec()`

The parallel programming facilities are based on the concept of threads. Parallel programming exploits the advantages of multiprocessor systems while maintaining a full binary compatibility with existing uniprocessor systems. This means that a

multithreaded program that works on a uniprocessor system can take advantage of a multiprocessor system without recompiling.

For more information, see "Parallelizing your programs" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

OpenMP directives

OpenMP directives are a set of API-based commands supported by XL C/C++ and many other IBM and non-IBM C, C++, and Fortran compilers.

You can use OpenMP directives to instruct the compiler how to parallelize a particular block of code. The existence of the directives in the source removes the need for the compiler to perform any dependence analysis on the parallel code. OpenMP directives require the presence of Pthread libraries to provide the necessary infrastructure for parallelization.

OpenMP directives address the following important issues of parallelizing an application:

1. Clauses and directives are available for scoping variables. Generally, variables should not be shared; that is, each thread should have its own copy of the variable.
2. Work sharing directives specify how the work contained in a parallel region of code should be distributed across the threads.
3. Directives are available to control synchronization between threads.

As of IBM XL C/C++ for AIX 13.1, XL C/C++ supports OpenMP API Version 3.1 and selected features of the OpenMP API Version 4.0 specification. For details, see “OpenMP 4.0” on page 18.

For more information about program performance optimization, see the following topics:

- "Optimizing your applications" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*
- The OpenMP API specification for parallel programming

Diagnostic reports

The compiler listings , XML reports, and HTML reports provide important information to help you develop and debug your applications more efficiently.

Listing information is organized into optional sections that you can include or omit. For more information about the applicable compiler options and the listing itself, see "Compiler messages and listings" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

You can also obtain diagnostic information from the compiler in XML or HTML format. The XML and HTML reports provide information about optimizations that the compiler performed or could not perform. You can use this information to reduce programming effort when tuning applications, especially high-performance applications. The report is defined by an XML schema and is easily consumable by tools that you can create to read and analyze the results. For detailed information about this report and how to use it, see "Using reports to diagnose optimization opportunities" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Symbolic debugger support

You can instruct XL C/C++ to include debugging information in your compiled objects by using different levels of the **-g** compiler option.

For details, see **-g** in *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

The debugging information can be examined by **dbx**, the IBM Debugger for AIX, or any other symbolic debugger that supports the AIX XCOFF executable format to help you debug your programs.

Chapter 2. What's new for IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2

This section describes features and enhancements added to IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2.

Built-in functions

This section describes the major categories of built-in functions that are new or changed for IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2.

New built-in functions

vec_mergee
Merges the values of even-numbered elements of two vectors.

vec_mergeo
Merges the values of odd-numbered elements of two vectors.

vec_revb
Returns a vector that contains the bytes of the corresponding element of the argument in the reverse byte order.

vec_reve
Returns a vector that contains the elements of the argument in the reverse element order.

vec_xl(a, b)
Loads a 16-byte vector from the memory address specified by the displacement `a` and the pointer `b`.

vec_xl_be(a, b)
Loads a 16-byte vector from the memory address specified by the displacement `a` and the pointer `b`.

vec_xst(a, b,c)
Stores the elements of the 16-byte vector `a` to the effective address obtained by adding the displacement provided in `b` with the address provided by `c`. The effective address is not truncated to a multiple of 16 bytes.

vec_xst_be(a, b,c)
Stores the elements of the 16-byte vector `a` in big endian element order to the effective address obtained by adding the displacement provided in `b` with the address provided by `c`. The effective address is not truncated to a multiple of 16 bytes.

For more information about built-in functions provided by XL C/C++, see Compiler built-in functions in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Commands

This section describes new, changed, or removed compiler commands.

resetpdf
This command has been removed. It is recommended that you use the **cleanpdf** command instead. The behavior of the **resetpdf** command is the same as that of the **cleanpdf** command. For more information, see -qpdf1, -qpdf2 in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Compiler options

This section describes new or changed compiler options.

-qfloat

The following suboptions are added:

subnormals

This suboption asserts to the compiler that the code uses subnormal floating point values, also known as denormalized floating point values.

nosubnormals

This suboption asserts to the compiler that the code does not use subnormal floating point values, also known as denormalized floating point values.

Whether or not you specify this suboption, the behavior of your program will not change, but the compiler uses this information to gain possible performance improvements. The suboptions take effect only on POWER8 processors. To use **-qfloat=subnormals** or **-qfloat=nosubnormals**, you must also specify the **-qarch=pwr8** and **-qtune=pwr8** options.

-qinline

The **level** suboption is added to represent the relative degree of inlining.

-qstrict=guards

The actions that are performed by XL C/C++ if you specify the **-qstrict=guards** option have been increased. When the **-qstrict=guards** option is in effect, the compiler behavior is as follows:

- The compiler does not move operations past guards.
- When the compiler encounters `if` statements that contain pointer wraparound checks that can be resolved at compile time, it does not remove the checks or the enclosed operations.

Chapter 3. Migration of your applications

This section lists important considerations when you migrate your applications that was compiled with other versions of XL C/C++.

Migrating applications that use transactional memory built-in functions

Starting from IBM XL C/C++ for AIX V13.1.2, to use transactional memory built-in functions, you must include a header file in the source code. In addition, if you used numeric return values of the transaction begin and end built-in functions, you must replace numeric return values with macro return values that are provided by IBM XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1.2.

New header file needed for transactional memory built-in functions

You must include the `htmxlintrin.h` file in the source code if you use any of the transactional memory built-in functions.

Changed return values of the transaction begin and end built-in functions

The return values of the transaction begin and end built-in functions are no longer numeric. You must update your program using the following return values:

__TM_begin
This function returns _HTM_TBEGIN_STARTED if successful; otherwise, it returns a different value.

__TM_end
This function returns _HTM_TBEGIN_STARTED if the thread is in the transactional state before the instruction starts; otherwise, it returns a different value.

__TM_simple_begin
This function returns _HTM_TBEGIN_STARTED if successful; otherwise, it returns a different value.

Related information

Transactional memory built-in functions


Transactional memory built-in functions

Chapter 4. Enhancements added in earlier versions

This section describes enhancements added in earlier versions. These enhancements also apply to the current version.

Enhancements added in Version 13.1

This section describes features and enhancements added to the compiler in Version 13.1. These features and enhancements apply to later versions as well.

Support for POWER8 processors

XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1 supports POWER8 processors.

The new features and enhancements introduced in support of the POWER8 processors, fall under the following categories:

- MASS libraries for POWER8 processors
- Compiler options for POWER8 processors
- Built-in functions for POWER8 processors

Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem (MASS) libraries for POWER8 processors

Vector libraries

The vector MASS library **libmassvp8.a** contains vector functions that have been tuned for the POWER8 architecture. The functions can be used in either 32-bit mode or 64-bit mode.

For more information about the vector libraries, see Using the vector libraries in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

SIMD libraries

The MASS SIMD library **libmass_simdp8.a** contains an accelerated set of frequently used math built-in functions that provide improved performance over the corresponding standard system library functions.

For more information about the SIMD libraries, see Using the SIMD libraries in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Compiler options for POWER8 processors

The **-qarch** compiler option specifies the processor architecture for which code is generated. The **-qtune** compiler option tunes instruction selection, scheduling, and other architecture-dependent performance enhancements to run best on a specific hardware architecture.

The new **-qarch=pwr8** suboption produces object code containing instructions that will run on the POWER8 hardware platforms. With the new **-qtune=pwr8** suboption, optimizations are tuned for the POWER8 hardware platforms.

For more information, see -qarch in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* and -qtune in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Built-in functions for POWER8 processors

New hardware built-in functions are added to support the following POWER8 processor features:

- POWER8 functions for vector processing
- POWER8 binary-coded decimal functions
- POWER8 cryptography functions
- POWER8 quad-word arithmetic functions
- POWER8 load-and-reserve/store conditional instructions
- POWER8 cache and data prefetch control functions
- POWER8 transactional memory functions
- POWER8 prefetch functions

For more information about built-in functions provided by XL C/C++, see Compiler built-in functions in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

C++11 features

In addition to the existing C++11 features, new C++11 features are supported in this release of XL C/C++.

Note: IBM supports selected features of C++11, known as C++0x before its ratification. IBM will continue to develop and implement the features of this standard. The implementation of the language level is based on IBM's interpretation of the standard. Until IBM's implementation of all the C++11 features is complete, including the support of a new C++11 standard library, the implementation might change from release to release. IBM makes no attempt to maintain compatibility, in source, binary, or listings and other compiler interfaces, with earlier releases of IBM's implementation of the new C++11 features.

