

IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux,
V9.0



Getting Started with XL C/C++

IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux,
V9.0



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Note!

Before using this information and the product it supports, be sure to read the general information under “Notices” on page 17.

First Edition

This edition applies to IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux on System p, V9.0 and IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux on x86 Systems, V9.0. (Programs 5724-T42 & 5724-T43)

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About this document

This document contains overview and basic usage information for the IBM® XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux®, V9.0 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, a basic knowledge of the C and C++ programming language, and basic knowledge of operating system commands. Programmers new to XL C/C++ can use this document to find information on the capabilities and features unique to the XL C/C++ compiler.

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 used in this document.” Additionally, unless indicated otherwise, text in this document pertains to compilation targeting both the PowerPC® Processing Unit (PPU) and Synergistic Processor Units (SPUs).

XL C/C++ provides several compiler invocation commands depending on source code language levels and whether you are compiling for the PowerPC Processor Unit (PPU) or Synergistic Processor Units (SPUs). However, for convenience, this document uses only the basic **ppuxlc**, **ppuxlc++**, **spuxlc**, and **spuxlc++** invocation commands to describe the actions of the C and C++ compiler.

While this document covers information on 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 options: see the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for detailed information on the syntax and usage of compiler options.
- The C or C++ programming languages: see the *XL C/C++ Language Reference* for information on the syntax, semantics, and IBM implementation of the C or C++ programming languages.

Conventions used in this document

Typographical conventions

The following table explains the typographical conventions used in this document.

Table 1. Typographical conventions

Typeface	Indicates	Example
bold	Lowercase commands, executable names, compiler options and directives.	If you specify -O3 , the compiler assumes -qhot=level=0 . To prevent all HOT optimizations with -O3 , you must specify -qnohot .

Table 1. Typographical conventions (continued)

Typeface	Indicates	Example
<i>italics</i>	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 <i>size</i> parameter if you return more than the <i>size</i> requested.
monospace	Programming keywords and library functions, compiler built-in functions, examples of program code, command strings, or user-defined names.	If one or two cases of a <code>switch</code> statement are typically executed much more frequently than other cases, break out those cases by handling them separately before the <code>switch</code> statement.

Icons

All features described in this document apply to both C and C++ languages. Where a feature is exclusive to one language, or where functionality differs between languages, the following icons are used:









The text describes a feature that is supported in the C language only; or describes behavior that is specific to the C language.



The text describes a feature that is supported in the C++ language only; or describes behavior that is specific to the C++ language.

Syntax diagrams



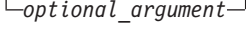

Throughout this document, diagrams illustrate XL C/C++ syntax. This section will help you to interpret and use those diagrams.

- 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):

 `keyword`  `required_argument` 

- Optional items are shown below the main path:

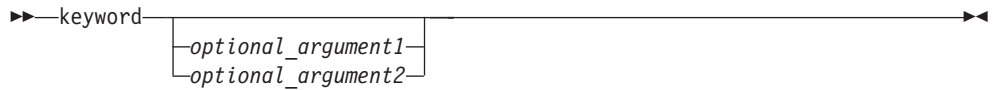
 `keyword`   `optional_argument` 

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

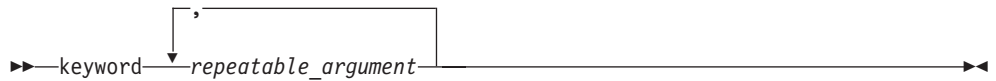
If you *must* choose one of the items, one item of the stack is shown on the main path.



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:



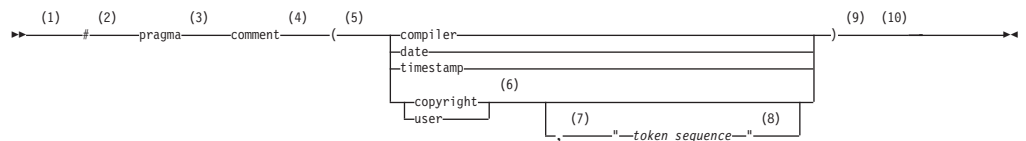
- The item that is the default is shown above the main path.