The following features are introduced in XL C/C++ V13.1:

- Defaulted and deleted functions
- The `nullptr` keyword

The generalized constant expressions feature is enhanced in XL C/C++ V13.1.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=extended0x** option to enable most of the C++ features and all the currently supported C++11 features. For details, see -qlanglvl in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Defaulted and deleted functions

This feature introduces two new forms of function declarations to define explicitly defaulted functions and deleted functions. For the explicitly defaulted functions, the compiler generates the default implementations, which are more efficient than manually programmed implementations. The compiler disables the deleted functions to avoid calling unwanted functions.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=defaultanddelete** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Explicitly defaulted functions (C++11)" and "Deleted functions (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Generalized constant expressions

The generalized constant expressions feature extends the set of expressions permitted within constant expressions. The implementation of this feature in XL C/C++ V12.1 was a partial implementation of what is defined in the C++11 standard. In this release, enhancements are made to support user-defined `constexpr` objects and `constexpr` pointers or references to `constexpr` functions and objects.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=constexpr** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Generalized constant expressions (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

The nullptr keyword

This feature introduces `nullptr` as a null pointer constant. The `nullptr` constant can be distinguished from integer 0 for overloaded functions. The constants of 0 and NULL are treated as of the integer type for overloaded functions, whereas `nullptr` can be implicitly converted to only the pointer type, pointer-to-member type, and bool type.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=nullptr** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see langref.pdf#nullpt in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Related information in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*

-qlanglvl

C11 features

In addition to the existing C11 features, new C11 features are supported in this release of XL C/C++.

Note: IBM supports selected features of C11, known as C1X before its ratification. IBM will continue to develop and implement the features of this standard. The implementation of the language level is based on IBM's interpretation of the standard. Until IBM's implementation of all the C11 features is complete, including the support of a new C11 standard library, the implementation may change from release to release. IBM makes no attempt to maintain compatibility, in source, binary, or listings and other compiler interfaces, with earlier releases of IBM's implementation of the C11 features.

The following features are introduced in AIX, V13.1:

- `typedef` redeclaration
- Generic selection

`typedef` redeclaration

Using `typedef` redeclaration, you can redefine a name that is a previous `typedef` name in the same scope to refer to the same type. IBM The XL C compiler supports all types, including a variably modified type.IBM For more information, see "typedef definitions" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Generic selection

Generic selection provides a mechanism to choose an expression according to a given type name at compile time. A common usage is to define type generic macros. For more information, see Generic selection (C11).

OpenMP 4.0

XL C/C++ for AIX, V13.1 partially supports the OpenMP Application Program Interface Version 4.0 specification. The XL C/C++ implementation is based on IBM's interpretation of the OpenMP Application Program Interface Version 4.0.

This version of XL C/C++ supports the following OpenMP 4.0 features:

- `update` and `capture` clauses enhancements
- OMP_DISPLAY_ENV environment variable

`update` and `capture` clauses enhancements

The `update` and `capture` clauses of the `atomic` construct are extended to support more expression forms.

OMP_DISPLAY_ENV environment variable

You can use the OMP_DISPLAY_ENV environment variable to display the values of the internal control variables (ICVs) associated with the environment variables and the build-specific information about the runtime library.

Related information

- "OpenMP environment variables" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- "Pragma directives for parallel processing" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- The OpenMP API specification for parallel programming

Built-in functions

The following major categories of built-in functions are new to this release.

Note: POWER8 built-in functions are valid only when **-qarch=pwr8** is set or implied.

POWER8 built-in functions for vector processing

The following vector built-in functions are added:

- The vector gather-bits-by-bytes doubleword function
  - `vec_gbb`
- The vector count leading zeros function
  - `vec_cntlz`
- The vector population count function
  - `vec_popcnt`
- Extended vector logical operations functions
  - `vec_eqv`
  - `vec_nand`
  - `vec_orc`
- 128-bit integer add subtract functions

  - vec_add_u128
  - vec_sub_u128
  - vec_adde_u128
  - vec_sube_u128
  - vec_addc_u128
  - vec_subc_u128
  - vec_addec_u128
  - vec_subec_u128
  - vec_bperm

The following built-in functions are extended to support doubleword types:

- Vector pack functions
  - vec_pack
  - vec_packs
  - vec_packsu
- Vector unpack functions
  - vec_unpackh
  - vec_unpackl
- Vector add and subtract functions
  - vec_add
  - vec_sub
- Vector max and min functions
  - vec_max
  - vec_min
- Vector shift and rotate functions
  - vec_rl
  - vec_sl
  - vec_sr
  - vec_sra
- Vector compare functions
  - vec_cmpeq
  - vec_cmpgt
  - vec_cmpge
  - vec_cmplt
  - vec_cmple

Binary-coded decimal built-in functions

The following built-in functions are added to support binary-coded decimal (BCD) arithmetic and comparison. The first three types of built-in functions are POWER8 built-in functions. BCD load and store functions are valid when **-qarch** is set to target POWER8 or POWER7 processors:

- BCD add and subtract functions
  - __bcdadd
  - __bcdsub
- BCD test add and subtract for overflow functions
  - __bcdadd_ofl

  - `__bcdsub_ofl`
  - `__bcd_invalid`
- BCD comparison functions
  - `__bcdcmpeq`
  - `__bcdcmpgt`
  - `__bcdcmpge`
  - `__bcdcmplt`
  - `__bcdcmple`
- BCD load and store functions
  - `__vec_ldrmb`
  - `__vec_strmb`

POWER8 cryptography built-in functions

The following built-in functions are provided to perform cryptographic operations:

- Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) functions
  - `__vcipher`
  - `__vcipherlast`
  - `__vncipher`
  - `__vncipherlast`
  - `__vsbox`
- Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA) functions
  - `__vshasigmad`
  - `__vshasigmaw`
- Miscellaneous functions
  - `__vpmsumb`
  - `__vpmsumh`
  - `__vpmsumw`
  - `__vpmsumd`
  - `__vpermxor`

POWER8 non-vector built-in functions

The following built-in functions are added to improve the efficiency of cache:

- `__dcbtna`
- `__icbt`

Load and store built-in functions are extended with the following functions to support more types:

- `__lqarx`
- `__lharx`
- `__lbarx`
- `__stqcx`
- `__sthcx`
- `__stbcx`

POWER8 transactional memory built-in functions

Transactional memory is a model for parallel programming. In this model, you can designate a block of instructions or statements to be treated atomically.

You can use the following built-in functions to mark the beginning or end of transactions, and to diagnose the reasons for failure:

- Transaction begin and end functions
  - `__TM_begin`
  - `__TM_end`
  - `__TM_simple_begin`
- Transaction abort functions
  - `__TM_abort`
  - `__TM_named_abort`
- Transaction inquiry functions
  - `__TM_failure_address`
  - `__TM_failure_code`
  - `__TM_is_conflict`
  - `__TM_is_failure_persistent`
  - `__TM_is_footprint_exceeded`
  - `__TM_is_illegal`
  - `__TM_is_named_user_abort`
  - `__TM_is_nested_too_deep`
  - `__TM_is_user_abort`
  - `__TM_nesting_depth`

POWER8 prefetch built-in functions

The following built-in functions display the problem state control of the Data Stream Control Register (DSCR) in an intuitive, portable, and optimization-friendly way:

- Transient attribute enable functions
  - `__hardware_transient_enable`
  - `__load_transient_enable`
  - `__software_transient_enable`
  - `__store_transient_enable`
- Unit count enable and set functions
  - `__hardware_unit_count_enable`
  - `__software_unit_count_enable`
  - `__set_prefetch_unit_count`
- Prefetch depth functions
  - `__default_prefetch_depth`
  - `__depth_attainment_urgency`
- Load stream enable and disable functions
  - `__load_stream_disable`
  - `__stride_n_stream_enable`
- DSCR functions

- `__prefetch_get_dscr_register`
- `__prefetch_set_dscr_register`

Related information:

- Compiler built-in functions in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- -qarch

Compiler options and pragma directives

This section describes new or changed compiler options and pragma directives.

You can specify compiler options on the command line. You can also modify compiler behavior through pragma directives embedded in your application source files. For detailed descriptions and usage information for XL C/C++ compiler options, see the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

-qarch The option default is updated to **pwr4**. Suboptions denoting old hardware families are silently upgraded to newer architectures.

The following suboptions are added or updated:

-qarch=pwr7
This suboption produces object code containing instructions that run on the POWER7, POWER7+, or POWER8 hardware platforms.

-qarch=pwr8
This suboption produces object code containing instructions that run on the POWER8 hardware platforms.

-qcheck
The following suboptions are added or updated:

-qcheck=stackclobber
This suboption detects a certain type of stack corruption in your programs.

-qcheck=unset
This suboption checks for automatic variables that are used before they are set at run time.

-qdbgfmt=dwarf4
This suboption generates debugging information in DWARF 4 format.

-qhelp This option displays the man page of the compiler.

-qinfo

The compiler does not issue informational messages for the following files:

- Files in the standard search paths for compiler and system header files.
- Files that are ultimately included by the files in the standard search paths for compiler and system header files.

The following suboptions are added or updated:

-qinfo=mt
This suboption notifies you about potential places where synchronization is needed.

-qinfo=unset
This suboption detects automatic variables that are used before they are set, and flags them with informational messages at compile time.

-qlanglvl

The following suboptions are added or updated:

C++11 **-qlanglvl=defaultanddelete**

This suboption enables the defaulted and deleted functions feature, with which you can define explicitly defaulted functions whose implementations are generated by the compiler to achieve higher efficiency. With this feature, you can also define deleted functions whose usages are disabled by the compiler to avoid calling unwanted functions. C++11

C++11 **-qlanglvl=nullptr**

This suboption enables the `nullptr` feature. With this feature, you can initialize a null pointer with the `nullptr` constant. The null pointer can be converted to the pointer type, pointer-to-member type, or bool type. The `nullptr` constant can be distinguished from the integer 0 for overloaded functions. C++11

-qnamemangling (C++ only)

The following suboption is added:

-qnamemangling=v13

This suboption enables the name mangling scheme that is compatible with IBM XL C/C++ V13.1.