- 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")
```

Examples

The examples in this document, 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.

Related information

The following sections provide information on documentation related to XL C/C++:

- “IBM XL C/C++ publications”
- “Other IBM publications” on page ix
- “Other publications” on page ix

IBM XL C/C++ publications

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

- 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 *XL C/C++ Installation Guide*.

- PDF documents

PDF documents are located by default in the `/opt/ibmcmp/xlc/cbe/9.0/doc/en_US/pdf/` directory.

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

Table 2. XL C/C++ PDF files

Document title	PDF file name	Description
<i>IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0 Installation Guide, GC23-8520-00</i>	install.pdf	Contains information for installing XL C/C++ and configuring your environment for basic compilation and program execution.
<i>Getting Started with IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0, GC23-8518-00</i>	getstart.pdf	Contains an introduction to the XL C/C++ product, with information on setting up and configuring your environment, compiling and linking programs, and troubleshooting compilation errors.

Table 2. XL C/C++ PDF files (continued)

Document title	PDF file name	Description
<i>IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0 Compiler Reference, SC23-8516-00</i>	compiler.pdf	Contains information about the various compiler options, pragmas, macros, environment variables, and built-in functions.
<i>IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0 Language Reference, SC23-8519-00</i>	langref.pdf	Contains information about the C and C++ programming languages, as supported by IBM, including language extensions for portability and conformance to non-proprietary standards.
<i>IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0 Programming Guide, SC23-8517-00</i>	progguide.pdf	Contains information on advanced programming topics, such as application porting, library development, application optimization, and the XL C/C++ high-performance libraries.

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

More documentation related to XL C/C++ including redbooks, white papers, tutorials, and other articles, is available on the Web at:

<http://www.ibm.com/software/awdtools/xlcpp/library>

Other IBM publications

- *IBM C/C++ Language Extensions for Cell Broadband Engine Architecture*, available at <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/power/cell/documents.html>
- Specifications, white papers, and other technical documents for the Cell Broadband Engine™ architecture are available at http://www.ibm.com/chips/techlib/techlib.nsf/products/Cell_Broadband_Engine.
- The Cell Broadband Engine resource center, at <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/power/cell>, is the central repository for technical information, including articles, tutorials, programming guides, and educational resources.

Other publications

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

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 document or any other XL C/C++ documentation, send your comments by e-mail to compinfo@ca.ibm.com.

Be sure to include the name of the document, the part number of the document, 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 Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0 is an advanced, high-performance compiler that can be used for developing complex, computationally intensive programs.

This section discusses 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 Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0 is part of a larger family of IBM C, C++, and Fortran compilers.

These compilers are derived from a common code base that shares compiler function and optimization technologies on a variety of platforms and programming languages, such as IBM AIX®, IBM i5/OS®, selected Linux distributions, IBM z/OS®, and IBM z/VM® operating systems. 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.

IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0

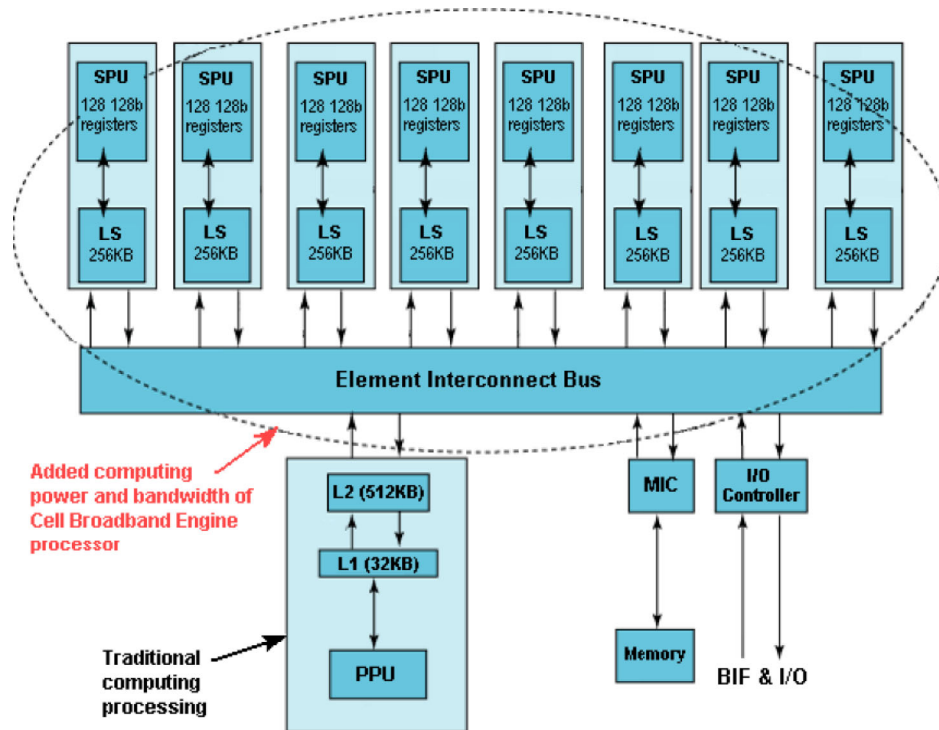
IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0 is the latest addition to the IBM XL family of compilers. It adopts proven high-performance compiler technologies used in its compiler family predecessors, and adds new features tailored to exploit the unique performance capabilities of processors compliant with the new Cell Broadband Engine architecture.

This version of XL C/C++ is a cross-compiler. First, you compile your applications on an x86 system or IBM System p™ compilation host running Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 Update 1 (RHEL 5.1). Then you move the executable application produced by the compiler onto a Cell/B.E.™ system also running the RHEL 5.1 Linux distribution. The Cell/B.E. system will be the execution host where you will actually run your compiled application.

About the Cell Broadband Engine architecture

The Cell Broadband Engine architecture specification describes a new single-chip multiprocessor designed to support media-intensive applications.

At the heart of the new multiprocessor is the PowerPC Processor Unit (PPU). The PPU is a 64-bit processor fully compliant with the Power Architecture™ standard, and capable of running both operating systems and applications. The multiprocessor also incorporates a set of eight Synergistic Processor Units (SPUs) into its design. The SPUs are optimized for running computationally intensive applications, operate independently of each other, and can access memory shared between all SPUs and the PPU.



In operation, the PPU runs the operating system and performs high-level application control, while the SPUs divide and perform an application's computational work between them.

For more information on the Cell Broadband Engine architecture, see "Cell Broadband Engine Architecture from 20,000 feet" at <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/power/library/pa-cbea.html>.

A highly configurable compiler

XL C/C++ offers you a wealth of features to let you tailor the compiler to your own unique compilation requirements.

Compiler invocation and linking commands

XL C/C++ compiles PPU and SPU program code in separate steps using compiler invocation commands targeted specifically for each type of program code.

Several versions of PPU-specific compiler invocation commands are provided. In most cases, you should compile using the basic **ppuxlc**, **ppuxlC**, or **ppuxlc++** compiler invocation commands, but other variants are also provided to help you meet special compilation needs.

SPU-specific invocation commands are also provided with **spuxlc**, **spuxlC**, **spuxlc++**, and their variants.

For detailed information about compiler invocation commands provided with XL C/C++, 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. Different categories of options help you to debug your

applications, optimize and tune application performance, select language levels and extensions for compatibility with non-standard features and behaviors supported by other C or C++ compilers, and perform many other common tasks that would otherwise require changing the source code.

XL C/C++ lets you 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*.

Language standards compliance

The compiler supports the following programming language specifications for C/C++:

- ISO/IEC 9899:1999 (C99)
- ISO/IEC 9899:1990 (referred to as C89)
- ISO/IEC 14882:2003 (referred to as Standard C++)
- ISO/IEC 14882:1998, the first official specification of the language (referred to as C++98)

In addition to the standardized language levels, XL C/C++ supports language extensions, including:

- Language extensions to support vector programming
- Language extensions to support SPU programming
- A subset of GNU C and C++ language extensions

The IBM XL C/C++ compiler contains a separate SPU cross-compiler that supports the standards defined in the following documents:

- C/C++ Language Extensions for Cell Broadband Engine Architecture V2.5
- Application Binary Interface (ABI) Specification V1.8
- SPU Instruction Set Architecture V1.2

IBM XL C/C++ supports all language extensions described in the "C/C++ Language Extensions for Cell BE Architecture V2.5" specification except for the following:

- Alignment of stack variables greater than 16 bytes as described in section 1.3.1
- Operator Overloading for Vector Data Types as described in section 10
- VMX functions `vec_extract`, `vec_insert`, `vec_promote`, and `vec_splats` as described in section 7
- PPE address space support on SPU (See the "IBM Software Development Toolkit for Multicore Acceleration Version 3.0 Programmer's Guide".)
- The `__builtin_expect_call` builtin function call
- The recommended vector `printf` format controls as specified in section 8.1.1 due to library restrictions
- The C99 complex math library as specified in section 8.1.1 due to library restrictions
- In C++ code, the XL C/C++ compiler currently supports mapping between SPU and VMX intrinsics as defined in section 5 only.

Compatibility with GNU

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

This support is available when the `ppugxlc`, `ppugxlC`, `ppugxlc++`, `spugxlc`, `spugxlC`, or `spugxlc++` invocation commands are 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.

These 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 better meet the needs of any unique compilation requirements you may have. See "Reusing GNU C/C++ compiler options with `gxlc` and `gxlc++`" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for more information.

XL C/C++ uses GNU C and GNU C++ header files together with the GNU C and C++ runtime libraries to produce code that is binary-compatible with that produced by the GNU Compiler Collection (GCC). Portions of an application can be built with XL C/C++ and combined with portions built with GCC to produce an application that behaves as if it had been built solely with GCC.

To achieve binary compatibility with GCC-compiled code, a program compiled with XL C/C++ includes the same headers as those used by a GNU compiler residing on the same system. To ensure that the proper versions of headers and runtime libraries are present on the system, the prerequisite GCC compiler must be installed before installing XL C/C++.

Some additional noteworthy points about this relationship are:

- IBM built-in functions coexist with GNU C built-ins.
- Compilation of C and C++ programs uses the GNU C and GNU C++ header files.
- Compilation uses the GNU assembler for assembler input files.
- Compiled C code is linked to the GNU C runtime libraries.
- Compiled C++ code is linked to the GNU C and GNU C++ runtime libraries.
- Debugging uses the `ppu-gdb` and `spu-gdb` debuggers provided with the IBM Software Developer Kit (SDK) for Multicore Acceleration V3.0.

Source-code migration and conformance checking

XL C/C++ helps protect your investment in your existing C/C++ source code by providing compiler invocation commands that instruct the compiler to compile your PPU application code to a specific language level. You can also use the `-qlanglvl` compiler option to specify a given language level, and the compiler will issue warnings, errors, and severe error messages if language or language extension elements in your program source do not conform to that language level.

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

Libraries

XL C/C++ ships with the following libraries:

- Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem (MASS) library of tuned mathematical intrinsic functions.

Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem library

The Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem (MASS) library consists of scalar and vector mathematical intrinsic functions tuned specifically for optimum performance on supported processor architectures, and SIMD mathematical intrinsic functions tuned specifically for the SPUs. 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, are thread-safe, and offer improved performance over the default `libm` math library routines. They are called automatically when you request specific levels of optimization for your application. You can also make explicit calls to MASS library functions regardless of whether optimization options are in effect or not.

See "Using the Mathematical Acceleration Subsystem" in the *XL C/C++ Programming Guide* for more information.

Tools and utilities

new_install

After you install IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0, running this utility will configure the compiler for use on your system.

xlc_configure

Use this utility if you need to update your compiler configuration file following SDK updates or if you want to create customized compiler configuration files.

cleanpdf command (PPU only)

A command related to profile-directed feedback (PDF), **cleanpdf** removes all profiling information from the directory to which profile-directed feedback data is written.

resetpdf command (PPU only)

The current behavior of the **cleanpdf** command is the same as the **resetpdf** command, and is retained for compatibility with earlier releases on other platforms.

ppugxlc and ppugxlc++ utilities

When compiling PPU code, you can use these invocation methods to translate a GNU C or GNU C++ invocation command and associated options into a corresponding **ppugxlc** or **ppugxlc++** compiler invocation. These utilities help minimize the number of changes to your existing GNU compiler makefiles to help you make the transition to using the XL C/C++ compiler. See "Reusing GNU C/C++ compiler options with **gxc** and **gxc++**" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for more information.

spugxlc and spugxlc++ utilities

When compiling SPU code, you can use these invocation methods to translate a GNU C or GNU C++ invocation command and associated options into a corresponding **spugxlc** or **spugxlc++** compiler invocation. These utilities help minimize the number of changes to your existing GNU compiler makefiles to help you make the transition to using the XL C/C++ compiler. See "Reusing GNU C/C++ compiler options with **gxc** and **gxc++**" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for more information.

Automated program analysis and transformations

Significant performance improvements are possible with relatively little development effort because the compiler is capable of performing sophisticated program analysis and transformation of your program code. For example, the compiler can:

Automatically generate code overlays for the SPUs

Specifying **-qipa=overlay** instructs the compiler to automatically generate code overlays for the SPUs that allow two or more code segments to be loaded at the same physical address as they are needed. This feature lets developers create SPU programs that would otherwise be too large to fit in the local memory store of the SPUs. In addition, the compiler also provides the **-qipa=overlayproc** and **-qipa=nooverlayproc** compiler options to give developers direct control over generation of code overlays.

See **Using automatic code overlays** in the *XL C/C++ Programming Guide* for more information.

Perform automatic SIMD vectorization of your program code

When the **-qhot=simd** compiler option is in effect, the compiler takes certain operations that are performed in a loop on successive elements of an array, and converts them into a call to a vector instruction. This call calculates several results at one time, which is faster than calculating each result sequentially. Applying this suboption is useful for applications with significant image processing demands.