-qpdf1=unique

This suboption creates a unique PDF file for each process during run time.

-qprefetch=dscr

This suboption helps to improve the runtime performance of your applications. You can specify a value for `dscr` depending on your system architecture.

-qsimd=auto

This suboption controls the autosimdization, which was performed by the deprecated **-qhot=simd** option.

-qtune The option default is updated.

The following suboptions are added or updated:

-qtune=pwr7

This suboption specifies that optimizations are tuned for the POWER7 or POWER7+ hardware platforms.

-qtune=pwr8

This suboption specifies that optimizations are tuned for the POWER8 hardware platforms.

SMT suboptions

The new **-qtune** simultaneous multithreading (SMT) suboptions allow you to specify a target SMT to direct optimization for best performance in that mode.

-qunroll=*n*

This suboption hints to the compiler to unroll loops by a factor of *n*. If the loop has fewer than *n* iterations, it is fully unrolled.

-qvisibility

This option specifies visibility attributes for entities. Entity visibility attributes describe whether and how entities defined in one module can be referenced or used in other modules. Visibility attributes affect entities with external linkage only, and cannot increase the visibility of other entities.

New or changed pragma directives

#pragma GCC visibility push, #pragma GCC visibility pop
This pair of pragma directives is the pragma equivalent of the **-qvisibility** option. The pragma directives are used to specify visibility attributes for external linkage symbols.

#pragma namemangling (C++ only)
This pragma directive is the pragma equivalent of the **-qnamemangling** option. The pragma directive **#pragma namemangling(v13)** is added to enable the name mangling scheme that is compatible with IBM XL C/C++ V13.1.

Performance and optimization

Additional features and enhancements assist with performance tuning and application optimization.

IBM

Visibility attributes of entities

Entity visibility attributes describe whether and how an entity that is defined in one module can be referenced or used in other modules. By using the visibility attributes for entities, you can get the following benefits:

- Decrease the size of shared libraries
- Reduce the chance of symbol collision
- Allow more optimization for the compile and link phases
- Improve the efficiency of dynamic linking

For more information, see "Using visibility attributes (IBM extension)" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

IBM

For more information about performance tuning and program optimization, see "Optimizing your applications" and "Coding your application to improve performance" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Enhancements added in Version 12.1

This section describes features and enhancements added to the compiler in Version 12.1. These features and enhancements apply to later versions as well.

C++11 features

C++11 is a new C++ programming language standard. Before its ratification, C++11 was called C++0x.In addition to the existing C++11 features, new C++11 features are supported in XL C/C++ V12.1.

Note: IBM supports selected features of C++11, known as C++0x before its ratification. IBM will continue to develop and implement the features of this standard. The implementation of the language level is based on IBM's interpretation of the standard. Until IBM's implementation of all the C++11 features is complete, including the support of a new C++11 standard library, the implementation might change from release to release. IBM makes no attempt to

maintain compatibility, in source, binary, or listings and other compiler interfaces, with earlier releases of IBM's implementation of the new C++11 features.

The following features are introduced in XL C/C++, V12.1:

- Explicit conversion operators
- Generalized constant expressions
- Reference collapsing
- Right angle brackets
- Rvalue references
- Scoped enumerations
- Trailing return type

You can use the **-qlanglvl=extended0x** option to enable most of the C++ features and all the currently-supported C++11 features. For details, see -qlanglvl in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Explicit conversion operators

The explicit conversion operators feature supports the `explicit` function specifier being applied to the definition of a user-defined conversion function. You can use this feature to inhibit implicit conversions from being applied where they might be unintended, and thus program more robust classes with fewer ambiguity errors.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=explicitconversionoperators** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Explicit Conversion Operators (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Generalized constant expressions

The generalized constant expressions feature extends the set of expressions permitted within constant expressions. A constant expression is one that can be evaluated at compile time.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=constexpr** option to enable this feature.

Note: In XL C/C++ V12.1, this feature is a partial implementation of what is defined in the C++11 standard.

Reference collapsing

With the reference collapsing feature, you can form a reference to a reference type using one of the following contexts:

- A `decltype` specifier
- A `typedef` name
- A template type parameter

You can use the **-qlanglvl=referencecollapsing** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Reference collapsing (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Right angle brackets

In the C++ language, two consecutive closing angle brackets (>) must be separated with a white space, because they are otherwise parsed as the bitwise right-shift operator (>>). The right angle bracket feature removes the white space requirement for consecutive right angle brackets, thus making programming more convenient.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=rightanglebracket** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Class templates (C++ only)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Rvalue references

With the rvalue references feature, you can overload functions based on the value categories of arguments and similarly have lvalueness detected by template argument deduction. You can also have an rvalue bound to an rvalue reference and modify the rvalue through the reference. This enables a programming technique with which you can reuse the resources of expiring objects and therefore improve the performance of your libraries, especially if you use generic code with class types, for example, template data structures. Additionally, the value category can be considered when writing a forwarding function.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=rvaluereferences** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Using rvalue references (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Scoped enumerations

With the scoped enumeration feature, you can get the following benefits:

- The ability to declare a scoped enumeration type, whose enumerators are declared in the scope of the enumeration.
- The ability to declare an enumeration without providing the enumerators. The declaration of an enumeration without providing the enumerators is referred to as forward declaration.
- The ability to specify explicitly the underlying type of an enumeration.
- Improved type safety with no conversions from the value of an enumerator (or an object of an enumeration type) to an integer.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=scopedenum** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Enumeration" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Trailing return type

The trailing return type feature is useful when declaring the following types of templates and functions:

- Function templates or member functions of class templates with return types that depend on the types of the function arguments
- Functions or member functions of classes with complicated return types
- Perfect forwarding functions

You can use the **-qlanglvl=autotypededuction** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Trailing return type (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Related information in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*

 -qlanglvl

C11 features

XL C/C++ V12.1 introduces support for selected features of C11, which is a new C programming language standard.

Note: IBM supports selected features of C11, known as C1X before its ratification. IBM will continue to develop and implement the features of this standard. The implementation of the language level is based on IBM's interpretation of the standard. Until IBM's implementation of all the C11 features is complete, including the support of a new C11 standard library, the implementation may change from release to release. IBM makes no attempt to maintain compatibility, in source, binary, or listings and other compiler interfaces, with earlier releases of IBM's implementation of the C11 features.

The following C11 features are introduced in XL C/C++, V12.1:

- Anonymous structures
- Complex type initialization
- New language level - **extc1x**
- The `_Noreturn` function specifier
- Static assertions

Anonymous structures

This feature enables the declaration of anonymous structures under the **extc1x** language level. For more information, see "Anonymous structures" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Complex type initialization

Macros CMPLX, CMPLXF, and CMPLXL are defined inside the standard header file complex.h to enable the initialization of complex types under the **extc1x** language level. For more information, see "Initialization of complex types (C11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

New language level - extc1x

A new suboption has been added to the **-qlanglvl** option in this release. When you compile with the C compiler, you can use **-qlanglvl=extc1x** to enable C11 features that are currently supported by XL C/C++. Certain C11 features are also available when you compile with the C++ compiler. For further information, see the sections that describe individual features.

The `_Noreturn` function specifier

The `_Noreturn` function specifier declares that a function does not return to its caller. You can define your own functions that do not return using this function specifier. The compiler can produce better code by ignoring what would happen if the function returns. For more information, see "The _Noreturn function specifier" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Static assertions

The addition of static assertions to the C language has the following benefits:

- Libraries can detect common usage errors at compile time.
- Implementations of the C Standard Library can detect and diagnose common usage errors, improving usability.

You can declare static assertions to check important program invariants at compile time.

For more information, see "_Static_assert declaration (C11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

OpenMP 3.1

XL C/C++ V12.1 supports the OpenMP Application Program Interface Version 3.1 specification. The XL C/C++ implementation is based on IBM's interpretation of the OpenMP Application Program Interface Version 3.1.

OpenMP 3.1 includes the following updates to OpenMP 3.0:

- Adds the `final` and `mergeable` clauses to the `task` construct to support optimization.
- Adds the `taskyield` construct to allow users to specify where in the program can perform task switching.
- Adds the `omp_in_final` runtime library function to support specialization of final task regions.
- Extends the `atomic` construct to include `read`, `write`, and `capture` forms; adds the `update` clause to apply the existing form of the `atomic` construct.
- Adds two reduction operators: `min` and `max`.
- Allows const-qualified types to be specified on the `firstprivate` clause.
- Adds the `OMP_PROC_BIND` environment variable to control whether OpenMP threads are allowed to move between processors.
- Extends the `OMP_NUM_THREADS` environment variable to specify the number of threads to use for nested parallel regions.

Related information

- "OpenMP environment variables" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- "Pragma directives for parallel processing" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- www.openmp.org

Performance and optimization

Additional features and enhancements in XL C/C++ V12.1 assist with performance tuning and application optimization.

Reports about compiler optimizations

There are a number of enhancements to the listing reports to give you more information about how the compiler optimized your code. You can use this information to get further benefits from the optimization capabilities of the compiler. For more details about these enhanced reports, see “Diagnostic reports” on page 29.

Small String Optimized string class

If you have programs that produce large amounts of small strings, that is, strings smaller than 32 bytes, consider using the new `<ssostring>` header file supplied by IBM to reduce runtime overhead and improve runtime performance. For more information about the header file, see "Managing memory efficiently" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

For additional information about performance tuning and program optimization, see "Optimizing your applications" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Diagnostic reports

The new diagnostic reports added in XL C/C++ V12.1 can help you identify opportunities to improve the performance of your code.

Compiler reports in HTML format

It is now possible to get information in XML or HTML format about the optimizations that the compiler was able to perform and also which optimization opportunities were missed. This information can be used to reduce programming effort for tuning applications, especially high-performance applications.

The **-qlistfmt** option and its associated suboptions can be used to generate the XML or HTML report. By default, this option now generates all the available content if you do not specify the type of content.

To view the HTML version of an XML report that has been already generated, you can now use the **genhtml** tool. For more information about how to use this tool, see the **genhtml** command in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

For detailed information about this report and how to use it, see "Using reports to diagnose optimization opportunities" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Enhancements to profiling reports

New sections have been added to your listing file to help you analyze your programs. When using the **-qreport** option with the **-qpdf2** option, you can get the following sections added to the listing file in the section entitled `PDF Report`:

Relevance of profiling data
: This section shows the relevance of the profiling data to the source code during the **-qpdf1** phase. The relevance is indicated by a number in the range of 0 - 100. The larger the number is, the more relevant the profiling data is to the source code, and the more performance gain can be achieved by using the profiling data.

Missing profiling data
: This section might include a warning message about missing profiling data. The warning message is issued for each function for which the compiler does not find profiling data.

Outdated profiling data
: This section might include a warning message about outdated profiling data. The compiler issues this warning message for each function that is

modified after the **-qpdf1** phase. The warning message is also issued when the optimization level changes from the **-qpdf1** phase to the **-qpdf2** phase.

For detailed information about profile-directed feedback, see "Using profile-directed feedback" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

For additional information about the listing files, see "Compiler listings" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Enhancements to showpdf reports

In addition to block-counter and call-counter profiling information currently provided, you can also use the **showpdf** utility to view cache-miss profiling and value profiling information. Value profiling and cache-miss profiling information can be displayed only in XML format. However, all the other types of profiling information can be displayed in either text or XML format. In this release, the profile-directed feedback (PDF) information is saved in two files. One is a PDF map file that is generated during the **-qpdf1** phase, and the other is a PDF file that is generated during the execution of the resulting application. You can run the **showpdf** utility to display the PDF information contained in these two files. For more information, see "Viewing profiling information with showpdf" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

New and enhanced diagnostic options

The entries in the following table describe new or changed compiler options and directives that give you control over compiler listings.

The information presented here is a brief overview. For detailed information about these and other performance-related compiler options, see "Listings, messages and compiler information" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Table 4. Listings-related compiler options and directives

Option/directive	Description
-qlistfmt	The **-qlistfmt** option has been enhanced to generate HTML reports as well as XML reports, containing information about optimizations performed by the compiler and missed optimization opportunities. The default behavior of this option has changed. Now, if you do not specify a particular type of content, the option generates all the available content, rather than generating none.

Built-in functions

This section describes the major categories of built-in functions that are new for V12.1.

GCC atomic memory access built-in functions (IBM extension)

New XL C/C++ built-in functions for atomic memory access, whose behavior corresponds to that provided by GNU Compiler Collection (GCC), are added in this release. In a program with multiple threads, you can use these functions to atomically and safely modify data in one thread without interference from another thread.

For more information about built-in functions provided by XL C/C++, see Compiler built-in functions in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Compiler options and pragma directives

This section describes new or changed compiler options and pragma directives in V12.1.

You can specify compiler options on the command line. You can also modify compiler behavior through pragma directives embedded in your application source files. See the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for detailed descriptions and usage information for these and other compiler options.

New or changed compiler options

-g The **-g** option is extended to have new different levels to improve the debugging of optimized programs.

-qhaltonmsg
The **-qhaltonmsg** option, previously supported only by the C++ compiler, is now supported by XL C. It stops compilation before producing any object files, executable files, or assembler source files if a specified error message is generated. The negative form **-qnohaltonmsg** has also been added.

-qinclude

The negative form **-qnoinclude** is added to ignore the previously specified **-qinclude** option.

-qinfo **-qinfo=all** now enables all diagnostic messages for all groups except **als** and **ppt**

-qinitauto
The **-qinitauto** option is enhanced to be able to perform word initialization for automatic variables.

-qkeyword
C++11 The new suboption **-q[no]keyword=constexpr** enables or disables the `constexpr` keyword.

-qlanglvl
The following suboptions are added or updated:

C++11 **-qlanglvl=autotypedededuction**
This suboption can now enable the trailing return type feature in addition to the auto type deduction feature.

C++ **-qlanglvl=c1xnoreturn**
This suboption enables support for the `_Noreturn` function specifier.

C++ **-qlanglvl=complexinit**
This suboption controls whether to enable the initialization of complex types.

C++ IBM **-qlanglvl=compatrvaluebinding**
This suboption instructs the compiler to allow a non-const lvalue reference to bind to an rvalue of a user-defined type where an initializer is not required.

C++11 **-qlanglvl=constexpr**
This suboption enables the generalized constant expressions feature, which extends the expressions permitted within constant expressions.

Note: In XL C/C++ V12.1, this feature is a partial implementation of what is defined in the C++11 standard.

C++11 **-qlanglvl=explicitconversionoperators**
This suboption enables the explicit conversion operators feature, which allows you to inhibit unintended implicit conversions through the user-defined conversion function.

C11 **-qlanglvl=extc1x**
This suboption enables all the currently supported C11 features and other implementation-specific language extensions.

C++11 **-qlanglvl=referencecollapsing**
This suboption enables the reference collapsing feature, with which you can form a reference to a reference type using a `decltype` specifier, a `typedef` name, or a template type parameter.

C++11 **-qlanglvl=rightanglebracket**
This suboption enables the right angle bracket feature, which removes the white space requirement for consecutive right angle brackets.

C++11 **-qlanglvl=rvaluereferences**
This suboption enables the rvalue references feature.

C++11 **-qlanglvl=scopedenum**
This suboption enables the scoped enumeration feature, with which you can declare a scoped enumeration type or an enumeration without providing the enumerators.

C++ IBM **-qlanglvl=tempsaslocals**
This suboption extends the lifetime of temporaries to reduce migration difficulty.

IBM **-qlanglvl=textafterendif**
This suboption suppresses the warning message that is emitted when you are porting code from a compiler that allows extra text after `#endif` or `#else` to IBM XL C/C++ compiler.

For more information about the new C++11 features, see "C++11 features" on page 24.

For more information about the C11 features, see "C11 features" on page 27.

-qlistfmt
The **-qlistfmt** option is enhanced to generate HTML reports as well as XML reports, containing information about optimizations performed by the compiler and missed optimization opportunities.

The default behavior of **-qlistfmt** has changed. In this release, if you do not specify a particular type of content, the option generates all the available content, rather than generating none.

C++ **-qnamemangling**
The **v12** namemangling scheme is added. The **v12** fix preserves the cv-qualifiers nested within template argument lists.

-qoptfile
The new option **-qoptfile** specifies a file containing a list of additional command line options to be used for the compilation.

-qpic **-qpic=large** now enables large TOC access and prevents TOC overflow conditions when the Table of Contents is larger than 64 Kb.

-qshowpdf
The default value is changed from **-qnoshowpdf** to **-qshowpdf**.

New or changed pragma directives

C++ **#pragma ibm independent_loop**
The **independent_loop** pragma is added. It explicitly states that the iterations of the chosen loop are independent, and that the iterations can be executed in parallel.

#pragma ibm iterations
The **iterations** pragma is added. It specifies the approximate number of loop iterations for the chosen loop.

#pragma ibm max_iterations
The **max_iterations** pragma is added. It specifies the approximate maximum number of loop iterations for the chosen loop.

#pragma ibm min_iterations
The **min_iterations** pragma is added. It specifies the approximate minimum number of loop iterations for the chosen loop.

#pragma simd_level
The **simd_level** pragma is added. It controls the compiler code generation of vector instructions for individual loops.

Enhancements added in Version 11.1

This section describes features and enhancements added to the compiler in Version 11.1. These features and enhancements apply to later versions as well.

Support for POWER7 processors

XL C/C++ for AIX, V11.1 supports POWER7 processors.

The new features and enhancements introduced in support for the POWER7 processors, fall under the following four categories:

- Vector scalar extension data types and built-in functions
- MASS libraries for POWER7 processors
- Built-in functions for POWER7 processors
- Compiler options for POWER7 processors

Vector scalar extension data types and built-in functions

This release of the compiler supports the Vector Scalar eXtension (VSX) instruction set in the POWER7 processors. New data types and built-in functions are introduced to support the VSX instructions. With the VSX built-in functions and the original Vector Multimedia eXtension (VMX) built-in functions, you can efficiently manipulate vector operations in your application.

For more information about the VSX data types and built-in functions, see Vector types in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference* and Vector built-in functions in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem (MASS) libraries for POWER7 processors

Vector libraries

The vector MASS library **libmassvp7.a** contains vector functions that have been tuned for the POWER7 architecture. The functions can be used in either 32-bit mode or 64-bit mode.

Functions supporting previous Power® processors, either single-precision or double-precision, are included for POWER7 processors.