Not all loops can be successfully vectorized. However, specifying the **-qreport** compiler option together with **-qhot=simd** will cause the compiler to generate diagnostic information that can help you improve the efficiency of your loops.

See for **-qhot** and **-qreport** in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for more information.

Use interprocedural analysis (IPA) to optimize across program files

IPA can result in significant performance improvements. You can specify interprocedural analysis on the compile step only or on both compile and link steps in "whole program" mode. Whole program mode expands the scope of optimization to an entire program unit, which can be an executable or shared object.

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

Program optimization

XL C/C++ provides several compiler options that can help you control the optimization of your programs. With these options, you can:

- Select different levels of compiler optimizations
- Control optimizations for loops, floating point, and other types of operations

XL C/C++ also provides optimization features specifically tailored to exploit the unique performance capabilities of Cell Broadband Engine processors, including specialized data types and highly optimized built-in functions that you can use in your application code to perform common computational needs.

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

- Reduce the number of instructions executed for critical operations.
- Restructure generated object code to make optimal use of the Cell Broadband Engine architecture.
- Improve the usage of the memory subsystem.

Note: For code targeting the SPU, we recommend compiling and linking with the **-O5** or **-qopt=5** compiler options to get the maximum performance from your application.

For more information, see:

- "Optimizing your applications" in the *XL C/C++ Programming Guide*
- "Optimization and tuning options" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- "Compiler built-in functions" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- *IBM C/C++ Language Extensions for Cell Broadband Engine Architecture*, available at <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/power/cell/documents.html>
- To read an article about optimizing performance, search the Power Architecture technical library at www.ibm.com/developerworks/views/power/library.jsp for "cell broadband tips".

Diagnostic listings

The compiler output listing can 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, refer to "Compiler messages and listings" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*.

Symbolic debugger support

You can instruct XL C/C++ to include debugging information in your compiled objects. That information can be examined by the debuggers provided by the IBM Software Developer Kit (SDK) for Multicore Acceleration V3.0 to help you debug your programs.

Chapter 2. Setting up and customizing XL C/C++

Setting up the IBM XL C/C++ for Multicore Acceleration for Linux, V9.0 compiler on your compilation host entails the following main steps:

1. Installing the IBM Software Developer Kit (SDK) for Multicore Acceleration V3.0 development tools on your compilation host.
2. Installing the XL C/C++ compiler and runtime environment on your compilation host.

To run completed applications, you will also need to install the SDK and the compiler runtime onto your execution host.

For complete prerequisite and installation information, refer to the *XL C/C++ Installation Guide*.

Chapter 3. Developing applications with XL C/C++

Basic C/C++ application development consists of repeating cycles of editing, compiling, linking, and running.

Note:

1. Before you can use the compiler, you must first ensure that XL C/C++ and the IBM Software Developer Kit (SDK) for Multicore Acceleration V3.0 are properly installed and configured. For more information see the *XL C/C++ Installation Guide*.
2. 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 the following activities in sequence. For link time optimizations, some activities will be executed more than once during a compilation. As each program runs, the results are sent to the next step in the sequence.

1. Preprocessing of source files
2. Compilation, which may 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. Assemble 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. Source programs must be saved using a recognized file name suffix. See the "XL C/C++ input and output files" on page 13 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++

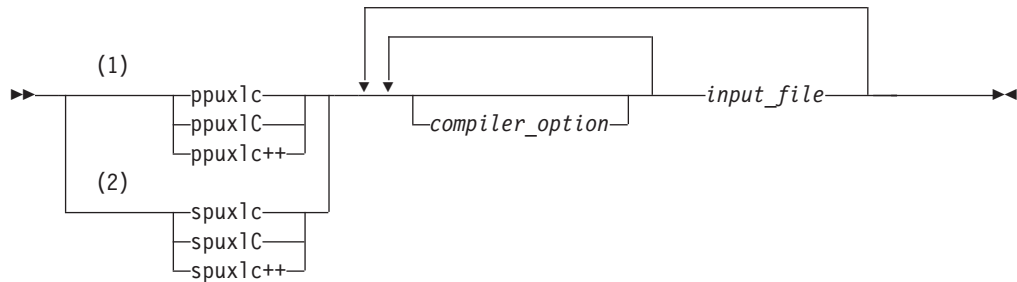
Compiling applications for a Cell/B.E. processor can involve multiple steps, depending on the complexity of your application. For a typical application compiling code for both the PPU and the SPU, you may need to:

1. Compile application code targeted to the PPU.

2. Compile application code targeted to the SPU, then embed the compiled SPU code into PPU code.
3. Perform the final PPU link.

Invoking the compiler

To compile a source program, use the basic invocation syntax shown below:



Notes:

- 1 Basic invocations to compile C and C++ PPU code.