The following new functions are added, in both single-precision and double-precision function groups:

- exp2
- exp2m1
- log21p
- log2

For more information about the vector libraries, see Using the vector libraries in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

SIMD libraries

The MASS SIMD library **libmass_simdp7.a** contains an accelerated set of frequently used math built-in functions that provide improved performance over the corresponding standard system library functions.

For more information about the SIMD libraries, see Using the SIMD library for POWER7 in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

POWER7 hardware built-ins

New hardware built-in functions are added to support the following POWER7 processor features:

- New POWER7 prefetch extensions and cache control
- New POWER7 hardware instructions

For more information, see "Built-in functions" on page 46.

New compiler options for POWER7 processors

New arch and tune compiler options

The **-qarch** compiler option specifies the processor architecture for which code is generated. The **-qtune** compiler option tunes instruction selection, scheduling, and other architecture-dependent performance enhancements to run best on a specific hardware architecture.

-qarch=pwr7 produces object code containing instructions that will run on the POWER7 hardware platforms. With **-qtune=pwr7**, optimizations are tuned for the POWER7 hardware platforms.

For more information, see -qarch in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* and -qtune in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

C++11 features

XL C/C++, V11.1 introduces support for selected features of C++11, which is a new C++ programming language standard.

Note: IBM supports selected features of C++11, known as C++0x before its ratification. IBM will continue to develop and implement the features of this standard. The implementation of the language level is based on IBM's interpretation of the standard. Until IBM's implementation of all the C++11 features is complete, including the support of a new C++11 standard library, the implementation might change from release to release. IBM makes no attempt to maintain compatibility, in source, binary, or listings and other compiler interfaces, with earlier releases of IBM's implementation of the new C++11 features.

The following features are introduced in XL C/C++, V11.1:

- Auto type deduction
- C99 `long long`
- C99 preprocessor features adopted in C++11
- Decltype
- Delegating constructors
- Explicit instantiation declarations
- Extended friend declarations
- Inline namespace definitions
- Static assertion
- Variadic templates

You can use the **-qlanglvl=extended0x** option to enable most of the C++ features and all the currently-supported C++11 features. For details, see -qlanglvl in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Auto type deduction

With the auto type deduction feature, you no longer need to specify a type while declaring a variable. This is because auto type deduction delegates the task of deducting the type of an auto variable to the compiler from the type of its initializer expression.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=autotypededuction** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "The auto type specifier (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

C99 `long long`

The C++ compiler can use the C99 `long long` feature, which improves source compatibility between the C and C++ languages.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=c99longlong** option to enable the C99 `long long` feature.

IBM After this feature is enabled, if a decimal integer literal that does not have a suffix containing `u` or `U` cannot be represented by the `long long int` type, you can decide whether to use the `unsigned long long int` type to represent the literal or not by specifying the `-qlanglvl=[no]extendedintegersafe` option.

For more information, see "Integer literals" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

C99 preprocessor features adopted in C++11

With several C99 preprocessor features adopted in C++11, C and C++ compilers provide a more common preprocessor interface, which can ease porting C source files to the C++ compiler, eliminate semantic differences between the C and C++ preprocessors, and avoid preprocessor compatibility issues or diverging preprocessor behaviors.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=c99preprocessor** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "C99 preprocessor features adopted in C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Decltype

With the decltype feature, you can get a type that is based on the resultant type of a possibly type-dependent expression.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=decltype** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "The decltype(expression) type specifier (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Delegating constructors

With the delegating constructors feature, you can concentrate common initializations in one constructor, which makes programs more readable and maintainable.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=delegatingctors** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Delegating constructors (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Explicit instantiation declarations

With the explicit instantiation declarations feature, you can suppress the implicit instantiation of a template specialization or its members.

You can use the individual suboption **-qlanglvl=externtemplate** or the group options **-qlanglvl=extended** or **-qlanglvl=extended0x** to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Explicit instantiation (C++ only)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Extended friend declarations

The extended friend declarations feature relaxes the syntax rules governing friend declarations as follows:

- Template parameters, `typedef` names, and basic types can be declared as friends.
- The class-key in the context for friend declarations is no longer necessary in C++11.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=extendedfriend** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Friends (C++ only)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Inline namespace definitions

Inline namespace definitions are namespace definitions with an initial `inline` keyword. You can define or specialize the members of an inline namespace as if they belong to the enclosing namespace that contains the inline namespace.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=inlinenamespace** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Inline namespace definitions (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Static assertion

The static assertion feature provides you with the following benefits:

- Libraries can detect common usage errors at compile time.
- Implementations of the C++ Standard Library can detect and diagnose common usage errors, thus improving usability.

You can use a static_assert declaration to check important program invariants at compile time.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=static_assert** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "static_assert declaration (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Variadic templates

With the variadic templates feature, you can define class or function templates that have any number (including zero) of parameters.

You can use the **-qlanglvl=variadic[templates]** option to enable this feature.

For more information, see "Variadic templates (C++11)" in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

Related information in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*

-qlanglvl

Performance and optimization

Additional features and enhancements assist with performance tuning and application optimization.

Enhancements to -qpdf

The use of the **-qpdf** option consists of two steps. First, compile your program with the **-qpdf1** option and run it with a typical set of data to generate the profiling data. Second, compile your program again with the **-qpdf2** option to optimize the program based on the profiling data.

In previous releases, if you modify the source files and compile them with the **-qpdf2** option, the compilation stops with an error. As of XL C/C++ for AIX, V11.1, the compiler issues a list of warnings but the compilation does not stop. This allows you to continue using the profiling data after modifying the source files.

Some new suboptions are added to the **-qpdf** option. You can use these new suboptions to get more control over performance improvements and enhance **-qpdf** to support cache-miss profiling and extended value profiling.

The new **-qpdf** suboptions are:

level Supports cache-miss profiling, value profiling, block-counter profiling, and call-counter profiling. You can compile your program with **-qpdf1=level=0|1|2** to specify the type of profiling information to be generated by the resulting application.

exename
Specifies the name of the generated PDF file according to the output file name specified by the **-o** option.

defname
Reverts the PDF file to its default file name.

For detailed information about these suboptions, see -qpdf1, -qpdf2 in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Reports about compiler optimizations

There are a number of enhancements to the listing reports to give you more information about how the compiler optimizes your code. You can use this information to get further benefits from the optimization capabilities of the compiler. For more details about these enhanced reports, see "New diagnostic reports" on page 39.

Performance-related compiler options and directives

The entries in the following table describe new or changed compiler options and directives.

Information presented here is a brief overview. For detailed information about these options, directives, and other performance-related compiler options, see "Optimization and tuning options" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Table 5. Performance-related compiler options and directives

-qfuncsect	An enhancement added to **-qfuncsect** is to improve linker garbage collection of functions with XL C/C++ programs. **-qfuncsect** places instructions for each function in a separate object file control section or CSECT which might reduce the size of your program. Placing each function in its own CSECT enables the linker to perform garbage collection on a per function basis rather than per object file. For details, see the -qfuncsect section in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Table 5. Performance-related compiler options and directives (continued)

-qhot	Two suboptions **-qhot=fastmath** and **-qhot=nofastmath** are added to **-qhot**, to tune your applications to use the fast scalar versions of the math routines or to use the default versions. **-qhot=level=2** is also added for loop transformation analysis of nested loops. For details, see the -qhot section in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.
-qinline=level=*number*	A new option is added to -qinline to provide guidance to the compiler about the relative value of inlining in relation to the default value of 5.*number* is a range of integer values 0 - 10 that indicates the level of inlining you want to use. For details, see -qinline in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.
-qipa	A new enhancement added to **-qipa** is `-r -qipa=relink`. You can generate relinkable objects while preserving IPA information by specifying `-r -qipa=relink`. This creates a nonexecutable package that contains all object files. By using this suboption, you can postpone linking until the last stage. **-qipa=clonearch** is no longer supported. Consider using **-qtune=balanced**. For detailed information, see -qipa section in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.
-qpdf	**-qpdf** provides suboptions to give you more control flexibility in controlling different PDF optimizations. For more information, see the -qpdf1, -qpdf2 section in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.
-qprefetch	A new enhancement is added to **-qprefetch** for inserting prefetch instructions automatically where there are opportunities to improve code performance: `-qprefetch=assistthread`. For details, see -qprefetch in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

For additional information about performance tuning and program optimization, see "Optimizing your applications" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

New diagnostic reports

The new diagnostic reports can help you identify opportunities to improve the performance of your code.

Compiler reports in XML format

It is now possible to get information in XML format about the optimizations that the compiler was able to perform and also which optimization opportunities were missed. This information can be used to reduce programming effort for tuning applications, especially high-performance applications.

The information from the compiler is produced in XML 1.0 format. The report is defined by an XML schema and is easily consumable by tools that you can create to read and analyze the results. A stylesheet, `xlstyle.xsl`, is provided to render the report into a human readable format that can be read by anyone with a browser which supports XSLT.

In this release, the following four optimization categories are available in the report:

- Inlining
- Loop transformations
- Data reorganizations
- Profile-directed feedback information

The new **-qlistfmt** option and its associated suboptions can be used to generate the new XML 1.0 report.