- 2 Basic invocations to compile C and C++ SPU code.

Compile your application code using a compiler invocation command appropriate to the type of code you are compiling. XL C/C++ provides one set of compiler invocation commands for compiling PPU application code, and another set for compiling SPU application code. Application code targeted to the PPU must be compiled and linked using PPU-specific compiler invocations. Similarly, SPU-specific code must be compiled and linked using SPU-specific compiler invocations.

The compiler invocation commands perform all necessary steps to compile C or C++ source files and link the object files and libraries into an executable program. Compiled PPU executable objects can be run on the execution host, and will load compiled SPU executable objects at run time as required.

For new application work, you should compile with **ppuxlc**, **spuxlc**, **ppuxlc++**, **spuxlc++**, or a thread safe counterpart. You can use **ppuxlc++** or **spuxlc++** to compile either C or C++ program source, but compiling C++ files with **ppuxlc** or **spuxlc** may result in link or run time errors because libraries required for C++ code are not specified when the linker is called by the C compiler.

Additional 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. See "Invoking the Compiler" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for more information about compiler invocation commands available to you, including special invocations intended to assist developers migrating from a GNU compilation environment to XL C/C++.

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:

- 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
- Or by using any combination of these techniques

It is possible for option conflicts and incompatibilities to 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 invoking the compiler, the last option specified prevails.

Note: Some compiler options do not follow the priority sequence described above.

For example, the **-I** compiler option is a special case. The compiler searches any directories specified with **-I** in the `vac.cfg` file before it searches the directories specified with **-I** on the command-line. The option is cumulative rather than preemptive.

See the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for more information about compiler options and their usage.

You can also pass compiler options to the linker, assembler, and preprocessor. See "Compiler options reference" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference* for more information about compiler options and how to specify them.

XL C/C++ input and output files

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

Table 3. Input file types

Filename extension	Description
.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

Table 4. Output file types

Filename extension	Description
a.out	Default name for executable file created by the compiler
.d	Make dependency file
.i	Preprocessed source files

Table 4. Output file types (continued)

Filename extension	Description
.lst	Listing files
.o	Object files
.s	Assembler 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, running the following command:

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

compiles and produces the object files `file1.o` and `file3.o`, then all object files (including `file2.o`) are submitted to the linker to produce one executable.

Compiling and linking in separate steps

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

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

It is usually best to execute the linker through the compiler invocation command, because it passes additional `ppu-ld` or `spu-ld` options and library names to the linker automatically.

Embedding compiled SPU code into compiled PPU code

The following string of compiler commands shows how you might compile an application with both PPU and SPU program segments, and then embed the compiled SPU application code into the compiled PPU application code.

```
spuxlc++ -c spu_file.C
spuxlc++ -o spu_file spu_file.o
ppu32-embedspu spu_file spu_file-embed.o
ppuxlc++ -c ppu_file.C
ppuxlc++ ppu_file.o spu_file-embed.o
```

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

- "Linking" in the *XL C/C++ Compiler Reference*
- Documentation provided with the IBM Software Developer Kit (SDK) for Multicore Acceleration V3.0.

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

Specifying the **-g** or **-qlinedebug** compiler options at compile time instructs the XL C/C++ compiler to include debugging information in compiled output.

You can then use any symbolic debugger to step through and inspect the behavior of your compiled application.

Optimized applications pose special challenges when debugging. When debugging highly optimized applications, you should consider using the **-qoptdebug** compiler option. For more information about debugging, see "Optimizing your applications" in the *XL C/C++ Programming Guide*.

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- The C++ language is also consistent with the International Standard for Information Systems-Programming Language C++ (ISO/IEC 14882:2003 (E)).

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