For detailed information about this report and how to use it, see "Using reports to diagnose optimization opportunities" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Enhancements to profiling reports

New sections have been added to your listing file to help you analyze your programs. When using the **-qreport** option with the **-qpdf2** option, you can get the following sections added to the listing file in the section entitled `PDF Report`:

Loop iteration count
: The most frequent loop iteration count and the average iteration count, for a given set of input data, is calculated for most loops in a program. This information is only available when the program is compiled at optimization level -O5.

Block and call count
: This section of the report covers the call structure of the program and the respective execution count for each called function. It also includes block information for each function. For non-user defined functions, only execution count is given. The total block and call coverage, and a list of the user functions ordered by decreasing execution count are printed in the end of this report section. In addition, the block count information is printed at the beginning of each block of the pseudo-code in the listing files.

Cache miss
: This section of the report is printed in a single table. It reports the number of cache misses for certain functions, with additional information about the functions such as: cache level, cache miss ratio, line number, file name, and memory reference.

  Note: You must use the **-qpdf1=level=2** option to get this report. You can also select the level of cache to profile using the **PDF_PM_EVENT** environment variable during run time.

For detailed information about profile-directed feedback, see "Using profile-directed feedback" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

For additional information about the listing files, see "Compiler listings" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Report of data reorganization

The compiler can generate the following information in the listing files:

- Data reorganizations (a summary of how program variable data gets reorganized by the compiler)

- The location of data prefetch instructions inserted by the compiler

To generate data reorganization information, specify the optimization level **-qipa=level=2** or **-O5** together with **-qreport**. The data reorganization messages for program variable data are added to the data reorganization section of the listing file with the label `DATA REORGANIZATION SECTION` during the IPA link pass. Reorganizations include:

- array splitting
- array transposing
- memory allocation merging
- array interleaving
- array coalescing

To generate information about data prefetch insertion locations, use the optimization level of **-qhot**, or any other option that implies **-qhot** together with **-qreport**. This information appears in the `LOOP TRANSFORMATION SECTION` of the listing file.

Additional loop analysis

A new suboption has been added to **-qhot** to add more aggressive loop analysis. **-qhot=level=2** together with **-qsmp** and **-qreport** add information about loop nests on which the aggressive loop analysis was performed to the `LOOP TRANSFORMATION SECTION` of the listing file. This information can also appear in the XML listing file created with the **-qlistfmt** option.

New and enhanced diagnostic options

The entries in the following table describe new or changed compiler options and directives that give you control over compiler listings.

Information presented here is a brief overview. For detailed information about these and other performance-related compiler options, see "Listings, messages and compiler information" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Table 6. Listings-related compiler options and directives

Option/directive	Description
-qlistfmt	Generates a report in an XML 1.0 format containing information about optimizations performed by the compiler and missed optimization opportunities. The report contains information about inlining, loop transformations, data reorganization and profile-directed feedback.
-qreport	The listing now contains a `PDF report` section when used with **-qpdf2**. Another new section in the listing files is a `DATA REORGANIZATION` section when used with **-qipa=level=2** or **-O5**.
-qskipsrc	Determines whether the source statements skipped by the compiler are shown in the `SOURCE` section of the listing file.

Utilization tracking and reporting tool

The utilization tracking and reporting feature is a lightweight and simple mechanism for tracking the compiler utilization within your organization. It is disabled by default. You can use this feature to detect whether your organization's use of the compiler exceeds your compiler license entitlements.

When utilization tracking is enabled, each invocation of the compiler is recorded in a compiler utilization file. You can run the utilization reporting tool to generate a report from one or more of these files to get a picture of the overall usage of the compiler within your organization. The **urt** command can be used to control how the report is generated. In particular, the report indicates the number of concurrent users using the compiler.

The utilization tracking and reporting feature is easy to set up and manage, and utilization tracking does not impact the usage or performance of the compiler.

For detailed information about the utilization tracking and reporting feature, see "Tracking and reporting compiler usage" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

New or changed compiler options and directives

This section describes new and changed compiler options and directives in XL C/C++, V11.1.

You can specify compiler options on the command line. You can also modify compiler behavior through pragma directives embedded in your application source files. See the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for detailed descriptions and usage information for these and other compiler options.

Table 7. New or changed compiler options and directives

Option or directive	Description
-qarch	A new suboption has been added to **-qarch**, specifying **-qarch=pwr7** produces object code that contains instructions that run on the POWER7 hardware platforms.
-qassert	**-qassert** is a new option for XL C/C++. It is used to provide information about the characteristics of the files that can help to fine-tune optimizations.
-qconcurrentupdate	If you are building kernel extensions, you must use **-qconcurrentupdate** to enable hot patching. For details, see -qconcurrentupdate in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.
-qfuncsect	In previous releases,**-qfuncsect** had minimal size reductions for C++ programs. You can see a significant improvement in the current release.
-qfunctrace	Traces the entry and exit points of functions in a compilation unit or only for a specific list of functions.

Table 7. New or changed compiler options and directives (continued)

Option or directive	Description
-qhot	A new suboption has been added for **-qhot**. The **-qhot** compiler option is a powerful alternative to hand tuning that provides opportunities to optimize loops and array language. The **-qhot=fastmath** option enables the replacement of math routines with available math routines from the XLOPT library only if **-qstrict=nolibrary** is enabled. **-qhot=nofastmath** disables the replacement of math routines by the XLOPT library. -qhot=fastmath is enabled by default if -qhot is specified regardless of the hot level.
-qinline	Attempts to inline functions instead of generating calls to those functions, for improved performance.
-qipa	You can generate relinkable objects while preserving IPA information by specifying **-r -qipa=relink**.
-qkeepinlines	A new suboption **exports** has been added to the **-qkeepinlines** option. You can use **-qkeepinlines=exports** to make sure that the compiler keeps the list of symbols and their definitions from the shared object file compiled with an earlier version of the compiler.

Table 7. New or changed compiler options and directives (continued)

Option or directive	Description
-qlanglvl	C++11 New suboptions have been added to **-qlanglvl**: • **-qlanglvl=autotypededuction**: Controls whether the auto type deduction feature is enabled. This feature can be used to delegate the task of type deduction of an auto variable to the compiler from the type of its initializer expression. • **-qlanglvl=c99longlong**: Controls whether the C99 `long long` feature is enabled. This feature improves source compatibility between the C and C++ languages. • **-qlanglvl=c99preprocessor**: Controls whether the C99 preprocessor features adopted in C++11 are enabled. This feature can be used to provide a more common preprocessor interface for C and C++ compilers. • **-qlanglvl=decltype**: Controls whether the decltype feature is enabled. This feature can be used to get a type that is based on the resultant type of a possibly type-dependent expression. • **-qlanglvl=delegatingctors**: Controls whether the delegating constructors feature is enabled. This feature can be used to concentrate common initializations in one constructor. • **-qlanglvl=extendedfriend**: Controls whether the extended friend declarations feature is enabled. This feature can be used to accept additional forms of non-function friend declarations. • IBM **-qlanglvl=extendedintegersafe**: Controls whether or not `unsigned long long int` can be used as the type for decimal integer literals that do not have a suffix containing `u` or `U` and cannot be represented by the `long long int` type. This option takes effect only when the **-qlanglvl=c99longlong** option is specified. • **-qlanglvl=externtemplate**: Controls whether the explicit instantiation declarations feature is enabled. This feature can be used to suppress the implicit instantiation of a template specialization or its members. • **-qlanglvl=inlinenamespace**: Controls whether the inline namespace definitions feature is enabled. This feature can be used to define and specialize members of an inline namespace as if they were also members of the enclosing namespace. • **-qlanglvl=static_assert**: Controls whether the static assertions feature is enabled. This feature can be used to produce compile-time assertions for which a severe error message is issued on failure. • **-qlanglvl=variadic[templates]**: Controls whether the variadic templates feature is enabled. This feature can be used to define class or function templates that have any number (including zero) of parameters.

Table 7. New or changed compiler options and directives (continued)

Option or directive	Description
-qlibmpi	Tunes code based on the known behavior of the Message Passing Interface (MPI) functions.
-qlistfmt	Generates a report in an XML 1.0 format containing information about some optimizations performed by the compiler and some missed optimization opportunities for inlining, loop transformations, profile-directed feedback, and data reorganization.
-qnamemangling	There is a new namemangling scheme for this release.
-qpdf1,-qpdf2	New suboptions have been added to **-qpdf1,-qpdf2**.
-qprefetch	A new suboption has been added to **-qprefetch**. When you work with applications that generate a high cache-miss rate, you can use **-qprefetch=assistthread** to exploit assist threads for data prefetching.
-qrestrict (C only)	You can use **-qrestrict** to indicate to the compiler that no other pointer can access the same memory that has been addressed by function parameter pointers.
-qsaveopt | -qnosaveopt	The existing **-qsaveopt** option is enhanced to also include the user's configuration file name and the options specified in the configuration files.
-qsimd	Controls whether the compiler can automatically take advantage of vector instructions for processors that support them.
-qskipscrc	When a listing file is generated using the **-qsource** option, you can use **-qskipsrc** to control whether the source statements skipped by the compiler are shown in the source section of the listing file. Alternatively, you can use the **-qskipsrc=hide** option to hide the source statements skipped by the compiler.
-qstackprotect	Protects your applications against malicious code or programming errors that overwrite or corrupt the stack.
-qstrict	A new suboption has been added to the **-qstrict** option to allow more control over optimizations and transformations that violate strict program semantics. **-qstrict=vectorprecision** disables vectorization in loops where it might produce different results in vectorized iterations than in nonvectorized ones.
-qtune	A new suboption has been added to **-qtune**. If you specify **-qtune=pwr7**, optimizations are tuned for the POWER7 hardware platforms.

Table 8. Deprecated directives and options

Option or directive	Description
#pragma ibm critical	This directive is deprecated and might be removed in a future release. You can use the OpenMP equivalent.
#pragma ibm parallel_loop	This directive is deprecated and might be removed in a future release. You can use the OpenMP equivalent.

Table 8. Deprecated directives and options (continued)

Option or directive	Description
#pragma ibm schedule	This directive is deprecated and might be removed in a future release. You can use the OpenMP equivalent.
-Q	This option is deprecated and replaced with **-qinline**.
-qenablevmx	This option is deprecated and replaced with the **-qsimd=auto** option.
-qhot=simd | nosimd	**-qhot=simd | nosimd** are deprecated and might be removed in a future release. You can use **-qsimd**.
-qinfo=private	**-qinfo=private** is deprecated and replaced with **-qreport**.
-qinfo=reduction	**-qinfo=reduction** is deprecated and replaced with **-qreport**.
-qipa=inline | noinline	**-qipa=inline | noinline** are deprecated and might be removed in a future release. You can use **-qinline**.
-qipa=clonearch | noclonearch	**-qipa=clonearch | noclonearch** is no longer supported. You can use **-qtune=balanced**.
-qipa=clonearch | noclonearch	**-qipa=cloneproc | nocloneproc** is no longer supported. You can use **-qtune=balanced**.

Built-in functions

This section lists built-in functions that are new for XL C/C++, V11.1.

For more information about built-in functions provided by XL C/C++, see Compiler built-in functions in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

VSX built-in functions

Vector Scalar eXtension (VSX) is newly added for POWER7 processors.

For more information about VSX built-in functions, see Vector built-in functions.

POWER7 prefetch extensions and cache control

The POWER7 processor has cache control and stream prefetch extensions that support store stream prefetch and prefetch depth control. XL C/C++ provides the following new built-in functions to provide direct programmer access to these instructions:

- `__protected_stream_stride`
- `__transient_protected_stream_count_depth`
- `__unlimited_protected_stream_depth`
- `__transient_unlimited_protected_stream_depth`
- `__partial_dcbt`
- `__dcbtt`
- `__dcbtstt`
- `__dcbflp`

The compiler can insert the built-in functions automatically when it optimizes the code. You can disable automatic use of these instructions with **-qnoprefetch**.

For more information about the directives, see built-in functions in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

POWER7 hardware built-in functions

New XL C/C++ built-in functions corresponding to each new POWER7 hardware instruction are added in this release. With these functions, you can directly manipulate specific hardware instructions in your code, which can improve the performance of your application.

- `__bpermd`
- `__cbcdtd`
- `__cdtbcd`
- `__load8r`
- `__store8r`
- `__divde`
- `__divdeu`
- `__cmpb`
- `__divwe`
- `__divweu`
- `__addg6s`

Conversion functions

These new functions convert between Declets and Binary Coded Decimal.

- `__cbcdtd`
- `__cdtbcd`

Comparison functions

This new function compares bytes.

- `__cmpb`

Decimal floating-point functions

This new function adds and generates sixes.

- `__addg6s`

Compatibility of redistributable library libxlopt.a

Starting from V11.1, backwards compatibility of the redistributable library, libxlopt.a, will be maintained. The libxlopt.a library of a higher release will be compatible with the XL C/C++ for AIX, V11.1 compiler and the releases in between.

Previously, the version of the redistributable library had to be the same as the version of the compiler with which the application was compiled.

You can download and use the latest redistributable library for multiple applications compiled with XL C/C++ for AIX, V11.1 or later.

For more information about the redistributable libraries, see Redistributable libraries in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Chapter 5. Setting up and customizing XL C/C++

For complete prerequisite and installation information for XL C/C++, see "Before installing XL C/C++" in the *XL C/C++ Installation Guide*.

Using custom compiler configuration files

You can customize compiler settings and options by modifying the default configuration file or creating your own configuration file.

You have the following options to customize compiler settings:

- The XL C/C++ compiler installation process creates a default compiler configuration file. You can directly modify this configuration file to add default options for specific needs. However, if you later apply updates to the compiler, you must reapply all of your modifications to the newly installed configuration file.
- You can create your own custom configuration file that either overrides or complements the default configuration file. The compiler can recognize and resolve compiler settings that you specify in your custom configuration files with compiler settings that are specified in the default configuration file. Compiler updates that might later affect settings in the default configuration file do not affect the settings in your custom configuration files.

For more information, see "Using custom compiler configuration files" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Configuring compiler utilization tracking and reporting

In addition to the compiler configuration file, there is a separate configuration file for the utilization tracking and reporting feature. Utilization tracking is disabled by default, but you can enable it by modifying an entry in this configuration file. Various other aspects of utilization tracking can also be configured using this file.

Although the compiler configuration file is separate from the utilization tracking configuration file, it contains an entry that specifies the location of the utilization tracking configuration file so that the compiler can find this file.

For more information about how to configure the utilization tracking and reporting feature, see Tracking and reporting compiler usage in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Chapter 6. Developing applications with XL C/C++

C/C++ application development consists of repeating cycles of editing, compiling, linking, and running. By default, compiling and linking are combined into a single step.

Notes:

- Before you use the compiler, ensure that XL C/C++ is properly installed and configured. For more information, see the *XL C/C++ Installation Guide*.
- To learn about writing C/C++ programs, refer to the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

The compiler phases

A typical compiler invocation executes some or all of these activities in sequence. For link time optimizations, some activities are executed more than once during a compilation. As each compilation component runs, the results are sent to the next step in the sequence.

1. Preprocessing of source files
2. Compilation, which might consist of the following phases, depending on what compiler options are specified:
   a. Front-end parsing and semantic analysis
   b. High-level optimization
   c. Low-level optimization
   d. Register allocation
   e. Final assembly
3. Assembling the assembly (**.s**) files and the unpreprocessed assembler (**.S**) files after they are preprocessed
4. Object linking to create an executable application

To see the compiler step through these phases, specify the **-v** compiler option when you compile your application. To see the amount of time the compiler spends in each phase, specify **-qphsinfo**.

Editing C/C++ source files

To create C/C++ source programs, you can use any text editor available to your system, such as **vi** or **emacs**.

Source programs must be saved using a recognized file name suffix. See "XL C/C++ input and output files" on page 54 for a list of suffixes recognized by XL C/C++.

For a C or C++ source program to be a valid program, it must conform to the language definitions specified in the *XL C/C++ Language Reference*.

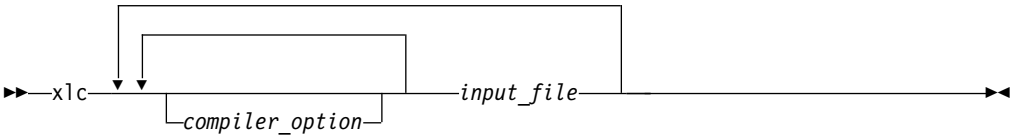
Compiling with XL C/C++

XL C/C++ is a command-line compiler. Invocation commands and options can be selected according to the needs of a particular C/C++ application.

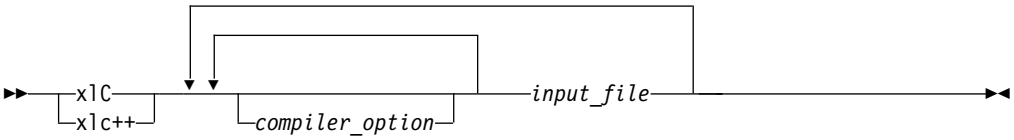
Invoking the compiler

The compiler invocation commands perform all necessary steps to compile C/C++ source files or preprocessed files (`.i` or `.ii`), assemble any **.s** and **.S** files, and link the object files and libraries into an executable program.

To compile a C source program, use the following basic invocation syntax:



To compile a C++ source program, use the following basic invocation syntax:



For most applications, compile with **xlc**, **xlC** or a threadsafe counterpart. You can use **xlC** to compile either C or C++ program source, but compiling C++ files with **xlc** might result in link or runtime errors because libraries required for C++ code are not specified when the linker is called by the C compiler.

More invocation commands are available to meet specialized compilation needs, primarily to provide explicit compilation support for different levels and extensions of the C or C++ language. For more information about available compiler invocation commands, including special invocations that are intended to assist developers in migrating from a GNU compilation environment to XL C/C++, see "Invoking the compiler" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Compiling parallelized XL C/C++ applications

XL C/C++ provides threadsafe compiler invocation commands to compile parallelized applications for use in multiprocessor environments.

These invocations are similar to their corresponding base compiler invocations, except that they link and bind compiled objects to threadsafe components and libraries. The generic XL C/C++ threadsafe compiler invocations are as follows:

- xlC_r, xlC_r7, xlC128_r, xlC128_r7
- xlc++_r, xlc++_r7, xlc++128_r, xlc++128_r7
- xlc_r, xlc_r7, xlc128_r, xlc128_r7

XL C/C++ provides additional threadsafe invocations to meet specific compilation requirements. For more information, see "Invoking the compiler" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Note: Using any of these commands alone does not imply parallelization. For the compiler to recognize SMP or OpenMP directives and activate parallelization, you must also specify the **-qsmp** compiler option. In turn, you should specify the

-qsmp option only when threadsafe invocations are used. When you specify **-qsmp**, the driver links the libraries that are specified on the smp libraries line in the active stanza of the configuration file.

For more information about parallelized applications, see "Parallelizing your programs" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Specifying compiler options

Compiler options perform a variety of functions, such as setting compiler characteristics, describing the object code to be produced, controlling the diagnostic messages emitted, and performing some preprocessor functions.

You can specify compiler options in one or any combination of the following ways:

- On the command-line with command-line compiler options
- In your source code using directive statements
- In a makefile
- In the stanzas found in a compiler configuration file

You can also pass options to the linker, assembler, and preprocessor.

For more information about compiler options and their usage, see "Compiler options reference" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Priority sequence of compiler options

Option conflicts and incompatibilities might occur when multiple compiler options are specified. To resolve these conflicts in a consistent fashion, the compiler usually applies the following general priority sequence to most options:

1. Directive statements in your source file *override* command-line settings.
2. Command-line compiler option settings *override* configuration file settings.
3. Configuration file settings *override* default settings.

Generally, if the same compiler option is specified more than once on a command-line when the compiler is invoked, the last option specified prevails.

Note: Some compiler options, such as the **-I** option, do not follow the priority sequence described above. The compiler searches any directories specified with **-I** in the xlc.cfg file before it searches the directories specified with **-I** on the command-line. The **-I** option is cumulative rather than preemptive.

Reusing GNU C/C++ compiler options with gxlc and gxlc++

XL C/C++ includes various features to help you transition from GNU C/C++ compilers to XL C/C++, including the gxlc and gxlc++ commands.

Each of the gxlc and gxlc++ utilities accepts GNU C or C++ compiler options and translates them into comparable XL C/C++ options. Both utilities use the XL C/C++ options to create an **xlc** or **xlc++** invocation command, which is then used to invoke the compiler. These utilities are provided to help you reuse makefiles created for applications previously developed with GNU C/C++. However, to fully exploit the capabilities of XL C/C++, you can use the XL C/C++ invocation commands and their associated options.

The actions of gxlc and gxlc++ are controlled by the `gxlc.cfg` configuration file. The GNU C/C++ options that have an XL C/C++ counterpart are shown in this

file. Not every GNU option has a corresponding XL C/C++ option. gxlc and gxlc++ return warnings for input options that were not translated.

The gxlc and gxlc++ option mappings are modifiable. For information about using the gxlc or gxlc++ configuration file, see "Reusing GNU C/C++ compiler options with gxlc and gxlc++ " in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* .

XL C/C++ input and output files

The topic describes the file types that are recognized by XL C/C++.

For detailed information about these and additional file types used by the compiler, see "Types of input files" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* and "Types of output files" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Table 9. Input file types

Filename extension	Description
.a	Archive or library files
.c	C source files
.C, .cc, .cp, .cpp, .cxx, .c++	C++ source files
.i	Preprocessed source files
.o	Object files
.s	Assembler files
.S	Unpreprocessed assembler files
.so	Shared object files

Table 10. Output file types

Filename extension	Description
a.out	Default name for executable file created by the compiler
.d	Target file suitable for inclusion in a makefile
.i	Preprocessed source files
.lst	Listing files
.o	Object files
.s	Assembler files
.so	Shared object files
.u	Make dependency files

Linking your compiled applications with XL C/C++

By default, you do not need to do anything special to link an XL C/C++ program. The compiler invocation commands automatically call the linker to produce an executable output file.

For example, you can use `xlc++` to compile `file1.C` and `file3.C` to produce object files `file1.o` and `file3.o`; after that, all object files, including `file2.o`, are submitted to the linker to produce one executable.

```
xlc++ file1.C file2.o file3.C
```

Compiling and linking in separate steps

To produce object files that can be linked later, use the **-c** option.

```
xlc++ -c file1.C              # Produce one object file (file1.o)
xlc++ -c file2.C file3.C      # Or multiple object files (file1.o, file3.o)
xlc++ file1.o file2.o file3.o  # Link object files with default libraries
```

For more information about compiling and linking your programs, see the following topics:

- "Linking" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- "Constructing a library" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*

Relinking an existing executable file

The linker accepts executable files as input, so you can link an existing executable file with updated object files.

You cannot, however, relink executable files that were previously linked using the **-qipa** option.

If you have a program consisting of several source files and only make localized changes to some of the source files, you do not necessarily have to compile each file again. Instead, you can include the executable file as the last input file when compiling the changed files:

```
xlc -omansion front_door.c entry_hall.c parlor.c sitting_room.c \
  master_bath.c kitchen.c dining_room.c pantry.c utility_room.c

vi kitchen.c # Fix problem in OVEN function

xlc -o newmansion kitchen.c mansion
```

Limiting the number of files to compile and link the second time reduces the compile time, disk activity, and memory use.

Note: You should avoid this type of linking unless you are experienced with linking. If done incorrectly, it can result in interface errors and other problems. If you do encounter problems, compiling with the **-qextchk** compiler option can help you diagnose problems with linking.

Dynamic and static linking

You can use XL C/C++ to take advantage of the operating system facilities for both dynamic and static linking.

Dynamic linking means that the code for some external routines is located and loaded when the program is first run. When you compile a program that uses shared libraries, the shared libraries are dynamically linked to your program by default. Dynamically linked programs take up less disk space and less virtual memory if more than one program uses the routines in the shared libraries. During linking, they do not require any special precautions to avoid naming conflicts with library routines. They might perform better than statically linked programs if several programs use the same shared routines at the same time. By using dynamic linking, you can upgrade the routines in the shared libraries without relinking. This form of linking is the default and no additional options are needed.

Static linking means that the code for all routines called by your program becomes part of the executable file. Statically linked programs can be moved to run on

systems without the XL C/C++ runtime libraries. They might perform better than dynamically linked programs if they make many calls to library routines or call many small routines. They do require some precautions in choosing names for data objects and routines in the program if you want to avoid naming conflicts with library routines.

Note: Dynamically and statically linked programs might not work if you compile them on one level of the operating system and run them on a different level of the operating system.

Running your compiled application

After a program is compiled and linked, you can run the generated executable file on the command line.

The default file name for the program executable file produced by the XL C/C++ compiler is **a.out**. You can select a different name with the **-o** compiler option.

You should avoid giving your program executable file the same name as system or shell commands, such as `test` or `cp`, as you could accidentally execute the wrong command. If you do decide to name your program executable file with the same name as a system or shell command, you should execute your program by specifying the path name to the directory in which your executable file resides, such as `./test`.

To run a program, enter the name of the program executable file together with any runtime arguments on the command line.

Canceling execution

To suspend a running program, press **Ctrl+Z** while the program is in the foreground. Use the **fg** command to resume running.

To cancel a running program, press **Ctrl+C** while the program is in the foreground.

Setting runtime options

You can use environment variable settings to control certain runtime options and behaviors of applications created with the XL C/C++ compiler. Some environment variables do not control actual runtime behavior, but they can have an impact on how your applications run.

For more information about environment variables and how they can affect your applications at run time, see the *XL C/C++ Installation Guide*.

Running compiled applications on other systems

In general, applications linked on a system using an earlier version of AIX can run with more recent versions of AIX. However, applications linked on a system using a newer version of AIX might not necessarily run with earlier versions of AIX.

If you want to run an application developed with the XL C/C++ compiler on another system that does not have the compiler installed, you need to install a runtime environment on that system or link your application statically.

You can obtain the latest XL C/C++ Runtime Environment images, together with licensing and usage information, from the XL C/C++ for AIX support page.

XL C/C++ compiler diagnostic aids

XL C/C++ issues diagnostic messages when it encounters problems compiling your application. You can use these messages and other information provided in compiler output listings to help identify and correct such problems.

For more information about listing, diagnostics, and related compiler options that can help you resolve problems with your application, see the following topics in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*:

- "Compiler messages and listings"
- "Error checking and debugging options"
- "Listings, messages, and compiler information options"

Debugging compiled applications

You can use a symbolic debugger to debug applications compiled with XL C/C++.

At compile time, you can use the **-g** or **-qlinedebug** option to instruct the XL C/C++ compiler to include debugging information in compiled output. For **-g**, you can also use different levels to balance between debug capability and compiler optimization. For more information about the debugging options, see "Error checking and debugging" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

You can then use **dbx**, the IBM Debugger for AIX, or any other symbolic debugger that supports the AIX XCOFF executable format to step through and inspect the behavior of your compiled application.

Optimized applications pose special challenges when you debug your applications. If you need to debug an optimized application, you can consider using the **-gN** form of the **-g** option along with any optimization options. This form of the **-g** option provides different levels of tradeoff between full optimization and full debugging support, depending on the value of N. For more information about optimizing your code, see "Debugging optimized code" in the *XL C/C++ Optimization and Programming Guide*.

Determining which level of XL C/C++ is being used

To display the version and release level of XL C/C++ that you are using, invoke the compiler with the **-qversion** compiler option.

For example, to obtain detailed version information, enter the following command:

```
xlc++ -qversion=verbose
```

Notices

Programming interfaces: Intended programming interfaces allow the customer to write programs to obtain the services of IBM XL C/C++ for AIX.

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